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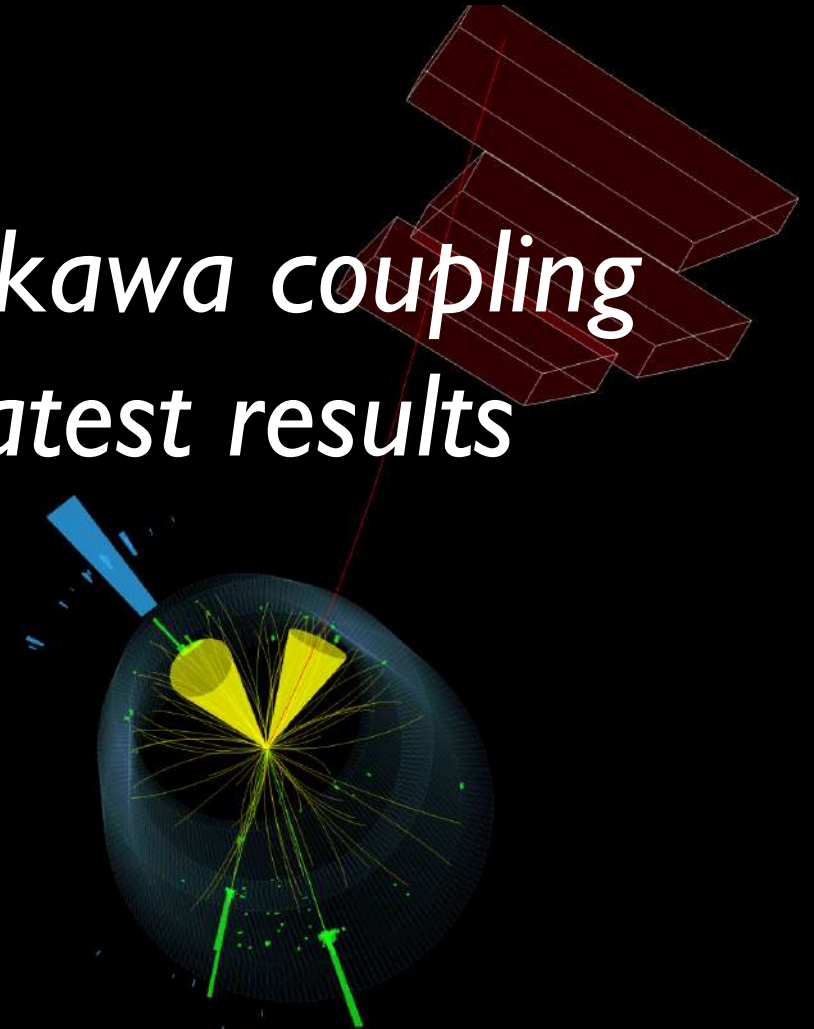
Probing the Higgs-charm Yukawa coupling with the CMS experiment: latest results and future prospects

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JETP Seminar

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, 29th April 2022

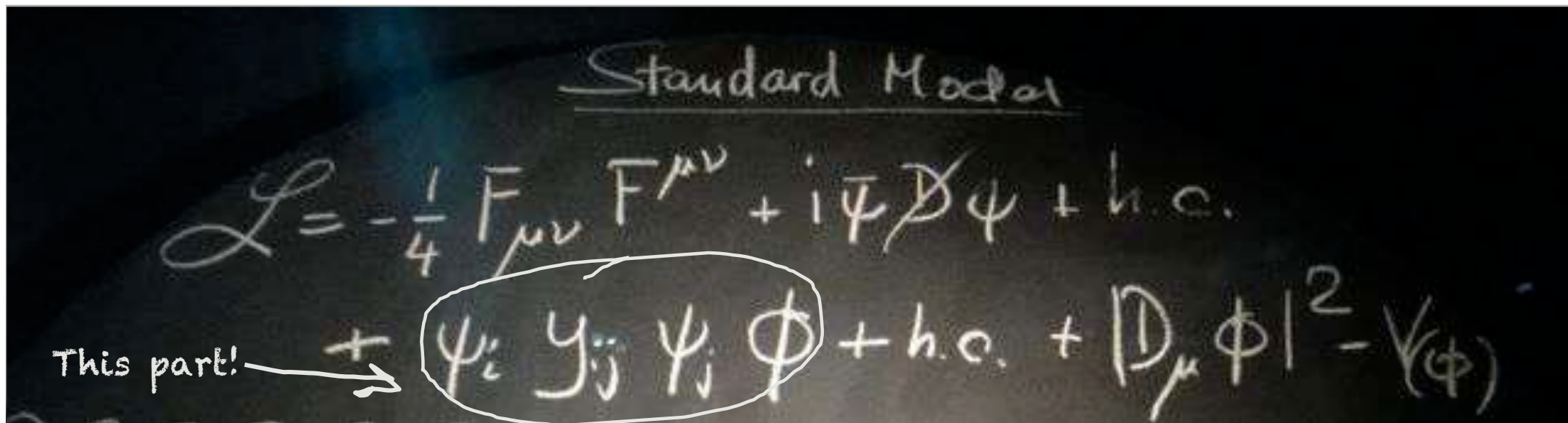
¹ Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule (RWTH) Aachen University



The Standard Model of Particle Physics

□ The SM is a non-abelian, locally gauge-invariant, quantum field theory (QFT), symmetric under local gauge transformation of the group:

$$U(1)_Y \otimes SU(2)_L \otimes SU(3)$$



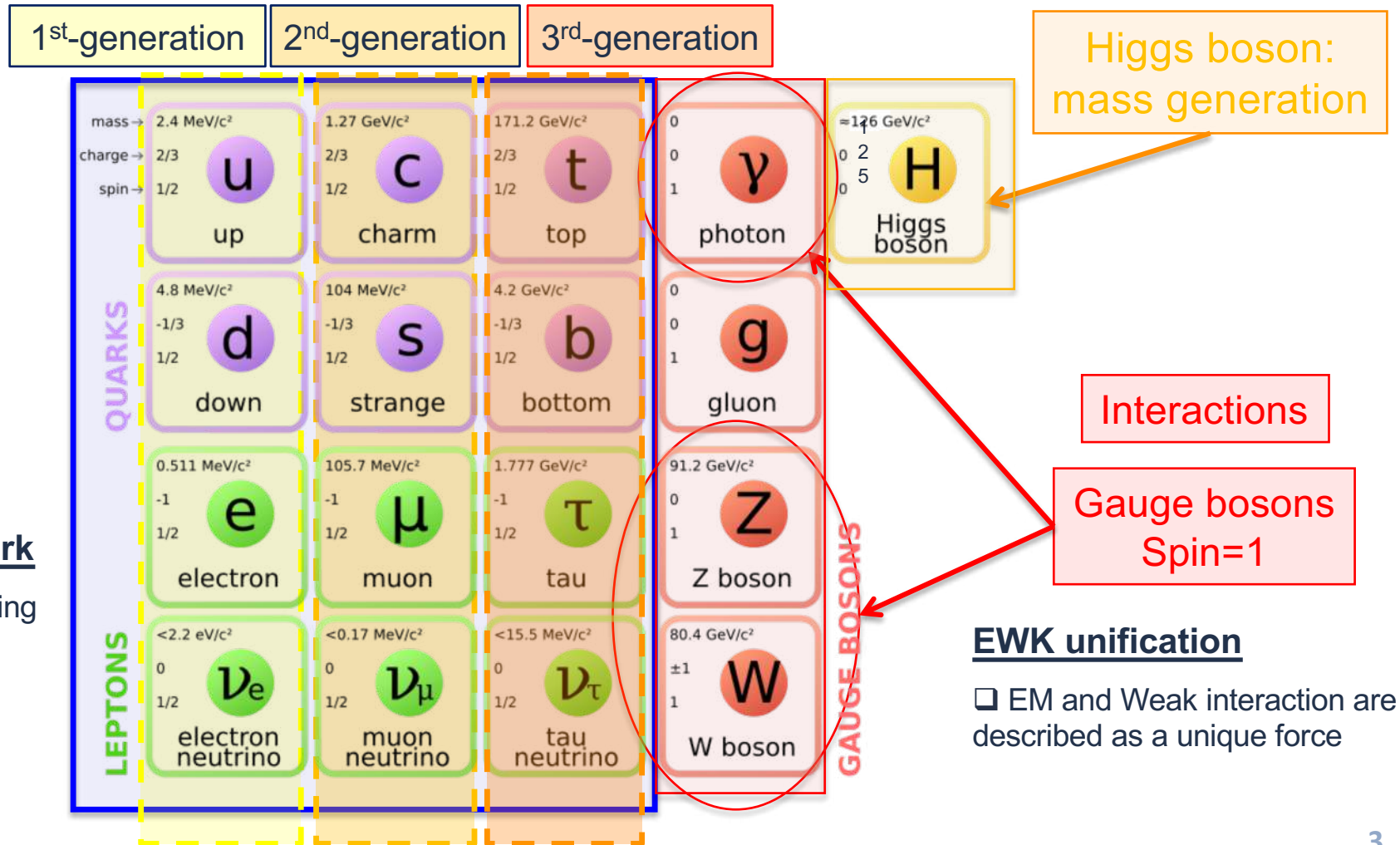
The Standard Model of Particle Physics

Matter Particles Spin=1/2

- 3 families
- Quarks up/down, and electrons → building bricks of ordinary matter
- Muon (μ) and Tau (τ) are unstable particles

Focus on charm-quark

- 1974 by B. Richter, S. Ting
- 2nd generation quark
- $m_c = 1.3 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- Transition rate 10^{-13} s



Higgs boson:
mass generation

Interactions

Gauge bosons
Spin=1

EWK unification

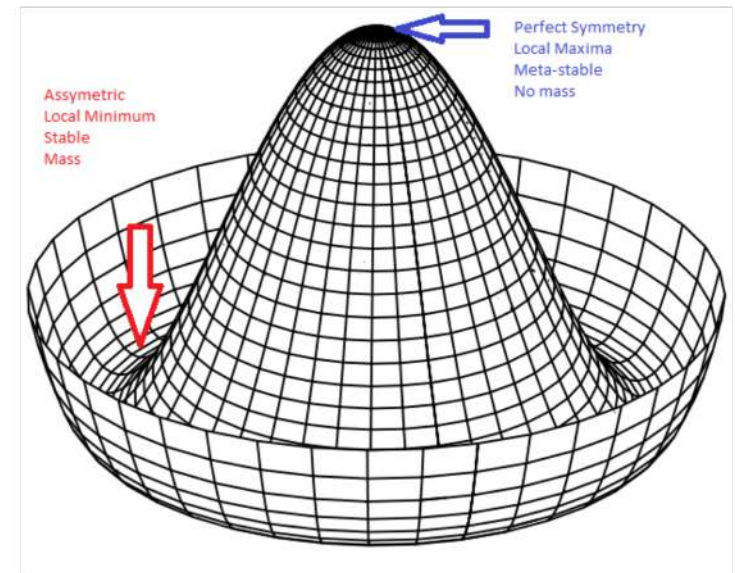
- EM and Weak interaction are described as a unique force

The Higgs mechanism in the Standard Model

- ❑ No explicit mass terms could be added in the SM lagrangian
 - Adding by "hand" a mass term ($\sim m\psi\bar{\psi}$) would spoil the renormalizability of the theory
- ❑ Particles can gain mass through the Electroweak Symmetry Breaking Mechanism
- ❑ Introducing the Higgs potential: $V(\Phi) = -\mu^2\Phi^\dagger\Phi + \lambda(\Phi^\dagger\Phi)^2$
 - Invariant under local transformation $U(1)_Y \otimes SU(2)_L$
 - It must preserve Lorentz-invariance
 - It breaks $U(1)_Y \otimes SU(2)_L \rightarrow U(1)_{E.M.}$

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \Phi^+ \\ \Phi^0 \end{pmatrix}_L \xrightarrow[\text{Small oscillations around the ground state}]{\text{Choice of a ground state}} \Phi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v + h(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Phi_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \text{Vacuum expectation value} \neq 0$$



Fermion masses in the Standard Model

□ When the symmetry is spontaneously broken:

- The **mass terms for the vector bosons** naturally appear: $m_W = \frac{vg}{2}$ and $m_Z = \frac{v\sqrt{g^2+g'^2}}{2}$
- A **new massive particle emerges**: the Higgs boson, with a mass $m_H = \sqrt{2\lambda}v$

□ ... and what about the fermions masses? → Introduction of Yukawa couplings

$$L_Y = y_l \bar{\chi}_L \phi l_R + y_u \bar{q}_L \tilde{\phi} u_R + y_d \bar{q}_L \phi d_R + \text{h.c.}$$

$$\phi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v+h \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v+h \end{pmatrix}$$

$$L_Y = \frac{vy_l}{\sqrt{2}} (\bar{l}_L l_R + \bar{l}_R l_L) + \frac{vy_u}{\sqrt{2}} (\bar{u}_L u_R + \bar{u}_R u_L) + \frac{vy_d}{\sqrt{2}} (\bar{d}_L d_R + \bar{d}_R d_L)$$

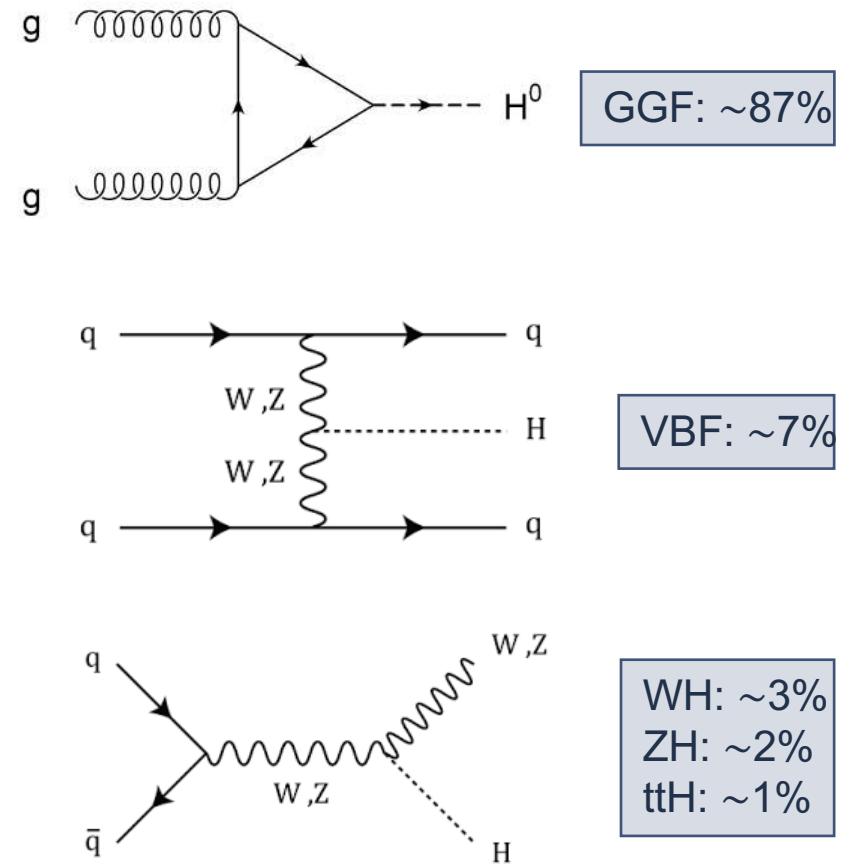
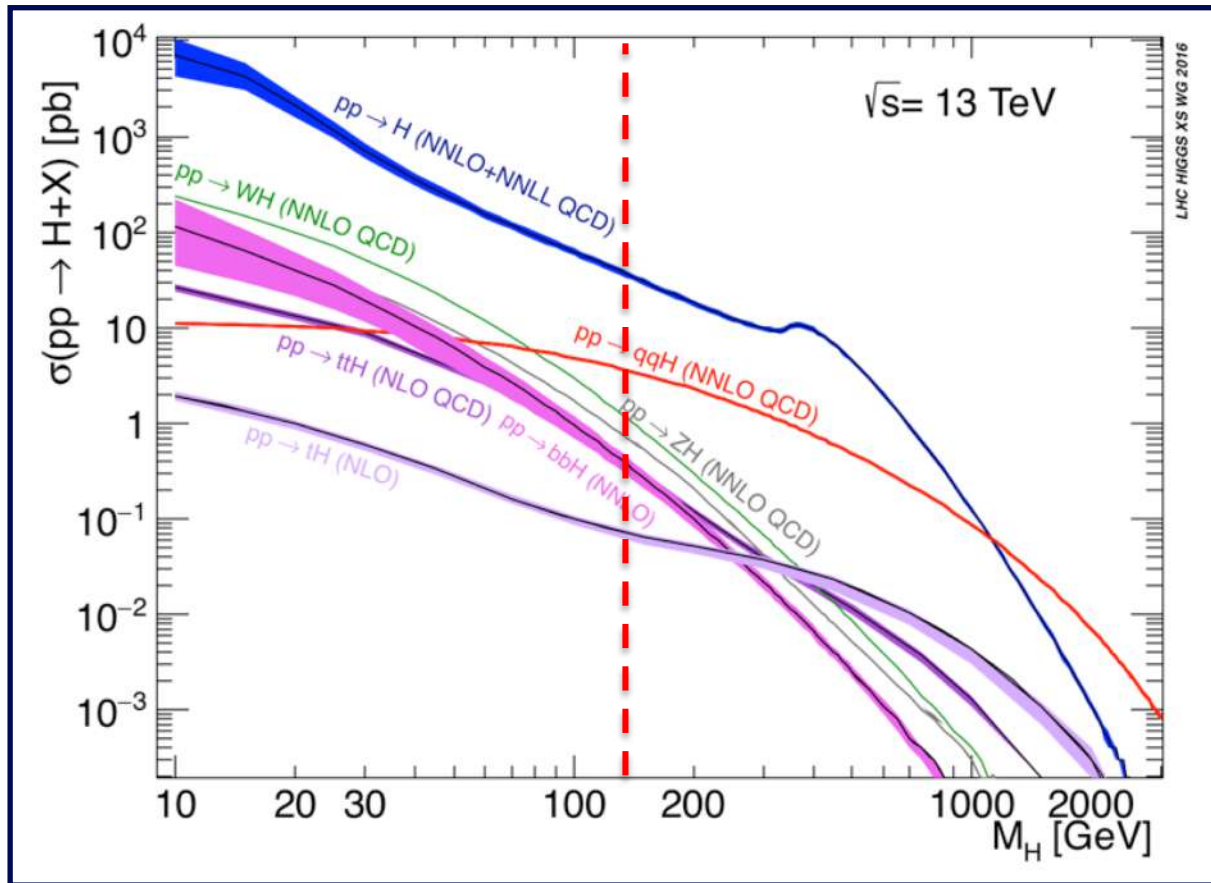
$$y_i = \frac{m_i}{v} \sqrt{2}$$

Gauge invariant
mass term

Yukawa coupling bring new non-gauge interactions!

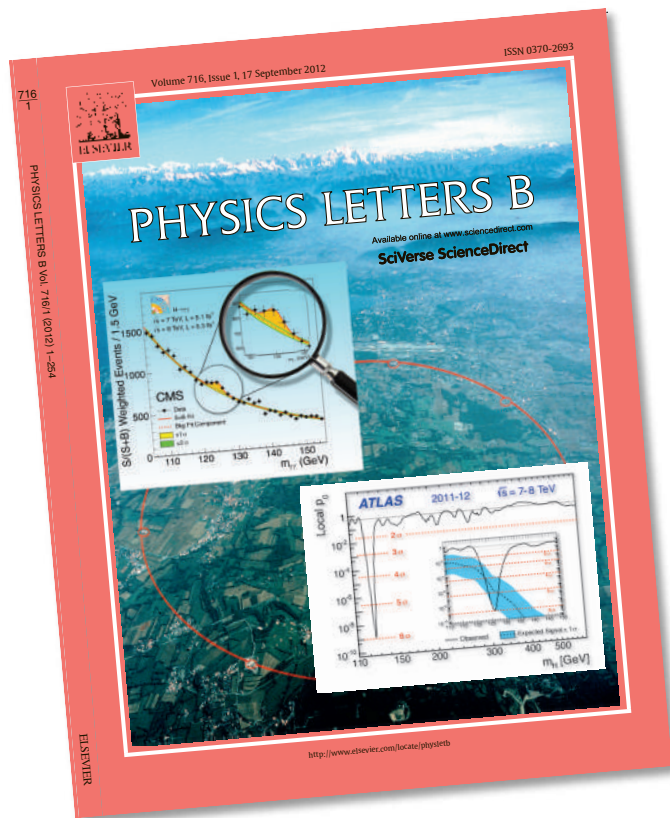
The Higgs boson at the LHC

□ Main Higgs boson production mechanisms at the LHC



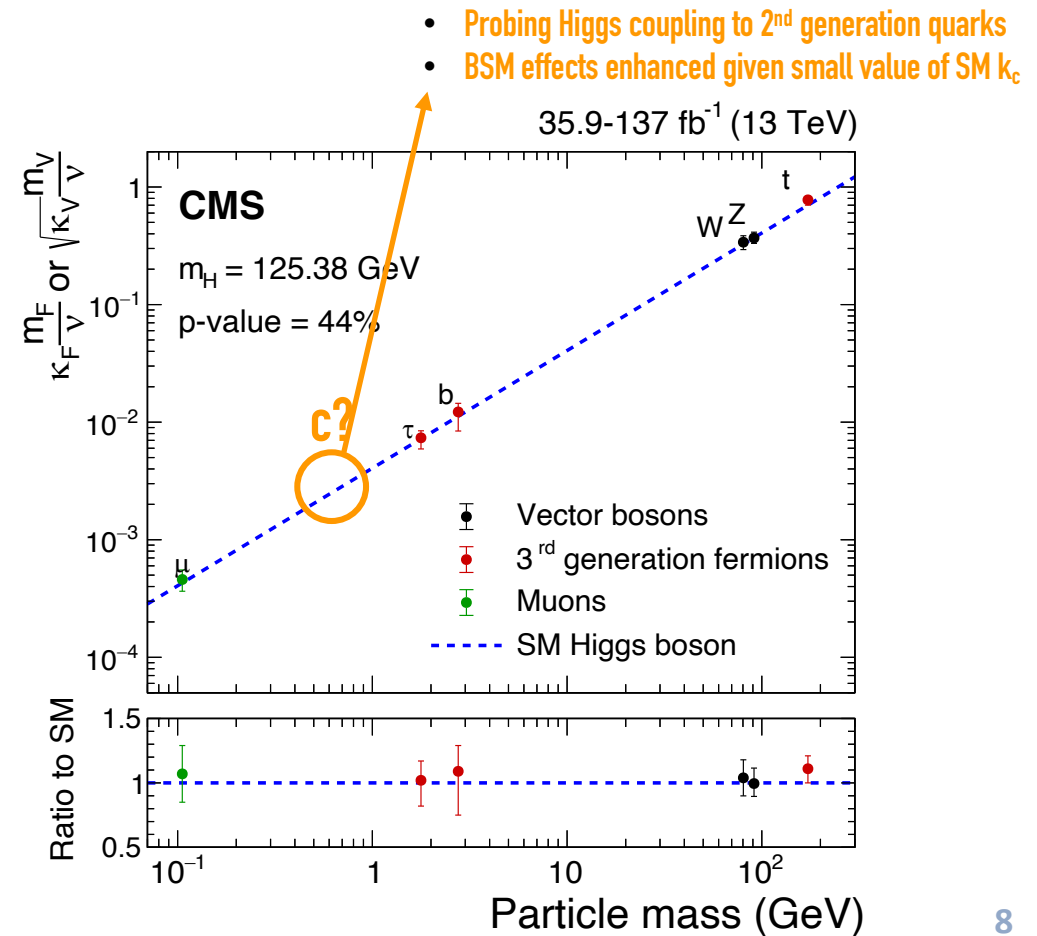
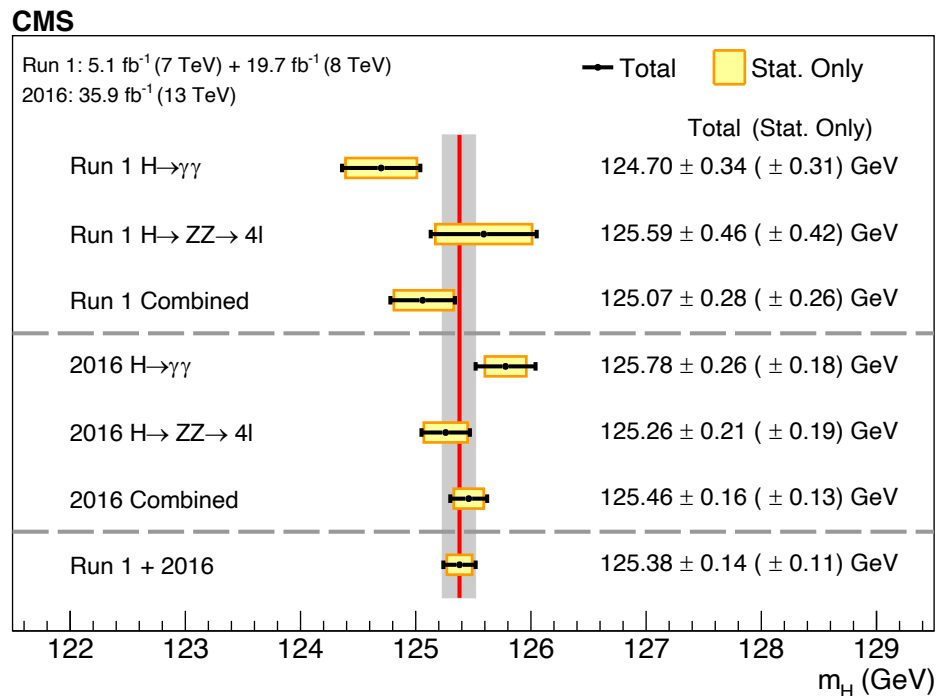
Discovery of the Higgs boson

- Discovery of the Higgs boson in 2012: A new chapter of particle physics



Understanding the Higgs boson

- Tremendous progress in our understanding of the Higgs boson in the past ten years
- Precision measurements of Higgs boson properties
- All couplings to 3rd generation fermions established

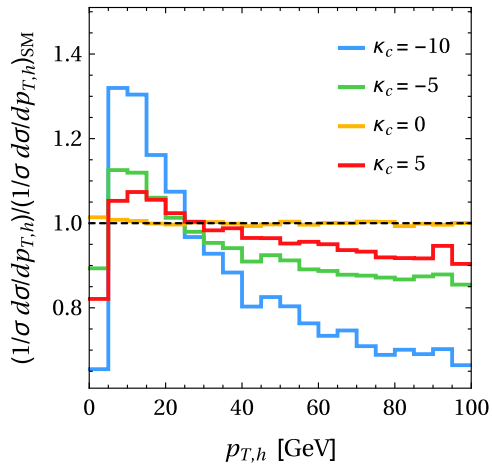


Probing the Higgs-charm coupling

Several methods explored by CMS to probe the Higgs-charm Yukawa coupling (y_c)

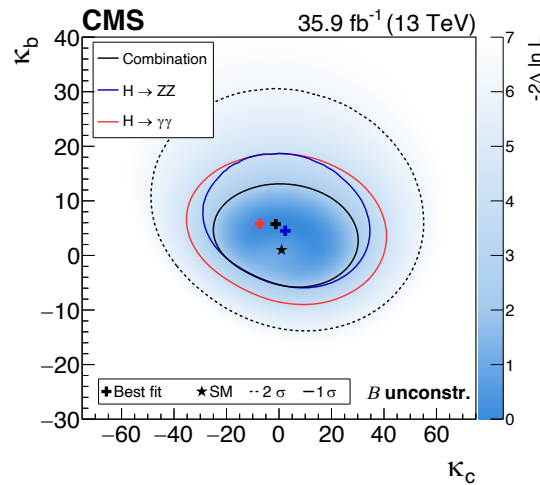
Indirect constraint from Higgs kinematics

Phys. Rev. Lett. 118, 121801



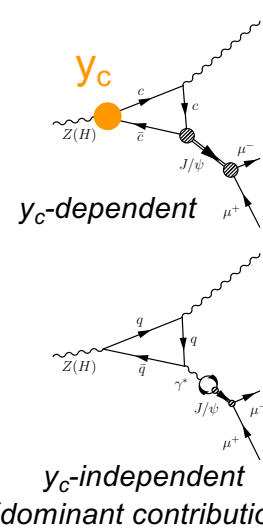
Variation of $p_T(H)$ shape as a function $\kappa_c = y_c/y_c^{SM}$

Phys. Lett. B 792 (2019) 369

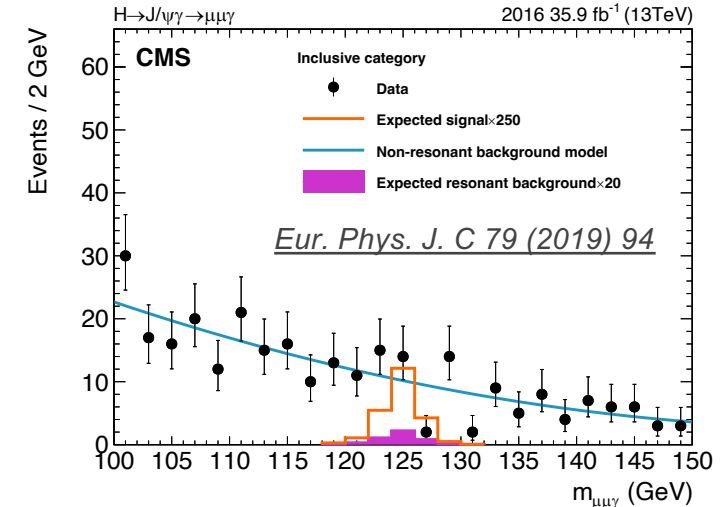


$-33 < \kappa_c < 38$ (obs.)
 $-31 < \kappa_c < 36$ (exp.)

