

The Impact of Topo-Cluster Splitting on Boosted Object Identification in ATLAS

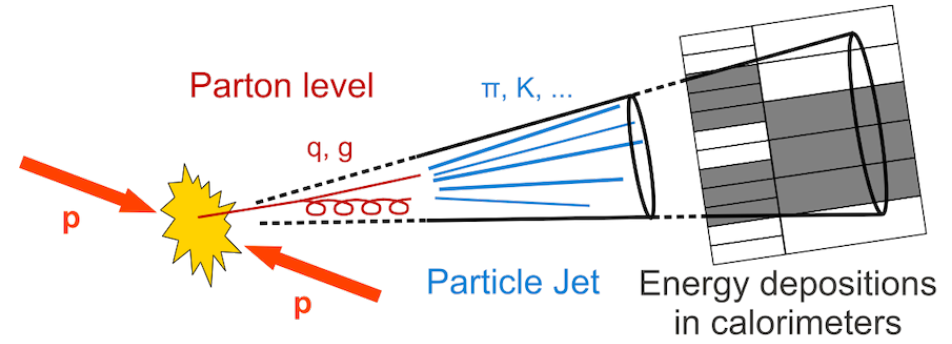
Defense Presentation

Nicolai Weitkemper

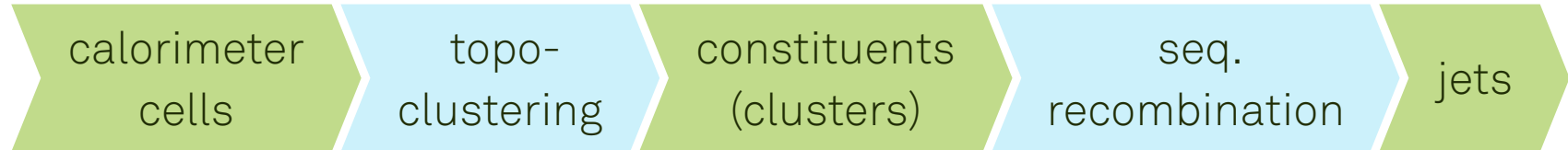
Bologna | September 29, 2025



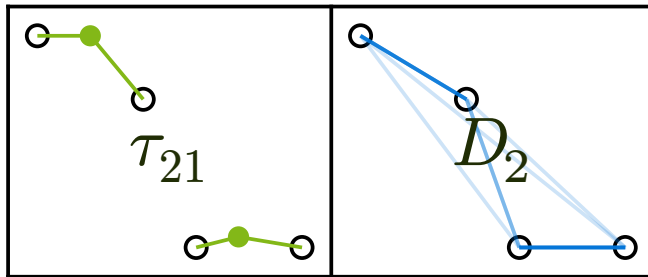
- pp collisions at LHC produce quarks and gluons
- Hadronization $\rightarrow$ collimated sprays of particles called **jets**
- Tools for reconstruction rather than physical objects
- Built from calorimeter and/or track data



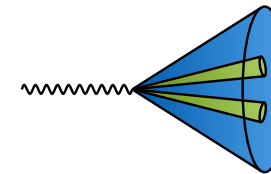
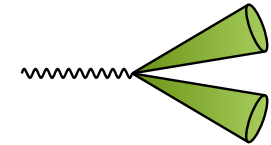
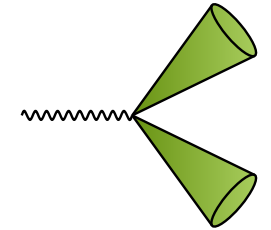
[ATLAS software documentation]



- Decay products of a boosted particle tend to overlap
- **Substructure variables** help identify them:
 - ▶ Operate on jet constituents (here: topo-clusters)
 - ▶ τ_N : p_T -weighted summed distance to subjet axes (determined separately)
 - Ratios $\tau_{21} = \tau_2/\tau_1$ etc.
 - Low $\tau_{21} \rightarrow$ likely 2-prong
 - ▶ D_2 : sensitive to 2-prong like τ_{21} , but independent of subjet axes

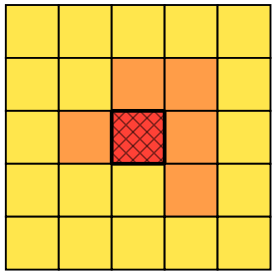


low boost

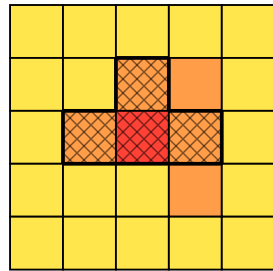


high boost

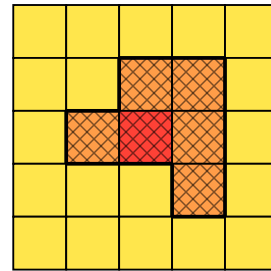
- Intermediate step between cells and jet formation; yields constituents
- Reduces noise (pile-up, electronics)
- Operates on cell significance $\varsigma_{\text{cell}} = \frac{|E_{\text{cell}}|}{\sigma_{\text{cell}}}$



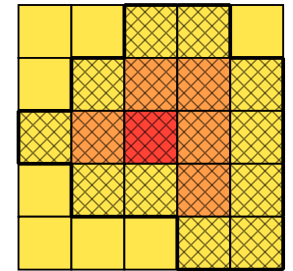
seed cells
($\varsigma \geq 4$)



add growth cells
($\varsigma \geq 2$)

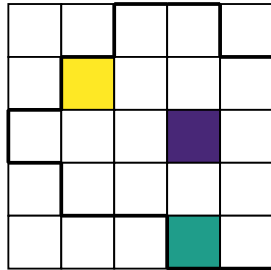


repeat growth
until exhausted

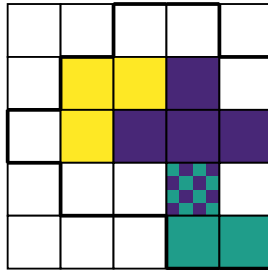


add border cells
($\varsigma \geq 0$)

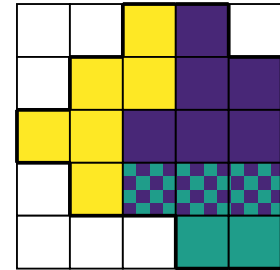
- Split overly large clusters
- Based on re-clustering from **local maxima** that fulfill
 - ▶ $E_{\text{cell}} \geq 500 \text{ MeV}$
 - ▶ Within specific sampling layers
 - ▶ ≥ 4 neighboring cells



seed cells
($E_{\text{cell}} \geq 500$ MeV)

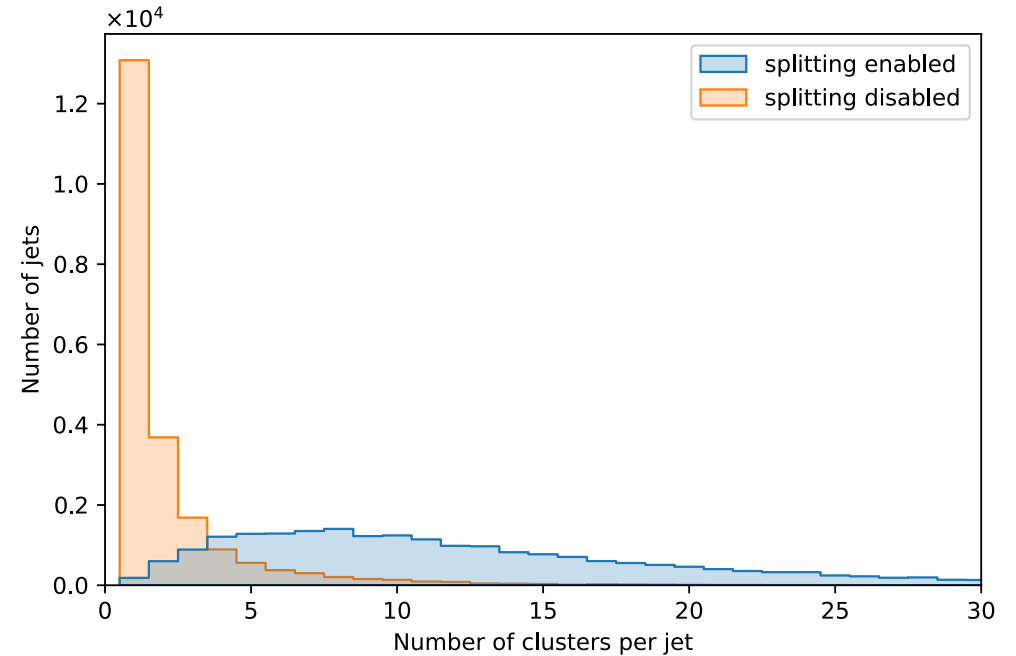
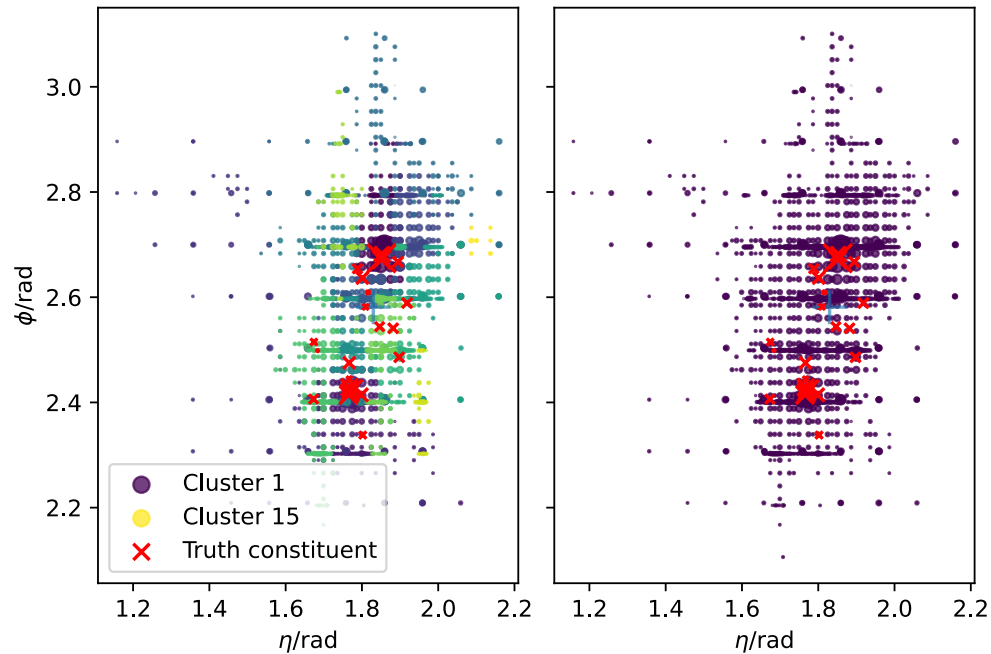


