



Higgs and exotics searches using jet substructure techniques

Petar Maksimovic, Johns Hopkins

PITT-PACC 2021

What we need to search for BSM

- Data ✓
- Tools (taggers, new variables) to suppress background and isolate the signal ✓
 - Most ML taggers still trained on MC...
- Background estimate (minimize uncertainty)
 - If dominated by $t\bar{t}$, W +jets – get away with MC... ✓
 - QCD: tricky and messy 🤔 (after lots of work... ✓)
- Signal efficiency (minimize uncertainty)
 - For top, W/Z , Higgs tagging – use standard candles ✓
 - For exotic signatures – ??? ✗

Recent CMS results (to whet your appetite)

- Many new results, selected three to illustrate the issues:
 - $b^* \rightarrow tW$ (B2G-19-003)
 - $W' \rightarrow bT'$ or $tB' \rightarrow tbH$ (B2G-20-002)
 - Triboson in lepton+jets (B2G-20-001)
- Not covered here:
 - $X \rightarrow WH$ in lepton+jets (B2G-19-002)
 - $X \rightarrow WZ(\rightarrow \nu\nu)$ in jet+MET (B2G-20-008)
 - $T' \rightarrow tZ(\rightarrow \nu\nu)$ in jet+MET (B2G-19-004)
 - $b^* \rightarrow tW$ in lepton+jets (B2G-20-010)
 - $X \rightarrow HY \rightarrow \tau\tau bb$ (no substructure) (HIG-20-014)

Recent CMS results (to whet your appetite)

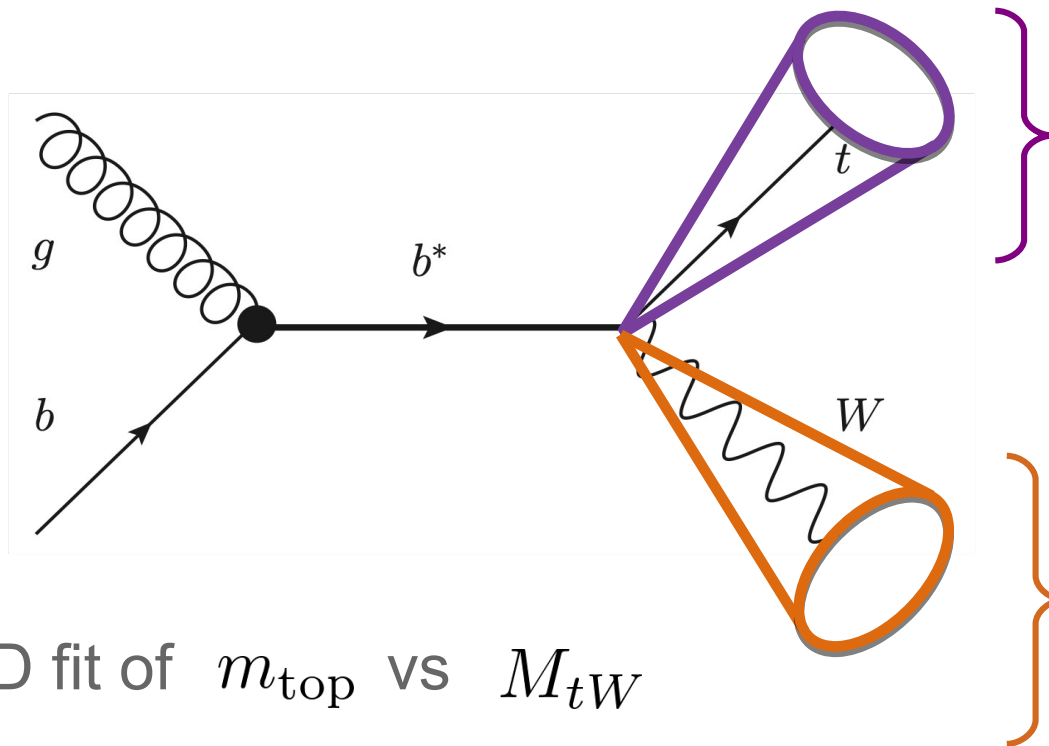
- Many new results, selected three to illustrate the issues:
 - $b^* \rightarrow tW$ (B2G-19-003)
 - $W' \rightarrow bT'$ or $tB' \rightarrow tbH$ (B2G-20-002)
 - Triboson in lepton+jets (B2G-20-001)
- Not covered here:
 - $X \rightarrow WH$ in lepton+jets
 - $X \rightarrow WZ(\rightarrow \nu\nu)$ in jet+MET (B2G-19-004)
 - $T' \rightarrow tZ(\rightarrow \nu\nu)$ in jet+MET (B2G-19-004)
 - $b^* \rightarrow tW$ in lepton+jets (B2G-20-010)
 - $X \rightarrow HY \rightarrow \tau\tau bb$ (no substructure) (HIG-20-014)

I was asked to cover CMS results,
But the issues I want to raise
are the same for ATLAS.

Exhibit A: $b^* \rightarrow tW$

B2G-19-003

- Two large-R jets (mostly back-to-back)



top jet:

$$\tau_3/\tau_2$$

& b-tag one subjet

W jet:

$$\tau_2/\tau_1$$

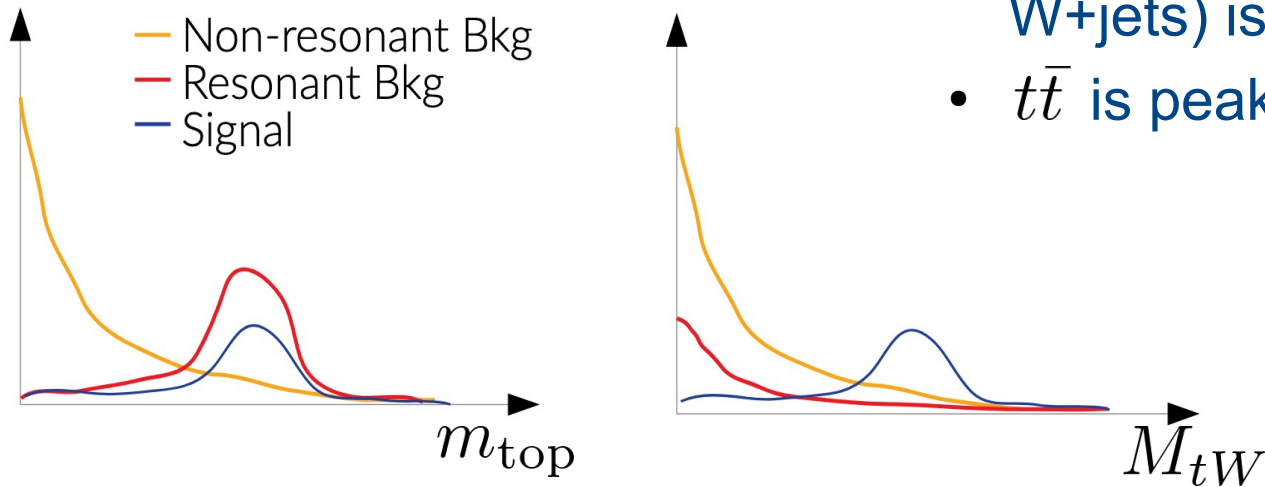
& in W mass window

- 2D fit of m_{top} vs M_{tW}
- Main backgrounds:
 - QCD – from data
 - $t\bar{t}$ – from template-morphed MC

Exhibit A: $b^* \rightarrow tW$

B2G-19-003

- 2D fit of m_{top} vs. M_{tW}



- Non-res bkg (QCD, W+jets) is smooth
- $t\bar{t}$ is peaky

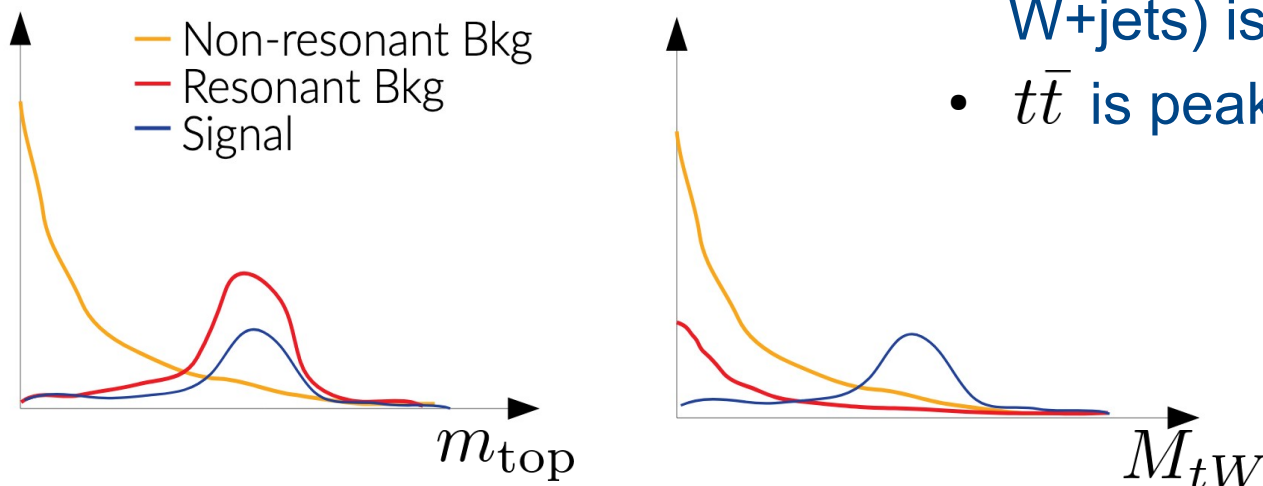
$$N_p^{\text{nonres}}[i] = N_f^{\text{nonres}}[i] \times R_{p/f}^{MC}[i] \times R_{\text{ratio}}(m_{\text{top}}, M_{tW})$$

Non-res bkg modeled from data events that fail top tagging

Exhibit A: $b^* \rightarrow tW$

B2G-19-003

- 2D fit of m_{top} vs. M_{tW}



- Non-res bkg (QCD, W+jets) is smooth
- $t\bar{t}$ is peaky

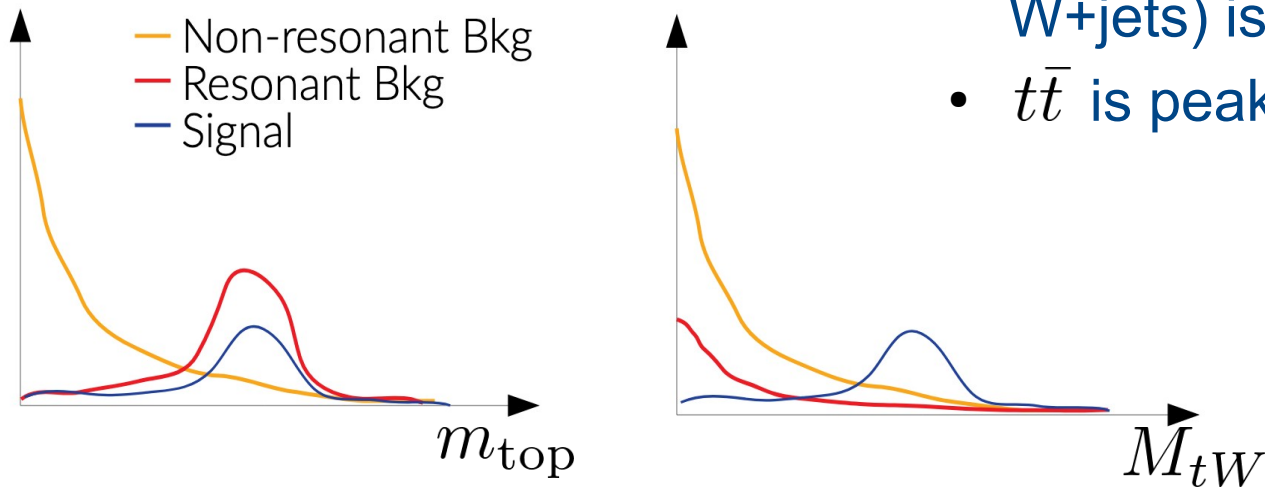
$$N_p^{\text{nonres}}[i] = N_f^{\text{nonres}}[i] \times R_{p/f}^{MC}[i] \times R_{\text{ratio}}(m_{\text{top}}, M_{tW})$$

To model corners of 2D plane,
start from pass-fail ratio from MC

Exhibit A: $b^* \rightarrow tW$

B2G-19-003

- 2D fit of m_{top} vs. M_{tW}



- Non-res bkg (QCD, W+jets) is smooth
- $t\bar{t}$ is peaky

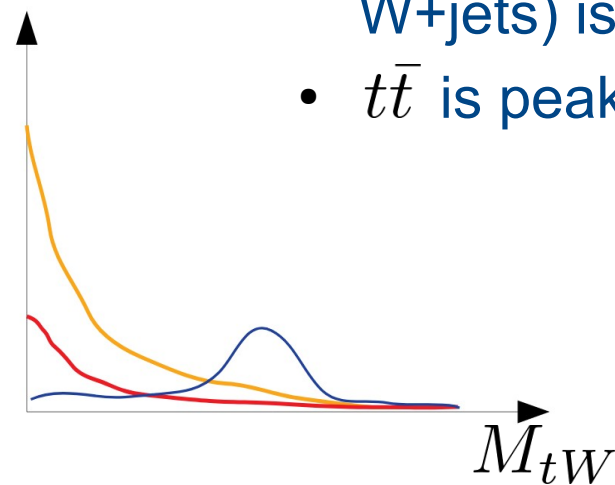
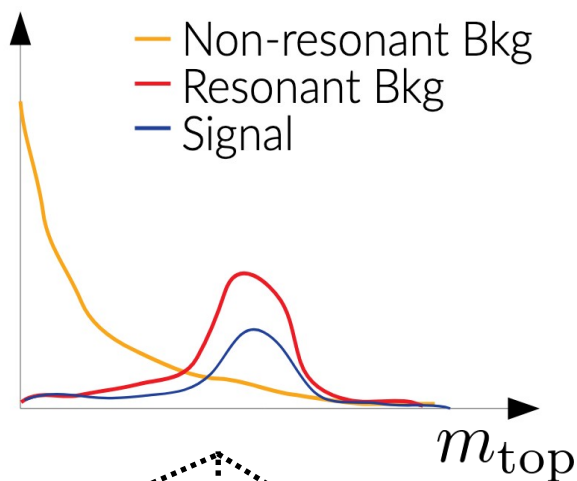
$$N_p^{\text{nonres}}[i] = N_f^{\text{nonres}}[i] \times R_{p/f}^{MC}[i] \times R_{\text{ratio}}(m_{\text{top}}, M_{tW})$$

To correct pass-fail ratio from MC, multiply by a smooth 2D function floating in the fit to data

