



UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE



TRANSIT

**your events into a new mass:  
Fast background interpolation  
for weakly-supervised  
anomaly searches**

A large circular graphic in the center of the slide features the word "TRANSIT" in white capital letters inside blue circles. The letters are arranged in a curve, with "T" on the left, "R" and "A" below it, "N" and "S" above it, "I" on the right, and another "T" at the top right. Below this curve, the text "your events into a new mass: Fast background interpolation for weakly-supervised anomaly searches" is written in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

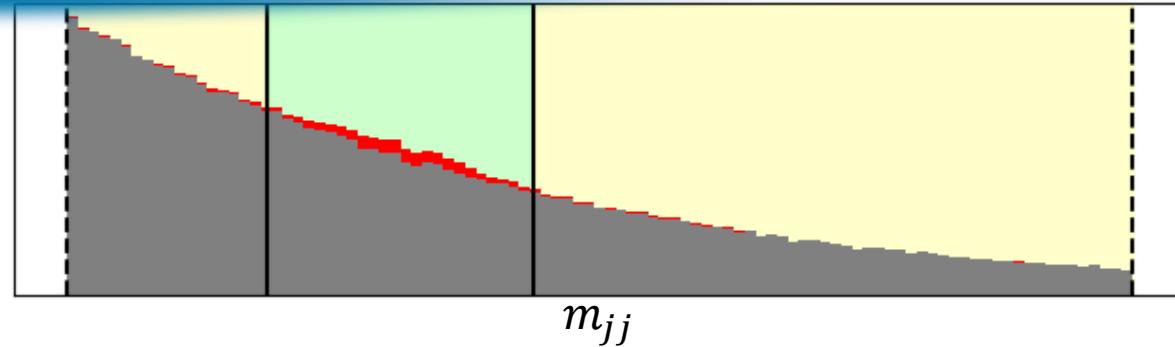
Ivan Oleksiyuk\*, Tobias Golling, Slava Voloshynovskiy  
University of Geneva

\*ivan.oleksiyuk@unige.ch

*ML4Jets 2024 Paris*

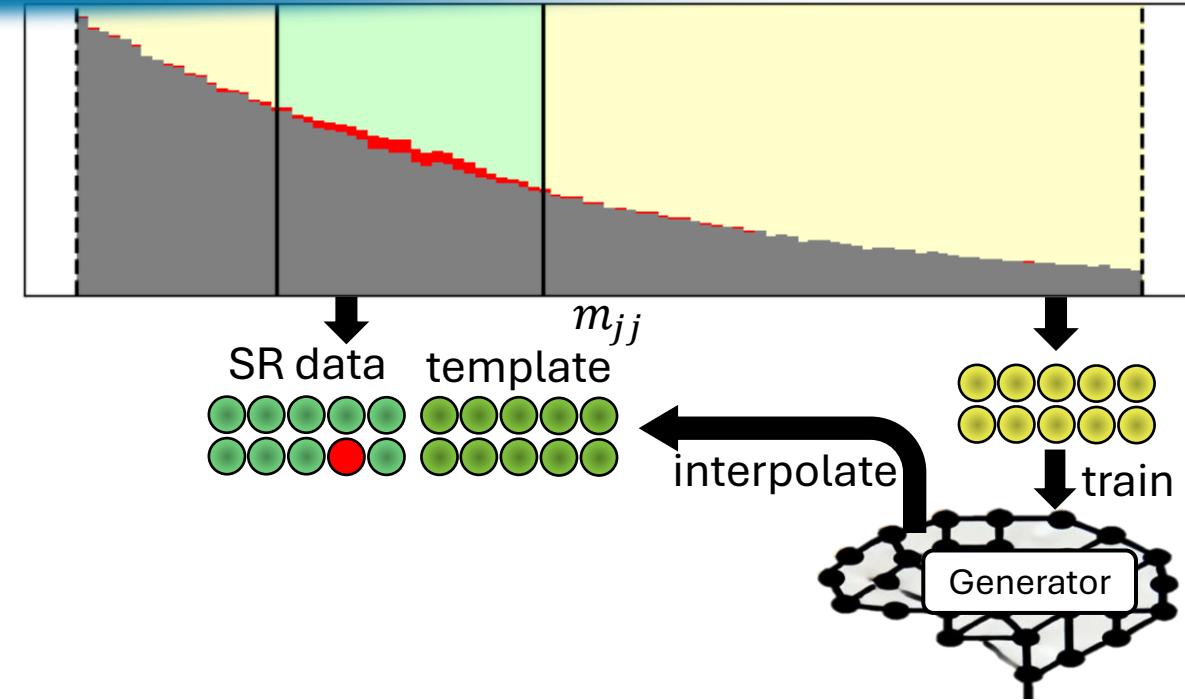
# Data driven weakly-supervised searches

1. Select a signal region (SR) and sidebands (SB)



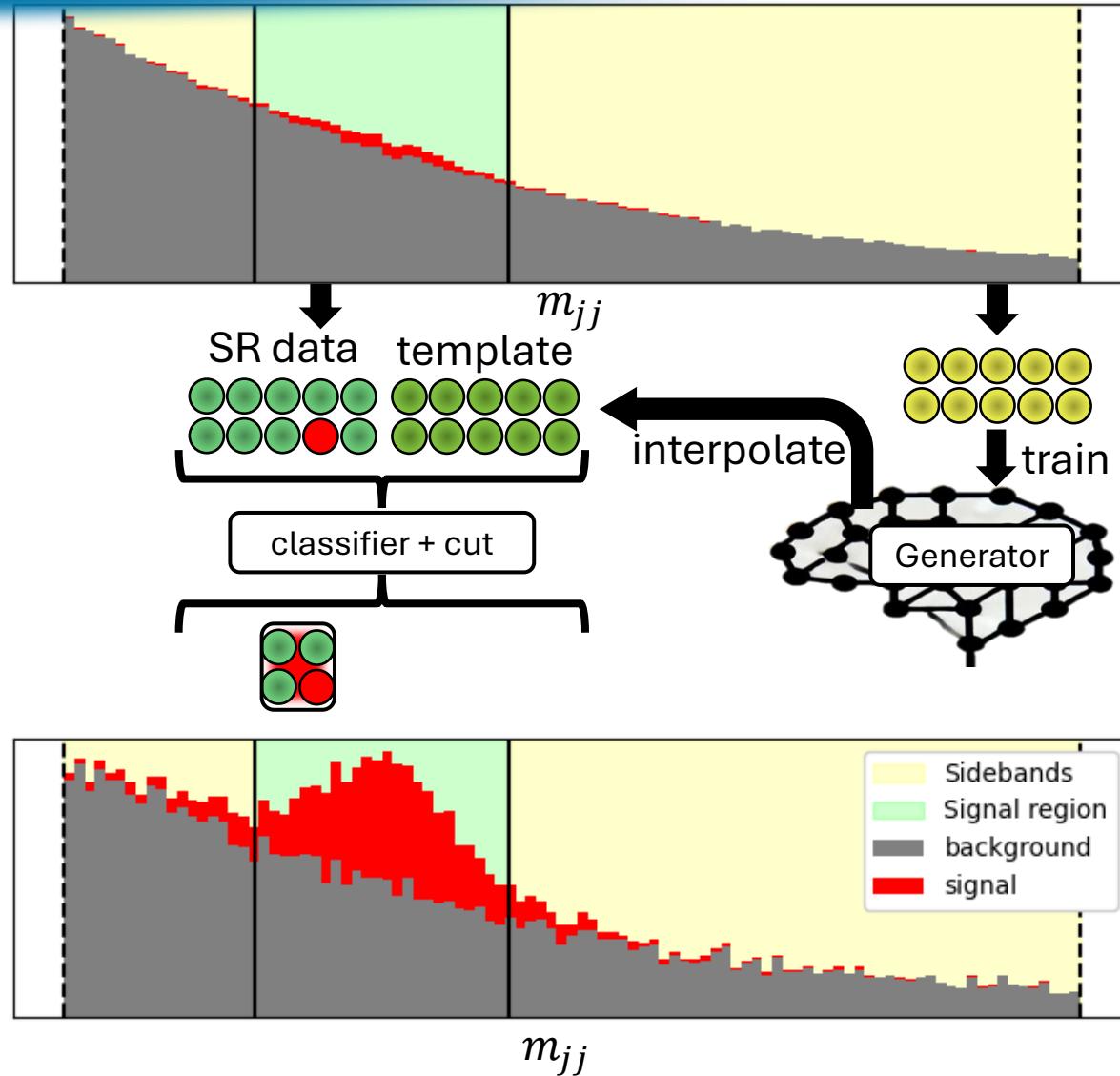
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3. Use CWoLa on “template” and SR data to select the most anomalous data

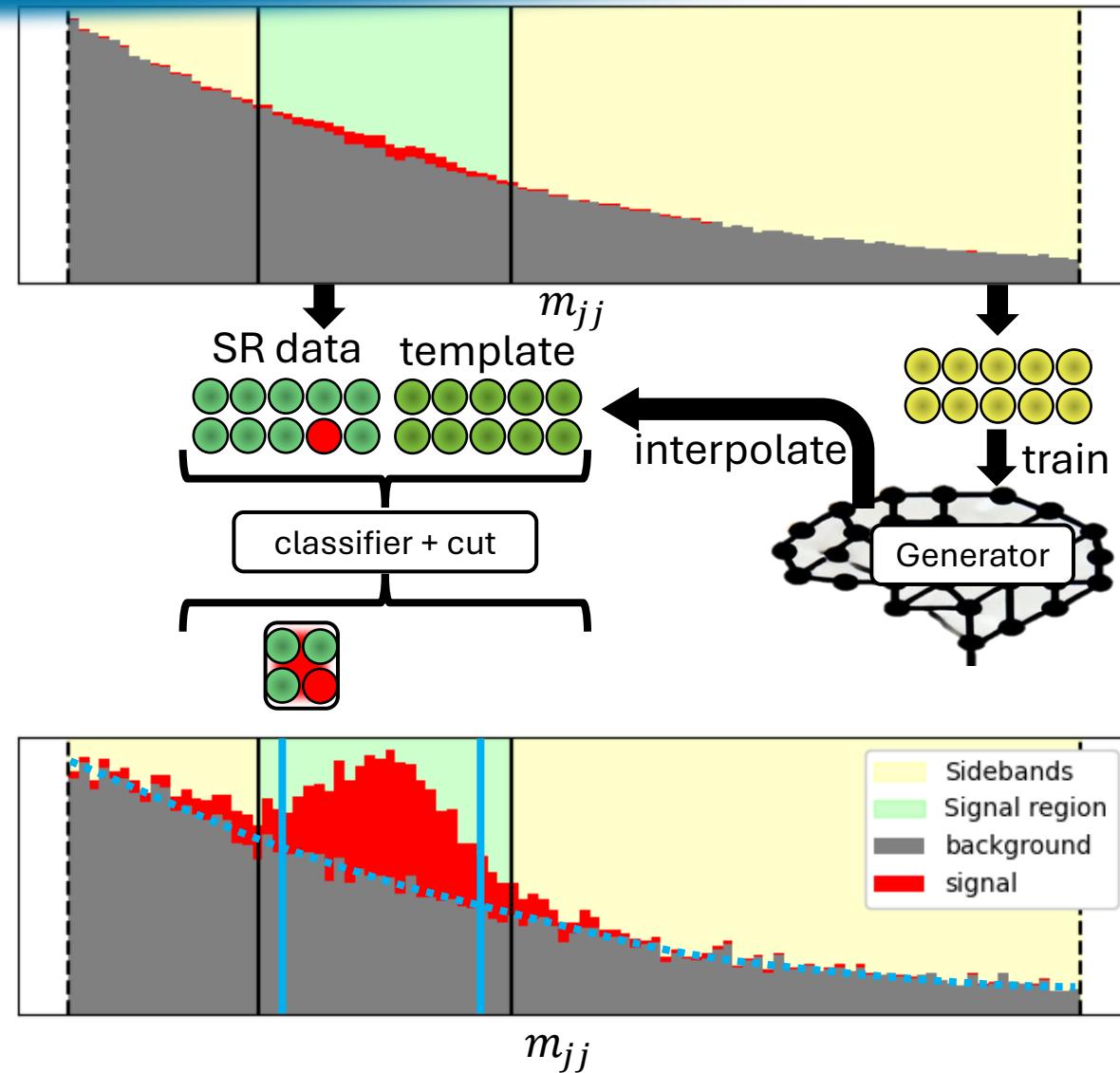


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2. **Create a “template” that matches background in SR**
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4. Fit the background from sidebands, use Bump-Hunt to find excess, calculate significance or update limits

