



UNIVERSITÀ  
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# Model independent measurements of Standard Model cross sections with domain adaptation

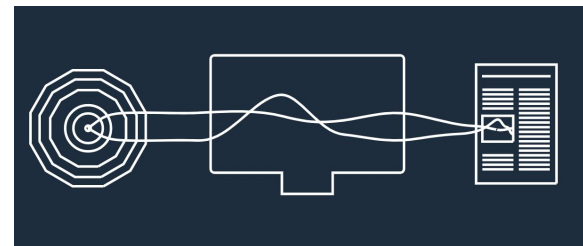
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(Re)interpretation of the LHC results for new physics  
December 15, 2022

# Introduction

- HEPData is an open-access repository for High Energy Physics (HEP) data, that comprises results related to several thousand publications, including those from the Large Hadron Collider (LHC)
- Let's imagine someone in the future who wants to re-interpret a result from HEPData and compare it with a new physics model
- If the analysis that provided the result was performed with some physics model assumptions - which is often the case - the result will be biased towards that model, spoiling the re-interpretability of the measurement and leaving our friend confused



**Our goal is reflect on how design a measurement that can be easily re-interpreted, and thus limiting the model dependence as much as possible**

# LHC measurements

*Easy to re-interpret*

*Need to come up with some strategy to reduce as much as possible the model dependence of these measurements*

*Most assumptions*

*No assumptions*

*Difficult to re-interpret*

Inclusive Xsection

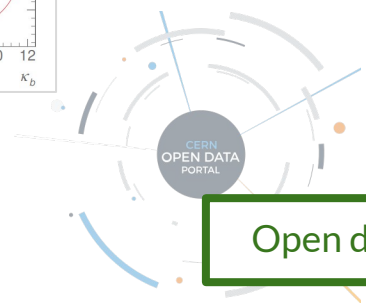
Differential Xsection

STXS

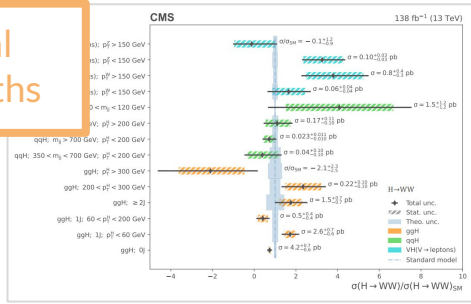
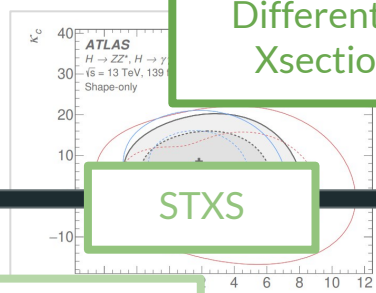
Fiducial

Signal strengths

Exclusion limits of theoretical models



Open data



\*Inspired by [N.Wardle's talk](#)

# Sources of model dependence

- **Unfolding:** the response matrix quantifying the smearing between the reconstructed- and particle-level phase space can depend on the physics model
- **Definition of the phase space:** event selection efficiency and acceptance factors may be different according on the considered signal model
- **Signal extraction procedure:** performed via a template fit (“shape effect”)

In the case the response matrix is quite diagonal, the related model dependence is expected to be small and may be neglected

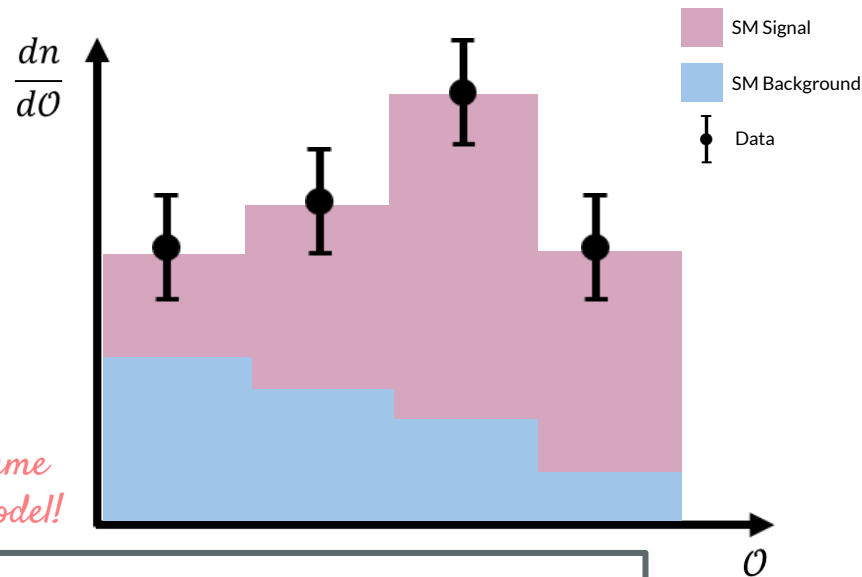
Selection efficiency depends on the detector smearing, whereas the acceptance factor can be estimated a posteriori and be accounted for

Main source of model dependence  
(see next slide)

# Template fit

- Let  $\mathcal{O}$  be an observable with good signal to background discriminating power
- The probability density function (PDF) is usually not known a priori and it is replaced by templates
- Monte Carlo simulations are produced for both signal and background process
- MC simulation of the signal is fitted to experimental data

*Need to assume a physics model!*



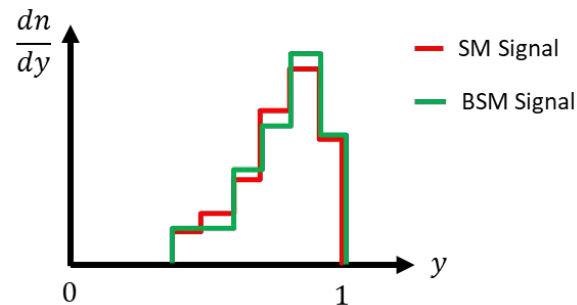
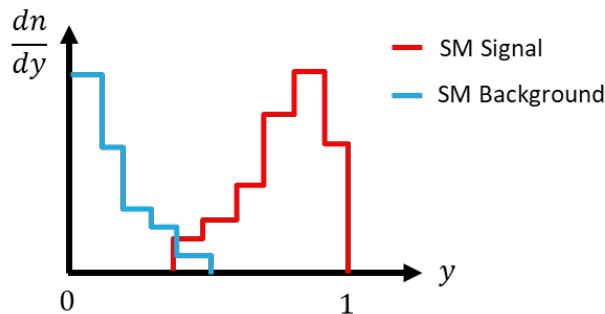
The shape of the observable distribution may in general depend on the properties of the physics theory governing the signal process under consideration

