



Machine Learning for High-Energy Physics

Juan Rojo

VU Amsterdam & Theory Group, Nikhef

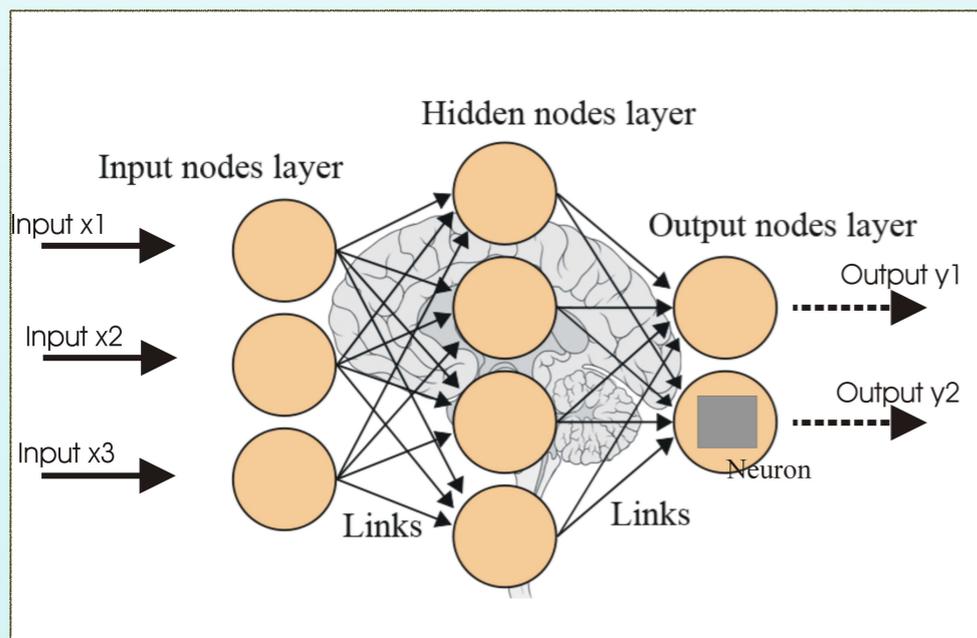
Master's Lunch

Master in Physics and Astronomy VU+UvA

Amsterdam Science Park, 12/10/2017



Machine Learning and Artificial Neural Networks



What is machine learning?

THE
ROYAL
SOCIETY



Machine Learning at the LHC

- 📌 By **Machine Learning** we denote those families of computer algorithms that **learn how to excel on a task** based on a **large sample of examples**, rather than on some a priori fixed rules
- 📌 ML algorithms are nowadays ubiquitous, from **driverless cars** to **Amazon's purchase suggestions**, to **automated medical imaging recognition** to beating the words best players at Go and chess
- 📌 ML tools rely on the **efficient exploitation of immense datasets**. And the **LHC** has a lot of data!

The Big Data Universe, 2016

Amount of data stored in Petabytes
(1 Petabyte = 1 000 000 GB)

Share



Human brain
2.5 PB

Ebay
90 PB

Spotify
10 PB

Facebook
300 PB

Google
15,000 PB
(estimated)

LHC data analysis: 30 pb/year!



What is machine learning?

What is Machine Learning?

Stanford
University



Machine Learning

Introduction

What is machine learning



-7:12

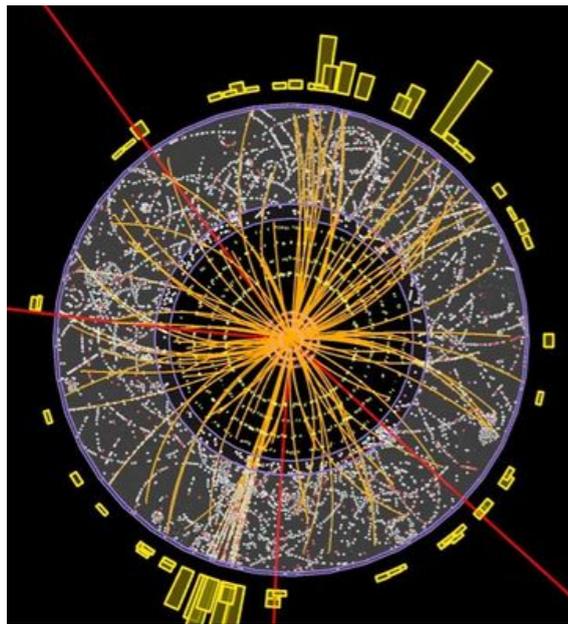


360p

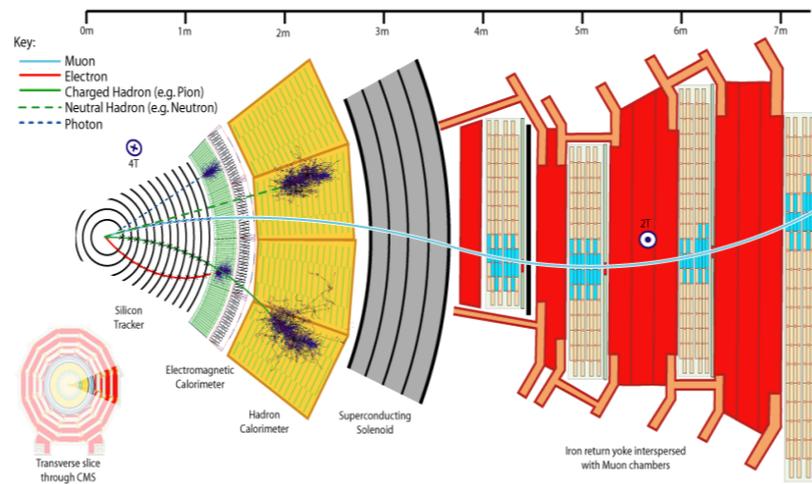


<https://www.coursera.org/learn/machine-learning/lecture/Ujm7v/what-is-machine-learning>

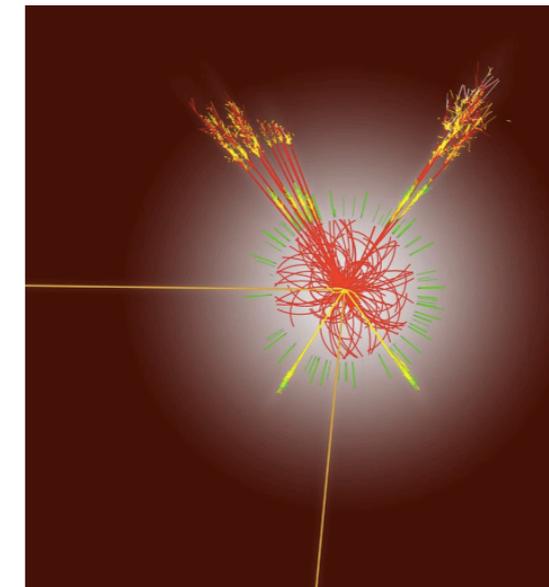
Machine Learning tools are everywhere!



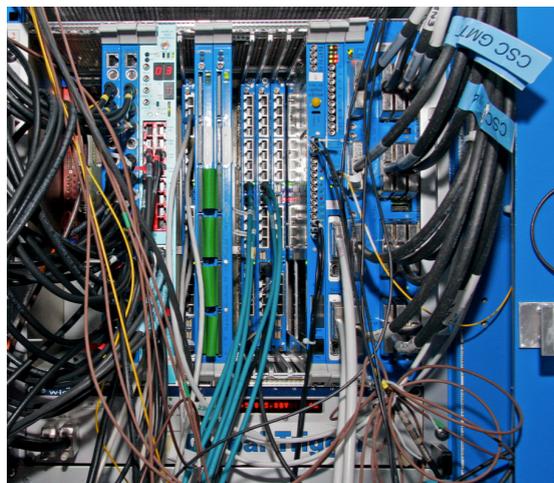
**Deep Kalman
RNNs**



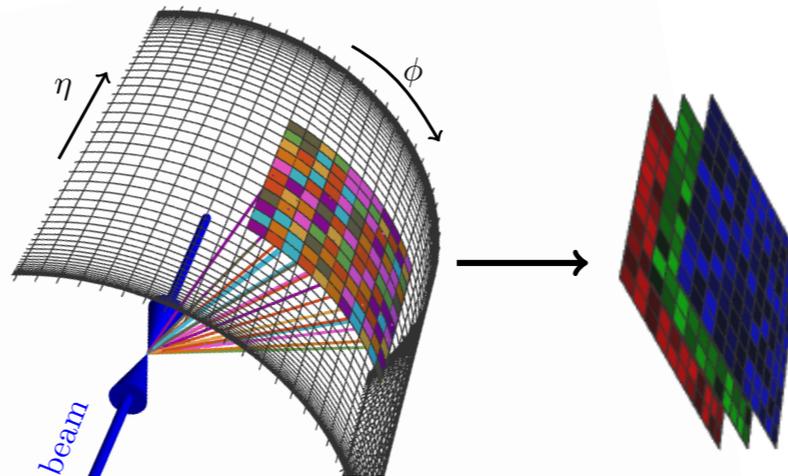
**Generative Models,
Adversarial Networks**



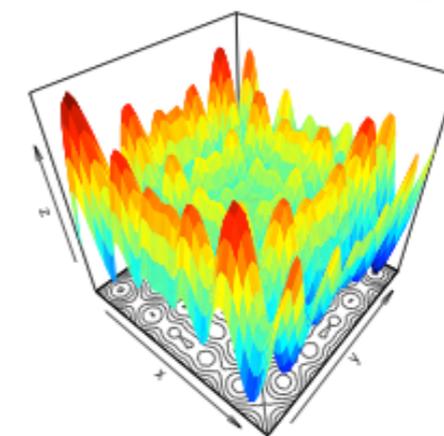
**FCN, Recurrent,
LSTM NN**



Deep ML +FPGA



Convolutional DNN



Multiobjective Regression

S. Glayzer

06/19/2017

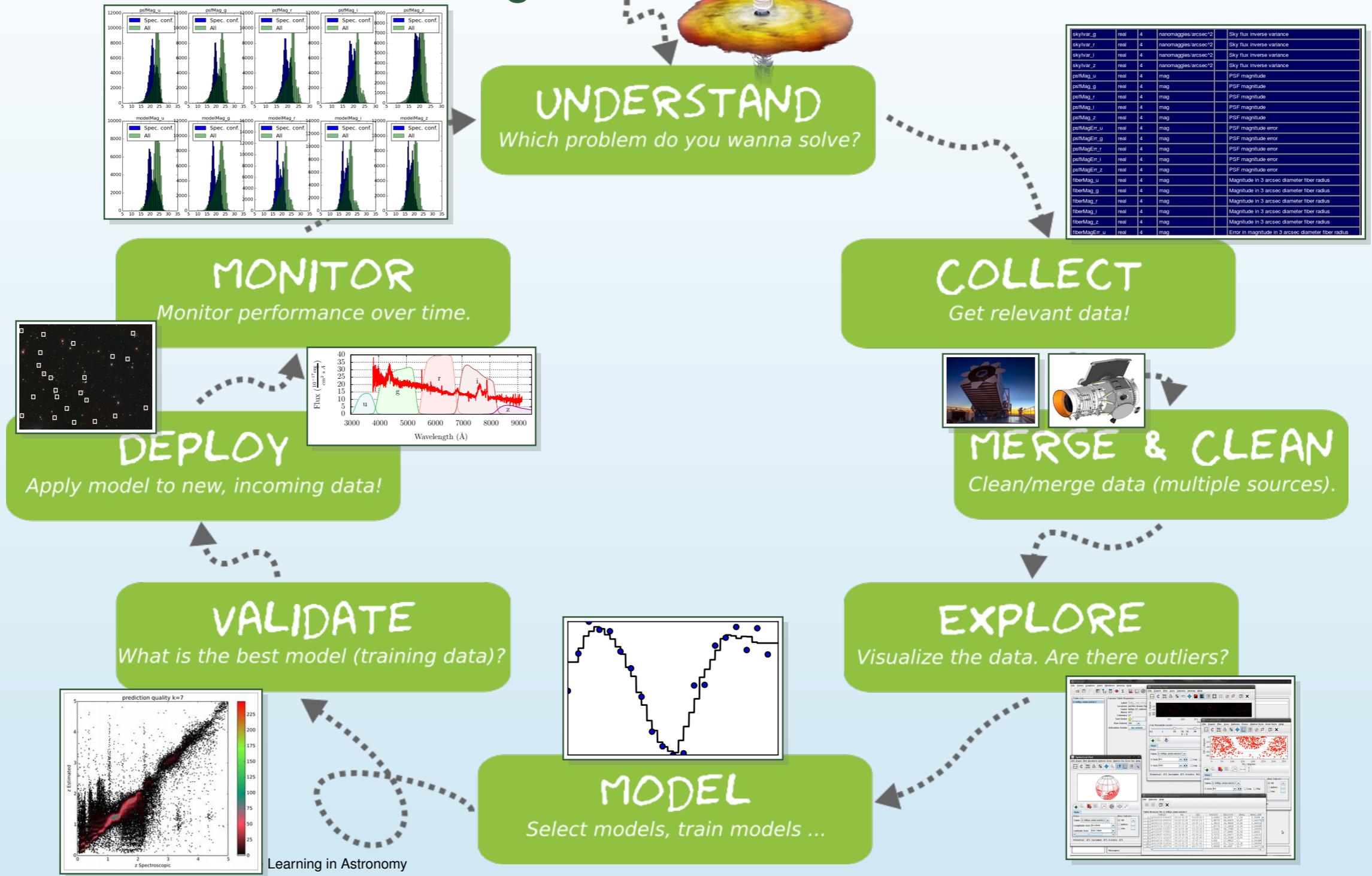
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For many crucial applications, ML tools not just one option, but the only option

ML cheat sheet

F. Gieseke

Machine Learning Workflow

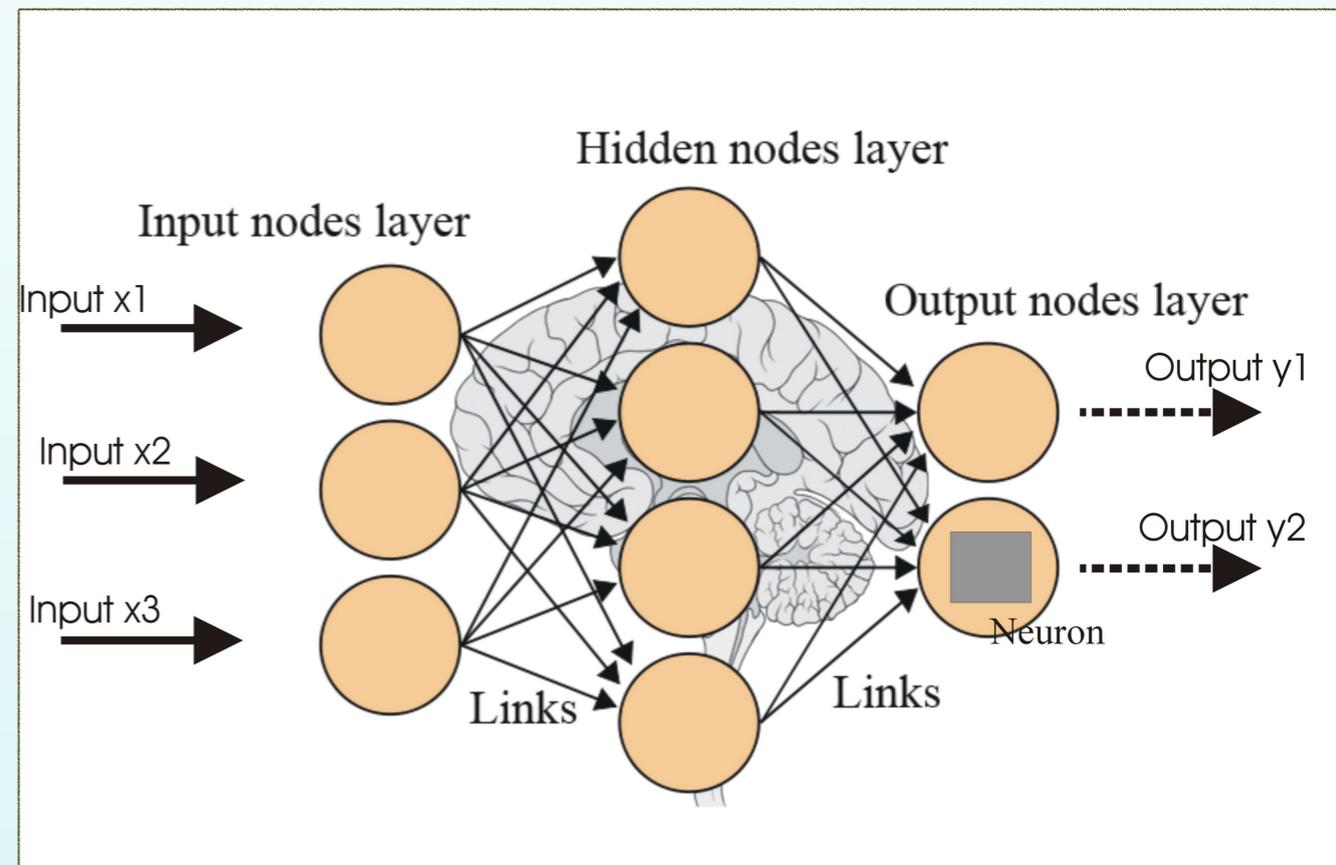


Endless possibilities - but also many non-trivial hurdles to overcome

Artificial Neural Networks

Inspired by **biological brain models**, Artificial Neural Networks are **mathematical algorithms** widely used in a wide range of applications, from **HEP** to **targeted marketing** and **finance forecasting**

From Biological to Artificial Neural Networks



Artificial neural networks aim to excel where domains as their **evolution-driven counterparts** outperforms traditional algorithms in tasks such as **pattern recognition**, **forecasting**, **classification**, ...