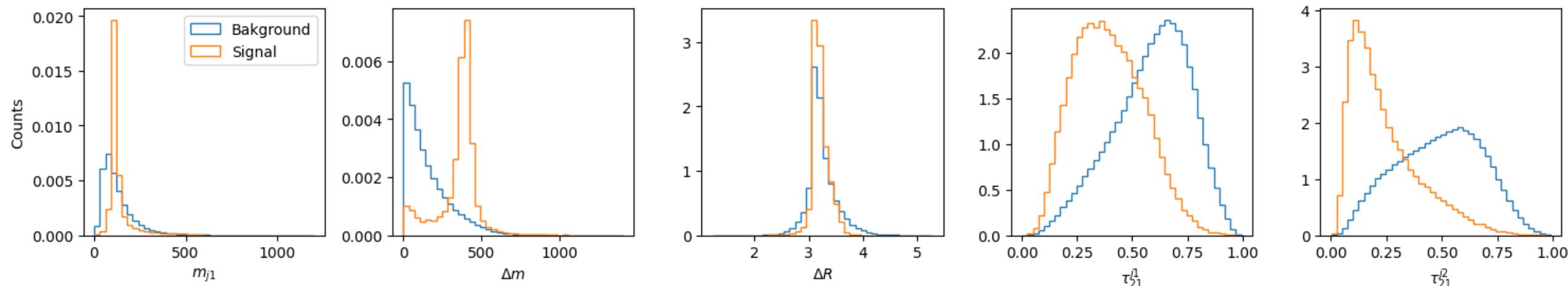
Significance Improvement (SI):

$$\frac{\text{Signal efficiency}}{\sqrt{\text{Background efficiency}}} = \frac{\varepsilon_{sig}}{\sqrt{\varepsilon_{bkg}}}$$



# Benchmark data

- LHCO R&D dataset - the most popular benchmark (arXiv:2101.08320).
  - 1M QCD dijet events (background)
  - 100K  $Z'(3.5TeV) \rightarrow X(500GeV)Y(100Gev) \rightarrow (qq)(qq)$
  - Signal has a prominent two prong structure
- Use widely accepted high level variables
  - $m_{JJ}$  as resonant variable
  - $m_{J1}, \Delta m_J = m_{J1} - m_{J2}, \tau_{12}^{J1}, \tau_{12}^{J2}, \Delta R_{JJ} = \sqrt{\Delta\eta^2 + \Delta\varphi^2}$



# Data driven weakly-supervised searches

Original CWoLa (arXiv:1902.02634) – using sidebands, as a crude template approximation

ML based template – Slow but good template

- SALAD (arXiv: 2001.05001) – classifier (MC based)
- FETA (arXiv: 2212.11285) – normalising flows (MC based)
- CATHODE (arXiv:2109.00546v3, arXiv: 2210.14924) – normalising flows
- CURTAINS (arXiv:2203.09470v3, arXiv: 2305.04646) – normalising flows
- DRAPES (arXiv:2312.10130) – diffusion
- Full Phase Space Resonant Anomaly Detection (arXiv: 2310.06897) – diffusion and flow matching

etc...

Non-ML template – Fast but limited quality

- RAD-OT (arXiv:2407.19818) – optimal transport

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Good template with speedup (just recent)

- CURTAINS<sup>F4F</sup> (arXiv: 2305.04646)
- SIGMA (arXiv:2410.20537) – see Ranits talk
- **TRANSIT - this talk!**

# Why do we want a fast method?

The algorithm on the last page seems simple...  
but we have to repeat it:

- $\times O(10)$  signal regions
- $\times O(3)$  different variable combinations
- $\times O(20)$  signal models for limit setting
- $\times O(10)$  signal injection values for limit setting
- $\times O(20)$  validation datasets
- etc...

$O(10000)$  template  
generation trainings  
per analysis

In many cases even more:

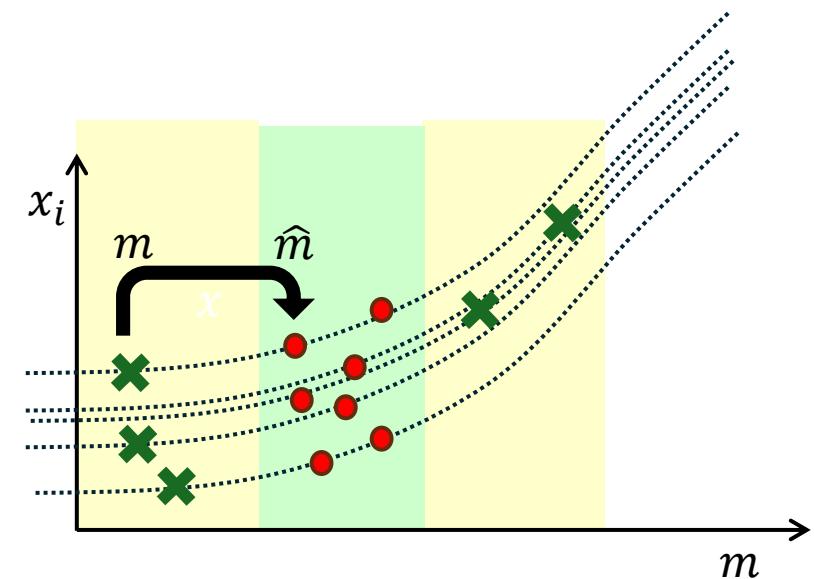
- $O(1000)$  times to get a distribution of test statistic
- $O(100)$  patches stellar streams in [SkyCURTAINS](#) (Stevens talk yesterday)

# Main Idea

- Generative models learn the whole joint probability distribution  $p(x_1, \dots, x_n, m)$  that include all complicated correlations between  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

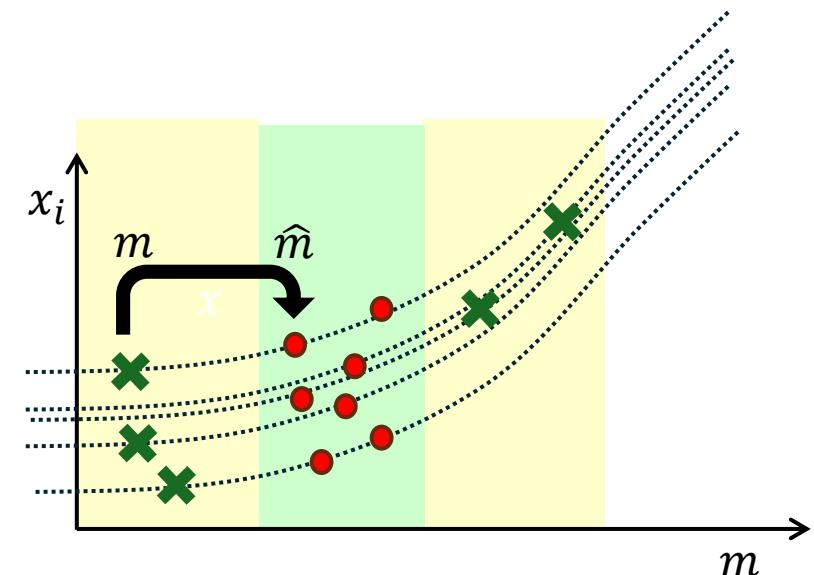
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- Why not morph  $x \sim p(x|m)$  such that they match different mass  $\hat{x} = f_\theta(x|m, \hat{m}) \sim p(\hat{x}|\hat{m})$  instead?
- No need to learn correlations between  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  if they do not change with  $m$ , e.g. if  $p(x_k, m) = p(x_k)p(m)$  NN just learns identity!



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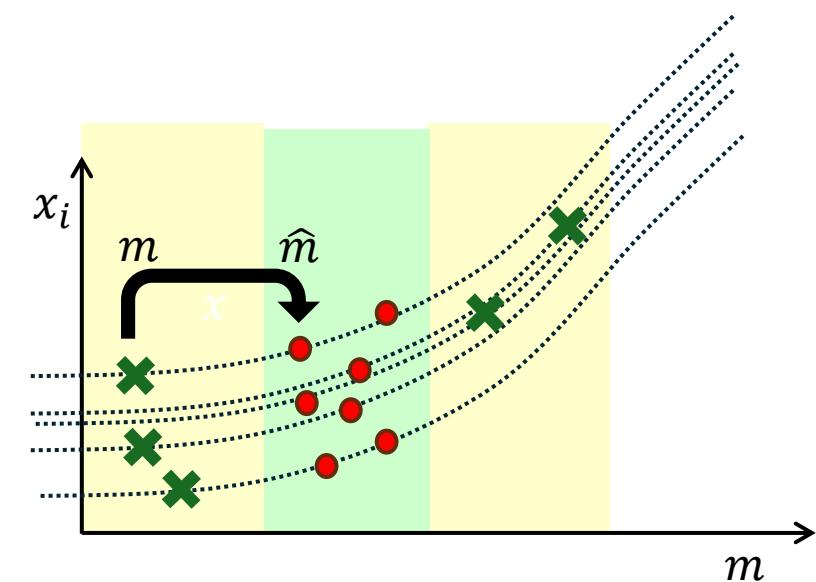
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- CURTAINs/CURTAINsF4F already do similar, but...  
Flow/INN training is hard!
- Can we train a simpler model?



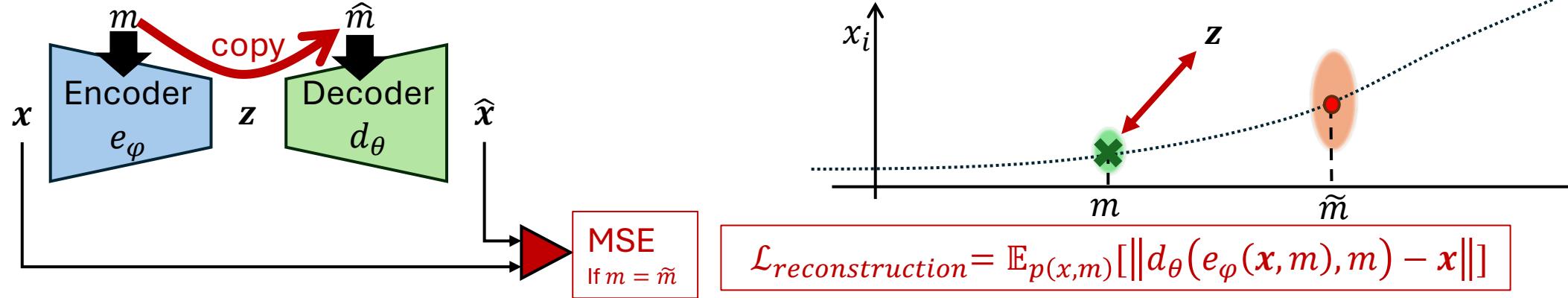
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- Can we train a simpler model?
- Use **TRANSIT**

(TRansport Adversarial Network for Smooth InTerpolation)!

