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# First implementation of Quantum Machine Learning for b-jet tagging at LHCb

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Alessio Gianelle, Davide Nicotra, Donatella Lucchesi, Lorenzo Sestini, [Davide Zuliani\\*](#)

\*for questions and comments: [davide.zuliani@cern.ch](mailto:davide.zuliani@cern.ch)

# Outline



**Introduction**



**QML for b-jet tagging**



**Results and future perspectives**

The background is a dark blue gradient. It features several overlapping, semi-transparent grid patterns in a lighter blue shade. A white rectangular frame is centered on the page, containing the word "Introduction" in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

# Introduction

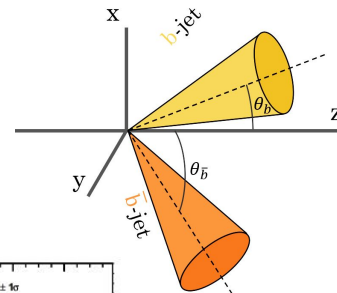
# Physics cases

Jet flavor identification is mandatory for several physics cases

- **b- $\bar{b}$  charge asymmetry**, interesting for **New Physics** searches

$$A_C^{b\bar{b}} = \frac{N(\Delta y > 0) - N(\Delta y < 0)}{N(\Delta y > 0) + N(\Delta y < 0)}$$

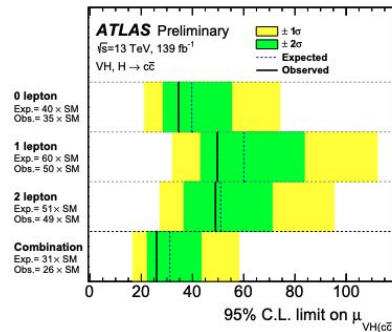
$$\Delta y = y_b - y_{\bar{b}}$$



- **identification of Higgs boson** decaying to:

- $b\bar{b}$  di-jets (observed @ ATLAS & CMS)
- $c\bar{c}$  di-jets (not yet observed)

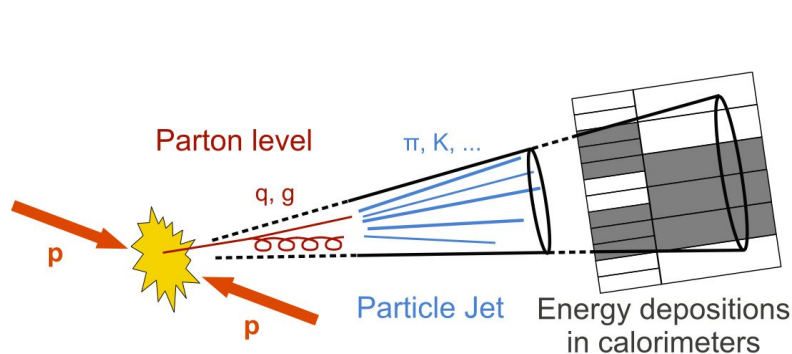
- Final states detected by the experiment → **jets**



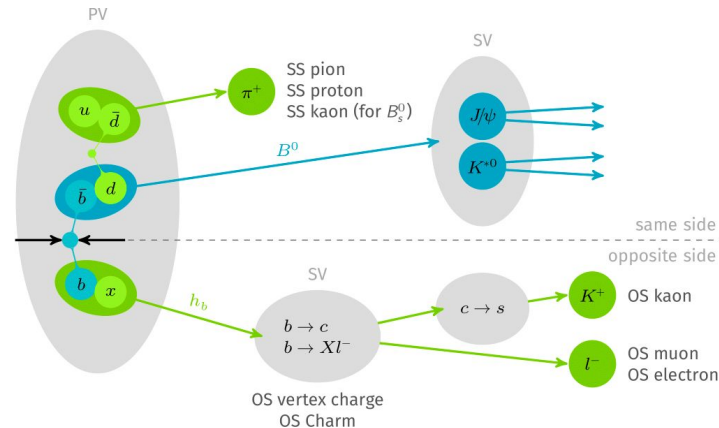
ATLAS-CONF-2021-021

# b-jet tagging @ LHCb

@ LHC is **fundamental** to identify the **flavour** of the quark originating the jet → **jet tagging**



*"Jets are streams of particles produced by QCD processes in proton-proton collisions"*

