



UNIVERSITÄT  
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IRN - Terascale, Frascati  
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# Kicking it Off(-shell) with Direct Diffusion

Anja Butter, Tomas Jezo, Michael Klasen, Mathias Kuschick, Sofia Palacios Schweitzer,  
Tilman Plehn  
arXiv: 2311.17175

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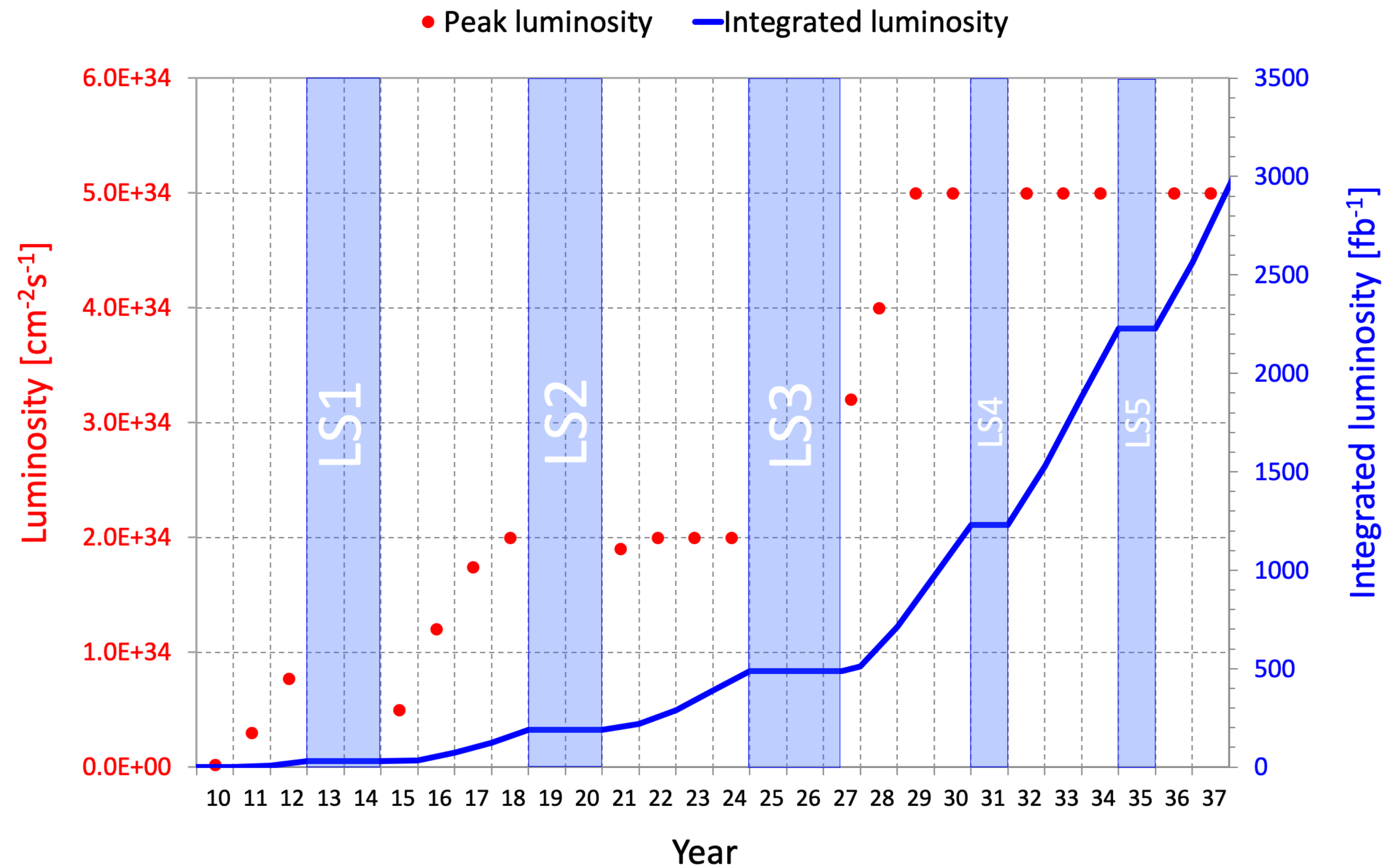


Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research

# Why ML?

After high luminosity runs  $\rightarrow$   $\sim 20$  times as much data

Theoretical predictions needs to be even **more precise**



# Kicking it Off

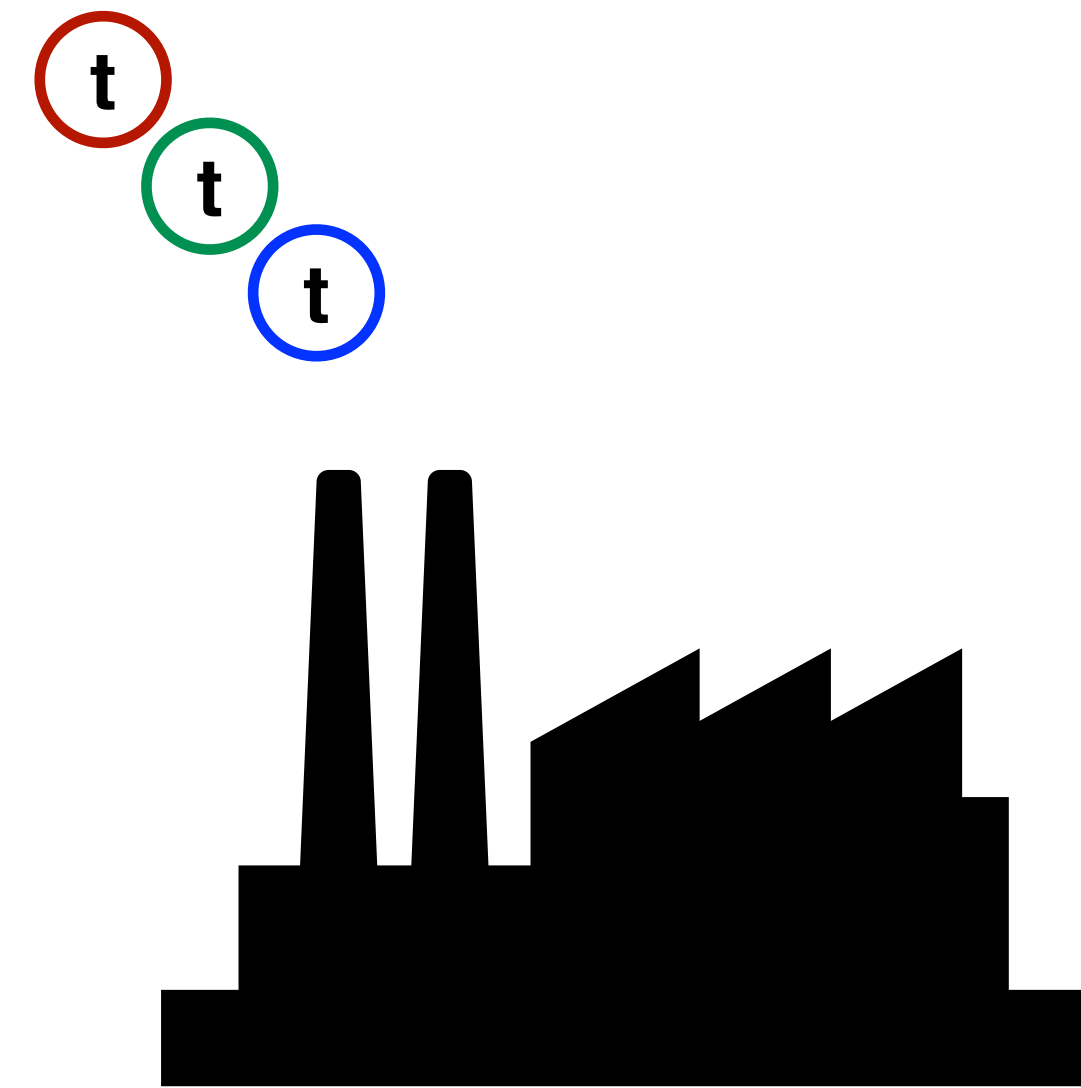
LHC = “Top quark factory”

