

# Higgs physics with neural simulation-based inference at LHC and in ATLAS

Aishik Ghosh

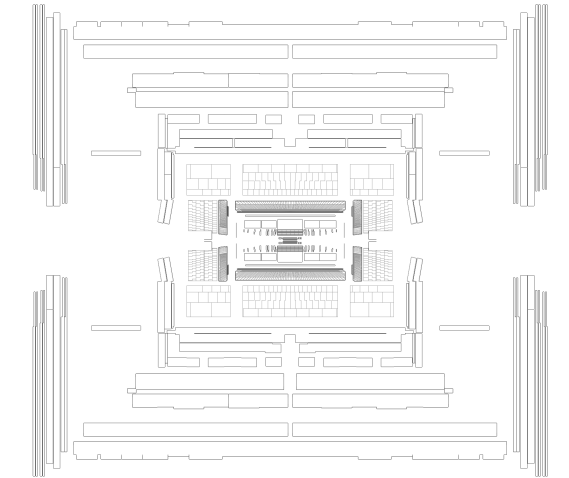
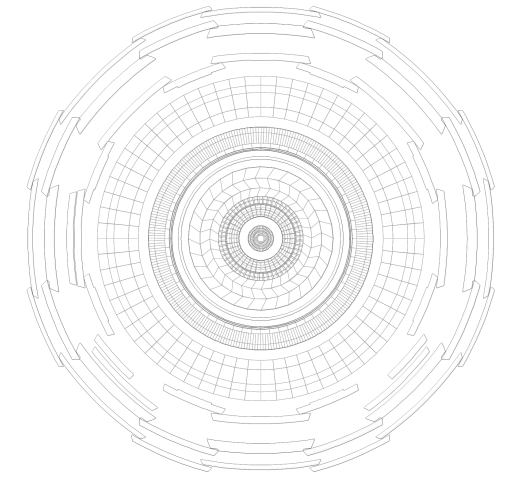
University of Washington

12 November 2024



 [@Aishik\\_Ghosh\\_](https://twitter.com/Aishik_Ghosh_)





# Higgs physics with neural simulation-based inference at LHC and in ATLAS

Aishik Ghosh

University of Washington

12 November 2024



 [@Aishik\\_Ghosh\\_](https://twitter.com/Aishik_Ghosh_)



# What's to come

---

Statistical inference methods developed for Higgs width  
Option to follow technical details or intuitive explanations

# What's to come

## Statistical inference methods developed for Higgs width Option to follow technical details or intuitive explanations

### Measuring quantum interference in the off-shell Higgs to four leptons process with Machine Learning

Aishik Ghosh

Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS/IN2P3, IJCLab, 91405 Orsay, France

**Abstract** — The traditional machine learning approach to optimize a particle physics measurement breaks down in the presence of quantum interference between the signal and background processes. A recently developed family of physics-aware machine learning techniques that rely on the extraction of additional information from the particle physics simulator to train the neural network could be adapted to a signal strength measurement problem. The networks are trained to directly learn the likelihood or likelihood ratio between the test hypothesis and null hypothesis values of the theory parameters being measured. We apply this idea to a signal strength measurement in the off-shell Higgs to four leptons analysis for the Vector Boson Fusion production mode from simulations of the high energy proton-proton collisions at the Large Hadron Collider. Promising initial results indicate that a model trained on simulated data at different values of the signal strength outperforms traditional approaches in the presence of quantum interference.

## 1 Introduction

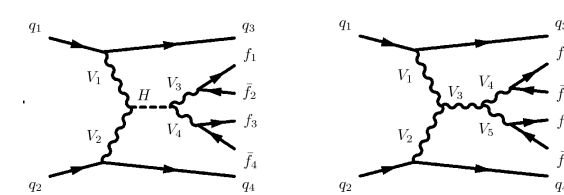


Figure 1: Feynman Diagrams of the processes under study, (a) signal Higgs diagram, (b) interfering background diagram

The Heisenberg uncertainty principle of quantum mechanics ( $\sigma_E \sigma_t \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$ ) allows particles to become “virtual”, with a mass going far away from the one described by special relativity’s mass-energy equivalence formula  $E^2 - |\vec{p}|^2 c^2 = m_0^2 c^4$  (where the energy  $E$  is given in terms of the rest mass  $m_0$  and momentum  $\vec{p}$  of the particle and  $c$  is the speed of light in vacuum). They are and are referred to as “off-shell” particles. Quantum mechanics also prescribes that given an initial and final state, all possible intermediate states can and will occur, and they may interfere with one another.

A study of the off-shell Higgs boson decaying to two Z bosons that decay to four leptons (henceforth referred to as “offshell h4l”), such the 2018 study [2] in the ATLAS Collaboration [1] is one of the most interesting studies in high energy particle physics because it allows to break certain degeneracies between the Higgs couplings, and constrain the Higgs width (under certain model dependent assumptions) that cannot be disentangled by an on-shell measurement alone. An update to the previous ATLAS study using the entire Run2

data will have develop innovative methodology to deal with quantum interference between the Higgs Feynman diagram (referred to as “signal”) and other standard model processes (referred to as “background”). While the previous round used simple cuts to define the region of interest, we investigate a recently developed family of physics-aware machine learning techniques to improve the sensitivity of such an analysis. The two main diagrams studied here are shown in Figure 1. Other signal and background processes will be included in future studies. The objective of the analysis is to measure the “signal strength”,  $\mu$ , of the signal, which is a proxy for measuring how strongly the Higgs interacts with other fields. Interestingly, the usual notion that the signal strength corresponds to the ratio of the observed in data to the expected in Monte Carlo simulation signal yield breaks down in the presence of quantum interference.

This study is performed with data simulated with MadGraph5\_aMC [3], Pythia 8 [4] and Delphes 3 [5].

## 2 Machine Learning in a signal strength measurement

Traditionally, in analyses without quantum interference, one can train a machine learning classifier (such as a Boosted Decision Tree) to separate the signal and background samples (referred to as “events”) that are simulated separately, and under the assumption that it is an optimal classifier, due to the Neyman-Pearson lemma [6], one can get the likelihood ratio [7] between a test hypothesis and the null hypothesis from the output of the classifier. The output of the classifier can be used for a fit to measure the signal strength,  $\mu$ , optimally. In the presence of quantum interference, this strategy is no longer optimal. Figure 2 shows how a physics variable (the invariant mass of the four leptons) that is

# What's to come

Statistical inference methods developed for Higgs width  
Option to follow technical details or intuitive explanations

Measuring quantum interference in the off-shell Higgs to f  
with Machine Learning

Aishik Ghosh

Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS/IN2P3, IJCLab, 91405 C

**Abstract** — The traditional machine learning approach to optimize a particle pl in the presence of quantum interference between the signal and background processes physics-aware machine learning techniques that rely on the extraction of addition physics simulator to train the neural network could be adapted to a signal stren; networks are trained to directly learn the likelihood or likelihood ratio betwee hypothesis values of the theory parameters being measured. We apply this idea t in the off-shell Higgs to four leptons analysis for the Vector Boson Fusion produ the high energy proton-proton collisions at the Large Hadron Collider. Promisi model trained on simulated data at different values of the signal strength outpe the presence of quantum interference.

## 1 Introduction

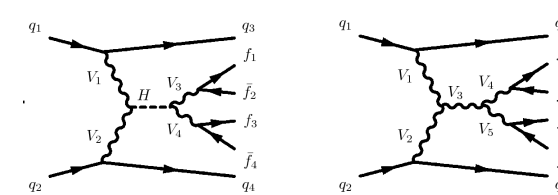


Figure 1: Feynman Diagrams of the processes under study, (a) signal Higgs diagram, (b) interfering background diagram

The Heisenberg uncertainty principle of quantum mechanics ( $\sigma_E \sigma_t \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$ ) allows particles to become “virtual”, with a mass going far away from the one described by special relativity’s mass-energy equivalence formula  $E^2 - |\vec{p}|^2 c^2 = m_0^2 c^4$  (where the energy  $E$  is given in terms of the rest mass  $m_0$  and momentum  $\vec{p}$  of the particle and  $c$  is the speed of light in vacuum). They are referred to as “off-shell” particles. Quantum mechanics also prescribes that given an initial and final state, all possible intermediate states can and will occur, and they may interfere with one another.

A study of the off-shell Higgs boson decaying to two Z bosons that decay to four leptons (henceforth referred to as “offshell h4l”), such the 2018 study [2] in the ATLAS Collaboration [1] is one of the most interesting studies in high energy particle physics because it allows to break certain degeneracies between the Higgs couplings, and constrain the Higgs width (under certain model dependent assumptions) that cannot be disentangled by an on-shell measurement alone. An update to the previous ATLAS study using the entire Run2

data will develop with quantum interfere diagram (referred to a model processes (refer the previous round usec of interest, we investiga physics-aware machine the sensitivity of such grams studied here are and background proce studies. The objective, “signal strength”,  $\mu$ , of measuring how strong; fields. Interestingly, tl strength corresponds t data to the expected i yield breaks down in tl ence.

This study is perfor MadGraph5\_aMC [3], Py

## 2 Machine L strength m

Traditionally, in analy ence, one can train a r as a Boosted Decision, background samples (r simulated separately, i it is an optimal classifi lemma [6], one can get t test hypothesis and the of the classifier. The ou for a fit to measure th In the presence of qua is no longer optimal. variable (the invariant



ATLAS CONF Note

ATLAS-CONF-2024-015

28th October 2024



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

The ATLAS Collaboration

Neural Simulation-Based Inference (NSBI) is a powerful class of machine learning (ML)-based methods for statistical inference that naturally handles high-dimensional parameter estimation without the need to bin data into low-dimensional summary histograms. Such methods are promising for a range of measurements, including at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), where no single observable may be optimal to scan over the entire theoretical phase space under consideration, or where binning data into histograms could result in a loss of sensitivity. This work develops an NSBI framework for statistical inference, using neural networks to estimate probability density ratios, which enables the application of NSBI to a full-scale LHC analysis. It incorporates a large number of systematic uncertainties, quantifies the uncertainty coming from finite training statistics, develops a method to construct confidence intervals, and demonstrates a series of intermediate diagnostic checks that can be performed to validate the robustness of the method. As an example, the power and feasibility of the method are demonstrated on simulated data for a simplified version of an off-shell Higgs boson couplings measurement in the four-leptons final states. This NSBI framework is an extension of the standard statistical framework used by LHC experiments and can benefit a large number of physics analyses.

© 2024 CERN for the benefit of the ATLAS Collaboration.

Reproduction of this article or parts of it is allowed as specified in the CC-BY-4.0 license.

ATLAS-CONF-2024-015  
28 October 2024



# What's to come

Statistical inference methods developed for Higgs width  
Option to follow technical details or intuitive explanations

**Measuring quantum interference in the off-shell Higgs to  $4\ell$  with Machine Learning**

Aishik Ghosh  
*Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS/IN2P3, IJCLab, 91405 C*

**Abstract** — The traditional machine learning approach to optimize a particle physics process in the presence of quantum interference between the signal and background processes is physics-aware machine learning techniques that rely on the extraction of addition physics simulator to train the neural network could be adapted to a signal strength measurement. We apply this idea to the off-shell Higgs to four leptons analysis for the Vector Boson Fusion production at the high energy proton-proton collisions at the Large Hadron Collider. Promising model trained on simulated data at different values of the signal strength output the presence of quantum interference.

**1 Introduction**

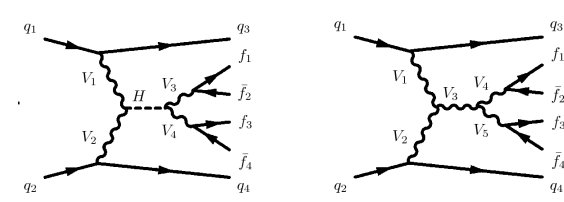


Figure 1: Feynman Diagrams of the processes under study, (a) signal Higgs diagram, (b) interfering background diagram

The Heisenberg uncertainty principle of quantum mechanics ( $\sigma_E \sigma_t \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$ ) allows particles to become “virtual”, with a mass going far away from the one described by special relativity’s mass-energy equivalence formula  $E^2 - |\vec{p}|^2 c^2 = m_0^2 c^4$  (where the energy  $E$  is given in terms of the rest mass  $m_0$  and momentum  $\vec{p}$  of the particle and  $c$  is the speed of light in vacuum). They are referred to as “off-shell” particles. Quantum mechanics also prescribes that given an initial and final state, all possible intermediate states can and will occur, and they may interfere with one another.

A study of the off-shell Higgs boson decaying to two Z bosons that decay to four leptons (henceforth referred to as “off-shell  $h4\ell$ ”), such the 2018 study [2] in the ATLAS Collaboration [1] is one of the most interesting studies in high energy particle physics because it allows to break certain degeneracies between the Higgs couplings, and constrain the Higgs width (under certain model dependent assumptions) that cannot be disentangled by an on-shell measurement alone. An update to the previous ATLAS study using the entire Run2

**ATLAS CONF Note**  
ATLAS-CONF-2024-015  
28th October 2024

**An implementation of Neural Simulation-Based Inference for Parameter Estimation**

The ATLAS Collaboration

Neural Simulation-Based Inference (NSBI) is a powerful class of machine learning methods for statistical inference that naturally handles high-dimensional parameter spaces without the need to bin data into low-dimensional summary histograms. This work develops an NSBI framework for statistical inference, using estimate probability density ratios, which enables the application of NSBI analysis. It incorporates a large number of systematic uncertainties, quantifying the impact of finite training statistics, and demonstrates a series of intermediate diagnostic checks that can be used to assess the robustness of the method. As an example, the power and feasibility of NSBI is demonstrated on simulated data for a simplified version of an off-shell Higgs boson measurement in the four-lepton final states. This NSBI framework is a standard statistical framework used by LHC experiments and can benefit from physics analyses.

This study is performed using MadGraph5\_aMC [3], Pythia [4], Delphes [5], and RooStats [6].

Traditionally, in analysis, one can train a classifier on a set of signal and background samples (trained separately), and use it to distinguish between the two. However, this is not an optimal classification strategy [6], one can get a better fit to the data by training the classifier on the combined signal and background samples. In the presence of quantum interference, this is no longer optimal. A variable (the invariant

**ATLAS CONF Note**  
ATLAS-CONF-2024-016  
October 31, 2024

**Measurement of off-shell Higgs boson production in the  $H^* \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  decay channel using a neural simulation-based inference technique with the ATLAS detector at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV**

The ATLAS Collaboration

A measurement of off-shell Higgs boson production in the  $H^* \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  decay channel is presented. The measurement uses the  $140 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of integrated luminosity collected by the ATLAS detector during the Run 2 proton-proton collisions of the Large Hadron Collider at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV and supersedes our previous result in this decay channel using the same dataset. The data analysis is performed using a neural simulation based-inference method, which builds per-event likelihood ratios using neural networks. The observed (expected) off-shell Higgs boson production signal strength in the  $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  decay channel is  $0.87^{+0.75}_{-0.54}$  ( $1.00^{+1.04}_{-0.95}$ ) at 68% CL. The previous result was not able to achieve expected sensitivity to quote a two-sided interval at this CL. The expected plus-side uncertainty is reduced by 10%. The evidence for off-shell Higgs boson production has an observed (expected) significance of  $2.5\sigma$  ( $1.3\sigma$ ) using the  $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  decay channel only. The expected significance score is 2.6 times that of our previous result using the same dataset. When combined with our most recent measurement in the  $ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$  decay channel, the evidence for off-shell Higgs boson production has an observed (expected) significance of  $3.7\sigma$  ( $2.4\sigma$ ). The off-shell measurements are combined with the measurement of on-shell Higgs boson production to obtain constraints on the Higgs boson total width. The observed (expected) value of the Higgs boson width is  $4.3^{+2.7}_{-1.9}$  ( $4.1^{+3.5}_{-3.4}$ ) MeV at 68% CL.

© 2024 CERN for the benefit of the ATLAS Collaboration.  
Reproduction of this article or parts of it is allowed as specified in the CC-BY-4.0 license.

# What's to come

Statistical inference methods developed for Higgs width  
Option to follow technical details or intuitive explanations

Similar story for neutron star  
astrophysics

Measuring quantum interference in the off-shell Higgs to  $4\ell$  with Machine Learning

Aishik Ghosh  
Université Paris-Saclay, CNRS/IN2P3, IJCLab, 91405 C

**Abstract** — The traditional machine learning approach to optimize a particle physics model in the presence of quantum interference between the signal and background processes is physics-aware machine learning techniques that rely on the extraction of additional physics simulator to train the neural network could be adapted to a signal strength analysis. We apply this idea to the off-shell Higgs to four leptons analysis for the Vector Boson Fusion production at the high energy proton-proton collisions at the Large Hadron Collider. Promising model trained on simulated data at different values of the signal strength output the presence of quantum interference.

**1 Introduction**

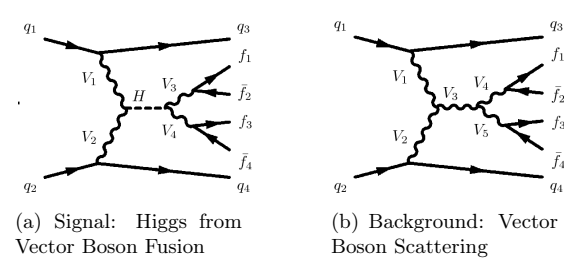


Figure 1: Feynman Diagrams of the processes under study, (a) signal Higgs diagram, (b) interfering background diagram

The Heisenberg uncertainty principle of quantum mechanics ( $\sigma_E \sigma_t \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$ ) allows particles to become “virtual”, with a mass going far away from the one described by special relativity’s mass-energy equivalence formula  $E^2 - |\vec{p}|^2 c^2 = m_0^2 c^4$  (where the energy  $E$  is given in terms of the rest mass  $m_0$  and momentum  $\vec{p}$  of the particle and  $c$  is the speed of light in vacuum). They are referred to as “off-shell” particles. Quantum mechanics also prescribes that given an initial and final state, all possible intermediate states can and will occur, and they may interfere with one another.

A study of the off-shell Higgs boson decaying to two Z bosons that decay to four leptons (henceforth referred to as “offshell h4l”), such the 2018 study [2] in the ATLAS Collaboration [1] is one of the most interesting studies in high energy particle physics because it allows to break certain degeneracies between the Higgs couplings, and constrain the Higgs width (under certain model dependent assumptions) that cannot be disentangled by an on-shell measurement alone. An update to the previous ATLAS study using the entire Run2

ATLAS CONF Note  
ATLAS-CONF-2024-015  
28th October 2024

**An implementation of Neural Simulation-Based Inference for Parameter Estimation**

The ATLAS Collaboration

Neural Simulation-Based Inference (NSBI) is a powerful class of machine learning methods for statistical inference that naturally handles high-dimensional parameter spaces without the need to bin data into low-dimensional summary histograms. This work develops an NSBI framework for statistical inference, using estimate probability density ratios, which enables the application of NSBI analysis. It incorporates a large number of systematic uncertainties, quant coming from finite training statistics, develops a method to construct confidence intervals and demonstrates a series of intermediate diagnostic checks that can be used to assess the robustness of the method. As an example, the power and feasibility demonstrated on simulated data for a simplified version of an off-shell Higgs measurement in the four-leptons final states. This NSBI framework is standard statistical framework used by LHC experiments and can benefit physics analyses.

© 2024 CERN for the benefit of the ATLAS Collaboration.  
Reproduction of this article or parts of it is allowed as specified in the CC-BY-4.0 license.

ATLAS CONF Note  
ATLAS-CONF-2024-015  
October 31, 2024

**Measurement of off-shell Higgs boson production in the  $H^* \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  decay channel using simulation-based inference at the ATLAS detector at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV**

The ATLAS Collaboration

A measurement of off-shell Higgs boson production in the  $H^* \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  decay channel using simulation-based inference at the ATLAS detector during the Run 2 proton-proton collision at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV and supersedes our previous result in this decay channel. The data analysis is performed using a neural simulation-based inference framework using per-event likelihood ratios using neural networks. The observed (expected) signal strength in the  $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  decay channel is  $1.08 \pm 0.12$  (expected  $1.08 \pm 0.12$ ) at 68% CL. The previous result was not able to achieve expected interval at this CL. The expected plus-side uncertainty is reduced to 12% for off-shell Higgs boson production has an observed (expected) significance of 3.7 $\sigma$  (2.4 $\sigma$ ). The off-shell measurement of on-shell Higgs boson production to obtain total width. The observed (expected) value of the Higgs boson total width is  $2.48 \pm 0.12$  (expected  $2.48 \pm 0.12$ ) at 68% CL.

© 2024 CERN for the benefit of the ATLAS Collaboration.  
Reproduction of this article or parts of it is allowed as specified in the CC-BY-4.0 license.

ATLAS Collaboration (incl Ghosh): [CONF Note 2](#)

Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics  
An IOP and SISSA journal

RECEIVED: March 12, 2024  
REVISED: June 10, 2024  
ACCEPTED: August 10, 2024  
PUBLISHED: September 3, 2024

**Neural simulation-based inference of the neutron star equation of state directly from telescope spectra**

Len Brandes<sup>a</sup>, Chirag Modi<sup>b,c</sup>, Aishik Ghosh<sup>d,e</sup>, Delaney Farrell<sup>f</sup>, Lee Lindblom<sup>g</sup>, Lukas Heinrich<sup>h</sup>, Andrew W. Steiner<sup>h,i</sup>, Fridolin Weber<sup>f,g</sup> and Daniel Whiteson<sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Physics Department, TUM School of Natural Sciences, Technical University of Munich, Garching 85747, Germany  
<sup>b</sup>Center for Computational Astrophysics, Flatiron Institute, New York, NY 11226, U.S.A.  
<sup>c</sup>Center for Computational Mathematics, Flatiron Institute, New York, NY 11226, U.S.A.  
<sup>d</sup>Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of California, Irvine, CA 92697, U.S.A.  
<sup>e</sup>Physics Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, CA 94720, U.S.A.  
<sup>f</sup>Department of Physics, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA 92115, U.S.A.  
<sup>g</sup>Department of Physics, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093, U.S.A.  
<sup>h</sup>Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, U.S.A.  
<sup>i</sup>Physics Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, TN 37831, U.S.A.

E-mail: [len.brandes@tum.de](mailto:len.brandes@tum.de), [cmodi@flatironinstitute.org](mailto:cmodi@flatironinstitute.org), [aishikghosh@cern.ch](mailto:aishikghosh@cern.ch), [dfarrell@sdsu.edu](mailto:dfarrell@sdsu.edu), [lindblom@tapir.caltech.edu](mailto:lindblom@tapir.caltech.edu), [lukas.heinrich@cern.ch](mailto:lukas.heinrich@cern.ch), [awsteiner@utk.edu](mailto:awsteiner@utk.edu), [fweber@sciences.sdsu.edu](mailto:fweber@sciences.sdsu.edu), [daniel@uci.edu](mailto:daniel@uci.edu)

ABSTRACT: Neutron stars provide a unique opportunity to study strongly interacting matter under extreme density conditions. The intricacies of matter inside neutron stars and their equation of state are not directly visible, but determine bulk properties, such as mass and radius, which affect the star’s thermal X-ray emissions. However, the telescope spectra of these emissions are also affected by the stellar distance, hydrogen column, and effective surface temperature, which are not always well-constrained. Uncertainties on these nuisance parameters must be accounted for when making a robust estimation of the equation of state. In this study, we develop a novel methodology that, for the first time, can infer the full posterior distribution of both the equation of state and nuisance parameters directly from

© 2024 The Author(s). Published by IOP Publishing Ltd on behalf of Sissa Medialab. Original content from this work may be used under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 licence. Any further distribution of this work must maintain attribution to the author(s) and the title of the work, journal title and page number. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1475-7516/2024/09/009>

Brandes, Modi, Ghosh, et al: [JCAP 09\(2024\)009](#)

JCAP09(2024)009

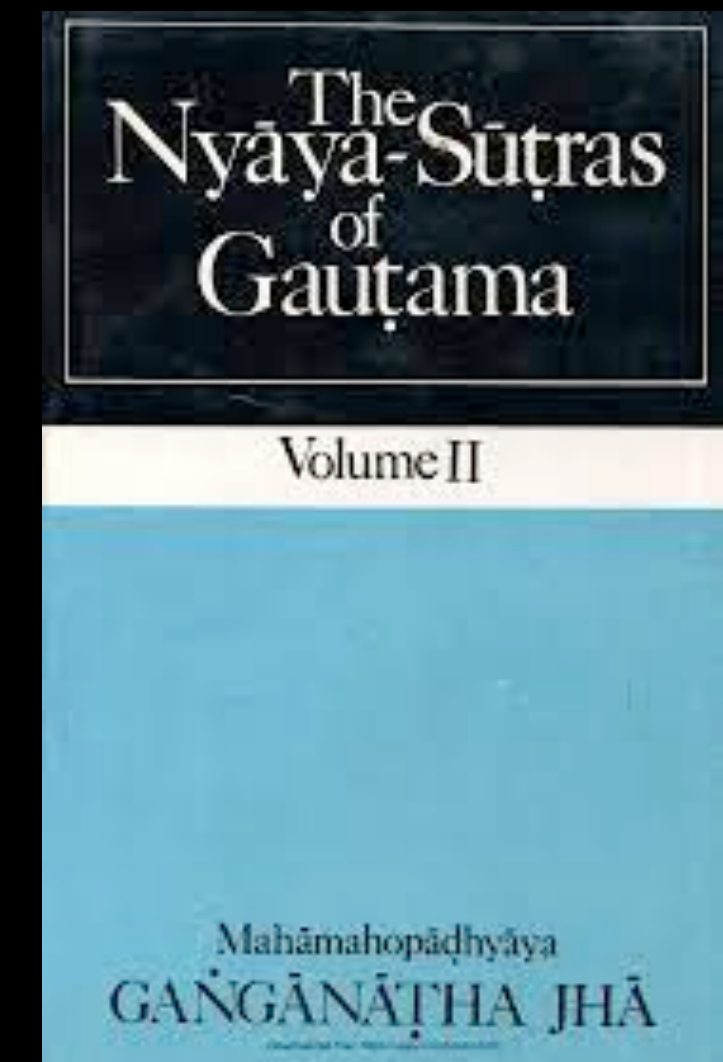
# Some of the oldest questions



Image: Source

What elements make up the universe ?  
(5 century BCE)

How sure are we?  
Theory of Errors & Empirical Knowledge  
(6 century BCE)





# Some of the oldest questions

## Theorists



What elements make up the universe ?  
(5 century BCE)

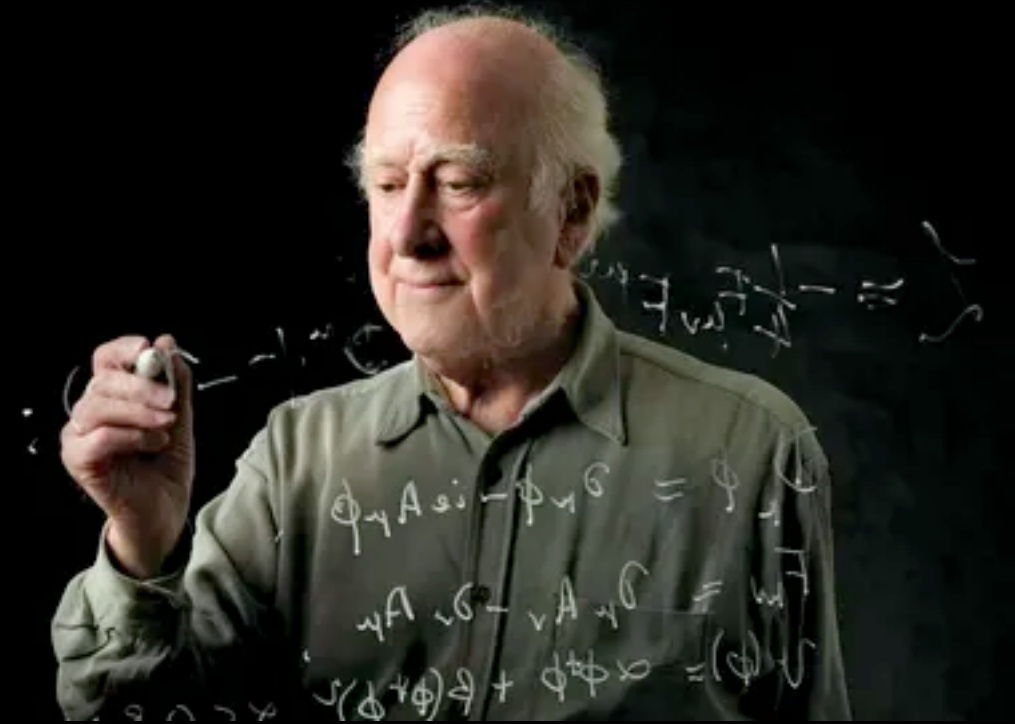
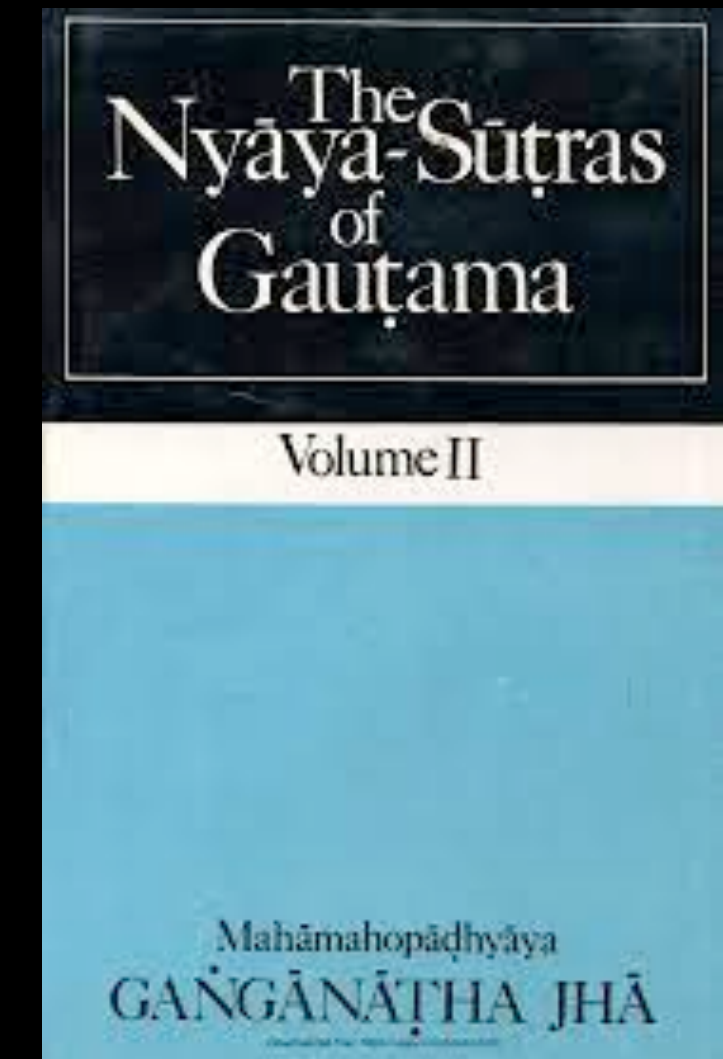


Image: Source

How sure are we?  
Theory of Errors & Empirical Knowledge  
(6 century BCE)



# Some of the oldest questions

Theorists



What elements make up the universe ?  
(5 century BCE)

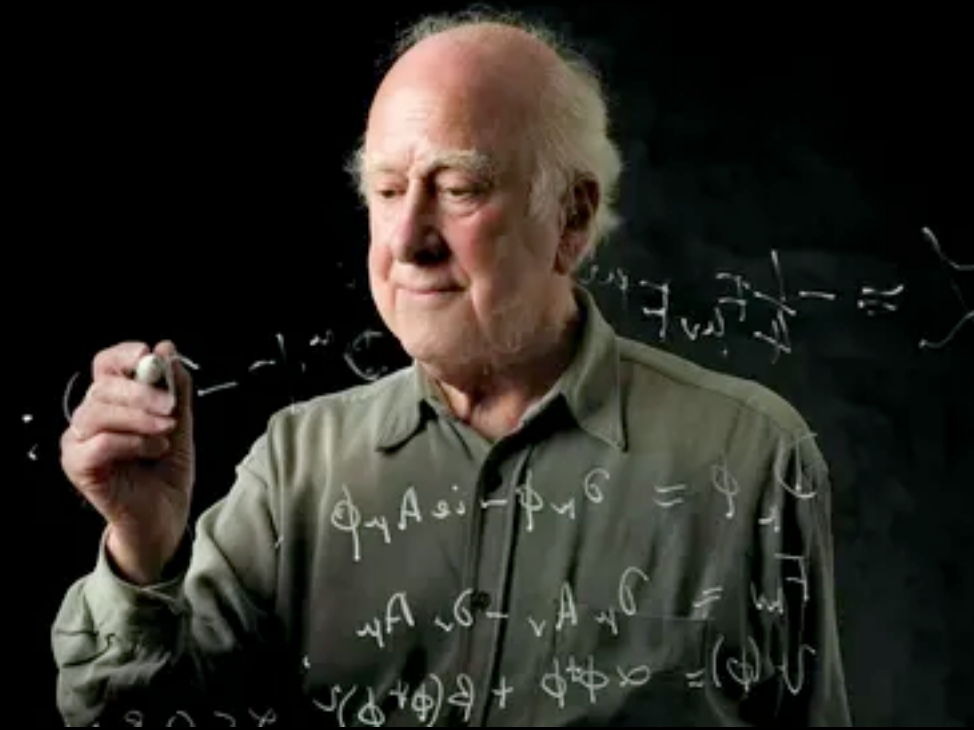
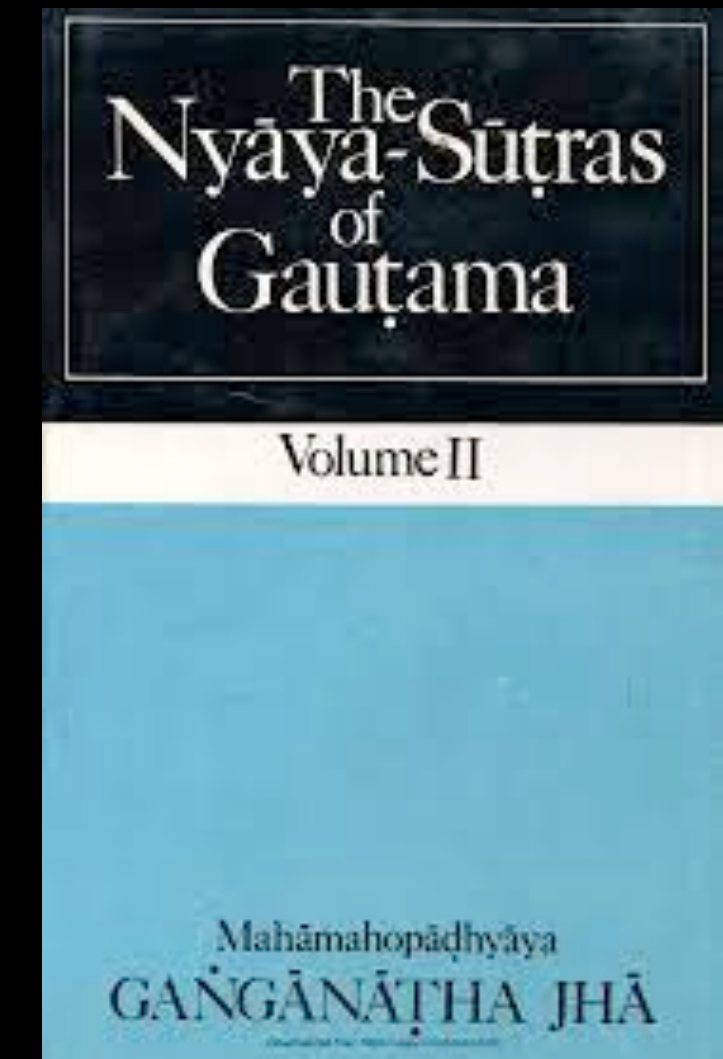


Image: Source

How sure are we?  
Theory of Errors & Empirical Knowledge  
(6 century BCE)

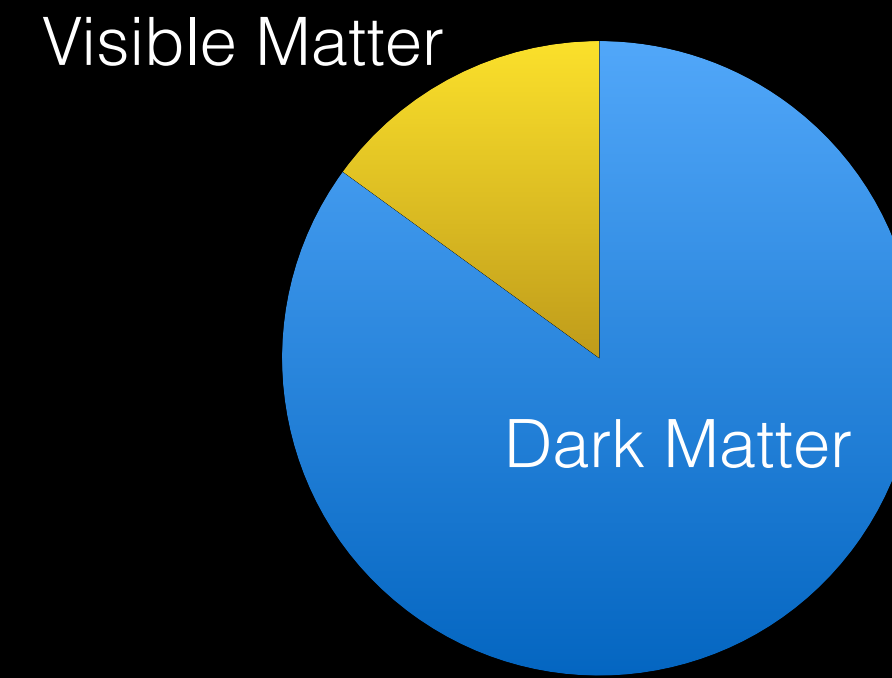


Experimentalists

Questions about the universe today...

# Questions about the universe today...

There's so much more dark matter than visible matter in the universe. What is it ?



# Questions about the universe today...

There's so much more dark matter than visible matter in the universe. What is it ?

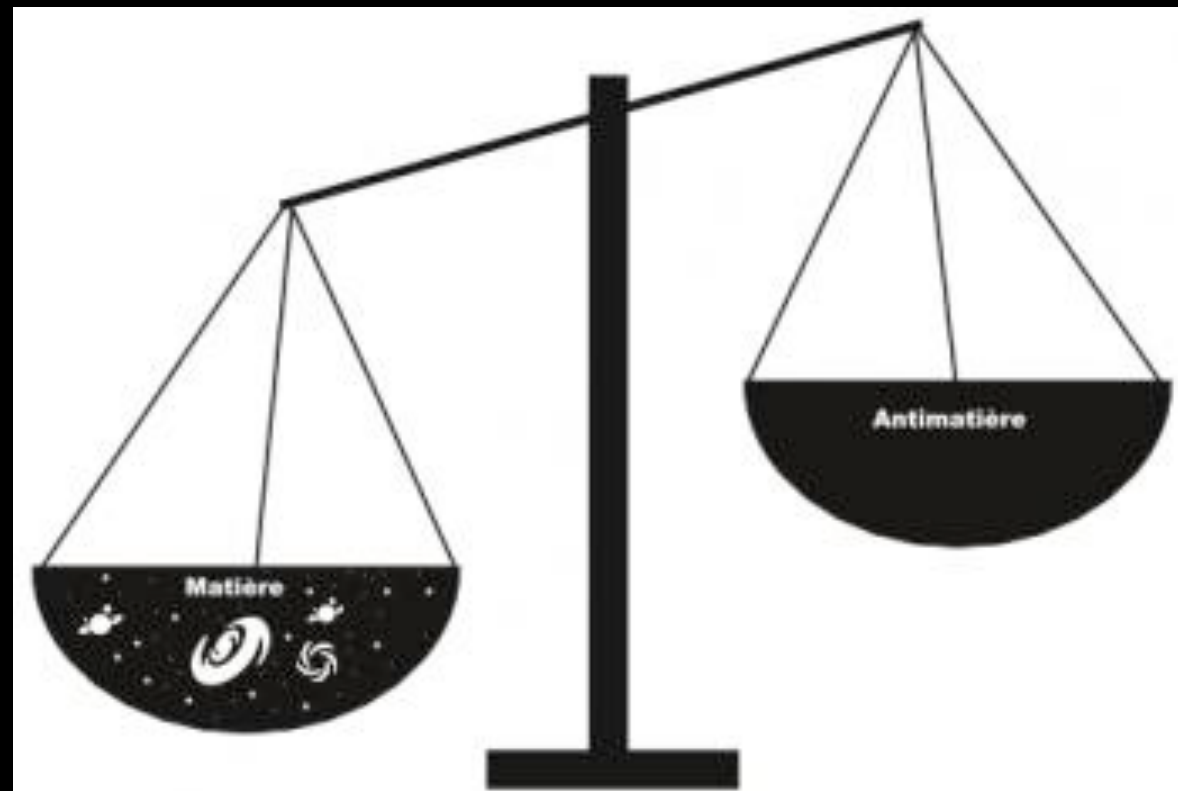
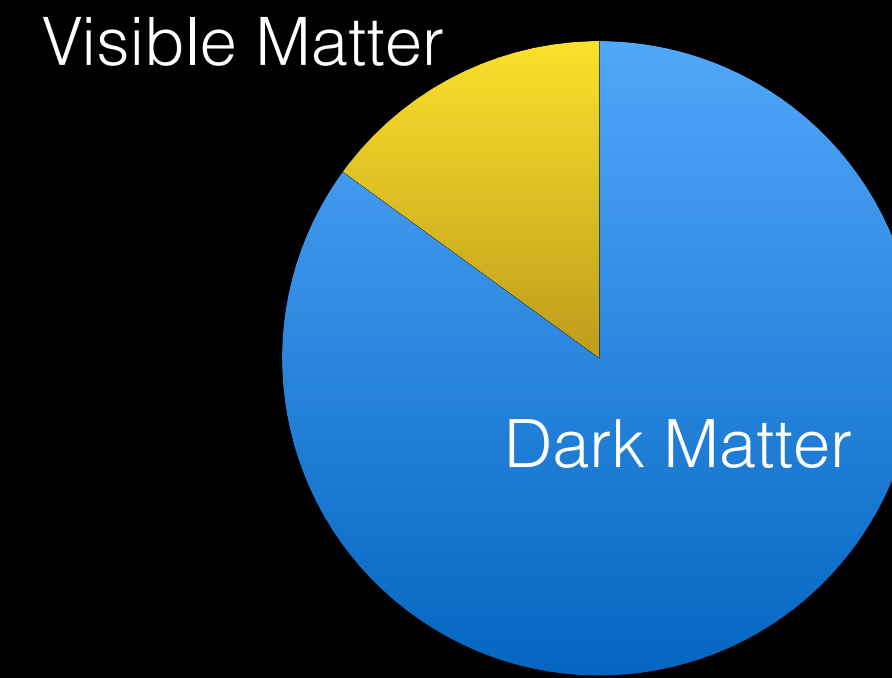


Image: GANIL

Why more matter than anti-matter ?

# Questions about the universe today...

There's so much more dark matter than visible matter in the universe. What is it ?

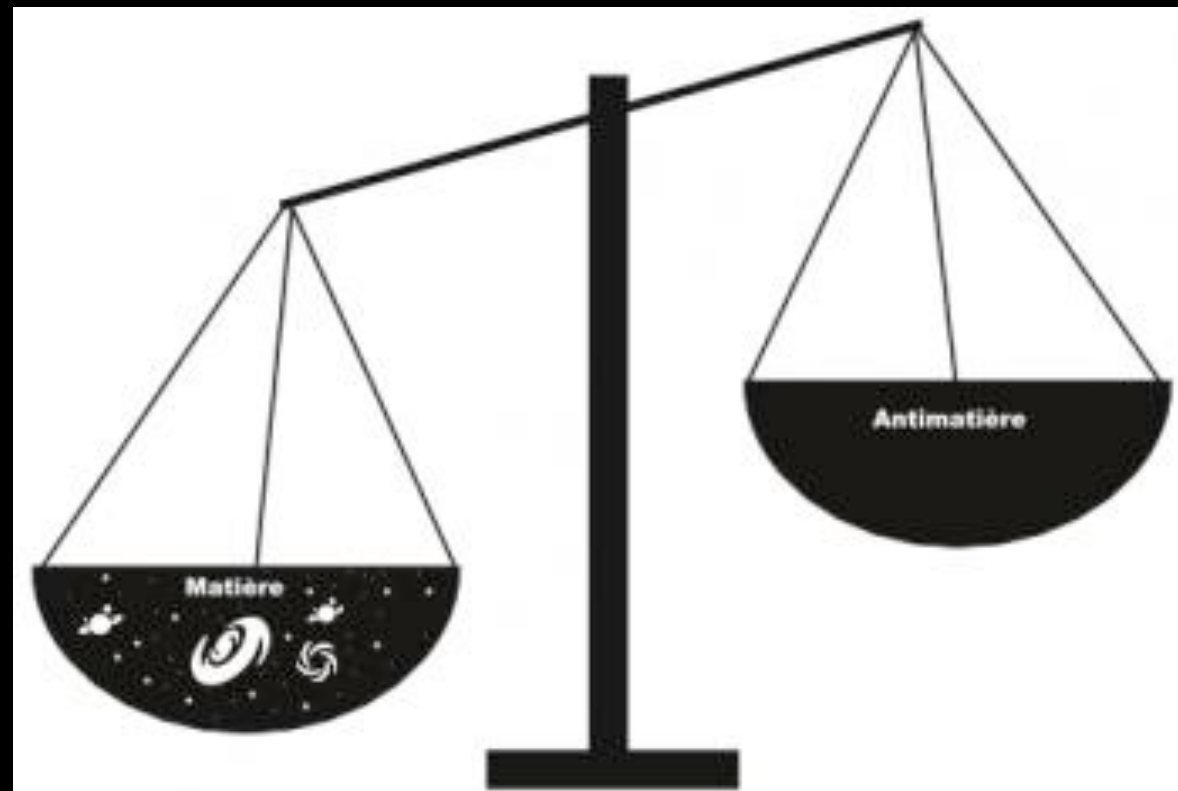
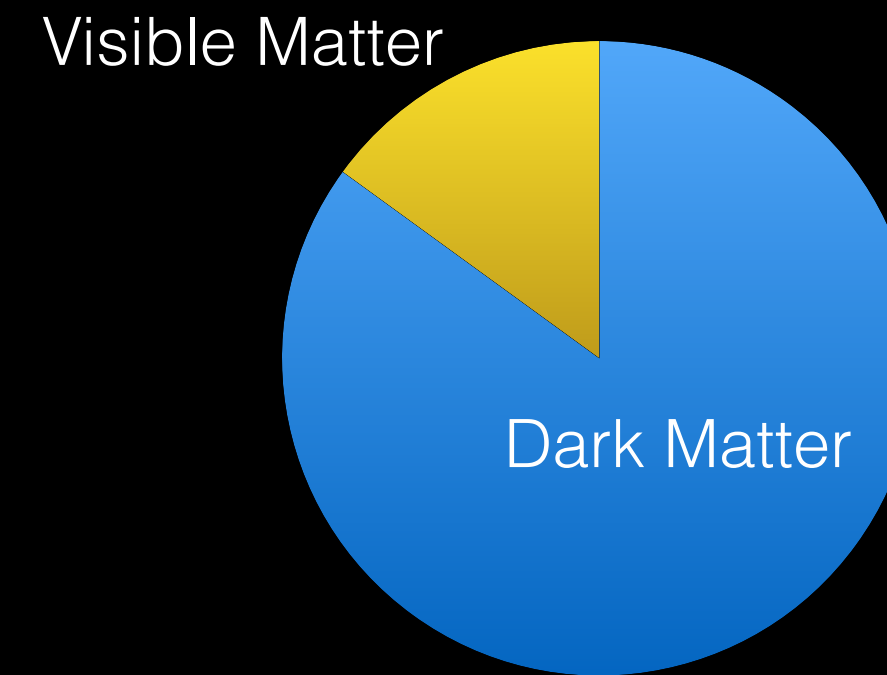


Image: GANIL

Why more matter than anti-matter ?

Are there new forces ?

# Questions about the universe today...

There's so much more dark matter than visible matter in the universe. What is it ?

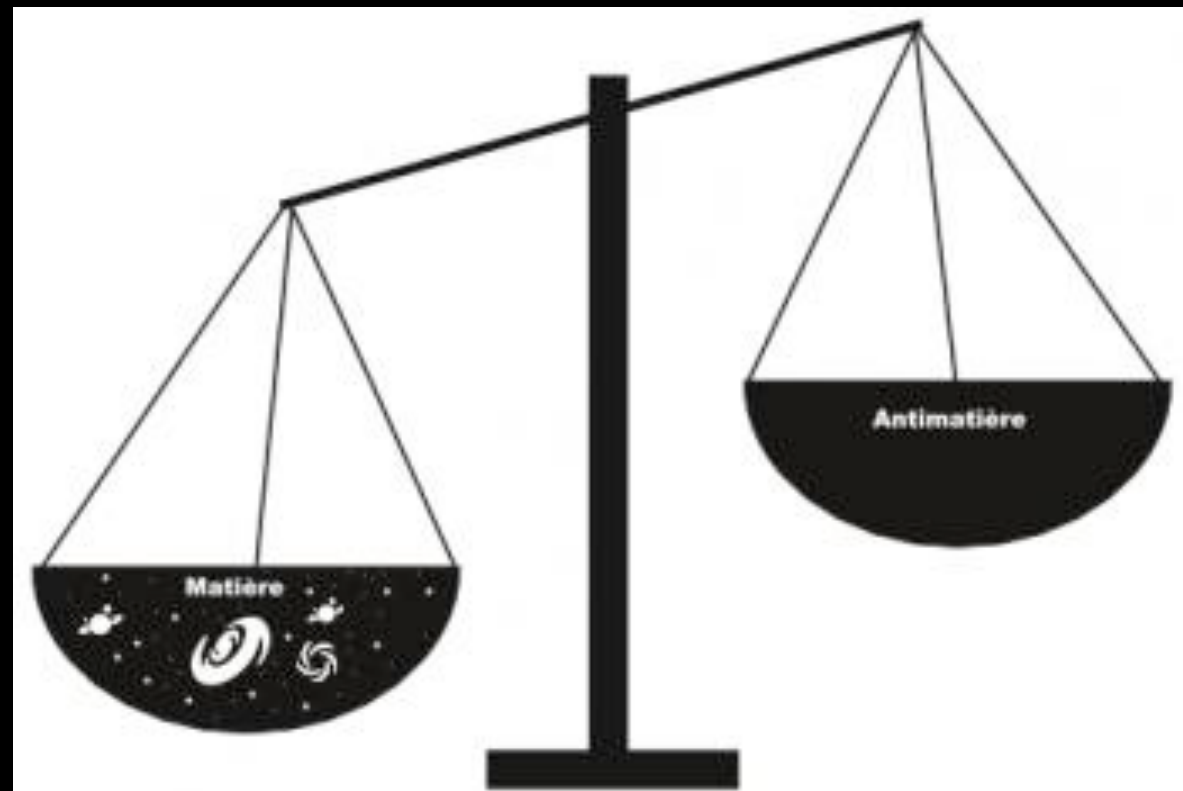
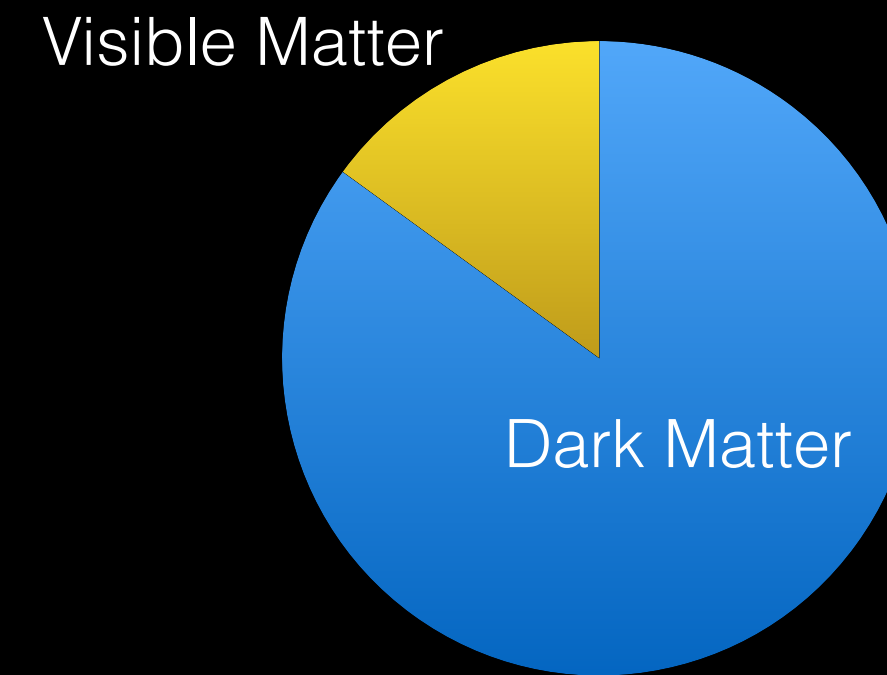


Image: GANIL

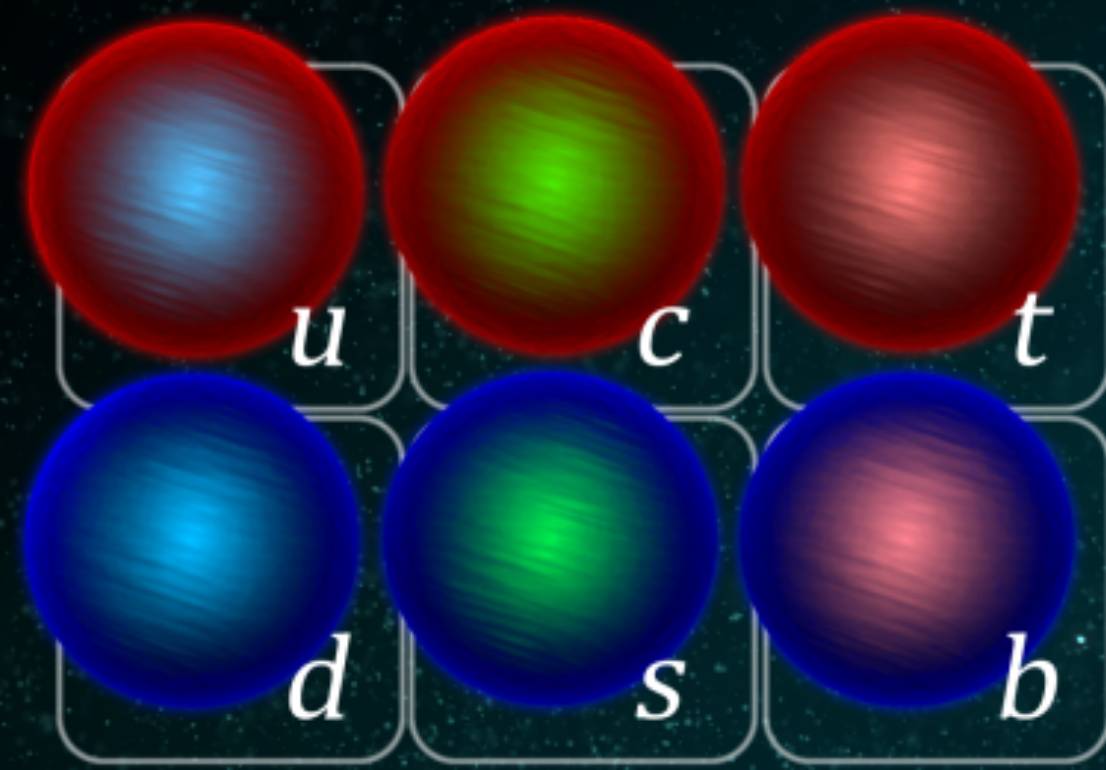
Why more matter than anti-matter ?

Are there new forces ?

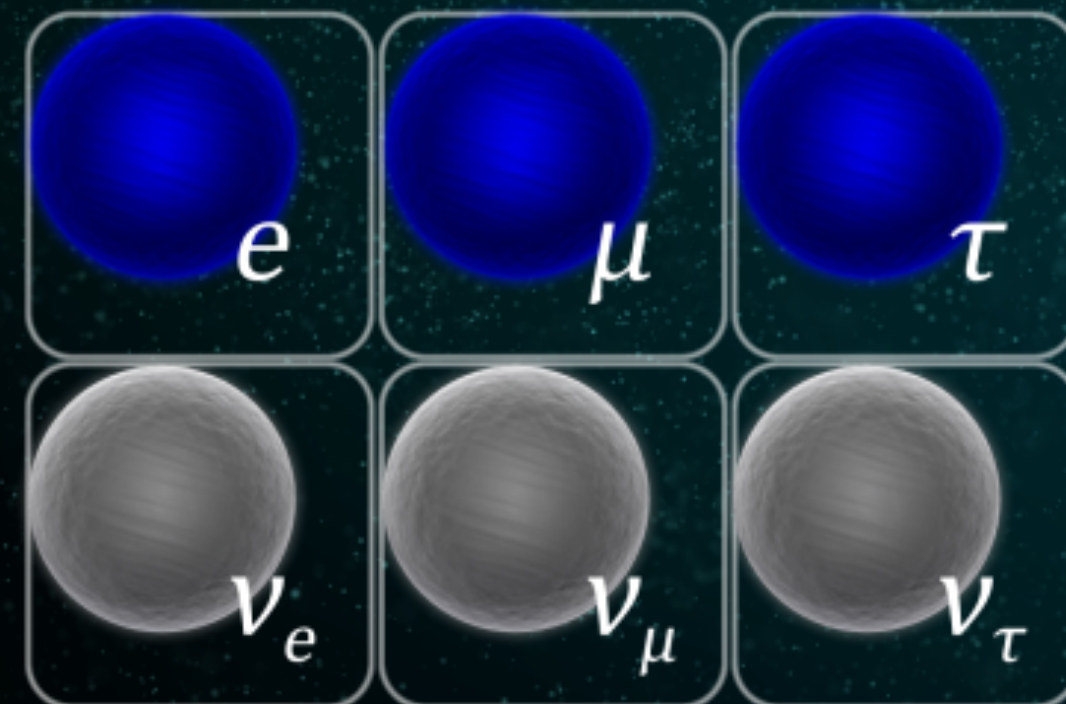
New theories often predict new particles yet to be discovered



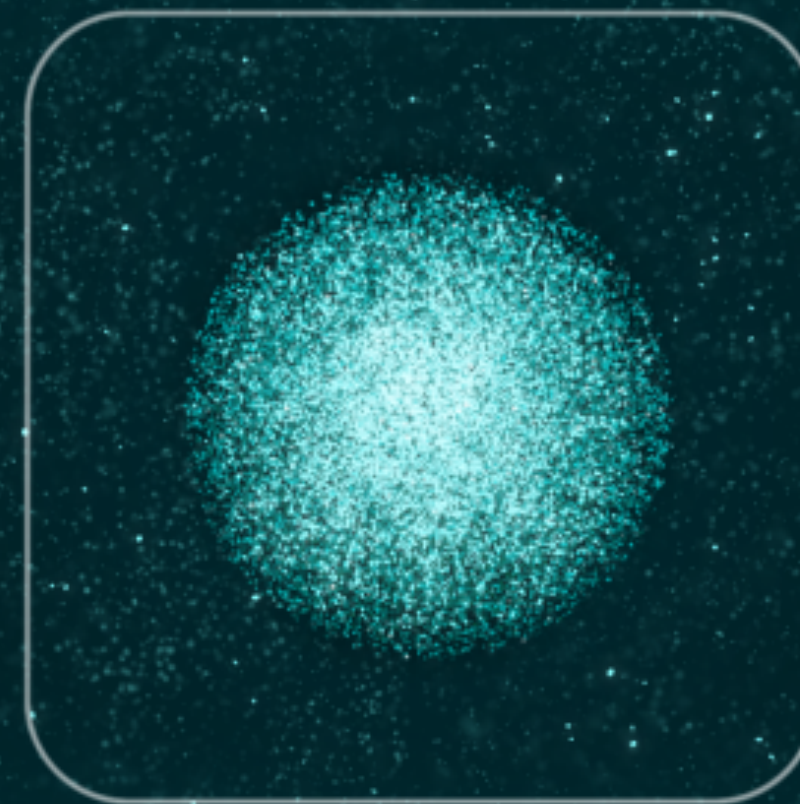
# The most fundamental constituents of matter (that we know of...)



Quarks



Leptons



Higgs boson

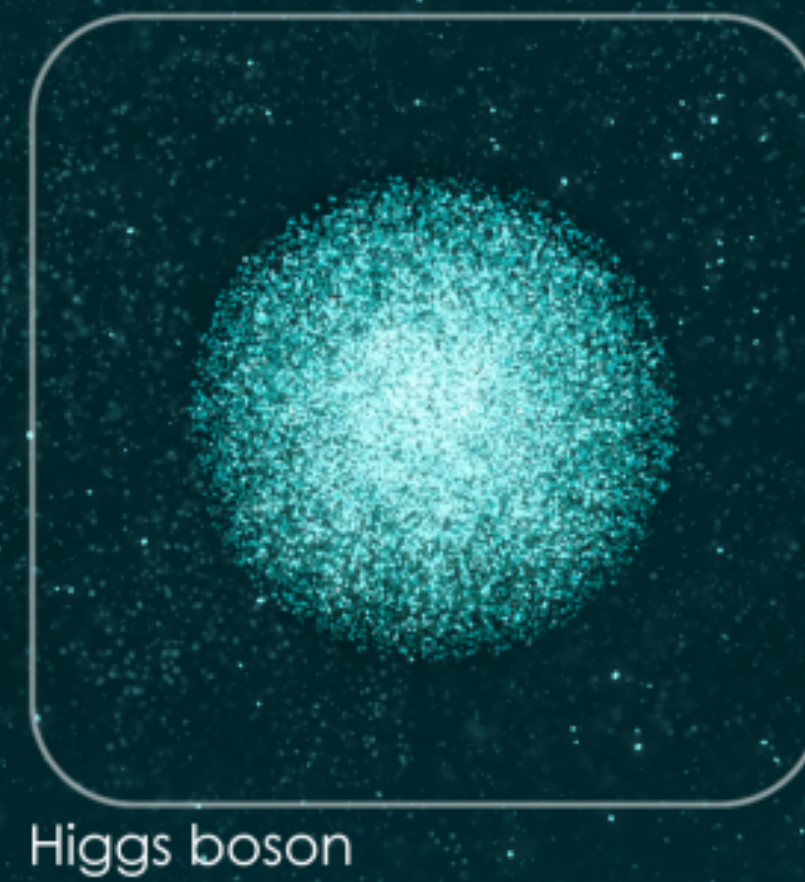
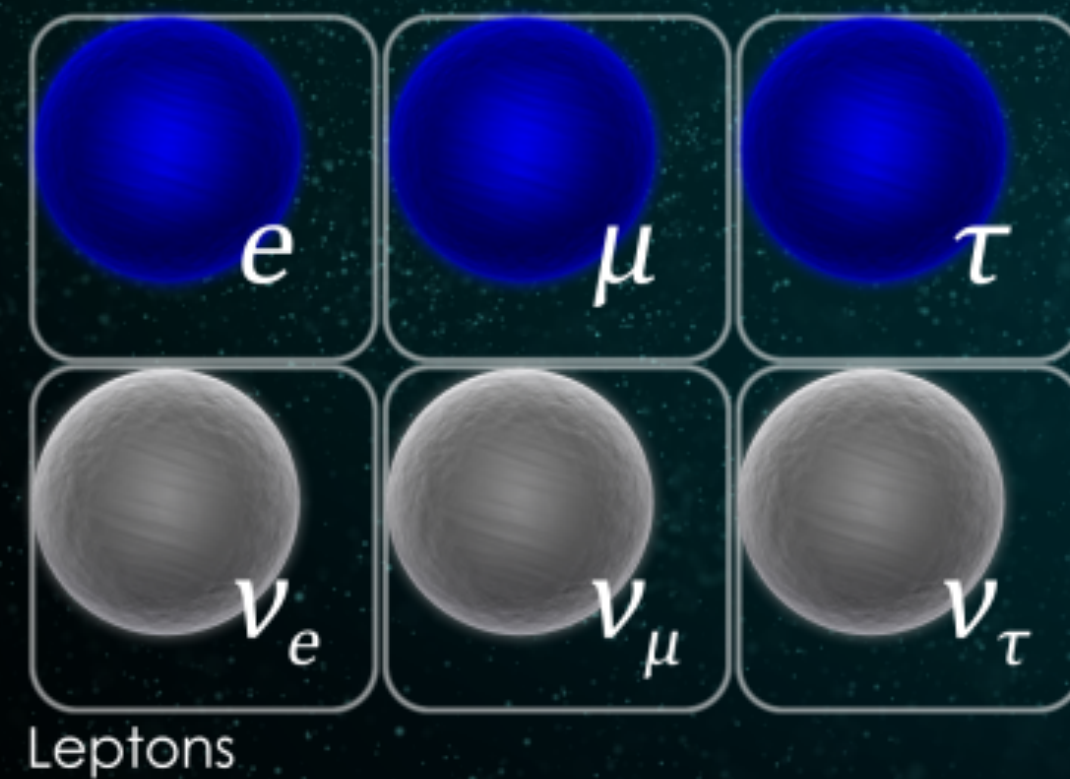
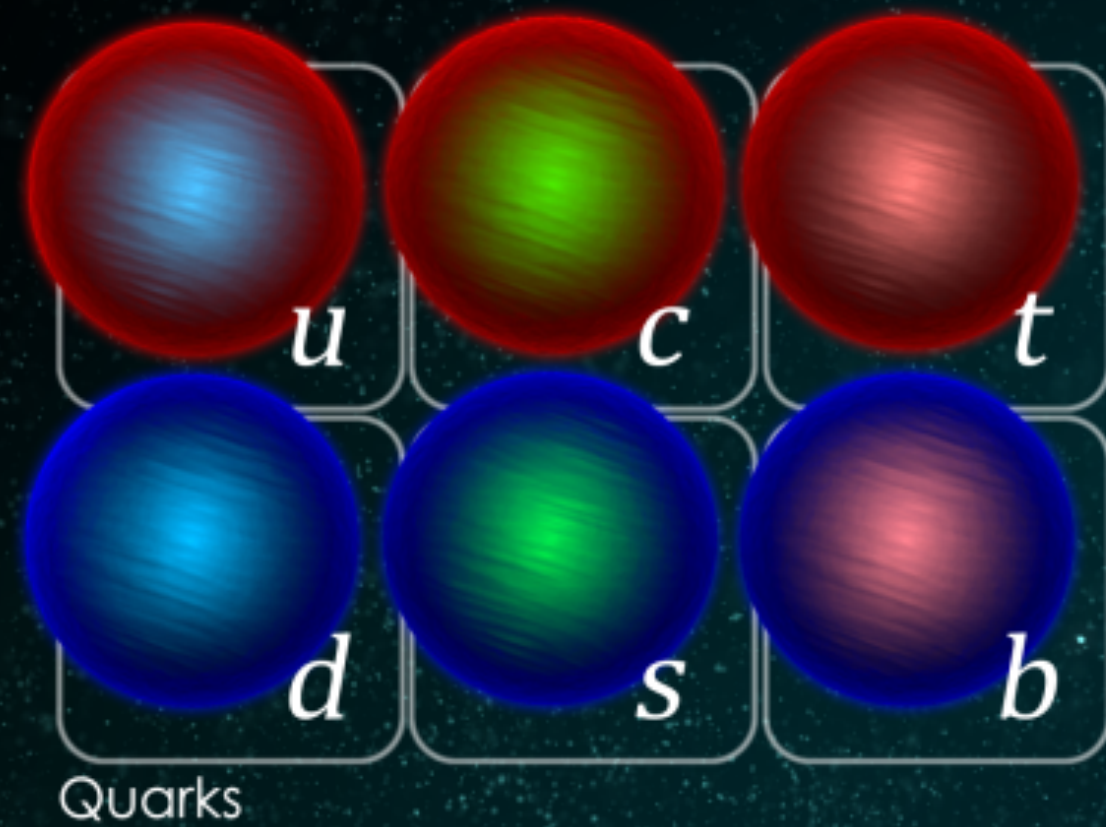


Forces



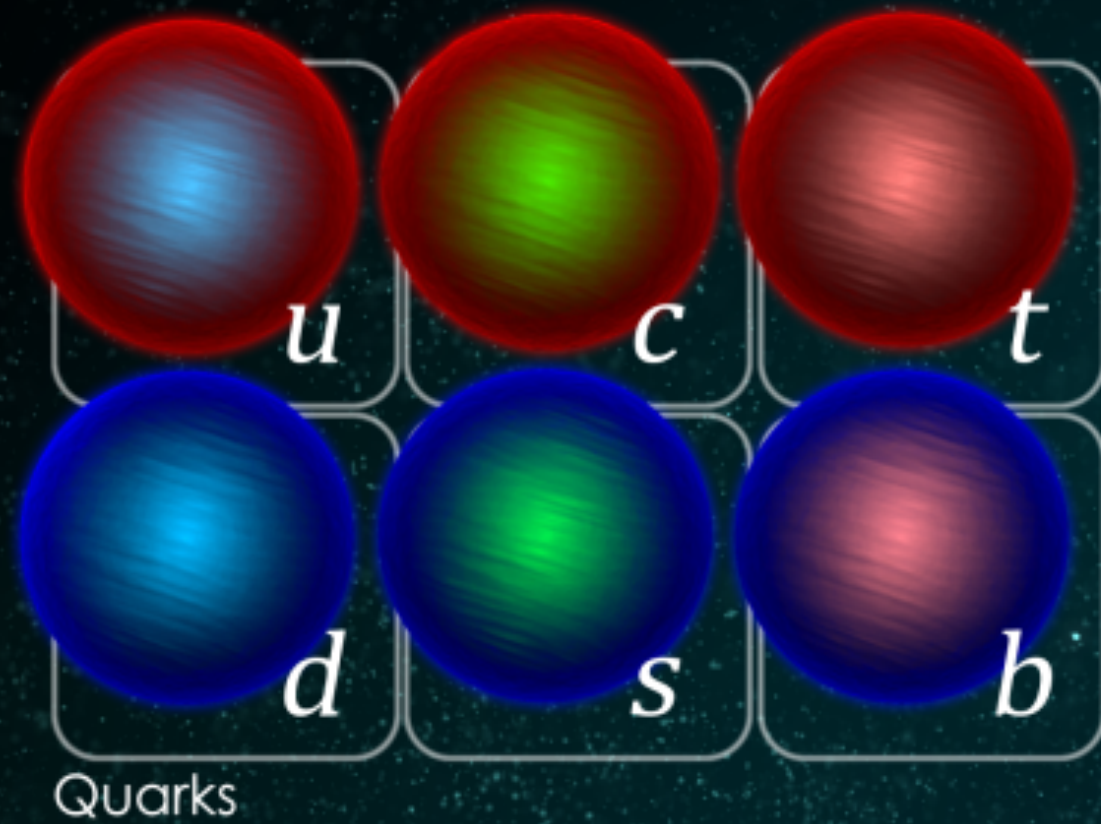
# The most fundamental constituents of matter (that we know of...)

