

# An implementation of Neural Simulation-Based Inference for Parameter Estimation in ATLAS

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CHEP

23 October 2024

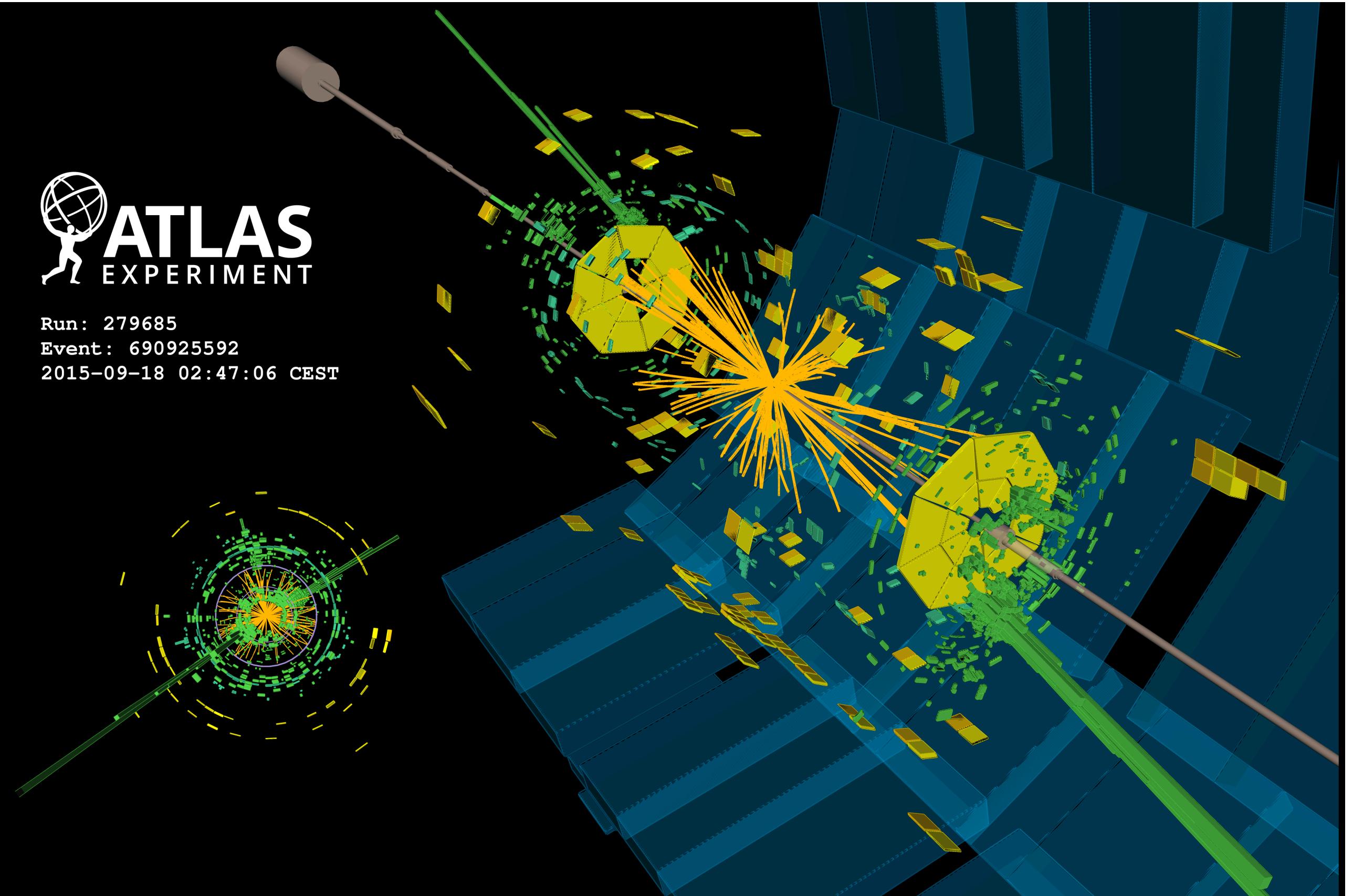


Aishik Ghosh, on behalf of the ATLAS Collaboration

The motivation for high dimensional statistical inference  
(Rather than using a low-dimensional histogram for statistical analysis)

# Typical LHC Workflow

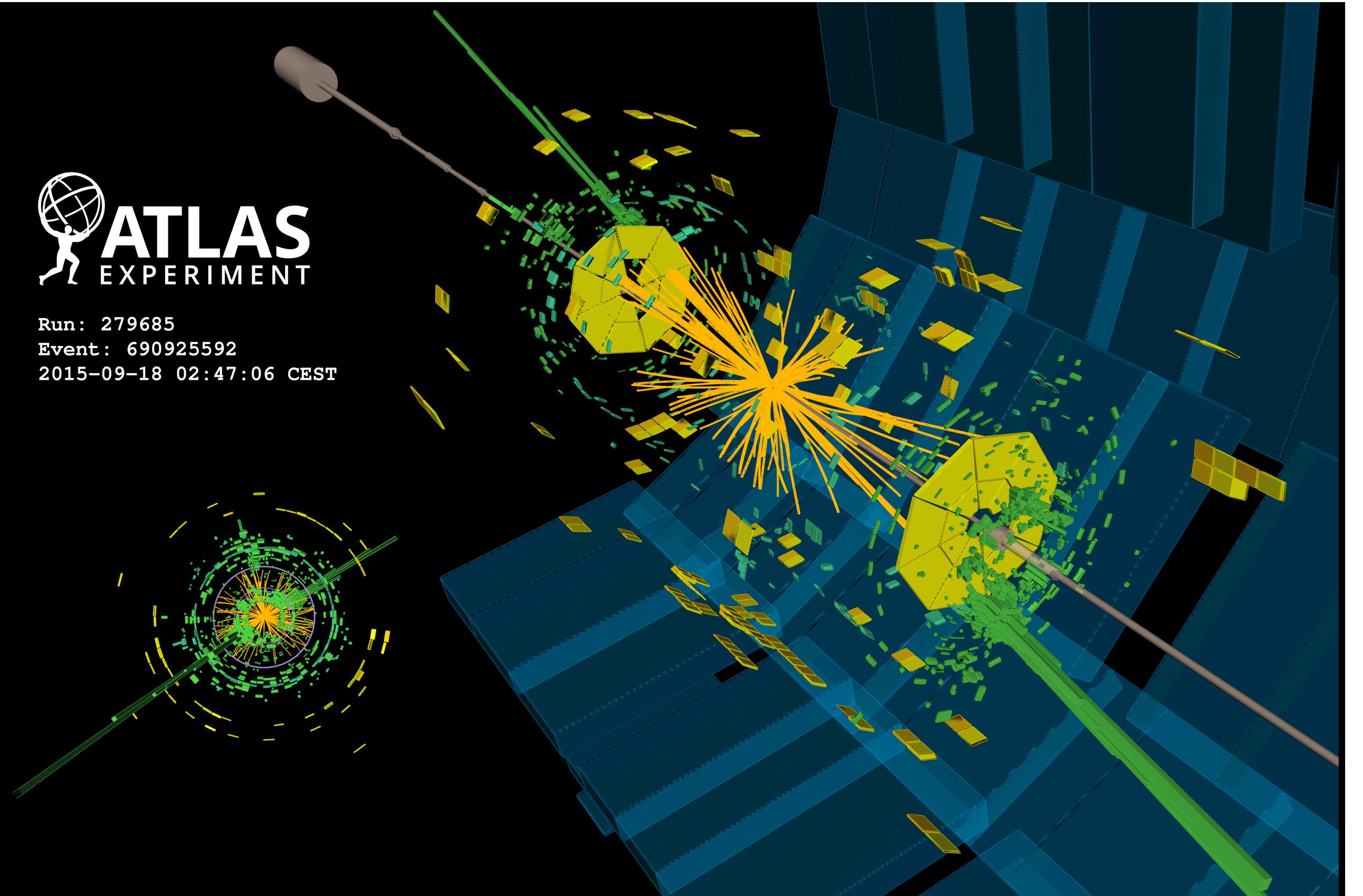
- Detector has  $O(100 \text{ million})$  sensors
- Can't build  $100M$  dimensional histogram
- ▶ Reconstruction pipeline, event selection
- ▶ Design sensitive one-dimensional observable



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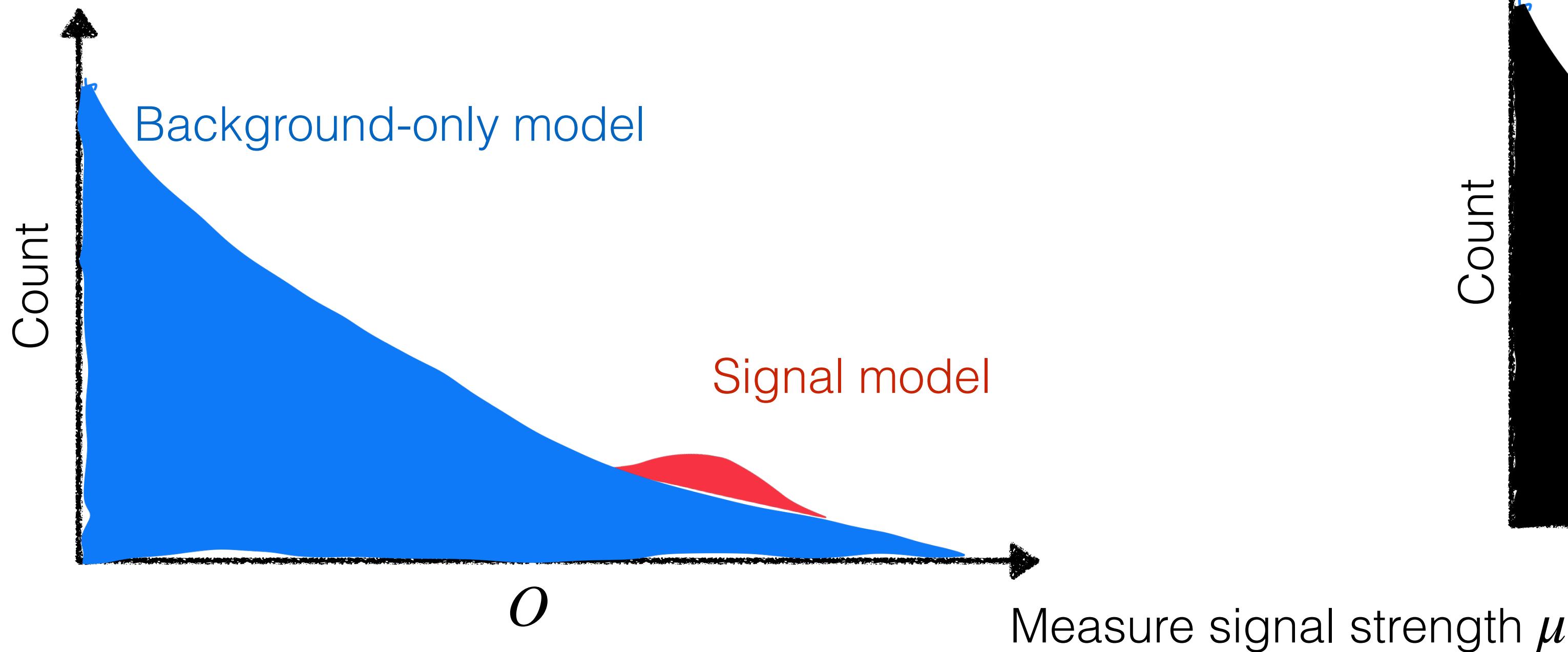
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1 number ←

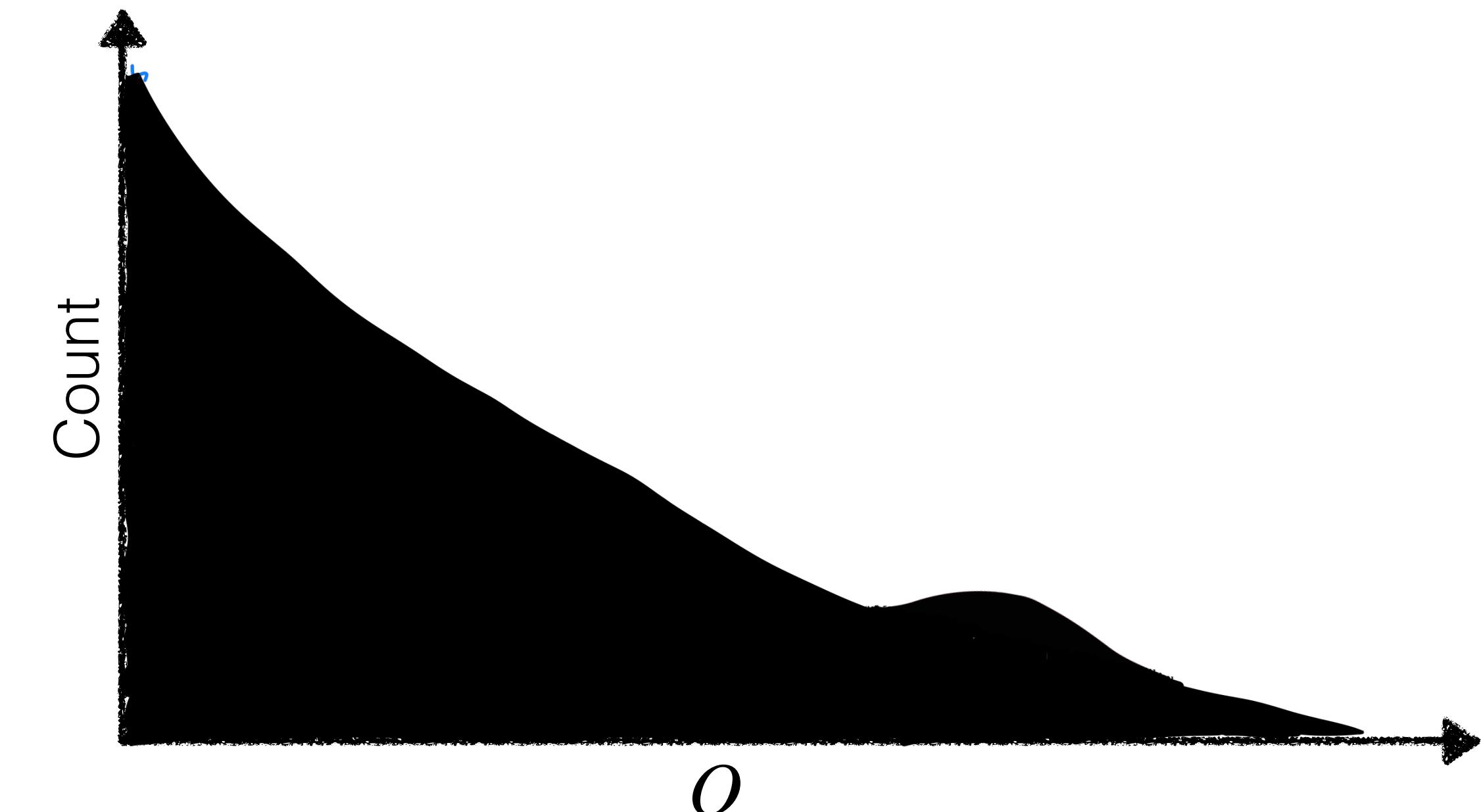


# Probability Density Estimation: What we're used to doing..

Theory Predictions



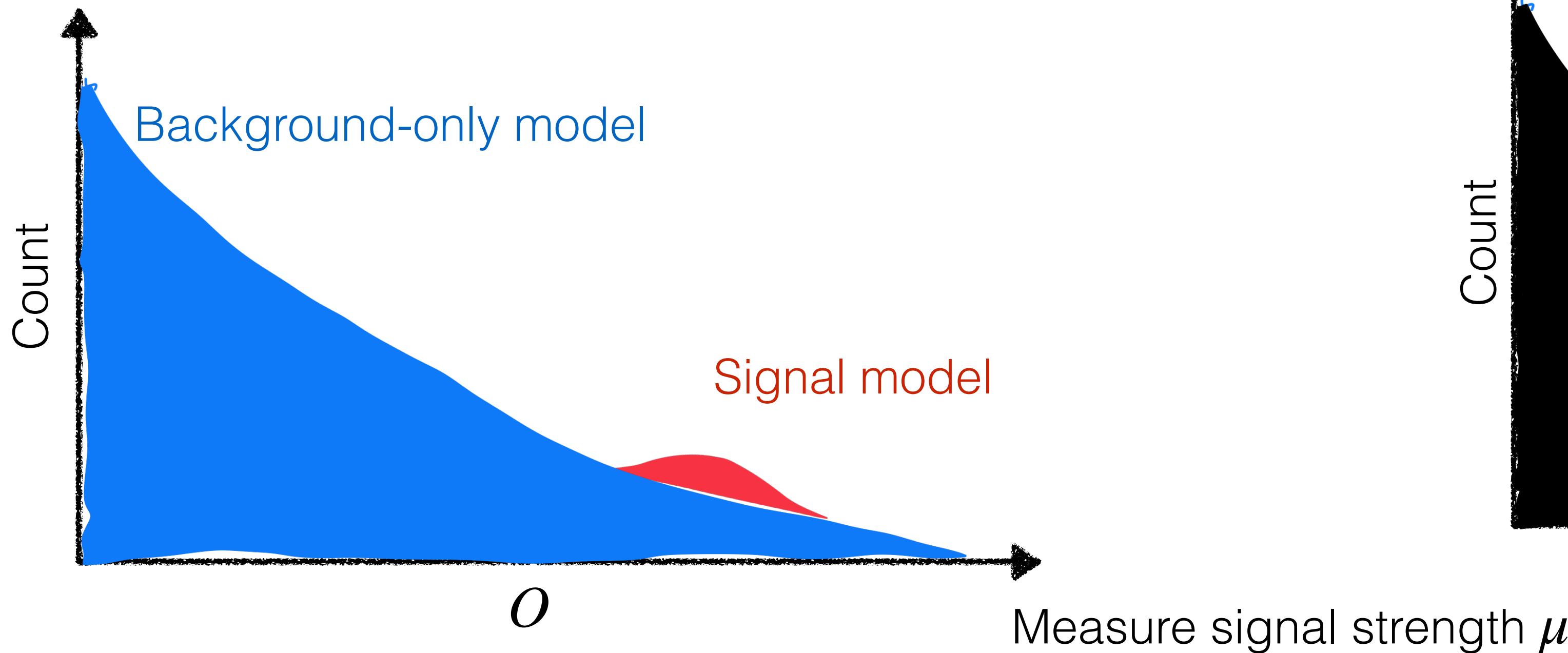
Data



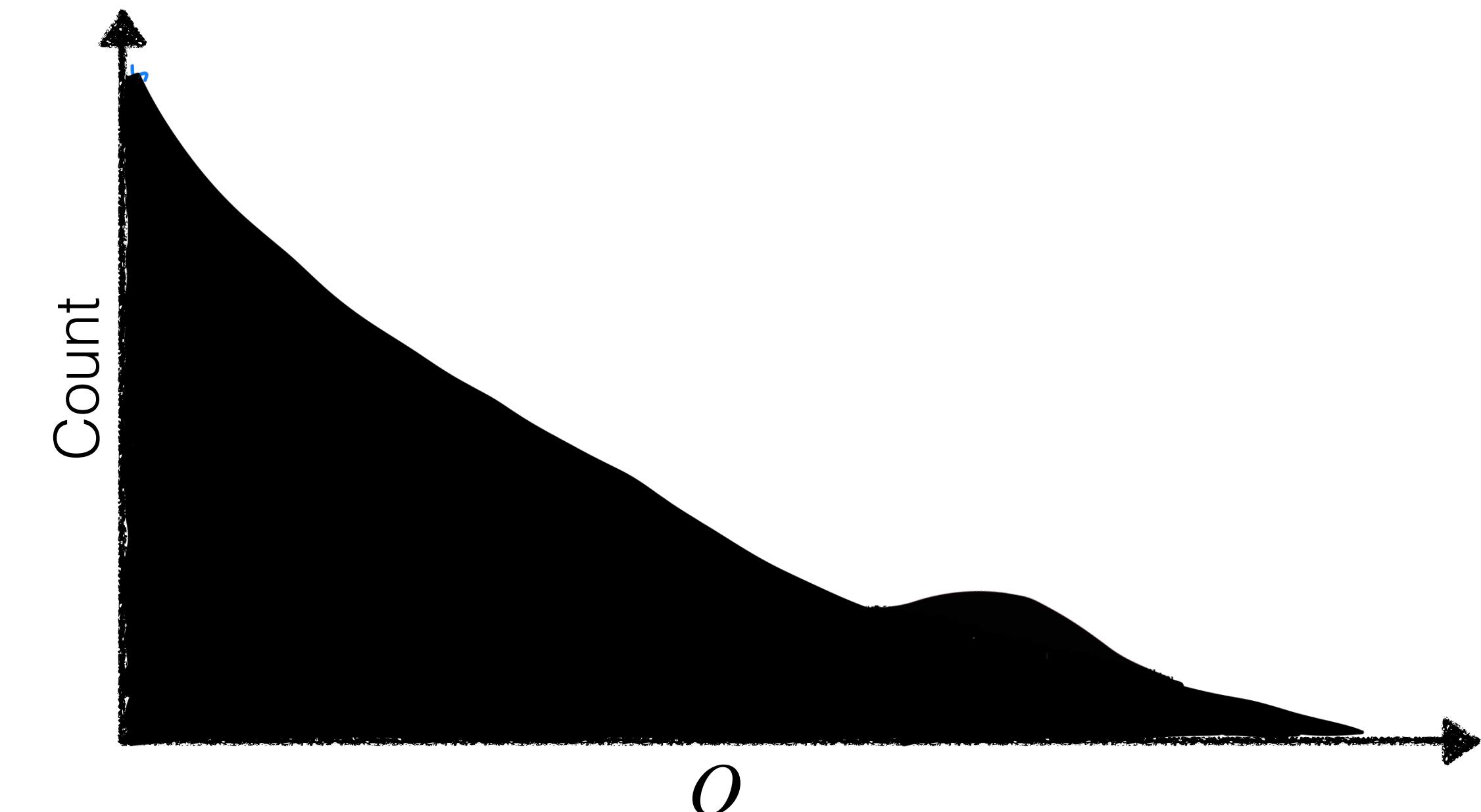
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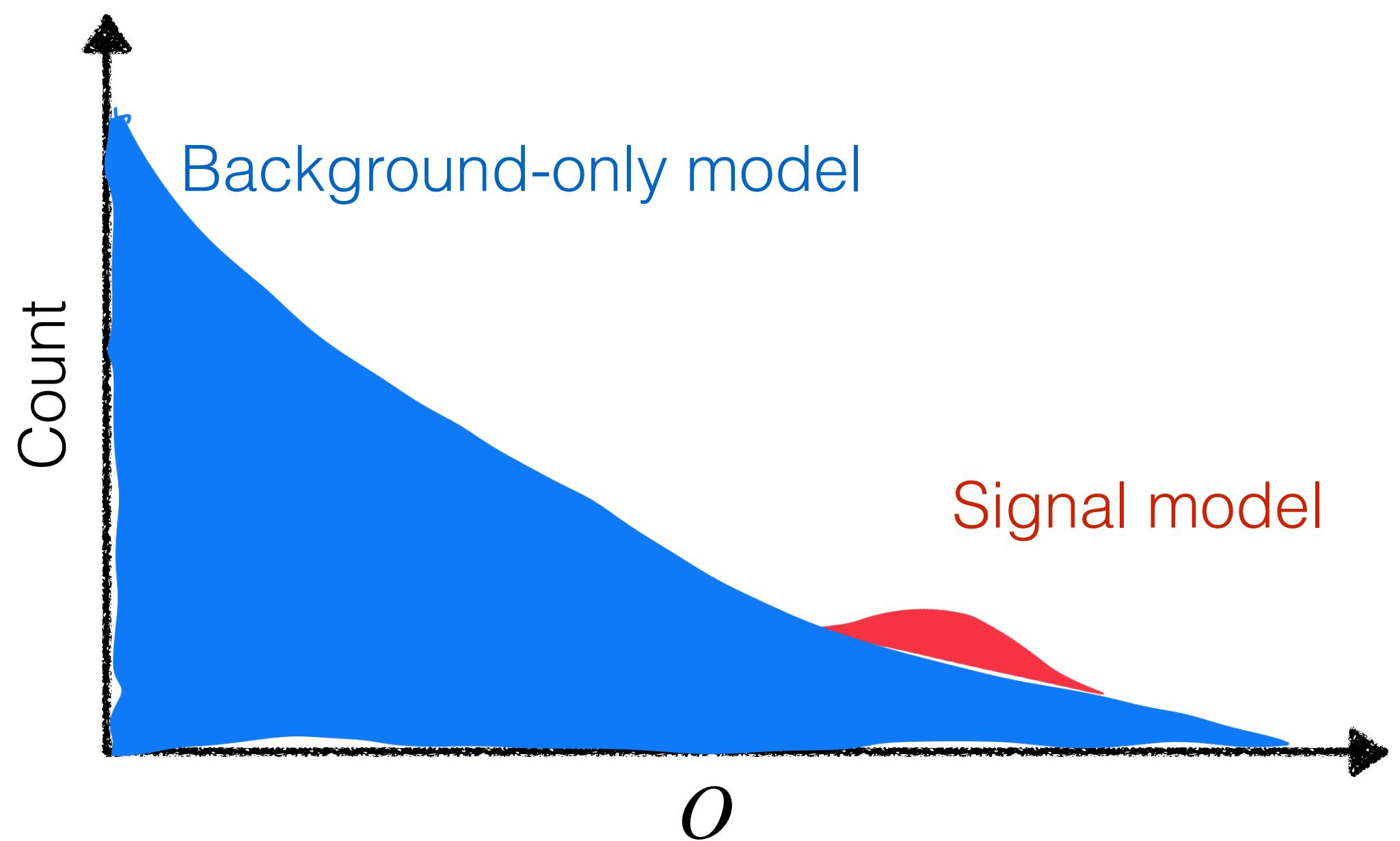


Data



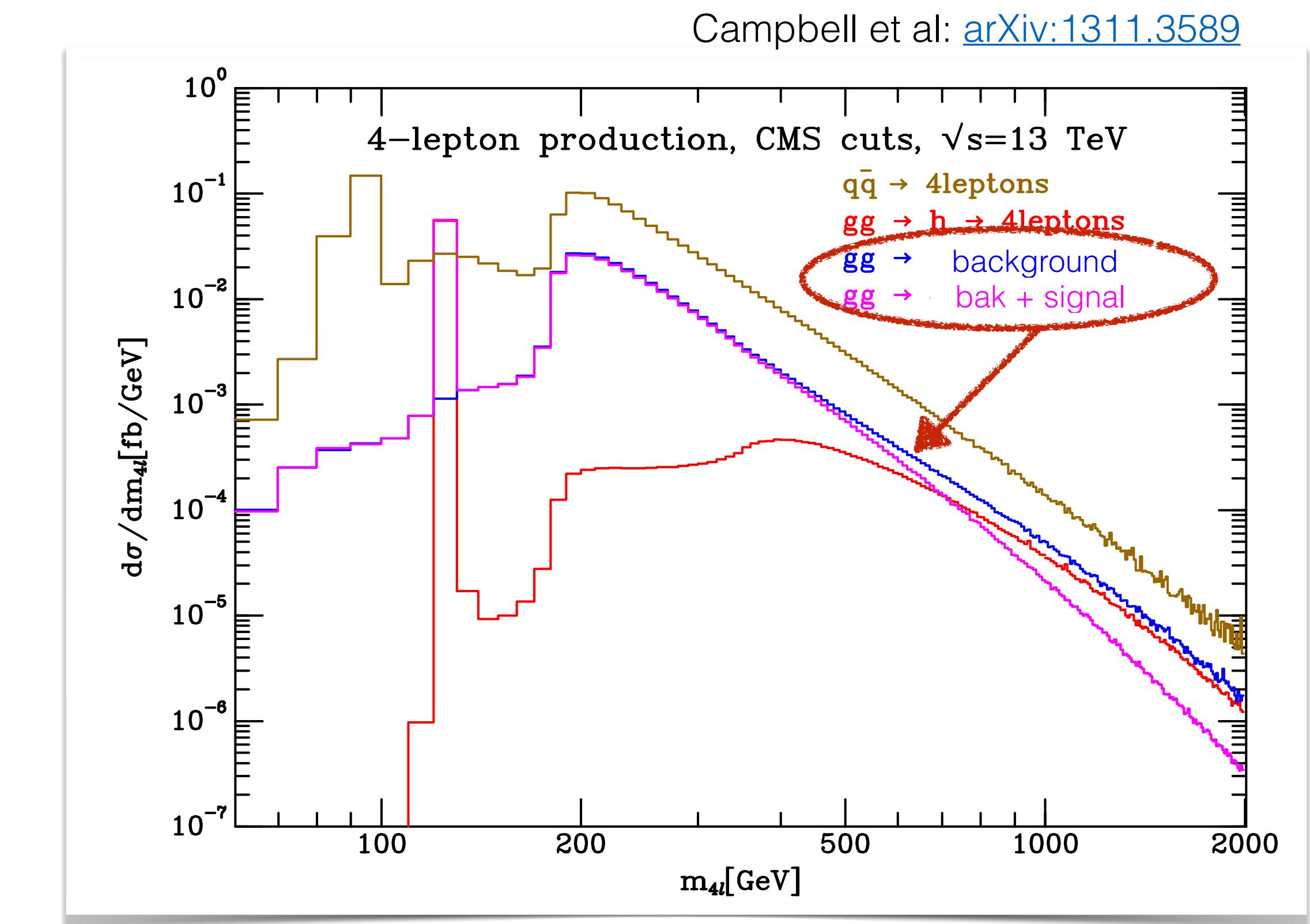
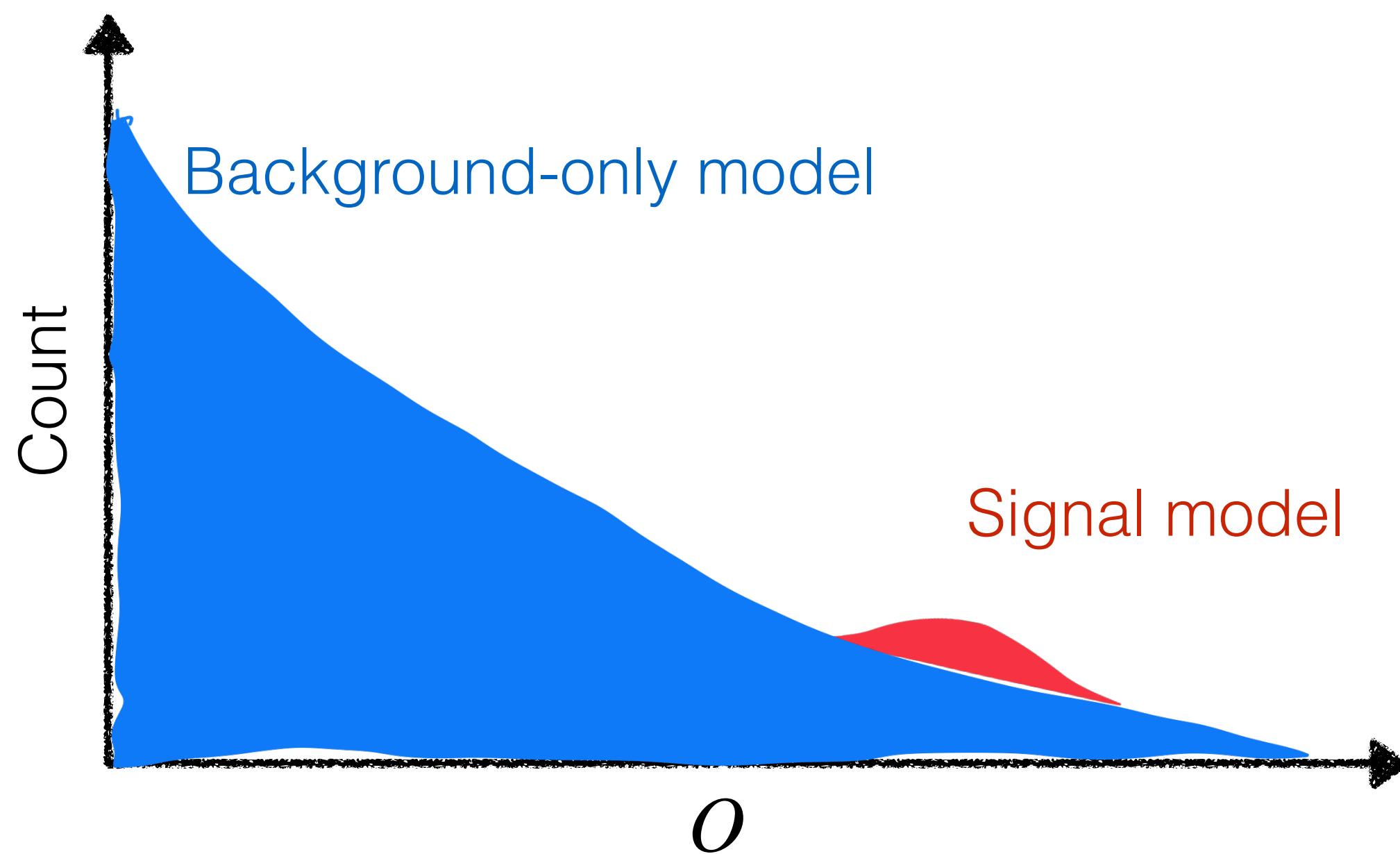
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# New challenge: Non-linear changes in kinematics (w.r.t. parameter of interest)

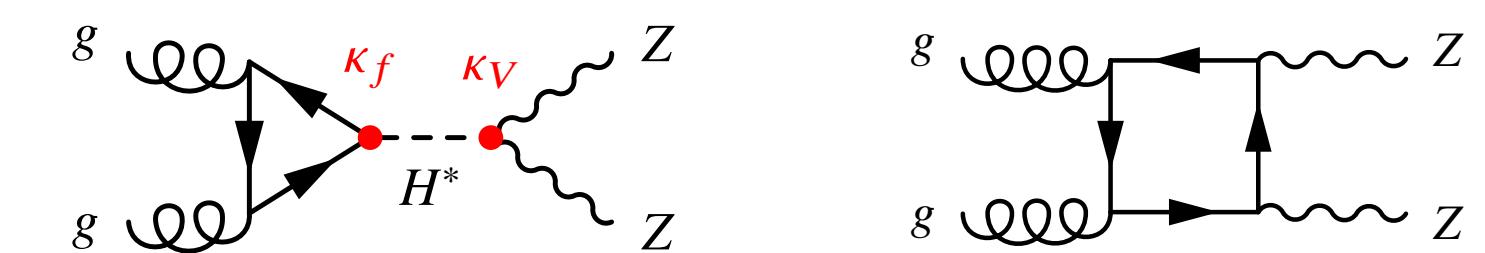


A histogram of any single observable is no longer optimal (see Ghosh et al: [hal-02971995\(p172\)](#)), but neural networks estimate high-dimensional likelihood ratios (see Cranmer et al: [arXiv:1506.02169](#)) !

