

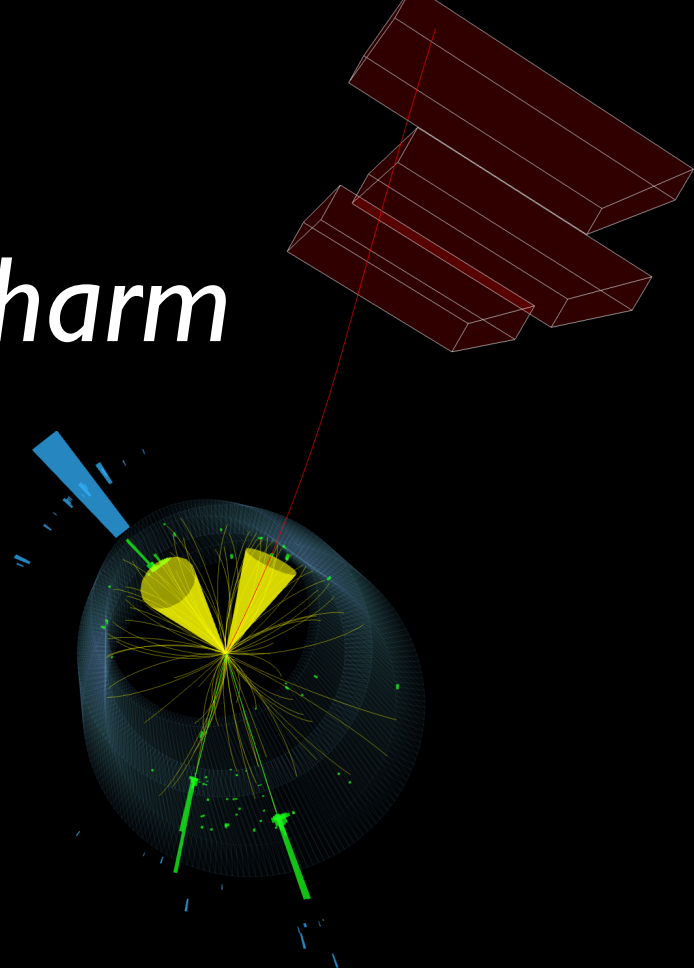


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Constraining the *Higgs-charm* coupling at CMS

Luca Mastrolorenzo¹ and Huilin Qu²
on behalf of the CMS Collaboration

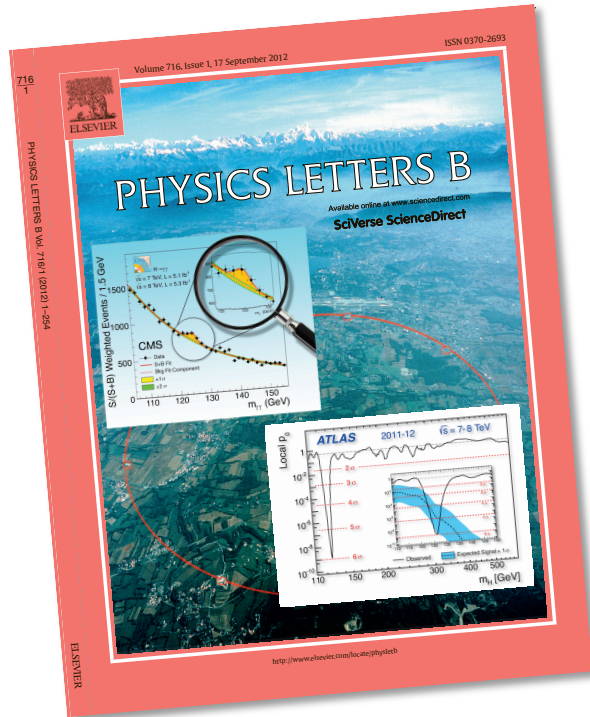
CERN LPCC EP-LHC Seminar
1 March 2022



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Introduction

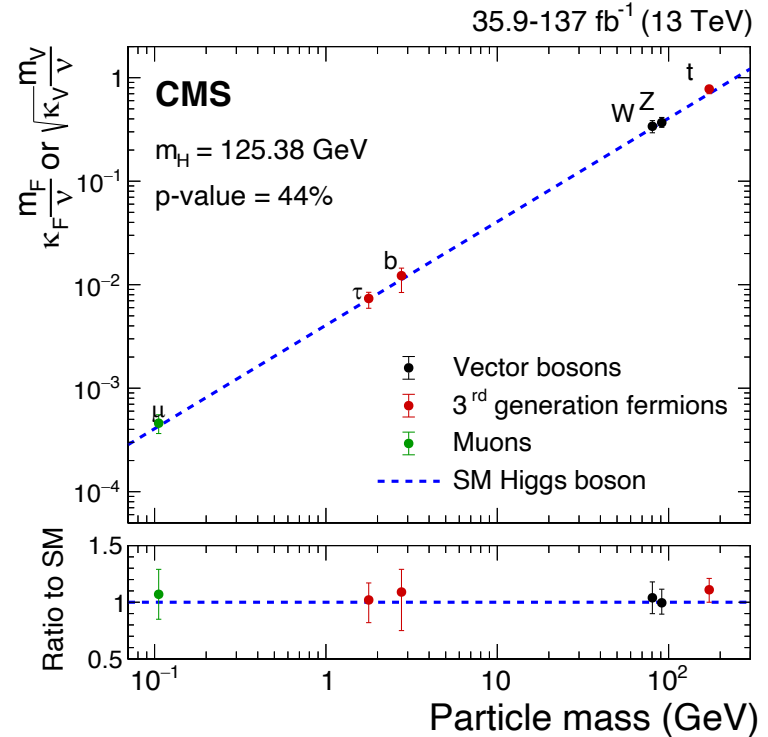
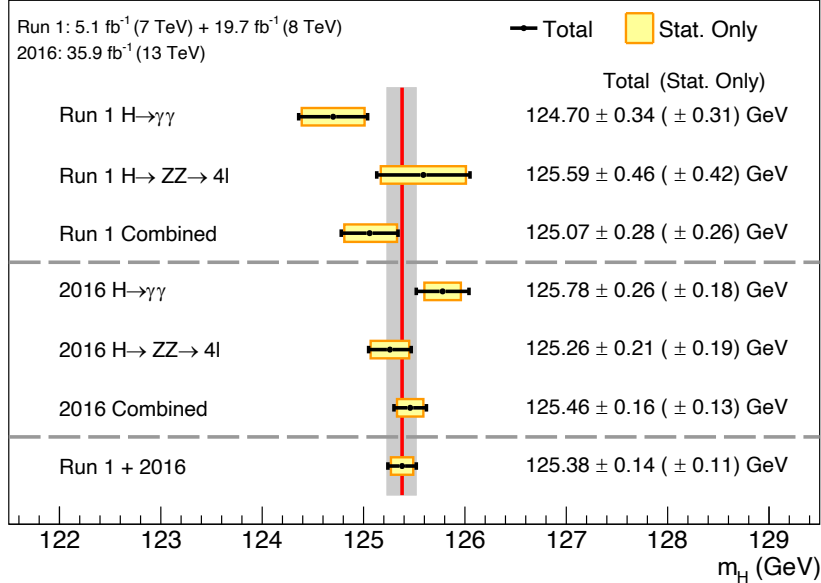
- Discovery of the Higgs boson in 2012: A new chapter of particle physics



Understanding the Higgs boson

- Tremendous progress in our understanding of the Higgs boson in the past ten years

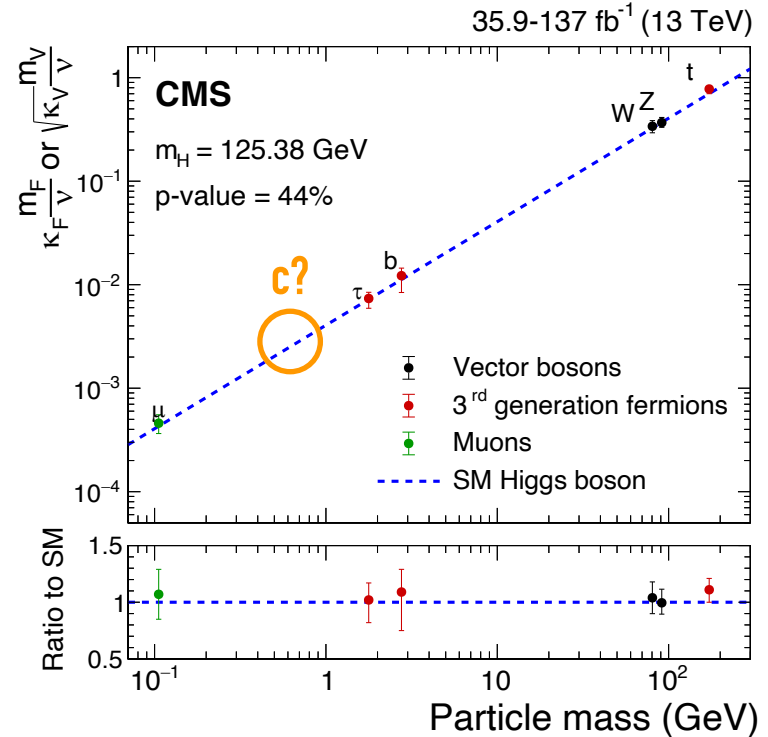
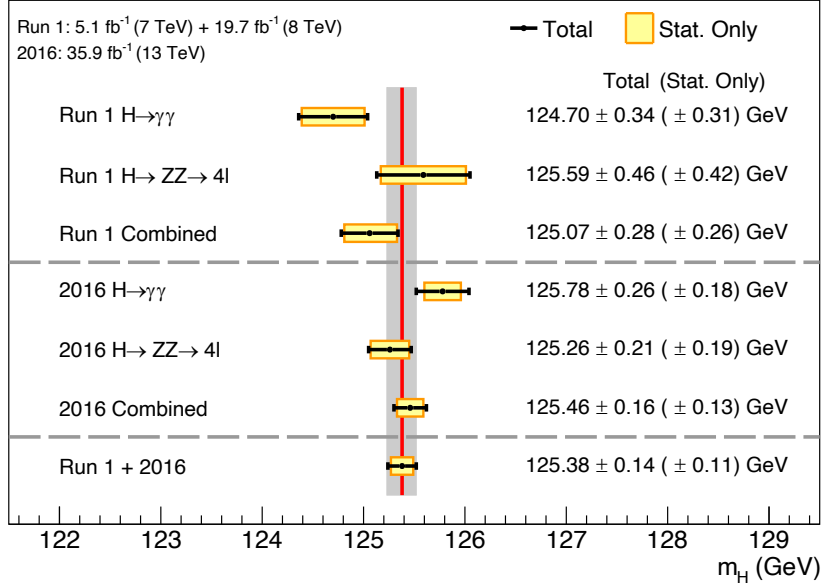
CMS



How charming is the Higgs boson?

- Tremendous progress in our understanding of the Higgs boson in the past ten years

CMS



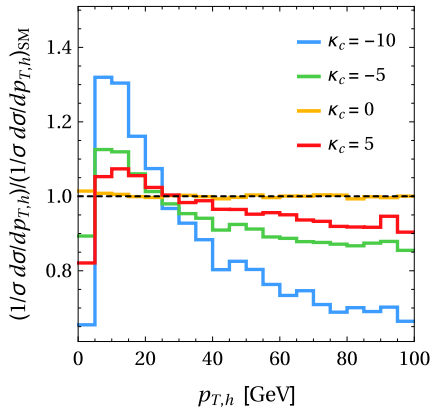
Probing the Higgs-charm coupling

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

Indirect constraint from Higgs kinematics

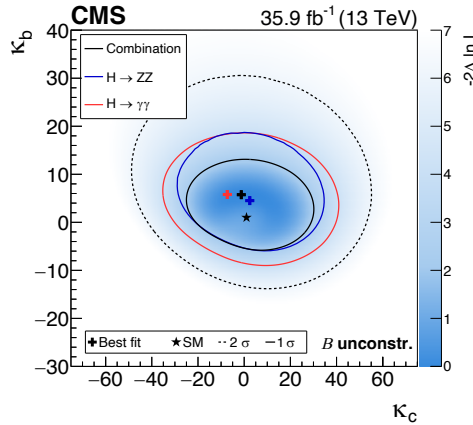
Search for exclusive $H \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma$ decays

Phys. Rev. Lett. 118, 121801

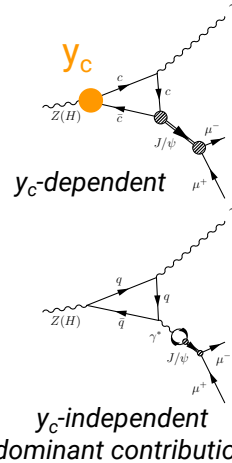


Variation of $p_T(H)$ shape as a function $\kappa_c = y_c/y_c^{SM}$

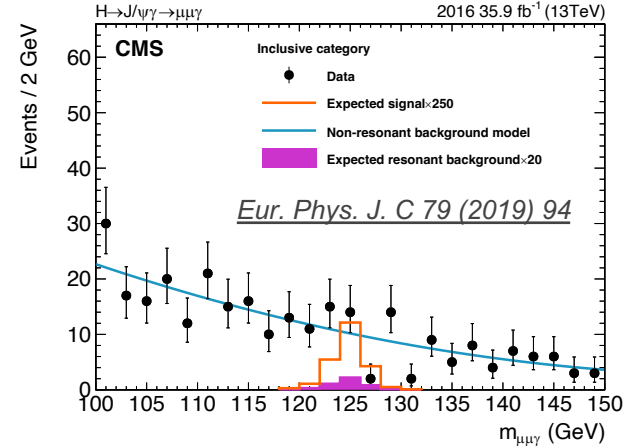
Phys. Lett. B 792 (2019) 369



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



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



$\mathcal{B}(H \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma) < 220 \times \text{SM}(\text{obs.})$
 $\mathcal{B}(H \rightarrow J/\psi \gamma) < 170 \times \text{SM}(\text{exp.})$
 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

- small branching fraction ($\sim 3\%$) vs. large backgrounds (at a hadron collider)
- charm quark identification is the key

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

- three channels: $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ (0L), $W \rightarrow \ell\nu$ (1L), $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$ (2L) [$\ell = e, \mu$]

❑ Main backgrounds

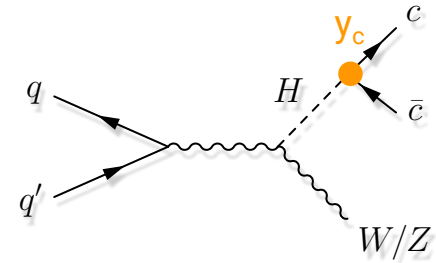
- V + jets, single and pair production of top quarks, dibosons
- $VH(H \rightarrow bb)$: small but largely irreducible

❑ Baseline event selections

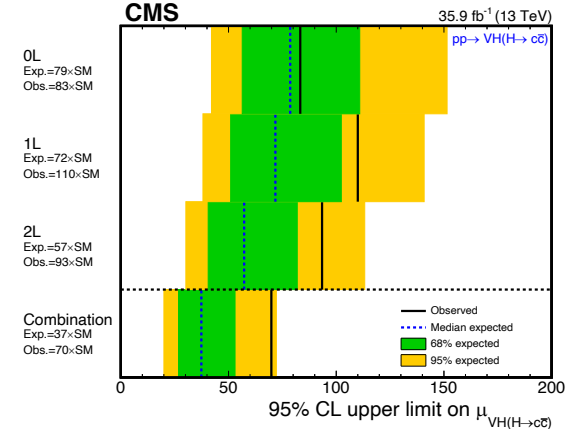
- (high- p_T) vector boson recoiling against a Higgs boson candidate
- veto events with high jet multiplicity to suppress tt contribution (0L & 1L)

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

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



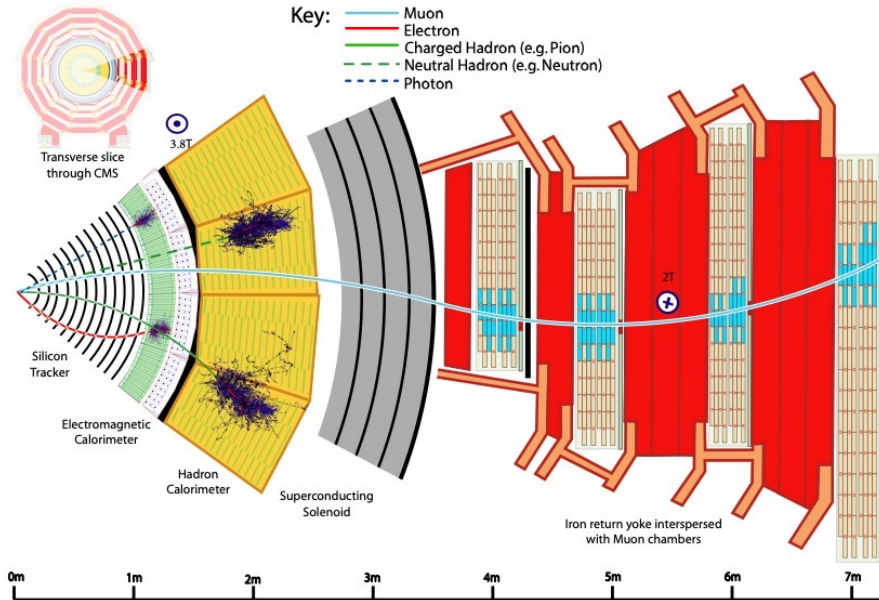
[JHEP 03 \(2020\) 131](#)



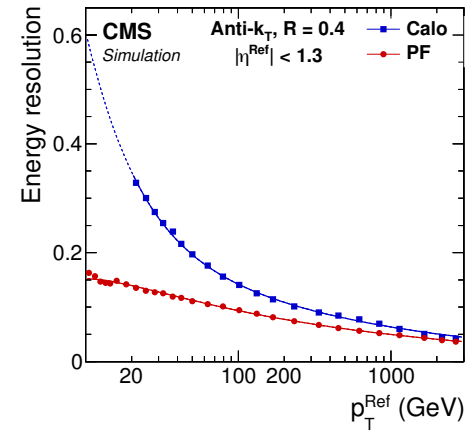
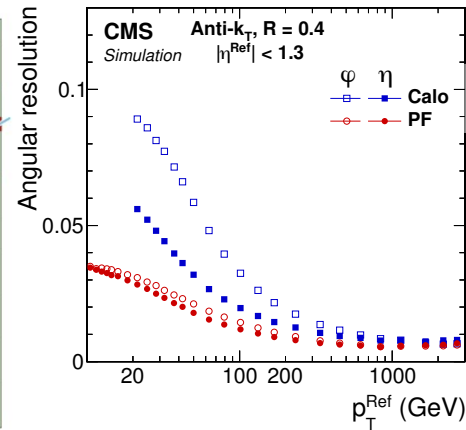
Particle-flow reconstruction

