

FWXMACHINA

Nanosecond machine learning with boosted decision trees
for high energy physics



University of
Pittsburgh



Tae Min Hong

- *Paper* [2104.03408]
- *Info* fwx.pitt.edu
- *Code* gitlab.com/PittHongGroup/fwX

Pheno 2021

May 24, 2021

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/982783/sessions/396894/>



[2104.03408]

fwx.pitt.edu

gitlab.com/PittHongGroup/fwX

PITT-PACC-2103-v2

Nanosecond machine learning event classification with boosted decision trees in FPGA for high energy physics

T.M. Hong*, B.T. Carlson, B.R. Eubanks, S.T. Racz[†], S.T. Roche,
J. Stelzer, and D.C. Stumpp[‡]

Department of Physics and Astronomy
University of Pittsburgh

*Undergraduate
researchers*

May 17, 2021

[†] Received his BS last month!
[‡] Now a Pitt PhD student in EE



- Intro
 - Algorithm structure
 - Firmware design
 - Physics results (simulated)
-
- Backup slides



- **Intro**

- Machine learning at Level-1 trigger

- **Algorithm structure**

- Bit integer representation
- Tree flattening & merging

- **Firmware design**

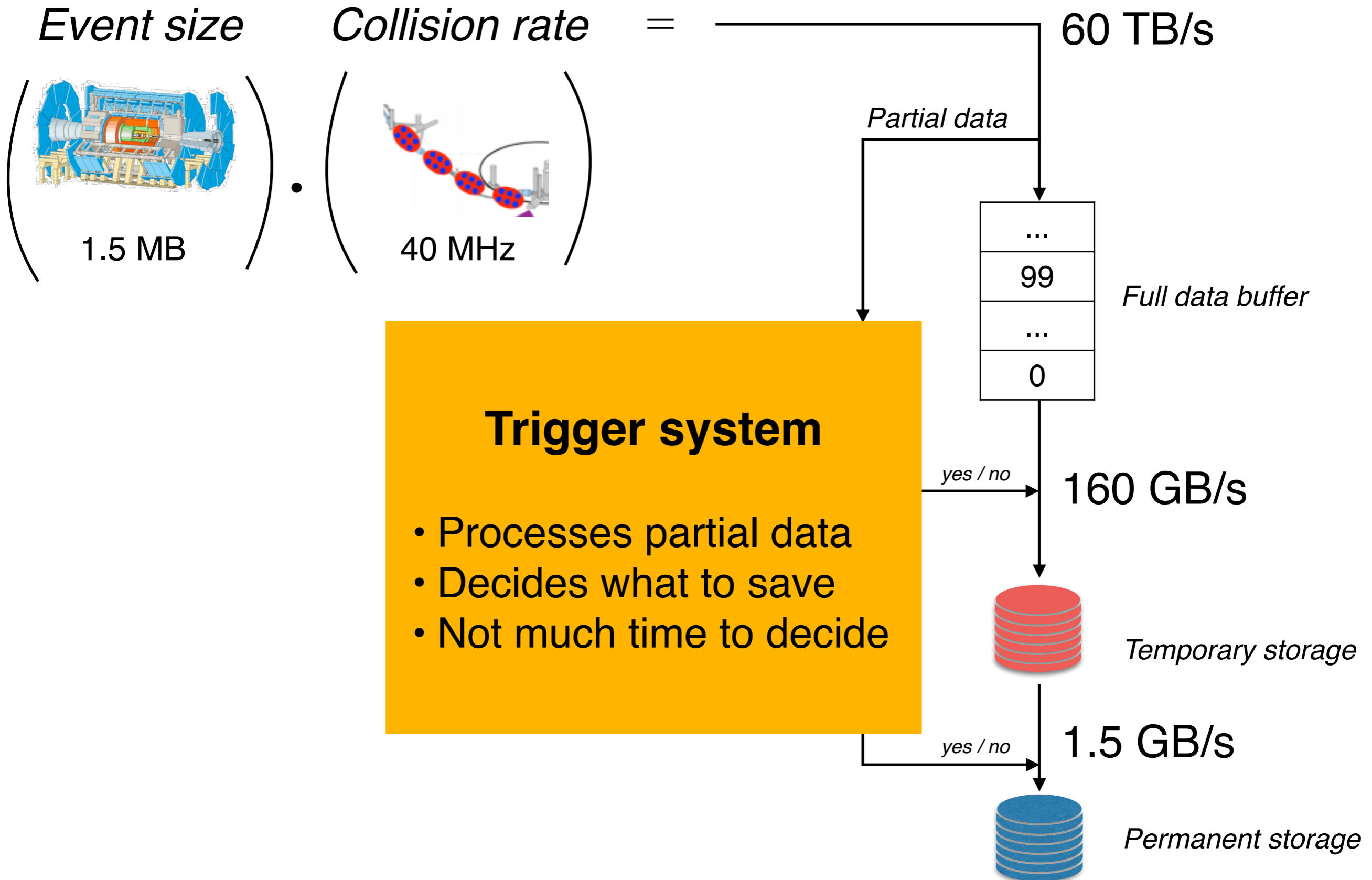
- Bin Engines

- **Physics results (simulated)**

- VBF Higgs vs. multijet

- **Backup slides**

- Comparison to hls4ml
- Test bench



Machine learning at L1 trigger (2)

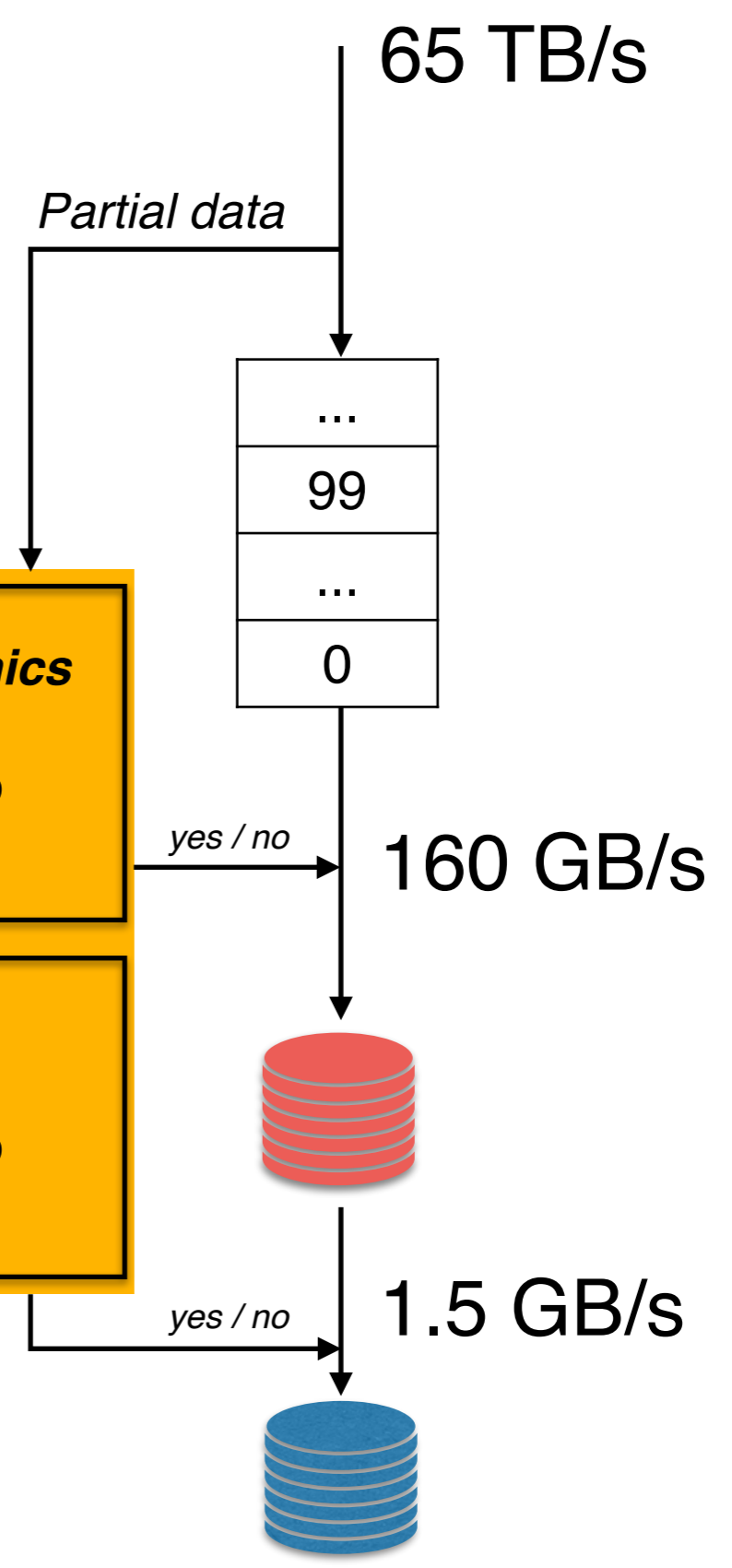
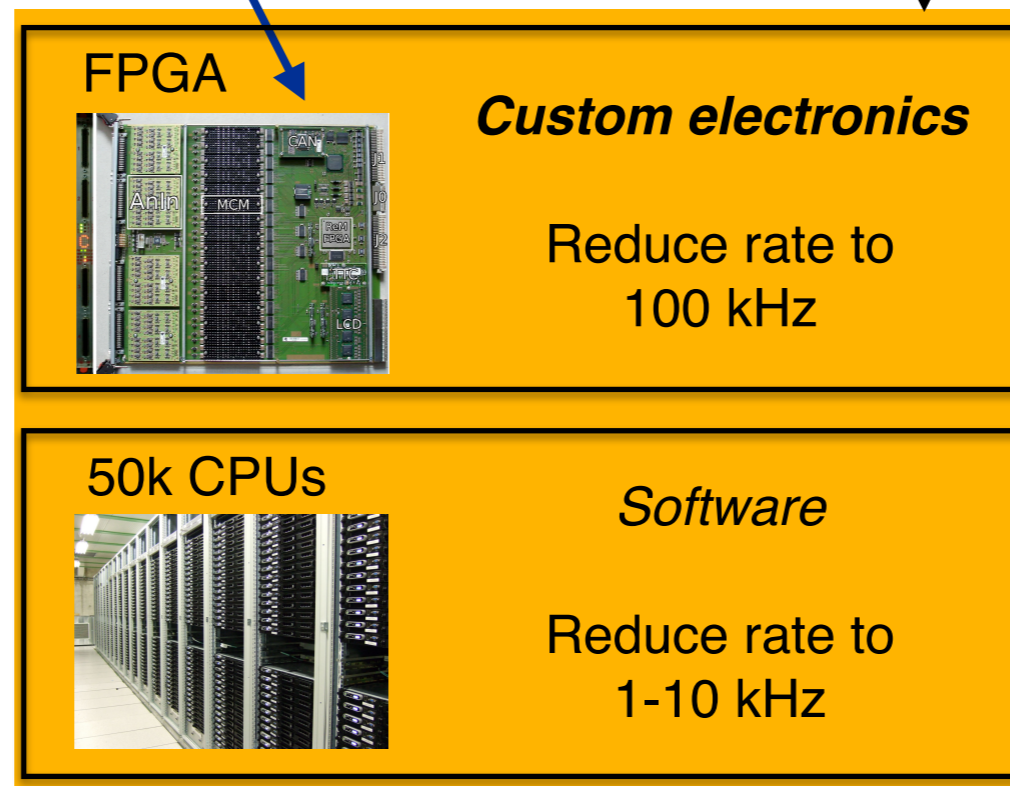
TM Hong