grow to cells within
original cluster

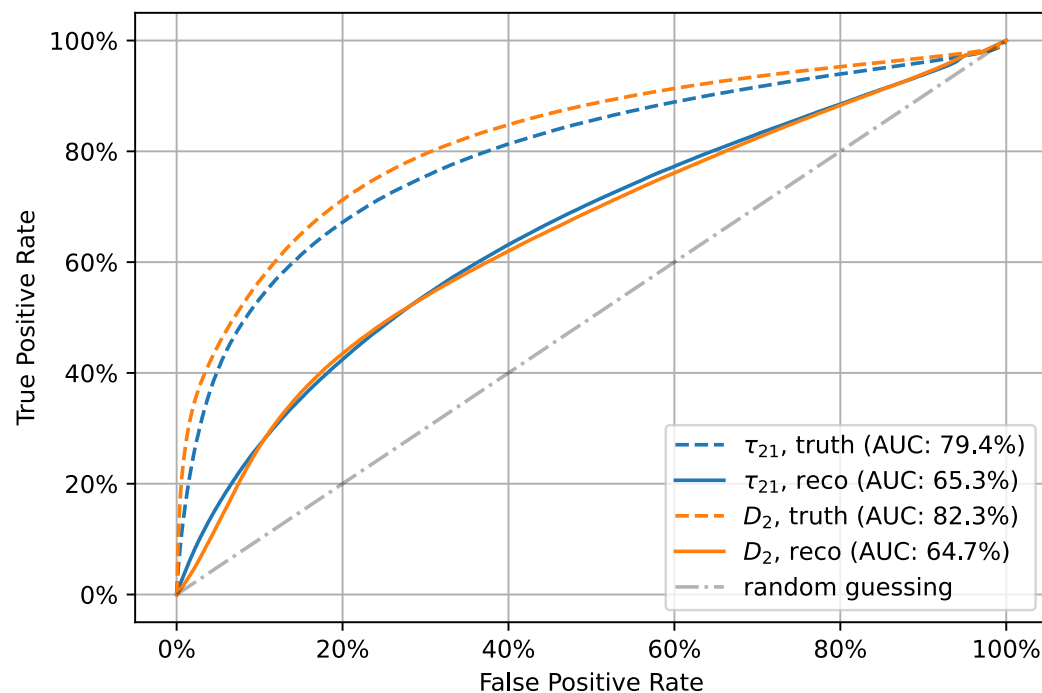


```
repeat growth
until exhausted
```

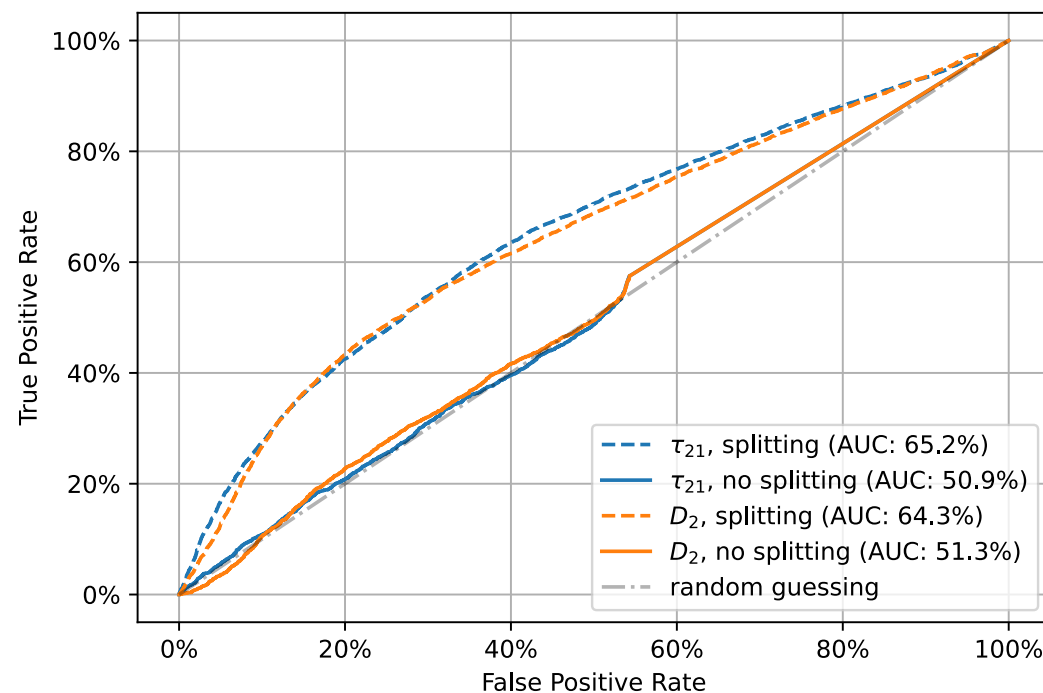
- Clusters grow overly large without splitting
- But substructure variables operate on clusters (not cells)
→ Loss of information



- ROC curves for W' (2-prong) vs. background (no prongs / 1-prong) classification
- Performance: truth $\gg$ reco $\gg$ reco without splitting

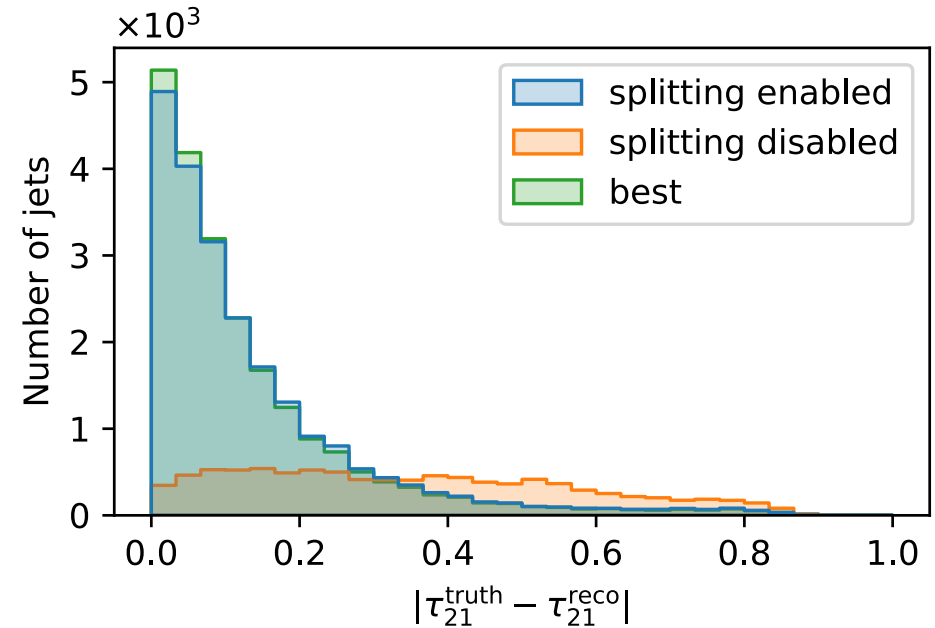


truth vs. reconstructed

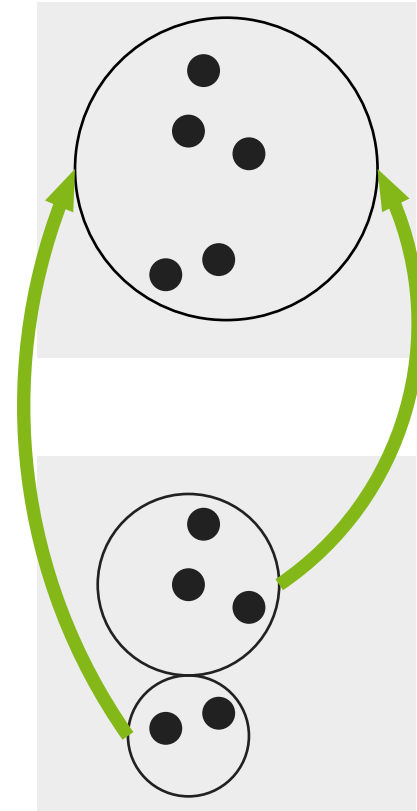


splitting vs. no splitting

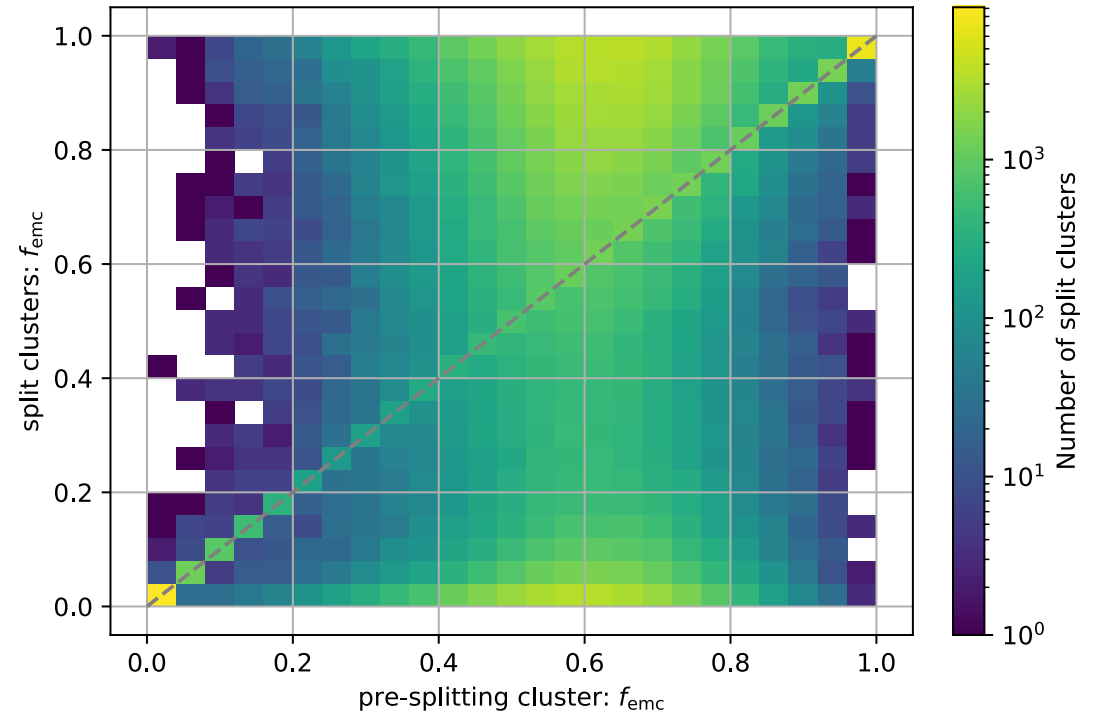
- Compare to **theoretical** optimum:
 - Always choose the option (splitting enabled/disabled) closest to truth
- Splitting disabled is better 8 % of the time for τ_{21}
 - $< 5\%$ for D_2 and τ_{32}



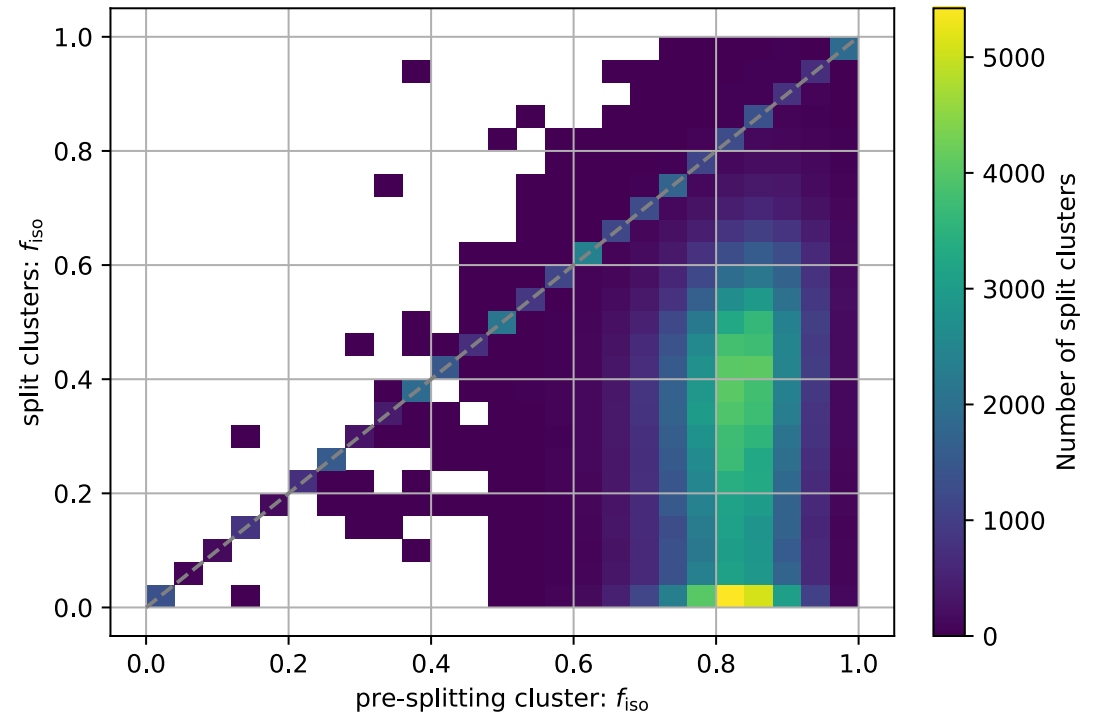
- Motivation:
 - Compare individual clusters before/after splitting, not just overall trends
 - Verify expectations about splitting effects
 - Find variables that might guide future splitting optimizations
- Approach:
 - Check $\text{cells}_{\text{post-splitting},j} \subseteq \text{cells}_{\text{pre-splitting},i}$
- Issues:
 - Often no direct comparison to truth
 - One-to-many matching
 - Hidden correlations (e.g. cluster size)