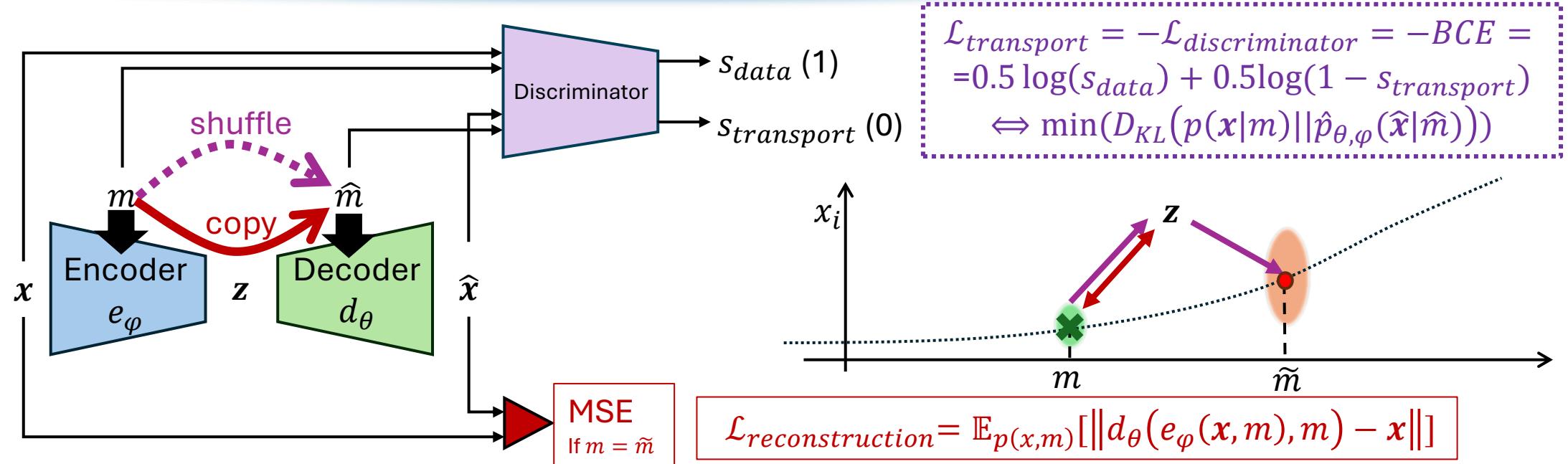


# Model losses



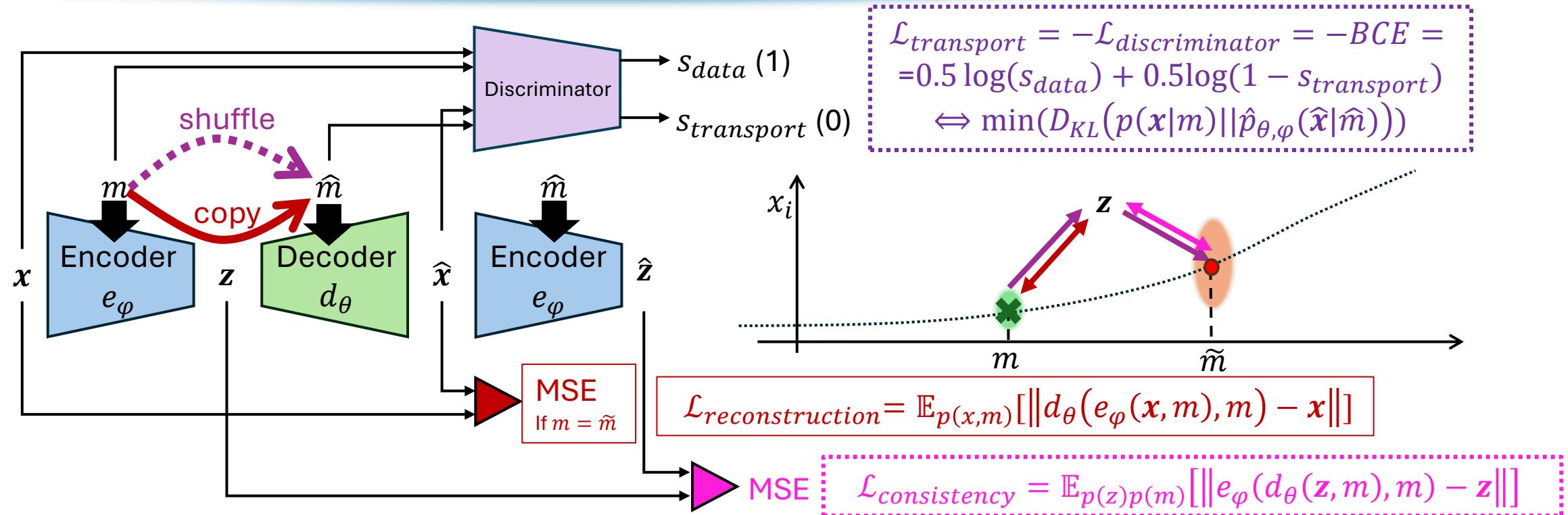
- $\mathcal{L}_{reconstruction}$  - ensures that no change is done if the mass is the same

# Model losses



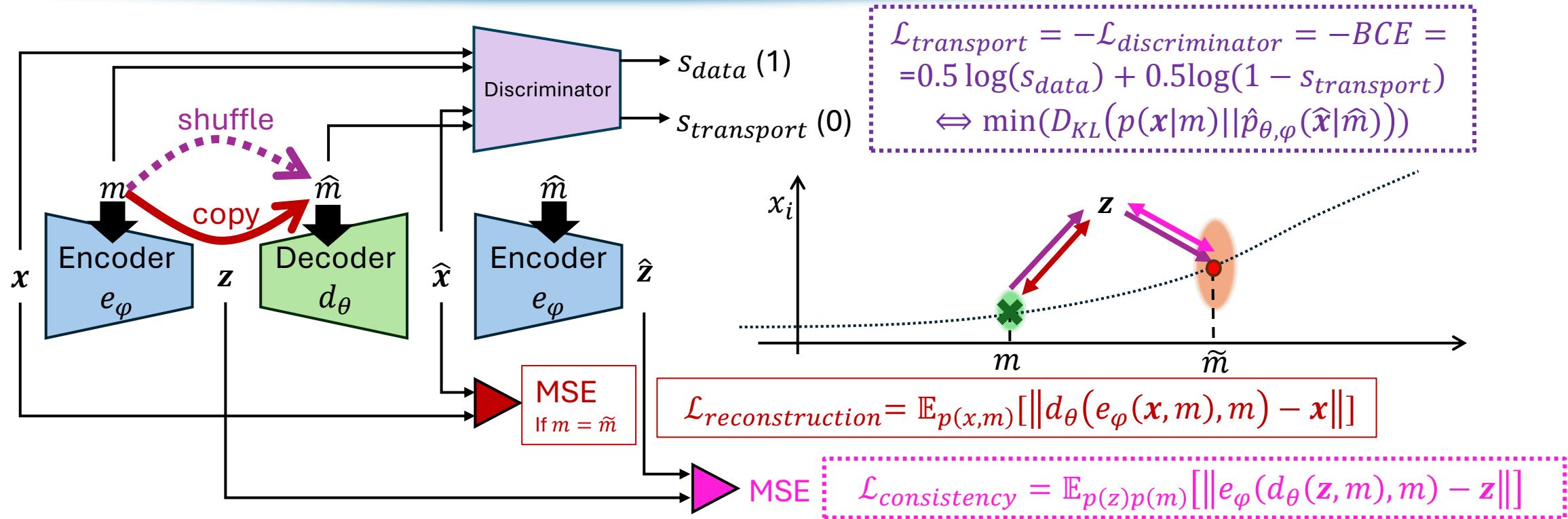
- $\mathcal{L}_{transport}$  - ensures that the generated conditional distribution = distribution of the data
- $\mathcal{L}_{reconstruction}$  - ensures that no change is done if the mass is the same

# Model losses



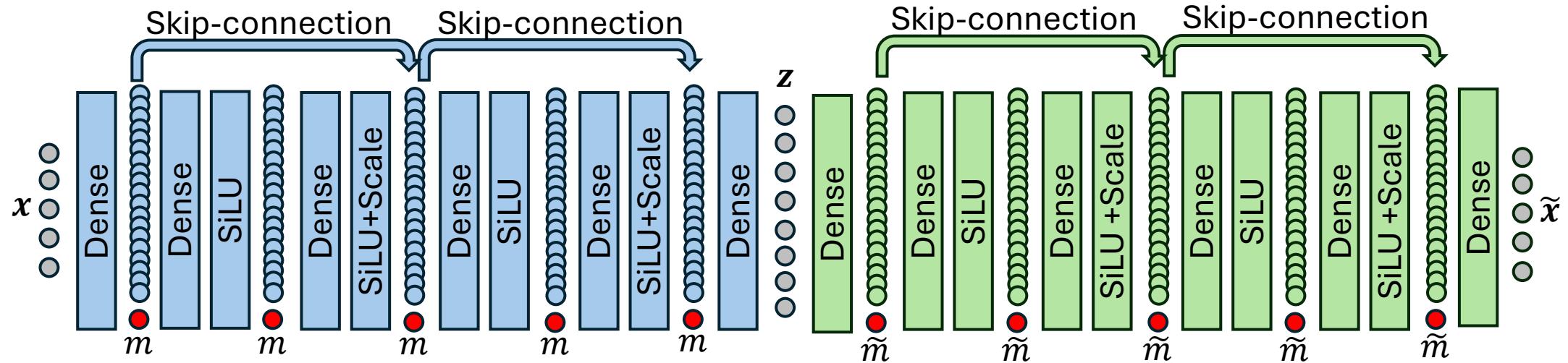
- $\mathcal{L}_{transport}$  - ensures that the generated conditional distribution = distribution of the data
- $\mathcal{L}_{reconstruction}$  - ensures that no change is done if the mass is the same
- $\mathcal{L}_{consistency}$  - make latent representations of  $x$  and  $\hat{x}$  equal for any  $\hat{m}$  so that one can unambiguously return from  $\hat{x}$  to  $x$

# Towards mass decorrelation



- If  $L_{transport}$  achieves minimum it means  $(\hat{x}, \hat{m})$  are fully paired  
 $m$  is shuffled relative to  $\hat{m} \Rightarrow \hat{m} \perp m, \hat{x} \perp m$
- $\Rightarrow \hat{z} = e_\varphi(\hat{x}, \hat{m}) \perp m$
- If  $L_{consistency}$  is saturated  $\Leftrightarrow z \approx \hat{z} \Rightarrow z \perp m$

