

# Anomaly detection with machine learning at the LHC

Benjamin Nachman

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[bpnachman.com](http://bpnachman.com)

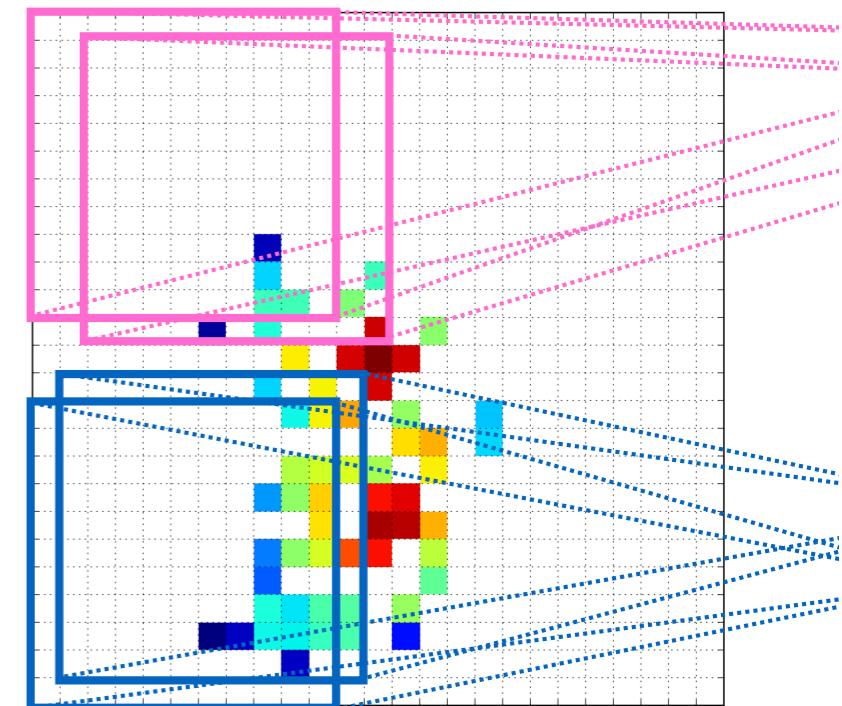


@bpnachman



bnachman

bpnachman@lbl.gov



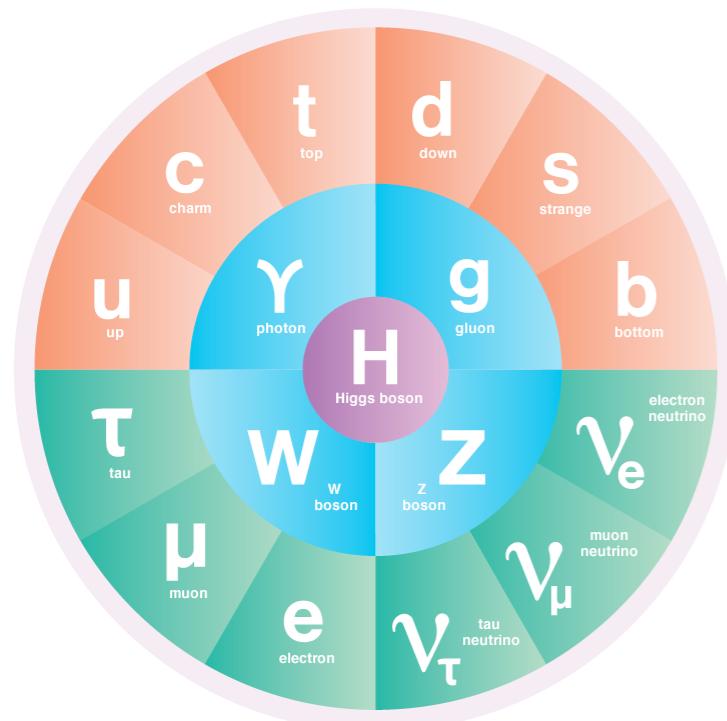
*Liverpool HEP Seminar*  
Nov. 11, 2020

# Questions in fundamental physics

**Theoretical** and experimental questions motivate a deep exploration **of the fundamental structure of nature**

Why is the Higgs boson so light?

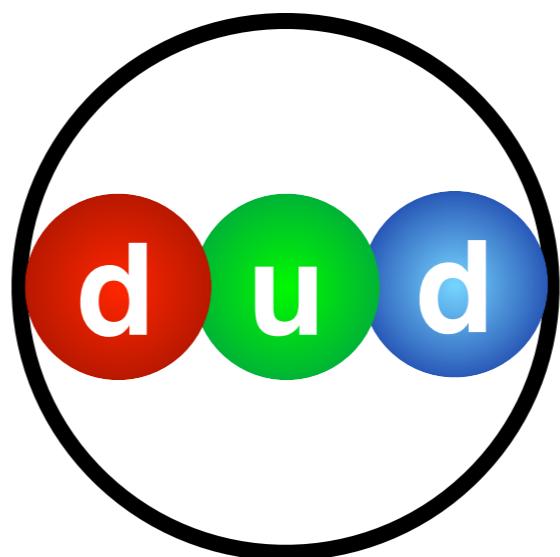
Hierarchy problem



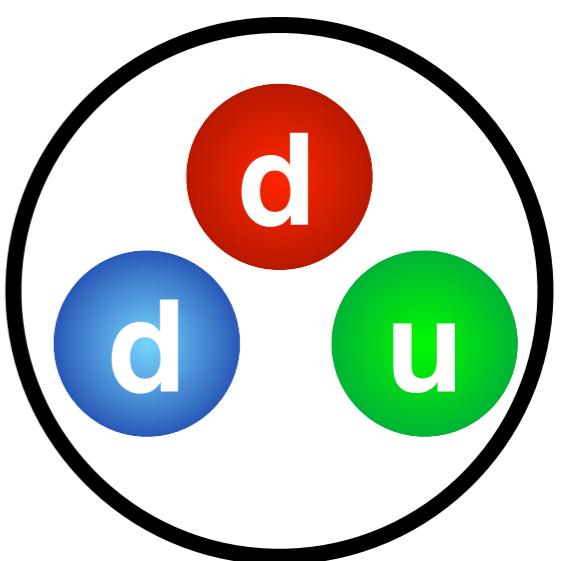
See also: quantum gravity

Why do neutrons have no dipole moment?

Strong CP



Reality



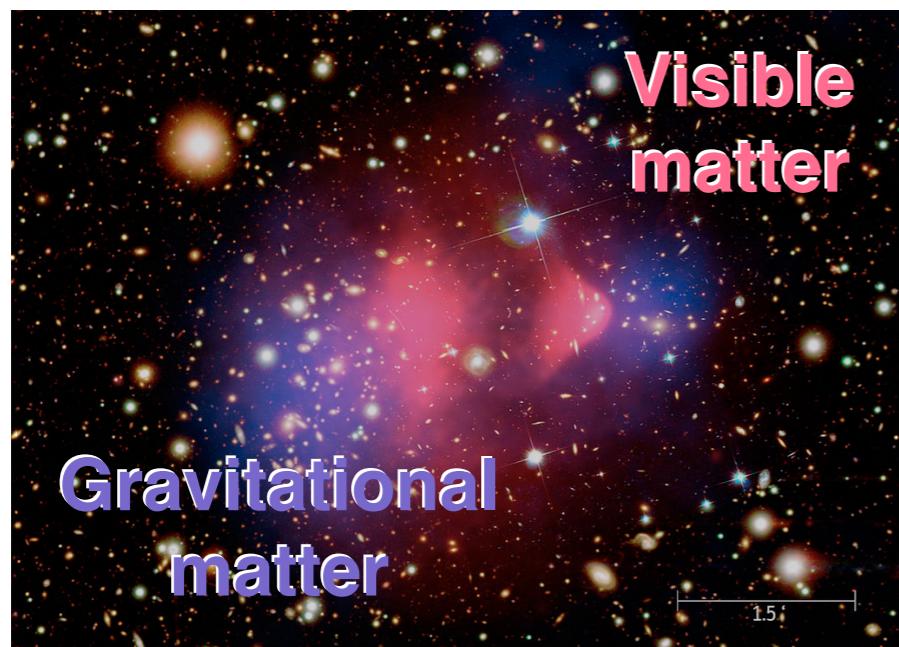
>99% of pictures on the internet

# Questions in fundamental physics

Theoretical and **experimental** questions motivate a deep exploration **of the fundamental structure of nature**

What is the extra gravitational matter?

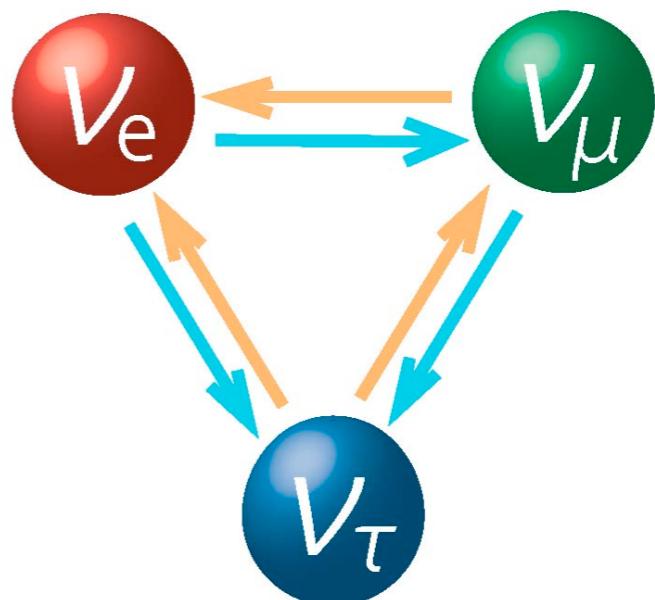
Dark Matter



See also: dark energy

Why do neutrinos have a mass?

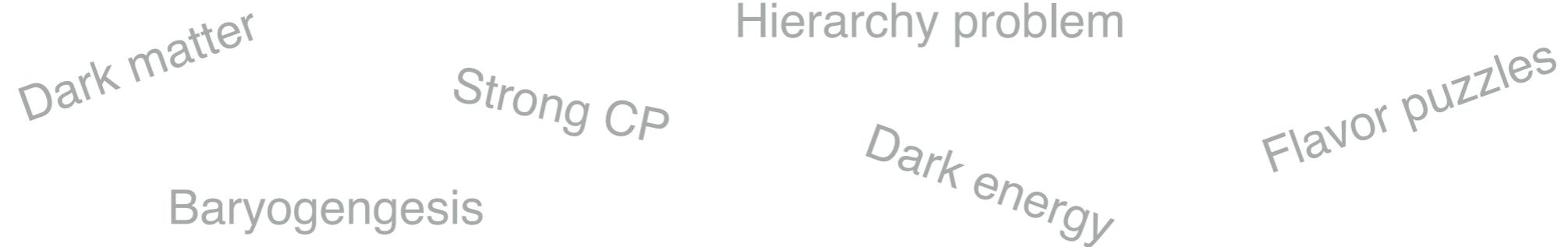
Flavor puzzles



See also: Where did all the anti-particles go? (Baryogenesis)

# Questions in fundamental physics

**Theoretical** and **experimental** questions motivate a deep exploration **of the fundamental structure of nature**

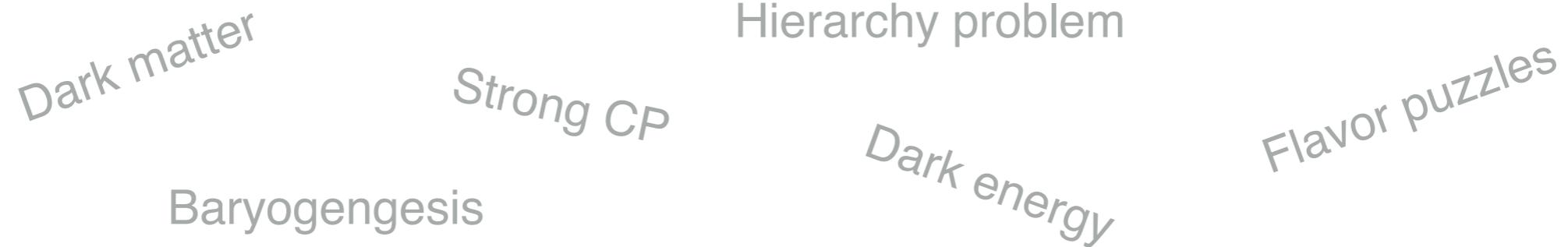


We have performed thousands of hypothesis tests & have no significant evidence for physics beyond the Standard Model

**Three  
possibilities**

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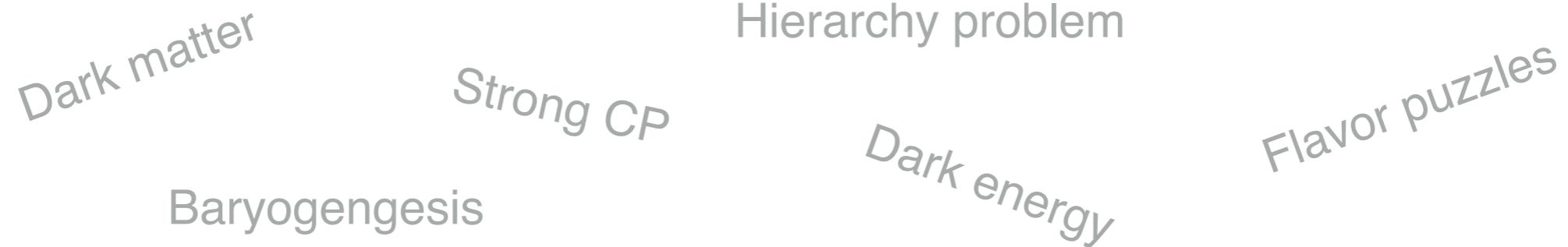
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(1) Nothing new at accessible energies

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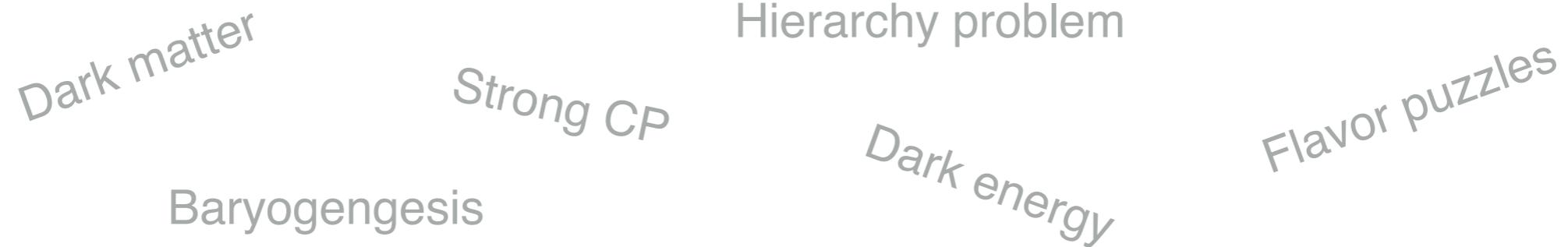
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- (1) Nothing new at accessible energies
- (2) Patience! (new physics is rare)

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**Three  
possibilities**

- (1) Nothing new at accessible energies
- (2) Patience! (new physics is rare)
- (3) We are not looking in the right place



# Questions in fundamental physics

**Theoretical** and **experimental** questions motivate a deep exploration **of the fundamental structure of nature**

Dark matter

Strong CP

Baryogenesis

Hierarchy problem

Dark energy

Flavor puzzles

We have performed thousands of hypothesis tests & have no significant evidence for physics beyond the Standard Model

**Three  
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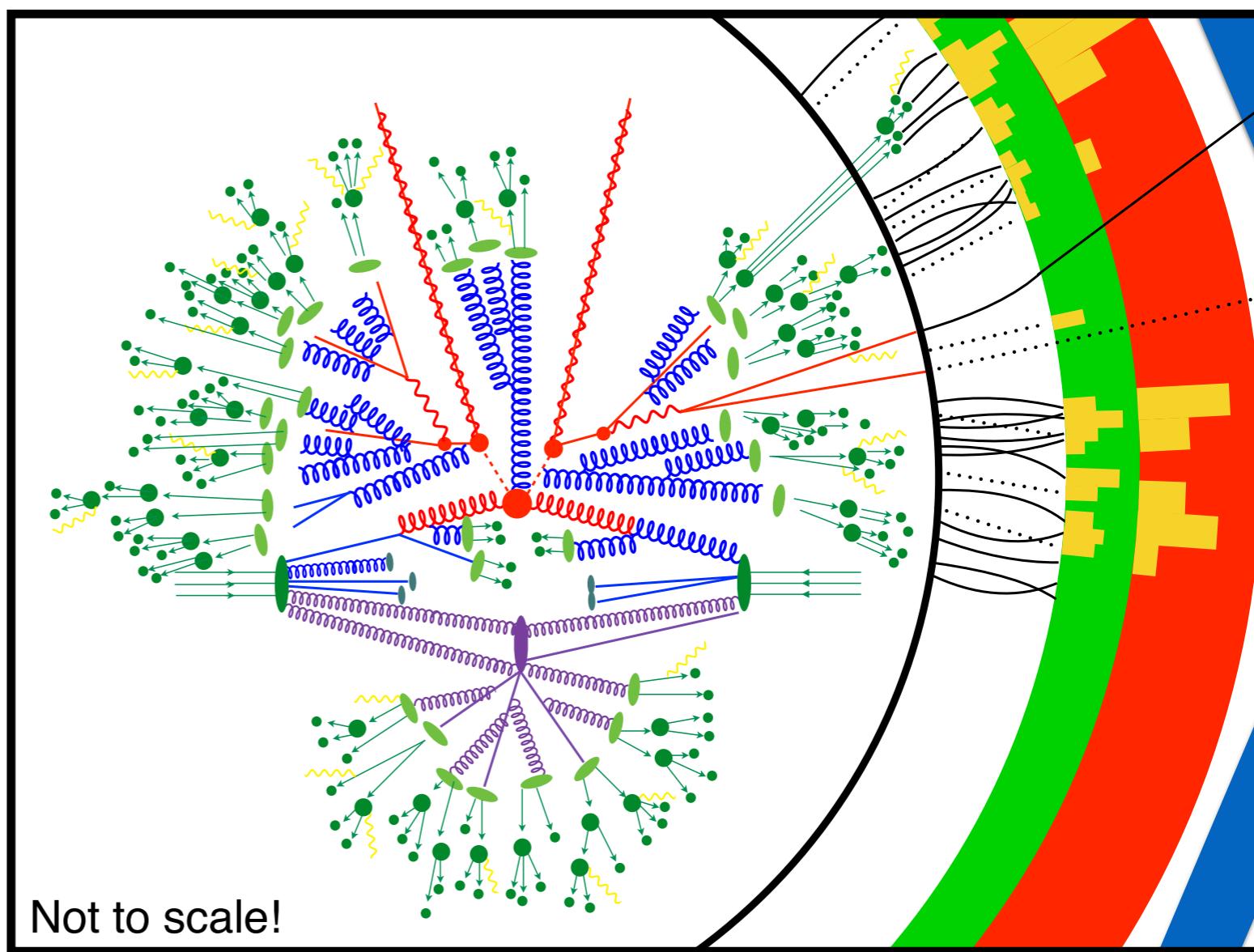
**This is what keeps me up at night!**

(3) We are not looking in the right place

# Large Hadron Collider

Many of the deep questions in fundamental physics can be probed at the LHC.

*Image inspired by JHEP 02 (2009) 007*



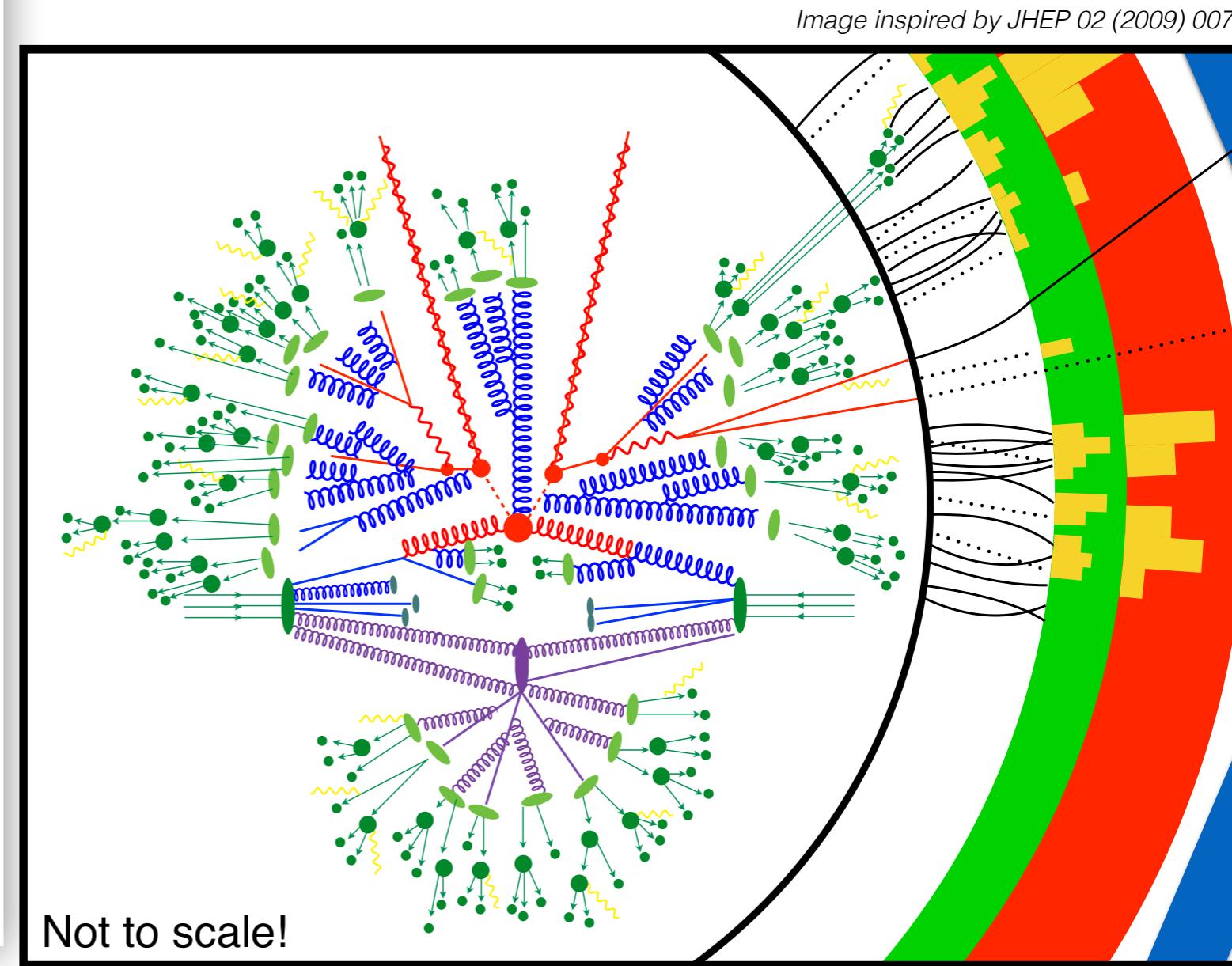
# Large Hadron Collider

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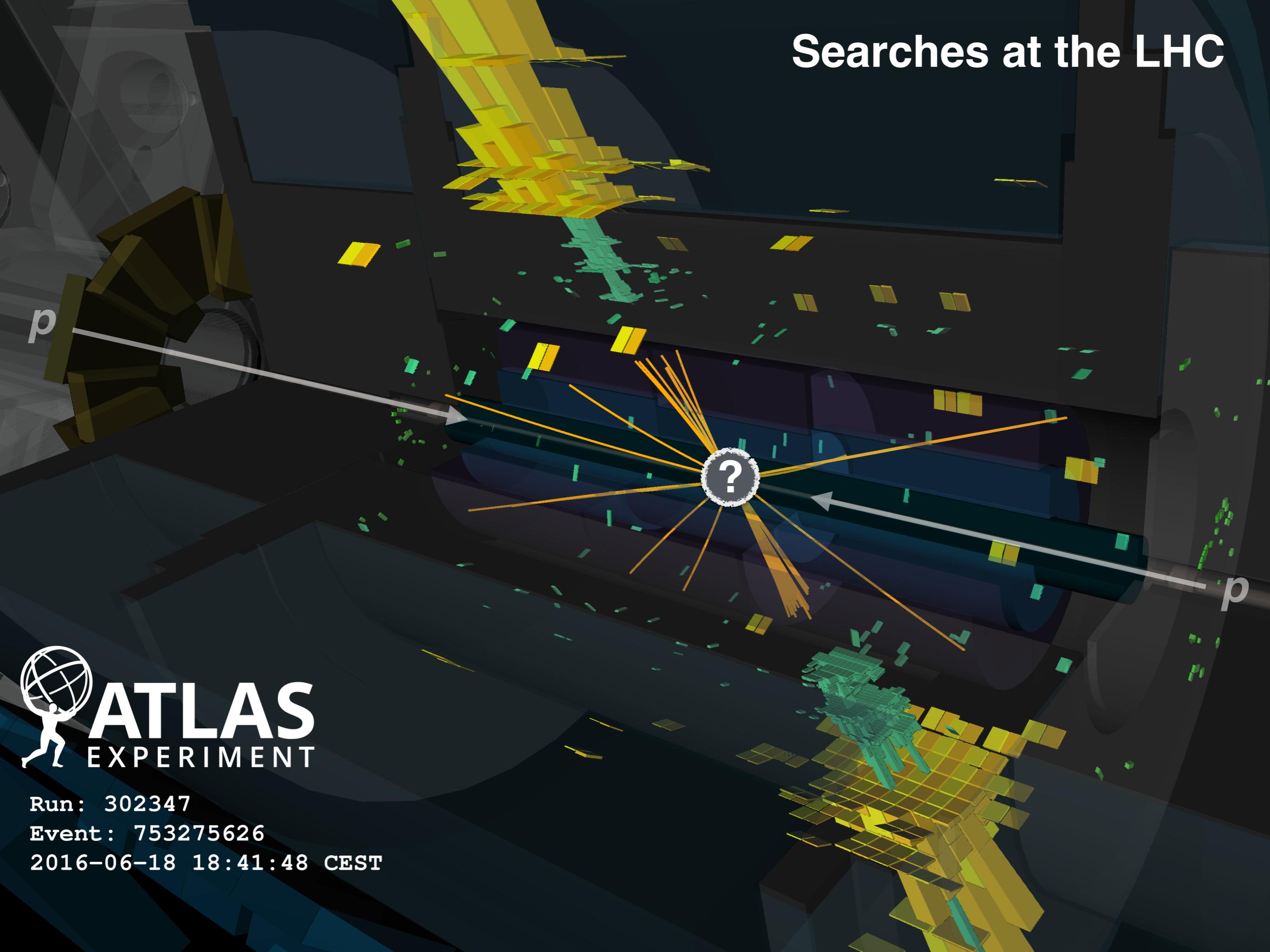
Key challenges  
(and opportunity!)

Typical collision events  
at the LHC produce  
**O(1000+)** particles

We detect these  
particles with  
**O(100 M)**  
readout channels



# Searches at the LHC



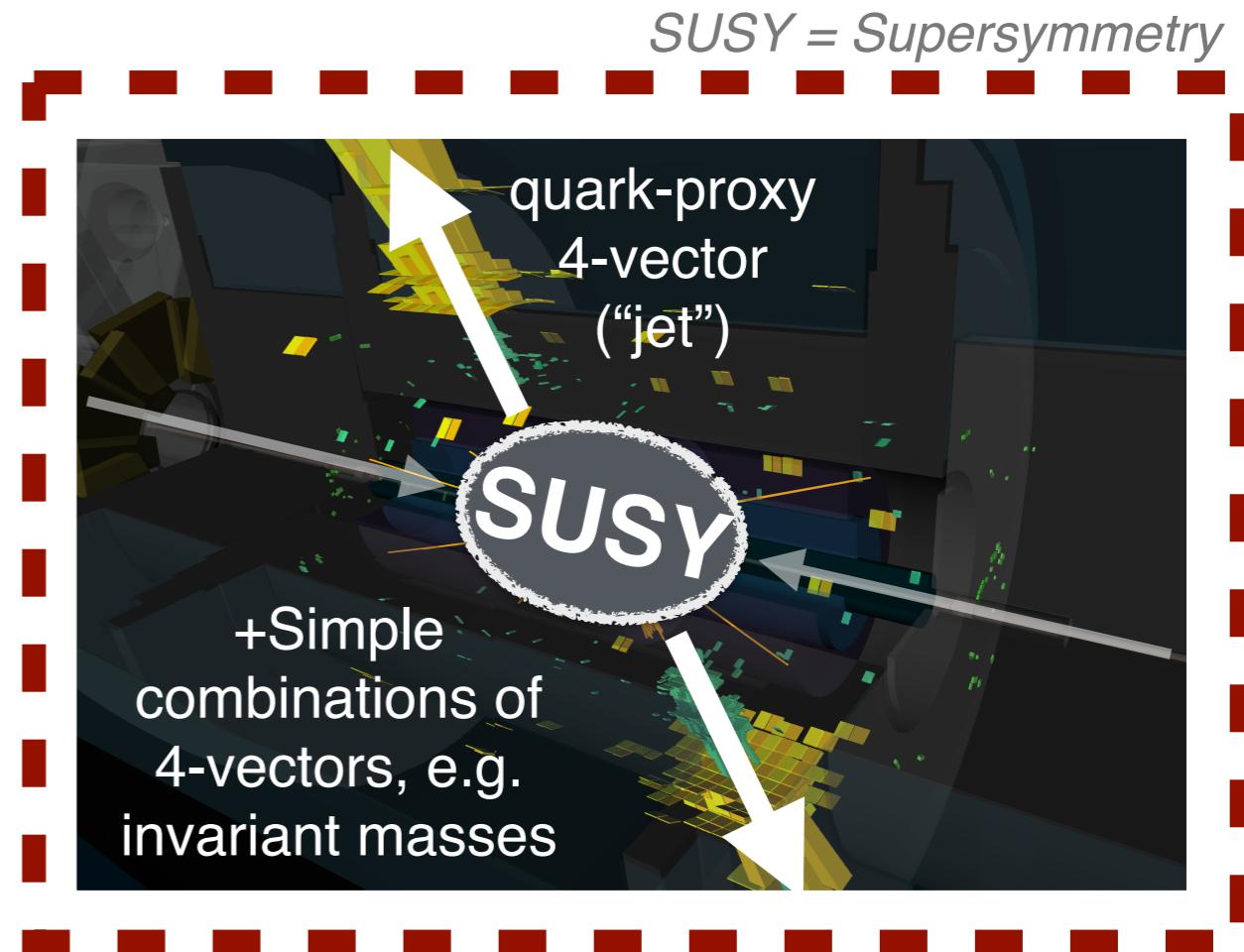
 **ATLAS**  
EXPERIMENT

Run: 302347

Event: 753275626

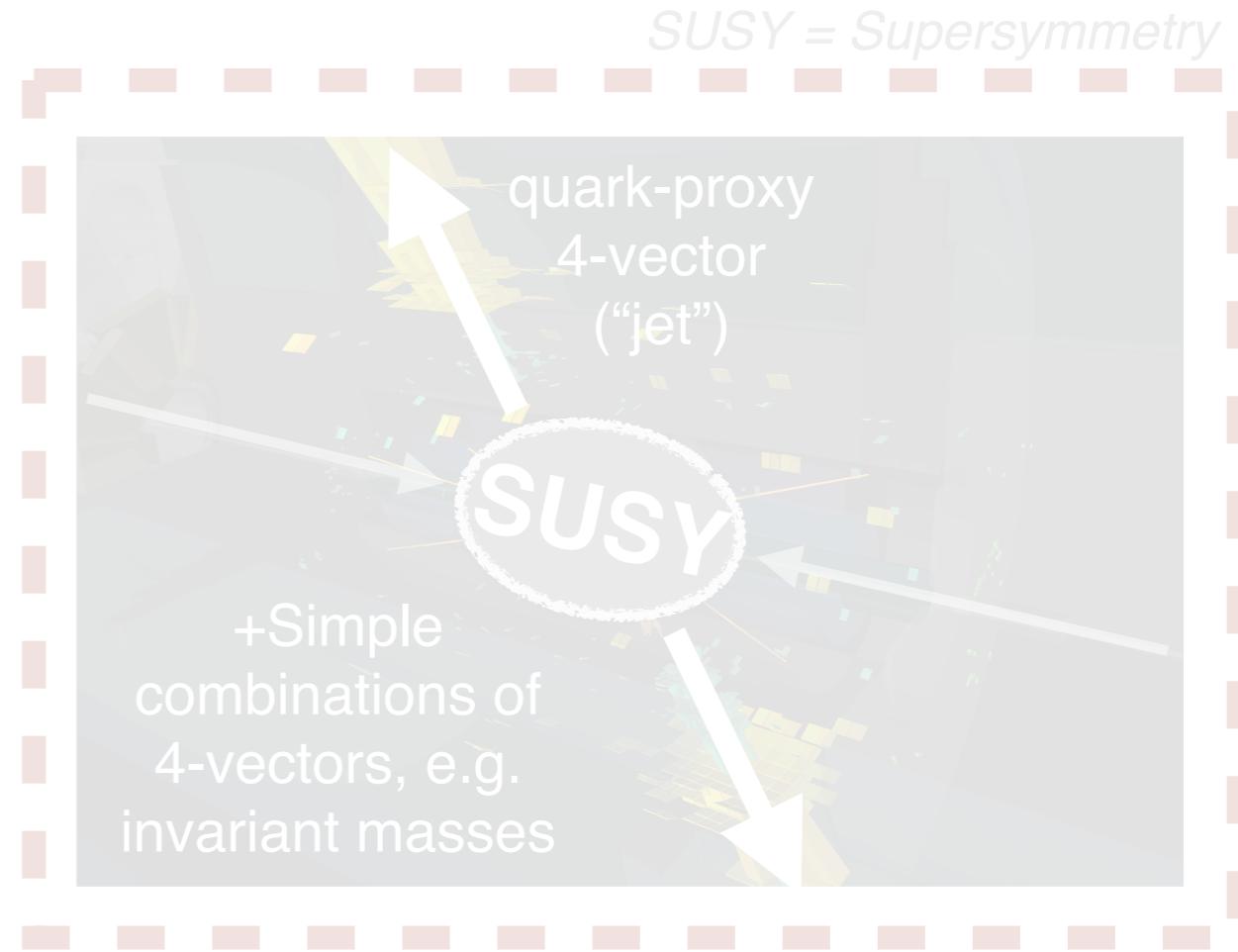
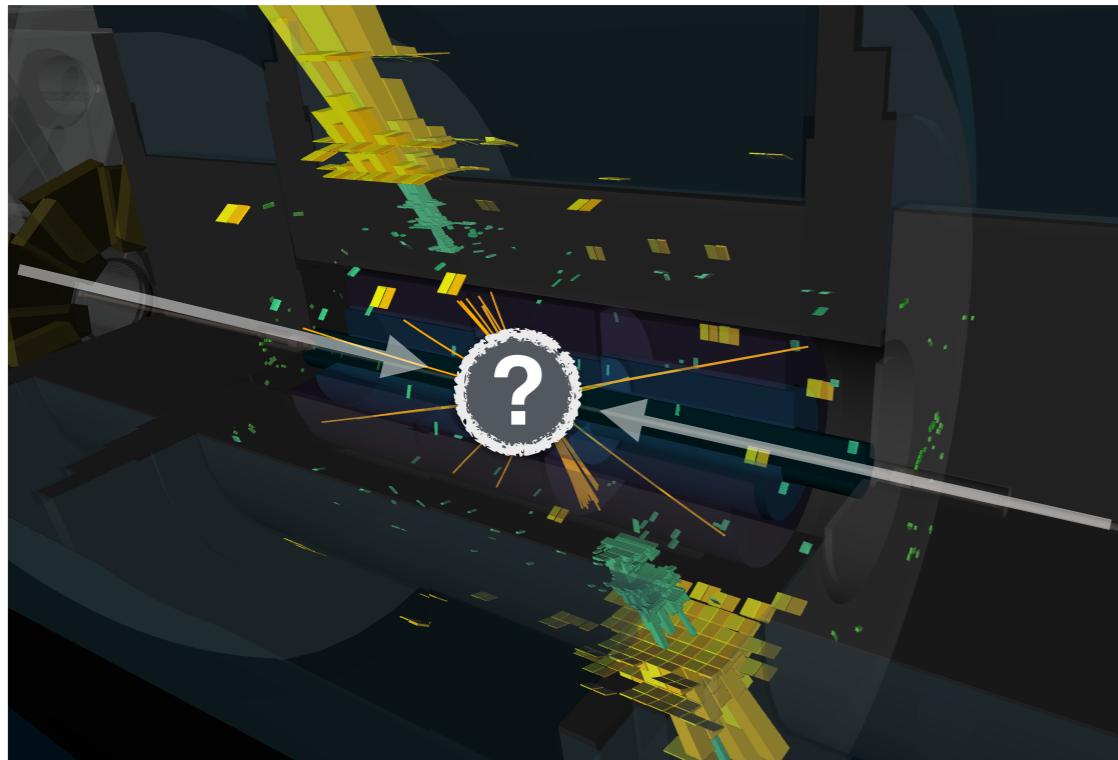
2016-06-18 18:41:48 CEST

# Current Search Paradigm



(well-motivated) theory-biased  
& low-dimensional observables

# Current paradigm for searches

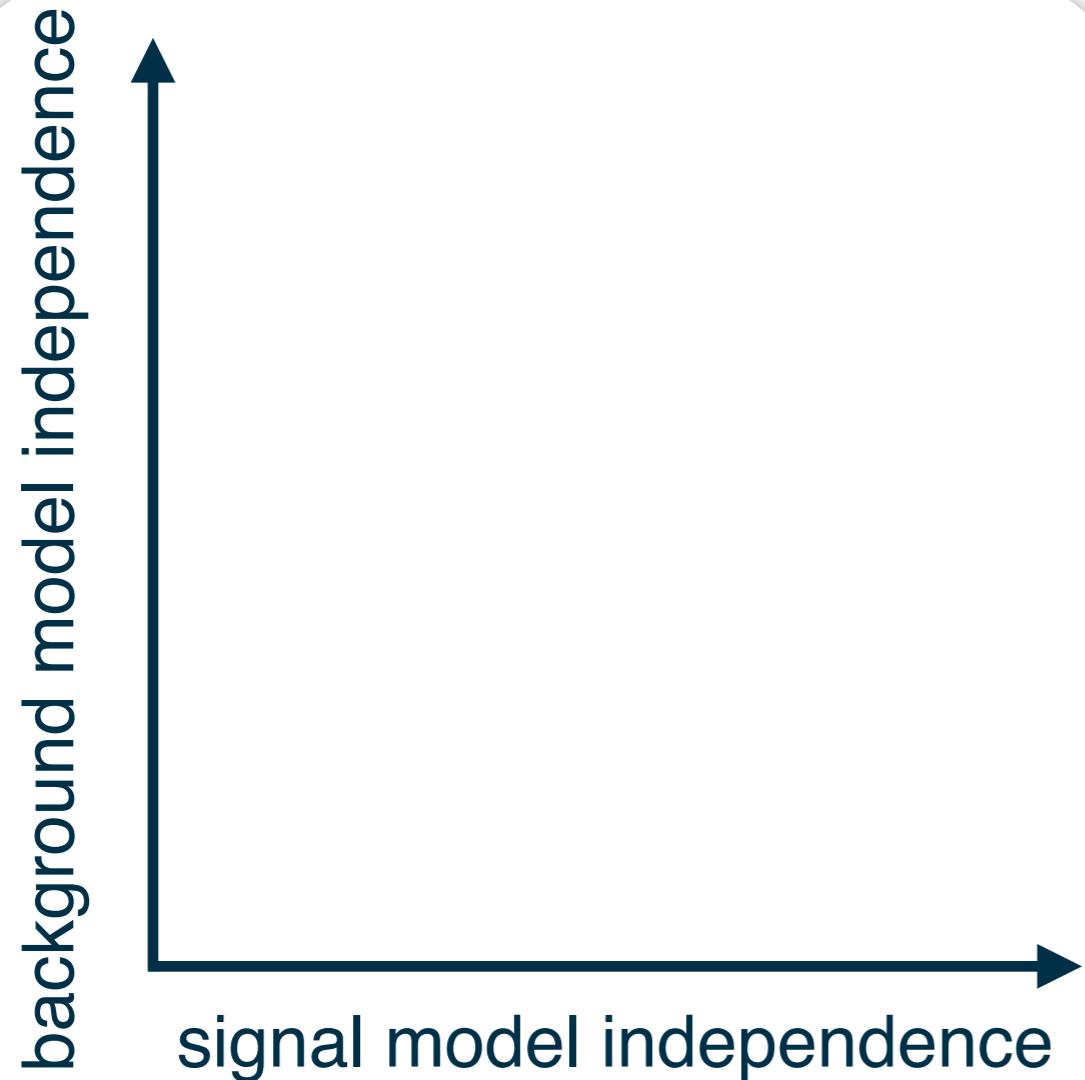


Can we relax model assumptions and explore high-dimensional feature spaces?