Many ongoing physics analyses studying top quarks

One of the most dominant background

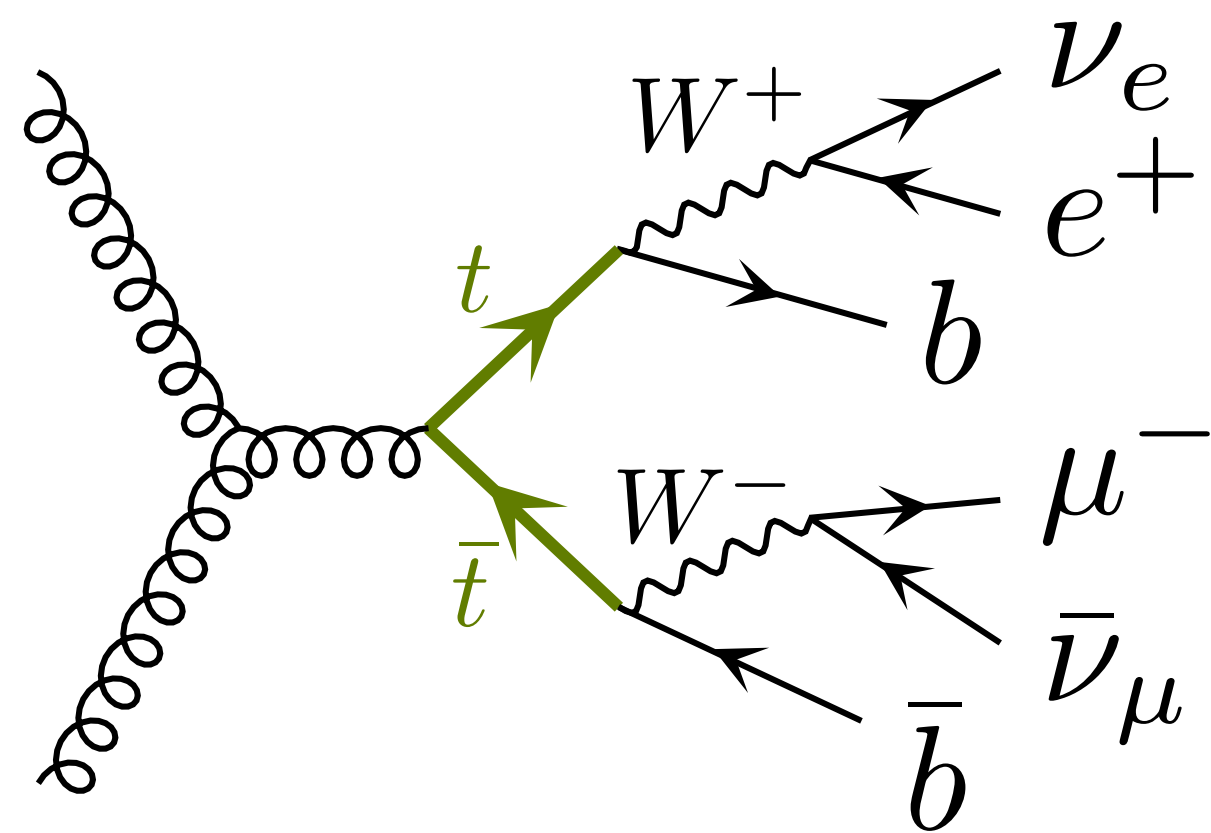


Correct simulation is very important



# Example — Leptonic $t\bar{t}$ decay

Leptonic  $t\bar{t}$ -decay

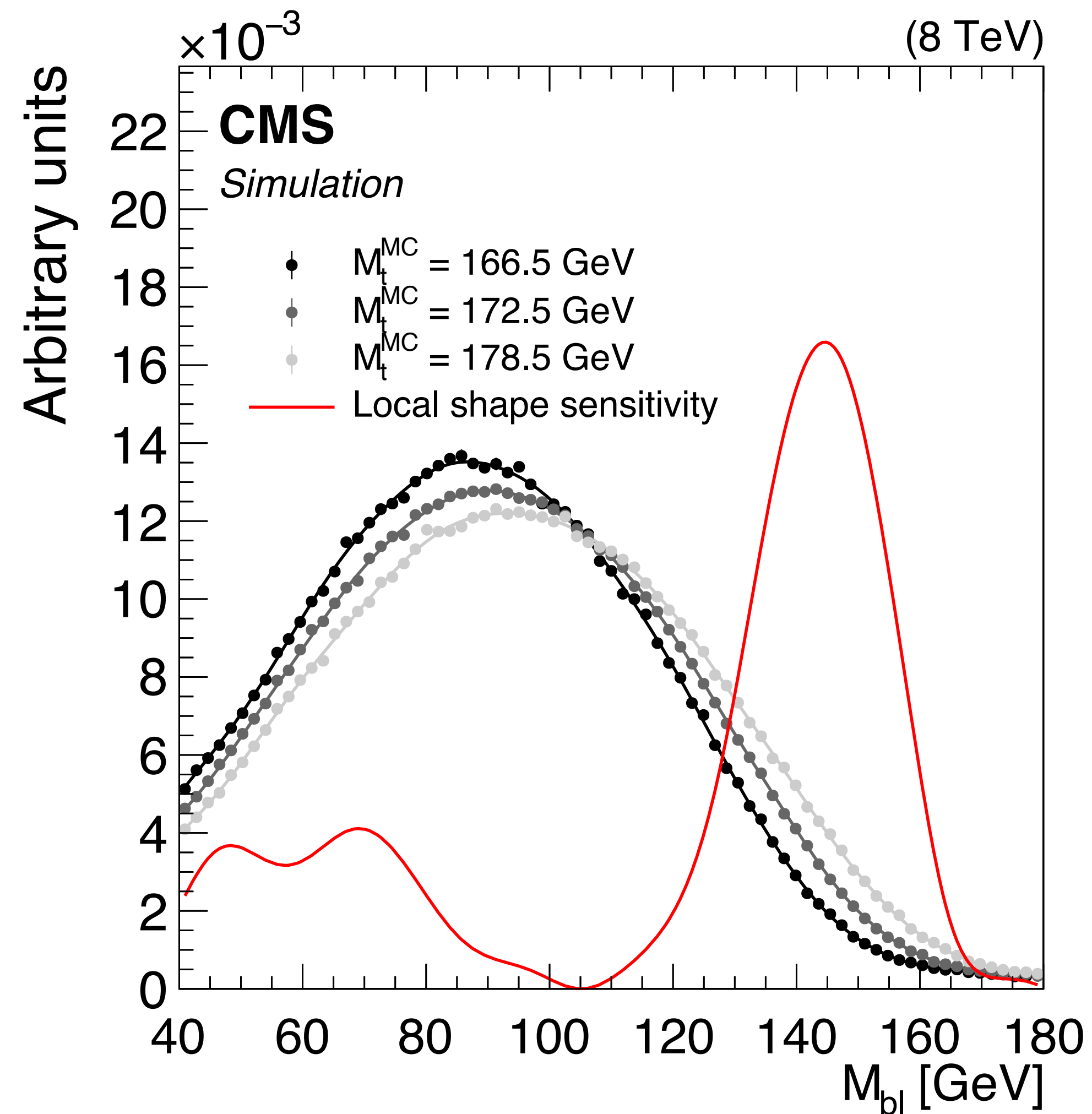


*Example:* Determine top mass from leptonic  $t\bar{t}$  decay

No access to neutrino information

→ Use  $m_{l\bar{b}}$  to infer top mass

# Example — Leptonic $t\bar{t}$ decay



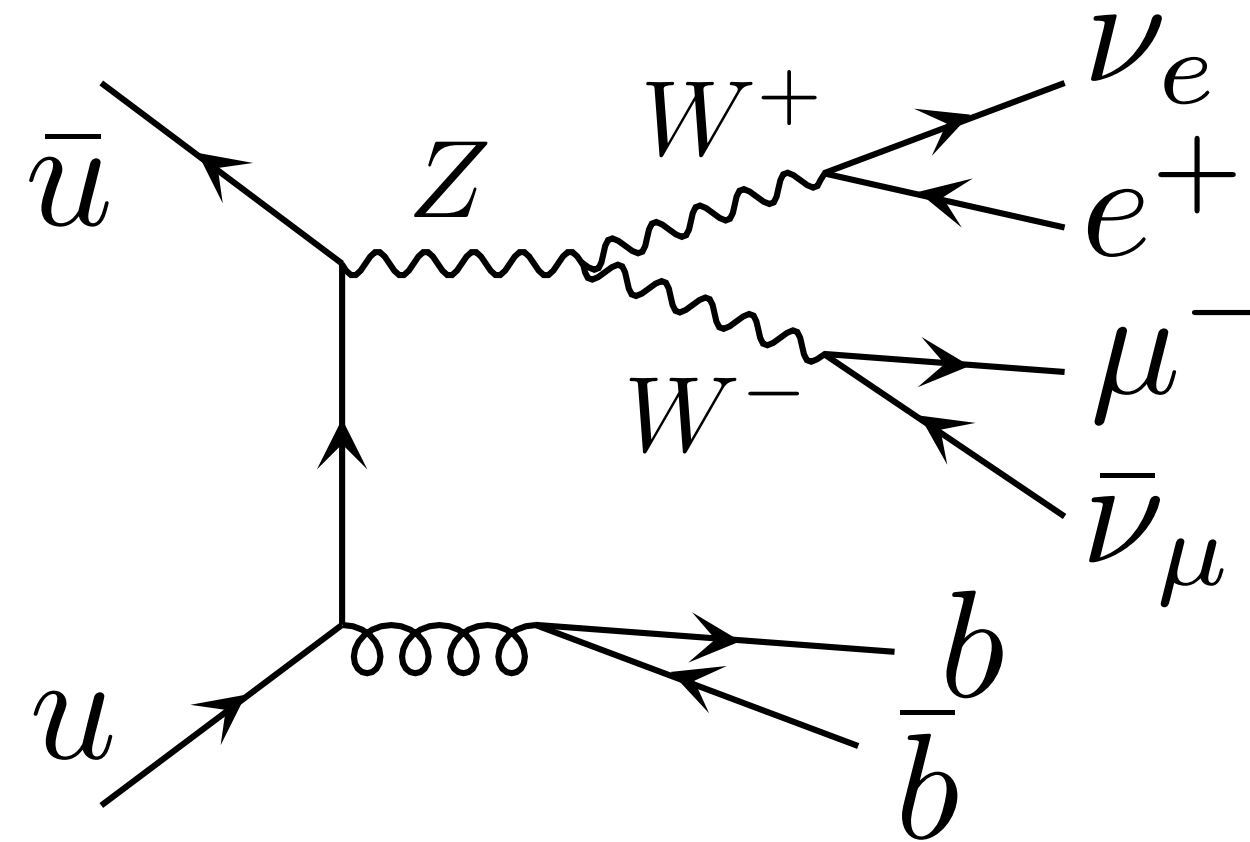
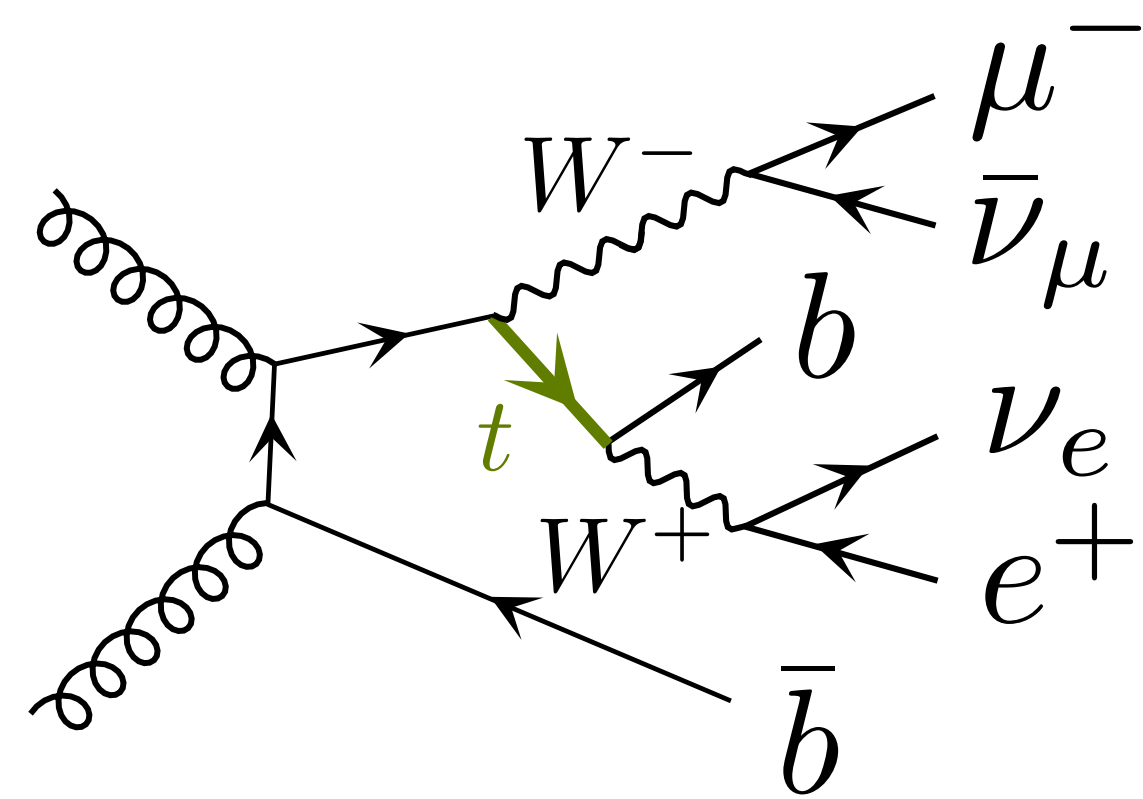
*Example:* Determine top mass from leptonic  $t\bar{t}$  decay

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# Off-Shell processes

Off-Shell processes

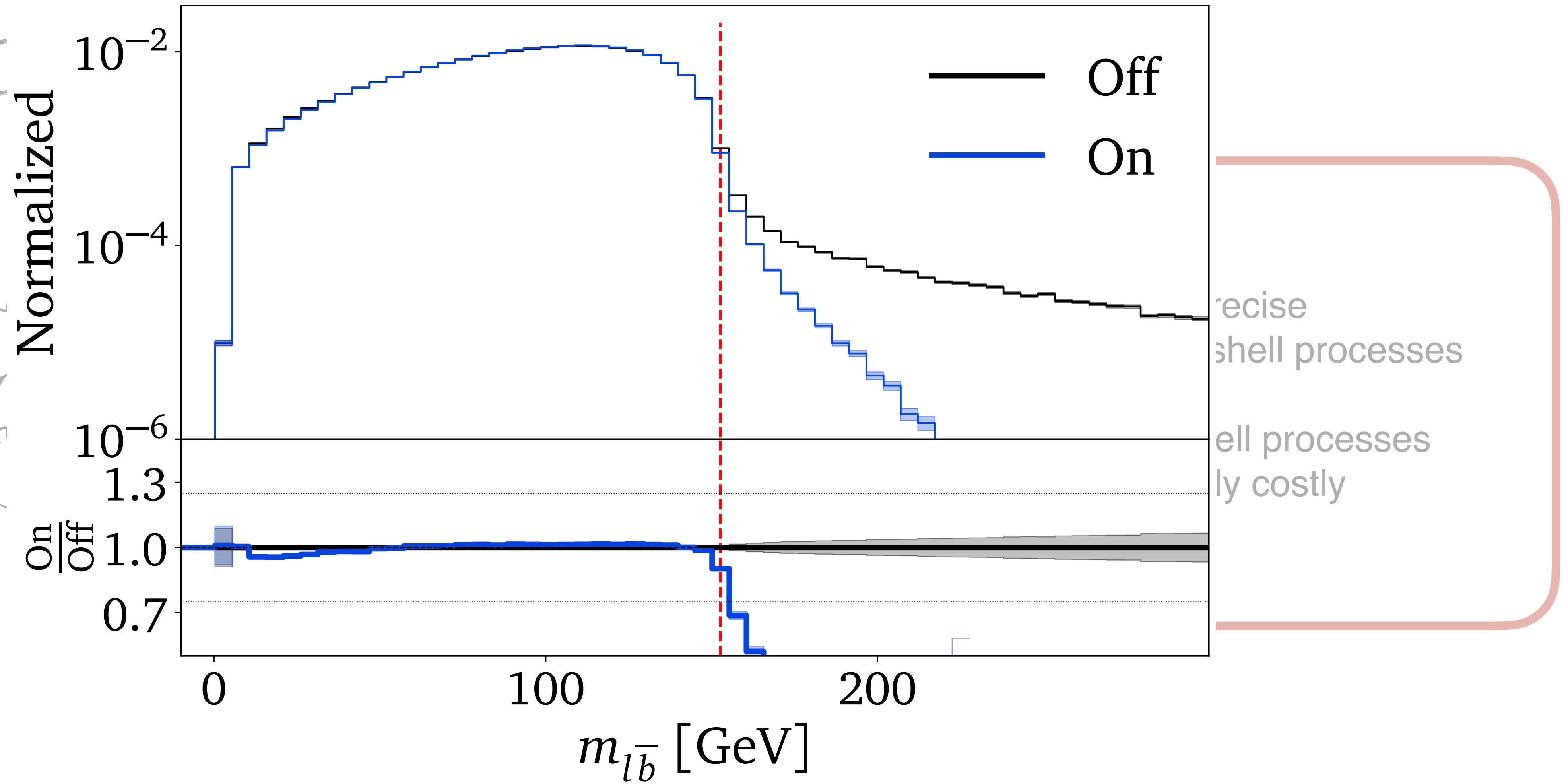
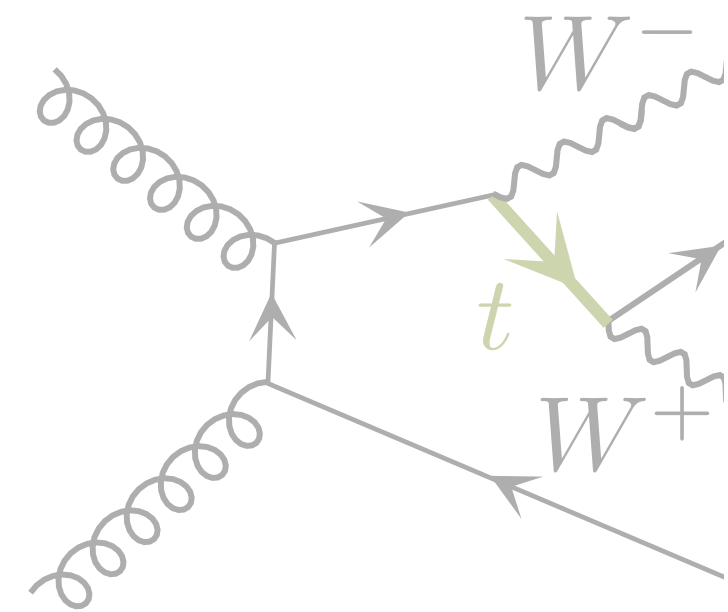


To be precise  
→ account for off shell processes

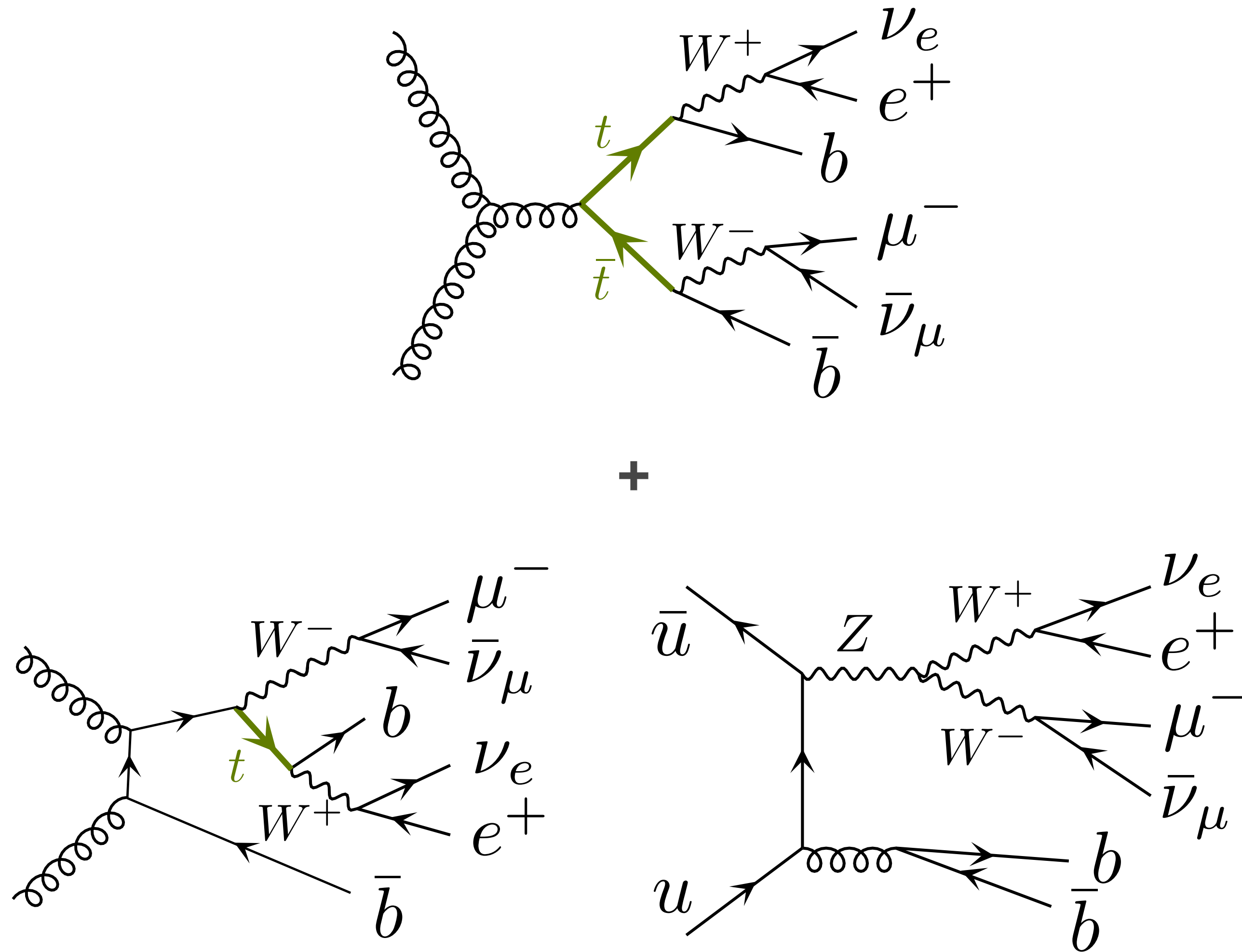
Including off-shell processes  
→ extremely costly