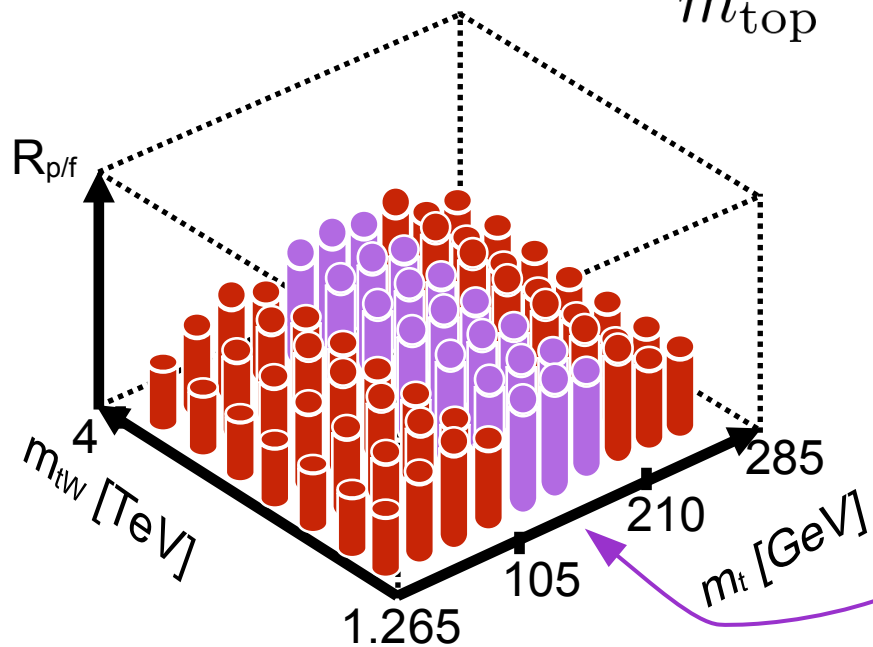
Exhibit A: $b^* \rightarrow tW$

B2G-19-003

- 2D fit of m_{top} vs. M_{tW}



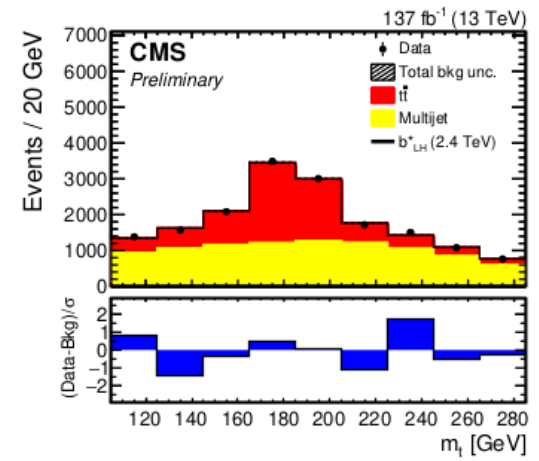
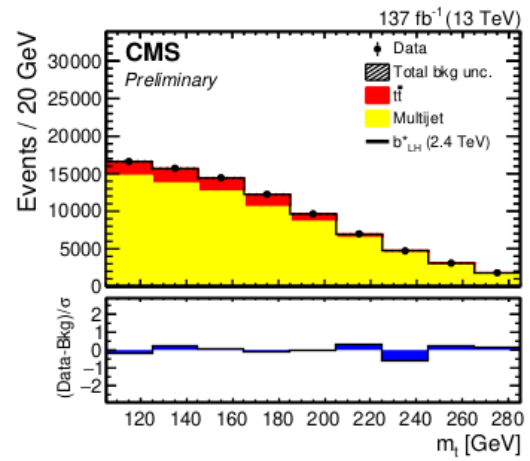
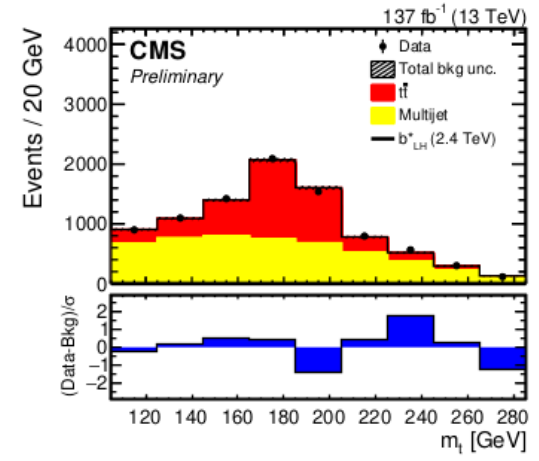
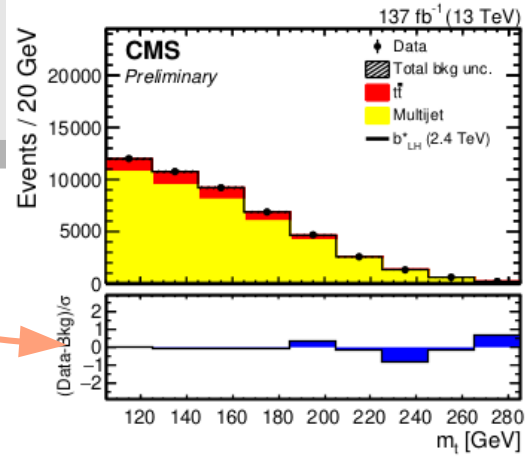
- Non-res bkg (QCD, W+jets) is smooth
- $t\bar{t}$ is peaky



The basic idea is to interpolate through m_{top} **signal region**

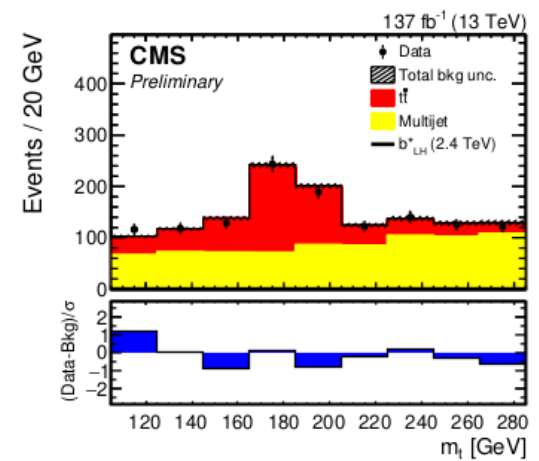
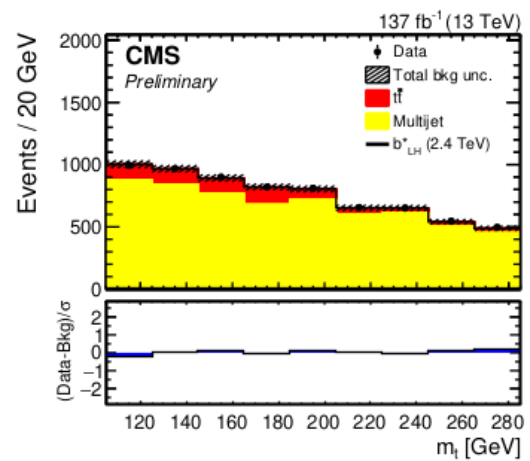
$b^* \rightarrow tW$

- 2D fit of m_{top} vs. M_{tW}



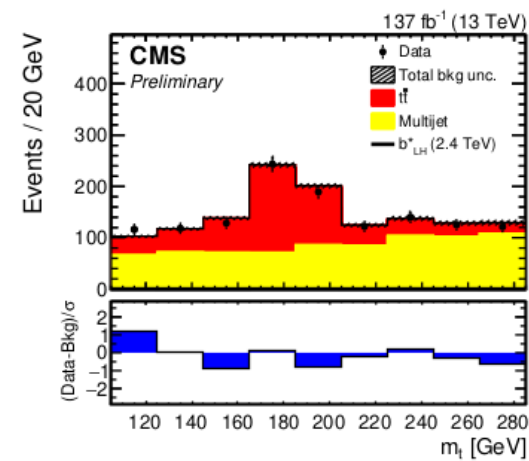
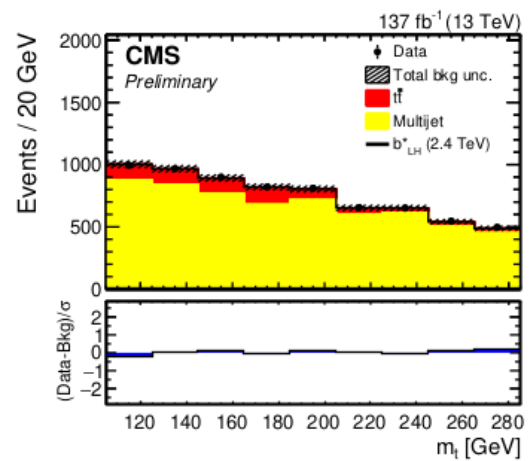
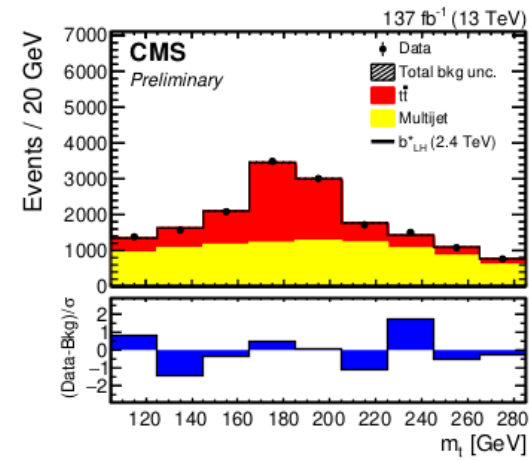
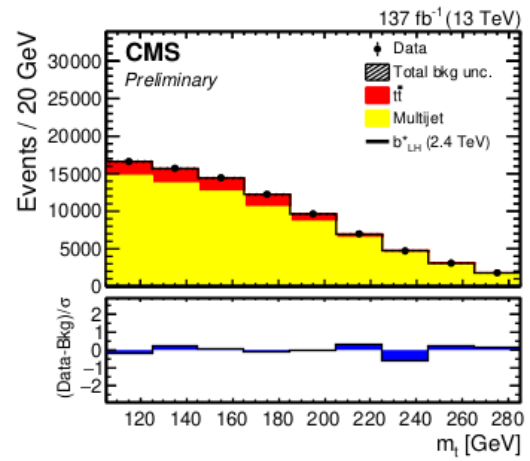
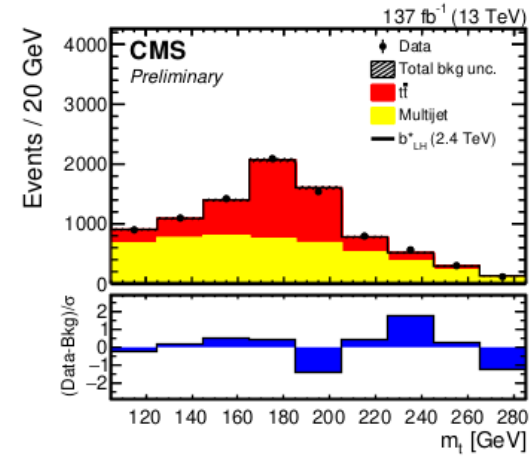
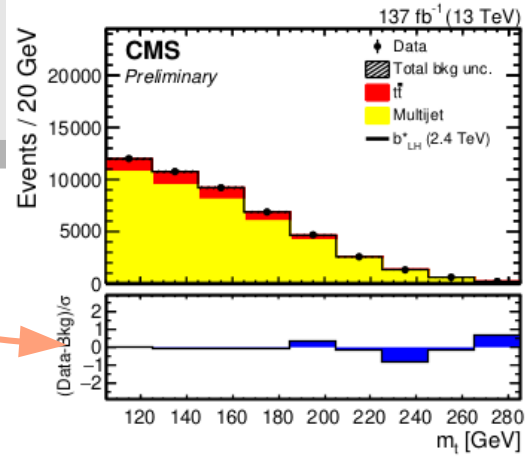
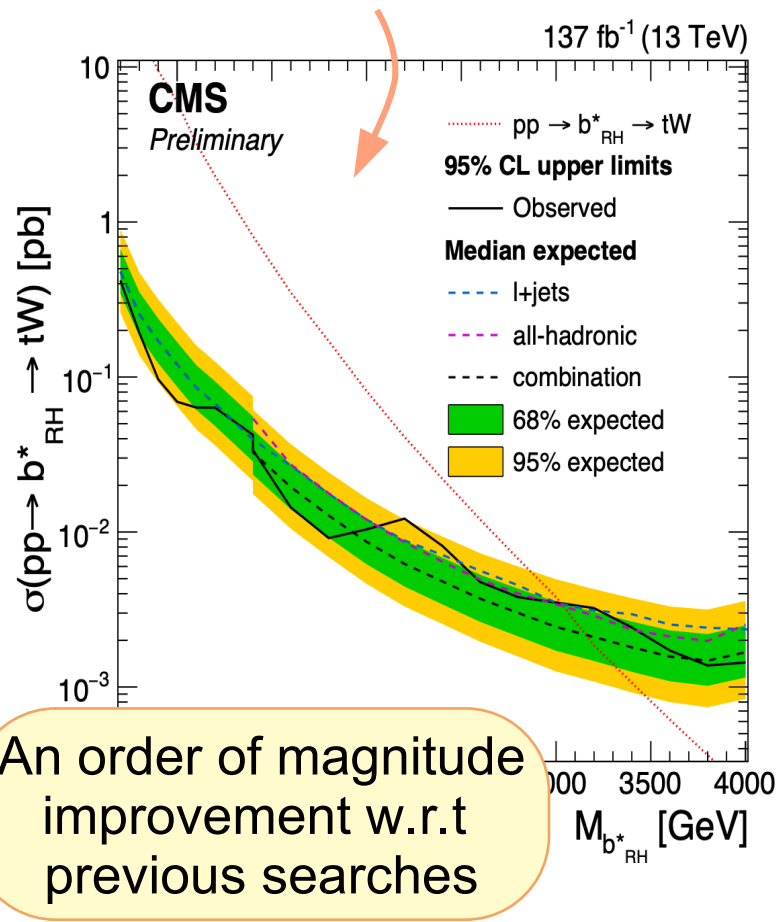
m_{top} projection in three slices of M_{tW}

Left: fail.
Right: pass.