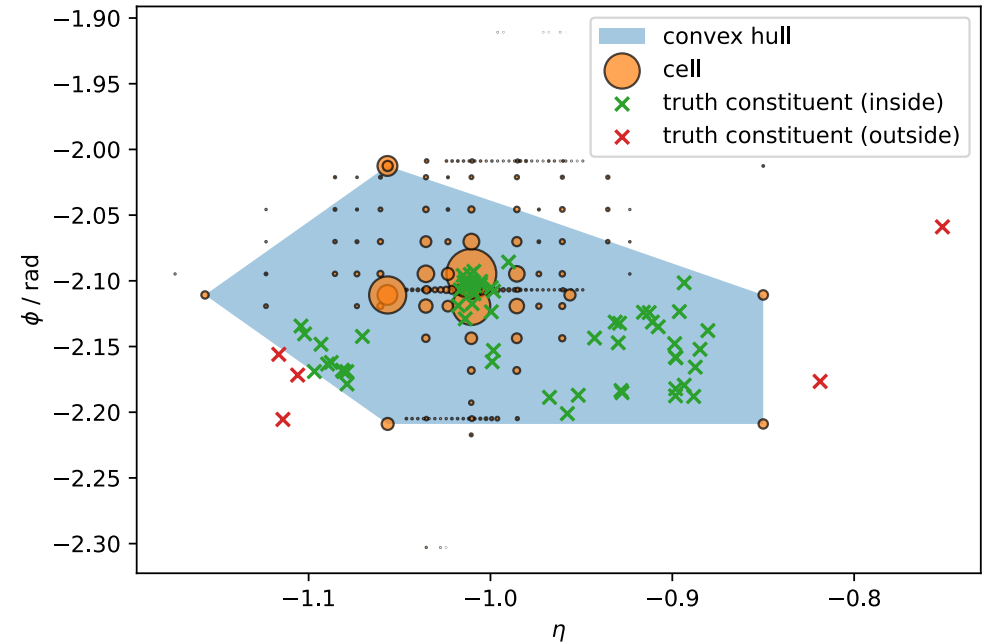
- f_{emc} : fraction of energy in EM calorimeter
- Diagonal: not split (before = after)
- (0, 0) and (1, 1): already fully within hadronic / EM clusters
- Top/bottom high-density regions
→ Splitting makes “clearer cut” between sampling layers



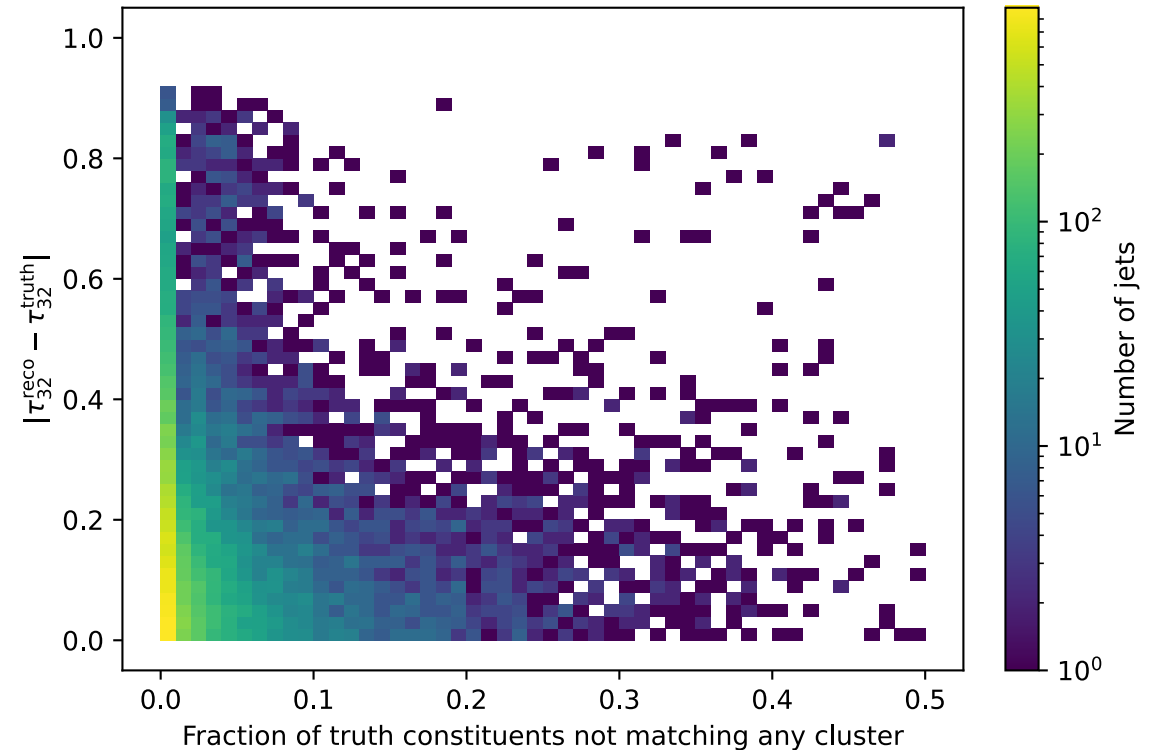
- f_{iso} : fraction of adjacent cells that are not part of another cluster
- Relevant for calibration: Is energy lost or within another cluster?
- Pre-splitting isolation always ≈ 0.8
- Strong reduction in isolation after splitting



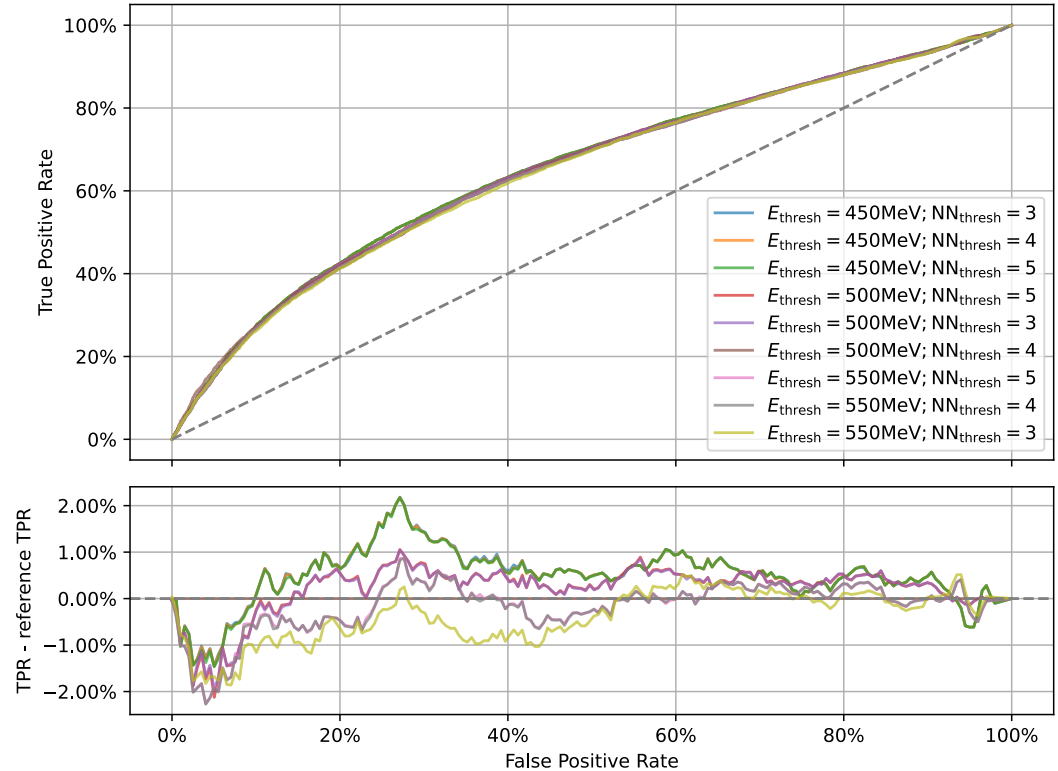
- MC gives access to truth constituents
- What is different for clusters with few/many matched constituents?
- How well do clusters capture truth constituents?
- Can cluster features help identify clusters that align well with truth constituents?
- → Match truth constituents to clusters using different methods:
 - ▶ Convex hull (shown)
 - ▶ Nearest-neighbor search per sampling layer



- Most truth constituents match with at least one cluster
 - Slight overestimation due to convexity assumption
- Less matches $\Rightarrow$ higher error
 - Diminishing effect of low- E truth constituents
 - Hidden correlation (higher- E jet $\rightarrow$ more irrelevant truth constituents)

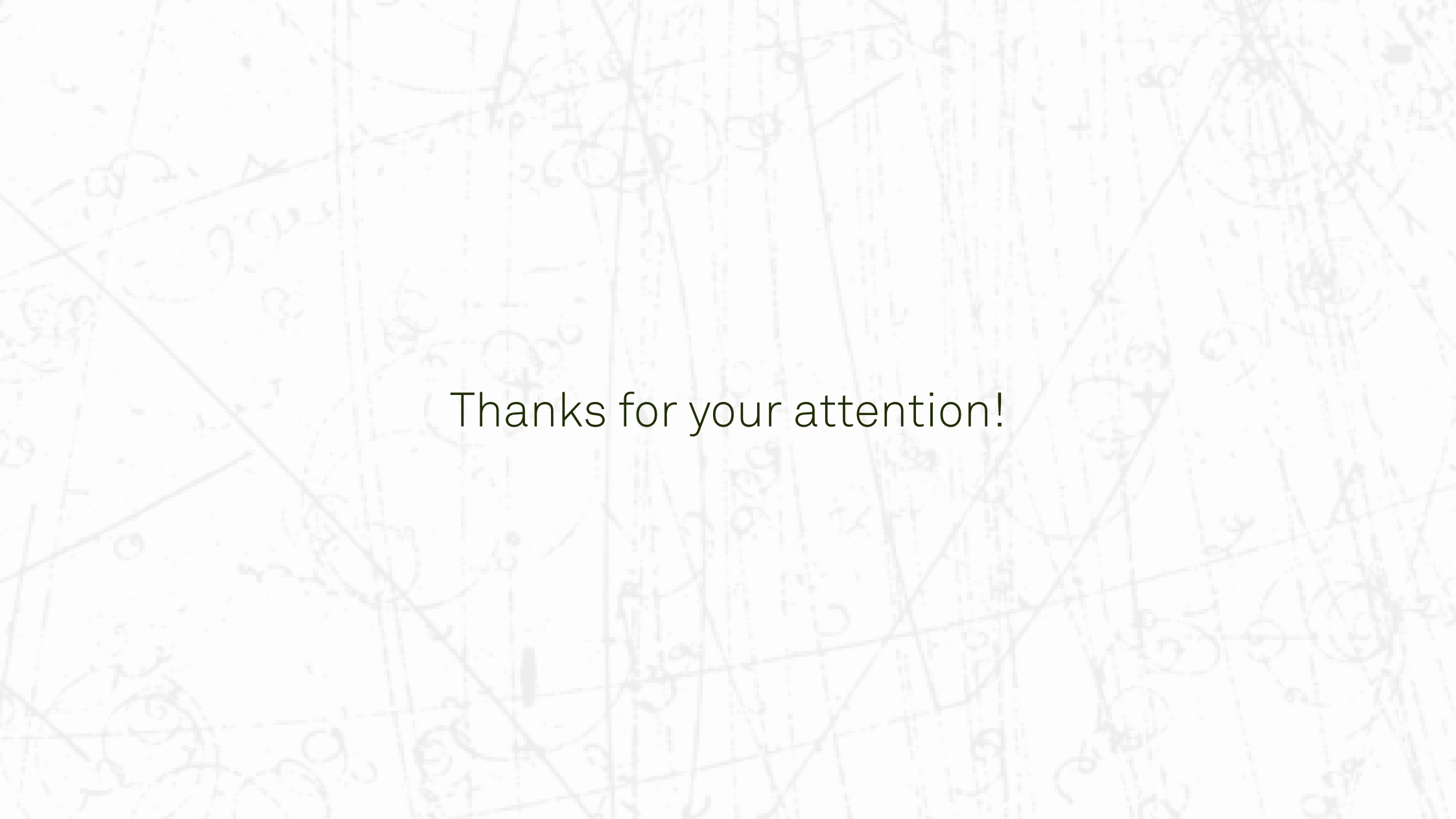


- Grid search of splitting parameters:
 - ▶ Minimum neighbors of seed cell:
(3, 4, 5)
 - ▶ Minimum energy of seed cell:
(400, 500, 600) MeV
- Differences in ROC-AUC of up to 1.4 %
- Inconsistent trend between substructure variables
- Future directions:
 - ▶ Larger variations
 - ▶ Other parameters (e.g. sampling layers)