# Off-Shell processes

Off-Shell processes



# Off-Shell processes

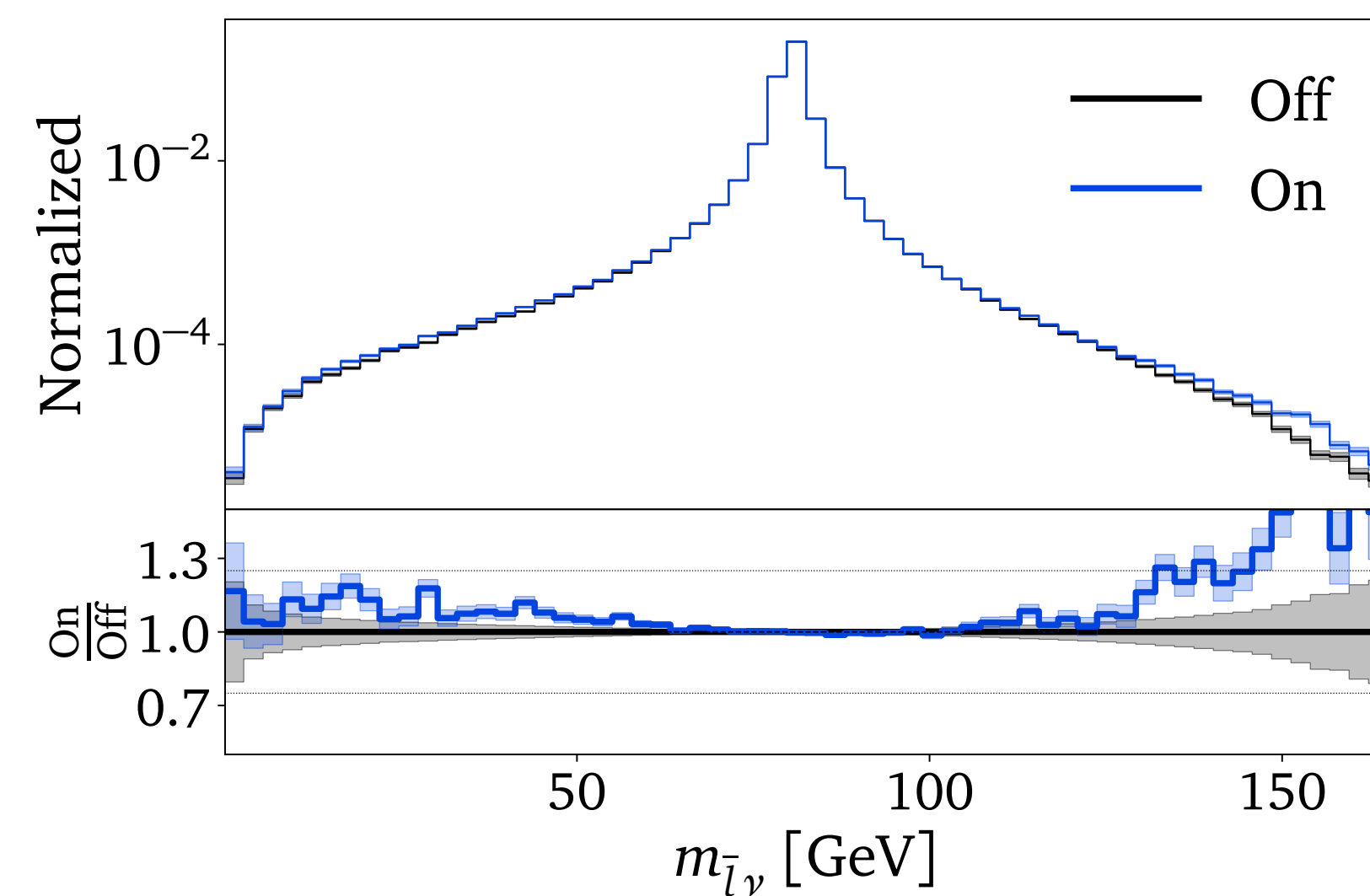
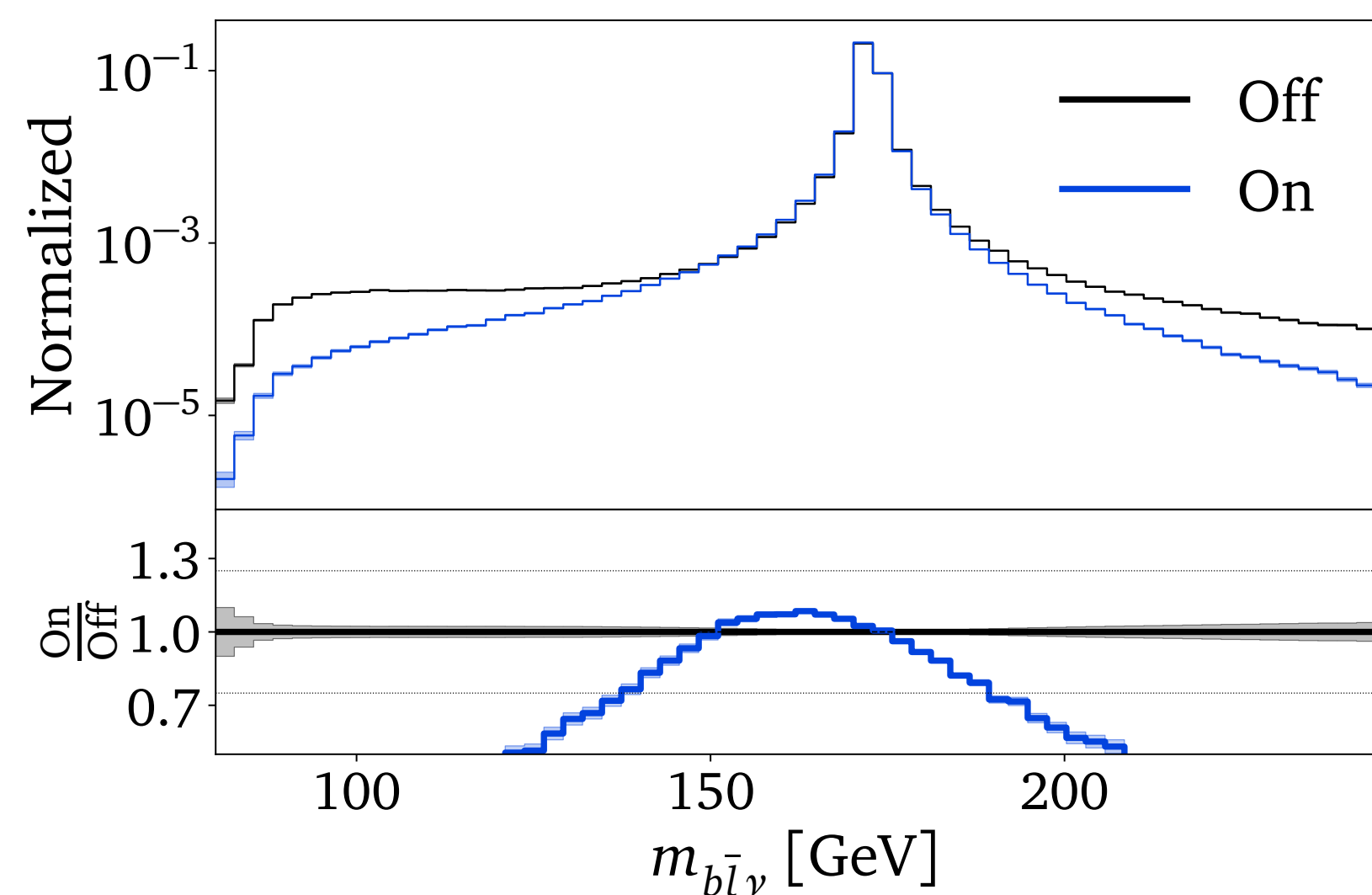
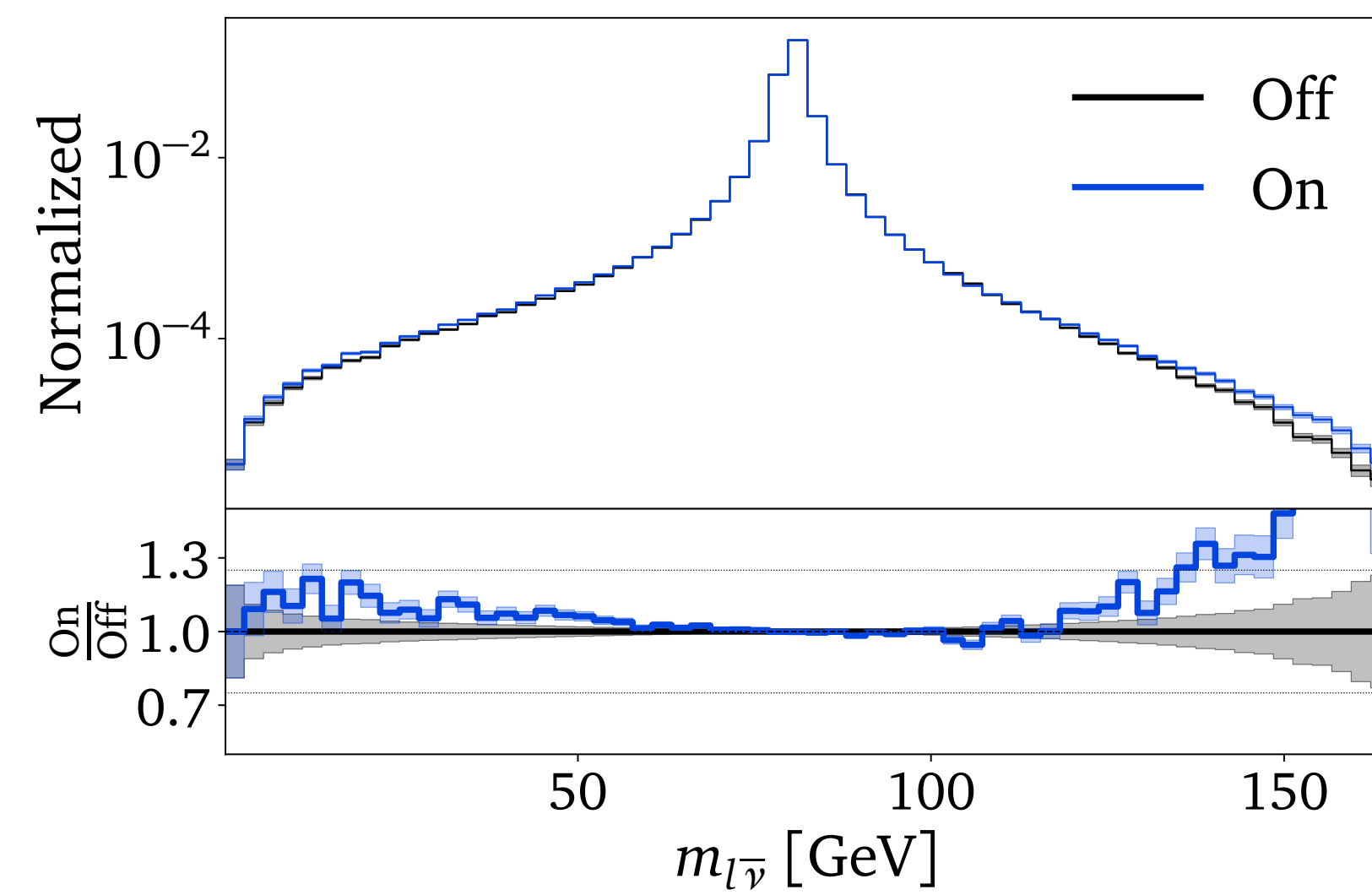
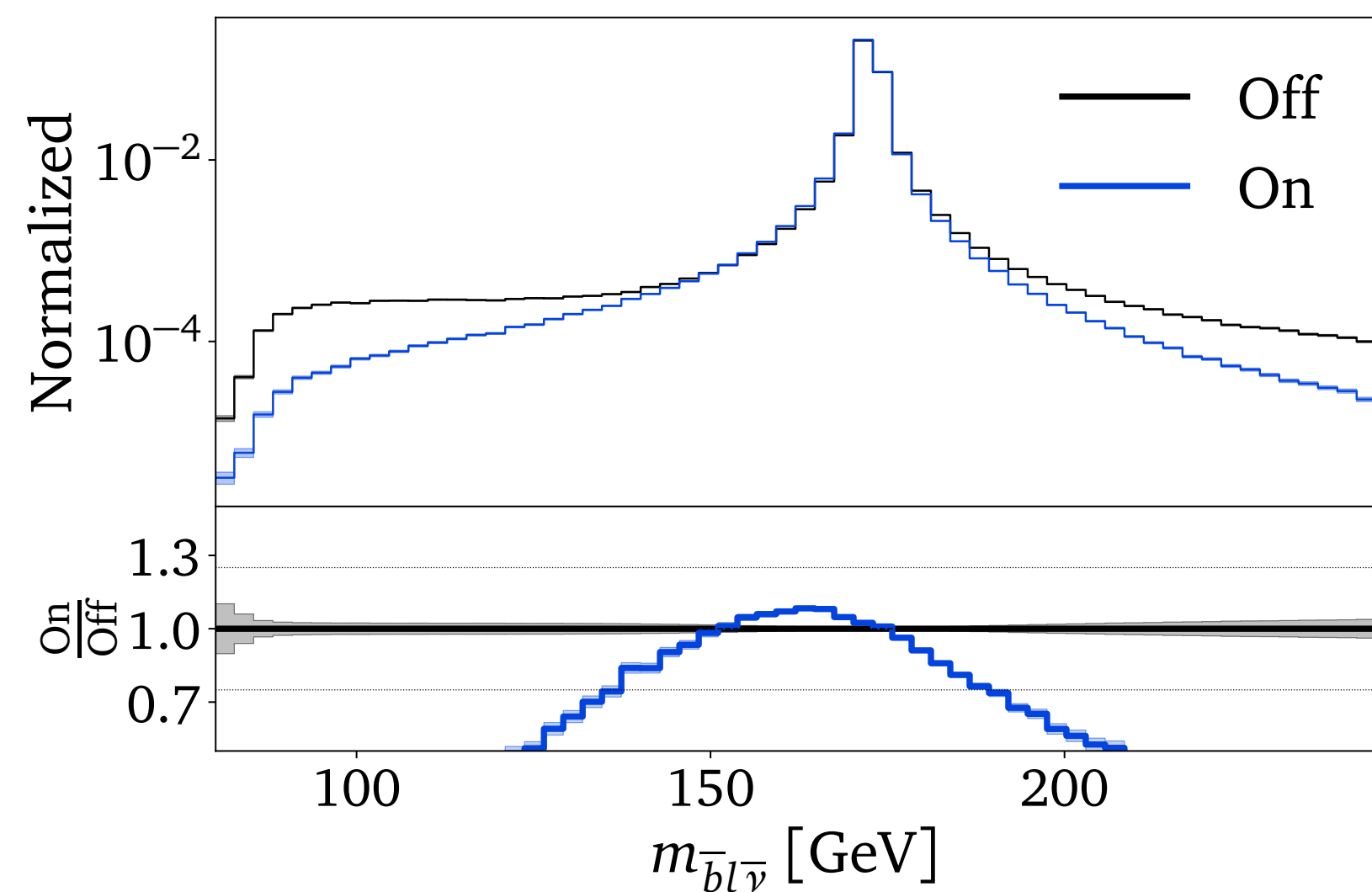


