

RDataFrame: status and plans

[Enrico Guiraud](#) for the ROOT team
ROOT users workshop, 9/5/2022



In this talk

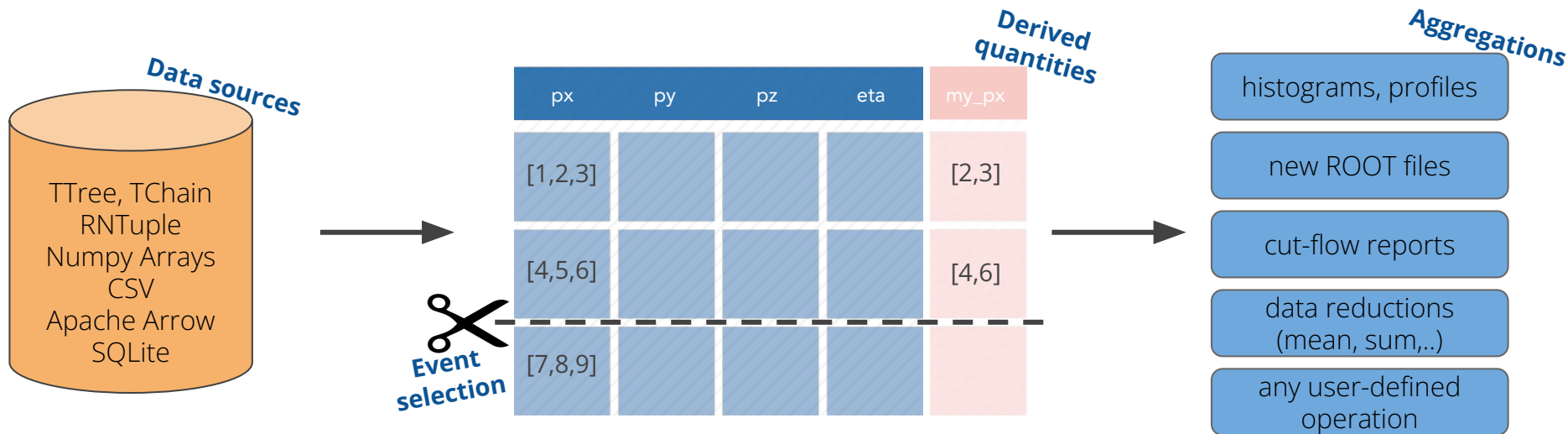
- RDataFrame fundamentals
- Recently added features
- Plans for the future

The background features a large, faint watermark of the R logo, which consists of a circle containing a white 'R' with a blue outline. The entire background is a solid blue color with a subtle pattern of white lines and dots, suggesting a network or data structure.

RDataFrame fundamentals

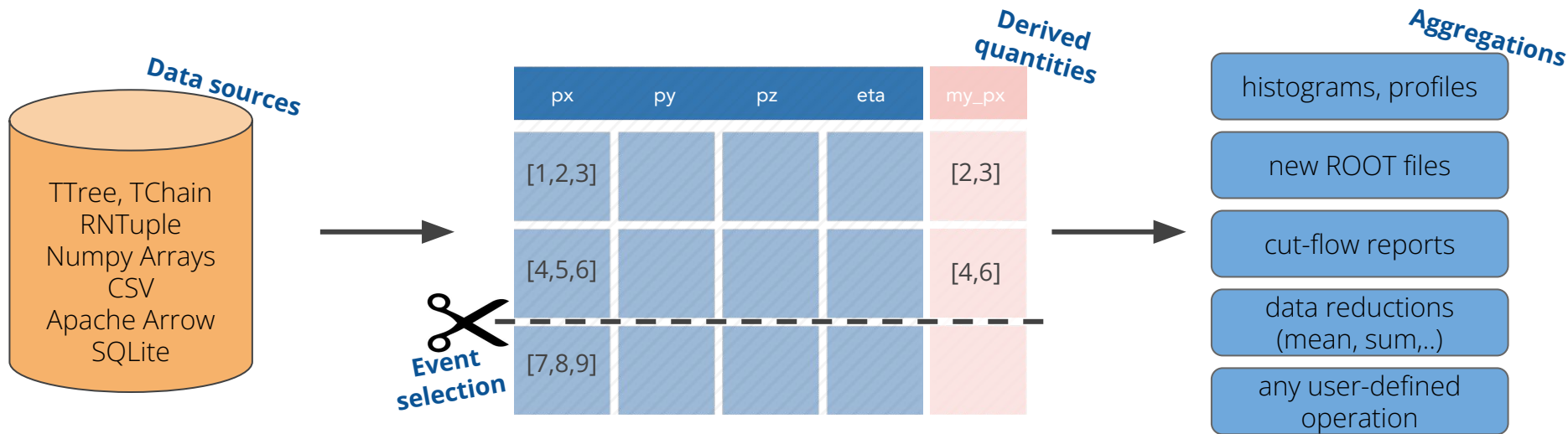


HEP data processing in a nutshell





HEP data processing in a nutshell



Some aspects particular to HEP

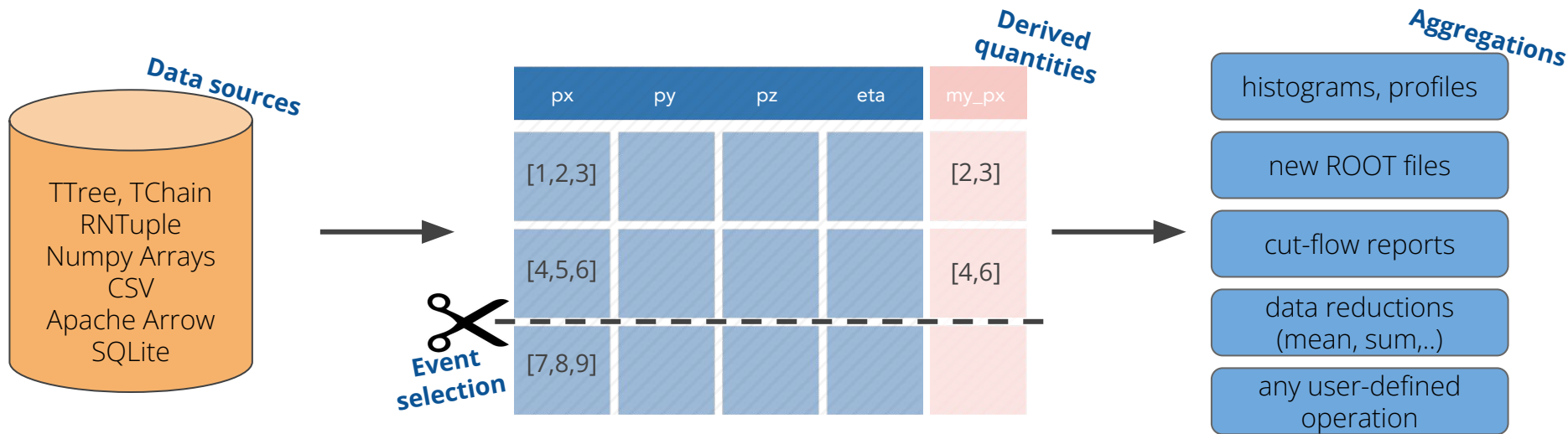
Input datasets are much larger than memory, entries are statistically independent.