The fit result has a bias toward the prediction of the physics model used to generate the templates

# Main Objective

The main goal is to implement a new fit variable  $y$  that is agnostic with respect to the signal hypothesis:

- $y$  must be able to discriminate signal from background events
- $y$  must not be able to distinguish the physics model of signal events



$y$  does not introduce a bias in the fit result since the shape of its distribution is roughly the same regardless of the theoretical model describing the data



Domain Adaptation

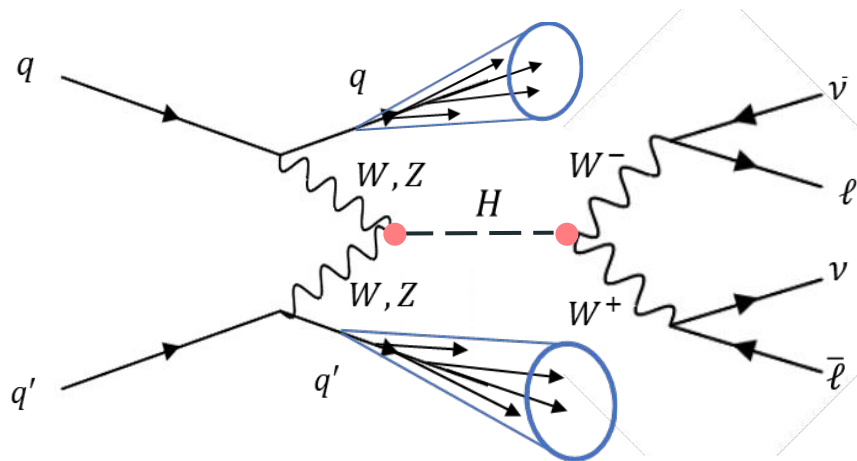
*focus on an Adversarial Deep Neural Network*

The case study of  $H \rightarrow WW$



A Feynman diagram illustrating the decay of a Higgs boson ( $H$ ) into two photons ( $\gamma$ ). The Higgs boson, represented by a grey circle with a cross, splits into two paths. The upper path, indicated by a red wavy line, involves a loop of a  $W^+$  boson (orange circle) and a top quark ( $t$ , orange circle). The lower path, indicated by a blue wavy line, involves a loop of a  $W^-$  boson (blue circle) and an anti-top quark ( $\bar{t}$ , blue circle). Both paths converge to produce two photons ( $\gamma$ , grey circles).

# Signal process



## Vector boson fusion (VBF)

- Rare process
- In  $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 2l2\nu$ , Higgs boson invariant mass can not be reconstructed
- Main backgrounds:  $ggH$ , non resonant  $WW$  and top pair production

Some BSM theories predict Anomalous Couplings (AC) in the HVV vertex  
(more details in [backup](#))

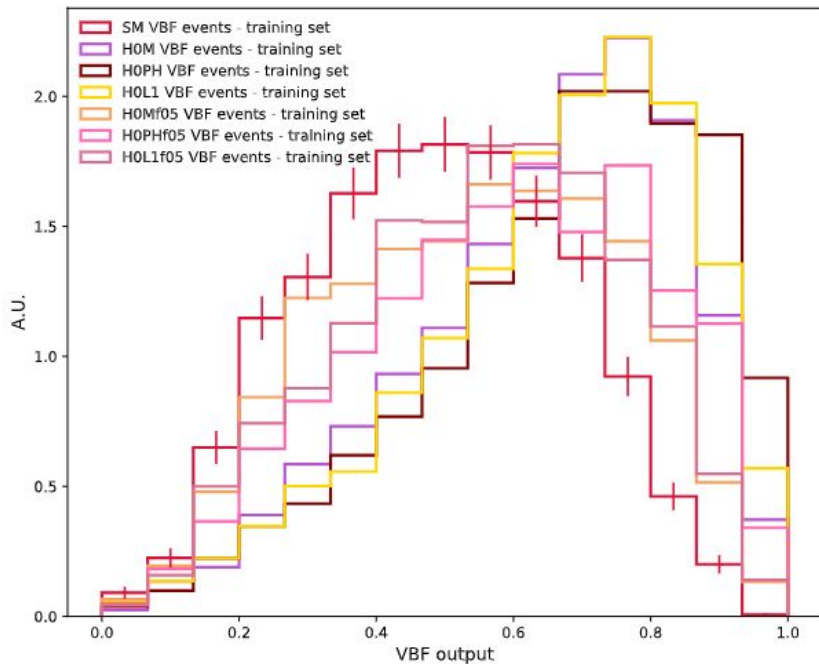
### Objective:

Define a deep neural network that discriminate signal from backgrounds in a way that is independent on the physics model describing the coupling in the HVV vertex

Training performed in a STXS-like phase space region, defined by  $350 < m_{jj} \leq 700$  and  $p_T^H < 200$  GeV