□ Particle-flow (PF): powerful approach for jet reconstruction and flavor tagging

- excellent energy and angular resolutions
- each particle (PF candidate) contains a rich set of information from multiple sub-detectors – inputs to deep-learning

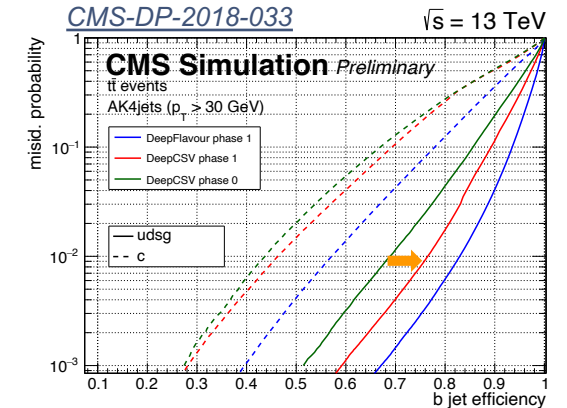
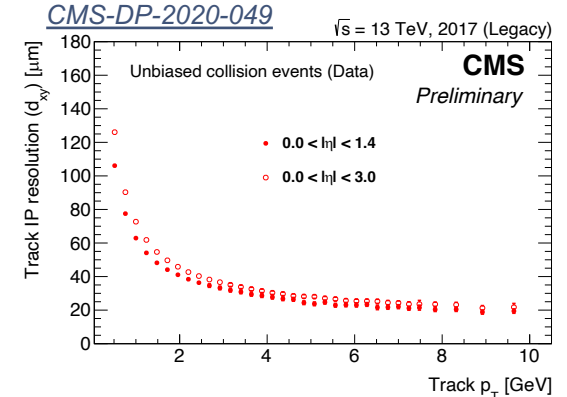
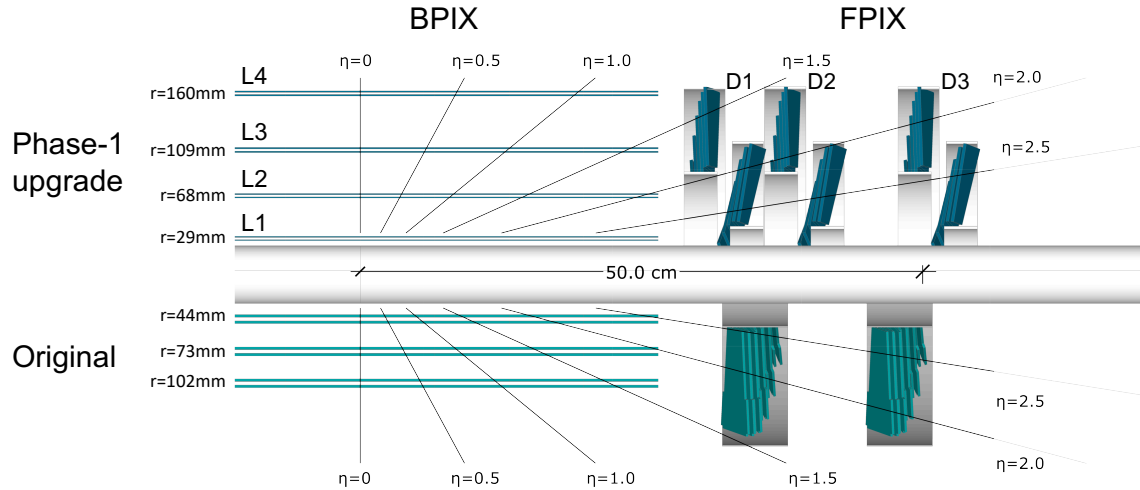


JINST 12 (2017) P10003



Phase-1 pixel detector upgrade

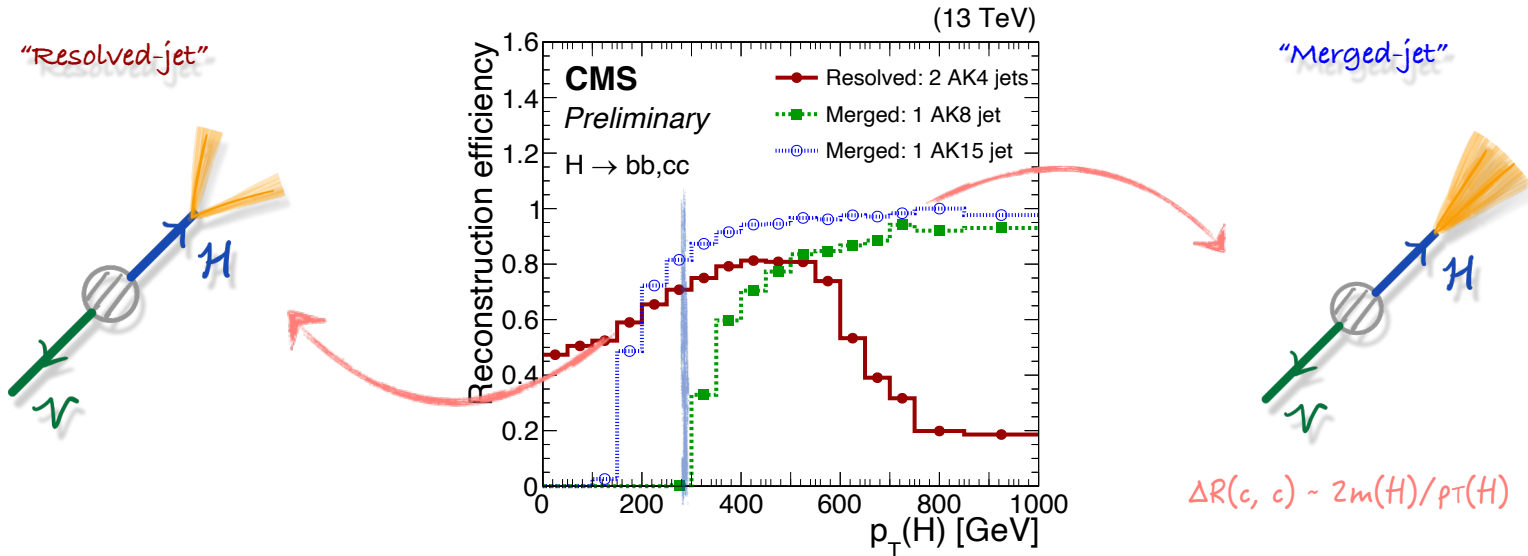
- New pixel detector installed during year-end stop 2016/2017



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

Analysis overview

- Two complementary approaches for Higgs boson candidate reconstruction



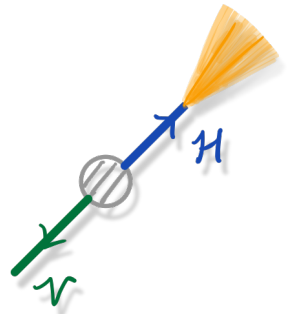
- Resolved-jet topology**

- 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

Merged-jet topology



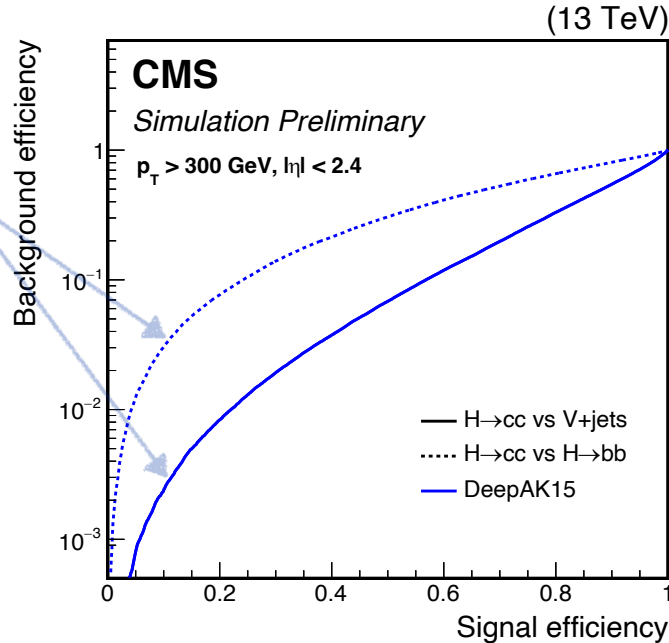
H \rightarrow cc identification

- ❑ Merged-jet topology: Higgs boson candidate reconstructed via a single large-R jet ($p_T > 300$ GeV)

[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



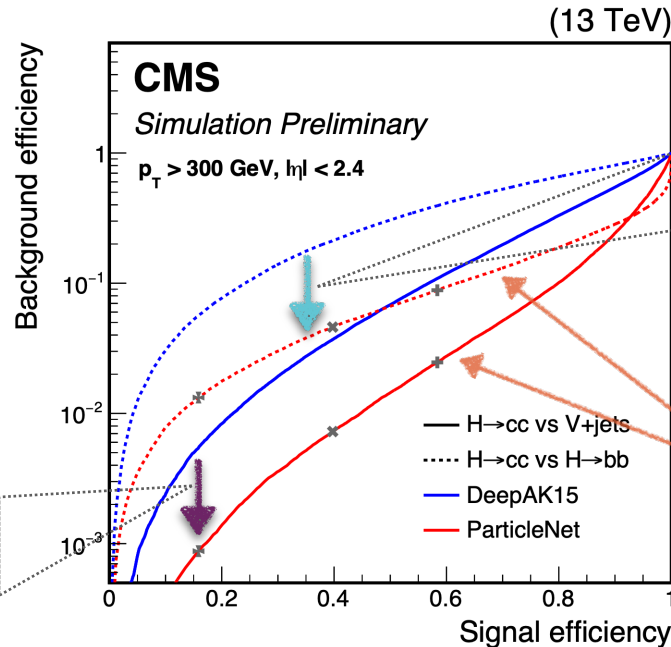
H → cc identification

- ❑ 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 \(2016 analysis\)](#)

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- multi-class DNN boosted jet classifier
- directly uses jet constituents (particle-flow candidates / secondary vertices)
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*~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

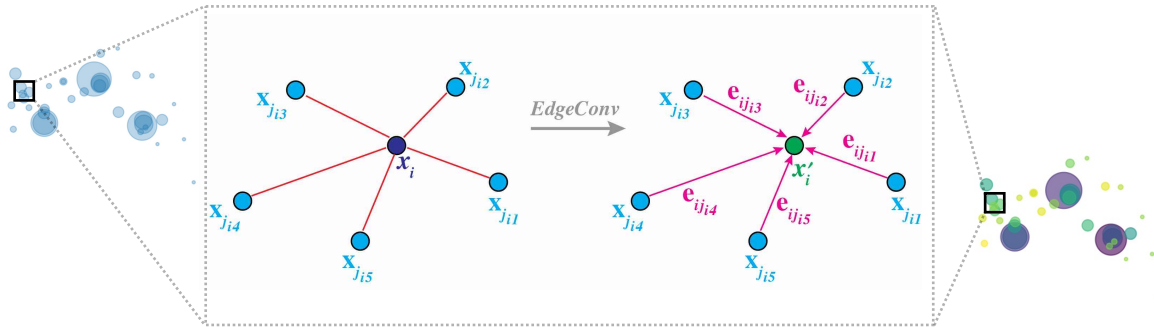
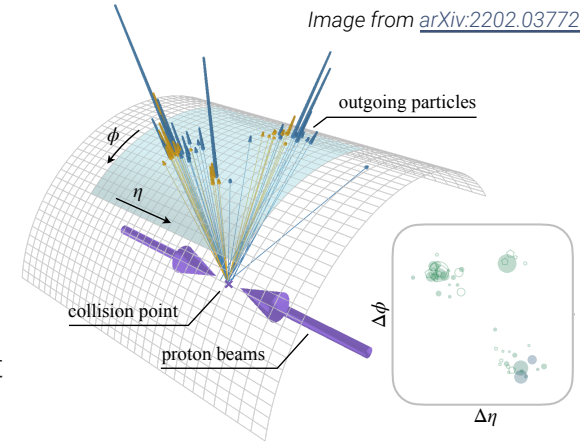
ParticleNet architecture

□ 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](#)]
- permutation-invariant architecture leads to significant performance improvement

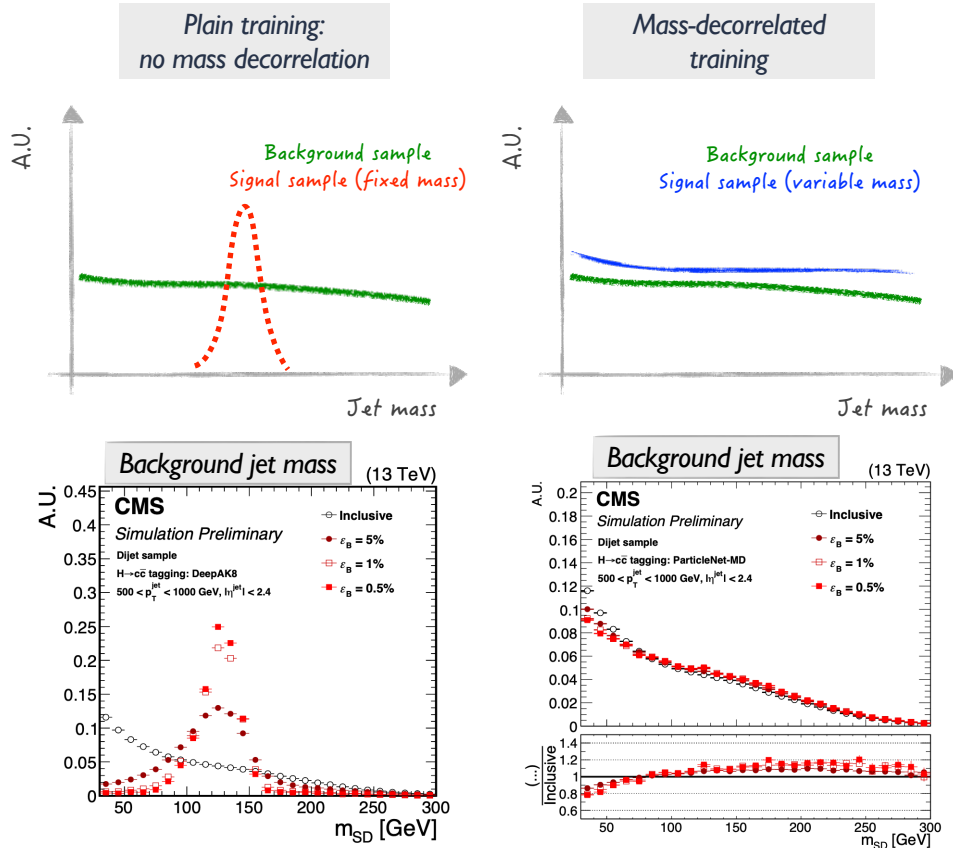


Performance on top quark tagging benchmark
[[SciPost Phys. 7, 014 \(2019\)](#)]

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

Mass decorrelation

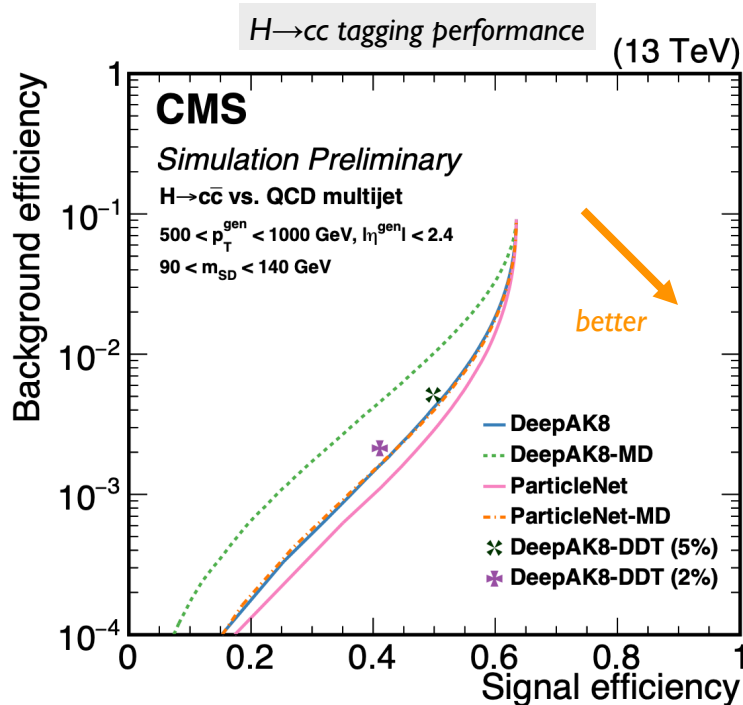
[CMS-DP-2020-002](#)



- ❑ “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
 - $X \rightarrow b\bar{b}$, $X \rightarrow c\bar{c}$, $X \rightarrow q\bar{q}$
 - 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
- ❑ Signal and background have the same (\sim flat) mass spectrum, thus no sculpting will develop in the training

Mass decorrelation (II)

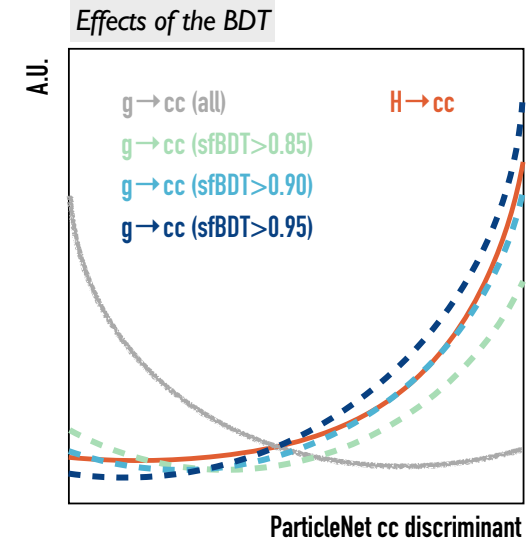
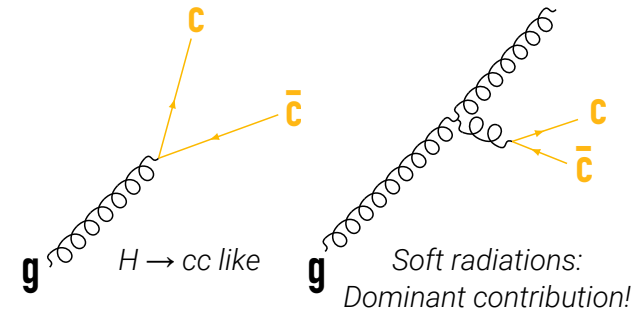
[CMS-DP-2020-002](#)