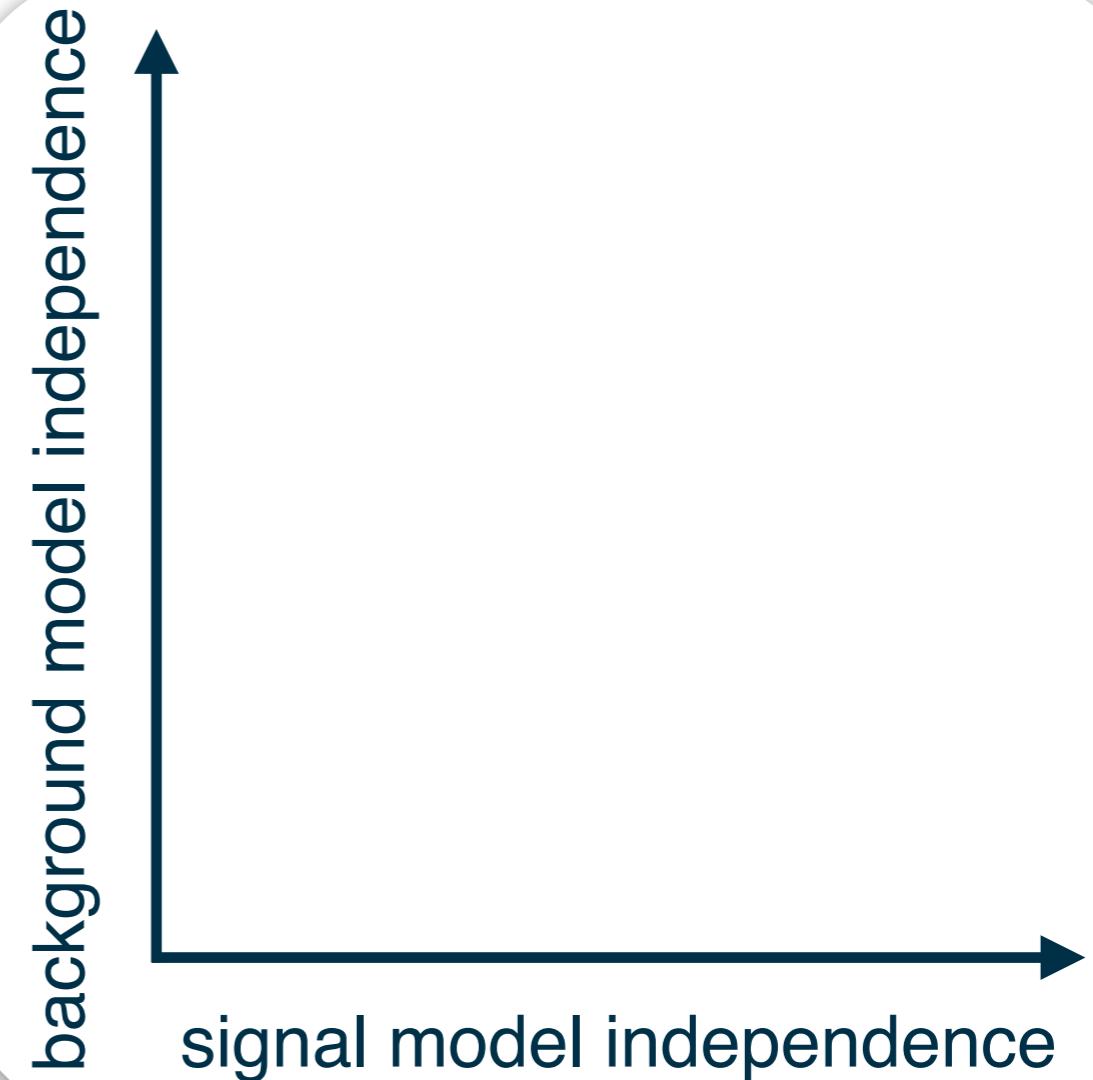
(well-motivated) theory-biased & low-dimensional observables

(clearly, we should still do model-dependent searches as well!)

# Model dependence



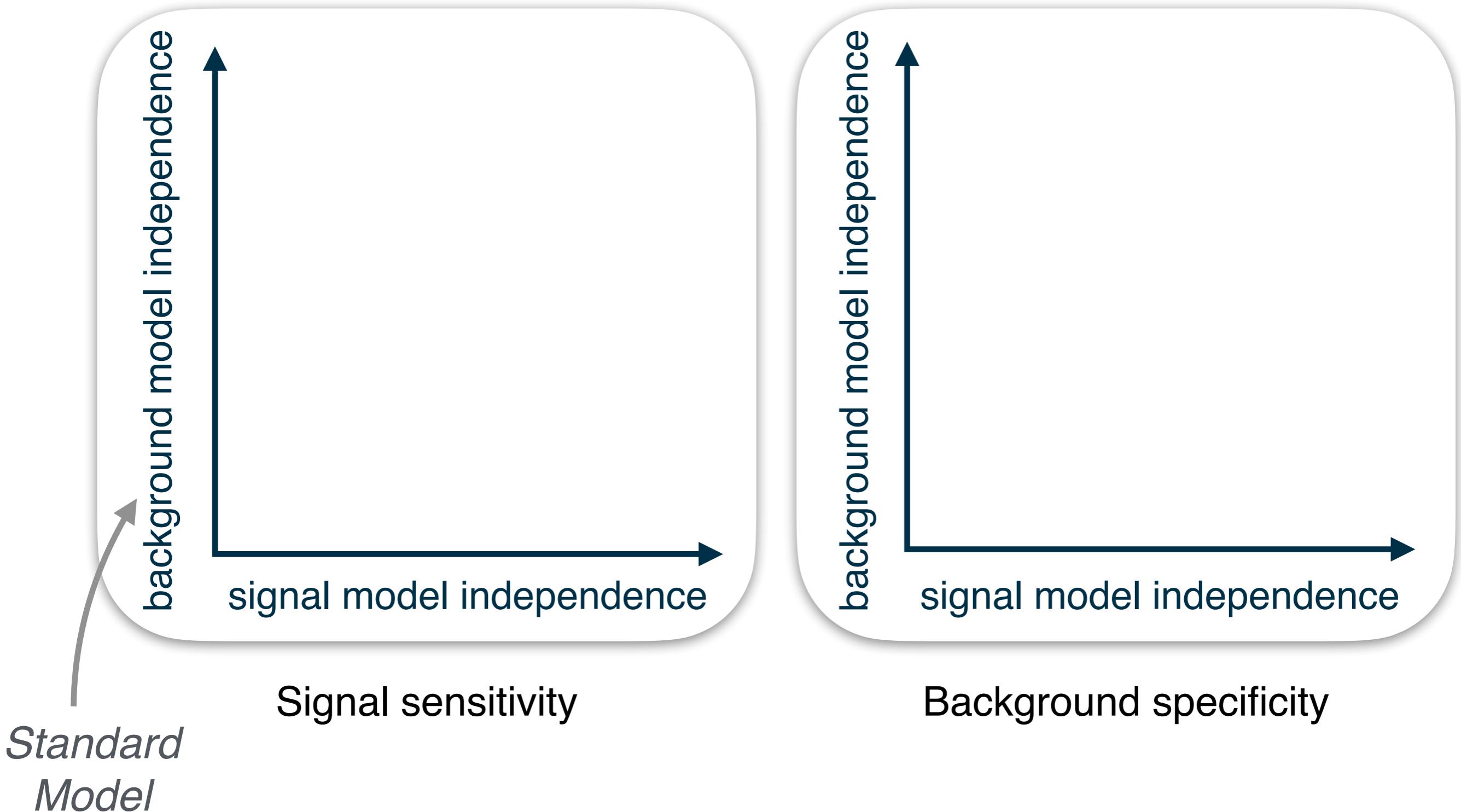
Signal sensitivity



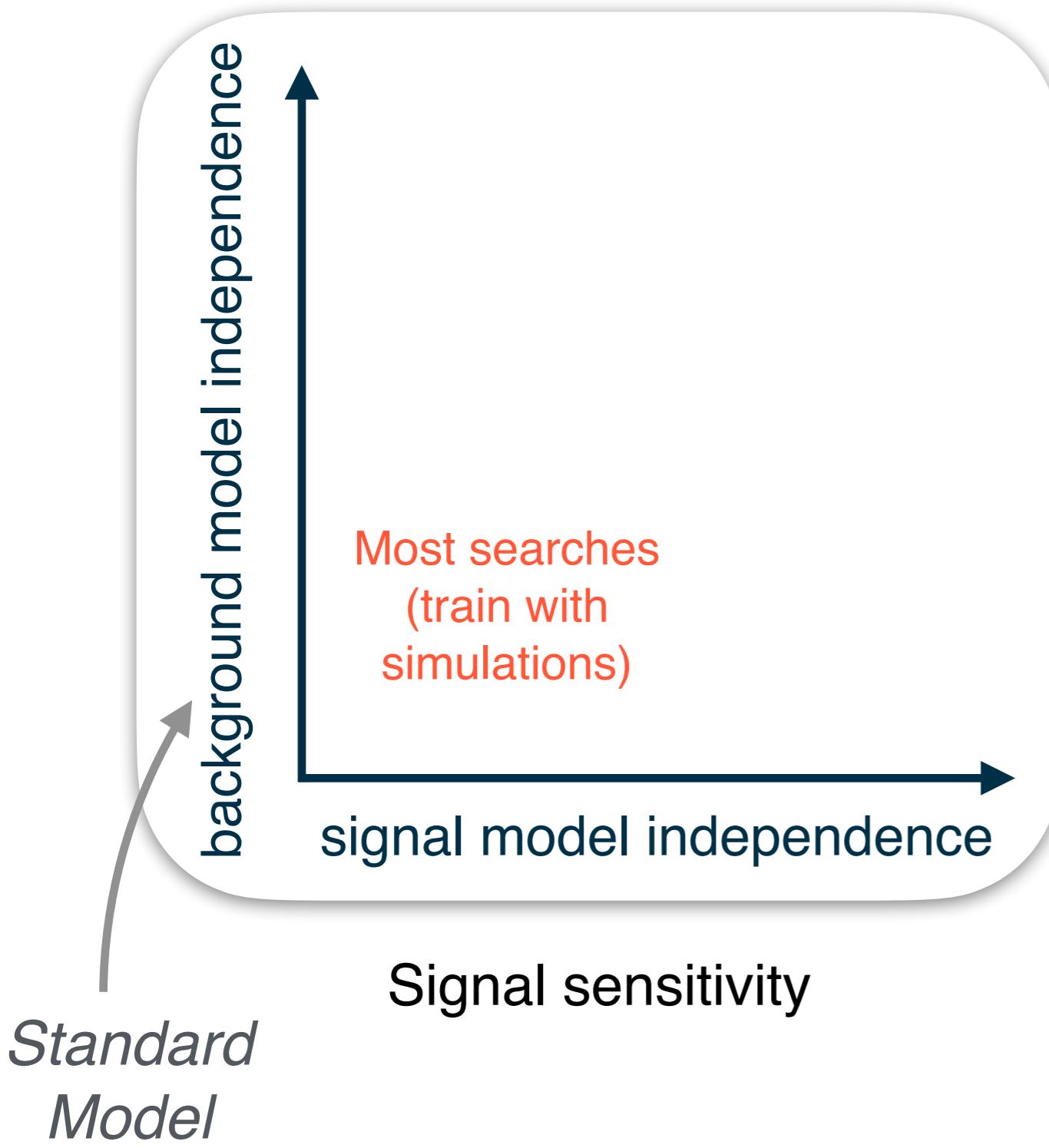
Background specificity

**Suppose you want to search for a new signal process**

# Model dependence

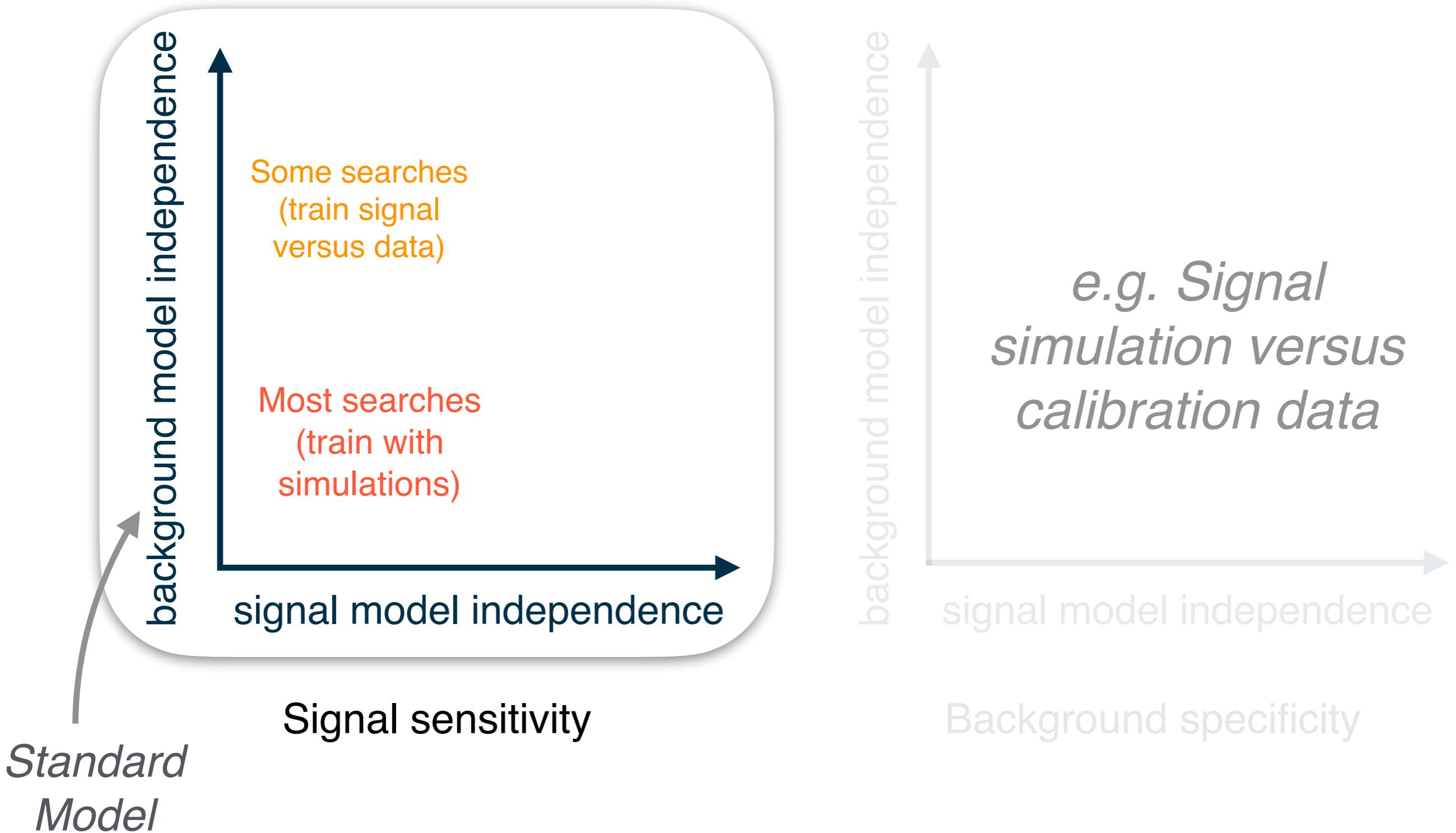


# Model dependence

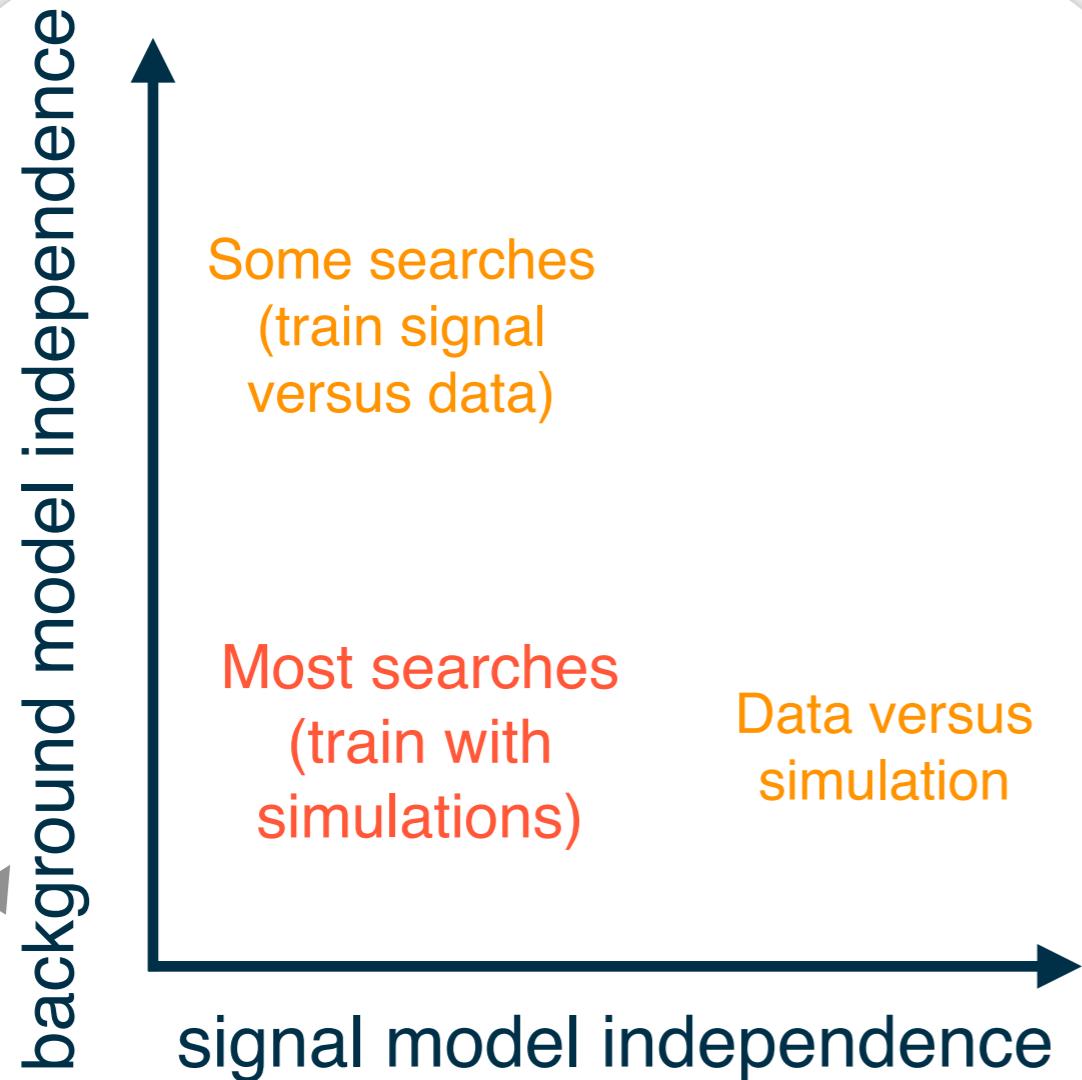


> 99% of searches at the LHC are of this type

# Model dependence



# Model dependence



signal model *independent*  
background model *dependent*

## Signal sensitivity

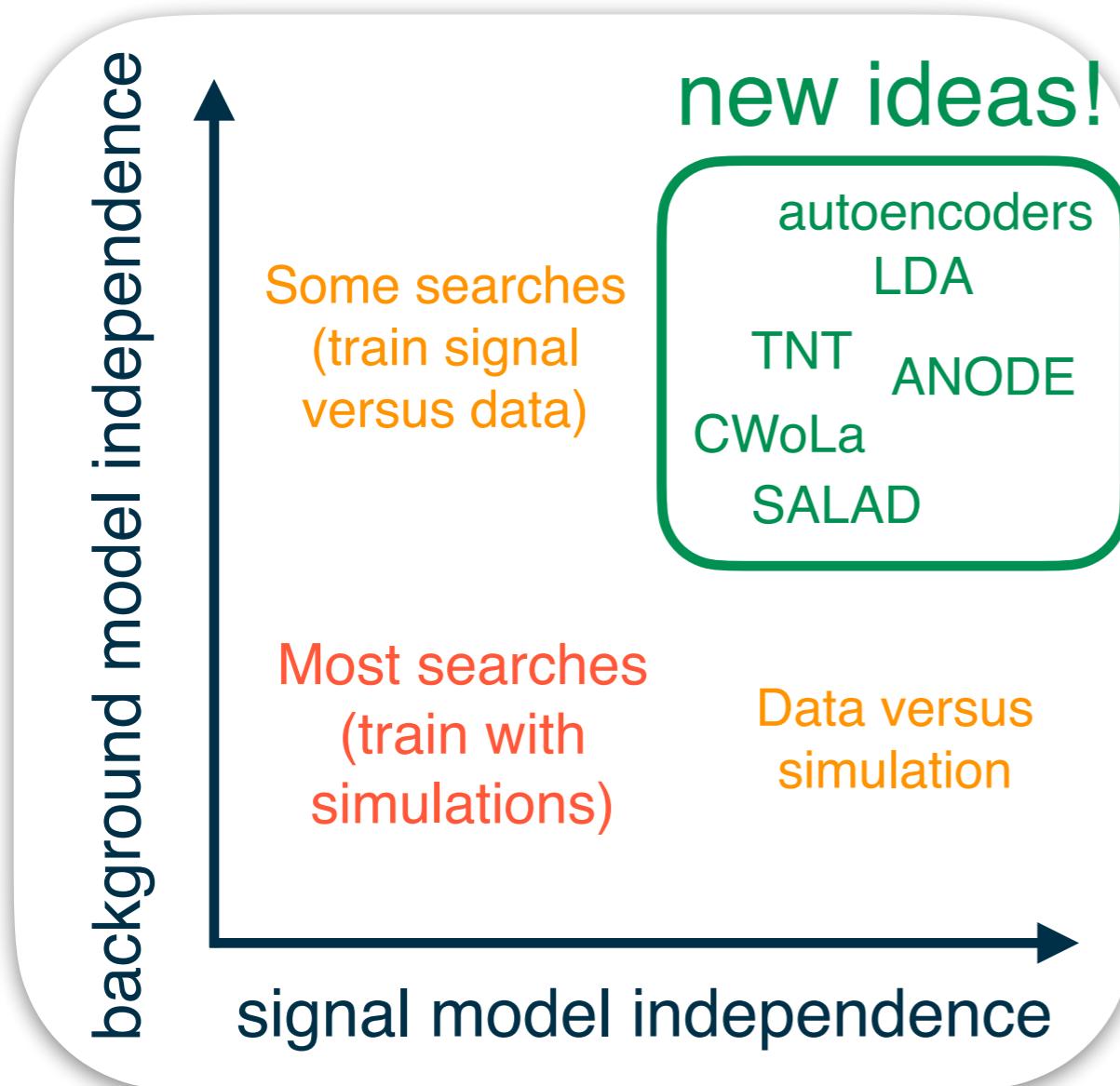
Standard  
Model

B. Knuteson et al., D0, H1, CDF, CMS (“MUSiC”), ATLAS (“General Search”)

A. De Simone, T. Jacques, 1807.06038, A. Casa, Giovanna, 1809.02977, and others

R. T. D’Agnolo and A. Wulzer, PRD 99 (2019) 015014, R. T. D’Agnolo et al. 1912.12155

# Model dependence



*Can we develop new methods that also assume as little as possible about the signal and learn from data (no simulation)?*

## Signal sensitivity

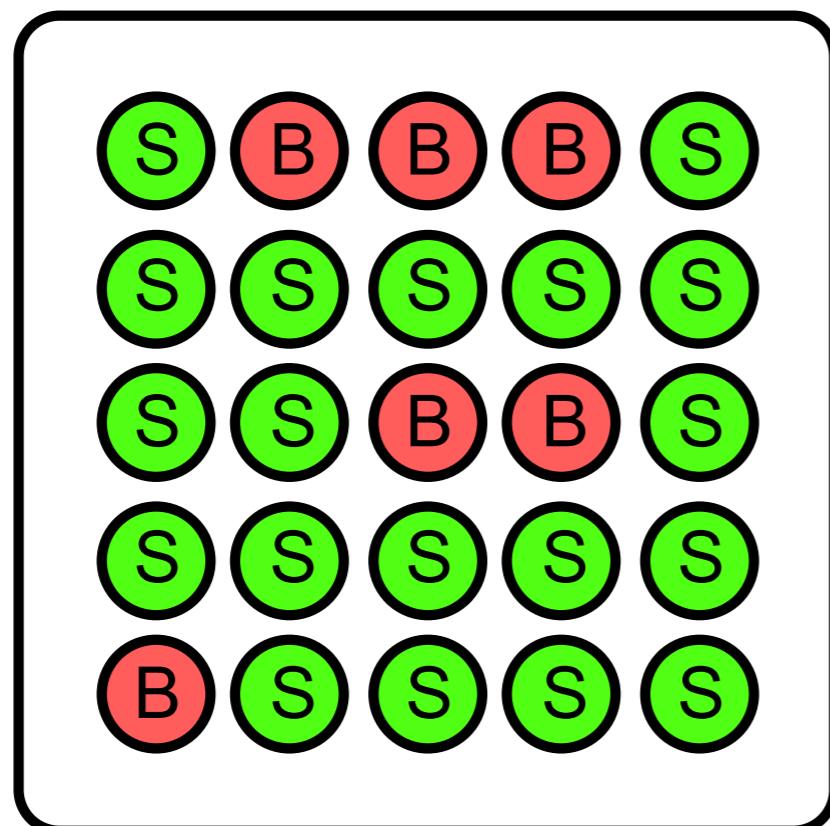
M. Farina, Y. Nakai, D. Shih, 1808.08992,  
T. Heimel et al. SciPost Phys. 6 (2019) 030, and others  
B. Dillon et al., PRD 100 (2019) 056002  
B. Nachman, D. Shih, 2001.04990

O. Amram, C. Suarez, 2002.12376  
J. Collins, K. Howe, B. Nachman, PRL 121 (2018) 241803  
A. Andreassen, B. Nachman, D. Shih, 2001.05001

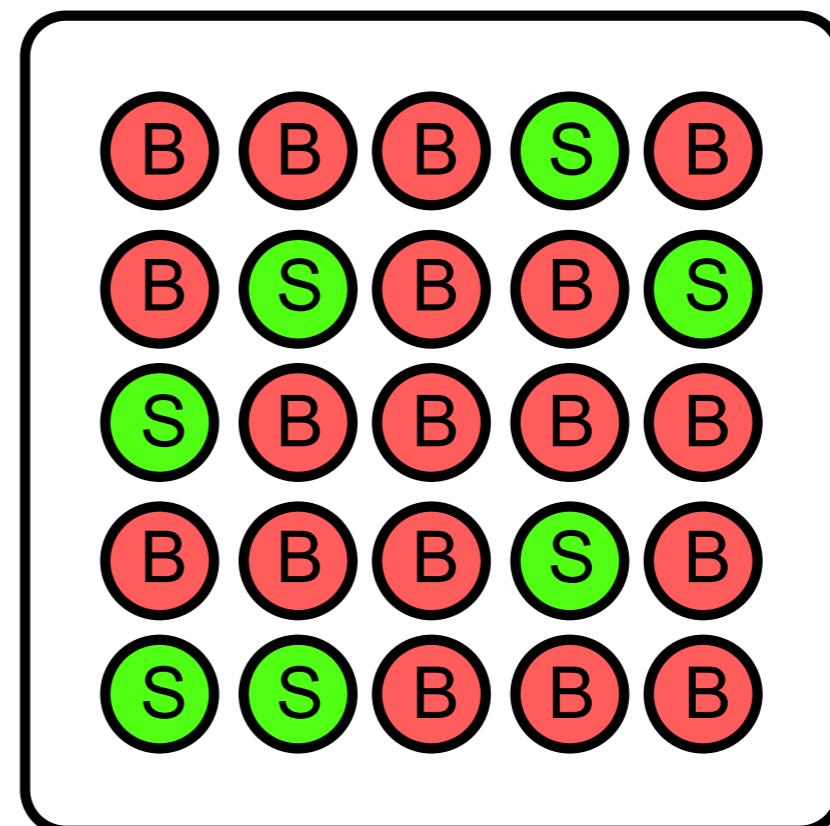
# One idea: weak supervision

Can we learn signal events from two datasets that are mixtures of signal and background with no labels?

Mixed Sample 1



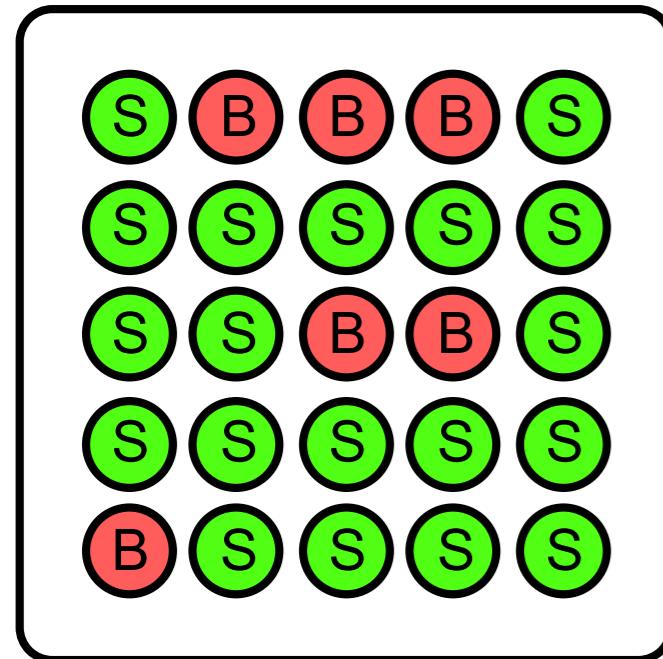
Mixed Sample 2



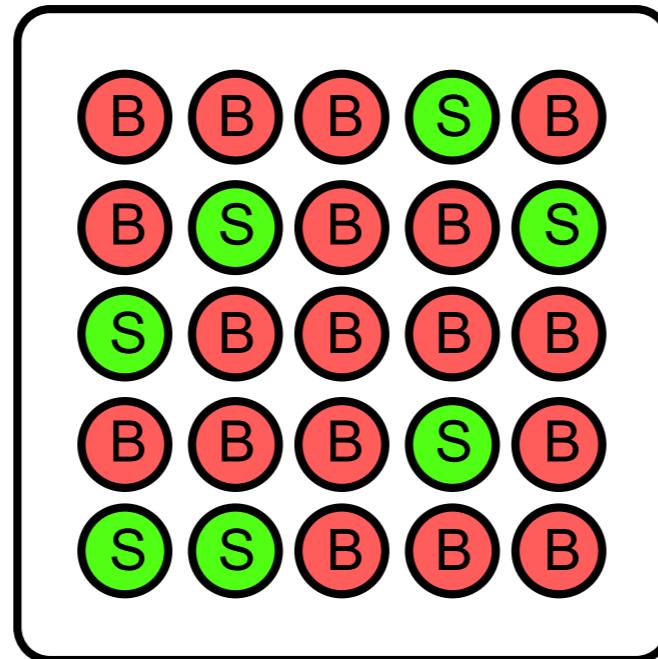
(we don't get to observe the color of the circles)

# Classification Without Labels

Mixed Sample 1



Mixed Sample 2



Yes !

0

1

Classifier

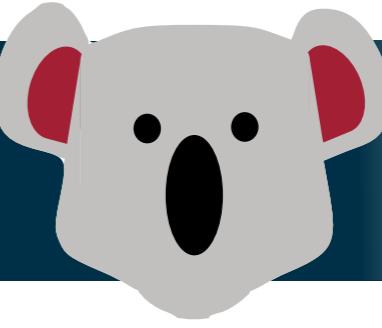
[Komiske, Metodiev, BPN, Schwartz, PRD 98 (2018) 011502]

[Cohen, Freytsis, Ostdiek, JHEP 02 (2018) 034]

[Metodiev, BPN, Thaler, JHEP 10 (2017) 51]

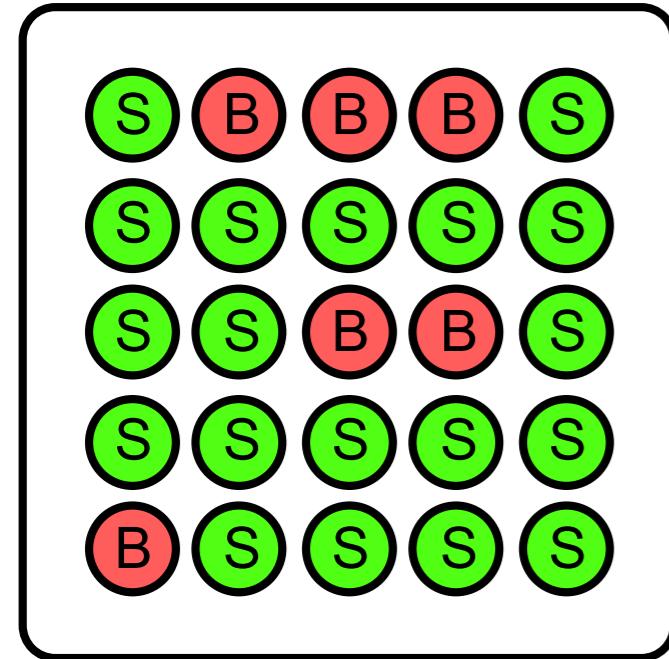
[Dery, BPN, Rubbo, Schwartzman, JHEP 05 (2017) 145]

# Classification Without Labels

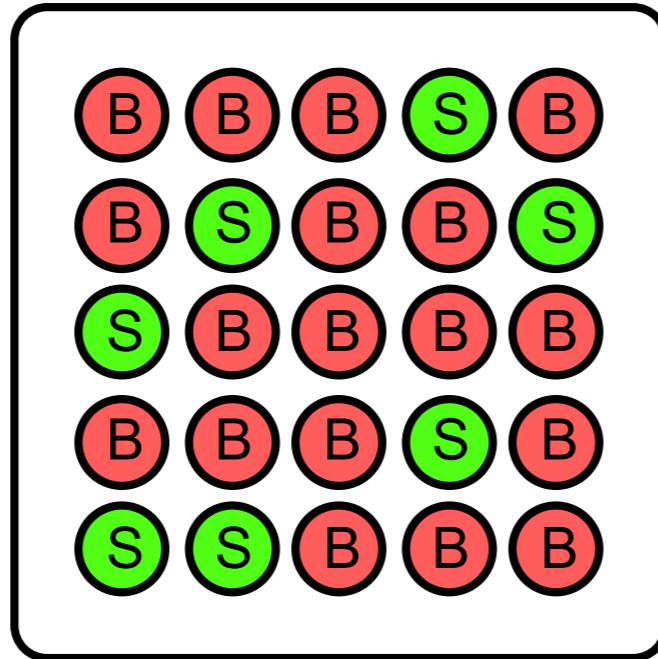


22

Mixed Sample 1



Mixed Sample 2

**Yes !**

0

1

Classifier

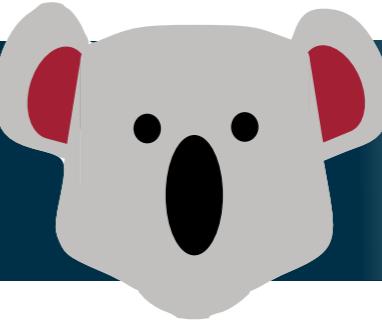
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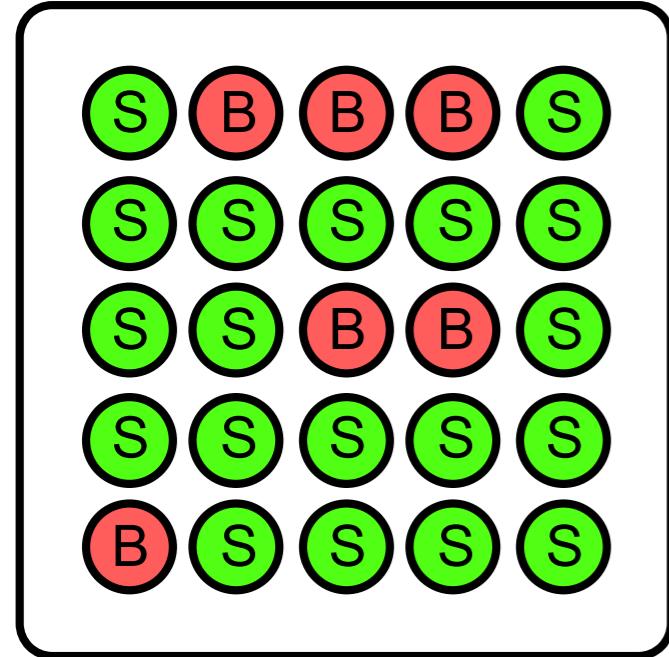
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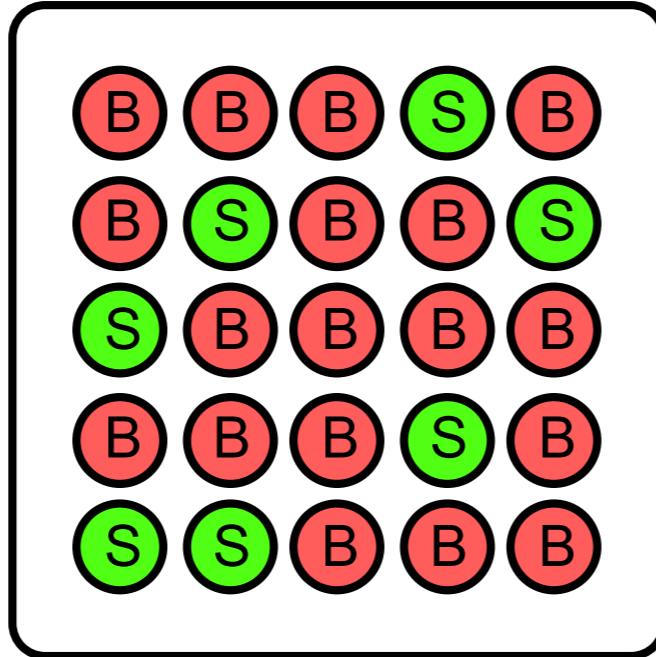


23

Mixed Sample 1



Mixed Sample 2

**Yes !**

One can show that this procedure asymptotically converges to the optimal classifier (with labels).

