

# Measurements of the Higgs boson decaying into heavy flavored quarks at the CMS Experiment



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On behalf of the CMS Collaboration



# Outlook

01

**Boosted  
ggHbb**

High pt Higgs boson  
measurement with  
bottom pairs in final state

02

**Boosted  
ggHcc**

High pt Higgs boson  
measurement with  
charm pairs in final state

03

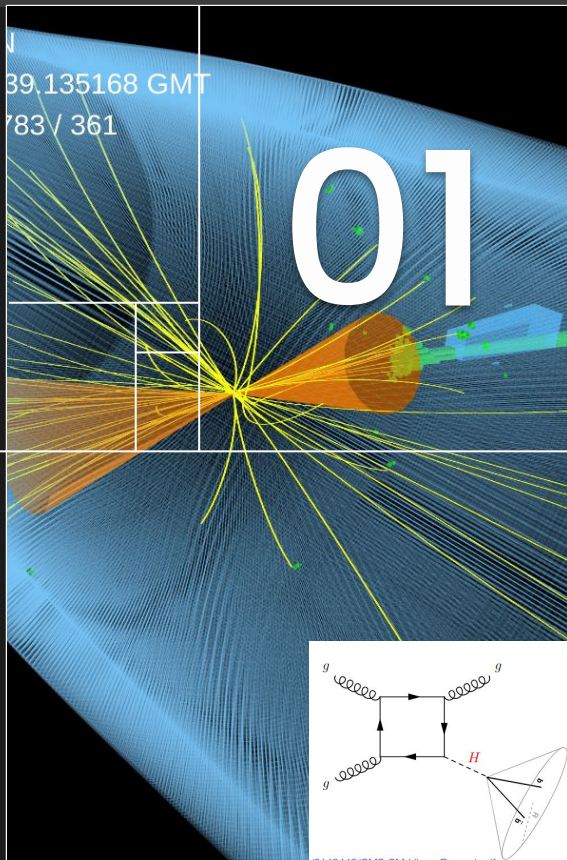
**Inclusive  
VHcc**

Boosted and resolved  
measurement of Higgs boson  
produced with W/Z decaying  
into charm pairs

04

**Inclusive  
VHbb**

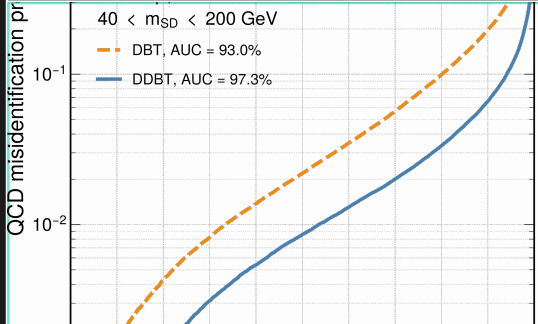
Boosted and resolved  
measurement of Higgs boson  
produced with W/Z decaying  
into bottom pairs



# Boosted ggHbb

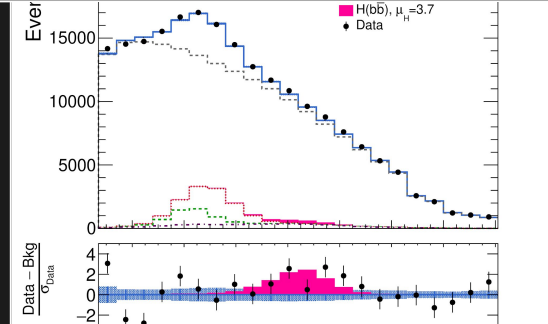
Inclusive search for highly boosted Higgs bosons  
decaying to a bottom quark-antiquark pair  
JHEP 12 (2020) 085 (CMS-HIG-19-003)

Measurement using  $137 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of data collected by the CMS Collaboration at 13 TeV. Using state-of-the-art object reconstruction and background estimation techniques.



### Bkg Estimation

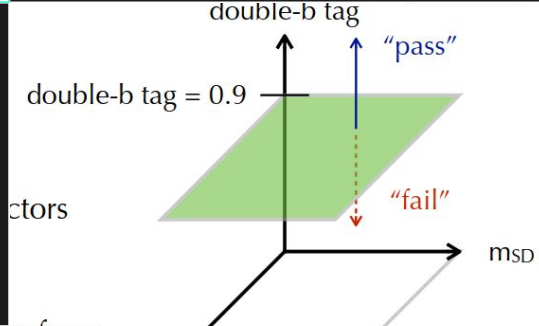
Rhaphabet method profits of regions with higher stats to model bkg.