Histograms, new ROOT files as common aggregations.

Collections are ubiquitous.



HEP data processing in a nutshell



The goal

Ease of use, good performance and scaling from 1 to 1000+ cores out of the box. Extensibility.

Ergonomic support for common HEP use cases (systematics, working with collections, ...).



The HEP analysis landscape as we see it

Analysis language

↓ ~50% C++

↑ ~50% Python

Storage

local disk

fast-access network storage

EOS or other not-so-fast backend

Platform

laptop or PC

many-core machine

computing cluster
+ job submission



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RDataFrame addresses all these use cases
with a single high-level programming model
that performs well, scales well
and enables HEP-specific ergonomics.



What RDF code looks like (C++)

`ROOT::RDataFrame df(dataset);` on this (ROOT, CSV, ...) dataset

`auto df2 = df.Filter("x > 0")` only accept events for which $x > 0$

`.Define("r2", "x*x + y*y");` define $r2 = x^2 + y^2$

`auto rHist = df2.Histo1D("r2");` plot $r2$ for events that pass the cut

`df2.Snapshot("newtree", "out.root");` write the skimmed data and $r2$
to a new ROOT file



What RDF code looks like (C++)

```
ROOT::RData event selection dataset); ..... on this (ROOT, CSV, ...) dataset  
auto df2 = df.Filter("x > 0") derived quantities, object selections events for which x > 0  
    .Define("r2", "x*x + y*y"); ..... define  $r2 = x^2 + y^2$   
auto rHist = df2.Histo1D("r2"); ..... plot r2 for events that pass the cut  
df2.Snapshot("newtree", "out.root"); ..... write the skimmed data and r2  
                                     to a new ROOT file
```

data aggregations

Users can inject **arbitrary code** at all steps, which makes this relatively simple API extremely versatile.



What RDF code looks like (C++)

`ROOT::EnableImplicitMT();` Run a multi-thread event loop

`ROOT::RDataFrame df(dataset);` on this (ROOT, CSV, ...) dataset

`auto df2 = df.Filter("x > 0")` only accept events for which $x > 0$

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df2.Snapshot("newtree", "out.root"); ..... write the skimmed data and r2  
                                         to a new ROOT file
```

Six lines of code! Most RDF analyses are just more of the same.
User-defined computations are naturally made modular.



What RDF code looks like (Python)

`ROOT.EnableImplicitMT()` Run a multi-thread event loop

`df = ROOT.RDataFrame(dataset)` on this (ROOT, CSV, ...) dataset

`df = df.Filter("x > 0")` only accept events for which $x > 0$

`.Define("r2", "x*x + y*y")` define $r2 = x^2 + y^2$

`rHist = df.Histo1D("r2")` plot r2 for events that pass the cut

`df.Snapshot("newtree", "out.root")` write the skimmed data and r2
to a new ROOT file

PyROOT bindings make RDF easily available from Python.



Switch from TTree to RNTuple/CSV/...

```
ROOT.EnableImplicitMT() ..... Run a multi-thread event loop
df = MakeNTupleDataFrame(dataset) ..... on this RNTuple
df = df.Filter("x > 0")
    .Define("r2", "x*x + y*y") ..... all other code stays the same
rHist = df.Histo1D("r2")
```

RDataFrame enables a **seamless transition to “TTree 2.0”, RNTuple.**

The new data format is smaller and faster. Currently experimental.

See the previous [talk by Jakob and Javi](#) for more information.



Switch to distributed execution (Python)

**Since v6.26
(experimental)**

```
cluster = dask_jobqueue.HTCondorCluster(n_workers=64)
```

```
client = Client(cluster)
```

```
df = RDataFrame(dataset, daskclient=client) ..... setting up the Dask  
connection to HTCondor
```

```
df = df.Filter("x > 0")
```

```
    .Define("r2", "x*x + y*y")
```

```
rHist = df.Histo1D("r2") ..... all other code stays the same
```

```
df.Snapshot("newtree", "out.root")
```

See [Vincenzo's talk](#) later today for more on distributed RDF.



RVecs: working with collections

Select and fill: quick one-liner

```
RDataFrame("tree", "f.root").Define("pt", "muon_pt[muon_eta > 0]").Histo1D("pt").DrawClone()
```




RVecs: working with collections

Select and fill: quick one-liner

```
RDataFrame("tree", "f.root").Define("pt", "muon_pt[muon_eta > 0]").Histo1D("pt").DrawClone()
```

Select and fill: fully compiled C++ code

```
RVecD selectPt(RVecD &pt, RVecD &eta) { return pt[eta > 0]; }  
  
auto h = RDataFrame("tree", "f.root")  
    .Define("pt", selectPt, {"muon_pt", "muon_eta"})  
    .Histo1D<RVecD>("pt");  
h->Draw();
```



Select some muons, plot their inv. mass

```
df.Define("m", "muon_pt > 0 && abs(muon_eta) < 2.7")  
  .Define("invmass", "InvariantMass(muon_pt[m], muon_eta[m], muon_phi[m], muon_mass[m])")  
  .Histo1D("invmass")
```

Sort all muon_* columns by pt

```
df.Define("sorted_idx", "Argsort(muon_pt)")  
  .Redefine("muon_pt", "Take(muon_pt, sorted_idx)")  
  .Redefine("muon_eta", "Take(muon_eta, sorted_idx)")  
  .Redefine("muon_phi", "Take(muon_phi, sorted_idx)")  
  ...
```

This does the job but it is quite verbose, so...



Object selection 2.0

**Design in progress,
stay tuned**

Select some muons, plot their inv. mass

```
df.Define("invmass", "InvariantMass(muons[muons.pt > 0 && abs(muons.eta) < 2.7])")  
.Histo1D("invmass")
```

Sort all muons columns by pt