Need: Fast event generator

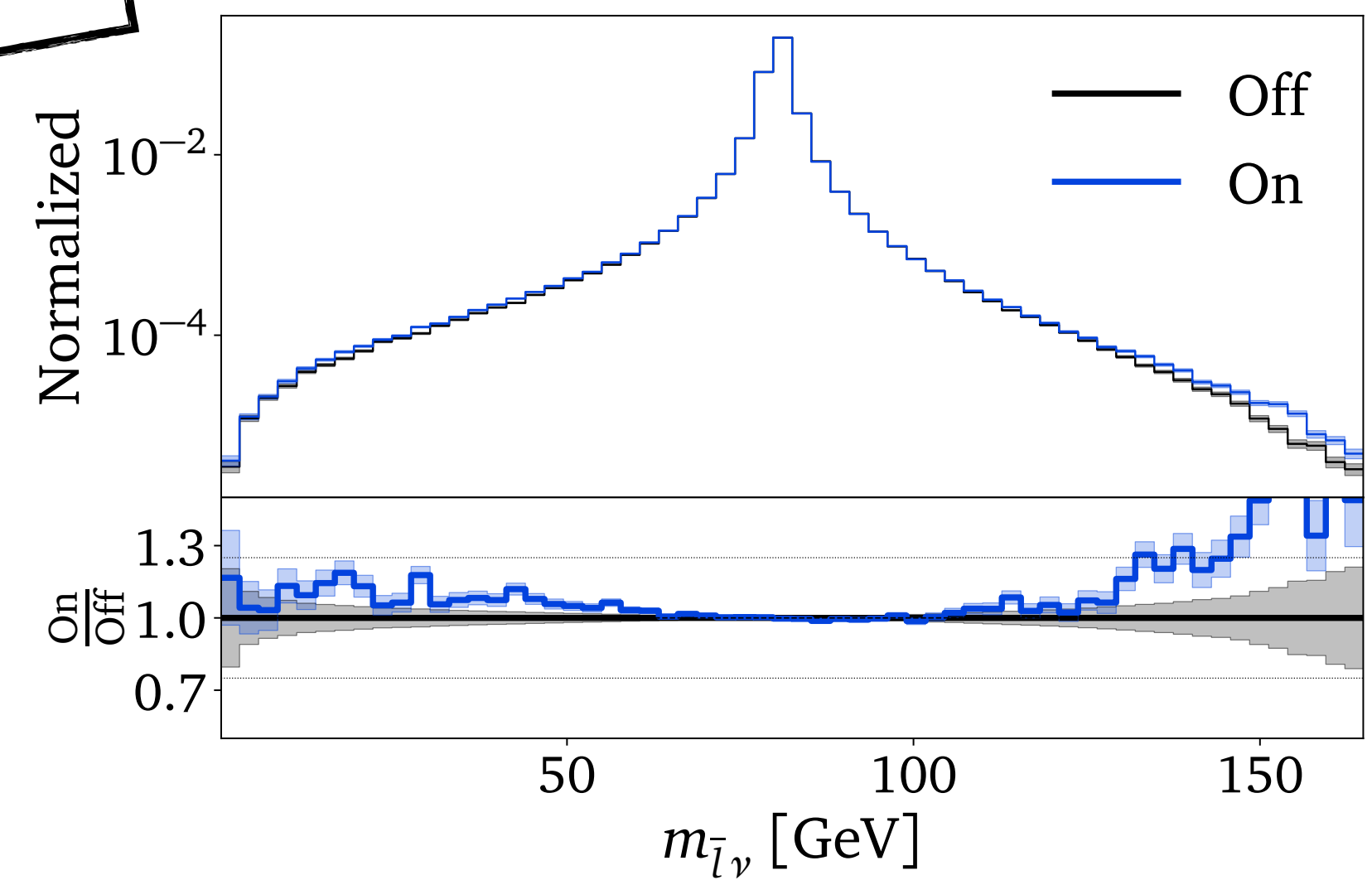
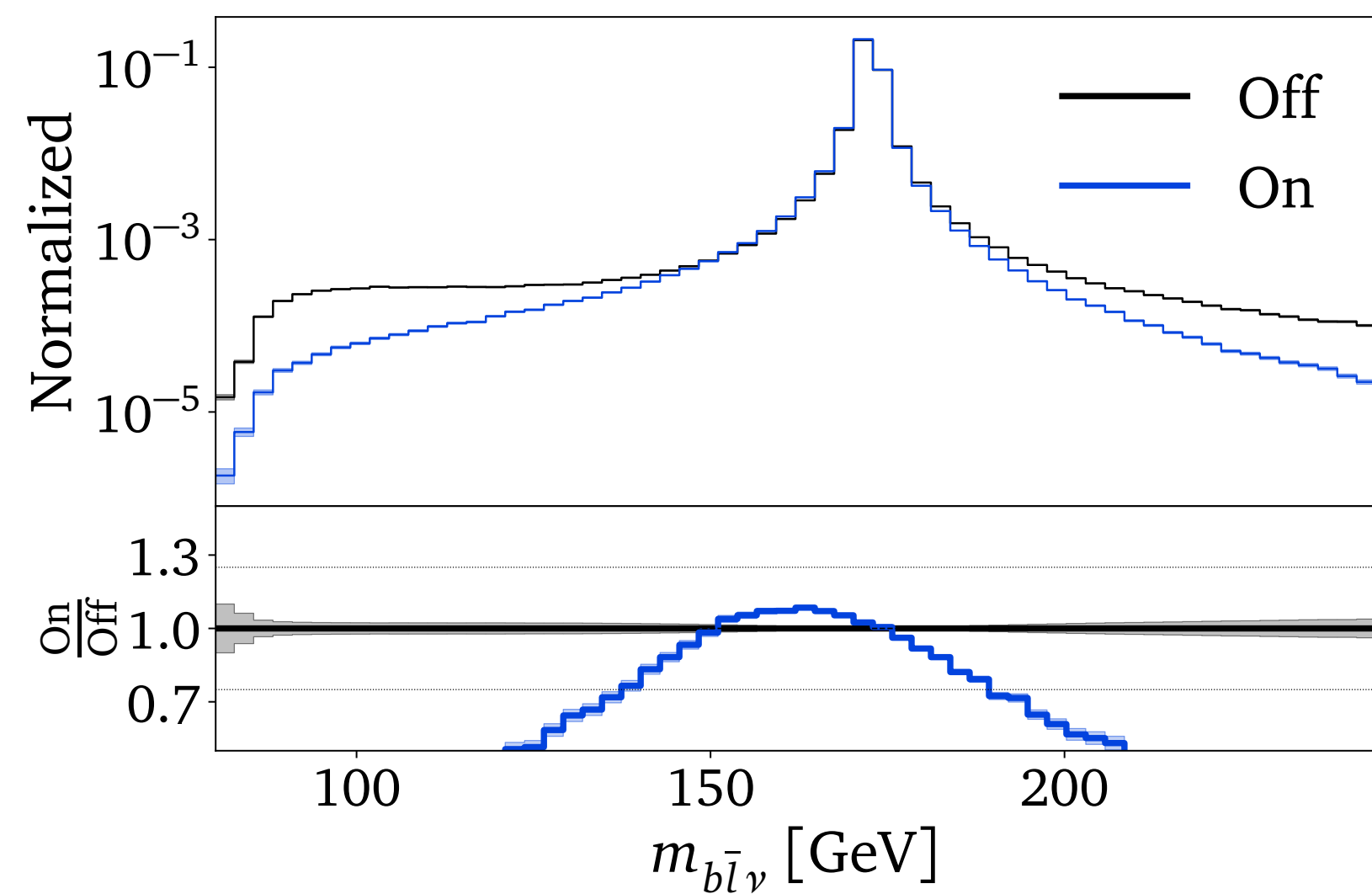
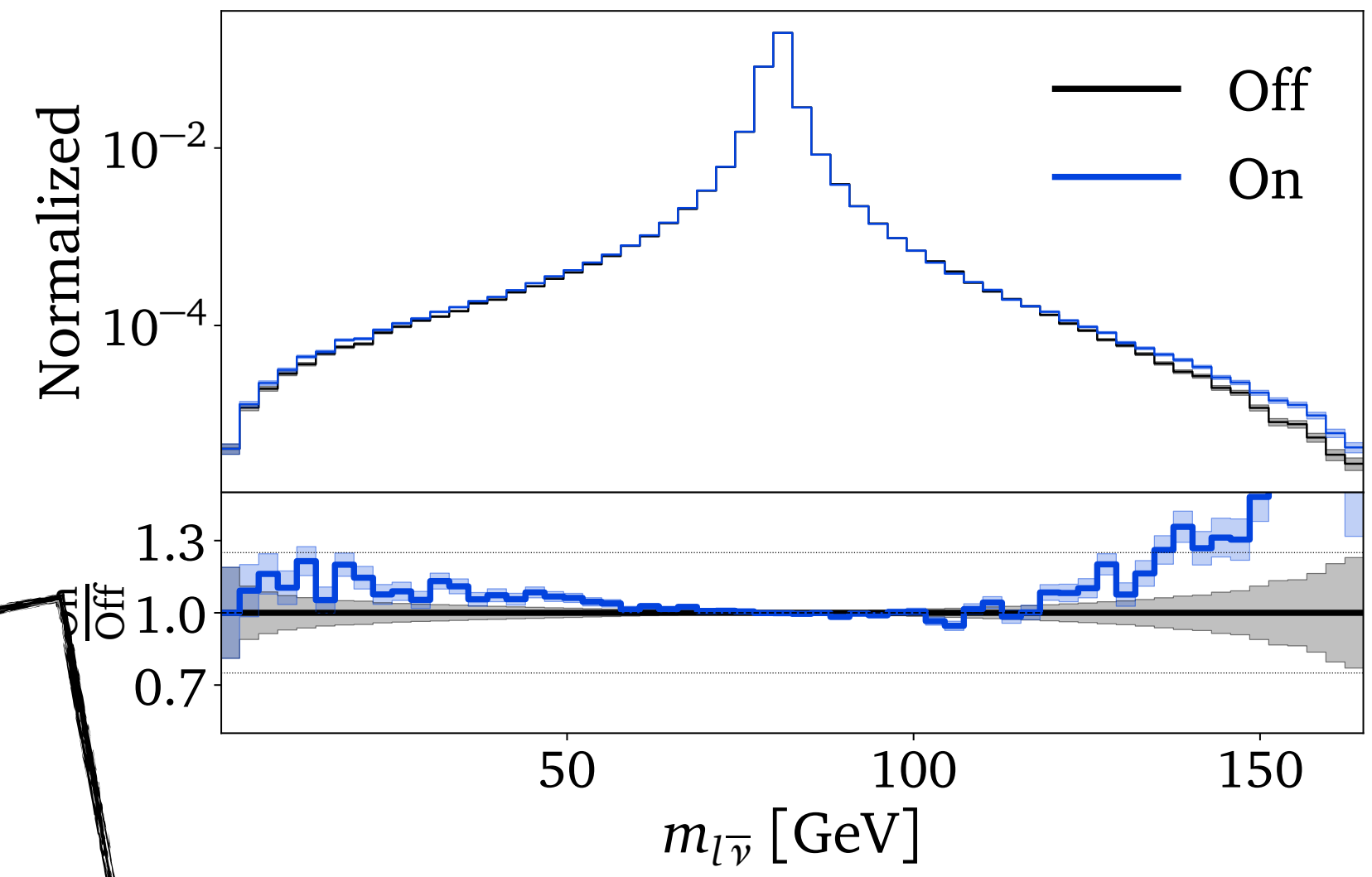
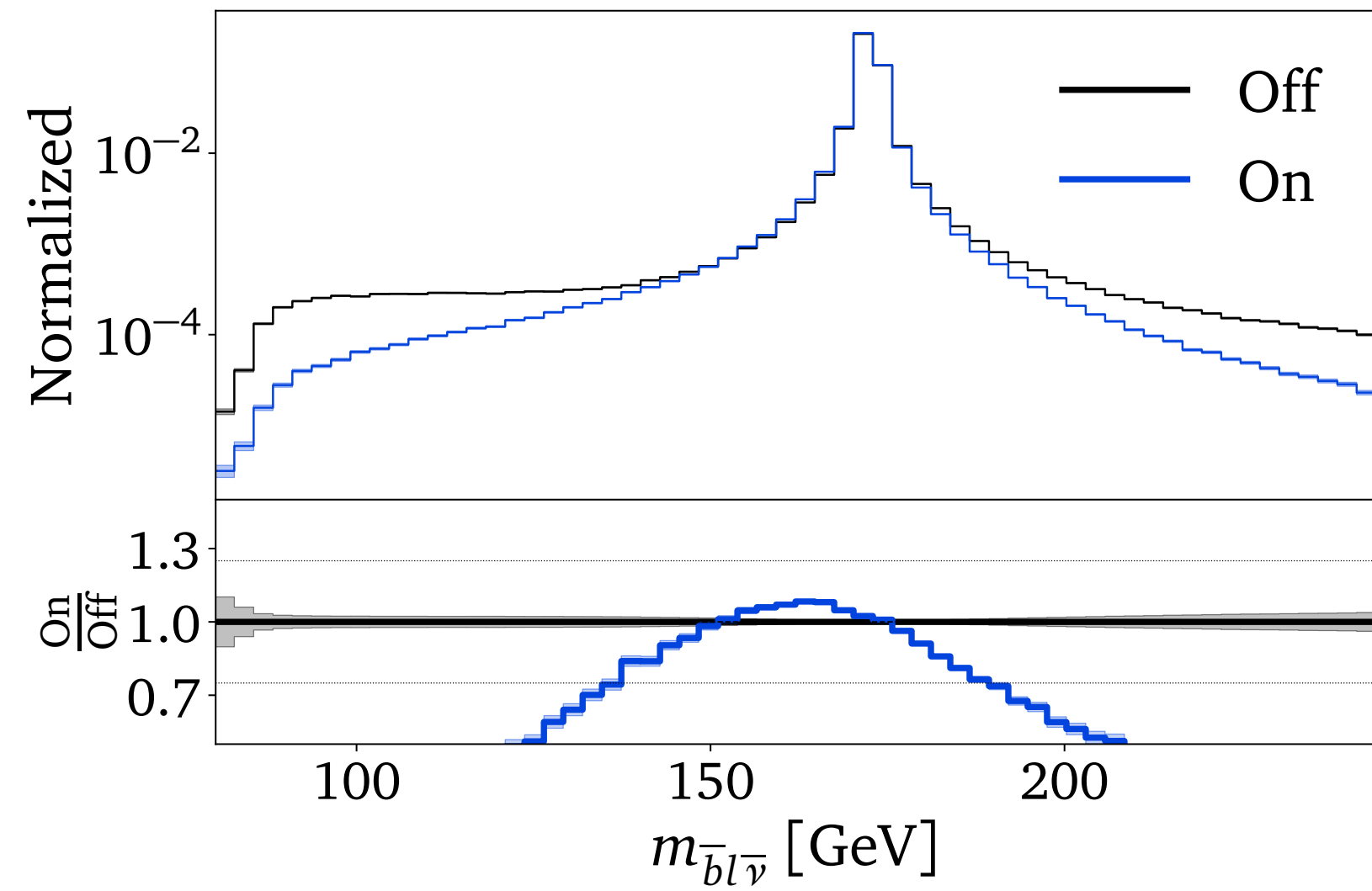
Problem: Multiresonant phase space in 24 dimensions



