

## Two-particle angular correlations

The *two-particle correlation function* is defined as

$$C^{(2)}(\Delta y, \Delta\phi) = \frac{S(\Delta y, \Delta\phi)}{B(\Delta y, \Delta\phi)},$$

where  $S(\Delta y, \Delta\phi)$  stands for the density of particle pairs within the same event

$$S(\Delta y, \Delta\phi) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{pairs}}} \frac{d^2 N^{\text{same}}}{d\Delta y d\Delta\phi},$$

while  $B(\Delta y, \Delta\phi)$  represents the density of mixed particle pairs from distinct events

$$B(\Delta y, \Delta\phi) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{mix}}} \frac{d^2 N^{\text{mix}}}{d\Delta y d\Delta\phi}.$$

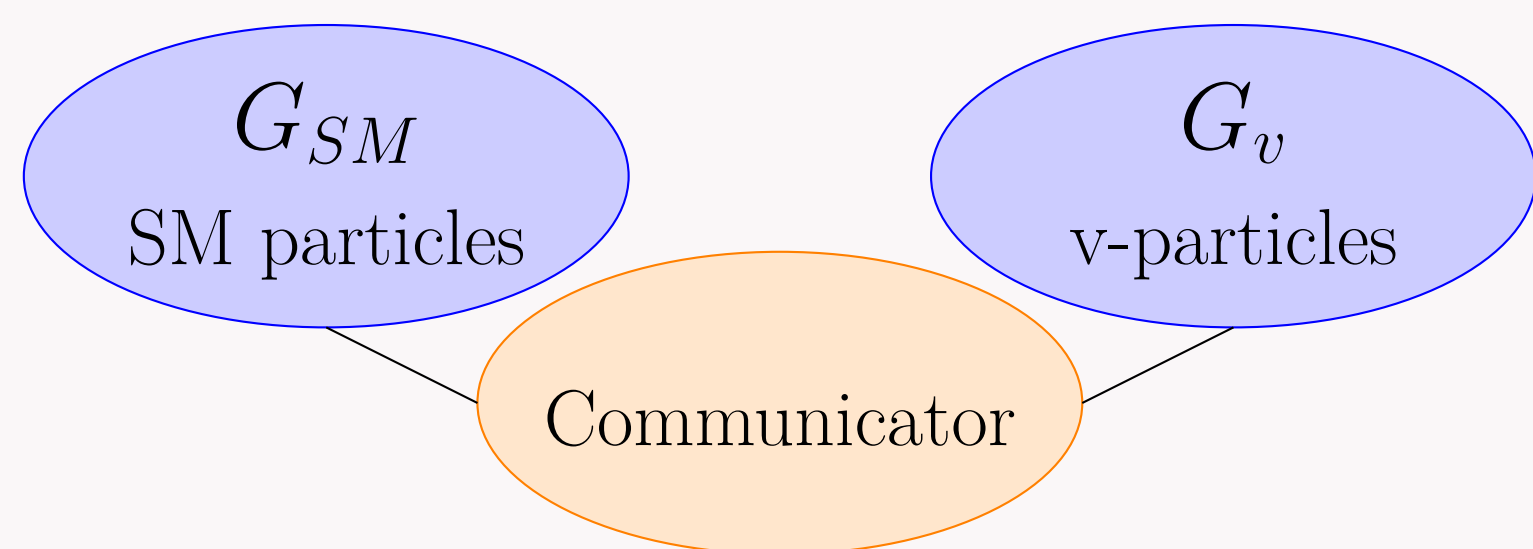
The *azimuthal yield*  $Y(\Delta\phi)$  is of particular interest, being defined by integration over a  $\Delta y$  range as:

$$Y(\Delta\phi) = \frac{\int_{y_{\text{inf}} \leq |\Delta y| \leq y_{\text{sup}}} S(\Delta y, \Delta\phi) dy}{\int_{y_{\text{inf}} \leq |\Delta y| \leq y_{\text{sup}}} B(\Delta y, \Delta\phi) dy},$$

where  $y_{\text{inf/sup}}$  defines the lower/upper integration limit for different rapidity intervals.

Can the study of two-particle angular correlations be a tool for investigating New Physics?

## Hidden Valley Model



The New Physics we explore is a Hidden Valley (HV) model, in which the communicators  $F_v$  are pair-produced and can promptly decay as  $F_v \rightarrow f q_v$ , where  $f$  is the corresponding particle in the visible sector and  $q_v$  is a v-quark belonging to the hidden sector.