SILFAE 2022

### Improved tagger

A machine-learning based tagger improved the sensitivity of the search



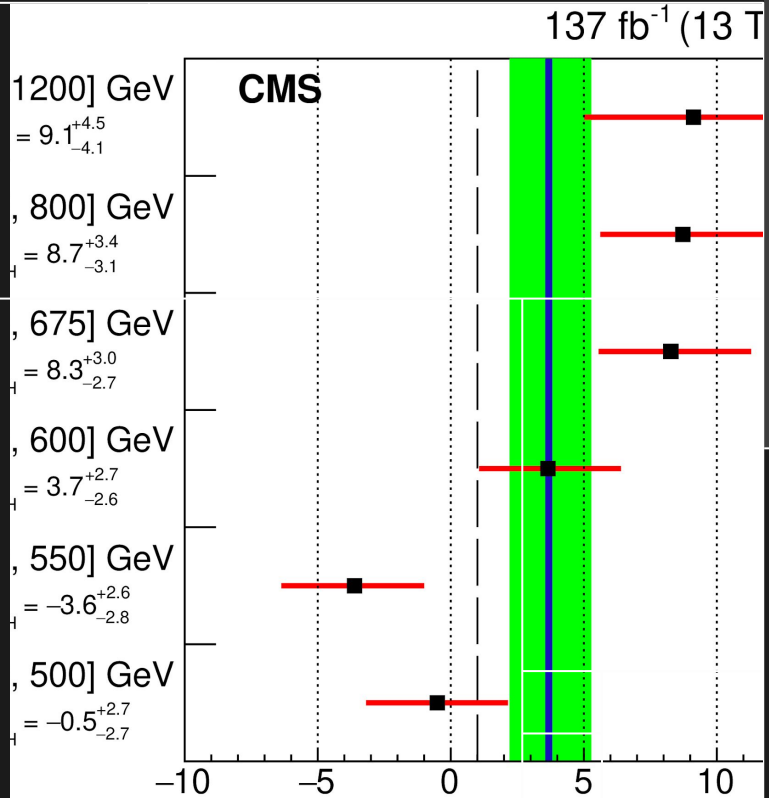
### Jet Mass

Improved jet mass modelling with PUPPI+Softdrop

ETH Zurich - A.G.E.

The observed significance of the ggHbb process is 2.5 standard deviations!

- The inclusive signal strength ( $\mu$ ) is measured to be  $3.7 +1.6/-1.5$ .
- It represents an improve of a factor of two with respect to previous results.
- Largest source of uncertainty comes from the modelling of the QCD background (stats) and V+jets (theory).



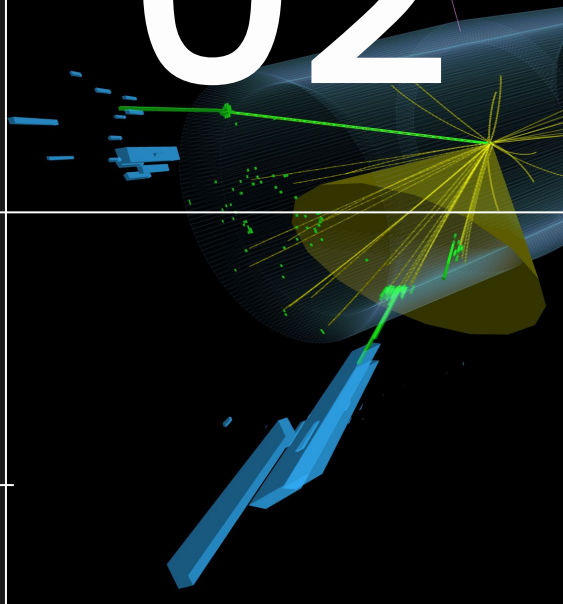
# Boosted ggHcc

Inclusive search for a boosted Higgs boson and an observation of the Z boson decaying to charm quark pair  
([CMS-PAS-HIG-21-012](#))

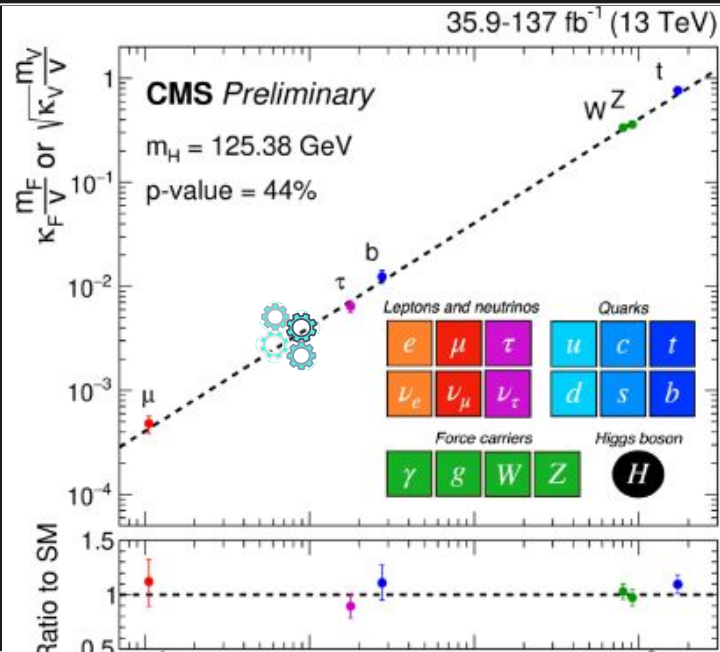
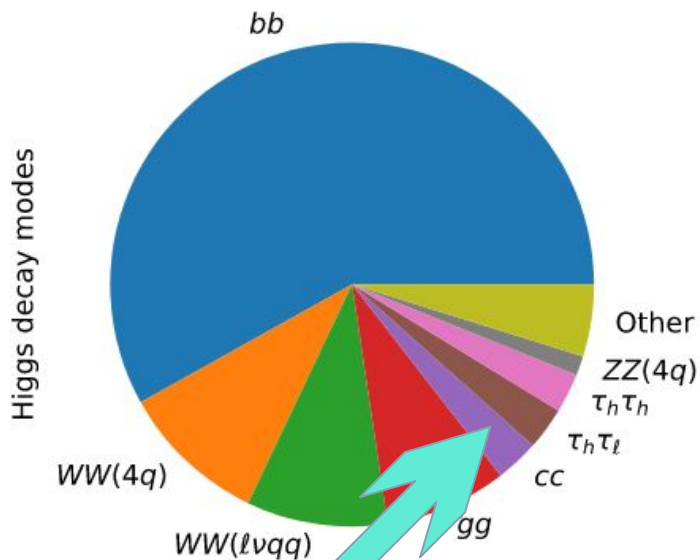


CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN  
Data recorded: 2017-Aug-05 13:32  
Run / Event / LS: 300515 / 205888

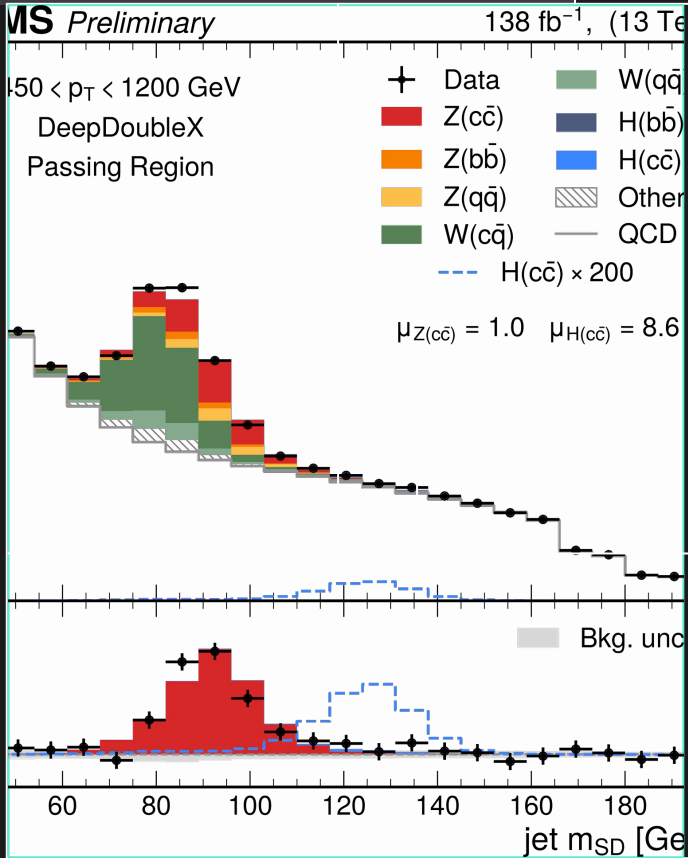
# 02



# Why $H \rightarrow cc$ is important?







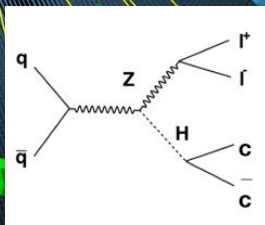
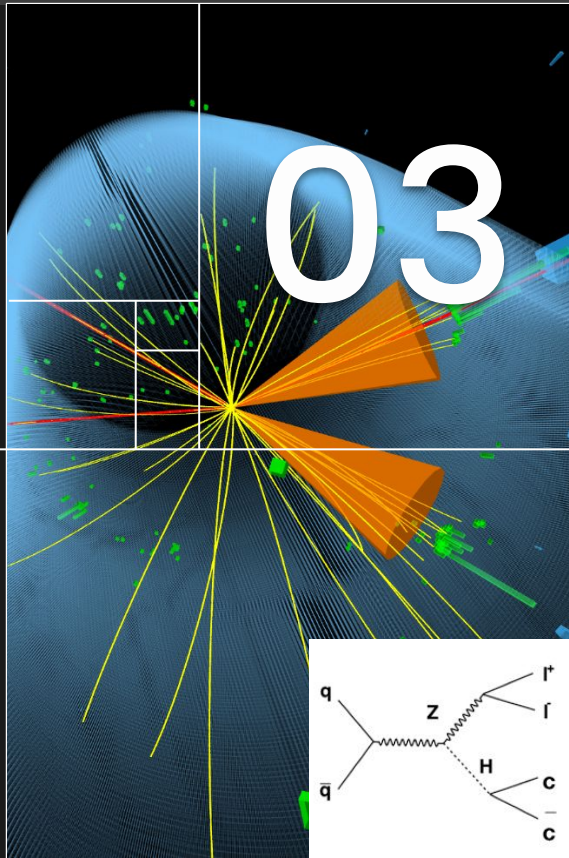
- Similar approach than ggHbb.
- **ML-based** Hcc tagger improves the sensitivity of the search.
- Rhalphabet data-driven method provides good QCD estimation.
- Residual QCD simulation is the highest source of uncertainty.
- Zcc process measured **well over 5  $\sigma$** .
- Hcc observed signal strength is 45 the SM prediction.