# What's the problem?

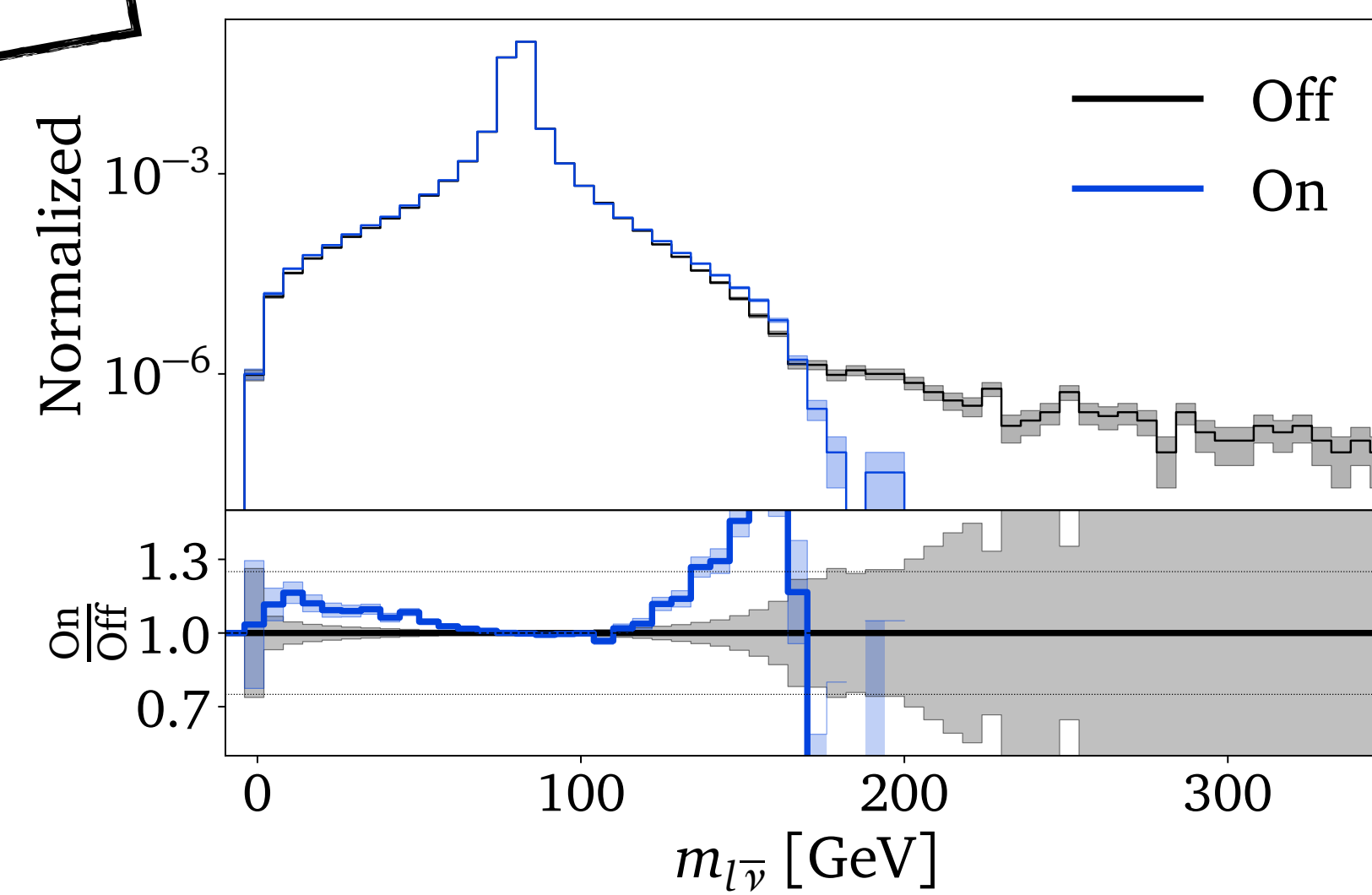
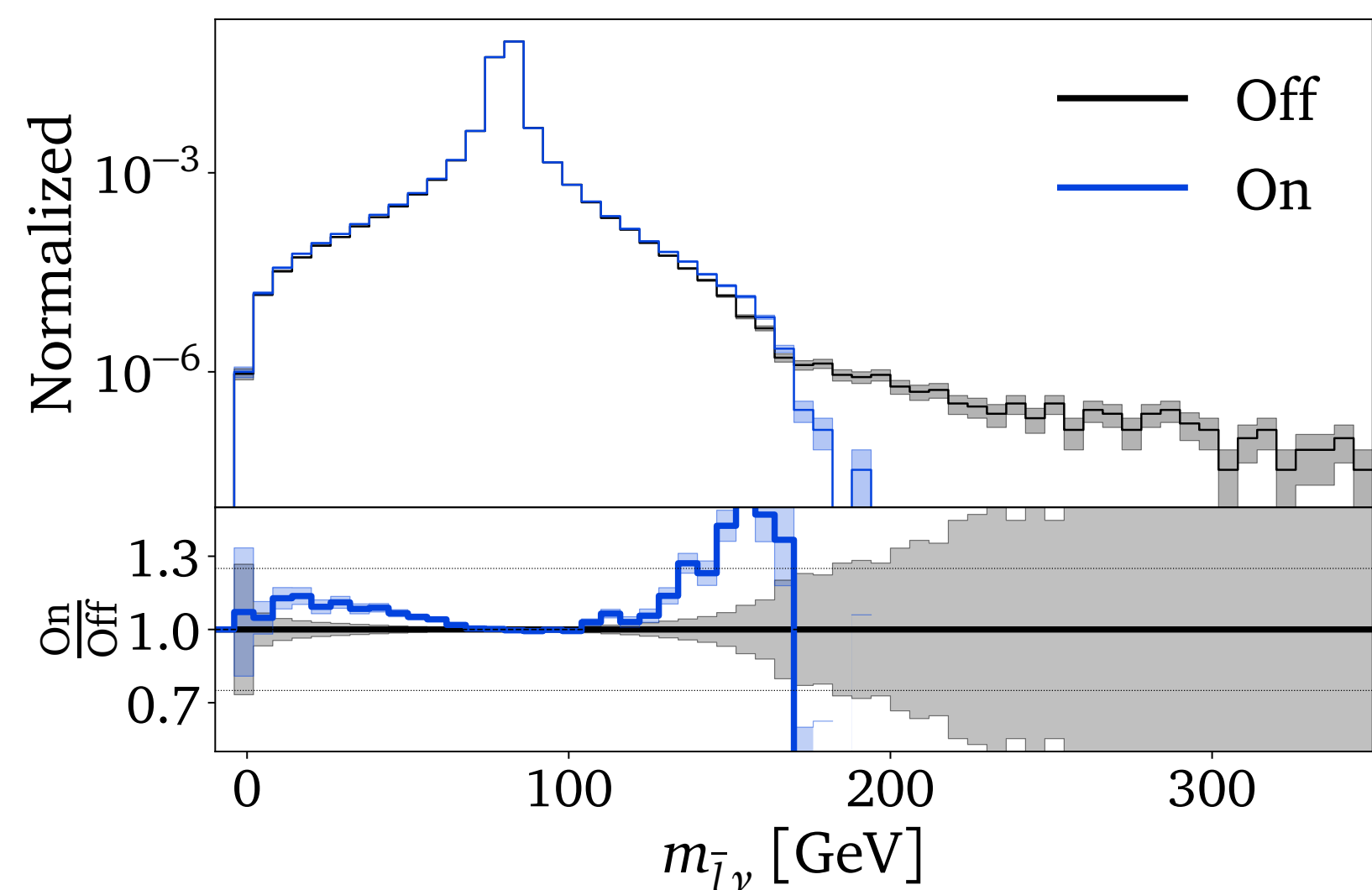
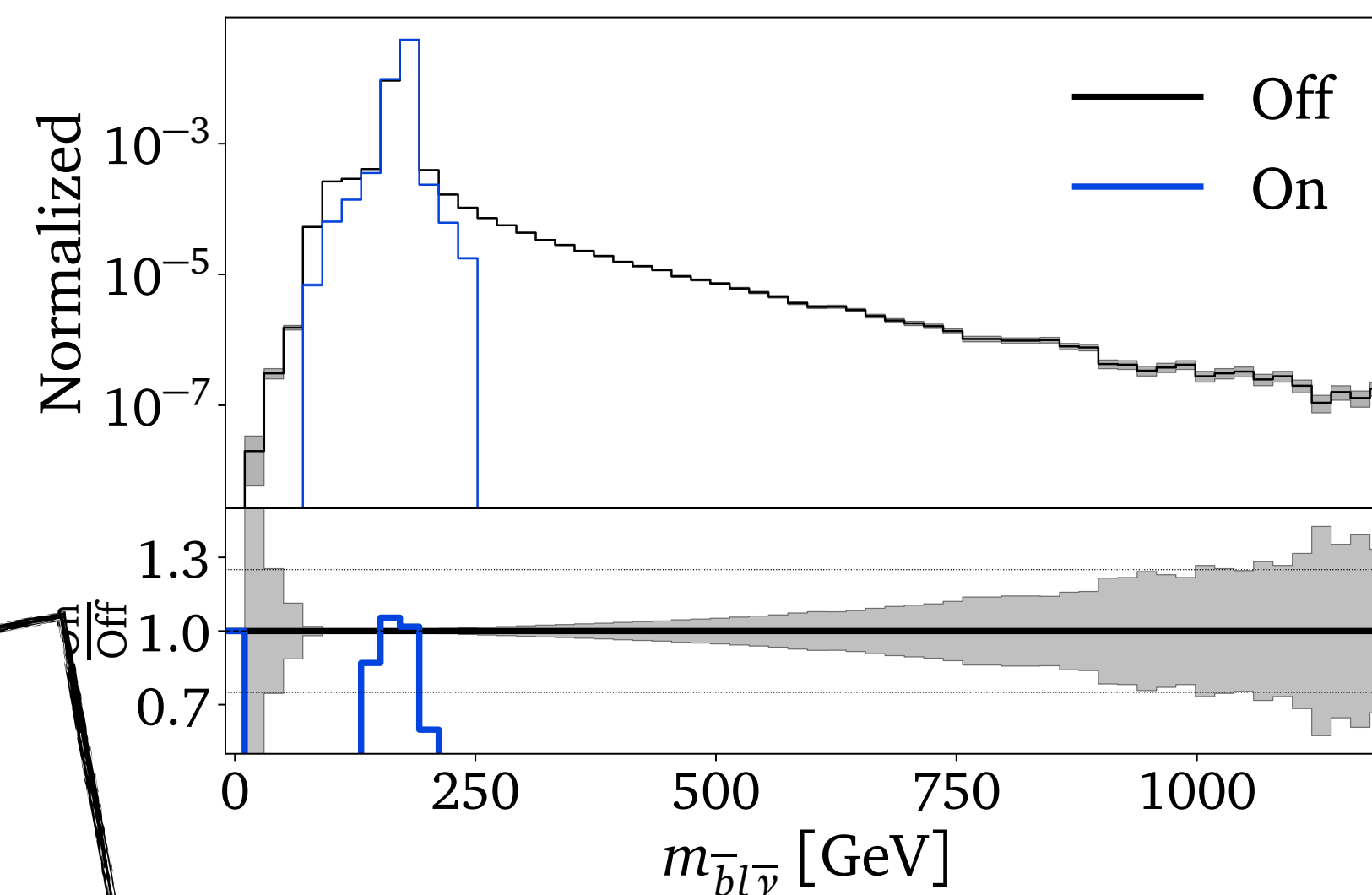
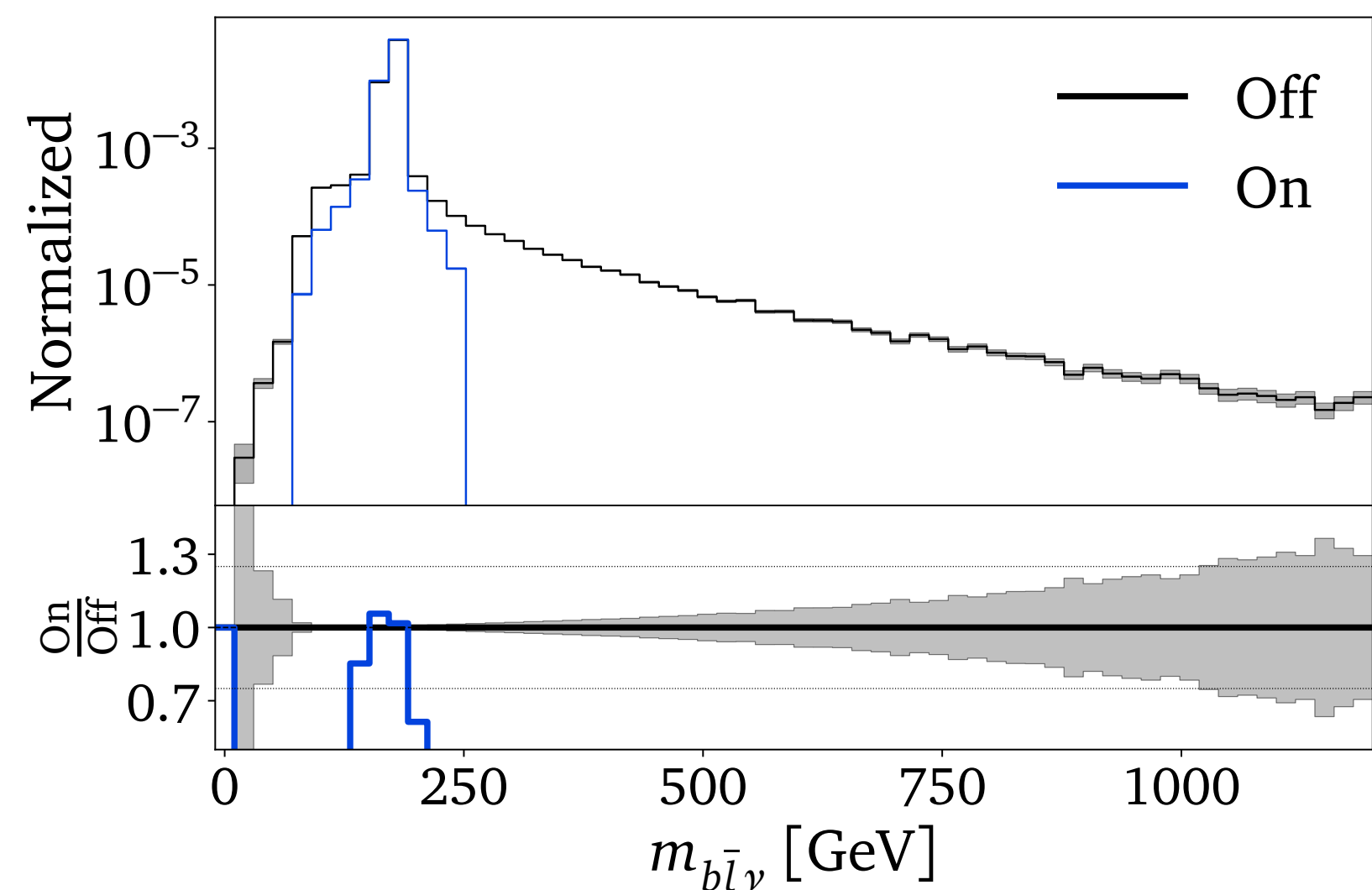


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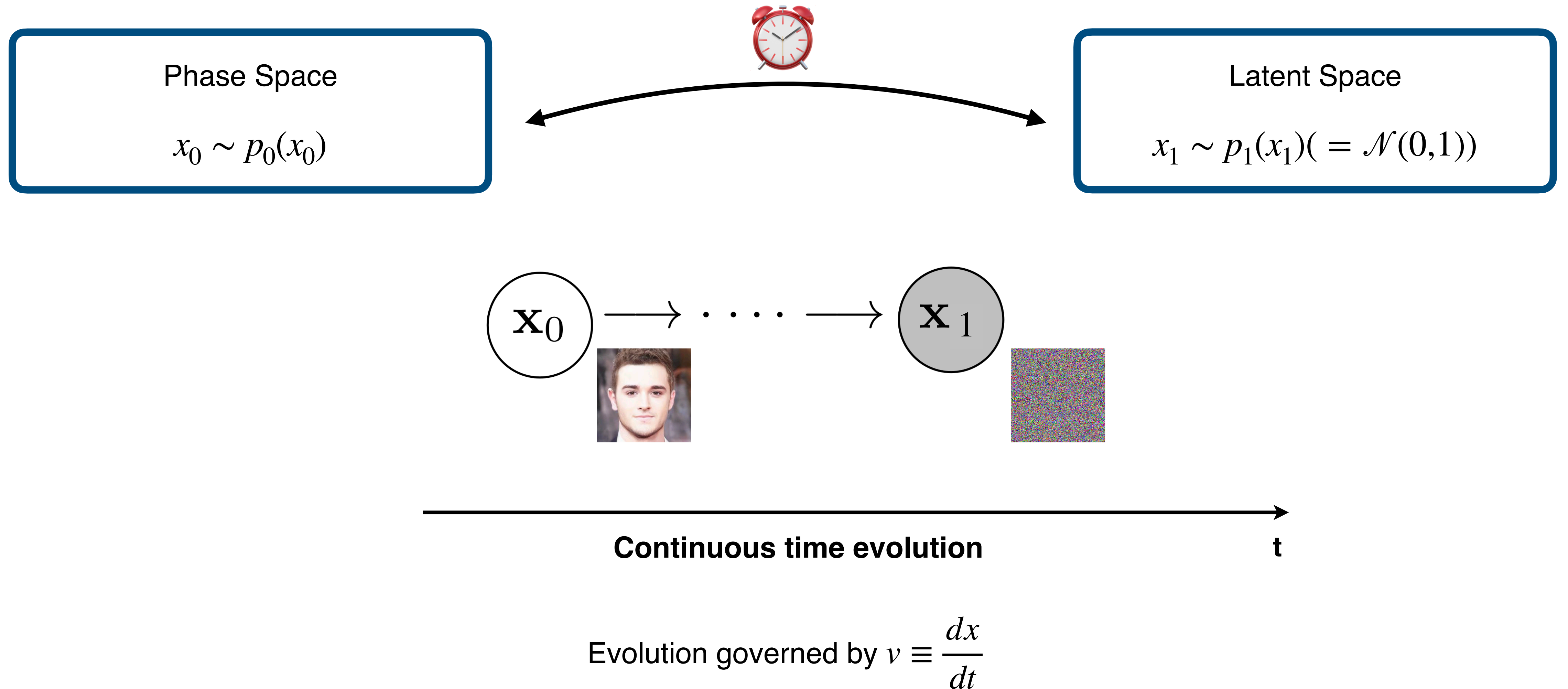
Can we just learn correction?

