

# Statistics for High Energy Physics

1. Profile Likelihood, Asimov, CLs

**2. Exclusion, Discovery**

3. Look Elsewhere Effect

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# Basically ITS ALL ABOUT NUMBERS

$$n_{\text{expected}} = L \cdot \sigma \cdot \text{eff}$$

$$[L] = \text{events/cm}^2$$

$$[\sigma] = \text{cm}^2$$

# So Far

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# A counting experiment

- The Higgs hypothesis is that of signal  $s(m_H)$

$$s(m_H) = L\sigma_{SM} \cdot \epsilon$$

For simplicity unless otherwise noted  $s(m_H) = L\sigma_{SM}$

- In a counting experiment  $n = \mu s(m_H) + b$

$$\mu = \frac{L\sigma_{obs}(m_H)}{L\sigma_{SM}(m_H)} = \frac{\sigma_{obs}(m_H)}{\sigma_{SM}(m_H)}$$

- $\mu$  is the strength of the signal  
(with respect to the expected Standard Model one)
- The hypotheses are therefore denoted by  $H_\mu$
- $H_1$  is the SM with a Higgs,  $H_0$  is the background only model



# A Tale of Two Hypotheses

NULL

$H_0$ - SM w/o Higgs

ALTERNATE

$H_1$ - SM with Higgs

Rejecting  $H_0$  in favour of  $H_1(m_H)$

→ Discovery of a Higgs with a mass  $m_H$

We quantify rejection by p-value (later)

# Swapping Hypotheses $\rightarrow$ exclusion

NULL

$H_0$  - SM w/o Higgs

ALTERNATE

$H_1$  - SM with Higgs

- Reject  $H_1$  in favor of  $H_0$

Excluding  $H_1(m_H) \rightarrow$  Excluding the Higgs  
with a mass  $m_H$

We quantify rejection by p-value (later)

# Likelihood

- Likelihood is the compatibility of the Hypothesis with a given data set.  
But it depends on the data

$$L(H) = P(x | H)$$

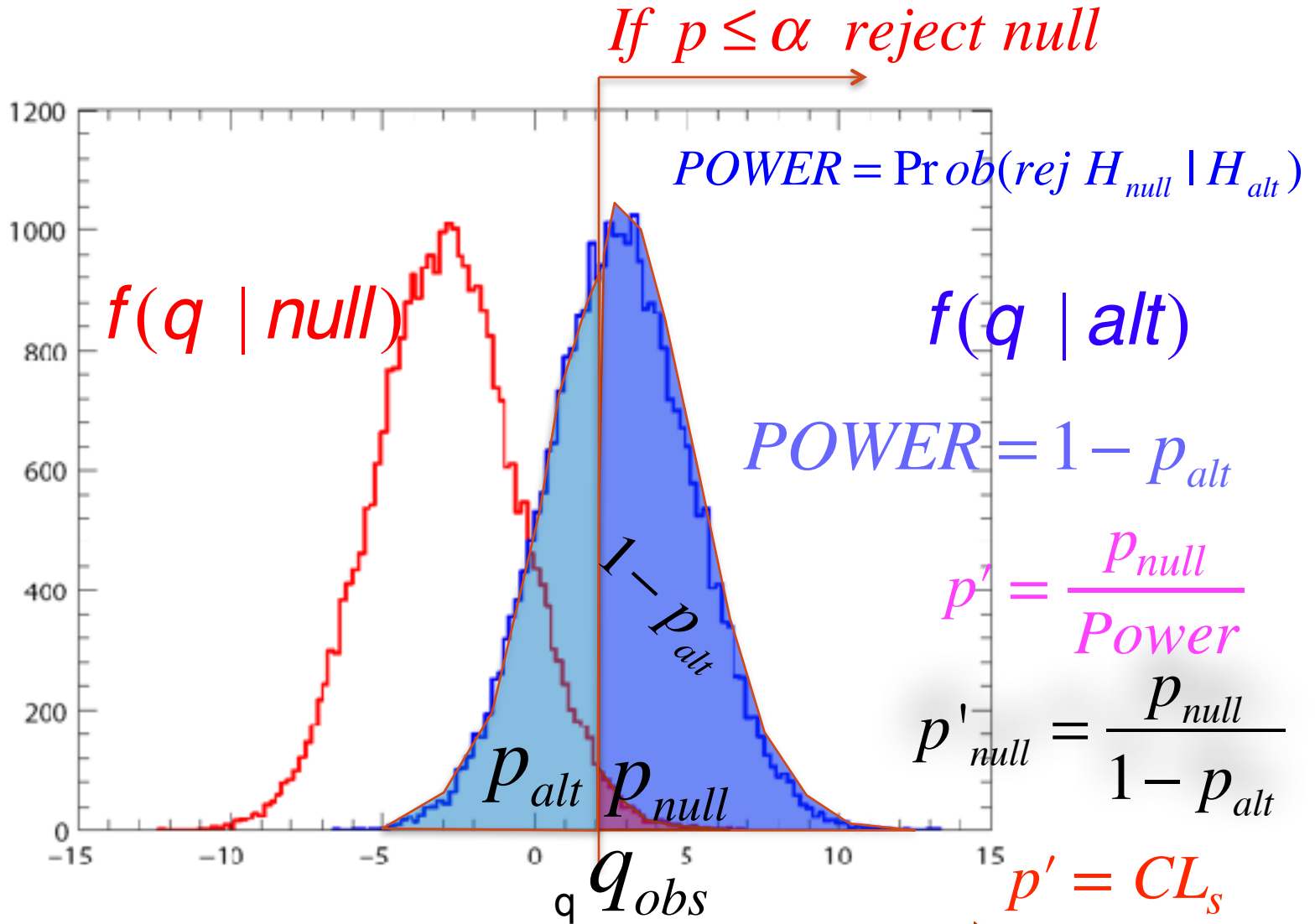
# Test statistic and p-value

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# CLs



Null like



alt like



# Test Spin 0 parity

$$H_0 = 0^+$$

$$H_1 = 0^-$$

$$q^{NP} = -2 \ln \frac{L(H_0)}{L(H_1)}$$

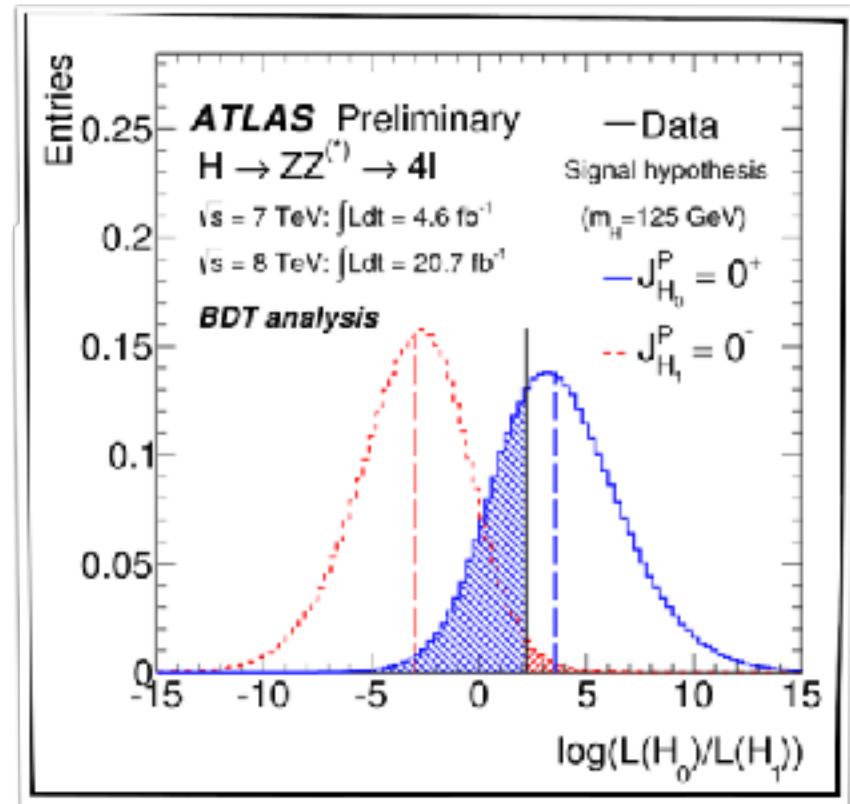
$$p_{H_1}(\text{exp} | H_0) = 0.37\%$$

$$p_{H_1}(\text{obs}) = 1.5\%$$

$$p_{H_0}(\text{obs}) = 31\%$$

$$p_{H_1}^{CL_s}(\text{obs}) = 2.2\%$$

$$p_{H_1}^{CL_s} = \frac{p_{H_1}}{1 - p_{H_0}} = \frac{1.5\%}{1 - 0.31} = 2.2\%$$



Which means

$J^P=0^-$  is excluded at the 97.8% CL in favour of  $J^P=0^+$

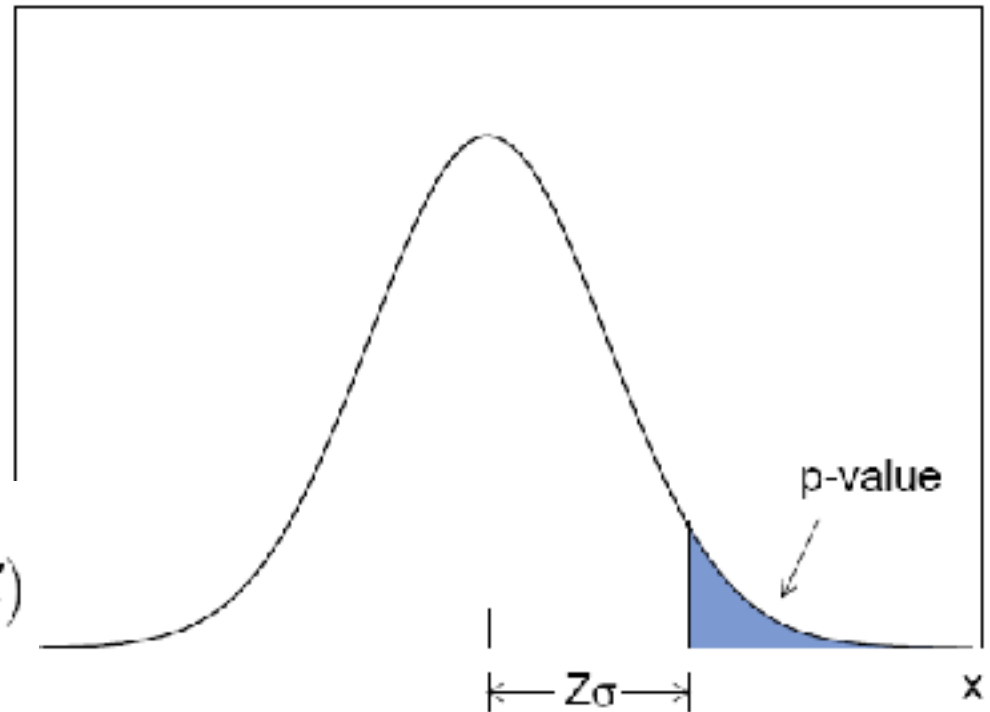
$H_1$  like

$H_0$  like

# From p-values to Gaussian significance

It is a custom to express the p-value as the significance associated to it, had the pdf were Gaussians

$$p = \int_Z^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2} dx = 1 - \Phi(Z)$$
$$Z = \Phi^{-1}(1 - p)$$



A significance of  $Z = 5$  corresponds to  $p = 2.87 \times 10^{-7}$

Beware of 1 vs 2-sided definitions!

# p-value - testing the null hypothesis

When testing the  $b$  hypothesis (null= $b$ ), it is custom to set

$$\alpha = 2.9 \cdot 10^{-7}$$

→ if  $p_b < 2.9 \cdot 10^{-7}$  the  $b$  hypothesis is rejected

→ Discovery

When testing the  $s+b$  hypothesis (null= $s+b$ ), set  $\alpha = 5\%$   
if  $p_{s+b} < 5\%$  the signal hypothesis is rejected at the 95%

Confidence Level (CL)

→ Exclusion

# Nuisance Parameters or Systematics

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# Nuisance Parameters (Systematics)

- There are two kinds of parameters:
  - Parameters of interest (signal strength... cross section...  $\mu$ )
  - Nuisance parameters (background (b), signal efficiency, resolution, energy scale,...)
- The nuisance parameters carry systematic uncertainties

# Pulls and Ranking of NPs

The pull of  $\theta_j$  is given by  $\frac{\hat{\theta}_j - \theta_{0,j}}{\sigma_0}$

without constraint  $\sigma\left(\frac{\hat{\theta}_j - \theta_{0,j}}{\sigma_0}\right) = 1$   $\left\langle \frac{\hat{\theta}_j - \theta_{0,j}}{\sigma_0} \right\rangle = 0$

It's a good habit to look at the pulls of the NPs and make sure that Nothing irregular is seen

In particular one would like to guarantee that the fits do not over constrain a NP in a non sensible way

## Implementation of Nuisance Parameters

- Implement by marginalizing (Bayesian) or profiling (Frequentist)
- Marginalization (Integrating)
  - Integrate the Likelihood,  $L$ , over possible values of nuisance parameters (weighted by their prior belief functions -- Gaussian, gamma, others...)