Protons  
are made  
up of u  
and d

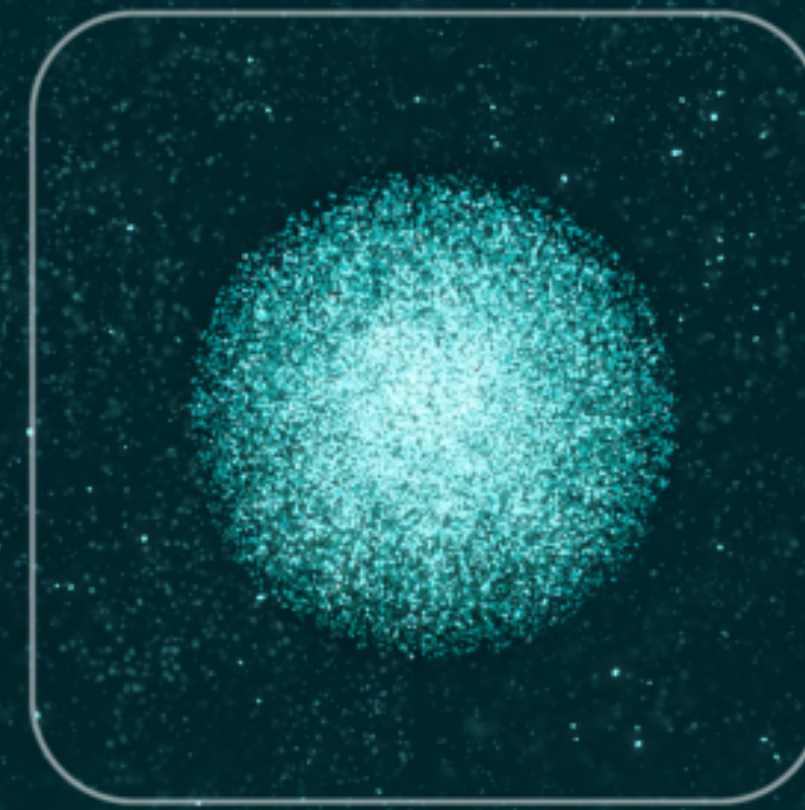
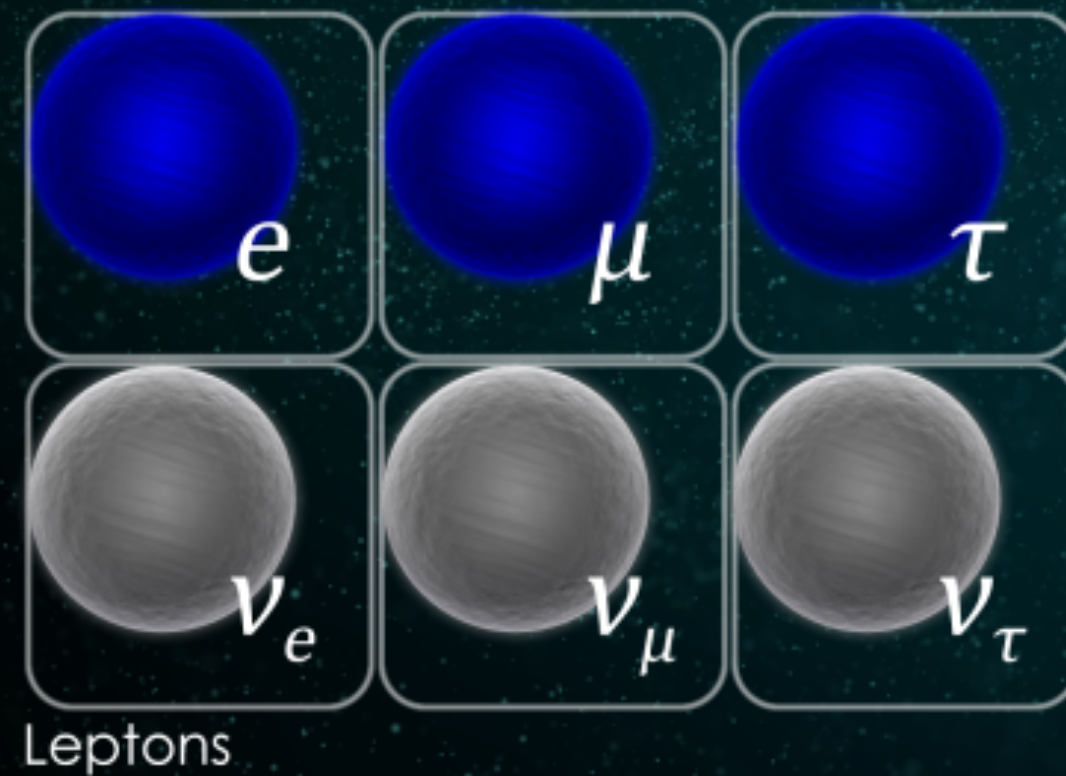


# The most fundamental constituents of matter (that we know of...)

Protons  
are made  
up of u  
and d



That's the  
electron  
and it's  
cousins

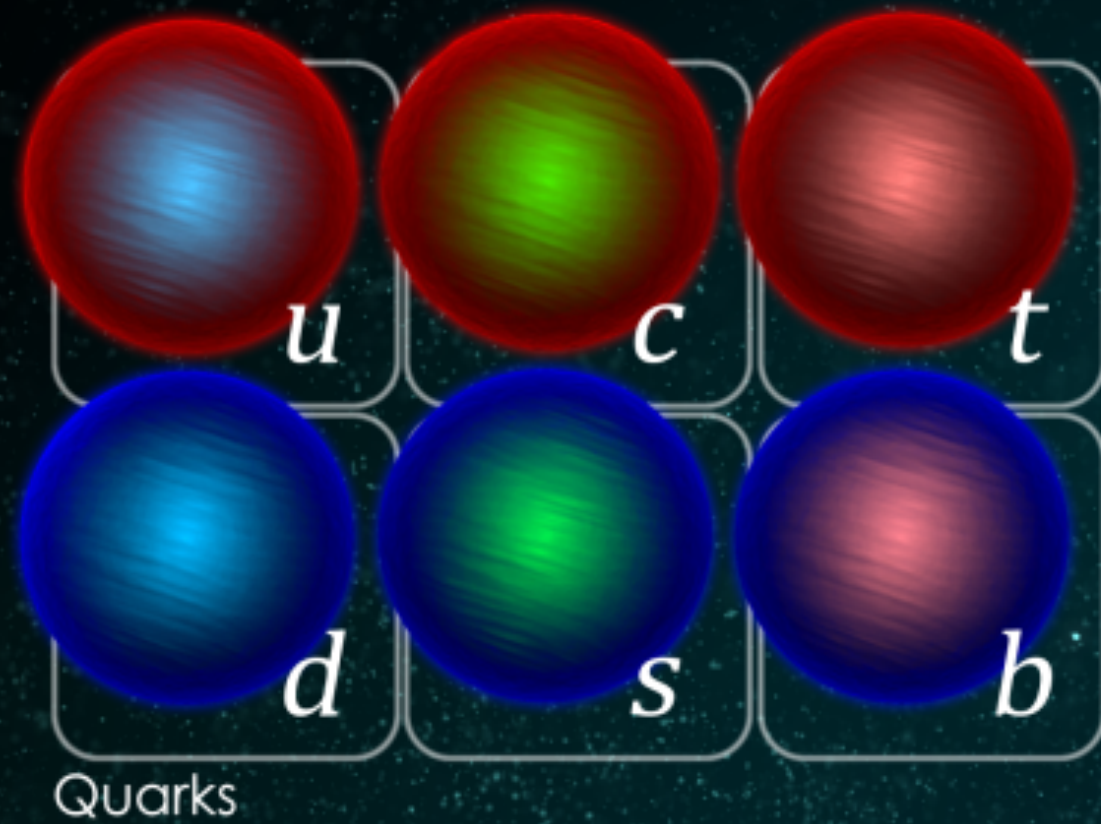


Higgs boson

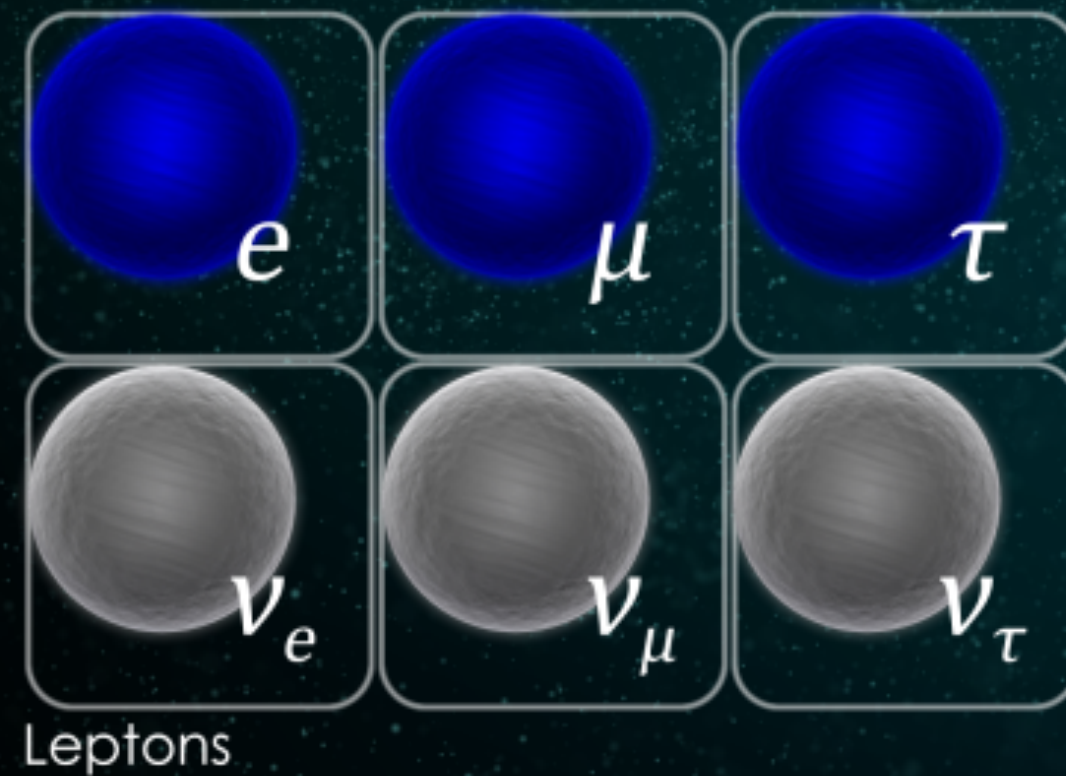


# The most fundamental constituents of matter (that we know of...)

Protons  
are made  
up of u  
and d



That's the  
electron  
and it's  
cousins

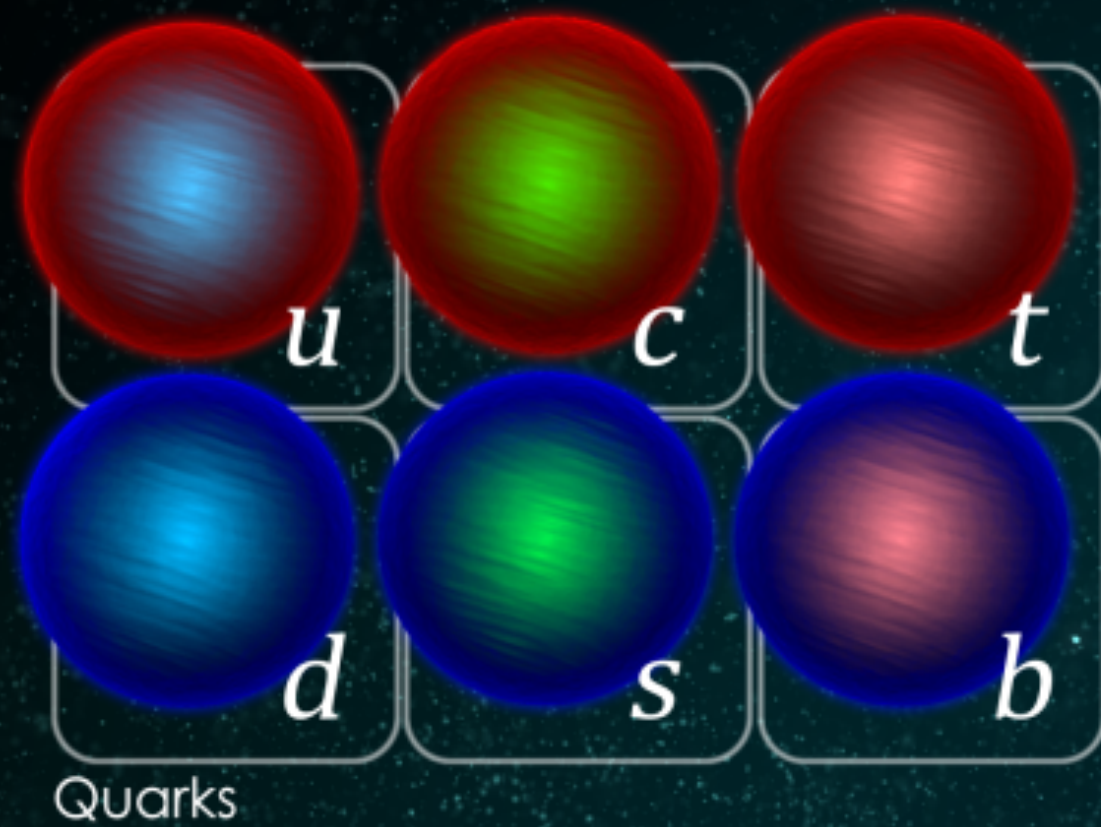


Force  
carrier  
particles

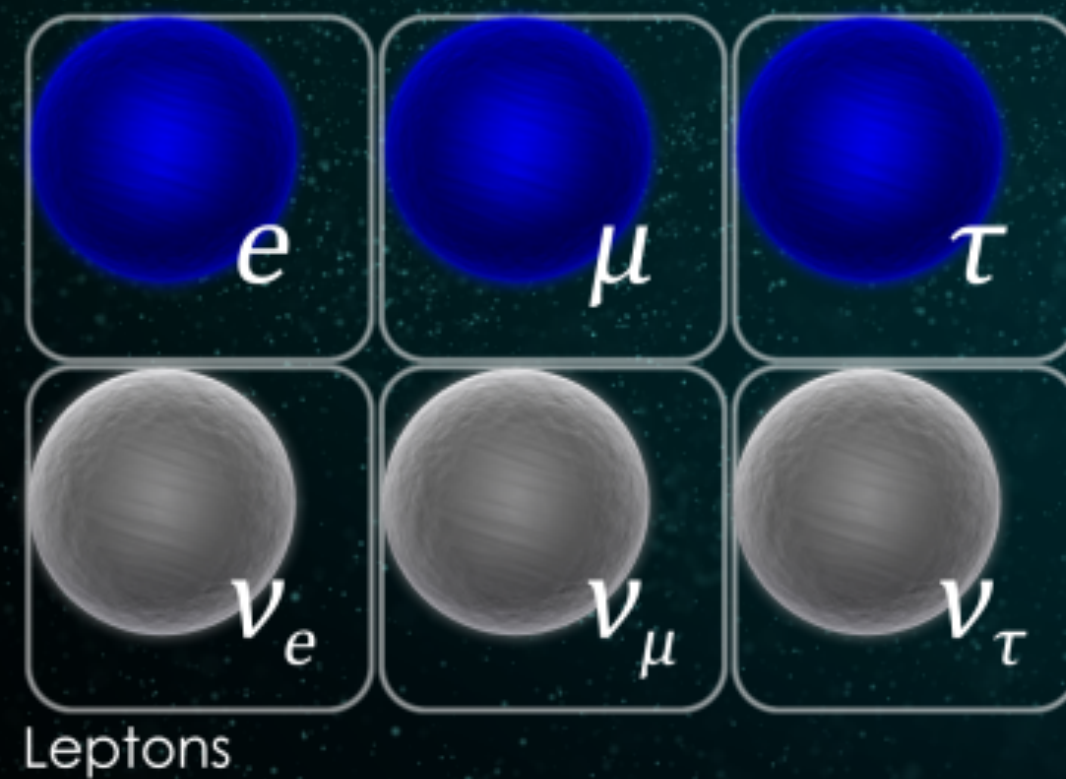


# The most fundamental constituents of matter (that we know of...)

Protons  
are made  
up of u  
and d



That's the  
electron  
and it's  
cousins



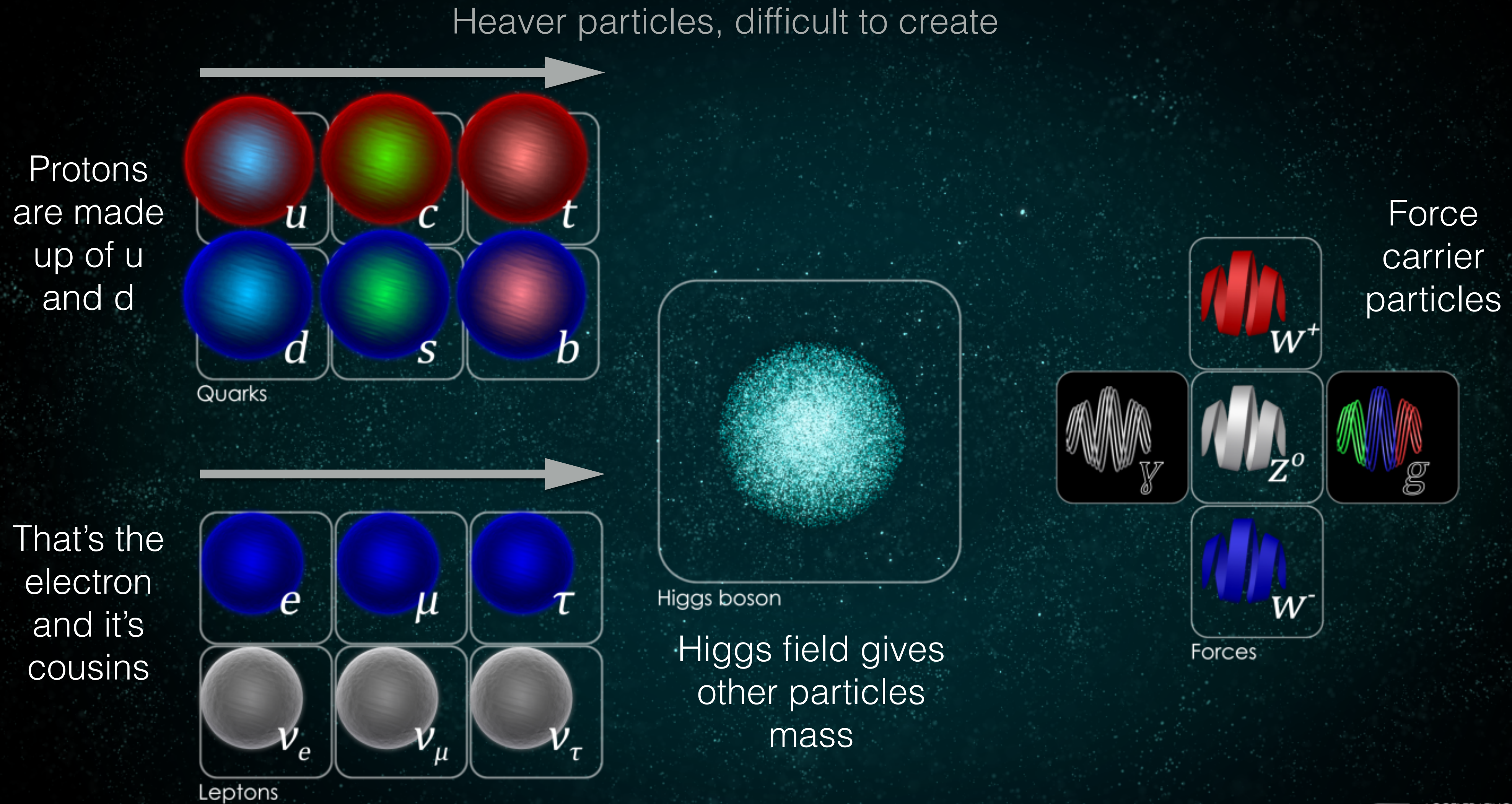
Higgs boson

Higgs field gives  
other particles  
mass

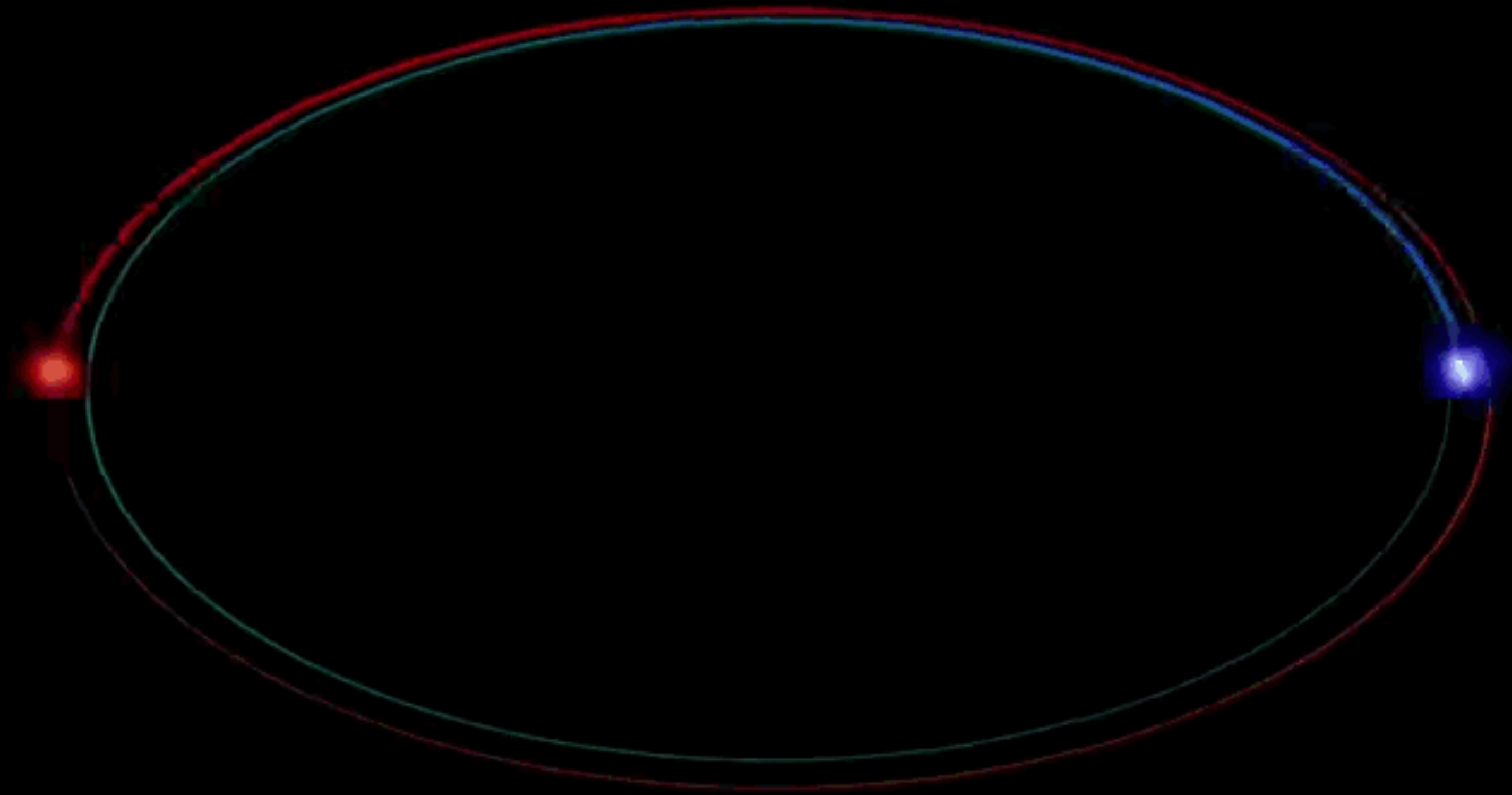
Force  
carrier  
particles



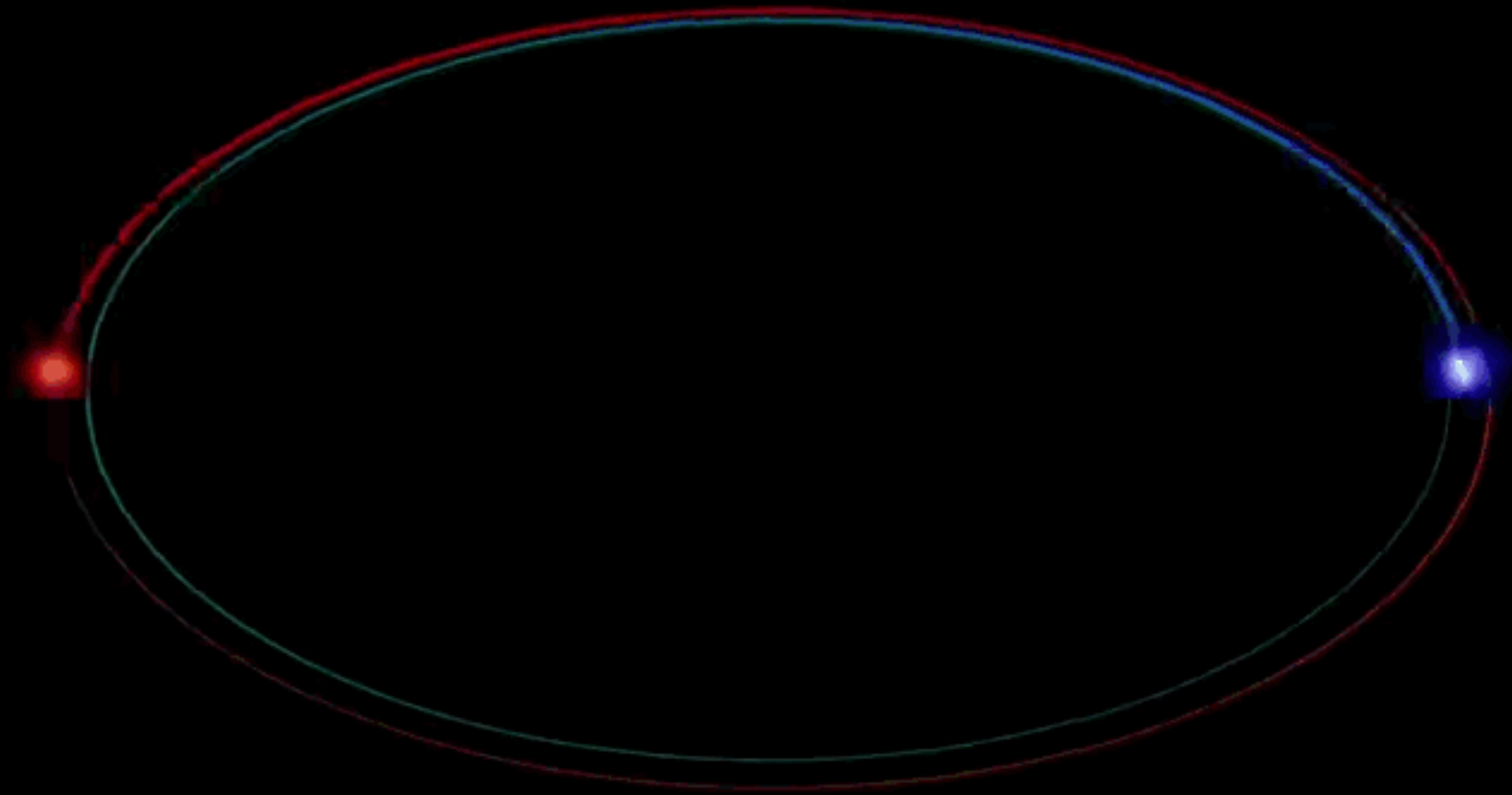
# The most fundamental constituents of matter (that we know of...)



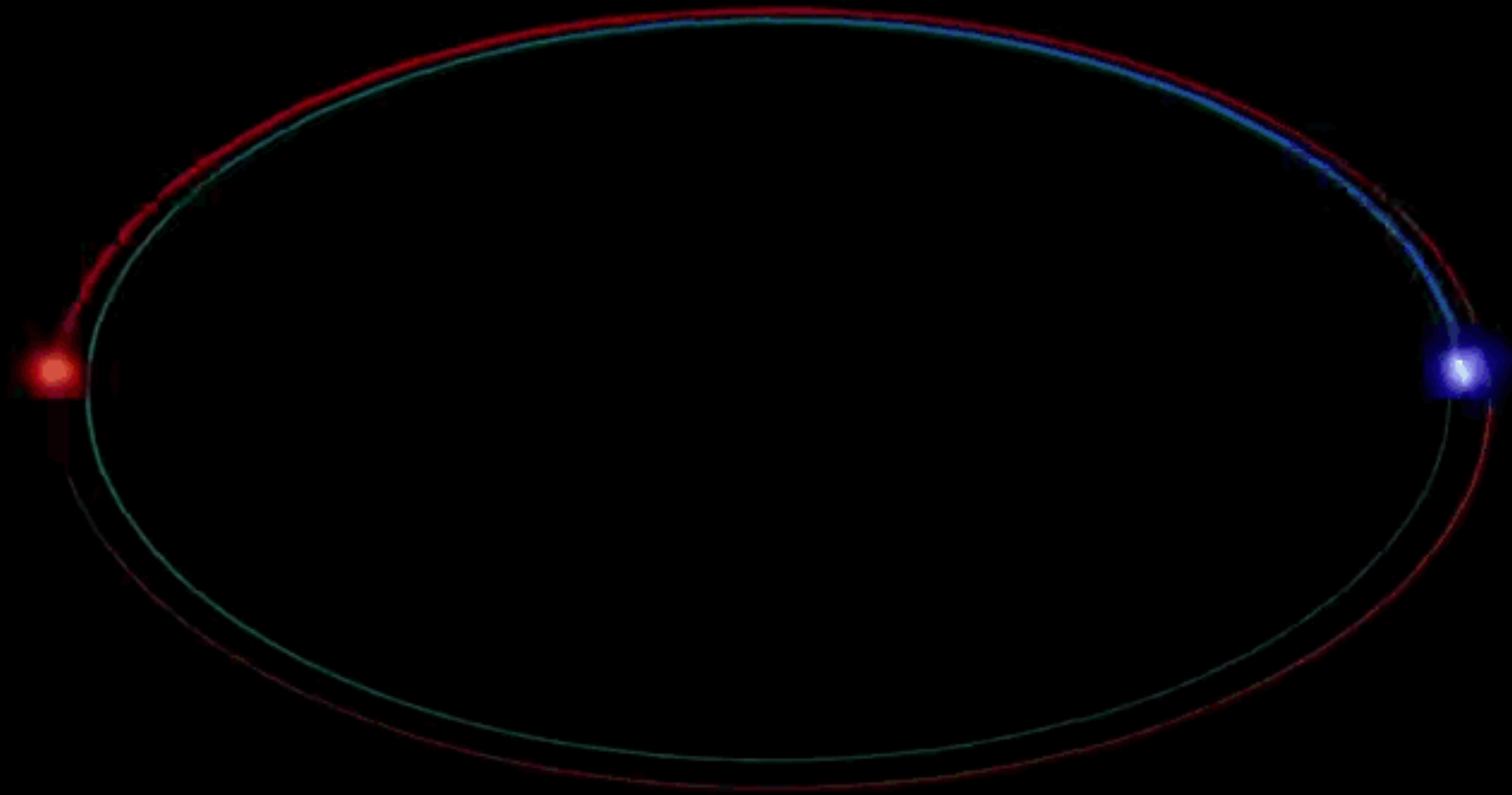
# Smash particles at Large Hadron Collider



# Smash particles at Large Hadron Collider

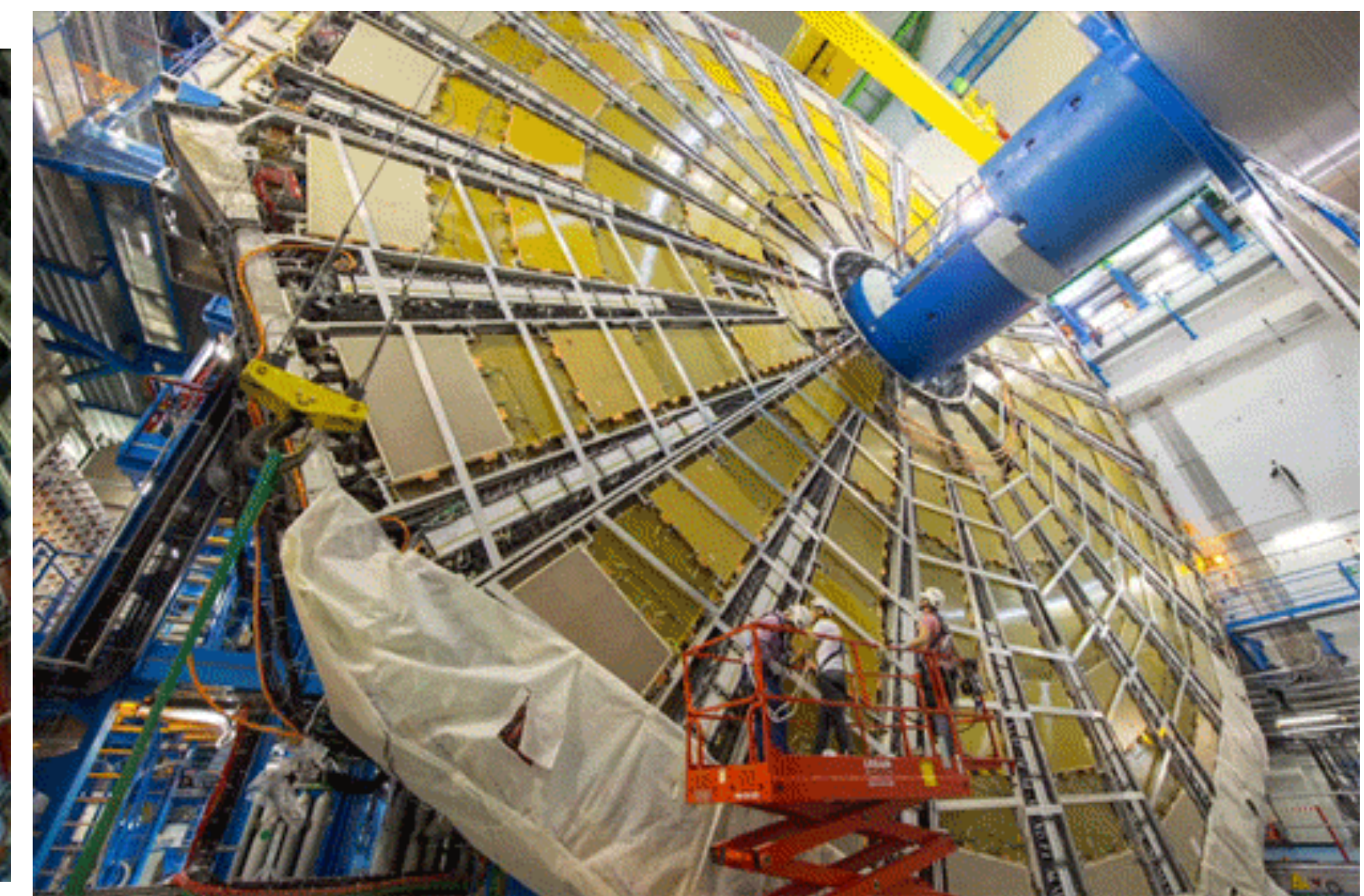
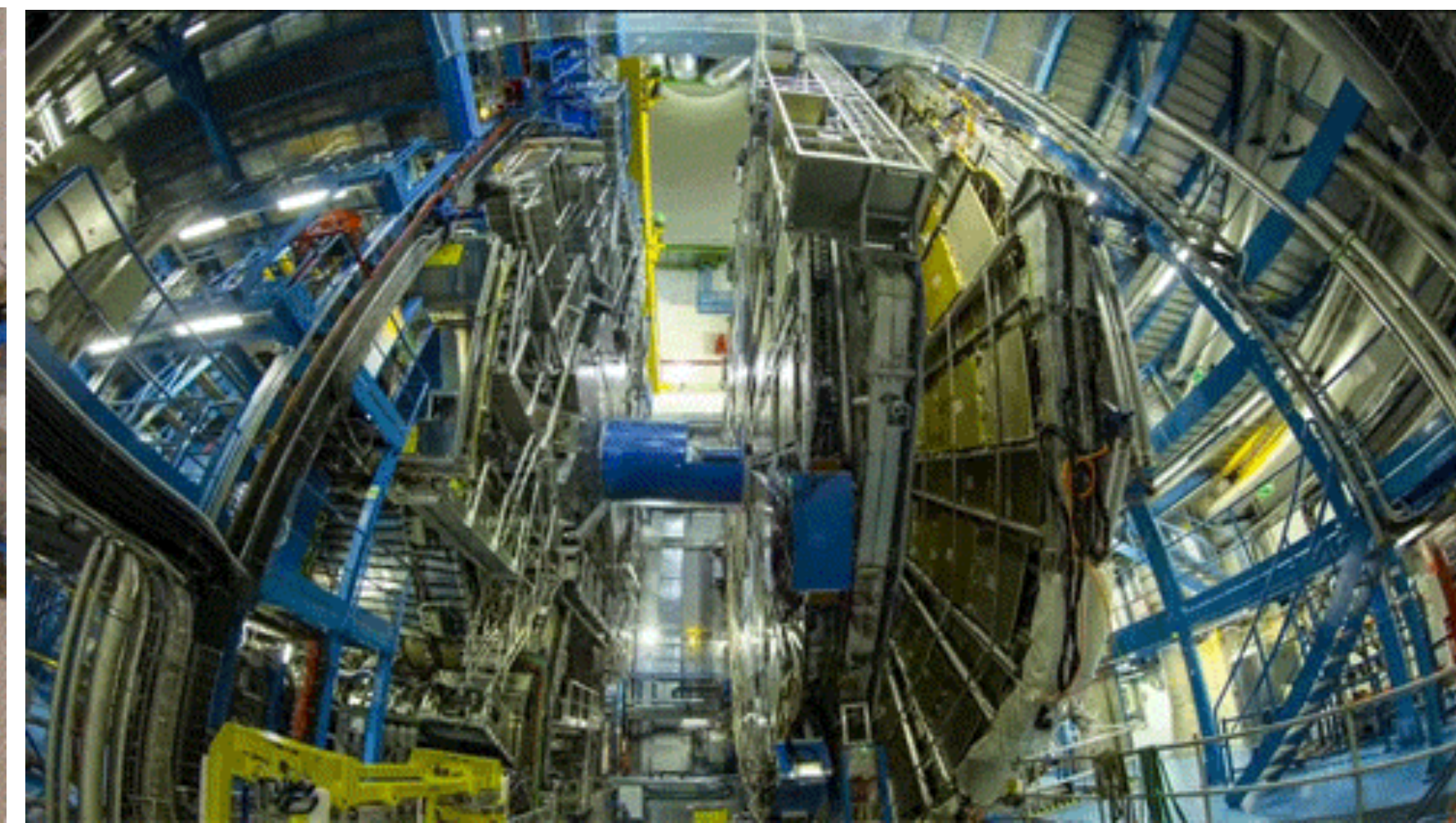
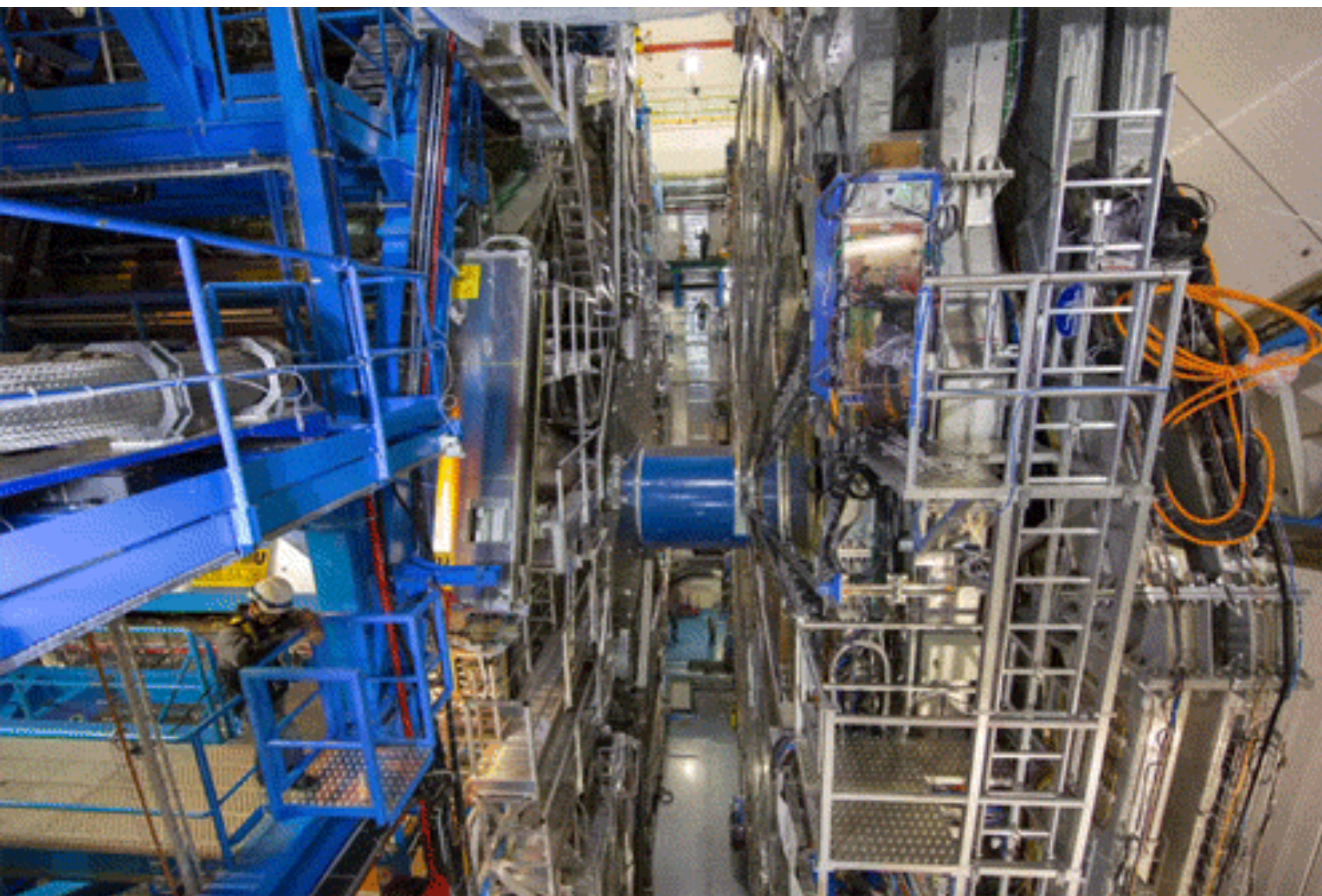
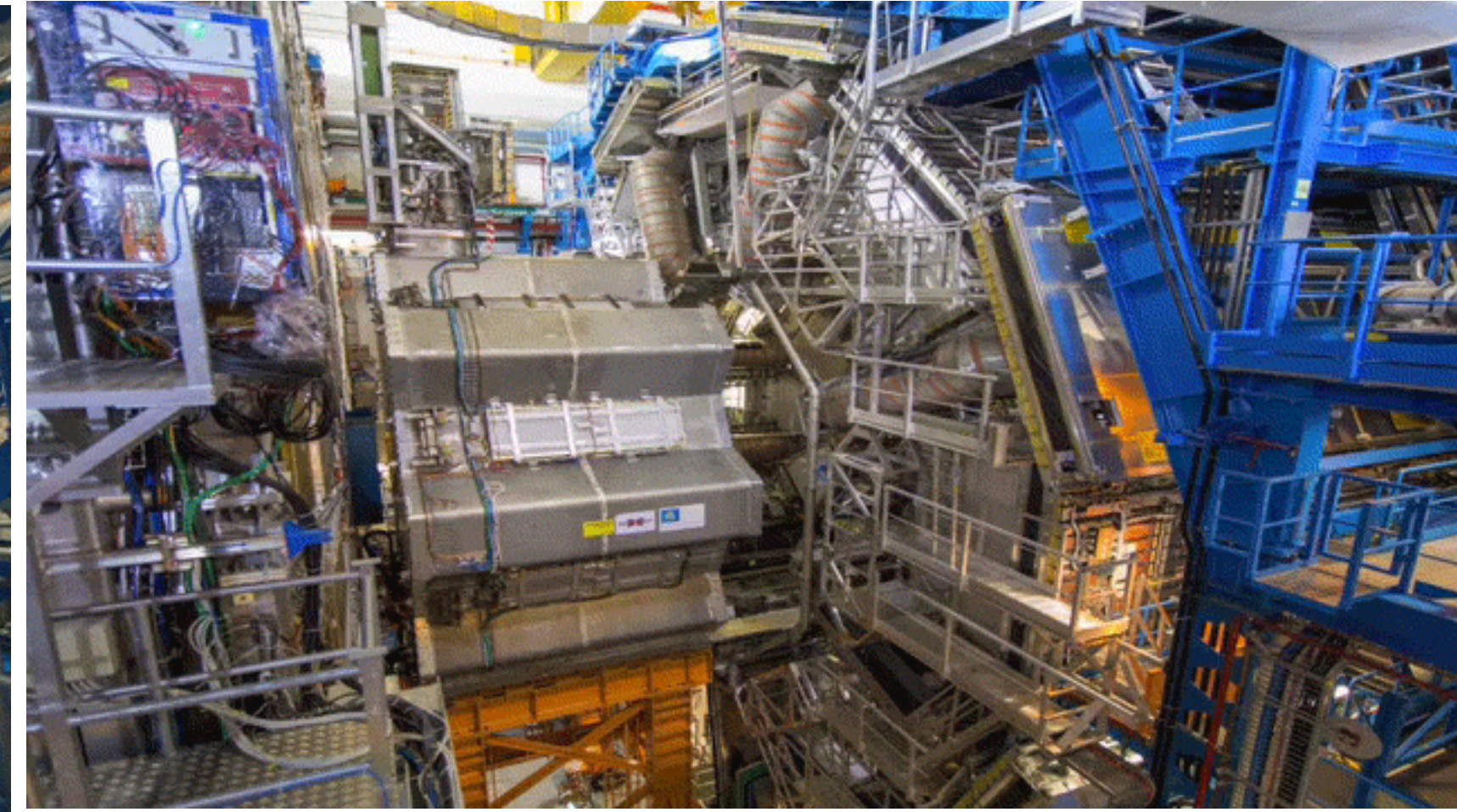
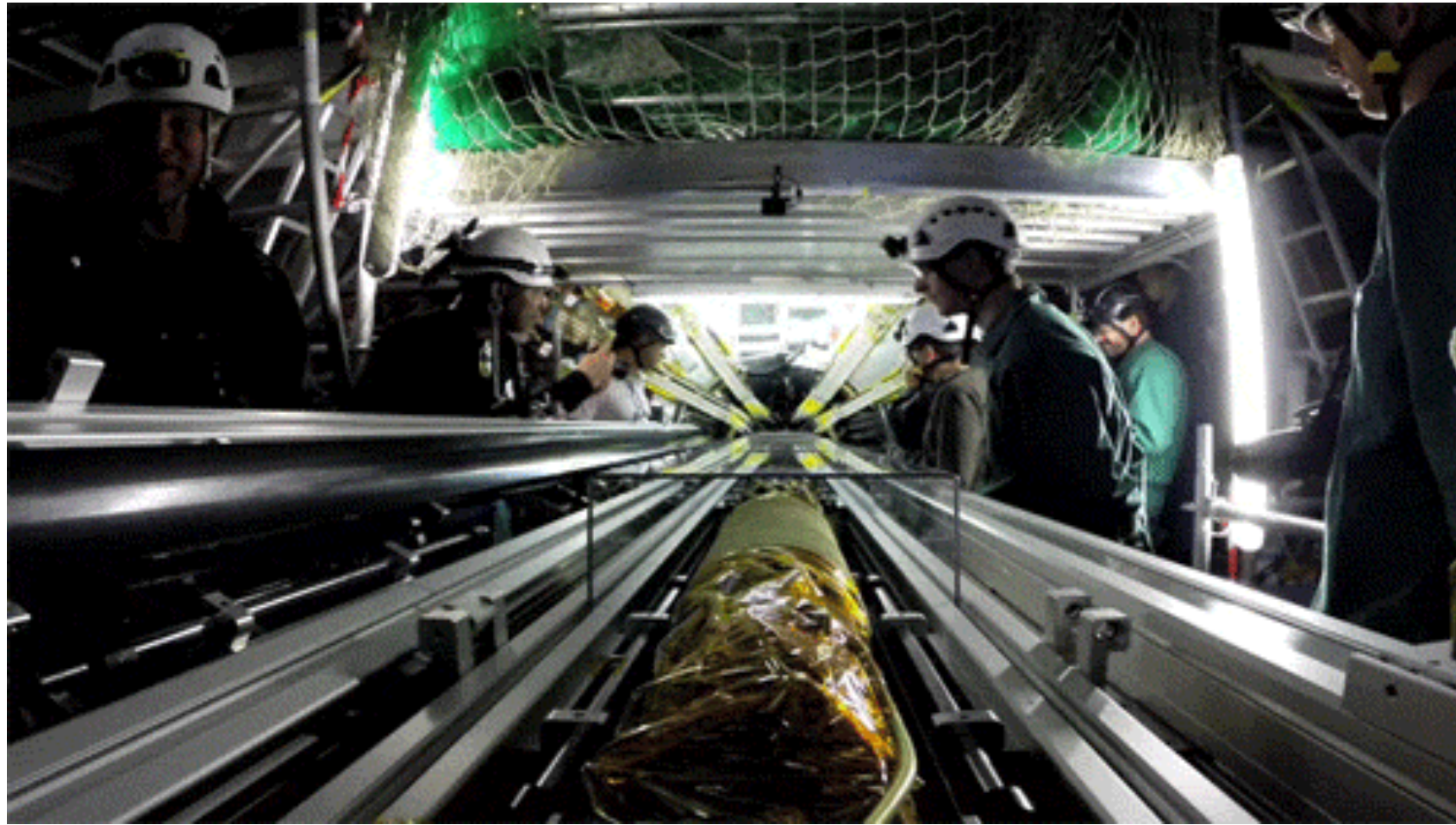


# Smash particles at Large Hadron Collider

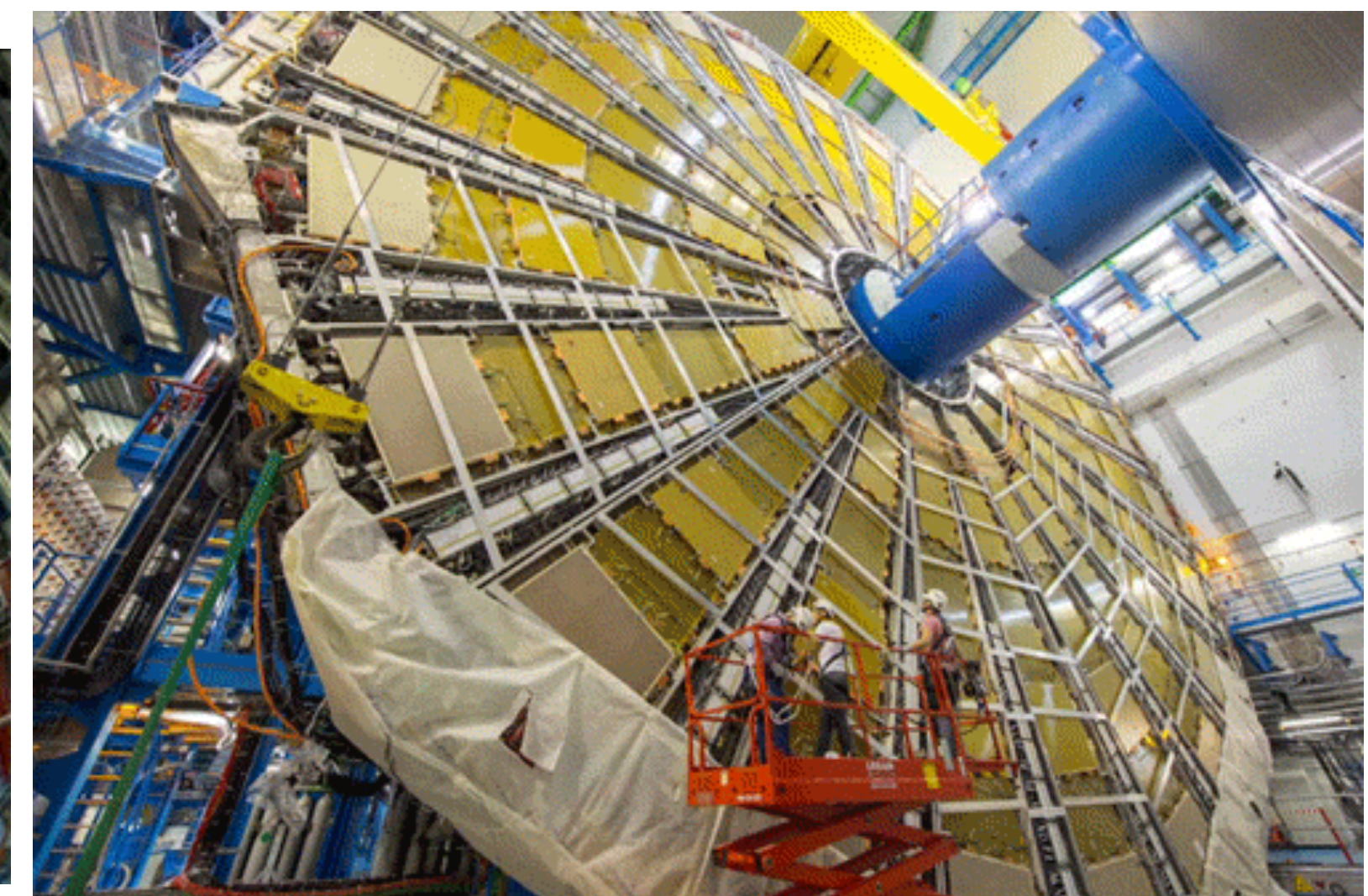
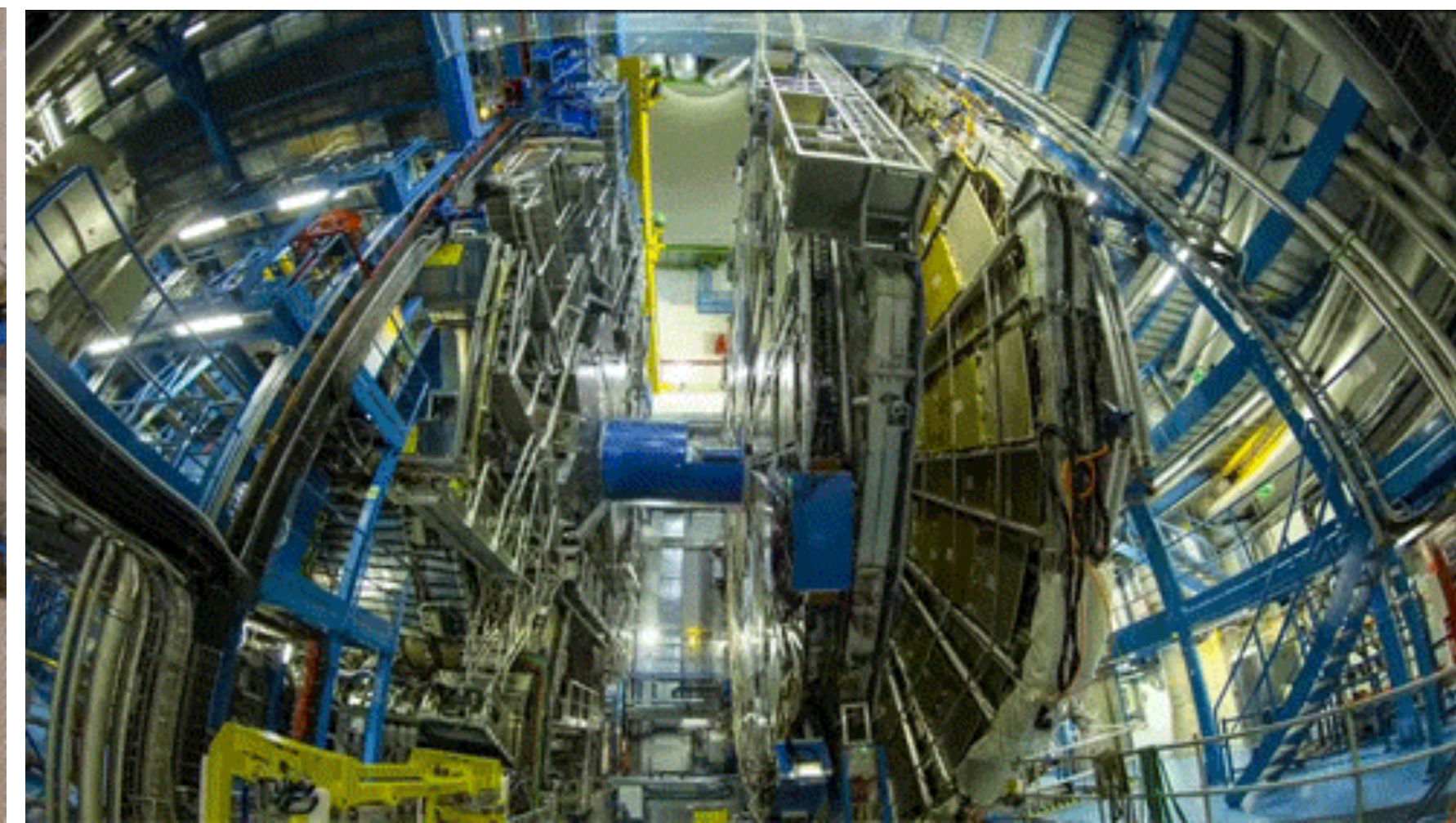
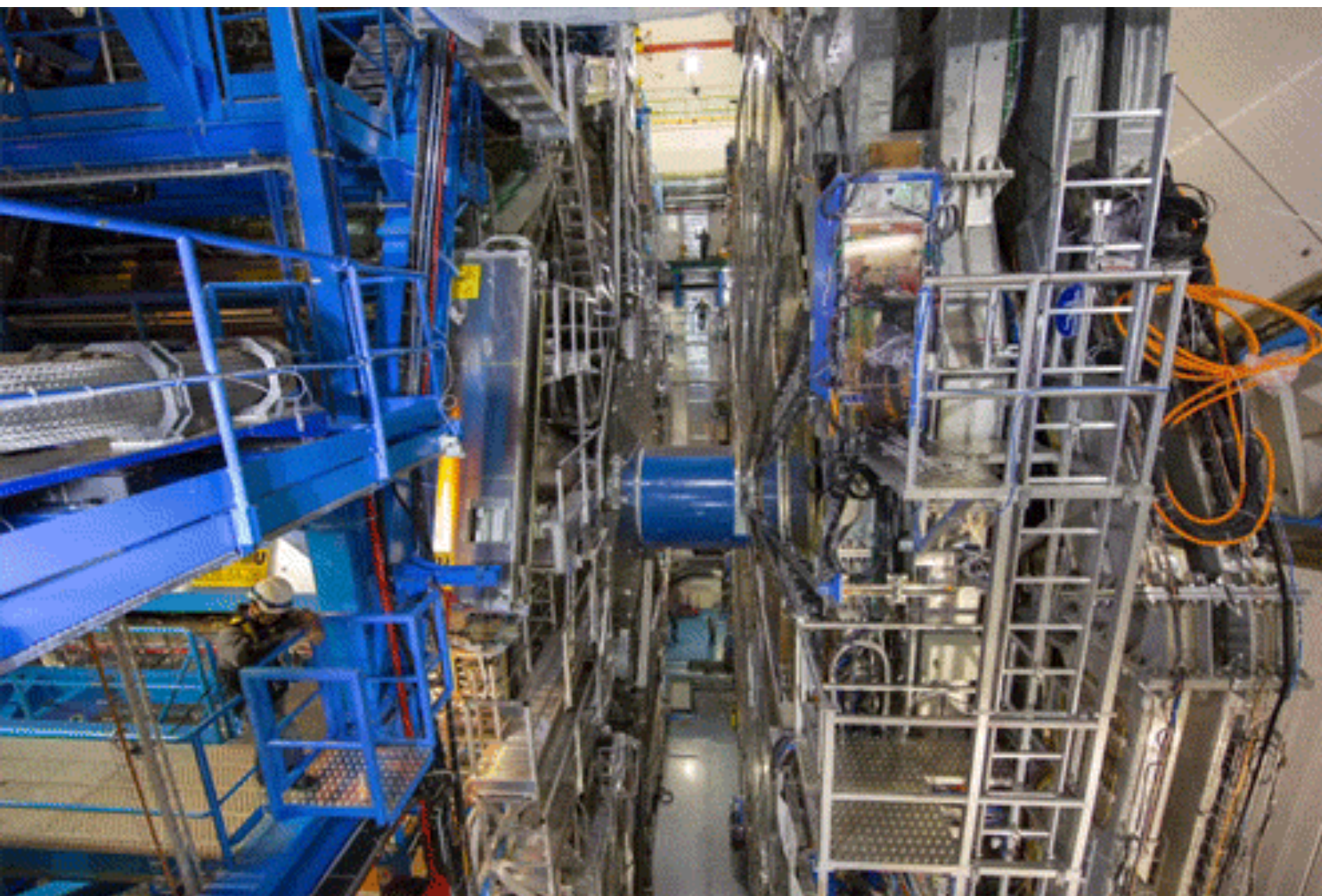
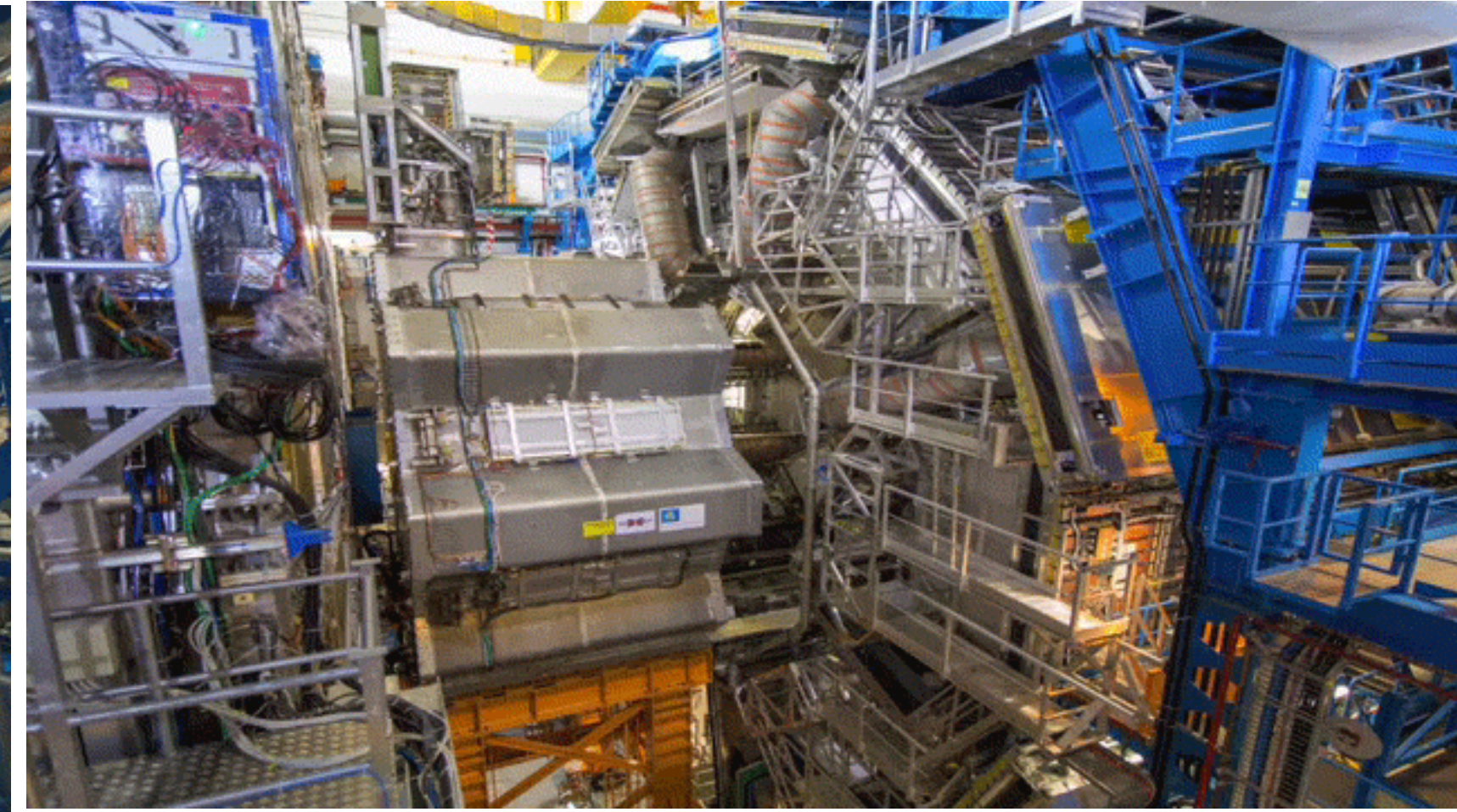
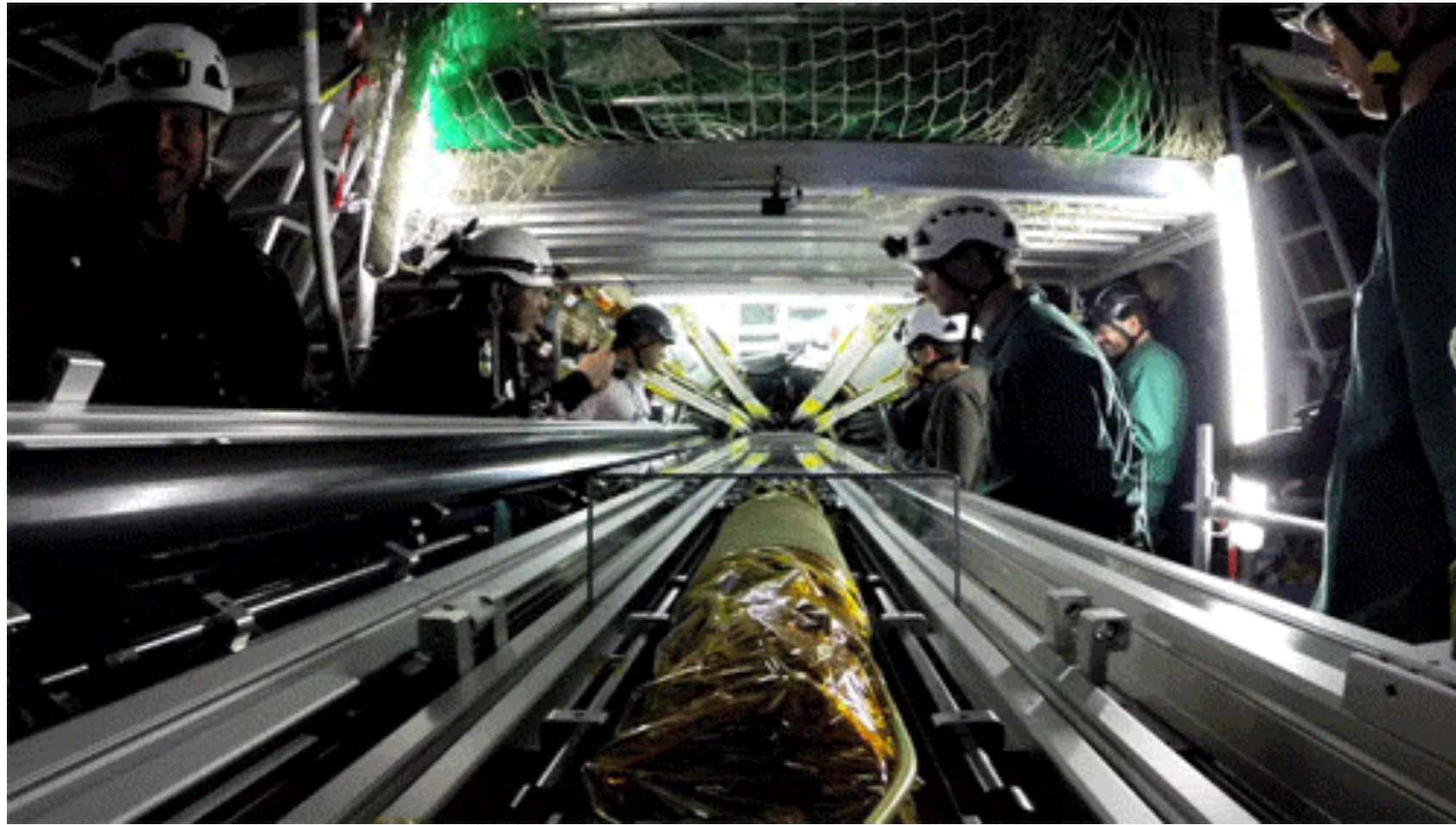




# The detectors

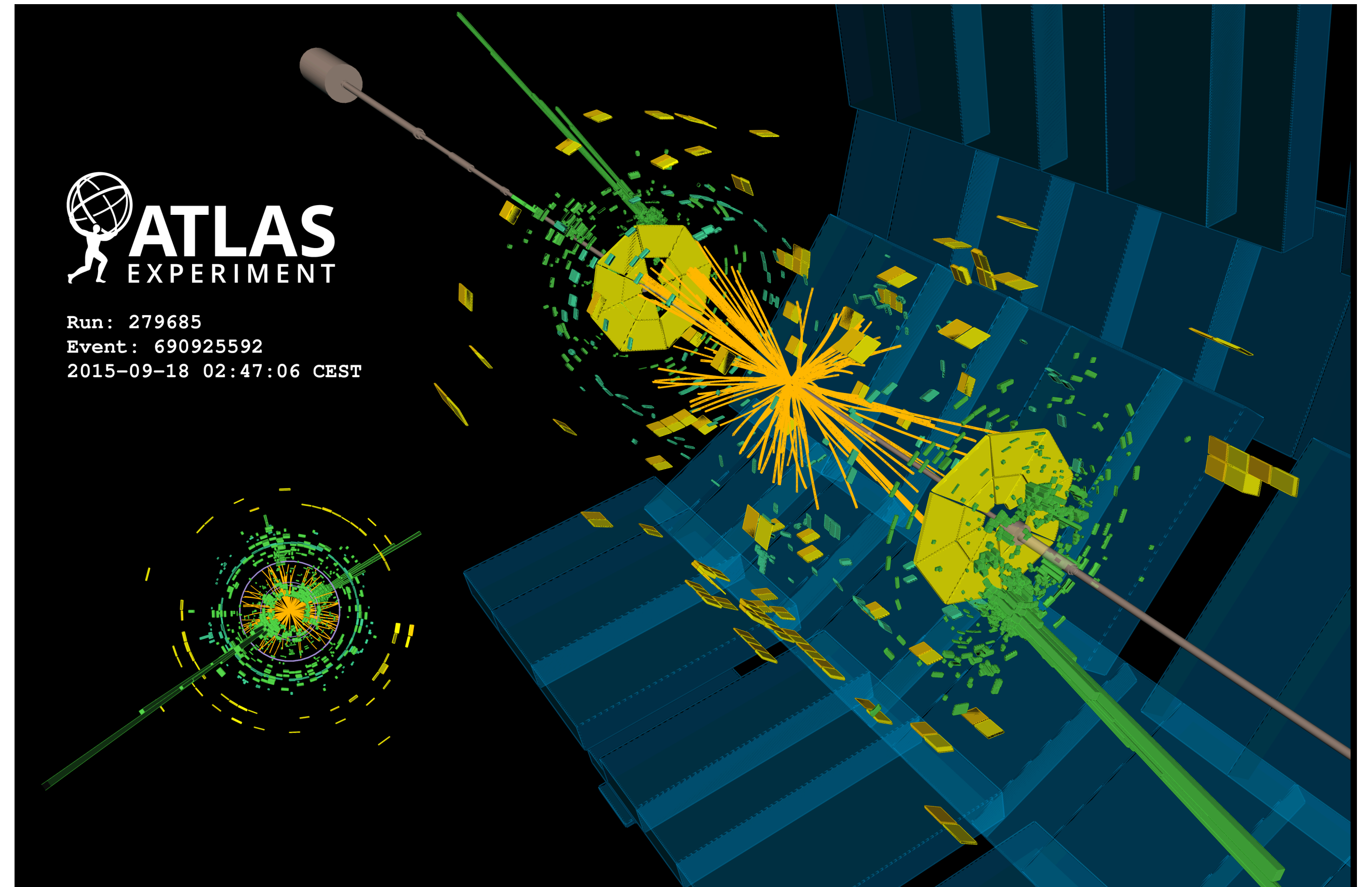


# The detectors



# Summarise in low dimensions

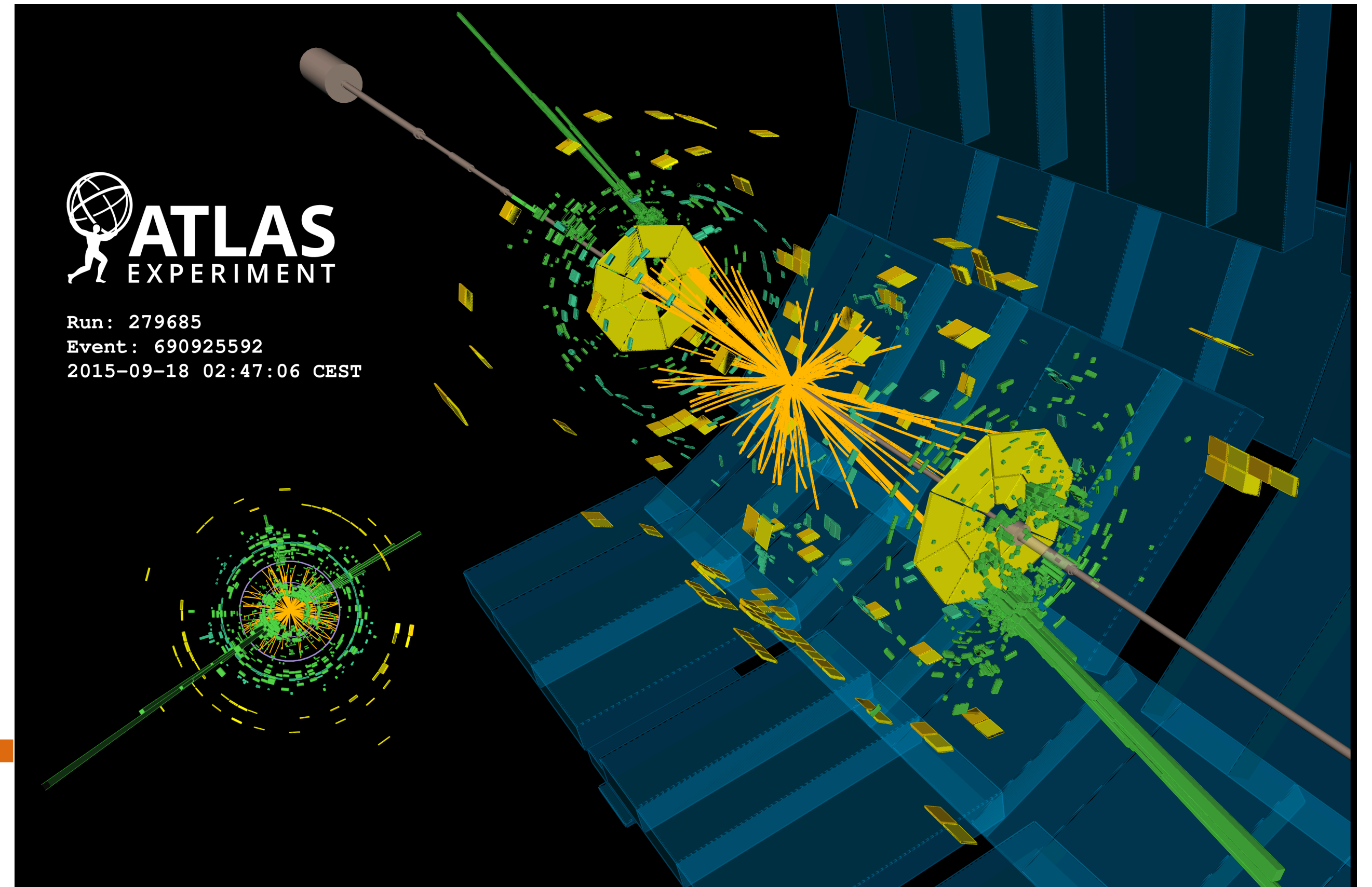
- Detector has  $O(100 \text{ million})$  sensors
- Can't build 100M dimensional histogram
- ▶ Reconstruction pipeline, event selection
- ▶ Design sensitive one-dimensional observable



# Summarise in low dimensions

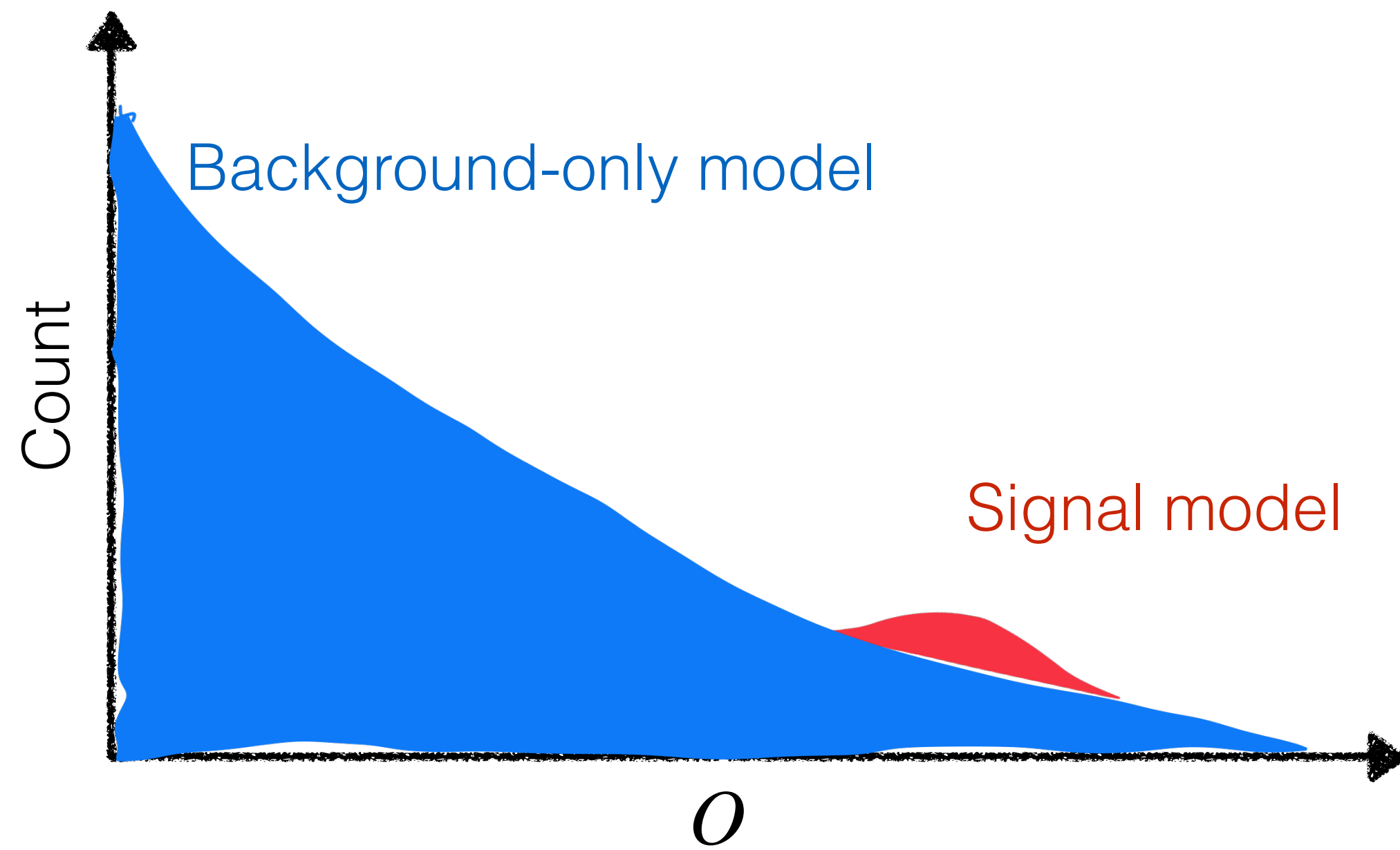
- Detector has  $O(100 \text{ million})$  sensors
- Can't build 100M dimensional histogram
- ▶ Reconstruction pipeline, event selection
- ▶ Design sensitive one-dimensional observable

1 number

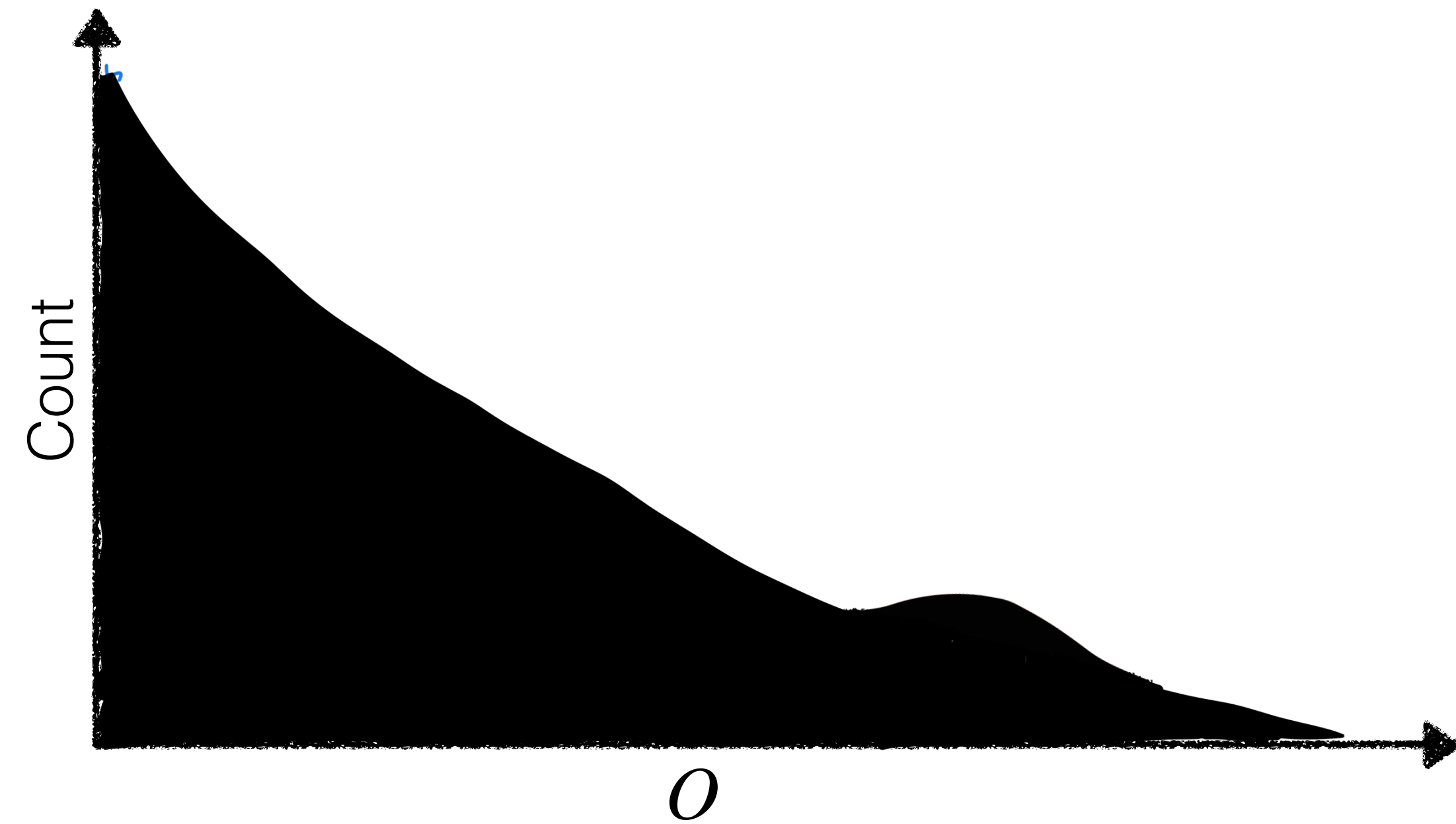


# Probability Density Estimation: What we're used to doing..

Theory Predictions

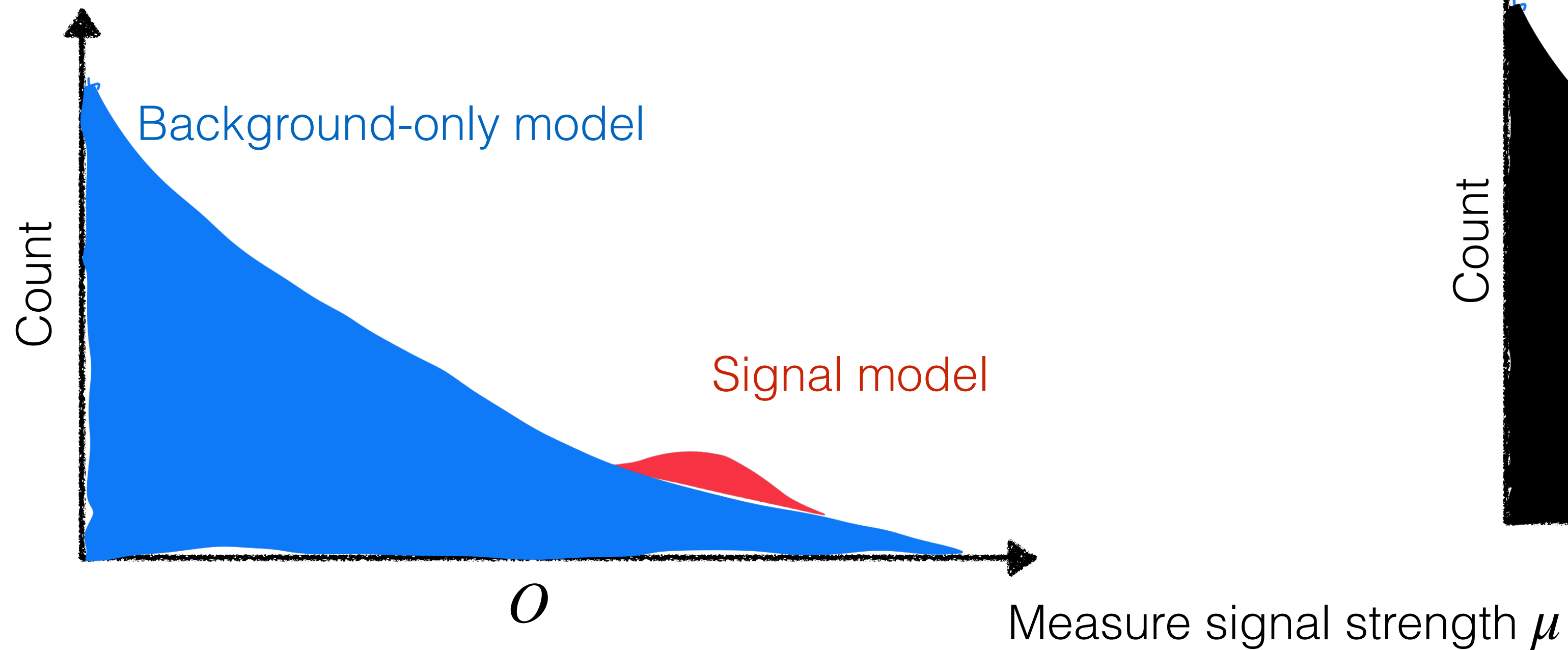


Data

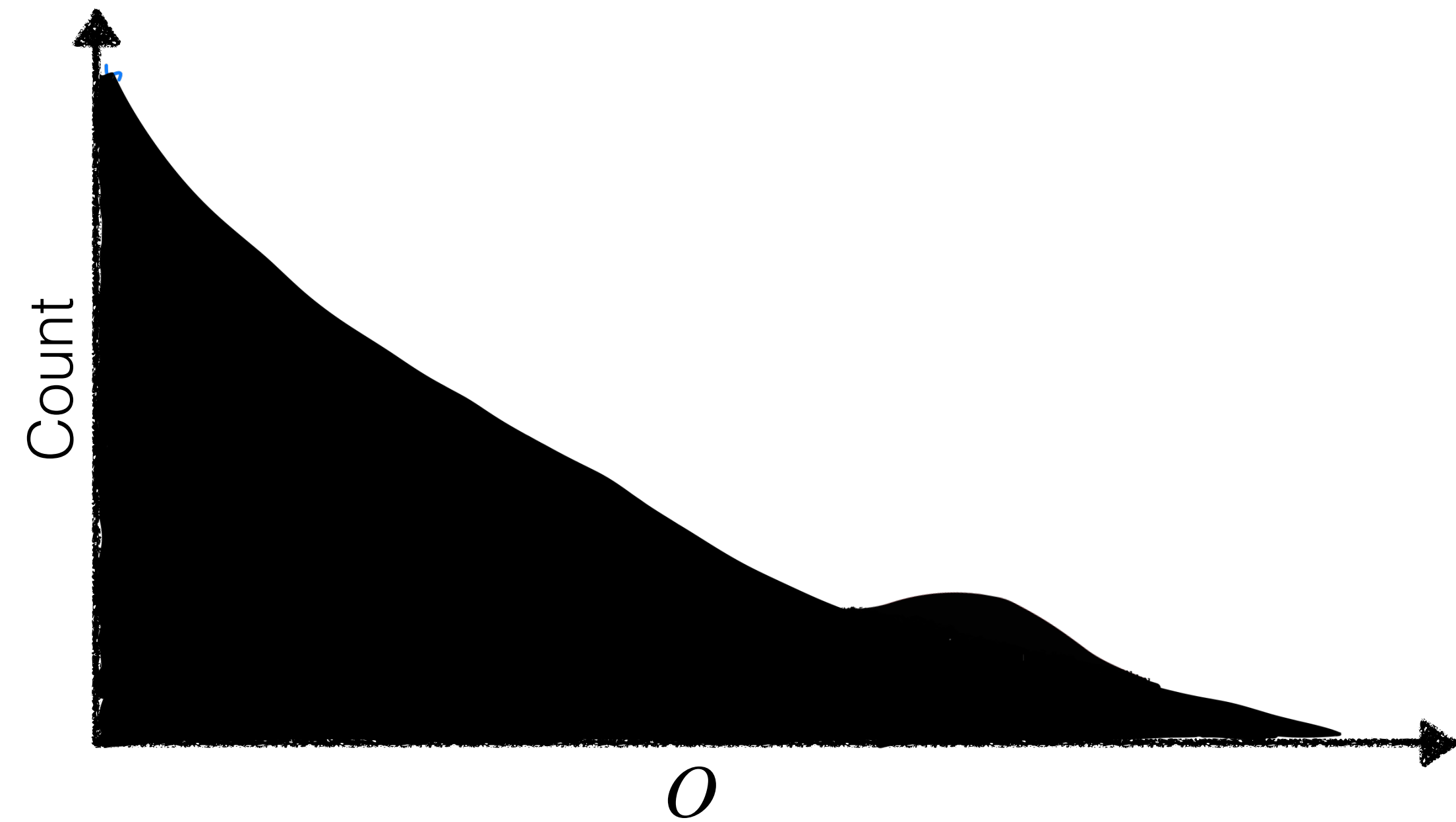


# Probability Density Estimation: What we're used to doing..

Theory Predictions



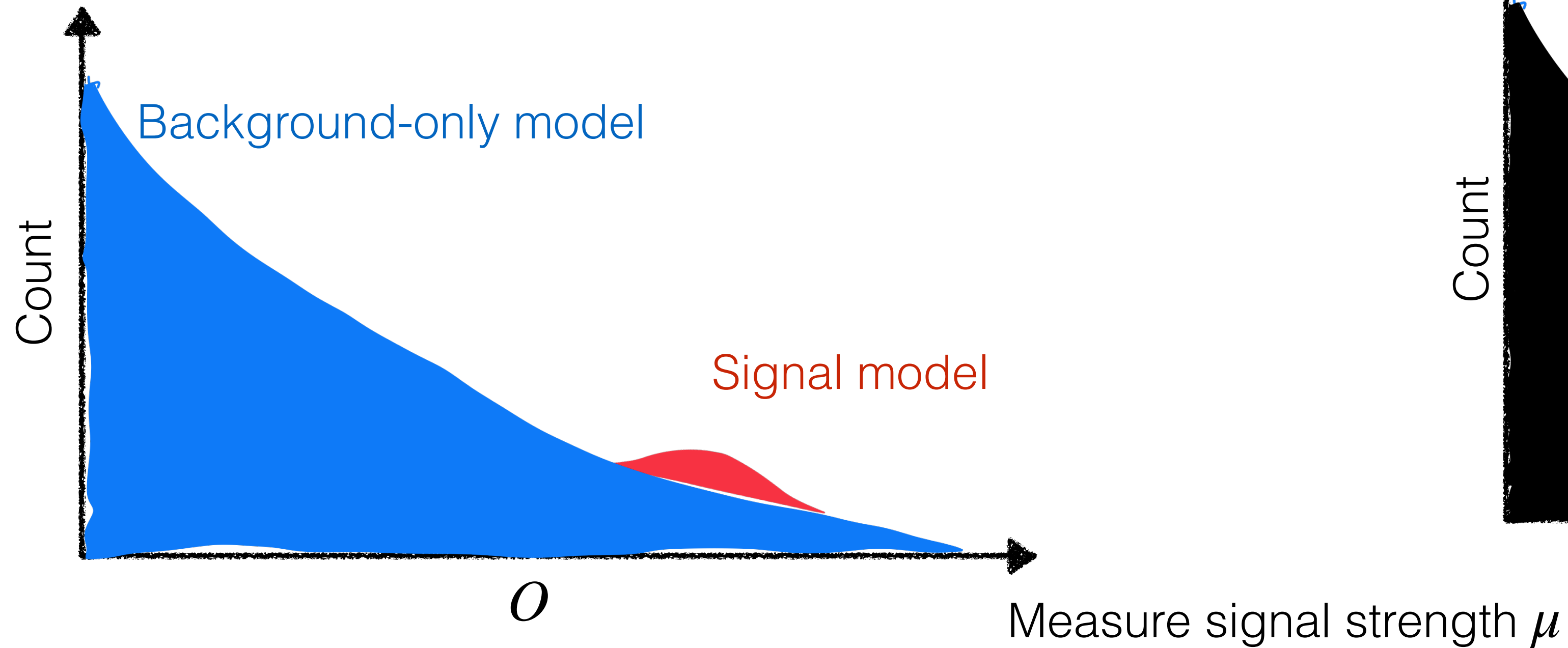
Data



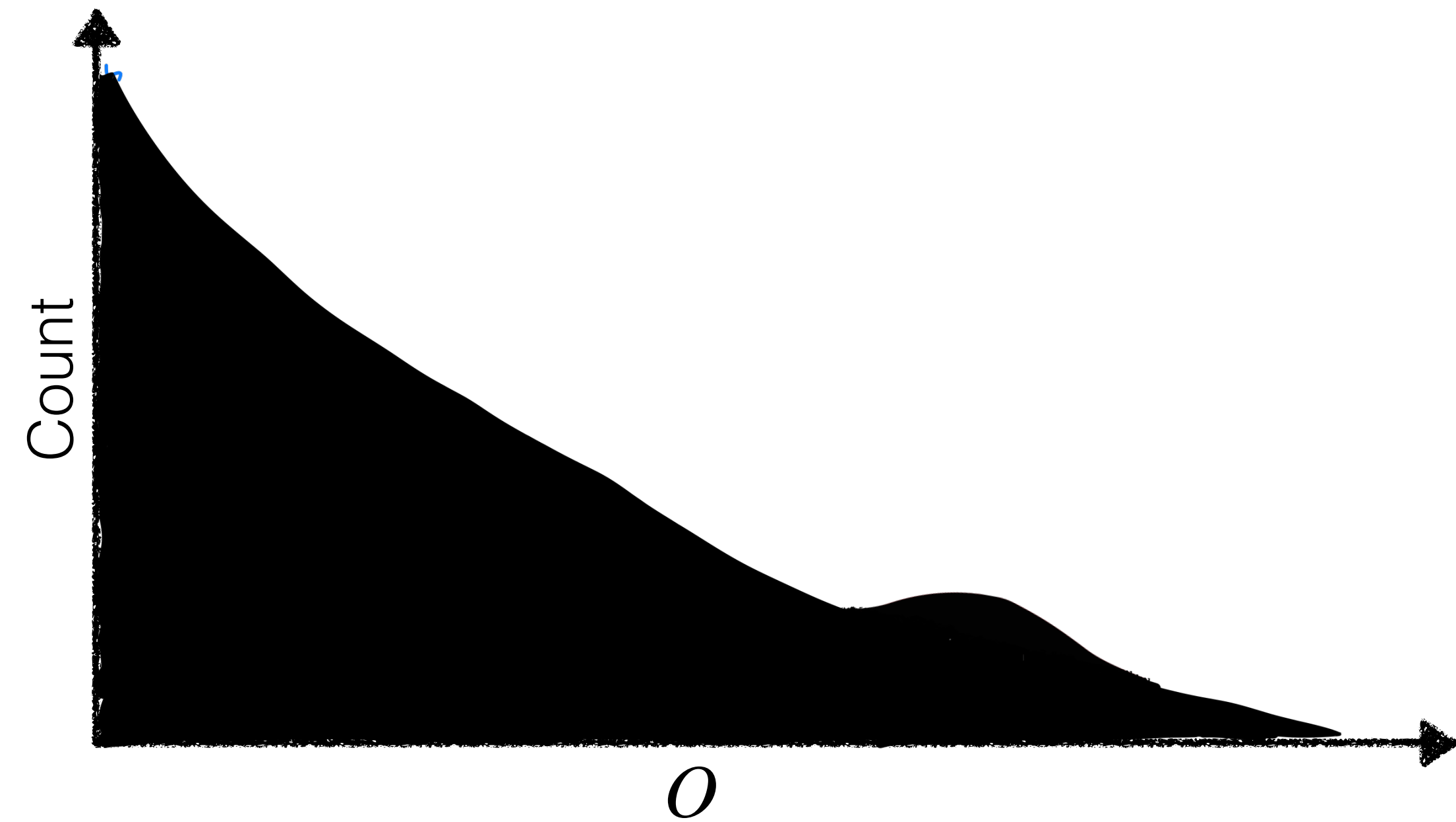
With histograms we can ask “Given the data, what is the likelihood of  $\mu = 1$  hypothesis vs  $\mu = 2$  hypothesis?”