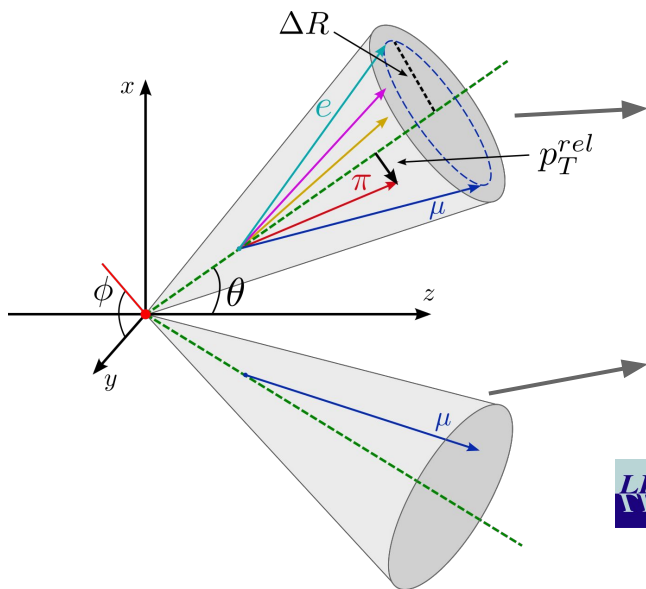


In particular @ LHCb we are interested in studying jets generated by b and  $\bar{b}$  quarks

## b-jet tagging

## b-jet (classical) tagging methods

There are two possible approaches to achieve b-jet tagging: **exclusive** and **inclusive** algorithms



**inclusive algorithms** use information from the **whole jet substructure**

Machine Learning (ML) algorithms such as **Deep Neural Networks** (DNN)

**exclusive algorithms** use information from a **specific process** to infer the quark flavour



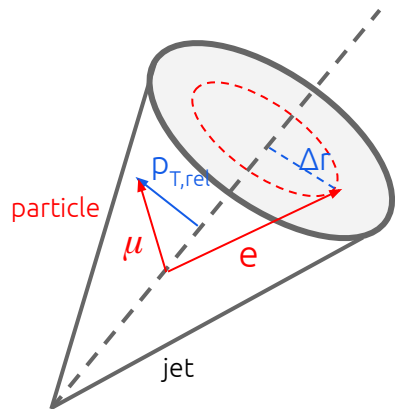
**muon tagging:** a  $\mu$  coming from the b (or b-bar) semileptonic decay ( $P = 10\%$ ) is used to tag the jet ( $\mu$  and b charges are correlated)



# QML for b-jet tagging

# Dataset

**LHCb simulation** of di-jet generated by  $b$  and  $\bar{b}$  quarks @  $E_{\text{cm}} = 13$  TeV (Run 2 condition)  
 ~ 700.000 jets (60% training, 40% testing & evaluation)



Inside each jet we consider 5 types of particles

**muon electron pion kaon proton**

and for each type we select 3 variables:

- $p_{T,\text{rel}}$ : transverse momentum relative to the jet axis
- $\Delta r$ : distance relative to jet axis
- $q$ : charge of the particle
- + 1 global variable  $\rightarrow$  total jet charge

**16 input variables**

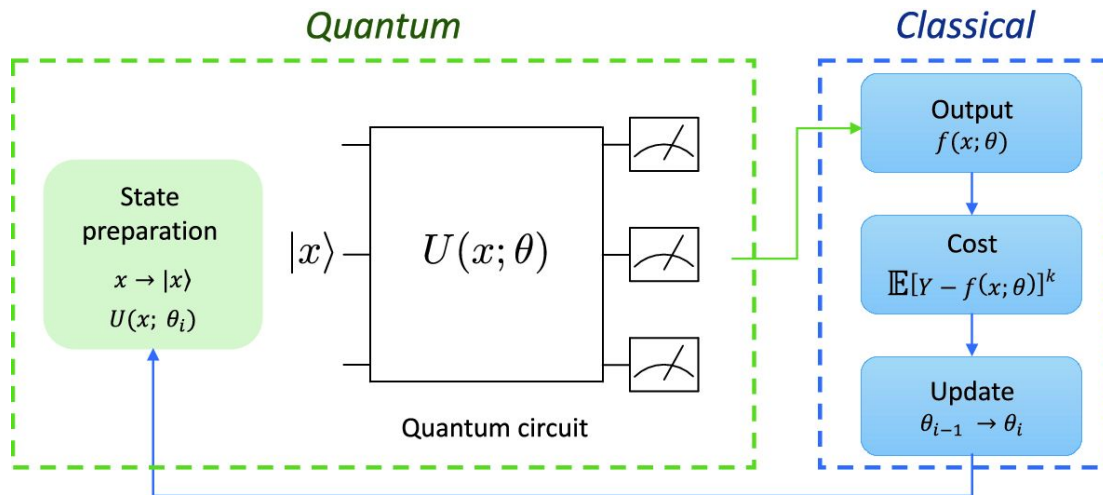
two datasets have been considered in this study:

- **“muon dataset”**: only muon features + total jet charge (4 features)
- **“complete dataset”**: all 16 features



