

# Search and Discovery Statistics in HEP

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This presentation would have not been possible without the tremendous  
help of

the following people throughout many years

Louis Lyons, Alex Read, Bob Cousins, Glen Cowan, Kyle Cranmer,  
Ofer Vitells & Jonathan Shlomi



# What can you expect from the Lectures

-  Lecture 1: Basic Concepts  
Histograms, PDF, Testing Hypotheses,  
LR as a Test Statistics, p-value, POWER, CLs  
Measurements
-  Lecture 2: Feldman-Cousins, Wald Theorem,  
Asymptotic Formalism, Asimov Data Set, PL & CLs
-  Lecture 3: Asimov Significance  
Look Elsewhere Effect  
1D LEE the non-intuitive thumb rule  
(upcrossings, trial #~Z)  
2D LEE (Euler Characteristic)

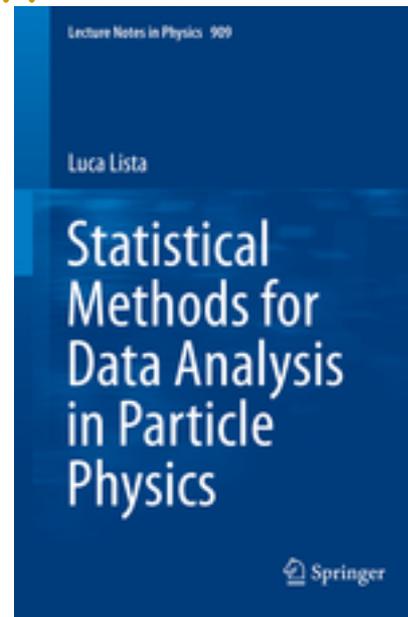
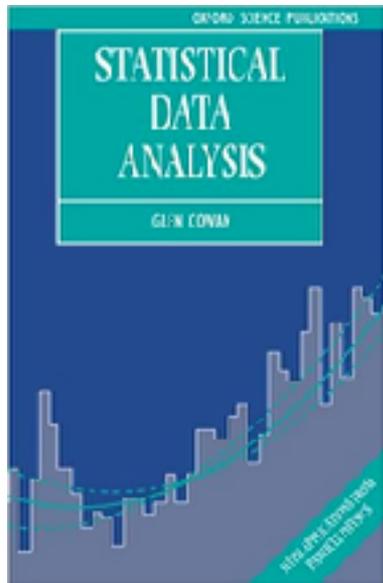
# Support Material

G. Cowan, *Statistical Data Analysis*, Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1998.  
PDG

L. Lista *Statistical methods for Data Analysis*, 2nd Ed. Springer, 2018

**G. Cowan PDG**

<http://pdg.lbl.gov/2017/reviews/rpp2017-rev-statistics.pdf>

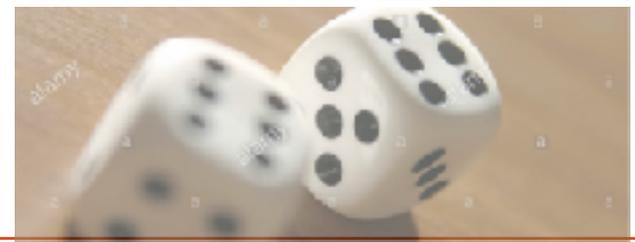


# Preliminaries

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# In a Nut Shell



The binomial distribution with parameters  $n$  and  $p$  is the discrete probability distribution of the number of successes in a sequence of  $n$  independent experiments.  
(Wikipedia)

$$P(k : n, p) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1 - p)^{n-k}$$

If  $X \sim B(n, p)$

$$E[X] = np$$



$$P(k : n, p) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$



The Poisson distribution with parameter  $\lambda = np$  can be used as an approximation to  $B(n, p)$  of the binomial distribution if  $n$  is sufficiently large and  $p$  is sufficiently small.

$$P(k : n, p) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty, np = \lambda} \text{Poiss}(k; \lambda) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}$$

If  $X \sim \text{Poiss}(k; \lambda)$

$$E[X] = \text{Var}[X] = \lambda$$



# From Binomial to Poisson to Gaussian

$$P(k : n, p) = \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k}$$

$$P(k : n, p) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty, np = \lambda} \text{Poiss}(k; \lambda) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}$$

$$\langle k \rangle = \lambda, \quad \sigma_k = \sqrt{\lambda}$$

$$k \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow x = k$$

Using Stirling Formula

$$\text{prob}(x) = G(x, \sigma = \sqrt{\lambda}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} e^{-(x-\lambda)^2/2\sigma^2}$$

*This is a Gaussian, or Normal distribution  
with mean and variance of  $\lambda$*



# Histograms

$N$  collisions

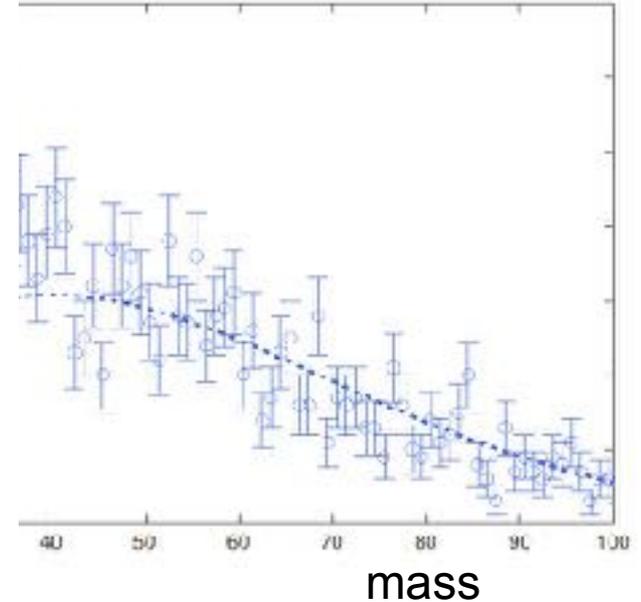
$$p(\text{Higgs event}) = \frac{\mathcal{L}\sigma(pp \rightarrow H) A\epsilon_{ff}}{\mathcal{L}\sigma(pp)}$$

Prob to see  $n_H^{obs}$  in  $N$  collisions is

$$P(n_H^{obs}) = \binom{N}{n_H^{obs}} p^{n_H^{obs}} (1-p)^{N-n_H^{obs}}$$

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} P(n_H^{obs}) = \text{Poiss}(n_H^{obs}, \lambda) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^{n_H^{obs}}}{n_H^{obs} !}$$

$$\lambda = Np = \mathcal{L}\sigma(pp) \cdot \frac{\mathcal{L}\sigma(pp \rightarrow H) A\epsilon_{ff}}{\mathcal{L}\sigma(pp)} = n_H^{exp}$$



# pdf

X is a random variable  
Probability Distribution Function  
PDF

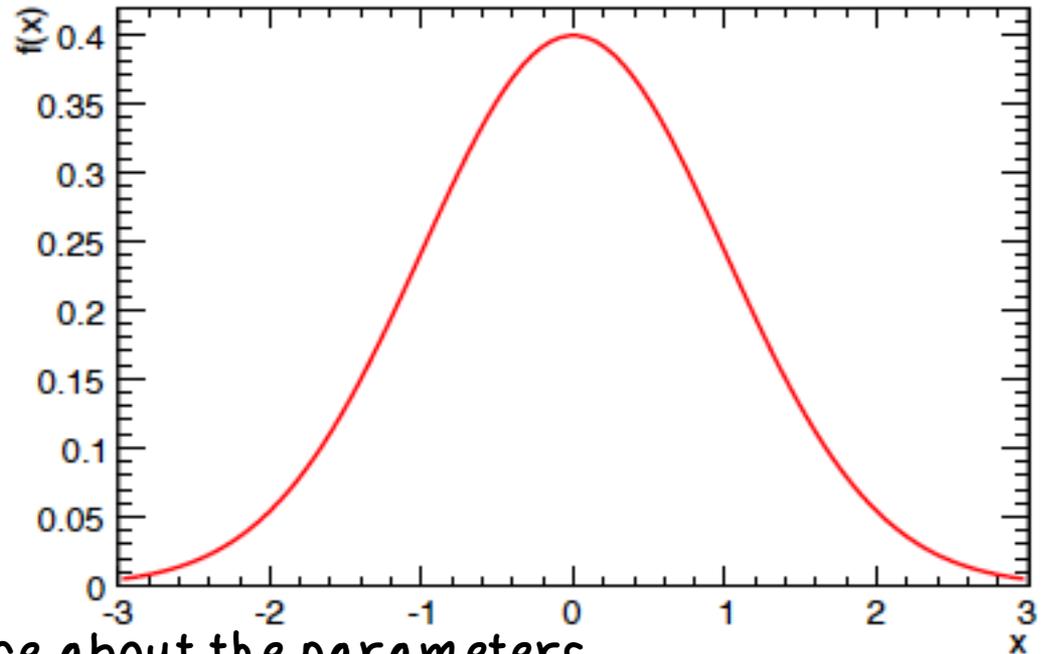
$$P(x \in [x, x + dx]) = f(x)dx$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx = 1$$

$f(x)$  is not a probability  
 $f(x)dx$  is a probability

$G(x|\mu, \sigma)$   
Is a parametrized pdf  $(\mu, \sigma)$

We would like to make inference about the parameters



# A counting experiment

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

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

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

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

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

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



# A Tale of Two Hypotheses

NULL

ALTERNATE

- Test the Null hypothesis and try to reject it
- Fail to reject it OR reject it in favor of the alternative hypothesis

# A Tale of Two Hypotheses

NULL

$H_0$  - SM w/o Higgs

ALTERNATE

$H_1$  - SM with Higgs

- Test the Null hypothesis and try to reject it
- Fail to reject it OR reject it in favor of the alternative hypothesis

# A Tale of Two Hypotheses

NULL

$H_0$ - SM w/o Higgs

ALTERNATE

$H_1$ - SM with Higgs

- Reject  $H_0$  in favor of  $H_1$  - A DISCOVERY

We quantify rejection by p-value (later)

# Swapping Hypotheses $\rightarrow$ exclusion

NULL

$H_0$  - SM w/o Higgs

ALTERNATE

$H_1$  - SM with Higgs

- Reject  $H_1$  in favor of  $H_0$

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

We quantify rejection by p-value (later)

# Likelihood

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

Likelihood is not the probability of the hypothesis given the data

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

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

## Bayes Theorem

$$P(H | x) = \frac{P(x | H) \cdot P(H)}{\sum_H P(x | H) P(H)}$$

$$P(H | x) \approx P(x | H) \cdot P(H)$$

Prior

# Frequentist vs Bayesian

- The Bayesian infers from the data using **priors**

posterior  $P(H | x) \approx P(x | H) \cdot P(H)$

- Priors is a science on its own.  
Are they objective? Are they subjective?
- The Frequentist calculates the probability of an hypothesis to be inferred from the data based on a large set of hypothetical experiments  
Ideally, the frequentist does not need priors, or any degree of belief while the Bayesian posterior based inference is a "Degree of Belief".
- However, NPs (Systematic) inject a Bayesian flavour to any Frequentist analysis



# Likelihood is NOT a PDF

A Poisson distribution describes a discrete event count  $n$  for a real valued  $\text{Me}|\mu$ .

$$\text{Pois}(n|\mu) = \mu^n \frac{e^{-\mu}}{n!}$$

Say, we observe  $n_o$  events

What is the likelihood of  $\mu$ ?

The likelihood of  $\mu$  is given by

$$L(\mu) = \text{Pois}(n_o|\mu)$$

It is a continuous function of  $\mu$  but it is NOT a PDF

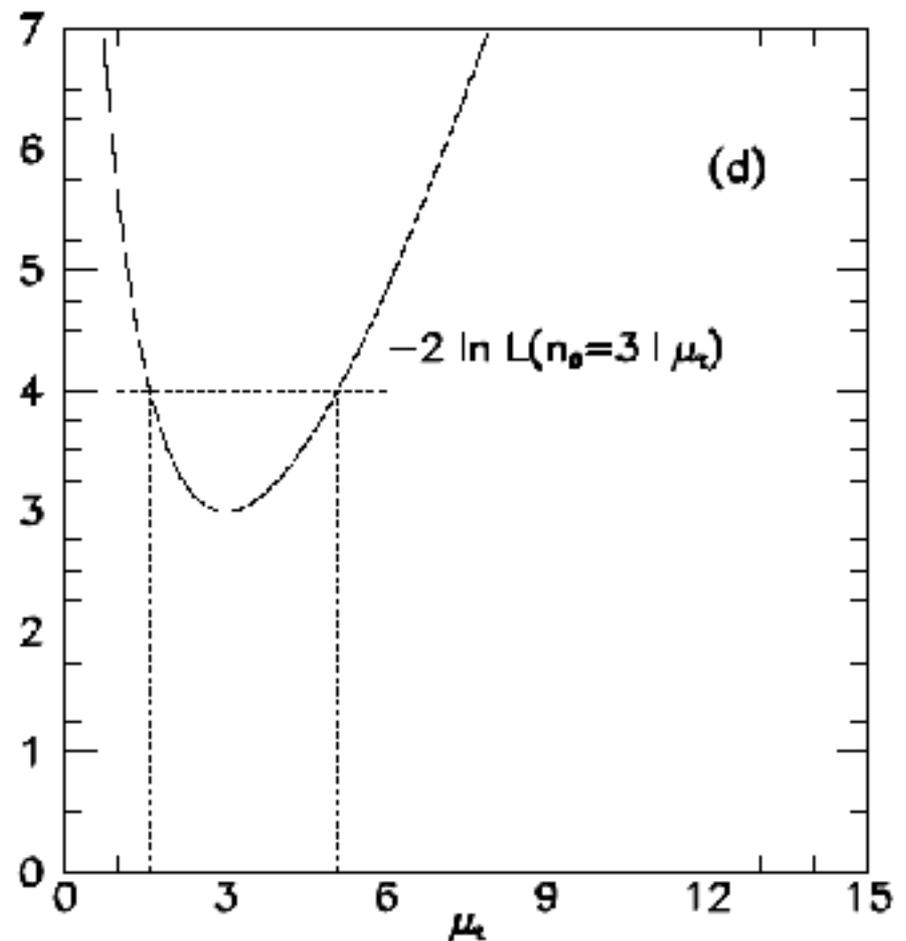


Figure from R. Cousins,  
Am. J. Phys. 63 398 (1995)



# Testing an Hypothesis (wikipedia...)

- The first step in any hypothesis test is to state the relevant null,  $H_0$  and alternative hypotheses, say,  $H_1$
- The next step is to define a test statistic,  $q$ , **under the null hypothesis**
- Compute from the observations the observed value  $q_{obs}$  of the test statistic  $q$ .
- Decide (based on  $q_{obs}$ ) to **either** fail to reject the null hypothesis **or** reject it **in favor** of an alternative hypothesis
- **next: How to construct a test statistic, how to decide?**



# Test statistic and p-value

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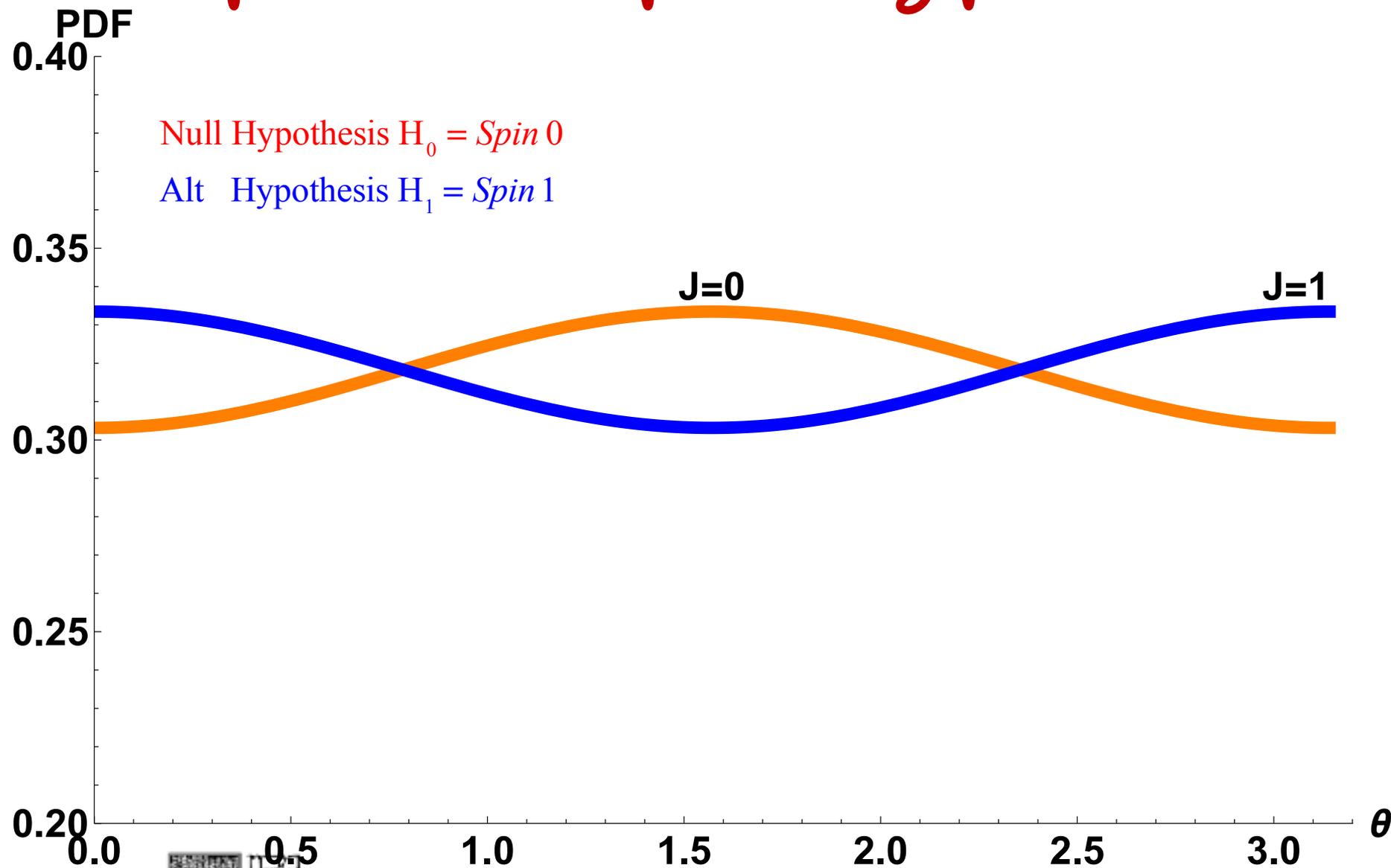


# Case Study 1 : Spin

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# Spin 0 vs Spin 1 Hypotheses