It is the **first time** that the Zcc process in Z+jet is observed in hadron colliders.



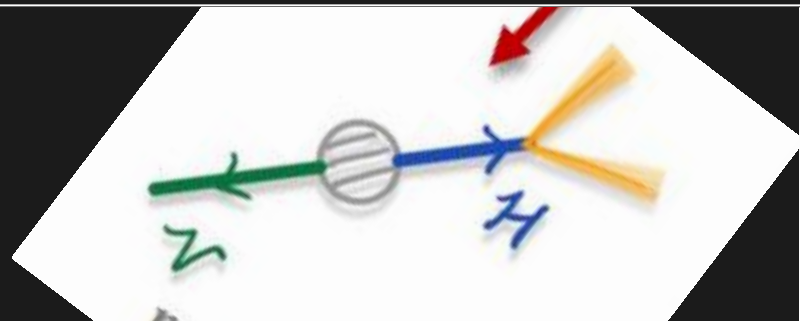
03

# Inclusive VHcc



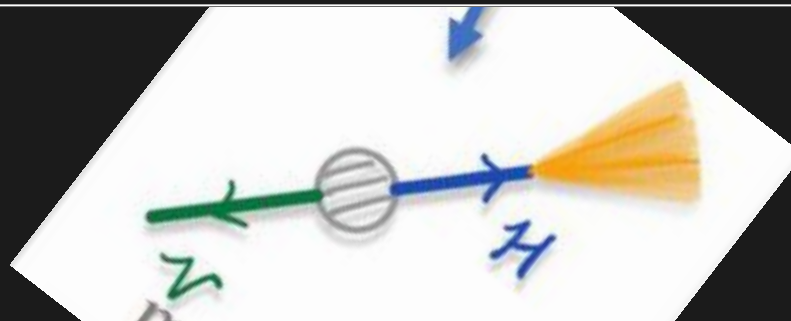
Search for Higgs boson decay to a charm quark-antiquark pair ([CMS-HIG-21-008](#))

# Inclusive search



## Resolved analysis

Exploit the **low transverse momentum** of the Higgs decays. Reconstruction with **smaller** cone-size jets (AK4).



## Merged analysis

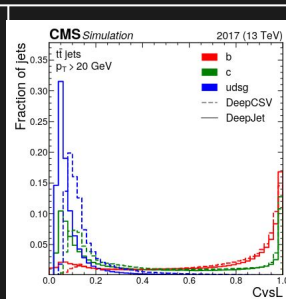
Exploit the **high transverse momentum** of the higgs decays. Reconstruction with **larger** cone-size jets (AK15).

Both analyses are further divided into 3 channels according to the V decay: 0, 1, 2 leptons.

# Resolved VHcc

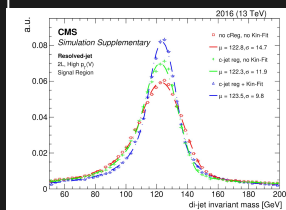
## Charm tagging

Multiclassifier DNN (CNN+RNN) separating c-, b-, udsg-jets



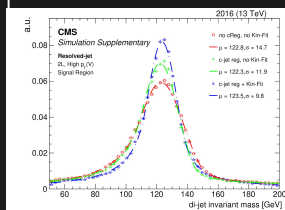
## C-jet energy regression

DNN regression to recover energy lost from neutrinos



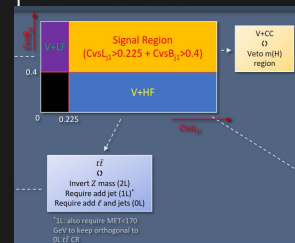
## Kinematic fit

In 2 lepton channel, exploit kinematic constraints of collision



## Bkg estimation

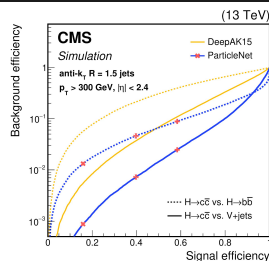
Dedicated control regions by inverting c-tagging selection