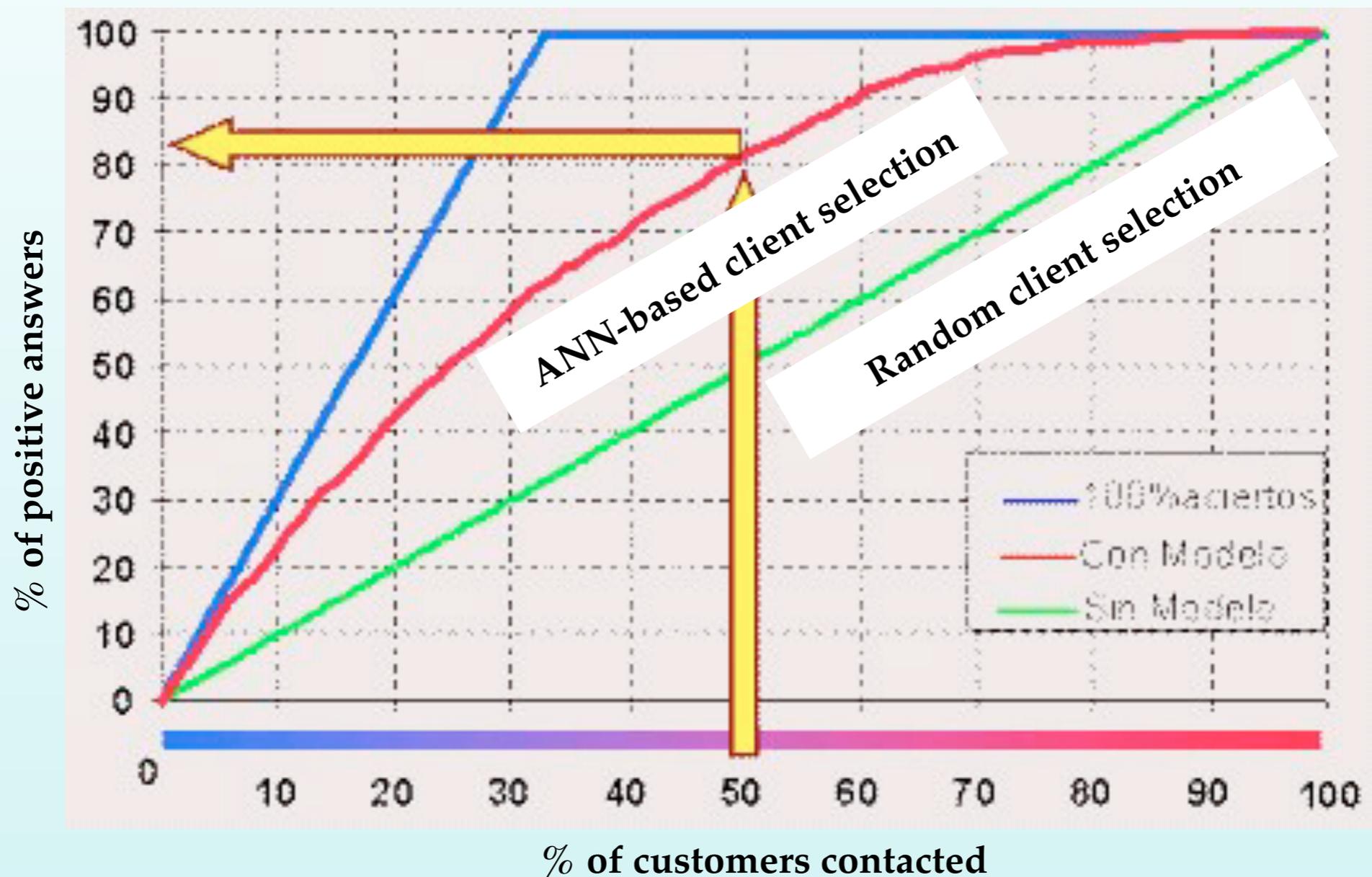
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxe2T-V8XR8>

ANNs - a marketing example

A bank wants to offer a new credit card to their clients. Two possible strategies:

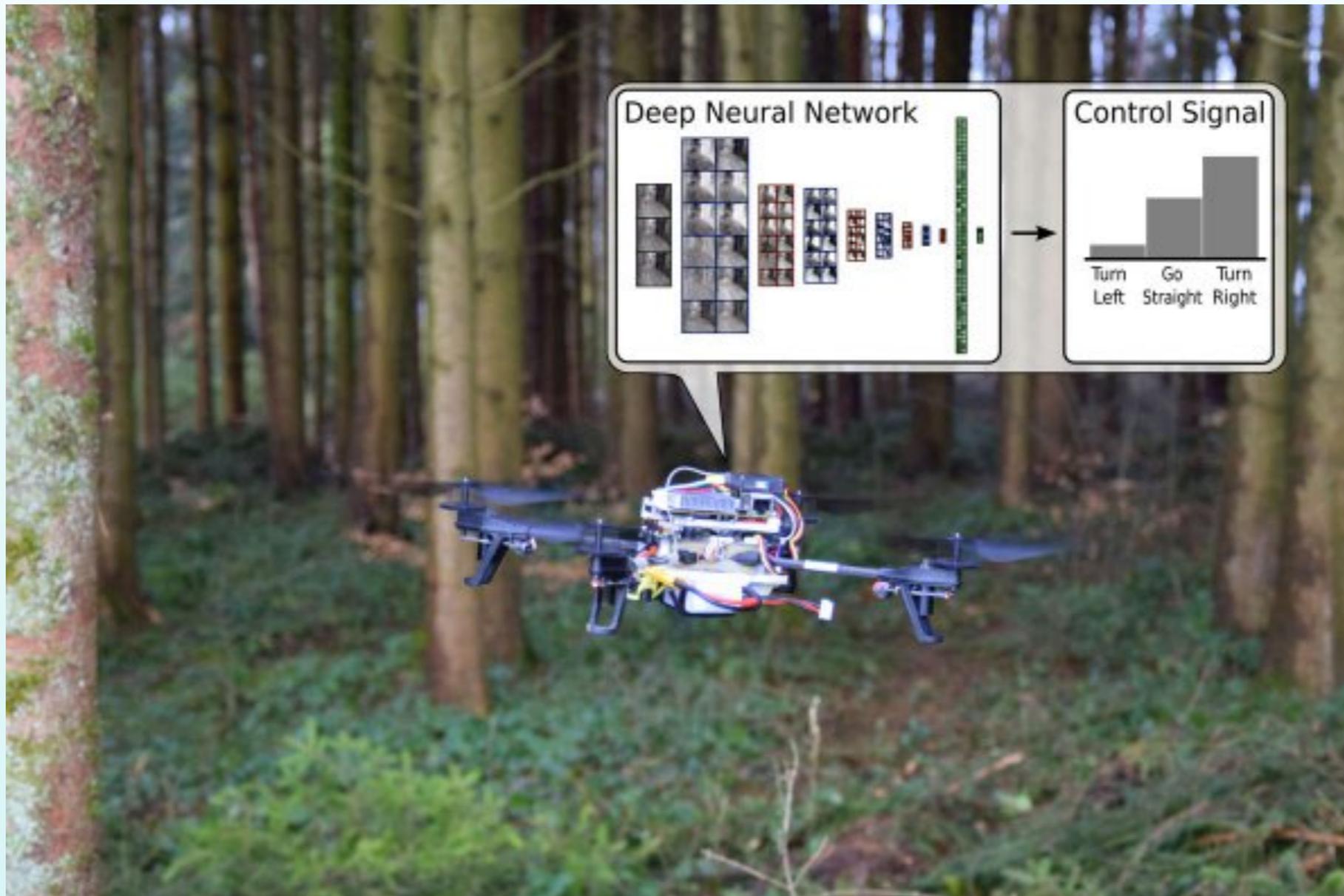
- 📌 **Contact all customers:** slow and costly
- 📌 Contact **5%** of the customers, **train a ANN with their input** (gender, income, loans) and **their output** (yes/no) and use the information to **contact only clients likely to accept the product**

Cost-effective method to improve marketing performance!



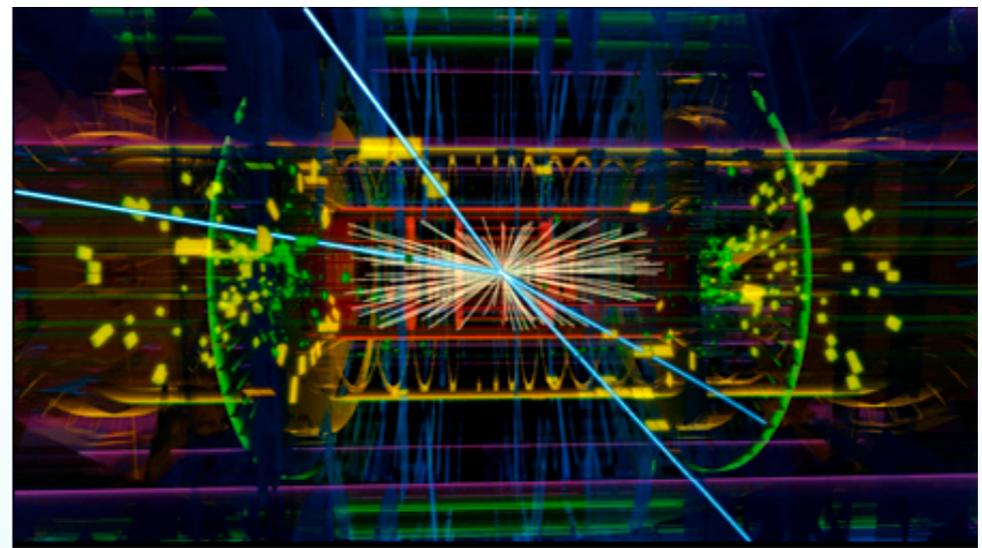
ANNs and pattern recognition

- ANNs can enable an **autonomous vision-control drone** to recognize and follow forest trails
- Image classifier operates directly on **pixel-level image intensities**
- If a trail is visible, the **software steers the drone** in the corresponding direction

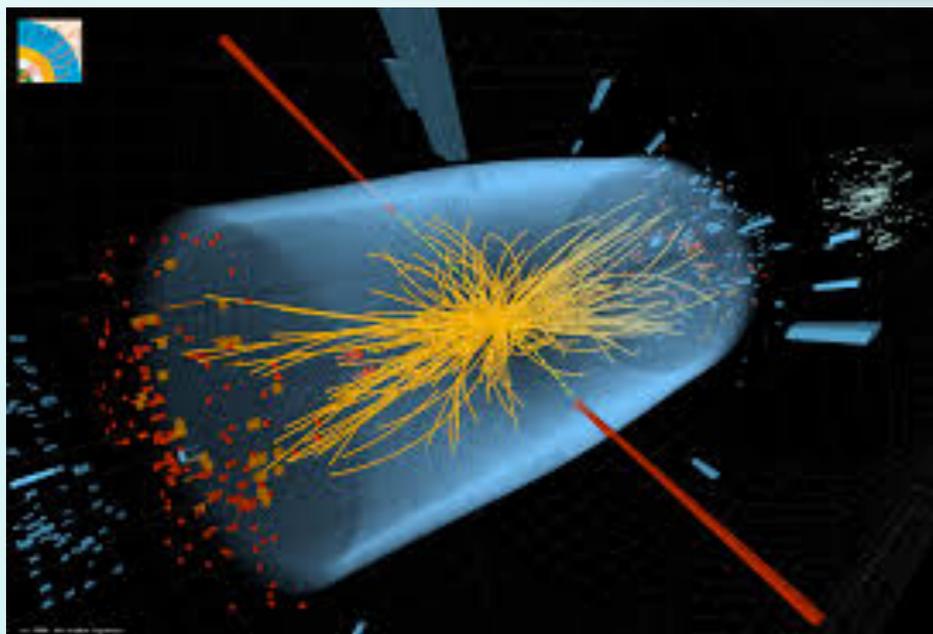


Giusti et al, IEEE Robotics and Automation Letters, 2016

Similar algorithms at work in self-driving cars!



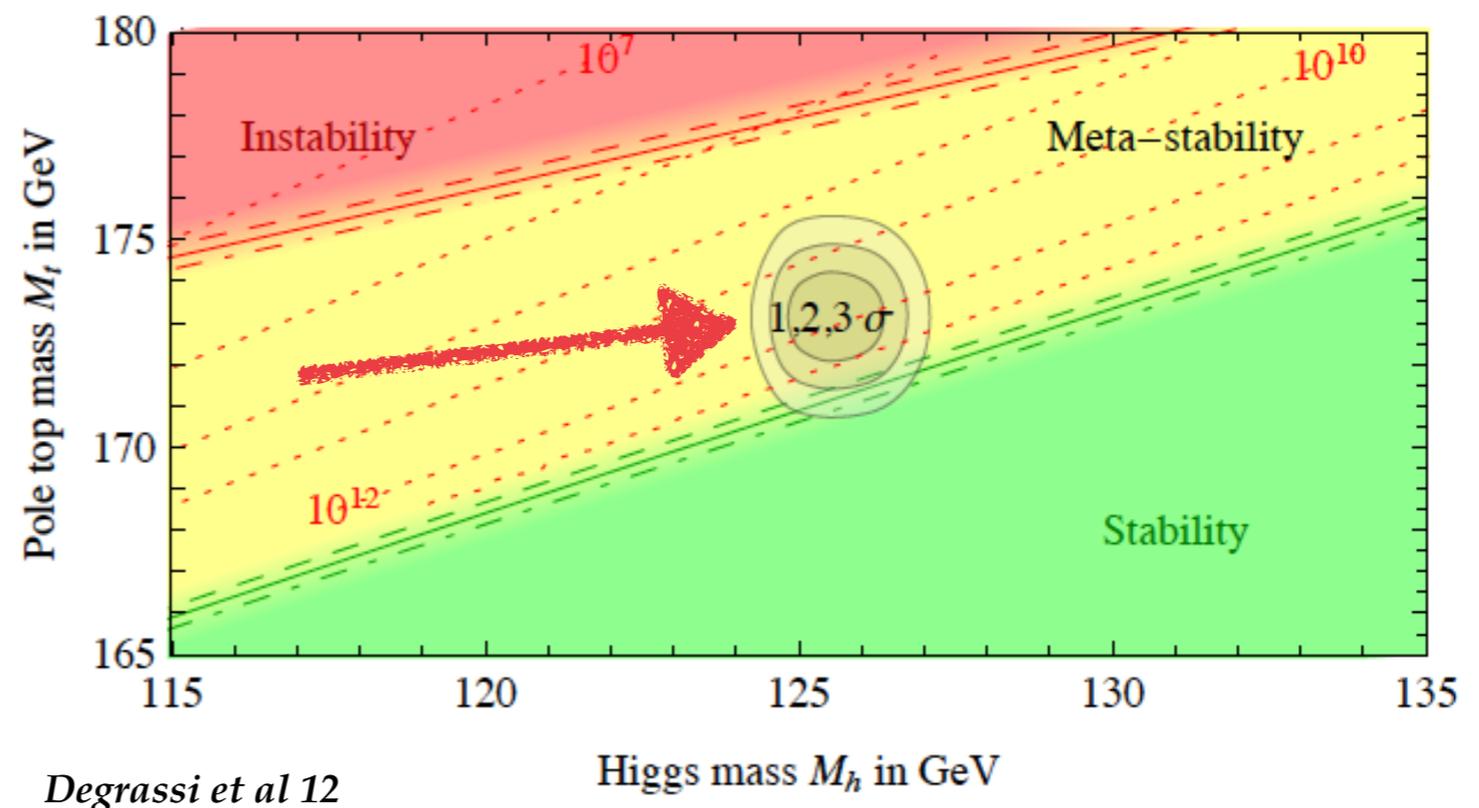
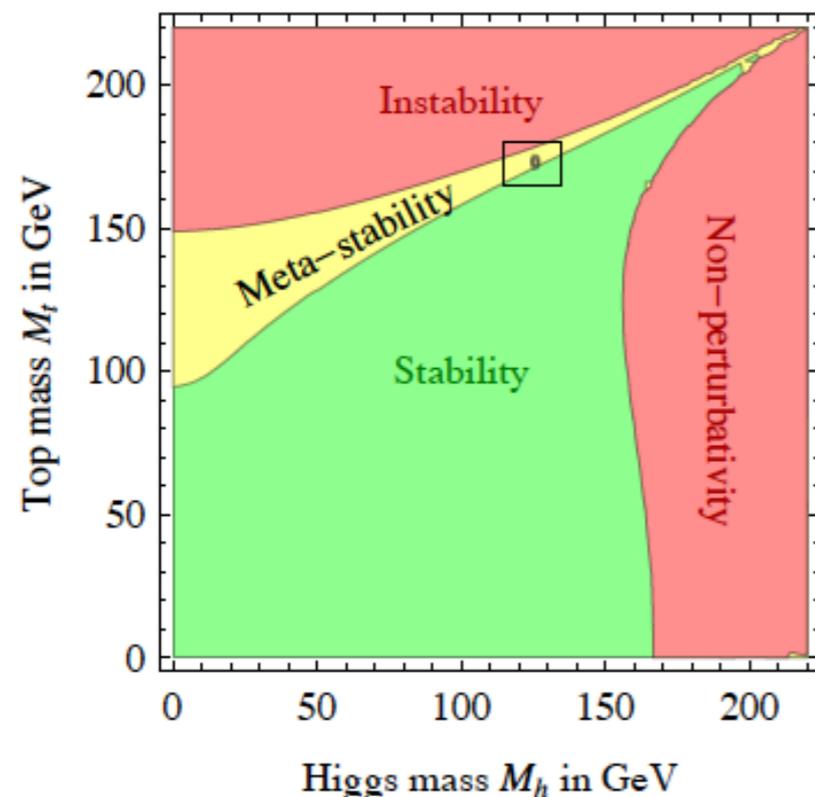
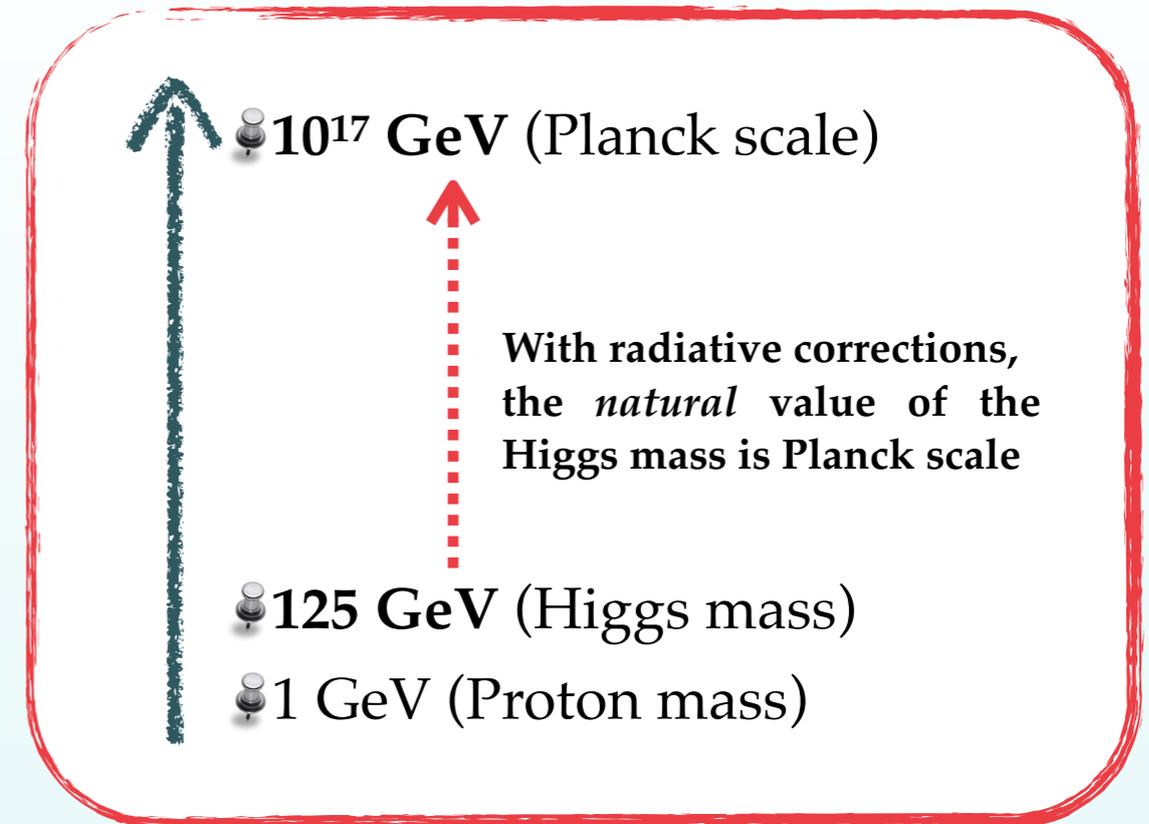
Exploring the high-energy frontier at the Large Hadron Collider



Outstanding questions in Particle Physics

The Higgs boson

- ☑ Huge gap, 10^{17} , between Higgs and Plank scales
- ☑ Elementary or composite? Additional Higgs bosons?
- ☑ Coupling to Dark Matter? Role in cosmological phase transitions?
- ☑ Is the vacuum state of the Universe stable?