# “New” approach: going to quantum

classification problem = **Variational Quantum Classifier**

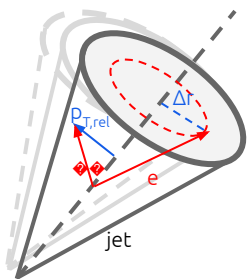


- data are fed into variational quantum circuit
- measurements of qubits are mapped to probabilities for labels
- probabilities are used to estimate a cost function which is optimized through a classical optimizer

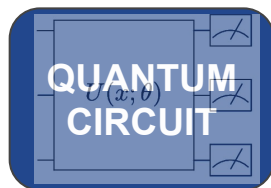
- several quantum circuits geometries have been studied (more in the backup)
- quantum circuits are simulated with **noiseless simulators**, using PennyLane libraries

# Training procedure

Input data

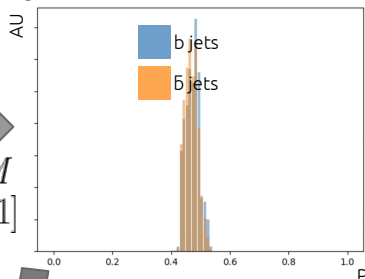


Measurement



$$\mathbb{E}(\sigma_z) = M$$

$$M \in [-1, 1]$$

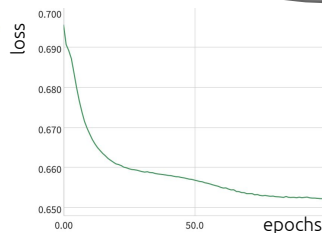
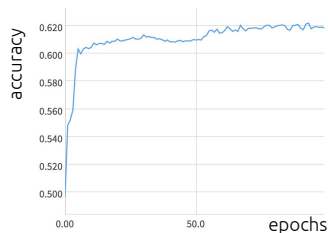


Tagging probabilities

$$P_b = \frac{M + 1}{2}$$

$$P_{\bar{b}} = 1 - P_b$$

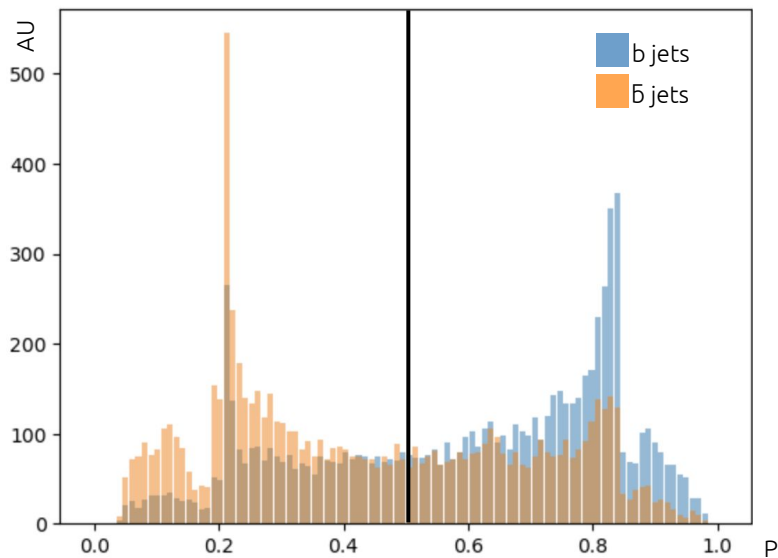
Optimization



- cross-entropy  $CE(\theta_i) = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{dataset} \sum_{i \in \{b, \bar{b}\}} p_i \log q_i$
- ADAM optimizer

# Probability distribution and tagging power

The figure of merit for this task is the **tagging power**



$$\frac{N_{tagged}}{N_{tot}} = \epsilon_{tag} = \epsilon_{eff} \cdot (1 - 2\omega)^2$$