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 - $m(X) \in [15, 250]$ 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”)

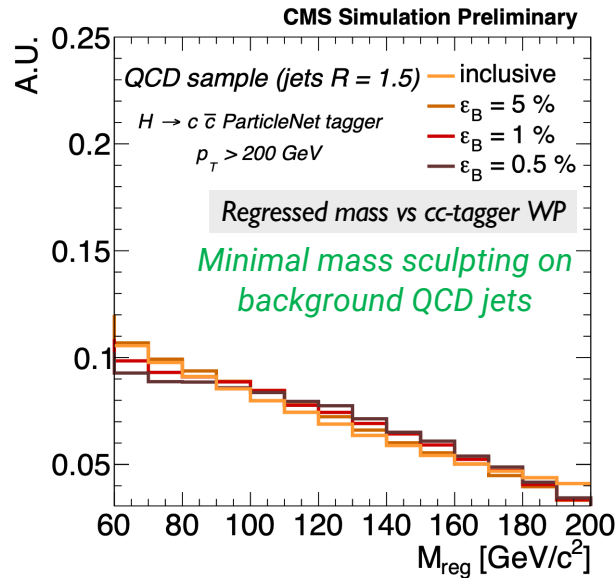
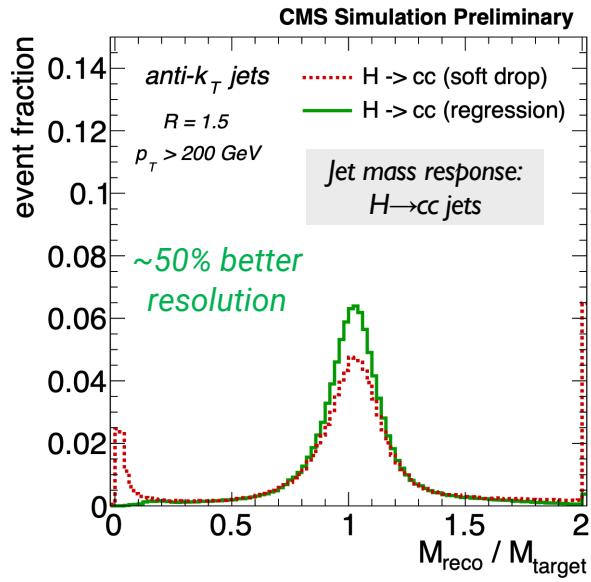
Calibration of the cc-tagger

- ❑ 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: a **dedicated BDT** developed to distinguish **hard 2-prong splittings** (i.e., high quark contribution to the jet momentum) from **soft cc radiations** (i.e., high gluon contribution to the jet momentum)
 - also allows to adjust the similarity between proxy and signal jets
 - by varying the sfBDT cut – treated as a systematic uncertainty
- ❑ Perform a fit to the secondary vertex mass shapes in the “passing” and “failing” regions simultaneously to extract the scale factors
 - three templates: cc (+ single c), bb (+ single b), light flavor jets
- ❑ Derived cc-tagging scale factors typically 0.9–1.3
 - corresponding uncertainties are 20–30%



Large-R jet mass regression

- ❑ Jet mass: one of the most powerful observable to distinguish signal and backgrounds CMS DP-2021/017
- ❑ New ParticleNet-based regression algorithm to improve the large-R jet mass reconstruction
 - training setup similar to the ParticleNet tagger; the regression target:
 - signal ($X \rightarrow bb/cc/qq$): generated particle mass of X [flat spectrum in 15 – 250 GeV]
 - background (QCD) jets: soft drop mass of the particle-level jet



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

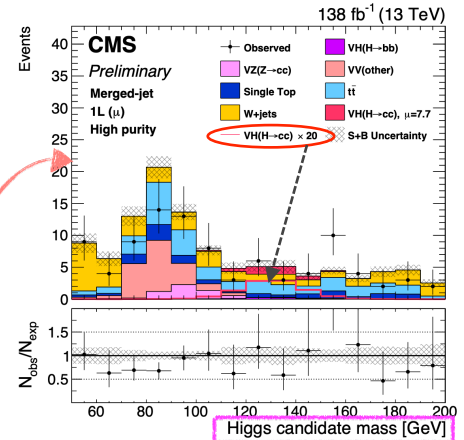
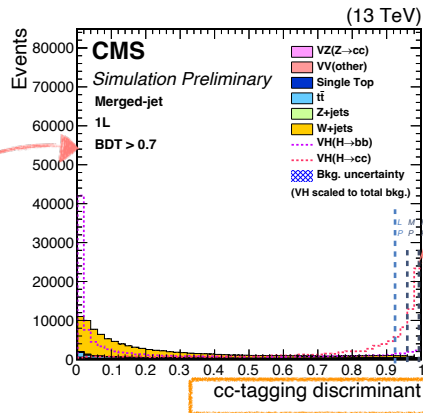
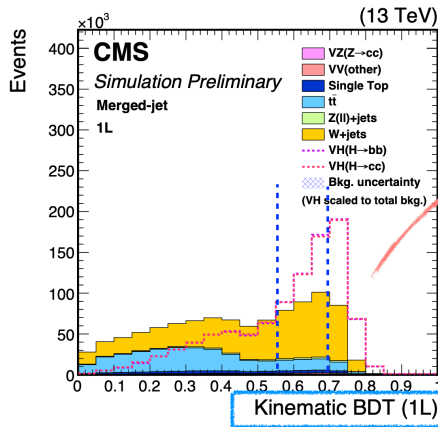
Analysis strategy

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

- allowing for a simple and robust strategy for background estimation and signal extraction



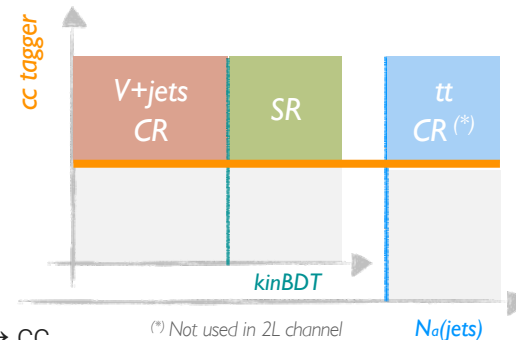
Background estimation

□ 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

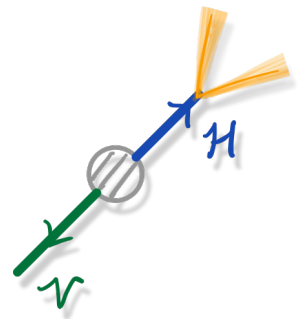
- flavor-independent kinematic BDT + same cc-tagging requirement in CRs as in SR
- allows to correct cc-tagging efficiency for backgrounds directly from data
- cc-tagging SFs only needed for the signal $VH(H \rightarrow cc)$ process (and $VZ(Z \rightarrow cc)$)
 - conservative uncertainty (2x/0.5x) for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



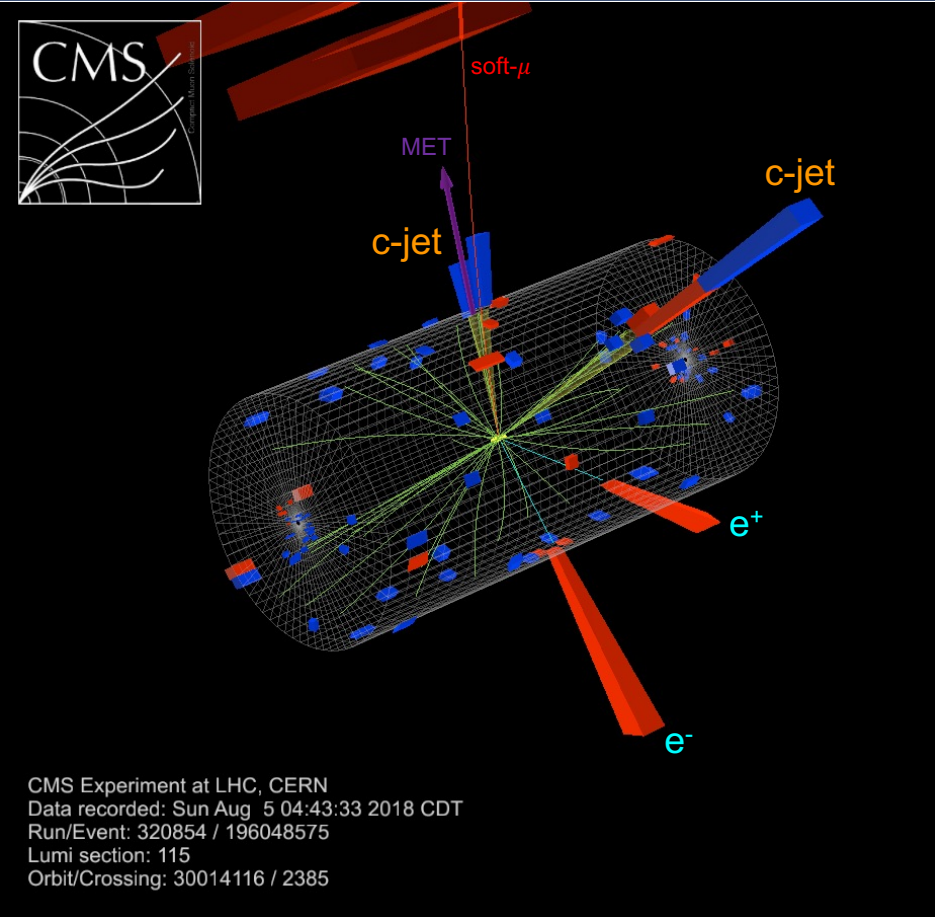
□ Minor backgrounds (single top, dibosons, $VH(H \rightarrow bb)$) estimated from simulation

- 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



□ Main challenges

- Charm (c) tagging
- QCD (reducible) and V+jets (irreducible) background
- Relatively poor invariant mass resolution

□ 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 (eg. recovery of neutrino, unclustered hadrons, etc.) + Recover FSR-jets
- Kinematic-fit (2L channels)

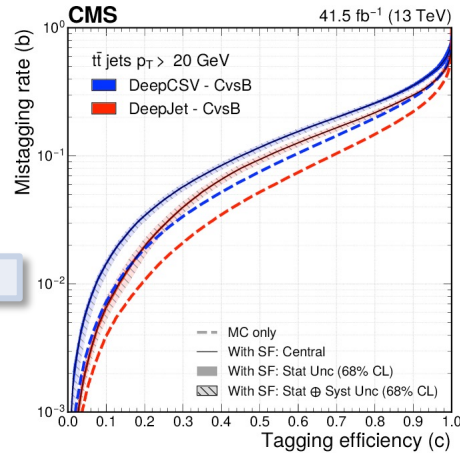
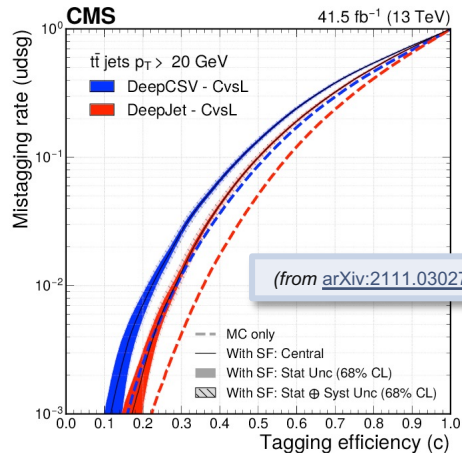
□ Analysis strategy (three channels: 0L, 1L, 2L)

- 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
 - It translates into the need to separate **c-jets** simultaneously from **light-jets** and **bottom jets**
- ❑ From DeepJet output score it is possible to build two c-jet taggers → CvsL and CvsB
 - CvsL: it is optimized to differentiate charm-jets from light- or gluon-jets
 - CvsB: it is optimized to differentiate charm-jets from bottom-jets



- ❑ 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

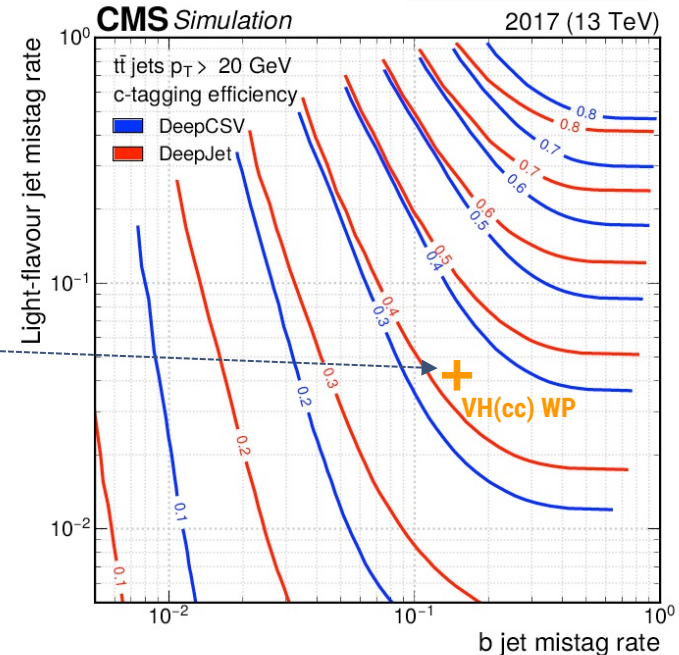
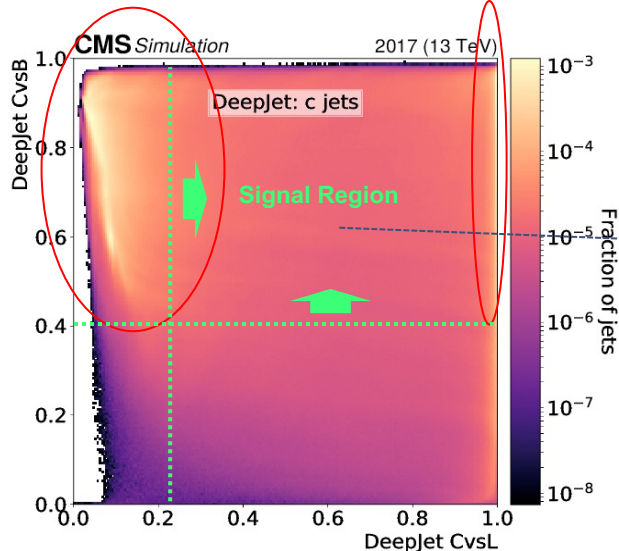
Charm-tagging in the resolved-jet topology

□ Definition of leading-jet working point

- Studies of $CvsB/CvsL$ jet score distributions in 2D plane
- **$CvsL > 0.225$, $CvsB > 0.4$** → c-jet identification efficiency of $\sim 43\%$ with a b-jet and light-jet mis-tagging rate respectively of $\sim 15\%$ and $\sim 4\%$ (depending on the year)

c-jets mis-identified as light ones

c-jets

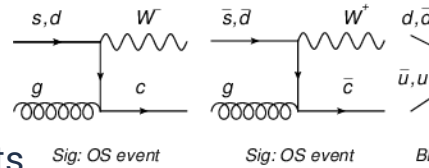


A new method to calibrate charm-taggers

(from arXiv:2111.03027)

Methodology

- Iterative approach exploiting 3 distinct control regions, each enriched in b-jets, c-jets, or light-flavour jets

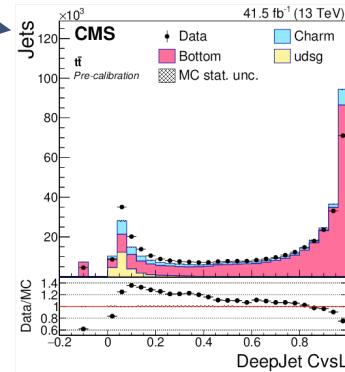
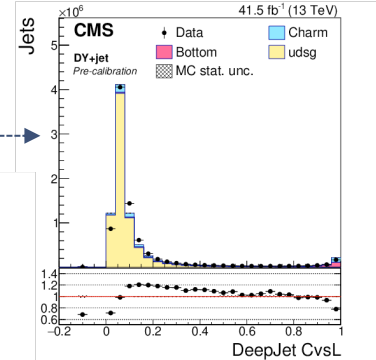
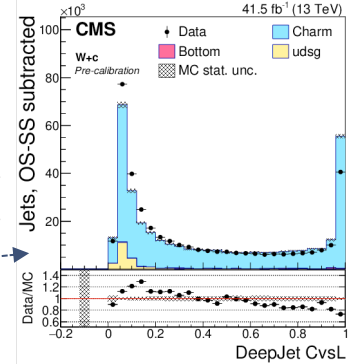