# Spin 0 vs Spin 1 Hypotheses

N events

150

Null Hypothesis  $H_0 = \text{Spin } 0$

Alt Hypothesis  $H_1 = \text{Spin } 1$

100

50

0.5

1.0

1.5

2.0

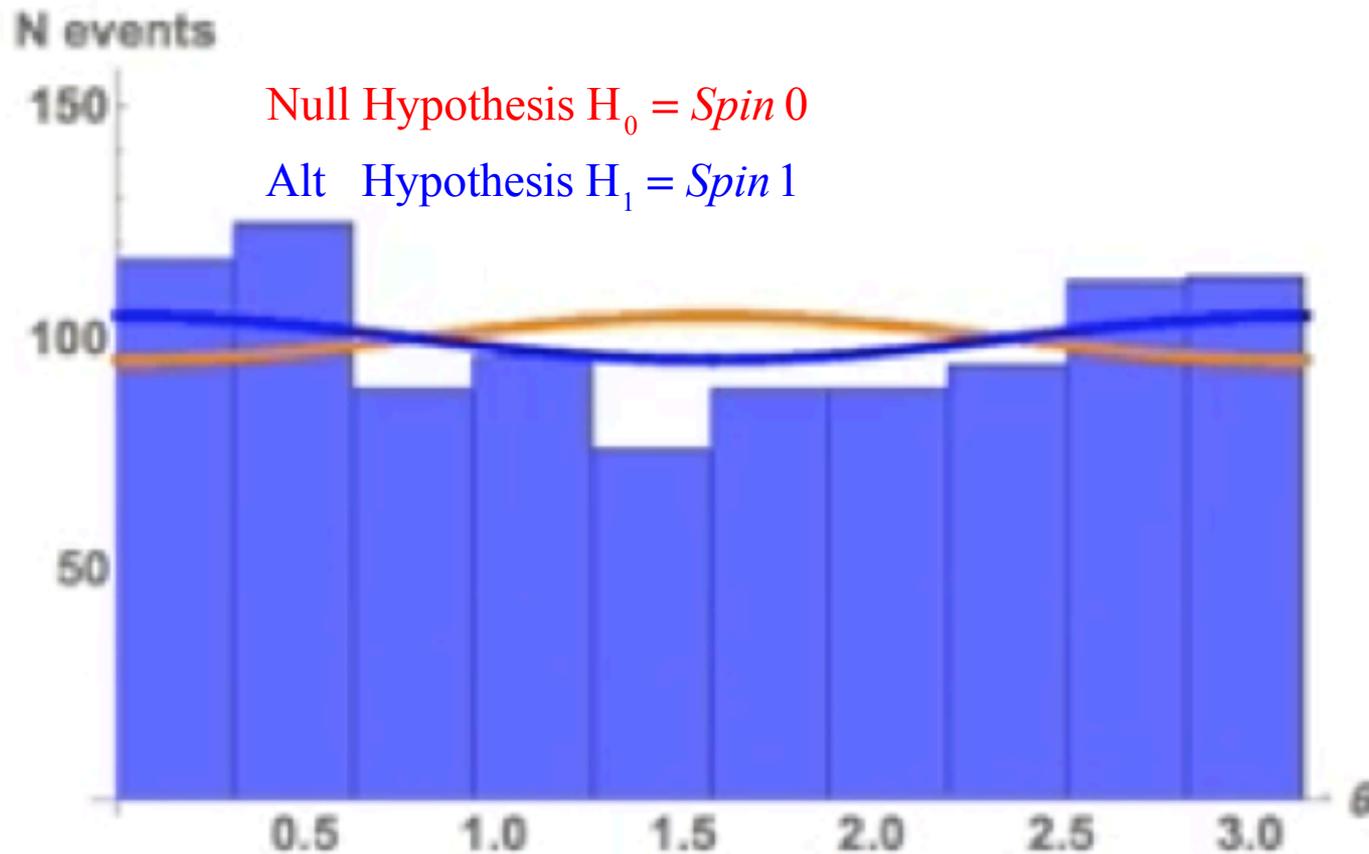
2.5

3.0

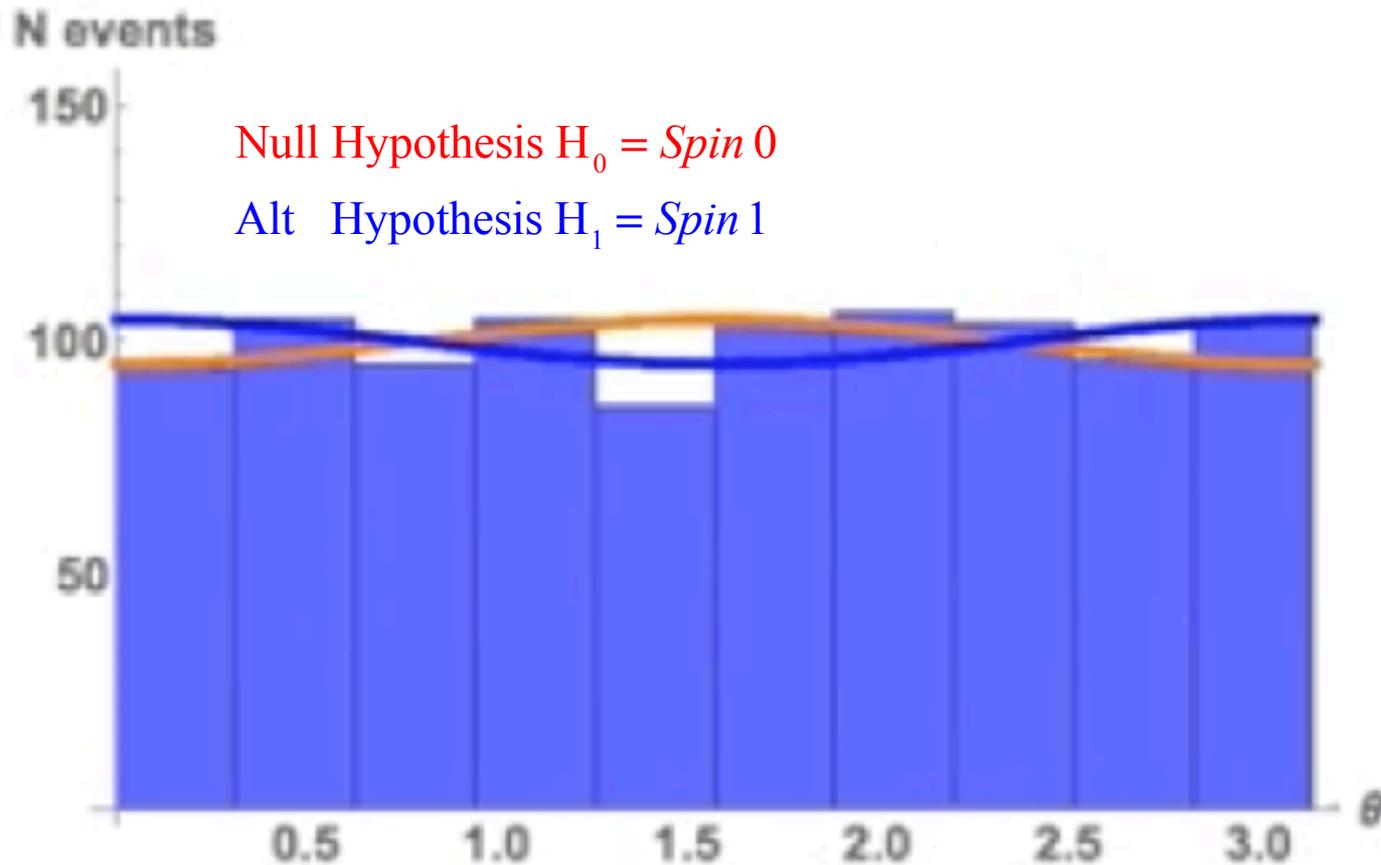
$\theta$



# Spin 0 vs Spin 1 Hypotheses



# Spin 0 vs Spin 1 Hypotheses



# The Neyman-Pearson Lemma

- Define a test statistic  $\lambda = \frac{L(H_1)}{L(H_0)}$
- When performing a hypothesis test between two simple hypotheses,  $H_0$  and  $H_1$ , the Likelihood Ratio test,  $\lambda = \frac{L(H_1)}{L(H_0)}$

which rejects  $H_0$  in favor of  $H_1$ ,

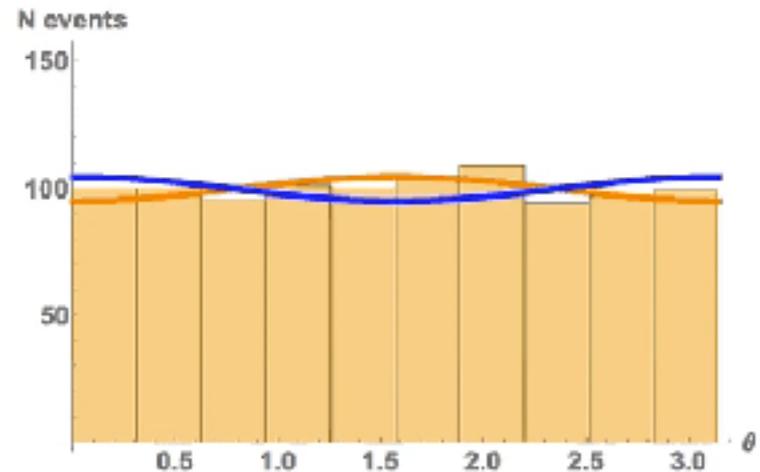
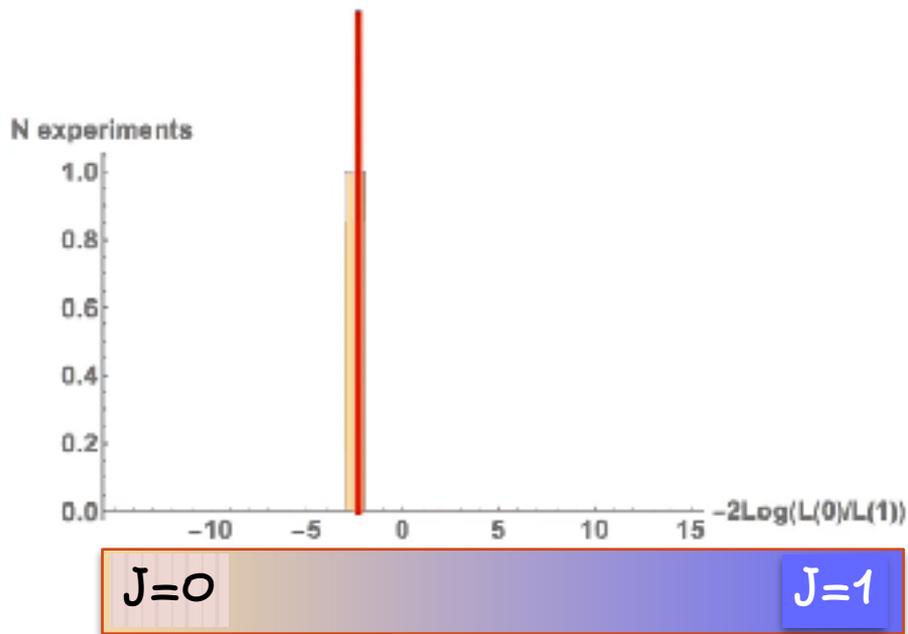
is the **most powerful test**

for a given significance level  $\alpha = \text{prob}(\lambda \leq \eta)$   
with a threshold  $\eta$

# Building PDF

Build the pdf of the test statistic

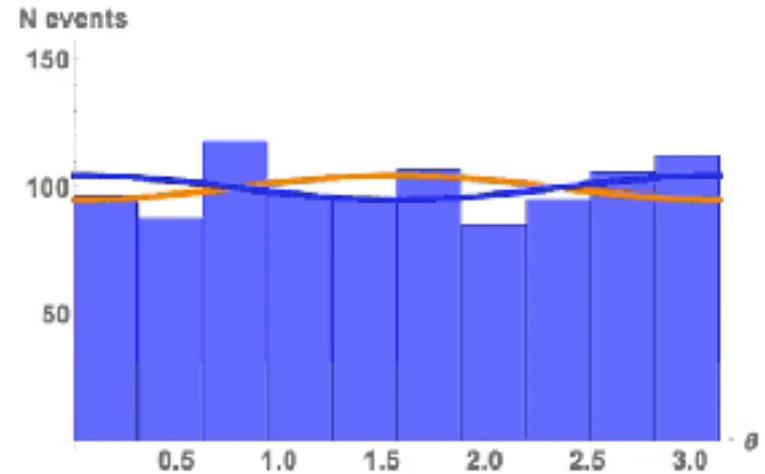
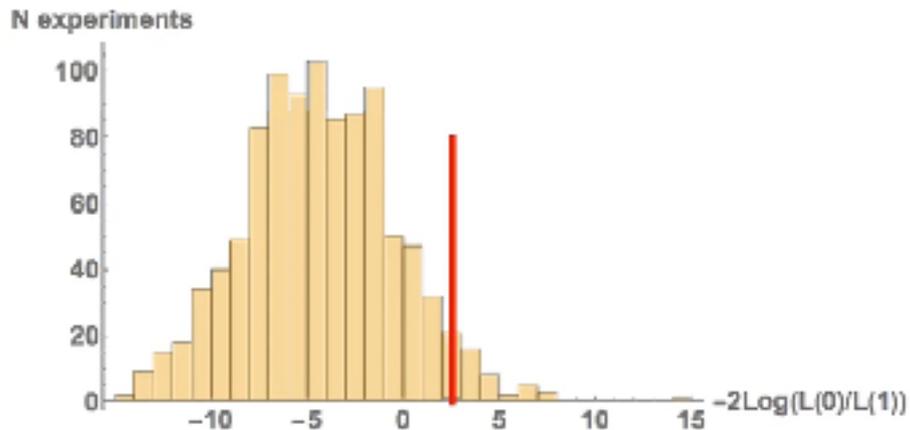
$$q_{NP} = q_{NP}(x) = -2 \ln \frac{L(H_0 | x)}{L(H_1 | x)}$$



# Building PDF

Build the pdf of the test statistic

$$q_{NP} = q_{NP}(x) = -2 \ln \frac{L(H_0 | x)}{L(H_1 | x)}$$



# Basic Definitions: type I-II errors

- By defining  $\alpha$  you determine your tolerance towards mistakes... (accepted mistakes frequency)

• The pdf of  $q$ ....

- type-I error: the probability to reject the tested (null) hypothesis ( $H_0$ ) when it is true

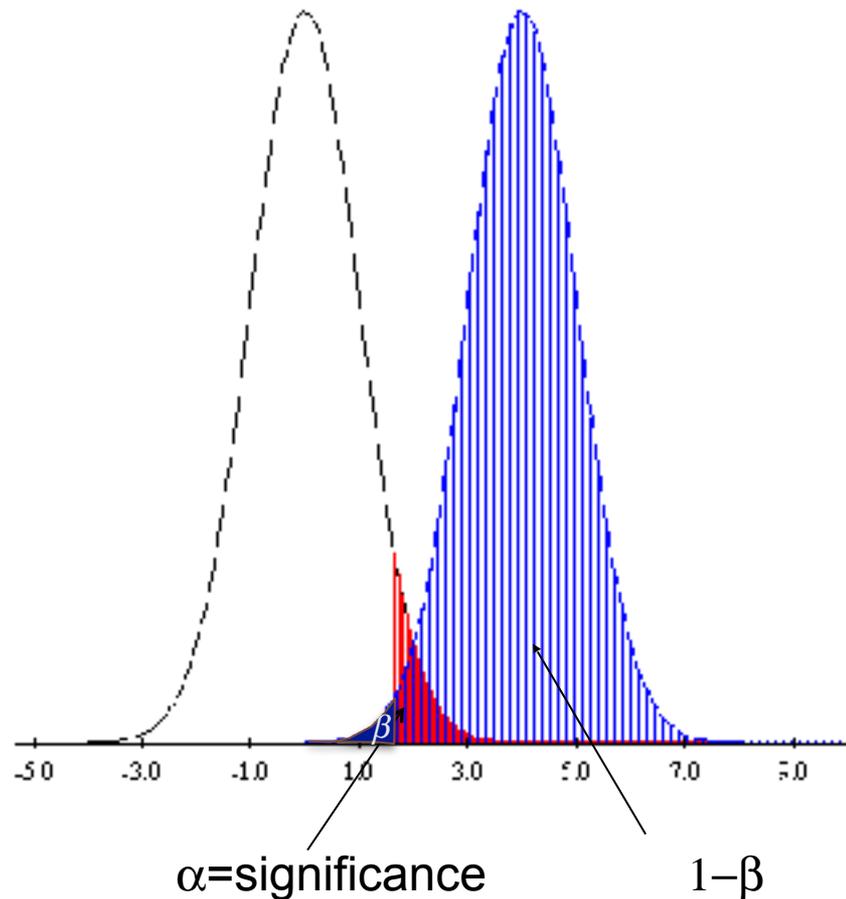
- $\alpha = \text{Prob}(\text{reject } H_0 \mid H_0)$

$\alpha = \text{type I error}$

- Type II: The probability to accept null hypothesis when it is wrong

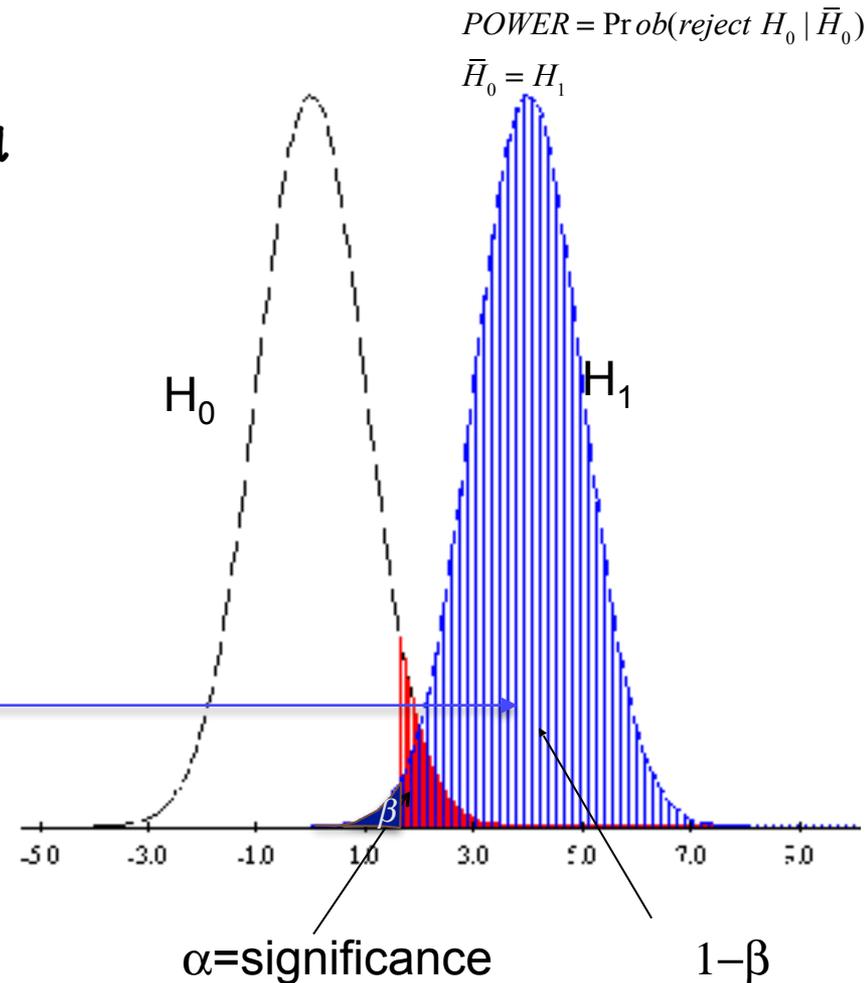
$$\beta = \text{Prob}(\text{accept } H_0 \mid \bar{H}_0)$$

$\beta = \text{type II error}$



# Basic Definitions: POWER

- $\alpha = \text{Pr ob}(\text{reject } H_0 \mid H_0)$
- The POWER of an hypothesis test is the probability to reject the null hypothesis when it is indeed wrong (the alternate analysis is true)
- $\text{POWER} = \text{Pr ob}(\text{reject } H_0 \mid \bar{H}_0)$   
 $\beta = \text{Pr ob}(\text{accept } H_0 \mid \bar{H}_0)$   
 $1 - \beta = \text{Pr ob}(\text{reject } H_0 \mid \bar{H}_0)$   
 $\bar{H}_0 = H_1$   
 $1 - \beta = \text{Pr ob}(\text{reject } H_0 \mid H_1)$
- The power of a test increases as the rate of type II error decreases

