

# Particle identification at LHCb

New calibration techniques and machine learning  
classification algorithms

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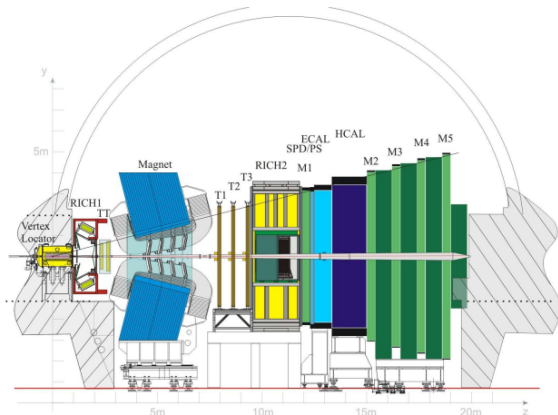
University of Warwick, UK

5 July 2018

On behalf of LHCb collaboration



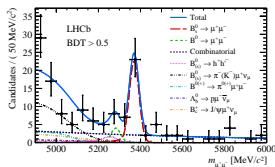
## One-arm spectrometer optimised for studies of beauty and charm decays at LHC



- Good vertexing: measure  $B^0$  and  $B_s^0$  oscillations, reject prompt background
- Particle identification: flavour tagging, misID background
- High-resolution tracking
- Calorimetry: reconstruct neutrals ( $\pi^0, \gamma$ ) in the final state
- Efficient trigger, including fully hadronic modes

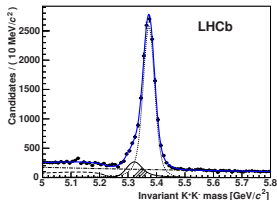
Excellent Particle identification performance is vital for LHCb physics

$$B_s^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$$



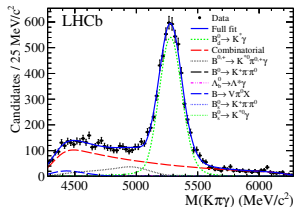
[PRL 118, 191801 (2017)]

$$B_s^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^-$$



[JHEP 10 (2013) 183]

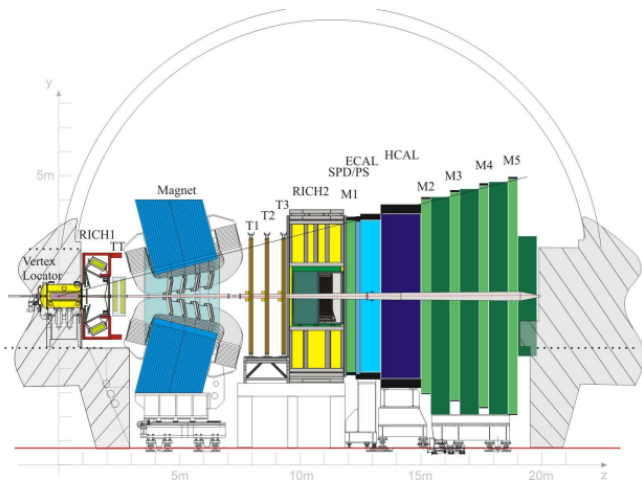
$$B \rightarrow K^* \gamma$$



[Nucl. Phys. B867 (2013), 1]

- Background rejection for rare decays
- Classification of final states with the same topology
- Reduction of bandwidth in the trigger