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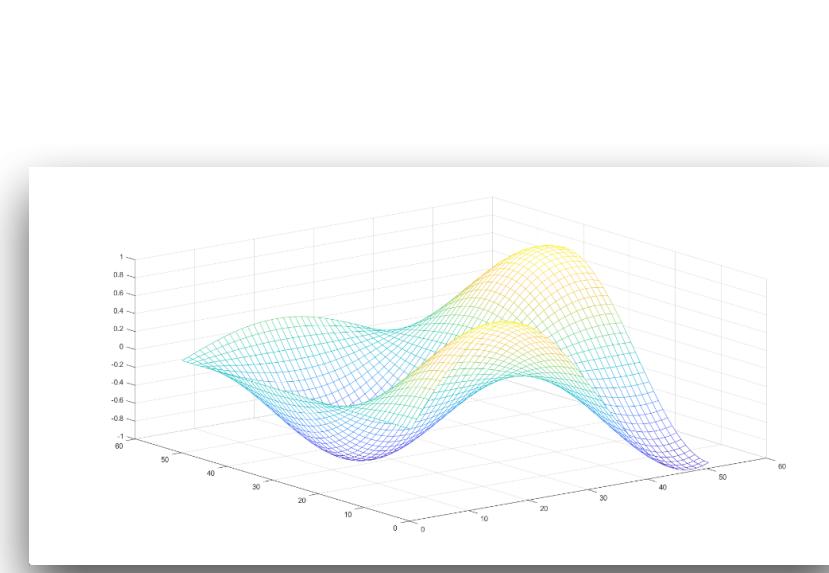


Quantum interference:

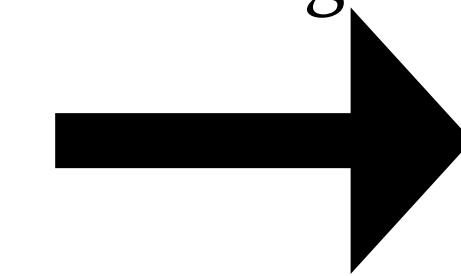


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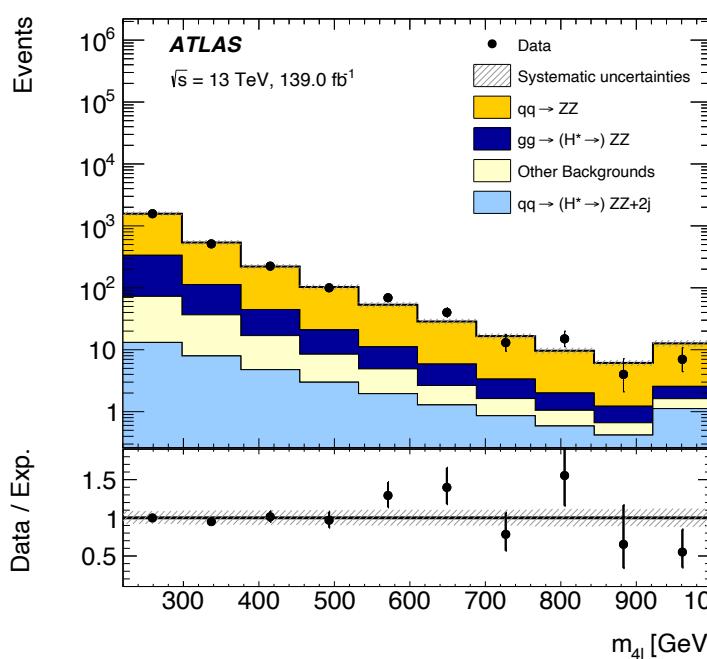
# “Neural Simulation-Based Inference”



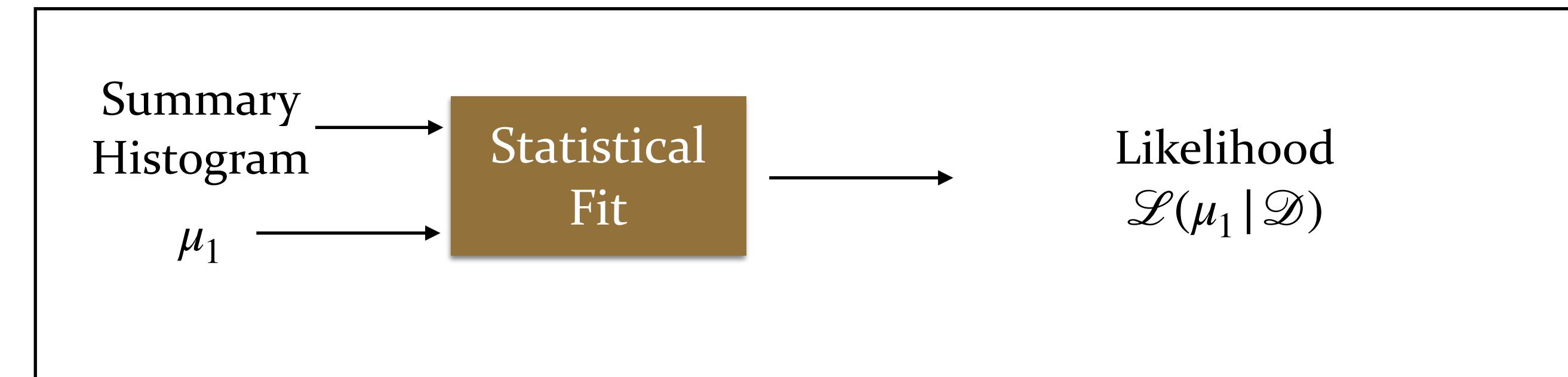
Summarisation  
to histogram



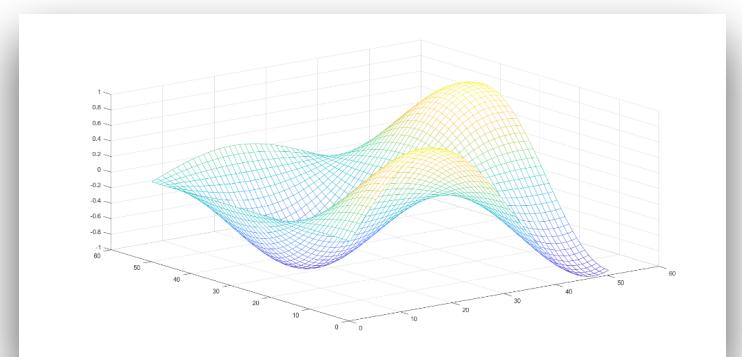
High-dim data



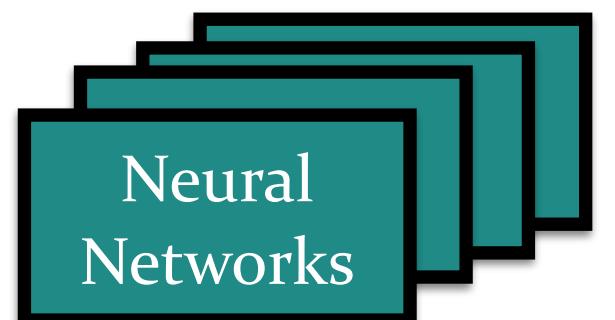
Traditional framework:



$\mu$  is now arbitrary parameter of interest(s)



Obs Data  
 $\mu_1$

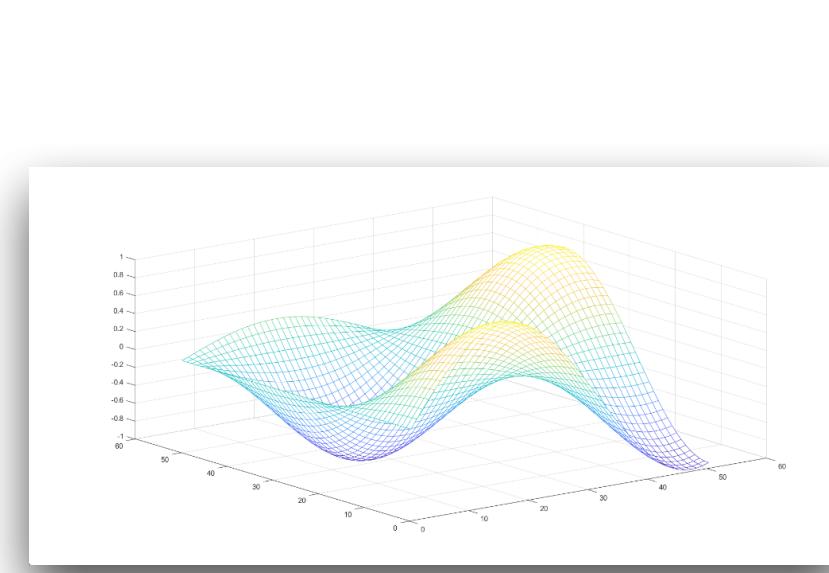


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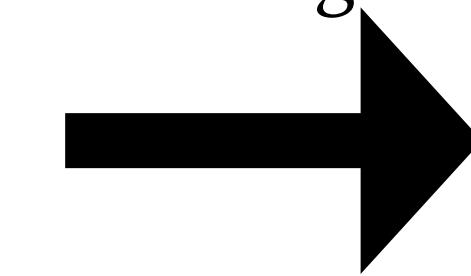
The neural inference framework:

$$\text{Likelihood Ratio} \left( \frac{\mathcal{L}(\mu_1 | \mathcal{D})}{\mathcal{L}(\text{ref} | \mathcal{D})} \right)$$

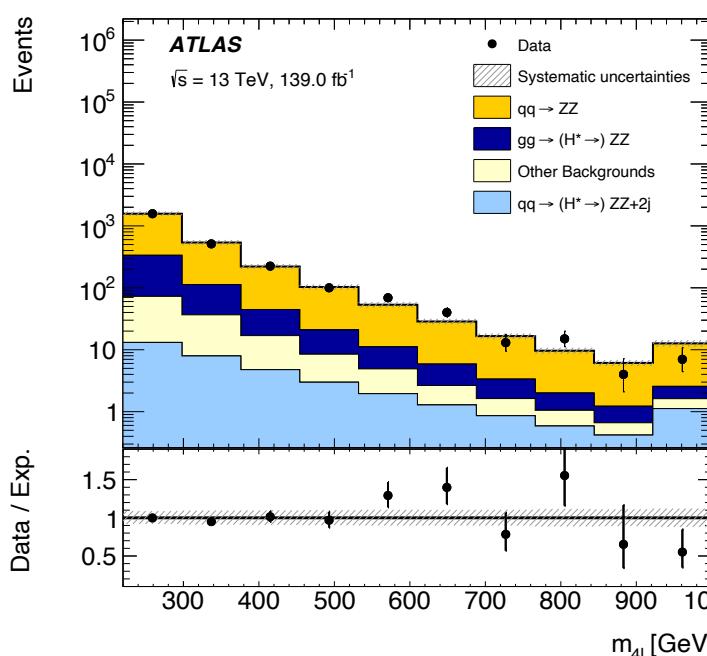
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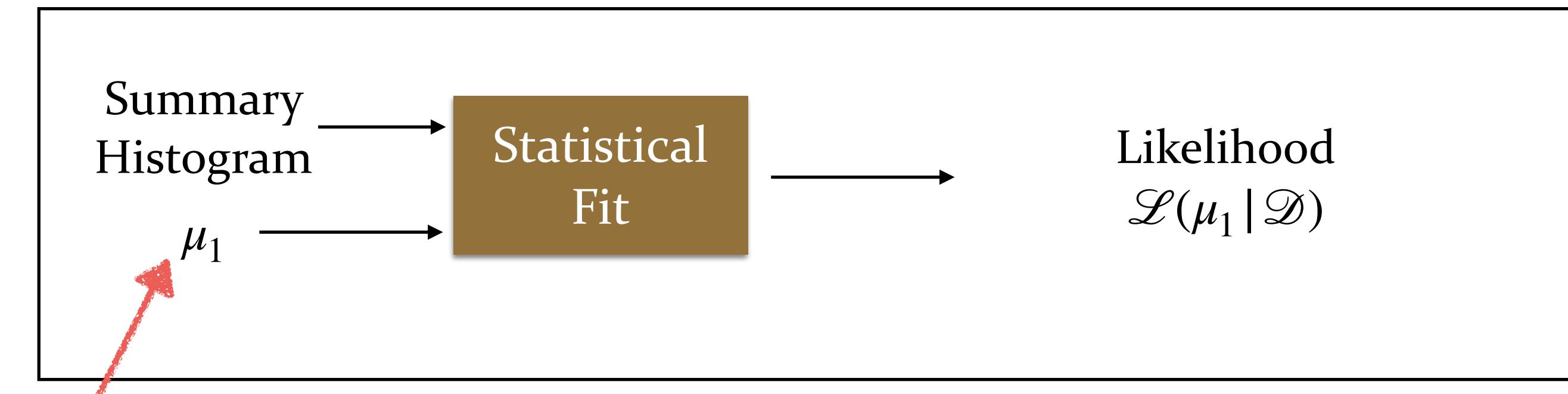
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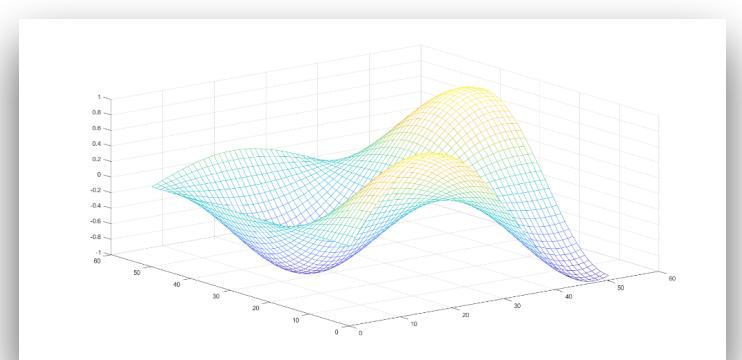
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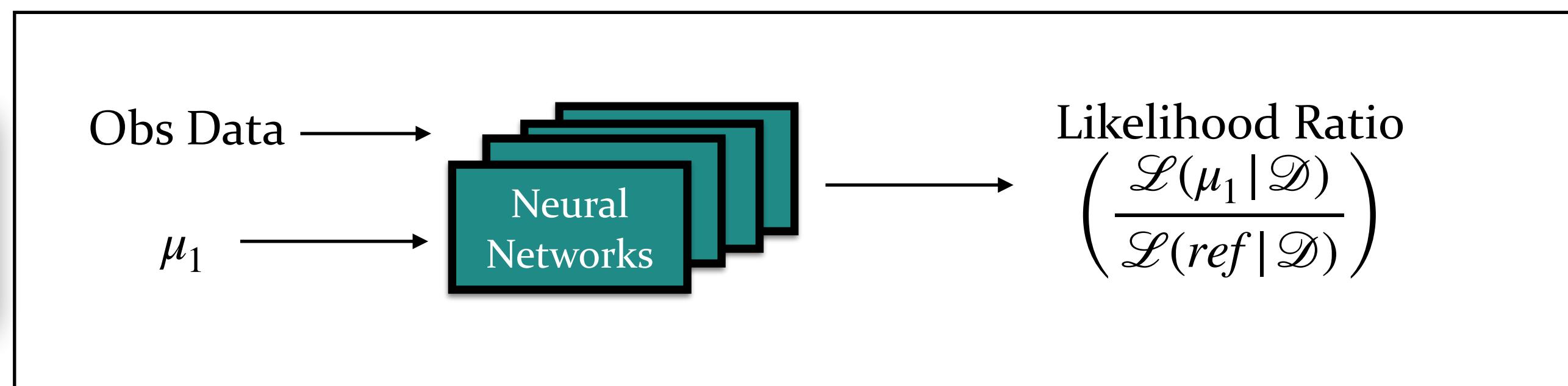


**Hypothesis  $\mu_1$**   $\mu$  is now arbitrary parameter of interest(s)

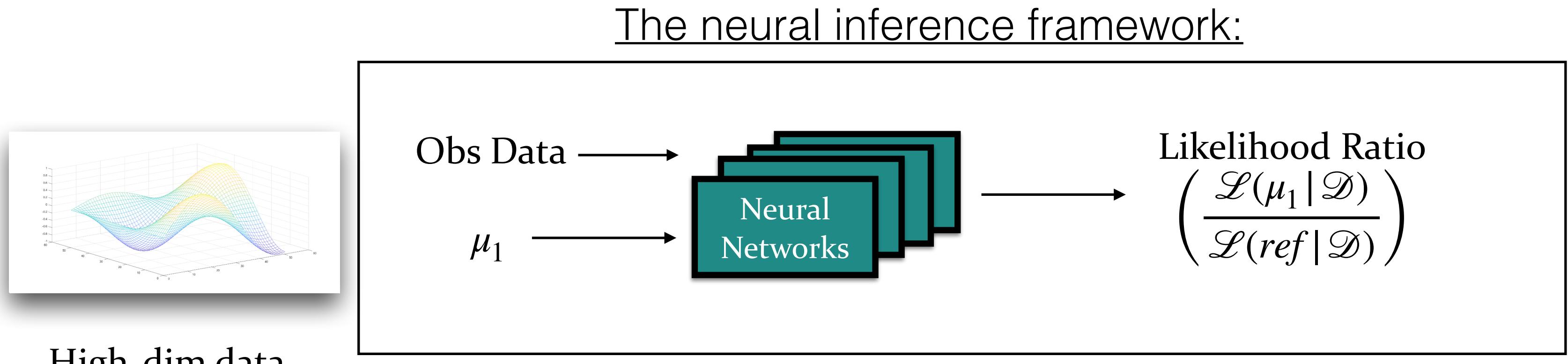
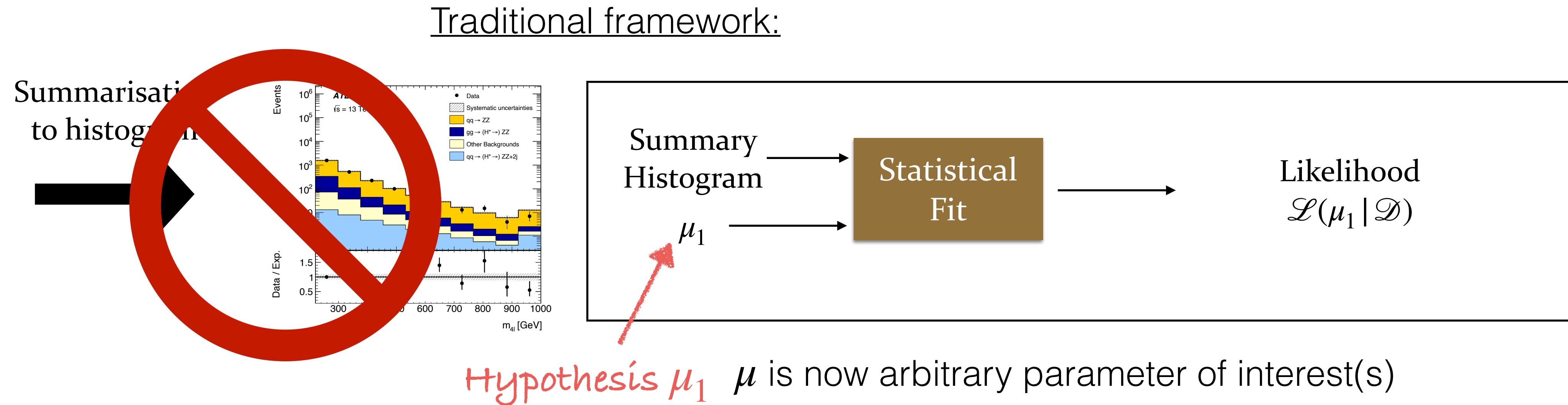


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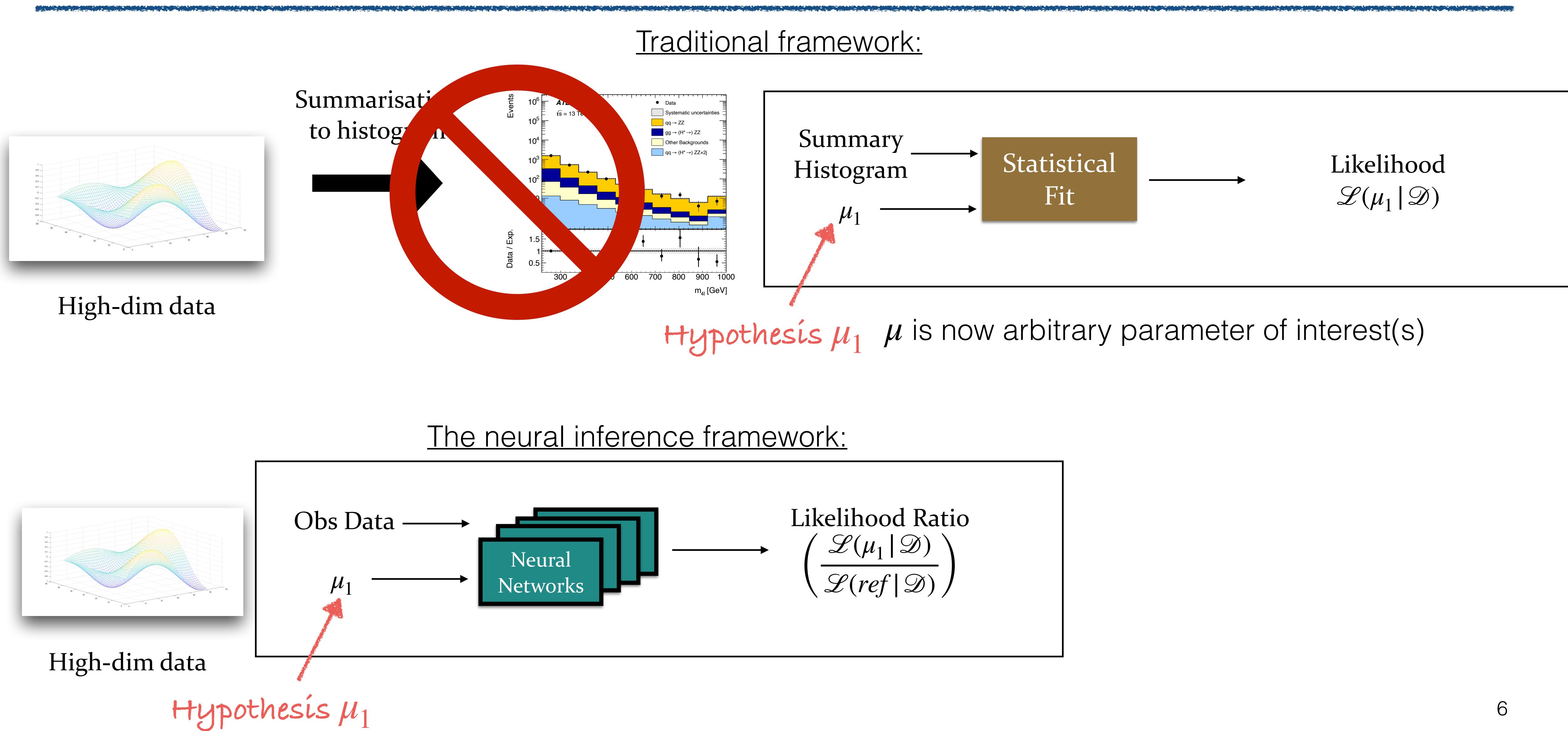
The neural inference framework:



# “Neural Simulation-Based Inference”



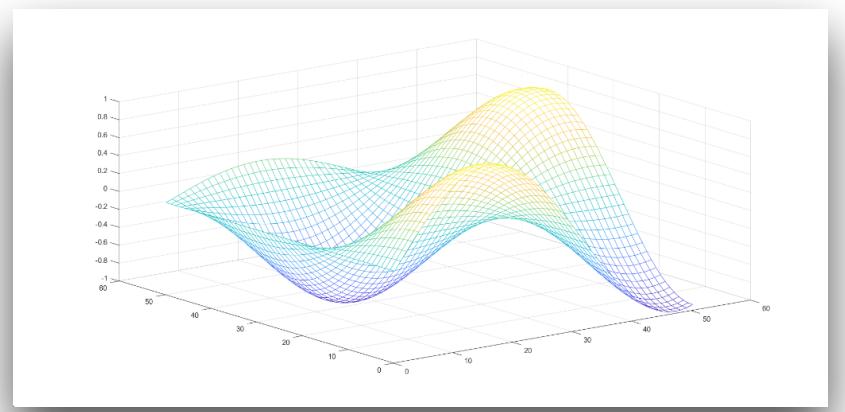
# “Neural Simulation-Based Inference”



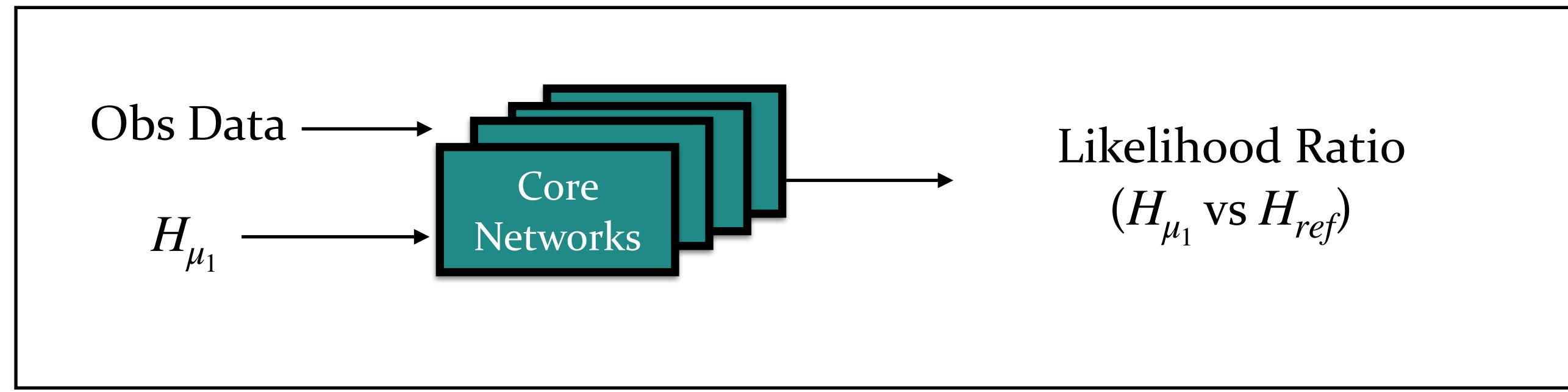
## Open problems to extend to full ATLAS analysis:

- Robustness: Design and validation
- Systematic Uncertainties: Incorporate them in likelihood (ratio) model
- Neyman Construction: Throwing toys in a per-event analysis

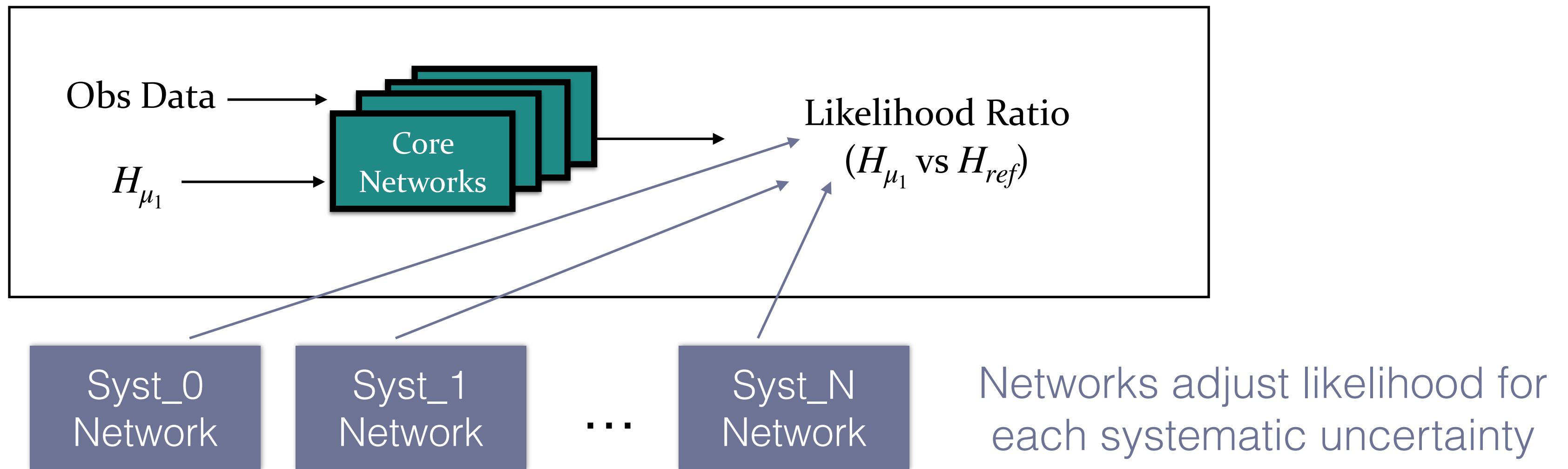
# Big picture of full solution developed in ATLAS



