

# PhD days

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**Measurement of beauty production in  
proton-proton and Pb-Pb collisions with  
the ALICE experiment at the CERN LHC**

# Overview

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## PART I - My PhD subject

1. The ALICE experiment
2. Probing the quark and gluon plasma with heavy-flavour quarks
3. What is a jet?
4. PhD subject : a quick explanation
5. Jet Tagging - Track Counting algorithm vs. Boosted Decision Trees

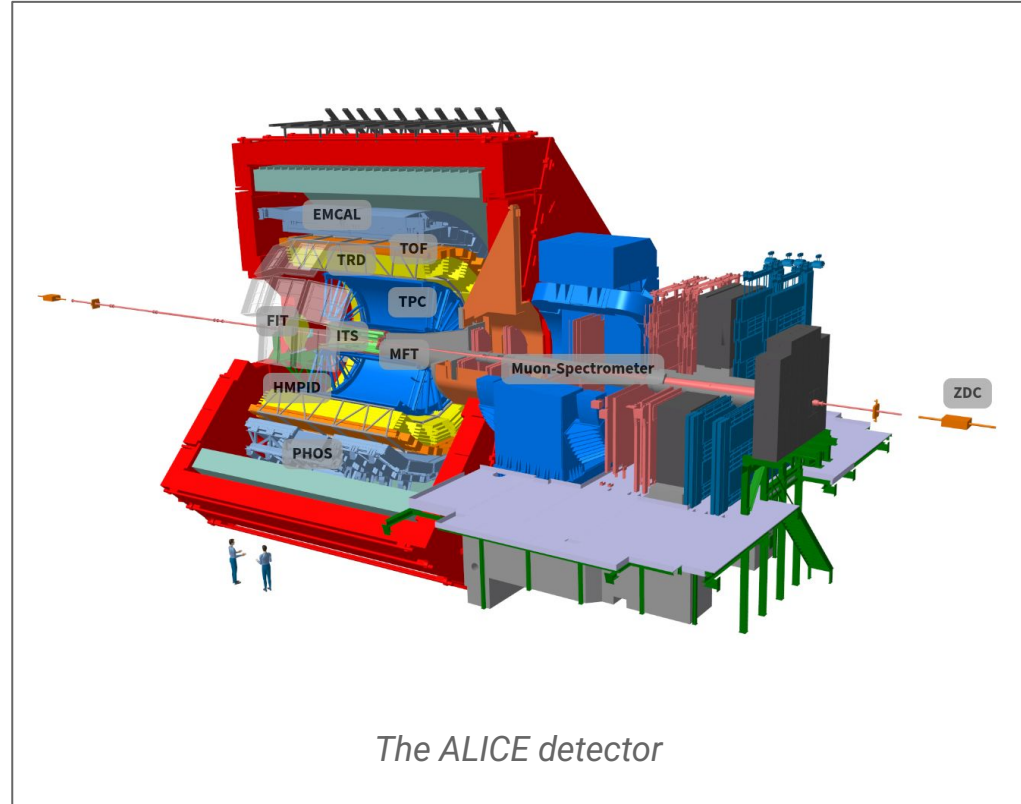
## PART II - My service work for the ALICE collaboration

# The ALICE experiment

Designed to study the physical properties of **strongly interacting matter** at extremely high temperature and energy densities reached in heavy-ion collisions at which a **Quark and Gluon Plasma (QGP)** is formed

Study **QGP** to better understand:

- Confinement
- Parton energy loss in the presence of free color charges
- Formation of hadronic bound states
- Restoration of chiral symmetry
- Primordial universe and compact objects like neutron stars



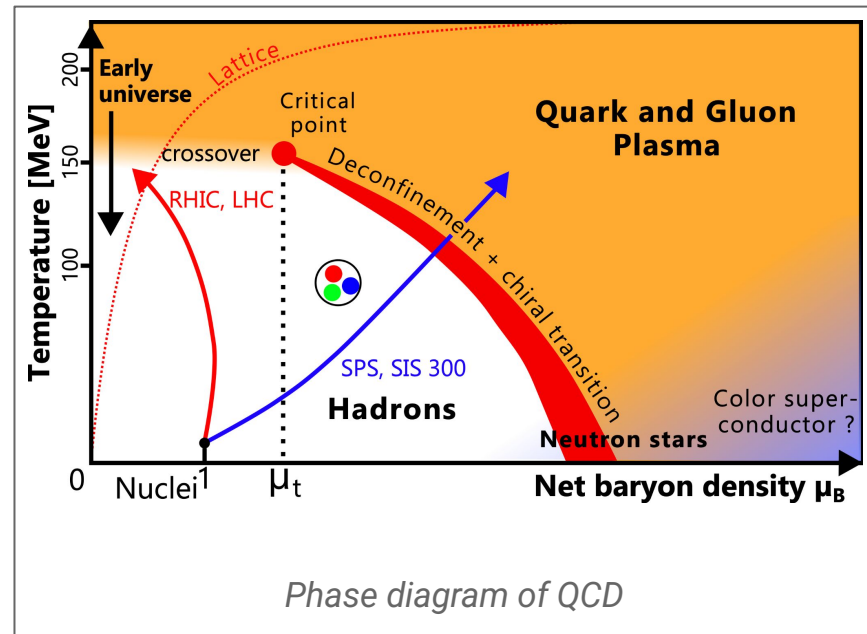
*The ALICE detector*

# Probing QGP with heavy-flavor (HF) quarks

**HF quarks (c,b)** produced in hard scatterings at initial collision stages, before the formation of QGP  
→ experience the entire QGP evolution

**Energy-loss effects** resulting from interaction with QGP constituents

**b-quarks** are more sensitive probes than c-quarks due to higher mass (less thermalized, radiative loss suppression...)



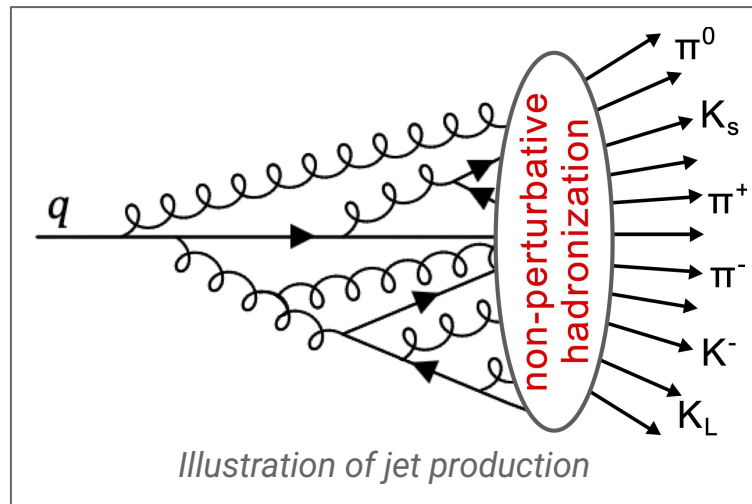
# What is a jet ?

High-energy partons (quarks or gluons) radiate gluons in the direction of their propagation, they become quark-antiquark pairs which radiate gluons...etc.

→ This process is called «**showering**» and is followed by **hadronization**.

The newly formed hadrons propagate approximately in a **cone** aligned with the direction of the primordial parton. This object is called a **hadronic jet**.

The **flavor** attributed to the jet is the flavor of the initial parton : light flavor, charm or beauty ( $l, c, b$ )

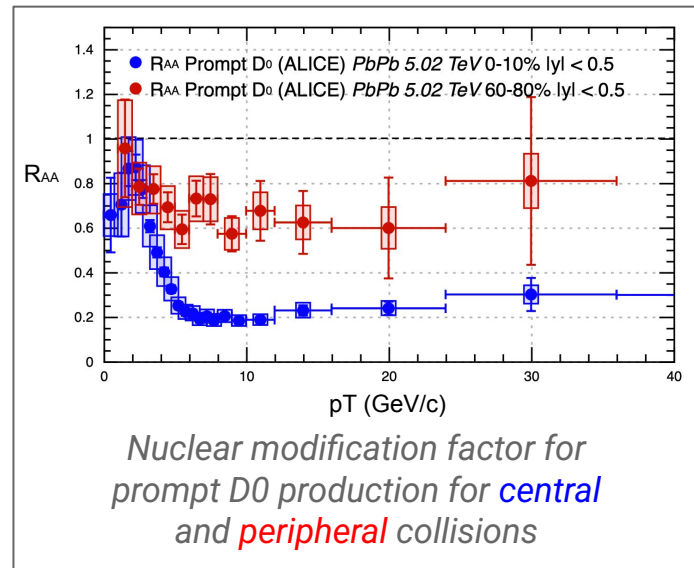


# PhD subject - quick explanation (1/2)

Measurement of b-jet production in pp and Pb-Pb collisions with Run3 data → **Nuclear modification in Pb-Pb with respect to pp reference**