Selecting an abundant and pure source of charm-jets

- 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

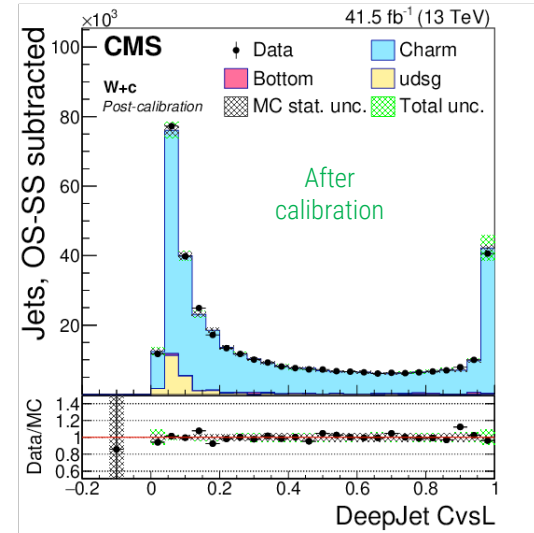
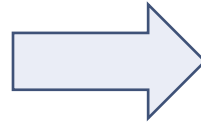
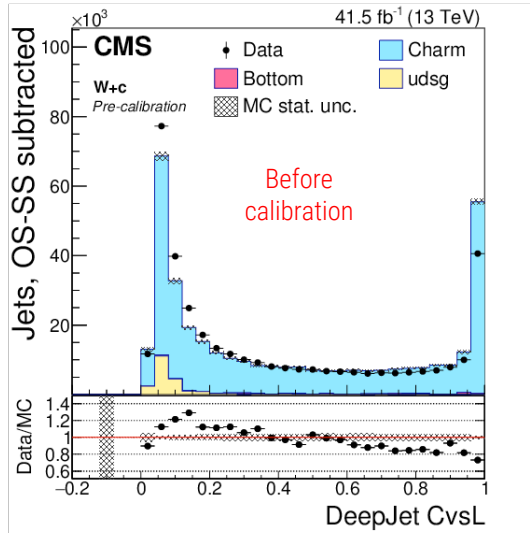
→ [arXiv:2111.03027](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.03027) (accepted by JINST)



A new method to calibrate charm-taggers

Application of the reshaping scale-factors

(from arXiv:2111.03027)



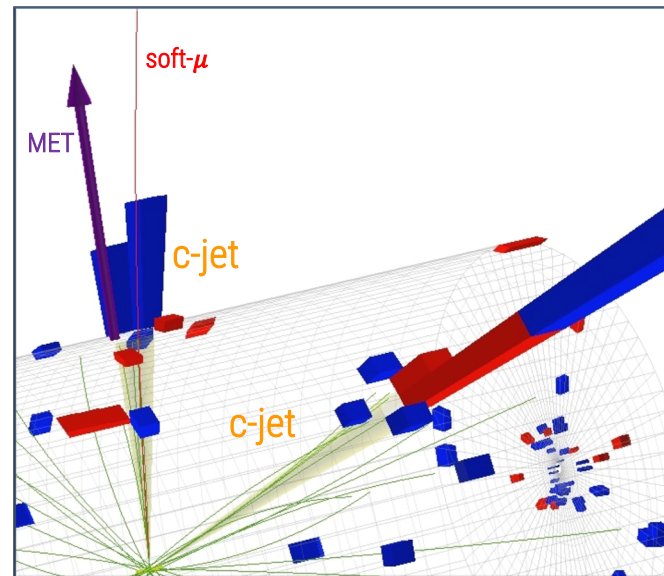
- Very good data/MC agreement after the calibration

- Application through an event-by-event re-weighting: $w_i = \prod_{i=1}^{jets} sf_i(CvsL, CvsB)$

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 $t\bar{t} + \text{jets}$ 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, $p_T(\text{jet})/p_T(\text{lepton})$

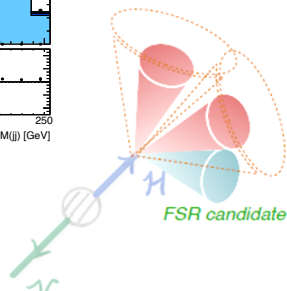
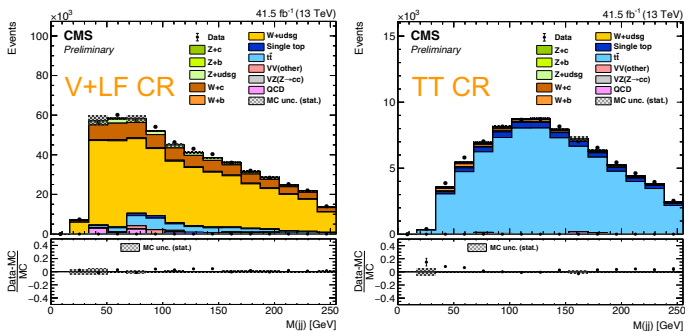


A dedicated charm-jet energy regression

~15% improvement in mass resolution

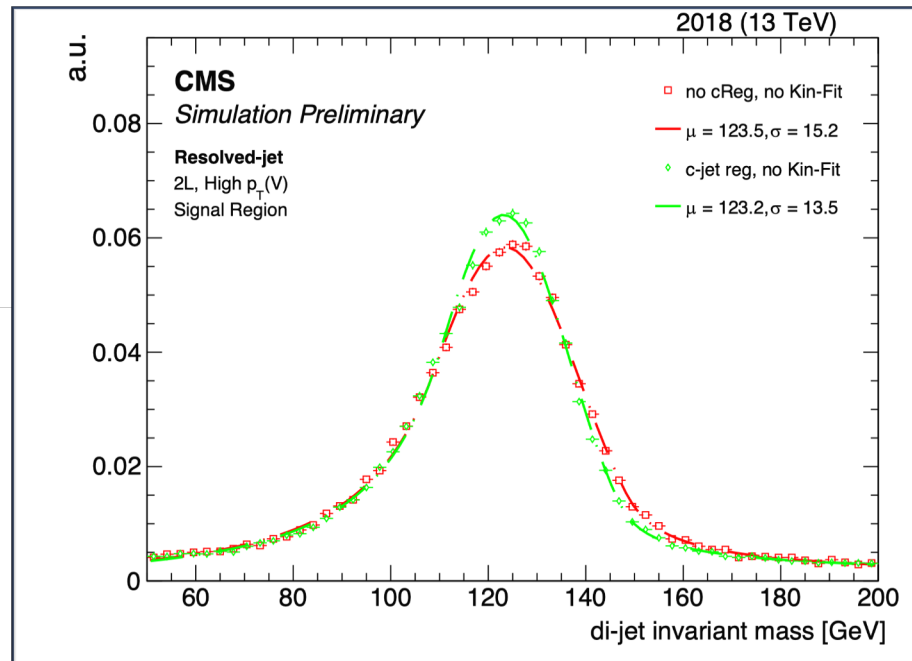
- Depending on the jet p_T

Validated in VH(H \rightarrow cc) control regions



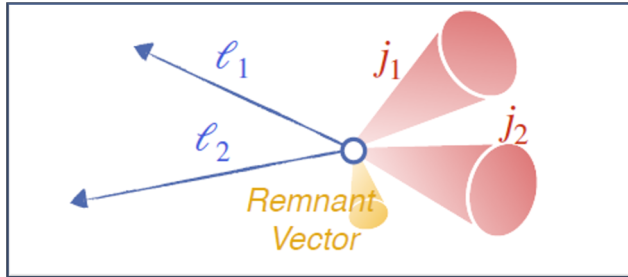
FSR recovery

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

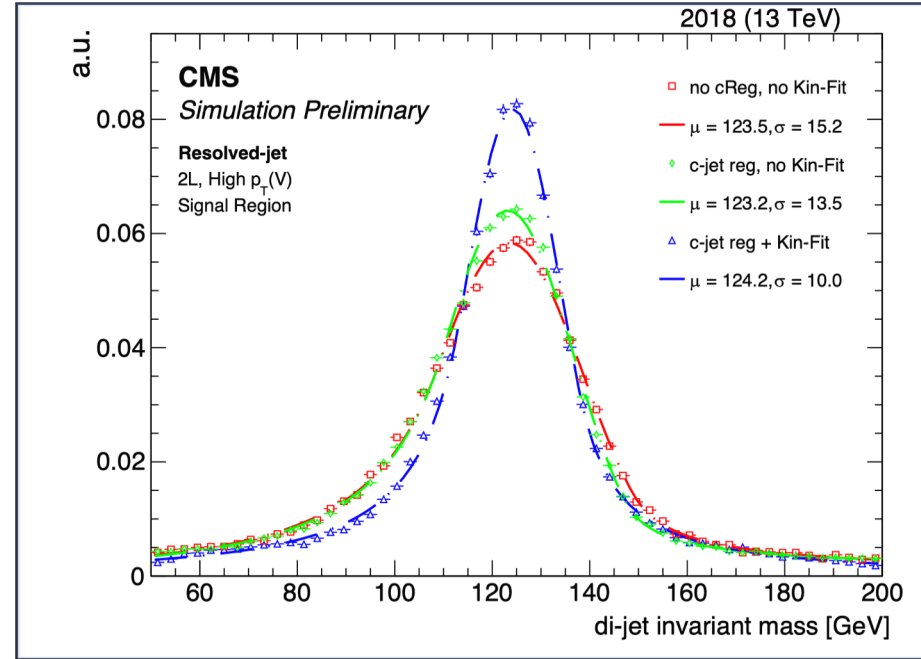


Kinematic-fit in the 2L channels

- 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

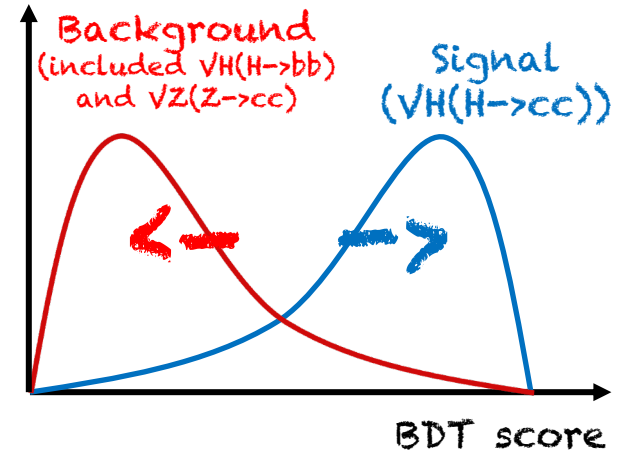


- Up to **~30% improvement in Higgs mass resolution**



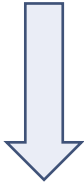
Signal extraction – BDT training in SRs

- BDT trained to separate signal from background samples
 - Use combination of event kinematic observables, Higgs and vector boson properties, particle flavor variables (tagger information), and kinematic-fit variables (only in 2L channels)
- 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 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



- 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

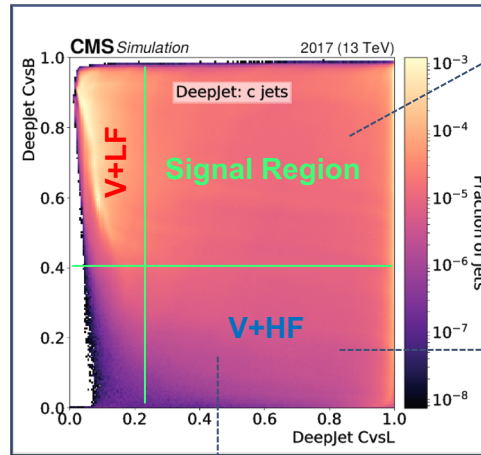
- Selections optimized for the different decay of the vector boson considered

- Definition of 4 analysis categories

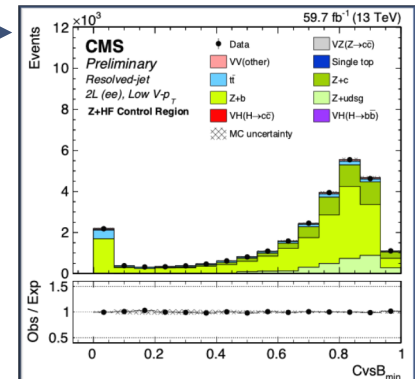
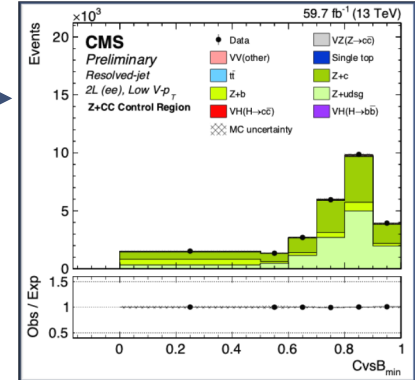
- 0L:** $p_T(Z) > 170$ GeV
- 1L:** $p_T(W) > 100$ GeV
- 2L Low- p_T :** $60 \text{ GeV} < p_T(Z) < 150$ GeV
- 2L High- p_T :** $p_T(Z) > 150$ GeV

- 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



V+CC
(\odot)
Veto m(H)
region

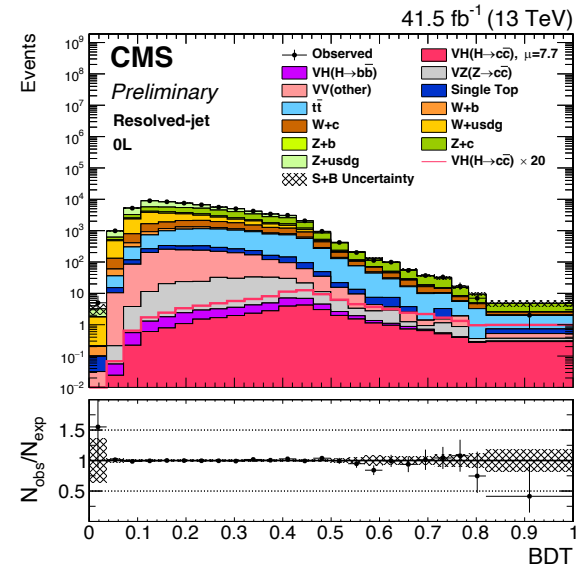
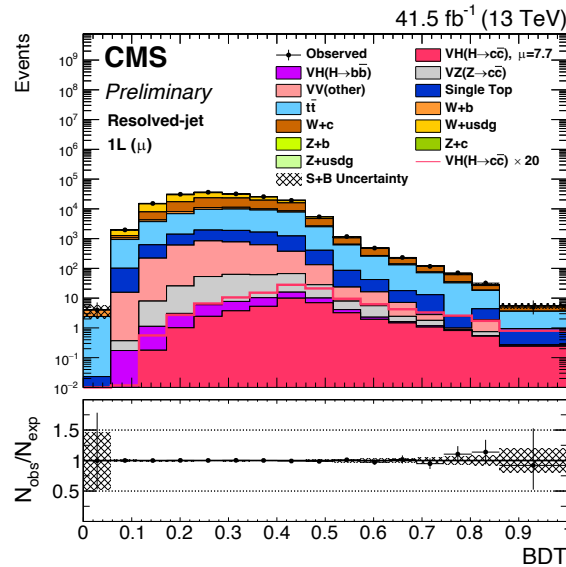
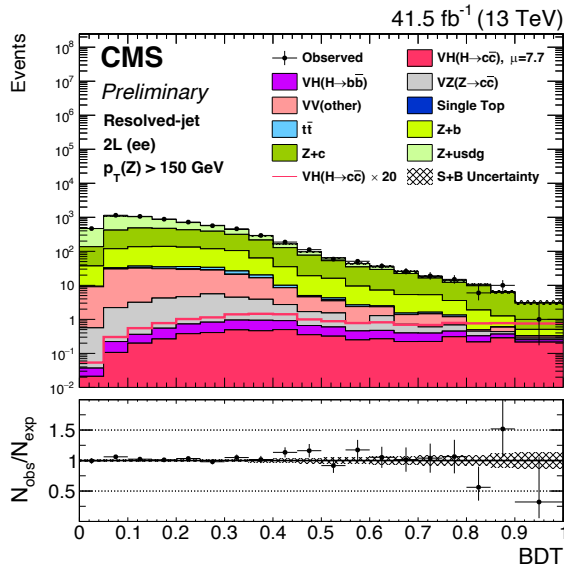


$t\bar{t}$
(\odot)
Invert Z mass (2L)
Require add jet (1L)*
Require add ℓ and jets (0L)

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

Postfit plots – Signal regions

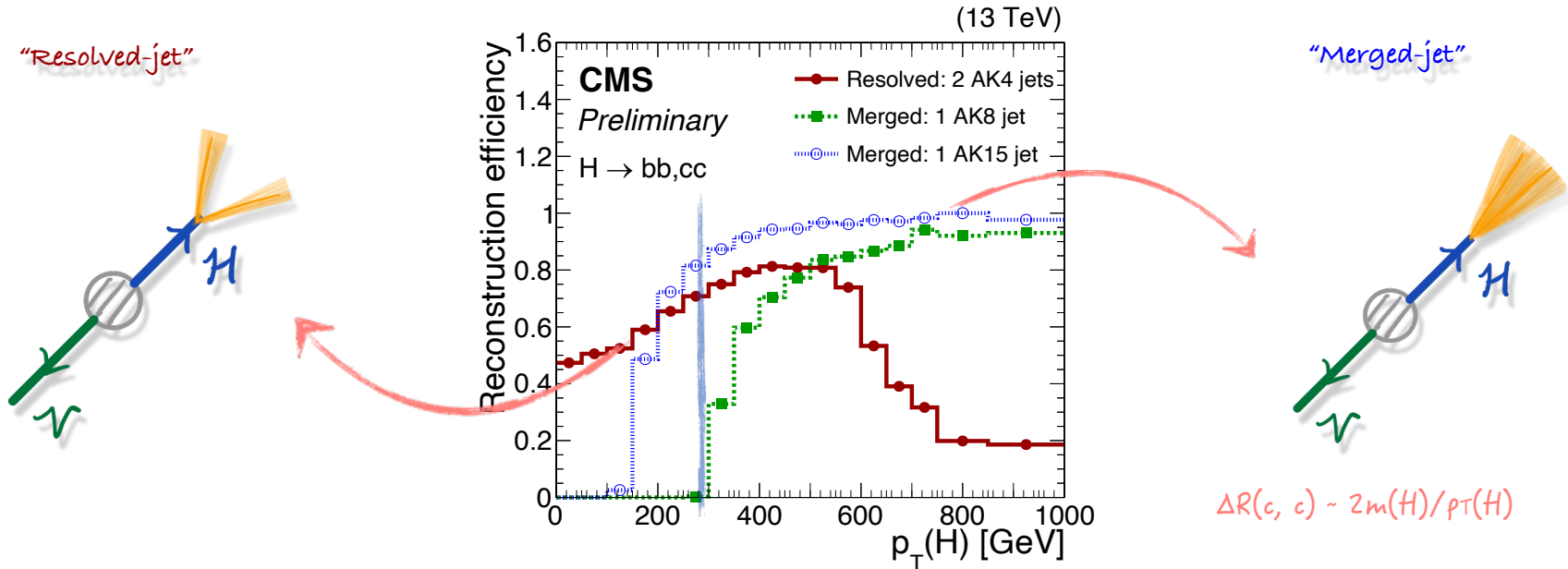
- Postfit distribution of the BDT discriminant obtained with the 2017 data (more in the back-up)
 - 7 Signal regions in each year: 2L(ee/ $\mu\mu$) Low- $p_T(V)$ and High- $p_T(V)$, 1L(e/ μ), and 0L