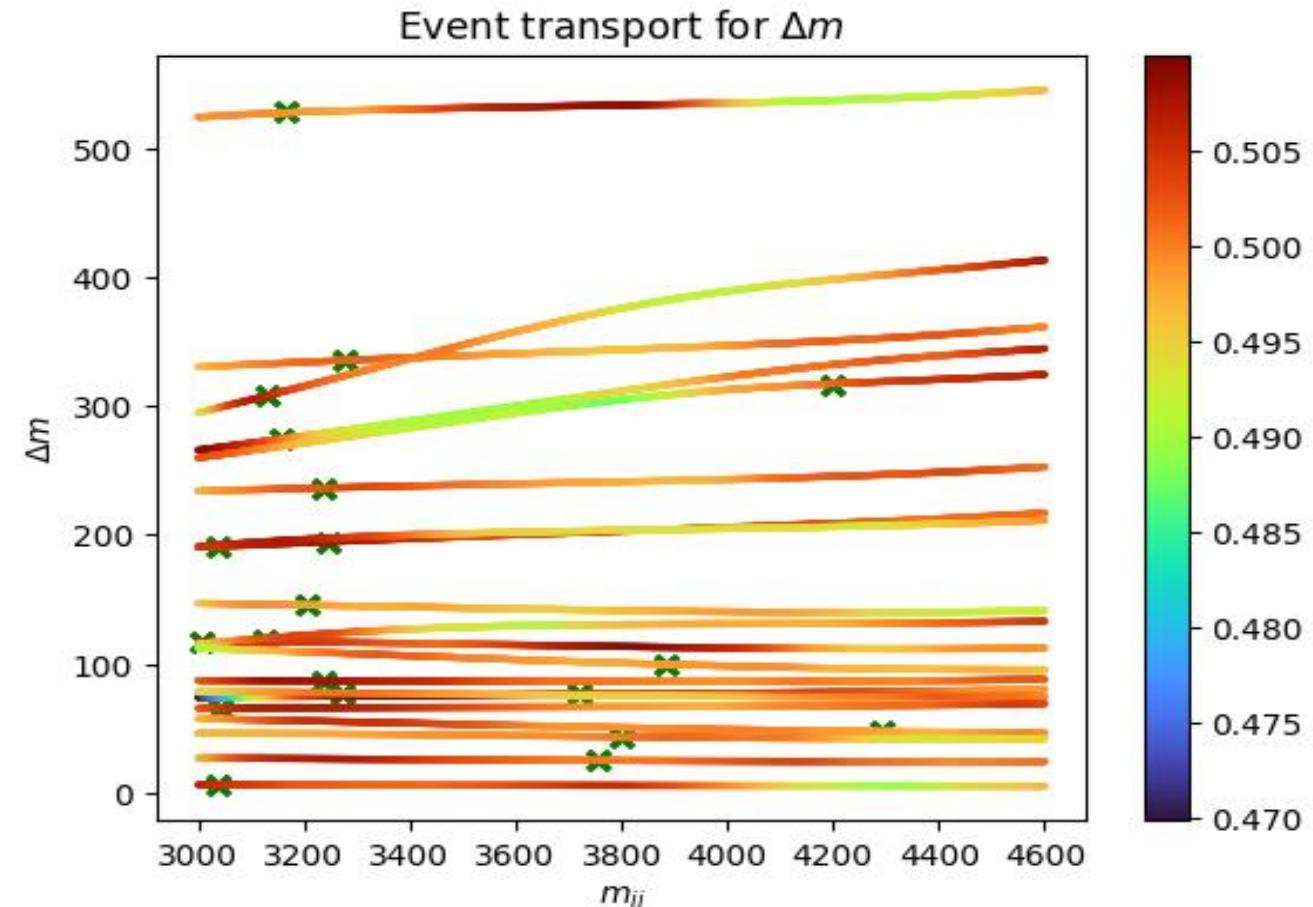
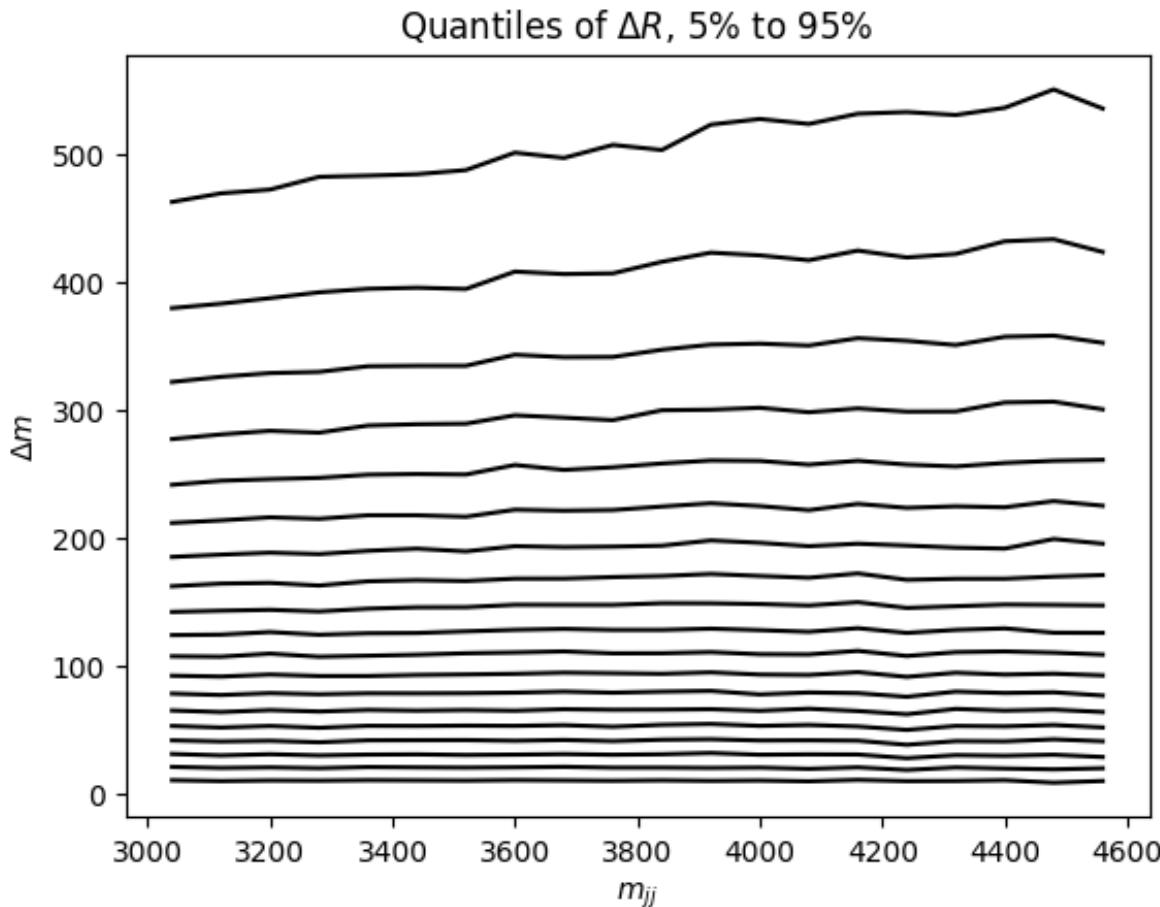
# Architecture



- Smoothness achieved by using SiLU activation
- Latent space is not restrictive as  $\dim(\mathbf{z}) > \dim(\mathbf{x})$
- Conditioning used in every layer
- Identity is easily learnable by making an identity in dense layers and all scales 0
- Discriminator - MLP with 4 hidden layers of width 64 and Silu activations

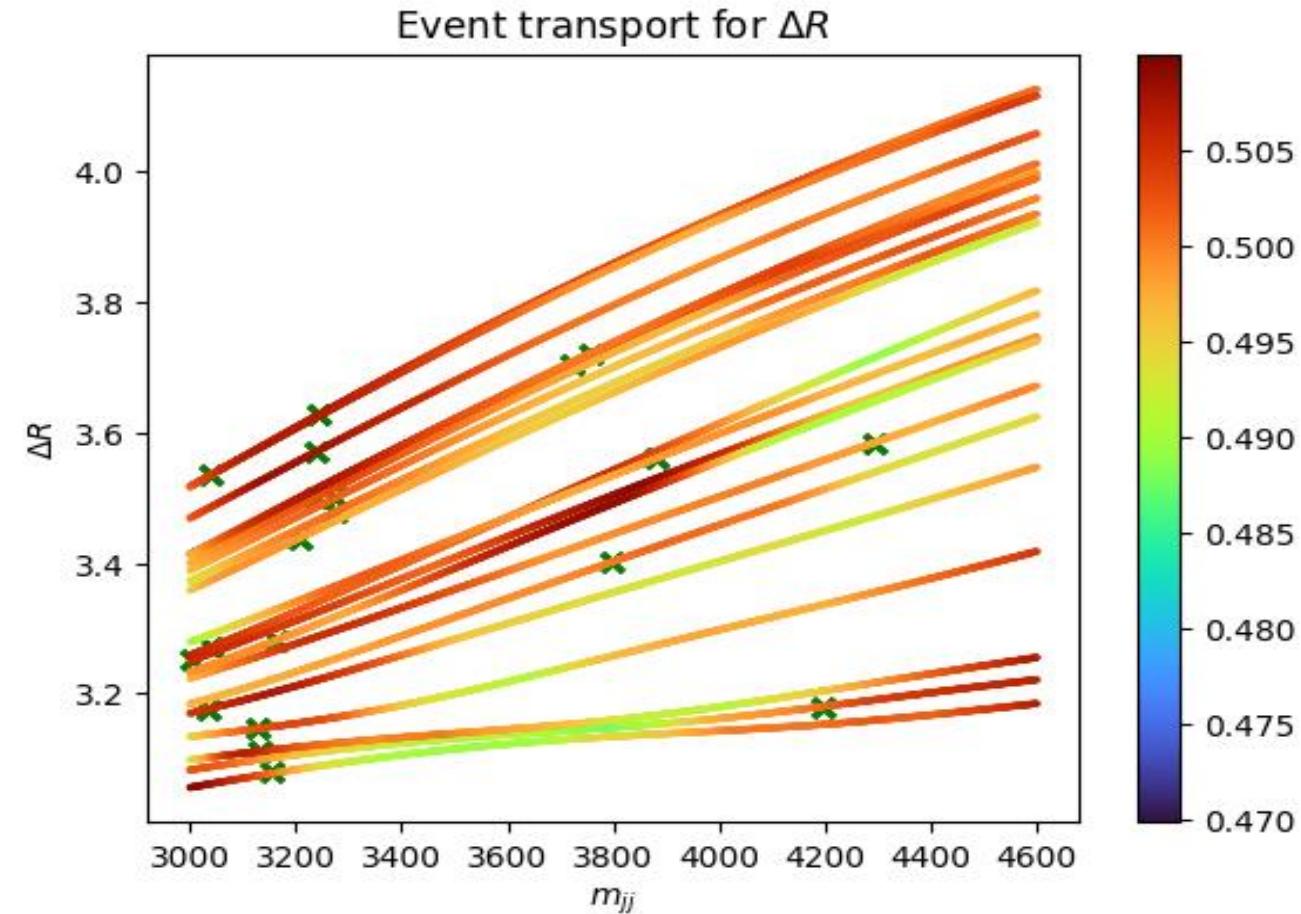
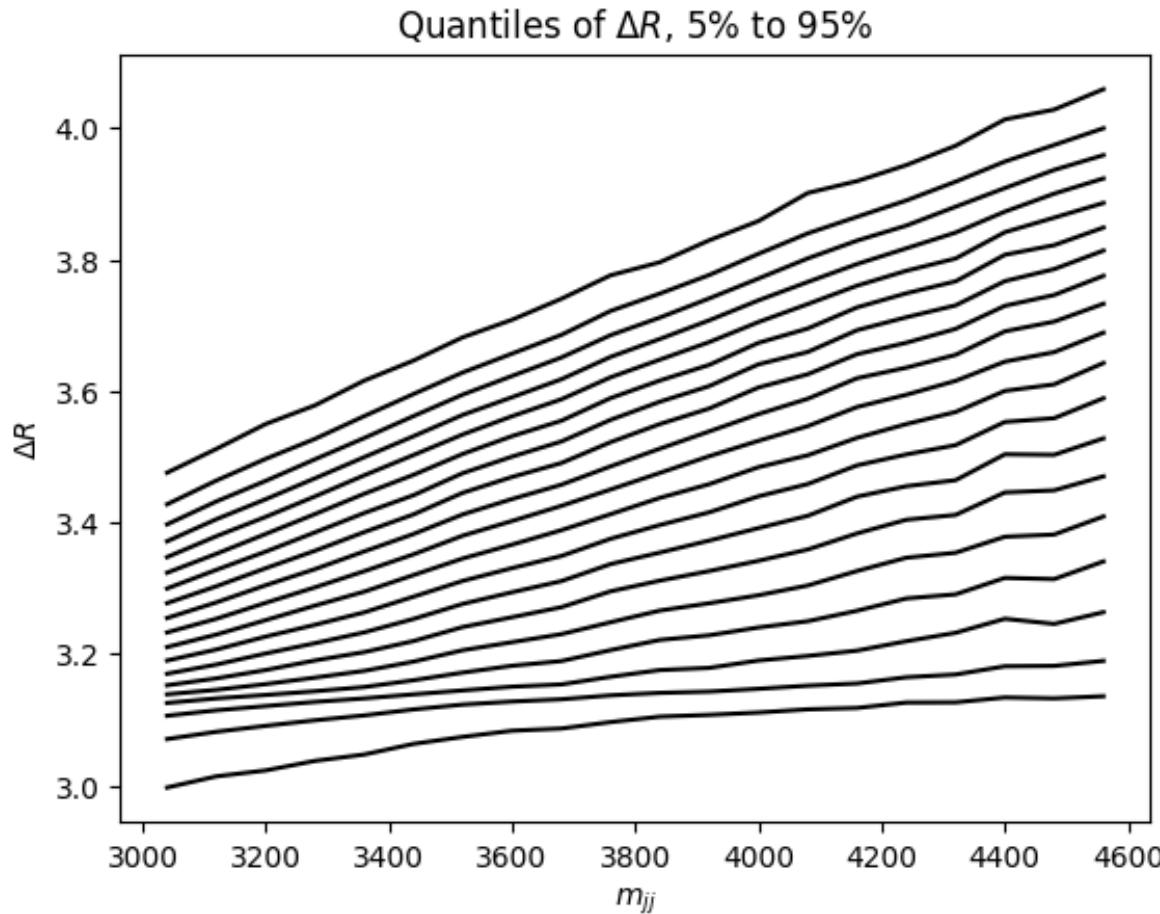
# Trajectories: low correlation $\Delta m_J$

For uncorrelated variables like  $\Delta m_J$  the trajectories are mostly horizontal lines, however they are curved in the tails of the distribution to account for some  $m_{JJ}$  dependance



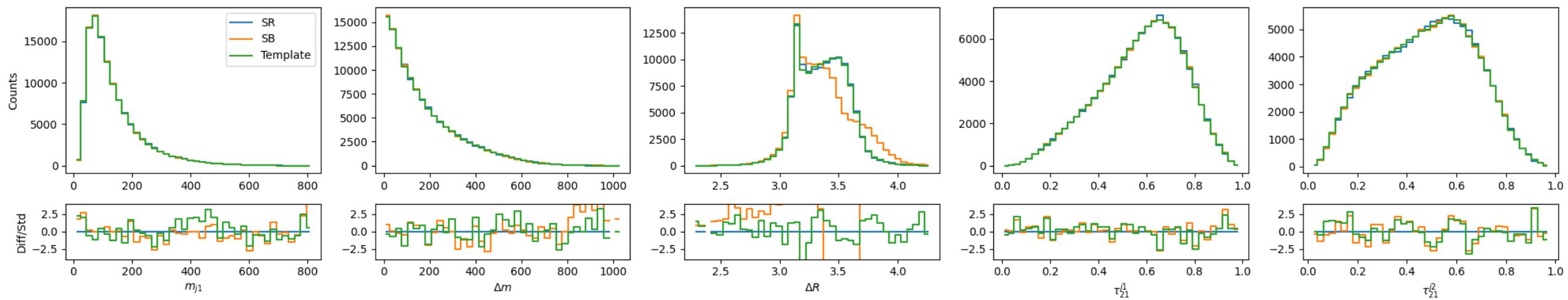
# Trajectories: high correlation $\Delta R_{JJ}$