0

1

Classifier

[Komiske, Metodiev, BPN, Schwartz, PRD 98 (2018) 011502]

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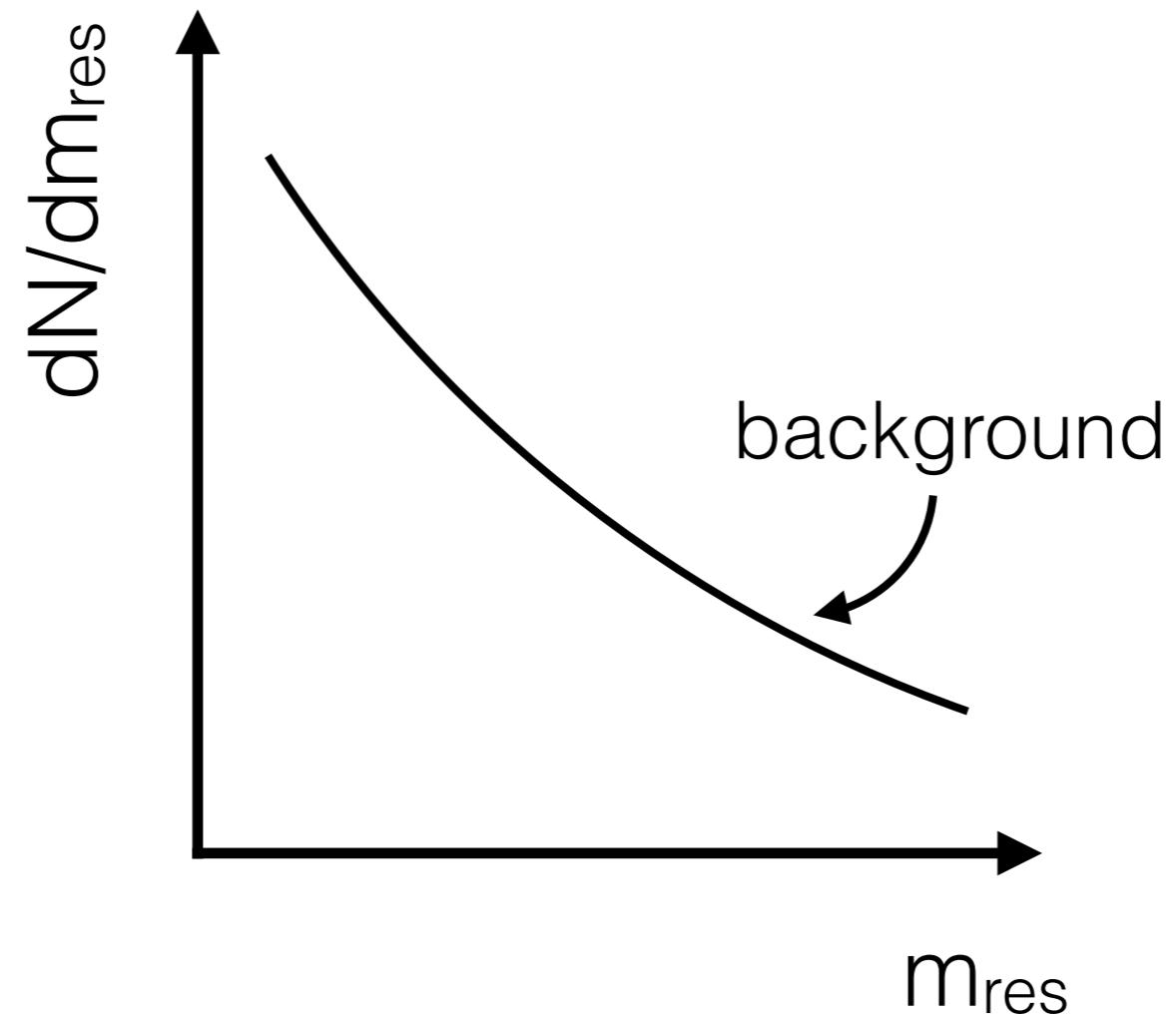
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# CWoLa for anomaly detection

J. Collins, K. Howe, BPN  
PRL 121 (2018) 241803

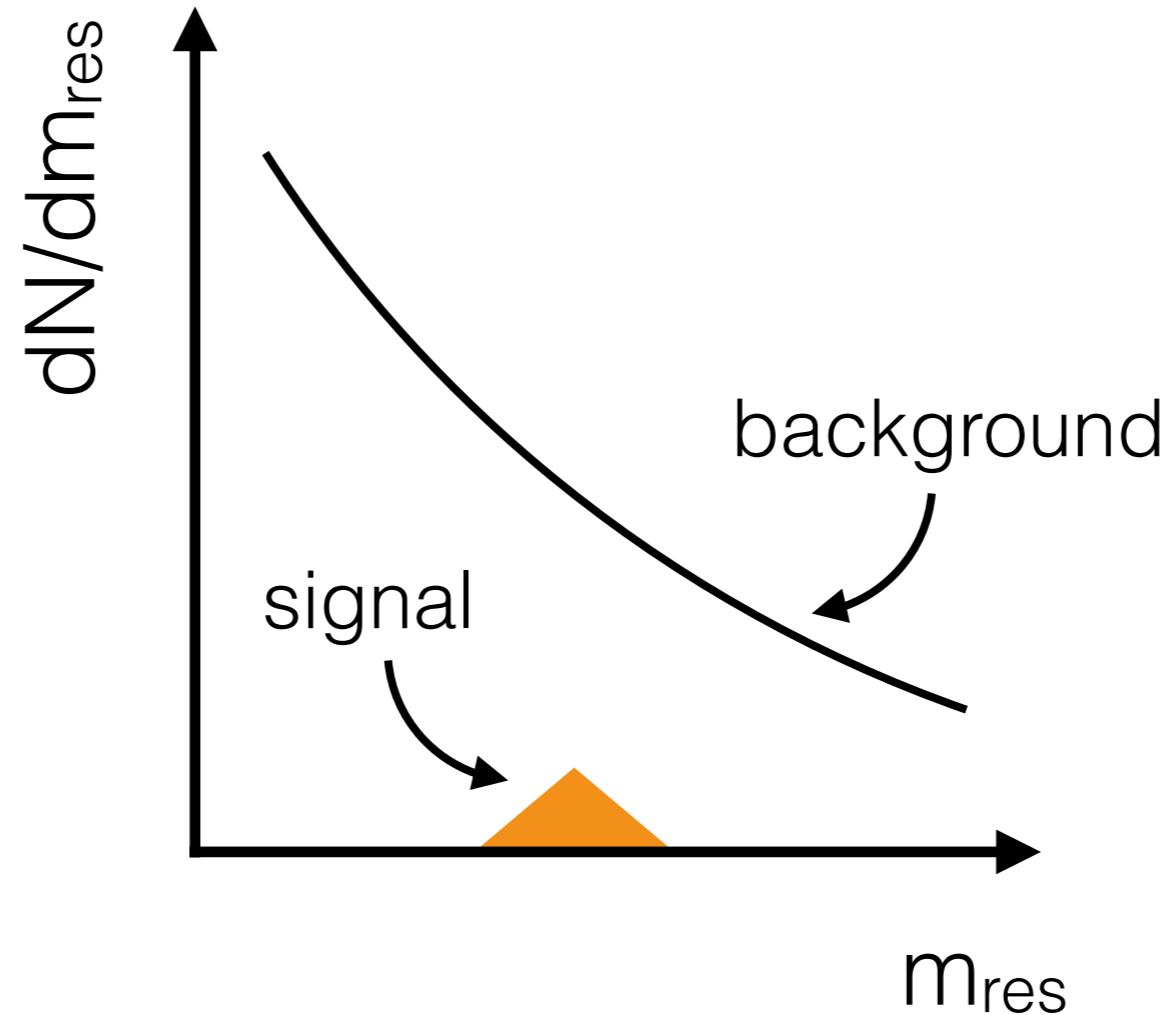
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PRD 99 (2019) 014038



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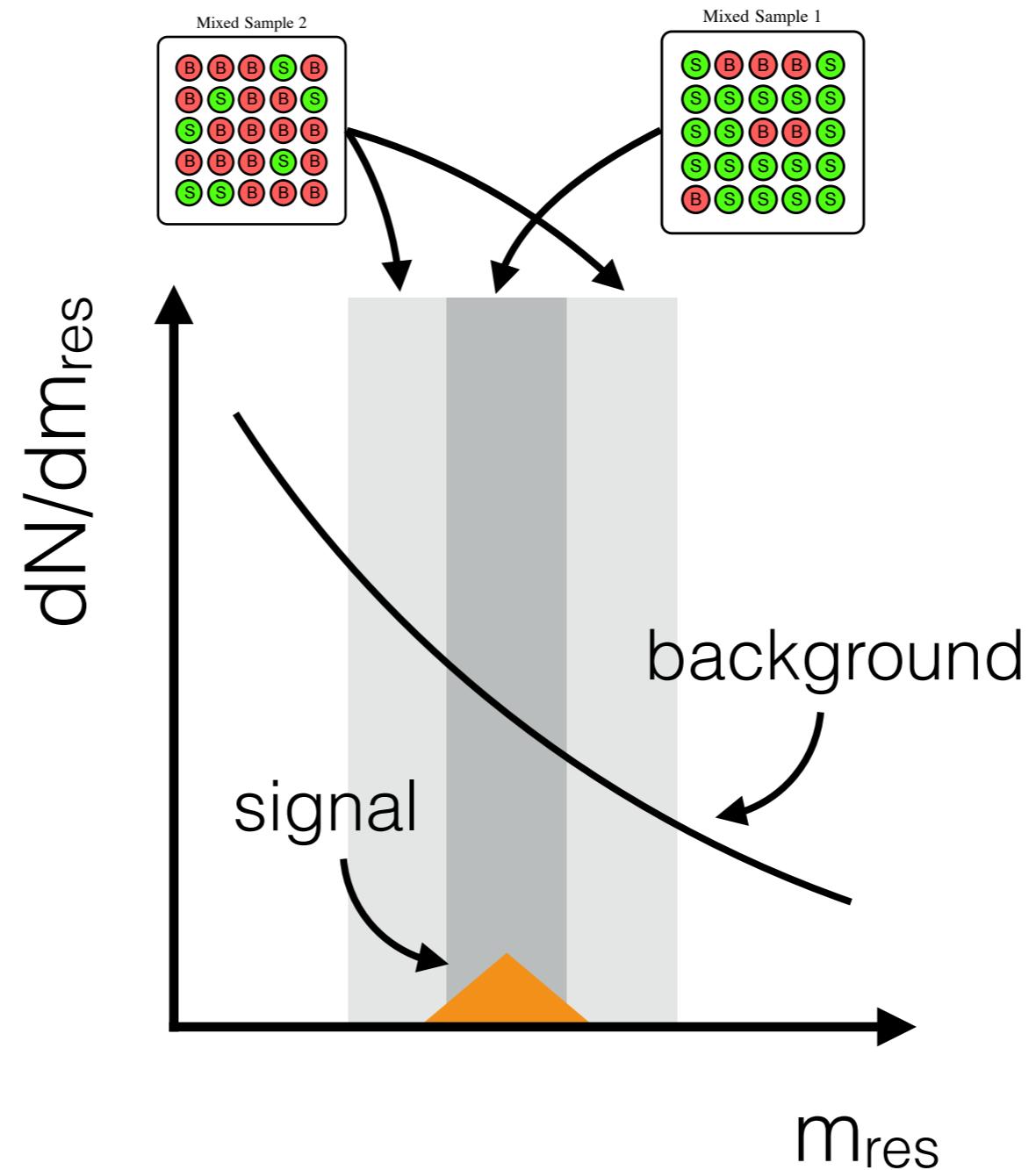
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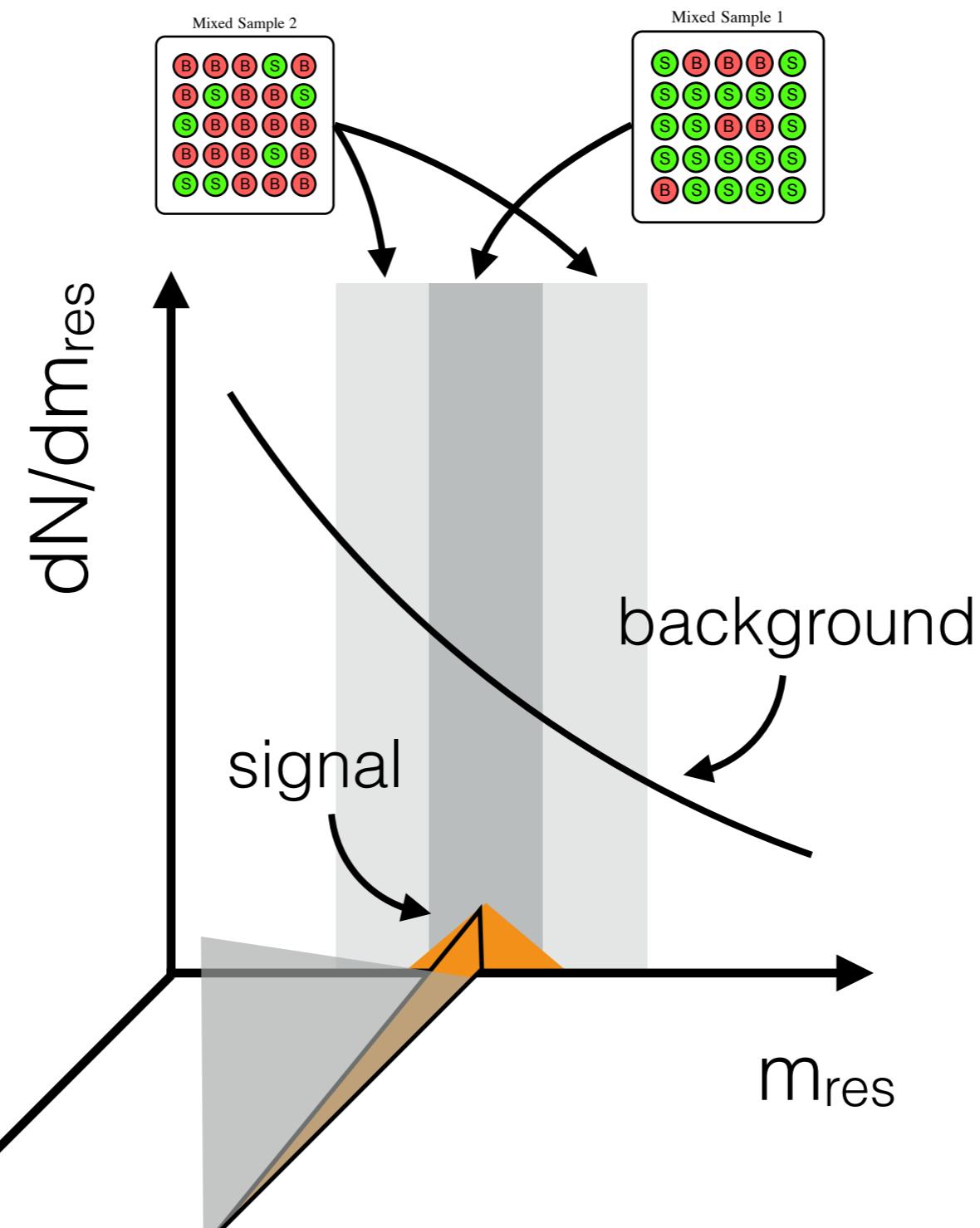
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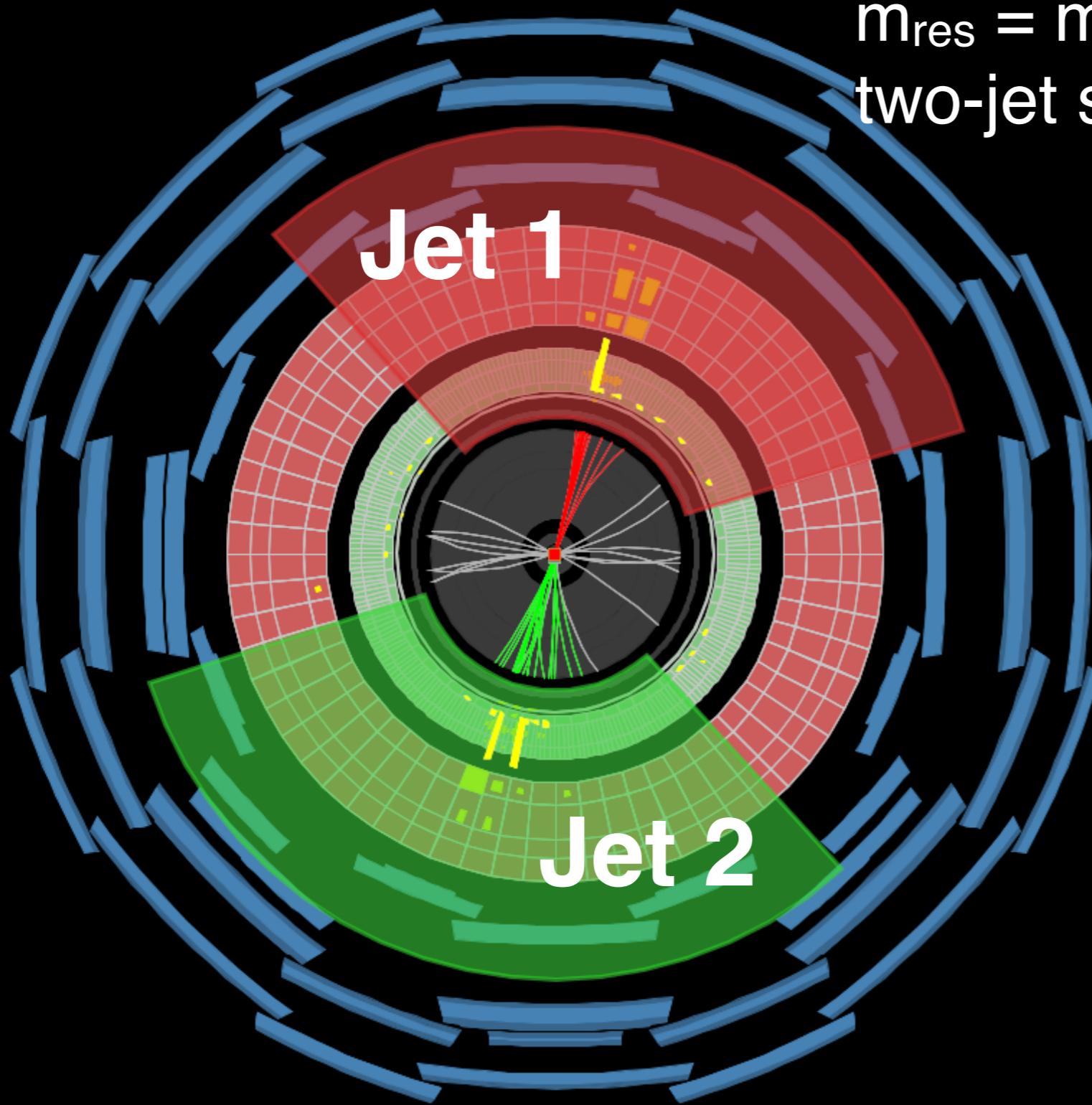
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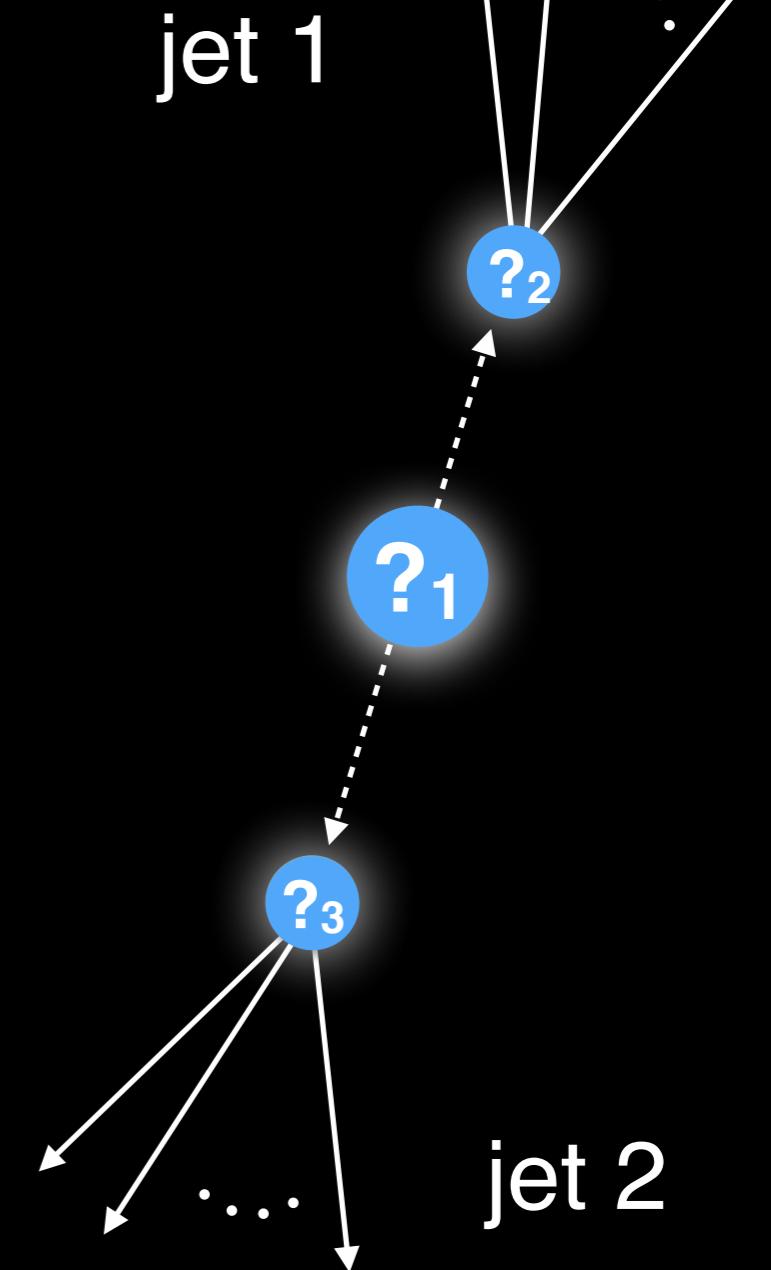


+ be careful to not pay a big trials factor  
(ask if interested)

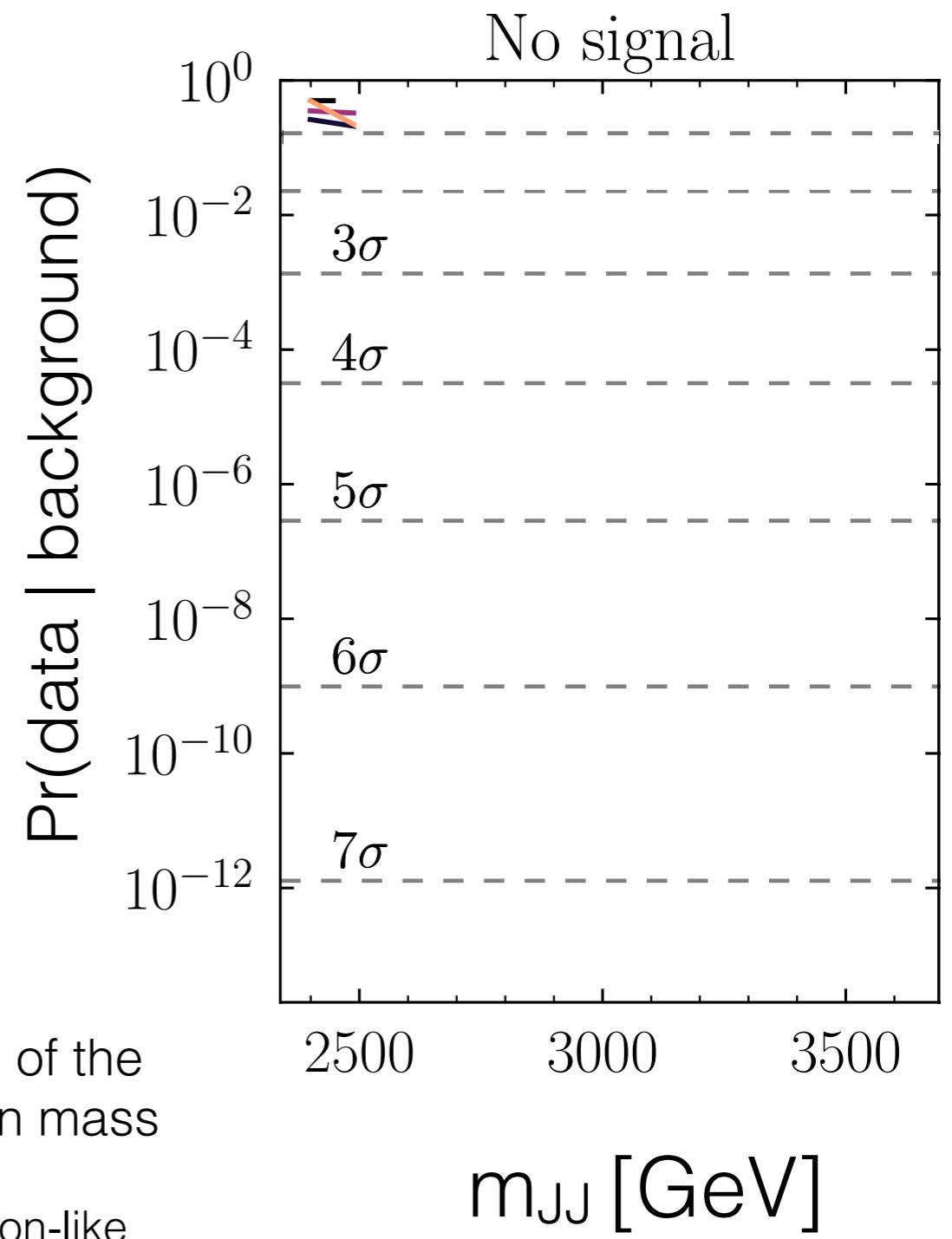
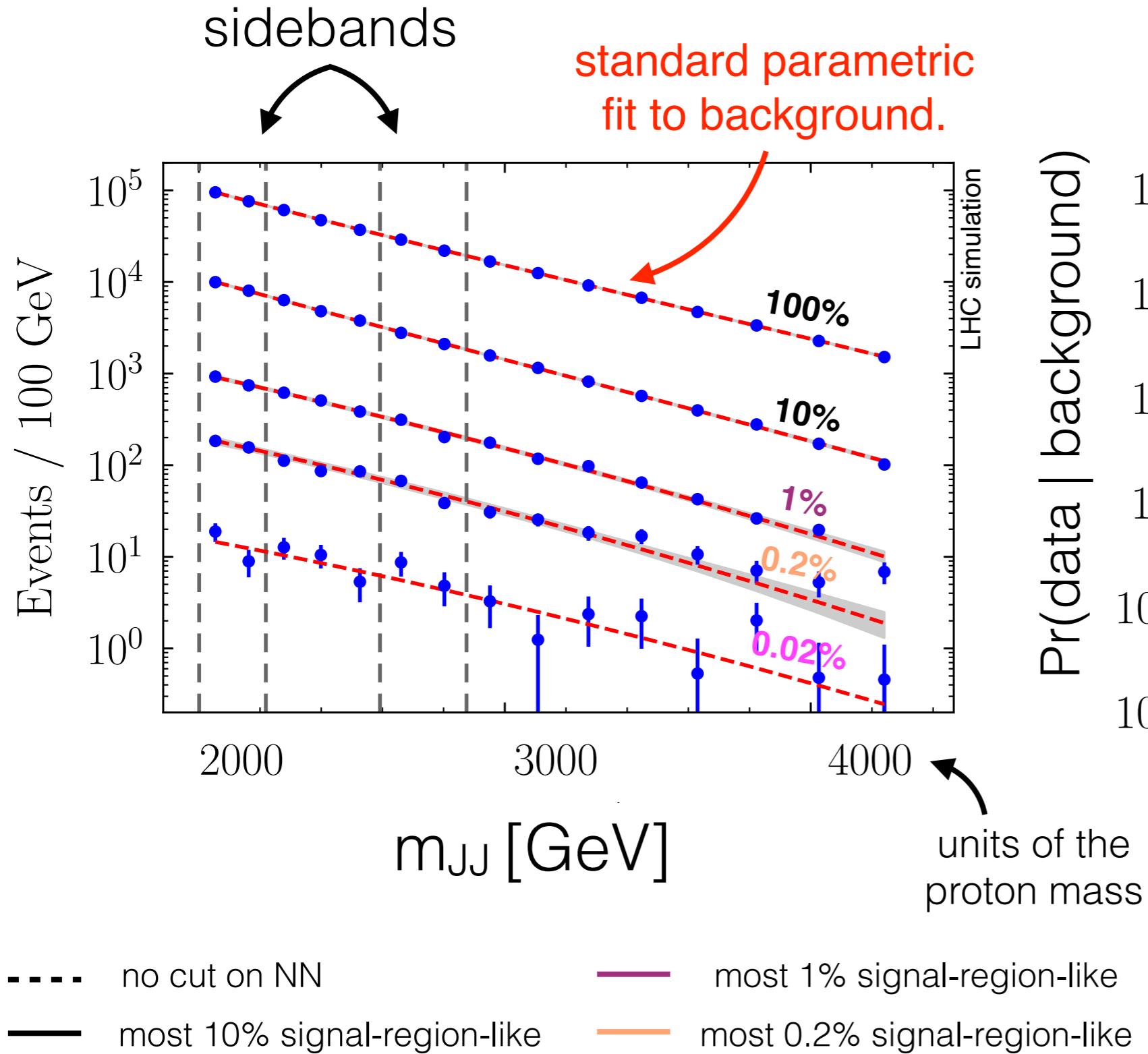
# Example: two-jet search



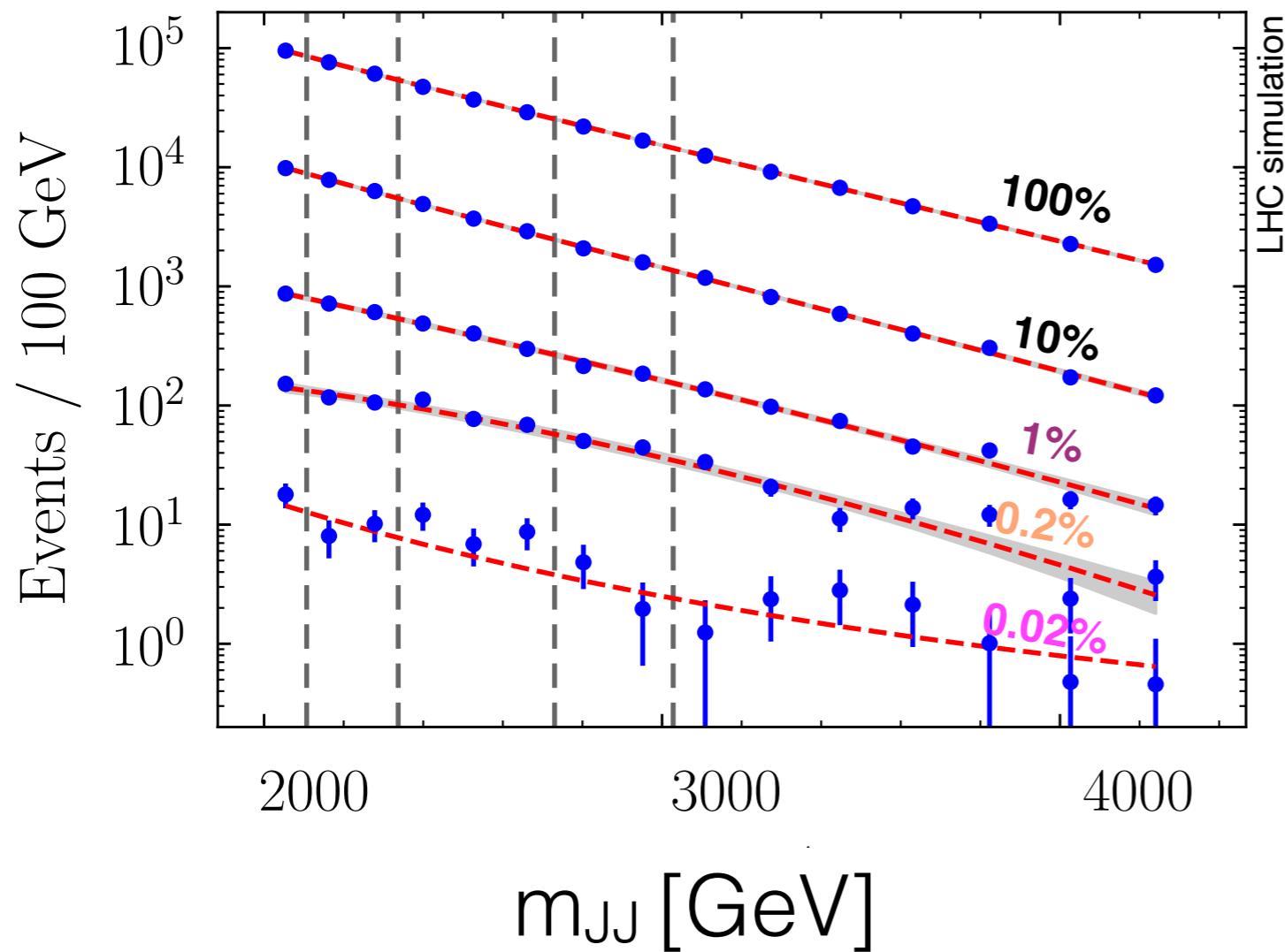
$m_{\text{res}}$  = mass of  
two-jet system



# Example: two-jet search



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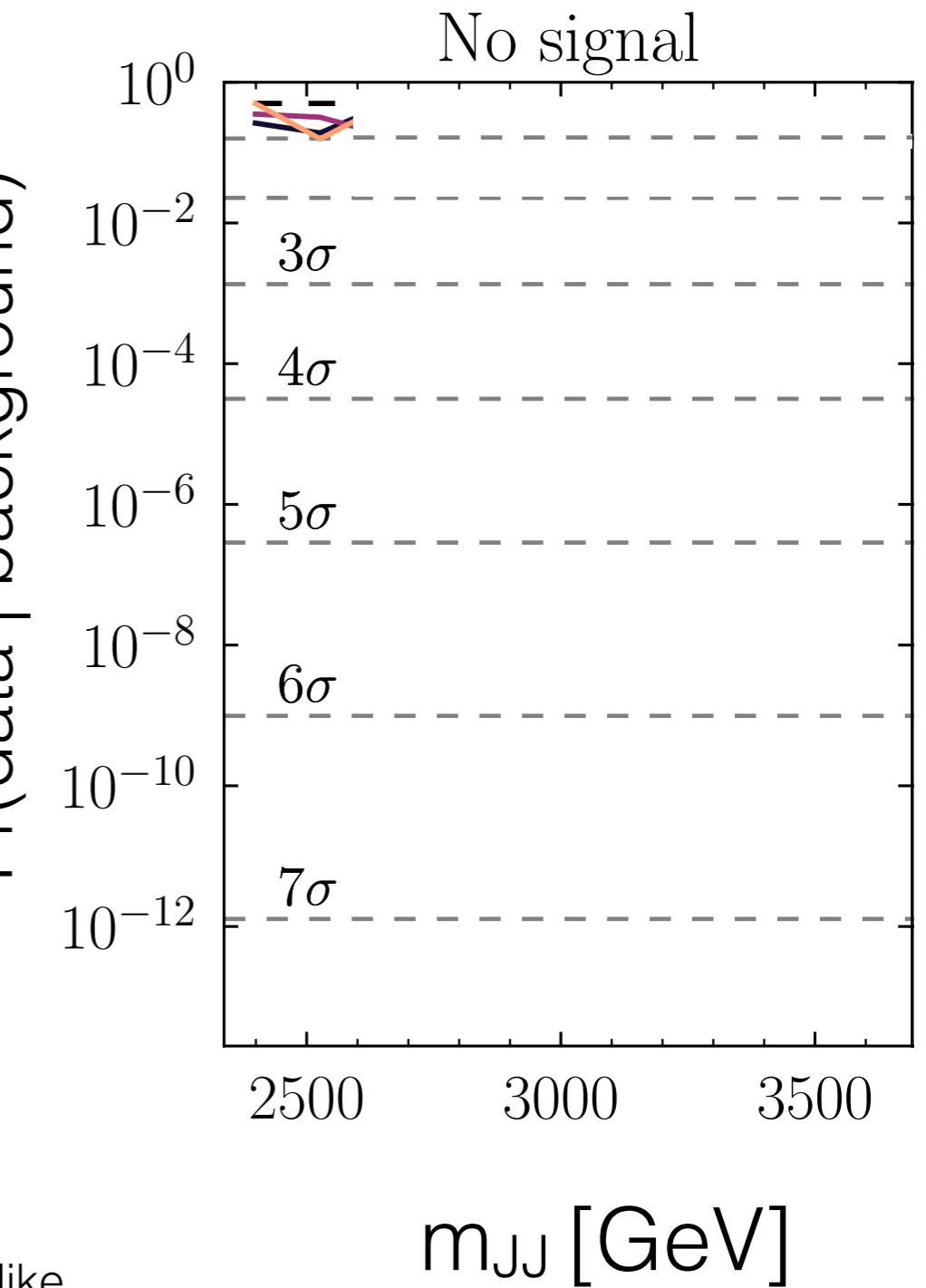
---- no cut on NN

