

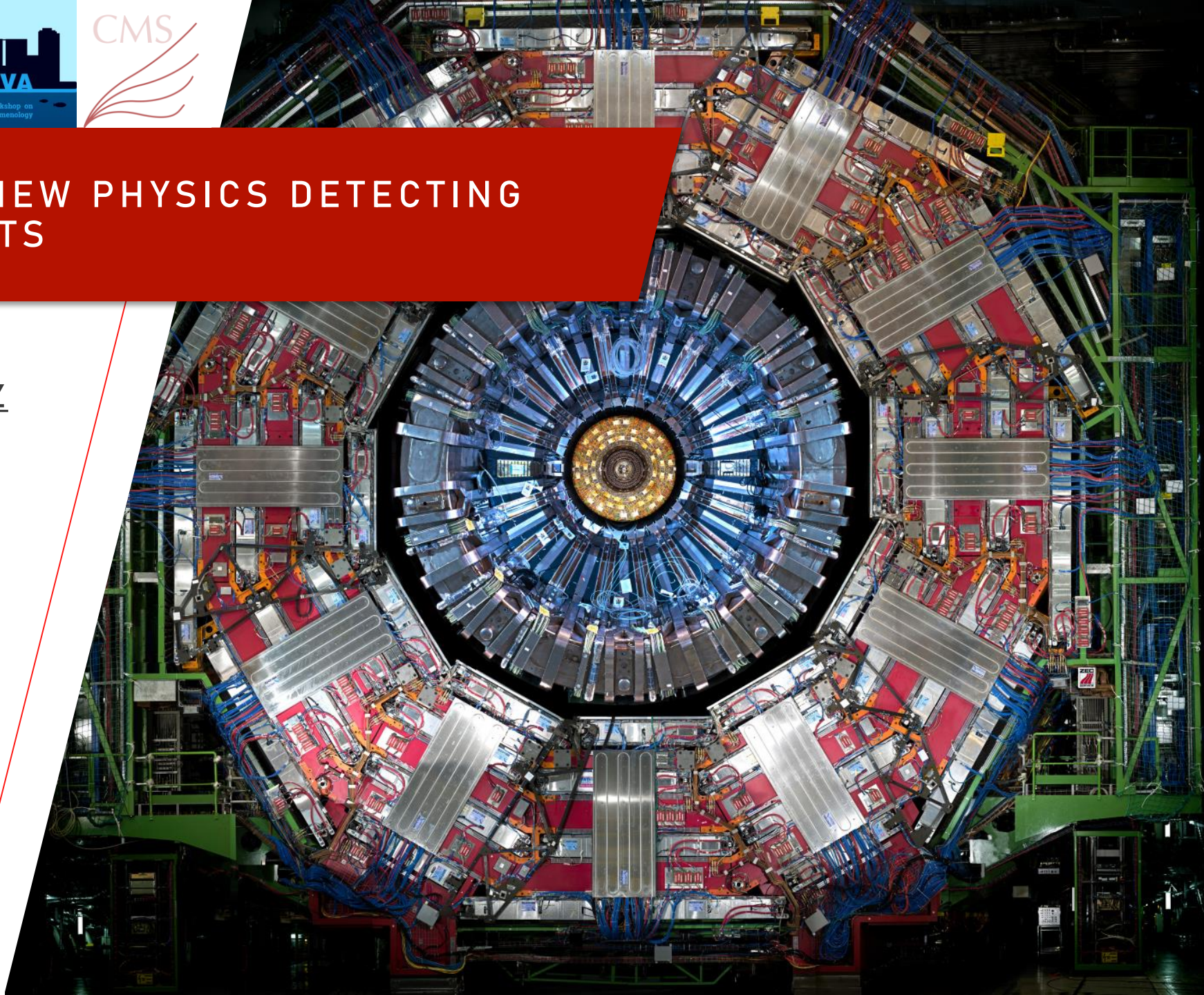


# SEARCHING FOR NEW PHYSICS DETECTING ANOMALIES IN JETS

Roberto Seidita - ETHZ

On behalf of the CMS  
Collaboration

**ETH** zürich



# CASTING A WIDE NET

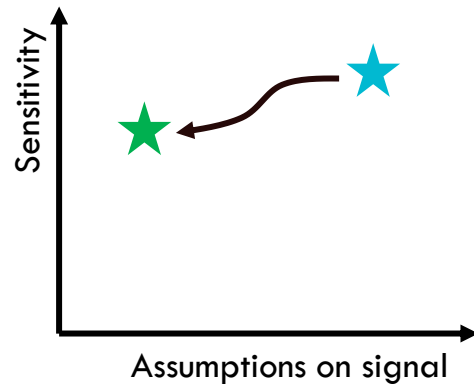
The space of plausible physics beyond the SM is vast

Peak performance via supervised ML-based searches:

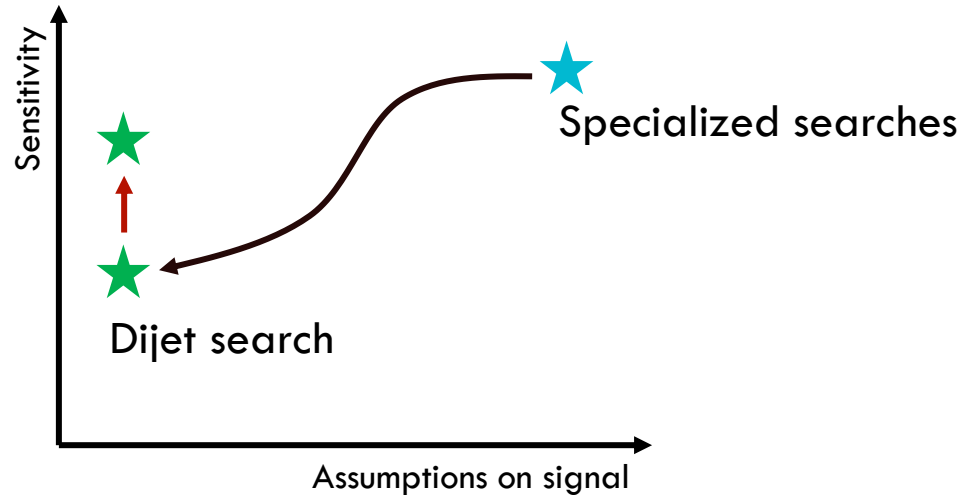
- Optimal sensitivity for specific target signals, but
- Sub-optimal to no sensitivity to signals not yet thought of

Unsupervised methods offer a natural complement:

- Less sensitive than targeted searches, but
- Can reach a wider chunk of model space