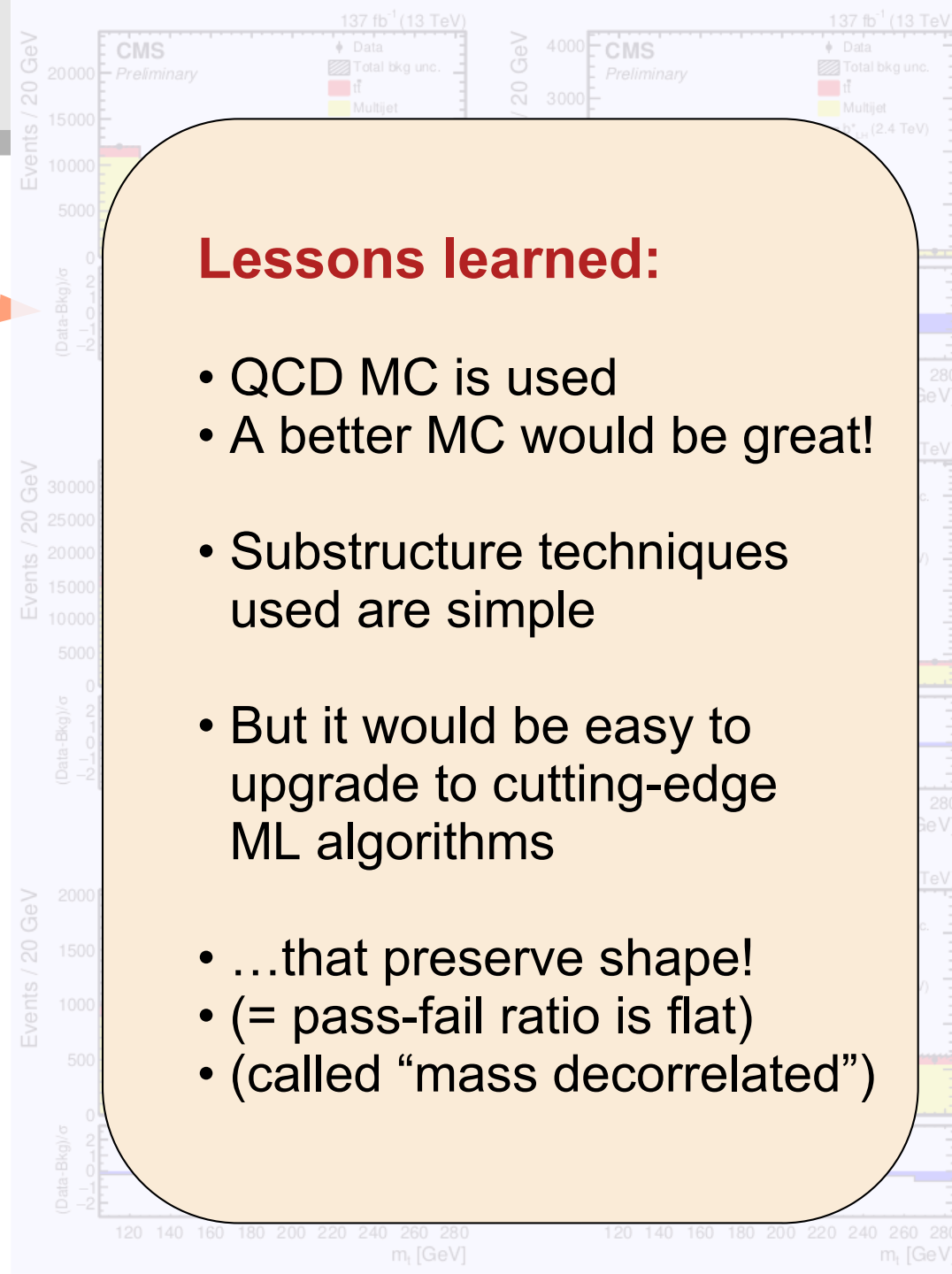
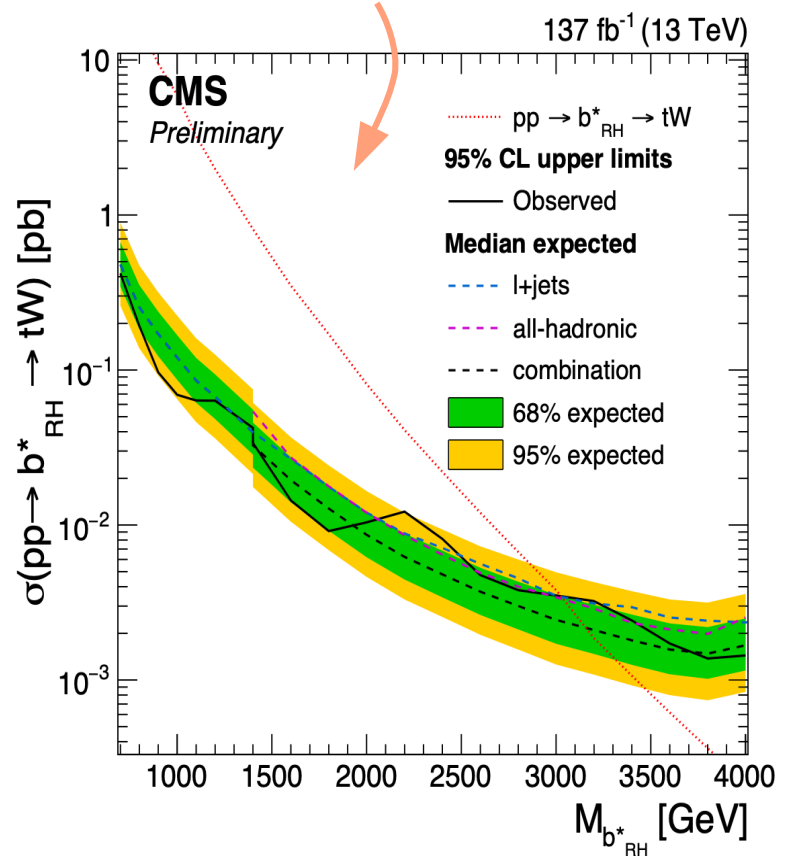
$b^* \rightarrow tW$

- 2D fit of m_{top} vs. M_{tW}
- Limit (right-handed), comb. with 1lepton



$b^* \rightarrow tW$

- 2D fit of m_{top} vs. M_{tW}
- Limit (right-handed), comb. with 1lepton

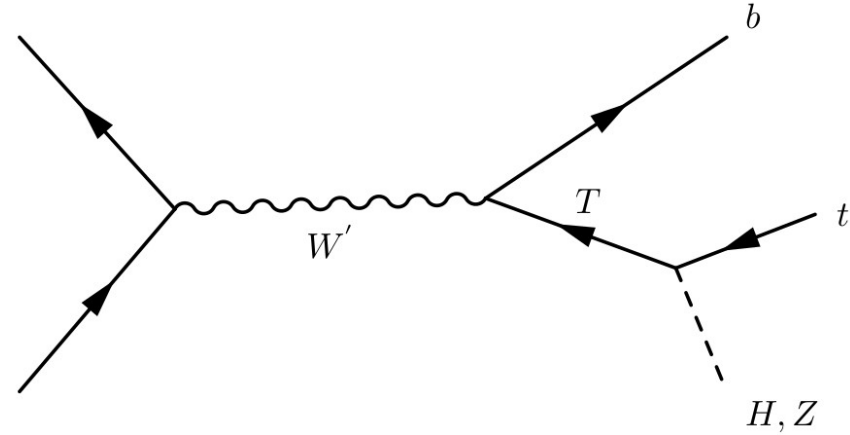
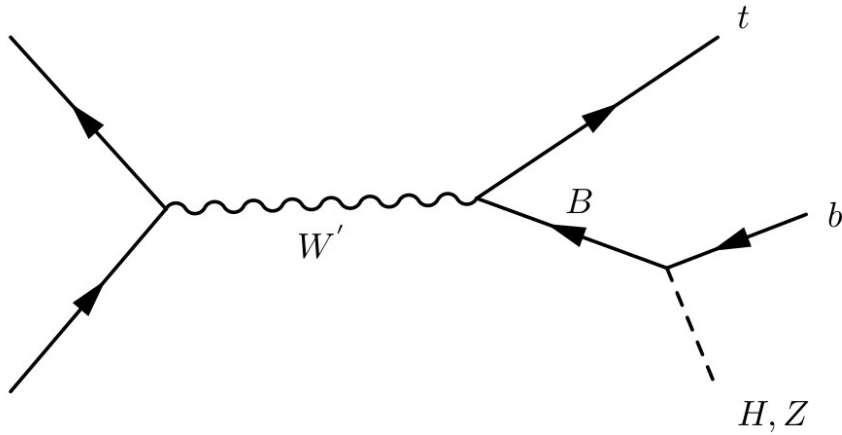


Lessons learned:

- QCD MC is used
- A better MC would be great!
- Substructure techniques used are simple
- But it would be easy to upgrade to cutting-edge ML algorithms
- ...that preserve shape!
- (= pass-fail ratio is flat)
- (called “mass decorrelated”)

Exhibit B: $W' \rightarrow VLQ + t/b \rightarrow tbH$

B2G-20-002



- Same signature! Assume 50% BR to each.
- For relevant param. space, results in a “Mercedes-sign” topology
- Using a new CNN-based “ImageTop” tagger
 - Mass-decorrelated (by training)

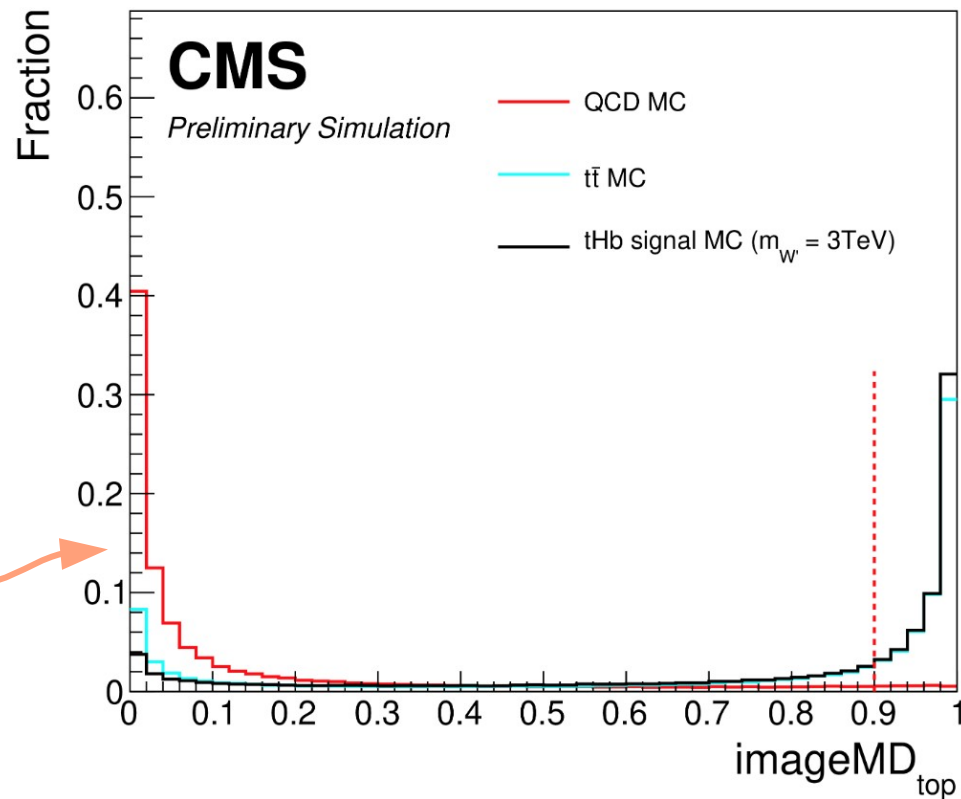
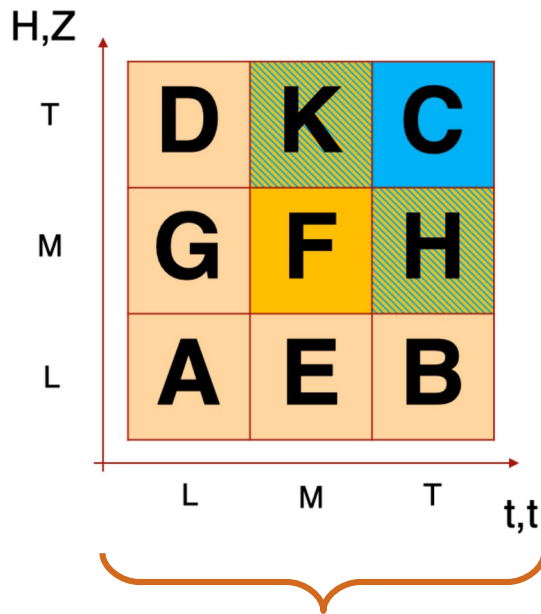


Exhibit B: $W' \rightarrow VLQ + t/b \rightarrow tbH$

B2G-20-002

- Measure per-jet “mistag rate” = B/A (vs p_T)
- Apply to jets in D to get C



(“Loose”, “Medium”, “Tight” = working points of the top tagger)