Search for exclusive $H \rightarrow J/\Psi \gamma$ decays



Phys.Rev.D 90 (2014) 11, 113010
JHEP 08 (2015) 012
Phys.Rev.D 95 (2017) 5, 054018
Phys.Rev.D 100 (2019) 5, 054038

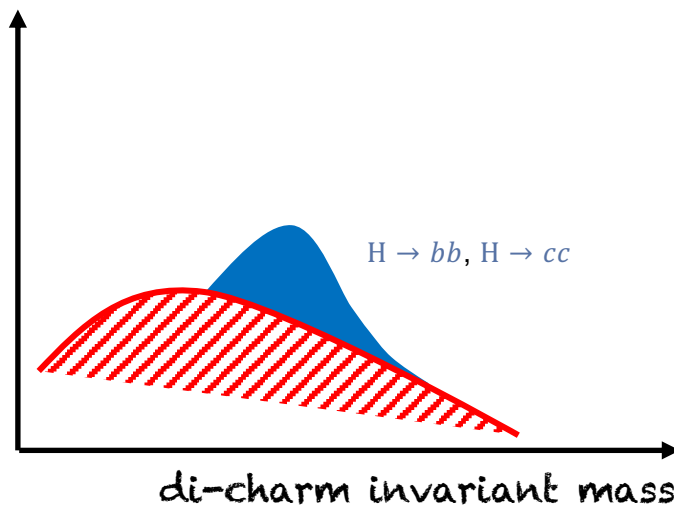
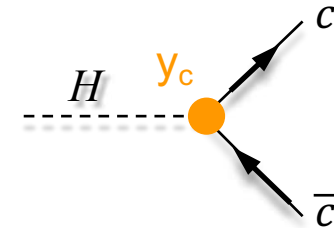


$\mathcal{B}(H \rightarrow J/\Psi \gamma) < 220x \text{ SM(obs.)}$
 $\mathcal{B}(H \rightarrow J/\Psi \gamma) < 170x \text{ SM(exp.)}$
 Roughly translates to $\kappa_c < O(100)$

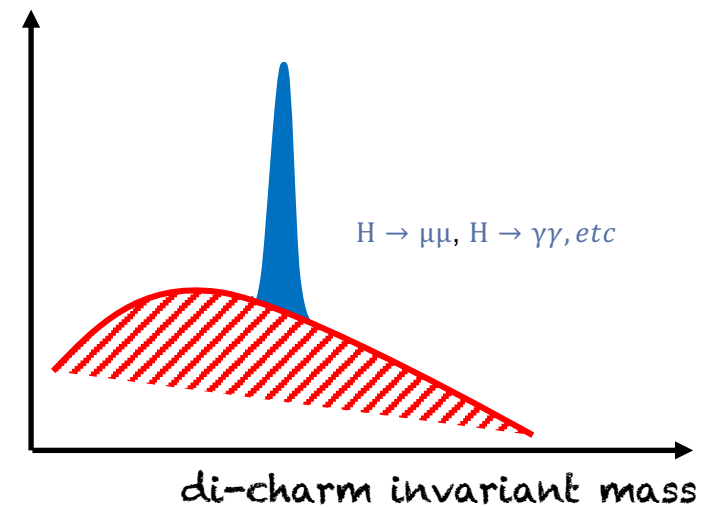
Direct search for $H \rightarrow cc$

□ Search for $H \rightarrow cc$ decays: **directly sensitive to y_c , but very challenging**

- Quite small branching ratio (x20 smaller than $H \rightarrow bb$)
- QCD (reducible) and V+jets (irreducible) background
- Relatively poor invariant mass resolution



vs.

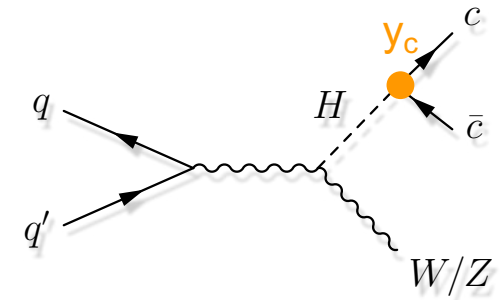
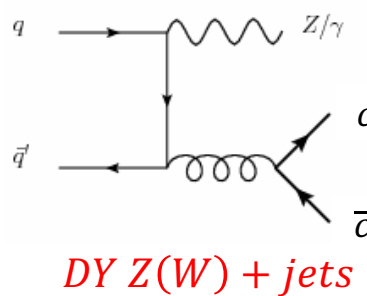
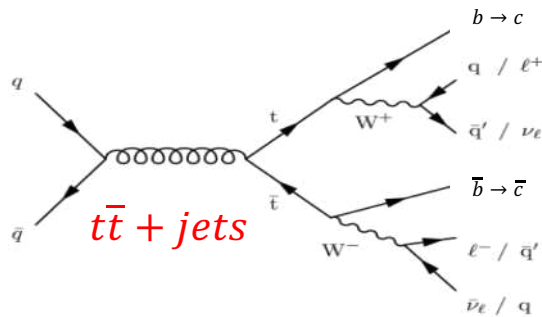


→ Charm quark identification + improvement of mass resolution play key roles

Direct search for $H \rightarrow cc$: Targeting VH production

□ Main backgrounds

- V + jets, single and pair production of top quarks, dibosons, VH($H \rightarrow bb$)



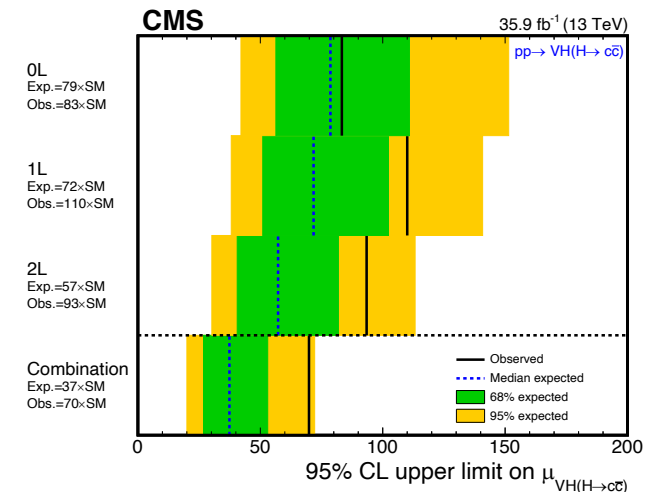
□ Exploit associated VH production ($V = W, Z$)

- Leptonic decays of V \rightarrow handle to trigger events
- Boost of V \rightarrow Reduce backgrounds
- Three channels: $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ (0L), $W \rightarrow \ell\nu$ (1L), $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$ (2L) [$\ell = e, \mu$]

□ Previous result (36 fb^{-1}): [JHEP 03 (2020) 131]

□ Today: result with the full Run 2 data set (138 fb^{-1})

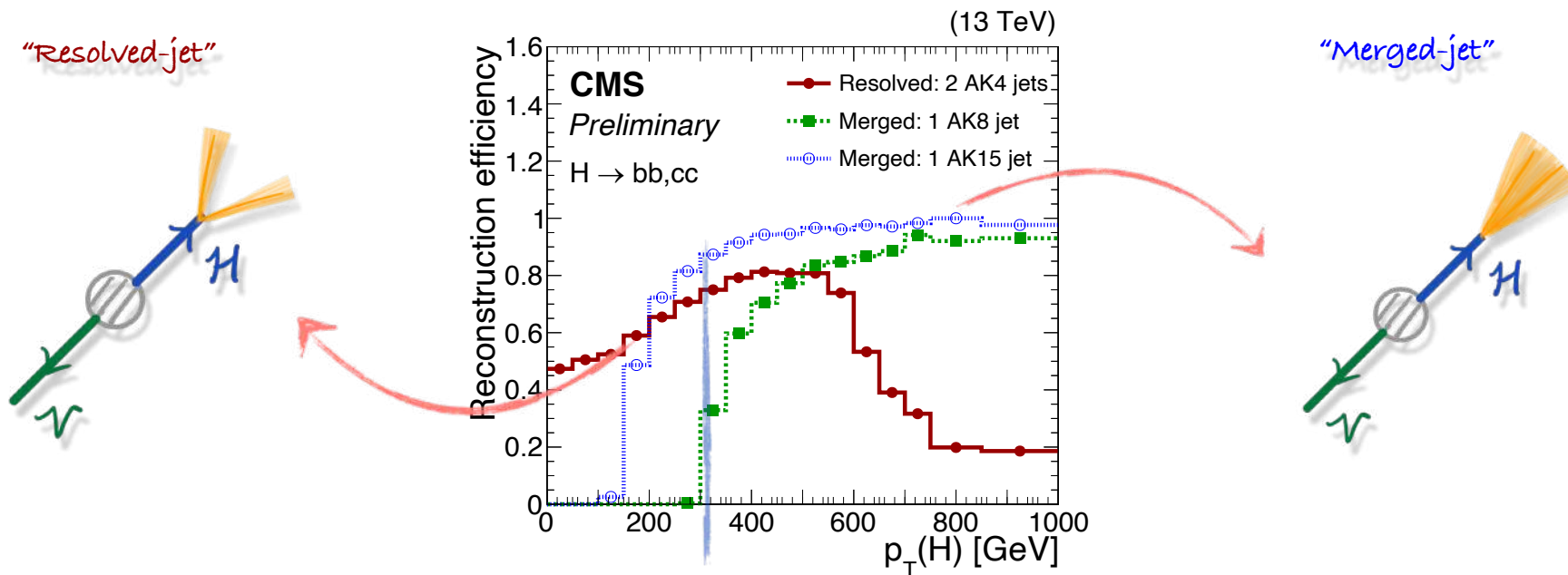
JHEP 03 (2020) 131



Corresponding ATLAS analysis: [arXiv:2201.11428](https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.11428). See also recent [LHC seminar](#) by A. Chisholm. 11

Analysis overview

□ $\Delta R(c, \bar{c}) \sim 2m(H)/p_T(H) \rightarrow$ Two complementary approaches for Higgs boson candidate reconstruction



Resolved-jet topology

- reconstructs $H \rightarrow cc$ decay with two small-R jets ($R=0.4$, “AK4”)
- probes the bulk (>95%) of the signal phase space

Merged-jet topology

- reconstructs $H \rightarrow cc$ decay with one large-R jets ($R=1.5$, “AK15”)
- small signal acceptance (<5%) but higher purity
- better exploits the correlation between the two charm quarks

\rightarrow The two topologies are made orthogonal via presence of AK15 jet with $p_T > 300$ GeV

CMS detector in a nutshell

CMS DETECTOR

Total weight : 14,000 tonnes
Overall diameter : 15.0 m
Overall length : 28.7 m
Magnetic field : 3.8 T

STEEL RETURN YOKE
12,500 tonnes

SILICON TRACKERS

Pixel ($100 \times 150 \mu\text{m}$) $\sim 16\text{m}^2 \sim 66\text{M}$ channels
Microstrips ($80 \times 180 \mu\text{m}$) $\sim 200\text{m}^2 \sim 9.6\text{M}$ channels

SUPERCONDUCTING SOLENOID

Niobium titanium coil carrying $\sim 18,000\text{A}$

MUON CHAMBERS

Barrel: 250 Drift Tube, 480 Resistive Plate Chambers
Endcaps: 468 Cathode Strip, 432 Resistive Plate Chambers

PRESHOWER

Silicon strips $\sim 16\text{m}^2 \sim 137,000$ channels

FORWARD CALORIMETER

Steel + Quartz fibres $\sim 2,000$ Channels

CRYSTAL
ELECTROMAGNETIC
CALORIMETER (ECAL)

$\sim 76,000$ scintillating PbWO_4 crystals

HADRON CALORIMETER (HCAL)

Brass + Plastic scintillator $\sim 7,000$ channels

❑ A high quality central tracking system to give accurate momentum measurements

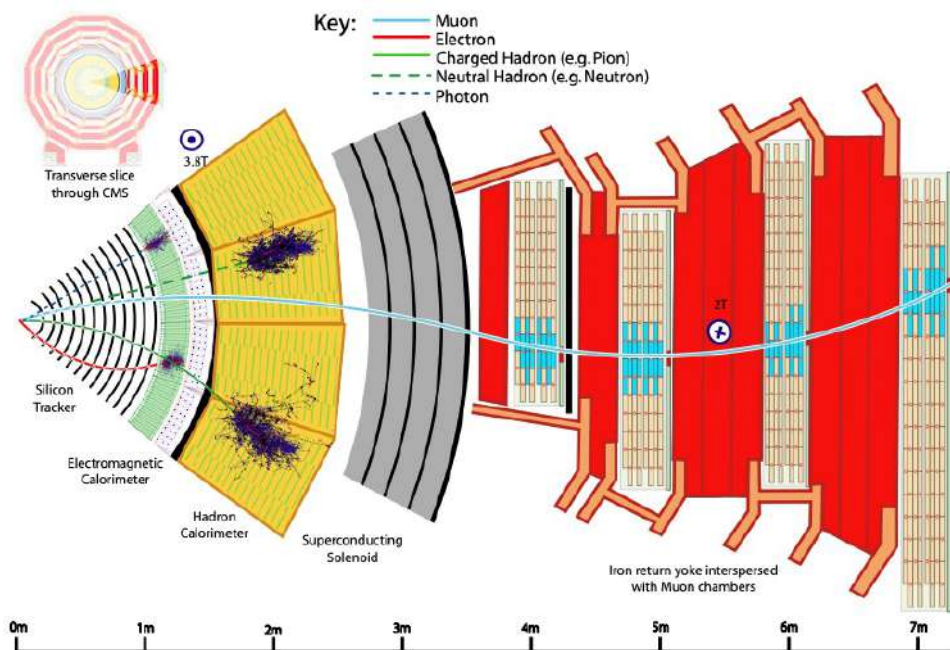
❑ A high resolution electromagnetic calorimeter to detect and measure electrons and photons

❑ A “hermetic” hadron calorimeter, designed to entirely surround the collision and prevent particles from escaping.

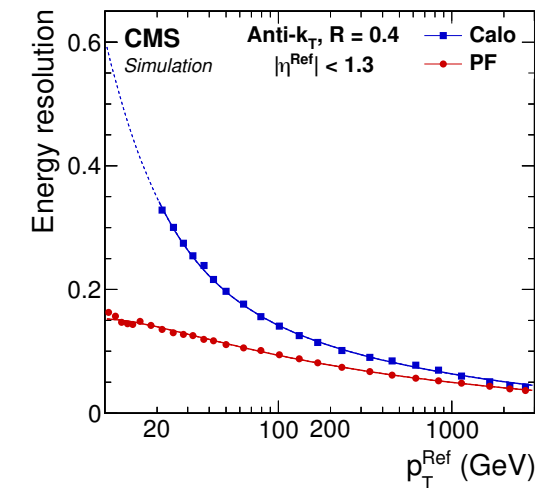
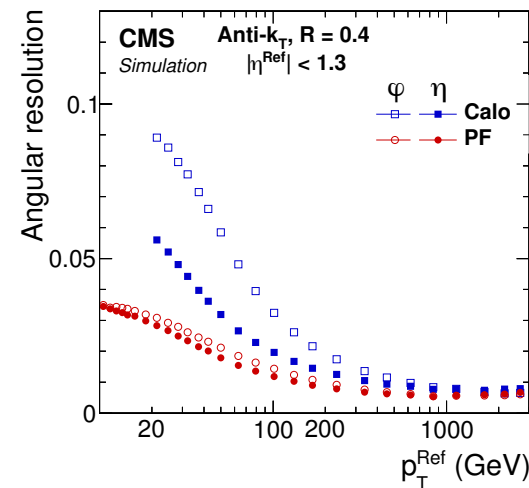
❑ A high performance system to detect and measure muons

Particle-Flow reconstruction

- Combines the information from the different CMS sub-detectors to identify all the stable particles in the event
 - Powerful approach for jet reconstruction and flavor tagging
 - Excellent energy and angular resolution
 - Each particle (PF candidate) contains a rich set of information from multiple sub-detectors → inputs to deep learning

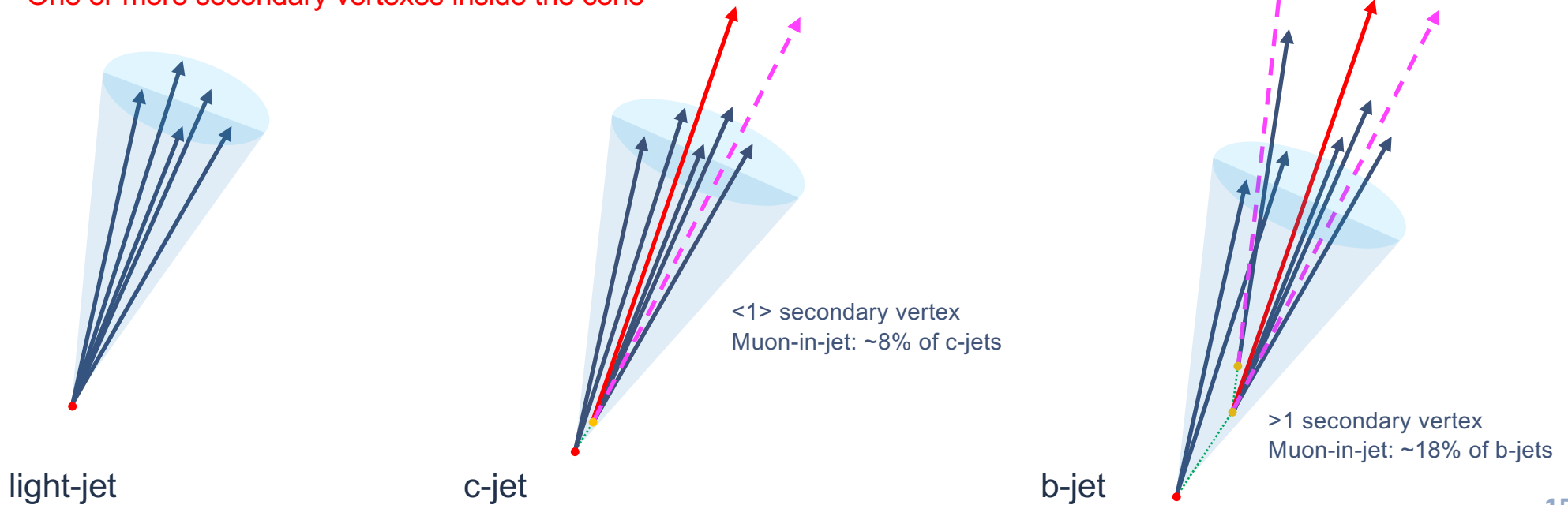
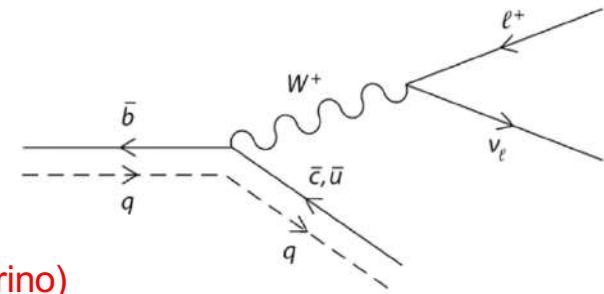


JINST 12 (2017) P10003

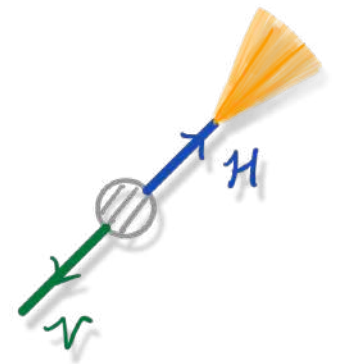


How to identify a charm jet?

- ❑ Bottom and charm initiated jets have quite peculiar characteristics
- ❑ During hadronization b- and c- quarks forms B and D mesons
- ❑ b- and c- quark can change flavor with the emission of a W
 - The W can decay leptonically → soft lepton inside the jet cone + MET (neutrino)
 - One or more secondary vertexes inside the cone



Merged-jet topology



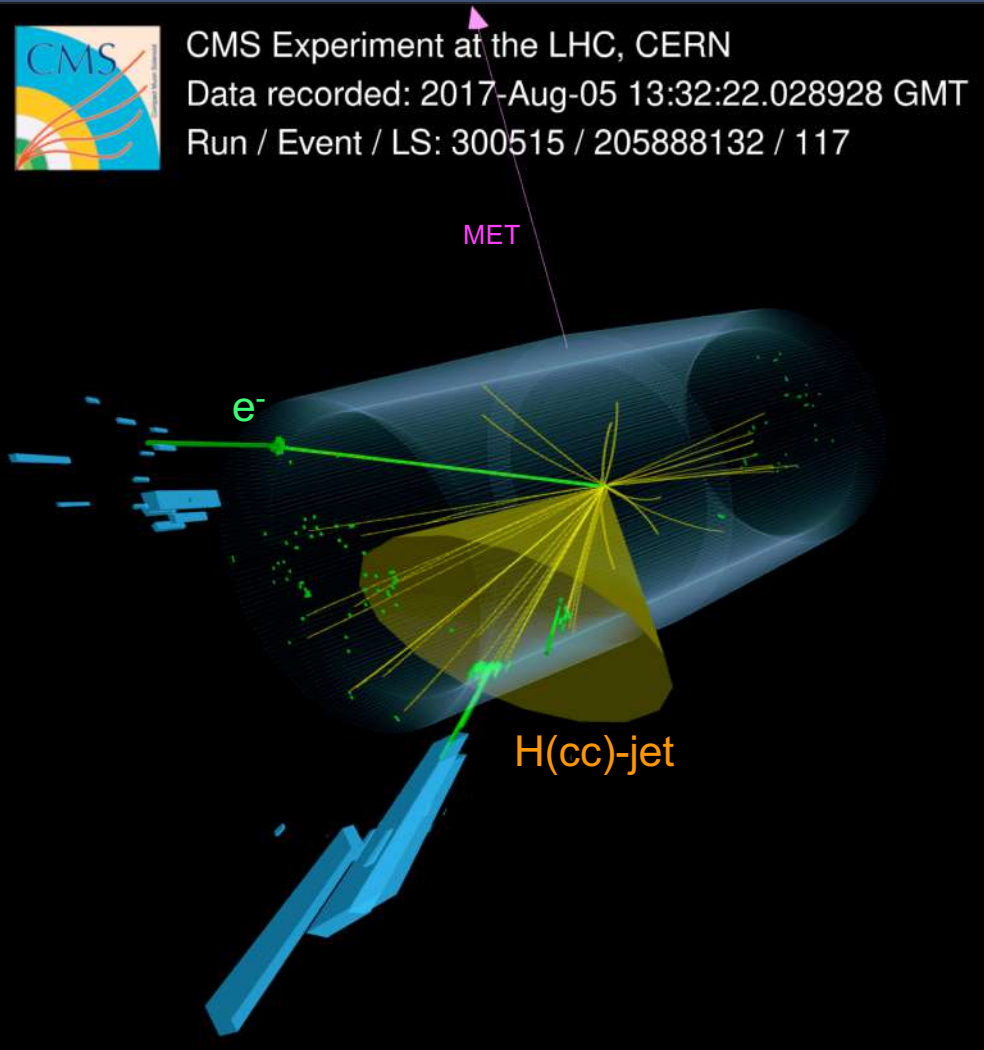
Overview of the merged-jet topology



CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN

Data recorded: 2017-Aug-05 13:32:22.028928 GMT

Run / Event / LS: 300515 / 205888132 / 117



□ Higgs candidate reconstruction

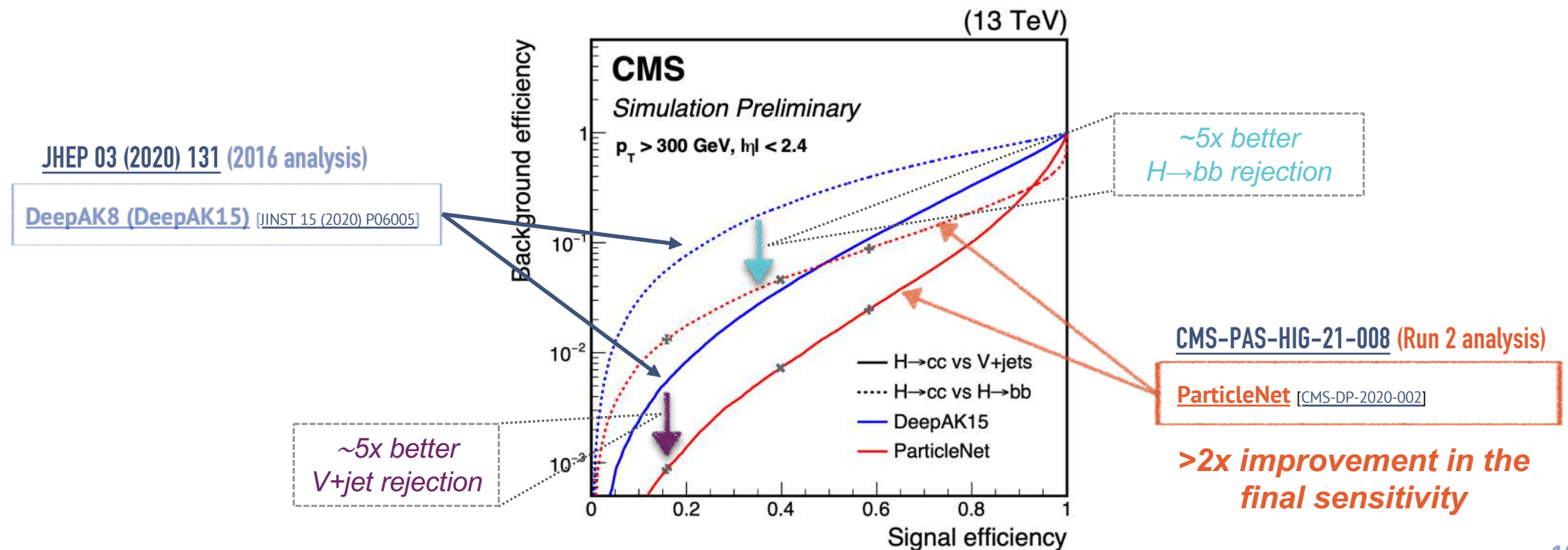
- Select one AK15-jets with the highest p_T as $H \rightarrow cc$ jet
- Identification of $H \rightarrow cc$ using ParticleNet tagger (dedicated calibration+mass sculpting mitigation)
- Dedicated cc-jet mass regression for improved cc-jet mass scale and resolution

□ Analysis strategy (three channels: 0L, 1L, 2L)

- Control regions for background normalizations
- Kinematic-BDT + cc-tagger score for categorization
- Fit to soft-drop mass

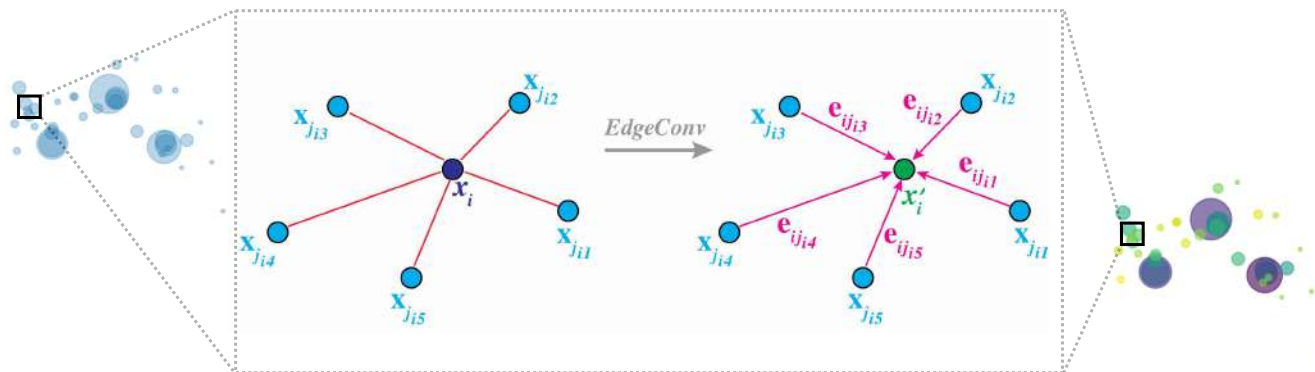
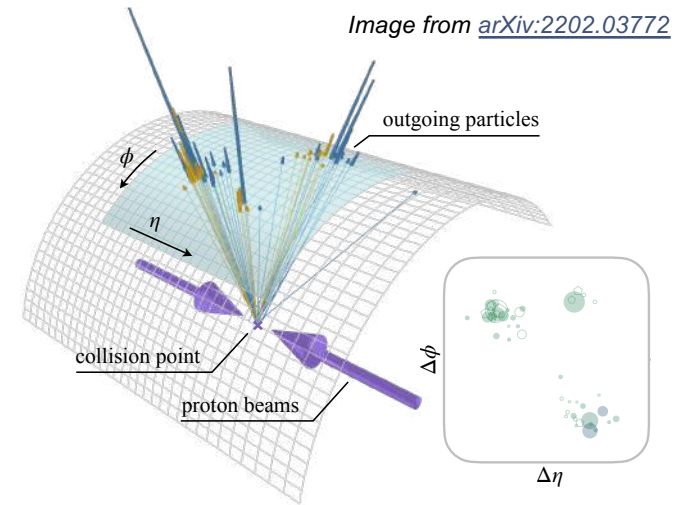
H → cc identification