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

Theory Predictions



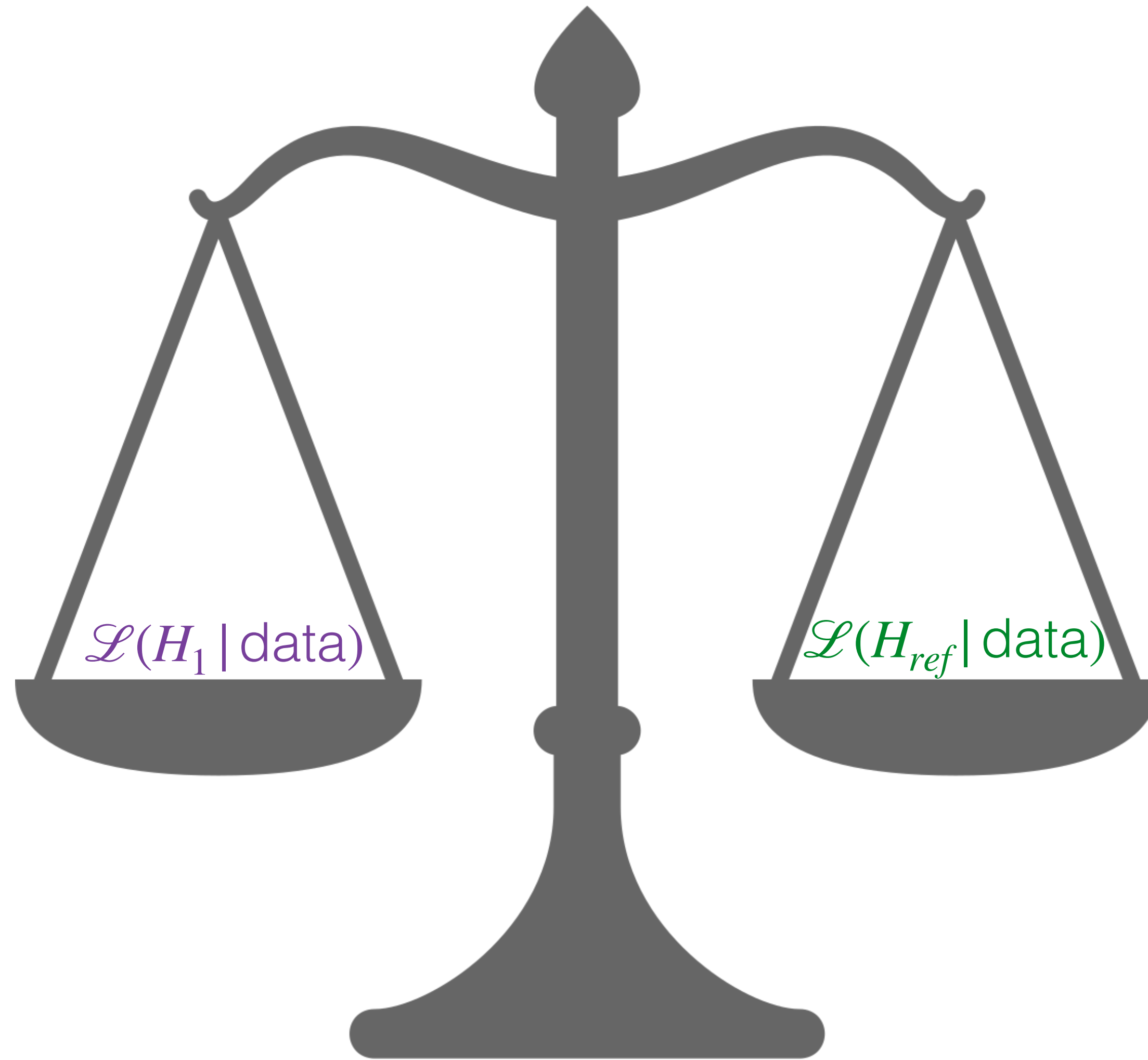
Data



With histograms we can ask "Given the data, what is the likelihood of  $\mu = 1$  hypothesis vs  $\mu = 2$  hypothesis?"

# (Frequentist) Hypothesis tests

---

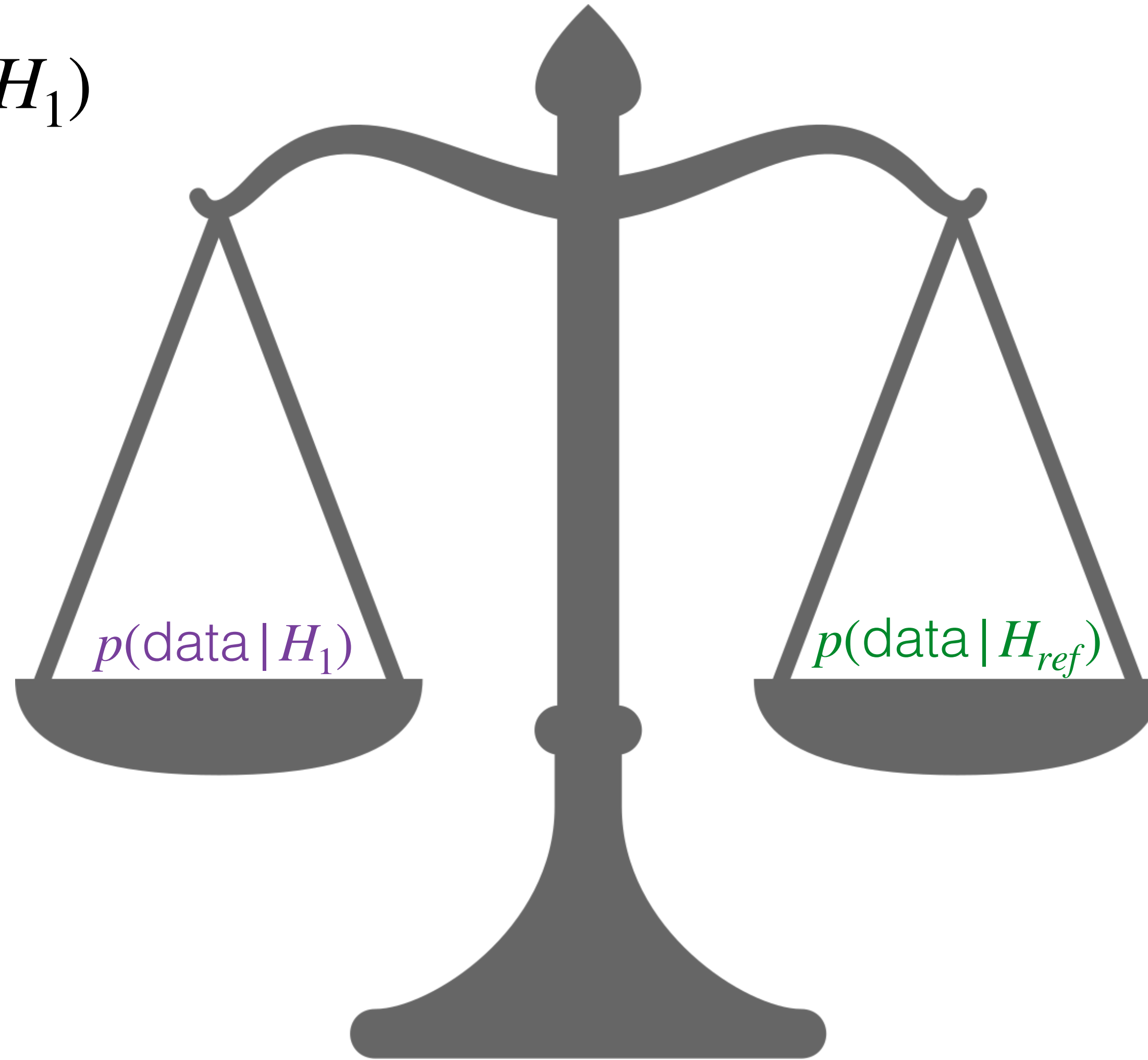




# (Frequentist) Hypothesis tests

---

$$\mathcal{L}(H_1 | \text{data}) = p(\text{data} | H_1)$$



# Why we can summarise data down to a single observable for typical analysis

---

# Why we can summarise data down to a single observable for typical analysis

---

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

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

We want to compare likelihoods:

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

# Why we can summarise data down to a single observable for typical analysis

---

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

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

We want to compare likelihoods:

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

---

# Why we can summarise data down to a single observable for typical analysis

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

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

We want to compare likelihoods:

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

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

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

# Why we can summarise data down to a single observable for typical analysis

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

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

We want to compare likelihoods:

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

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

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

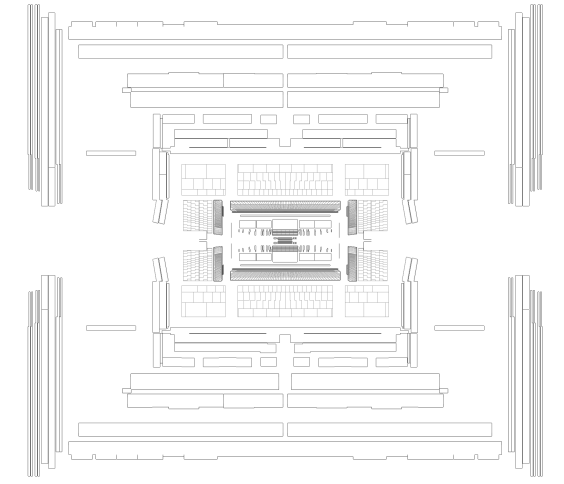
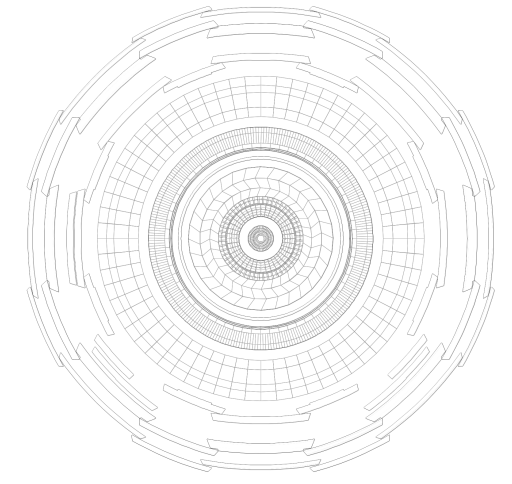
Which contains all the information required for the likelihood ratio:

$$\frac{p(x_i | \mu)}{p(x_i | \mu = 0)} = \frac{1}{\mu \cdot \nu_S + \nu_B} \frac{\mu \cdot \nu_S p(x_i | S) + \nu_B p(x_i | B)}{p(x_i | B)} = \frac{\mu}{\mu \cdot \nu_S + \nu_B} \cdot \left( \frac{s(x_i)}{1 - s(x_i)} + \nu_B \right)$$

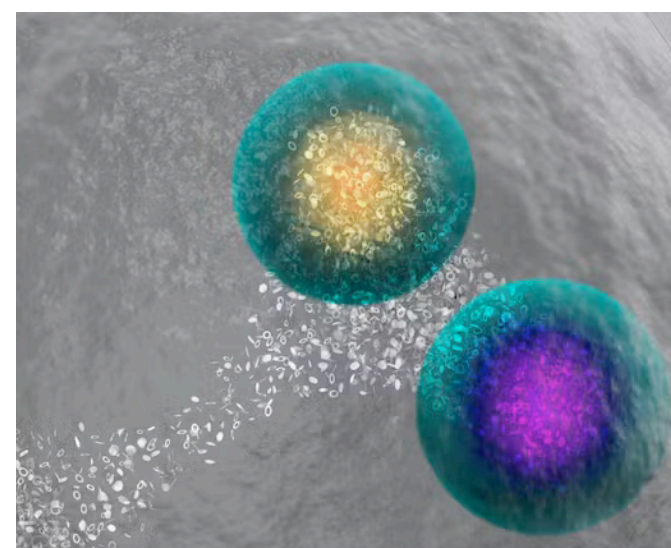
Same observable  $s$  is optimal to test all  $\mu$  hypotheses!

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

\* Equal class weights



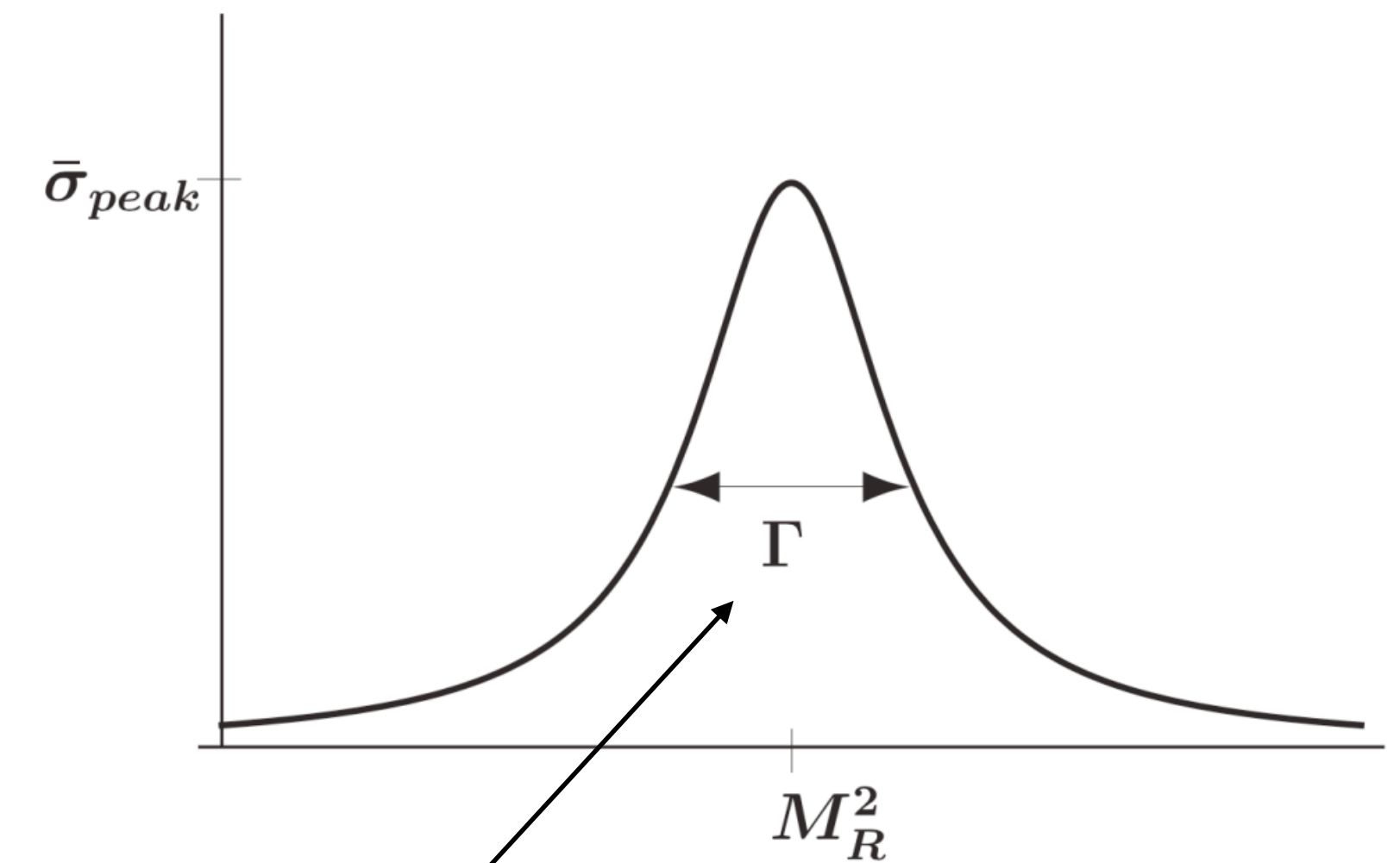
# A measurement of the Higgs width



$H$

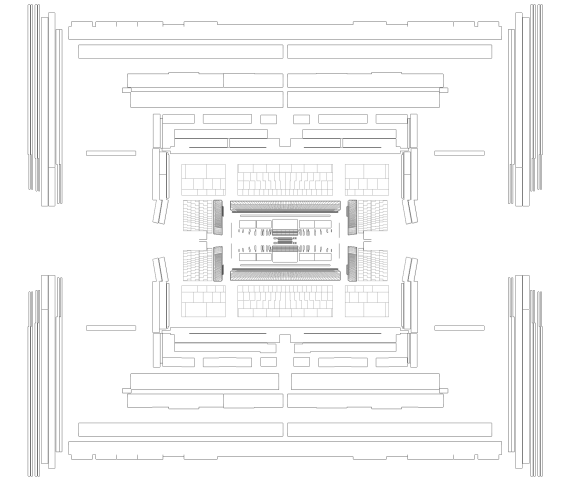
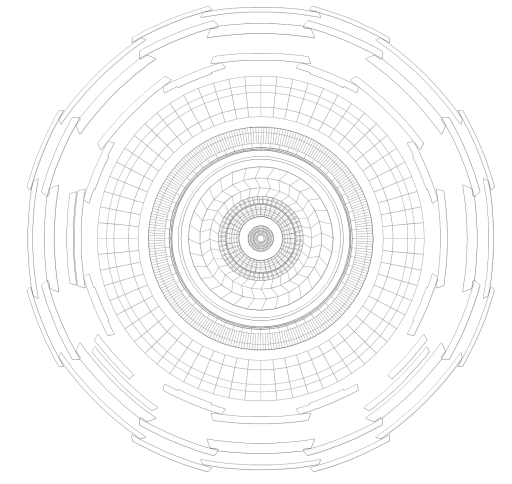


$\Gamma_H$



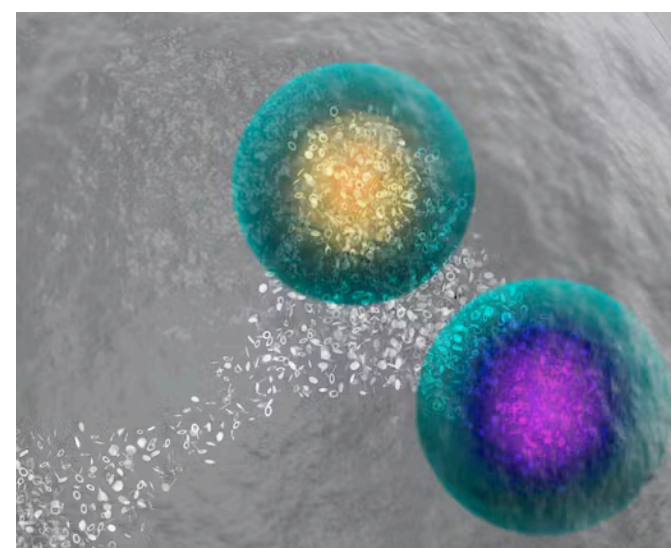
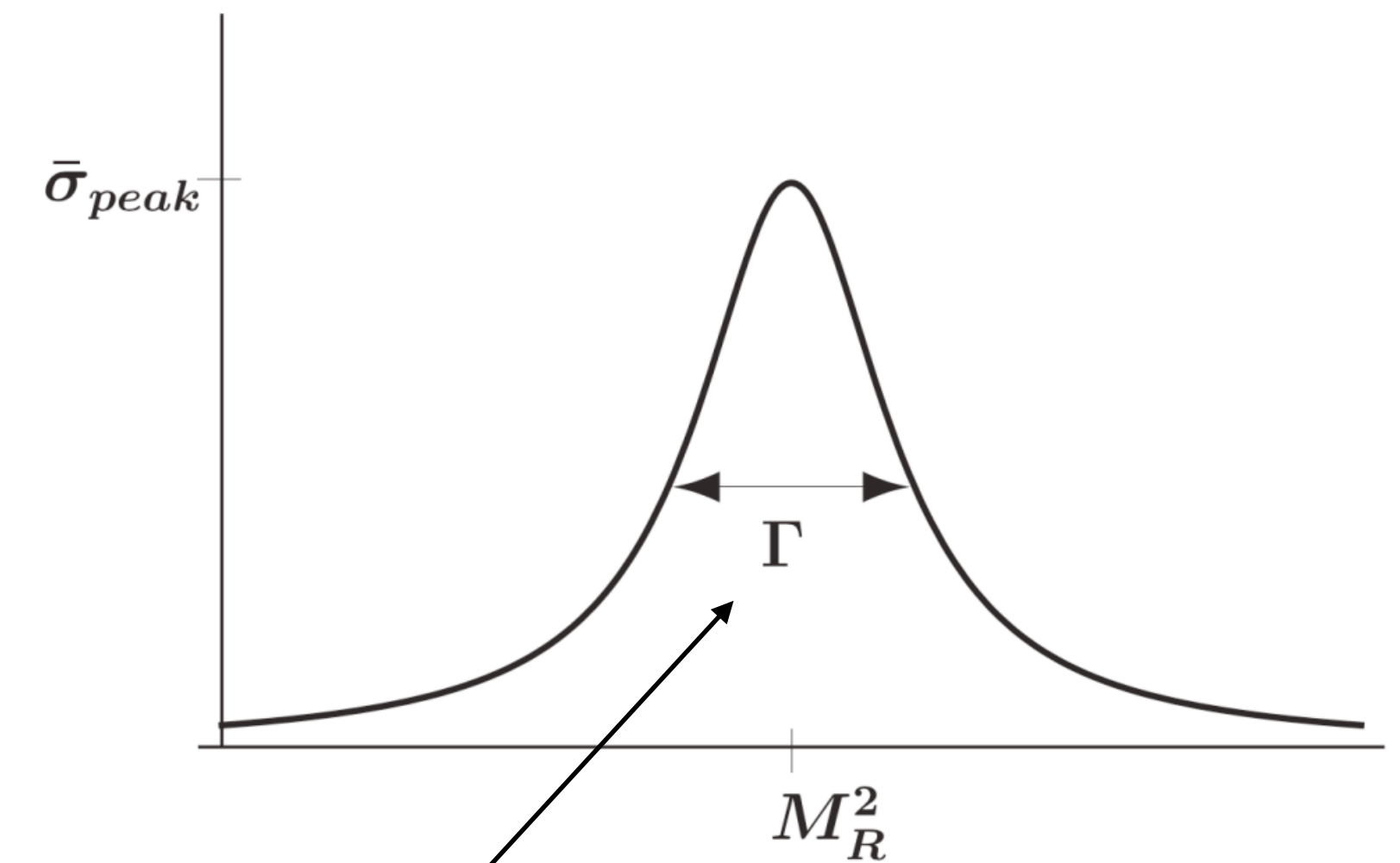
“Width” of the particle

Undiscovered massive particles



# A measurement of the Higgs width

- Enables the probe of a wide variety of new massive particles, other new physics
- Central topic for future colliders



$H$



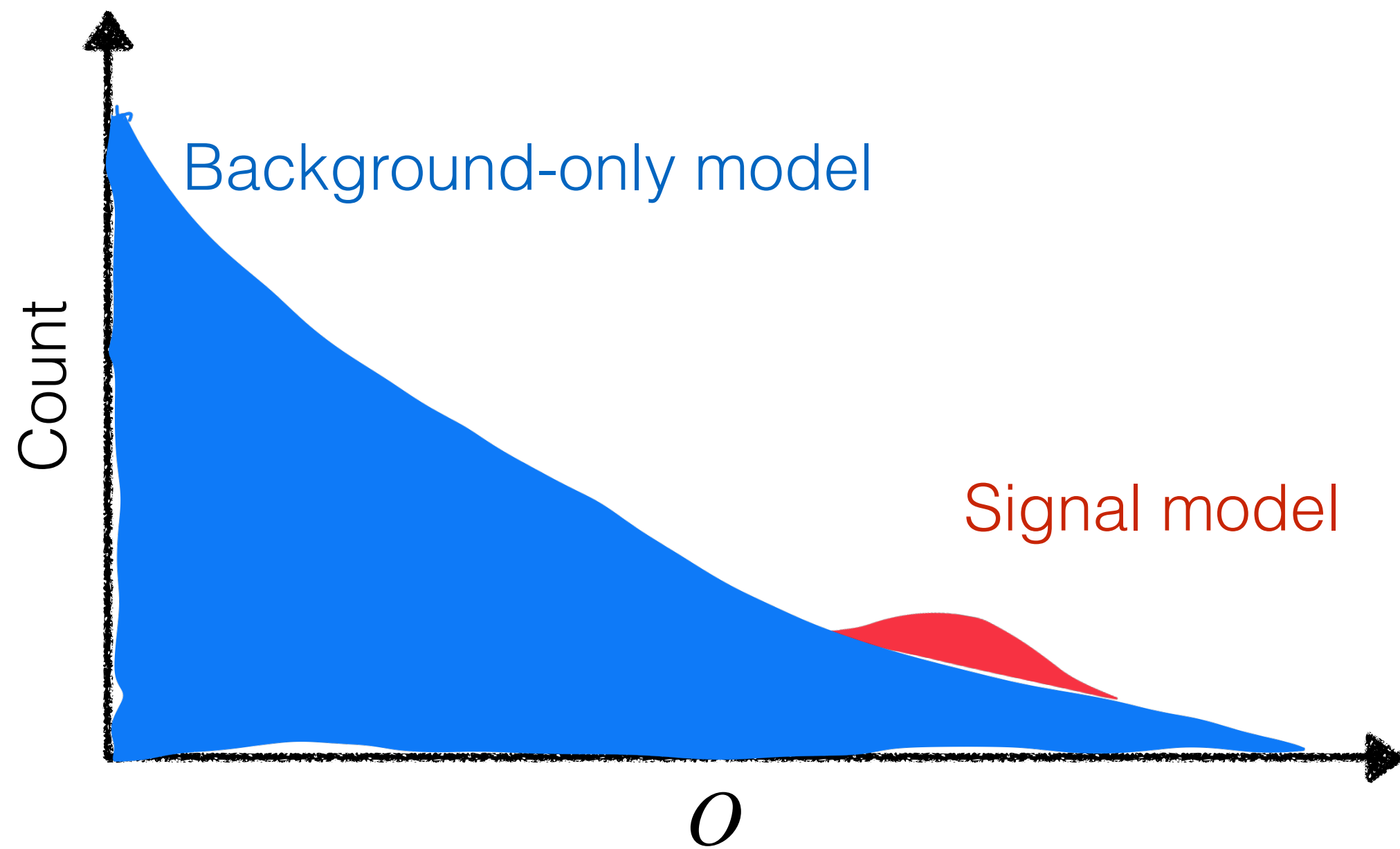
$\Gamma_H$

Undiscovered massive particles



# New challenge: Quantum interference

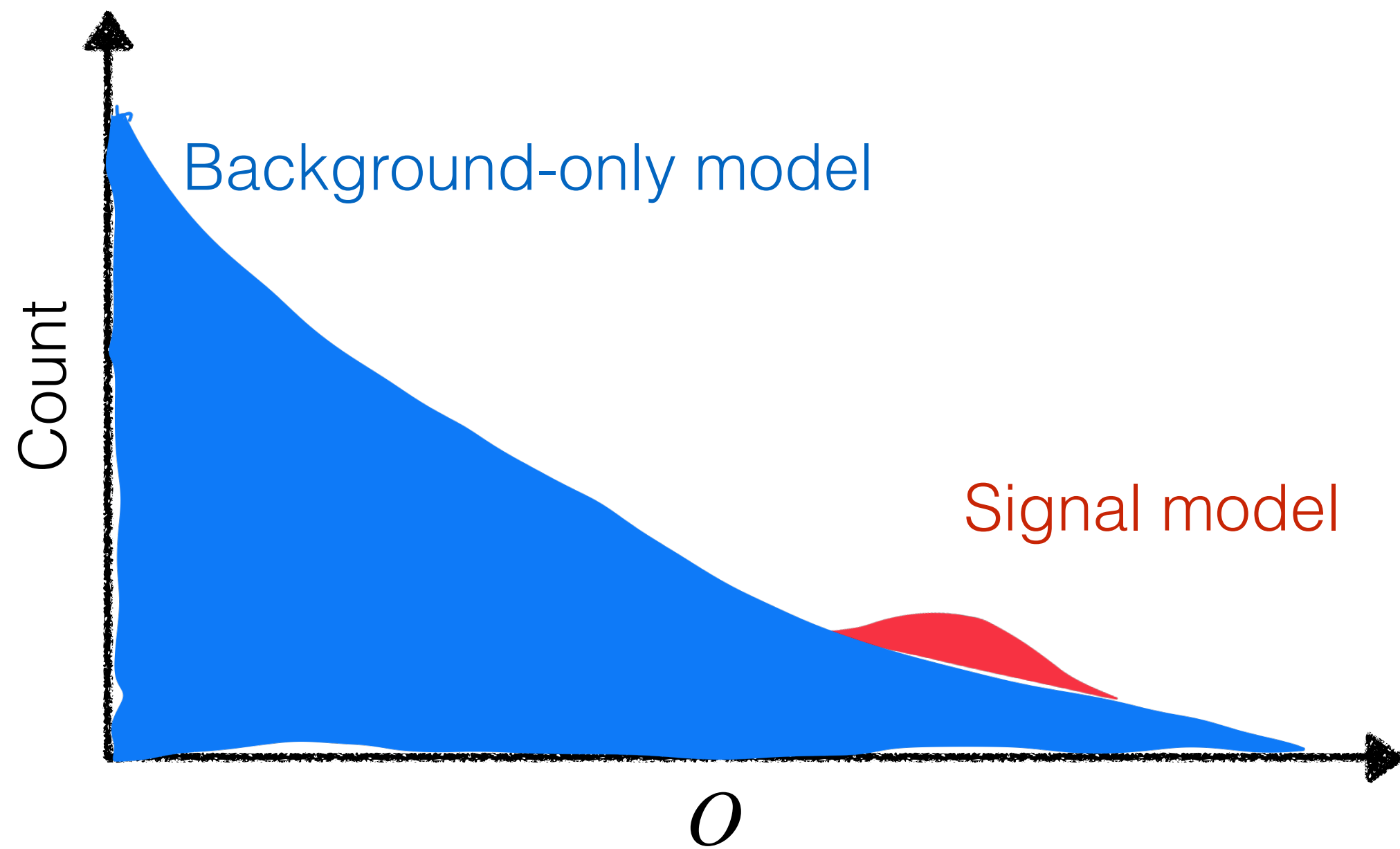
## Non-linear changes in kinematics



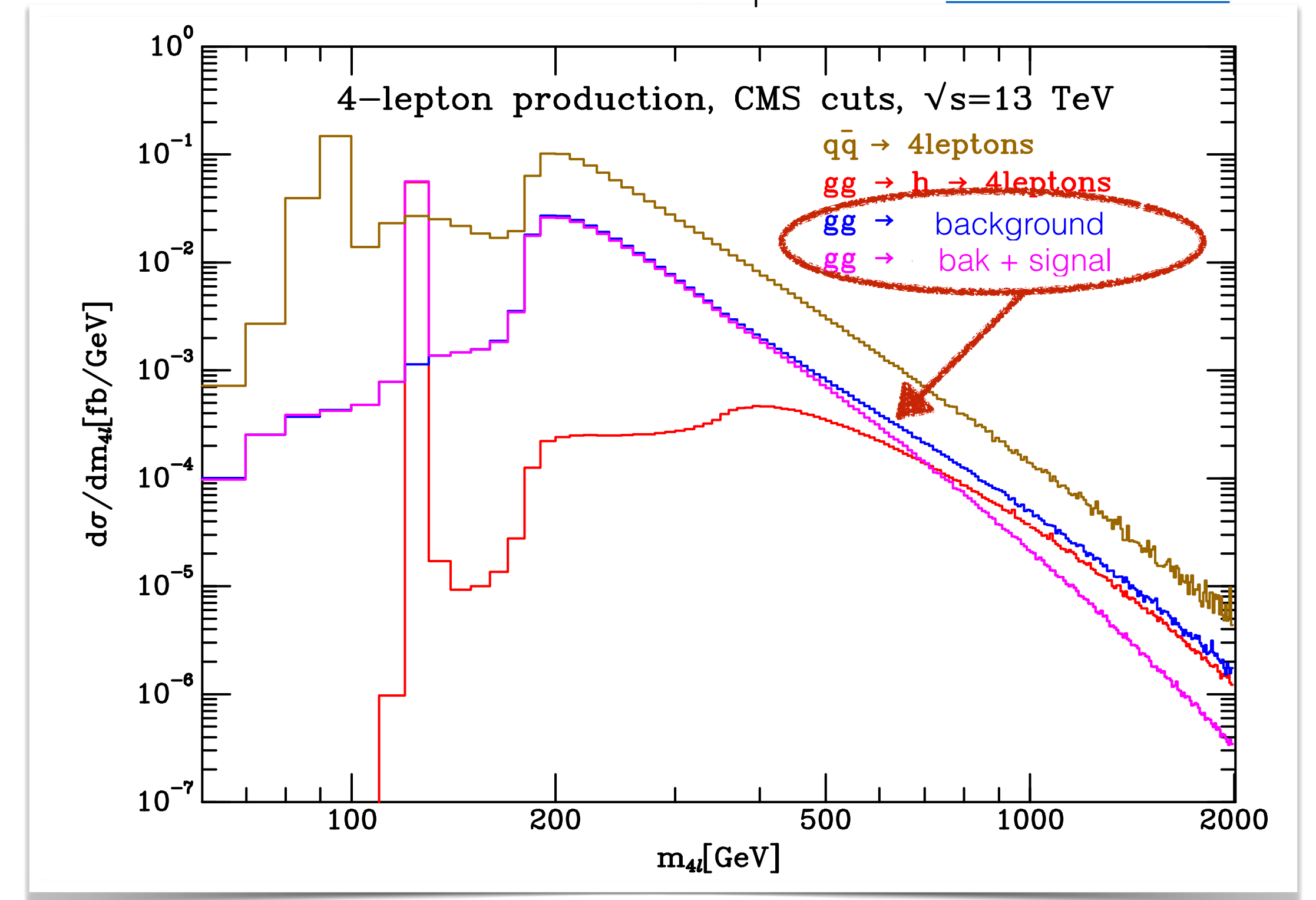
Data can no longer be summarised in 1D histogram (see Ghosh et al: [hal-02971995\(p172\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1907.09375)) !

# New challenge: Quantum interference

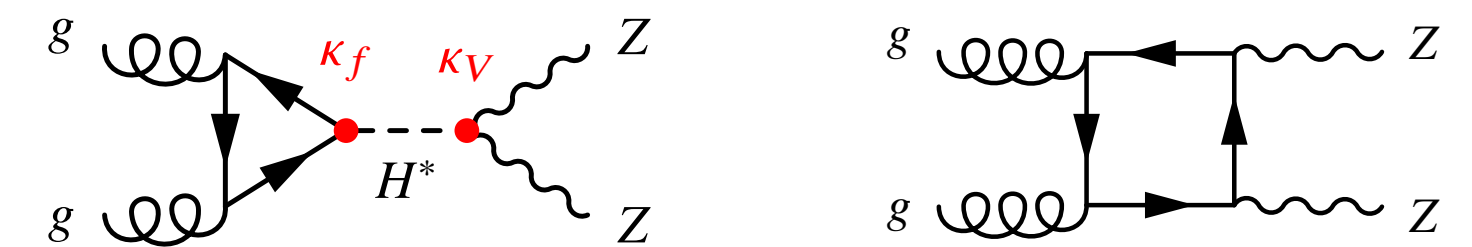
## Non-linear changes in kinematics



Campbell et al: [arXiv:1311.3589](https://arxiv.org/abs/1311.3589)



Quantum interference:

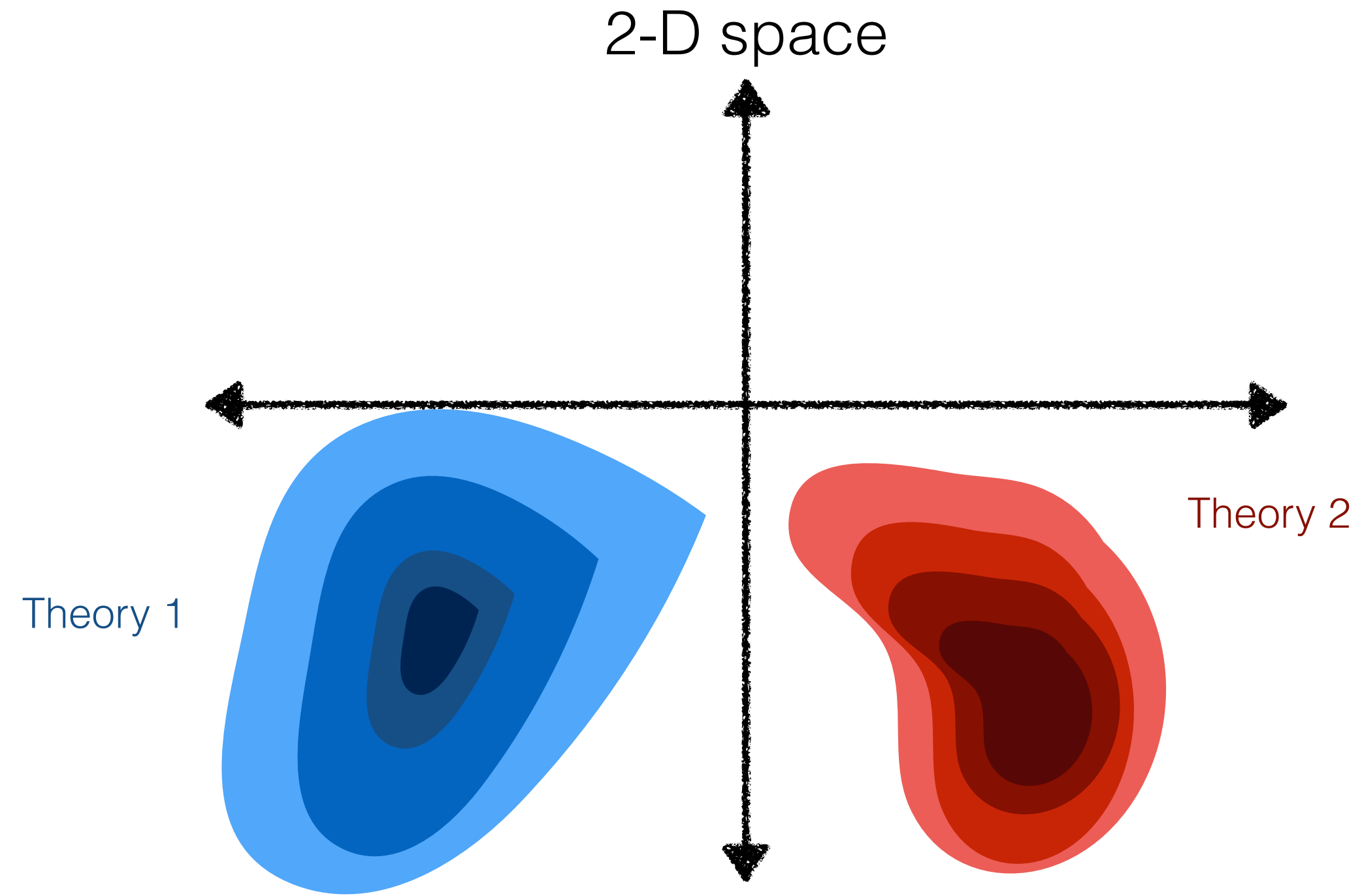


Data can no longer be summarised in 1D histogram (see Ghosh et al: [hal-02971995\(p172\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1311.3589)) !

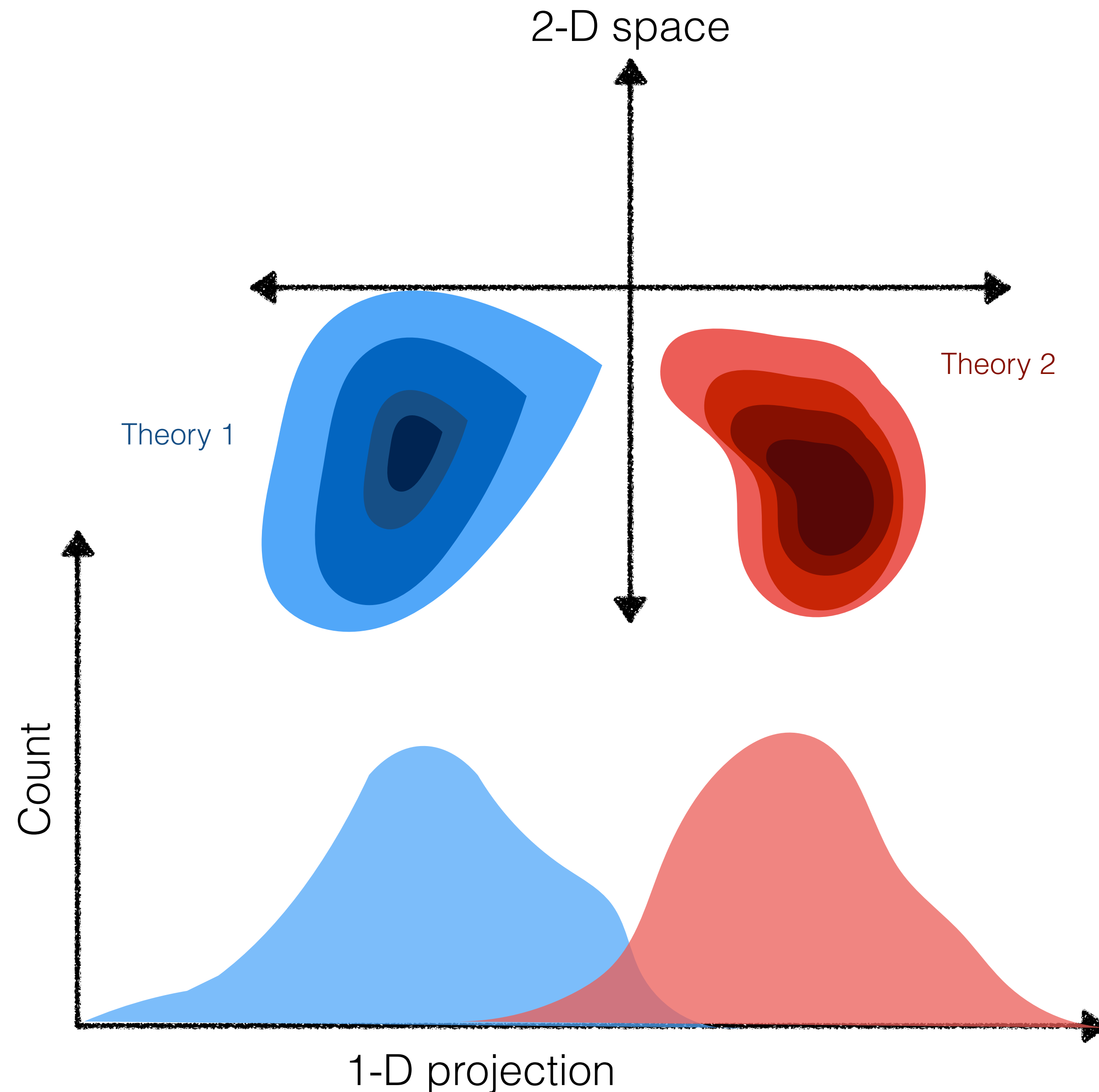
# The problem with one-dimensional summaries...

---

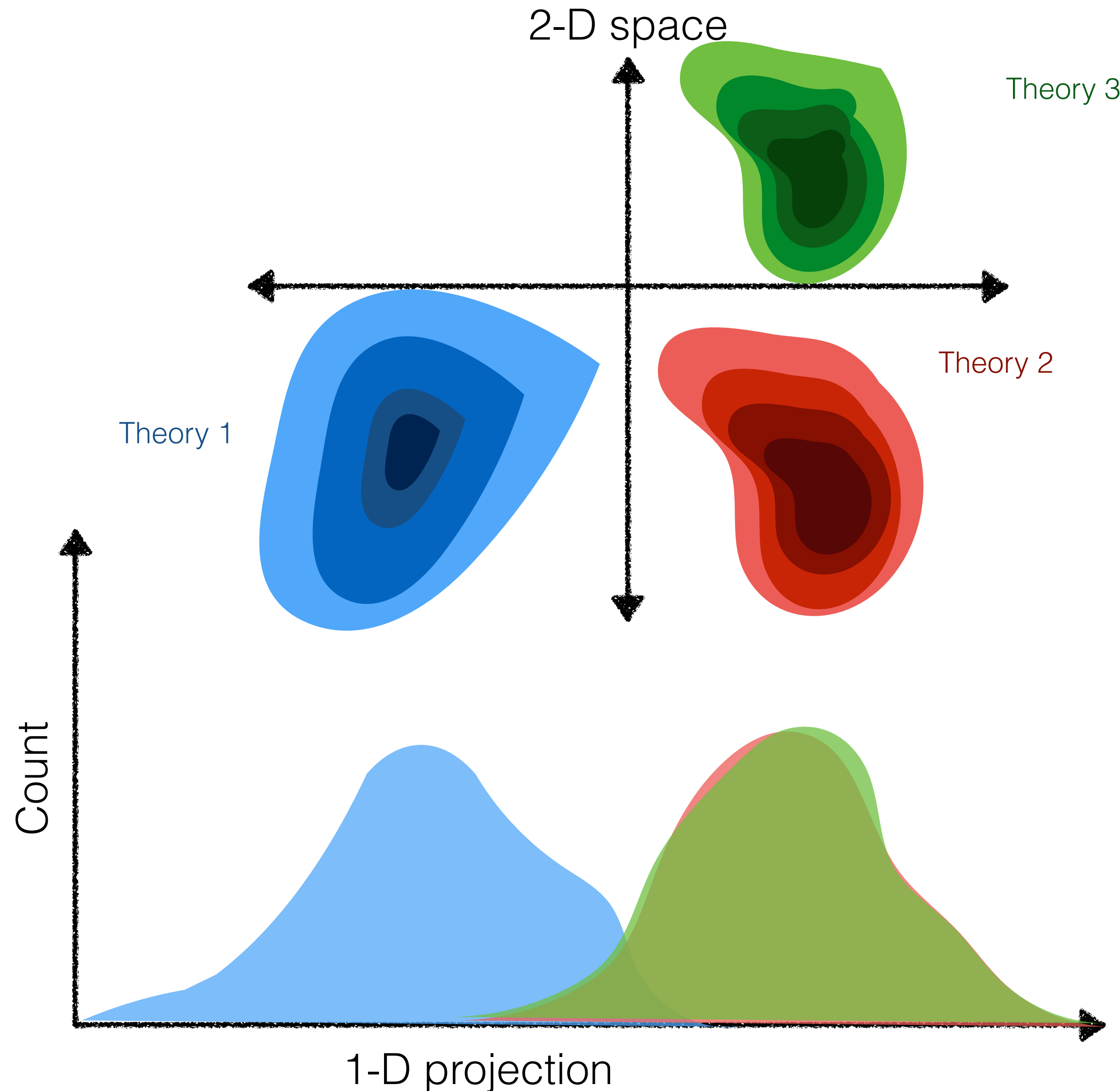
# The problem with one-dimensional summaries...



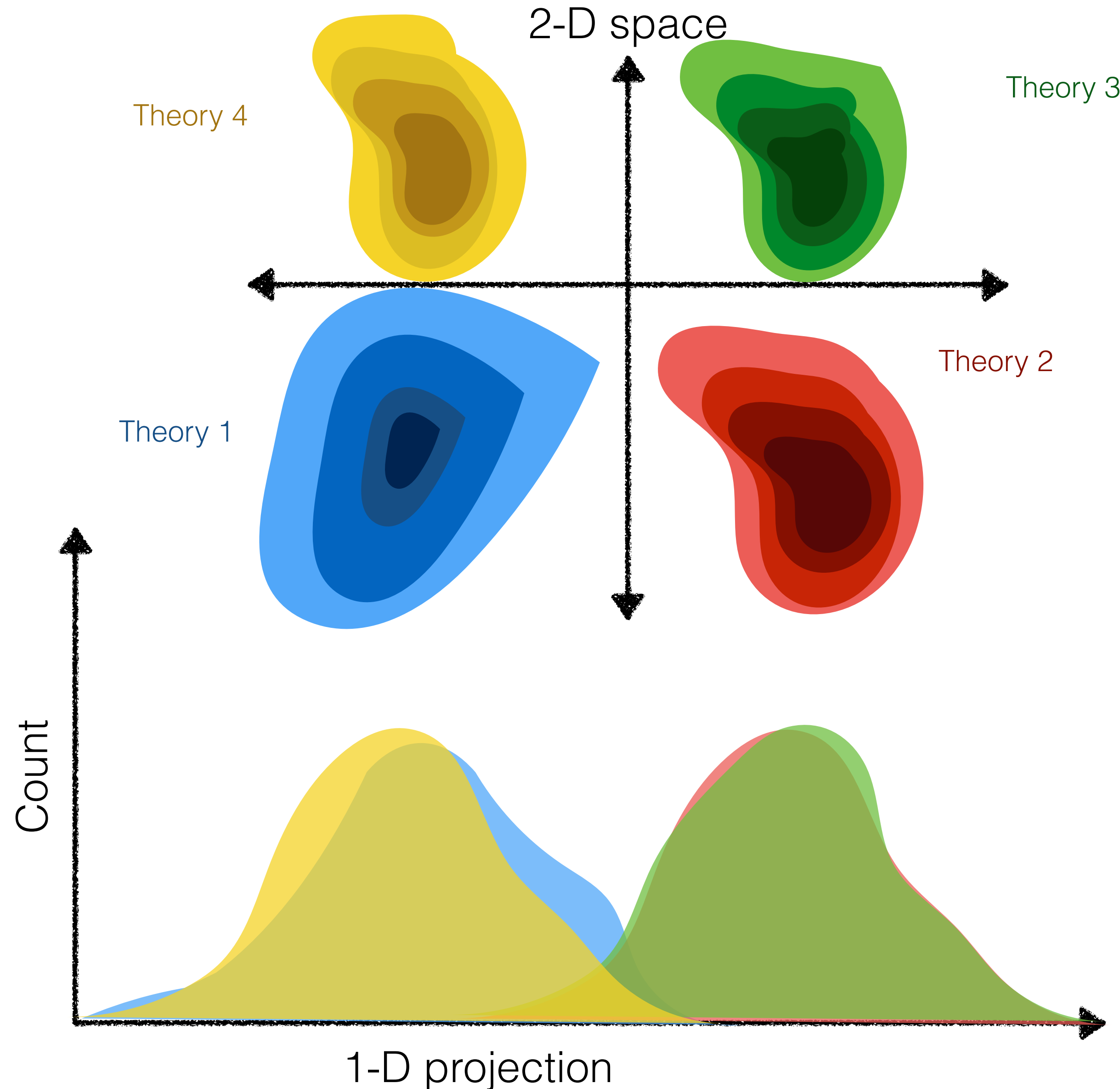
# The problem with one-dimensional summaries...



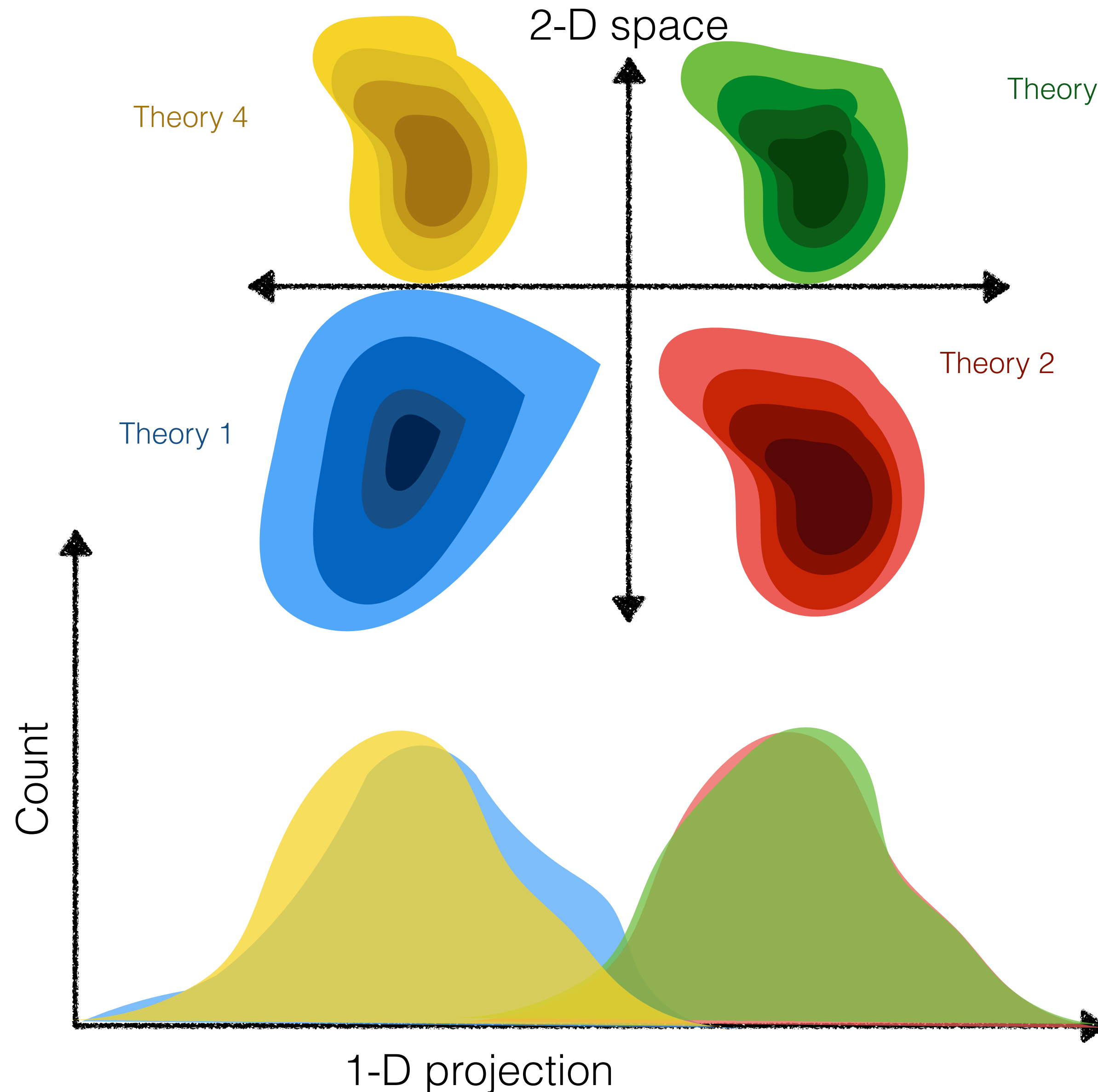
# The problem with one-dimensional summaries...



# The problem with one-dimensional summaries...



# The problem with one-dimensional summaries...



- Clearly separable in 2-D
- No 1-D summary statistic may contain all the information needed to optimally test all theory hypotheses!
- Valuable to have high-dimensional view of data



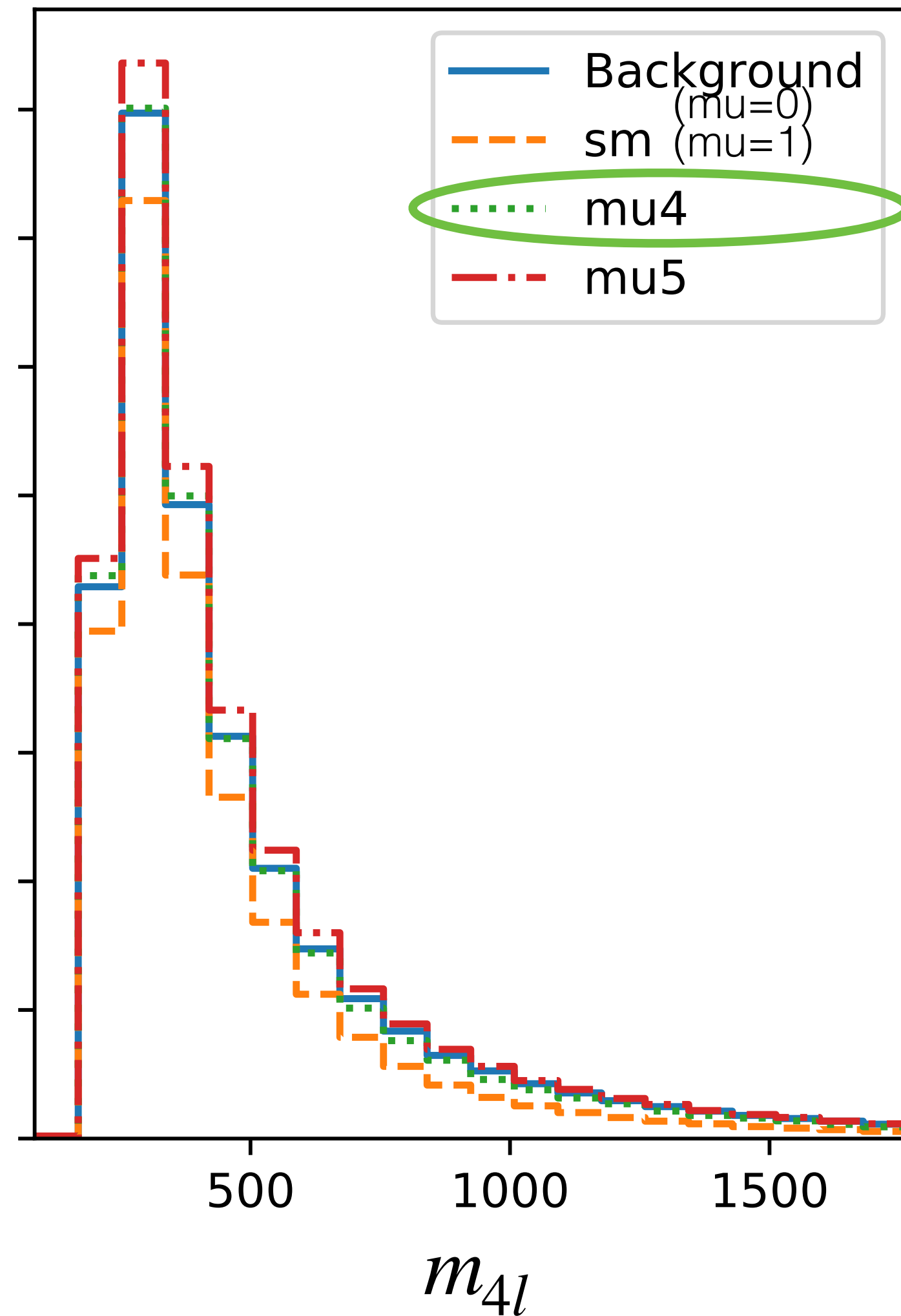
# No single observable captures all information in Higgs width study

---

Signal-background-inference simulations: MG + Pythia

# No single observable captures all information in Higgs width study

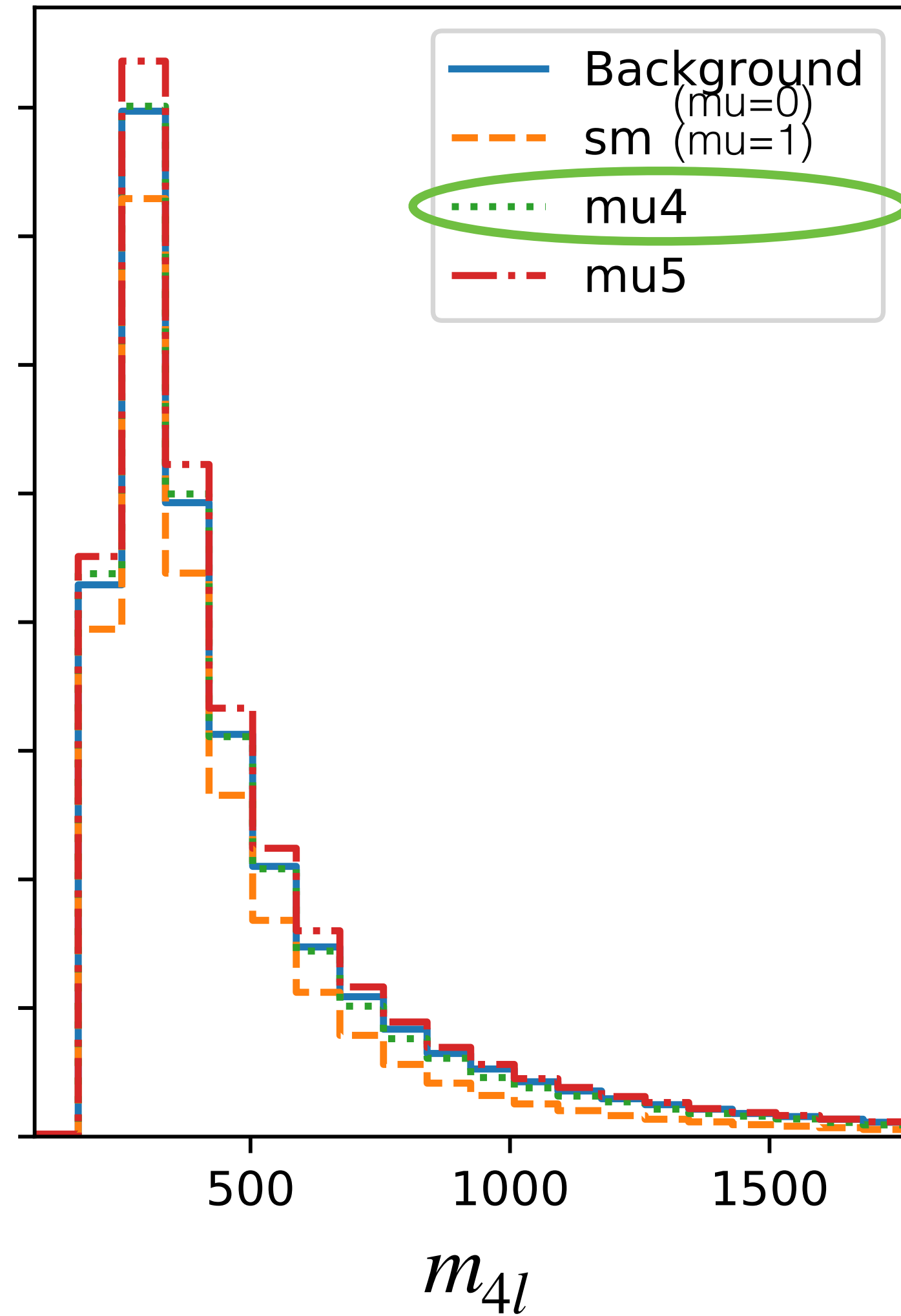
Signal-background-inference simulations: MG + Pythia



Can you spot the green plot?

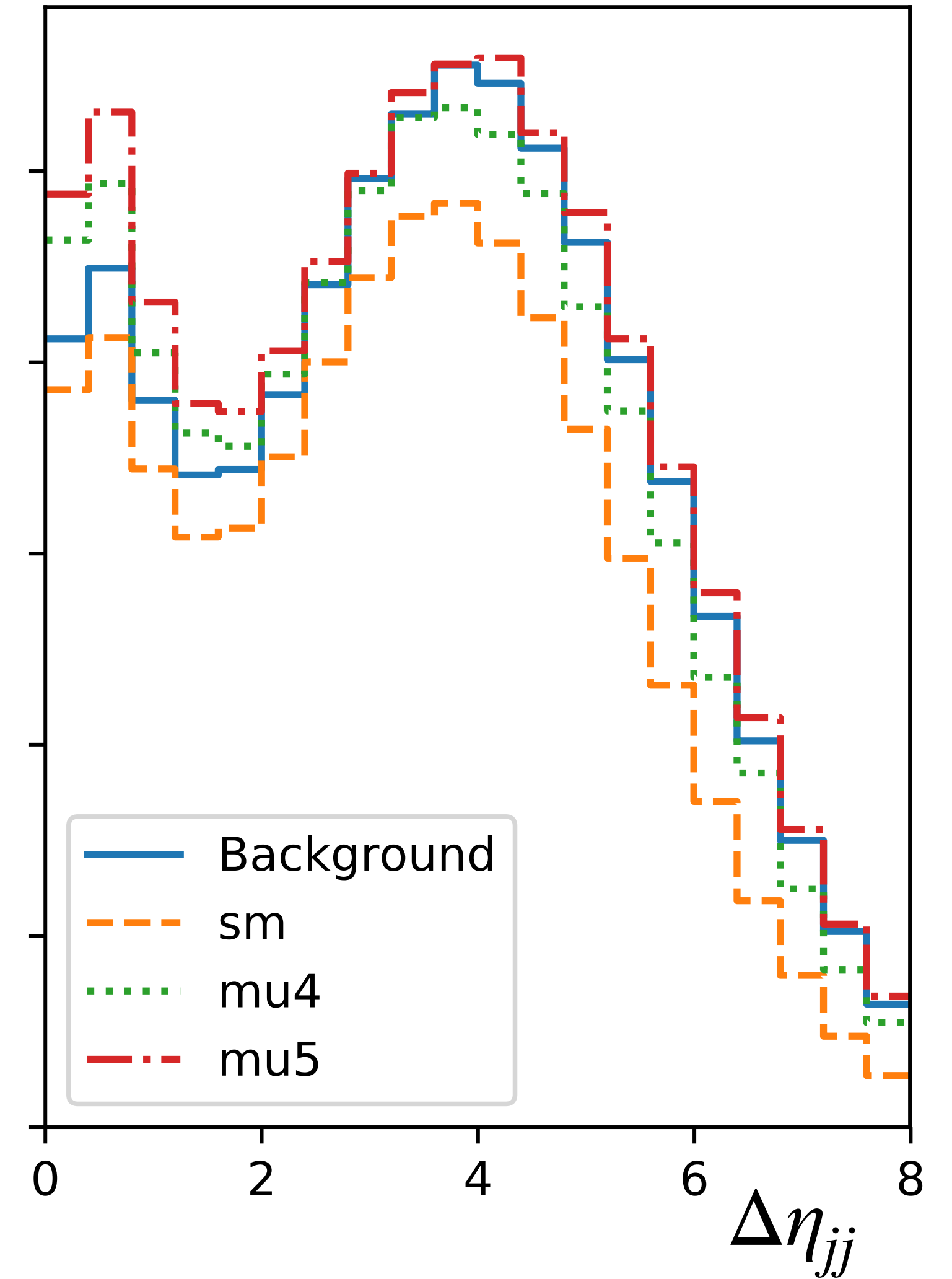
# No single observable captures all information in Higgs width study

Signal-background-inference simulations: MG + Pythia



Can you spot the green plot?

=4 indistinguishable from  $\mu=0$   
 ut other observables can break  
 the degeneracy



Optimal observable now changes as a function of  $\mu$ : Cannot collapse problem to 1 dimension

# What breaks down?

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

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

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:

$$\frac{p(x_i|\mu)}{p(x_i|\mu=0)} = \frac{1}{\mu \cdot \nu_S + \nu_B} \frac{\mu \cdot \nu_S p(x_i|S) + \nu_B p(x_i|B)}{p(x_i|B)} = \frac{\mu}{\mu \cdot \nu_S + \nu_B} \cdot \left( \frac{s(x_i)}{1 - s(x_i)} + \nu_B \right)$$

\* Equal class weights

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

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

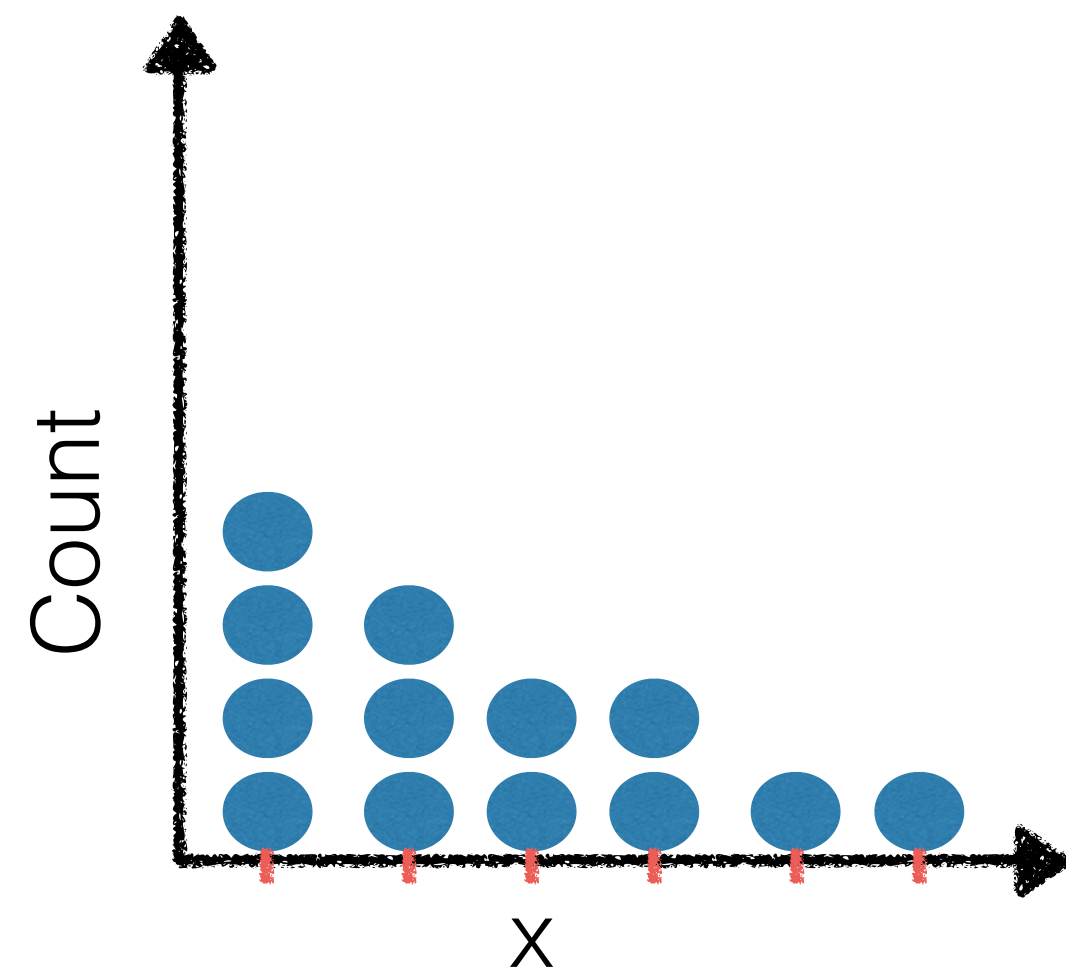
16

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

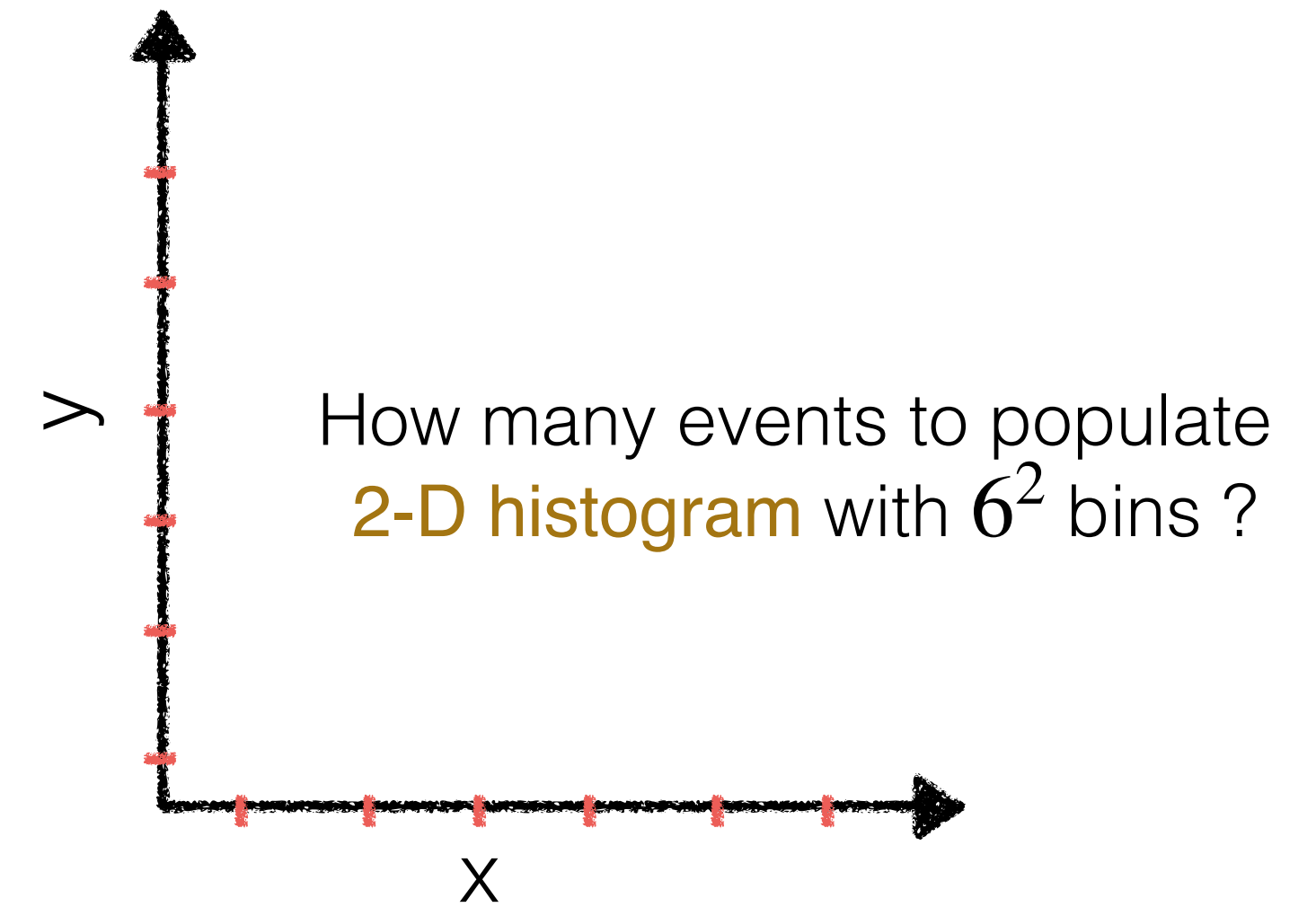
Also does not generalise to an arbitrary theory parameter  $\theta$ , (eg. Effective Field Theory parameters)

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

But probability density estimation in higher dimensions is hard...