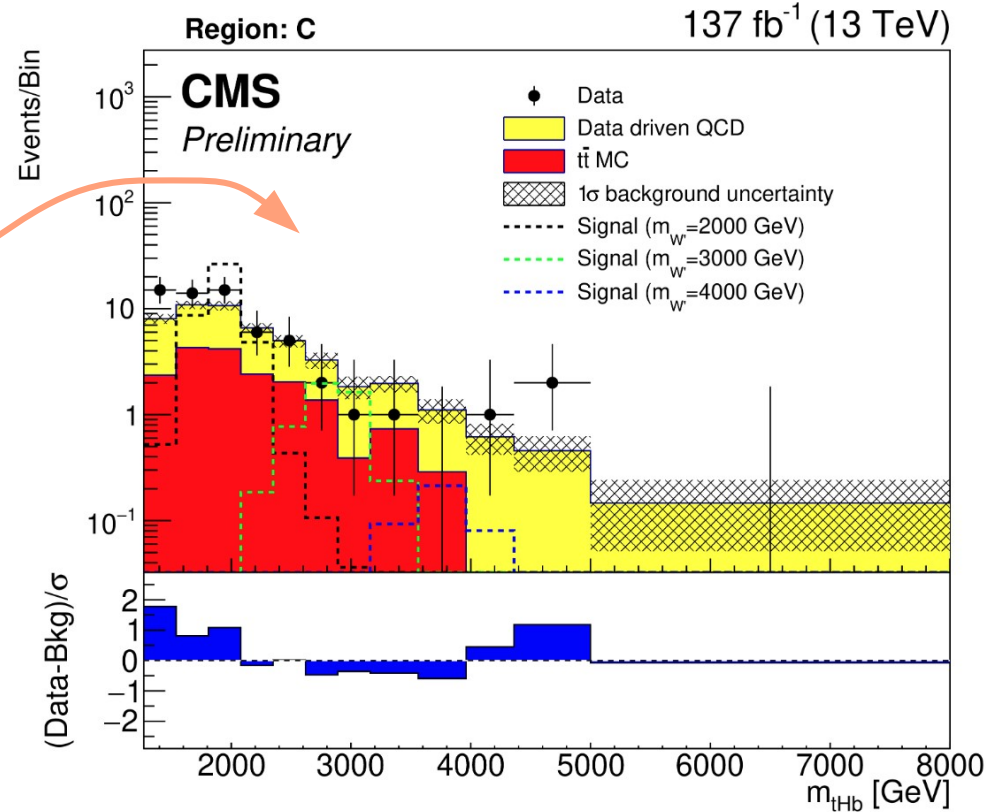
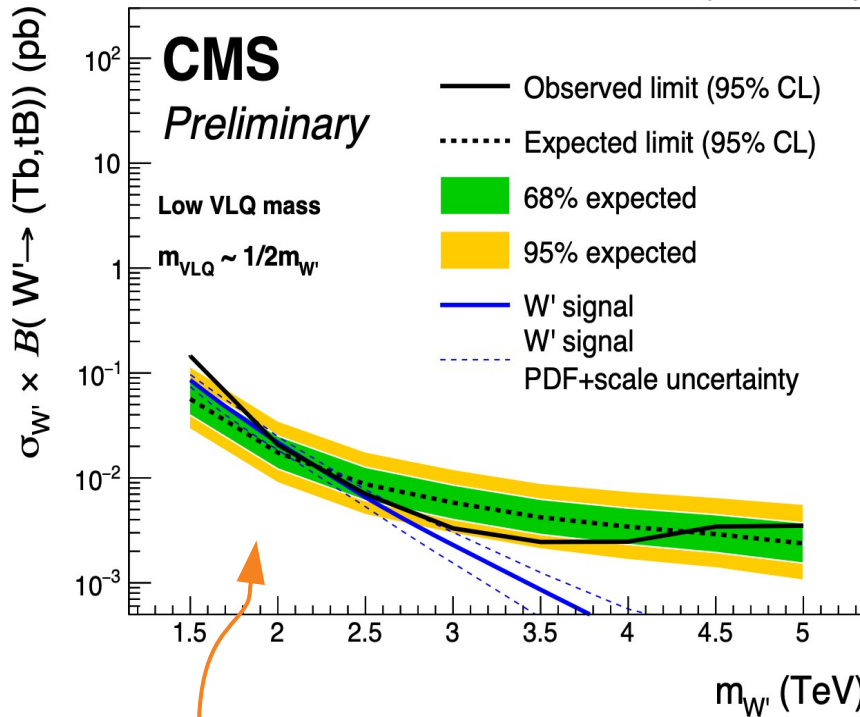


Exhibit B: $W' \rightarrow VLQ + t/b \rightarrow tbH$

B2G-20-002

- Limits depend on $m_{W'}$, m_{VLQ}

137 fb⁻¹ (13 TeV)

Limit vs $m_{W'}$ for $m_{VLQ} \sim m_{W'}/2$

Changing fraction of tB' and bT'

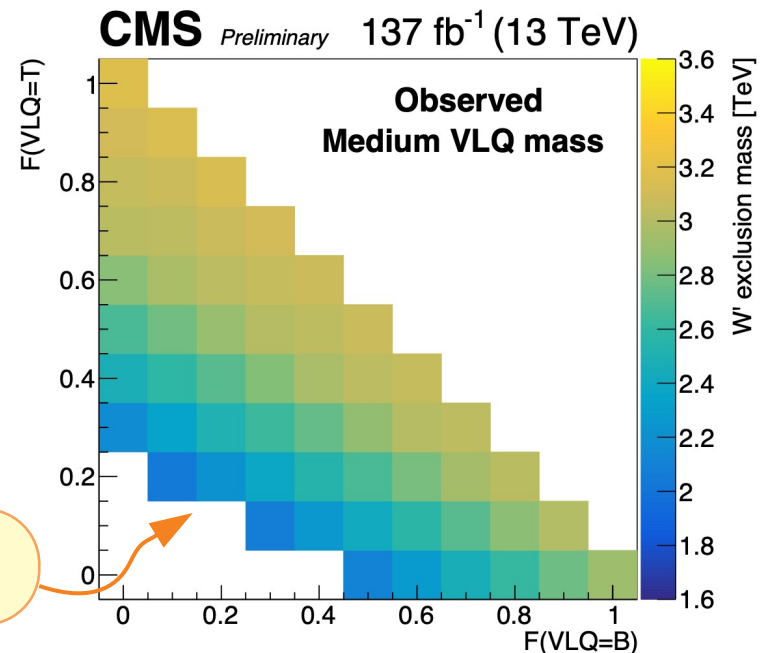
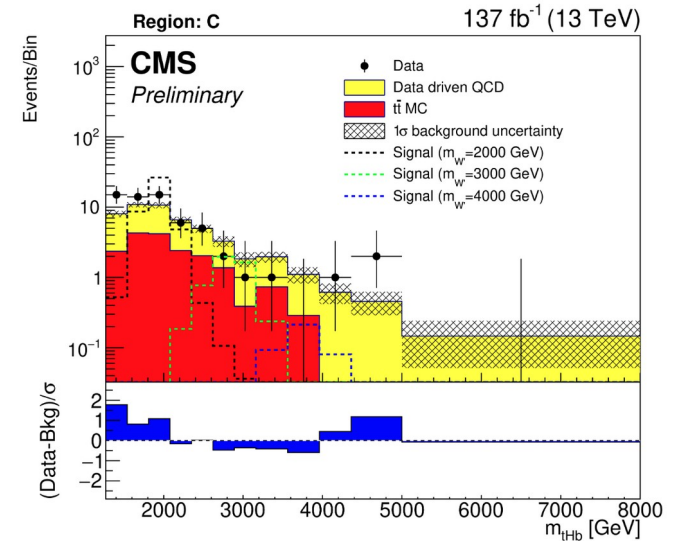
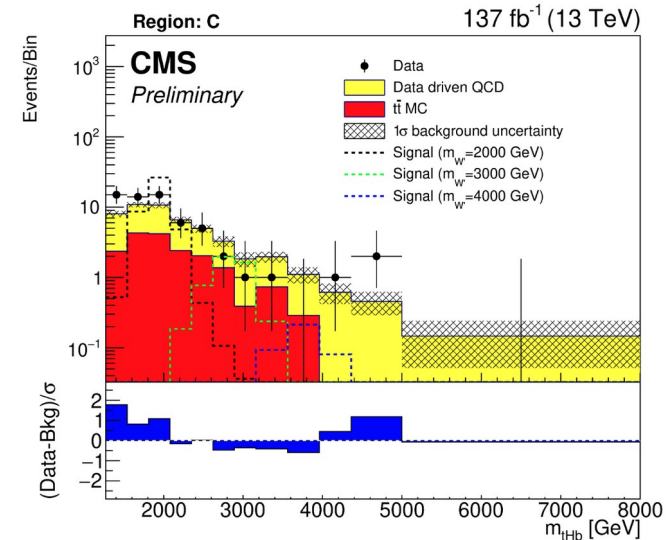
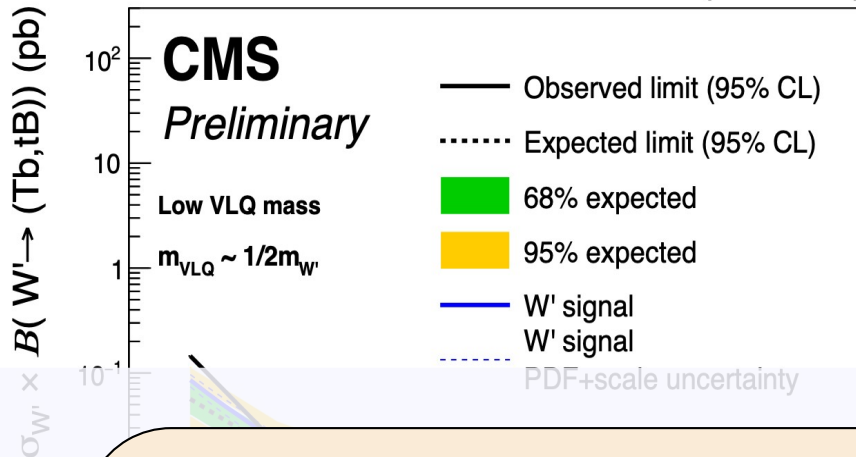


Exhibit B: $W' \rightarrow VLQ + t/b \rightarrow tbH$

B2G-20-002

- Limits depend on $m_{W'}$, m_{VLQ}

137 fb⁻¹ (13 TeV)CMS Preliminary 137 fb⁻¹ (13 TeV)

Lessons learned:

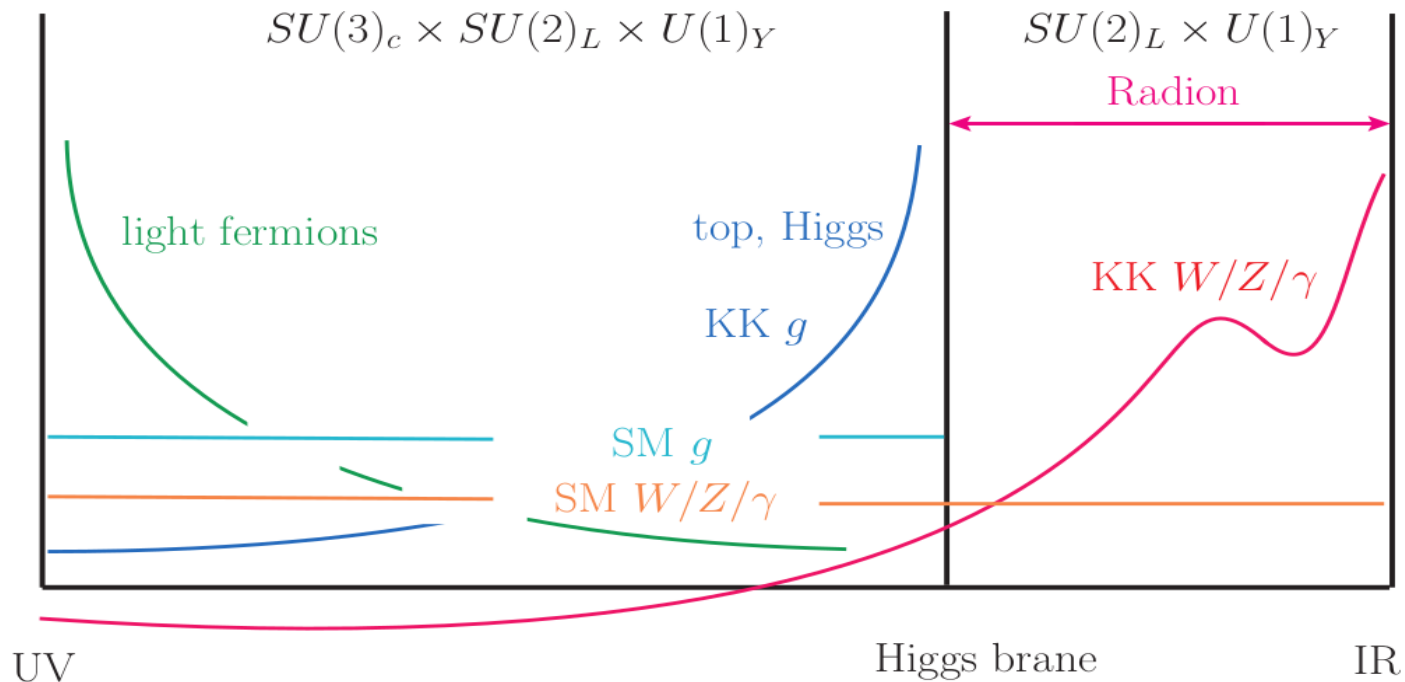
- ImageTop tagger: powerful, mass-decorrelated
- Calibrated on semileptonic $t\bar{t}$ events (standard candle)
- An off-the-beaten-path signature. Need more!

0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1 1.6
F(VLQ=B)

Exhibit C: Triboson resonances

B2G-20-001

- Warped extra dimensions, with only SM EW gauge fields in the bulk. [arXiv:1711.09920,1809.07334]



- KK g is too heavy, but KK of $W/Z/\gamma$ are open
- Cascade decay: $KKV \rightarrow V\phi \rightarrow V(VV)$