Advantages of studying **b-jet production** :

- Jet pT directly related to b quark pT
- Jet substructure provides unique insight into the energy loss mechanisms



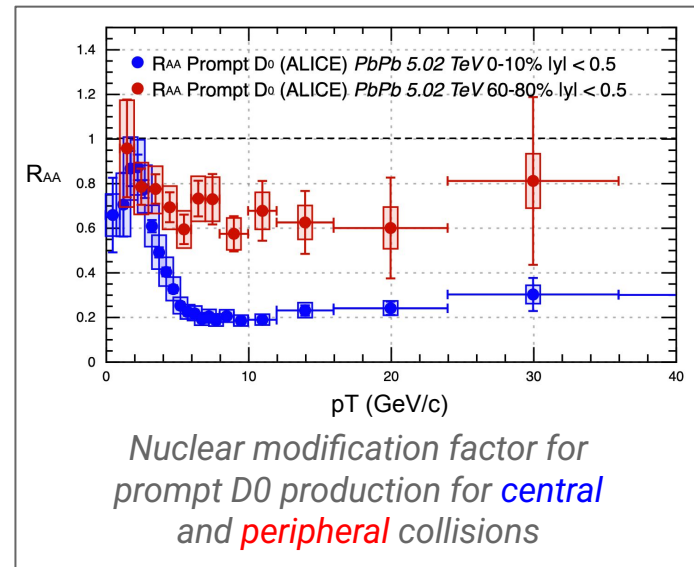
# PhD subject - quick explanation (2/2)

**Measurement of b-jets** consists of :

1. Jet reconstruction
2. b-jet tagging/identification (separation from charm and light-flavour jets)
3. Proper treatment of huge background in Pb-Pb, especially at lower jet pT

**Upgraded ALICE detector in Run3 :**

- Orders of magnitude higher statistics for b physics with respect to Run 1-2
- New Inner Tracking System → significant improvement of track impact parameter resolution → crucial for b-quark measurement



# Jet Tagging - Tools for performance evaluation

Study in different jet pT intervals :

[5-10], [10-20], [20-40], [40-70], [70-120], [120-200] (GeV/c)

Two quantities to **evaluate the performances** of the tagging algorithms

$$\text{Efficiency} = \frac{\text{Number of selected b-jets}}{\text{Total number of b-jets}}$$

$$\text{Purity} = \frac{\text{Number of selected b-jets}}{\text{Total number of selected jets (b,c,l,f)}}$$

# Jet Tagging - Main parameters of the analysis : IP, IPs

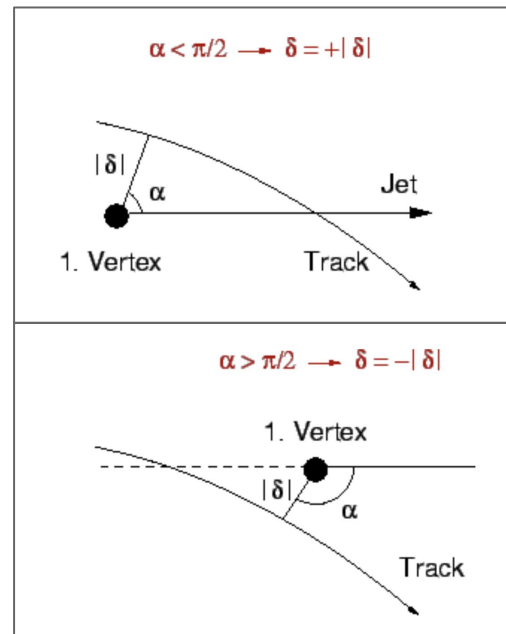
**IP of track:** distance of closest approach (DCA) of the track to the jet production vertex in the transverse plane of the detector (perpendicular to the beam)

**IP significance (IPs):**  $IP / \sigma$   
( $\sigma$  = IP resolution)

We take into account the **sign of the IP**

In this presentation, the tagging was done **with IP**. Future analyses will be made with the IPs

*Impact Parameter  
and its sign*



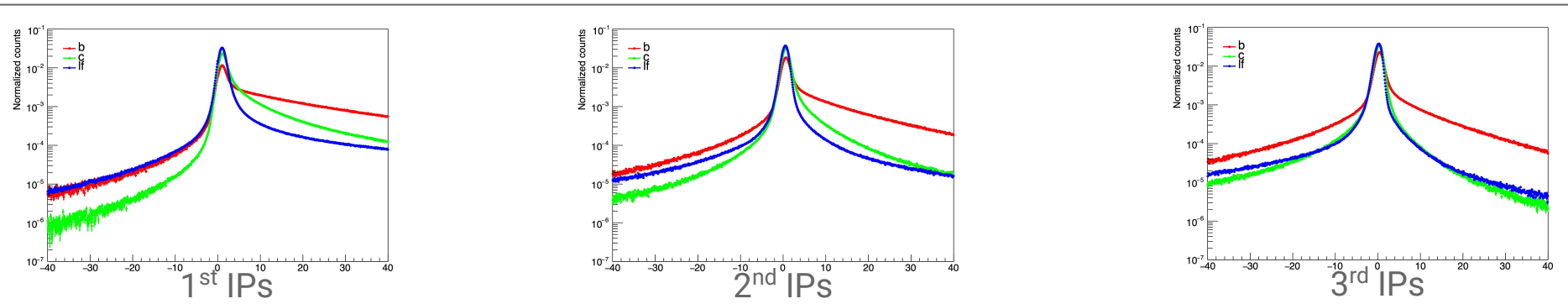
# Jet Tagging - **Track counting** and BDTs

## Impact Parameter significance with Track Counting

IPs of jets : **b** > **c** > **lf** → strong discriminating power

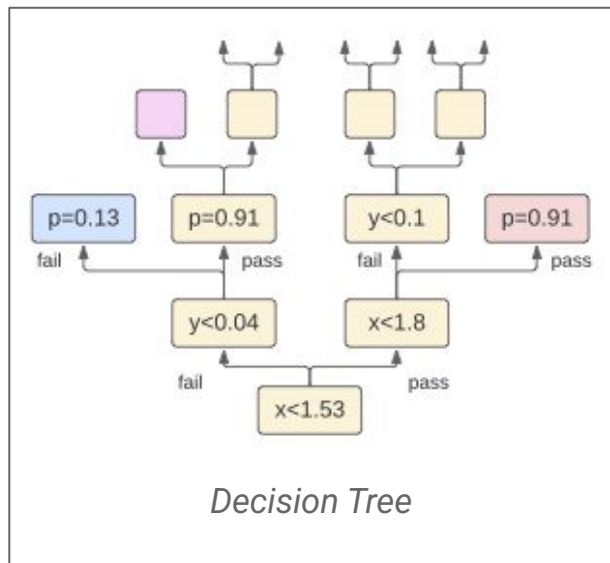
### Track Counting algorithm:

- Arranges IPs of tracks in jets in **descending order** (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> largest IPs)
- Jet tagged as **b** if N<sup>th</sup> largest IPs > chosen threshold
- N<sup>th</sup> largest IPs and threshold give different **tagging efficiency** and **background rejection**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> largest IPs has the highest **purity**

