

Towards a Stage 1.3 / Stage 2 STXS extension for H+2j production

STXS finalization meeting of the LHCHWG2

14.12.2023

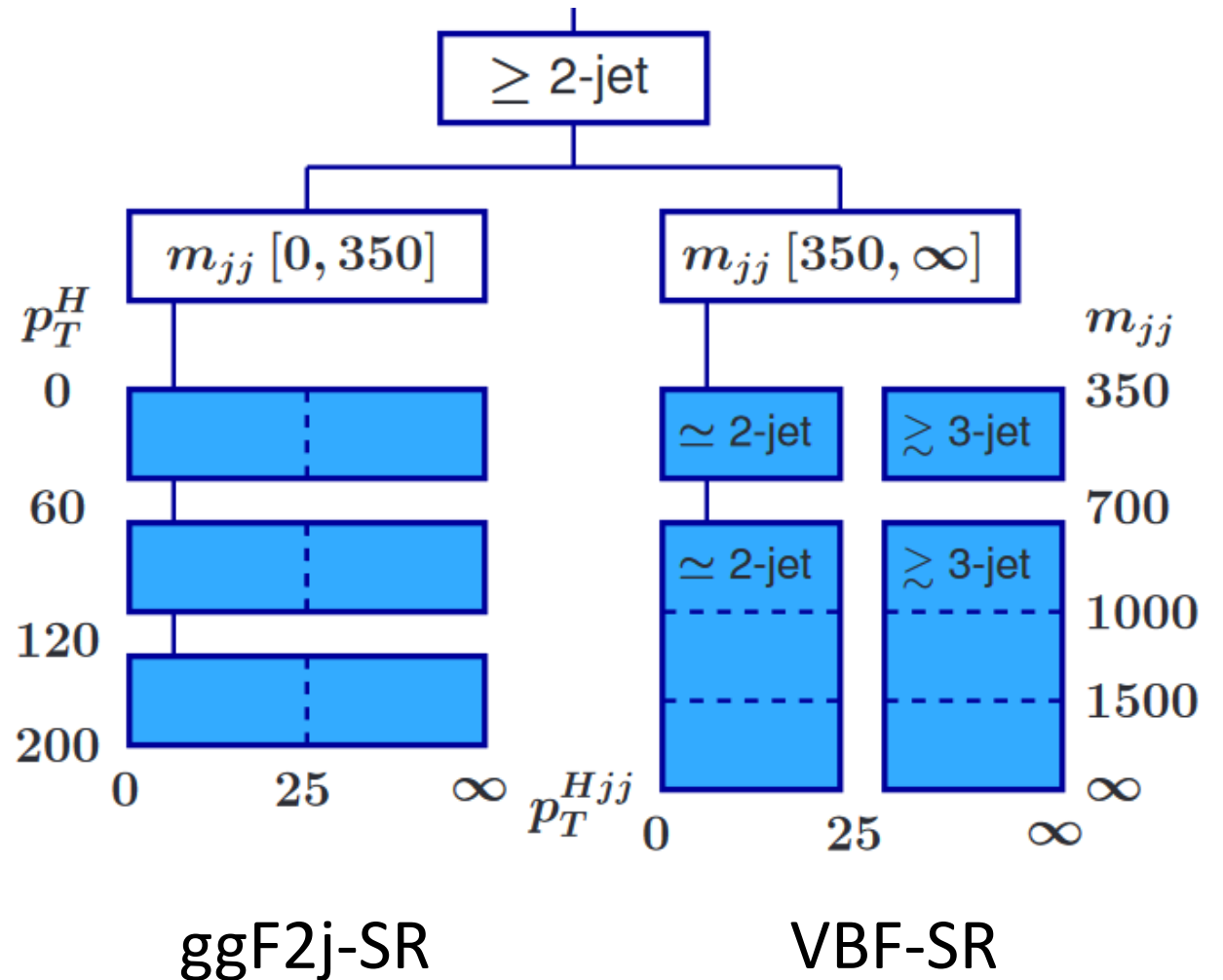
Based on: [\[2309.03146\]](#)



BSM framework

- We used a classifier to separate events into a ggF2j- and a VBF-SR
- Not exactly STXS but m_{jj} is the most important variable for separation

⇒ Overlap should be large

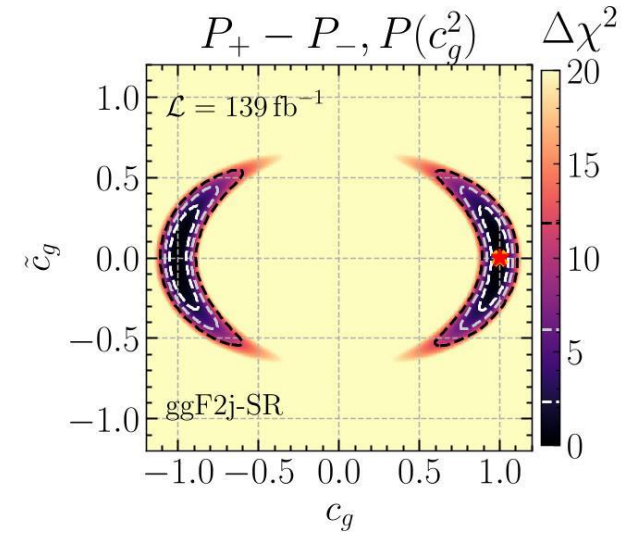
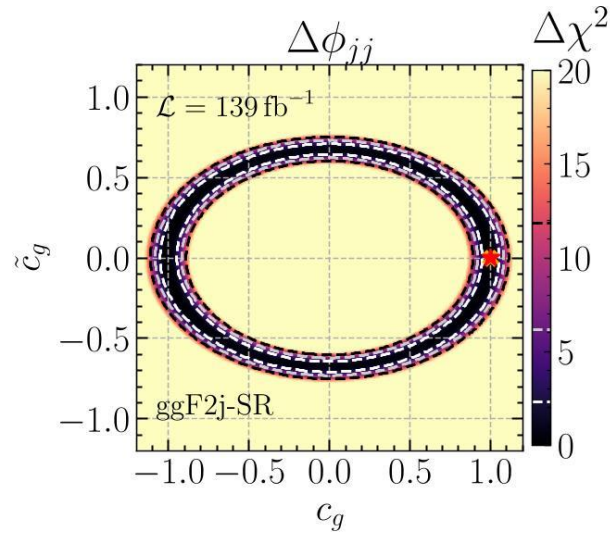


