

# Higgs and Vector Boson Decays to a Meson and a Photon at the ATLAS experiment

**Robert Ward**

University of Hamburg

DESY Particle Physics Seminar

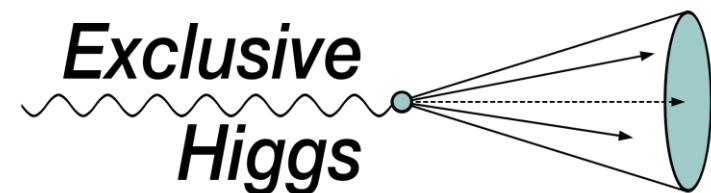
25<sup>th</sup> March 2024



Universität Hamburg  
DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM



This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement no 714893 (ExclusiveHiggs)



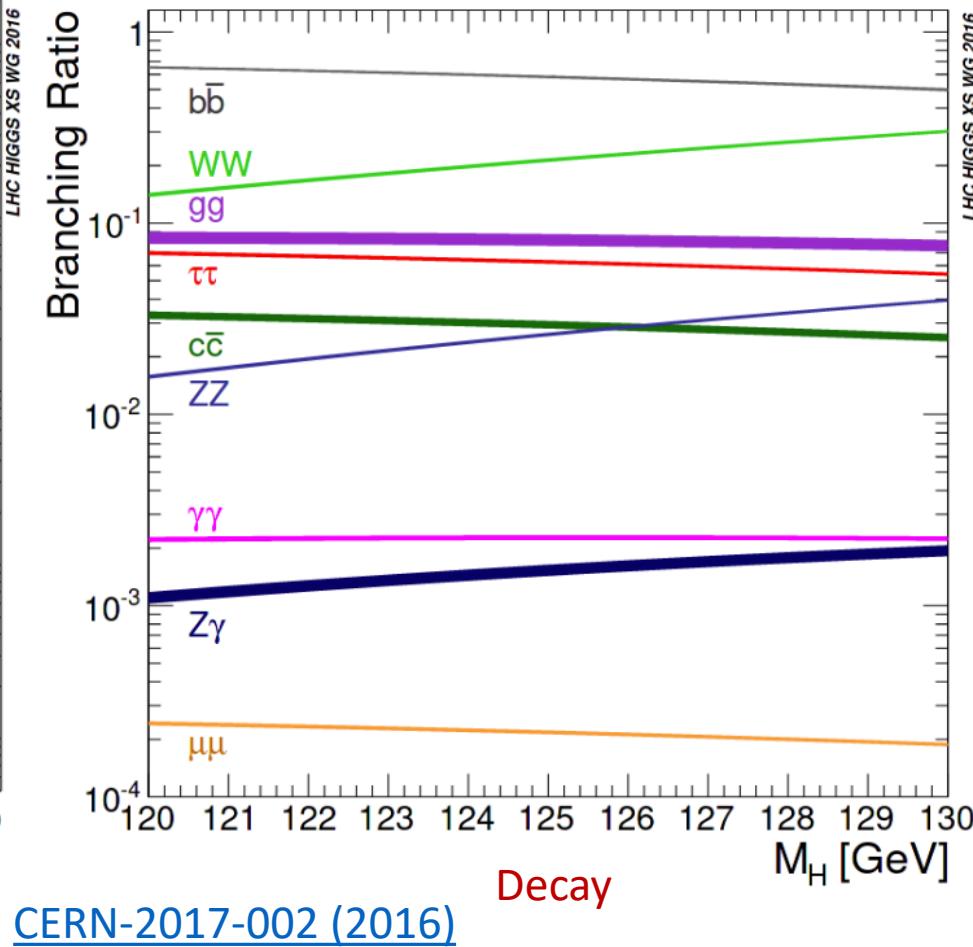
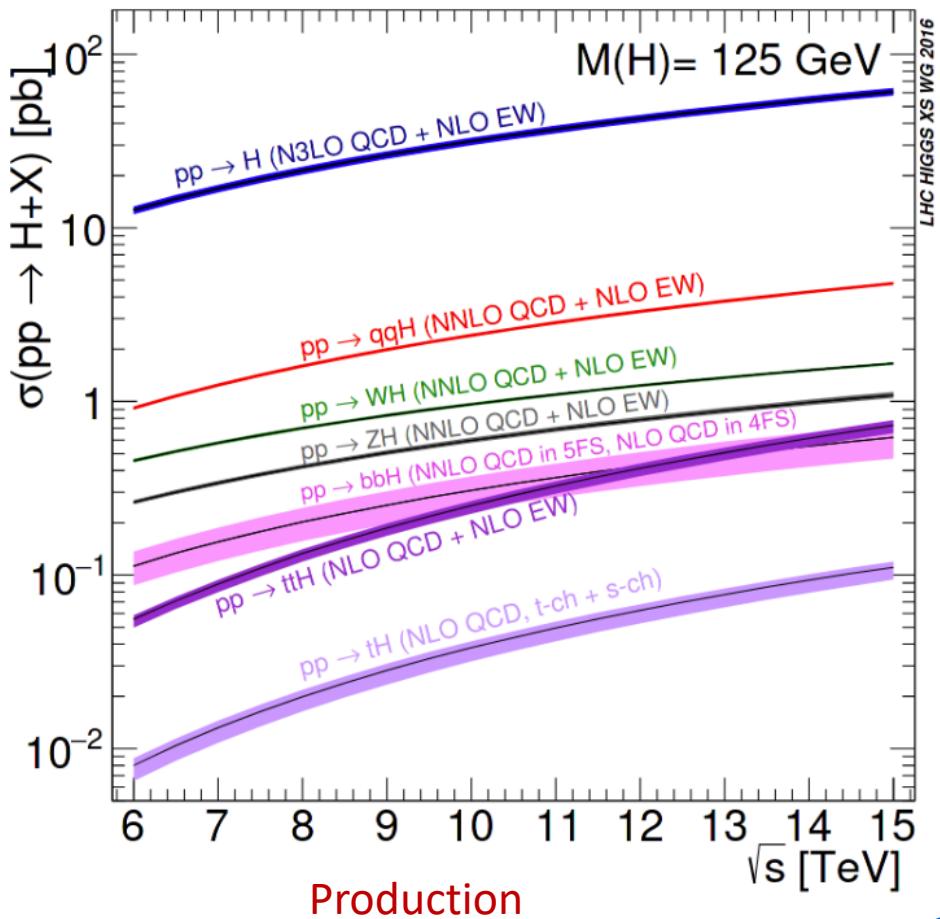
# The Higgs Boson

➤ Higgs boson coupling strength to fermions  $\propto$  mass in the SM

- Only observed Higgs-quark couplings to-date are for  $t$ - and  $b$ -quarks
- Large QCD backgrounds at the LHC make  $H \rightarrow q\bar{q}$  inclusive searches challenging

Fermion couplings  $v \approx 246 \text{ GeV}$

$$g_f^{SM} = \frac{m_f}{v} \sqrt{2}$$



Fermion Mass [GeV]

$$W/Z \text{ couplings} \quad g_V^{SM} = \frac{2m_V^2}{v} 10^{-3}$$

$t$

$b$

$\tau$

$c$

$\mu$

$s$

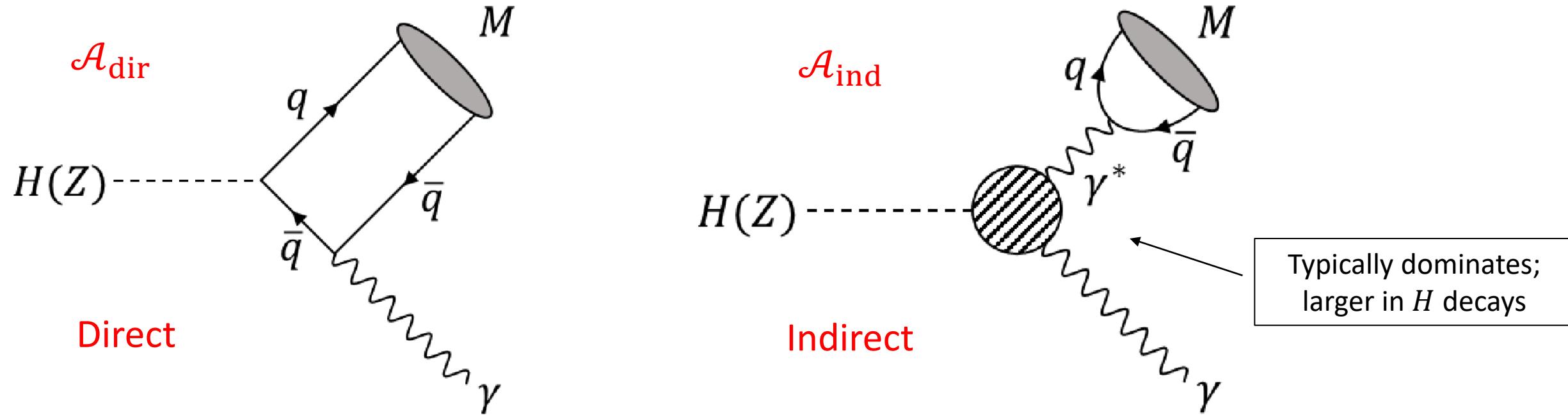
$d$

$u$

$e$

# $H(Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}\gamma$ : Motivation

- Search for exclusive  $H(Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}\gamma$  decays:  $\mathcal{M}$  = vector mesons ( $q\bar{q}; J^{PC} = 1^{--}$ )
  - Two destructively interfering contributions to decay amplitude



- **$H$  decays:** probe magnitude and sign of quark Yukawa couplings –  $\mathcal{O}(10^{-6})$  BRs
  - Distinct signatures reduce large QCD backgrounds
- **$Z$  decays:** provide reference channels and tests of QCD factorisation –  $\mathcal{O}(10^{-8})$  BRs
  - $1000 \times$  higher production rate of  $Z$  bosons at LHC compared to Higgs bosons: probe rarer decays

# $H(Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}\gamma$ : SM Expectations

SM expected branching fraction $\mathcal{B}(H/Z \rightarrow \mathcal{M}\gamma)$				
	Meson $\mathcal{M}$	$H$	$Z$	References
Heavy mesons (quarkonia) $q = b, c$	$J/\psi$	$(2.99^{+0.16}_{-0.15}) \times 10^{-6}$	$(8.96^{+1.51}_{-1.38}) \times 10^{-8}$	[27–29]
	$\psi(2S)$	$(1.03 \pm 0.06) \times 10^{-6}$	–	[28] <sup>1</sup>
	$\Upsilon(1S)$	$(5.22^{+2.02}_{-1.70}) \times 10^{-9}$	$(4.80^{+0.26}_{-0.25}) \times 10^{-8}$	[27–29]
	$\Upsilon(2S)$	$(1.42^{+0.72}_{-0.57}) \times 10^{-9}$	$(2.44^{+0.14}_{-0.13}) \times 10^{-8}$	[27–29]
	$\Upsilon(3S)$	$(0.91^{+0.48}_{-0.38}) \times 10^{-9}$	$(1.88^{+0.11}_{-0.10}) \times 10^{-8}$	[27–29]
Light mesons $q = s, d, u$	$\phi$	$(2.31 \pm 0.11) \times 10^{-6}$	$(1.04 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-8}$	[25, 30]
	$\rho$	$(1.68 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-5}$	$(4.19 \pm 0.47) \times 10^{-9}$	[25, 30]
	$\omega$	$(1.48 \pm 0.08) \times 10^{-6}$	$(2.82 \pm 0.40) \times 10^{-8}$	[25, 30]

Theory Refs: [25: JHEP 08 \(2015\) 012](#), [27: PRD 95 \(2017\) 054018](#),  
[28: PRD 96 \(2017\) 116014](#), [29: PRD 97 \(2018\) 016009](#), [30: JHEP 04 \(2015\) 101](#)

➤  $H \rightarrow \Upsilon(nS)\gamma$  particularly sensitive to BSM physics (e.g [arXiv:2209.01200](#))

ATL-PHYS-PUB-2023-004

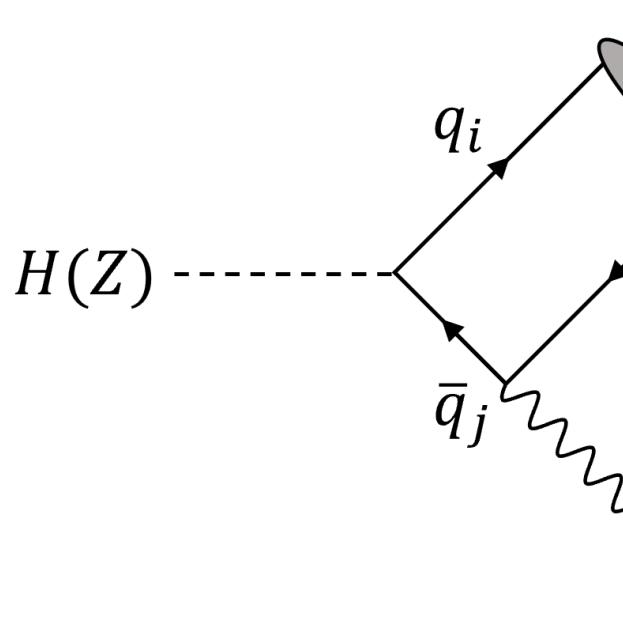
# Flavour-Violating Decays of the Higgs and Z Bosons into $\mathcal{M}\gamma$

➤ Choosing “flavoured”  $\mathcal{M}$  ( $q\bar{q}'$ ) probes flavour-violating couplings

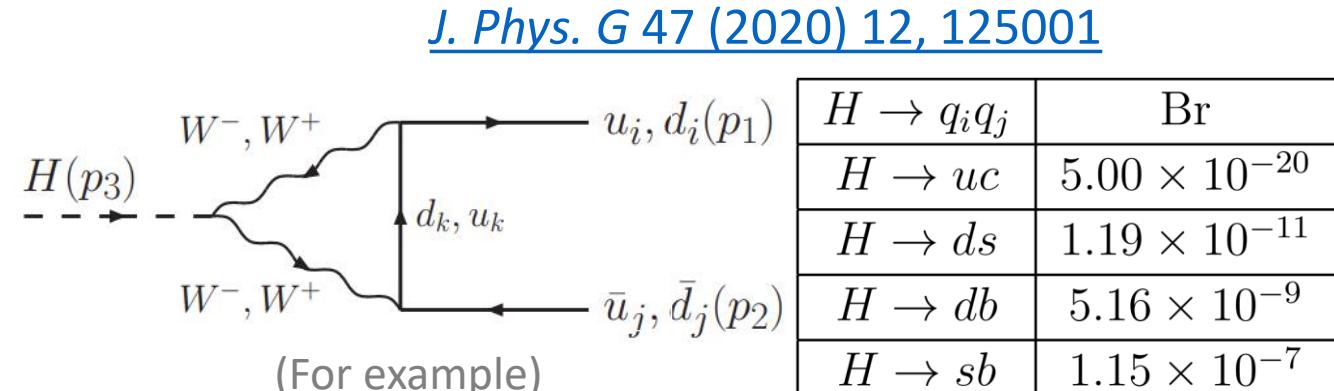
- Forbidden at tree-level within the SM

➤ Any observation would imply new physics

- Similar signatures to the rare SM decays



$H(Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}\gamma$  with flavour violation



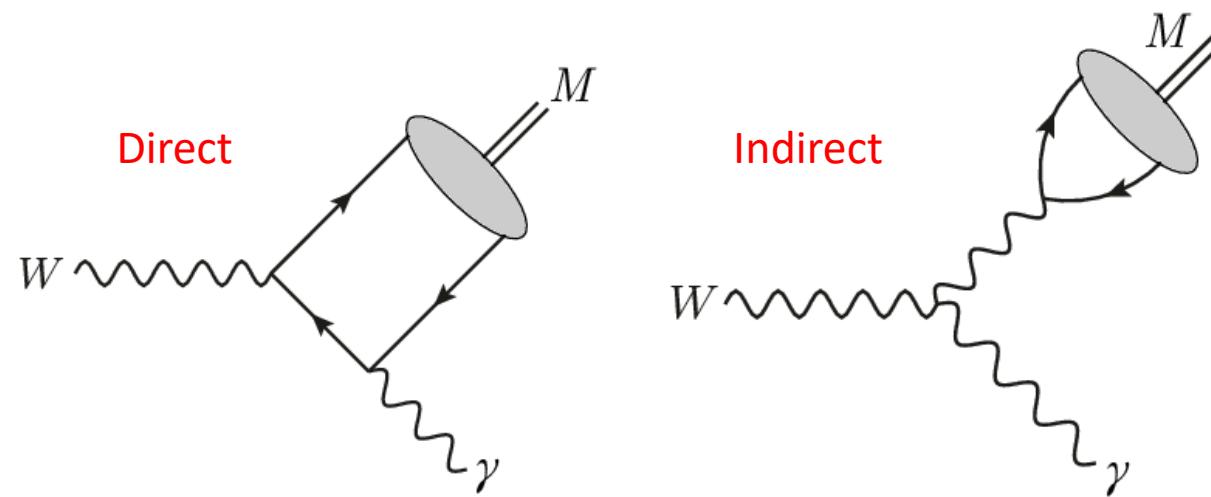
SM contributions to  $H \rightarrow q_i \bar{q}_j$

SM Expected Branching Fractions	
$H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$	$1.0 \times 10^{-19}$
$H \rightarrow D^*\gamma$	$7.0 \times 10^{-27}$
$Z \rightarrow K_s^0\gamma$	$3.3 \times 10^{-20}$
$Z \rightarrow D^0\gamma$	$1.4 \times 10^{-25}$

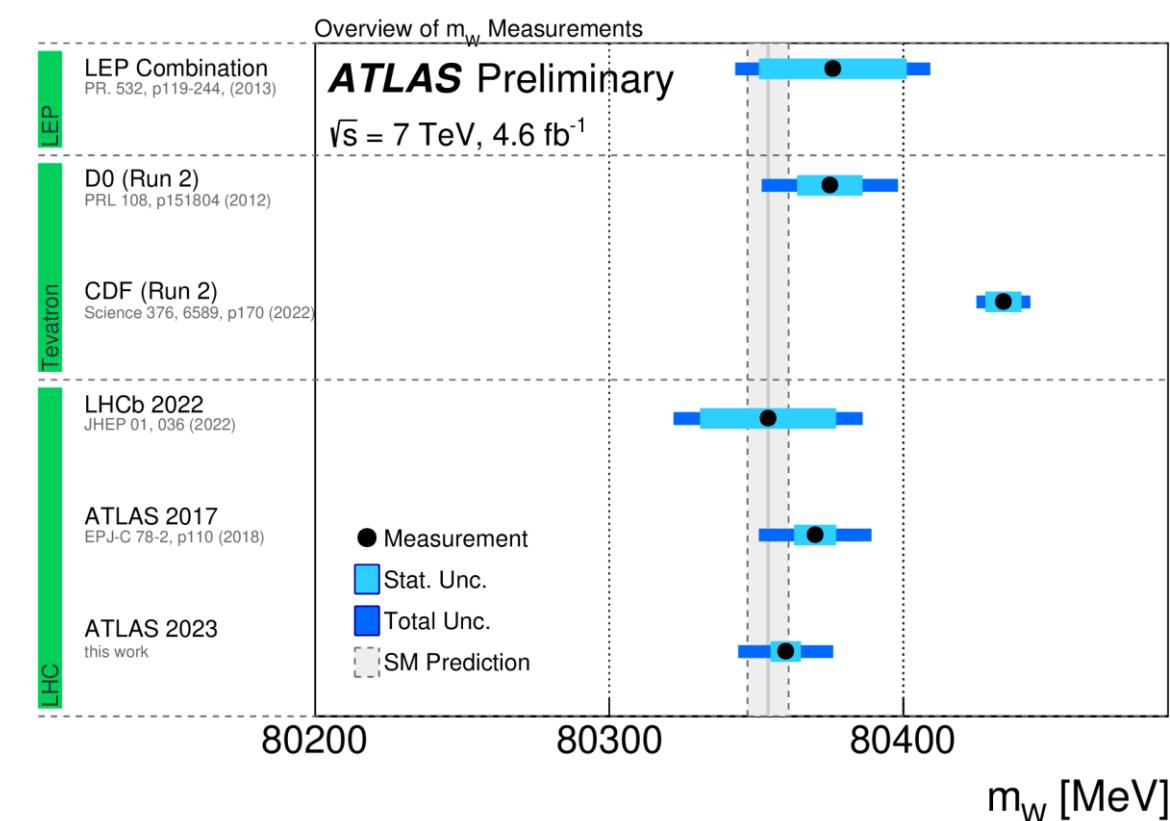
Recent SM  $H(Z) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}\gamma$  predictions: [arXiv:2312.11211](https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.11211)

# $W^\pm \rightarrow M^\pm \gamma$ : Motivation

- $W$  decays: novel tests of QCD factorisation and quark couplings –  $\mathcal{O}(10^{-9})$  BRs
  - Potential new probe for  $W$  mass measurement through fully reconstructed decays



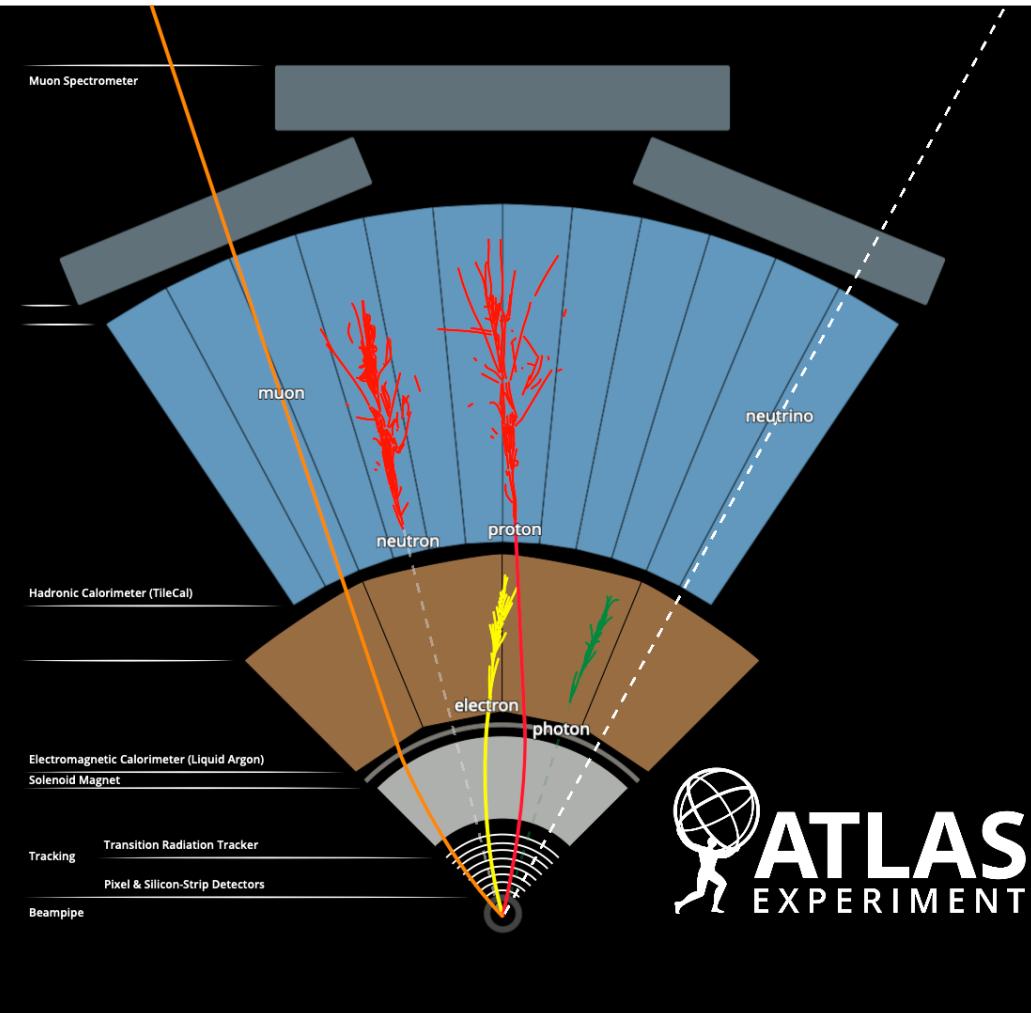
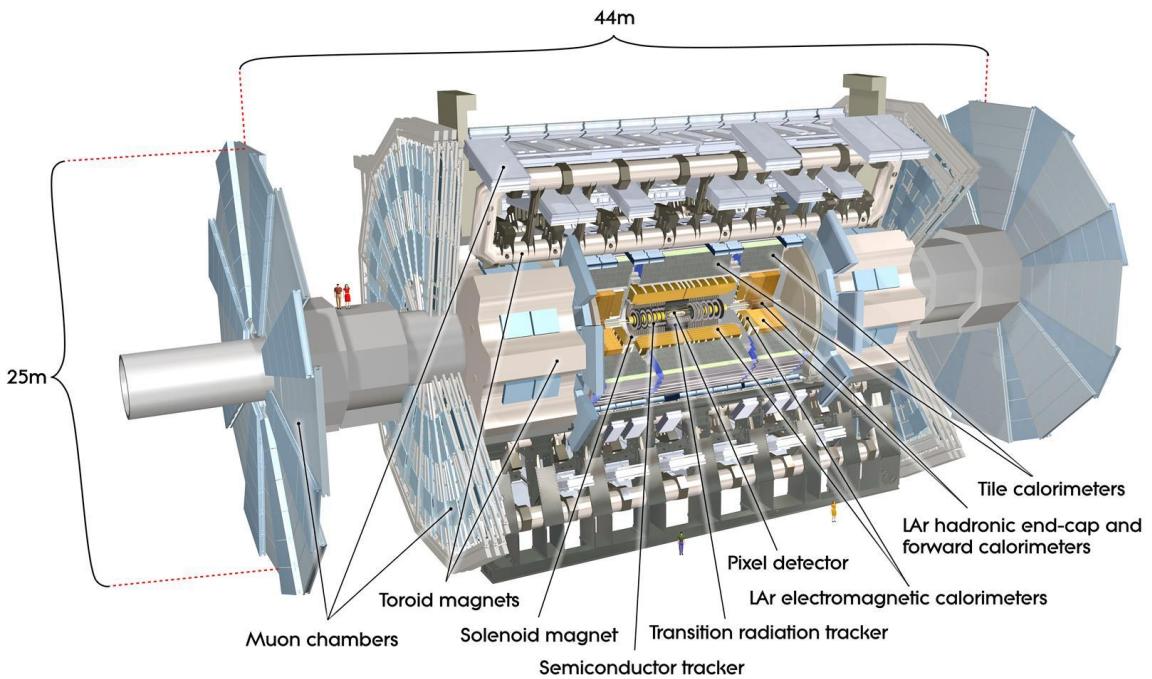
Meson $M$	$W^\pm$
$\pi^\pm$	$(3.25 \pm 0.68) \times 10^{-9}$
$\rho^\pm$	$(8.74 \pm 1.90) \times 10^{-9}$
$K^\pm$	$(2.31 \pm 0.82) \times 10^{-10}$



ATLAS-PHOTO-2023-022

# The ATLAS Experiment

- General-purpose particle physics experiment at the LHC
  - 3k authors across 182 institutions in 42 countries



- Event rate  $\approx 40$  MHz – capture interesting interactions with a two-level trigger system

- Level-1 (L1): Hardware based ( $\rightarrow 100$  kHz)
- Level-2/High-level Trigger (HLT): Software based ( $\rightarrow 1$  kHz)

# Public Results

➤ ATLAS has set limits on a multitude of these exclusive decay channels

- Employ dedicated triggers and novel background model methods

**Bold = Latest Result**

Decay Channels	$\sqrt{s}$ (TeV)	Lumi. ( $\text{fb}^{-1}$ )	Publication
$H(Z) \rightarrow (J/\psi, \Upsilon(nS, n = 1,2,3))\gamma$	8	20	<a href="#">PRL 114 (2015) 12, 121801</a>
$H(Z) \rightarrow \phi\gamma$	13	2.7	<a href="#">PRL 117 (2016) 11, 111802</a>
$H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$	<b>13</b>	<b>36</b>	<a href="#">JHEP 07 (2018) 127</a>
$H(Z) \rightarrow (J/\psi, \psi(2S), \Upsilon(nS))\gamma$	13	36	<a href="#">PLB 786 (2018) 134-155</a>
$H(Z) \rightarrow (J/\psi, \psi(2S), \Upsilon(nS))\gamma$	<b>13</b>	<b>139</b>	<a href="#">EPJC 83 (2023) 781</a>
$H(Z) \rightarrow \omega\gamma$ & $H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$	<b>13</b>	<b>90 (134)</b>	<a href="#">PLB 847 (2023) 138292</a>
$W^\pm \rightarrow (\pi^\pm, K^\pm, \rho^\pm)\gamma$	<b>13</b>	<b>137 (140)</b>	<a href="#">arXiv:2309.15887</a>
$H \rightarrow D^*\gamma$ & $Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_s^0)\gamma$	<b>13</b>	<b>136</b>	<a href="#">arXiv:2402.18731</a>

Time ↓

Searches for exclusive Higgs boson decays into  $D^*\gamma$  and Z boson decays into  $D^0\gamma$  and  $K_s^0\gamma$  in  $pp$  collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV with the ATLAS detector

Submitted to PLB

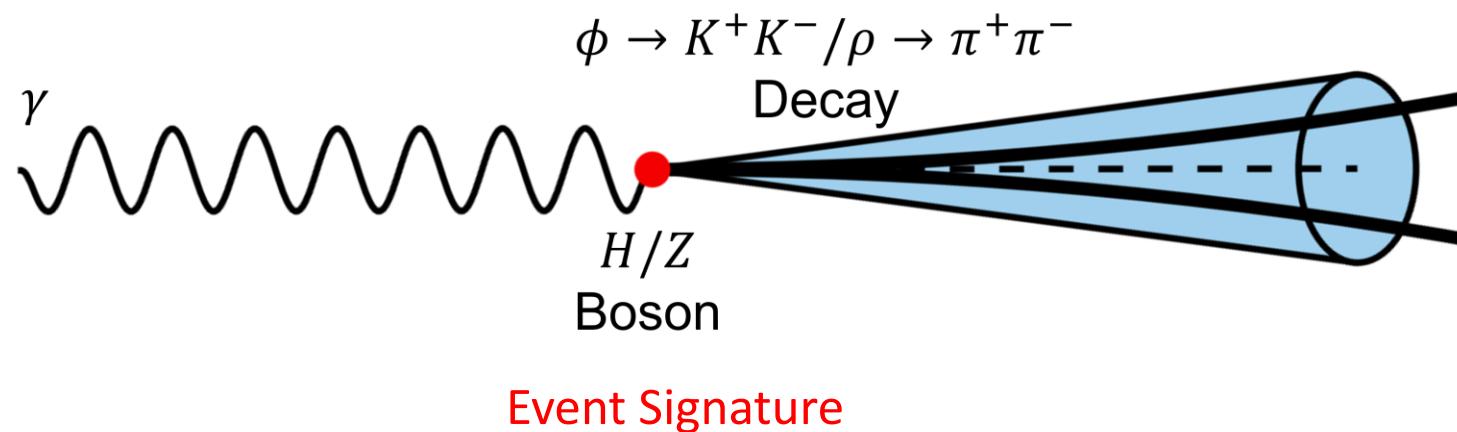
Search for the exclusive W boson hadronic decays  $W^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm\gamma$ ,  $W^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm\gamma$  and  $W^\pm \rightarrow \rho^\pm\gamma$  with the ATLAS detector

Submitted to PRL

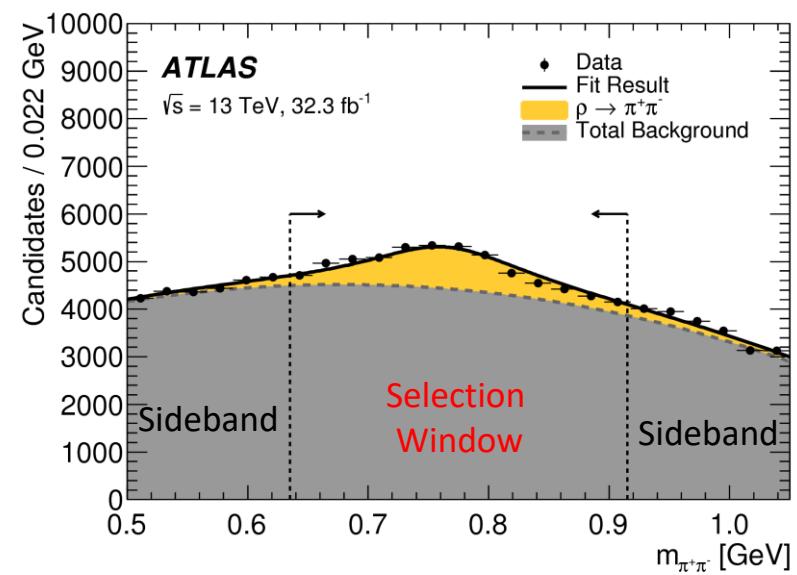
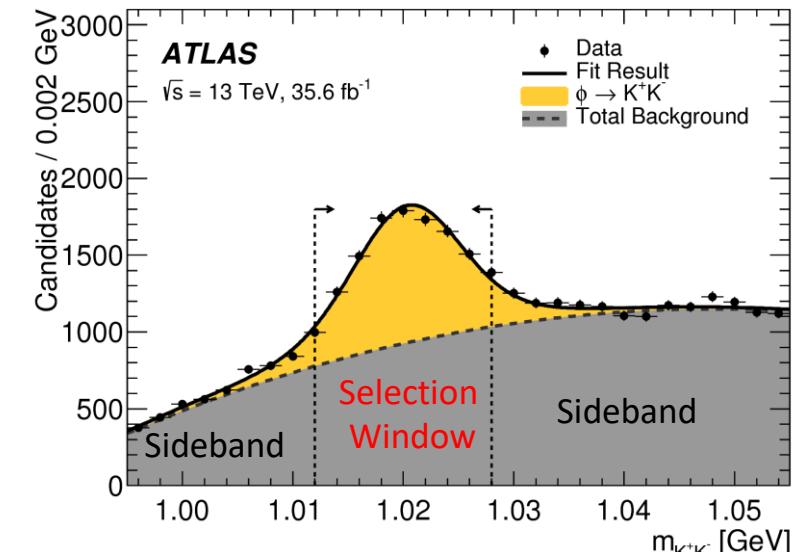
# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Overview

- $H \rightarrow \phi(K^+K^-)\gamma$ :  $s$ -quark coupling
- $H \rightarrow \rho(\pi^+\pi^-)\gamma$ :  $u$ - &  $d$ -quark couplings

[JHEP 07 \(2018\) 127](#)



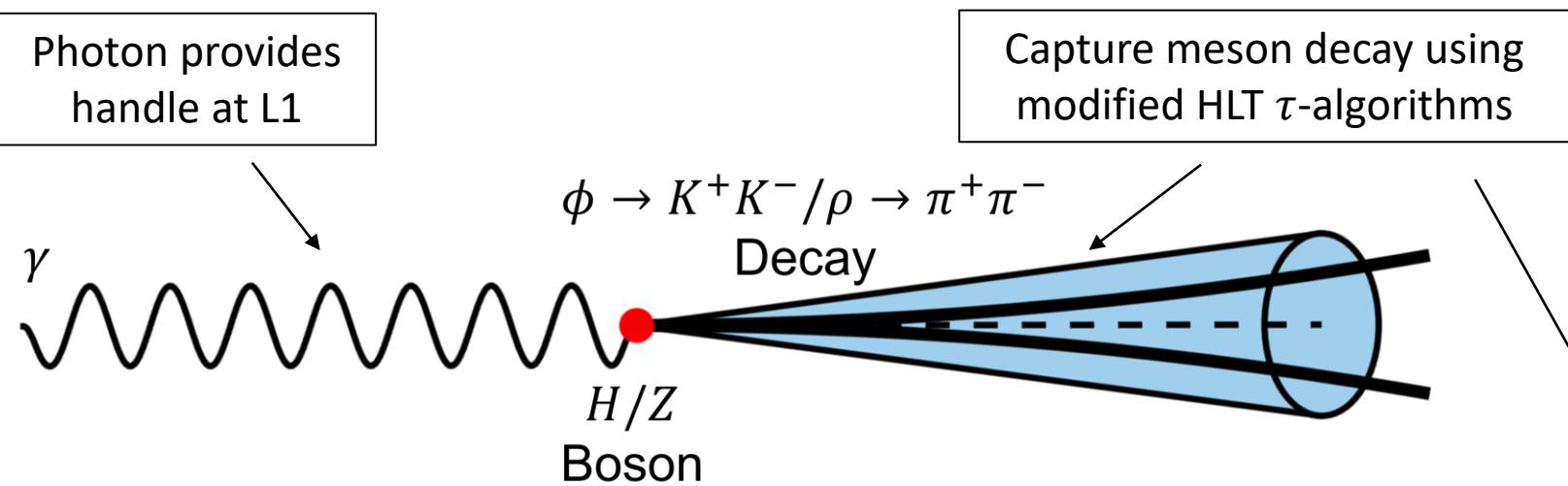
- Dedicated triggers based on single photon + modified  $\tau$ -lepton algorithms
- Background from multi-jet and  $\gamma +$  jet sources
  - Non-parametric data-driven background model



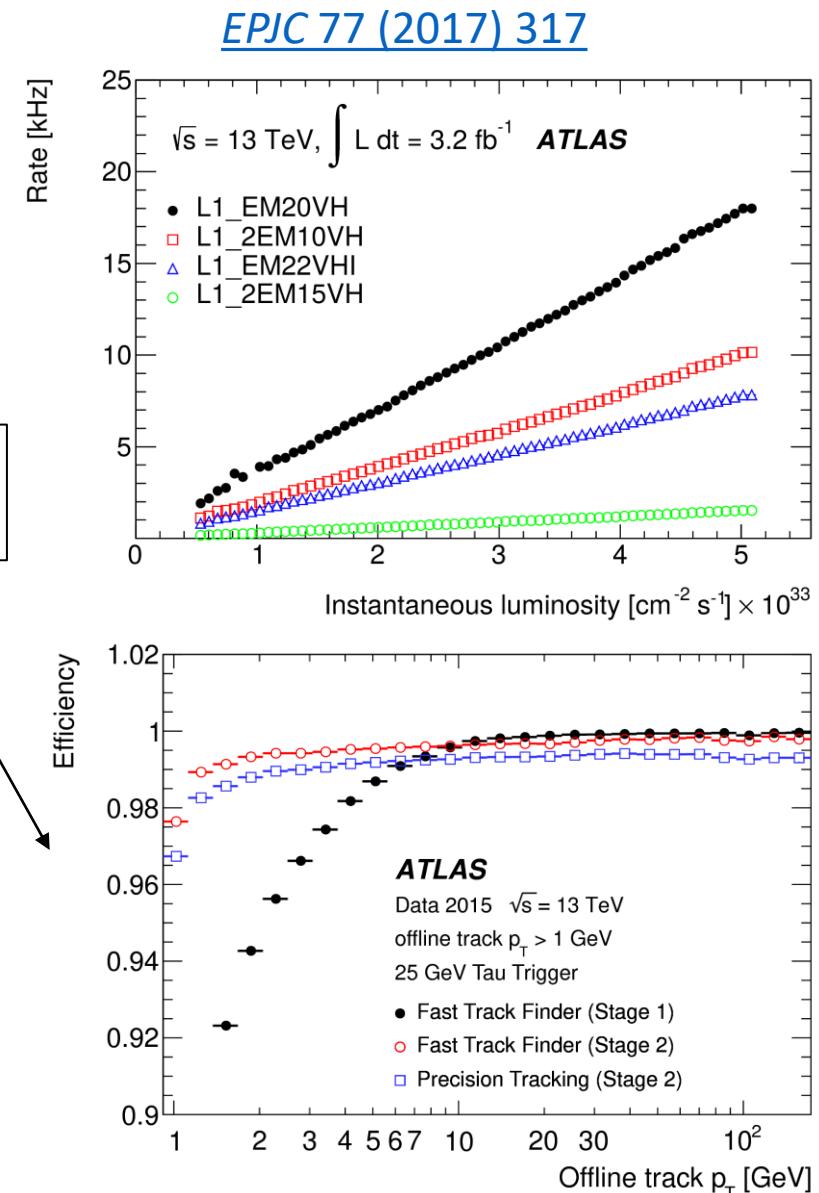
# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Trigger Strategy

- L1: Isolated EM object
  - Lowest  $p_T$  unprescaled trigger
- HLT: Collimated high- $p_T$  track-pair consistent with  $\phi/\rho$  mass recoiling against high- $p_T$  photon
  - Adapted  $\tau$ -lepton algorithms

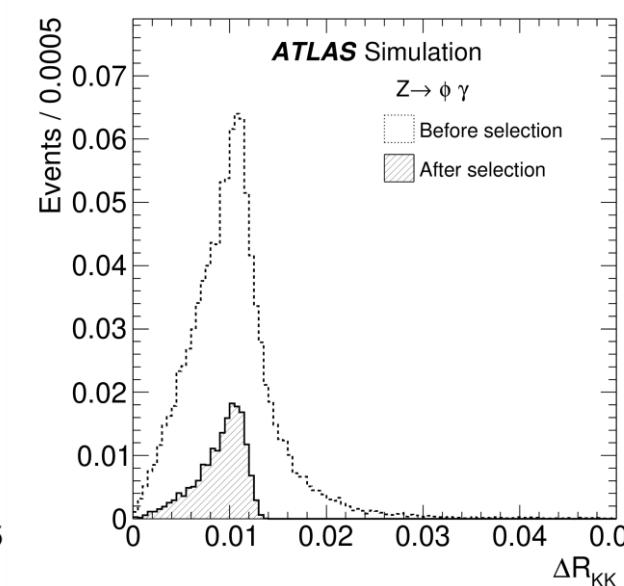
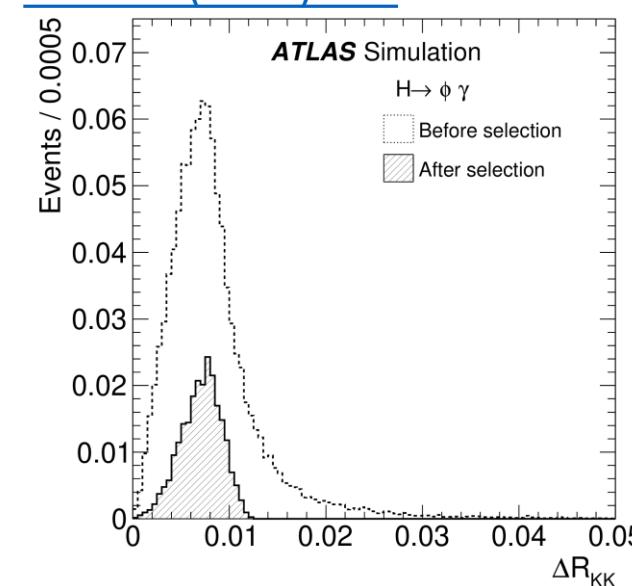
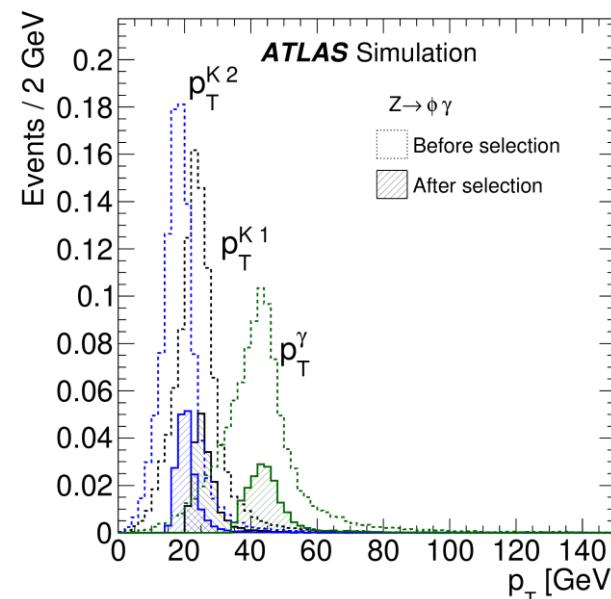
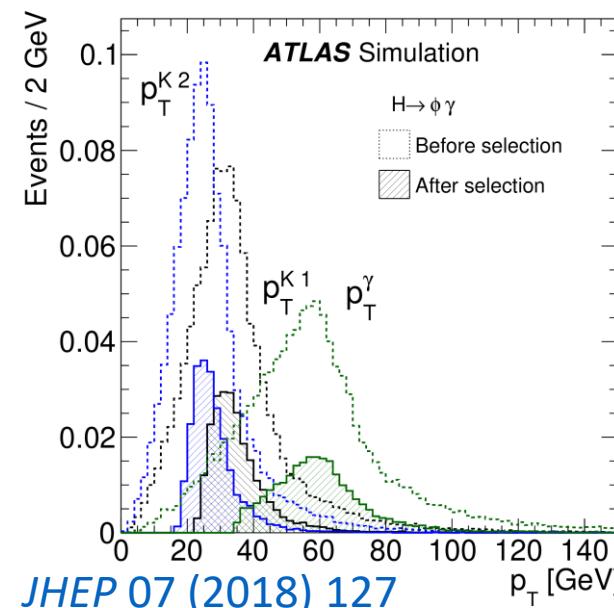
Up to 83% efficiency  
w.r.t offline selection



- Employ analogous triggers in other exclusive searches with hadronic final states
  - Adapt to target e.g.  $K^*/D^0$  decay instead



# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Signal Properties

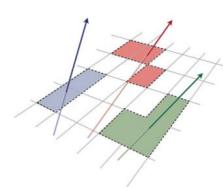


➤ Larger photon and track  $p_T$  in  $H$  decays leads to larger signal efficiencies than for  $Z$  decays

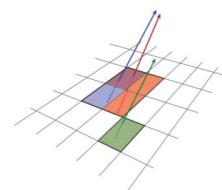
Total Signal Efficiency		
Channel	Z Signal	H Signal
$\phi\gamma$	10%	17%
$\rho\gamma$	2.4%	8%

➤ Small opening angles between decay products

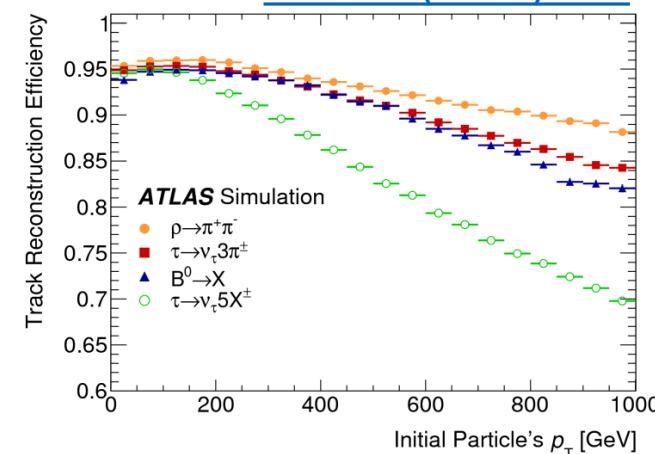
- Particularly for  $\phi \rightarrow K^+ K^-$ : tracking in dense environments



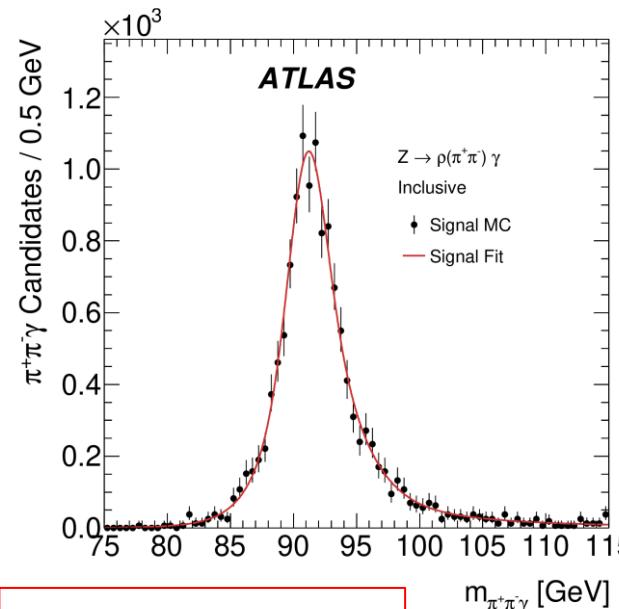
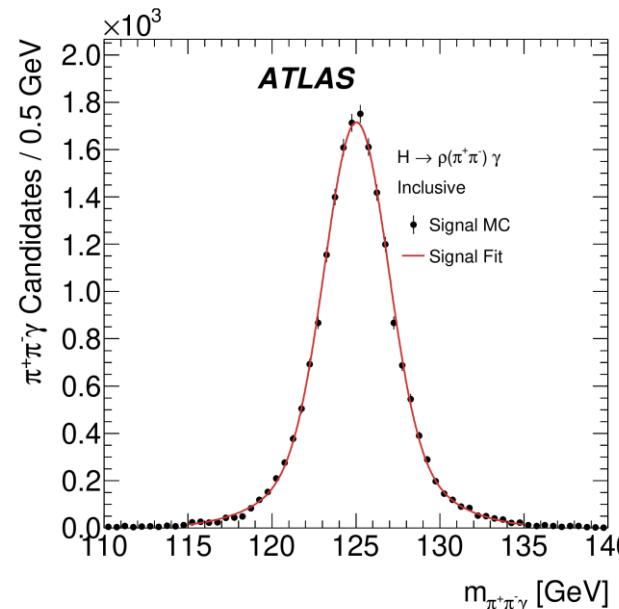
Single-Particle  
Clusters



Merged  
Clusters



# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Signal Modelling



1.8% Resolution

Source of systematic uncertainty	Yield uncertainty
Total $H$ cross section	6.3%
Total $Z$ cross section	2.9%
Integrated luminosity	3.4%
Photon ID efficiency	2.5%
Trigger efficiency	2.0%
Tracking efficiency	6.0%

Uncertainties are considered, but they typically have a negligible impact on results

➤ Model boson mass distributions with analytical fits to simulated events

- $H$  decays – sum of two Gaussians with a common mean
- $Z$  decays - (sum of two Voigtians)  $\times$  efficiency factor
  - Voigtian: convolution of Gaussian (detector resolution) and Lorentz ( $Z$  width) distributions
  - Efficiency factor: accounts for turn-on in signal efficiency with  $Z$  mass

➤ Analogous approach is applied in all exclusive  $\mathcal{M}\gamma$  searches

- Specific functions may vary

[JHEP 07 \(2018\) 127](#)

# Aside: Non-Parametric Data Driven Background Modelling

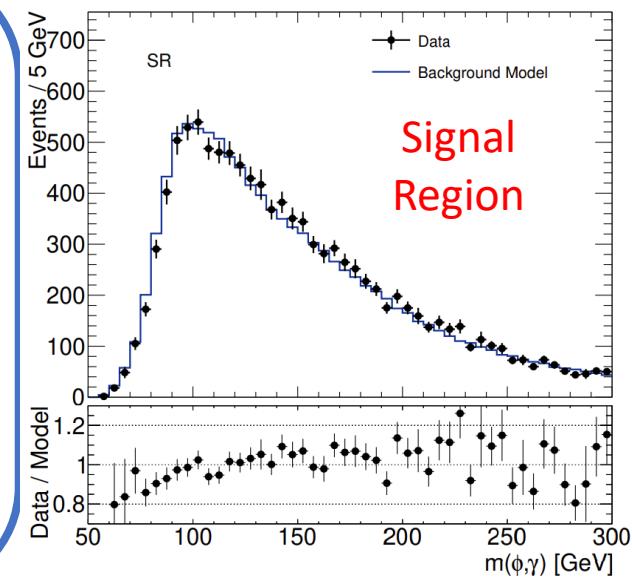
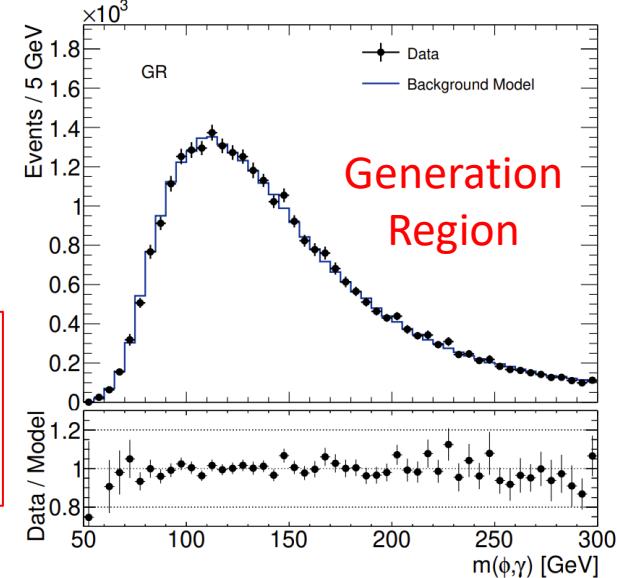
## ➤ Non-parametric data-driven background model: [JHEP 10 \(2022\) 001](#)

- Useful for non-resonant backgrounds from a mix of processes
  - Complex shape: difficult to model analytically/parametrically
  - Complex processes: difficult to simulate