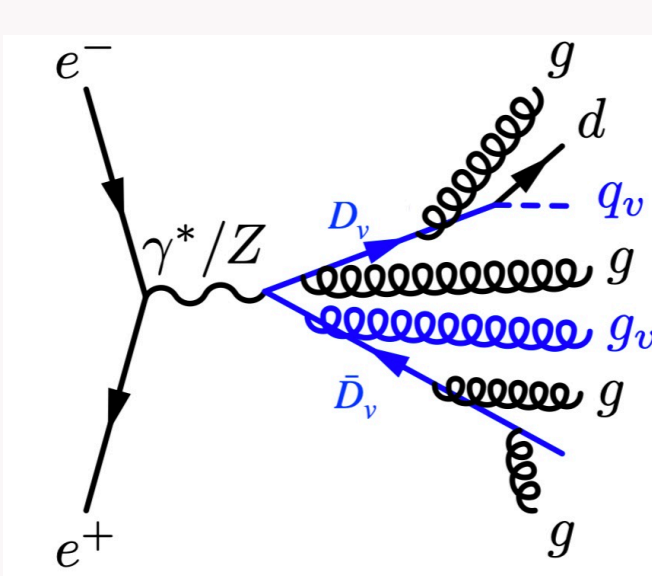
In  $e^+e^-$  collisions,  $F_v$  can be produced via  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \gamma^*/Z \rightarrow F_v \bar{F}_v \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$ .

The signature we investigate is a perturbation in the conventional QCD cascade and final hadronization, leading to anomalies in angular correlations.

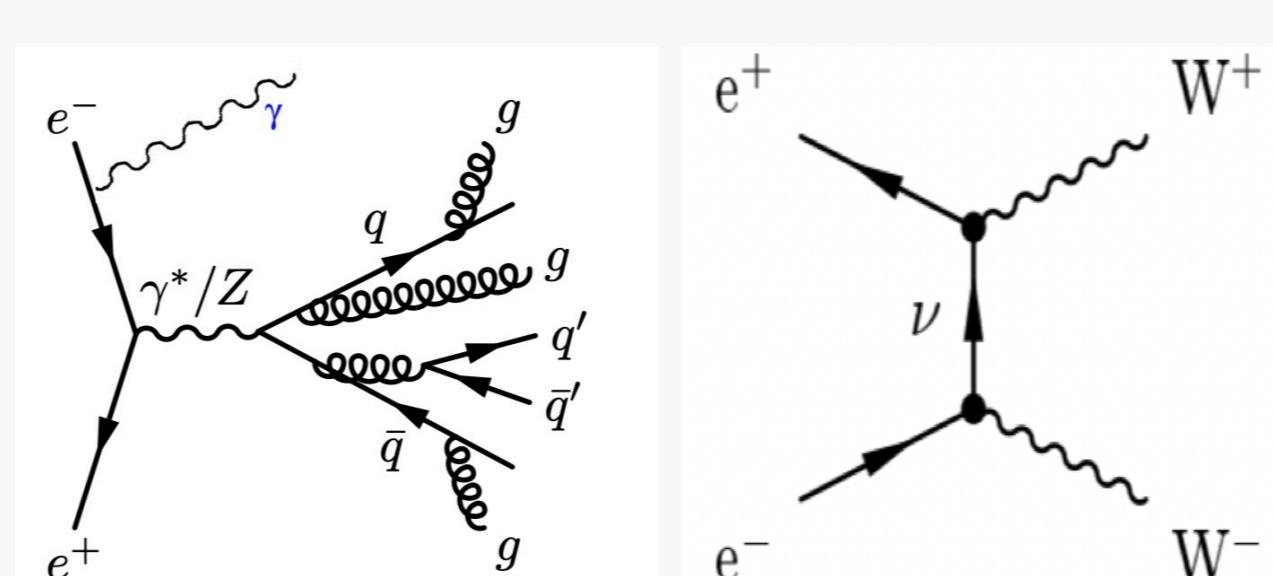
## Signal vs Background

We set  $\sqrt{s} = 250$  GeV, to match the collider's Higgs boson factory phase, considering unpolarized beams.

### HV Signal



### Background



The HV signal proceeds via the process  $e^+e^- \rightarrow D_v \bar{D}_v \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$  (where  $D_v$  denotes the lightest communicator, being the hidden partner of the  $d$ -quark).