Expected limits

- We compare limits from a $\Delta\phi_{jj}$ separation alone to limits from a CP-even and a CP-odd classifier

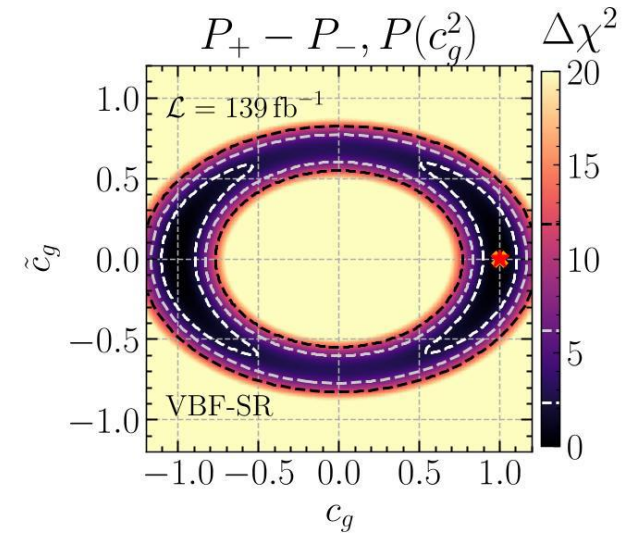
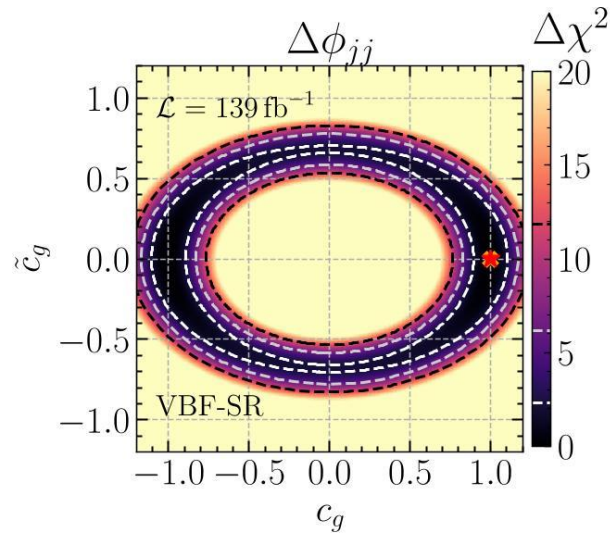
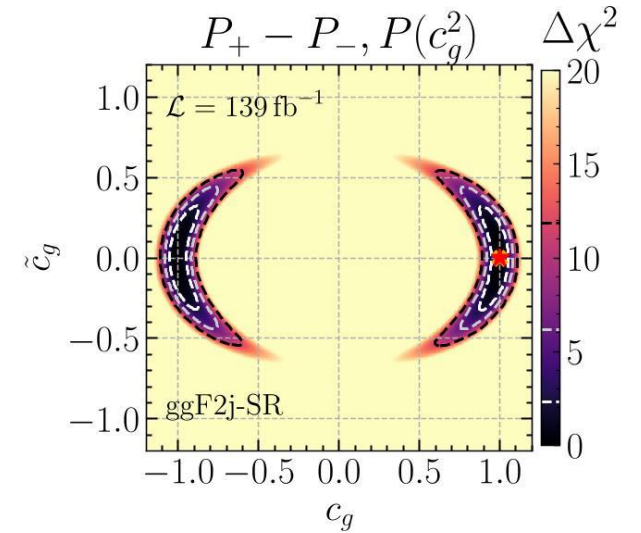
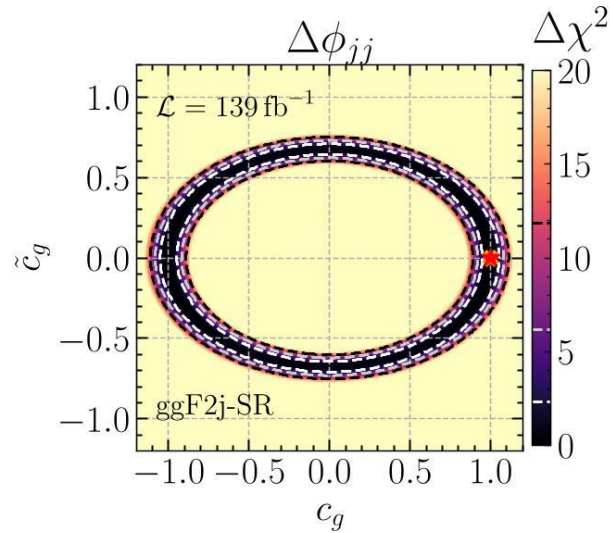
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- In the ggF2j-SR, the classifiers outperform $\Delta\phi_{jj}$ by a lot