- ❑ Merged-jet topology: Higgs boson candidate reconstructed via a single large-R jet ($p_T > 300$ GeV)
- ❑ **ParticleNet** tagger used to identify H → cc decay → Large improvement vs previous techniques
- ❑ Multi-class DNN boosted jet classifier → Trained targeting hadronic decays of a spin-0 particle X ($X \rightarrow bb, cc$)



ParticleNet architecture

- New jet representation: “particle cloud”
 - treating a jet as an unordered set of particles, distributed in the $\eta - \phi$ space
- ParticleNet [[Phys.Rev.D 101 \(2020\) 5, 056019](#)]
 - graph neural network architecture adapted from DGCNN [[arXiv:1801.07829](#)]
 - Mass-decorrelation training to mitigate mass-sculpting (more in back-up)



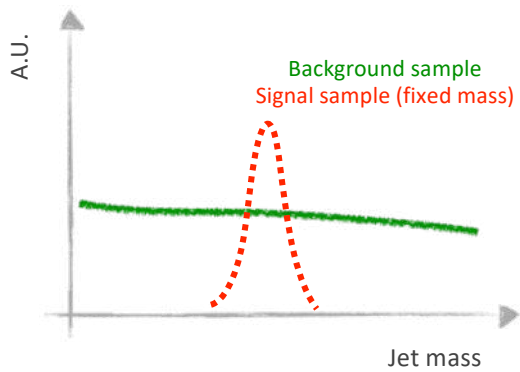
Performance on top quark tagging benchmark
[[SciPost Phys. 7, 014 \(2019\)](#)]

	$1/\epsilon_b$ at $\epsilon_s = 30\%$
ResNeXt-50	1147 ± 58
P-CNN	759 ± 24
PFN	888 ± 17
ParticleNet-Lite	1262 ± 49
ParticleNet	1615 ± 93

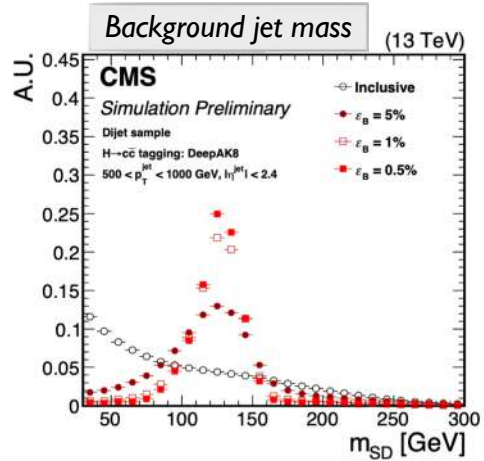
Mass decorrelation

CMS-DP-2020-002

Plain training:
no mass decorrelation

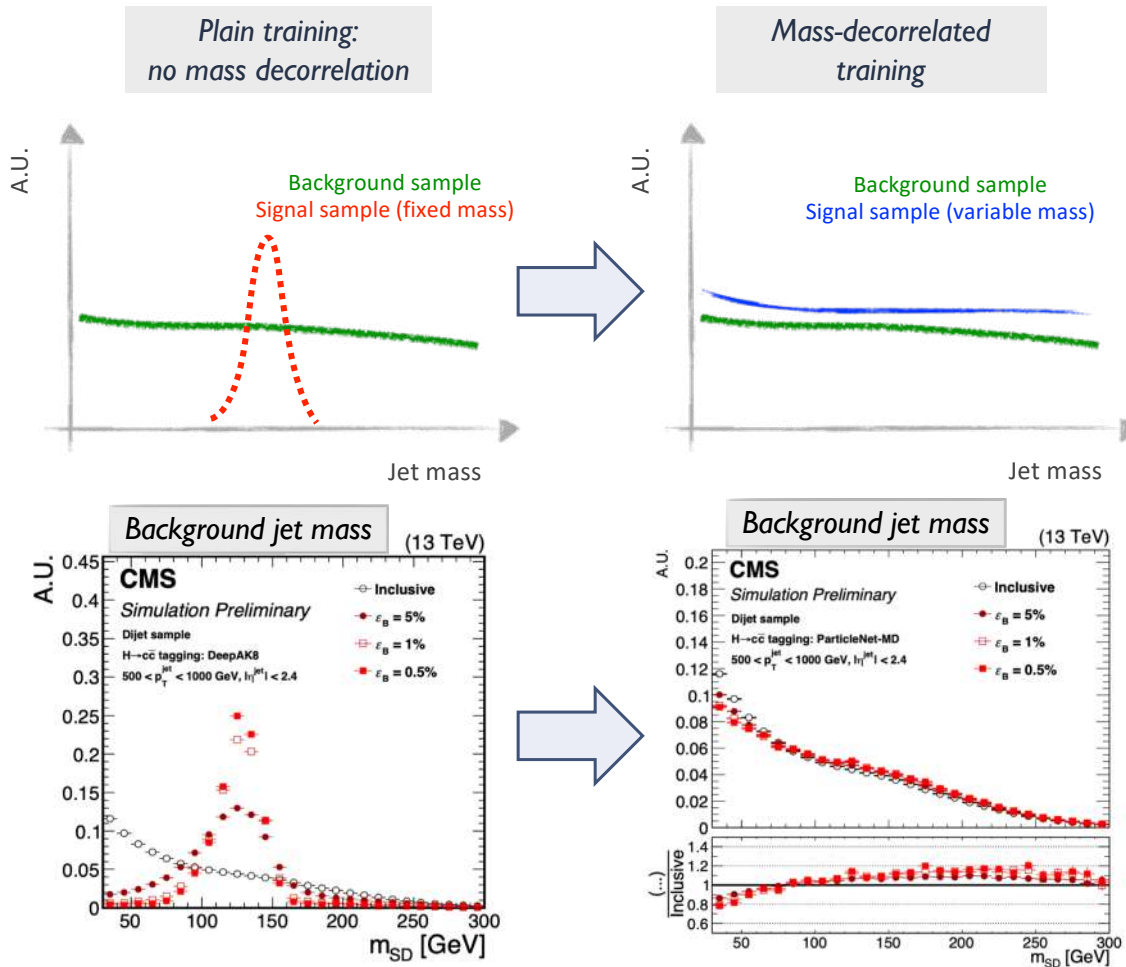


□ “Mass sculpting”: background jet mass shape becomes similar to signal after tagger selection



Mass decorrelation

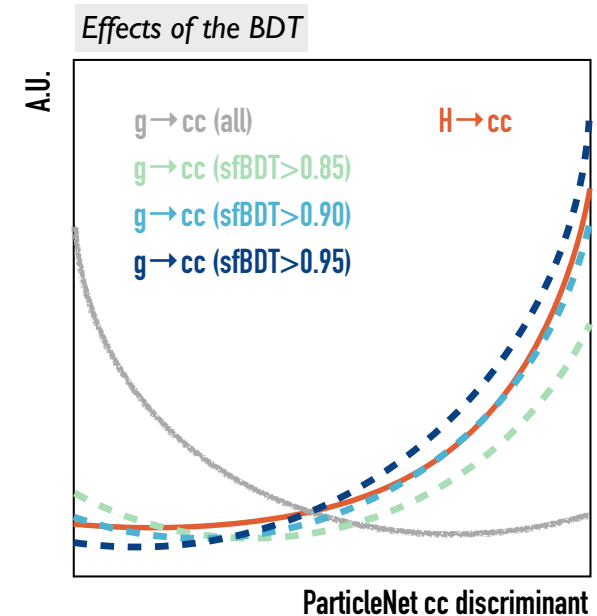
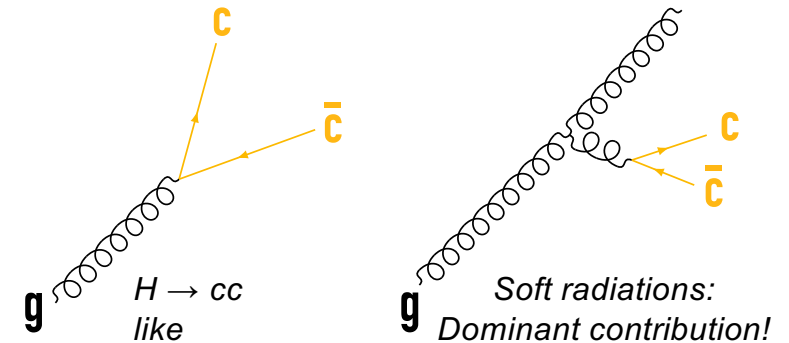
CMS-DP-2020-002



- ❑ “Mass sculpting”: background jet mass shape becomes similar to signal after tagger selection
- ❑ New approach to prevent mass sculpting
 - using a special signal sample for training with a **flat mass spectrum** $m(X) \in [15, 250]$ GeV
- ❑ Signal and background have the same (\sim flat) mass spectrum \rightarrow no sculpting in the training
- ❑ Performance loss due to mass decorrelation greatly reduced compared to the previous approach

Calibration of the cc-tagger

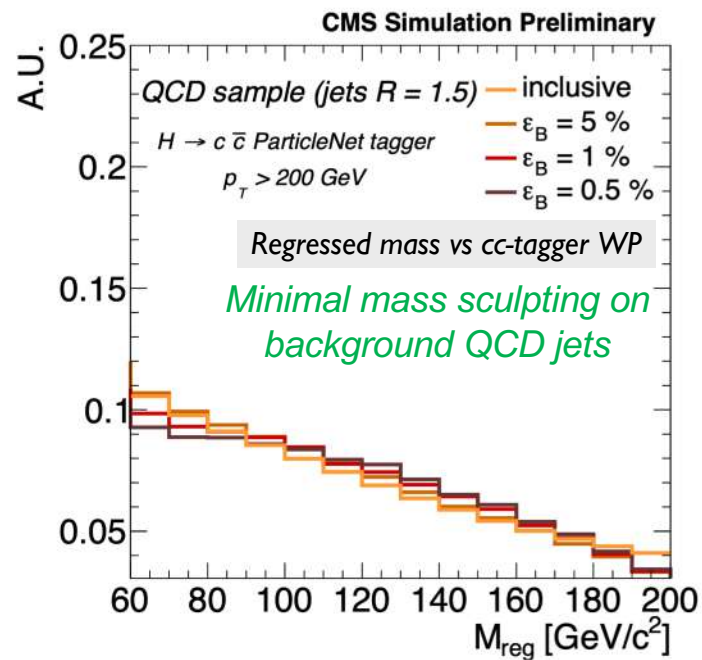
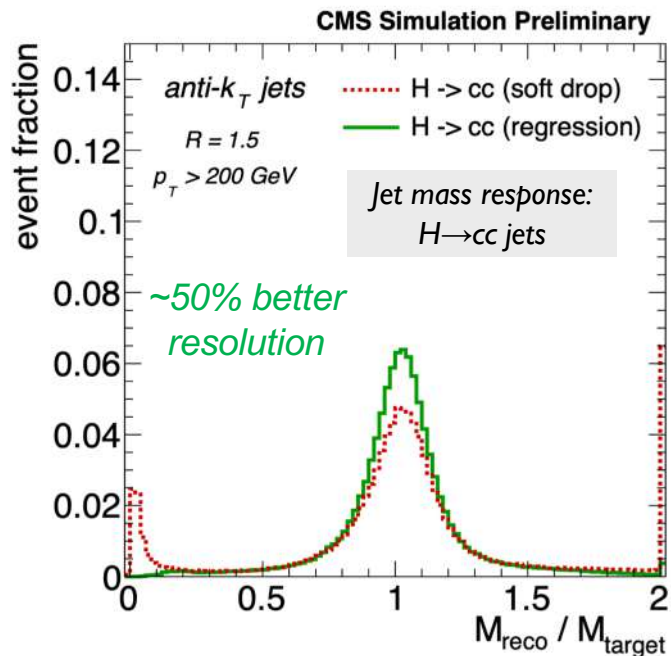
- ❑ Need to measure ParticleNet cc-tagging efficiency in data
 - No pure sample of $H \rightarrow cc$ jets (or even $Z \rightarrow cc$) in data
 - Using $g \rightarrow cc$ in QCD multi-jet events as a proxy
- ❑ Difficulty: select a phase-space in $g \rightarrow cc$ that resembles $H \rightarrow cc$
 - Solution: BDT developed to distinguish hard 2-prong splittings from soft cc
- ❑ Fit to the secondary vertex mass in the “passing” and “failing” regions simultaneously to extract the scale factors (typically 0.9-1.3)
 - three templates: cc (+ single c), bb (+ single b), light flavor jets
 - corresponding uncertainties are 20-30%



Large-R jet mass regression

- ❑ Jet mass: one of the most powerful observable to distinguish signal and backgrounds
- ❑ New ParticleNet-based regression algorithm to improve the large-R jet mass reconstruction

[CMS DP-2021/017](#)



**20 – 25% improvement
in the final sensitivity**

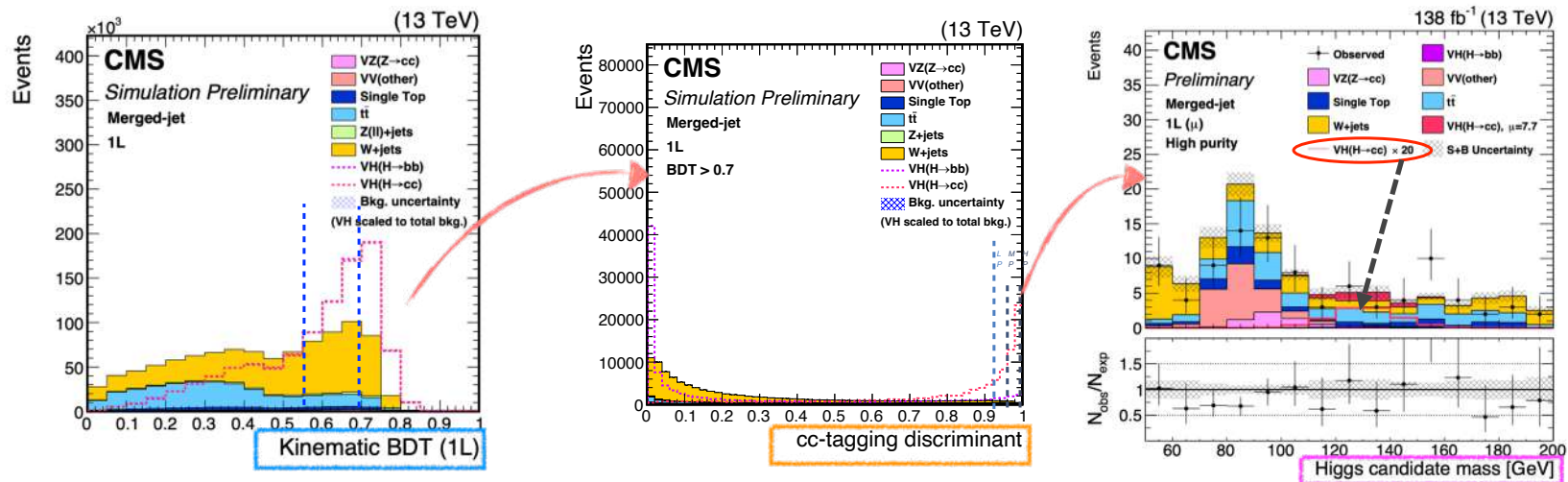
Analysis strategy – merged-jet topology

Factorized approach for analysis design

- event-level kinematic BDT developed in each channel to better suppress main backgrounds (V+jets, tt)
 - using only *event kinematics*, no intrinsic properties (e.g., mass/ flavor) of the large-R jet
- ParticleNet cc-tagger then used to define 3 cc-flavor enriched regions and reject light/bb-flavor jets
- finally: fit to the ParticleNet-regressed large-R jet mass shape for signal extraction

Kinematic BDT, ParticleNet cc-tagger and regressed jet mass largely independent of each other

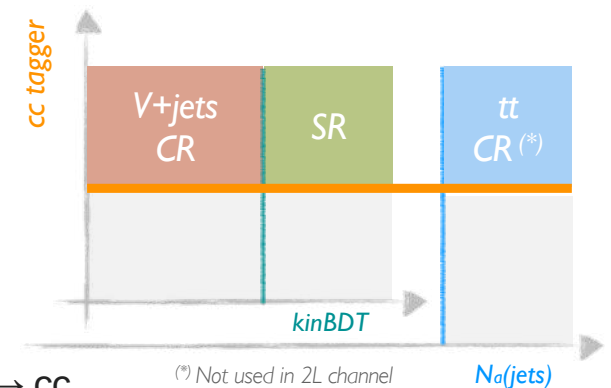
- Sand robust strategy for background estimation and signal extraction



Background estimation

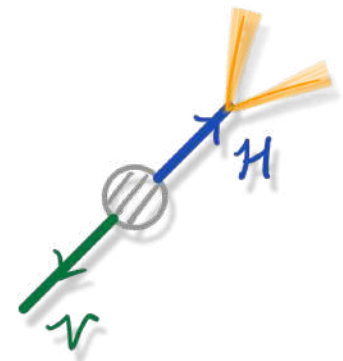
- Normalizations of main backgrounds estimated via dedicated data control regions (CRs)
 - **V+jets CR**: use the low kinematic BDT region
 - **tt CR** (0L & 1L): invert the cut on the number of additional small-R jets (i.e., $N_{aj} \geq 2$)
 - free-floating parameters scale the normalizations in CRs and signal regions (SRs) simultaneously

- CRs designed to have similar jet flavor composition as the SR
 - flavor-independent kinematic BDT + same cc-tagging requirement in CRs as in SR
 - allows to correct cc-tagging efficiency for backgrounds directly from data
 - cc-tagging SFs only needed for the signal $VH(H \rightarrow cc)$ process (and $VZ(Z \rightarrow cc)$)
 - conservative uncertainty (2x/0.5x) for the misidentification of $H(Z) \rightarrow bb$ as $H(Z) \rightarrow cc$

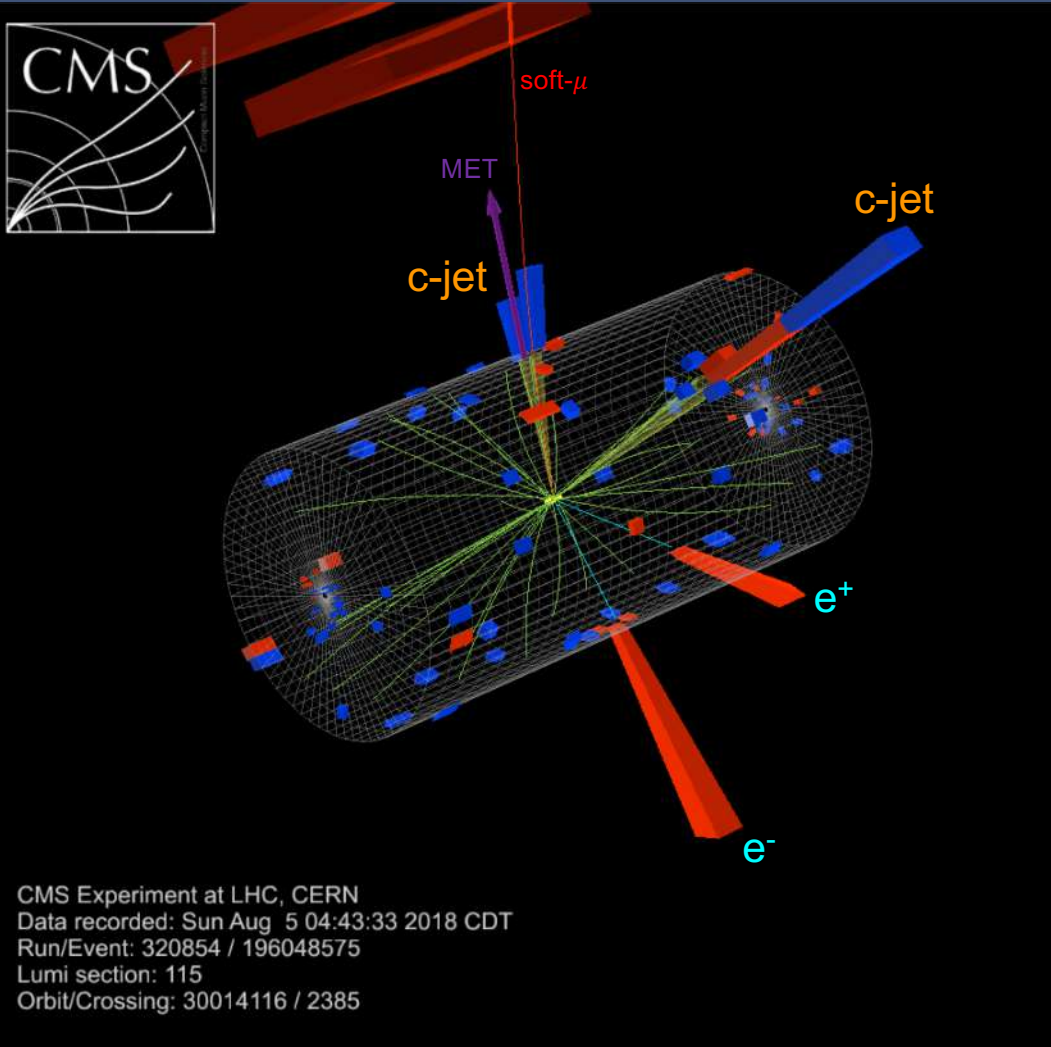


- Minor backgrounds (single top, dibosons, $VH(H \rightarrow bb)$) estimated from simulation
 - dibosons: applying differential NNLO QCD + NLO EW corrections as a function of $p_T(V)$ [[JHEP 2002 \(2020\) 087](#)]

Resolved-jet topology



Overview of the resolved-jet topology



□ Higgs candidate reconstruction

- Select two AK4-jets with the highest c-tagger discriminant score as Higgs jets
- Dedicated c-jet energy regression for improved c-jet energy scale and resolution + Recover FSR-jets
- Kinematic-fit (2L channels)

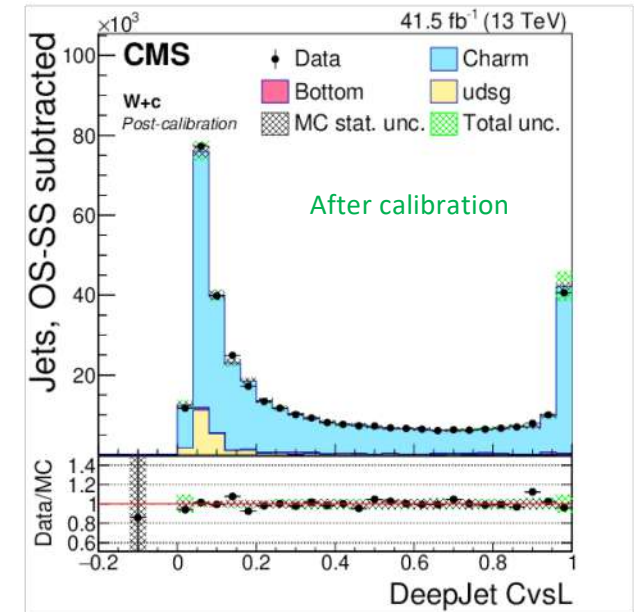
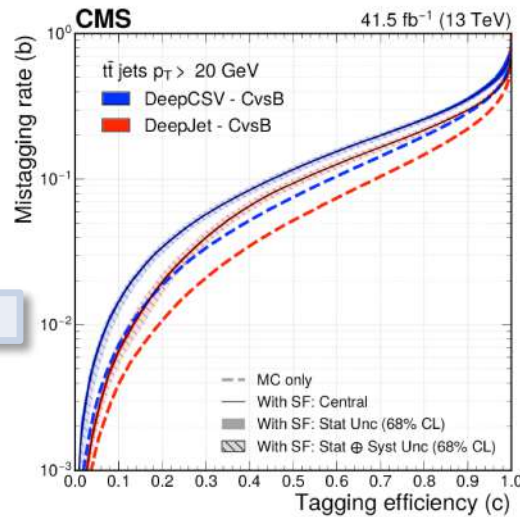
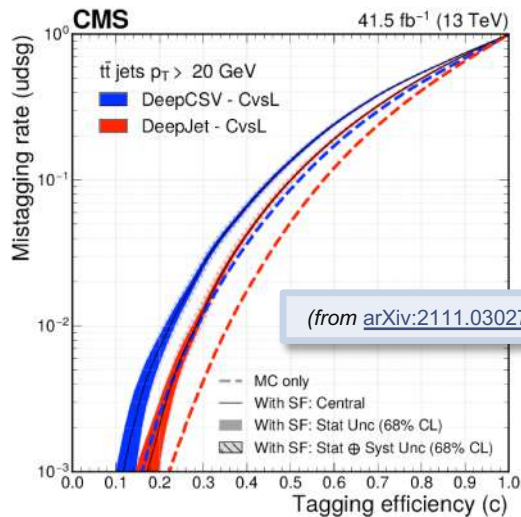
□ Analysis strategy (three channels: 0L, 1L, 2L)

- Control regions for background normalizations
- BDT for final signal extraction

Charm-tagging in the resolved-jet topology

DeepJet algorithm as charm tagger

- ❑ C-jets have “intermediate” properties to b- and light-jets
 - Separate **c-jets** simultaneously from **light-jets** and **bottom jets**
- ❑ From DeepJet output score it is possible to build two c-jet taggers
 - CvsL: it is optimized to differentiate charm-jets from light- or gluon-jets
 - CvsB: it is optimized to differentiate charm-jets from bottom-jets



- ❑ Calibration in data with a novel technique!
- ❑ [2022 JINST 17 P03014](#) (published by JINST)
- ❑ Improvement vs DeepCSV (used in 2016 analysis)
 - Increase leading-jet c-tagging efficiency by ~30% for fixed b-jet and light-jet mis-tagging rate

A new method to calibrate charm-taggers

Methodology

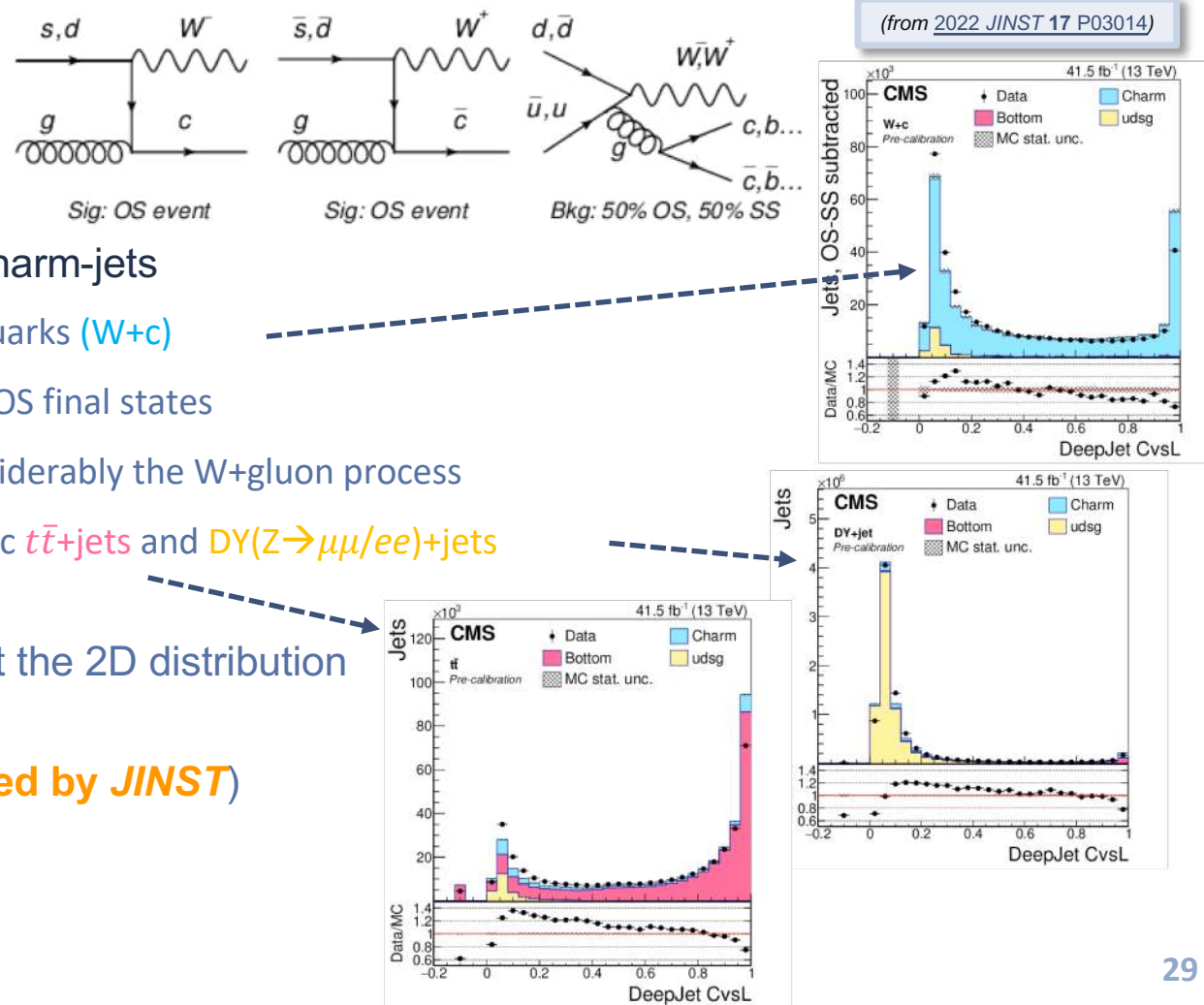
- Iterative approach exploiting 3 distinct CRs enriched in b-jets, c-jets, or light-flavour jets