Exhibit C: Triboson resonances

B2G-20-001

- $KKV \rightarrow V\phi \rightarrow V(VV)$
- Focus on $V = W, Z$

- One $W \rightarrow \nu\ell$

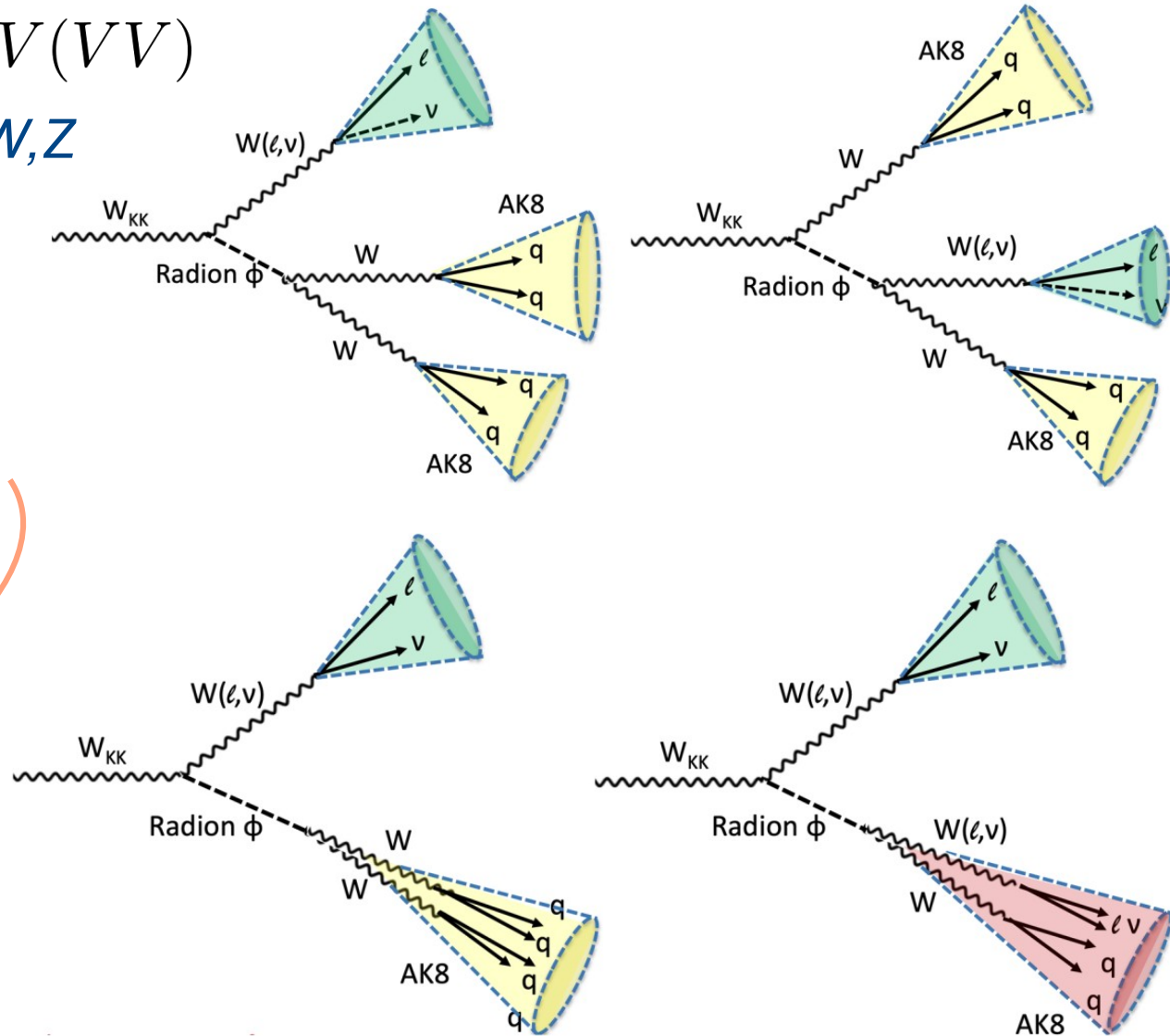
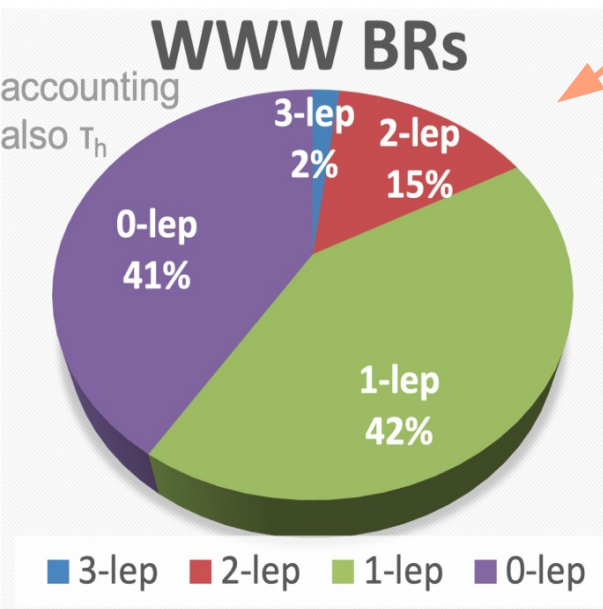
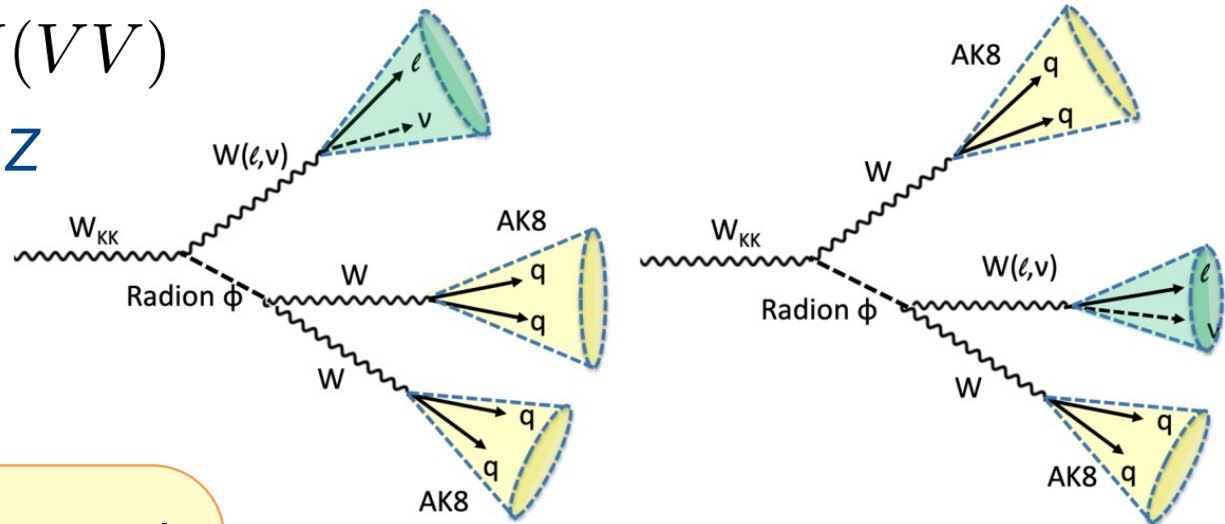


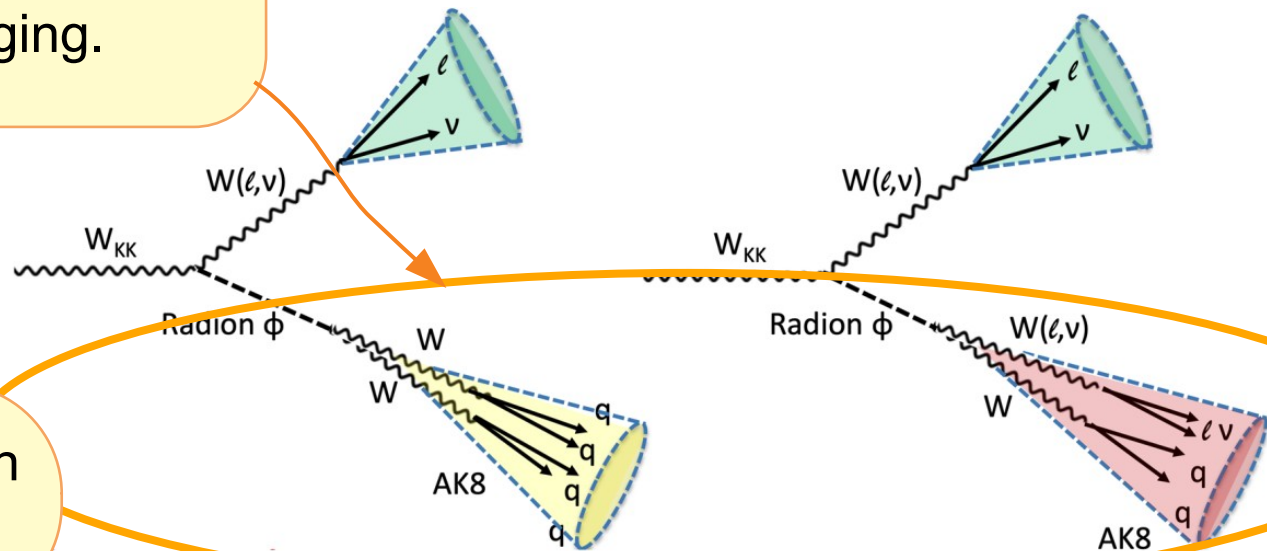
Exhibit C: Triboson resonances

B2G-20-001

- $KKV \rightarrow V\phi \rightarrow V(VV)$
- Focus on $V = W, Z$



“Radion jets”! Beyond the usual top/W/Z/Higgs tagging.

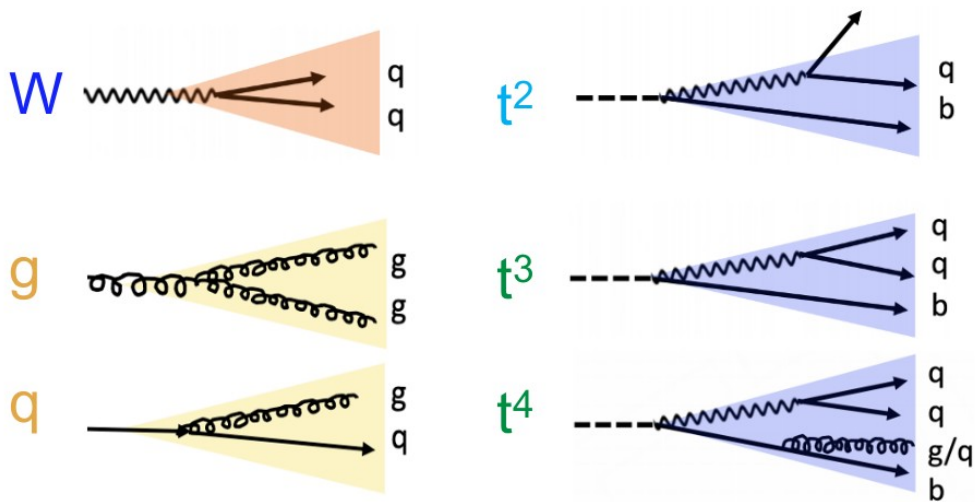


Need special calibration
– no standard candle

Exhibit C: Triboson resonances

B2G-20-001

- Calibrate deep tagger discriminant shape using SM proxies:



Used as a proxy for 4q Radion jet (with **large** systematics)

deep-WH @ $M_j > 120$

PTj: 200-500

PTj > 500

- Correct MC shapes, bin by bin

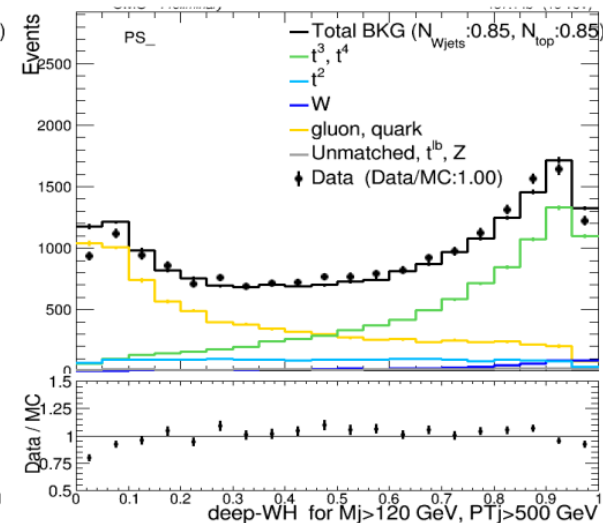
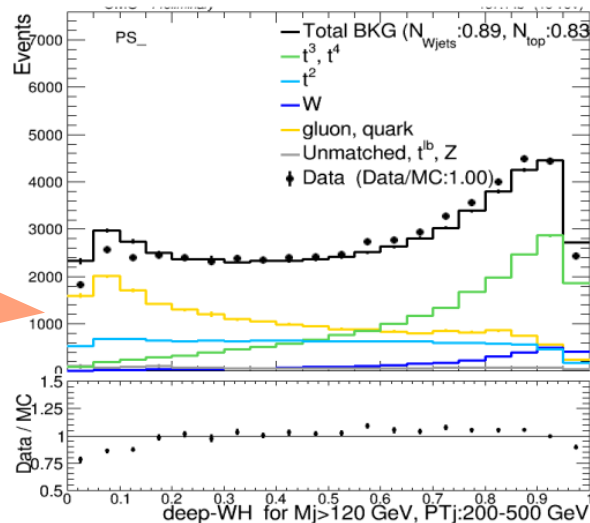


Exhibit C: Triboson resonances

B2G-20-001

- The proof is in the pudding: the method works!

All SFs derived for all 4 bins (2 M_j , 2 pT_j bins) and for all types of jets W , t^2 , $t^{3,4}$, g/q