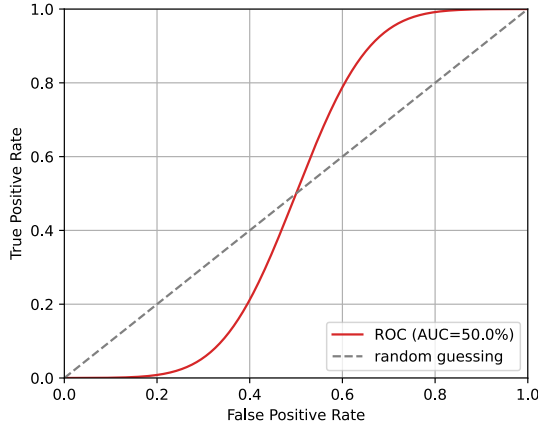
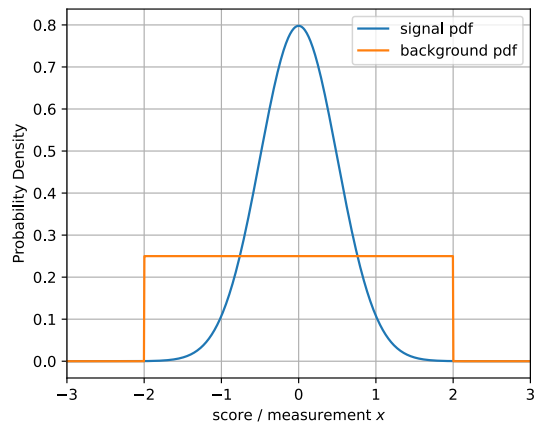
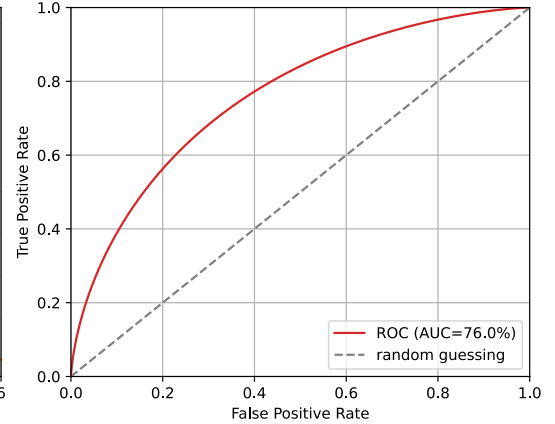
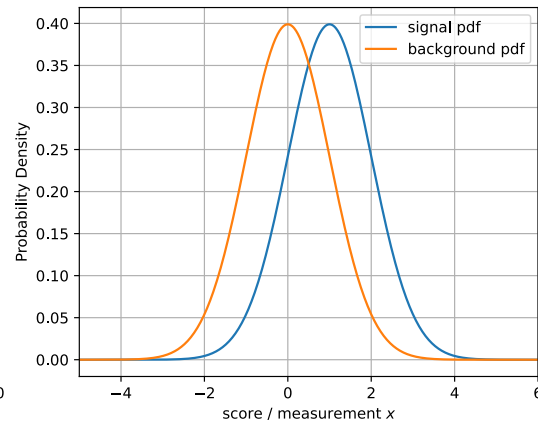
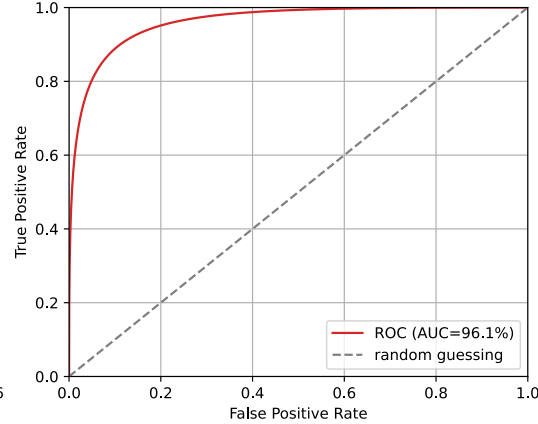
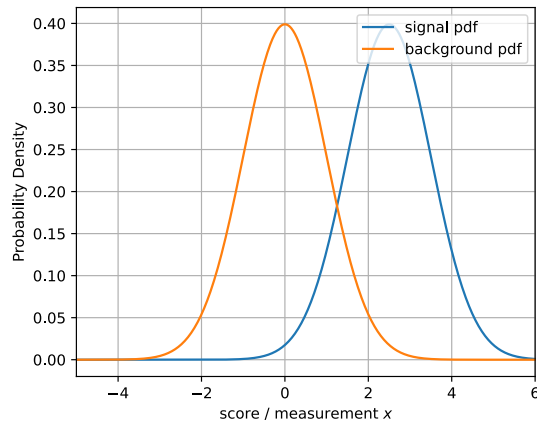
ROC curves for τ_{21}^{reco}

- Topo-cluster splitting is essential for boosted object identification
- Splitting parameters have limited impact on performance
- More fundamental changes to the algorithm needed for meaningful improvements
- Ideas for future work:
 - ▶ Tighter integration with Athena (the ATLAS software framework)
 - ▶ Clearer definition of “optimal” splitting
 - ▶ Application to more recent jet algorithms (UFOs instead of LCTopo)
 - ▶ ML methods to guide or replace splitting

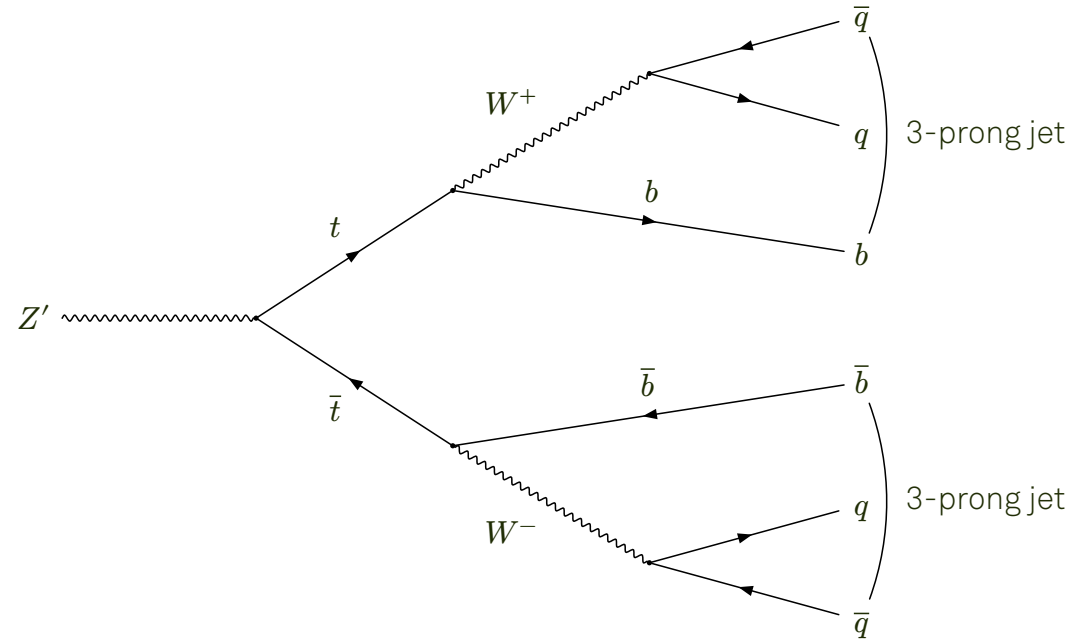
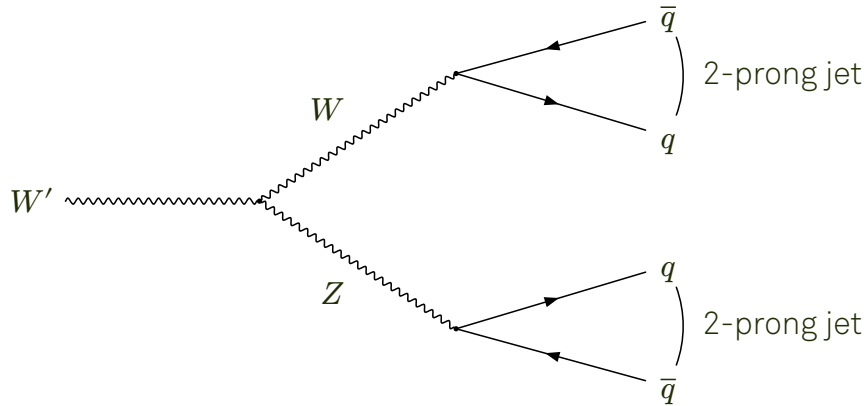
The background of the slide is a light gray color with a complex, abstract pattern of thin, dark gray lines and shapes. These shapes include circles, triangles, and various geometric constructions, some of which resemble mathematical diagrams or architectural plans. The pattern is dense and covers the entire area of the slide.