- $$L(\mu) = \int L(\mu, \theta) \pi(\theta) d\theta$$



# The Hybrid Cousins-Highland Marginalization

Cousins & Highland

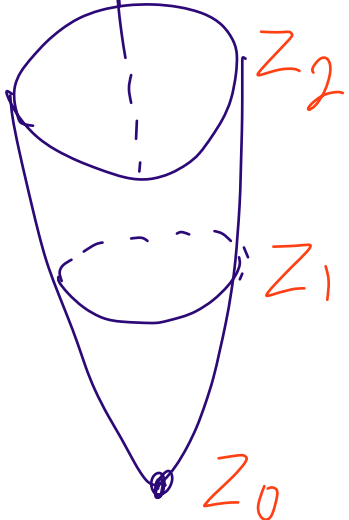
$$q = \frac{L(s + b(\theta))}{L(b(\theta))} \Rightarrow \frac{\int L(s + b(\theta)) \pi(\theta) d\theta}{\int L(b(\theta)) \pi(\theta) d\theta}$$

Profiling the NPs

$$q = \frac{L(s + b(\theta))}{L(b(\theta))} \Rightarrow \frac{L(s + b(\hat{\theta}_s))}{L(b(\hat{\theta}_b))}$$

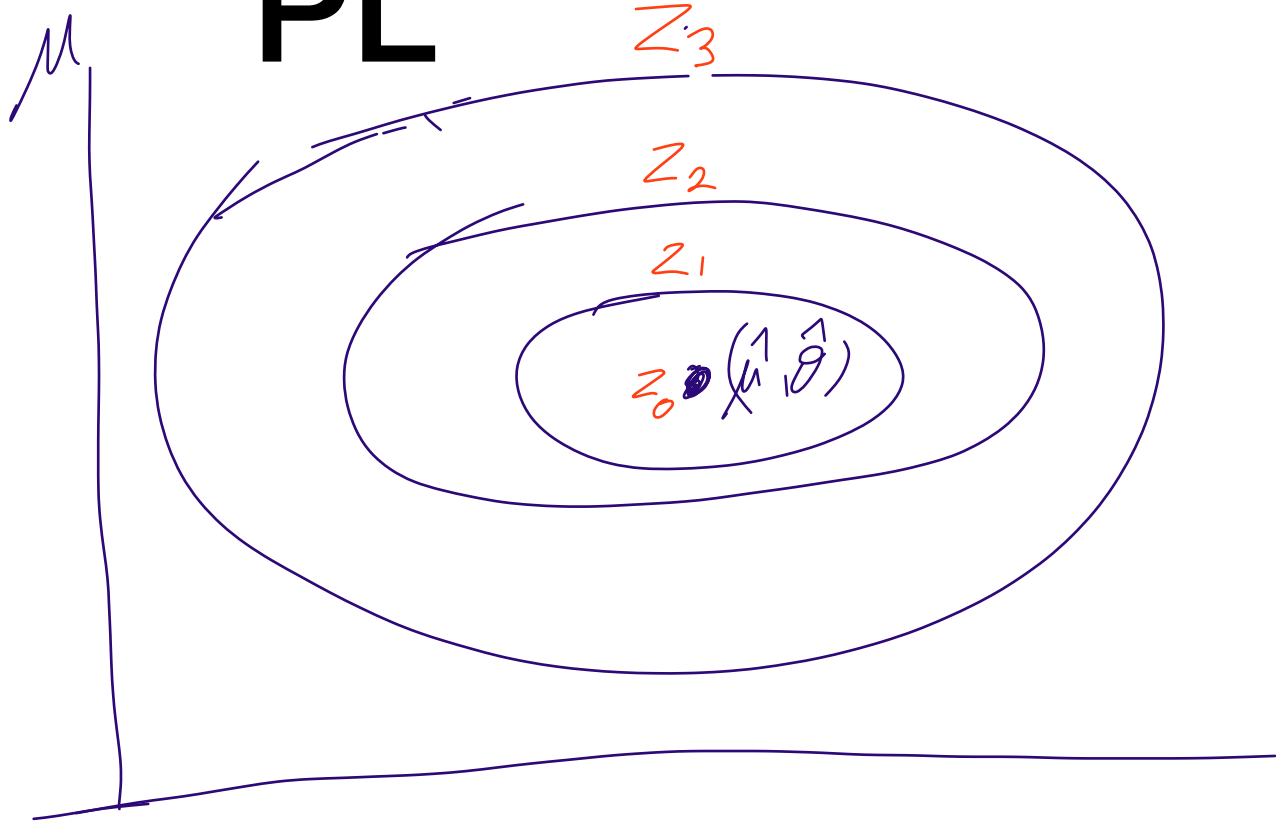
$\hat{\theta}_s$  is the MLE of  $\theta$  fixing  $s$

$L(\mu, \theta)$

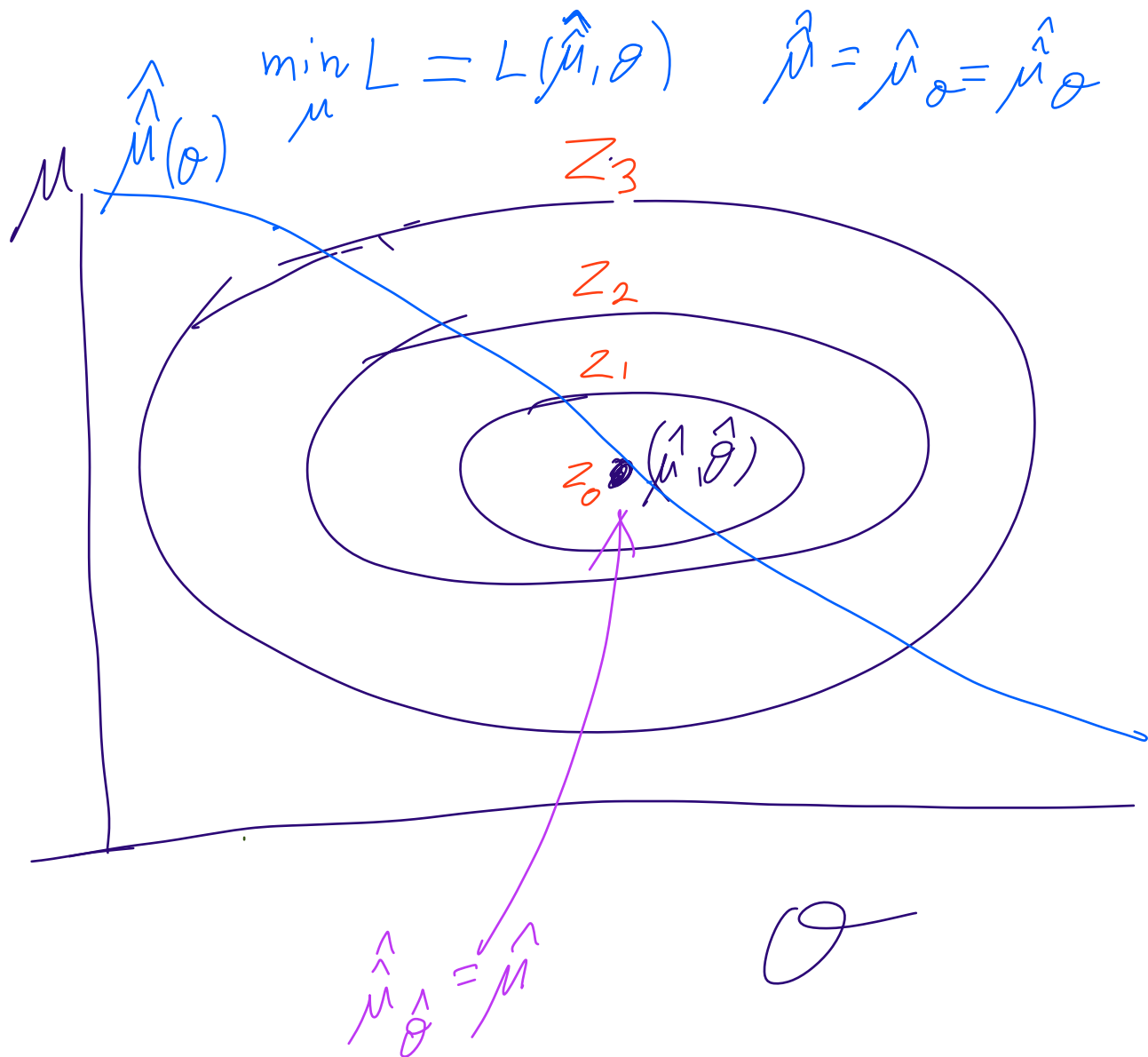
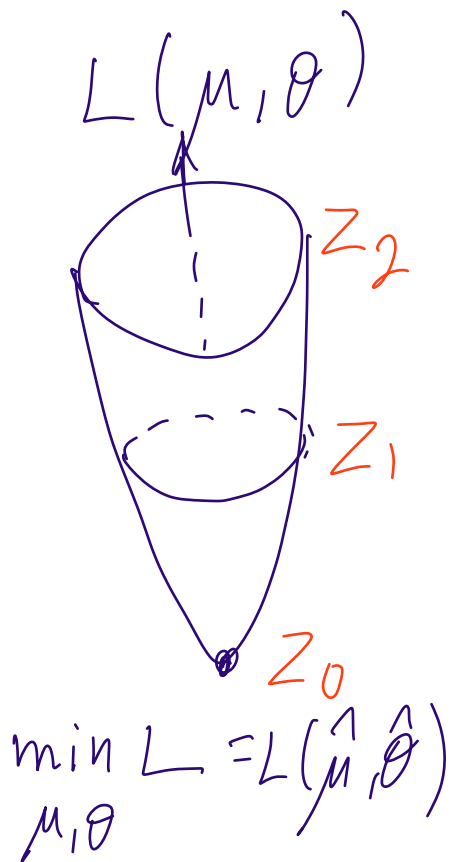


$$\min_{\mu, \theta} L = L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})$$