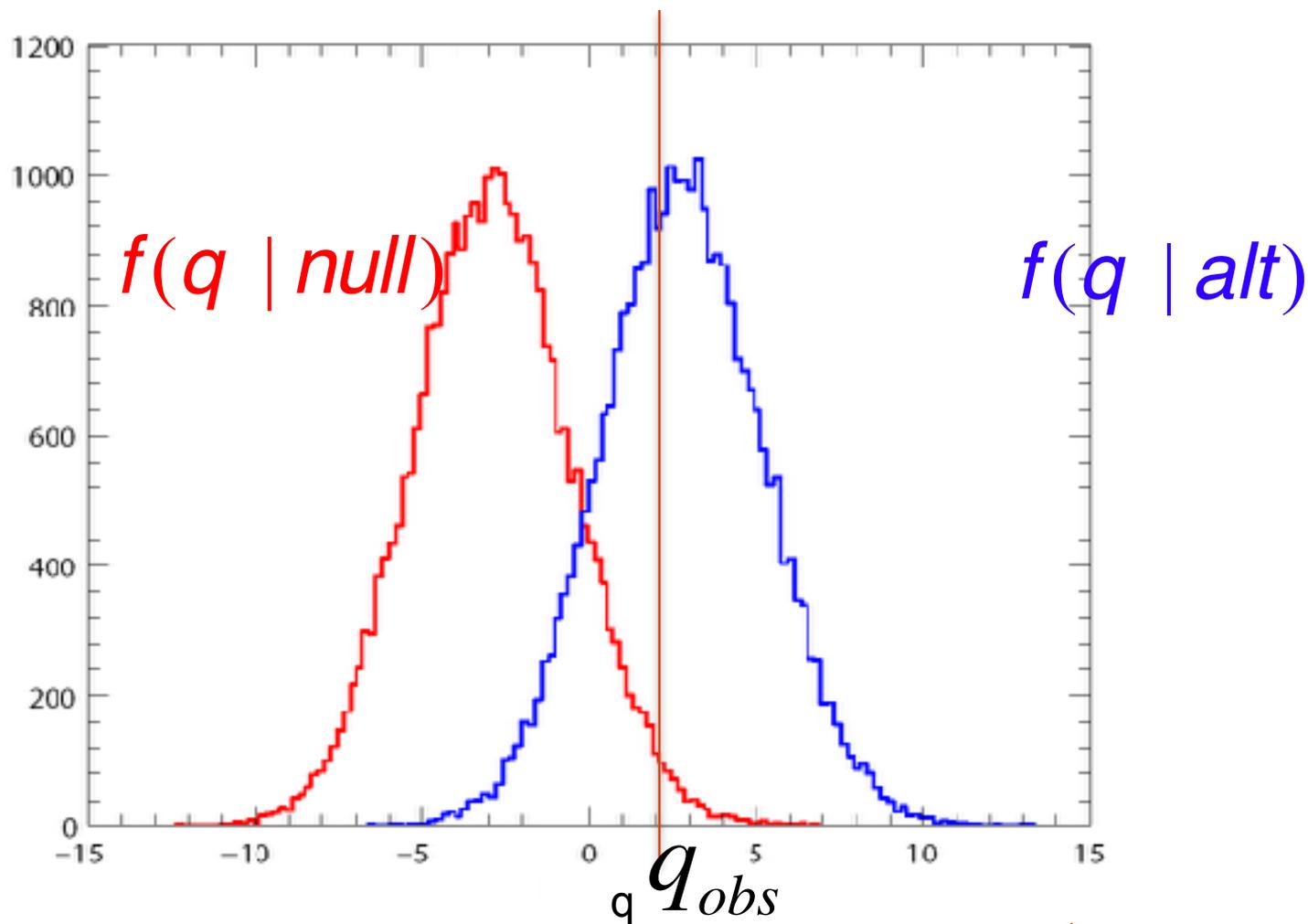


# p-Value

- The observed p-value is a measure of the compatibility of the data with the tested hypothesis.
- It is the probability, under assumption of the null hypothesis  $H_{null}$ , of finding data of equal or greater **incompatibility** with the predictions of  $H_{null}$
- An important property of a test statistic is that its sampling distribution under the null hypothesis be calculable, either exactly or approximately, which allows p-values to be calculated. (Wiki)



# PDF of a test statistic



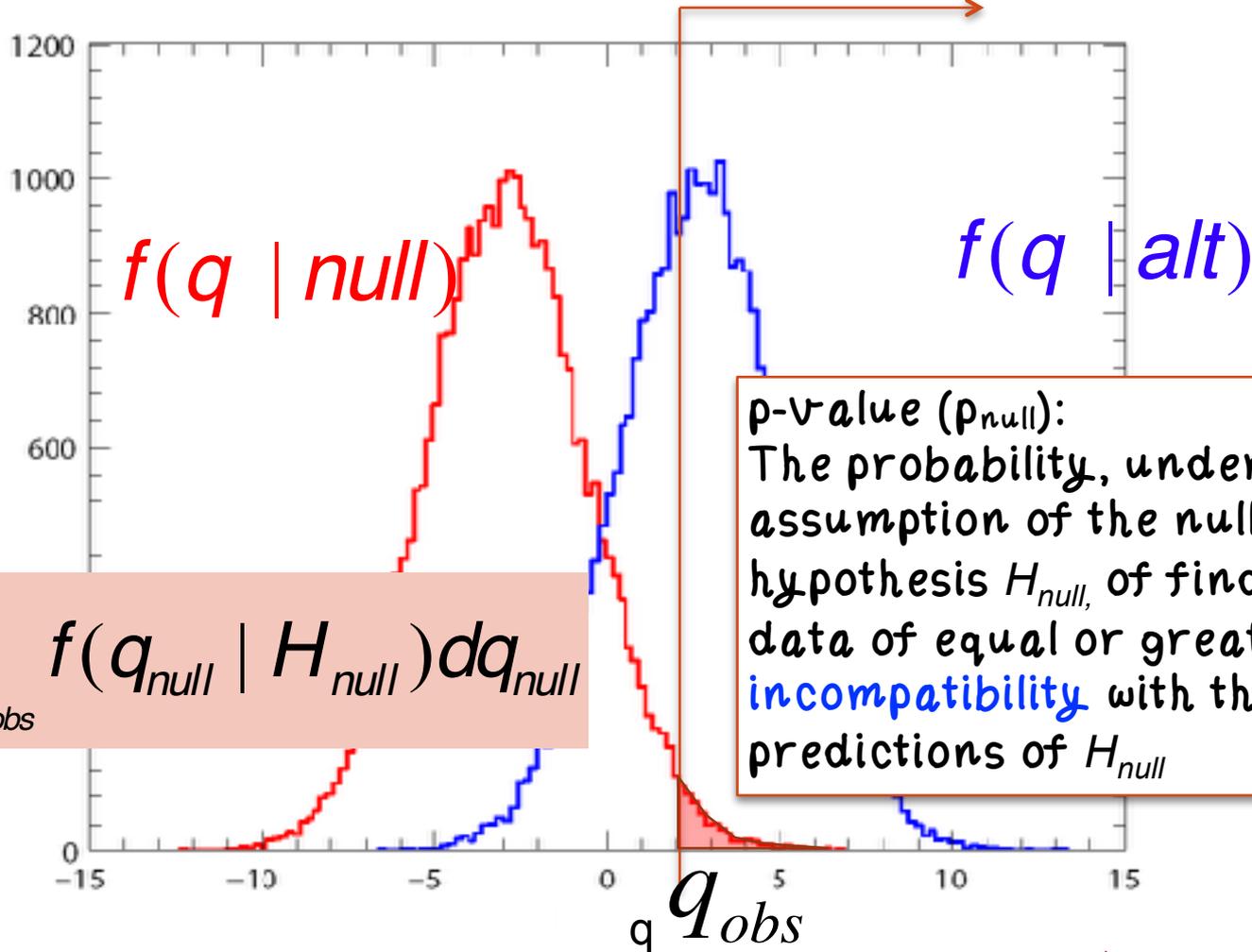
Null like



alt like

# PDF of a test statistic

If  $p \leq \alpha$  reject null



$$p = \int_{q_{obs}}^{\infty} f(q_{null} | H_{null}) dq_{null}$$

p-value ( $p_{null}$ ):  
The probability, under assumption of the null hypothesis  $H_{null}$ , of finding data of equal or greater **incompatibility** with the predictions of  $H_{null}$