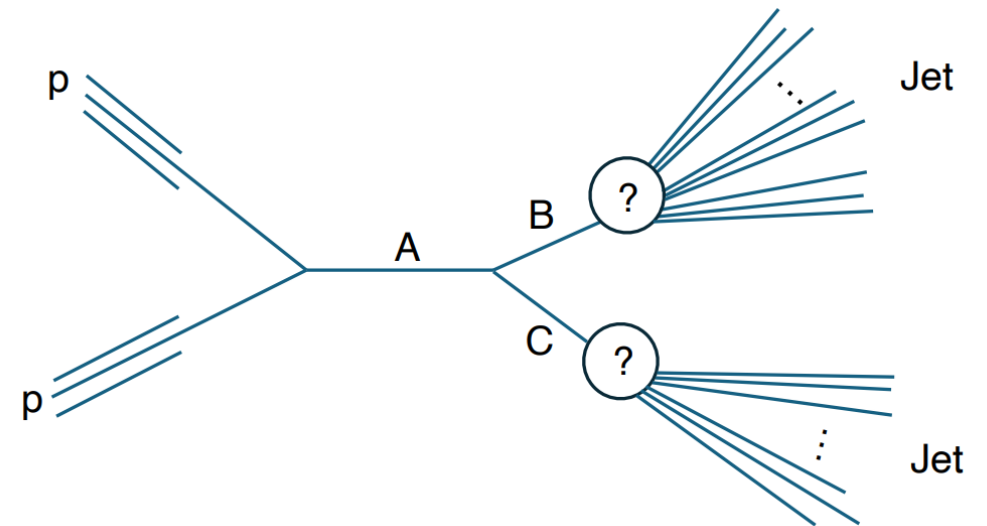


# ENHANCING THE DIJET SEARCH



Dijet searches only exploit event kinematics (on purpose)  
→ can we re-introduce jet substructure into the picture  
without spoiling the generality of the search?

Not a new concept: e.g., (pair) dijet searches are  
always exploring the energy frontier in the most  
model agnostic way possible



[CMS-PAS-EXO-22-026](#)

# DEFINITIONS AND SELECTIONS

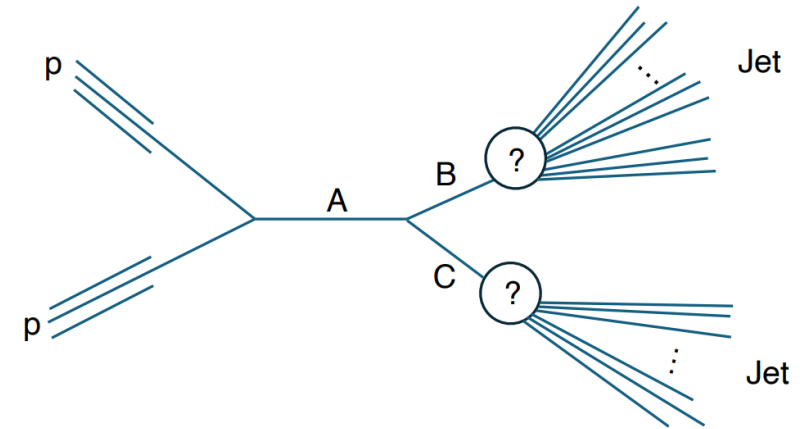
**Jet**  $\equiv$  anti- $k_T$  jets with  $R = 0.8$  (AK8), clustered from particle-flow (PF) candidates with pileup-per-particle-identification (PUPPI) weights

## Signal region:

- At least 2 jets with  $p_T > 300$  GeV and  $\eta < 2.5$
- Invariant mass of leading pair  $m_{jj} > 1455$  GeV
- Pseudorapidity gap of leading pair  $|\Delta\eta_{jj}| < 1.3$

## Control region:

- $2.0 < |\Delta\eta_{jj}| < 2.5$



Leading pair: B and C candidates

Ensures efficient triggering

Suppresses t-channel QCD

# Techniques

# THE TECHNIQUES

VAE-QR

Unsupervised

CWoLa

Weakly supervised

TNT

CATHODE

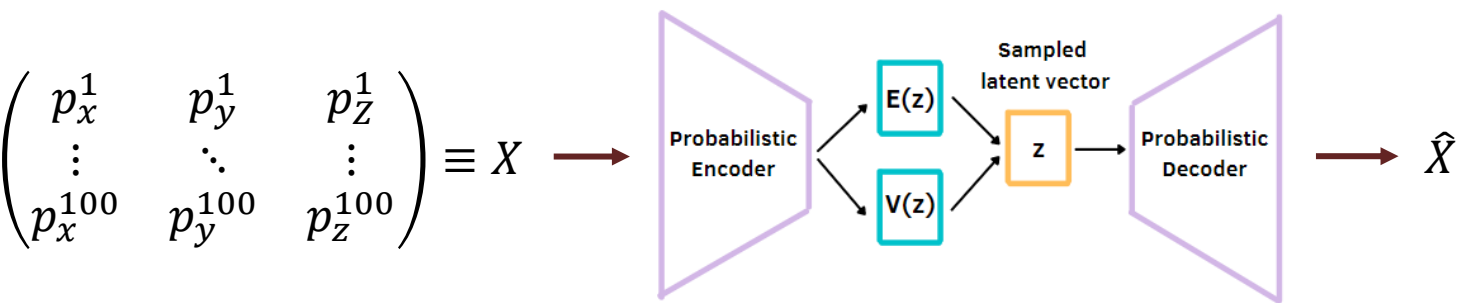
QWAK

Semi-supervised

Assumptions on the signal model



# VAE-QR



- Up to 100 constituents per jet, padded
- Ordered via CA reclustering
- Trained on data in high  $|\Delta\eta|$  control region to minimize the reconstruction error
- Quantile regression model learns threshold on anomaly score as a function of  $m_{jj}$