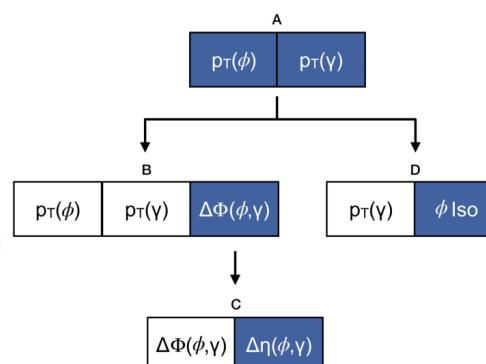
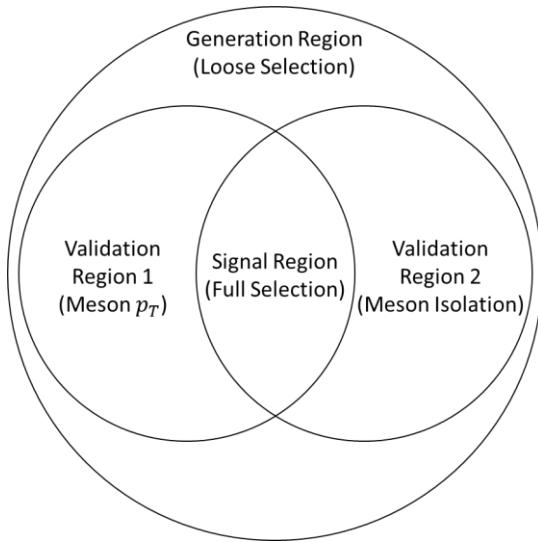
## ➤ Use $H \rightarrow \phi\gamma$ with $\gamma + \text{jet MC}$ as a case study

- Discriminant variable:  $m(\phi, \gamma)$  (three-body mass)

Pseudo-event: data-struct  
of  $\mathcal{M}/\gamma$  4-vectors +  
isolation variables



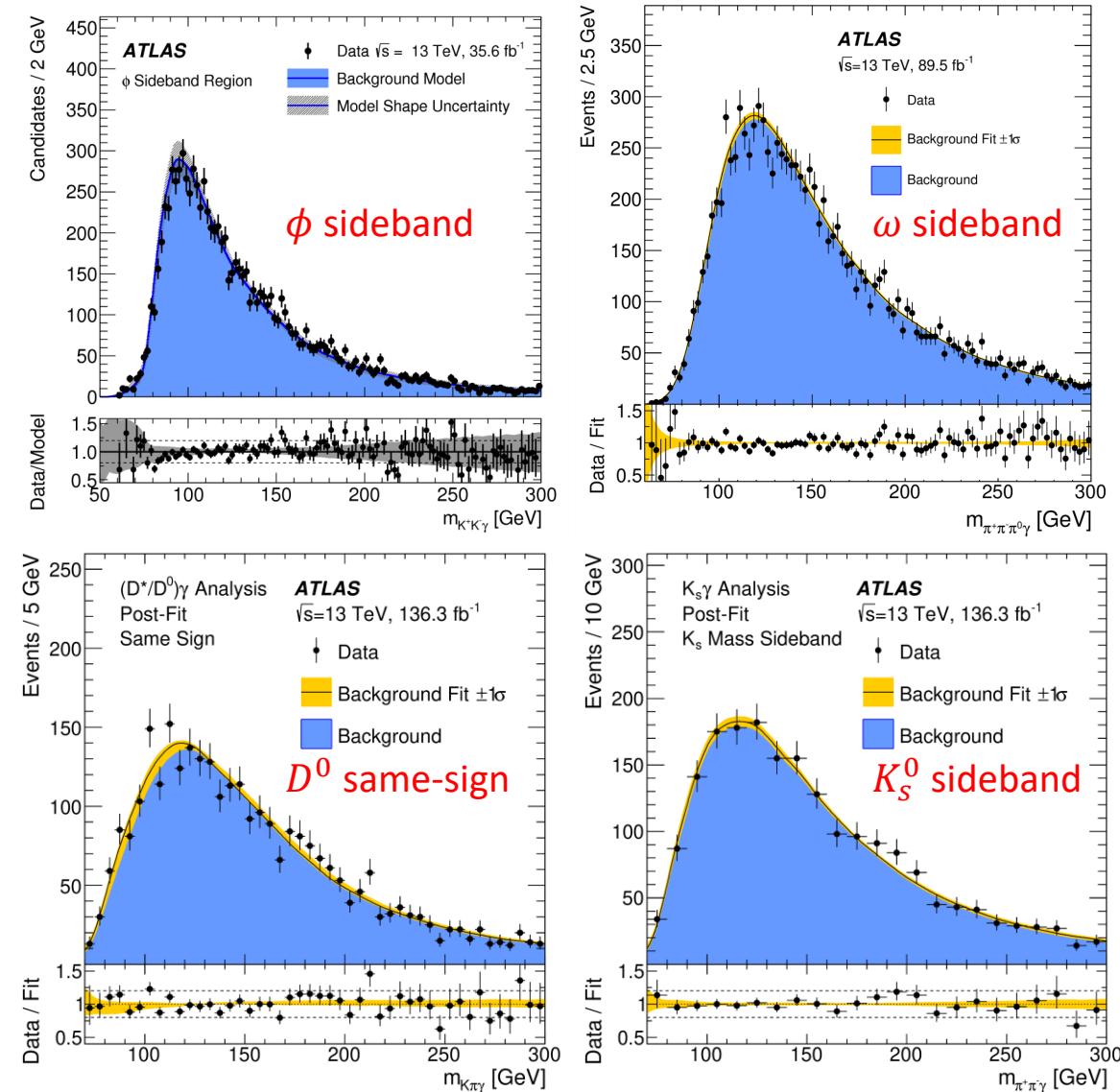
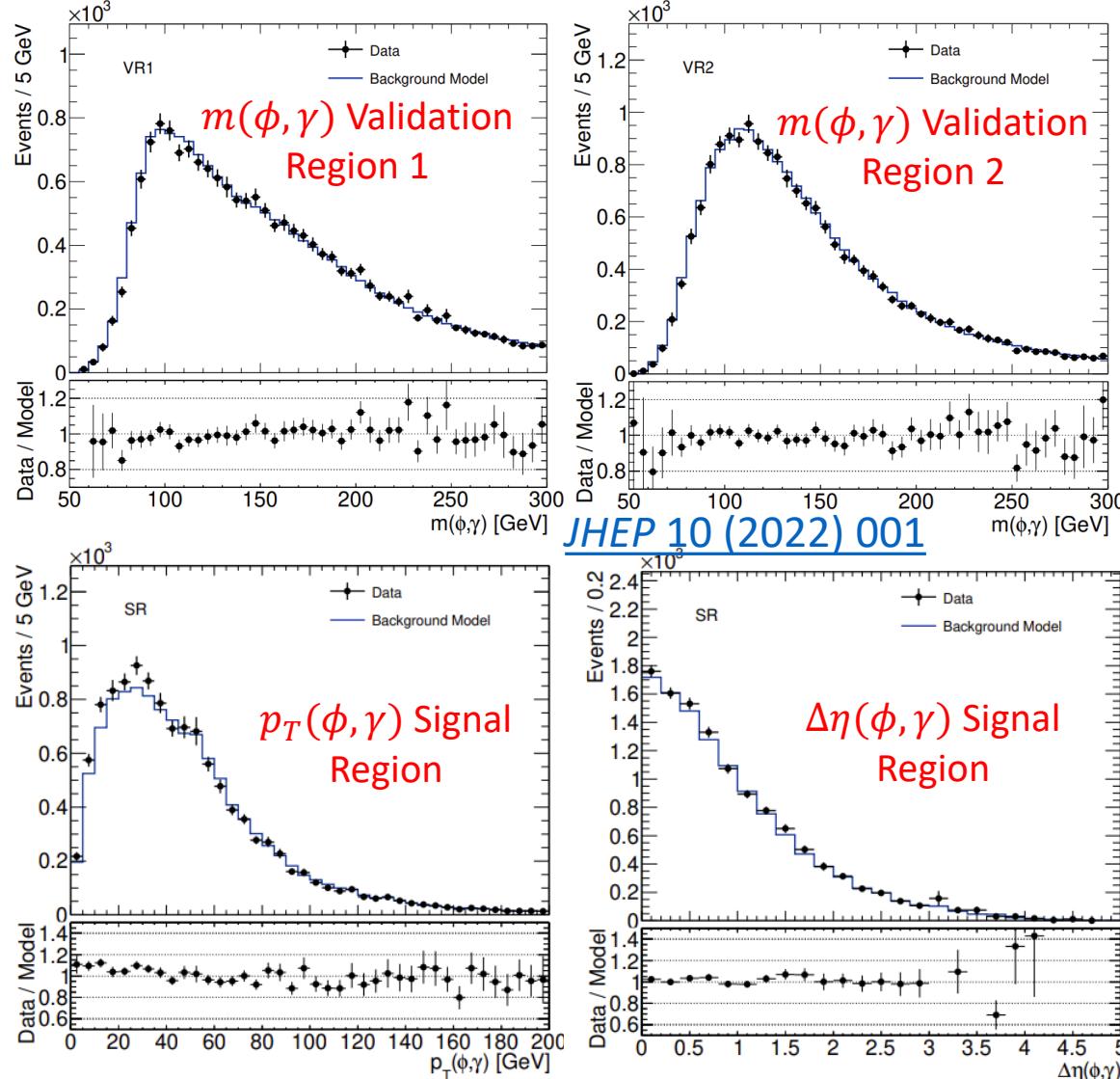
1. Model correlations in data in loose Generation Region
2. Sample many pseudo-events using model
3. Apply Validation Region selection to evaluate performance
4. Apply Signal Region selection (and smooth) for final model



Sampling Scheme

# Non-Parametric Data Driven Model: Validation

➤ Many ways to evaluate performance! – validation regions, sideband selections, alternate variables



# Non-Parametric Data Driven Model: Shape Systematics and Fit

- Ultimately, only the modelling of the discriminant variable in the SR is important
  - Typically define several shape uncertainties to allow model to adapt to data
    - Generate alternate templates by modifying generation procedure; data constrains nuisance parameters

- **Mass tilt:** reweight mass distribution with a linear function

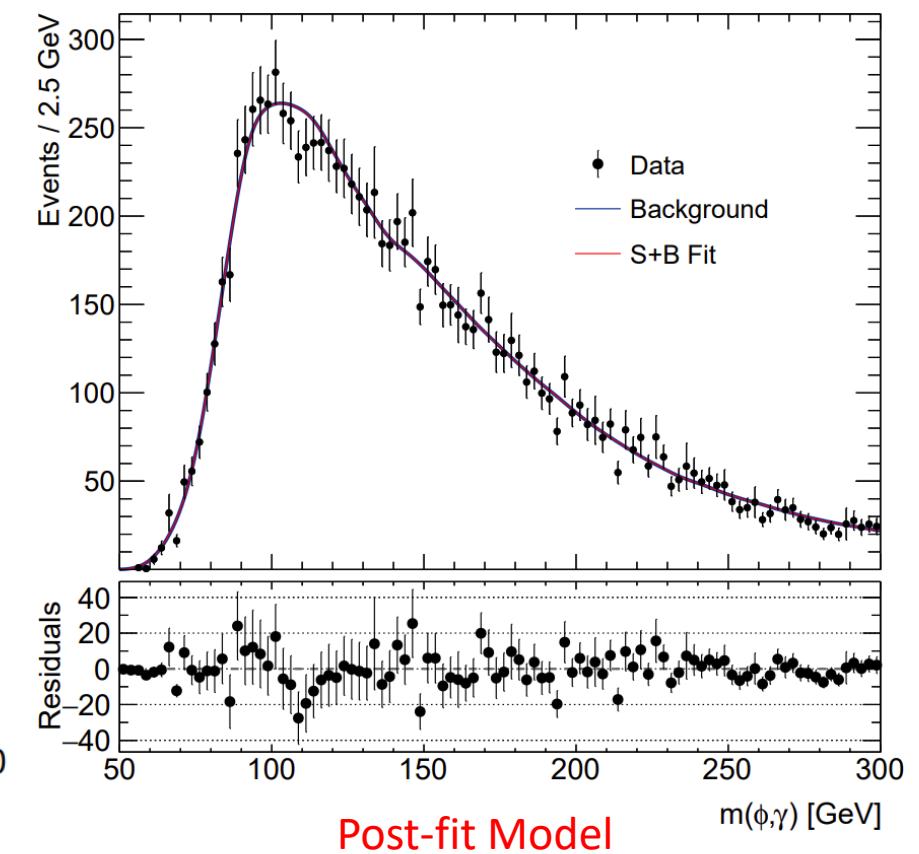
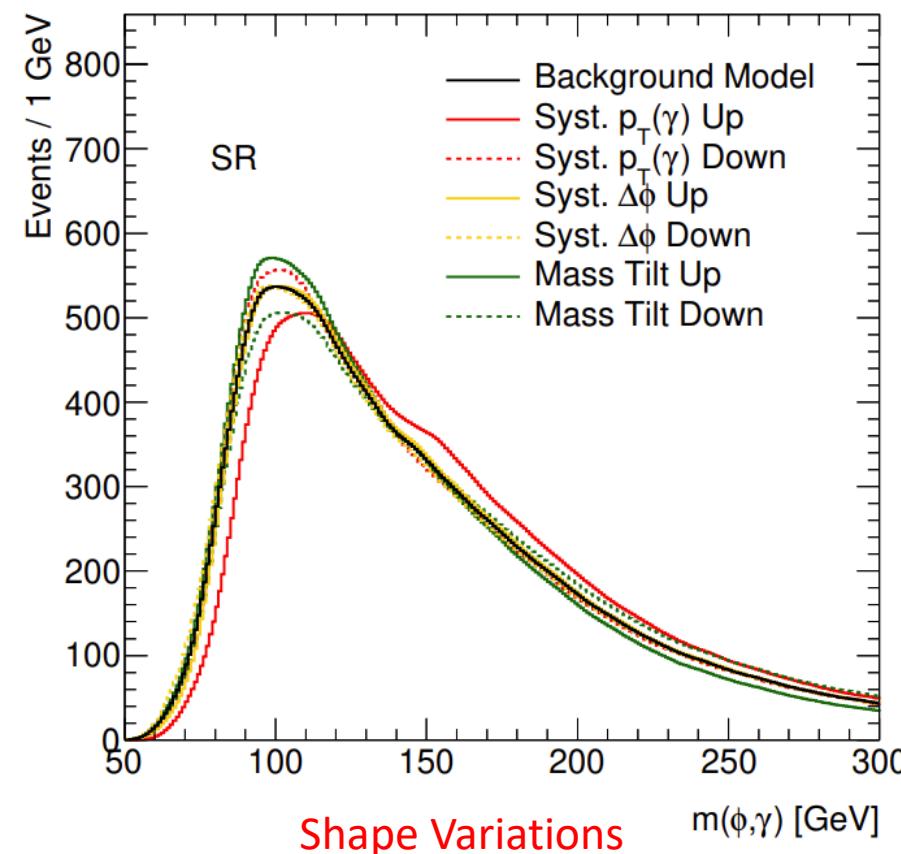
- Distribution can adapt to tilts in ratio

- **$p_T$  shift:** shift generated photon  $p_T$  in GR

- Distribution can shift higher/lower

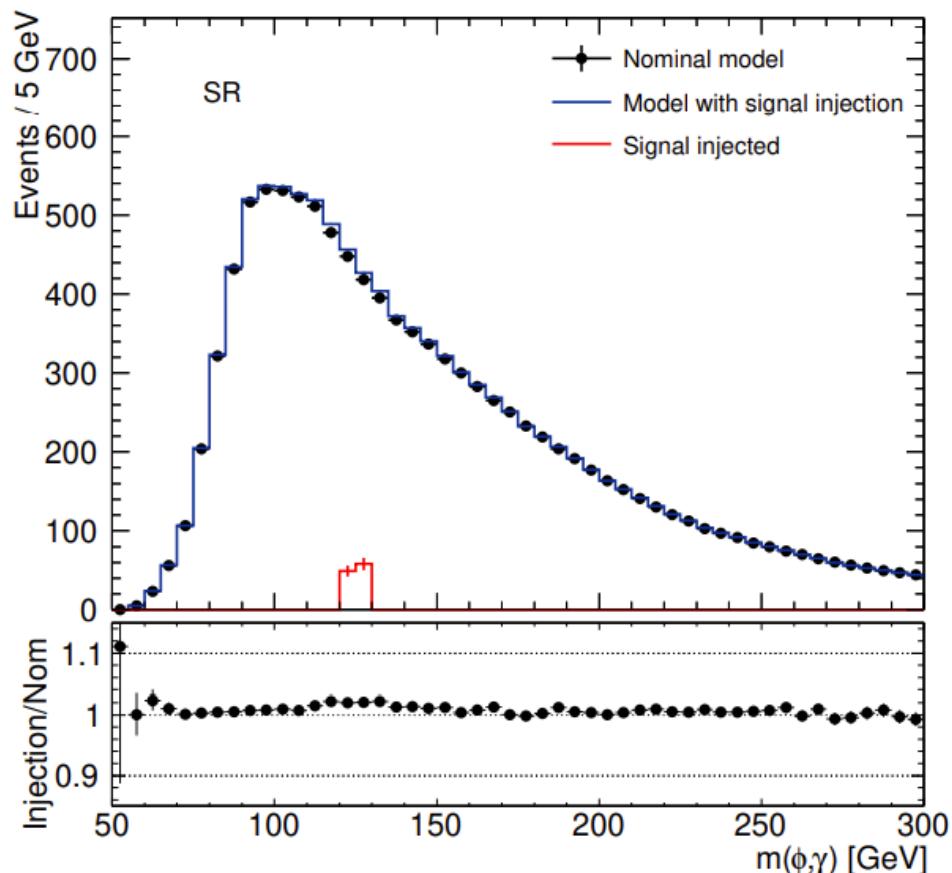
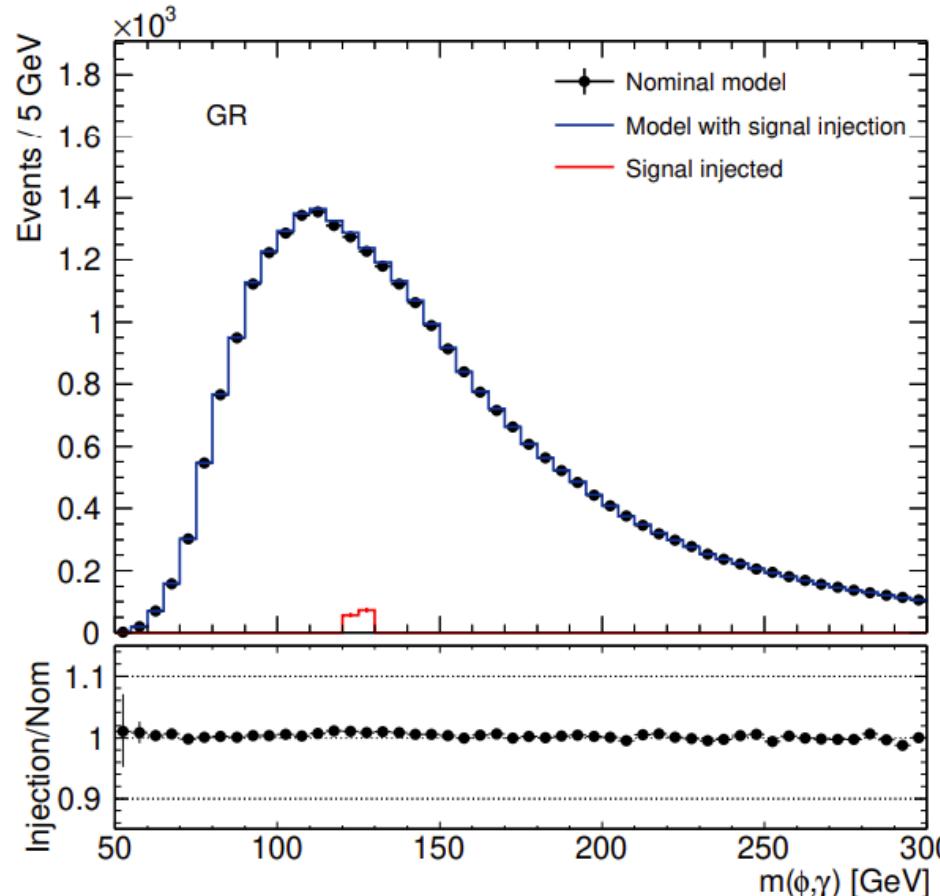
- **$\Delta\phi$  distortion:** reweight generated  $\Delta\phi$  in GR

- Width of distribution can increase/decrease



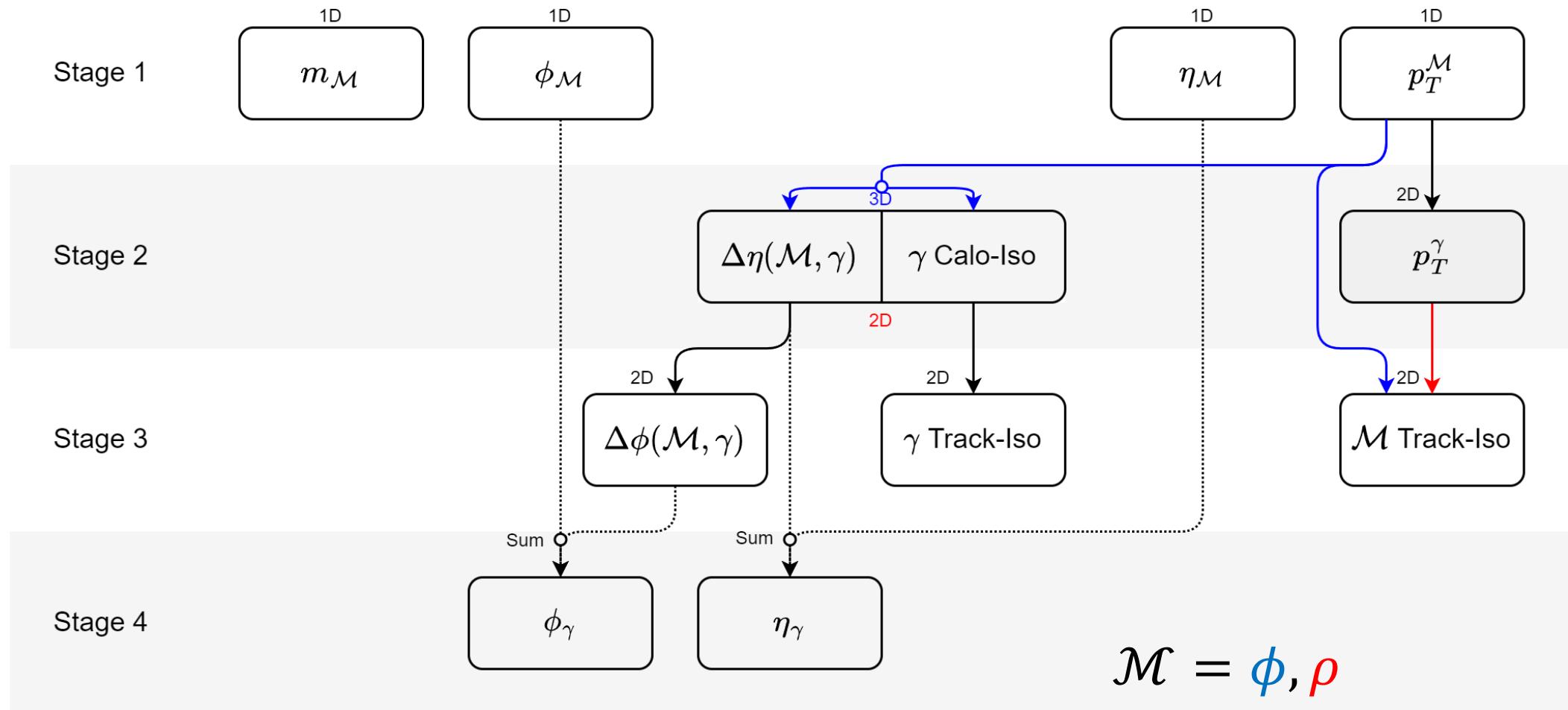
# Non-Parametric Data Driven Model: Signal Injection

- Procedure is robust against signal contamination in Generation Region
  - Inject  $5.5\sigma$  worth of signal in GR in case study – change in model prediction near  $H$  signal in SR only  $\sim 2\%$



# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Background Sampling Sequence

- Specific sampling scheme is flexible – can optimise based on correlations in each search
  - Blue = modelled in  $\phi\gamma$ ; red = modelled in  $\rho\gamma$



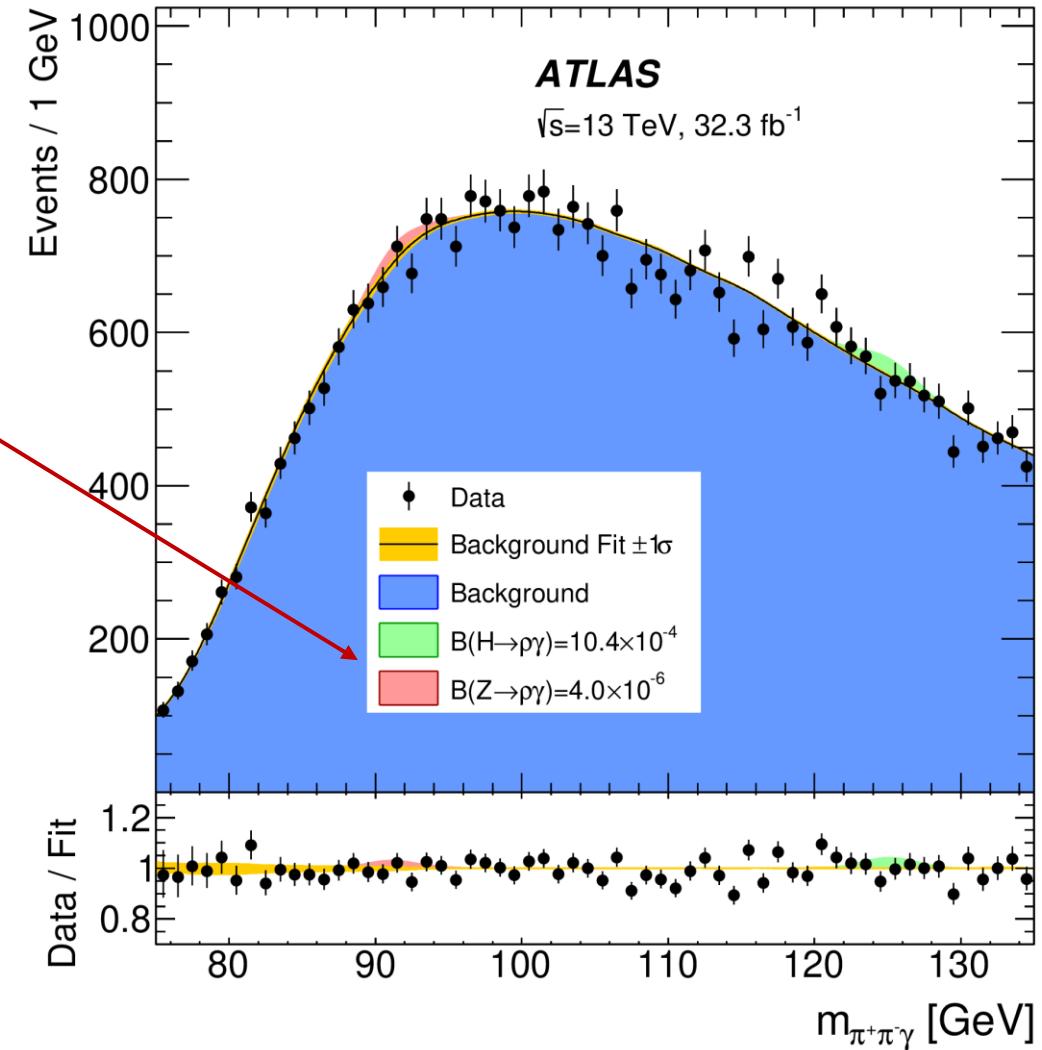
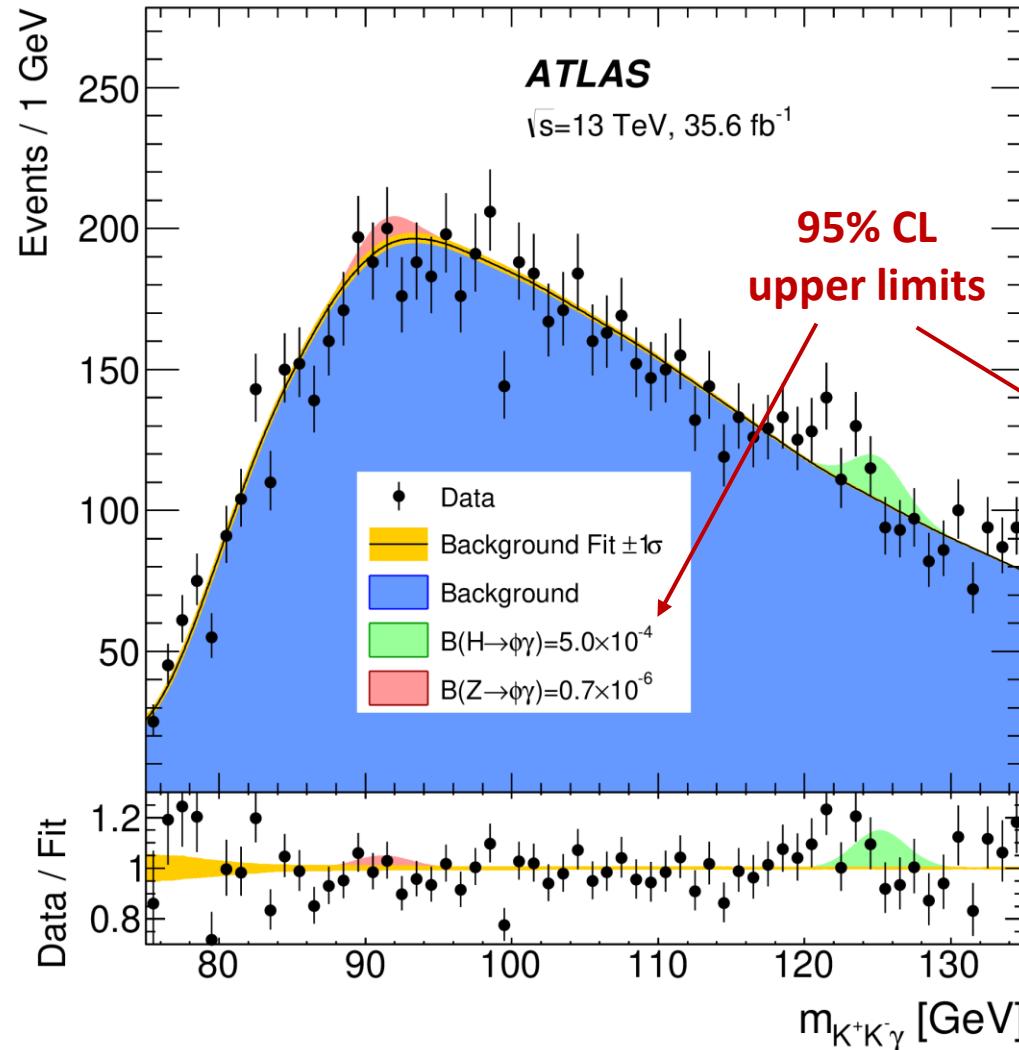
[JHEP 07 \(2018\) 127](#)

# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Results

➤ Unbinned likelihood fit in  $m(K^+K^-\gamma)$  and  $m(\pi^+\pi^-\gamma)$

[JHEP 07 \(2018\) 127](#)

- Non-parametric data-driven model for backgrounds; simulation for signals



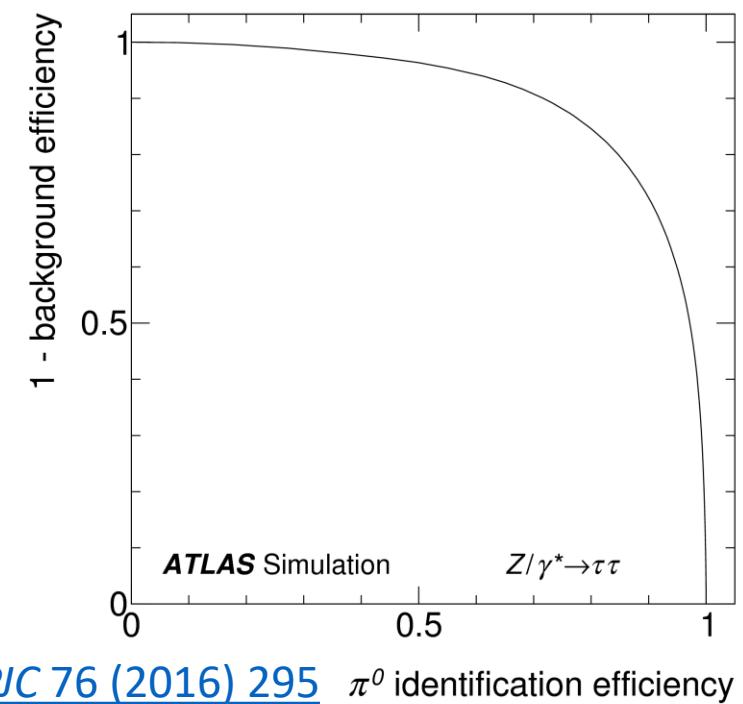
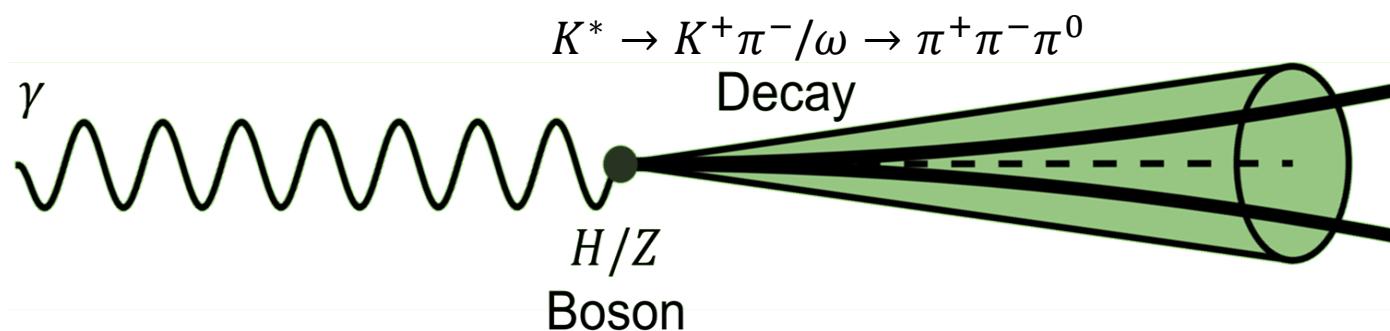
# $H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$ and $H(Z) \rightarrow \omega\gamma$ : Overview

➤  $H \rightarrow K^*(K^+\pi^-)\gamma$ : **d/s-quark flavour-changing coupling**

- Two possibilities for  $K/\pi$  mass hypothesis – choose closest to  $K^*$

➤  $H(Z) \rightarrow \omega(\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0)\gamma$ : **u- & d-quark couplings**

- Use  $\tau$  algorithms to reconstruct  $\pi^0$  close to track-pair
- $\pi^0$  requirement aids background rejection



[EPJC 76 \(2016\) 295](#)  $\pi^0$  identification efficiency

➤ **Dedicated single photon + modified  $\tau$ -lepton algorithm triggers**

- 78% efficiency w.r.t offline for  $K^*\gamma$ ; 52% for  $\omega\gamma$

Total Signal Efficiency		
$H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$	$H \rightarrow \omega\gamma$	$Z \rightarrow \omega\gamma$
12.1%	2.2%	0.4%

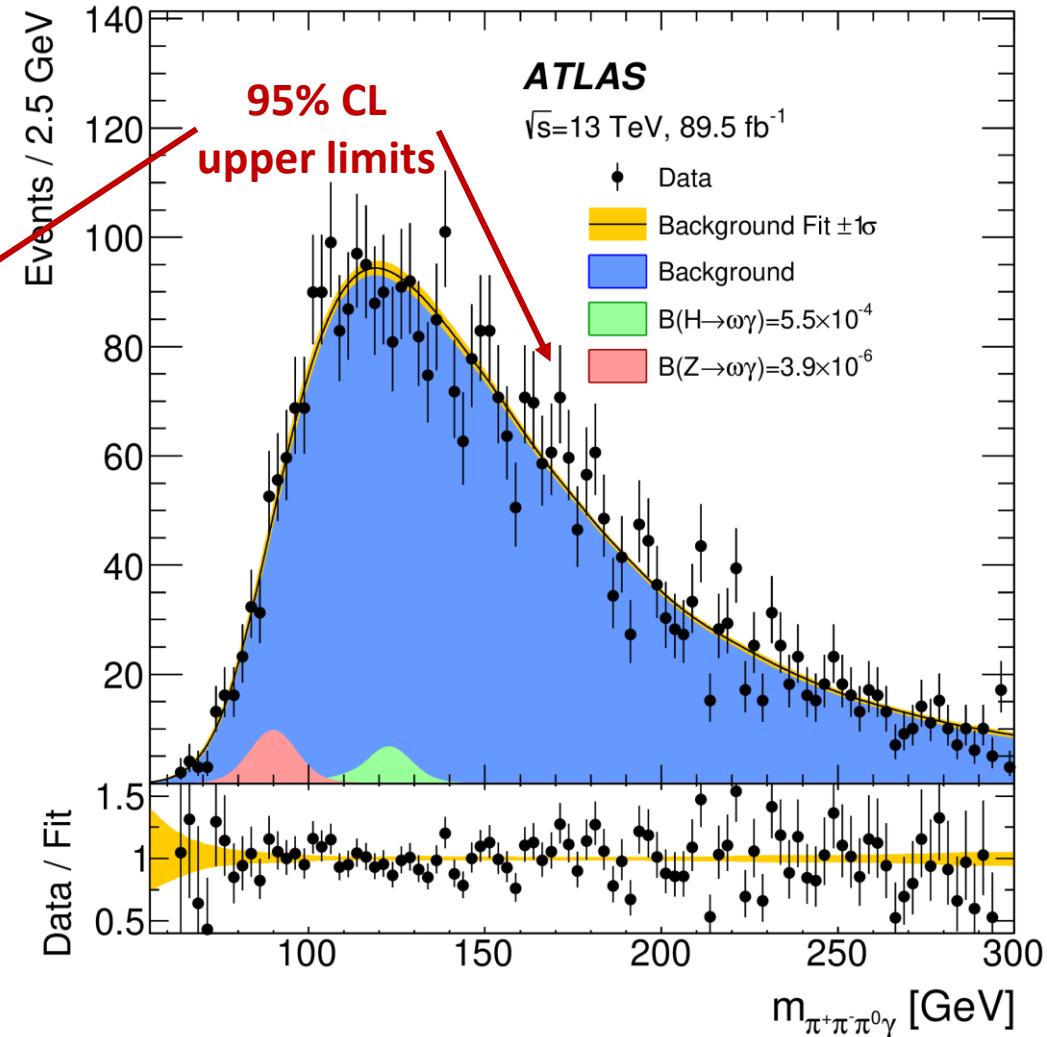
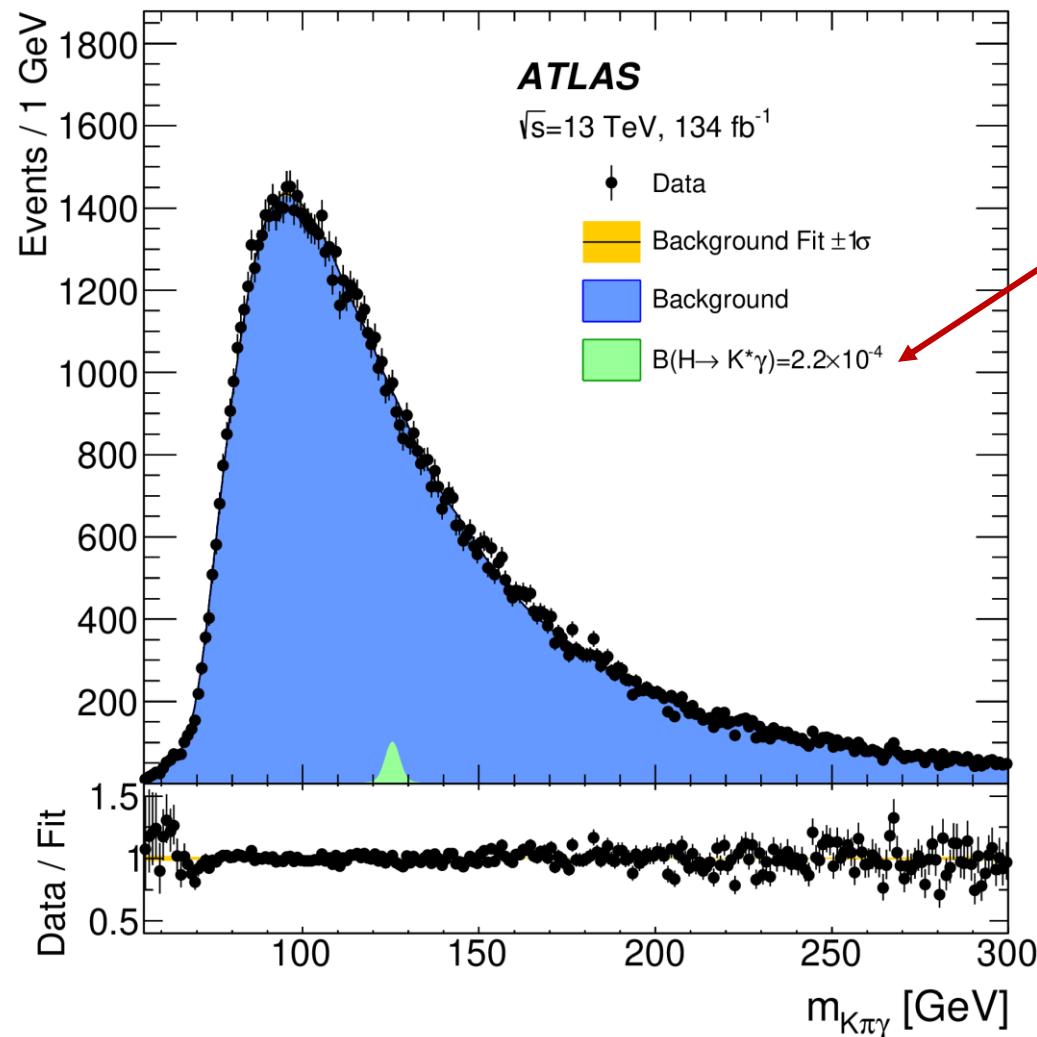
[PLB 847 \(2023\) 138292](#)

# $H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$ and $H(Z) \rightarrow \omega\gamma$ : Results

➤ Unbinned likelihood fit in  $m(K^\pm\pi^\mp\gamma)$  and  $m(\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0\gamma)$

[PLB 847 \(2023\) 138292](#)

- Non-parametric data-driven model for backgrounds; simulation for signals



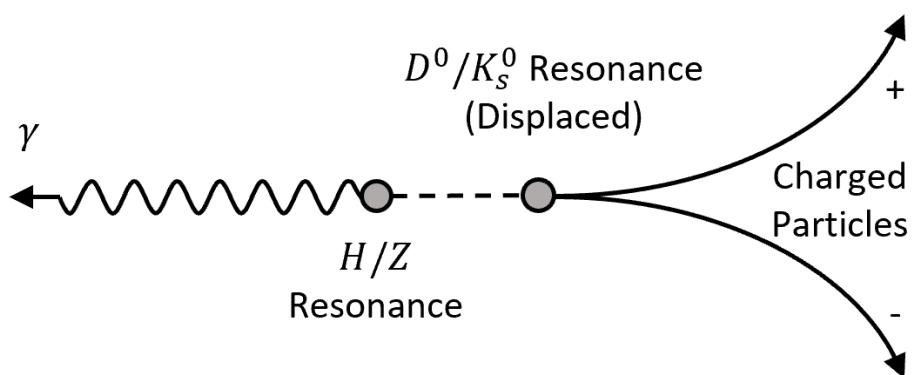
# $H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$ & $Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_s^0) \gamma$ : Overview

➤  $H \rightarrow D^*(D^0[K^-\pi^+] + \pi^0/\gamma)\gamma$  and  $Z \rightarrow D^0(K^-\pi^+)\gamma$ : *u/c* flavour-changing couplings

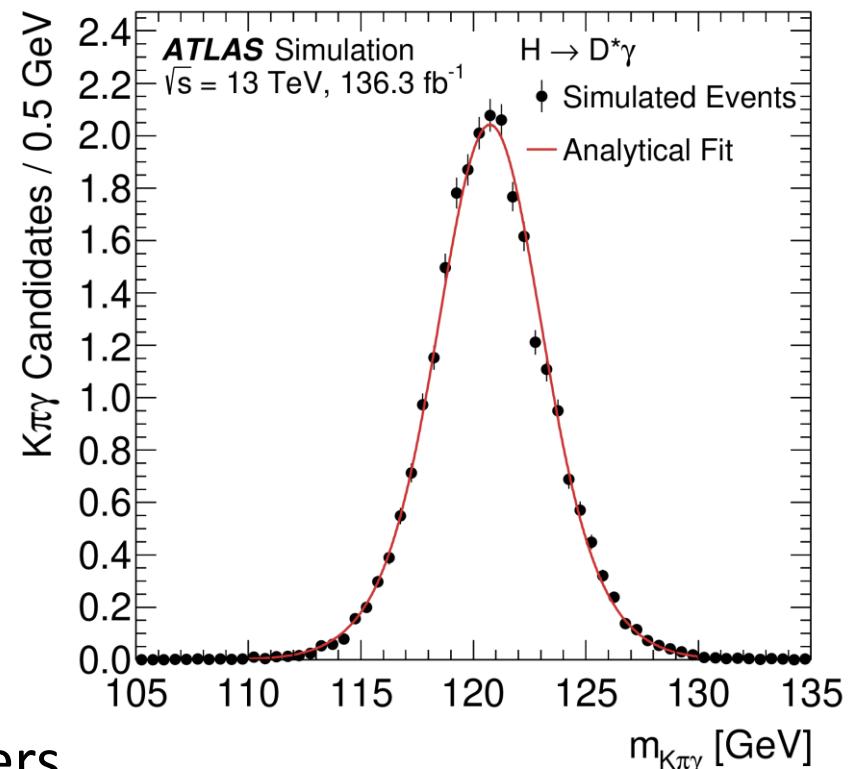
- Do not reconstruct additional soft  $\pi^0/\gamma$  in  $D^*$  decay
- $D^0$  decay is displaced - distinct from primary vertex

➤  $Z \rightarrow K_s^0(\pi^+\pi^-)\gamma$ : *d/s* flavour-changing coupling

- $K_s^0$  decay is particularly displaced - many occur beyond innermost ID layers



1.9 – 2.3%  
Signal Resolution



➤ Dedicated single photon + modified  $\tau$ -lepton algorithm triggers

- 69% efficiency w.r.t offline for  $D^*\gamma$ ; 39% for  $K_s^0\gamma$

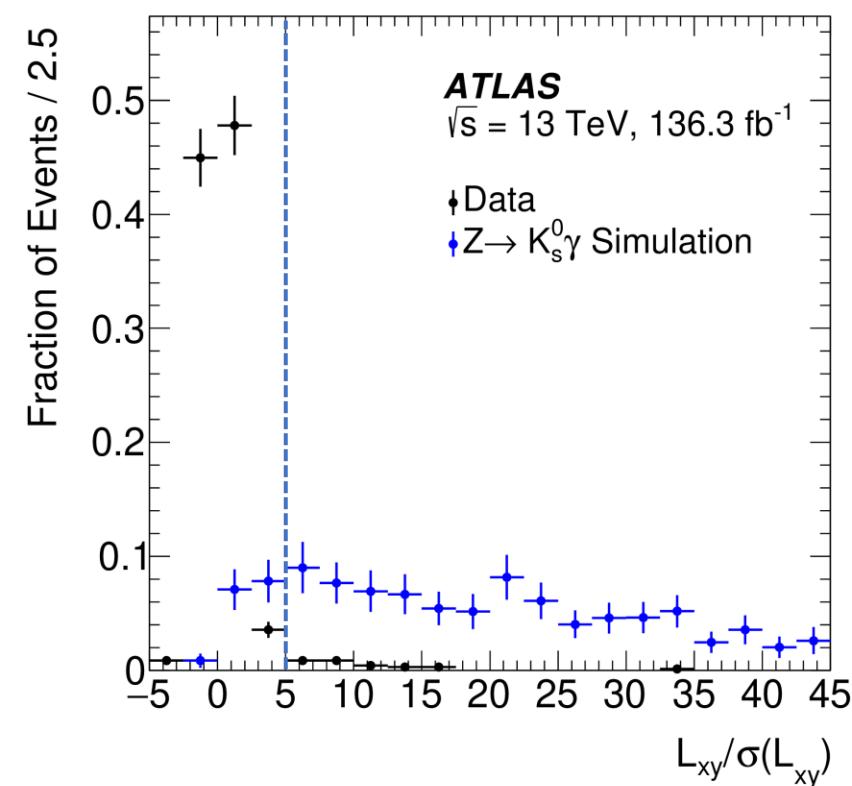
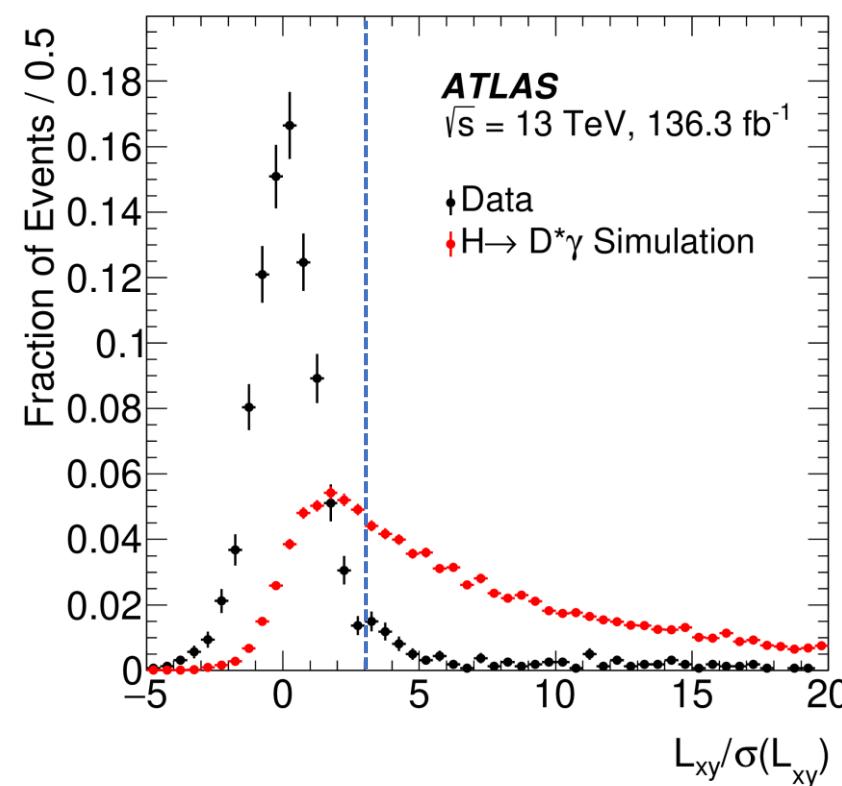
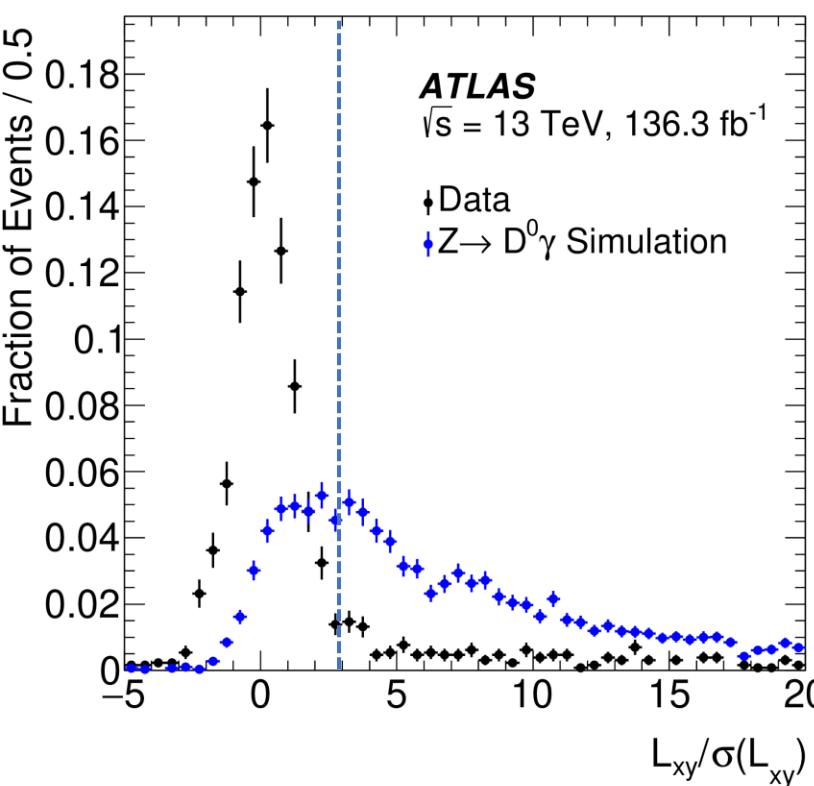
Total Signal Efficiency		
$H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$	$Z \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$	$Z \rightarrow K_s^0 \gamma$
9%	3%	0.2%

arXiv:2402.18731

# $H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$ & $Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_s^0) \gamma$ : Vertex Reconstruction