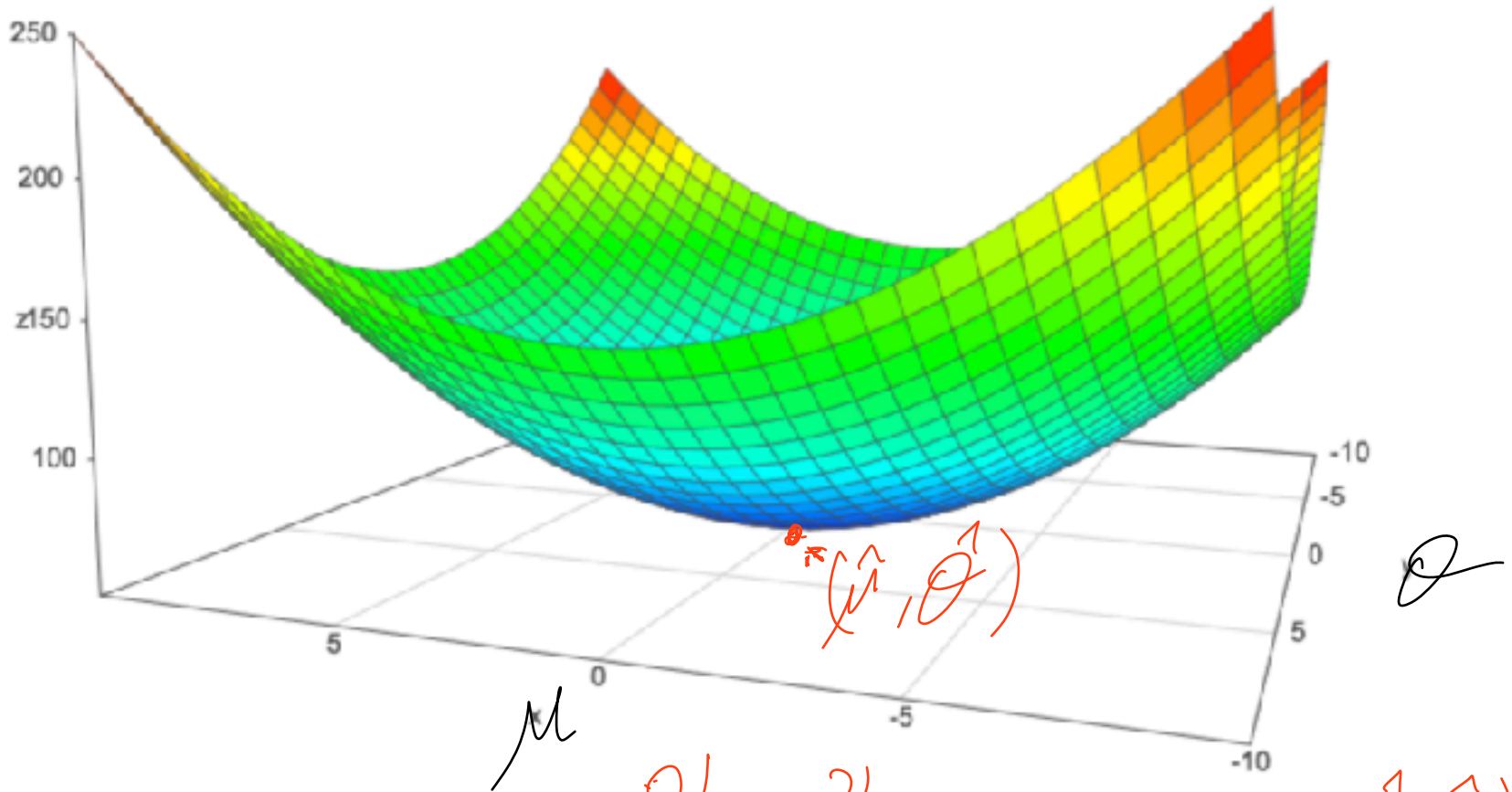
**PL**



*o*



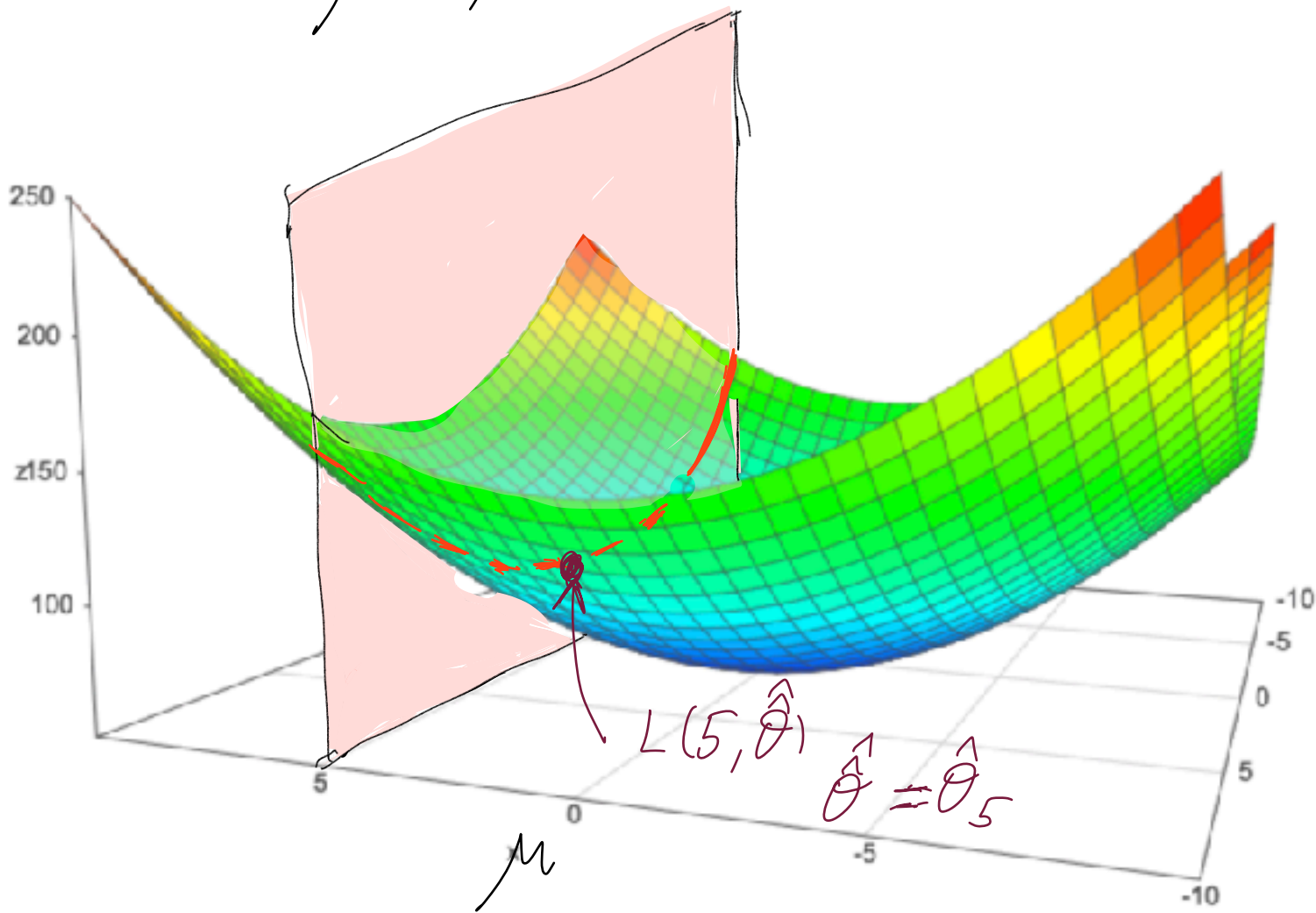
$$L = L(\mu, \theta)$$



$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mu} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta} = 0 \Rightarrow \min L = L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})$$



$$L = L(\mu, \theta) \quad \text{fix } \mu = 5$$

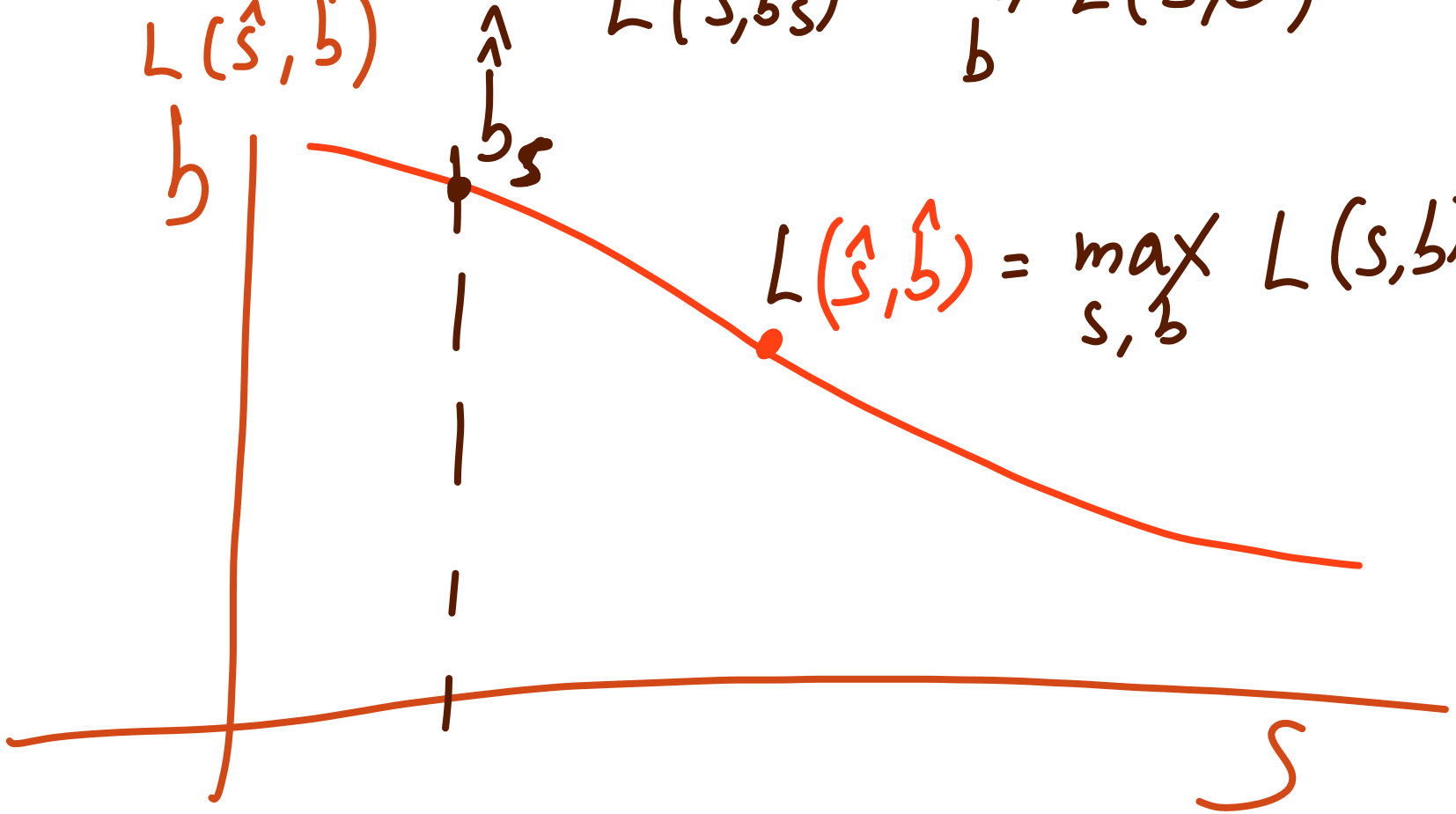


# Profile Likelihood

$$q = \frac{L(s, \hat{b})}{L(\hat{s}, \hat{b})}$$

$$L(s, \hat{b}_s) = \max_b L(s, b)$$

$$L(\hat{s}, \hat{b}) = \max_{s, b} L(s, b)$$



# Wilks theorem in the presence of NPs

- Given  $n$  parameters of interest and any number of NPs, then

$$\lambda = \frac{L(\mu, \hat{\theta})}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})}$$

$$q(\mu, \theta) = -2 \ln \lambda(\mu) \sim \chi^2$$

$$q(\mu_i, \theta) = -2 \ln \lambda(\mu_i) \sim \chi_n^2 \quad \text{Wilks Theorem}$$

# Profile Likelihood with Nuisance Parameters

$$q_{\mu} = -2 \ln \frac{L(\mu s + \hat{\hat{b}}_{\mu})}{L(\hat{\mu} s + \hat{b})}$$

$$q_{\mu} = -2 \ln \frac{\max_b L(\mu s + b)}{\max_{\mu, b} L(\mu s + b)}$$

$$q_{\mu} = q_{\mu}(\hat{\mu}) = -2 \ln \frac{L(\mu s + \hat{\hat{b}}_{\mu})}{L(\hat{\mu} s + \hat{b})}$$