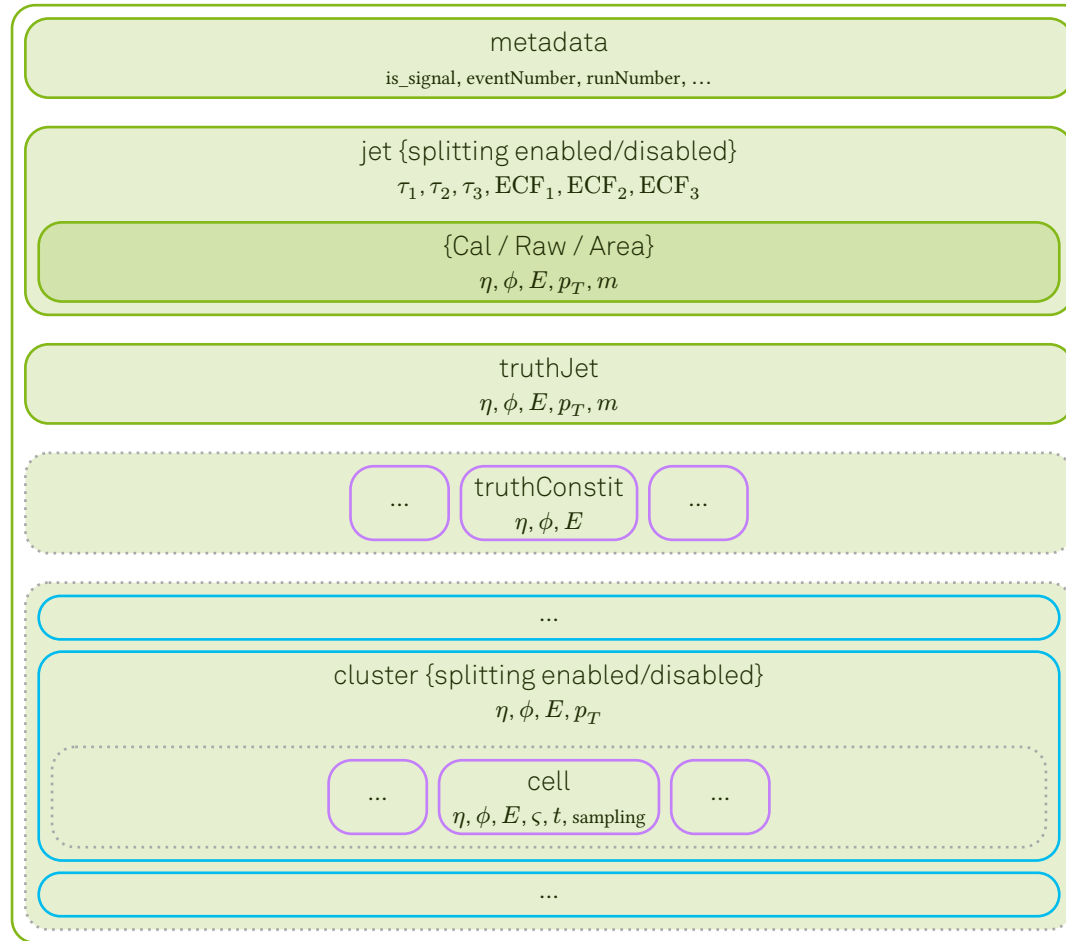
Thanks for your attention!



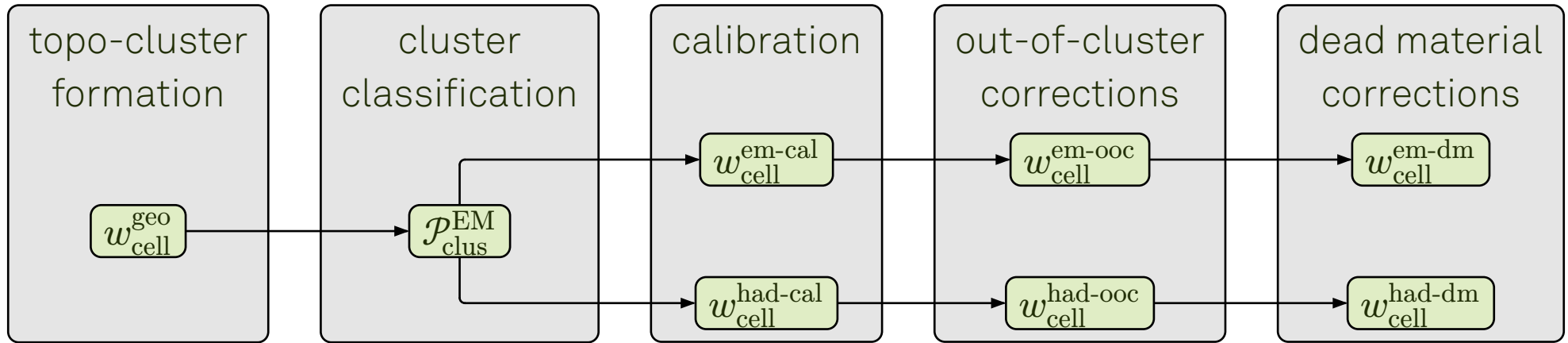


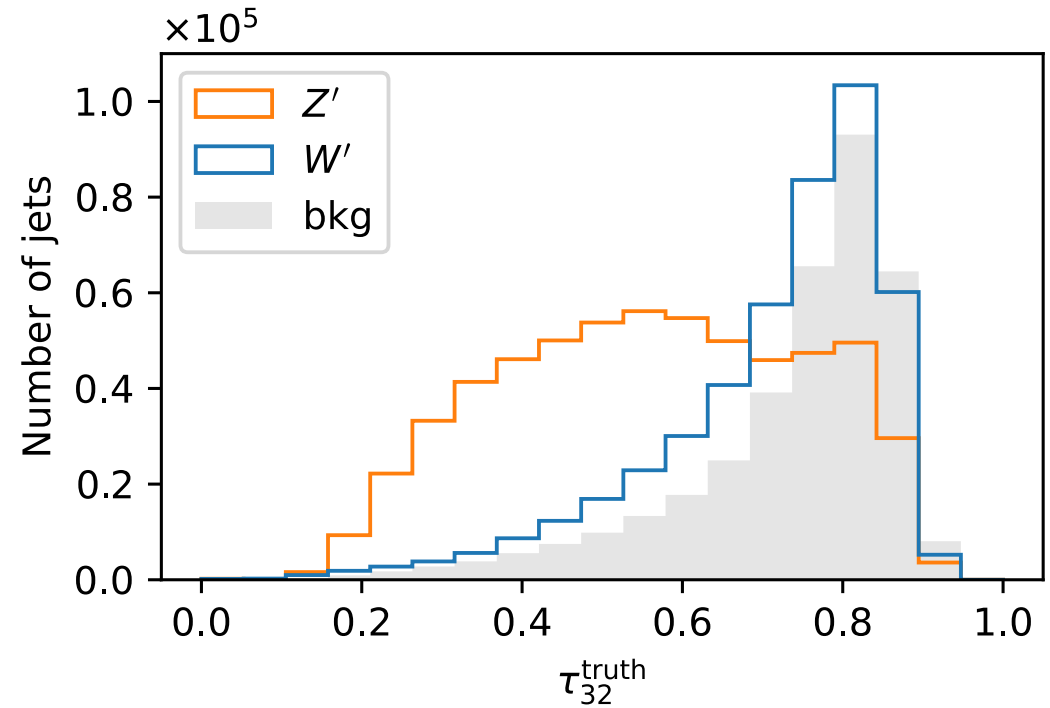
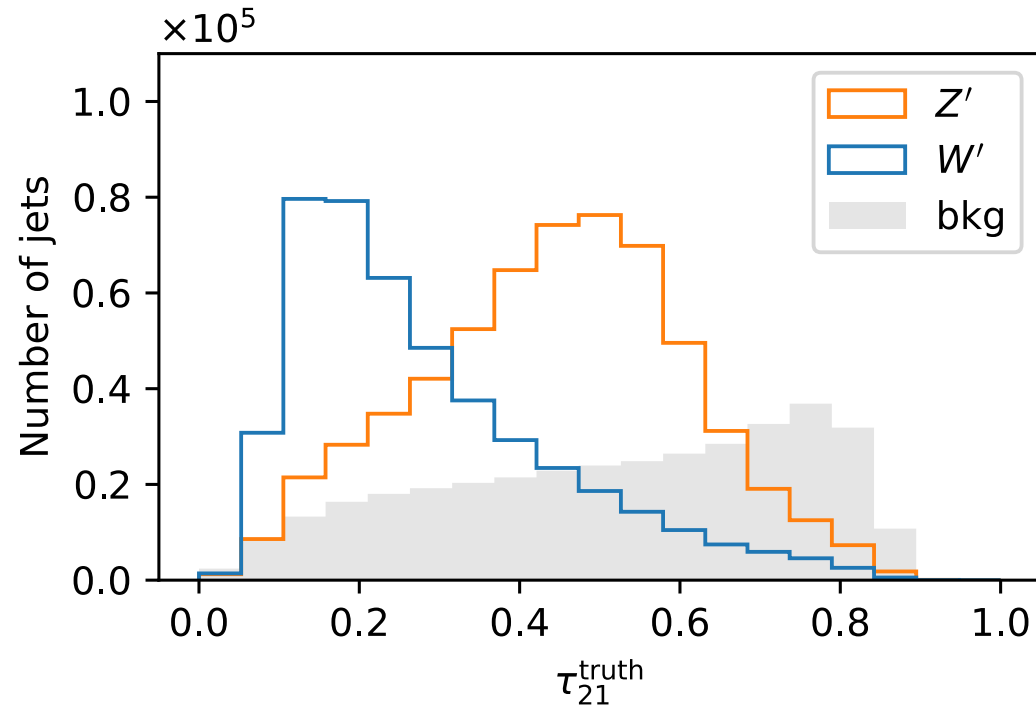
- hypothetical heavy W' , Z' + QCD dijets used in this analysis as a benchmark
- $m_{W'/Z'} = 2 \text{ TeV}$

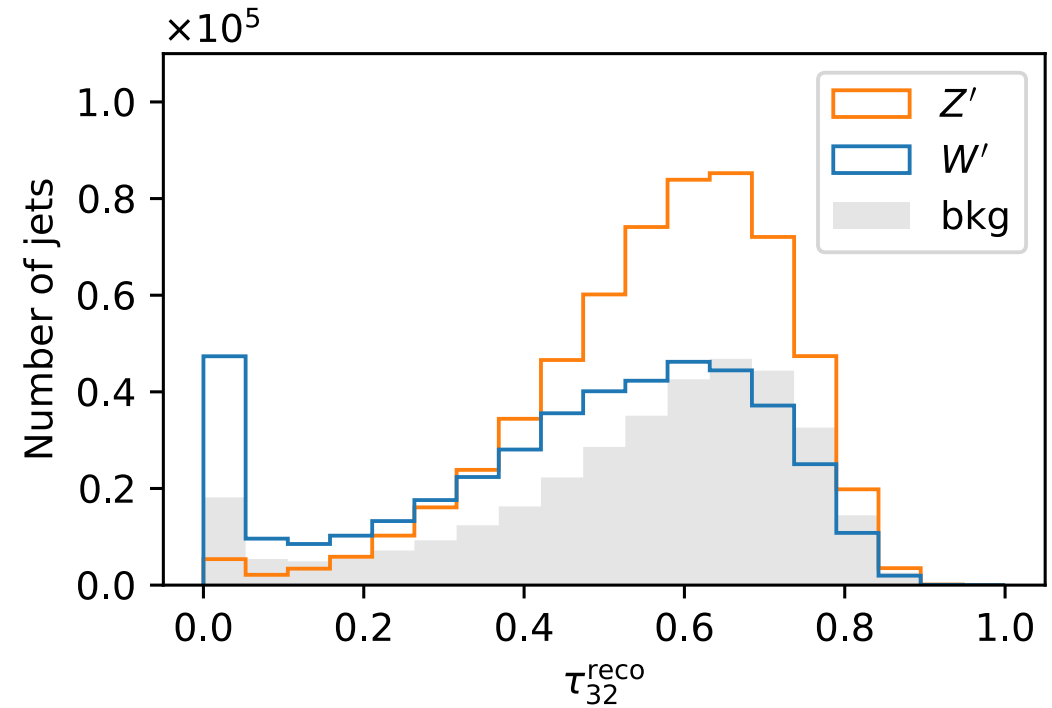
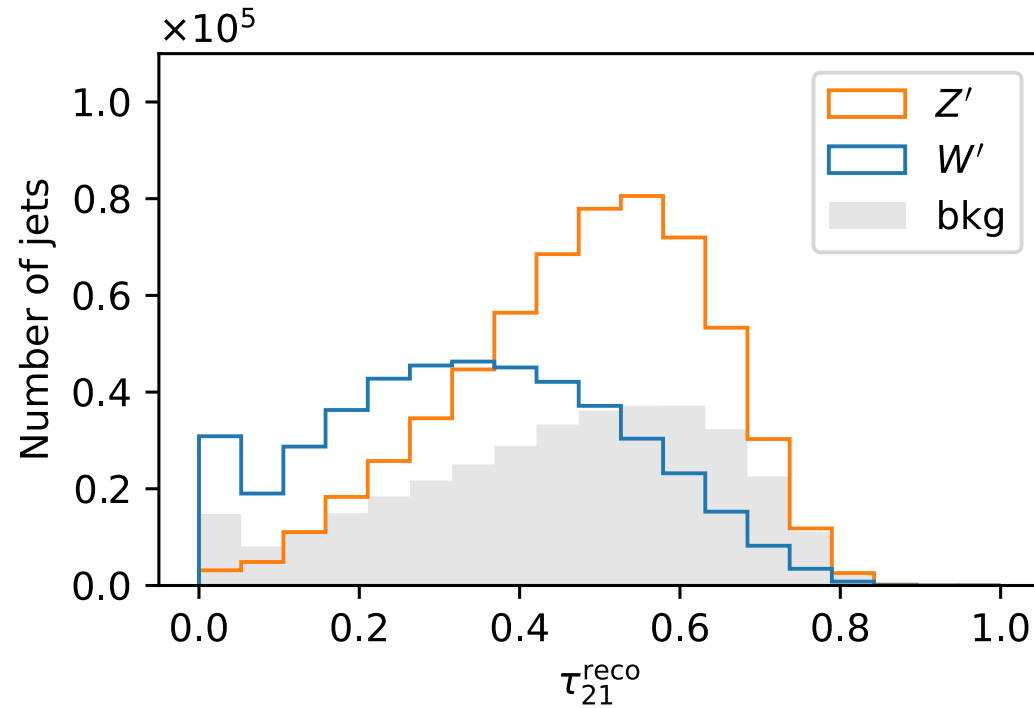