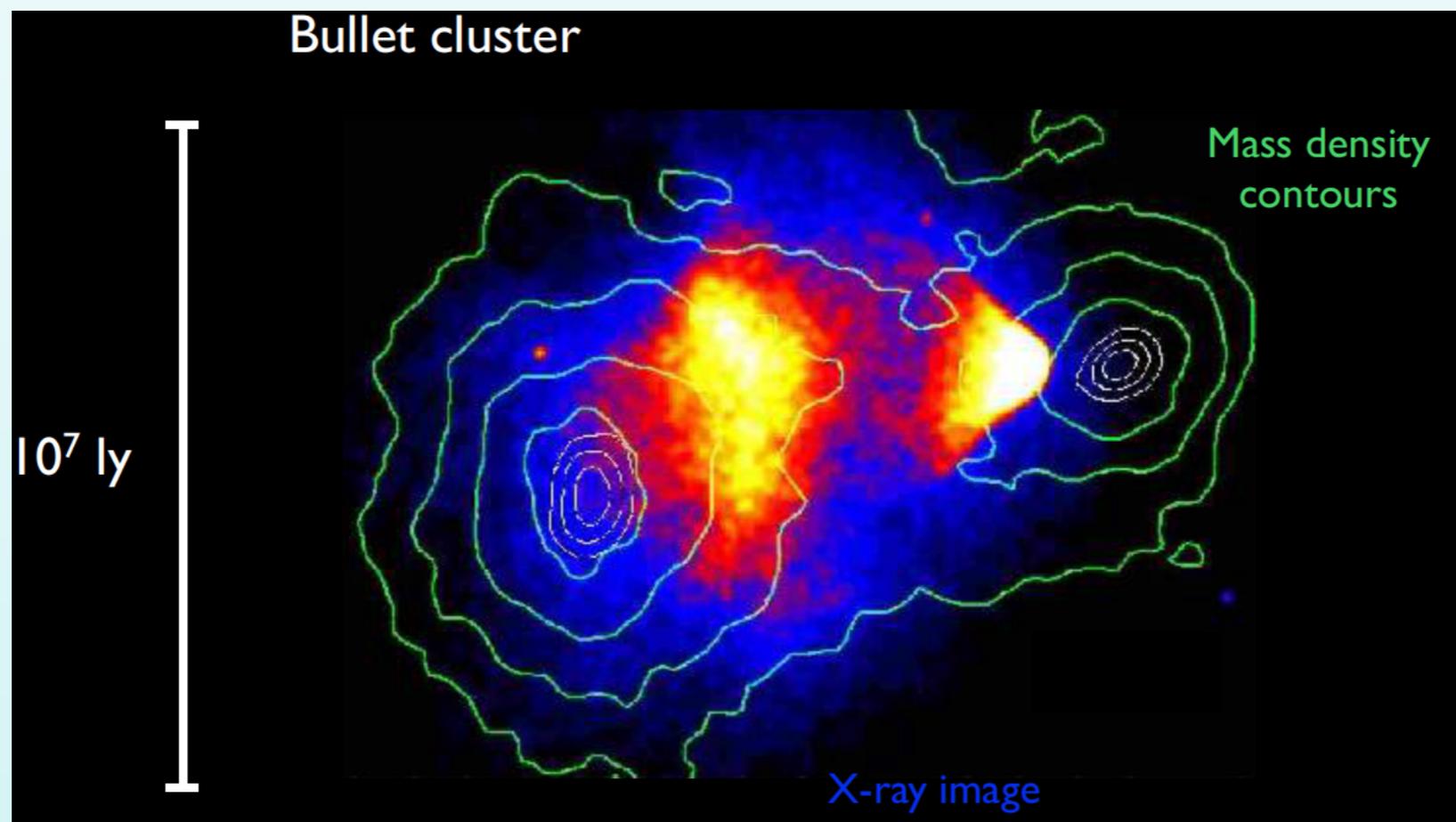
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Dark Matter

- ☑ Weakly interacting massive particles? Sterile neutrinos? Extremely light particles (axions)?
- ☑ Interactions with Standard Model particles?
- ☑ What is the structure of the Dark Sector? Is Dark Matter self-interacting?



Outstanding questions in Particle Physics

The Higgs boson

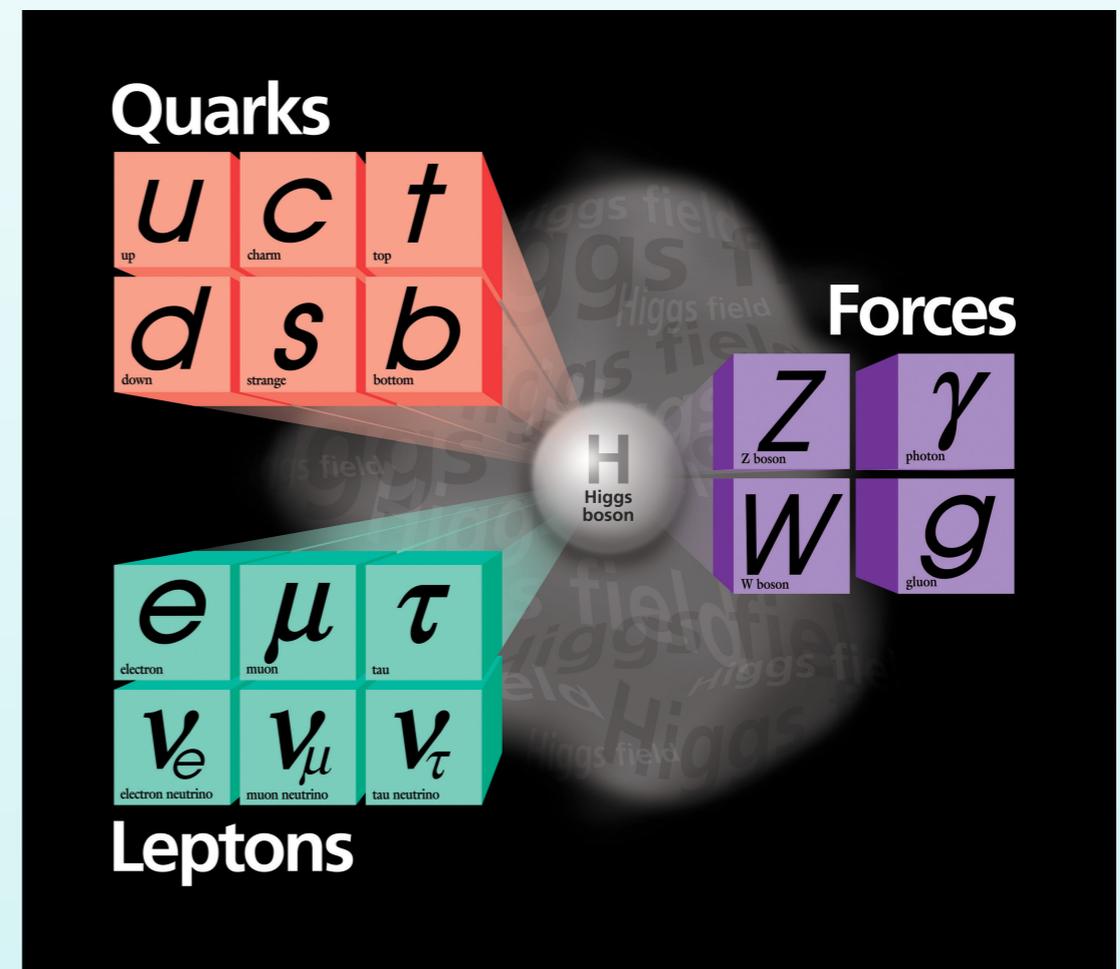
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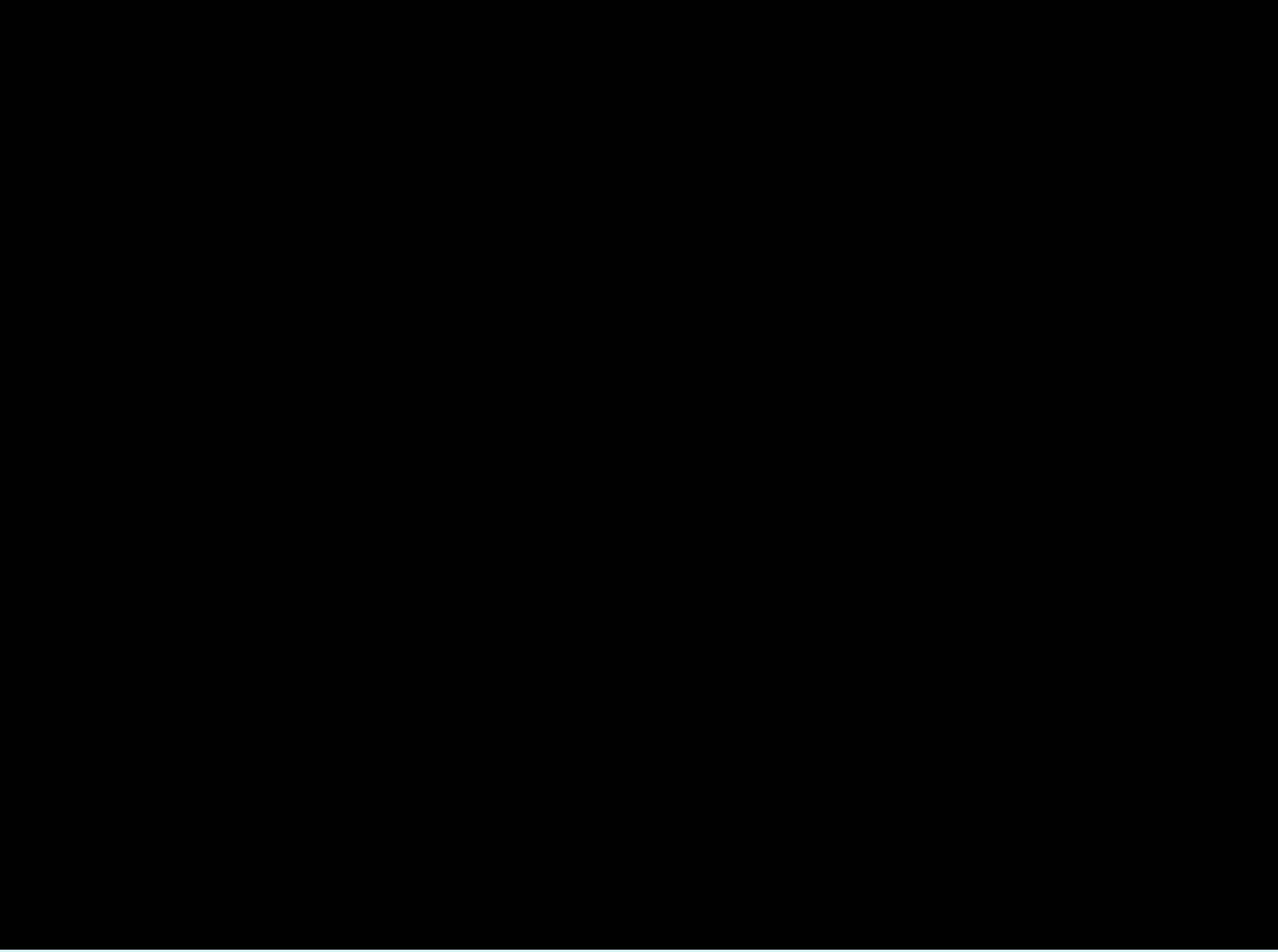
Quarks and leptons

- ✓ Why three families? Can we explain masses and mixings?
- ✓ Origin of Matter-Antimatter asymmetry in the Universe?
- ✓ Are neutrinos Majorana or Dirac? CP violation in the lepton sector?

Dark Matter

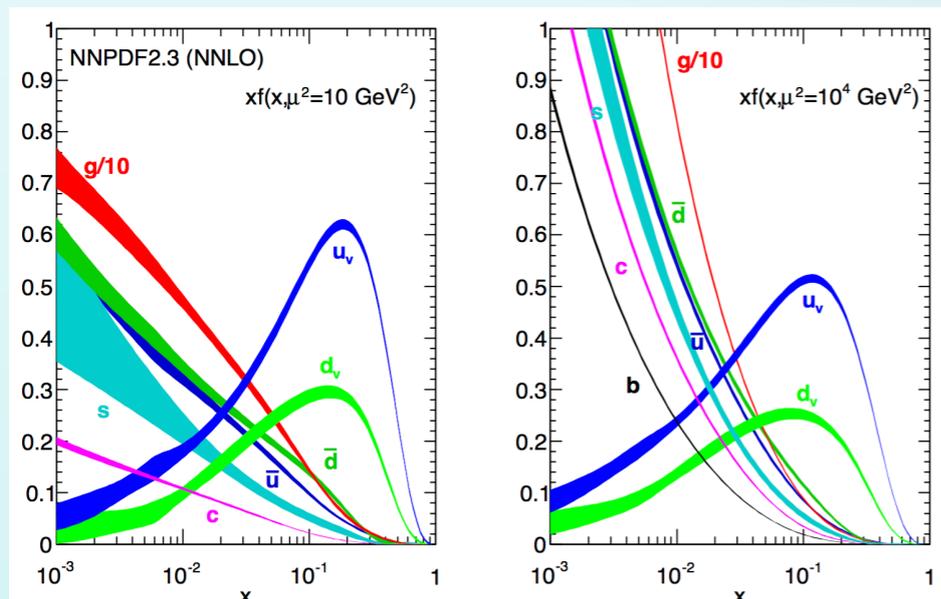
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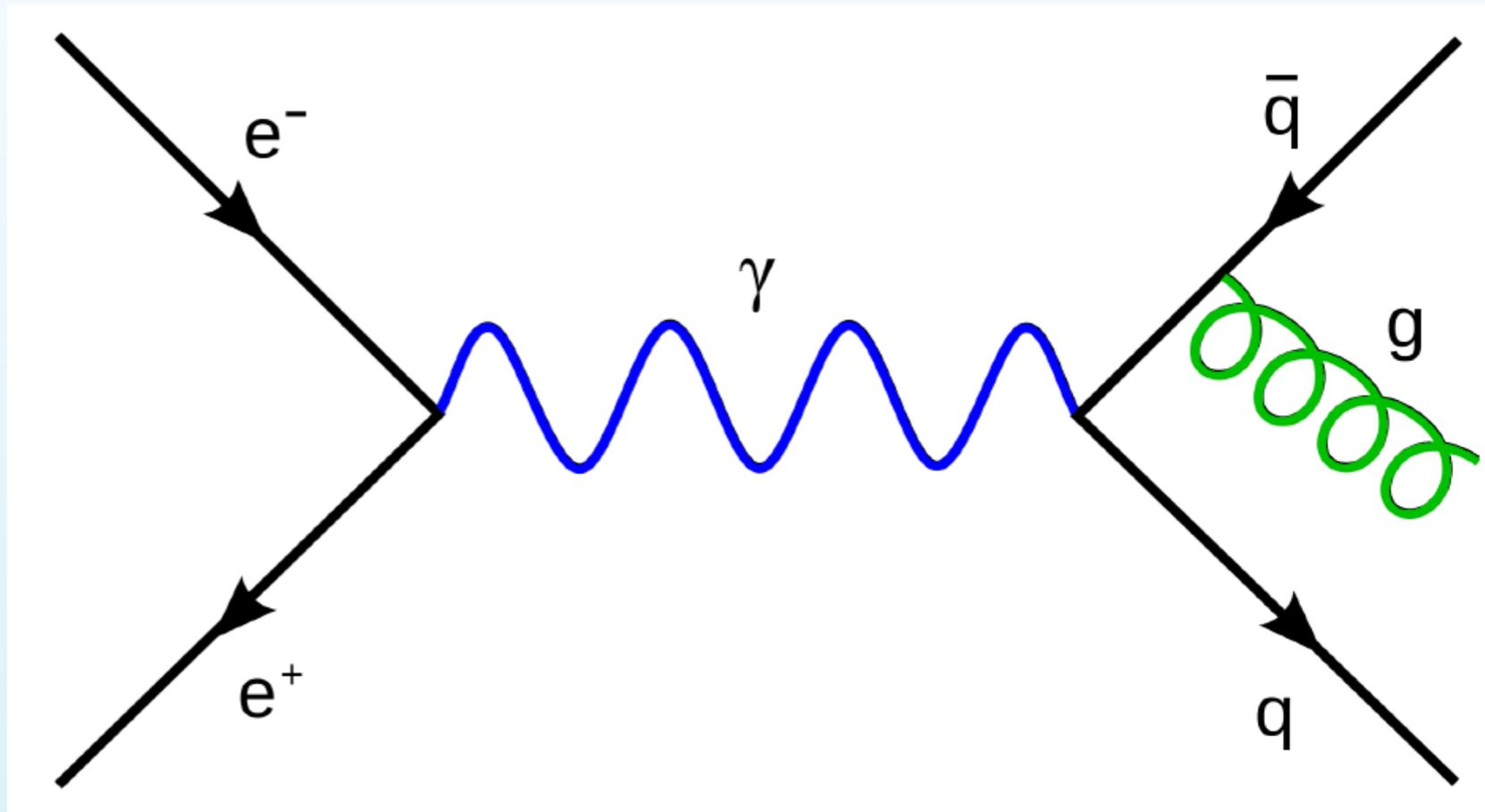
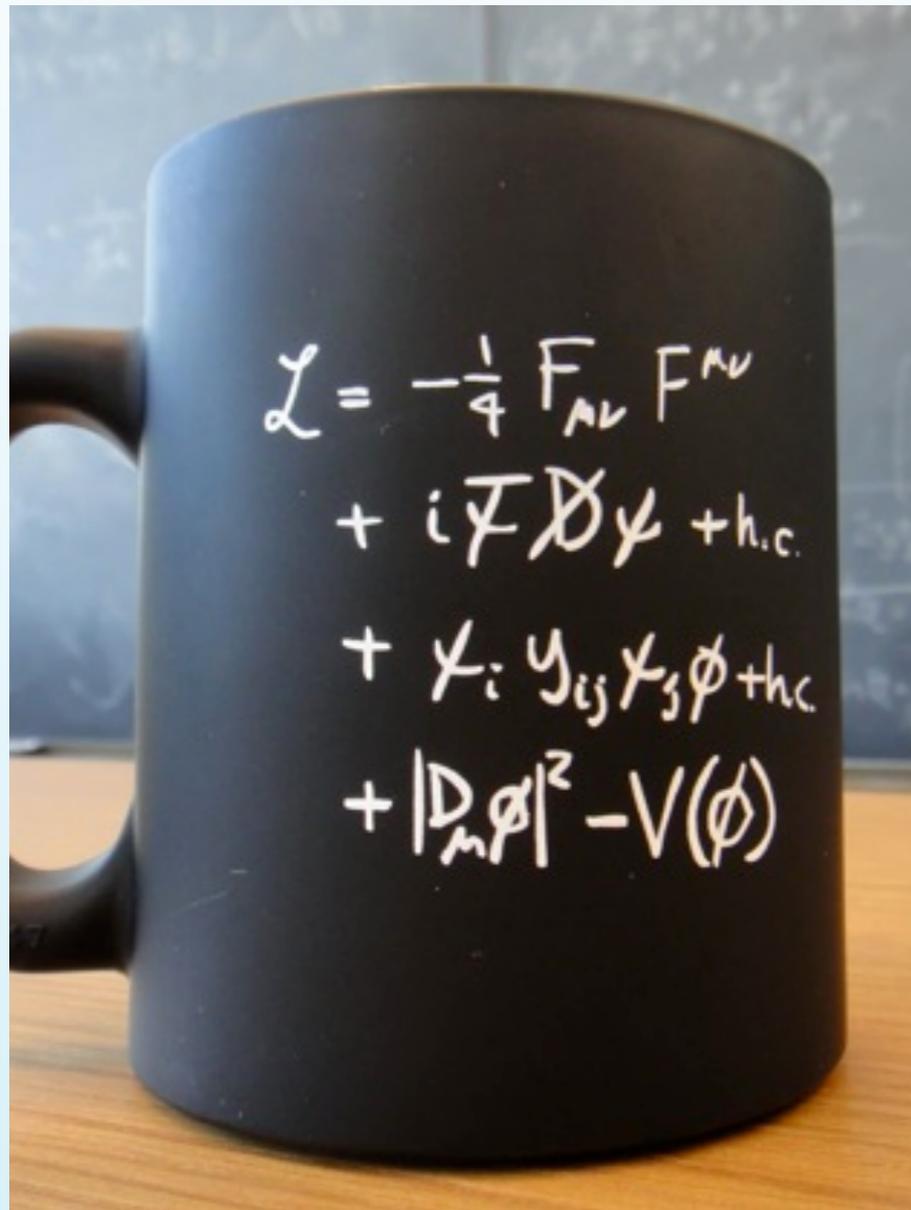