$\hat{\mu}$  MLE of  $\mu$

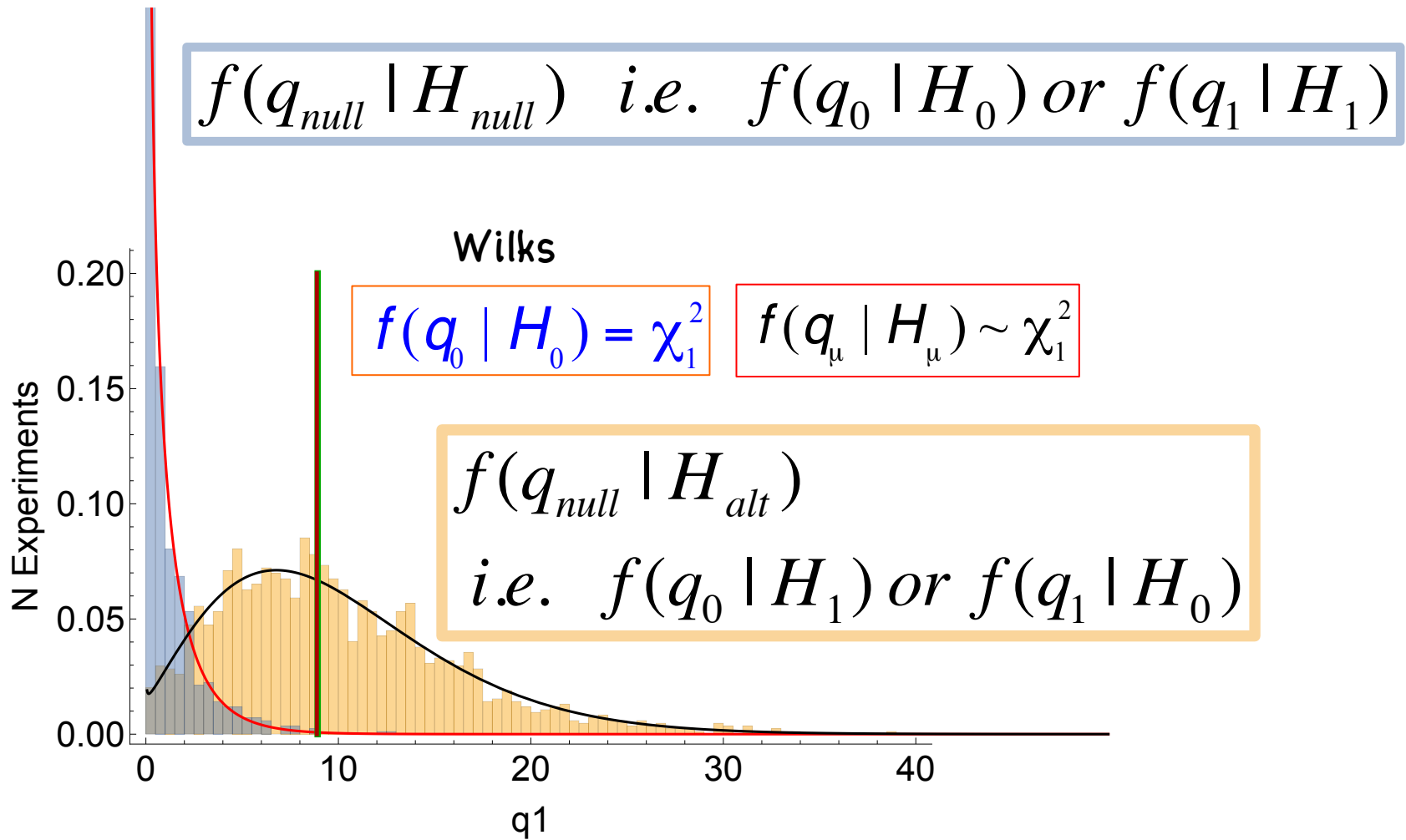
$\hat{b}$  MLE of  $b$

$\hat{\hat{b}}_{\mu}$  MLE of  $b$  fixing  $\mu$

$\hat{\hat{\theta}}_{\mu}$  MLE of  $\theta$  fixing  $\mu$



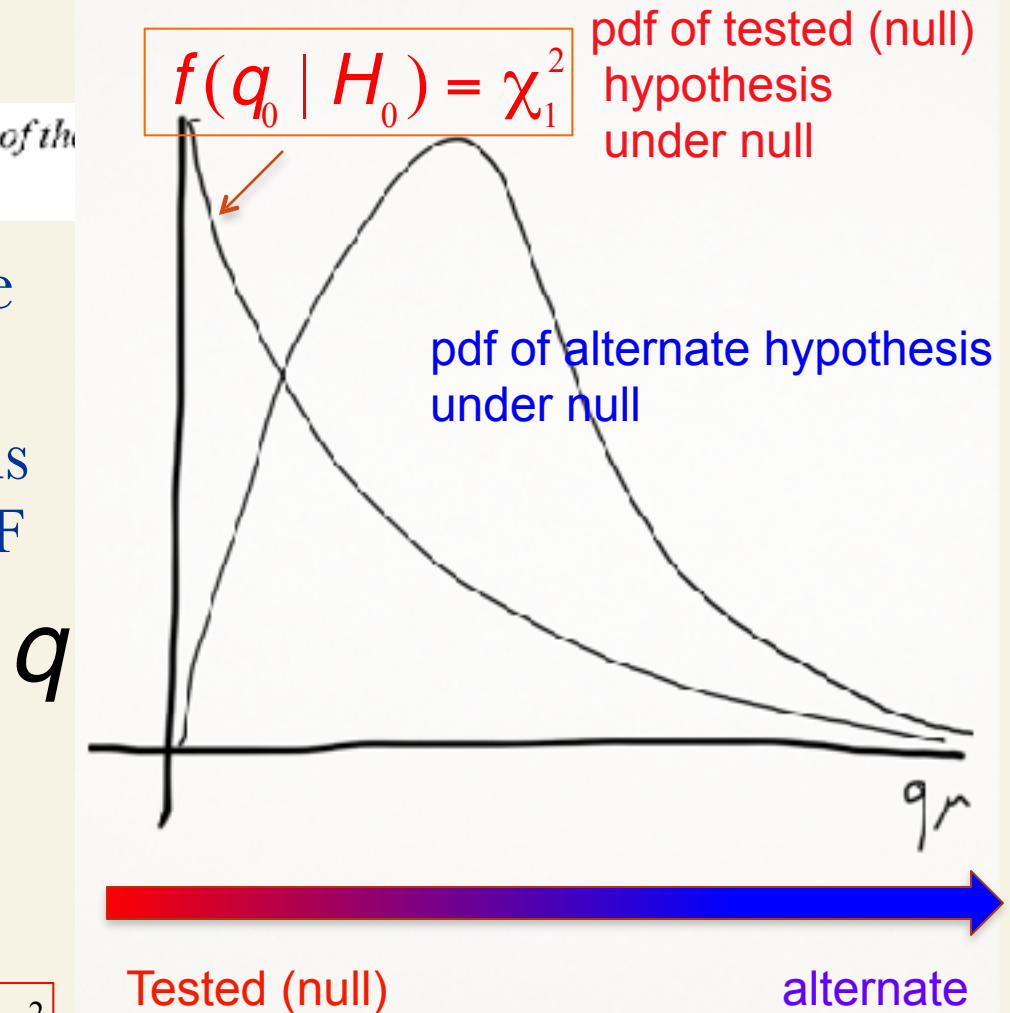
# This Lecture's Questions



# Wilks Theorem

S.S. Wilks, *The large-sample distribution of the*  
*Ann. Math. Statist.* **9** (1938) 60-2.

- *Wilks' theorem says that the pdf of the statistic under the null hypothesis approaches a chi-square PDF for one degree of freedom*



$$f(q_0 | H_0) = \chi_1^2$$

$$f(q_\mu | H_\mu) \sim \chi_1^2$$

# Classification of Test Statistics

Test Stat.	Purpose	Expression	LR
$q_0$	discovery of positive signal	$q_0 = \begin{cases} -2 \ln \lambda(0) & \hat{\mu} \geq 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\mu} < 0 \end{cases}$	$\lambda(0) = \frac{L(0, \hat{\theta})}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})}$
$t_\mu$	2-sided measurement	$t_\mu = -2 \ln \lambda(\mu)$	$\lambda(\mu) = \frac{L(\mu, \hat{\theta})}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})}$
$\bar{t}_\mu$	avoid negative signal (Feldman-Cousins)	$\bar{t}_\mu = -2 \ln \tilde{\lambda}(\mu)$	$\tilde{\lambda}(\mu) = \begin{cases} \frac{L(\mu, \hat{\theta}(\mu))}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})} & \hat{\mu} \geq 0 \\ \frac{L(\mu, \hat{\theta}(\mu))}{L(0, \hat{\theta}(0))} & \hat{\mu} < 0 \end{cases}$
$q_\mu$	exclusion	$q_\mu = \begin{cases} -2 \ln \lambda(\mu) & \hat{\mu} \leq \mu \\ 0 & \hat{\mu} > \mu \end{cases}$	
$\bar{q}_\mu$	exclusion of positive signal	$\bar{q}_\mu = \begin{cases} -2 \ln \frac{L(\mu, \hat{\theta}(\mu))}{L(0, \hat{\theta}(0))} & \hat{\mu} < 0, \\ -2 \ln \frac{L(\mu, \hat{\theta}(\mu))}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})} & 0 \leq \hat{\mu} \leq \mu \\ 0 & \hat{\mu} > \mu \end{cases}$	



# Discovery vs Exclusion

*Test  $H_0$  with  $q_0$ , Reject  $H_0 \Rightarrow$  Discovery*

$$q_0 = \begin{cases} -2 \ln \lambda(0) & \hat{\mu} \geq 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\mu} < 0 \end{cases} \quad \lambda(0) = \frac{L(0, \hat{\theta}_0)}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})}$$

*Test  $H_\mu(m_H)$  with  $q_\mu$  Reject  $H_\mu(m_H) \Rightarrow$*

*Exclusion of a Higgs with  $m_H \Rightarrow \mu_{up}(m_H)$*

$$q_\mu = \begin{cases} -2 \ln \lambda(\mu) & \hat{\mu} \leq \mu \\ 0 & \hat{\mu} > \mu \end{cases} \quad \lambda(\mu) = \frac{L(\mu, \hat{\theta}_\mu)}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})}$$



# Asymptotic Approximation

CCGV

**Asymptotic formulae for likelihood-based tests of new physics**

Glen Cowan (Royal Holloway, U. of London), Kyle Cranmer (New York U.), Eilam Gross, Ofer Vitells (Weizmann Inst.), Jul 10, 2010, 25 pp.

Published in Eur.Phys.J. C71 (2011) 1554, Erratum: Eur.Phys.J. C73 (2013) 2501

Eilam  
Gross

Ofer  
Vitells

Ofer  
Vitells

2010



# Test Statistic $t_\mu = -2\ln\lambda(\mu)$

$$t_\mu = -2\ln\lambda(\mu) \quad \lambda(\mu) = \frac{L(\mu, \hat{\theta}_\mu)}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})}$$

*Higher values of  $t_\mu$  correspond to increasing incompatibility between the data and  $\mu$*



# Wald Theorem

$$\lambda(\mu) = \frac{L(\mu, \hat{\theta}_\mu)}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})} \quad t_\mu = -2 \ln \lambda(\mu) \quad \text{Wilks} \Rightarrow f(t_\mu | \mu) \sim \chi_1^2$$

How does  $t_\mu$  distribute under  $H_{\mu'}$  ( $\mu' \neq \mu$ )

A. Wald, *Tests of Statistical Hypotheses Concerning Several Parameters When the Number of Observations is Large*, Transactions of the American Mathematical Society, Vol. 54, No. 3 (Nov., 1943), pp. 426-482.

$$t_\mu = -2 \ln \lambda(\mu) = \frac{(\mu - \hat{\mu})^2}{\sigma_{\hat{\mu}}^2} + O(1/\sqrt{N})$$

(Use the Asimov Dataset to estimate  $\sigma$ )

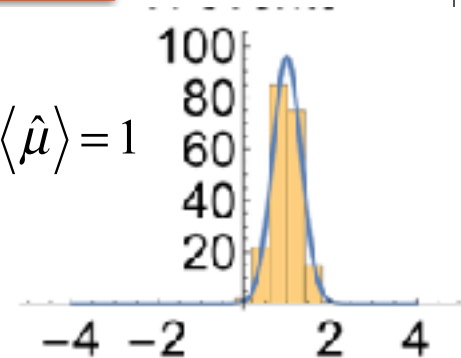
$f(t_\mu | \mu')$  follows a noncentral Chi squared distribution

with non-centrality parameter  $\Lambda = \frac{(\mu - \mu')^2}{\sigma^2}$  with 1 d.o.f

where  $\hat{\mu} \sim G(\mu', \sigma)$

N is the sample size

$$\mu' = 1 \Rightarrow \langle \hat{\mu} \rangle = 1$$



# Wald Theorem

$$t_{\mu} = -2 \ln \lambda(\mu) = \frac{(\mu - \hat{\mu})^2}{\sigma_{\hat{\mu}}^2} + O(1/\sqrt{N})$$

$$\hat{\mu} \sim G(\mu', \sigma)$$

N is the sample size

$f(t_{\mu} | \mu')$  follows a noncentral Chi squared distribution

with non-centrality parameter  $\Lambda = \frac{(\mu - \mu')^2}{\sigma^2}$  with 1 d.o.f

$$f(t_{\mu}; \Lambda) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t_{\mu}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[ \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{t_{\mu}} + \sqrt{\Lambda})^2\right) + \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{t_{\mu}} - \sqrt{\Lambda})^2\right) \right]$$

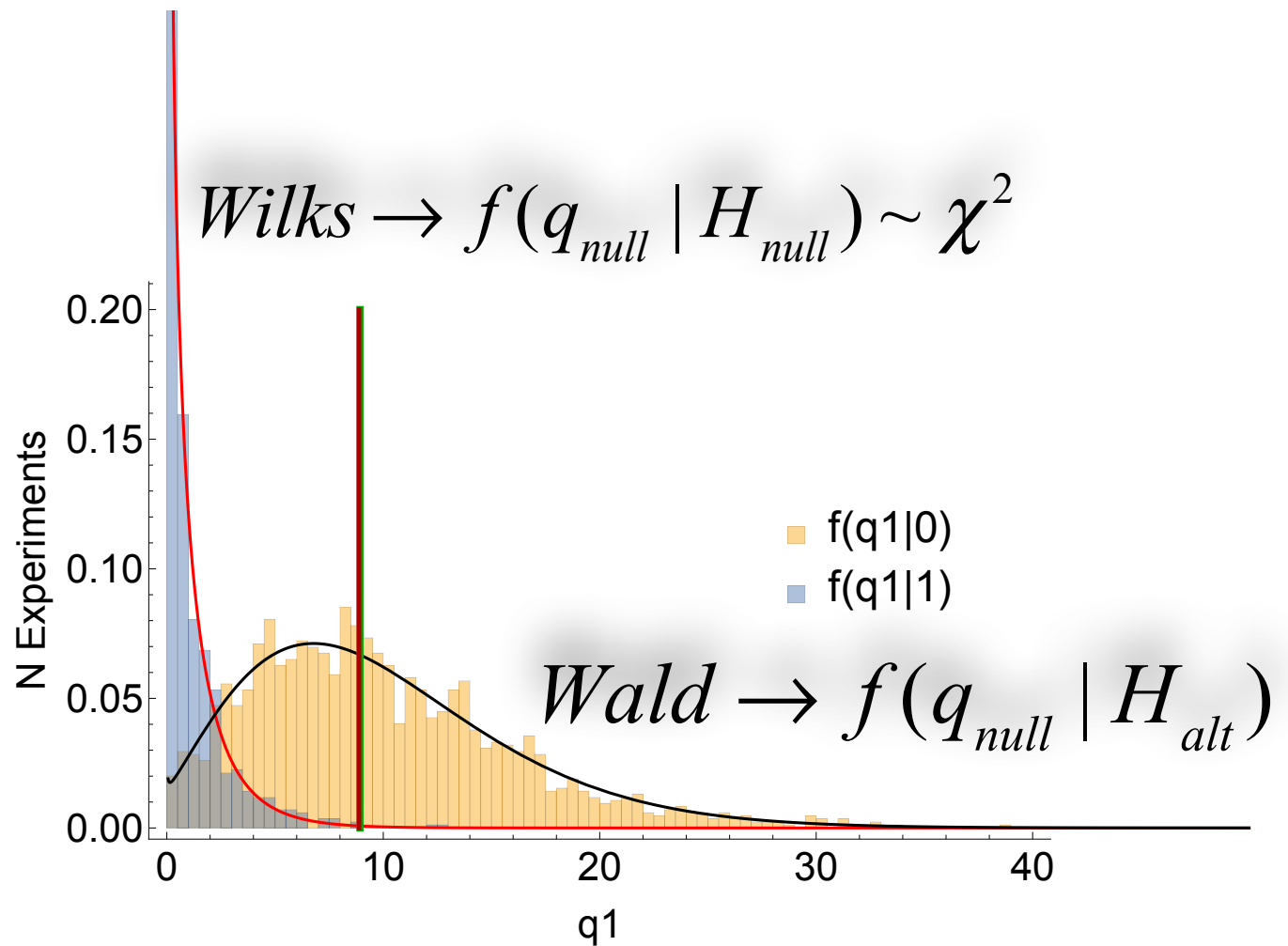
for  $\mu' = \mu$  we retrieve Wilks' theorem

$$f(t_{\mu}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi t_{\mu}}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}t_{\mu}} = \chi^2$$