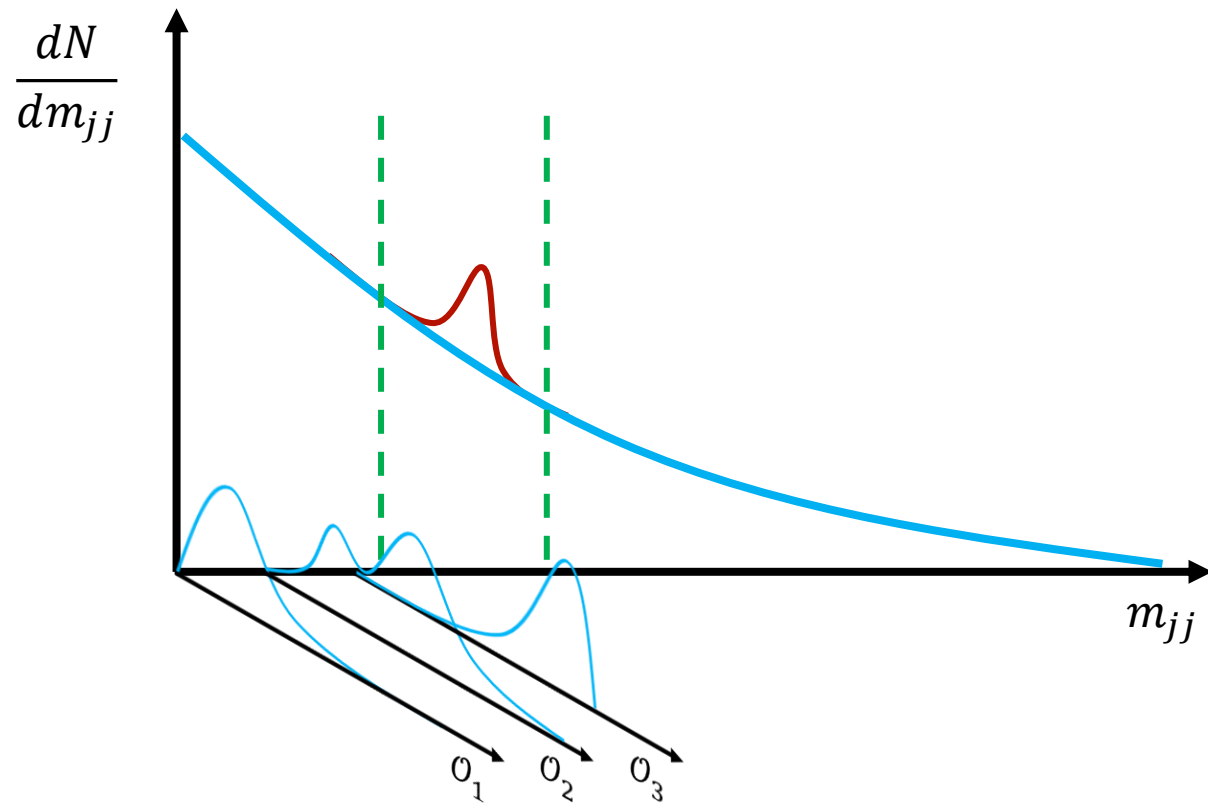


Events in which both jets pass  $\mathcal{T}(m_{jj})$  are selected for the fit of the  $m_{jj}$  spectrum

See Florian's talk for a deeper discussion on such a strategy

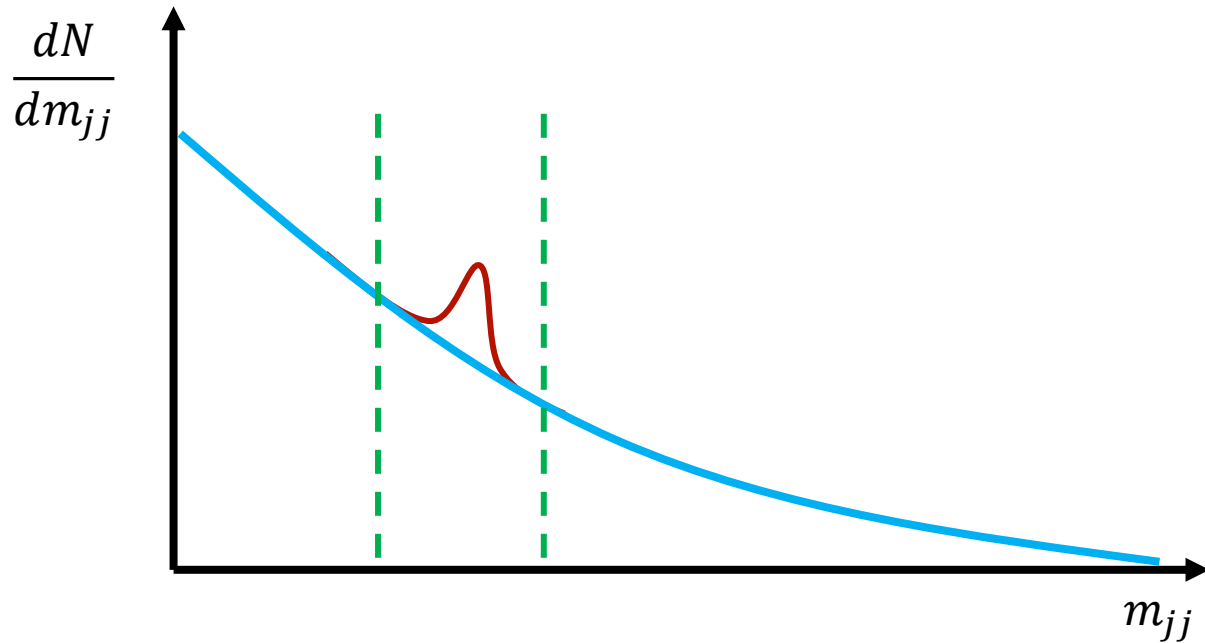
# CLASSIFICATION WITHOUT LABELS (CWOLA)

New assumption: signal is a narrow peak in  $m_{jj}$



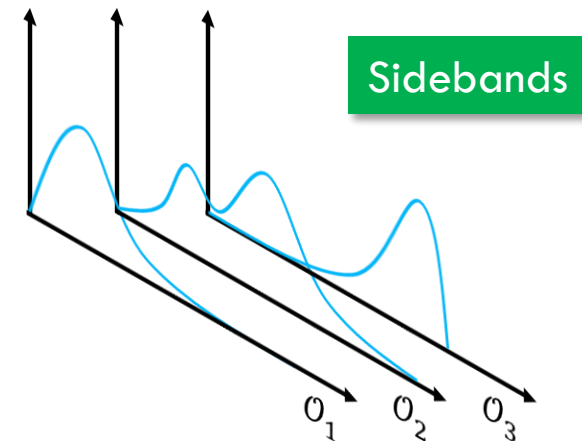
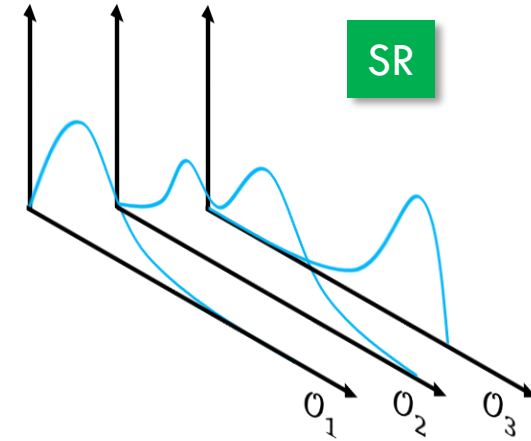


# CLASSIFICATION WITHOUT LABELS (CWOLA)



If there is a signal peaked in  $m_{jj}$  with different JSS, a classifier between the SR and the sidebands will pick it up

New assumption: signal is a narrow peak in  $m_{jj}$



# CLASSIFICATION WITHOUT LABELS (CWOLA)

Two classifiers are trained for the leading and sub-leading jet in the event → allows for flattening in  $p_T$  during training by reweighting

Each classifier takes as input 7 JSS observables:

- Soft-drop mass  $m_{SD}$
- N-subjettiness ratios  $\tau_{21}$ ,  $\tau_{32}$ , and  $\tau_{43}$
- Number of PF candidates in the jet  $n_{PF}$
- Lepton subject fraction with 3 subjets  $LSF_3$
- Max deepCSV b-tagging score of the two leading subjets

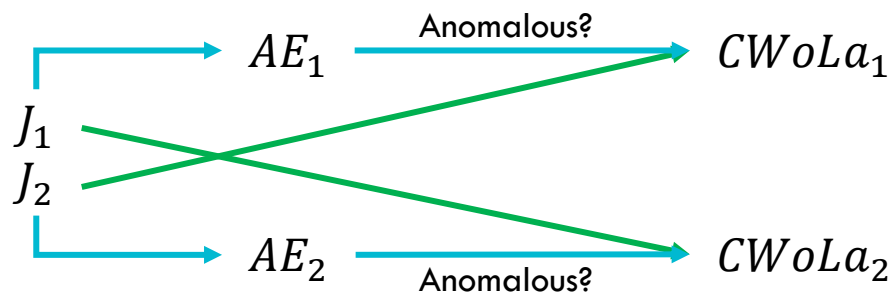
The classifier score is then used to build a (potentially) signal-enriched region and a fit on  $m_{jj}$  is done

# TAG 'N TRAIN (TNT)

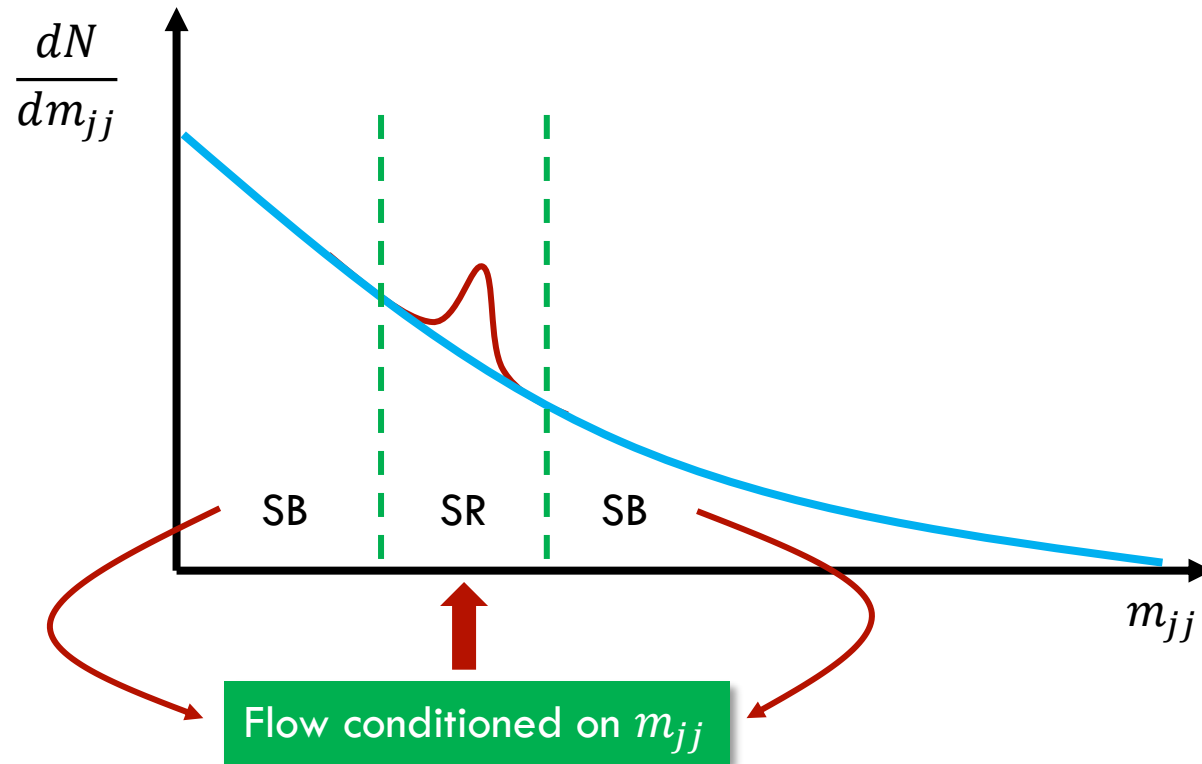
The performance of a CWoLa classifier strongly depends on the purity of the SR (assuming the signal exists)

We can enhance the purity via jet-based unsupervised taggers e.g., autoencoders trained in  $m_{jj}$  sidebands

Key idea: for background, whether a jet passes the anomaly threshold is entirely random; for signal, if one jet passes the threshold, it should be more likely for the other one to pass it too



# CATHODE



- Train a normalizing flow on the sidebands, conditioned on  $m_{jj}$
- Use the flow to generate a sample in the SR (a fancy interpolation if you will)
- Inputs to flow:  $m_{J_1}, \Delta m_{J_1, J_2}, \tau_{41}^{J_{1(2)}}$
- Separate model with addition of deepCSV scores (CATHODE-b)
- Train the CWoLa classifier not on SR vs SB, but on generated vs real events in the SR

# QUASI-ANOMALOUS KNOWLEDGE (QUAK)

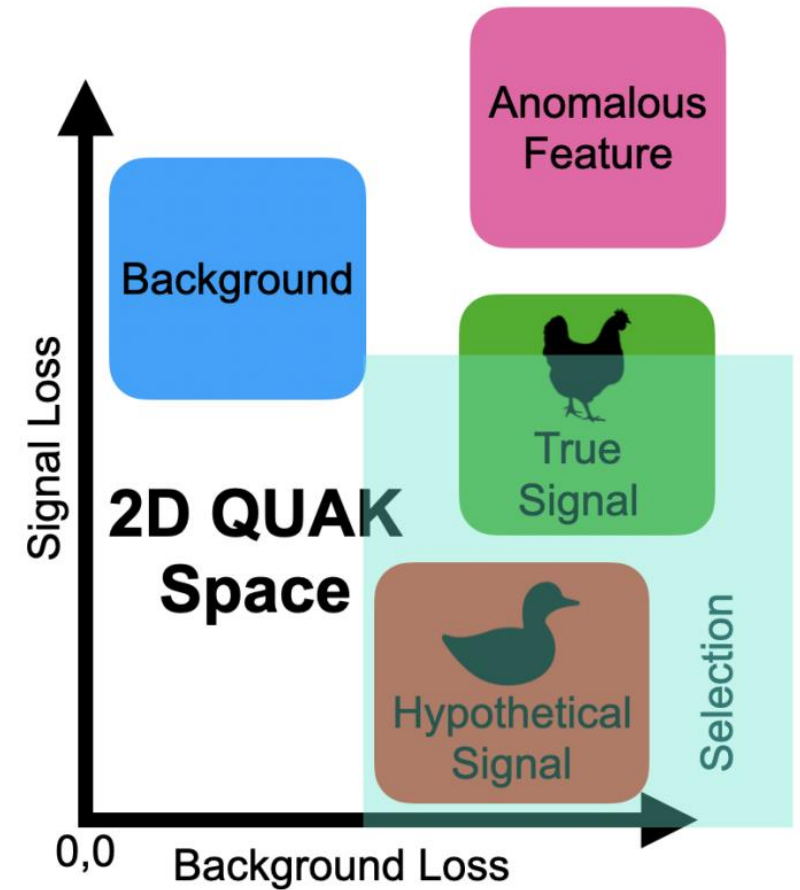
Same core concept of unsupervised learning: train a model on the background, get some form of anomaly score