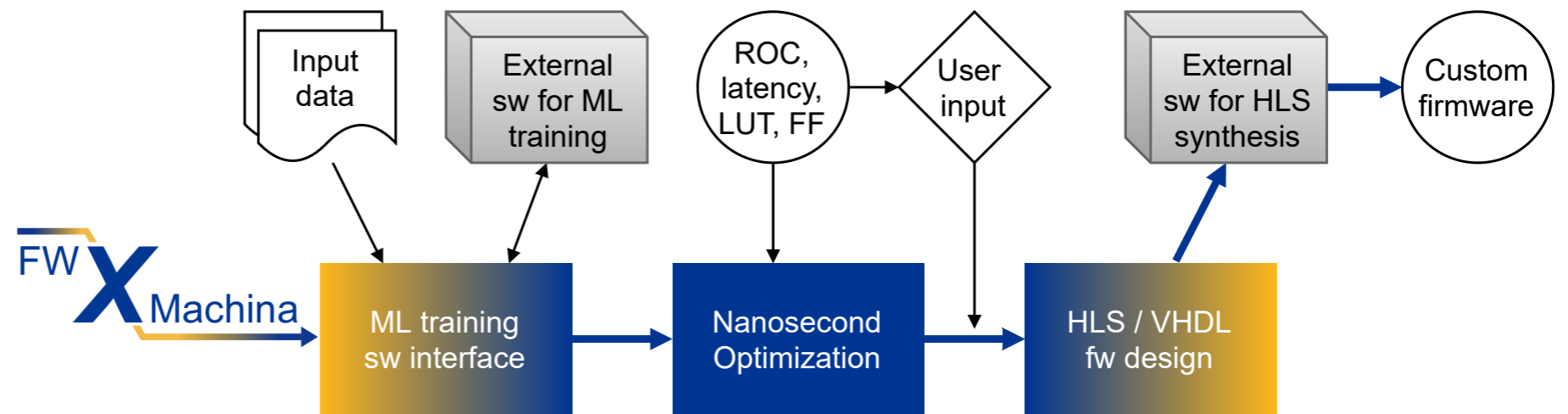
Level *Latency*

L1 **$O(1)$ μ s**

HLT **$O(1)$ s**



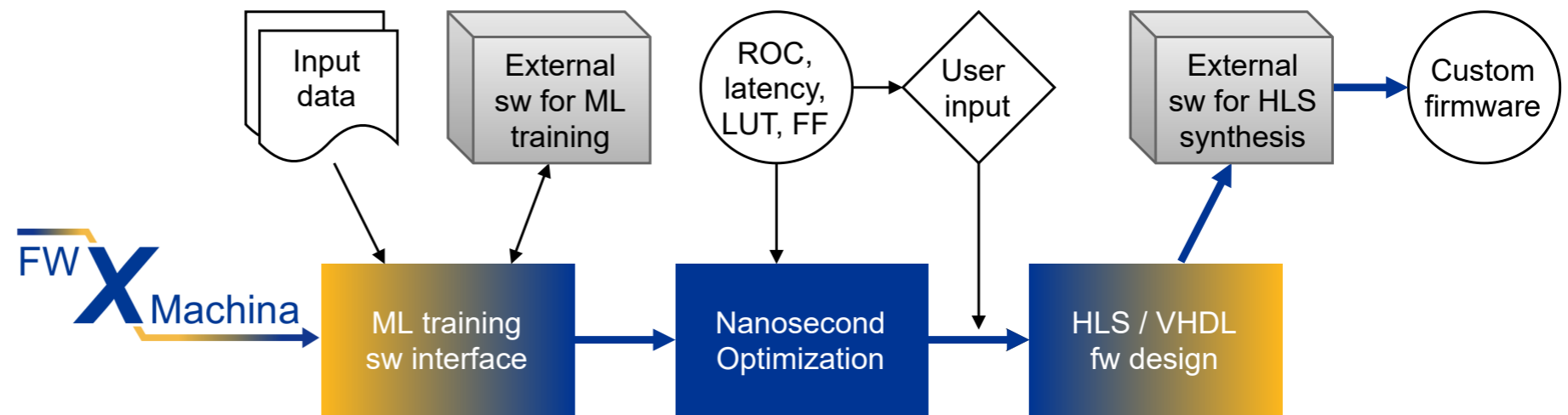
- **Workflow**



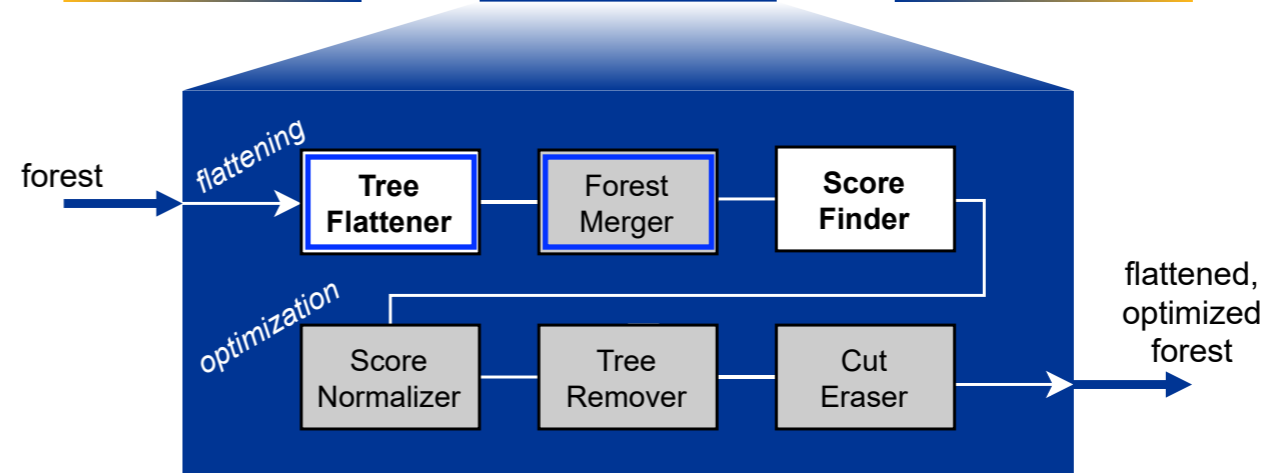
- Optimization

- Use bit integer precision

- Workflow



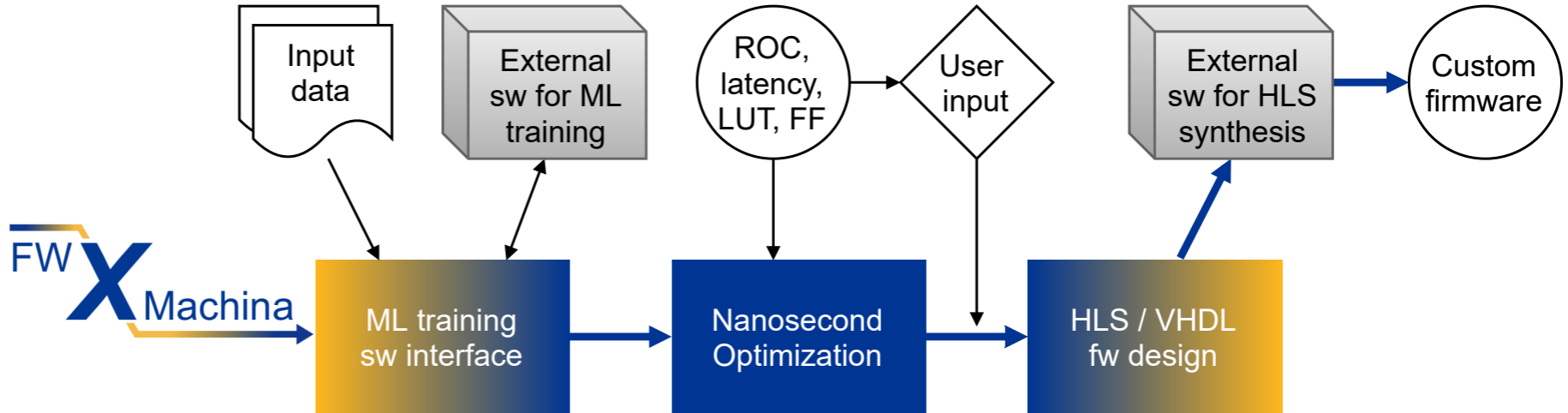
- Optimization



- Use bit integer precision

- Will discuss next:
 - Tree Flattener
 - Forest Merger

- Workflow



- Optimization

- **Use bit integer precision**

E.g., `ap_int<8>` means the variable is represented by a range from 0 to 255.

Transformation $c_{int} = f(c_{float}) = \left\lfloor \frac{c_{float} - c_{min}}{c_{max} - c_{min}} \cdot (2^N - 1) \right\rfloor$