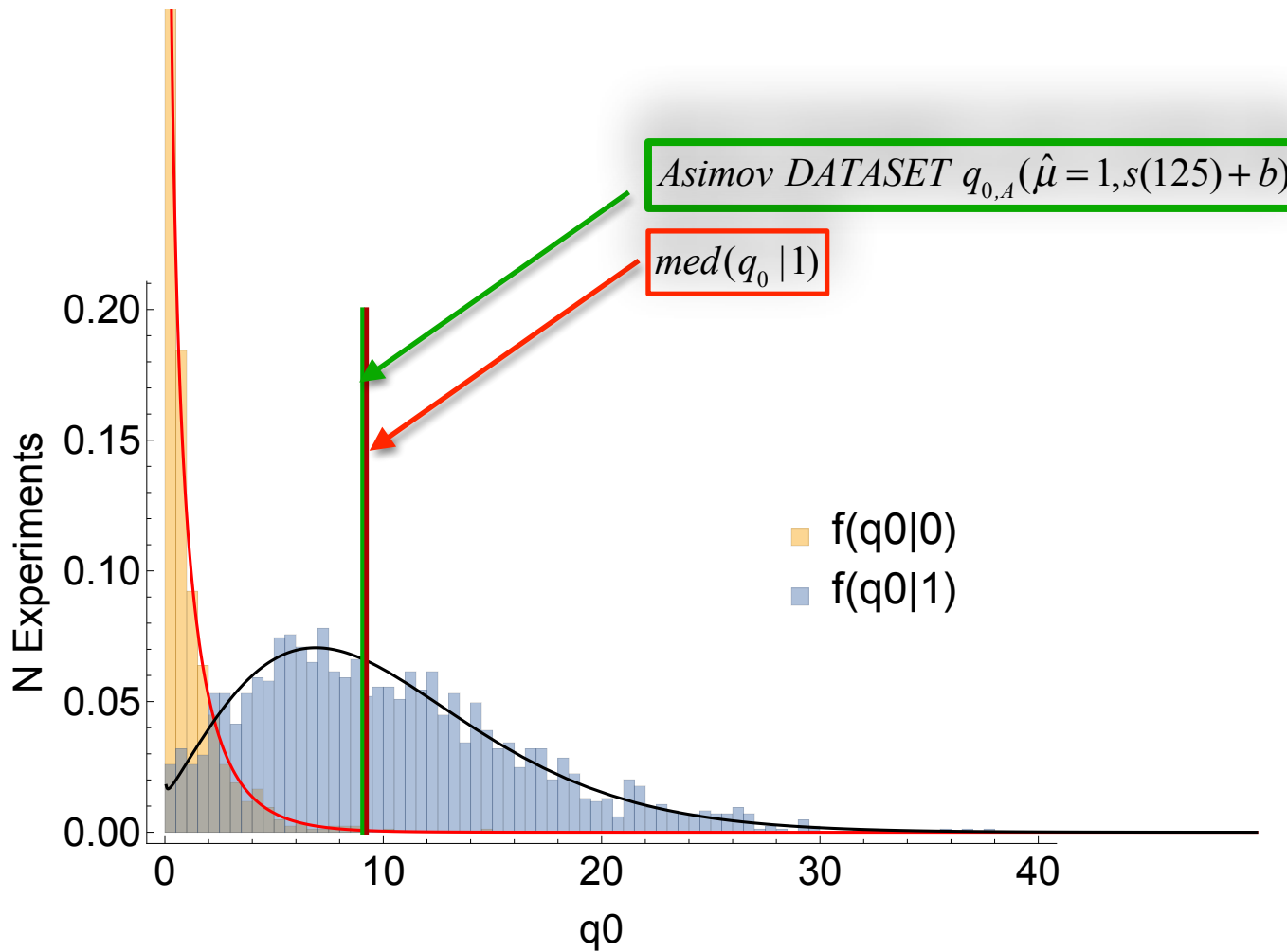




# Asymptotics



# The Magic of Asimov



# $q_\mu$ for exclusion

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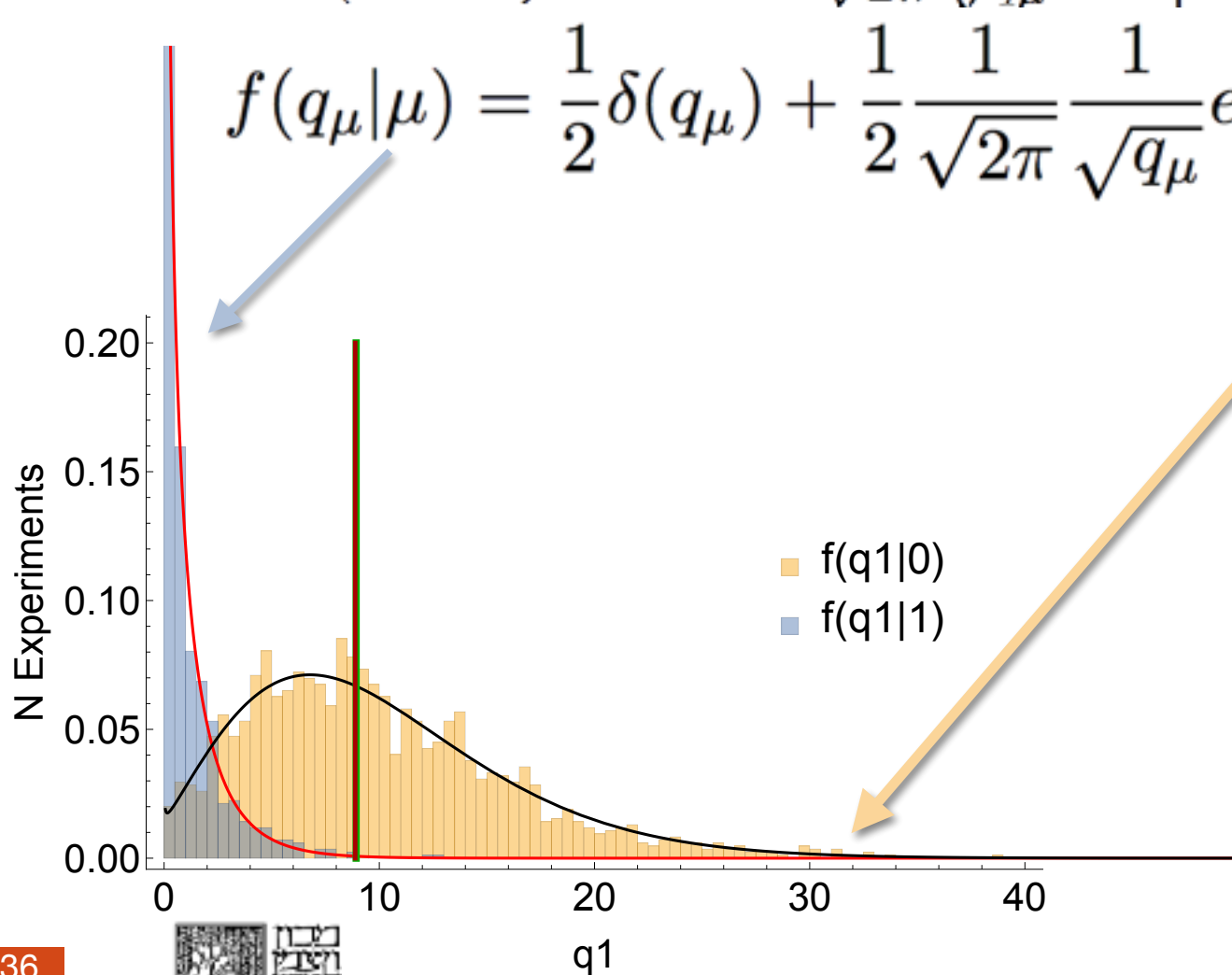
$$q_\mu = \begin{cases} -2 \log \lambda(\mu) & \hat{\mu} \leq \mu \\ 0 & \hat{\mu} > \mu \end{cases}$$

Upward fluctuations of the signal  
do not serve as an evidence against the signal

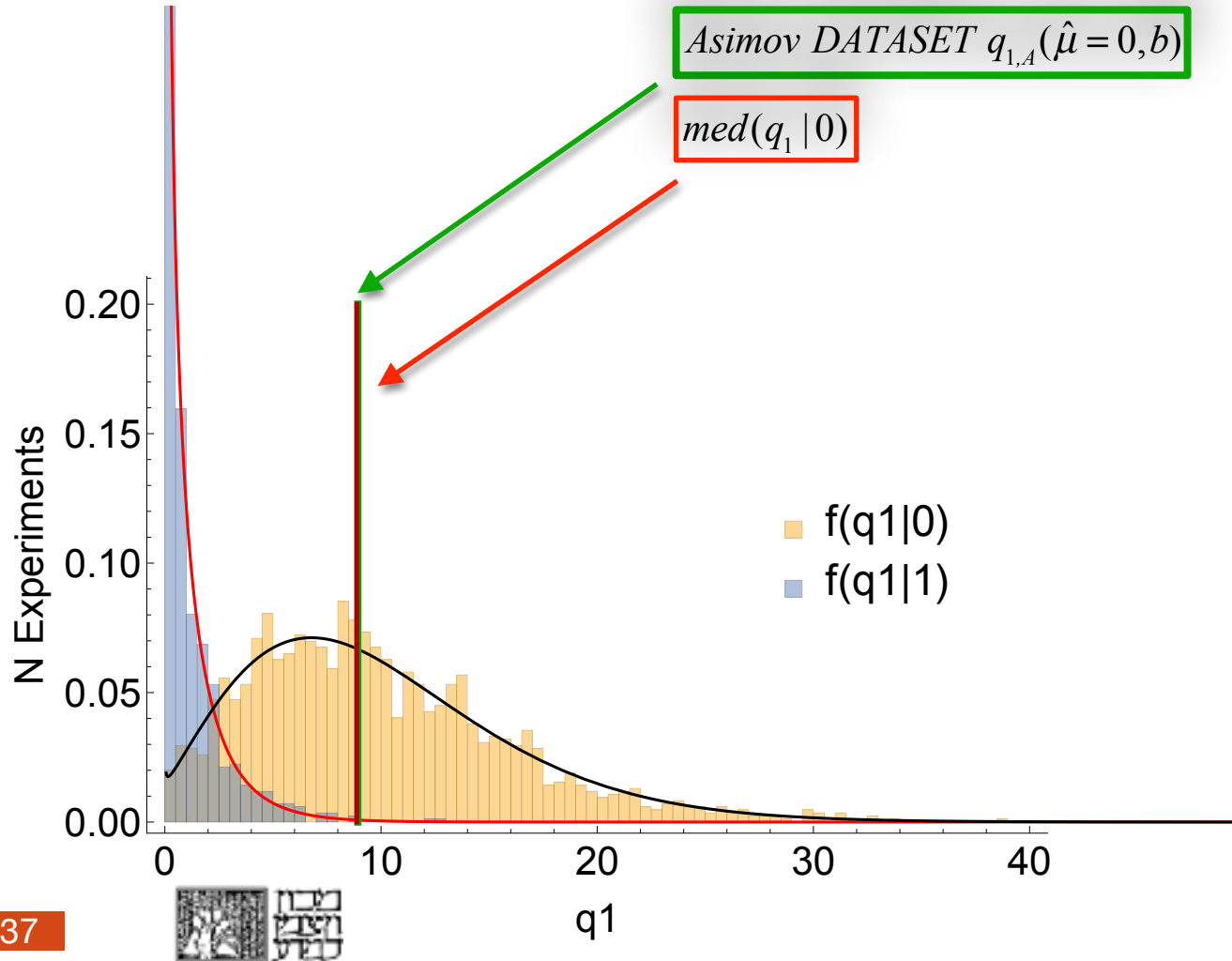
# PDF of (q1|1) and (q1|1)

$$f(q_\mu|\mu') = \Phi\left(\frac{\mu' - \mu}{\sigma}\right) \delta(q_\mu) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{q_\mu}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2} \left(\sqrt{q_\mu} - \frac{\mu - \mu'}{\sigma}\right)^2\right]$$

$$f(q_\mu|\mu) = \frac{1}{2} \delta(q_\mu) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{q_\mu}} e^{-q_\mu/2}$$



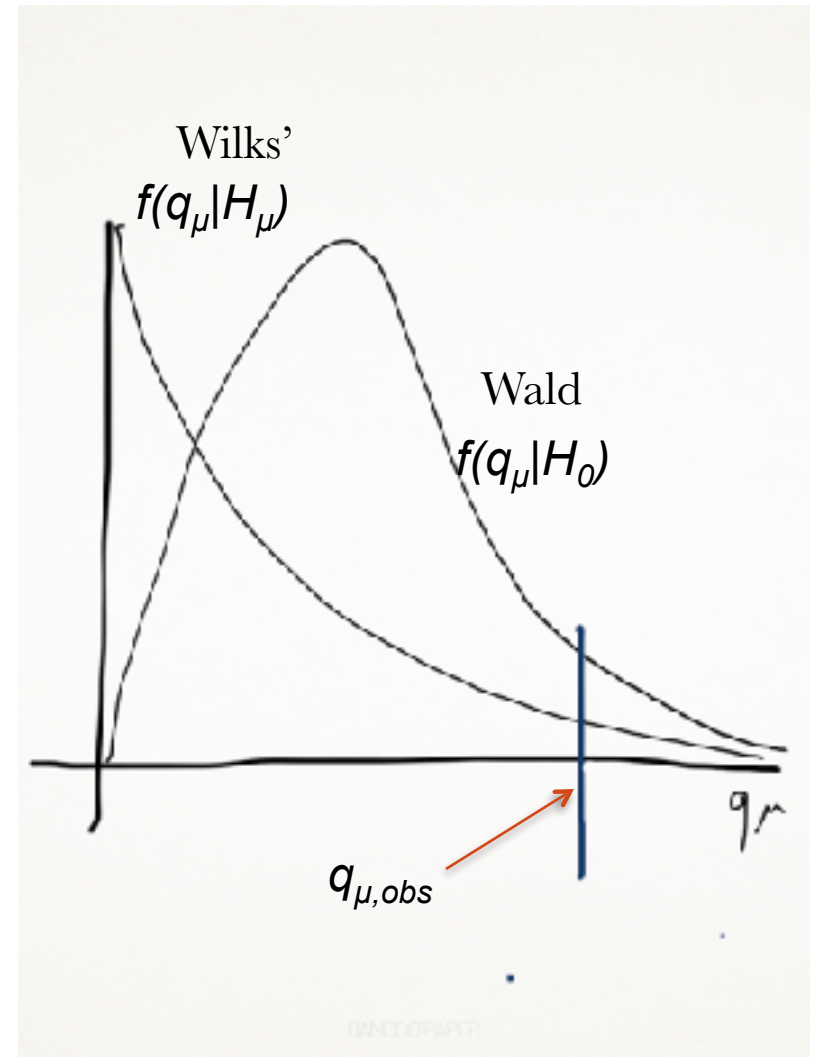
# PDF of $(q_1|1)$ and $(q_1|1)$



# Exclusion at 95% CL

- We test hypothesis  $H_\mu$
- We calculate the PL (profile likelihood) ratio with the one observed data