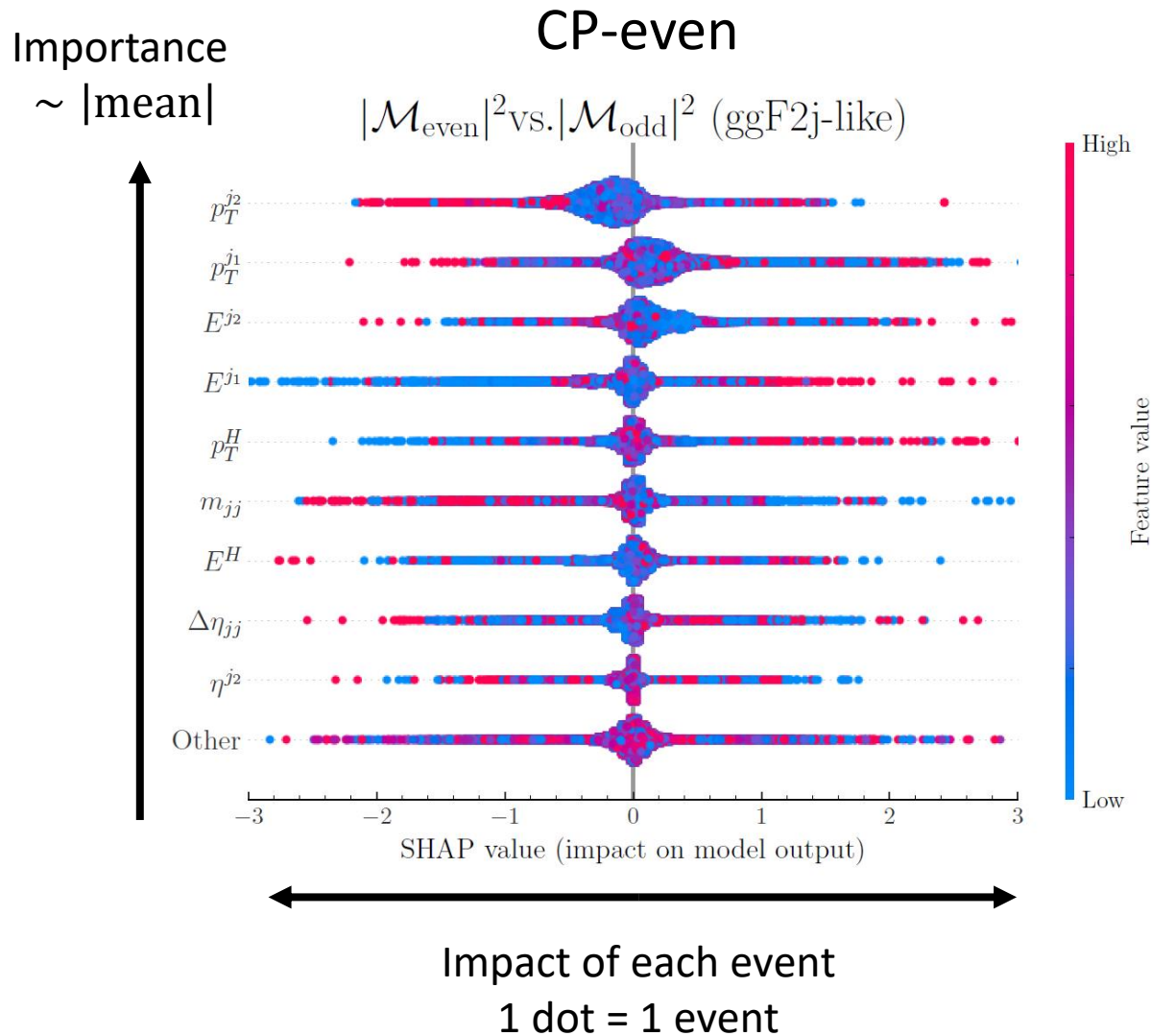


Expected limits

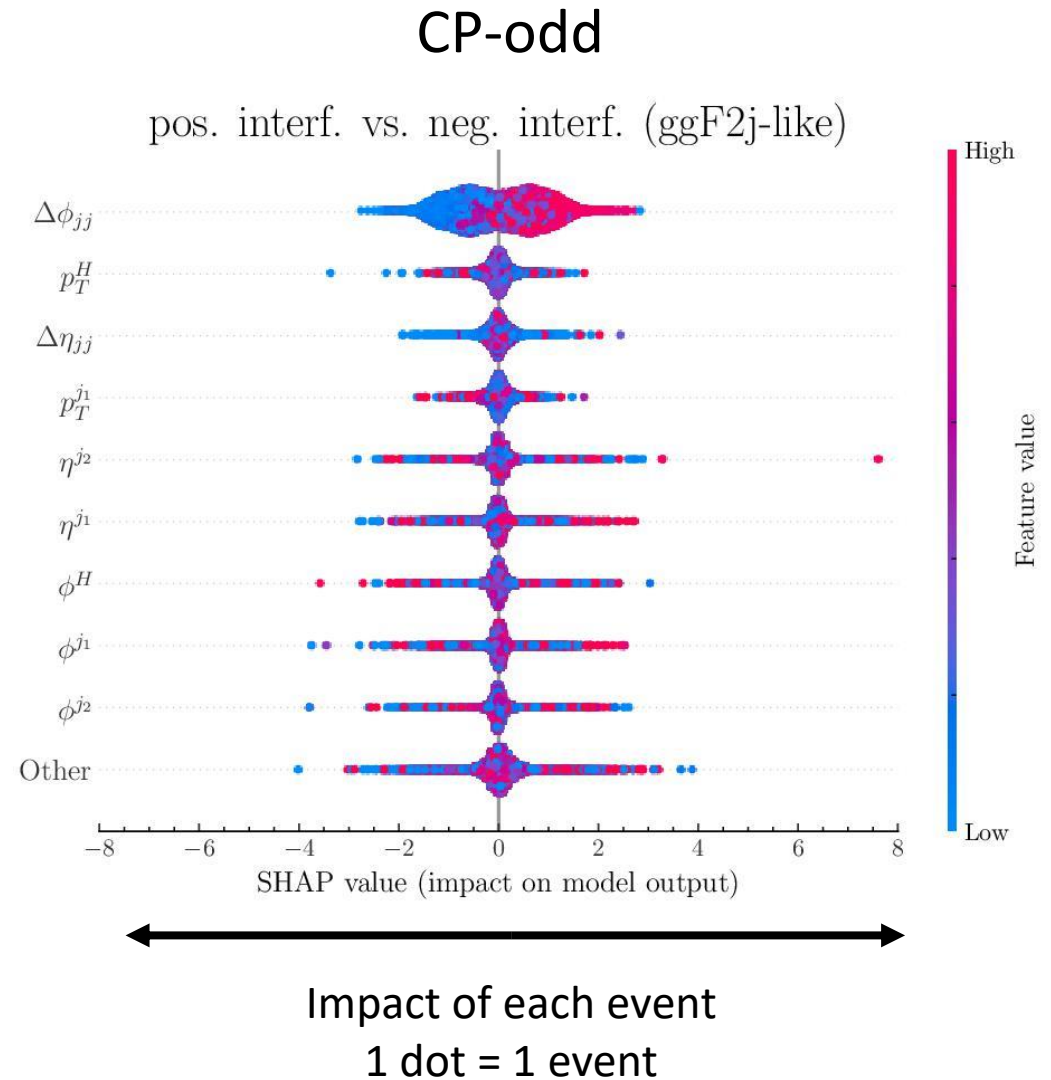
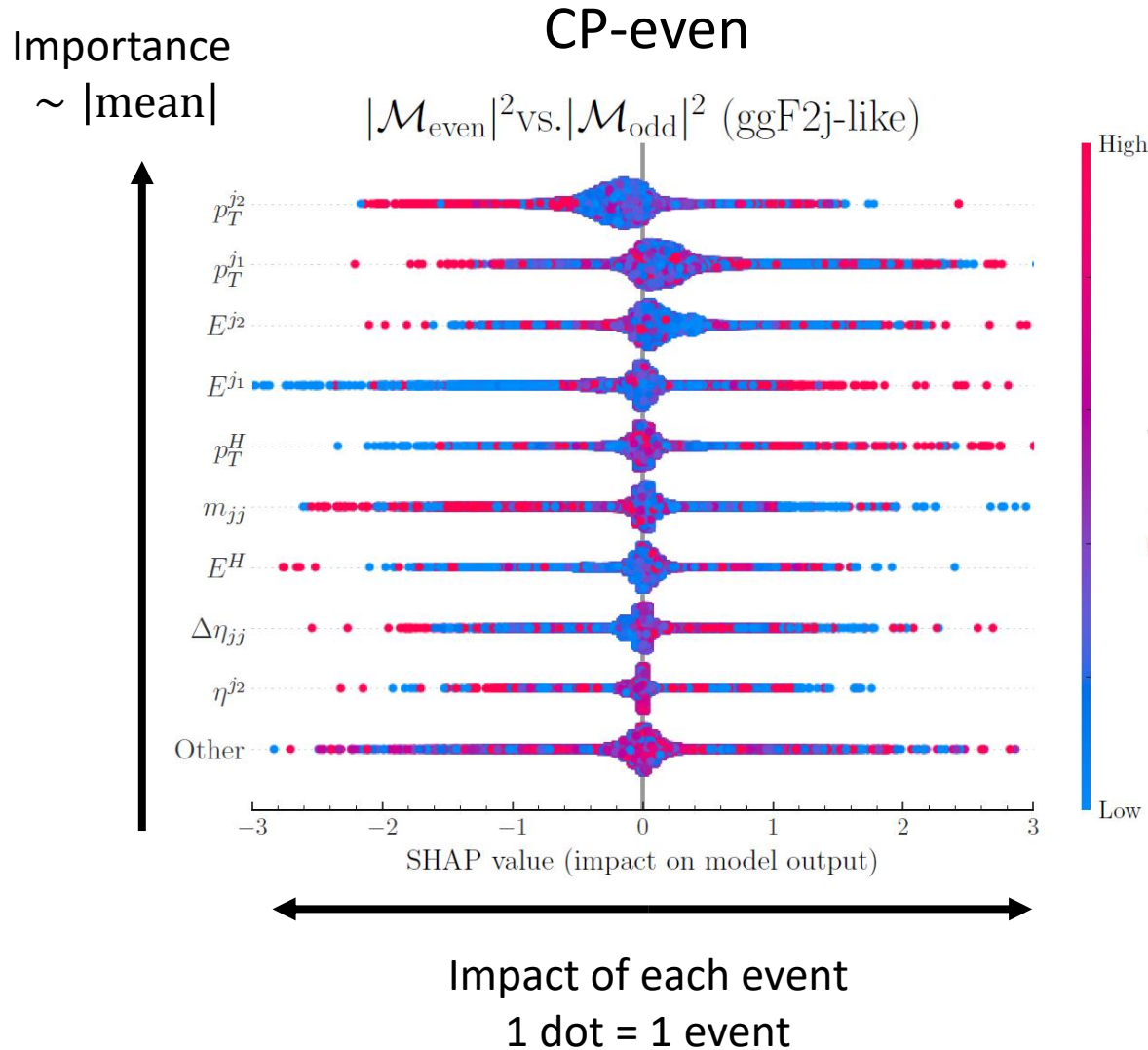
- We compare limits from a $\Delta\phi_{jj}$ separation alone to limits from a CP-even and a CP-odd classifier
- In the ggF2j-SR, the classifiers outperform $\Delta\phi_{jj}$ by a lot
- In the VBF-SR, $\Delta\phi_{jj}$ is a lot more important