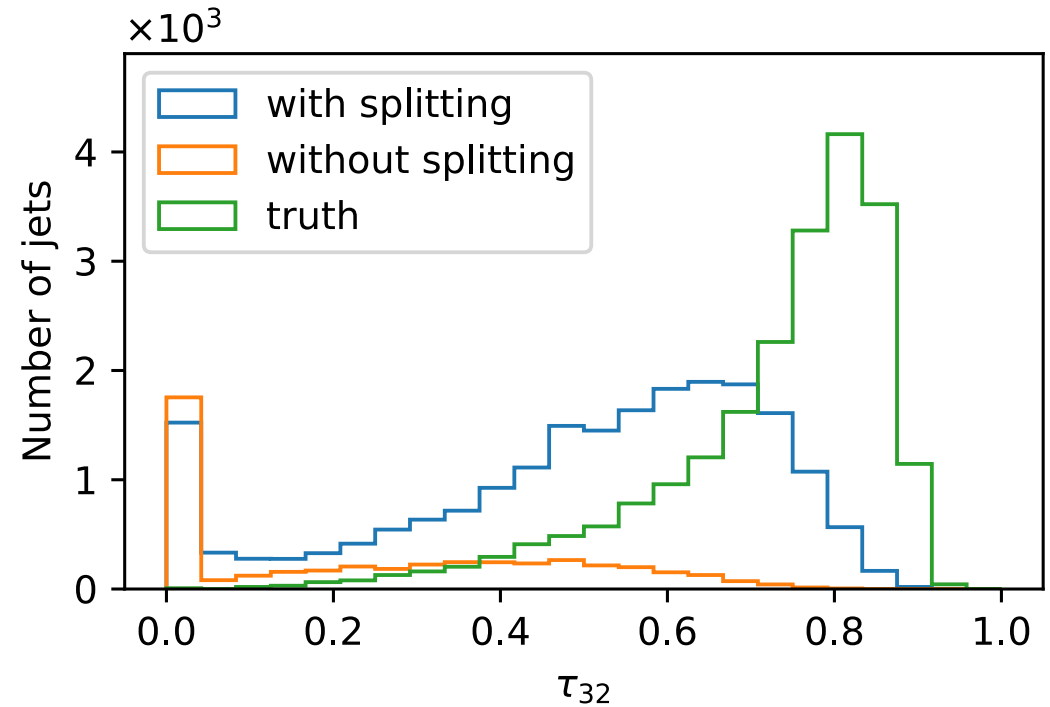
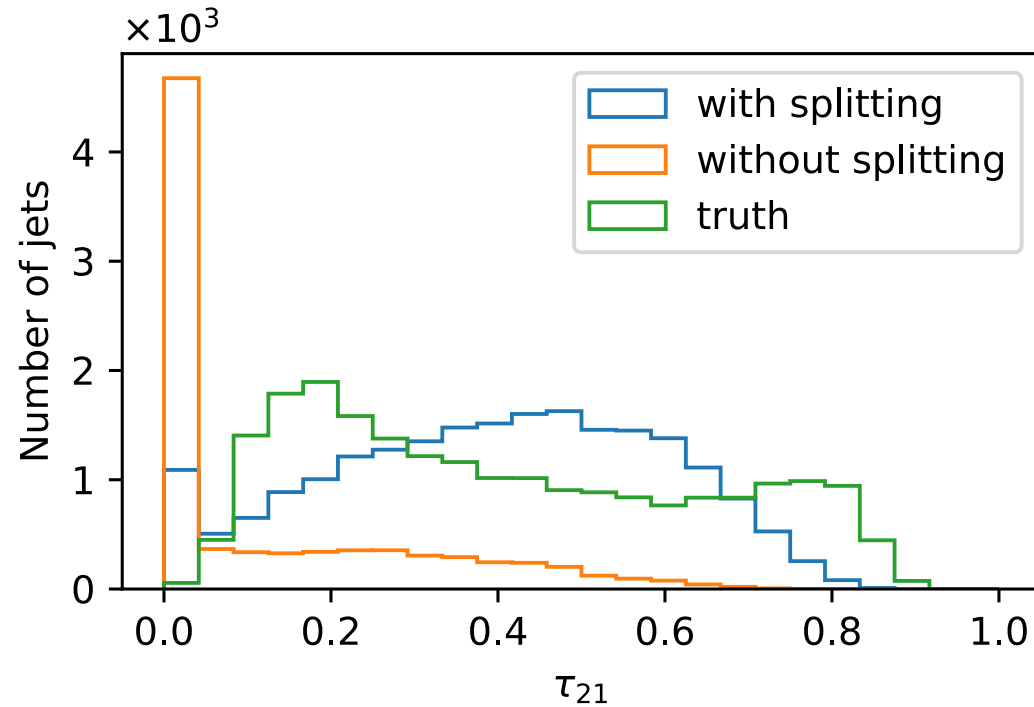


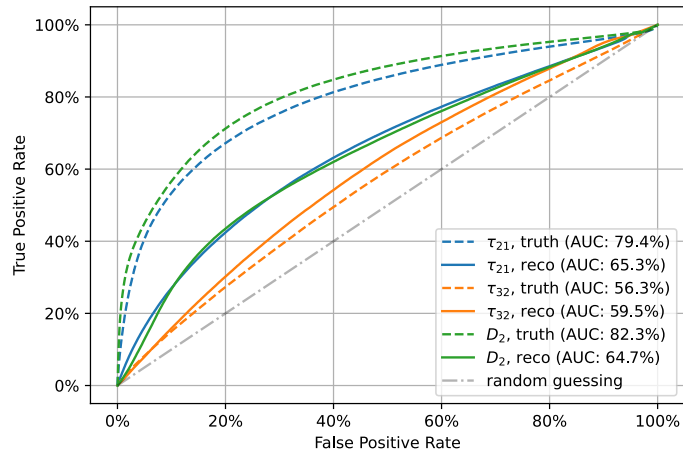
- Local Cell Weighting (LCW) calibration scheme applied to all clusters



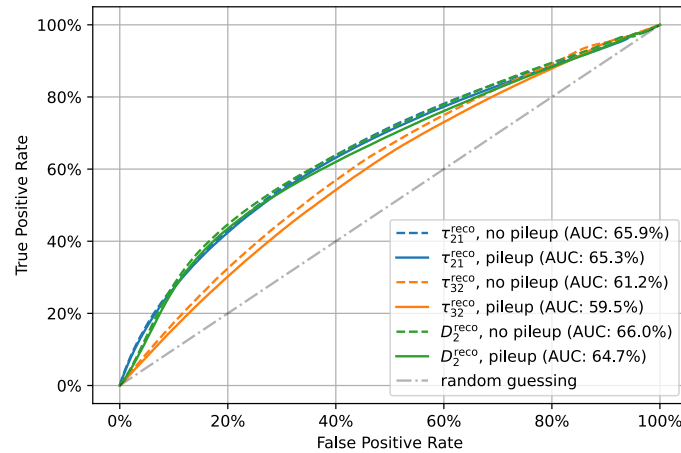




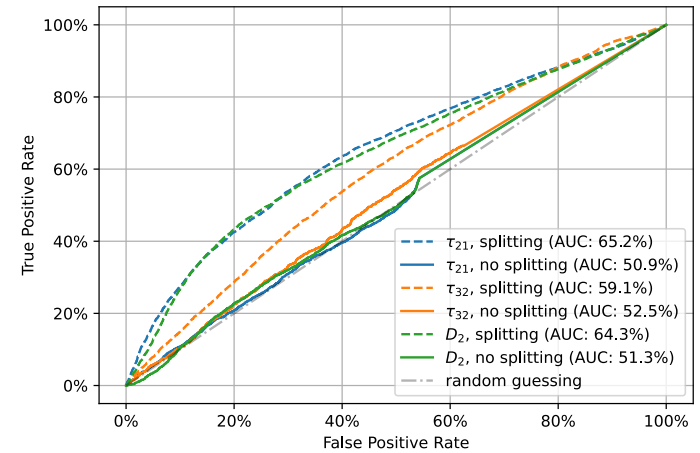




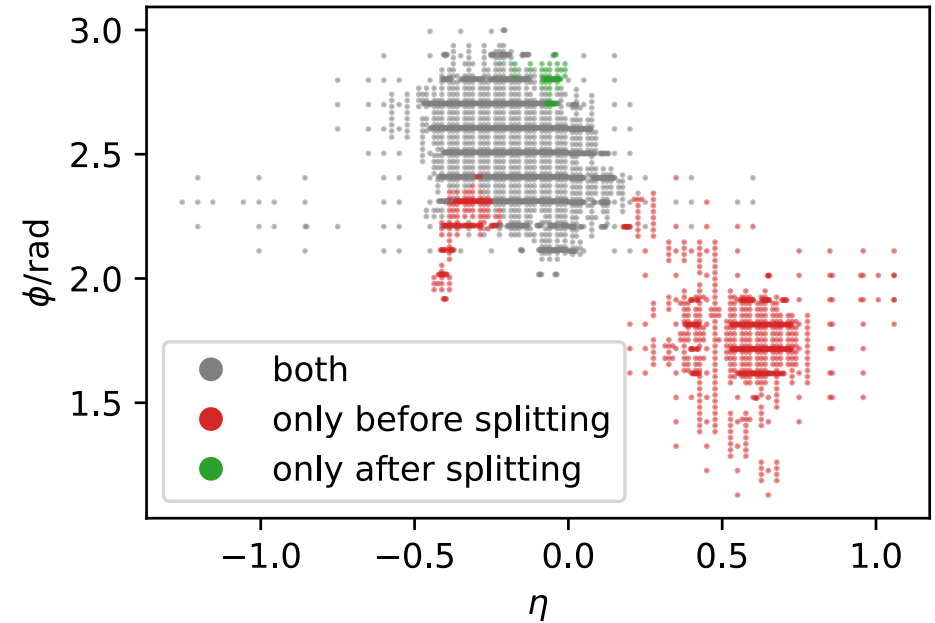
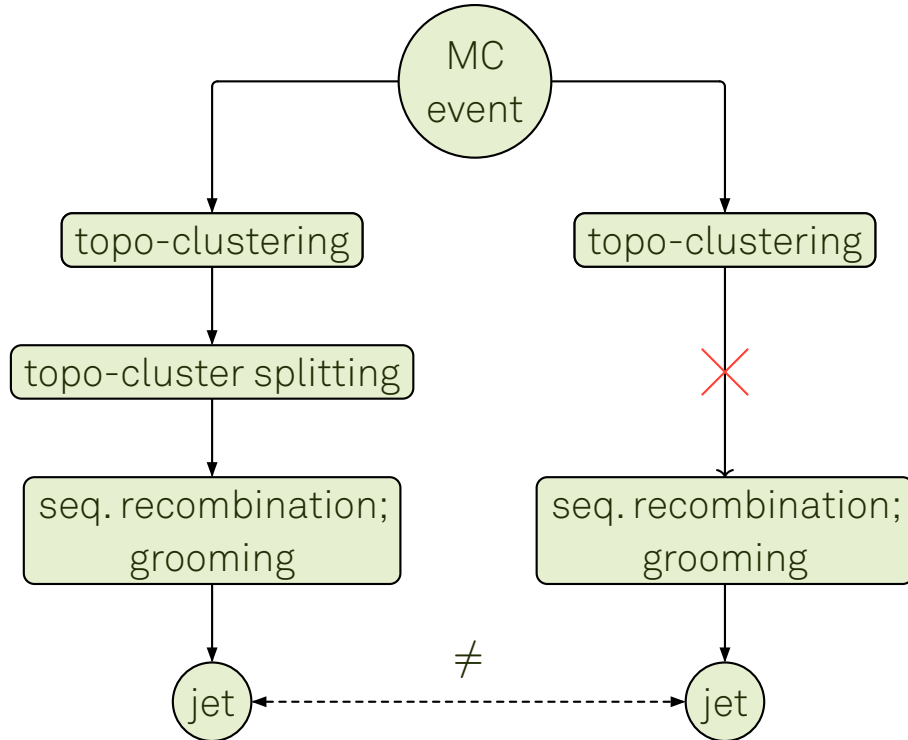
truth vs. reco



