

Using a far-sideband method to estimate the backgrounds in $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ analysis

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In the $H \rightarrow Z\gamma$ search, the main backgrounds are Z +jets, with jets misidentified as photons, and $Z+\gamma$, which shares the same final state as the signal. The Z +jets background is estimated using an ABCD method based on photon isolation and ID, with fake factors derived as a function of photon P_T . For the $Z+\gamma$ background, far-sideband samples ($M_{ll\gamma} < 100\text{GeV}$, $M_{ll\gamma} > 160\text{GeV}$) are used to train a BDT and extract scale factors, which are then applied to simulation. Signal extraction is performed with the reconstructed Higgs mass $M_{ll\gamma}$. This data-driven strategy achieves ~15% accuracy in sidebands and avoids relying on high order empirical functions for background modeling.

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