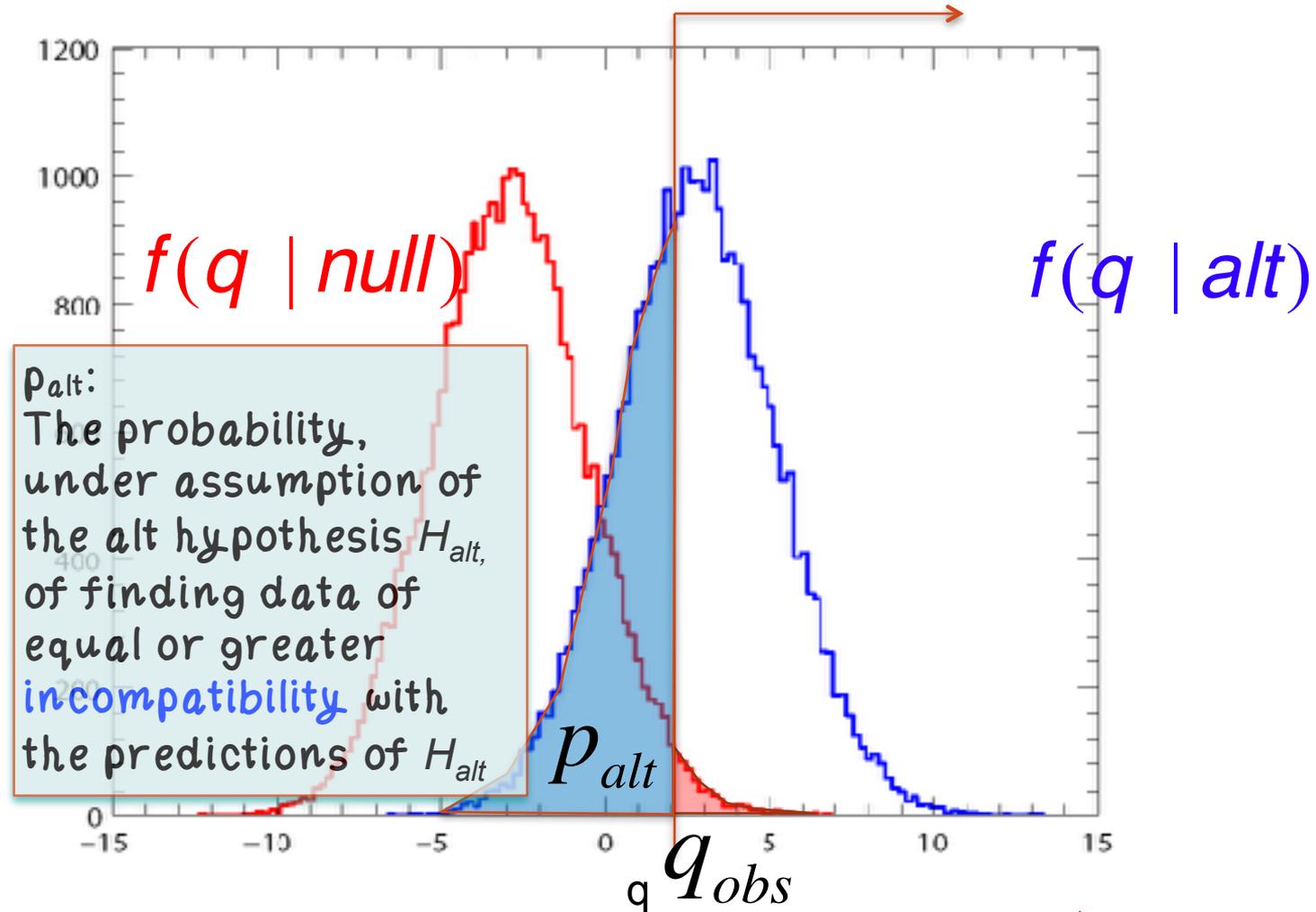
Null like



alt like

# PDF of a test statistic

If  $p \leq \alpha$  reject null



Null like

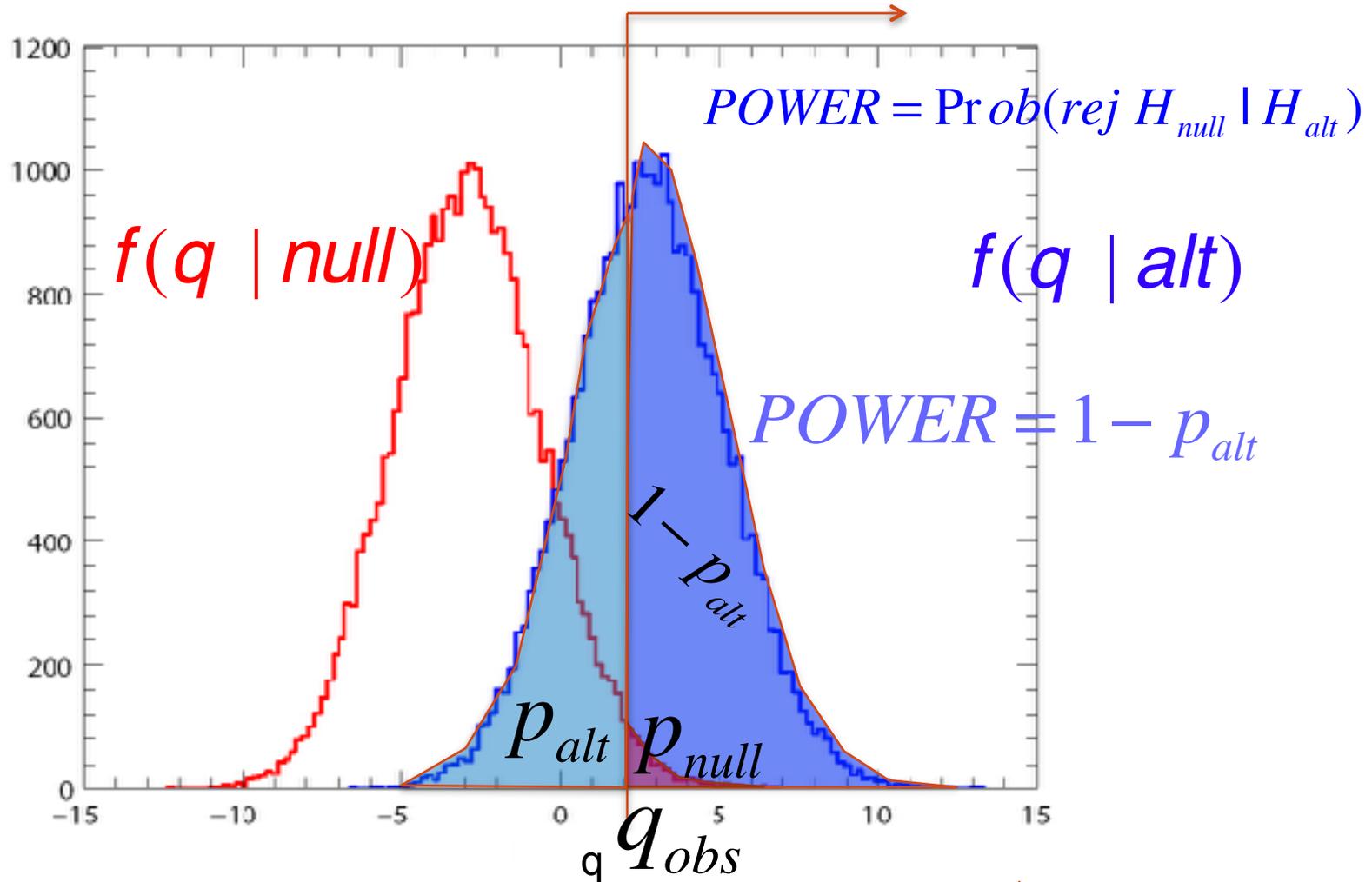


alt like



# PDF of a test statistic

If  $p \leq \alpha$  reject null



Null like

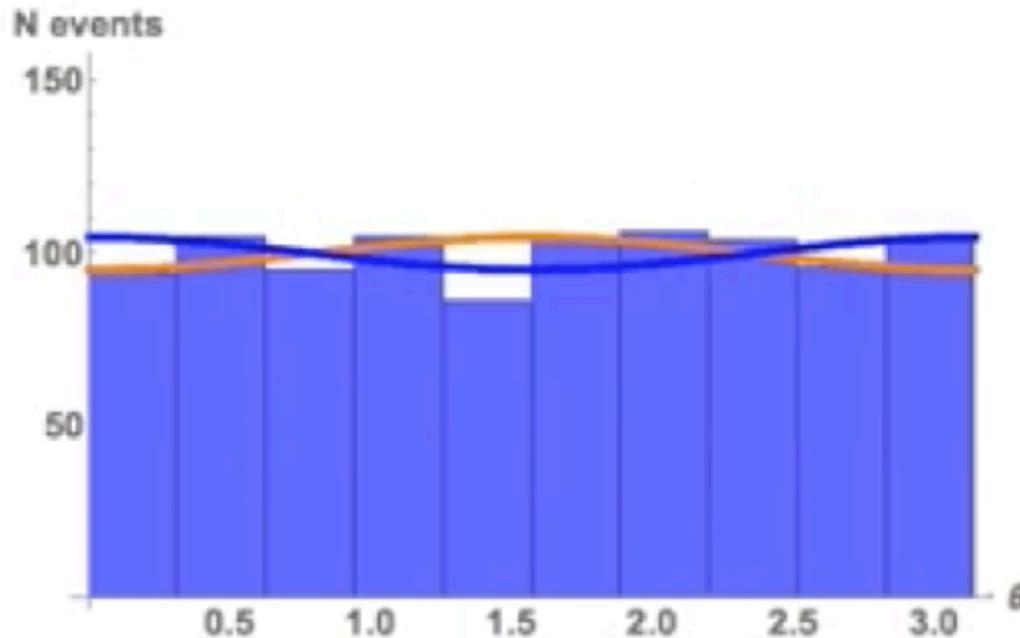


alt like

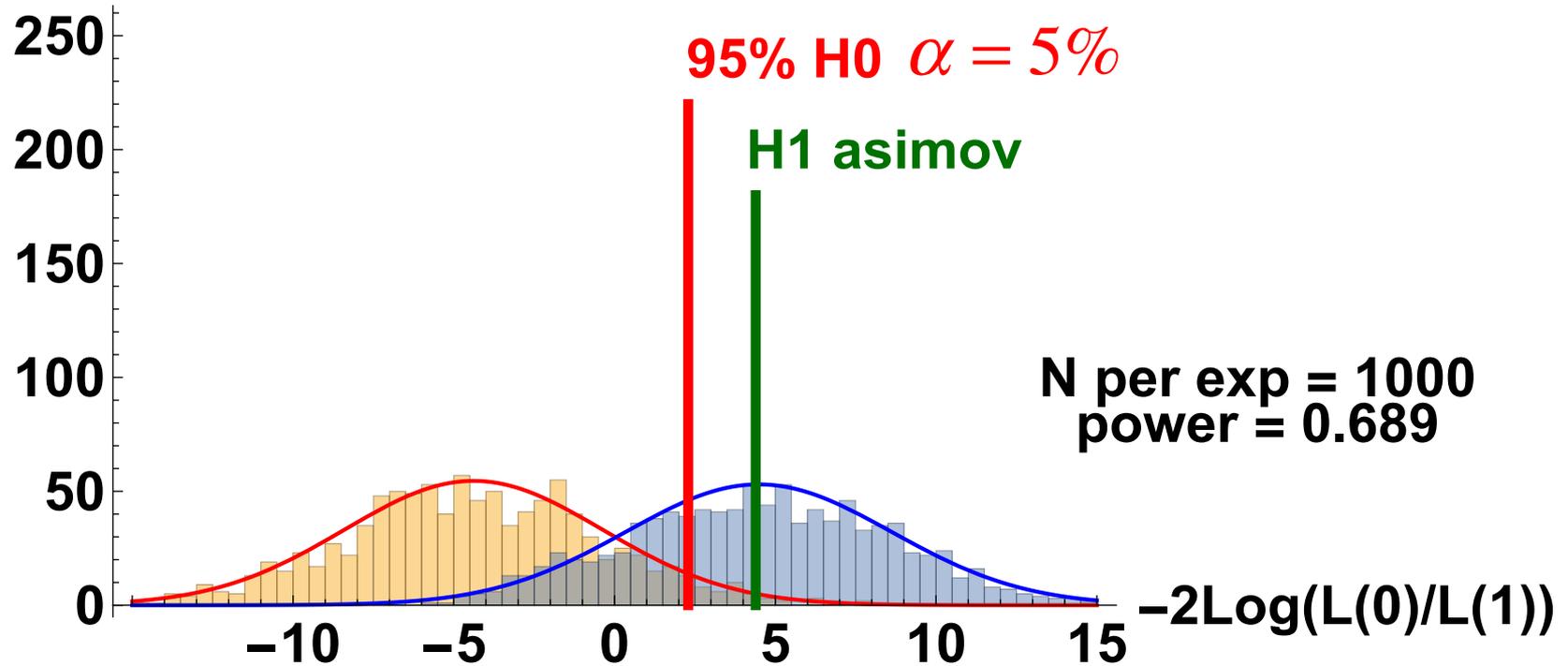
# Power and Luminosity

For a given significance the power increases with increased luminosity

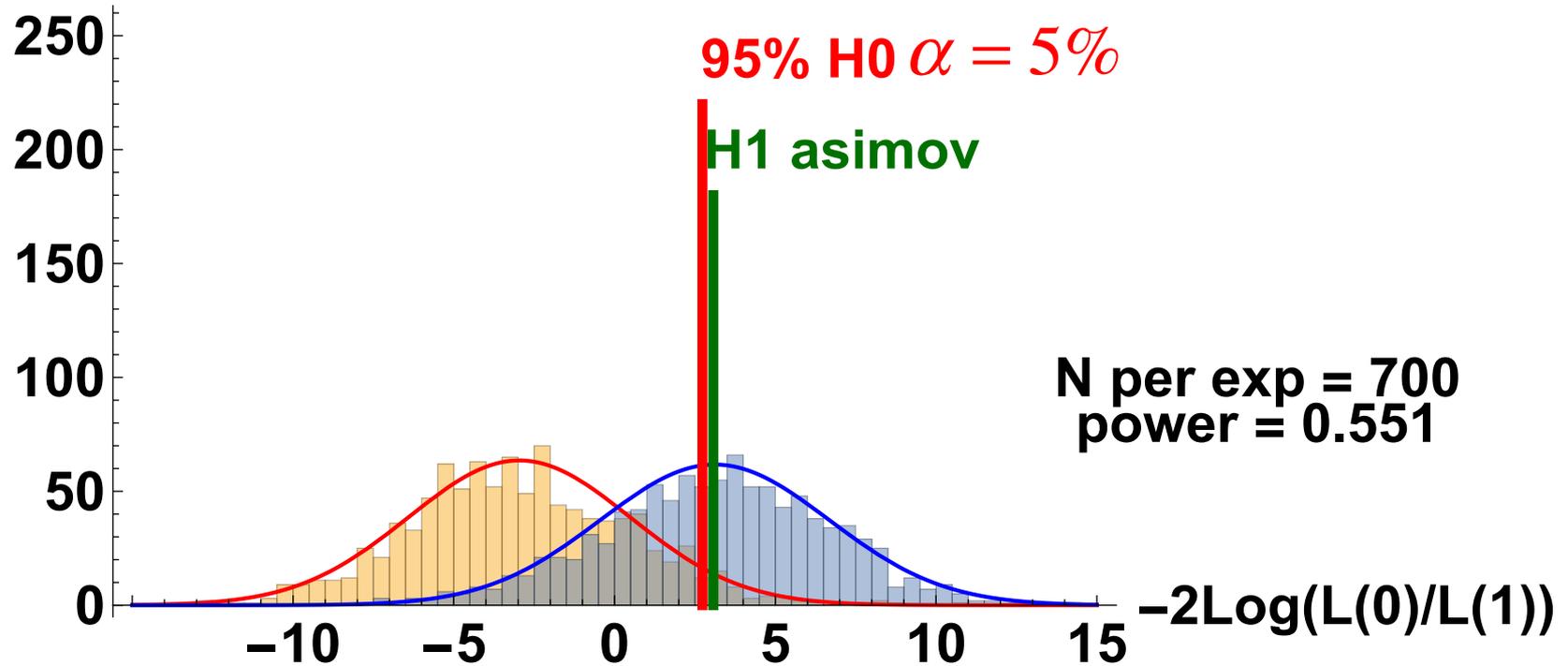
Luminosity  $\sim$  Total number of events in an experiment



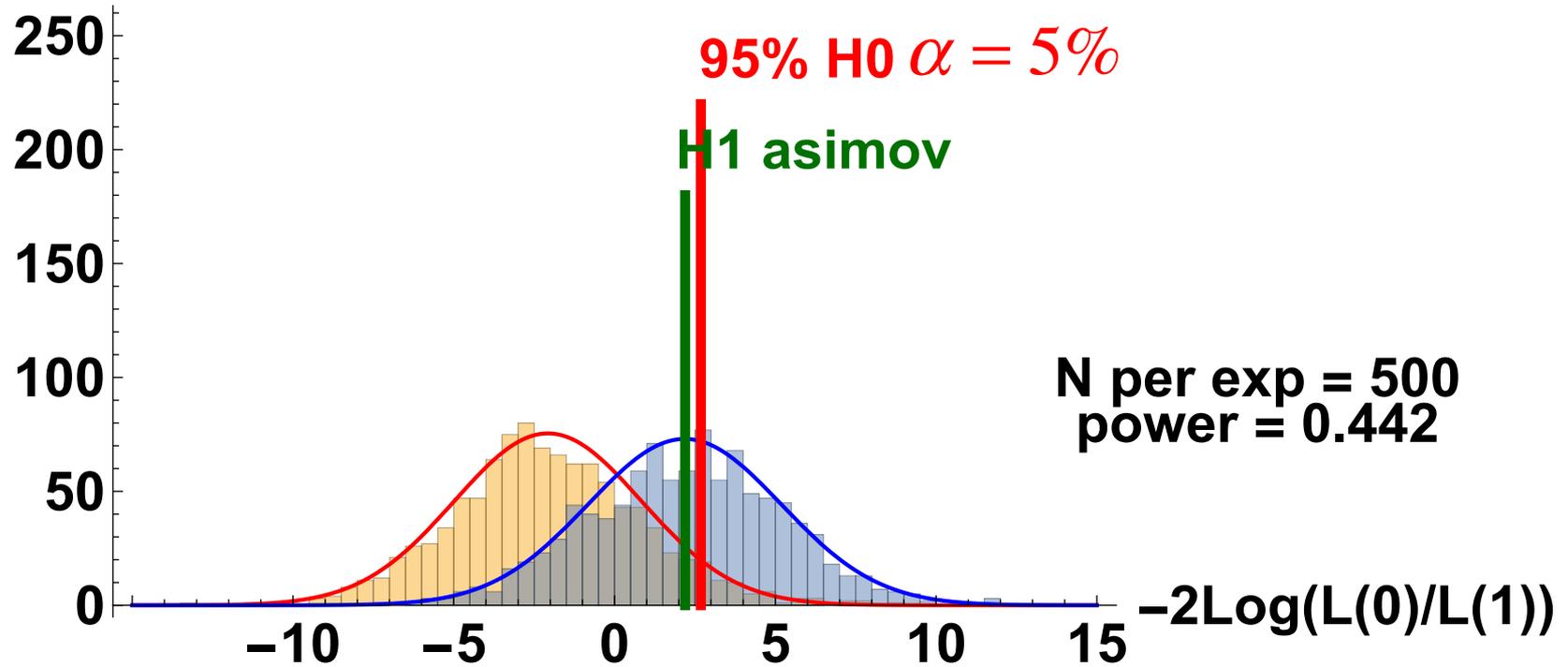
## N experiments



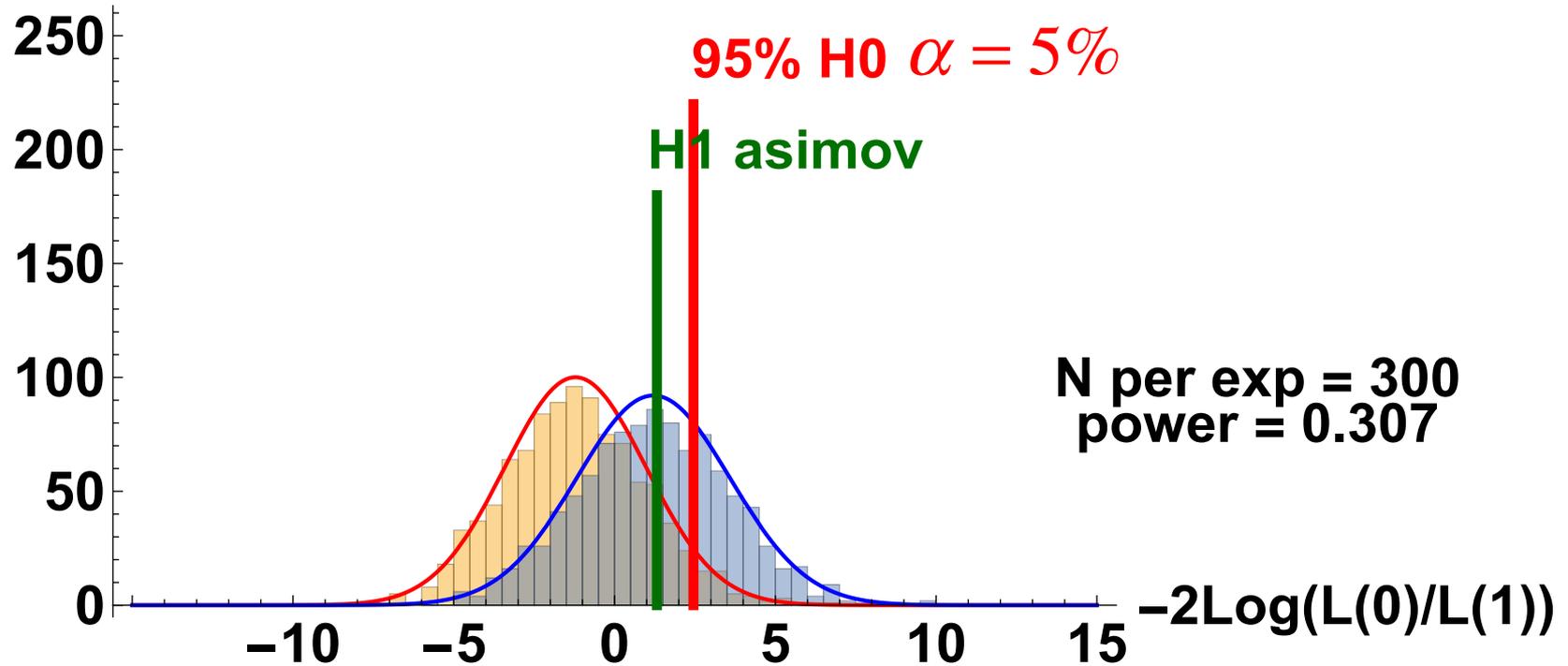
## N experiments



## N experiments

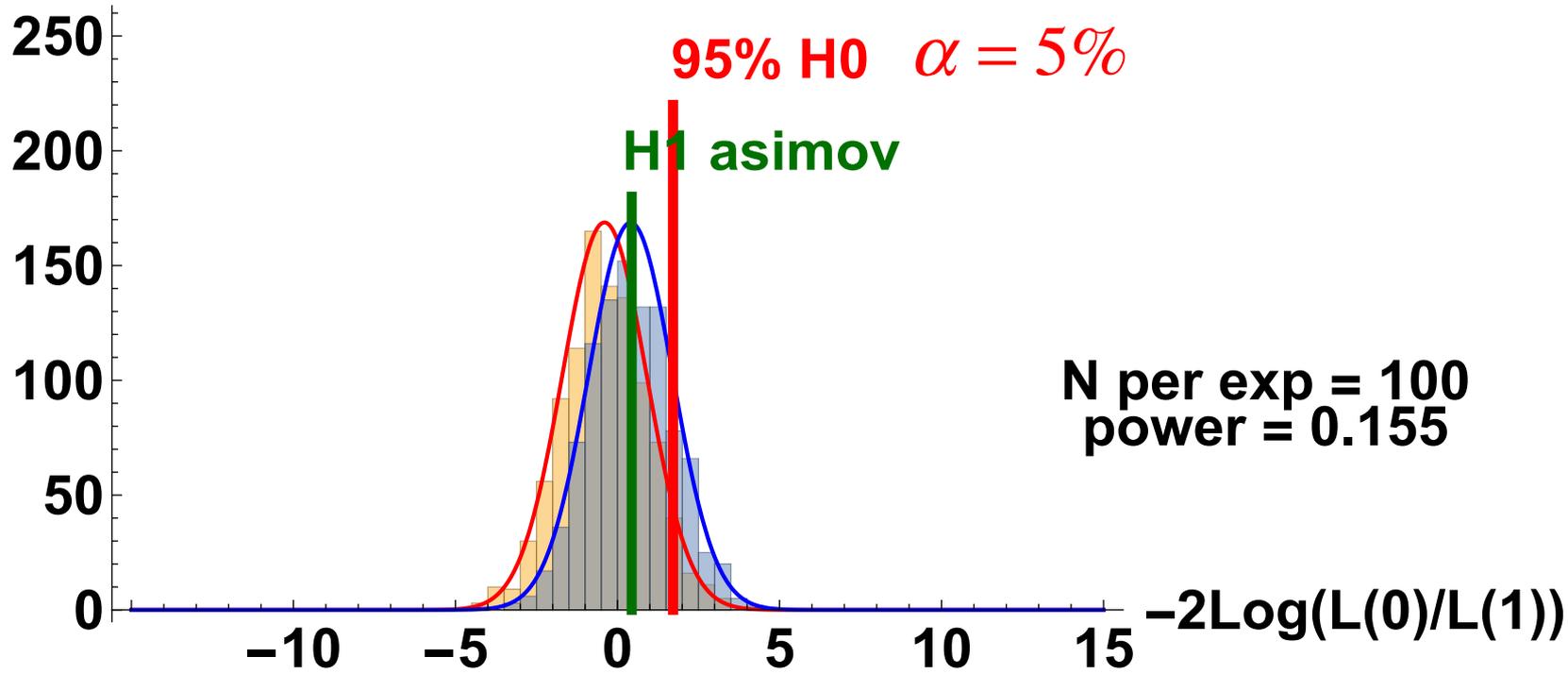


## N experiments



Hard to tell  $f(q|J=0)$  from  $f(q|J=1)$   
—> CLs

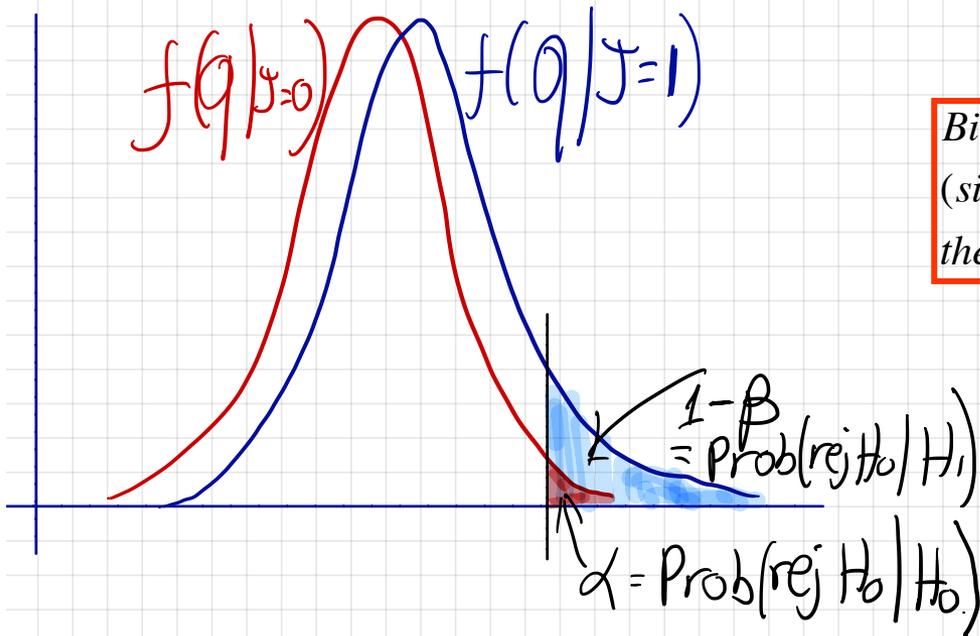
N experiments



# CLS

Birnbaum (1977)

"A concept of statistical evidence is not plausible unless it finds 'strong evidence for  $H_1$  as against  $H_0$ ' with small probability ( $\alpha$ ) when  $H_0$  is true, and with much larger probability ( $1 - \beta$ ) when  $H_1$  is true. "



Birnbaum (1962) suggested that  $\alpha / 1 - \beta$  (significance / power) should be used as a measure of the strength of a statistical test, rather than  $\alpha$  alone

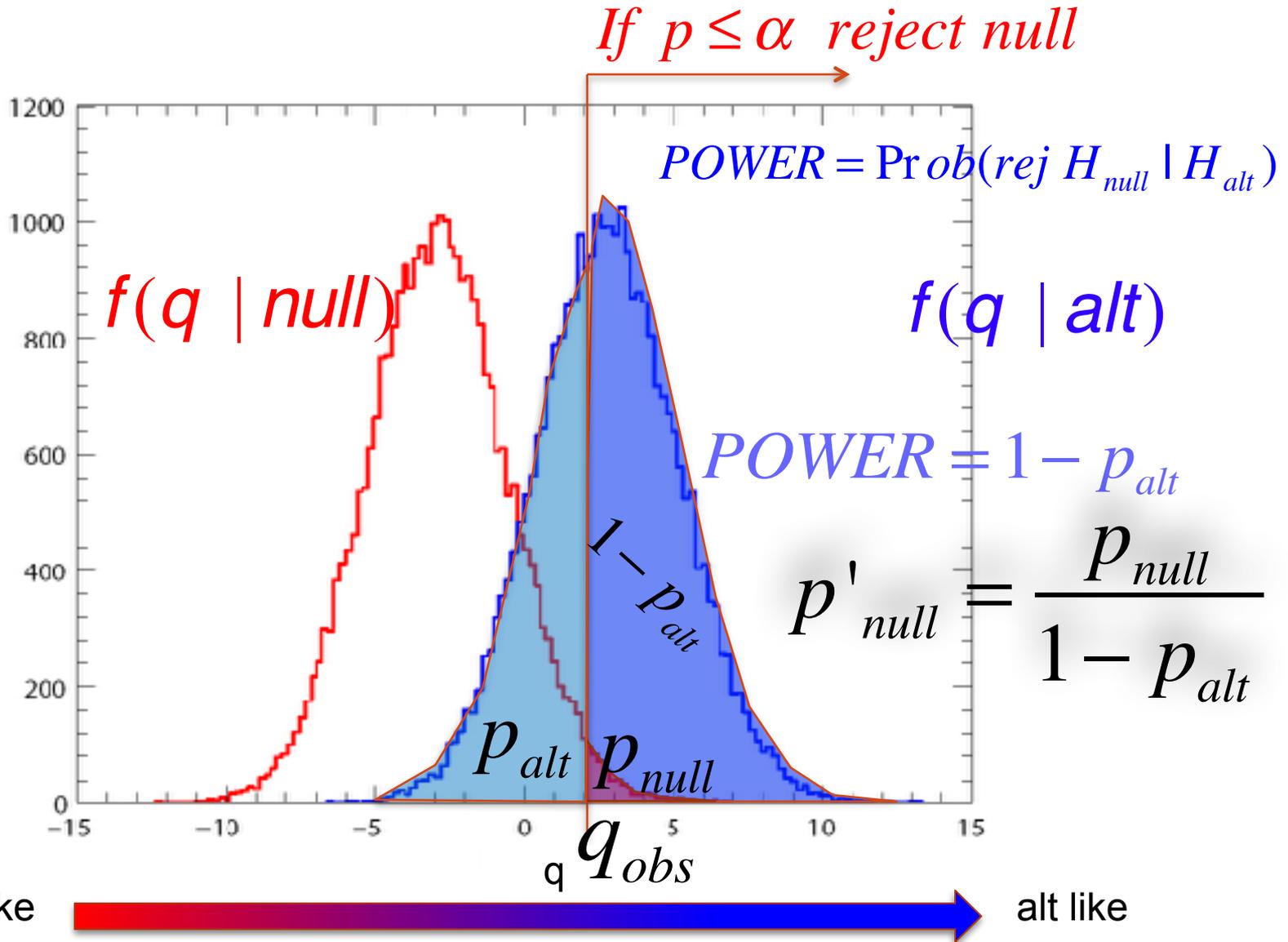
$$p = 5\% \rightarrow p' = 5\% / 0.155 = 32\%$$

