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Boosting Higgs Pair Production in the $bbbb$ Final State with Multivariate Techniques

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The measurement of Higgs pair production will be a cornerstone of the LHC program in the coming years. Double Higgs production provides a crucial window upon the mechanism of electroweak symmetry breaking and has a unique sensitivity to the Higgs trilinear coupling. We study the feasibility of a measurement of Higgs pair production in the $bbbb$ final state at the LHC. Our analysis is based on a combination of traditional cut-based methods with state-of-the-art multivariate techniques. We account for all relevant backgrounds, including the contributions from light and charm jet mis-identification, which are ultimately comparable in size to the irreducible $4b$ QCD background. We demonstrate the robustness of our analysis strategy in a high pileup environment. For an integrated luminosity of $L = 3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$, a signal significance of $S/B \sim 3$ is obtained, indicating that the $bbbb$ final state alone could allow for the observation of double Higgs production at the High Luminosity LHC. We also found that, provided light jet mis-identification can be reduced, the signal significance could be increased up to the discovery level.

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