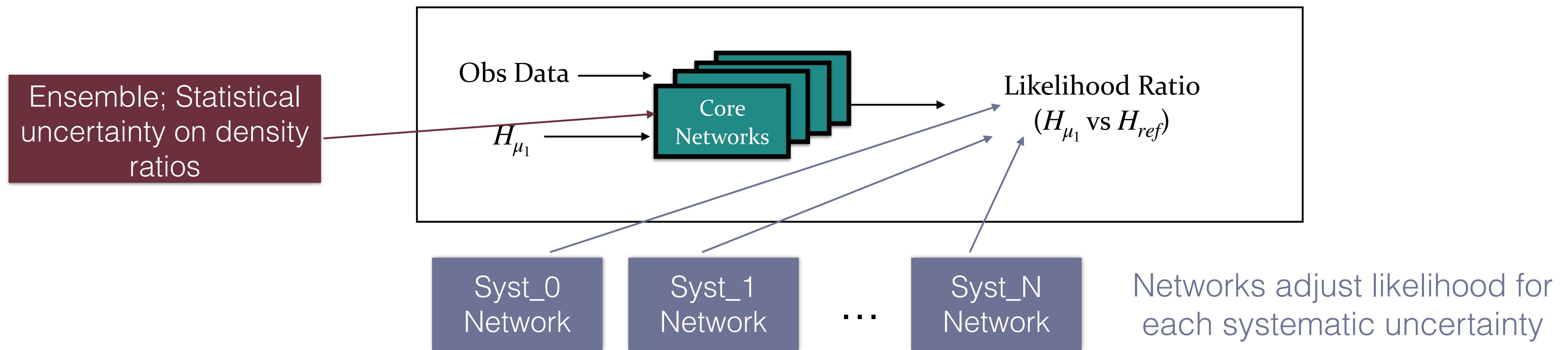
$O(16)$  observables



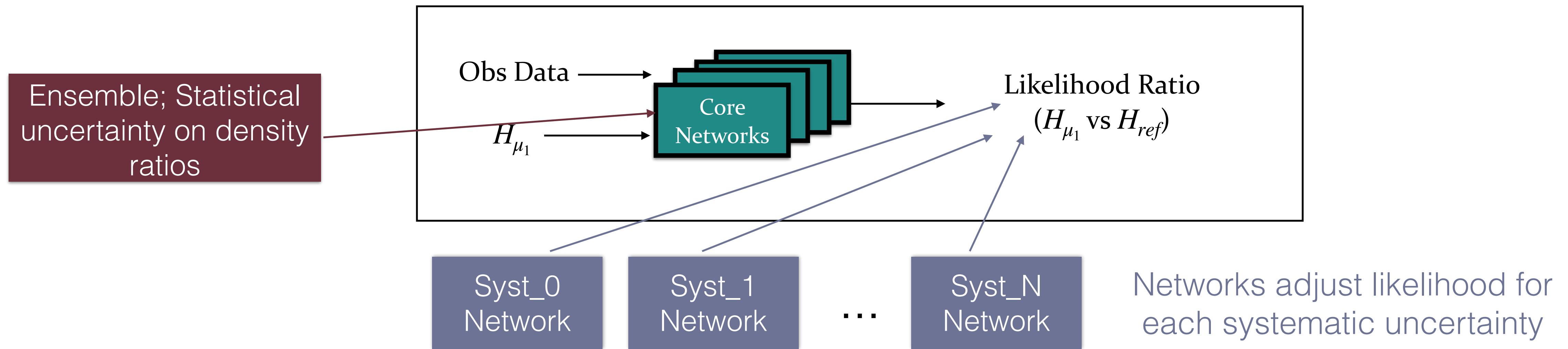
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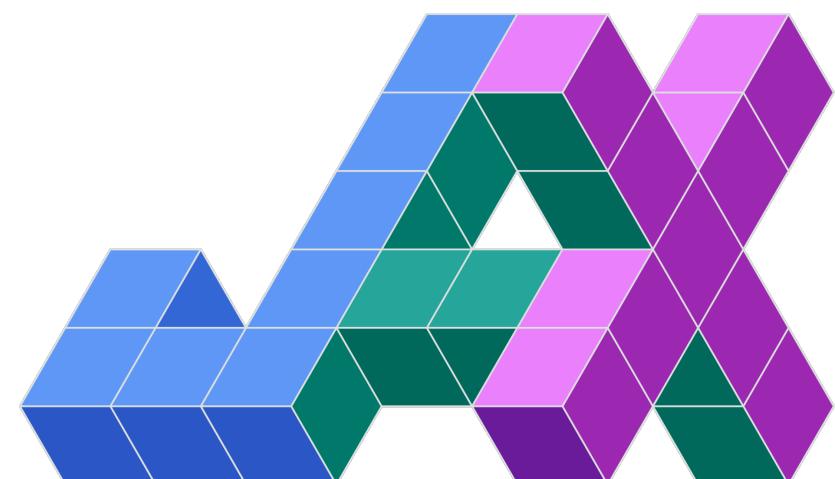
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- ◆ Train  $O(10^3)$  networks on TensorFlow
- ◆ Computing resources provided by Google, SMU, other HPC clusters
- ◆ Fits with JAX



## Open problems to extend to full ATLAS analysis:

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# Search-Oriented Mixture Model

---

$x_i$  is one individual event

General Formula

$$p(x_i|\mu) = \frac{1}{\nu(\mu)} \sum_j^C f_j(\mu) \cdot \nu_j p_j(x_i)$$

$j$  runs over different physics process  
(Eg.  $gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow 4l$ ,  $gg \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$ )

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Example use case

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*Comes from theory model chosen to interpret data*

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Event rates estimated from simulations

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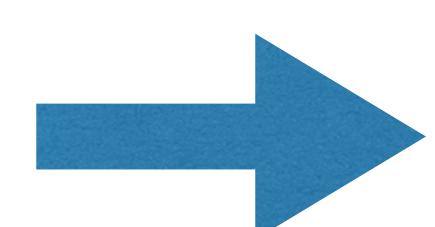
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Event rates estimated from simulations

General Formula

Estimated using an ensemble of networks

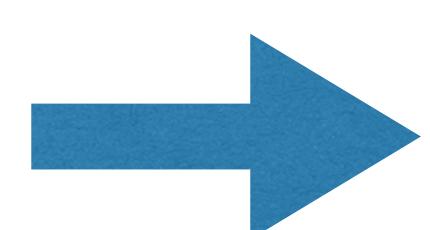
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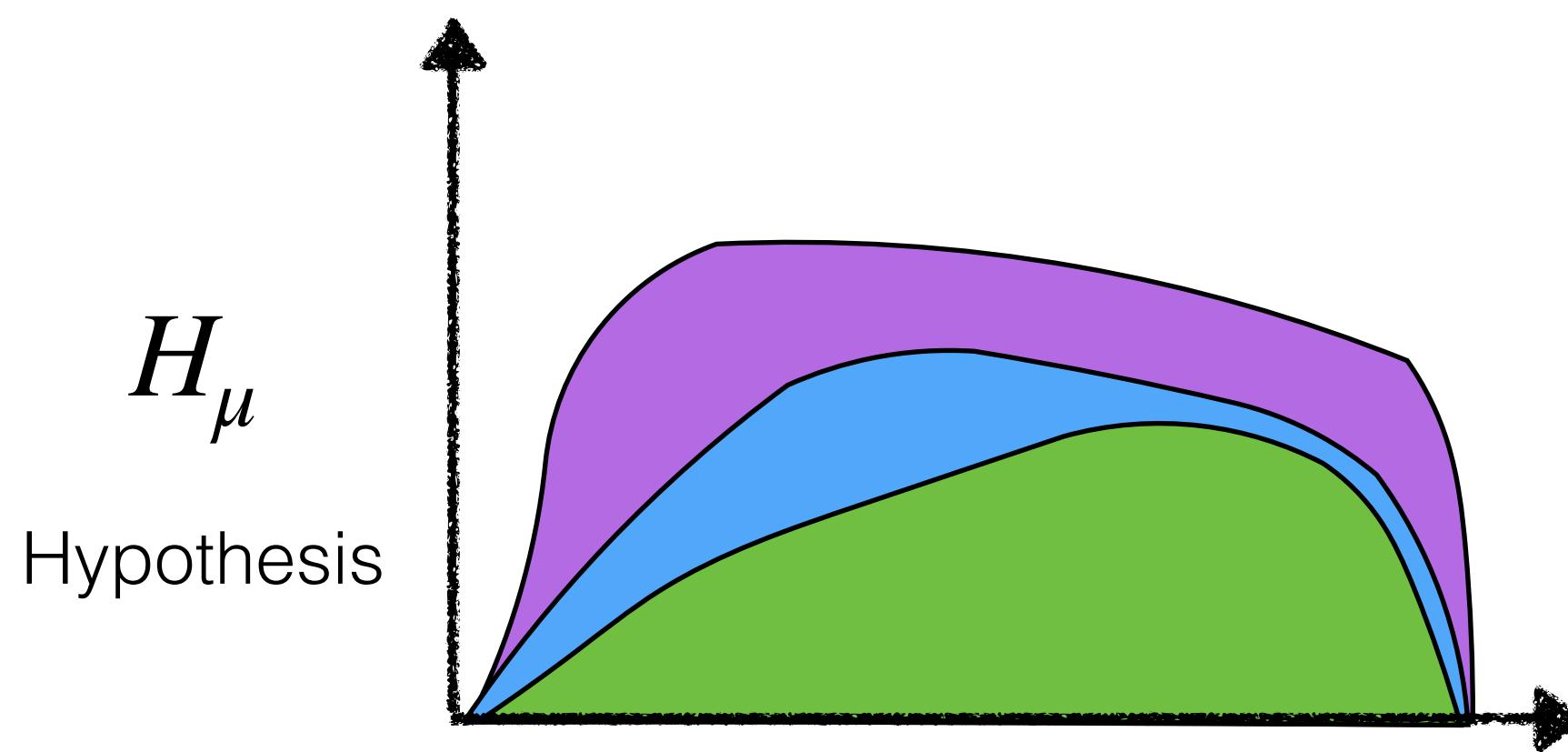
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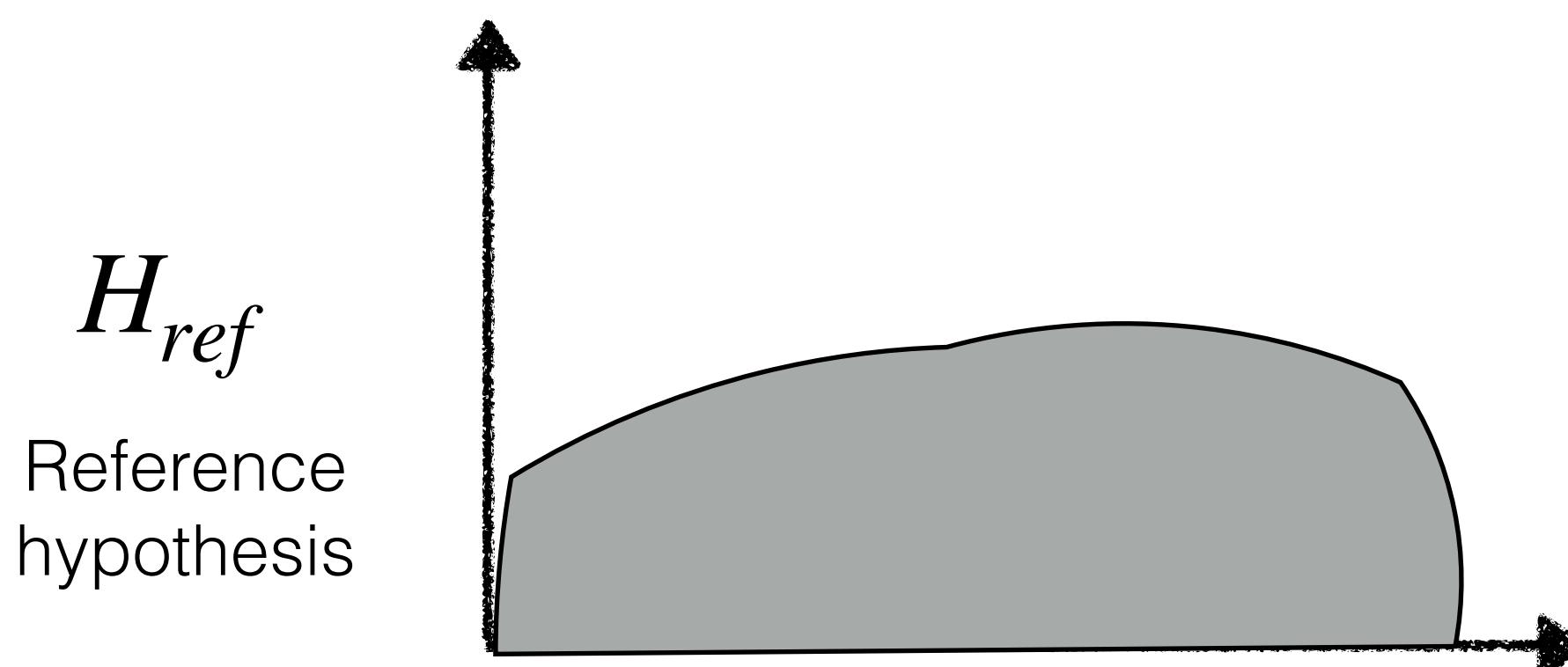
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# Robust, parameterised classifier without parameterising

$H_{ref}$ : Reference hypothesis



VS

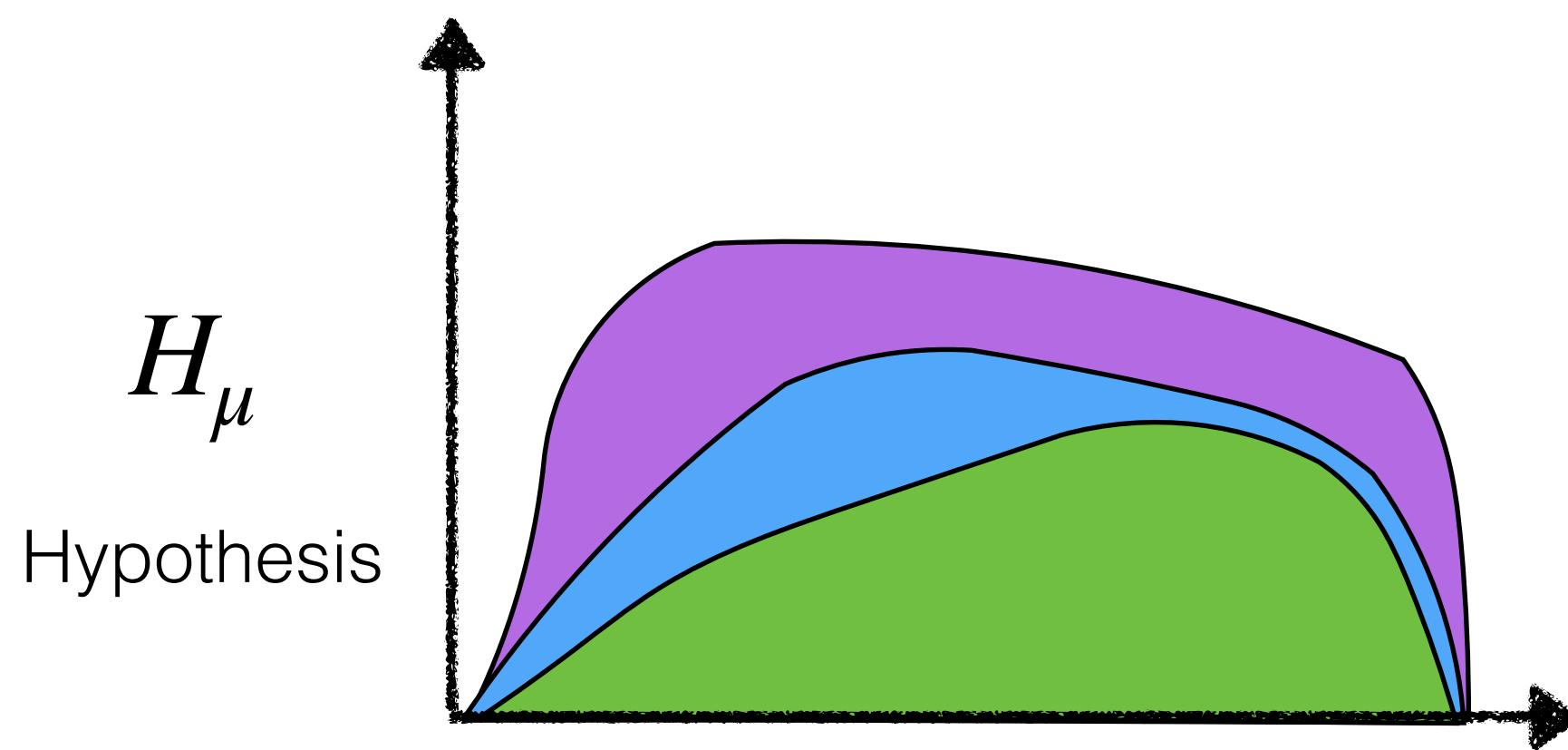


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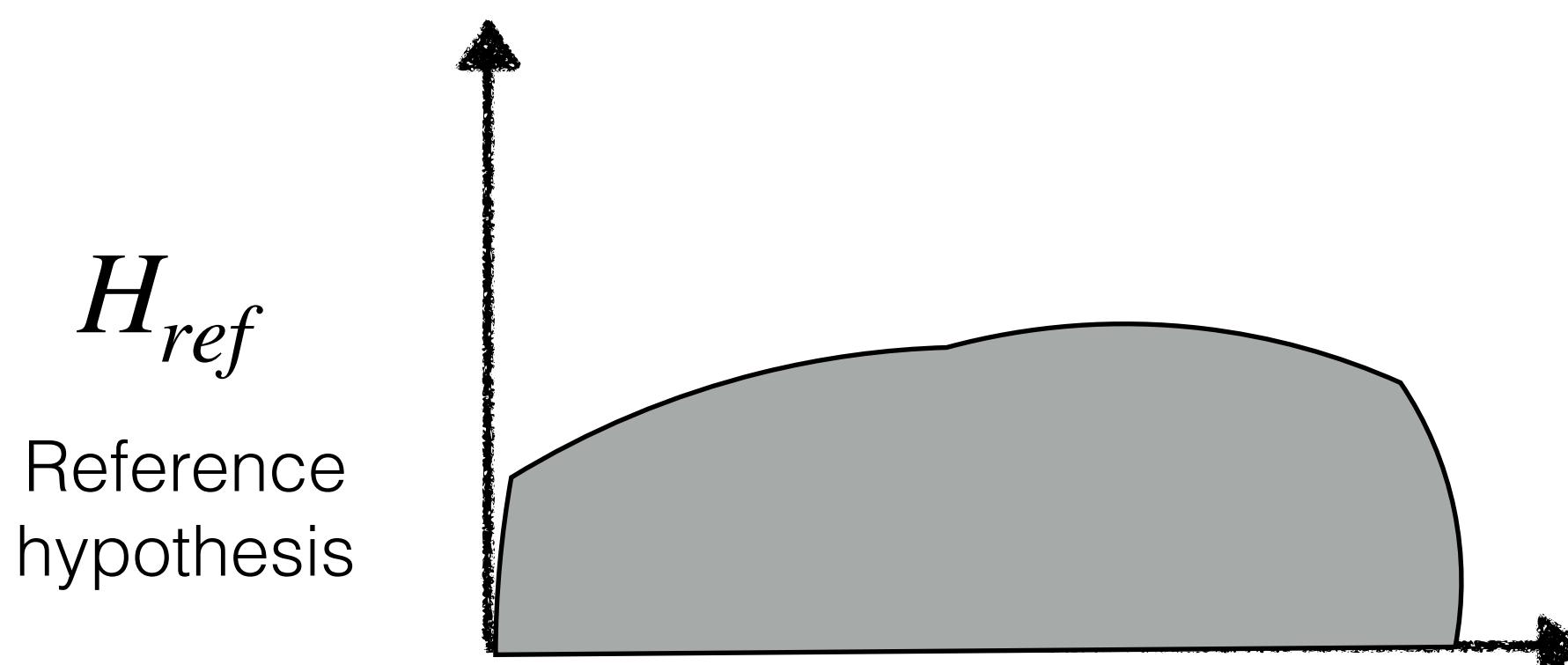
A separate classifier per physics process  $j$   
(Eg.  $gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow 4l$ ,  $gg \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$ )

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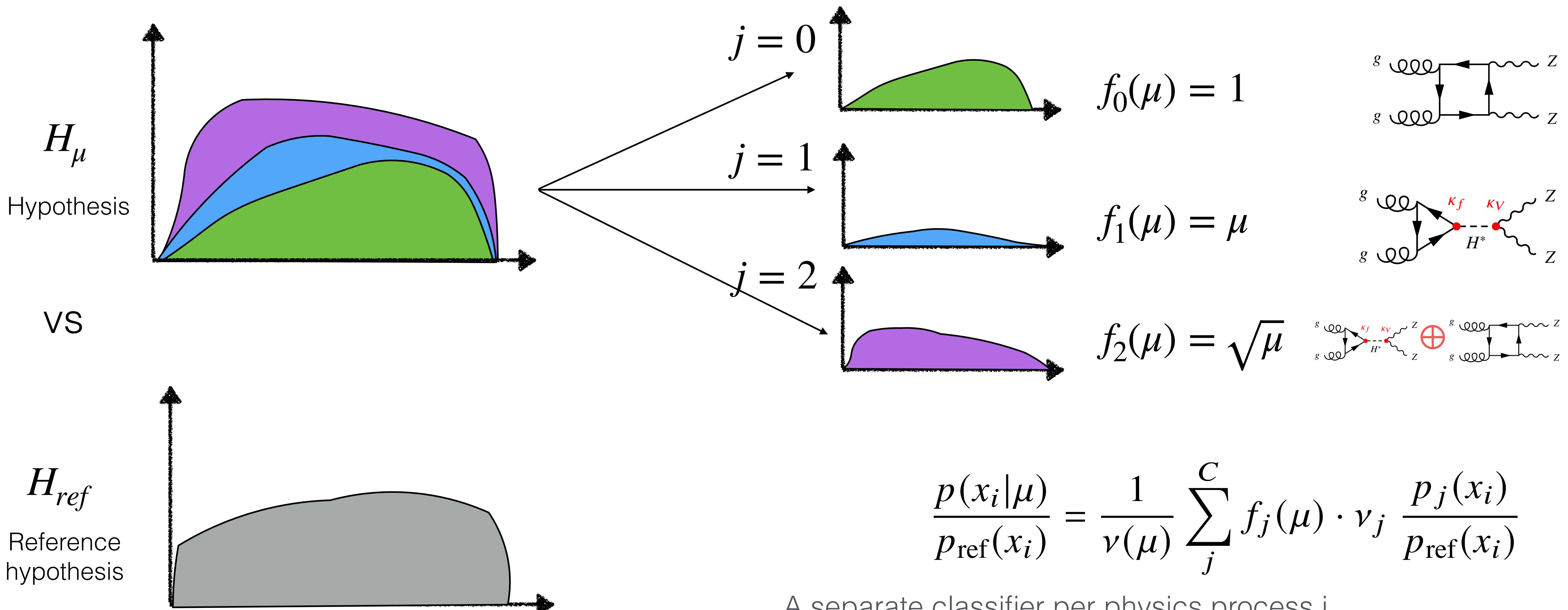


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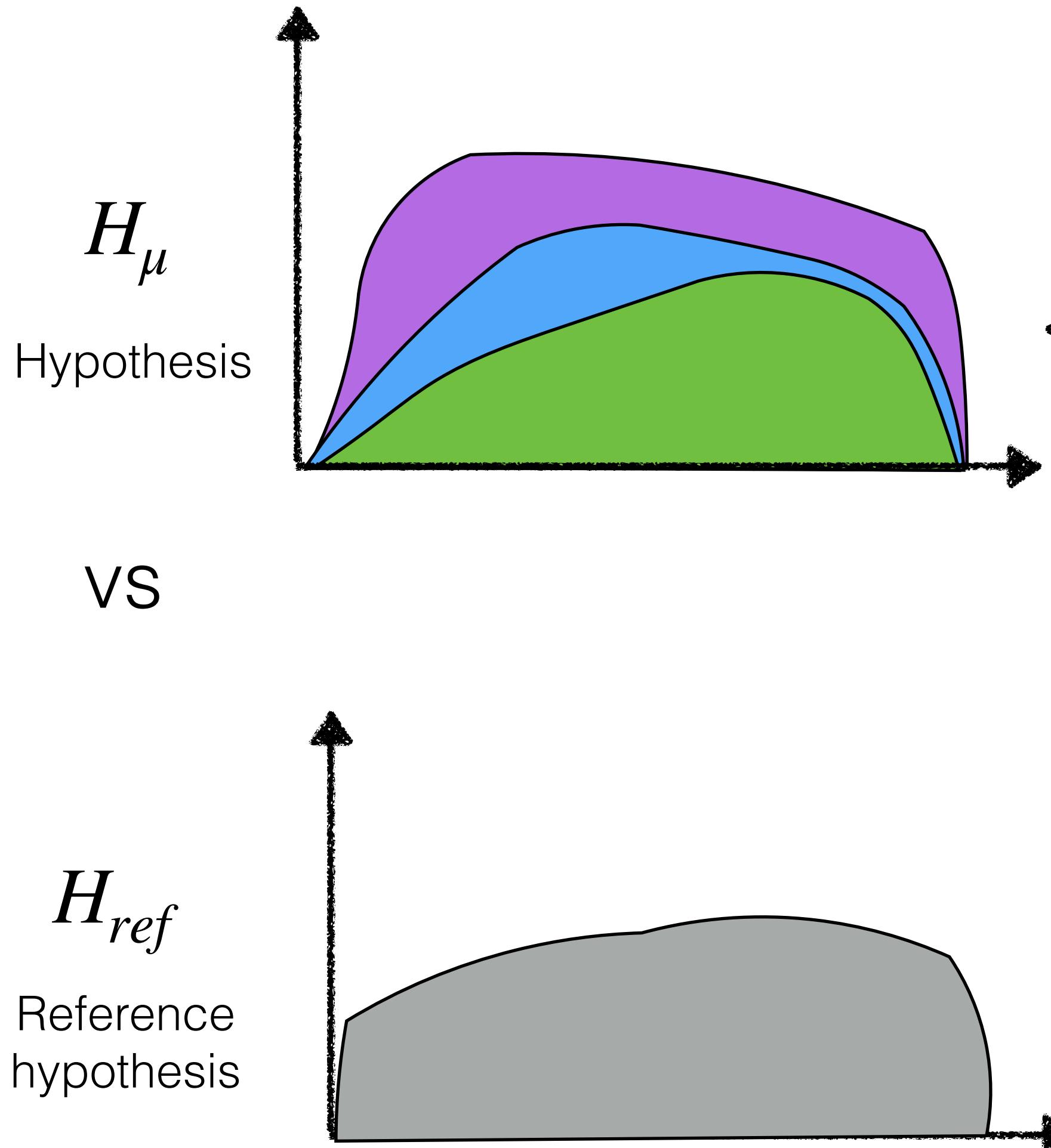
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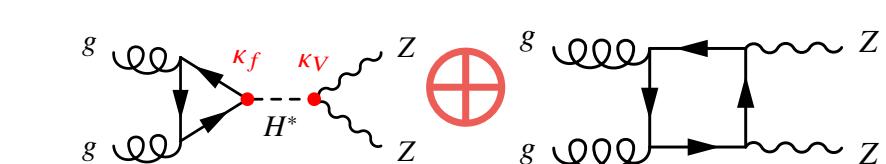
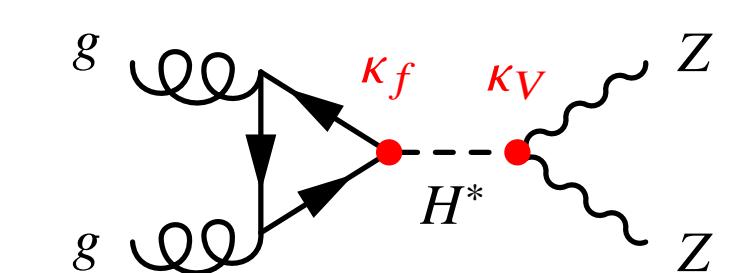
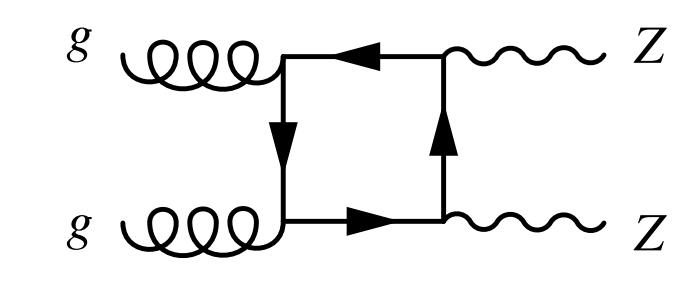
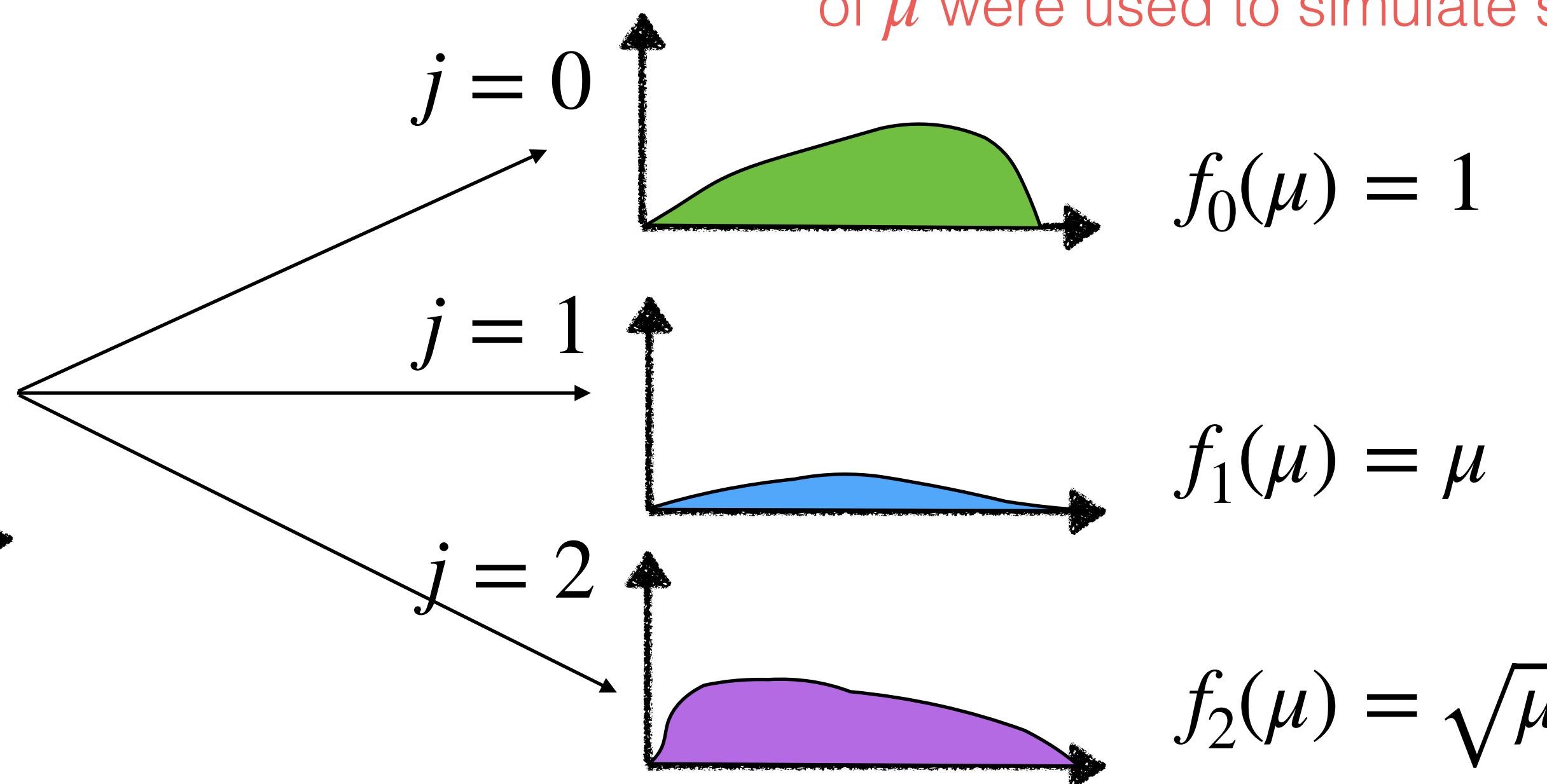