$$p' \equiv CL_s$$

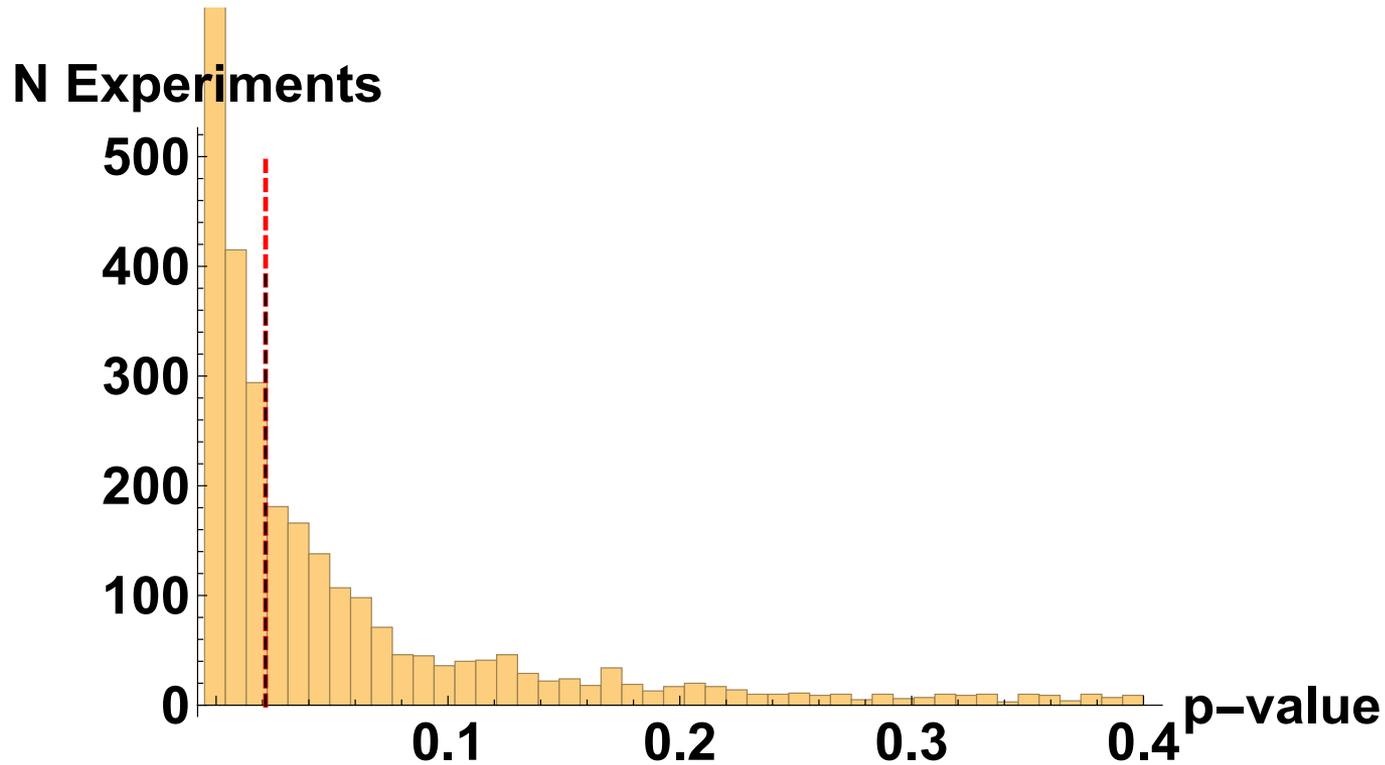
$$p'_\mu = \frac{P_\mu}{1 - p_0}$$



# CLs



# Distribution of p-value under H1



# Distribution of p-value under $H_0$

$f(x)$  PDF

$$\text{cumulative } F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(x') dx'$$

let  $y = F(x)$

PDF of  $y$

$$\frac{dP}{dy} = \frac{dP}{dx} \frac{dx}{dy} = f(x) / (dF / dx) = f(x) / f(x) = 1$$

$F(x)$  distributes uniform between 0 and 1

$p = 1 - F(x)$  distributes uniform between 0 and 1



# Distribution of p-value under $H_0$

$f(x)$  PDF

$$\text{cumulative } F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(x') dx'$$

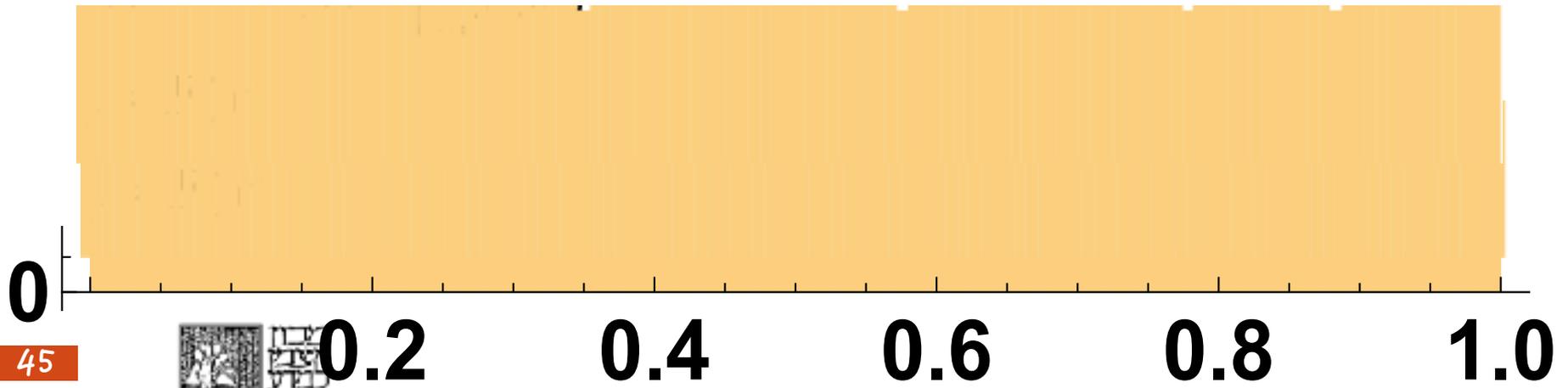
let  $y = F(x)$

PDF of  $y$

$$\frac{dP}{dy} = \frac{dP}{dx} \frac{dx}{dy} = f(x) / (dF / dx) = f(x) / f(x) = 1$$

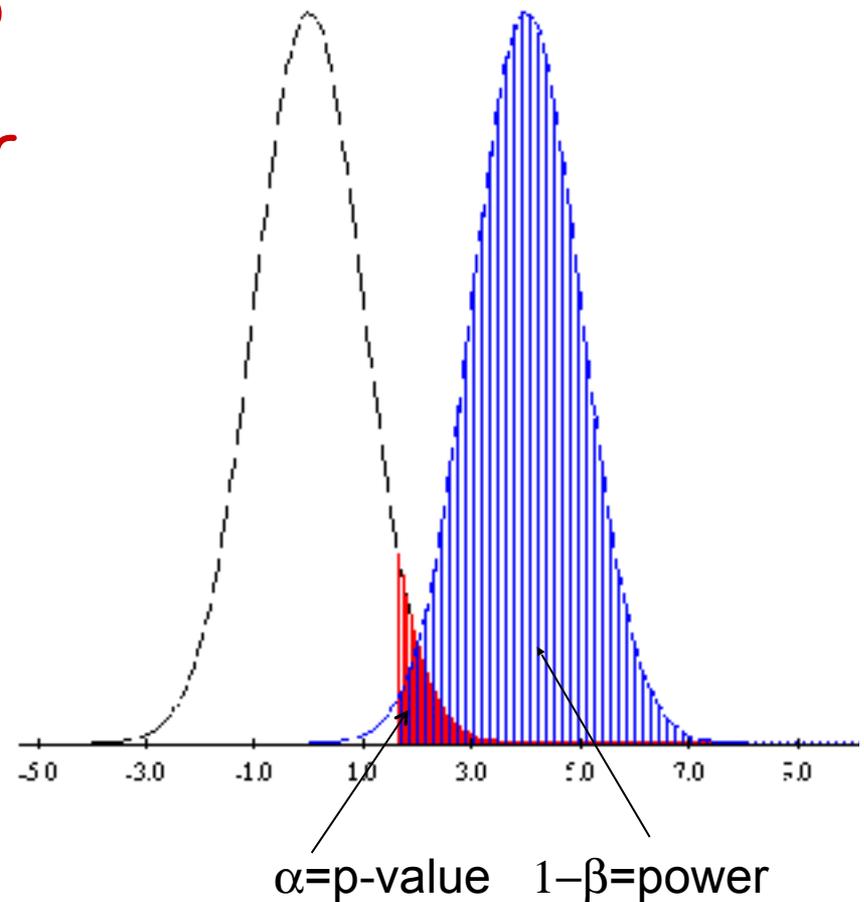
$F(x)$  distributes uniform between 0 and 1

$p = 1 - F(x)$  distributes uniform between 0 and 1



# Which Statistical Method is Better

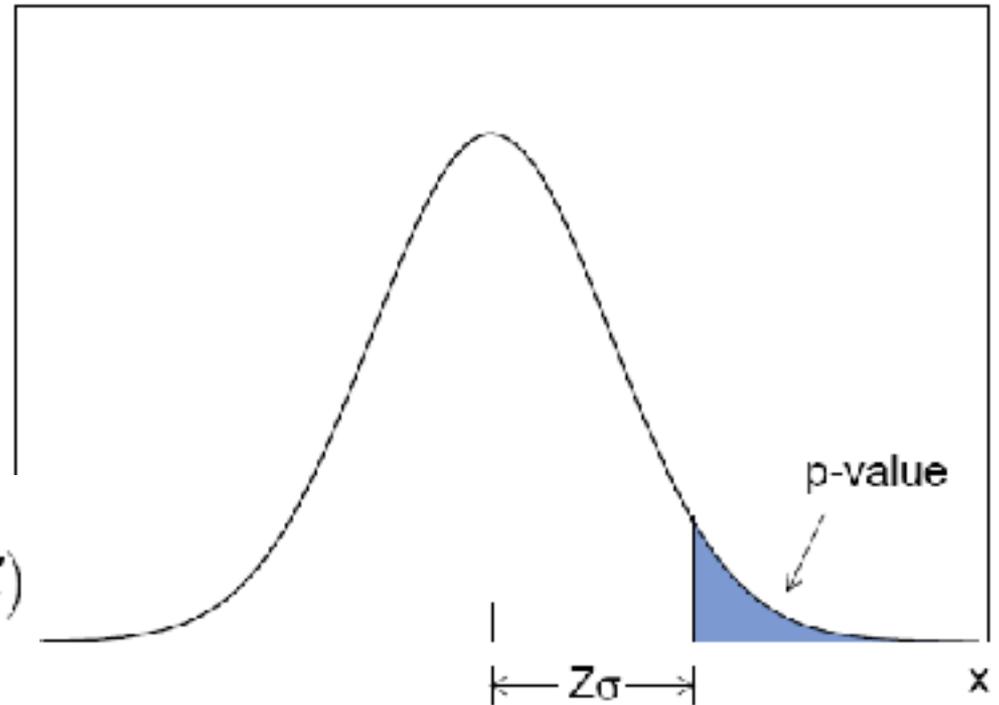
- To find out which of two methods is better plot the p-value vs the power for each analysis method
- Given the p-value, the one with the higher power is better
- p-value~significance



# From p-values to Gaussian significance

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

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

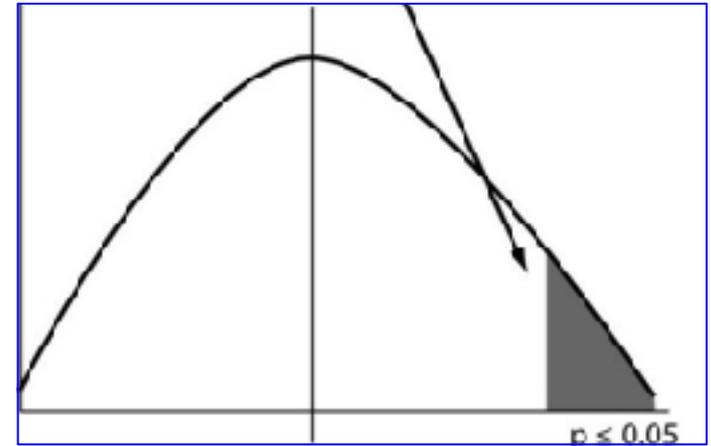


A significance of  $Z = 5$  corresponds to  $p = 2.87 \times 10^{-7}$

Beware of 1 vs 2-sided definitions!

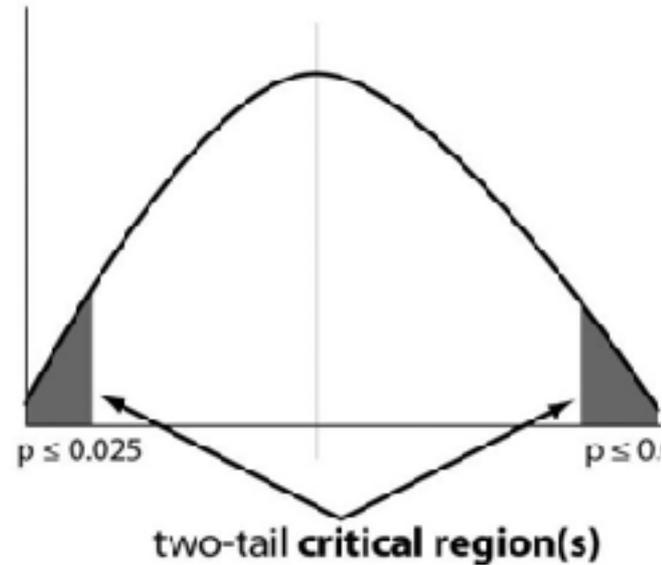
# 1-Sided p-value

- When trying to reject an hypothesis while performing searches, one usually considers only one-sided tail probabilities.
- Downward fluctuations of the background will not serve as an evidence against the background
- Upward fluctuations of the signal will not be considered as an evidence against the signal



# 2-Sided p-value

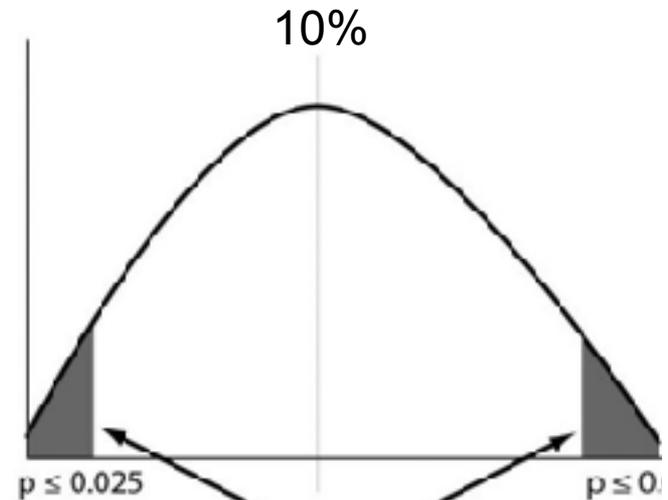
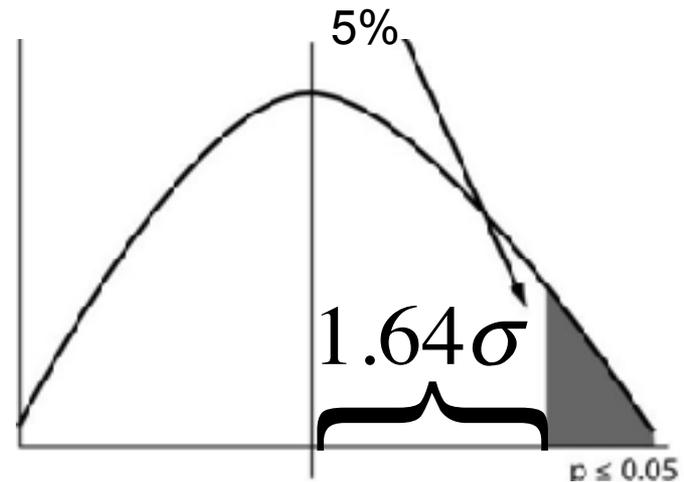
- When performing a measurement ( $t_{\mu}$ ), any deviation above or below the expected null is drawing our attention and might serve an indication of some anomaly or new physics.
- Here we use a 2-sided p-value



# 1-sided 2-sided

To determine a 1 sided 95% CL,  
we sometimes need to set the critical  
region to 10% 2 sided

2-sided 5% is  $1.95 \sigma$   
2-sided 10% is  $1.64 \sigma$



two-tail **critical region(s)**

# p-value - testing the null hypothesis

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

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

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

→ Discovery

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

Confidence Level (CL)

→ Exclusion

# Confidence Interval and Confidence Level (CL)

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# CL & CI

measurement  $\hat{\mu} = 1.1 \pm 0.3$

$$L(\mu) = G(\mu; \hat{\mu}, \sigma_{\hat{\mu}})$$

$\Rightarrow$  CI of  $\mu = [0.8, 1.4]$  at 68% CL

- A confidence interval (CI) is a particular kind of interval estimate of a population parameter.
- Instead of estimating the parameter by a single value, an interval likely to include the parameter is given.
- How likely the interval is to contain the parameter is determined by the confidence level
- Increasing the desired confidence level will widen the confidence interval.



# Confidence Interval & Coverage

- Say you have a measurement  $\mu_{meas}$  of  $\mu$  with  $\mu_{true}$  being the unknown true value of  $\mu$
- Assume you know the probability distribution function  $p(\mu_{meas}|\mu)$
- based on your statistical method you deduce that there is a 95% Confidence interval  $[\mu_1, \mu_2]$ .  
(it is 95% likely that the  $\mu_{true}$  is in the quoted interval)

The correct statement:

- In an ensemble of experiments 95% of the obtained confidence intervals will contain the true value of  $\mu$ .