The inner life of protons : Parton Distribution Functions



Lepton vs Hadron Colliders

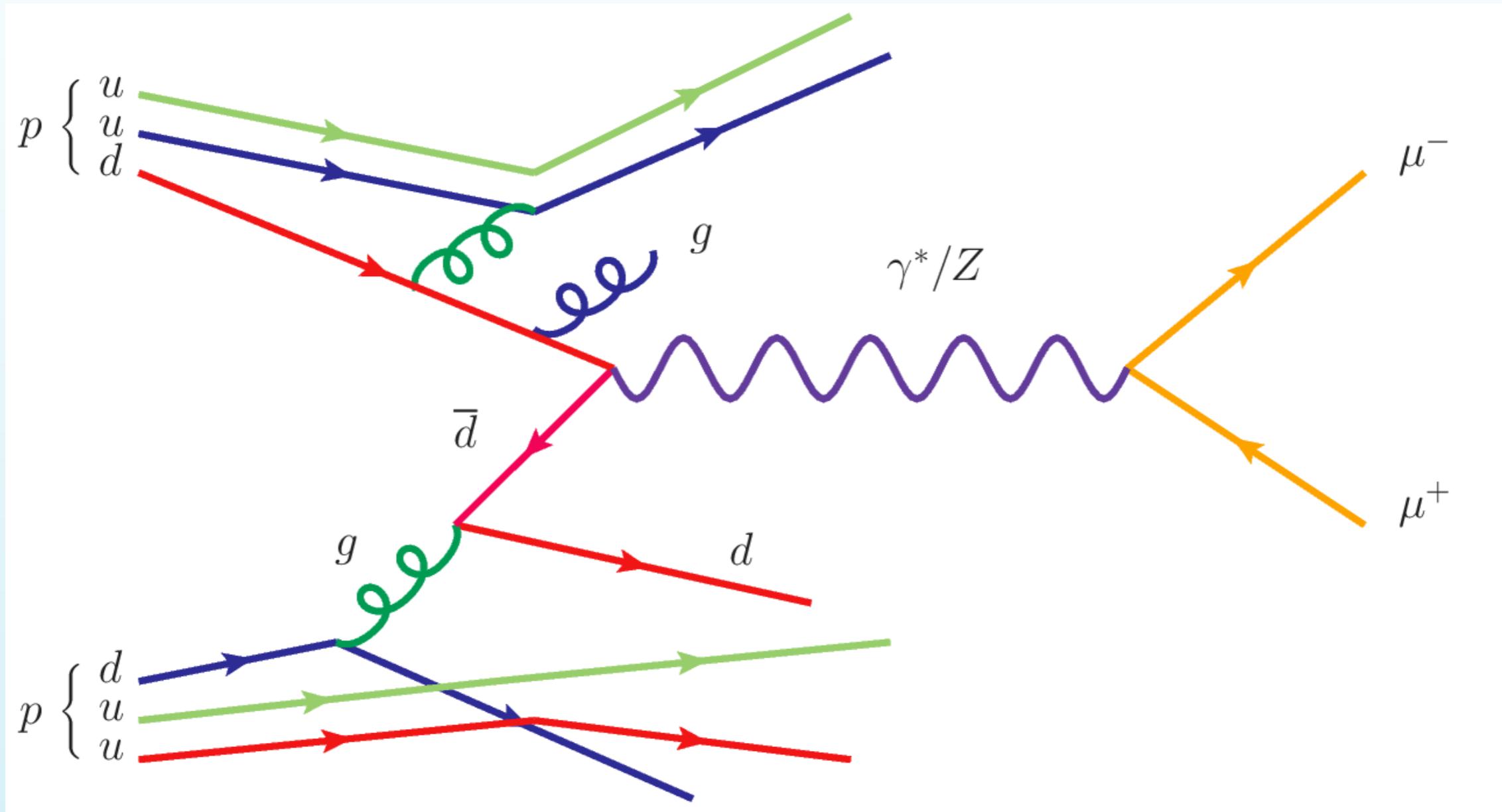
In high-energy lepton colliders, such as the **Large Electron-Positron Collider (LEP)** at CERN, the collisions involve **elementary particles** without substructure



Cross-sections in lepton colliders can be computed in perturbation theory using the Feynman rules of the **Standard Model Lagrangian**

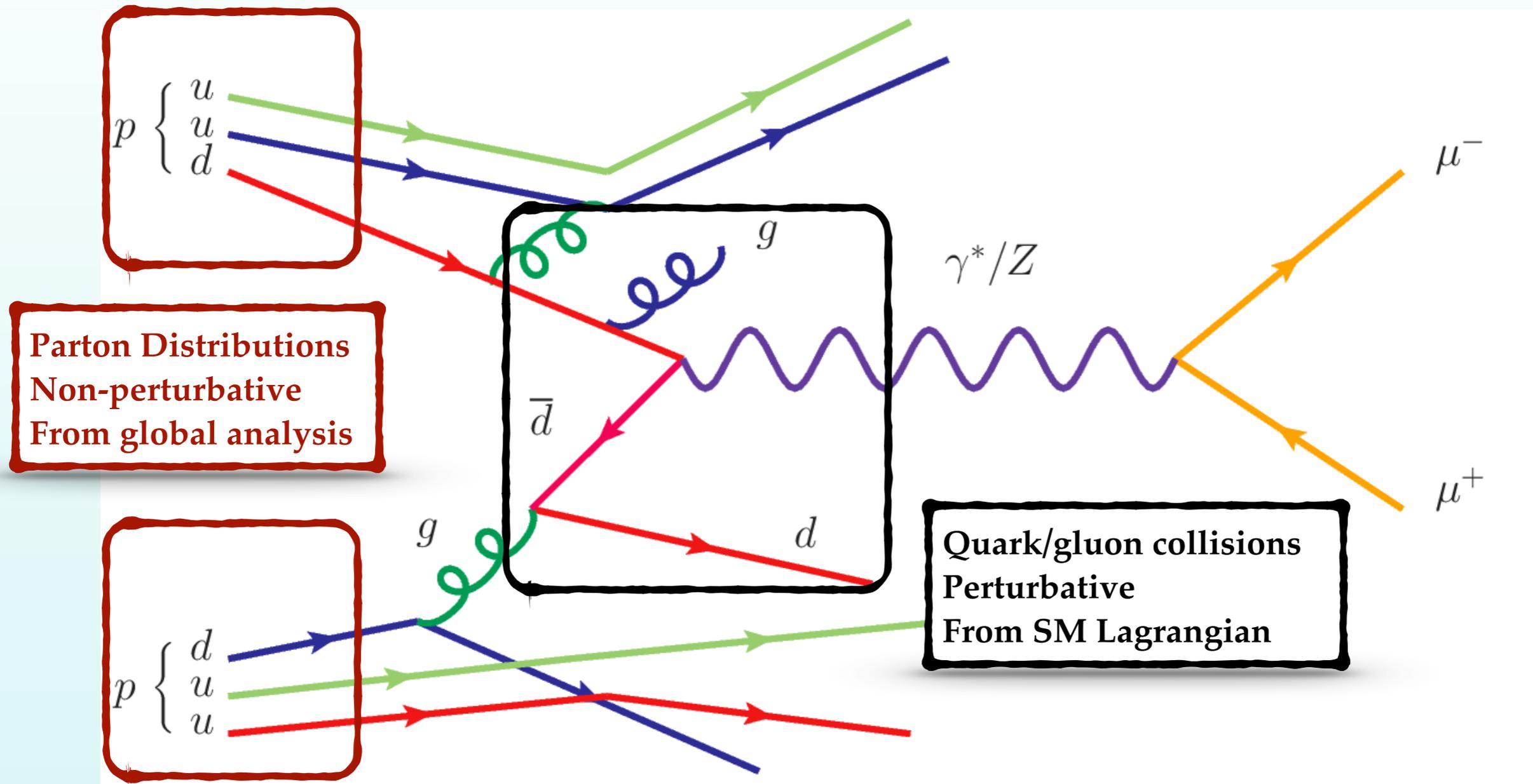
Lepton vs Hadron Colliders

In high-energy **hadron colliders**, such as the LHC, the collisions involve **composite particles** (protons) with internal structure (quarks and gluons)



Anatomy of a proton-proton collision

In high-energy **hadron colliders**, such as the LHC, the collisions involve **composite particles** (protons) with internal structure (quarks and gluons)



Calculations of **cross-sections** in hadron collisions require the combination of **perturbative, quark/gluon-initiated processes**, and **non-perturbative, parton distributions**, information

Parton Distributions

The distribution of energy that quarks and gluons carry inside the proton is quantified by the **Parton Distribution Functions (PDFs)**

$$g(x, Q)$$

Q : Energy of the quark/gluon collision
Inverse of the resolution length

$g(x, Q)$: Probability of finding a gluon inside a proton, carrying a fraction x of the proton momentum, when probed with energy Q

x : Fraction of the proton's momentum

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📌 **Energy conservation**

$$\int_0^1 dx \left(g(x, Q) + \sum_q q(x, Q) \right) = 1$$

📌 **Dependence with quark/gluon collision energy Q determined in perturbation theory**

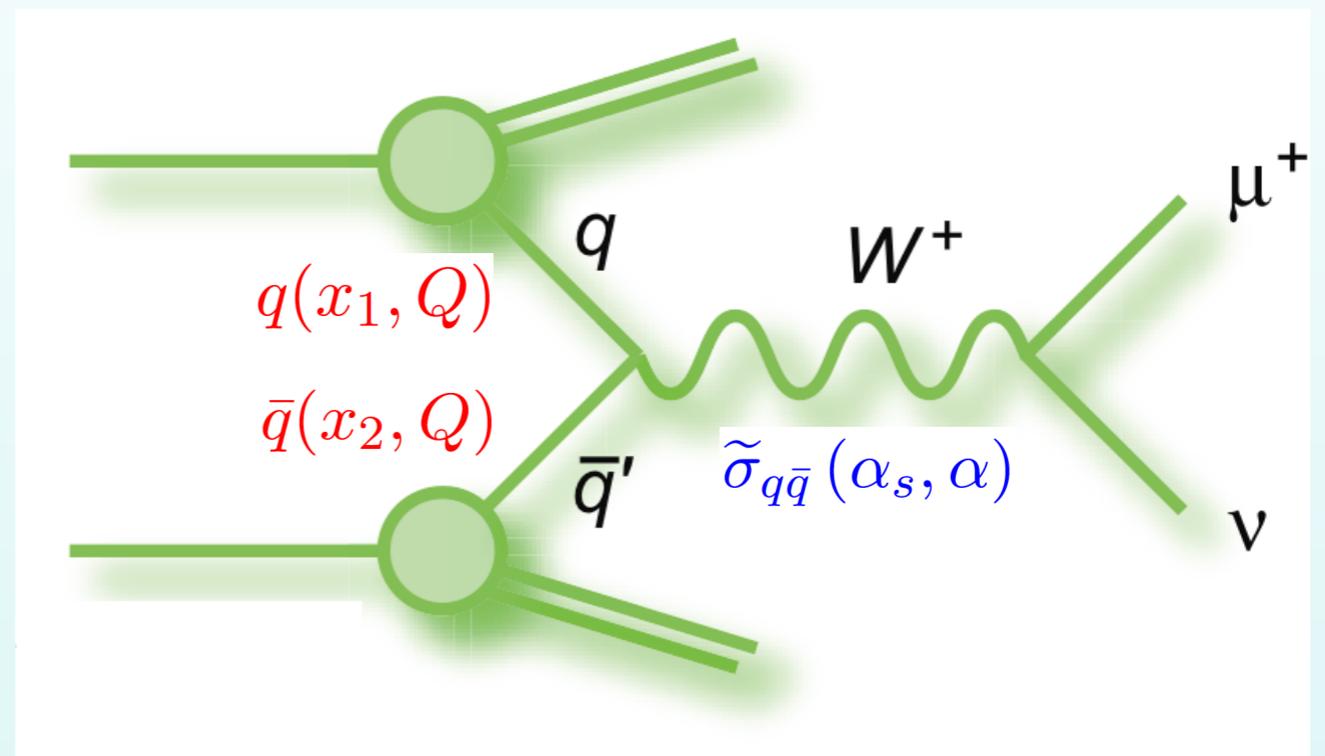
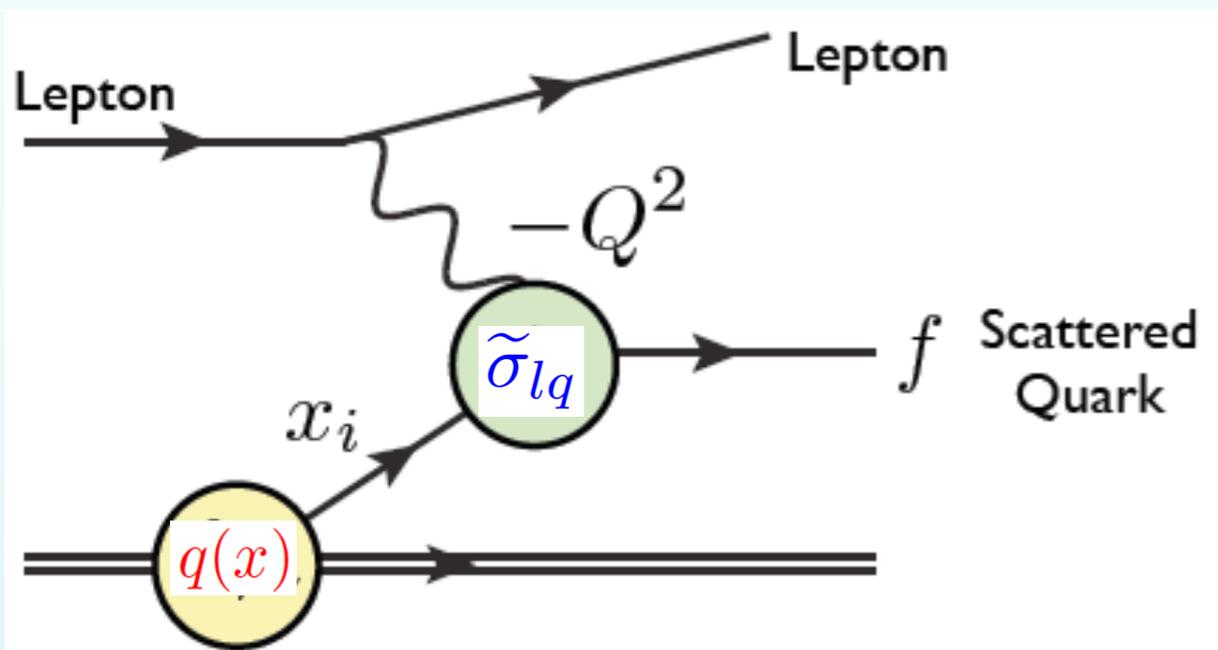
$$\frac{\partial g(x, Q)}{\partial \ln Q} = P_g(\alpha_s) \otimes g(x, Q) + P_q(\alpha_s) \otimes q(x, Q)$$

The Factorization Theorem

The QCD Factorization Theorem guarantees PDF universality: extract them from a subset of process and use them to provide pure predictions for new processes

$$\sigma_{lp} \simeq \tilde{\sigma}_{lq}(\alpha_s, \alpha) \otimes q(x, Q)$$

$$\sigma_{pp} \simeq \tilde{\sigma}_{q\bar{q}}(\alpha_s, \alpha) \otimes q(x_1, Q) \otimes \bar{q}(x_2, Q)$$



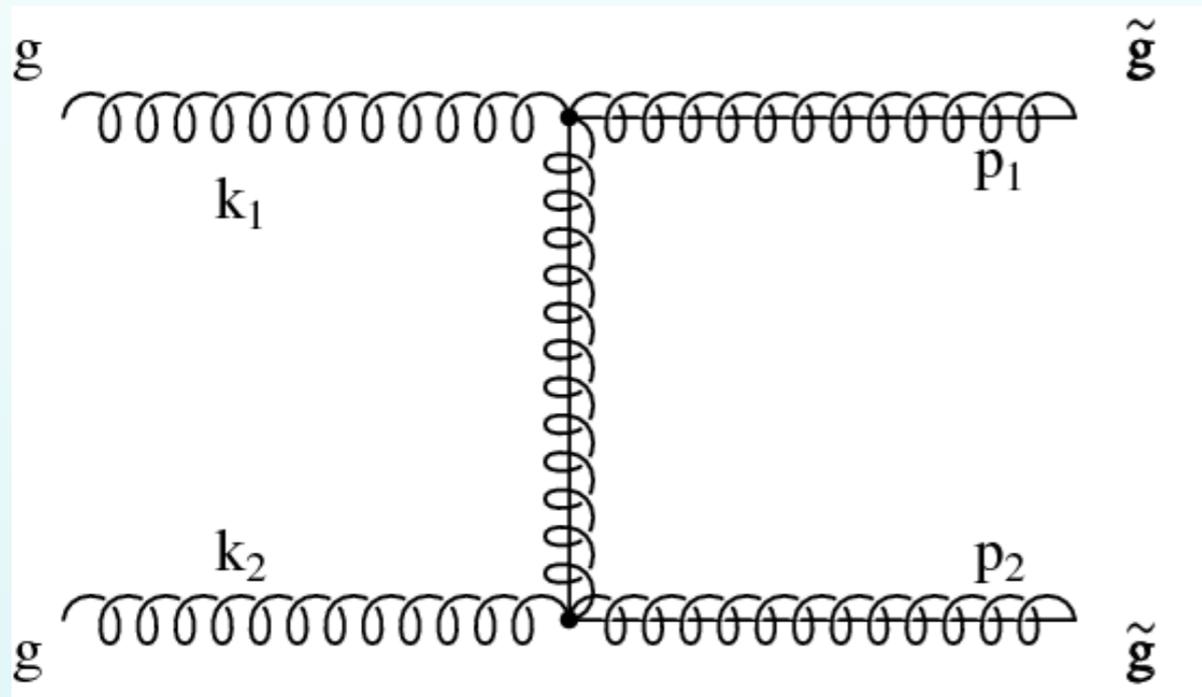
Determine PDFs in lepton-proton collisions

And use them to compute cross-sections in proton-proton collisions at the LHC

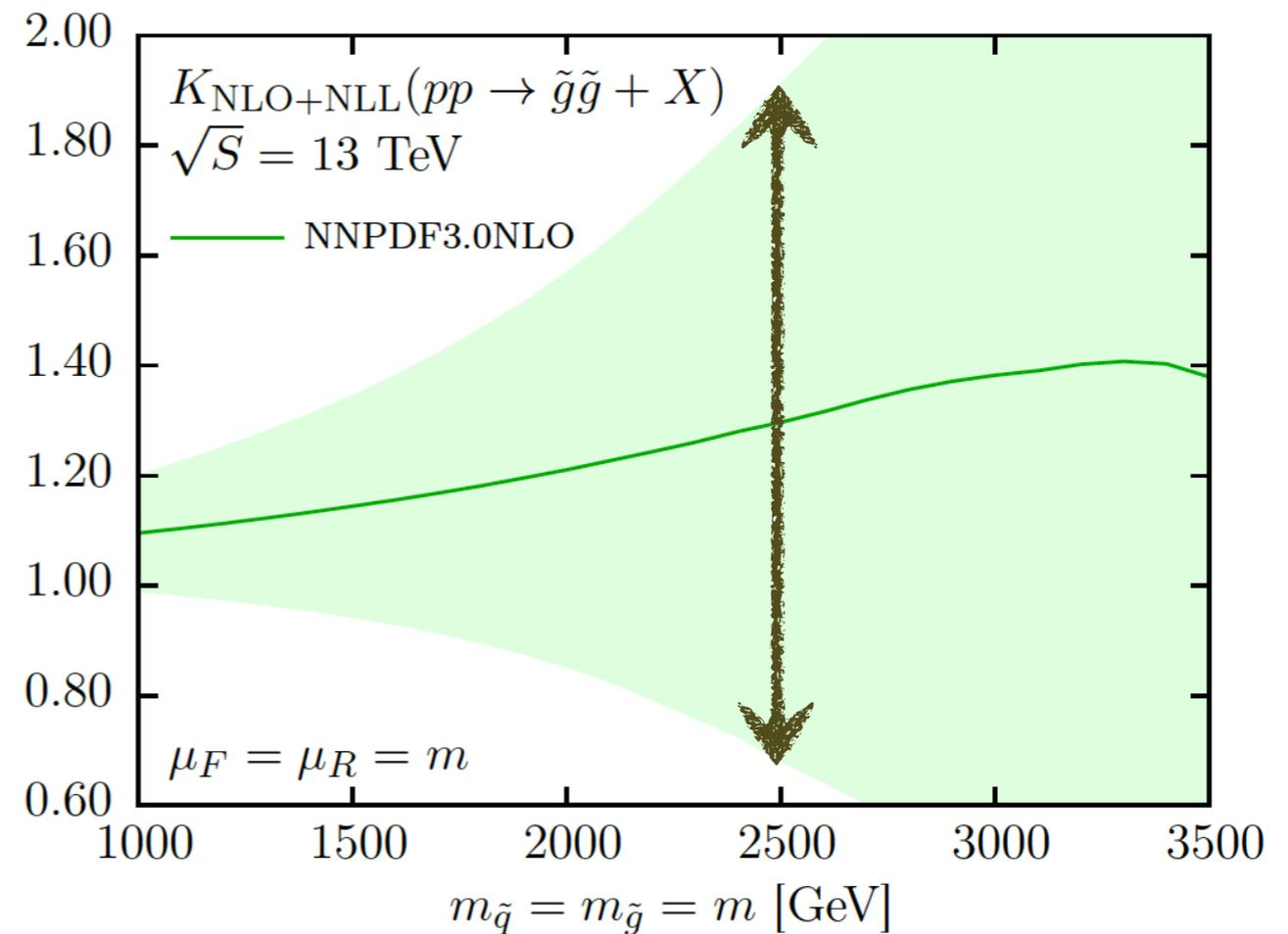
Beyond BSM discovery

PDF uncertainties in the production of New Physics heavy resonances can be as large as 100%!