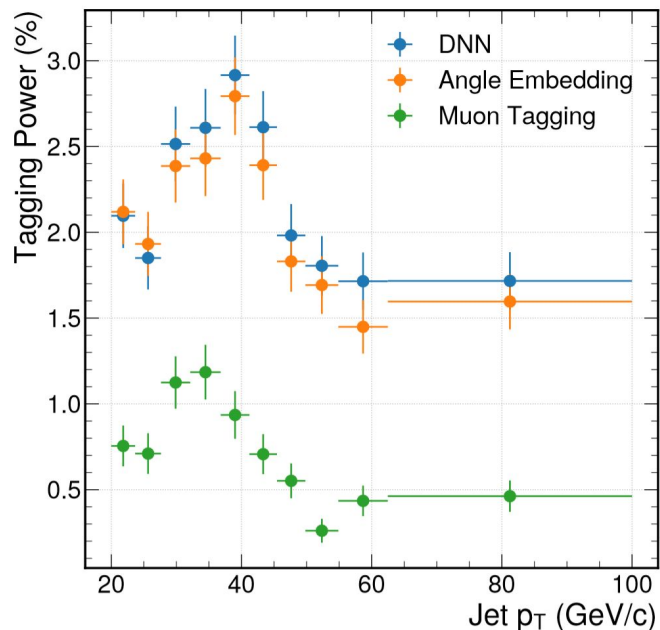
**"efficiency"**
**"mistag"**

in the following **no optimization** of the tagging power has been performed



# Results and future perspectives

## Tagging power on the muon dataset



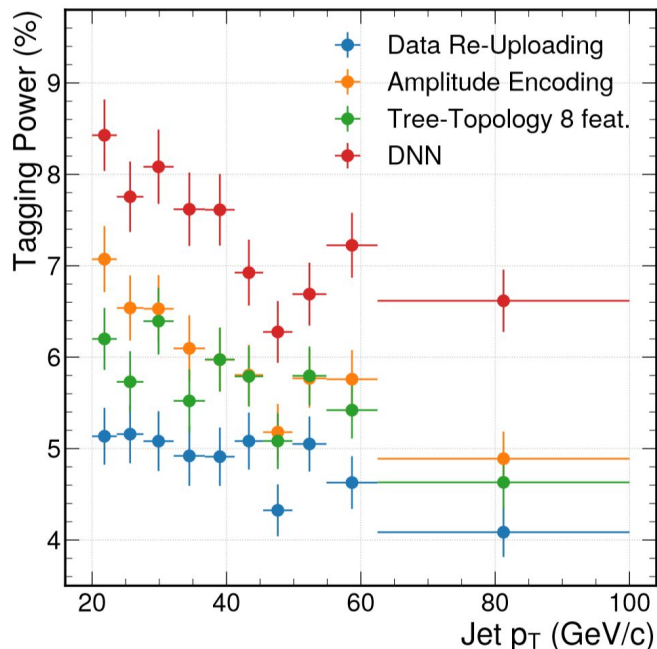
} Classical  
} Quantum

- DNN and QML are trained and tested on the same number of events
- **Angle Embedding** is used as quantum circuit

Model	$N_{\text{feat.}}$	$N_{\text{par}}$
Angle Embedd.	4	48
DNN	4	181 931
Muon Tagging	1	N.D.

Classical ML and Quantum ML show **equal performance within the uncertainty**

## Tagging power on the complete dataset



Quantum  
Classical

- QML algorithms are trained on 1/50th of events w.r.t. DNN
- testing is performed on the same number of events

Model	$N_{\text{feat.}}$	$N_{\text{par}}$
Amplitude Embedd.	16	72
Data re-uploading	16	216
Tree-topology	8	104
DNN	16	163 307

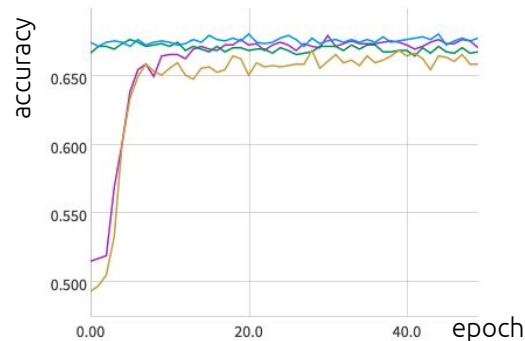
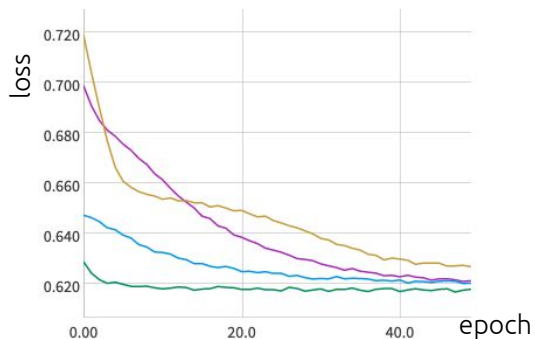
The DNN shows better performance with respect to all quantum models (1-2 % better)

## Tests on noisy simulators

future  
perspectives

- Up to now everything was done using **noiseless** simulators
- `qiskit.aer` allows to simulate noise of a specific device:
 

```
noise_model = NoiseModel.from_backend(provider.get_backend('ibmq_' + city))
```
- computational cost is demanding
- up to now training on 1000 events with muon (a.k.a. “muon dataset”)
- took ~ 30 h to train and validate on 5 CPU cores for 50 epochs



**no clear difference  
when considering  
noise!**



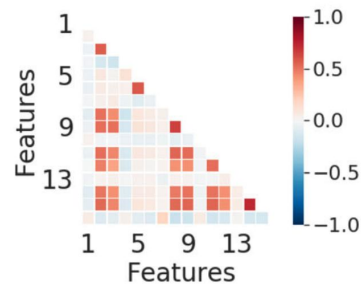
going to more qubits  
and different  
geometries