# Confidence Interval & Coverage

- You claim,  $CI_{\mu}=[\mu_1, \mu_2]$  at the 95% CL  
i.e. In an ensemble of experiments CL (95%) of the obtained confidence intervals will contain the true value of  $\mu$ .
- If your statement is accurate, you have full coverage
- If the true CL is  $>95\%$ , your interval has an over coverage
- If the true CL is  $<95\%$ , your interval has an undercoverage

# Upper Limit

- Given the measurement you deduce somehow (based on your statistical method) that there is a 95% Confidence interval  $[0, \mu_{up}]$ .
- This means: our interval contains  $\mu=0$  (no Higgs)
- We therefore deduce that  $\mu < \mu_{up}$  at the 95% Confidence Level (CL)
- $\mu_{up}$  is therefore an upper limit on  $\mu$
- If  $\mu_{up} < 1 \rightarrow$   
 $\sigma(m_H) < \sigma_{SM}(m_H) \rightarrow$   
a SM Higgs with a mass  $m_H$  is excluded at the 95% CL



# How to deduce a CI

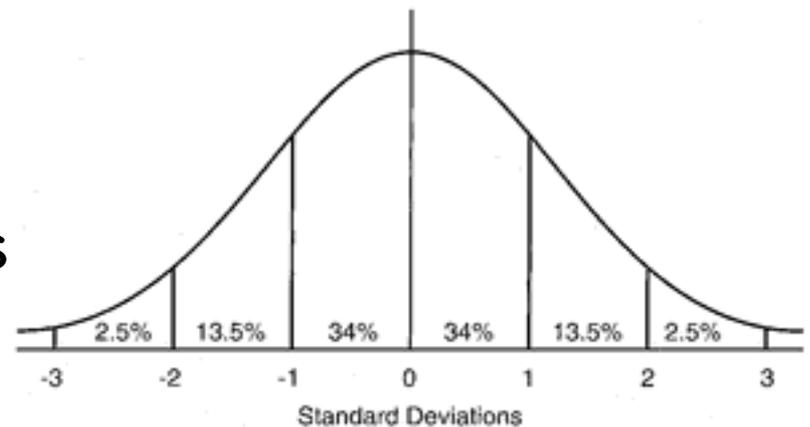
- One can show that if the data is distributed normal around the average i.e.  $P(\text{data}|\mu) = \text{normal}$

$$f(x | \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

- then one can construct a 68% CI around the estimator of  $\mu$  to be

$$\hat{X} \pm \sigma \quad \text{i.e. } x_{\text{true}} \in [\hat{x} - \sigma_{\hat{x}}, \hat{x} + \sigma_{\hat{x}}] @ 68\% \text{ CL}$$

- However, not all distributions are normal, many distributions are even unknown and coverage might be a real issue



Side Note:

A CI is an interval in the true parameters phase-space

- One can guarantee a coverage with the Neyman Construction (1937)

Neyman, J. (1937) "[Outline of a Theory of Statistical Estimation Based on the Classical Theory of Probability](#)" Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London A, 236, 333-380.

# The Frequentist Game a 'la Neyman

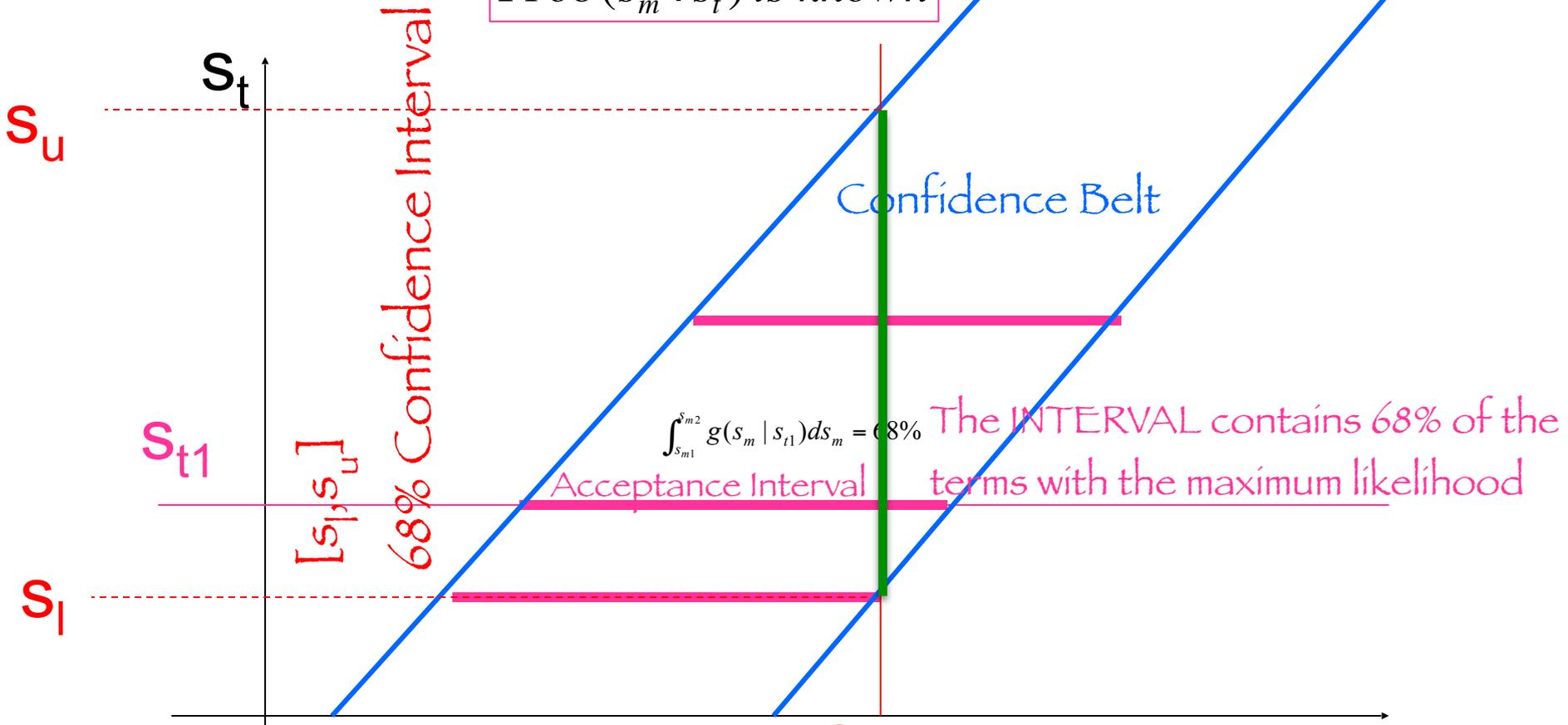
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Or

How to ensure a Coverage with  
Neyman construction

# Neyman Construction

$Prob(s_m | s_t)$  is known



$[s_l, s_u]$  68% Confidence Interval

In 68% of the experiments the derived **C.I.** contains the **unknown true value of s**

- With Neyman Construction we guarantee a coverage via construction, i.e. for any value of the unknown true  $s$ , the Construction Confidence Interval will cover  $s$  with the correct rate.

# Neyman Construction

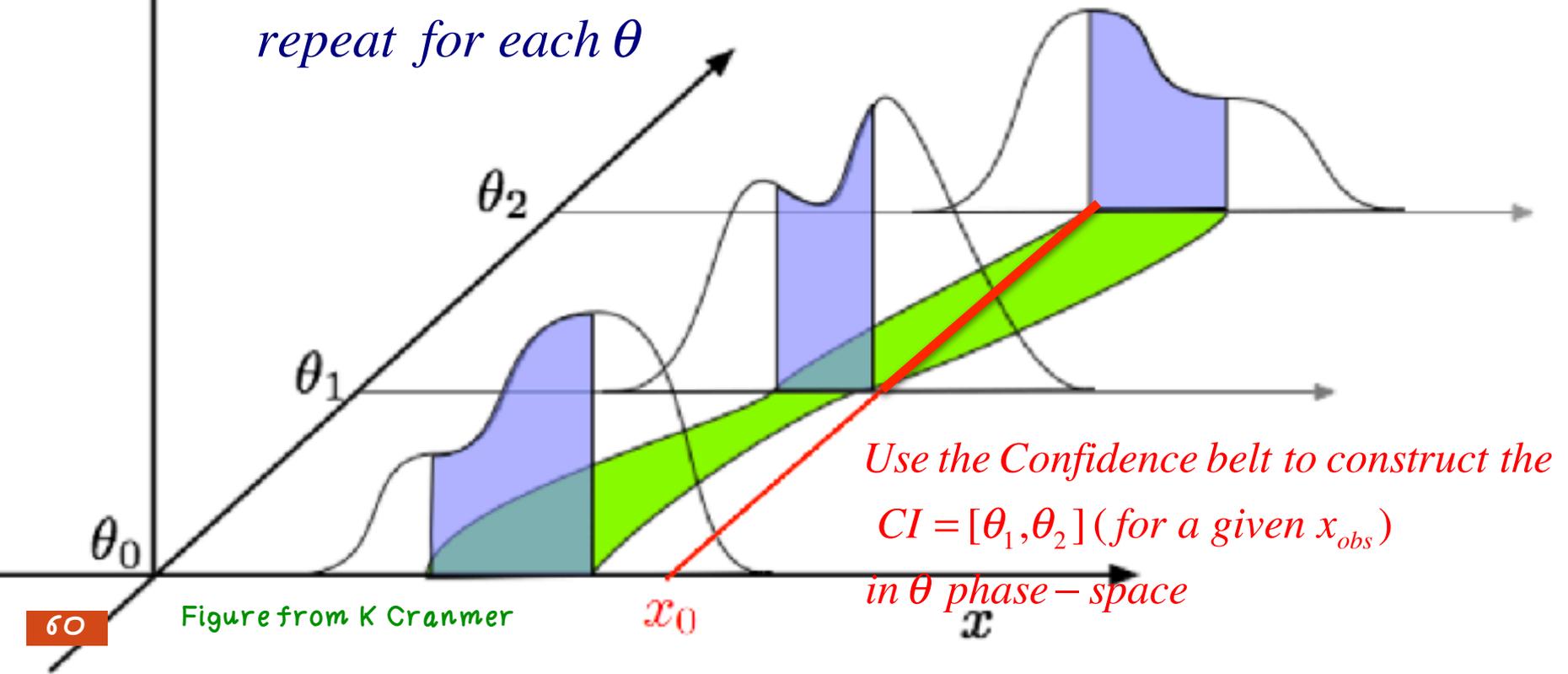
$\theta \equiv S_{true}$     $x \equiv S_{measured}$    pdf  $f(x|\theta)$  is known

for each prospective  $\theta$  generate  $x$

$f(x|\theta)$  construct an interval in DATA phase – space

$$\text{Interval} = \int_{x_l}^{x_h} f(x|\theta) dx = 68\%$$

repeat for each  $\theta$



Use the Confidence belt to construct the  
 $CI = [\theta_1, \theta_2]$  (for a given  $x_{obs}$ )  
in  $\theta$  phase – space

# Nuisance Parameters or Systematics

---



# Nuisance Parameters (Systematics)

- There are two kinds of parameters:
  - Parameters of interest (signal strength... cross section...  $\mu$ )
  - Nuisance parameters (background (b), signal efficiency, resolution, energy scale,...)
- The nuisance parameters carry systematic uncertainties
- There are two related issues:
  - Classifying and estimating the systematic uncertainties
  - Implementing them in the analysis
- The physicist must make the difference between cross checks and identifying the sources of the systematic uncertainty.
  - Shifting cuts around and measure the effect on the observable...  
Very often the observed variation is dominated by the statistical uncertainty in the measurement.



## Implementation of Nuisance Parameters

- Implement by marginalizing (Bayesian) or profiling (Frequentist)
- Hybrid: One can also use a frequentist test statistics (PL) while treating the NPs via marginalization (Hybrid, Cousins & Highland way)
- Marginalization (Integrating)
  - Integrate the Likelihood,  $L$ , over possible values of nuisance parameters (weighted by their prior belief functions -- Gaussian, gamma, others...)

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

# The Hybrid Cousins-Highland Marginalization

Cousins & Highland

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

Profiling the NPs

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

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

# Nuisance Parameters and Subsidiary Measurements

- Usually the nuisance parameters are auxiliary parameters and their values are constrained by auxiliary measurements
- Example

$$n \sim \mu s(m_H) + b \quad \langle n \rangle = \mu s + b$$

$$m = \tau b$$

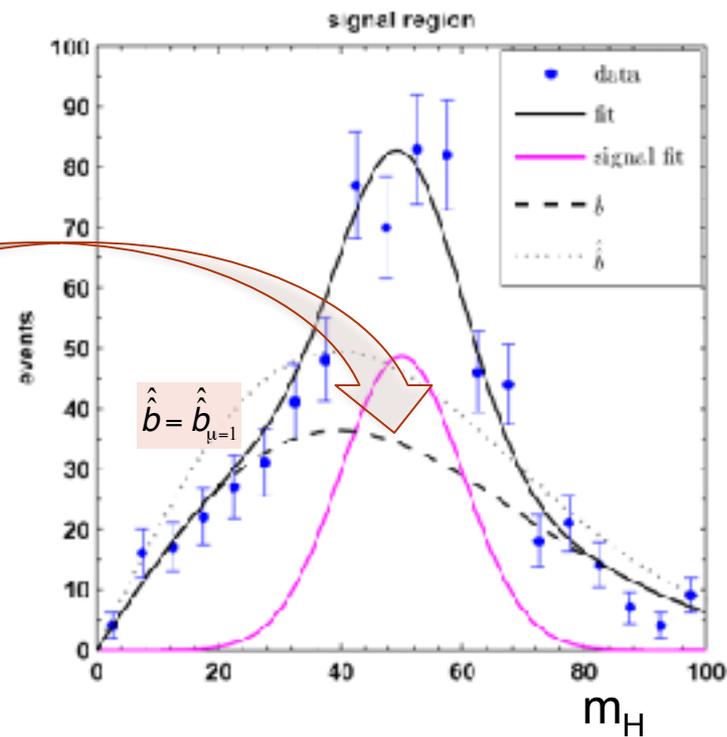
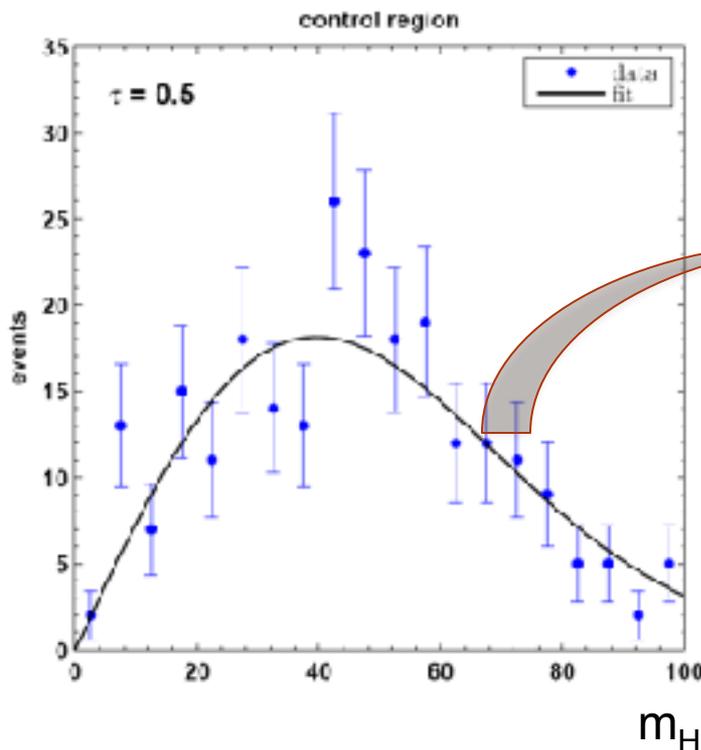
$$L(\mu \cdot s + b(\theta)) = \text{Poisson}(n; \mu \cdot s + b(\theta)) \cdot \text{Poisson}(m; \tau b(\theta))$$



# Mass shape as a discriminator

$$n \sim \mu s(m_H) + b \quad m \sim \tau b$$

$$L(\mu \cdot s + b(\theta)) = \prod_{i=1}^{n \text{ bins}} \text{Poisson}(n_i; \mu \cdot s_i + b_i(\theta)) \cdot \text{Poisson}(m_i; \tau b_i(\theta))$$



# Wilks Theorem

S.S. Wilks, *The large-sample distribution of the likelihood ratio for testing composite hypotheses*, Ann. Math. Statist. **9** (1938) 60-2.



# Profile Likelihood with Nuisance Parameters

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# A toy case with 1-3 poi

$$n = \mu \epsilon A s + b$$

$$L = L(\mu, \epsilon, A, b)$$

3 cases studied

1 poi:  $\mu$  while  $\epsilon, A, b$  profiled

2 poi:  $\mu, \epsilon$  profile  $A$  and  $b$

3 poi:  $\mu, \epsilon, A$  profile  $b$

$$1 \text{ poi} : t_{\mu} = \frac{L(\mu, \hat{\epsilon}, \hat{A}, \hat{b})}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\epsilon}, \hat{A}, \hat{b})}$$

$$2 \text{ poi} : t_{\mu, \epsilon} = \frac{L(\mu, \epsilon, \hat{A}, \hat{b})}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\epsilon}, \hat{A}, \hat{b})}$$

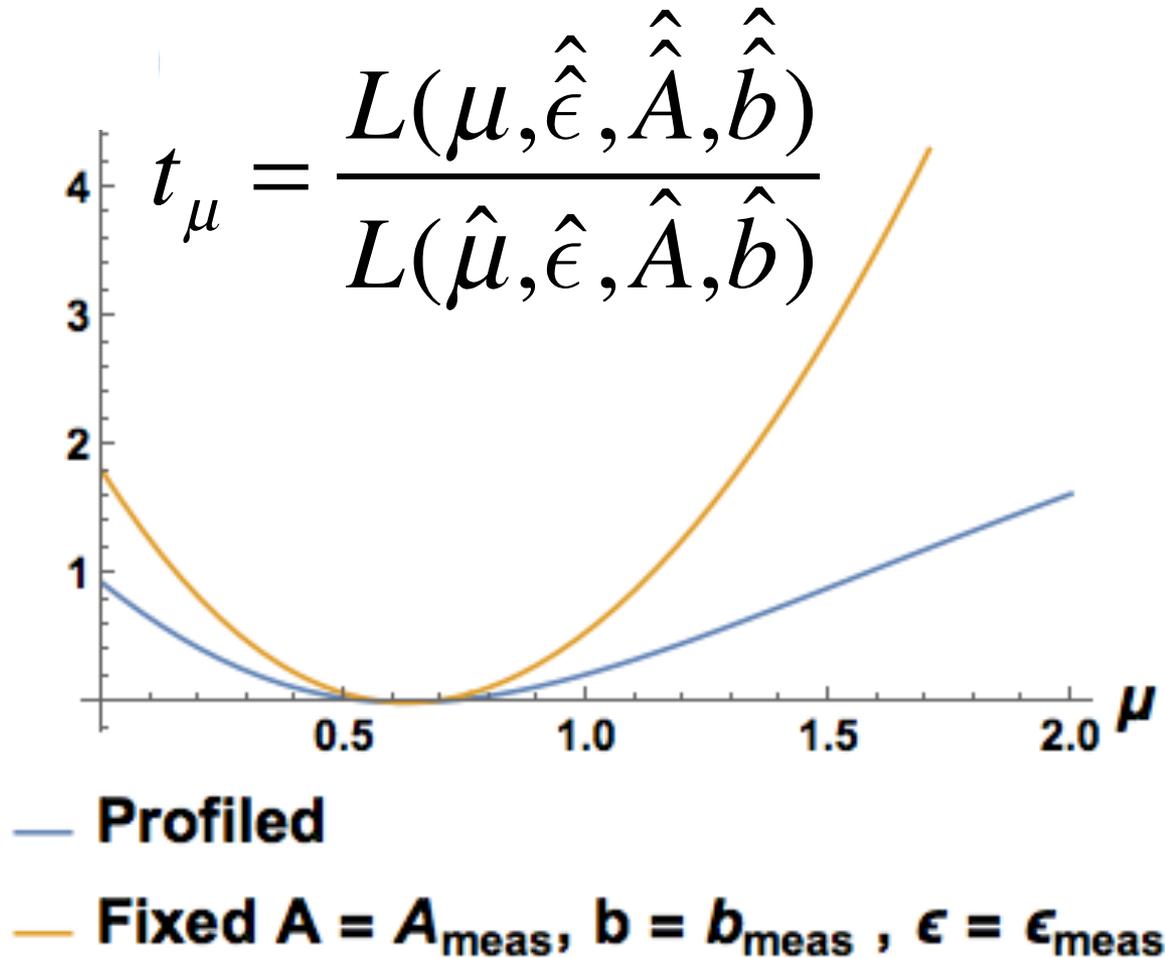
$$3 \text{ poi} : t_{\mu, \epsilon, A} = \frac{L(\mu, \epsilon, A, \hat{b})}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\epsilon}, \hat{A}, \hat{b})}$$

$$L(\mu, \epsilon, A) = \text{Poiss}(n \mid \mu \epsilon A + b) G(A_{meas} \mid A, \sigma_A) G(\epsilon_{meas} \mid \epsilon, \sigma_{\epsilon}) G(b_{meas} \mid b, \sigma_b)$$

$$L(\mu, \epsilon, A) = \frac{(\mu \epsilon A s + b)^n}{n!} e^{-(\mu \epsilon A s + b)} \frac{1}{\sigma_{\epsilon} \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(\epsilon_{meas} - \epsilon)^2 / 2\sigma_{\epsilon}^2} \frac{1}{\sigma_b \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(b_{meas} - b)^2 / 2\sigma_b^2} \frac{1}{\sigma_A \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(A_{meas} - A)^2 / 2\sigma_A^2}$$