Variable importance – ggF2j-SR



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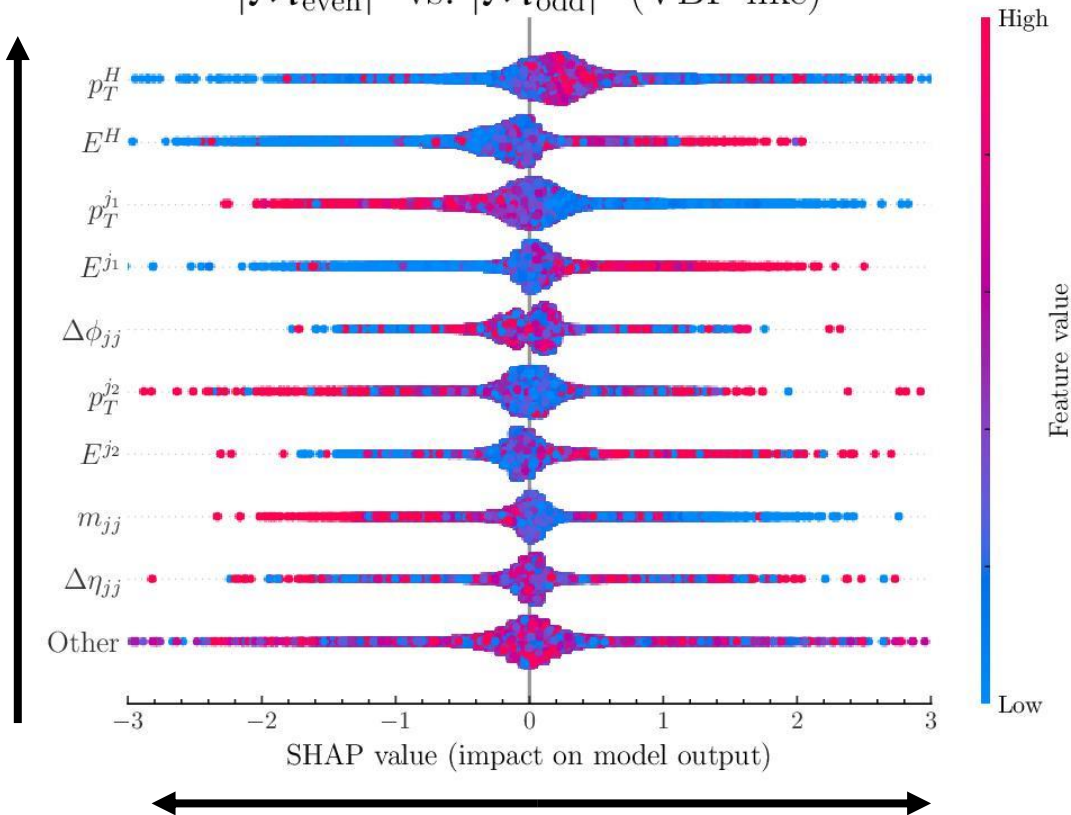