# PID subsystems in LHCb

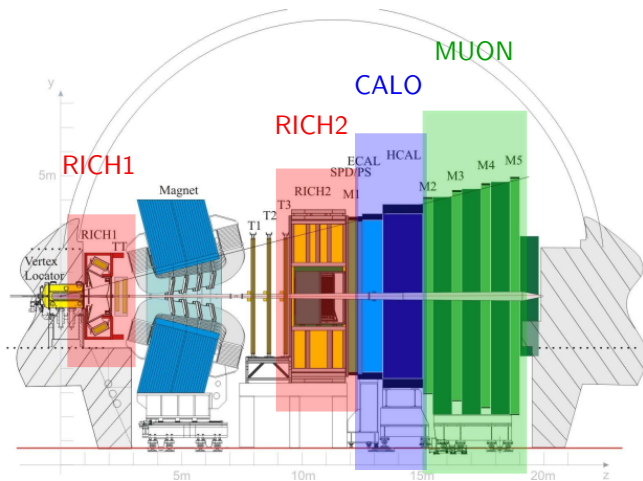


Identify long-lived final state particles based on information from subdetectors:

■ Charged:  $\pi$ ,  $K$ ,  $p$ ,  $e$ ,  $\mu$

■ Neutral:  $\pi^0$ ,  $\gamma$

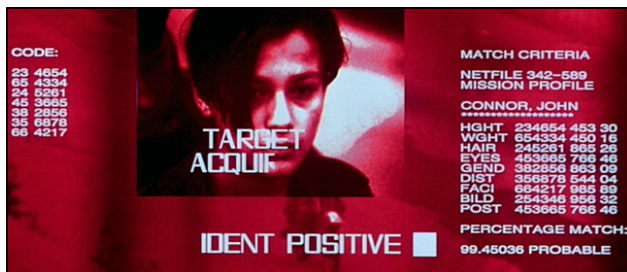
# PID subsystems in LHCb



Identify long-lived final state particles based on information from subdetectors:

■ Charged:  $\pi$ ,  $K$ ,  $p$ ,  $e$ ,  $\mu$

■ Neutral:  $\pi^0$ ,  $\gamma$



Areas for machine learning in PID:

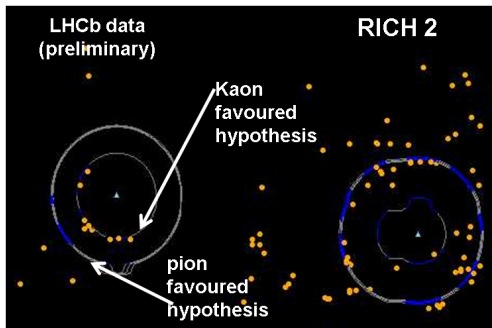
- Identification of final state particles: supervised learning, multiclass classification
- Evaluation of PID efficiency from calibration data samples: unsupervised learning, density estimation
- Simulation of PID response: generative models.

See [\[next talk by Fedor Ratnikov\]](#)  
“Fast calorimeter simulation in LHCb”

PID strategy and performance in Run2: see [\[talk by Carla Marin Benito\]](#)

- Low-level PID information: likelihoods obtained from info of individual detectors

- Rings in RICH detectors
- Clusters in calorimeter
- Hits in muon system

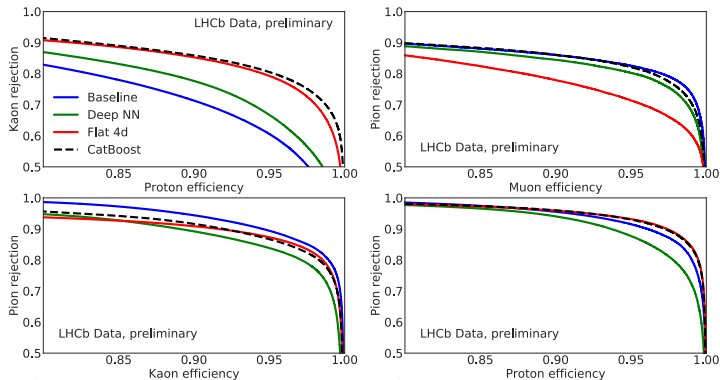


- Higher-level variables (ProbNN):

- ANN output combining the above (+auxiliary info from tracking etc.)
- 6 models for each of charged PID hypotheses + “ghost” (tracks not representing real particles)
- Trained on MC
- Baseline approach: MLP implemented in TMVA, 1 hidden layer

## Trying new classification techniques

- XGBoost [[arXiv:1603.02754](#)]
- CatBoost [[arXiv:1706.09516](#)]
- Boosting to flatness [[JINST 10 \(2015\) T03002](#)]
- Deep Neural Networks (keras library)



Improvements are possible with advanced classifiers, but careful choice of training samples is needed (more sensitive to kinematic properties than baseline).