# Profile Likelihood for Measurement

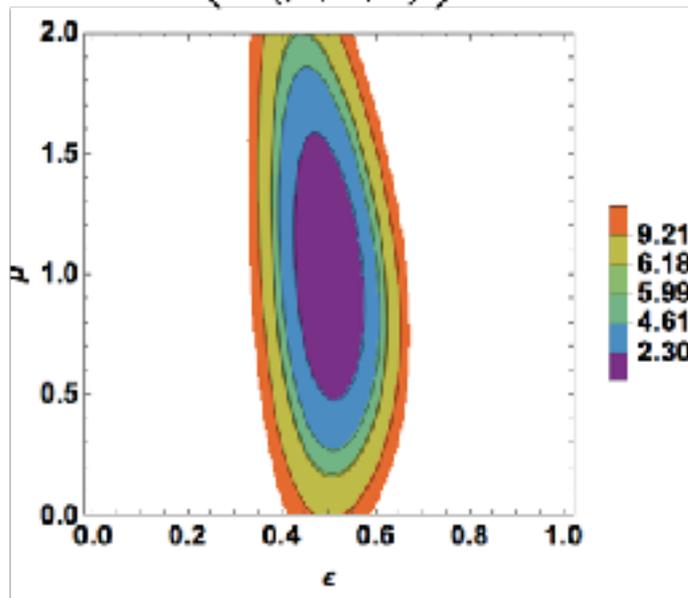


# A toy case with 2 poi

$$n = \mu \epsilon A s + b$$

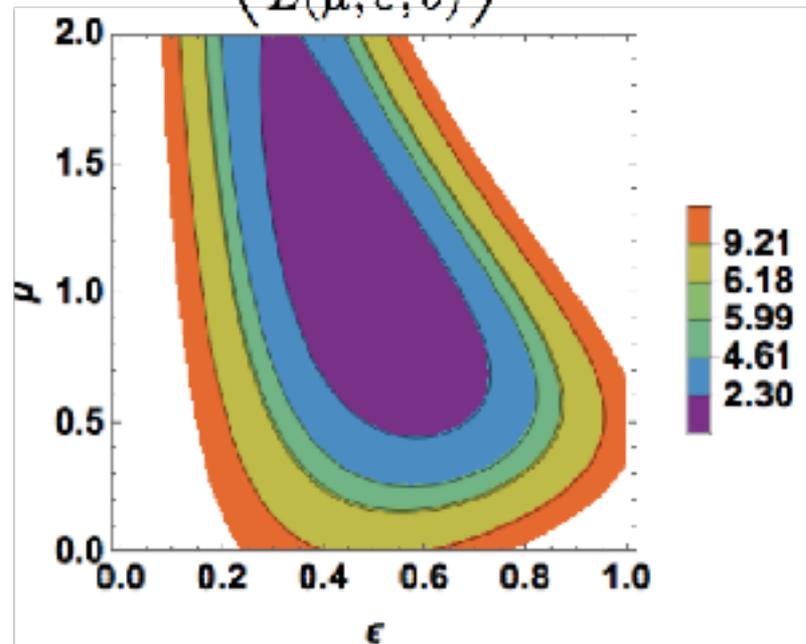
$$L = L(\mu, \epsilon, A, b)$$

$$-2 \log \left( \frac{L(\mu, \epsilon, \hat{b})}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\epsilon}, \hat{b})} \right)$$



background = 100  
 signal = 90  
 $\epsilon = 0.5$   
 $\sigma_\epsilon = 0.05$   
 $\sigma_b = 20$

$$-2 \log \left( \frac{L(\mu, \epsilon, \hat{b})}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\epsilon}, \hat{b})} \right)$$

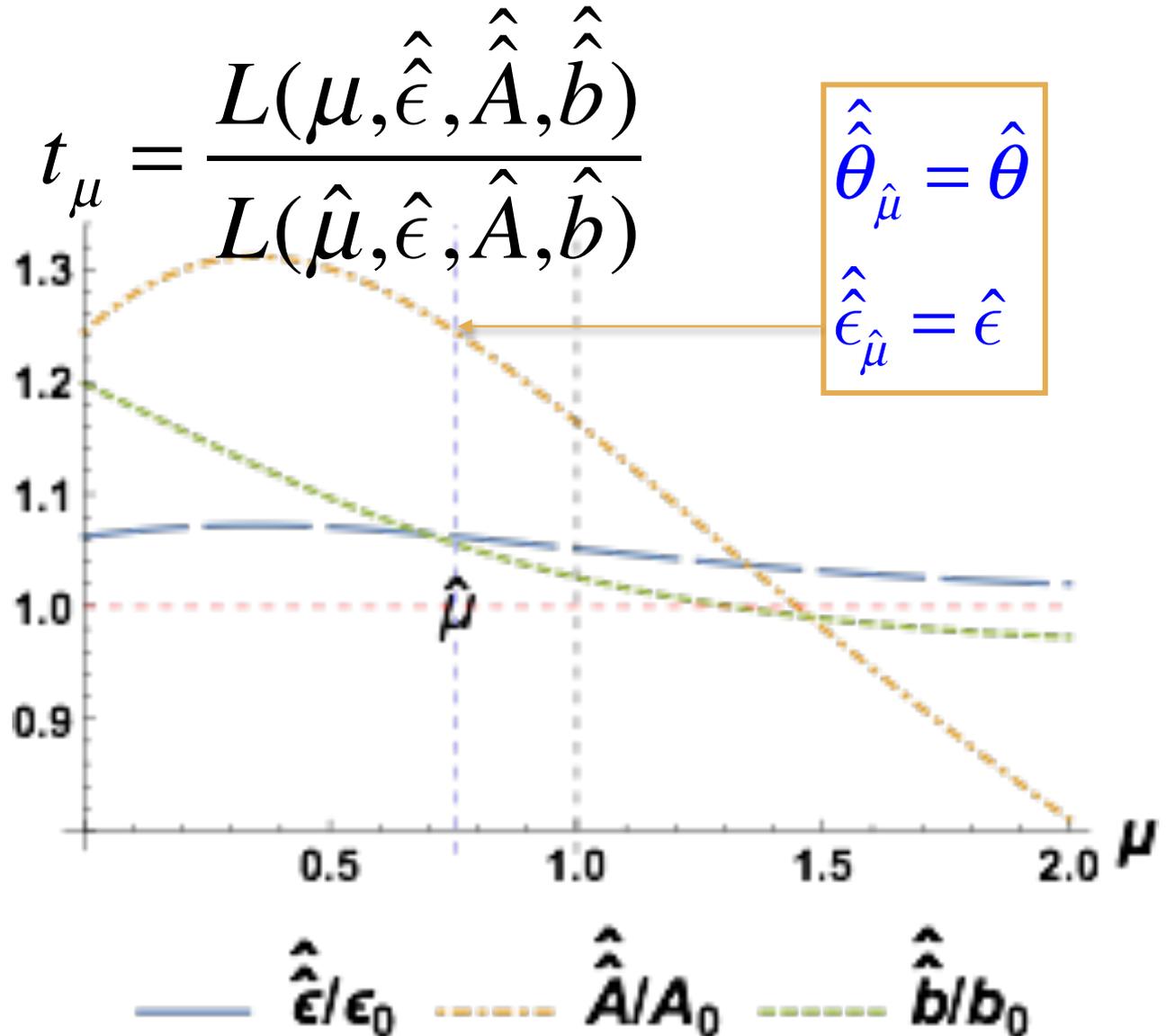


background = 100  
 signal = 90  
 $\epsilon = 0.5$   
 $\sigma_\epsilon = 0.15$   
 $\sigma_b = 10$

# Profile Likelihood

background = 100  
 signal = 90  
 $\epsilon = 0.5$   
 $A = 0.7$   
 $\sigma_\epsilon = 0.05$   
 $\sigma_b = 10$   
 $\sigma_A = 0.2$

$n_{\text{meas}} = 137$   
 $b_{\text{meas}} = 105.533$   
 $\epsilon_{\text{meas}} = 0.531025$   
 $A_{\text{meas}} = 0.870554$   
 $\mu_{\text{meas}} = 0.756304$



# Wilks theorem in the presence of NPs

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

$$\lambda(\alpha_i) = \frac{L(\alpha_i, \hat{\theta}_j)}{L(\hat{\alpha}_i, \hat{\theta}_j)}$$

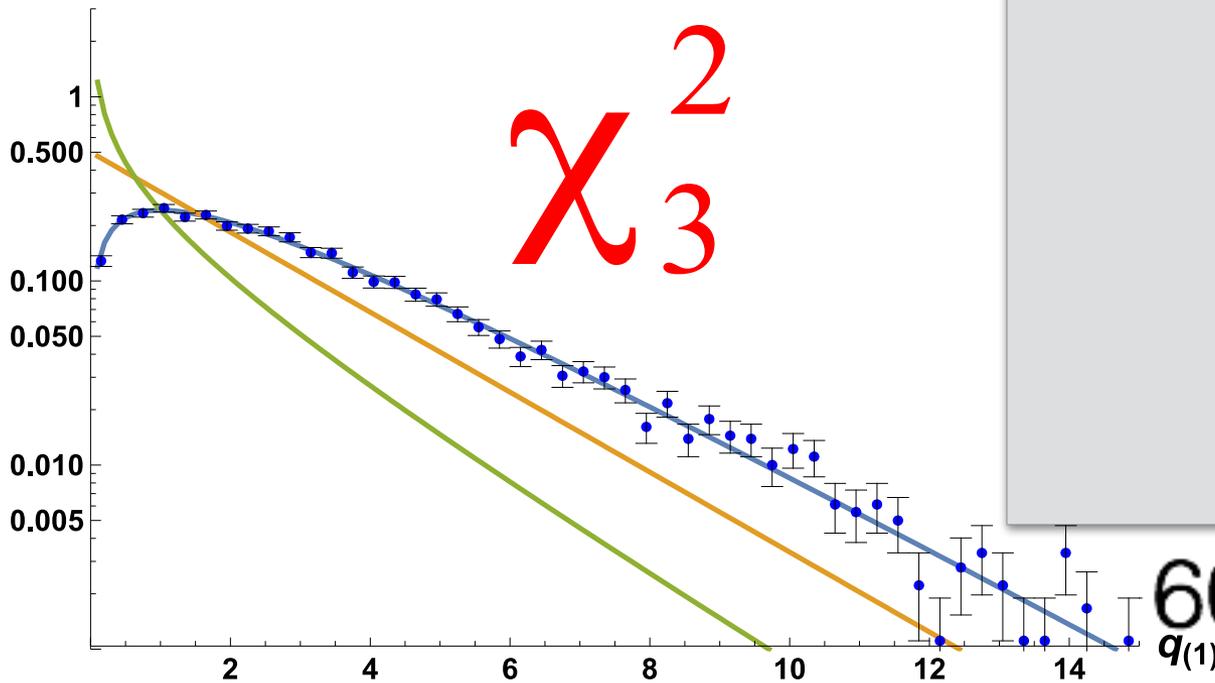
$$q(\alpha_i) \equiv -2 \log \lambda(\alpha_i) \sim \chi_n^2$$

# A toy case with 3 poi

$$L(\mu, \varepsilon, A) = \frac{(\mu \varepsilon A s + b)^n}{n!} e^{-(\mu \varepsilon A s + b)} \frac{1}{\sigma_\varepsilon \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(\varepsilon_{meas} - \varepsilon)^2 / 2\sigma_\varepsilon^2} \frac{1}{\sigma_b \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(b_{meas} - b)^2 / 2\sigma_b^2} \frac{1}{\sigma_A \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(A_{meas} - A)^2 / 2\sigma_A^2}$$

three parameters of interest (profiling only b)  
 non-profiled parameters set to their real value

$f(q_{(1)} | \mu=1)$



—  $\chi^2(n_{\text{dof}}=3)$  —  $\chi^2(n_{\text{dof}}=2)$   
 —  $\chi^2(n_{\text{dof}}=1)$

background = 100

signal = 90

$\varepsilon = 0.5$

$A = 0.7$

$\sigma_\varepsilon = \mathbf{0.05}$

$\sigma_b = 10$

$\sigma_A = \mathbf{0.2}$

6000 events

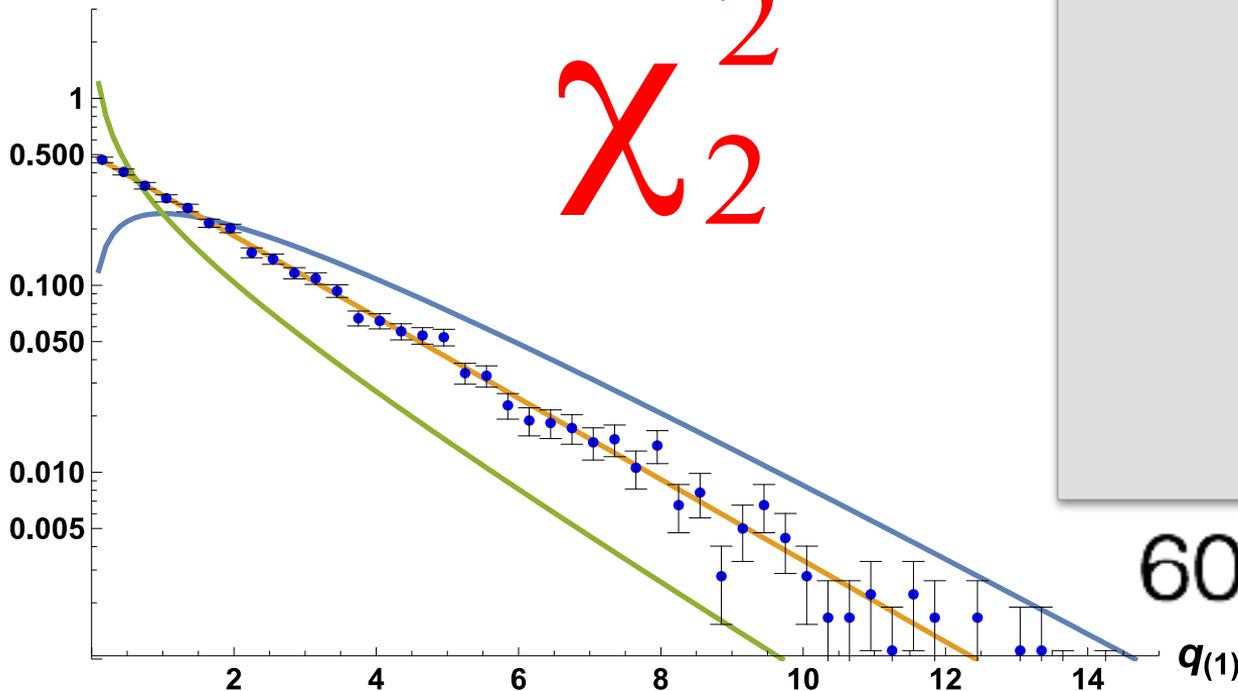


# A toy case with 2 poi

$$L(\mu, \varepsilon, A) = \frac{(\mu \varepsilon A s + b)^n}{n!} e^{-(\mu \varepsilon A s + b)} \frac{1}{\sigma_\varepsilon \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(\varepsilon_{meas} - \varepsilon)^2 / 2\sigma_\varepsilon^2} \frac{1}{\sigma_b \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(b_{meas} - b)^2 / 2\sigma_b^2} \frac{1}{\sigma_A \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(A_{meas} - A)^2 / 2\sigma_A^2}$$

two parameters of interest (profiling A and b)  
non-profiled parameters set to their real value

$f(q_{(1)} | \mu=1)$



—  $\chi^2(n_{\text{dof}}=3)$  —  $\chi^2(n_{\text{dof}}=2)$

—  $\chi^2(n_{\text{dof}}=1)$

background = 100

signal = 90

$\varepsilon = 0.5$

$A = 0.7$

**= 0.05**

**= 10**

**= 0.2**

6000 events



# A toy case with 1 poi

$$L(\mu, \varepsilon, A) = \frac{(\mu \varepsilon A s + b)^n}{n!} e^{-(\mu \varepsilon A s + b)} \frac{1}{\sigma_\varepsilon \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(\varepsilon_{meas} - \varepsilon)^2 / 2\sigma_\varepsilon^2} \frac{1}{\sigma_b \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(b_{meas} - b)^2 / 2\sigma_b^2} \frac{1}{\sigma_A \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(A_{meas} - A)^2 / 2\sigma_A^2}$$

one parameter of interest (profiling  $\varepsilon$ ,  $A$  and  $b$ )  
 non-profiled parameters set to their real value

background = 100

signal = 90

$\varepsilon = 0.5$

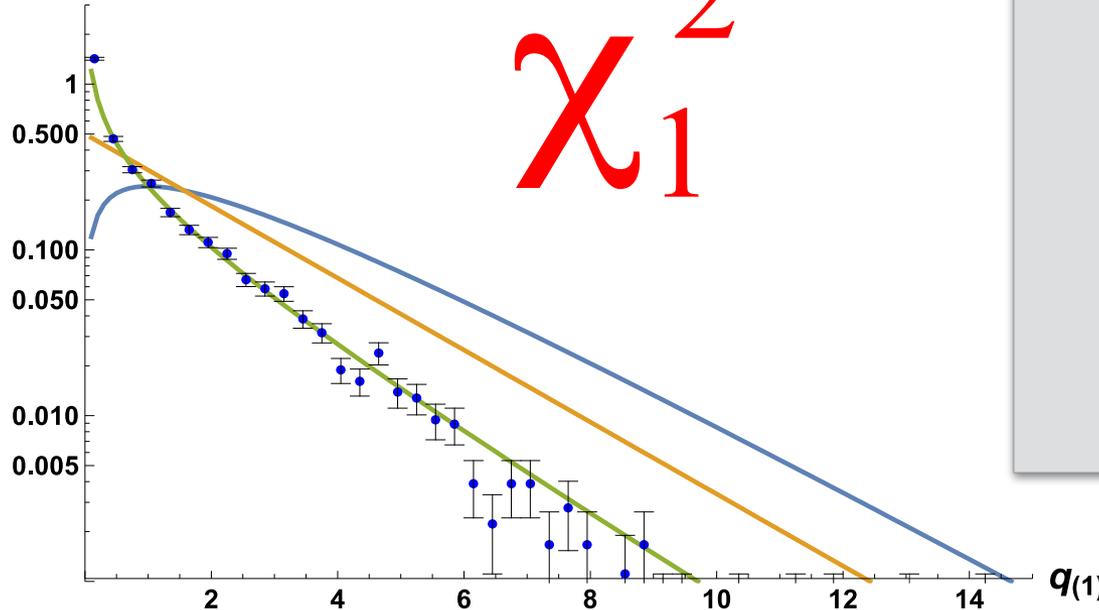
$A = 0.7$

$\sigma_\varepsilon = \mathbf{0.05}$

$\sigma_b = 10$

$\sigma_A = \mathbf{0.2}$

$f(q_{(1)} | \mu=1)$



—  $\chi^2(n_{\text{dof}}=3)$  —  $\chi^2(n_{\text{dof}}=2)$

—  $\chi^2(n_{\text{dof}}=1)$

6000 events



# Pulls and Ranking of NPs

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

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

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

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

# Random Data Set

$$n_{\text{meas}} = 132$$

$$b_{\text{meas}} = 103.208$$

$$\epsilon_{\text{meas}} = 0.465459$$

$$A_{\text{meas}} = 0.487107$$

$$\mu_{\text{meas}} = 1.41099$$

reminder:

$$b_0 = 100$$

$$\epsilon_0 = 0.5$$

$$A_0 = 0.7$$

$$\mu_0 = 1$$

$$n_0 = 131.5$$

$$\text{signal} = 90$$

$$\sigma_{\epsilon} = 0.05$$

$$\sigma_b = 10$$

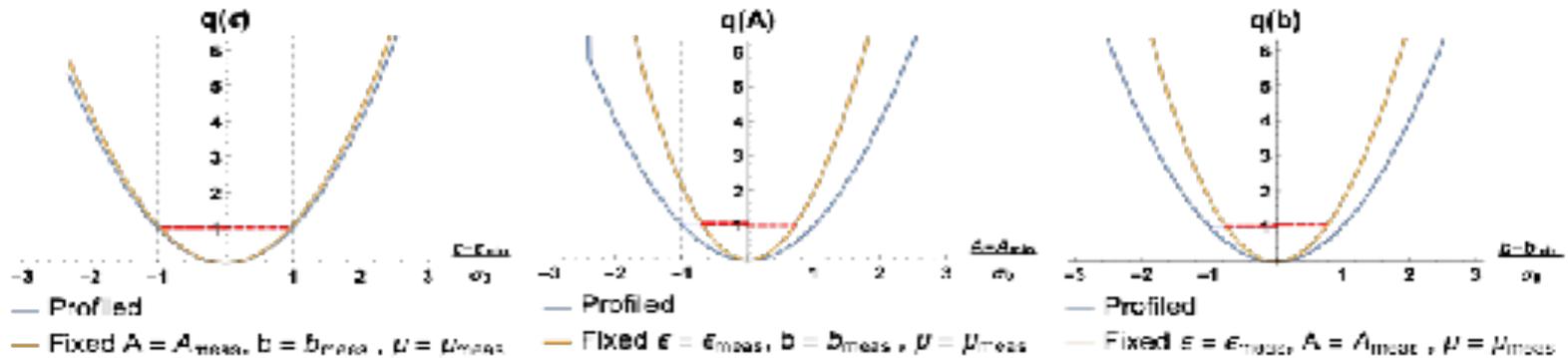
$$\sigma_A = 0.2$$

To get the pulls:

–scan  $q(\epsilon)$

–Find  $\hat{\epsilon}$

–Find  $\sigma_{\epsilon}^+$  and  $\sigma_{\epsilon}^-$  i.e. the positive and negative error bar substituting  $q(\epsilon) = 1$



With the random data sets we find perfect pulls for the profiled scans  
But not for the fix scans!