Crucial *i.e.* in searches for *supersymmetry* and any BSM scenario that predicts new heavy particles within the reach of the LHC



Gluino pair production at the LHC



Beenakker, Borchensky, Kramer, Kulesza, Laenen, Marzani, Rojo 15

Unless we improve PDF uncertainties, even if we discover New Physics, it will be extremely difficult to characterise the underlying BSM scenario

ANNs as universal unbiased interpolants

ANNs provide **universal unbiased interpolants** to parametrize the non-perturbative dynamics that determines the **size and shape of the PDFs** from experimental data

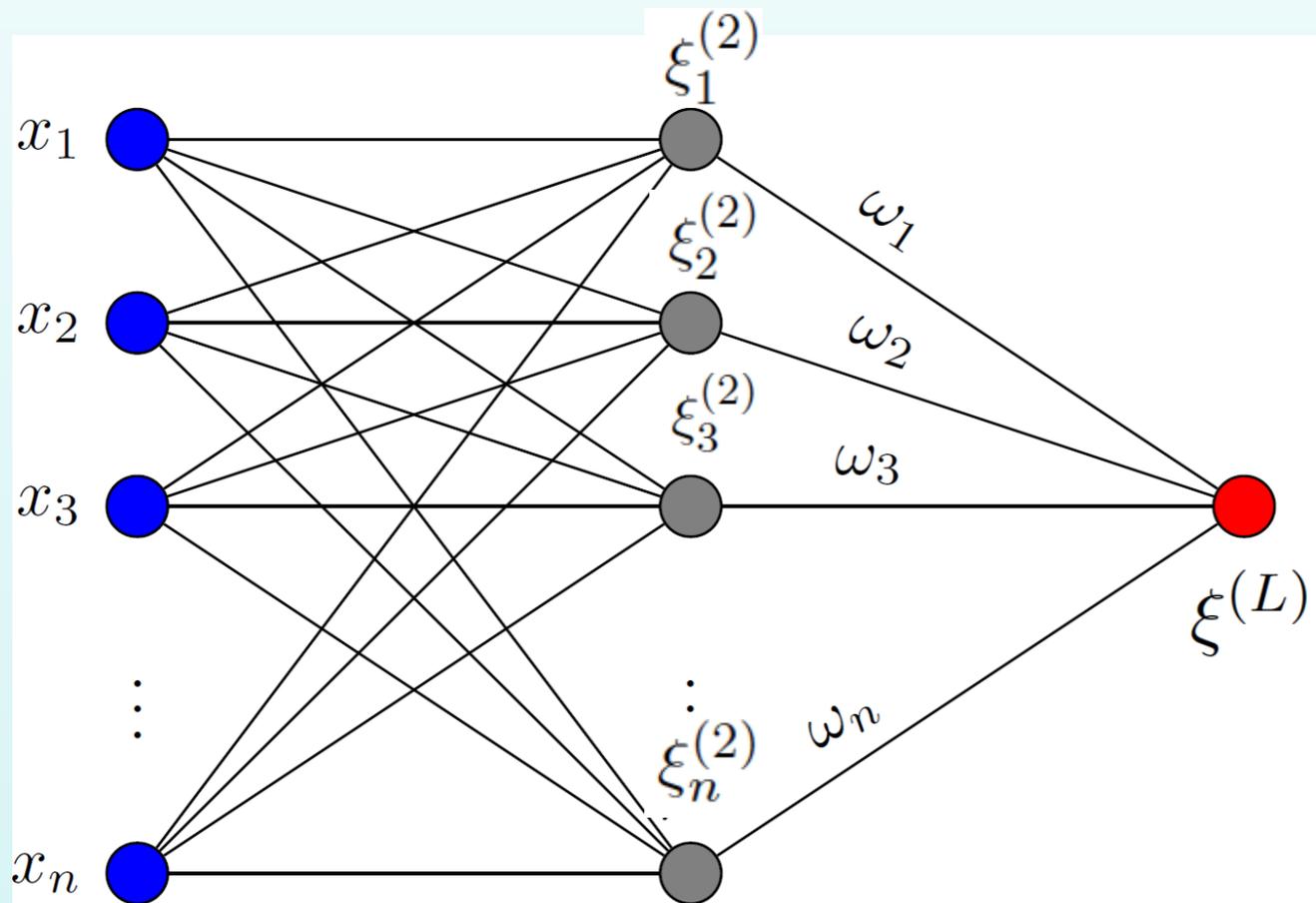
← **not from QCD!**

Traditional approach

$$g(x, Q_0) = A_g (1-x)^{a_g} x^{-b_g} (1 + c_g \sqrt{s} + d_g x + \dots)$$

NNPDF approach

$$g(x, Q_0) = A_g \text{ANN}_g(x)$$



$$\text{ANN}_g(x) = \xi^{(L)} = \mathcal{F} \left[\xi^{(1)}, \{\omega_{ij}^{(l)}\}, \{\theta_i^{(l)}\} \right]$$

$$\xi_i^{(l)} = g \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n_{l-1}} \omega_{ij}^{(l-1)} \xi_j^{(l-1)} - \theta_i^{(l)} \right)$$

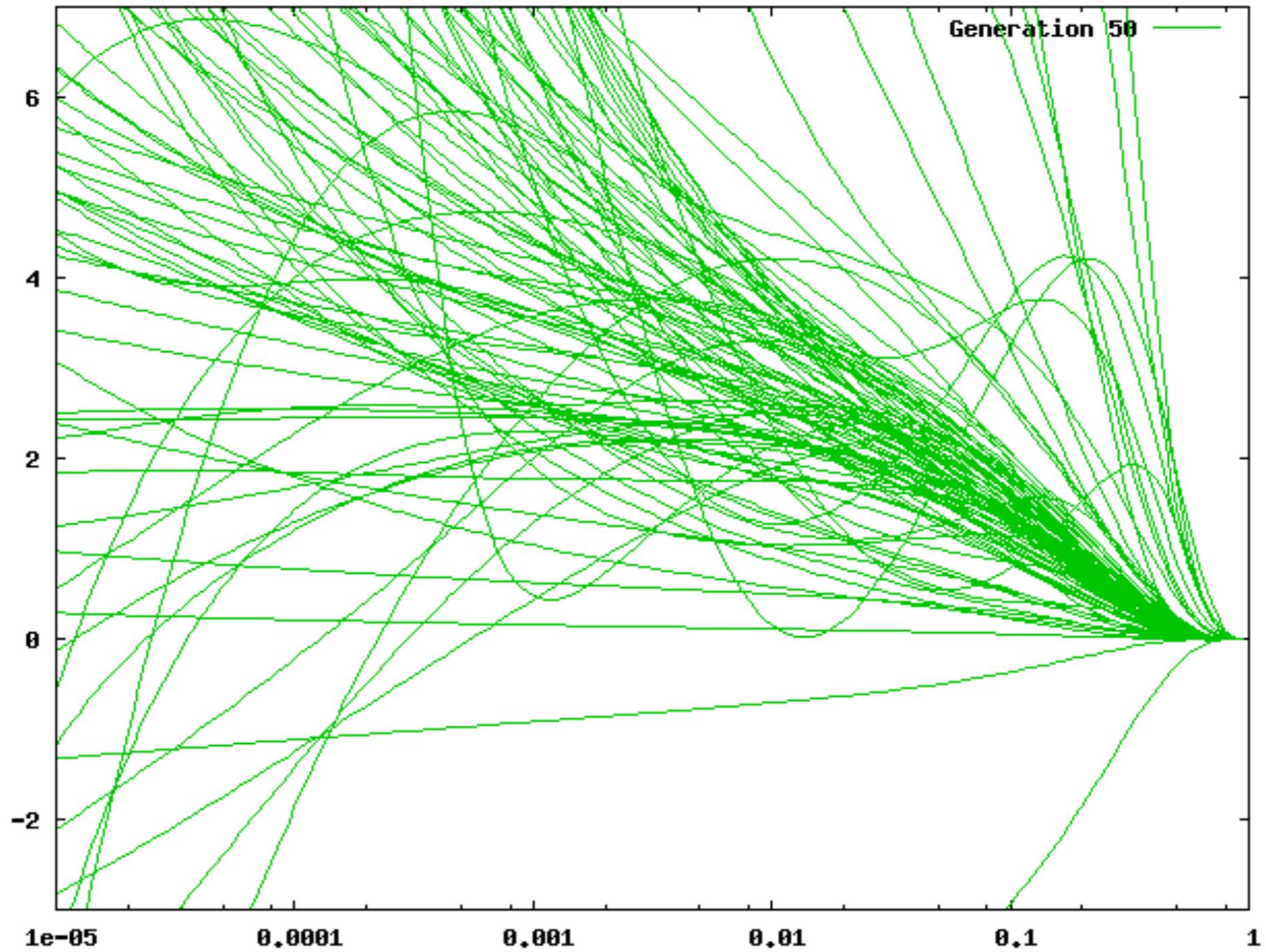
- ANNs eliminate **theory bias** introduced in PDF fits from choice of *ad-hoc* functional forms
- NNPDF fits used **O(400) free parameters**, to be compared with O(10-20) in traditional PDFs. Results stable if **O(4000) parameters used!**

PDF Replica Neural Network Learning

The minimisation of the **data vs theory χ^2** is performed using **Genetic Algorithms**

Each **green curve** corresponds to a **gluon PDF Monte Carlo replica**

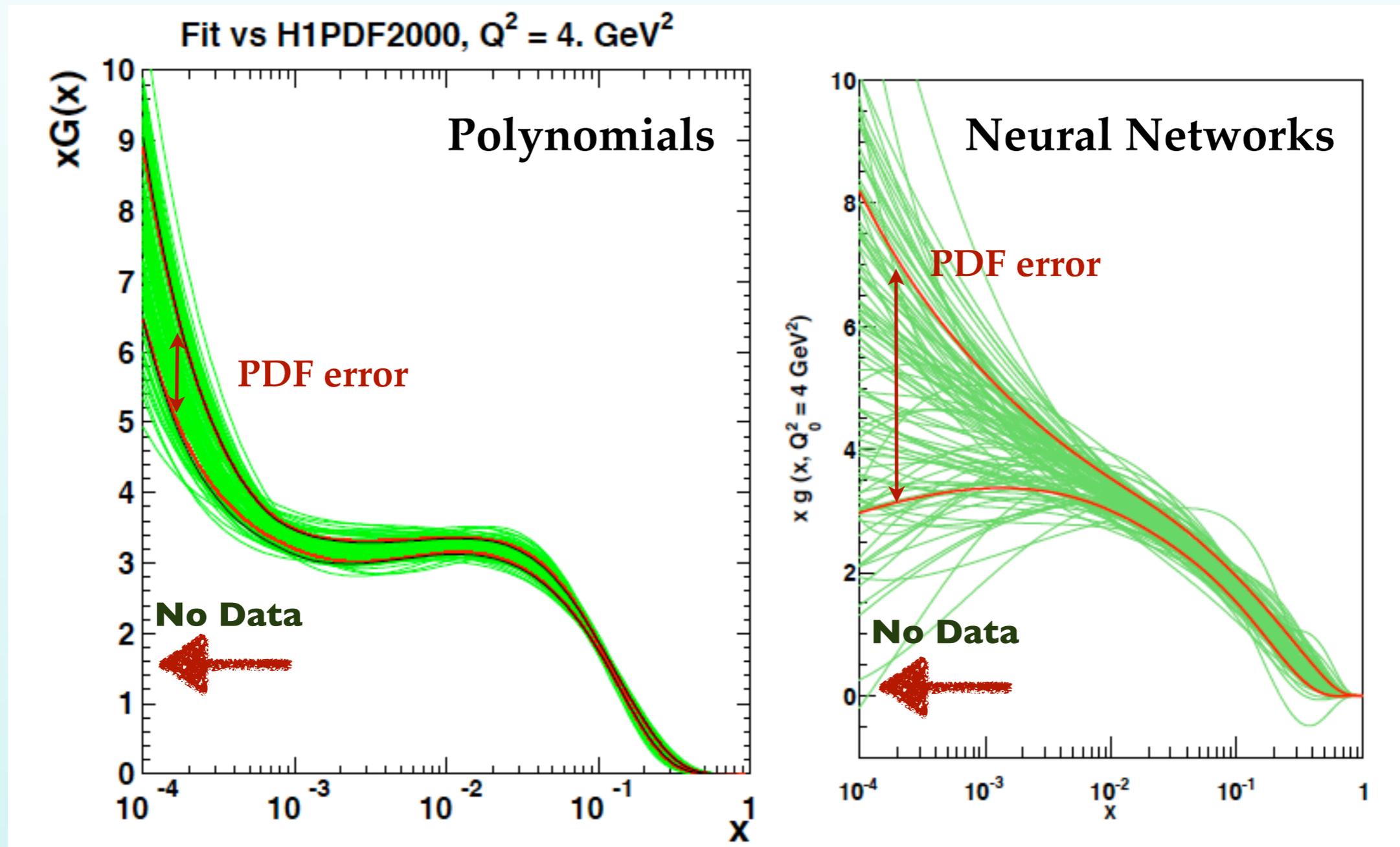
$x g(x, Q^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2)$

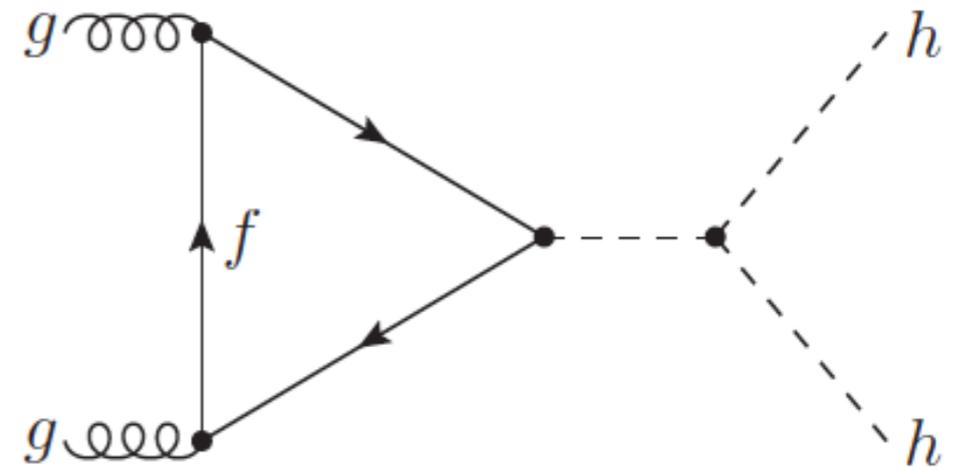


X

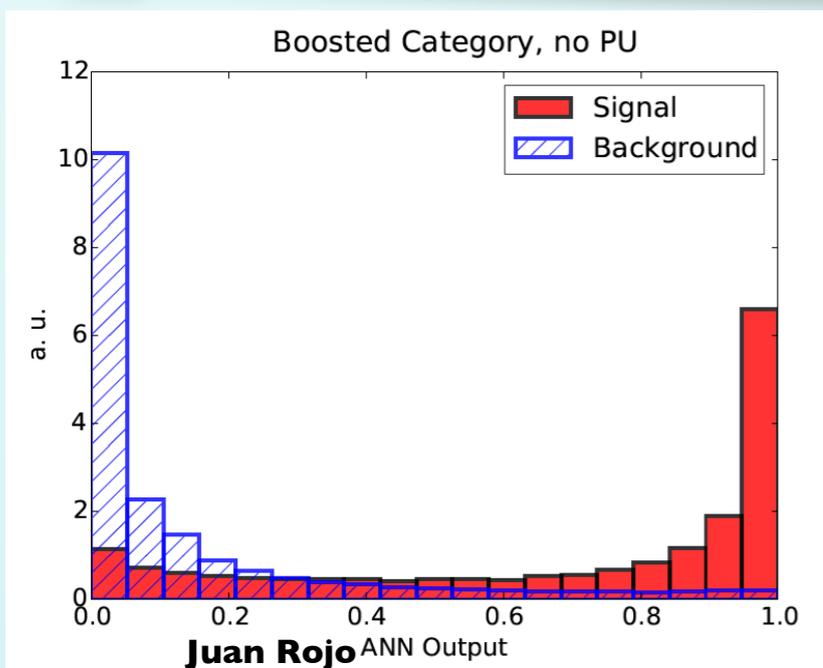
Artificial Neural Networks vs Polynomials

- Compare a benchmark PDF analysis where the same dataset is fitted with Artificial Neural Networks and with standard polynomials, other settings identical)
- ANNs avoid biasing the PDFs, faithful extrapolation at small-x (very few data, thus error blow up)