```
df.Redefine("muons", "SortBy(muons, muons.pt)")
```



Wide adoption from analysts

- [Dark matter sensitivity study](#) (Pani & Polesello, 2018)
- [Distributed analysis with RDataFrame in TOTEM](#) (Avati et al., 2019)
- **ATLAS**: prototype xAOD data source DOI 10.5281/zenodo.1303038
- **ALICE**: Apache Arrow support contributed by G. Eulisse
- **FCC** [is developing analysis workflows](#) based on RDF (see also the [GitHub project](#))
- Building block in [INFN analysis facility effort](#)
- many users **“in the wild”**: 650+ threads tagged #rdataframe [on the ROOT forum](#), about the same as #tree and #hist



RDF as a framework building block

Some examples of analysis software based on RDataFrame

- [bamboo](#) ([recent talk](#))
- KIT's [CROWN](#) ([recent talk](#))
- [W mass analysis framework](#)
- [LoopSUSYFrame ATLAS analysis tool](#)
- ("Latinos" CMS framework [planning transition to RDF](#))
- [narf](#) ([recent talk](#))
- ...

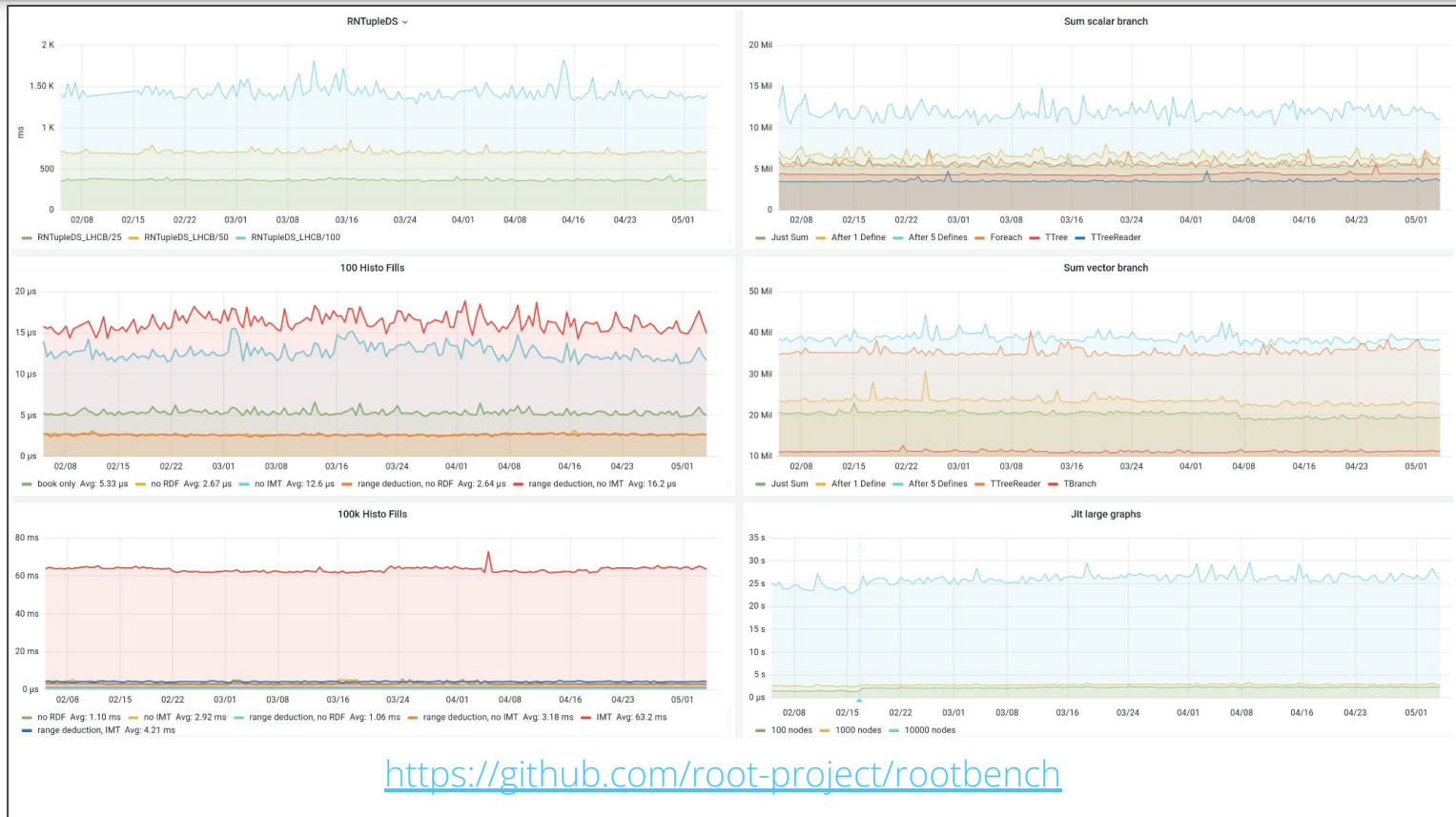
Feedback (and code) from users regularly integrated upstream (*thank you!*)



A note on performance

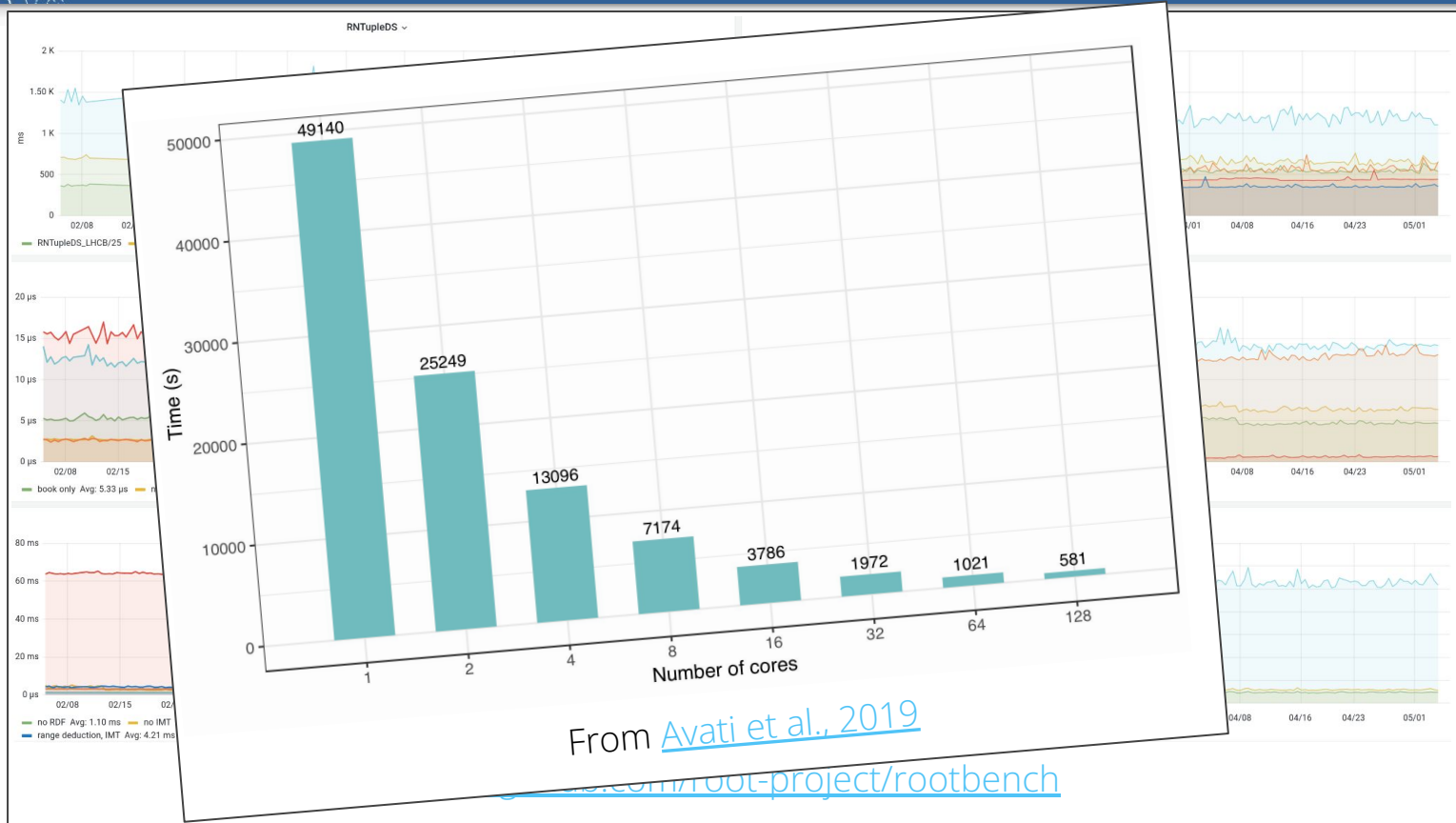


We care about performance. A lot.



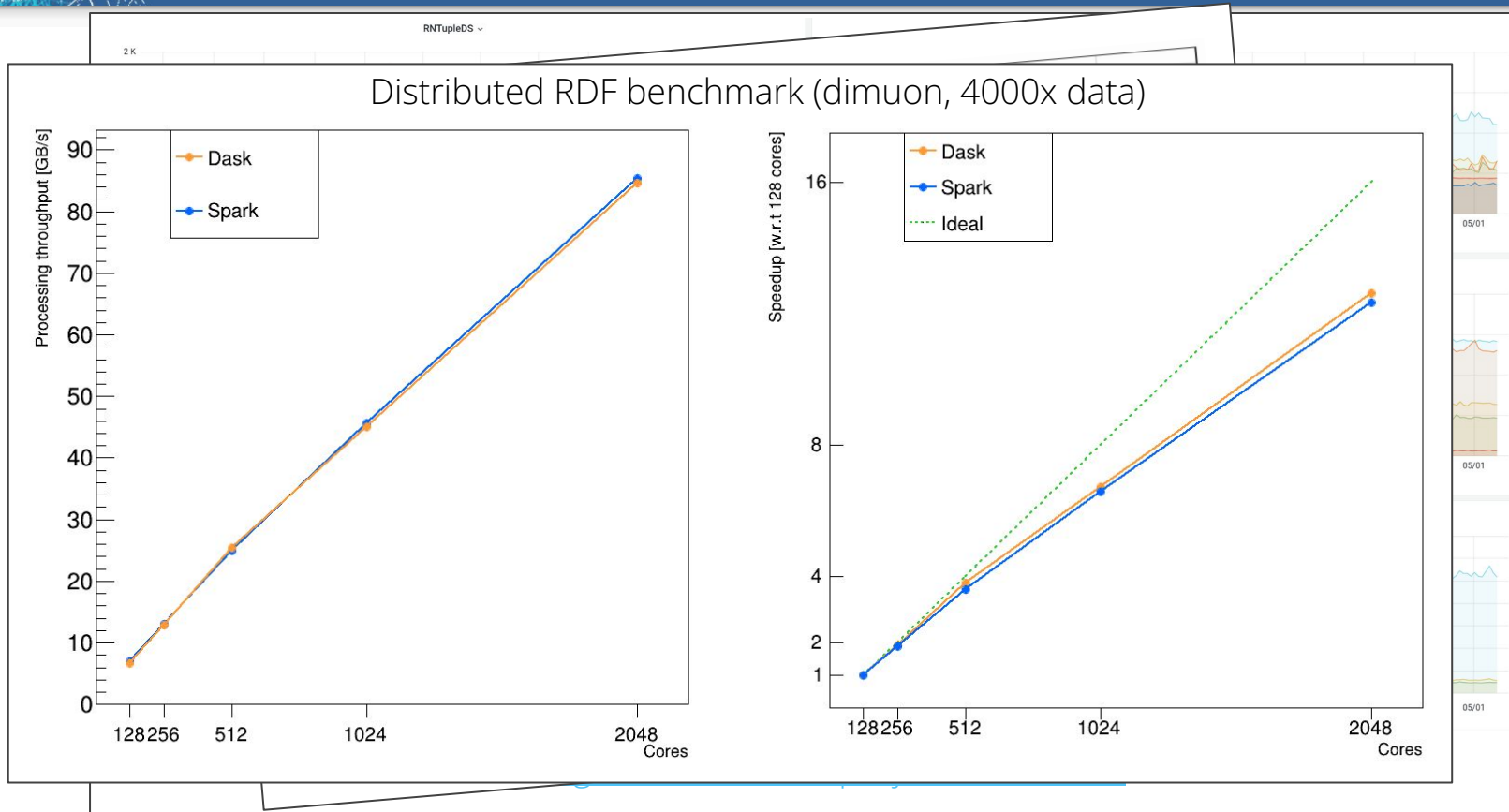


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Fully compiled C++ RDataFrame (ROOT@db6a9d62f)

query, 1x data (s), 10x data (s)

Q1	0.37	1.50
Q2	0.46	3.70
Q3	0.73	6.23
Q4	0.65	5.92
Q5	0.84	7.45
Q6	3.08	27.99
Q7	2.56	22.27
Q8	1.17	10.22

Coffea 0.7.12 (using chunksize=2**19)

query, 1x data (s), 10x data (s)

Q1	1.40	4.24
Q2	1.51	5.76
Q3	1.81	7.96
Q4	1.65	6.58
Q5	2.41	12.43
Q6	13.89	124.59
Q7	4.19	29.12
Q8	3.27	17.70

- note that these benchmarks are not representative of large analysis workloads
- see also [this ACAT talk](#) by Nick Smith

Benchmark from github.com/nsmith-/coffea-benchmarks

Setup: AMD EPYC 7702P, using 48 physical cores, data read from filesystem cache

<https://github.com/root-project/rootbench>



We care about performance. A lot.