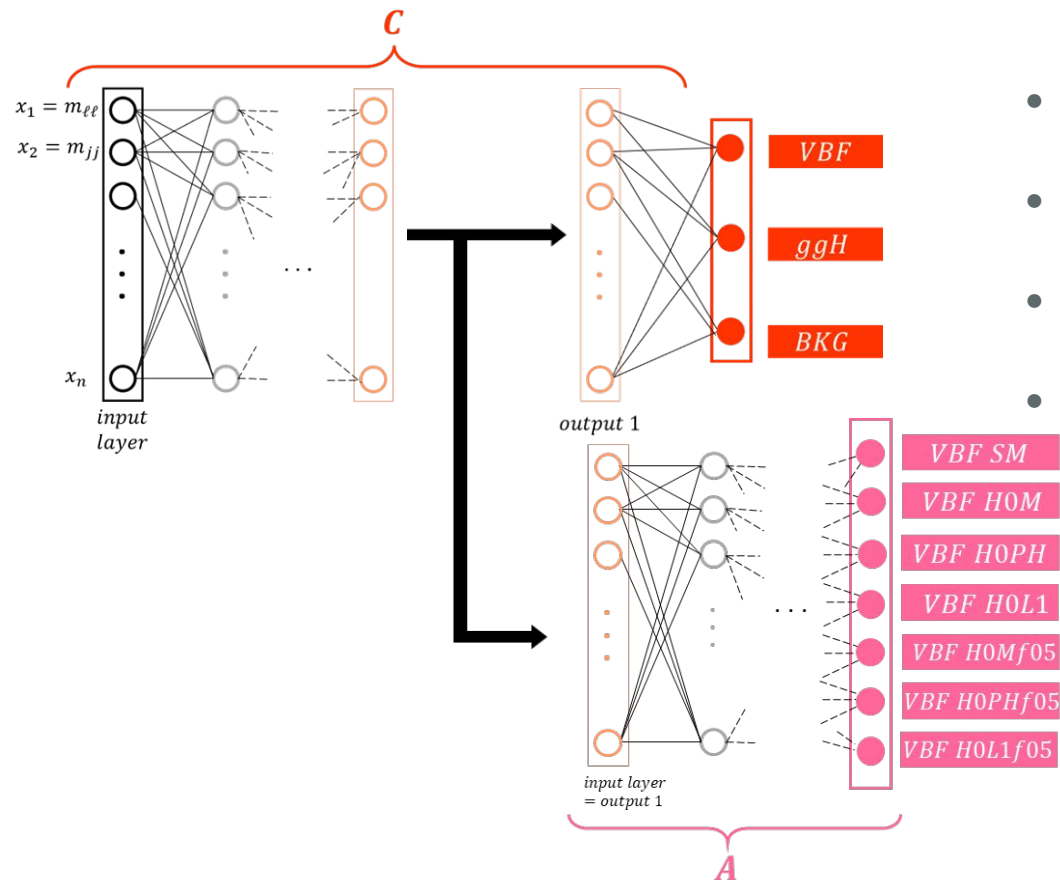


# First attempt: the simplest approach



- Standard feed-forward **DNN** with classification tasks trained on:
  - **SM VBF events**
  - **BSM VBF events**
  - SM gluon-gluon fusion and background events
- Three outputs: VBF, ggH and BKG
- Shapes of the VBF-output differ significantly, showing a **residual degree of dependence on the physics model assumption for the signal process**
- Next step: Domain Adaptation

# Adversarial deep neural network (ADNN)



*Classifier*

- Takes as input the measurable kinematic variables of an event
- Aims to determine if the event is signal- or background-like
- Each output represents the probability that an event belongs to the corresponding class
- Is trained on a data sample including events coming from different “domains”, i.e. different signal models

*Adversary*

- Is trained only on signal events (SM + 6 BSM theories)
- Tries to guess the physics model of signal events, regressing the domain from the second-to-last layer of C

# Competitive learning

- The classifier is penalized if its output contains too much information on the domain of origin of signal events
- If C manages to prevent A from identifying the signal model, then the classification is independent of the domains of origin of the events

*Compute first the gradient of  $\mathcal{L}$  with respect to the  $C$  weights.  
 $A$  weights frozen in this step.*