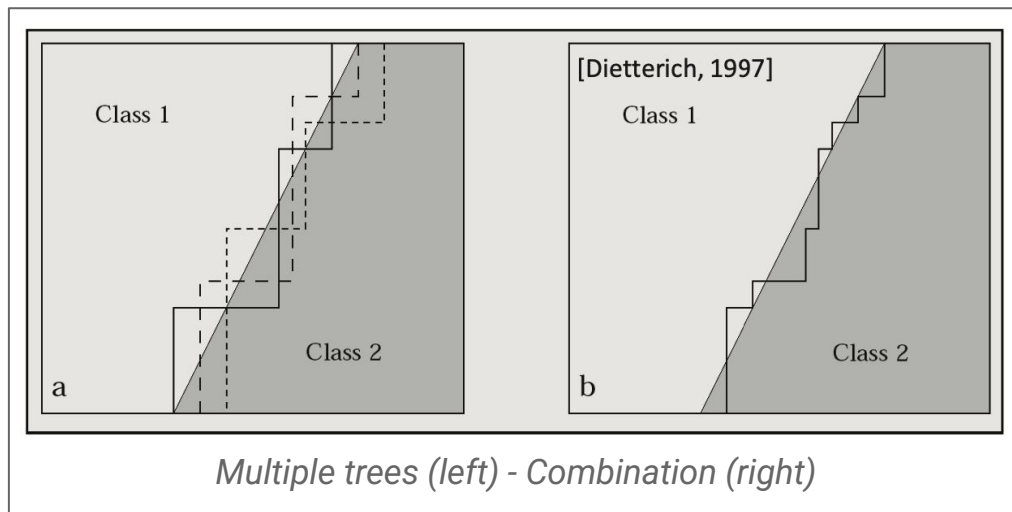


# Jet Tagging - Track counting and **BDTs**

## Classification with Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs)



BDTs : many DTs and combination of results

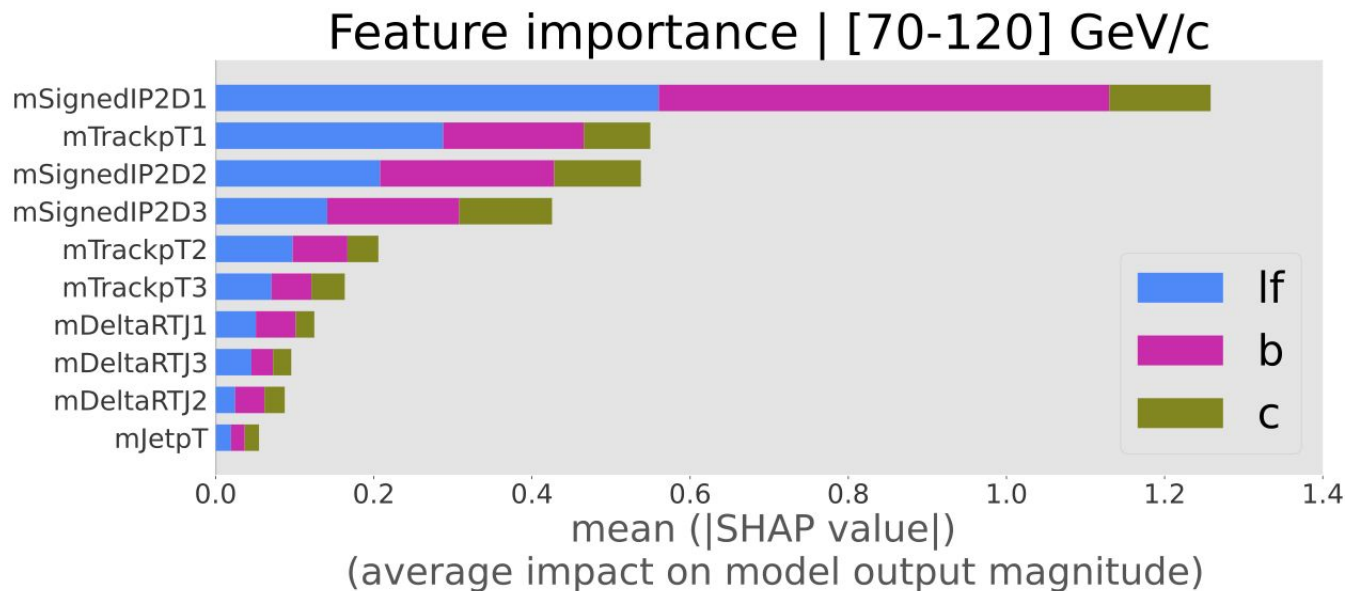


# Jet Tagging - Track counting and **BDTs**

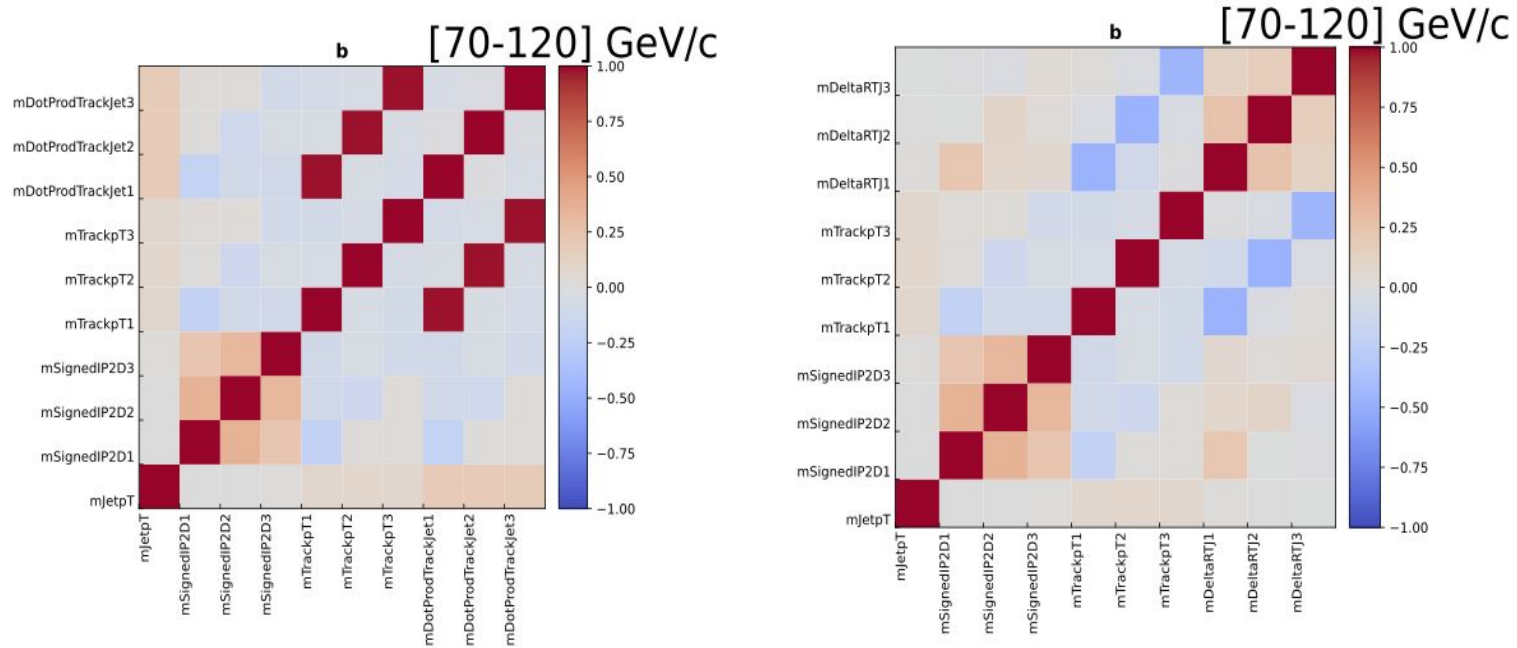
## Classification with Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs)

1. **Finding the right input** (importance and correlations)
2. Training and testing on Monte Carlo
  - a. Separating the Monte Carlo dataset in two
  - b. Training on one set
  - c. Testing on the other set
3. Choosing the score cuts based on our choices of efficiency and purity
4. Applying the BDT to data when the testing is optimal