Selecting an abundant and pure source of charm-jets

- Target W production in association with charm quarks ($W+c$)
- Major background has 50% chance to have SS or OS final states
 - performing an OS-SS subtraction reduces considerably the W+gluon process
- To enrich in b-jets and light-jets: semi-(di-)leptonic $t\bar{t}+jets$ and $DY(Z\rightarrow\mu\mu/ee)+jets$

- First time that a calibration method to correct the 2D distribution of c-tagging discriminator shapes is presented

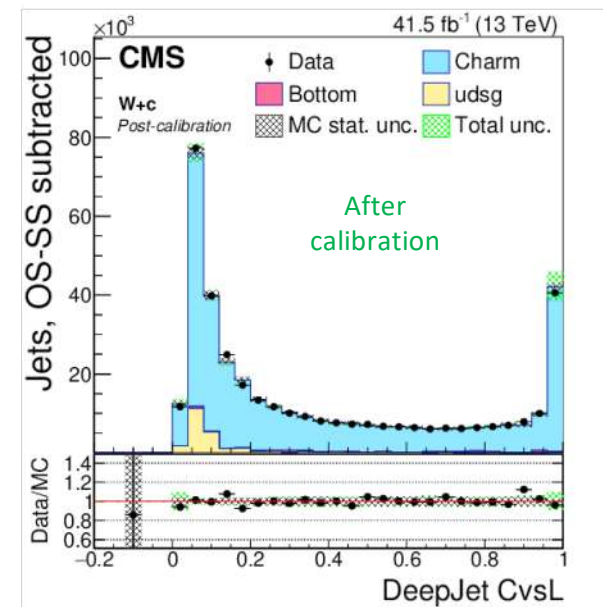
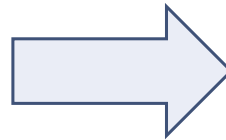
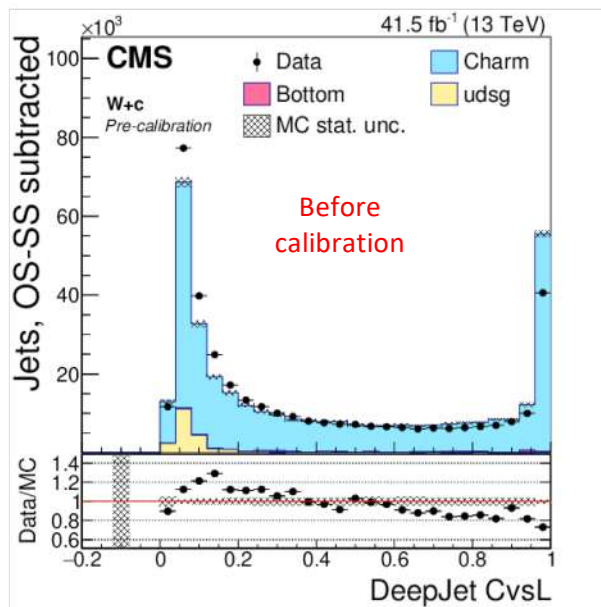
→ [2022 JINST 17 P03014](#) (published by JINST)



A new method to calibrate charm-taggers

Application of the reshaping scale-factors

(from 2022 JINST 17 P03014)



- Very good data/MC agreement after the calibration
 - Application through an event-by-event re-weighting:

$$w_i = \prod_{i=1}^{jets} sf_i(CvsL, CvsB)$$

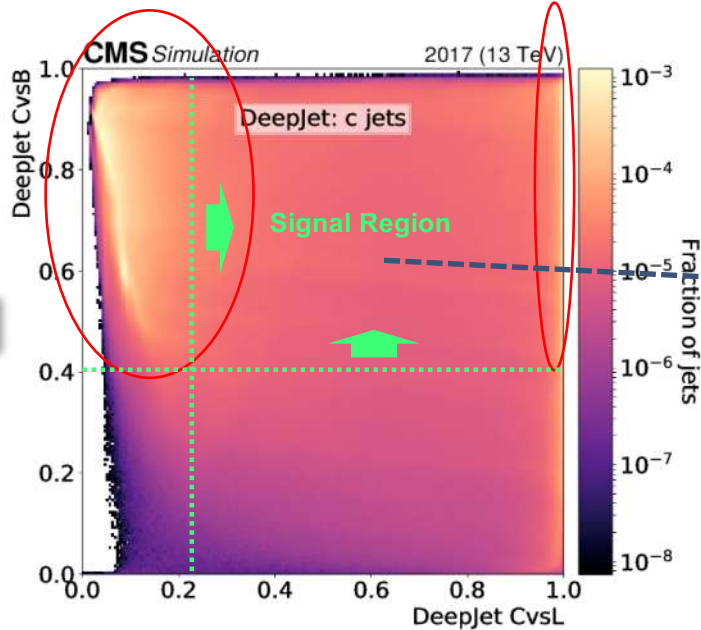
Charm-tagging in the resolved-jet topology

□ Definition of leading-jet working point

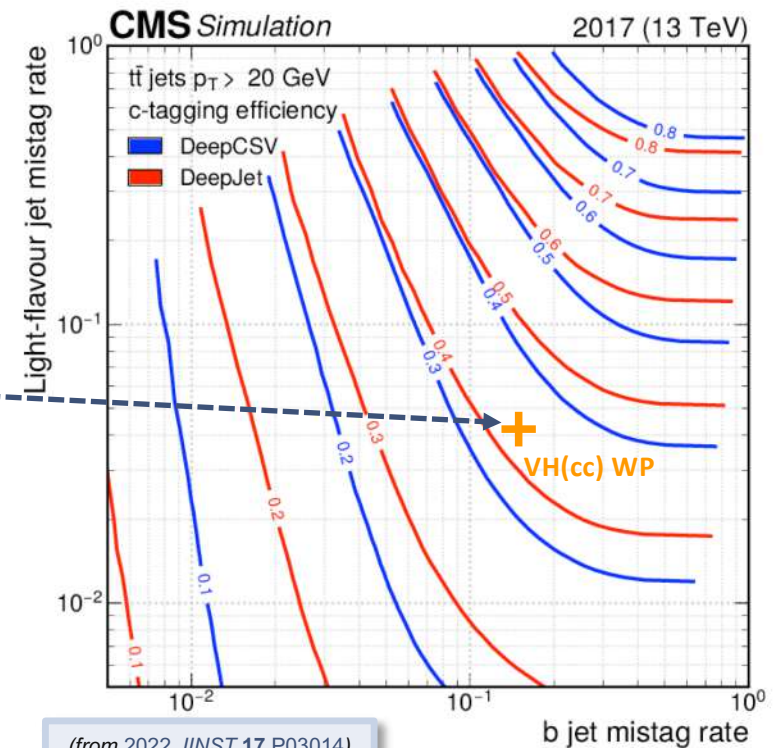
- Studies of CvsB/CvsL jet score distributions in 2D plane
- **CvsL > 0.225, CvsB > 0.4** → c-jet ID efficiency of ~43%, b- and light-jet mis-tag. rate of ~15% and ~4%

c-jets mis-identified as light ones

c-jets



(from 2022 JINST 17 P03014)



(from 2022 JINST 17 P03014)

A dedicated charm-jet energy regression

Goal: improve c-jet energy scale and resolution

□ Inspired by b-jet energy regression [[arXiv:1912.06046](https://arxiv.org/abs/1912.06046)]

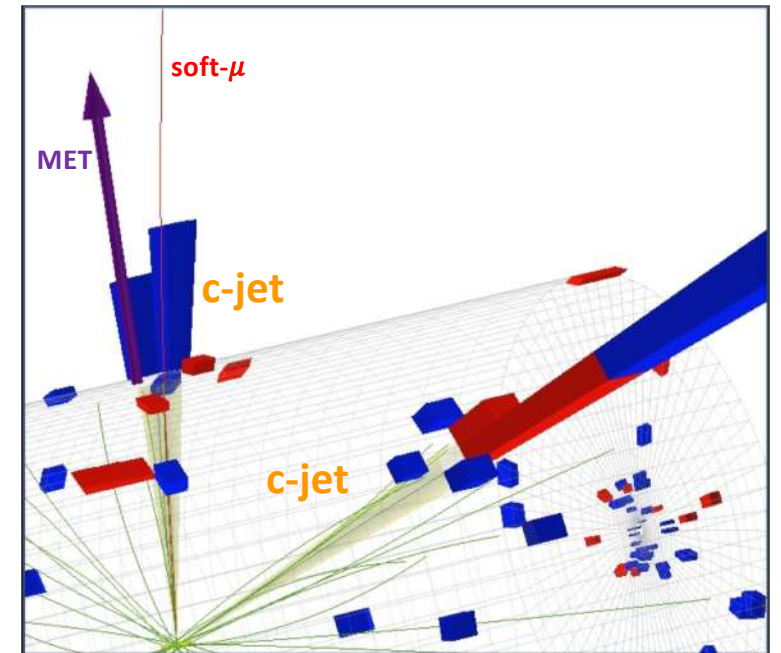
- Jet energy measurements not always accurate:
 - neutrinos, hadrons outside jet radius, etc. Effect enhanced in c-jets and b-jets
- Dedicated algorithm to determine c-jet energy scale and resolution
- A DNN algorithm pioneered for the observation of the $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ decay

□ Regression performed using DNN architecture:

- Trained using c-jets collected from $W \rightarrow c\bar{q}$ decays in $t\bar{t}$ +jets MC events
- Target is represented by $p_T(\text{gen})/p_T(\text{reco})$

□ Input features

- Total of 43 input variables as input to the network
- Jets: kinematics, energy fraction, leading+soft-lepton tracks, pile-up, secondary vertices
- Jet energy shapes (e.g. energy fraction, etc), jet constituents, $p_T(\text{jet})/p_T(\text{lepton})$

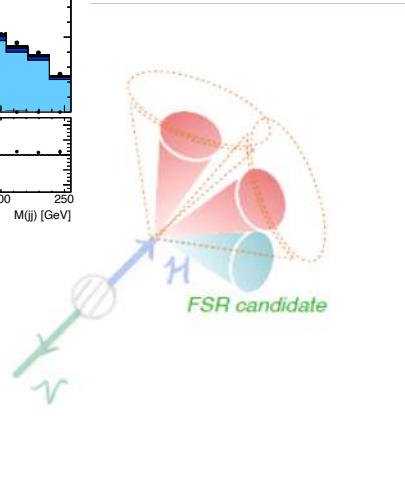
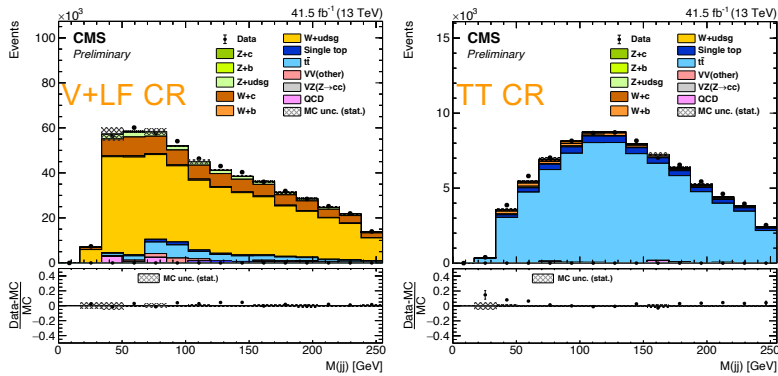


A dedicated charm-jet energy regression

~15% improvement in mass resolution

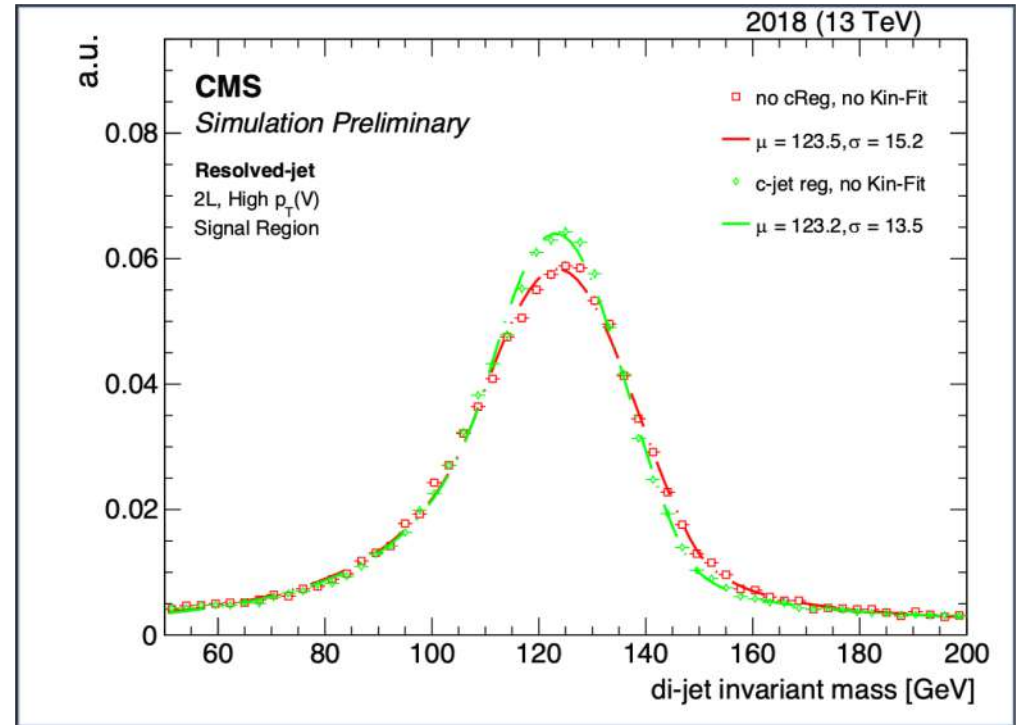
- Depending on the jet p_T

Validated in VH(H→cc) control regions



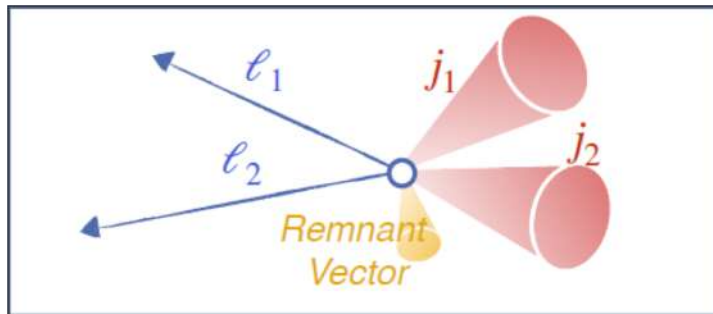
FSR recovery

- Further improve di-jet invariant
- Jets with $p_T < 20$ GeV, $|\eta| < 3$, and within $\Delta R < 0.8$ of Higgs jets are included in Higgs 4-momentum

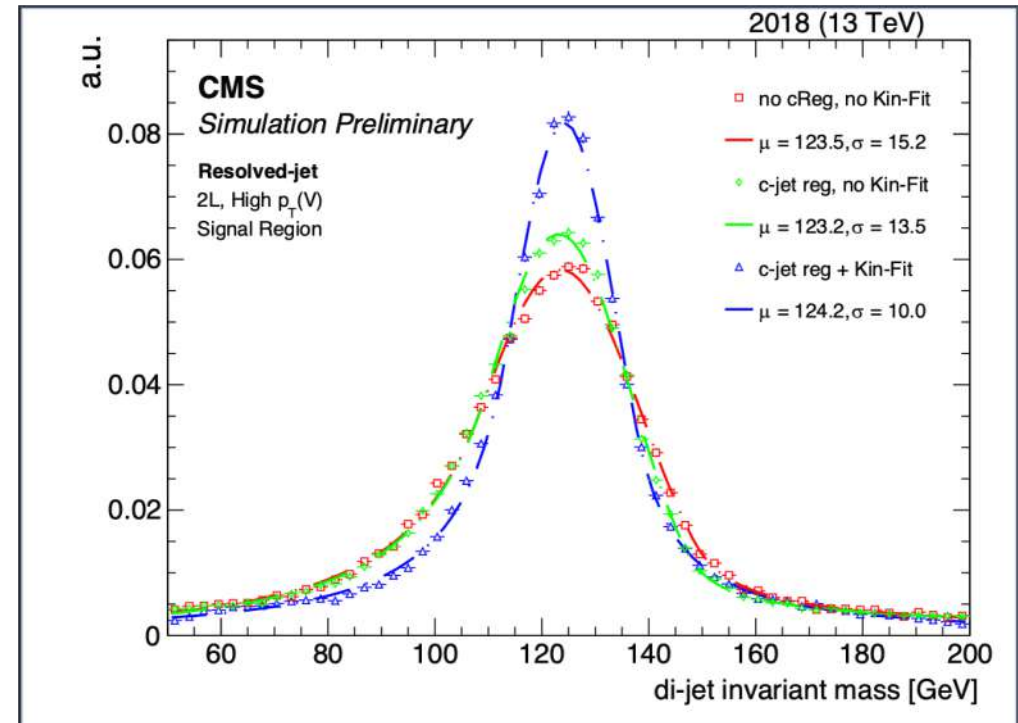


Kinematic-fit in the 2L channels

- ❑ No intrinsic missing energy in $Z(\ell\ell)H(cc)$ process
- ❑ Improve jet p_T measurement through a kinematic fit:
 - Constrain di-lepton system to the Z boson mass
 - Balance the $\ell\ell+cc+jets$ system in the (p_x, p_y) plane
 - Allow MET to adjust within the experimental resolution

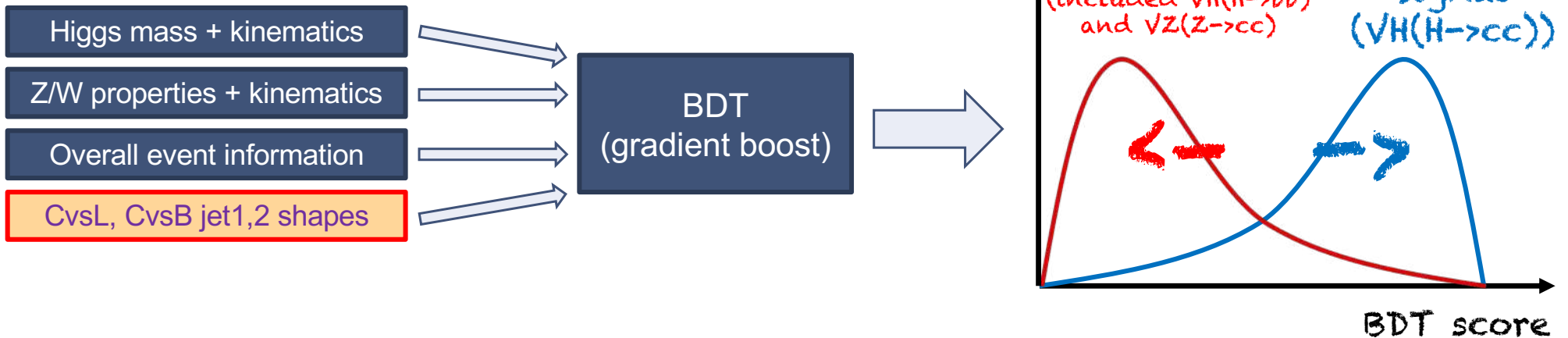


- ❑ Up to **~30% improvement in Higgs mass resolution**



Signal extraction – BDT training in SRs

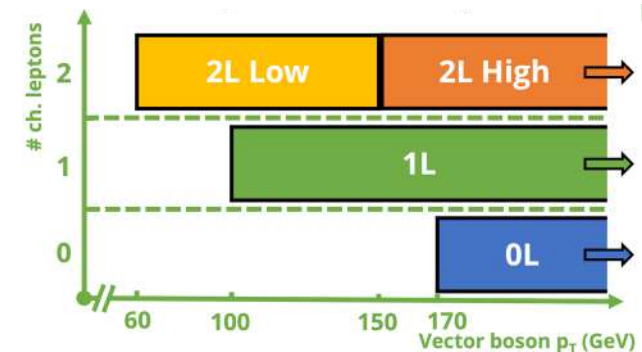
- BDT trained to separate signal from background samples



- Separate BDTs trained for each channel and data taking year

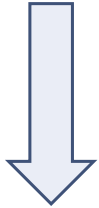
- Separate BDTs trained for high- and low- $p_T(V)$ 2L

- Reshaped BDT distributions used in SR for the final fit



Analysis categories and background estimation

- Accurate modeling of jet flavor in V+Jet background is vital for proper signal extraction



- Selections optimized for the different decay of the vector boson considered

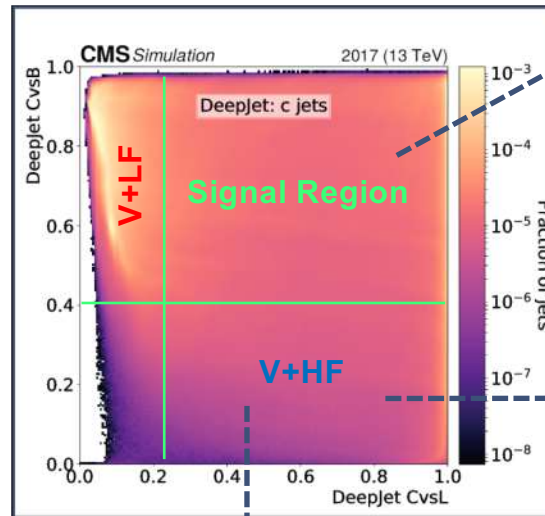
- Definition of 4 analysis categories

- 0L:** $p_T(Z) > 170$ GeV
- 1L:** $p_T(W) > 100$ GeV
- 2L Low- p_T :** $60 \text{ GeV} < p_T(Z) < 150$ GeV
- 2L High- p_T :** $p_T(Z) > 150$ GeV

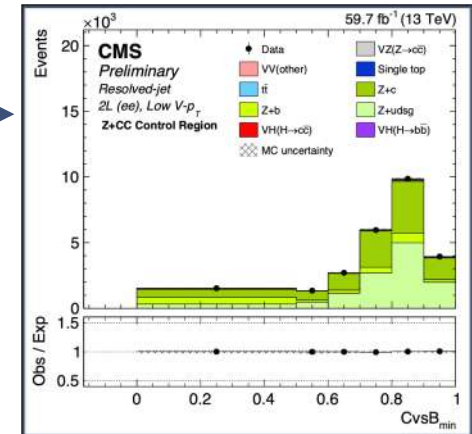
- All the categories have TT, LF, HF and CC CRs (1L has not HF) + 1 SR

- Simultaneous fit to BDT in SR and tagger shapes in CRs

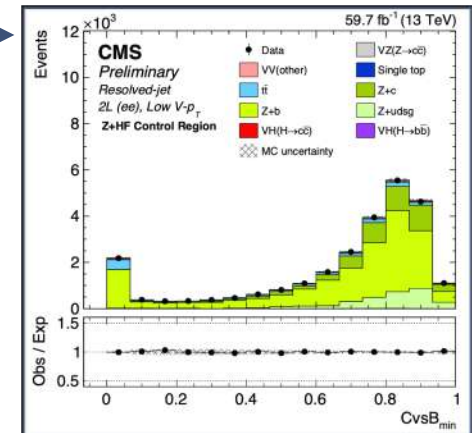
- Separate rate parameters for V+c, V+b, and V+light processes (no W+b) + $t\bar{t}$ + jets
- Freely floating in each channel/year



V+CC
(\bar{c})
Veto $m(H)$
region



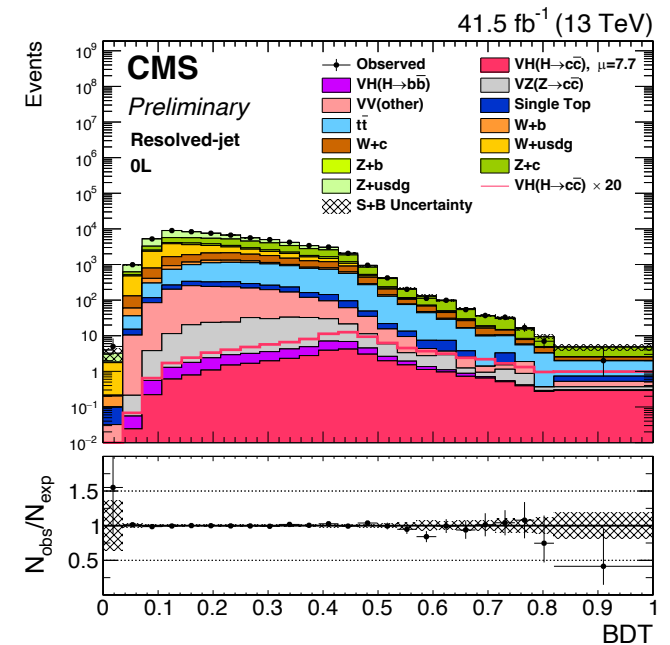
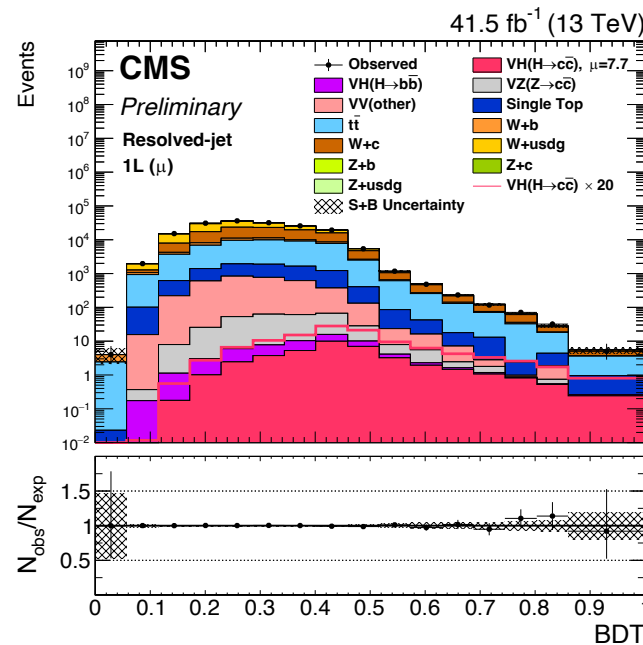
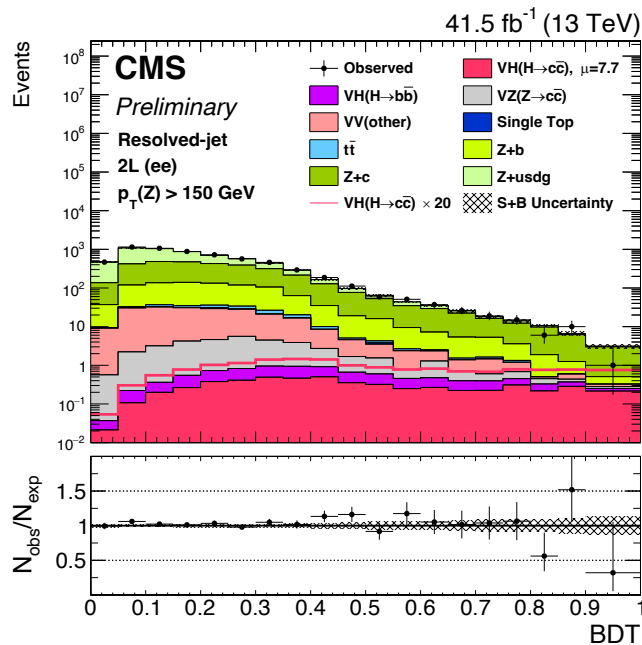
$t\bar{t}$
(\bar{c})
Invert Z mass (2L)
Require add jet (1L)*
Require add ℓ and jets (0L)



*1L: also require MET < 170 GeV to keep orthogonal to 0L $t\bar{t}$ CR

Postfit plots – Signal regions

- Postfit distribution of the BDT discriminant obtained with the 2017 data (more in the back-up)
 - 7 Signal regions in each year: 2L(ee/ $\mu\mu$) Low- p_T (V) and High- p_T (V), 1L(e/ μ), and 0L



The image features a decorative graphic on the left side, composed of overlapping geometric shapes. A large, light blue trapezoidal shape is positioned at the top, with a dark blue trapezoidal shape overlapping its bottom edge. Below the dark blue shape is a thin, light blue horizontal bar. The word "Results" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font on the dark blue background.