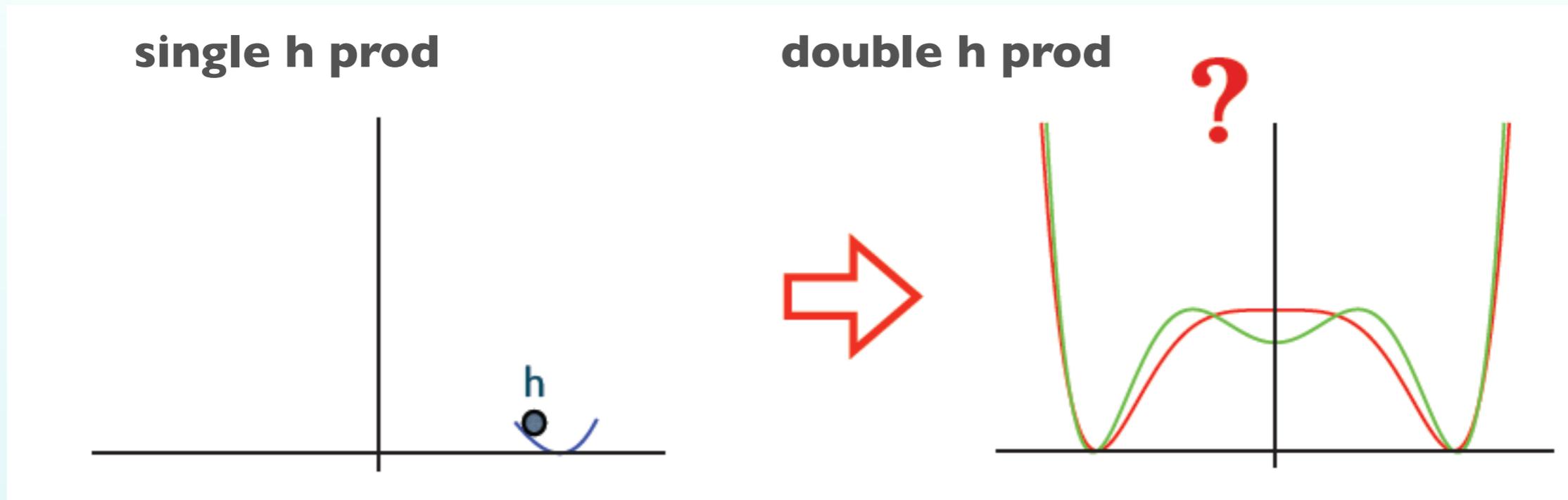
Unravelling the Higgs Self-Coupling



Berh, Bortolotto, Frost, Hartland, Issever, Rojo 15
Bishara, Contino, Rojo 16

Probing Electroweak Symmetry breaking

- Current measurements (couplings in single Higgs production) probe Higgs potential close to minimum
- Double Higgs production essential to **reconstruct the full Higgs potential** and clarify EWSB mechanism
- Higgs SM potential is *ad-hoc*: not fixed by the SM symmetries, **many other EWSB mechanisms conceivable**



Higgs mechanism

Coleman-Weinberg mechanism

$$V(h) = m_h^2 h^\dagger h + \frac{1}{2} \lambda (h^\dagger h)^2$$

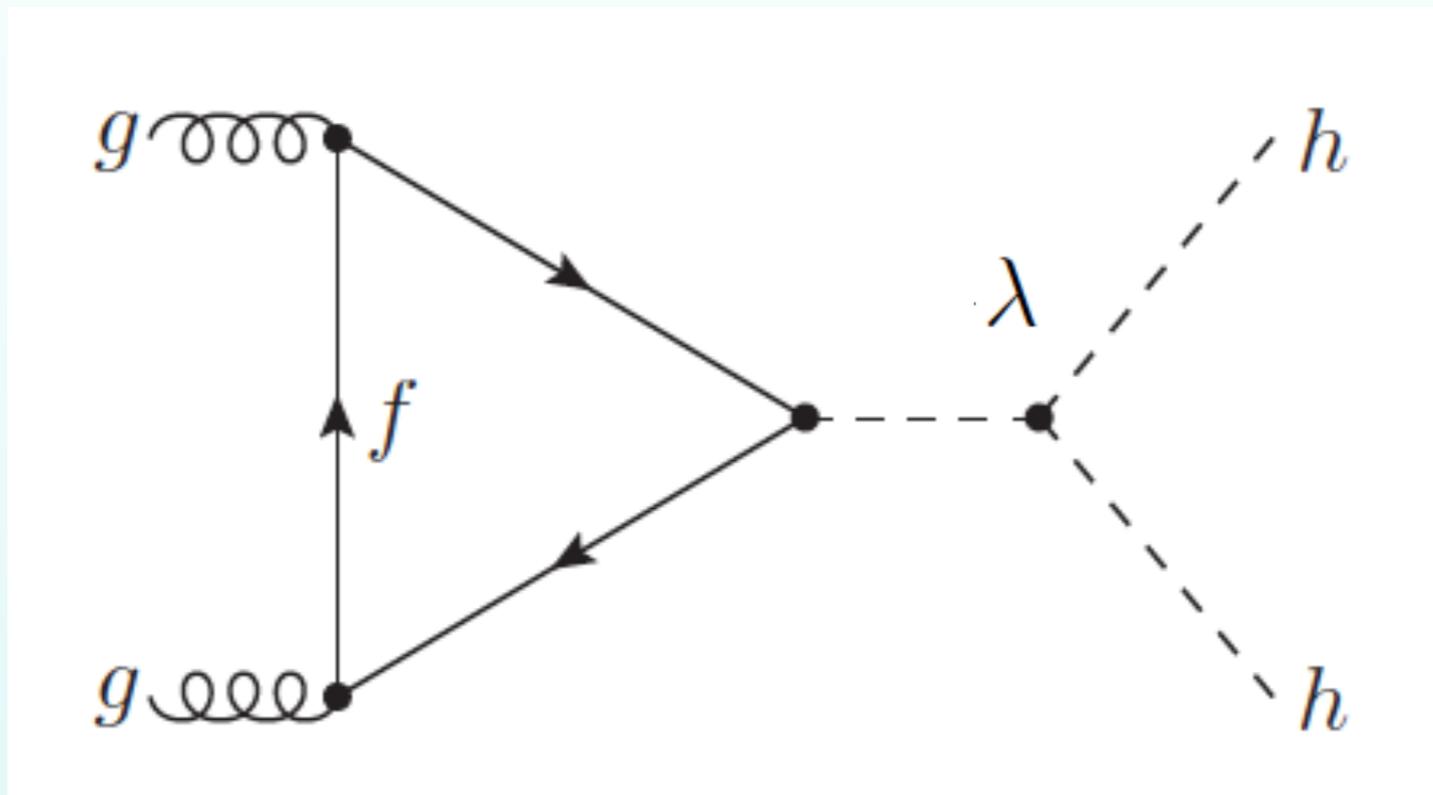
$$V(h) \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \lambda (h^\dagger h)^2 \log \left[\frac{(h^\dagger h)}{m^2} \right]$$

Each possibility associated to **completely different EWSB mechanism**, with crucial implications for the **hierarchy problem**, the structure of quantum field theory, and **New Physics at the EW scale**

Arkani-Hamed, Han, Mangano, Wang, arxiv:1511.06495

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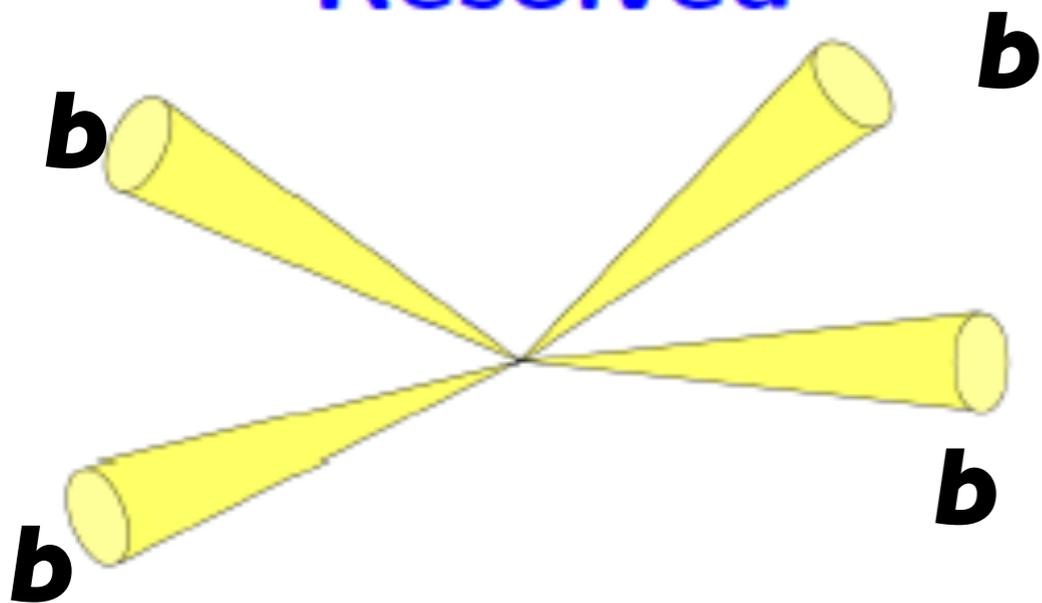
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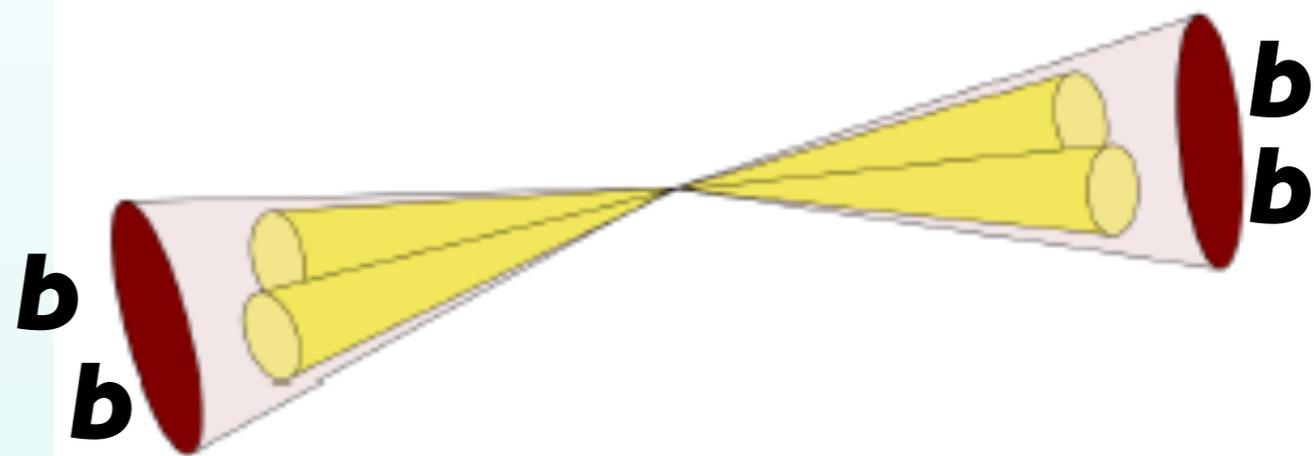
hh->bbbb: selection strategy

- Exploit **4b final state**: highest signal yields, but **overwhelming QCD background** (by orders of magnitude!)
- Carefully chosen selection strategies ensure that **all relevant event topologies can be reconstructed**

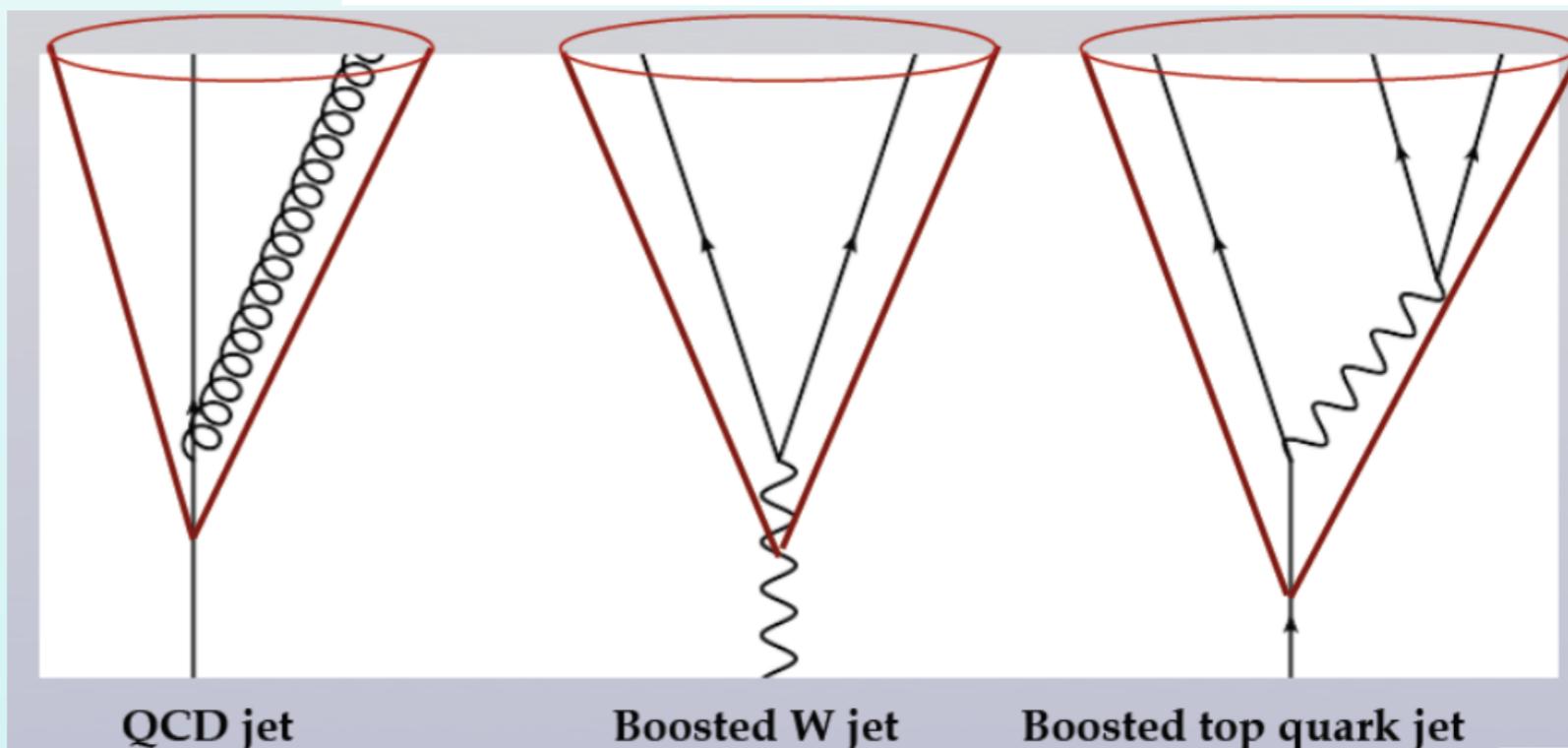
Resolved



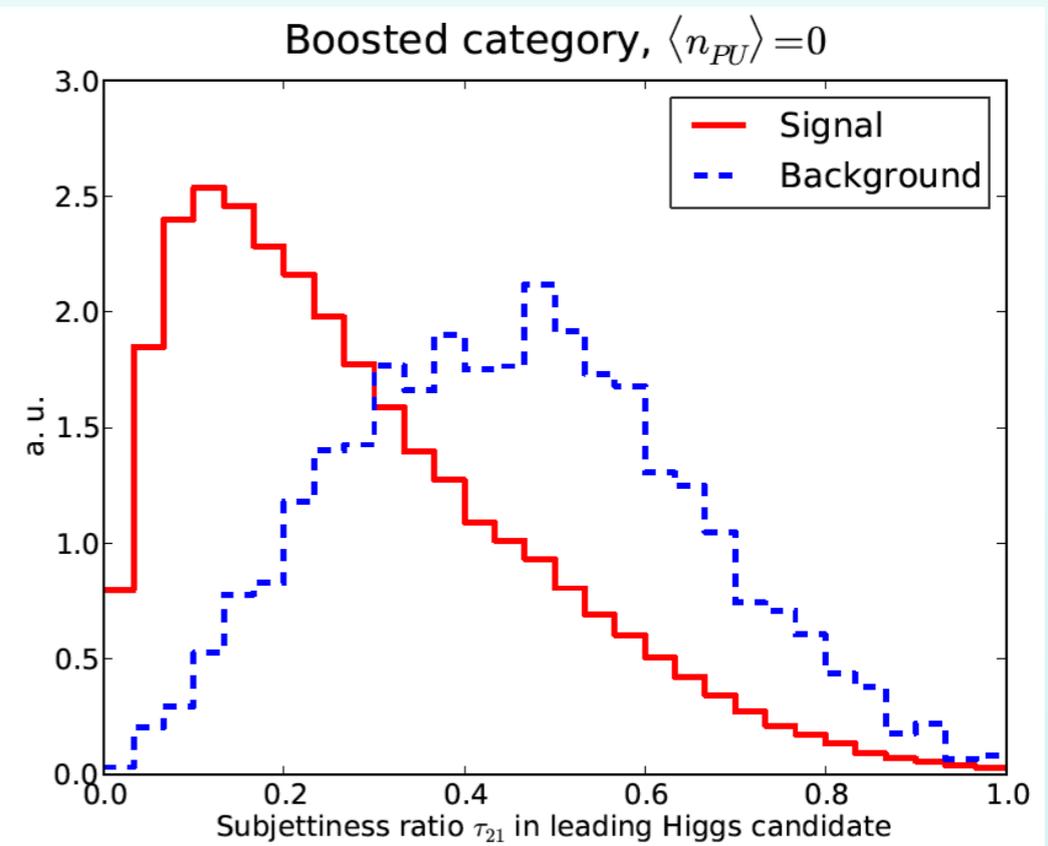
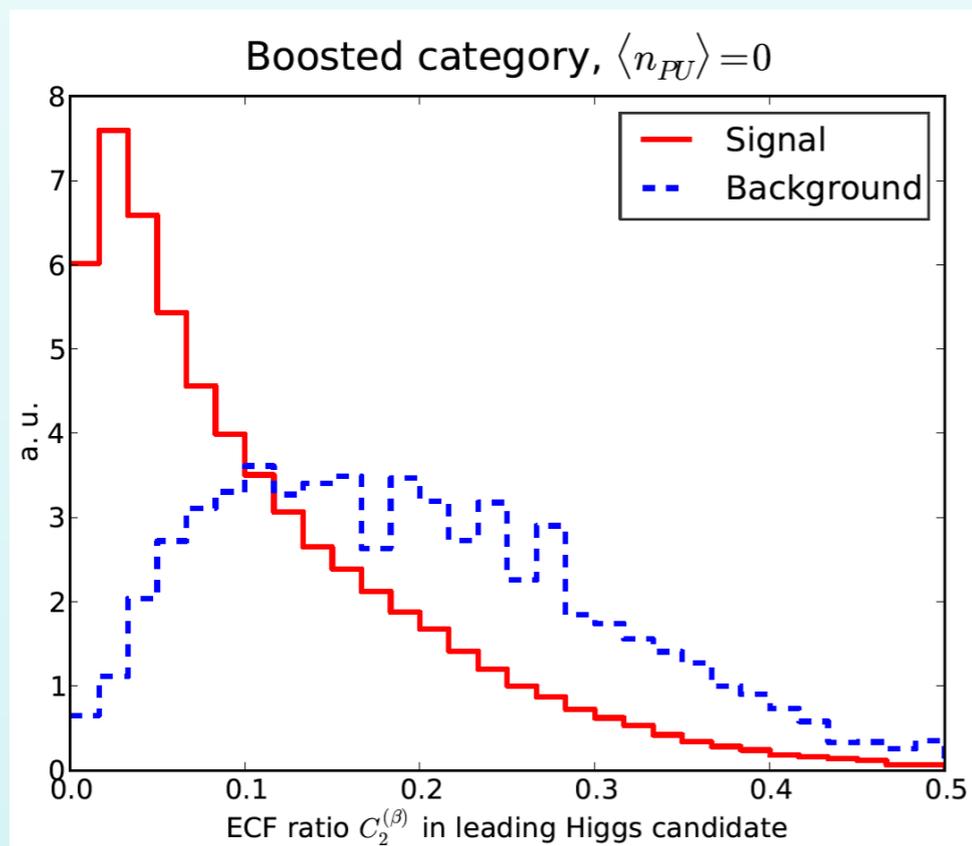
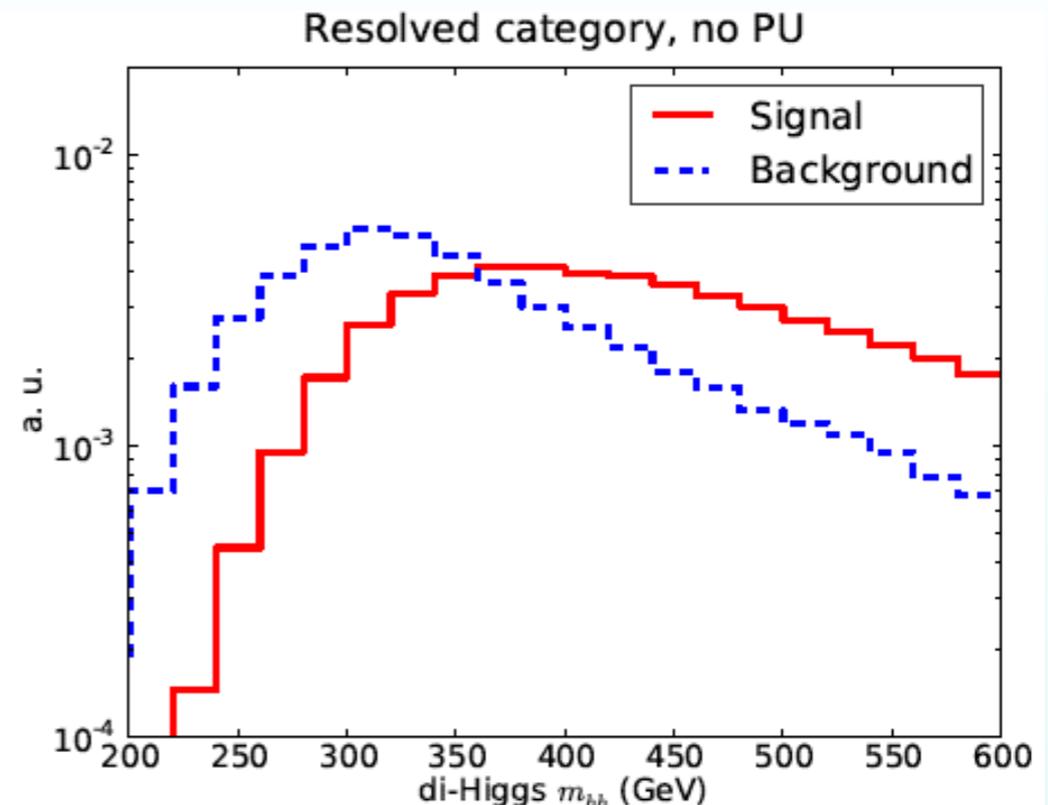
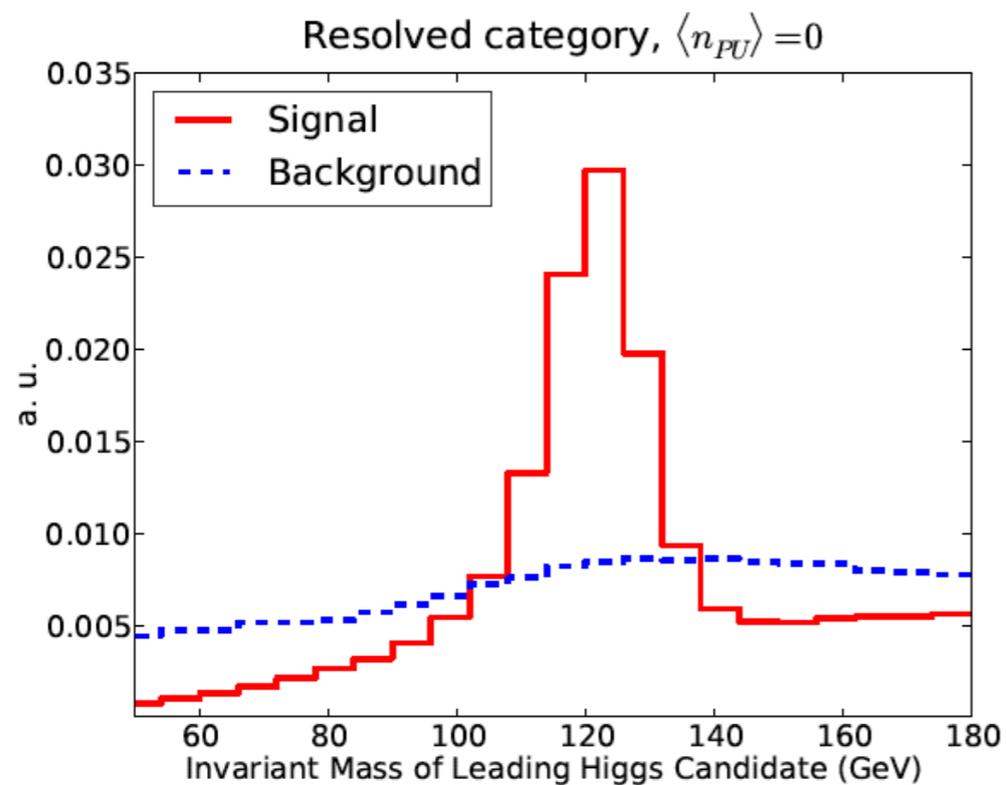
Boosted