*The parameter  $\alpha$  regulates the interplay between  $A$  and  $C$*

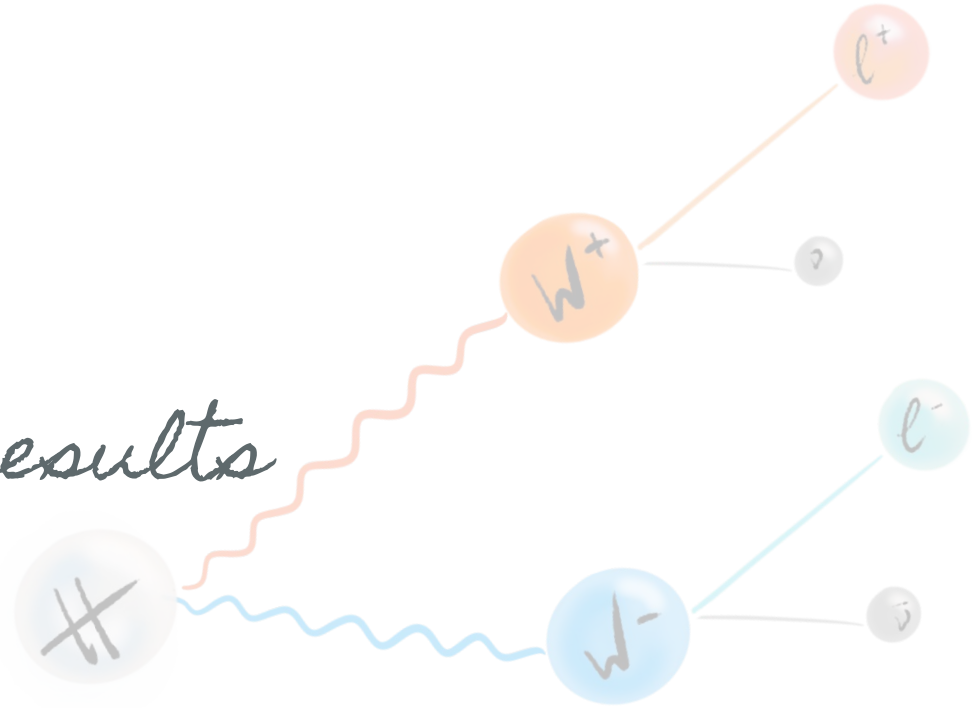
## *Two-step training procedure*

1.  $Loss = Loss(C) - \alpha \cdot Loss(A)$

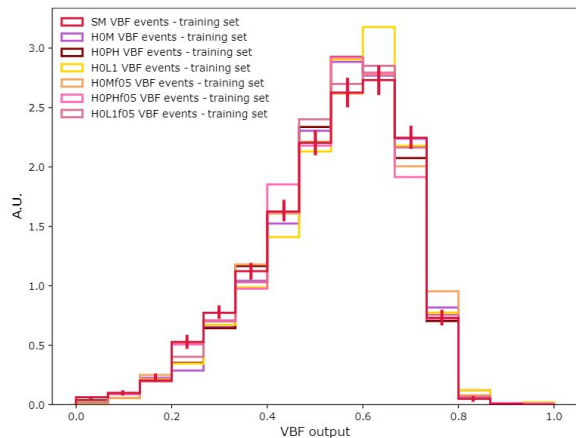
2.  $Loss(A)$

*Compute the gradient of  $\mathcal{L}(A)$  with respect to the  $A$  weights*

Results

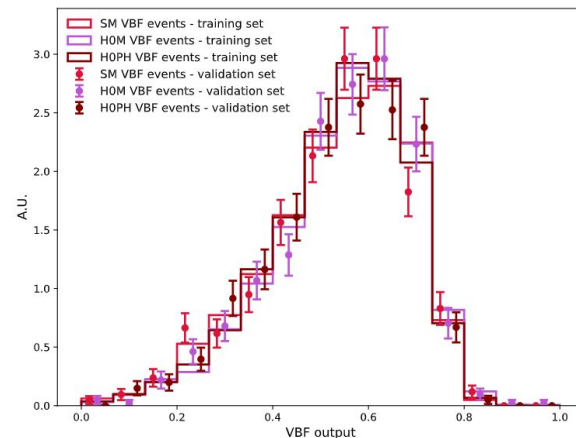


# Training results



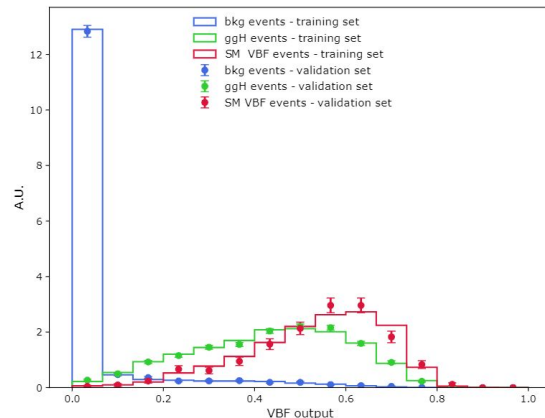
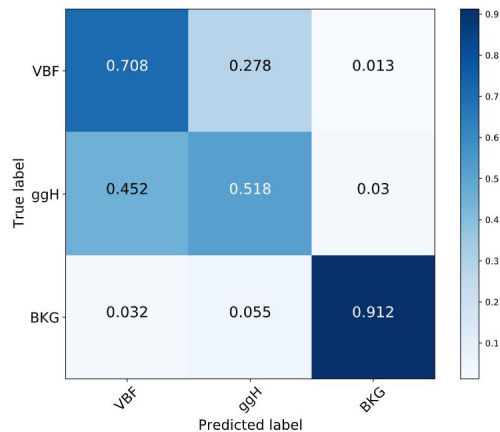
## VBF-output distribution

- ✓ Shapes in fair agreement with each other
- ✓ The classifier is unable to recognize the domain of origin of signal events



## Discriminating power

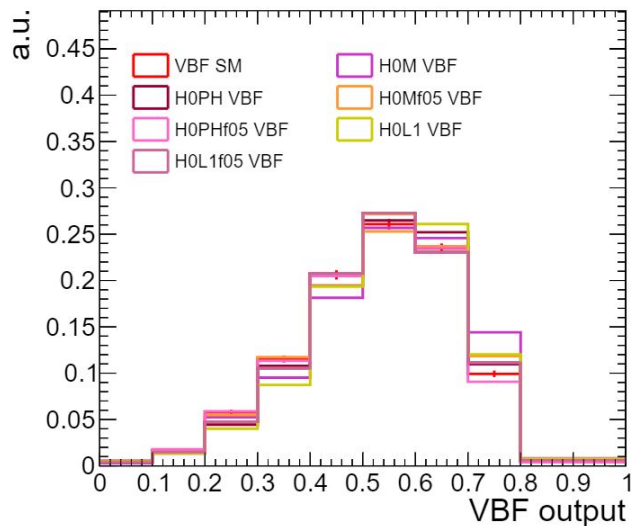
- ✓ Good between bkg and VBF
- ~ Poor between ggH and VBF



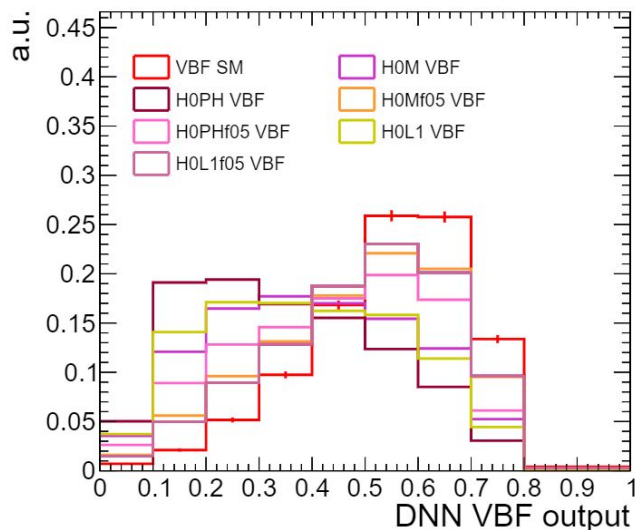
Bias estimation



# ADNN vs DNN



accuracy ~ 69 %



accuracy ~ 72 %

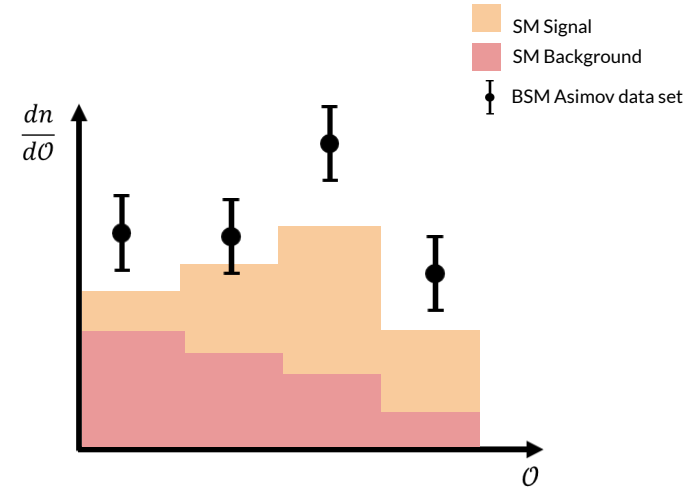
- In order to quantify the bias reduction made possible by the ADNN, a standard feed-forward DNN has been employed
- **Trained using only SM VBF events**
- The DNN structure has been optimized by maximizing the categorical accuracy

*Best trial*

- # hidden layers = 1
- # nodes in each layer = 60
- learning rate = 0.0006

# Bias estimation

- VBF-output used as fit variable
- Asimov data set considering a BSM signal hypothesis and all SM background contributions
- Fit using the SM signal and background templates