For  $\Delta R_{JJ}$  the trajectories closely follow the quantiles of the distribution thus ensuring the correct distribution morph



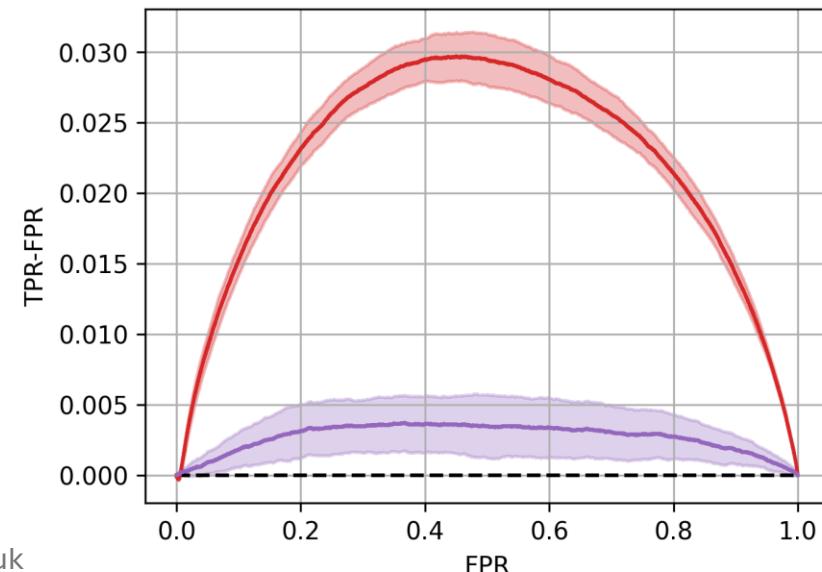
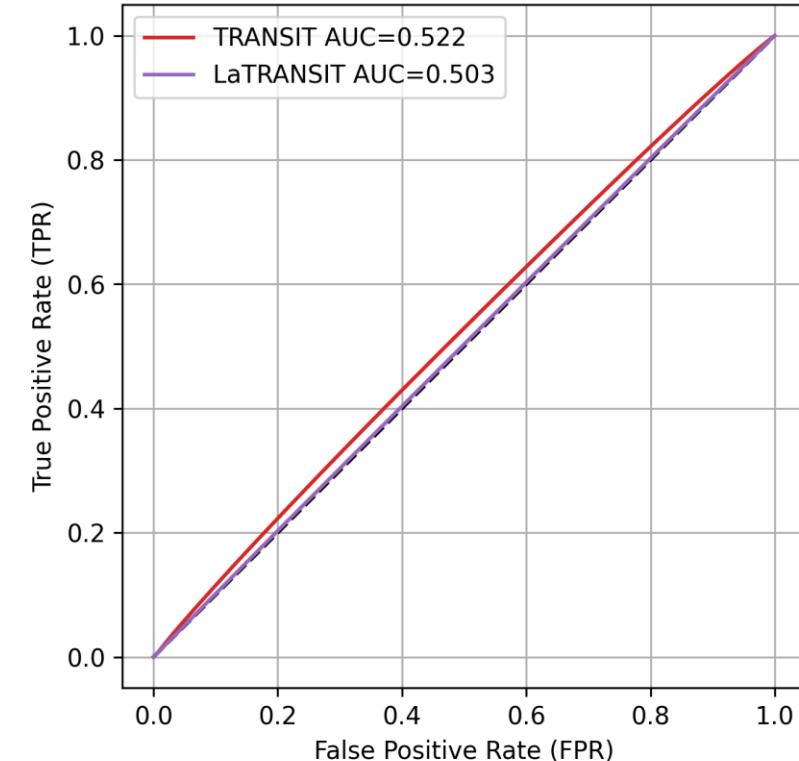
# Template

- Transport event from SB into  $\tilde{m}$  sampled from SR
- The template matches well in all variables, while sidebands had a significantly different distribution
- We can even resolve the “spike” feature on  $\Delta R_{JJ}$



# CWoLa

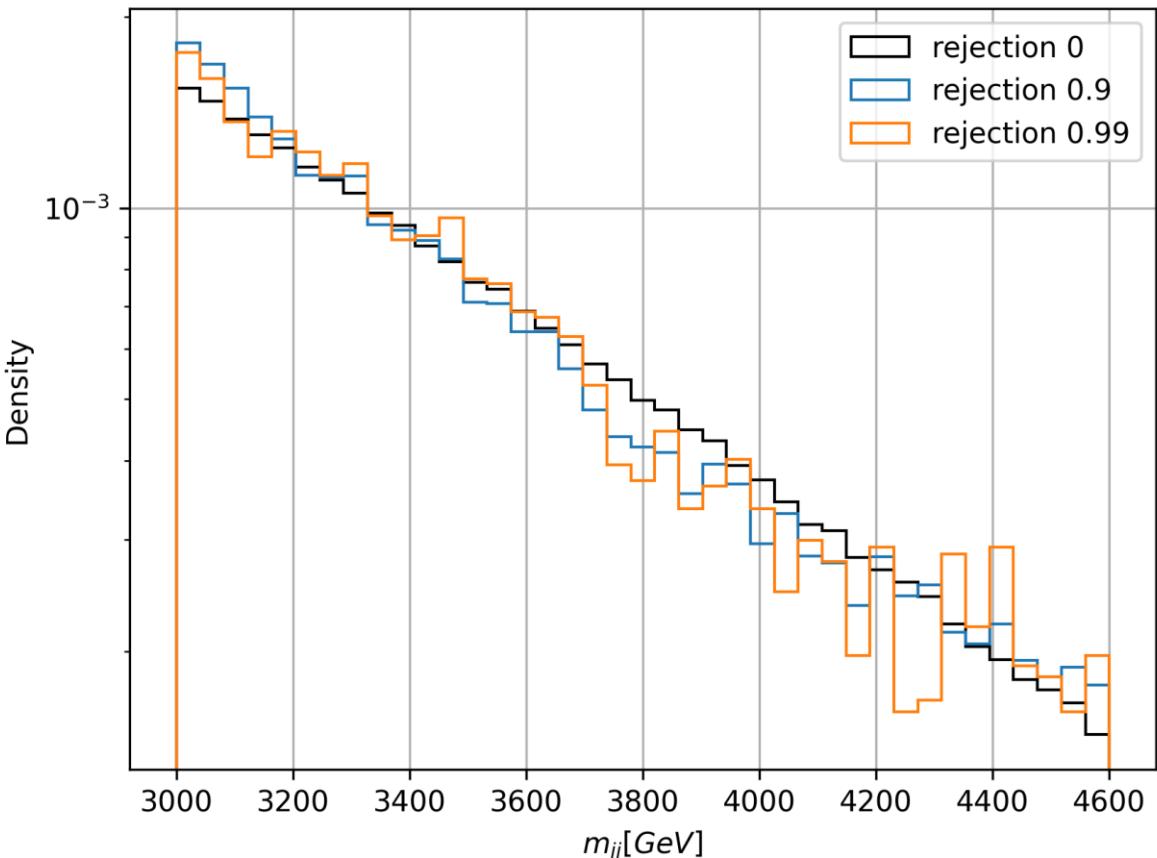
- Boosted Decision Trees
  - Fast
  - Robust to noise variables
- Ensemble of 5 classifiers
- 5-fold cross-validation
- Classify TRANSIT template vs SR data
- Classify latent space representations of SB vs latent space representations of SR for LaTRANSIT (analogy with LaCATHODE)



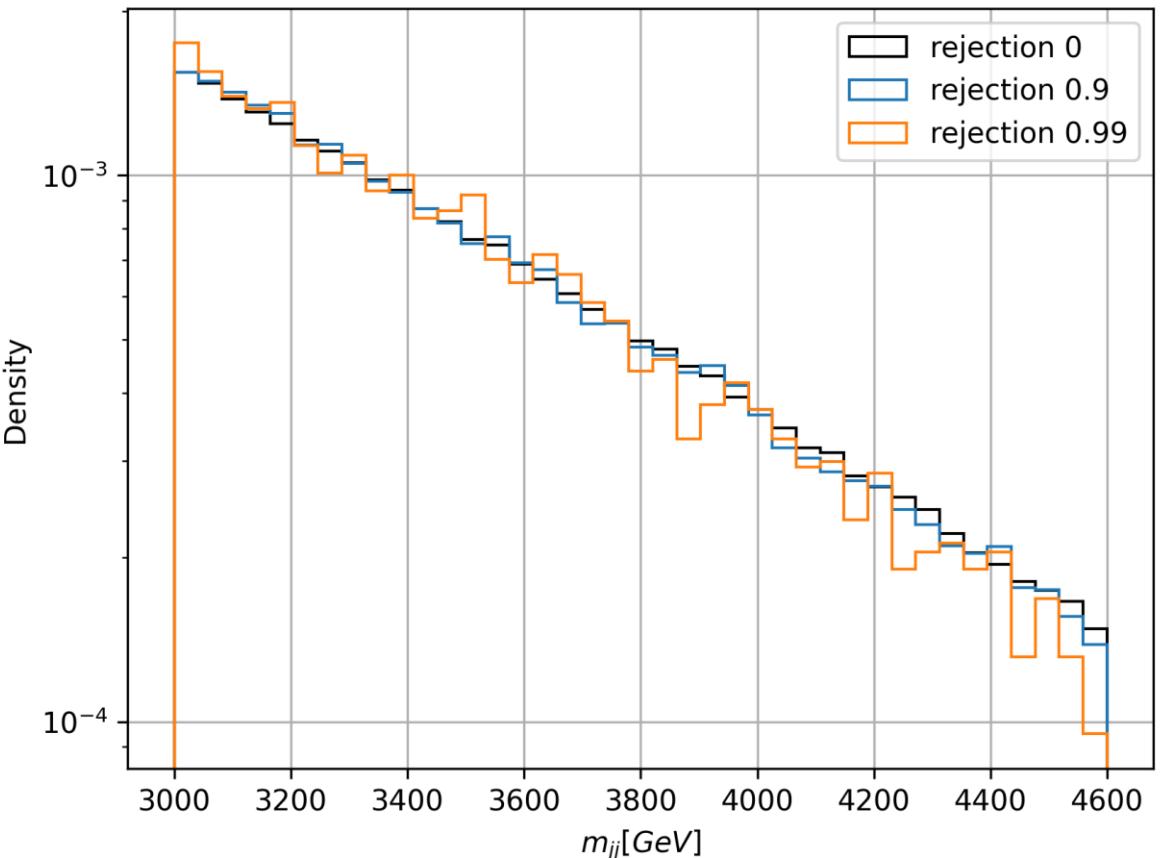
# Mass Sculpting

- Select only background using CWoLa score threshold.
- Latent features have practically no correlation