— most 10% signal-region-like

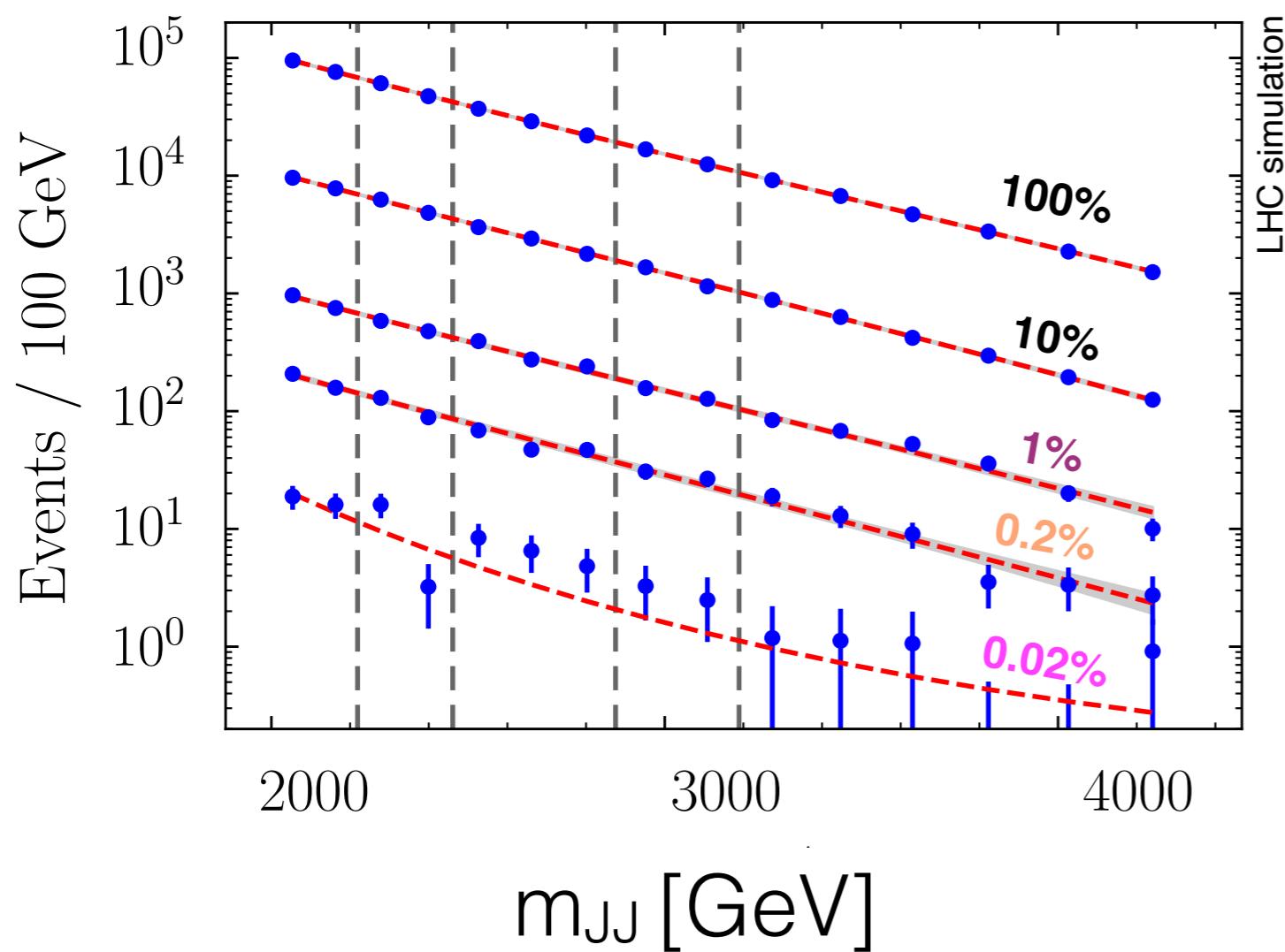
— most 1% signal-region-like

— most 0.2% signal-region-like

$\Pr(\text{data} \mid \text{background})$



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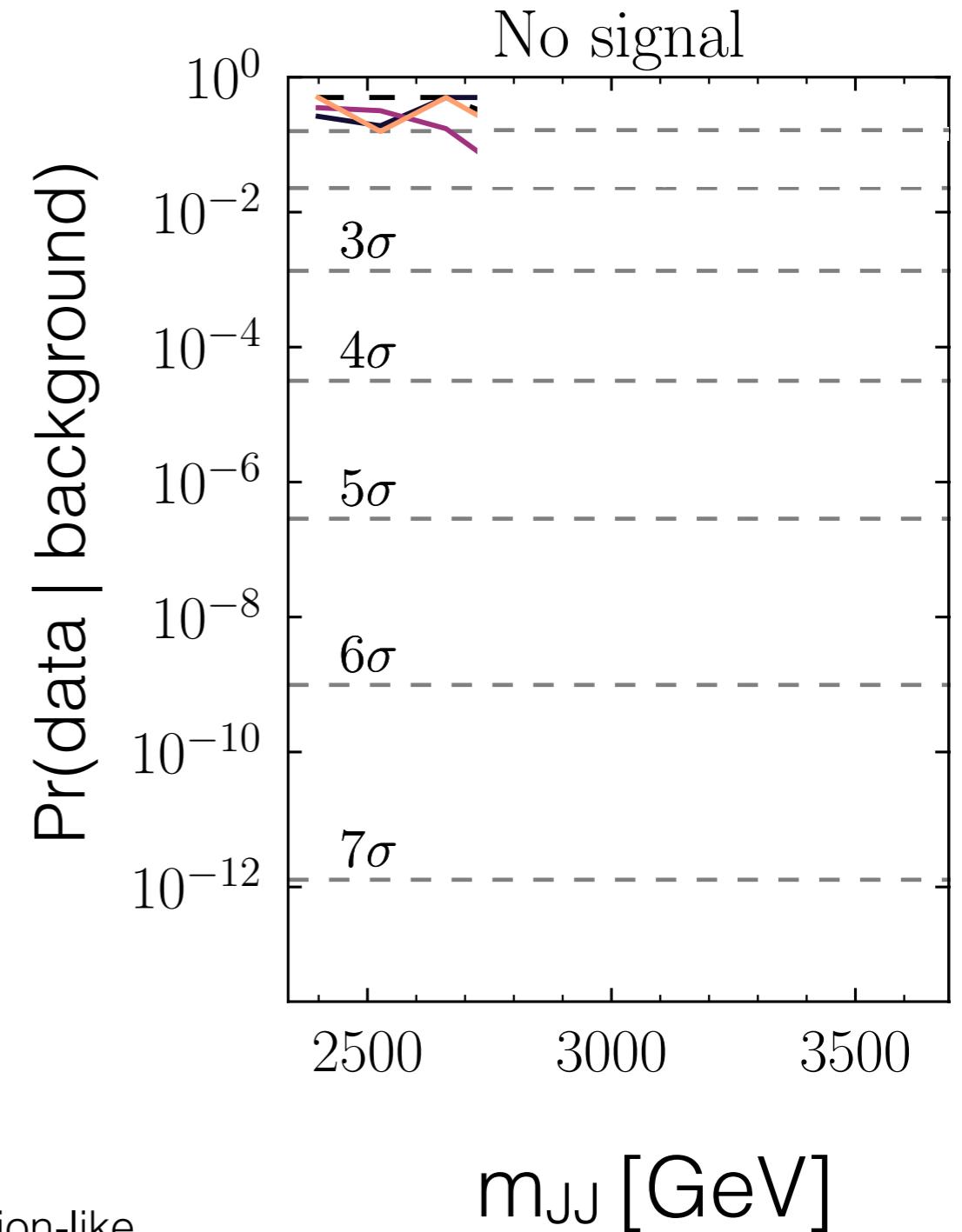
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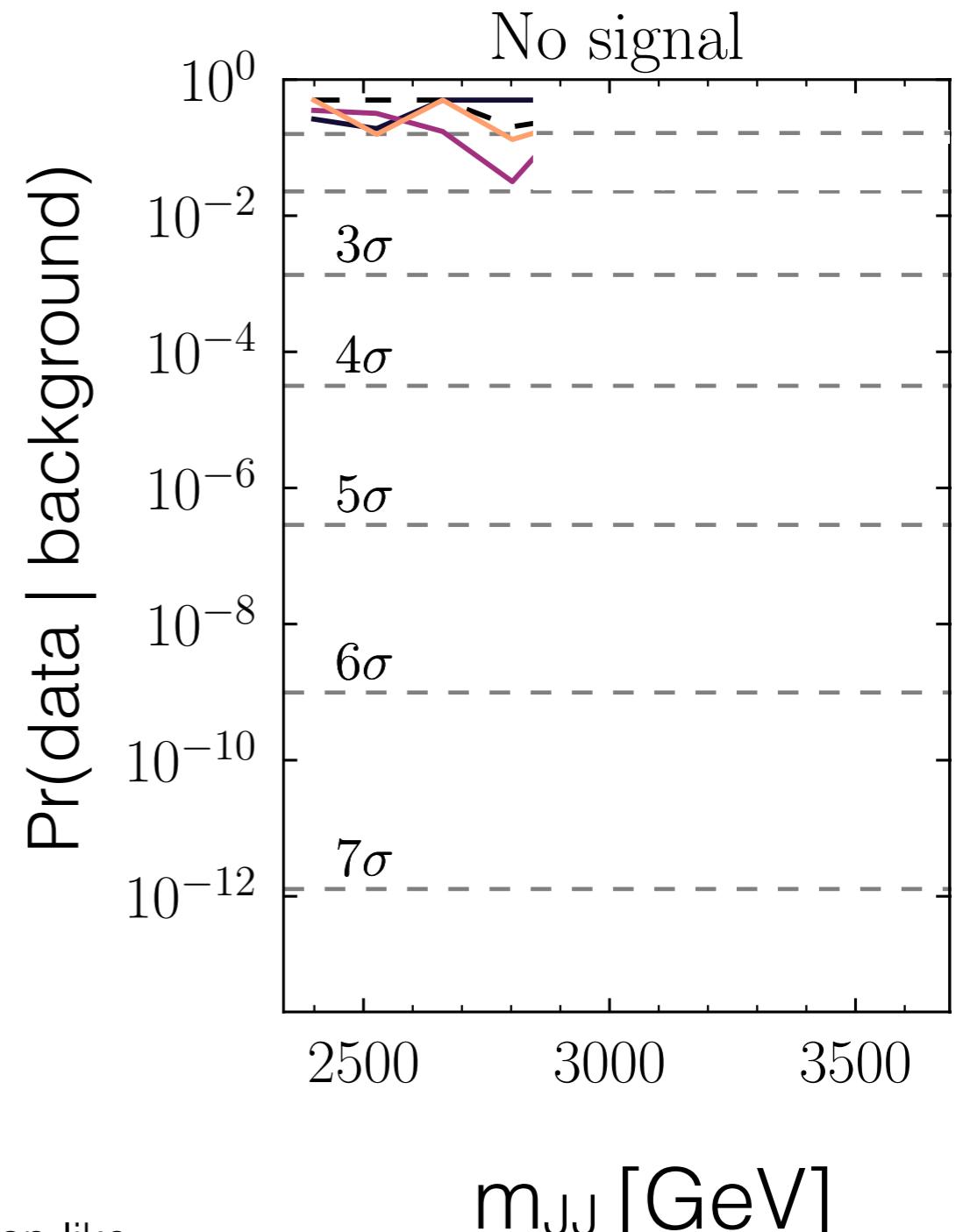
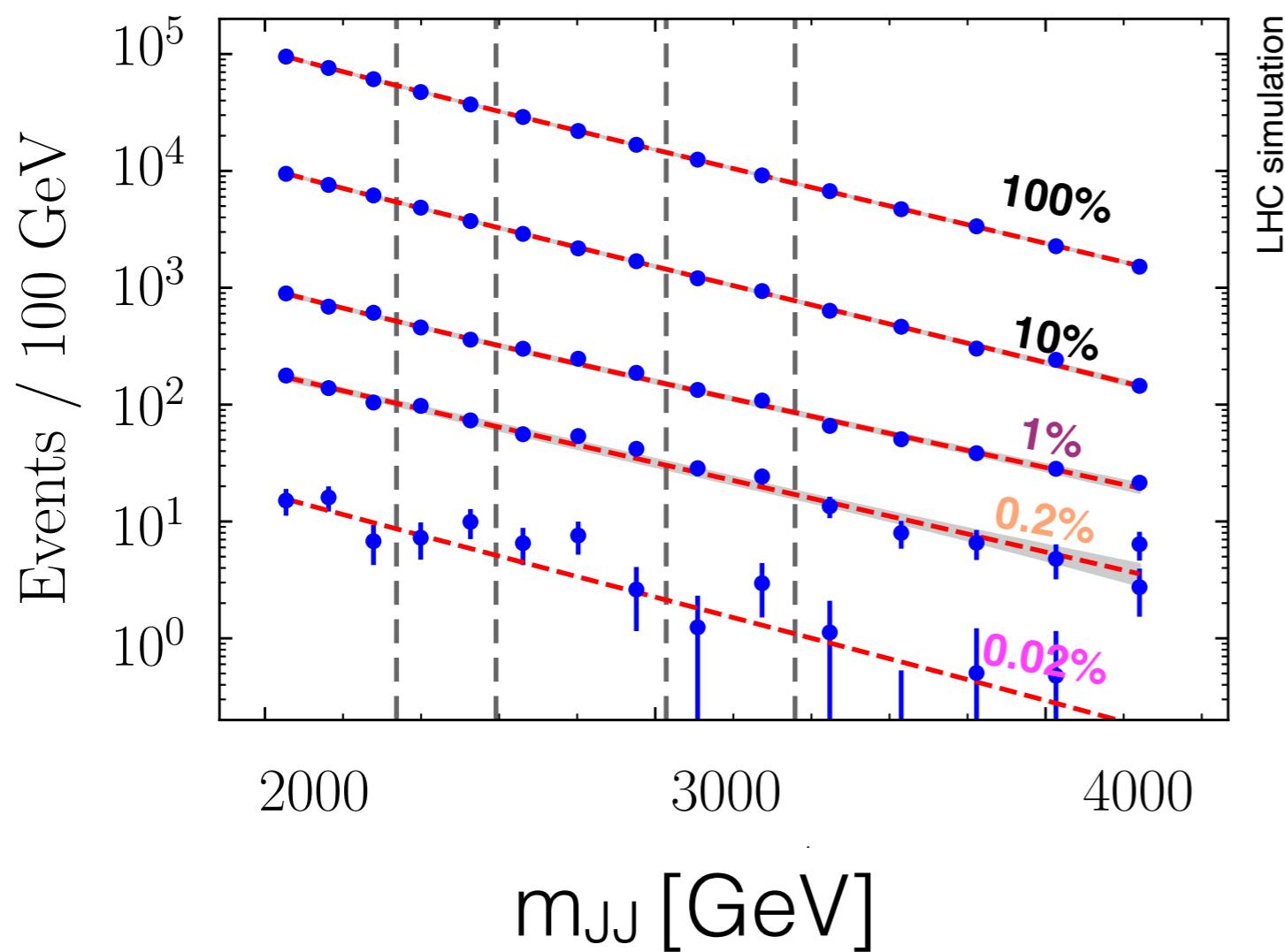
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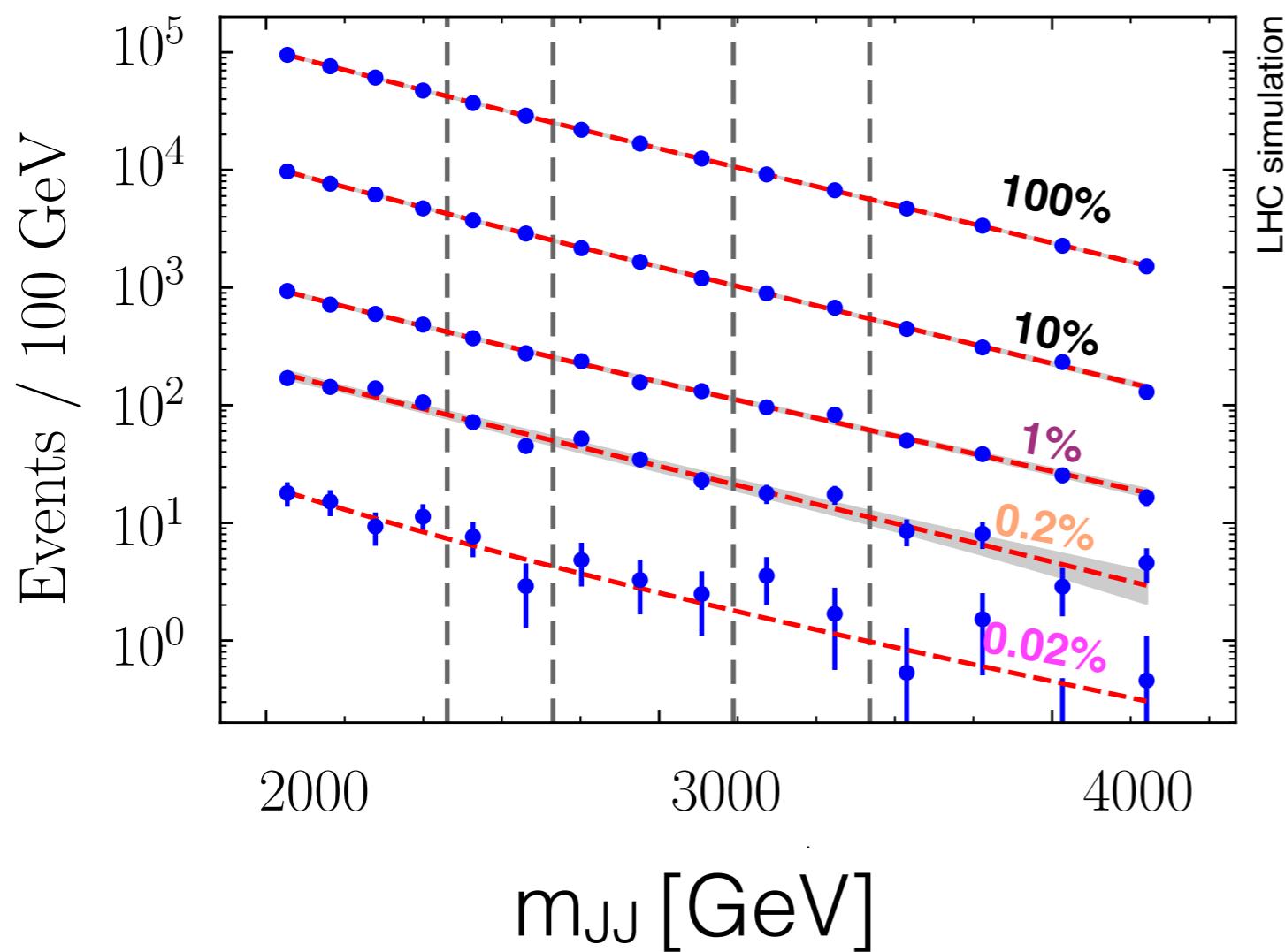
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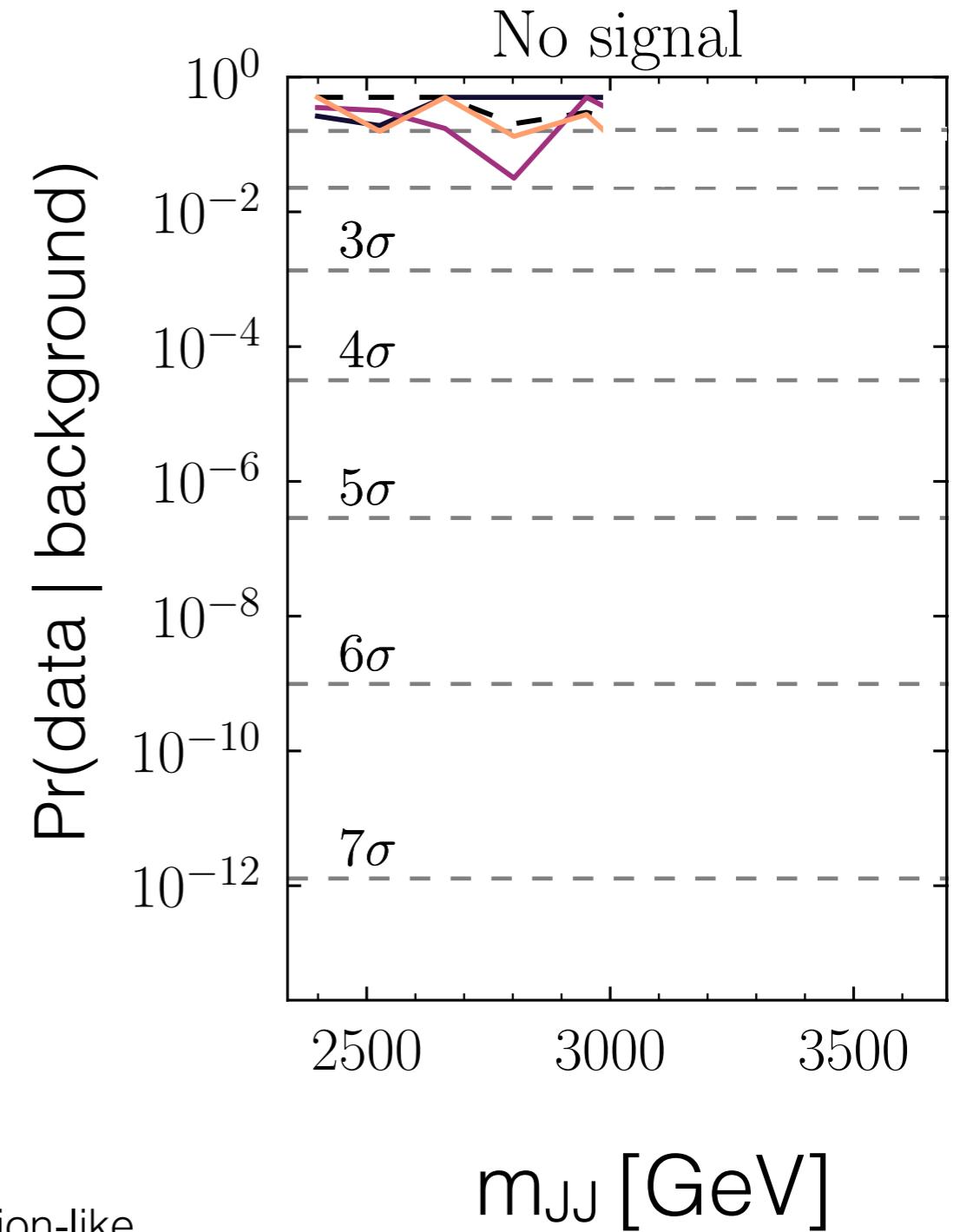


---- no cut on NN

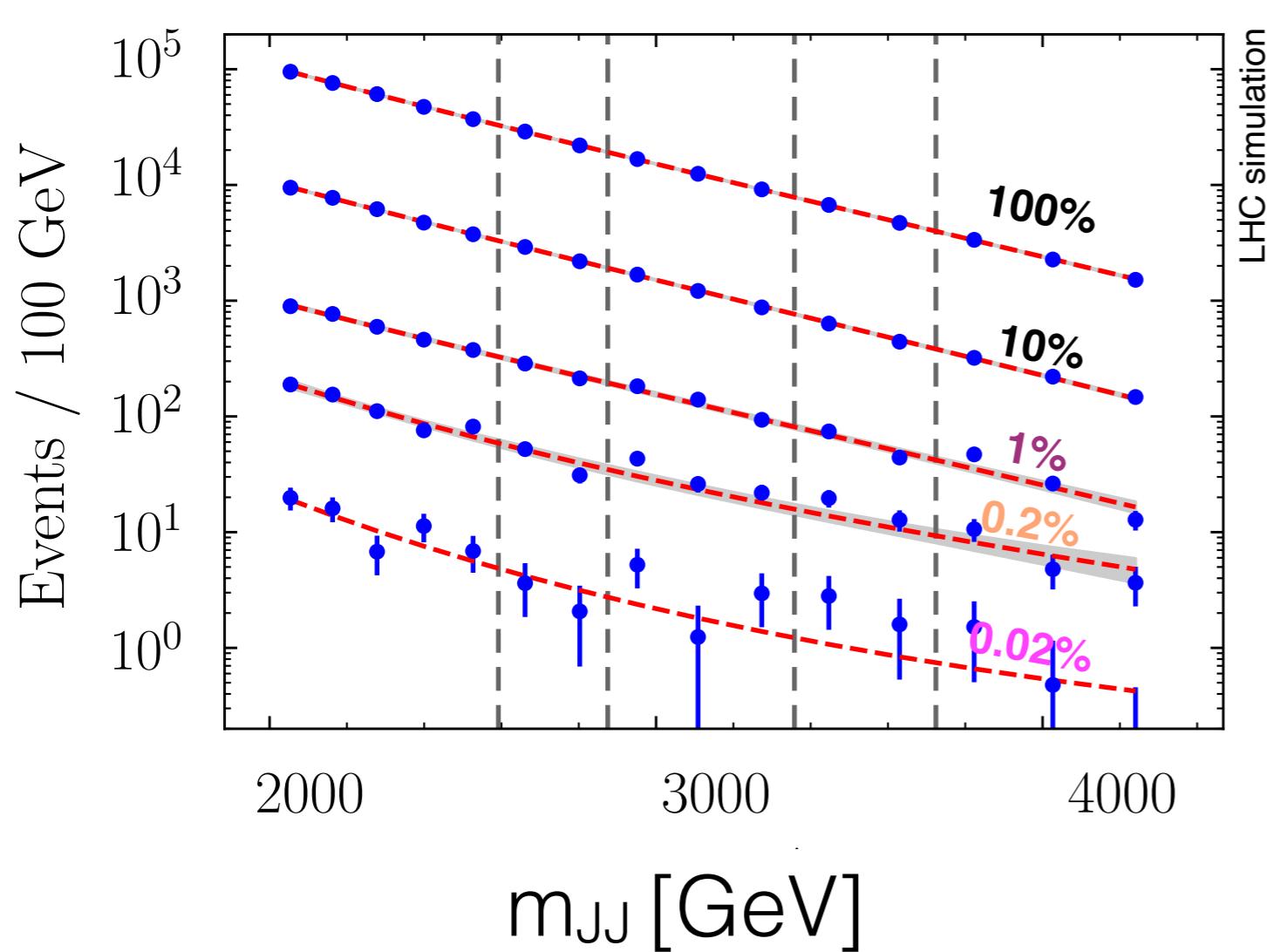
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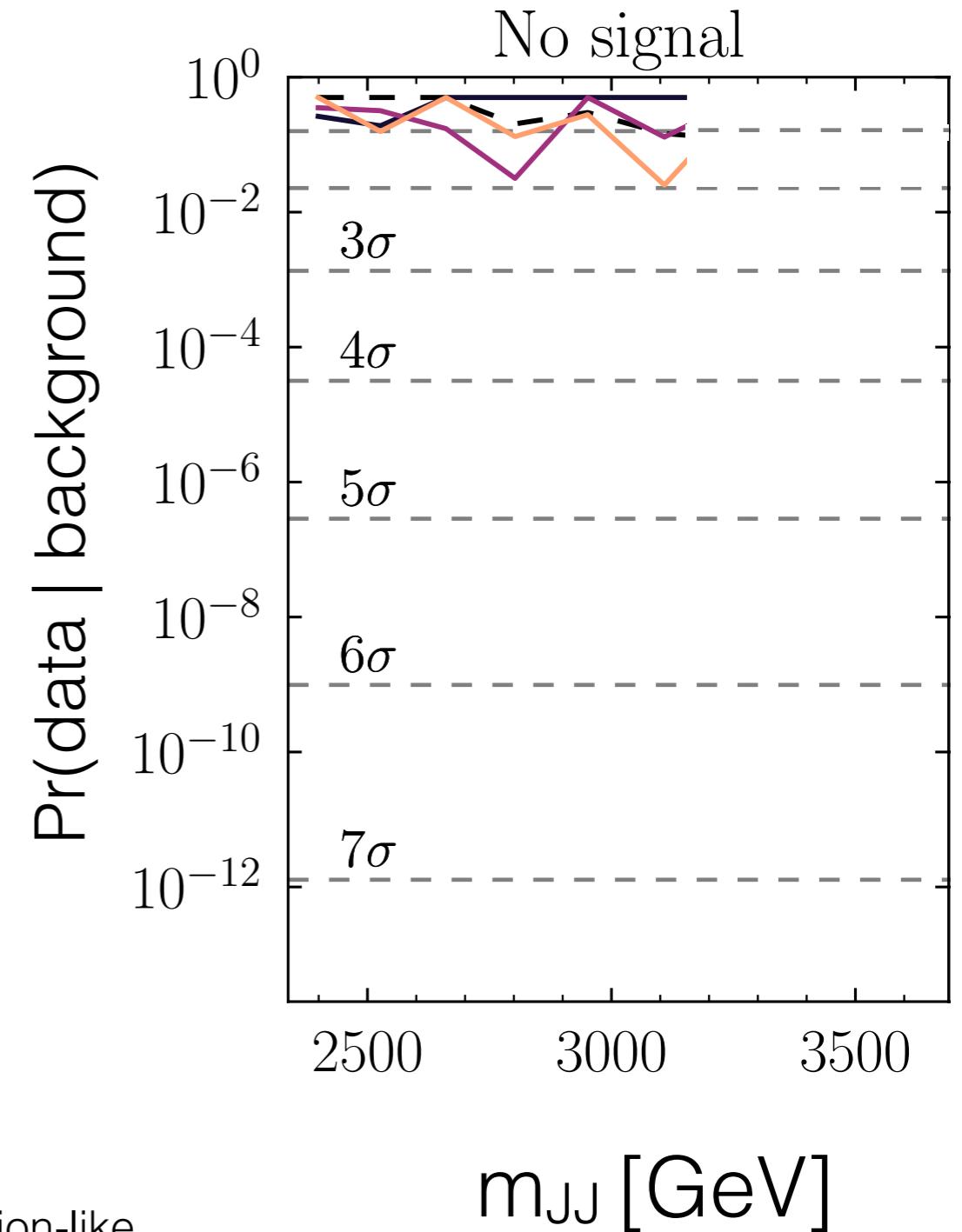
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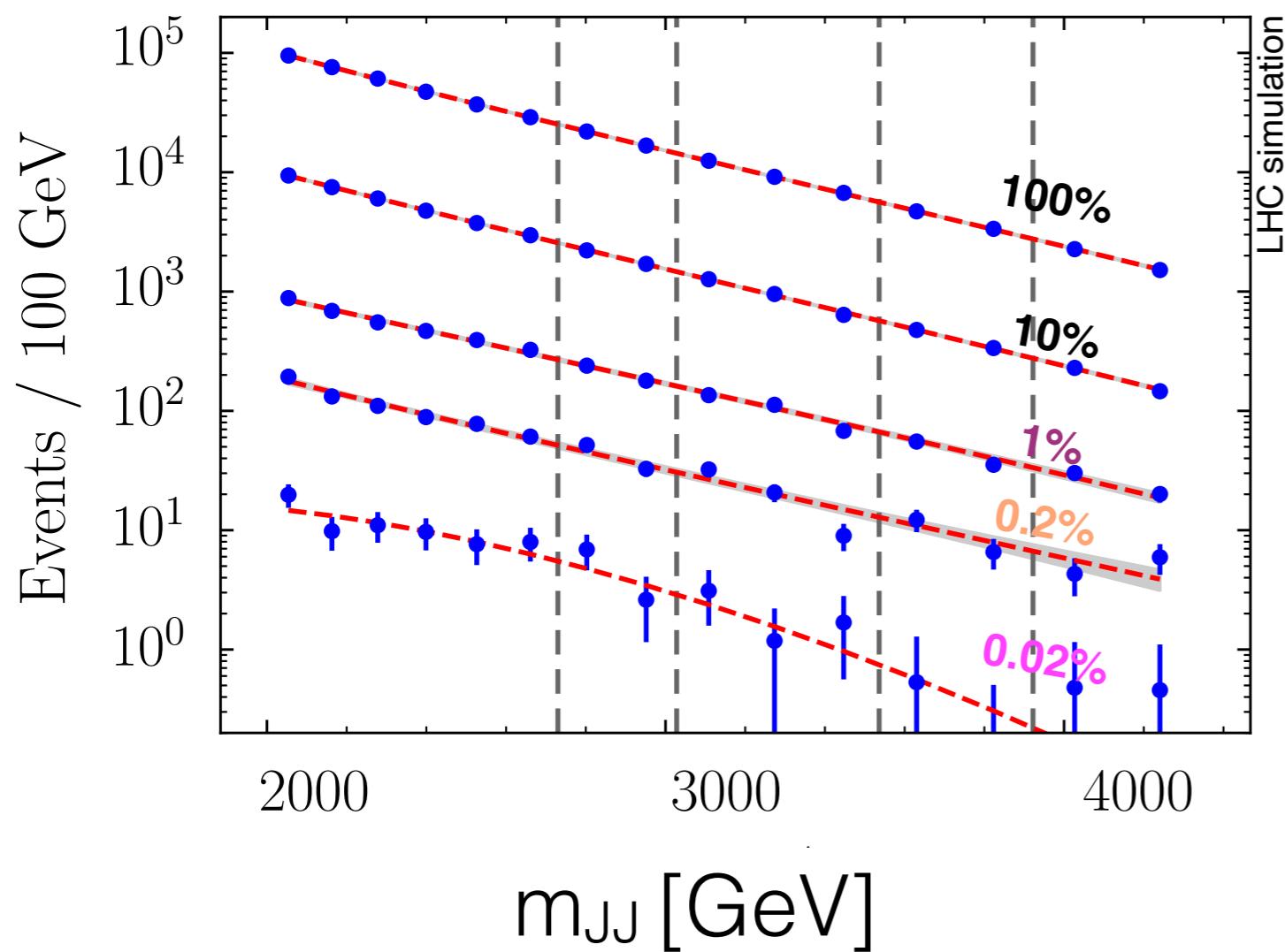
— most 1% signal-region-like

— most 0.2% signal-region-like

$\Pr(\text{data} \mid \text{background})$



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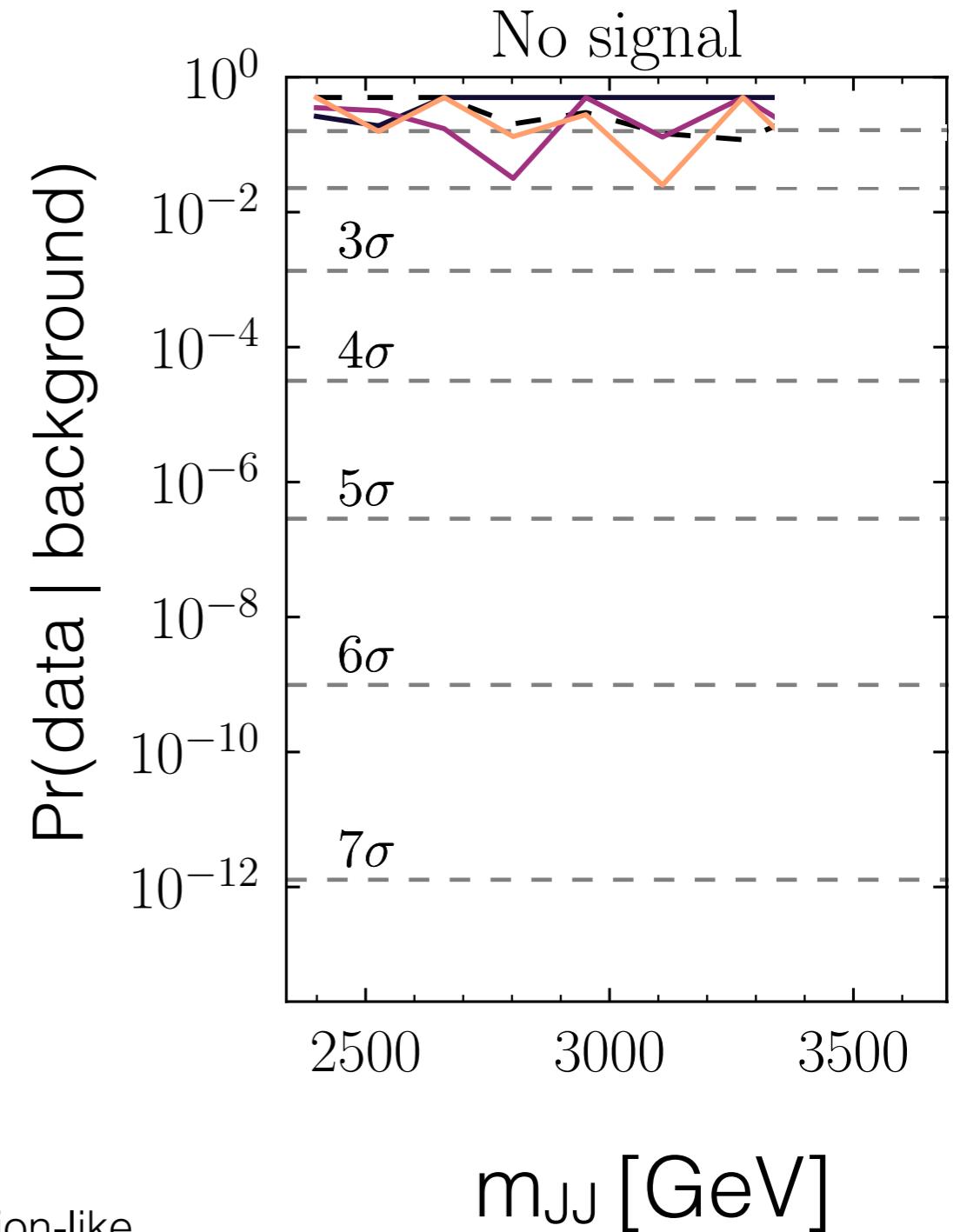
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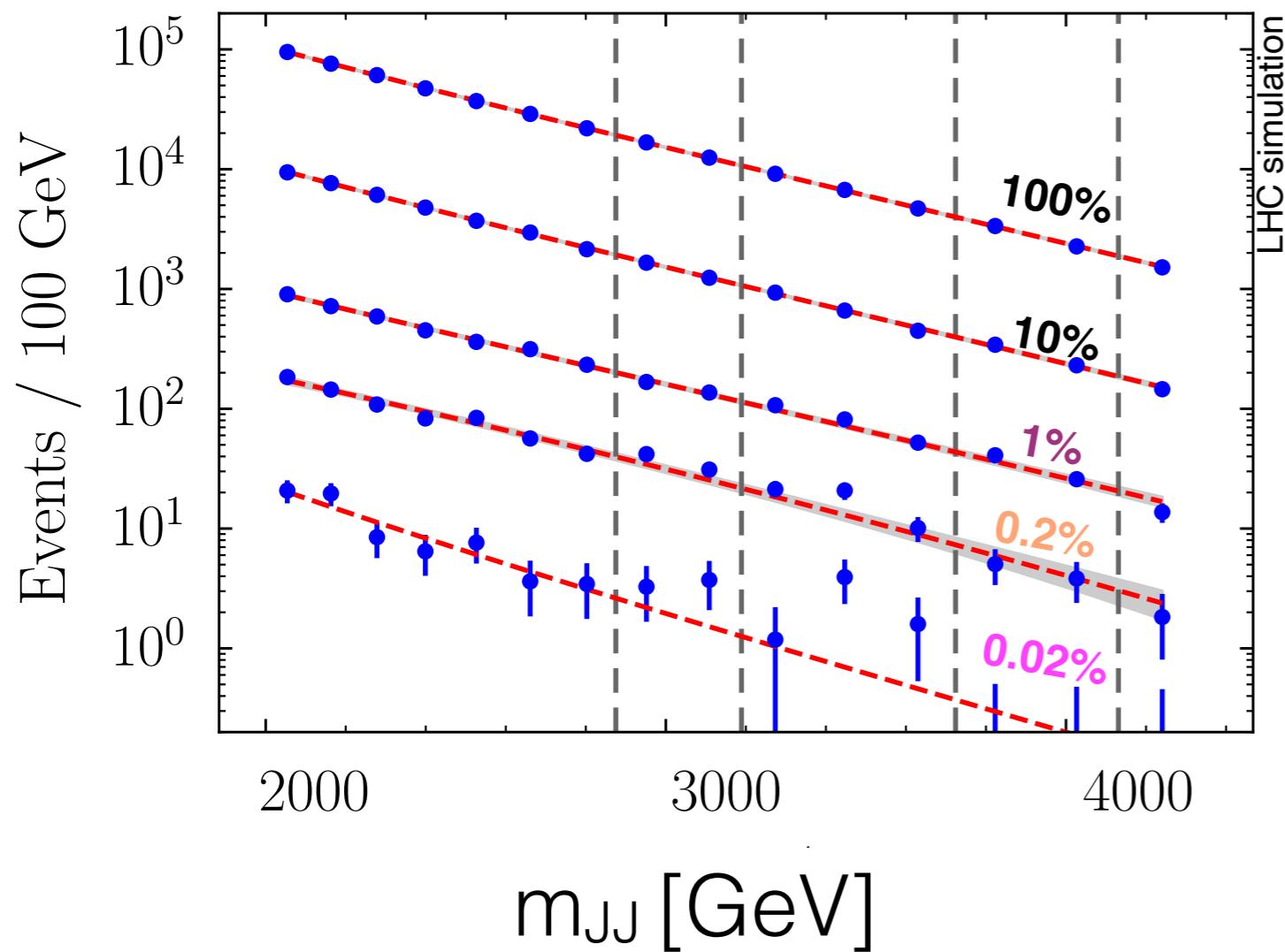
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$\Pr(\text{data} \mid \text{background})$