# Robust, parameterised classifier without parameterising

$H_{ref}$ : Reference hypothesis



$f_i(\mu)$  will depend on morphing bases points (which values of  $\mu$  were used to simulate samples)

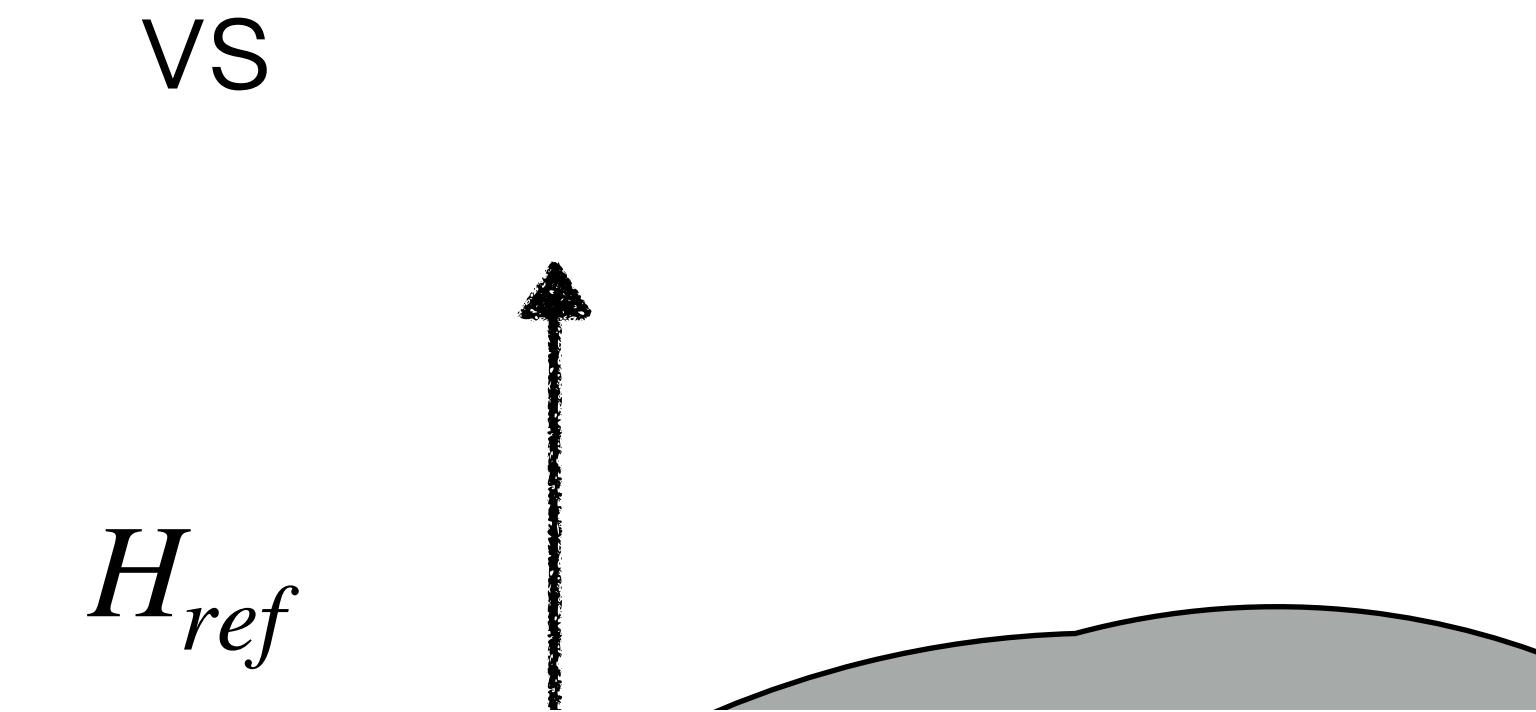
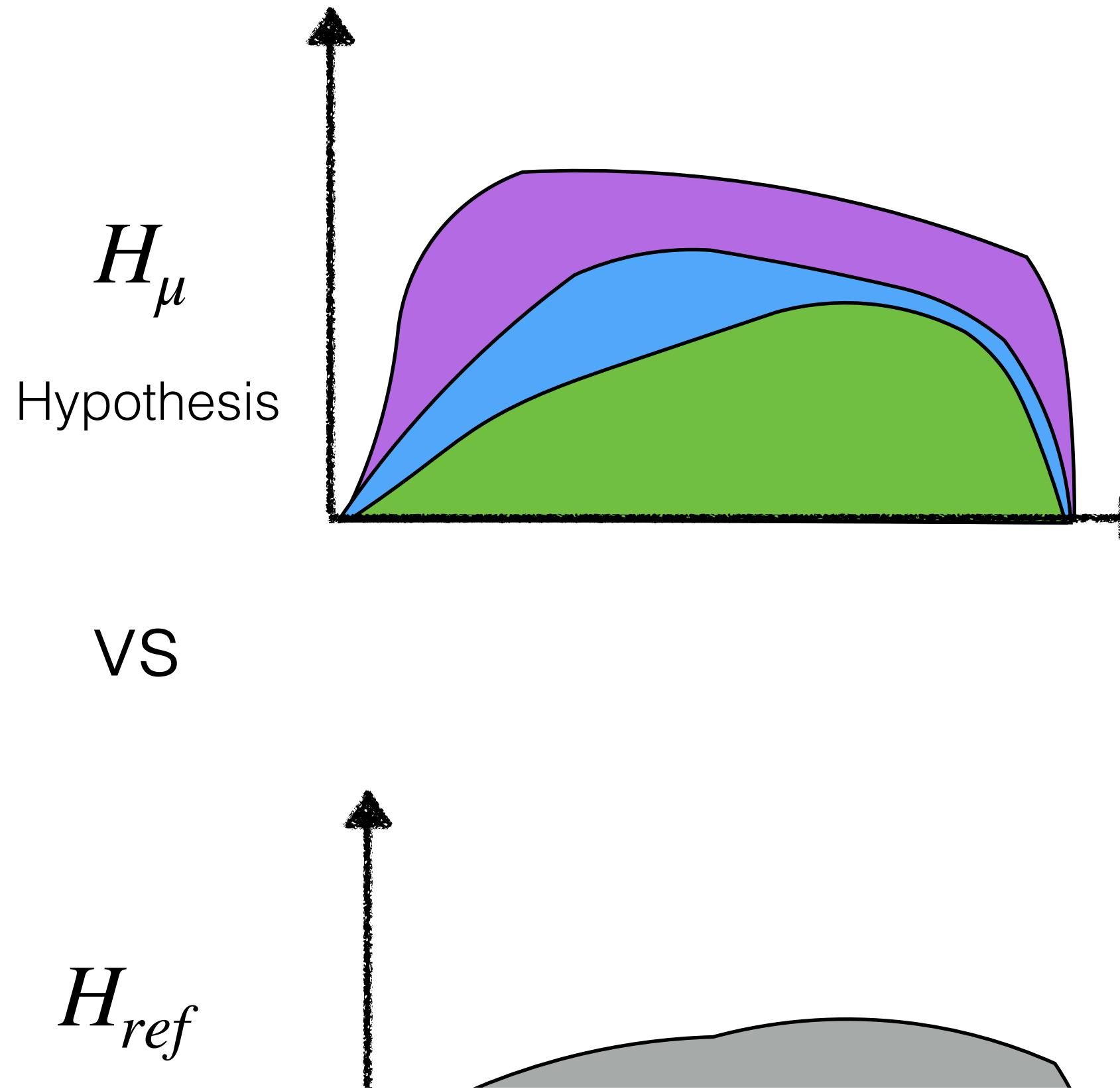


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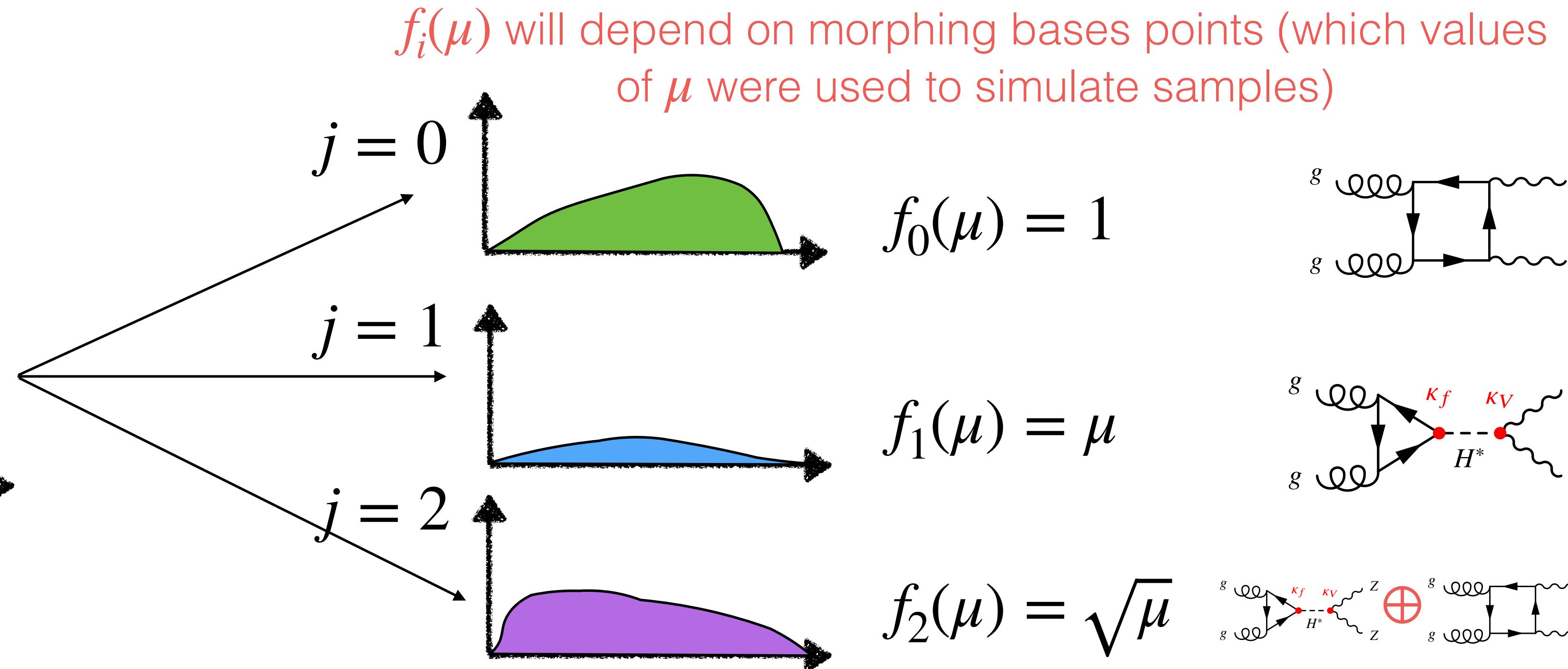
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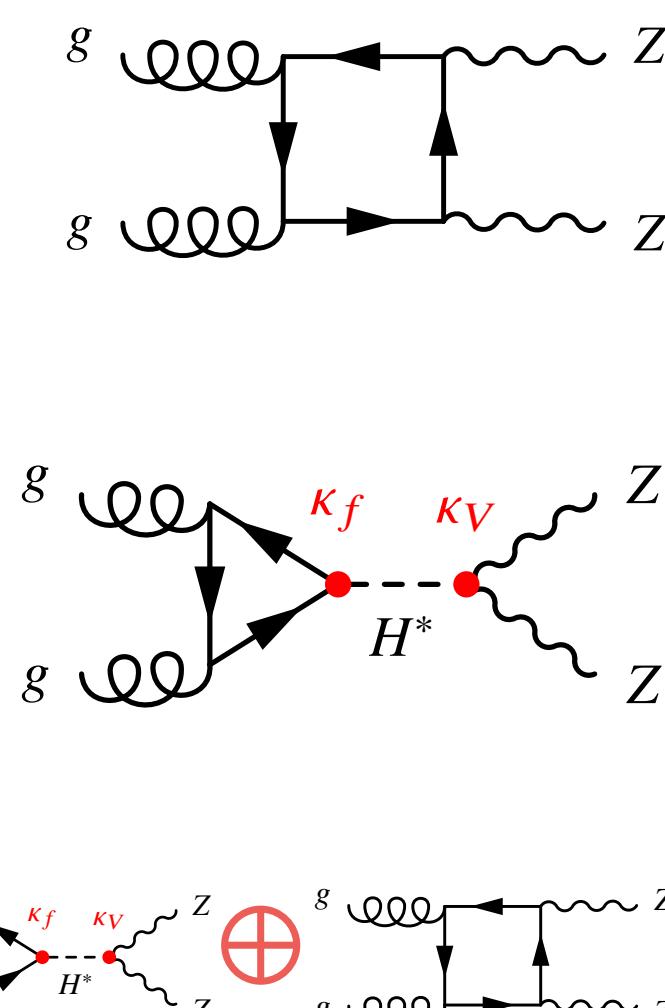


Analytically parameterised in  $\mu$ , allows to get LR  
for any hypothesis  $\mu$  without training  
parameterised networks !



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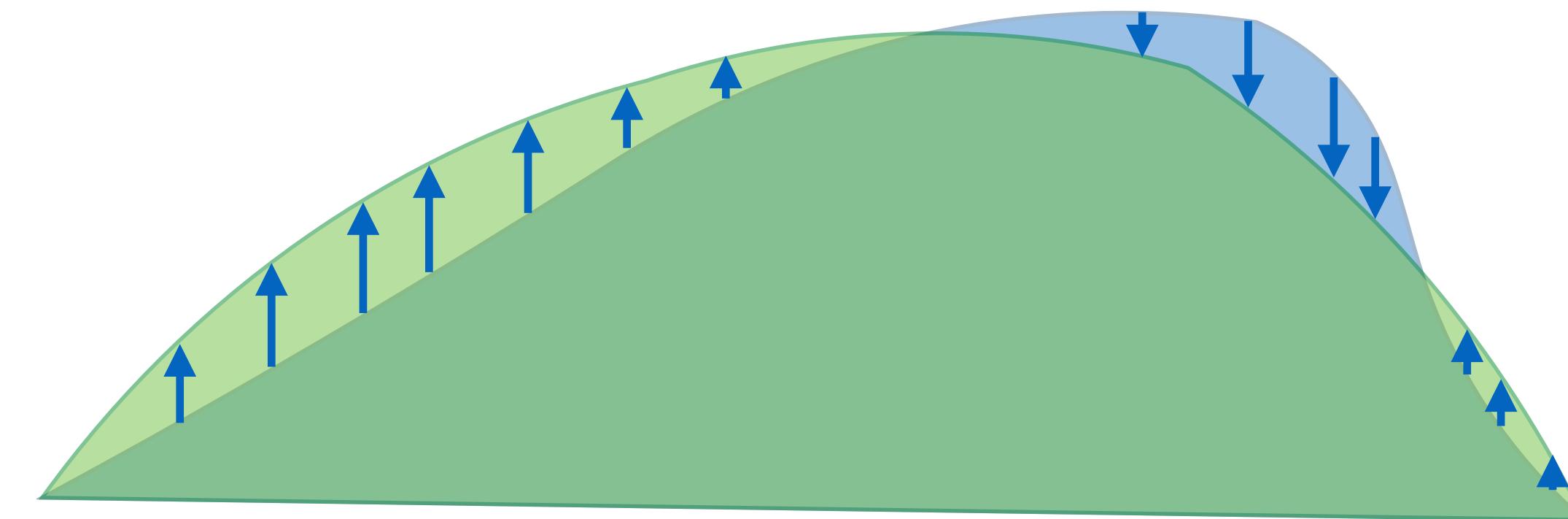
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# Validate quality of LR estimation with re-weighting task

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Reweighting: Calculate weights  $w_i$  for events  $x_i$  in **blue sample** to match **green sample**

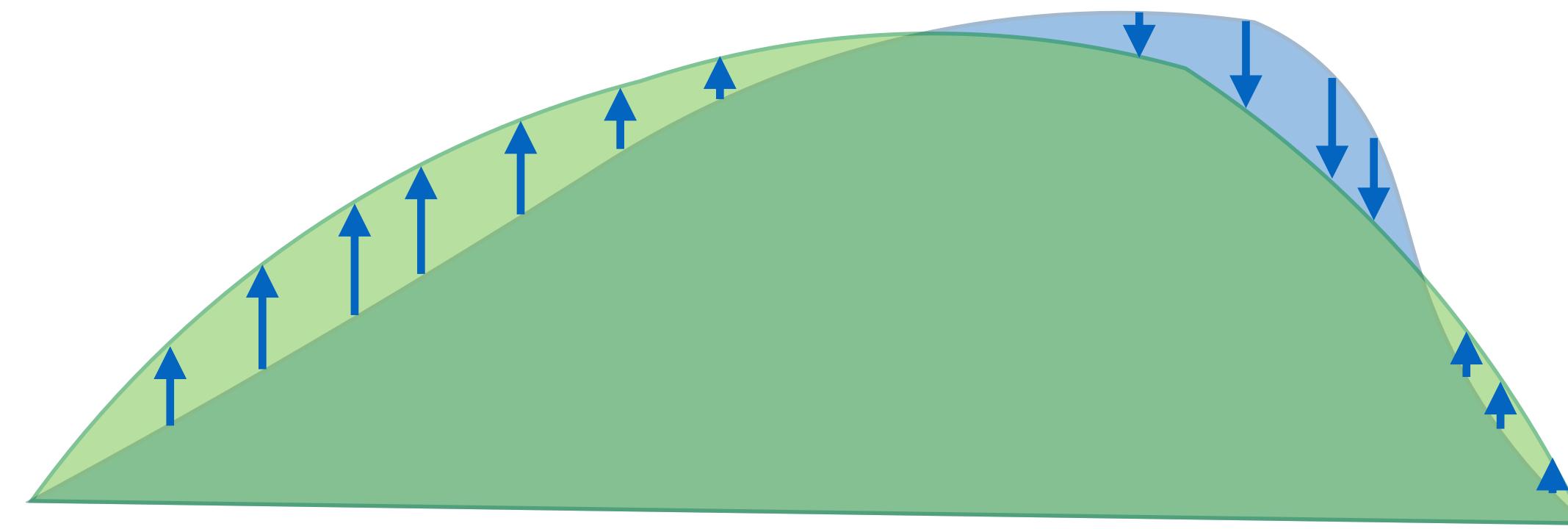


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---

Reweighting: Calculate weights  $w_i$  for events  $x_i$  in blue sample to match green sample

$$w_i = r(x_i, \mu_0, \mu_1) = \frac{p(x_i | \mu_0)}{p(x_i | \mu_1)}$$

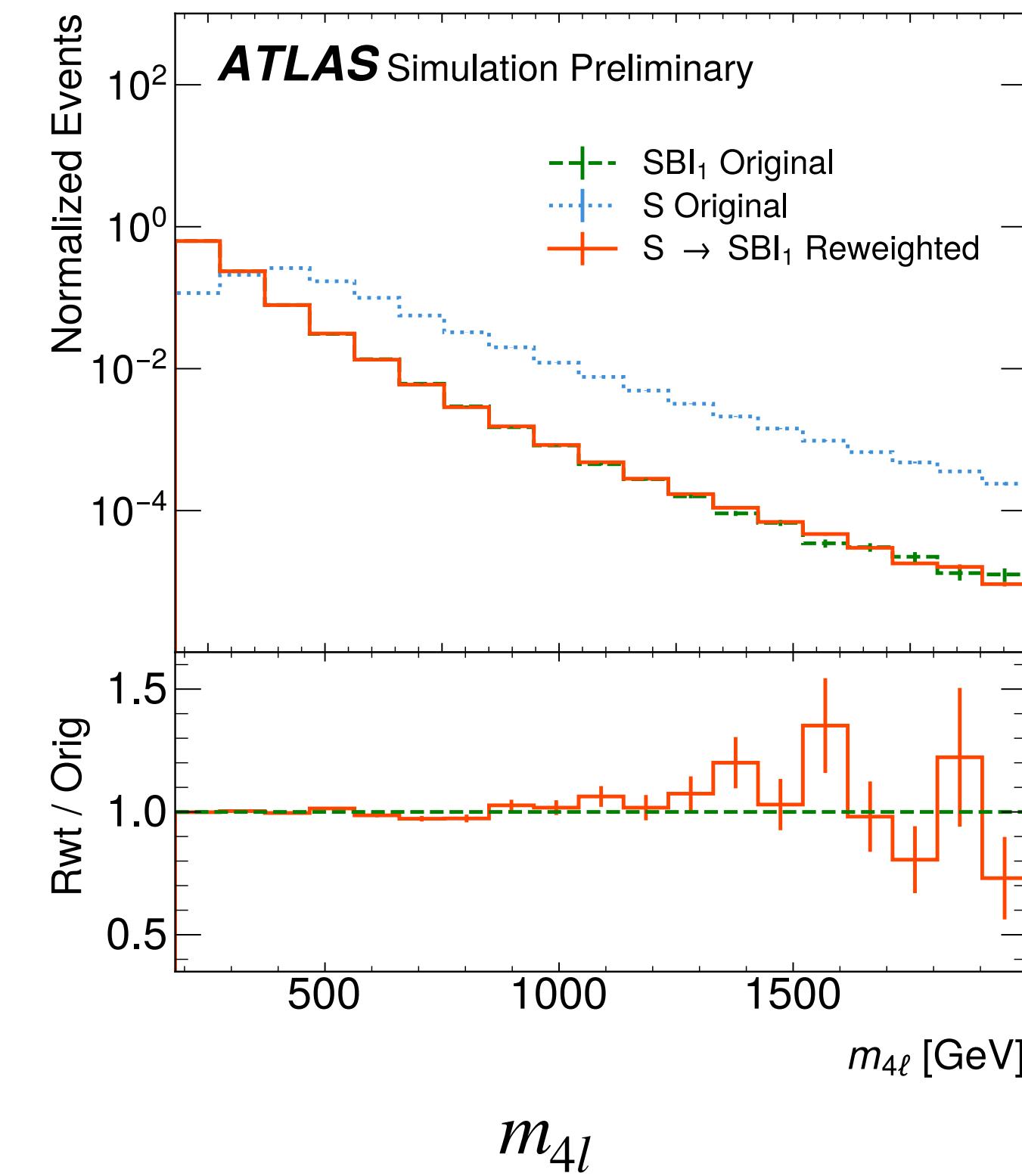



Already estimated using an ensemble of networks

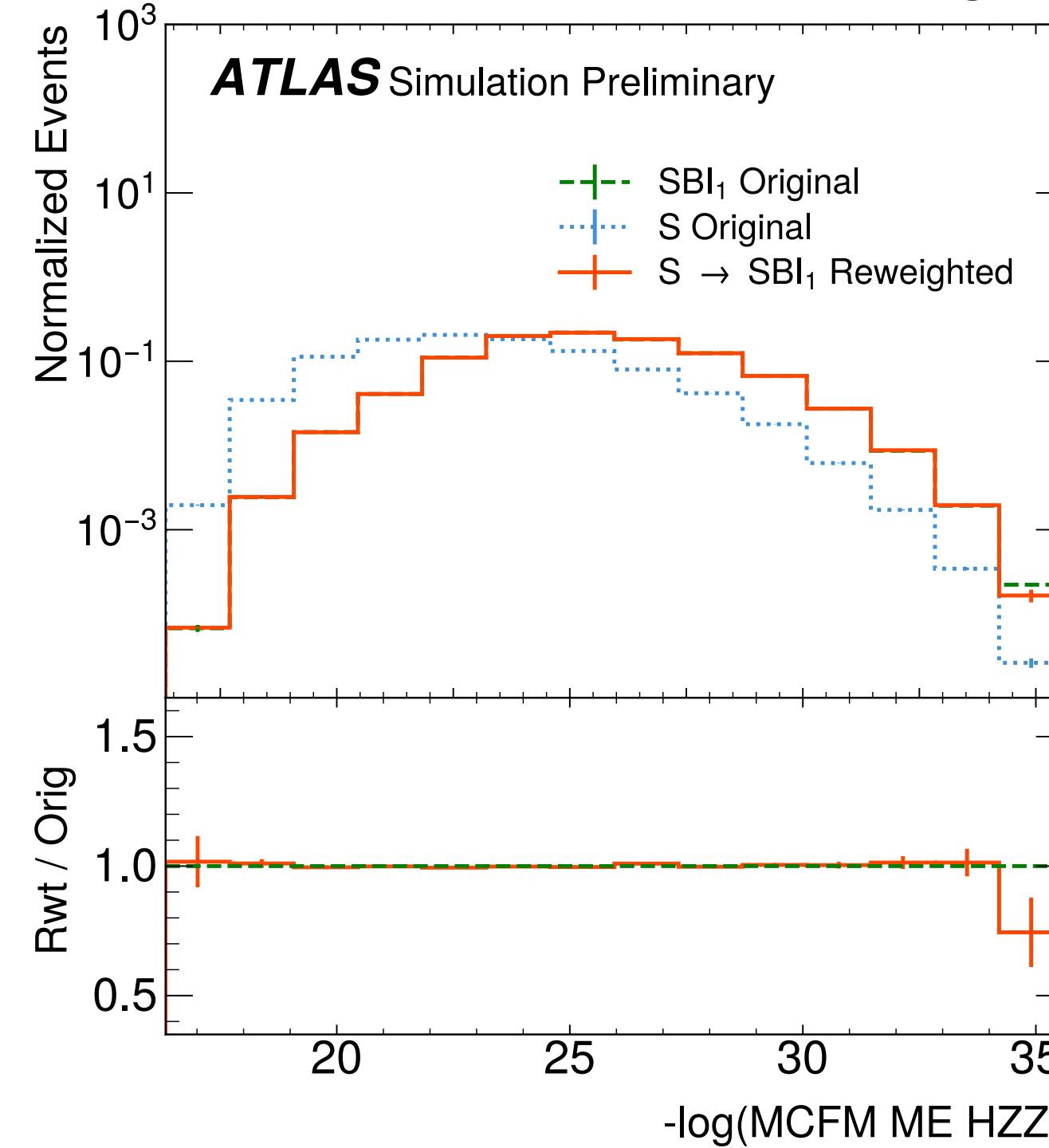
# Re-weight closures

Variable used in training

Source  
Target  
RW



High-level variable  
never used in training



Matrix-Element-based Observable  
(ggF from MCFM)

**High-Dim Classifier Test:**  
Train independent classifier on RW vs Target,  
AUC=0.5 ⇒ LRs well estimated

## Open problems to extend to full ATLAS analysis:

- ✓ Robustness: Design and validation
- ▶ Systematic Uncertainties: Incorporate them in likelihood (ratio) model
- Neyman Construction: Throwing toys in a per-event analysis

# Systematic uncertainties

Experimental uncertainties:

Eg. Inaccuracies in the calibration of our detector

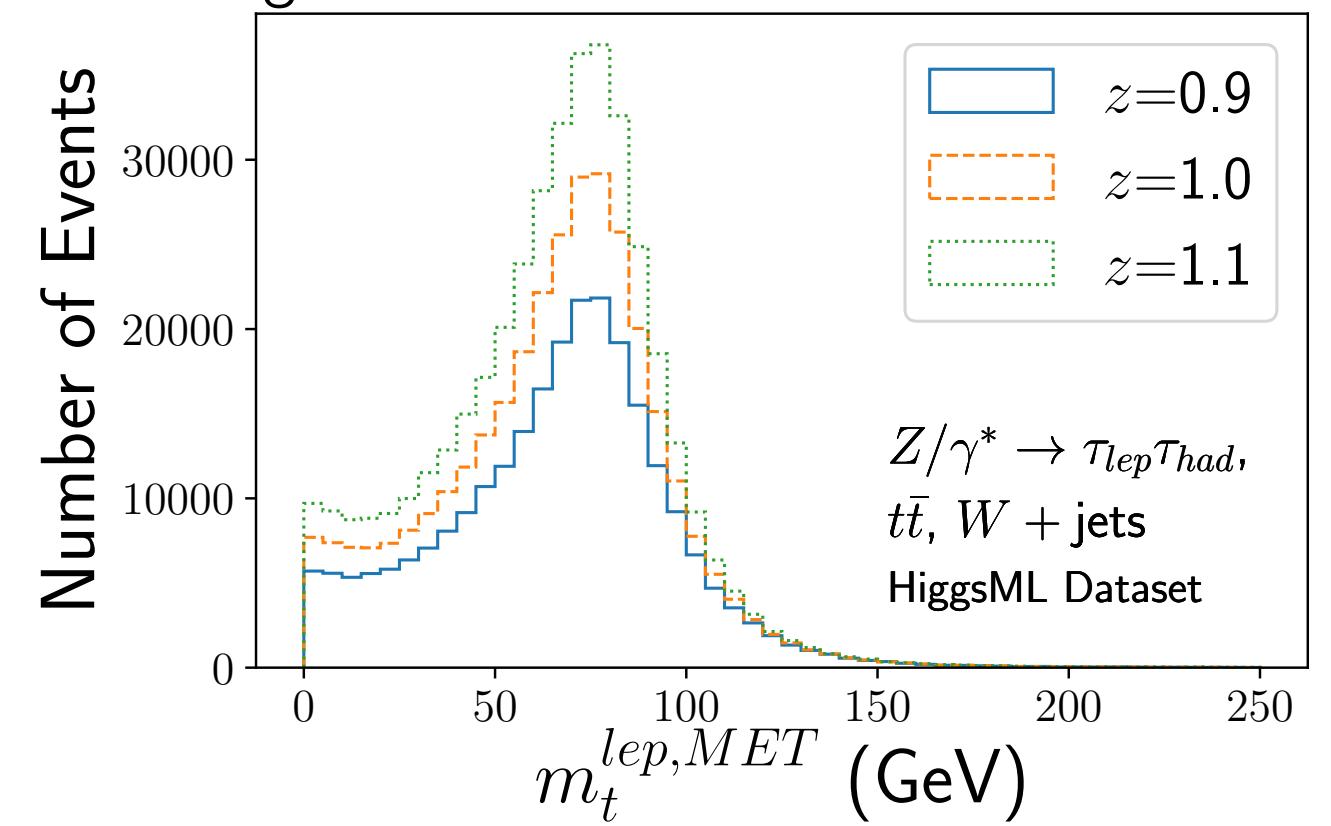


Image: arXiv:2105.08742

Theory uncertainties:

Eg. Inability to compute QFT to infinite order

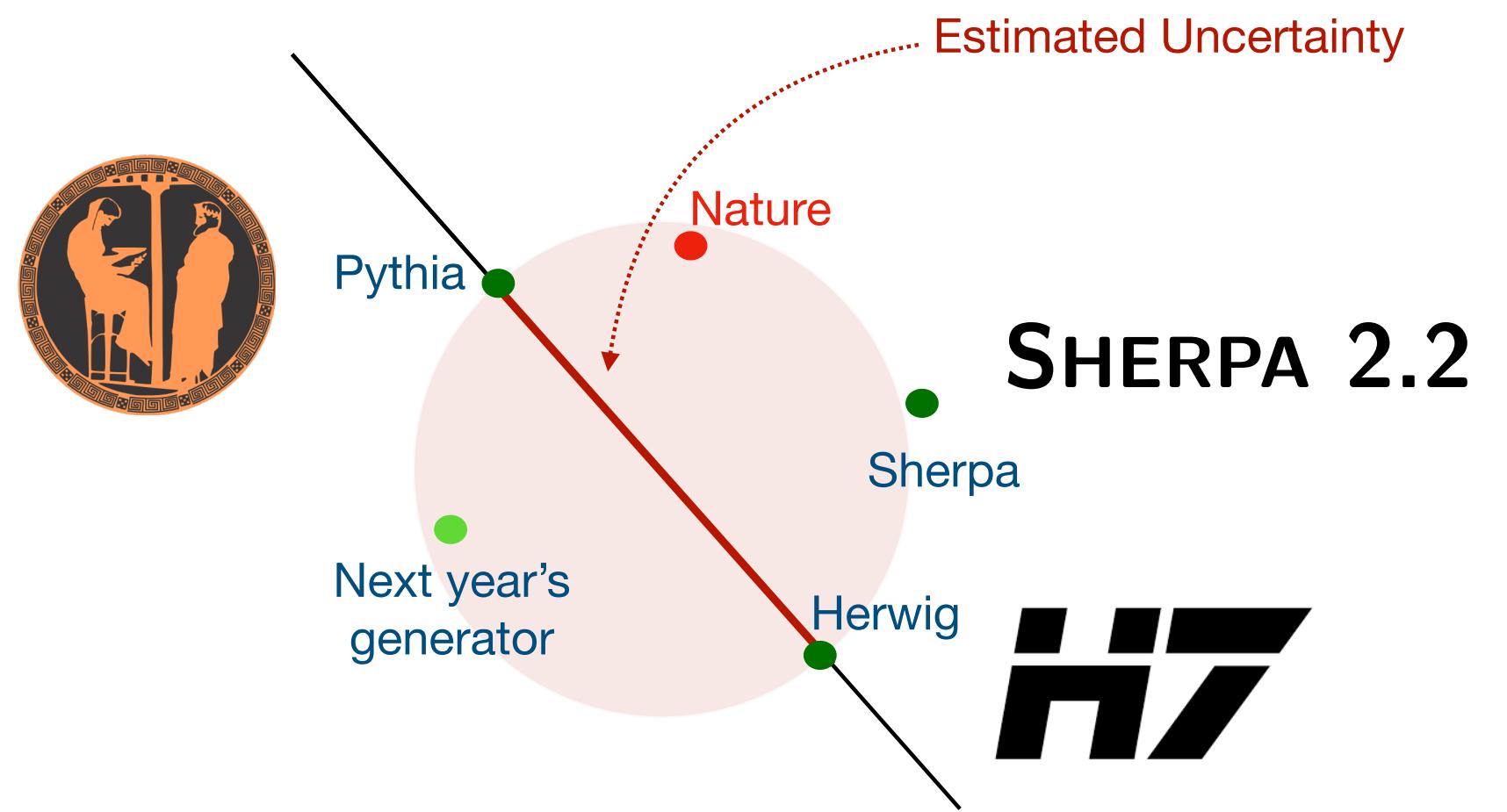


Image: arXiv:2109.08159

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Eg. Inaccuracies in the calibration of our detector

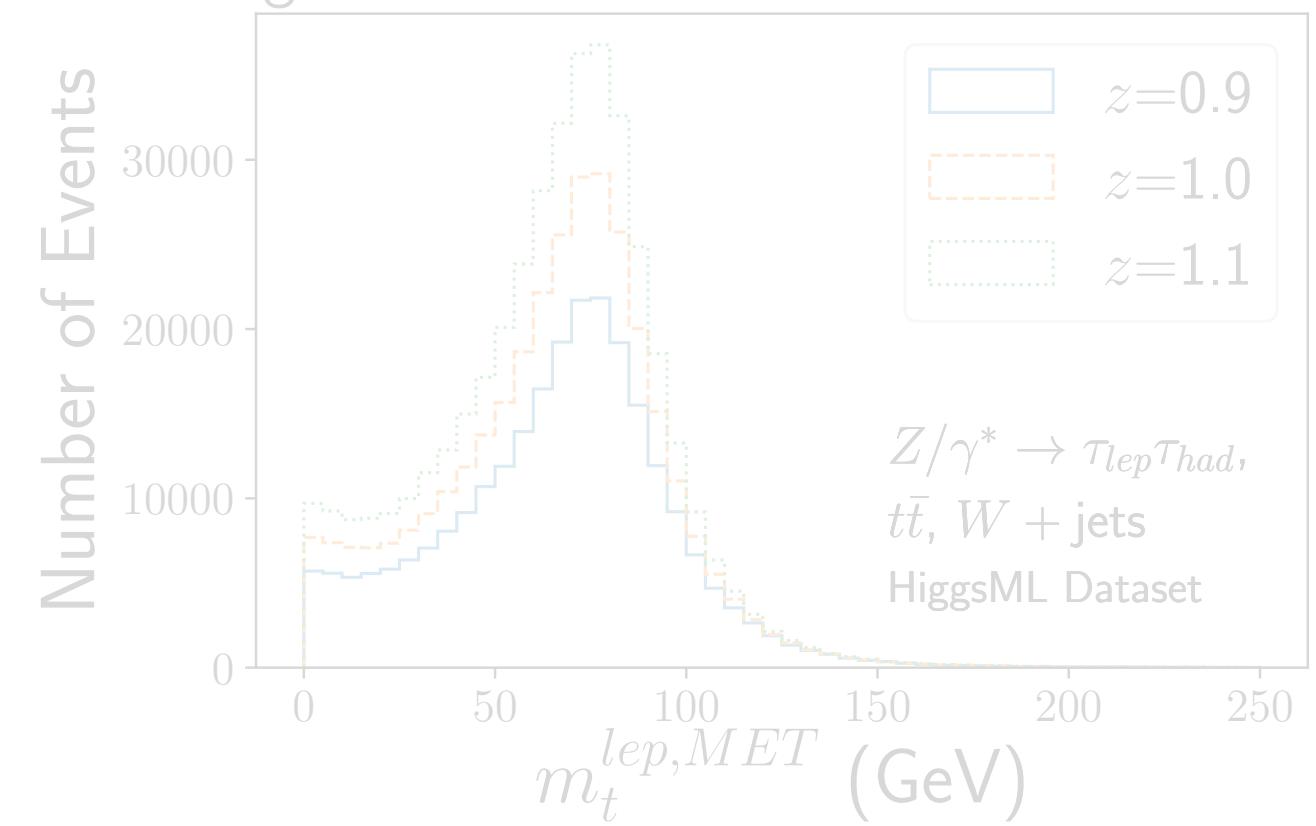


Image: arXiv:2105.08742

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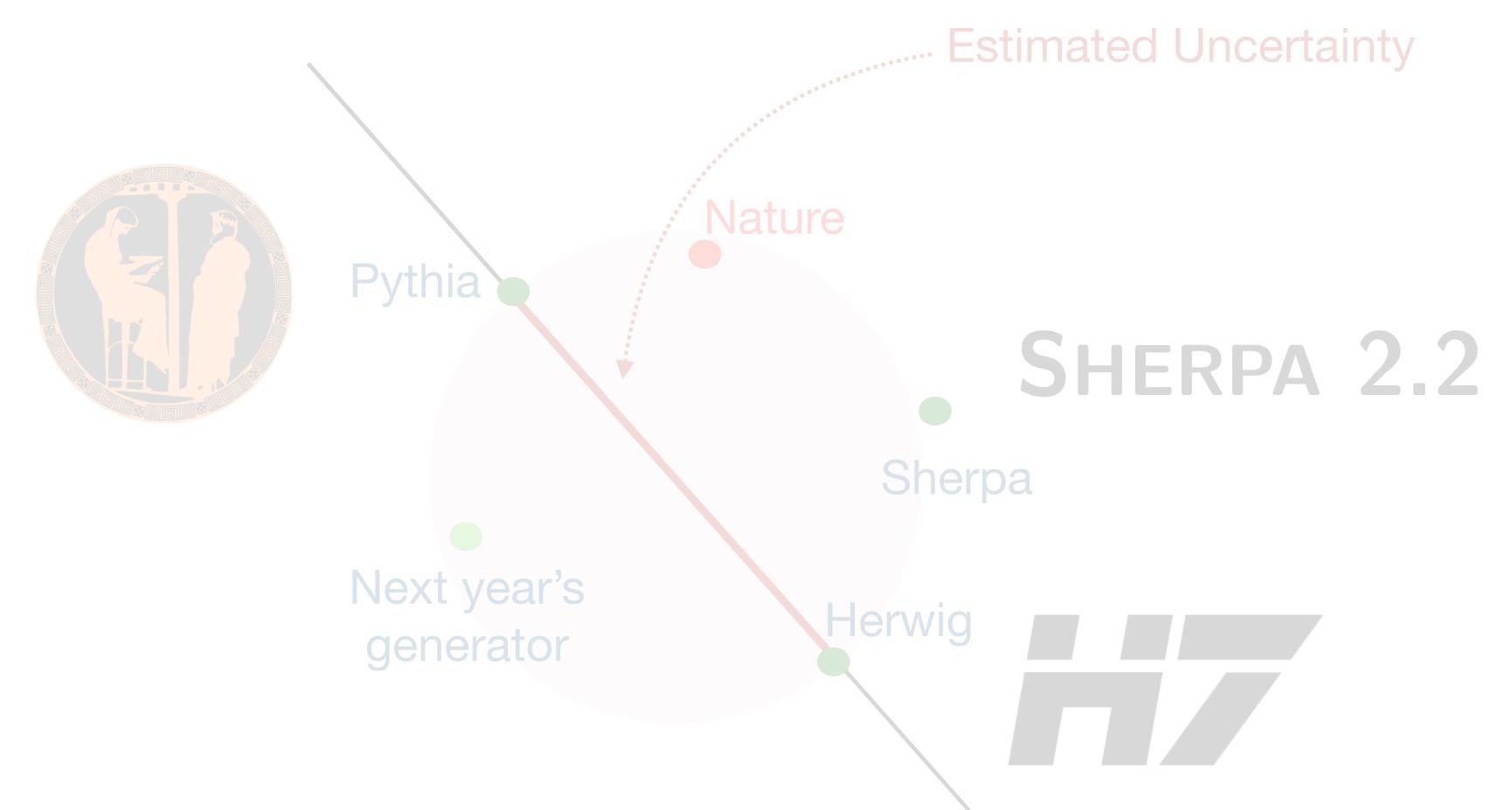
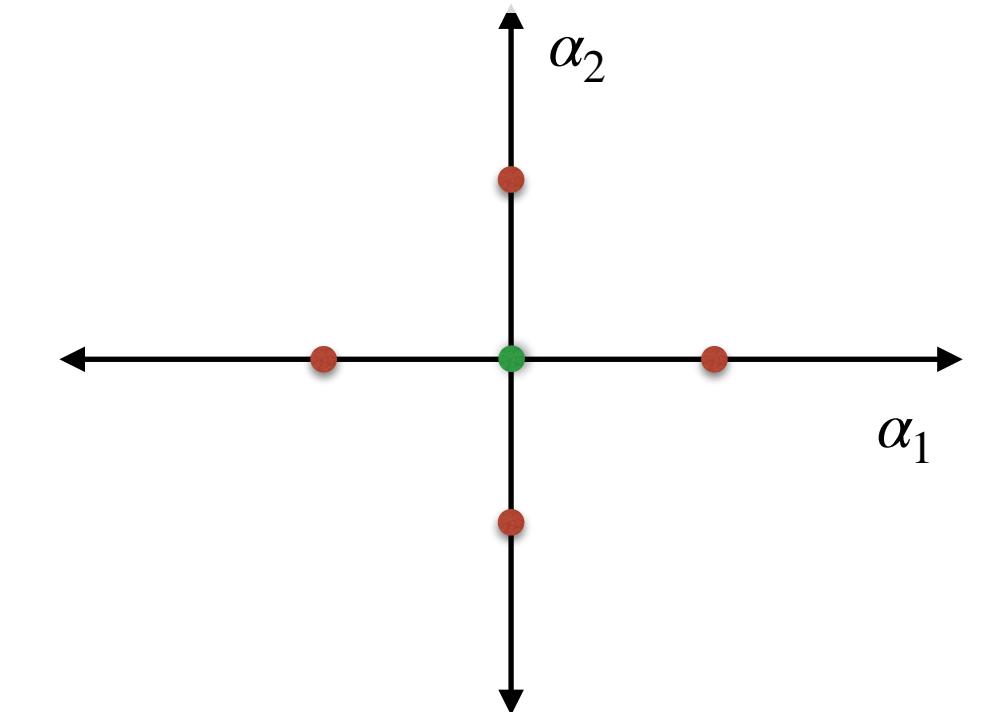


Image: arXiv:2109.08159

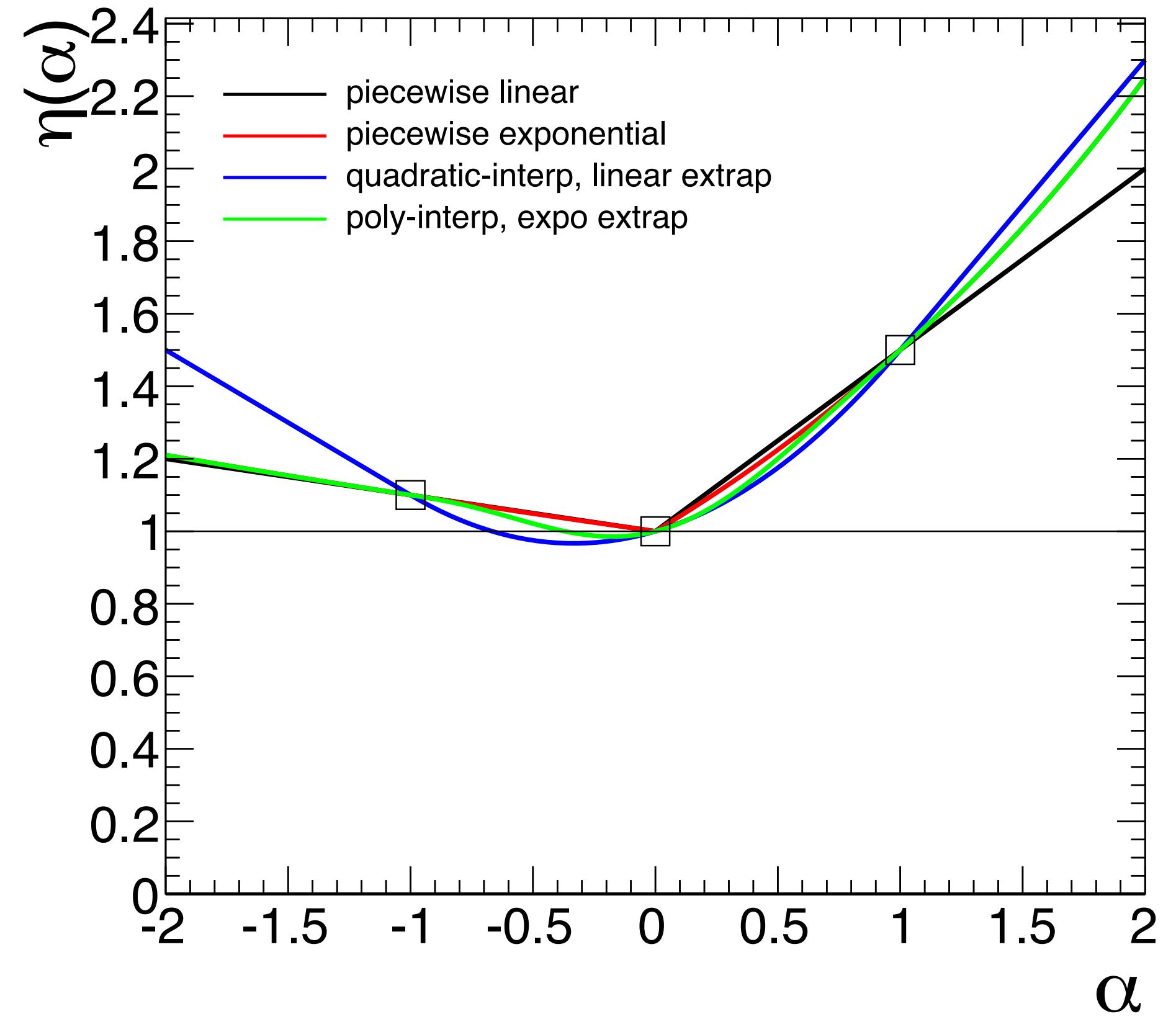
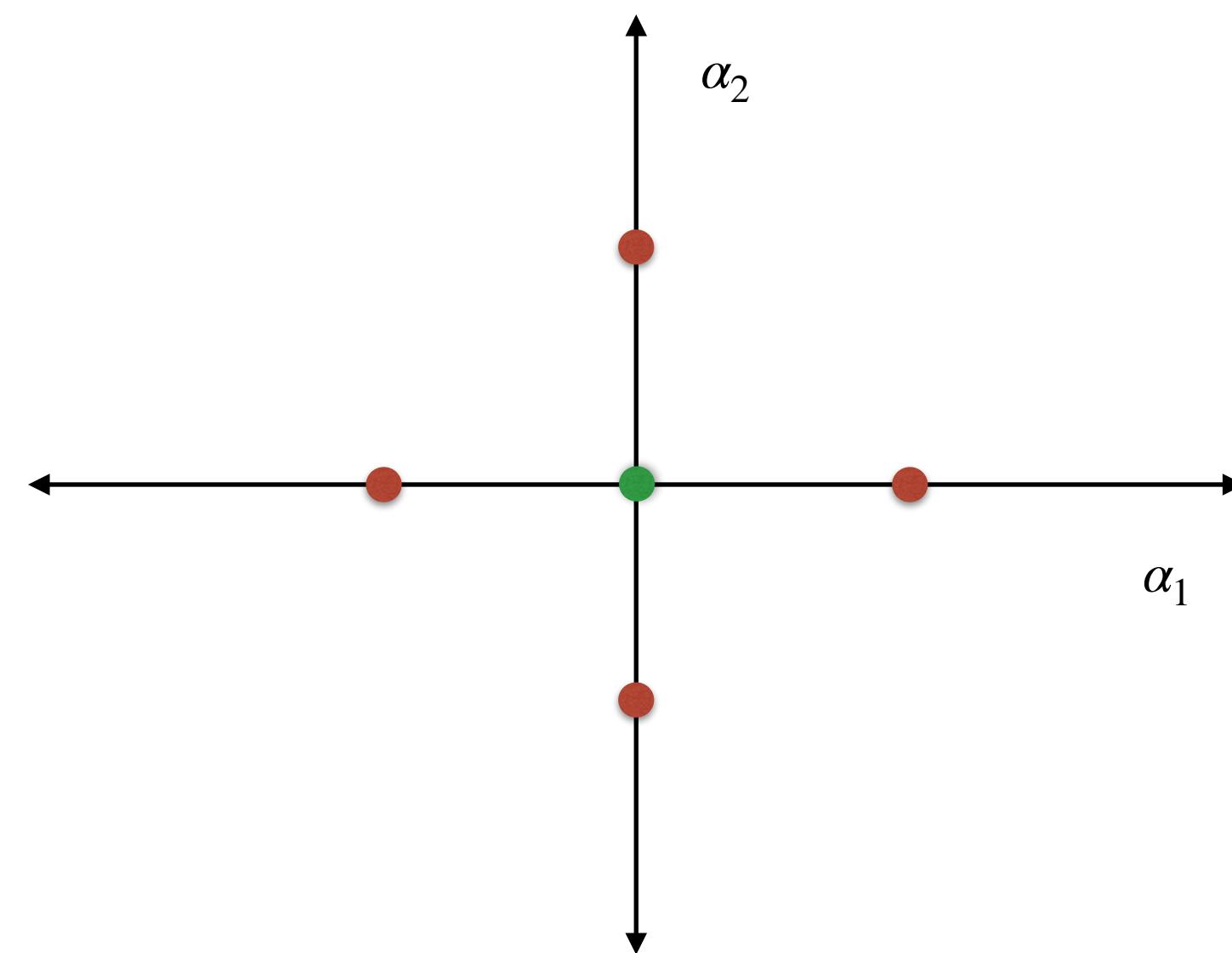
- We only have simulations at 3 variations of each nuisance parameter  $\alpha_k$



# Known interpolation strategies

[See formula used](#)

Image: arXiv:1503.07622

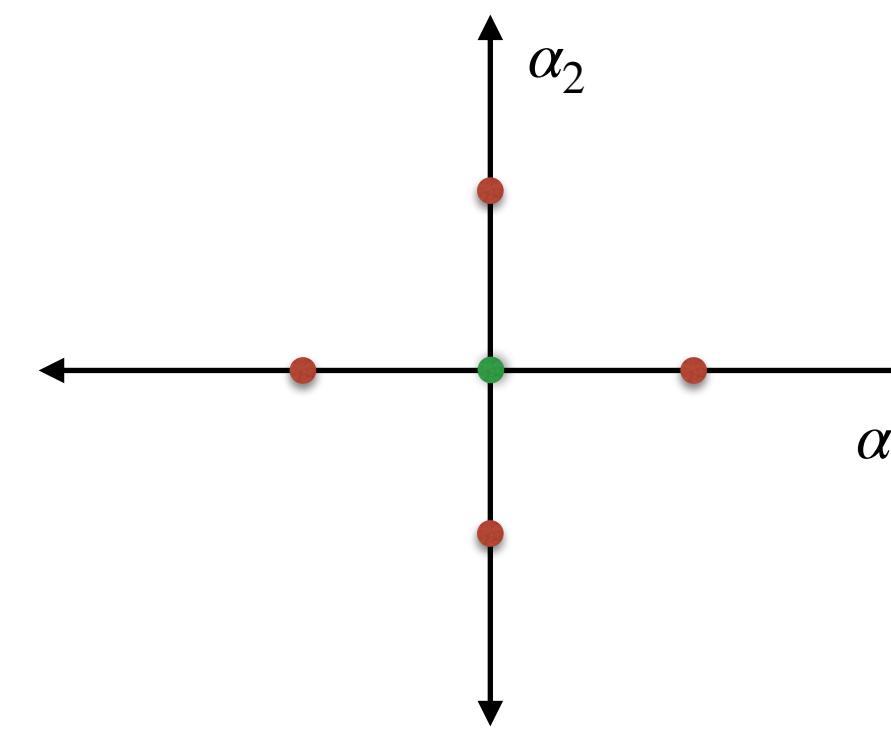


⇒ Combine these traditional interpolation with neural network estimation of per-event likelihood ratios

# Probability density ratio including nuisance parameters ( $\alpha$ )

$x_i$  is one individual event

$$\frac{p(x_i | \mu, \underline{\alpha})}{p_{ref}(x_i)} =$$



[See](#) details of vertical interpolation for  $G_j(\alpha_k), g_j(x_i, \alpha_k)$

# Probability density ratio including nuisance parameters ( $\alpha$ )

$x_i$  is one individual event

$$\frac{p(x_i | \mu, \underline{\alpha})}{p_{ref}(x_i)} = \frac{1}{\nu(\mu, \alpha)} \sum_j^C f_j(\mu) \cdot \nu_j \cdot \frac{p_j(x_i)}{p_{ref}(x_i)} \cdot \prod_k^{N_{syst}} G_j(\alpha_k) \cdot g_j(x_i, \alpha_k)$$

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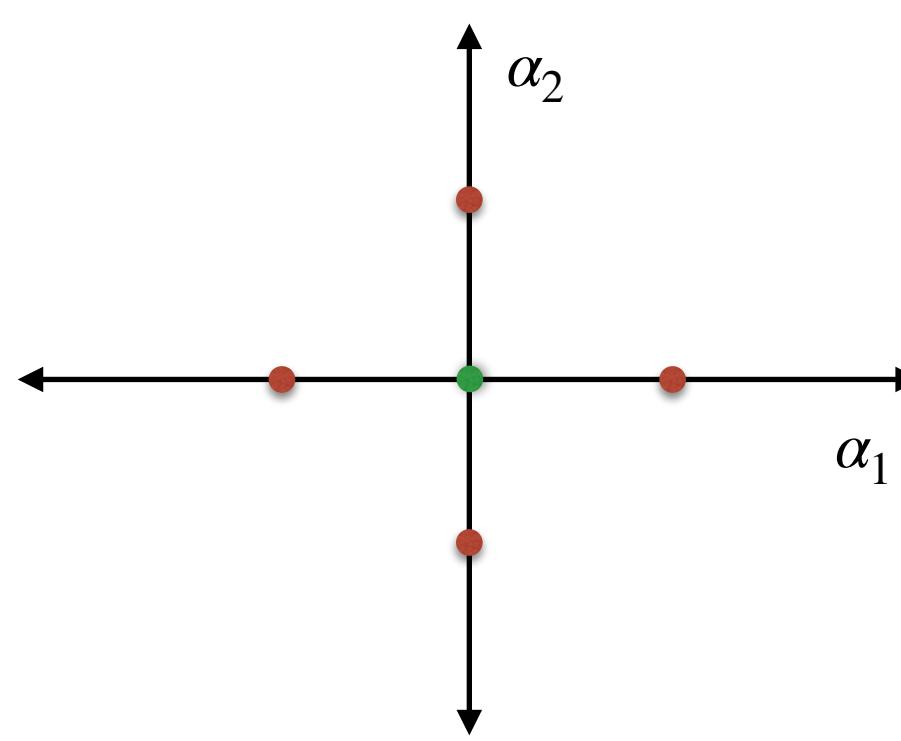
$$g_j(x_i, \alpha_k) = \frac{p_j(x_i, \alpha_k)}{p_j(x_i)}$$

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We have this already



$$g_j(x_i, \alpha_k) = \frac{p_j(x_i, \alpha_k)}{p_j(x_i)}$$

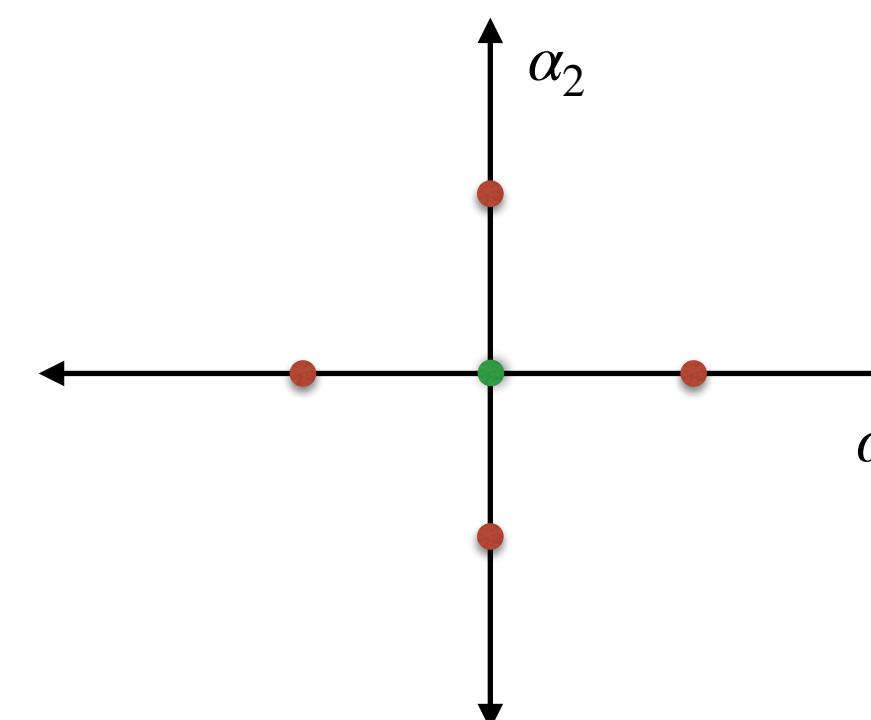
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We have this already

Estimate from simulations and existing  
interpolation methods



$$g_j(x_i, \alpha_k) = \frac{p_j(x_i, \alpha_k)}{p_j(x_i)}$$

# Probability density ratio including nuisance parameters ( $\alpha$ )

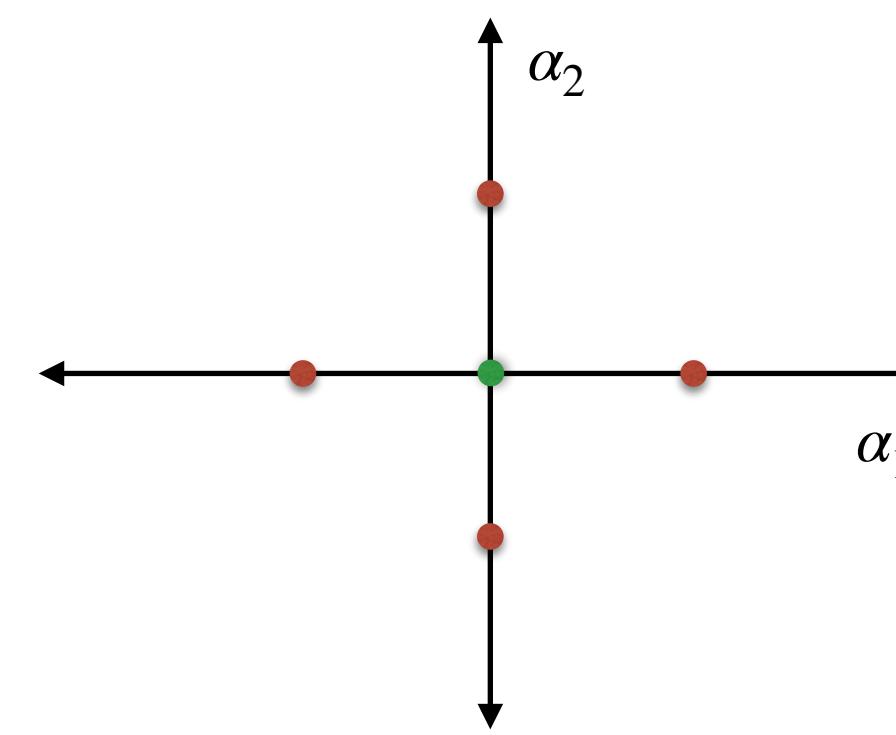
$x_i$  is one individual event

$$\frac{p(x_i | \mu, \alpha)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x_i)} = \frac{1}{\nu(\mu, \alpha)} \sum_j^C f_j(\mu) \cdot \nu_j \cdot \frac{p_j(x_i)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x_i)} \cdot \prod_k^{N_{\text{syst}}} G_j(\alpha_k) \cdot g_j(x_i, \alpha_k)$$

We have this already

Per-event terms estimated using another ensemble of networks and interpolation methods

Estimate from simulations and existing interpolation methods



$$g_j(x_i, \alpha_k) = \frac{p_j(x_i, \alpha_k)}{p_j(x_i)}$$

## Final test statistic

---

$x_i$  is one individual event

$$\frac{L_{\text{full}}(\mu, \alpha | \mathcal{D})}{L_{\text{ref}}(\mathcal{D})} = \text{Pois}(N_{\text{data}} | \nu(\mu, \alpha)) \prod_i^{N_{\text{data}}} \frac{p(x_i | \mu, \alpha)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x_i)} \prod_k \text{Gaus}(a_k | \alpha_k, \delta_k)$$

## Final test statistic

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*From previous slide*

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Prod over events

From previous slide

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Rate term

Prod over events

From previous slide

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From previous slide

Rate term

Prod over events

Constrain term

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$x_i$  is one individual event