Results

Uncertainties

□ All correlated between topologies, except:

- Background normalization SFs for V+jets and $t\bar{t}$
- c-tagging efficiencies

□ Main uncertainties

- Limited statistics of data
- Statistical uncertainties of V+jets samples
- Charm tagging efficiencies

Uncertainty source	$\Delta\mu / (\Delta\mu)_{\text{tot}}$
Statistical	85%
Background normalizations	37%
Experimental	48%
Sizes of the simulated samples	37%
Charm identification efficiencies	23%
Jet energy scale and resolution	15%
Simulation modeling	11%
Luminosity	6%
Lepton identification efficiencies	4%
Theory	22%
Backgrounds	17%
Signal	15%

VZ(Z→cc) results

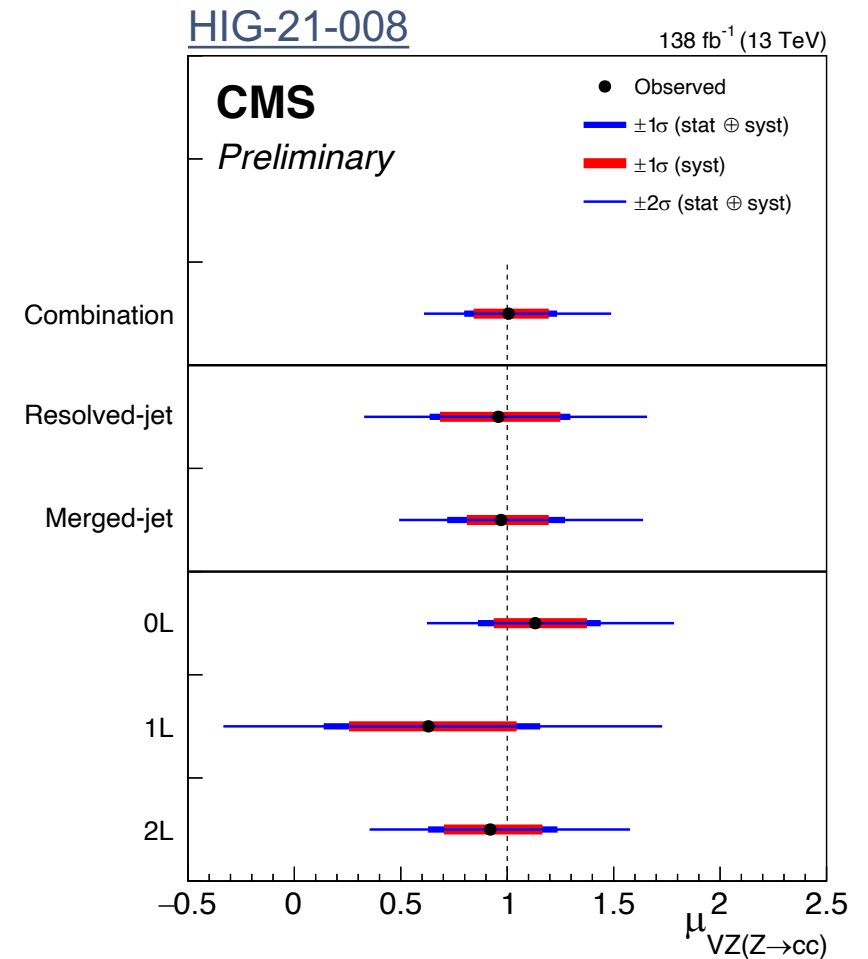
- Analysis validated by looking for VZ(Z→cc) process
 - Same analysis procedure, but extracting VZ(Z→cc) signal
 - Resolved-jet: retrained BDTs with VZ(Z→cc) as signal
 - VH(H→cc) fixed to SM expectation

- Observed (expected) signal strength for VZ(Z→cc):

$$\mu_{VZ(Z\rightarrow cc)} = 1.01_{-0.21}^{+0.23} (1.00_{-0.20}^{+0.22})$$

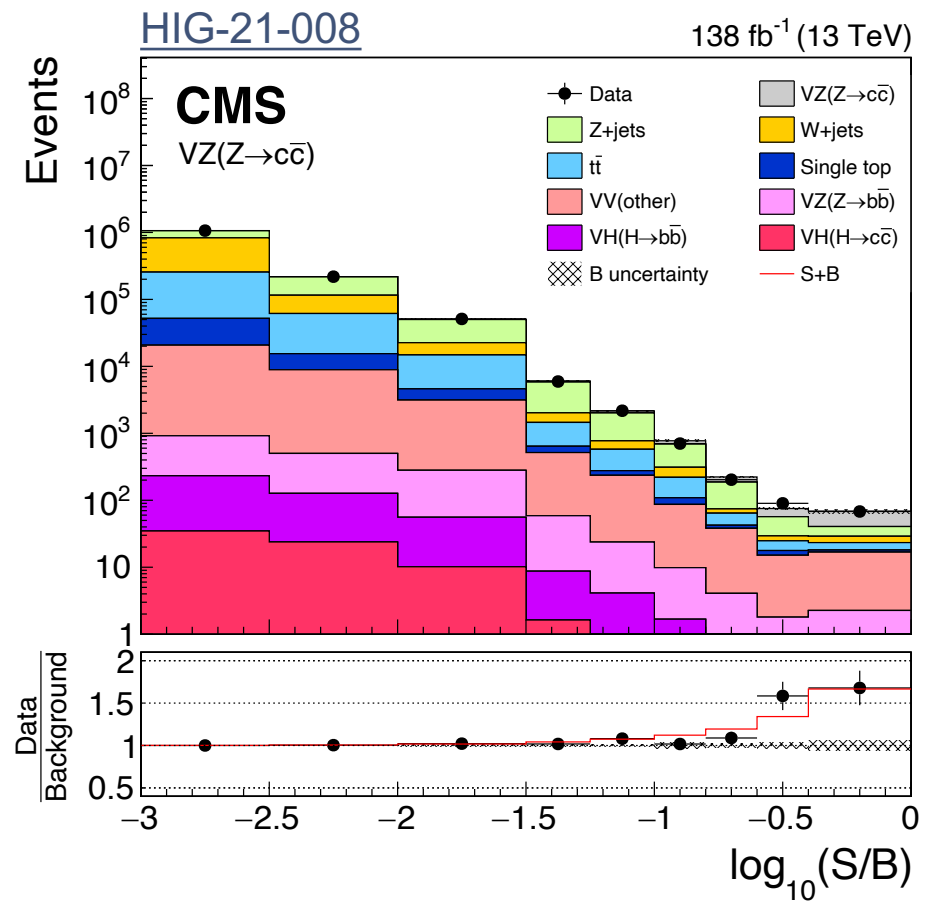
with a significance of 5.7σ (5.9σ)

- First observation of Z→cc at hadron collider!**



VZ(Z→cc) results

□ Observing the excess: distribution of events ordered by $\log_{10}(S/B)$

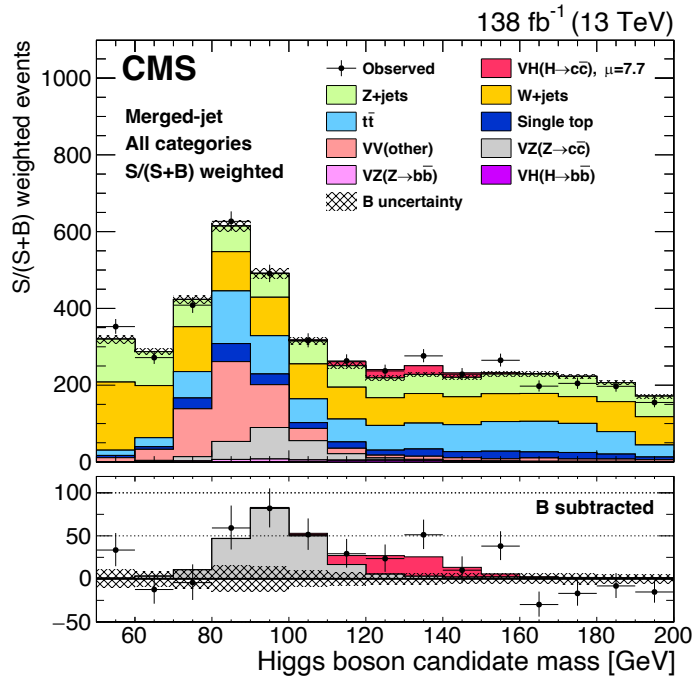


VH(H→cc) results

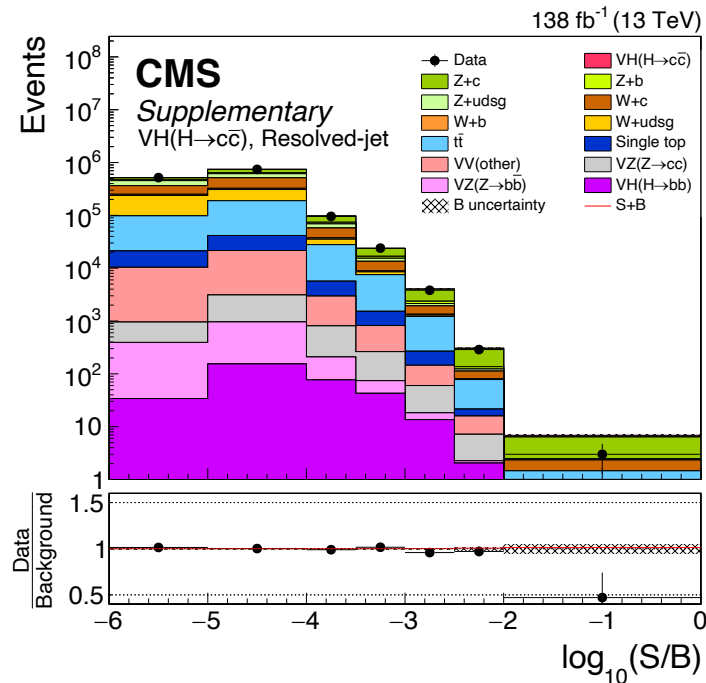
HIG-21-008

- ❑ Merged-jet topology: distribution of the Higgs boson candidate mass
- ❑ Resolved-jet topology and the combination: ordering the events by $\log_{10}(S/B)$

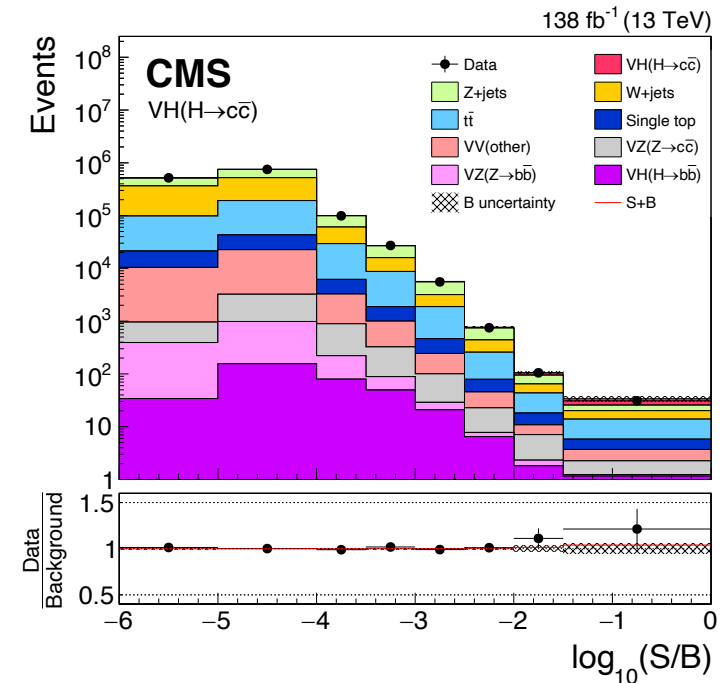
Merged-jet



Resolved-jet



Merged + Resolved



VH(H→cc) results

Observed (expected) upper limit on VH(H→cc) signal strength at 95% CL: $\mu_{VH(H\rightarrow cc)} < 14 (7.6^{+3.4}_{-2.3})$

- Strongest limits on VH(H→cc) process to date!
- ATLAS Full Run 2 result: $\mu_{VH(H\rightarrow cc)} < 26 (31)$ [[arXiv:2201.11428](https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.11428)]

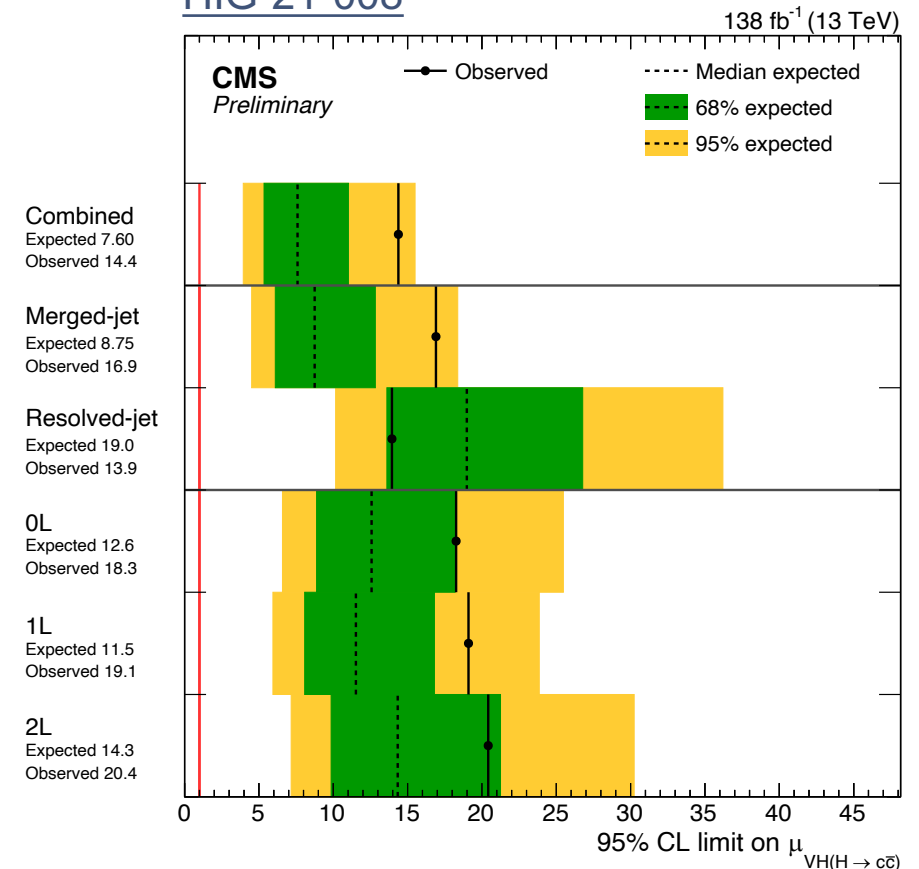
Best fit signal strength: $\mu_{VH(H\rightarrow cc)} = 7.7^{+3.8}_{-3.5}$

- Consistent with the SM prediction within 2σ

Obs. (Exp.) upper limits from each topology:

- Resolved-jet topology: **14(19) × SM**
- Merged-jet topology: **17(8.8) × SM**

HIG-21-008



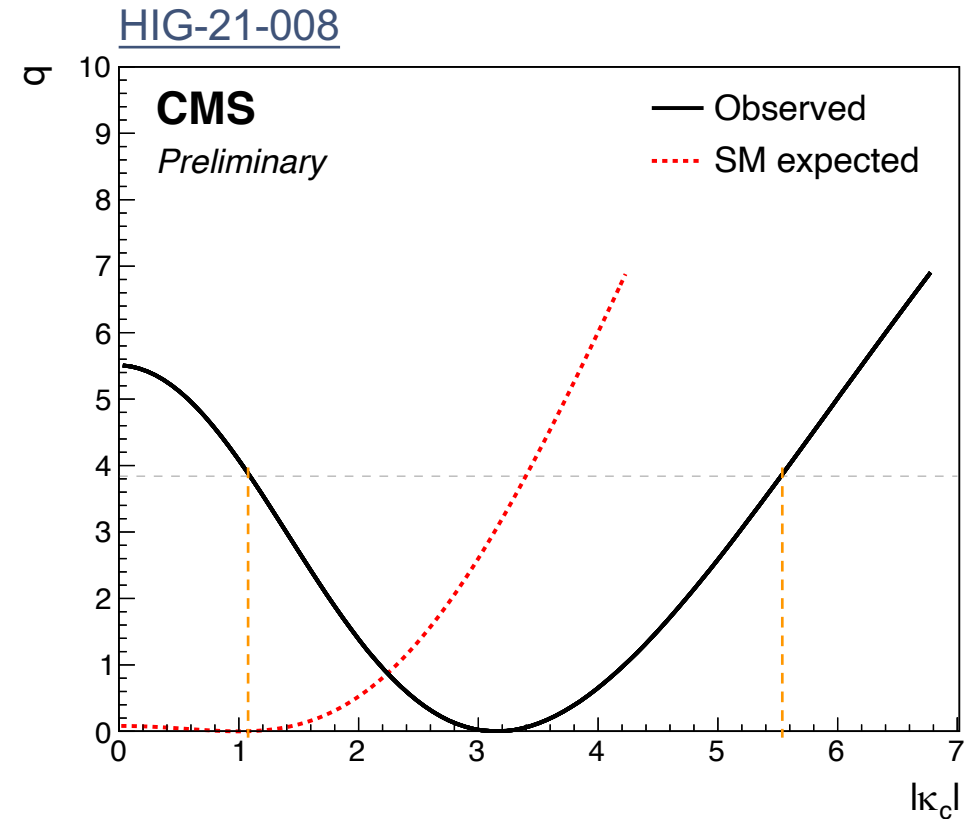
VH(H→cc) results

Results used to place new constraints on κ_c

- Only considering effects on $\mathcal{B}(H \rightarrow cc)$ and fixing all other couplings to their SM values

$$\mu_{VH(H \rightarrow cc)} = \frac{\kappa_c^2}{1 + \mathcal{B}_{SM}(H \rightarrow cc) \times (\kappa_c^2 - 1)}$$

- The 95% CL intervals obtained with likelihood scans
 - observed: $1.1 < |\kappa_c| < 5.5$
 - expected: $|\kappa_c| < 3.4$
- **Strongest constraints on $|\kappa_c|$ to date**
 - Competitive with indirect measurements of $|\kappa_c|$: [PRD 92 \(2015\) 033016](#) and [arXiv:2202.00487](#)
 - Comparable to the previous projection for HL-LHC [[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2021-039](#)]



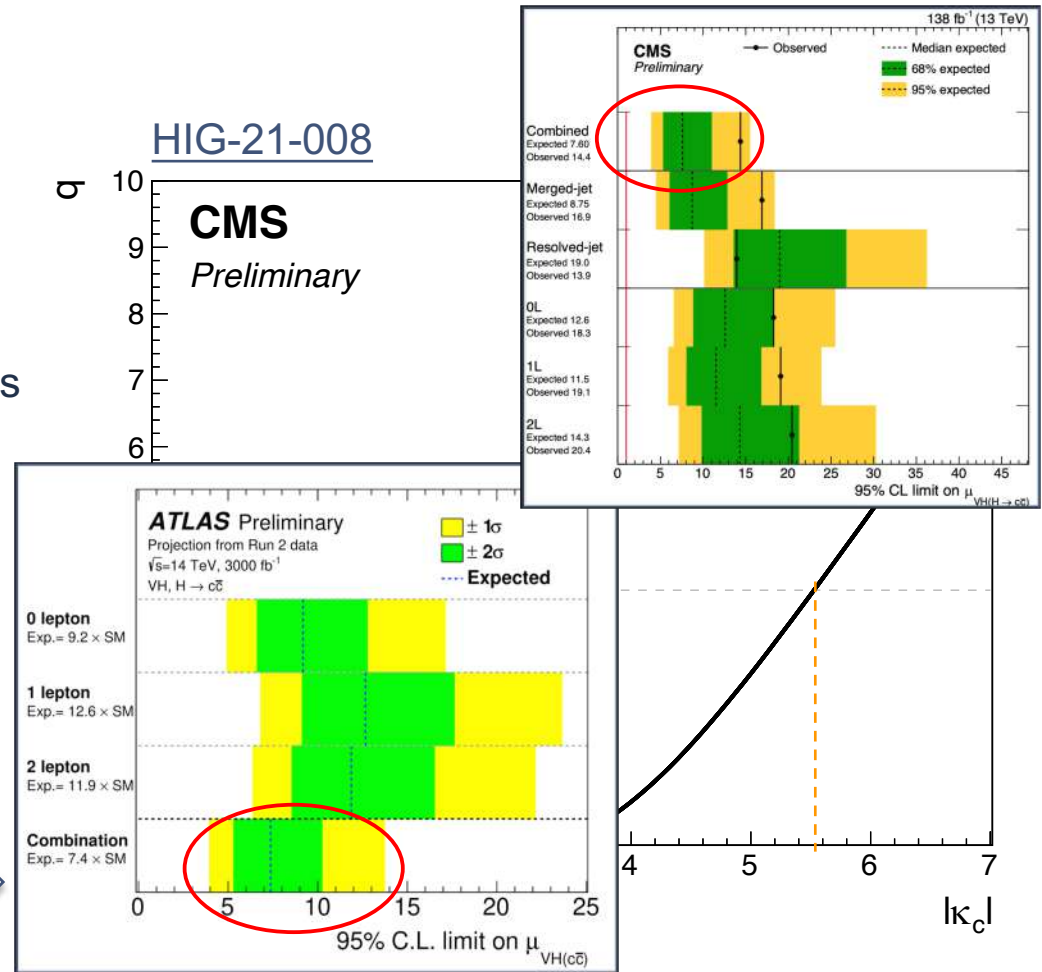
VH(H→cc) results

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Conclusions

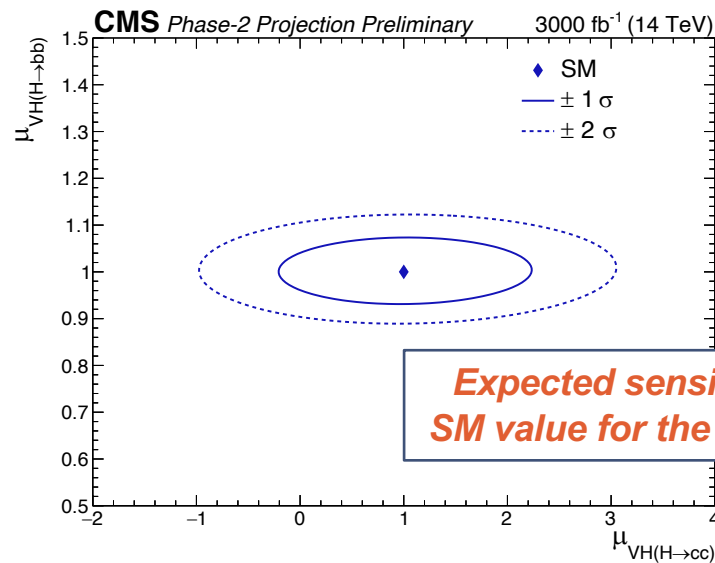
- ❑ New results of the CMS search for the $VH(H \rightarrow cc)$ process are presented
 - Benefit from the full Run 2 dataset
 - Substantial improvements in charm tagging performance
 - Major upgrades of analysis techniques, such as jet energy/mass regression, kinematic fits, etc.
- ❑ Analysis validated by measuring $VZ(Z \rightarrow cc)$ signal strength: $\mu_{VZ(Z \rightarrow cc)} = 1.01^{+0.23}_{-0.21}$
 - Significance of 5.7σ (5.9σ) → First observation of $Z \rightarrow cc$ at a Hadron Collider!
- ❑ Upper limits on $VH(H \rightarrow cc)$: $\mu_{VH(H \rightarrow cc)} < 14$ (7.6 exp.)
 - Almost 5x increase in expected sensitivity compared to analysis using 2016 data
 - Constraints on Higgs-charm coupling: $1.1 < |\kappa_c| < 5.5$ ($|\kappa_c| < 3.4$ exp.) — Most stringent to date!



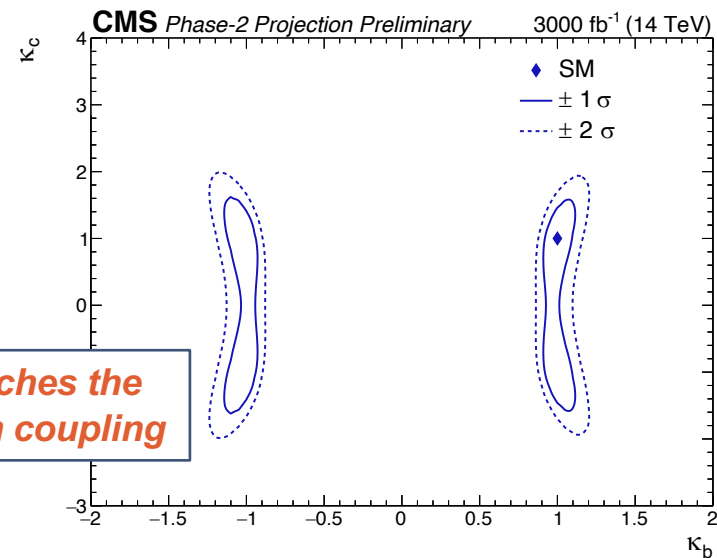
Prospects

Projection at HL-LHC: merged-jet with 3000 fb⁻¹ data

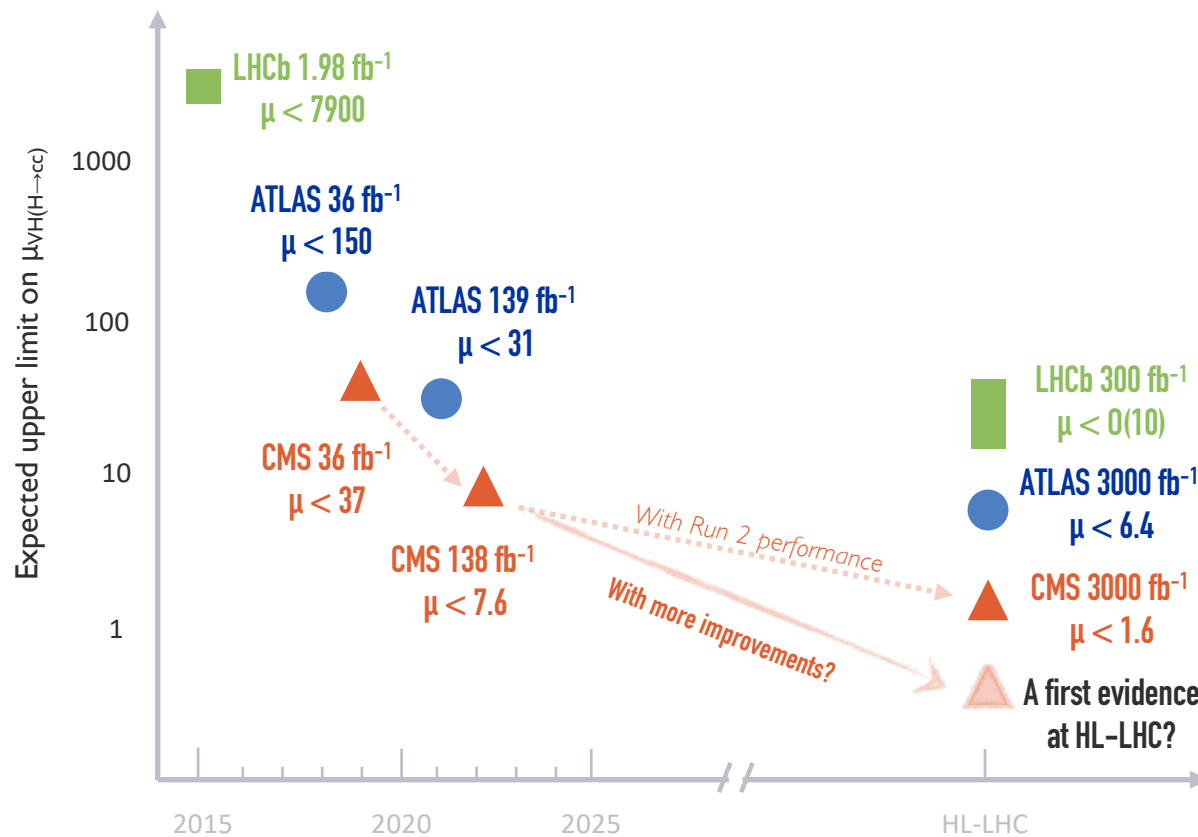
- ❑ Modifications to the Run 2 analysis to allow for a simultaneous constraint on $H \rightarrow bb$ and $H \rightarrow cc$
 - addition of 3 categories enriched in $H \rightarrow bb$ decays, very small (1-2%) overlap of bb and cc categories
 - large-R jet p_T threshold lowered from 300 GeV to 200 GeV – increasing signal acceptance
- ❑ Simultaneous extraction of the $H \rightarrow bb$ and $H \rightarrow cc$ signal strengths
 - $\mu_{VH(H \rightarrow bb)} = 1.00 \pm 0.03$ (stat.) ± 0.04 (syst.) = 1.00 ± 0.05 (total)
 - $\mu_{VH(H \rightarrow cc)} = 1.0 \pm 0.6$ (stat.) ± 0.5 (syst.) = 1.0 ± 0.8 (total)



Expected sensitivity approaches the SM value for the Higgs-charm coupling

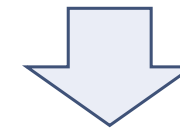


A charming journey



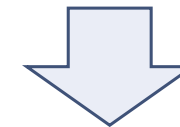
From $\mathcal{O}(1000)$ to $\mathcal{O}(100)$ to $\mathcal{O}(10)$ in ~ 5 years.
 A combined effort and creativity from instrumentation,
 physics objects and analysis techniques!

Could we hope for an evidence at HL-LHC?



- More channels: ttH(cc), VBF H(cc), indirect constraints.
- Improvements in analysis techniques and instrumentation
- Reduction of systematic uncertainties: c-tagging, event modeling, theoretical uncertainties, ...

A charming journey ahead!