NanoAOD events processed at 400 kHz
when producing ~6k histograms.

zlib-compressed data read from local SSD
128 threads on 2x AMD EPYC 7742
~[CMS Wmass analysis framework](#)

“turnaround of a few hours for O(100)
plots (thousands of histograms) of the
CMS Run2 data on a batch system”
~[bamboo](#)

Hist Type	Hist Config	Evt. Loop	Total	CPUEff	RSS
ROOT THnD	10 x 103 x 5D	59m39s	74m05s	0.74	400GB
ROOT THnD	10 x 6D back	7m54s	25m09s	0.27	405GB
ROOT THnD	10 x 6D front	13m52s	30m27s	0.42	406GB
Boost (“sta”)	10 x 6D back	7m07s	7m17s	0.90	9GB
Boost (“sta”)	10 x 6D front	3m22	3m33s	0.86	9GB
Boost (“sta”)	10 x (5D + 1-tensor)	1m54s	2m04s	0.81	9GB
Boost (“sta”)	1 x (5D + 2-tensor)	1m32s	1m42s	0.77	9GB

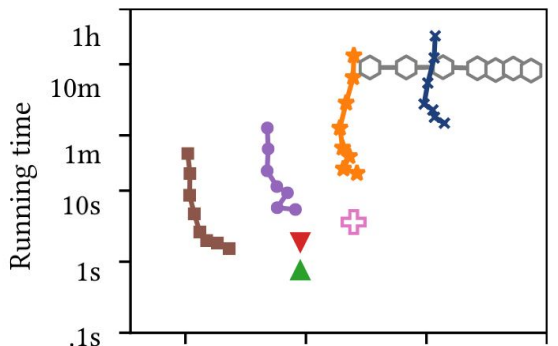
Processing lz4-compressed
ROOT data at 2 GB/sec

32 threads running on AMD Ryzen
Reading from a local NVME SSD disk
~[CMS momentum correction](#)

[From this talk](#) by Josh Bendavid

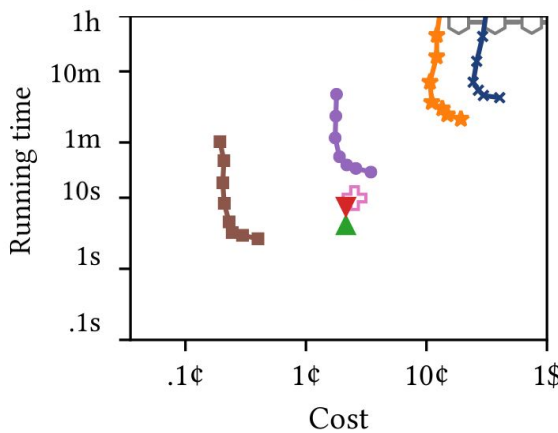
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“...the general-purpose data processing systems are significantly less performant than the domain-specific ROOT framework—due to limited scalability and inefficient handling of the data and queries relevant to HEP”

~[Graur, Muller, Proffit, Fourny, Watts et al](#), 2021



- ★ AsterixDB
- + Athena
- ▼ BigQuery
- ▲ BigQuery (pre-loaded)
- ◊ Postgres
- Presto
- RDataFrames
- ✱ RumbleDB

Nano
when
zlib-c
128 t
~CMS

Hist Type
ROOT THnD
ROOT THnD
ROOT THnD
Boost (“sta”)
Boost (“sta”)
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of the
em”

D Ryzen
SSD disk
on



Performance: the bottom line

- Given users' feedback and our own benchmarks, RDataFrame's C++ core enables fast turnaround for complex analyses usecases
- RDataFrame scales well to many cores, many nodes, many histograms
- Performance is always ongoing work: we are constantly looking for feedback/usecases



Recently added features



On-the-fly systematic variations

In ROOT 6.26
(experimental)

Python