Floor operation

- **Advantages & subtleties**

Bit integers represents a wide range without sacrificing float precision

Pre-evaluate f *Firmware only adds*

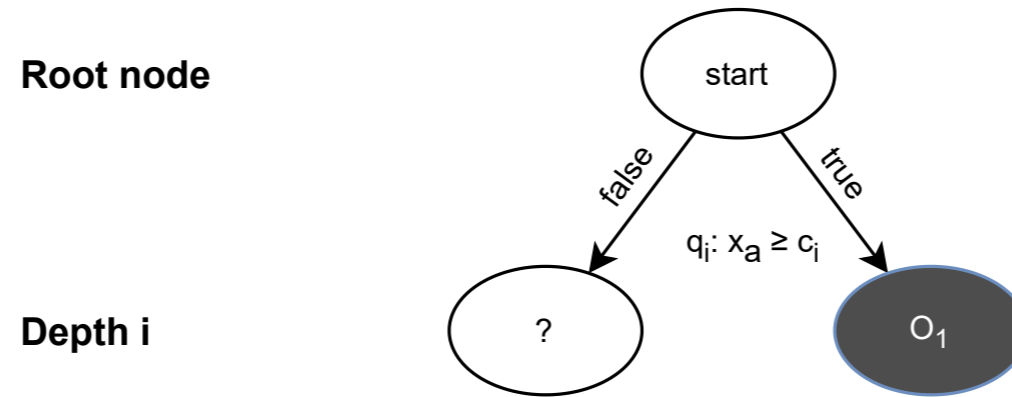
$$f(x_1 + x_2) = f(x_1) + f(x_2)$$

Equal up to one bit because of floor

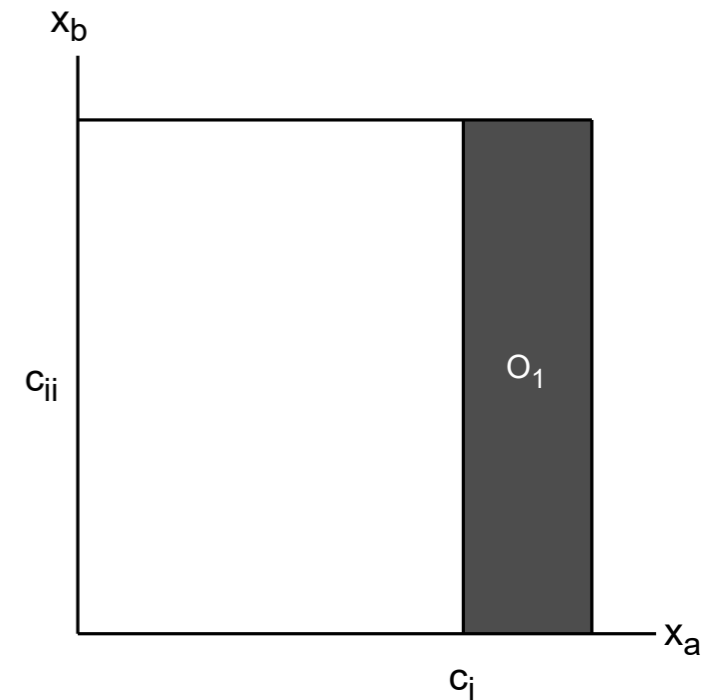


First step

Conventional tree structure



2d plane: x_a vs. x_b

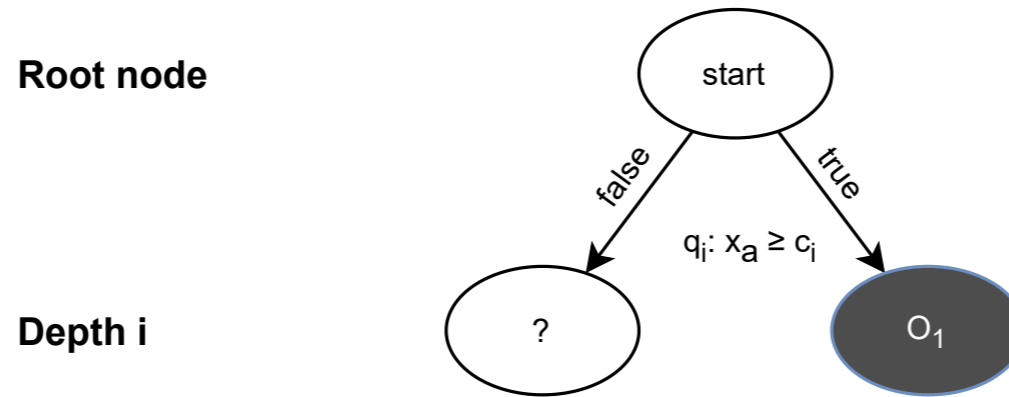


- **Advantages & subtleties**
 - Cut thresholds & weights determined during training
 - **Danger of "memorizing" boundaries (overtraining), so must consider a forest**

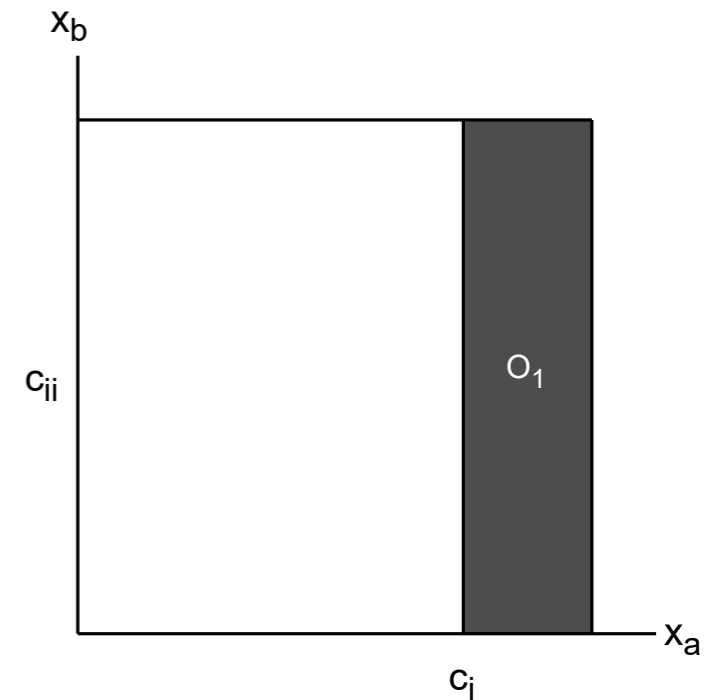


First step

Conventional tree structure

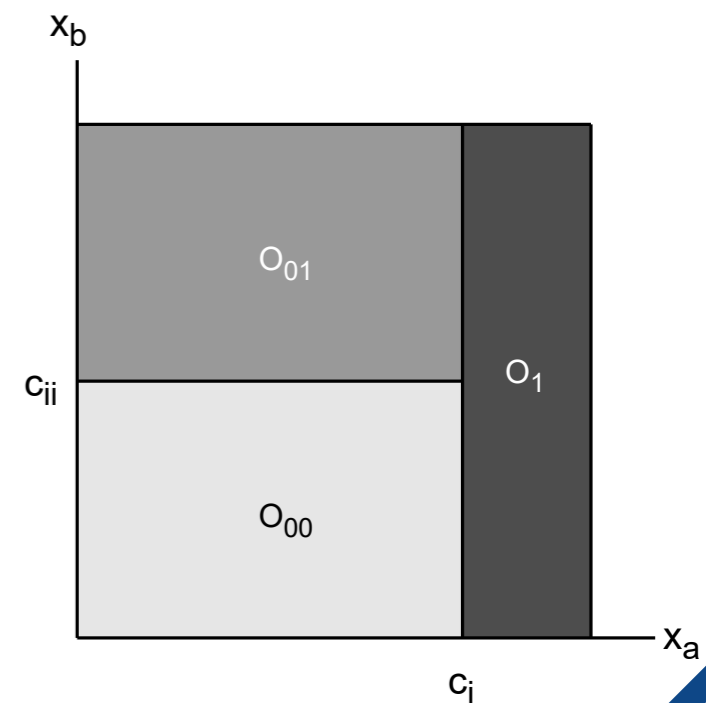
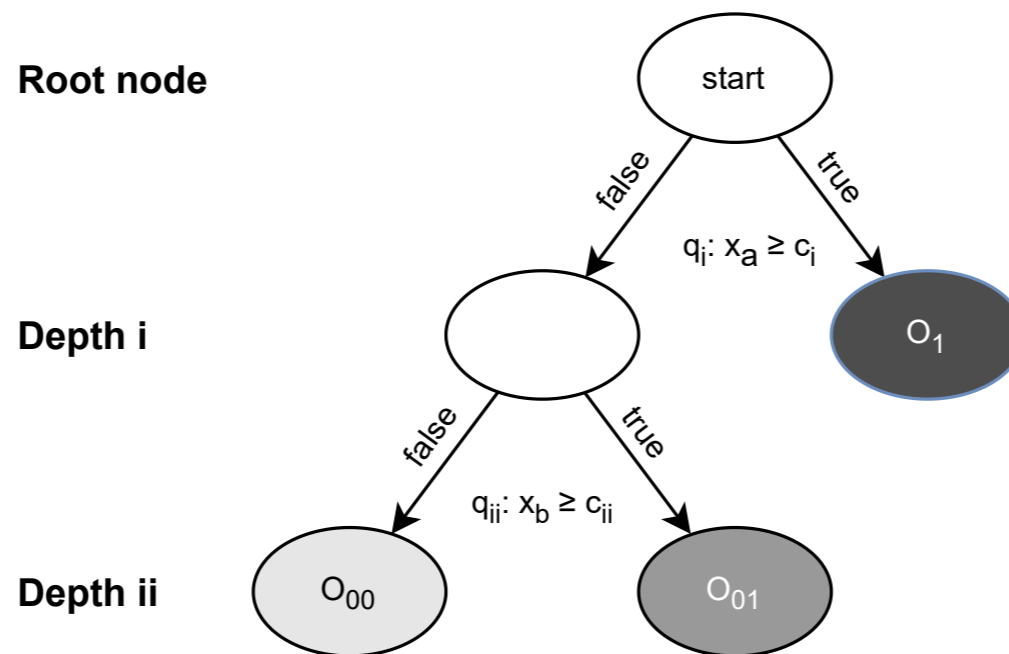


2d plane: x_a vs. x_b



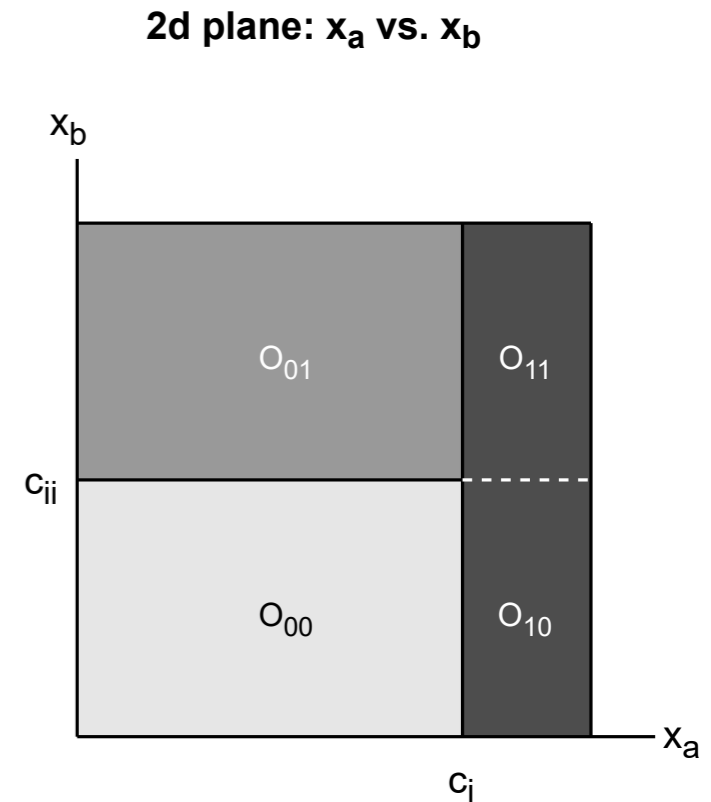
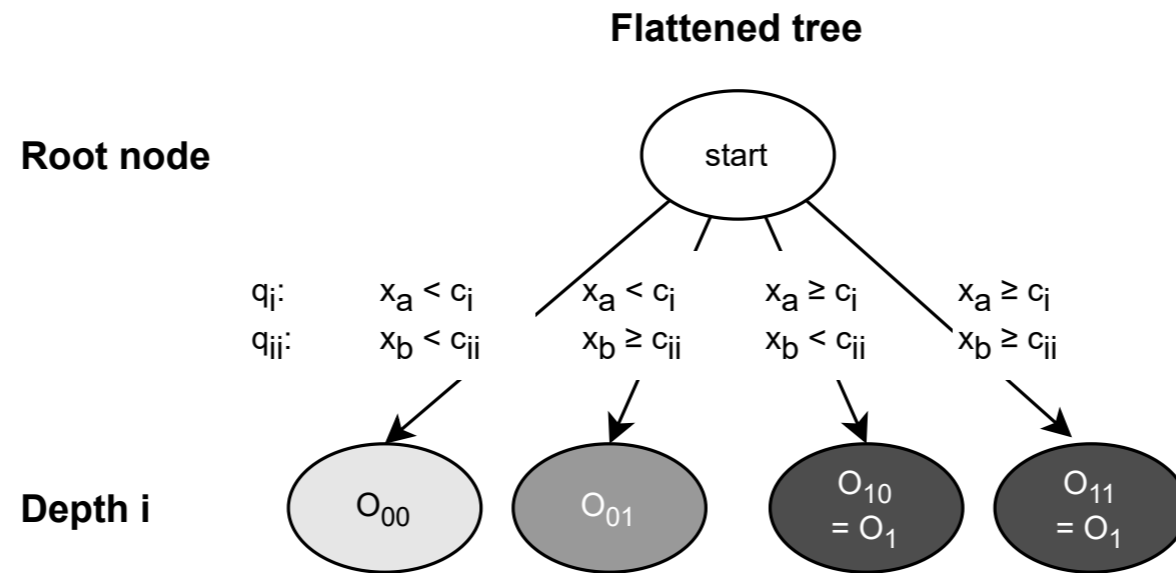
- **Advantages & subtleties**
 - Deterministic, conventional style
 - Cuts in each axis is not independent of each other, so recursive