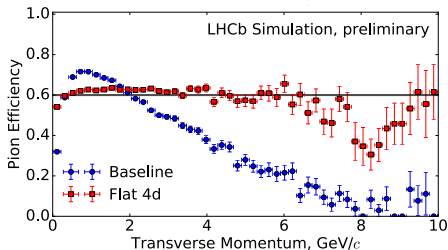
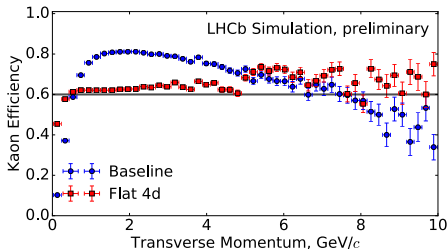


# PID classifier with flat efficiency

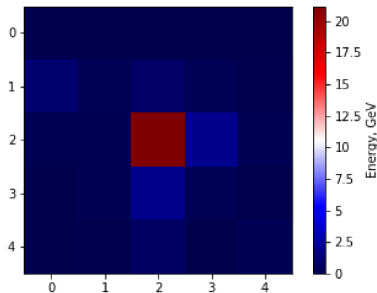
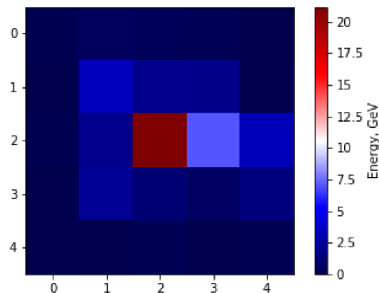
- Typically, PID performance depends on track kinematics ( $p, \eta$ ) and event multiplicity
- Systematics-limited measurements: having a classifier with efficiency independent of kinematics/multiplicity is an advantage
- Flat4d: classifier trained with flatness term in loss function

[JINST 10 (2015) T03002]

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{exp}} + \alpha \mathcal{L}_{\text{FL}}, \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{FL}} = \sum_b \int |F_b(s) - F(s)|^2 ds$$



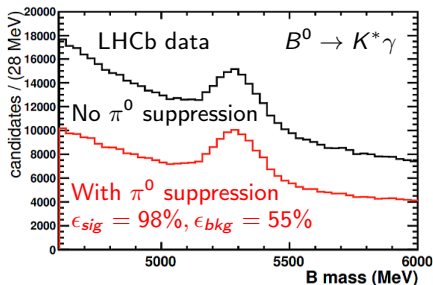
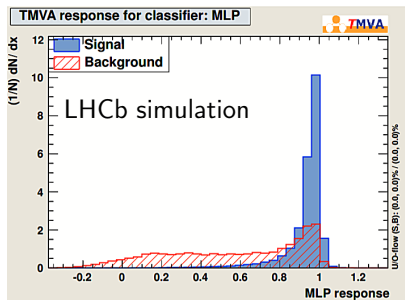
- Radiative decays (e.g.  $B \rightarrow K^* \gamma$ ): sensitive to New Physics, energetic photons in the final state
- Large backgrounds from  $\pi^0$ : high-momentum  $\pi^0$  do not form separated clusters in ECAL.