$m_{J1}, \Delta m_J \tau_{12}^{J1}, \tau_{12}^{J2}, \Delta R_{JJ}$



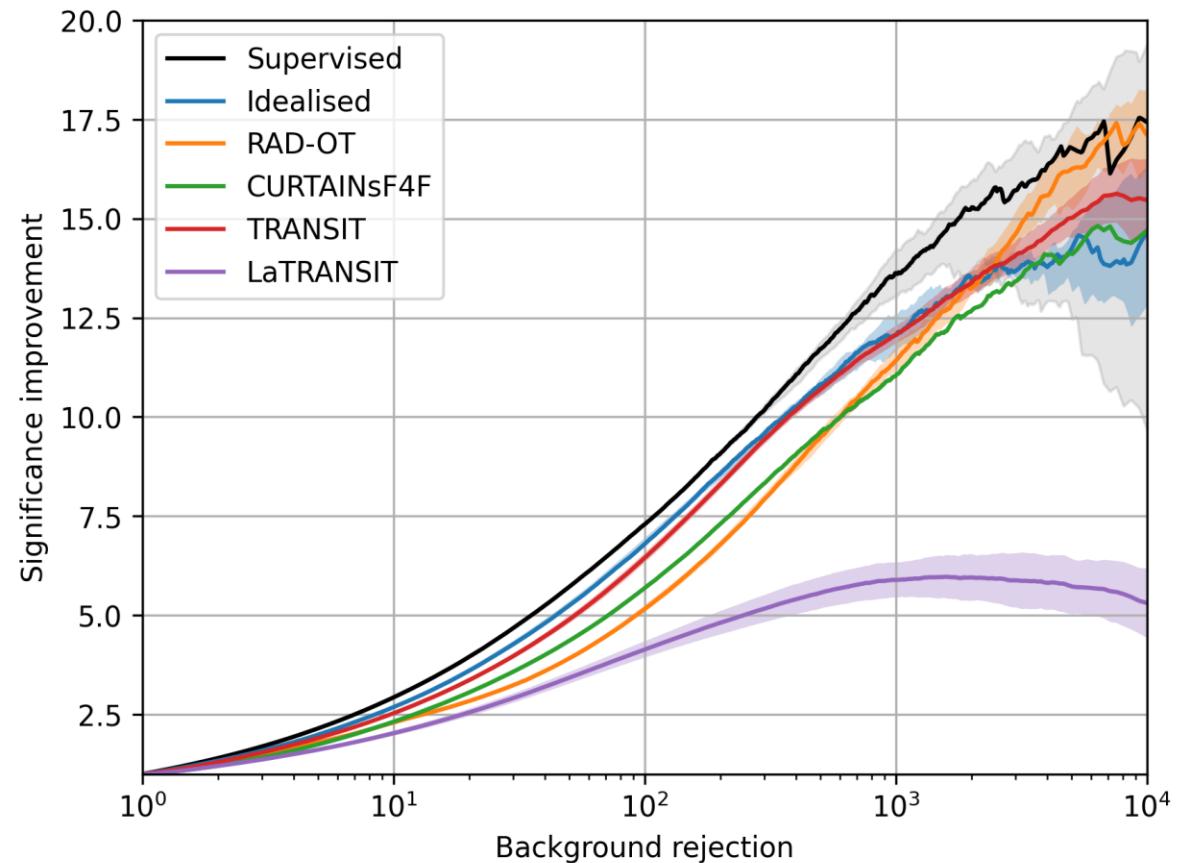
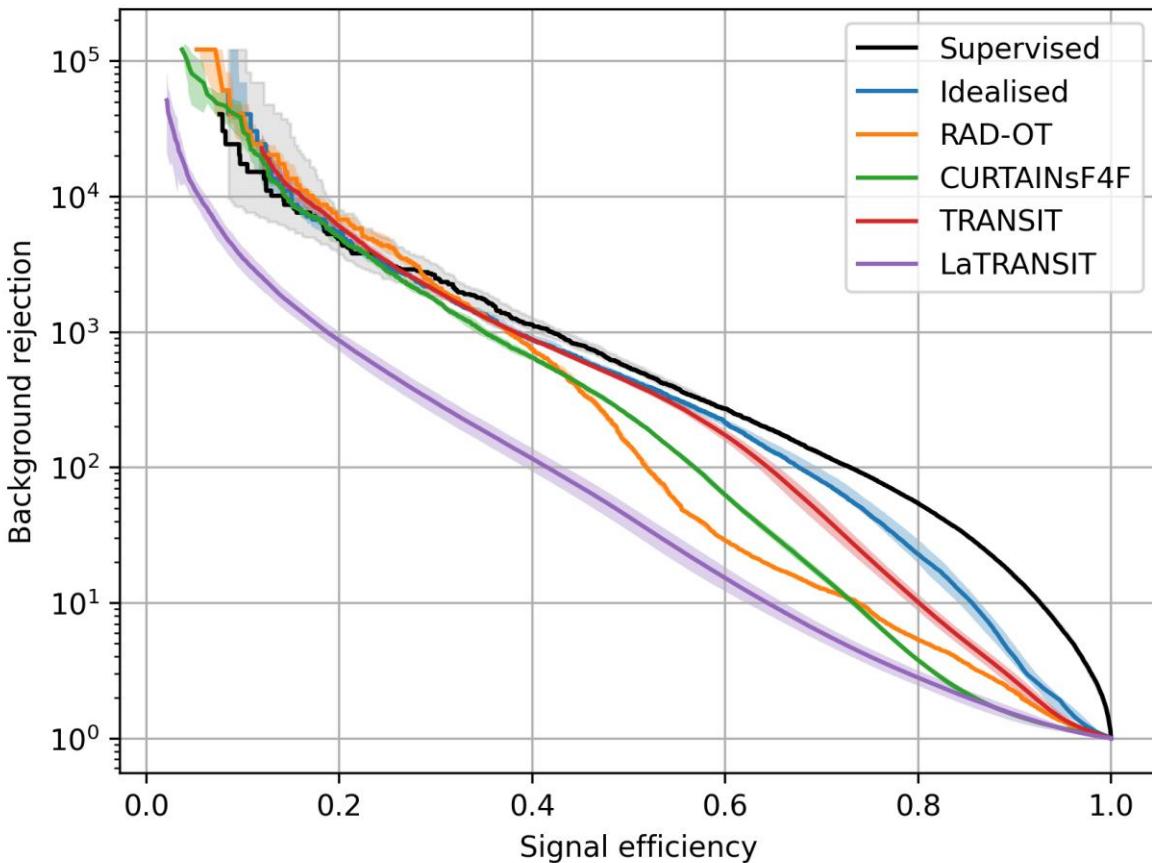
Latent space variables



# Significance improvement

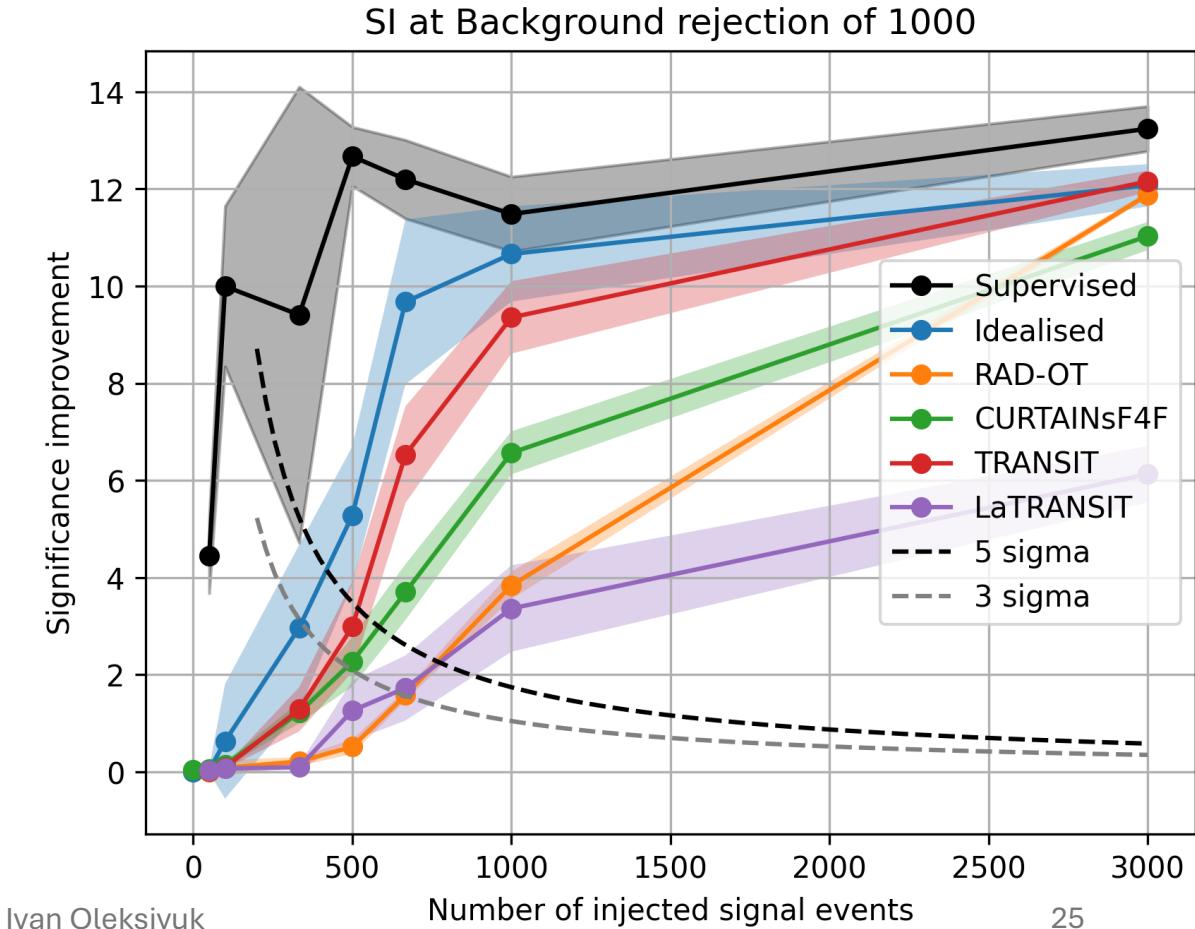
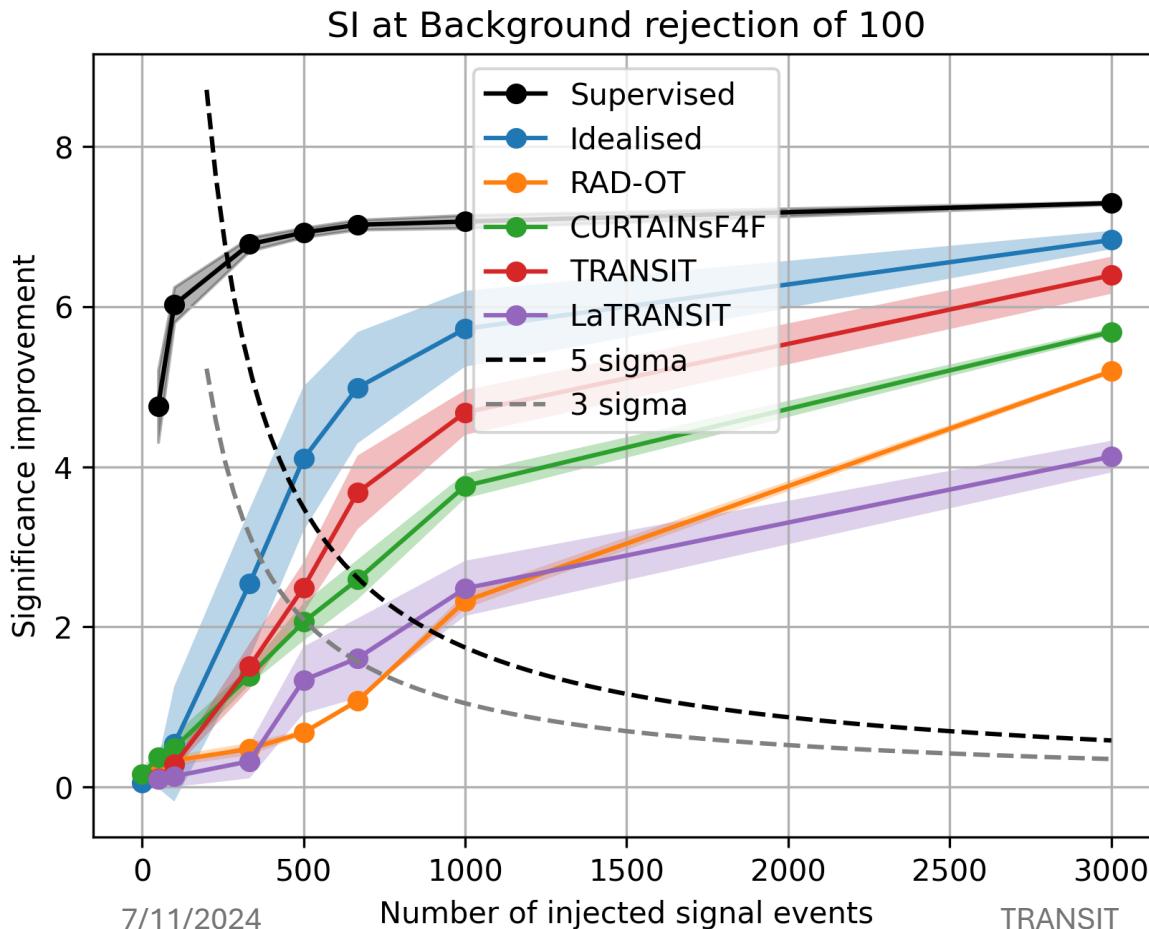
- Inject 3000 signal which corresponds to 0.3% signal contamination in the full data
- Here TRANSIT performs better than both RAD-OT and CURTAINsF4F\* and is close to Idealised case