Full tree





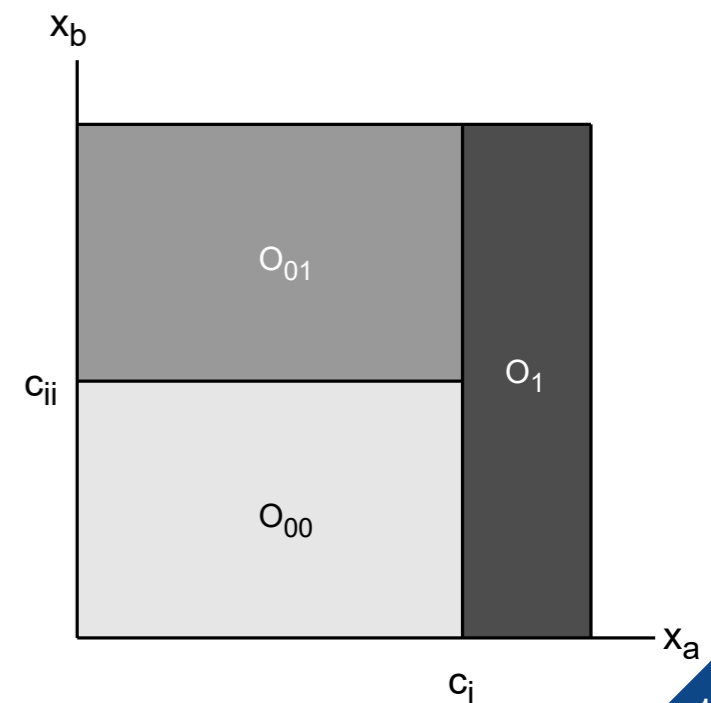
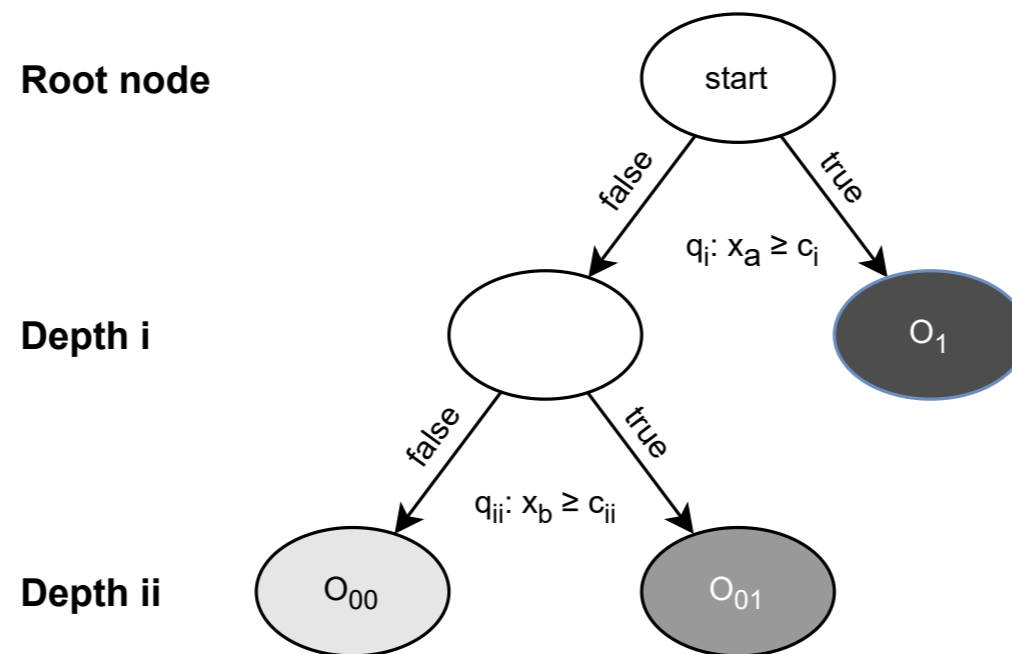
Our approach



Advantages & subtleties

- Each axis is independent of each other → Bin search problem on a grid
- Does not scale well for very deep trees (but do you really need it at L1?)

Full tree



Forest of boosted decision trees

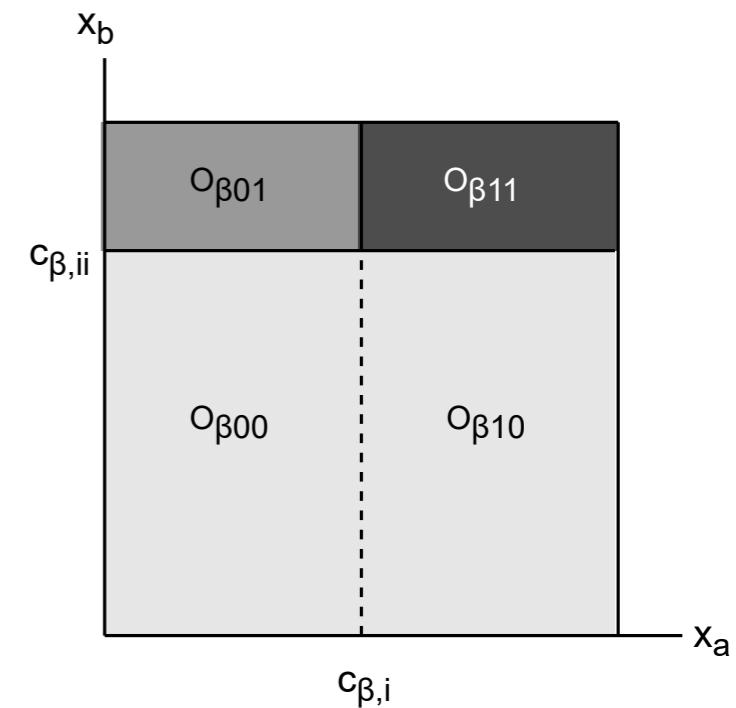
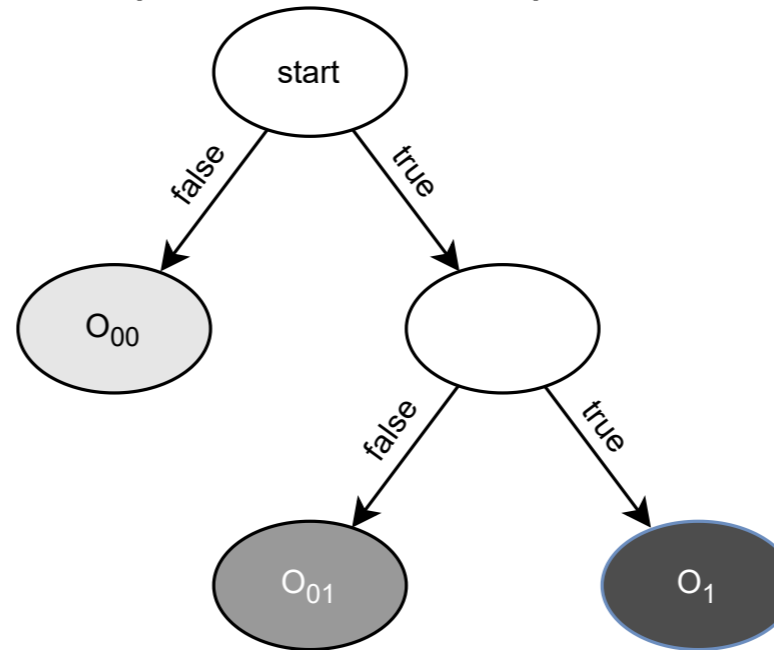


- Advantages & subtleties
 - Use TMVA software to train the BDT (support for other sw coming)

Our approach

2nd tree

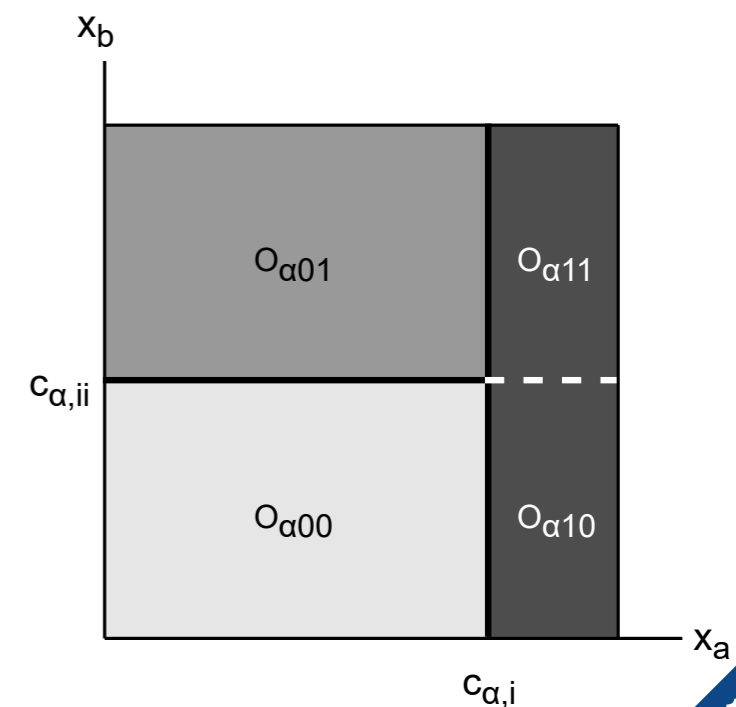
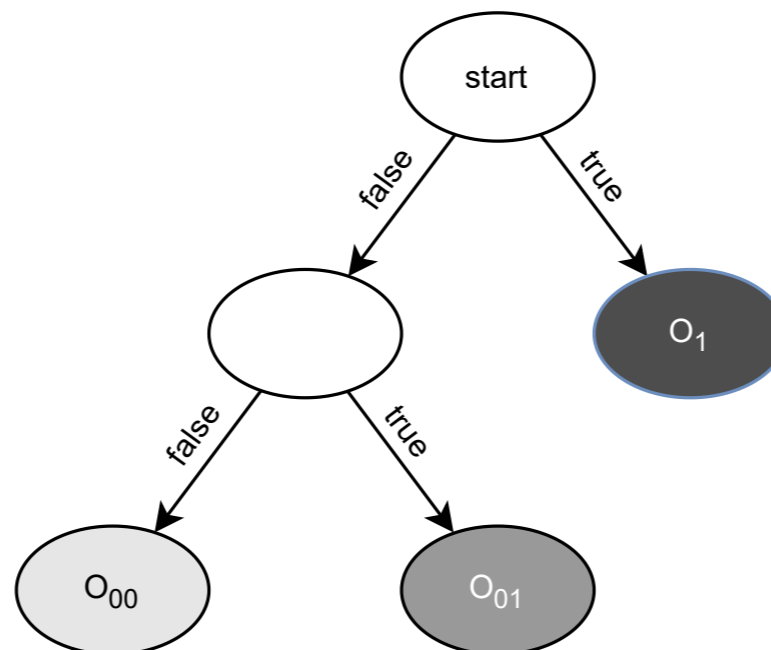
Decision tree τ_β with boost weight w_β