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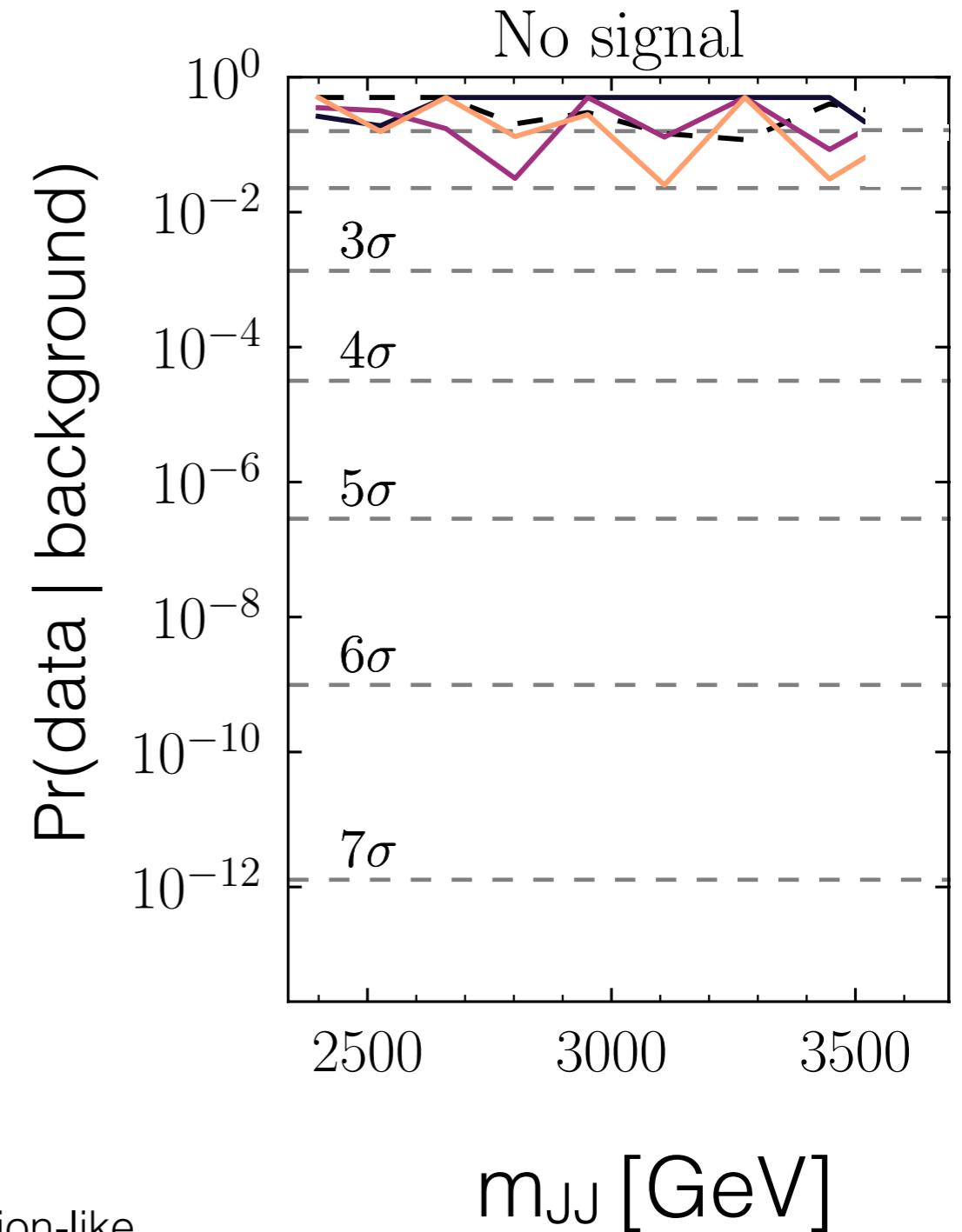
---- no cut on NN

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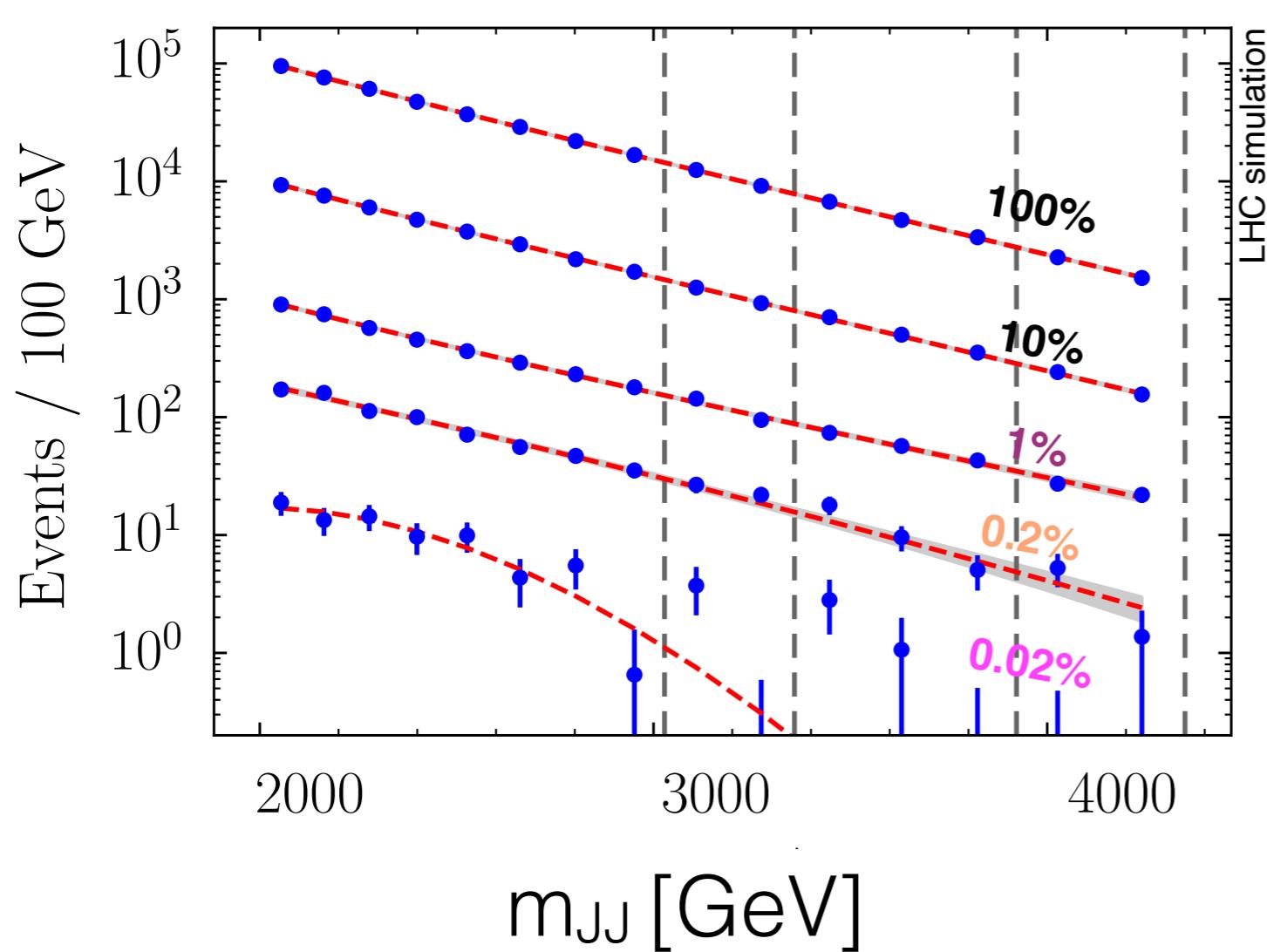
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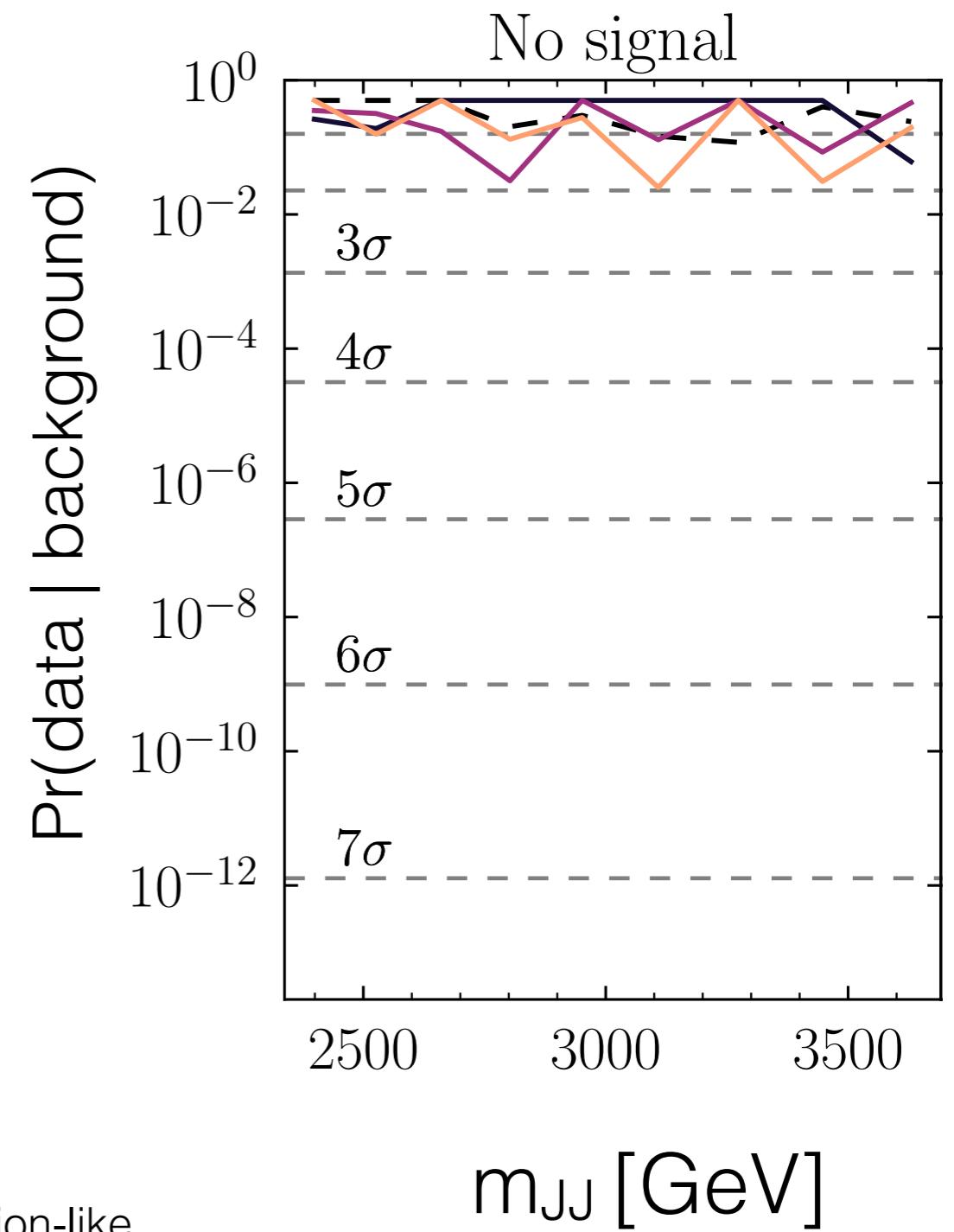


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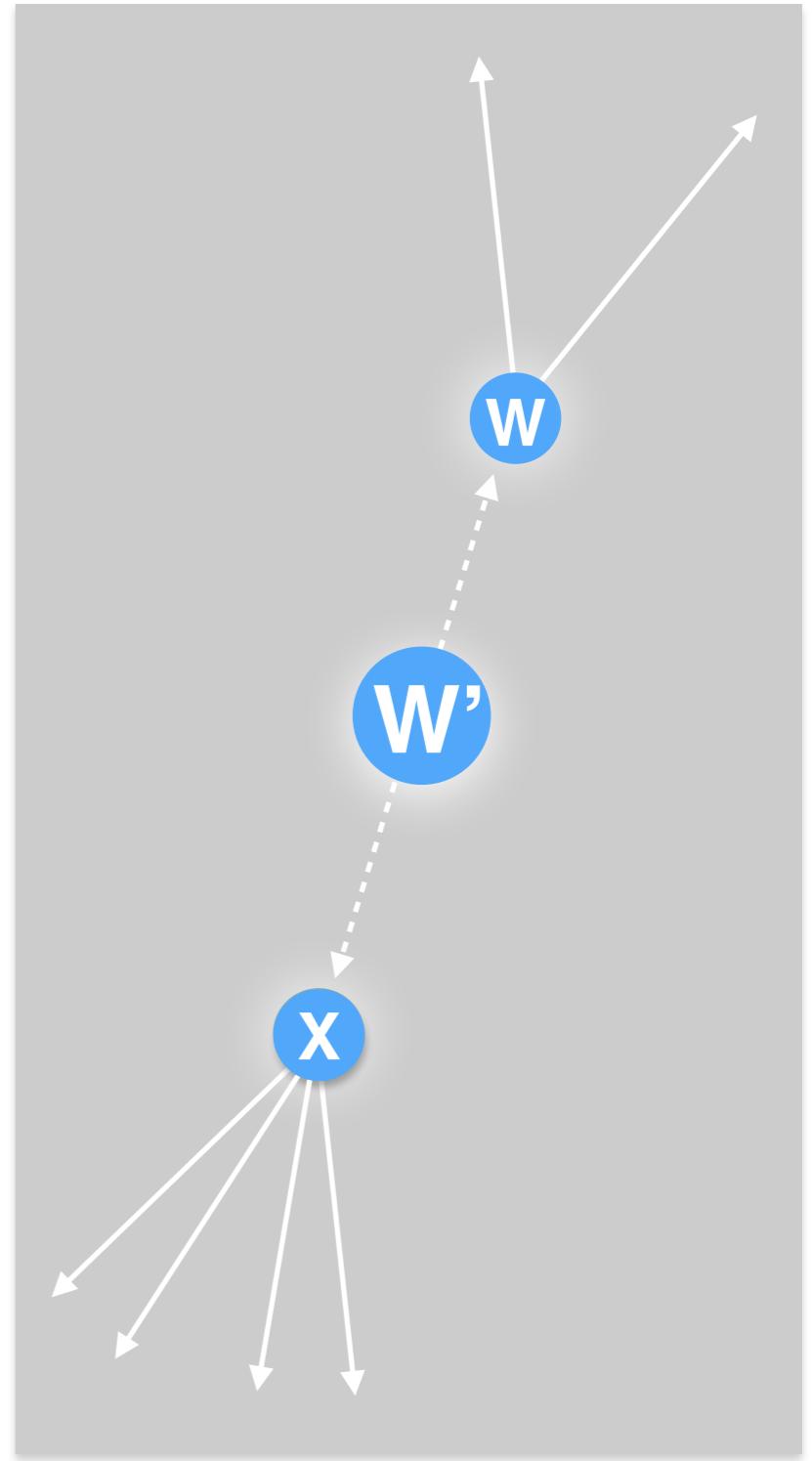
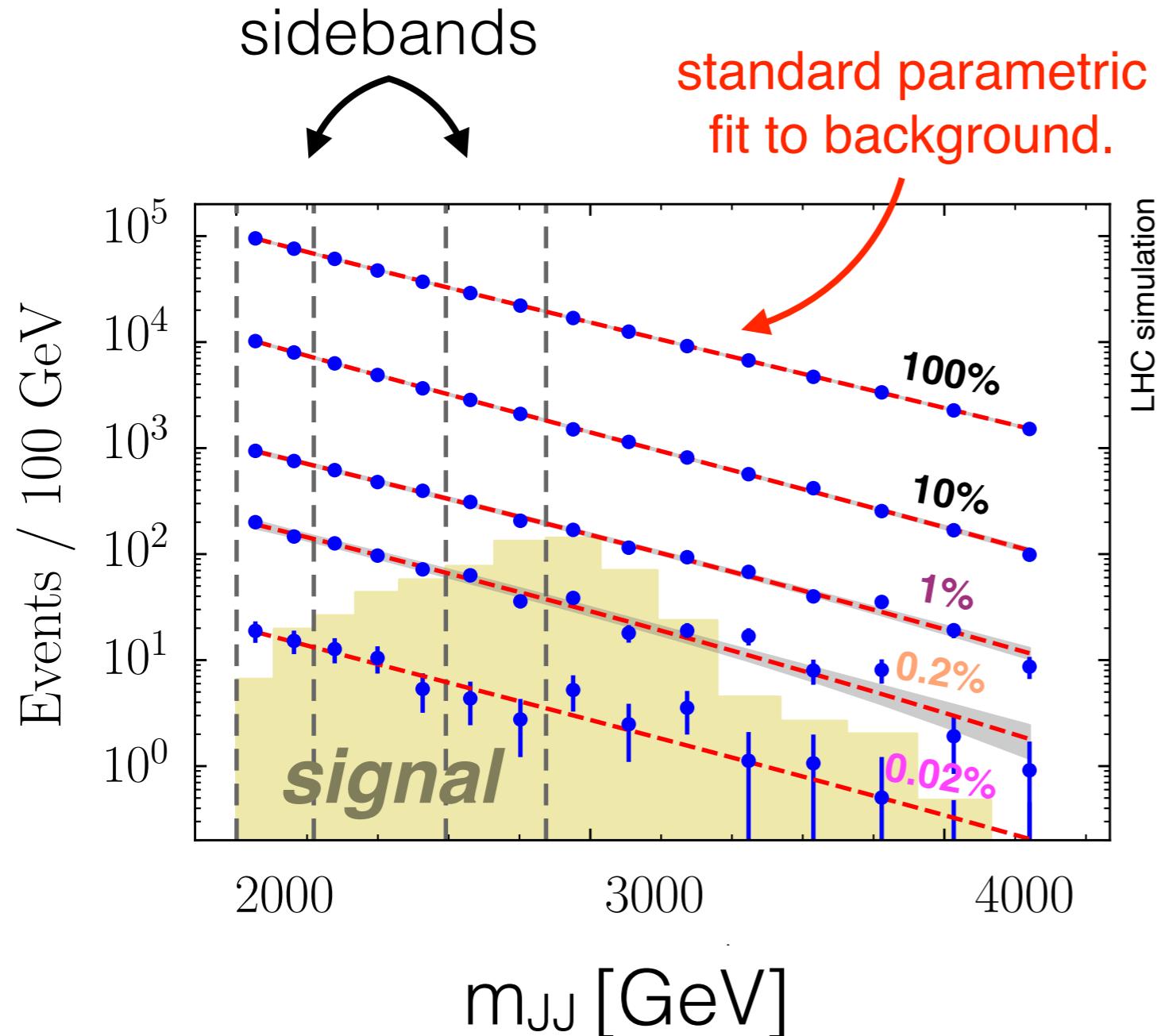


Legend:

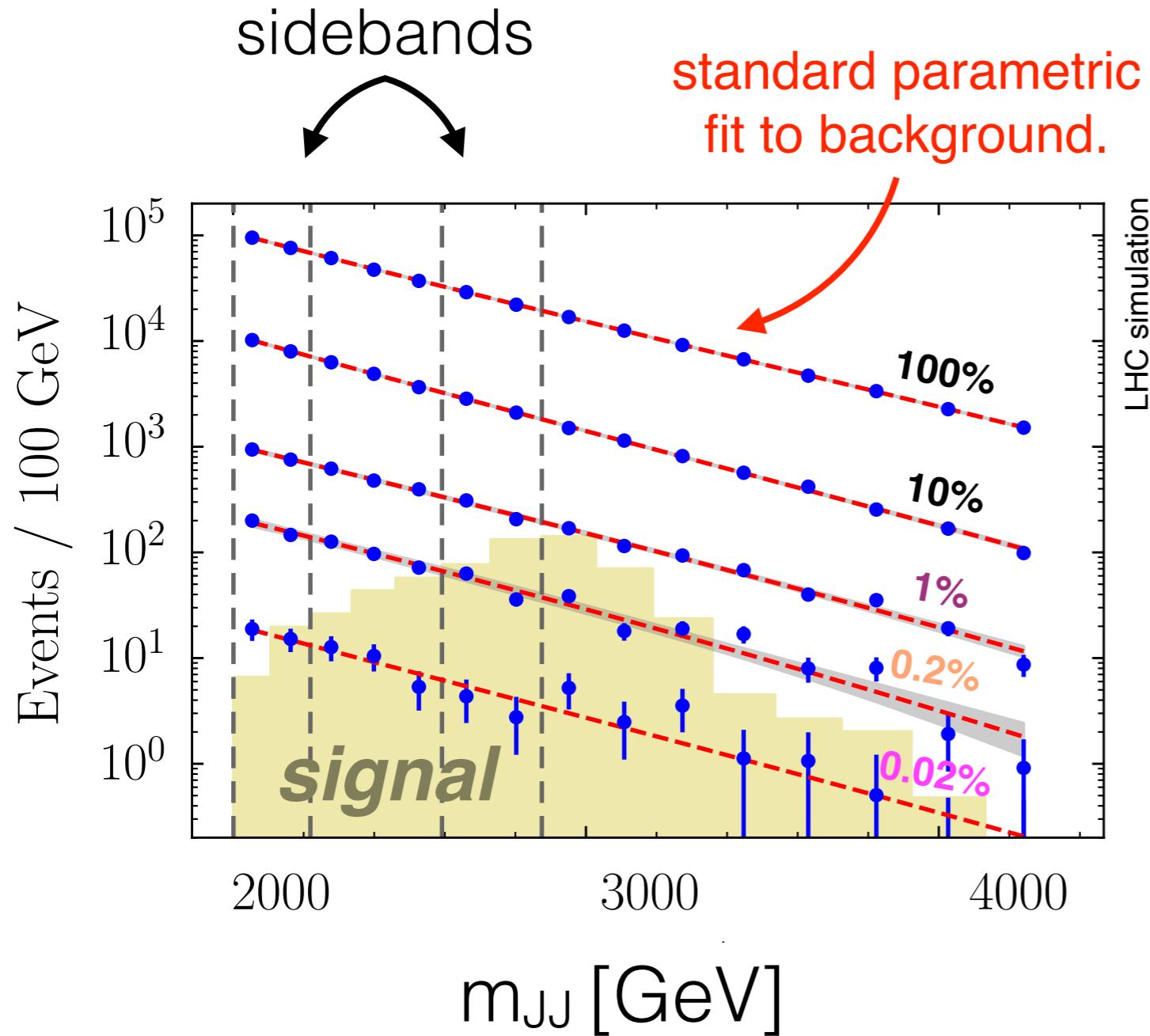
- no cut on NN
- most 10% signal-region-like
- most 1% signal-region-like
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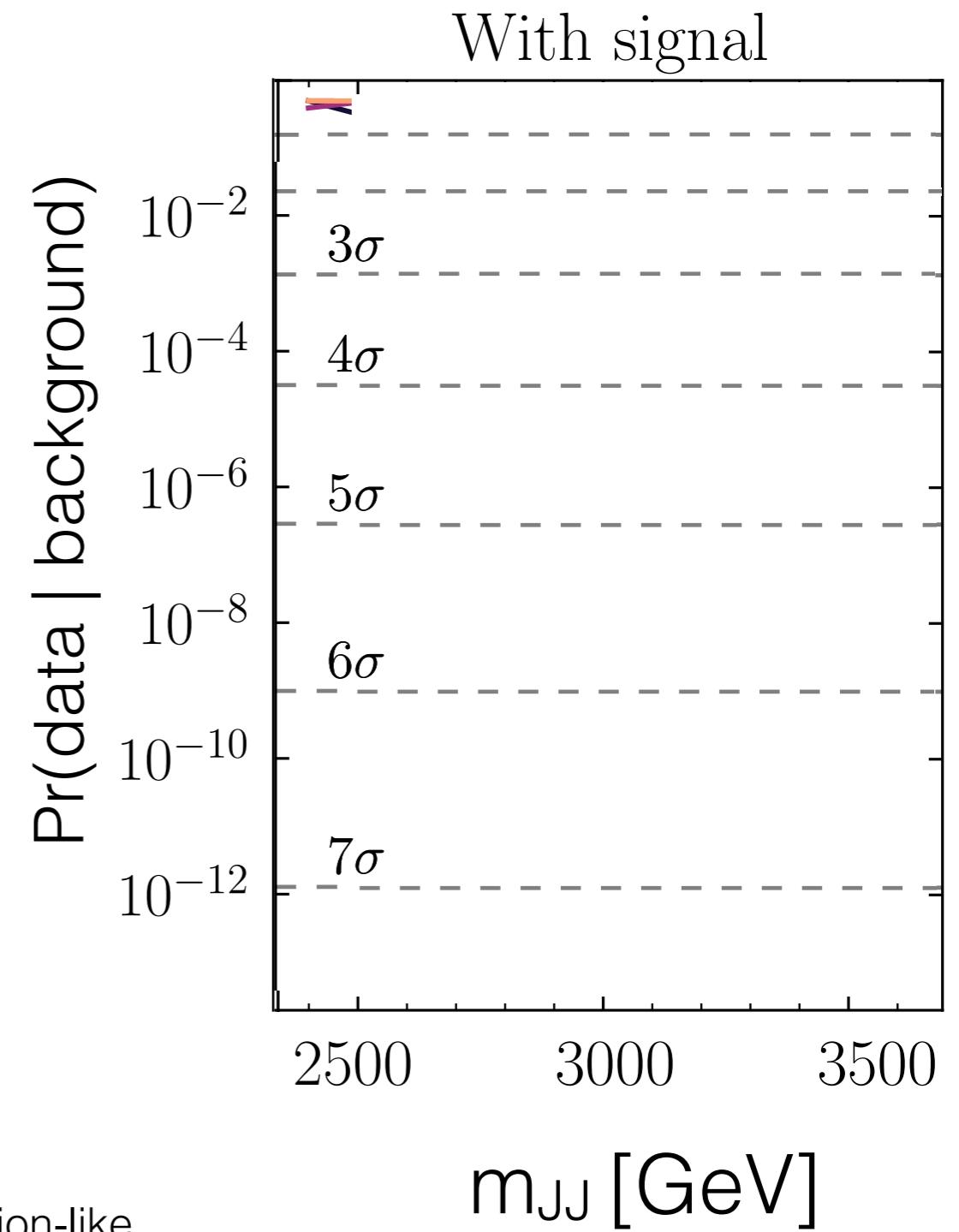
# ...and when there is a signal?



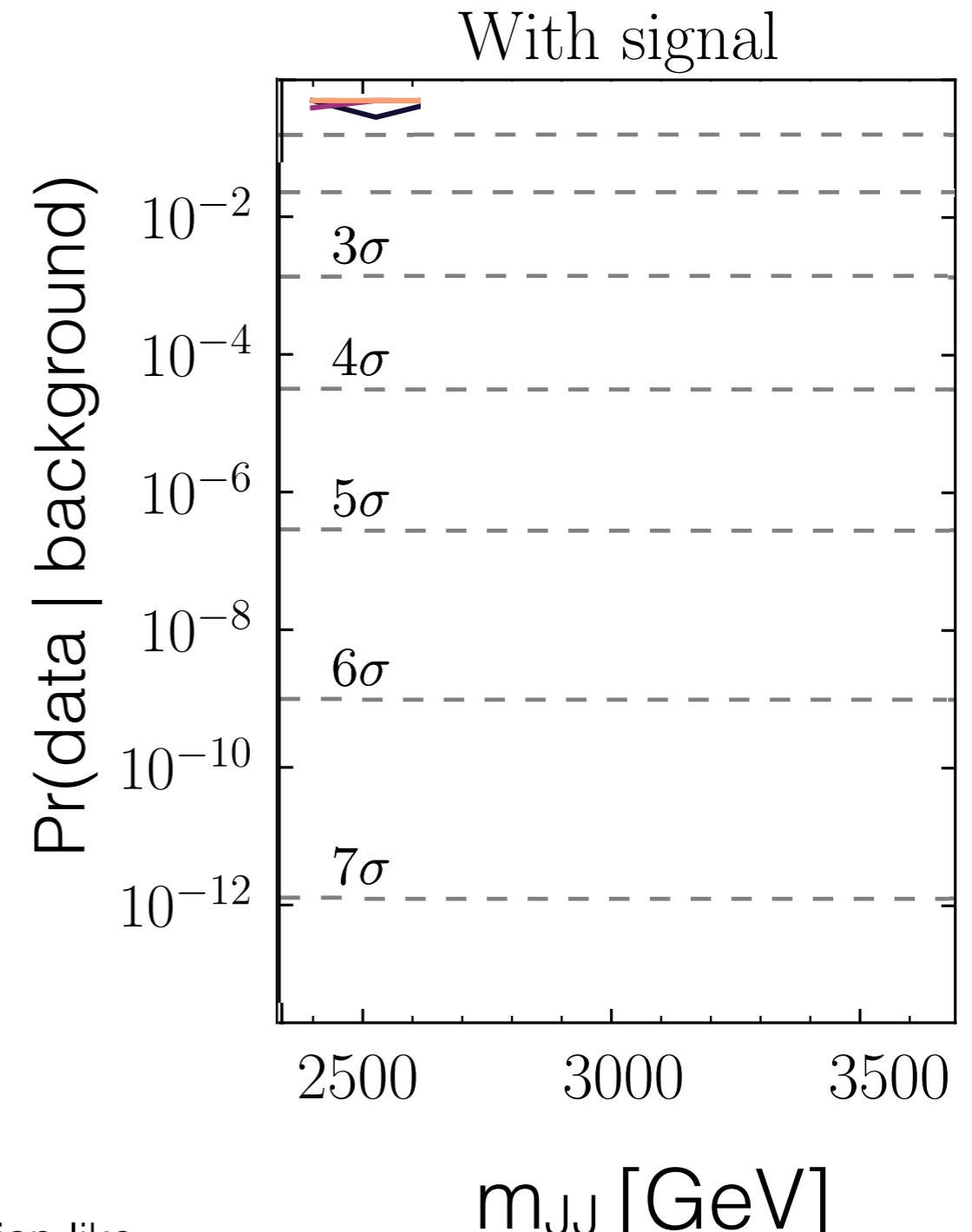
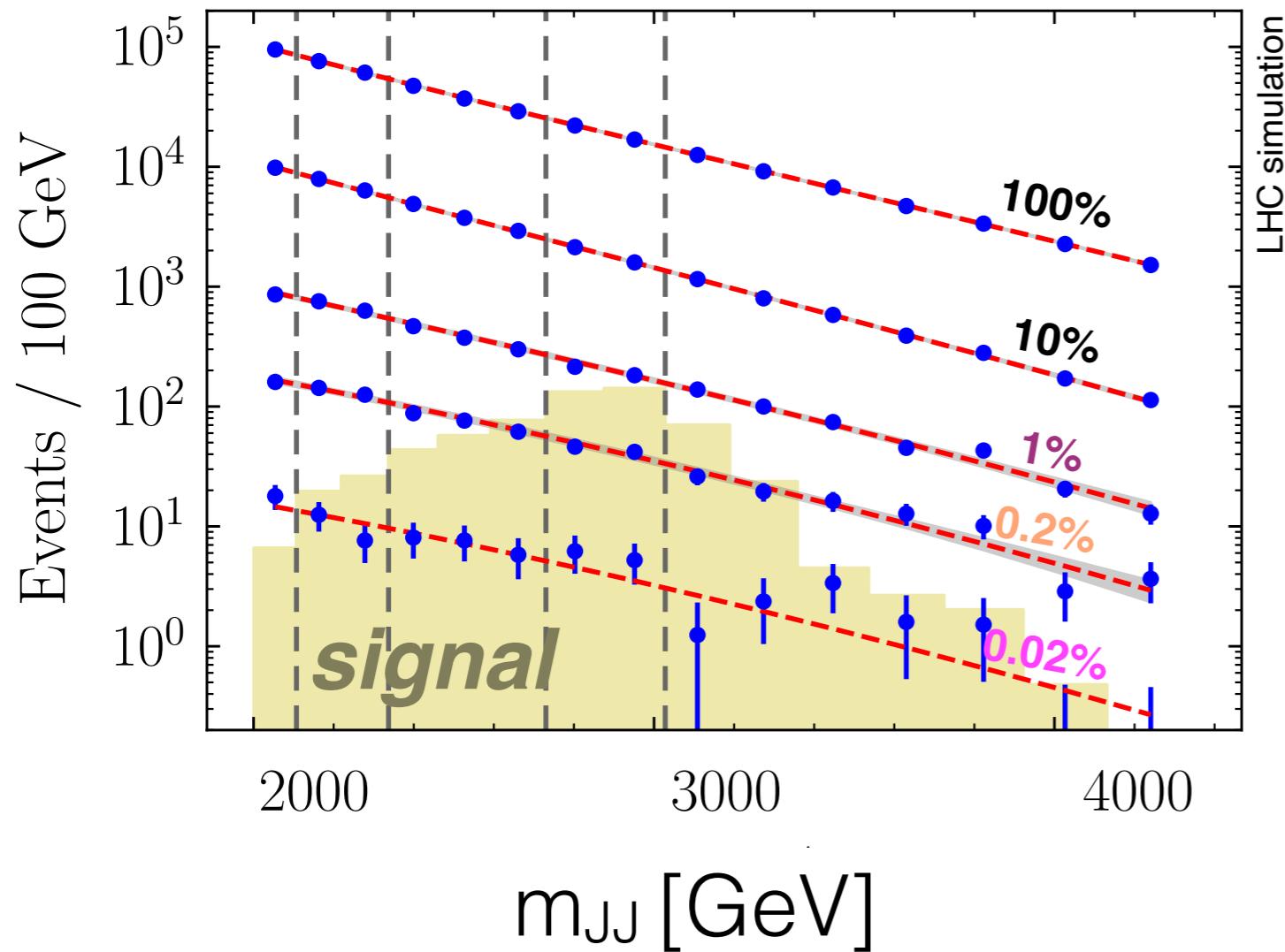
# ...and when there is a signal?



- no cut on NN
- most 10% signal-region-like
- most 1% signal-region-like
- most 0.2% signal-region-like