# Jet Tagging - Track counting and **BDTs**



# Jet Tagging - Track counting and **BDTs**

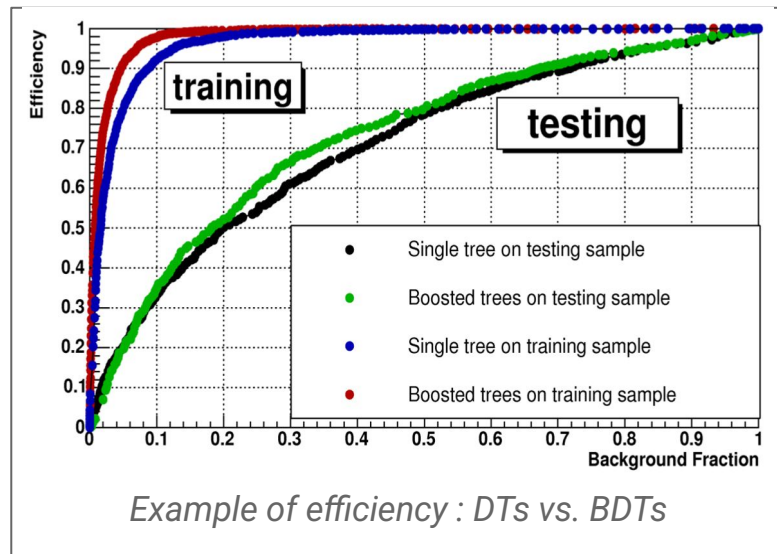


Strong correlation = red  
Strong anti-correlation = blue

# Jet Tagging - Track counting and **BDTs**

## Classification with Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs)

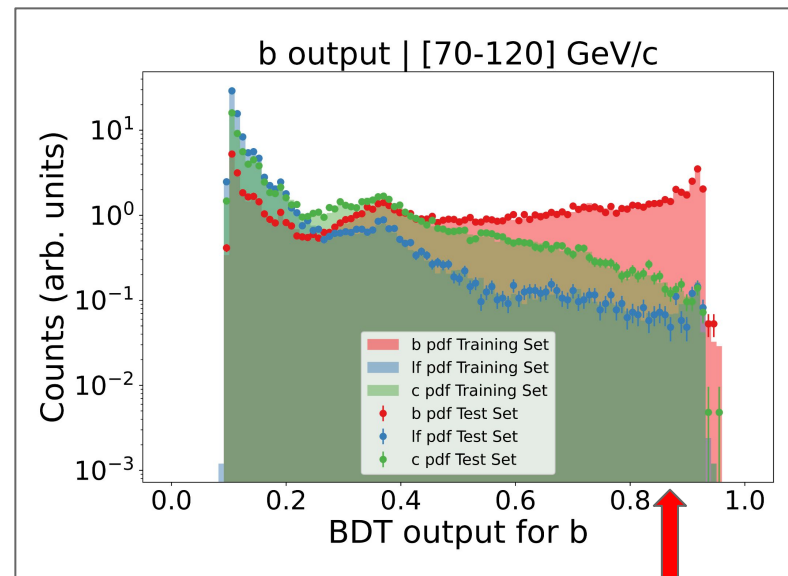
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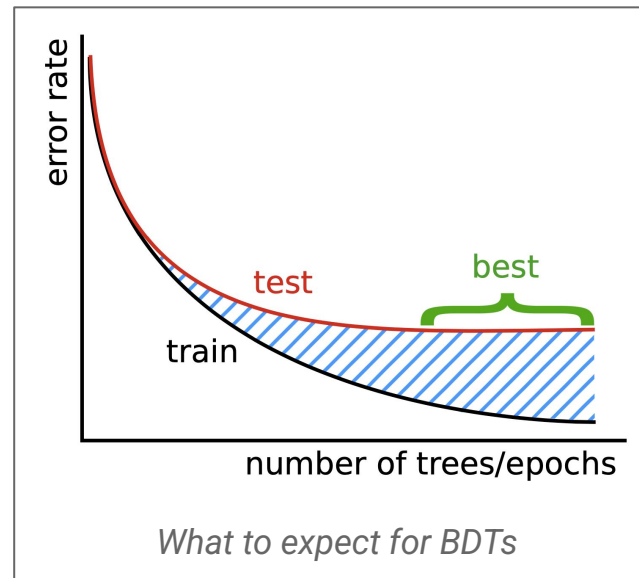


Tagged as b above chosen score

# Jet Tagging - Track counting and **BDTs**

## Classification with Boosted Decision Trees (BDTs)

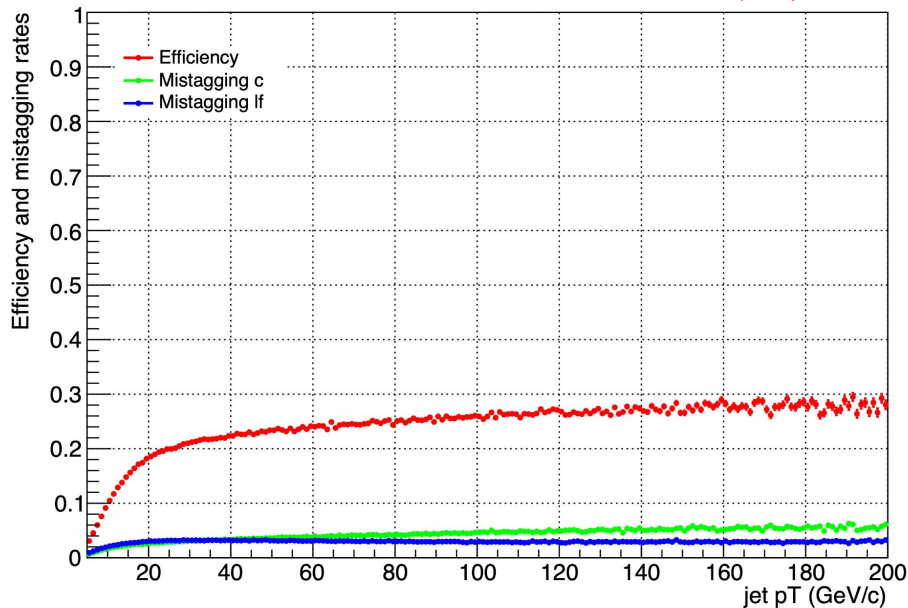
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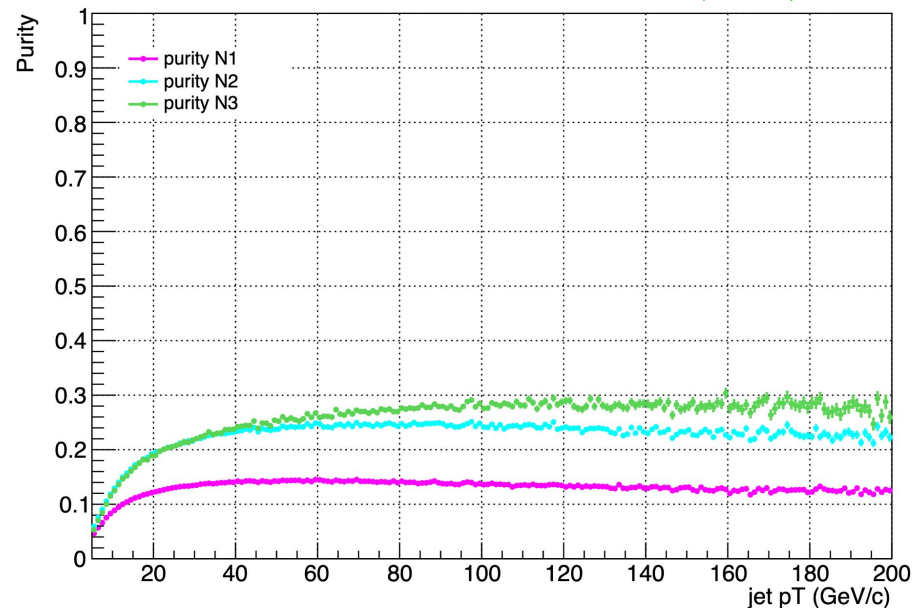
# Jet Tagging - Track Counting performances with IP

Chosen threshold : 0.008cm

*Efficiency with IP of the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest IPs (red)*



*Purity with IP of the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest IPs (green)*

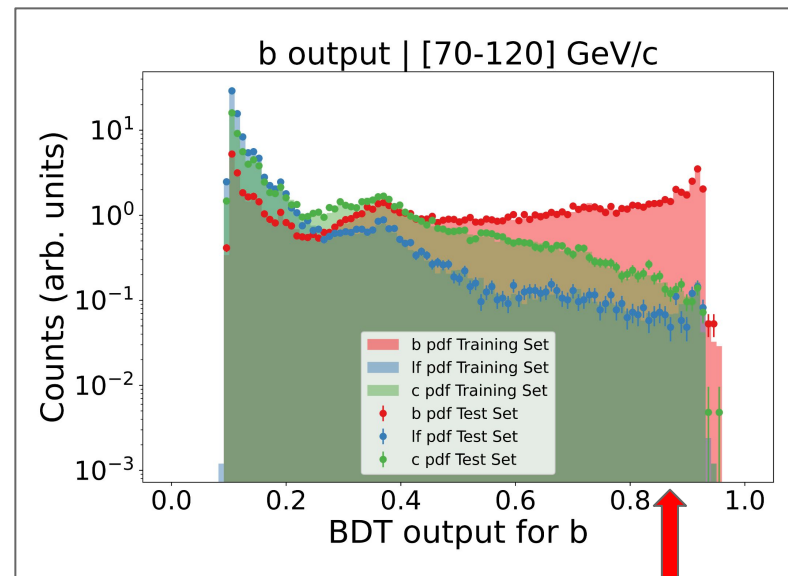


# Jet Tagging - Track counting and **BDTs**

## Choosing the score cuts based on our choices of efficiency and purity

- (1) Choose score cut on  $b$ : ( $>$  than chosen limit)  
high score cut = low efficiency, high purity
- (2) Choose score cut on  $lf$ : ( $<$  than chosen limit)  
low score cut = lower efficiency, higher purity

In practice: scan all the score combinations to find the cuts that match our needs the best in terms of efficiency and purity