# Merged VHcc

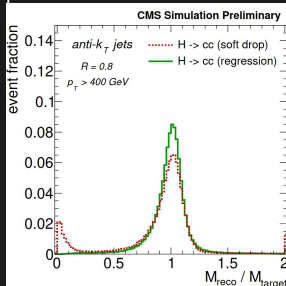
## cc tagging

Graph neural network (GNN) to exploit substructure and flavor



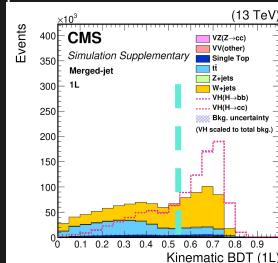
## Mass regression

Similar GNN architecture, reduce mass dependency



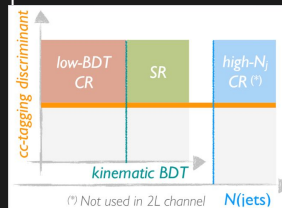
## Kinematic BDT

Separate VH and bkg events. Output used to define signal and control regions



## Bkg estimation

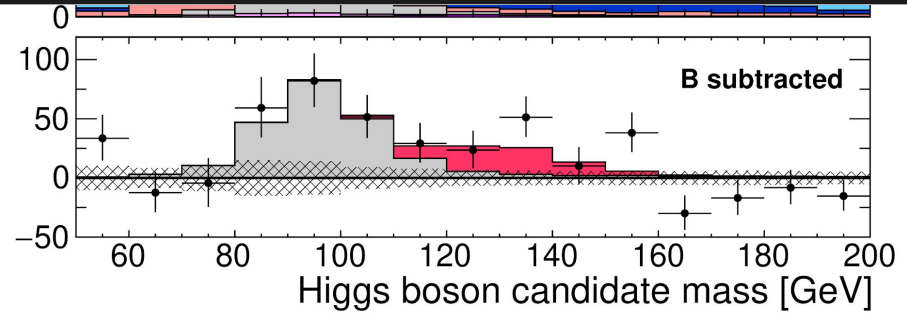
Dedicated control regions by inverting c-tagging selection



# Most stringent constraint to date ●

## Z/Higgs mass

Zcc process in VZ events reach a **5.7 significance**.



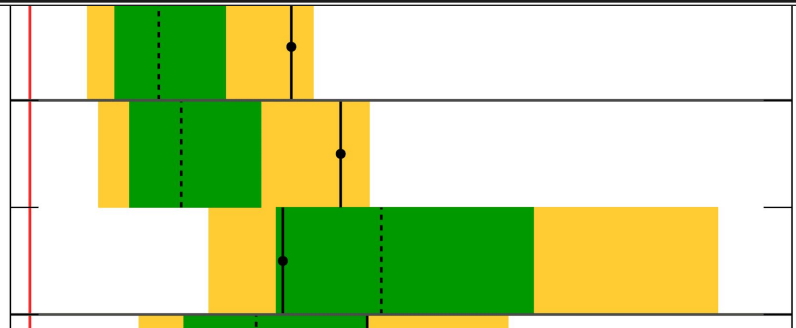
## VHcc production

Observed limit: 0.94 pb corresponding to **14 times the SM prediction**.

Combined  
Expected 7.60  
Observed 14.4

Merged-jet  
Expected 8.75  
Observed 16.9

Resolved-jet  
Expected 19.0  
Observed 13.9



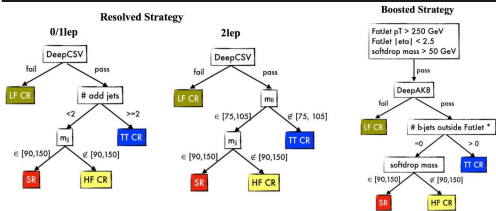
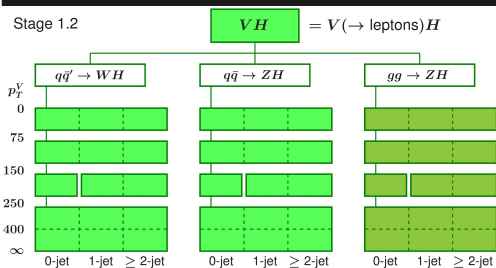
# Inclusive VHcc

# 04

Simplified template cross section  
measurements of Higgs boson produced  
in association with vector bosons in the  
Hbb decay channel  
([CMS-PAS-HIG-20-001](#))