Variable importance – VBF-SR

CP-even

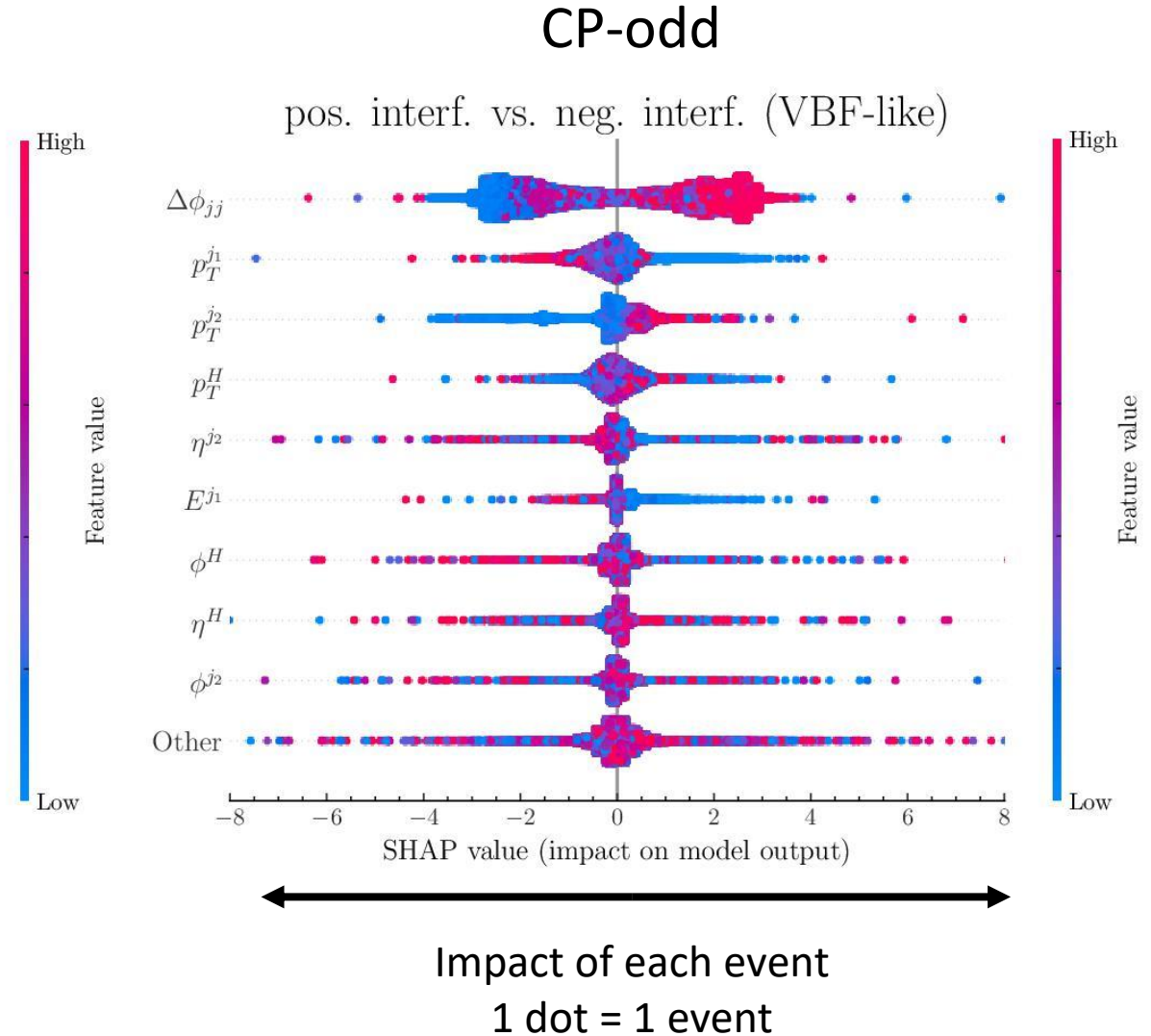
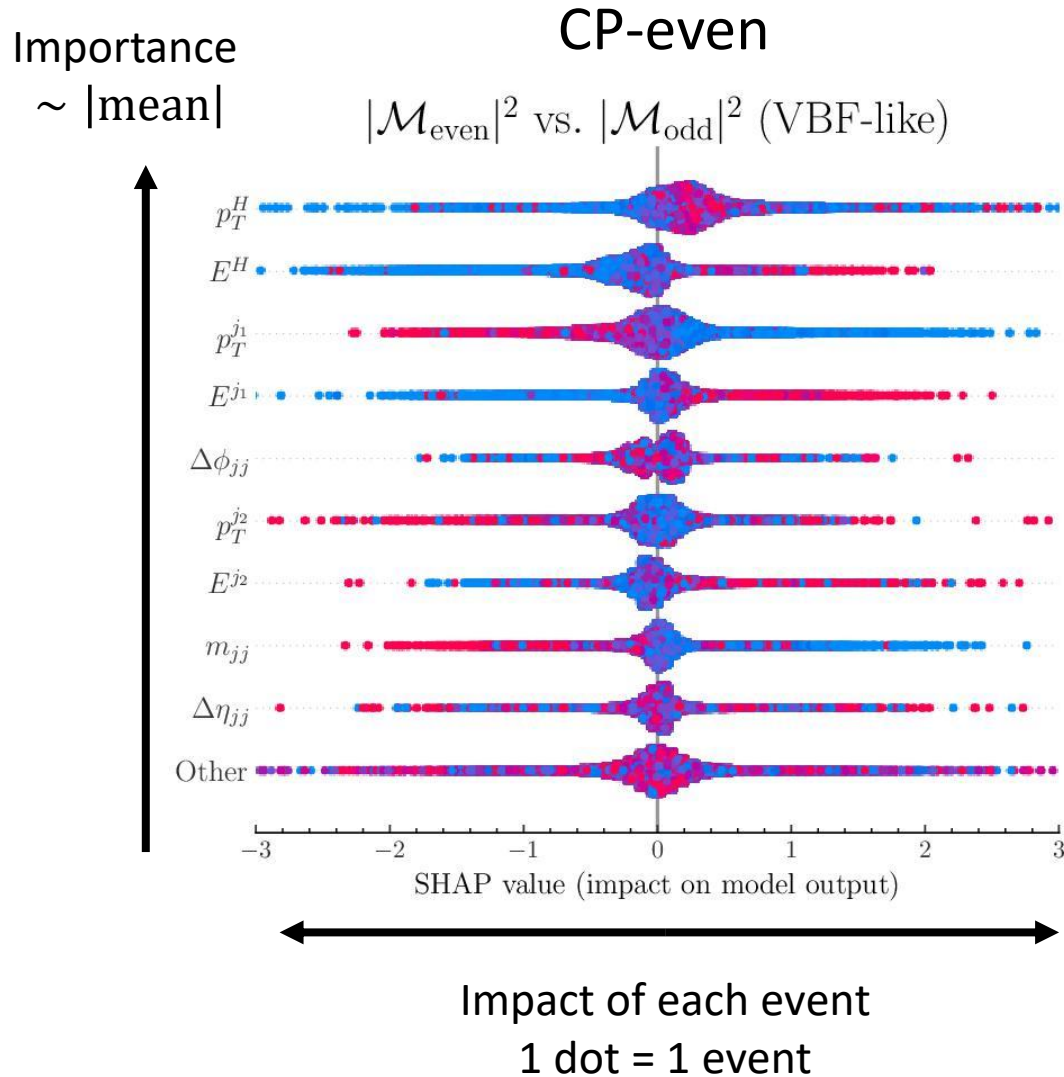
Importance
 $\sim |\text{mean}|$