*Fit result*

$$\hat{\mu} = \frac{S_{BSM}^{fit}}{S_{SM}^{exp}}$$

- number of measured BSM signal events
- number of expected SM signal events

*Cross sections ratio*

$$\tilde{\mu} = \frac{\sigma_{BSM}}{\sigma_{SM}}$$

*expected value if there is no bias due to the shape effect*

*Total bias*

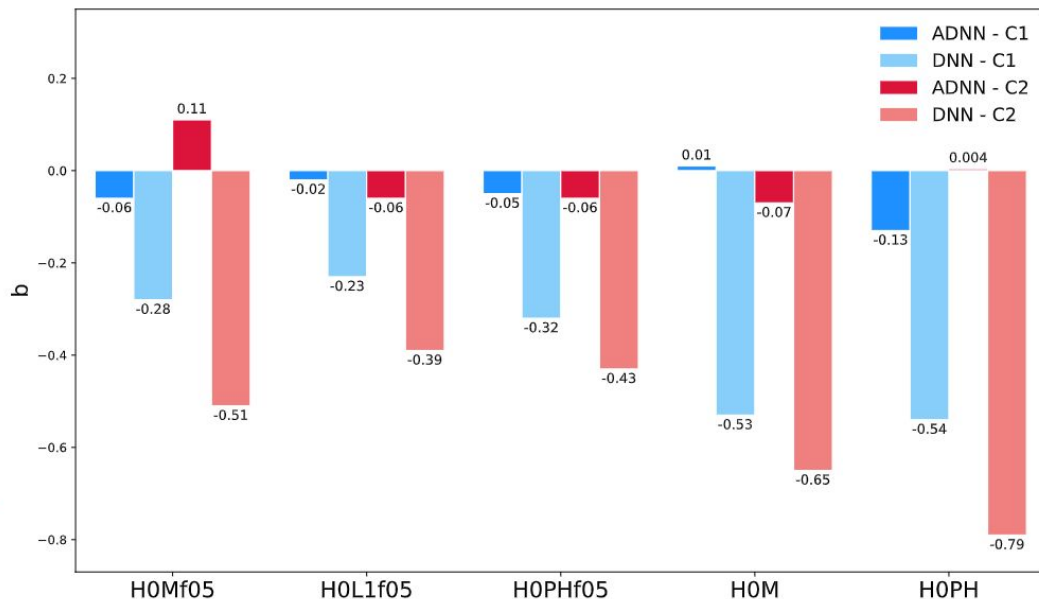
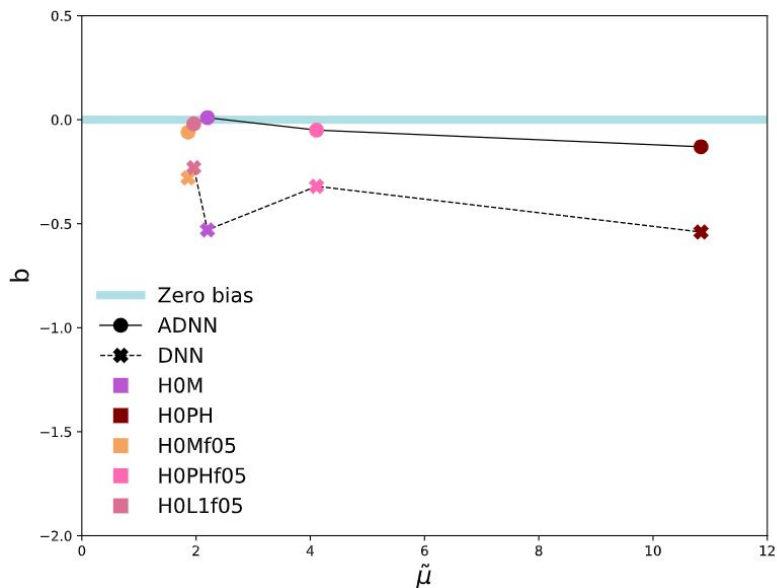
$$b = \frac{\hat{\mu} - \tilde{\mu}}{\tilde{\mu}}$$



# Bias results

- Strongly reduction of the biases when the ADNN

- C1 is  $350 < m_{jj} \leq 700$  and  $p_T^H < 200$  GeV
- C2 is a different phase space region



- DNN bias  $\sim 20\text{-}80\%$  of the expected value
- ADNN bias  $< 10\%$  of the expected value

# Conclusions

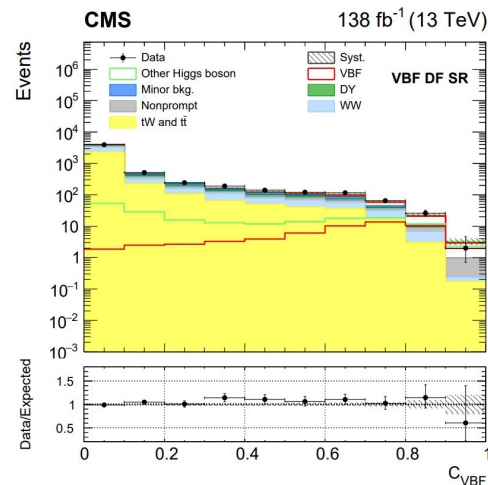
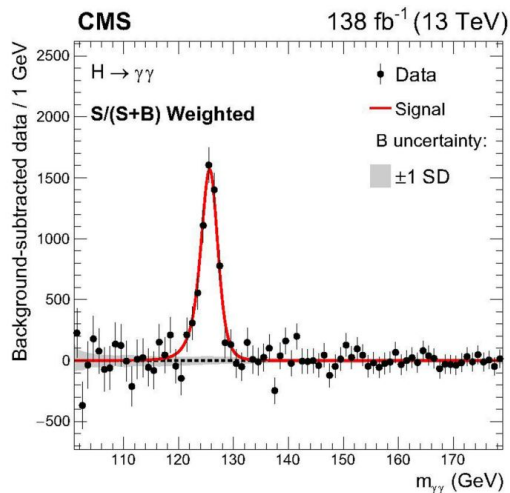
- Performing model independent measurements is crucial to easily re-interpret results
- Domain Adaptation technique is a possible solution to this problem, and we propose an implementation based on a two-networks system called **Adversarial Deep Neural Network (ADNN)**
- The  $H \rightarrow WW$  case study has been presented, where the DA allowed to **significantly reduce the measurement bias due to the signal modeling assumptions**
- Due to its general character, this approach can be useful not only for Higgs boson measurements but also for all SM measurements

*Thanks for your attention*

Backup

# $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ vs $H \rightarrow WW$

- The Higgs boson invariant mass can be reconstructed in  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$
- **The discriminating variable is model independent**
- No bias in the fit procedure



- Due to neutrinos, the Higgs invariant mass can not be reconstructed in  $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow 2l2\nu$
- Deep Neural Network discriminant as fit variable
- Training set from Monte Carlo simulation
- **The shape of the discriminant depends on the physics hypothesis used to generate the training set**

# Introduction to domain adaptation

- **Domain Adaptation** (DA) is a particular case of transfer learning (TL) whose goal is to apply an algorithm trained in one or more *source domains* to a different *target domain*.