- $q_{\mu,obs}$

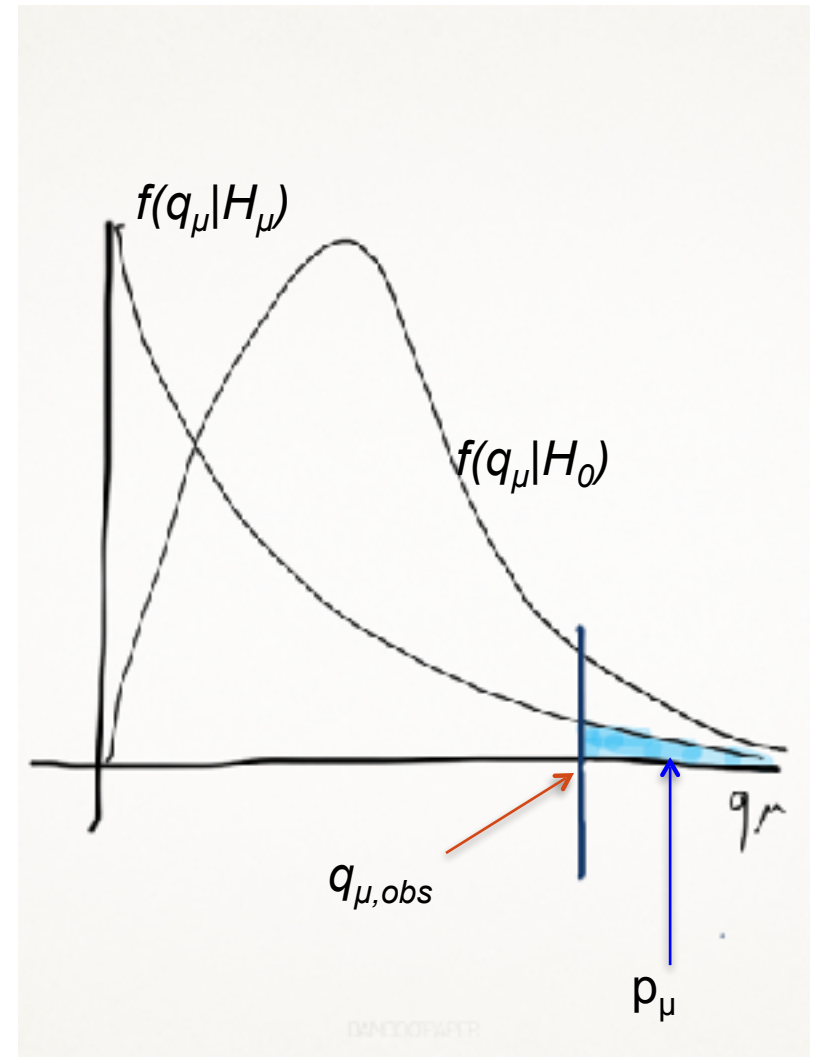


# Exclusion at the 95% CL

- Find the p-value of the signal hypothesis  $H_\mu$

$$p_\mu = \int_{q_{\mu,obs}}^{\infty} f(q_\mu | H_\mu) dq_\mu$$

- In principle if  $p_\mu < 5\%$ ,  $H_\mu$  hypothesis is excluded at the 95% CL
- Note that  $H_\mu$  is for a given Higgs mass  $m_H$



Find  $\mu_{up}$

$f(q_\mu | \mu)$

1

0.50

0.10

0.05

0.01

0

5

10

15

20

$q_\mu$

$f(q_\mu | 0)$

$$\text{Let } \langle \hat{\mu} \rangle = 0, \text{ Wald } \rightarrow Z = \sqrt{q_\mu} = \frac{\mu - \hat{\mu}}{\sigma}$$

$$q_{\mu,A} = -2 \ln \frac{L(\mu | 0)}{L(\hat{\mu} = 0 | 0)}$$

$$\sigma_\mu = \frac{\mu}{\sqrt{q_{\mu,A}}}$$

$$p_\mu = 1 - \Phi(\sqrt{q_\mu}) = \alpha \rightarrow \sqrt{q_\mu} = \Phi^{-1}(1 - \alpha)$$

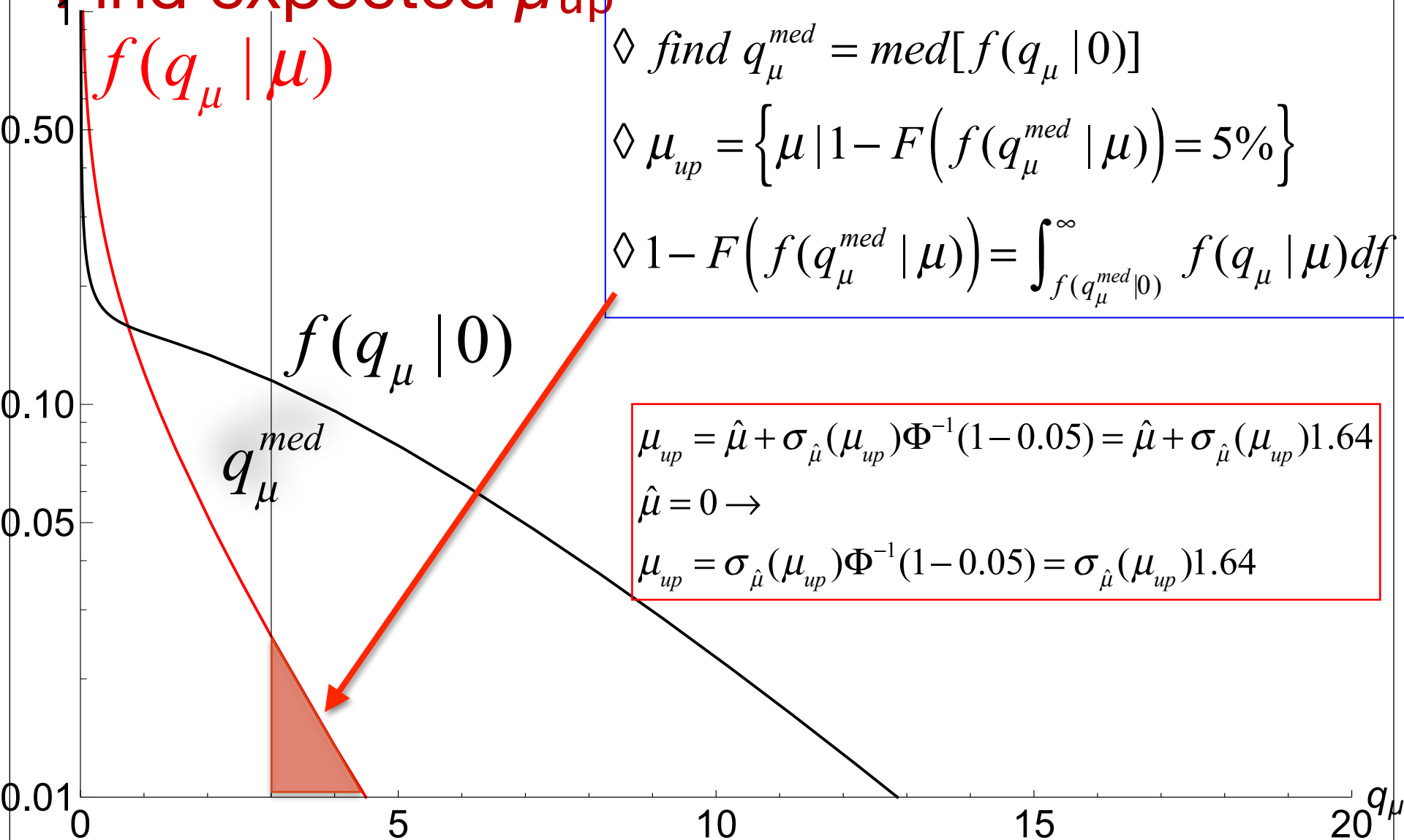
$$\frac{\mu - \hat{\mu}}{\sigma} = \Phi^{-1}(1 - \alpha)$$

$$\mu_{up} = \{ \mu \mid p_\mu = 5\% \}$$

$$\mu_{up} = \hat{\mu} + \sigma_{\hat{\mu}}(\mu_{up}) \Phi^{-1}(1 - 0.05) = \hat{\mu} + \sigma_{\hat{\mu}}(\mu_{up}) 1.64$$