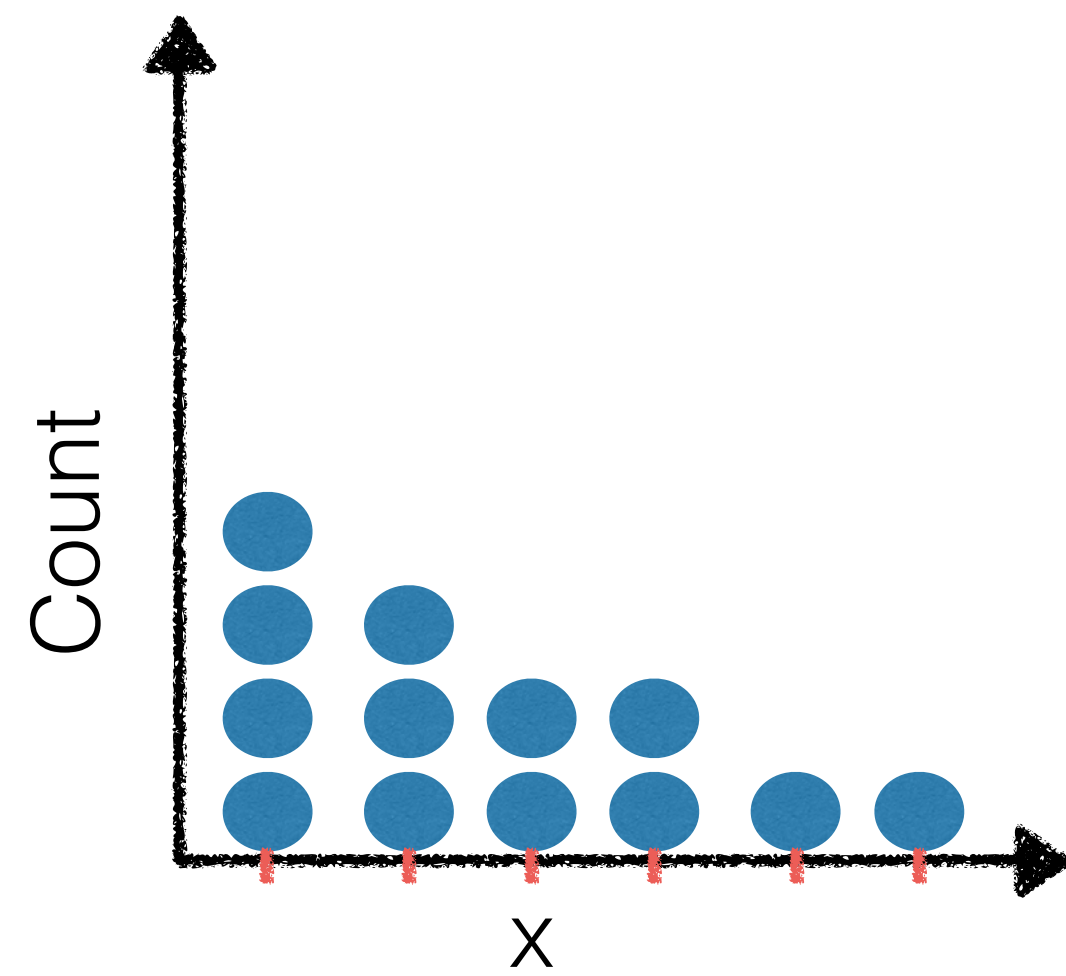


1-D histogram with 6 bins: few events enough to populate it

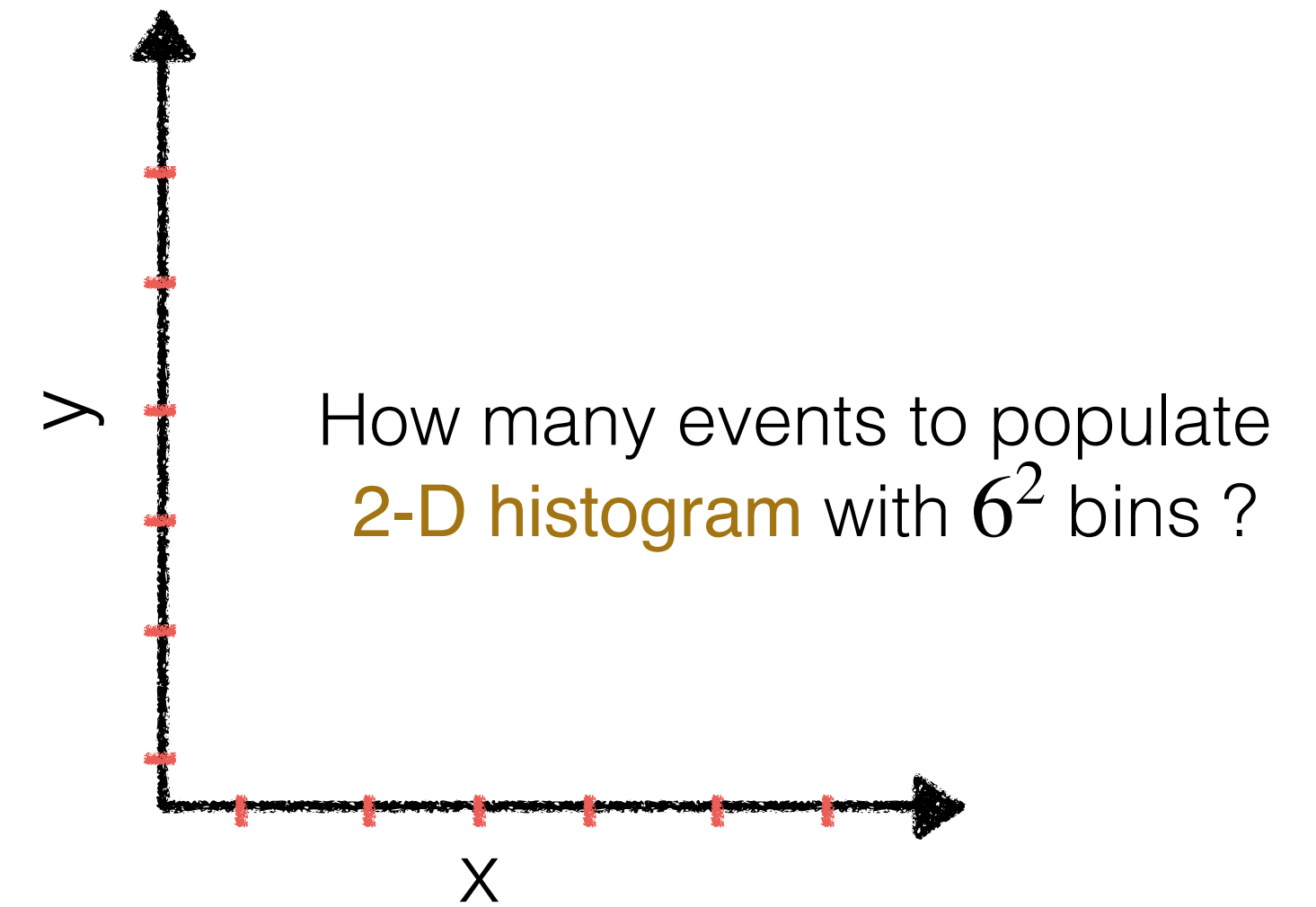


How many events for 50-D histogram with  $6^{50}$  bins ?

But probability density estimation in higher dimensions is hard...



1-D histogram with 6 bins: few events enough to populate it



## Curse of dimensionality

How many events for 50-D histogram with  $6^{50}$  bins ?

## Neural networks can give us the likelihood 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  $\mu_1$  vs simulated samples from *ref*, estimates the decision function:

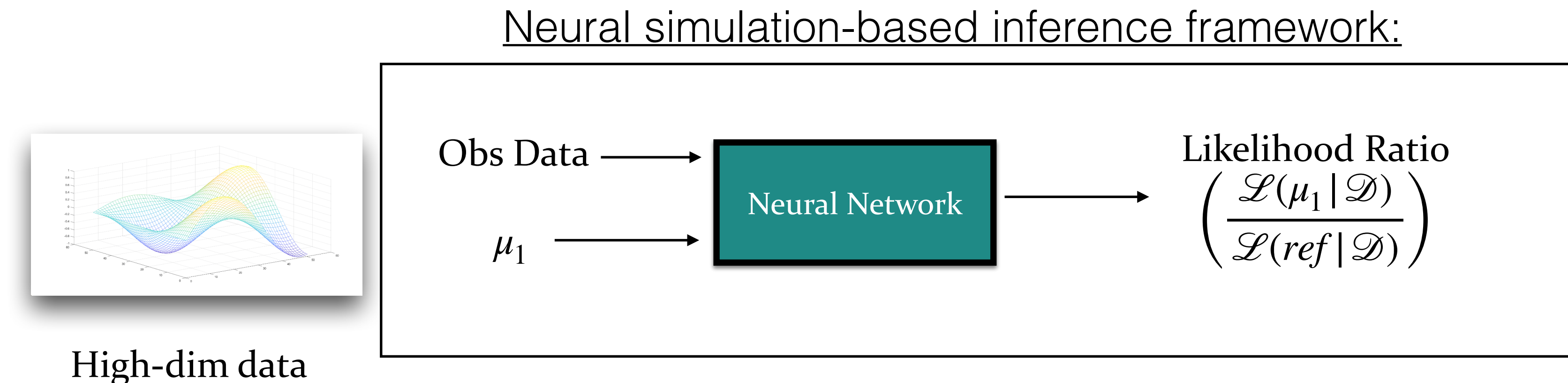
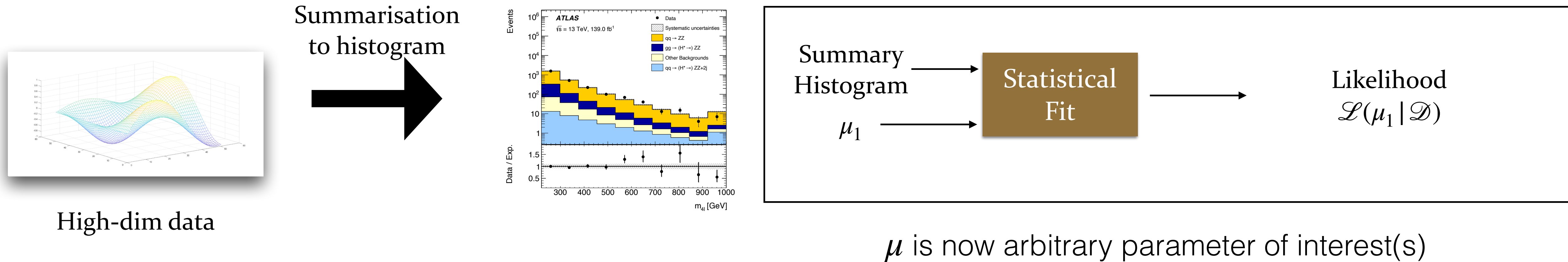
$$s(x_i) = \frac{p(x_i | \mu_1)}{p(x_i | \mu_1) + p(x_i | ref)}$$

Which contains all the information required for the likelihood ratio:

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

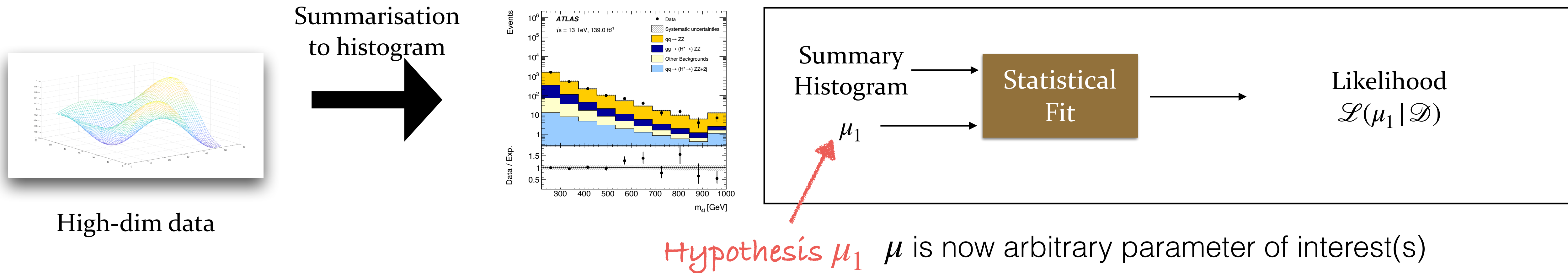
- \* Optimal statistic to test each value of  $\mu$
- \* We get the LR *per event* (unbinned)

# A new paradigm: Neural simulation-based inference

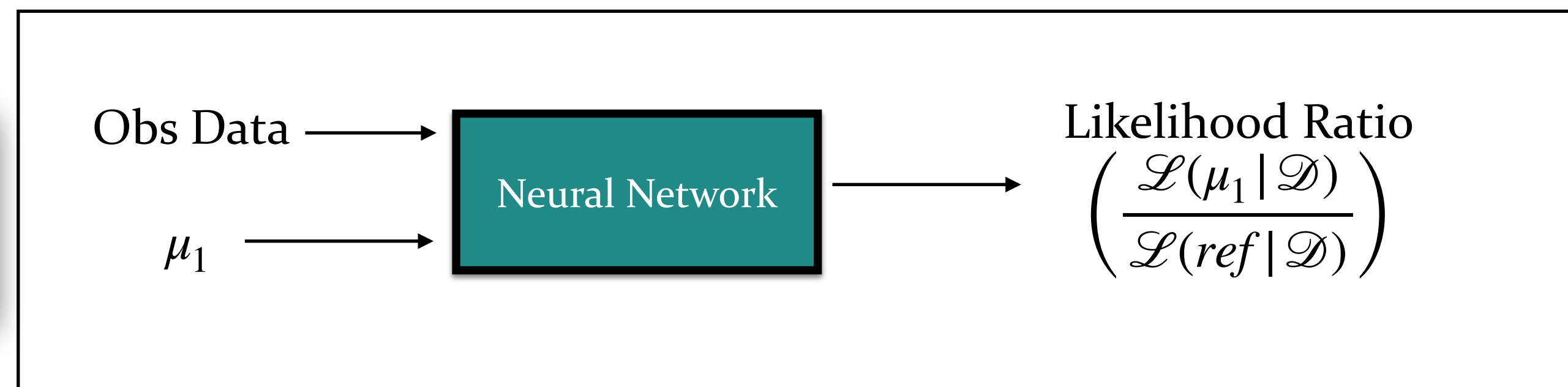




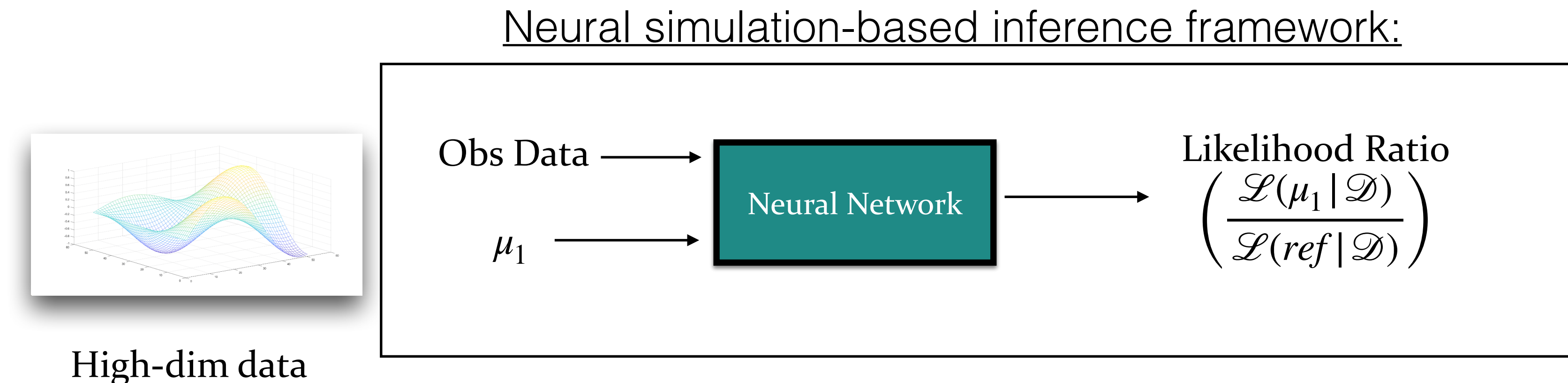
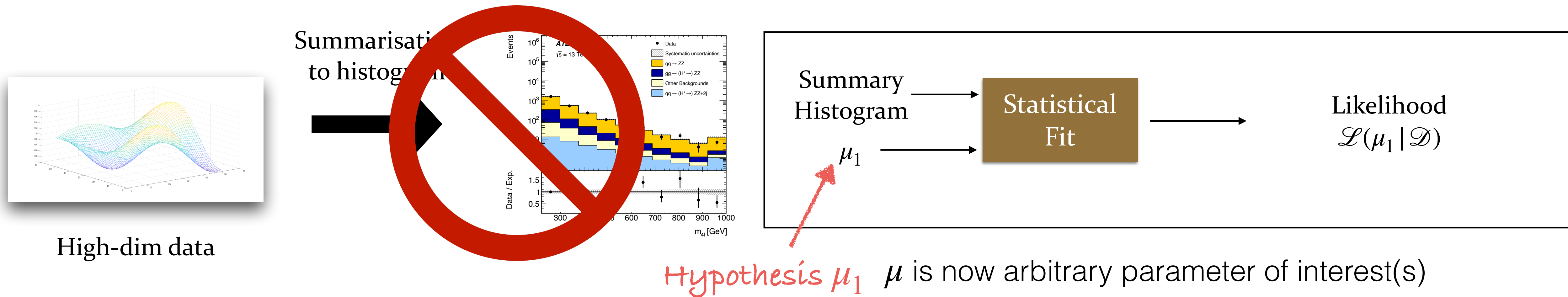
# A new paradigm: Neural simulation-based inference



## Neural simulation-based inference framework:

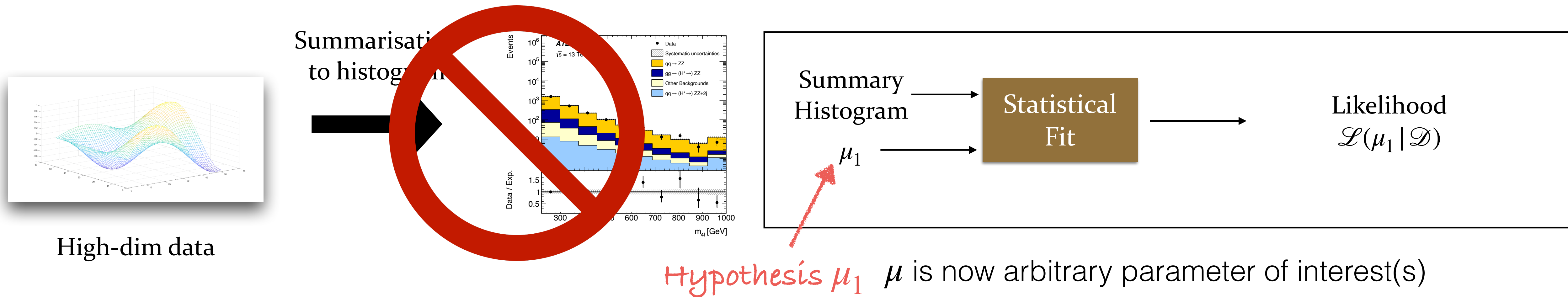


# A new paradigm: Neural simulation-based inference

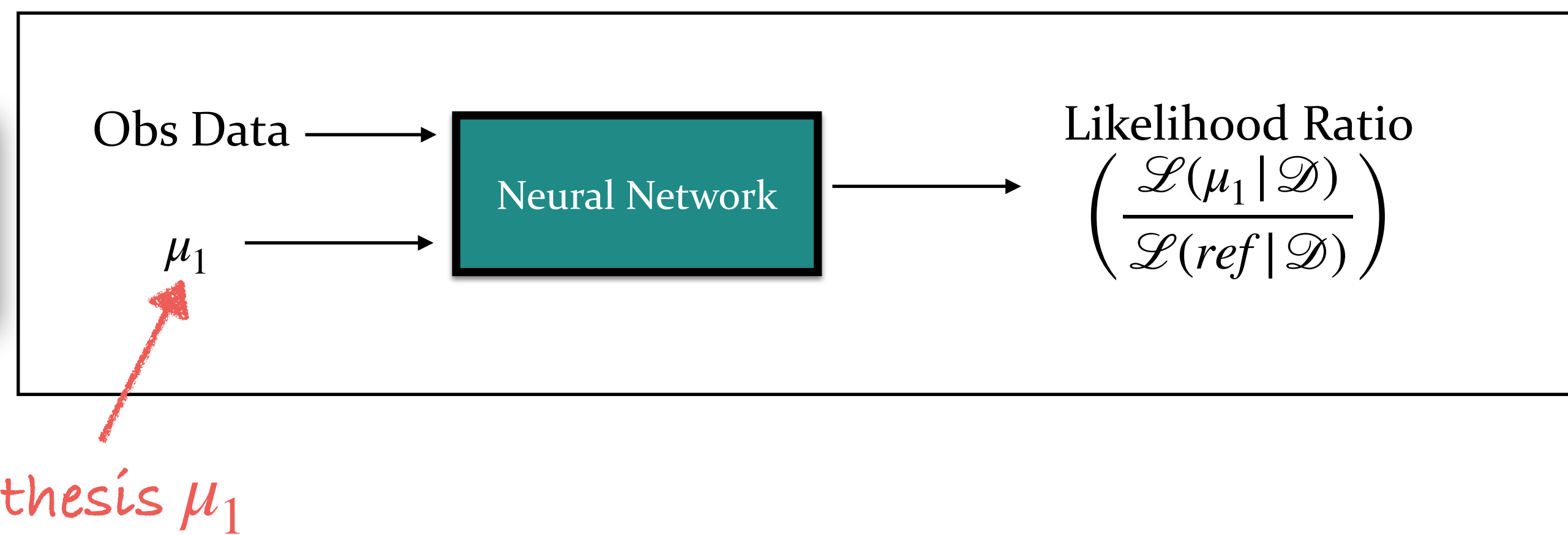


# A new paradigm: Neural simulation-based inference

## Traditional framework:

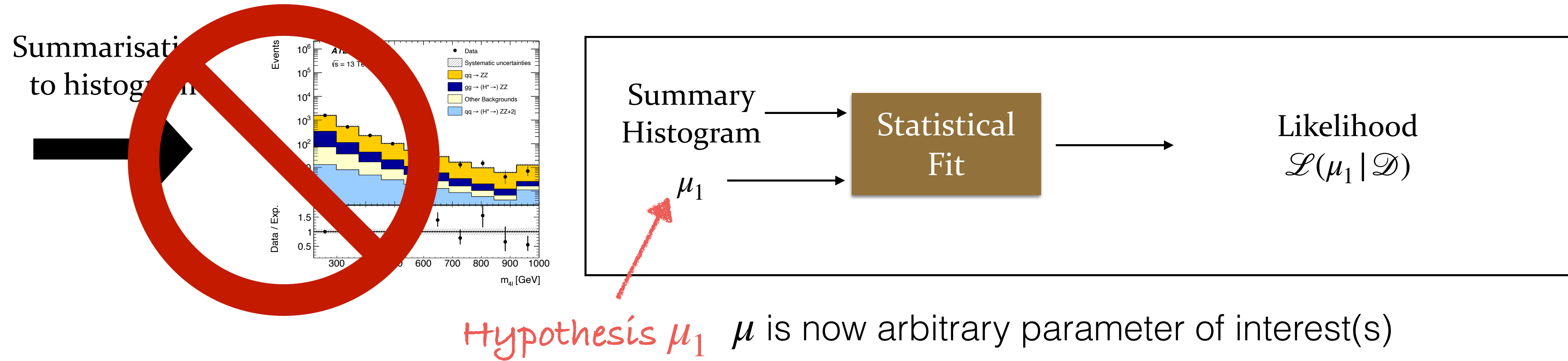


## Neural simulation-based inference framework:

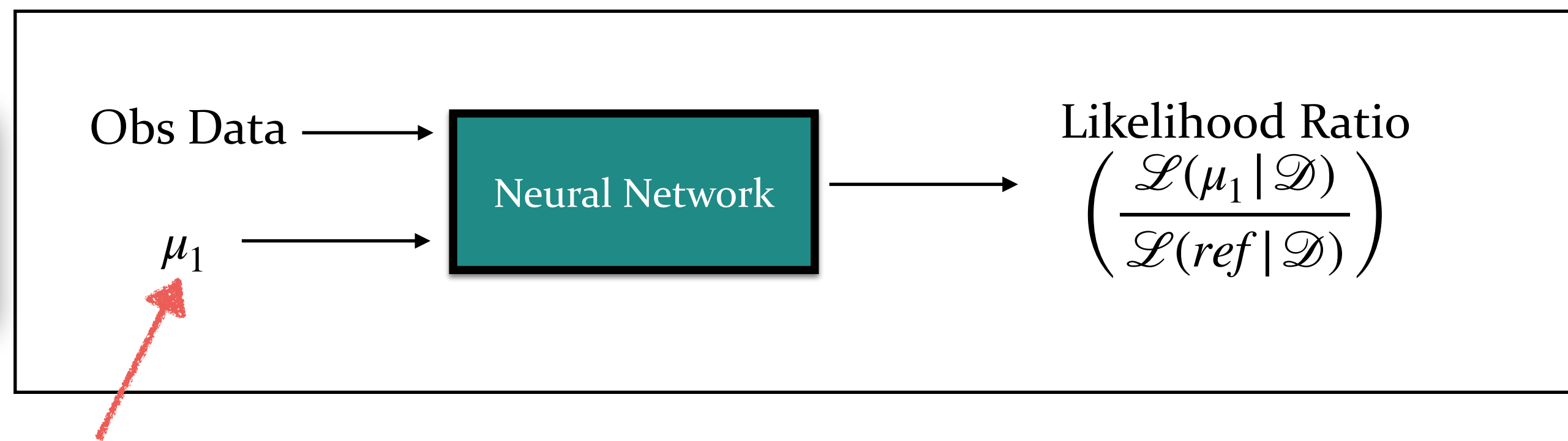


# A new paradigm: Neural simulation-based inference

## Traditional framework:



## Neural simulation-based inference framework:



Hypothesis  $\mu_1$

Train on simulations, apply on data

# NSBI for Higgs width in proof-of-concept phenomenology study

---

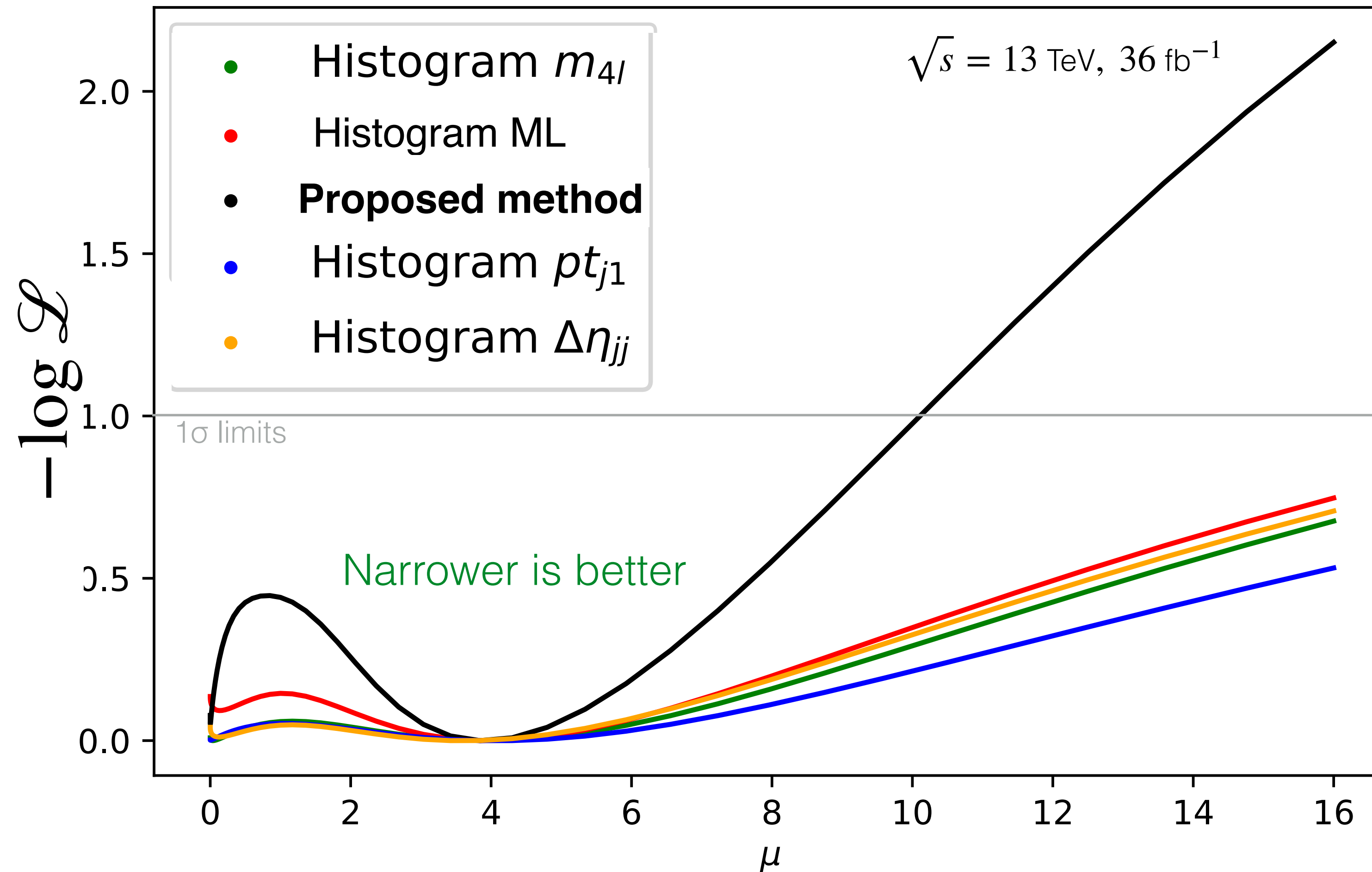
Expected sensitivity

[hal-02971995v3](#) (p172): **Aishik Ghosh**, David Rousseau

# NSBI for Higgs width in proof-of-concept phenomenology study

Expected sensitivity

[hal-02971995v3](#) (p172): **Aishik Ghosh**, David Rousseau

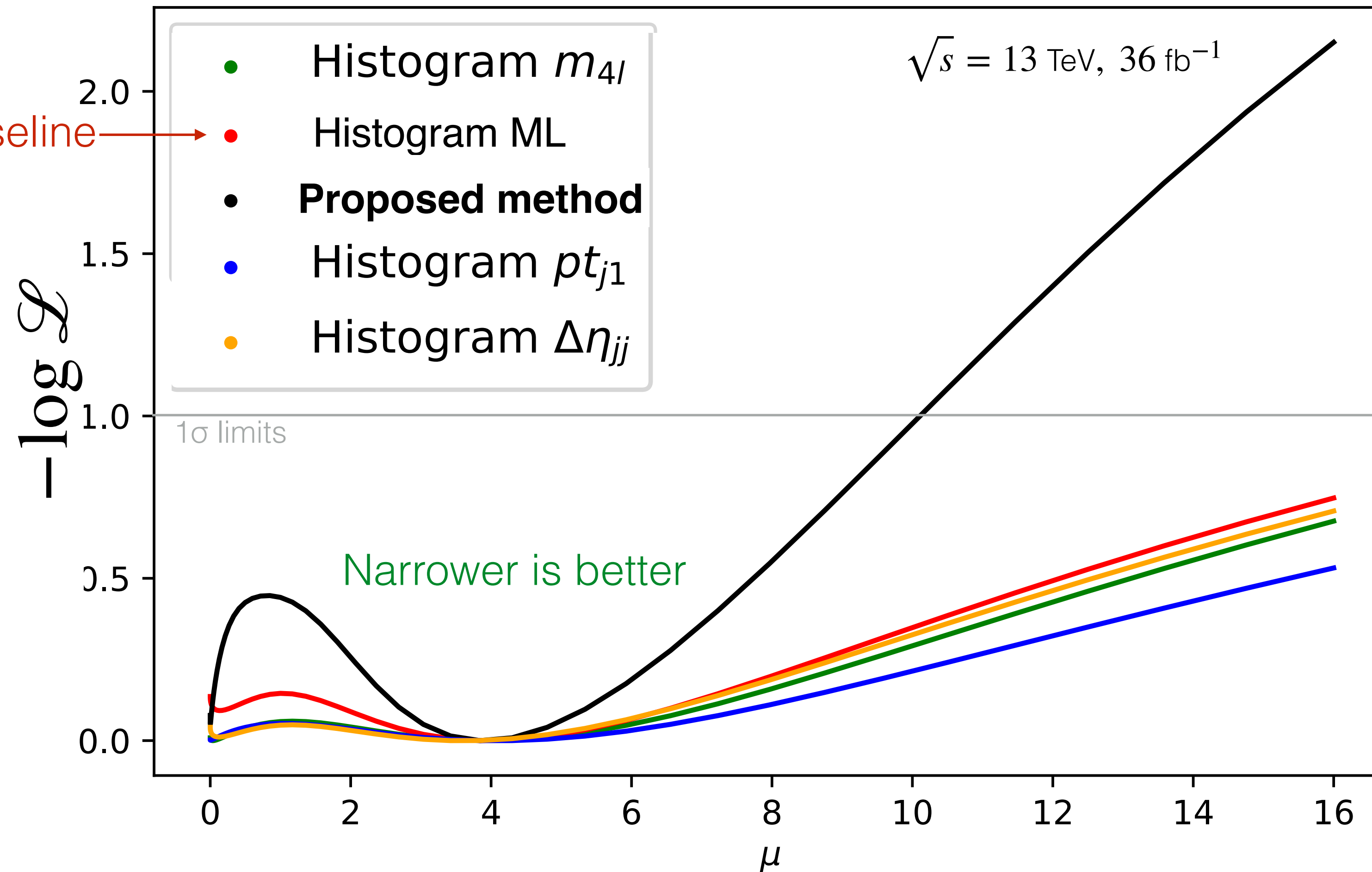


(Beyond Standard Model value)  $\mu = 4$ , without rate

# NSBI for Higgs width in proof-of-concept phenomenology study

Expected sensitivity

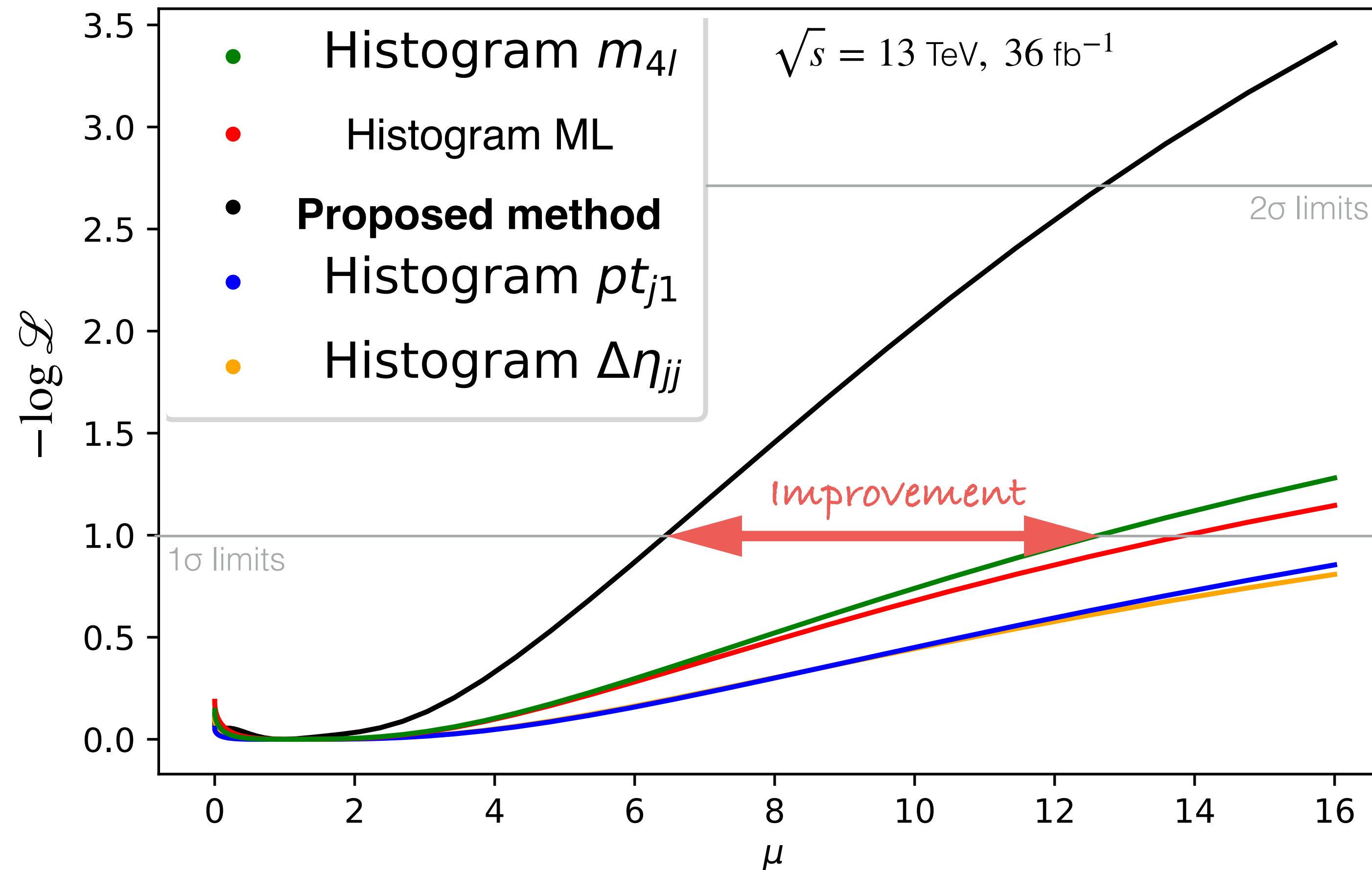
[hal-02971995v3](#) (p172): **Aishik Ghosh**, David Rousseau



(Beyond Standard Model value)  $\mu = 4$ , without rate

# Expected improvement for Standard Model

[hal-02971995v3](#): Aishik Ghosh, David Rousseau



Exciting gains promised!

SM, without rate



## 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

## 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

How frequentists ensure coverage



Open problems to extend to full ATLAS analysis:

*Solved!*



**ATLAS CONF Note**

ATLAS-CONF-2024-015

28th October 2024



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

The ATLAS Collaboration

Neural Simulation-Based Inference (NSBI) is a powerful class of machine learning (ML)-based methods for statistical inference that naturally handles high-dimensional parameter estimation without the need to bin data into low-dimensional summary histograms. Such methods are promising for a range of measurements, including at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), where no single observable may be optimal to scan over the entire theoretical phase space under consideration, or where binning data into histograms could result in a loss of sensitivity. This work develops an NSBI framework for statistical inference, using neural networks to estimate probability density ratios, which enables the application of NSBI to a full-scale LHC analysis. It incorporates a large number of systematic uncertainties, quantifies the uncertainty coming from finite training statistics, develops a method to construct confidence intervals, and demonstrates a series of intermediate diagnostic checks that can be performed to validate the robustness of the method. As an example, the power and feasibility of the method are demonstrated on simulated data for a simplified version of an off-shell Higgs boson couplings measurement in the four-leptons final states. This NSBI framework is an extension of the standard statistical framework used by LHC experiments and can benefit a large number of physics analyses.

ATLAS-CONF-2024-015  
28 October 2024



© 2024 CERN for the benefit of the ATLAS Collaboration.  
Reproduction of this article or parts of it is allowed as specified in the CC-BY-4.0 license.

*Solved!*

Open problems to extend to full ATLAS analysis:

*Applied on Run2 data, superseding previous ATLAS paper on same data !*

Presented at CHEP 2024, Higgs 2024



**ATLAS CONF Note**

ATLAS-CONF-2024-015

28th October 2024



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



**ATLAS CONF Note**

ATLAS-CONF-2024-016

October 31, 2024

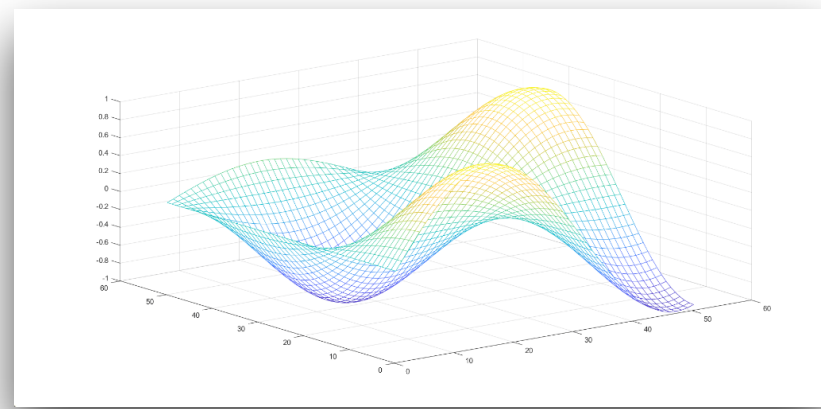


**Measurement of off-shell Higgs boson production in the  $H^* \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  decay channel using a neural simulation-based inference technique with the ATLAS detector at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV**

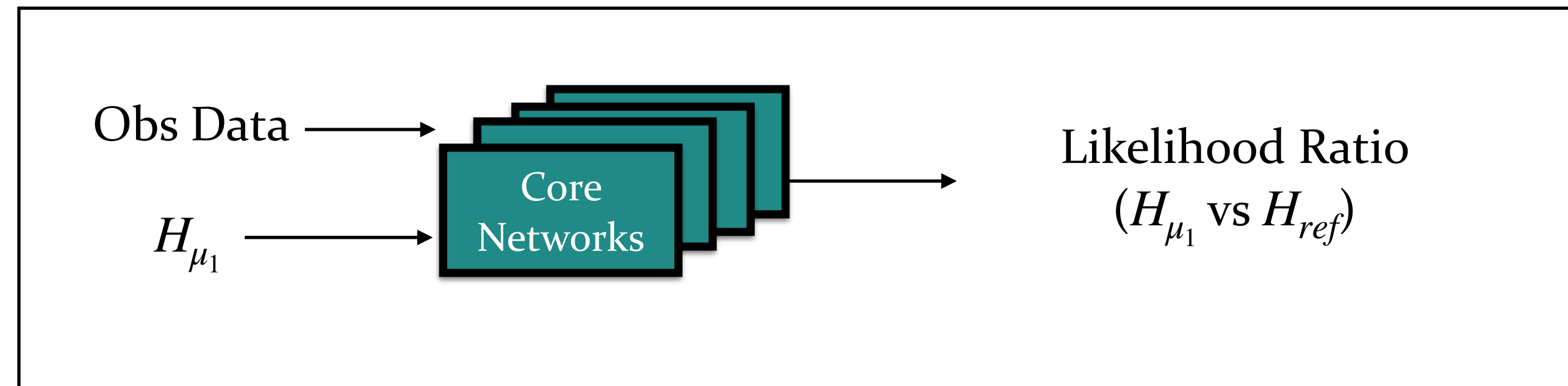
The ATLAS Collaboration

A measurement of off-shell Higgs boson production in the  $H^* \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  decay channel is presented. The measurement uses the  $140 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of integrated luminosity collected by the ATLAS detector during the Run 2 proton-proton collisions of the Large Hadron Collider at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV and supersedes our previous result in this decay channel using the same dataset. The data analysis is performed using a neural simulation based-inference method, which builds per-event likelihood ratios using neural networks. The observed (expected) off-shell Higgs boson production signal strength in the  $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  decay channel is  $0.87^{+0.75}_{-0.54}$  ( $1.00^{+1.04}_{-0.95}$ ) at 68% CL. The previous result was not able to achieve expected sensitivity to quote a two-sided interval at this CL. The expected plus-side uncertainty is reduced by 10%. The evidence for off-shell Higgs boson production has an observed (expected) significance of  $2.5\sigma$  ( $1.3\sigma$ ) using the  $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  decay channel only. The expected significance score is 2.6 times that of our previous result using the same dataset. When combined with our most recent measurement in  $ZZ \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$  decay channel, the evidence for off-shell Higgs boson production has an observed (expected) significance of  $3.7\sigma$  ( $2.4\sigma$ ). The off-shell measurements are combined with the measurement of on-shell Higgs boson production to obtain constraints on the Higgs boson total width. The observed (expected) value of the Higgs boson width is  $4.3^{+2.7}_{-1.9}$  ( $4.1^{+3.5}_{-3.4}$ ) MeV at 68% CL.

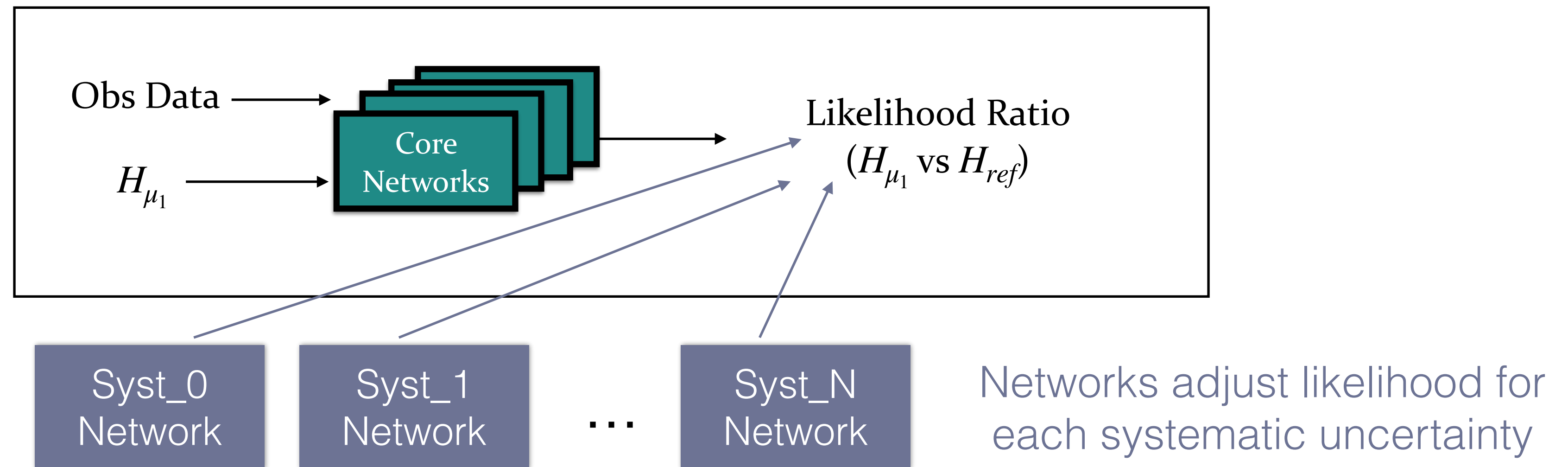
# Big picture of full solution developed in ATLAS



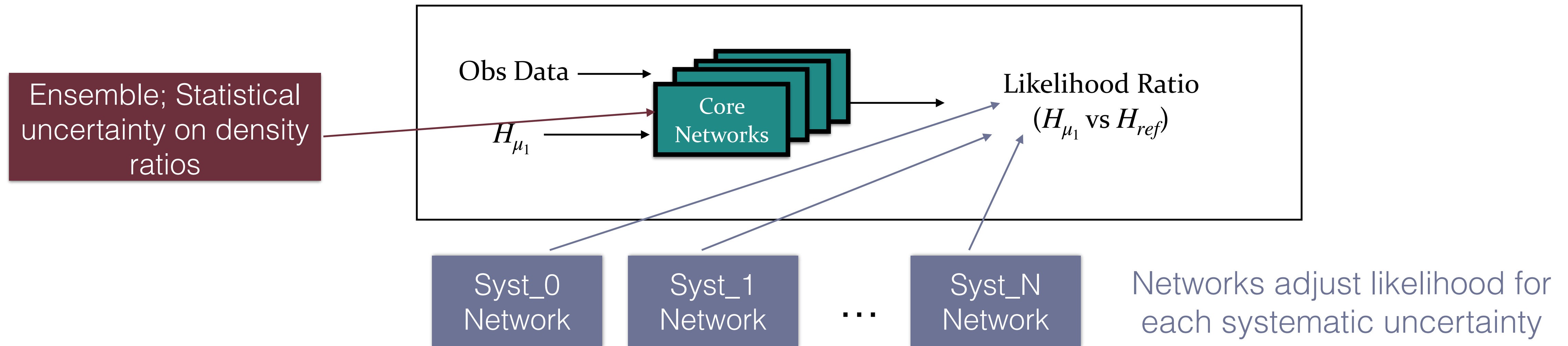
$O(16)$  observables



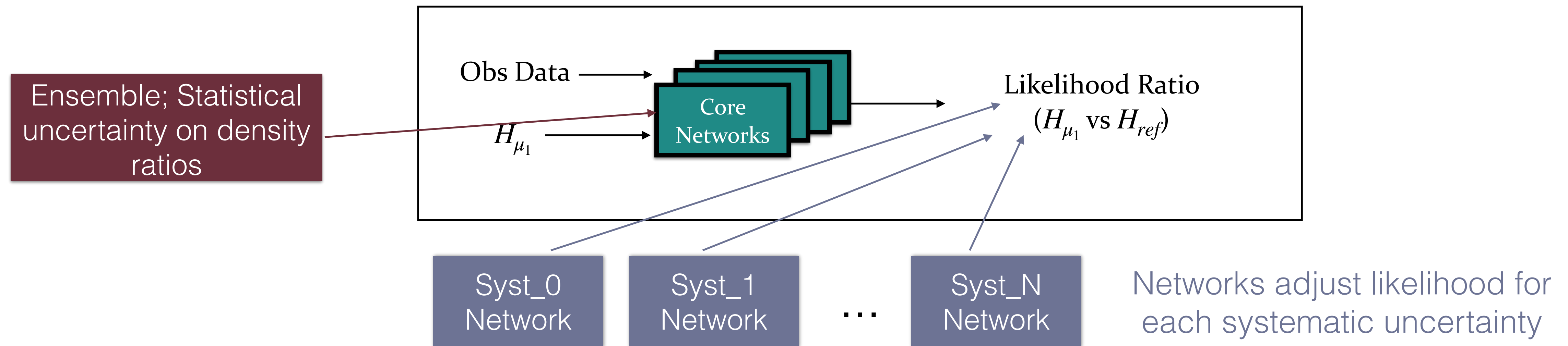
# Big picture of full solution developed in ATLAS



# Big picture of full solution developed in ATLAS



# Big picture of full solution developed in ATLAS



- ◆ Train  $O(10^4)$  networks on TensorFlow
- ◆ Computing resources provided by Google, SMU, other HPC clusters
- ◆ Fits with JAX





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

Next 2 slides gets a bit technical

# Search-Oriented Mixture Model

---

$x_i$  is one individual event

General Formula

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

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

---

Example use case

# Search-Oriented Mixture Model

$x_i$  is one individual event

General Formula

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

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

Example use case

$$p_{\text{ggF}}(x|\mu) = \frac{1}{\nu_{\text{ggF}}(\mu)} \left[ (\mu - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_S p_S(x) + \sqrt{\mu} \nu_{\text{SBI}_1} p_{\text{SBI}_1}(x) + (1 - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_B p_B(x) \right]$$

# 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.  $gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow 4l$ ,  $gg \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$ )

Comes from theory model chosen to interpret data

Example use case

$$p_{ggF}(x|\mu) = \frac{1}{\nu_{ggF}(\mu)} \left[ \underline{(\mu - \sqrt{\mu})} \nu_S p_S(x) + \underline{\sqrt{\mu}} \nu_{SBI_1} p_{SBI_1}(x) + \underline{(1 - \sqrt{\mu})} \nu_B p_B(x) \right]$$

# Search-Oriented Mixture Model

$x_i$  is one individual event

General Formula

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

Event rates estimated from simulations

Comes from theory model chosen to interpret data

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

Example use case

$$p_{\text{ggF}}(x|\mu) = \frac{1}{\nu_{\text{ggF}}(\mu)} \left[ (\mu - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_S p_S(x) + \sqrt{\mu} \nu_{\text{SBI}_1} p_{\text{SBI}_1}(x) + (1 - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_B p_B(x) \right]$$

# Search-Oriented Mixture Model

$x_i$  is one individual event

General Formula

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

Event rates estimated from simulations

Comes from theory model chosen to interpret data

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

Example use case

$$p_{\text{ggF}}(x|\mu) = \frac{1}{\nu_{\text{ggF}}(\mu)} \left[ (\mu - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_S p_S(x) + \sqrt{\mu} \nu_{\text{SBI}_1} p_{\text{SBI}_1}(x) + (1 - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_B p_B(x) \right]$$

# Search-Oriented Mixture Model

$x_i$  is one individual event

General Formula

$$p(x_i|\mu) = \frac{1}{v(\mu)} \sum_j^C f_j(\mu) \cdot v_j p_j(x_i) \quad ?$$

$$\frac{p(x_i|\mu)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x_i)} = \frac{1}{v(\mu)} \sum_j^C f_j(\mu) \cdot v_j \frac{p_j(x_i)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x_i)}$$

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

Event rates estimated from simulations

Comes from theory model chosen to interpret data

Example use case

$$p_{\text{ggF}}(x|\mu) = \frac{1}{v_{\text{ggF}}(\mu)} \left[ (\mu - \sqrt{\mu}) v_S p_S(x) + \sqrt{\mu} v_{\text{SBI}_1} p_{\text{SBI}_1}(x) + (1 - \sqrt{\mu}) v_B p_B(x) \right]$$

# Search-Oriented Mixture Model

$x_i$  is one individual event

General Formula

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

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

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

Event rates estimated from simulations

Comes from theory model chosen to interpret data

Example use case

$$p_{\text{ggF}}(x|\mu) = \frac{1}{\nu_{\text{ggF}}(\mu)} \left[ (\mu - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_S p_S(x) + \sqrt{\mu} \nu_{\text{SBI}_1} p_{\text{SBI}_1}(x) + (1 - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_B p_B(x) \right]$$

$$\frac{p(x|\mu)}{p_S(x)} = \frac{1}{\nu(\mu)} \left[ (\mu - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_S + \sqrt{\mu} \nu_{\text{SBI}_1} \frac{p_{\text{SBI}_1}(x)}{p_S(x)} + (1 - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_B \frac{p_B(x)}{p_S(x)} \right]$$



# Search-Oriented Mixture Model

$x_i$  is one individual event

General Formula

Estimated using an ensemble of networks

$$p(x_i|\mu) = \frac{1}{\nu(\mu)} \sum_j^C f_j(\mu) \cdot \nu_j p_j(x_i) \quad ? \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{p(x_i|\mu)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x_i)} = \frac{1}{\nu(\mu)} \sum_j^C f_j(\mu) \cdot \nu_j \frac{p_j(x_i)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x_i)}$$

Event rates estimated from simulations

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

Comes from theory model chosen to interpret data

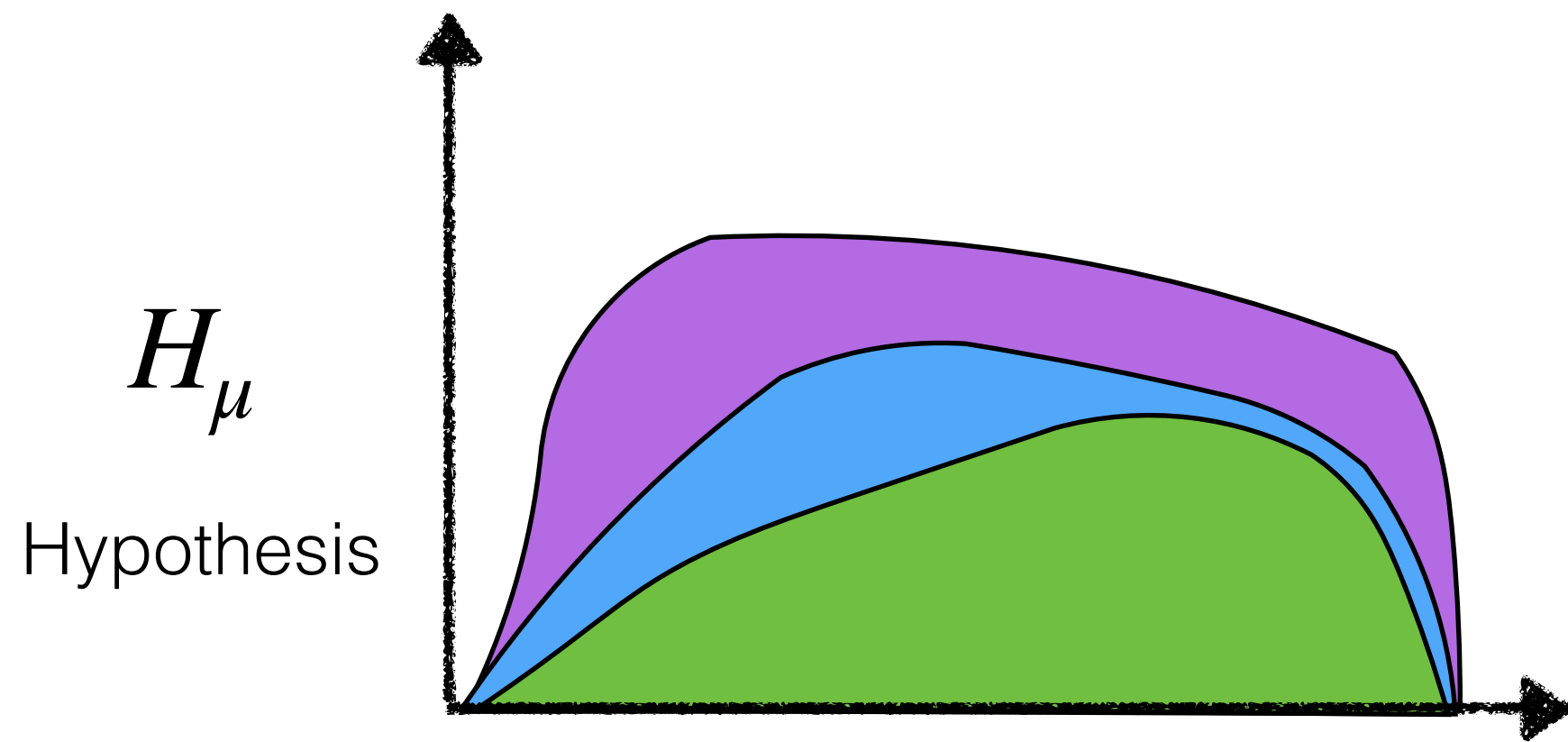
Example use case

$$p_{\text{ggF}}(x|\mu) = \frac{1}{\nu_{\text{ggF}}(\mu)} \left[ (\mu - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_S p_S(x) + \sqrt{\mu} \nu_{\text{SBI}_1} p_{\text{SBI}_1}(x) + (1 - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_B p_B(x) \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{p(x|\mu)}{p_S(x)} = \frac{1}{\nu(\mu)} \left[ (\mu - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_S + \sqrt{\mu} \nu_{\text{SBI}_1} \frac{p_{\text{SBI}_1}(x)}{p_S(x)} + (1 - \sqrt{\mu}) \nu_B \frac{p_B(x)}{p_S(x)} \right]$$

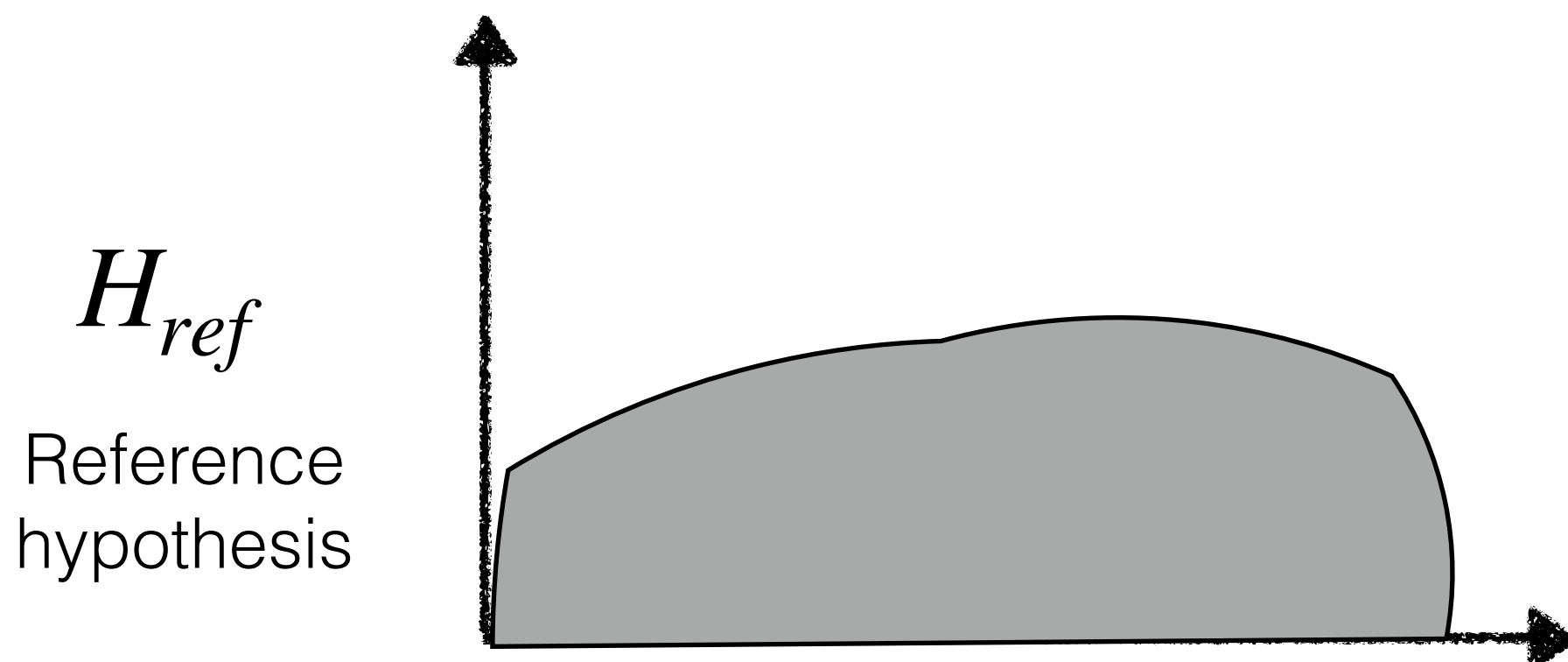
# Robust, parameterised classifier without parameterising

$H_{ref}$ : Reference hypothesis



$$\frac{p(x_i|\mu)}{p_{ref}(x_i)} = \frac{1}{v(\mu)} \sum_j^C f_j(\mu) \cdot v_j \frac{p_j(x_i)}{p_{ref}(x_i)}$$

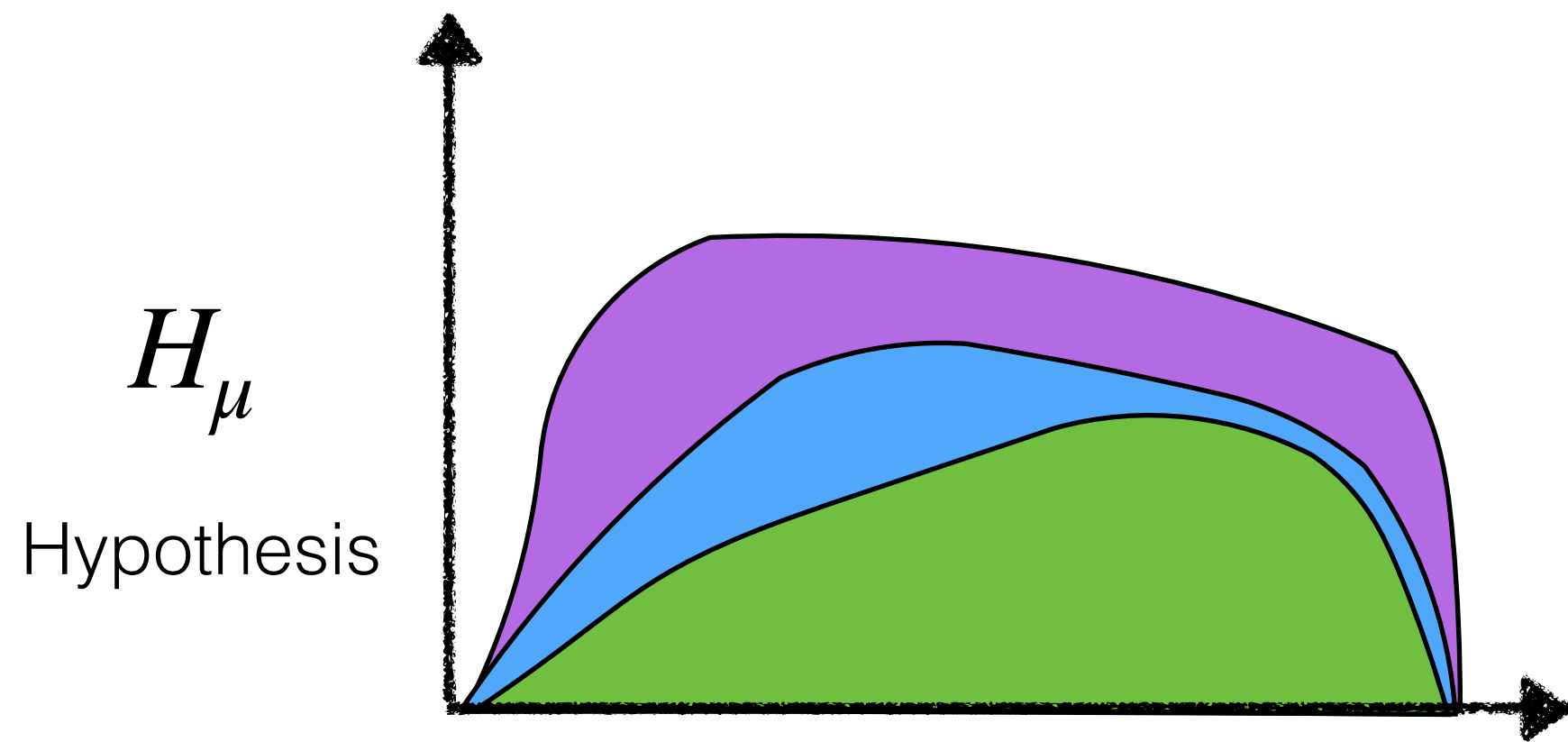
VS



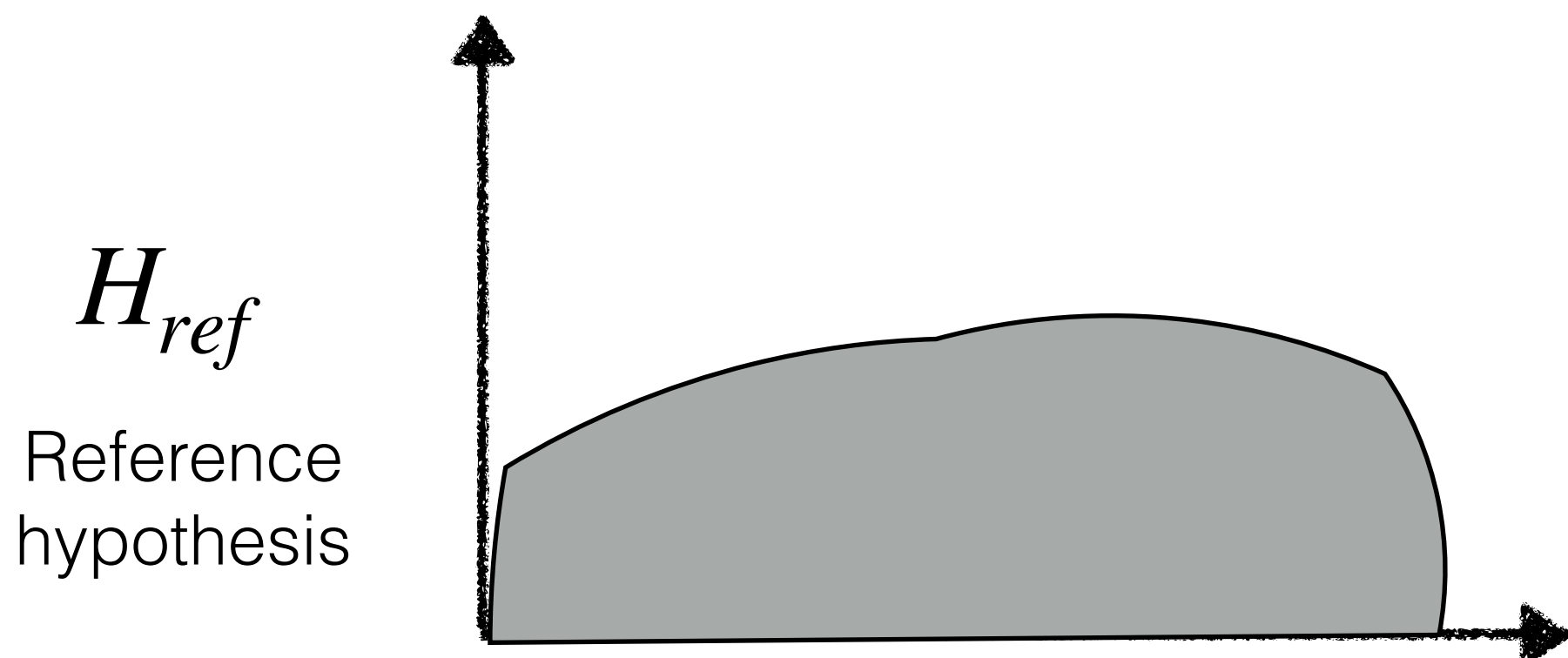
A separate classifier per physics process  $j$   
(Eg.  $gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow 4l$ ,  $gg \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$ )

# Robust, parameterised classifier without parameterising

$H_{ref}$ : Reference hypothesis



VS

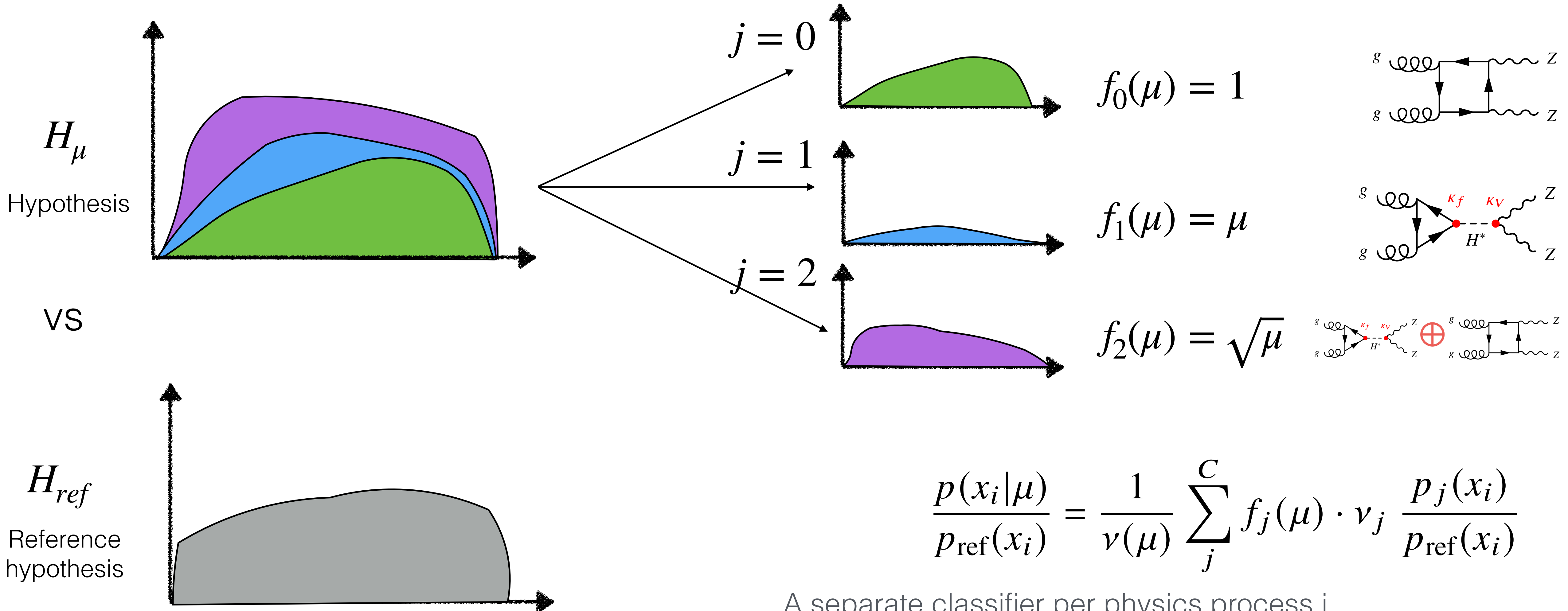


$$\frac{p(x_i|\mu)}{p_{ref}(x_i)} = \frac{1}{v(\mu)} \sum_j^C f_j(\mu) \cdot v_j \frac{p_j(x_i)}{p_{ref}(x_i)}$$

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

# Robust, parameterised classifier without parameterising

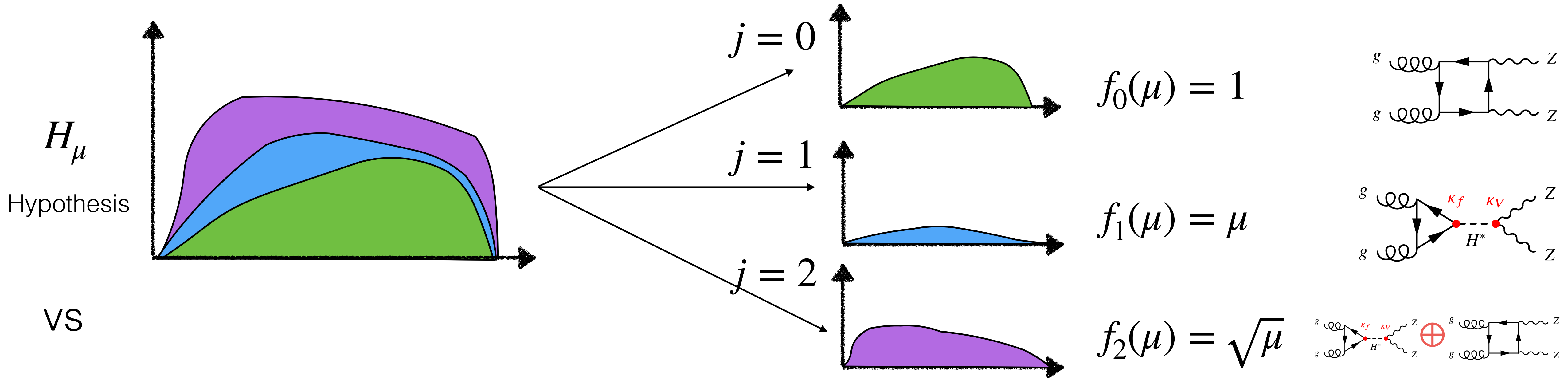
$H_{ref}$ : Reference hypothesis



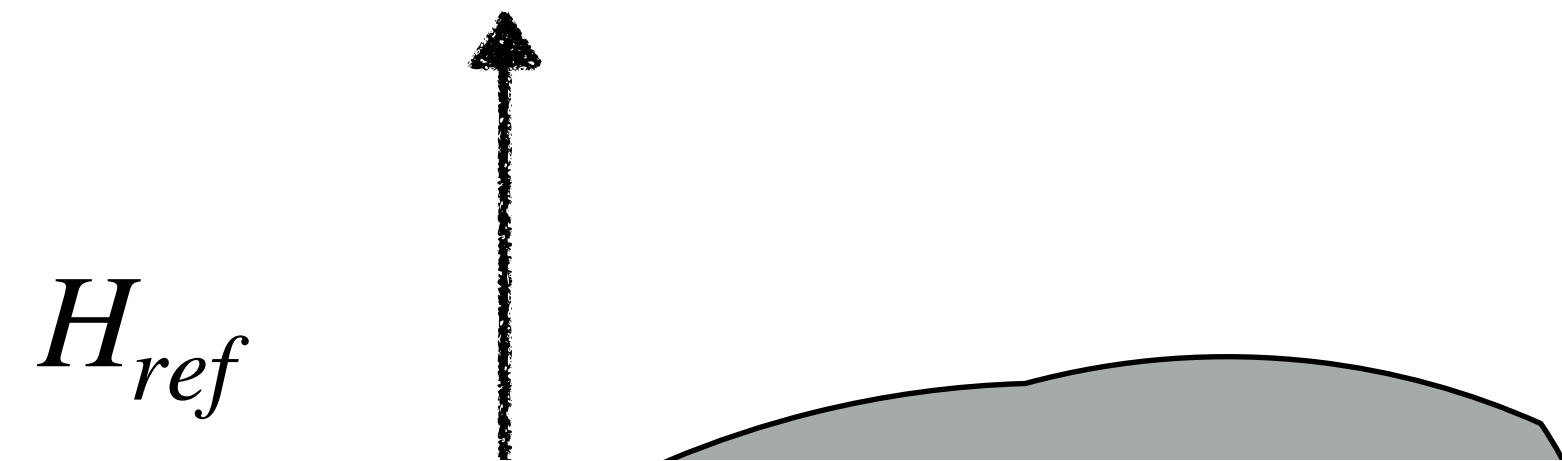
A separate classifier per physics process  $j$   
(Eg.  $gg \rightarrow H^* \rightarrow 4l$ ,  $gg \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$ )

# Robust, parameterised classifier without parameterising

$H_{ref}$ : Reference hypothesis



VS



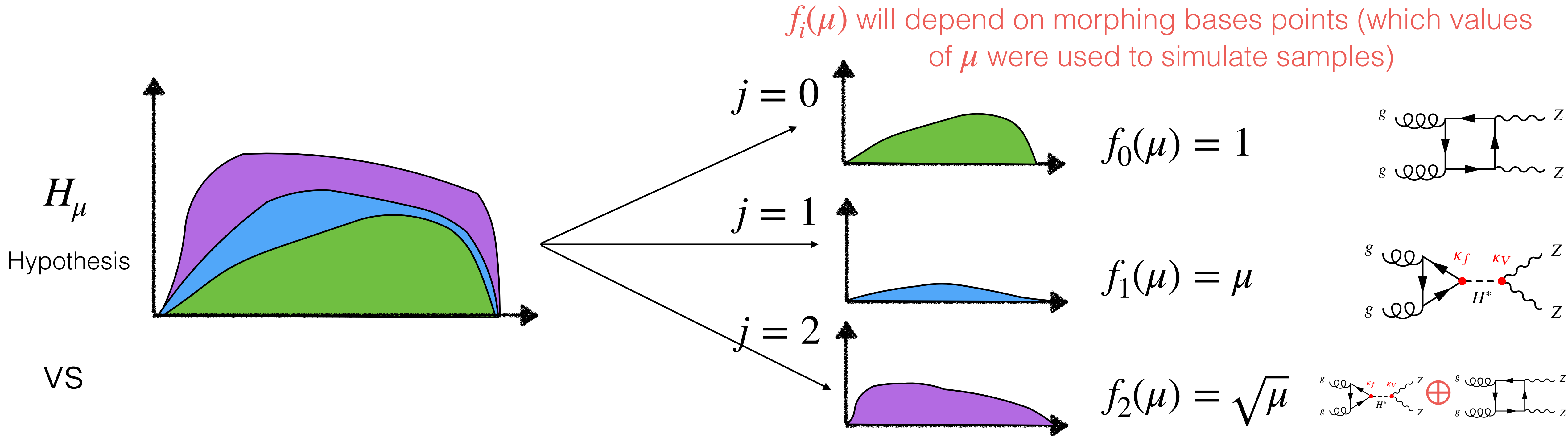
Analytically parameterised in  $\mu$ , allows to get LR for any hypothesis  $\mu$  without training parameterised networks !

$$\frac{p(x_i|\mu)}{p_{ref}(x_i)} = \frac{1}{v(\mu)} \sum_j^C f_j(\mu) \cdot v_j \frac{p_j(x_i)}{p_{ref}(x_i)}$$

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

# Robust, parameterised classifier without parameterising

$H_{ref}$ : Reference hypothesis



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

$$\frac{p(x_i|\mu)}{p_{ref}(x_i)} = \frac{1}{v(\mu)} \sum_j^C f_j(\mu) \cdot v_j \frac{p_j(x_i)}{p_{ref}(x_i)}$$