# What's the problem?

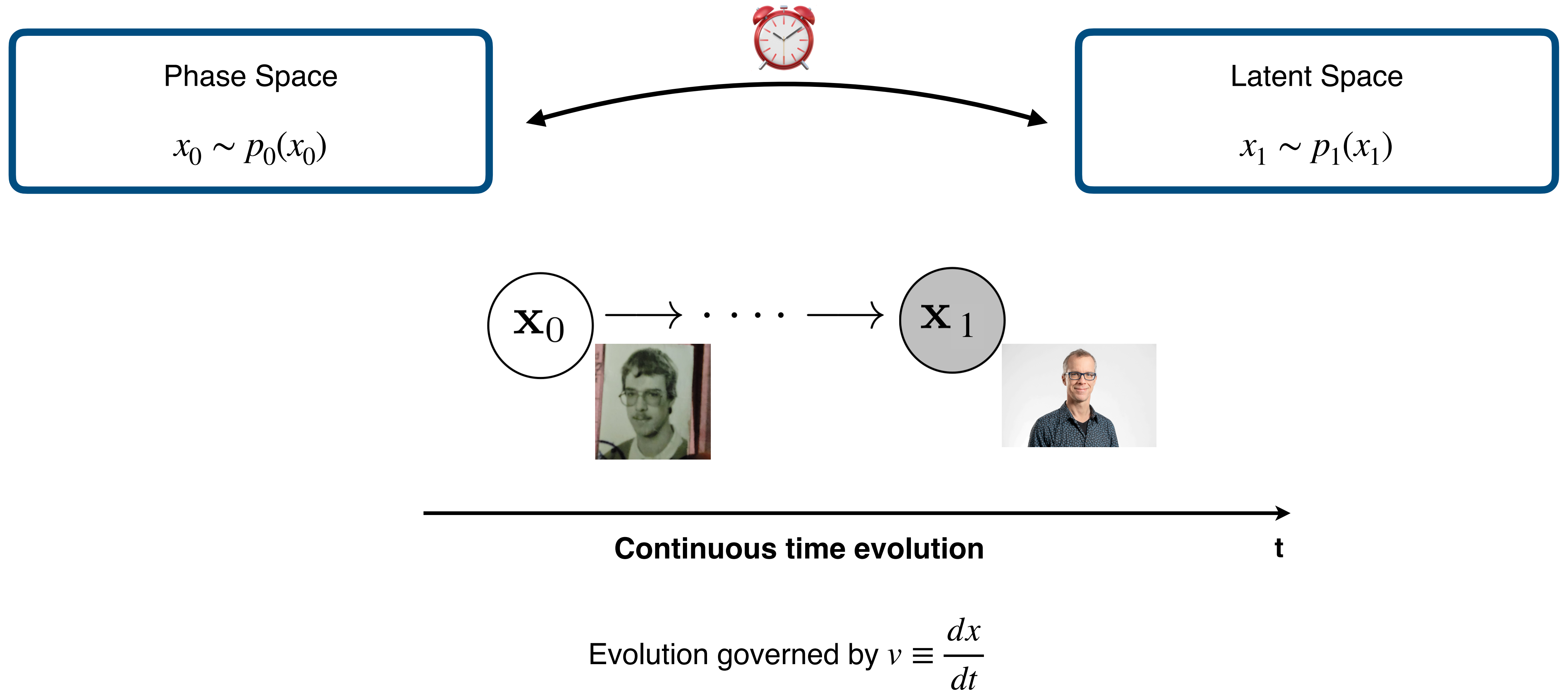


Can we just  
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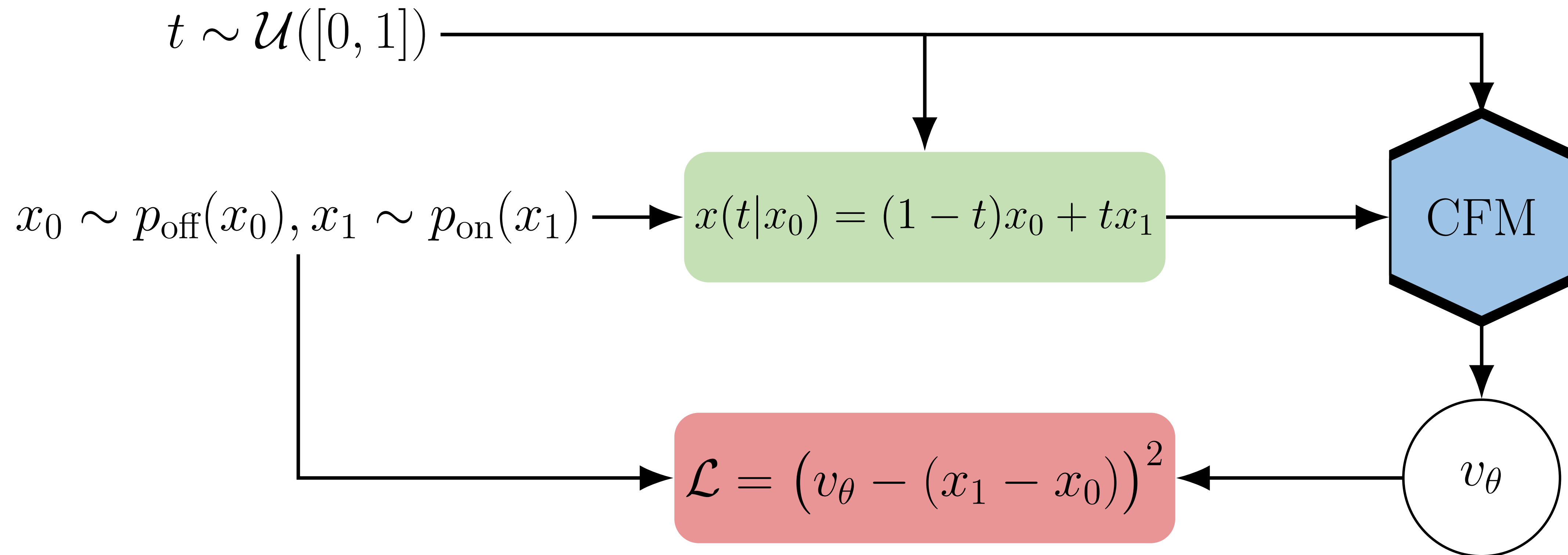
# Diffusion Models (CFM)



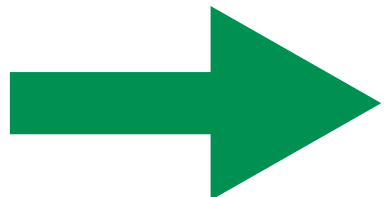
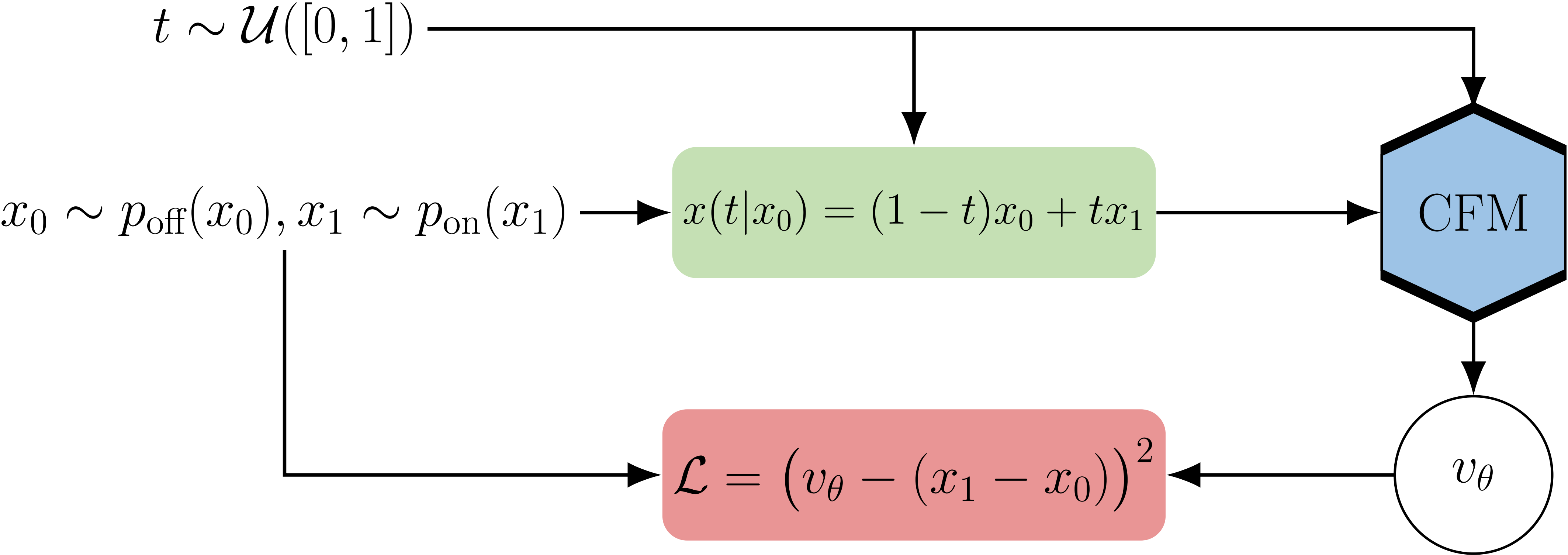
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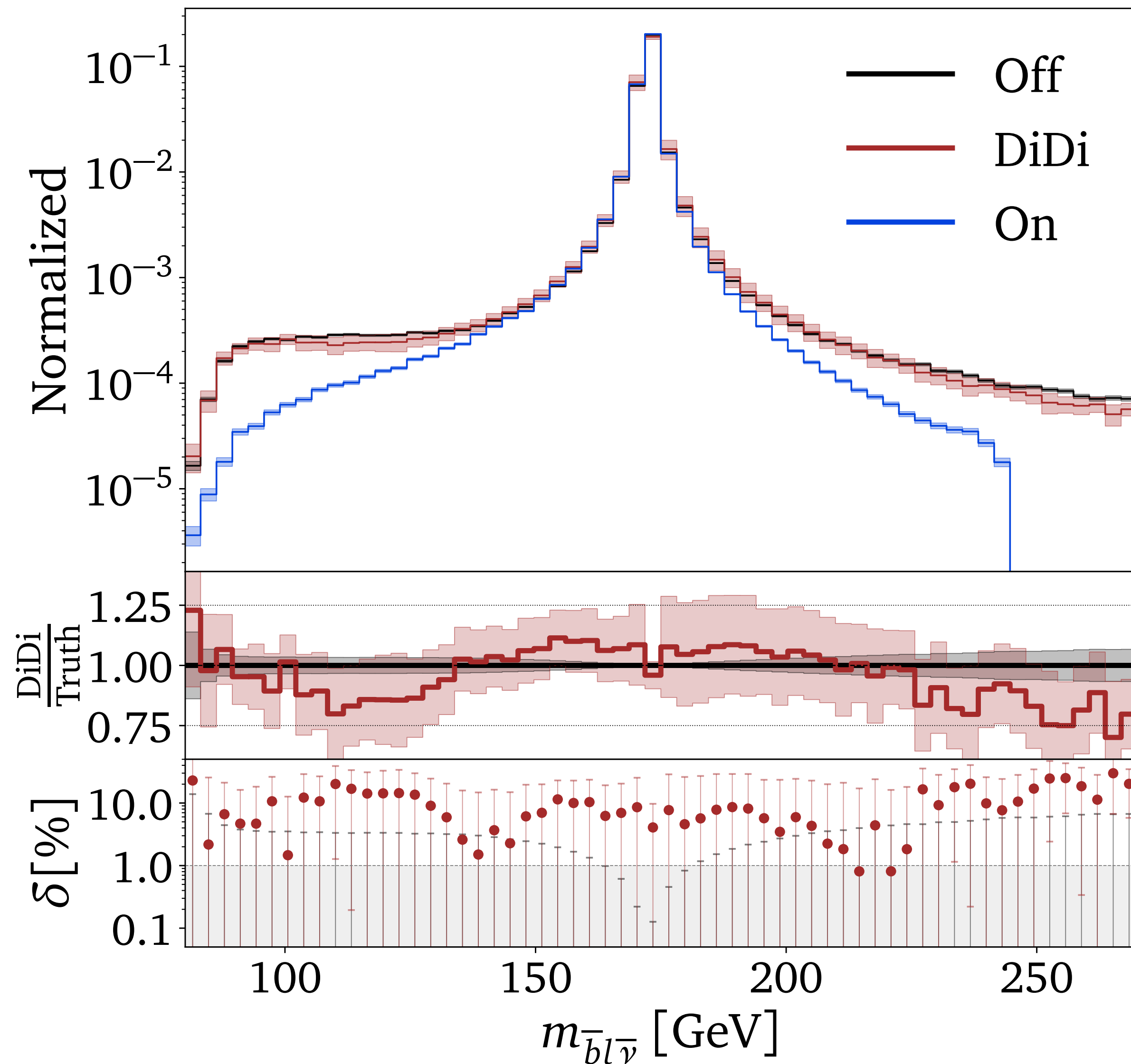


# Diffusion Models (CFM)



**Direct Diffusion (DiDi)**

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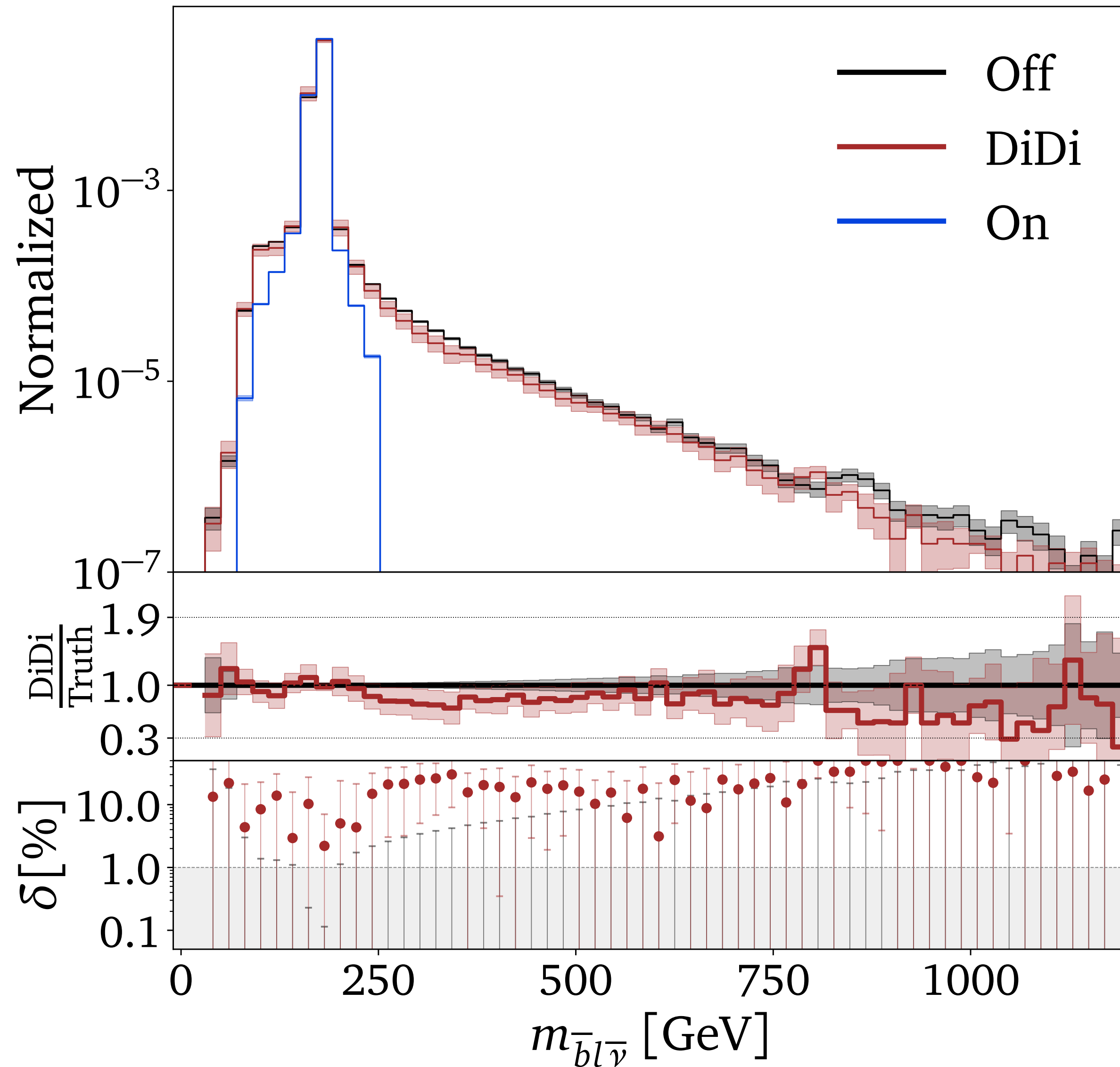


Dataset: on- & off-shell events on  
Parton level simulated with  
POWHEG

Reconstructed  $t\bar{b}$  mass learned to  
 $\mathcal{O}(1\%) - \mathcal{O}(10\%)$  precision