**New  
Result**

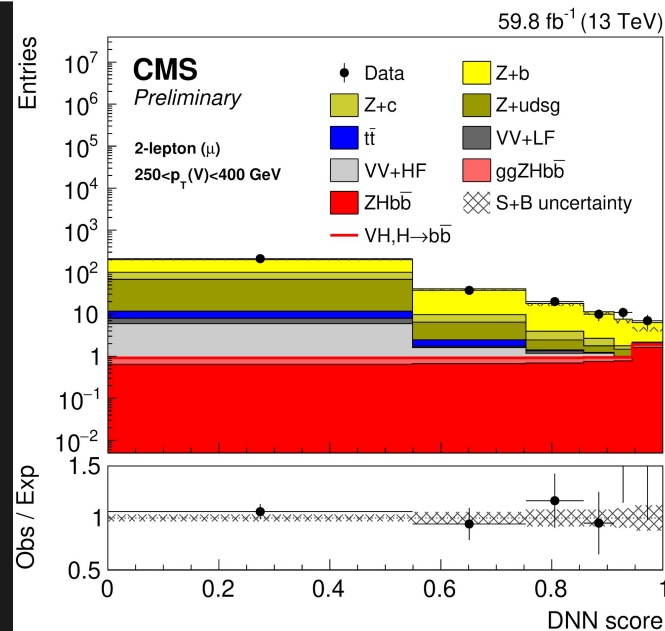
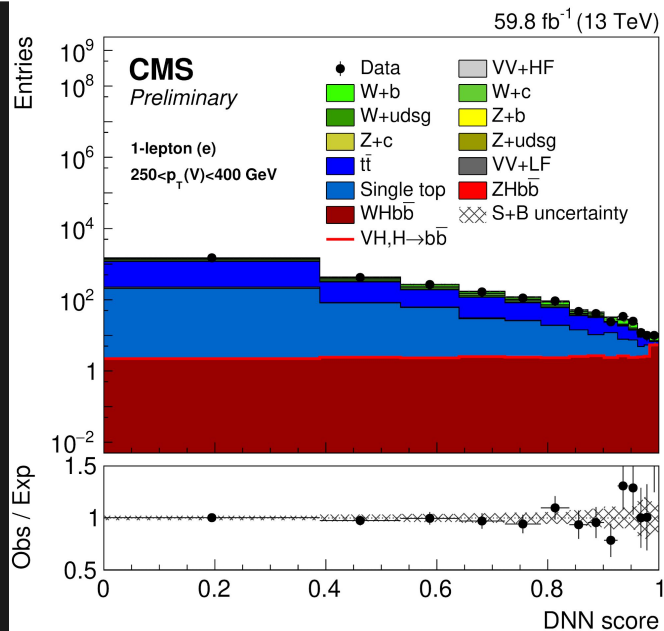
# STXS measurement



- Simplified Template Cross Section (**STXS**) analysis as a first step into a differential measurement.
- Analysis performed for **low and high** transverse momentum Higgs in association with a V boson.
- Selection targets 3 channels based on V decay: 0, 1, 2 leptons. Total of 30 signal and 51 control regions
- **DNN** and **BDT** techniques used to maximize separation of signal events and bkg.
- Strategy: simultaneous max likelihood fit of signal and control regions in all regions.
- Analysis include a dedicated dijet invariant mass (Higgs mass) characterisation.



# Selected distributions



# Observed significance of $3.3 \sigma$

## STXS signal strengths

Measured using 2016-2018 data

**CMS**

*Preliminary*

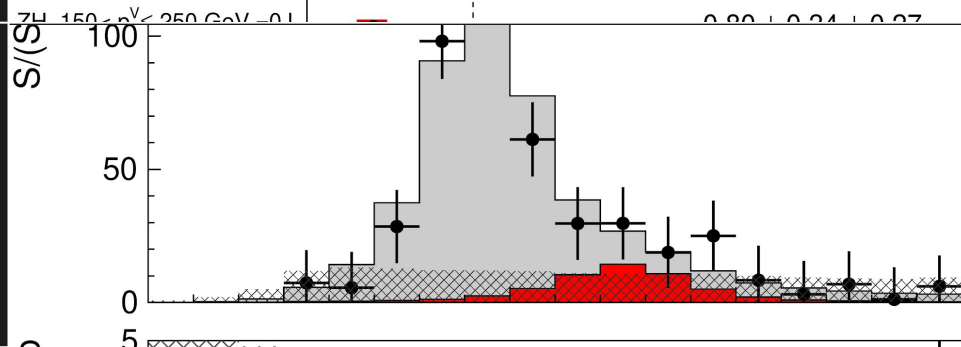
● Observed  
 —  $\pm 1\sigma$  (stat  $\oplus$  syst)  
 —  $\pm 1\sigma$  (syst)

ZH, $p_T^V > 400$ GeV		$1.33 \pm 0.59 \pm 0.34$
ZH, $250 < p_T^V < 400$ GeV		$0.91 \pm 0.37 \pm 0.26$
ZH, $150 < p_T^V \leq 250$ GeV, $\geq 1J$		$0.18 \pm 0.84 \pm 0.69$
ZH, $150 < p_T^V \leq 250$ GeV, $0J$		$0.80 \pm 0.34 \pm 0.27$

## Mass distribution

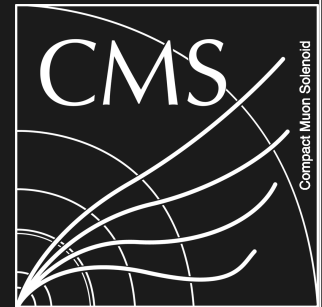
### Dijet invariant mass

combining all channels and data.



# Conclusions

- **CMS Collaboration keeps pushing the boundaries** in object reconstruction and analysis techniques to study rare processes, like Higgs decaying into charm quarks.
- In this talk, an overview of the state-of-the-art analyses targeting final states with **Higgs decaying into heavy flavor quarks** is presented.
- In ggHcc, we provided the **first measurement of Zcc** in Z+jets events at hadron colliders.
- In VHcc, we reach the **most stringent constraint** to date in the production of VHcc.
- In VHbb, we start to provide a **more detailed characterization** of the VHbb process in several transverse momentum regions.