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

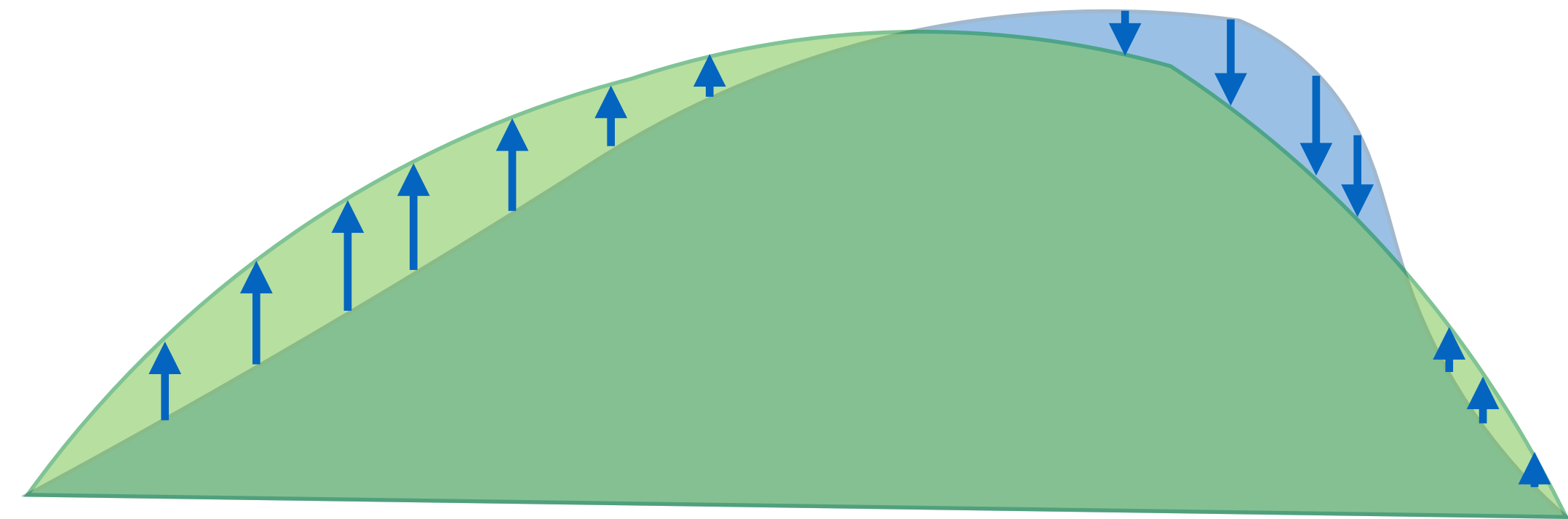
Open problems to extend to full ATLAS analysis:

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

# Validate quality of LR estimation with re-weighting task

---

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




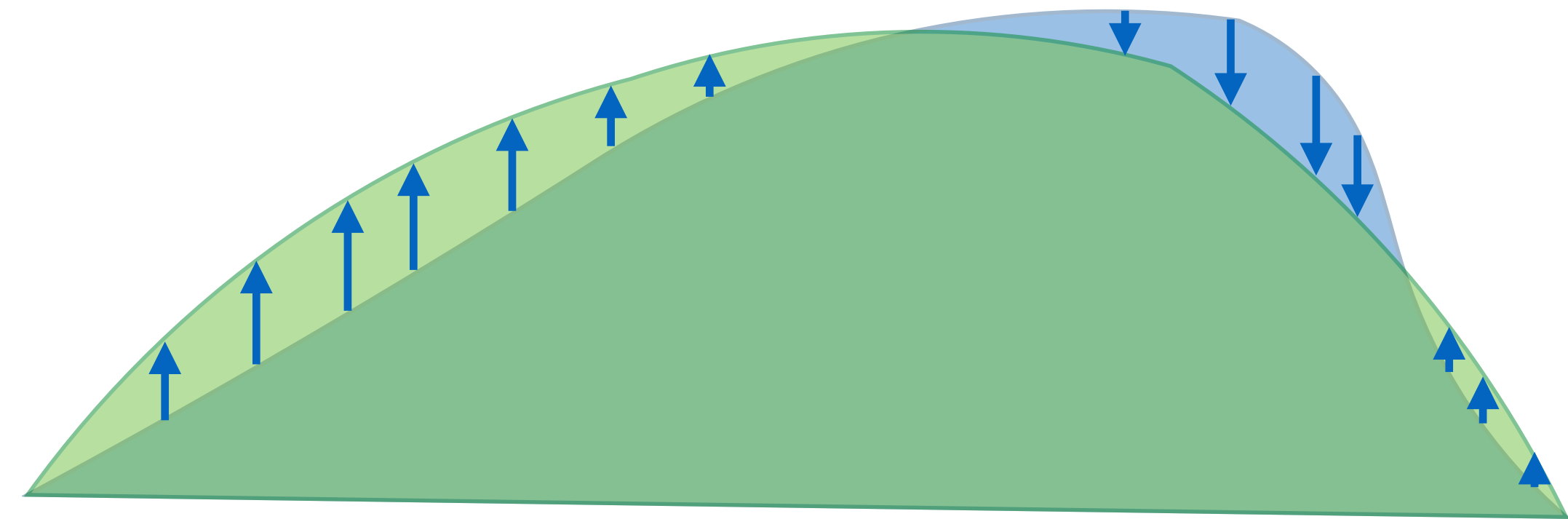


# Validate quality of LR estimation with re-weighting task

---

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

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




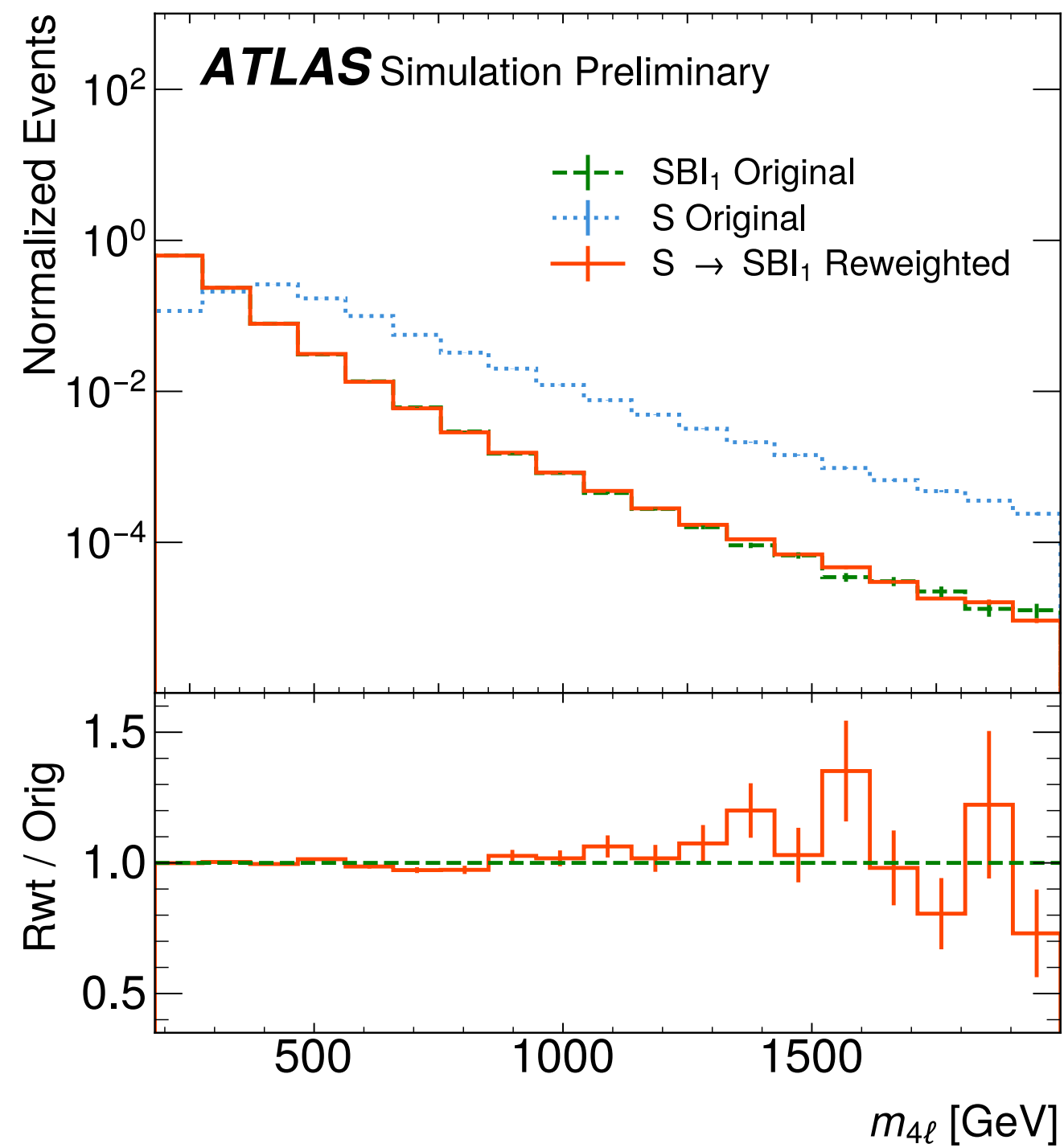
Already estimated using an ensemble of networks

# Re-weight closures

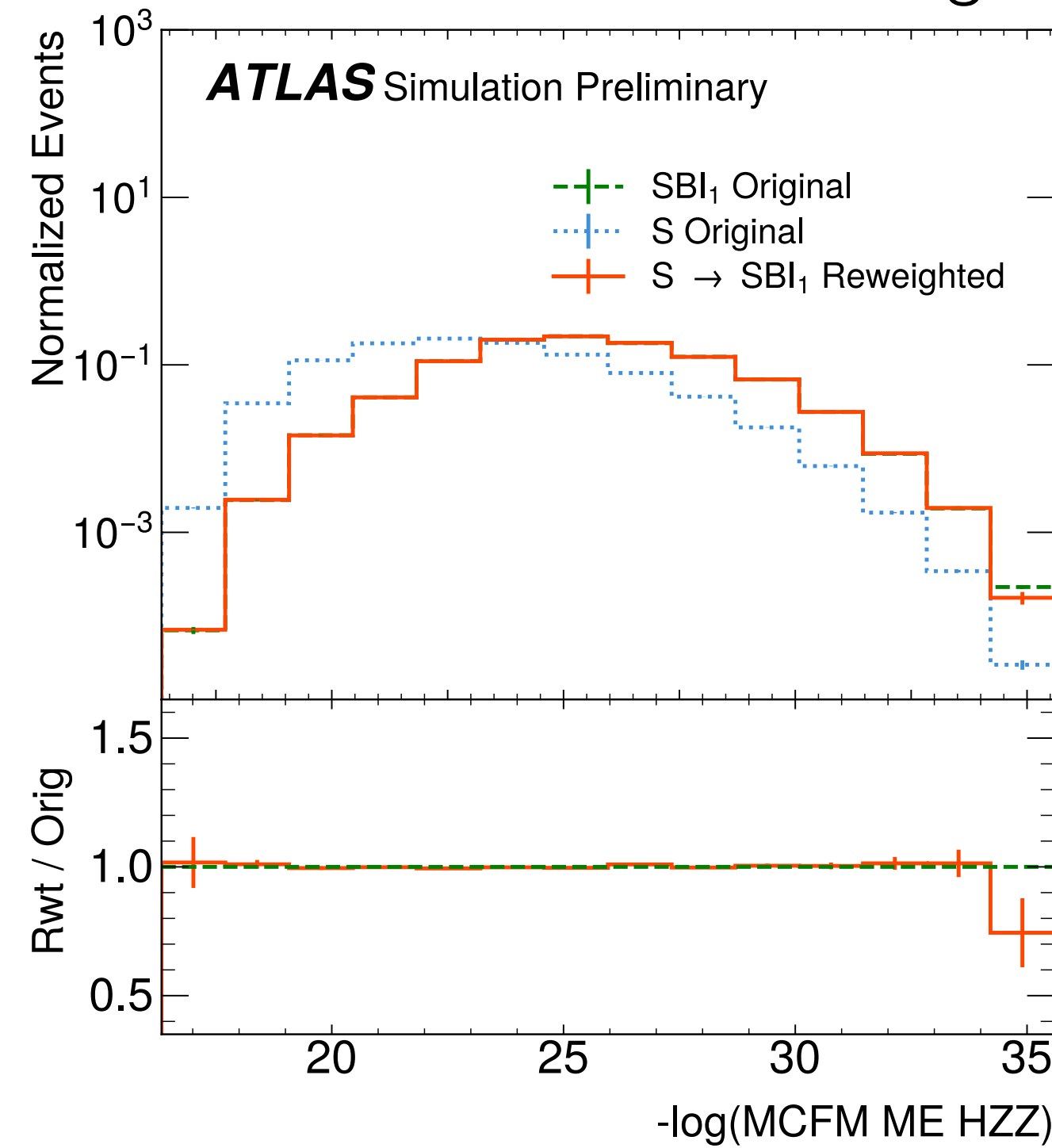
Variable used in training

Source  
Target  
RW

High-level variable  
never used in training



$m_{4l}$



Matrix-Element-based Observable  
(ggF from MCFM)

High-Dim Classifier Test:

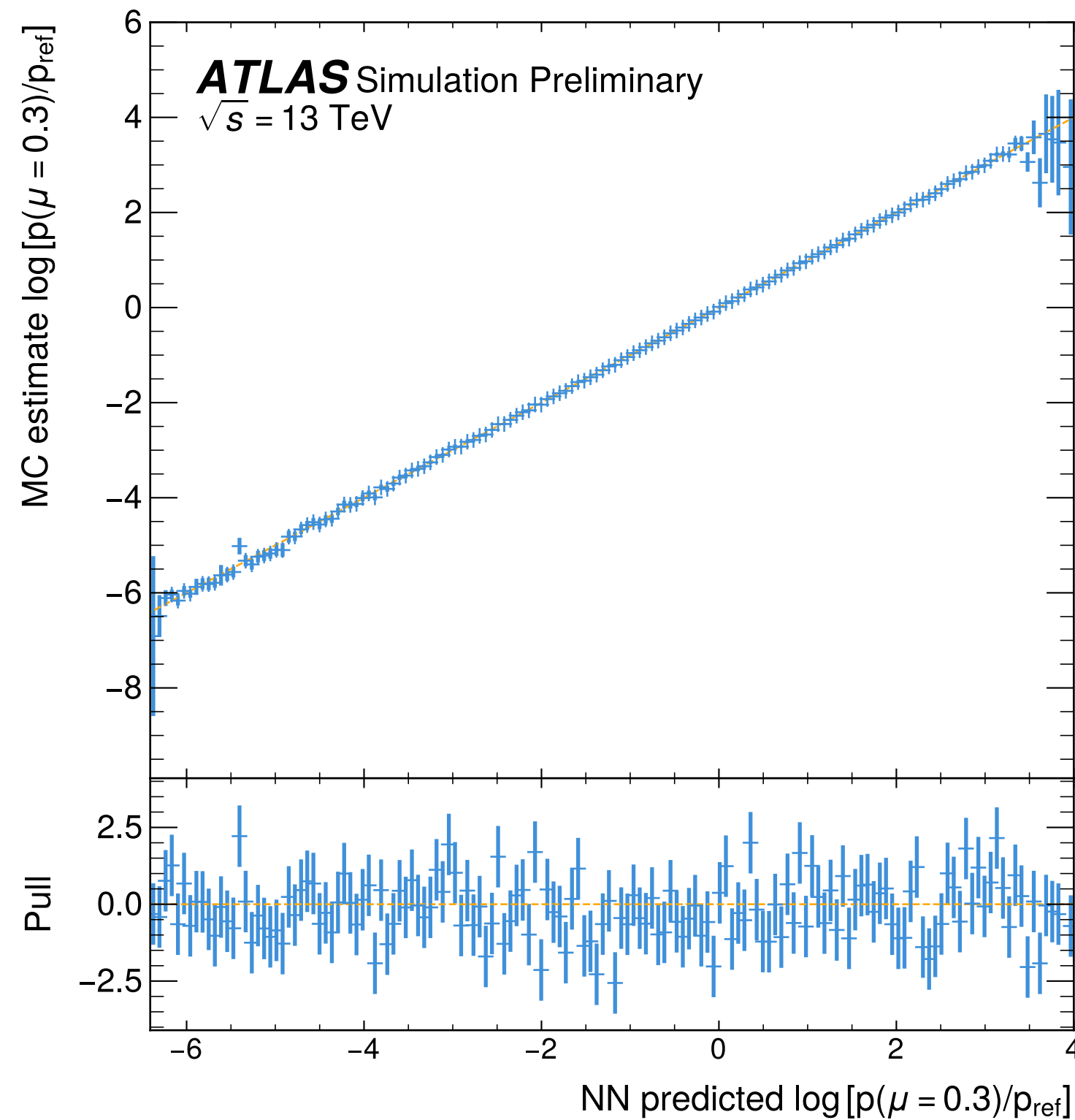
Train independent classifier on RW vs Target,  
AUC=0.5 ⇒ LRs well estimated

# Calibration curves of probability density ratios

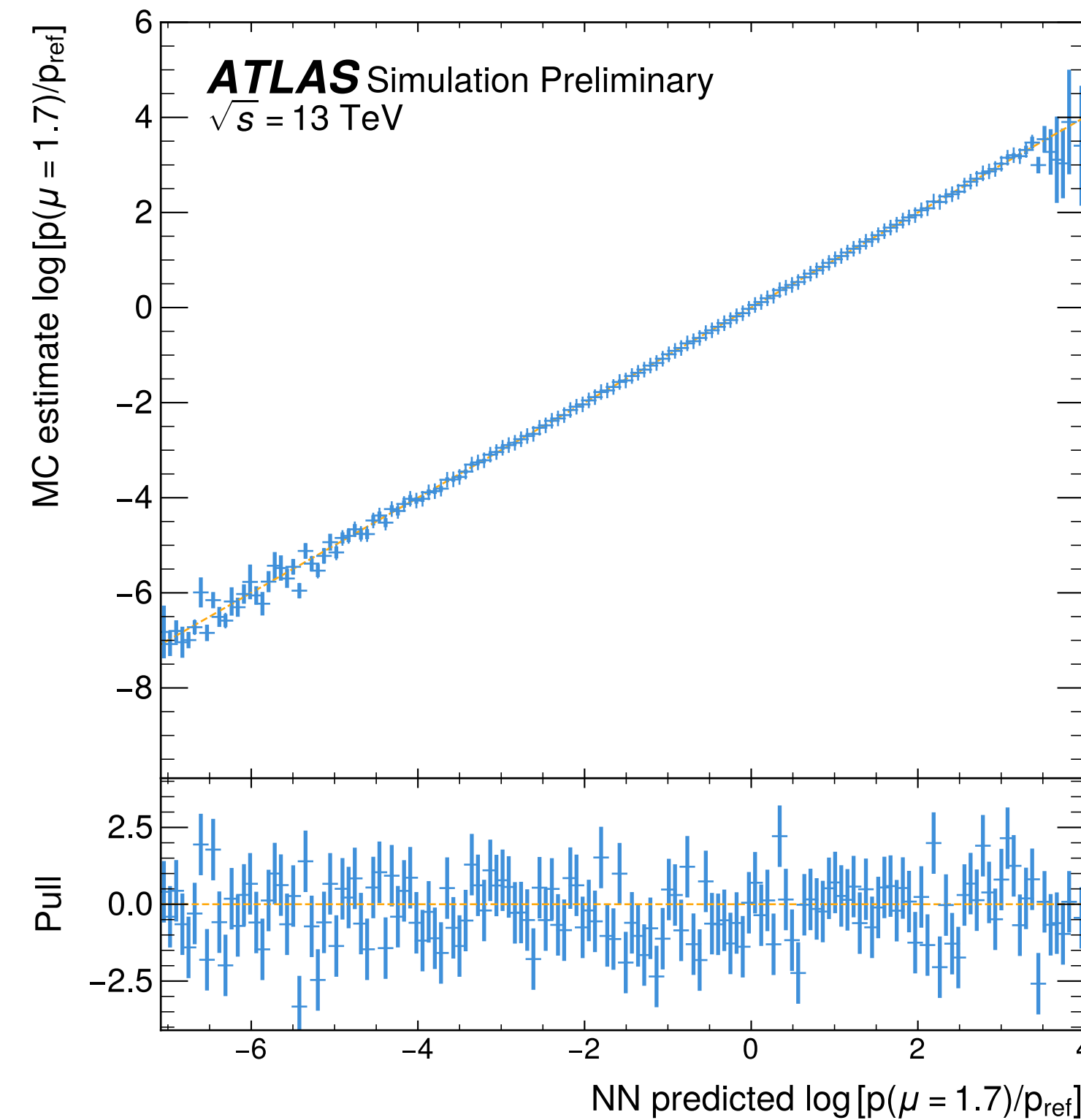
$$\frac{p_{\mu=0.3}(x_i)}{p_{ref}(x_i)}$$

$$\frac{p_{\mu=1.7}(x_i)}{p_{ref}(x_i)}$$

Binned estimate

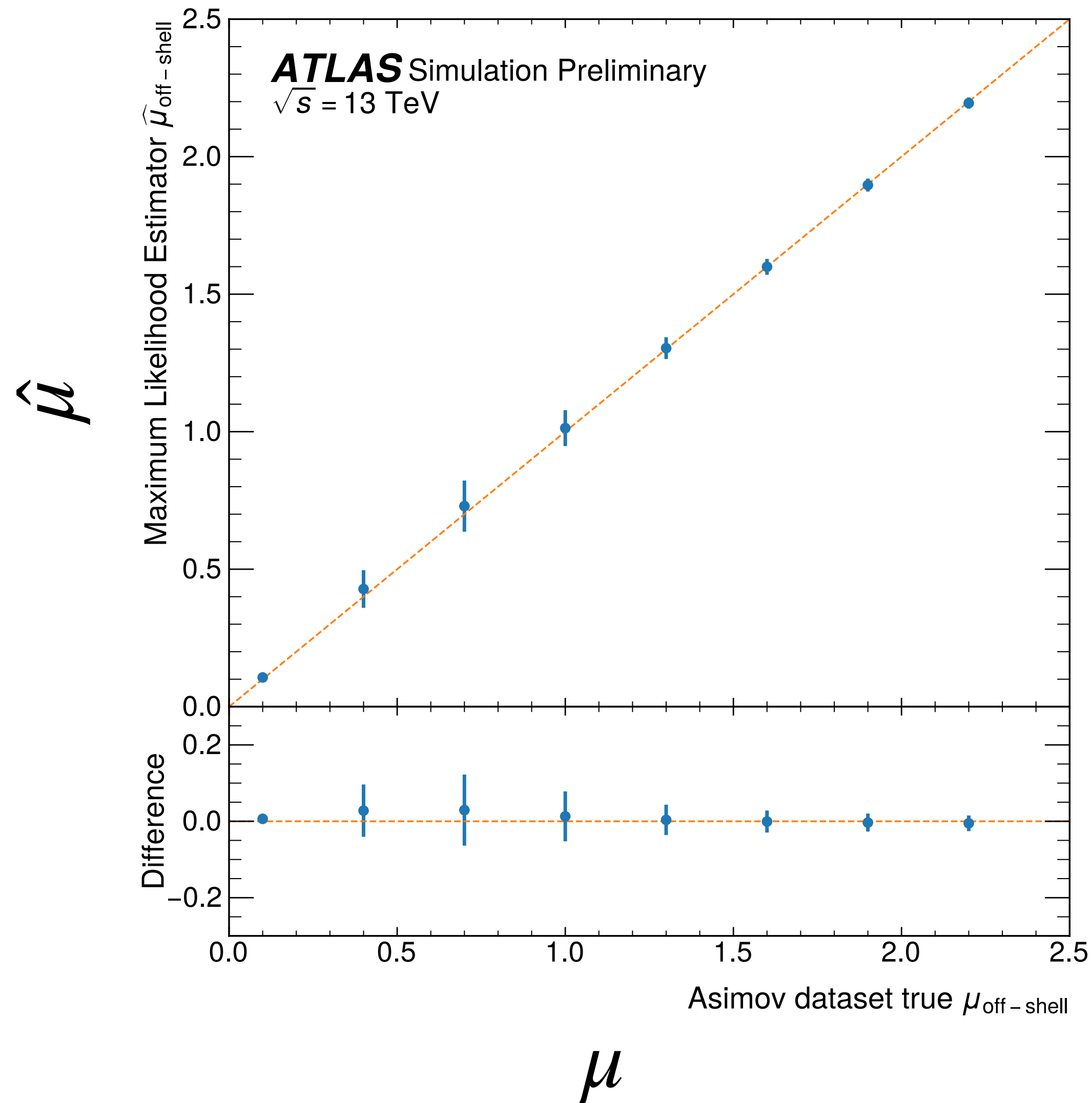


Ensemble prediction



Ensemble prediction

# Testing full analysis on samples from different values of $\mu$



No bias: Method recovers correct value of  $\mu$  on average

(Correct value when tested on the median 'Asimov dataset')

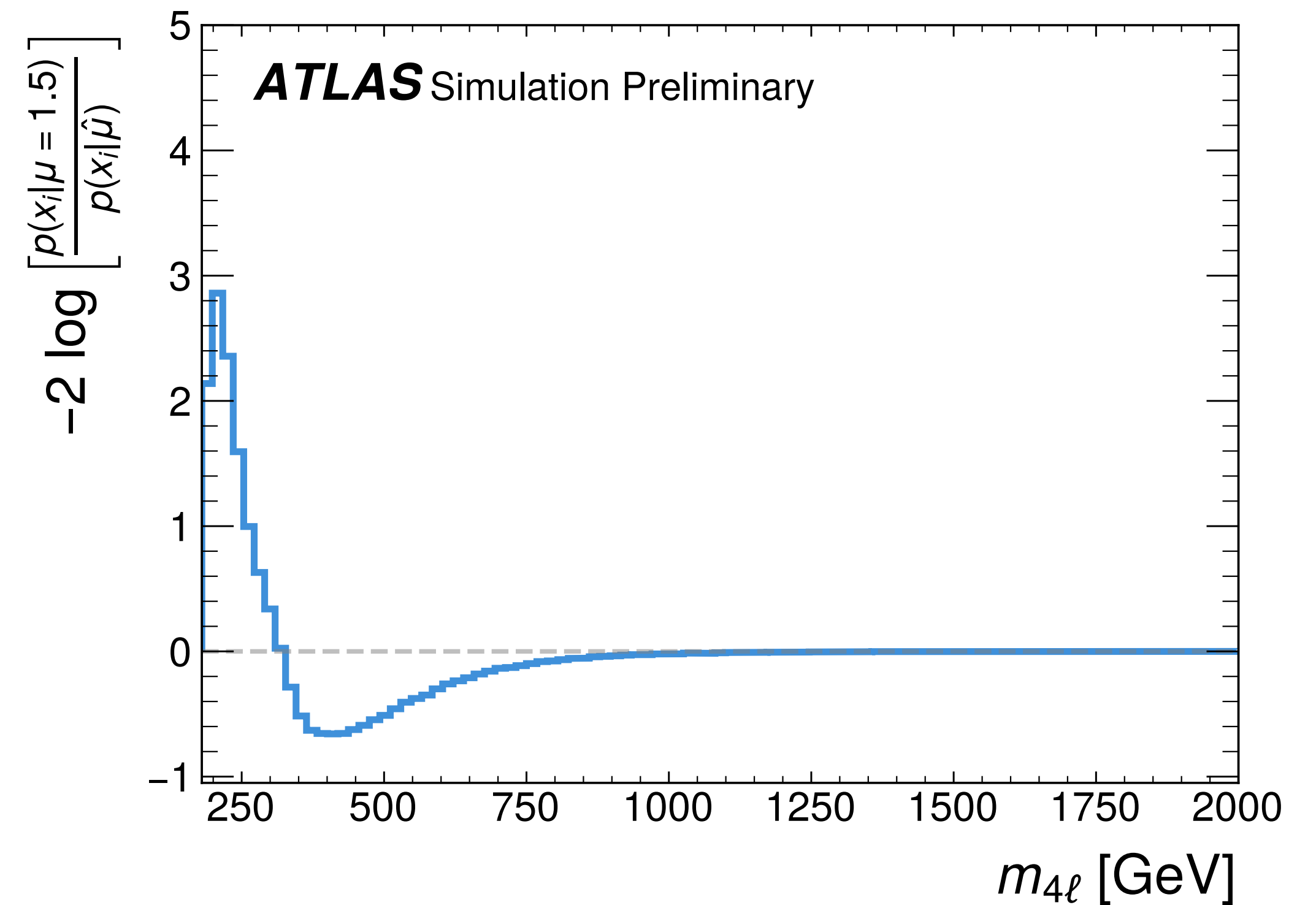
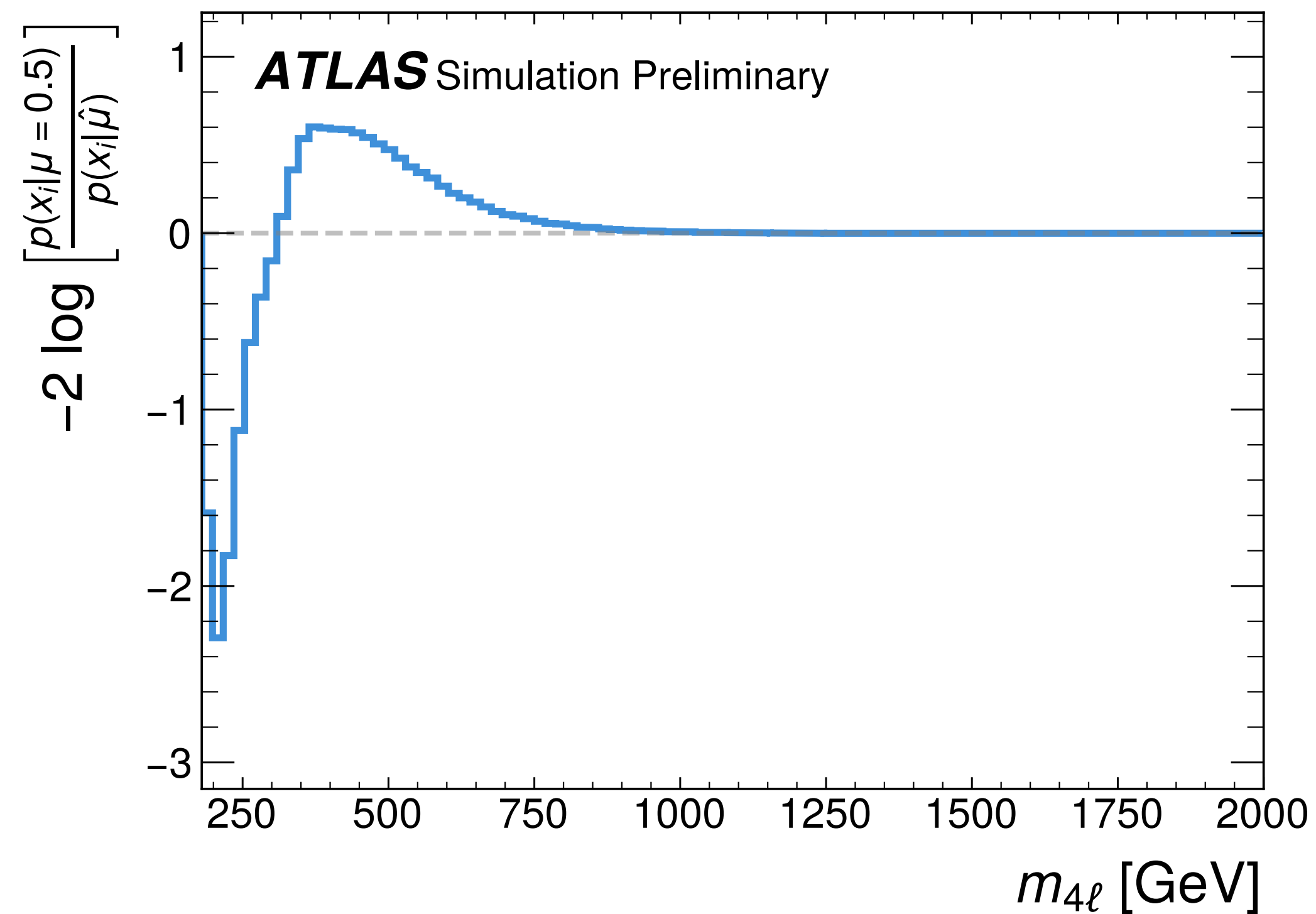
And many more diagnostics (see [backup](#))

Interpretability:  
Which phase space favours one hypothesis over another?

---

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

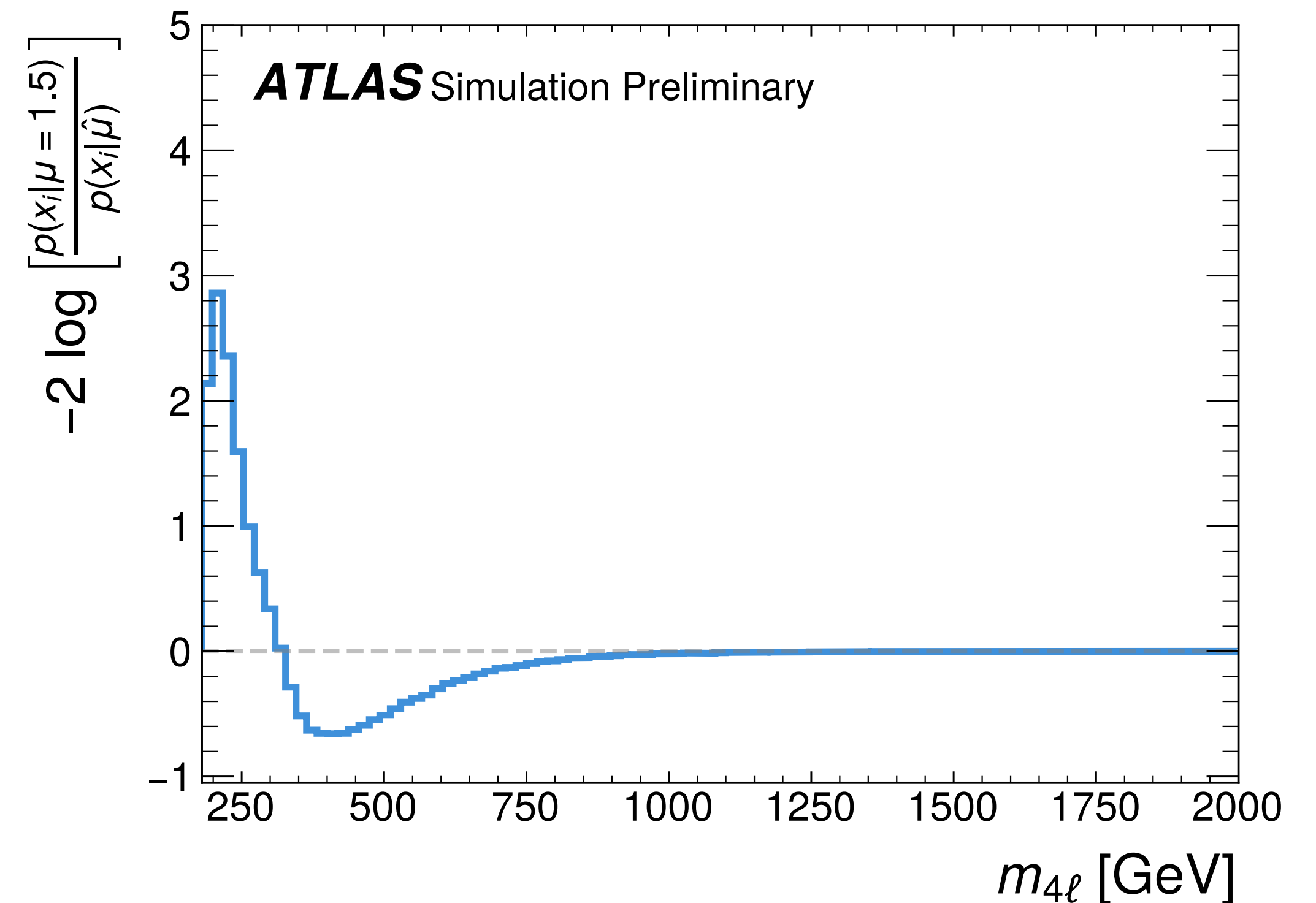
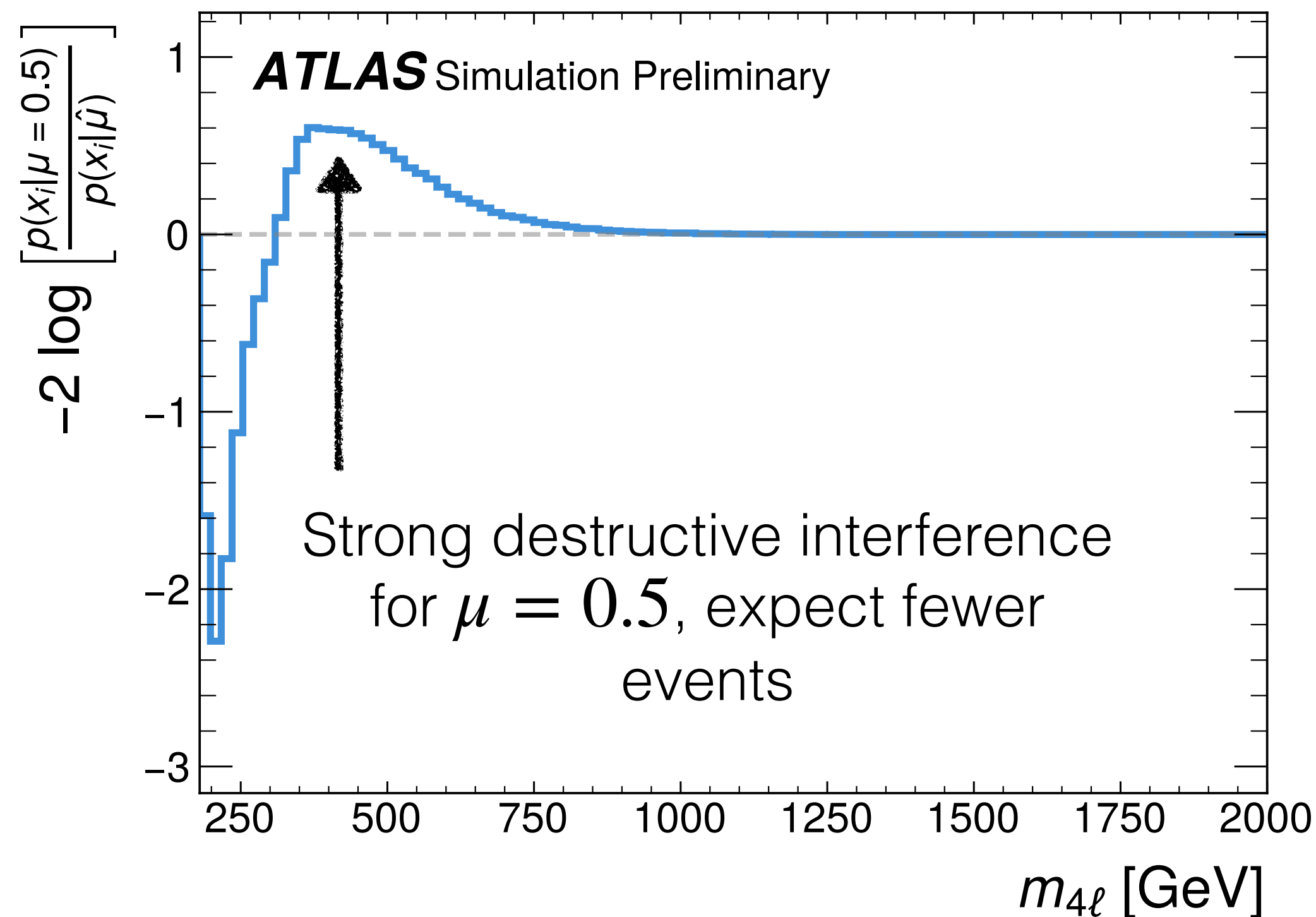
$$-2 \cdot \log \frac{P(x_i | \mu = 1.5)}{P(x_i | \mu = 1)}$$



# Interpretability: Which phase space favours one hypothesis over another?

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

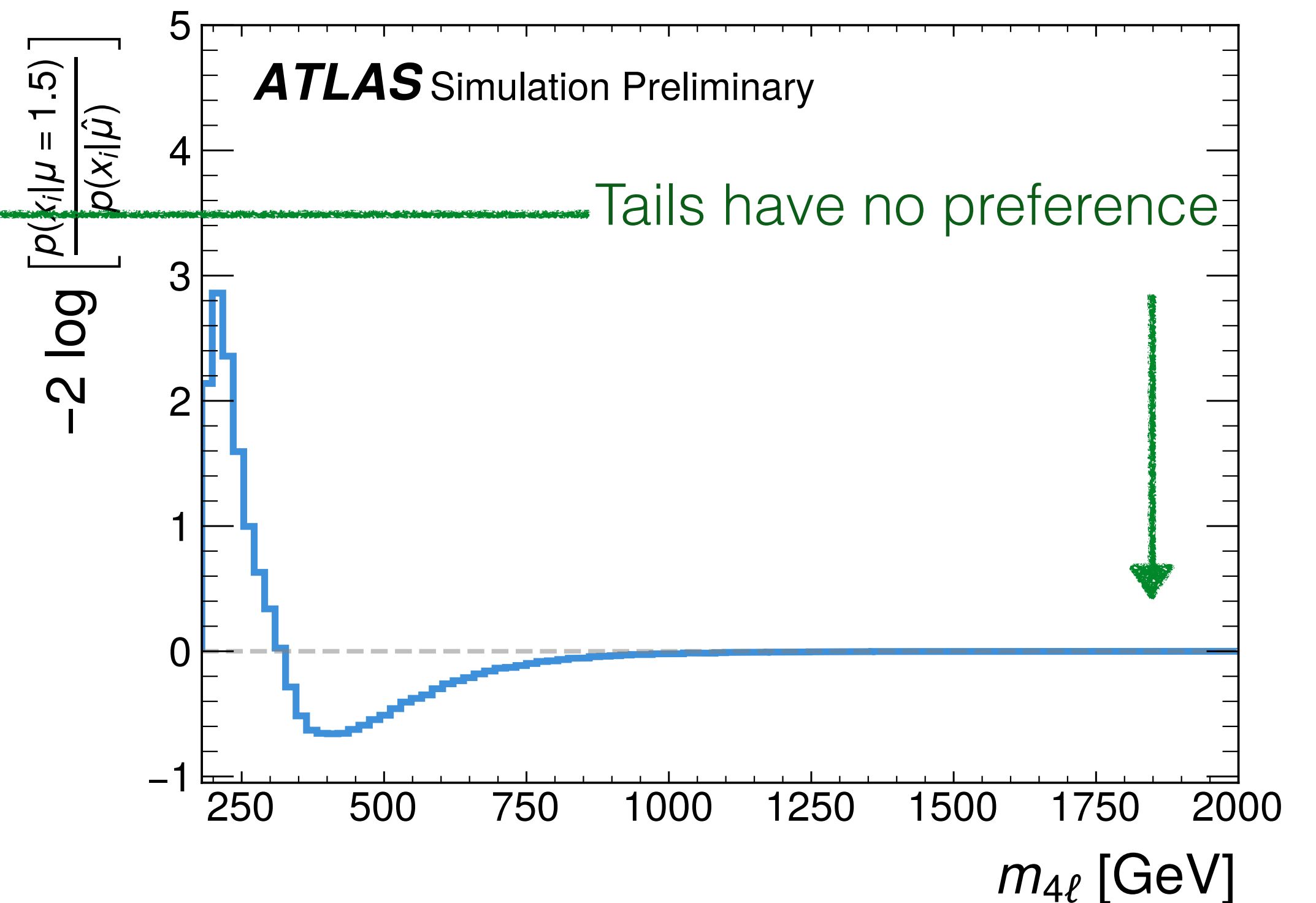
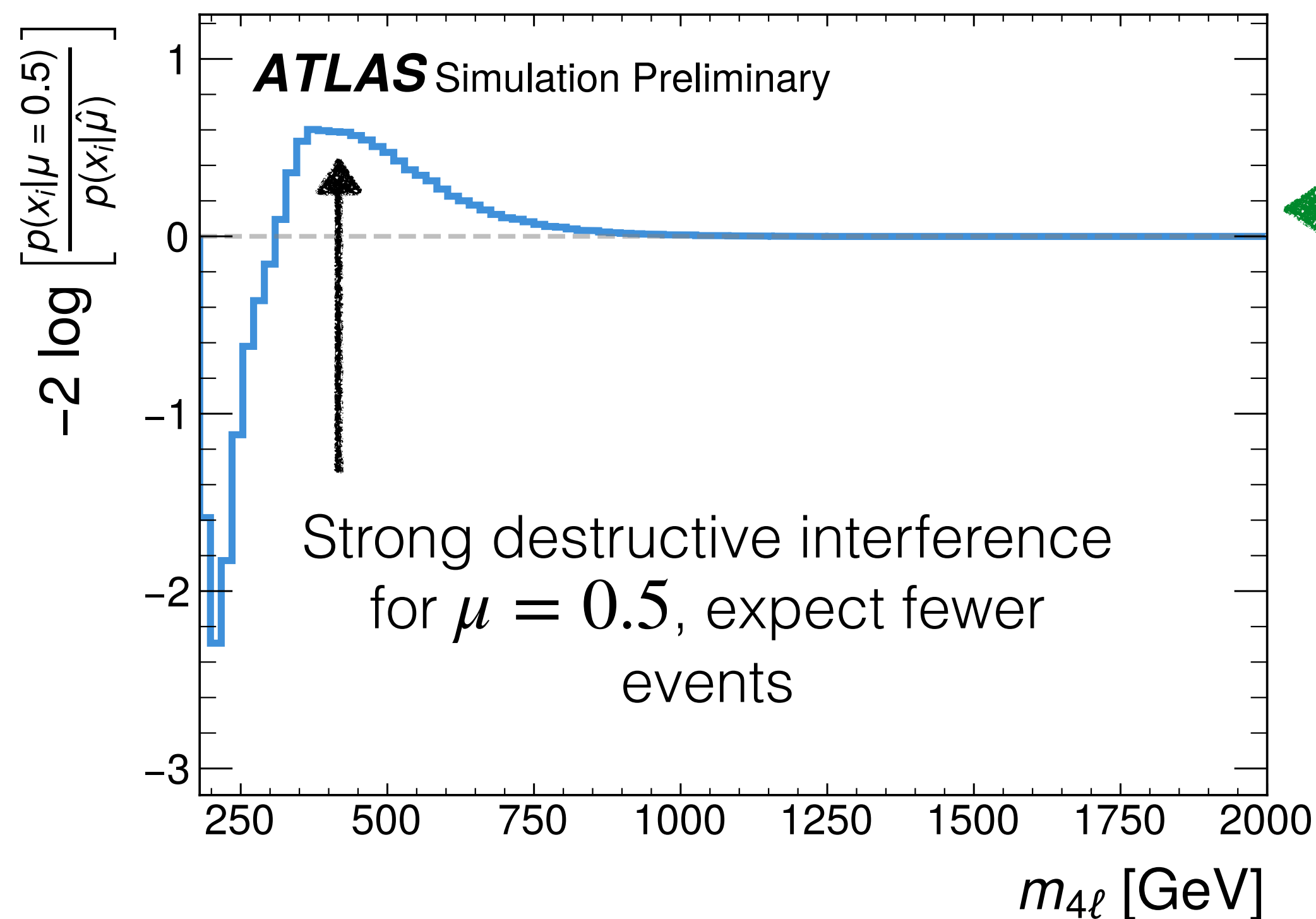
$$-2 \cdot \log \frac{P(x_i | \mu = 1.5)}{P(x_i | \mu = 1)}$$



Interpretability:  
Which phase space favours one hypothesis over another?

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

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



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

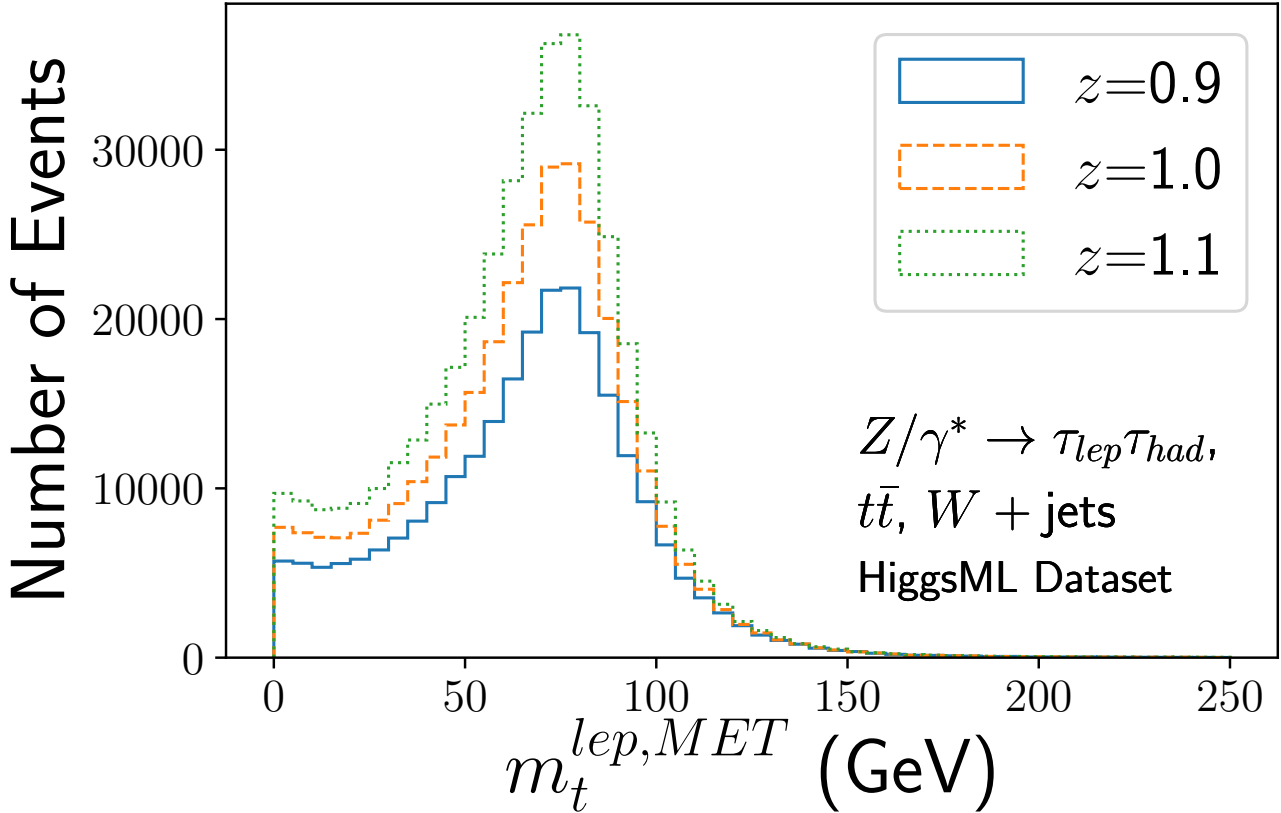


Image: arXiv:2105.08742

## Theory uncertainties:

Eg. Inability to compute QFT to infinite order

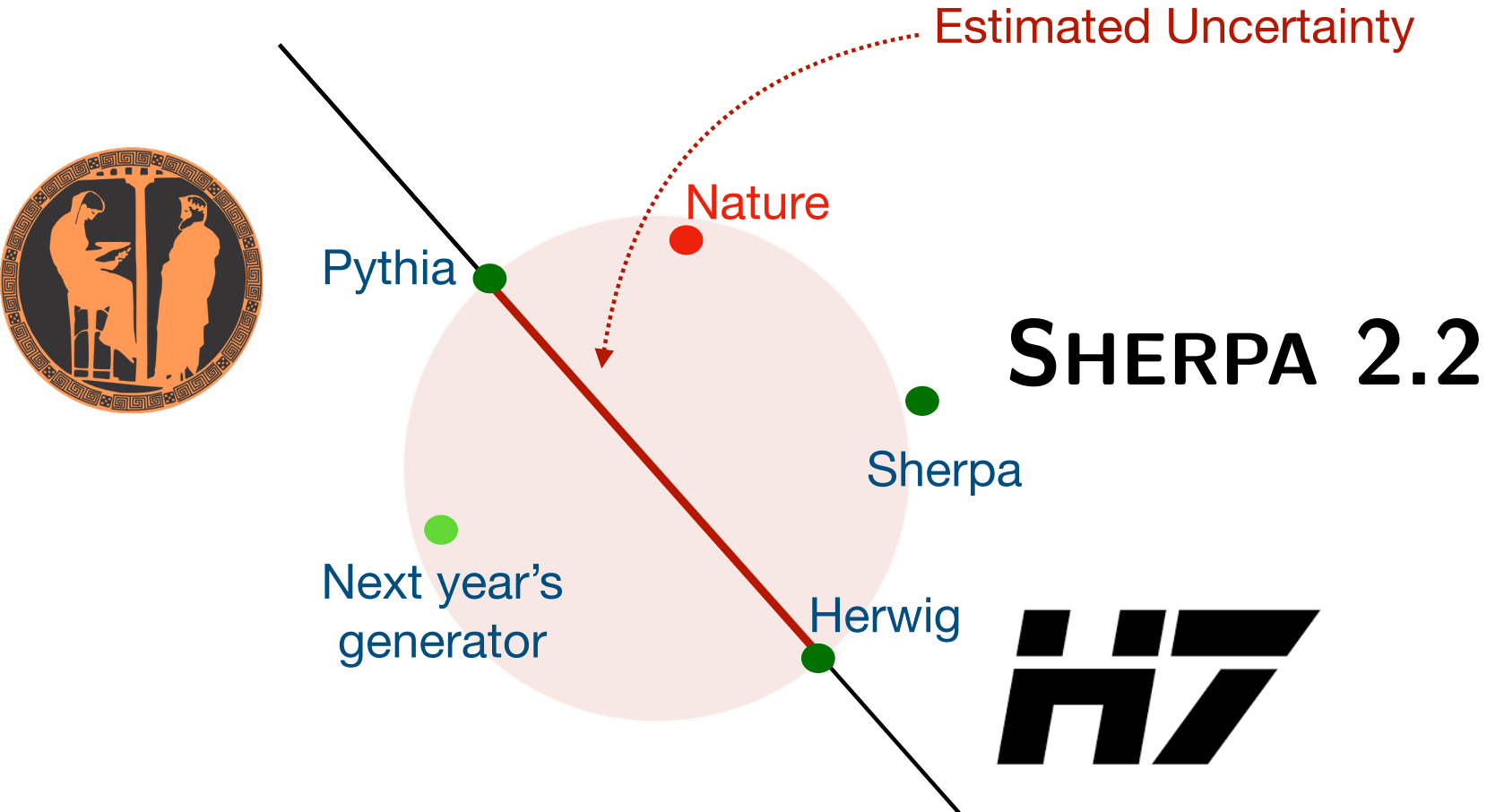


Image: arXiv:2109.08159

# Systematic uncertainties

Experimental uncertainties:

Eg. Inaccuracies in the calibration of our detector

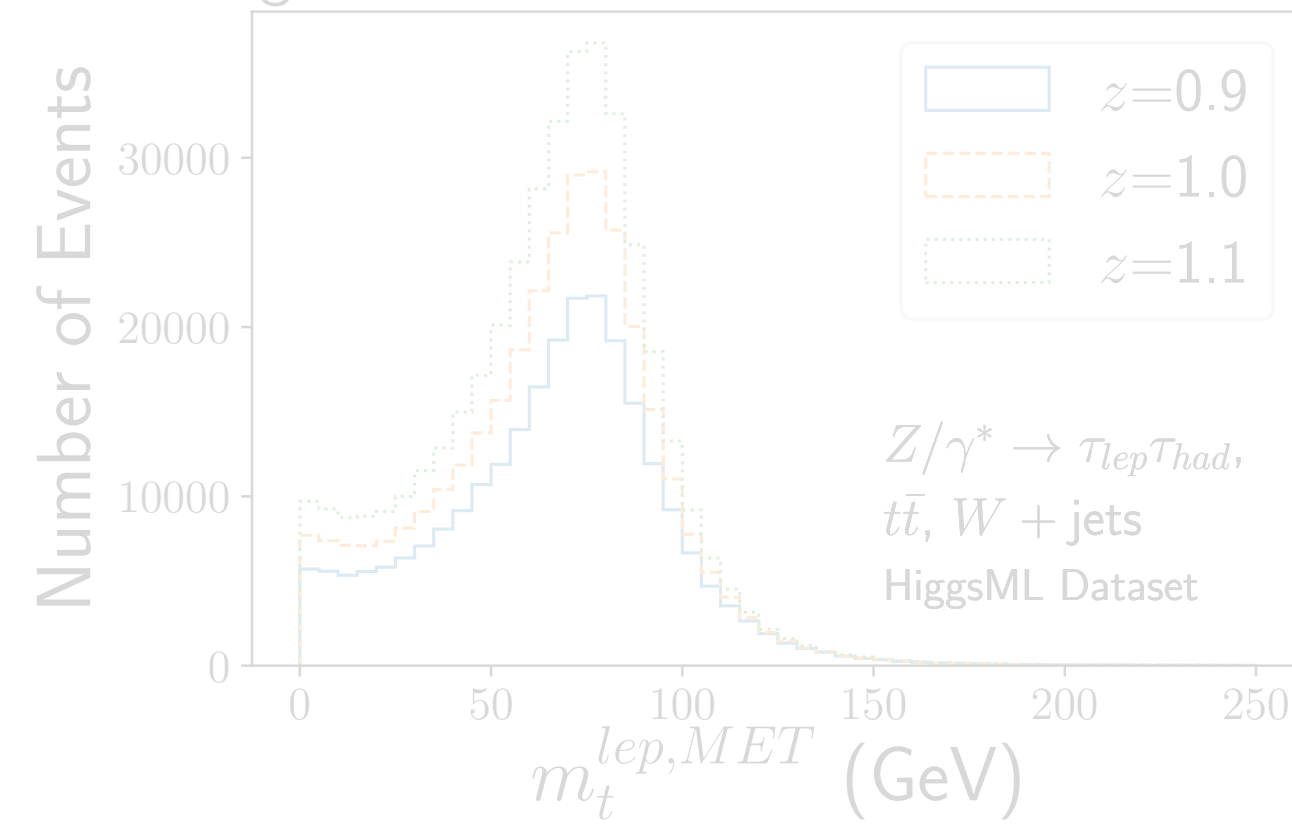


Image: arXiv:2105.08742

Theory uncertainties:

Eg. Inability to compute QFT to infinite order

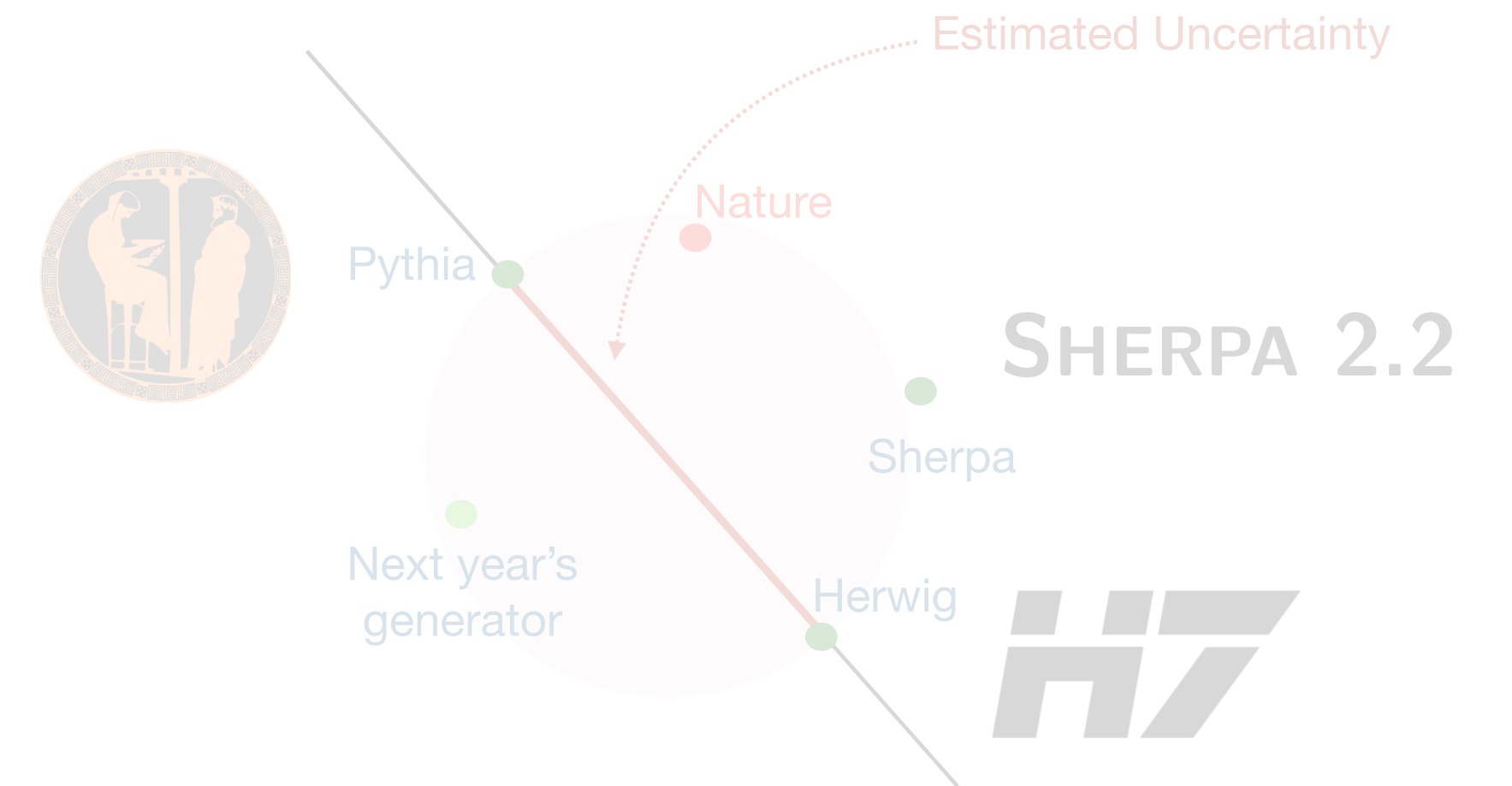
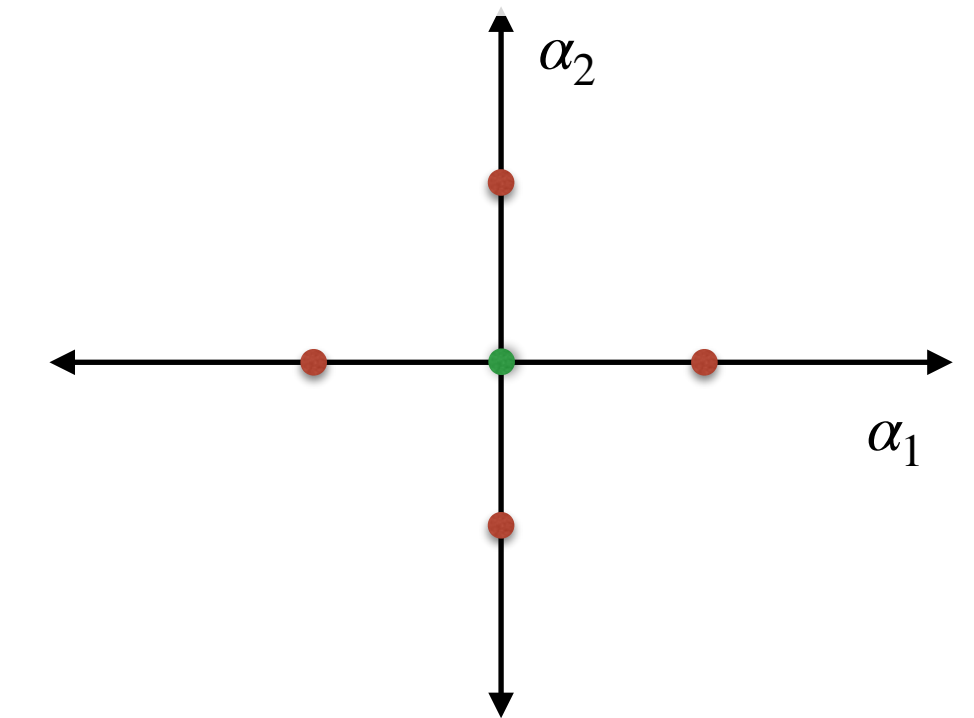


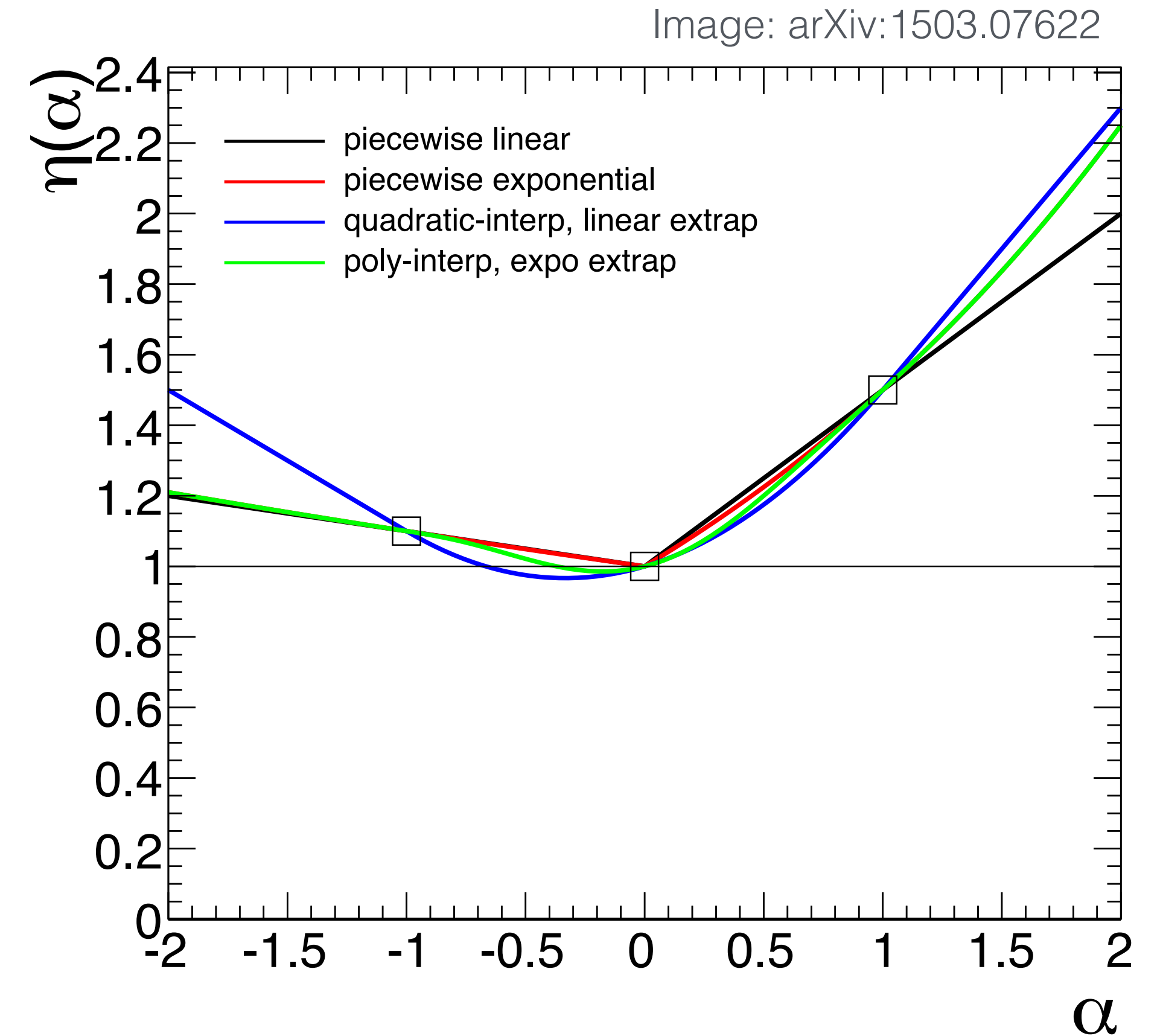
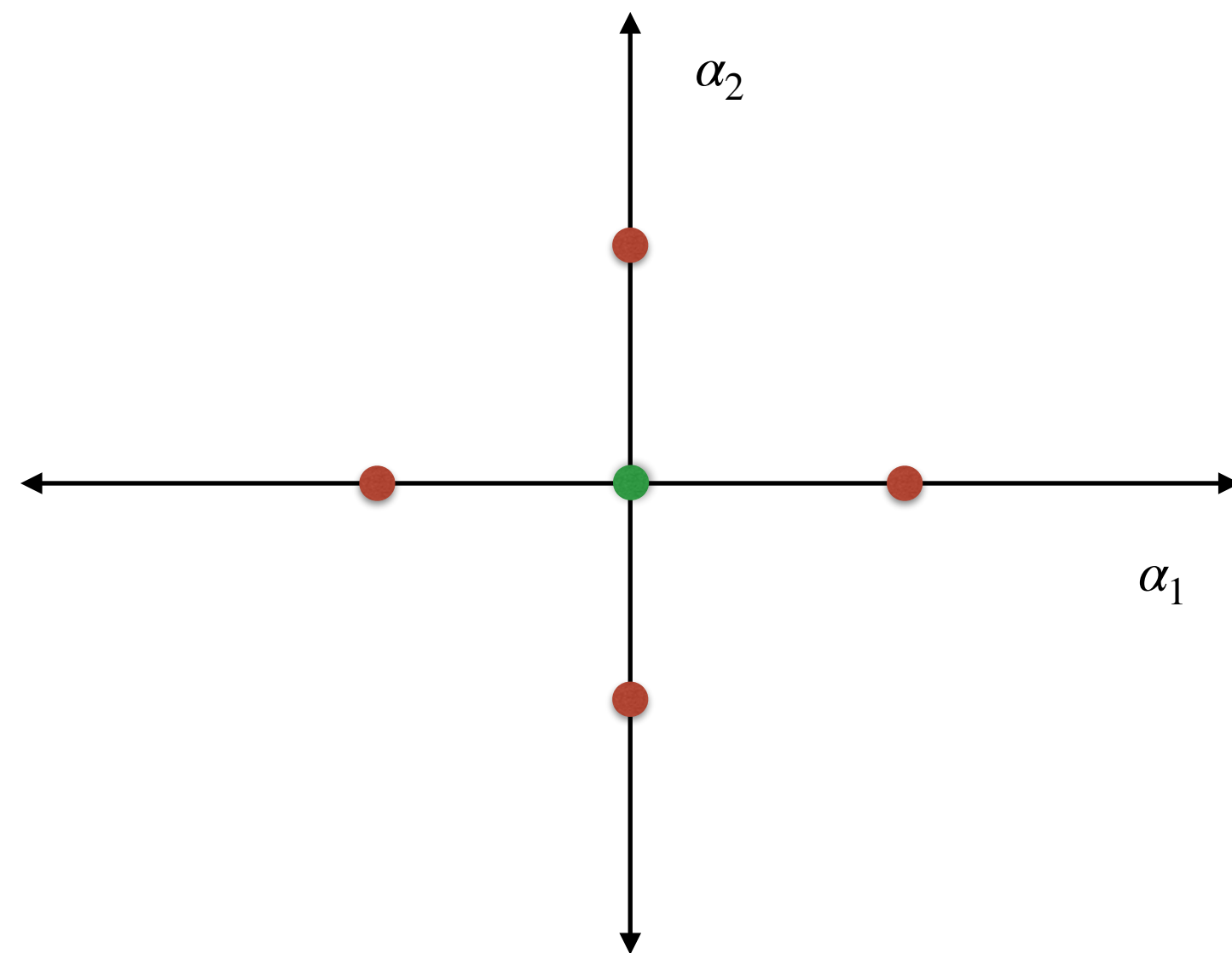
Image: arXiv:2109.08159

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



# Known interpolation strategies

See formula used in backup

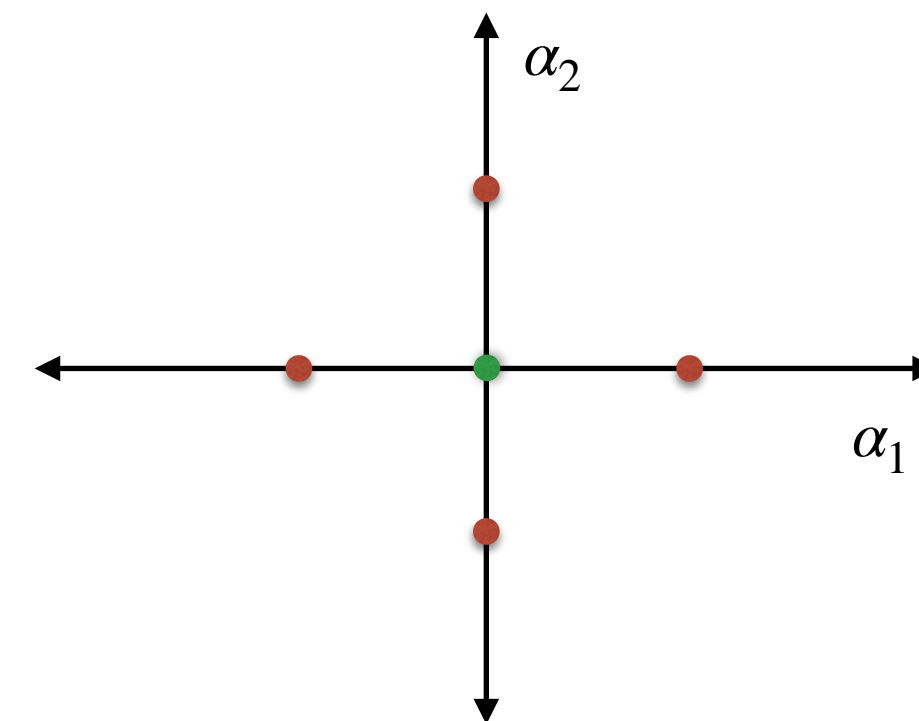


⇒ Combine these traditional interpolation with neural network estimation of per-event likelihood ratios

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

$x_i$  is one individual event

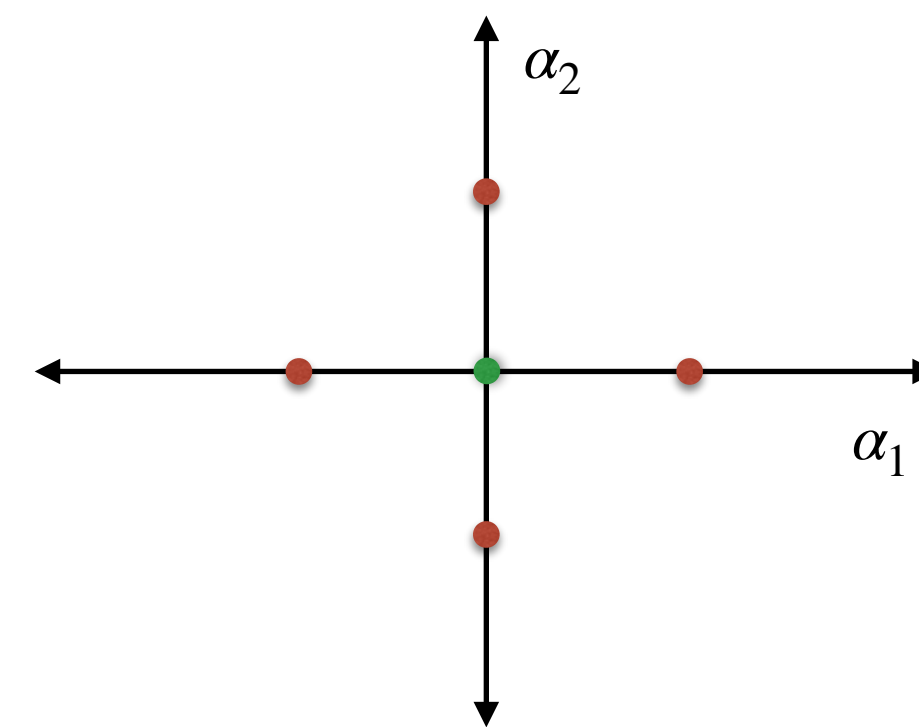
$$\frac{p(x_i | \mu, \alpha)}{p_{ref}(x_i)} =$$



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

$x_i$  is one individual event

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



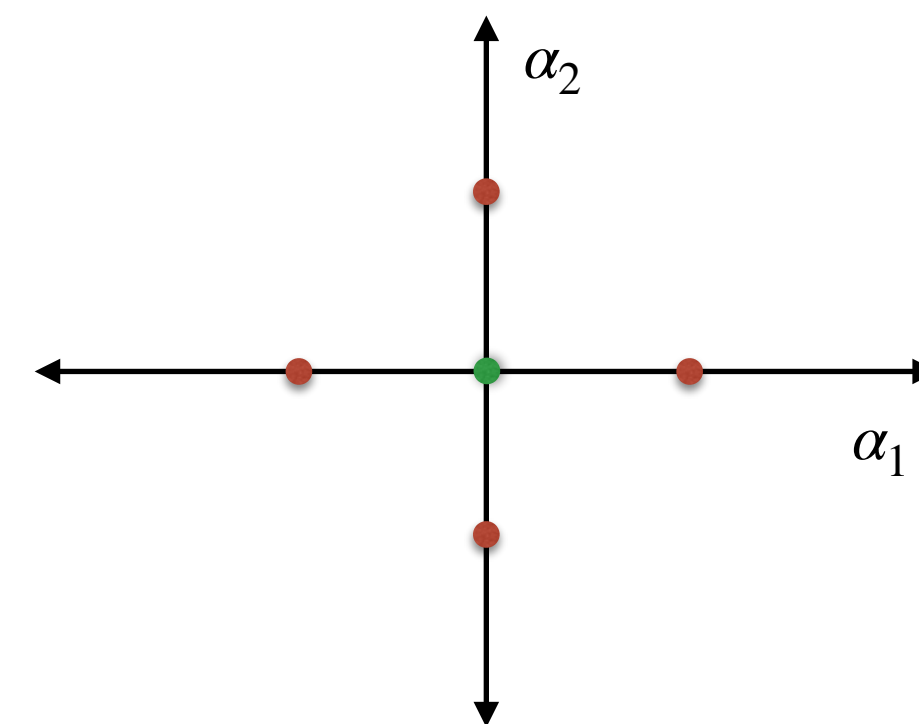
$$g_j(x_i, \alpha_k) = \frac{p_j(x_i, \alpha_k)}{p_j(x_i)}$$

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

$x_i$  is one individual event

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

We have this already



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

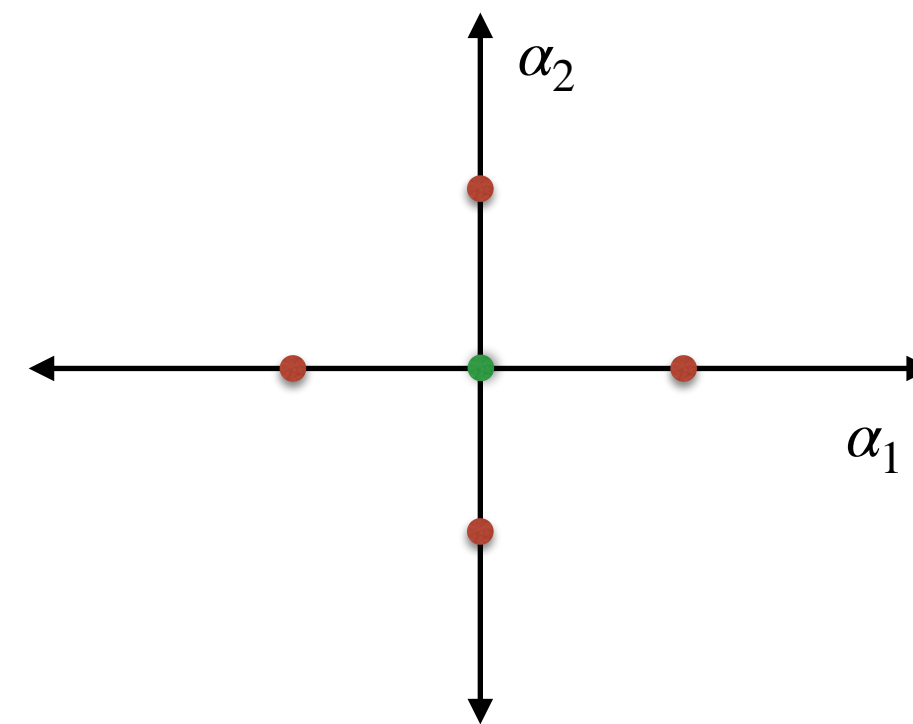
# Probability density ratio including nuisance parameters ( $\alpha$ )

$x_i$  is one individual event

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

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 ( $\alpha$ )