$|\mathcal{M}_{\text{even}}|^2$ vs. $|\mathcal{M}_{\text{odd}}|^2$ (VBF-like)



Impact of each event
1 dot = 1 event

Variable importance – VBF-SR



Conclusions

- $\Delta\phi_{jj}$ is the most important variable for interference effects
- In the ggF2j-SR (low m_{jj}), the interference effect has a low impact on the CP separation and $\Delta\phi_{jj}$ is therefore less important
- In the VBF-SR, we observe the opposite
- This study was conducted with $\mathcal{L} = 139\text{fb}^{-1}$, interference effects will become more important in the future

⇒ $\Delta\phi_{jj}$ is a good candidate for an extended STXS binning

Backup

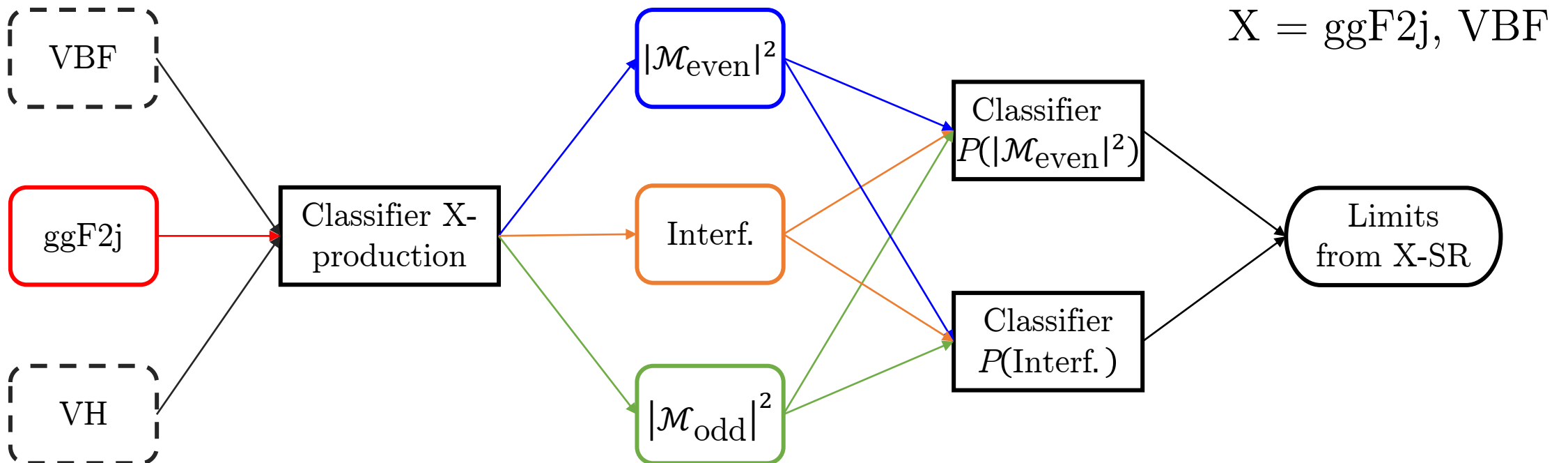
Cutflow

	Fraction of accepted events				
Applied cut	ggF2j $ \mathcal{M}_{\text{even}} ^2$	ggF2j Interf.	ggF2j $ \mathcal{M}_{\text{odd}} ^2$	VBF	VH
Initial events	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
$N_j \geq 2, N_\gamma \geq 2$	48.1%	50.8%	48.1%	62.6%	49.8%
$100\text{GeV} \leq m_{\gamma\gamma}$ $m_{\gamma\gamma} \leq 140\text{GeV}$	47.8%	50.5%	47.9%	62.0%	49.4%
$p_T^{\gamma_1} / m_{\gamma\gamma} \geq 0.35$ $p_T^{\gamma_2} / m_{\gamma\gamma} \geq 0.25$	39.4%	40.9%	39.8%	50.0%	40.5%
$p_T^{j_1} \geq 30\text{GeV}$ $p_T^{j_2} \geq 20\text{GeV}$	38.6%	40.2%	38.6%	49.7%	39.9%
$ \eta_j \leq 2.5$ $ \eta_\gamma \leq 2.5$	22.9%	21.5%	22.7%	39.8%	31.2%
$p_T^H \leq 200\text{GeV} *$	18.6%	18.4%	18.3%	34.4%	26.8%

* It is possible to relax this cut using FT_{approx} → see [Maltoni et al. '14](#)