The Standard Model (SM) background is dominated by  $q\bar{q}$  production in association with Initial State Radiation (ISR) and 4-quark production via  $e^+e^- \rightarrow WW$ .

Process @ 250 GeV	$\sigma_{\text{PYTHIA}}$ [pb]
$e^+e^- \rightarrow D_v \bar{D}_v$	0.12
$e^+e^- \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ with ISR	48
$WW \rightarrow 4q$	7.4

The thrust reference frame has been used throughout this work.

### Tools

- Monte Carlo Event generator: **PYTHIA8**
- Detector simulation: **SGV 3.0**  
→ILD geometry
- Analysis: **ILCSOFT**, **ROOT**

### Cuts

- No secondary vertices
- neutral PFOs  $\leq 22$ , charged PFOs  $\leq 15$
- $|\cos \theta_{\text{ISR}}| < 0.5$  and  $E_{\text{ISR}} < 40$  GeV
- $E_{\text{jet}} < 80$  GeV and  $m_{jj} < 130$  GeV

## Analysis at detector level

### Before cuts

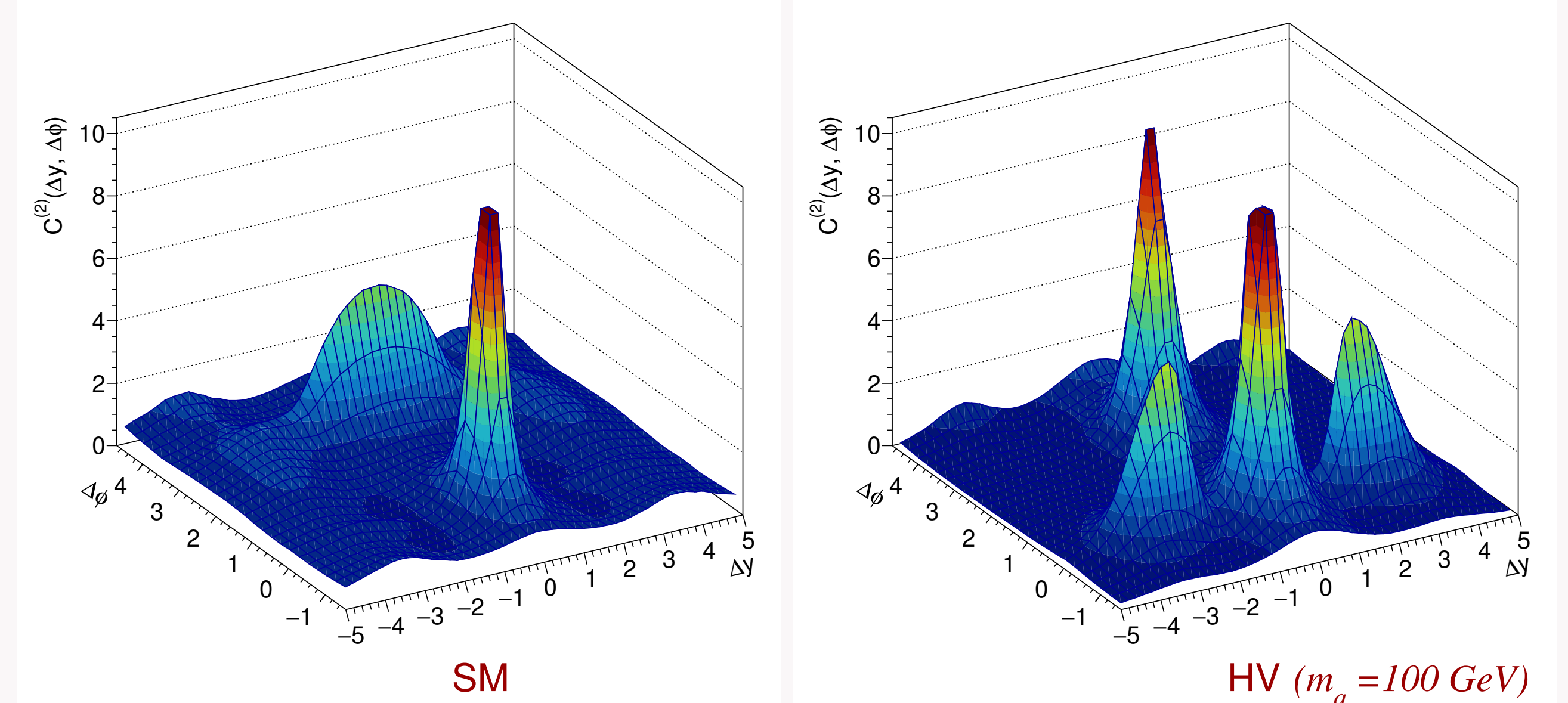


Figure 1: Two-particle angular correlation function for the SM Background before applying selection cuts