\*Results for other methods are provided by authors of ArXiv: 2305.04646 and ArXiv: 2407.19818



# Significance improvement

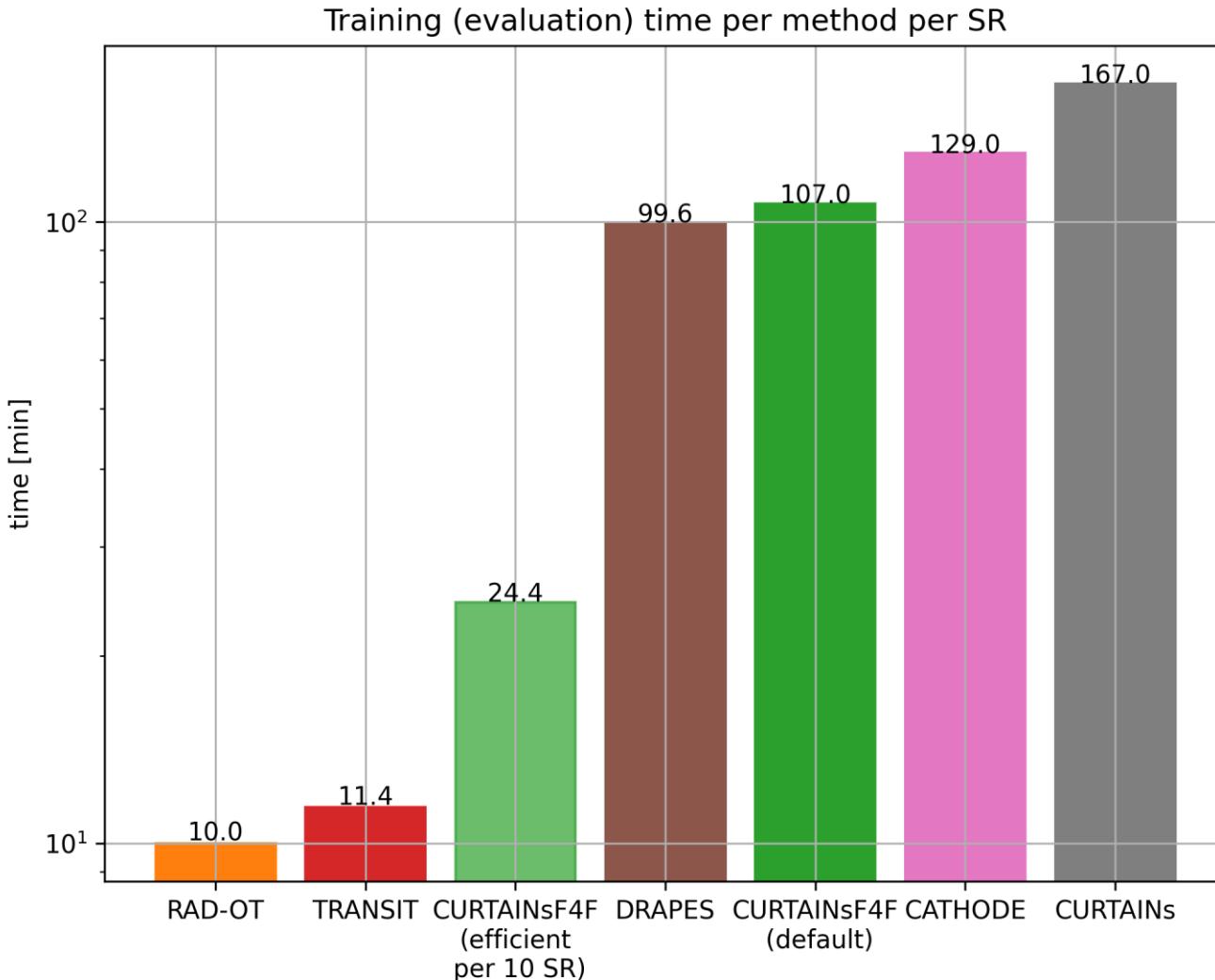
- Dashed curves: SI needed for  $3\sigma$  or  $5\sigma$  excess in a 1 bin counting experiment with perfectly estimated background N from sidebands.
- In this region TRANSIT is outperforms both [CurtainsF4F](#) and [RAD-OT\\*](#)



# Speed comparison

- RAD-OT requires no training and is evaluated on CPU
- For most other methods generation time is negligible compared to training
- Trained using 1 NVIDIA® RTX 3080 GPU (+16 CPU cores)
- TRANSIT reaches 1 order of magnitude speedup compared to most other ML methods
- Efficient CURTAINSf4F relies on assumption that the base flow can be trained only once using all the data including SRs

\*(All timing results for comparison come from ArXiv: 2305.04646 and ArXiv: 2407.19818)



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- Template generation for weakly-supervised searches can be done without using flows or diffusion
- ➡ Just set a right objective!

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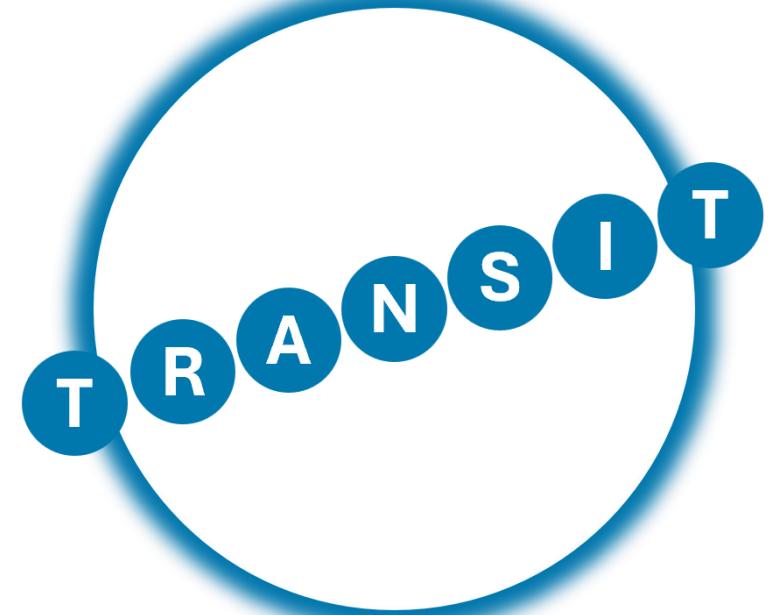
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➡ Use for faster and better analysis!

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- TRANSIT achieves performance competitive with SOTA (on LHCO) while taking only a fraction of computational resources  
➡ Use for faster and better analysis!
- TRANSIT produces a set of mass decorrelated latent variables that mitigate background sculpting in CWoLa  
➡ alternative to LaCATHODE!

# Outlook

- The method may be extended to any data format and number of variables using appropriate architecture, can use transformers to transport full particle clouds (WIP)
- Expect to get even higher speedups with code optimisation and graph compilation
- Looking forward to apply it in the next exotic search and SkyCURTAINS
- ArXive and code coming soon



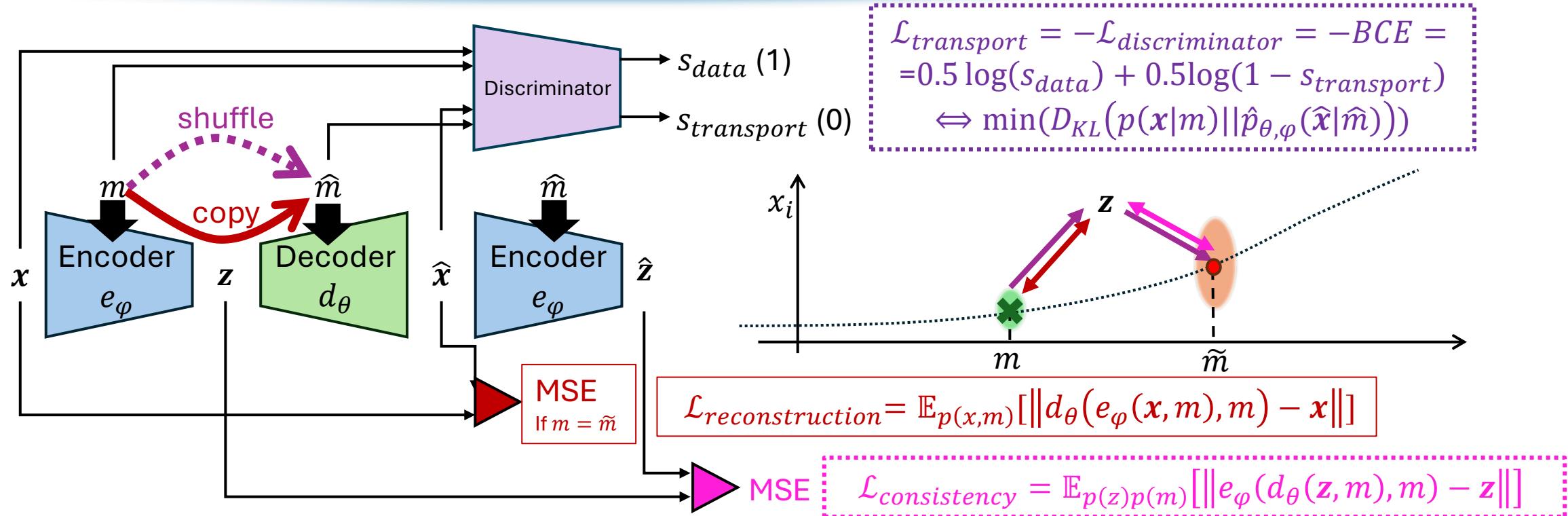
A large, bright yellow sphere representing the Sun dominates the background. Its surface is covered in intricate, dark, web-like patterns and several bright, localized flares or sunspots. A ring of approximately ten smaller, solid black spheres of varying sizes orbits the Sun's circumference. The overall composition is a stylized representation of the solar system.

Thanks for your

attention!