Results

Combination of the two topologies

- The two topologies are made orthogonal via **presence of AK15 jet with $p_T > 300$ GeV**
 - p_T threshold chosen to maximize expected sensitivity



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

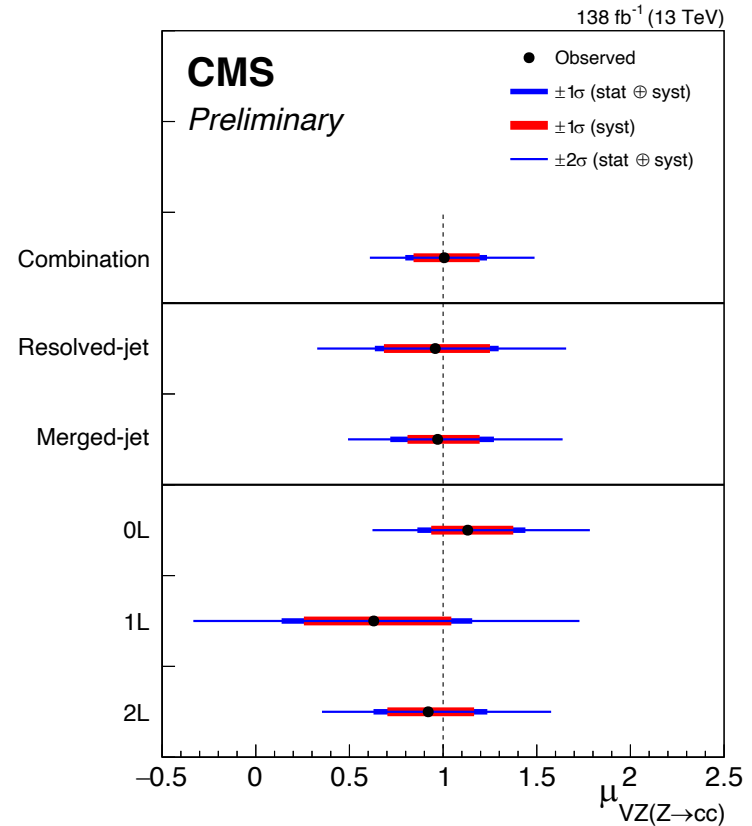
- Same analysis procedure, but extracting VZ(Z→cc) signal in the final fit
- Resolved-jet: retrained BDTs with VZ(Z→cc) as signal
- VH(H→cc) fixed to SM expectation

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

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

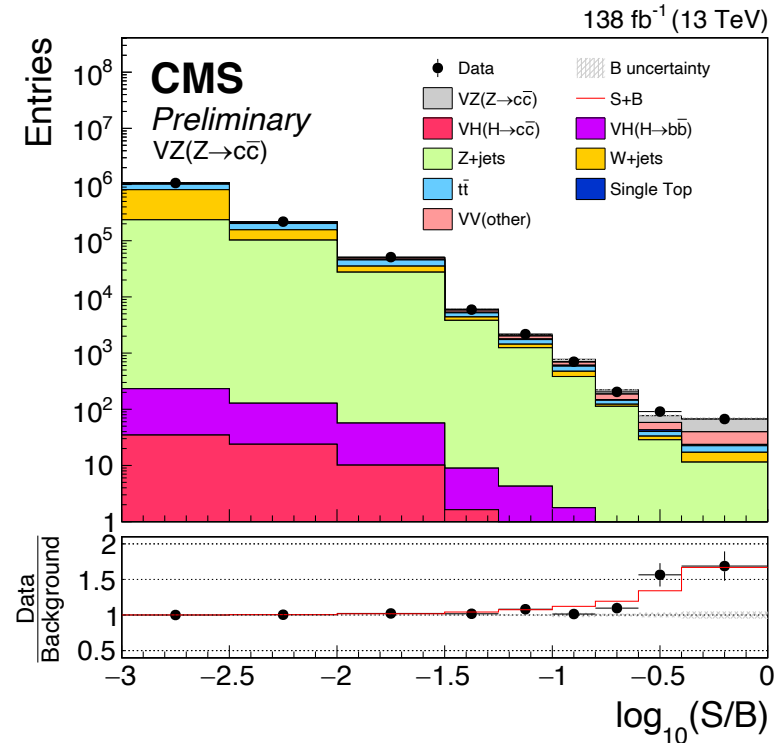
with a significance of 5.7σ (5.9σ)

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



VZ($Z \rightarrow c\bar{c}$) results

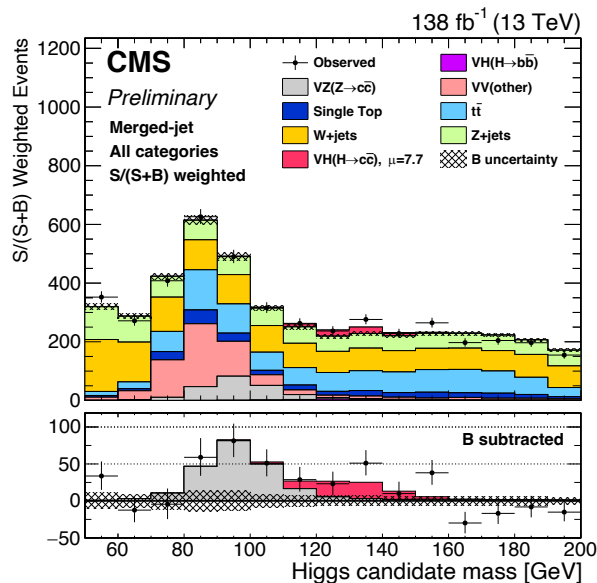
- Observing the excess: distribution of events ordered by $\log_{10}(S/B)$



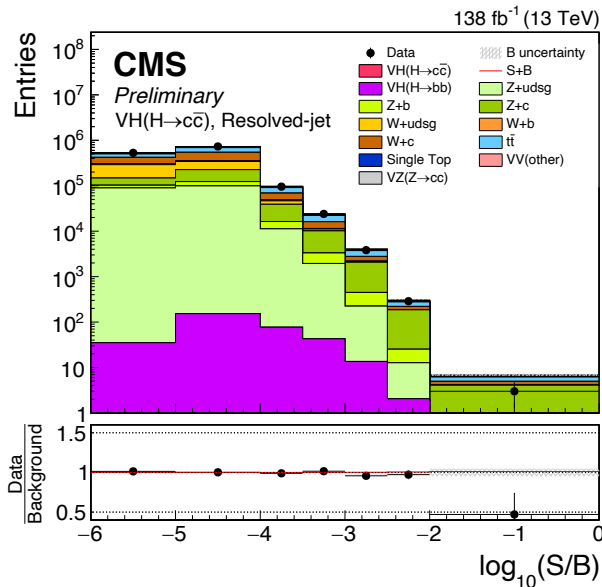
VH(H→cc) results

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

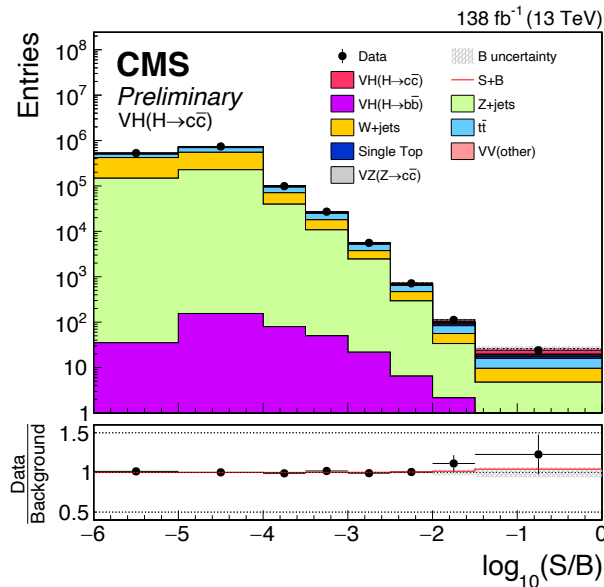
Merged-jet



Resolved-jet



Merged + Resolved



VH(H→cc) results

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

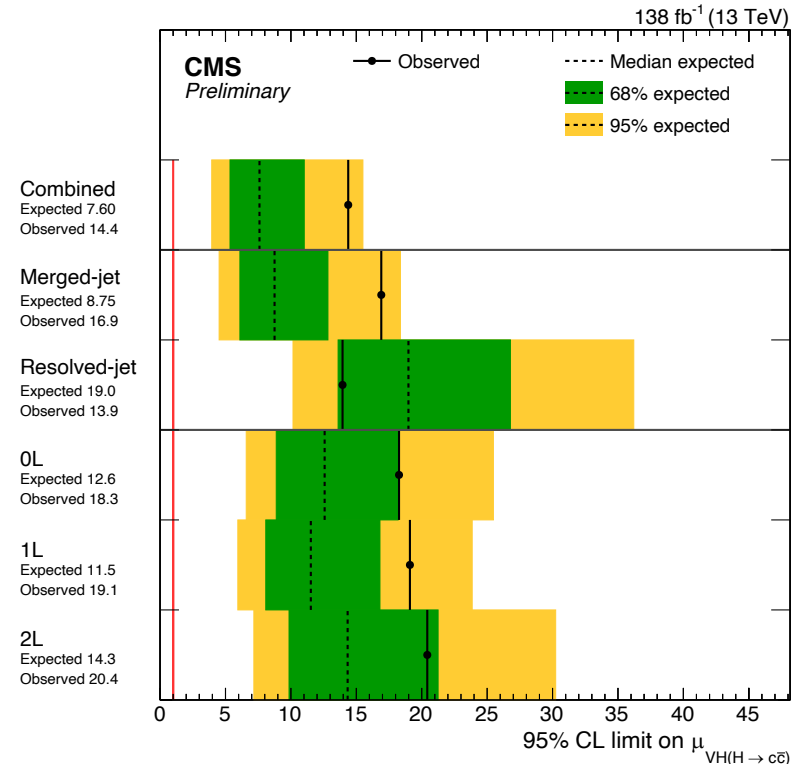
- **Strongest limits on VH(H→cc) process to date!**
- ATLAS Full Run 2 result: $\mu_{\text{VH(H}\rightarrow\text{cc)}} < 26$ (31) [[arXiv:2201.11428](https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.11428)]

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

- 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**



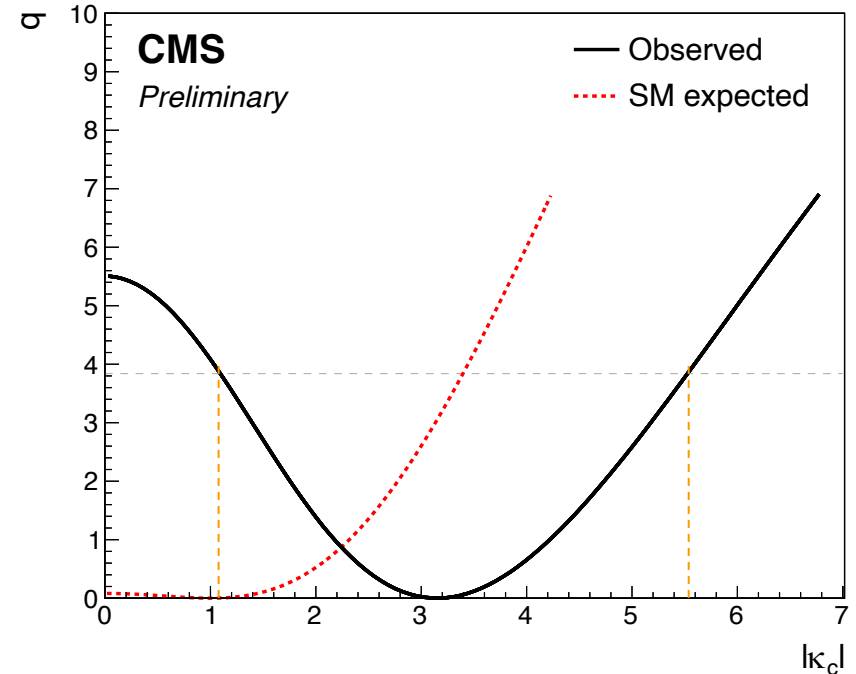
VH(H→cc) results

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**
 - Outperforming indirect measurements of $|\kappa_c| \lesssim 6.2$: [PRD 92 \(2015\) 033016](#)
 - Comparable to the previous projection for HL-LHC [[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2021-039](#)]



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!

The background consists of several overlapping geometric shapes. A large, light blue trapezoidal shape is at the top left. A dark blue trapezoidal shape is at the bottom left, overlapping the light blue one. A white trapezoidal shape is on the right side, overlapping both the light blue and dark blue shapes. The word "Prospects" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font on the dark blue shape.

Prospects

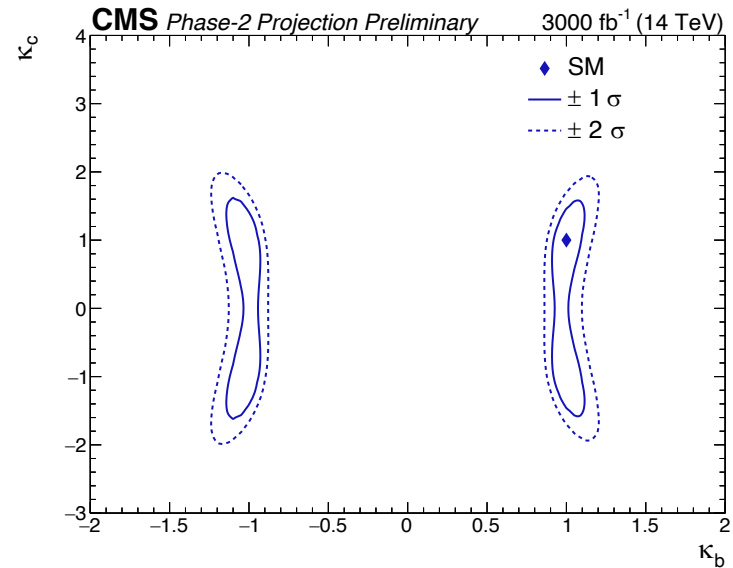
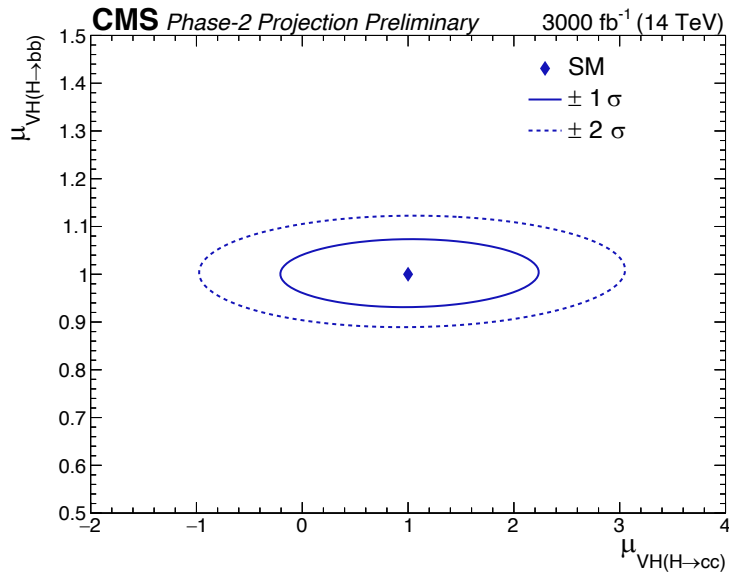
Projection at HL-LHC: Setup

- ❑ 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 $H \rightarrow bb$ and $H \rightarrow cc$
 - addition of 3 categories enriched in $H \rightarrow bb$ 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 $VZ(Z \rightarrow bb)$ and $VZ(Z \rightarrow cc)$ events to ~3% and ~5%
 - misidentification of $H \rightarrow bb$ as $H \rightarrow cc$: a prominent uncertainty on $H \rightarrow cc$ measurement at HL-LHC
 - assumed to be reduced from ~100% (Run 2) to 20% in the projection

Projection at HL-LHC

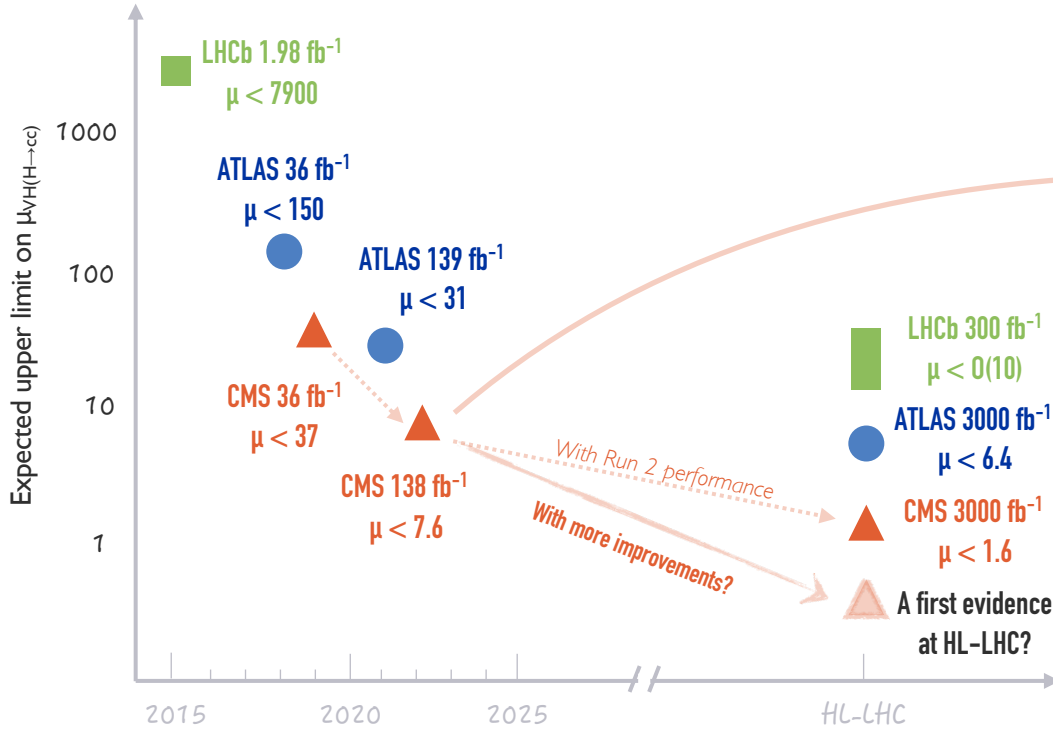
□ Simultaneous extraction of the $H \rightarrow bb$ and $H \rightarrow cc$ signal strengths

- $\mu_{VH(H \rightarrow bb)} = 1.00 \pm 0.03$ (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)

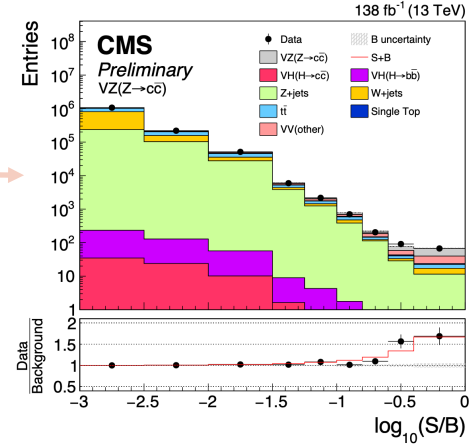


Expected sensitivity approaches the SM value for the Higgs-charm coupling.