Tagged as b above chosen score

# Jet Tagging - BDTs (4 inputs) performances

First analysis with 4 inputs: jet pT, IP of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> largest IPs

Choice of cuts on scores: maximizing the 3 following quantities and matching the efficiency to the Track Counting method by scanning the BDT scores

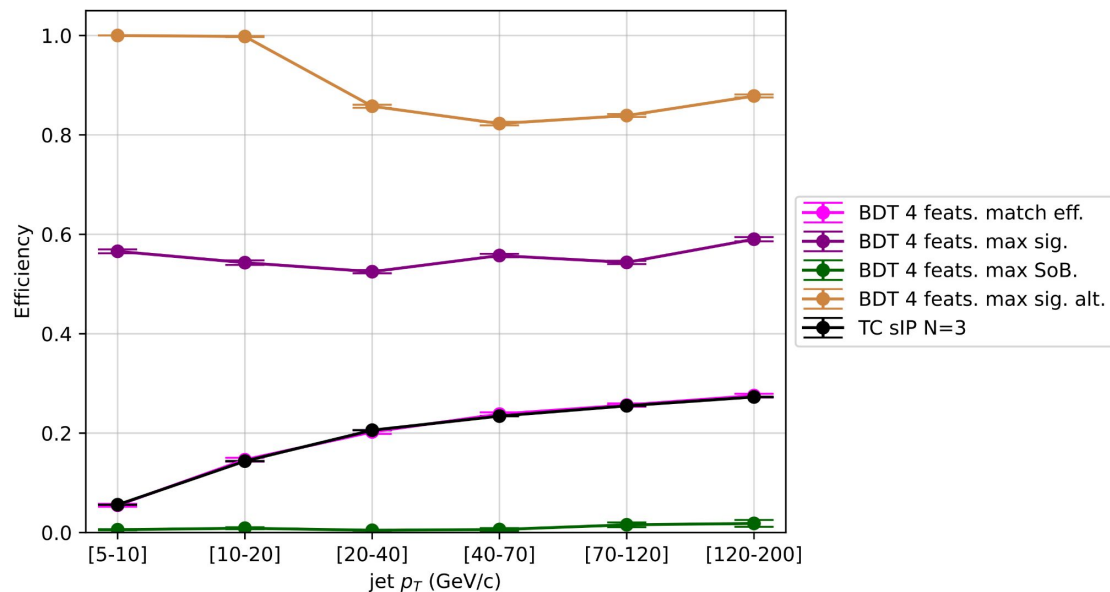
$$\text{Significance} = \frac{\text{Number of selected b-jets}}{\sqrt{\text{Total number of selected jets (b,c,lf)}}$$

$$\text{Significance alternative} = \frac{\text{Number of selected b-jets}}{\sqrt{\text{Number of selected b- and c-jets}}}$$

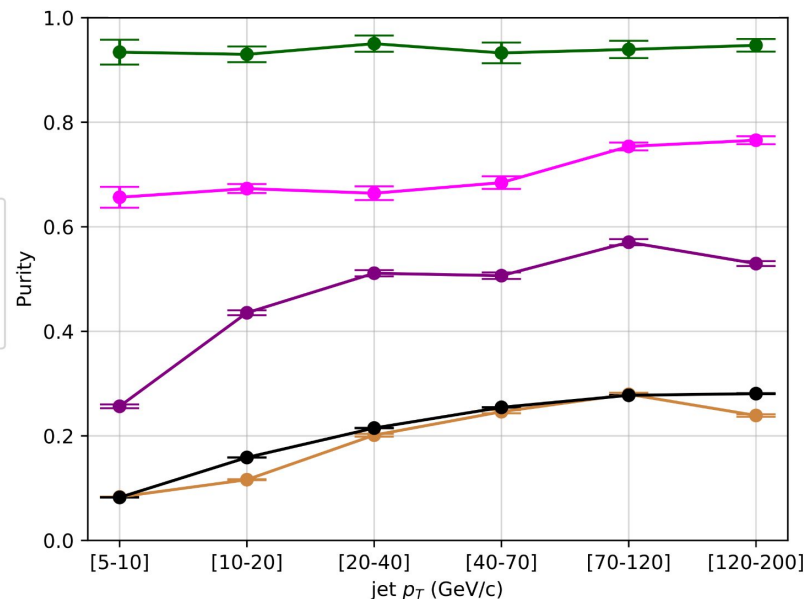
$$\text{Signal over Background} = \frac{\text{Number of selected b-jets}}{\text{Number of selected lf- and c-jets}}$$

# Jet Tagging - BDTs (4 inputs) performances

Efficiency (Track Counting and  
efficiency matching overlap)



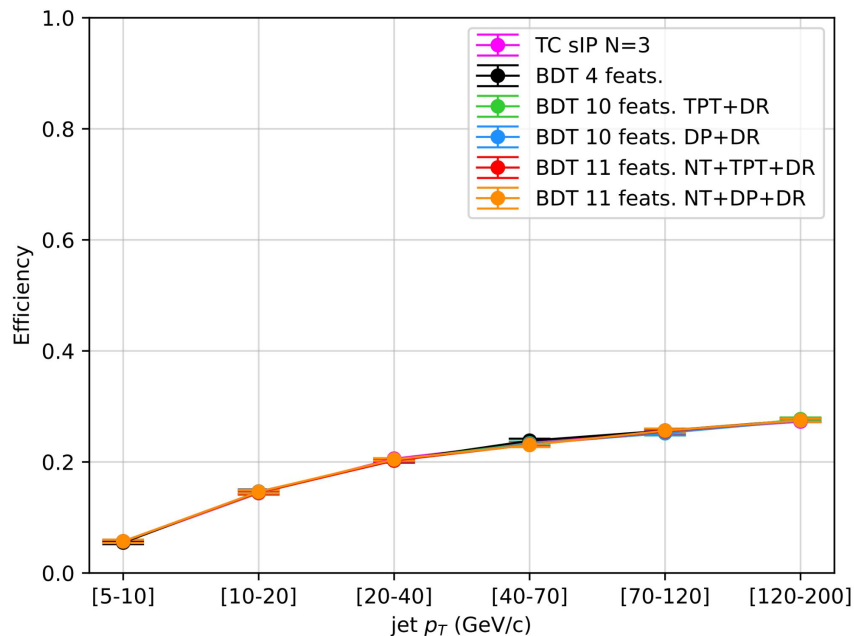
Purity



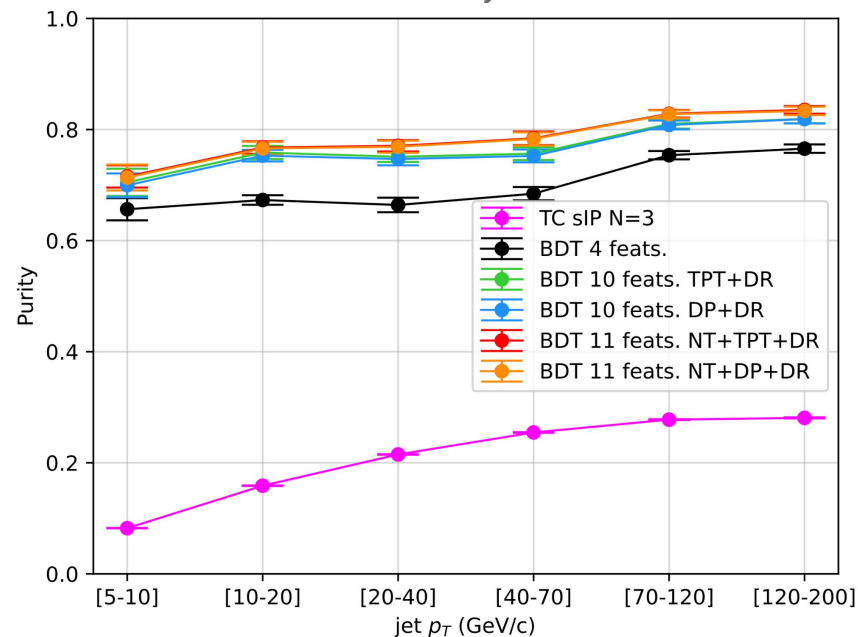
Chosen cuts on BDT scores : significance maximization and efficiency matching to Track Counting

# Jet Tagging - Efficiency matching - 4, 10 and 11 inputs

*Efficiency matched to Track Counting*



*Purity*



Here we chose cuts on scores to match the efficiency obtained with the *Track Counting* method