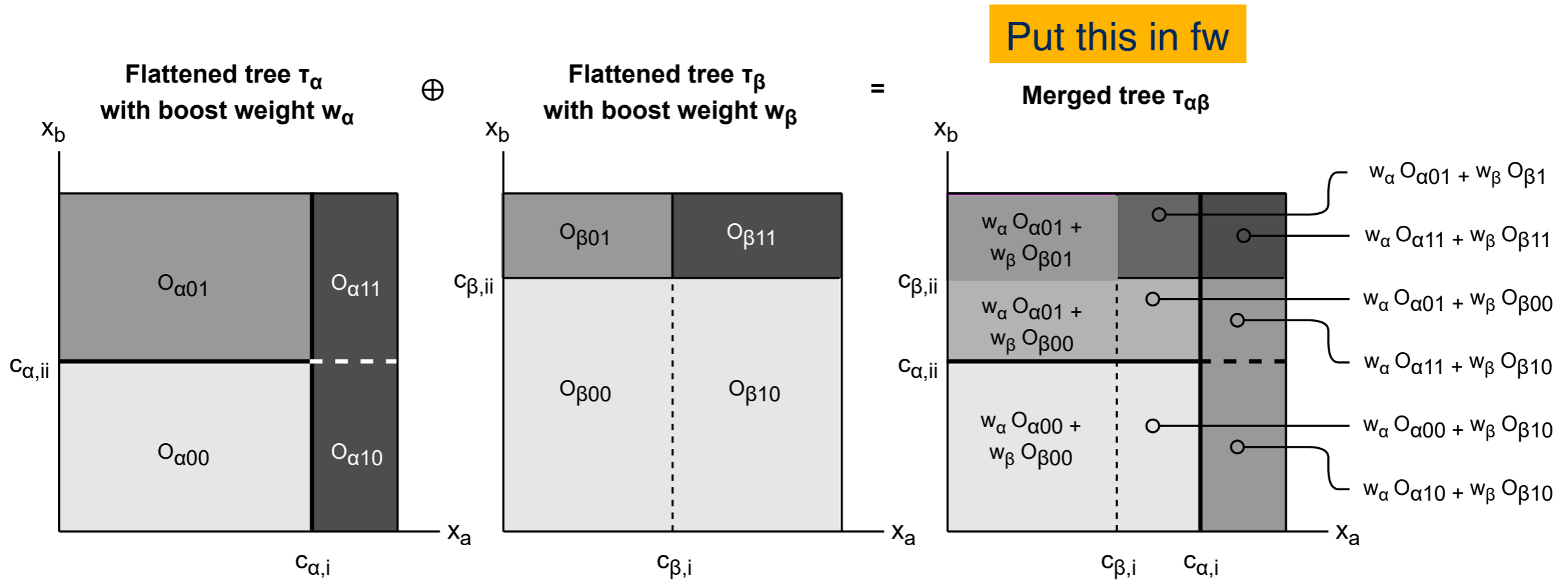


- Can we pre-merge the trees for firmware? Yes, next slide.

1st tree

Decision tree τ_α with boost weight w_α





- **Advantages & subtleties**

- Merging is pre-processed before implementation in firmware
- This is using adaptive boosting. Gradient boosting cannot pre-merge, but we have approximations for that method to improve performance.

- **Physics impact of flattening & merging**

- None, bec. encodes the entirety of conventional approach
- Firmware is a giant look-up table problem



- **VBF Higgs vs. Multijet background**

- $\sigma_{\text{Higgs}} = 4 \text{ pb}$, two widely separated high- p_T jets
- $\sigma_{pp} = 80 \text{ mb}$, dominant process at LHC
- Distributions given on the right

- We consider two decays of the Higgs

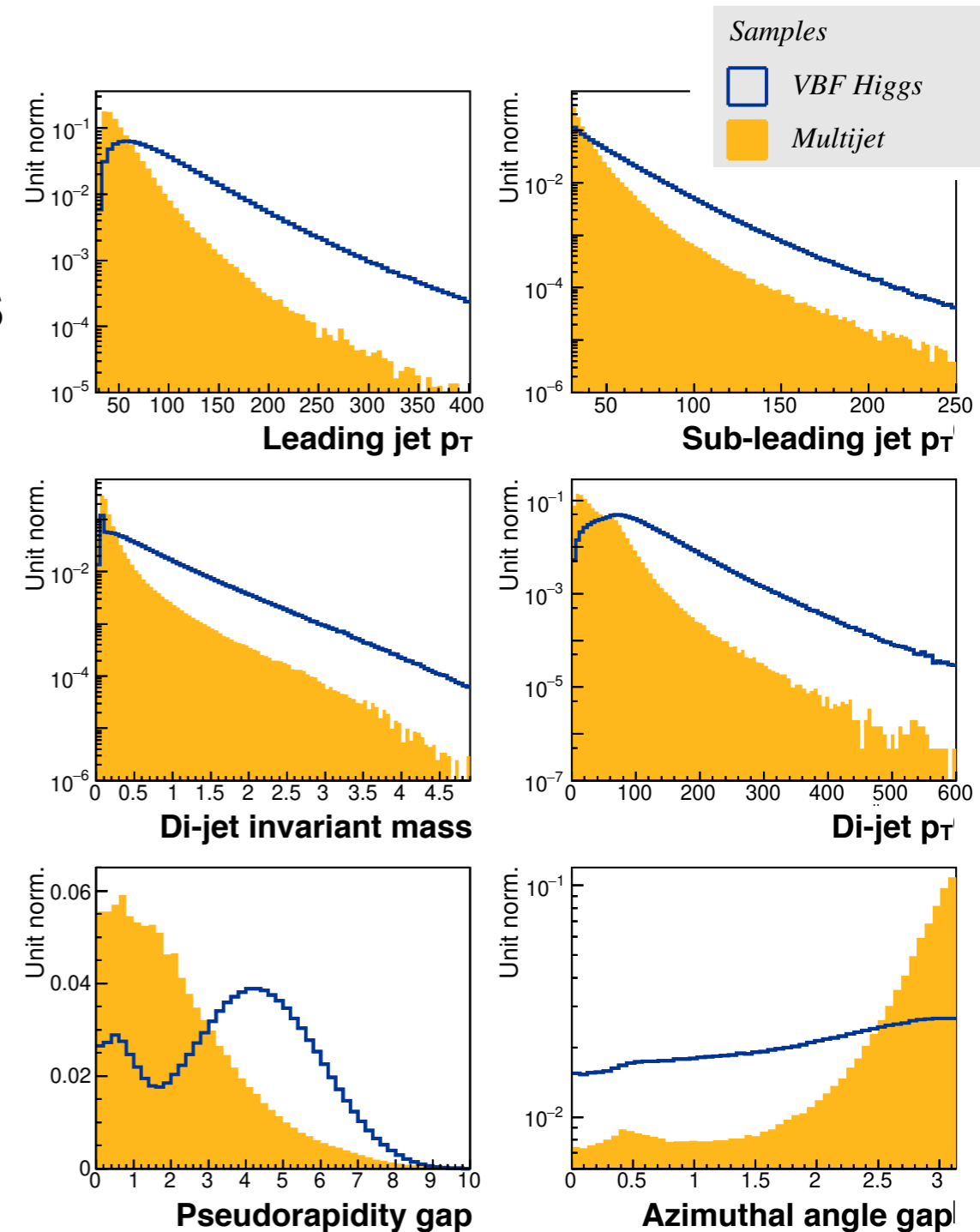
- $H \rightarrow v\bar{v}v\bar{v}$, "invisible"
- $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$, thru pseudoscalar decays

- Strategy

- Train BDT to identify VBF jet pair, i.e., train BDT on **Multijet** vs. **VBF $H \rightarrow v\bar{v}v\bar{v}$**
- Apply that BDT to **Multijet** vs. **VBF $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$**

- Why

- If it works for VBF $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$, then it can be a **trigger for VBF independent of the Higgs decay**
- **Does it work?** Next slide