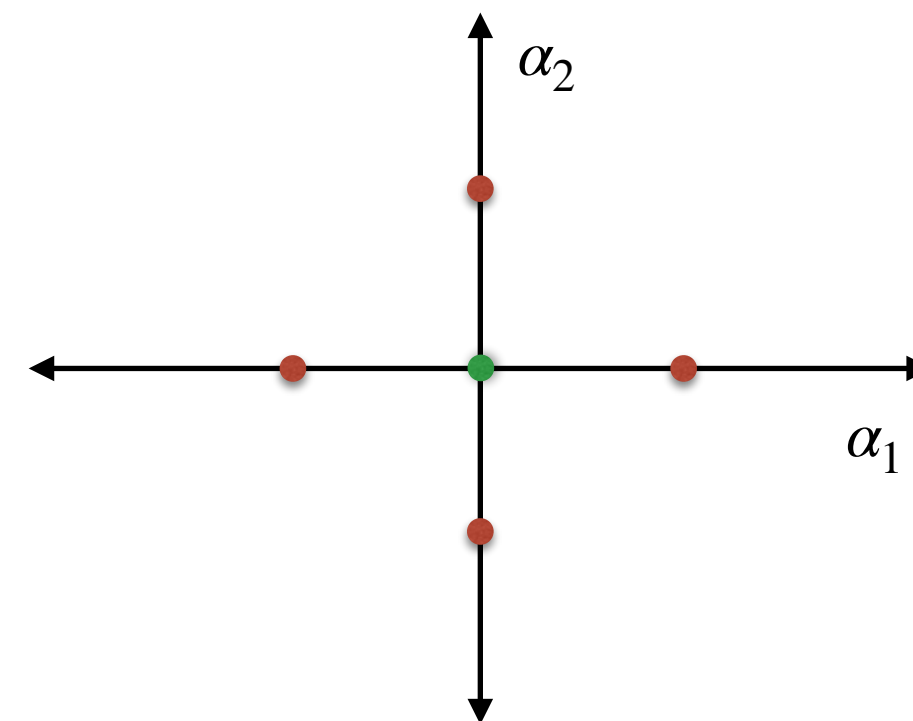
$x_i$  is one individual event

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

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

$x_i$  is one individual event

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

From previous slide

# Final test statistic

$x_i$  is one individual event

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

From previous slide

Prod over events

# Final test statistic

$x_i$  is one individual event

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

Rate term

Prod over events

From previous slide

# Final test statistic

$x_i$  is one individual event

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

Rate term

Prod over events

From previous slide

Constrain term

# Final test statistic

$x_i$  is one individual event

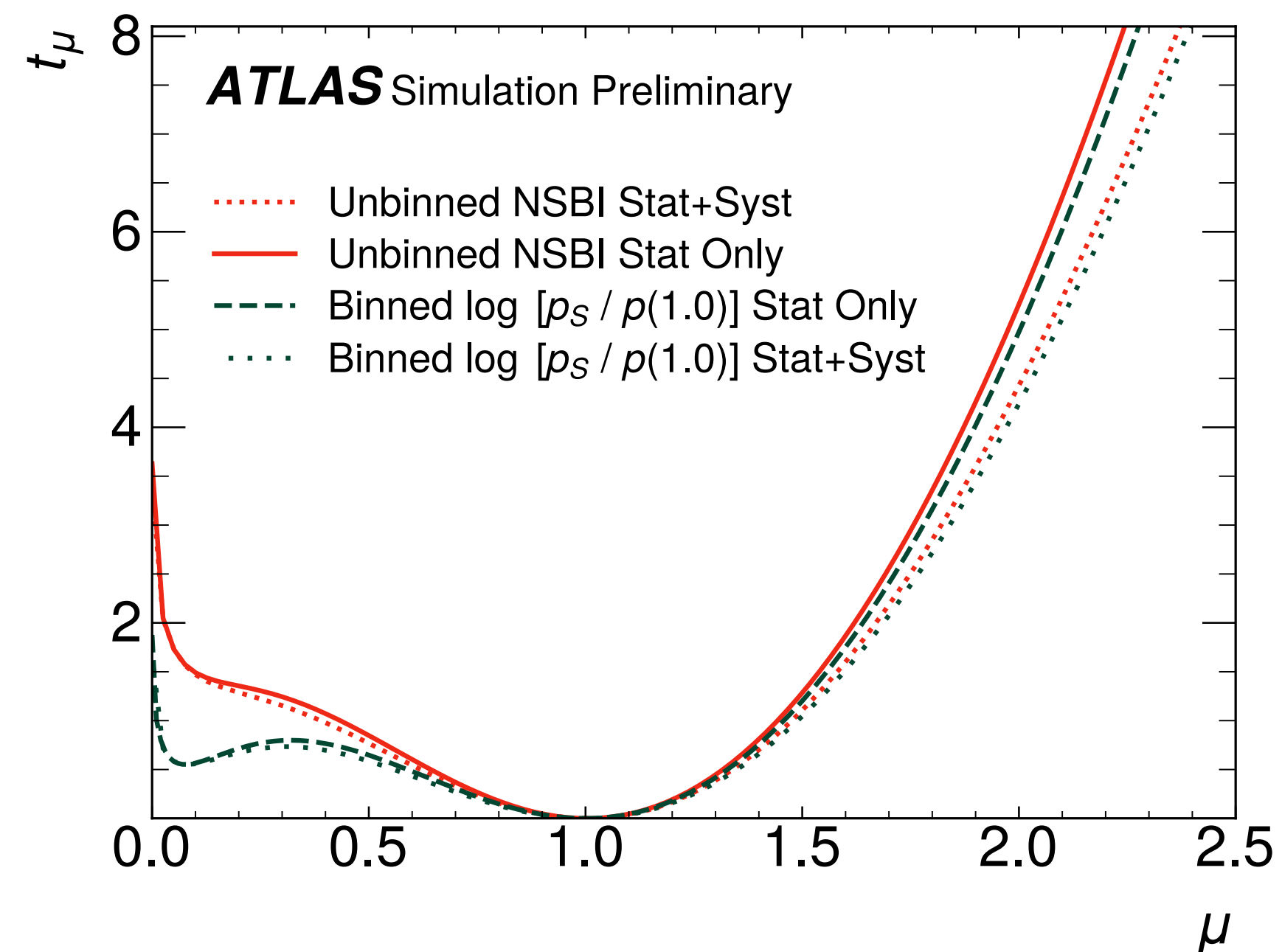
$$\frac{L_{\text{full}}(\mu, \alpha | \mathcal{D})}{L_{\text{ref}}(\mathcal{D})} = \text{Pois}(N_{\text{data}} | \nu(\mu, \alpha)) \prod_i^{N_{\text{data}}} \frac{p(x_i | \mu, \alpha)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x_i)} \prod_k \text{Gaus}(a_k | \alpha_k, \delta_k)$$

Rate term (points to Poisson term)  
Prod over events (points to  $\prod_i$ )  
From previous slide (points to  $\frac{p(x_i | \mu, \alpha)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x_i)}$ )  
Constrain term (points to  $\prod_k \text{Gaus}(a_k | \alpha_k, \delta_k)$ )

Profiling:

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

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



# Final test statistic

$x_i$  is one individual event

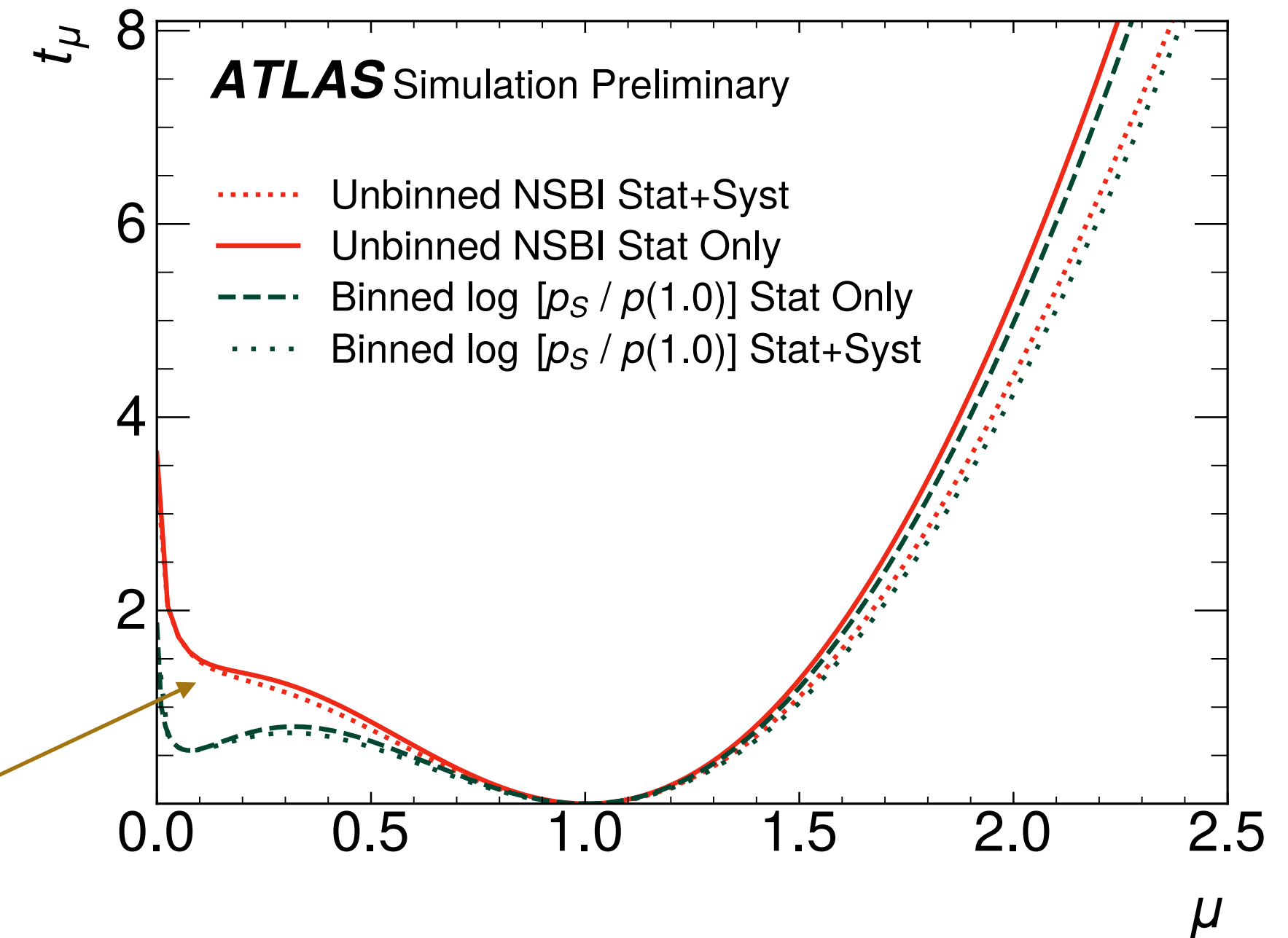
$$\frac{L_{\text{full}}(\mu, \alpha | \mathcal{D})}{L_{\text{ref}}(\mathcal{D})} = \text{Pois}(N_{\text{data}} | \nu(\mu, \alpha)) \prod_i^{N_{\text{data}}} \frac{p(x_i | \mu, \alpha)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x_i)} \prod_k \text{Gaus}(a_k | \alpha_k, \delta_k)$$

Rate term (points to  $\text{Pois}(N_{\text{data}} | \nu(\mu, \alpha))$ )  
Prod over events (points to  $\prod_i^{N_{\text{data}}}$ )  
From previous slide (points to  $\frac{p(x_i | \mu, \alpha)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x_i)}$ )  
Constrain term (points to  $\prod_k \text{Gaus}(a_k | \alpha_k, \delta_k)$ )

Profiling:

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

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!

$$p_{\text{ref}}(x_i) = \frac{1}{\sum_k v_k} \sum_k^{C_{\text{signals}}} v_k \cdot p_k(x_i)$$

$\Rightarrow$  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

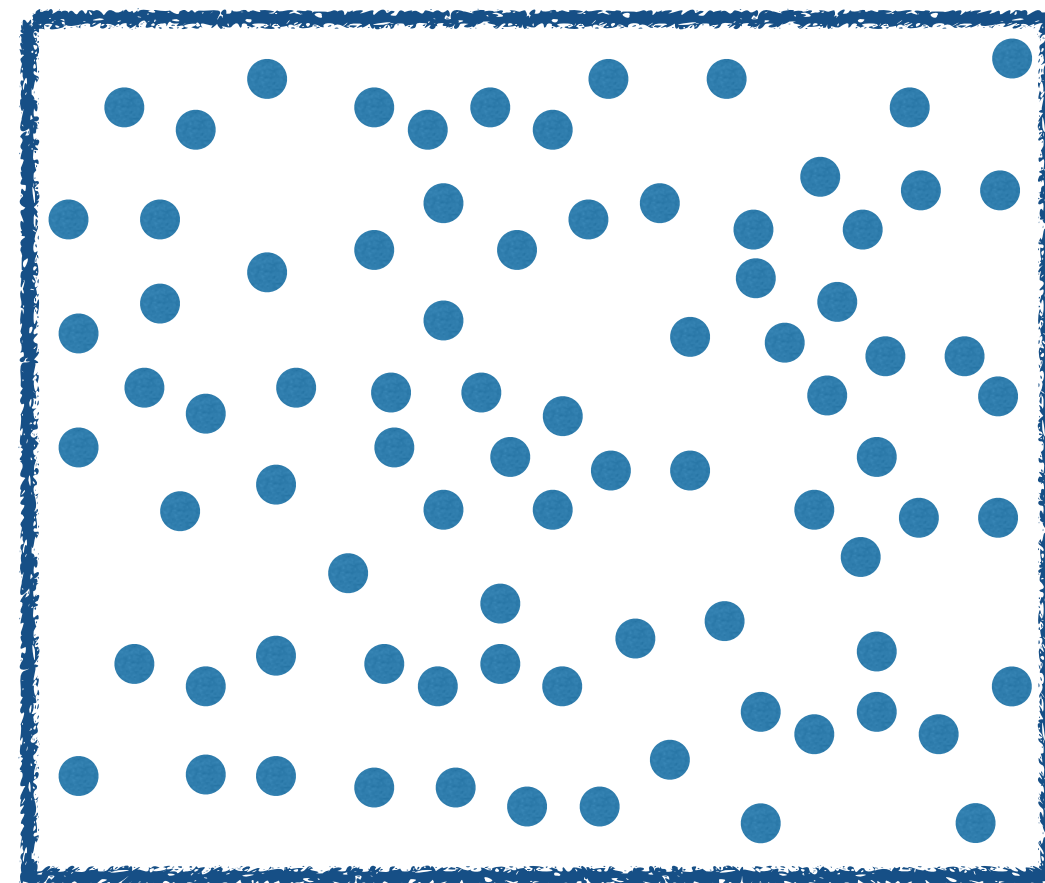
$$t_\mu = -2 \ln \left( \frac{L_{\text{full}}(\mu, \hat{\alpha}) / \cancel{L_{\text{ref}}}}{L_{\text{full}}(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\alpha}) / \cancel{L_{\text{ref}}}} \right)$$



Uncertainty from finite training samples

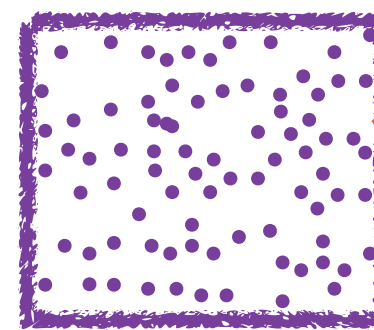
# Estimating the variance on mean: Bootstrapping

Want to estimate mean of population

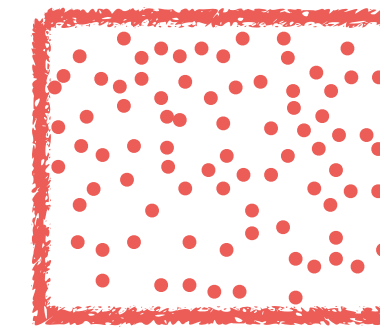


Population

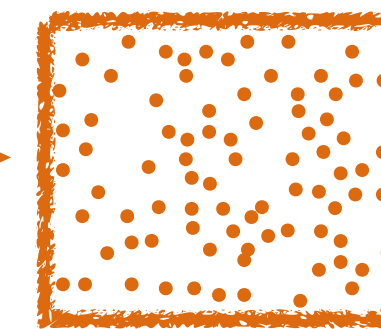
Random Sample



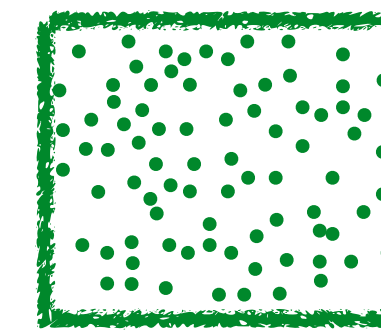
Sample



Sample Mean 1



Sample Mean 2

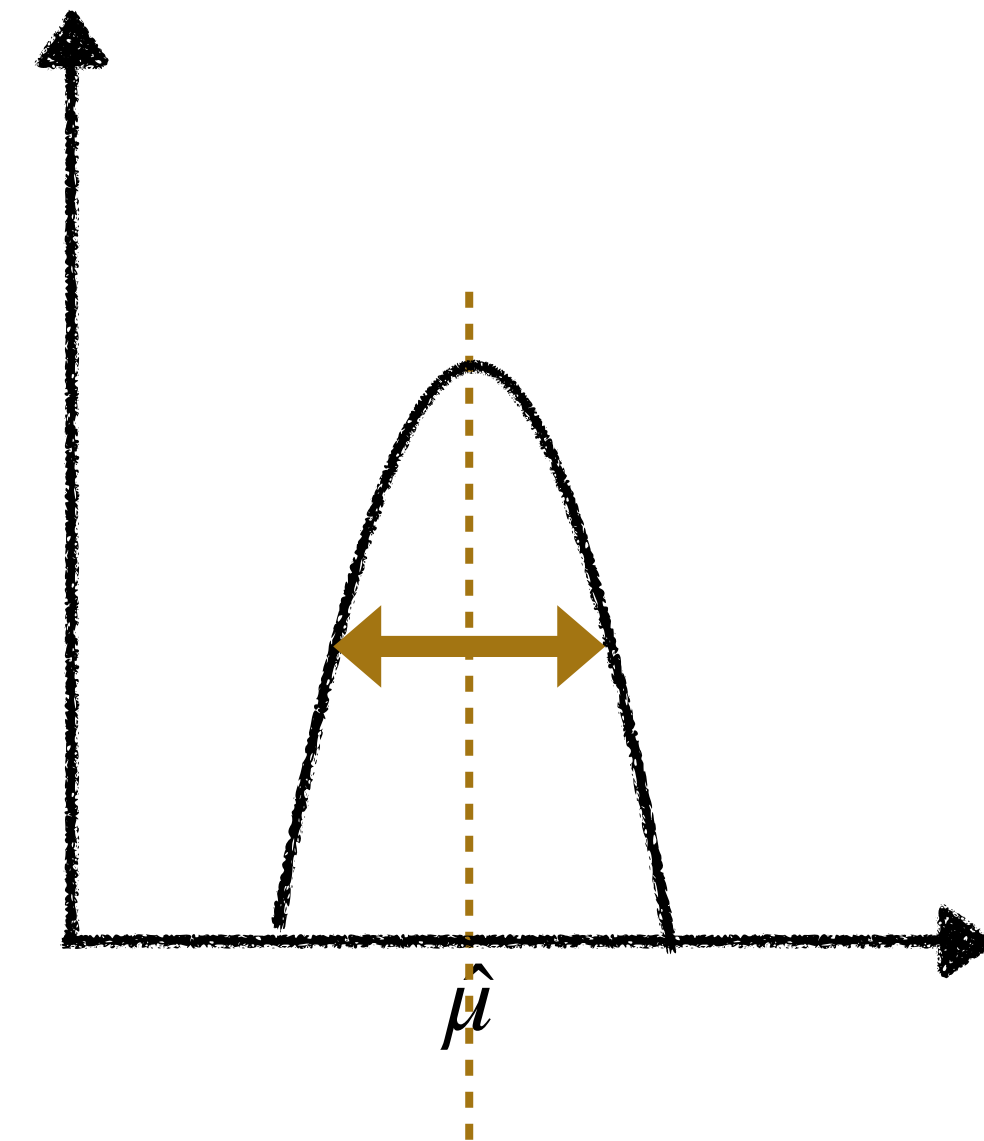


Sample Mean 3

Re-Sample with replacement



Image: [Source](#)

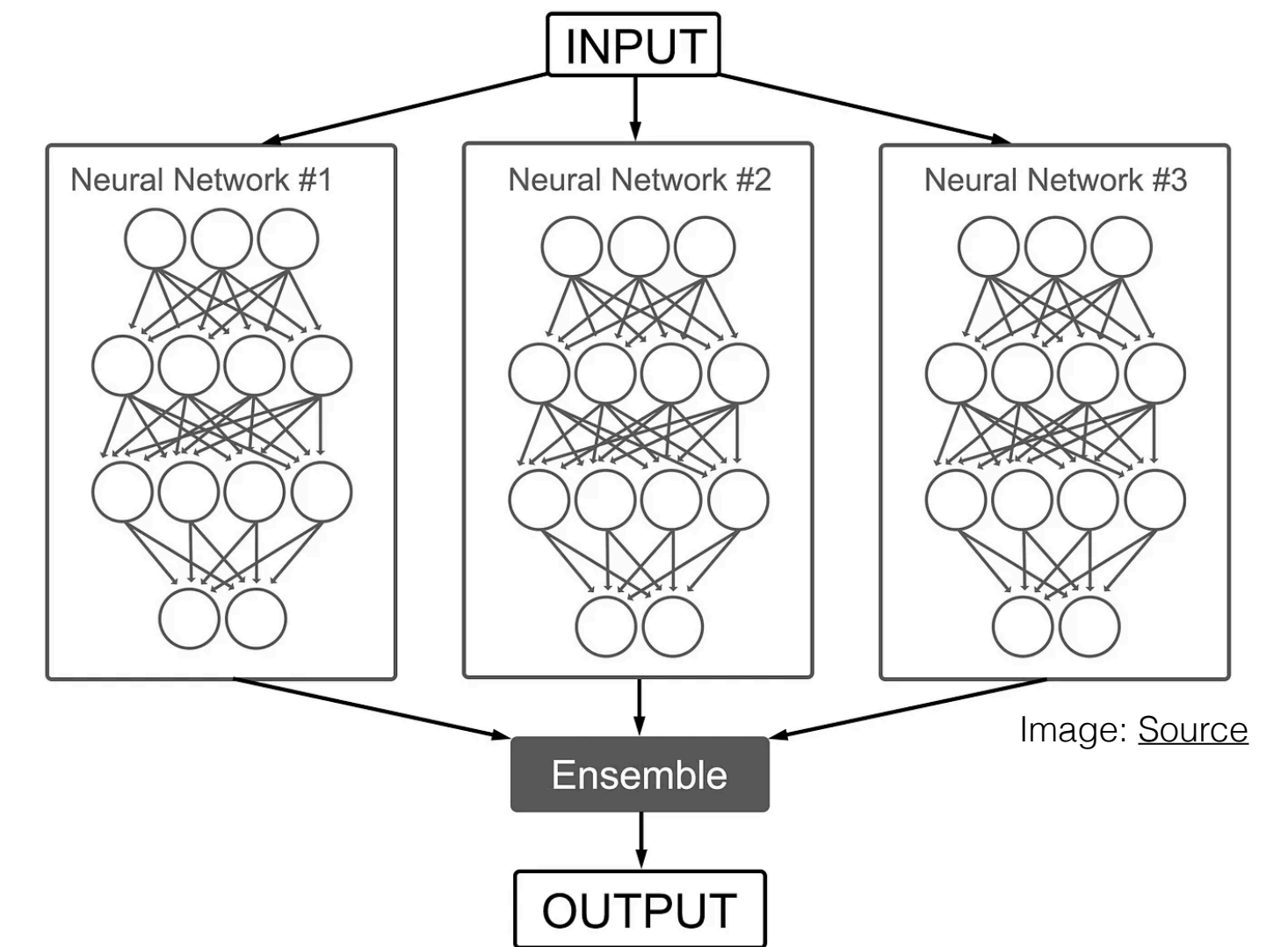


Estimate variance on the mean

# Quantifying uncertainty on estimated density ratio

$$w_i \rightarrow w_i \cdot \text{Pois}(1)$$

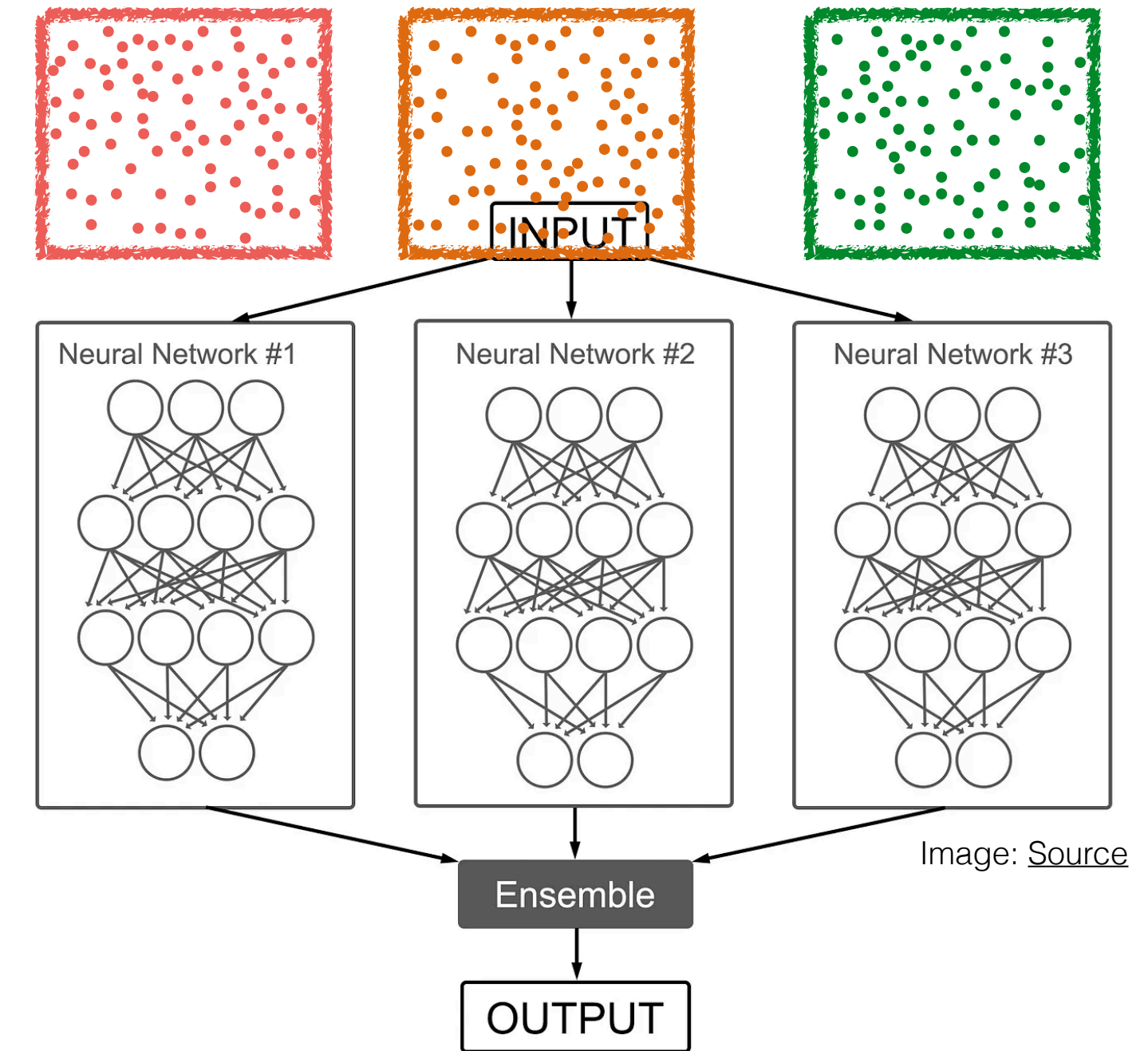
- Train an ensemble of networks, each on a Poisson fluctuated version of the training dataset
- Ensemble average used as final prediction, estimate the variance on mean from bootstrapped ensembles



# Quantifying uncertainty on estimated density ratio

$$w_i \rightarrow w_i \cdot \text{Pois}(1)$$

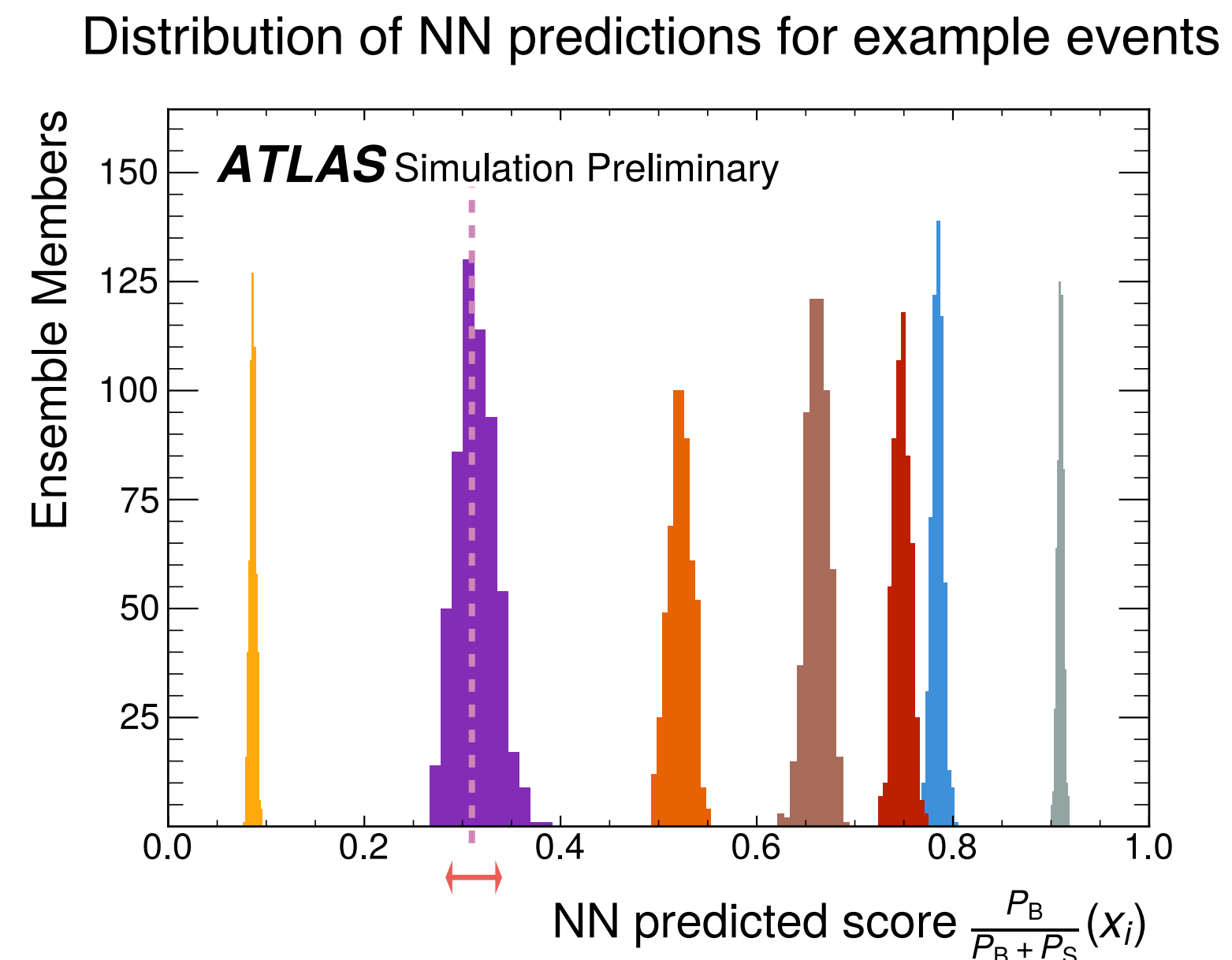
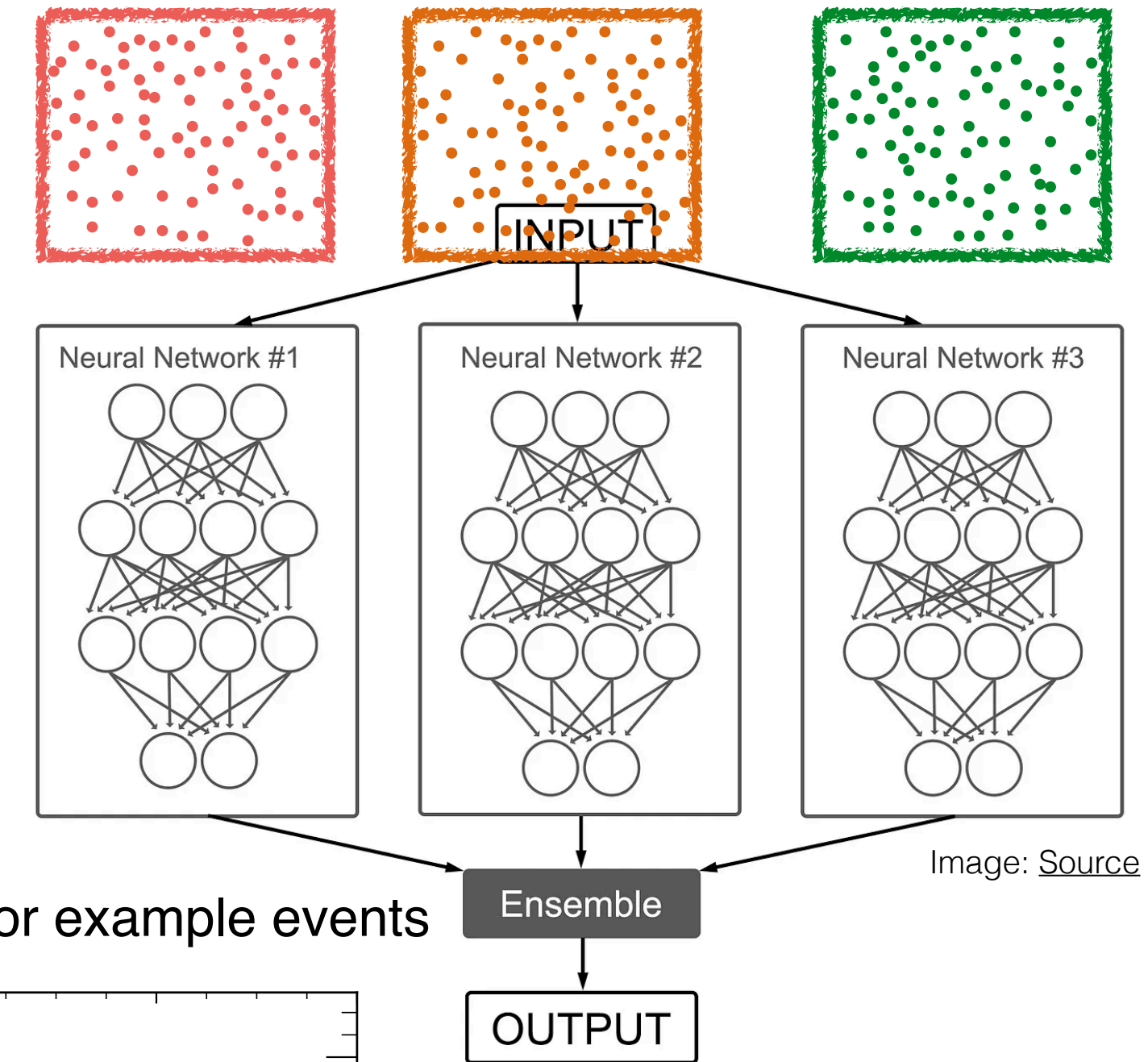
- Train an ensemble of networks, each on a Poisson fluctuated version of the training dataset
- Ensemble average used as final prediction, estimate the variance on mean from bootstrapped ensembles



# Quantifying uncertainty on estimated density ratio

$$w_i \rightarrow w_i \cdot \text{Pois}(1)$$

- 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



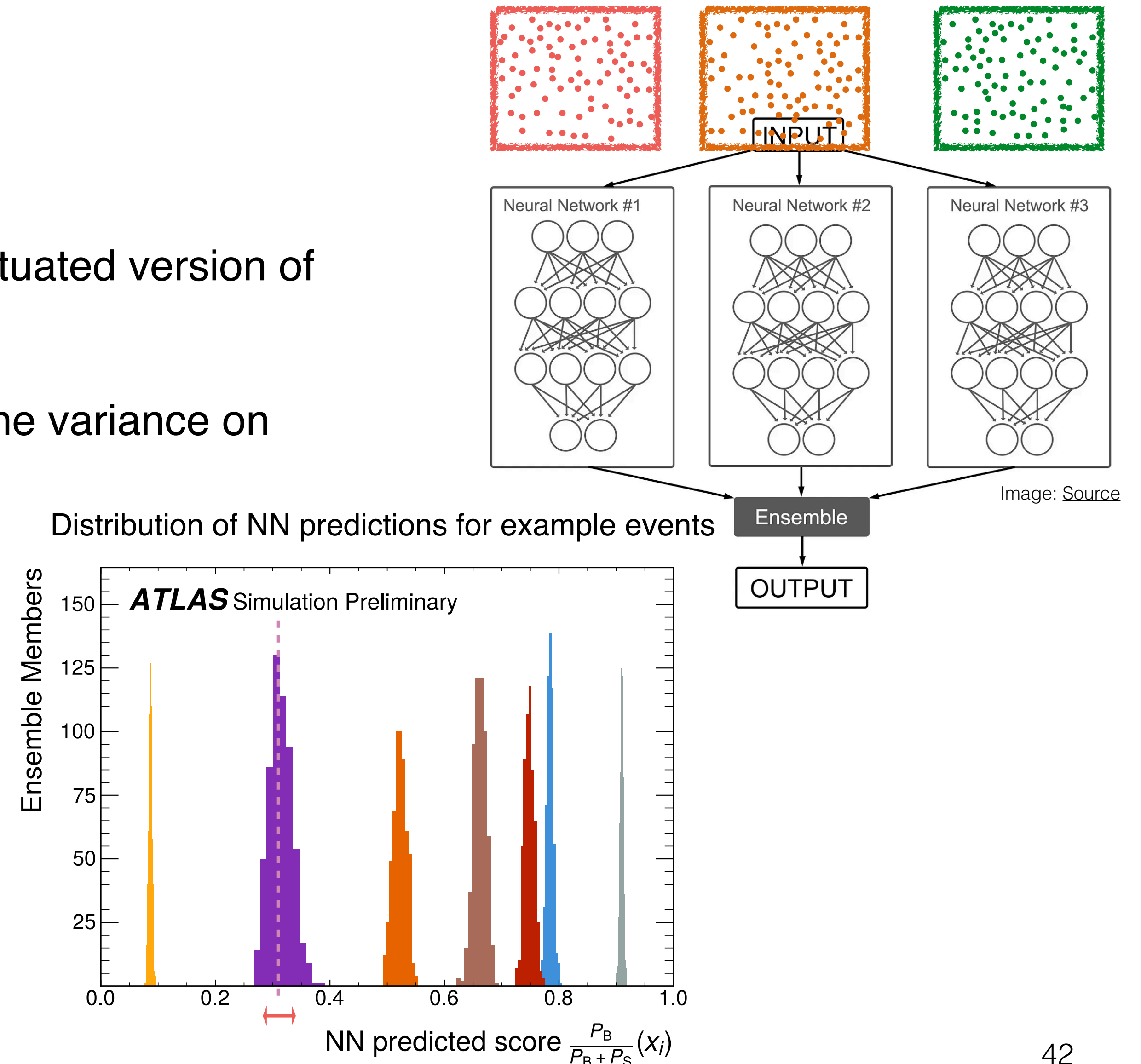
# Quantifying uncertainty on estimated density ratio

$$w_i \rightarrow w_i \cdot \text{Pois}(1)$$

- 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:  $\text{Gauss}(0,1)$



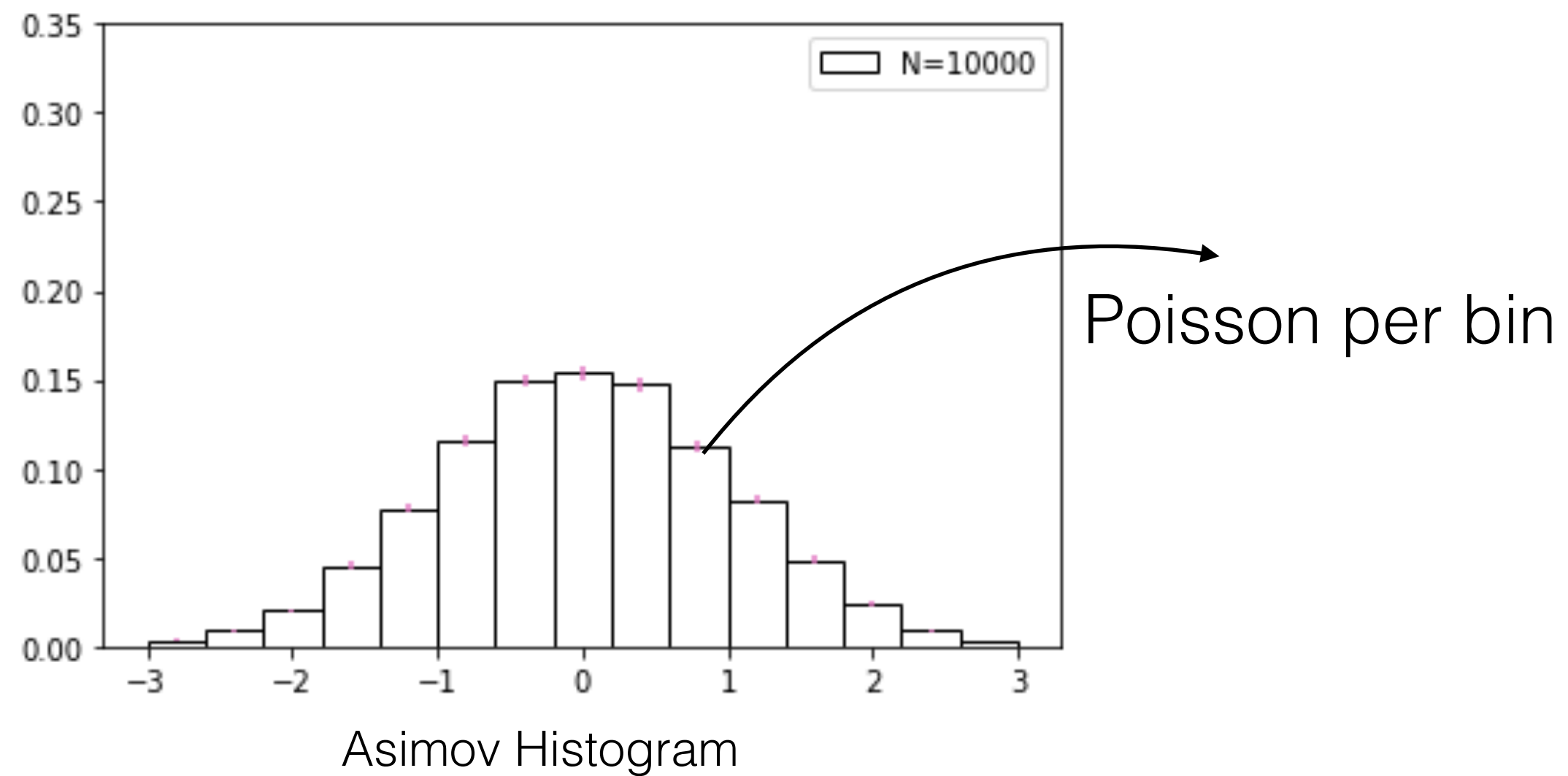
Open problems to extend to full ATLAS analysis:

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

# Generating event-level pseudo-experiments

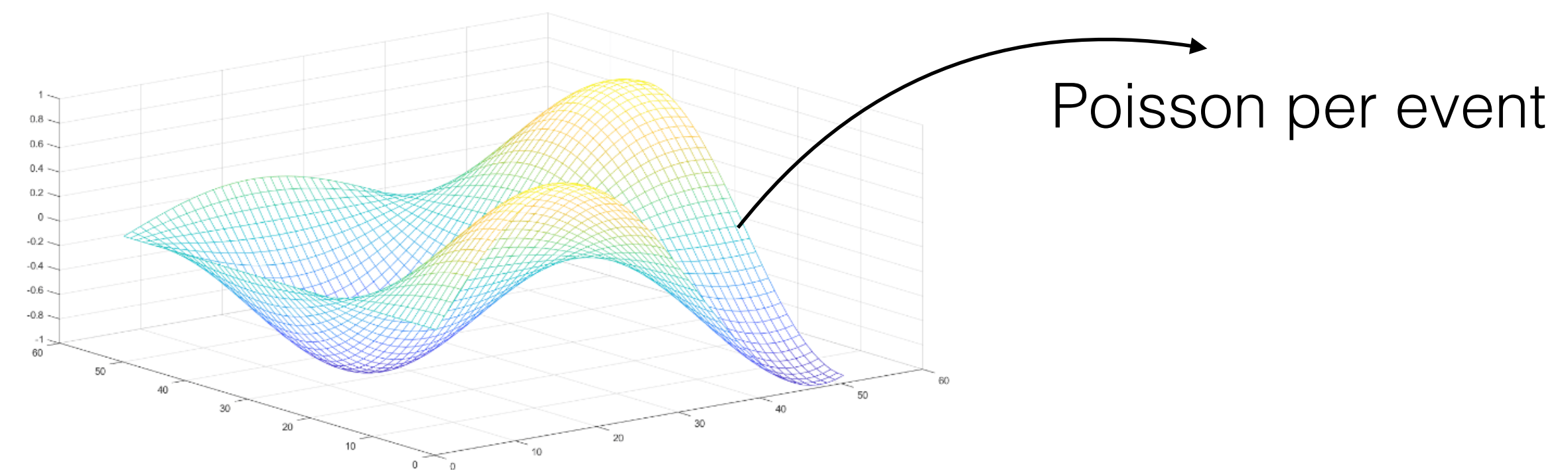
Need to generate random possible datasets we could collect at the LHC

Traditionally:



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

NSBI:



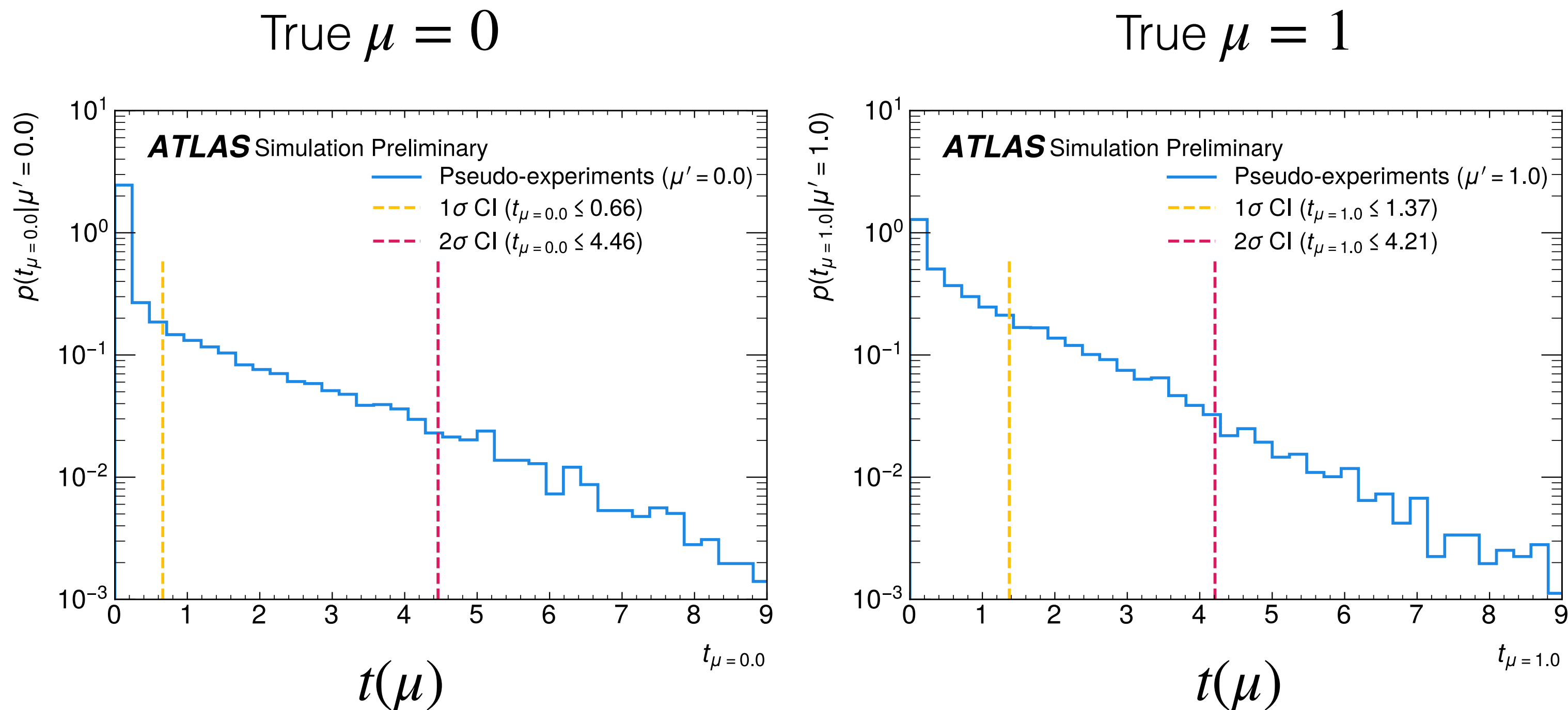
$$w_i^{toy} = \text{Poisson}(w_i^{Asimov})$$

(‘Unweighted’ events, i.e. integer weights)

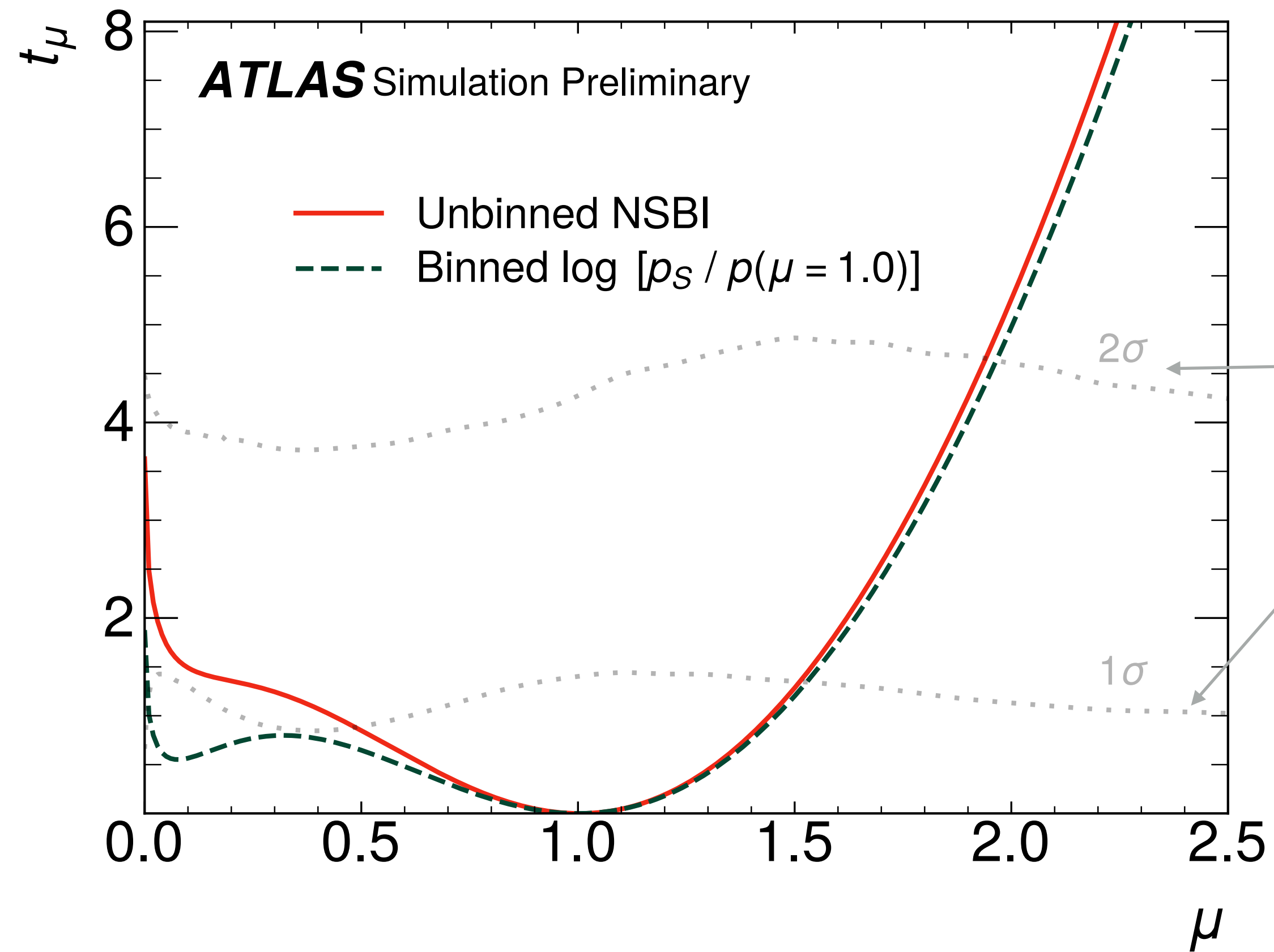


# Neyman Construction

- 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

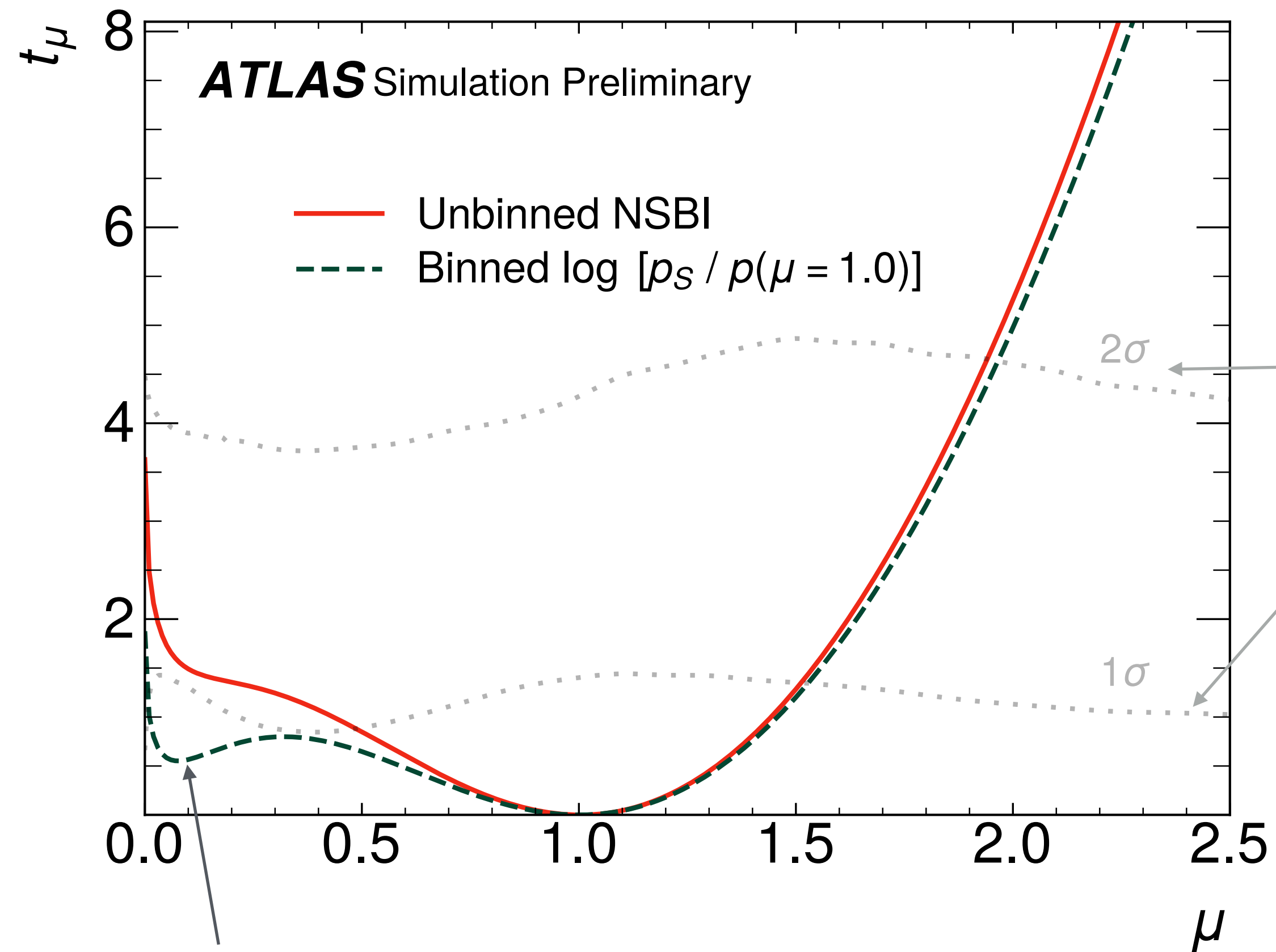


# Confidence belts



Similar to structure seen in histogram analysis

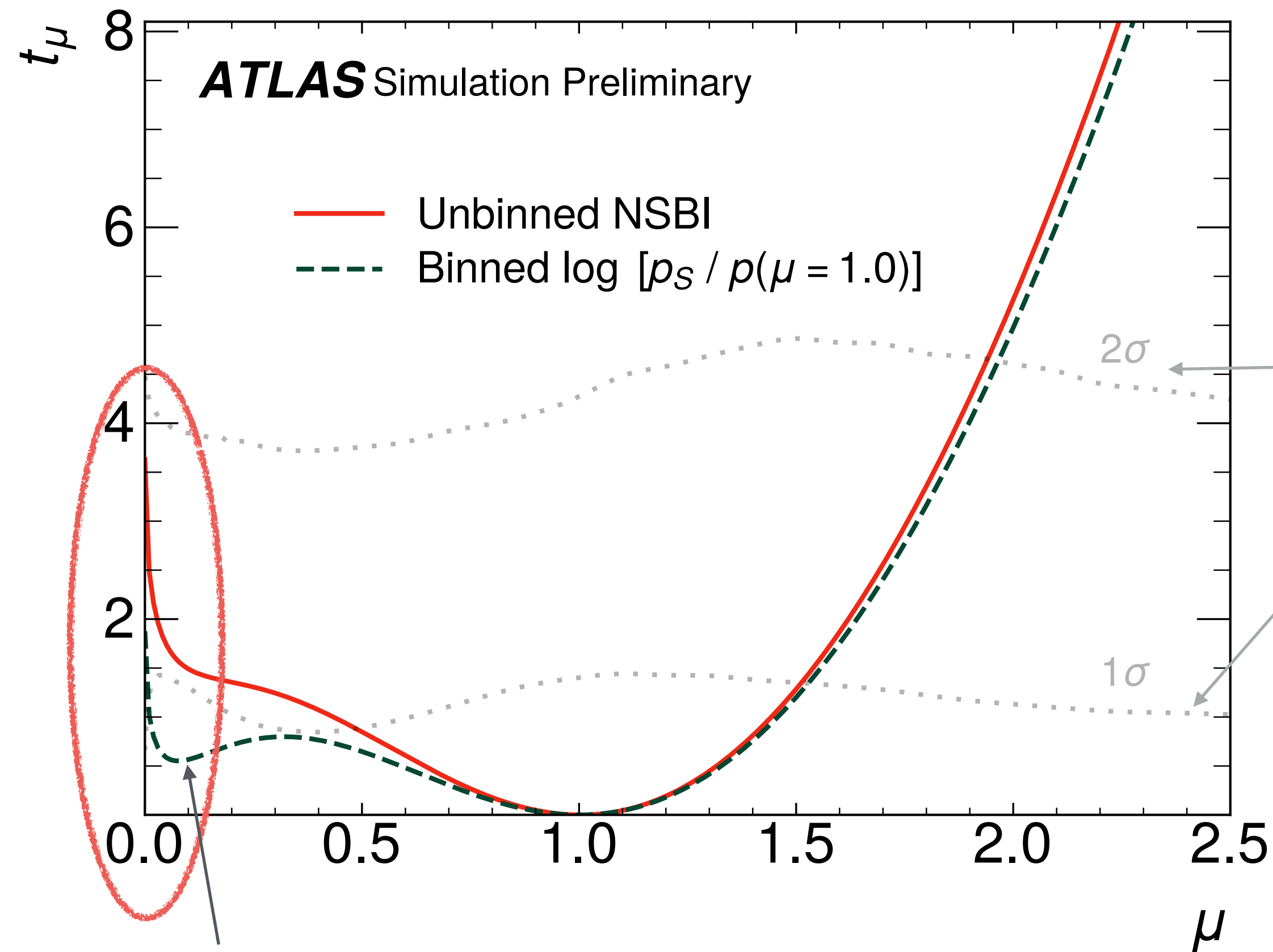
# Confidence belts



Similar to structure seen in histogram analysis

Significant improvement in Q1 impacted region

# Confidence belts



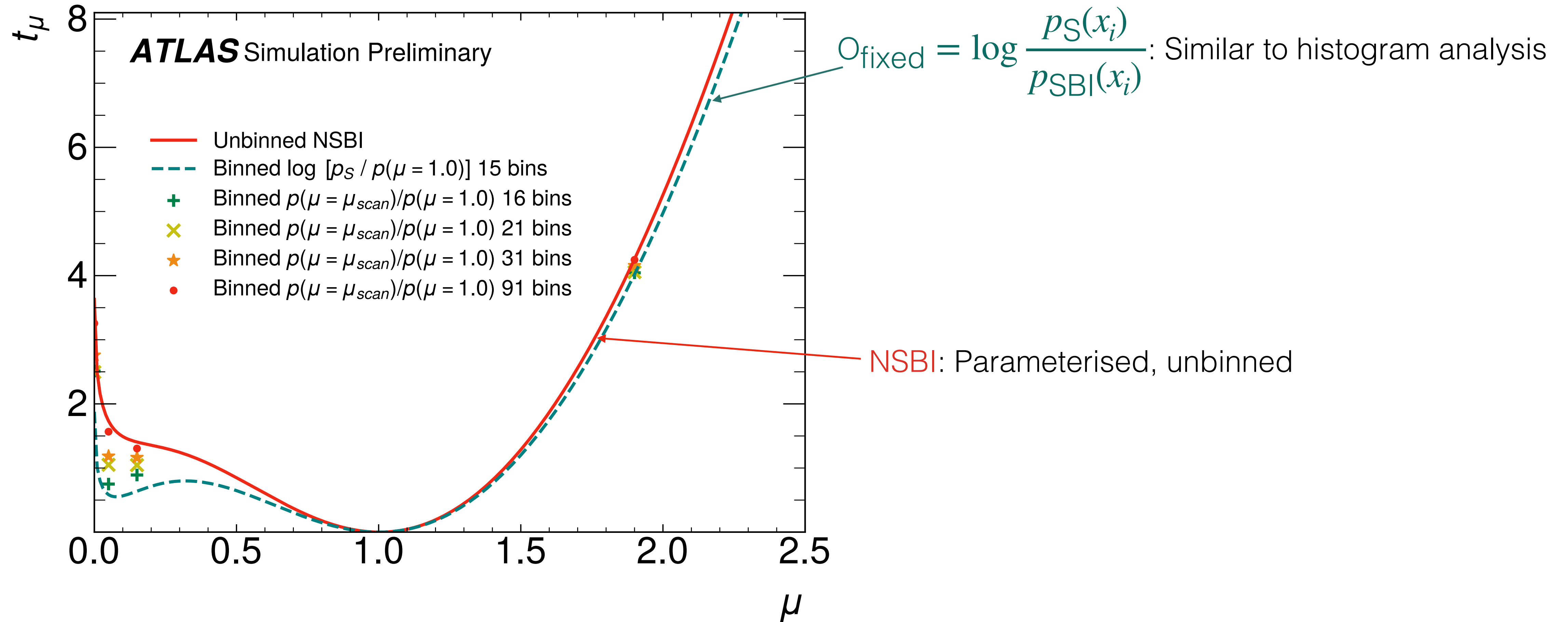
Similar to structure seen in histogram analysis

Significant improvement in QI impacted region

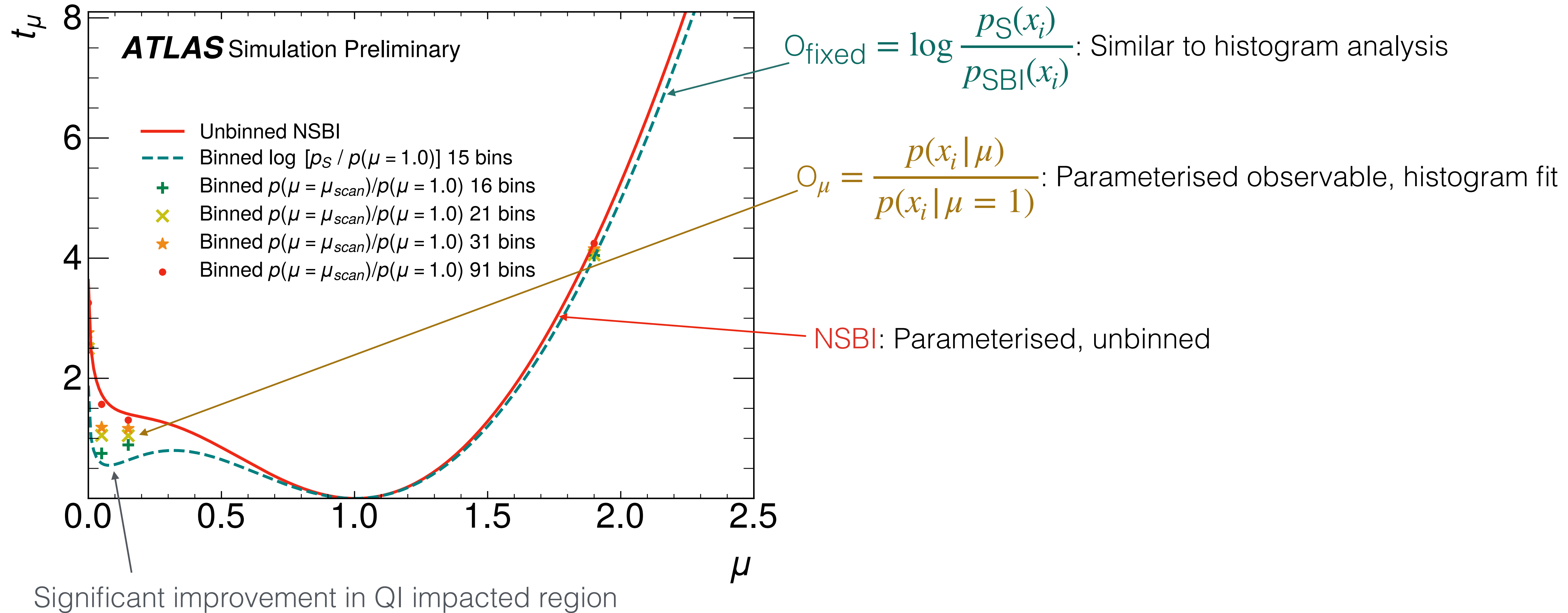
Expect a dramatic improvement in ability to reject null hypothesis

Why does NSBI work better than traditional analyses?

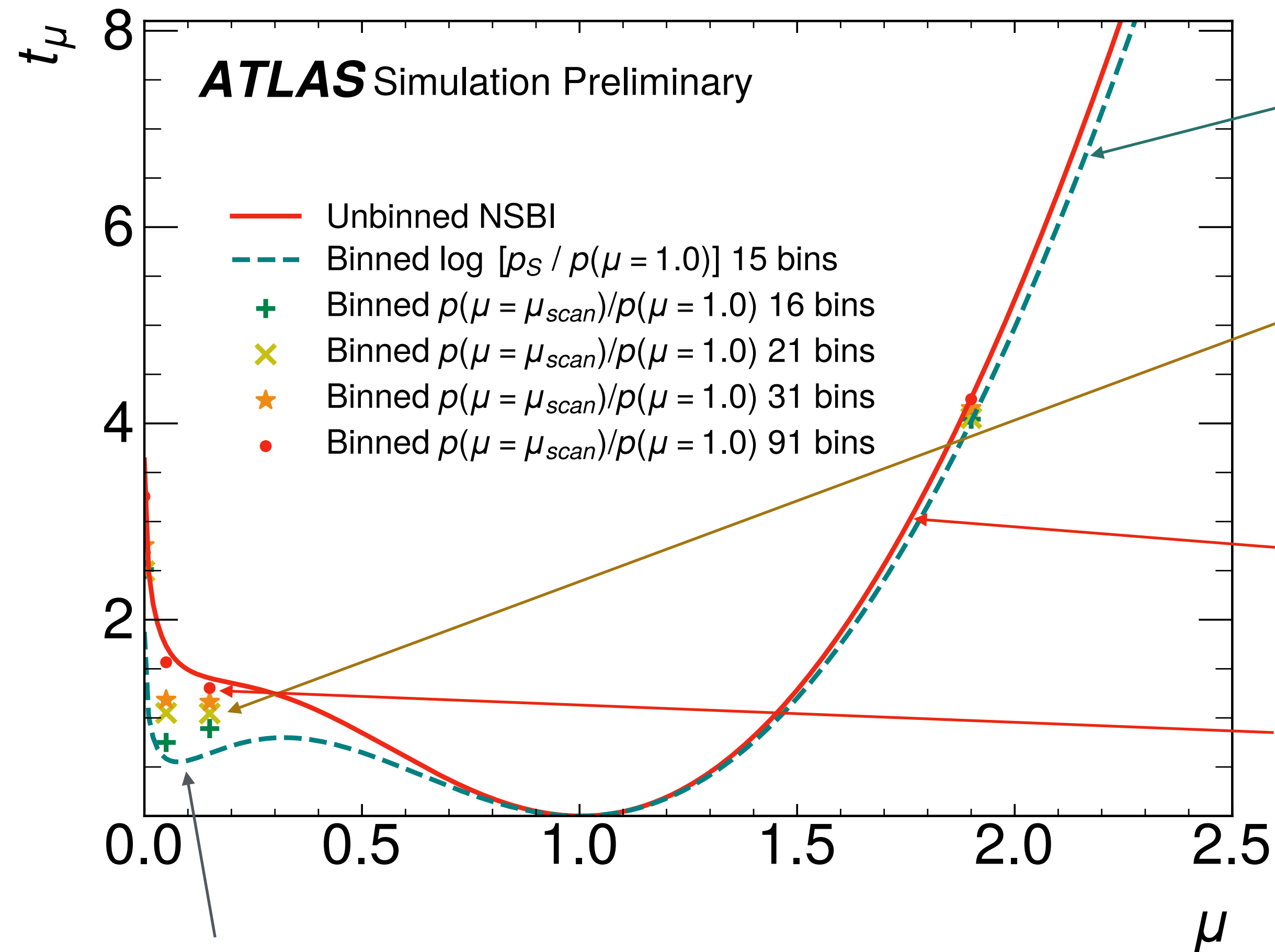
# Why does it work better than traditional analyses?



# Why does it work better than traditional analyses?



# Why does it work better than traditional analyses?



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

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

NSBI: Parameterised, unbinned

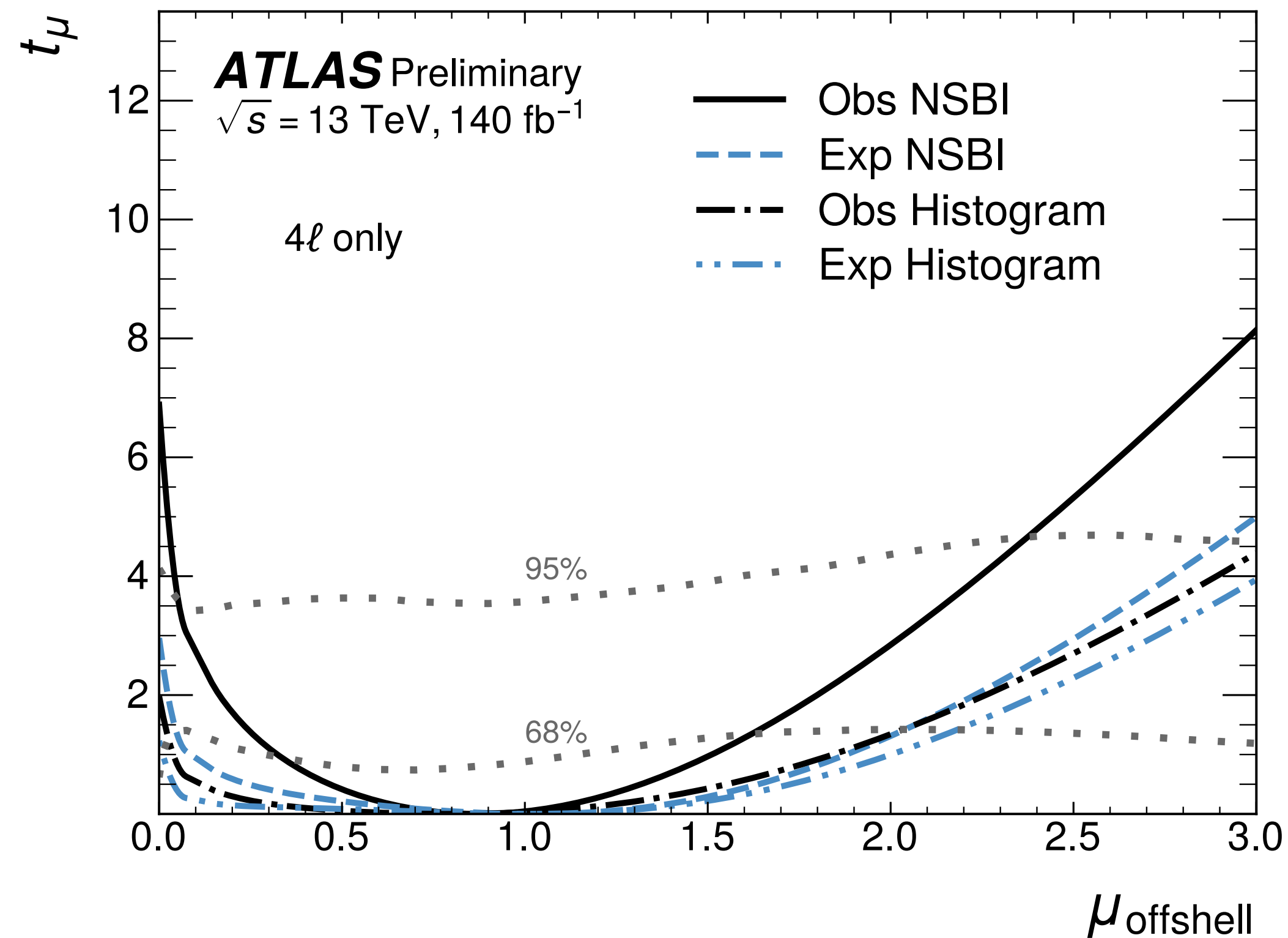
$O_\mu$  approaches NSBI as  $n\text{Bins} \rightarrow \infty$

Significant improvement in QI impacted region



# Final results: Apply on real data and supersede previous Run2 paper!

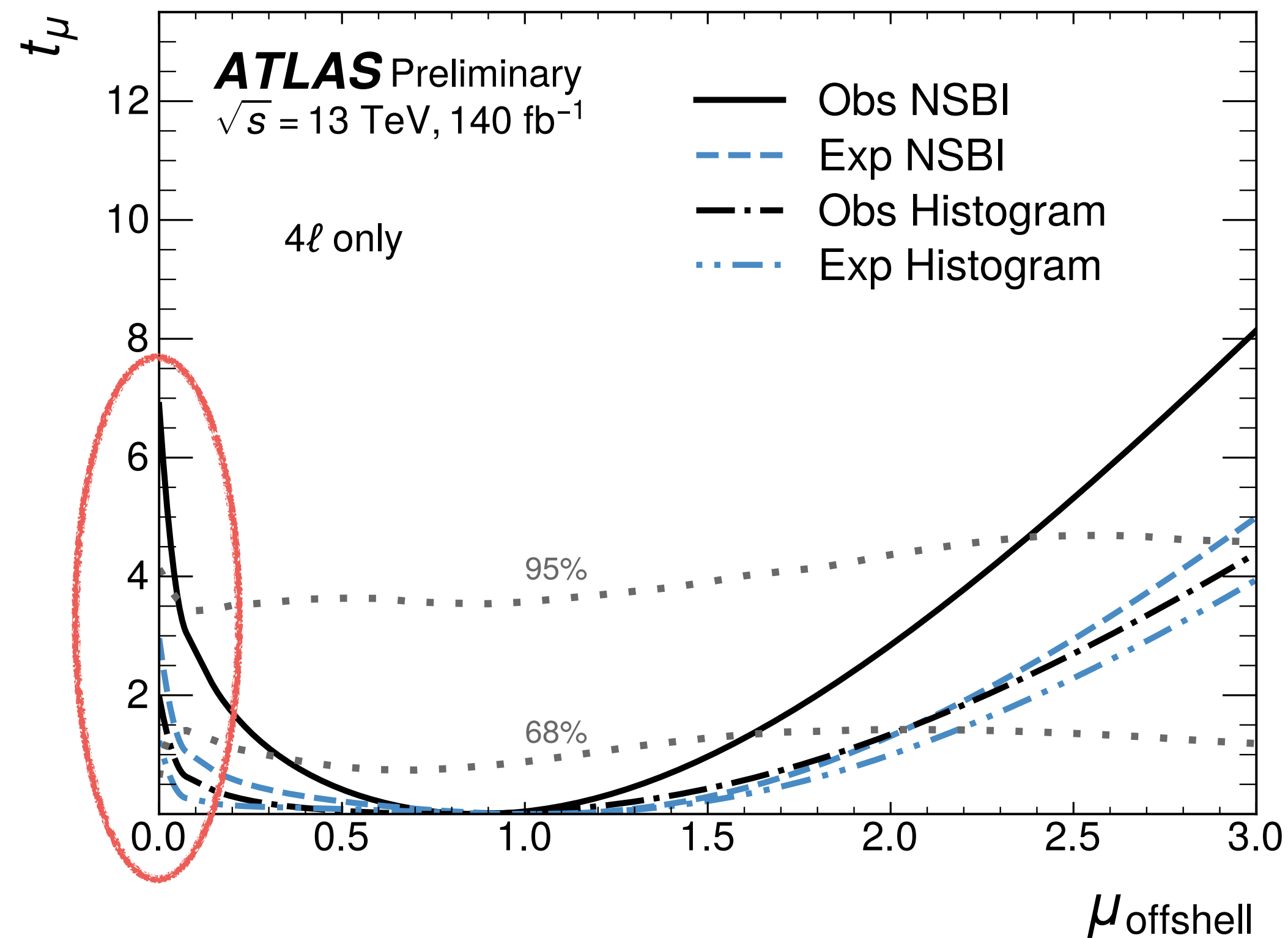
## NSBI vs histogram analysis



Observed data happens to provide stronger than expected constrains for both hist and NSBI (consistent)

# Final results: Apply on real data and supersede previous Run2 paper!

## NSBI vs histogram analysis

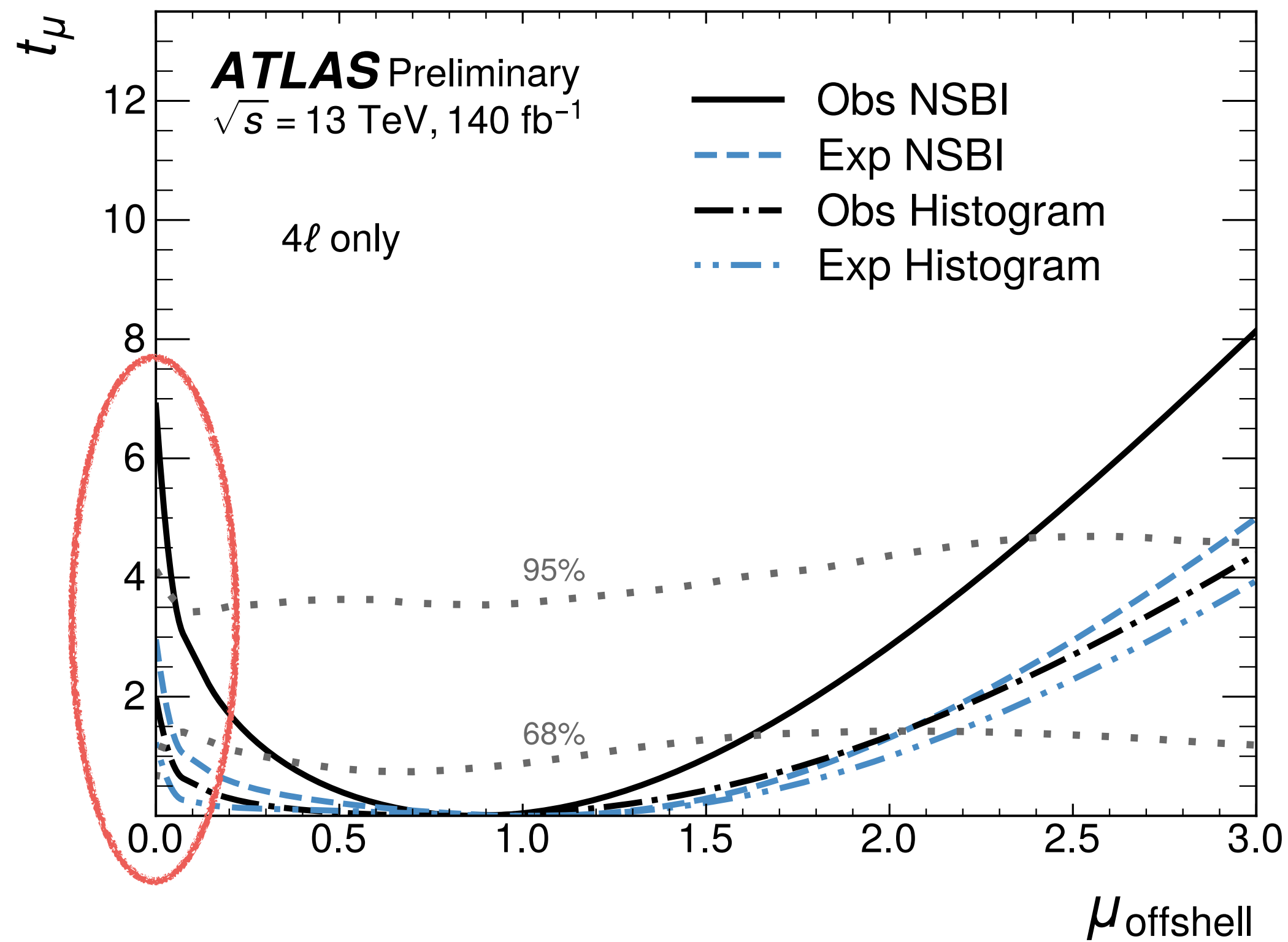


Unprecedented improvement in ability to reject null hypothesis! (2.6x gain over previous method)

Observed data happens to provide stronger than expected constrains for both hist and NSBI (consistent)

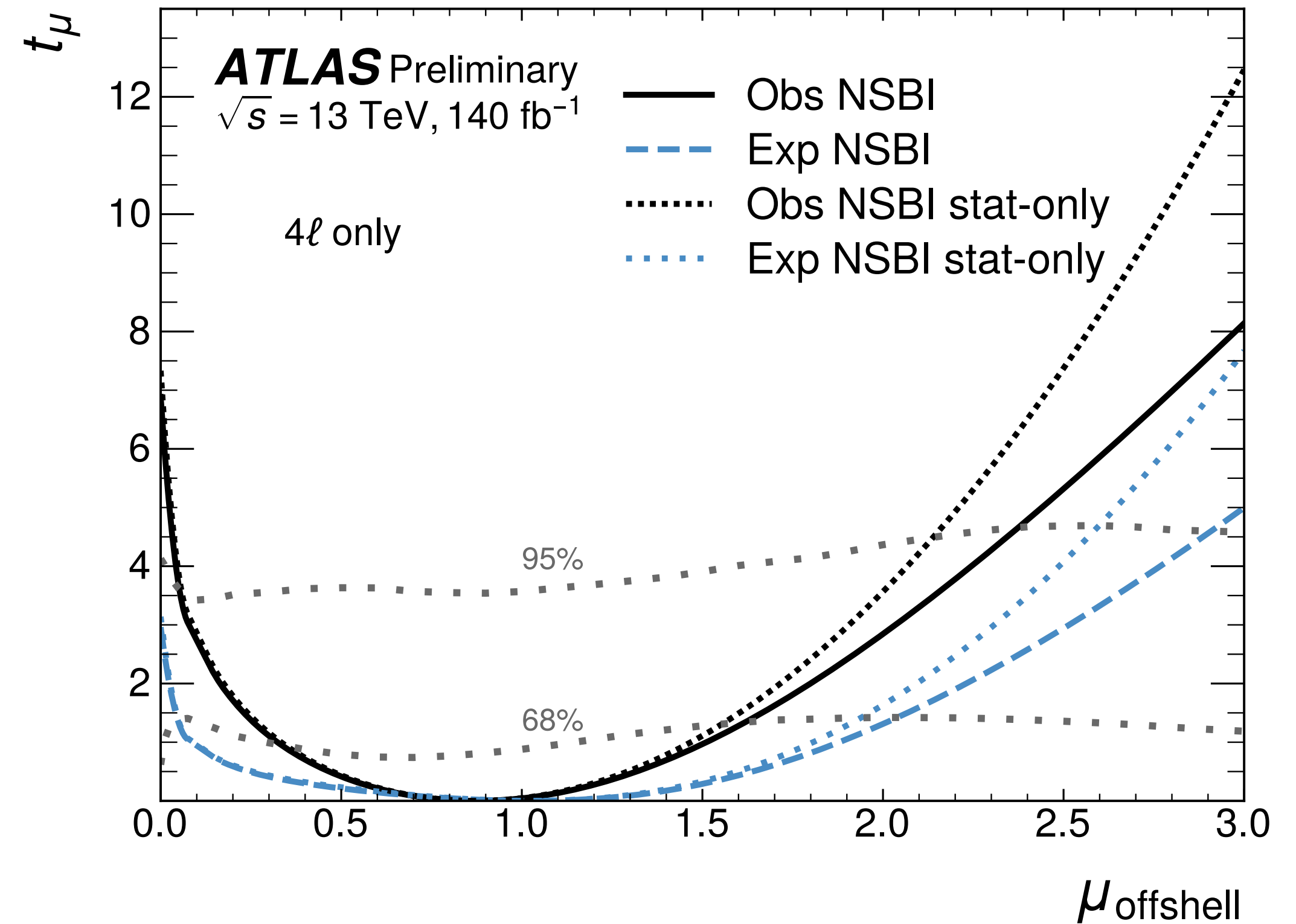
# Final results: Apply on real data and supersede previous Run2 paper!