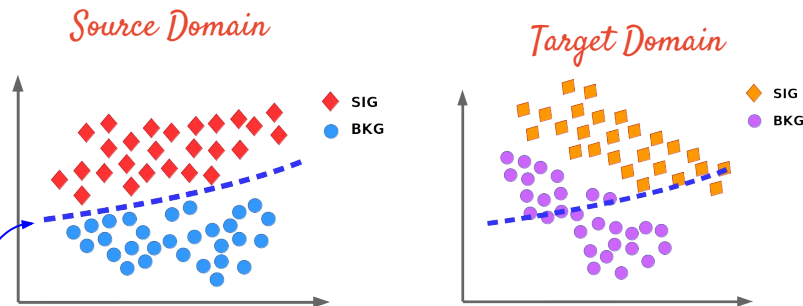
Some definitions

- ★ **Domain**: a feature space  $\mathbf{X}$  + marginal probability distribution  $P(x)$ , with  $x = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  in  $\mathbf{X}$
- ★ **Task**: a label space  $\mathbf{Y}$  and a function  $f: \mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$  used to predict the label  $y$  given the input  $x$

- *Source* and *Target* domains are assumed to be related  $\rightarrow$  distributions of source and target data are not completely different

- ★ **Domain shift**: change in the data distribution between training and deployment
  - Common AI algorithms do not perform well when domain shifts are present

"Traditional"  
discriminant



- Different ways to achieve DA, unsupervised or (semi-)supervised

# Supervised DA

- Supervised learning:
  - $X$  input space,  $Y$  output space (or label space)
  - $(x_i, y_i) \in \mathcal{S}$  i.i.d. from a distribution  $D_S$  (unknown and fixed) of support  $X \times Y$
  - objective: learn  $h: X \rightarrow Y$  from  $\mathcal{S}$  such that it commits the least error possible for labelling new examples coming from  $D_S$
- Supervised domain adaptation:
  - two different (but related) distributions  $D_S$  (source domain) and  $D_T$  (target domain) on  $X \times Y$
  - objective: learn  $h$  from the two domains such that it commits as little error as possible on the target domain  $D_T$ 
    - *main idea : find a representation space that is common to source and target domains*
    - *focus on an adversarial deep learning approach (Adversarial Deep Neural Network)*

# Anomalous couplings in HVV

Scattering amplitude of one spin-0 Higgs boson ( $H$ ) and two spin-1 gauge bosons ( $V_1 V_2$ )

$$A(HVV) \sim \underbrace{\left[ \mathbf{a}_1^{VV} + \frac{k_1^{VV} q_{V1}^2 + k_2^{VV} q_{V2}^2}{(\Lambda_1^{VV})^2} \right]}_{\mathbf{L}_1} m_{V1}^2 \epsilon_{V1}^* \epsilon_{V2}^* + \mathbf{a}_2^{VV} f_{\mu\nu}^{*(1)} f^{*(2)\mu\nu} + \mathbf{a}_3^{VV} f_{\mu\nu}^{*(1)} \tilde{f}^{*(2)\mu\nu}$$

This general structure has 4 couplings:

- $\mathbf{a}_1^{VV} \neq 0$  SM couplings  $J^{CP}=0^{++}$

AC:

- $\mathbf{L}_1 \neq 0$   $H$ - $Vff$  or  $H$ - $ffff$  couplings predicted by **HOL1** model
- $\mathbf{a}_2^{VV} \neq 0$  loop-induced ( $HZ\gamma, H\gamma\gamma, Hgg$ ) CP-even coupling predicted by **HOPH** model
- $\mathbf{a}_3^{VV} \neq 0$  three loop induced CP-odd coupling predicted by **HOM** model

+ **HOL1f05**, **HOPHf05**  
and **HOMf05** theories  
which are mixtures  
between the SM and  
one of the previous  
model

# Analysis strategy

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## Global selection

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oppositely-charged  $e\mu$  final state,  
 at least two jets with  $p_T > 30$  GeV,  
 $p_T^{\ell_1} > 25$  GeV,  $p_T^{\ell_2} > 13$  GeV,  $p_T^{\ell_3} < 10$  GeV,  
 $m_{\ell\ell} > 12$  GeV,  $p_T^{\ell\ell} > 30$  GeV,  $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 20$  GeV,  
 $m_T^H > 60$  GeV,  $m_T^{\ell_2} > 30$  GeV,  
 $|\eta_{j_1}| < 4.7$ ,  $|\eta_{j_2}| < 4.7$