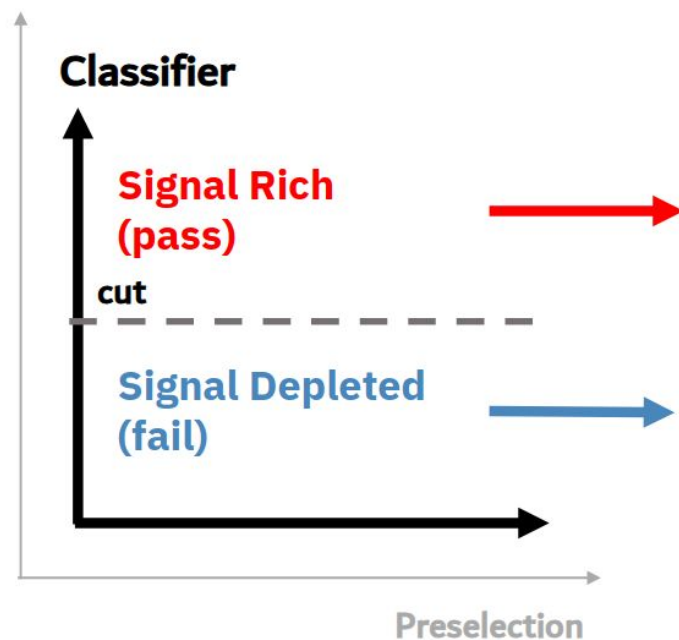
Stay tuned to more **CMS** results.

CMS

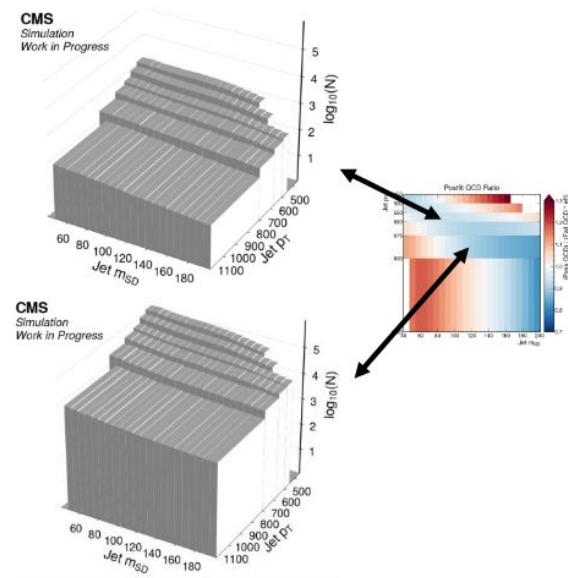
Compact Muon Solenoid

# Rhalphabet method

## Signal Region Definition

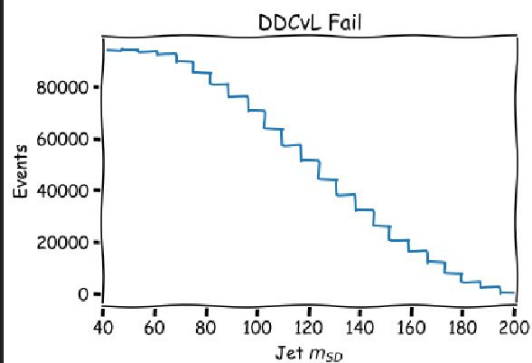


## Simultaneous Fit

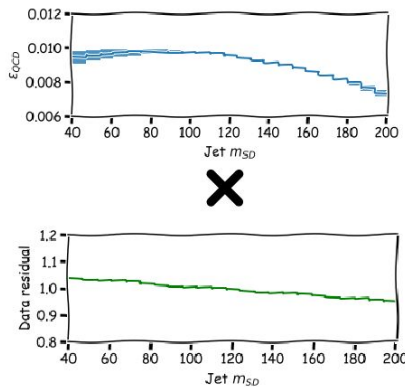


Constrain QCD from data *in-situ*  
Fit jet soft-drop mass in bins of  $p_{\text{T}}$