# Jet Tagging - Efficiency matching - 4, 10 and 11 inputs

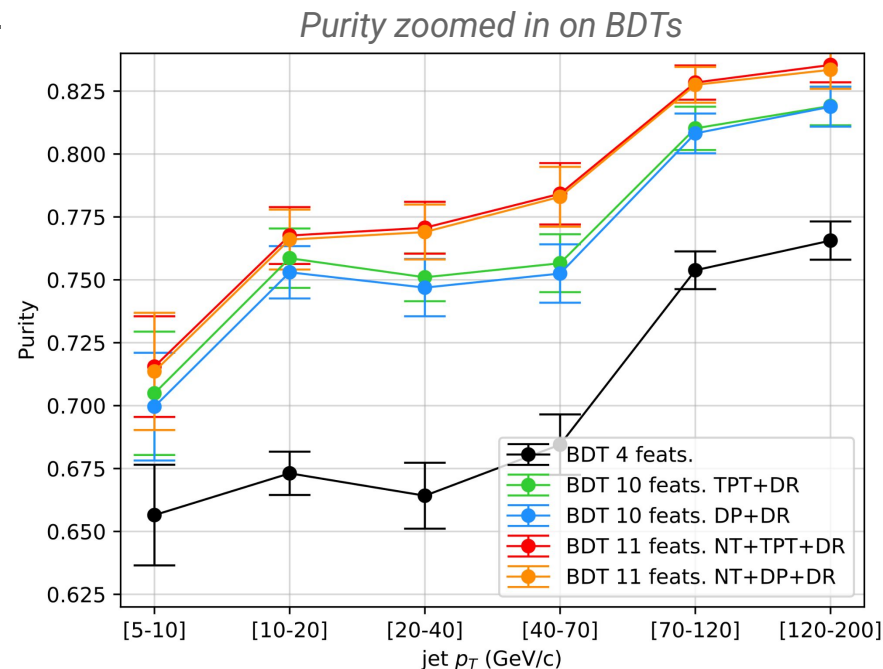
Different combinations of inputs were tested:

- (1) BDTs with 4 inputs :  
jet pT + IP of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> largest IPs
- (2) BDTs with 10 inputs :  
4 first inputs + Track pT 1,2,3 + Delta R 1,2,3  
4 first inputs + Dot Product Track-Jet 1,2,3 + Delta R 1,2,3
- (3) BDTs with 11 inputs :  
10 green inputs + Number of tracks in the jet  
10 blue inputs + Number of tracks in the jet

## Results:

- **similar purity** for the 2 combinations
- a **limit** on maximum purity may exist

$$\Delta R = \sqrt{\Delta\phi^2 + \Delta\eta^2} : \text{Delta R between track and jet}$$



*All BDTs were set to the same efficiency*

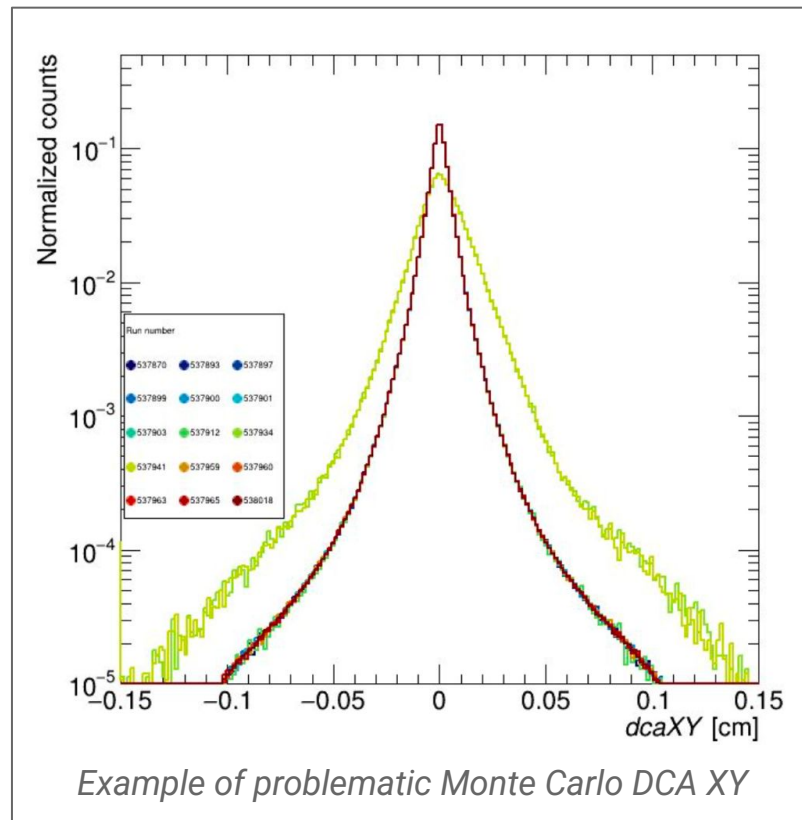
# My service work for the ALICE collaboration

# Service work - Track Properties and Tracking QC

Quality Checks of datasets,  
comparison between periods and  
between dataset and Monte Carlo  
anchored to it

Personal contribution to the  
analysis code

Wrote a full tutorial for my peers  
who took over from me

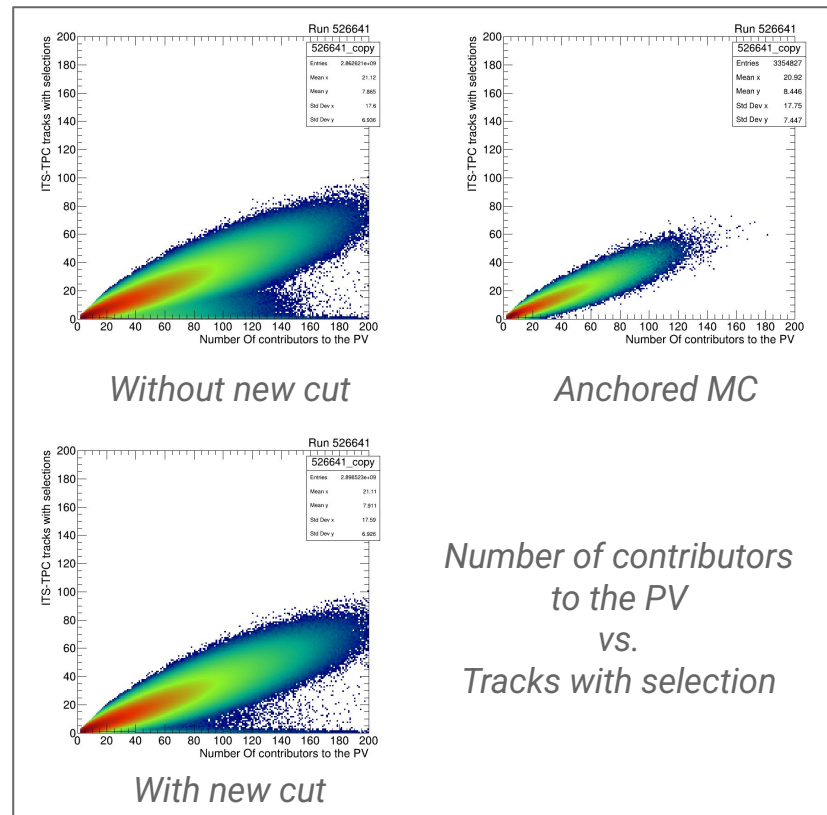


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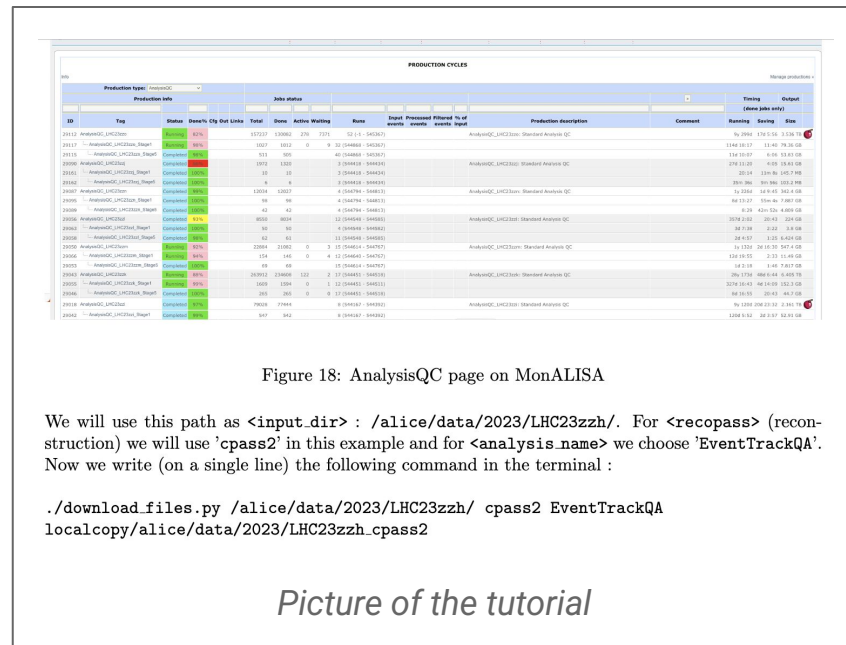