# Search for correlations

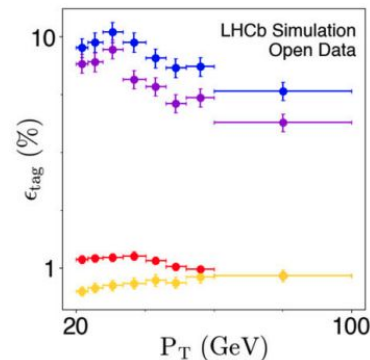
future  
perspectives

the main idea is to exploit the quantum properties of the circuits to measure correlations between qubits (see <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41534-021-00443-w>)

$$C_{ij}^I = \frac{\langle \psi_I | \sigma_i^z \sigma_j^z | \psi_I \rangle}{\langle \psi_I | \psi_I \rangle}$$



- understand which features are important for the classification
- select only the relevant features and check classification performance
- possibly have a better understanding of jet physics!





# Conclusions

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- Jet flavor identification is mandatory for several physics cases:
  - charge asymmetry for b- and c-jets
  - identification of Higgs boson decaying to b and c di-jets
- LHCb could play an interesting role in studying jet tagging with QML
- Results obtained so far show that **it's possible to apply QML to jet tagging:**
  - for the muon dataset **performance between DNN and QML are comparable**
  - for the complete dataset the DNN performs slightly better than QML
- Still room for improvement and for **new studies:**
  - noisy simulation
  - correlations between variables
  - (hardware application)

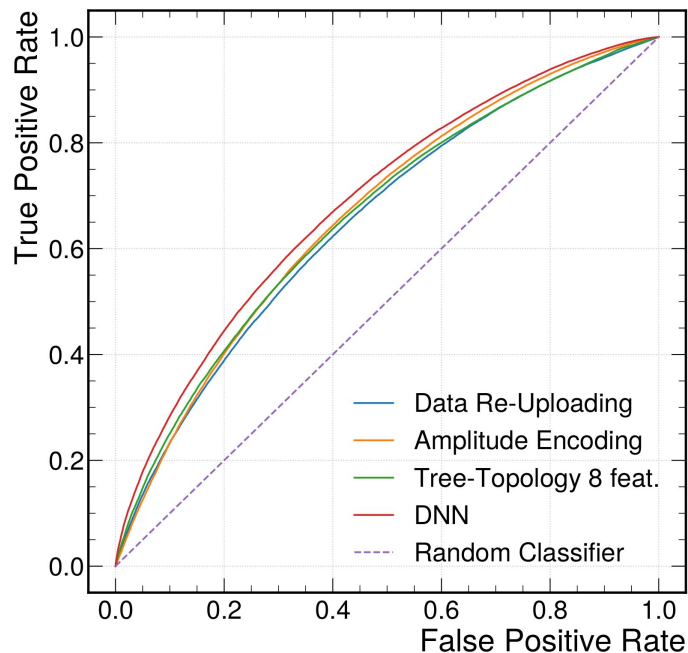


**Thank you for your  
attention!**

The background features a dark blue field with several semi-transparent, overlapping light blue rectangular shapes. These shapes are arranged in a way that suggests depth and movement, with some appearing to be stacked or layered. Faint white lines and patterns are scattered across the scene, particularly concentrated around the central text area, adding a sense of digital complexity or data flow.

**Backup slides**

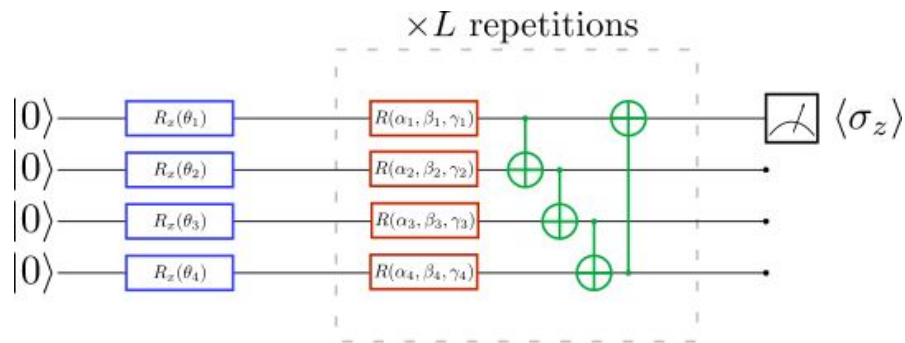
## ROC curves for complete dataset



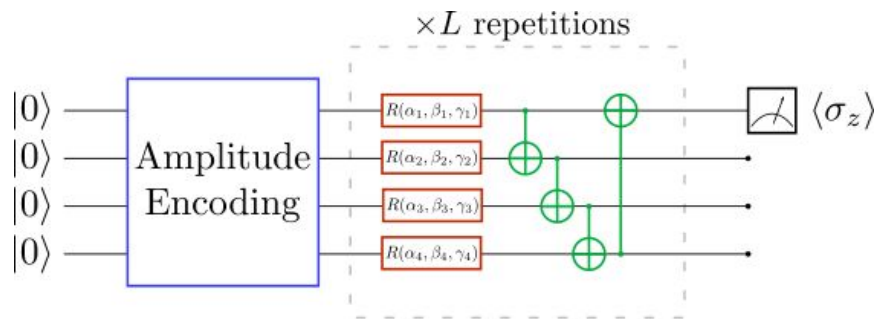
Dataset	Model	AUC
muon dataset	DNN	0.75
	Angle embedding	0.75
complete dataset	DNN	0.69
	Amplitude encoding	0.67
	Data re-uploading	0.65
	Tree-Topology (8 features)	0.66