One key addition: unsupervised model(s) trained on a (set of) signal hypotheses (MC)

Each score is a dimension of the QUAK space

In principle:

- True signal is among the set of hypotheses → approach sensitivity of supervised searches
- True signal is completely different from all signal hypotheses → same sensitivity as fully unsupervised search
- Something in between → something in between



# QUASI-ANOMALOUS KNOWLEDGE (QUAK)

Can be done with autoencoders; here normalizing flows are used instead

One flow is trained on each of a set of 6 signal hypotheses with varying B and C particle masses

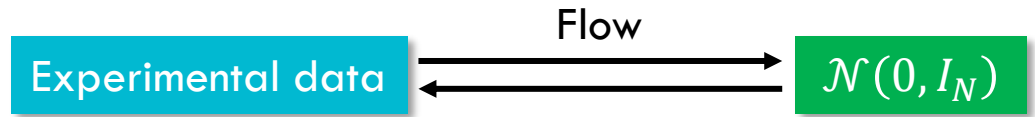
One extra flow trained on the background (MC)

Same inputs as CWoLa, with the following exceptions:

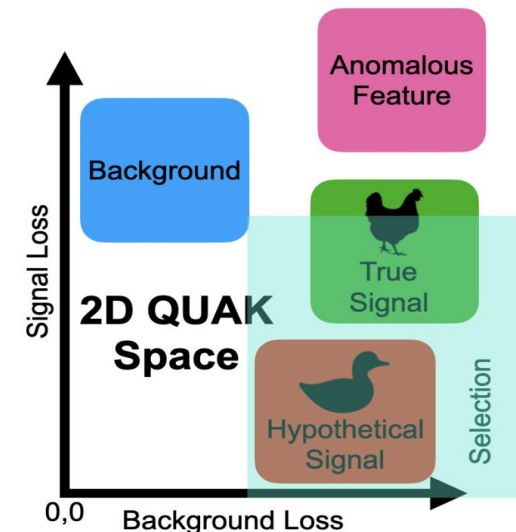
- LSF  $\rightarrow \tau_S = \sqrt{\tau_{21}}/\tau_1$
- $m_{SD} \rightarrow \rho = M/p_T$

Signal-like scores are combined into a signed L5 norm:

$$L5 = \text{sgn}(\Sigma_5) |\Sigma_5|^{1/5}, \quad \Sigma_5 = \sum_{i=1}^k \text{sgn}(\ell_i) |\ell_i|^5$$



Used in the normalizing direction, a flow becomes a density estimator



# Signal extraction

# FIT PROCEDURE

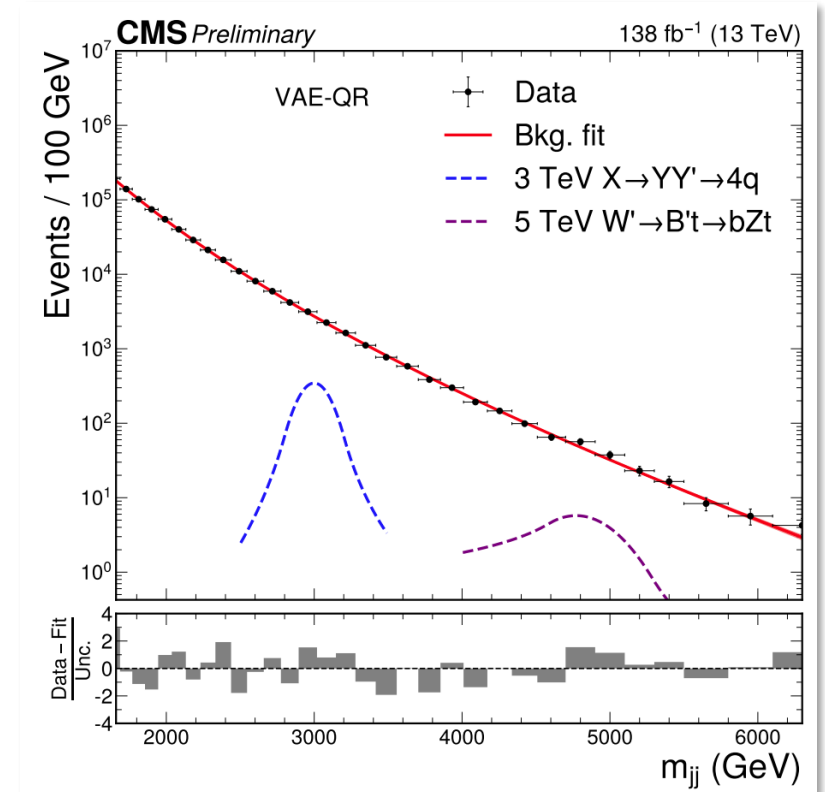
Once potentially interesting events are selected by each of the AD techniques, we want to set limits!

Parametric fit to the  $m_{jj}$  shape:

- Signal: double-sided crystal ball fit to each signal hypothesis
- Background: falling spectrum modelled as  $\frac{dN}{dm_{jj}} = \frac{P_0(1-x)^{P_1}}{(x)^{P_2+P_3} \log(x)+P_4 \log^2(x)}$

where  $x = m_{jj}/\sqrt{s}$

Each AD method gives a different spectrum  $\rightarrow$  F-test for choice of fit function parameters repeated each time





# Performance

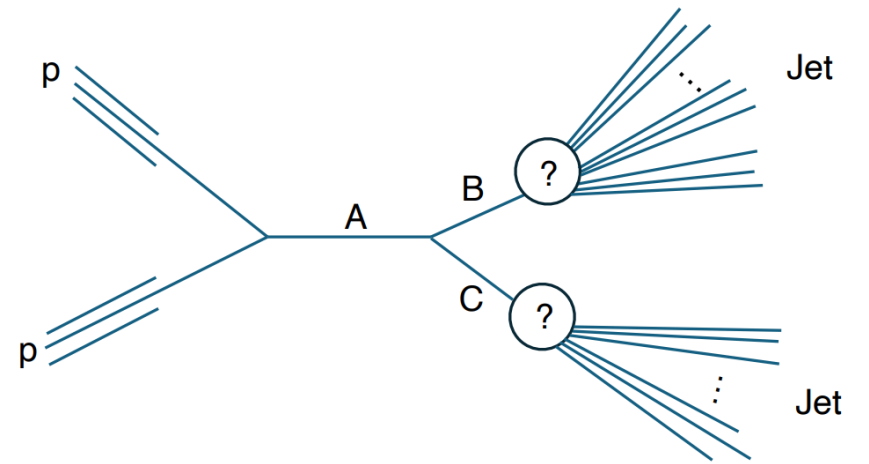
# BENCHMARK SIGNAL MODELS

Six signal models are considered as benchmarks for sensitivity:

- 2+1 prong:  $Q^* \rightarrow qW'(\rightarrow qq)$
- 2+2 prong:  $X \rightarrow Y(\rightarrow qq)Y'(\rightarrow qq)$
- 3+3 prong:  $W' \rightarrow tB'(\rightarrow bZ)$
- 2+4 prong:  $W_{KK} \rightarrow RW(\rightarrow WW)W$
- 5+5 prong:  $Z' \rightarrow T'(\rightarrow tZ)T'(\rightarrow tZ)$
- 6+6 prong:  $Y \rightarrow HH \rightarrow 4t$

For each model, a grid with different masses is considered:

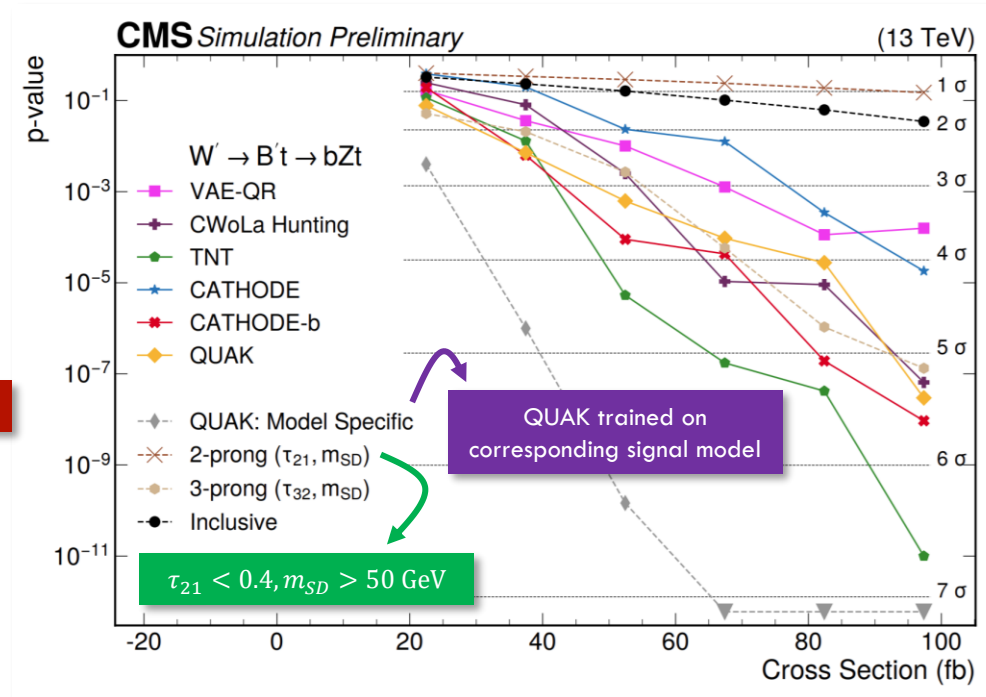
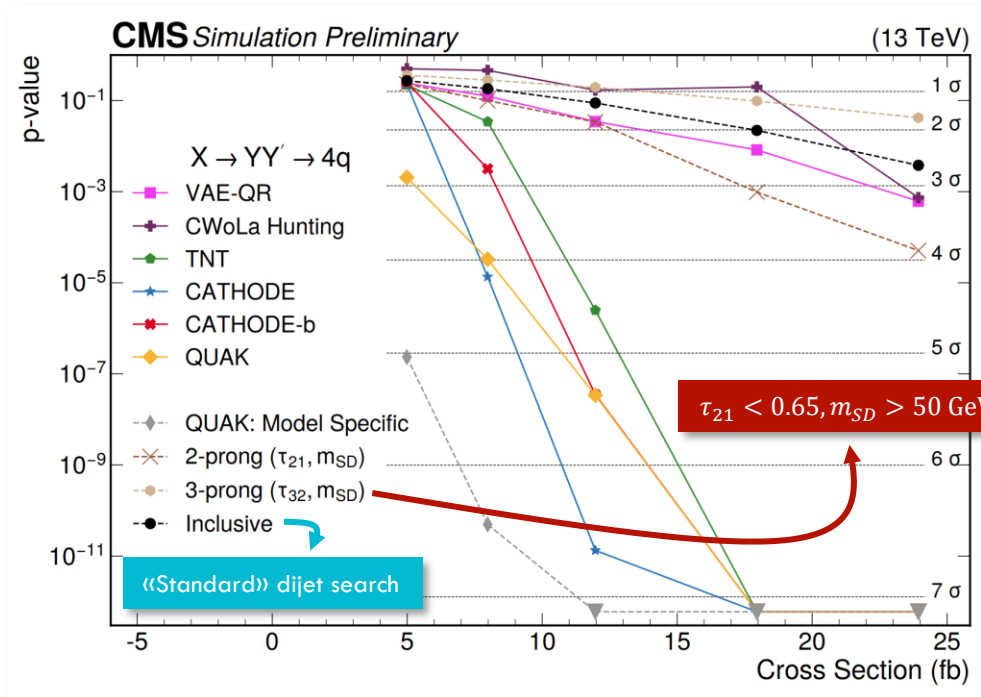
- $M_A = 3, 5 \text{ TeV}$
- $M_{B,C} = 25, 80, 170, 400 \text{ GeV}$