- Pattern recognition to separate  $\gamma$  from  $\pi^0$

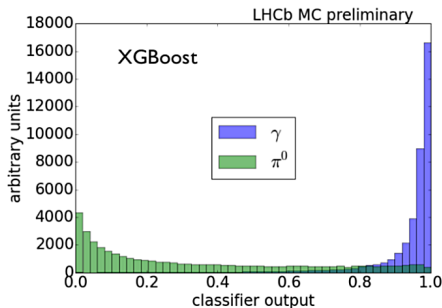
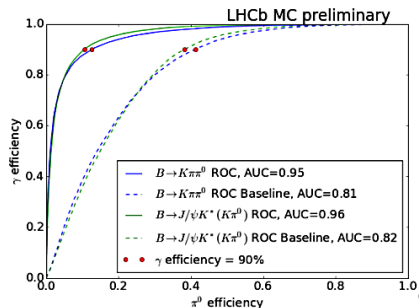
# $\gamma/\pi^0$ separation: baseline classifier

- Input features based on  $3 \times 3$  “image” around a center of the cluster:
  - Shape of the cluster (width, tails, eccentricity, orientation)
  - Energies of the most and 2nd-most energetic cells
  - Hit multiplicity and shape in the preshower cells
- Output: MLP with 2 hidden layers in TMVA



# $\gamma/\pi^0$ separation: new classifier

- Input features: energy deposition in  $5 \times 5$  ECAL and PS cells (“raw images”)
- Training samples:  $B \rightarrow K\pi\gamma$  (signal) and  $B \rightarrow K\pi\pi^0$  (background)
- Several classifiers tried:
  - ANNs with 1–2 hidden layers, different optimisers (Adamax, Adagrad, SGD)
  - BDTs (XGBoost, CatBoost, LightGBM)



BDT with XGBoost shows the best performance (AUC=0.95)

PID response is widely used in physics selections  $\Rightarrow$  need to reproduce it precisely in simulation to evaluate selection efficiency, background contamination.

PID performance is a complicated function of track kinematics and event multiplicity  $\Rightarrow$  multivariate problem.

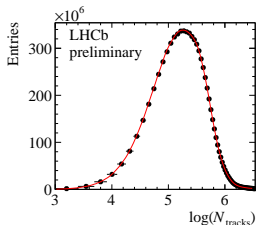
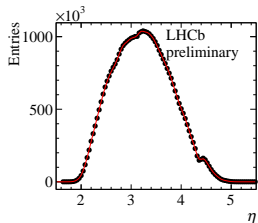
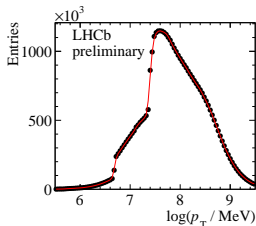
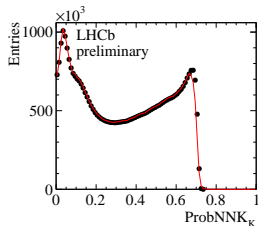
Two procedures developed at LHCb:

- **Resampling (PIDGen)**: Using the known 4D distribution of calibration sample in  $PID$  variable, track kinematics ( $p_T$  and  $\eta$ ) and event multiplicity ( $N_{tracks}$ ), *generate*  $PID$  variable that looks like in data for any given track kinematics and multiplicity.
- **Variable transformation (PIDCorr)**: Using the above 4D distributions for data and MC, construct a function that transforms simulated  $PID$  response such that it matches data.  
This approach preserves correlations between different  $PID$  responses for the same track (e.g.  $\pi$  and  $K$  probabilities).

[\[arXiv:1803.00824\]](#)

sPlot technique applied to calibration samples to statistically subtract background

[NIM A555 (2005) 356]



Describe PDFs of the sWeighted calibration sample in 4 variables:

- PID variable (transformed to avoid sharp peaks)
- $\log p_T$
- Pseudorapidity  $\eta$
- Track multiplicity  $\log N_{\text{tracks}}$