- for the muon dataset, DNN and Angle embedding performance are comparable
- for the complete dataset the DNN performs slightly better than the Amplitude encoding

# Circuit geometries

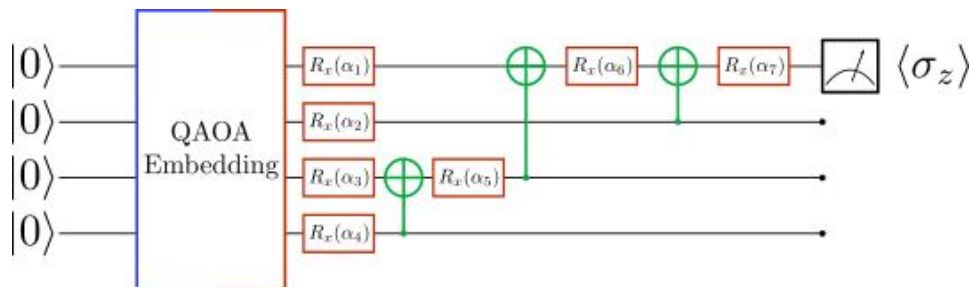


Amplitude  
Encoding

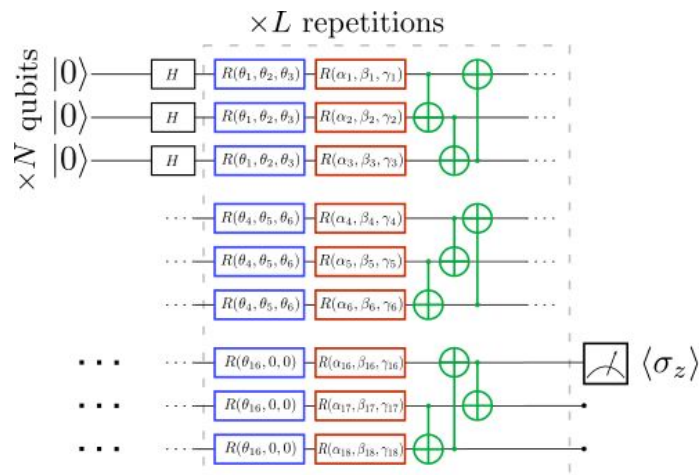


# Circuit geometries

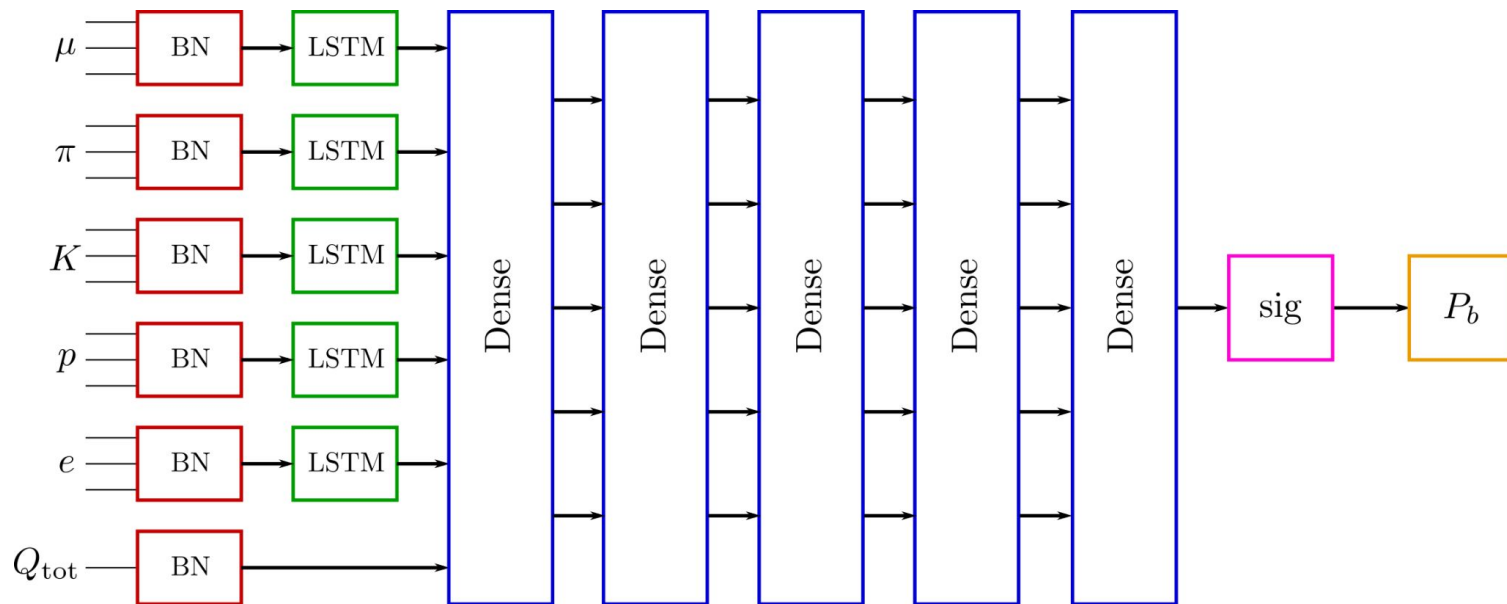
VQC with “Tree-Topology”