# EVALUATING AD STRATEGIES

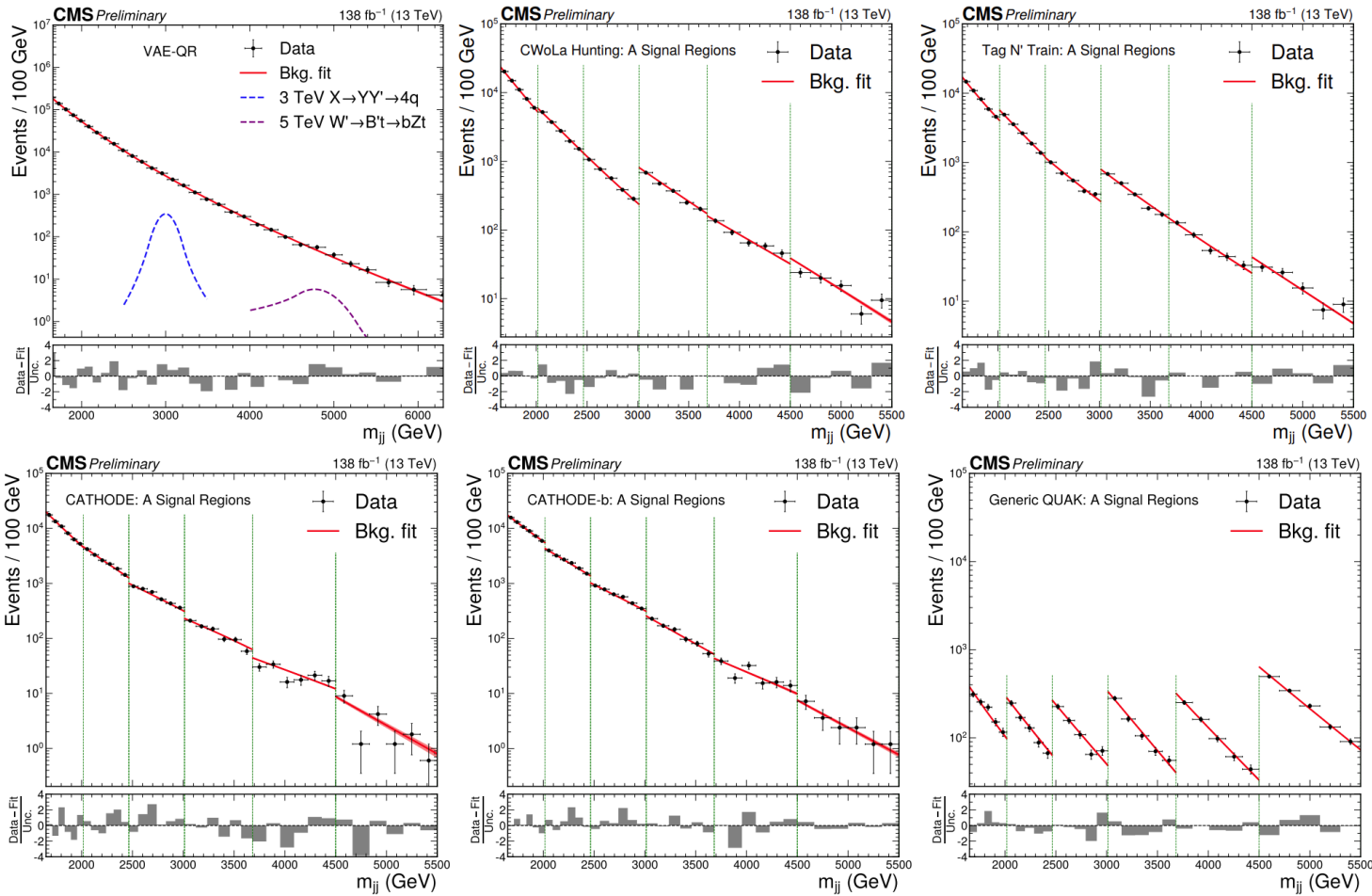
A mock dataset is produced with a realistic mixture of background processes (mainly QCD) and injections of signals with varying cross sections

A background only sample is also used to check that none of the methods produces artificial excesses



Did we find new physics?

# DID WE FIND NEW PHYSICS?



No ☹️

A few excesses of max  $\sim 3\sigma$  local significance

Nothing significant

# LIMITS AND IMPROVEMENT

$m_A = 3 \text{ TeV}$

Signal Model (3 TeV)	Daughter Masses (GeV)	Method	Exp. (Obs.) Limit (fb)	Improvement wrt Inclusive
$Q^* \rightarrow qW'$	25	<i>CWoLa Hunting</i>	61.1 (30.1)	0.3
$Q^* \rightarrow qW'$	80	<i>CATHODE</i>	50.0 (95.2)	0.4
$Q^* \rightarrow qW'$	170	<i>VAE-QR</i>	52.5 (37.5)	0.4
$Q^* \rightarrow qW'$	400	<i>CWoLa Hunting</i>	45.8 (24.3)	0.5
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	25/25	<i>CATHODE</i>	8.0 (9.9)	0.9
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	25/80	<i>CATHODE</i>	7.6 (13.2)	0.9
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	25/170	<i>CATHODE</i>	10.3 (18.4)	0.7
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	25/400	<i>VAE-QR</i>	13.6 (12.5)	0.6
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	80/80	<i>CATHODE</i>	4.2 (8.0)	1.6
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	80/170	<i>CATHODE</i>	5.7 (11.4)	1.2
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	80/400	<i>CATHODE</i>	6.0 (7.3)	1.2
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	170/170	<i>CATHODE</i>	3.7 (6.8)	1.9
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	170/400	<i>VAE-QR</i>	4.4 (4.0)	1.7
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	400/400	<i>VAE-QR</i>	2.1 (1.9)	4.2
$W' \rightarrow B't \rightarrow bZt$	25	<i>TNT</i>	25.2 (17.4)	1.5
$W' \rightarrow B't \rightarrow bZt$	80	<i>TNT</i>	22.3 (14.6)	1.5
$W' \rightarrow B't \rightarrow bZt$	170	<i>TNT</i>	12.2 (7.3)	2.1
$W' \rightarrow B't \rightarrow bZt$	400	<i>VAE-QR</i>	15.2 (11.4)	1.8
$W_{KK} \rightarrow RW \rightarrow 3W$	170	<i>TNT</i>	25.1 (20.1)	1.4
$W_{KK} \rightarrow RW \rightarrow 3W$	400	<i>CWoLa Hunting</i>	23.8 (25.0)	1.5
$Z' \rightarrow T'T' \rightarrow tZtZ$	400	<i>QUAK</i>	28.3 (13.9)	2.7
$Y \rightarrow HH \rightarrow 4t$	400	<i>QUAK</i>	7.7 (3.7)	3.5