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!



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

- More channels: $t\bar{t}H(cc)$, 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!

Backups

H → 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)

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	—
$p_T(V)$	>200	>150	>150
$p_T(H_{\text{cand}})$	>300	>300	>300
$m(H_{\text{cand}})$	50–200	50–200	50–200
$\Delta\phi(V, H_{\text{cand}})$	>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- $p_T(V)$	2L high- $p_T(V)$
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	—	—
$p_T(V)$	>170	>100	60–150	>150
$p_T(H_{\text{cand}})$	>120	>100	—	—
$m(H_{\text{cand}})$	<250	<250	<250	<250
$\Delta\phi(V, H_{\text{cand}})$	>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 $\mu_{\text{VH}(H \rightarrow c\bar{c})}$ in the merged-jet analysis, with a best fit value $\mu_{\text{VH}(H \rightarrow c\bar{c})} = 8.7^{+4.6}_{-4.0}$.

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%

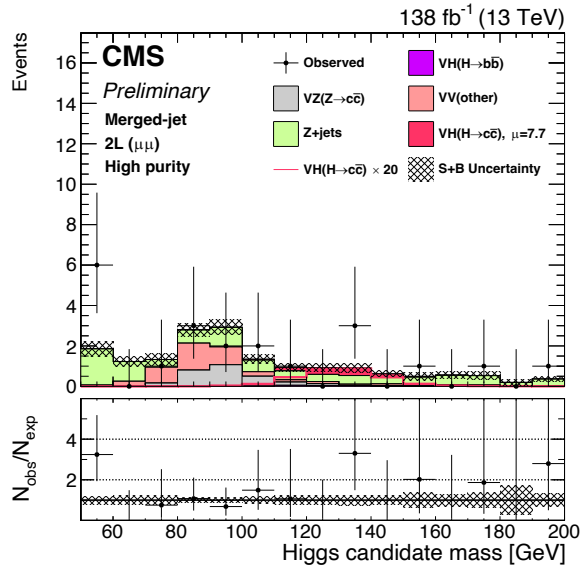
Resolved-jet topology

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

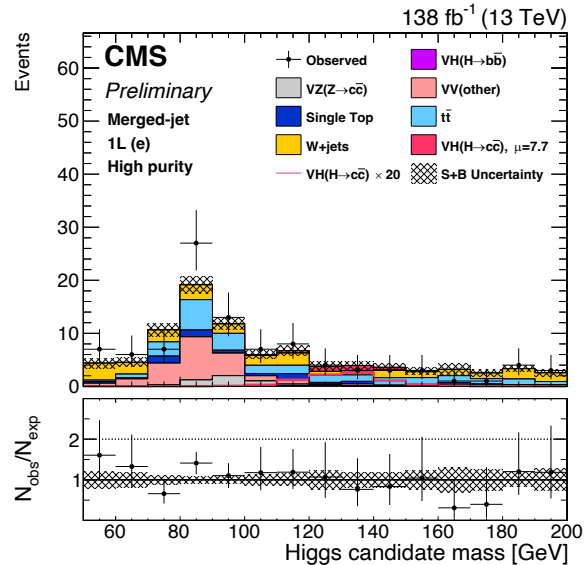
Uncertainty source	$\Delta\mu / (\Delta\mu)_{\text{tot}}$
Statistical	66%
Background normalizations	28%
Experimental	72%
Sizes of the simulated samples	59%
Charm identification efficiencies	27%
Jet energy scale and resolution	17%
Simulation modeling	20%
Luminosity	13%
Lepton identification efficiencies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

Merged-jet topology: signal regions

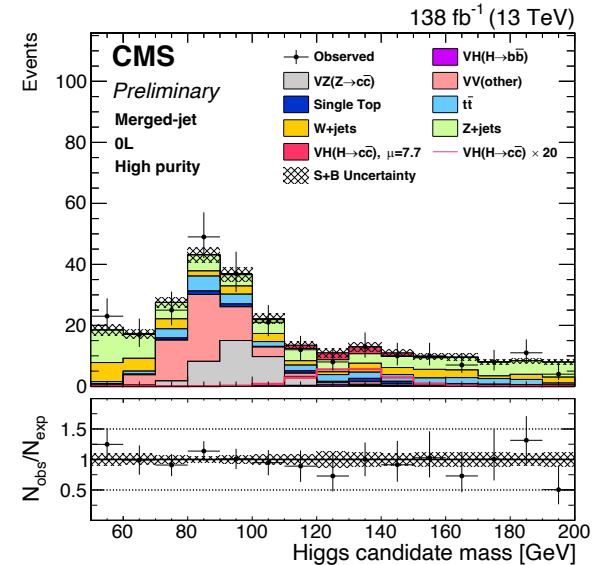
2L($\mu\mu$), high cc-purity



1L(e), high cc-purity

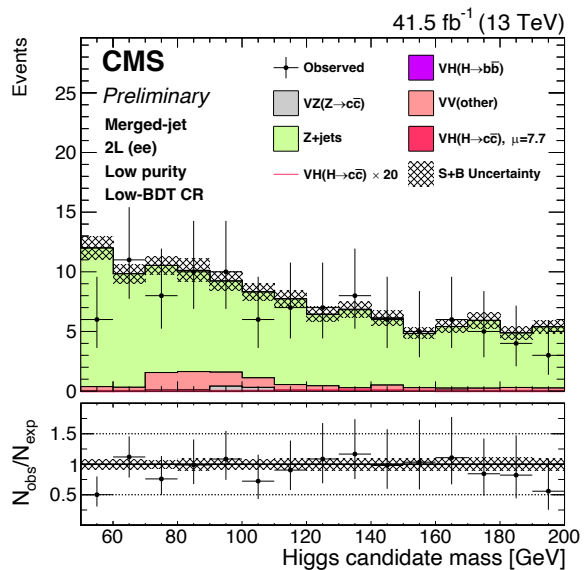


0L, high cc-purity

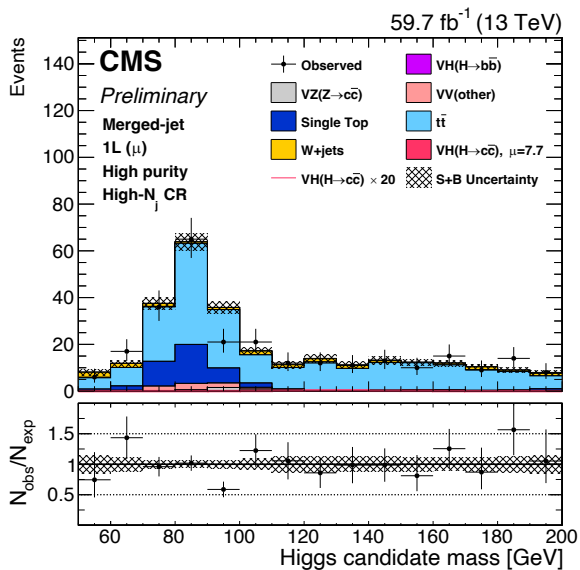


Merged-jet topology: control regions

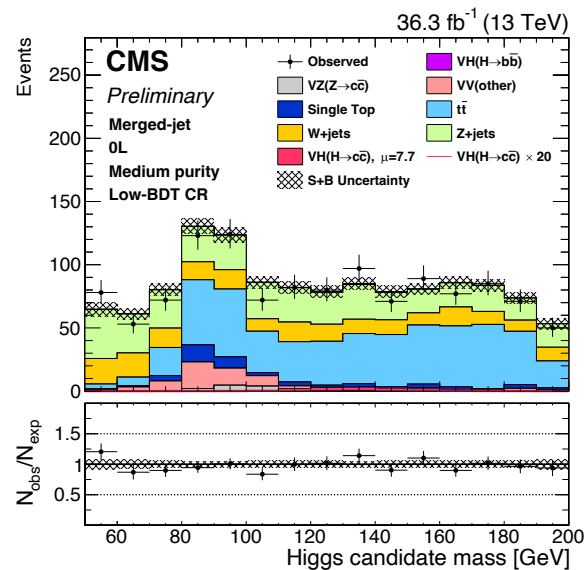
2L(ee), V+jets CR, low cc-purity



1L(μ), tt CR, high cc-purity

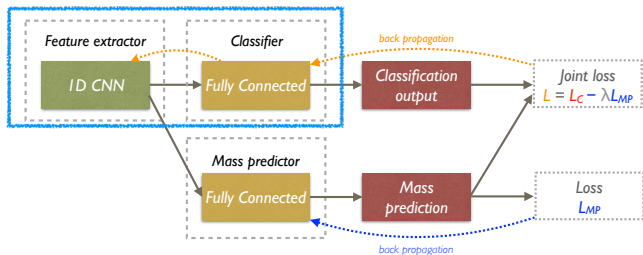


0L, V+jets CR, medium cc-purity

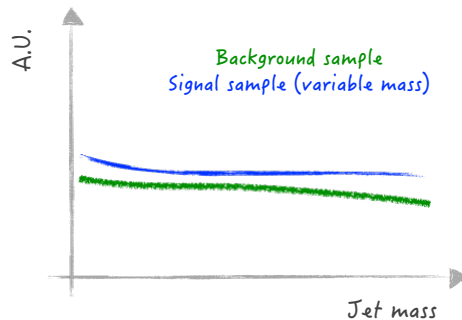


Comparison of mass decorrelation methods

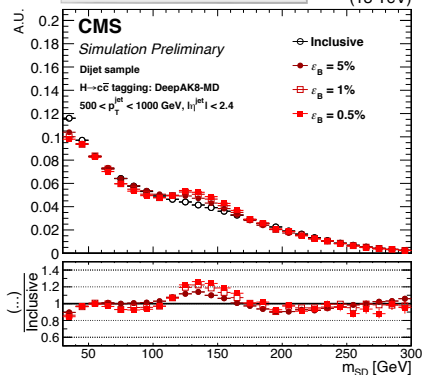
DeepAK8-MD



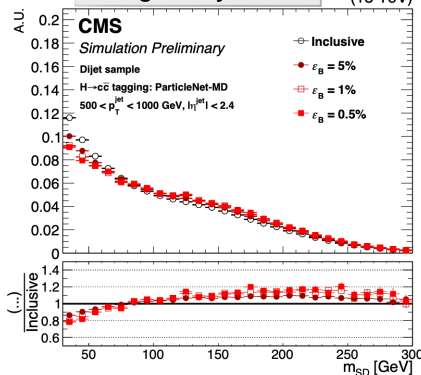
ParticleNet-MD



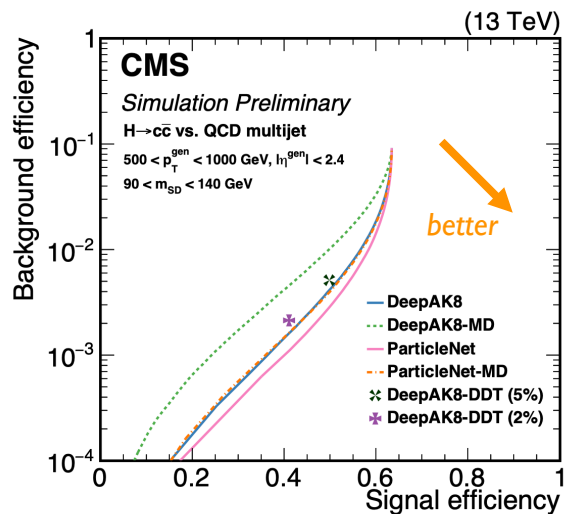
Background jet mass



Background jet mass



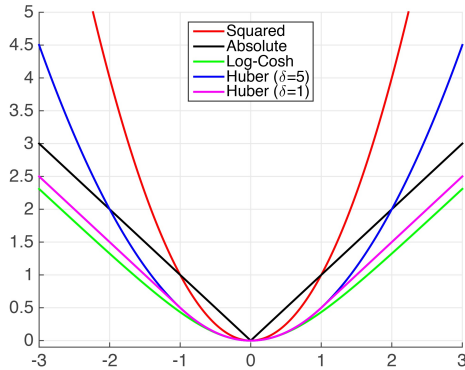
H to cc tagging performance



Large-R jet mass regression

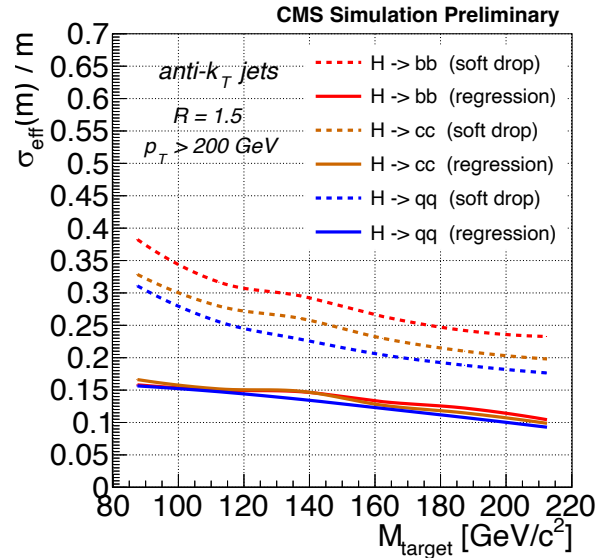
Loss function: LogCosh

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

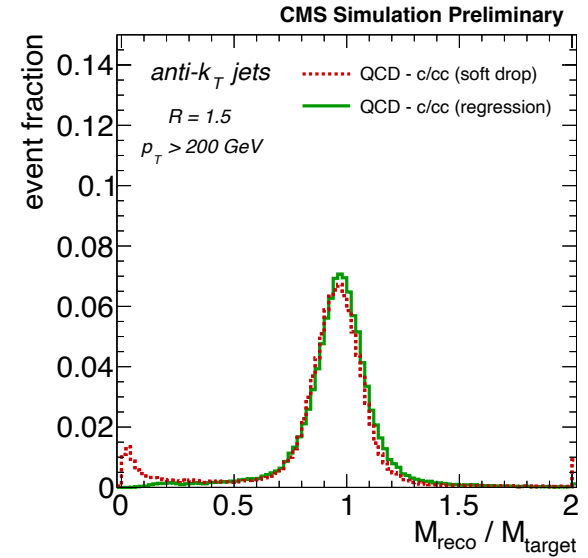


<https://www.cs.cornell.edu/courses/cs4780/2015fa/web/lecturenotes/lecturenote10.html>

Signal jet mass resolution

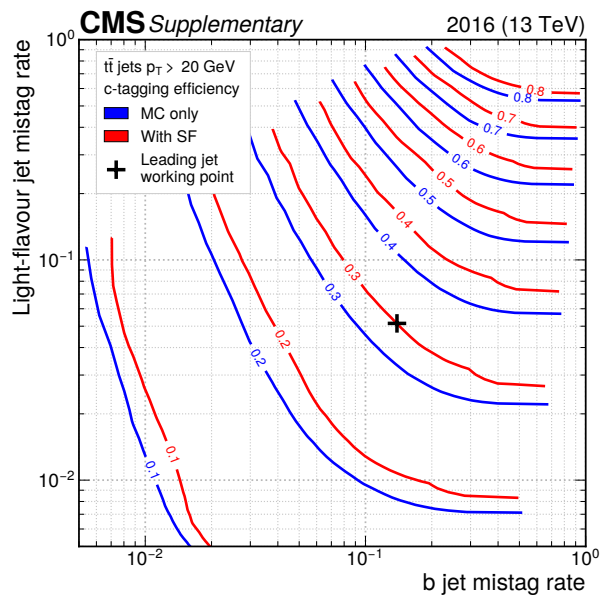


Background jet mass response

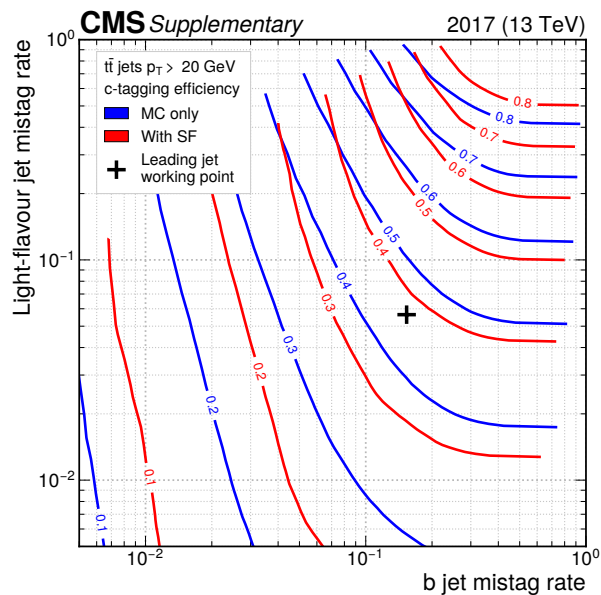


C-tagger ROC curves

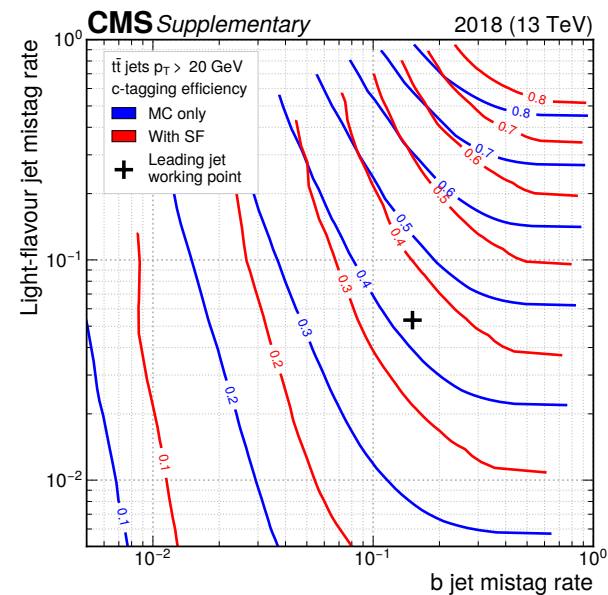
2016



2017



2018

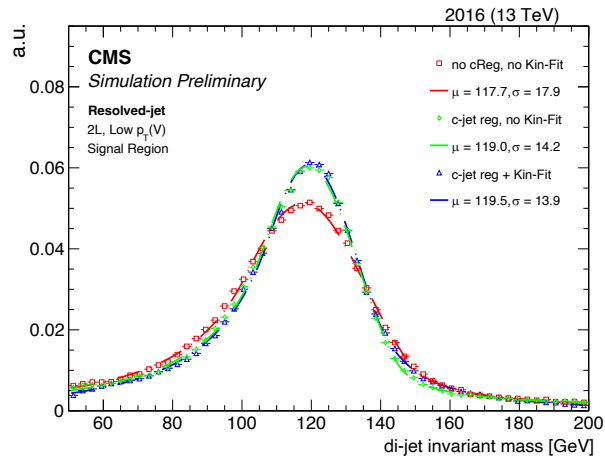


- CMS c-tagging WP: ~40% (c), ~16% (b), ~4% (light)
- ATLAS c-tagging WP [[arXiv:2201.11428](https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.11428)]: 27% (c), 8% (b), 1.6% (light)