# ...and when there is a signal?



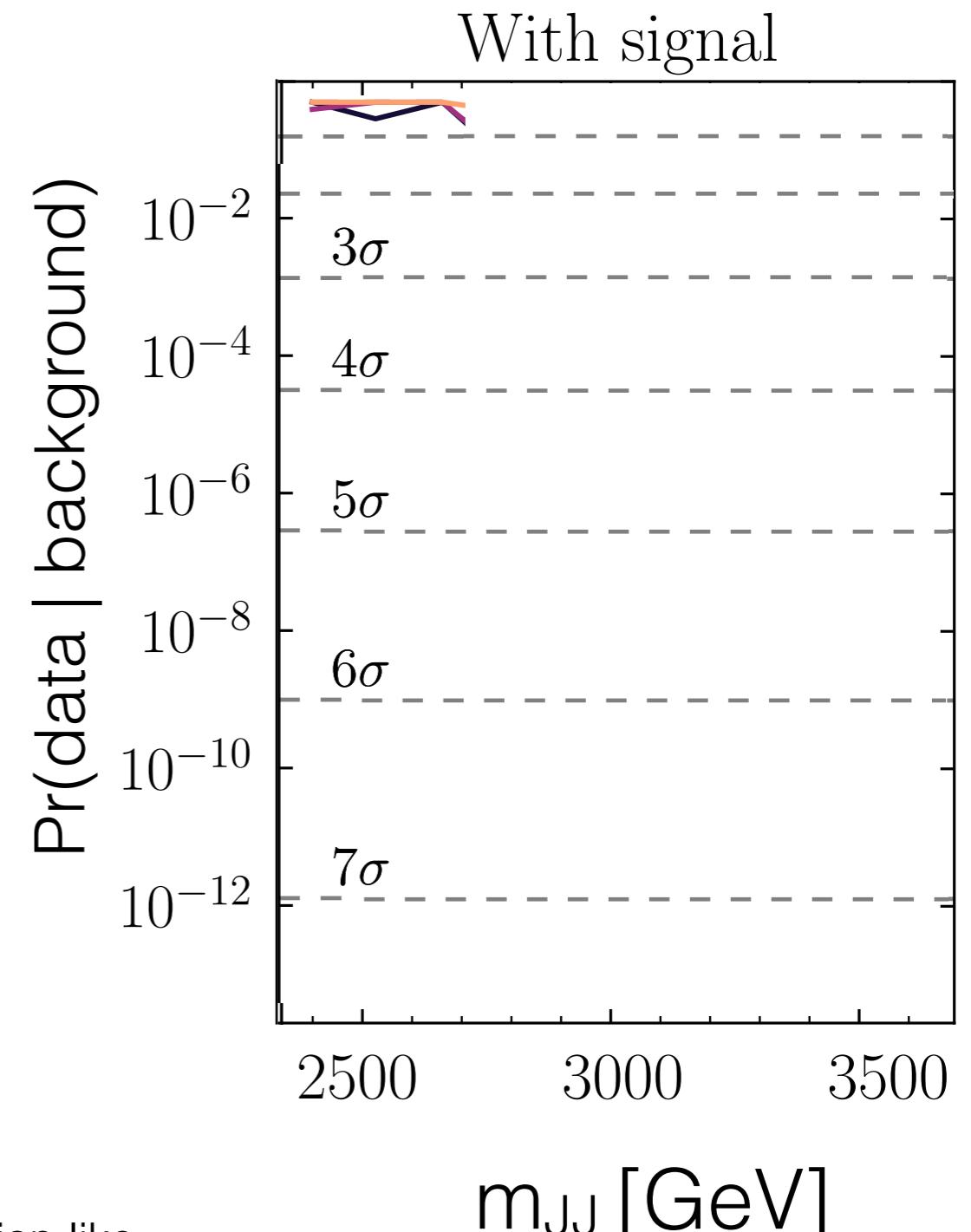
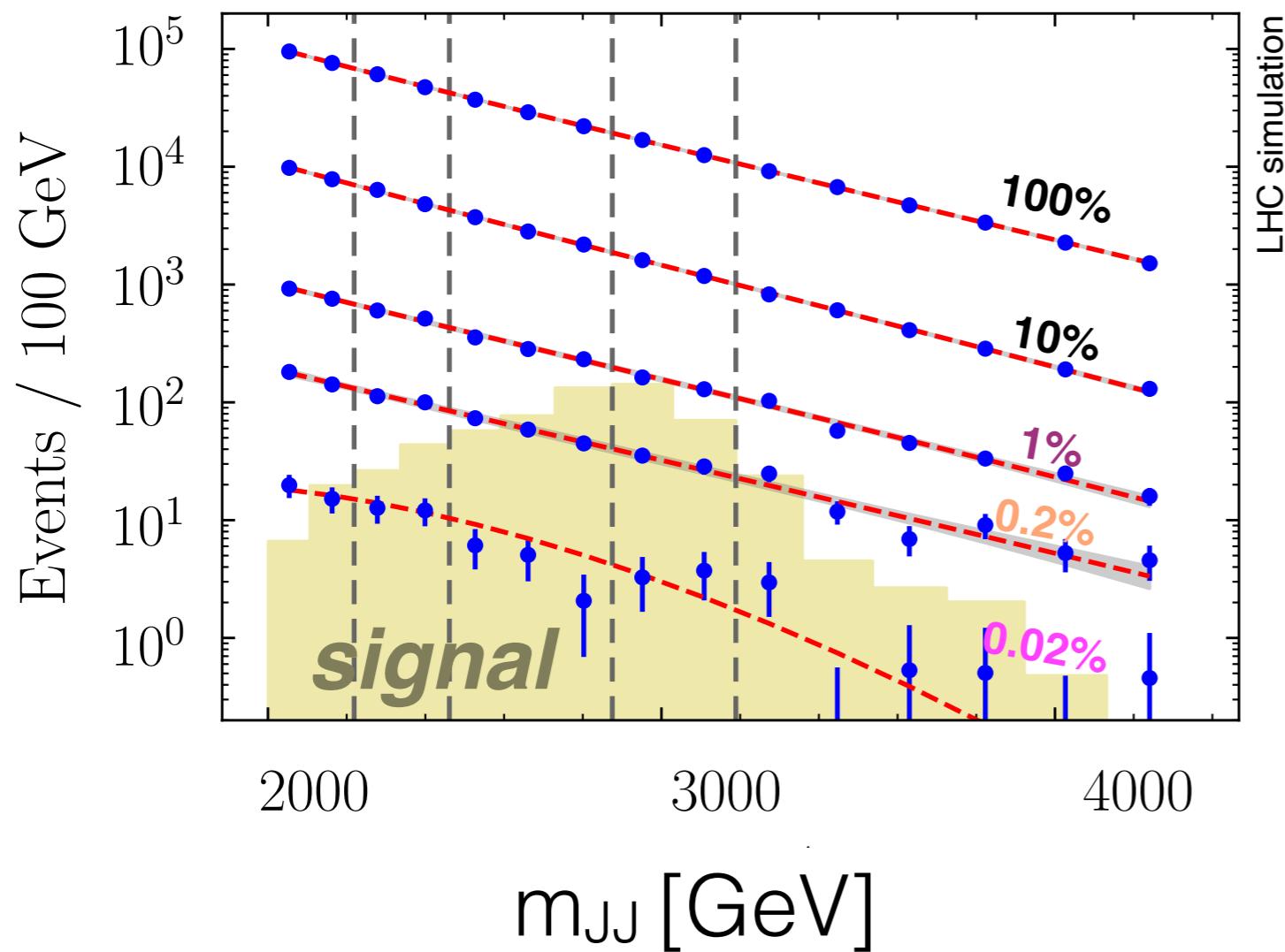
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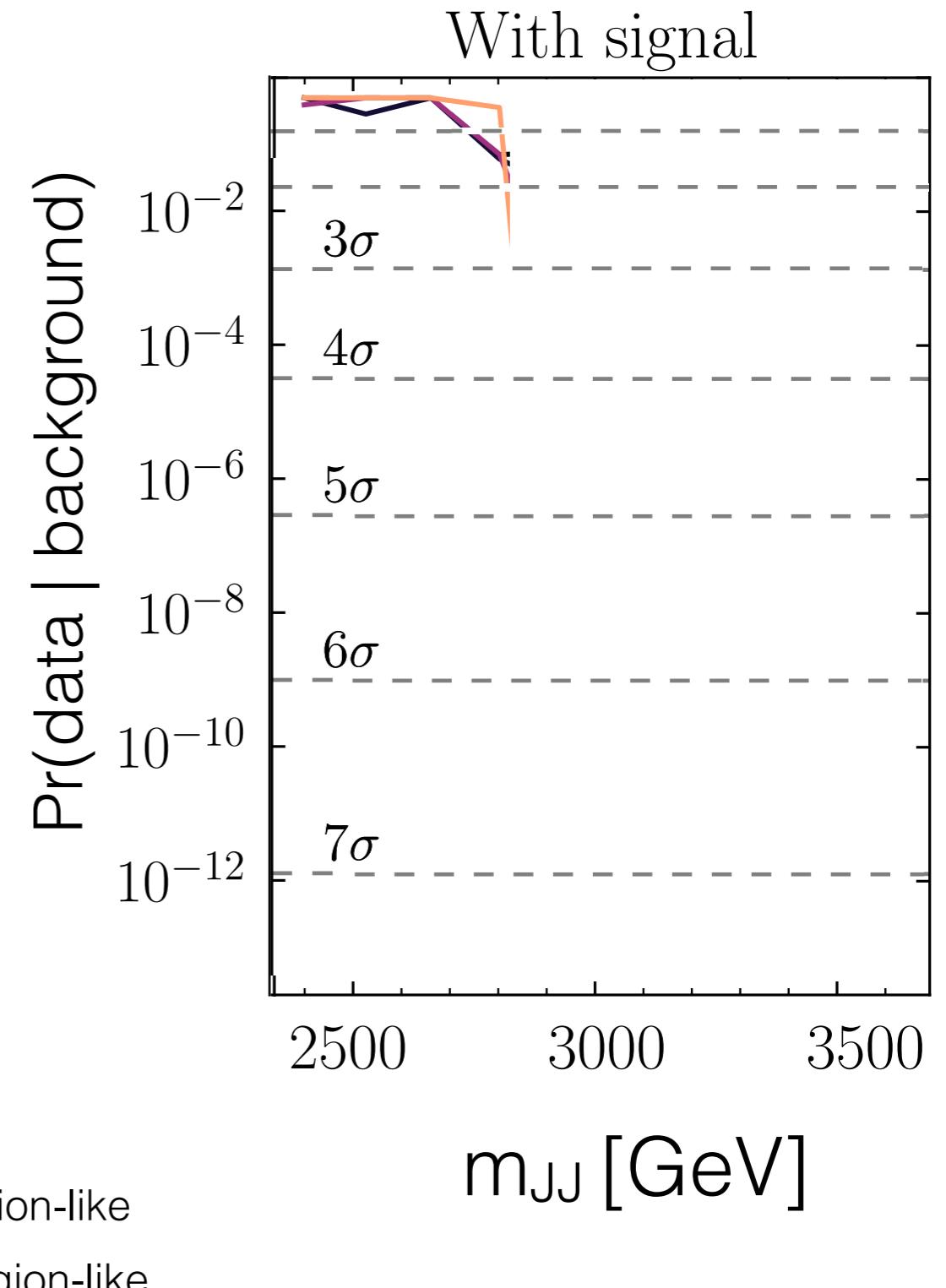
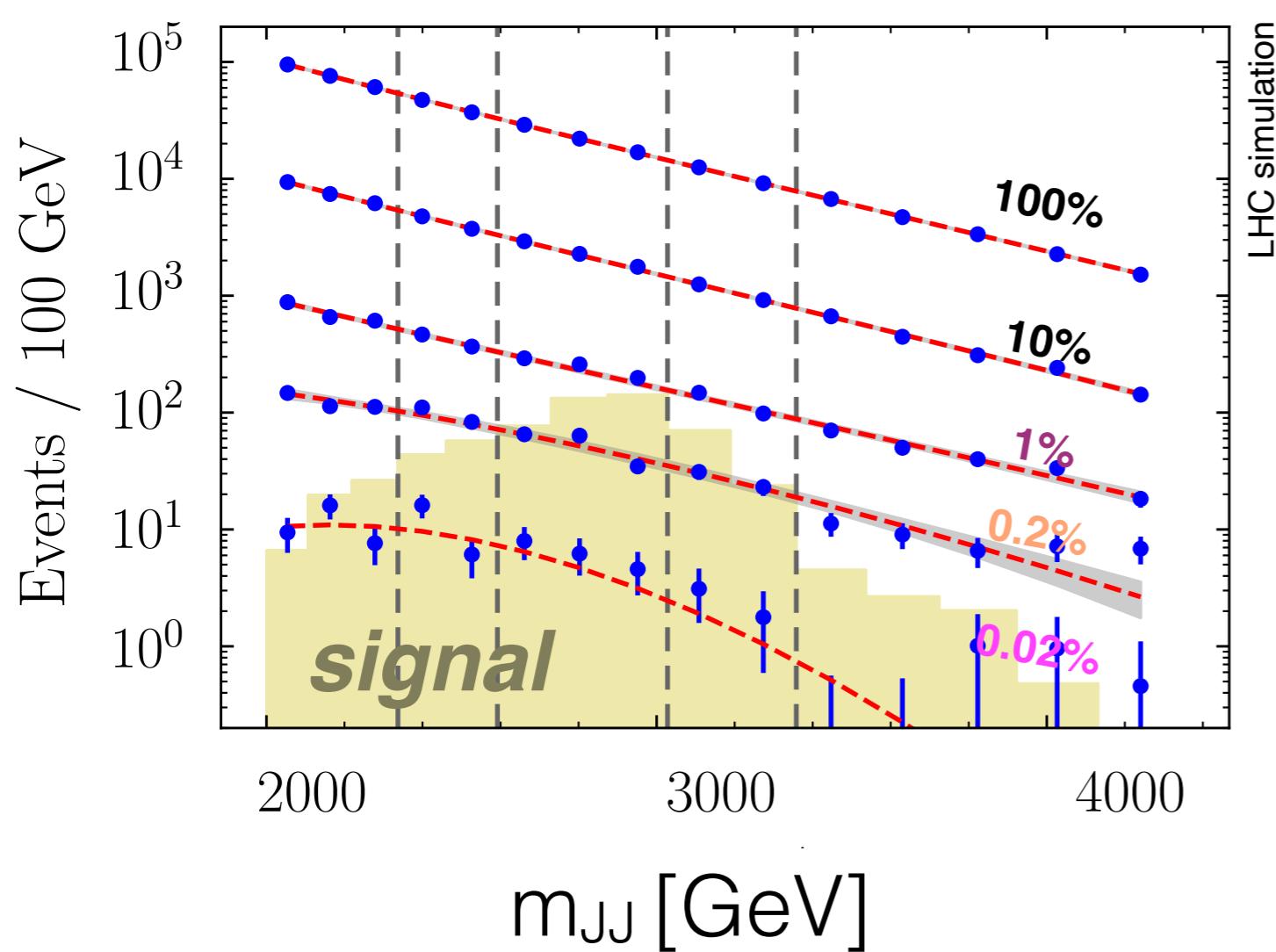
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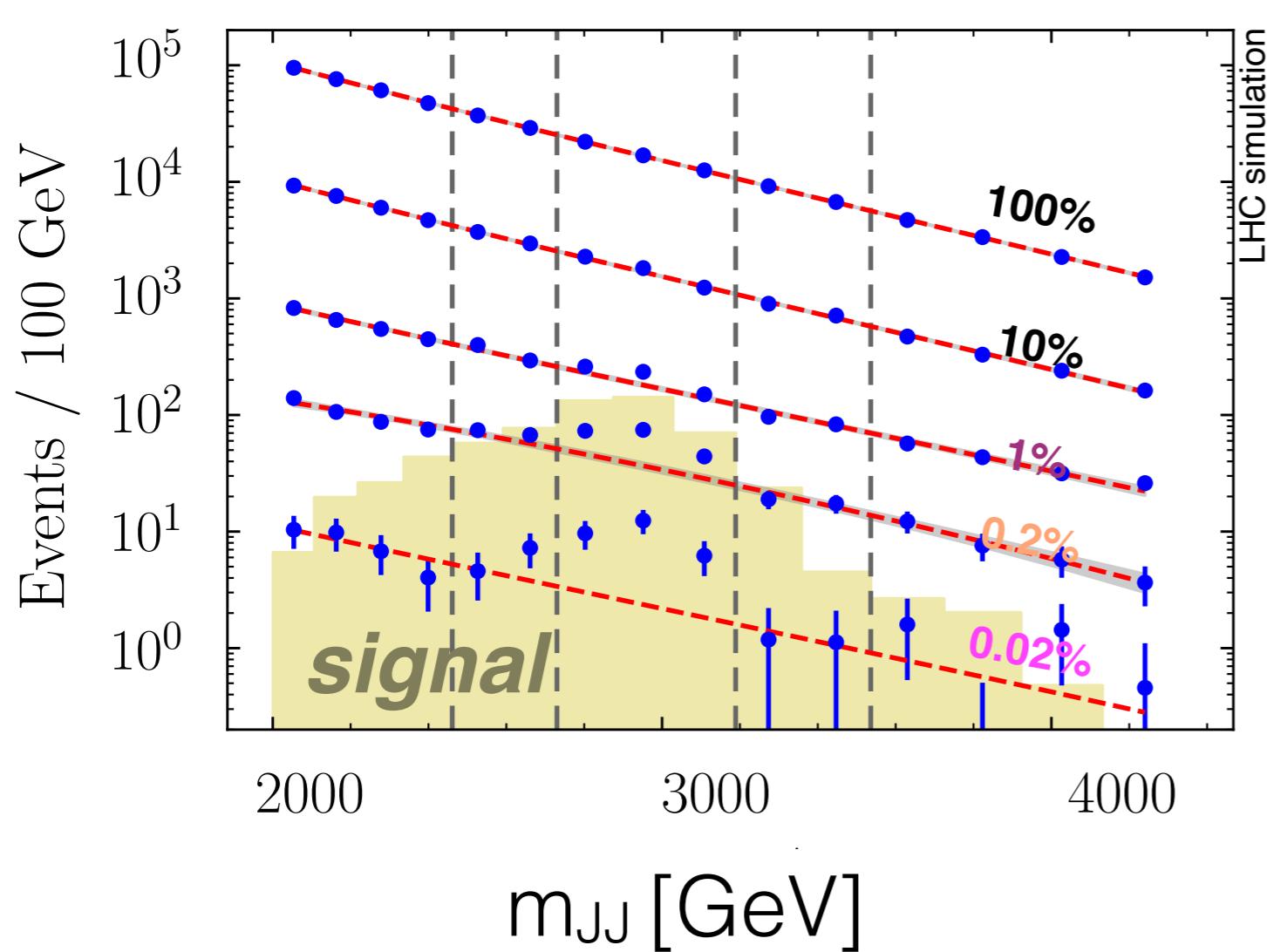
---- no cut on NN

— most 10% signal-region-like

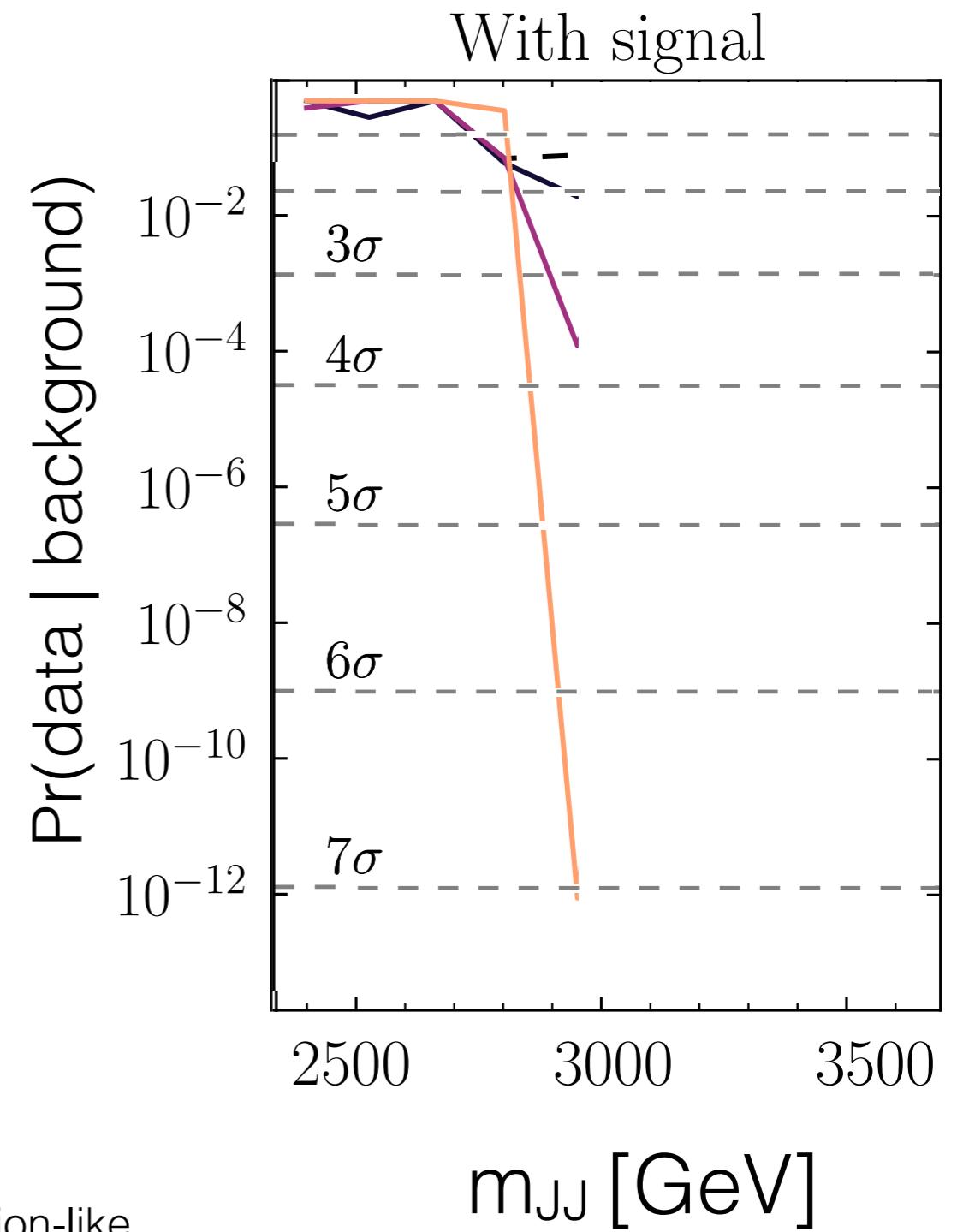
— most 1% signal-region-like

— most 0.2% signal-region-like

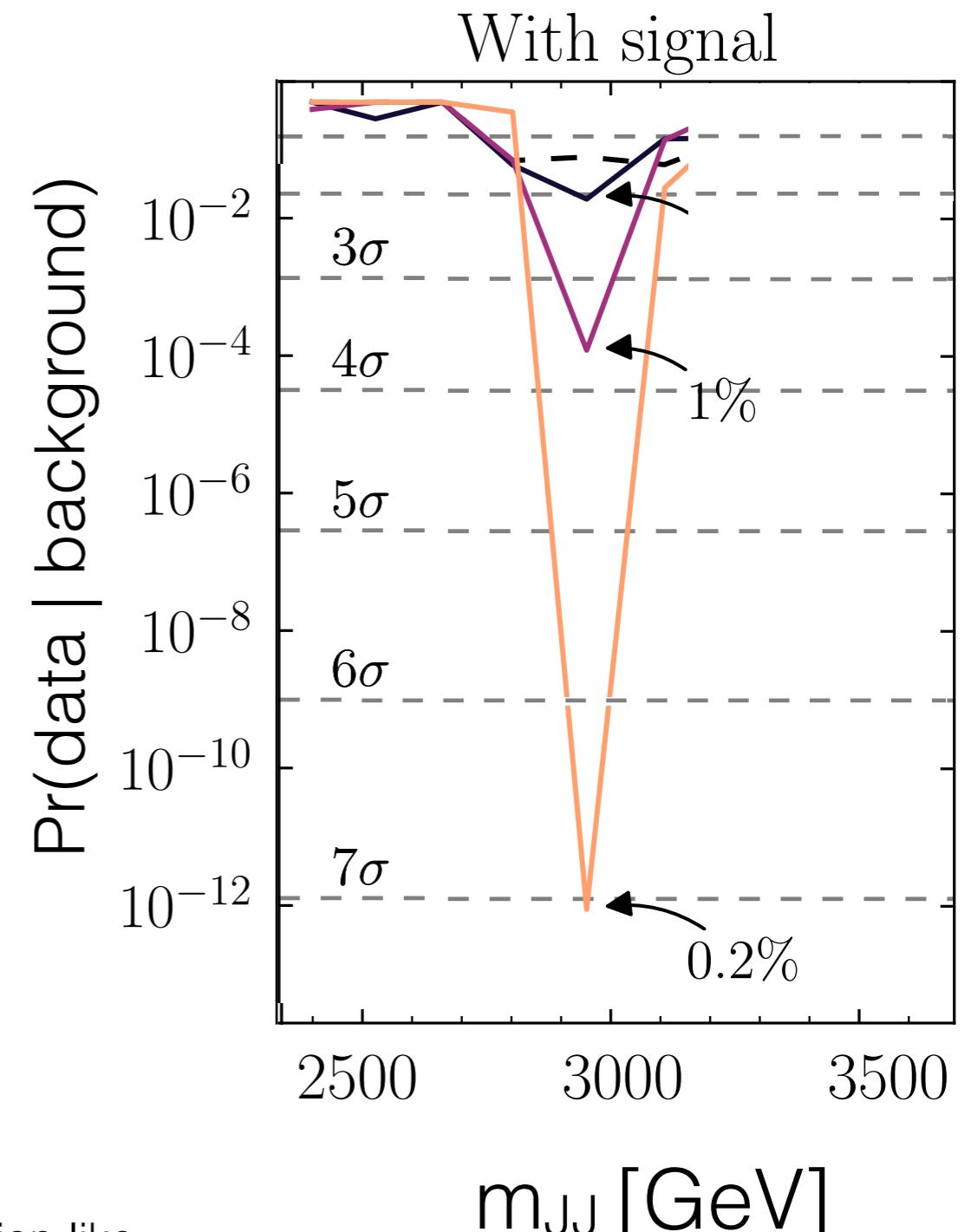
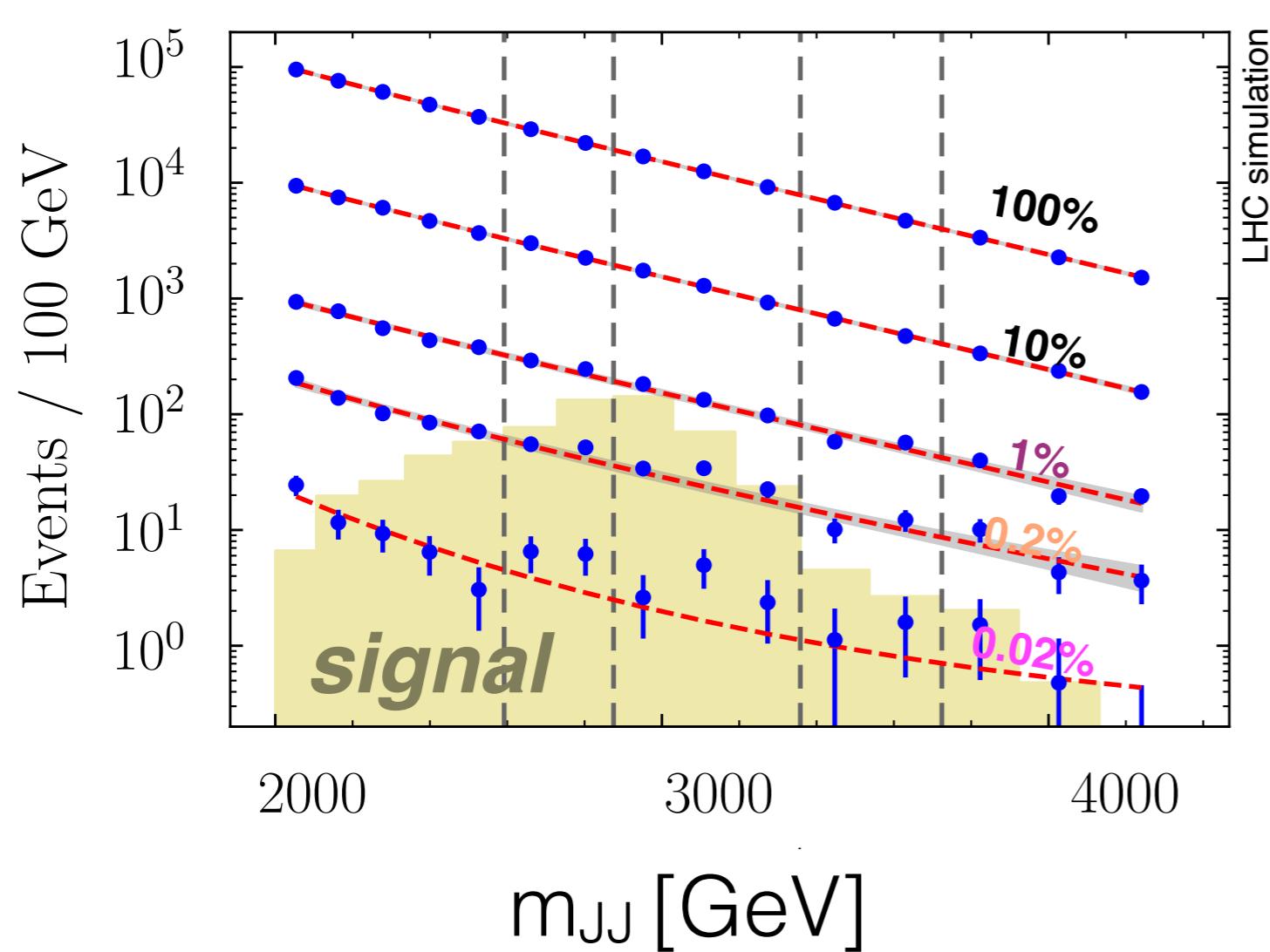
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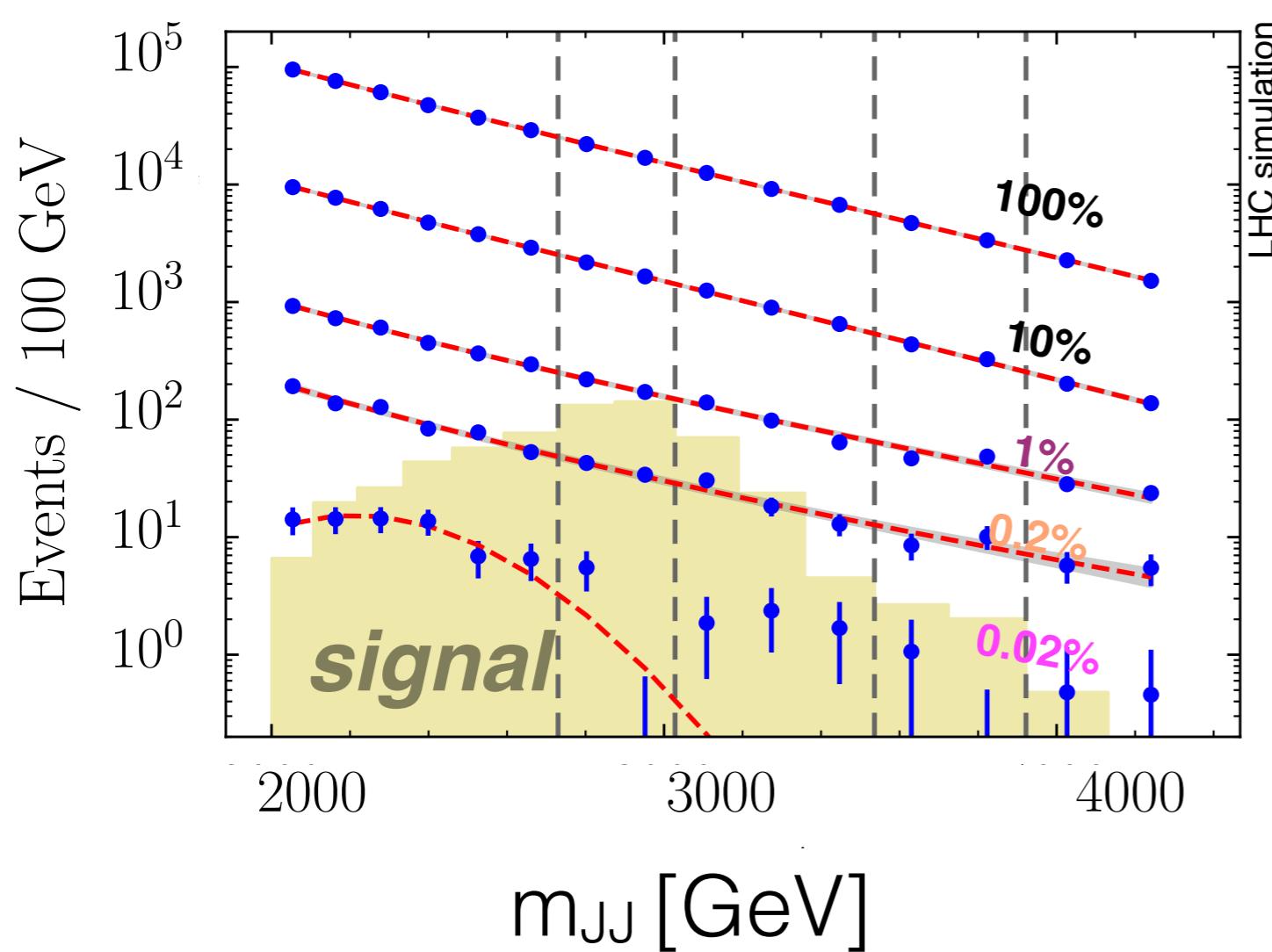
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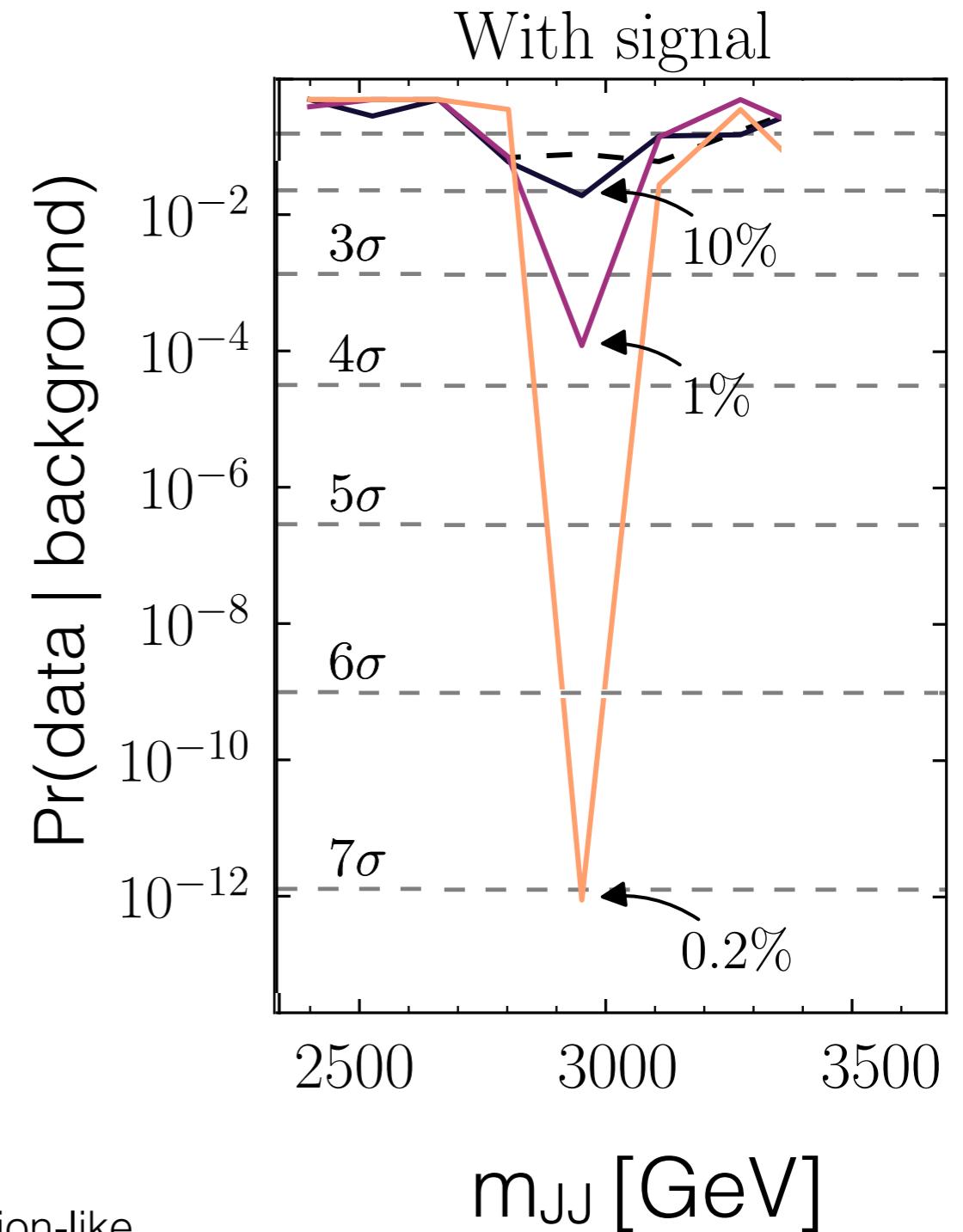