# Find expected $\mu_{up}$

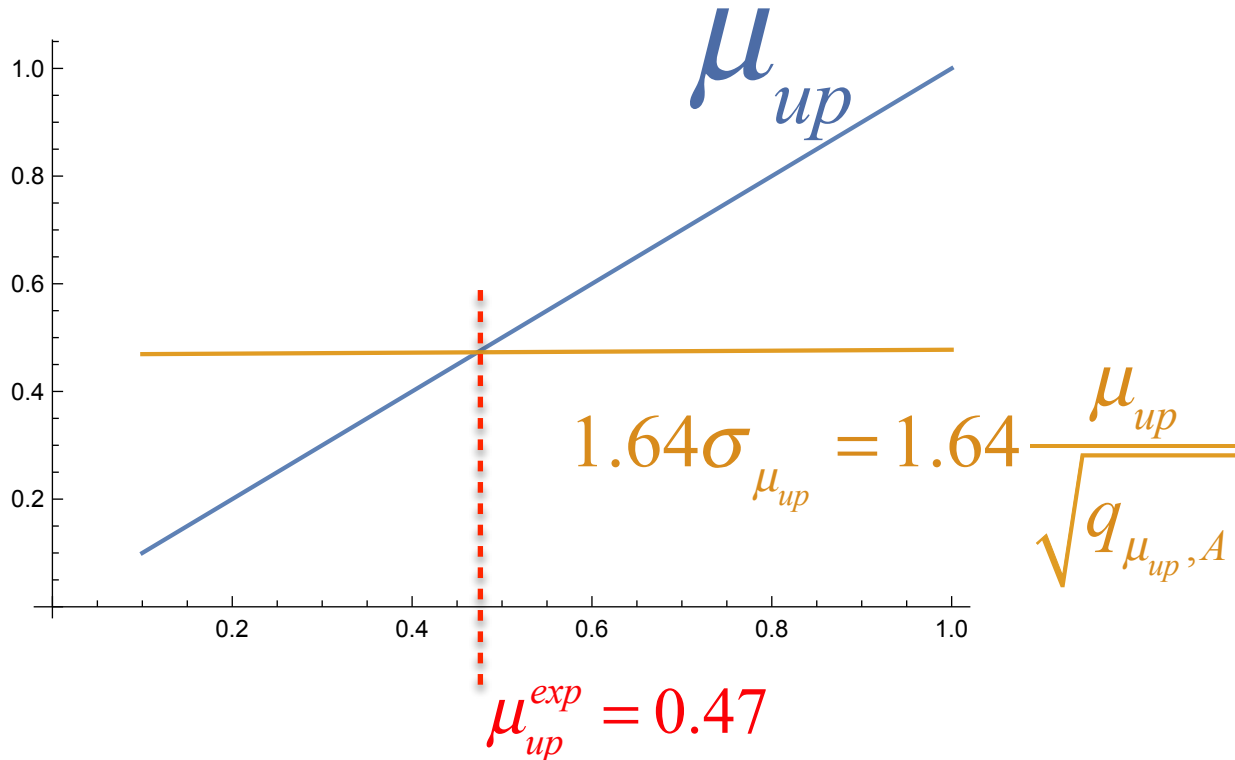


# Find expected $\mu_{up}$

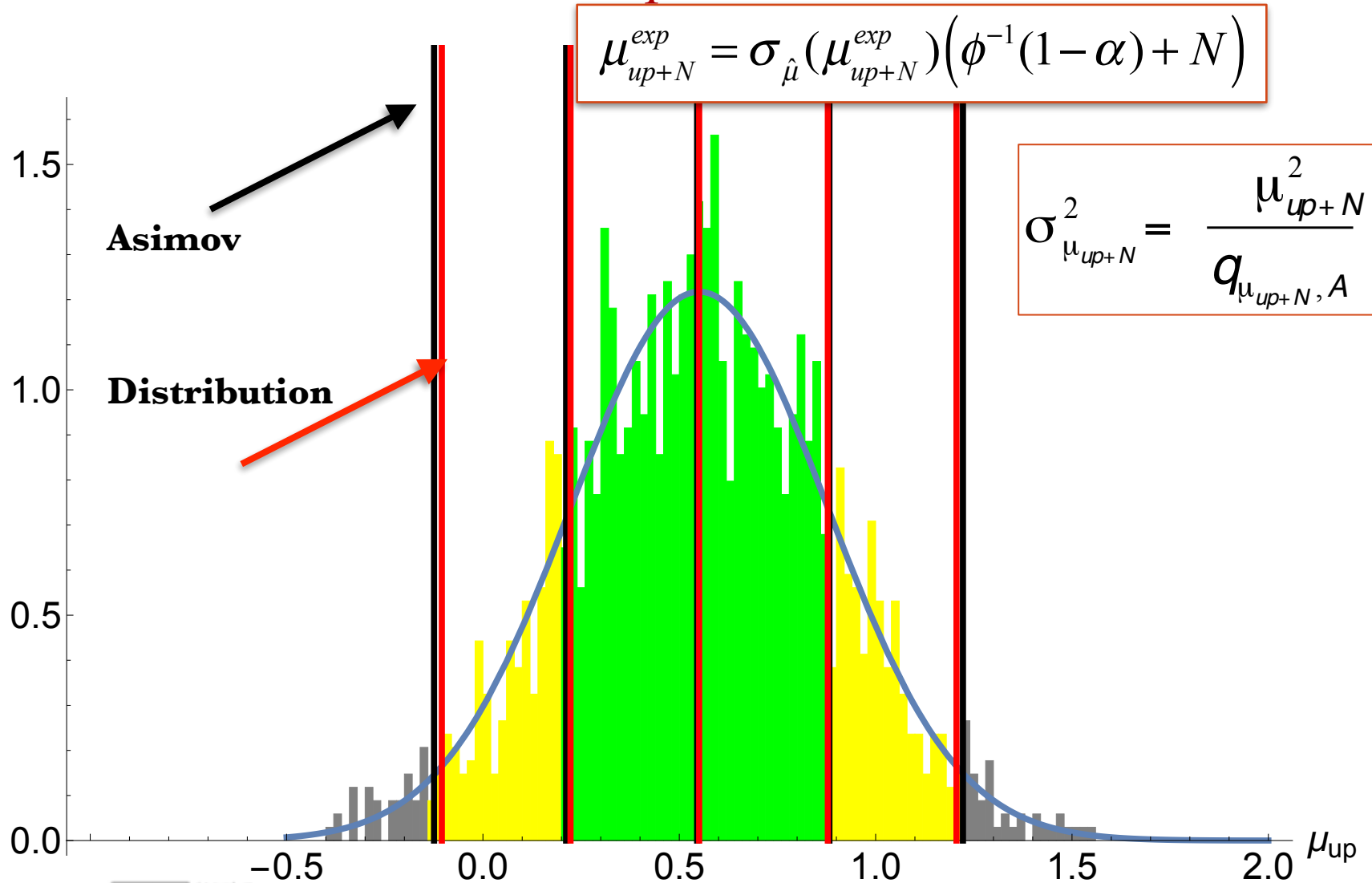
$$\mu_{up} = \hat{\mu} + \sigma_{\hat{\mu}}(\mu_{up})\Phi^{-1}(1-0.05) = \hat{\mu} + \sigma_{\hat{\mu}}(\mu_{up})1.64$$

$$\hat{\mu}_A = 0 \rightarrow$$

$$\mu_{up}^{exp} = \sigma_{\hat{\mu}}(\mu_{up}^{exp})\Phi^{-1}(1-0.05) = \sigma_{\hat{\mu}}(\mu_{up}^{exp})1.64$$



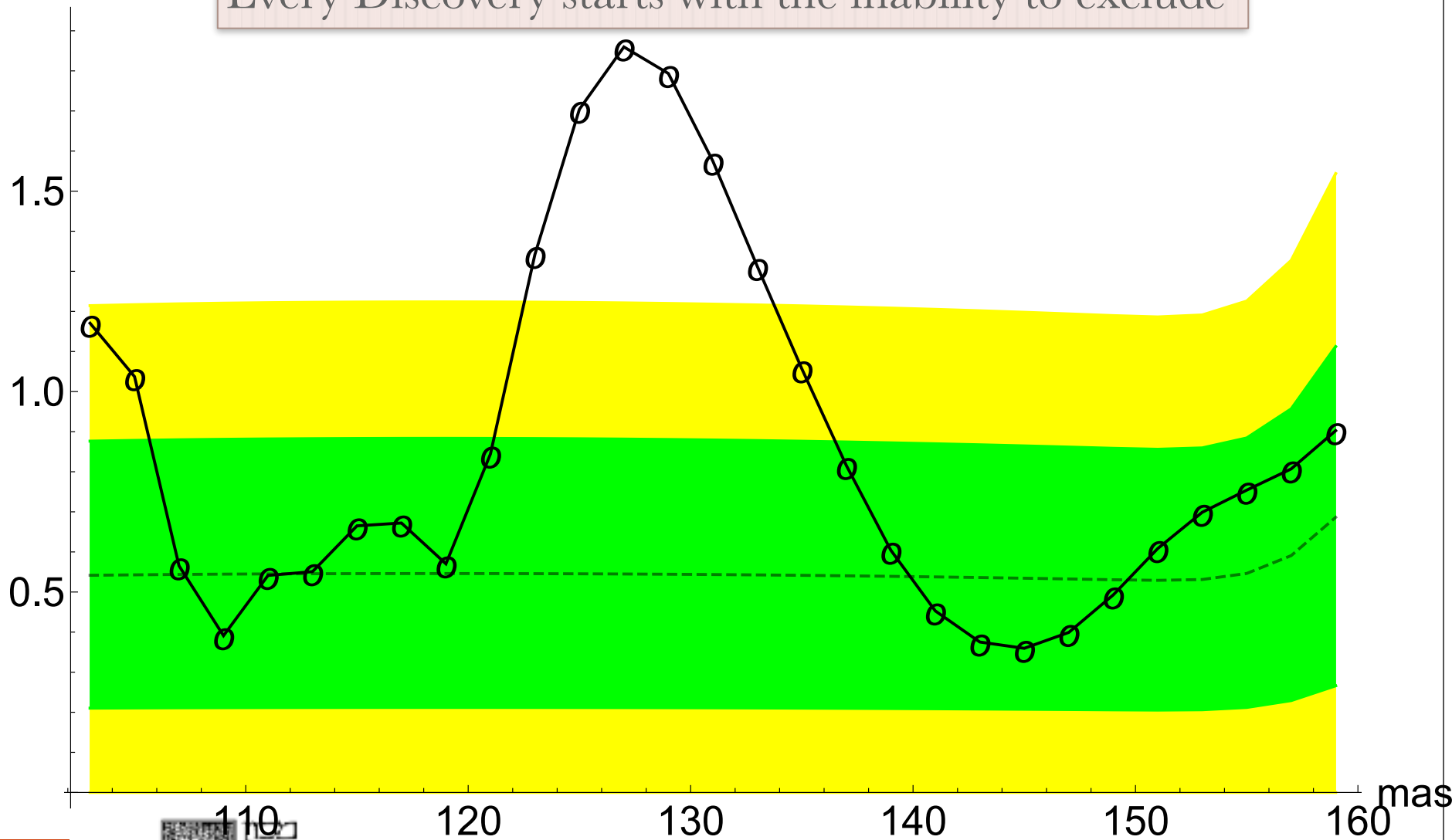
# Expected $\mu_{up}$ Bands at $m=125$



# Brazil Plot

$\mu_{\text{up}}$

Every Discovery starts with the inability to exclude



$$q_0 \equiv \tilde{t}_0 = \begin{cases} -2 \ln \lambda(0) & \hat{\mu} \geq 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\mu} < 0 \end{cases} \quad \lambda(0) = \frac{L(\mu=0)}{L(\hat{\mu})} = \frac{L(\hat{b}_{\mu=0})}{L(\hat{\mu}s + \hat{b})} = \frac{L(\hat{b}_{\mu=0})}{L(\hat{s} + \hat{b})}$$

# $q_0$ for discovery

CCGV

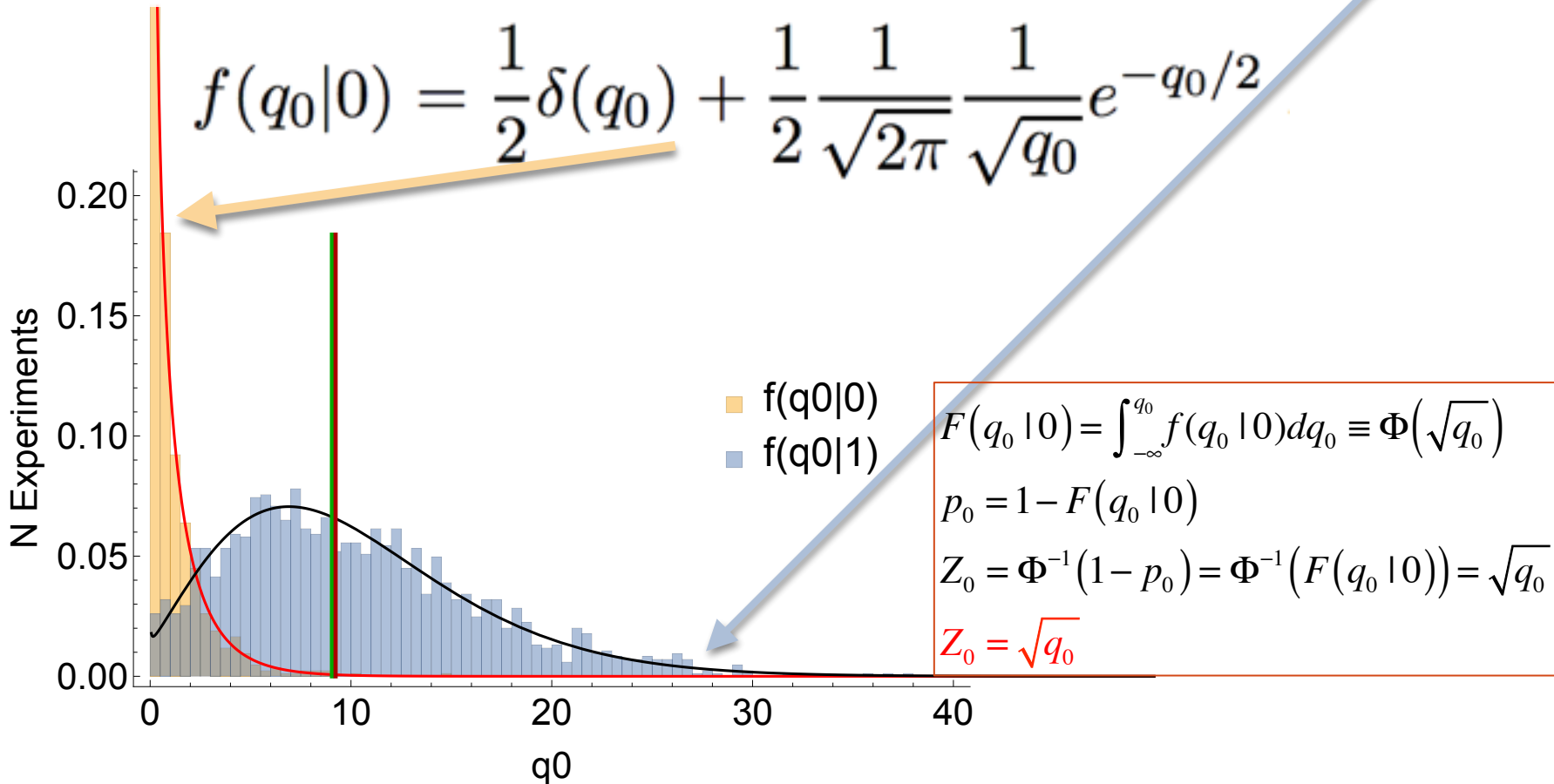
$$q_0 \equiv \tilde{t}_0 = \begin{cases} -2 \ln \lambda(0) & \hat{\mu} \geq 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\mu} < 0 \end{cases}$$

Downward fluctuations of the background  
do not serve as an evidence against the background

# PDF of (q0|0) and (q0|1)

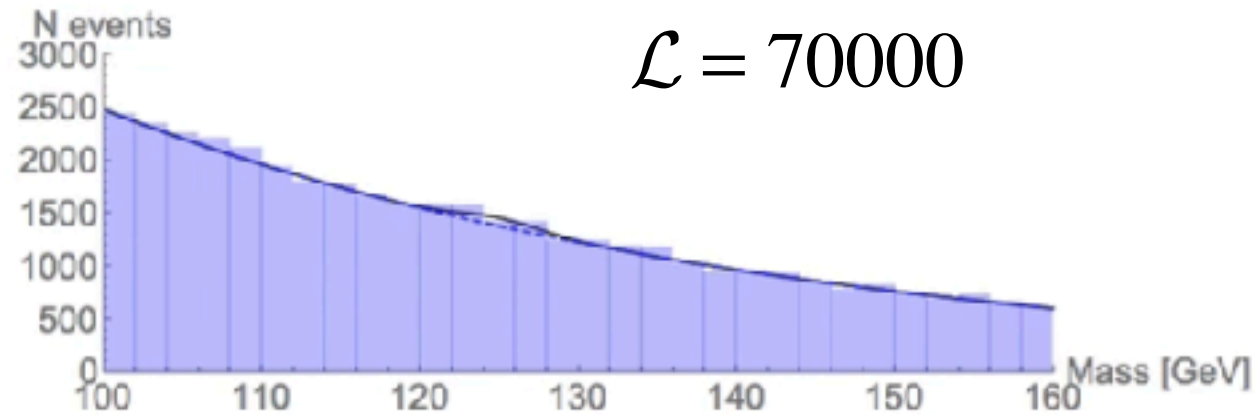
$$f(q_0|\mu') = \left(1 - \Phi\left(\frac{\mu'}{\sigma}\right)\right) \delta(q_0) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{q_0}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2} \left(\sqrt{q_0} - \frac{\mu'}{\sigma}\right)^2\right]$$

$$f(q_0|0) = \frac{1}{2} \delta(q_0) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{q_0}} e^{-q_0/2}$$