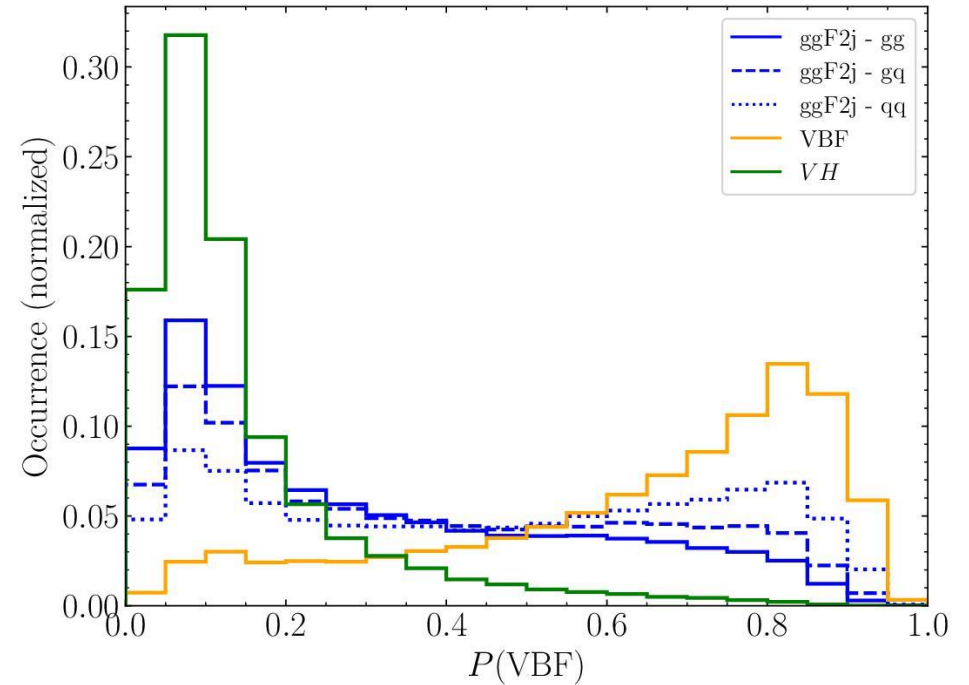
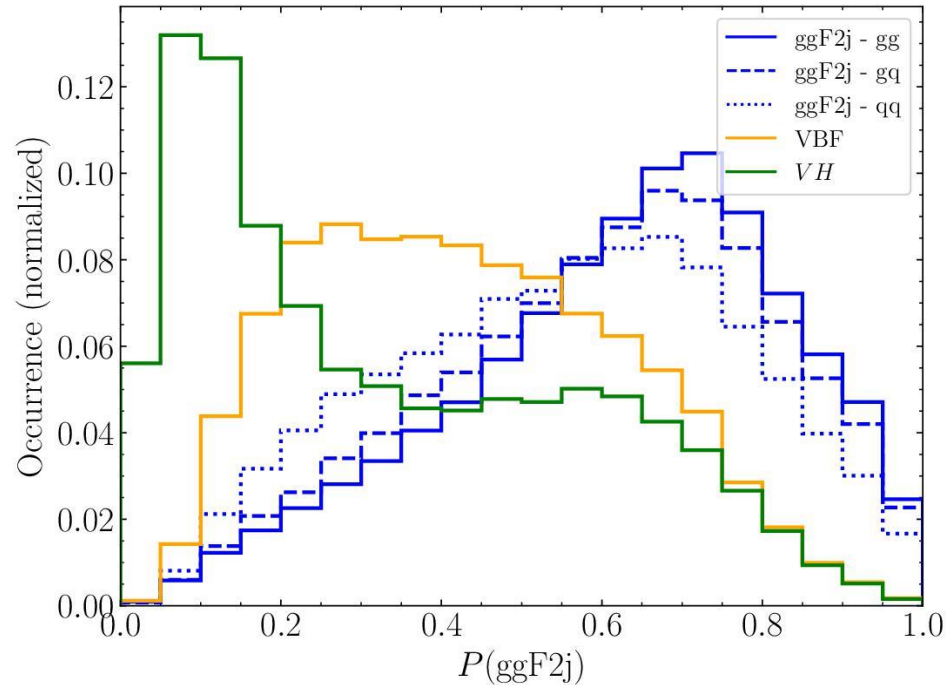
Analysis strategy

$$|\mathcal{M}_{\text{ggF2j}}|^2 = c_g^2 |\mathcal{M}_{\text{even}}|^2 + \underbrace{2c_g \tilde{c}_g \text{Re}[\mathcal{M}_{\text{even}} \mathcal{M}_{\text{odd}}^*]}_{\text{Interference}} + \tilde{c}_g^2 |\mathcal{M}_{\text{odd}}|^2$$



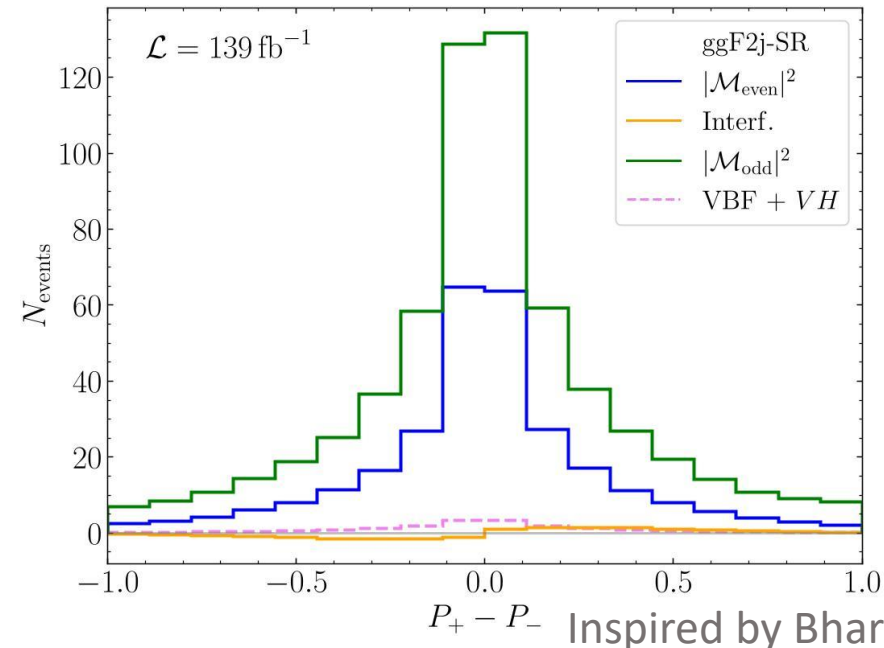
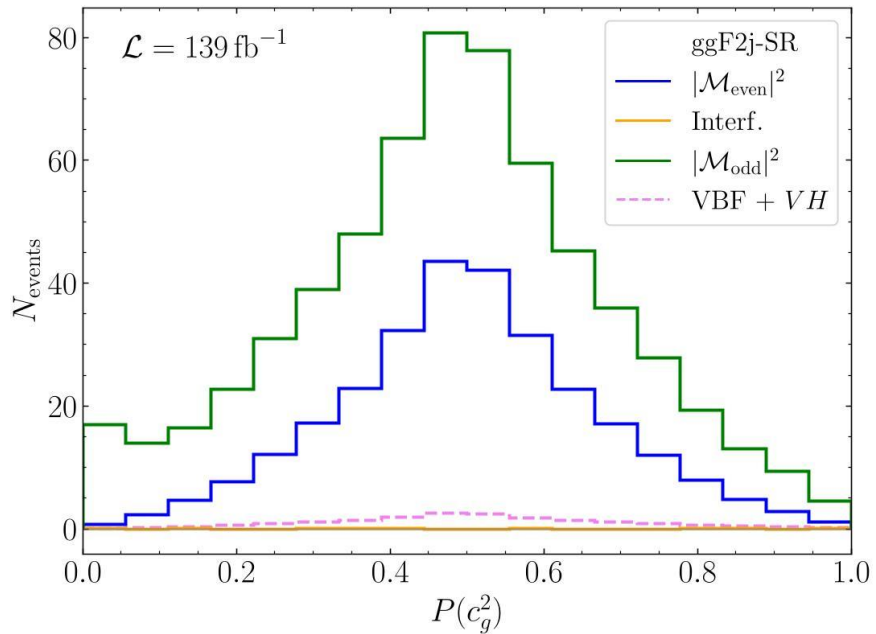
- Train a CP-even and a CP-odd classifier in a ggF2j-SR and a VBF-SR