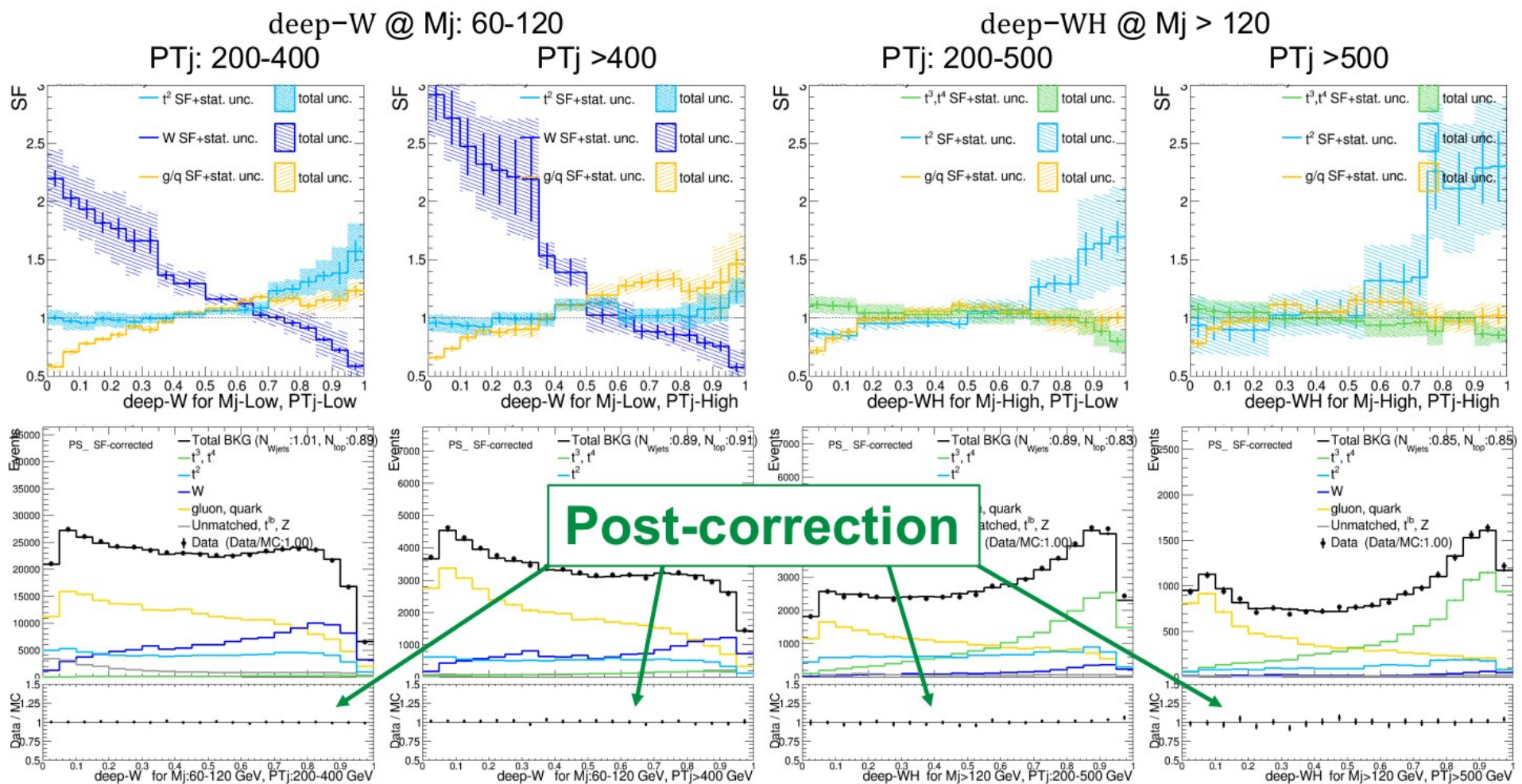
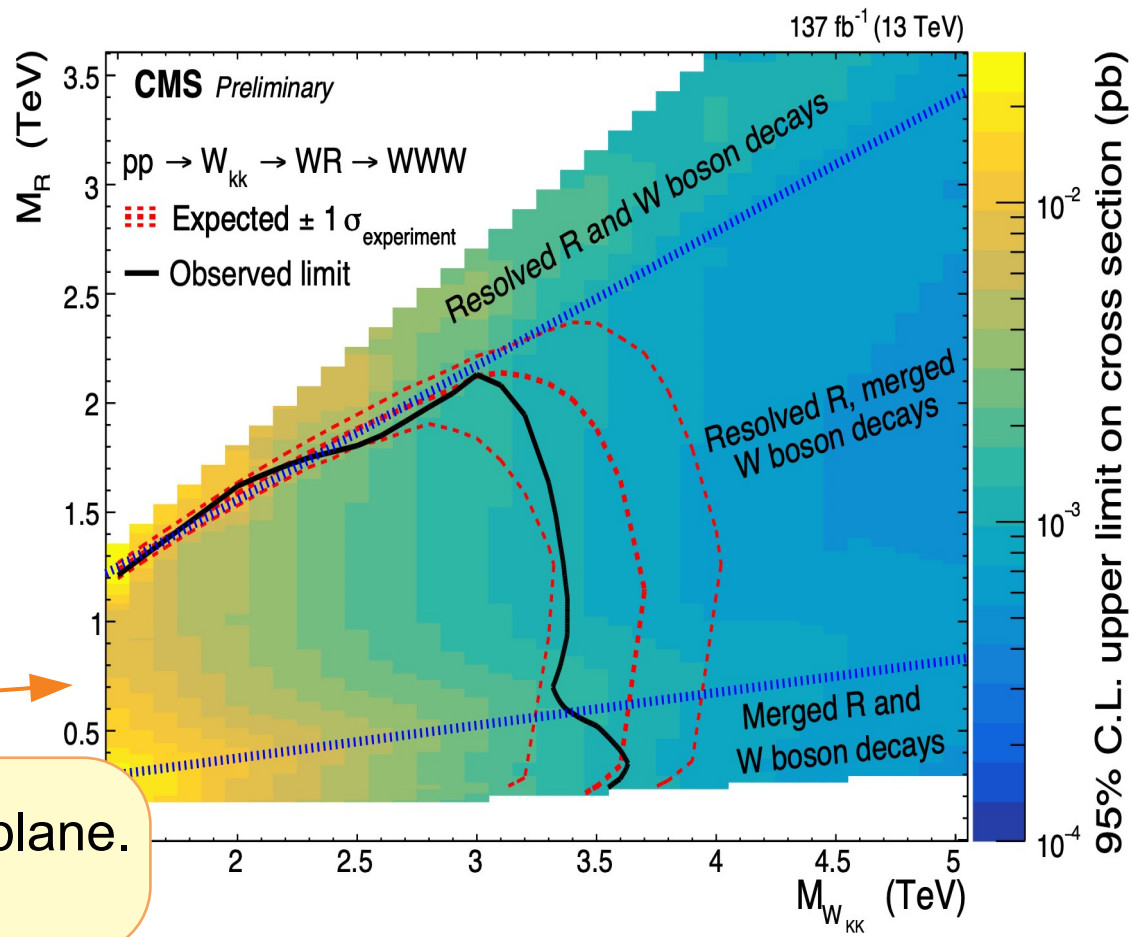
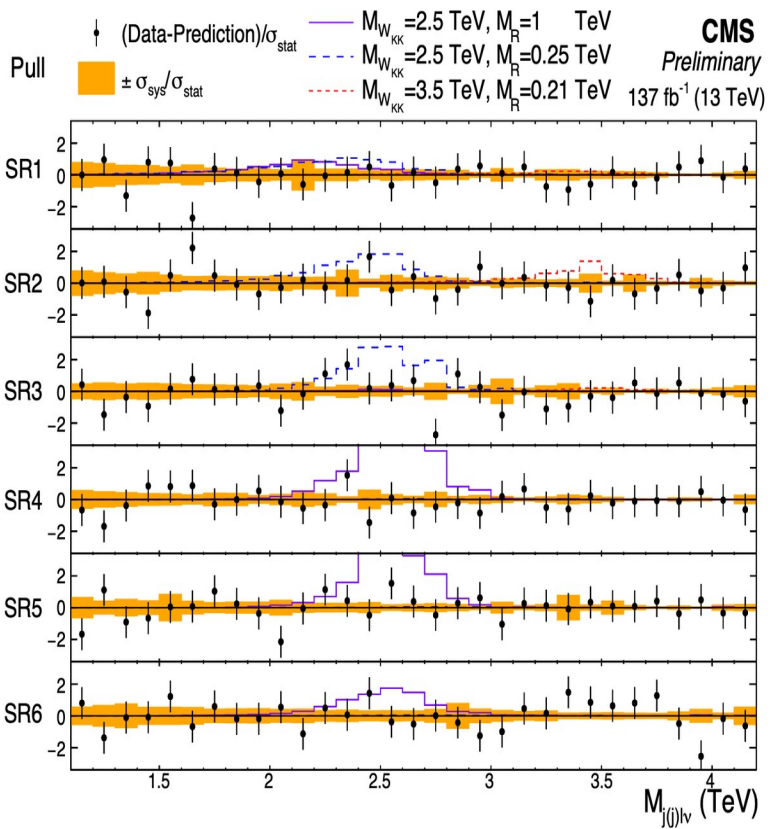


Exhibit C: Triboson resonances

B2G-20-001

Combined fit of six signal regions.
(Shown: pulls in all bins.)



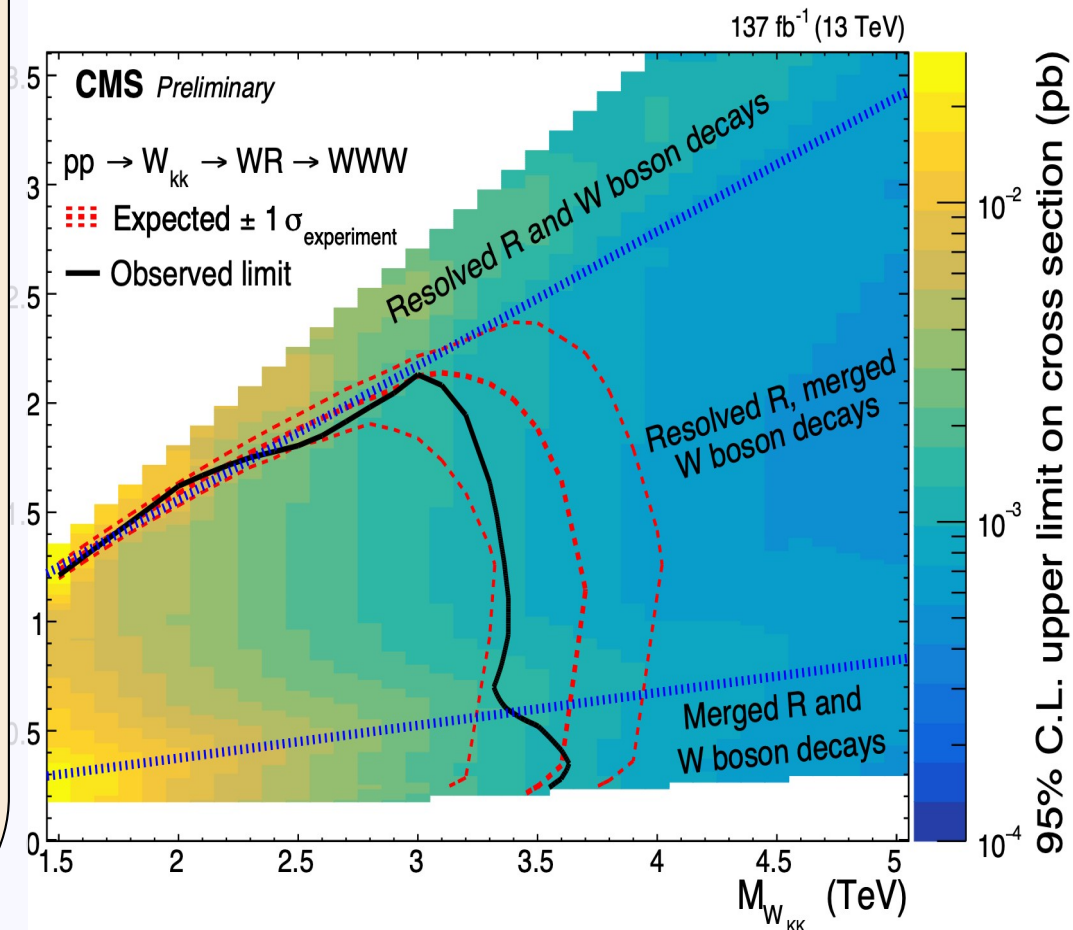
Limits in 2D KKW vs R mass plane. The first of their kind!

Exhibit C: Triboson resonances

B2G-20-001

Lessons learned:

- A novel signature!
- Doing quite well in “boosted Radion” regime.
- Extensive use of ML taggers.
- Whole shape is calibrated
- However, systematics for $R \rightarrow 4q$ signal are very large, due to lack of good standard candles.



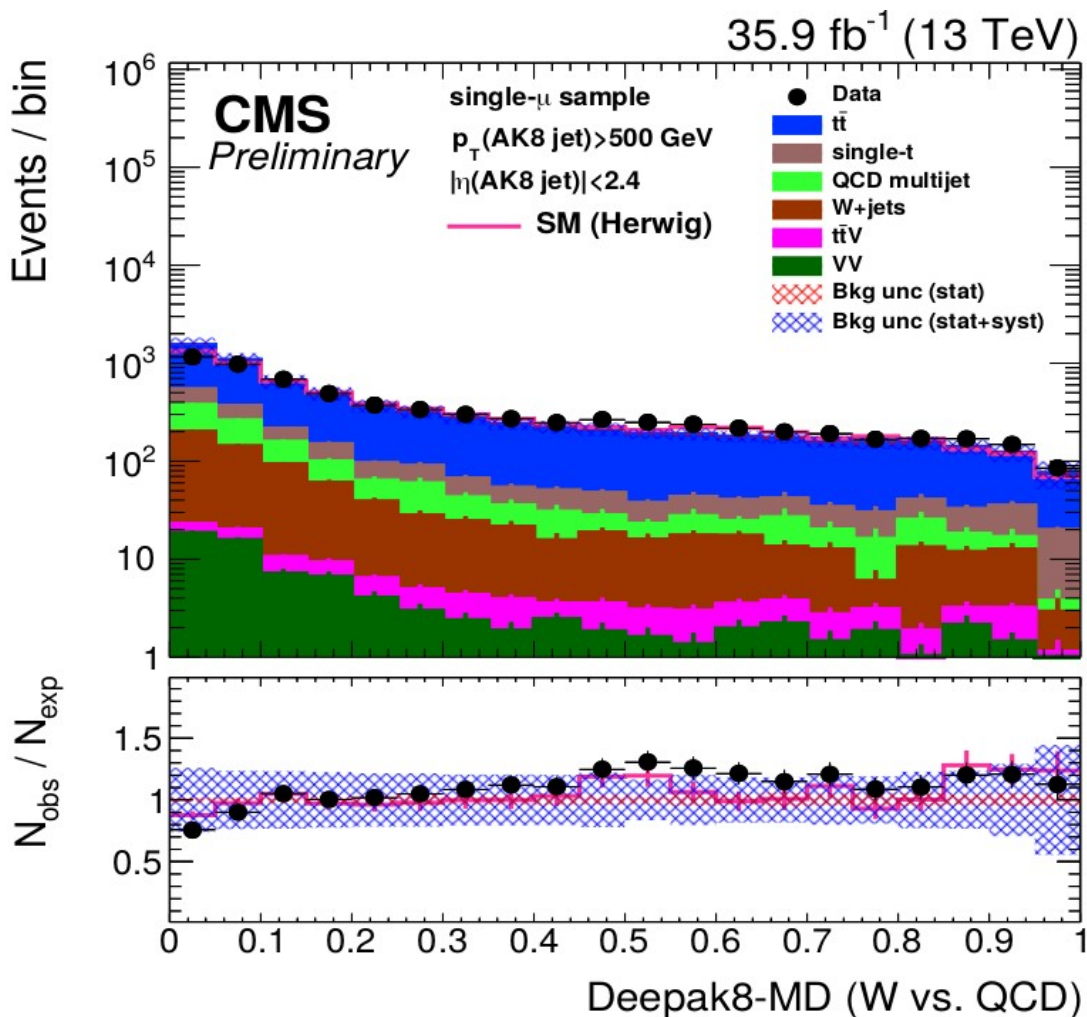
Summary so far: there's still work to do!

- Data ✓
- Tools (taggers, new variables) to suppress background and isolate the signal ✓
 - Most ML taggers still trained on MC...
- Background estimate (minimize uncertainty)
 - If dominated by ttbar, W+jets – get away with MC ✓
 - QCD: tricky and messy 🤔 (after lots of work... ✓)
- Signal efficiency (minimize uncertainty)
 - For top, W/Z, Higgs tagging – use standard candles ✓
 - For exotic signatures – ??? ✗

The topics of the rest of the talk.