---- no cut on NN

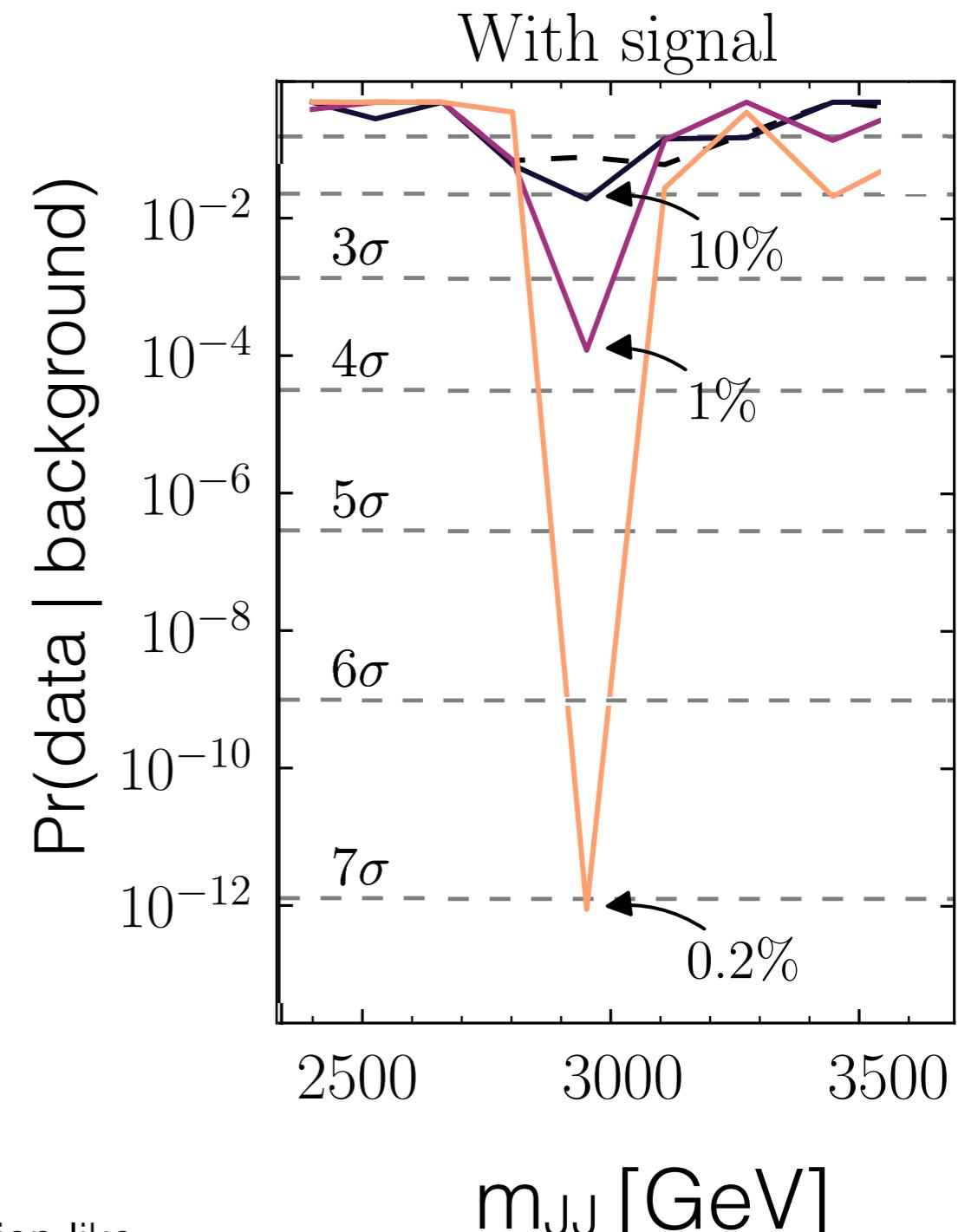
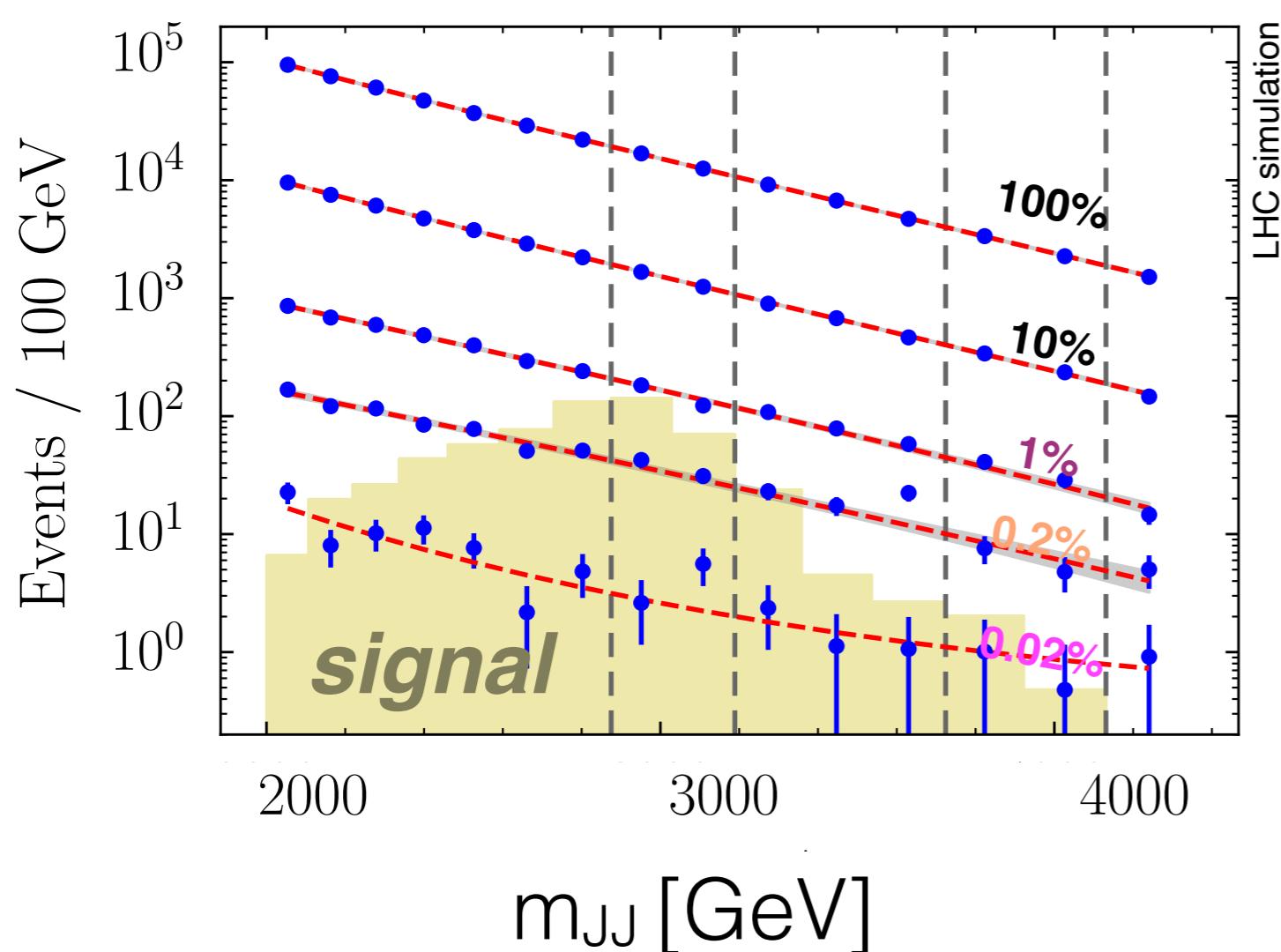
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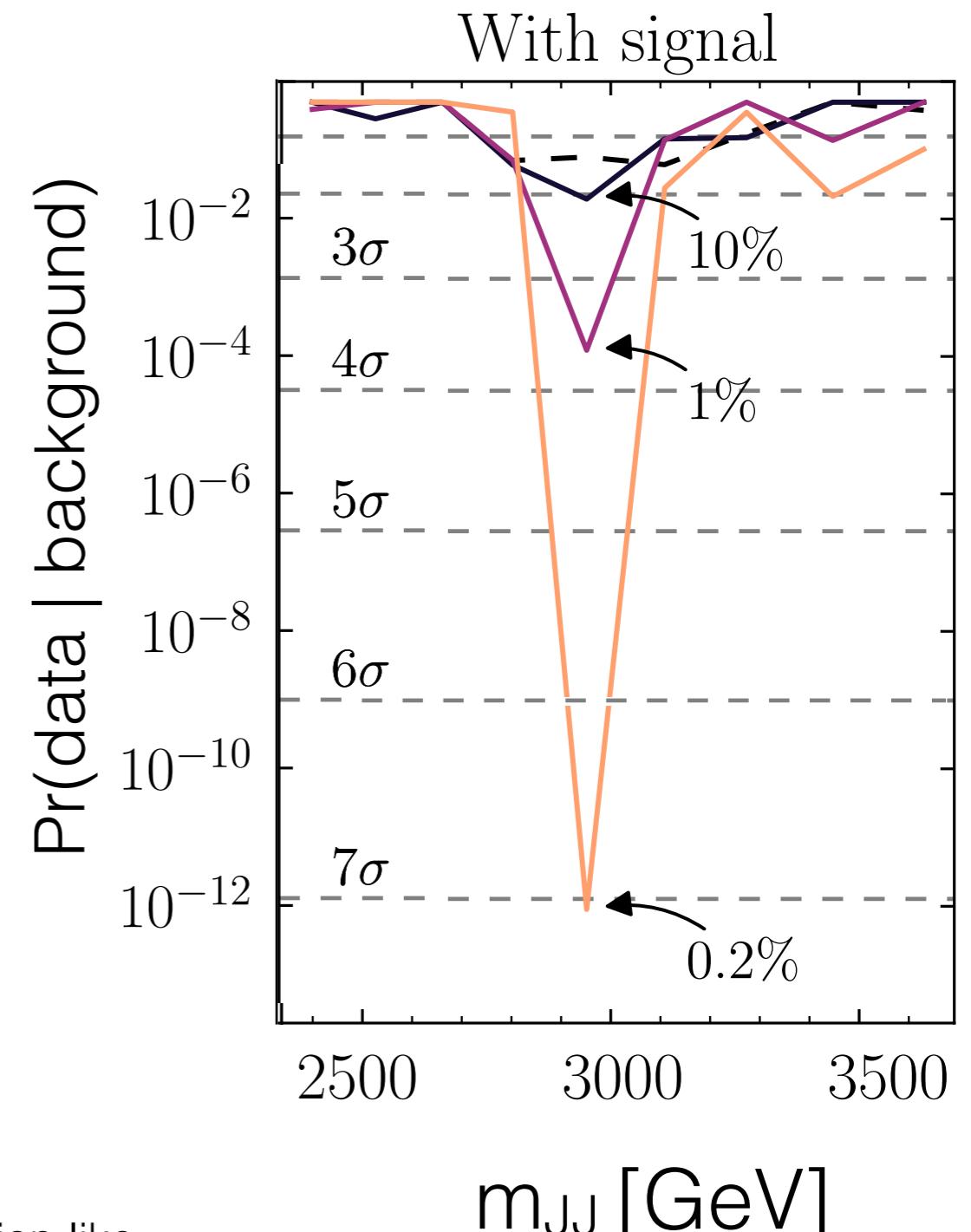
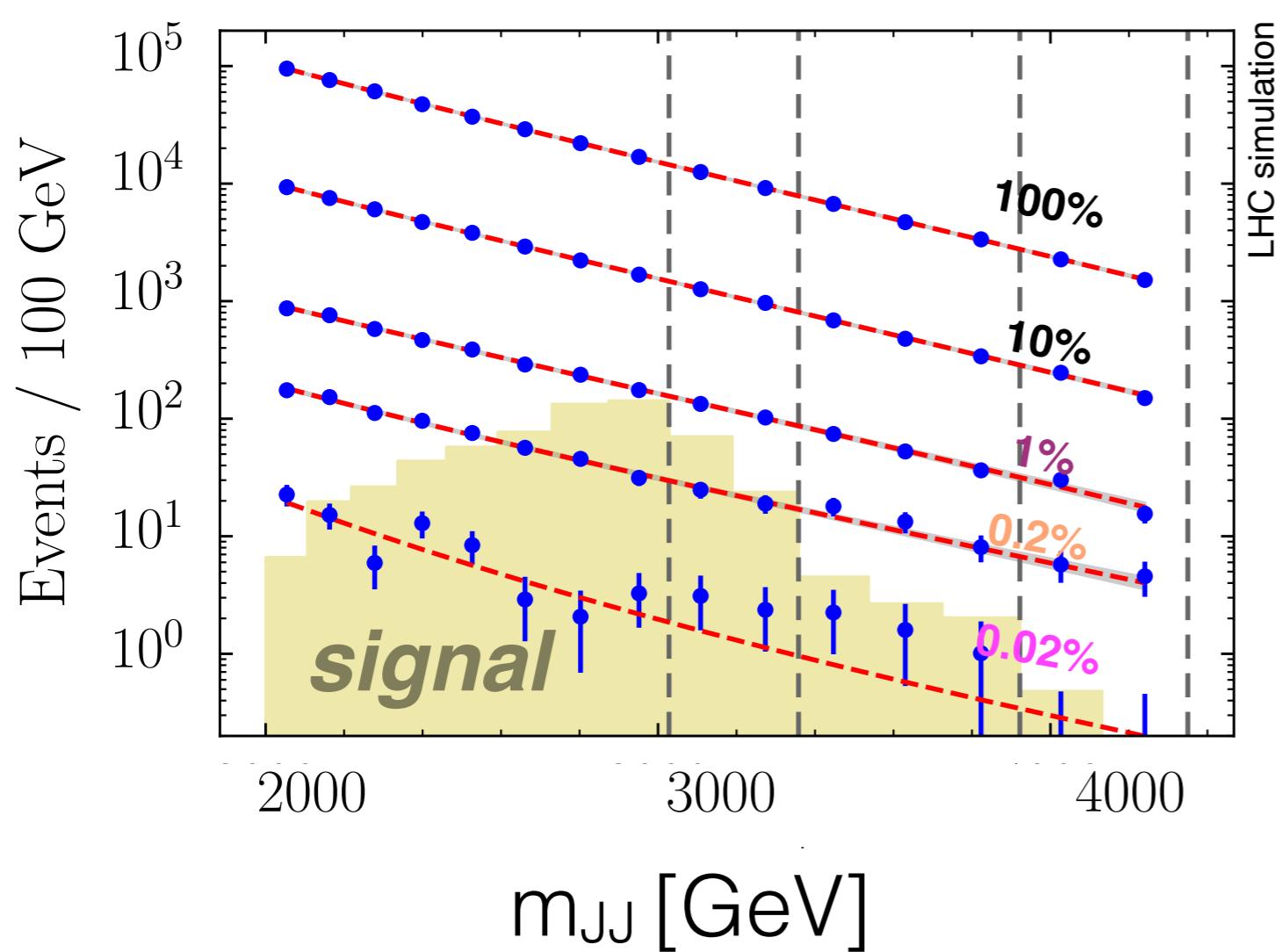
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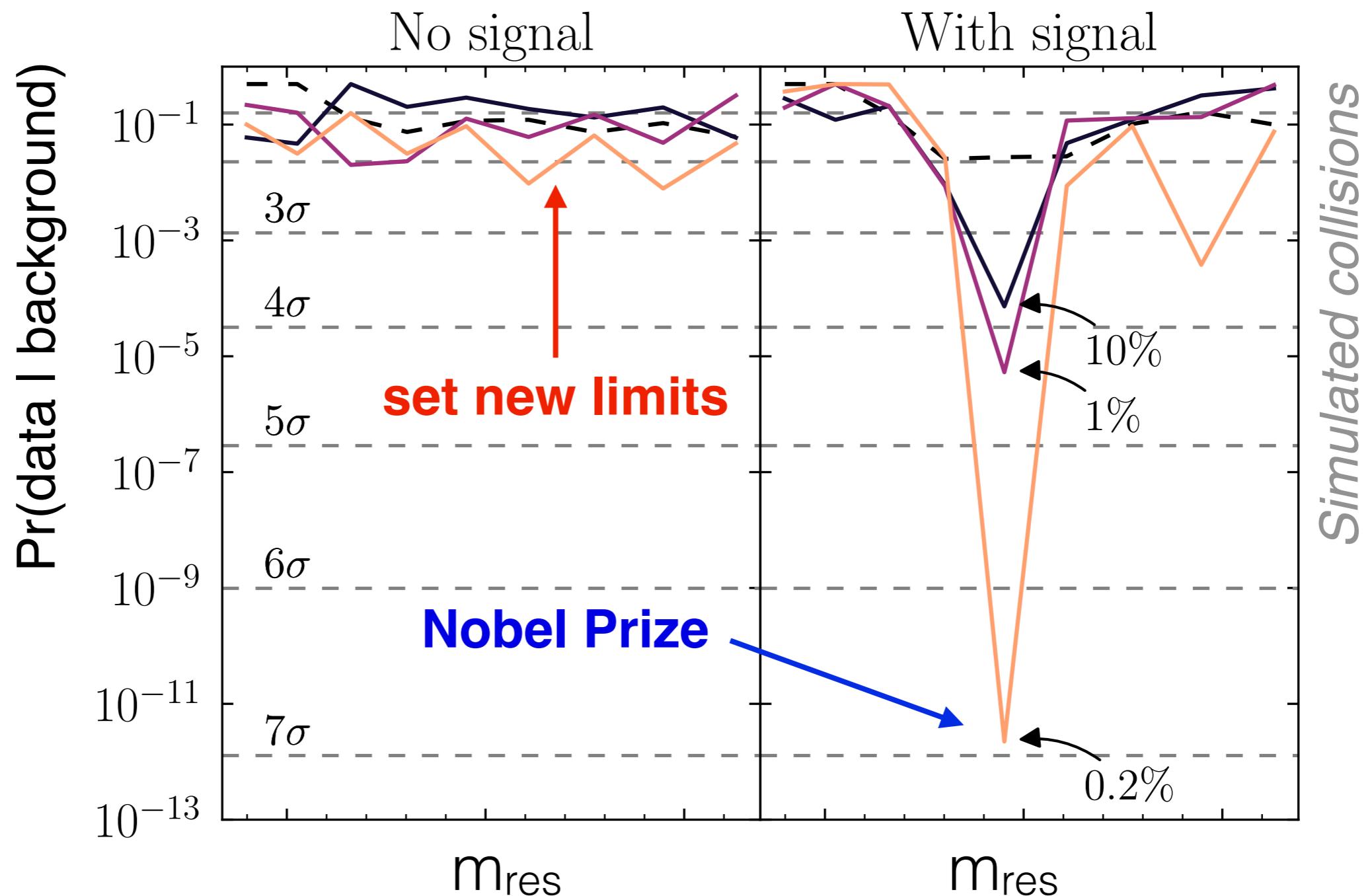
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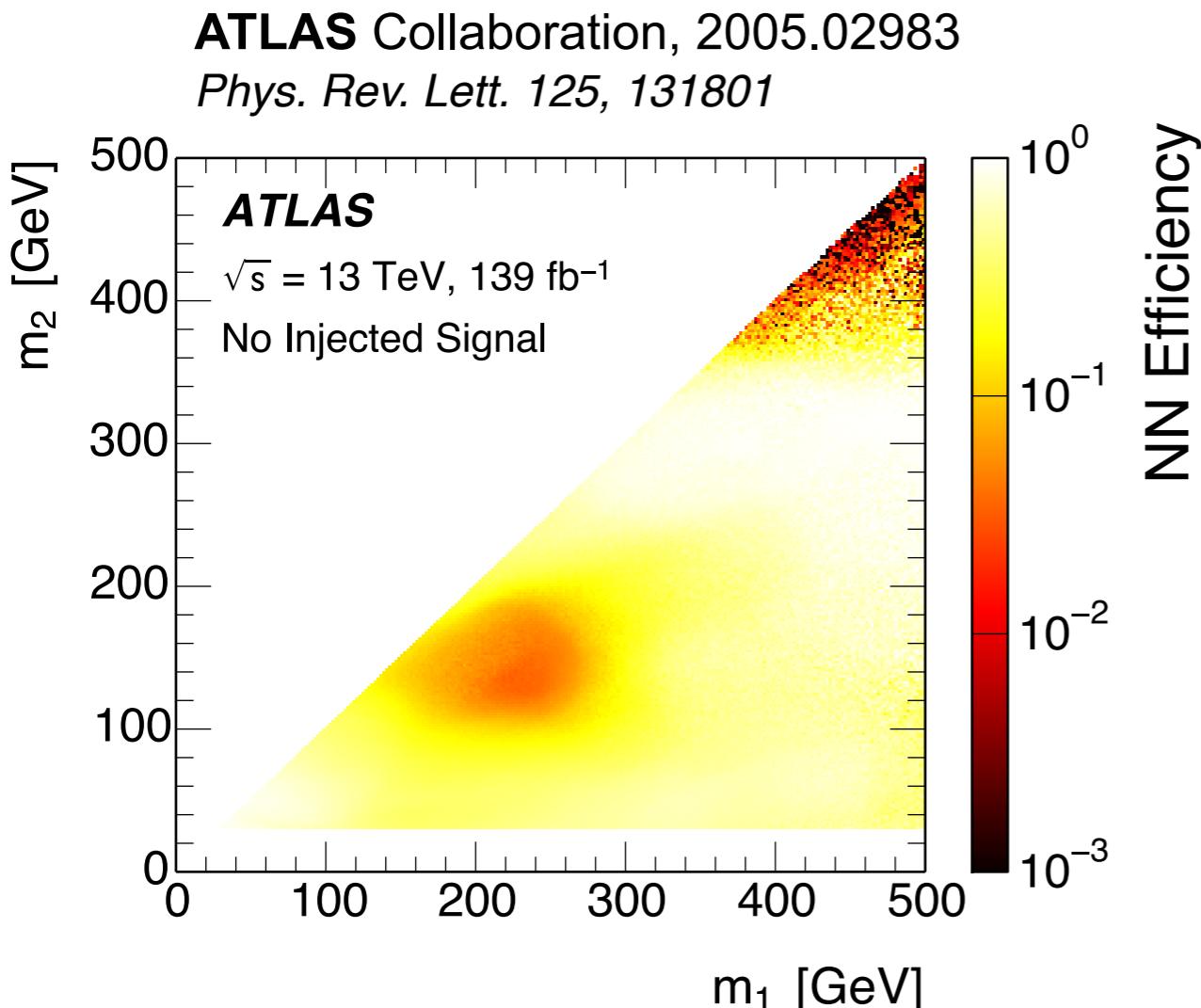
# Anomaly detection: Overview

J. Collins, K. Howe, BPN,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 121 (2018)  
241803, 1805.02664



# Collision data results **New**

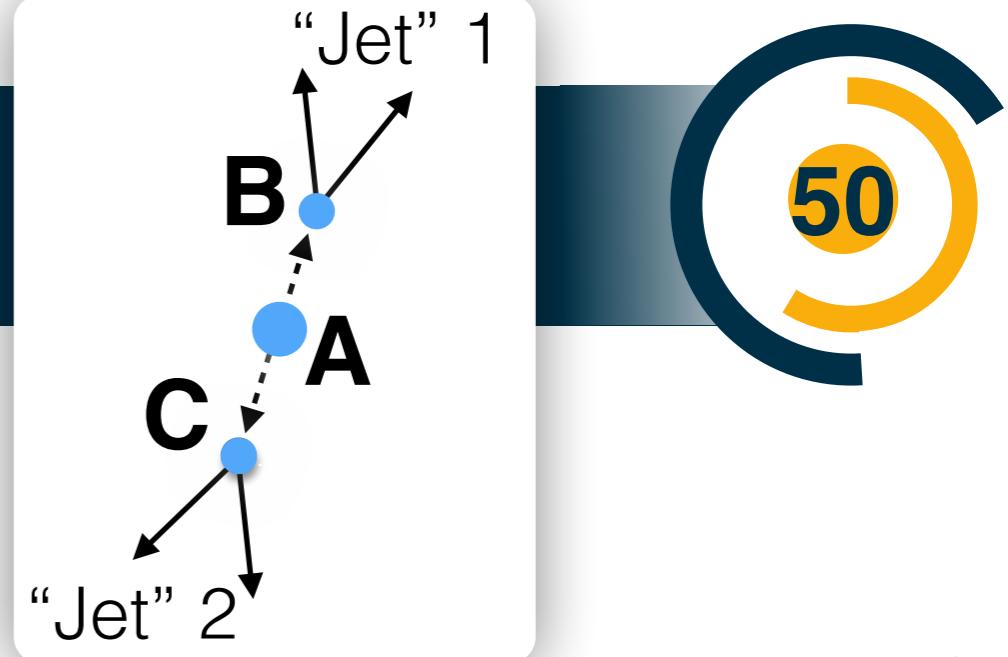
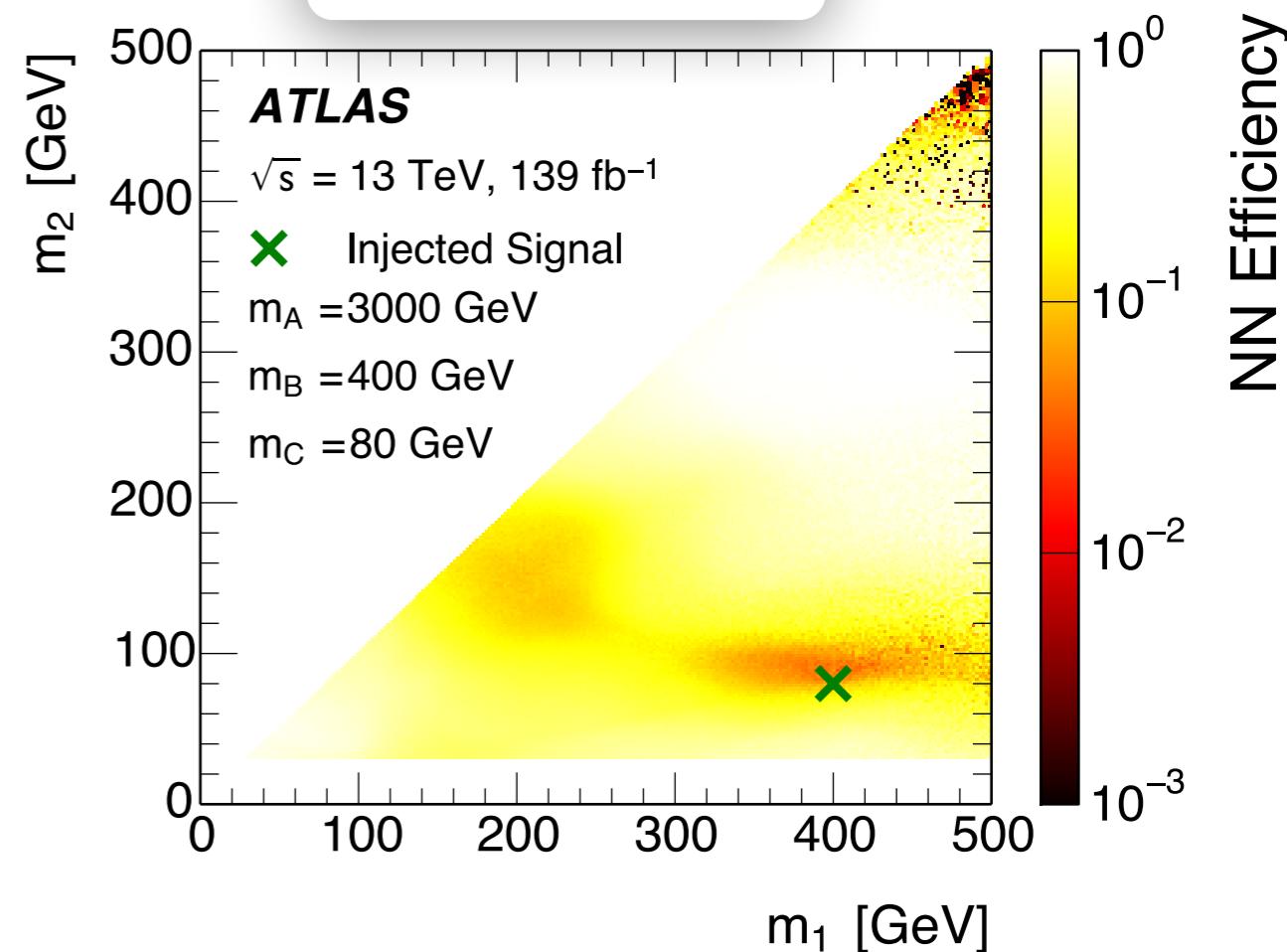
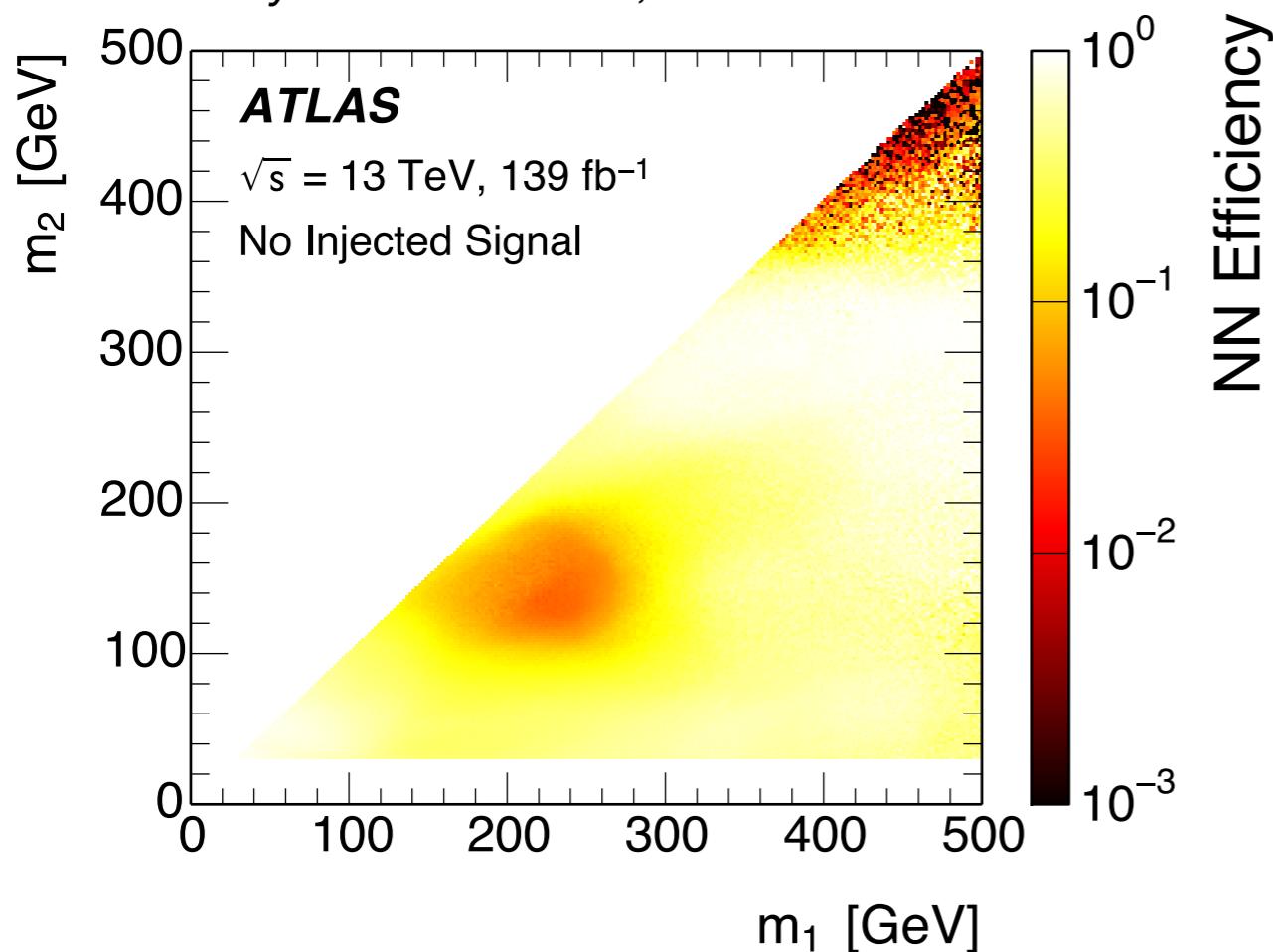
49



First round, keep it simple: feature space is 2D (jet masses)

# Collision data results **New**

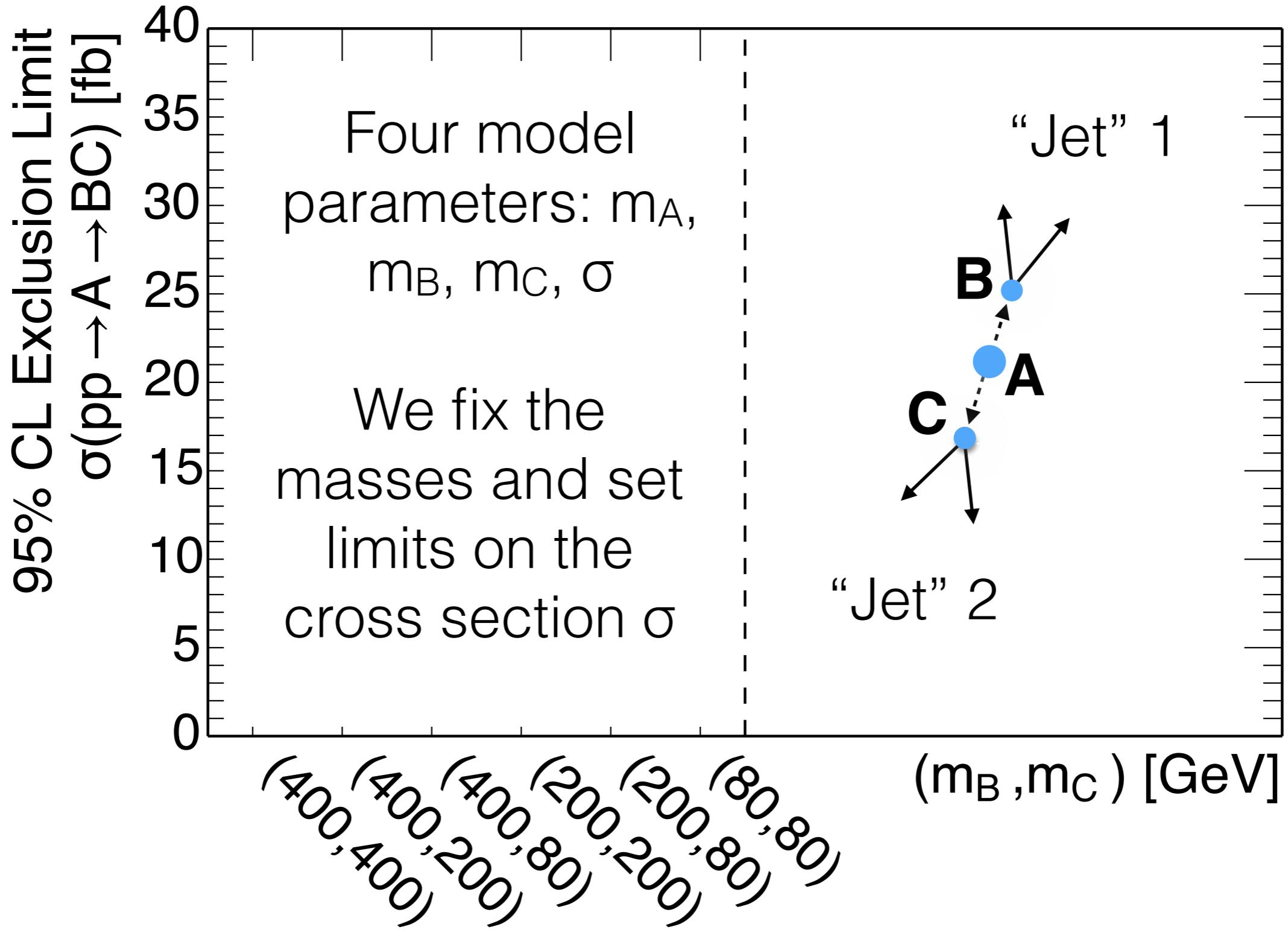
ATLAS Collaboration, 2005.02983  
*Phys. Rev. Lett.* 125, 131801



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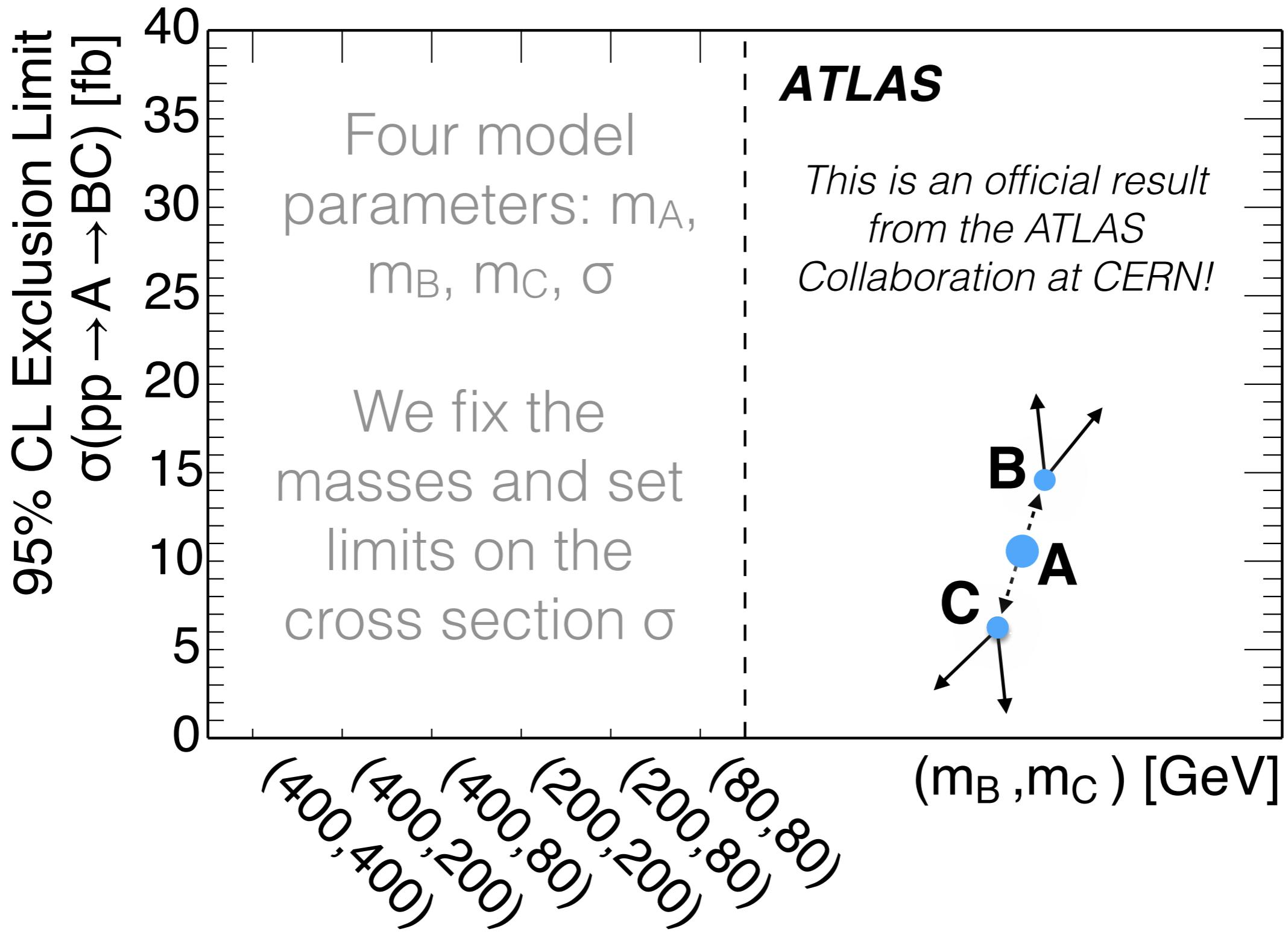
# Collision data results **New**

→ *Better*



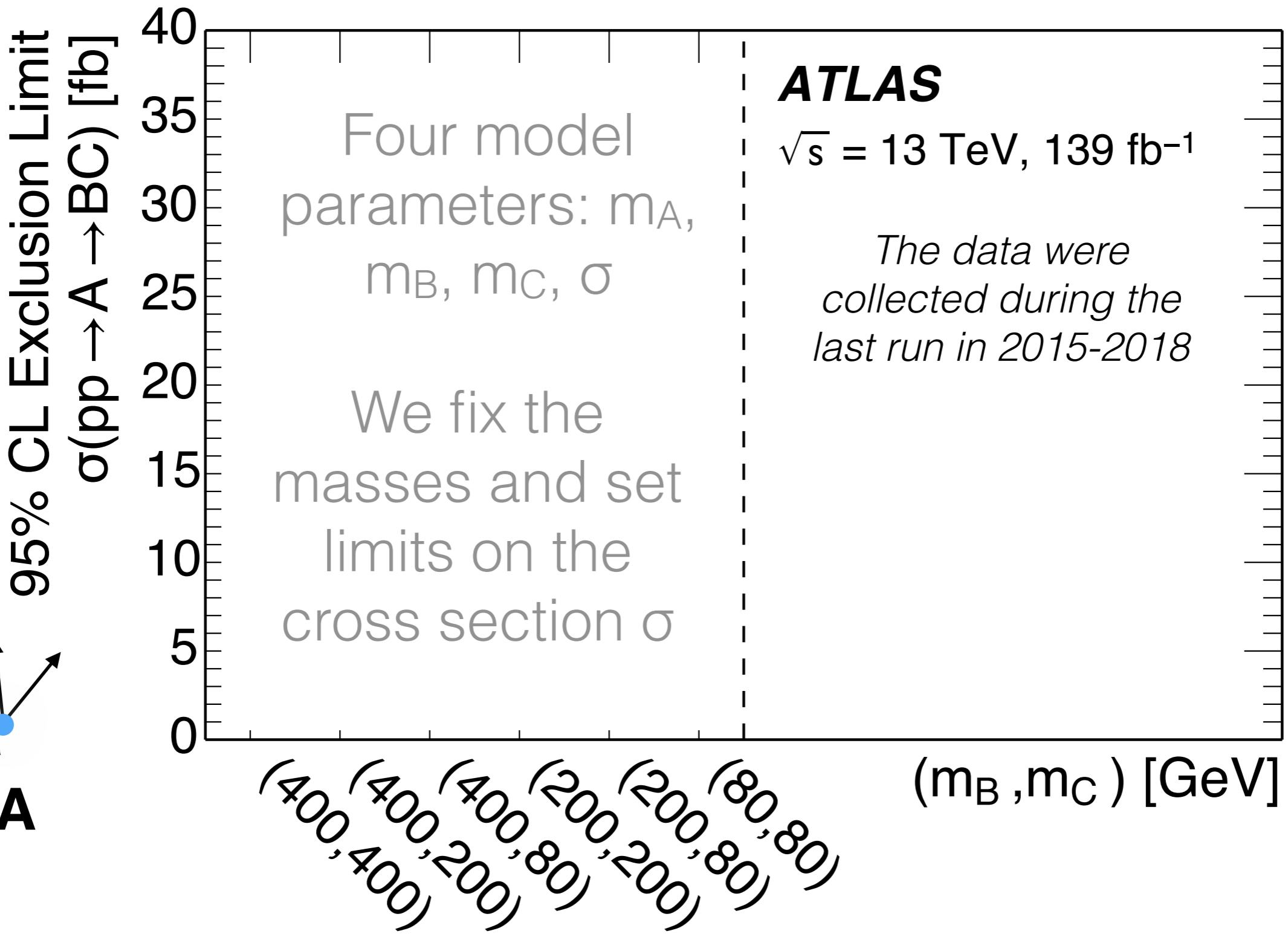
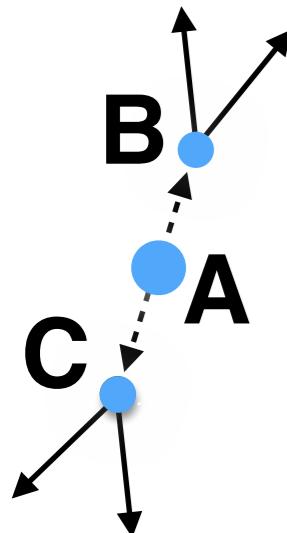
# Collision data results **New**

→ *Better*



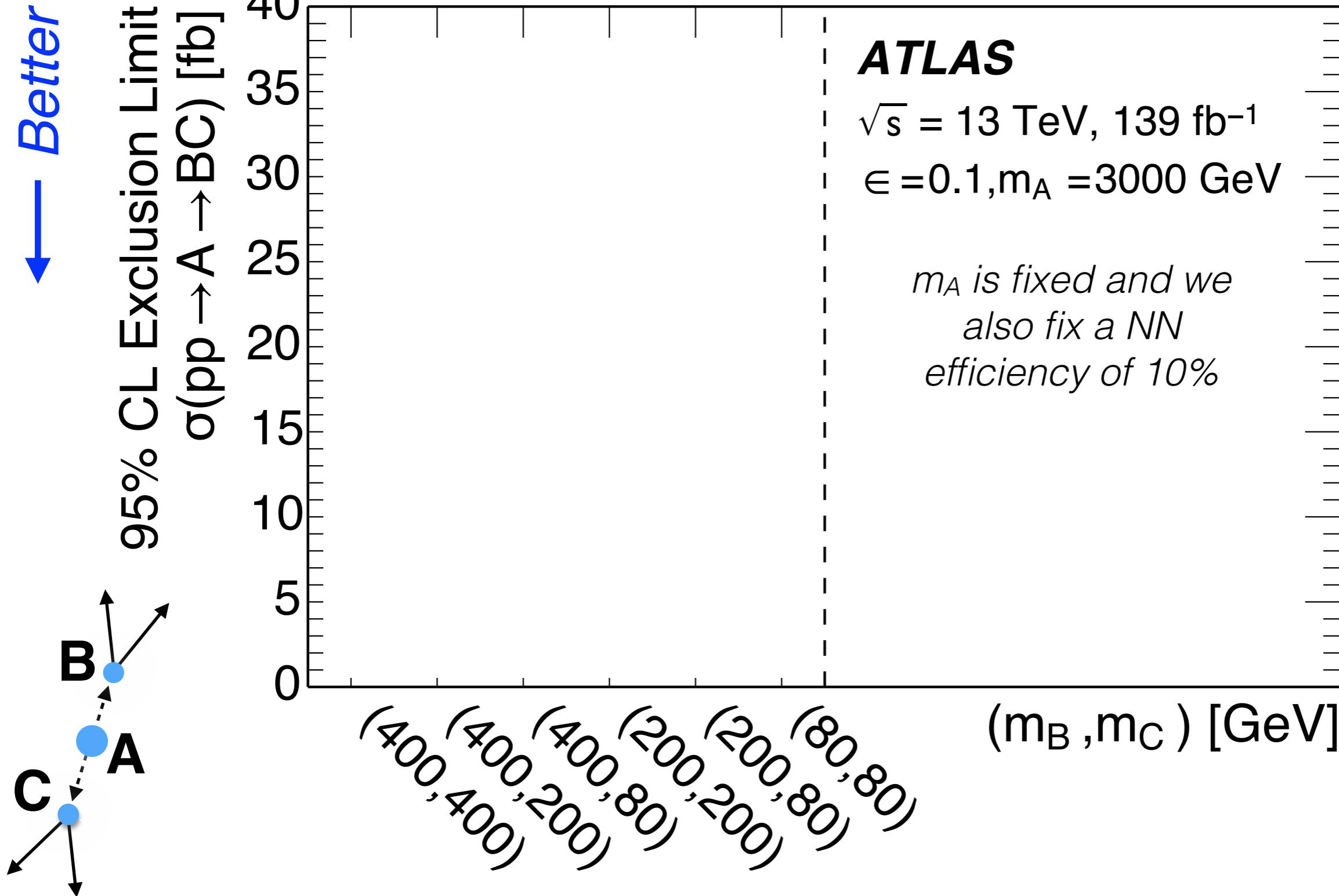
# Collision data results **New**

→ *Better*



# Collision data results **New**

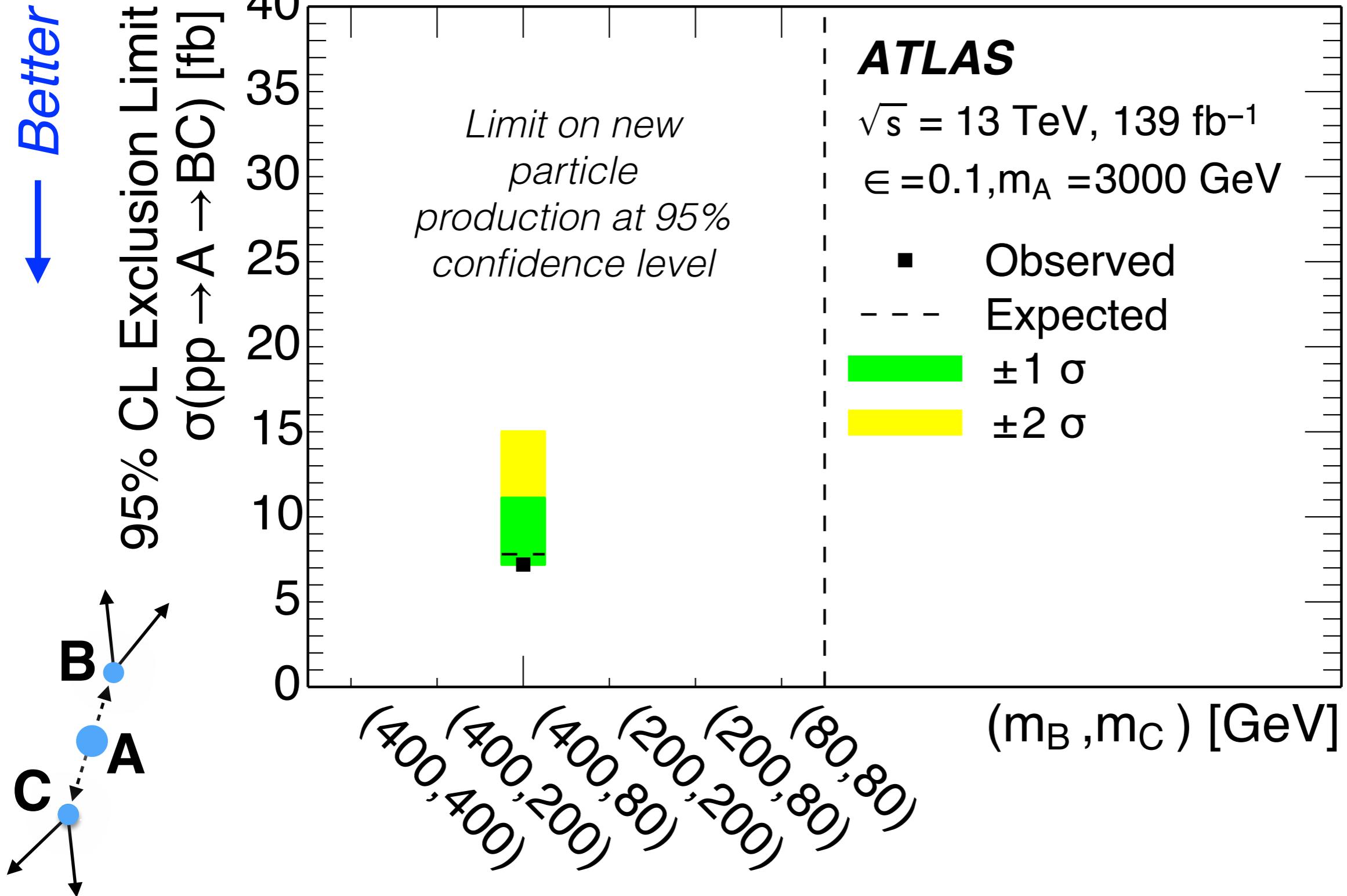
54



ATLAS Collaboration, 2005.02983  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 131801