CMS is already on track:

- ggH(cc) under approval (HIG-21-012)
- Efforts on H+charm have started



Back-Up

H \rightarrow cc searches at the LHC

□ ATLAS:

- [[Phys. Rev. Lett. 120 \(2018\) 211802](#)] (36 fb⁻¹)
- [[arXiv:2201.11428](#)] (139 fb⁻¹)
- [[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2021-039](#)] (HL-LHC projection, 3000 fb⁻¹)

□ CMS:

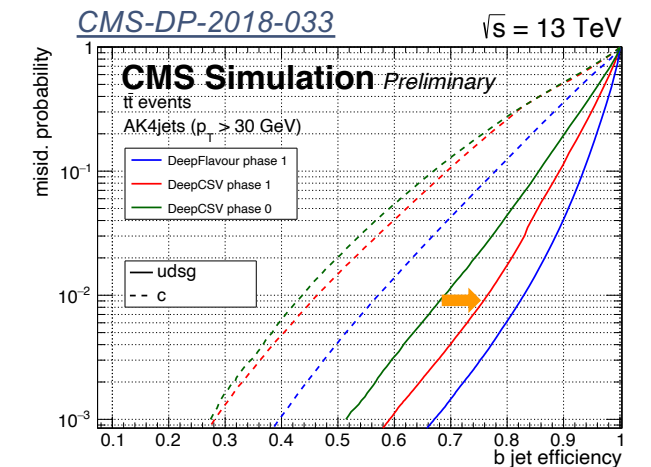
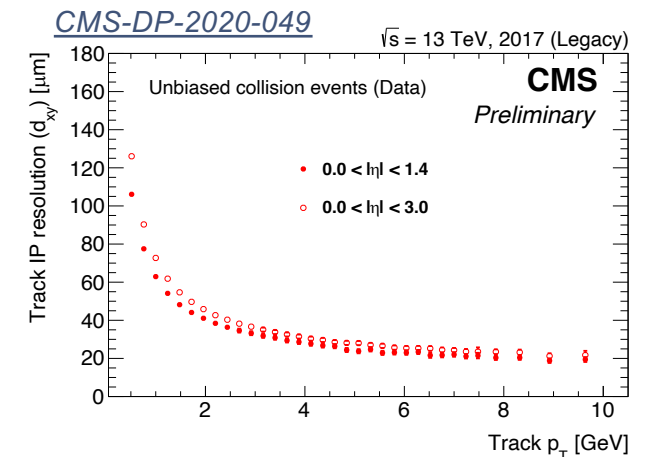
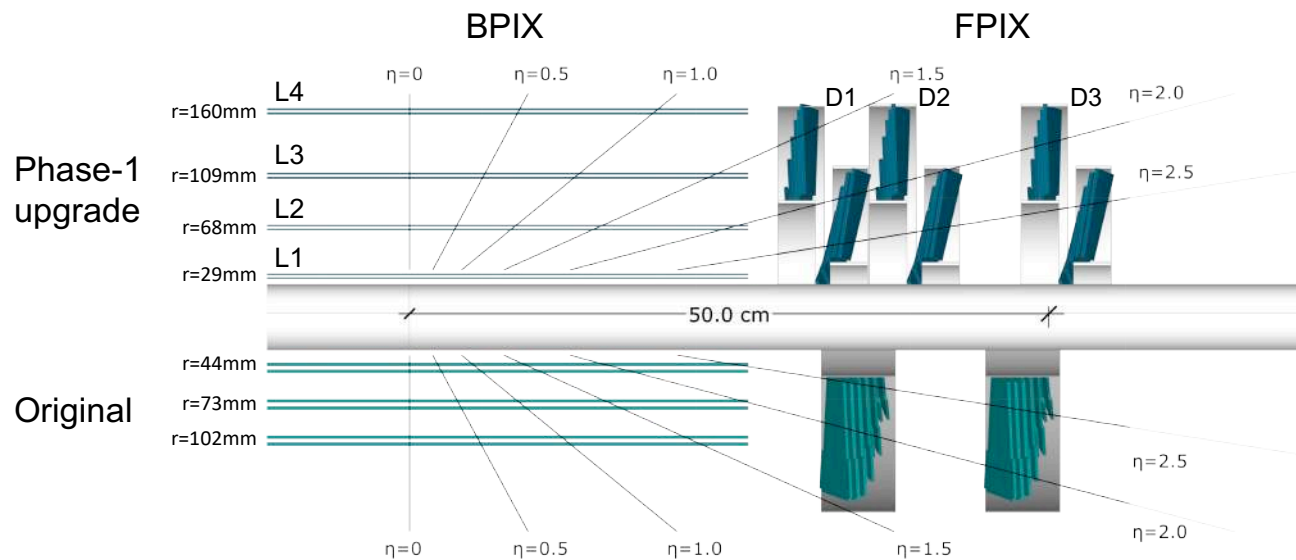
- [[JHEP 03 \(2020\) 131](#)] (36 fb⁻¹)
- [[CMS-PAS-HIG-21-008](#)] (138 fb⁻¹; HL-LHC projection, 3000 fb⁻¹)

□ LHCb:

- [[LHCb-CONF-2016-006](#)] (1.98 fb⁻¹)
- [[LHCb-PUB-2018-009](#)] (HL-LHC projection, 300 fb⁻¹)

Phase-1 pixel detector upgrade

- New pixel detector installed during year-end stop 2016/2017



Improved tracking and flavour tagging performance in the 2017 — 2018 data set!

H → cc identification

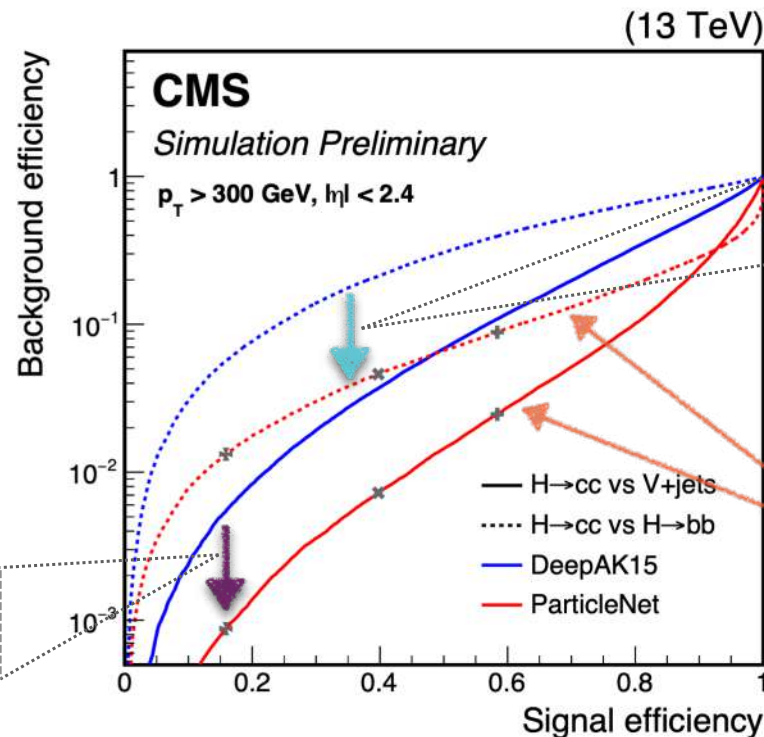
- ❑ Merged-jet topology: Higgs boson candidate reconstructed via a single large-R jet ($p_T > 300$ GeV)
- ❑ A major improvement: **ParticleNet** tagger used to identify H → cc decay

[JHEP 03 \(2020\) 131 \(2016 analysis\)](#)

[DeepAK8 \(DeepAK15\) \[INST 15 \(2020\) P06005\]](#)

- multi-class DNN boosted jet classifier
- directly uses jet constituents (particle-flow candidates / secondary vertices)
- 1D convolutional neural network
- mass decorrelation via adversarial training

*~5x better
V+jet rejection*



*~5x better
H → bb rejection*

[CMS-PAS-HIG-21-008 \(Run 2 analysis\)](#)

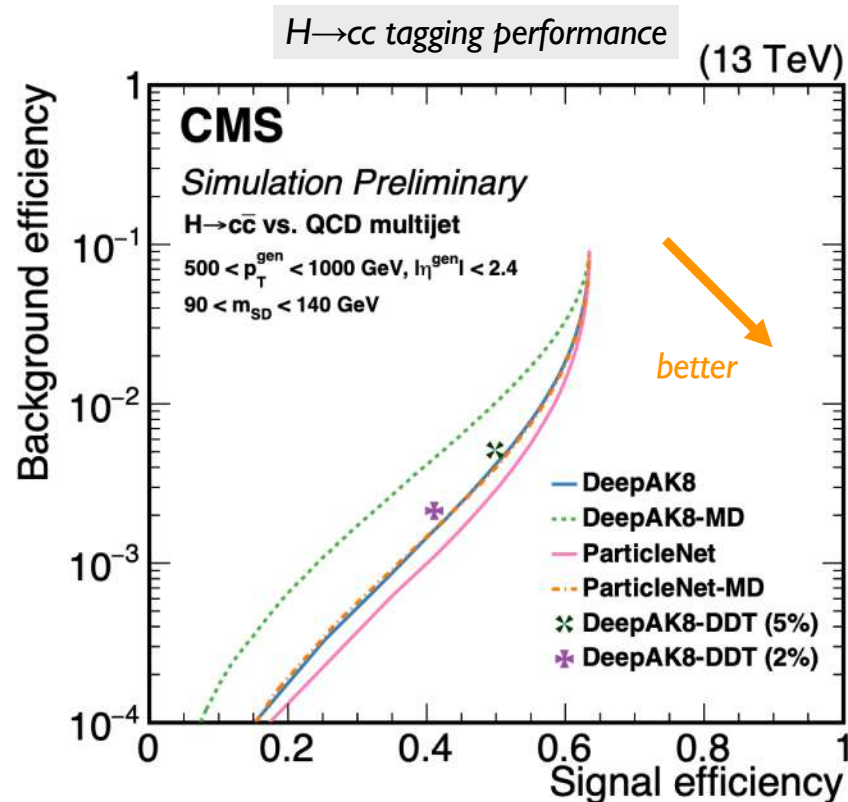
[ParticleNet \[CMS-DP-2020-002\]](#)

- same spirit as DeepAK8, but substantially improved:
- **graph neural network architecture**
- **novel mass decorrelation technique**

>2x improvement in the final sensitivity

Mass decorrelation (II)

[CMS-DP-2020-002](#)



- ❑ “Mass sculpting”: background jet mass shape becomes similar to signal after tagger selection
- ❑ New approach to prevent mass sculpting
 - using a special signal sample for training
 - hadronic decays of a spin-0 particle X
 - X \rightarrow bb, X \rightarrow cc, X \rightarrow qq
 - not a fixed mass, but a **flat mass spectrum**
 - m(X) \in [15, 250] GeV
 - allows to easily reweight both signal and background to a \sim flat 2D distribution in (p_T, mass) for the training
- ❑ Performance loss due to mass decorrelation greatly reduced compared to the previous approach (DeepAK8-MD, based on “adversarial training”)

ParticleNet

ParticleNet input variables

TABLE I. Input variables used in the top tagging task (TOP) and the quark-gluon tagging task (QG) with and without PID information.

Variable	Definition	TOP	QG	QG-PID
$\Delta\eta$	Difference in pseudorapidity between the particle and the jet axis	×	×	×
$\Delta\phi$	Difference in azimuthal angle between the particle and the jet axis	×	×	×
$\log p_T$	Logarithm of the particle's p_T	×	×	×
$\log E$	Logarithm of the particle's energy	×	×	×
$\log \frac{p_T}{p_T(\text{jet})}$	Logarithm of the particle's p_T relative to the jet p_T	×	×	×
$\log \frac{E}{E(\text{jet})}$	Logarithm of the particle's energy relative to the jet energy	×	×	×
ΔR	Angular separation between the particle and the jet axis $\left(\sqrt{(\Delta\eta)^2 + (\Delta\phi)^2}\right)$	×	×	×
q	Electric charge of the particle			×
isElectron	If the particle is an electron			×
isMuon	If the particle is a muon			×
isChargedHadron	If the particle is a charged hadron			×
isNeutralHadron	If the particle is a neutral hadron			×
isPhoton	If the particle is a photon			×

Baseline event selections

Merged-jet topology

Variable	0L	1L	2L
p_T^ℓ	—	(>25,>30)	>20
Lepton isolation	—	(<0.06, —)	(<0.25, —)
$N_{a\ell}$	=0	=0	—
$M(\ell\ell)$	—	—	75–105
$N_{\text{small-R}}^{\text{aj}}$	<2	<2	<3
p_T^{miss}	>200	>60	—
$p_T(\text{V})$	>200	>150	>150
$p_T(\text{H}_{\text{cand}})$	>300	>300	>300
$m(\text{H}_{\text{cand}})$	50–200	50–200	50–200
$\Delta\phi(\text{V}, \text{H}_{\text{cand}})$	>2.5	>2.5	>2.5
$\Delta\phi(\vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}, j)$	>0.5	—	—
$\Delta\phi(\vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}, \ell)$	—	<1.5	—
Kinematic BDT	>0.55	0.55–0.7, >0.7	>0.55
$c\bar{c}$ discriminant			
High purity	>0.99	>0.99	>0.99
Medium purity	0.96–0.99	0.96–0.99	0.96–0.99
Low purity	0.90–0.96	0.90–0.96	0.90–0.96

Resolved-jet topology

Variable	0L	1L	2L low- $p_T(\text{V})$	2L high- $p_T(\text{V})$
p_T^ℓ	—	(>25,>30)	>20	>20
Lepton isolation	—	(<0.06, —)	(<0.25, —)	(<0.25, —)
$N_{a\ell}$	=0	=0	—	—
$M(\ell\ell)$	—	—	75–105	75–105
$p_T(j_1)$	>60	>25	>20	>20
$p_T(j_2)$	>35	>25	>20	>20
$CvsL(j_1)$	>0.225	>0.225	>0.225	>0.225
$CvsB(j_2)$	>0.4	>0.4	>0.4	>0.4
$N_{\text{small-R}}^{\text{aj}}$	—	<2	—	—
p_T^{miss}	>170	—	—	—
p_T^{miss} significance	—	>4	—	—
$p_T(\text{V})$	>170	>100	60–150	>150
$p_T(\text{H}_{\text{cand}})$	>120	>100	—	—
$m(\text{H}_{\text{cand}})$	<250	<250	<250	<250
$\Delta\phi(\text{V}, \text{H}_{\text{cand}})$	>2.0	>2.5	>2.5	>2.5
$\Delta\phi(\vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}, j)$	>0.5	—	—	—
$\Delta\phi(\vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}, \ell)$	—	<2.0	—	—

Uncertainties

□ Breakdown of the uncertainties in each topology

Merged-jet topology

Table 3: The relative contributions to the total uncertainty on $\mu_{\text{VH}(\text{H} \rightarrow \text{c}\bar{\text{c}})}$ in the merged-jet analysis, with a best fit value $\mu_{\text{VH}(\text{H} \rightarrow \text{c}\bar{\text{c}})} = 8.7^{+4.6}_{-4.0}$.

Uncertainty source	$\Delta\mu / (\Delta\mu)_{\text{tot}}$
Statistical	88%
Background normalizations	39%
Experimental	40%
Sizes of the simulated samples	24%
Charm identification efficiencies	26%
Jet energy scale and resolution	15%
Simulation modeling	1%
Luminosity	5%
Lepton identification efficiencies	2%
Theory	25%
Backgrounds	21%
Signal	14%

Resolved-jet topology

Table 4: The relative contributions to the total uncertainty on $\mu_{\text{VH}(\text{H} \rightarrow \text{c}\bar{\text{c}})}$ in the resolved-jet analysis, with a best fit value $\mu_{\text{VH}(\text{H} \rightarrow \text{c}\bar{\text{c}})} = -9.5 \pm 9.6$.

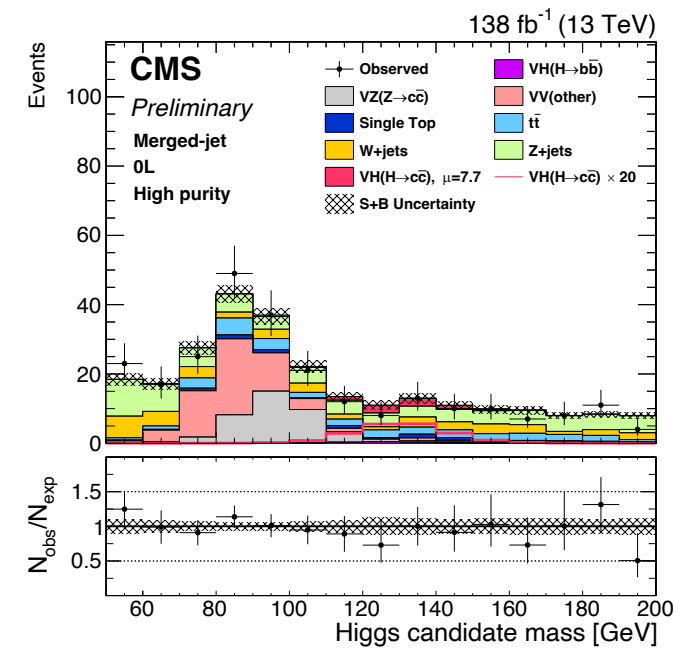
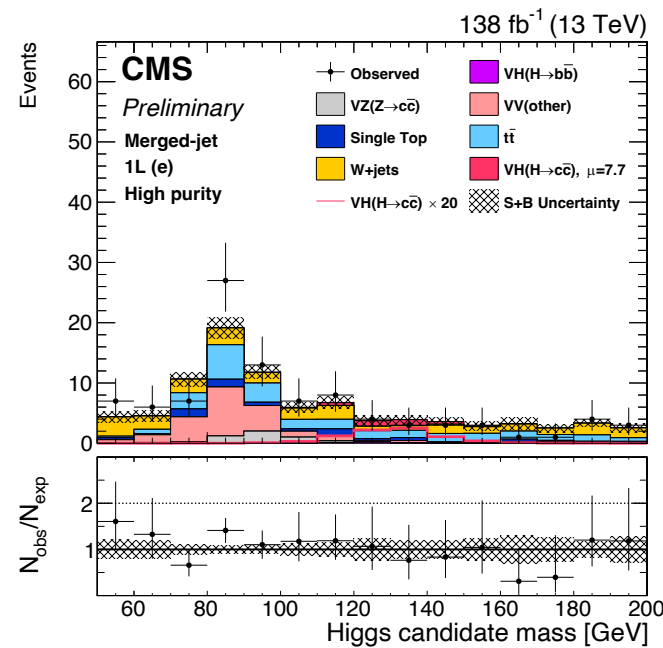
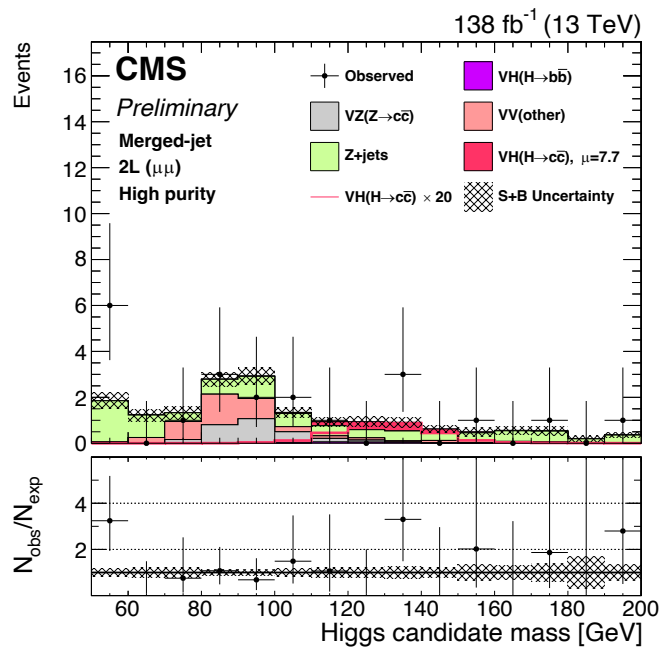
Uncertainty source	$\Delta\mu / (\Delta\mu)_{\text{tot}}$
Statistical	66%
Background normalizations	28%
Experimental	72%
Sizes of the simulated samples	59%
Charm identification efficiencies	27%
Jet energy scale and resolution	17%
Simulation modeling	20%
Luminosity	13%
Lepton identification efficiencies	10%
Theory	22%
Backgrounds	21%
Signal	7%

Merged-jet topology: signal regions

2L($\mu\mu$), high cc-purity

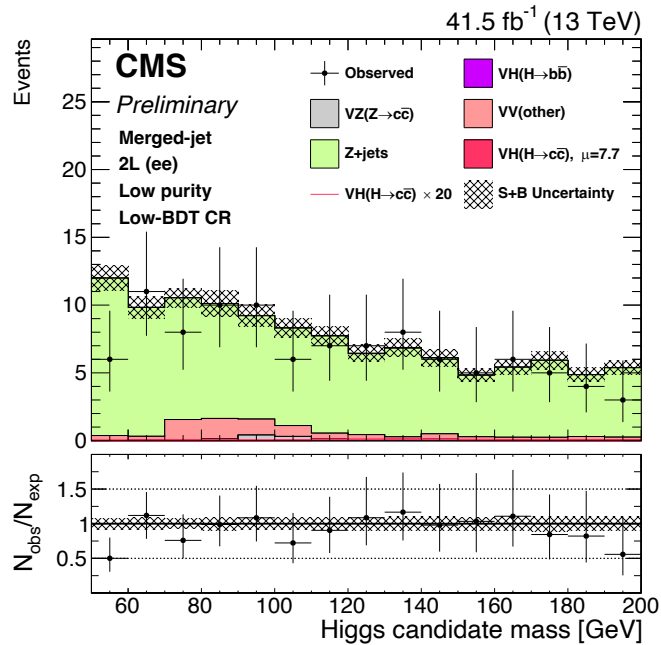
1L(e), high cc-purity

0L, high cc-purity

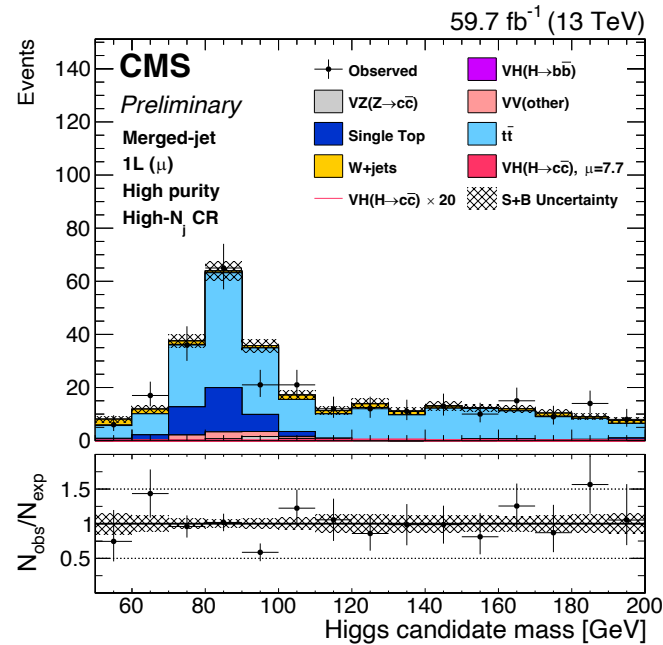


Merged-jet topology: control regions

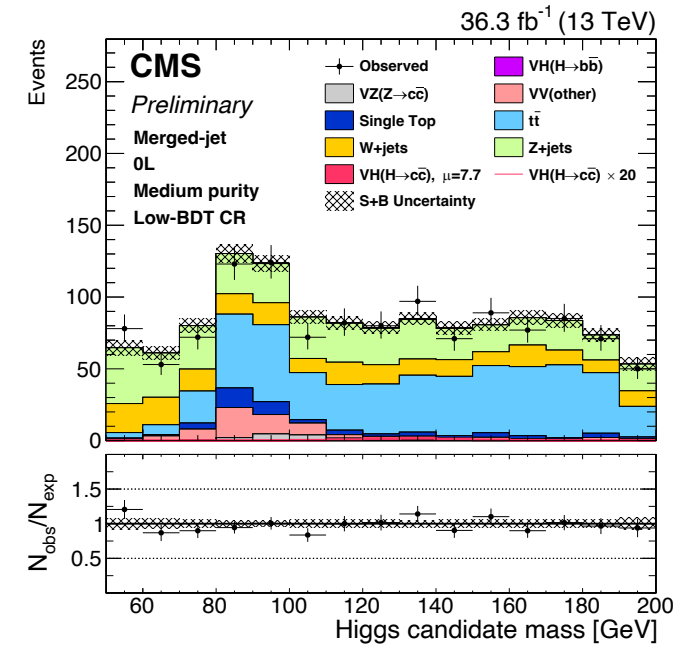
2L(ee), V+jets CR, low cc-purity



1L(μ), tt CR, high cc-purity

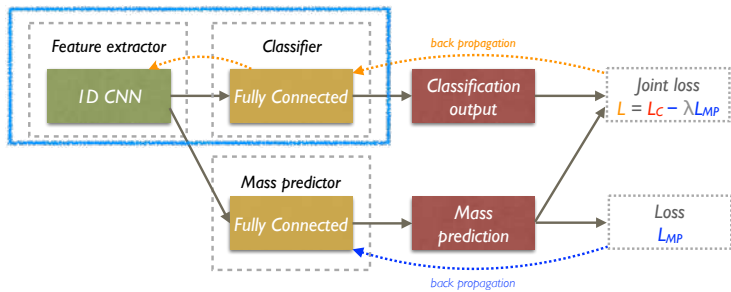


0L, V+jets CR, medium cc-purity

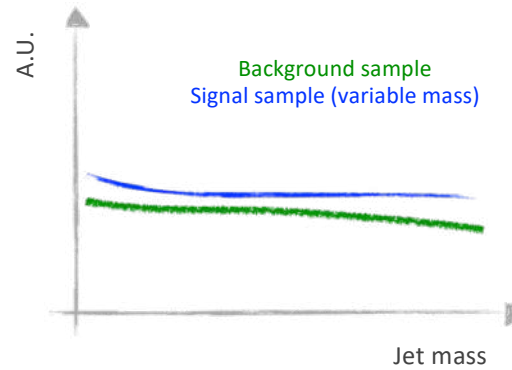


Comparison of mass decorrelation methods

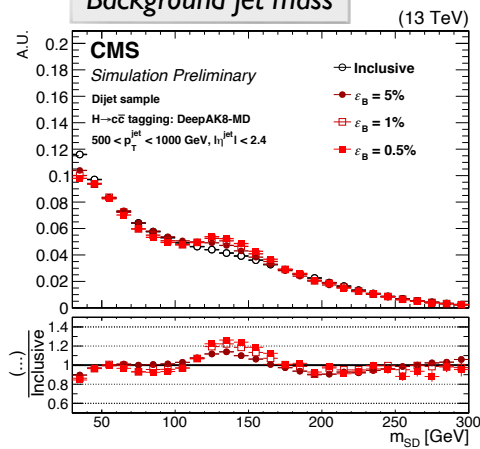
DeepAK8-MD



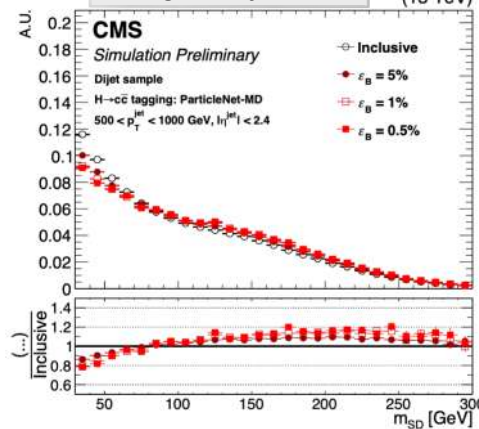
ParticleNet-MD



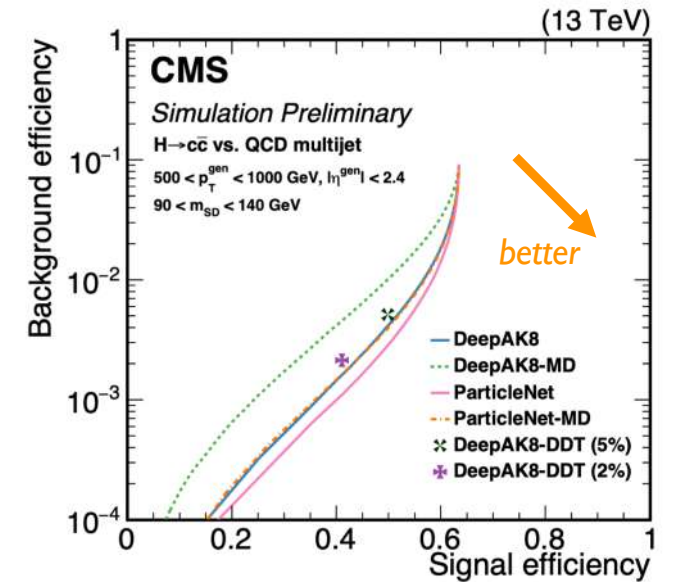
Background jet mass



Background jet mass



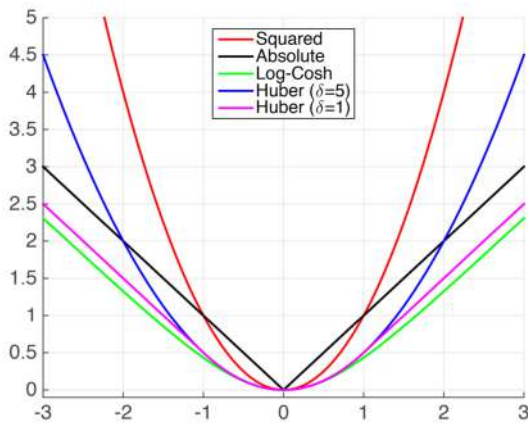
H to cc tagging performance



Large-R jet mass regression

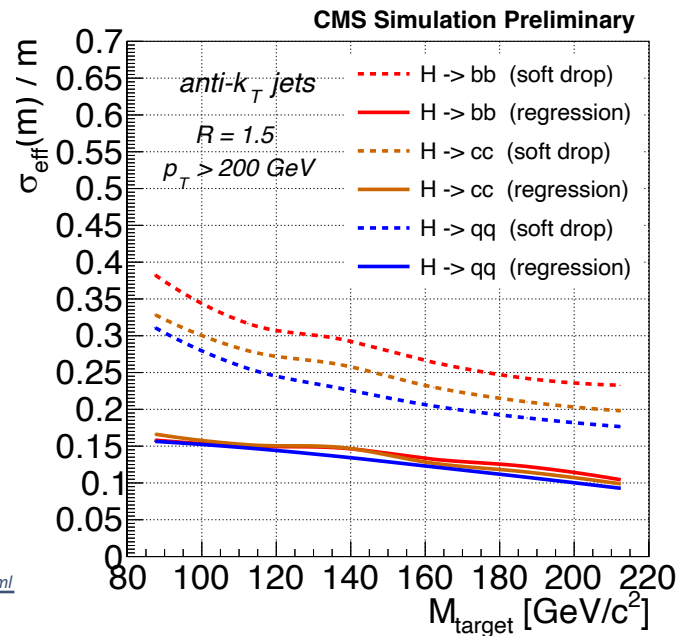
Loss function: LogCosh

$$L(y, y^p) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log(\cosh(y_i^p - y_i))$$