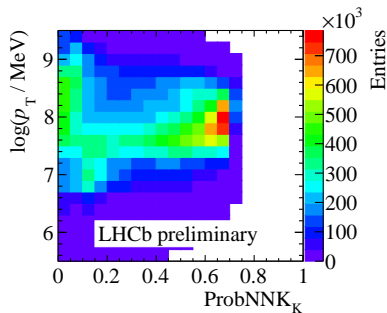
sWeighted  $D^{*\pm} \rightarrow D^0 \pi^\pm$  calibration sample

# PIDGen and PIDCorr: kernel density estimation

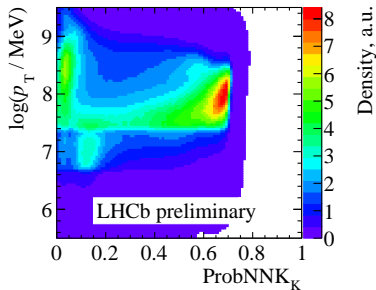
Four-dimensional kernel density estimation of calibration data performed using Meerkat library [\[JINST 10 \(2015\) P02011\]](#) [\[HepForge\]](#)

- Provides kernel-based correction to the approximated density
- Efficient with multidimensional PDFs

Example: two-dimensional projections onto  $PID - \log p_T$ :



Binned sWeighted data

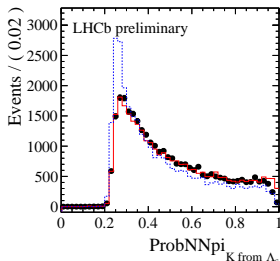
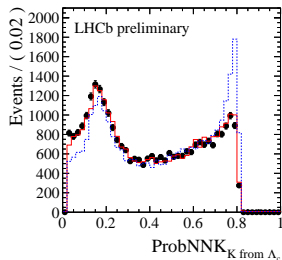


Kernel density estimation

**PIDGen**: discard simulated PID response, resample from calibration density for a given track  $p_T, \eta$  and track multiplicity

$$PID_{\text{corr}} = P_{\text{exp}}^{-1}(\xi | p_T, \eta, N_{\text{tracks}})$$

Performance is validated on independent clean high-statistics data samples.



sWeighted data

Uncorrected simulation

Corrected simulation (PIDGen)

PIDGen resampled variables (ProbNNK and ProbNNpi) for a kaon track from sWeighted  $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda_c^+ \pi^-$ ,  $\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+$  sample.

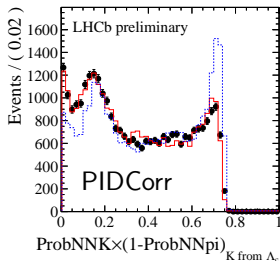
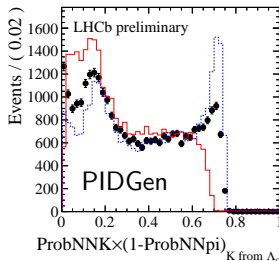
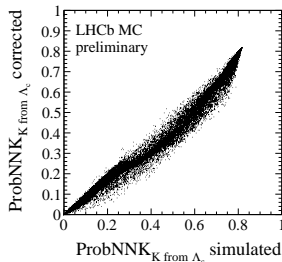


# PIDCorr: transformation of variables

**PIDCorr**: preserve correlations between different PID responses for the same track. Transformation of simulated PID instead of complete resampling.

$$PID_{\text{corr}} = P_{\text{exp}}^{-1} ( P_{\text{MC}}(PID_{\text{MC}} | p_T, \eta, N_{\text{tracks}}) | p_T, \eta, N_{\text{tracks}} )$$

Reproduce not only individual PID responses (ProbNNpi, ProbNNK, etc.), but also their combinations



sWeighted  $\Lambda_b^0 \rightarrow \Lambda_c^+ \pi^-$ ,  $\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+$  data,

uncorrected simulation,

corrected simulation (PIDGen or PIDCorr).