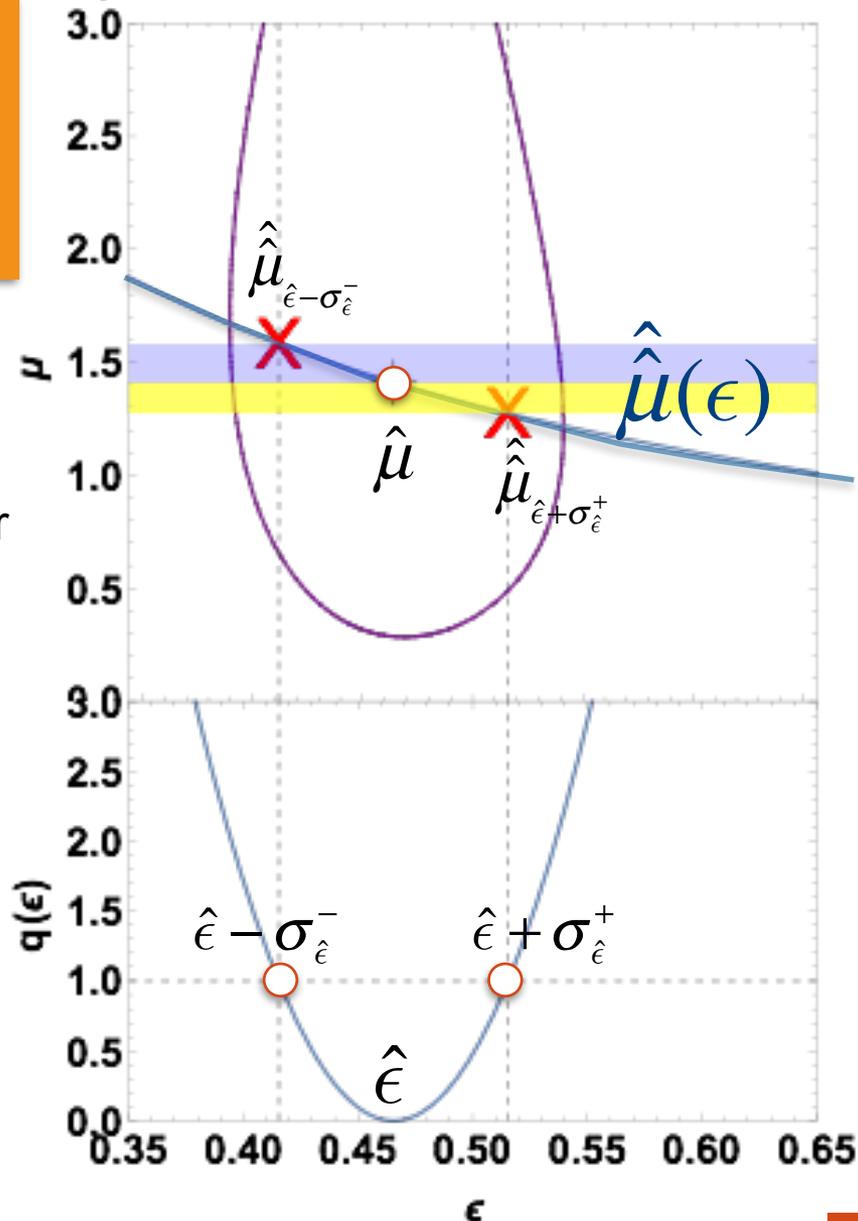


# Random Data Set: Find the Impact of NP

$n_{\text{meas}} = 132$   
 $b_{\text{meas}} = 103.208$   
 $\epsilon_{\text{meas}} = 0.465459$   
 $A_{\text{meas}} = 0.487107$   
 $\mu_{\text{meas}} = 1.41099$

reminder:  
 $b_0 = 100$   
 $\epsilon_0 = 0.5$   
 $A_0 = 0.7$   
 $\mu_0 = 1$   
 $n_0 = 131.5$   
 signal = 90

$\sigma_\epsilon = 0.05$   
 $\sigma_b = 10$   
 $\sigma_A = 0.2$



To get the impact of a Nuisance Parameter in order to rank them:

- Say we want the impact of  $\epsilon$
- Scan  $q(\epsilon)$ , profiling all other NPs
  - Find  $\hat{\epsilon}$
  - (note that  $\hat{\mu}_{\hat{\epsilon}} = \hat{\mu}$ )
  - Find  $\hat{\mu}_{\hat{\epsilon} \pm \sigma_{\hat{\epsilon}}^\pm} = \hat{\mu}_{\hat{\epsilon} \pm \sigma_{\hat{\epsilon}}^\pm}$
  - The impact is given by  $\Delta\mu^\pm = \hat{\mu}_{\hat{\epsilon} \pm \sigma_{\hat{\epsilon}}^\pm} - \hat{\mu}$



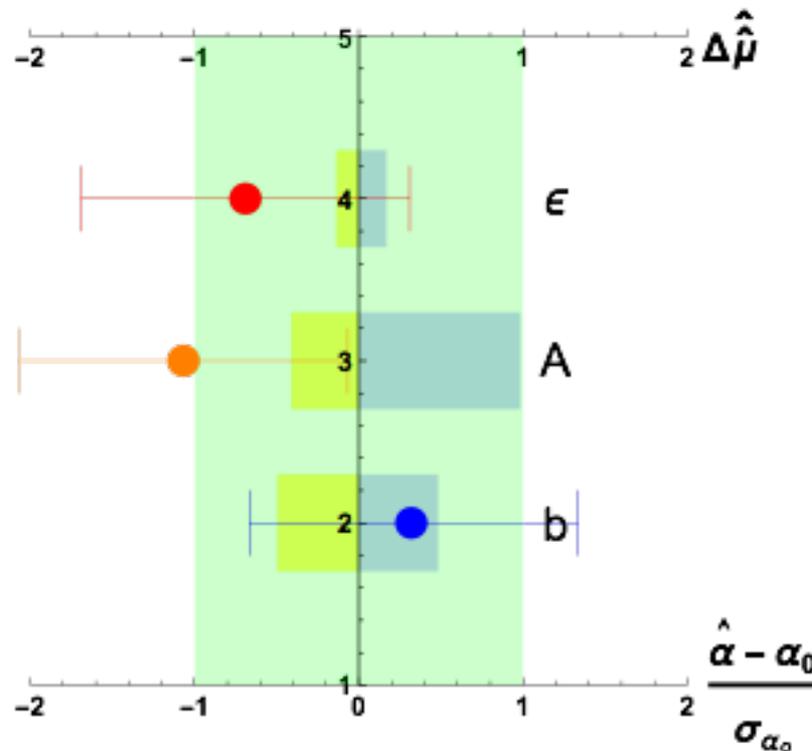
# Random Data Set: SUMMARY of Pulls and Impact

$n_{\text{meas}} = 132$   
 $b_{\text{meas}} = 103.208$   
 $\epsilon_{\text{meas}} = 0.465459$   
 $A_{\text{meas}} = 0.487107$   
 $\mu_{\text{meas}} = 1.41099$

reminder:

$b_0 = 100$   
 $\epsilon_0 = 0.5$   
 $A_0 = 0.7$   
 $\mu_0 = 1$   
 $n_0 = 131.5$   
 signal = 90

$\sigma_{\epsilon} = 0.05$   
 $\sigma_b = 10$   
 $\sigma_A = 0.2$



negative correlation  
  positive correlation



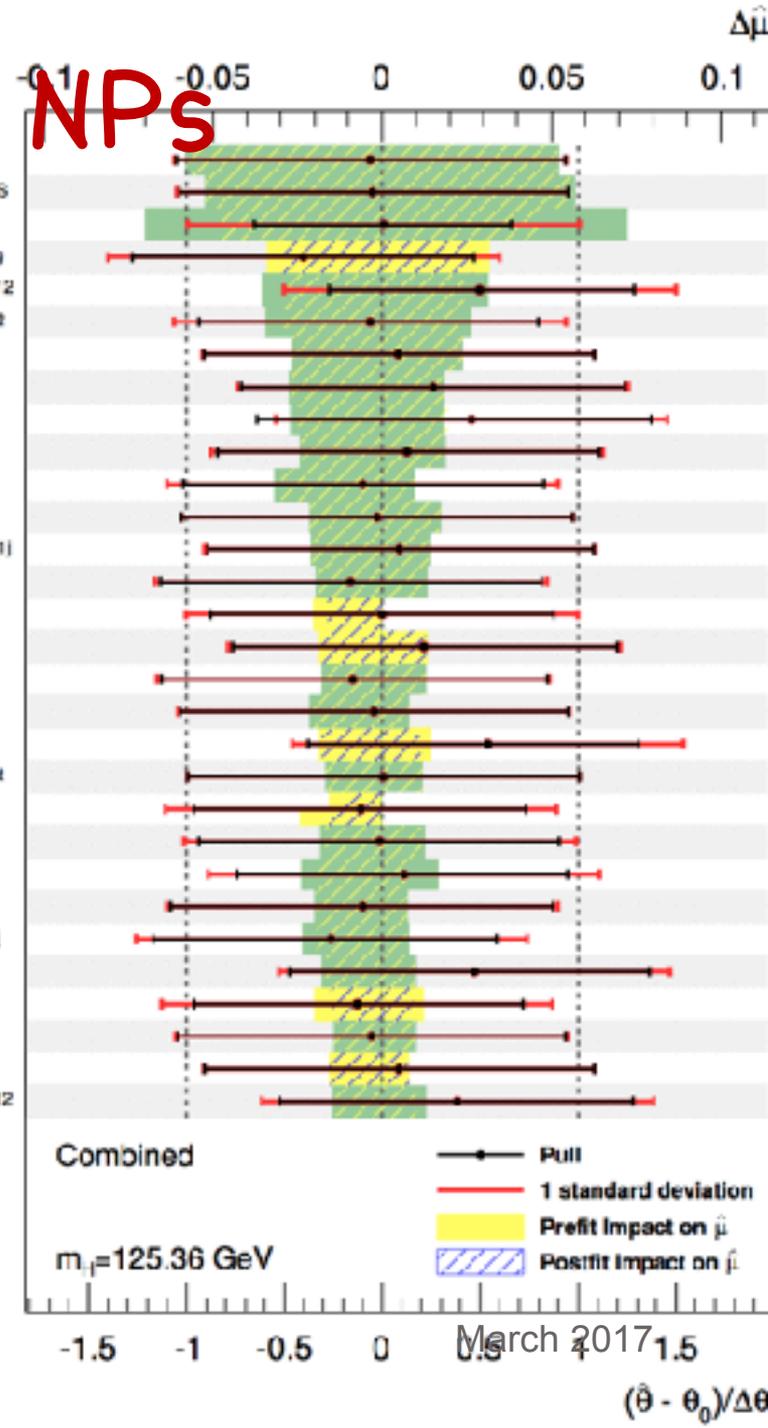
# Pulls and Ranking of NPs

Ranking  $\theta_i$  by its effect in the NP

$$\Delta\mu^\pm = \hat{\mu}_{\hat{\epsilon} \pm \sigma_\epsilon^\pm} - \hat{\mu}$$

By ranking we can tell which NPs are the important ones and which can be pruned

- gg<sup>+</sup> Higgs PDF X8
- gg<sup>+</sup> Higgs QCD scale X8
- WW gen. modeling
- Top quark gen. modeling
- Mt. misid CG uncor. 2012
- El. misid OC uncor. 2012
- Lumi 2012
- VBF Higgs UE/PS
- JES eta modeling
- Muon iso.
- gg<sup>+</sup> QCD scale e1
- gg<sup>+</sup> Higgs PDF accept.
- VV QCD Scale accept 01)
- Top gen. model 2j
- gg<sup>+</sup> Higgs UE/PS
- Light jet mistag
- Electron lep.
- QCDscale\_ggH\_m12
- Multijet misid corr.
- gg<sup>+</sup> H QCD scale accept
- gg<sup>+</sup> H scale 0-1)
- El. Eff. Hight 2012
- Zll ABCD MET eff. 2)
- VV QCD scale 2)
- Wg QCD scale accept 2)
- Mt. misid Flav. 2011
- JER
- Bkg. qq PDF accept
- gg<sup>+</sup> H gen. accept
- El. misid 15-20 stat. 2012



If time permits:  
The Feldman Cousins Unified Method

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# The Flip Flop Way of an Experiment

- The most intuitive way to analyze the results of an experiment would be

If the significance based on  $q_{\text{obs}}$ , is less than 3 sigma, derive an upper limit (just looking at tables), if the result is  $>5$  sigma derive a discovery central confidence interval for the measured parameter (cross section, mass....)

- This Flip Flopping policy leads to undercoverage:  
*Is that really a problem for Physicists?*  
Some physicists say, for each experiment quote always two results, an upper limit, and a (central?) discovery confidence interval
- Many LHC analyses report both ways.

# Frequentist Paradise – F&C Unified with Full Coverage

- Frequentist Paradise is certainly made up of an interpretation by constructing a confidence interval in brute force ensuring a coverage!
- This is the Neyman confidence interval adopted by F&C....

• The motivation:

- Ensures Coverage
- Avoid Flip-Flopping – an ordering rule determines the nature of the interval (1-sided or 2-sided depending on your observed data)
- Ensures Physical Intervals

• Let the test statistics be

$$q = \begin{cases} -2 \ln \frac{L(s+b)}{L(\hat{s}+b)} & \hat{s} \geq 0 \\ -2 \ln \frac{L(s+b)}{L(b)} & \hat{s} < 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $\hat{s}$  is the

physically allowed mean  $s$  that maximizes  $L(\hat{s}+b)$

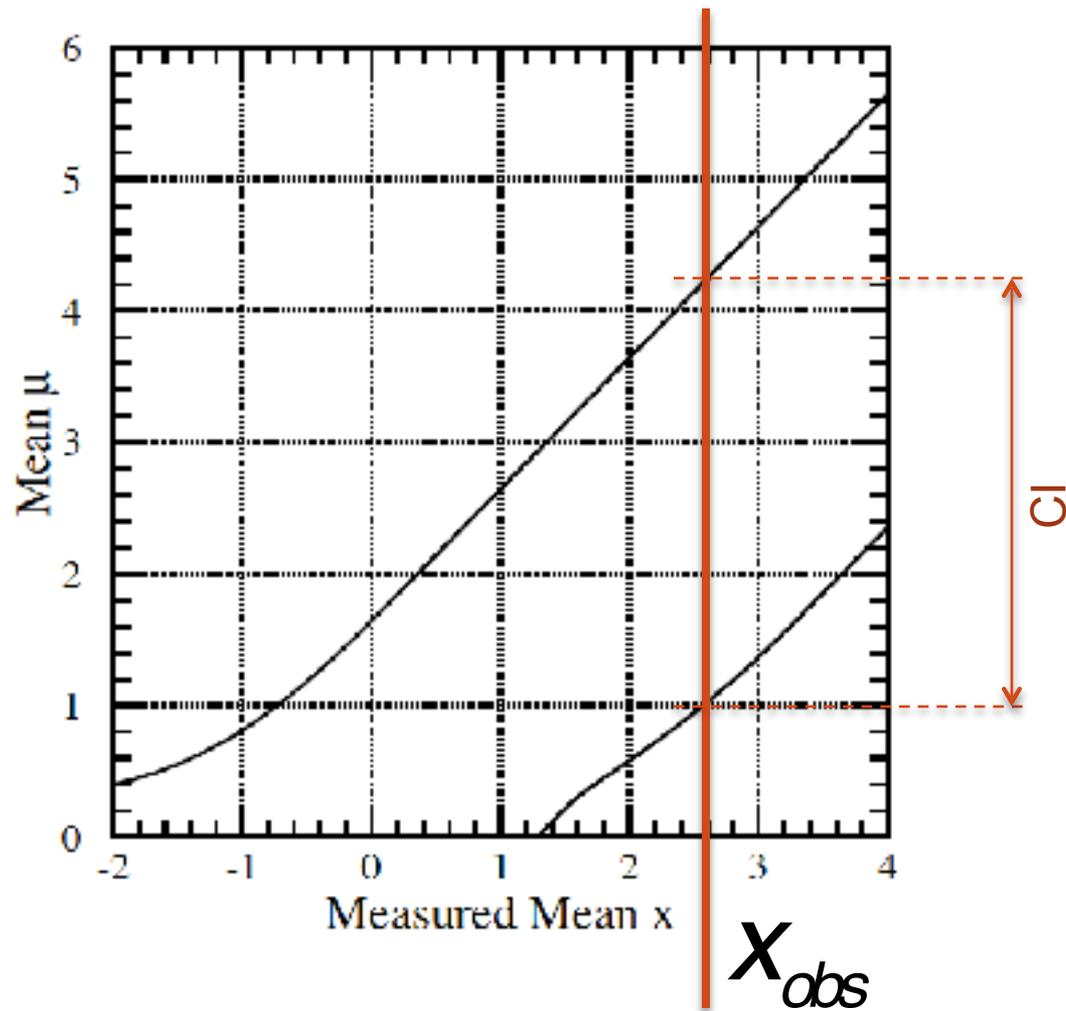
(protect a downward fluctuation of the background,  $n_{\text{obs}} > b$  ;  $\hat{s} > 0$  )

- Order by taking the 68% highest  $q$ 's



# How to tell an Upper limit from a Measurement without Flip Flopping

- A measurement (2 sided)



## How to tell an Upper limit from a Measurement without Flip Flopping

- An upper limit (1 sided)