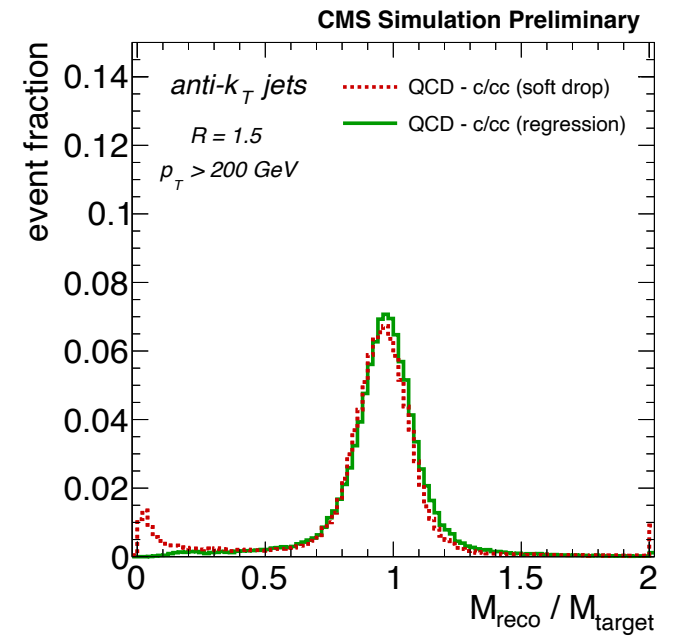


<https://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs4780/2015fa/web/lecturenotes/lecturenote10.html>

Signal jet mass resolution



Background jet mass response

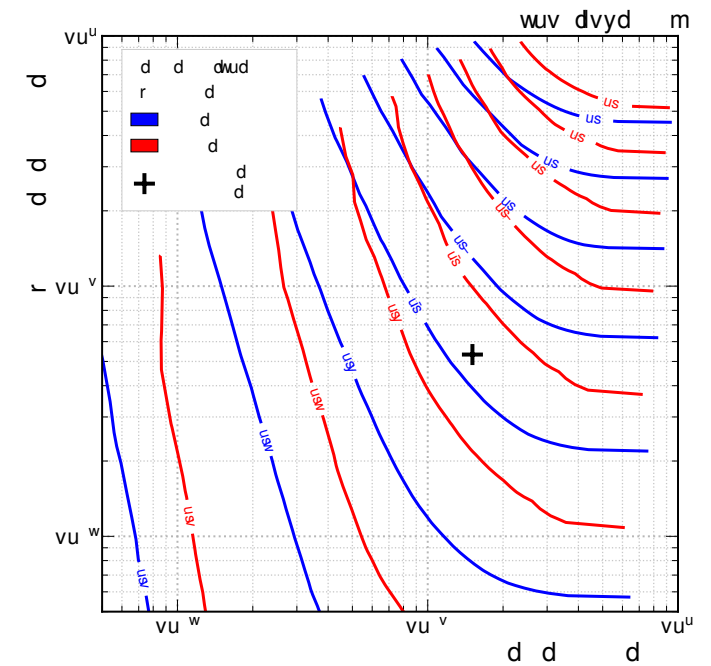
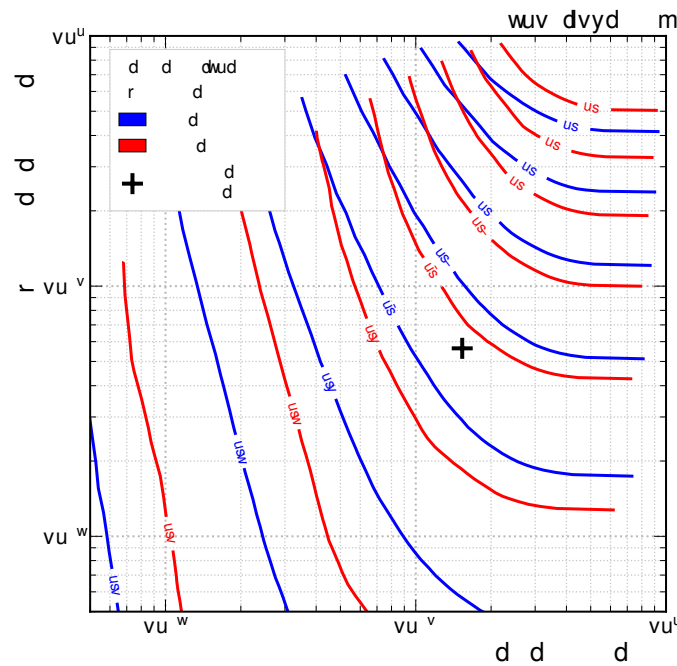
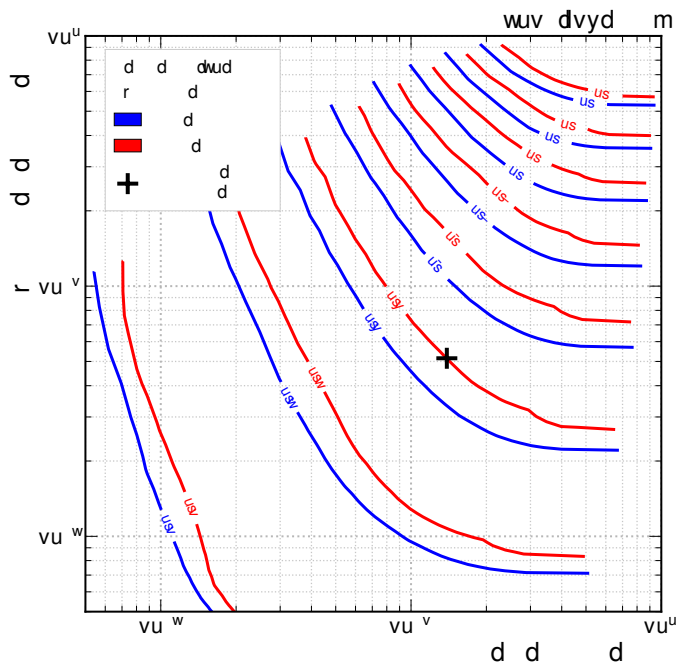


C-tagger ROC curves

2016

2017

2018

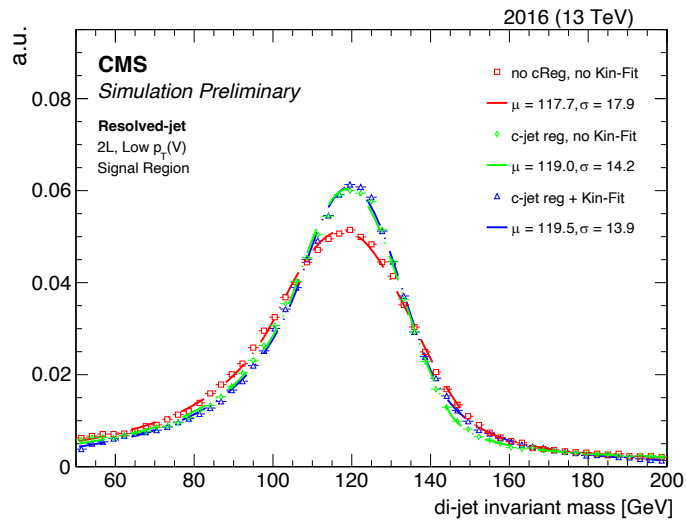


- CMS c-tagging WP: ~40% (c), ~16% (b), ~4% (light)
- ATLAS c-tagging WP [arXiv:2201.11428]: 27% (c), 8% (b), 1.6% (light)

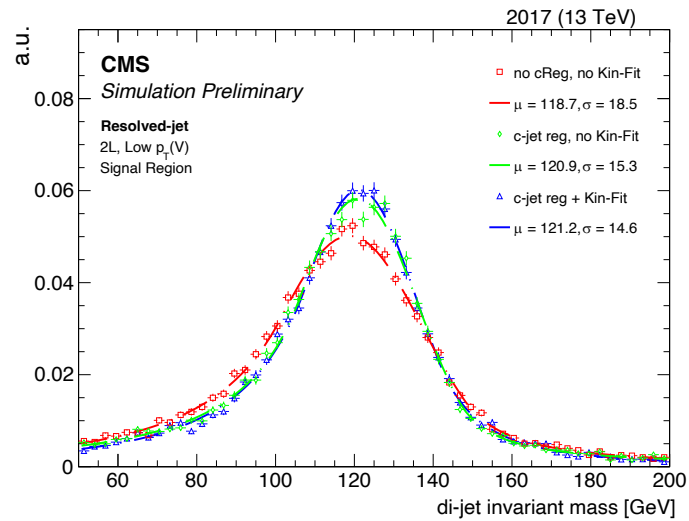
C-jet energy regression and kinematic fit

2-lepton Low- $p_T(V)$ category – $60 \text{ GeV} < p_T(V) < 150 \text{ GeV}$

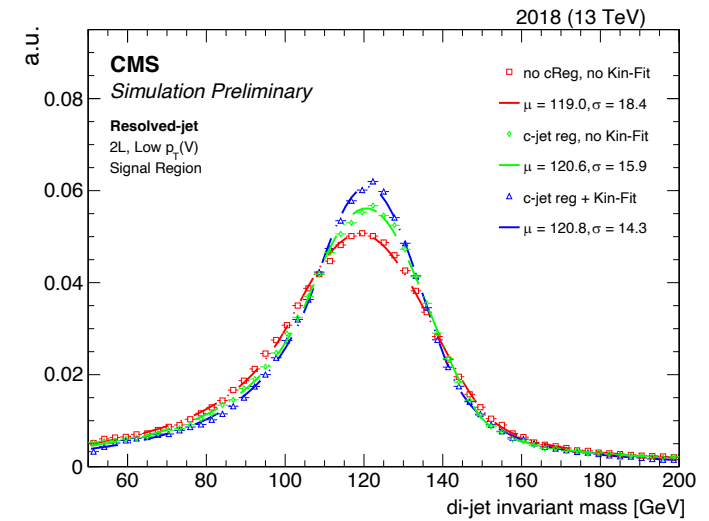
2016



2017



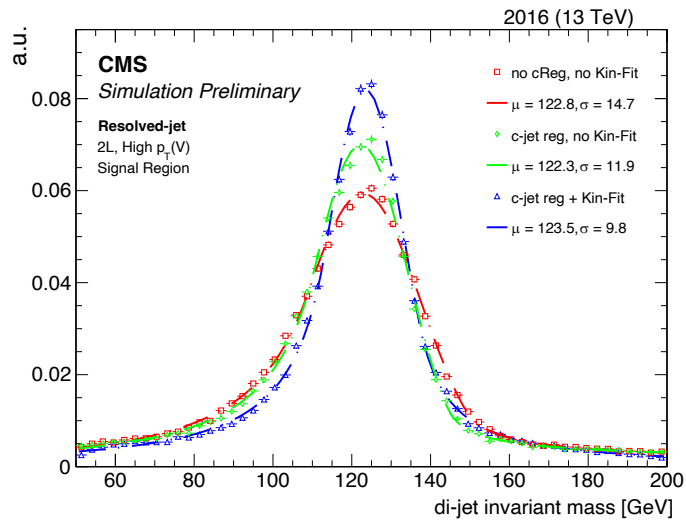
2018



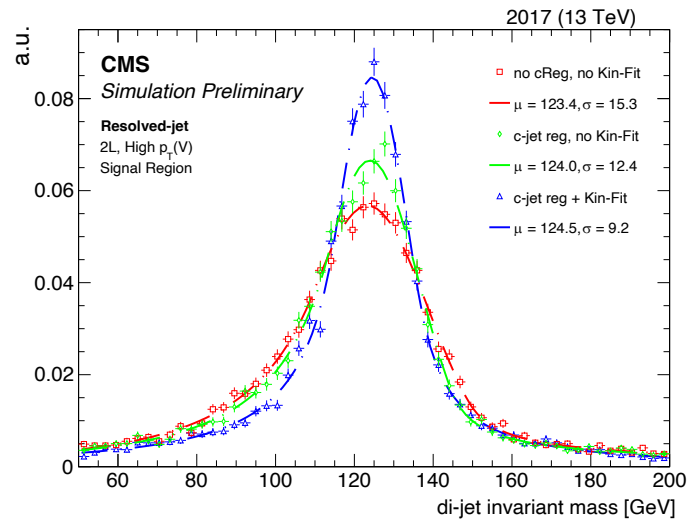
C-jet energy regression and kinematic fit

2-lepton High- $p_T(V)$ category – $p_T(V) > 150$ GeV

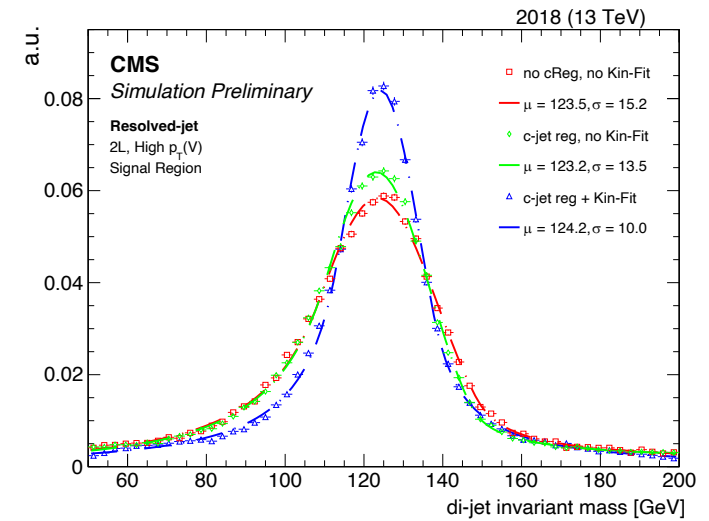
2016



2017



2018



Charm-tagging in the “resolved-jet” topology

DeepJet algorithm – the cornerstone of the VH(cc) resolved-jet topology analysis

❑ Multiclassifier Deep Neural Network

- Optimized for AK4-jets
- Returns the probability for a given jet to be originated by a b-, c- or light-quark

❑ DNN architecture:

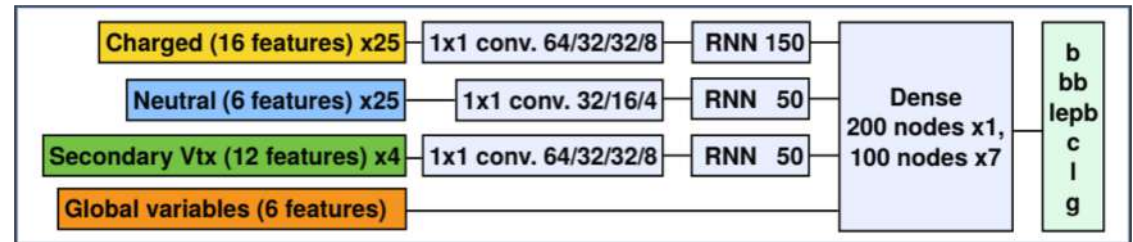
- Separate 1D CNNs to process three low-level feature classes
 - For each class, concatenate multiple CNNs with decreasing dimensions
 - Compress the features to lower dimensional space
- RNNs (LSTM type) applied after CNNs
 - Better handles the variable length sequence (PF candidates/SV)
- Fully connected layer to connect all channels

❑ Input variables:

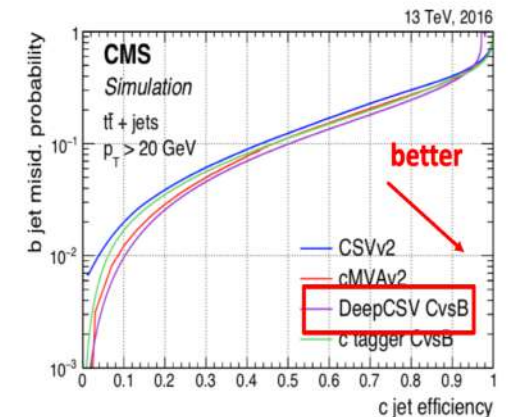
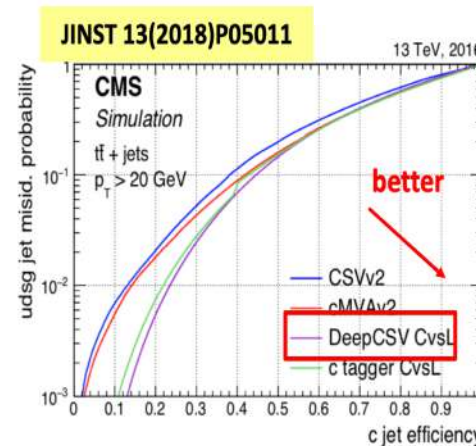
- Properties of PF-candidates
- Global jet features
- Secondary vertices

❑ Output:

- 6 raw scores



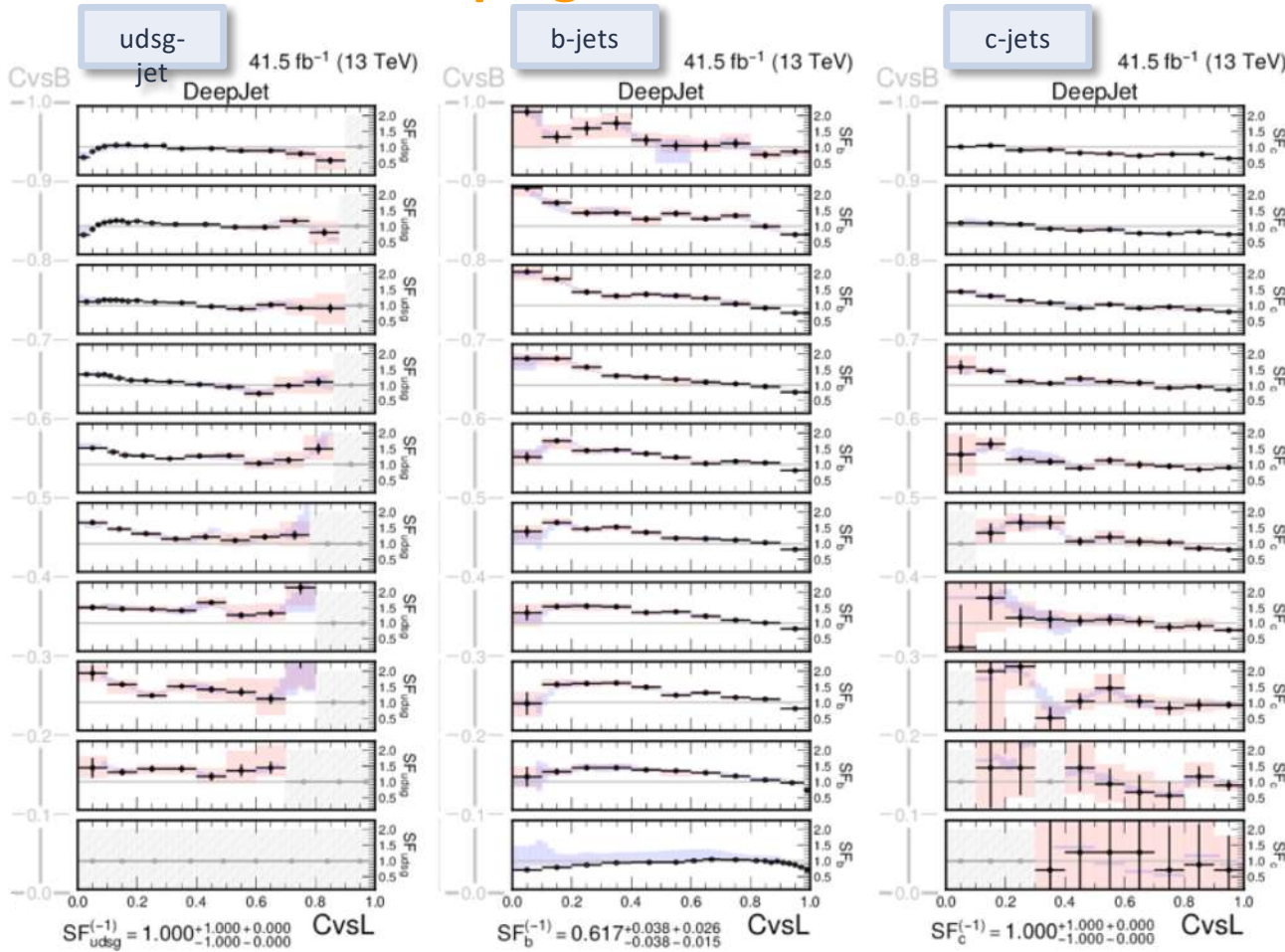
DeepJet architecture
(from [2008.10519](#))



- DeepCSV: predecessor of DeepJet
- Used in the CMS VH(cc) analysis with 2016 data [[JHEP 2020,131](#)]

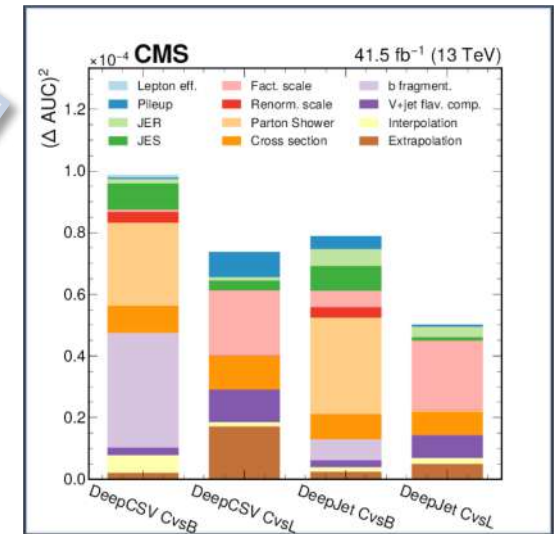
A new method to calibrate charm-taggers

Extraction of reshaping data-to-simulation scale factors



□ SFs as a function of CvsL in bins of CvsB

- Fixed bin width along CvsB and an adaptive binning scheme along CvsL (stat. depending)
- Total uncertainties (red envelopes) relatively small in the region of interest of the analysis
- Total uncertainties breakdown
 - Overall smaller than DeepCSV



(from arXiv:2111.03027)

A new method to calibrate charm-taggers

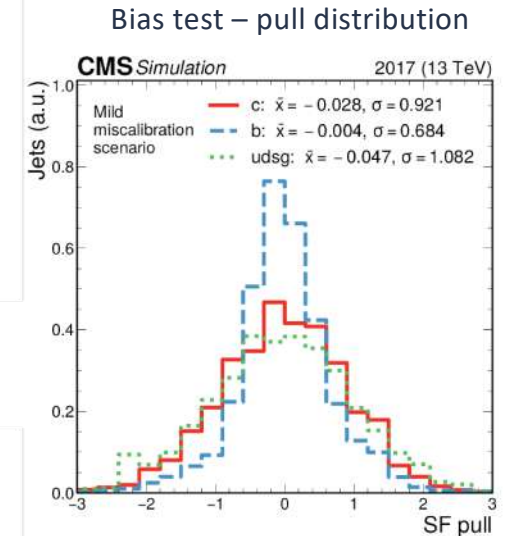
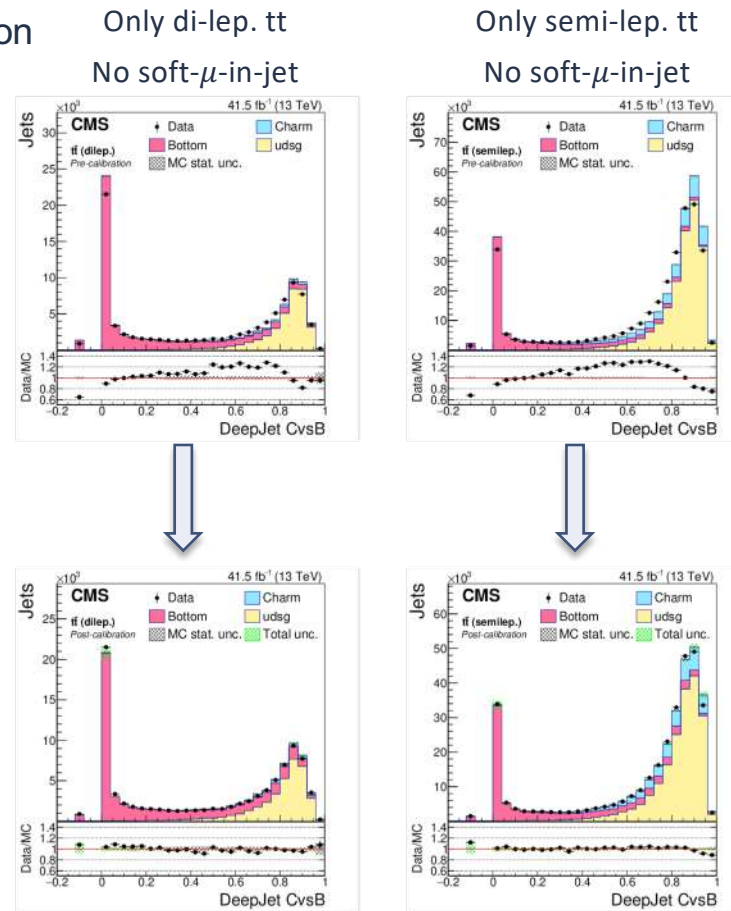
Validate robustness of the SFs derivation

(from arXiv:2111.03027)

- ❑ Check possible bias due to the soft- μ -in-jet selection
 - SFs are derived without soft- μ selection
- ❑ Check possible bias between semileptonic or dileptonic tt final states
 - SFs are derived also for the two separate processes independently
- ❑ Check possible bias due in the fit:
 - Inject *artificial* SFs to calculate the pulls between the fit result and the injected one



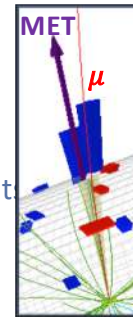
All the checks shown no bias in the SFs derivation



A dedicated charm-jet energy regression

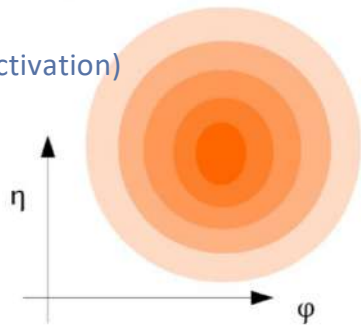
Goal: improve *c*-jet energy scale and resolution

- ❑ Inspired by b-jet energy regression [arXiv:1912.06046]
 - Jet energy measurements not always accurate:
 - loss of neutrinos, hadrons outside jet radius. Effect enhanced in *c*-jets and b-jets
 - Dedicated algorithm to determine *c*-jet energy scale and resolution
 - Algorithm pioneered for the observation of the $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ decay mode

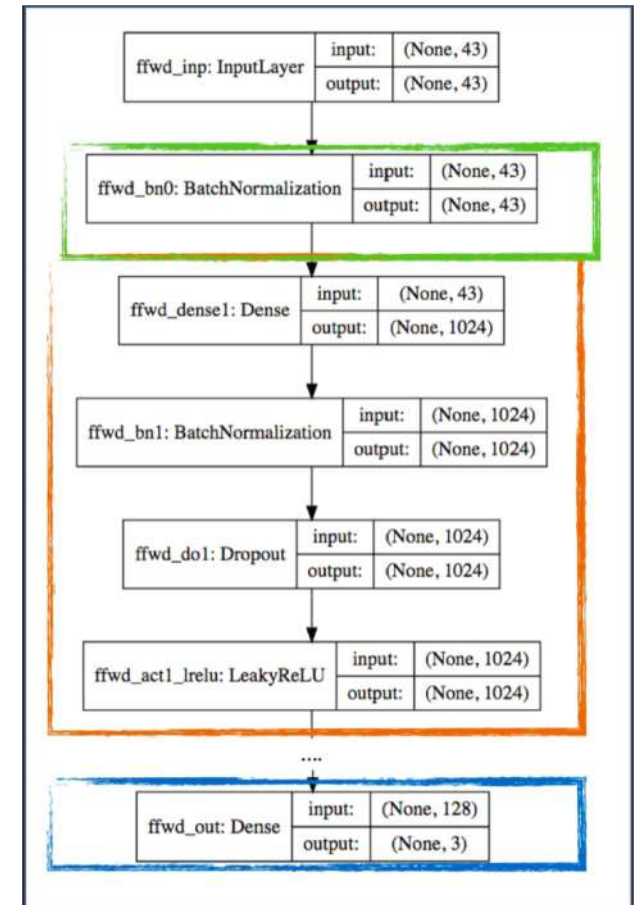


Charm-jet

- ❑ Regression performed using DNN architecture:
 - Feed-forward fully connected Deep NN (neurons with Leaky ReLU activation)
 - 6 hidden layers + batch normalization + dropout
 - Trained using *c*-jets collected from $W \rightarrow cq$ decays in $t\bar{t}$ MC events
 - Target is represented by $p_T(\text{gen})/p_T(\text{reco})$