# Direct Diffusion (DiDi) — Tails

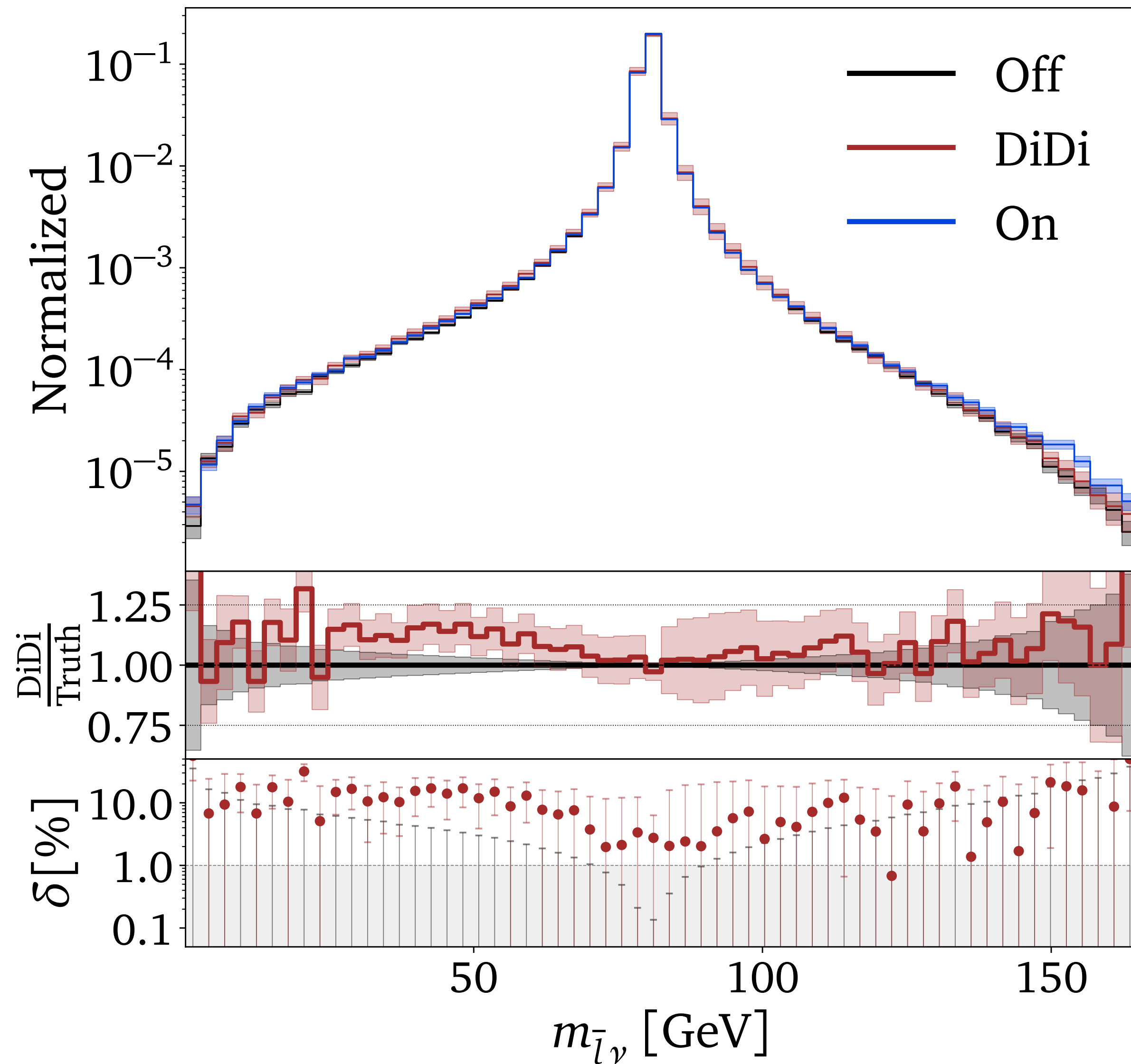


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Also true for tails, with very little training statistic

# Direct Diffusion (DiDi)



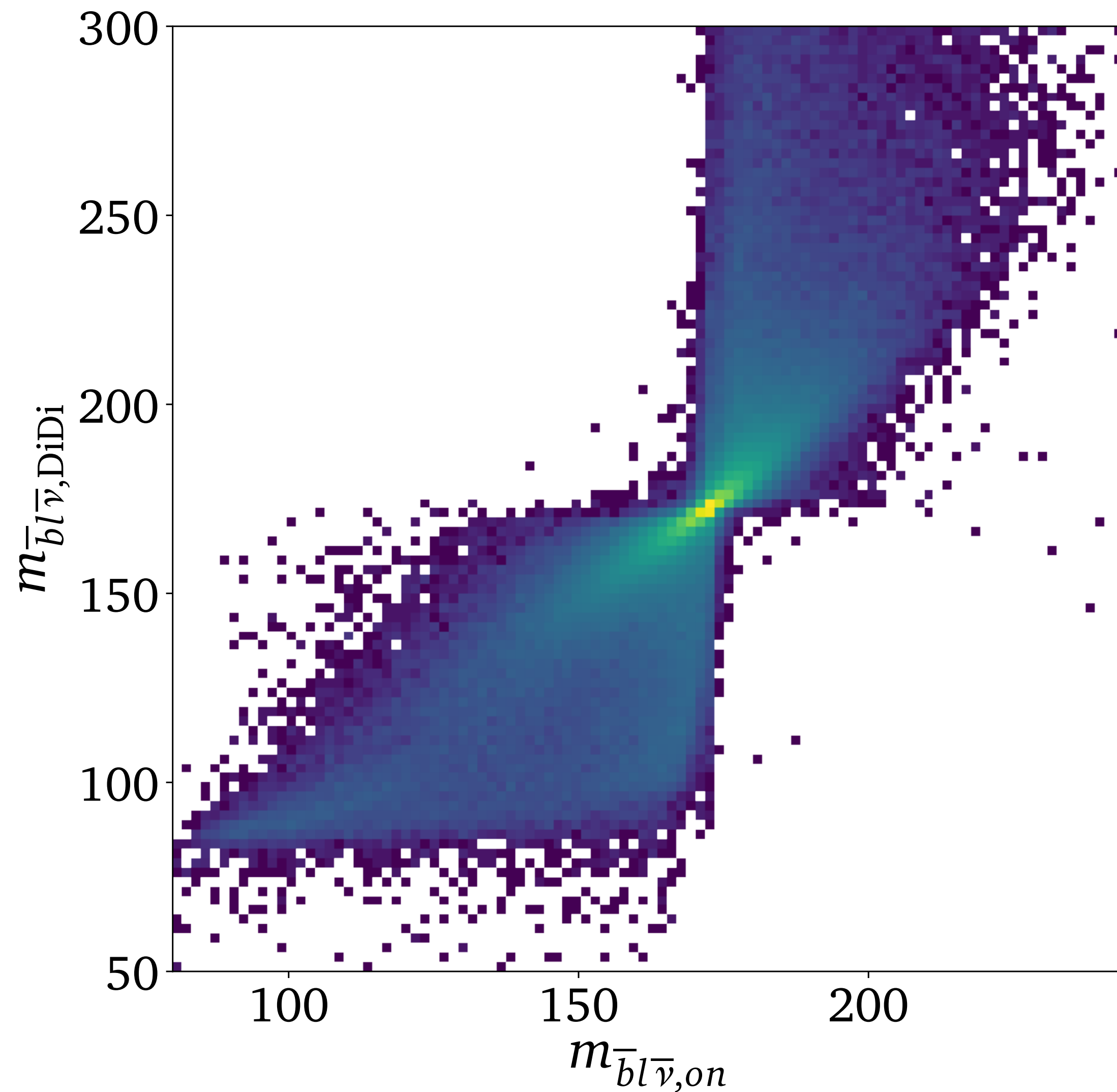
Dataset: on- & off-shell events on Parton level simulated with POWHEG

Reconstructed  $t_{\text{bar}}$  mass learned to  $\mathcal{O}(1\%) - \mathcal{O}(10\%)$  precision

Also true for tails, with very little training statistic

Multiresonant structure taken into account

# Direct Diffusion (DiDi) — Migration

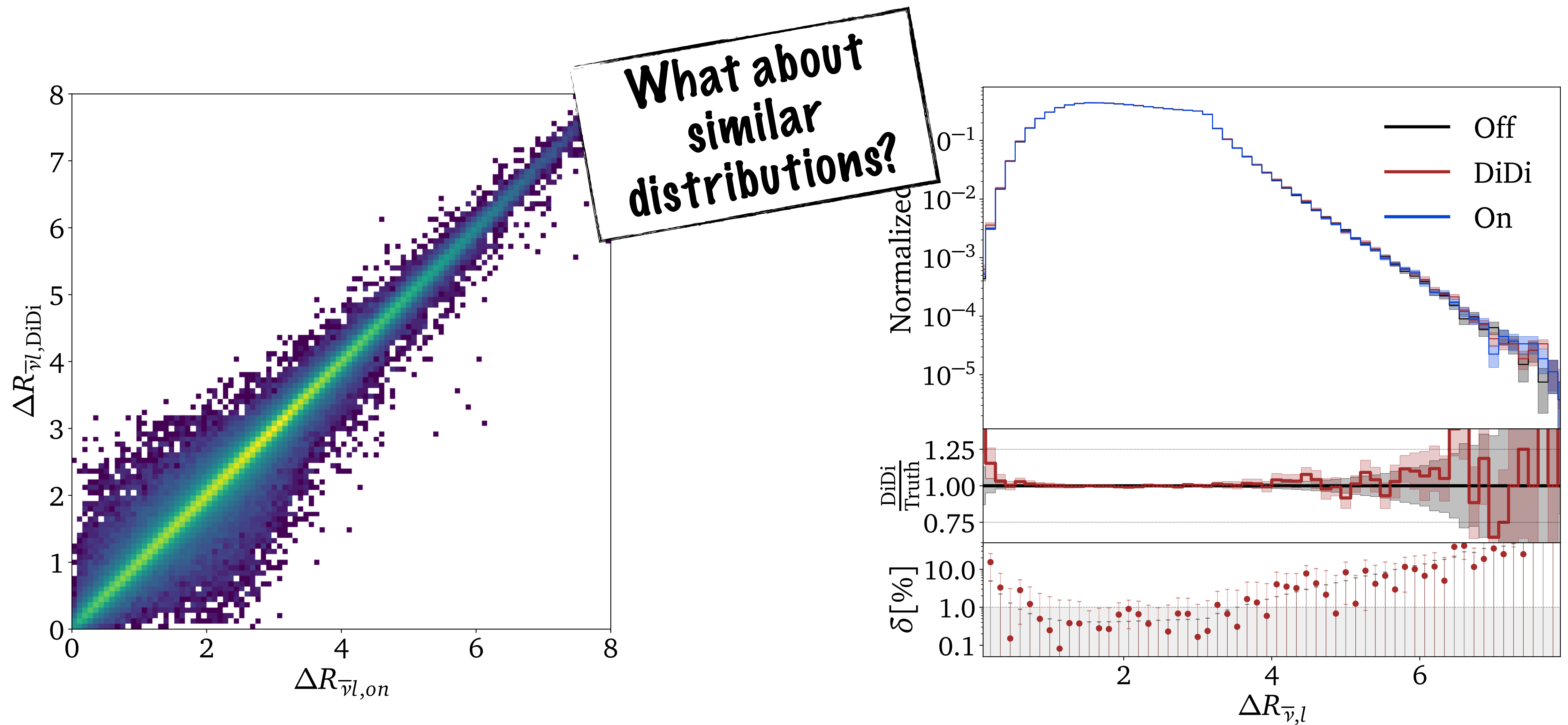


How does our mapping look like?

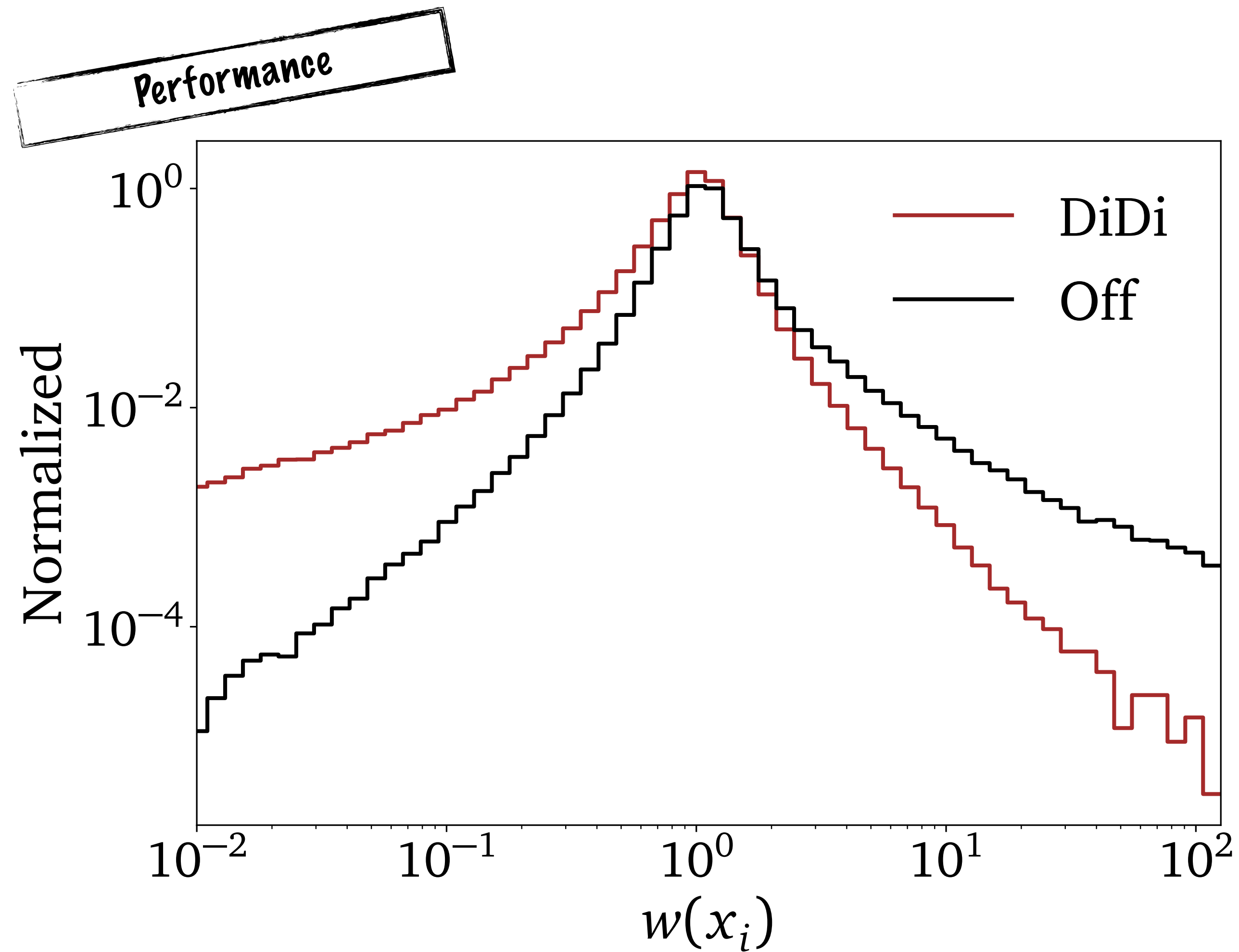
Biased to “optimal” transport (learned by DiDi)