Data re-uploading

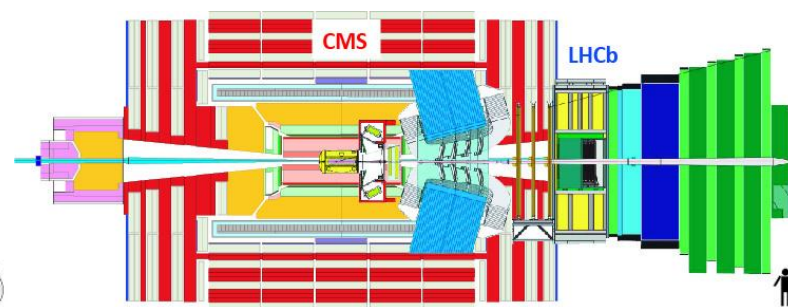
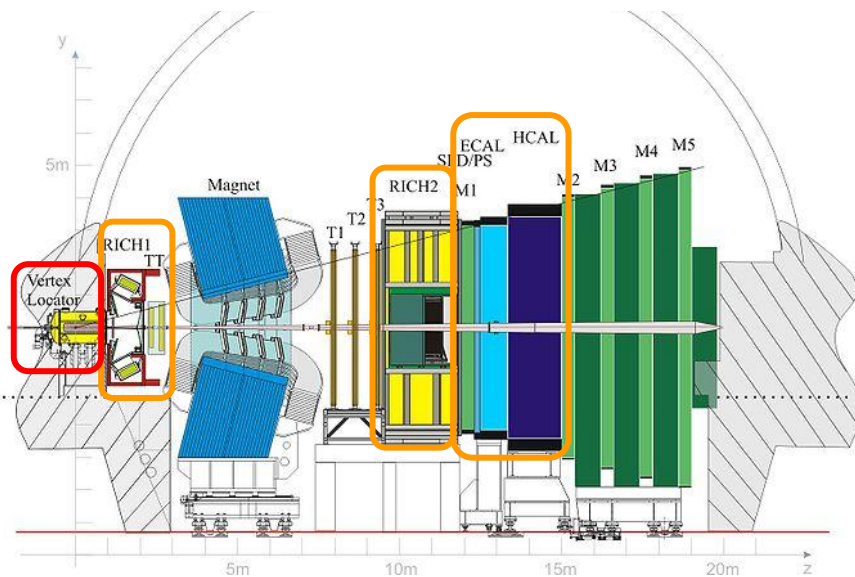


# DNN structure



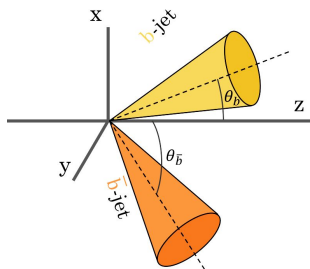
# LHCb

LHCb is a **forward spectrometer** designed to study **flavour physics**



- complementary phase-space region w.r.t. ATLAS & CMS
- excellent vertex reconstruction
- excellent Particle Identification (PID)