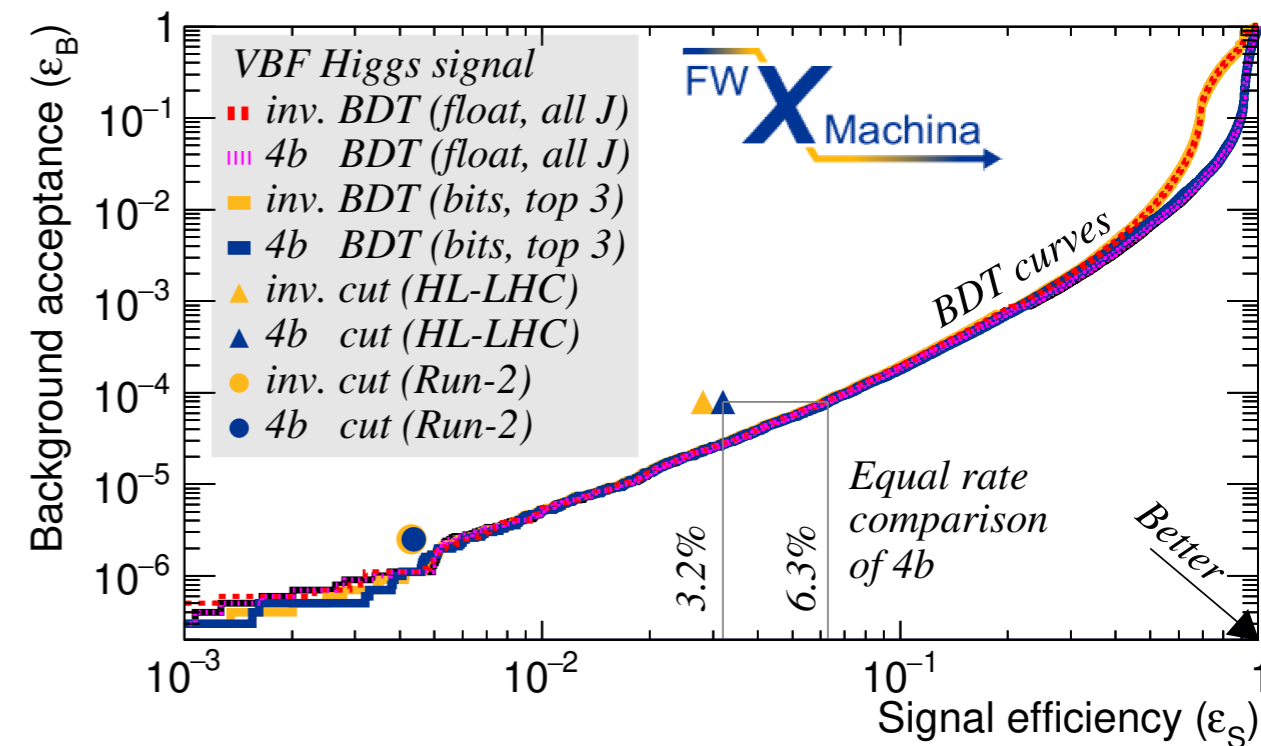
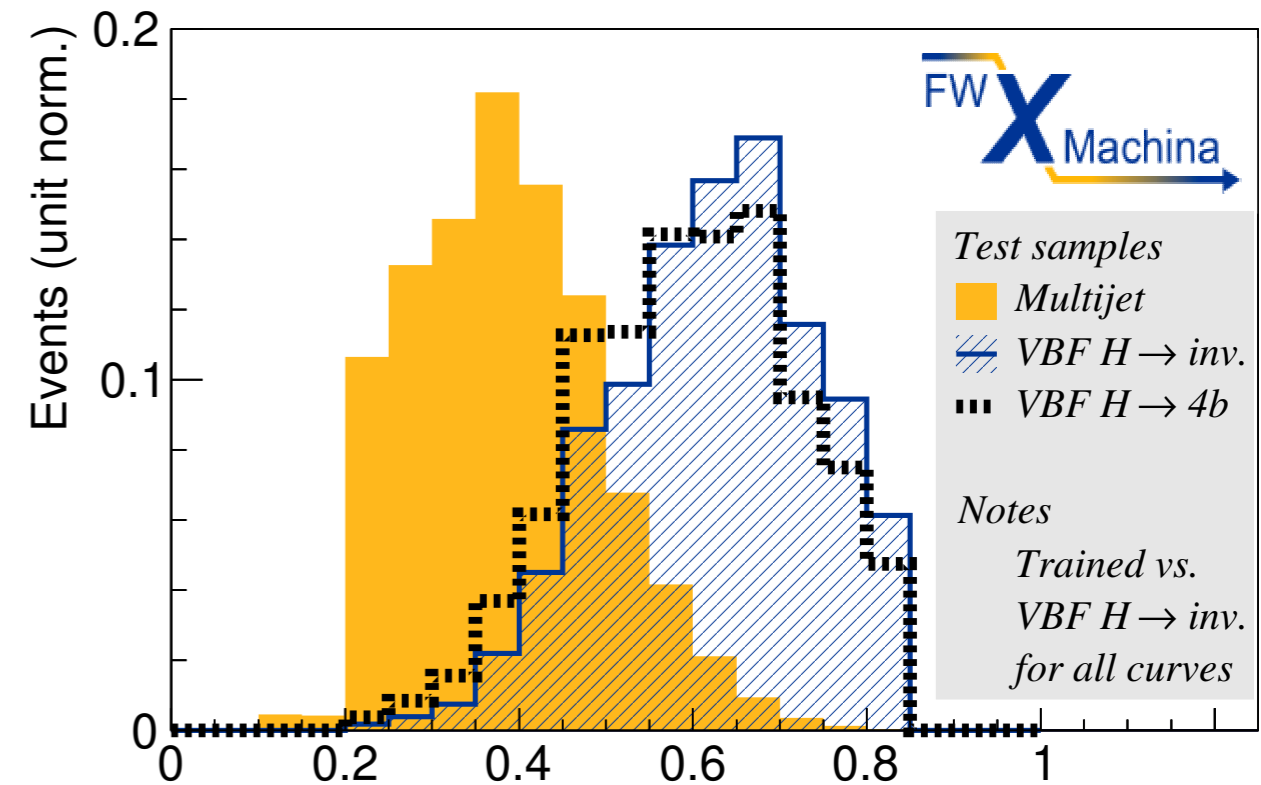
- **It works!**
- Reminder. Did *not* train on VBF $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$
- **Subtlety re: jet selection** (see paper)
- Distributions given on the right

Performance comparison

- **Try to mimic ATLAS HL-LHC cuts** as best we can using Madgraph + Delphes
- **Two-fold signal efficiency improvement** from ATLAS-inspired \rightarrow fwX results

Details

- **We validated our setup** to reproduce the signal efficiency in the ATLAS Run-2 paper
- **Comparison using bit integers**, not floats





- Ran two configurations
 - Optimized version
 - Non-optimized version (for comparison)
 - Both using 100 trees, max depth of 4
 - Results given on the right

• Performance

- 5 clock ticks = 16 ns
- Negligible resource usage

• Benchmark using e^+ vs. γ

- In the paper, we also define one set of parameters to scale up one param. at a time
- Uses 4 variables, 8 bits & same as above
- 3 clock ticks = 10 ns
- Negligible resource usage

	VBF H Optimized	VBF H Non-opt
N_{var}	5	7
$N_{\text{bit-var}}$	8	12
$N_{\text{bit-score}}$	16	16
N_{bin}	40k	1M
Latency	5 ticks	6 ticks
LUT	1%	1.5%
Flip Flops	~0	~0
BRAM	2%	30%
DSP	0	~0

Back up



- Details

- Ideally we would run hls4ml's example & compare, but we can't as-is because they run a 5-class jet identification (b, W, top, g, q)
- We ran hls4ml on the [same dataset](#) with the [same configuration](#) as in our paper

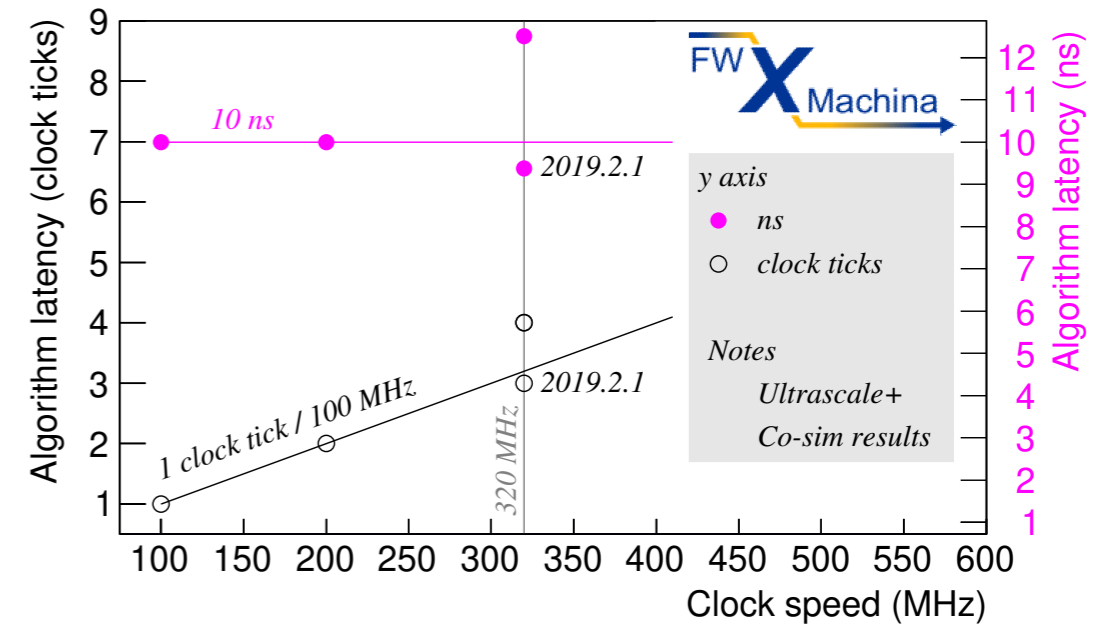
Parameter	FWXMACHINA	hls4ml-Conifer	Comments
ML training setup			
Training software	TMVA	TMVA	same
Physics problem	electron vs. photon	electron vs. photon	same
Training samples	from ref. [56]	from ref. [56]	same
No. of event classes	2	2	same
No. of training trees	100	100	same
Max. depth	4	4	same
No. of input variables	4	4	See figure 18
Other TMVA parameters	TMVA defaults	TMVA defaults	same
Nanosec. Optimization	Flattened & merged to 10 final trees, without TREE REMOVER or CUT ERASER	N/A	Unique to FWX
FPGA and firmware setup			
Chip family	Xilinx Virtex Ultrascale+	Xilinx Virtex Ultrascale+	same
Chip model	xcvu9p-flga2104-2L-e	xcvu9p-flga2104-2L-e	same
Vivado HLS version	2019.2	2019.2	same
Clock speed, period	320 MHz, 3.125 ns	320 MHz, 3.125 ns	same
Precision	ap_int<8>	ap_ufixed<10, 5>	See text
BIN ENGINE	BSBE	N/A	Unique to FWX
FPGA cost			
Latency	3 clock ticks, 9.375 ns	15 clock ticks, 46.875 ns	-
Interval	1 clock tick, 3.125 ns	1 clock tick, 3.125 ns	same
LUT	1903, < 0.2% of total	2.3 M, 192% of total	See caption
FF	138, < 0.01% of total	1.1 M, 44% of total	-
BRAM 18k	8, < 0.2% of total	0	-
URAM	0	0	same
DSP	0	0	same

- Same setup

- Comparison



Parameter	Value	Comments
FPGA setup		
Chip family	Xilinx Virtex Ultrascale+	
Chip model	xcvu9p-flga2104-2L-e	
Vivado version	2019.2.1	
Synthesis type	C-Synthesis	
HLS or RTL	HLS	
HLS interface pragma	None	
Clock speed	320 MHz	Clock period is 3.125 ns
ML training configuration		
ML training method	Boosted decision tree	Binary classification
Boost method	Adaptive	AdaBoost with yes/no leaf
No. of event types to classify	2	Signal vs. background
No. of input variables	4	
No. of trees used for training	100	
Maximum tree depth	4	
Nanosecond Optimization configuration		
BIN ENGINE type	BIT SHIFT BIN ENGINE (BSBE)	
No. of bits for input variables	8 bits for each	
No. of bits for cut thresholds	8 bits for each	
No. of bits for BDT output score	8 bits	
No. of trees after merging	10	TREE MERGER via ordered list
No. of final trees	10, none removed	TREE REMOVER by truncation
No. of bins	26132	CUT ERASER not used
FPGA cost		
Latency	3 clock ticks	9.375 ns
Interval	1 clock tick	3.125 ns
Look up tables	1903 out of 1182240	< 0.2% of available
Flip flops	138 out of 2364480	< 0.01% of available
Block RAM	8 out of 4320	< 0.2% of available
Ultra RAM	0 out of 960	-
Digital signal processors	0 out of 6840	-