```
nominal_hx =  
    df.Vary("pt", "RVecD{pt*0.9, pt*1.1}", ["down", "up"])  
    .Filter("pt > k")  
    .Define("x", someFunc, ["pt"])  
    .Histo1D("x")  
  
hx = ROOT.RDF.VariationsFor(nominal_hx)  
hx["nominal"].Draw()  
hx["pt:down"].Draw("SAME")
```

Varied columns can be used in Defines, Filters, as histogram value/weights and anything else.

Variations automatically propagate to selections, derived quantities and results.

Multi-thread and **distributed** execution **just works**.



On-the-fly systematic variations

In ROOT 6.26
(experimental)

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nominal_hx = attach an up/down variation to "pt"  
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```

proceed as usual,
as if working with
nominal values only

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    .Histo1D("x")  
  
hx = ROOT.RDF.VariationsFor(nominal_hx)  
hx["nominal"].Draw() obtain all variations  
hx["pt:down"].Draw("SAME")
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```

proceed as usual,
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N.B. in 6.26 the spelling will be
ROOT.RDF.**Experimental**.VariationsFor

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Multi-thread and **distributed** execution **just works**.



Jet energy and MET corrections

**In ROOT 6.26
(experimental)**

```
df.Define("jetCorrection", "1.")  
  .Define("METCorrection", "1.")  
  .Vary({"jetCorrection", "METCorrection"},  
        getJetAndMETCorrections, inputCols, {"down", "up"}, "jetAndMET")  
  .Redefine("jet_E", "jet_E*jetCorrection")  
  .Redefine("MET", "MET*METCorrection")
```

C++

Calls for some syntactic sugar or a helper function, thinking in progress.



Python functions in RDF with Numba

v6.24

Python

```
@ROOT.Numba.Declare(["RVecD", "RVecD"], "RVecD")
def good_pts(pts, etas): # pts and etas are NumPy arrays
    return pts[etas > 0]

df.Define("pt", "Numba::good_pts(muon_pt, muon_eta)").Histo1D("pt").DrawClone()
```



Python functions in RDF with Numba

v6.24

Python