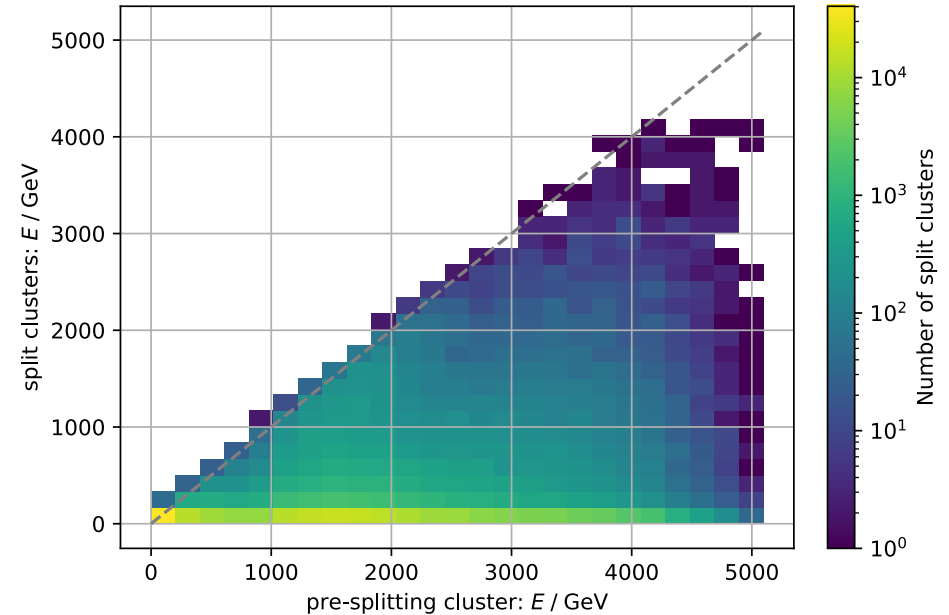
pile-up vs. no pile-up



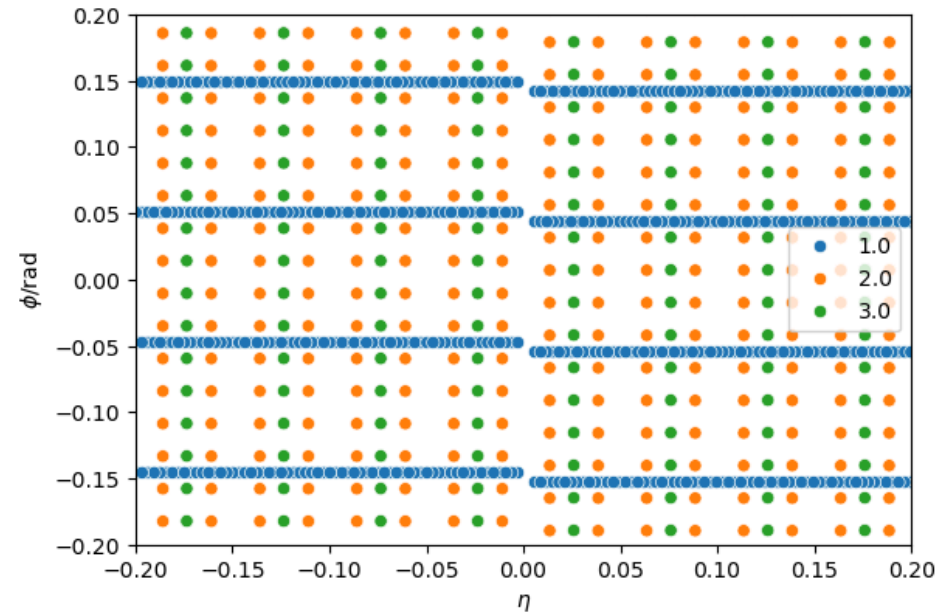
splitting vs. no splitting



- concept: for each pre-splitting value, histogrammize all post-splitting values
- E : cluster energy
- always below diagonal:
splitting reduces energy per cluster
- high counts at the bottom:
many low-energy clusters created



- different pitches in depending on sampling layer (color)
- different pitches in η and ϕ
- “ η strips” for $\text{sampling} = 1$
- “seam” at $\eta = 0$



variable	unit	EMD	mean ($m_i = 1$)	mean ($m_i \geq 2$)
fracE		1.885	0.013	0.924
fracE_ref		1.882	0.011	0.779
SECOND_LAMBDA	mm ²	1.552	16 065.308	452 754.603
ENG_POS	GeV	1.526	16 259.747	1 744 003.767
sumCellE	GeV	1.526	16.231	1743.671
ENG_CALIB_TOT	GeV	1.525	14.446	1798.484
E	GeV	1.524	16.032	1733.561
CELL_SIGNIFICANCE		1.523	28.925	1278.453
SIGNIFICANCE		1.521	15.880	433.215
Pt	GeV	1.473	13.230	1340.184

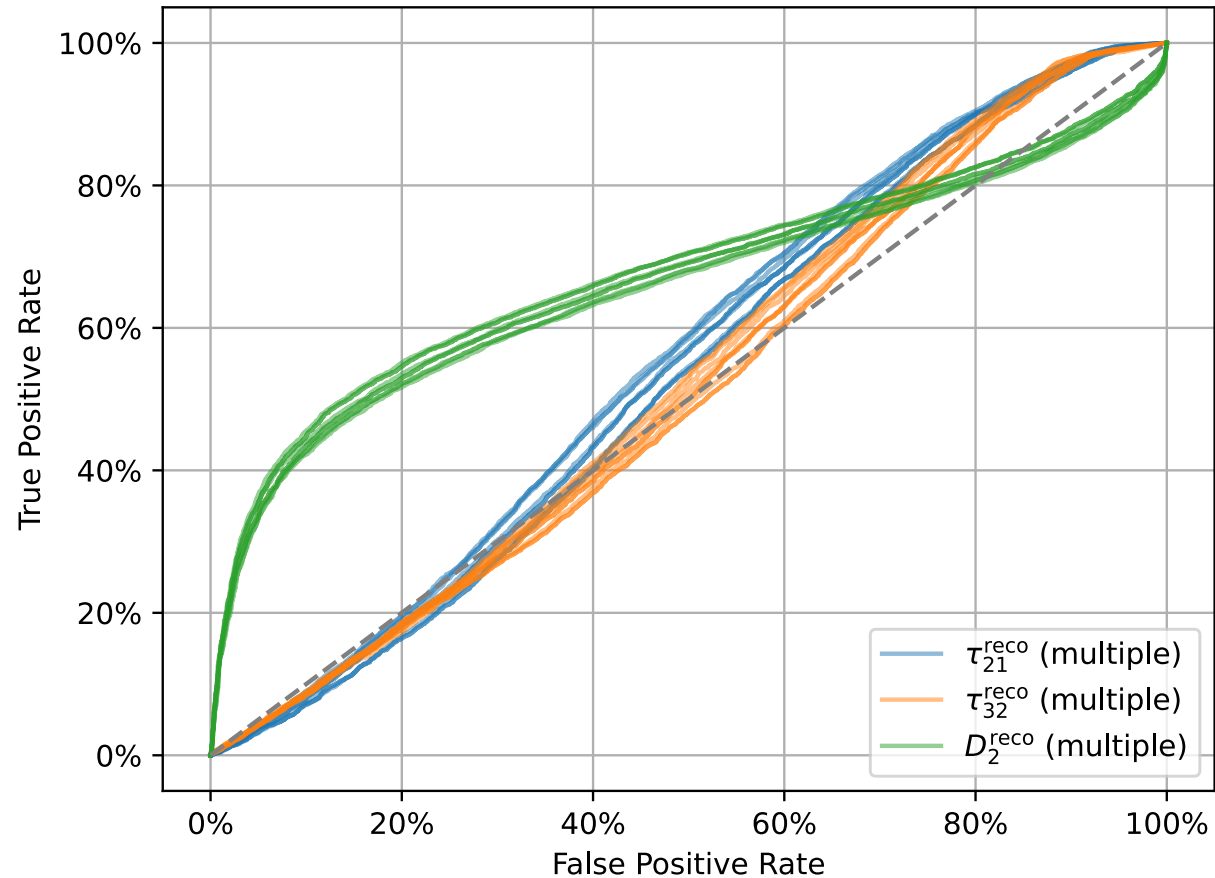
variable	unit	EMD	mean ($N_{\text{matching}} \leq 5$)	mean ($N_{\text{matching}} \geq 20$)
ENG_CALIB_OUT_T	GeV	2.360	0.479	1.449
ENG_CALIB_OUT_L	GeV	1.092	0.593	2.926
OOC_WEIGHT		1.079	1.347	1.041
SECOND_LAMBDA	mm ²	1.070	17 920.171	175 924.693
ENG_CALIB_OUT_M	GeV	1.054	0.505	2.275
CELL_SIG_SAMPLING		1.041	1.579	6.936
CENTER_LAMBDA	mm	0.972	211.208	802.358
ISOLATION		0.934	0.552	0.304
LATERAL		0.865	0.617	0.862
AVG_TILE_Q		0.851	0.319	14.113