➤ Secondary vertex reconstruction suppresses backgrounds

- Reject prompt vertices (i.e reject values below dashed lines)
- Vertex fit also improves meson reconstruction



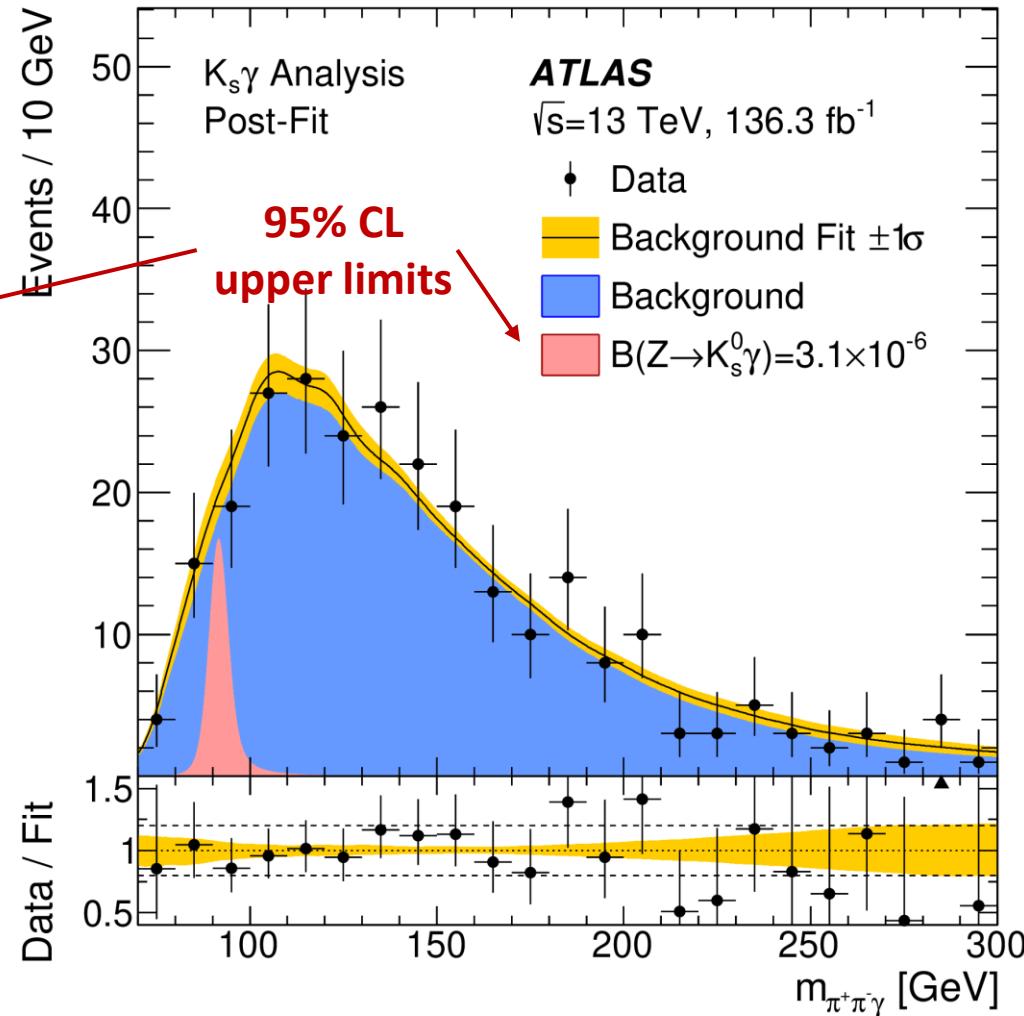
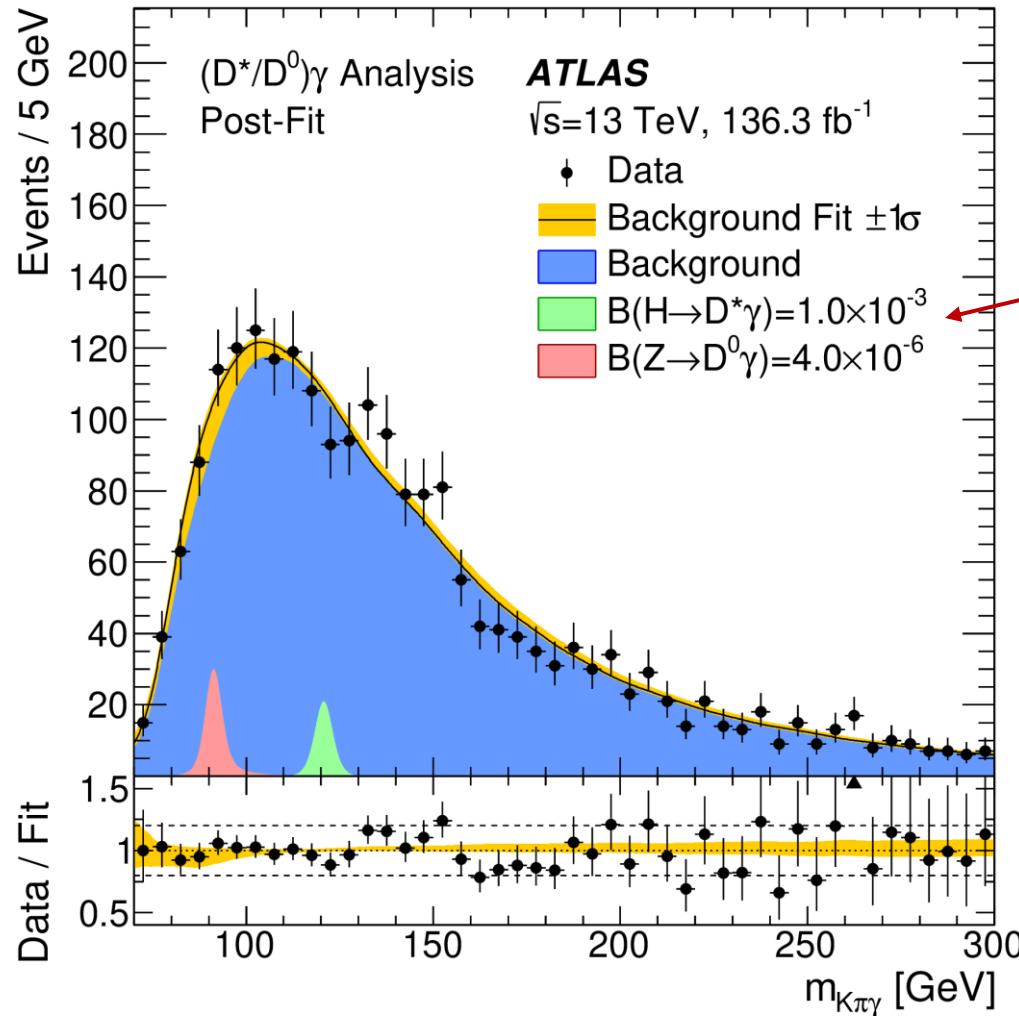
arXiv:2402.18731

# $H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$ & $Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_s^0) \gamma$ : Results

➤ Unbinned likelihood fit in  $m(K\pi\gamma)$  and  $m(\pi^+\pi^-\gamma)$

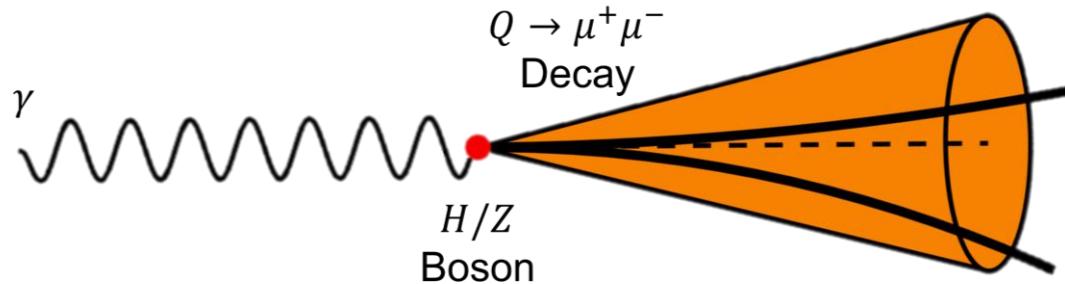
[arXiv:2402.18731](https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.18731)

- Non-parametric data-driven model for backgrounds; simulation for signals



# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Overview

- $H \rightarrow Q(\mu^+\mu^-)\gamma$ :  $b$ - &  $c$ -quark Yukawa couplings



- Dedicated single photon + muon triggers

- 97% efficiency w.r.t offline

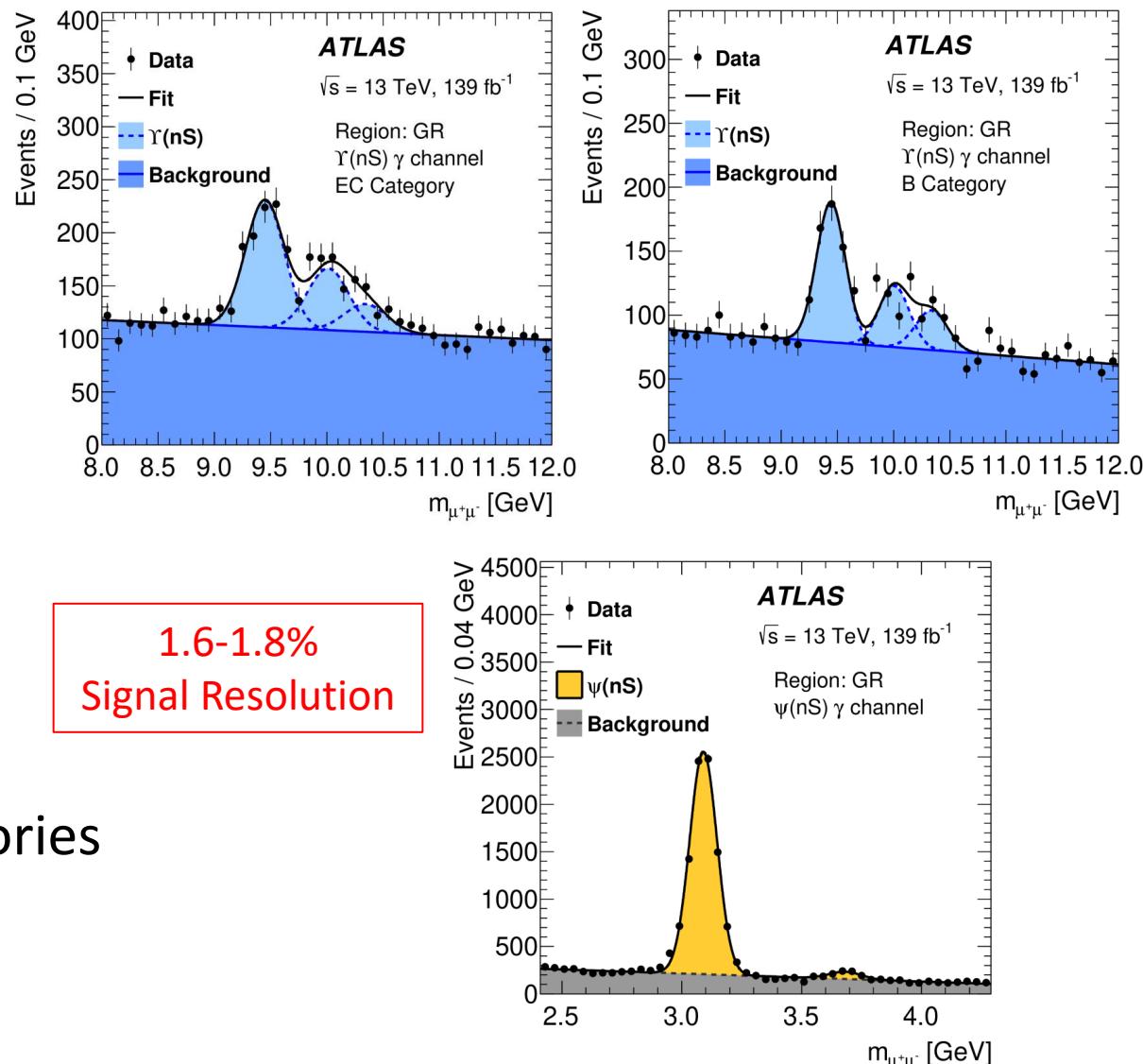
- Additional resonant  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\gamma$  background

- Use a **2D** fit in  $m_{\mu^+\mu^-\gamma}$  vs  $m_{\mu^+\mu^-}$

- Split  $\Upsilon(nS)$  into Barrel (B) and Endcap (EC) categories

- Improved resolution in barrel helps resolve each state

- Reject displaced vertices to remove  $b \rightarrow \psi(nS)$

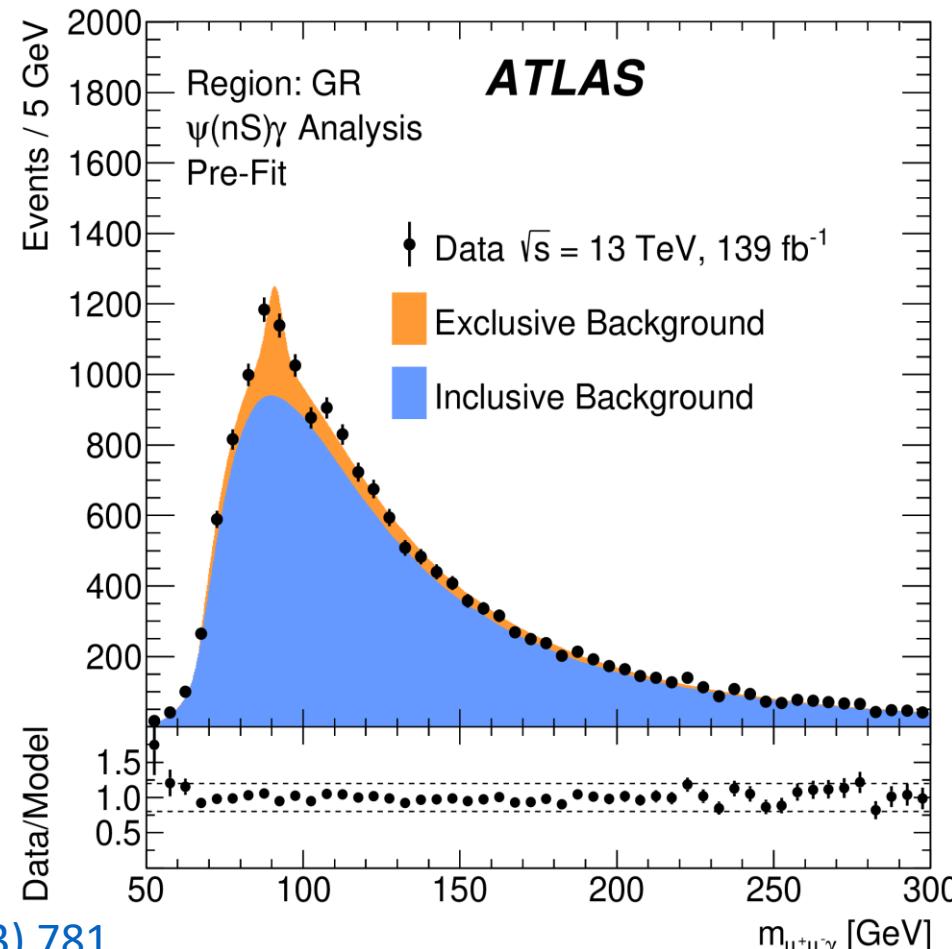


1.6-1.8%  
Signal Resolution

# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Background Modelling

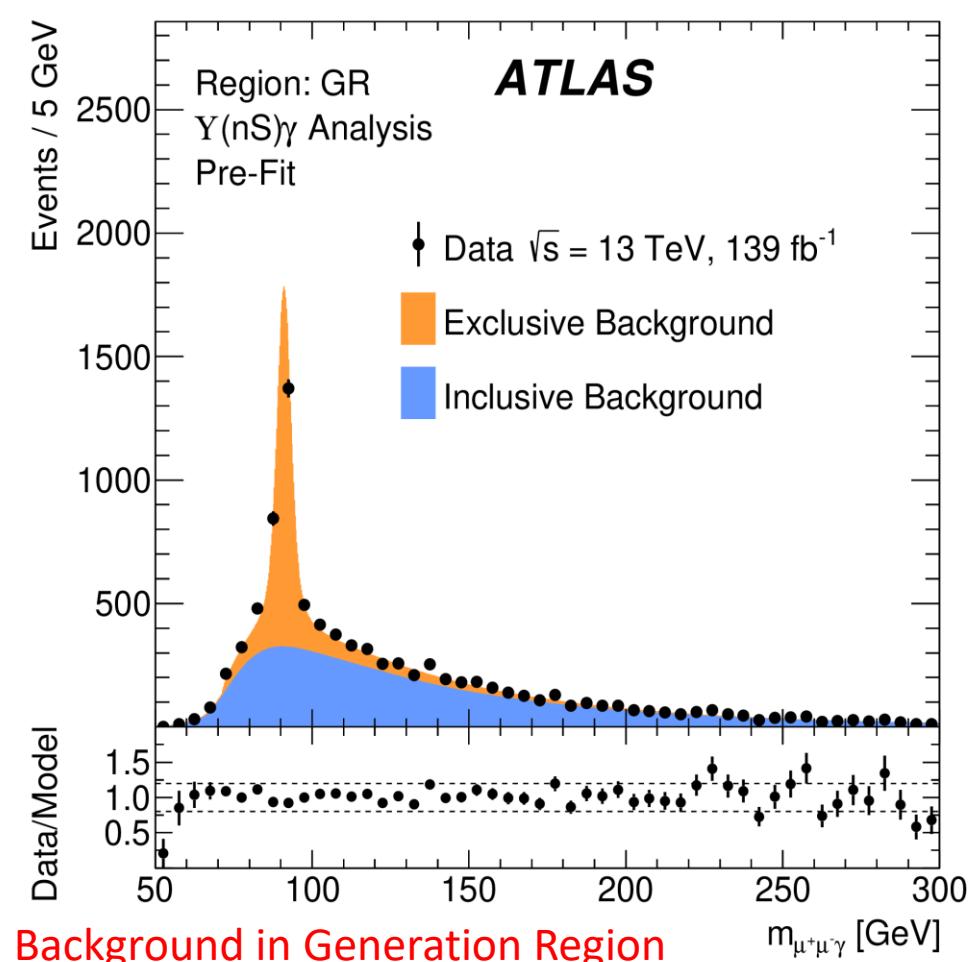
## ➤ Exclusive background

- $q\bar{q} \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-\gamma$  production (Drell-Yan)
- Analytical fit to simulated events

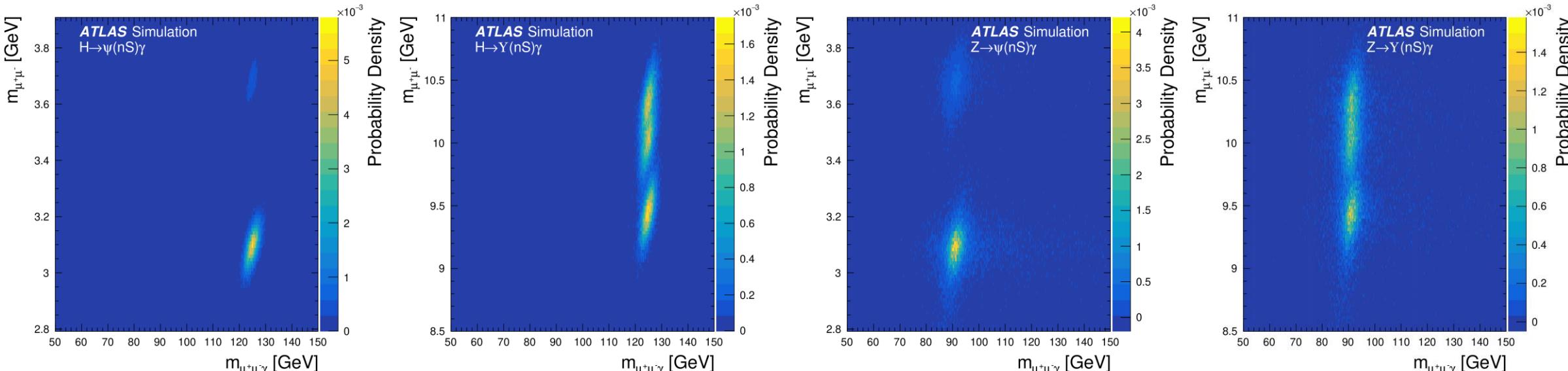


## ➤ Inclusive background

- Multi-jet and  $\gamma$ +jet sources with  $Q/\mu^+\mu^-$  production
- Non-parametric data-driven background model



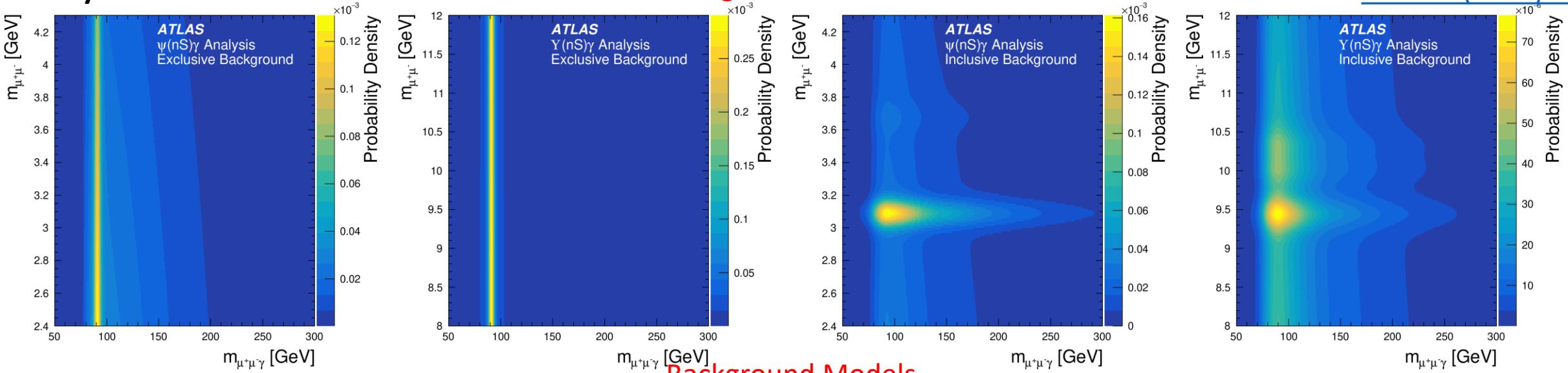
# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Three-body Mass Versus Dimuon Mass



**Every contribution is distinct in 2D!**

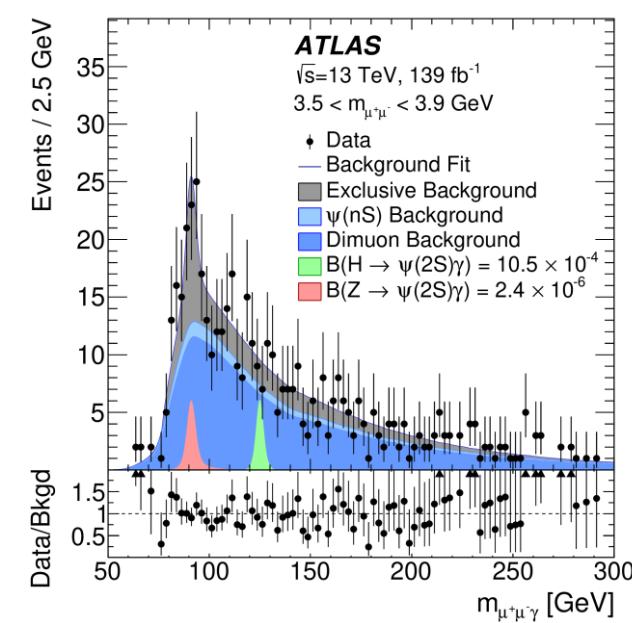
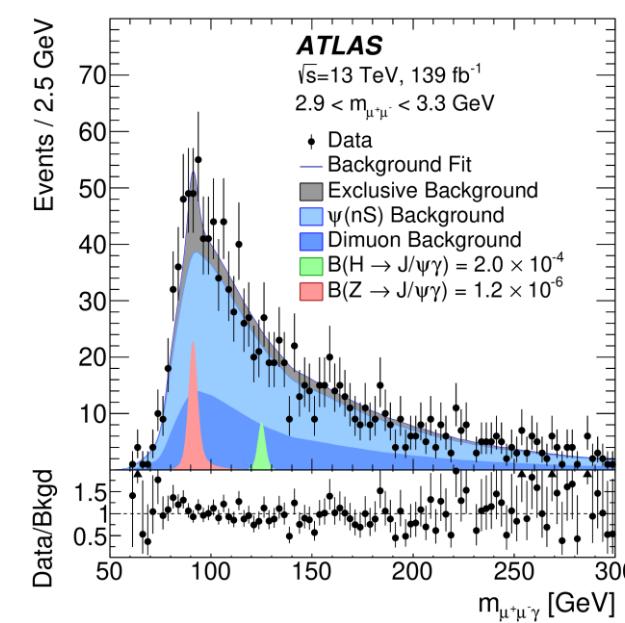
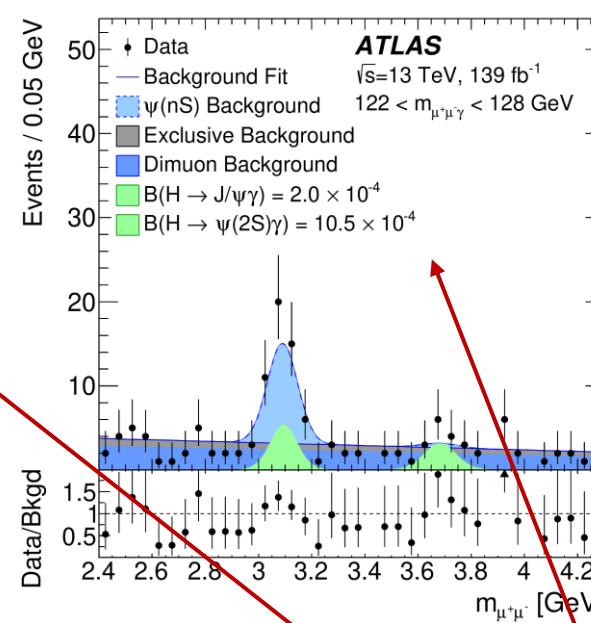
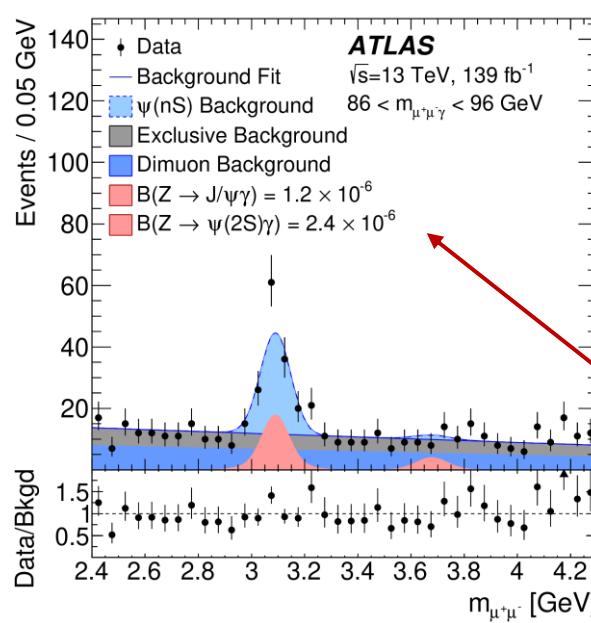
**Signal Models**

**EPJC 83 (2023) 781**



# $H(Z) \rightarrow \psi(nS)\gamma$ : Results

- Use **2D** unbinned likelihood fit in  $m(\mu^+\mu^-)$ ,  $m(\mu^+\mu^-\gamma)$ 
  - Discriminates between **all** signal and background contributions
- $\psi(nS)\gamma$  analysis fit is performed in a single category



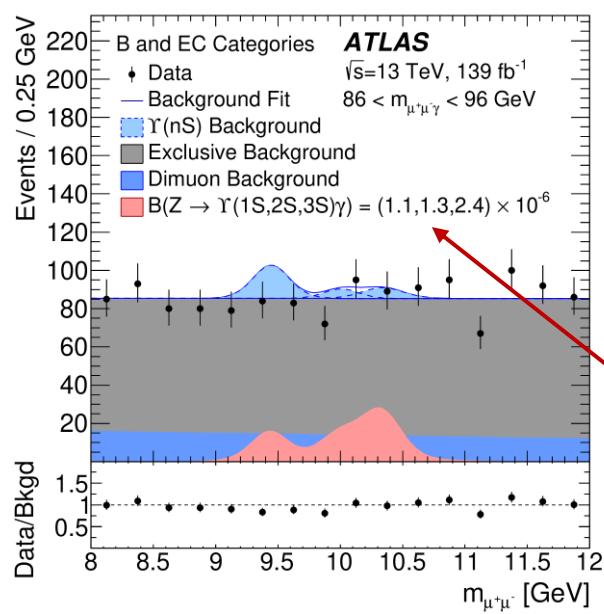
Projections in  $m(\mu^+\mu^-)$

95% CL  
upper limits

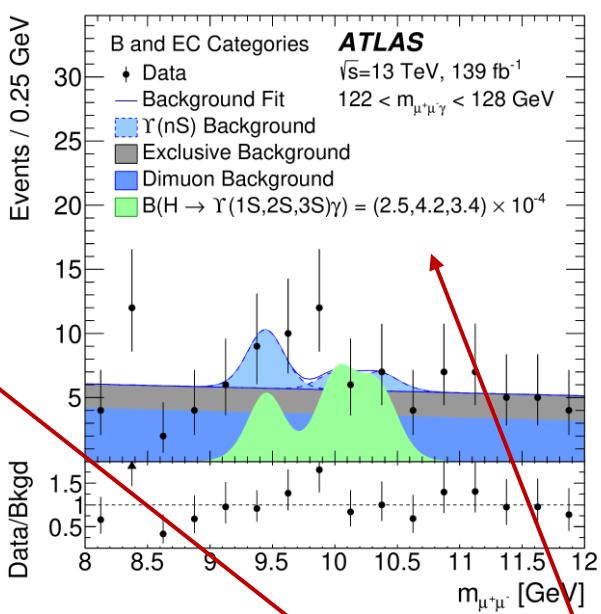
Projections in  $m(\mu^+\mu^-\gamma)$

# $H(Z) \rightarrow \Upsilon(nS)\gamma$ : Results

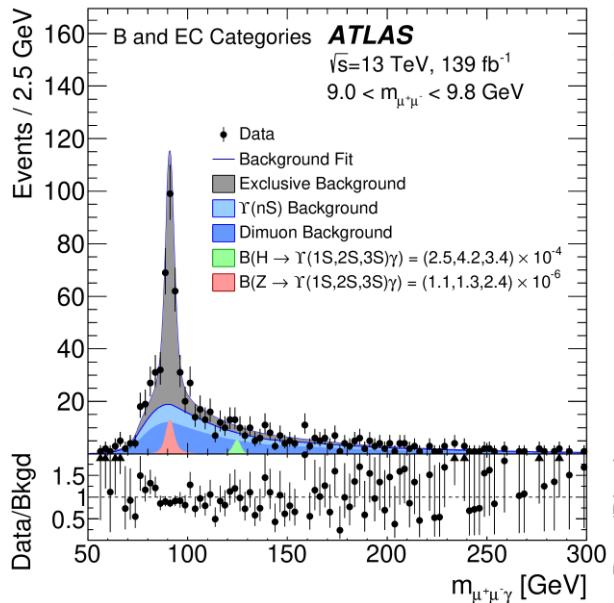
➤  $\Upsilon(nS)\gamma$  analysis fit is performed simultaneously in the barrel and endcap categories



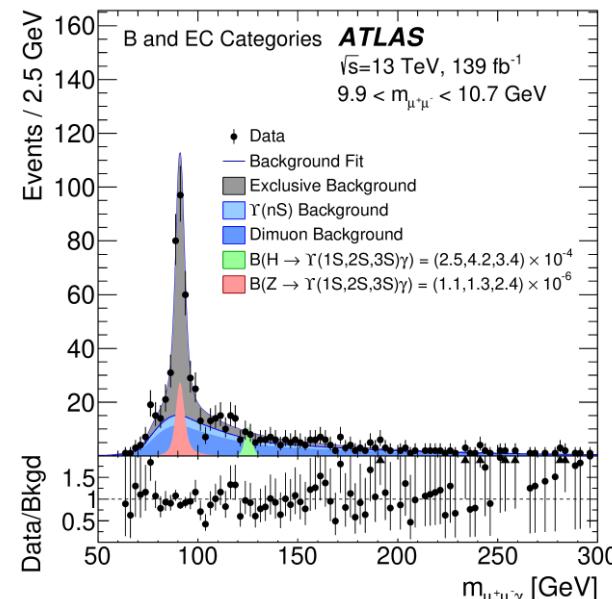
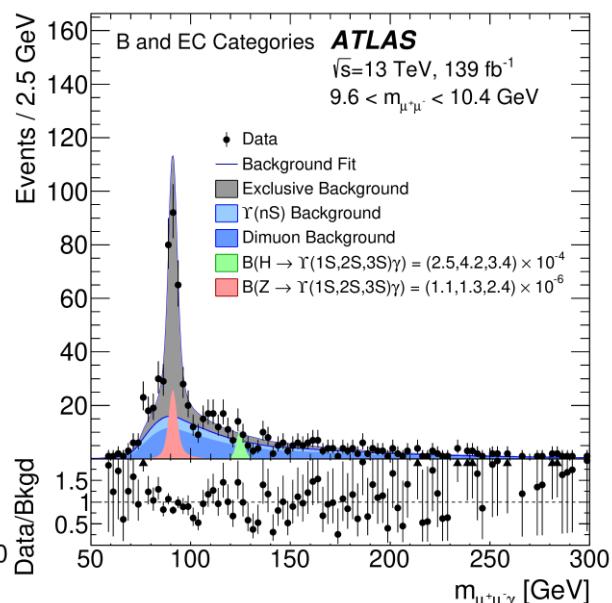
Projections in  $m(\mu^+\mu^-)$



95% CL  
upper limits



Projections in  $m(\mu^+\mu^-)$



# $H \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : $\kappa$ -Framework Interpretation

➤  $\kappa_q$  coupling modifier: ratio of quark coupling  $g_q$  over the SM-expectation,  $\kappa_q = \frac{g_q}{g_q^{\text{SM}}}$

➤ Combine with  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$  <sup>§</sup> to interpret in terms of  $\kappa_{c,b}/\kappa_\gamma$ :

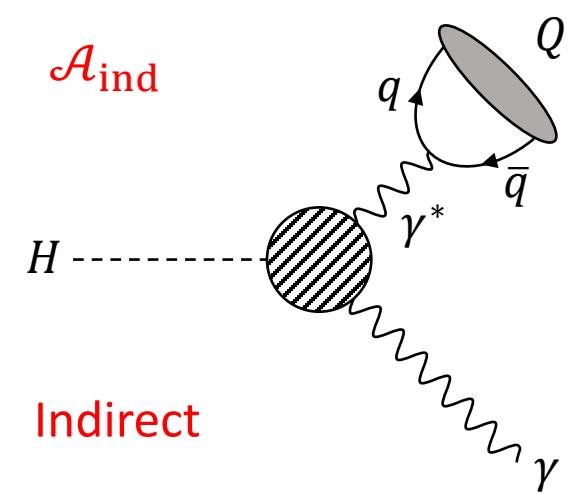
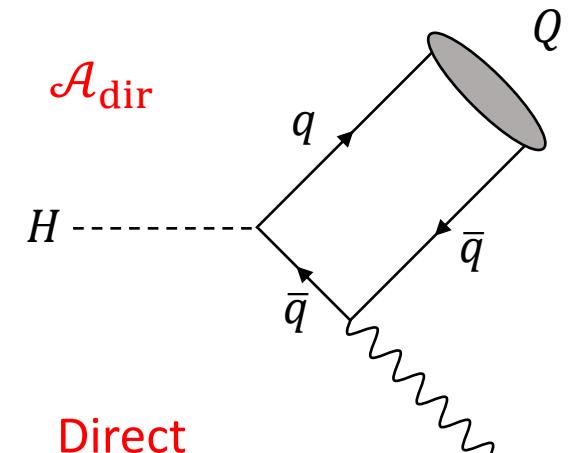
<sup>§</sup>[ATLAS-CONF-2020-026](#)

$$\frac{\mu_{H \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma}}{\mu_{H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma}} \approx \frac{\left| \mathcal{A}_{\text{ind}} + \frac{\kappa_c}{\kappa_\gamma} \mathcal{A}_{\text{dir}} \right|^2}{\Gamma_{H \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma}^{\text{SM}}}$$

$\mu$ : observed rate  
normalised to SM rate

Analysis	$\kappa$ Ratio	Expected Bounds	Observed Bounds
$H \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma$	$\kappa_c/\kappa_\gamma$	(−120, 161)	[−133, 175]
$H \rightarrow \Upsilon(nS)\gamma$	$\kappa_b/\kappa_\gamma$	(−37, 39)	[−37, 40]

- $BR_{H \rightarrow \psi(nS)\gamma}^{\text{SM}} \approx 10^{-6}$
- $|\mathcal{A}_{\text{ind}}| \approx 20 \times |\mathcal{A}_{\text{dir}}|$
- $BR_{H \rightarrow \Upsilon(nS)\gamma}^{\text{SM}} \approx 10^{-9} - 10^{-8}$
- $\mathcal{A}_{\text{ind}}, \mathcal{A}_{\text{dir}}$  almost cancel in SM

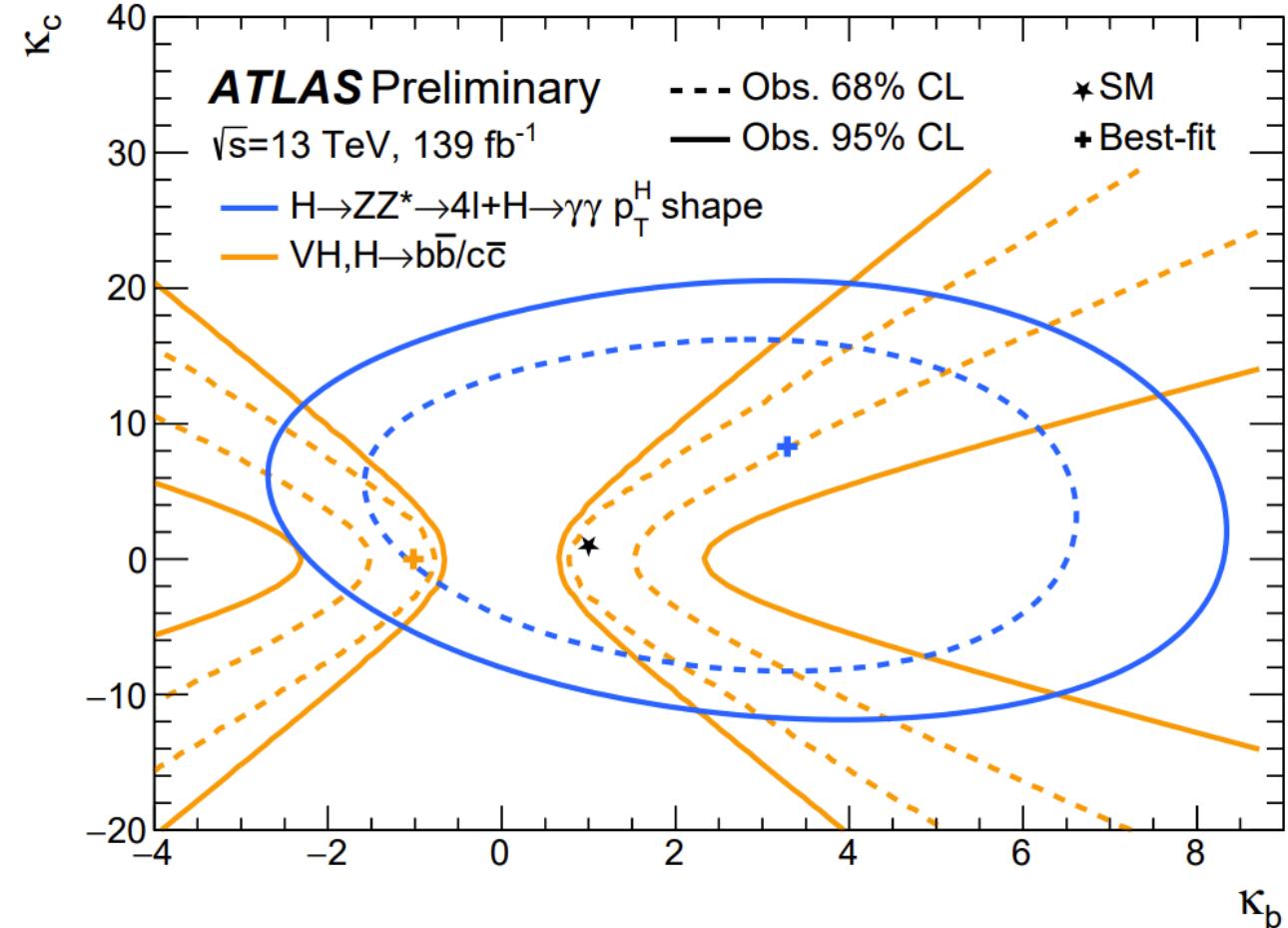


# Other $\kappa$ -Framework Results

➤  $\kappa$ -interpretation complements results from other searches

- $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ : [EPJC 81 \(2021\) 178](#)
- $H \rightarrow c\bar{c}$ : [EPJC 82 \(2022\) 717](#)
  - $|\kappa_c| < 8.5$  (12.4) @ 95% CL
  - $|\kappa_c/\kappa_b| < 4.5$  (5.1) @ 95% CL
- Measurements of  $p_T^H$ : [JHEP 05 \(2023\) 028](#)

Channel	Parameter	Observed 95% confidence interval	Expected 95% confidence interval
$H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4\ell$	$\kappa_b$	[-1.1, 1.2]	[-1.2, 1.2]
	$\kappa_c$	[-5.2, 5.4]	[-5.7, 5.6]
$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	$\kappa_b$	[-1.1, 1.1]	[-1.2, 1.2]
	$\kappa_c$	[-5.2, 5.0]	[-5.4, 5.5]
Combined	$\kappa_b$	[-1.1, 1.1]	[-1.2, 1.2]
	$\kappa_c$	[-5.0, 5.1]	[-5.2, 5.4]

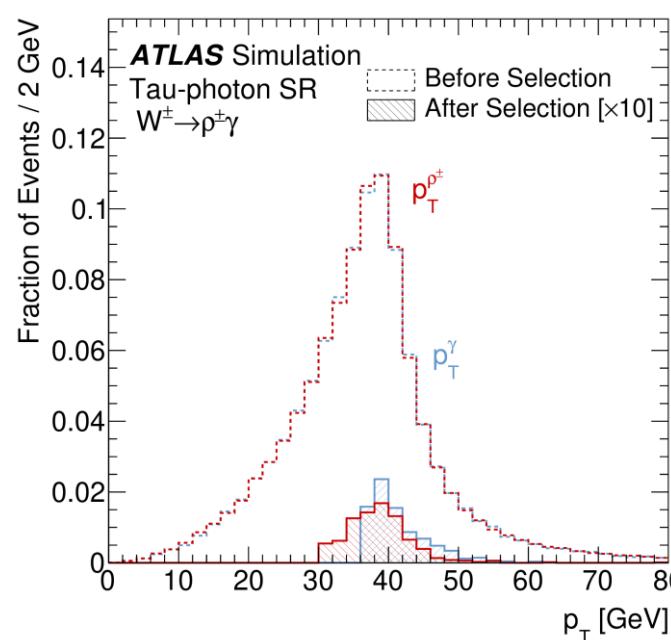
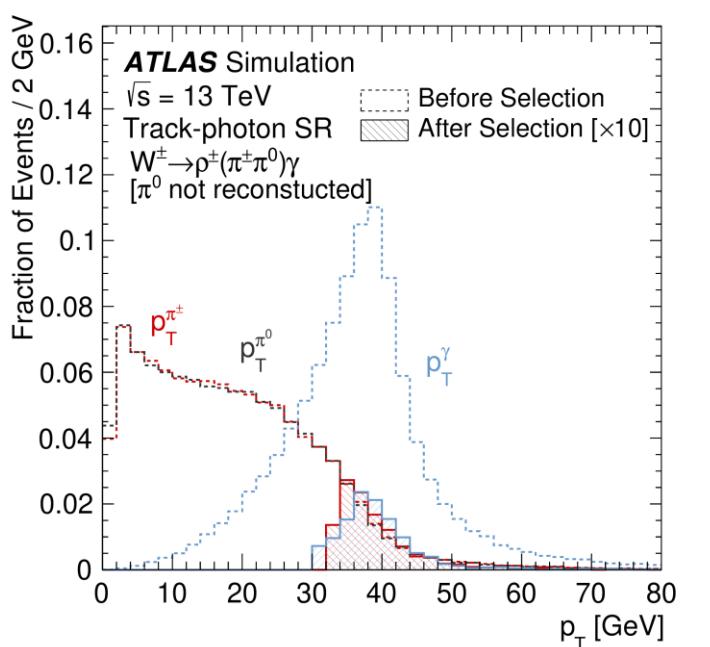
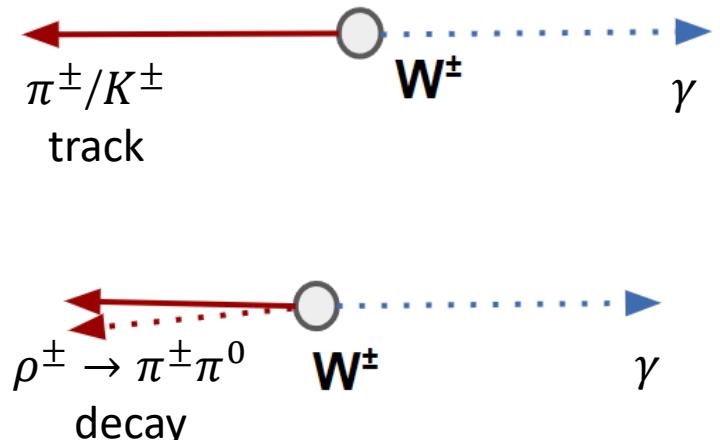


CMS result for  $\kappa_c/\kappa_\gamma$  from  $H \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma$ : Expected = (-121,161); observed = [-157,199]

[CMS-PAS-SMP-22-012](#)

# $W^\pm \rightarrow (\pi^\pm, K^\pm, \rho^\pm)\gamma$ : Overview

- $W^\pm \rightarrow (\pi^\pm, K^\pm)\gamma$ : One category
  - Dedicated track + single photon triggers (58% efficiency)
- $W^\pm \rightarrow (\rho^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm\pi^0)\gamma$ : Two categories
  - Di-photon triggers for  $\tau$  + photon category (43% efficiency)
    - $\rho$  reconstructed as 1-pronged  $\tau$ -lepton
  - Some sensitivity with track + photon trigger
    - No  $\pi^0$  reconstruction in track + photon category



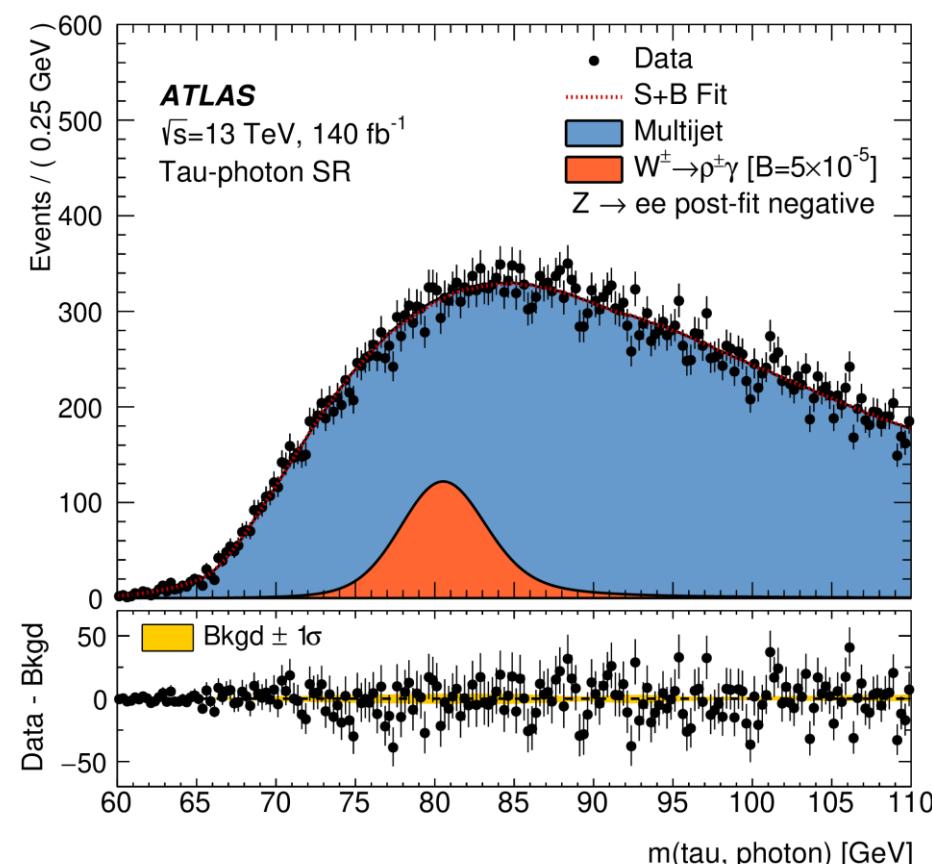
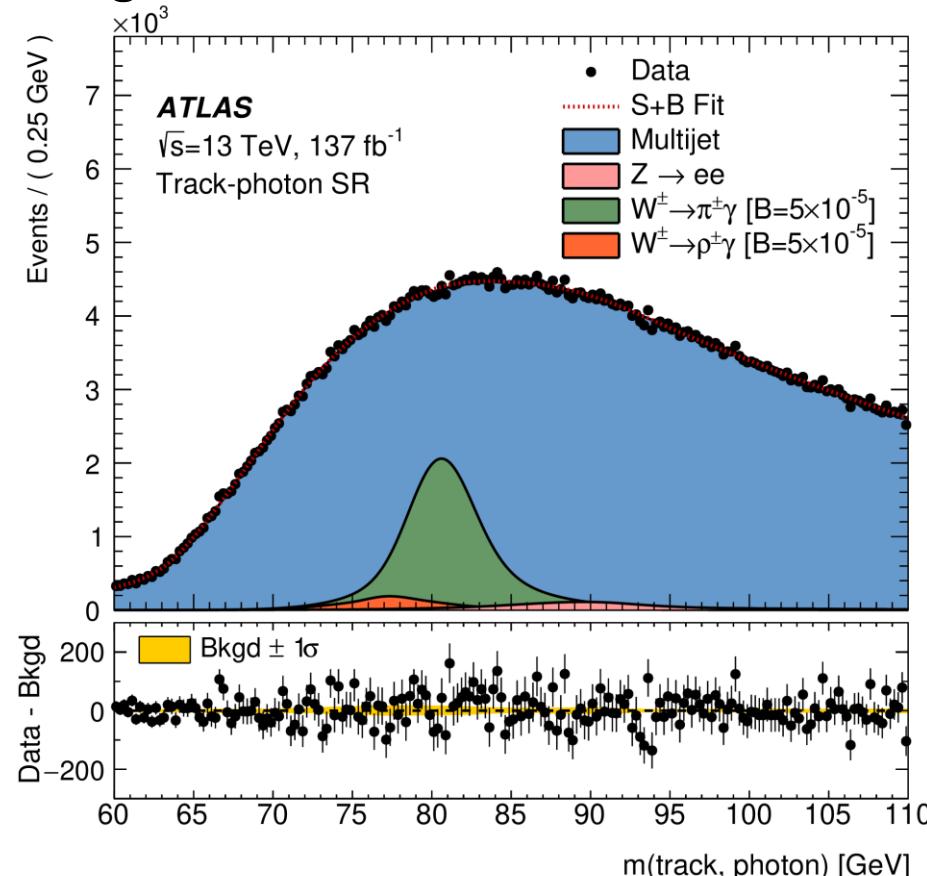
Total Signal Efficiency		
$W^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm\gamma$	$W^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm\gamma$	$W^\pm \rightarrow \rho^\pm\gamma$
5.0%	5.5%	0.5% (0.3%)