---

C1

C2

---

$350 < m_{jj} \leq 700$ GeV, $p_T^H < 200$ GeV, $ y_H  < 2.5$	$m_{jj} > 700$ GeV, $p_T^H < 200$ GeV, $ y_H  < 2.5$ or $m_{jj} > 350$ GeV, $p_T^H > 200$ GeV, $ y_H  < 2.5$
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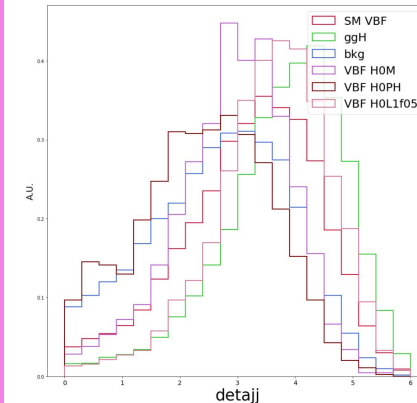
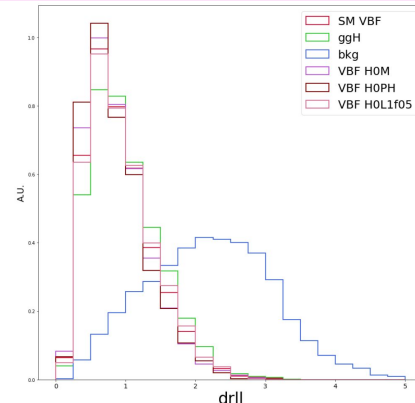
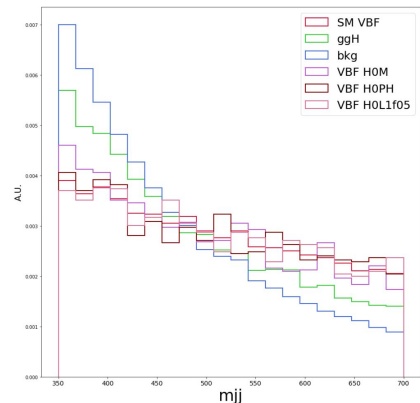
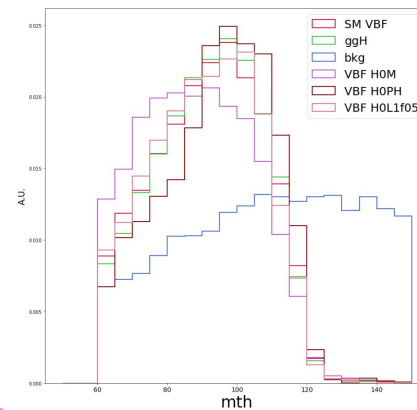
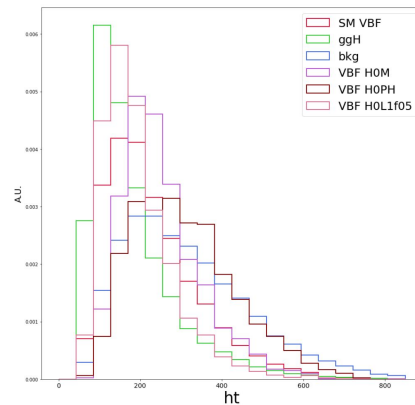
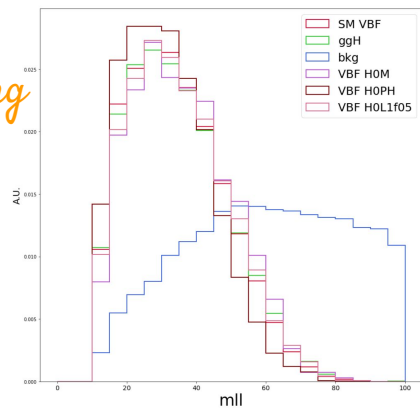
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# Some input features

*strongly dependent on  
theoretical signal modeling*

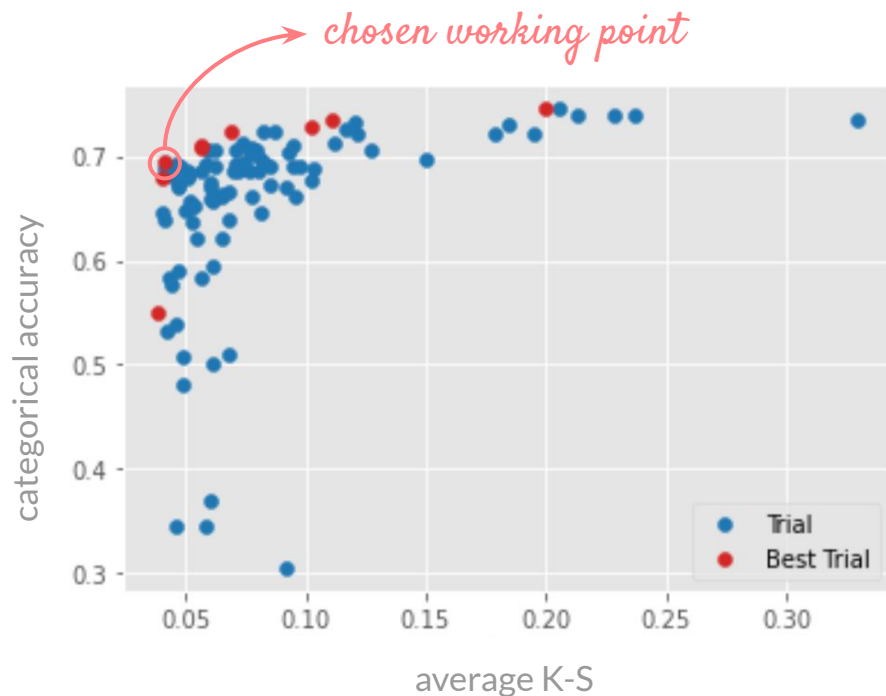
*highly discriminating  
between signal and  
backgrounds*



# Optimization

- Two-step optimization using [Optuna](#) by:
  - Maximizing the **categorical accuracy** of the classifier
  - Minimizing the average of the **two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov (K-S) test statistic** between the distributions of the VBF-output shapes of signal events simulated under the SM and each of the considered BSM hypotheses (“average K-S test statistic”)
- First step: optimization of  $n_{layers}^C, \eta^C, n_{layers}^A, \eta^A, n_{nodes}$  and  $\alpha$
- Second step: optimization of  $\eta^C, \eta^A$  and  $\alpha$ , keeping  $n_{layers}^C, n_{layers}^A, n_{nodes}$  fixed to their best value determined in the first step
- Each step composed of 100 training trials of 800 epochs each
- Hyperparameters values varied according to a Bayesian optimization approach

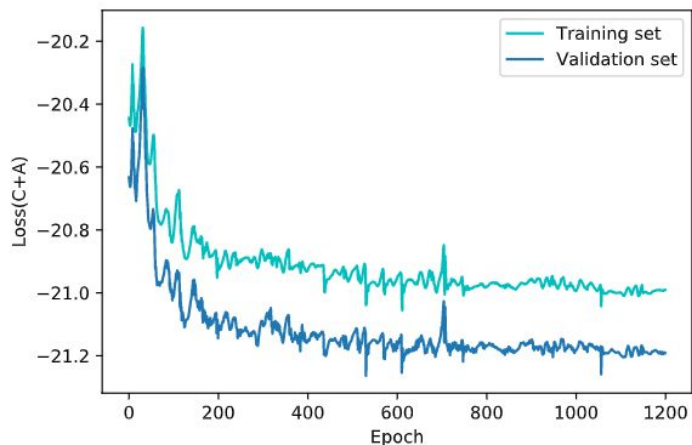
# Optimization - result of the second step