# Rhalphabet method

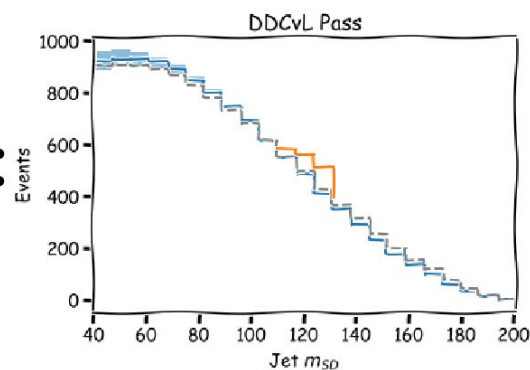


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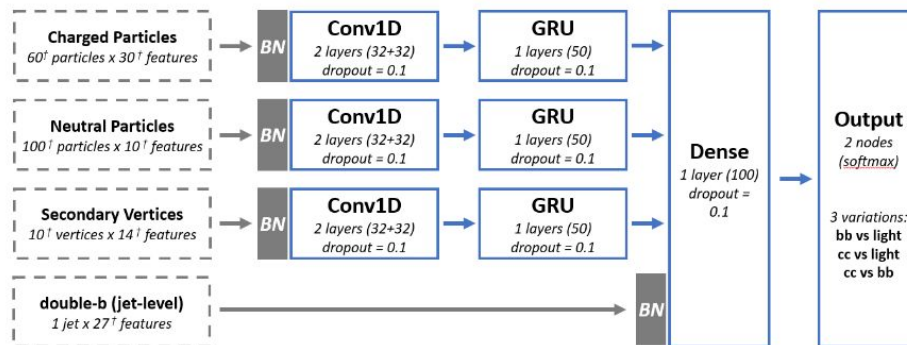
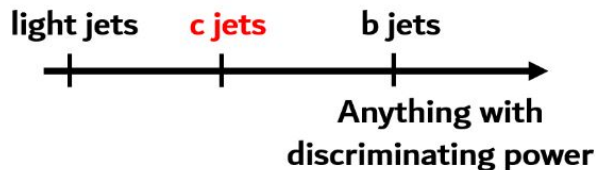
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# DeepDoubleX – jet identification

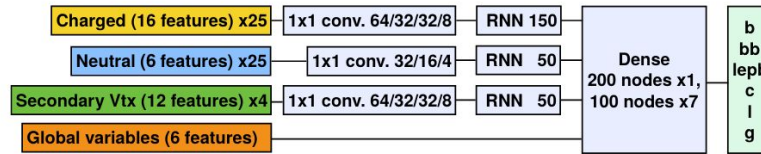
- bb jet identification 2x better than last gen
- cc jet identification meaningfully performant



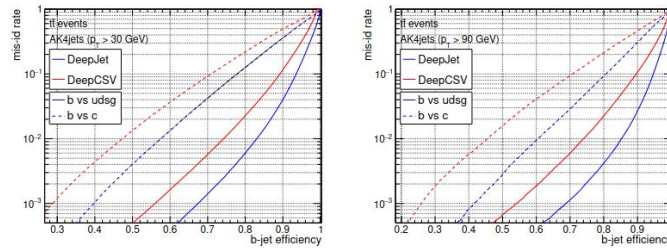
<sup>r</sup> up to



# DeepJet – jet identification



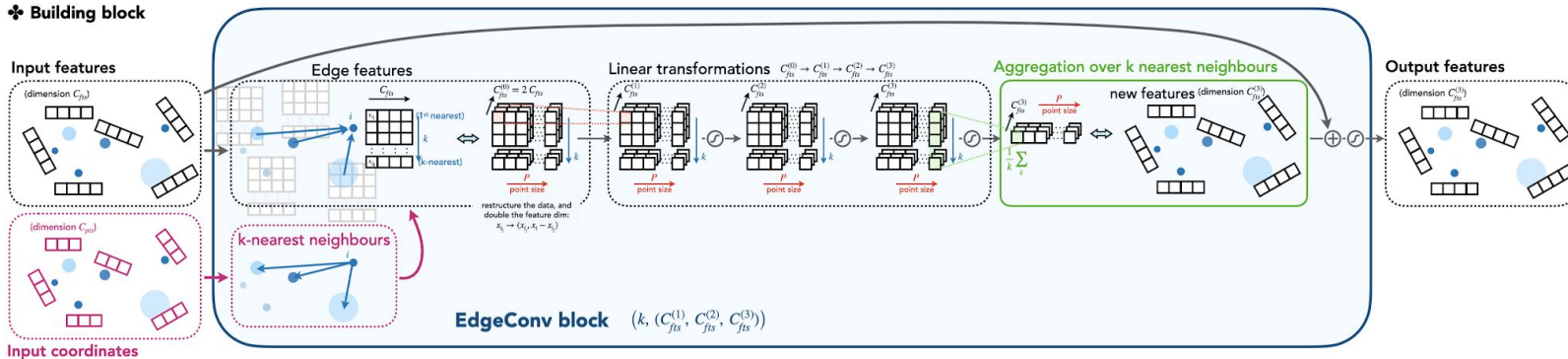
**Figure 1.** An illustration of the DeepJet architecture. Three separate branches are used to process charged candidates, neutral candidates and secondary vertices. The algorithm makes use of 1x1 convolutional layers to perform automatic feature engineering for each class of jet constituents. The three RNN (LSTM) layers combine the information for each sequence of constituents. Finally the full jet information is combined using fully connected layers.



**Figure 2.** Performance of the DeepJet and DeepCSV b-tagging algorithms on  $t\bar{t}$  events with both top quarks decaying hadronically. The jets are required to have  $p_T > 30$  GeV (left) and  $p_T > 90$  GeV (right). The performance is shown for both b vs. c classification (dashed lines), and b vs. light (solid lines).

# ParticleNet – jet identification

## ❖ Building block



## ❖ Architecture