- ❑ Input features
 - Total of 43 input variables in input to the network
 - Jets: kinematics, energy fraction, leading+soft-lepton tracks, pile-up, secondary vertexes
 - Jet energy shapes (e.g. energy fraction, etc), jet constituents, $p_T(\text{jet})/p_T(\text{lepton})$



Signal extraction – BDT training in SRs

Variable	Description	0L	1L	2L
$m(H)$	H mass	✓	✓	✓
$p_T(H)$	H transverse momentum	—	✓	✓
$p_T(V)$	vector boson transverse momentum	—	✓	✓
$m_T(V)$	vector boson transverse mass	—	✓	—
p_T^{miss}	missing transverse momentum	✓	✓	—
$p_T(V)/p_T(H)$	ratio between vector boson and H transverse momenta	✓	✓	✓
$CvsL_{max}$	$CvsL$ value of the leading $CvsL$ jet	✓	✓	✓
$CvsB_{max}$	$CvsB$ value of the leading $CvsL$ jet	✓	✓	✓
$CvsL_{min}$	$CvsL$ value of the subleading $CvsL$ jet	✓	✓	✓
$CvsB_{min}$	$CvsB$ value of the subleading $CvsL$ jet	✓	✓	✓
p_{Tmax}	p_T of the leading $CvsL$ jet	✓	✓	✓
p_{Tmin}	p_T of the subleading $CvsL$ jet	✓	✓	✓
$\Delta\phi(V, H)$	azimuthal angle between vector boson and H	✓	✓	✓
$\Delta R(j_1, j_2)$	ΔR between leading and subleading $CvsL$ jets	—	✓	✓
$\Delta\phi(j_1, j_2)$	azimuthal angle between leading and subleading $CvsL$ jets	✓	✓	—
$\Delta\eta(j_1, j_2)$	difference in pseudorapidity between leading and subleading $CvsL$ jets	✓	✓	✓
$\Delta\phi(\ell_1, \ell_2)$	azimuthal angle between leading and subleading p_T leptons	—	—	✓
$\Delta\eta(\ell_1, \ell_2)$	difference in pseudorapidity between leading and subleading p_T leptons	—	—	✓
$\Delta\phi(\ell_1, j_1)$	azimuthal angle between leading p_T lepton and leading $CvsL$ jet	—	✓	—
$\Delta\phi(\ell_2, j_1)$	azimuthal angle between subleading p_T lepton and leading $CvsL$ jet	—	—	✓
$\Delta\phi(\ell_2, j_2)$	azimuthal angle between subleading p_T lepton and subleading $CvsL$ jet	—	—	✓
$\Delta\phi(\ell_1, p_T^{miss})$	azimuthal angle between leading p_T lepton and missing transverse momentum	—	✓	—
$\Delta\eta(\ell_1, t)$	difference in pseudorapidity between leading p_T lepton and b-tagged jet from top quark decay	—	✓	—
$\Delta\phi(\ell_1, t)$	azimuthal angle between leading p_T lepton and b-tagged jet from top quark decay	—	✓	—
$\Delta R(\ell_1, t)$	ΔR between leading p_T lepton and b-tagged jet from top quark decay	—	✓	—
$CvsL_t$	$CvsL$ value of the b-tagged jet from top quark decay	—	✓	—
$CvsB_t$	$CvsB$ value of the b-tagged jet from top quark decay	—	✓	—
$P(b+bb)_t$	DeepJet $prob(b+bb)$ value of the b-tagged jet from top quark decay	—	✓	—
$m(t)$	Reconstructed top quark mass	—	✓	—
$N_{small-R}^{nj}$	Number of small-R additional jets after the FSR subtraction	—	✓	—
$\sigma_{cReg}(j_1)$	leading p_T jet resolution from c-jet energy regression	✓	✓	✓
$\sigma_{cReg}(j_2)$	subleading p_T jet resolution from c-jet energy regression	✓	✓	✓
$\Delta\eta(V, H) \parallel_{kinfit}$	difference in pseudorapidity between vector boson and H, after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$\Delta\phi(V, H) \parallel_{kinfit}$	azimuthal angle between vector boson and H, after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$m(H) \parallel_{kinfit}$	H mass after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$p_T(H) \parallel_{kinfit}$	H transverse momentum after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$p_{Tmax} \parallel_{kinfit}$	p_T of the leading $CvsL$ jet after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$p_{Tmin} \parallel_{kinfit}$	p_T of the subleading $CvsL$ jet after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$p_T(V)/p_T(H) \parallel_{kinfit}$	ratio between vector boson and H transverse momenta after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$\sigma(H) \parallel_{kinfit}$	H invariant mass resolution from kinematic fit	—	—	✓

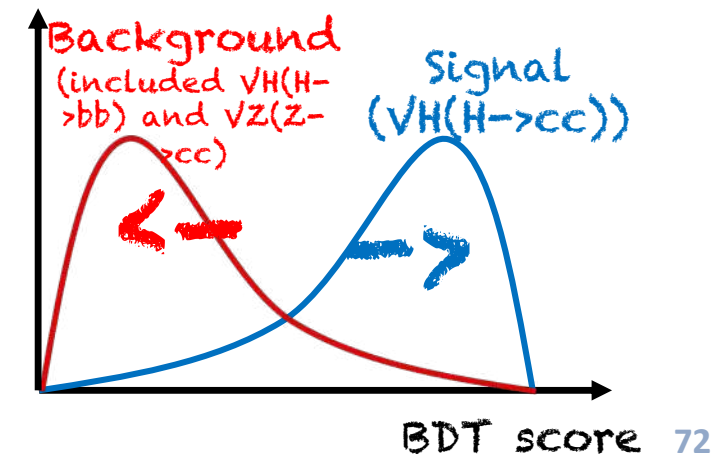
Higgs and vector boson properties

c-tagging score

event kinematics

Kinfit Variables (2L only)

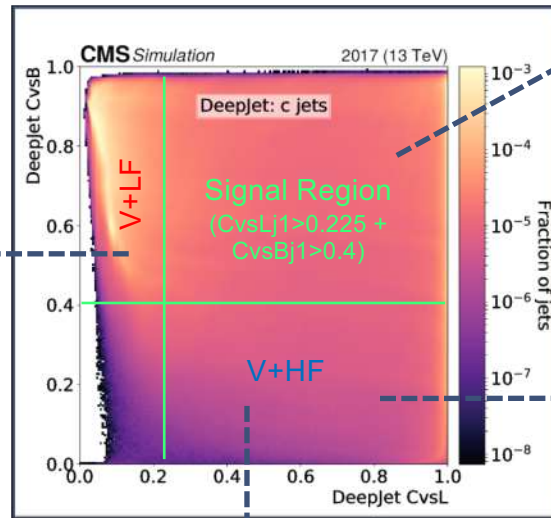
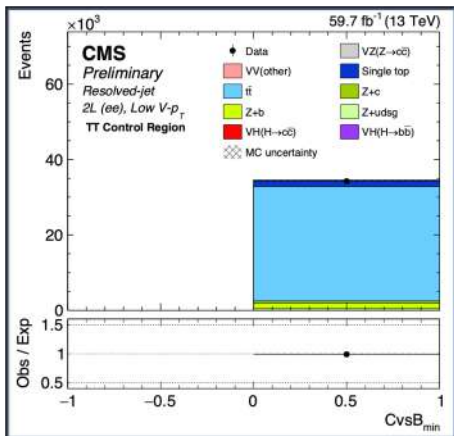
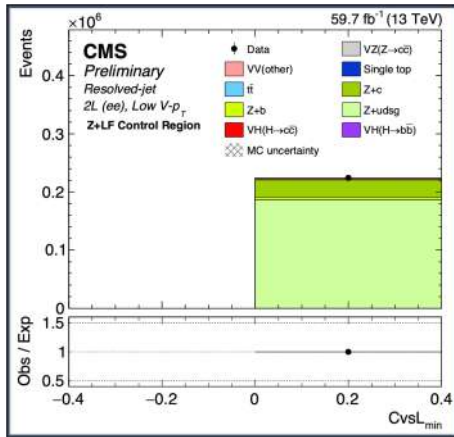
- BDT trained to separate signal from background samples
 - Use combination of kinematic observables and particle flavor variables (tagger informations)
- Separate BDTs trained for each channel and data taking year
 - Separate BDTs trained for high- and low- $p_T(V)$ 2L
 - Variables used dependent on channel
- Reshaped BDT distribution used in SR during final fit



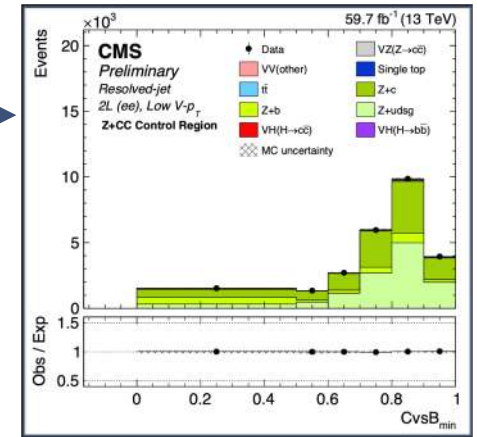
Background estimation – Resolved-jet

Accurate modeling of jet flavor in V+Jet background is vital for proper signal extraction

- Separate rate parameters for **V+c**, **V+b**, and **V+light** processes (no W+b)
- Additional rate parameter for $t\bar{t}$ background

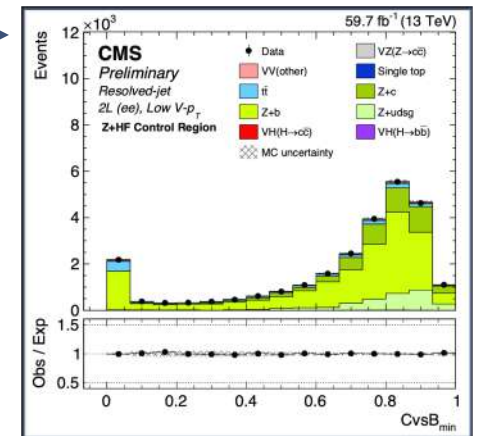


V+CC
 ()
 Veto m(H)
 region



$t\bar{t}$
 ()
 Invert Z mass (2L)
 Require add jet (1L)*
 Require add ℓ and jets (0L)

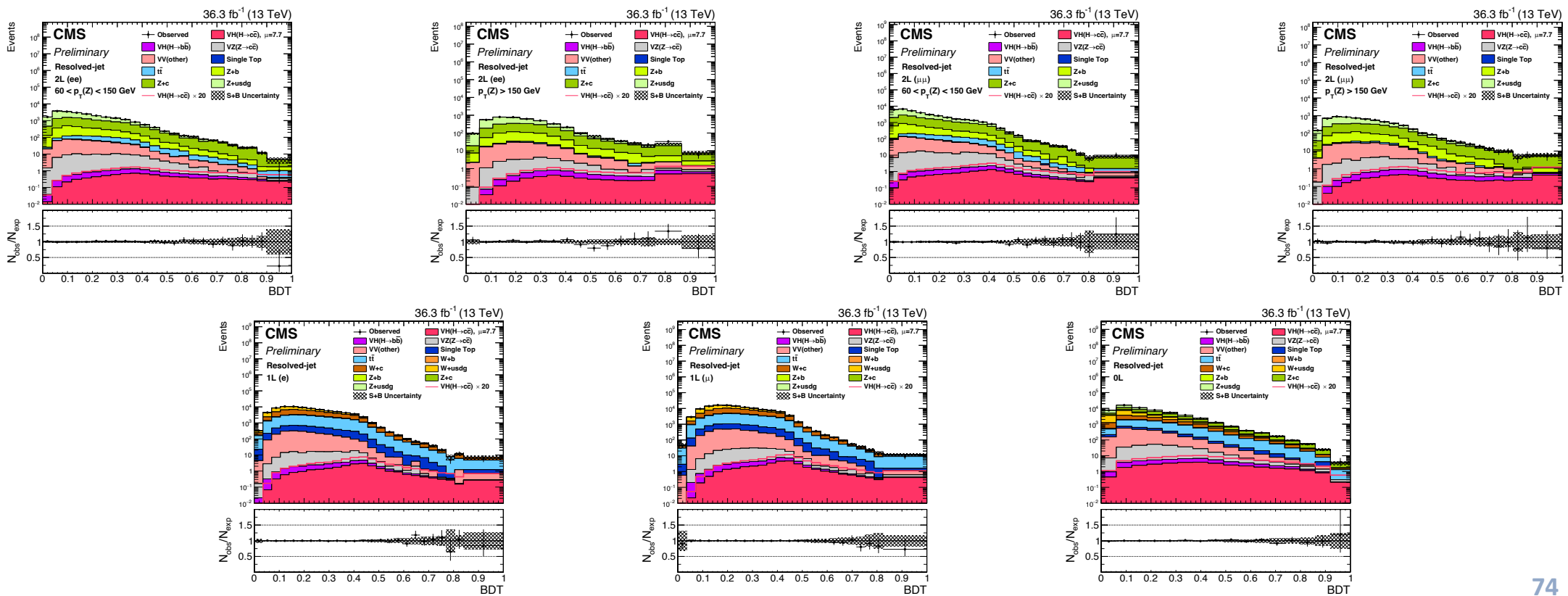
*1L: also require MET < 170 GeV to keep orthogonal to 0L $t\bar{t}$ CR



Postfit plots – Signal regions - 2016

□ Postfit distribution of the BDT discriminant obtained with the 2016 data

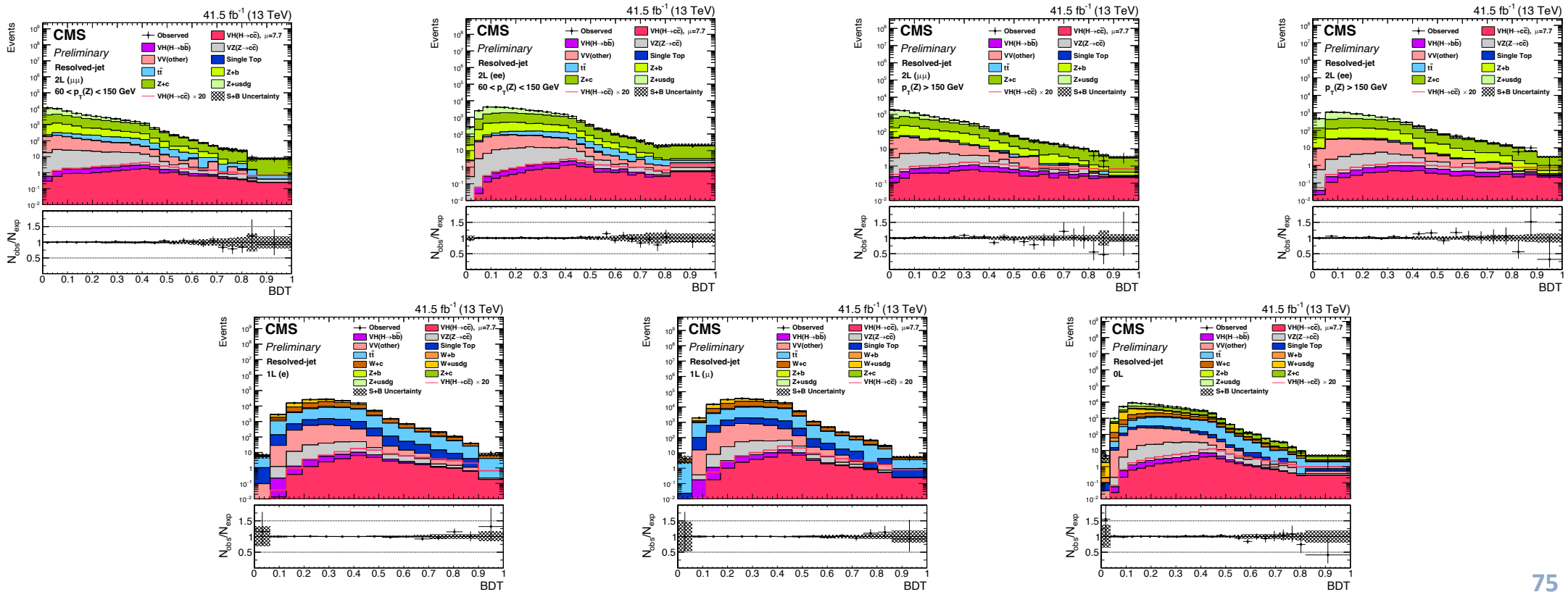
■ 7 Signal regions in each year: 2L(ee/ μ) Low- p_T (V) and –High- p_T (V), 1L(e/ μ) and 0L



Postfit plots – Signal regions - 2017

Postfit distribution of the BDT discriminant obtained with the 2017 data

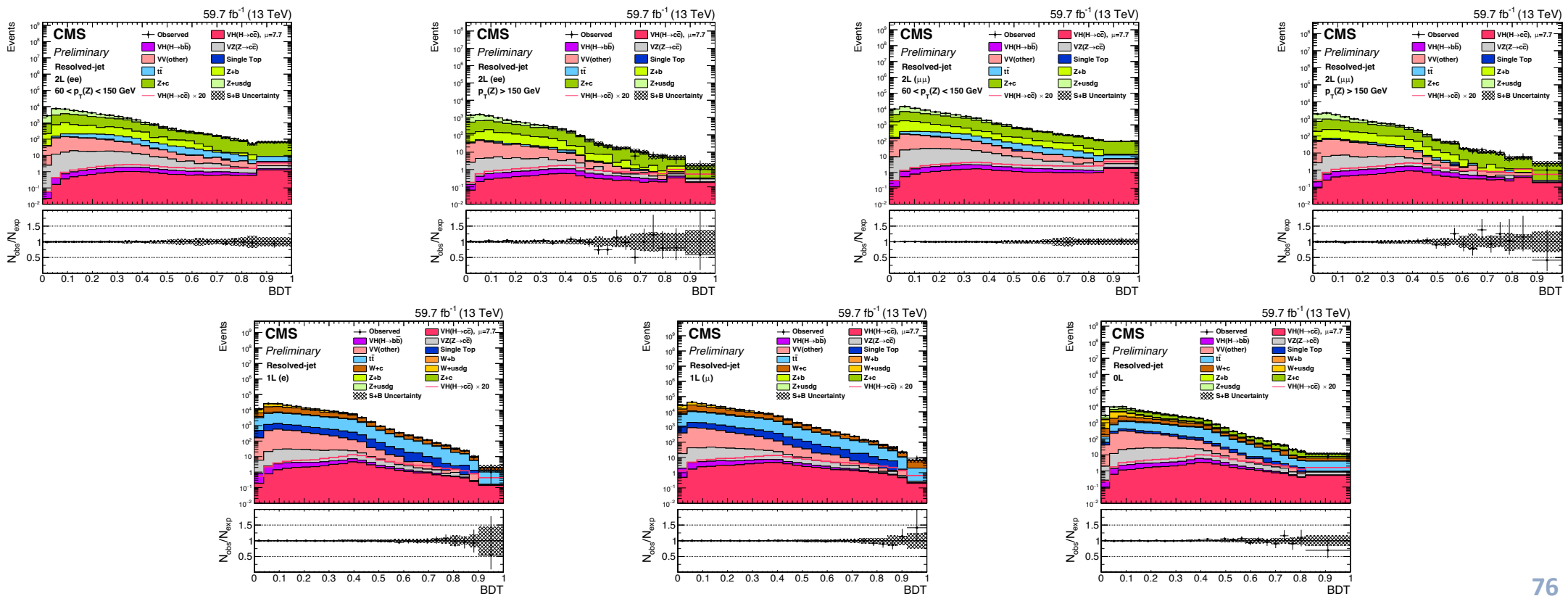
- 7 Signal regions in each year: 2L(ee/ μ) Low- $p_T(V)$ and –High- $p_T(V)$, 1L(e/ μ) and 0L



Postfit plots – Signal regions - 2018

Postfit distribution of the BDT discriminant obtained with the 2018 data

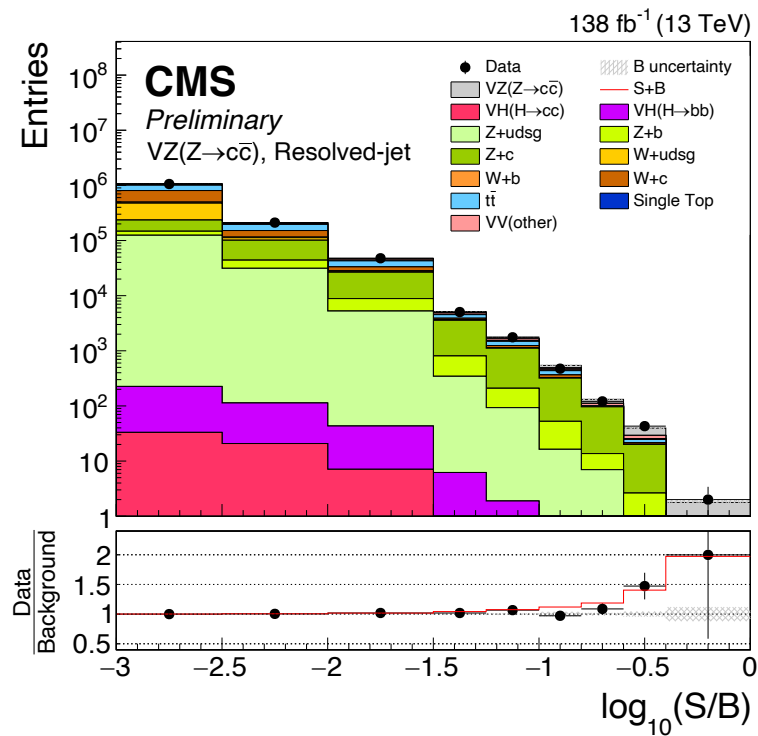
7 Signal regions in each year: 2L(ee/ μ) Low- $p_T(V)$ and –High- $p_T(V)$, 1L(e/ μ) and 0L



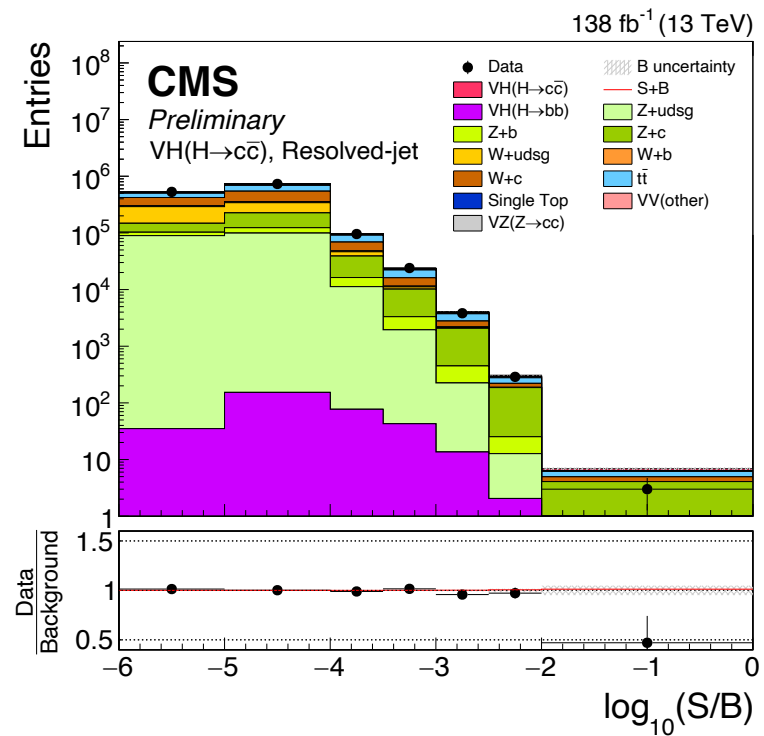
Resolved-jet topology - results

- Resolved-jet – all categories: **ordering the events by $\log_{10}(S/B)$**

VZ(cc)



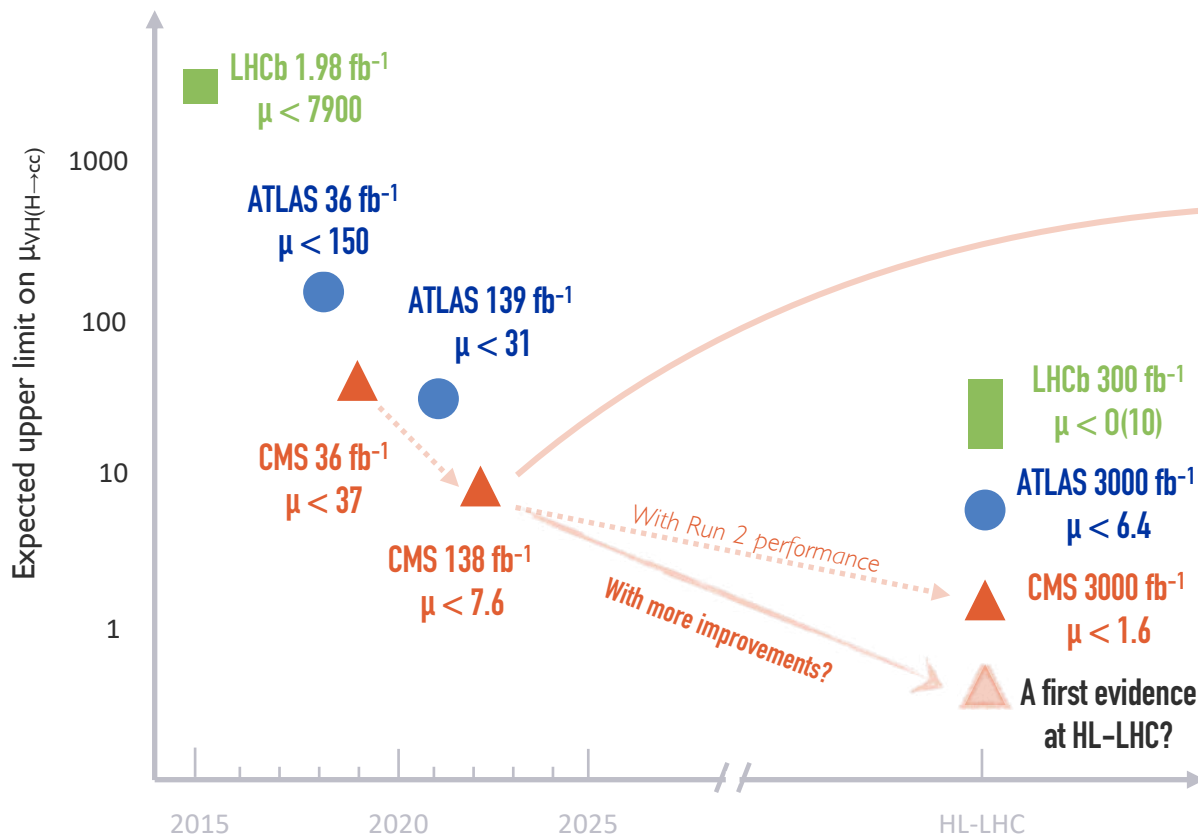
VH(cc)



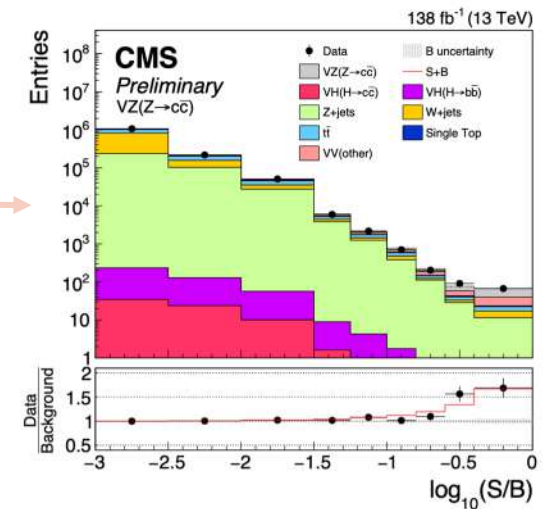
Projection at HL-LHC: Setup

- ❑ Extrapolation of the merged-jet analysis to HL-LHC with 3000 fb⁻¹ data
- ❑ Modifications to the Run 2 analysis to allow for a simultaneous constraint on H → bb and H → cc
 - **addition of 3 categories enriched in H → bb decays**, selected with the ParticleNet bb-tagging discriminant
 - very small (1-2%) overlap of bb and cc categories – events assigned to a unique category
 - **large-R jet p_T threshold lowered from 300 GeV to 200 GeV** – increasing signal acceptance
- ❑ Systematic uncertainties adjusted according to the Yellow Report [[CERN-2019-007](#)]
 - theoretical uncertainties: reduced by half
 - most experimental uncertainties: scaled down with $\sqrt{\mathcal{L}}$
 - bb and cc tagging efficiencies: constrained by VZ(Z → bb) and VZ(Z → cc) events to ~3% and ~5%
 - misidentification of H → bb as H → cc: a prominent uncertainty on H → cc measurement at HL-LHC
 - assumed to be reduced from ~100% (Run 2) to 20% in the projection

A charming journey



From $\mathcal{O}(1000)$ to $\mathcal{O}(100)$ to $\mathcal{O}(10)$ in ~ 5 years.
 A combined effort and creativity from instrumentation,
 physics objects and analysis techniques!



First observation of $Z \rightarrow cc$ at a hadron collider!
 Opening a new era for future explorations.

- More channels: ttH(cc), VBF H(cc), indirect constraints, etc.
- Improvements in advanced analysis techniques (e.g., Deep Learning) and instrumentation (e.g., tracker)
- Reduction of systematic uncertainties: c-tagging, event modeling, theoretical uncertainties, ...

A charming journey ahead!