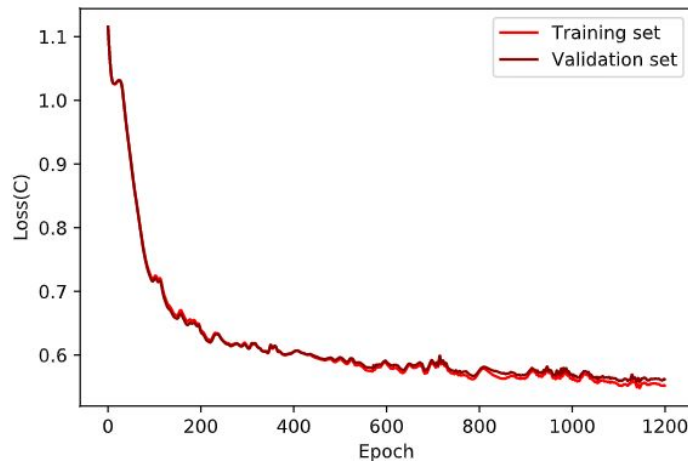
Hyperparameter	C1
$\alpha$	100
$\eta^C$	0.00098
$\eta^A$	0.006
$n_{\text{nodes}}$	48
$n_1^C$	4
$n_1^A$	9
Objective function	
categorical accuracy	69%
average K-S test statistic	0.05

# Training results (1)

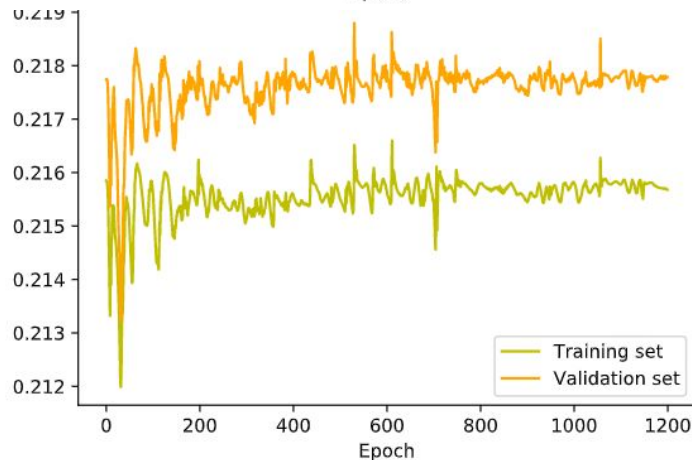
- Loss function



$$Loss = Loss(C) - \alpha \cdot Loss(A)$$

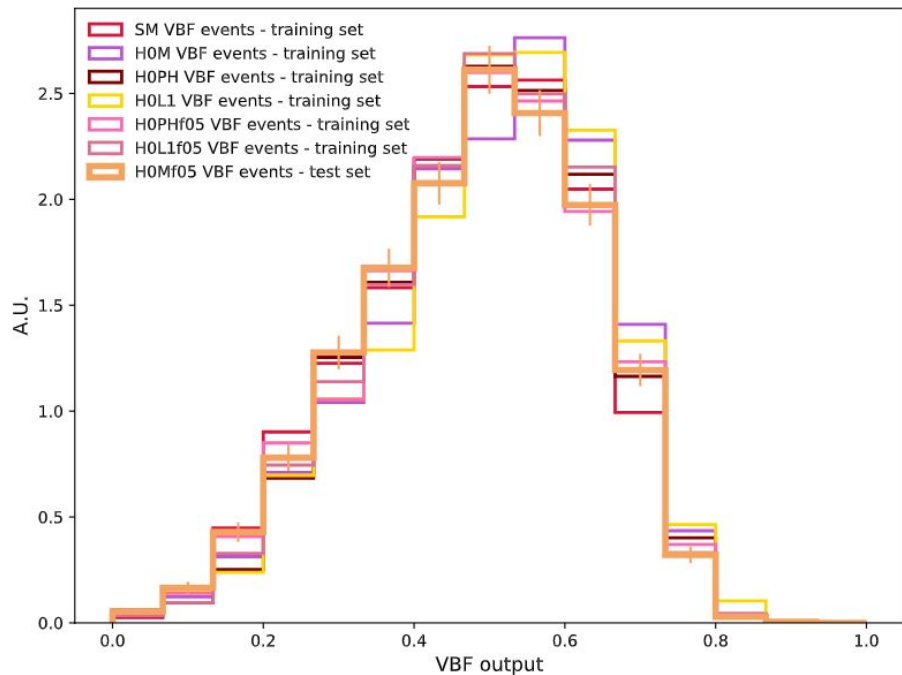


- $L(C)$  decreases as usual



- $L(A)$  saturates to a constant value, meaning that the performance of A is equivalent to random guessing

# Agnosticism against unseen model



- The model chosen by Nature is unknown and in general may be different from the ones the discriminator has been trained on (unknown mixture between CP-even and CP-odd couplings)
- **An ADNN has been trained excluding one of the mixed models** (ticker line) and compared the discriminator shape between the models used in the training and the excluded one
- Having trained against the pure models is sufficient for the discriminator to be agnostic against the mixed model

# Performance

- Asimov data set corresponding to the assumption of SM cross sections
- Fit using the SM signal and background templates
- $\mu$  is equal to 1 by construction
- Not significant deterioration on the total total errors of  $\mu$  when the ADNN is used
- DNN and ADNN have almost the same discriminating power

	DNN	ADNN
Category	Total uncertainty	Total uncertainty
C1	$-0.38 / + 0.55$	$-0.39 / + 0.56$

# Bias values

- $\sim$  expected value
- $\wedge$  fit result

H0Mf05					
	DNN			ADNN	
<i>Category</i>	$\tilde{\mu}$	$\hat{\mu}$	$b$	$\hat{\mu}$	$b$
C1	1.86	1.34	-0.28	1.75	-0.06
C2	3.58	2.77	-0.51	3.17	0.11

H0L1f05					
	DNN			ADNN	
<i>Category</i>	$\tilde{\mu}$	$\hat{\mu}$	$b$	$\hat{\mu}$	$b$
C1	1.96	1.52	-0.23	1.92	-0.02
C2	4.02	2.46	-0.39	3.76	-0.06

H0PH05					
	DNN			ADNN	
<i>Category</i>	$\tilde{\mu}$	$\hat{\mu}$	$b$	$\hat{\mu}$	$b$
C1	4.11	1.34	-0.32	3.91	-0.05
C2	5.73	1.77	-0.43	5.39	-0.06

H0M					
	DNN			ADNN	
<i>Category</i>	$\tilde{\mu}$	$\hat{\mu}$	$b$	$\hat{\mu}$	$b$
C1	2.20	1.04	-0.53	2.22	0.01
C2	7.71	2.69	-0.65	7.13	-0.07

H0PH					
	DNN			ADNN	
<i>Category</i>	$\tilde{\mu}$	$\hat{\mu}$	$b$	$\hat{\mu}$	$b$
C1	10.84	4.98	-0.54	9.40	-0.13
C2	27.64	5.82	-0.79	27.76	0.004