```
@ROOT.Numba.Declare(["RVecD", "RVecD"], "RVecD")
def good_pts(pts, etas): # pts and etas are NumPy arrays
    return pts[etas > 0]

df.Define("pt", "Numba::good_pts(muon_pt, muon_eta)").Histo1D("pt").DrawClone()
```

Python

```
# the code above will soon just be:
df.Define("pt", lambda muon_pt, muon_eta: muon_pt[muon_eta > 0])
```



Definition of per-sample values

v6.26

C++

```
df.DefinePerSample("weight",  
  [](unsigned slot, const RDF::RSampleInfo &s) {  
    return s.Contains("MC") ? 0.5 : 1.; })  
.Histo1D("value", "weight");
```

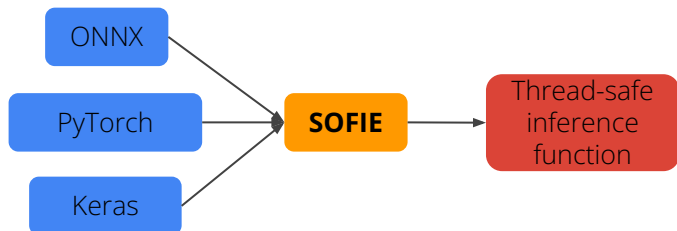
DefinePerSample evaluates a quantity that depends on the sample being processed. Useful e.g. to define different event weights for MC and data.



ML inference in RDF with SOFIE

v6.26 (experimental)

Stored model



C++ source

```
#include "Higgs_trained_model.hxx"
#include "TMVA/SOFIEHelpers.hxx" C++
```

```
SofieFunctor<TMVA_SOFIE_model::Session> functor(nThreads);
auto h = df.DefineSlot("y", functor, colNames).Histo1D("y");
h->Draw();
```

- Generated code only depends on BLAS/Eigen
- Combines with RDF's multi-threading
- Users can easily add custom operators

Also see [this talk by Lorenzo on Wednesday](#).



RDF \Leftrightarrow NumPy arrays

v6.18

- **TTree to NumPy** arrays via RDataFrame

```
cols = df.Filter("x > 10").AsNumpy(["x", "y"])
```

- **NumPy arrays to RDataFrame**

```
data = {"x": np.array(...), "y": np.array(...), ...}
```

```
df = ROOT.RDF.MakeNumpyDataFrame(data)
```

Work in progress: RDF \Leftrightarrow Awkward arrays, see [this talk by Ianna on Tuesday](#).



Concluding remarks



Coming soon

- Performance improvements (e.g. bulk processing, [ROOT PoW 2022](#))
- Collection aggregations (`muon_{pt,eta,phi}` → `muons`) [being discussed](#)
- Simpler Pythonic interfaces (less C++ strings in Python code), [PoW 2022](#)
- Allow default values for missing branches, [PoW 2022](#), [GitHub issue](#)
- Debug symbols in jitted code (better error messages), [PoW 2022](#), [GitHub PR](#)
- Dataset specification with user-defined sample labels
- ...and more, see our [GitHub issue tracker](#)



Designed for you, with you

RDataFrame is a battle-tested, fast, versatile interface for modern HEP analysis.

RDataFrame (and ROOT) keeps **evolving**,
in **cooperation with the community**.

Your feedback is **critical to prioritize correctly!**



[RDF user guide](#)

[RDF tutorials](#)

EOF





...but wait, there is more!



Plotting a dimuon mass

Python

```
# Create dataframe from NanoAOD files
df = ROOT.RDataFrame("Events", "root://eospublic.cern.ch/eos/opendata/cms/derived-data/AOD2NanoAODOutreachTool/Run2012BC_DoubleMuParked_Muons.root")

# For simplicity, select only events with exactly two muons and require opposite charge
df = df.Filter("nMuon == 2")\
        .Filter("Muon_charge[0] != Muon_charge[1]")

df = df.Define("Dimuon_mass", "InvariantMass(Muon_pt, Muon_eta, Muon_phi, Muon_mass)")

# Make histogram of dimuon mass spectrum
# Note how we can set titles and axis labels in one go
h = df.Histo1D(("dimuon_hist", "Dimuon mass;m_{#mu#mu} (GeV);N_{Events}", 30000, 0.25, 300),
              "Dimuon_mass")
```

See [full tutorial](#)



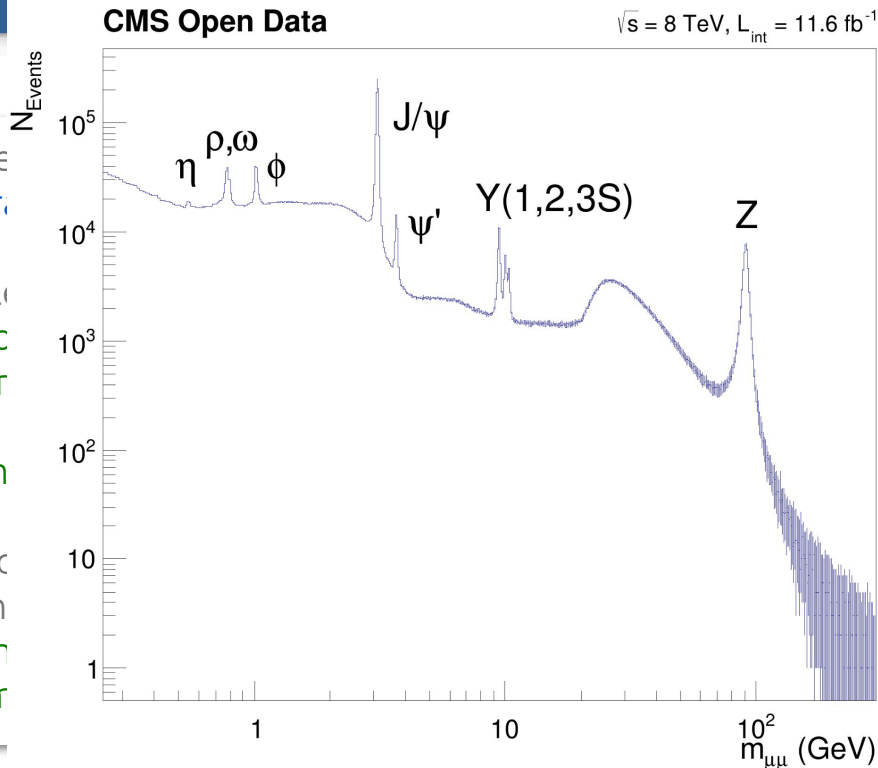
Plotting a dimuon mass

```
# Create dataframe
df = ROOT.RDataFile("data.root").GetTable("Events")

# For simplicity, select muons
df = df.Filter("nMuons > 2")

df = df.Define("Dimuon_mass", "sqrt((pT1 - pT2)^2 + (eta1 - eta2)^2)")