Figure 2: Two-particle angular correlation function for the pure HV Signal before applying selection cuts

### After Cuts

The selection cut efficiency shows a drastic reduction of the SM background

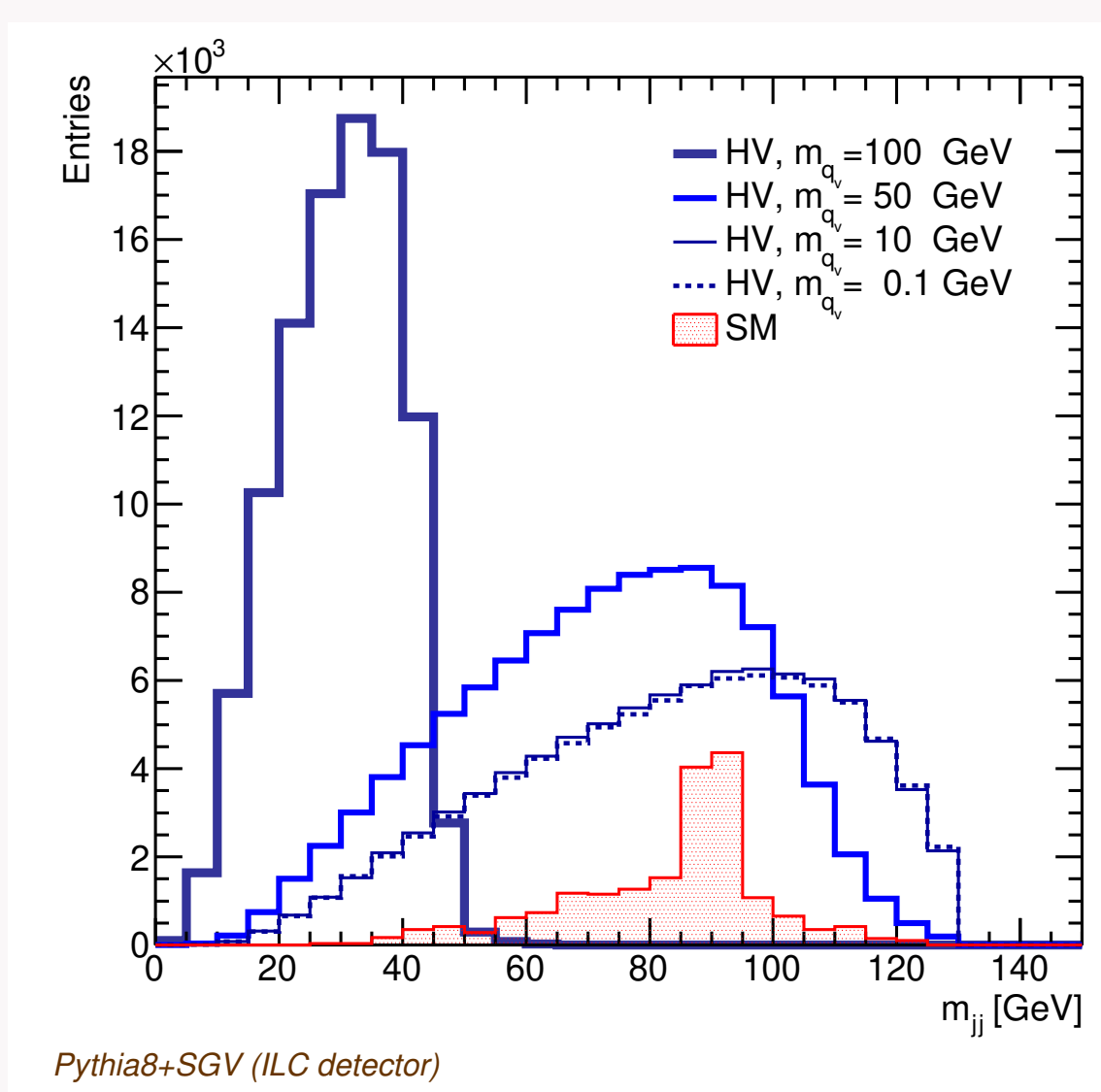


Figure 3: Di-jet invariant mass distributions after selection cuts.