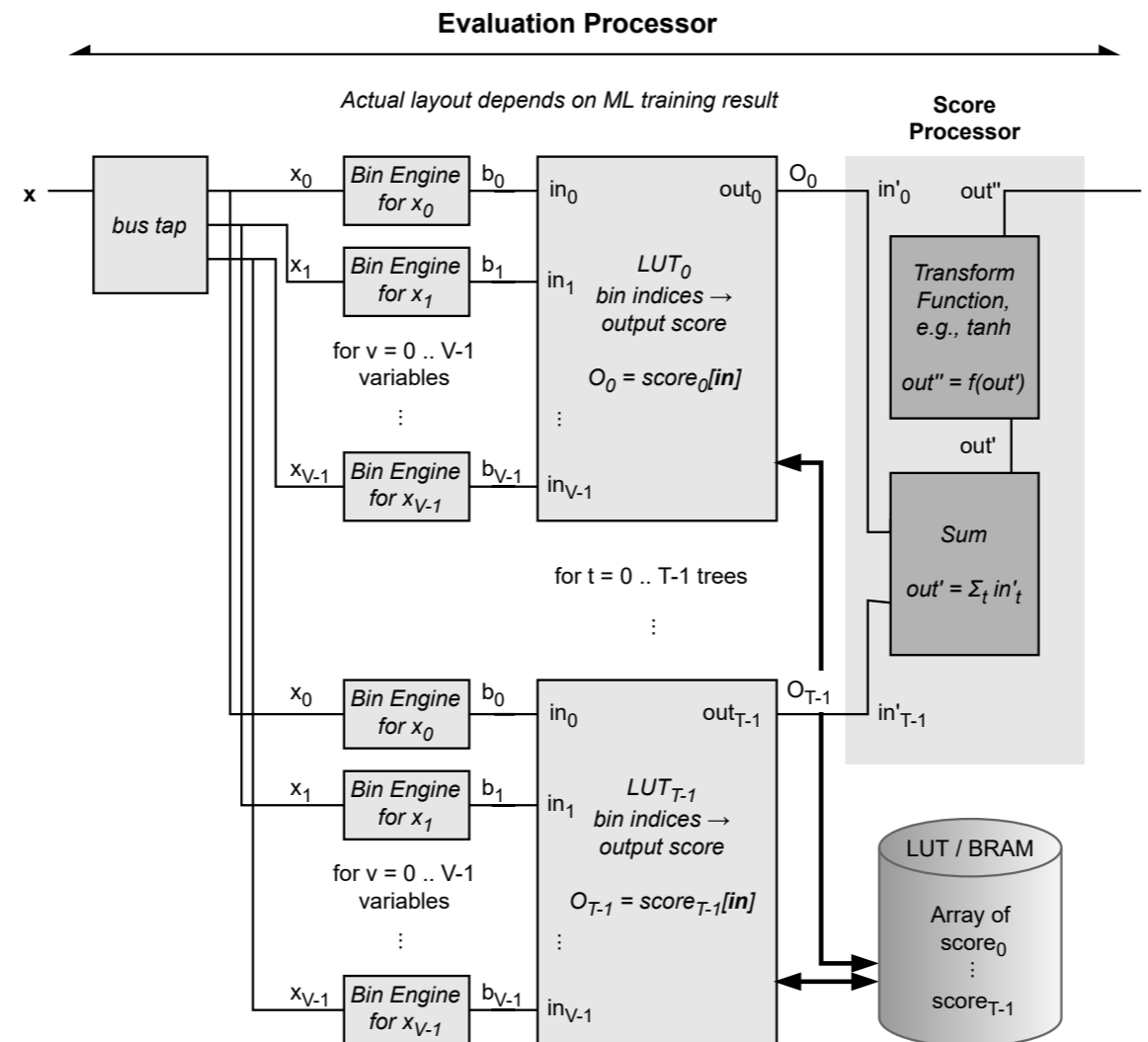


- 10 ns is independent of clock from 100-320 MHz

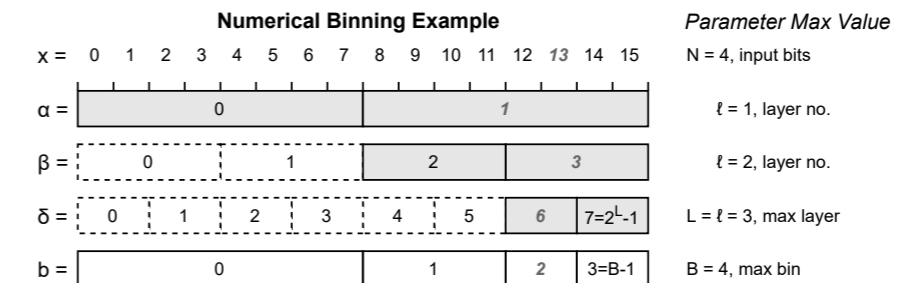
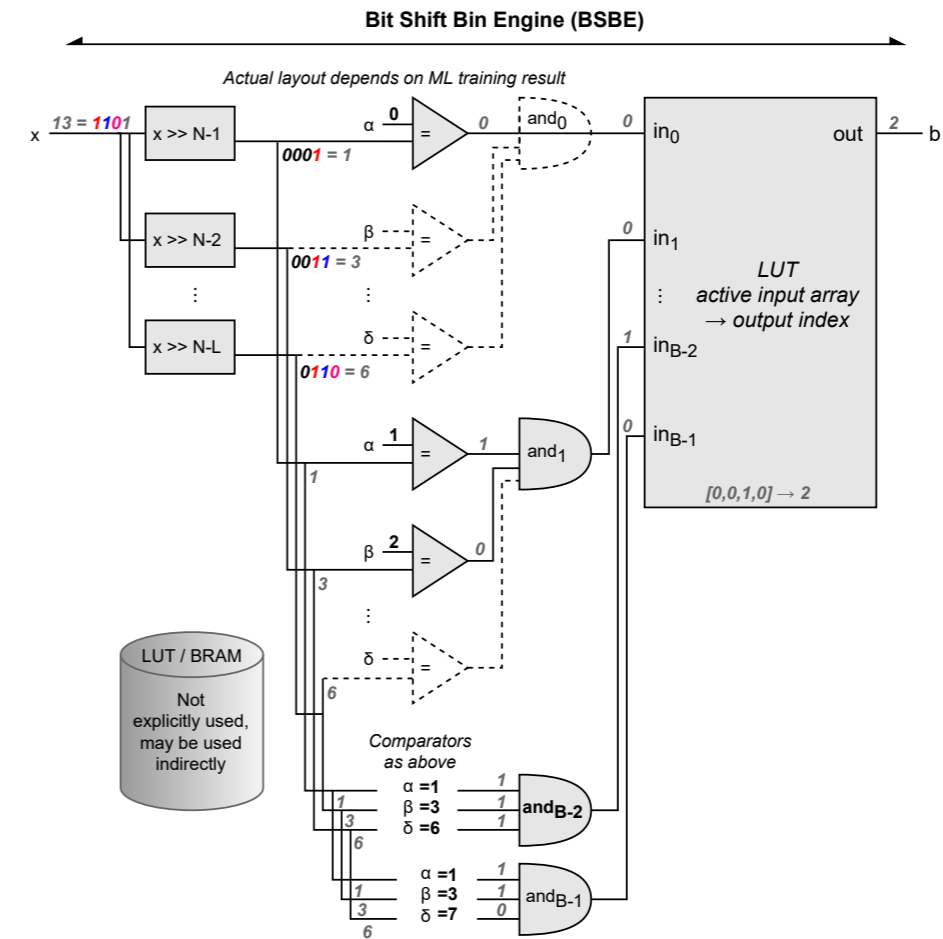
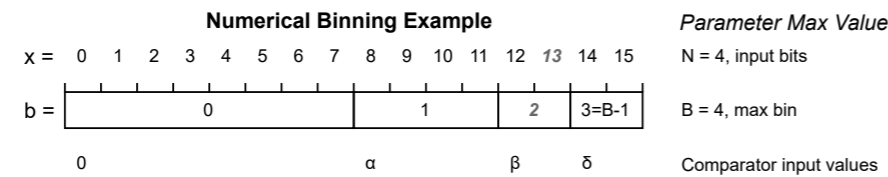
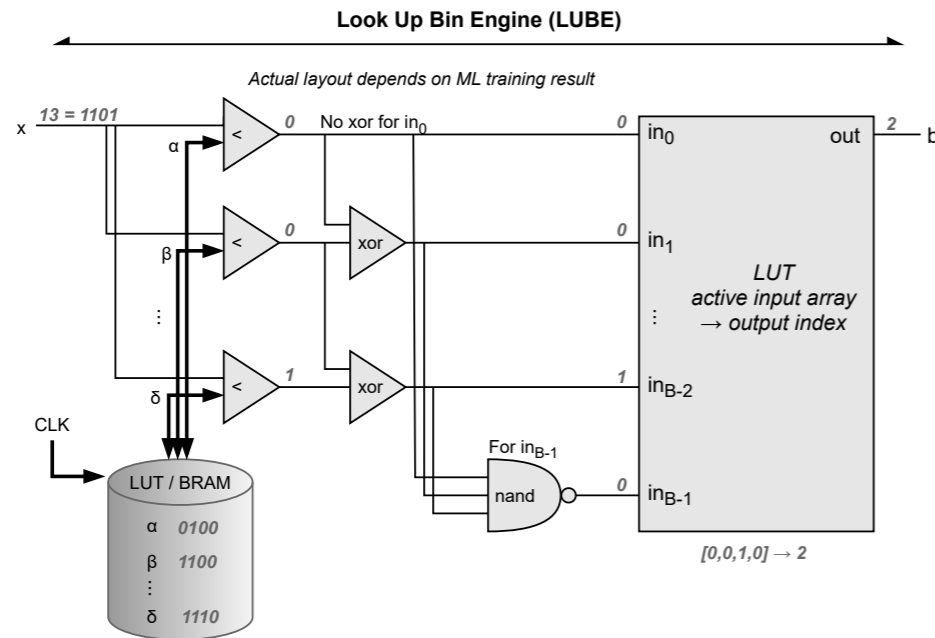


Table 9: List of input variables for the classification of the VBF Higgs boson vs. multijet process. Also given are the ATLAS-inspired cut-based offline thresholds for Run 2 [64] and HL-LHC [65]. For Run-2, differences arise with respect to the document when the m_{jj} threshold is quoted as 1100 GeV for L1 MJJ-500-NFF; we use the $> 99\%$ offline efficiency point, which is achieved around $m_{jj} > 1300$ GeV. For others the offline thresholds are used. For HL-LHC, the single-level scheme values are quoted. The performance of the cut-based approach using these values is compared the performance to the BDT result in figure 16. The non-optimized (non-opt) configuration includes the five variables from the optimized configuration.