# Make histogram
# Note how we can use the Dimuon_mass variable
h = df.Histo1D(("dimuon_mass", "Dimuon_mass"))
```



Python

```
!./Run2012BC_DoubleMuParked_Muons.root")

te charge

j, Muon_mass)")

', 30000, 0.25, 300),
```

See [full tutorial](#)



Inspecting (remote) data

```
df = ROOT.RDataFrame("Events", "root://eospublic.cern.ch//eos/opendata/cms/derived-data/AOD2NanoAODOutreachTool/Run2012BC_DoubleMuParked_Muons.root")  
df.Filter("nMuon == 2").Display("Muon_*").Print()
```

Row	Muon_charge	Muon_eta	Muon_mass	Muon_phi	Muon_pt
0	-1	1.06683f	0.105658f	-0.0342727f	10.7637f
	-1	-0.563787f	0.105658f	2.54262f	15.7365f
1	1	-0.427780f	0.105658f	-0.274792f	10.5385f
	-1	0.349225f	0.105658f	2.53978f	16.3271f
6	-1	-0.532089f	0.105658f	-0.0717980f	57.6067f
	1	-1.00417f	0.105658f	3.08952f	53.0451f
7	1	-0.771659f	0.105658f	-2.24527f	11.3197f
	-1	-0.700997f	0.105658f	-2.18096f	23.9064f
8	-1	0.441807f	0.105658f	0.677852f	10.1936f
	1	0.702117f	0.105658f	-2.03440f	14.2041f



TTree friends, TTree “joins”

```
TTree mainTree = ...;  
TTree auxTree = ...;  
  
auxTree.BuildIndex("Run", "Event");  
mainTree.AddFriend(&auxTree);  
  
auto df = ROOT::RDataFrame(mainTree);
```

RDataFrame will detect the input trees' friends, TEntryLists, *indexed* friends (simple joins) and make their columns available.

We are working on a simpler API to specify input datasets.



Creating RooFit datasets with RDF

```
RooRealVar x("x", "x", -5., 5.);  
RooRealVar y("y", "y", -50., 50.);  
auto myDataSet = df.Book<double, double>(  
  RooDataSetHelper{"dataset",          // Name  
                  "Title of dataset", // Title  
                  RooArgSet(x, y) }, // Variables to create in dataset  
  {"x", "y"}          // Column names from RDataFrame  
);
```

[See the docs](#)



Cutflow reports with RDF

```
df.Filter("x > 0", "xcut").Filter("y < 2", "ycut");  
df.Report().Print();
```

```
// output
```

```
xcut : pass=25 all=50 -- eff=50.00 % cumulative eff=50.00 %  
ycut : pass=23 all=25 -- eff=92.00 % cumulative eff=46.00 %
```

Report provides statistics for all filters *with a name*.
Stats can be printed or inspected programmatically.



Modularity comes in two flavors

Factoring out RDF operations

```
def apply_cuts(df):  
    df = df.Filter(...).Filter(...)  
    return df  
  
df = apply_cuts(df)
```

Factoring out user-defined logic

```
ROOT.gInterpreter.Declare("""  
RVecD EvalX(RVecD& x, RVecD& y) { ... }  
""")  
  
df = df.Define("x", ROOT.EvalX, input_columns)
```

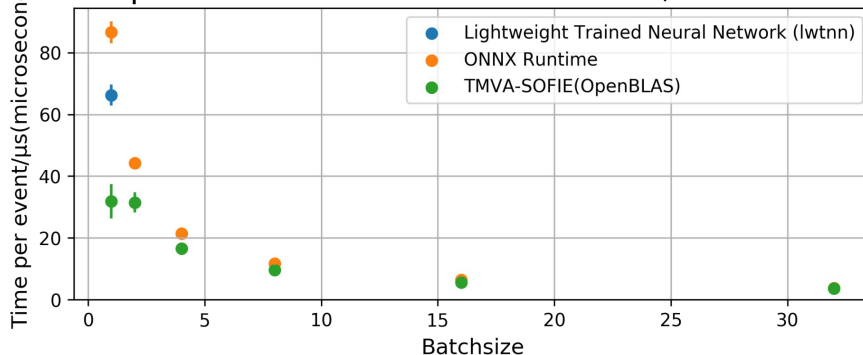
Combined, these patterns naturally isolate complexity, keep analysis code clean, make components reusable. Using Python for steering and C++ for a fast inner loop.



TMVA SOFIE: performance benchmarks

Deep neural network

Time per event for different batch size, cache flushed



Convolutional neural network

Model	SOFIE/ms	ONNXRuntime/ms
1xConv, Batch=1	0.05	0.08
14xConv, Batch=1	126	100
14xConv, Batch=32	50	49
Resnet18	44	34



Varying multiple columns together

C++

```
df.Vary({"pt", "eta"},  
        "RVec<RVecF>{{pt*0.9, pt*1.1}, {eta*0.9, eta*1.1}}",  
        /*variationTags=*/{"down", "up"},  
        /*variationName=*/"ptAndEta")
```

- will produce 3 “universes”: nominal, ptAndEta:down, ptAndEta:up
- "pt" and "eta" will vary in lockstep rather than one at a time
- looking into simplifying `RVec<RVecF>`



Varying multiple columns together

the expression
returns an array of
values *per column*

```
C++  
df.Vary({"pt", "eta"},  
        "RVec<RVecF>{{pt*0.9, pt*1.1}, {eta*0.9, eta*1.1}}",  
        /*variationTags=*/{"down", "up"},  
        /*variationName=*/"ptAndEta")
```

- will produce 3 “universes”: nominal, ptAndEta:down, ptAndEta:up
- "pt" and "eta" will vary in lockstep rather than one at a time
- looking into simplifying `RVec<RVecF>`



Multiple variations

C++

```
auto df = _df.Vary("pt",  
    "RVecD{pt*0.9, pt*1.1}",  
    {"down", "up"})  
    .Vary("eta",  
    [](float eta) { return RVecF{eta*0.9, eta*1.1}; },  
    {"eta"},  
    /*nVariations=*/2);  
  
auto nom_h = df.Histo2D("pt", "eta");  
auto all_h = ROOT::RDF::VariationsFor(nom_h);
```

Variations are applied one at a time:
the code above creates “universes” nominal, pt:down, pt:up, eta:0, eta:1.



Vary expressions use any columns