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Prod over events

*From previous slide*

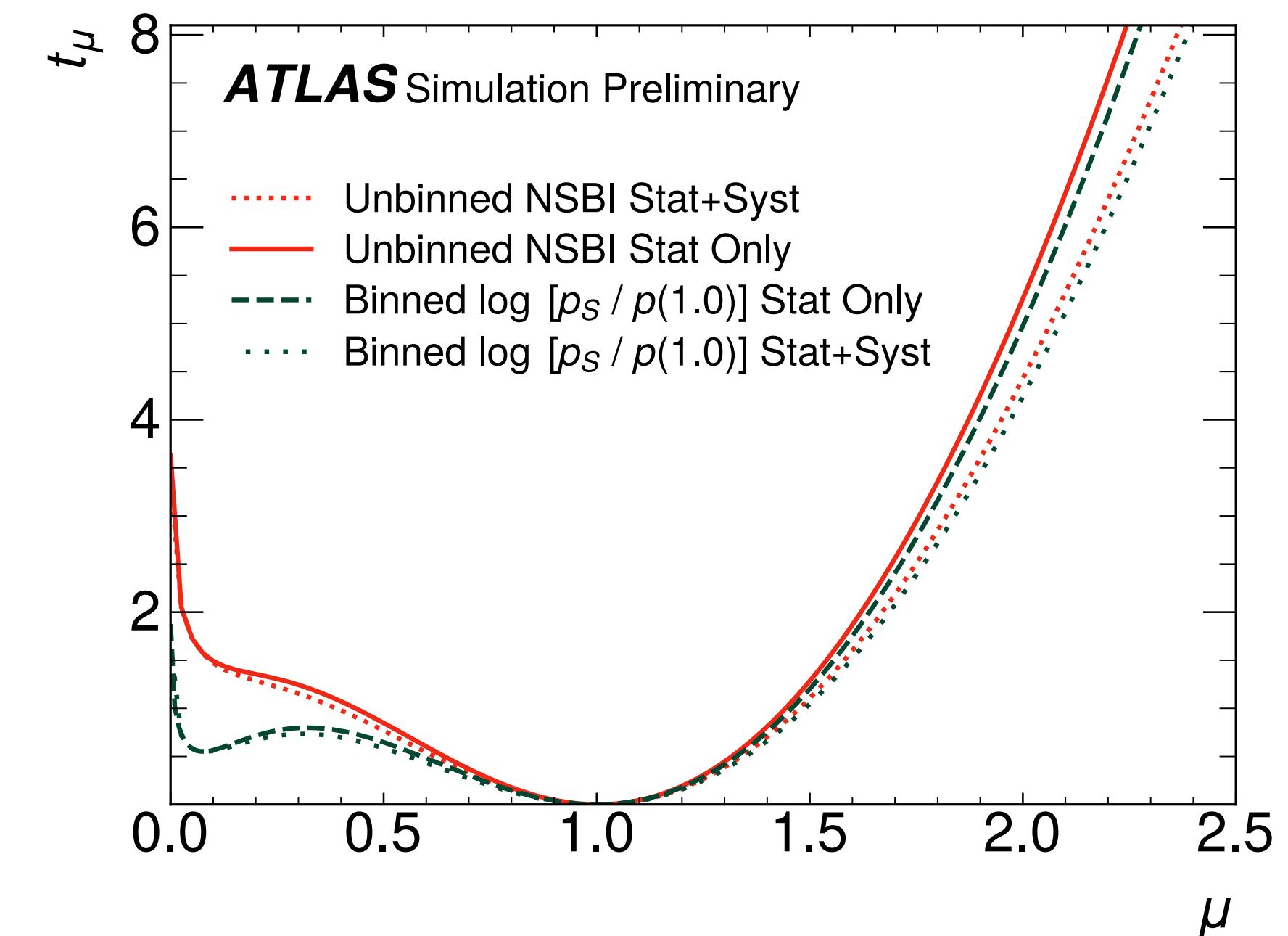
*Constrain term*

*Rate term*

Profiling:

$$t_\mu = -2 \ln \left( \frac{L_{\text{full}}(\mu, \widehat{\alpha}) / \cancel{L_{\text{ref}}}}{L_{\text{full}}(\widehat{\mu}, \widehat{\alpha}) / \cancel{L_{\text{ref}}}} \right)$$

This is why we define  $p_{\text{ref}}$  to be independent of  $\mu$



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Prod over events

*From previous slide*

*Constrain term*

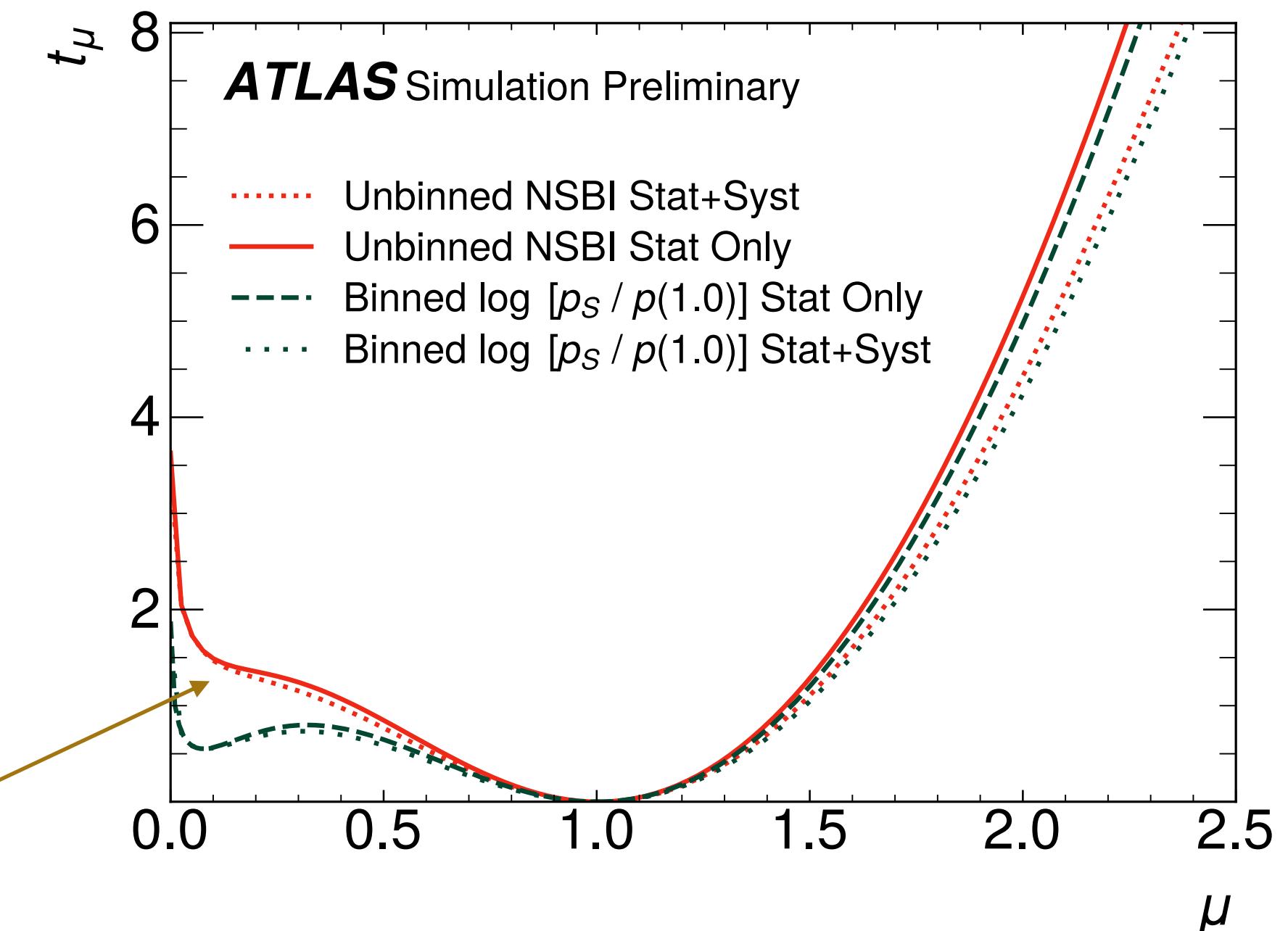
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This is why we define  $p_{\text{ref}}$  to be independent of  $\mu$

Non-parabolic shape due to non-linear effects from quantum interference



## Reference Sample

---

A combination of signal samples, to ensure there's non-vanishing support entire region of analysis  
Does not have to be physical!

$$p_{\text{ref}}(x_i) = \frac{1}{\sum_k \nu_k} \sum_k^{\text{C}_{\text{signals}}} \nu_k \cdot p_k(x_i)$$

⇒ In our dataset,  $p_{\text{ref}}(\cdot) = p_S(\cdot)$

Choice of  $p_{\text{ref}}(\cdot)$  can be made purely on numerical stability of training, as it drops out in profile step

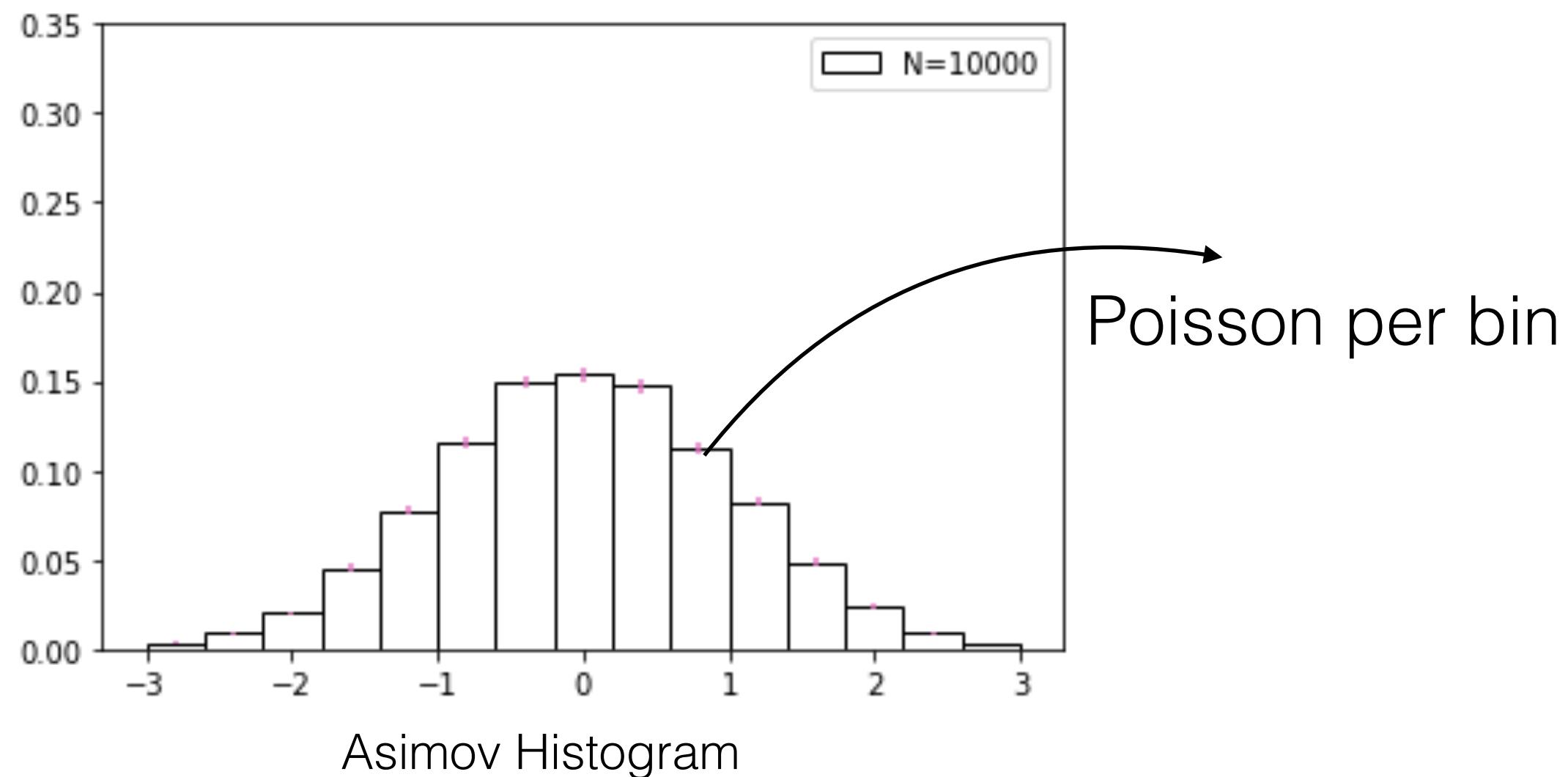
$$t_\mu = -2 \ln \left( \frac{L_{\text{full}}(\mu, \widehat{\alpha}) / \cancel{L}_{\text{ref}}}{L_{\text{full}}(\widehat{\mu}, \widehat{\alpha}) / \cancel{L}_{\text{ref}}} \right)$$

## Open problems to extend to full ATLAS analysis:

- ✓ Robustness: Design and validation
- ✓ Systematic Uncertainties: Incorporate them in likelihood (ratio) model
- Neyman Construction: Throwing toys in a per-event analysis

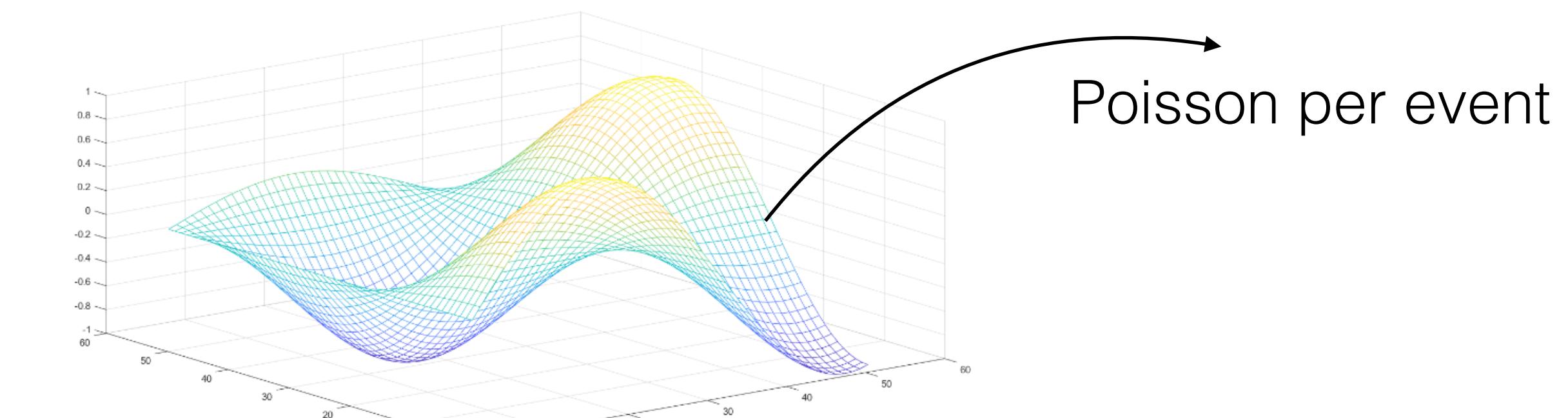
# Throwing event-level toys

Traditionally:



$$N_i^{toy} = \text{Poisson}(N_i^{\text{Asimov}})$$

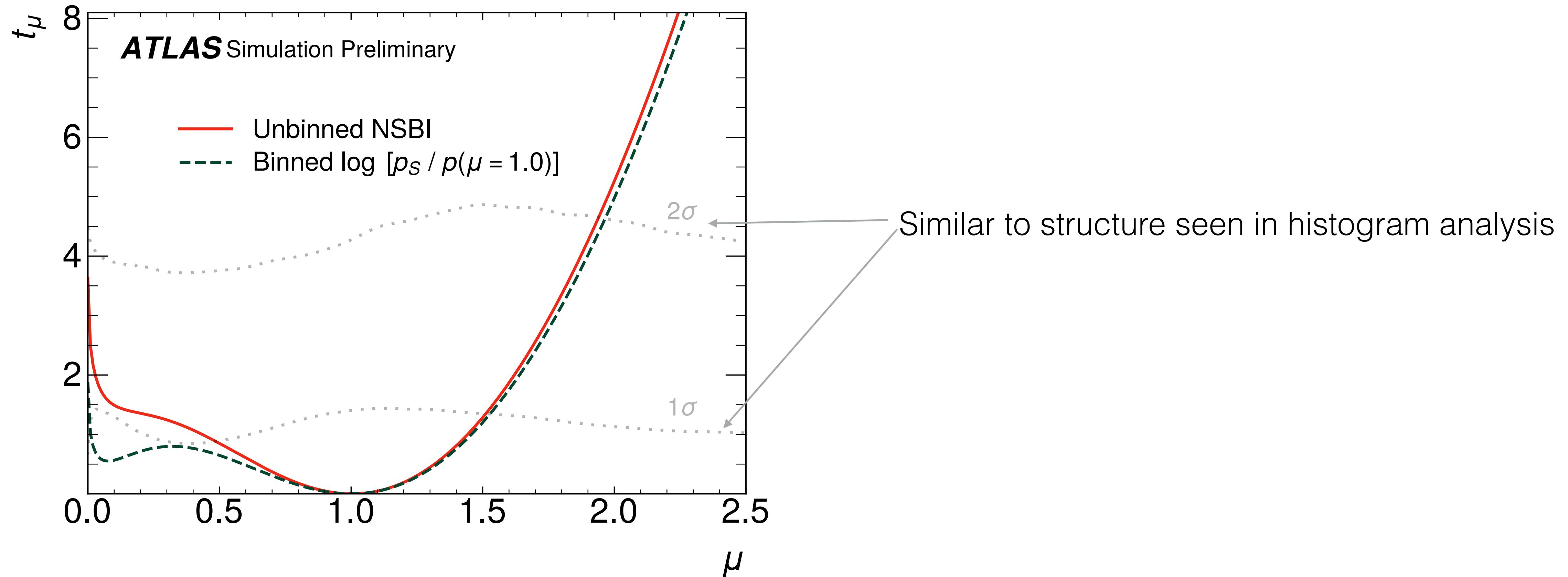
NSBI:



$$w_i^{toy} = \text{Poisson}(w_i^{\text{Asimov}})$$

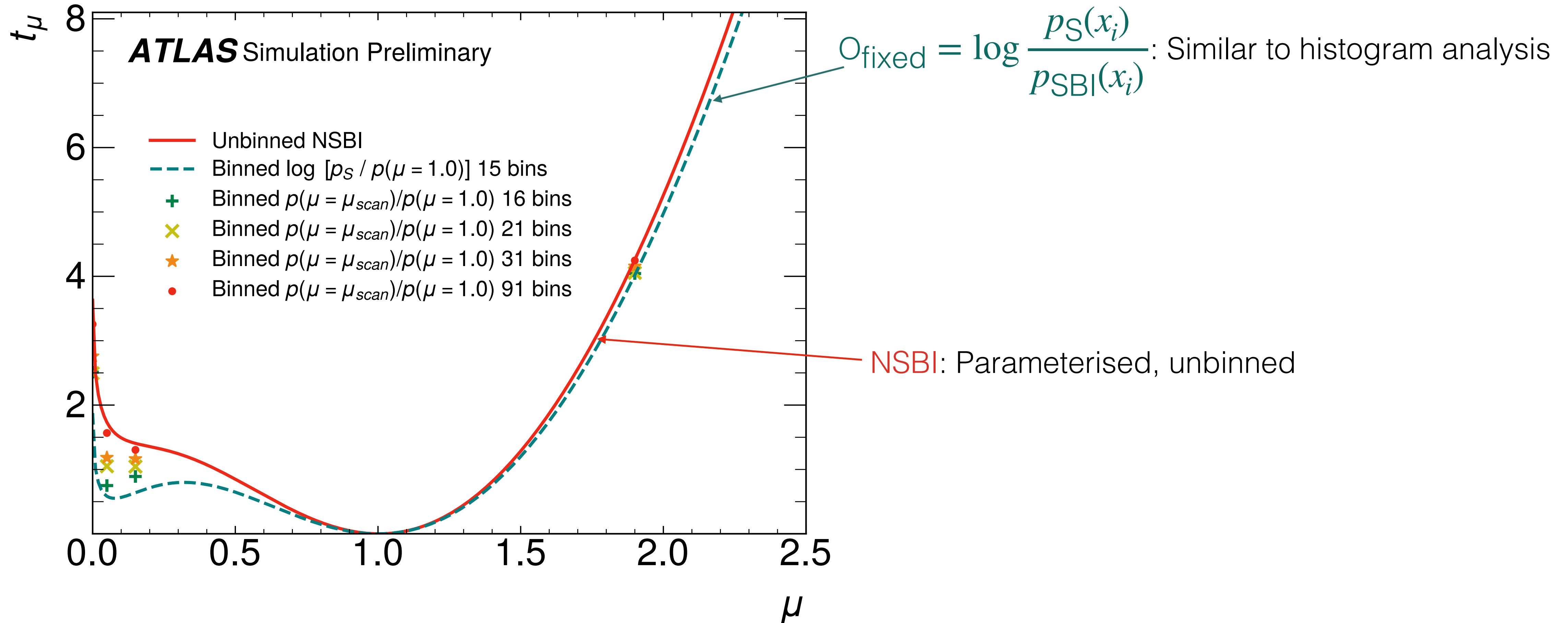
('Unweighted' events, i.e. integer weights)

# Confidence belts

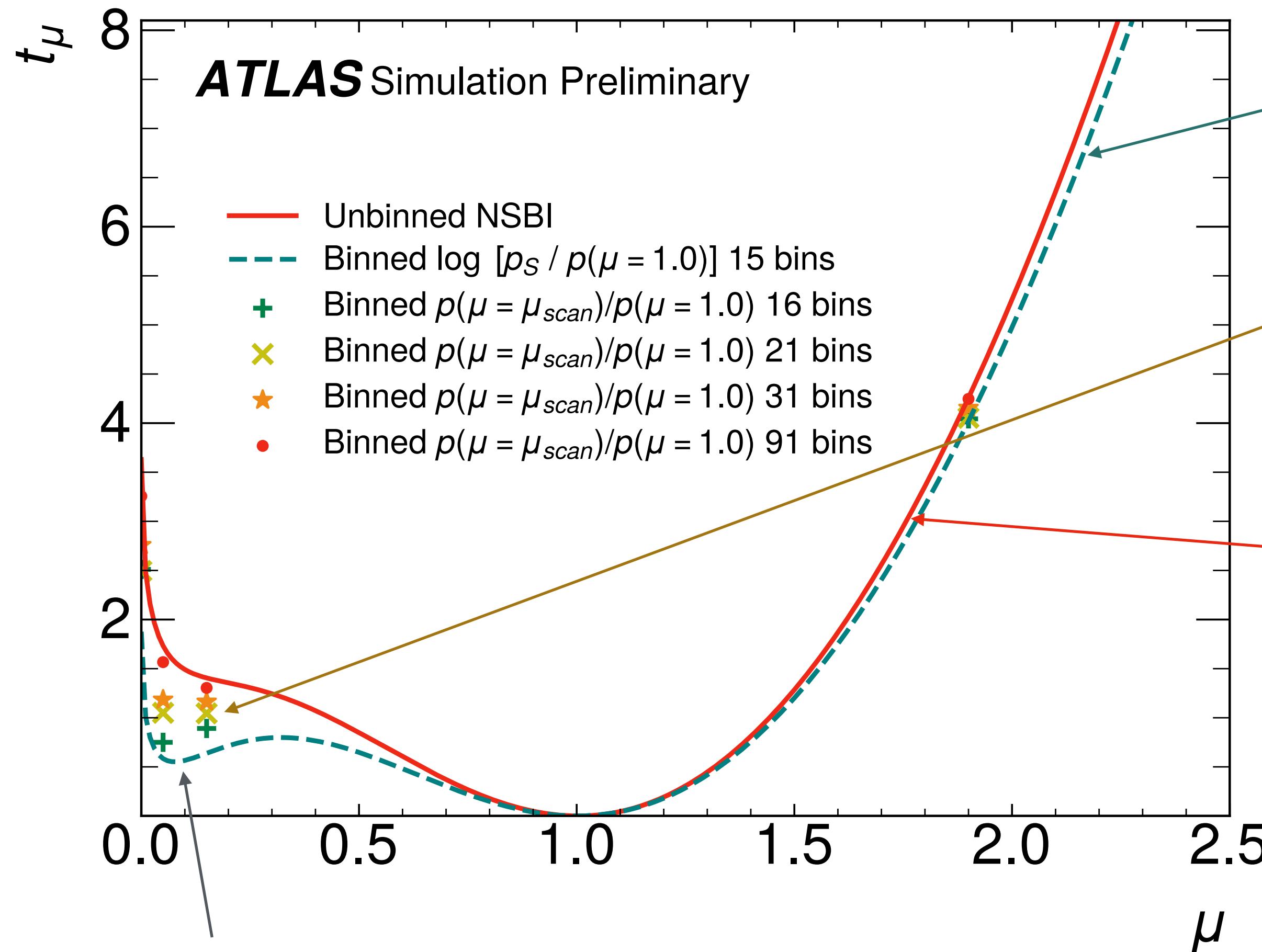


Why does NSBI work better than traditional analyses?

# Why does it work better than traditional analyses?



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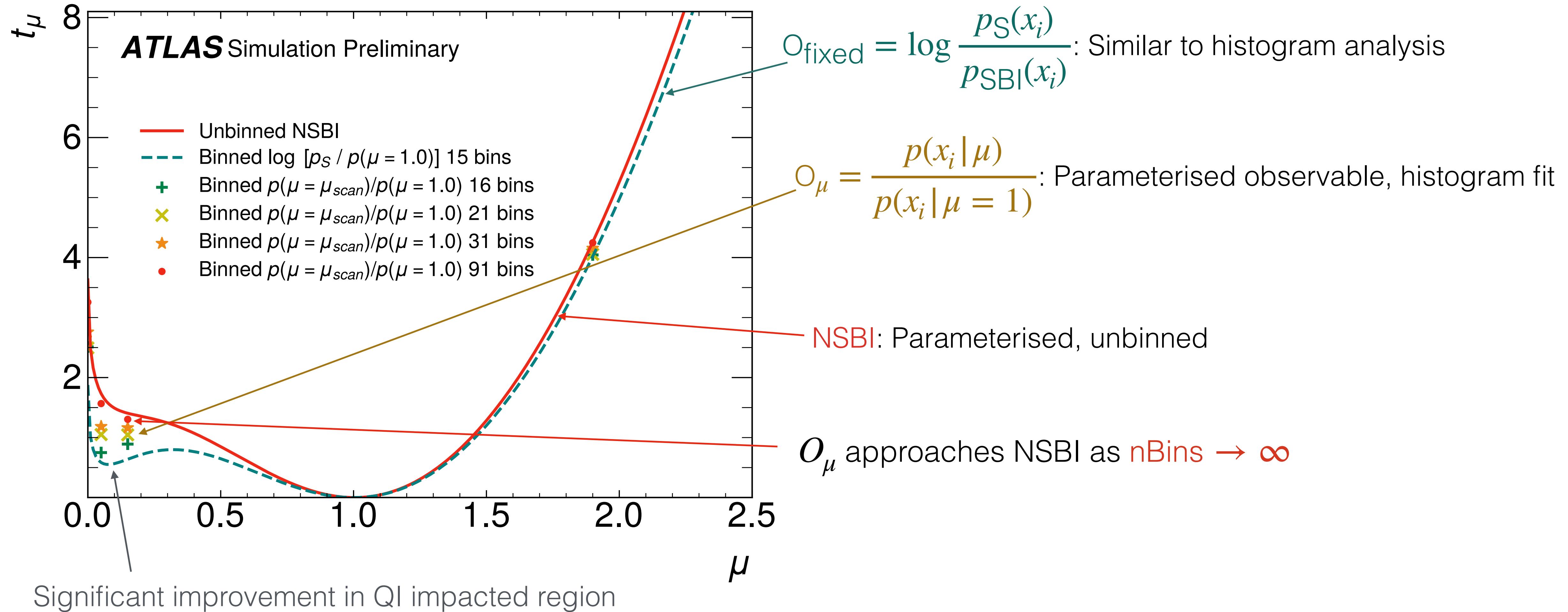
$O_{\text{fixed}} = \log \frac{p_S(x_i)}{p_{\text{SBI}}(x_i)}$ : Similar to histogram analysis

$O_\mu = \frac{p(x_i | \mu)}{p(x_i | \mu = 1)}$ : Parameterised observable, histogram fit

NSBI: Parameterised, unbinned

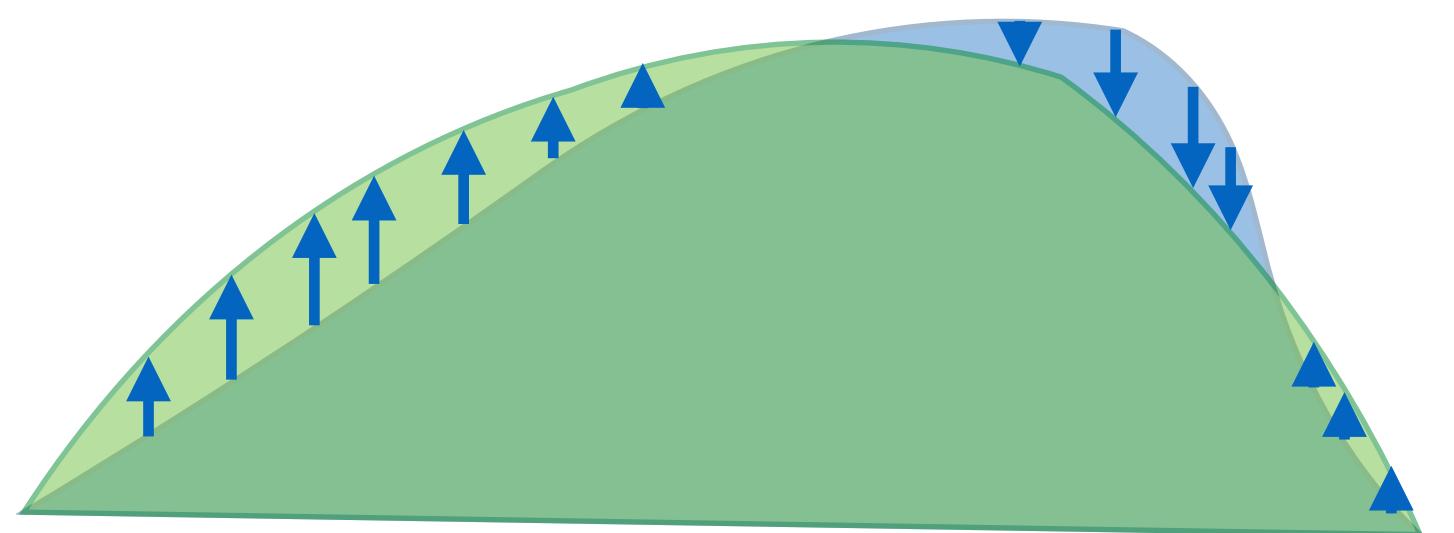
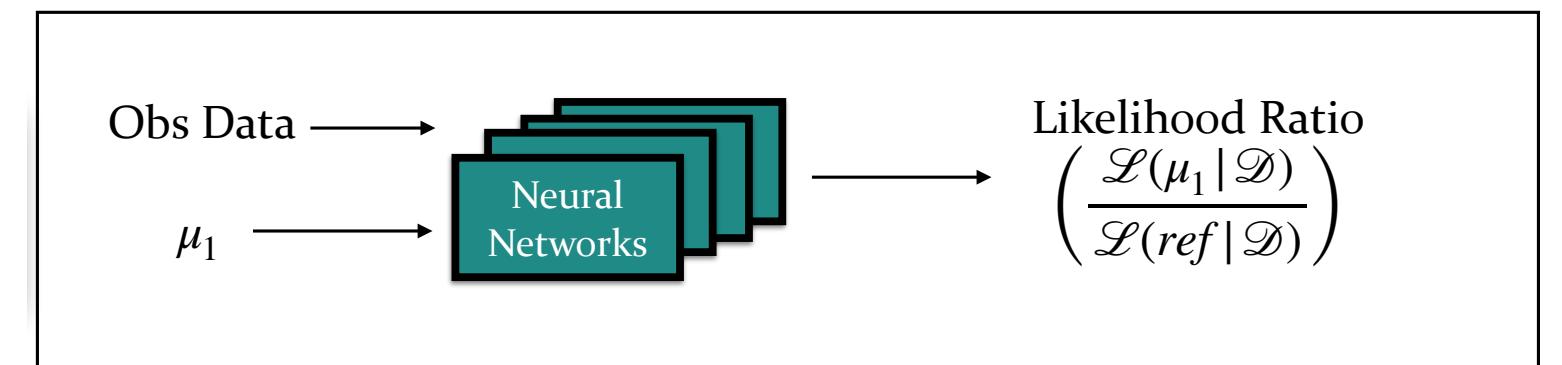
Significant improvement in QI impacted region