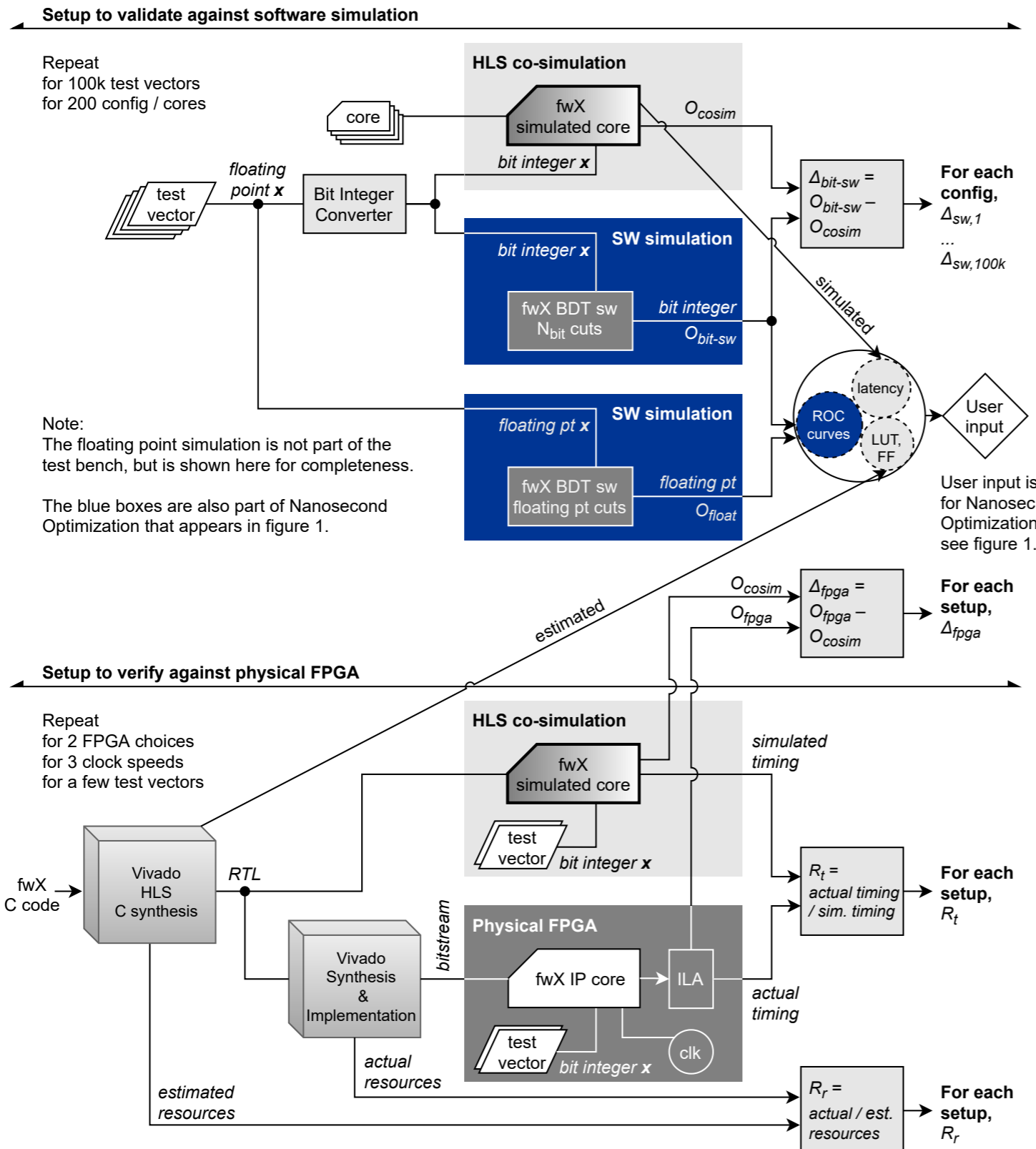
Input variable	Description	ATLAS Run-2 offline cut [64], see caption	ATLAS HL-LHC offline cut [65], see caption	Used in BDT
p_{T1}	Leading jet p_T	> 90 GeV	> 75 GeV	-
p_{T2}	Subleading jet p_T	> 80 GeV	> 75 GeV	Optimized
p_{T12}	Sum $p_{T1} + p_{T2}$	-	-	Optimized
$ \eta_1 $	Leading jet η	< 3.2	-	-
$ \eta_2 $	Subleading jet η	< 4.9	-	-
\prod_η	Product $\eta_1 \cdot \eta_2$	-	-	Optimized
$ \Delta\eta $	Separation in $ \eta_2 - \eta_1 $	> 4.0	> 2.5	-
$ \Delta\phi $	Separation in $ \phi_2 - \phi_1 $	< 2.0	< 2.5	non-opt
$ \Delta R $	$\sqrt{(\Delta\eta)^2 + (\Delta\phi)^2}$	-	-	non-opt
m_{jj}	Dijet invariant mass	> 1300 GeV	-	Optimized
p_T^{jj}	Dijet p_T	-	-	Optimized



- Each variable is processed independently of each other



- Look up thresholds in memory, compare
- Bit shift to localize data
 - This is *fast*
- Use combinatoric logic as much as possible without multiplication. No explicit clocked operations.



- No difference seen wrt software implementation



All info at
<https://fwx.pitt.edu>



fwXmachina Project

FW X Machina

Welcome!

Information regarding the **fwX** project will be available on this page. This project is developed by members of the [Hong Group](#) in the [Department of Physics and Astronomy](#).

Where to find information

- The pre-print is available on the arXiv [\[2104.03408\]](#)
- Data samples used for the VBF Higgs and multijet study
 - Stephen Roche, Benjamin Carlson, Tae Min Hong (2021), *fwXmachina example: VBF Higgs vs multijet*, Mendeley Data, V1, doi: 10.17632/kp3myh3v89.1
- Download code
 - v1.0.0: <https://gitlab.com/PittHongGroup/fwX/-/tree/v1.0.0> and [Doxygen documentation](#)
- COMING SOON
 - User Guide
 - Tutorials

Communicate with us

- Sign-up for the announcements at [Mailman](#) to receive emails from fwx@list.pitt.edu.
- Send inquiries to fwx-developers@list.pitt.edu.

data set



git repo



doxygen





The screenshot shows the GitLab interface for a repository named 'fwX'. The left sidebar contains navigation options: Project overview, Details, Activity, Releases, Repository, Issues (0), Merge requests (0), Requirements, CI/CD, Security & Compliance, Operations, Packages & Registries, Analytics, Wiki, Snippets, Members, and Settings. The main content area shows the repository details, including a 'first commit' by Tae Min Hong 20 minutes ago. Below this are buttons for 'Upload File', 'README', 'CHANGELOG', 'Add LICENSE', 'Add CONTRIBUTING', and 'Enable Auto DevOps'. A table lists repository files and folders with their last commit and update times.

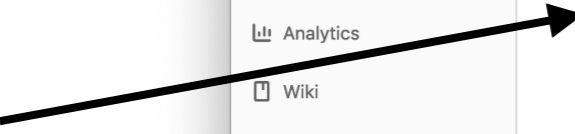
Name	Last commit	Last update
doc	first commit	20 minutes ago
examples	update stuff	55 minutes ago
fwXmachina	update stuff	55 minutes ago
images	update stuff	55 minutes ago
.gitignore	first commit	21 minutes ago
CHANGELOG	update stuff	55 minutes ago
EULA.md	first commit	25 minutes ago
README.md	update stuff	55 minutes ago
fwX.py	update stuff	55 minutes ago
setup.py	update stuff	55 minutes ago

Below the table is the 'README.md' content, which features the 'FWX Machina' logo and a link to the project page: <https://PittHongGroup.gitlab.io/fwXmachina/>.

examples



code



driver file





install

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the GitLab project page for 'PittHongGroup / fwX'. The main content is the README.md file, which features the 'FWX Machina' logo and a flowchart illustrating the process: 'Perform ML' (receiving 'Input data' and 'TMVA scikit-learn ...') leads to 'Ultrafast Optimization' (outputting 'ROC, Latency, LUT, ...'), which then leads to 'Convert to HLS' (receiving 'User input' and using 'Xilinx HLS Vivado Suite' to produce 'Custom Firmware').

Below the flowchart, the README includes a section for dependencies and a detailed section for 'Vivado HLS Download and Installation' with the following steps:

1. Navigate to <https://www.xilinx.com/support/download.html>
2. Click the icon of the person in the top right and create an account
3. Navigate back to the URL above
4. Select the desired version on the left. Make sure to select a version that supports your FPGA part number (most versions support all devices)
5. Scroll down a little and click on the name of the installation method. For example, Windows users will click the *.exe one
6. Once that is downloaded, open up the install wizard and progress through the installation. Make sure to select "Vivado" and "Vivado Design Edition"
7. Once it is done installing, open Vivado HLS to verify it is working

Other sections include 'Other' (listing dependencies like ROOT and Python 3), 'Installation', 'Local Installation', 'Dependencies' (mentioning CERN's ROOT framework), and 'Steps' (providing terminal commands for cloning the repository).





The screenshot shows a web browser displaying a GitLab repository page for 'fwX' at version 'v1.0.0'. The left sidebar contains navigation options like 'Project overview', 'Repository', 'Files', 'Commits', 'Branches', 'Tags', 'Contributors', 'Graph', 'Compare', 'Locked Files', 'Issues', 'Merge requests', 'Requirements', 'CI/CD', 'Security & Compliance', 'Operations', 'Packages & Registries', 'Analytics', 'Wiki', 'Snippets', 'Members', and 'Settings'. The main content area features a file explorer for the 'solution1' directory, showing subfolders like 'constraints', 'impl', 'syn', and 'report', along with files 'directives.tcl' and 'script.tcl'. Below the explorer, a code editor displays the content of 'bdt.cpp', which is an auto-generated implementation file for Vivado HLS. The code includes a function definition for 'fwXbdt' with various pragmas and a loop that iterates over a tree structure to calculate a score sum.

these files are not located in the HLS project itself, but in the folder named `src`, which is located next to the HLS project folder. In `bdt.cpp`, we can see two functions. The first (`fwXbdt()`) is what is known as the top-level function, or the function that gives the physical interface shape for the synthesizer.

```

Synthesis(solution1)(fwXbdt_csynth.rpt) | bdt.cpp | bdt.hpp
1  /* auto generated bdt implementation file for Vivado HLS */
2
3  #include "bdt.hpp"
4
5
6  out_t fwXbdt(in_t event[NVARS]) {
7  #pragma HLS ARRAY PARTITION variable=event complete dim=1
8  #pragma HLS INTERFACE ap_ctrl_none port=return
9  #pragma HLS INTERFACE ap_none port=event
10
11 #pragma HLS PIPELINE II=1
12
13
14
15     out_t scoreSum = 0;
16
17     for (int idxTree = 0; idxTree<NTREES; ++idxTree) {
18         in_t binMap[NVARS];
19         bin(event, binMap, idxTree);
20         scoreSum += getScore(binMap, idxTree);
21     }
22     return scoreSum;
23 }
24
ent[NVARS], in_t idxBin[NVARS], int idxTree) {

```

tree Highlight All Match Case Match Diacritics Whole Words 1 of 18 matches



fwXmachina: Class List
fwXmachina: tree.Tree Class Reference

https://www.fwx.pitt.edu/doc/v1.0.0/html/class_tree_1_1Tree.html
Most Visited | Reload via ULS | Kick Ass

fwXmachina
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 - cuts
 - forest
 - generalClasses
 - include
 - node
 - set
 - testpoints
 - tree
 - Tree**
 - SingleTree
 - MergedTrees
 - BinaryClassTree
 - SingleBinaryClassTree
 - MergedBinaryClassTrees
 - variable
 - Class Index
 - Class Hierarchy
 - Class Members
 - Files

tree.Tree Class Reference

Public Member Functions | Public Attributes | Private Member Functions | List of all members

Class from which [SingleTree](#) and [MergedTrees](#) inherit. [More...](#)

Inheritance diagram for tree.Tree:

```

graph BT
    object --> tree_Tree[tree.Tree]
    tree_Tree --> tree_MergedTrees[tree.MergedTrees]
    tree_Tree --> tree_BinaryClassTree[tree.BinaryClassTree]
    tree_Tree --> tree_SingleTree[tree.SingleTree]
    tree_MergedTrees --> tree_MergedBinaryClassTrees[tree.MergedBinaryClassTrees]
    tree_BinaryClassTree --> tree_SingleBinaryClassTree[tree.SingleBinaryClassTree]
  
```

Collaboration diagram for tree.Tree:

```

graph BT
    object --> tree_Tree[tree.Tree]
  
```

Public Member Functions

```
def __init__(self, str comes_from=None, BDT_object=None)
```

Initializes a tree. [More...](#)

```
str get_title(self)
```

Return tree's title. [More...](#)

```
'Tree' __deepcopy__(self, memo)
```

Alters copy.deepcopy a little for this class's purpose. [More...](#)

```
np.ndarray get_cuts(self)
```

Get all the cuts and turn them into one big 2d Numpy array for each data type. [More...](#)

```
np.ndarray get_intermediates(self)
```

Gets the intermediates for each variable. [More...](#)

tree > Tree
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