$m_A = 5 \text{ TeV}$

Signal Model (5 TeV)	Daughter Masses (GeV)	Method	Exp. (Obs.) Limit (fb)	Improvement wrt Inclusive
$Q^* \rightarrow qW'$	25	<i>QUAK</i>	3.5 (3.1)	0.7
$Q^* \rightarrow qW'$	80	<i>QUAK</i>	3.2 (2.8)	0.8
$Q^* \rightarrow qW'$	170	<i>QUAK</i>	3.3 (3.6)	0.8
$Q^* \rightarrow qW'$	400	<i>QUAK</i>	3.9 (9.9)	0.7
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	25/25	<i>QUAK</i>	1.7 (1.6)	0.5
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	25/80	<i>QUAK</i>	1.3 (1.3)	0.7
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	25/170	<i>QUAK</i>	1.1 (1.1)	0.8
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	25/400	<i>VAE-QR</i>	1.0 (3.4)	0.9
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	80/80	<i>TNT</i>	1.1 (1.2)	0.8
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	80/170	<i>QUAK</i>	0.9 (1.0)	0.9
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	80/400	<i>VAE-QR</i>	0.9 (3.0)	0.9
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	170/170	<i>CATHODE</i>	0.7 (0.7)	1.2
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	170/400	<i>VAE-QR</i>	0.7 (2.3)	1.2
$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	400/400	<i>VAE-QR</i>	0.4 (1.1)	2.3
$W' \rightarrow B't \rightarrow bZt$	25	<i>TNT</i>	4.4 (6.2)	1.3
$W' \rightarrow B't \rightarrow bZt$	80	<i>TNT</i>	3.9 (5.7)	1.4
$W' \rightarrow B't \rightarrow bZt$	170	<i>TNT</i>	2.8 (3.5)	1.6
$W' \rightarrow B't \rightarrow bZt$	400	<i>TNT</i>	2.7 (3.8)	1.6
$W_{KK} \rightarrow RW \rightarrow 3W$	170	<i>TNT</i>	6.1 (7.2)	0.8
$W_{KK} \rightarrow RW \rightarrow 3W$	400	<i>VAE-QR</i>	5.4 (18.6)	0.9
$Y \rightarrow HH \rightarrow 4t$	400	<i>TNT</i>	1.5 (2.3)	2.5

These techniques can give large improvements over the baseline strategies while remaining model agnostic

# NO ONE SIZE FITS ALL

No technique sticks out as better than all others across the board

Best performing  
“traditional” method

Greatest improvement over best  
performing “traditional” method

### Improvements in Expected Sensitivities

Prongs	Process $A \rightarrow BC$	Comparison Method	95% CL Limit	95% CL Limit	5 $\sigma$ discovery
			$m_A = 3$ TeV	$m_A = 5$ TeV	$m_A = 3$ TeV
2+2	$X \rightarrow YY' \rightarrow 4q$	2-prong ( $\tau_{21}, m_{SD}$ )	1.4 (CATHODE)	1.1 (CATHODE)	2.3 (QUAK)
3+3	$W' \rightarrow B't \rightarrow bZt$	3-prong ( $\tau_{32}, m_{SD}$ )	1.2 (VAE-QR)	1.3 (TNT)	2.1 (TNT)
4+2	$W_{KK} \rightarrow RW \rightarrow 3W$	Inclusive	1.5 (CWoLa Hunting)	0.9 (VAE-QR)	2.6 (CWoLa Hunting)
6+6	$Y \rightarrow HH \rightarrow 4t$	3-prong ( $\tau_{32}, m_{SD}$ )	1.5 (QUAK)	1.4 (TNT)	3.3 (TNT)

Improvement in  
expected upper limit

Improvement in 5 $\sigma$   
discovery threshold

I.e., what cross  
section would have  
given 5 $\sigma$  expected



# SUMMARY

- CMS has performed a model-agnostic search for new physics manifesting as a dijet resonance
- The use of machine-learning-based anomaly detection techniques allows the analysis to exploit jet substructure to enhance the sensitivity while remaining agnostic
- No significant excess observed, but demonstrated enhanced sensitivity



# THANK YOU

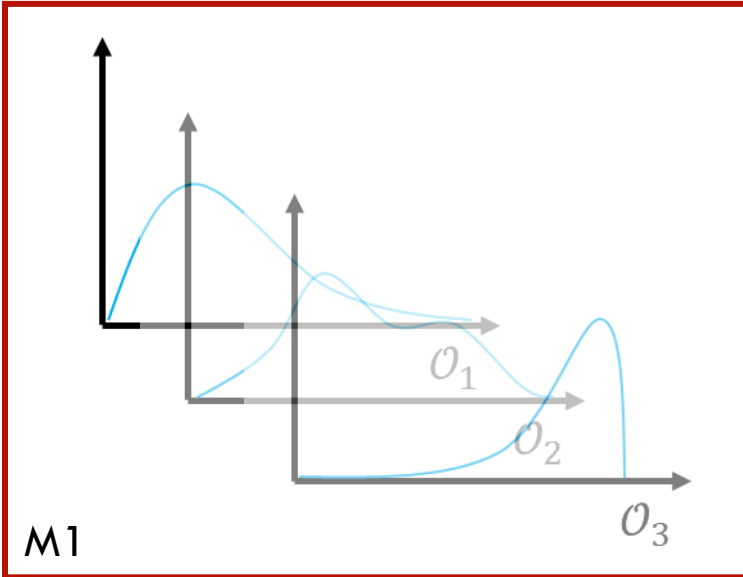
The background features a dark field with a central starburst pattern of thin lines radiating outwards. Scattered throughout are various colored geometric shapes, including green and blue squares and rectangles. A prominent red banner is positioned at the top left, containing the text 'THANK YOU'. On the left side, there are several overlapping, semi-transparent rectangular shapes in shades of red and white, creating a layered effect.

*« Ce qui est admirable, ce n'est pas que  
le champ des étoiles soit si vaste,  
c'est que l'homme l'ait mesuré. »*

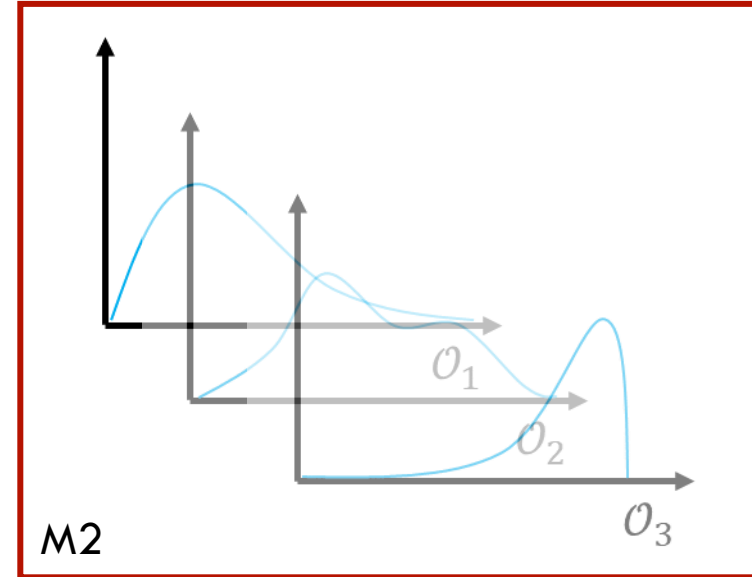
Jacques Anatole François Thibault

**BACKUP**

# THE WEAKLY SUPERVISED PARADIGM



You can tell these apart



$$L_{M1/M2} = \frac{p_{M1}}{p_{M2}} = \frac{f_1 p_S + (1 - f_1) p_B}{f_2 p_S + (1 - f_2) p_B} = \frac{f_1 L_{S/B} + (1 - f_1)}{f_2 L_{S/B} + (1 - f_2)}$$

Learning to distinguish **uneven** mixtures of S and B means learning to distinguish S and B