2.7 – 3.1%  
 Signal Resolution

arXiv:2309.15887

# $W^\pm \rightarrow (\pi^\pm, K^\pm, \rho^\pm)\gamma$ : Results

- Binned likelihood fit in  $m(\text{track}, \gamma)$  and  $m(\tau, \gamma)$ 
  - Simultaneous fit in two categories: track + photon and  $\tau$  + photon
- Suppress  $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$  background using TRT to identify  $e^\pm$ 
  - Remaining contribution modelled with simulation

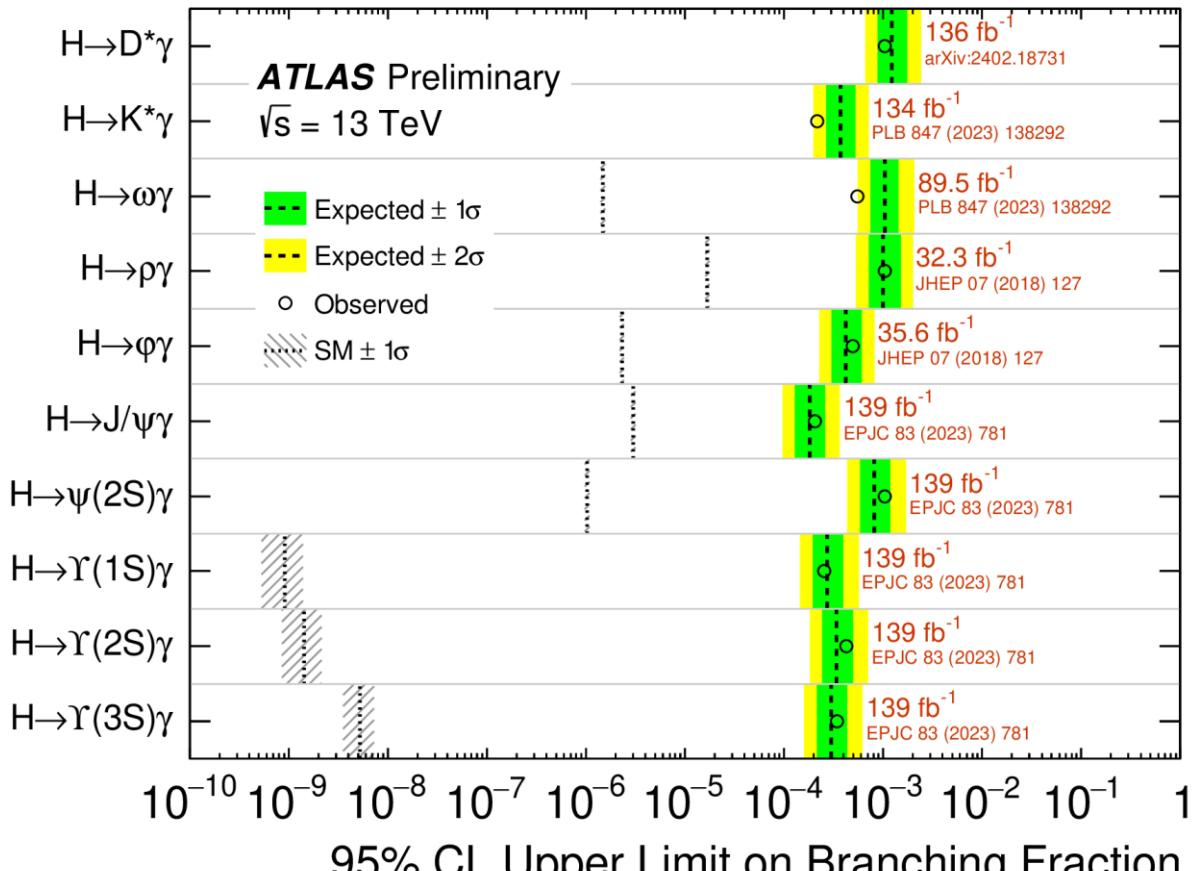


Branching fraction	95% CL upper limits	
	Expected $\times 10^{-6}$	Observed $\times 10^{-6}$
$\mathcal{B}(W^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \gamma)$	$1.2^{+0.5}_{-0.3}$	1.9
$\mathcal{B}(W^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm \gamma)$	$1.1^{+0.4}_{-0.3}$	1.7
$\mathcal{B}(W^\pm \rightarrow \rho^\pm \gamma)$	$6.0^{+2.3}_{-1.7}$	5.2

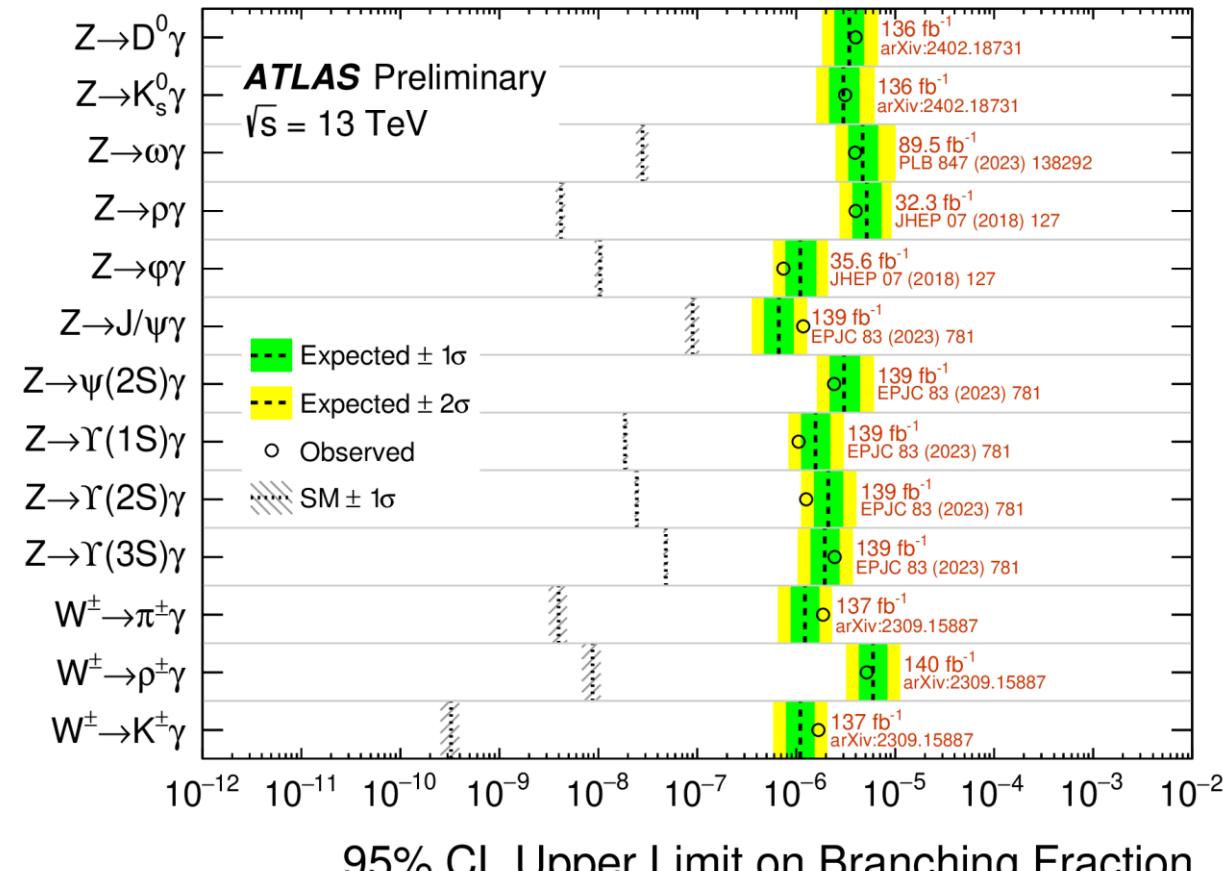
arXiv:2309.15887

# Summary of Exclusive $H/W/Z \rightarrow \mathcal{M}\gamma$ Search Results

[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2023-004](#)



Higgs Boson Decays (with SM Expectations)

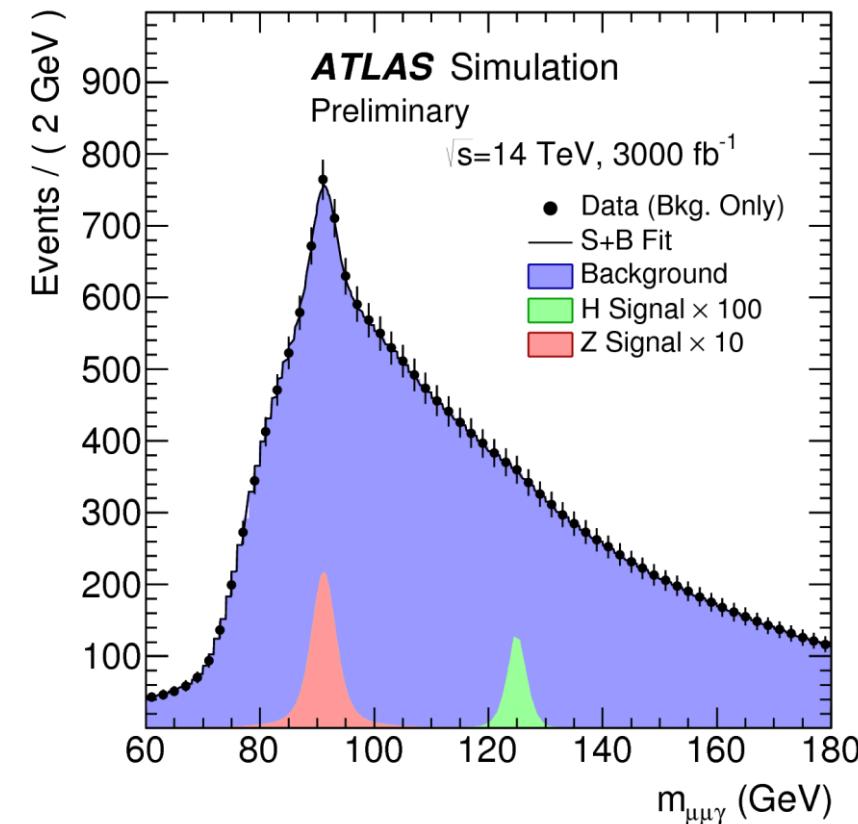
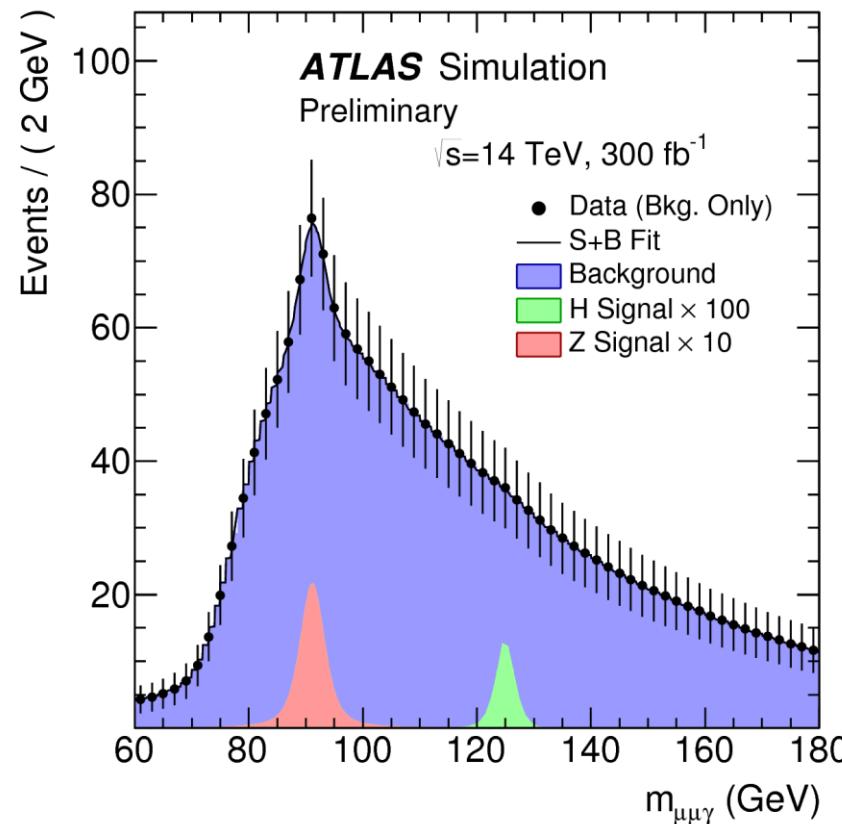


Vector Boson Decays (with SM Expectations)

➤ ATLAS has the most stringent limits on most of these decay channels

# Prospects for Exclusive $H(Z) \rightarrow M\gamma$ Searches

[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2015-043](#)



- Performed prospects study for  $H(Z) \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma$  in 2015 based on Run 1 result
  - Expected to reach  $15 \times$  SM and  $4 \times$  SM sensitivity respectively with HL-LHC (simple assumptions)
  - Room for improvement – but not far off!

# Summary

## ➤ ATLAS Searches for exclusive $H/W/Z \rightarrow M\gamma$ decays

- $H$  decays: magnitude and sign of quark couplings
- $Z$  decays: reference channels + tests of QCD factorisation
- $W$  decays: QCD factorisation +  $W$  mass measurements
- Dedicated triggers capture decays
- Non-parametric data-driven model for the backgrounds
  - Procedure: [JHEP 10 \(2022\) 001](#)

➤ New  $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$  and  $H(Z) \rightarrow \omega\gamma + H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$  results published last year

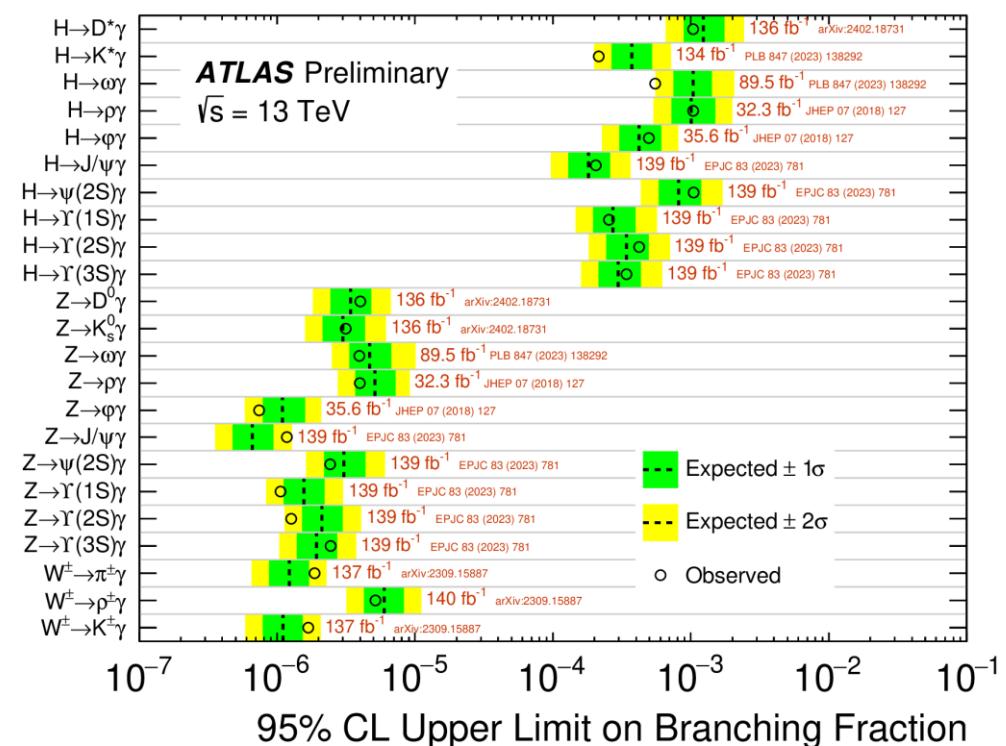
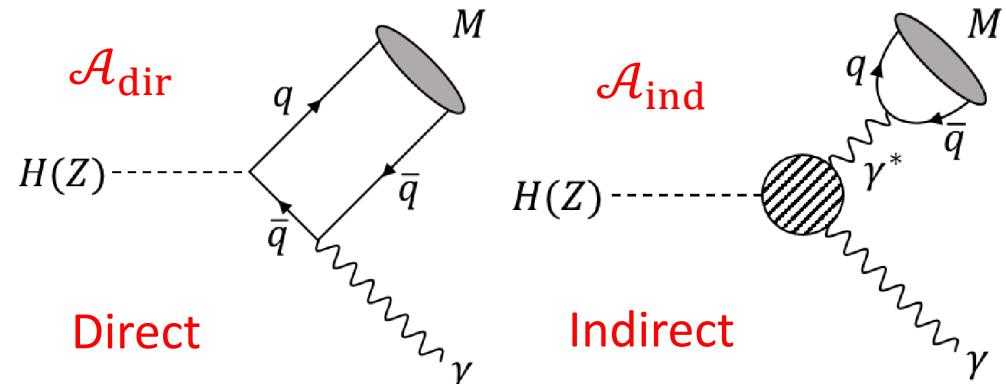
➤  $W^\pm \rightarrow (\pi^\pm, K^\pm, \rho^\pm)\gamma$  recently public

- Submitted to PRL

➤  $H \rightarrow D^*\gamma + Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_S^0)\gamma$  public this month!

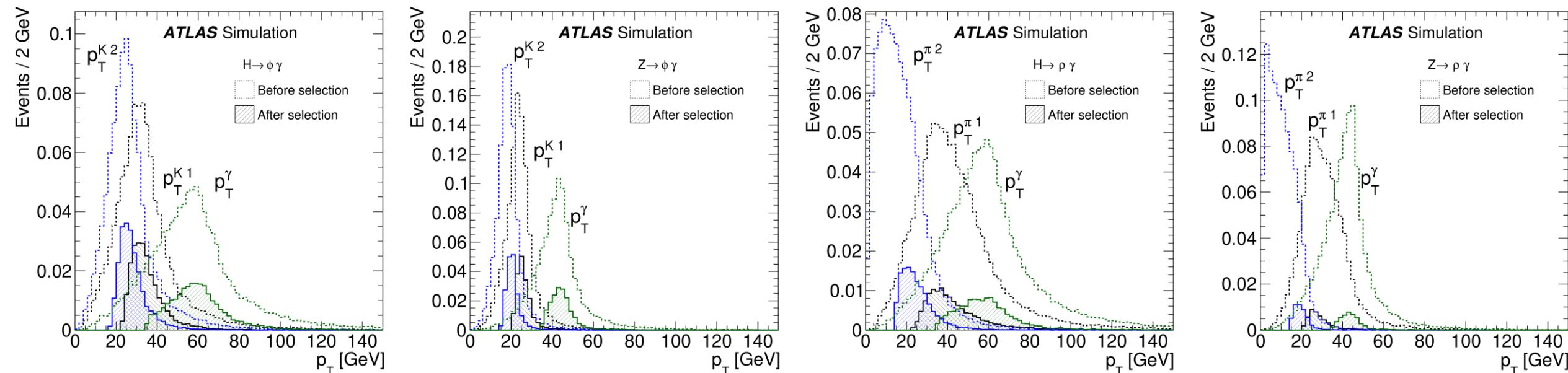
- Submitted to PLB

➤ Summary of results: [ATL-PHYS-PUB-2023-004](#)



# ADDITIONAL SLIDES

# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Signal Efficiency



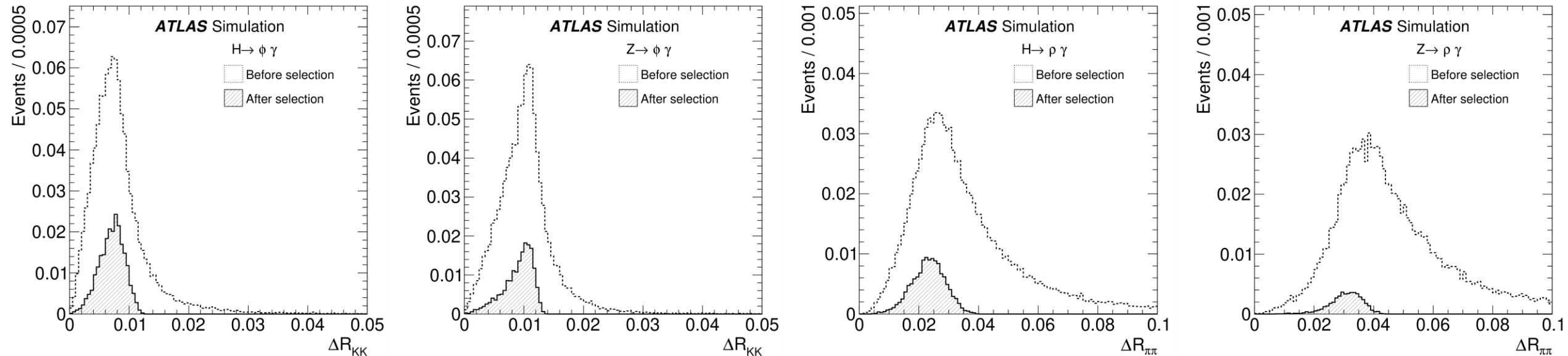
## Total Signal Efficiency

Decay Channel	Z Signal	H Signal
$\phi\gamma$	10%	17%
$\rho\gamma$	2.4%	8%

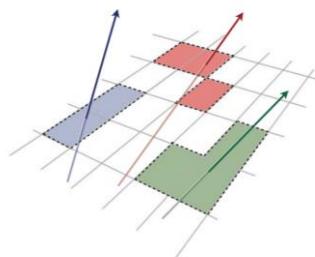
➤ Larger photon and track  $p_T$  in  $H$  decays leads to larger signal efficiencies than for  $Z$  decays

# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Opening Angles

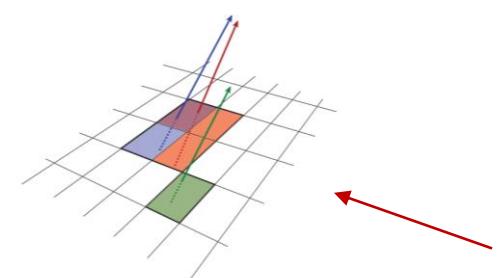
[JHEP 07 \(2018\) 127](#)



- Small opening angles between decay products
  - Particularly for  $\phi \rightarrow K^+K^-$ : tracking in dense environments

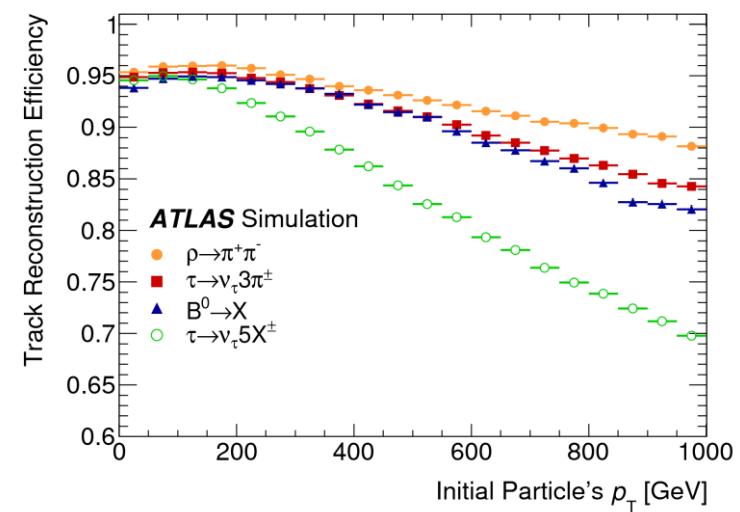


Single-Particle Clusters



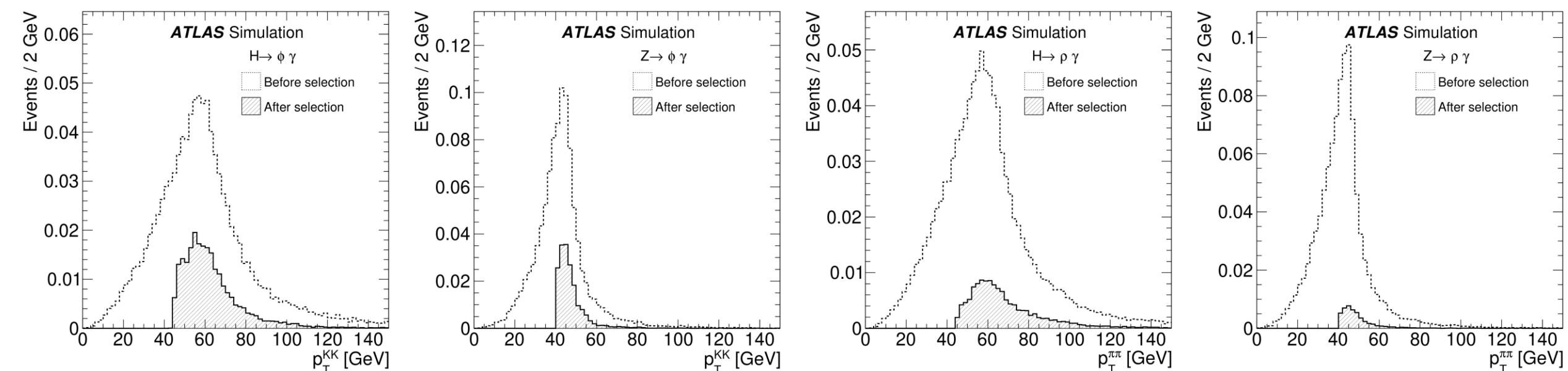
Merged Clusters

[EPJC 77 \(2017\) 673](#)

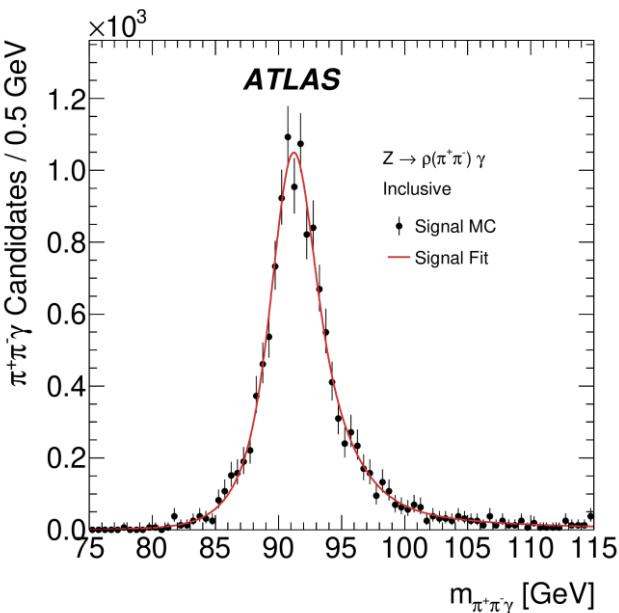
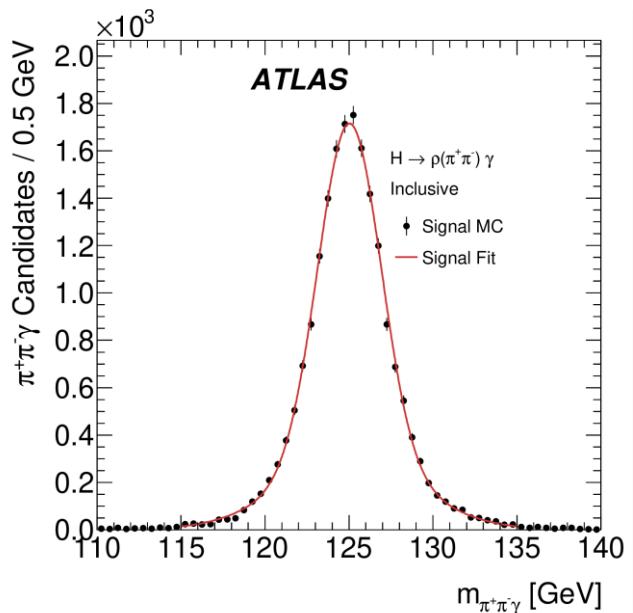
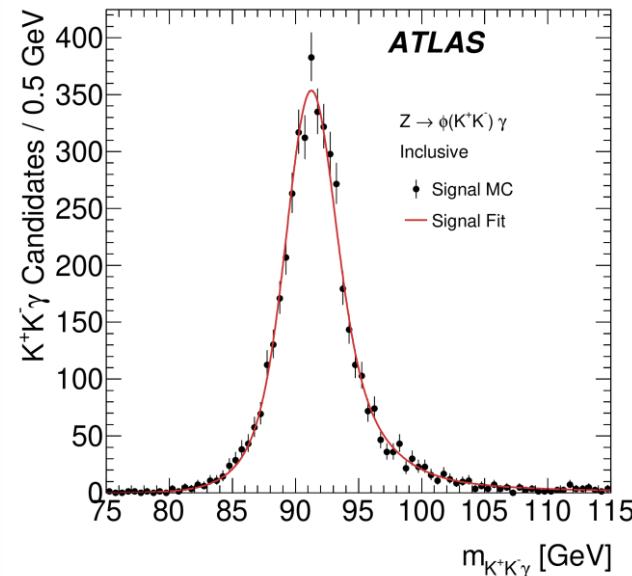
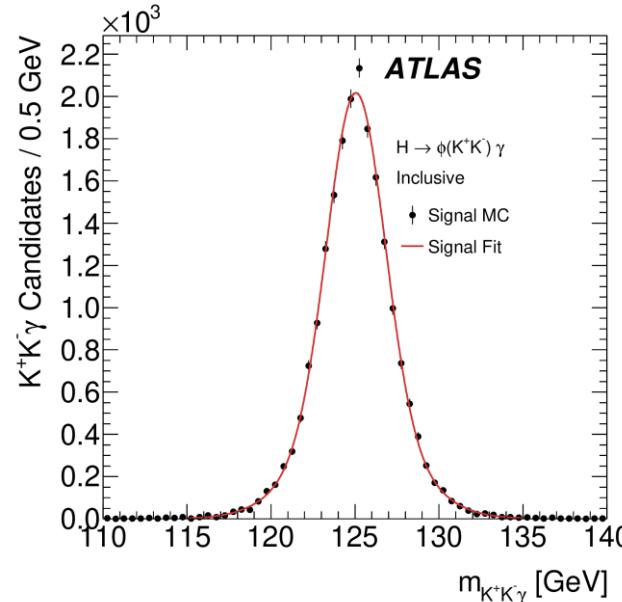


# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Signal Acceptance

- Meson  $p_T$  distributions for each signal decay



# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Signal Modelling

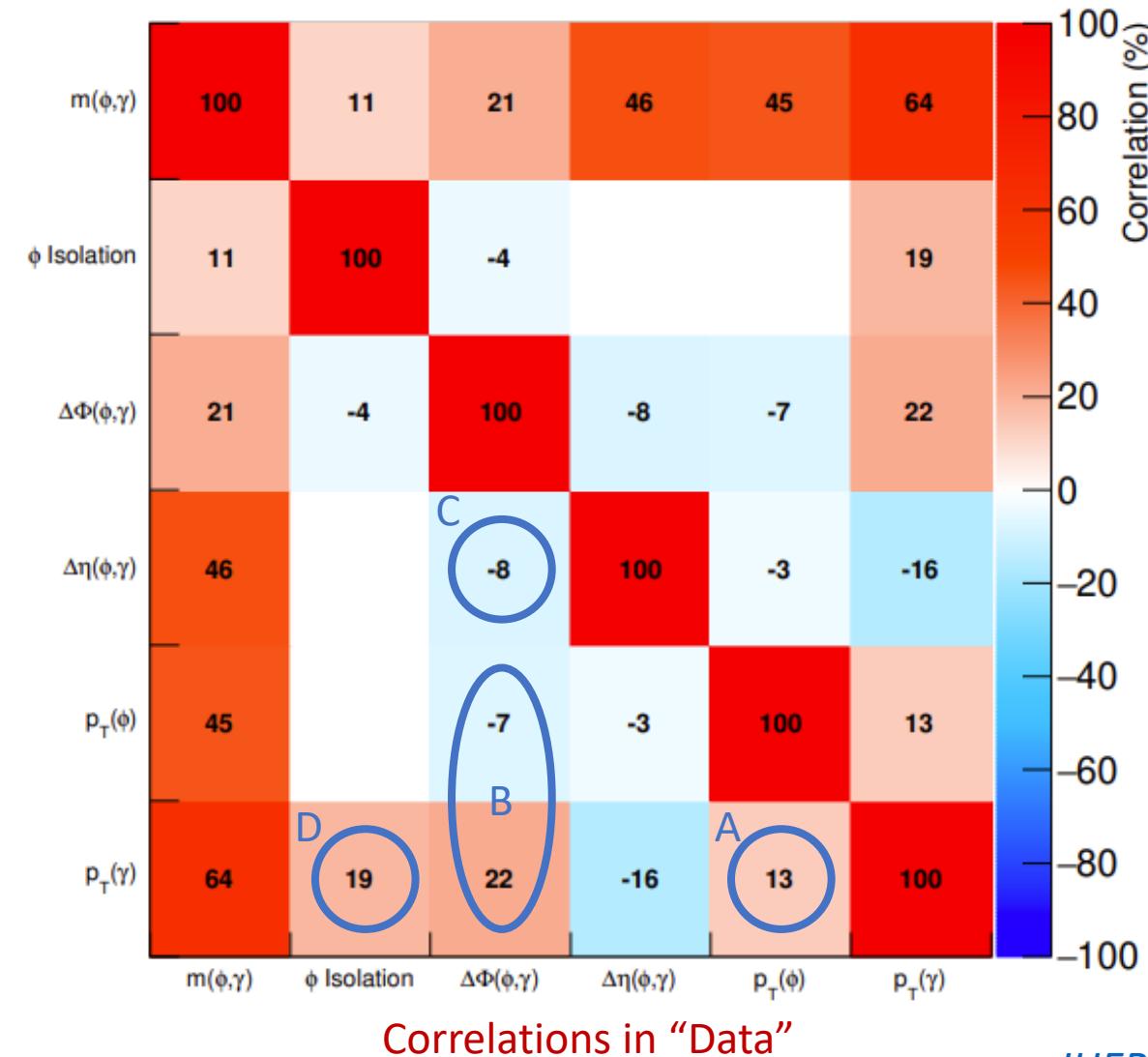


1.8% Resolution

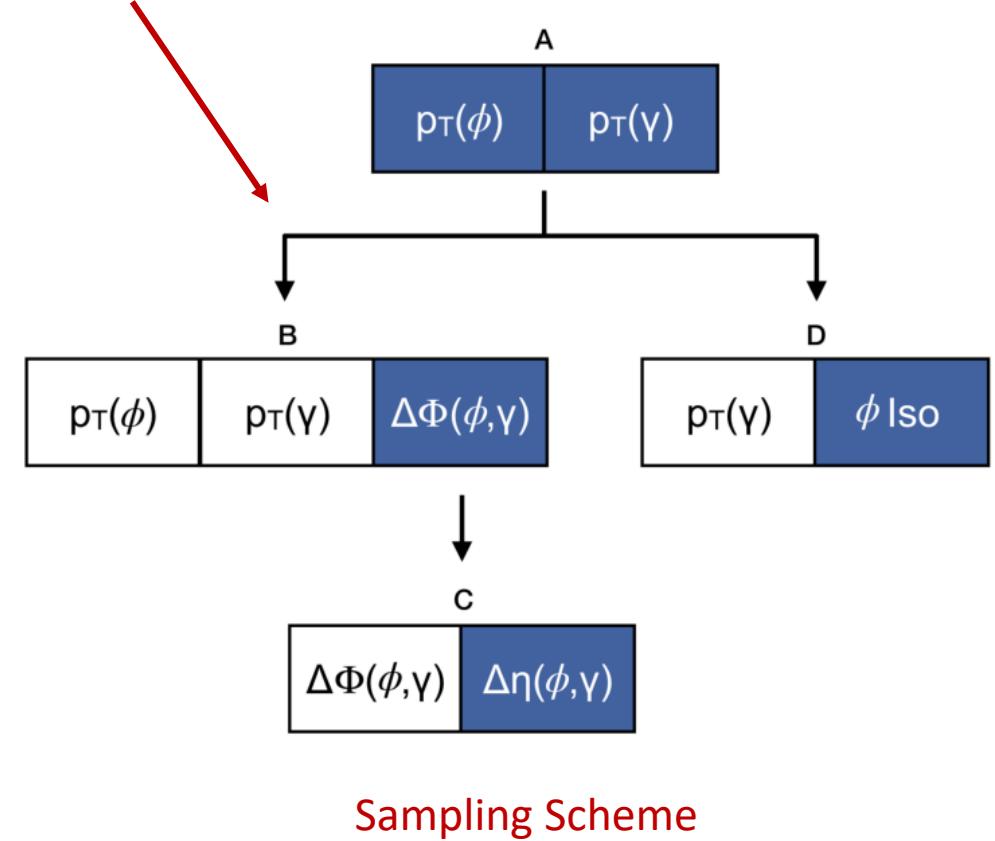
- Model boson mass distributions with analytical fits to simulated events
  - Higgs decays - sum of two Gaussian distributions with a common mean
  - Z decays - (sum of two Voigtian distributions)  $\times$  efficiency factor
    - Voigtian: convolution of Gaussian (detector resolution) and Lorentz (Z width) distributions
    - Efficiency factor: accounts for turn-on in signal efficiency with Z mass
- Same approach is applied across all exclusive  $\mathcal{M}\gamma$  searches

# Non-Parametric Data Driven Model: Sampling Scheme 1

- Specific sampling scheme is based on studies of correlations between variables

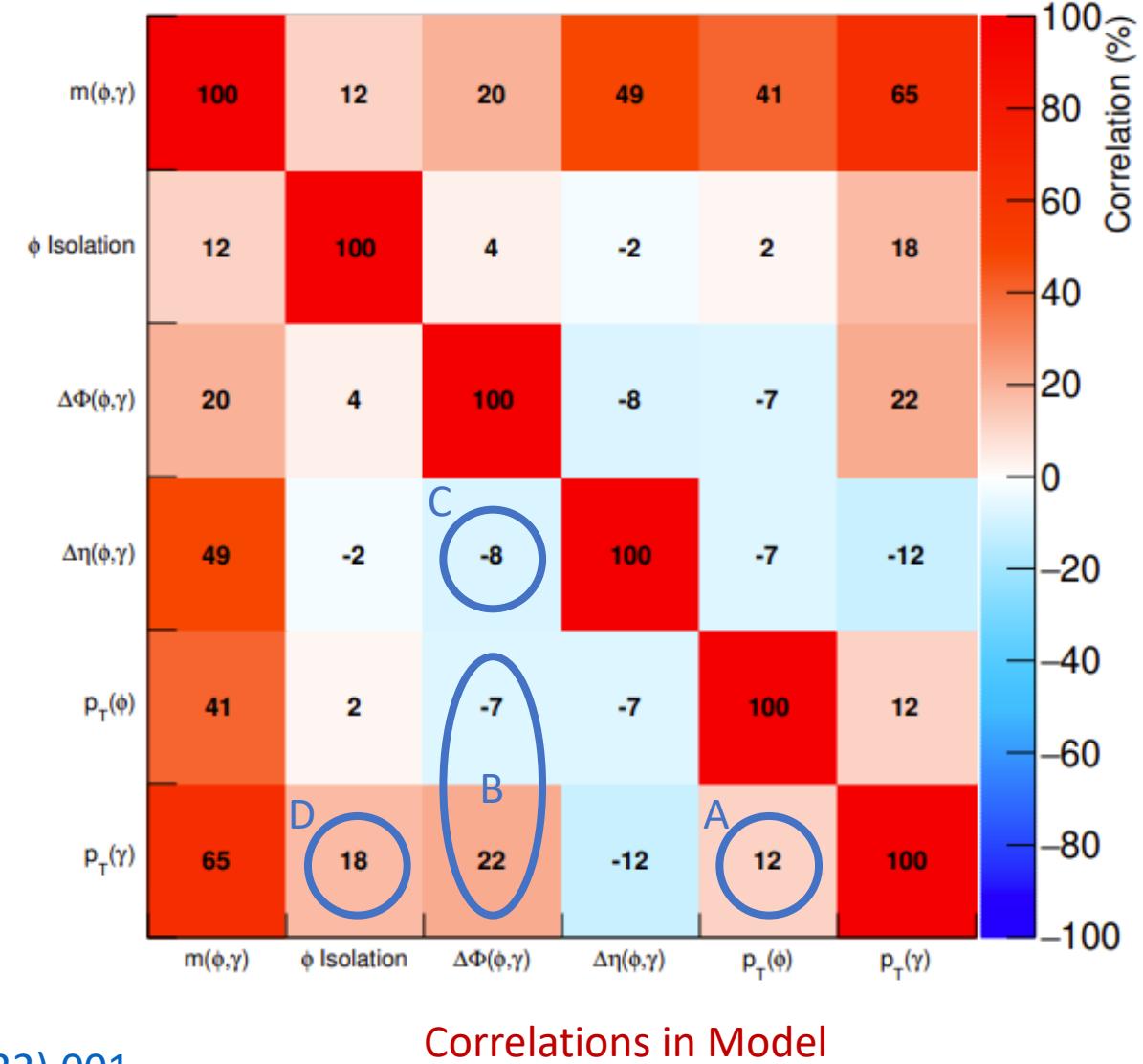
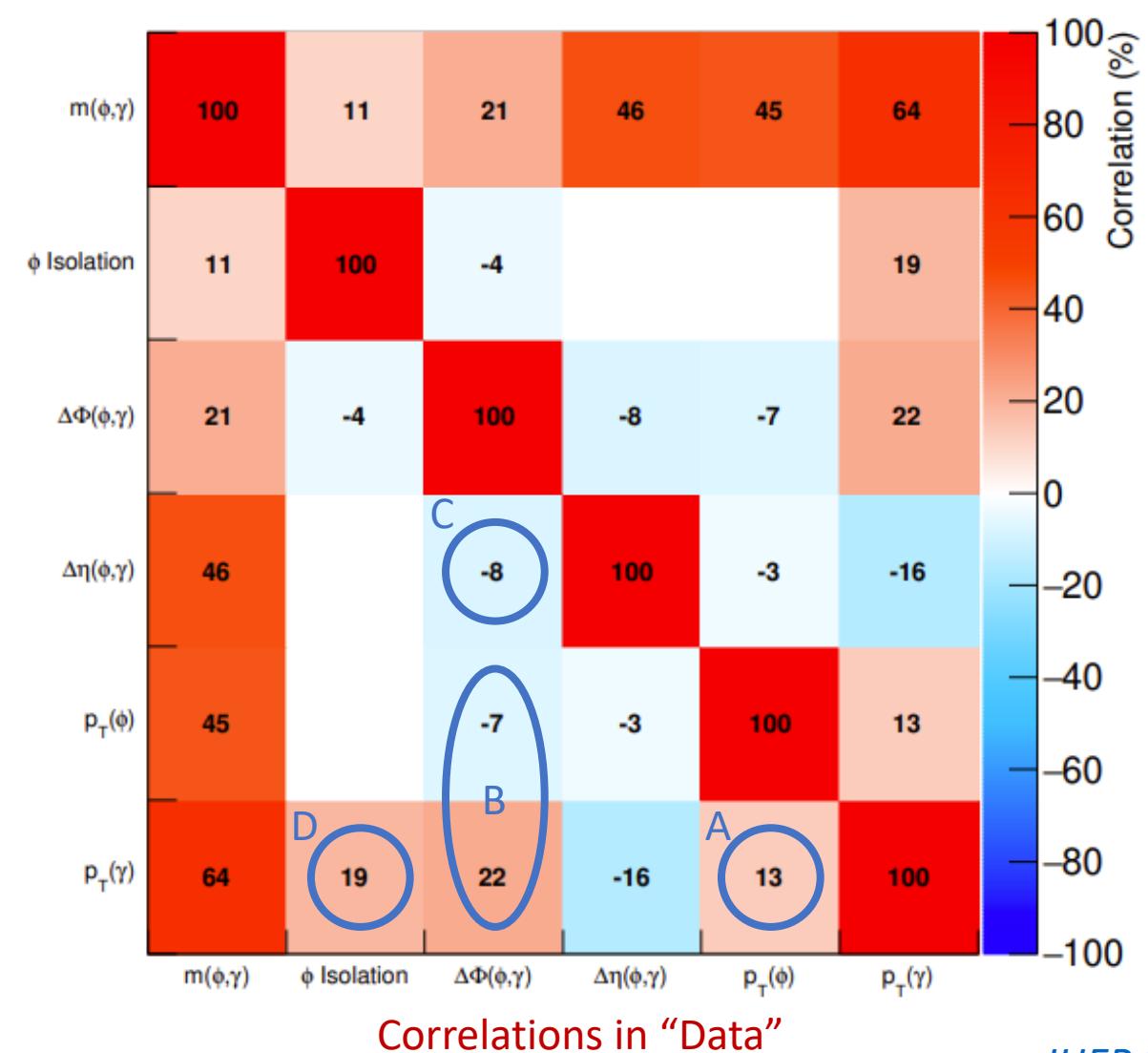


- Populate series of PDFs (histograms) using data in GR
  - Use these to sample pseudo-events



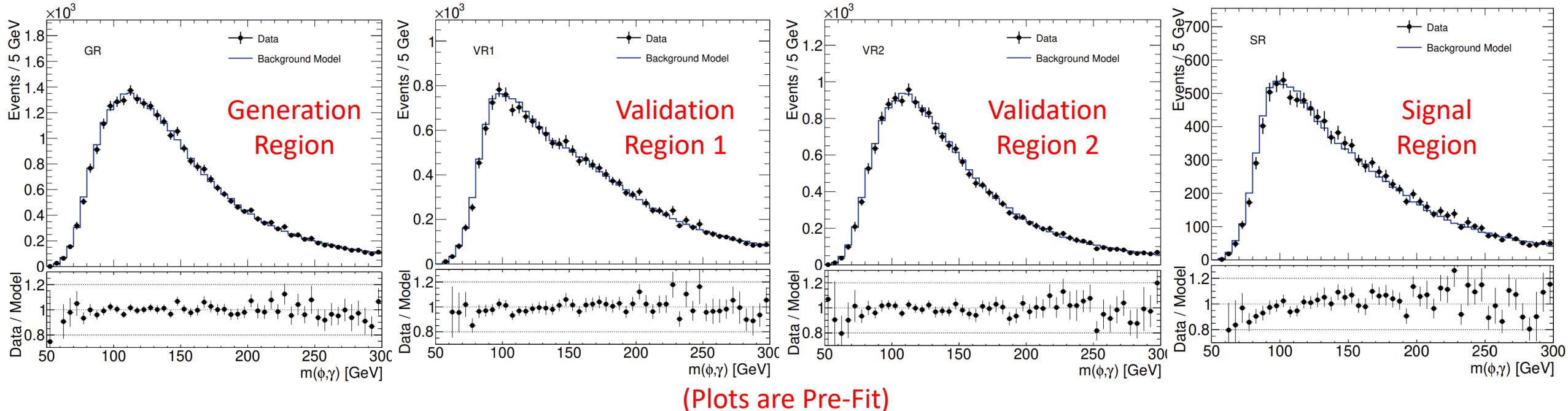
# Non-Parametric Data Driven Model: Sampling Scheme 2

- Important correlations are reproduced in pseudo-events generated with model



# Non-Parametric Data Driven Model: Demonstration

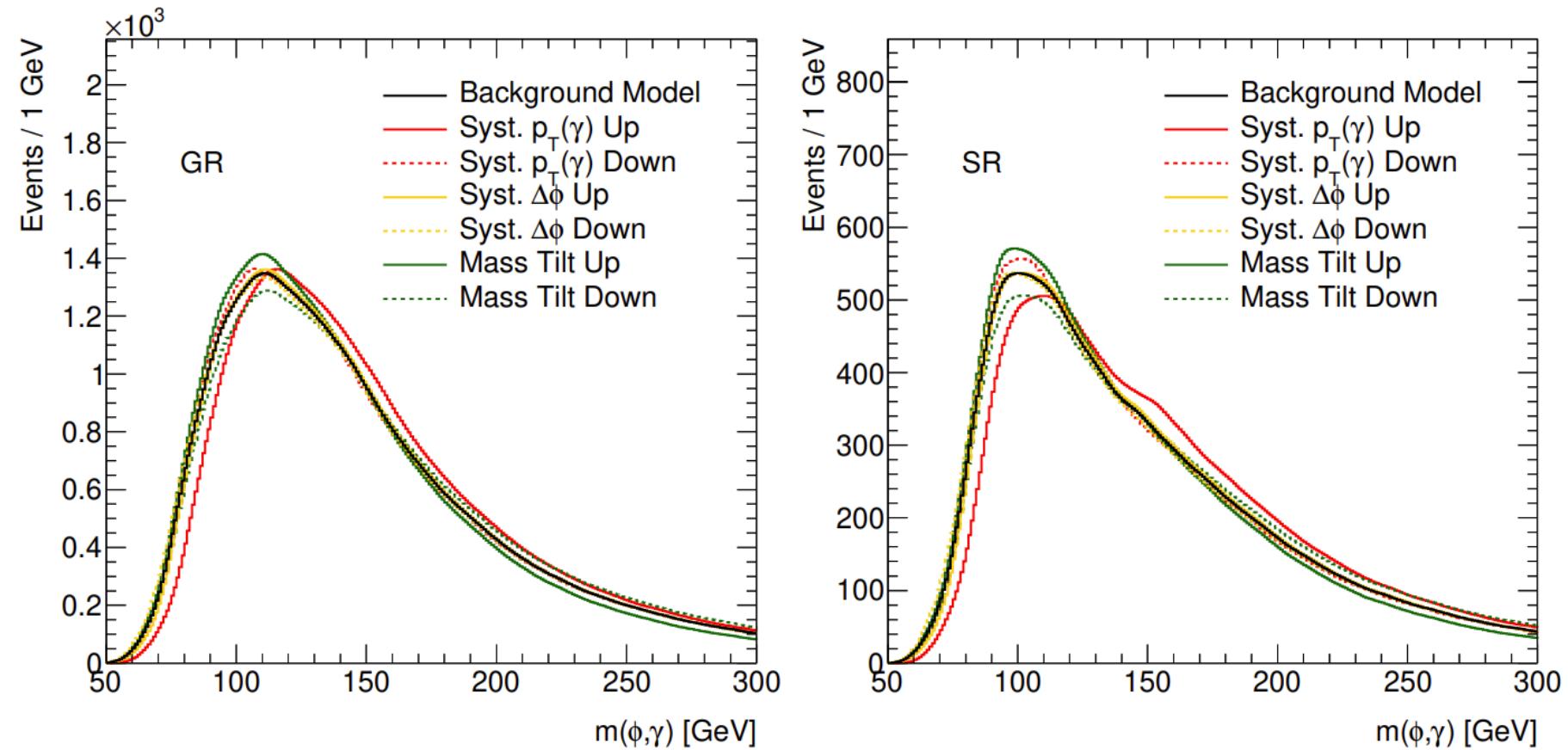
- Ultimately, only the modelling of the discriminant variable in the SR is important
  - VRs help with troubleshooting



	Minimum $p_T(\phi)$ requirement	Maximum $I(\phi)$ requirement
GR	35 GeV	Not applied
VR1	Varying from 40 to 47.2 GeV	Not applied
VR2	35 GeV	0.5
SR	Varying from 40 to 47.2 GeV	0.5