```
df.Vary("pt",  
    [](float ptdown, float ptup) { return RVecF{ptdown, ptup}; },  
    {"frienddown.pt", "friendup.pt"},  
    /*variationTags=*/{"down", "up"});
```

C++

Here we evaluate the varied values of “pt” from columns “frienddown.pt” and “friendup.pt”.

Similarly we could evaluate variations for histogram weights as an **arbitrary function of any other column values** or other objects.



RNTuple: improving on TTree

Modern TTree successor in terms of on-disk format and low-level software API.

Why a redesign?

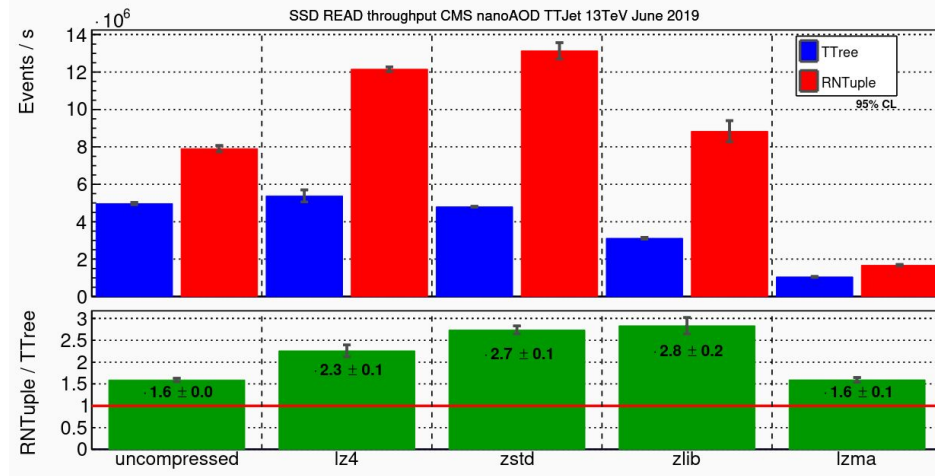
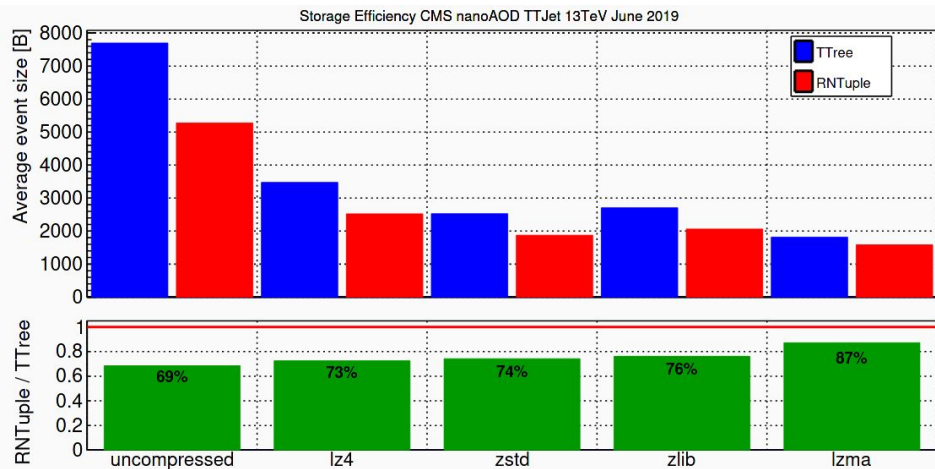
- less disk and CPU usage for same data content
- lossy compression, accelerated data-specific/-optimized algorithms
- native support for object stores (targeting HPC)
- systematic use of exceptions to prevent silent I/O errors

Seamless transition for users [thanks to RDataFrame](#).

We see it as a Run 4 technology, in the experimental state for Run 3.



RNTuple: smaller, faster than TTree

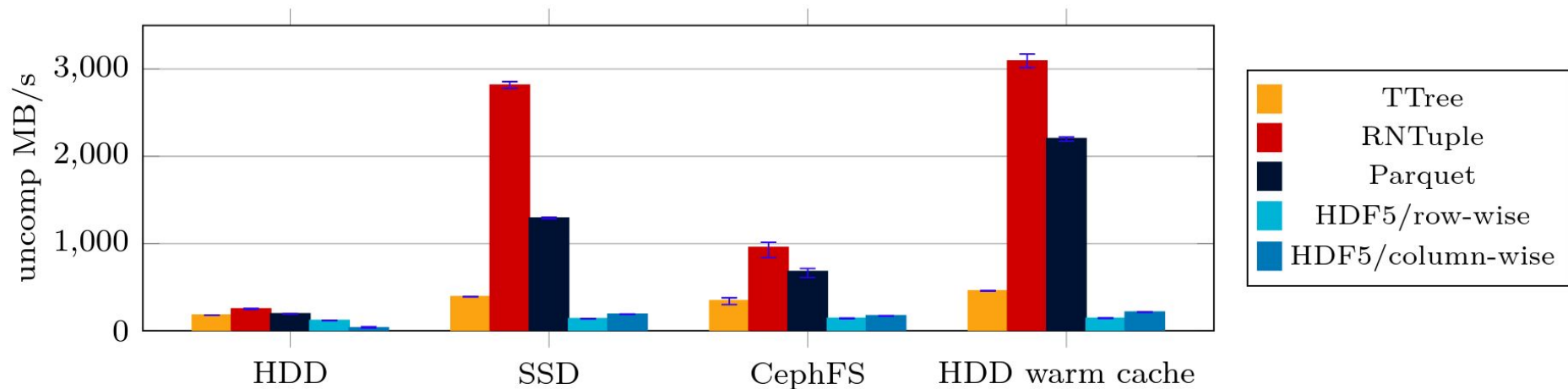


Goal

10 GB/s throughput from SSD/fast network to histogram on a single machine.



RNTuple: the fastest HEP I/O





Transparent optimizations

[Open data benchmarks](#), queries 1 and 7 (data read from warm cache, 64 physical cores)

Continuous work on performance: faster analysis with every ROOT release, transparently.
Special thanks to J. Bendavid for his contributions in this domain.



DistRDF benchmark setup: cluster

Accessed HPC cluster at CERN

- ▶ Dask: launch jobs using SSHCluster
- ▶ Spark: reserve nodes and launch **standalone** cluster
- ▶ **Scheduler** runs in a **cluster node**, not on client
- ▶ Test from 128 cores to 2048 cores (32 cores per node)



DistRDF benchmark setup: dataset

- ▶ Dimuon analysis
- ▶ 4000x original dataset
 - **8800 GB**
 - ZLIB compressed
- ▶ Data is **node-local** during analysis
- ▶ **100%** read and processed in the analysis
- ▶ Time to plot at 2048 cores: ~100s