## NSBI vs histogram analysis



Unprecedented improvement in ability to reject null hypothesis! (2.6x gain over previous method)  
Observed data happens to provide stronger than expected constrains for both hist and NSBI (consistent)

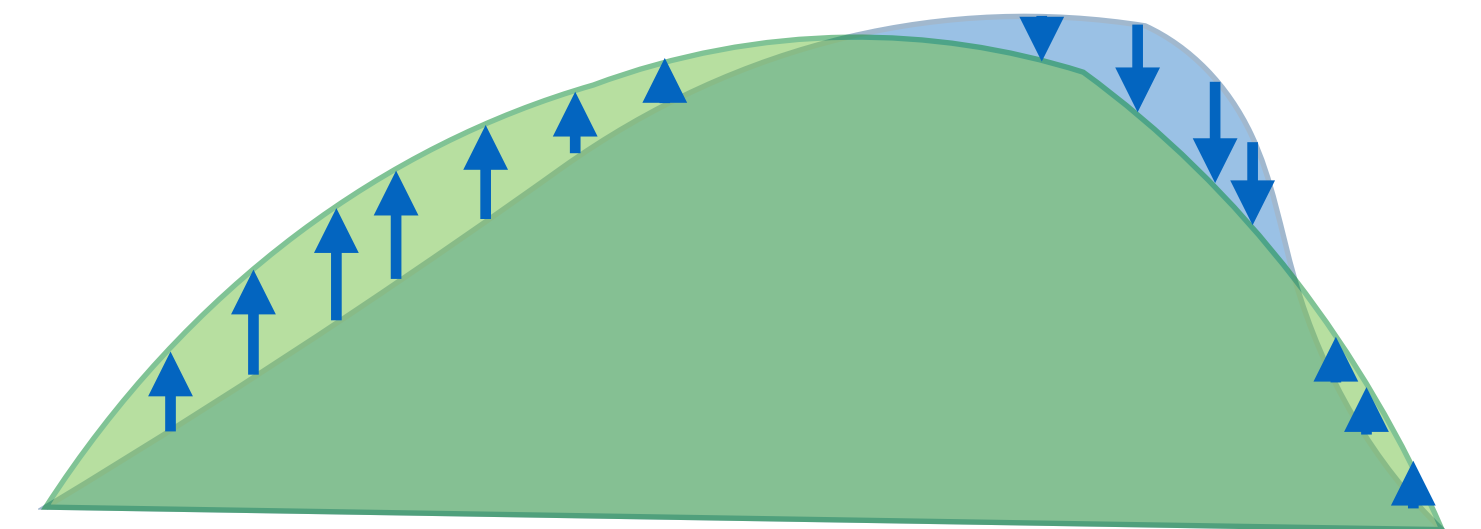
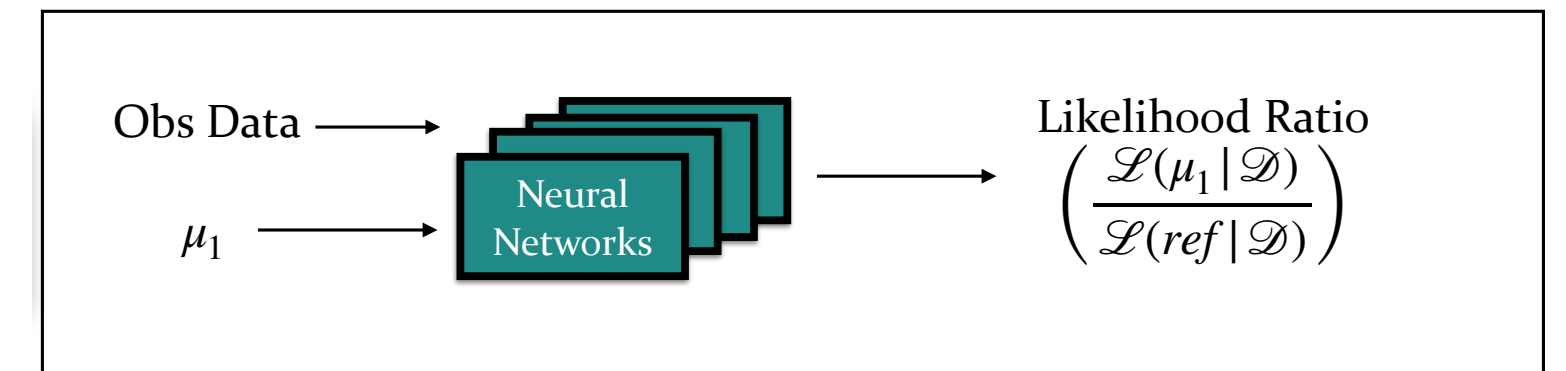
## Stat-only vs Stat+Syst uncertainties



Nuisance parameters decrease sensitivity, as expected

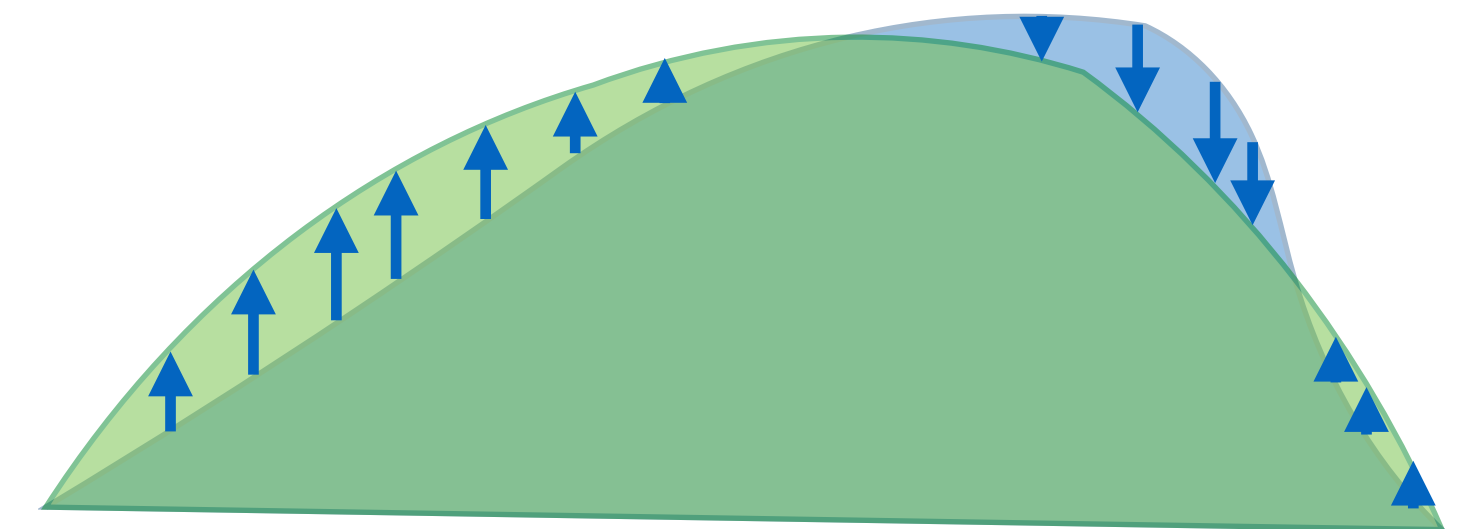
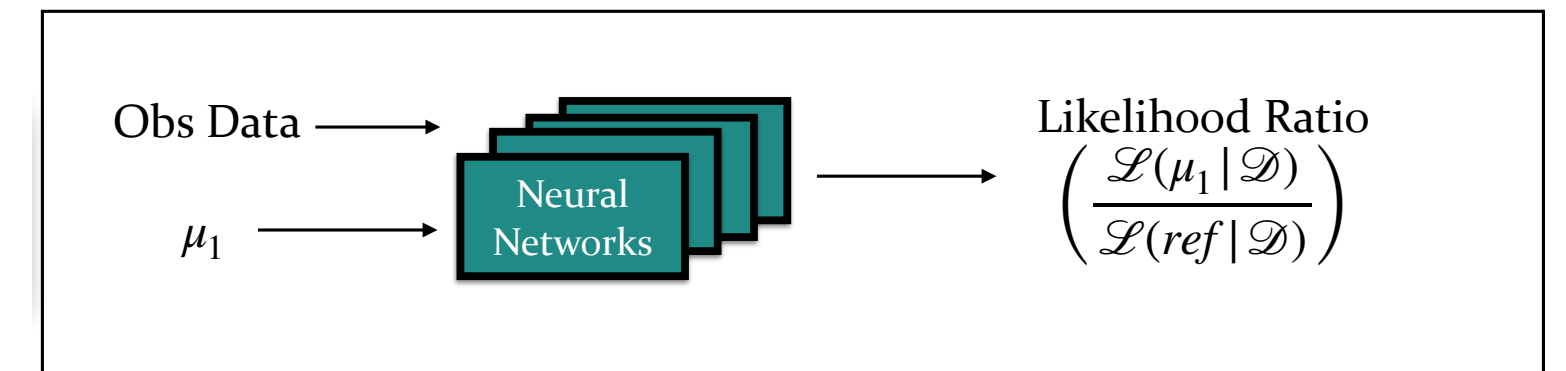
# Conclusion

- Quantum interference breaks assumptions in traditional statistical methods at LHC
- Neural inference can optimally handle these challenges for Higgs width:
  - Shown in phenomenology study
  - Developed method for deployment in ATLAS
  - Re-analysed Run 2 data and achieved a dramatic improvement in sensitivity ( $H \rightarrow 4l$ )
- NSBI has wide-ranging applications, in particle physics, astrophysics and beyond!
- Weaknesses: Same as traditional analyses (systematics, training statistics). Developed diagnostic tools to help
- Uncertainty quantification tools let you use more powerful data analysis techniques [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)]



# Conclusion

- Quantum interference breaks assumptions in traditional statistical methods at LHC
- Neural inference can optimally handle these challenges for Higgs width:
  - Shown in phenomenology study
  - Developed method for deployment in ATLAS
  - Re-analysed Run 2 data and achieved a dramatic improvement in sensitivity ( $H \rightarrow 4l$ )
- NSBI has wide-ranging applications, in particle physics, astrophysics and beyond!
- Weaknesses: Same as traditional analyses (systematics, training statistics). Developed diagnostic tools to help
- Uncertainty quantification tools let you use more powerful data analysis techniques [[1](#), [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [5](#)]



Thanks !

## Dealing with negative weighted events

---

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

Simulated samples include events with negative weights due to the way we calculate QFT higher order effects

Use a positive weighted sample instead:

1. Start from a positive weighted reference sample
2. Re-weight it to intended parameter point in  $\mu, \alpha$
3. Throw toys from this sample

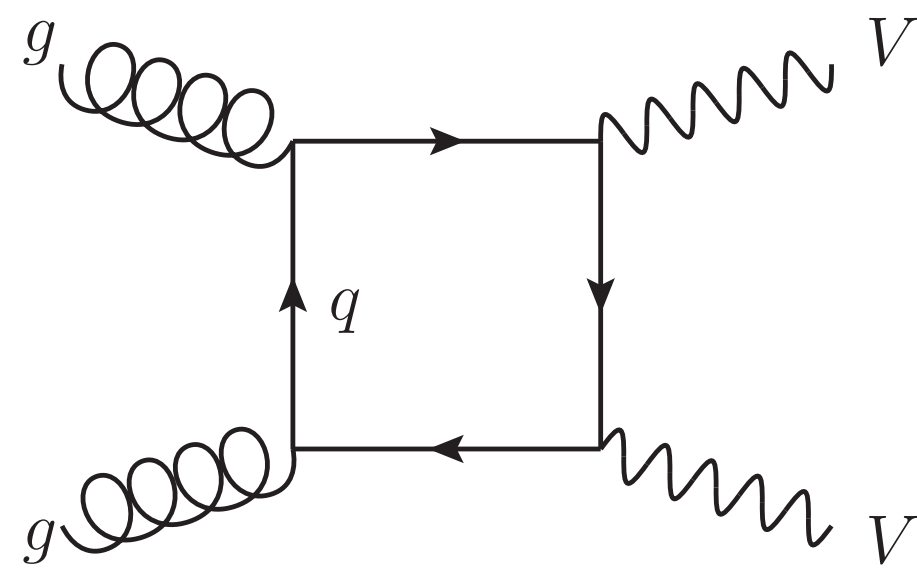
$$w_i^{\text{rwt-ref}} \rightarrow w_i^{\text{Asimov}}(\mu, \alpha) = \frac{v(\mu, \alpha)}{v_{\text{rwt-ref}}} \cdot \frac{p(x_i | \mu, \alpha)}{p_{\text{rwt-ref}}(x_i)} \cdot w_i^{\text{rwt-ref}}$$

# Non-linear problem

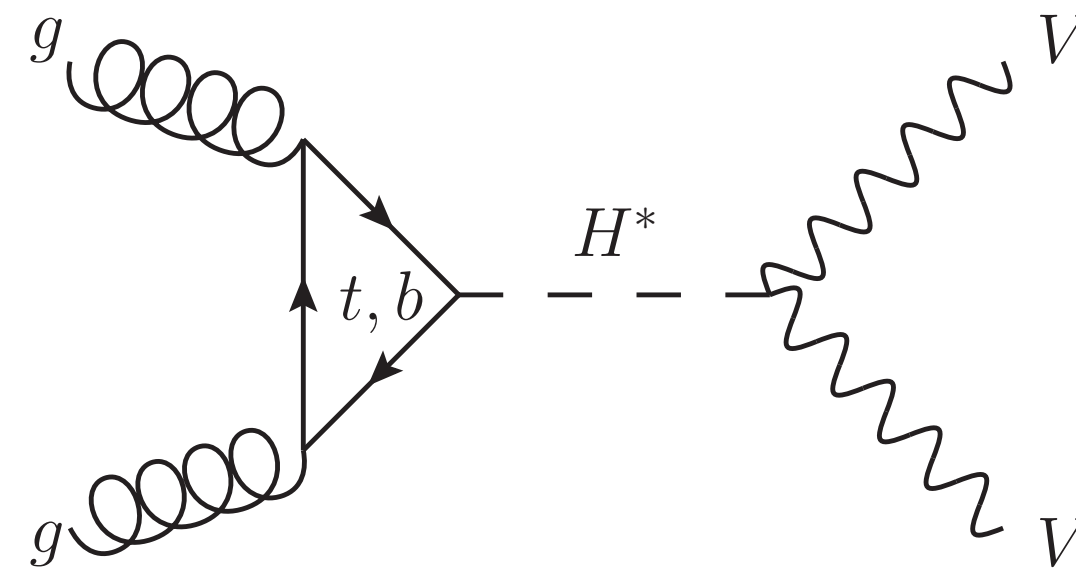
hal-02971995v3: Ghosh et al.

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

This term is negative



gg Background



ggF Signal

Scale by signal strength  $\mu$ :

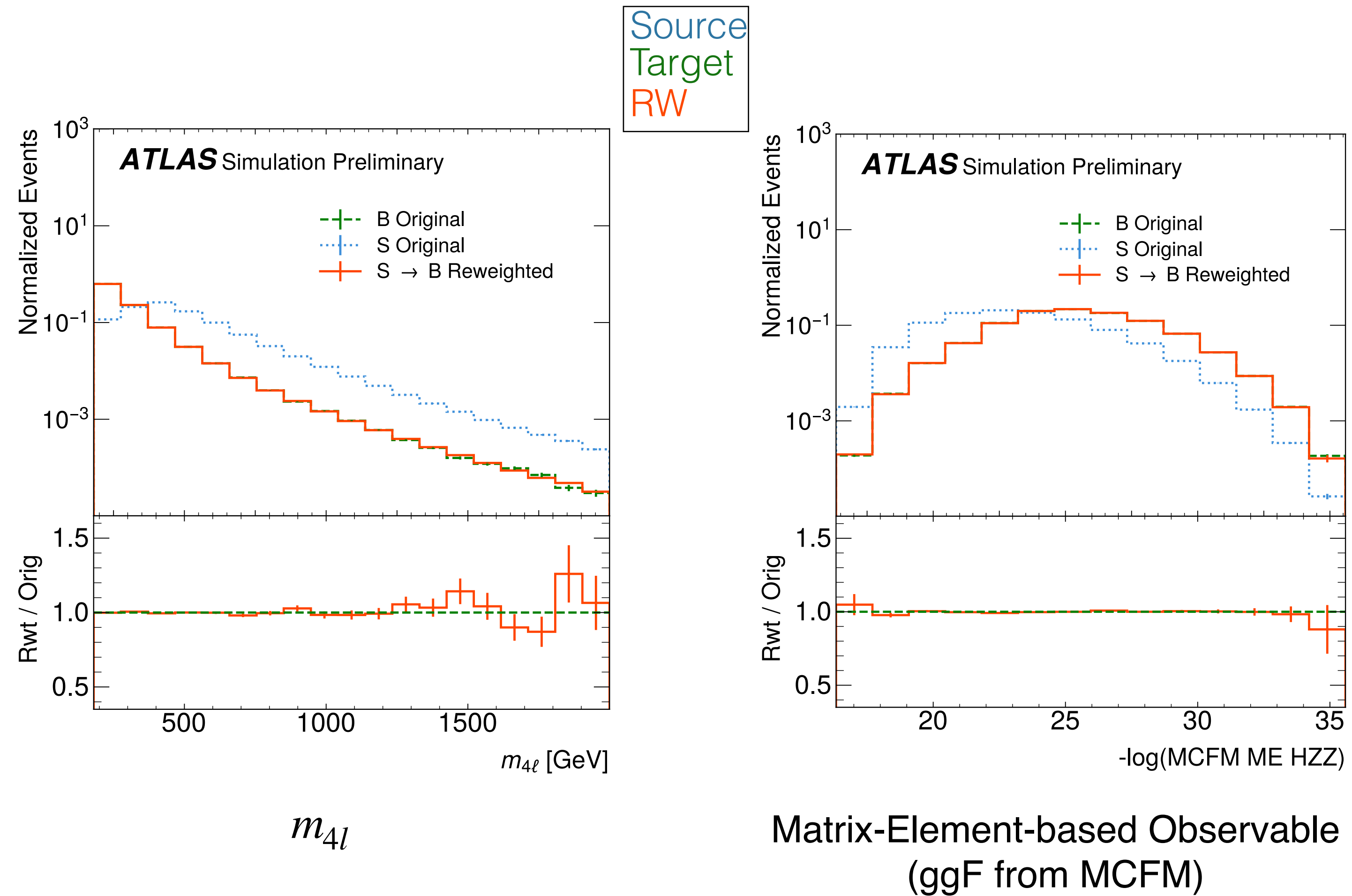
$$|M_s(X)|^2 \rightarrow |\sqrt{\mu} \cdot M_s(X)|^2,$$

$$P_{\text{scaled}}(X) = \mu \cdot P_s(X) + P_b(X) + \sqrt{\mu} \cdot P_i(X).$$

More diagnostics

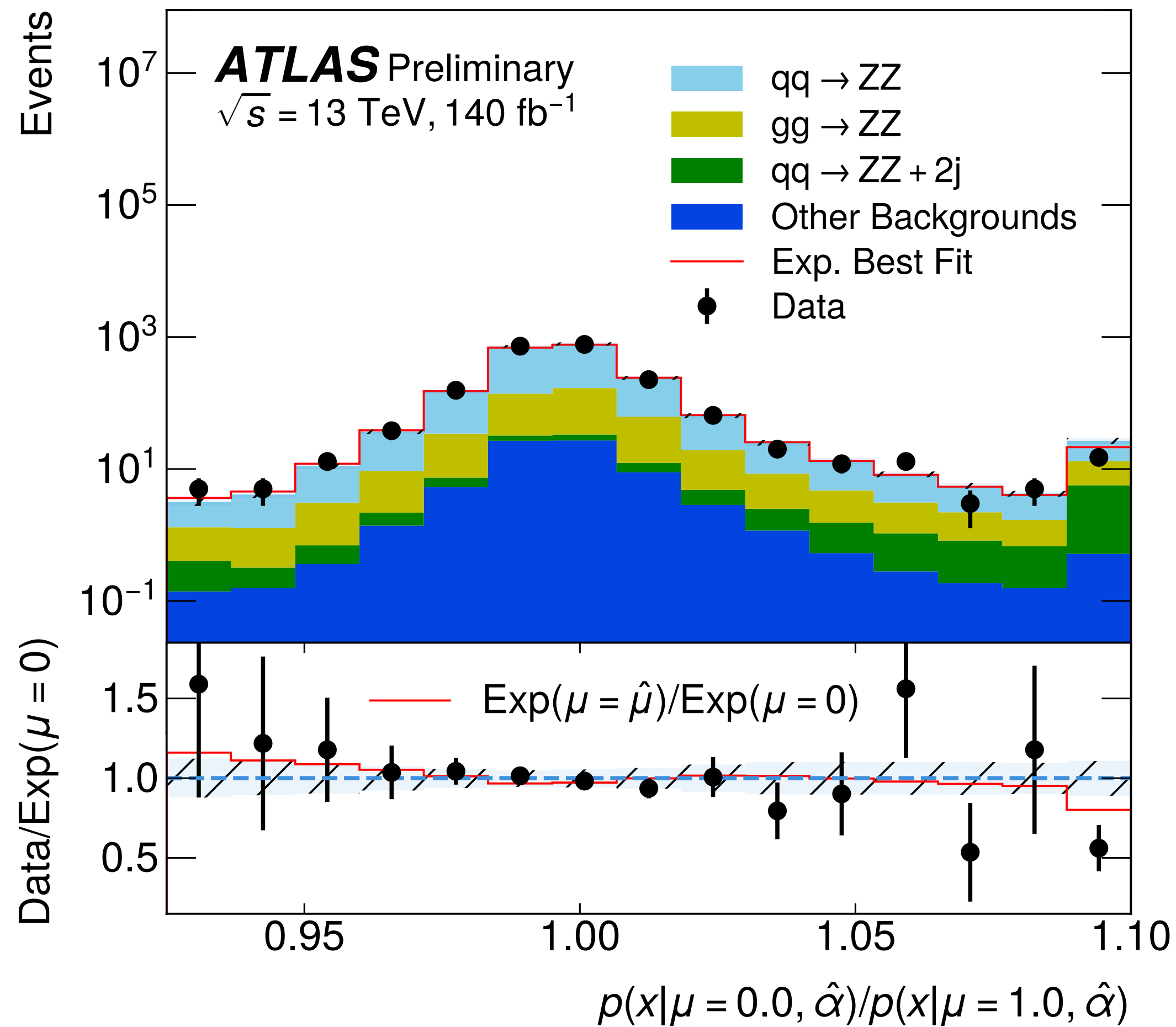


# Re-weight closures for B

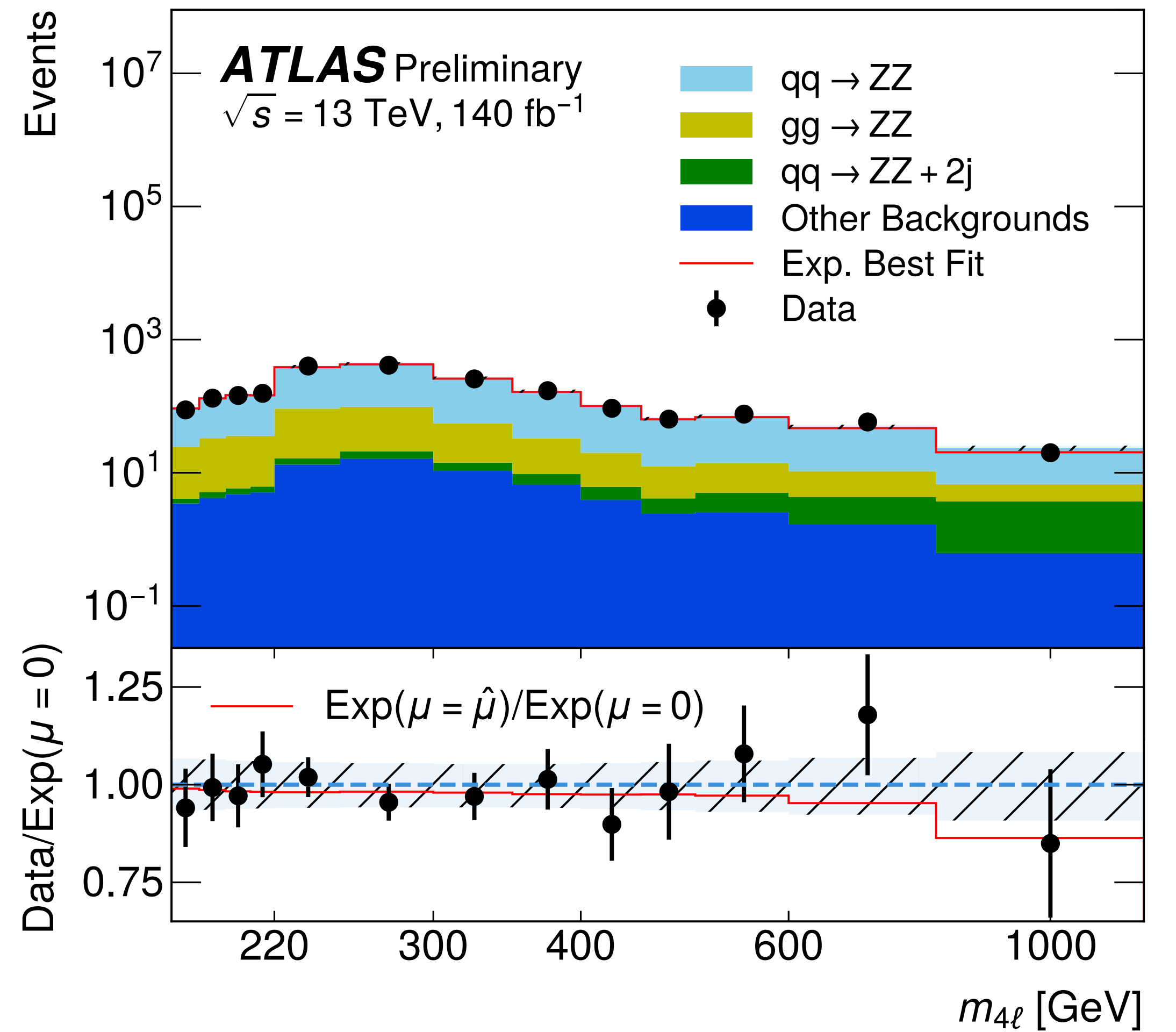


# Data-MC validation

NN observable

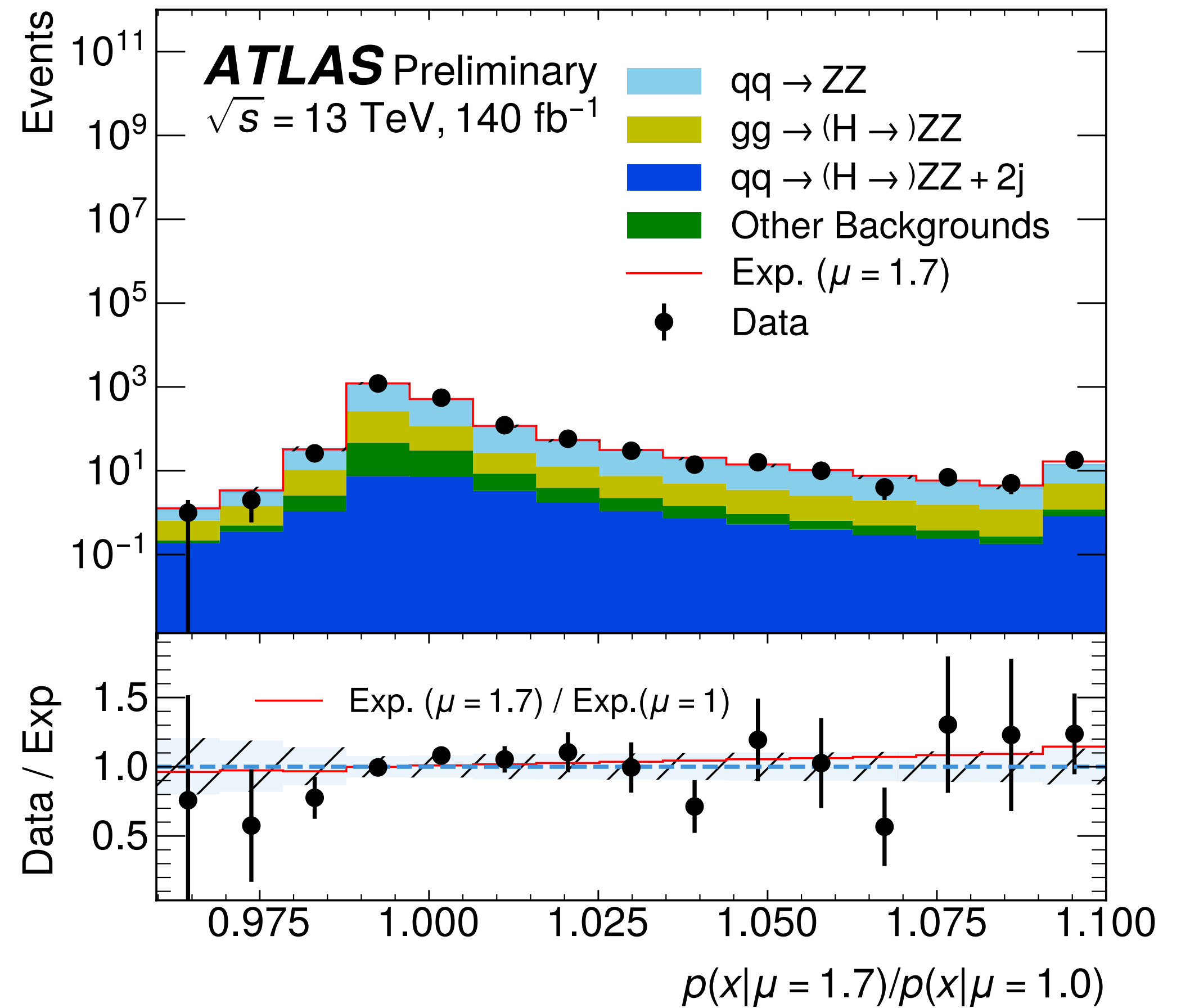
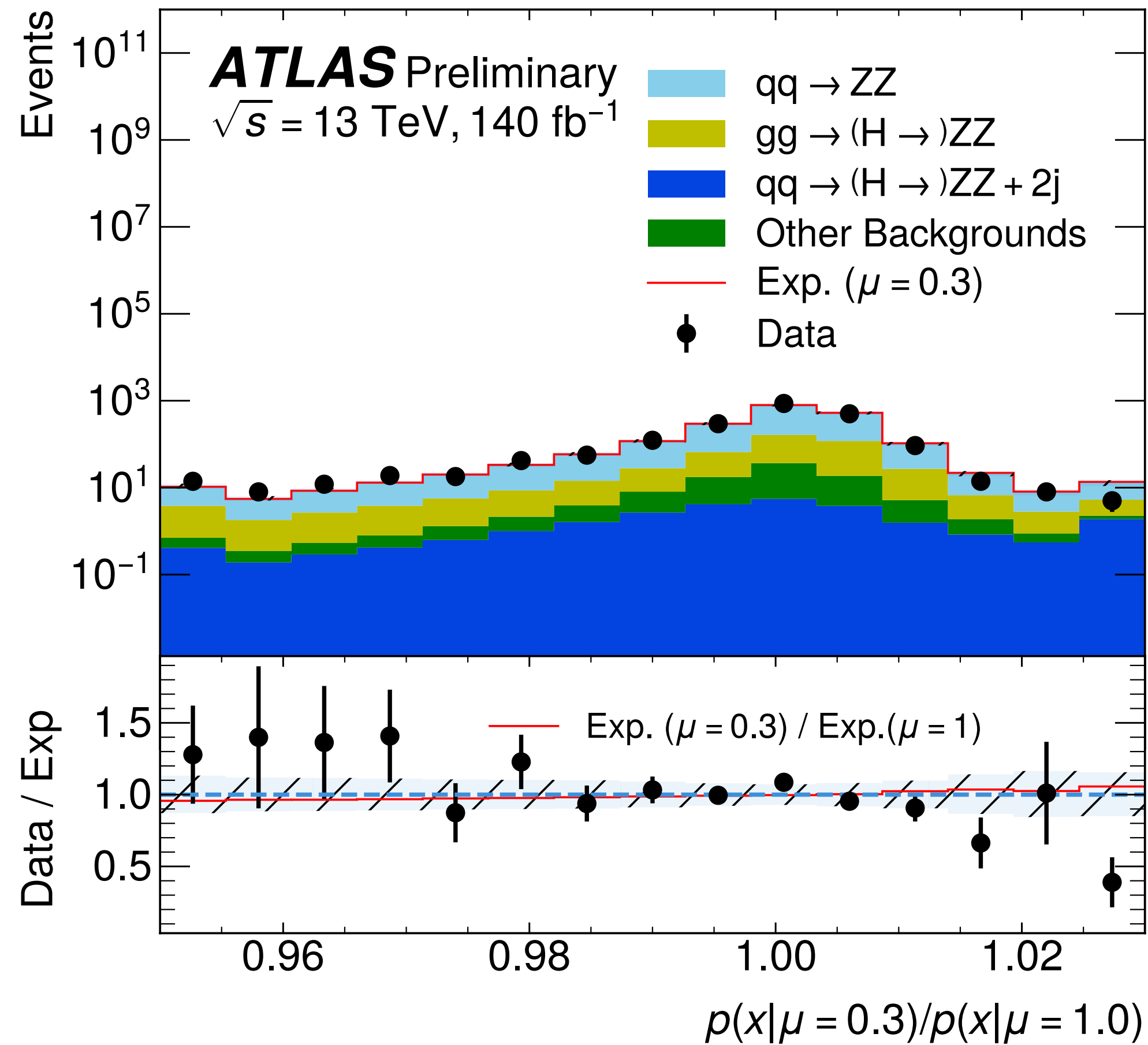


$m_{4l}$



# Data-MC validation

## Different NN observables



## Combination with histogram analyses

---

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

# 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:

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

# Vertical interpolation

---

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

With some continuity requirements

# Physics analysis results

# Impact of nuisance parameters

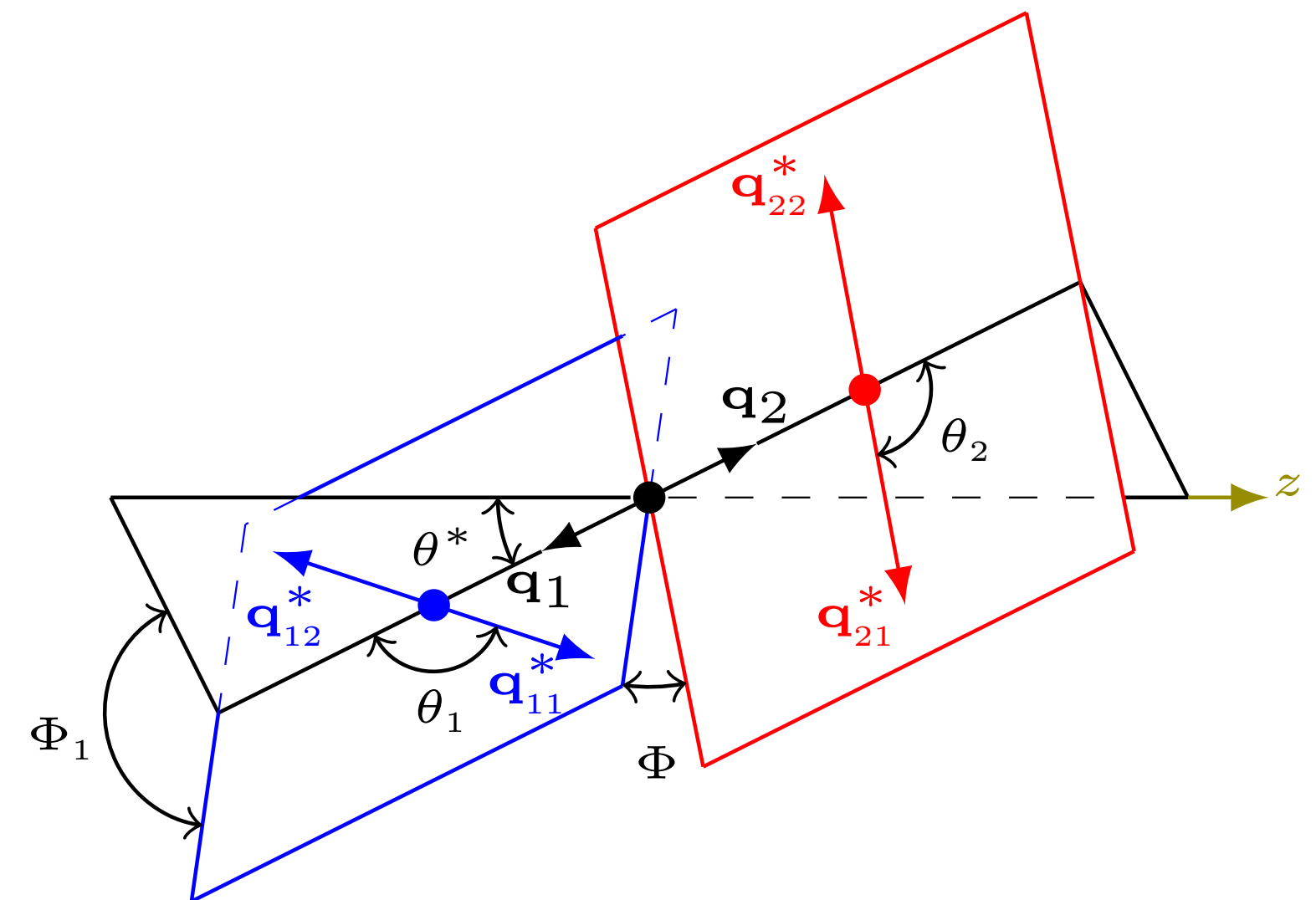
<b>Systematic Uncertainty Fixed</b>	$\mu_{\text{off-shell}}$ Value at which $t_{\mu_{\text{off-shell}}} = 4$	
	<b>NSBI analysis</b>	<b>Histogram-based</b>
All (stat-only)	1.96	2.13
Parton shower uncertainty for $gg \rightarrow ZZ$ (normalization)	2.07	2.26
Parton shower uncertainty for $gg \rightarrow ZZ$ (shape)	2.12	2.29
NLO EW uncertainty for $q\bar{q} \rightarrow ZZ$	2.10	2.27
NLO QCD uncertainty for $gg \rightarrow ZZ$	2.09	2.29
Parton shower uncertainty for $q\bar{q} \rightarrow ZZ$ (shape)	2.12	2.29
Jet energy scale and resolution uncertainty	2.11	2.26
None (full result)	2.12	2.30



# Full probability model, input variables

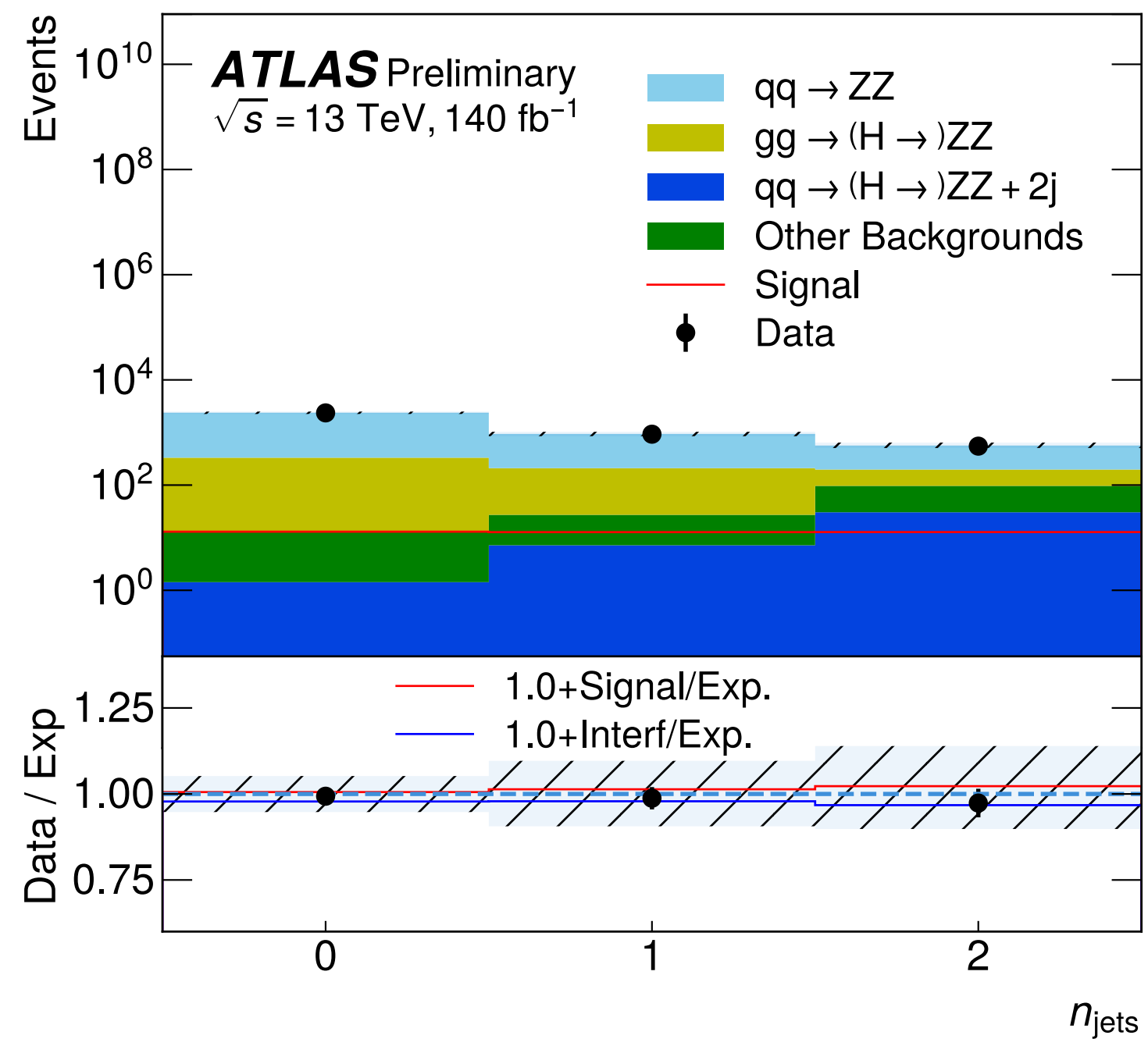
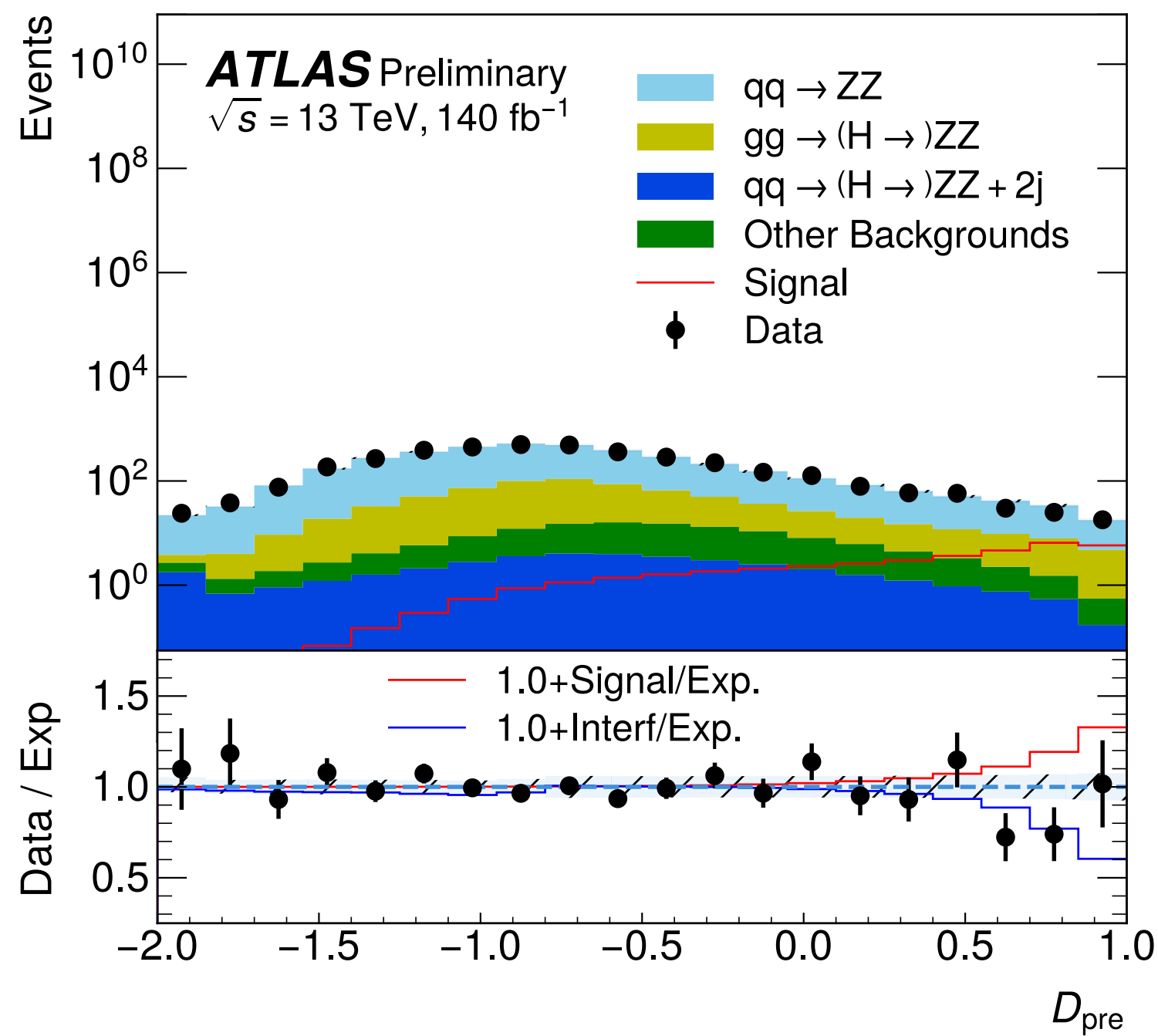
$$p(x|\mu_{\text{off-shell}}^{\text{ggF}}, \mu_{\text{off-shell}}^{\text{EW}}) = \frac{1}{\nu(\mu_{\text{off-shell}}^{\text{ggF}}, \mu_{\text{off-shell}}^{\text{EW}})} \times \left[ \mu_{\text{off-shell}}^{\text{ggF}} \nu_{\text{S}}^{\text{ggF}} p_{\text{S}}^{\text{ggF}}(x) + \sqrt{\mu_{\text{off-shell}}^{\text{ggF}}} \nu_{\text{I}}^{\text{ggF}} p_{\text{I}}^{\text{ggF}}(x) + \nu_{\text{B}}^{\text{ggF}} p_{\text{B}}^{\text{ggF}}(x) + \mu_{\text{off-shell}}^{\text{EW}} \nu_{\text{S}}^{\text{EW}} p_{\text{S}}^{\text{EW}}(x) + \sqrt{\mu_{\text{off-shell}}^{\text{EW}}} \nu_{\text{I}}^{\text{EW}} p_{\text{I}}^{\text{EW}}(x) + \nu_{\text{B}}^{\text{EW}} p_{\text{B}}^{\text{EW}}(x) + \nu_{\text{NI}} p_{\text{NI}}(x) \right],$$

Variable	Definition
$m_{4\ell}$	quadruplet mass
$m_{Z1}$	$Z_1$ mass
$m_{Z2}$	$Z_2$ mass
$\cos \theta^*$	cosine of the Higgs boson decay angle [ $\mathbf{q}_1 \cdot \mathbf{n}_z /  \mathbf{q}_1 $ ]
$\cos \theta_1$	cosine of the $Z_1$ decay angle [ $-(\mathbf{q}_2) \cdot \mathbf{q}_{11} / ( \mathbf{q}_2  \cdot  \mathbf{q}_{11} )$ ]
$\cos \theta_2$	cosine of the $Z_2$ decay angle [ $-(\mathbf{q}_1) \cdot \mathbf{q}_{21} / ( \mathbf{q}_1  \cdot  \mathbf{q}_{21} )$ ]
$\Phi_1$	$Z_1$ decay plane angle [ $\cos^{-1}(\mathbf{n}_1 \cdot \mathbf{n}_{\text{sc}}) (\mathbf{q}_1 \cdot (\mathbf{n}_1 \times \mathbf{n}_{\text{sc}})) / ( \mathbf{q}_1  \cdot  \mathbf{n}_1 \times \mathbf{n}_{\text{sc}} )$ ]
$\Phi$	angle between $Z_1, Z_2$ decay planes [ $\cos^{-1}(\mathbf{n}_1 \cdot \mathbf{n}_2) (\mathbf{q}_1 \cdot (\mathbf{n}_1 \times \mathbf{n}_2)) / ( \mathbf{q}_1  \cdot  \mathbf{n}_1 \times \mathbf{n}_2 )$ ]
$p_T^{4\ell}$	quadruplet transverse momentum
$y^{4\ell}$	quadruplet rapidity
$n_{\text{jets}}$	number of jets in the event
$m_{jj}$	leading dijet system mass
$\Delta\eta_{jj}$	leading dijet system pseudorapidity
$\Delta\phi_{jj}$	leading dijet system azimuthal angle difference

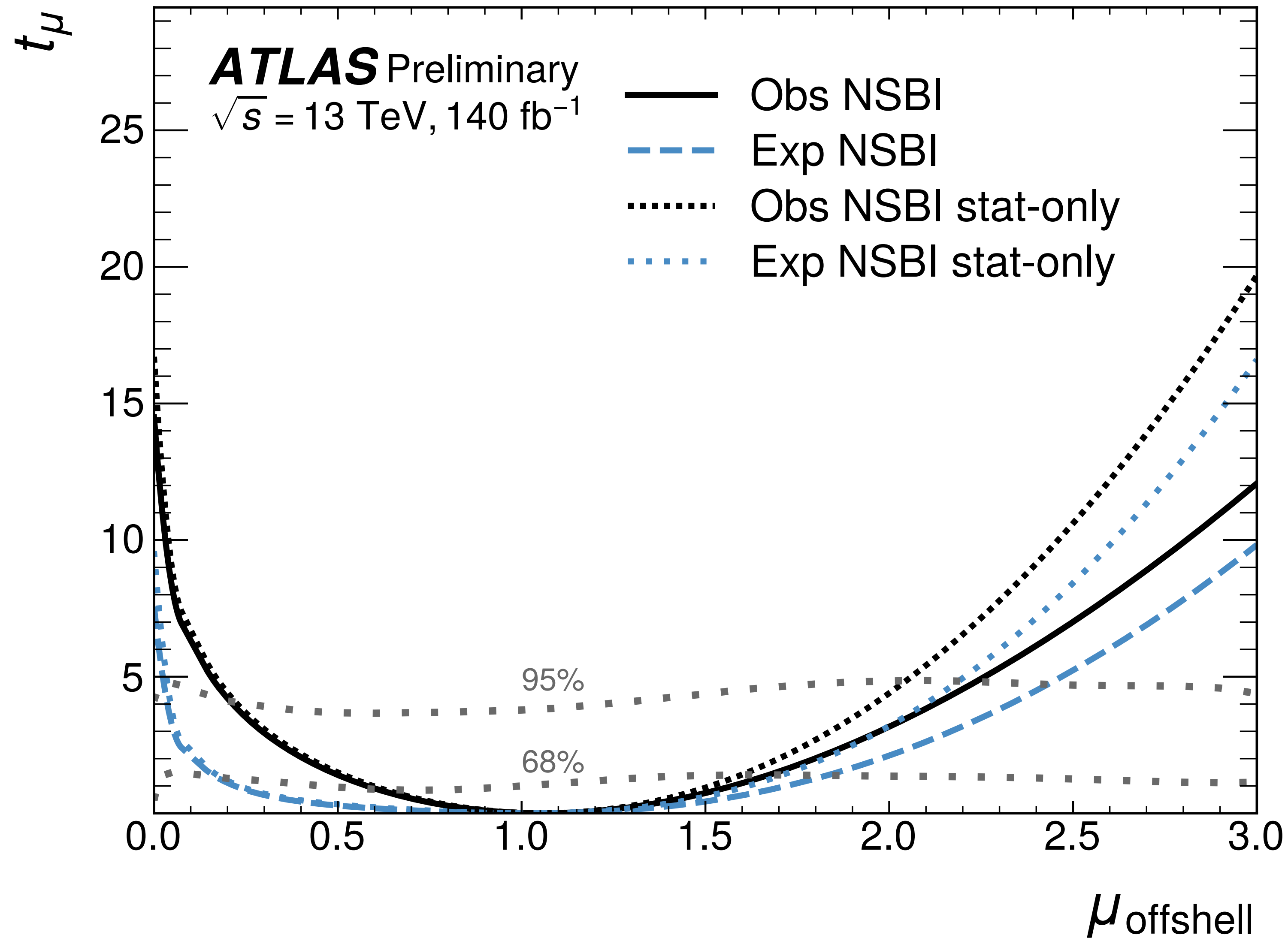


# Pre-selection region definition

$$D_{\text{pre}}(x) = \log \frac{s_{\text{pre}, S}^{\text{ggF}}(x) + s_{\text{pre}, S}^{\text{EW}}(x)}{s_{\text{pre}, B}^{\text{ggF}}(x) + s_{\text{pre}, B}^{\text{EW}}(x) + s_{\text{pre}, q\bar{q}ZZ}(x)},$$



# Result after combination with $ll\nu\nu$

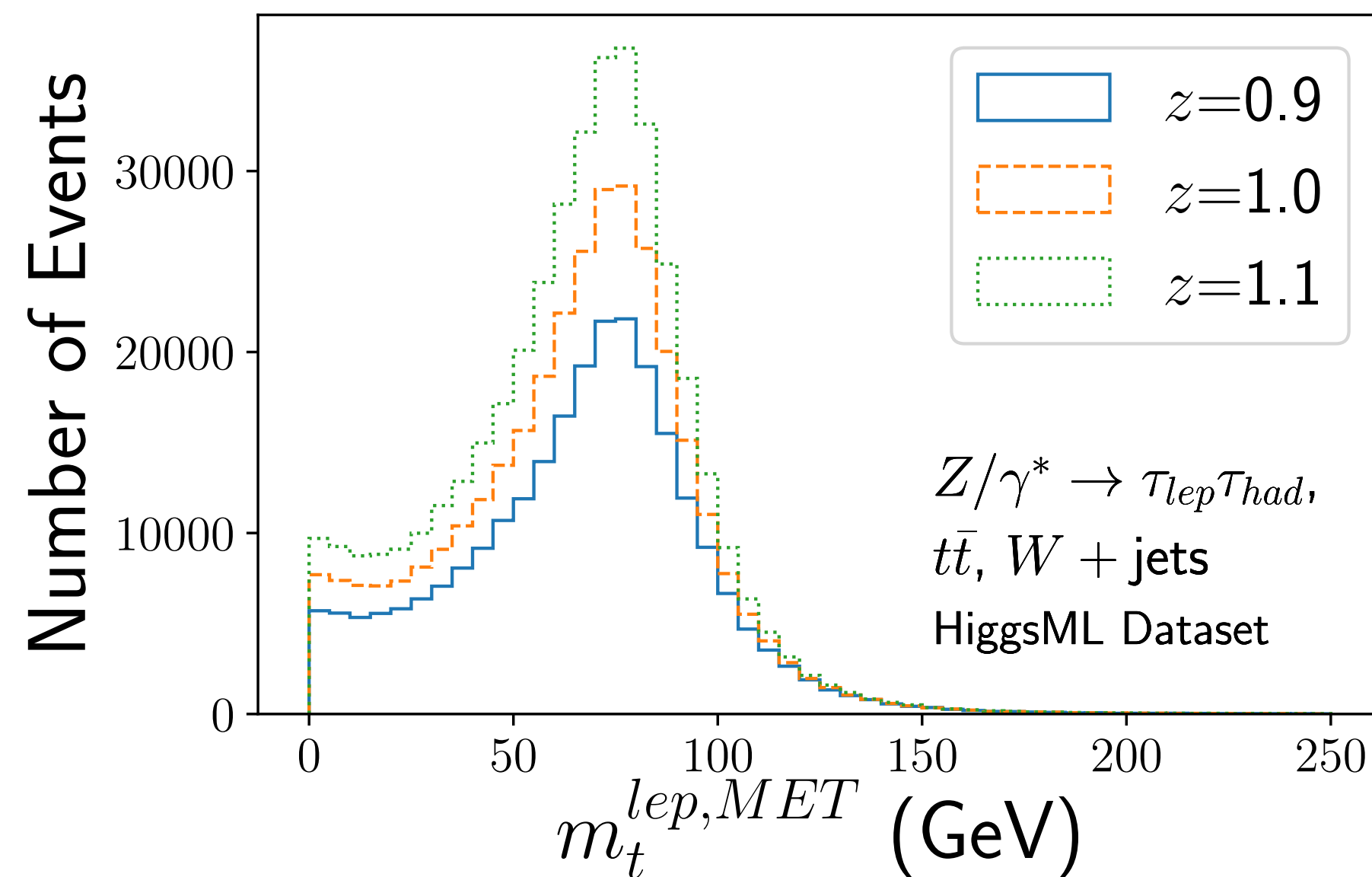


Able to set two-sided limit at 68% CL now

# Traditionally ignoring systematic uncertainties during analysis optimisation

[PRD.104.056026](#): **Aishik Ghosh**, Benjamin Nachman, and Daniel Whiteson

Experimental uncertainties:  
Eg. Inaccuracies in the calibration of our detector

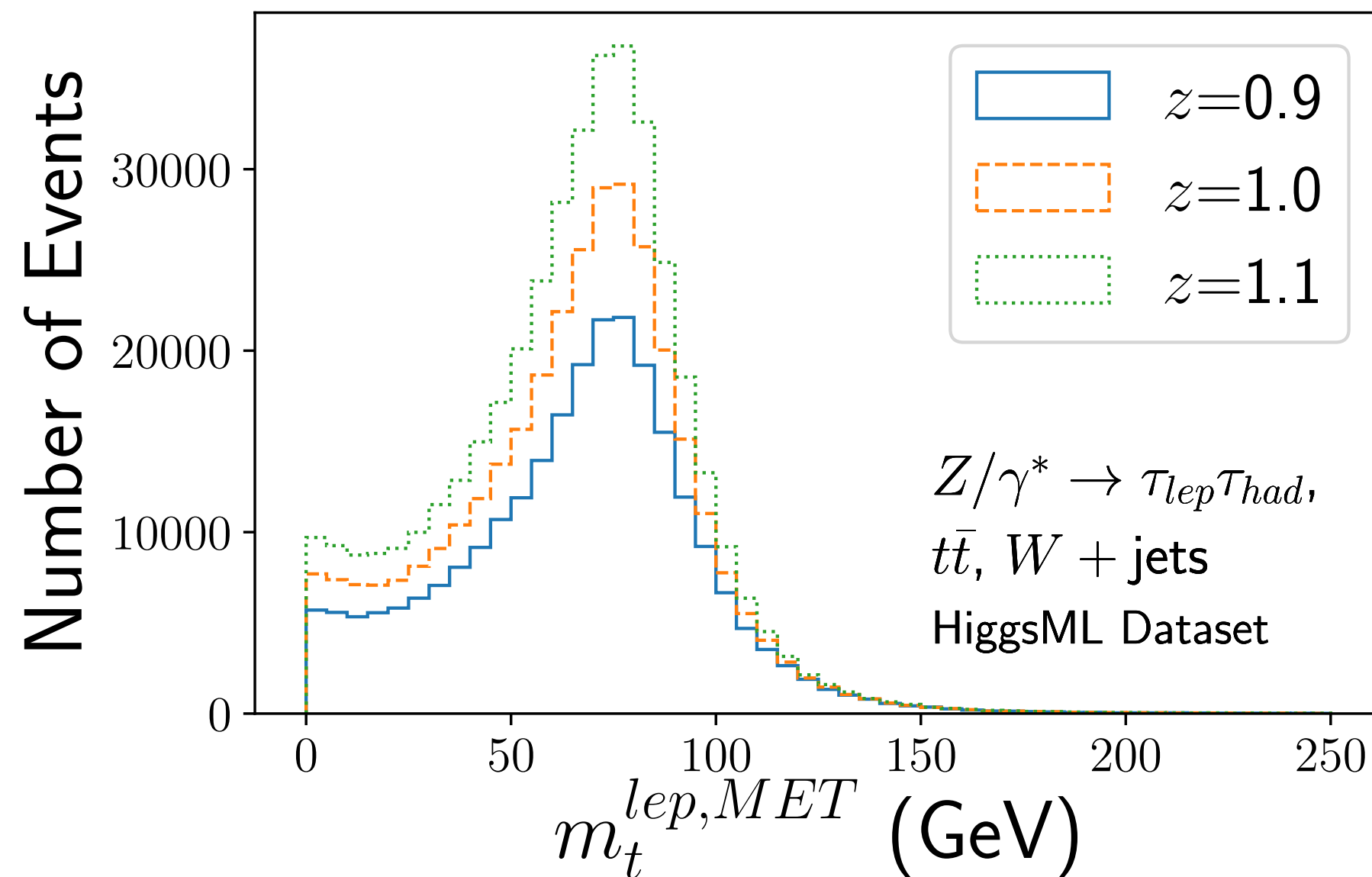


- Current analyses strategies **optimised while ignoring systematic uncertainties**
- Added in post-facto
- Leads to loss in sensitivity compared to uncertainty-aware optimisation (see details)

# Traditionally ignoring systematic uncertainties during analysis optimisation

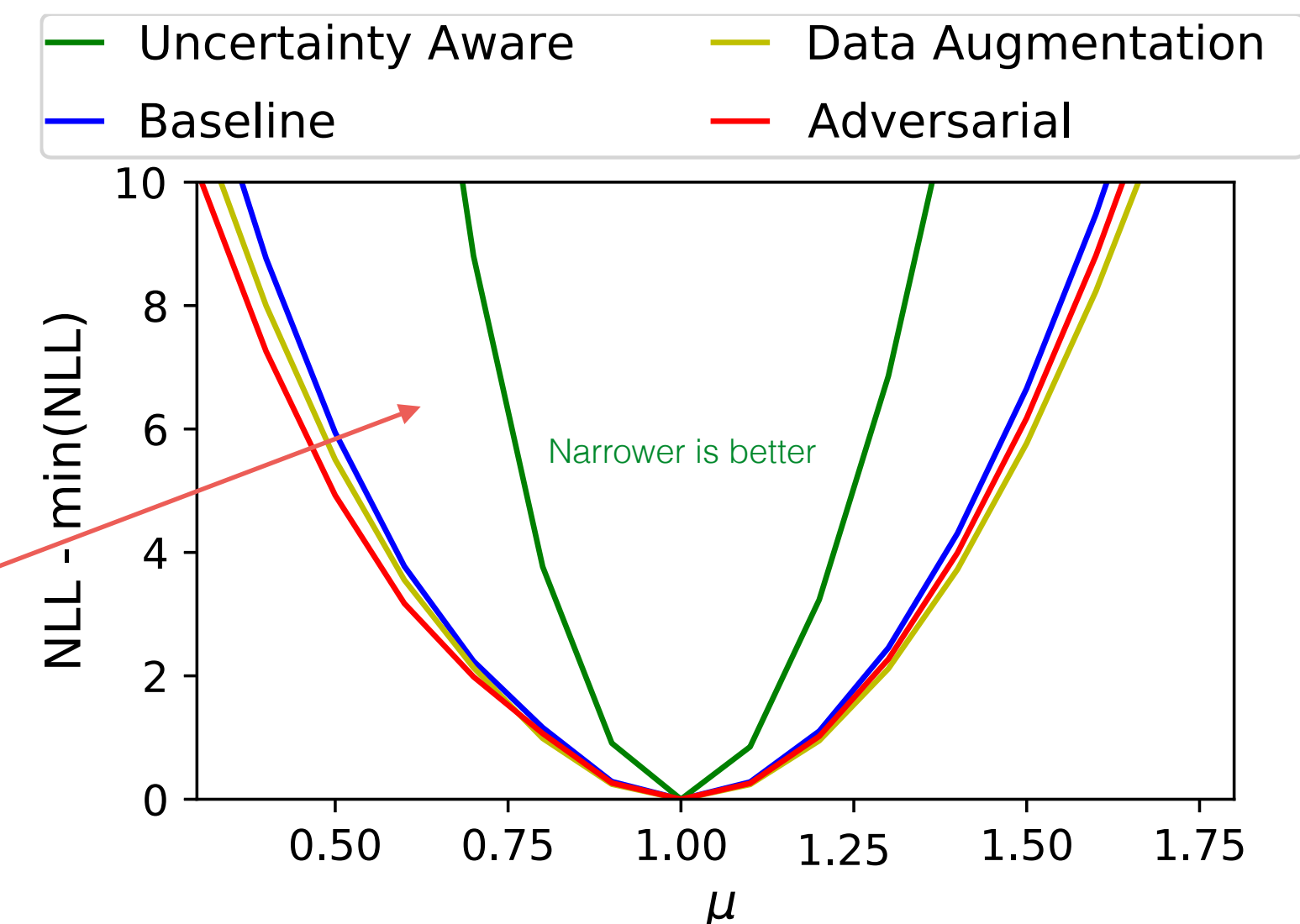
[PRD.104.056026](#): **Aishik Ghosh**, Benjamin Nachman, and Daniel Whiteson

Experimental uncertainties:  
Eg. Inaccuracies in the calibration of our detector



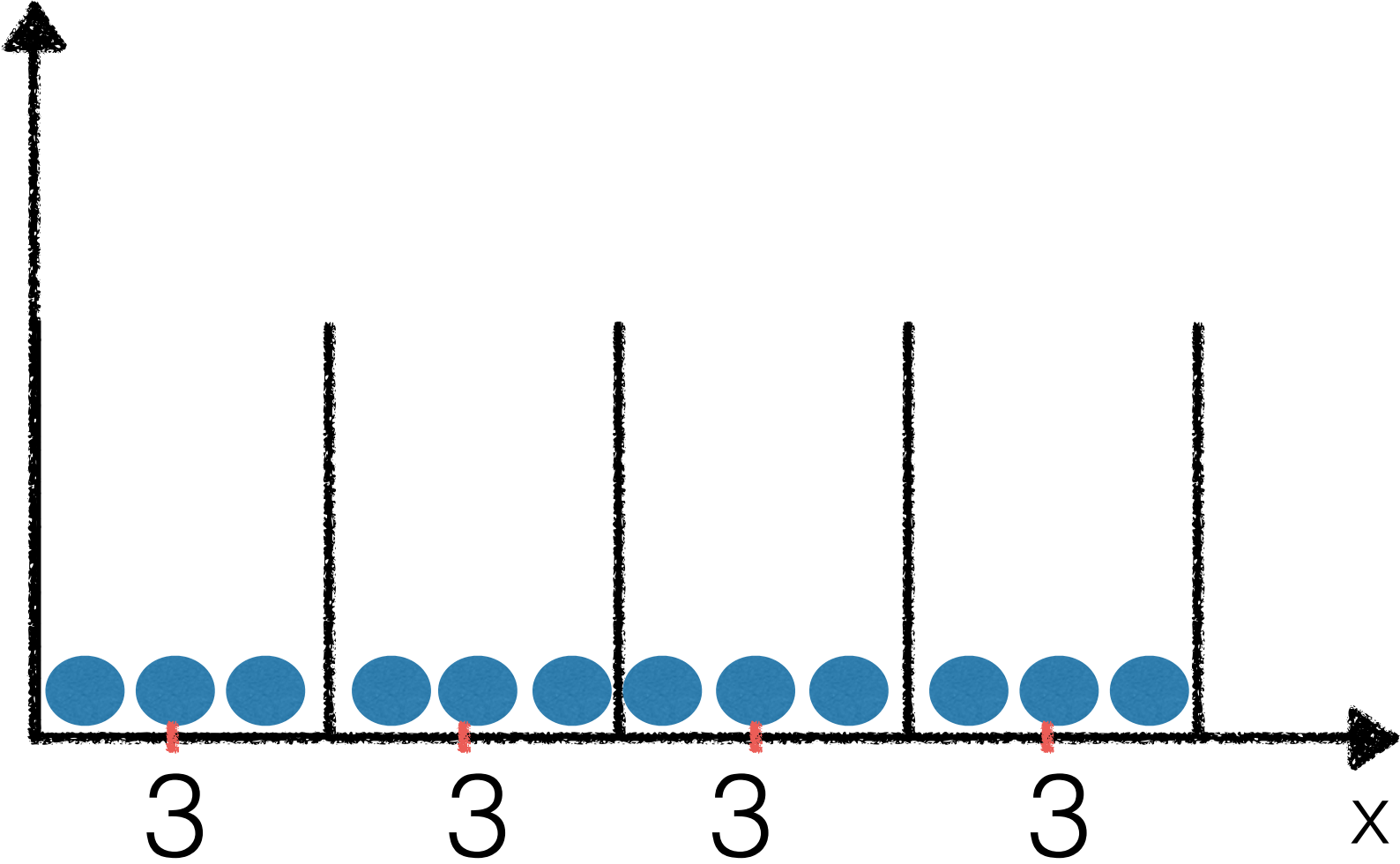
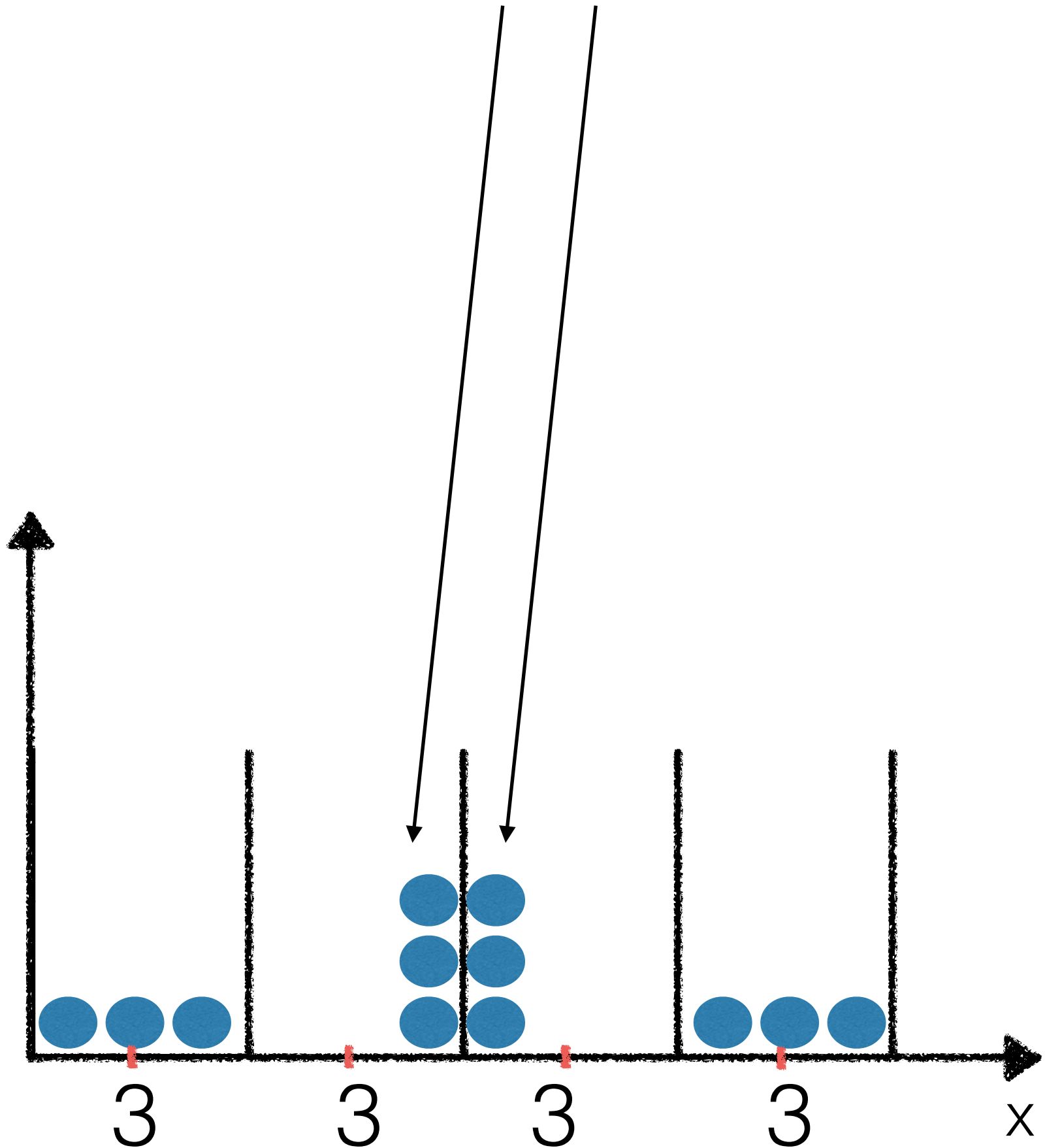
- Current analyses strategies **optimised while ignoring systematic uncertainties**
- Added in post-facto
- Leads to loss in sensitivity compared to uncertainty-aware optimisation (see details)

Difference b/w post-facto and uncertainty-aware



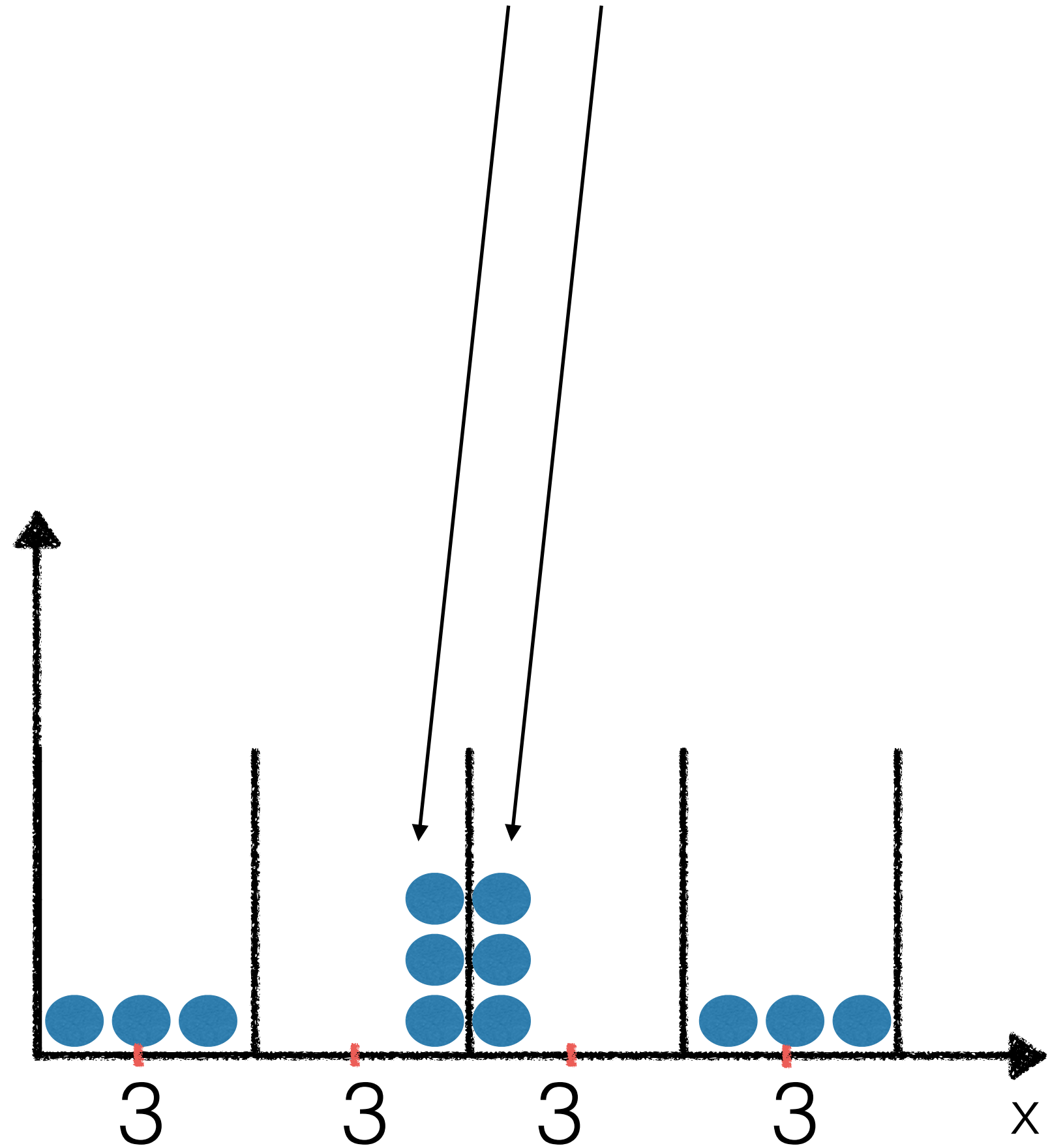
# Avoids binning data into histograms, which is another lossy compression

Information on individual events lost!