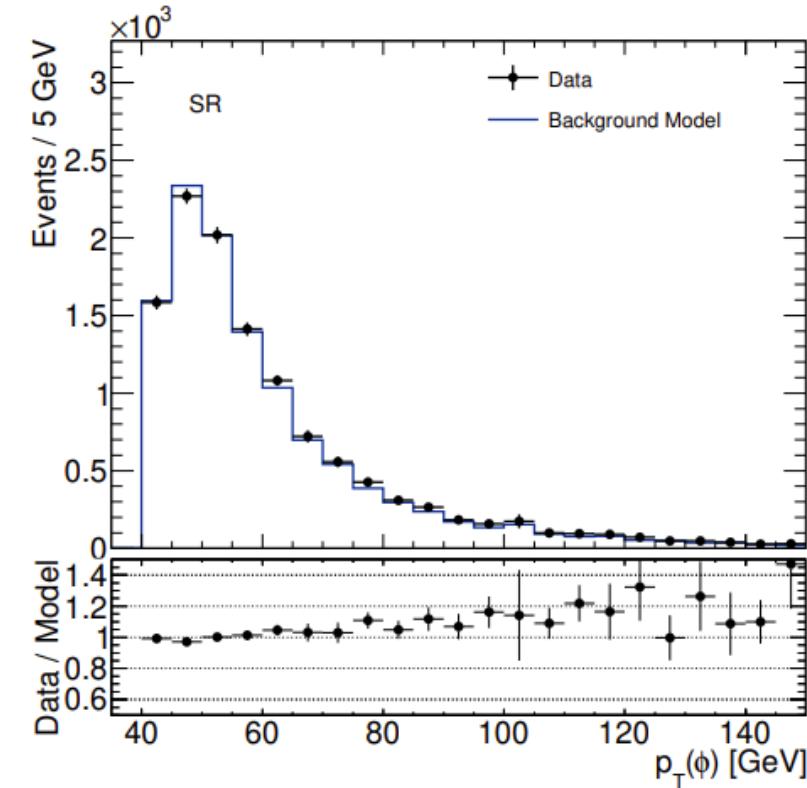
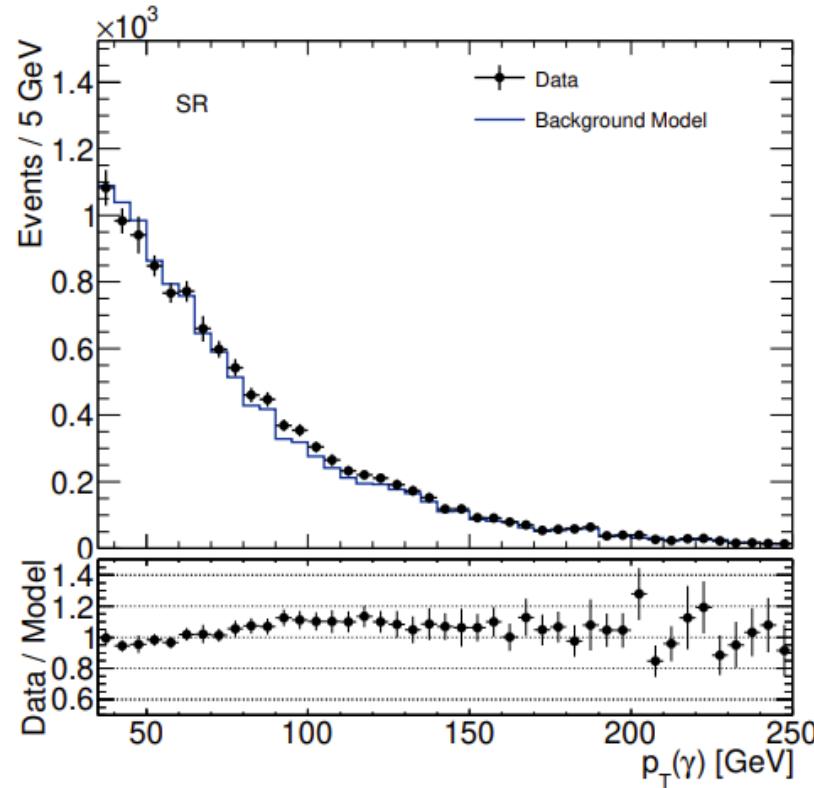
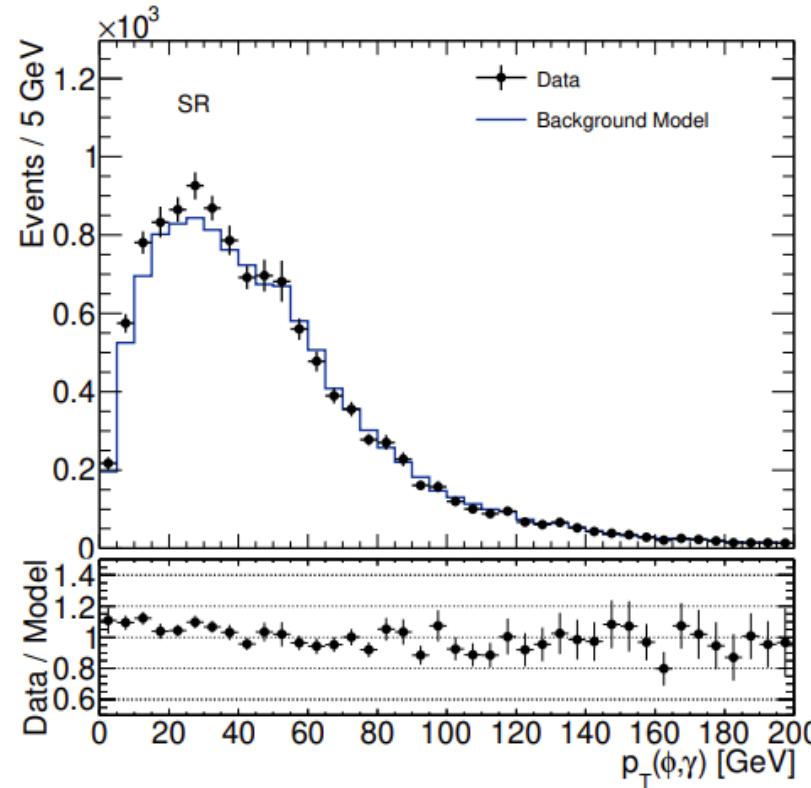
# Non-Parametric Data Driven Model: Shape Systematics

- Typically define several shape uncertainties to allow model to adapt to data
  - Generate alternate templates by modifying generation procedure
- **Mass tilt:** reweight mass distribution with a linear function
  - Distribution can adapt to tilts in ratio
- **$p_T$  shift:** shift generated photon  $p_T$  in GR
  - Distribution can shift higher/lower
- **$\Delta\phi$  distortion:** reweight generated  $\Delta\phi$  in GR
  - Width of distribution can increase/decrease



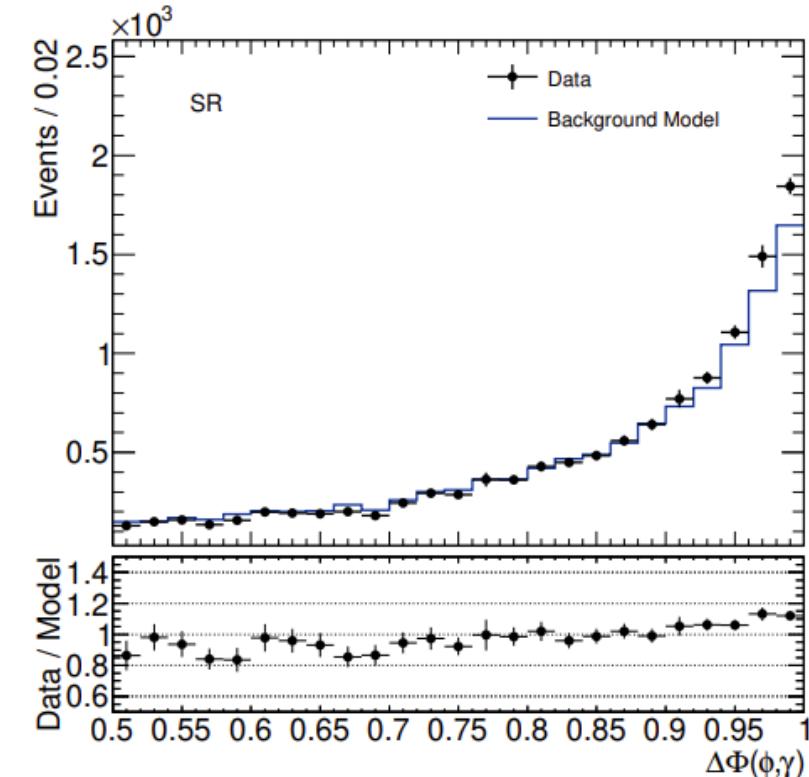
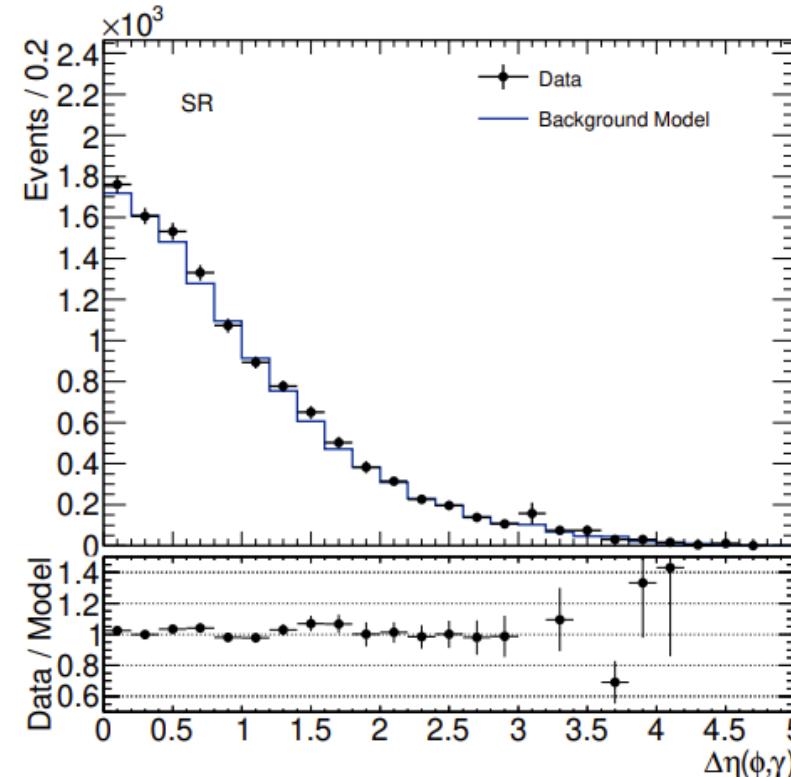
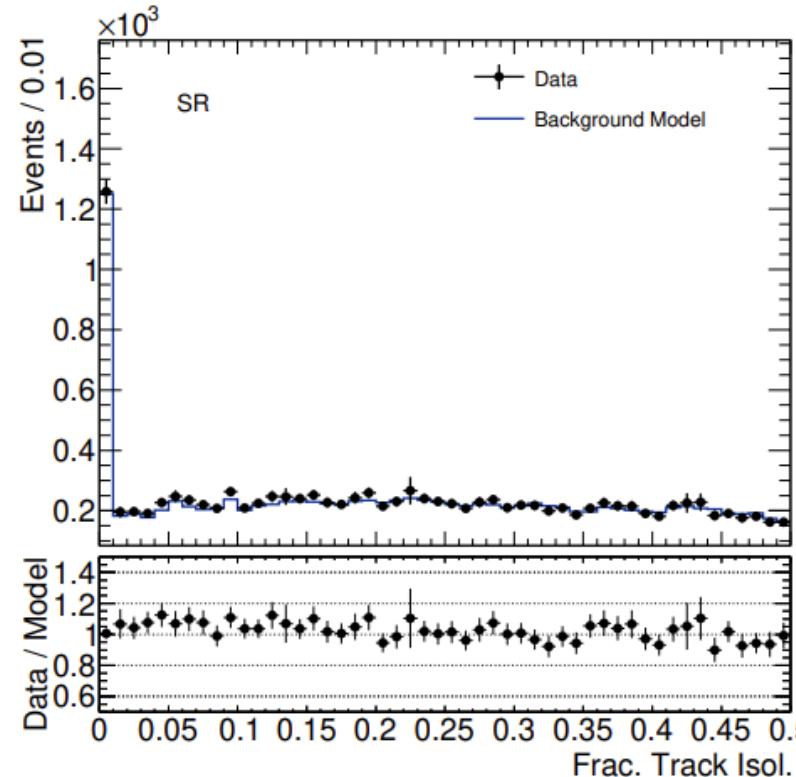
# Non-Parametric Data Driven Model: Additional Variables 1

- Non-discriminant variables can also be used in model validation
  - Less important as not used in fit – but can help troubleshoot issues



# Non-Parametric Data Driven Model: Additional Variables 2

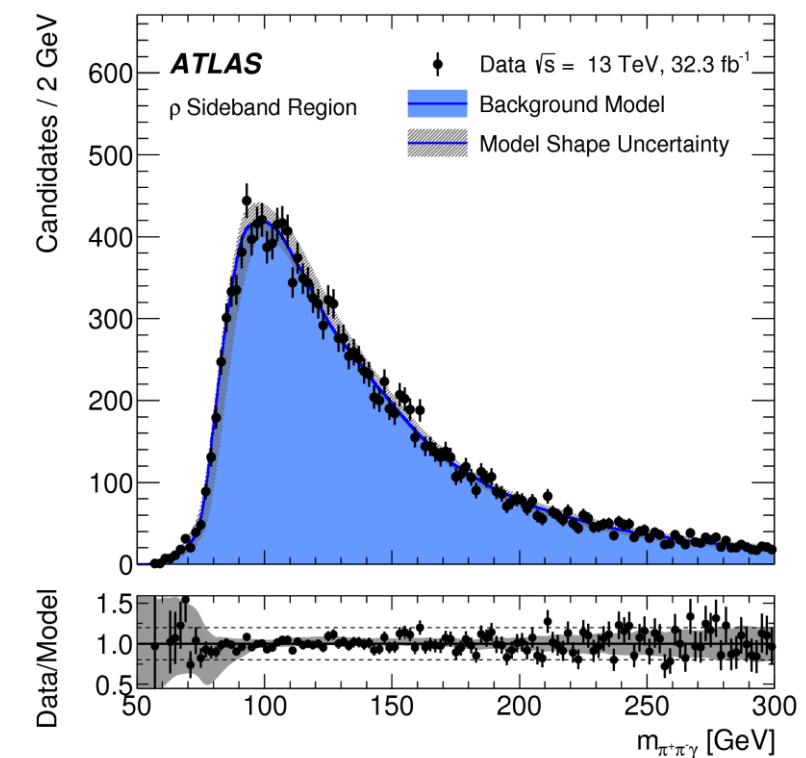
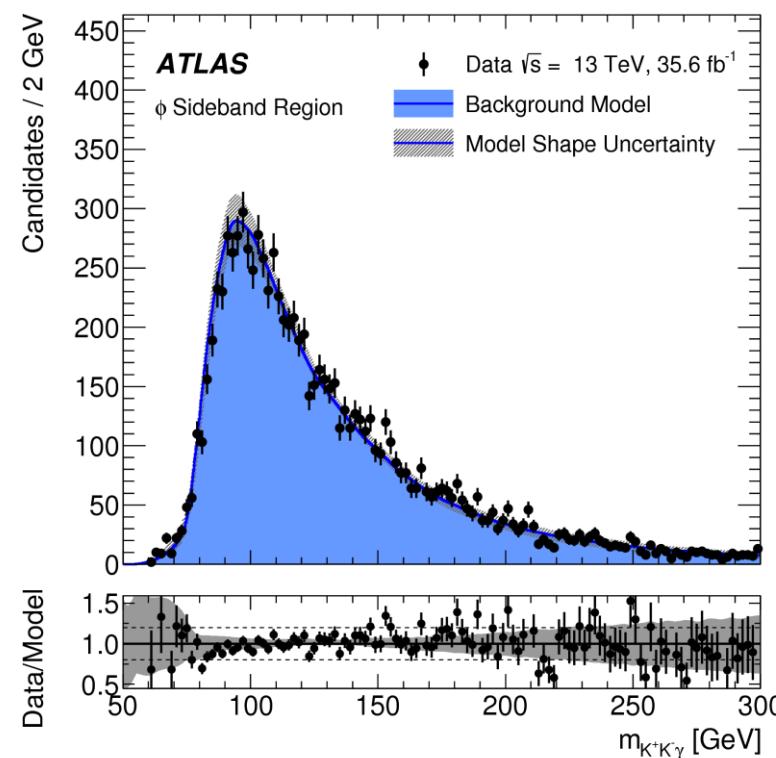
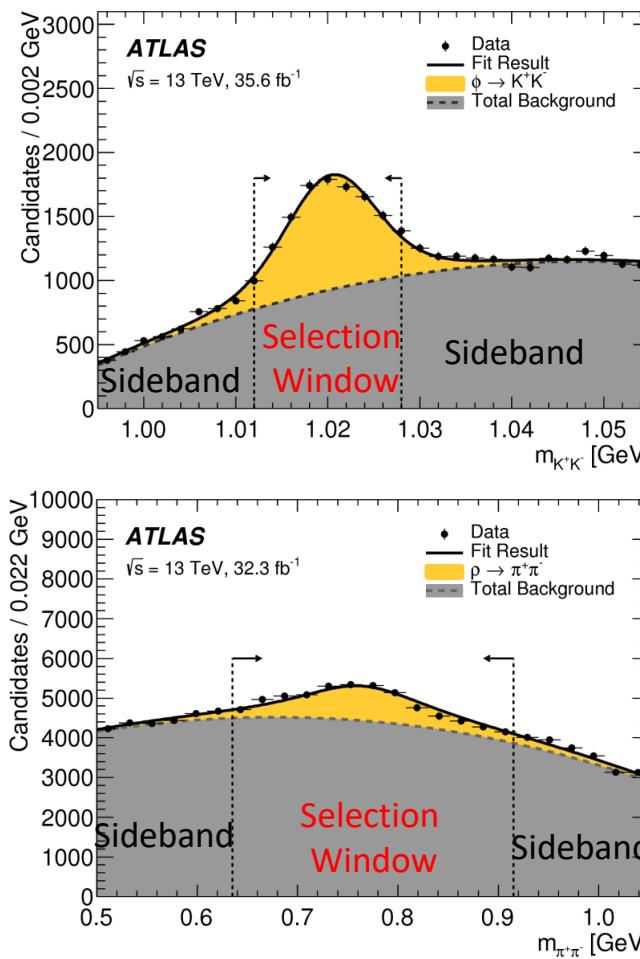
- Non-discriminant variables can also be used in model validation
  - Less important as not used in fit – but can help troubleshoot issues



# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Background Modelling

➤ Background is multi-jet and  $\gamma + \text{jet}$  sources – treat inclusively

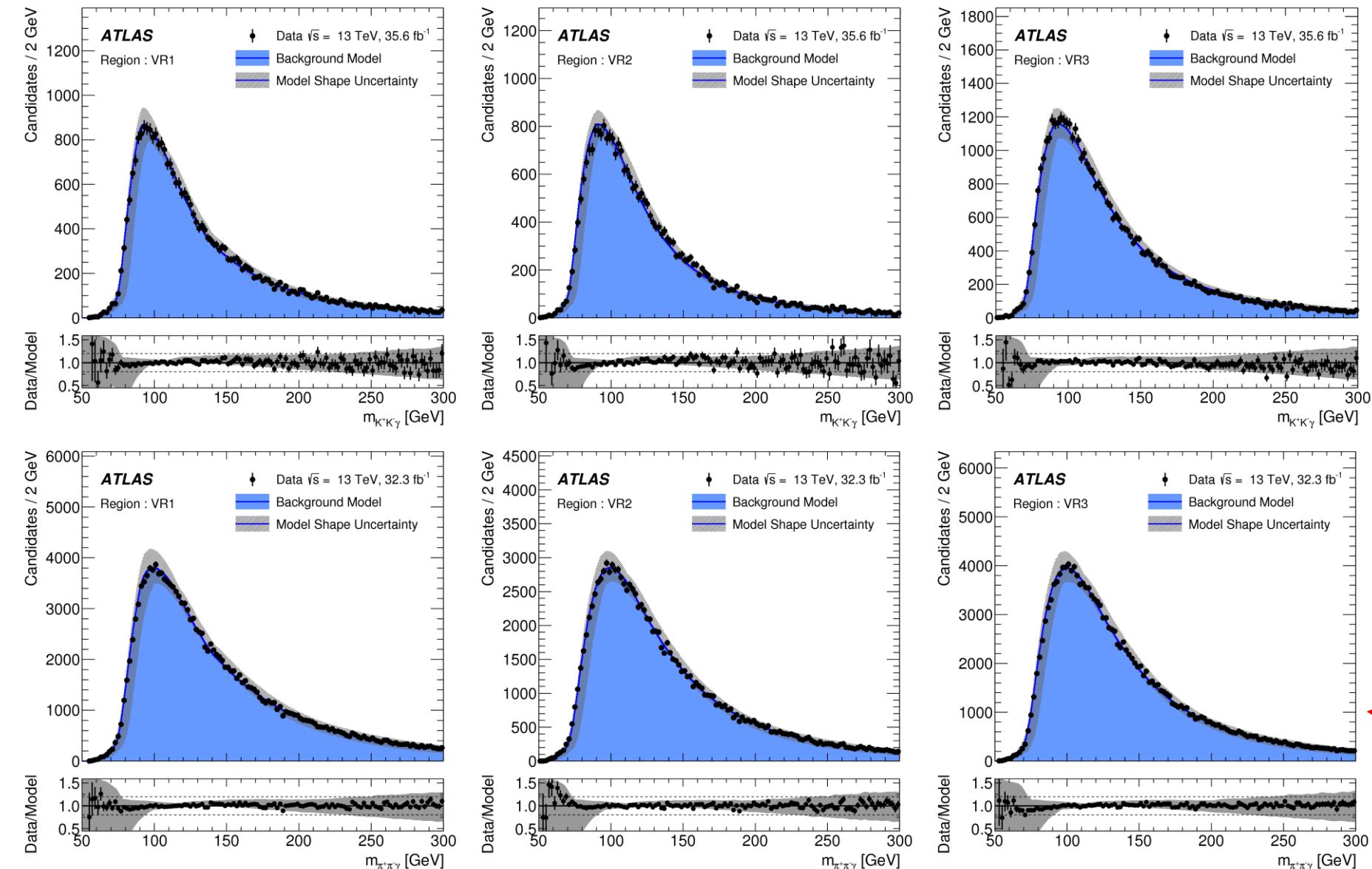
- Use non-parametric data-driven background model
- Define sideband regions for further validation



Background in  $\phi/\rho$ -mass Sidebands (Pre-Fit)

[JHEP 07 \(2018\) 127](#)

# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Background Validation



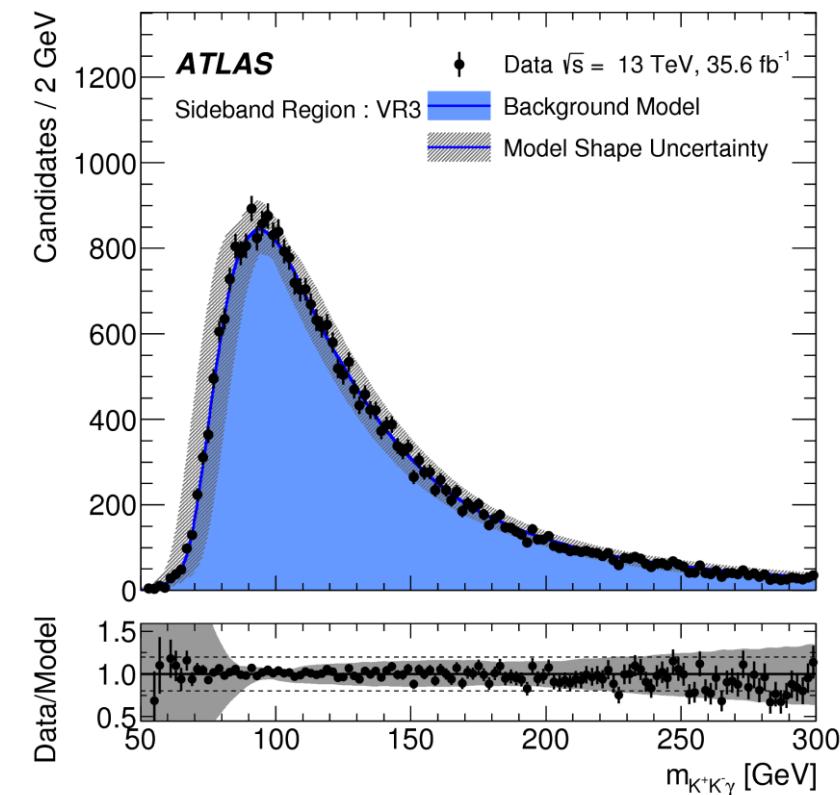
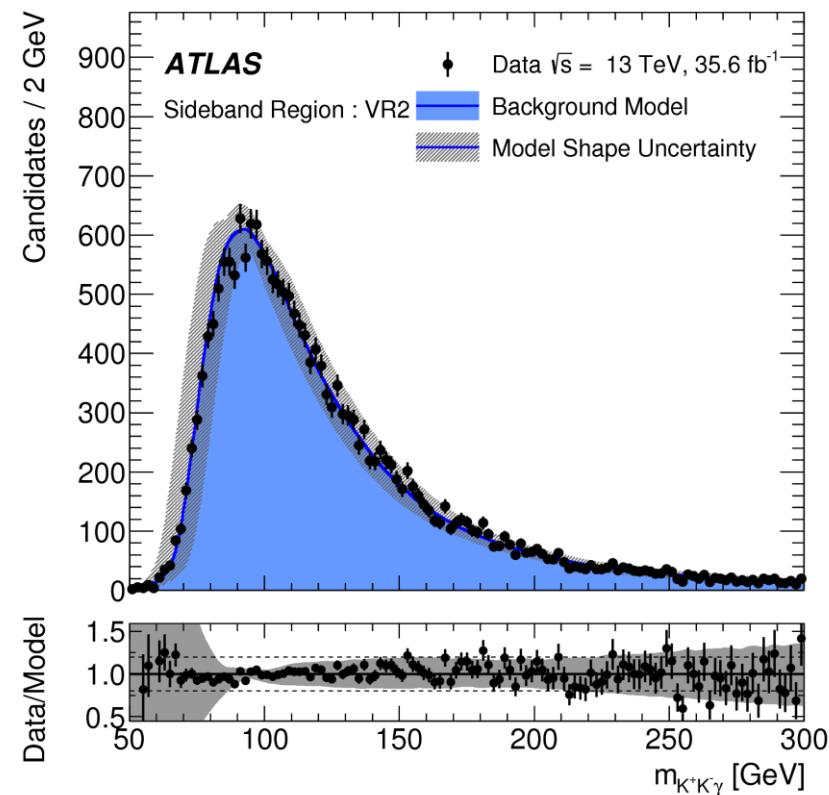
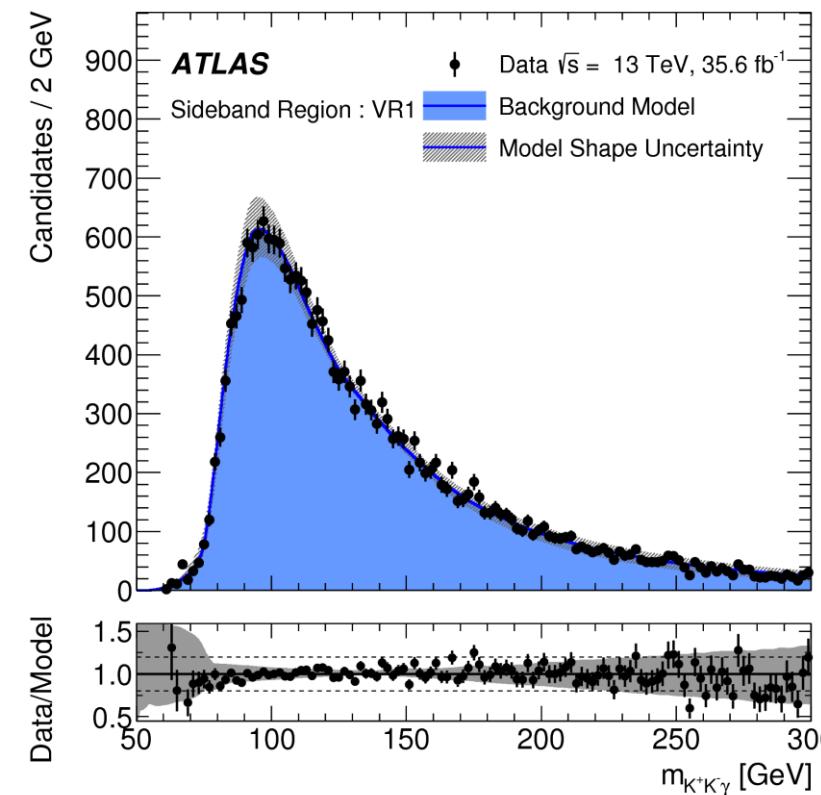
➤ Freedom via shape systematics:  
mass-tilt,  $\Delta\phi$ -distortion,  
 $p_T$ -shift

$\phi\gamma$  Background Validation

$\rho\gamma$  Background Validation

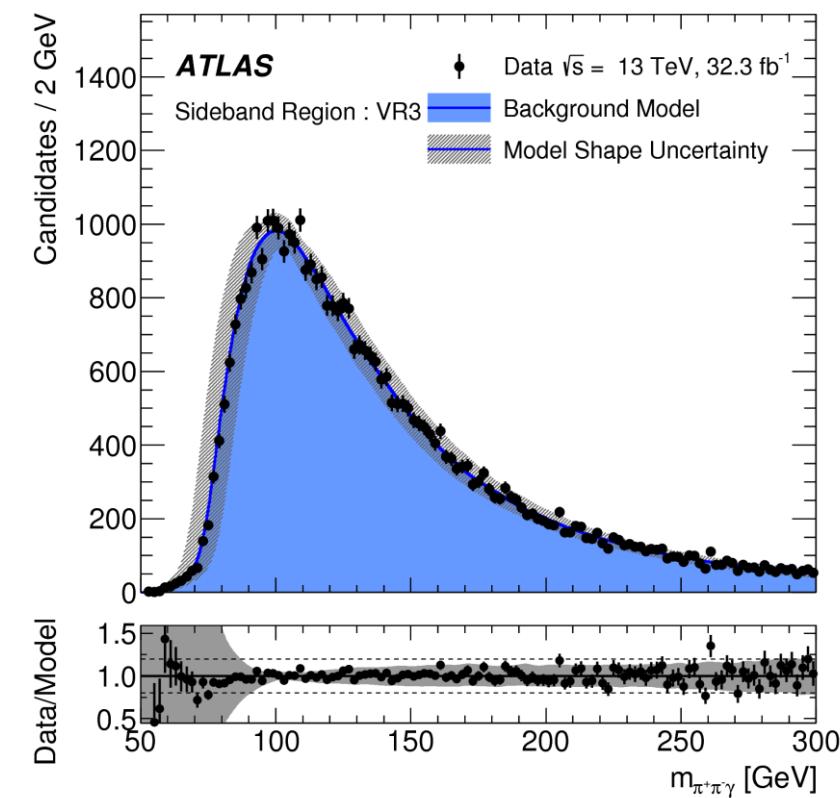
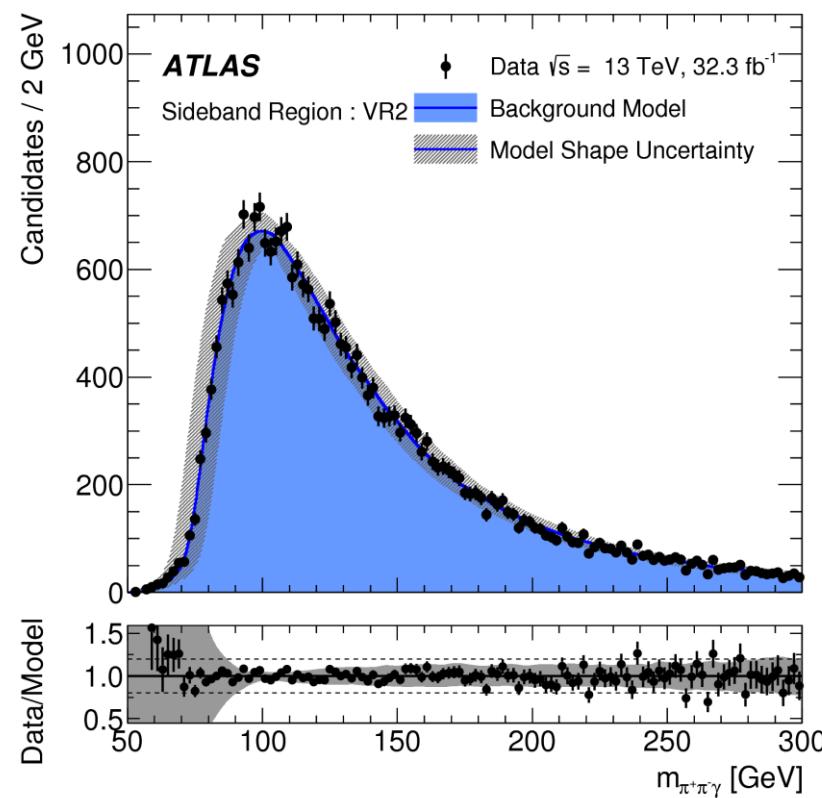
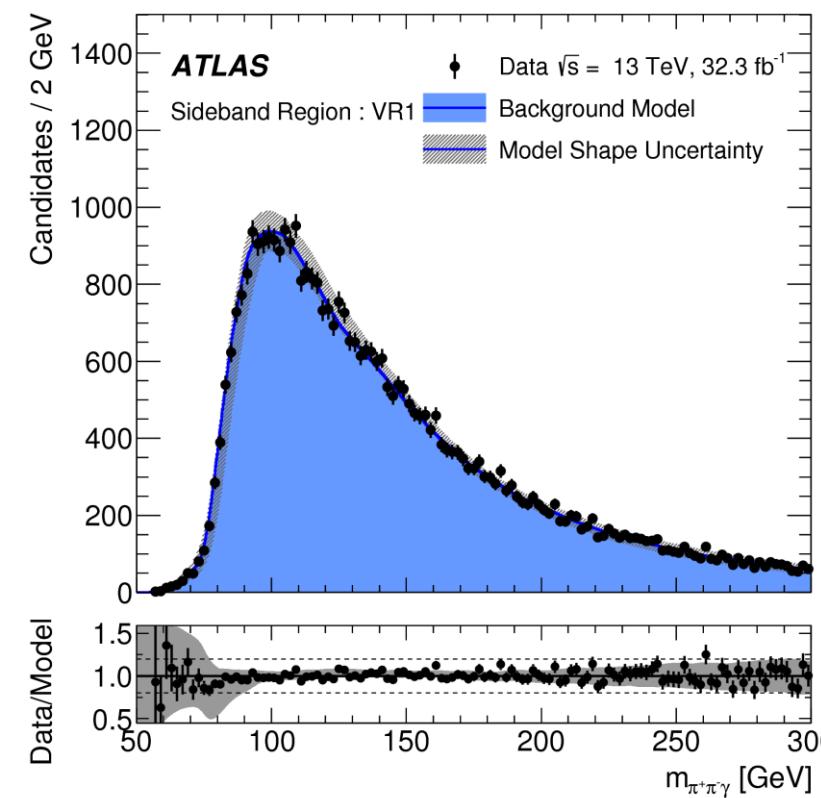
# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Sideband Background Validation

## ➤ Validation plots in $\phi\gamma$ sideband regions



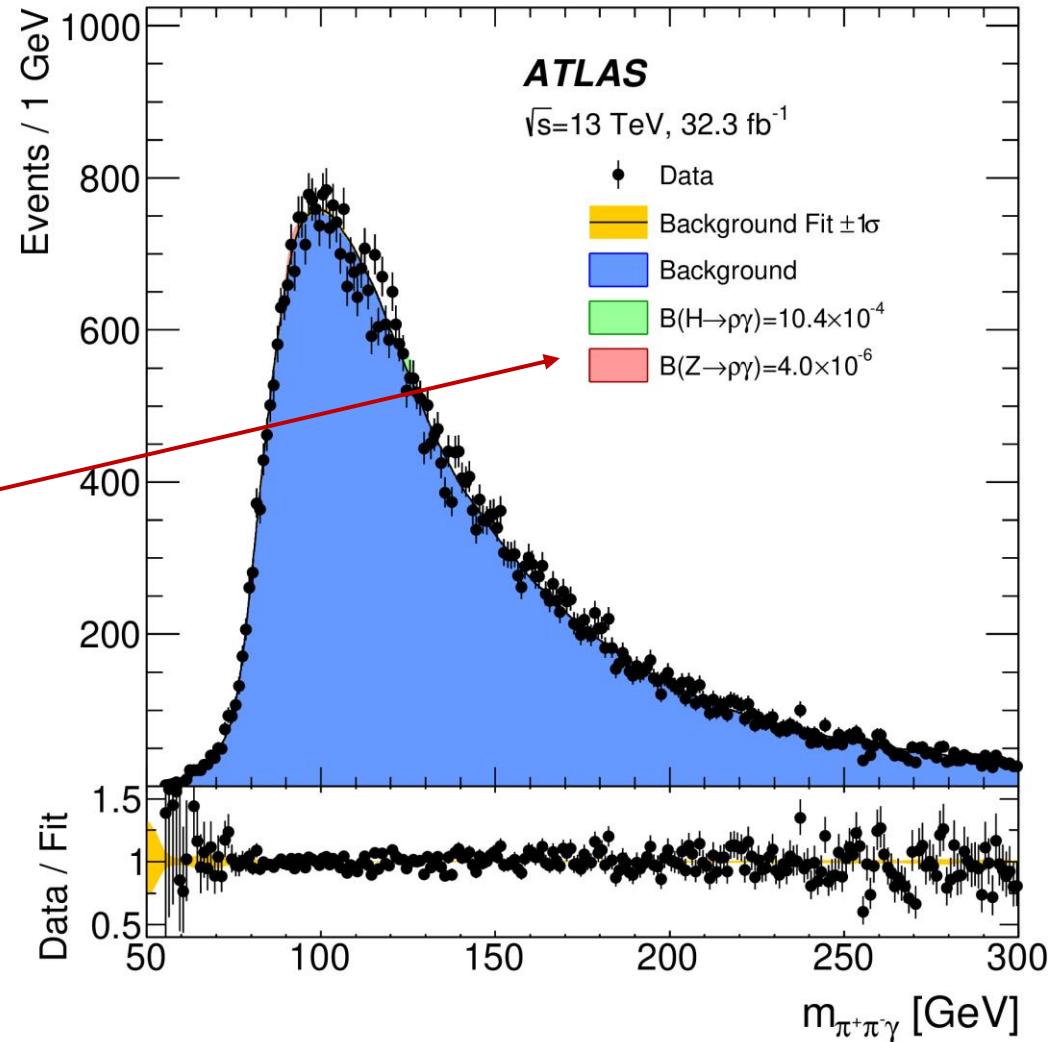
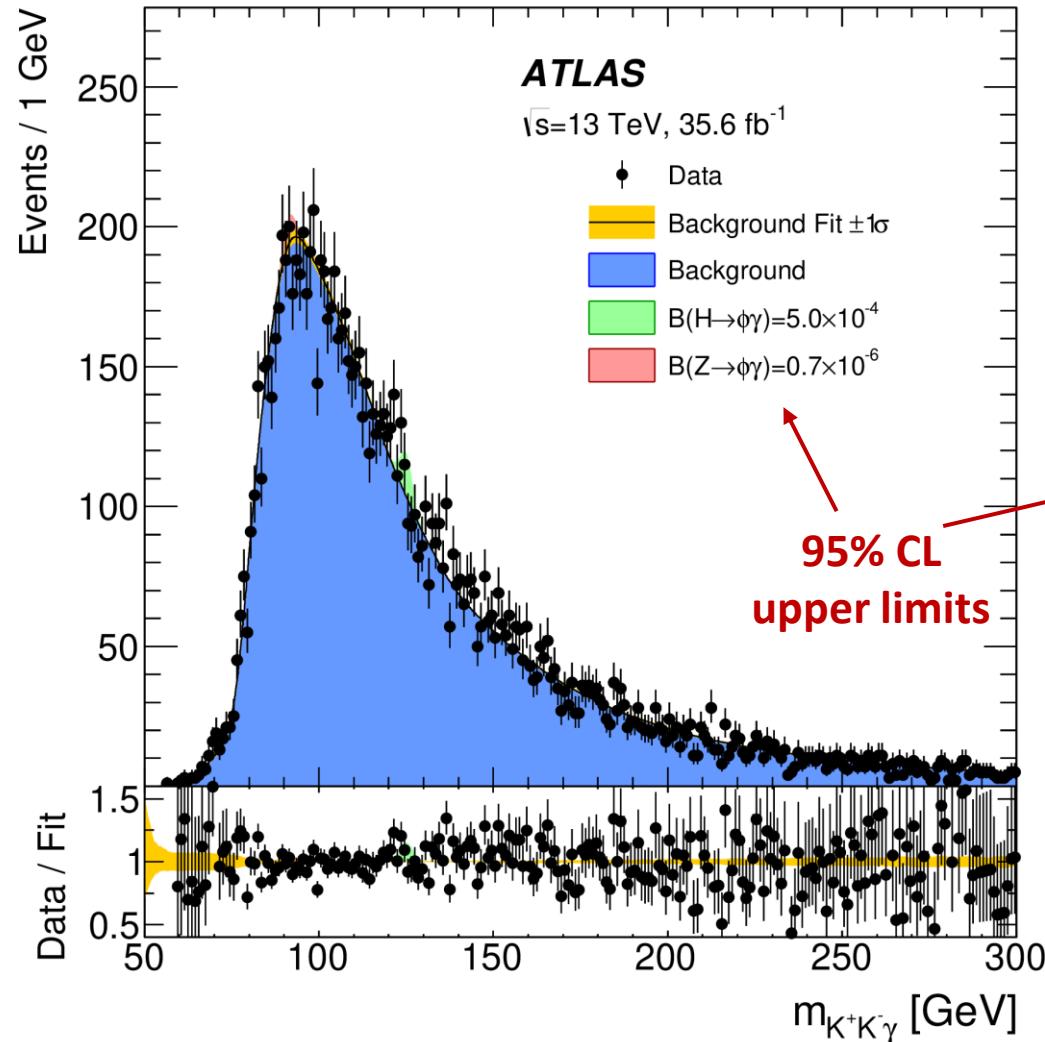
# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Sideband Background Validation

➤ Validation plots in  $\rho\gamma$  sideband regions



# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Results (Full Mass Range)

➤ Unbinned likelihood fit in  $m(K^+K^-\gamma)$  and  $m(\pi^+\pi^-\gamma)$



[JHEP 07 \(2018\) 127](#)

# $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$ : Limits and Observed Events

➤ Unbinned likelihood fit in  $m(K^+K^-\gamma)$  and  $m(\pi^+\pi^-\gamma)$

	Observed yields (Mean expected background)			Expected signal yields	
	Mass range [GeV]			$H$ [ $\mathcal{B} = 10^{-4}$ ]	$Z$ [ $\mathcal{B} = 10^{-6}$ ]
	All	81–101	120–130		
$\phi\gamma$	12051	3364 $(3500 \pm 30)$	1076 $(1038 \pm 9)$	$15.1 \pm 1.5$	$98 \pm 8$
$\rho\gamma$	58702	12583 $(12660 \pm 60)$	5473 $(5450 \pm 30)$	$14.3 \pm 1.4$	$47 \pm 4$

Observed and Expected Events

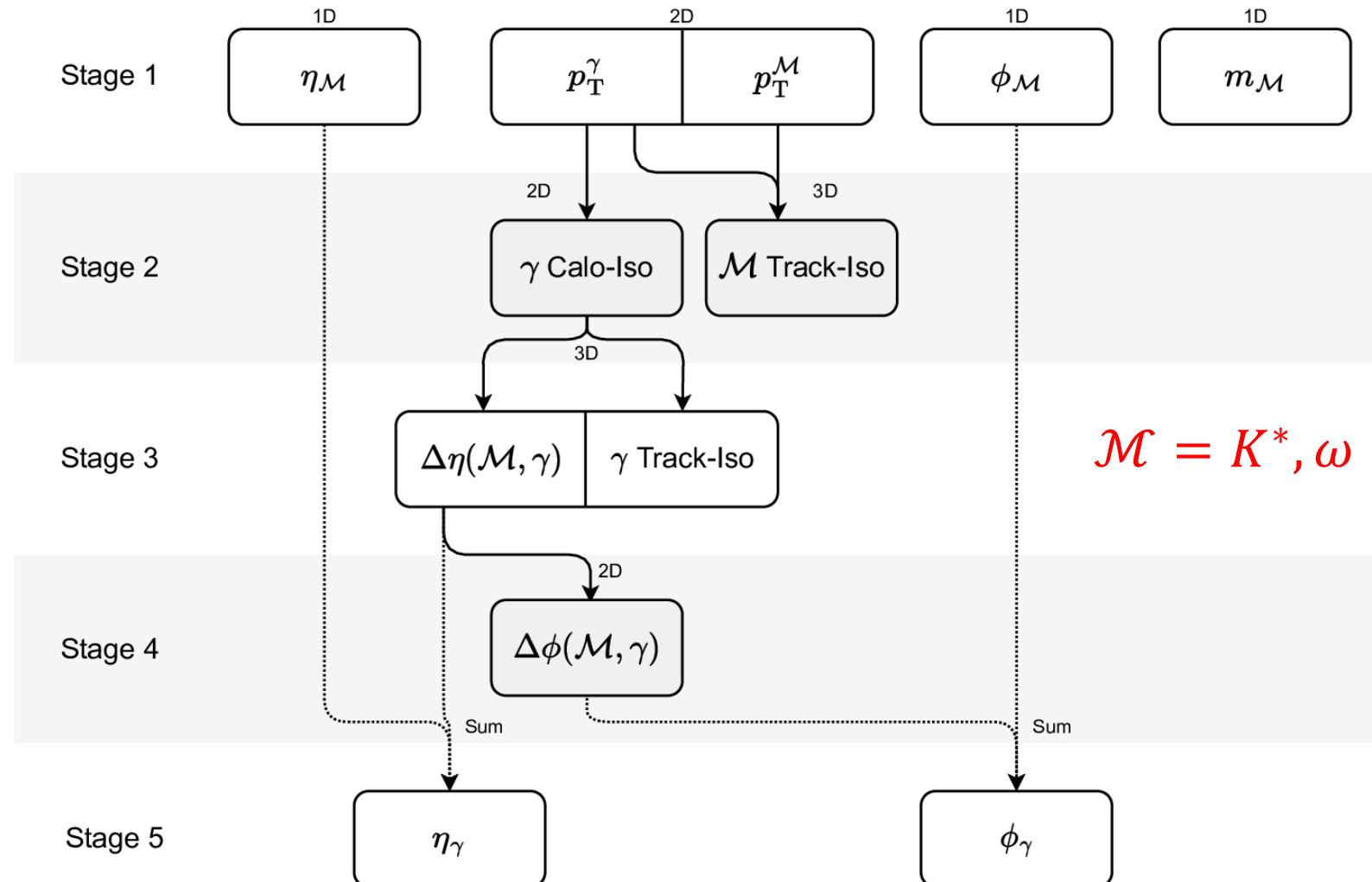
Branching Fraction Limit (95% CL)	Expected	Observed
$\mathcal{B}(H \rightarrow \phi\gamma) [10^{-4}]$	$4.2^{+1.8}_{-1.2}$	5.0
$\mathcal{B}(Z \rightarrow \phi\gamma) [10^{-6}]$	$1.1^{+0.5}_{-0.3}$	0.7
$\mathcal{B}(H \rightarrow \rho\gamma) [10^{-4}]$	$10.0^{+4.9}_{-2.8}$	10.4
$\mathcal{B}(Z \rightarrow \rho\gamma) [10^{-6}]$	$5.1^{+2.1}_{-1.4}$	4.0

Observed and Expected Limits

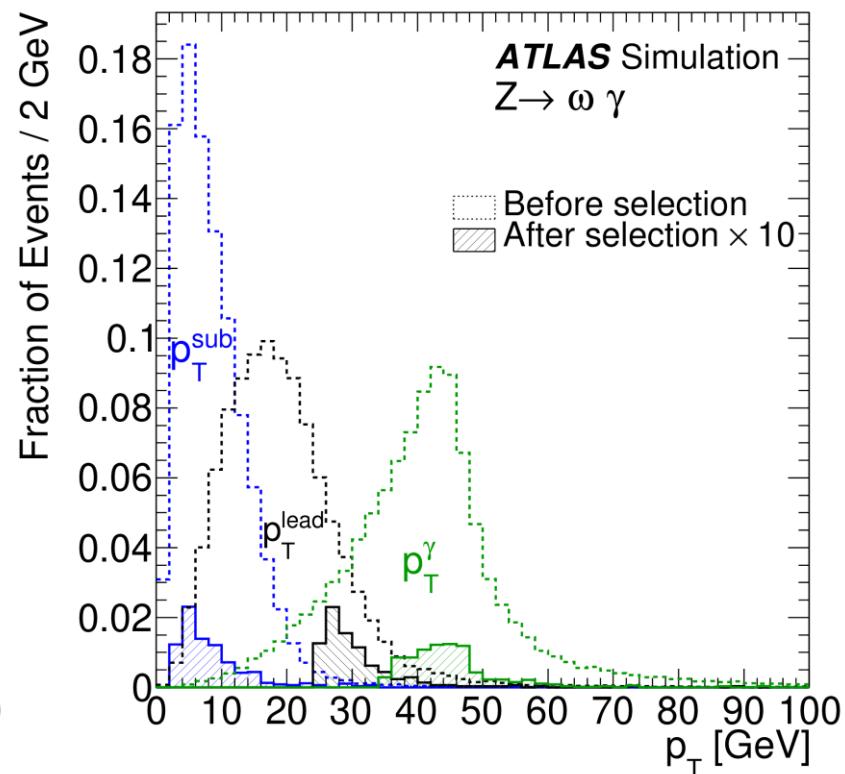
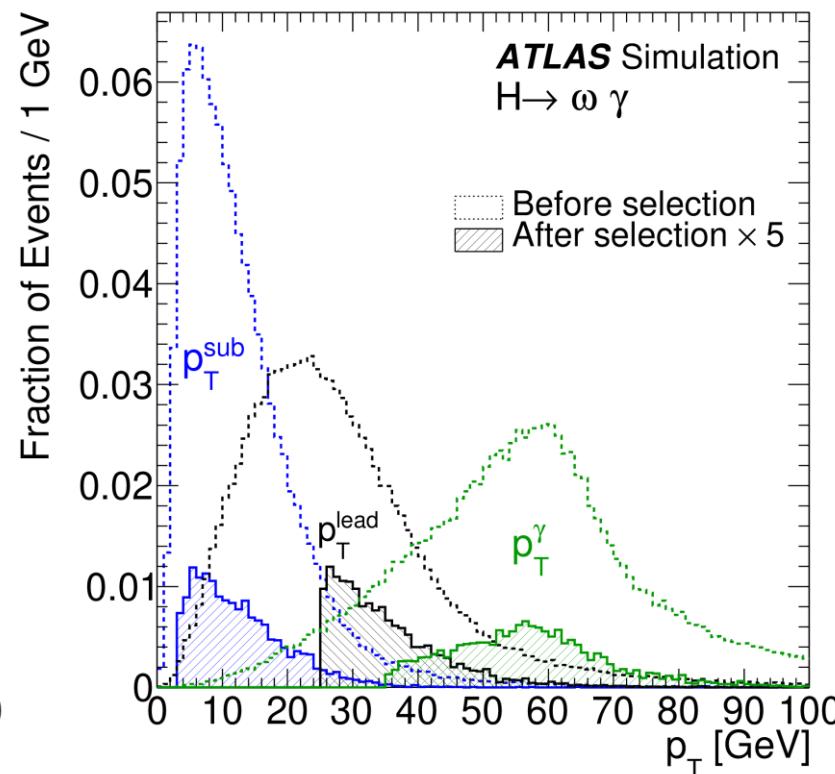
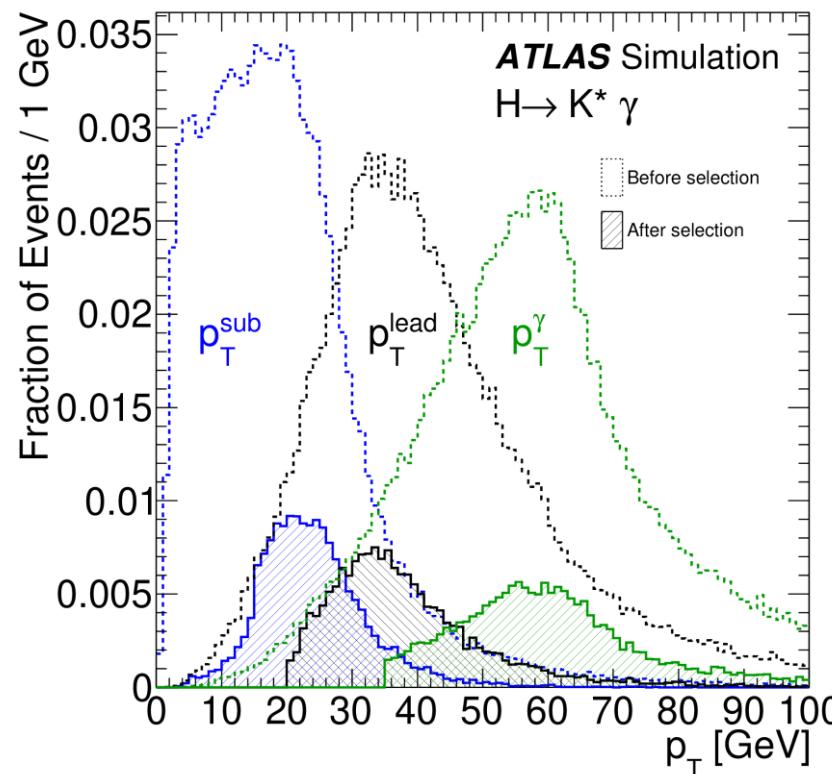
[JHEP 07 \(2018\) 127](#)

# $H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$ and $H(Z) \rightarrow \omega\gamma$ : Ancestral Sampling Scheme

➤ Important correlations differ compared to  $H(Z) \rightarrow (\phi, \rho)\gamma$  searches: adapt sampling scheme