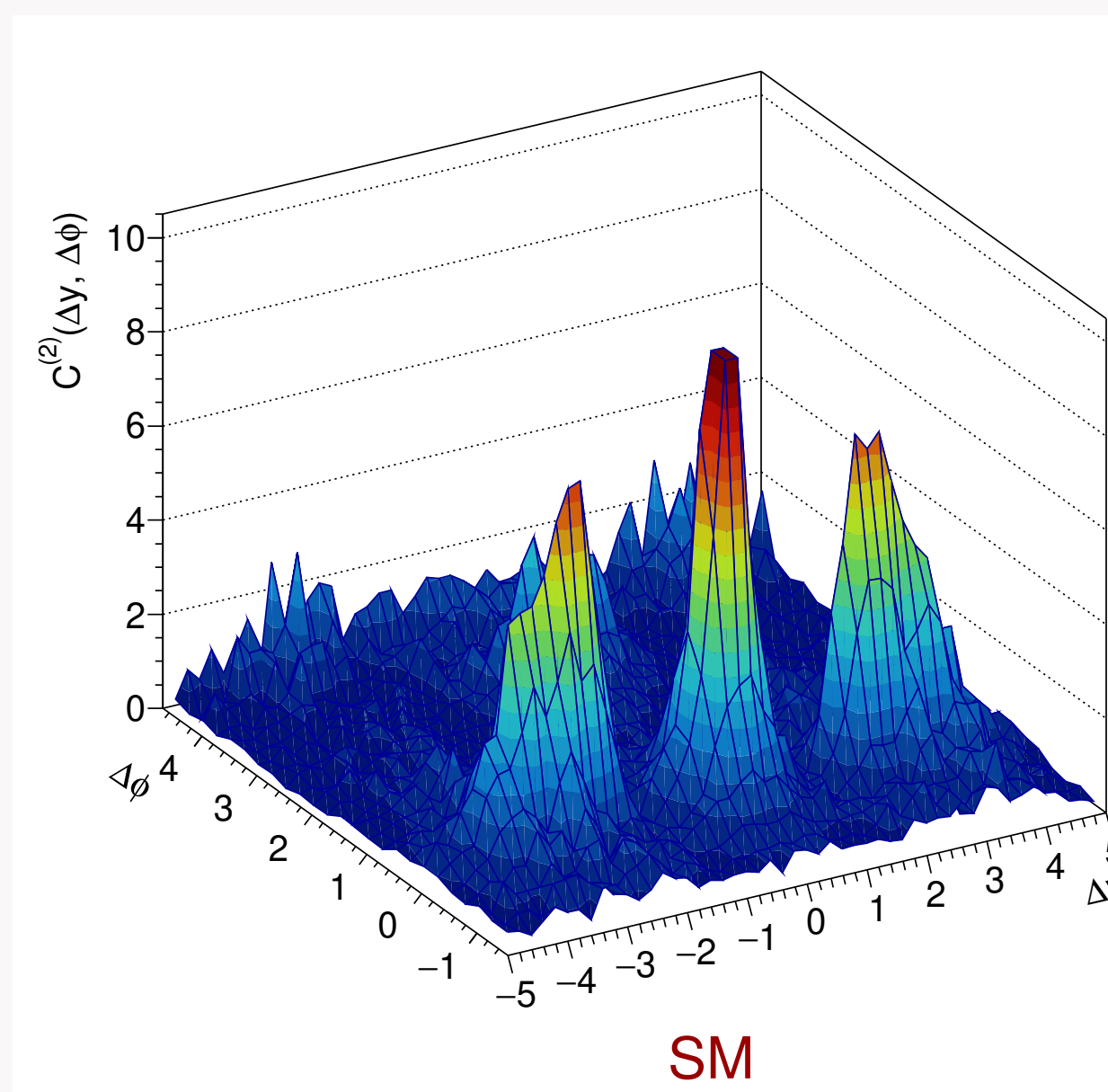


Figure 4: Two-particle angular correlation function for the SM Background

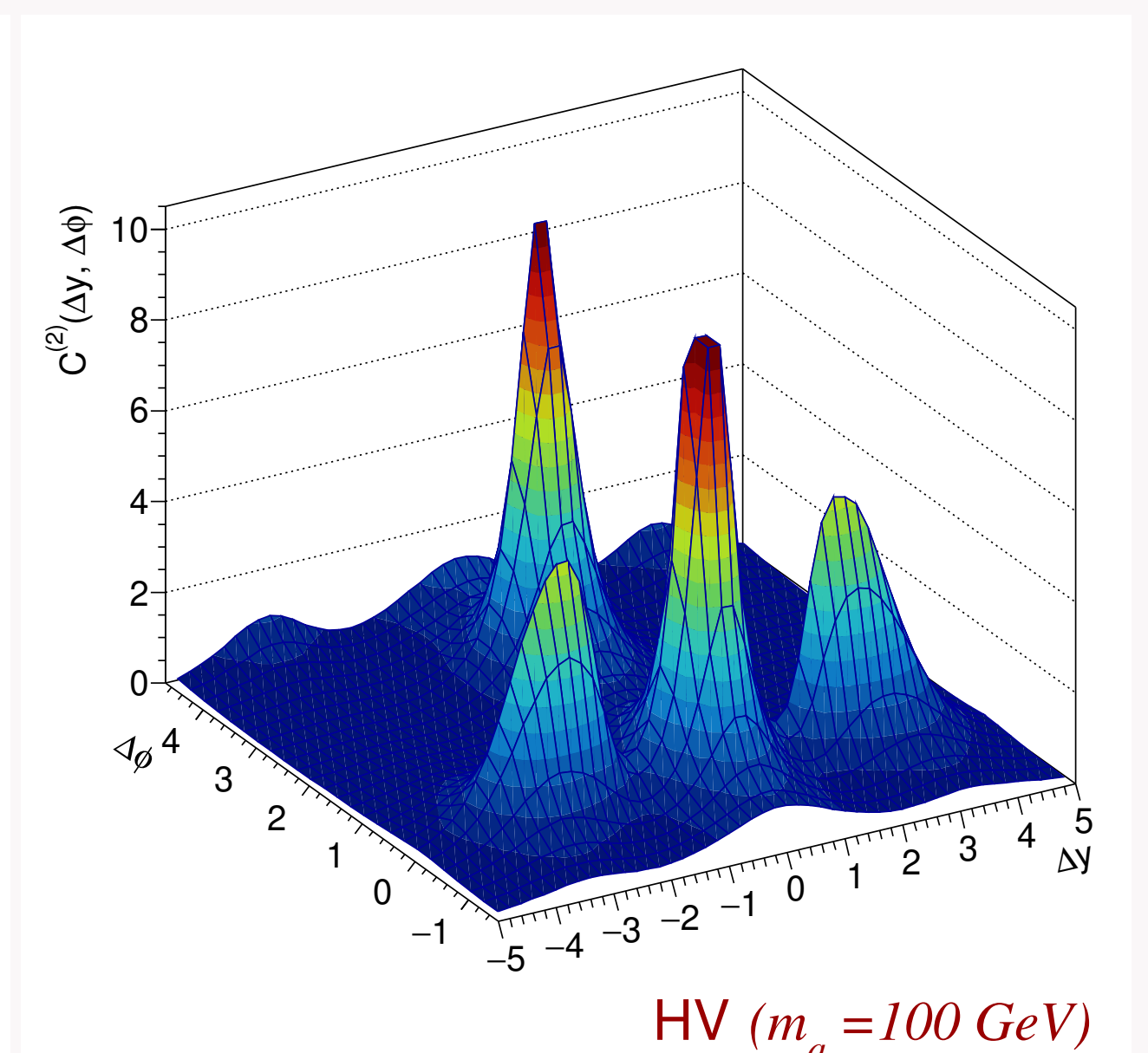


Figure 5: Two-particle angular correlation function for the pure HV Signal

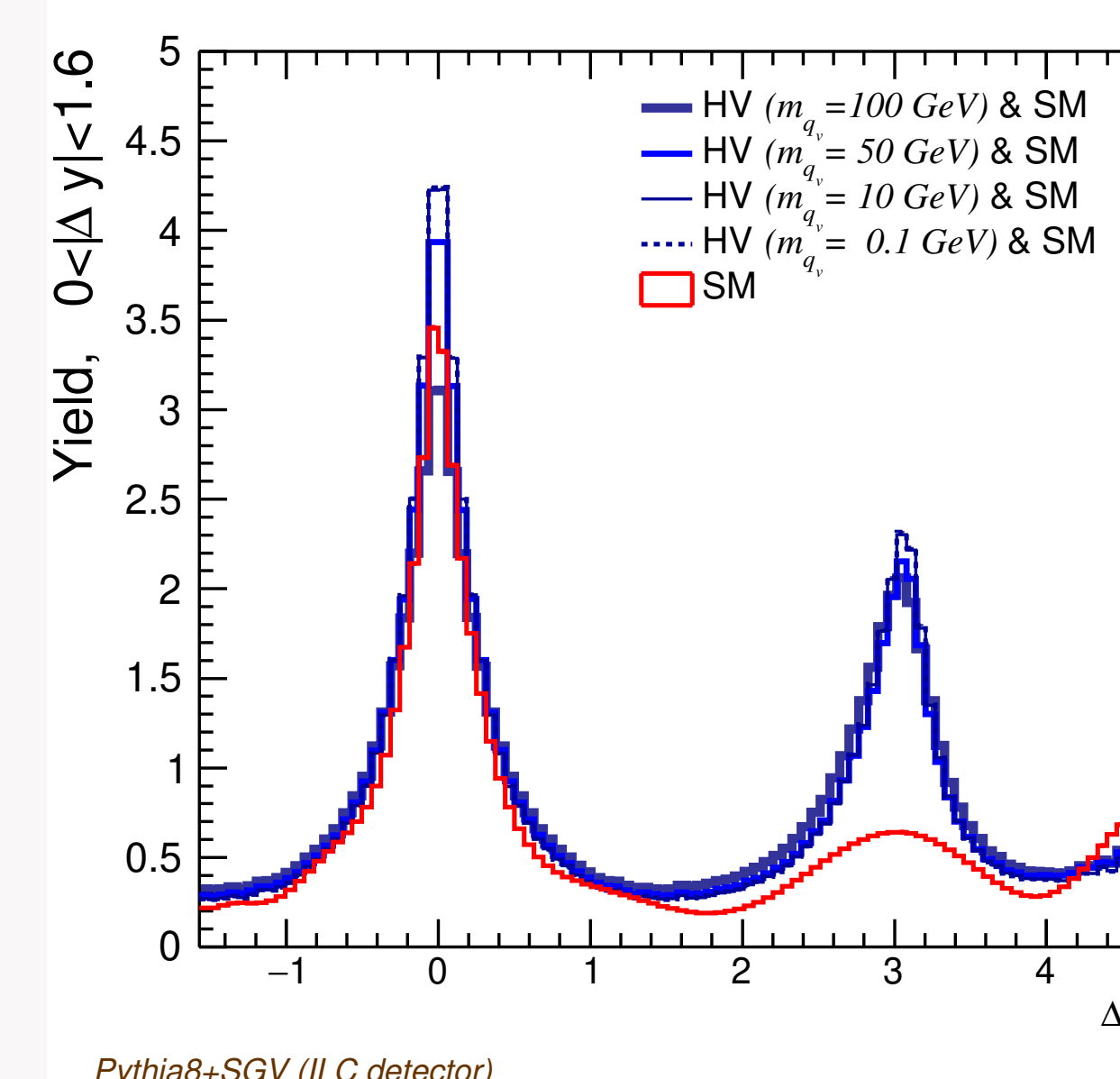


Figure 6: Yield  $Y(\Delta\phi)$  for both HV+SM signal (blue) and SM background (red) for the  $0 < |\Delta y| < 1.6$  interval.

In the  $0 < |\Delta y| \leq 1.6$  range, a sizeable peak at  $\Delta\phi \sim \pi$  characterises the HV scenario, unlike the pure SM case. This remarkable discrepancy of shapes could potentially serve as a valuable signature of a hidden sector, complementary to more conventional searches.

## Conclusions

The analysis of two-particle angular correlations can serve as a complementary tool to traditional methods in the search for new phenomena beyond the Standard Model physics. This study investigates the discovery potential for hidden sectors at future  $e^+e^-$  colliders through two-particle angular correlations, focusing on a QCD-like hidden valley model.

### References:

- [1] EM et al, *Exploring hidden sectors with two-particle angular correlations at future  $e^+e^-$  colliders*, **2312.06526**

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