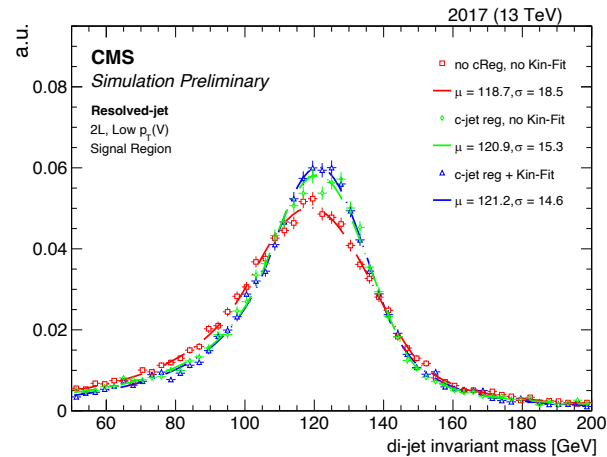
C-jet energy regression and kinematic fit

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

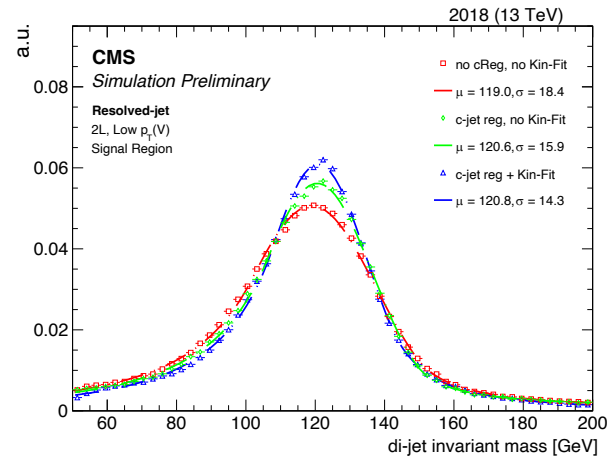
2016



2017



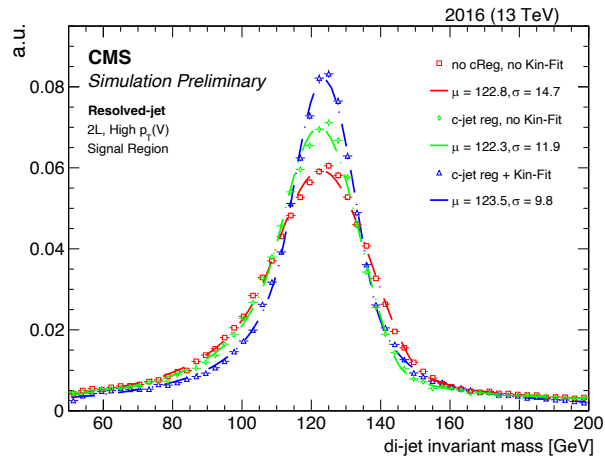
2018



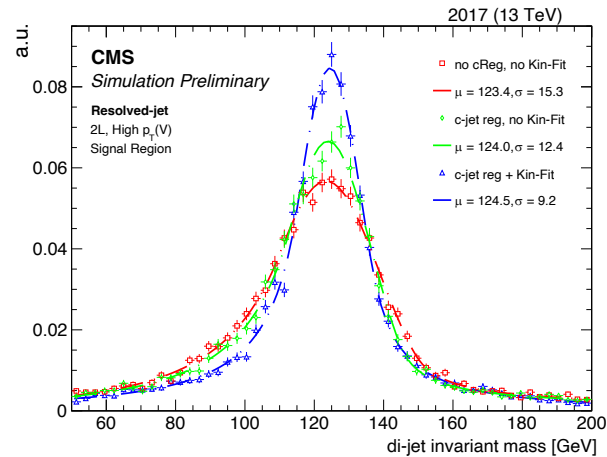
C-jet energy regression and kinematic fit

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

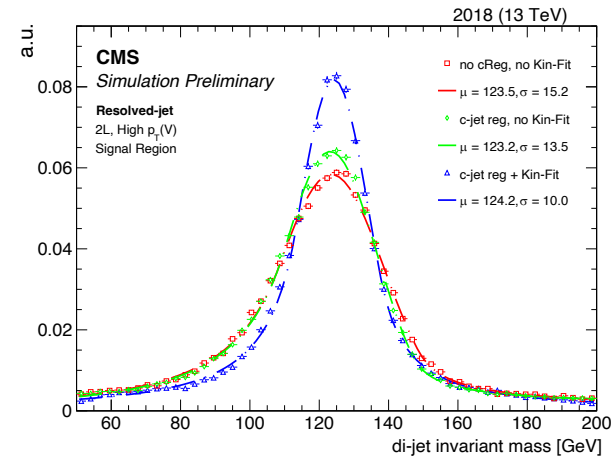
2016



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:

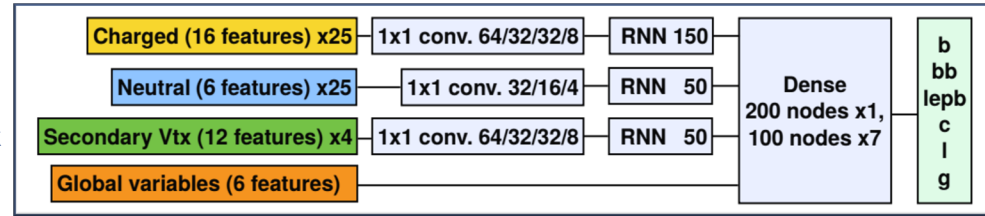
- Separate 1D CNNs to process three low-level feature classes
 - For each class, concatenate multiple CNNs with decreasing dimensions
 - Compress the features to lower dimensional space
- RNNs (LSTM type) applied after CNNs
 - Better handles the variable length sequence (PF candidates/SV)
- Fully connected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

❑ Input variables:

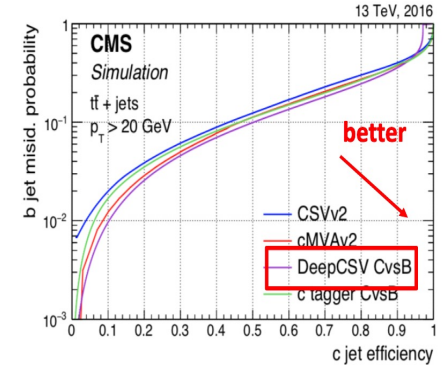
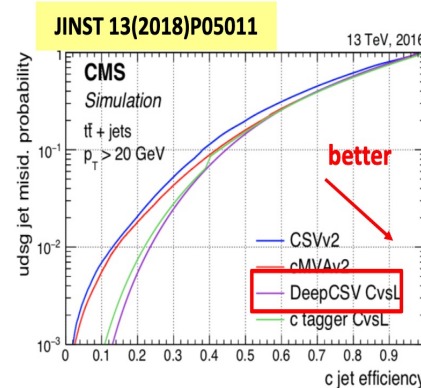
- Properties of PF-candidates
- Global jet features
- Secondary vertices

❑ 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

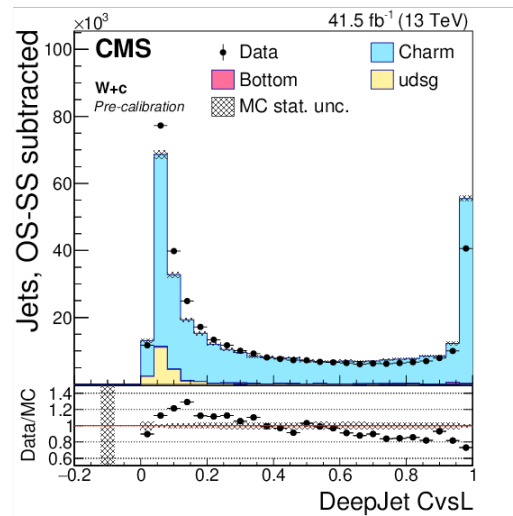
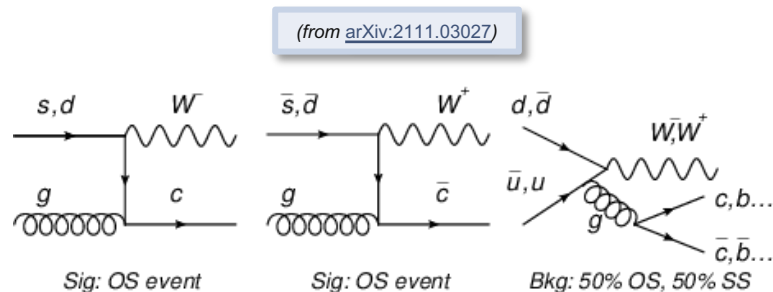
DeepJet algorithm calibration

Methodology

- Iterative approach exploiting three distinct control regions that are enriched with either b-jets, c-jets, or light-flavour and gluon jets
- First time that a calibration method to correct the 2D distribution of c-tagging discriminator shapes is presented → [arXiv:2111.03027](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.03027) (accepted by JINST)

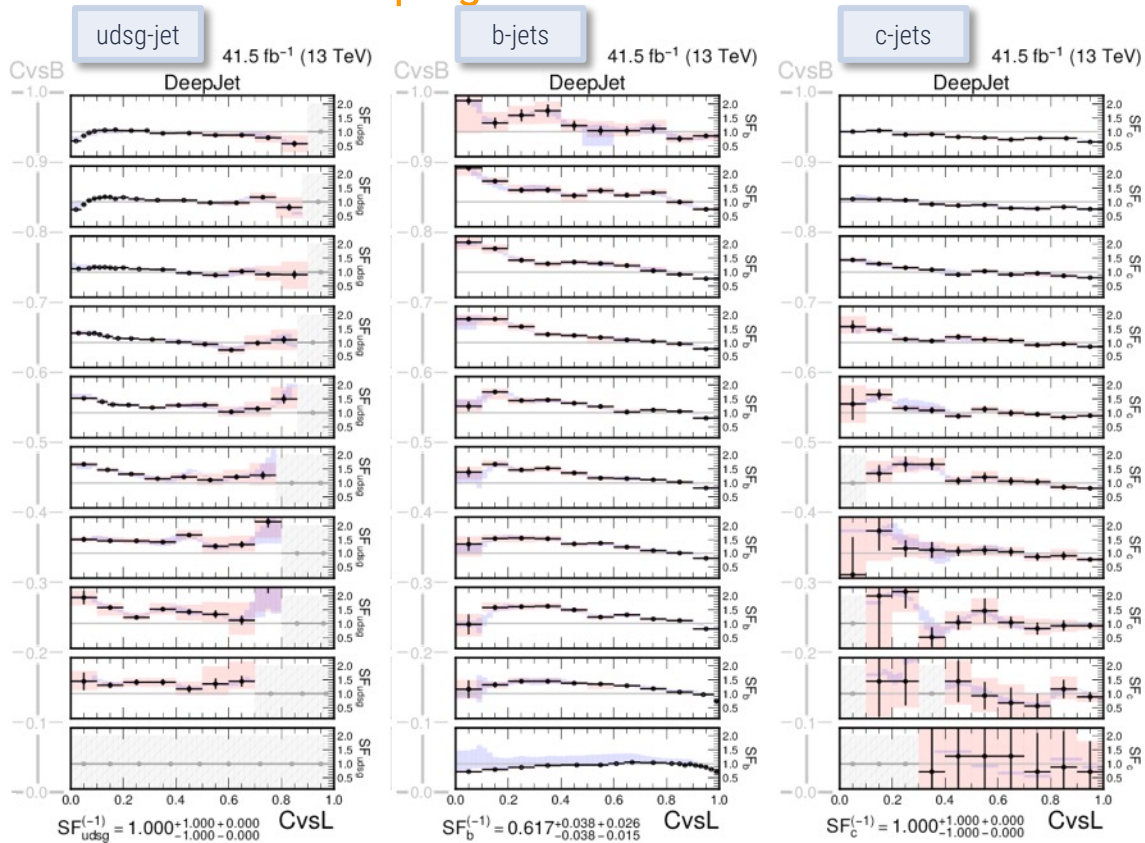
Search for an abundant and pure source of charm-jets

- Target W production in association with charm quarks
 - The relevant events involve a leptonically decaying W boson and a c-jet
 - These c-jets are identified using the semileptonic decay of the charmed hadrons, which produces a soft muon within the jet
- 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, the semi-(di-)leptonic $t\bar{t}$ +jets and $DY(Z\rightarrow\mu\mu/ee)$ +jets processes are considered



A new method to calibrate charm-taggers

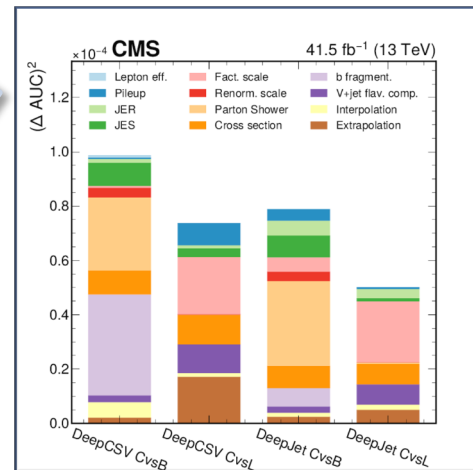
Extraction of reshaping data-to-simulation scale factors



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

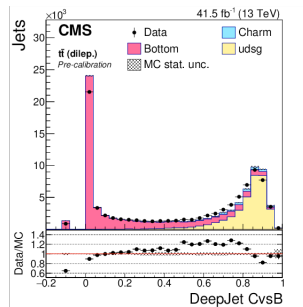
(from [arXiv:2111.03027](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.03027))

- 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 $t\bar{t}$ 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

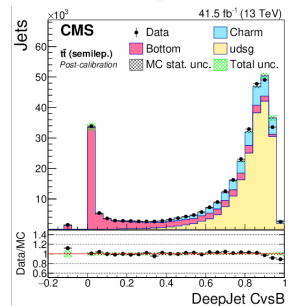
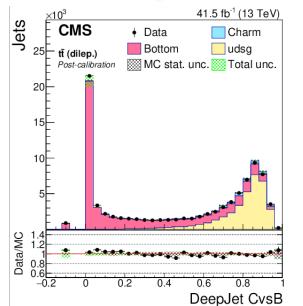
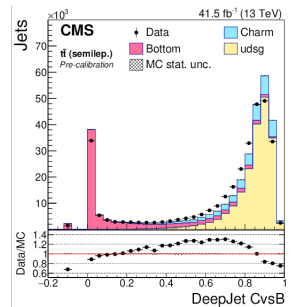


All the checks shown no bias in the SFs derivation

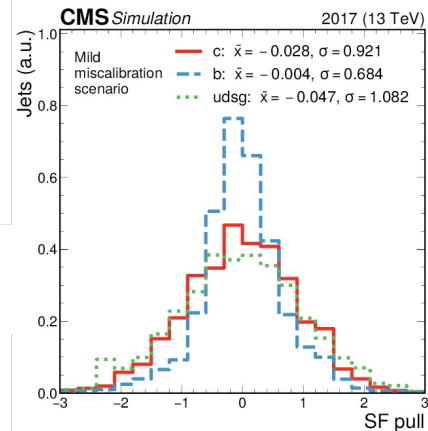
Only di-lep. $t\bar{t}$
No soft- μ -in-jet



Only semi-lep. $t\bar{t}$
No soft- μ -in-jet



Bias test – pull distribution



A dedicated charm-jet energy regression

Goal: improve c -jet energy scale and resolution

Inspired by b-jet energy regression [arXiv:1912.06046]

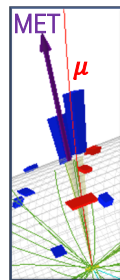
- Jet energy measurements not always accurate:
 - loss of neutrinos, hadrons outside jet radius. Effect enhanced in c -jets and b -jets
- Dedicated algorithm to determine c -jet energy scale and resolution
- Algorithm pioneered for the observation of the $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ decay mode

Regression performed using DNN architecture:

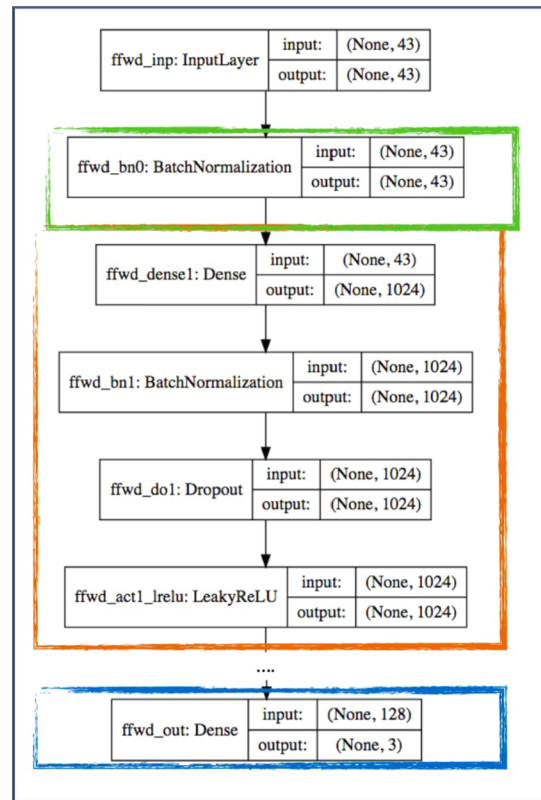
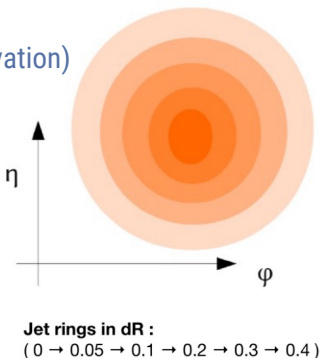
- Feed-forward fully connected Deep NN (neurons with Leaky ReLU activation)
 - 6 hidden layers + batch normalization + dropout
- Trained using c -jets collected from $W \rightarrow c\bar{q}$ decays in $t\bar{t}$ MC events
- Target is represented by $p_T(\text{gen})/p_T(\text{reco})$

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, $p_T(\text{jet})/p_T(\text{lepton})$



Charm-jet



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	✓	✓	—
$CvsL_{\text{max}}$	$CvsL$ value of the leading $CvsL$ jet	✓	✓	✓
$CvsB_{\text{max}}$	$CvsB$ value of the leading $CvsL$ jet	✓	✓	✓
$CvsL_{\text{min}}$	$CvsL$ value of the subleading $CvsL$ jet	✓	✓	✓
$CvsB_{\text{min}}$	$CvsB$ value of the subleading $CvsL$ jet	✓	✓	✓
$p_{T\text{max}}$	p_T of the leading $CvsL$ jet	✓	✓	✓
$p_{T\text{min}}$	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	—	—	✓
$\Delta\phi(\ell_1, p_T^{\text{miss}})$	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	—	✓	—
$N_{\text{small-}R}^{\text{aj}}$	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	✓	✓	✓
$\Delta\eta(V, H) _{\text{kinfit}}$	difference in pseudorapidity between vector boson and H, after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$\Delta\phi(V, H) _{\text{kinfit}}$	azimuthal angle between vector boson and H, after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$m(H) _{\text{kinfit}}$	H mass after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$p_T(H) _{\text{kinfit}}$	H transverse momentum after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$p_{T\text{max}} _{\text{kinfit}}$	p_T of the leading $CvsL$ jet after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$p_{T\text{min}} _{\text{kinfit}}$	p_T of the subleading $CvsL$ jet after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$p_T(V)/p_T(H) _{\text{kinfit}}$	ratio between vector boson and H transverse momenta after kinematic-fit	—	—	✓
$\sigma(H) _{\text{kinfit}}$	H invariant mass resolution from kinematic fit	—	—	✓

Higgs and vector boson properties

❑ BDT trained to separate signal from background samples

- Use combination of kinematic observables and particle flavor variables (tagger informations)

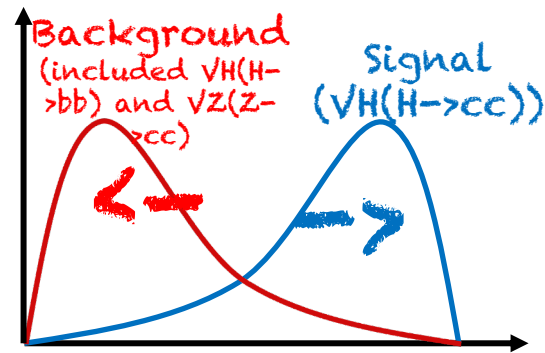
c-tagging score

❑ 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

event kinematics

❑ Reshaped BDT distribution used in SR during final fit

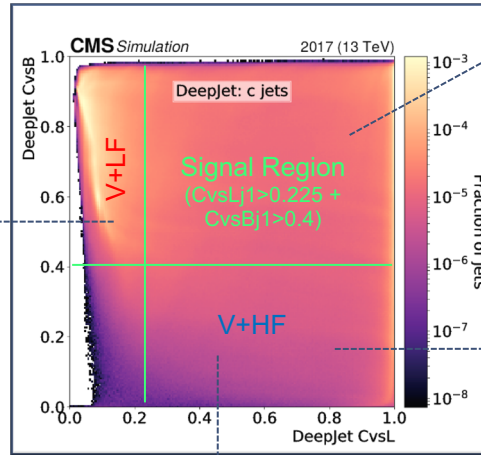
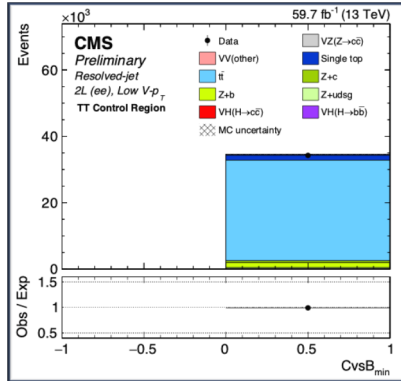
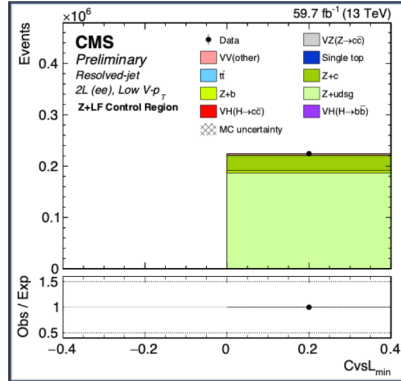


Kinfit Variables (2L only)

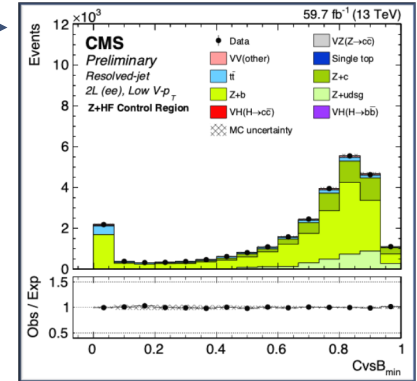
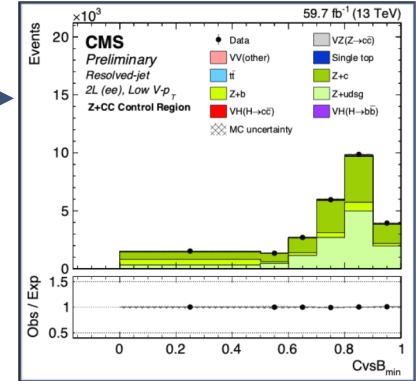
Background estimation – Resolved-jet

□ 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



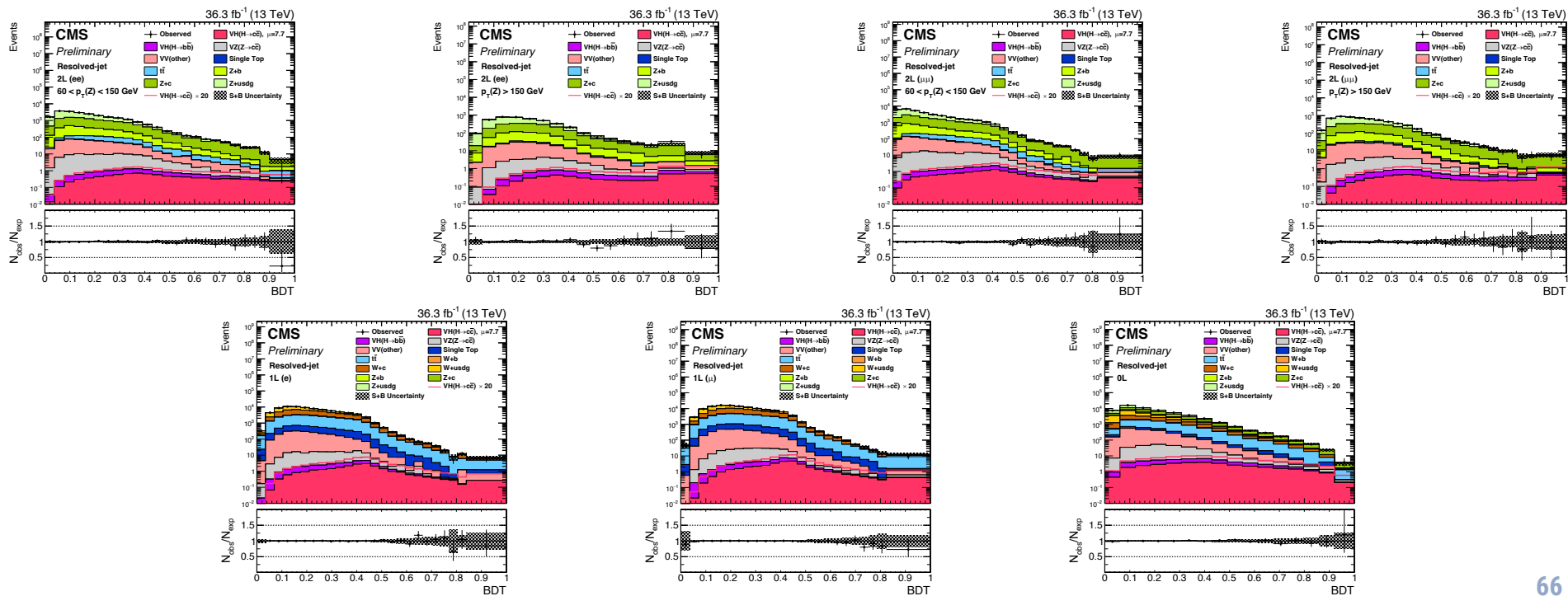
$t\bar{t}$
 ()
 Invert Z mass (2L)
 Require add jet (1L)*
 Require add ℓ and jets (0L)

*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

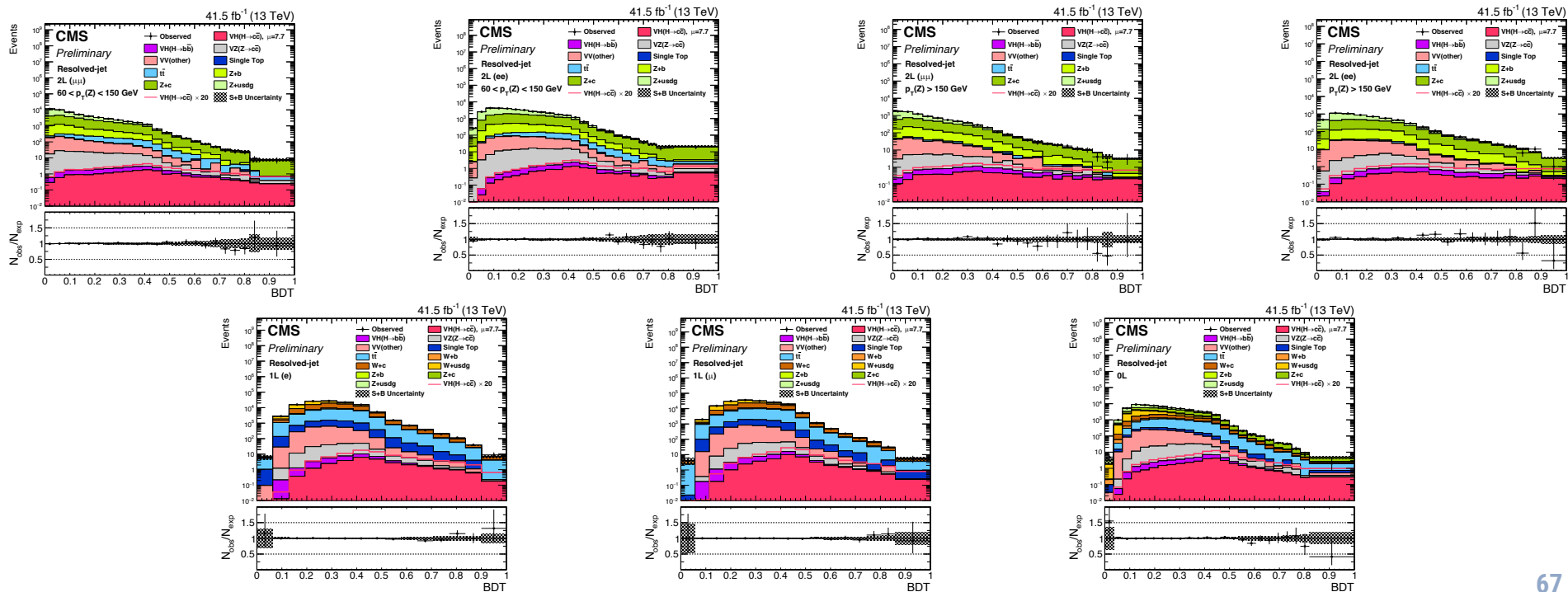
- 7 Signal regions in each year: 2L(ee/ μ) Low- p_T (V) and -High- p_T (V), 1L(e/ μ) and 0L



Postfit plots – Signal regions - 2017

Postfit distribution of the BDT discriminant obtained with the 2017 data

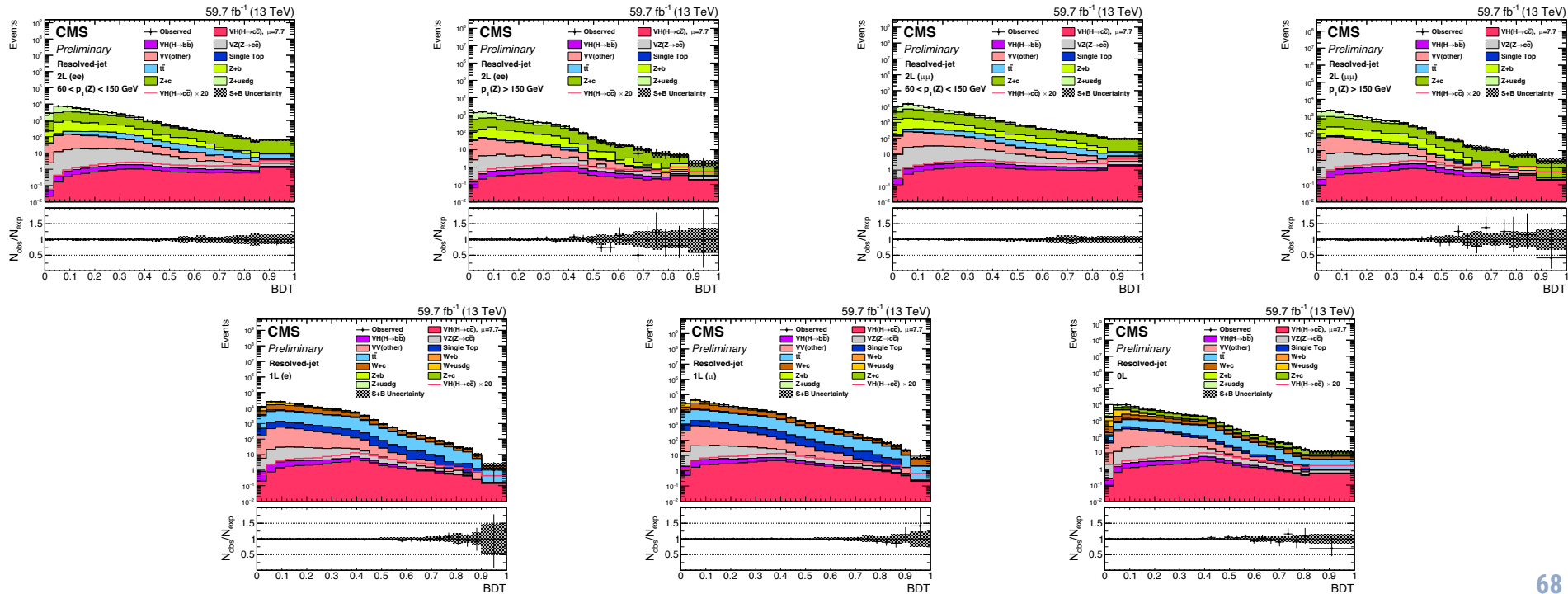
- 7 Signal regions in each year: 2L(ee/ μ) Low- $p_T(V)$ and -High- $p_T(V)$, 1L(e/ μ) and 0L



Postfit plots – Signal regions - 2018

Postfit distribution of the BDT discriminant obtained with the 2018 data

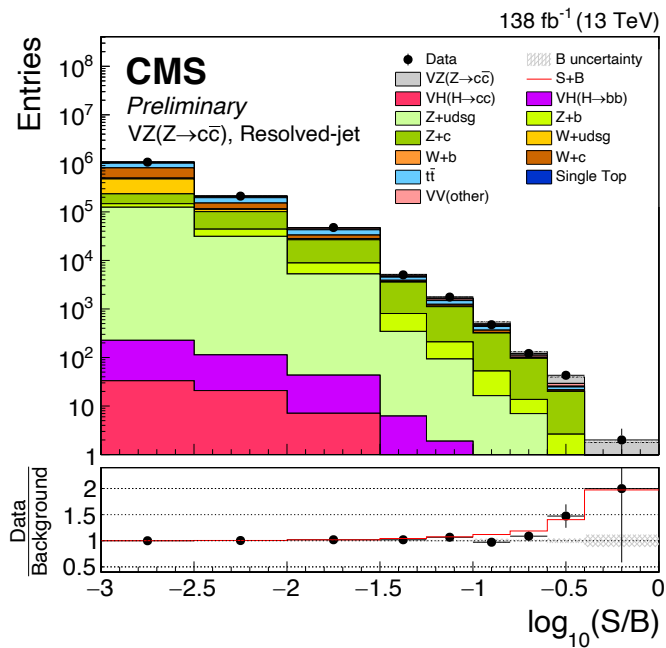
- 7 Signal regions in each year: 2L(ee/ μ) Low- p_T (V) and -High- p_T (V), 1L(e/ μ) and 0L



Resolved-jet topology - results

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

VZ(cc)



VH(cc)