No migration over peak

# Direct Diffusion (DiDi) — Staying put



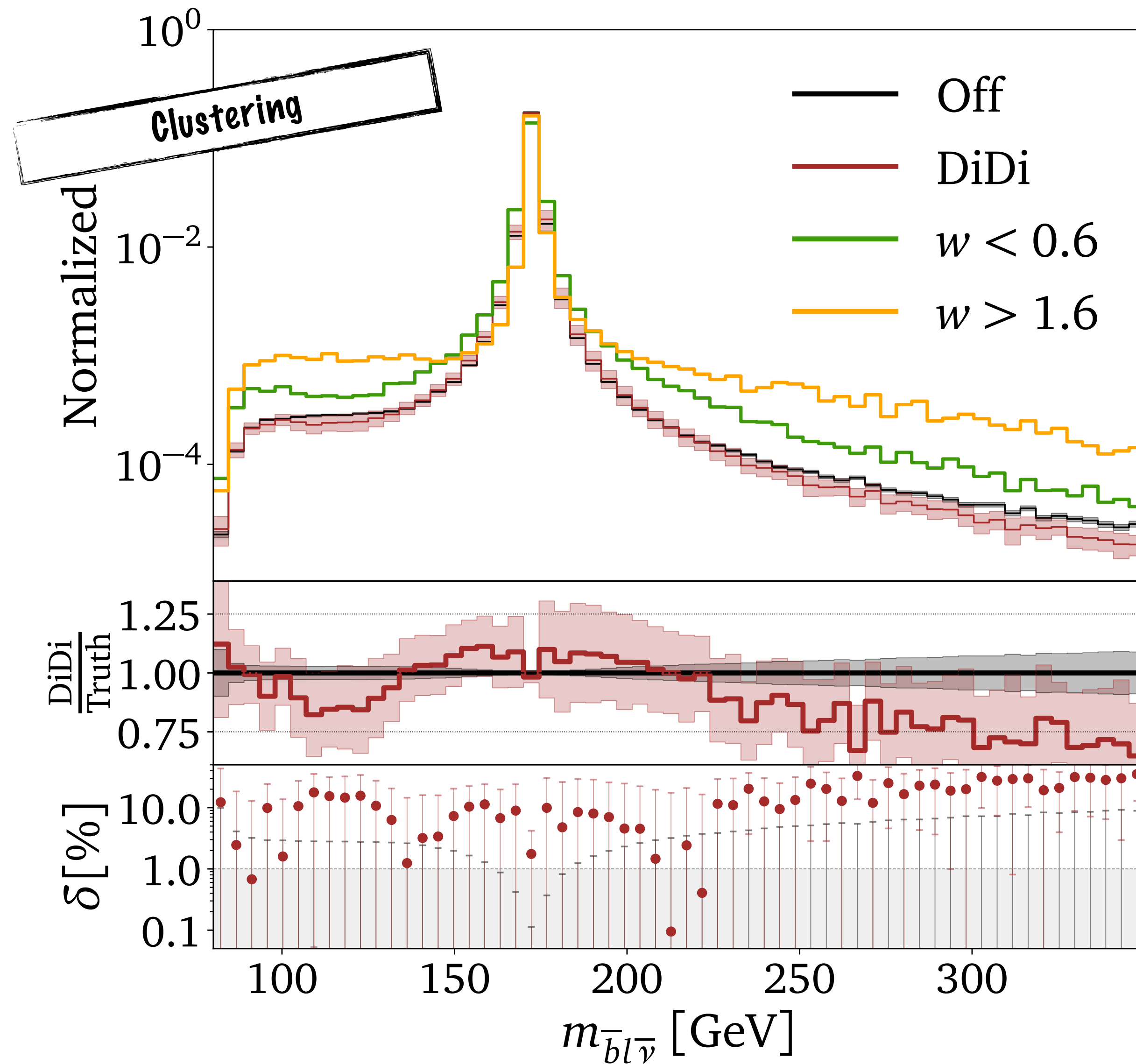
# Understanding our Shortcomings



Train classifier to learn  $w = \frac{P_{off}}{P_{gen}}$

Allows us to check performance, clustering and reweight distribution

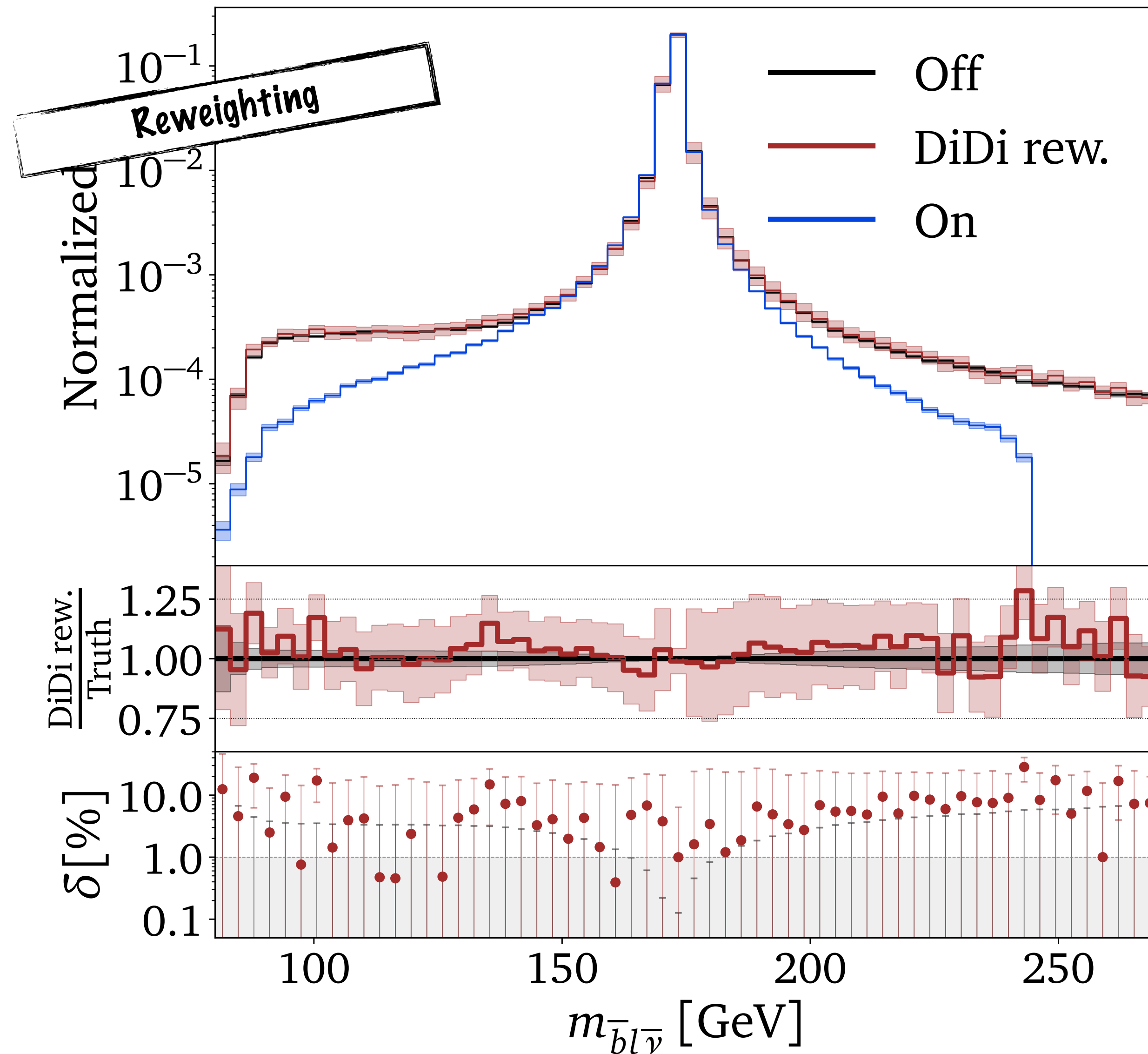
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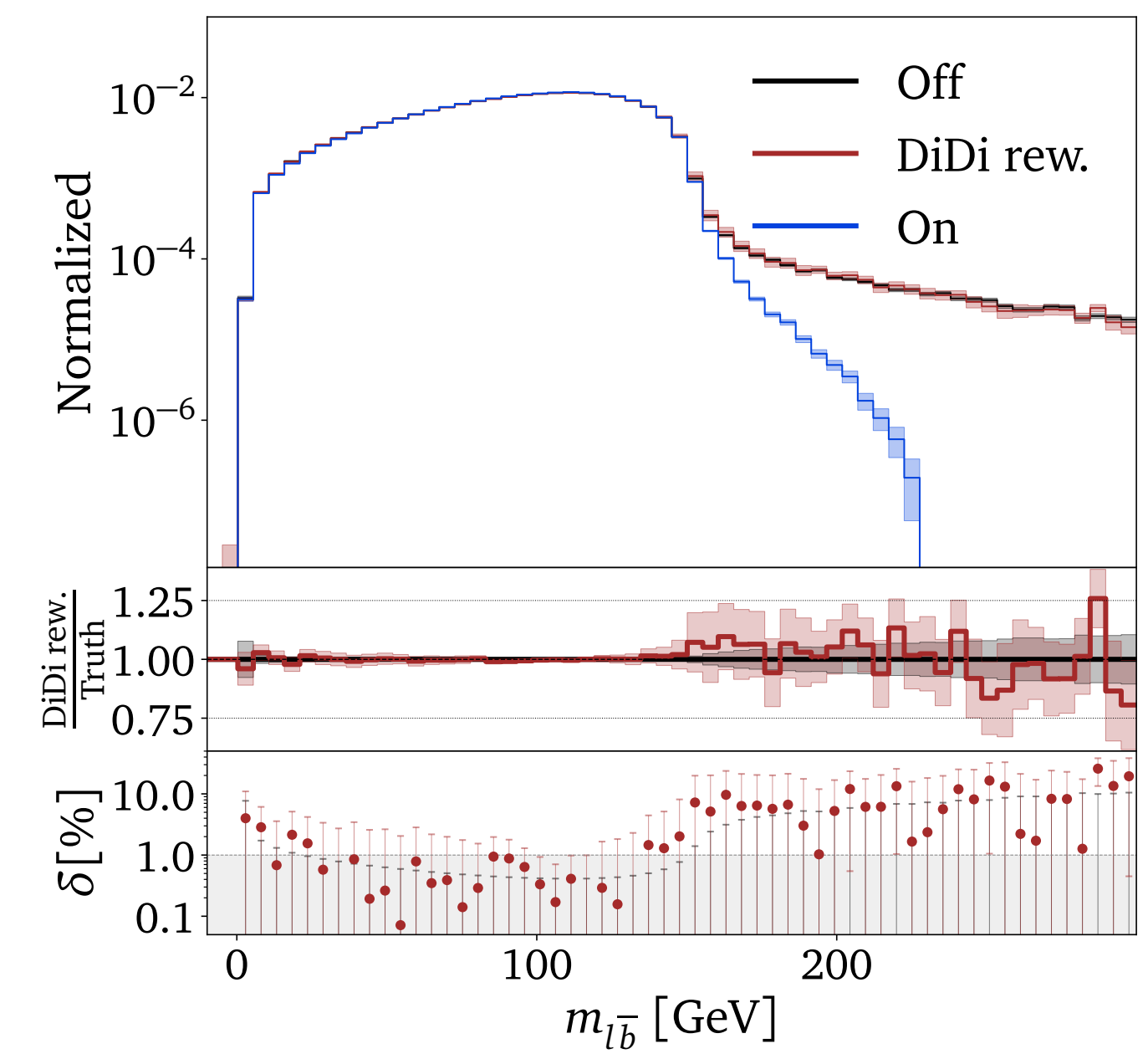
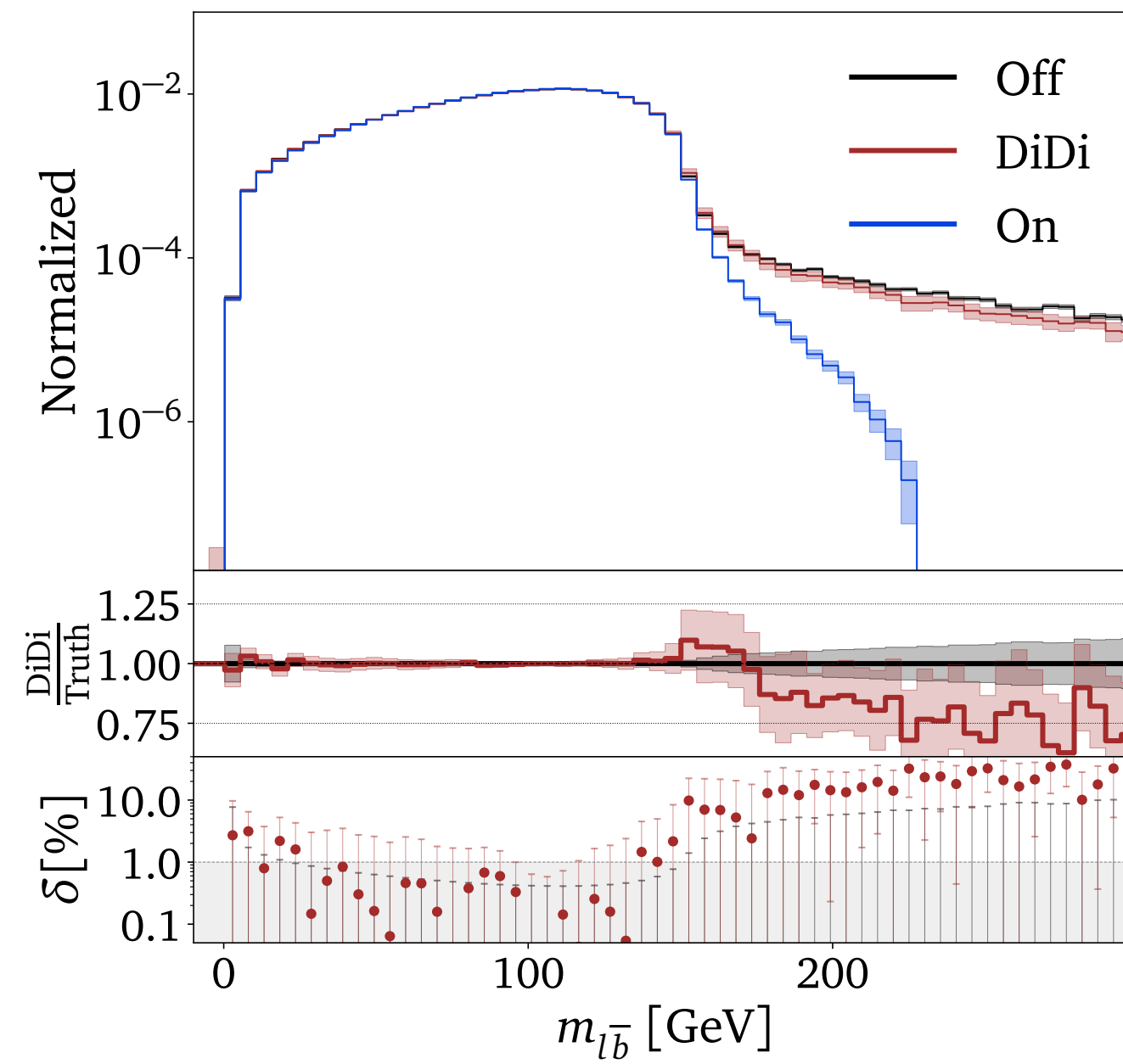
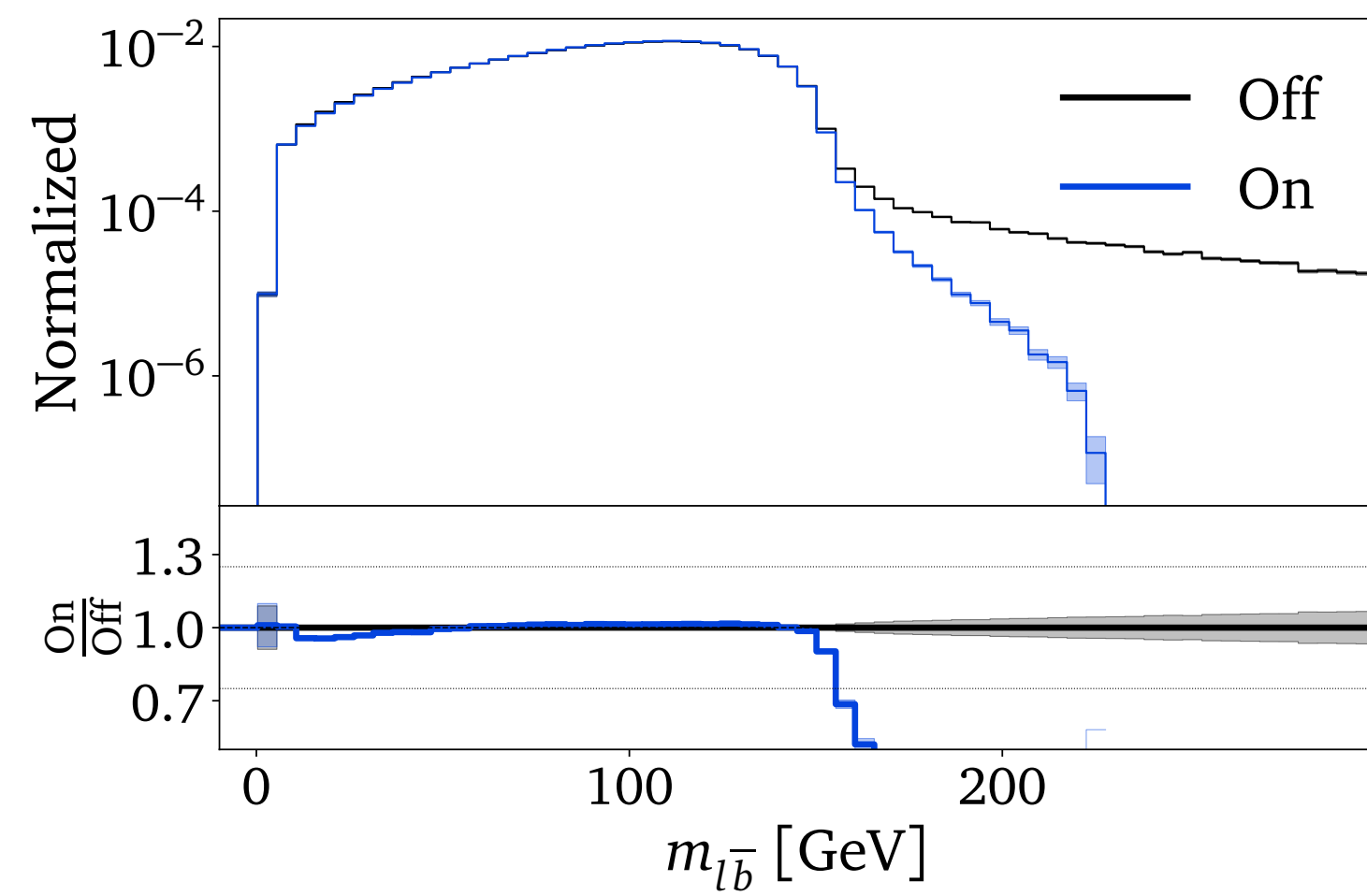
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# Summary





# And now what?

Generative ML shows great potential to **speed-up** LHC event generation

Direct Diffusion allows to **morph two unknown, intractable distributions** onto each other while reaching **state-of-the-art precision**

Successfully applied to **generate full off-shell distributions** from on-shell distributions



**Next steps:** Apply setup to NLO + NNLO