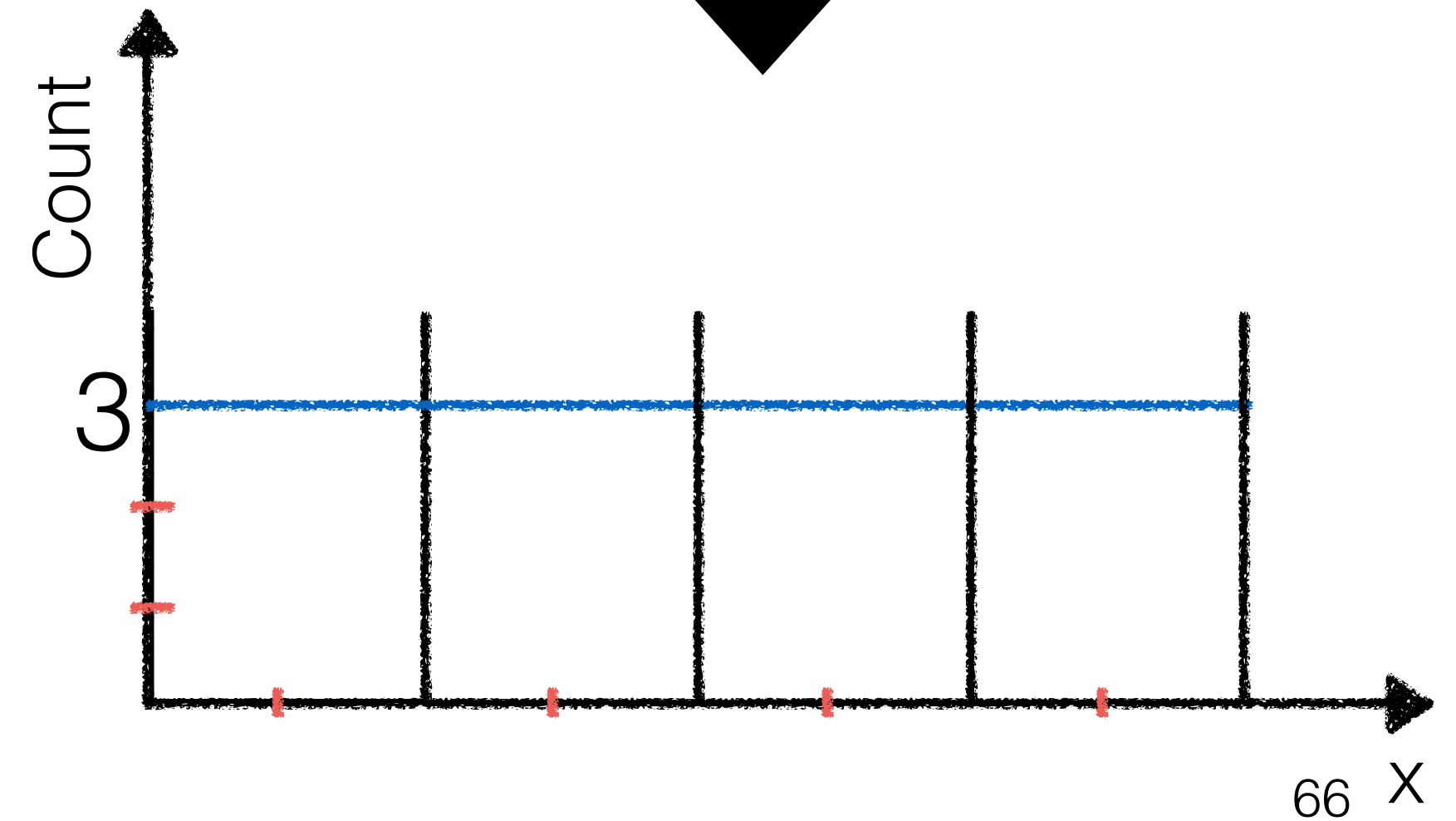
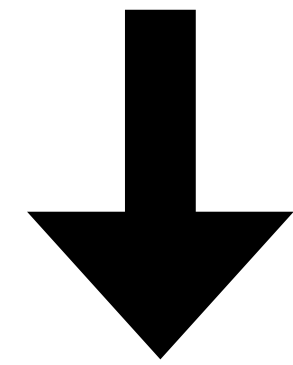
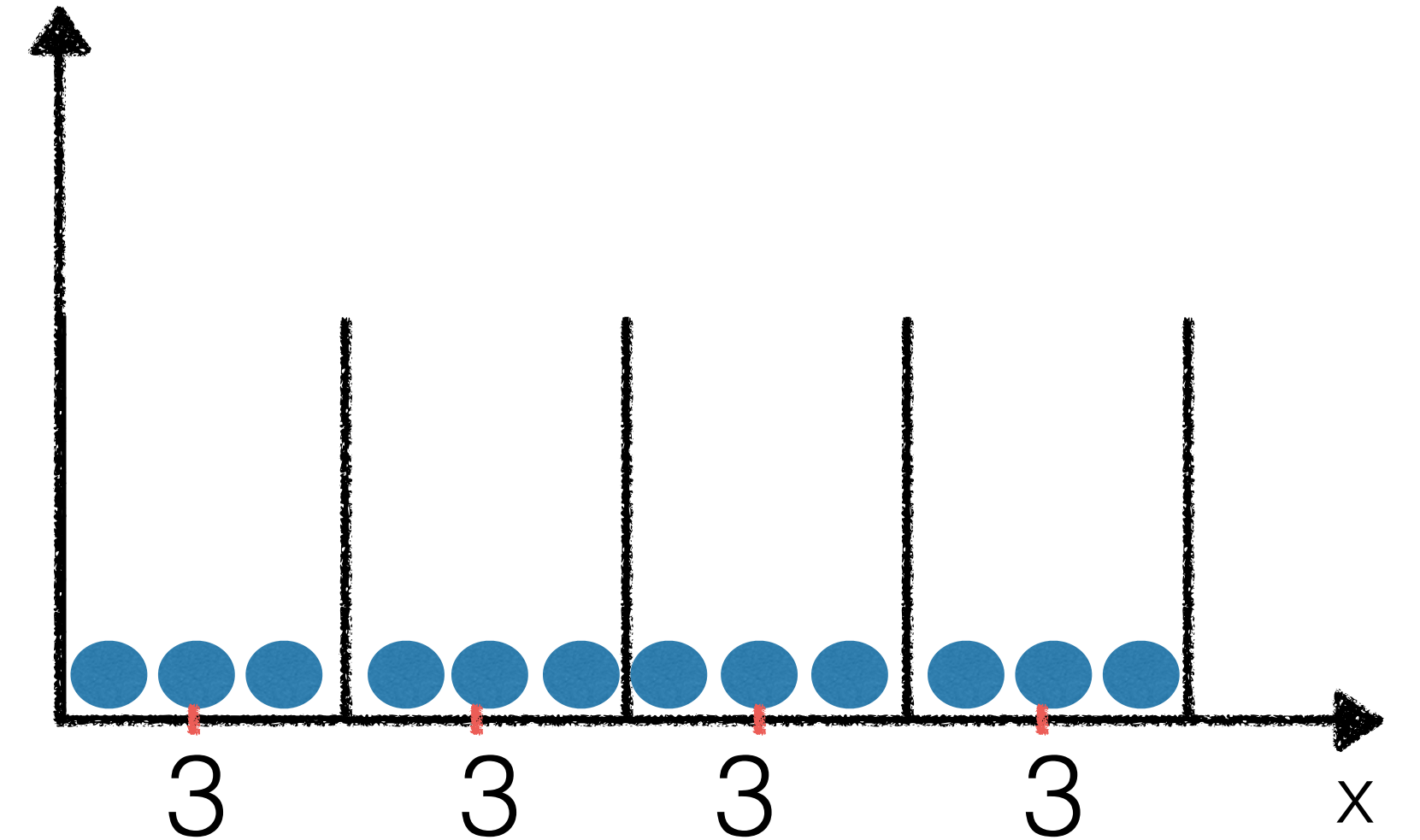


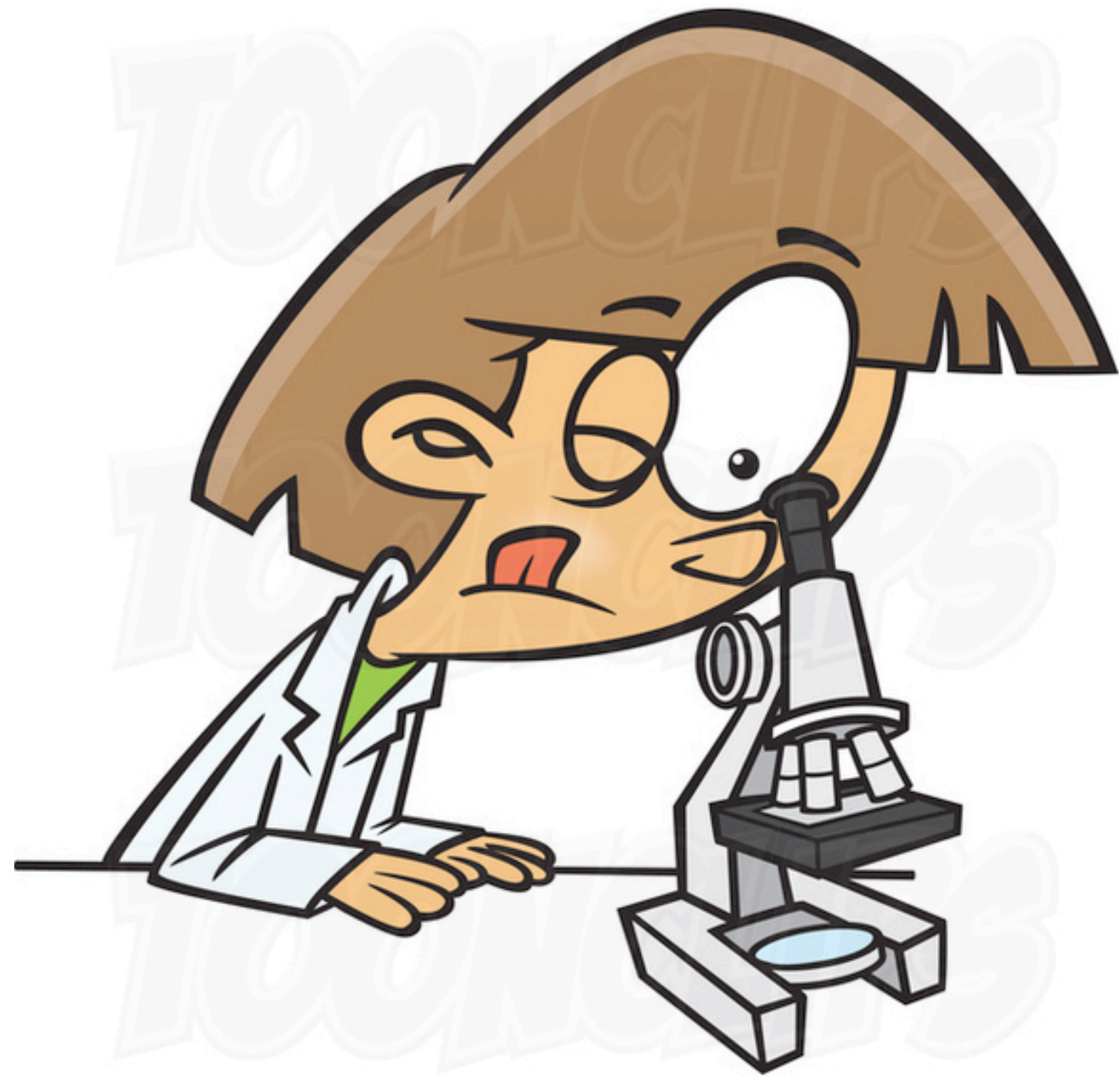
# Avoids binning data into histograms, which is another lossy compression

Information on individual events lost!



Same representation in histogram





ToonClips.com

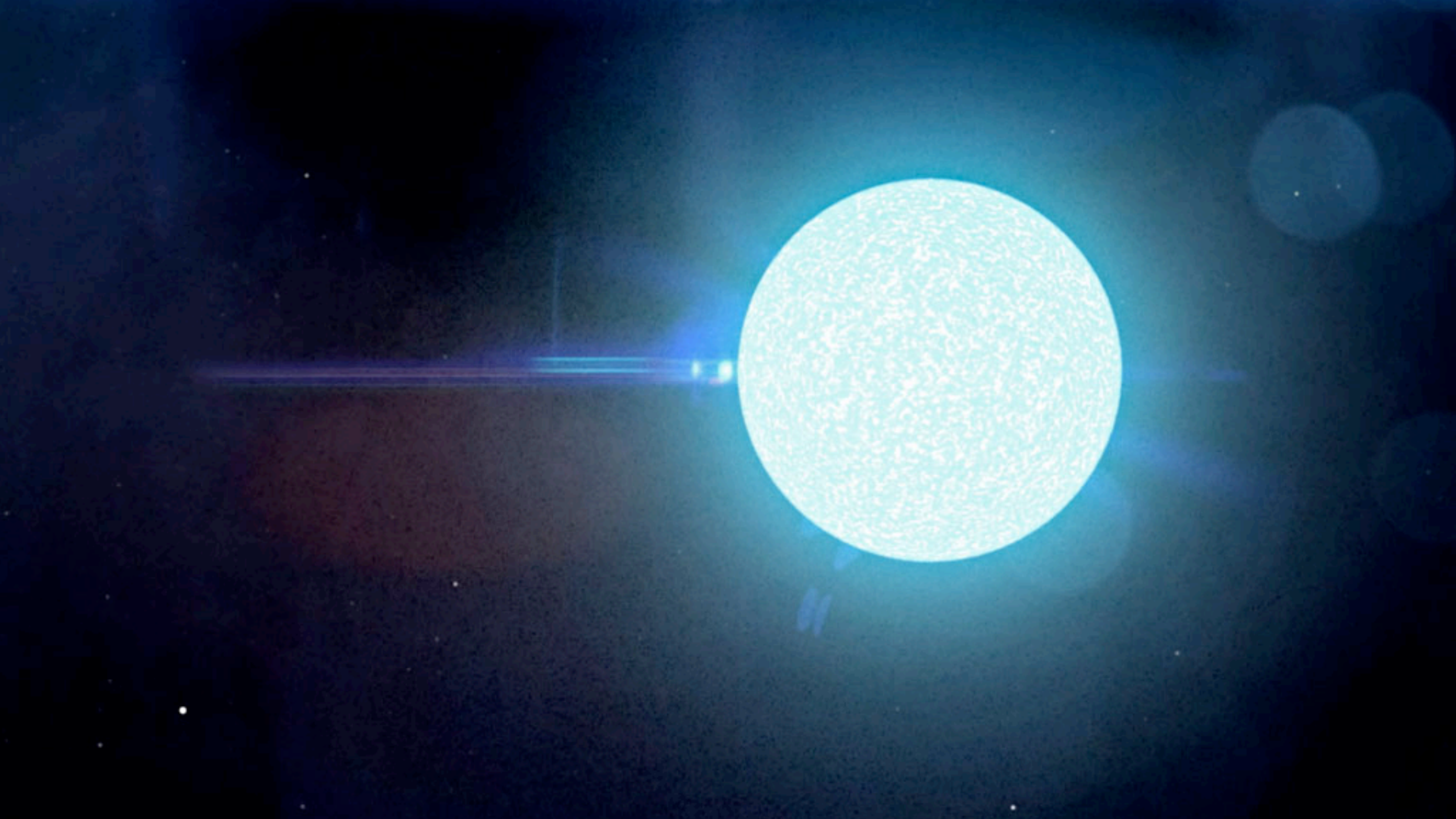
#56684

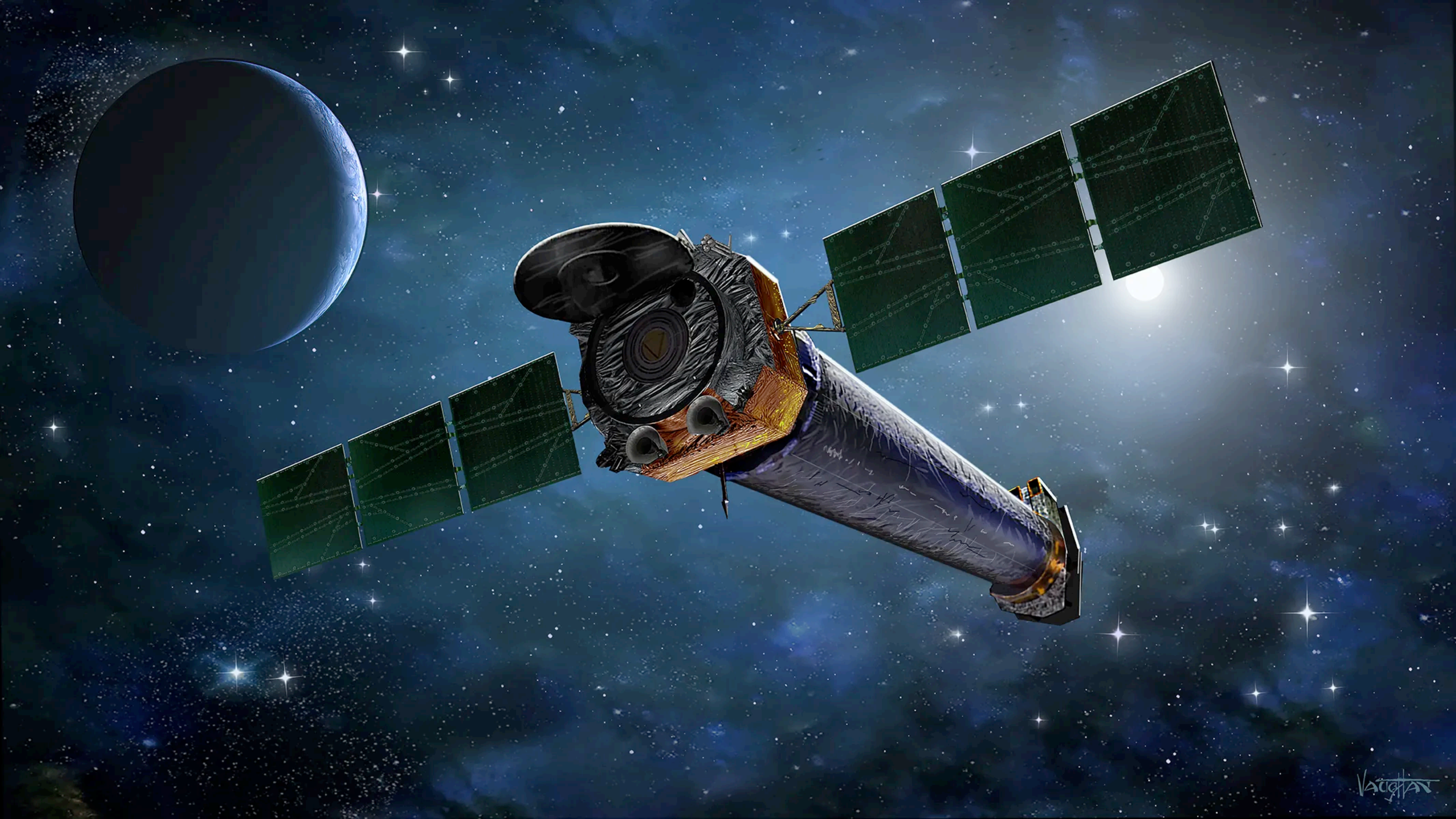
service@toonclips.com



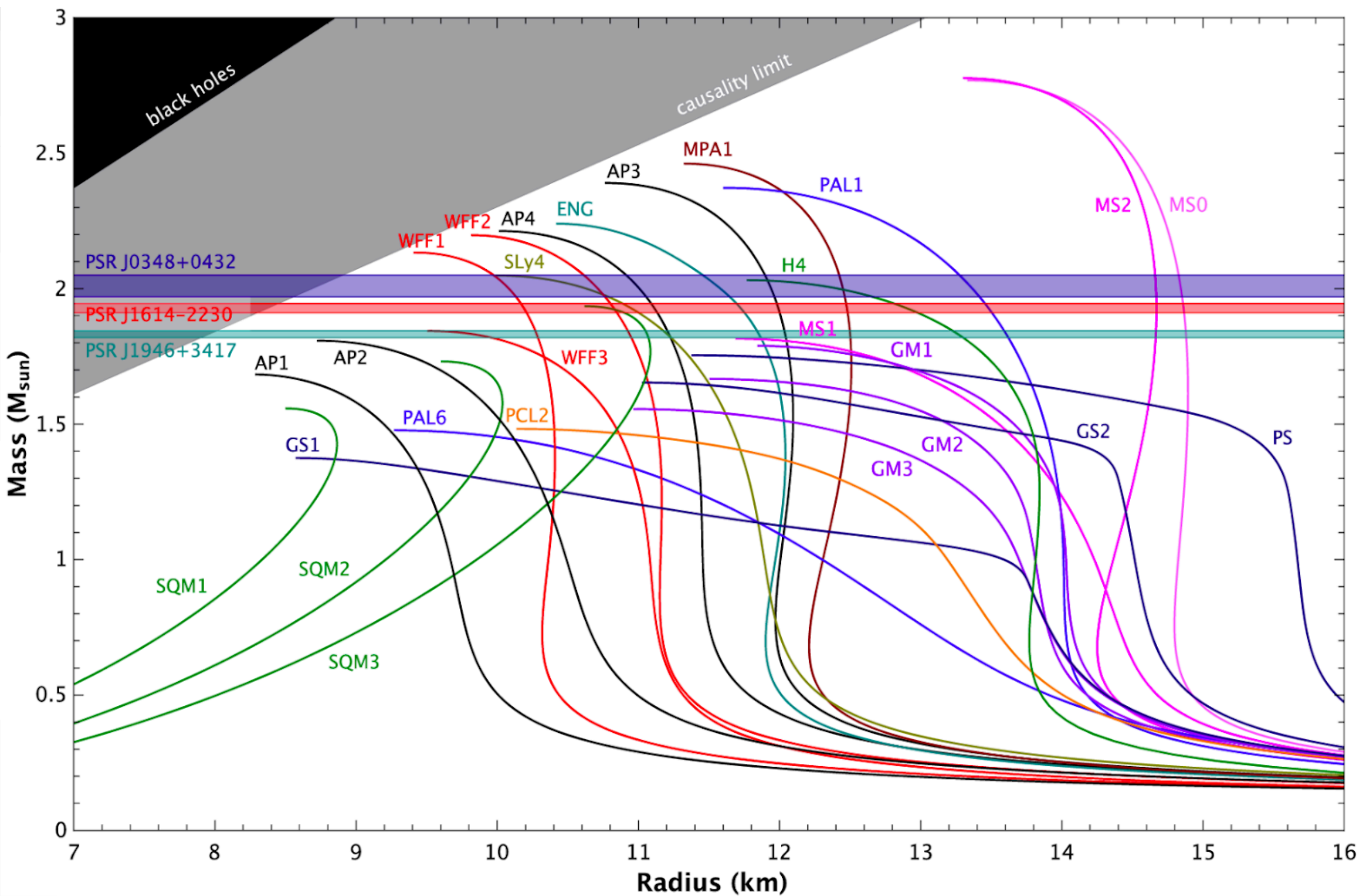


Image: [Source](#)





# Telescope measurements of energy spectra of neutron stars



Mass-radius curves created by different equation of state (EoS) models

Horizontal bars show massive neutron star observations used to “rule out” EoS models.

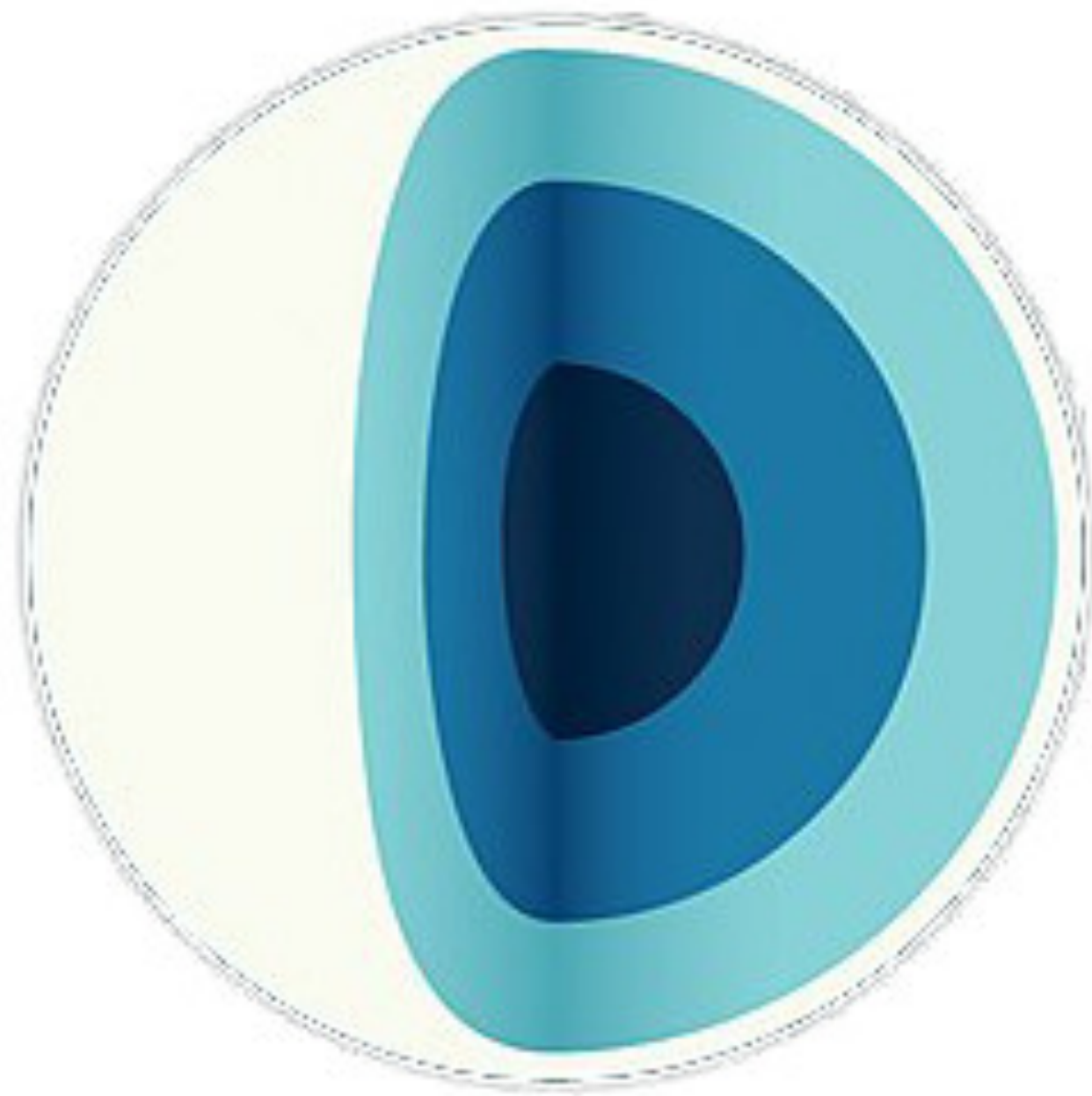
Two communities:

- **Astrophysicists** measure mass/radius from telescope
- **Nuclear theorists** measure EoS from mass/radius

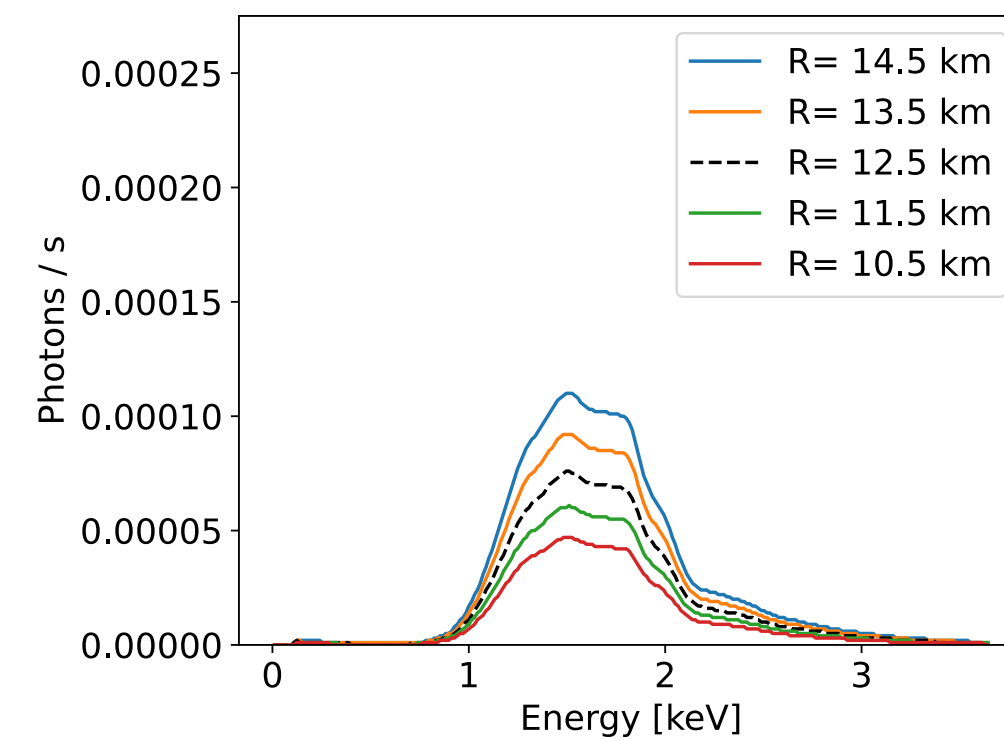
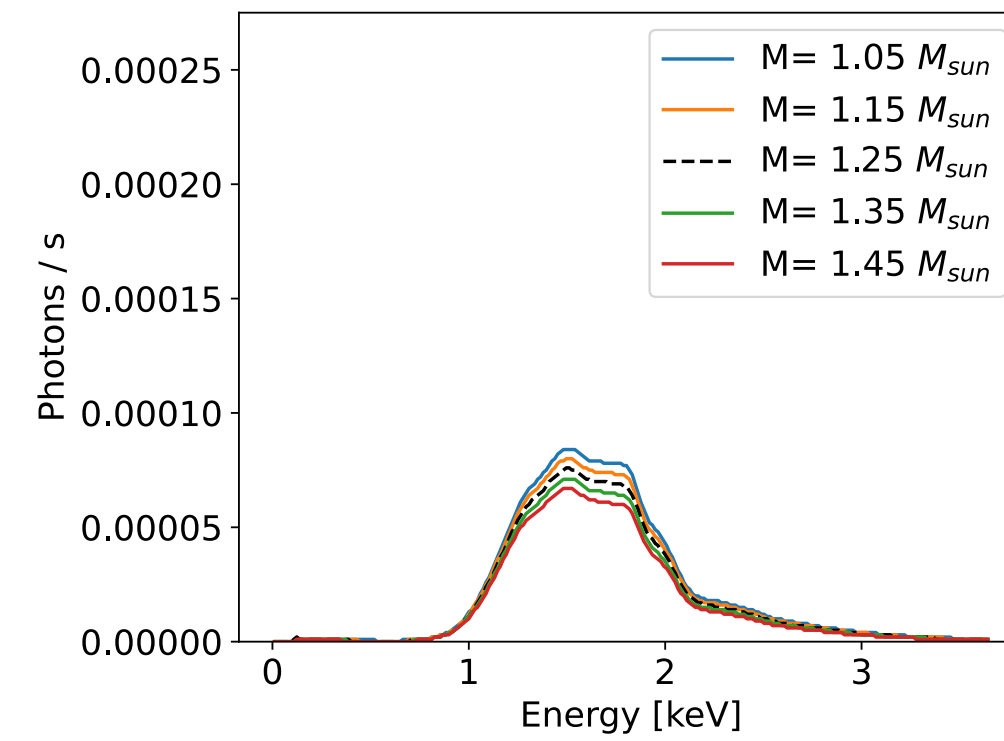
Figure from Lattimer J. M., Prakash M., 2001, The Astrophysical Journal, 550, 426–442

# Telescope measurements of energy spectra

Probe the interior:  
Equation of State parameters  
 $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$

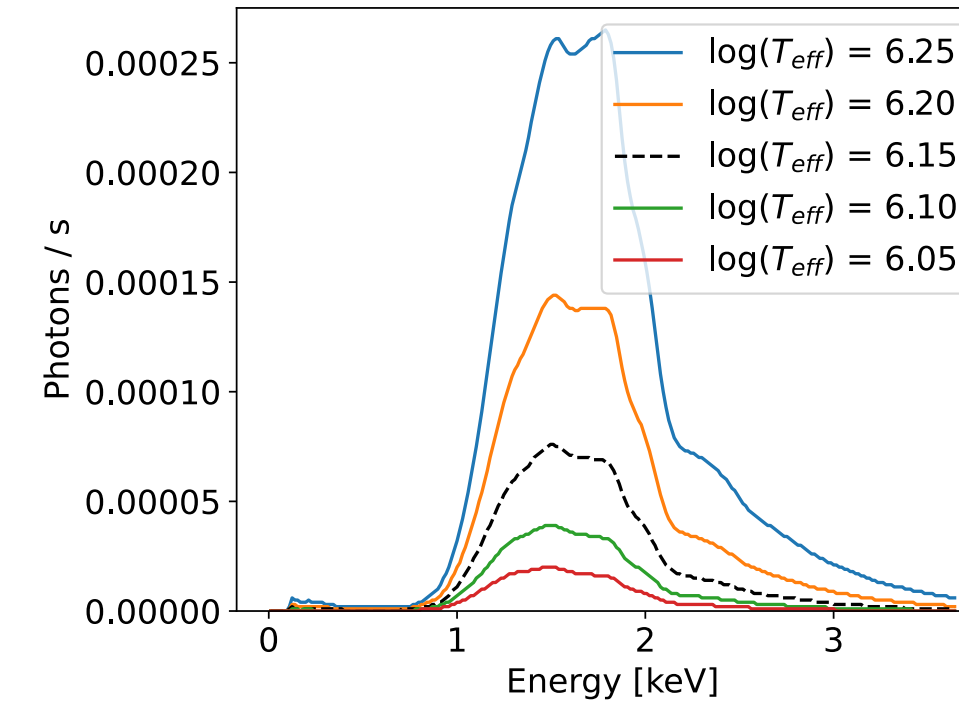
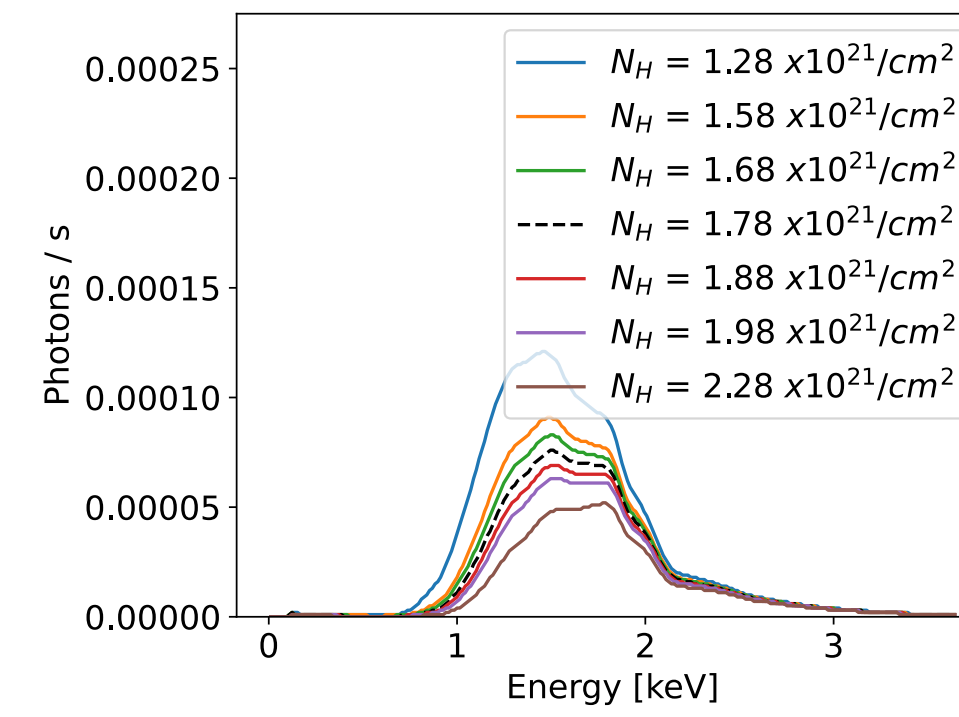


Mass



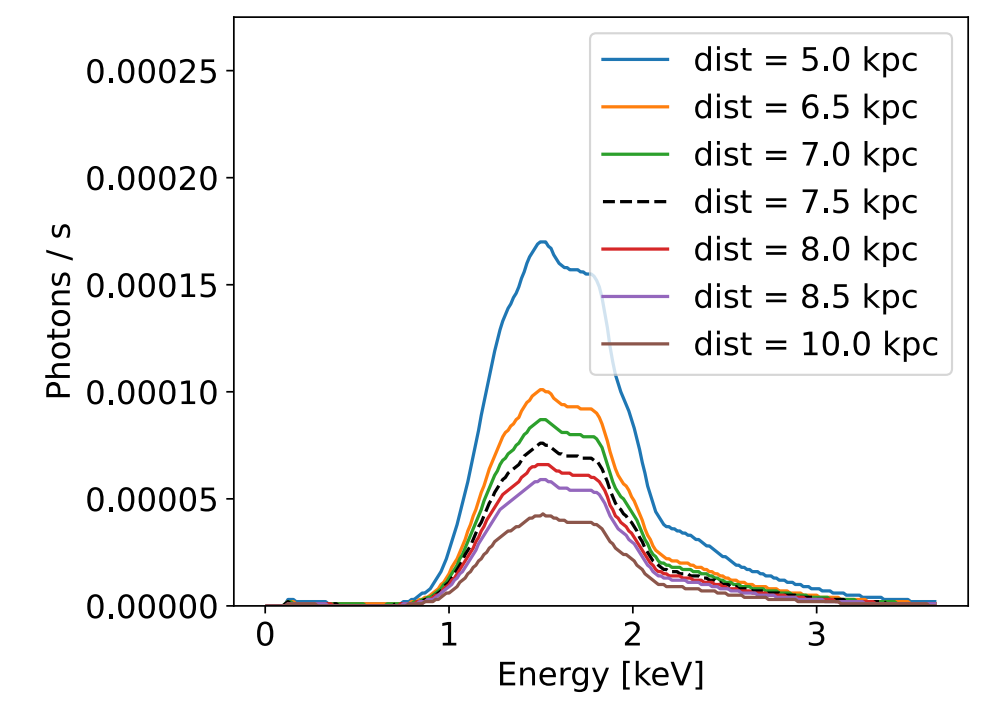
Radius

Hydrogen Column



Effective Temperature

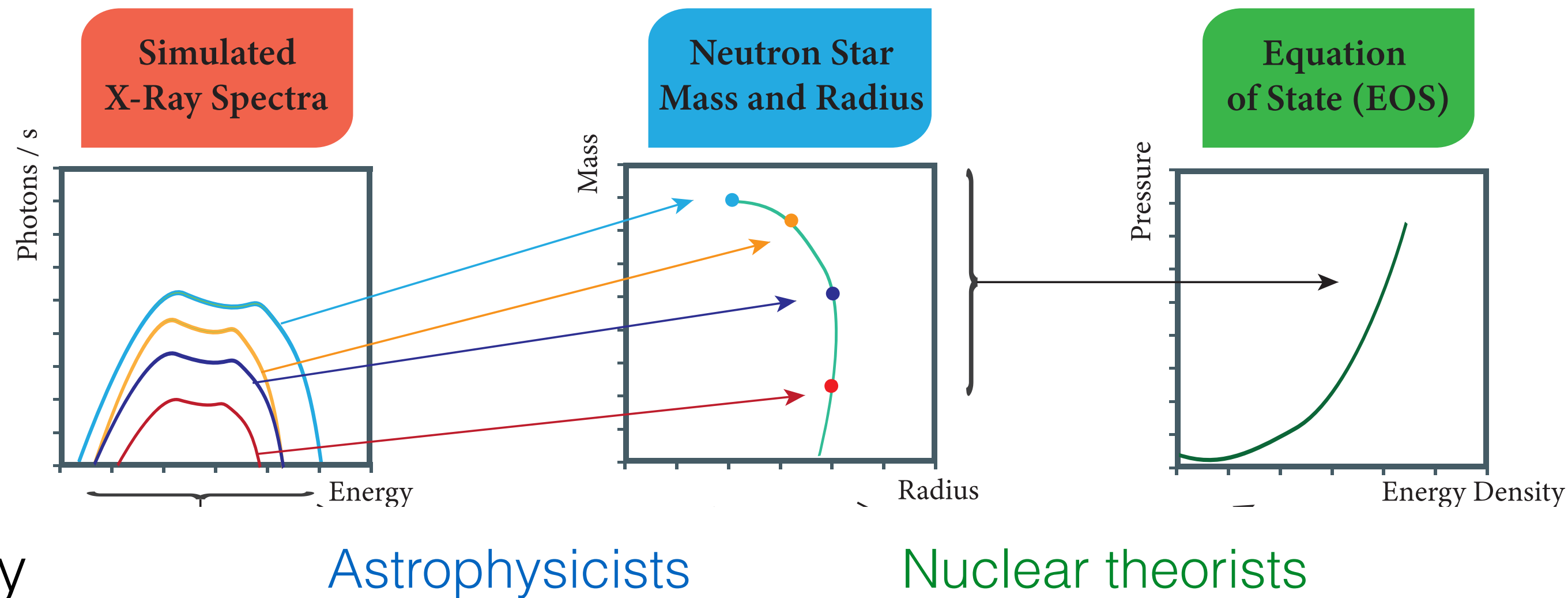
Distance



# Traditional method: Two-step inference



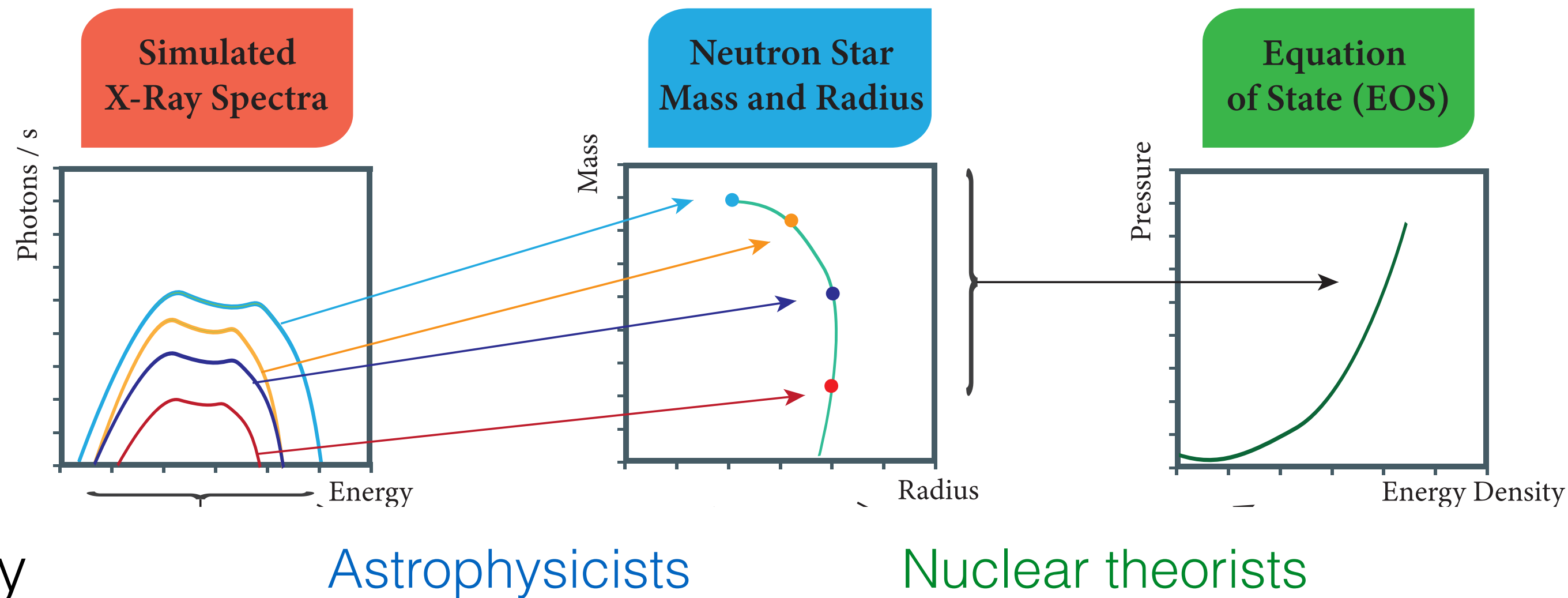
Neutron star in sky



# Traditional method: Two-step inference

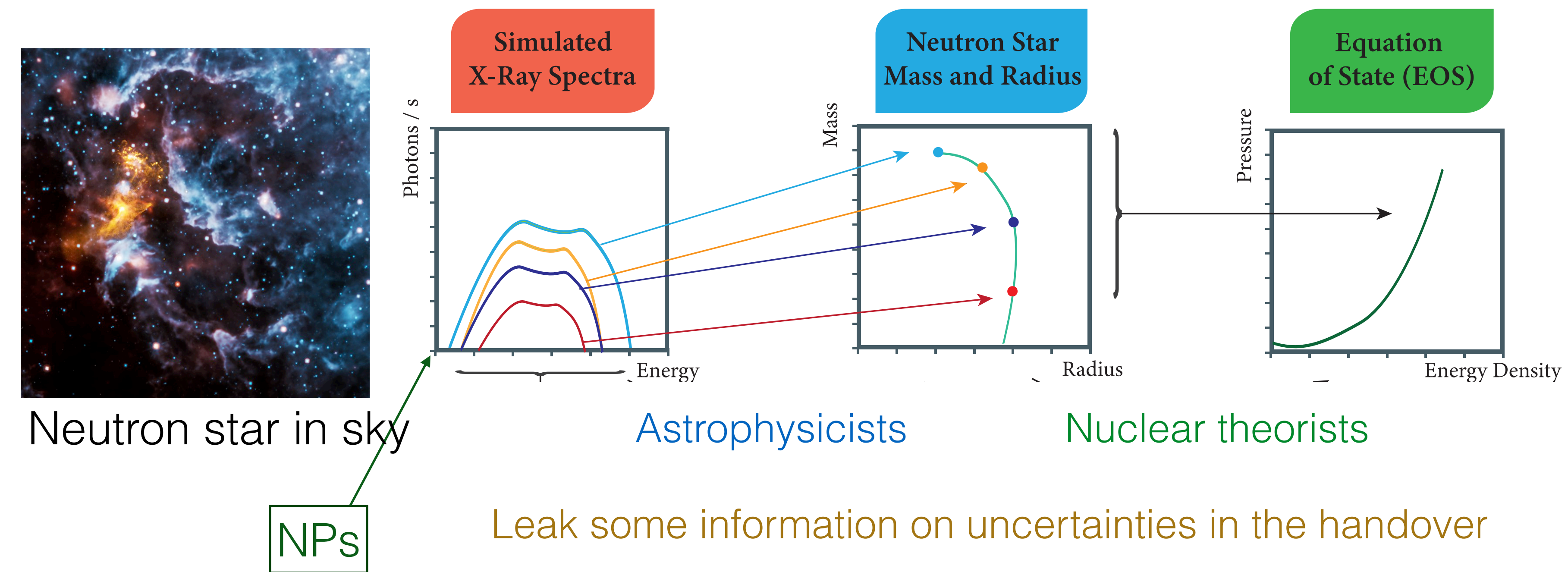


Neutron star in sky



Leak some information on uncertainties in the handover

# Traditional method: Two-step inference

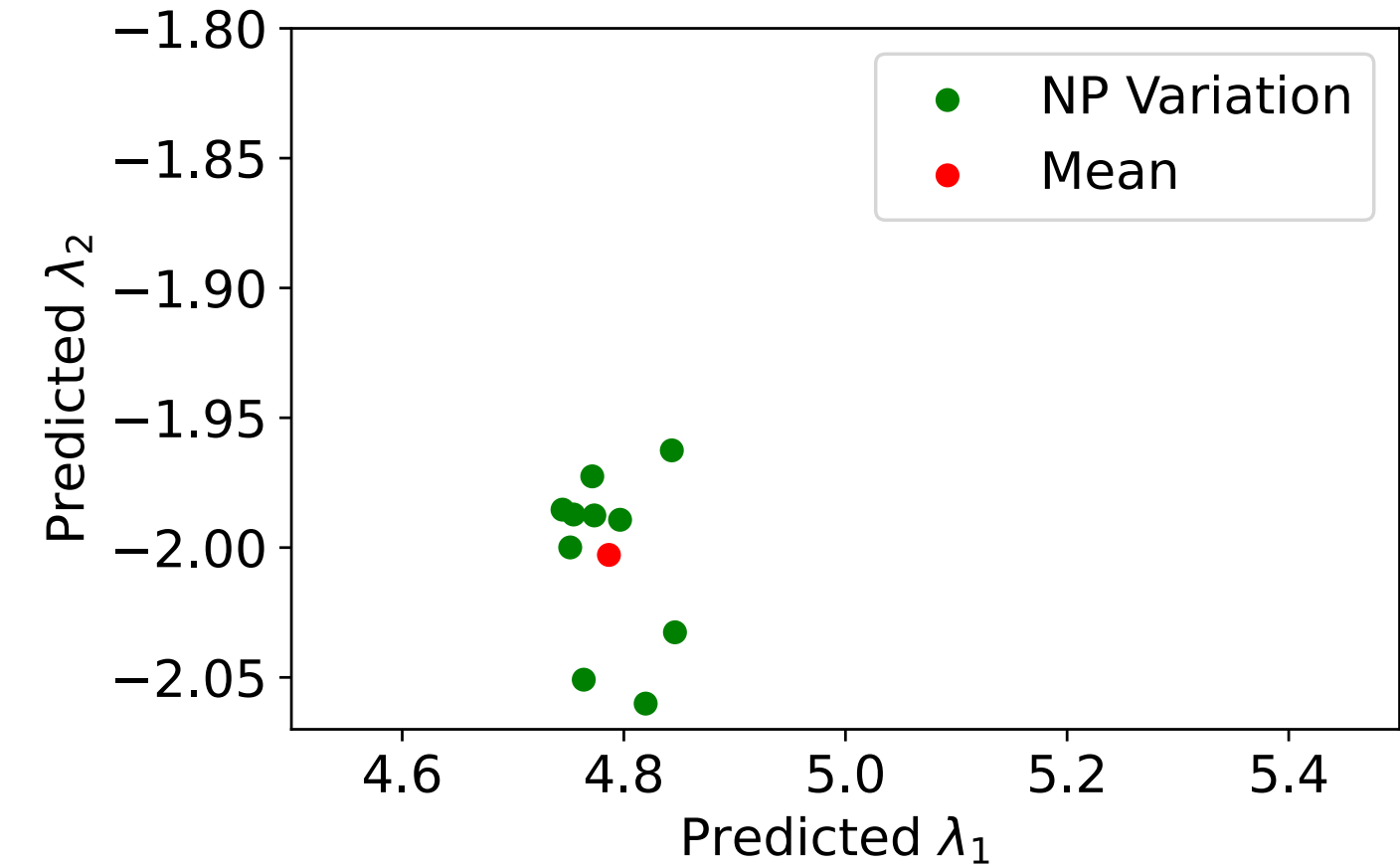
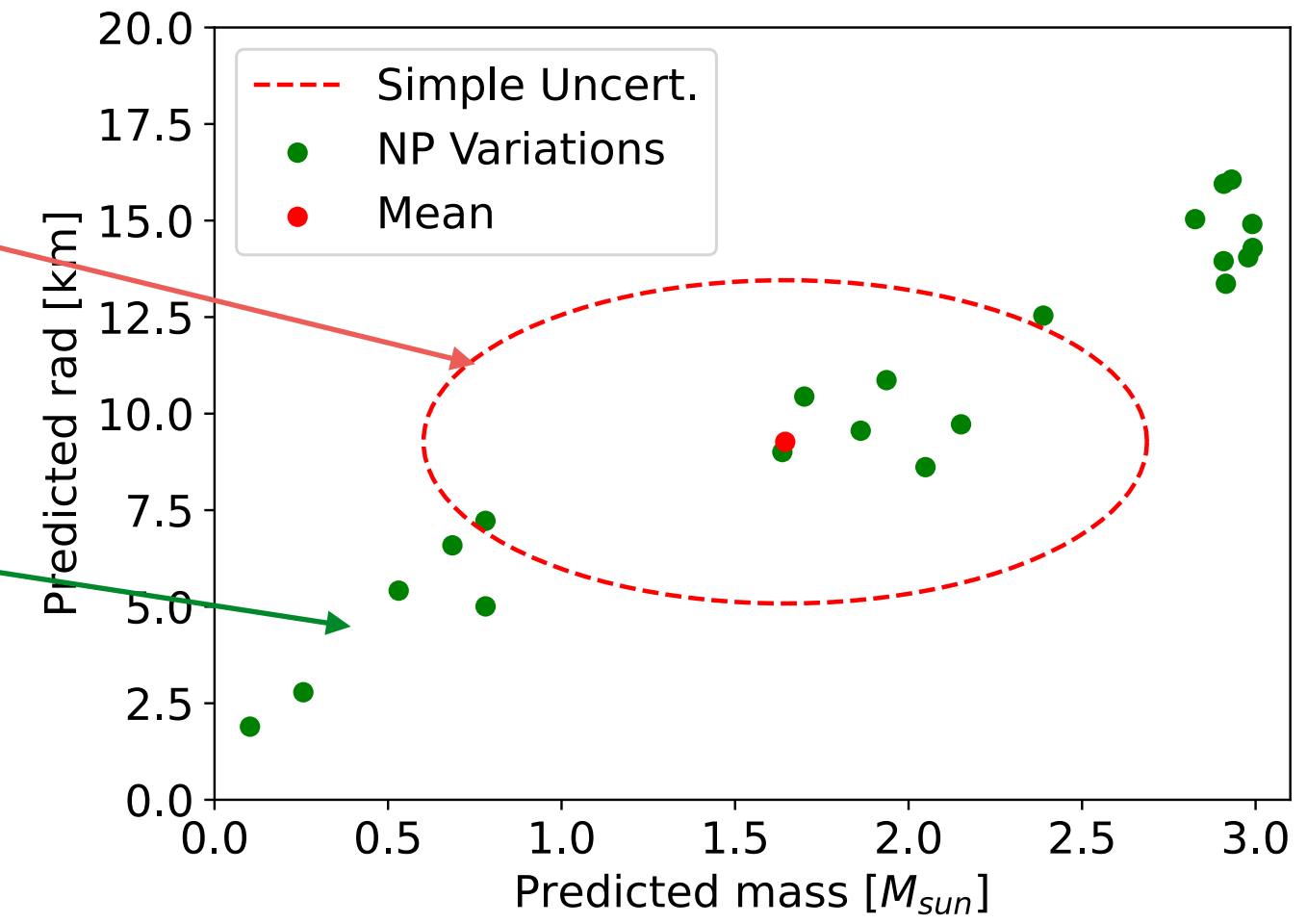




# Traditional method: Two-step inference

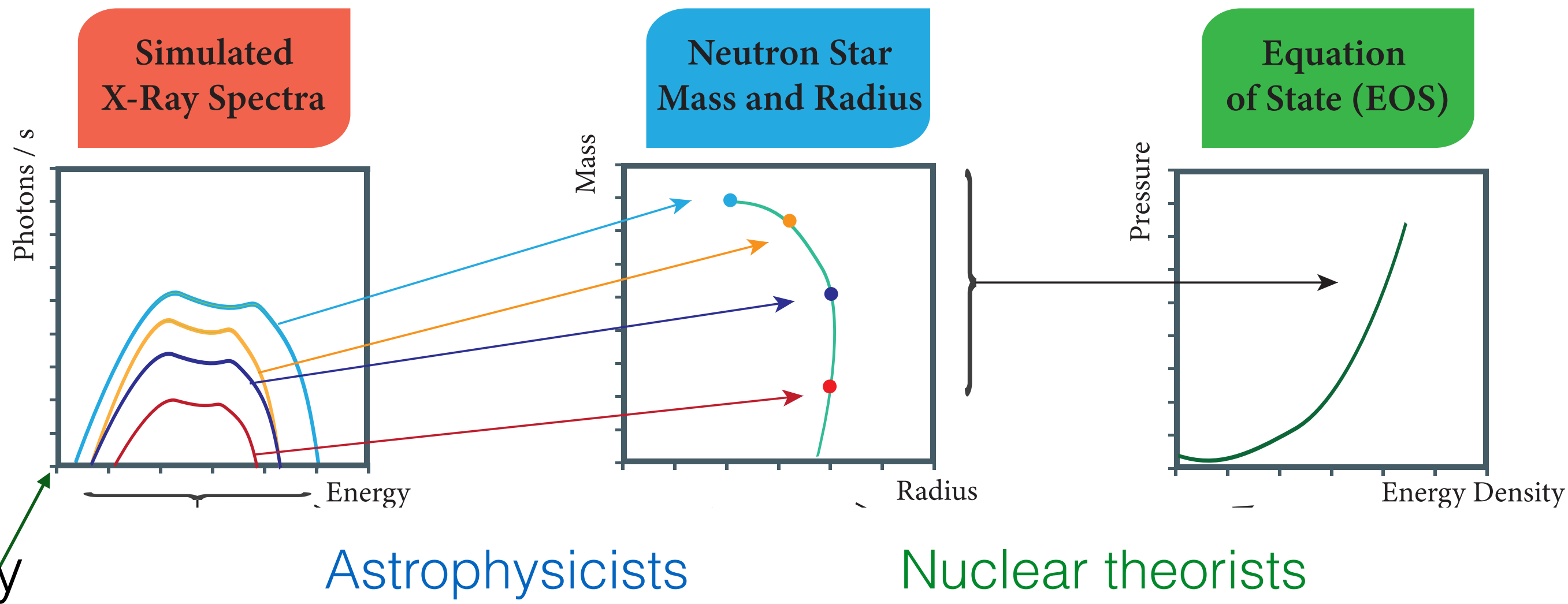
SOTA collapsed information into 2 numbers + assumed uncorrelated Gaussian uncertainties

Real uncertainties look quite different

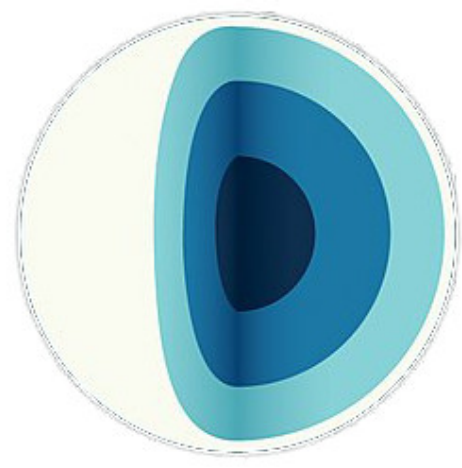


Neutron star in sky

NPs

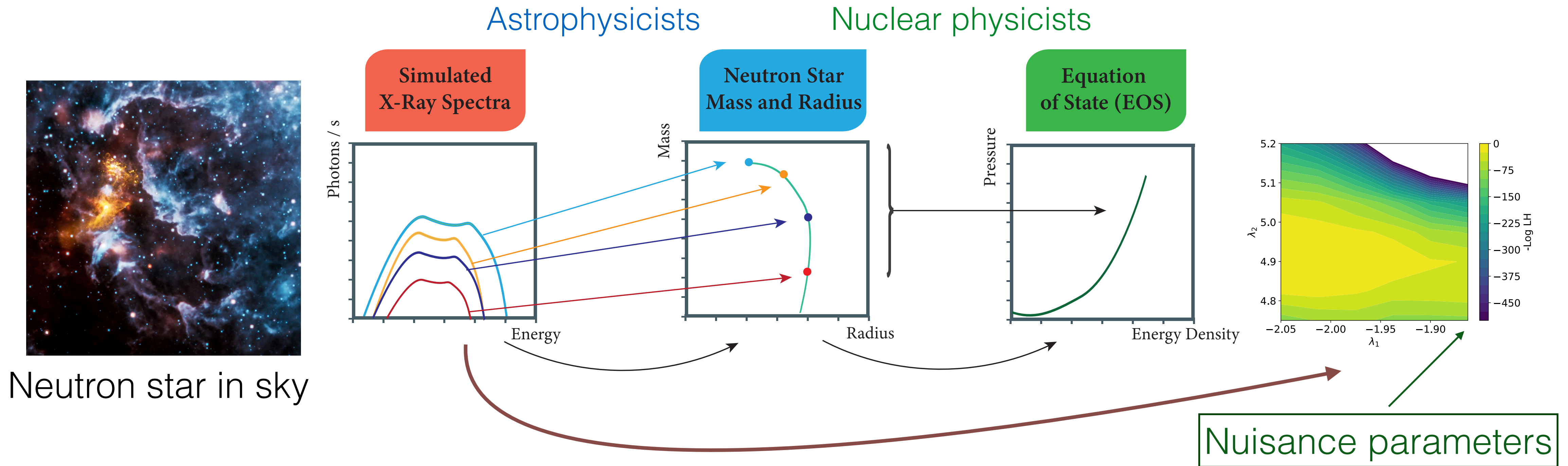


Leak some information on uncertainties in the handover



# Inferring neutron star EoS parameters with NSBI

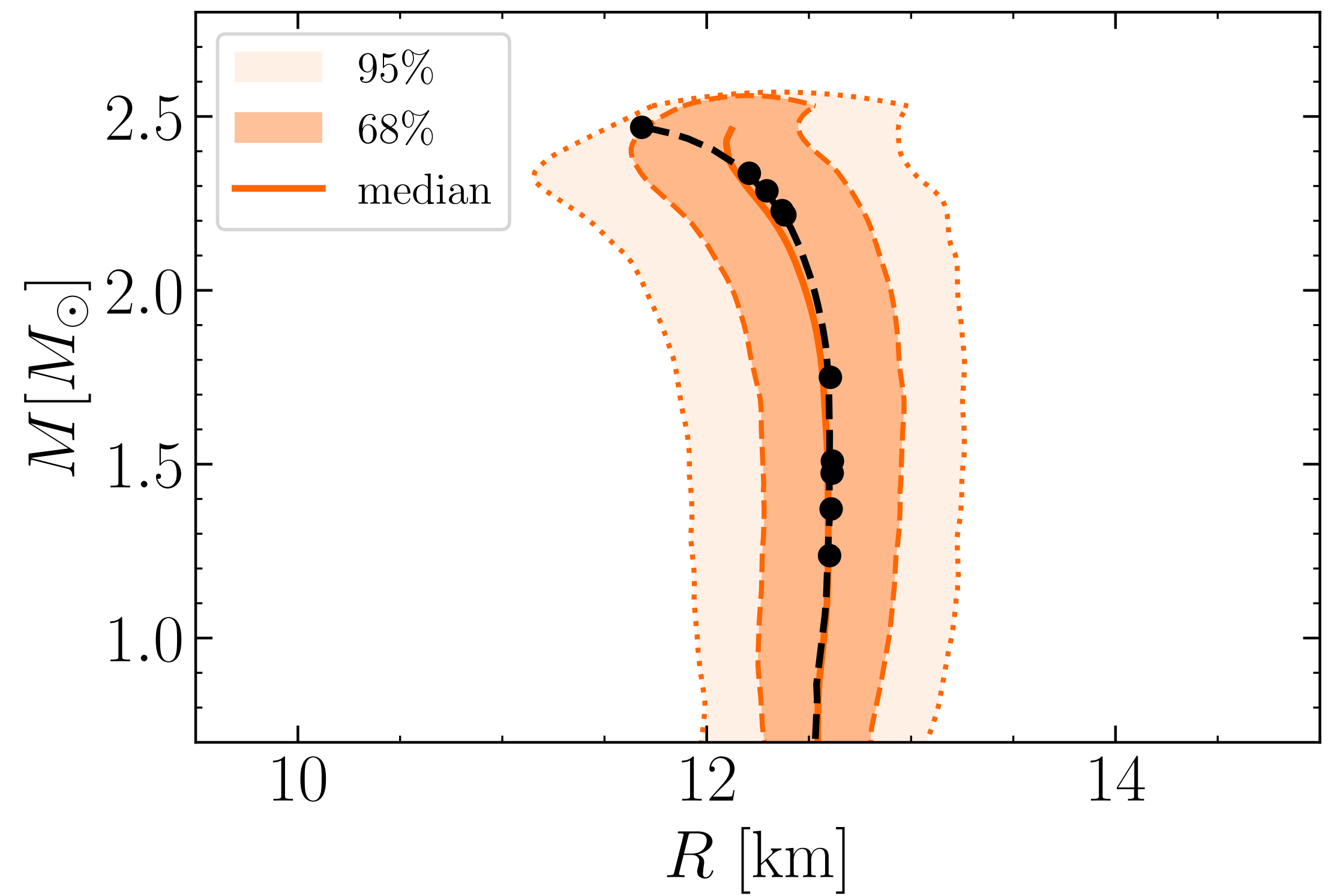
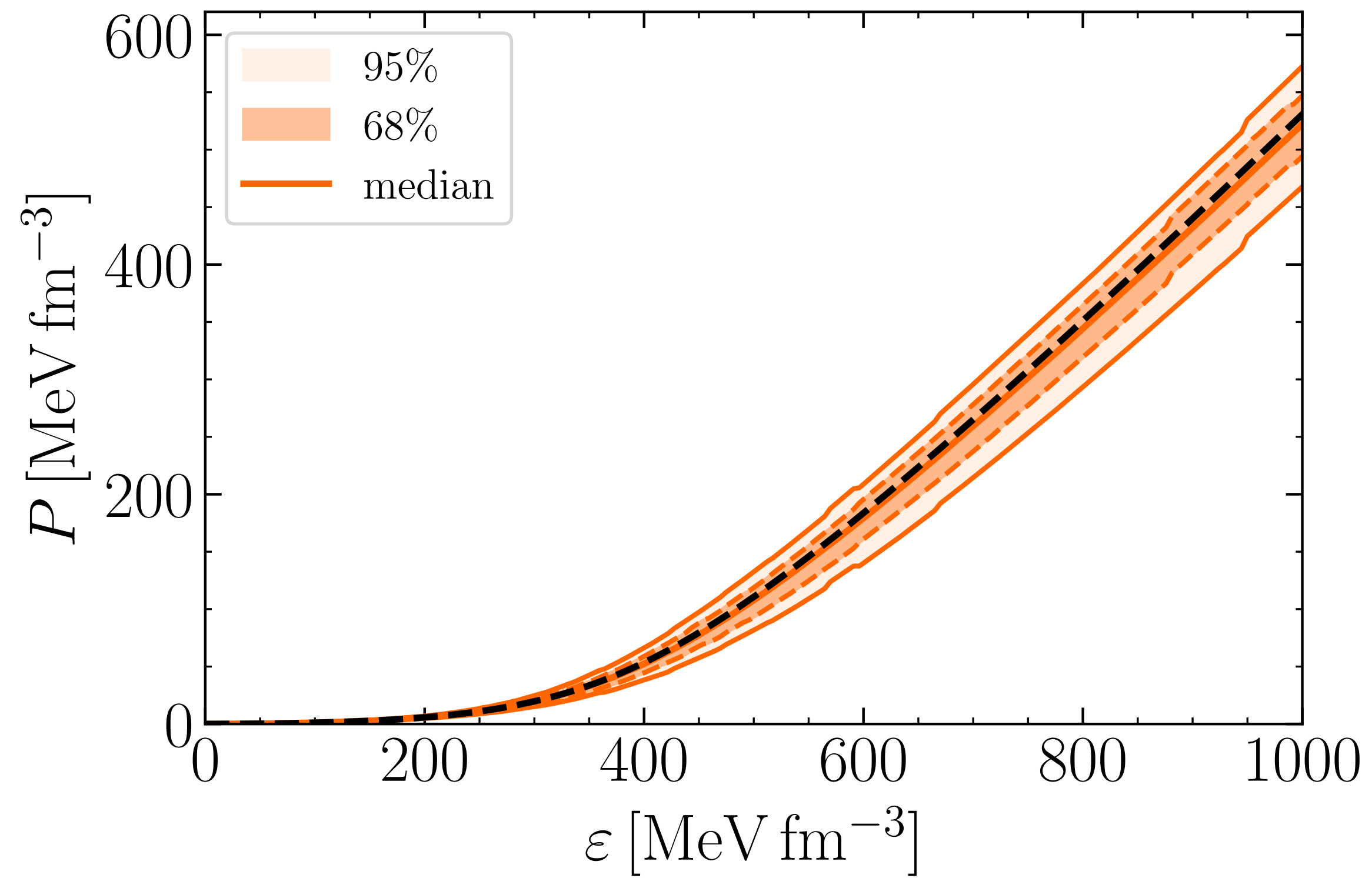
Recover the likelihood of EoS + NPs directly from the raw high-dimensional telescope spectra!



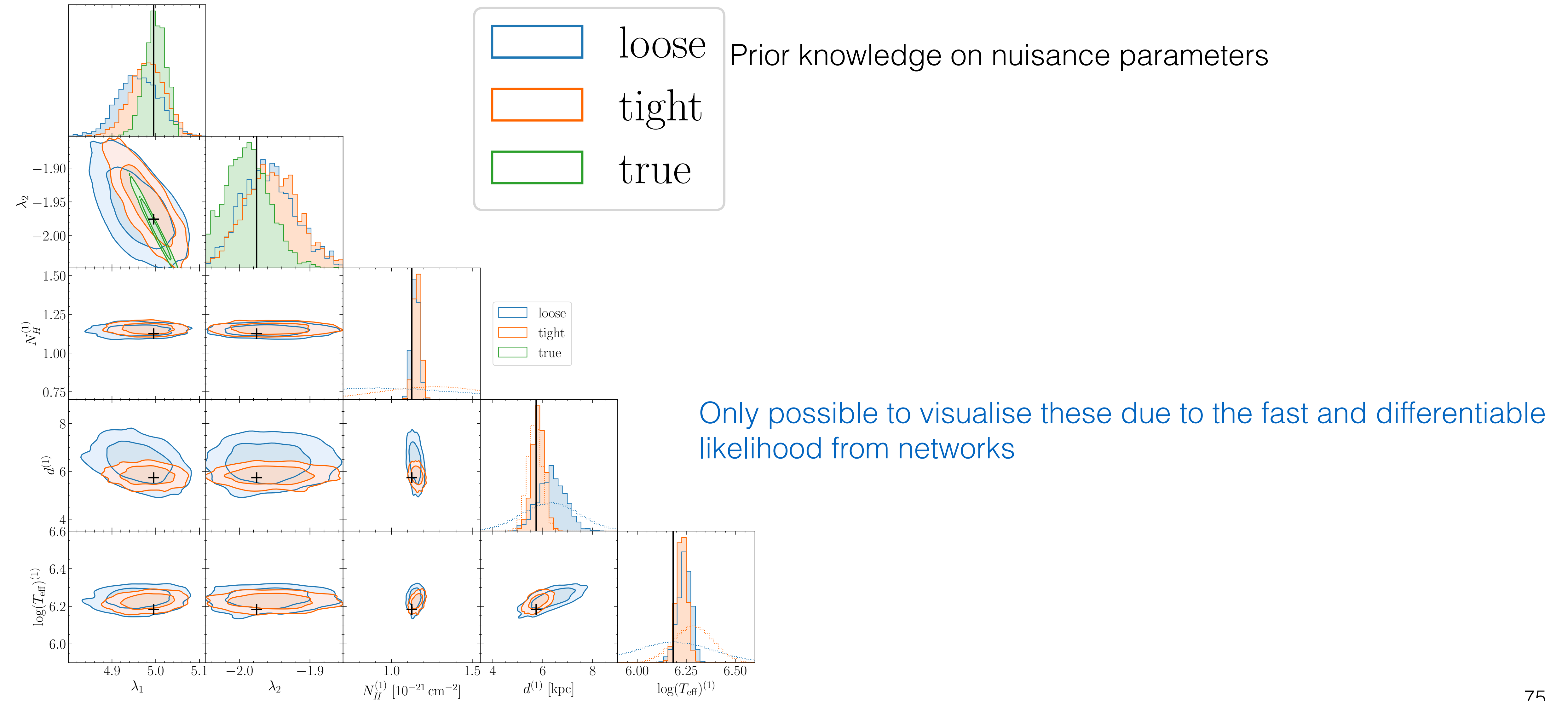
**Direct estimation of likelihood from high-dimensional raw data allows more reliable uncertainty propagation and better measurements!**

# Meaningful posteriors, most sensitive method !

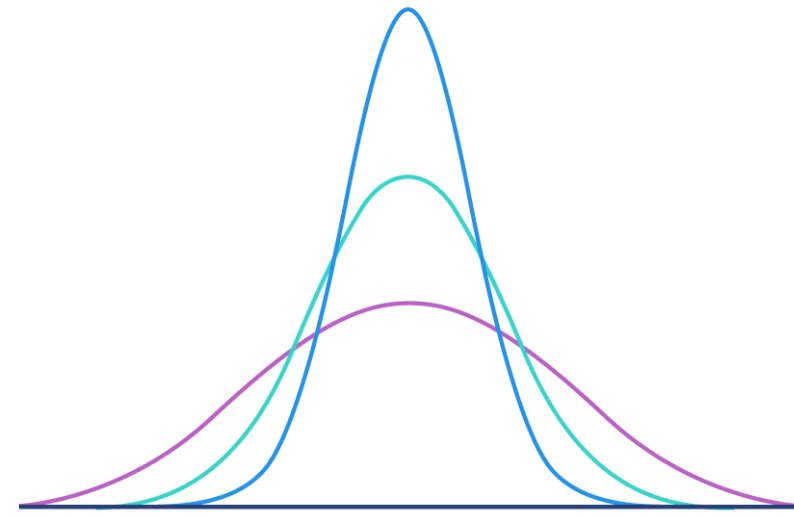
Bayesian Posteriors and credible intervals



# Enhanced Interpretability: Effect of nuisance parameters



# Most sensitive method for EoS inference to date!



NP priors

NP priors		$\lambda_{1,\text{pred}} - \lambda_{1,\text{truth}}$		$\lambda_{2,\text{pred}} - \lambda_{2,\text{truth}}$		Combined
$p(\nu)$	Method	$\mu$	$\sigma$	$\mu$	$\sigma$	$\sigma_{\text{tot}}$
true	ML-Likelihood <sub>EOS</sub>	-0.02	0.066	<b>0.01</b>	0.070	0.096
	NN(Spectra)	-0.02	0.066	<b>0.01</b>	0.075	0.099
	NN( $M, R$ via XSPEC)	-0.03	0.065	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.055</b>	<b>0.085</b>
	<b>NLE</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.056</b>	<b>-0.01</b>	0.070	0.090
tight	ML-Likelihood <sub>EOS</sub>	-0.02	0.078	0.03	0.081	0.112
	NN(Spectra)	0.02	0.085	-0.02	0.077	0.115
	NN( $M, R$ via XSPEC)	-0.03	0.081	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.056</b>	0.098
	<b>NLE</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.066</b>	-0.02	0.071	<b>0.097</b>
loose	ML-Likelihood <sub>EOS</sub>	-0.04	0.089	0.03	0.081	0.120
	NN(Spectra)	-0.03	0.131	<b>-0.01</b>	0.078	0.152
	NN( $M, R$ via XSPEC)	-0.03	0.123	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.058</b>	0.136
	<b>NLE</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.085</b>	<b>-0.01</b>	0.074	<b>0.113</b>

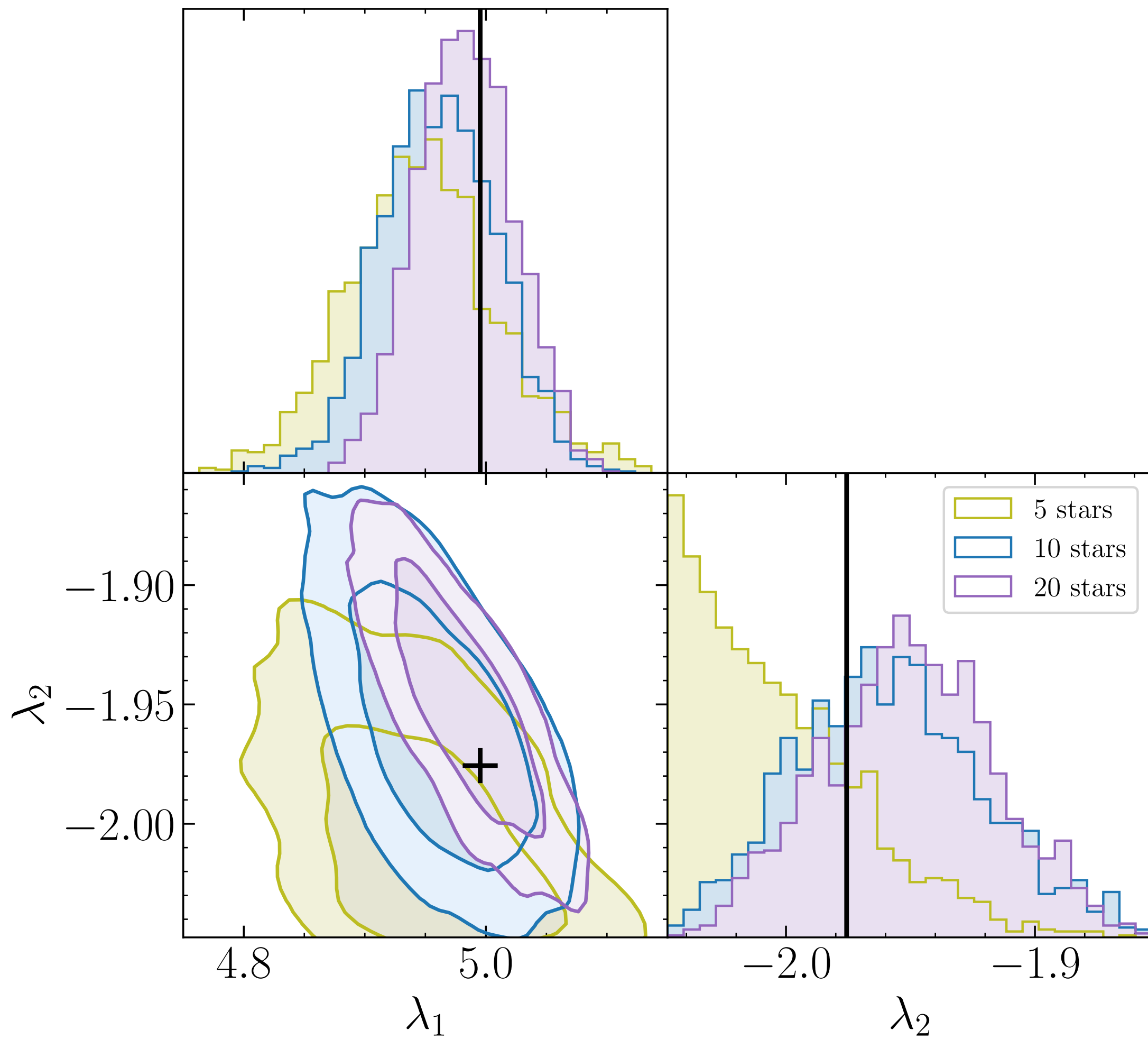
Pretend that nuisance parameters known exactly



Realistic scenarios:



# Which neutron stars should we measure next ?



Test potential improvement in sensitivity coming from new measurements

Could inform decisions on which stars to measure next!

$$p(\text{theory} \mid \text{data}) = \frac{p(\text{data} \mid \text{theory})p(\text{theory})}{p(\text{data})}$$

What we all  
want  
(Posterior)

$$p(\text{theory} \mid \text{data}) = \frac{p(\text{data} \mid \text{theory})p(\text{theory})}{p(\text{data})}$$



What we all  
want  
(Posterior)

Likelihood

$$p(\text{theory} \mid \text{data}) = \frac{p(\text{data} \mid \text{theory})p(\text{theory})}{p(\text{data})}$$

What we all want  
(Posterior)

Likelihood

Prior

$$p(\text{theory} \mid \text{data}) = \frac{p(\text{data} \mid \text{theory})p(\text{theory})}{p(\text{data})}$$

Evidence