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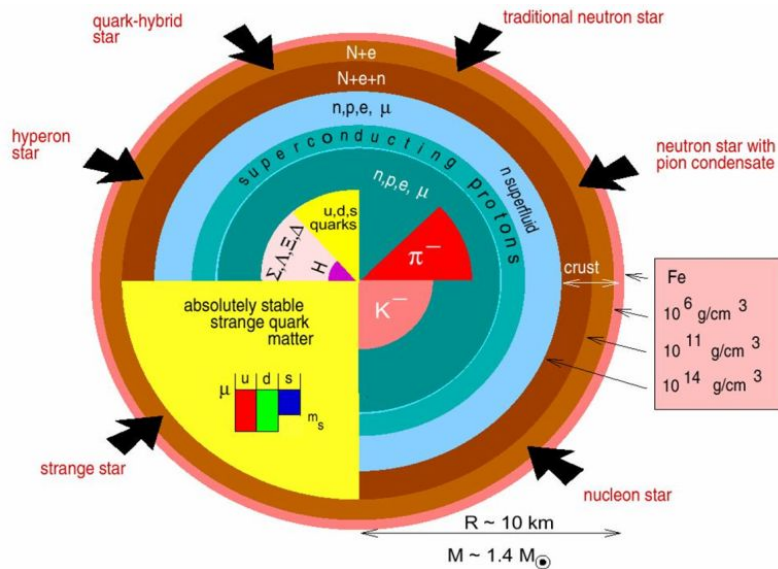
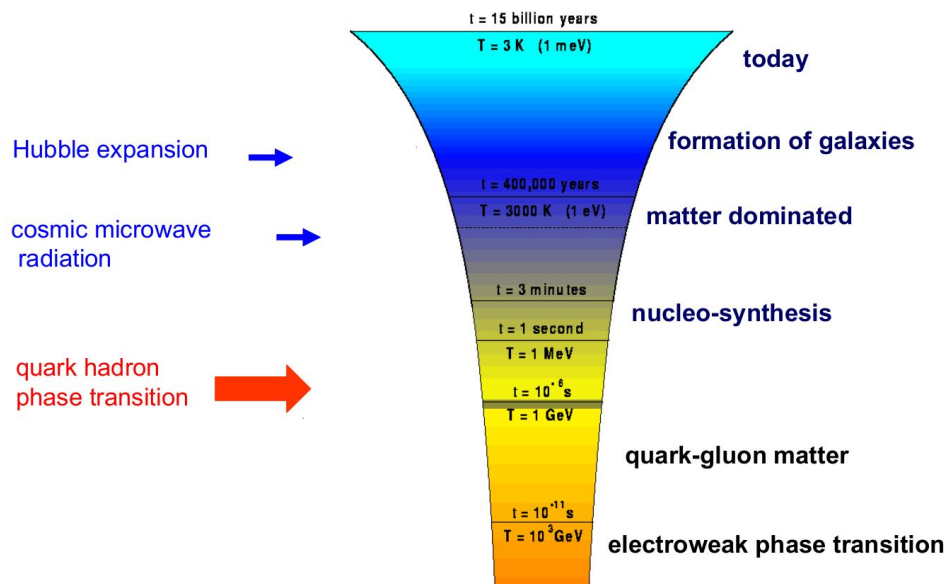
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# Thank you for listening

# BACK UP

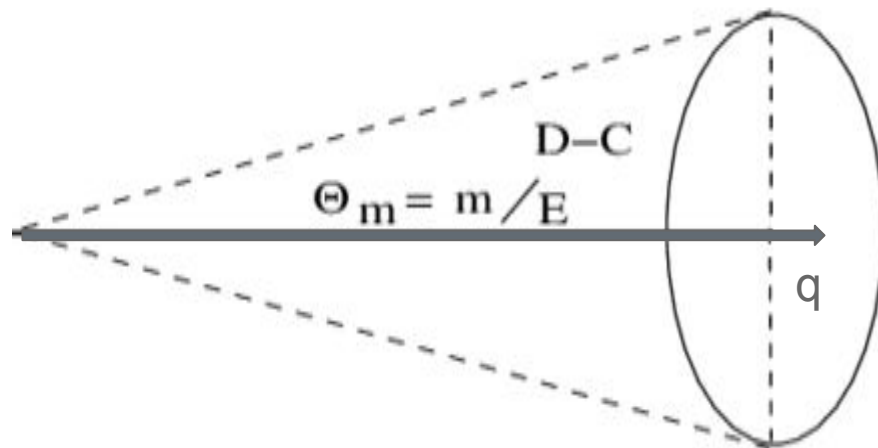
# Primordial Universe and Neutron Stars



# Dead Cone effect

Radiative energy loss  
suppressed in the “Dead Cone”

Stronger with b quarks than  
with c quarks because of larger  
masse

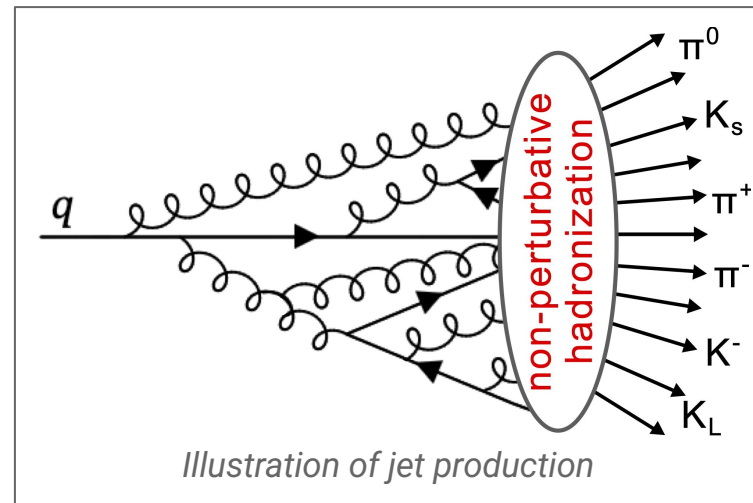


# Jet algorithms

Jet reconstruction algorithms are either “sequential clustering algorithm” (SCA) or “Cone Algorithms”

Used anti-kT algorithm to reconstruct jets (SCA) which is IRC safe

IRC safe: InfraRed and Collinear - guarantees that the measured jet can be linked to a theoretical observable



# Boosting (combination of Decision Trees)

- (1) Train tree  $T_1$  on  $N$  events
- (2) Train second tree  $T_2$  on new  $N'$  events, half of which was misclassified by  $T_1$
- (3) Build third tree  $T_3$  on events where  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  disagree
- (4) The boosted classifier takes the majority vote from  $(T_1, T_2, T_3)$

# BDTs - Python Packages

**Matplotlib** to produce plots (version 3.9.2)

**Pandas** for data analysis and data manipulation (version 2.2.3)

**NumPy** for scientific computing (version 1.24.4)

**Hipe4ml** for link between **ROOT** and **Python** : TTree manipulation in Python, handling BDT models and visualization (like correlation plots) (version 0.0.15)

**Scikit-Learn** for creation of the classifier (version 1.3.0)

**XGBoost** for gradient boosting (version 1.7.6)

**Optuna** to optimize the hyper-parameters of the model (version 4.1.0)

**Hipe4ml\_converter** to convert the BDT model to **ONNX** format (version 0.0.7)

# BDTs - hyper-parameters optimization with Optuna

**Hyper-parameters** optimized with the **Optuna** package:

- max\_depth: maximum depth of a tree
- learning\_rate: step size of the gradient descent
- n\_estimators: number of trees
- min\_child\_weight: minimum sum of instance weight needed in a child
- subsample: subsample ratio for the training process
- colsample\_bytree: subsample ratio of columns when constructing each tree

Non optimized hyper-parameters:

- n\_jobs: number of parallel threads used to run XGBoost
- tree\_method: exact, approx or hist (hist was chosen). Specifies which tree method to use.  
hist is a fast approximated solution