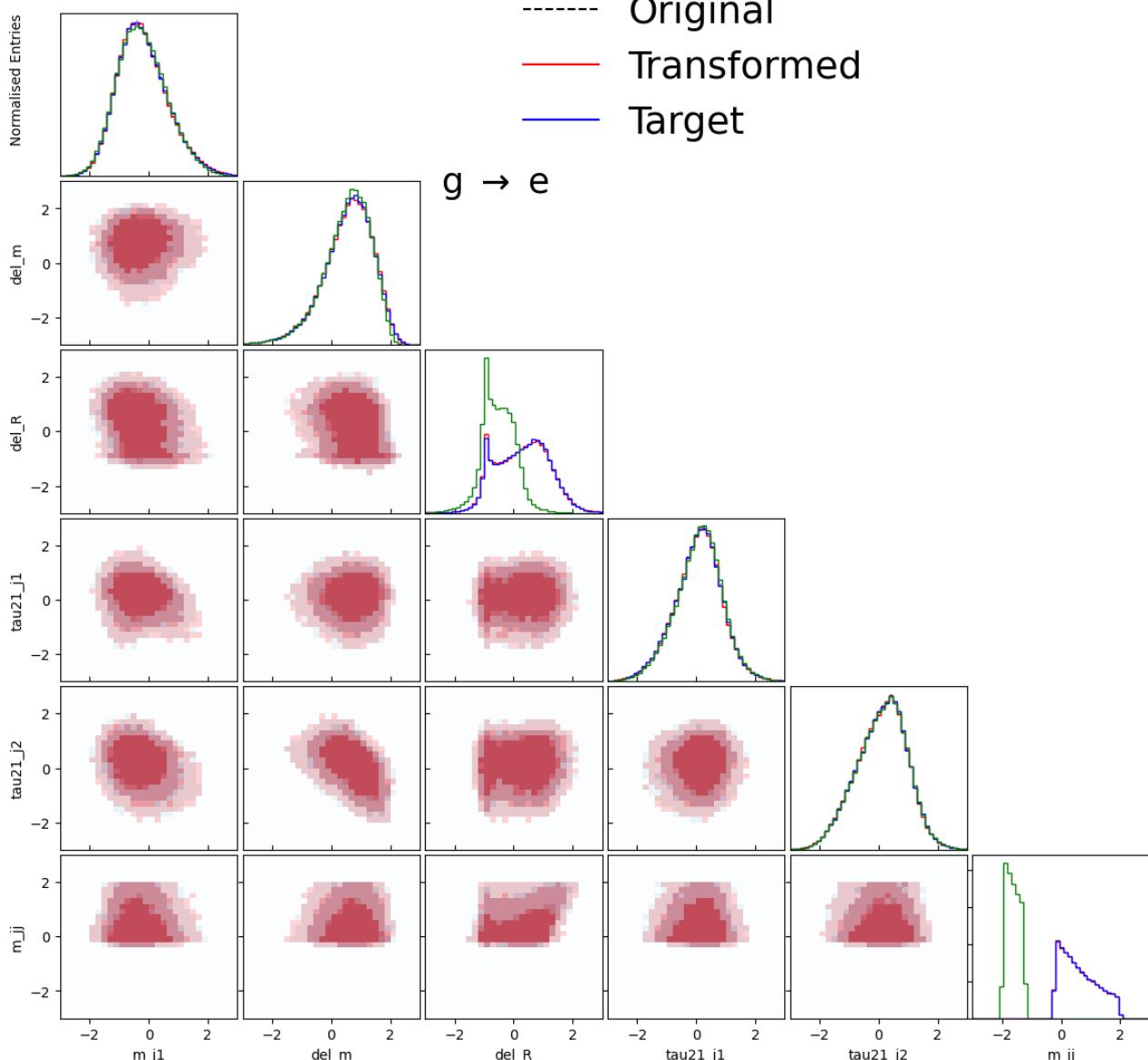
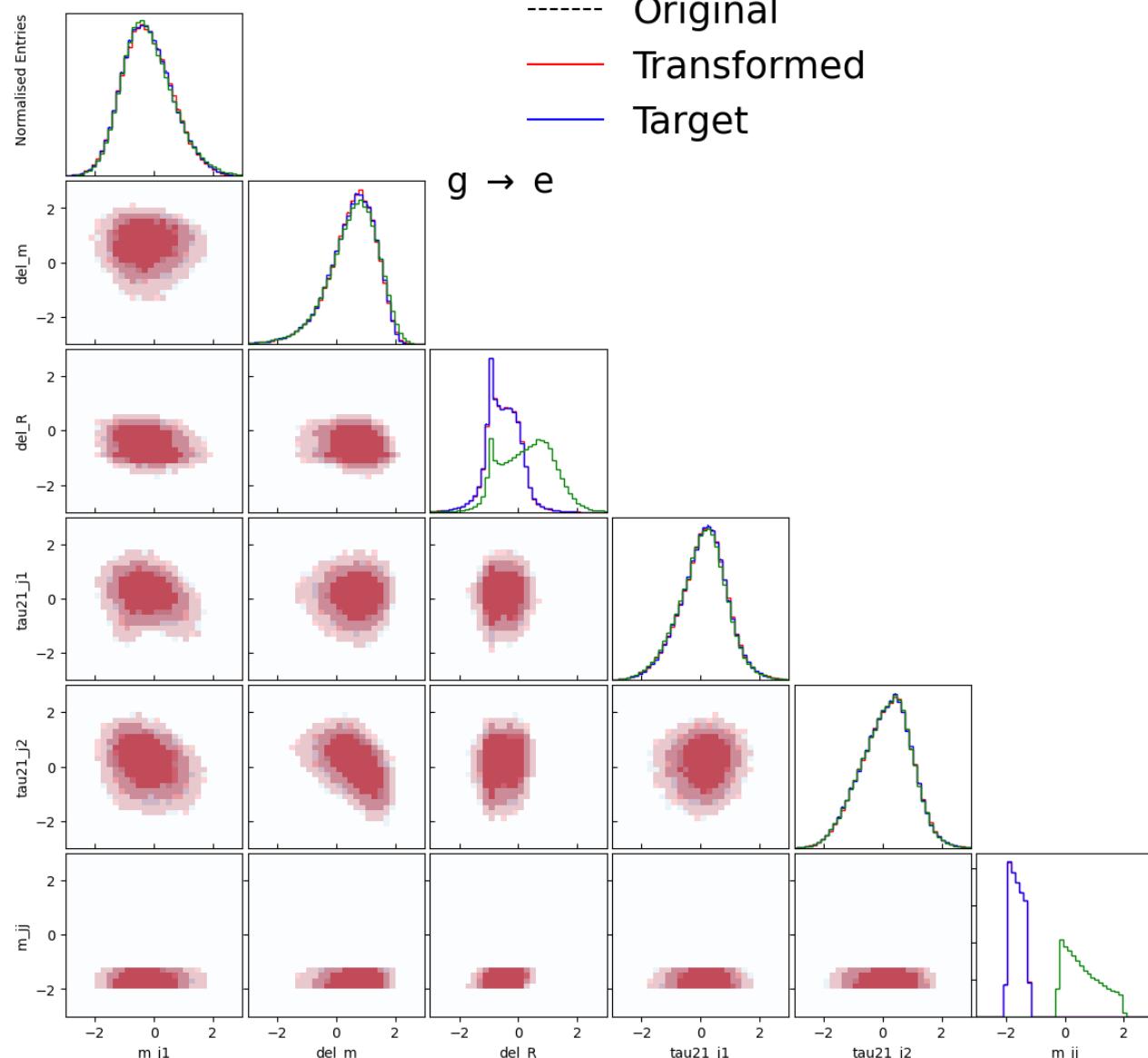
# Backup

# Structure and losses

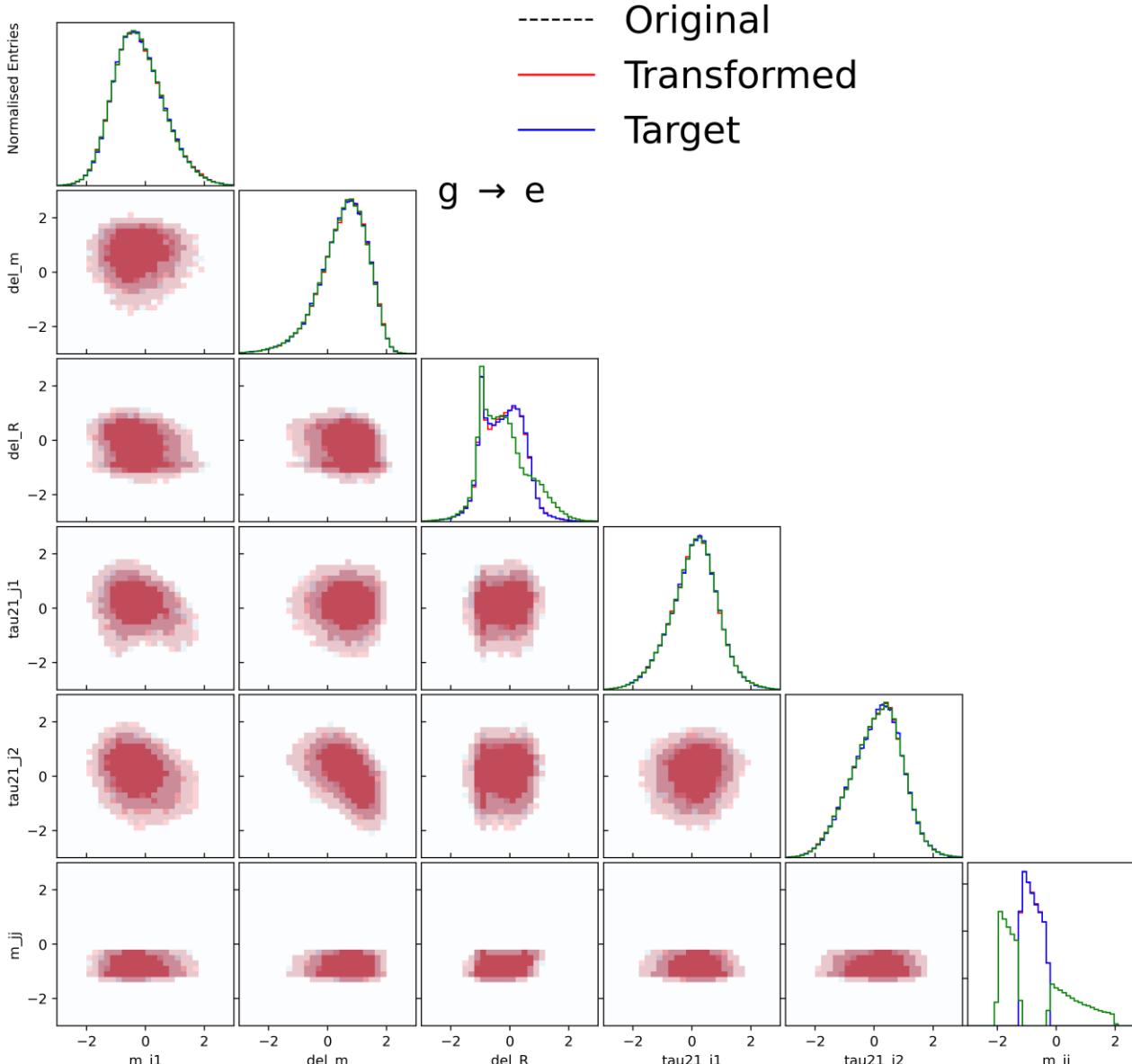


- Propagate through network twice once with  $\tilde{m} = m$  once with  $\tilde{m} = \text{shuffle}(m)$
- Encoder+Decoder use the negative of Discriminator loss
- Update Discriminator 1 step per 1 step of Encoder+Decoder
- If  $\mathcal{L}_{discriminator} > \ln(2)$  (random classifier) update only Discriminator!

# Siband to sideband transport



# Sideband to SR transport

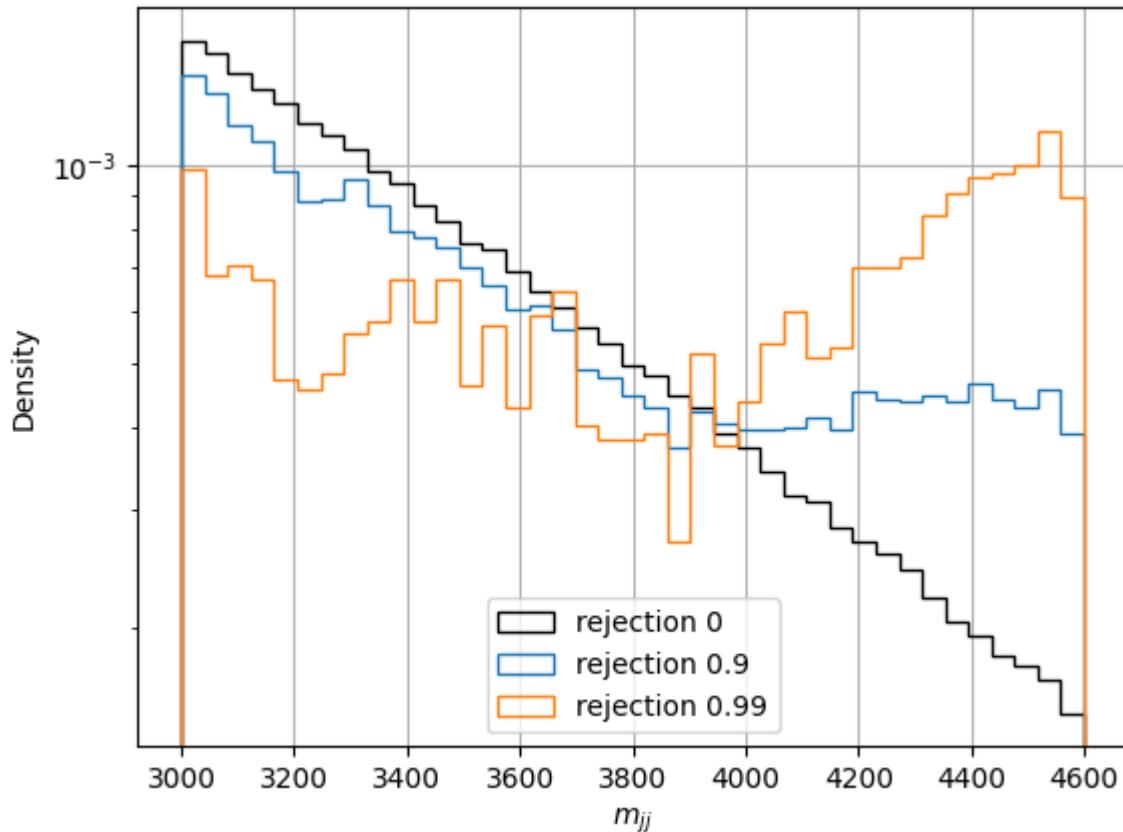


# Mass sculpting: Background only

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Latent space variables