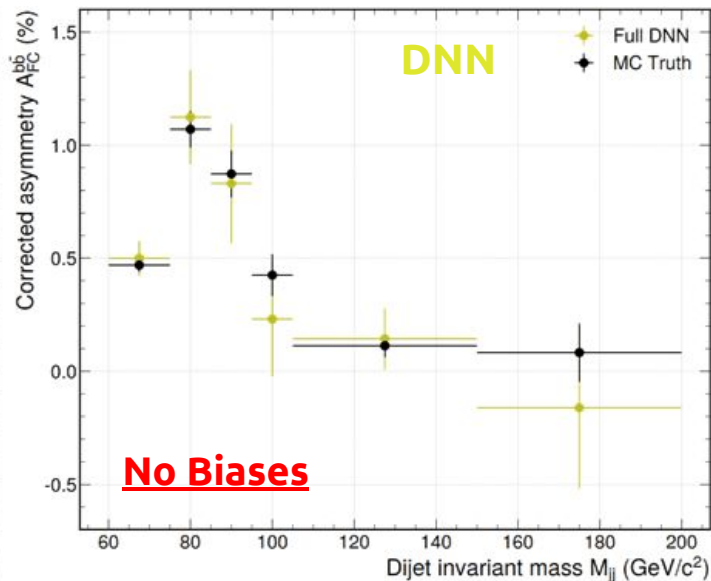
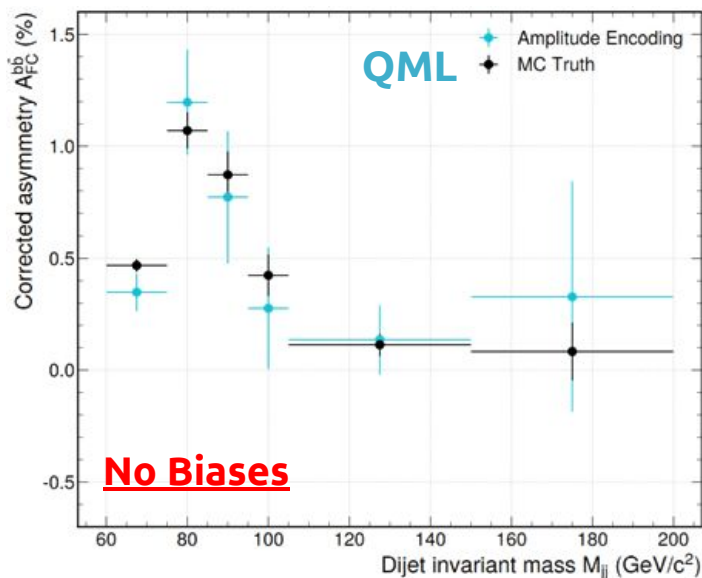




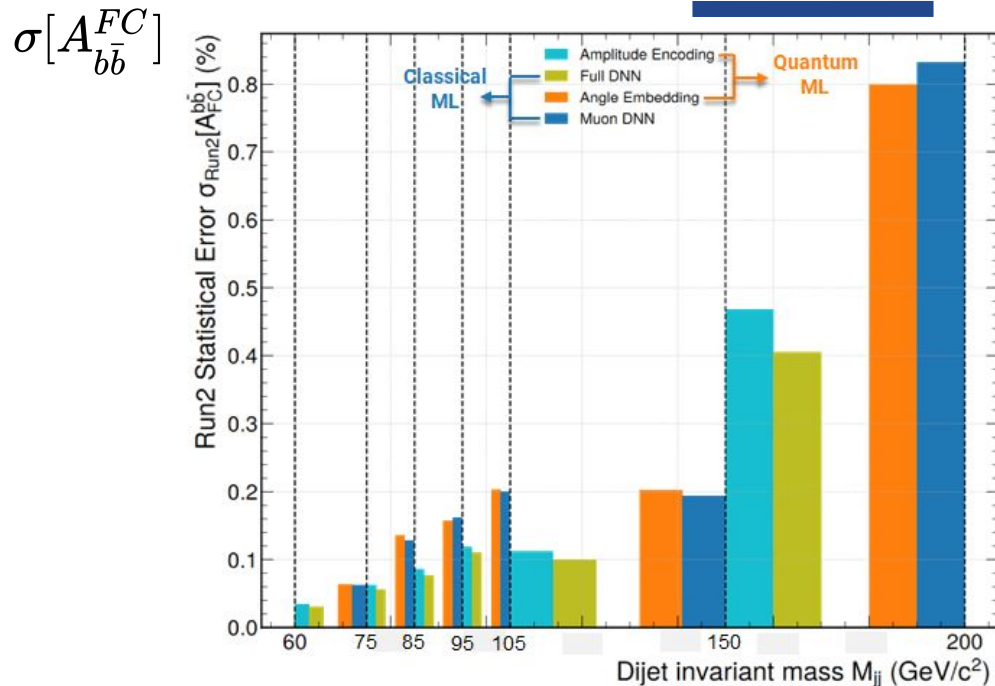
# Forward-central asymmetry estimation

$$A_{b\bar{b}}^{FC} = \frac{N(\Delta|y|>0) - N(\Delta|y|<0)}{N(\Delta|y|>0) + N(\Delta|y|<0)}$$

$$\Delta|y| = |y_b| - |y_{\bar{b}}|$$



## Run 2 statistical uncertainty on the FC asymmetry



$$\sigma[A_{bb}^{FC}] \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon_{tag}}}$$

on the complete dataset the classical DNN shows better performance w.r.t. QML