- Particle identification at LHCb: a broad area to apply advanced machine learning techniques
- Several new approaches tested on Run1/Run2 data:
  - Multivariate classifiers for charged and neutral particle classification
  - Density estimation of calibration data: resampling and correction of MC PID response
- PID will be even more important after LHCb upgrade: software trigger including PID information



# Backup

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## ***Tracking***

- Total momentum
- Transverse momentum
- Quality of the track fit
- Number of clusters associated to the track
- ANN response trained to reject ghost tracks
- Quality of the fit matching track segments upstream and downstream of the magnet

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## ***RICH detectors***

- Geometrical acceptance of the three radiators, depending on the direction of the track
- Kinematical acceptance due to Cherenkov threshold for muons and kaons
- Likelihood of the electron, muon, kaon, and proton hypotheses relative to the pion
- Likelihood ratio of the below-threshold and pion hypotheses

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## ***Electromagnetic calorimeter***

- Likelihood ratio of the electron and hadron hypotheses
- Likelihood ratio of the muon and hadron hypotheses
- Matching of the track with the clusters in the *preshower* detector
- Likelihood ratio of the electron and pion hypotheses, after recovery of the Bremsstrahlung photons

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## ***Hadronic calorimeter***

- Likelihood ratio of the electron and hadron hypotheses
- Likelihood ratio of the muon and hadron hypotheses

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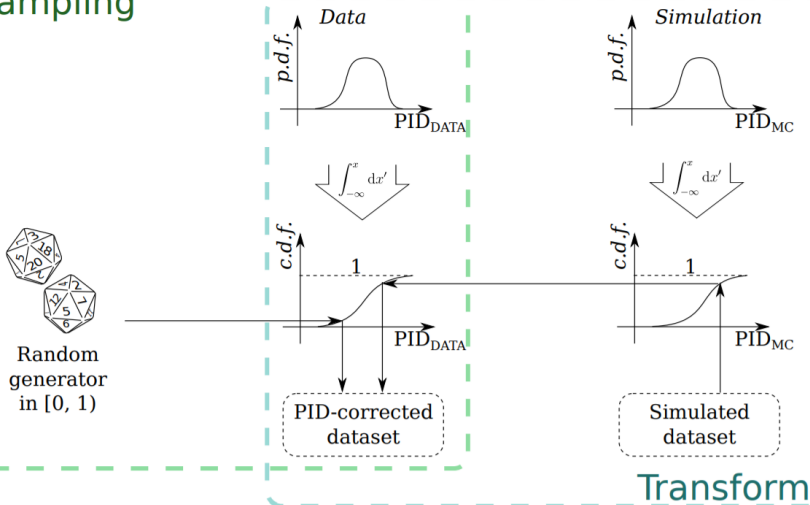
## ***Muon system***

- Geometrical acceptance
- Loose binary requirement already available in the hardware trigger
- Likelihood of the muon hypothesis
- Likelihood of the non-muon hypothesis
- Number of clusters associated to at least another tracks

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# PIDGen and PIDCorr approaches

## Sampling



# Meerkat approach to density estimation

Traditional kernel density: data points  $x_i$ , kernel  $K(x)$

$$P_{\text{KDE}}(x) = \sum_i K(x - x_i)$$

Meerkat technique (relative kernel density estimation): [\[JINST 10 \(2015\) P02011\]](#)

$$P_{\text{corr}}(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N K(x - x_i)}{(P_{\text{appr}} \otimes K)(x)} \times P_{\text{appr}}(x).$$

In other words, we represent the PDF as a product of approximation PDF and kernel correction:

$$P_{\text{corr}}(x) = f(x)P_{\text{appr}}(x)$$

$P_{\text{appr}}(x)$  takes care of boundary effects and narrow structures.

In the practical implementation, use binning with multilinear interpolation:

$$P_{\text{interp}}(x) = \frac{\text{Bin} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N K(x - x_i) \right]}{\text{Bin} [(P_{\text{appr}} \otimes K)(x)]} \times P_{\text{appr}}(x).$$