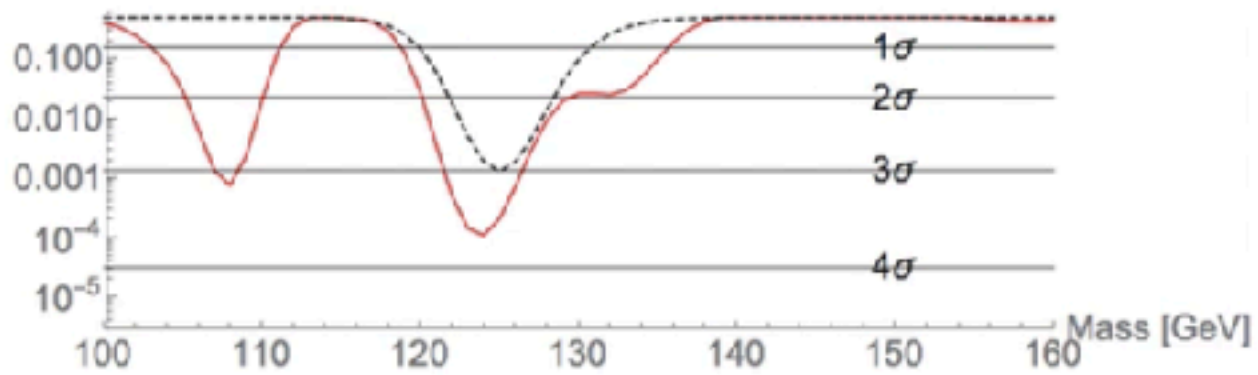


$p$ -value

$$\mathcal{L} = 70000$$

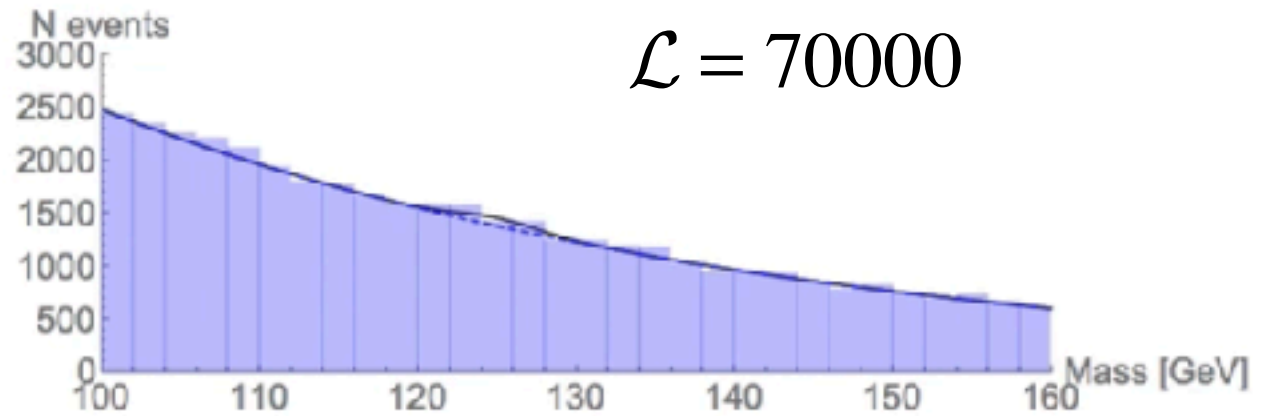


$$p = \text{prob}(q_0 \geq q_{0,obs})$$

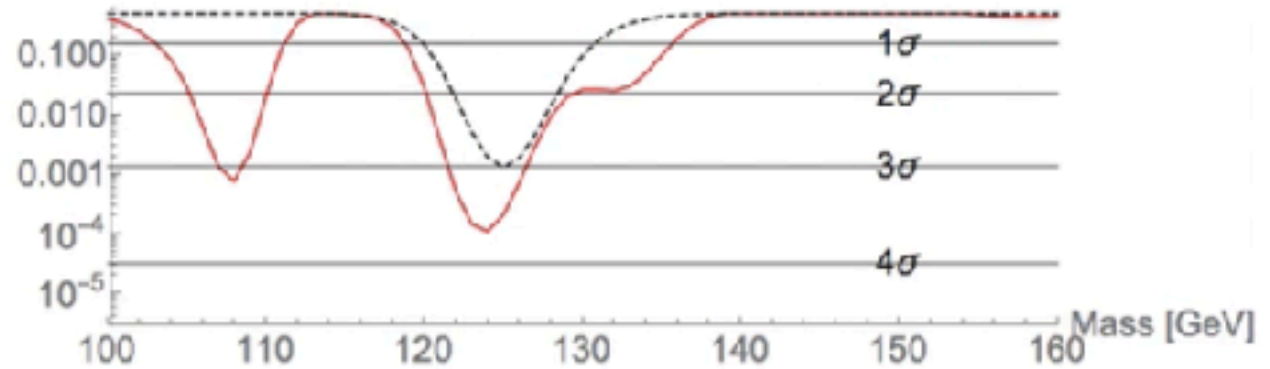


$p$ -value

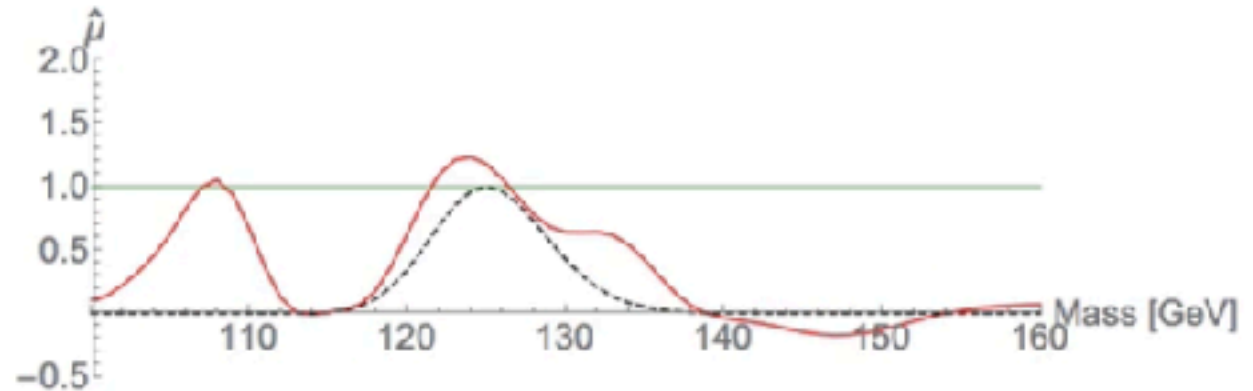
$\mathcal{L} = 70000$



$p = \text{prob}(q_0 \geq q_{0,obs})$

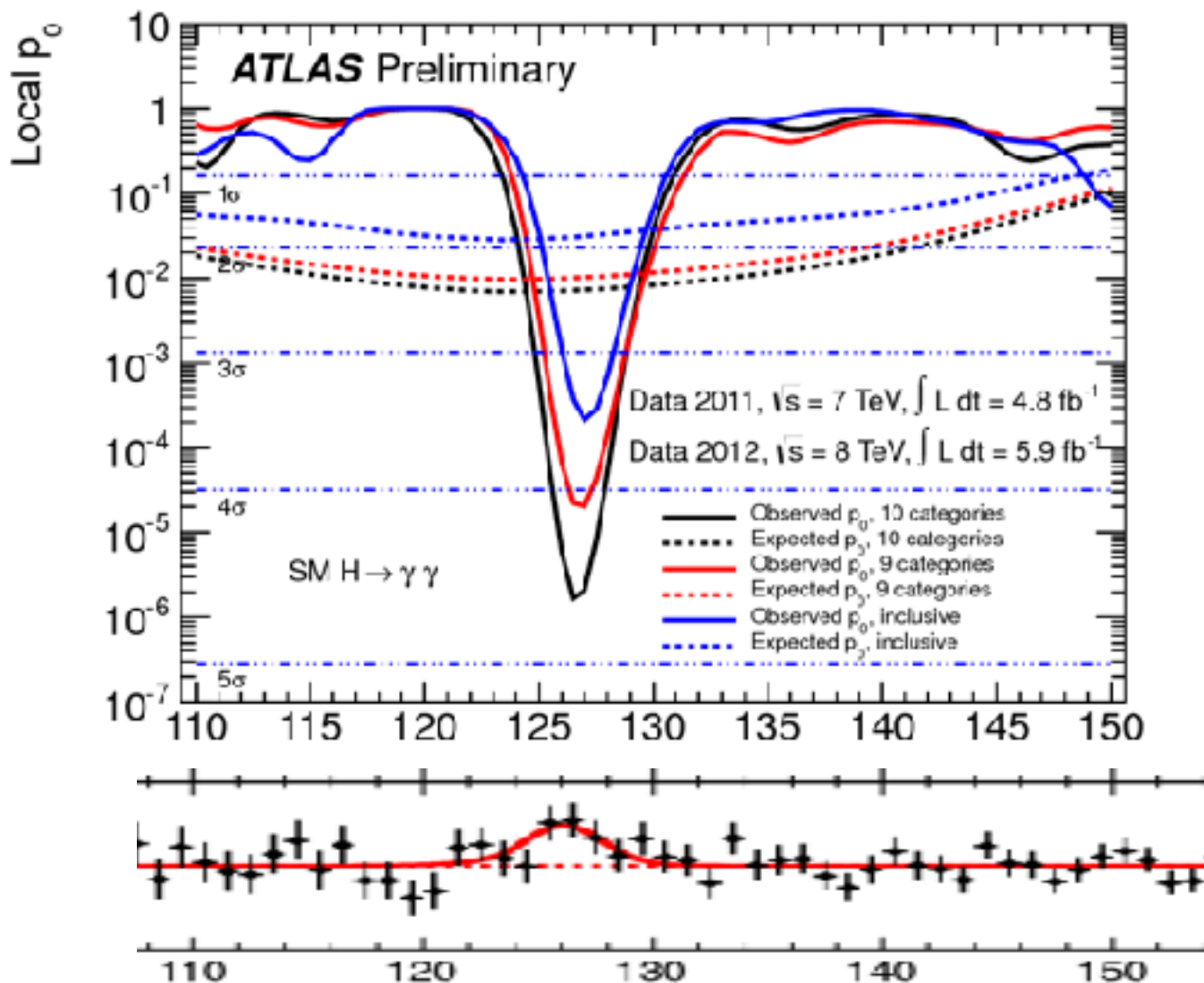


$$\hat{\mu} = \frac{\sigma_{obs}}{\sigma_{exp}}$$





$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$



# More Magic

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# The New $s/\sqrt{b}$

The new  $s/\sqrt{b}$

$$Z_A = \sqrt{q_{0,A}}$$

$$\text{med}[Z_0|1] = \sqrt{q_{0,A}} = \sqrt{2((s+b)\ln(1+s/b) - s)}$$

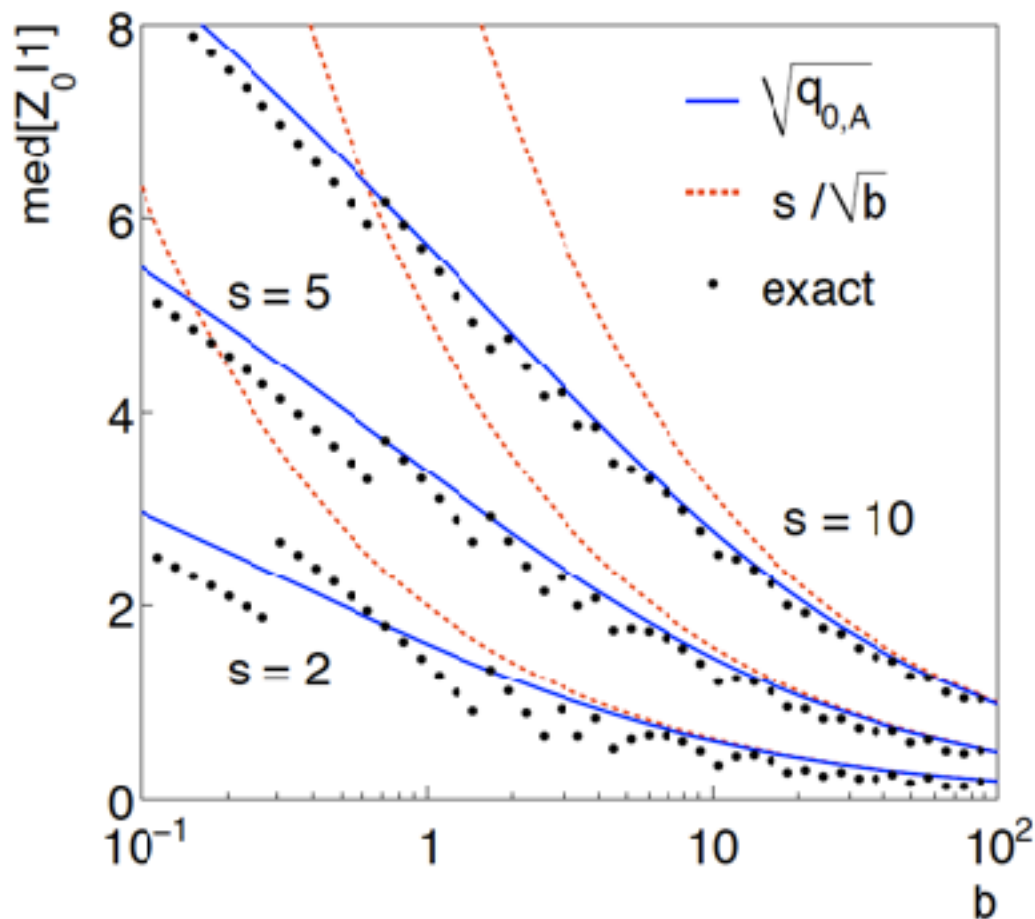
$$Z_A = \sqrt{q_{0,A}} \xrightarrow{s/b \ll 1} \frac{s}{\sqrt{b}} + O(s/b)$$



# The New $s/\sqrt{b}$

# $s/\sqrt{b}$ ?

The new  $s/\sqrt{b}$



$$\text{med}[Z_0|1] = \sqrt{q_{0,A}} = \sqrt{2((s+b)\ln(1+s/b) - s)}$$



# **Next: Look Elsewhere Effect**

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