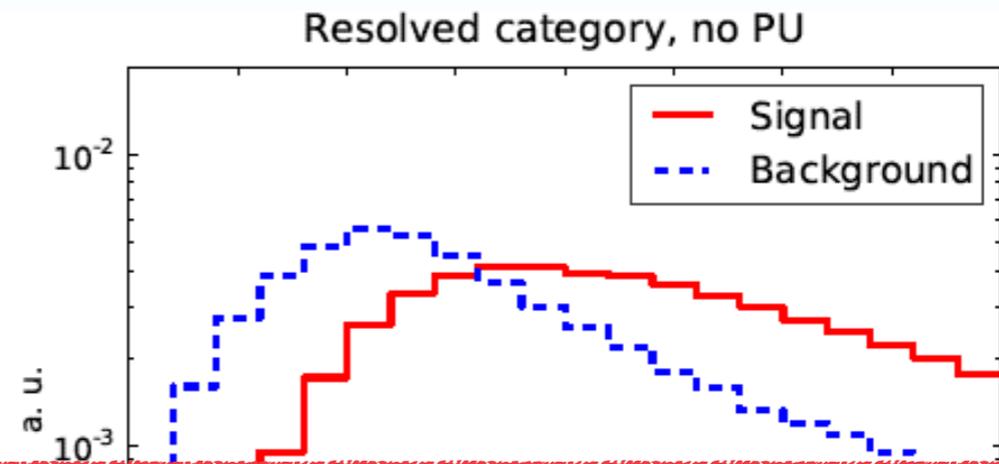
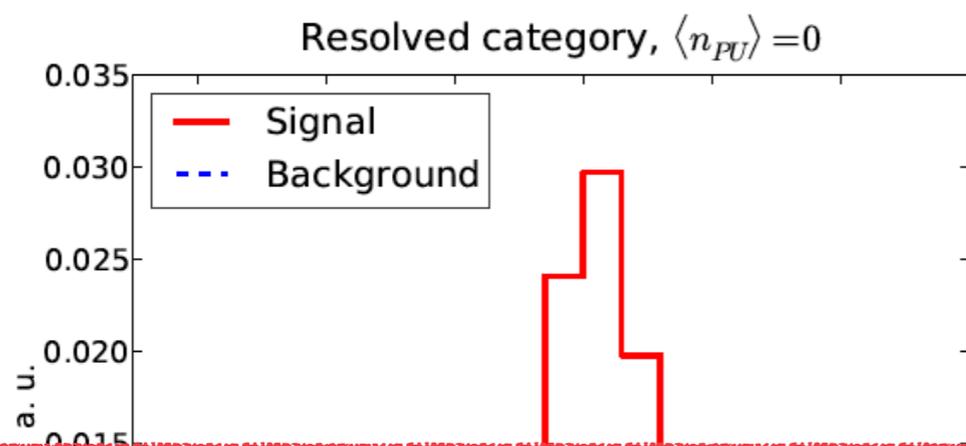
Recent progress in **jet substructure** techniques important to reduced QCD background in the **boosted regime**



di-Higgs kinematic distributions



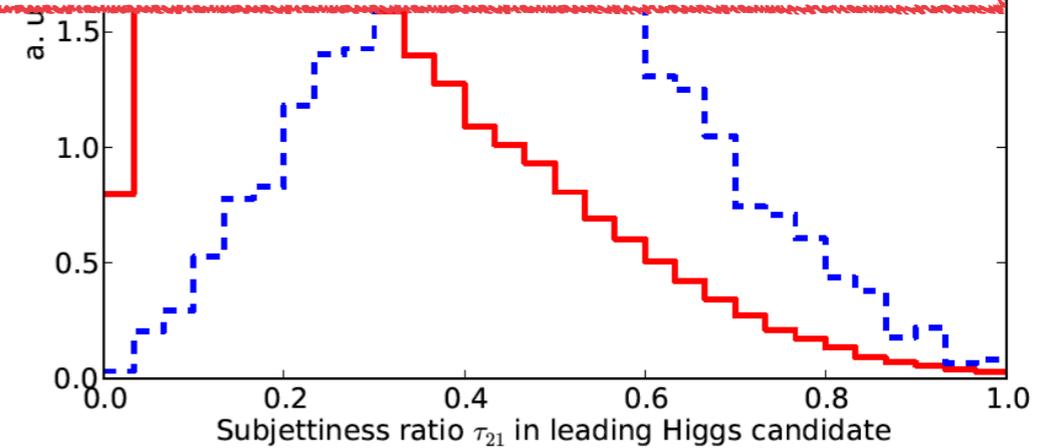
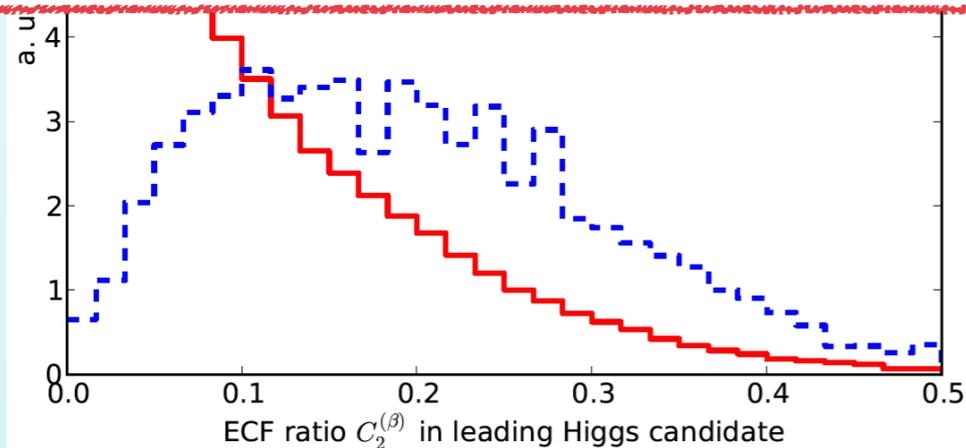
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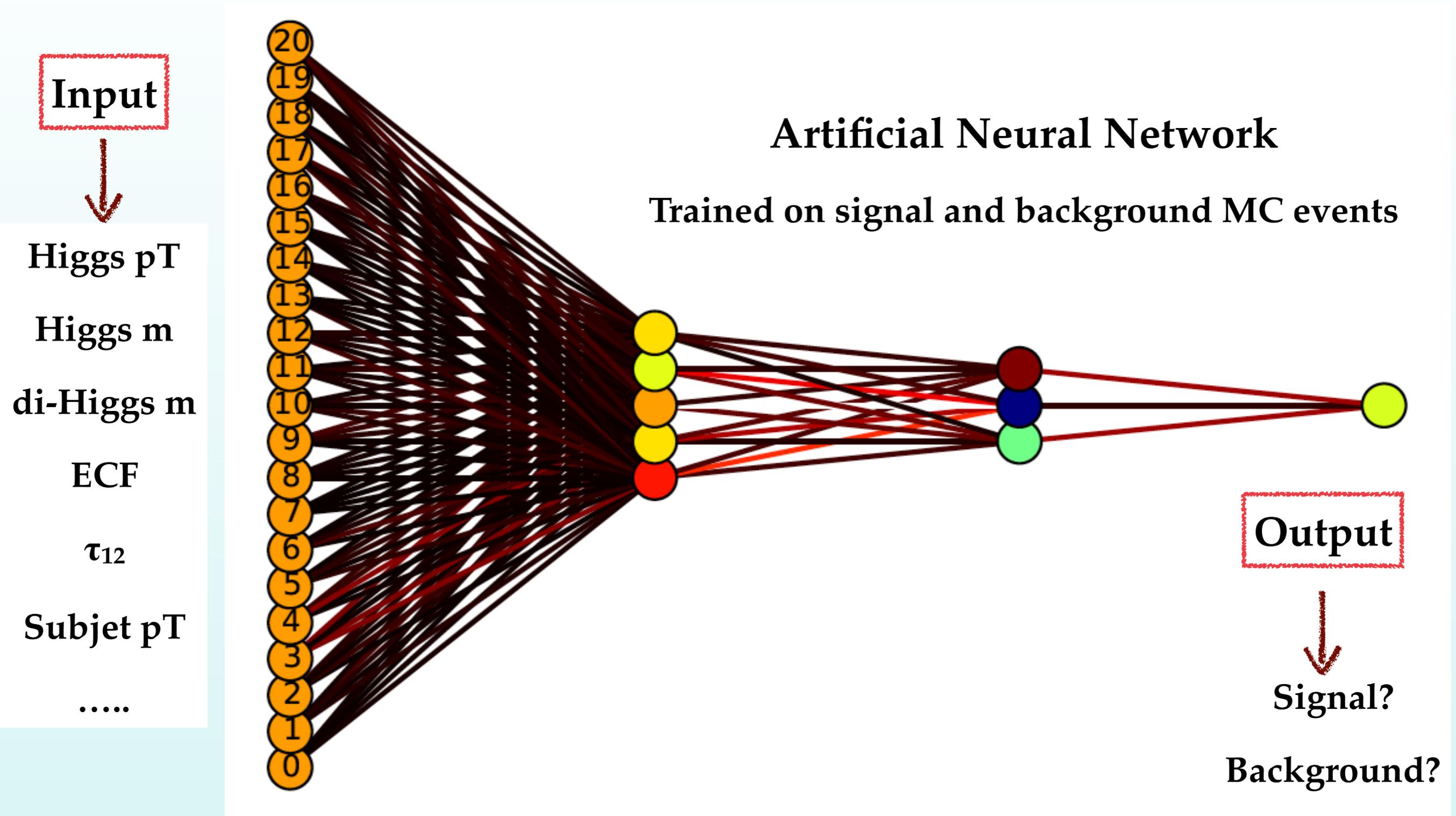
Many kinematic variables can be used to **disentangle signal and background**

How do we select which ones to use? And the optimal cuts? And the cross-correlations among variables?

We don't need to! Use **ML methods** to **identify automatically** the combination of kinematical variables with the highest discrimination power!

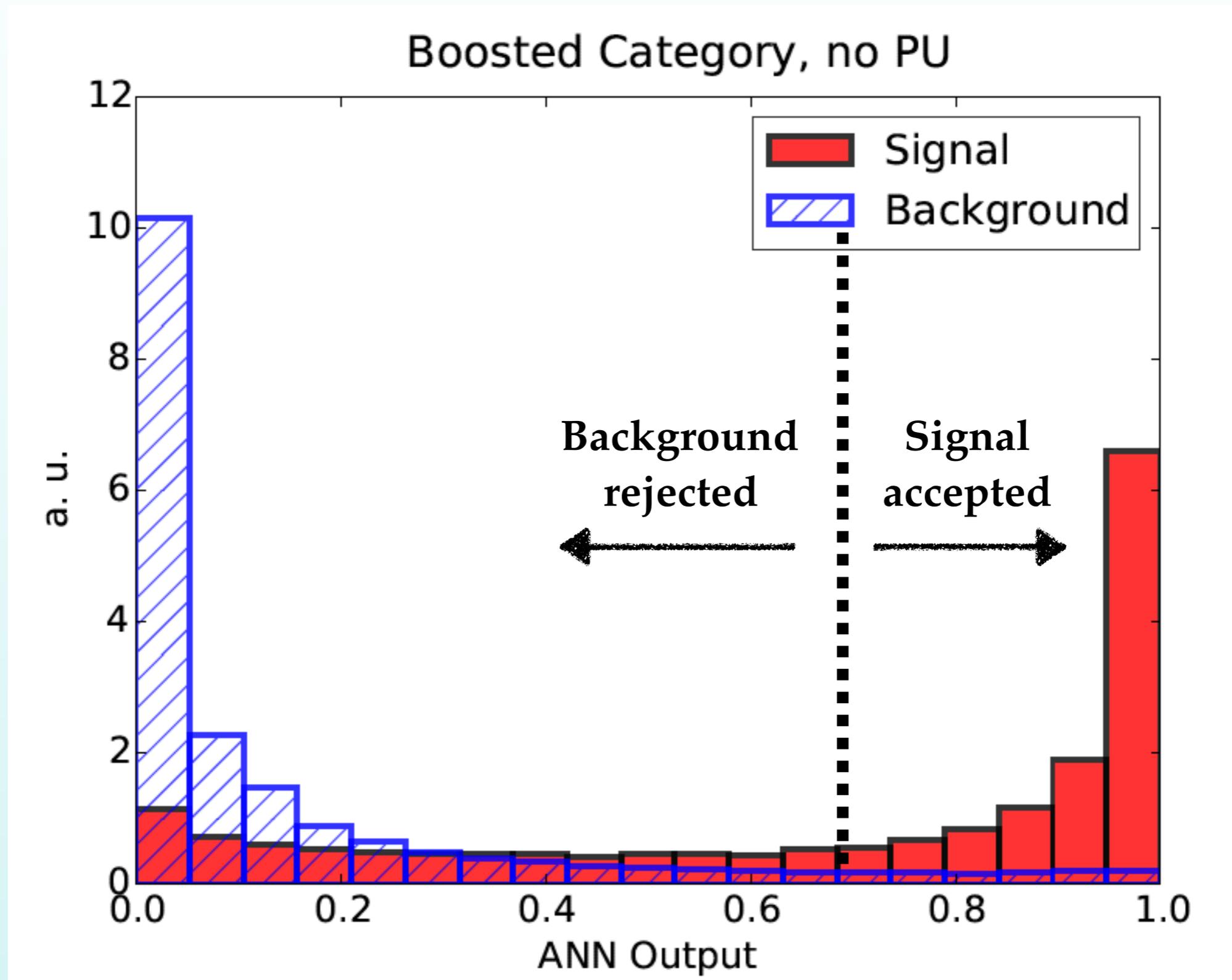


Multivariate techniques



Multivariate techniques

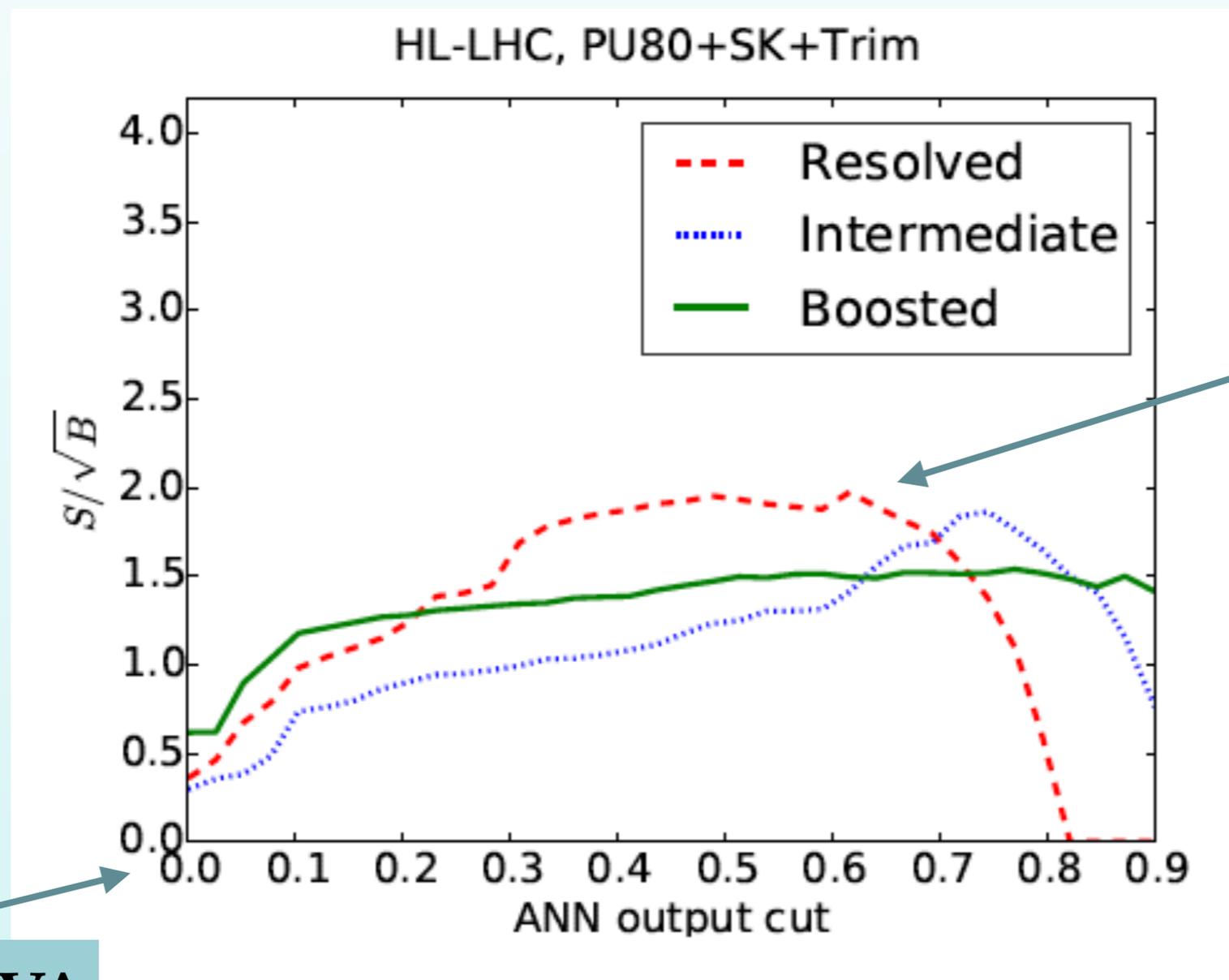
Combining information from all kinematic variables in MVA: excellent signal/background discrimination