# $H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$ and $H(Z) \rightarrow \omega\gamma$ : Strategy



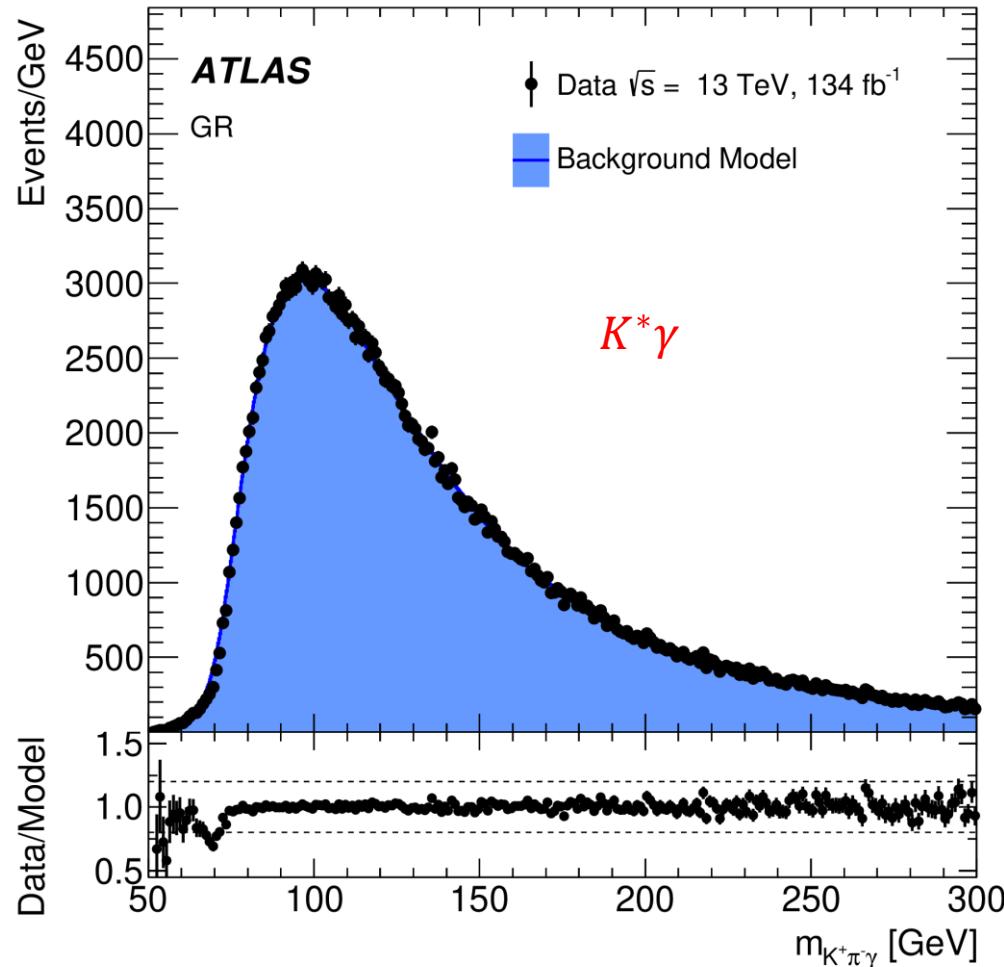
- Shapes for  $H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$  and  $Z \rightarrow \omega\gamma$  same form as in  $(\phi, \rho)\gamma$ 
  - $H \rightarrow \omega\gamma$  modelled with Gaussian + crystal-ball distribution
- Background is multi-jet and  $\gamma$ +jet sources
  - Use non-parametric data-driven background model

Total Signal Efficiency		
$H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$	$H \rightarrow \omega\gamma$	$Z \rightarrow \omega\gamma$
12.1%	2.2%	0.4%

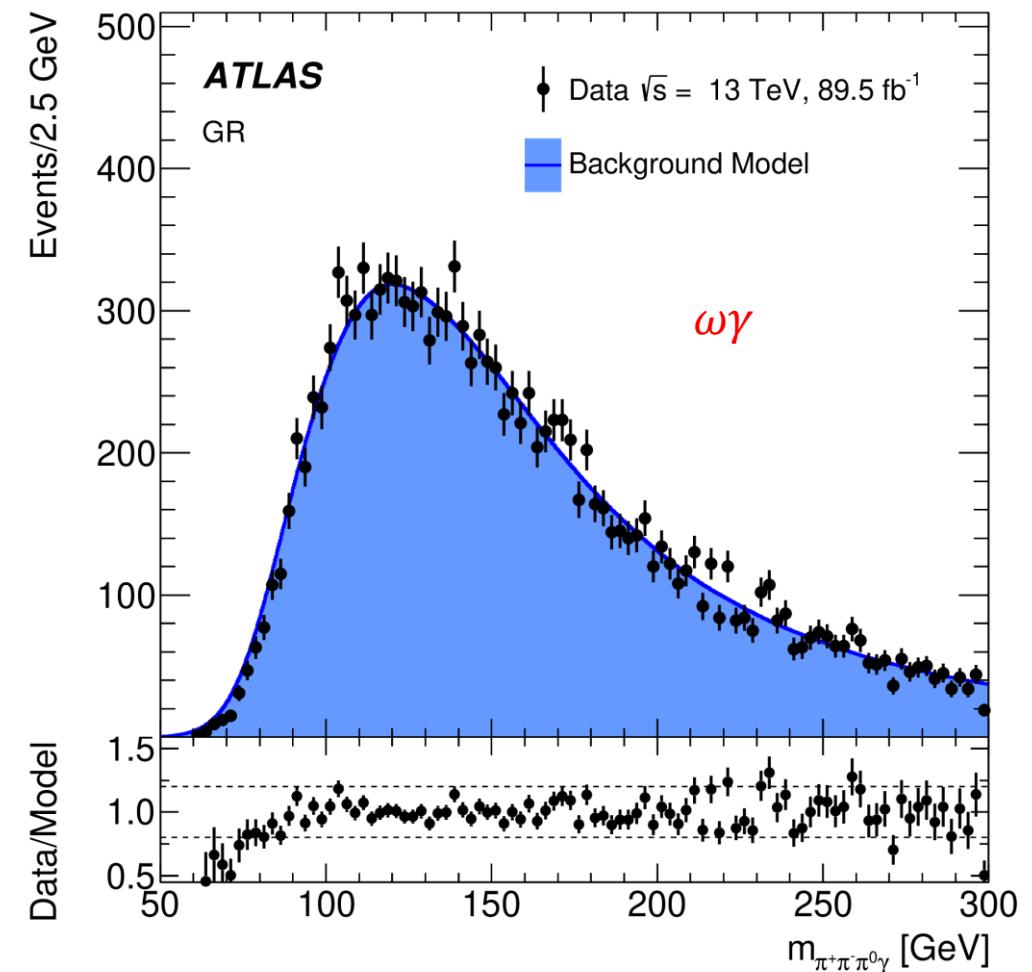
[PLB 847 \(2023\) 138292](#)

# $H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$ and $H(Z) \rightarrow \omega\gamma$ : Background Model

- Background is multi-jet and  $\gamma + \text{jet}$  sources – treat inclusively
  - Use non-parametric data-driven background model

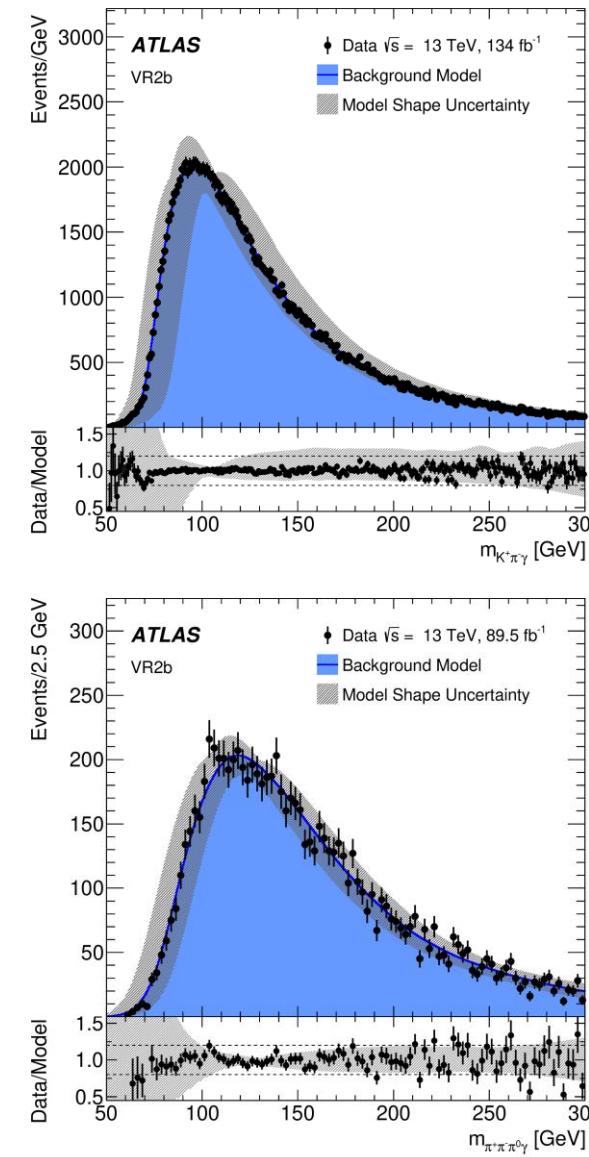
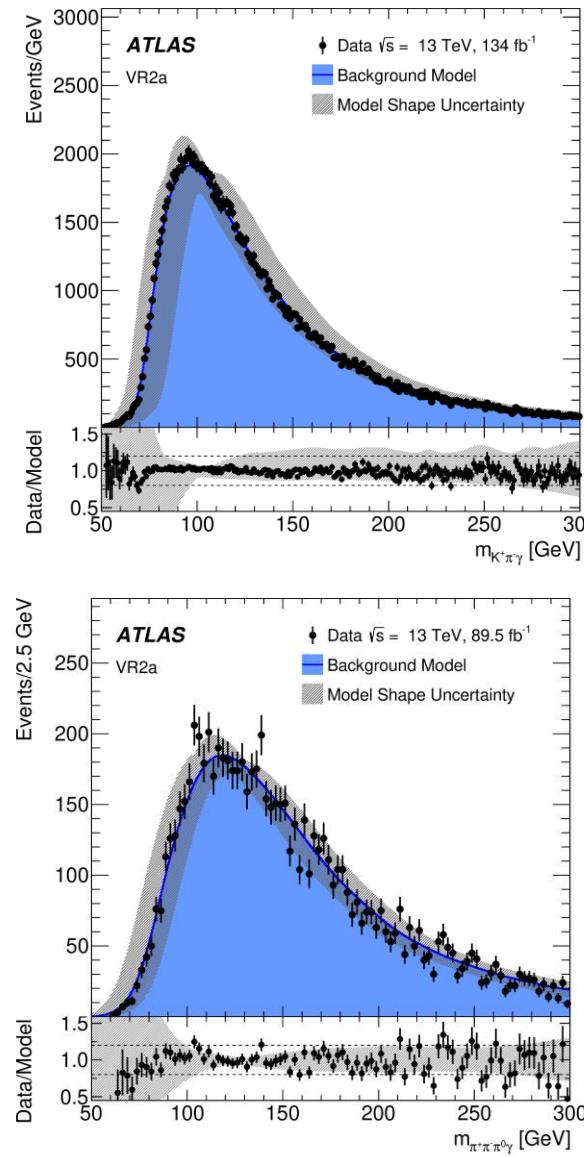
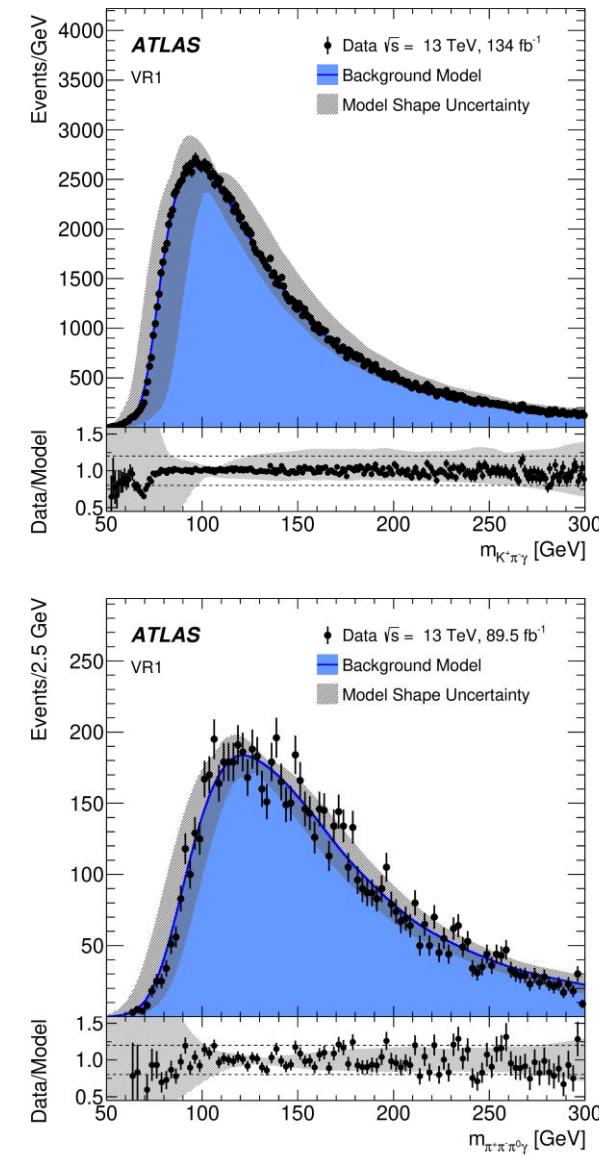


Background in Generation Region



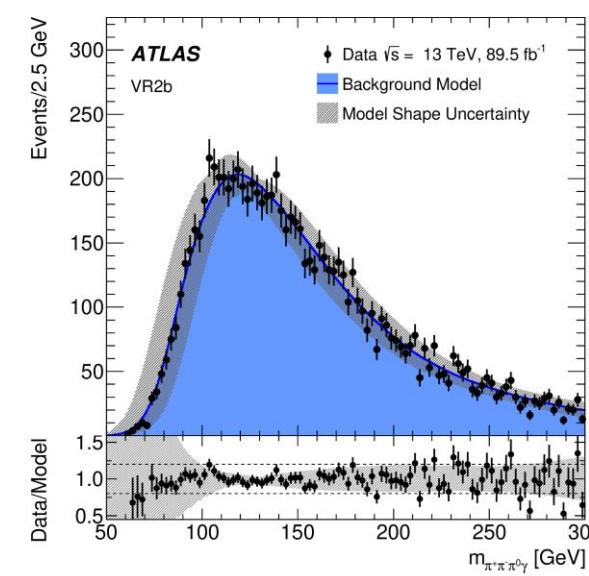
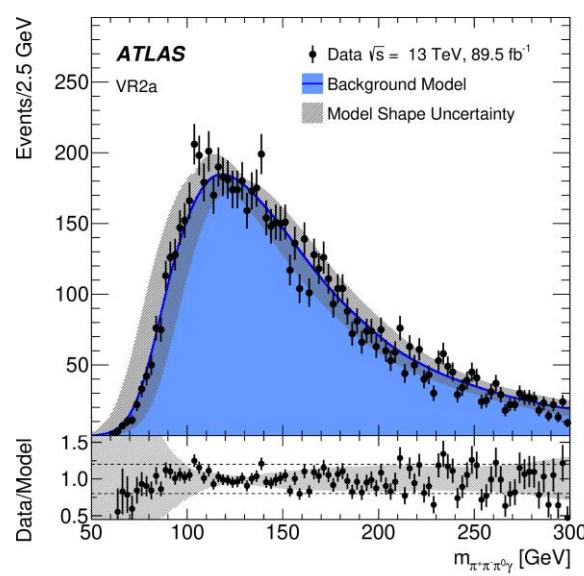
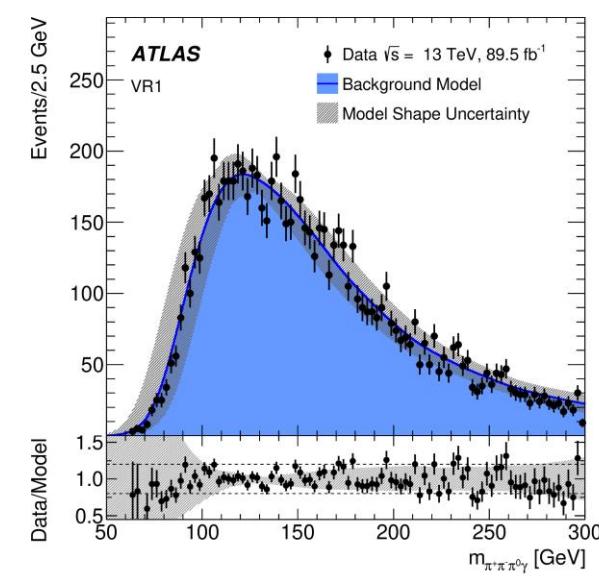
PLB 847 (2023) 138292

# $H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$ and $H(Z) \rightarrow \omega\gamma$ : Background Validation



➤ Freedom via shape systematics:  
mass-tilt,  $\Delta\phi$ -distortion,  
 $p_T$ -shift

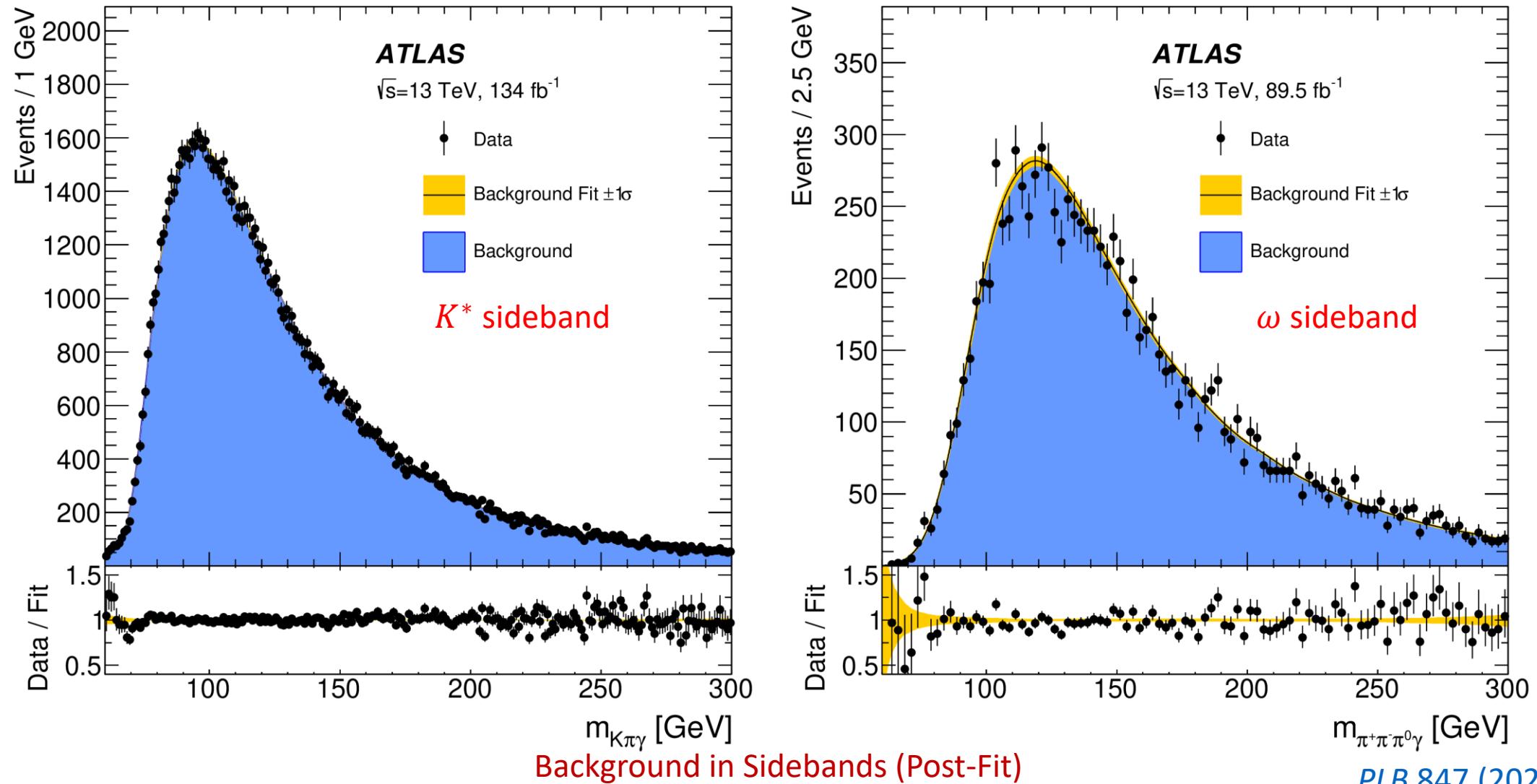
*K<sup>\*</sup>γ Background Validation*



*ωγ Background Validation*

# $H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$ and $H(Z) \rightarrow \omega\gamma$ : Sideband Validation

- Unbinned likelihood fit in  $m(K^\pm\pi^\mp\gamma)$  and  $m(\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0\gamma)$



# $H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$ and $H(Z) \rightarrow \omega\gamma$ : Limits and Observed Events

➤ Unbinned likelihood fit in  $m(K^\pm\pi^\mp\gamma)$  and  $m(\pi^+\pi^-\pi^0\gamma)$

Channel	Mass range [GeV ]	Observed (Expected) background	$H$ signal $\mathcal{B} = 10^{-4}$	$Z$ signal $\mathcal{B} = 10^{-6}$
$H \rightarrow \omega\gamma$	115–135	686 (730 ± 17)	9 ± 1	–
$Z \rightarrow \omega\gamma$	80–100	388 (386 ± 16)	–	18 ± 2
$H \rightarrow K^*\gamma$	120–130	9526 (9630 ± 50)	53 ± 4	–

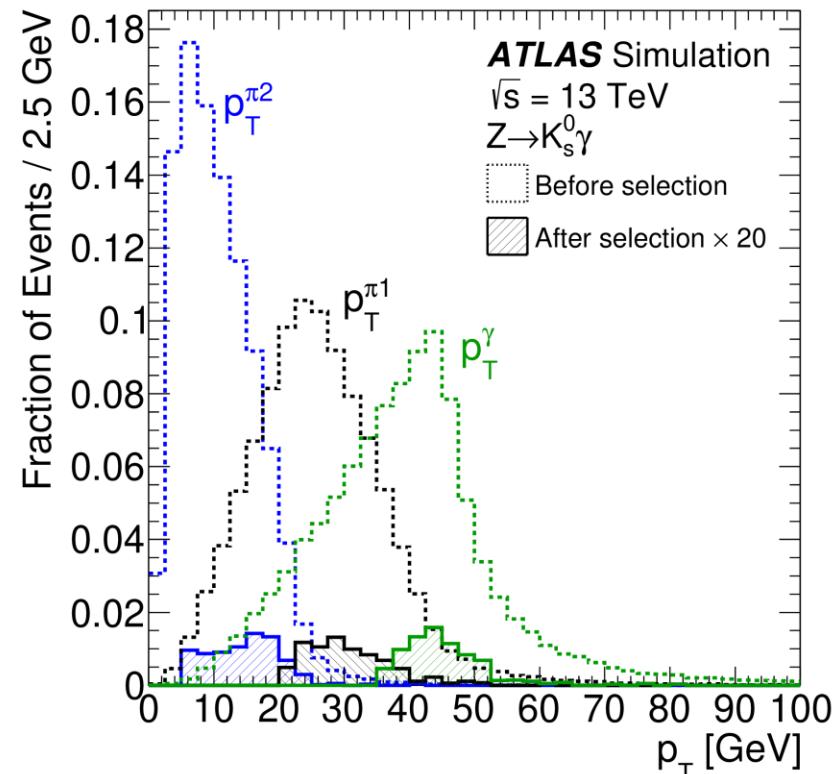
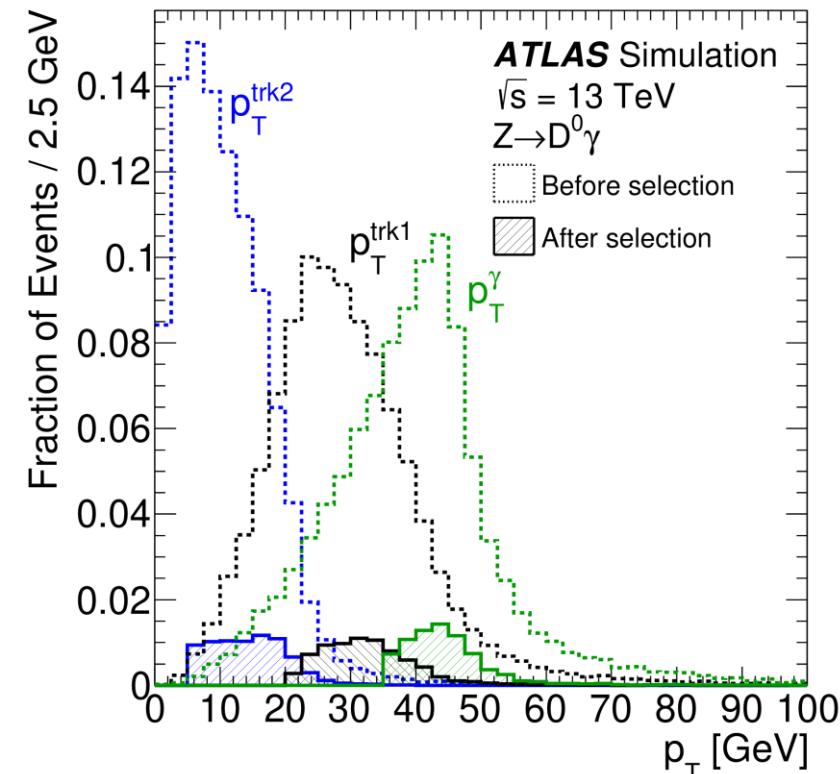
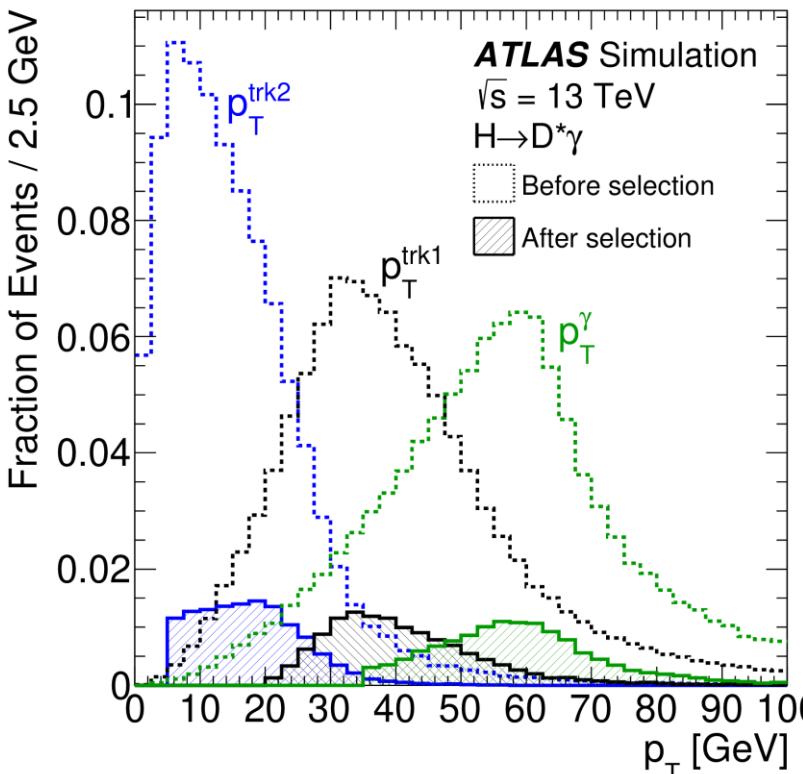
Observed and Expected Events

Channel	95% CL upper limit	
	Expected	Observed
$H \rightarrow \omega\gamma [10^{-4}]$	$10.4^{+3.8}_{-2.9}$	5.5
$Z \rightarrow \omega\gamma [10^{-6}]$	$4.7^{+2.0}_{-1.3}$	3.9
$H \rightarrow K^*\gamma [10^{-4}]$	$3.7^{+1.5}_{-1.0}$	2.2

Observed and Expected Limits

[PLB 847 \(2023\) 138292](#)

# $H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$ & $Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_s^0) \gamma$ : Signal Efficiency



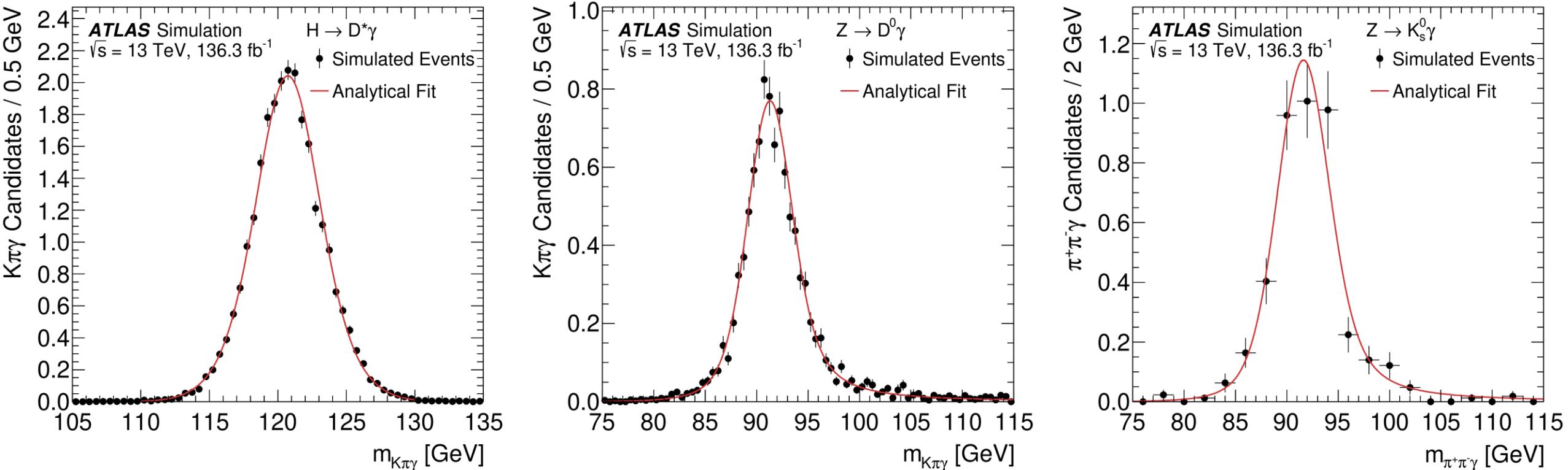
## Total Signal Efficiency

$H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$	$Z \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$	$Z \rightarrow K_s^0 \gamma$
9%	3%	0.2%

- Larger photon and track  $p_T$  in  $H$  decays leads to larger signal efficiencies than for  $Z$  decays
- Particularly small efficiency for  $Z \rightarrow K_s^0 \gamma$  as many  $K_s^0$  decays occur beyond innermost ID layers

arXiv:2402.18731

# $H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$ & $Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_s^0) \gamma$ : Signal Modelling



➤ Model with analytical fits to simulated events

- Higgs mass - sum of two Gaussian distributions with a common mean
- Z mass - Voigtian distribution  $\times$  efficiency factor
  - Voigtian: convolution of Gaussian (detector resolution) and Lorentz (Z width) distributions
  - Efficiency factor: accounts for turn-on in signal efficiency with Z mass

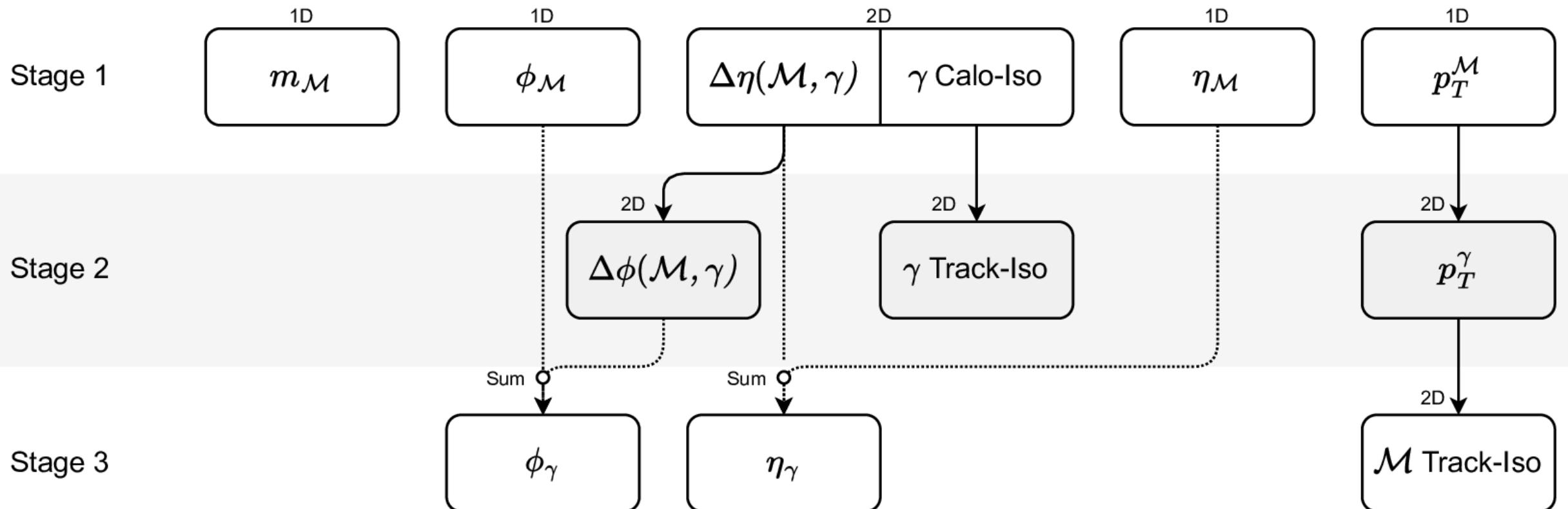
1.9 – 2.3%  
Resolution

arXiv:2402.18731

# $H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$ & $Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_s^0) \gamma$ : Sampling Scheme

➤ Ancestral sampling scheme used to produce pseudo-events

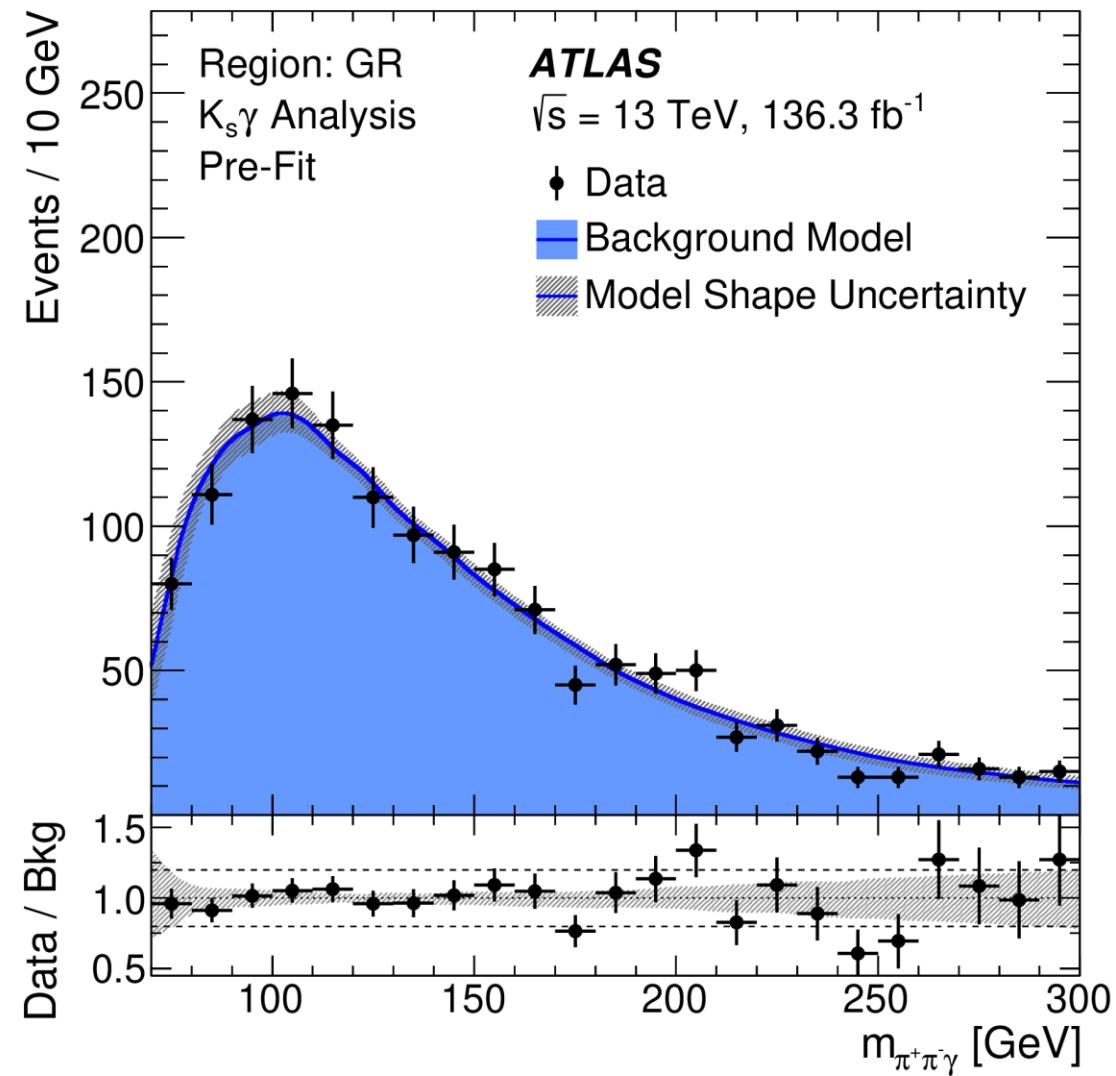
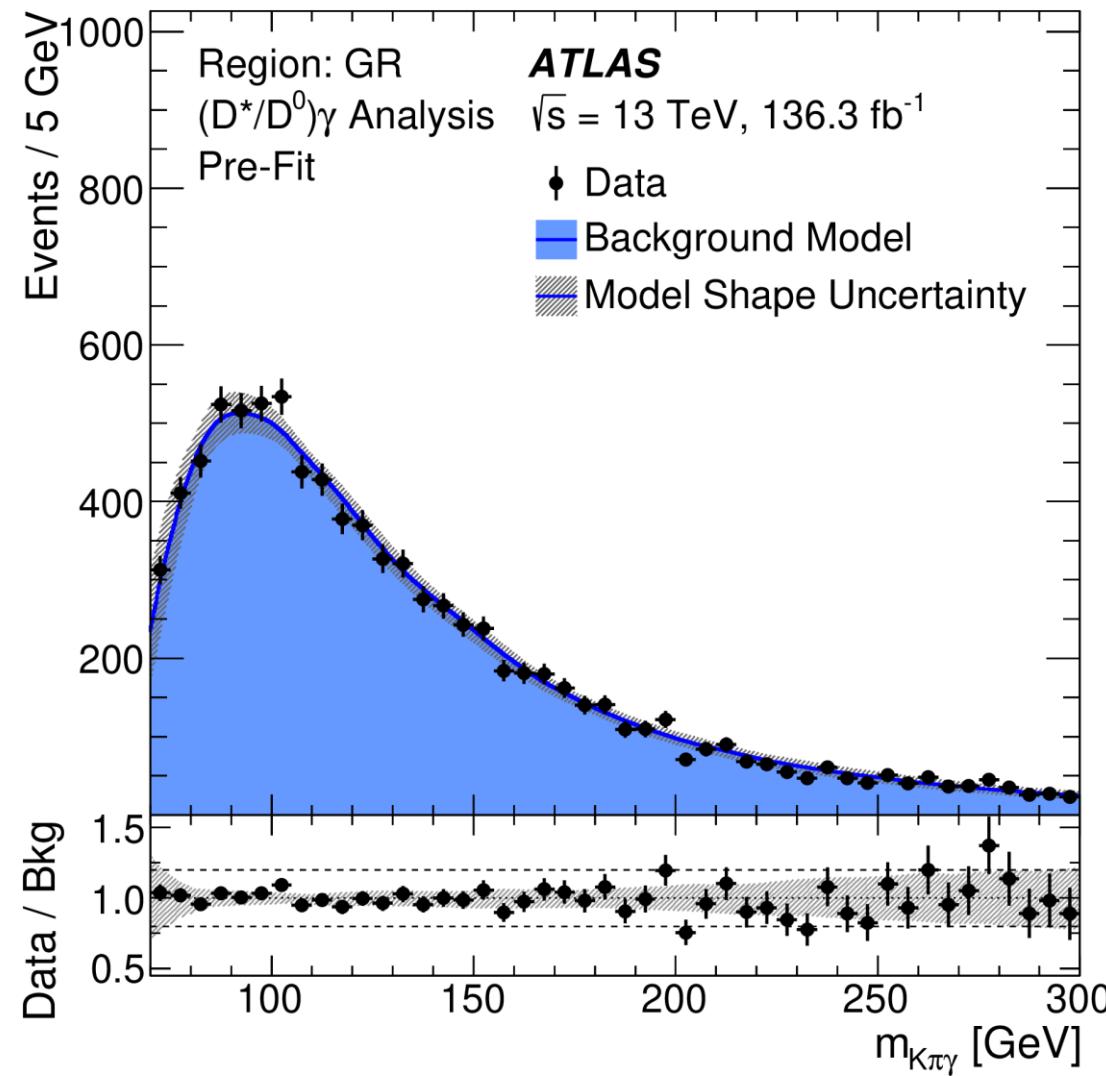
[arXiv:2402.18731](https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.18731)



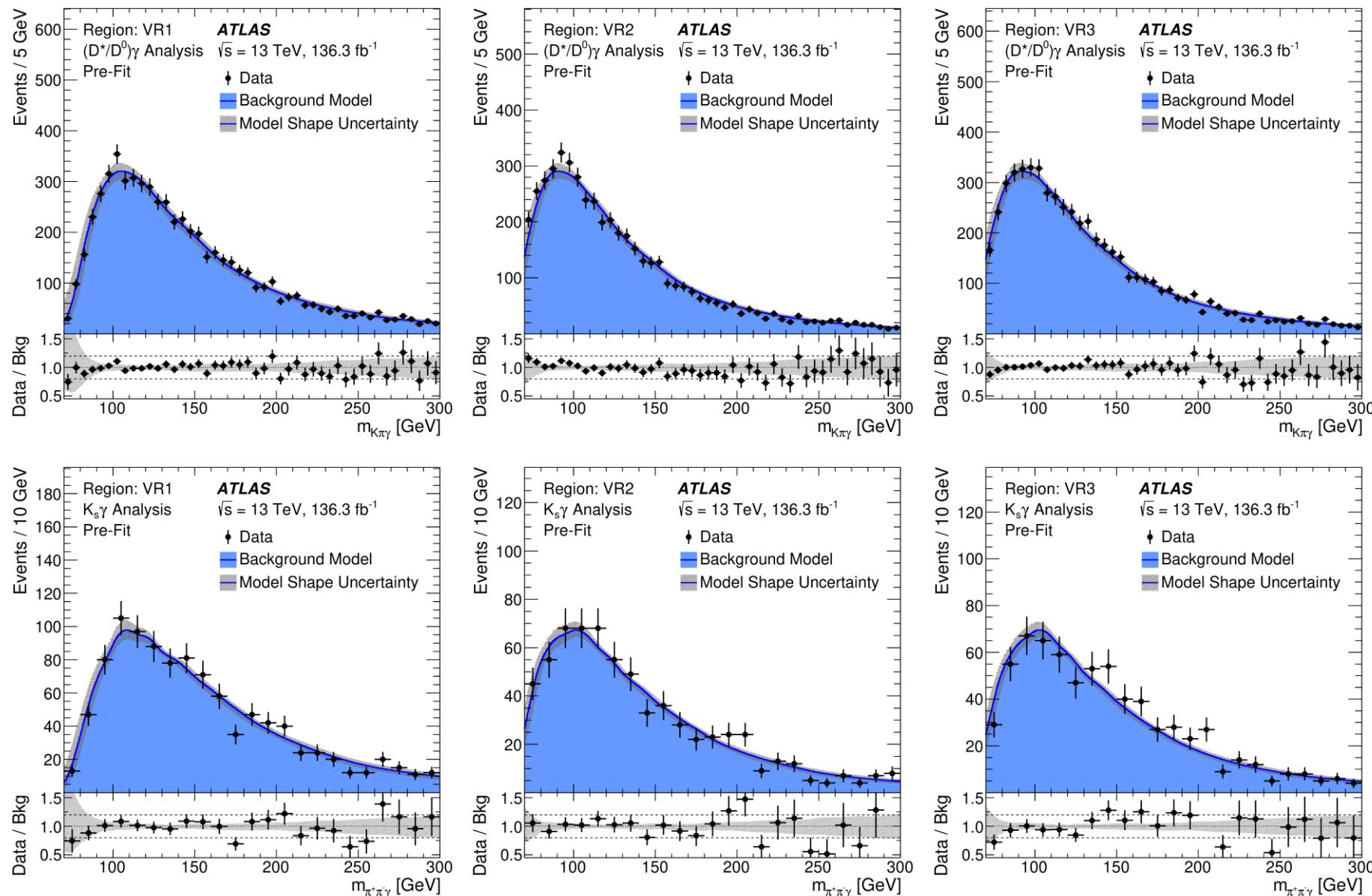
# $H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$ & $Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_s^0) \gamma$ : Background Generation

- Data in generation region is used to produce model

[arXiv:2402.18731](https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.18731)



# $H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$ & $Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_s^0) \gamma$ : Background Validation



➤ Plots are pre-fit

Selection	Meson $p_T$	Meson Isolation	Photon Isolation
GR	$> 25 \text{ GeV}$	None	None
VR1	$> 39(38) \text{ GeV}$	None	None
VR2	$> 25 \text{ GeV}$	Tight	None
VR3	$> 25 \text{ GeV}$	None	Tight
SR	$> 39(38) \text{ GeV}$	Tight	Tight



$(D^*/D^0)\gamma$   
Background  
Validation



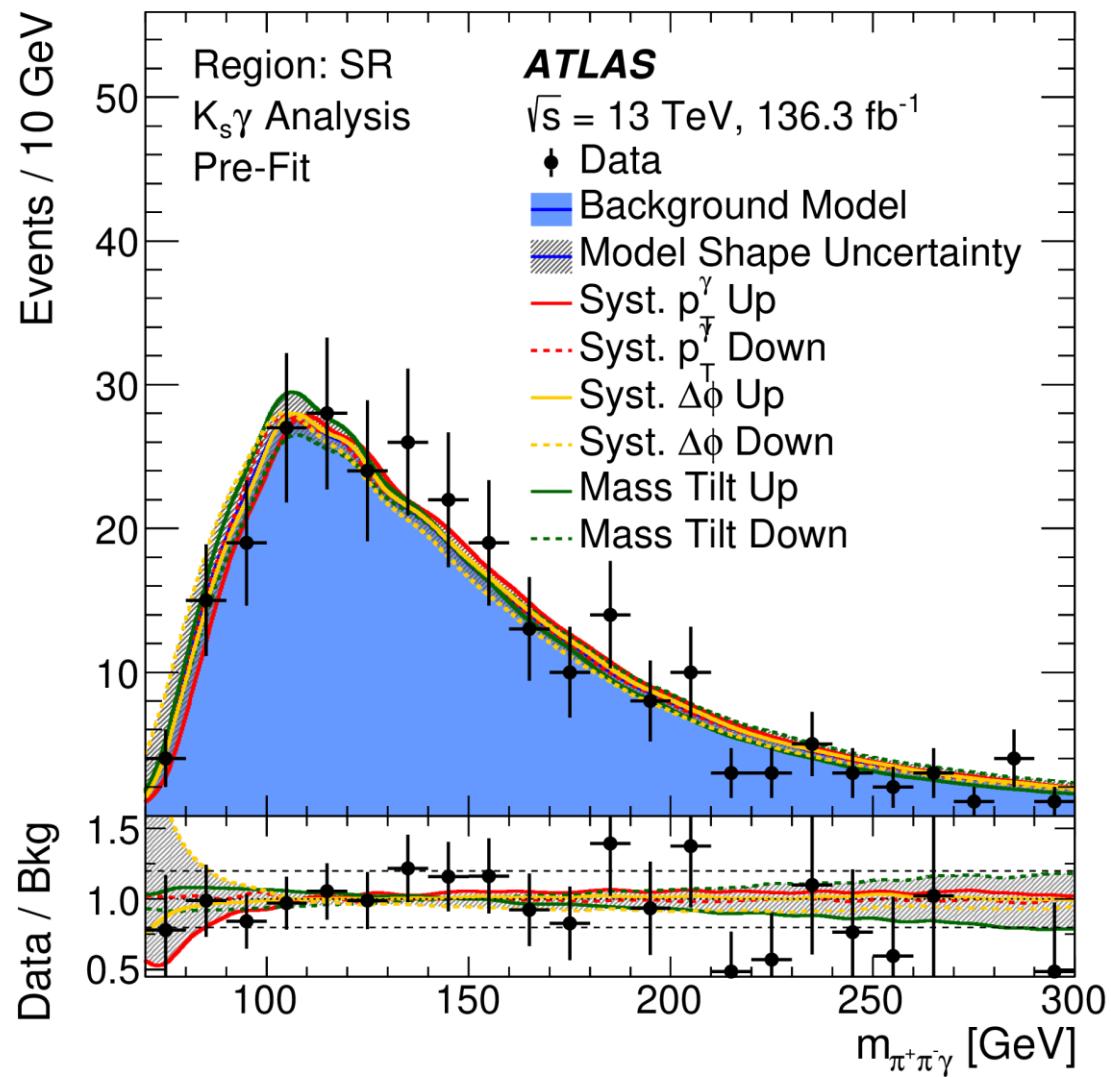
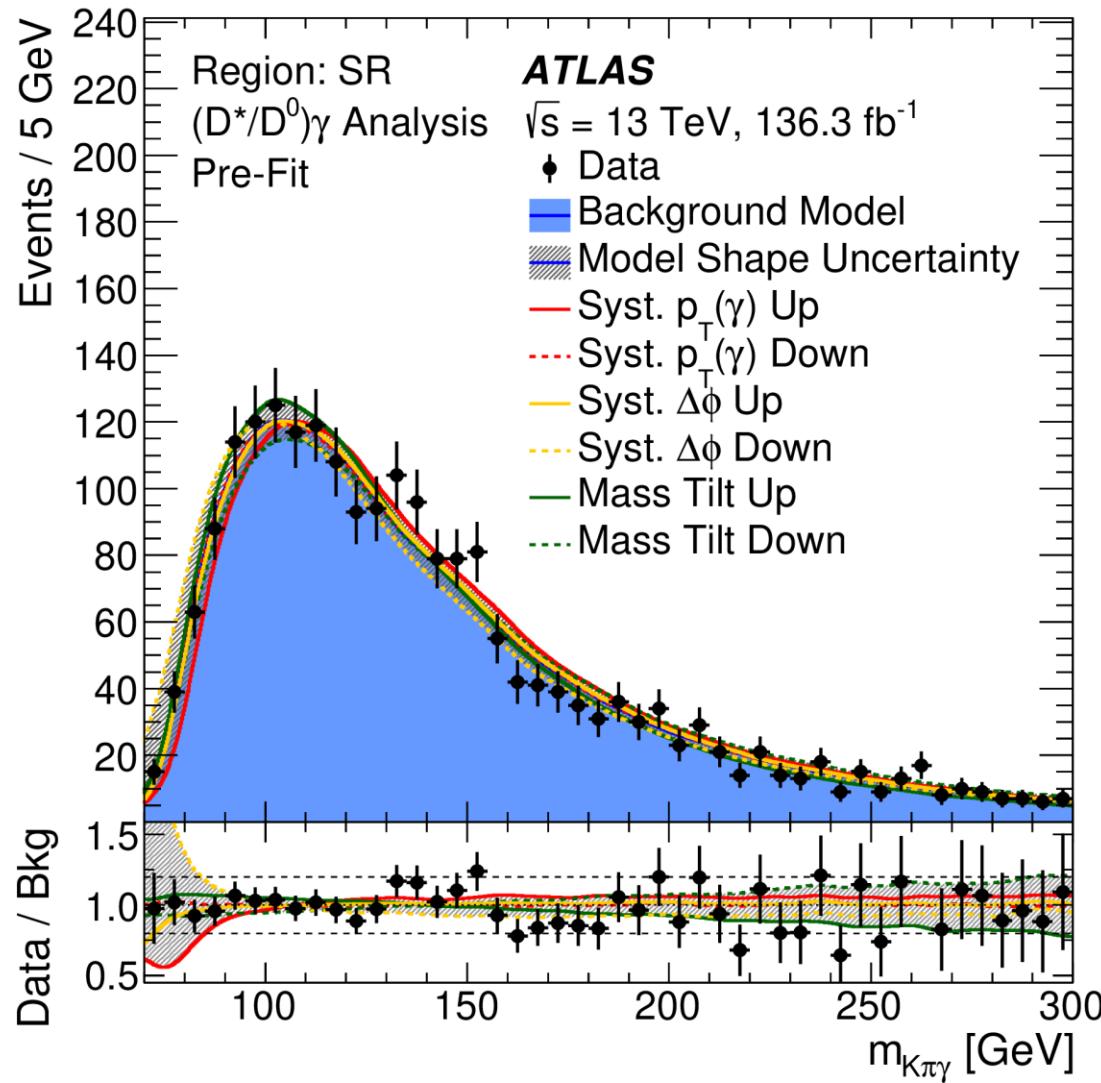
$K_s^0\gamma$  Background  
Validation

arXiv:2402.18731

# $H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$ & $Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_s^0) \gamma$ : Background Systematics