Imperfect MC is used to train ML

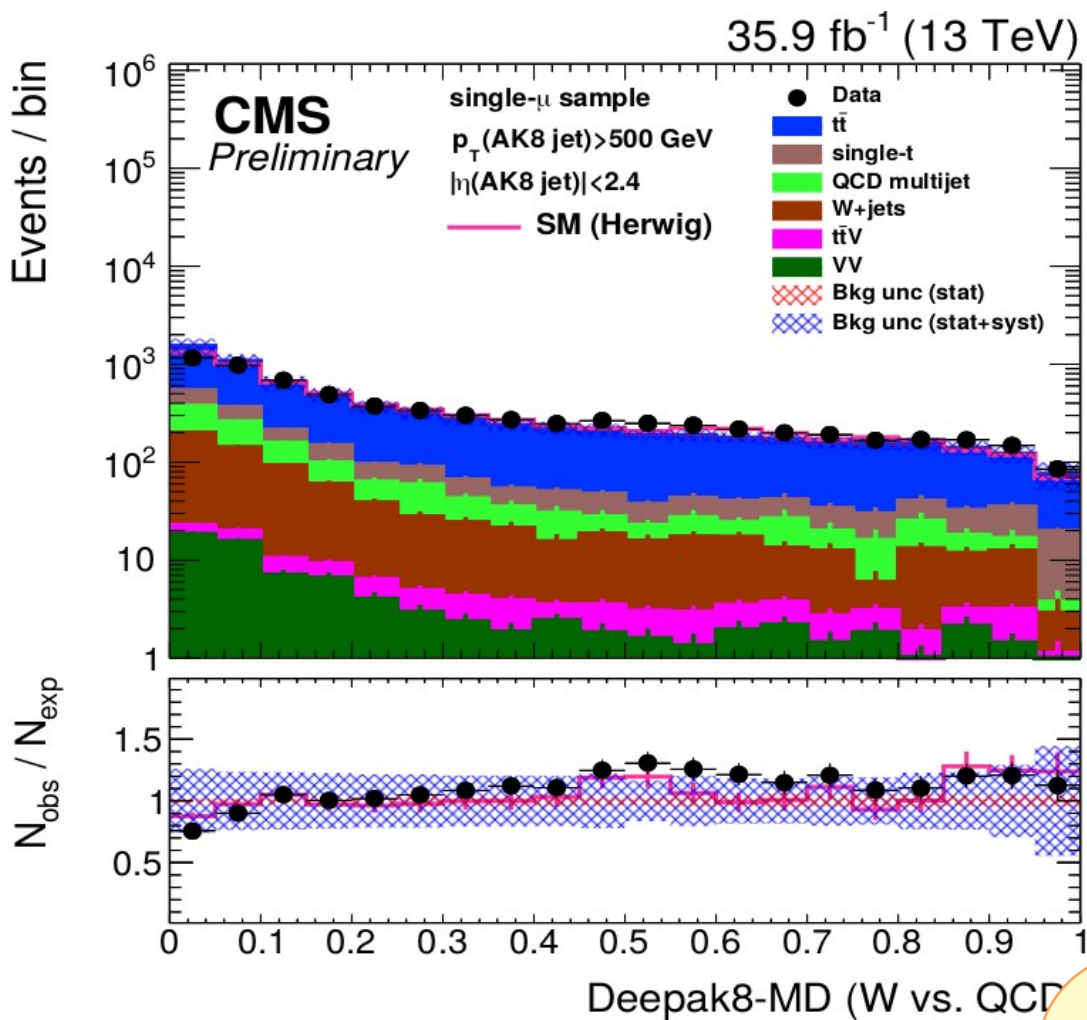
JME-18-002



- Powerful taggers, but...
- Nominally “within errors” from data
- Need to be careful:
 - Scale factors must be measured...
 - And they may be different from 1...
 - ... with large error bars

Imperfect MC is used to train ML

JME-18-002

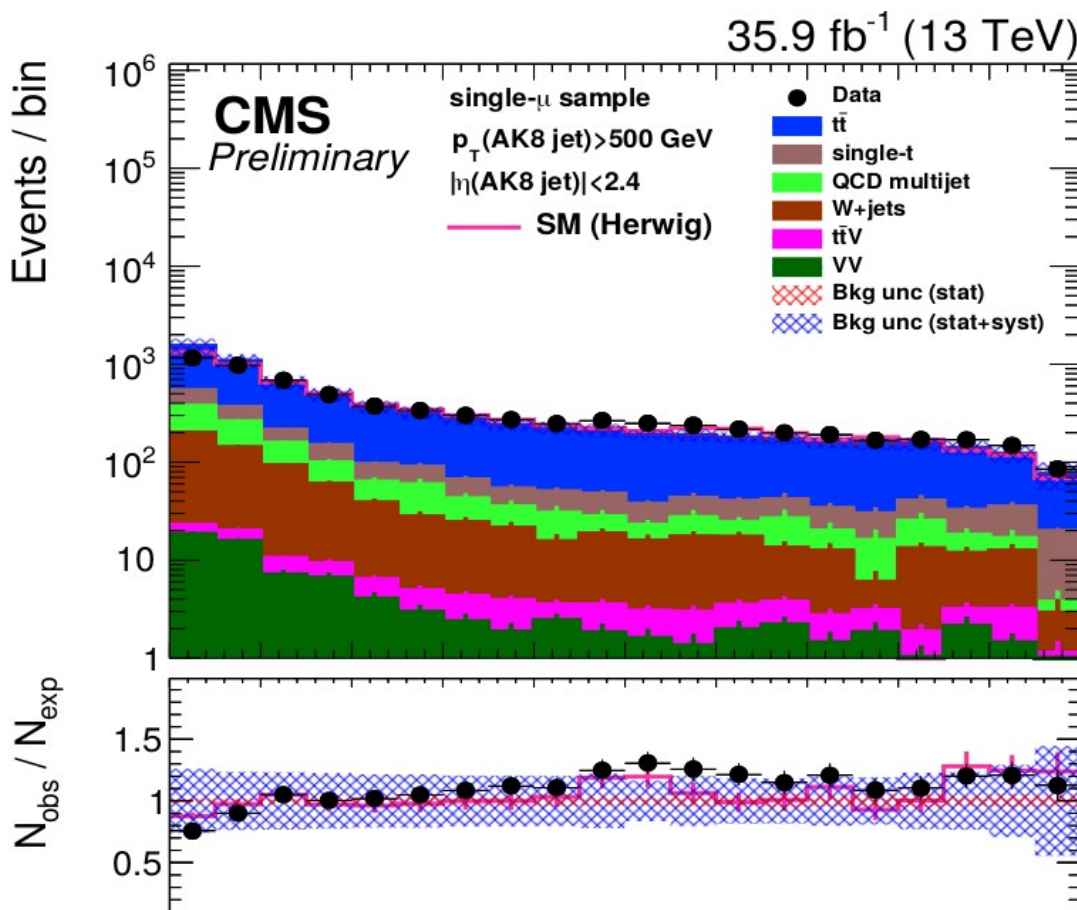


- Powerful taggers, but...
- Nominally “within errors” from data
- Need to be careful:
 - Scale factors must be measured...
 - And they may be different from 1...
 - ... with large error bars

Can erase some of the gains from an improved tagger!

Imperfect MC is used to train ML

JME-18-002



- Powerful taggers, but...
- Nominally “within errors” from data
- Need to be careful:
 - Scale factors must be measured...
 - And they may be different from 1...
 - ... with large error bars

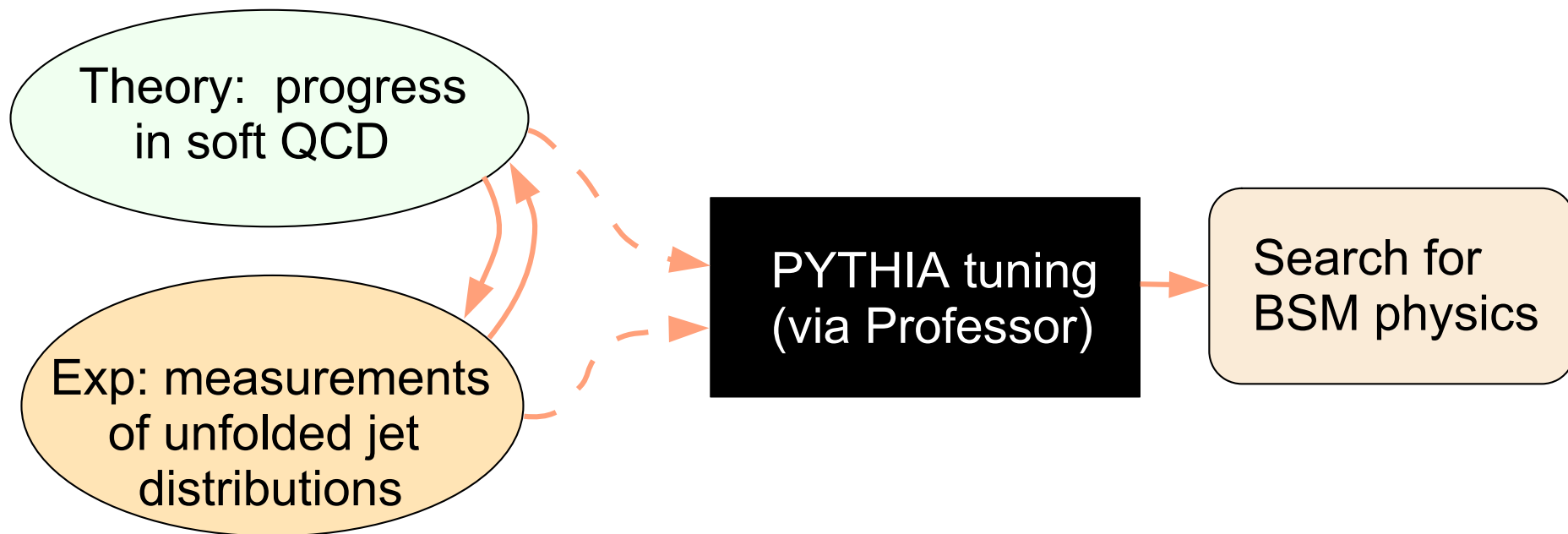
Hard to tell whether DNN is focusing on features poorly modeled in top/W/Z/H MC...

QCD modeling for the future

- With a better QCD modeling, we could:
 - **Train ML algorithms**
 - better data/MC agreement
 - minimize signal efficiency systematics
 - **Decorrelate taggers**
 - well-behaved background shapes → better bkg estimates
 - if there's a BSM excess, it would be “easier” to see
 - **Estimate efficiencies of tagging N-prong jets**
(e.g. $H \rightarrow WW^* \rightarrow 4q$, or BSM)
- In general, experimentalist's life would become a lot easier



Why can't I have that?!



- Somehow, theoretical and experimental progress in soft QCD does not seem to propagate to PYTHIA we use.
 - Not enough measurements fed into “Professor”?
 - Can't tune both UE and substructure???
 - PYTHIA is insufficient for shower/hadronization?

What if PYTHIA doesn't have enough knobs?

- Make a better PYTHIA, or another shower program. Then tune to data. (Repurpose the Professor?)

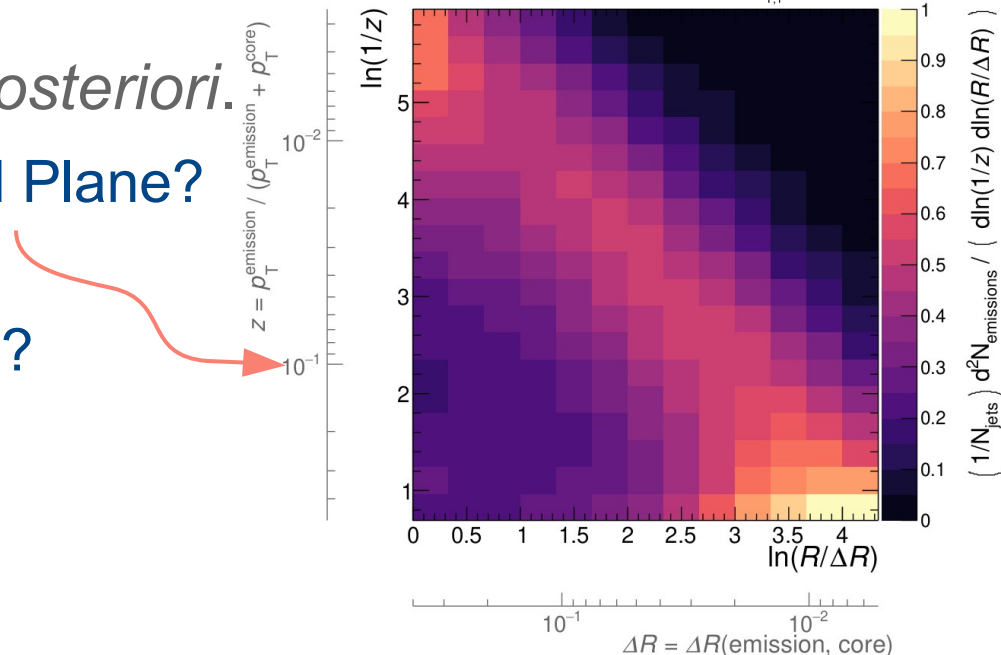
- Or, correct simulation *a posteriori*.

- Reweight using the Lund Plane?

- Use ML: JUNIPR, DCTR?

PRD 101, 091901(R) (2020)

- or something else?



ATLAS: PRL 124, 222002 (2020)

- Maybe the best:

measure \rightarrow tune PYTHIA \rightarrow reweight residual differences.

- Experimentally, **the key question**: what are the uncertainties on the result of this procedure?

Do we need QCD MC at all?

- For multijet background estimates, we don't need MC
 - Have been data-driven anyway
 - Although there could be subtle correlations...
- Unsupervised learning from data...
 - Learns QCD: e.g., AutoEncoders
 - Learns QCD in the presence of other backgrounds: e.g., CWoLa
- Can we interpolate between two sidebands
 - e.g., CWoLa hunting
- Can we extrapolate from one CR to another???

Do we need QCD MC at all?

- For multijet background estimates, we don't need MC
 - Have been data-driven anyway
 - Although there could be subtle correlations...
- Unsupervised learning from data...
 - Learns QCD: e.g., AutoEncoders
 - Learns QCD in the presence of other backgrounds: e.g., CWoLa
- Can we interpret?
 - e.g., CWoLa
- Can we extrapolate from one CR to another???

Covered by talks by Ben Nachman and David Shih in the ML session TOMORROW

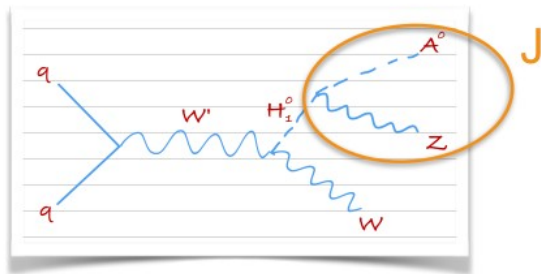
N-pronged jets: would be nice...

- The future of searches with substructure?