Discovering Higgs self-interactions

ML techniques allow to **substantially improve the signal significance** for this process **observe Higgs pair production in the 4b final state** at the HL-LHC. Observation (maybe discovery) within reach!

$$\left(\frac{S}{\sqrt{B_{4b}}}\right)_{\text{tot}} \simeq 4.7 (1.5), \quad \mathcal{L} = 3000 (300) \text{ fb}^{-1}$$

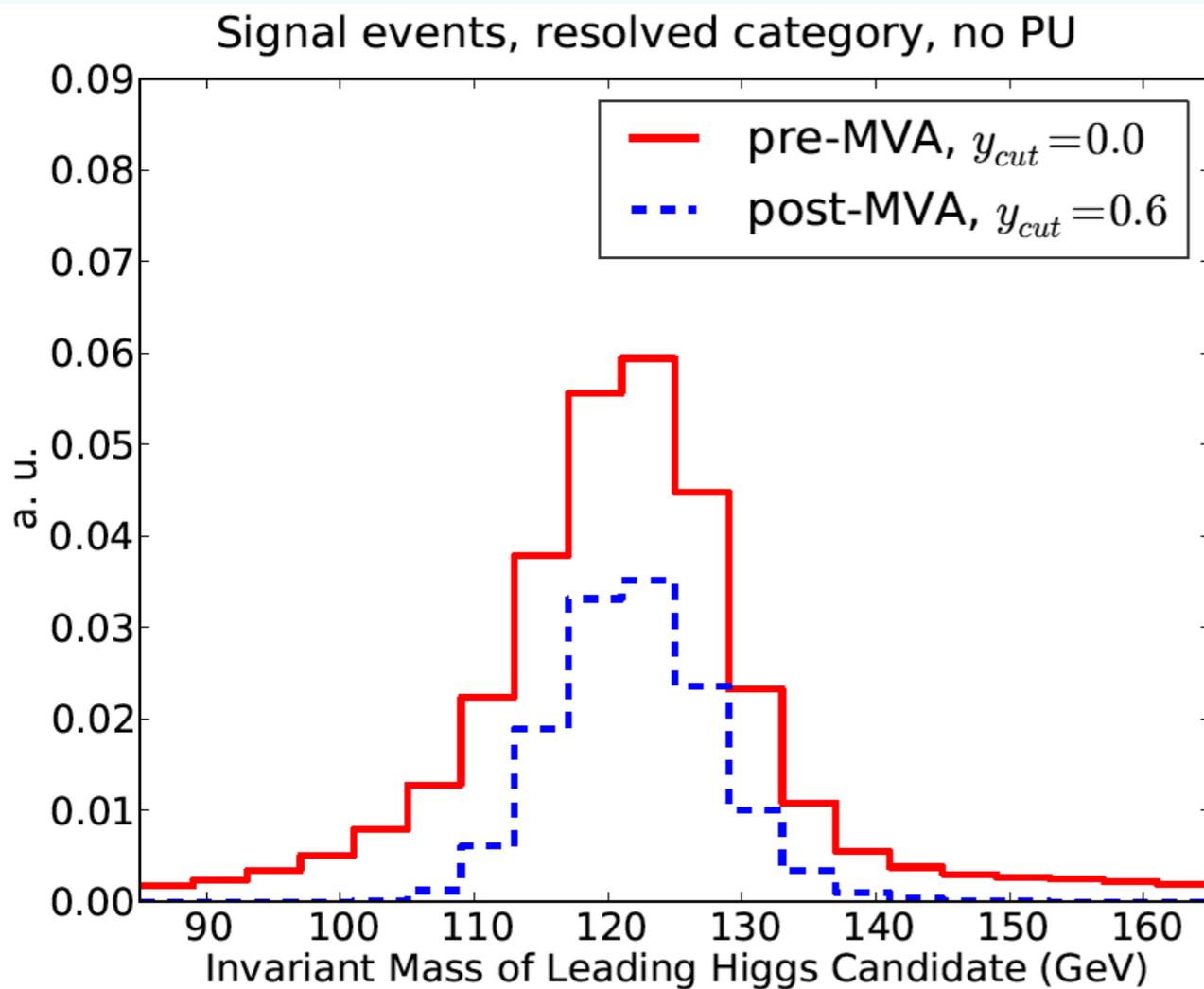


Post MVA

Pre-MVA

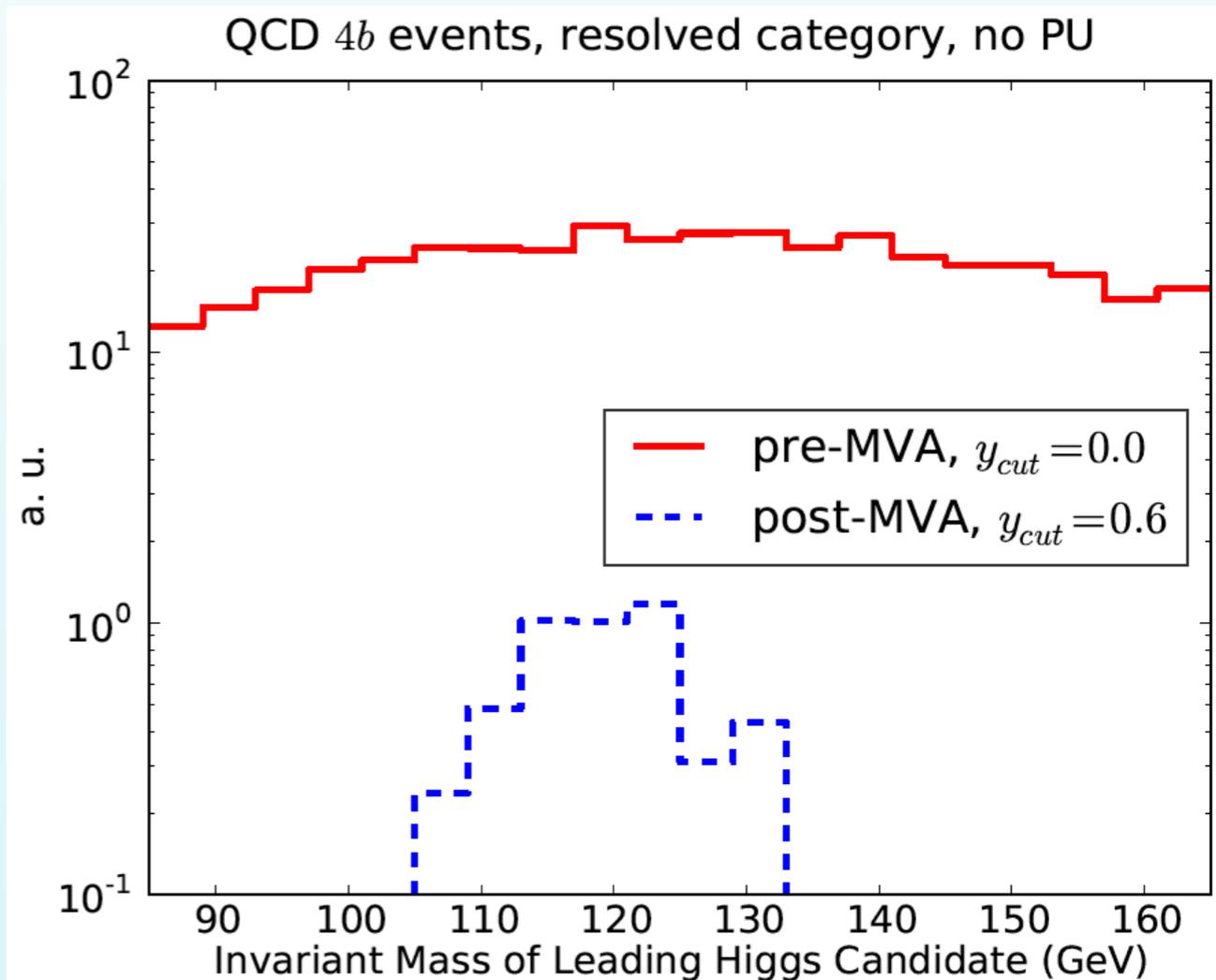
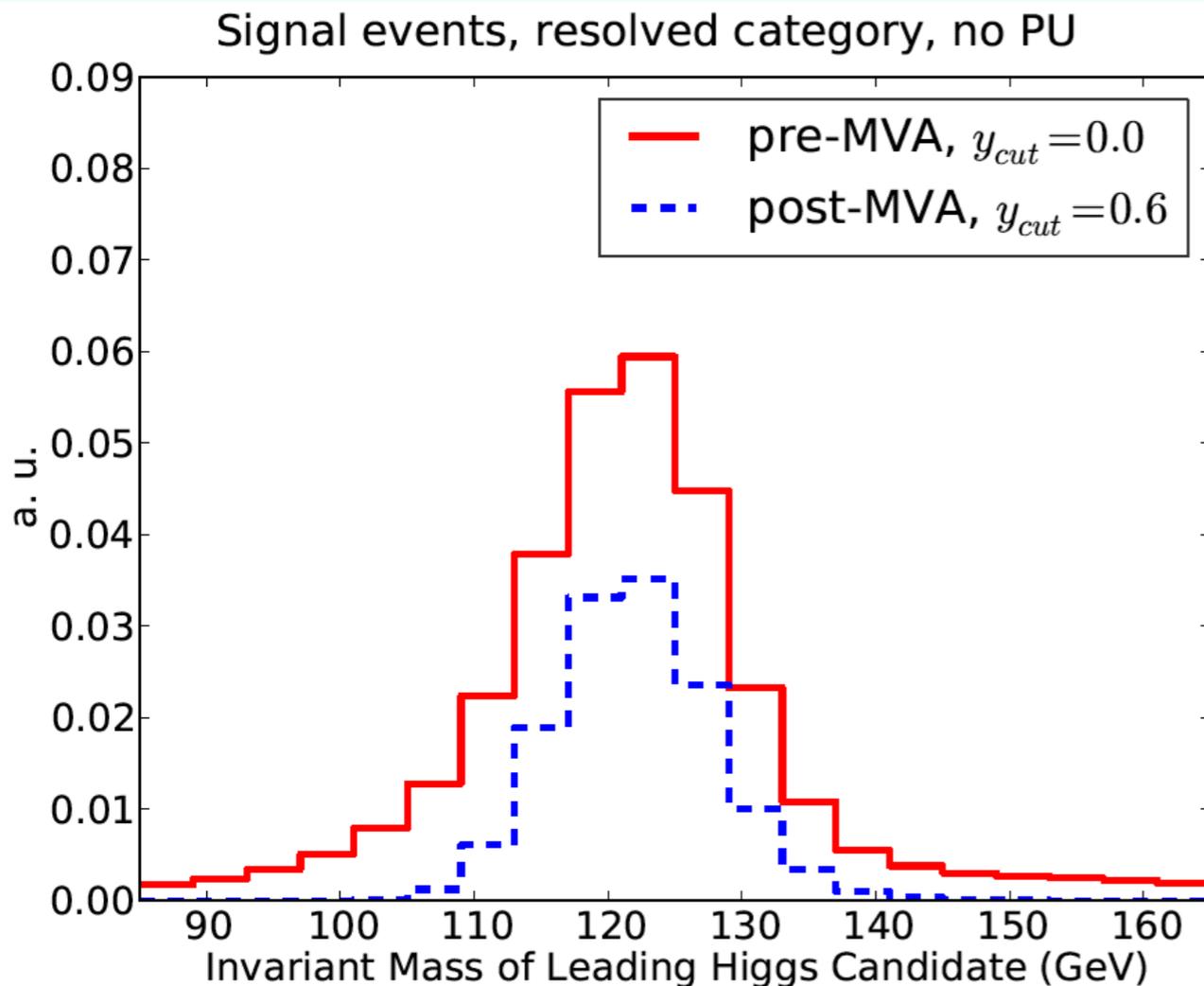
Opening the Black Box

- ANNs are sometimes criticised by being **black boxes**, with little understanding of what happens inside them
- But ANNs are simply a **set of combined kinematical cuts**, nothing mysterious in them!
- Kin distributions **after and before the ANN cut** allow determining the **effective kinematic cuts** being optimised by the MVA, which would allow a cut-based analysis



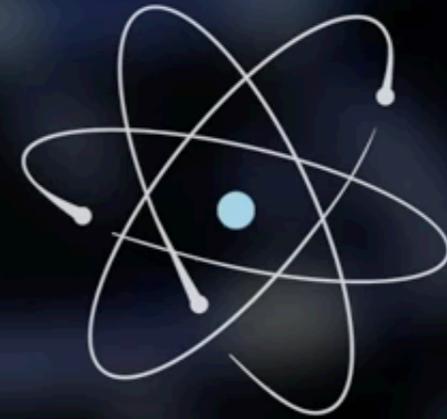
Opening the Black Box

- ANNs are sometimes criticised by being **black boxes**, with little understanding of what happens inside them
- But ANNs are simply a **set of combined kinematical cuts**, nothing mysterious in them!
- Kin distributions **after and before the ANN cut** allow determining the **effective kinematic cuts** being optimised by the MVA, which would allow a cut-based analysis



**The MVA sculpts a Higgs peak
in the QCD background!**

Wrapping up: more cool ML applications!



TWO⁺ MINUTE
PAPERS

WITH KÁROLY ZSOLNAI-FEHÉR (KZF)

DEEP LEARNING APPLICATIONS

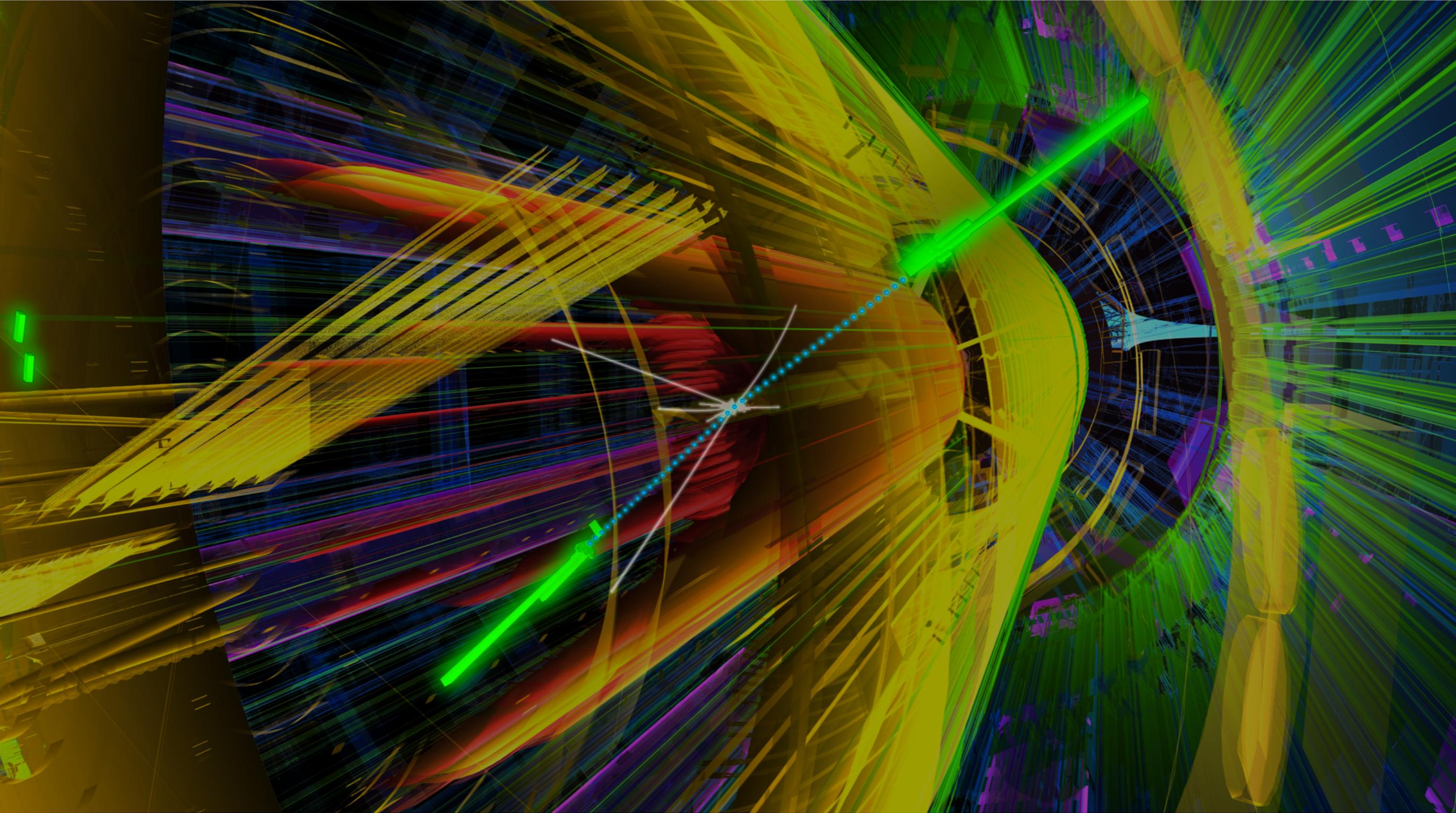
Disclaimer: I was not part of this research project,
I am merely providing commentary on this work.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bui3DWs02h4>

ANNs and LHC phenomenology

- 📍 **Machine Learning algorithms** are already **transforming our world**, from the way we move, shop and heal ourselves, to our understanding of what makes us unique as humans
- 📍 In the context of **LHC data analysis and interpretation**, **ML tools are ubiquitous**, from event selection deep in the detector chain (triggering) to bottom-quark tagging and automated BSM models classification (and exclusion)
- 📍 Artificial Neural Networks can be used as **universal unbiased interpolators in global analysis of the proton structure**, with implications from BSM heavy particle production to ultra-high energy neutrino astrophysics
- 📍 ANNs can also be used as **classifiers (discriminators) between signal and background** in very busy collision environments, improving LHC physics prospects *i.e.* for **Higgs pair production**

Fascinating times ahead at the high-energy frontier!



And stay tuned for news from the LHC!

Fascinating times ahead at the high-energy frontier!



Thanks for your attention!

And stay tuned for news from the LHC!