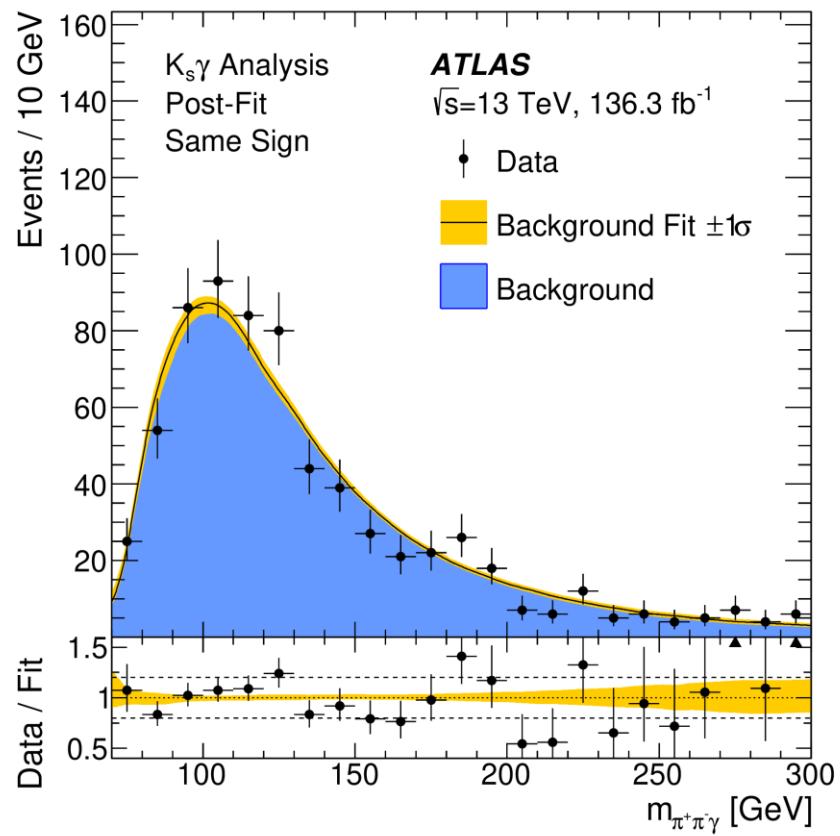
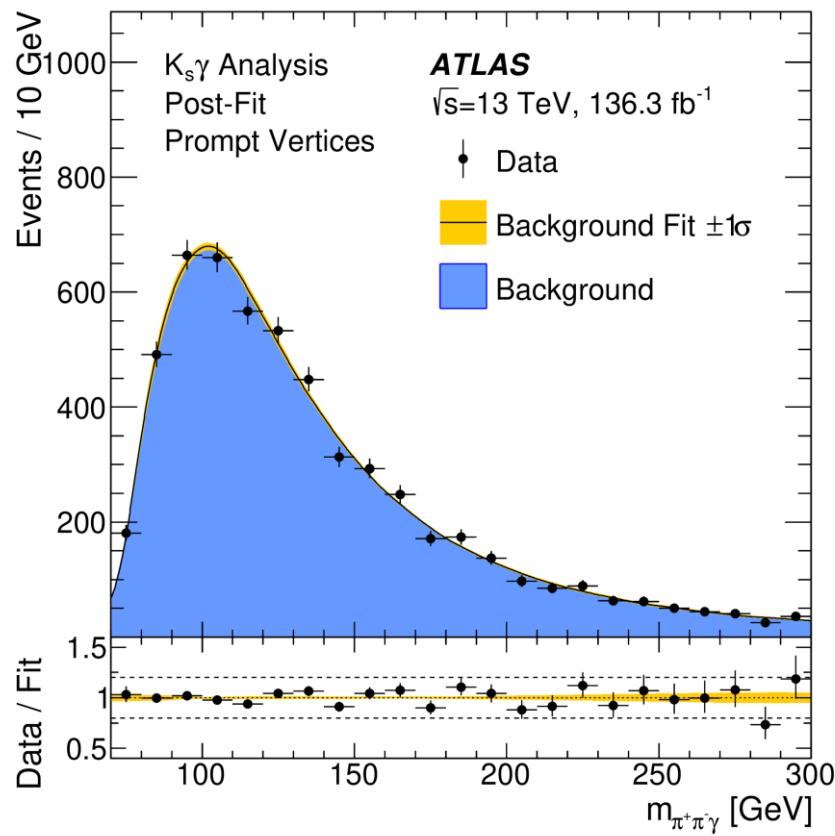
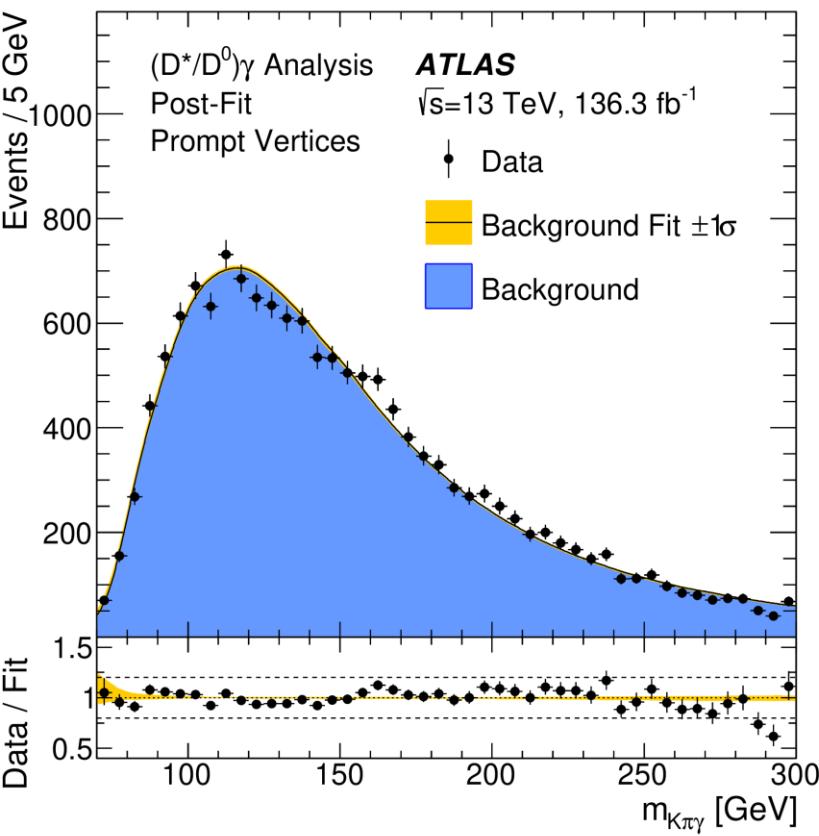
➤ Freedom via shape systematics: mass-tilt,  $\Delta\phi$ -distortion,  $p_T$ -shift

[arXiv:2402.18731](https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.18731)



# $H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$ & $Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_s^0) \gamma$ : Background Control Regions

- Define orthogonal selections (with analogous backgrounds) to validate model procedure



arXiv:2402.18731

# $H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$ & $Z \rightarrow (D^0, K_s^0) \gamma$ : Results Tables

Channel	Mass range [GeV]	Observed (Expected) background	$H$ signal $\mathcal{B} = 10^{-3}$	$Z$ signal $\mathcal{B} = 10^{-6}$
$H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$	116–126	203 (214.8 $\pm$ 5.5)	$25.4 \pm 2.0$	–
$Z \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$	86–96	215 (206 $\pm$ 14)	–	$10.3 \pm 0.7$
$Z \rightarrow K_s^0 \gamma$	86–96	21 (19.5 $\pm$ 2.0)	–	$4.2 \pm 0.4$

Observed and expected events

95% CL upper limits				
Branching Fraction		$\sigma \times \mathcal{B}$ [fb]		
Channel	Observed	Expected	Observed	Expected
$H \rightarrow D^* \gamma$	$1.0 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.2_{-0.3}^{+0.5} \times 10^{-3}$	58	$68_{-19}^{+28}$
$Z \rightarrow D^0 \gamma$	$4.0 \times 10^{-6}$	$3.4_{-1.0}^{+1.4} \times 10^{-6}$	235	$200_{-56}^{+82}$
$Z \rightarrow K_s^0 \gamma$	$3.1 \times 10^{-6}$	$3.0_{-0.8}^{+1.3} \times 10^{-6}$	185	$176_{-49}^{+77}$

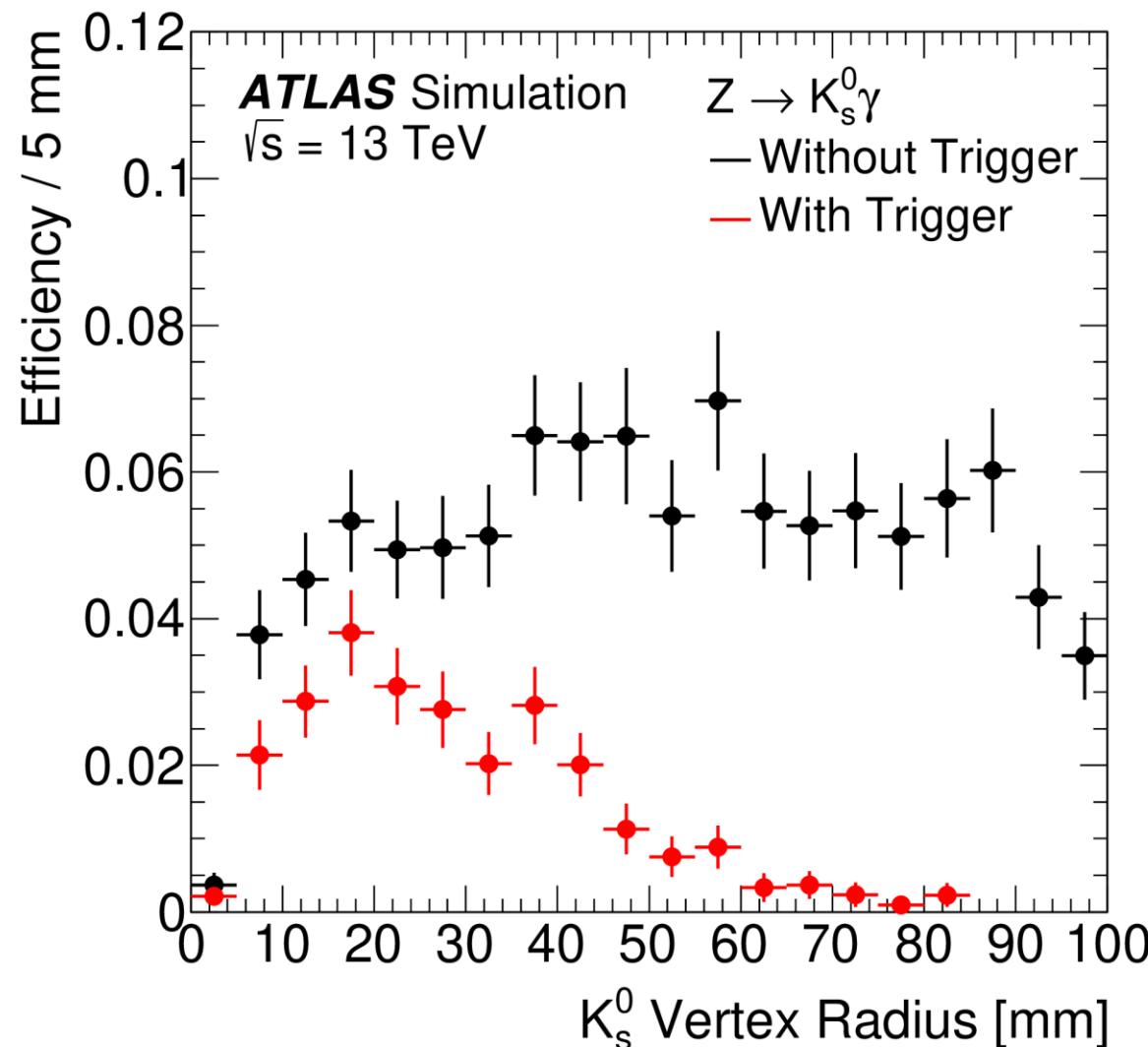
Observed and expected limits

arXiv:2402.18731

# $Z \rightarrow K_s^0 \gamma$ : Trigger Efficiency

➤ Potential to improve  $K_s^0$  trigger by triggering on displaced vertices

[arXiv:2402.18731](https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.18731)



# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Selection

➤ Selection defined largely by trigger thresholds, geometry constraints, and recommended working points

- Variable  $p_T^{\mu^+\mu^-}$  threshold optimised based on  $S/\sqrt{B}$  near  $H$  and  $Z$  signal peaks

## Photon Selection:

- $p_T^\gamma > 35$  GeV
- $|\eta^\gamma| < 2.37$  and outside transition region  
 $1.37 < |\eta^\gamma| < 1.52$
- Tight quality
- $\Delta\phi(Q, \gamma) > \pi/2$
- **Photon isolation**

## Meson Selection:

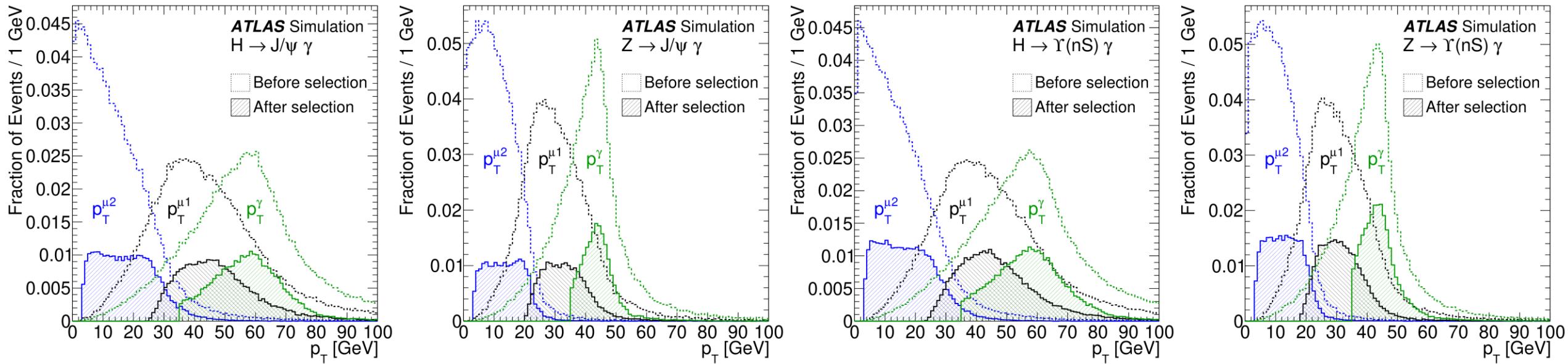
- $p_T^{\text{lead}} > 18$  GeV;  $p_T^{\text{sublead}} > 3$  GeV
- $|\eta^\mu| < 2.5$
- Oppositely charged muons
- Medium quality
- $m(\mu^+\mu^-)$  near meson mass
- Transverse decay length significance  $|L_{xy}/\sigma_{L_{xy}}| < 3$
- **$p_T(\mu^+\mu^-)$  cut varies with  $m(\mu^+\mu^-\gamma)$**
- **Muon isolation**

Red: Not applied in GR

Quarkonium	Composition	Mass [GeV]	Width [keV]	$\mathcal{B}(Q \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$
$J/\psi$	$c\bar{c}$	3.10	$92.9 \pm 2.8$	$(5.96 \pm 0.03)\%$
$\psi(2S)$	$c\bar{c}$	3.69	$294.0 \pm 8.0$	$(0.80 \pm 0.06)\%$
$\Upsilon(1S)$	$b\bar{b}$	9.46	$54.0 \pm 1.3$	$(2.48 \pm 0.05)\%$
$\Upsilon(2S)$	$b\bar{b}$	10.02	$32.0 \pm 2.6$	$(1.93 \pm 0.17)\%$
$\Upsilon(3S)$	$b\bar{b}$	10.36	$20.3 \pm 1.9$	$(2.18 \pm 0.21)\%$

[EPJC 83 \(2023\) 781](#)

# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Signal Modelling



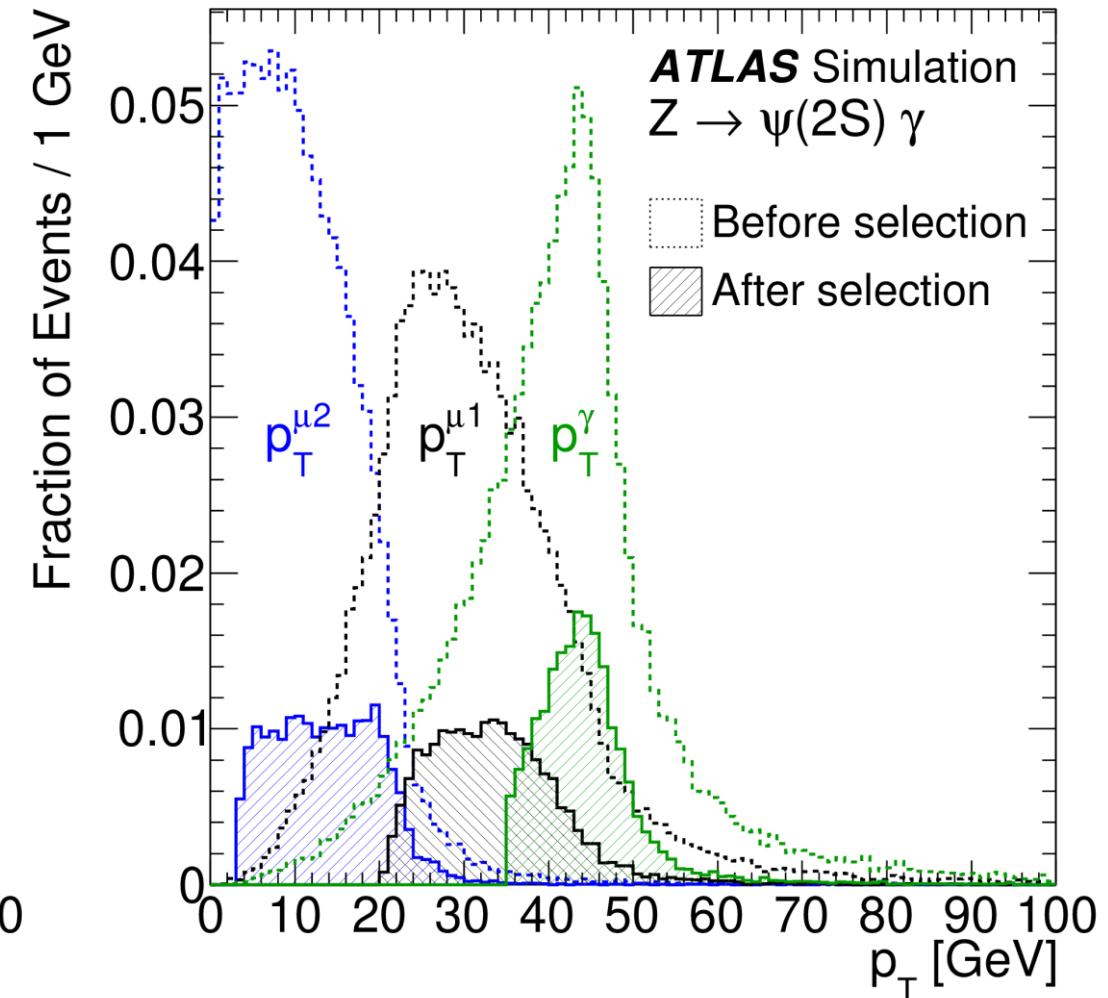
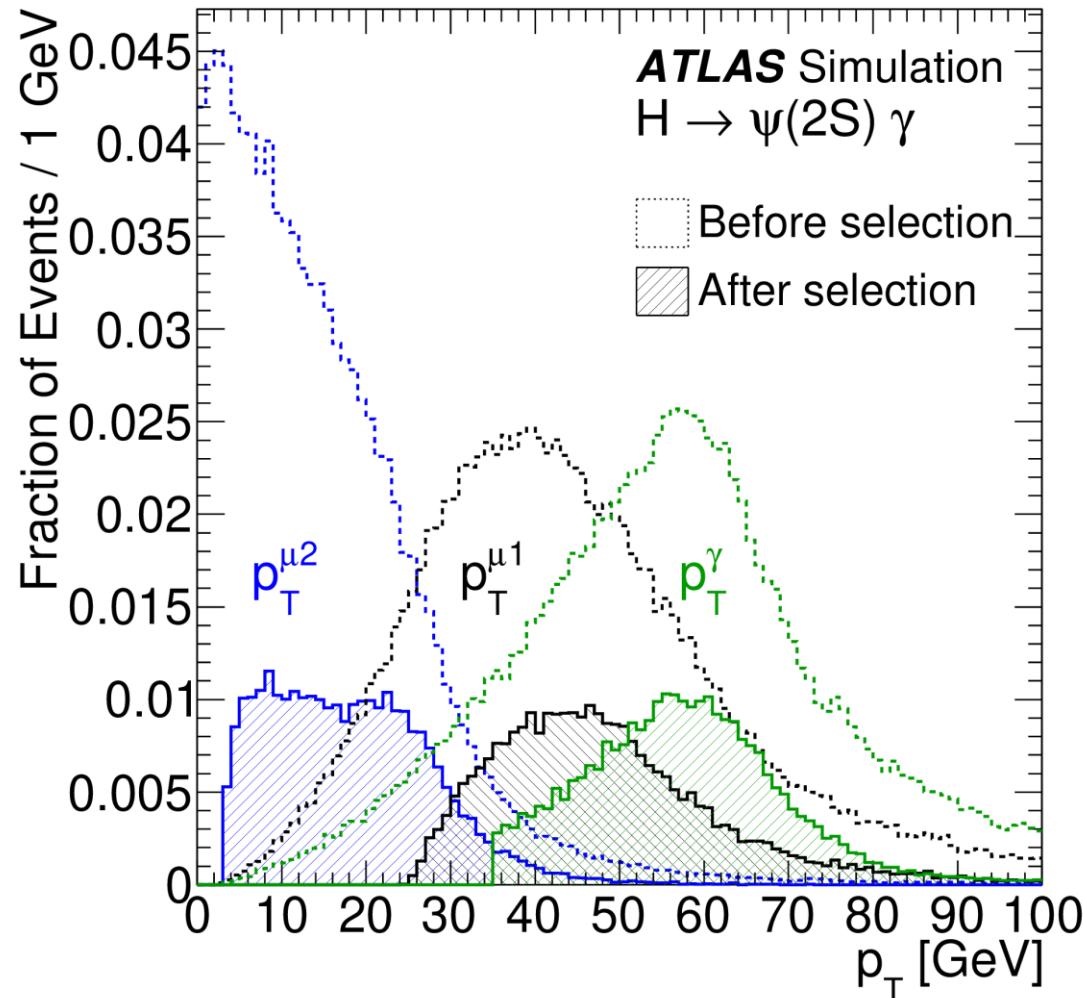
- Higgs decays – sum of two bivariate Gaussians ( $m_{\mu^+ \mu^- \gamma}; m_{\mu^+ \mu^-}$ )
- Z decays – double Voigtian  $\times$  efficiency factor ( $m_{\mu^+ \mu^- \gamma}$ )  
 $\times$  double Gaussian ( $m_{\mu^+ \mu^-}$ )

1.6-1.8%  
Resolution

Total Signal Efficiency		
Decay Channel	Z Signal	H Signal
$\psi(nS)\gamma$	10%	19%
$\Upsilon(nS)\gamma$	13%	21%

# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Signal Efficiency

➤ Generator  $p_T$  plots for  $\psi(2S)$  channels

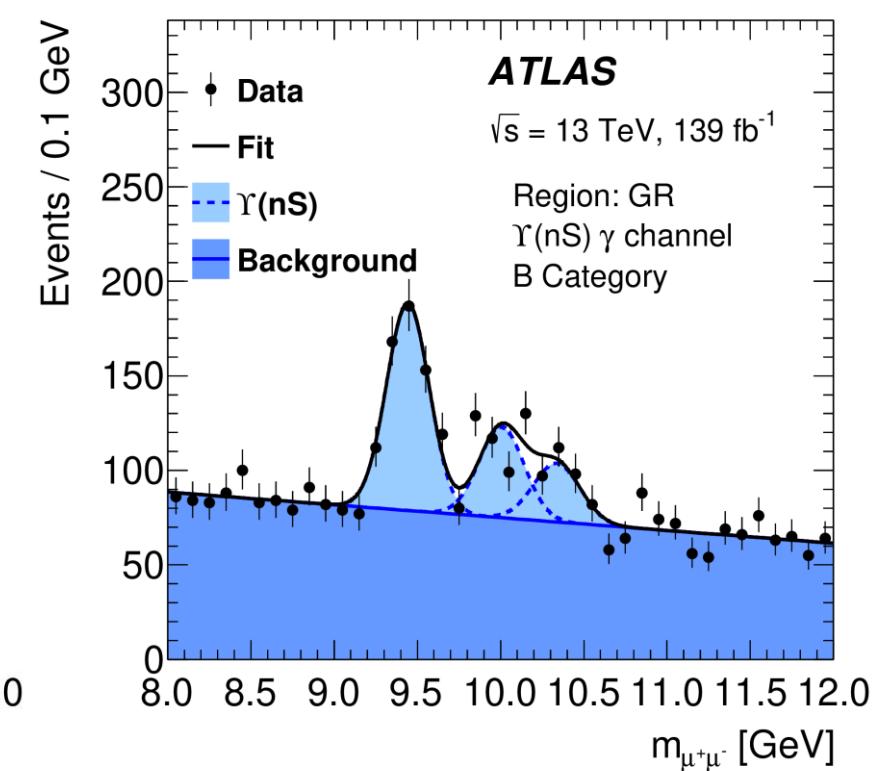
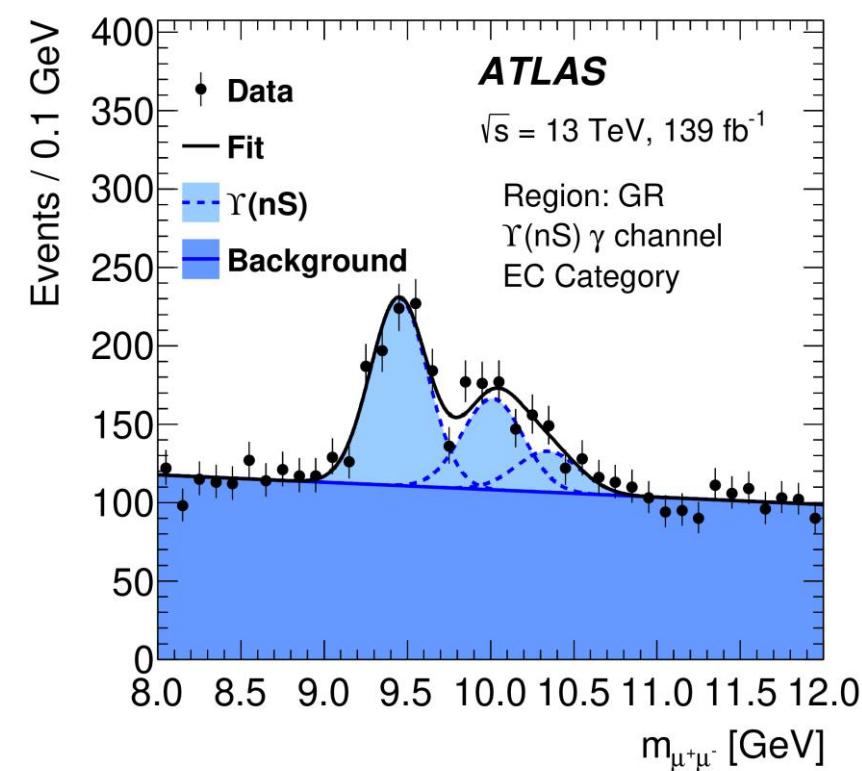
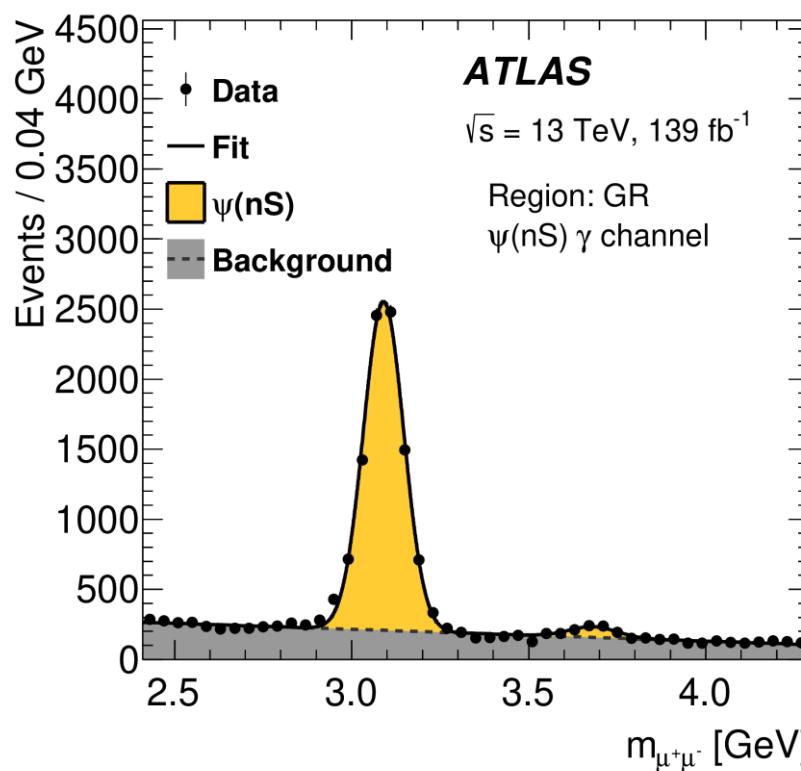


# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Quarkonium Reconstruction

➤ Split  $\Upsilon(nS)$  into Barrel (B) and Endcap (EC) categories

- Improved resolution in barrel helps resolve each state

➤ Reject displaced vertices to avoid  $b \rightarrow \psi(nS)$



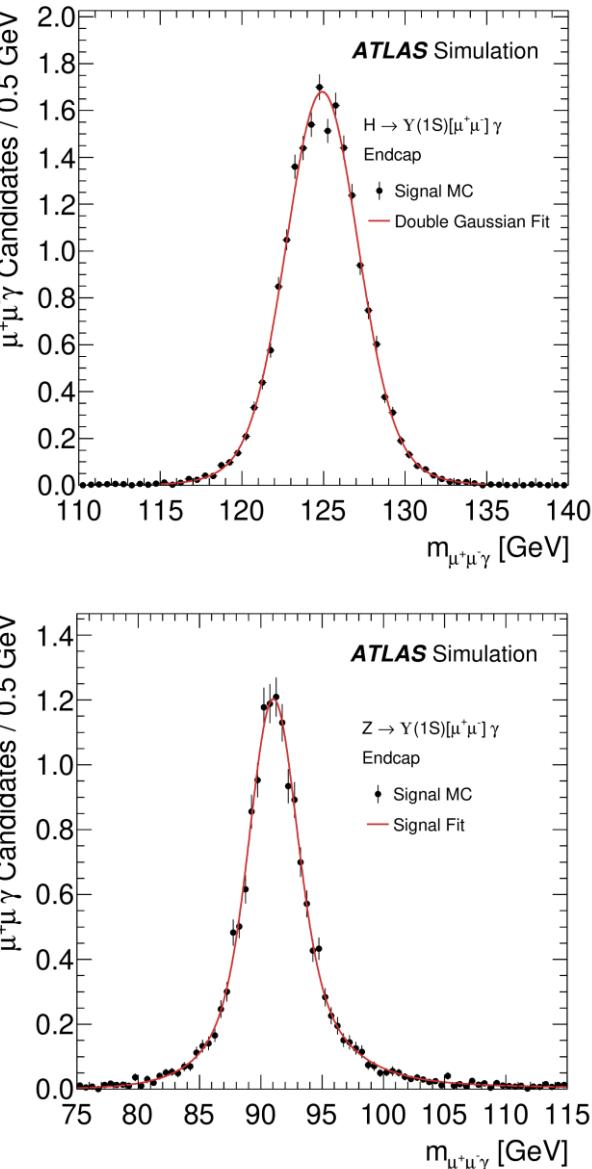
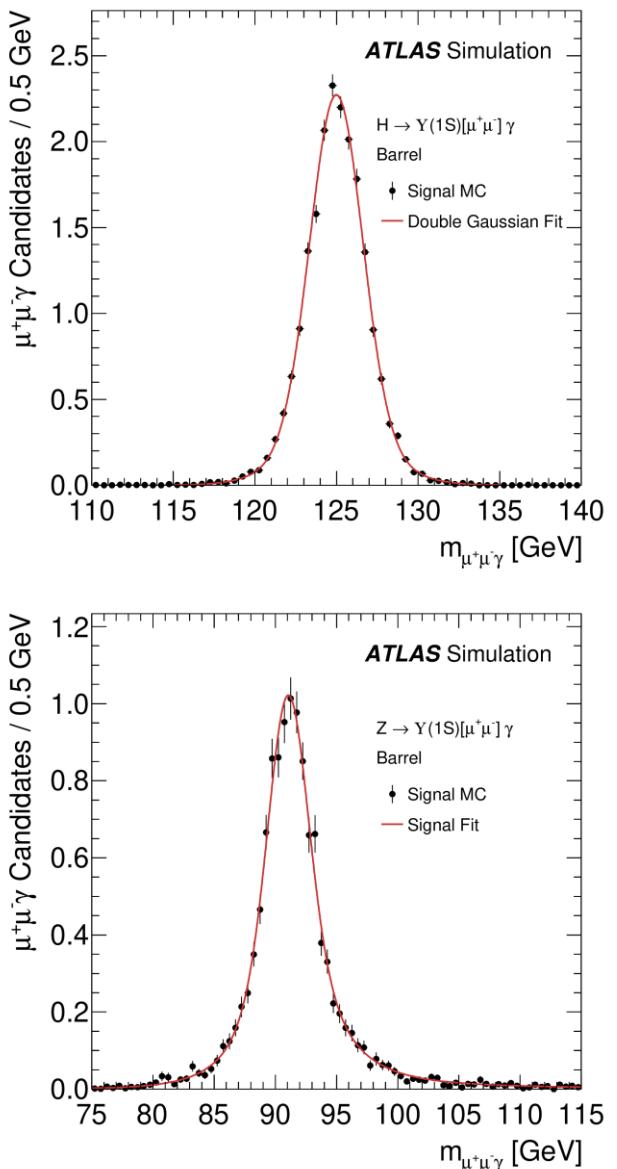
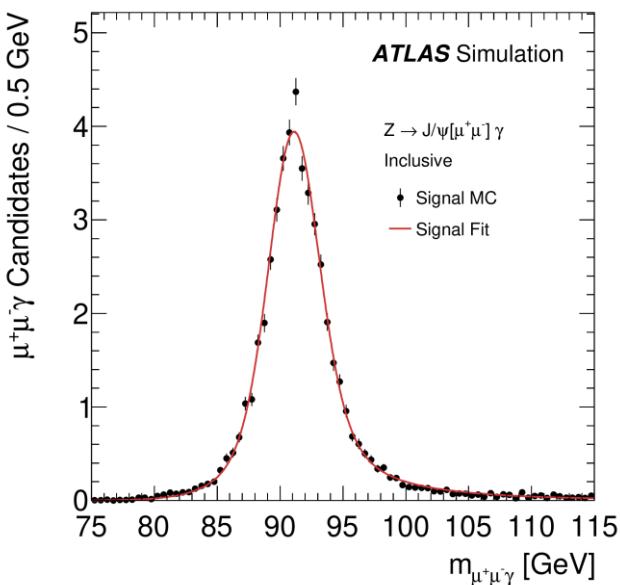
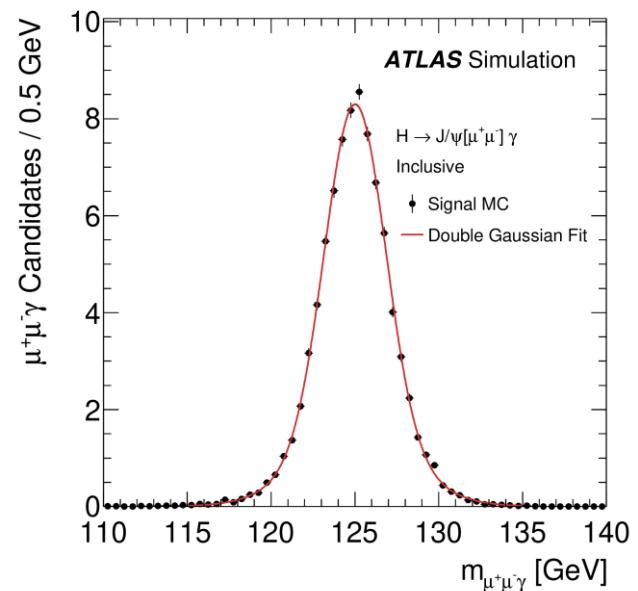
➤ Extract  $m_{\mu^+\mu^-}$  shapes for final fit

- Quarkonium states – Gaussian; combinatoric – straight line

[EPJC 83 \(2023\) 781](#)

# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Signal Modelling and Resolution

## ➤ Signal resolution for $Q\gamma$ searches



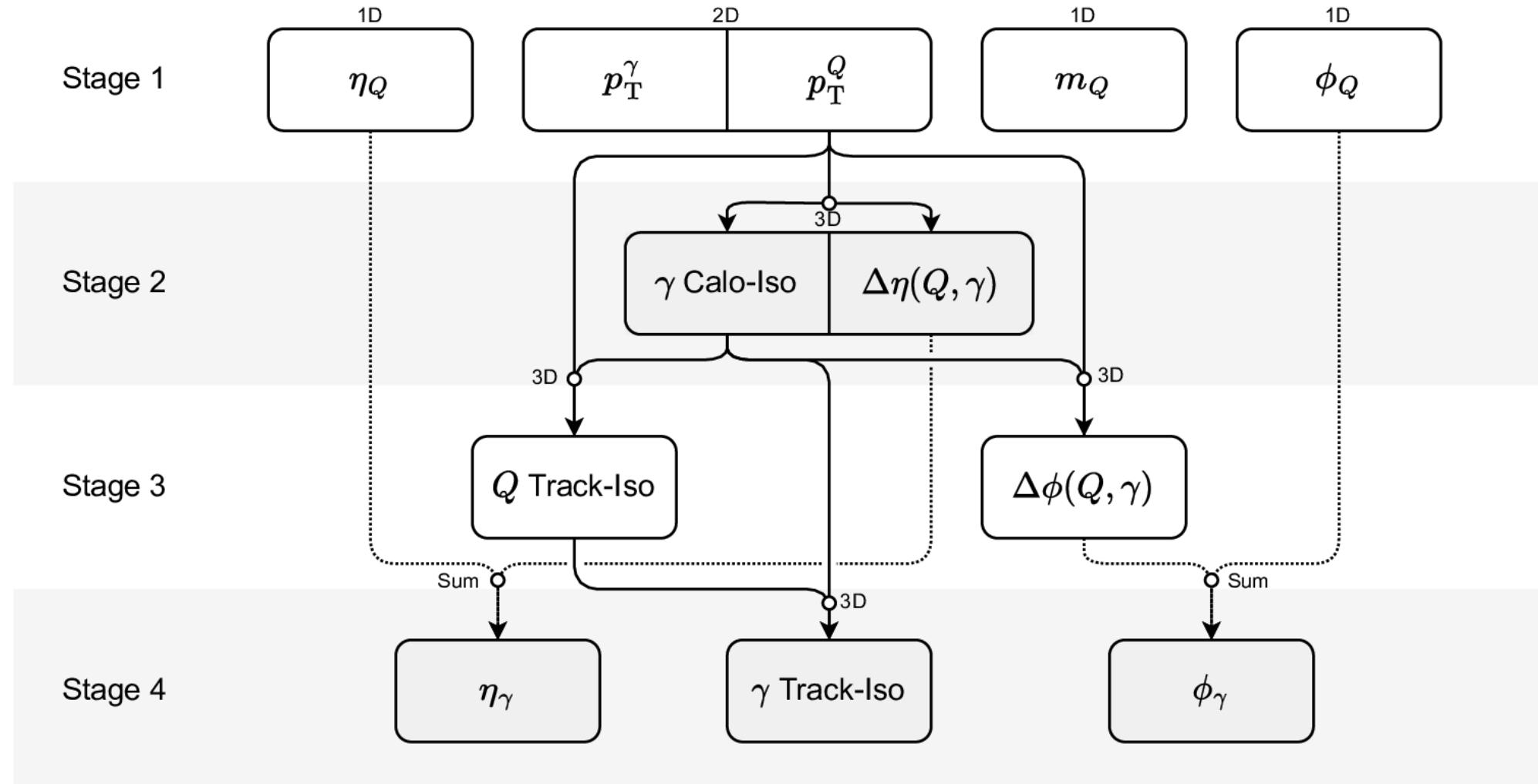
# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Signal Systematic Uncertainties

- Consider relevant uncertainties on the total signal yield
  - Nuisance parameters with standard Gaussian constraints in maximum likelihood fit

Source of systematic uncertainty	Signal yield uncertainty			
	$H \rightarrow \psi(nS)\gamma$	$H \rightarrow \Upsilon(nS)\gamma$	$Z \rightarrow \psi(nS)\gamma$	$Z \rightarrow \Upsilon(nS)\gamma$
Total cross section	5.8%	5.8%	2.9%	2.9%
Integrated luminosity	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%
Signal acceptance	1.8%	1.8%	1.0%	1.0%
Muon reconstruction	2.3%	2.2%	2.4%	2.4%
Photon identification	1.7%	1.7%	1.9%	1.9%
Pile-up uncertainty	0.8%	0.7%	1.1%	1.1%
Trigger efficiency	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%	0.8%
Photon energy scale	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%
Muon momentum scale	0.1%	0.1%	0.5%	0.2%
Muon momentum resolution (ID)	<0.01%	0.01%	0.06%	0.02%
Muon momentum resolution (MS)	0.02%	0.01%	0.04%	0.01%

# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Ancestral Sampling Scheme

➤ Subtract **exclusive background** events from data in GR before generating **inclusive** model



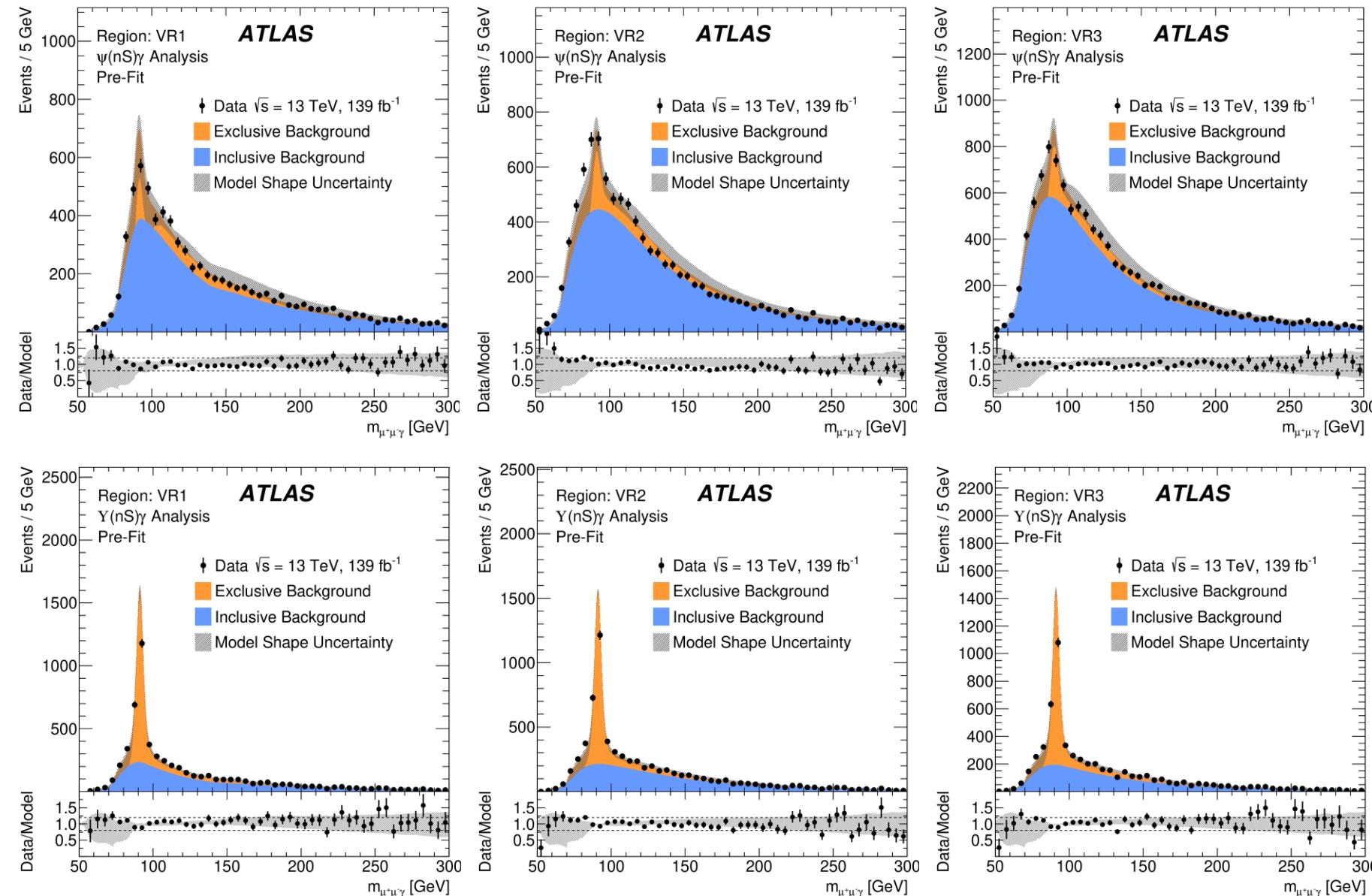
# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Background Validation Regions

- Define three VRs for  $Q\gamma$

Region		$p_T^{\mu\mu}$	Photon Isolation	$Q$ Isolation
Generation Region	(GR)	> 30 GeV	Relaxed	Relaxed
Validation Region 1	(VR1)	Full	Relaxed	Relaxed
Validation Region 2	(VR2)	> 30 GeV	Relaxed	Full
Validation Region 3	(VR3)	> 30 GeV	Full	Relaxed
Signal Region	(SR)	Full	Full	Full

Region Definitions

# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Background Validation and Systematic Uncertainties



➤ Subtract **exclusive** contribution from data in GR to prepare for **inclusive** model

➤ Freedom via shape systematics:  
mass-tilt,  $\Delta\phi$ -distortion,  
 $p_T$ -shift

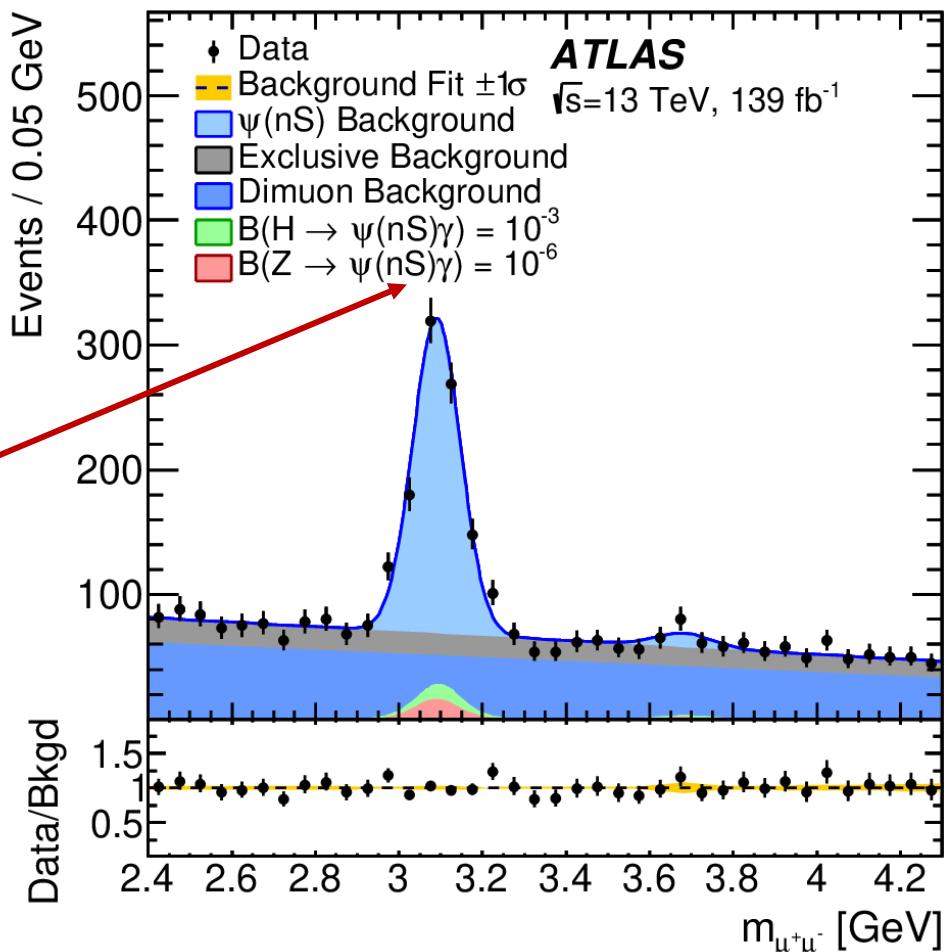
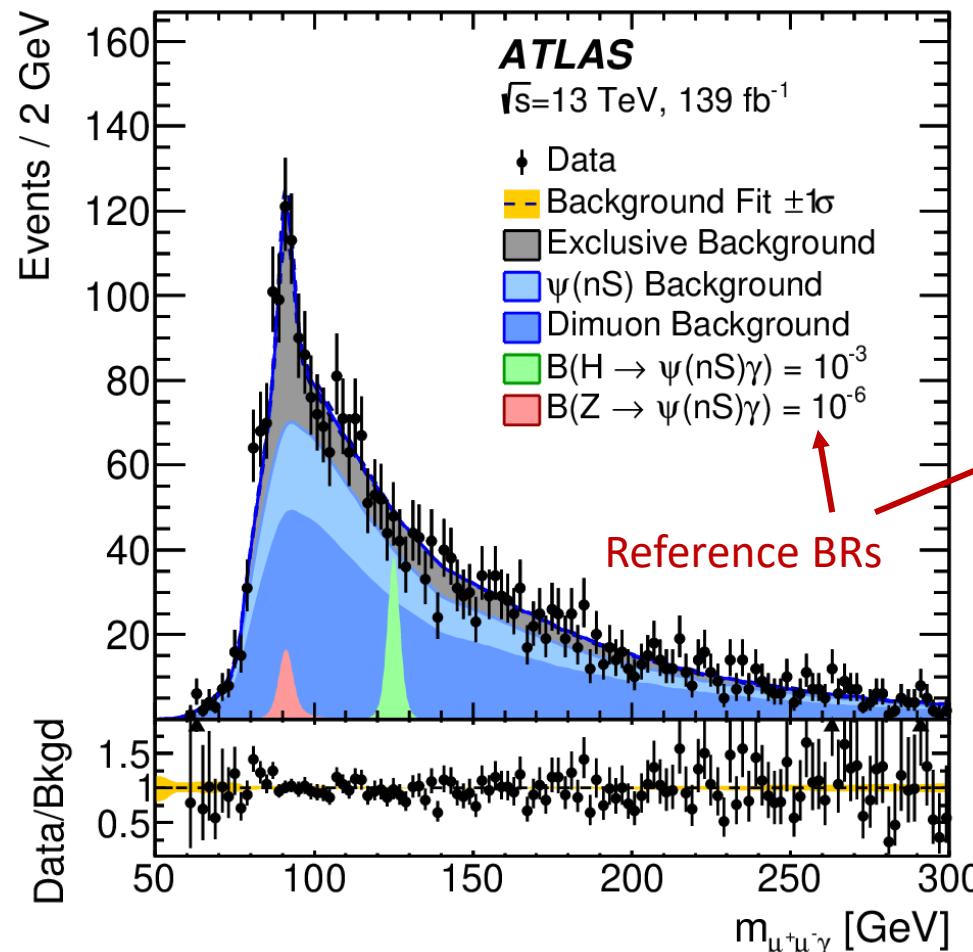
**$\psi(nS)\gamma$  Background Validation**

**$Y(nS)\gamma$  Background Validation**

# $H(Z) \rightarrow \psi(nS)\gamma$ : Inclusive Fit

- Use **2D** unbinned likelihood fit in  $m(\mu^+\mu^-), m(\mu^+\mu^-\gamma)$ 
  - Discriminates between **all** signal and background contributions
- $\psi(nS)\gamma$  analysis fit is performed in a single category