# Collision data results **New**

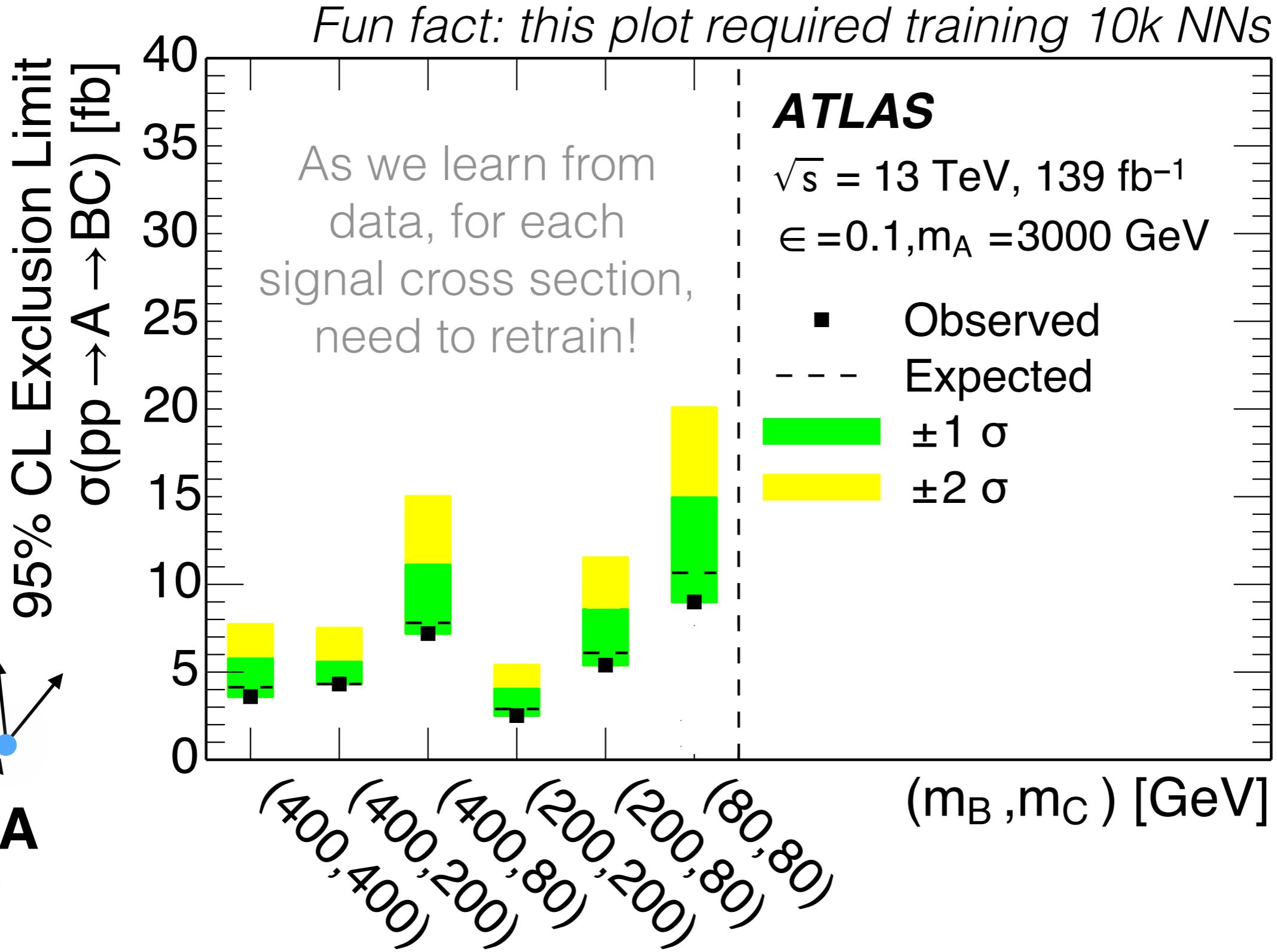
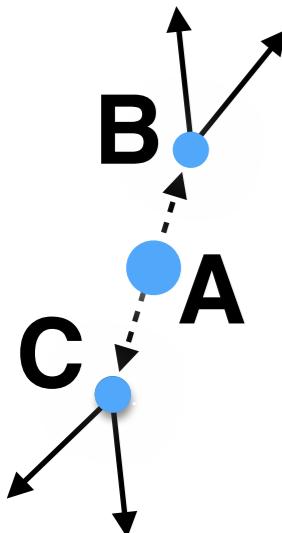
55



ATLAS Collaboration, 2005.02983  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 131801

# Collision data results **New**

→ *Better*

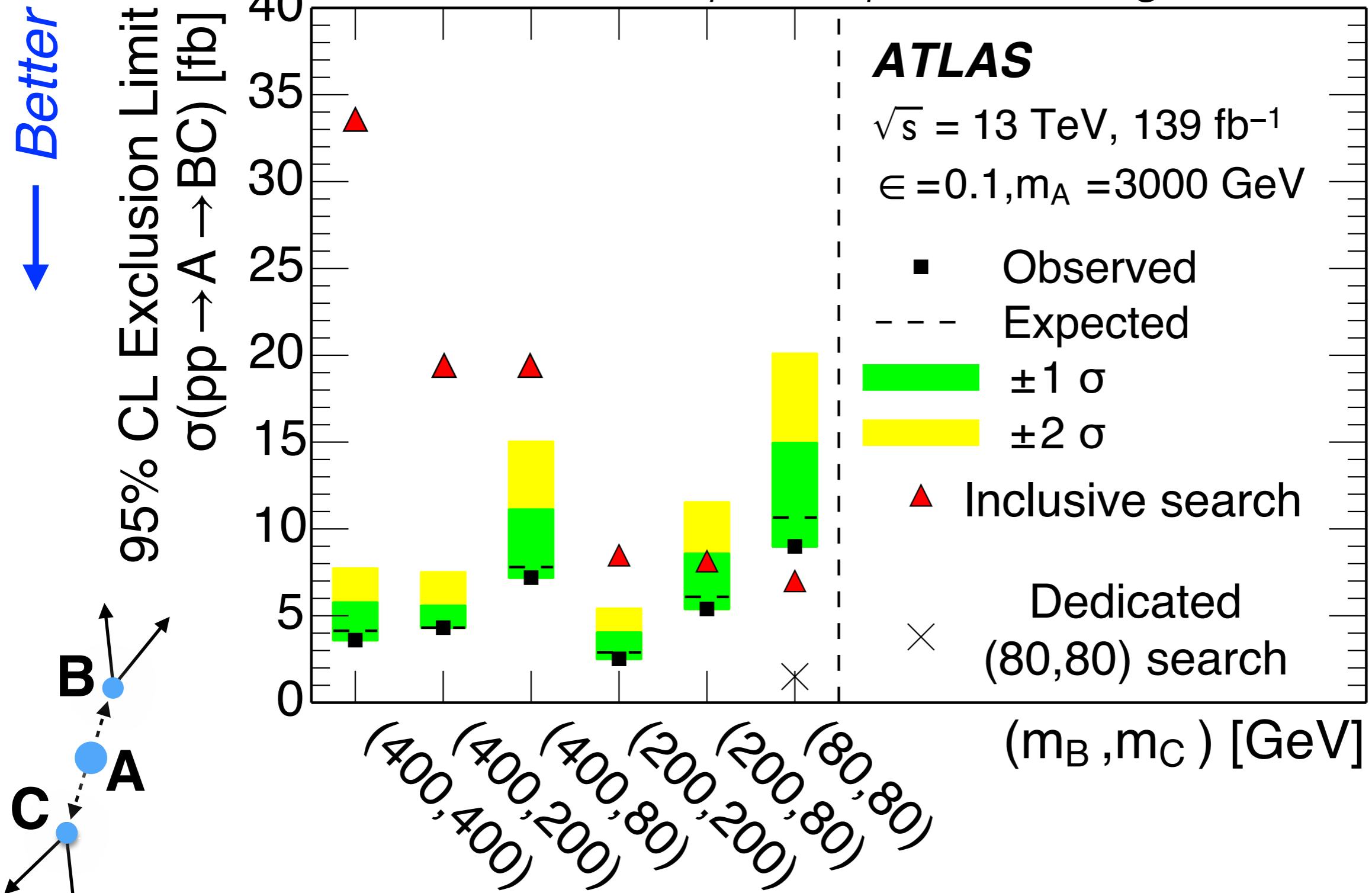
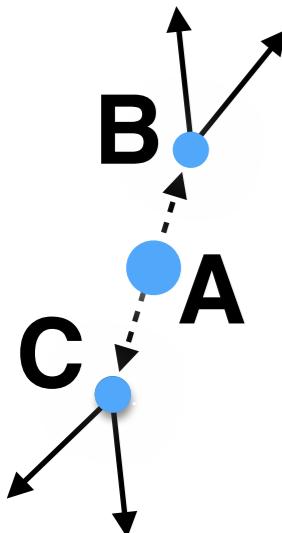


ATLAS Collaboration, 2005.02983  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 131801

# Collision data results **New**

57

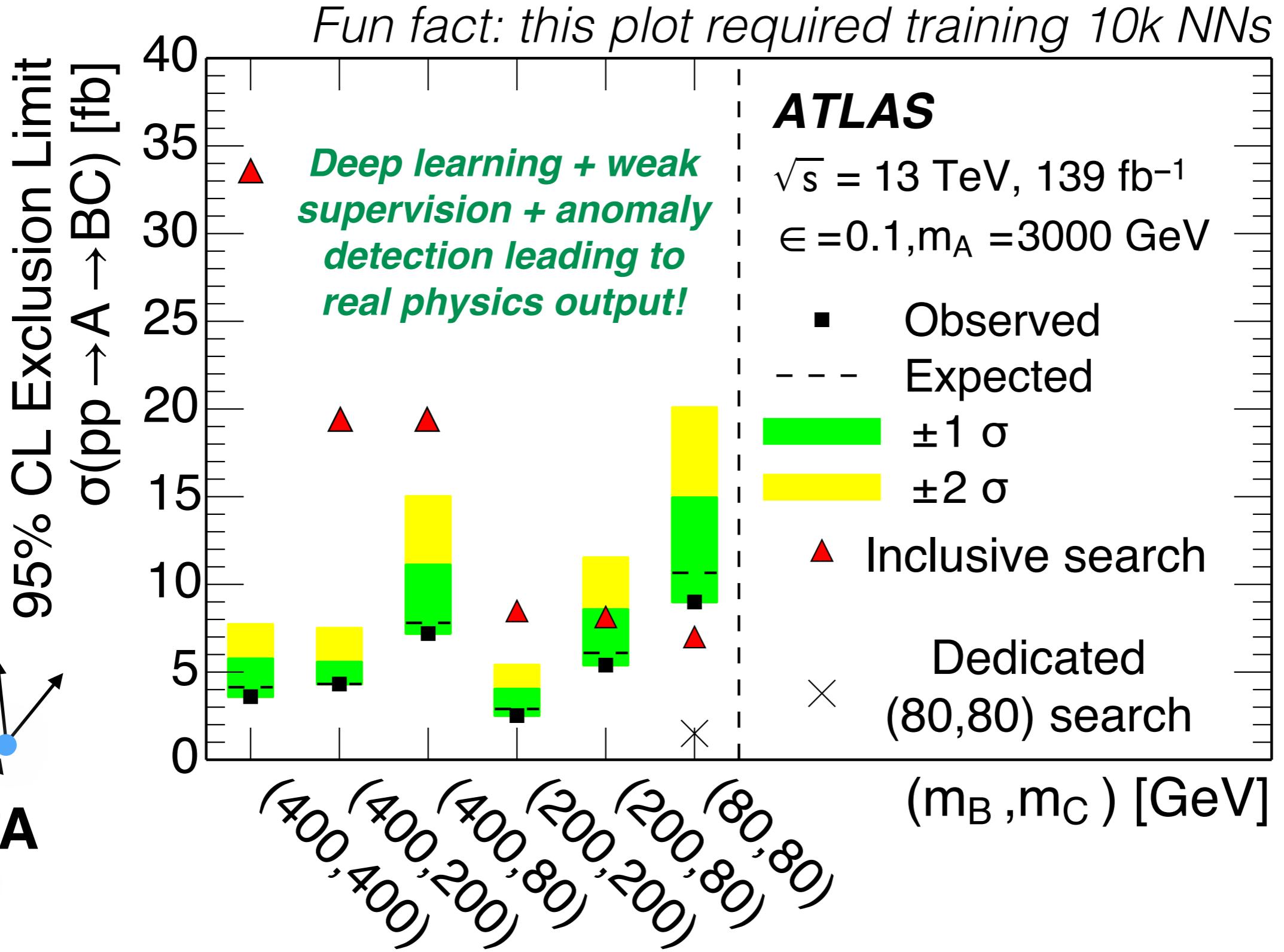
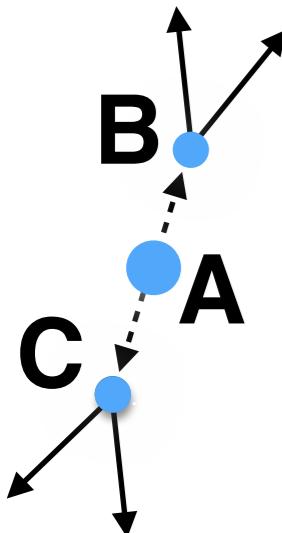
→ Better



ATLAS Collaboration, 2005.02983  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 131801

# Collision data results **New**

→ Better



ATLAS Collaboration, 2005.02983  
*Phys. Rev. Lett. 125, 131801*

# Computational Challenges

6 signal regions

360 NNs

5-fold cross validation

*1 part test, 1 part val, 3 parts train*

Average over 4 possible validation sets

Take the best over 3 different random initializations

(due to very small signal, this is important)

# Computational Challenges

10k NNs

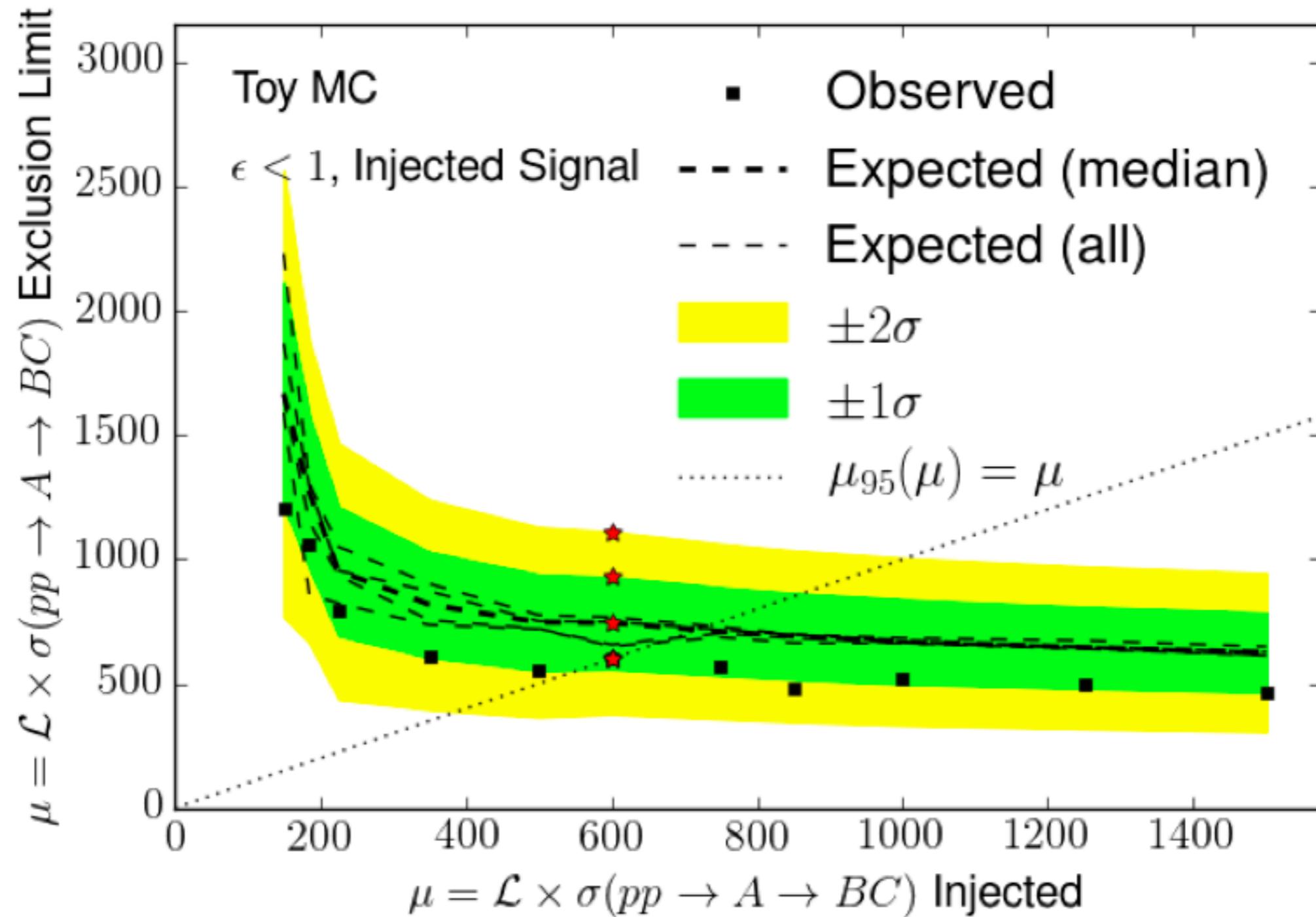
For every signal model (6)

For every signal cross section (5)

[For every systematic uncertainty]

360 NNs

# Computational Challenges



# Computational Challenges

For the first analysis, we used a low-dimensional feature space and so a few days of a generic CPU batch cluster was sufficient.

In the future: we want to increase the number of features and explore many more regions of the parameter space. We will need massive (GPU) compute (!) ... fortunately, this is possible with HPCs.

# The other challenge of higher-dimensions

For many anomaly detection methods, we need that the classifier does not introduce artificial bumps

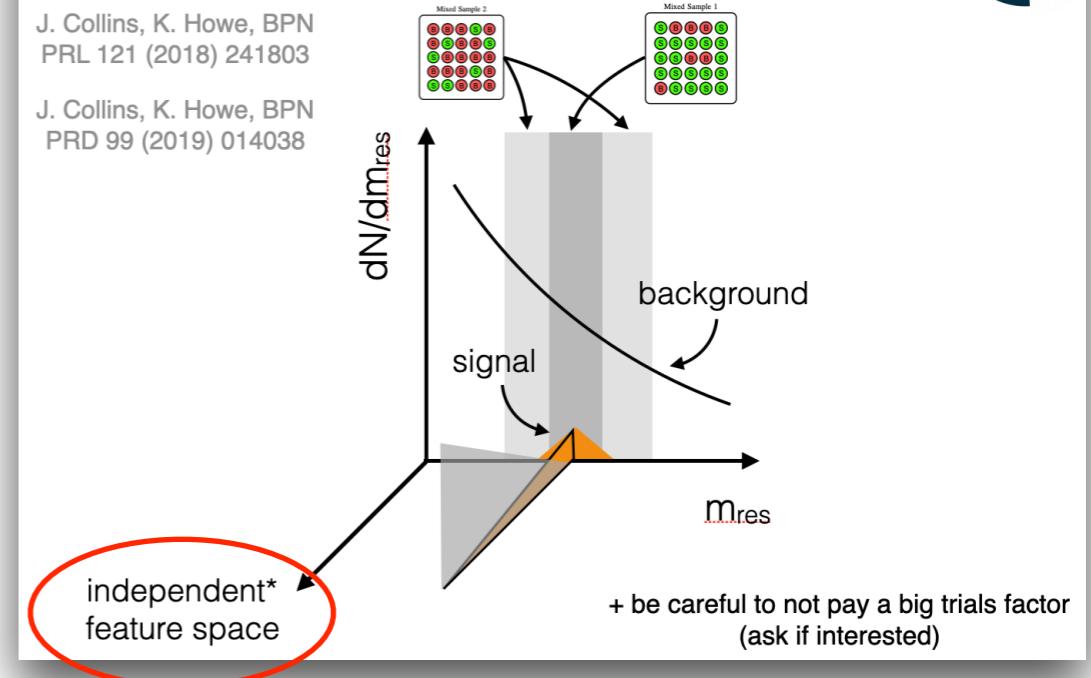
There are basically two ways to solve this:

See e.g. K. Benkendorfer, L. Le Pottier, BPN, 2009.02205

## CWoLa for anomaly detection

J. Collins, K. Howe, BPN  
PRL 121 (2018) 241803

J. Collins, K. Howe, BPN  
PRD 99 (2019) 014038



(1) Preprocessing  
(use features that are ~independent of mass)

(2) Use a training procedure that is robust to correlations

# Conclusions and outlook

Deep-learning based anomaly detection has a great potential for discovery!

*Check out the LHC Olympics: a community challenge for comparing anomaly detection techniques*



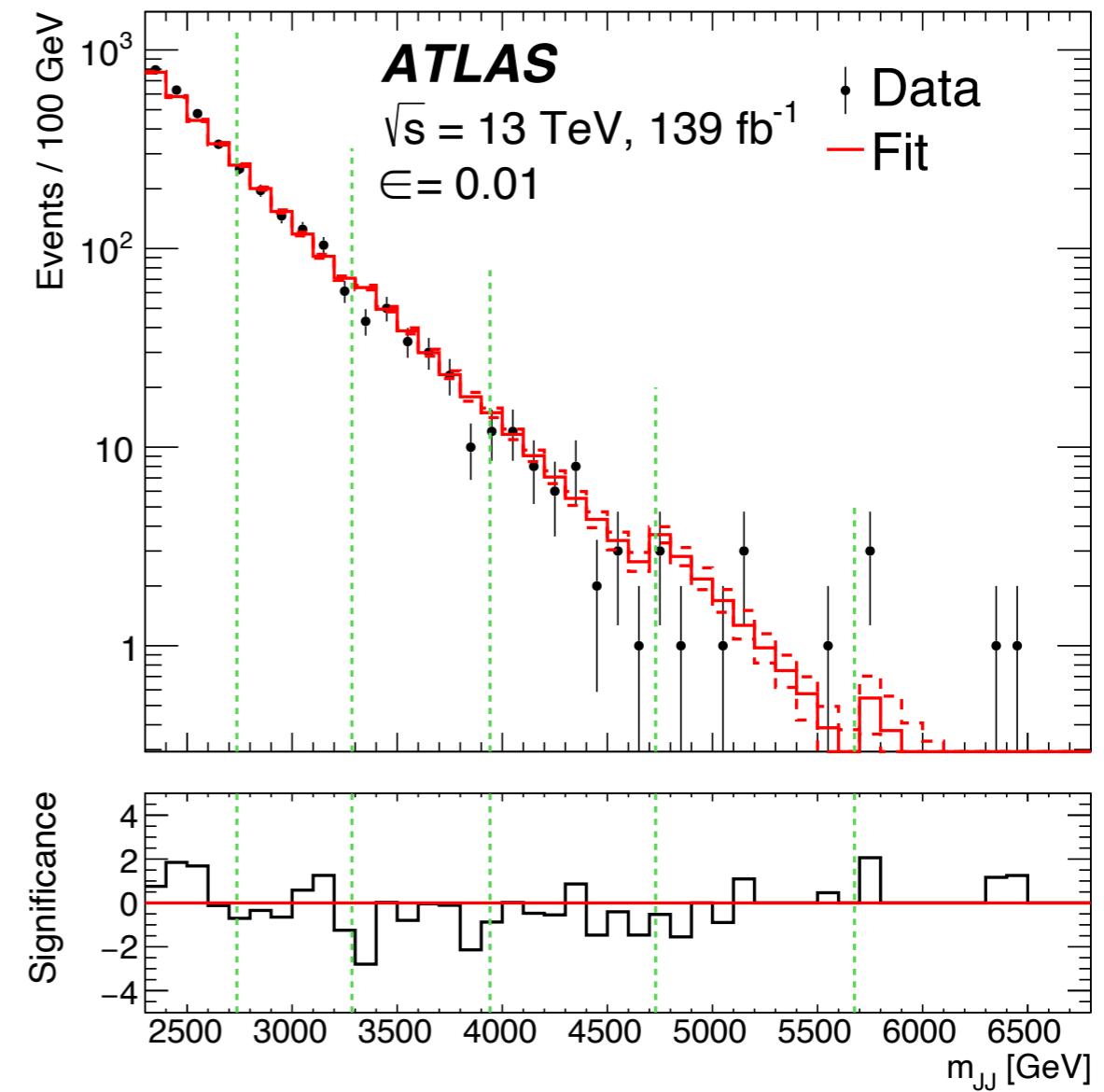
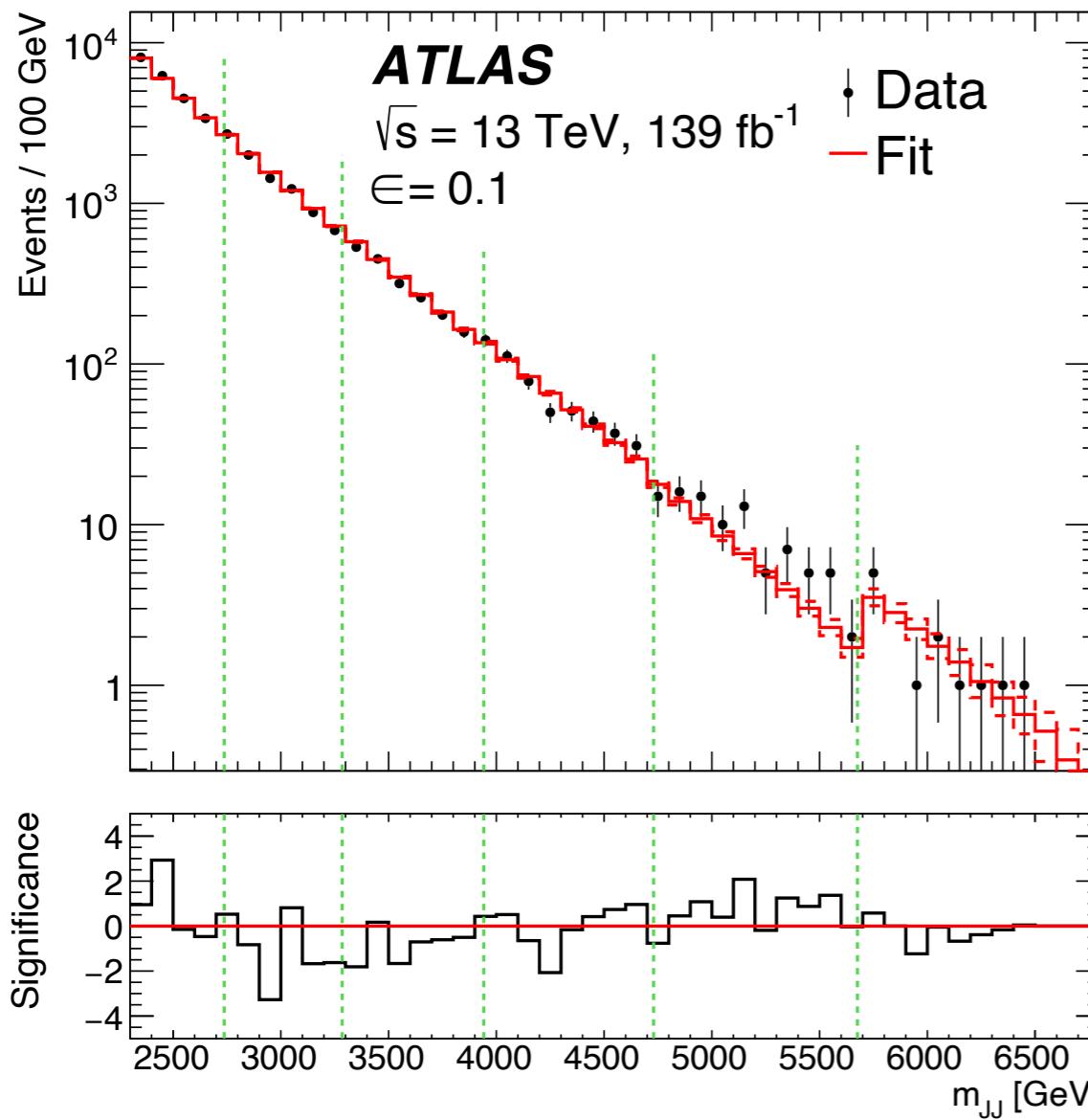
[https://lhco2020.github.io/  
homepage/](https://lhco2020.github.io/homepage/)

As we use more complex less-than-supervised approaches, we will need significant computing power to ensure this program is successful.

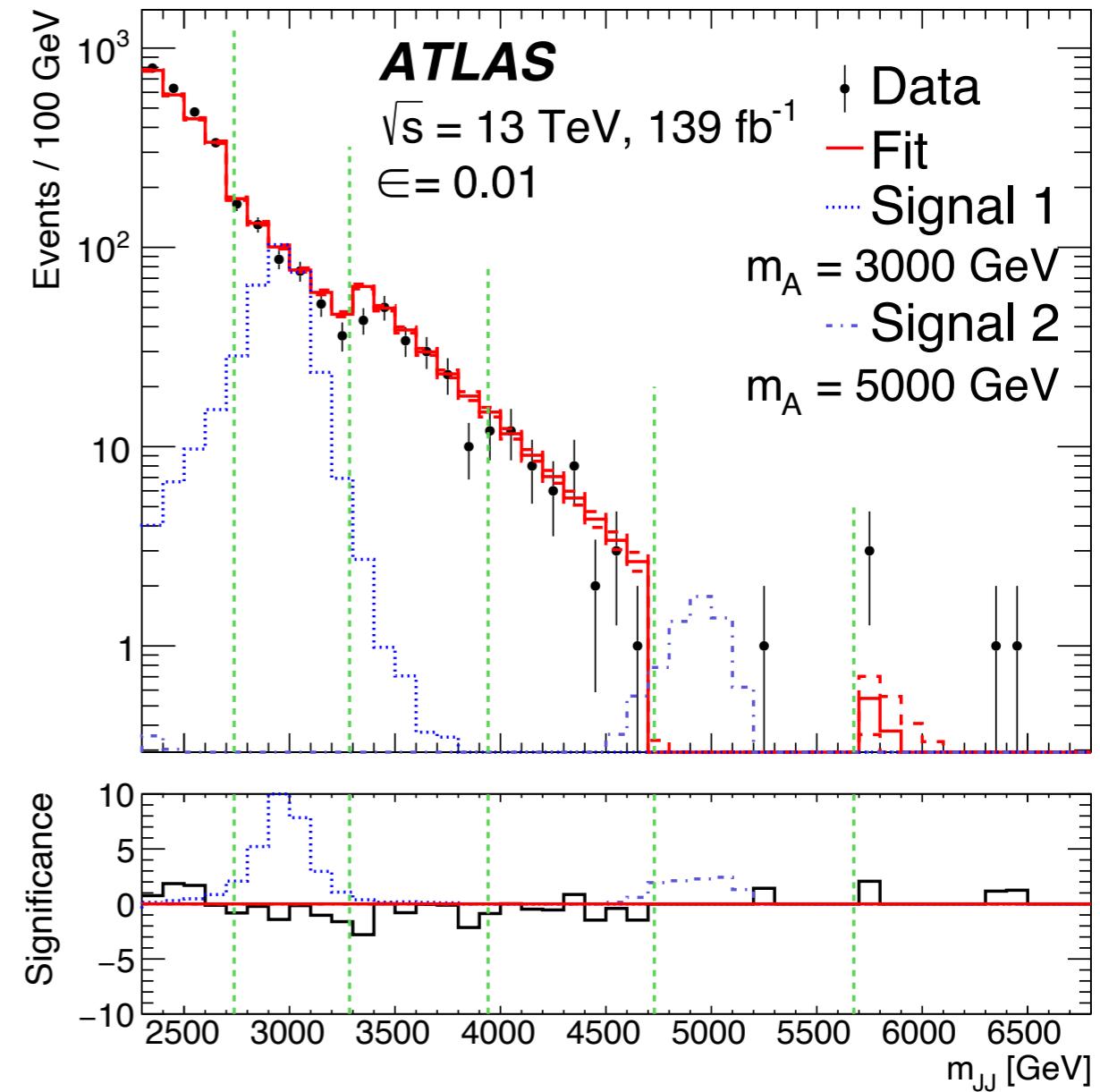
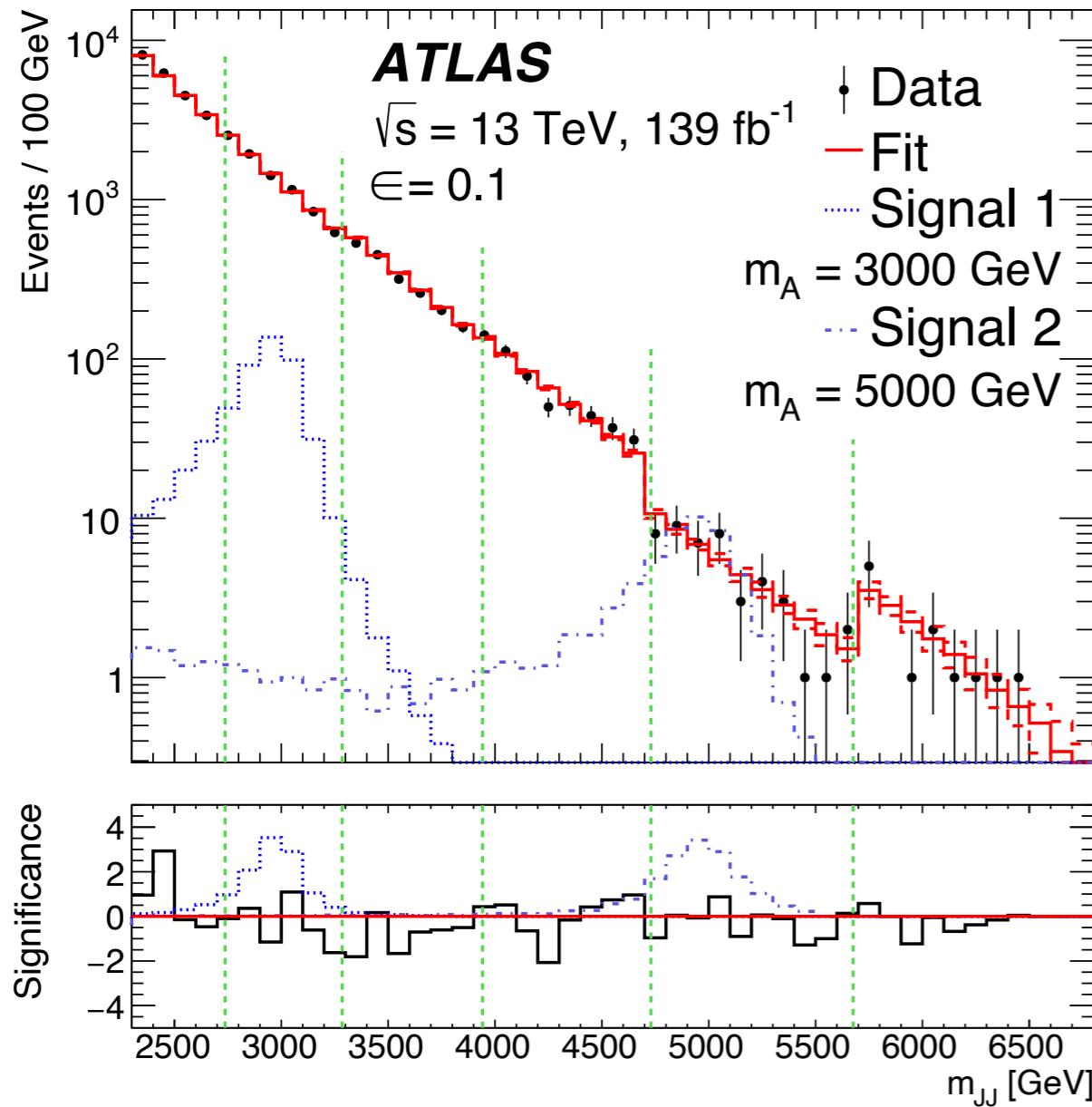
# Backup

65

# All signal regions



# All signal regions



# All signal regions