Case II: Merged multibosons

(Juan-Antonio Aguilar Saavedra, BOOST 2018)

If intermediate particles are 'light', their decay products are merged



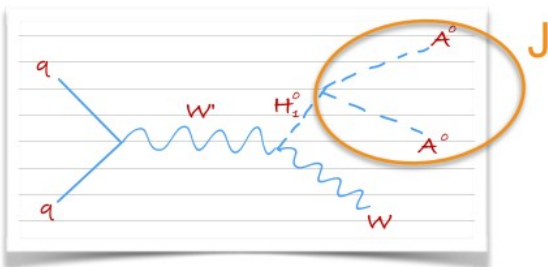
$$M_{W'} \gg M_{H_1^0} \gtrsim M_Z + M_{A^0}$$

$$Z \rightarrow qq / \dots$$

$$A^0 \rightarrow bb$$



W + fat jet J

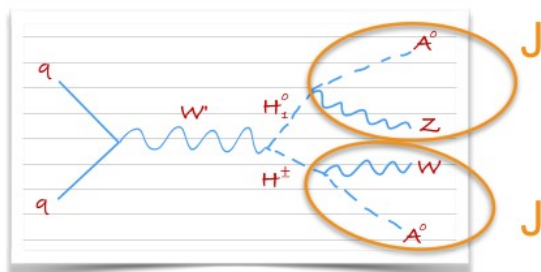


$$M_{W'} \gg M_{H_1^0} \gtrsim 2M_{A^0}$$

$$A^0 \rightarrow bb$$



W + fat jet J



$$M_{W'} \gg M_{H_1^0}, M_{H^\pm} \gtrsim M_Z + M_{A^0}$$

$$W, Z \rightarrow qq / \dots$$

$$A^0 \rightarrow bb$$

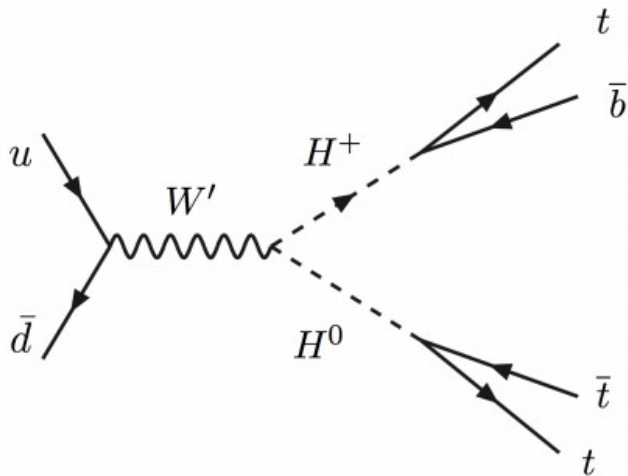


two fat jets J

More N-pronged jets

- More cool signatures with 4- and 6-pronged jets

Heavy Higgs bosons decay directly into a pair of the heaviest fermions:



For $M_{W'} \gg M_{H^+}$:

$(t\bar{b})$ -tagged jet + $(t\bar{t})$ -tagged jet

For $M_{W'} > M_{H^+} \gg m_t$:

three t -tagged jets + b

(Bogdan Dobrescu, BOOST 2017)

- Easy to do a cut-based analysis (let alone a DNN)
- But how to get the efficiency?

Conclusions

- Where we are, at the end of Run-2:
 - Boosted objects are useful and necessary
 - integral part of the LHC program
 - Lots of progress in understanding substructure and (sub)jet physics
 - Powerful new taggers and variables
 - top, W, Higgs taggers calibrated in data
- But, in some aspects, not enough progress:
 - Many of these improvements do not percolate to better/easier measurements
 - More complicated jets are under question until we figure out how to estimate signal efficiencies
- We still have (so much) work to do!

BACKUP MATERIAL

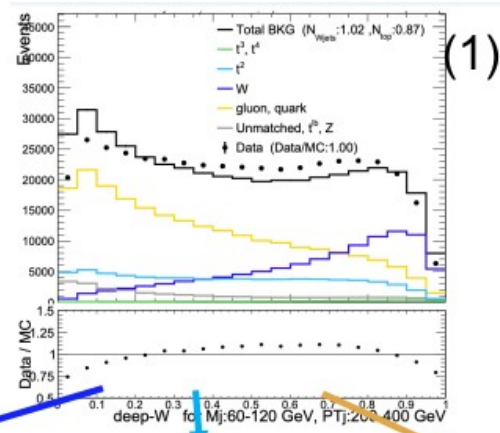
Exhibit C: Triboson resonances

1. Focus at low- M_j , low- PT_j sample with W , t^2 , g/q (first column of last slide)

2. Split the samples into 3 pure subsets (applying cuts on τ_{ij} , deep-x/y, N_b , M_j) in a way where each subset is dominated by a single type of jets \rightarrow mismodeling revealed:

3. Demand:
Data = scaled sum of yields
 $D_1 = ag_1 + bW_1 + ct_1 + d_1$
 Define system of 3 equations, 1 per each subset, and per tagger score bin

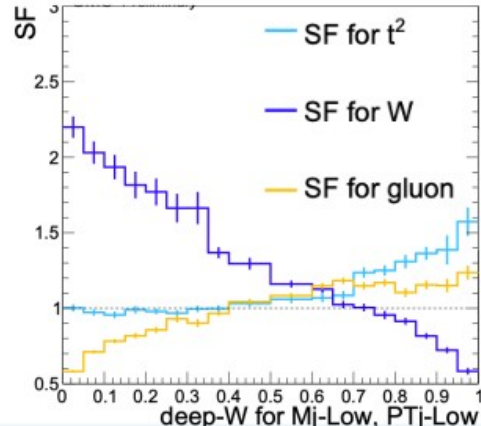
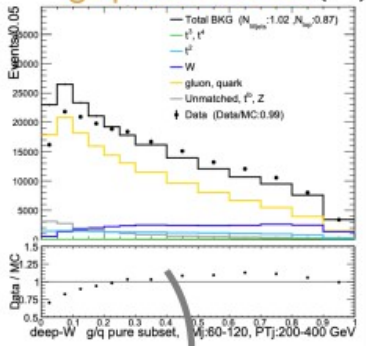
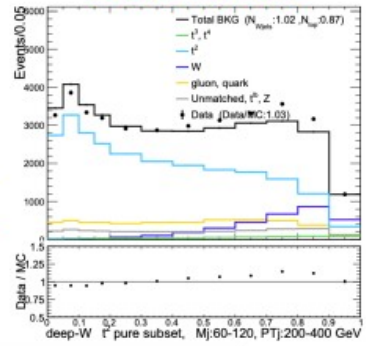
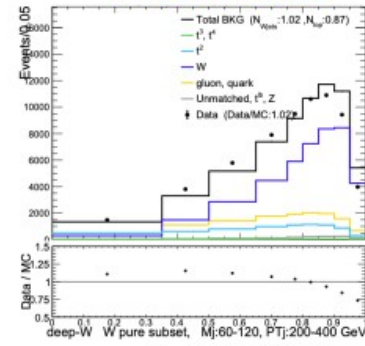
4. Solve a 3x3 system for SFs per each tagger score bin and **get SFs** \rightarrow
 - Known yields: D , W , t , g/q , d
 - Unknown SFs: a , b , c



W-dominated

t^2 -dominated

g/q -dominated (2)

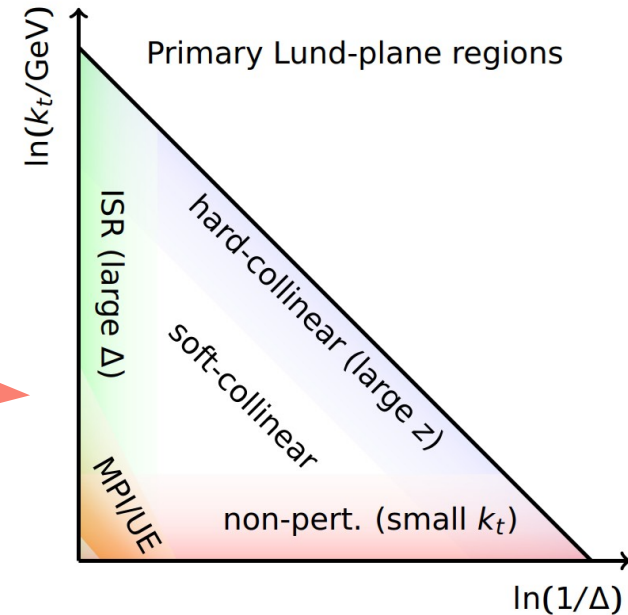


$$\begin{pmatrix} D_1 - d_1 \\ D_2 - d_2 \\ D_3 - d_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} g_1 & W_1 & t_1 \\ g_2 & W_2 & t_2 \\ g_3 & W_3 & t_3 \end{pmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix}$$

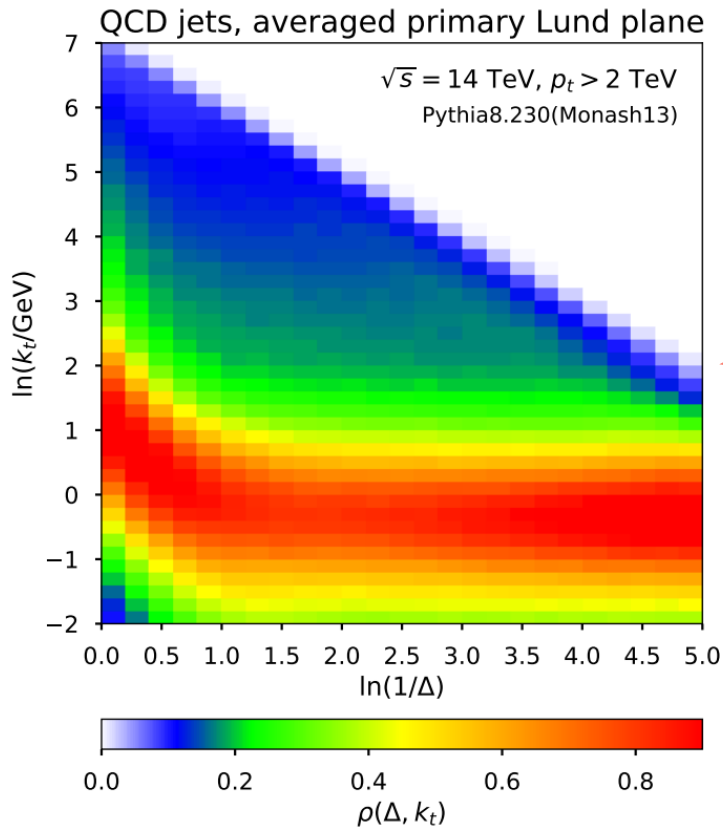
(4)

Primary Lund Jet Plane

- “Jet is an unordered set”, I know... but...
- Access to low-level physics directly
- Intuitive and thus appealing



(Frederic Dreyer,
BOOST'18)

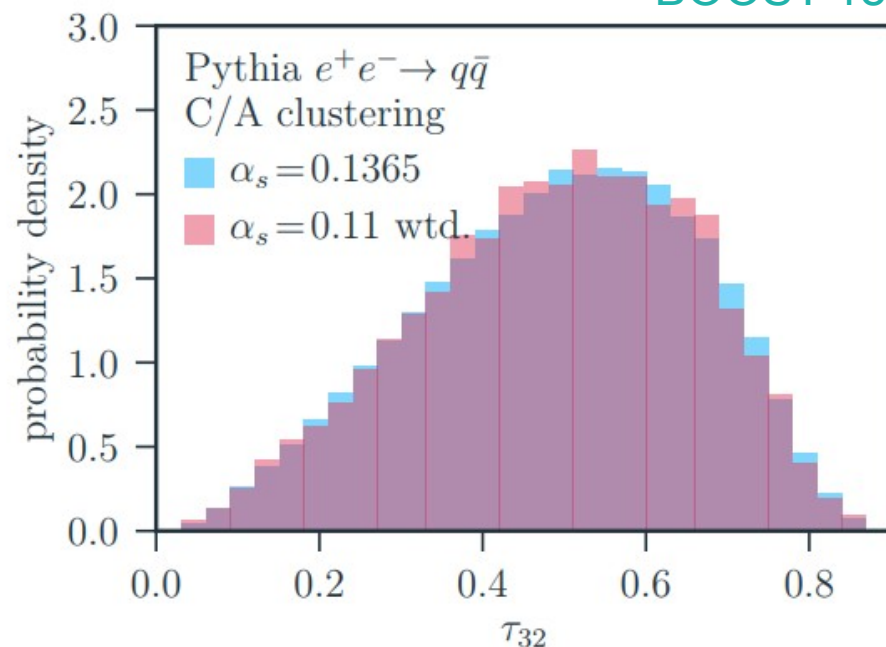
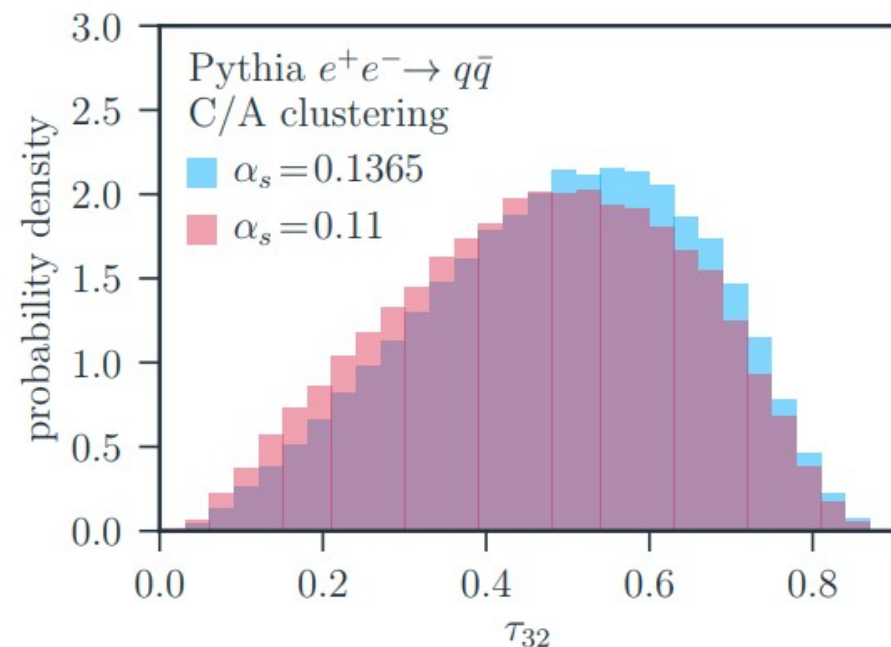


- Average Lund Plane (many jets)
 - one jet = set of point in this plane
- Can we reweight jets using the ratio of Lund Planes in data and MC?

JUNIPR

- Recursive NN, unsupervised learning on data
 - (A talk on more advance JUNIPR reweighting later this week!!!)
- Data/MC reweighting was one of its main goals!

(Cris Frye,
BOOST'18)



- Works in MC: turns one PYTHIA into another.
- Will it work in data?

What to do about N-pronged jets?

- Give up, can't be done!
 - Can't measure efficiency in data
 - These analyses are always going to be out of reach...
- Report limit on $\sigma_X \cdot \mathcal{B}(X) \cdot \underline{\epsilon_X}$
 - Let the consumers of the paper worry about the signal efficiency
 - Would not affect the discovery, only limits
 - May actually spur progress in this area :-/
- Or try to make it work?
 - Learn how to reweight single quark jets from MC
 - Verify that the procedure works for W and top (2,3-prong)
 - Assign further systematics for 4,5,6-prong...