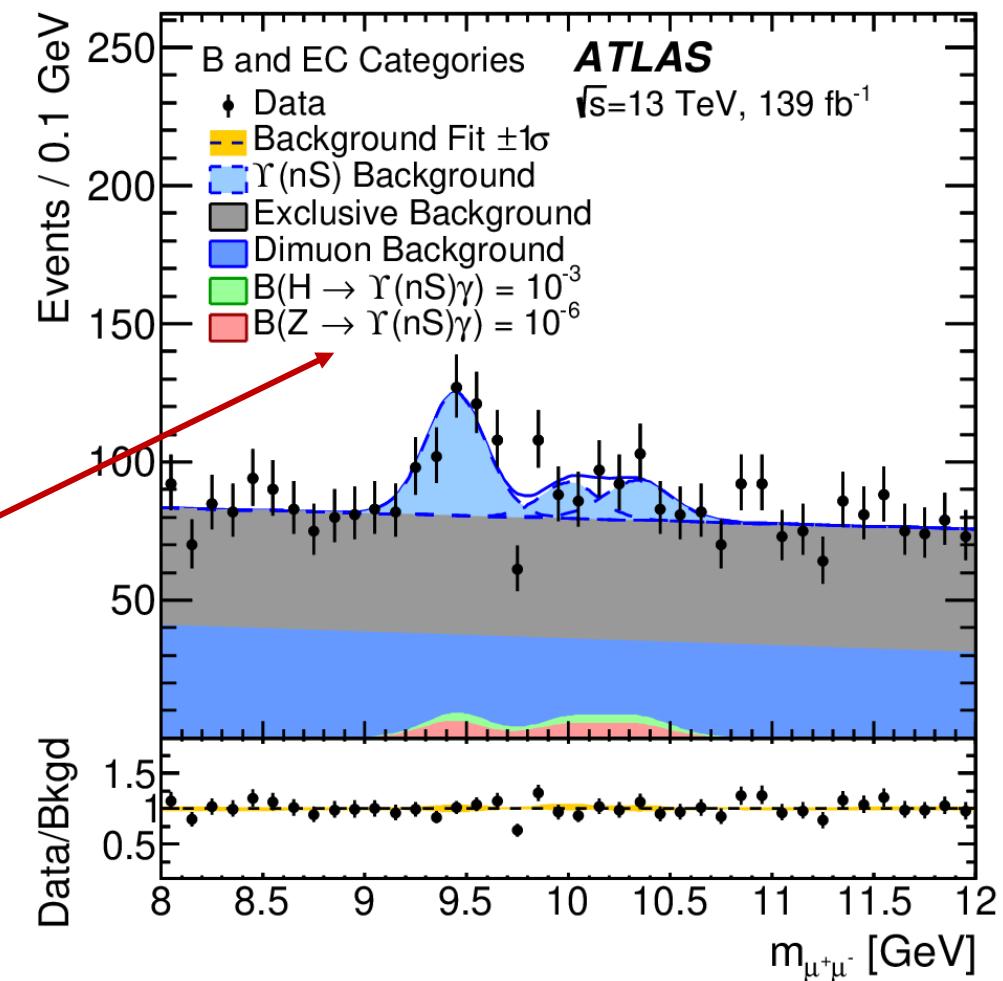
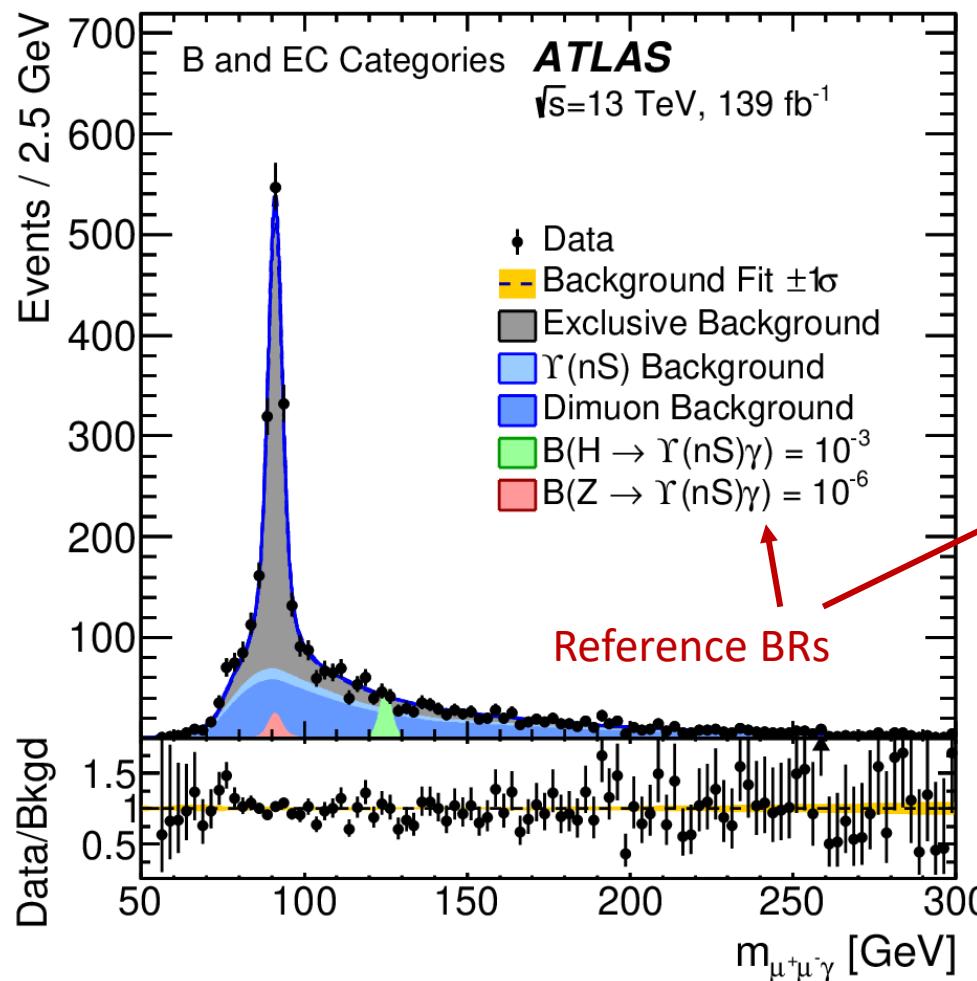
[EPJC 83 \(2023\) 781](#)



# $H(Z) \rightarrow \Upsilon(nS)\gamma$ : Inclusive Fit

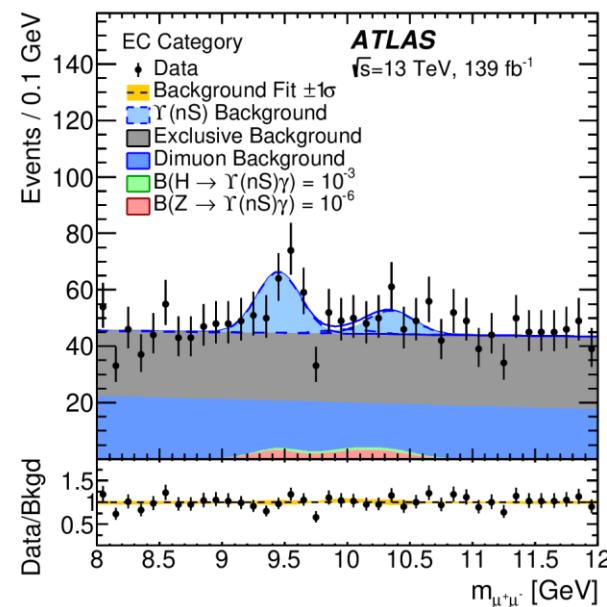
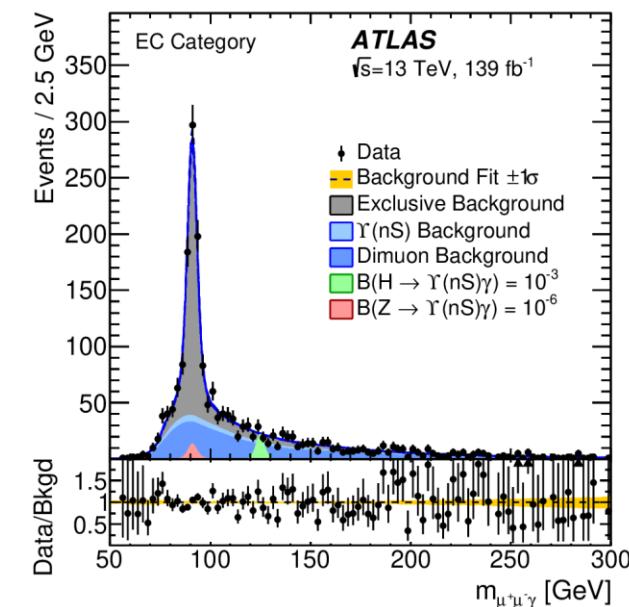
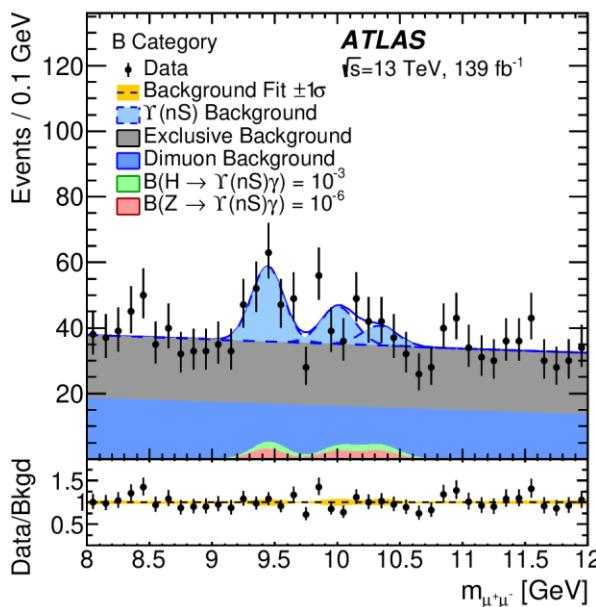
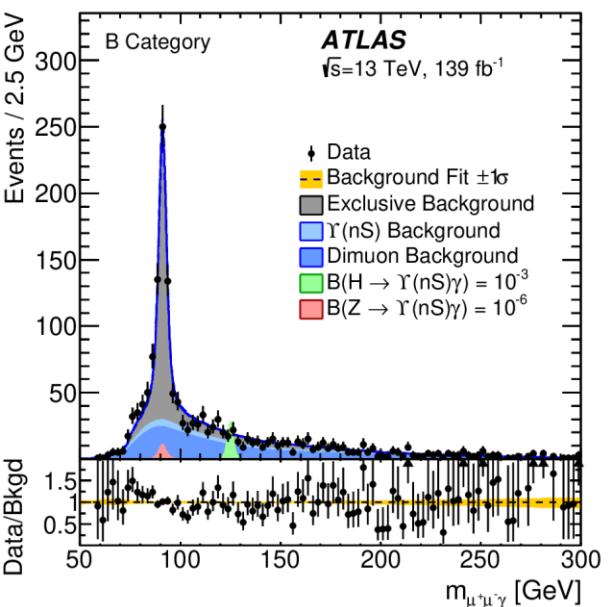
- Use **2D** unbinned likelihood fit in  $m(\mu^+\mu^-)$ ,  $m(\mu^+\mu^-\gamma)$ 
  - Discriminates between **all** signal and background contributions
- $\Upsilon(nS)\gamma$  analysis fit is performed simultaneously in the barrel and endcap categories

[EPJC 83 \(2023\) 781](#)



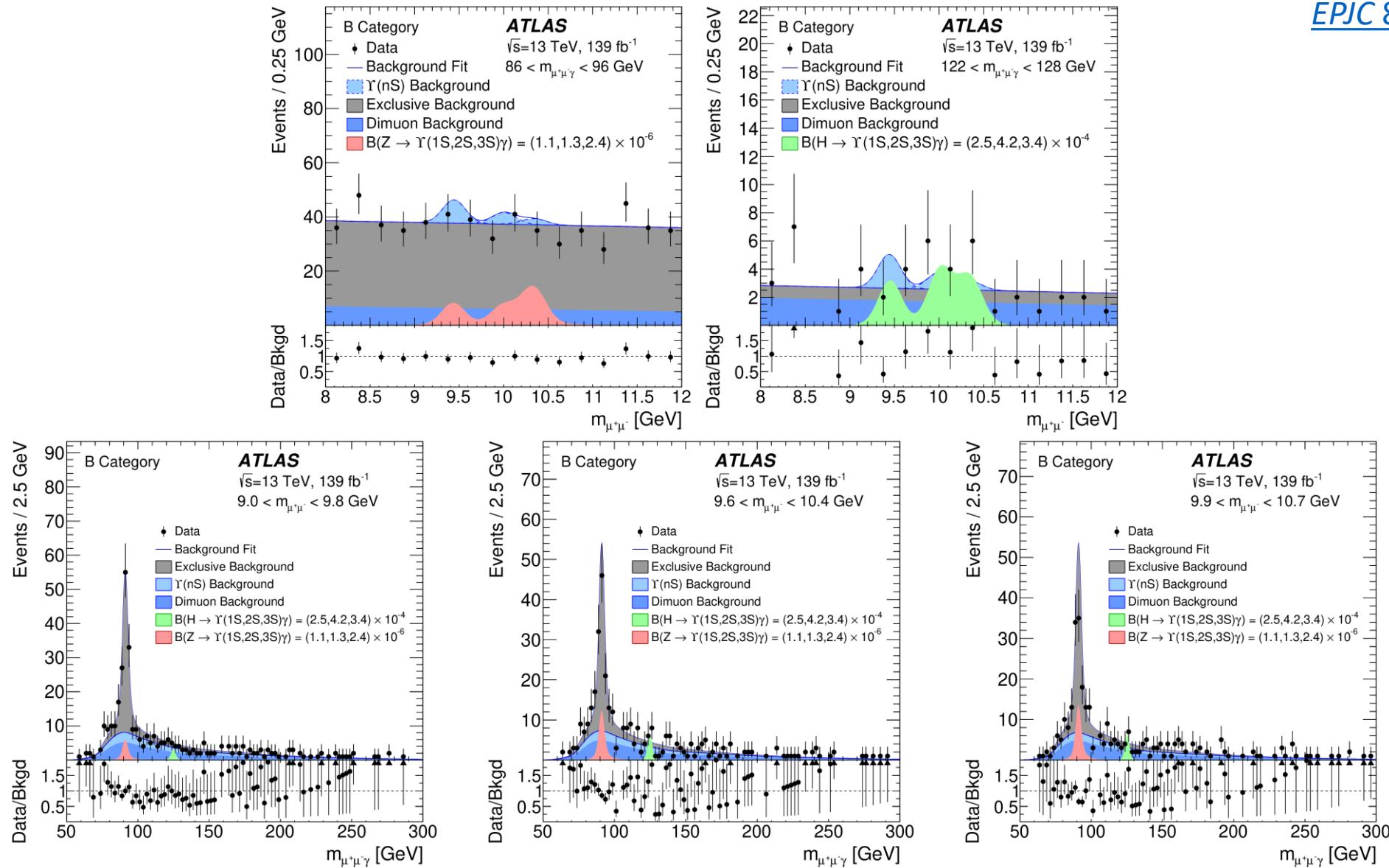
# $H(Z) \rightarrow \Upsilon(nS)\gamma$ : Fit in Separate B and EC Categories

[EPJC 83 \(2023\) 781](#)



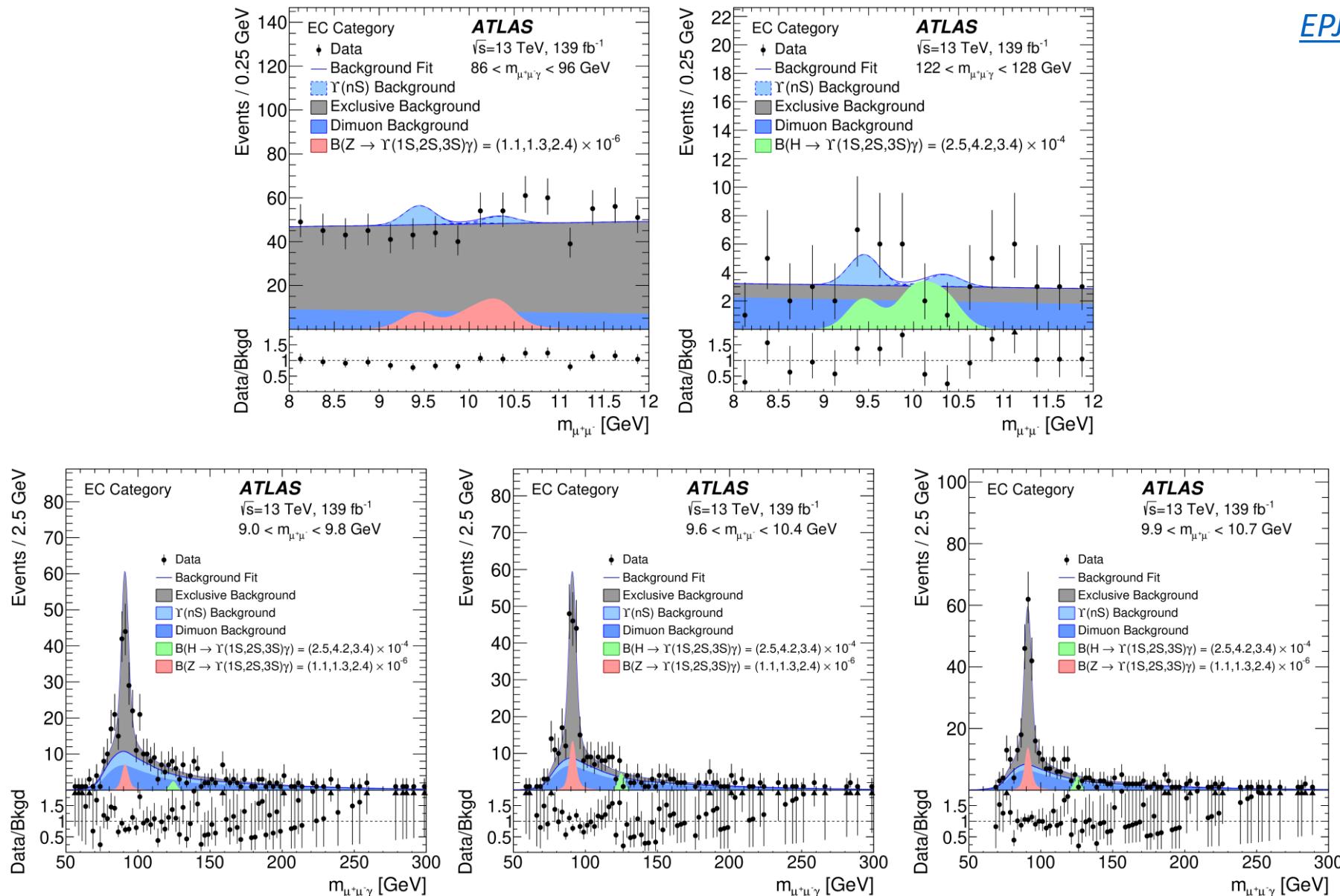
# $H(Z) \rightarrow \Upsilon(nS)\gamma$ : Barrel Category Projections

[EPJC 83 \(2023\) 781](#)



# $H(Z) \rightarrow \Upsilon(nS)\gamma$ : Endcap Category Projections

[EPJC 83 \(2023\) 781](#)



# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : Limits and Observed Events

Category	$m_{\mu^+\mu^-}$ range [GeV ]	Observed (expected) background		$Z$ signal for $\mathcal{B} = 10^{-6}$	$H$ signal for $\mathcal{B} = 10^{-3}$		
		Observed (expected) background					
		86–96	122–128				
Inclusive	2.9–3.3	198 (185.6 ± 5.9)	61 (59.1 ± 1.6)	49.3 ± 2.4	87.8 ± 6.1		
Inclusive	3.5–3.9	83 ( 82.5 ± 4.0)	21 (22.9 ± 0.9)	6.5 ± 0.3	11.8 ± 0.8		
Barrel	9.0–9.8	125 (125.3 ± 4.7)	12 (11.6 ± 0.6)	11.4 ± 0.6	20.2 ± 1.4		
Barrel	9.6–10.4	118 (121.9 ± 4.6)	14 (10.7 ± 0.6)	8.8 ± 0.4	15.3 ± 1.1		
Barrel	9.9–10.7	102 (119.9 ± 4.5)	11 (10.2 ± 0.6)	10.1 ± 0.5	17.4 ± 1.2		
Endcap	9.0–9.8	133 (162.9 ± 5.7)	16 (13.6 ± 0.7)	15.5 ± 0.8	20.5 ± 1.4		
Endcap	9.6–10.4	150 (157.1 ± 5.6)	11 (11.7 ± 0.5)	11.7 ± 0.6	15.8 ± 1.1		
Endcap	9.9–10.7	171 (156.7 ± 5.8)	7 (11.4 ± 0.6)	13.5 ± 0.7	17.6 ± 1.2		

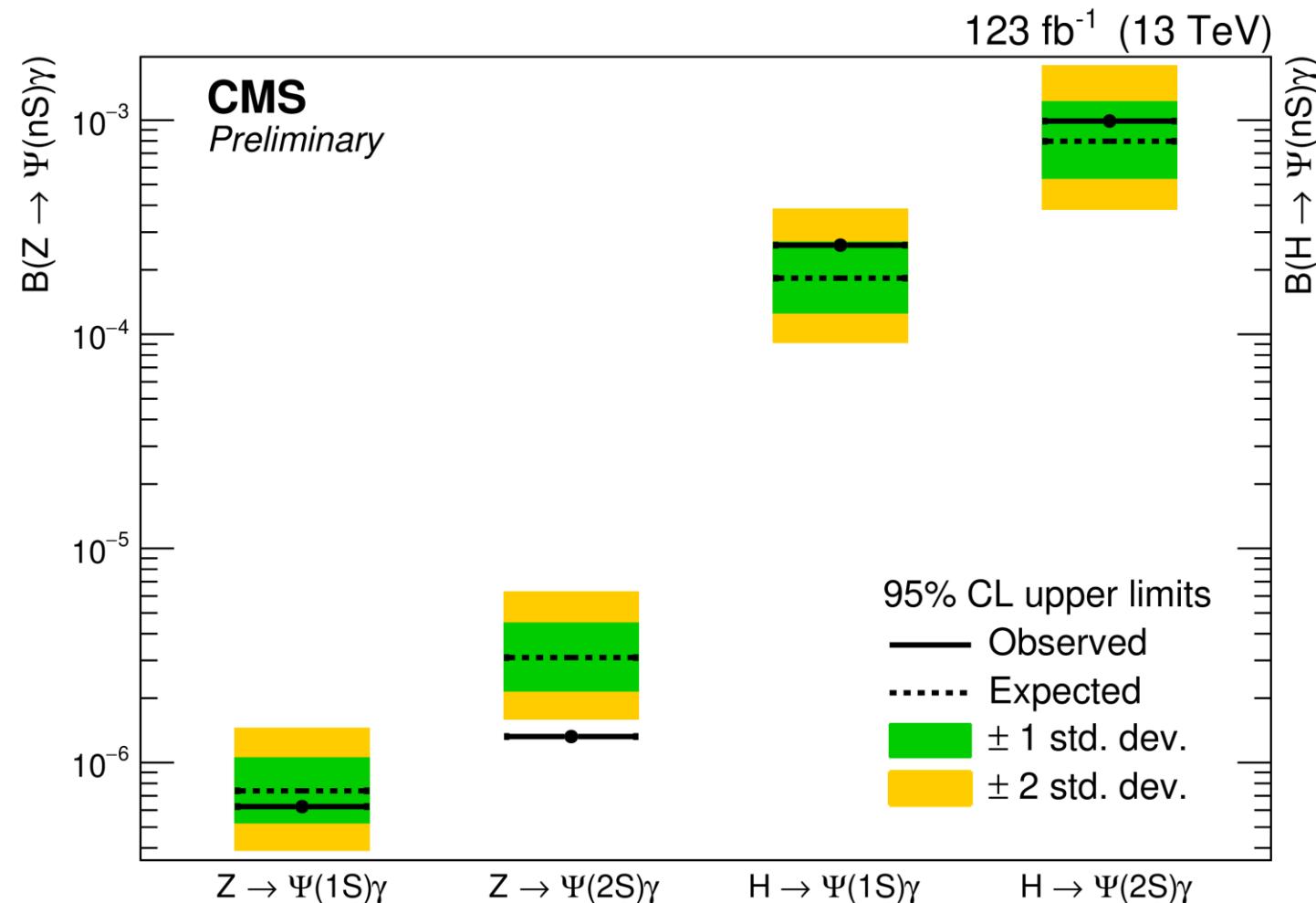
Observed and Expected Events

95% CL upper limits						
Decay channel	Branching fraction			$\sigma \times \mathcal{B}$		
	Higgs boson [ $10^{-4}$ ]		Z boson [ $10^{-6}$ ]	Higgs boson [fb]	Z boson [fb]	
	Expected	Observed	Expected	Observed	Observed	Observed
$J/\psi \gamma$	$1.8^{+0.8}_{-0.5}$	2.0	$0.7^{+0.3}_{-0.2}$	1.2	11	69
$\psi(2S) \gamma$	$8.1^{+3.6}_{-2.3}$	10.5	$3.0^{+1.3}_{-0.8}$	2.4	58	142
$\Upsilon(1S) \gamma$	$2.7^{+1.2}_{-0.8}$	2.5	$1.6^{+0.6}_{-0.4}$	1.1	14	62
$\Upsilon(2S) \gamma$	$3.4^{+1.5}_{-1.0}$	4.2	$2.1^{+0.8}_{-0.6}$	1.3	24	74
$\Upsilon(3S) \gamma$	$3.0^{+1.3}_{-0.8}$	3.4	$1.9^{+0.8}_{-0.5}$	2.4	19	143

Observed and Expected Limits

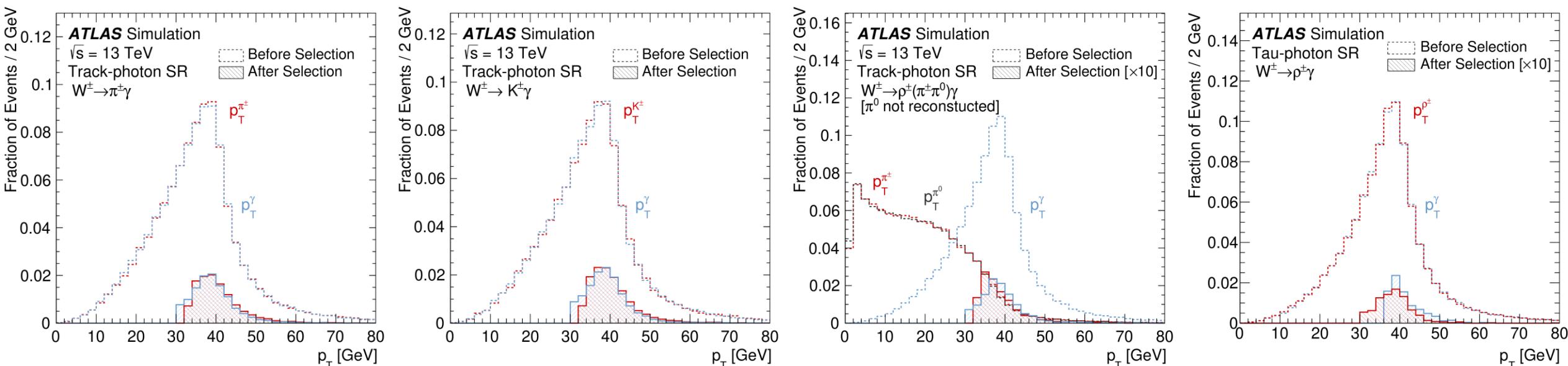
[EPJC 83 \(2023\) 781](#)

# $H(Z) \rightarrow Q\gamma$ : CMS Results



[CMS-PAS-SMP-22-012](#)

# $W^\pm \rightarrow (\pi^\pm, K^\pm, \rho^\pm)\gamma$ : Strategy



➤ Signal shapes: (Sum of two Voigtians)  $\times$  efficiency factor

- Exception:  $W^\pm \rightarrow \rho^\pm\gamma$  (track + photon) modelled with smoothed MC template

**2.7 – 3.1%**  
**Resolution**

## Total Signal Efficiency

$W^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm\gamma$	$W^\pm \rightarrow K^\pm\gamma$	$W^\pm \rightarrow \rho^\pm\gamma$
5.0%	5.5%	0.5% (0.3%)

➤ Background is multi-jet and  $\gamma$ +jet sources

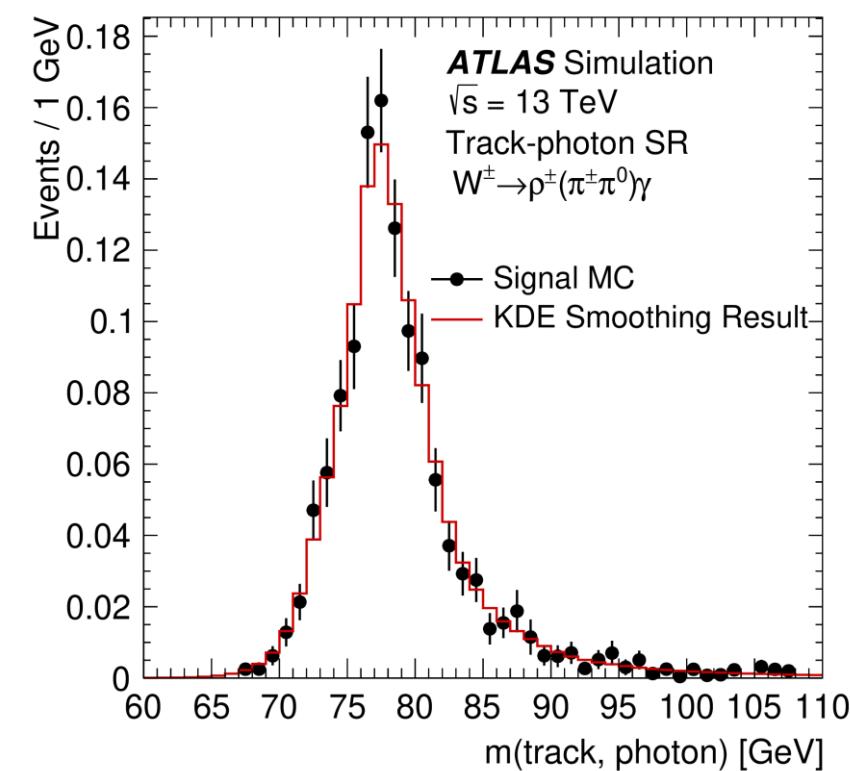
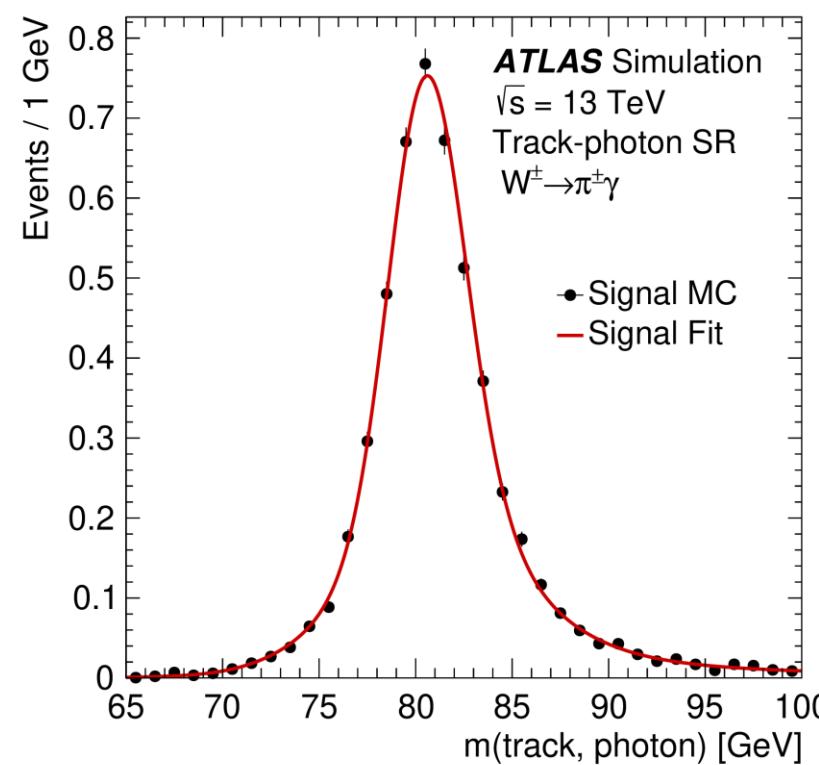
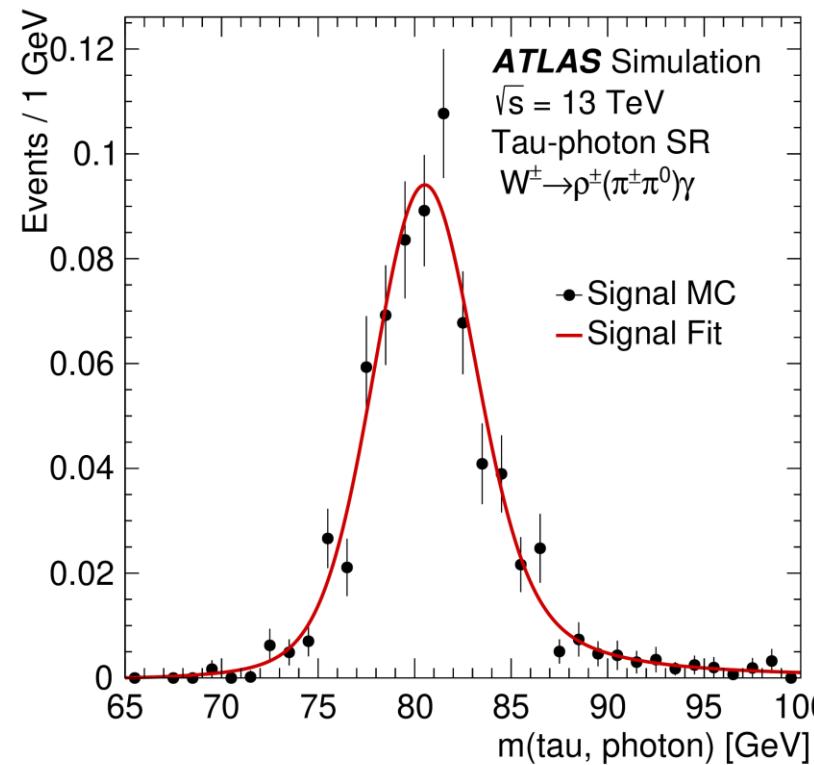
- Use non-parametric data-driven background model

[arXiv:2309.15887](https://arxiv.org/abs/2309.15887)

➤ Small contribution from  $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$  modelled with simulation

- Suppress using TRT to identify  $e^\pm$

# $W^\pm \rightarrow (\pi^\pm, K^\pm, \rho^\pm)\gamma$ : Signal Modelling

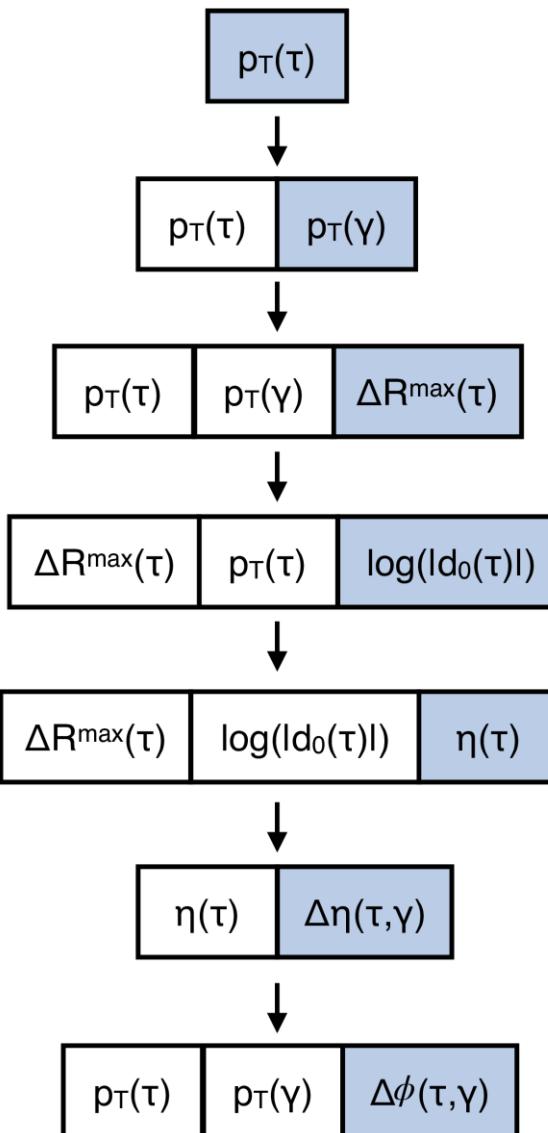
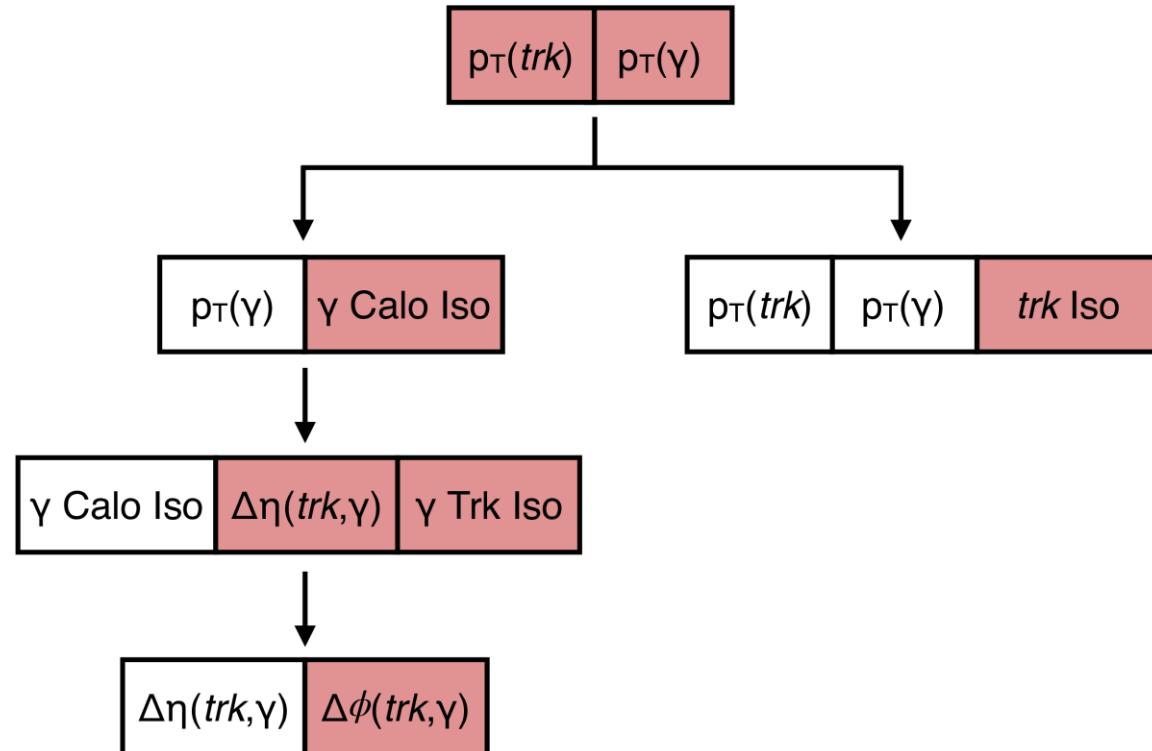


➤ Model with analytical fits to simulated events

- $W \rightarrow (\pi^\pm, K^\pm)\gamma$  shapes are identical
- $W \rightarrow \rho^\pm\gamma$  in track + photon category is modelled with smoothed template from simulation

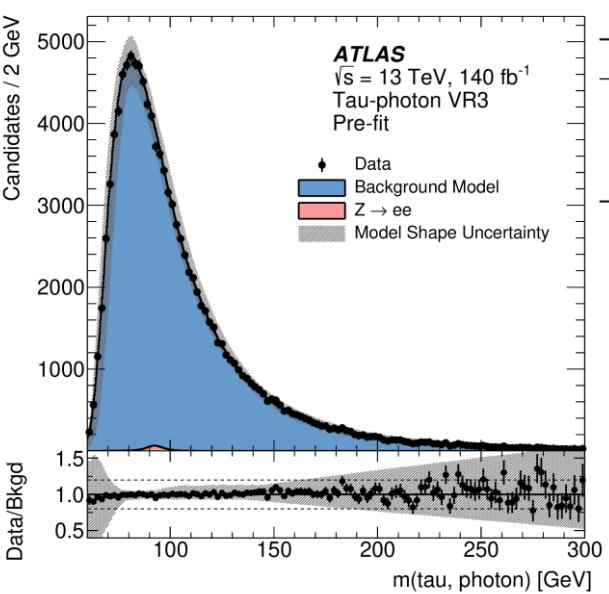
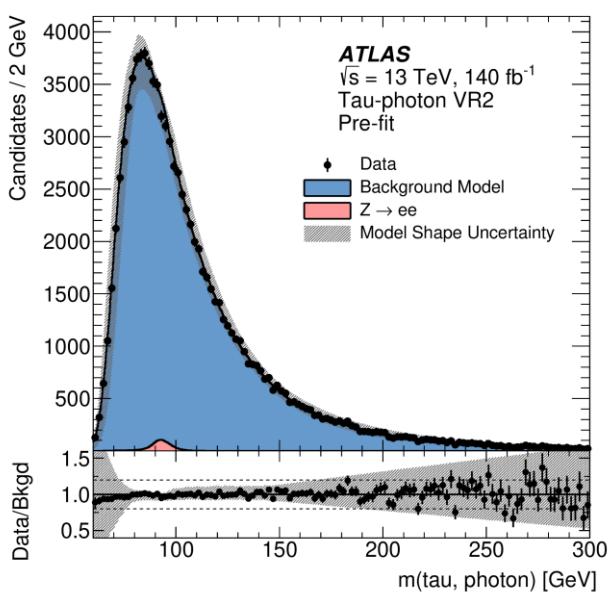
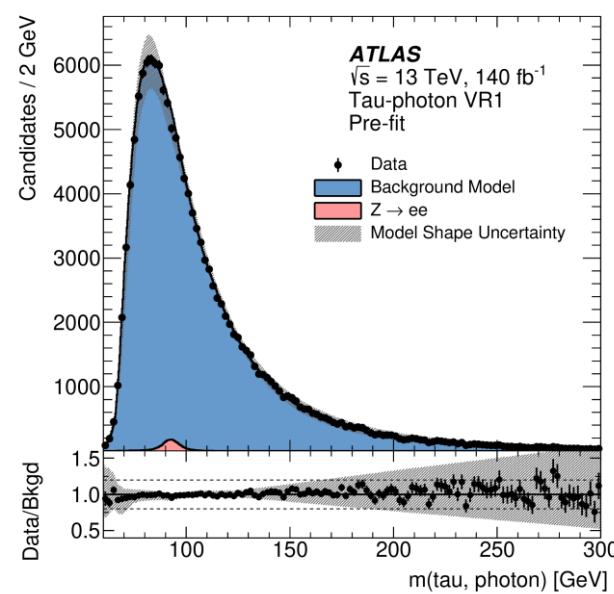
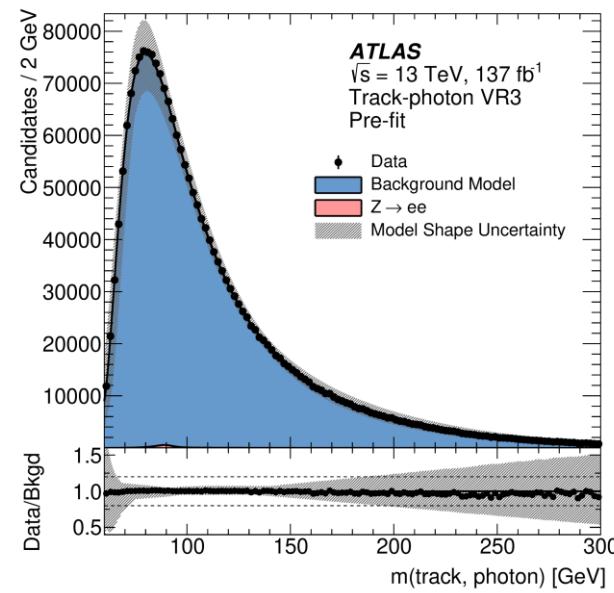
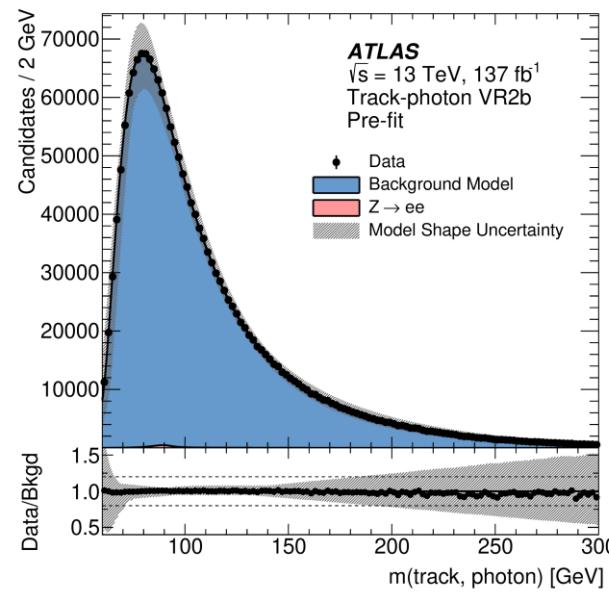
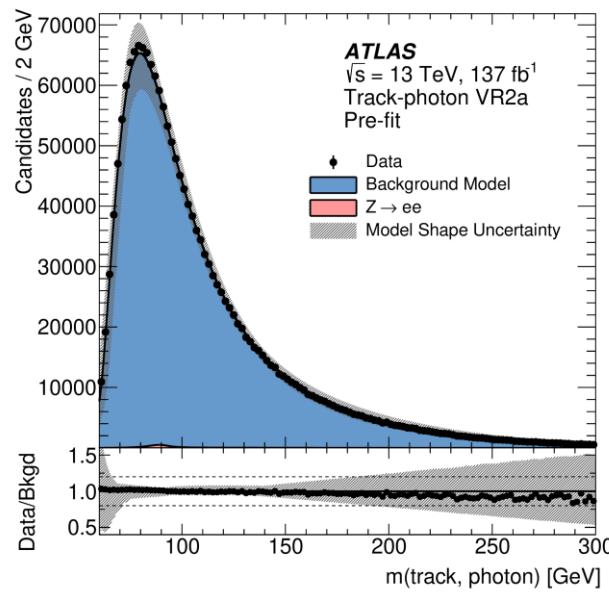
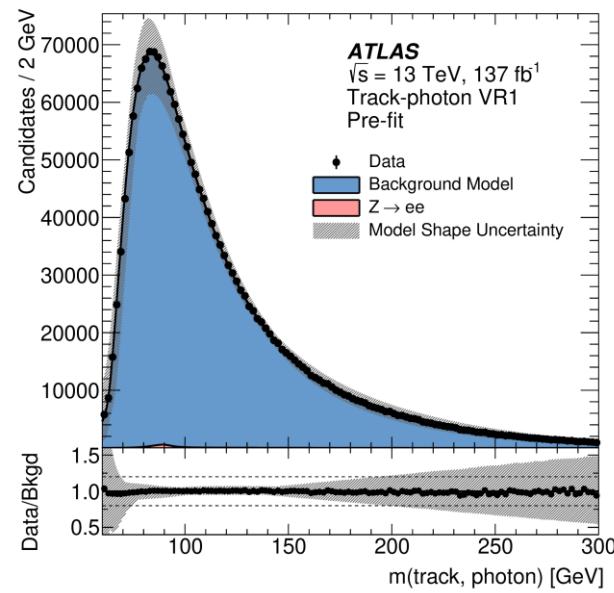
arXiv:2309.15887

# $W^\pm \rightarrow (\pi^\pm, K^\pm, \rho^\pm)\gamma$ : Background Sampling Schemes



arXiv:2309.15887

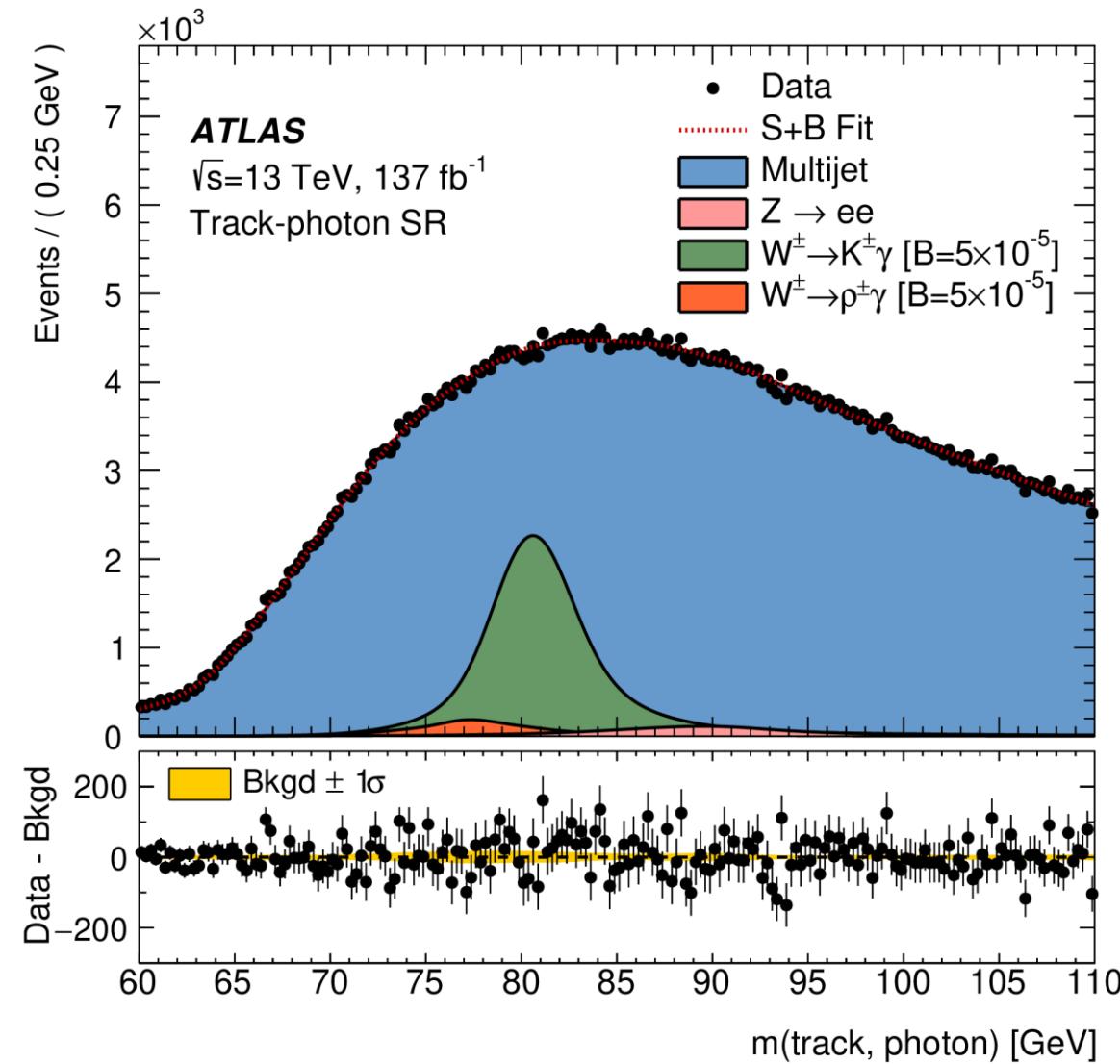
# $W^\pm \rightarrow (\pi^\pm, K^\pm, \rho^\pm)\gamma$ : Background Validation



	Track-photon	Tau-photon
VR1	$p_T(M) > 33 \text{ GeV}$	VR1 $p_T(M) > 30 \text{ GeV}$
VR2a	Photon calorimeter isolation	VR2 $\Delta R_{\tau_{had}} < 0.065$
VR2b	Photon track isolation	VR3 $\log  d_0  < -1.2$
VR3	Meson isolation	

arXiv:2309.15887

# $W^\pm \rightarrow (\pi^\pm, K^\pm, \rho^\pm)\gamma$ : Results 2



	Number of events	
	Track-photon SR	Tau-photon SR
Multijet	$632000 \pm 2200$	$43200 \pm 600$
$Z \rightarrow e^+ e^-$	$6100 \pm 1500$	$-200 \pm 400$
$W^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm / K^\pm \gamma$	$1000 \pm 800$	—
$W^\pm \rightarrow \rho^\pm \gamma$	$-100 \pm 400$	$-90 \pm 240$
Data	638962	42918

arXiv:2309.15887