# Jet Tagging - MC studied and cuts

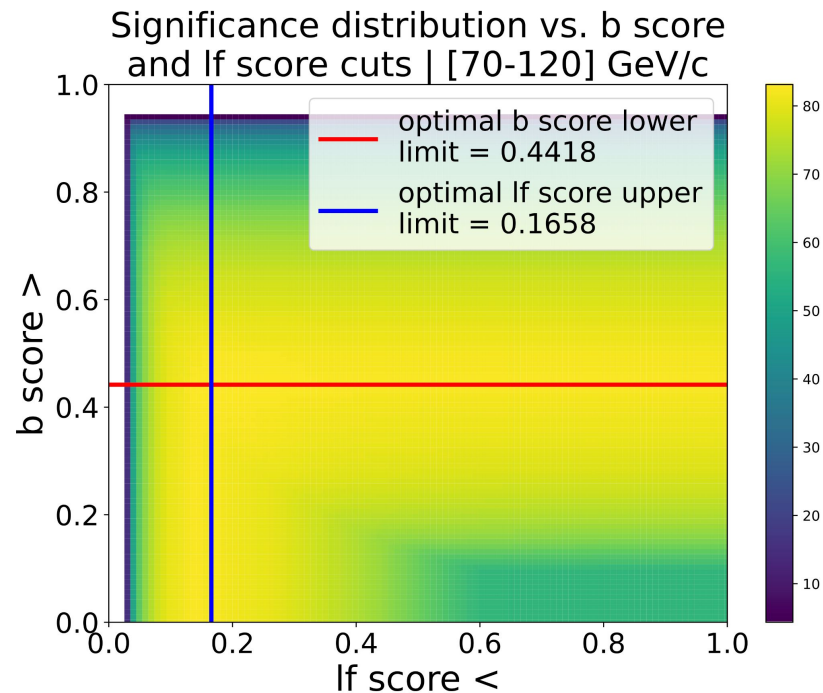
**MC dataset:** proton-proton @ 13.6 TeV jet-jet oversampled

**Cuts on MC data:**

- jet  $|\eta| < 0.9$
- $5 < \text{jet } p_T < 200 \text{ GeV}/c$
- jet radii = 0.4
- track  $|\eta| < 0.9$
- $0.5 < \text{track } p_T < 200 \text{ GeV}/c$

# Jet Tagging - Scanning cuts on scores - example

Example of a full scan on b and lf scores to maximize the significance



# Jet Tagging - All BDTs with 10 inputs

All 10 input configurations :

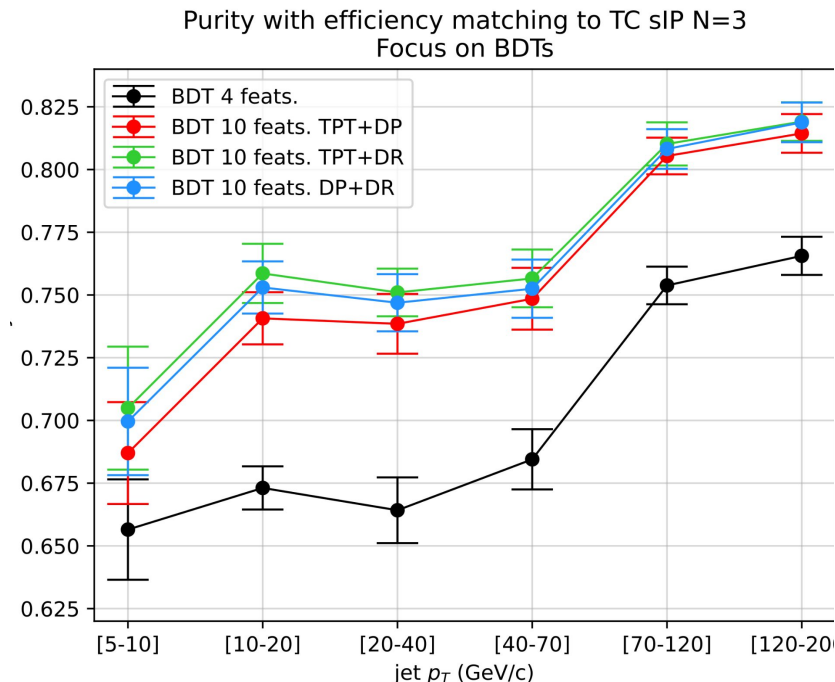
Track pT + Dot Product Track-Jet

Track pT + Delta R

Dot Product Track-Jet + Delta R

The combination **TPT + DP** gives lower purity than the other combinations

$$\Delta R = \sqrt{\Delta\phi^2 + \Delta\eta^2} : \text{Delta R between track and jet}$$



# Error bars

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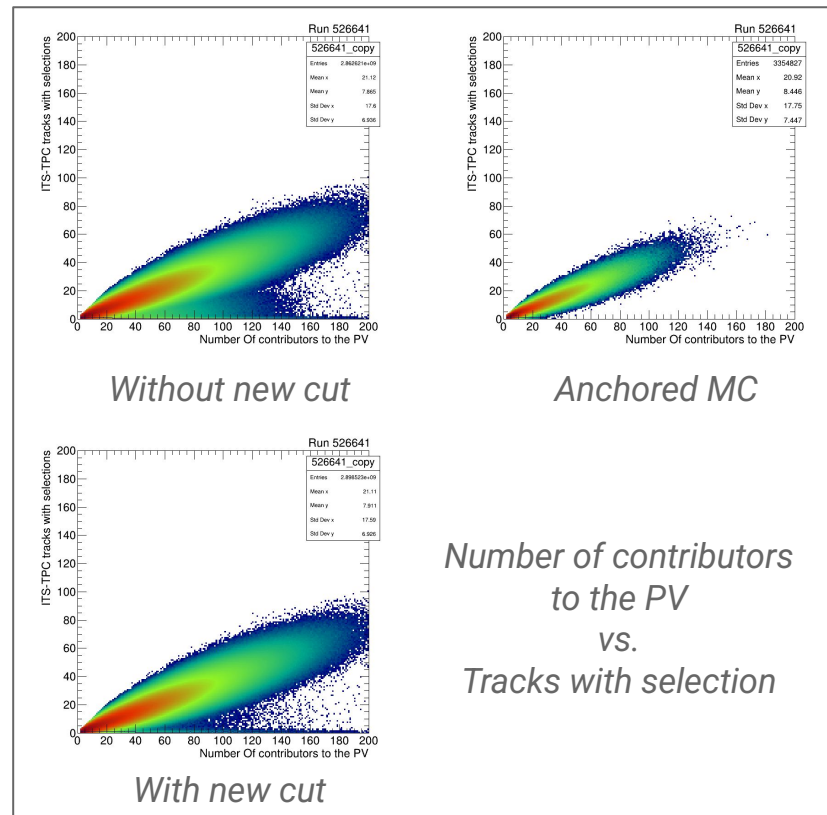
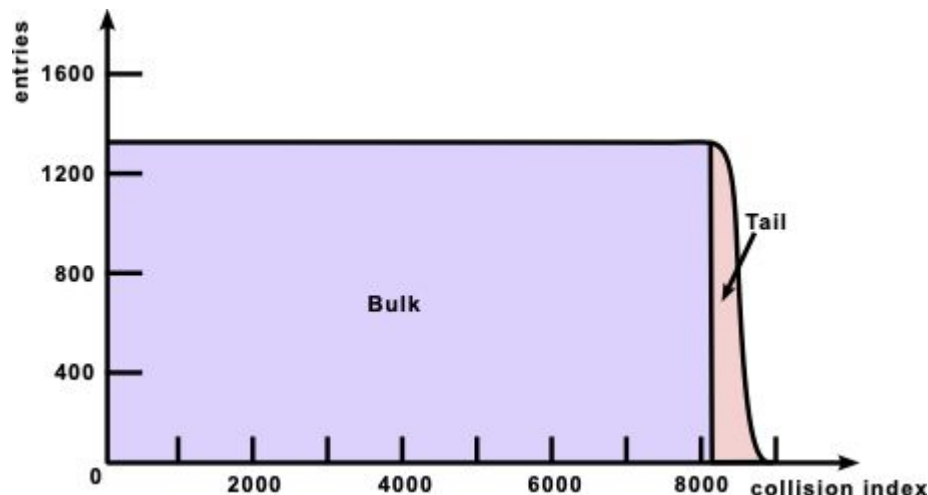
For Track Counting: Statistical error bars

For BDTs:

- 110,000 jets for each flavor in each jet pT bin
- 80% for training, 20% for testing
- Error bars obtained by training-testing 20 times on shuffled sets of events randomly drawn from a larger pool ( $> 110,000$  jets)

# Timeframe cut

The drop in entries in the tail creates a horizontal population in the plots on the right. The added cut removes the tail and keeps the bulk



# End of BACK UP