Signal regions



- Use $P(\text{signal}) > 0.5$ as a cut to define signal regions
- ggF2j with $q\bar{q}$ initial state are identified as VBF-like more often
- ggF2j interference events are also identified as VBF-like more often

ggF2j signal region

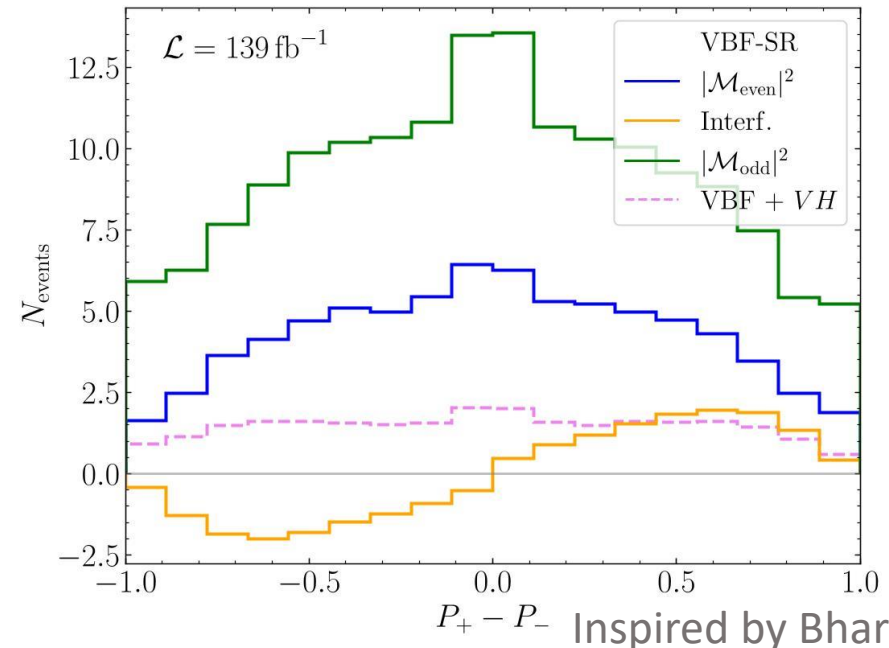
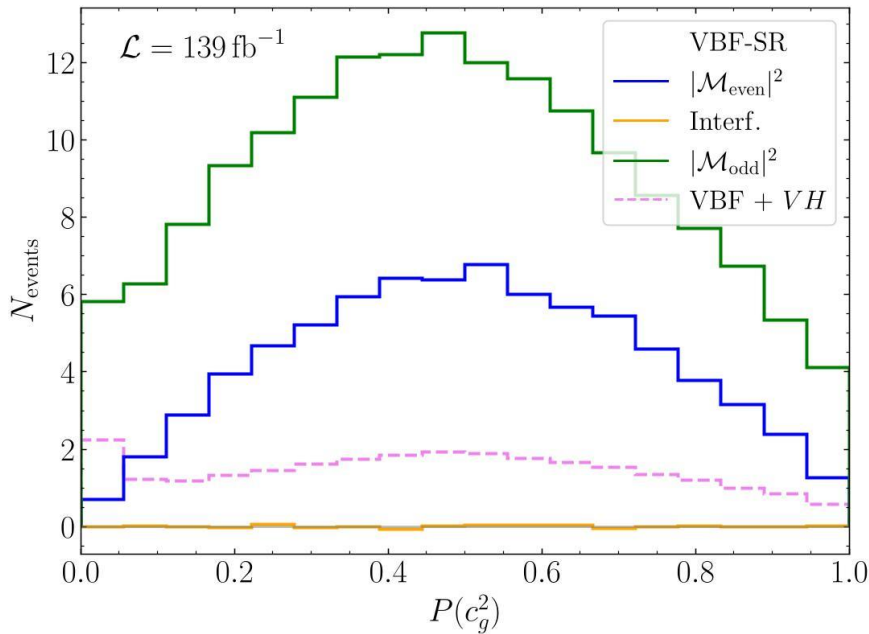


Inspired by [Bhardwaj et al. '21](#)

- $P(c_g^2)$ differentiates between $c_g^2 |\mathcal{M}_{\text{even}}|^2$ and $\tilde{c}_g^2 |\mathcal{M}_{\text{odd}}|^2$
- Kinematically very similar, but some separation in outer bins
- Interference term cancels out

- $P_+ - P_-$ differentiates between **positive and negative interference**
- Interference barely visible due to low cross section & looks more VBF-like
- CP-even terms are symmetric

VBF signal region



Inspired by [Bhardwaj et al. '21](#)

- $P(c_g^2)$ differentiates between $c_g^2 |\mathcal{M}_{\text{even}}|^2$ and $\tilde{c}_g^2 |\mathcal{M}_{\text{odd}}|^2$
- Less events than in ggF2j-SR, statistical fluctuations visible
- Wider peak around $P(c_g^2) = 0.5$

- $P_+ - P_-$ differentiates between **positive and negative interference**
- Interference much more pronounced due to overall lower events and their VBF-like kinematic