# Why does it work better than traditional analyses?



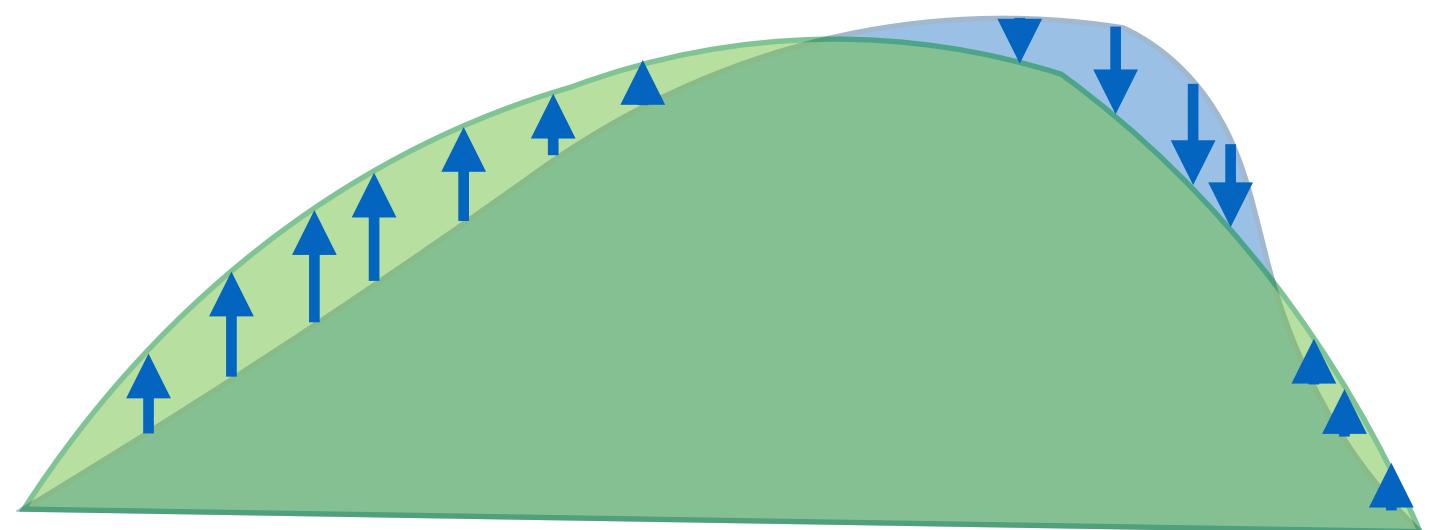
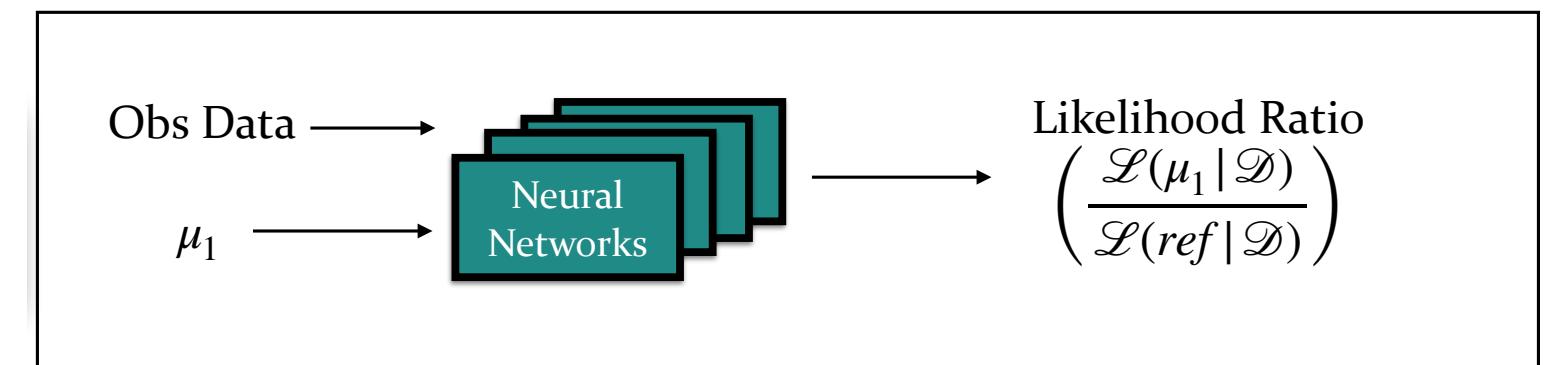
# Conclusion

- Developed a complete statistical framework for high-dimensional statistical inference
  - Builds upon traditional methodology in ATLAS
  - Developed diagnostic tools for validation
- Such methods are crucial for analyses where kinematic distributions change non-linearly with the parameter of interest, eg. EFT studies
- Weaknesses: Same as traditional analyses, requires well trained networks



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  - Builds upon traditional methodology in ATLAS
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Thanks !

# Backup

## Choice of observable

---

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---

$$\mathcal{L}(\mu | \mathcal{D}) = p(\mathcal{D} | \mu)$$

Neyman–Pearson lemma: Likelihood ratio is the most powerful test statistic

We want to compare likelihoods:

$$\frac{p(\mathcal{D} | \mu)}{p(\mathcal{D} | \mu_0)}$$

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A neural network classifier trained on S vs B, estimates the decision function\*:

$$s(x_i) = \frac{p(x_i | S)}{p(x_i | S) + p(x_i | B)}$$

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Which contains all the information required for the likelihood ratio:

$$\frac{p(x_i | \mu)}{p(x_i | \mu = 0)} = \frac{\mu \cdot \sigma_S \cdot p(x_i | S) + \sigma_B \cdot p(x_i | B)}{\sigma_B \cdot p(x_i | B)} = \mu \cdot \frac{\sigma_S}{\sigma_B} \cdot \frac{s(x_i)}{1 - s(x_i)} + 1.$$

Same observable  $s$  is optimal to test all  $\mu$  hypotheses!

No need to develop separate analysis per hypothesis  $\mu$

\* Equal class weights

# What breaks down?

$$P(X) = |M_s(X) + M_b(X)|^2 = \underbrace{|M_s(X)|^2}_{P_s(X)} + \underbrace{|M_b(X)|^2}_{P_b(X)} + 2 \underbrace{\text{Re}(\overline{M_s(X)} M_b(X))}_{P_i(X)}$$

$$N_{exp} = \mu \cdot S + B + \sqrt{\mu} \cdot I$$

A neural network classifier trained on S vs B, estimates the decision function:  $s(x_i) = \frac{p(x_i|S)}{p(x_i|S) + p(x_i|B)}$

Which contains all the information required for the likelihood ratio:

$$\frac{p(x_i|\mu)}{p(x_i|\mu=0)} = \frac{\mu \cdot \sigma_S \cdot p(x_i|S) + \sigma_B \cdot p(x_i|B)}{\sigma_B \cdot p(x_i|B)} = \mu \cdot \frac{\sigma_S}{\sigma_B} \cdot \frac{s(x_i)}{1 - s(x_i)} + 1.$$

**Same observable  $s$  is optimal to test all  $\mu$  hypotheses!**  
No need to develop separate analysis per hypothesis  $\mu$

8

No longer in this convenient spacial case: The same observable no longer optimal due to non-linear effects coming from quantum interference

Also does not generalise to an arbitrary theory parameter  $\theta$ , (eg. Effective Field Theory parameters)

Can we modify the LHC analysis methodology to design near-optimal analyse for the general case?

# Estimating high-dimensional density ratios

$$\mathcal{L}(\mu | \mathcal{D}) = p(\mathcal{D} | \mu)$$

Neyman–Pearson lemma: Likelihood ratio is the most powerful test statistic

We want to compare likelihoods:

$$\frac{p(\mathcal{D} | \mu)}{p(\mathcal{D} | ref)}$$

A neural network classifier trained on simulated samples from  $\theta_1$  vs simulated samples from *ref*, estimates the decision function:

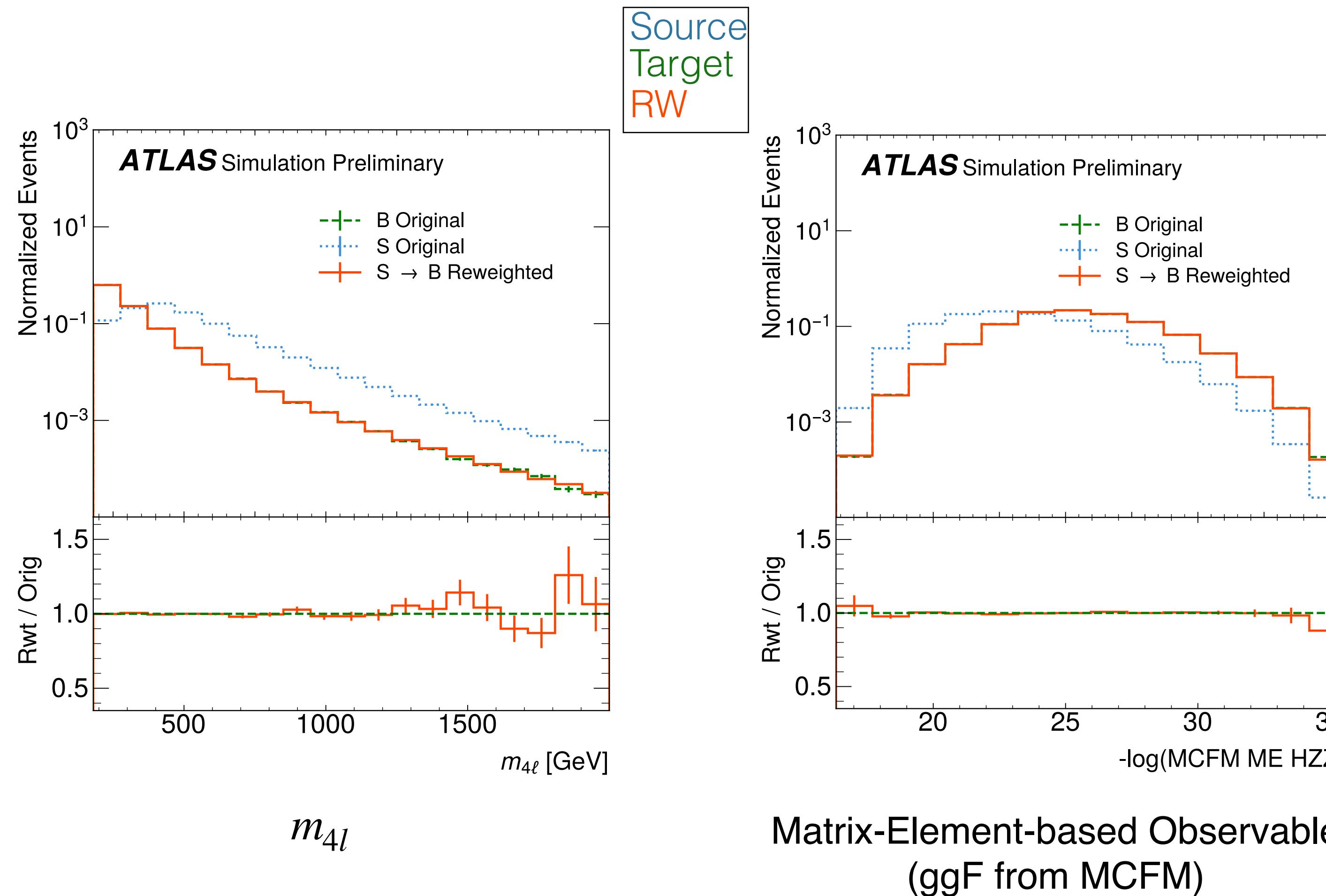
$$s(x_i) = \frac{p(x_i | \mu_1)}{p(x_i | \mu_1) + p(x_i | ref)}$$

Which contains all the information required for the likelihood ratio:

$$\frac{p(x_i | \mu_1)}{p(x_i | ref)} = \frac{s(x_i)}{1 - s(x_i)}$$

- \* Optimal statistic to test each value of  $\mu$
- \* We get the LR *per event* (unbinned)

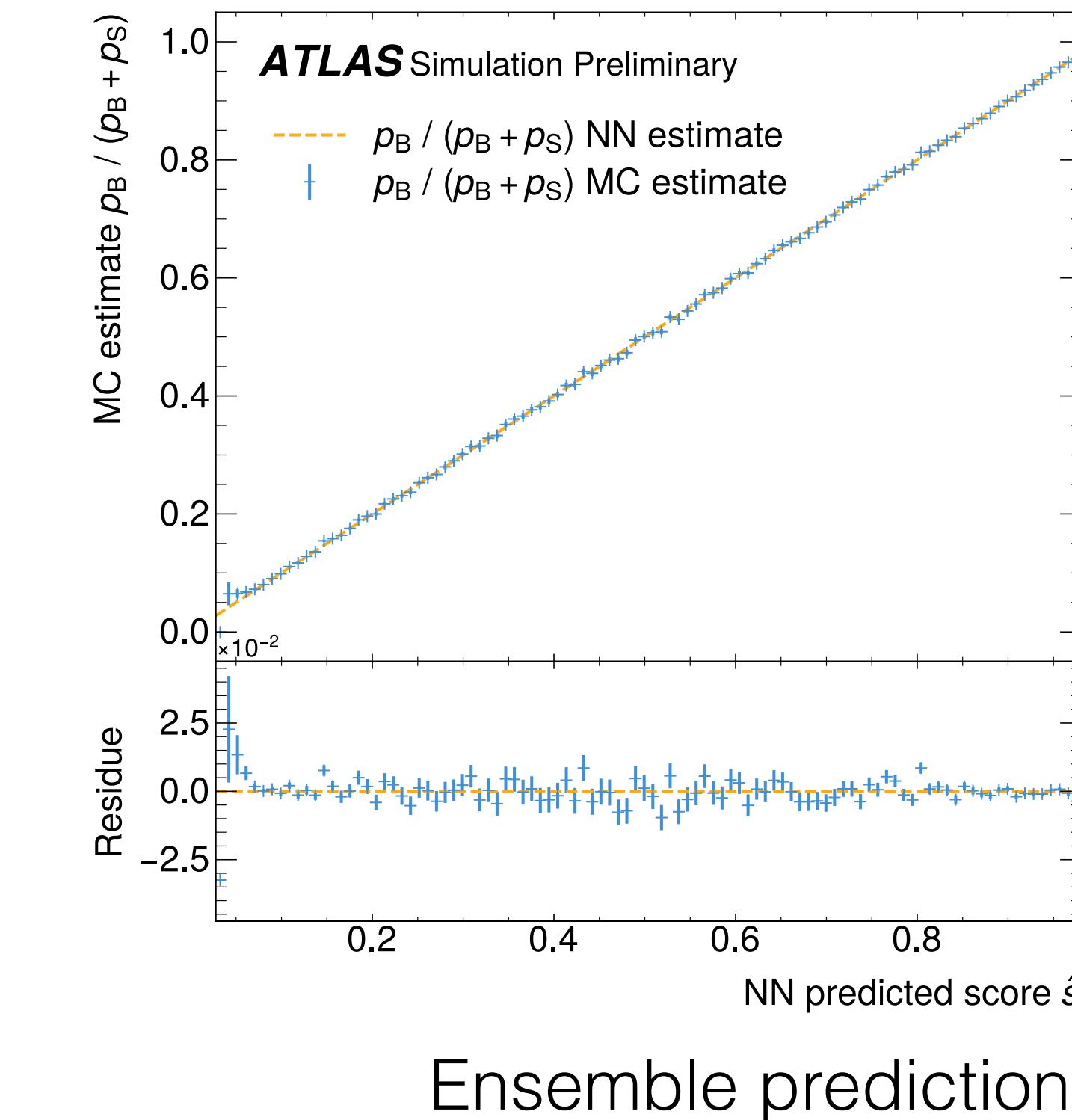
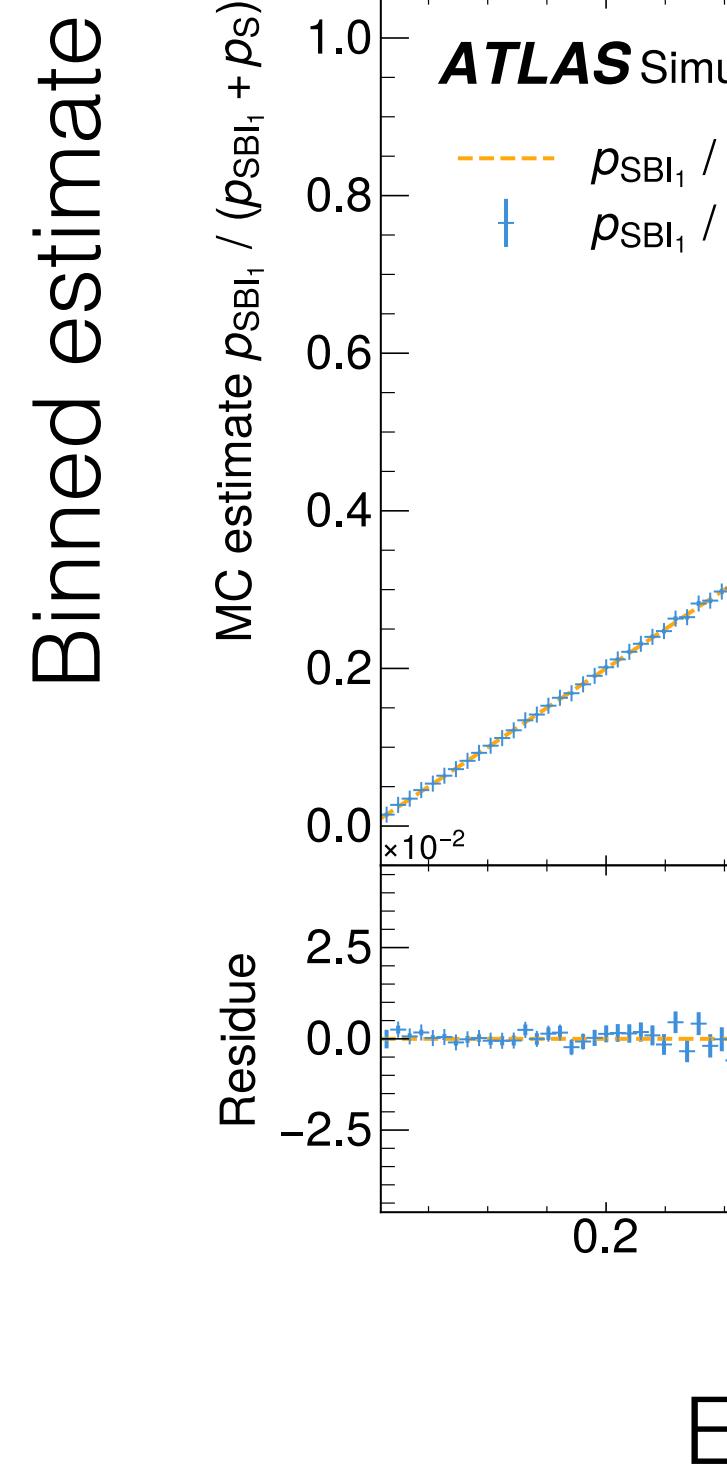
# Re-weight closures for B



# Calibration Curves

$$\frac{P_{SBI}}{P_{SBI} + P_{ref}}$$

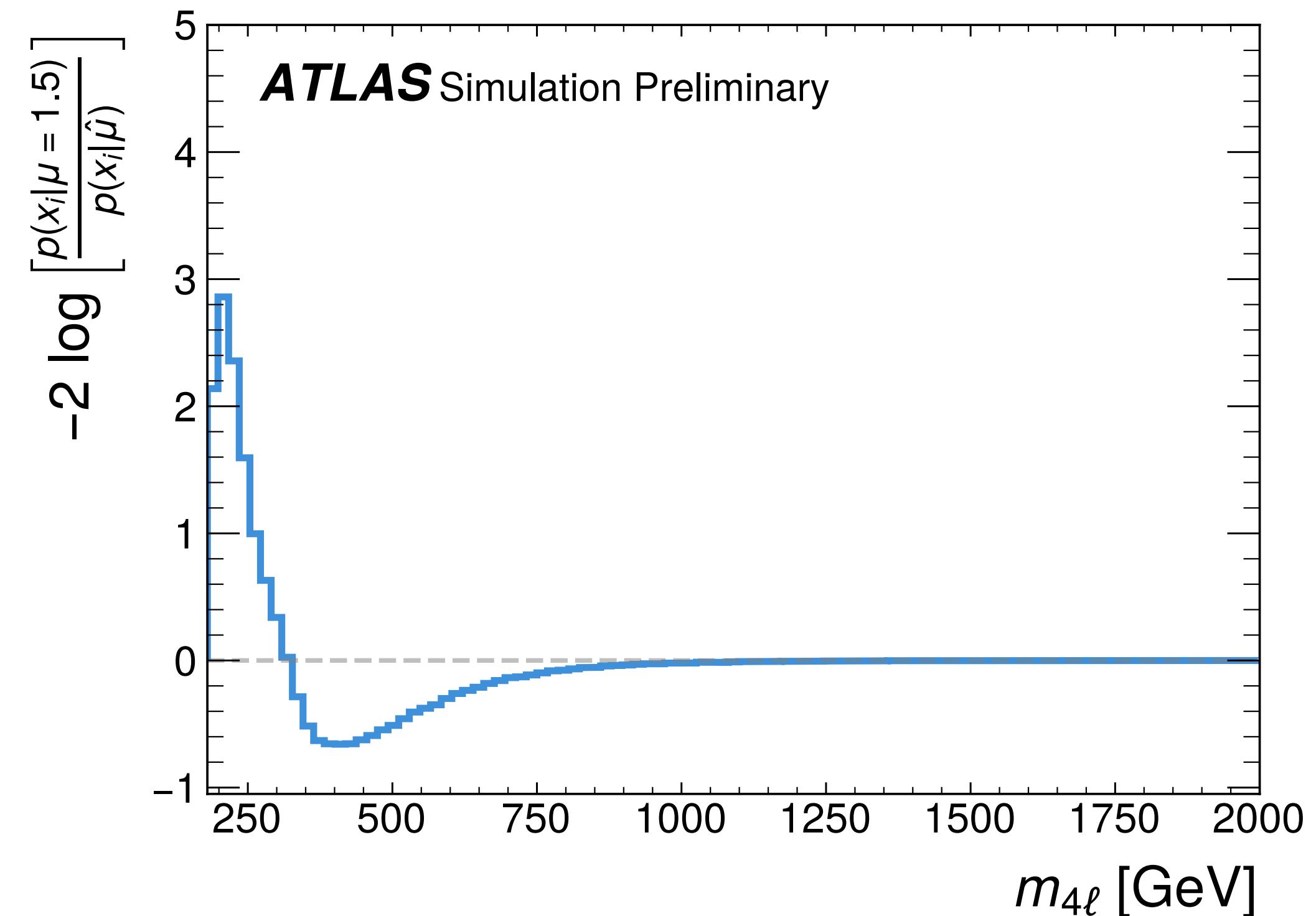
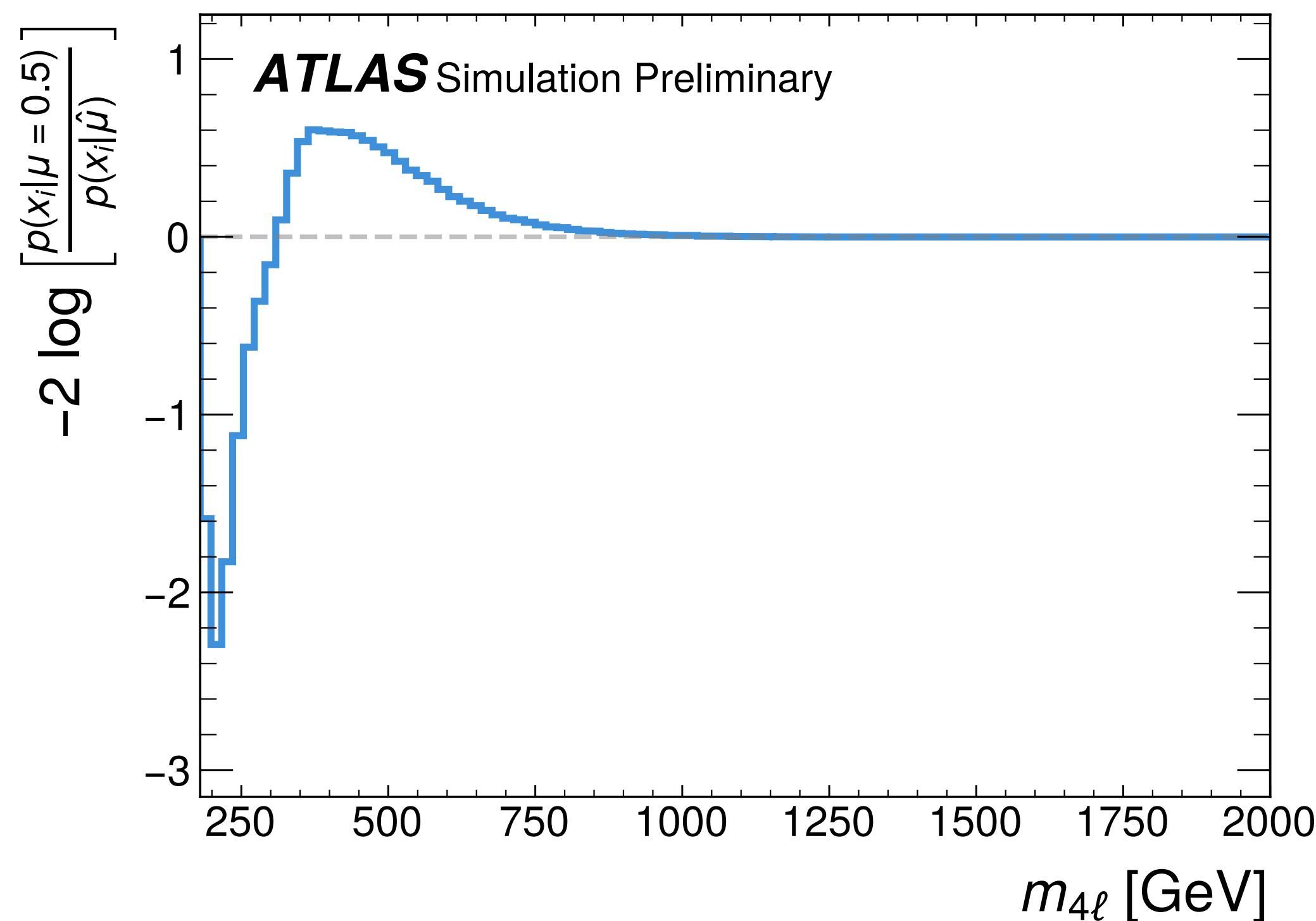
$$\frac{P_B}{P_B + P_{ref}}$$



Interpretability:  
Which phase space favours one hypothesis over another?

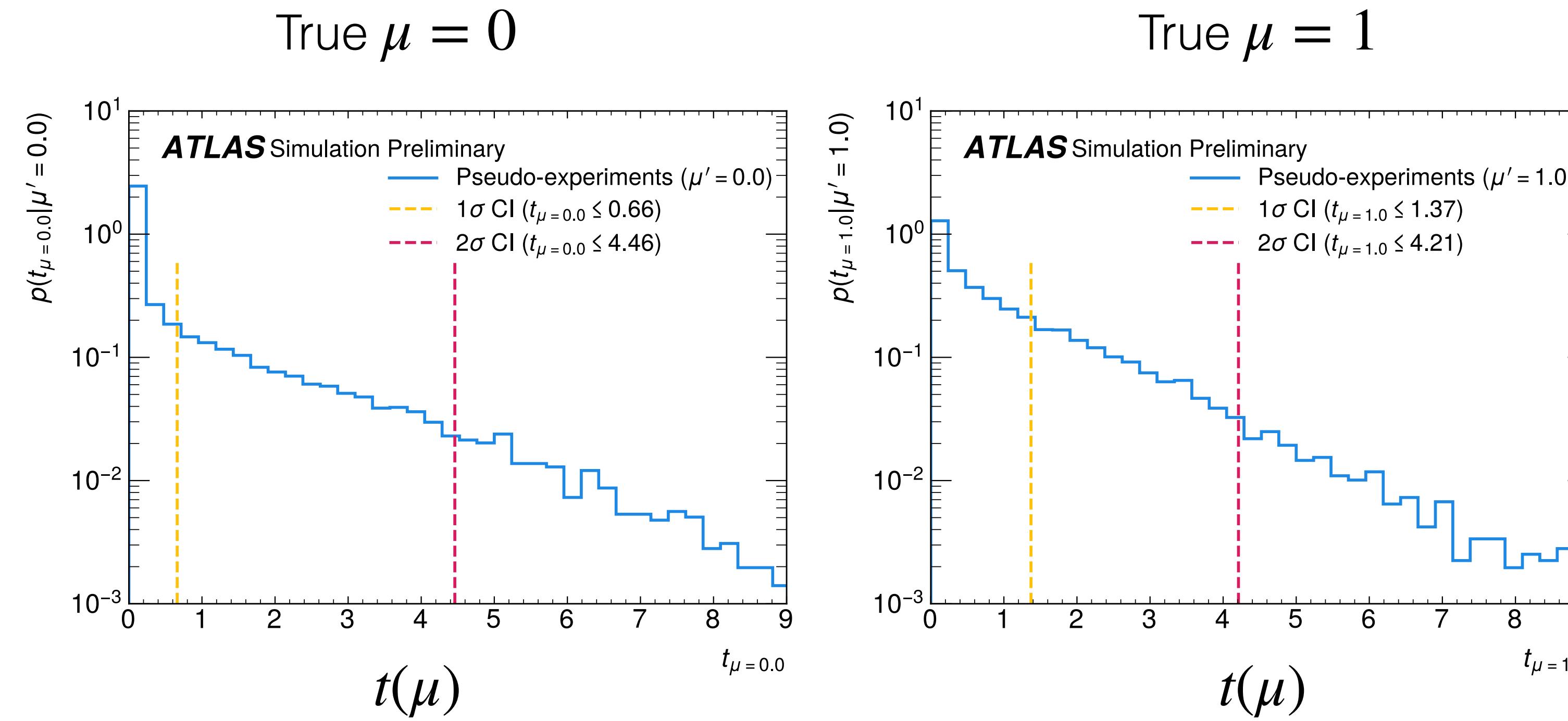
$$-2 \cdot \log \frac{P(x_i | \mu = 0.5)}{P(x_i | \mu = 1)}$$

$$-2 \cdot \log \frac{P(x_i | \mu = 1.5)}{P(x_i | \mu = 1)}$$



# Neyman Construction

- To build confidence intervals, we need to ‘invert the hypothesis test’
- Generate pseudo-experiments (‘toys’) and determine  $1\sigma$  &  $2\sigma$  CI as a function of parameter of interest



# Negative Weighted Events

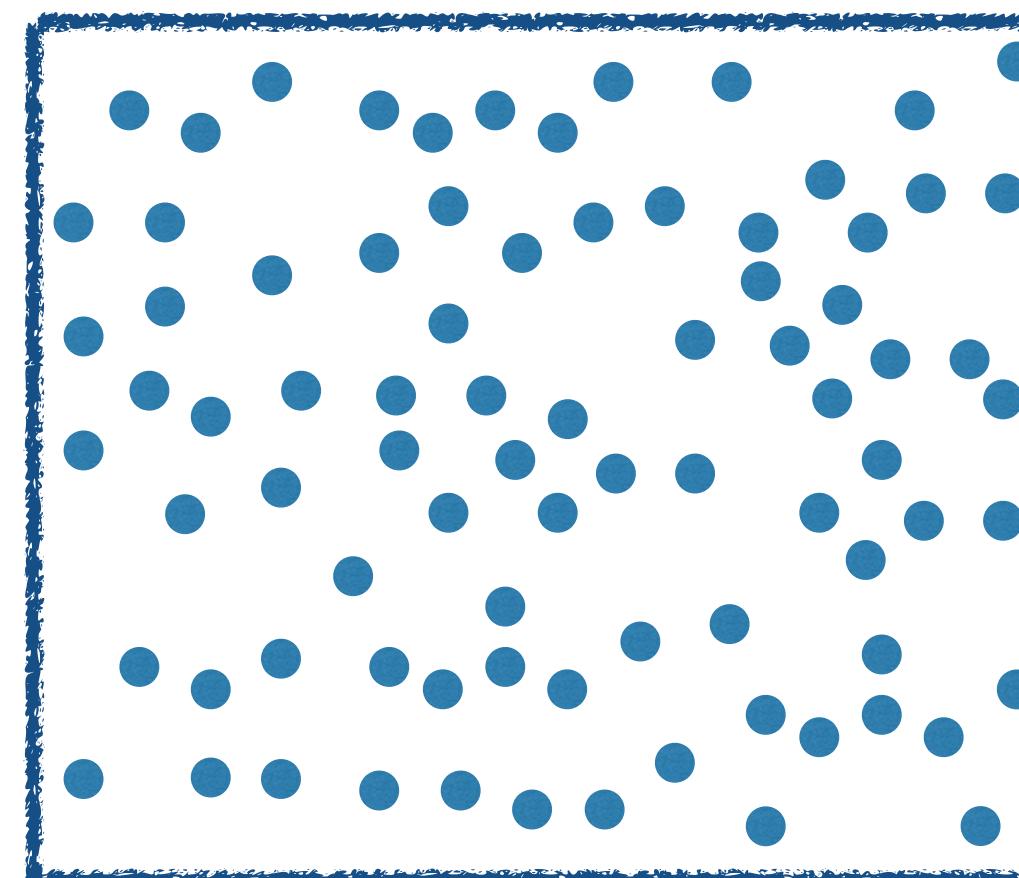
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1. Start from a positive weighted reference sample instead
2. Re-weight to intended parameter point
3. Throw toys from this sample

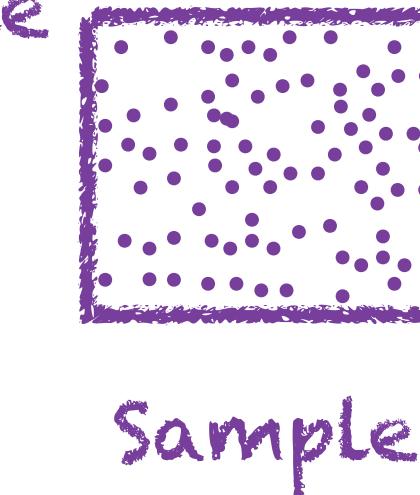
$$w_i^{\text{rwt-ref}} \rightarrow w_i^{\text{Asimov}}(\mu) = \frac{\nu(\mu)}{\nu_{\text{rwt-ref}}} \cdot \frac{p(x_i | \mu)}{P_{\text{rwt-ref}}(x_i)} \cdot w_i^{\text{rwt-ref}}$$

# Estimating the variance on mean: Bootstrapping

Want to estimate mean of population



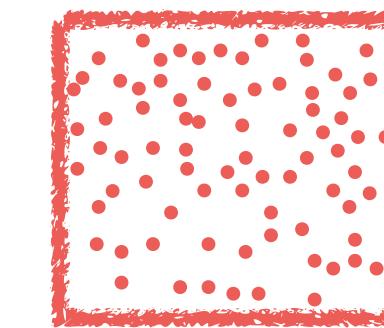
Random Sample



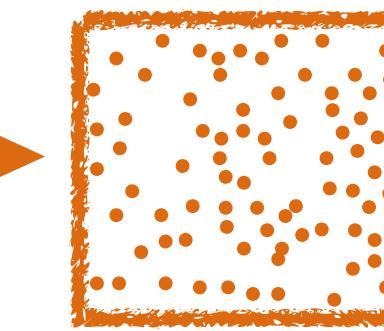
Sample



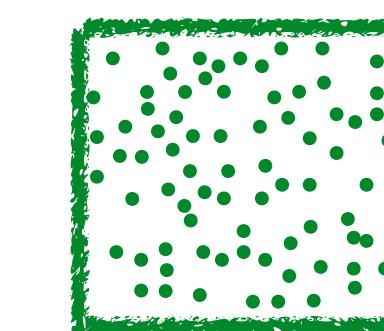
Re-Sample  
with  
replacement



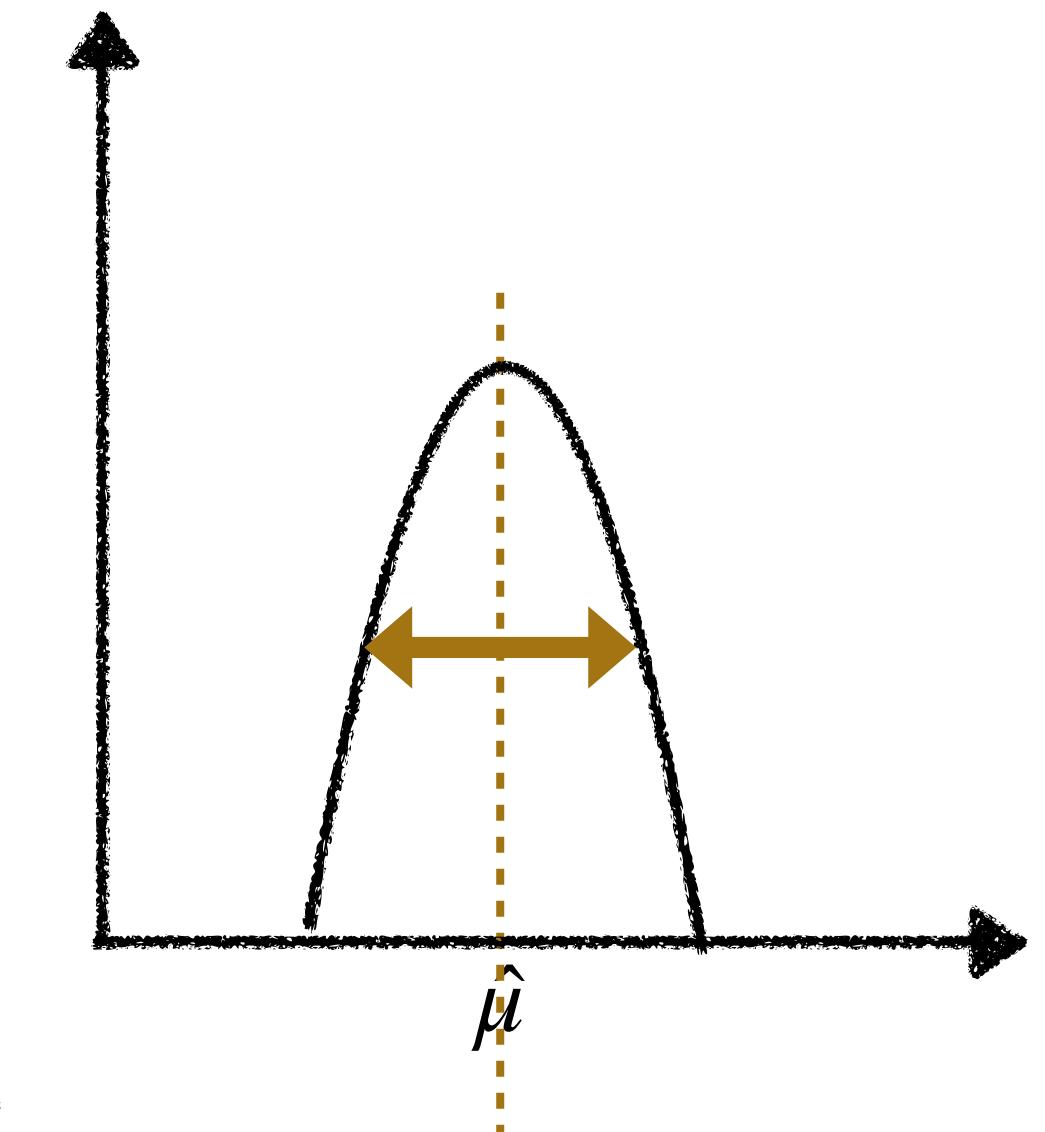
Sample  
Mean 1



Sample  
Mean 2



Sample  
Mean 3



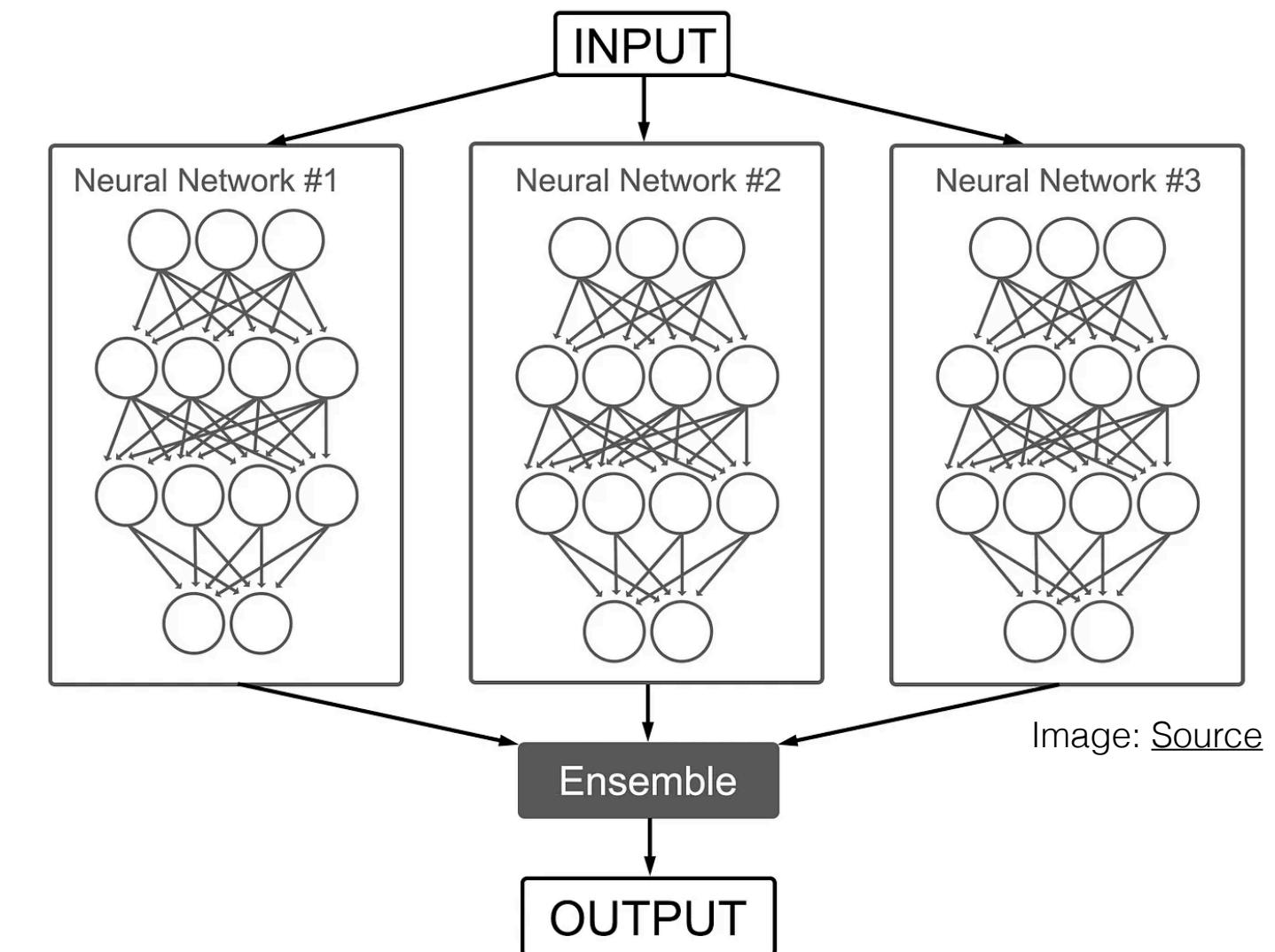
Estimate variance on  
the mean

Image: [Source](#)

# Quantifying uncertainty on estimated density ratio

$$w_i \rightarrow w_i \cdot Pois(1)$$

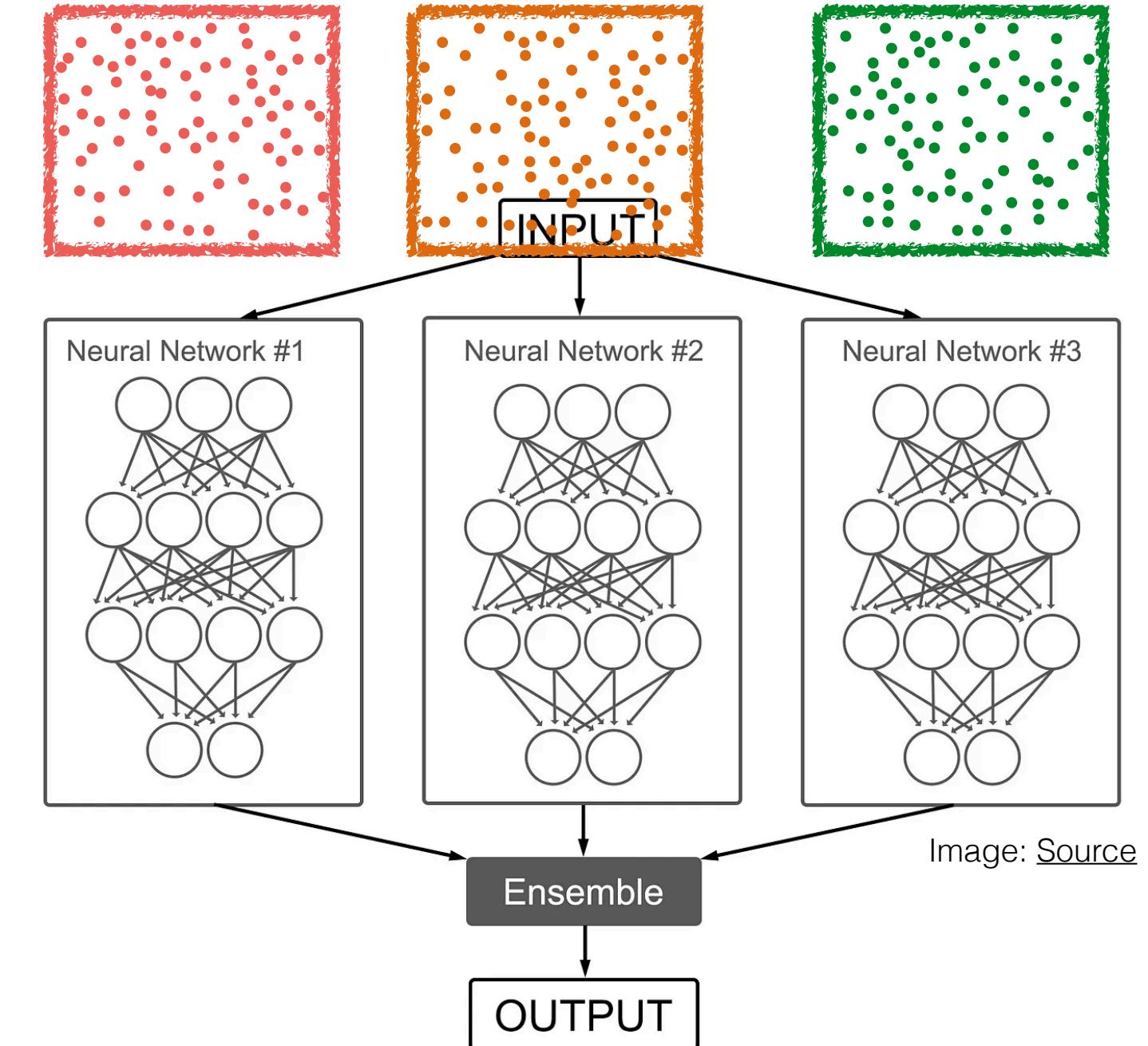
- Train an ensemble of networks, each on a Poisson fluctuated version of the training dataset
- Ensemble average used as final prediction, estimate the variance on mean from bootstrapped ensembles



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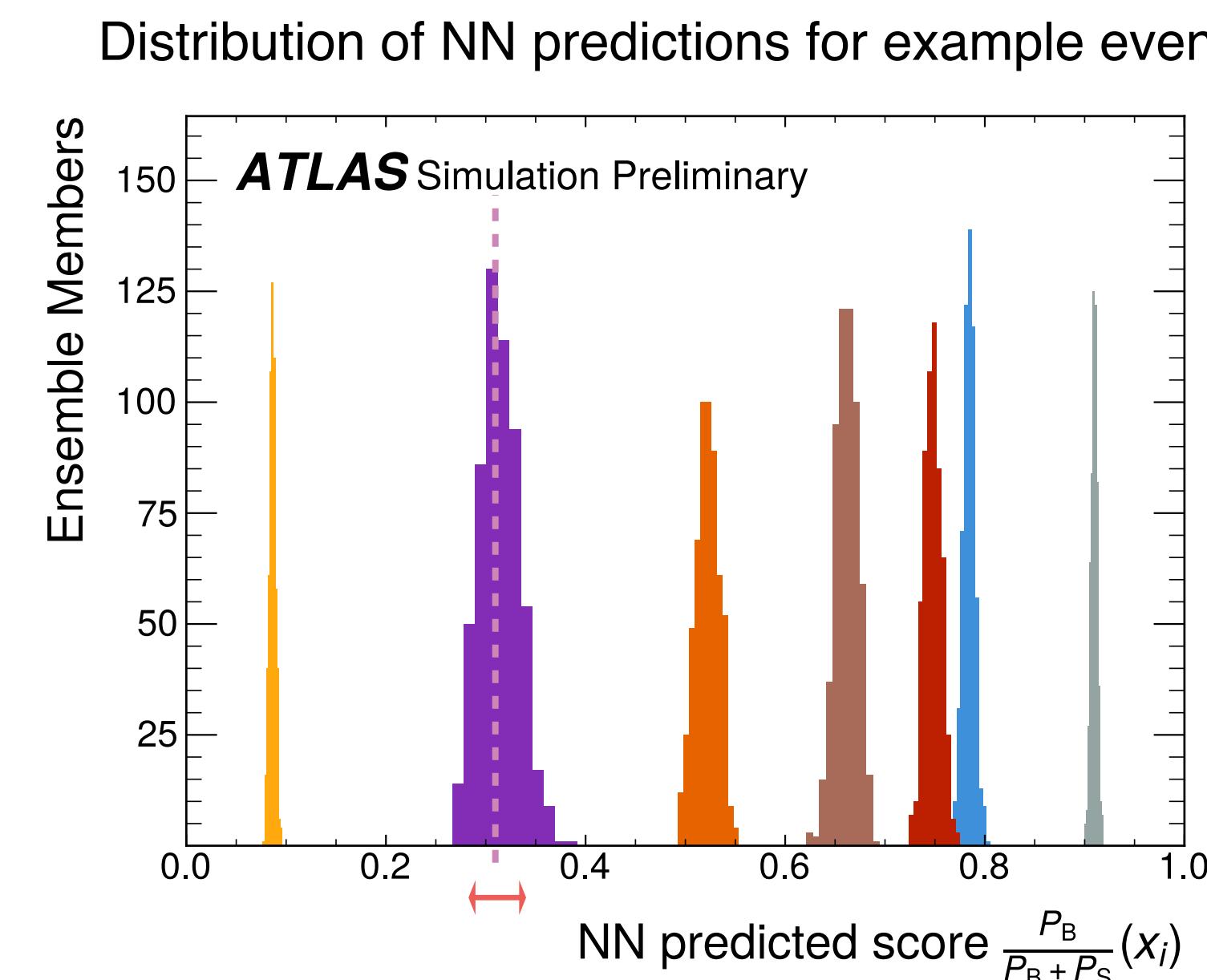
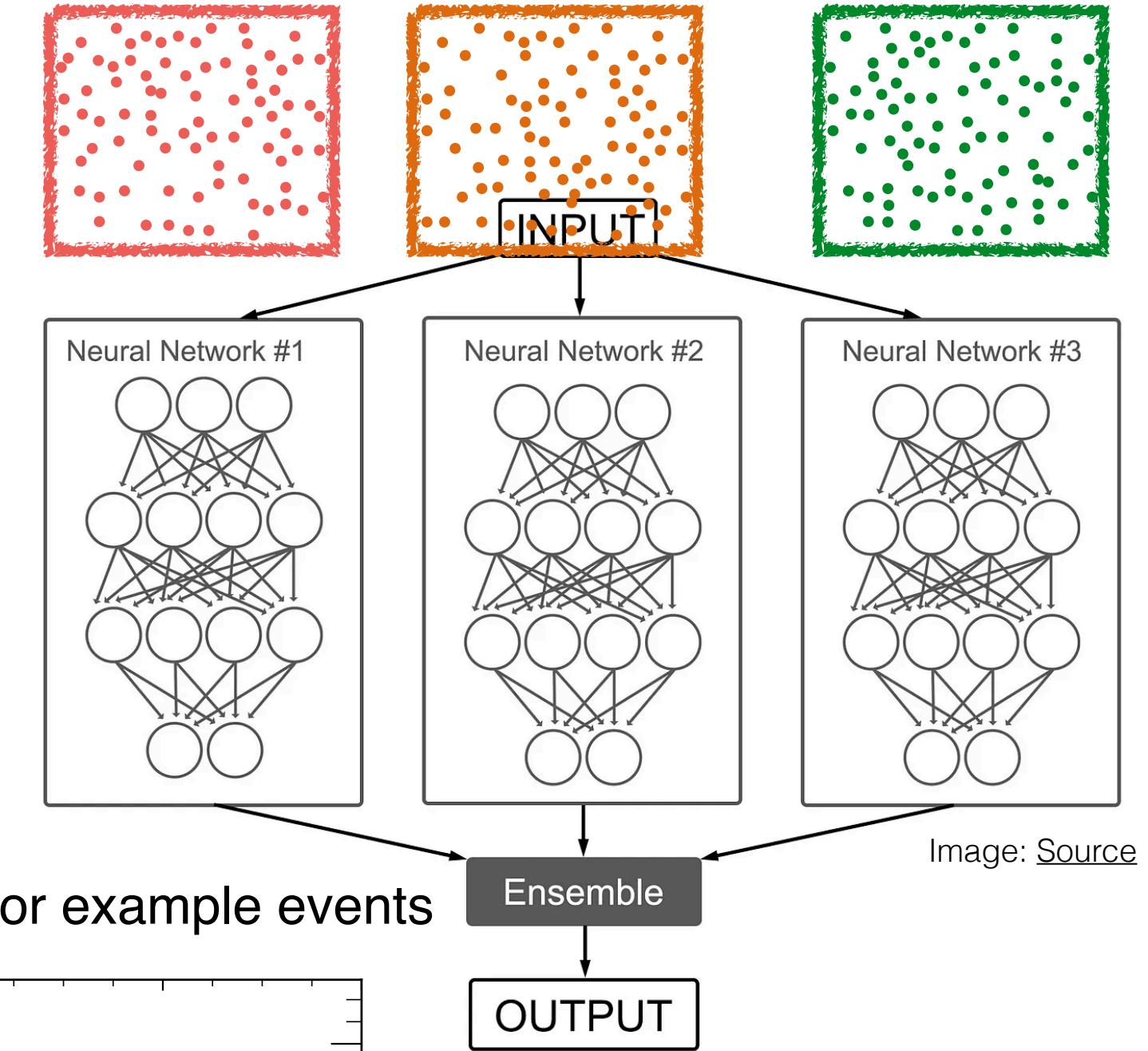
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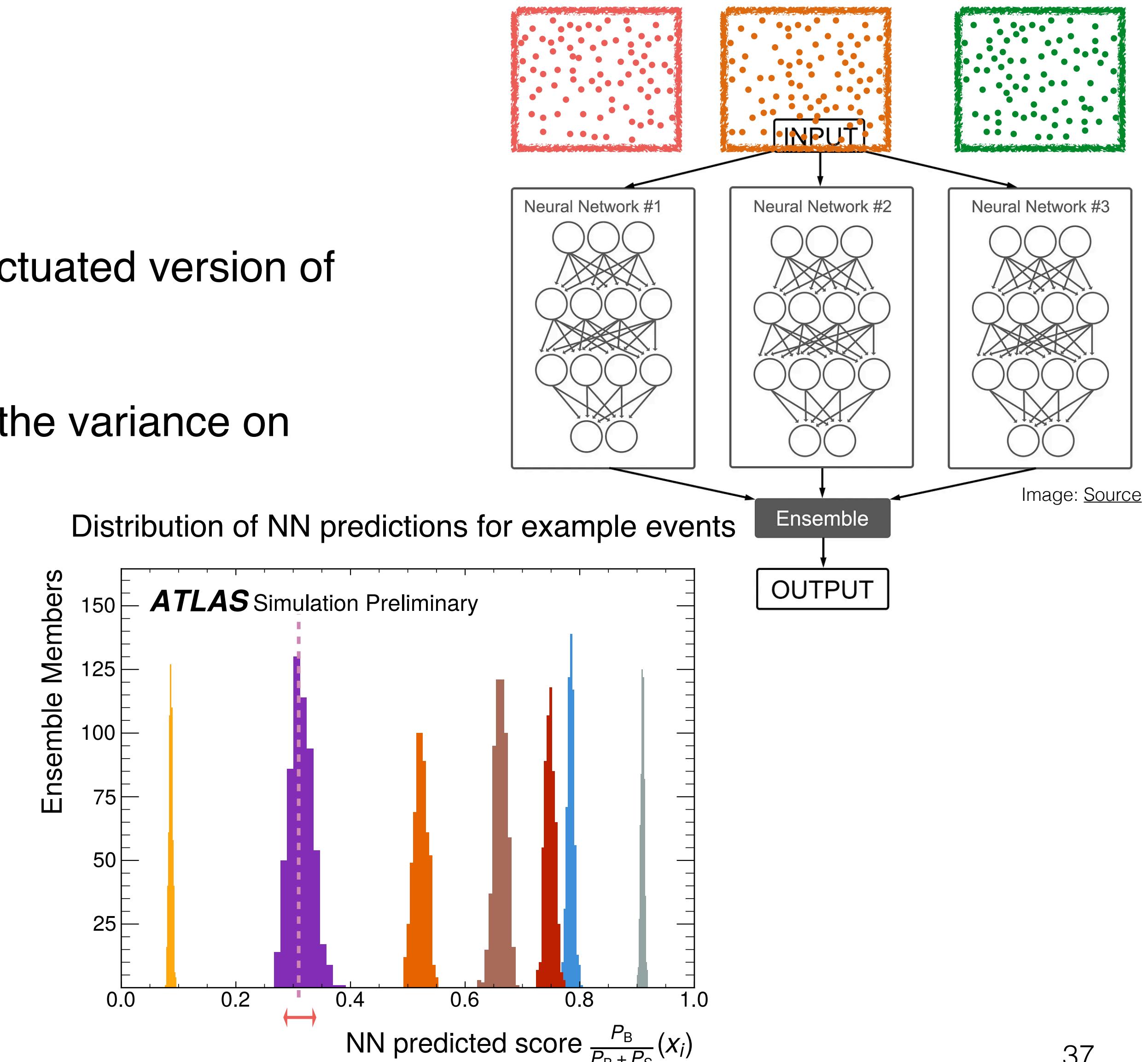
# Quantifying uncertainty on estimated density ratio

$$w_i \rightarrow w_i \cdot Pois(1)$$

- Train an ensemble of networks, each on a Poisson fluctuated version of the training dataset
- Ensemble average used as final prediction, estimate the variance on mean from bootstrapped ensembles
- Propagate with spurious signal method

$$f_j(\mu) \rightarrow f_j(\mu + \alpha \cdot \Delta\hat{\mu}(\mu))$$

Constraint term:  $Gauss(0,1)$



# Simulated Samples

- Pol: Signal strength  $\mu$
- Simplified, unphysical dataset:
  - Processes: S:  $gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow 4l$  & B:  $gg \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$ , SBI: full process
  - No VBF processes or qqZZ background
  - Two systematics: ggF NLO K-factor uncertainty (shape + norm) & luminosity uncertainty (norm only)

## Input variables

Variable	Definition
Production Kinematics	
$m_{4\ell}$	Four-lepton invariant mass
$p_T^{4\ell}$	Four-lepton transverse momentum
$\eta^{4\ell}$	Four-lepton pseudo-rapidity
Decay Kinematics	
$m_{Z_1}$	$Z_1$ mass
$m_{Z_2}$	$Z_2$ mass
$\cos \theta^*$	Higgs decay angle
$\cos \theta_1$	$Z_1$ decay angle
$\cos \theta_2$	$Z_2$ decay angle
$\phi$	Angle between $Z_1, Z_2$ decay planes
$\phi_1$	$Z_1$ decay plane angle

## Combination with histogram analyses

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$$\frac{L_{\text{comb}}(\mu, \alpha)}{L_{\text{ref}}} = \frac{L_{\text{full}}(\mu, \alpha)}{L_{\text{ref}}} L_{\text{hist}}(\mu, \alpha)$$

# Calculating pulls and impacts in JAX

---

Hessian:

$$C_{nm} = \left[ \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \lambda}{\partial \alpha_n \partial \alpha_m} (\hat{\mu}, \hat{\alpha}) \right]^{-1}$$

$$\lambda(\mu, \alpha) = -2 \ln(L_{full}(\mu, \alpha)/L_{ref})$$

Pulls:

$$\frac{\hat{\alpha}_k - \alpha_k^0}{\sqrt{C_{kk}}}.$$

Post-fit Impact:

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_k &= \frac{\partial \hat{\mu}}{\partial \alpha_k} \times \sqrt{C_{kk}} \\ &= - \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \lambda}{\partial \mu \partial \alpha_k} (\hat{\mu}, \hat{\alpha}) \right]^{-1} \frac{\partial^2 \lambda}{\partial \mu \partial \alpha_k} (\hat{\mu}, \hat{\alpha}) \times \sqrt{C_{kk}}, \end{aligned}$$

## Vertical interpolation

---

$$G_j(\alpha_k) = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\nu_j(\alpha_k^+)}{\nu_j(\alpha_k^0)} \right)^{\alpha_k} & \alpha_k > 1 \\ 1 + \sum_{n=1}^6 c_n \alpha_k^n & -1 \leq \alpha_k \leq 1 \\ \left( \frac{\nu_j(\alpha_k^-)}{\nu_j(\alpha_k^0)} \right)^{-\alpha_k} & \alpha_k < -1 \end{cases}$$

$$g_j(x_i, \alpha_k) = \begin{cases} (g_j(x_i, \alpha_k^+))^{\alpha_k} & \alpha_k > 1 \\ 1 + \sum_{n=1}^6 c_n \alpha_k^n & -1 \leq \alpha_k \leq 1 \\ (g_j(x_i, \alpha_k^-))^{-\alpha_k} & \alpha_k < -1 \end{cases}$$

With some continuity requirements