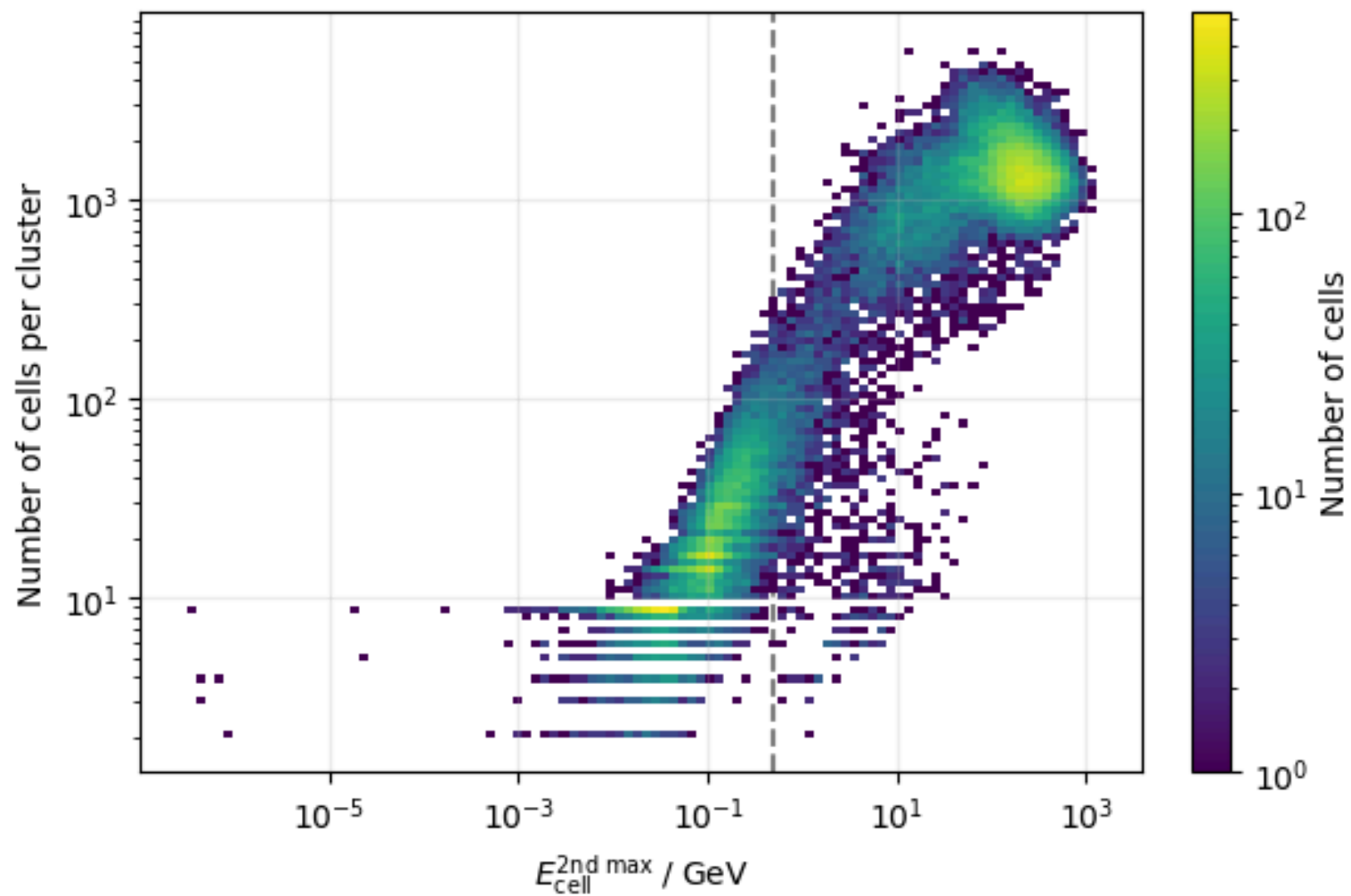
- W' / dijet background discrimination
- τ_{21} and D_2 given for reference

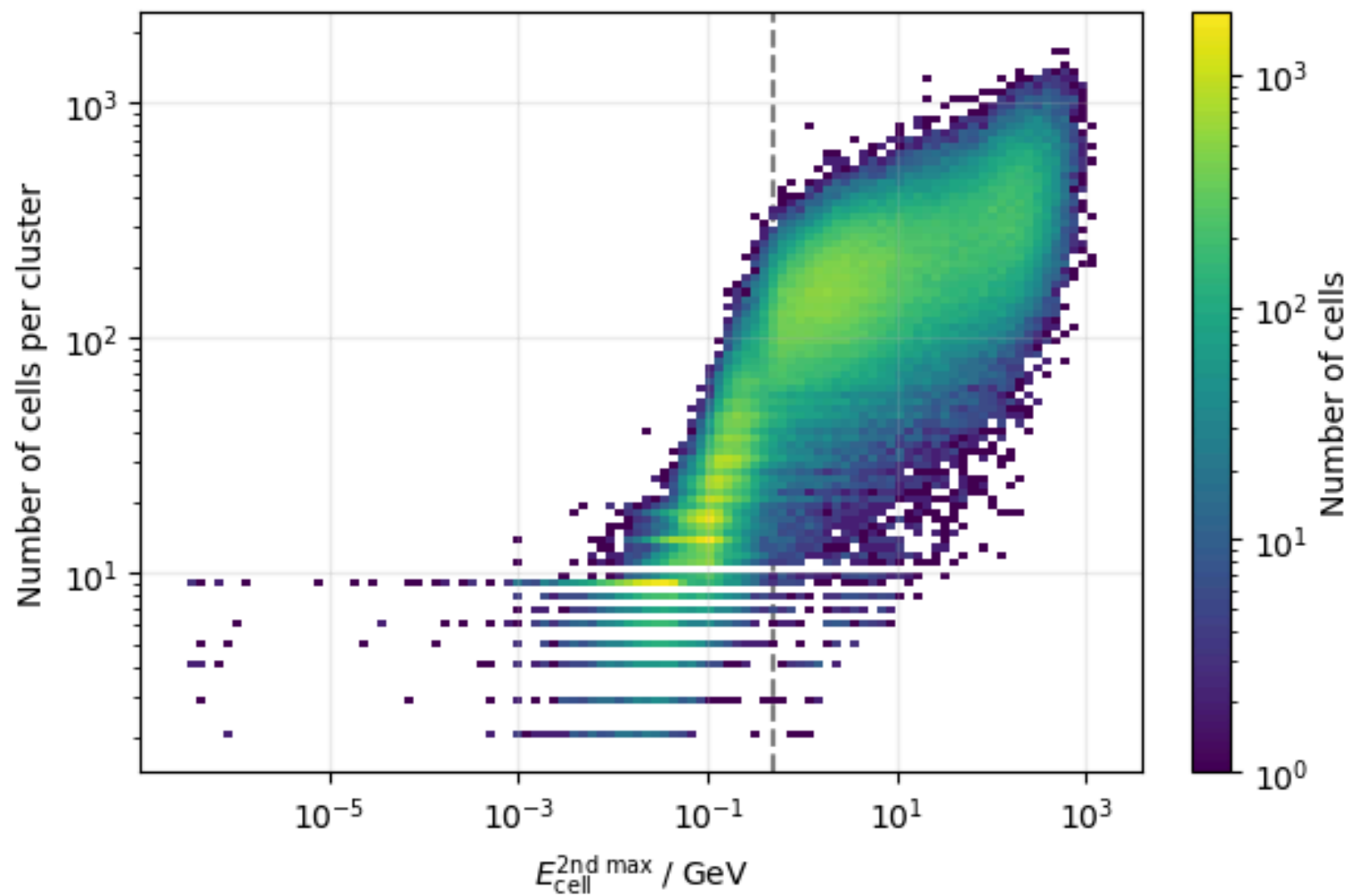
$E_{\text{thresh}} / \text{ MeV}$	$\text{NN}_{\text{thresh}}$	$\text{AUC}(\tau_{21}^{\text{reco}})$	$\text{AUC}(\tau_{32}^{\text{reco}})$	$\text{AUC}(D_2^{\text{reco}})$	$\Delta\text{AUC}(\tau_{21}^{\text{reco}})$	$\Delta\text{AUC}(\tau_{32}^{\text{reco}})$	$\Delta\text{AUC}(D_2^{\text{reco}})$	$\langle\Delta\text{AUC}\rangle$
550	4	0.646	0.589	0.653	−0.001	−0.003	+0.008	0.001
550	5	0.646	0.589	0.653	−0.001	−0.004	+0.008	0.001
550	3	0.644	0.589	0.654	−0.003	−0.003	+0.009	0.000
500	4	0.647	0.593	0.644	+0.000	+0.000	+0.000	0.000
500	3	0.649	0.584	0.649	+0.002	−0.008	+0.004	−0.000
500	5	0.649	0.584	0.649	+0.002	−0.008	+0.004	−0.000
450	4	0.652	0.582	0.643	+0.004	−0.010	−0.001	−0.002
450	3	0.652	0.582	0.643	+0.004	−0.010	−0.001	−0.002
450	5	0.652	0.582	0.643	+0.004	−0.010	−0.001	−0.002

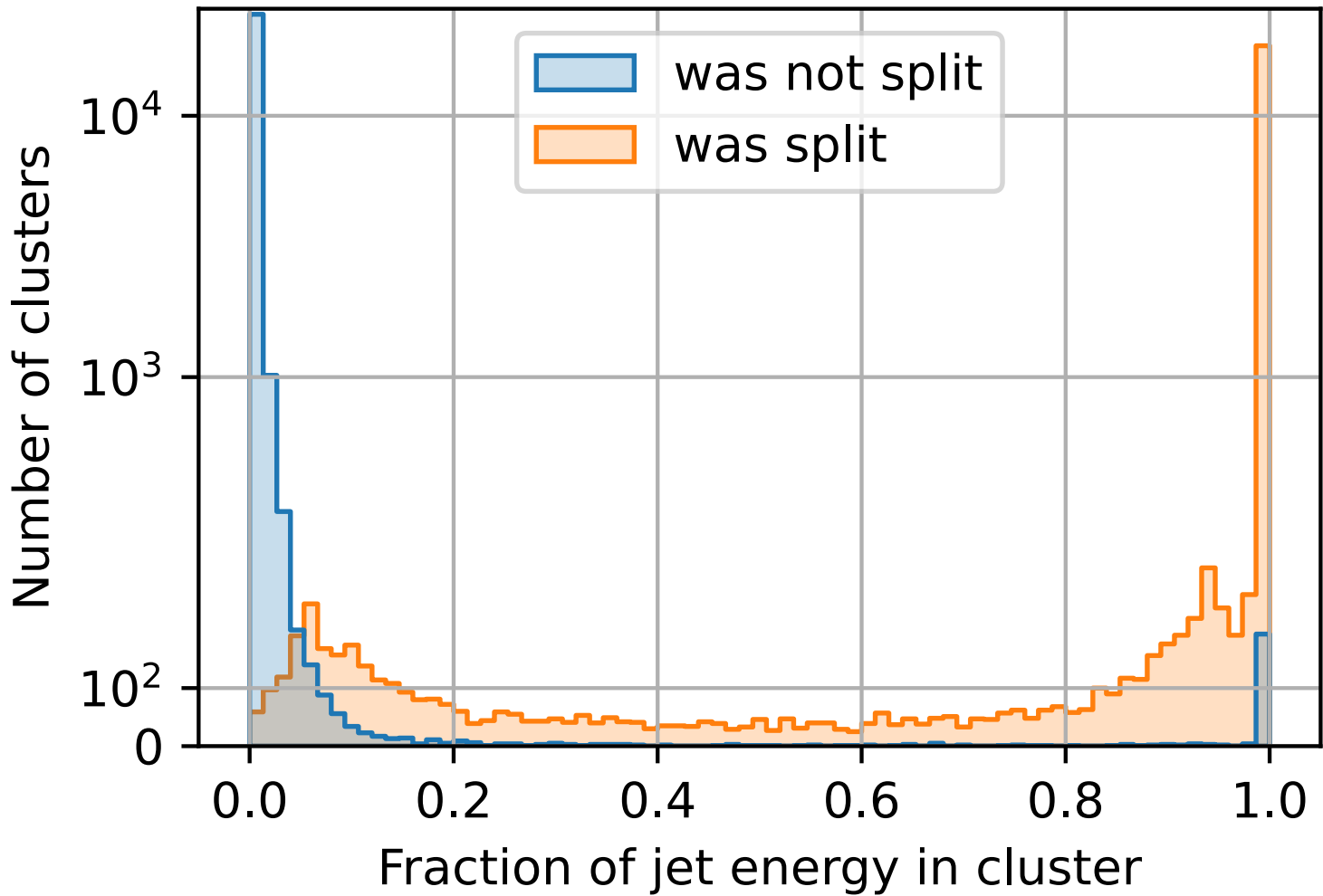
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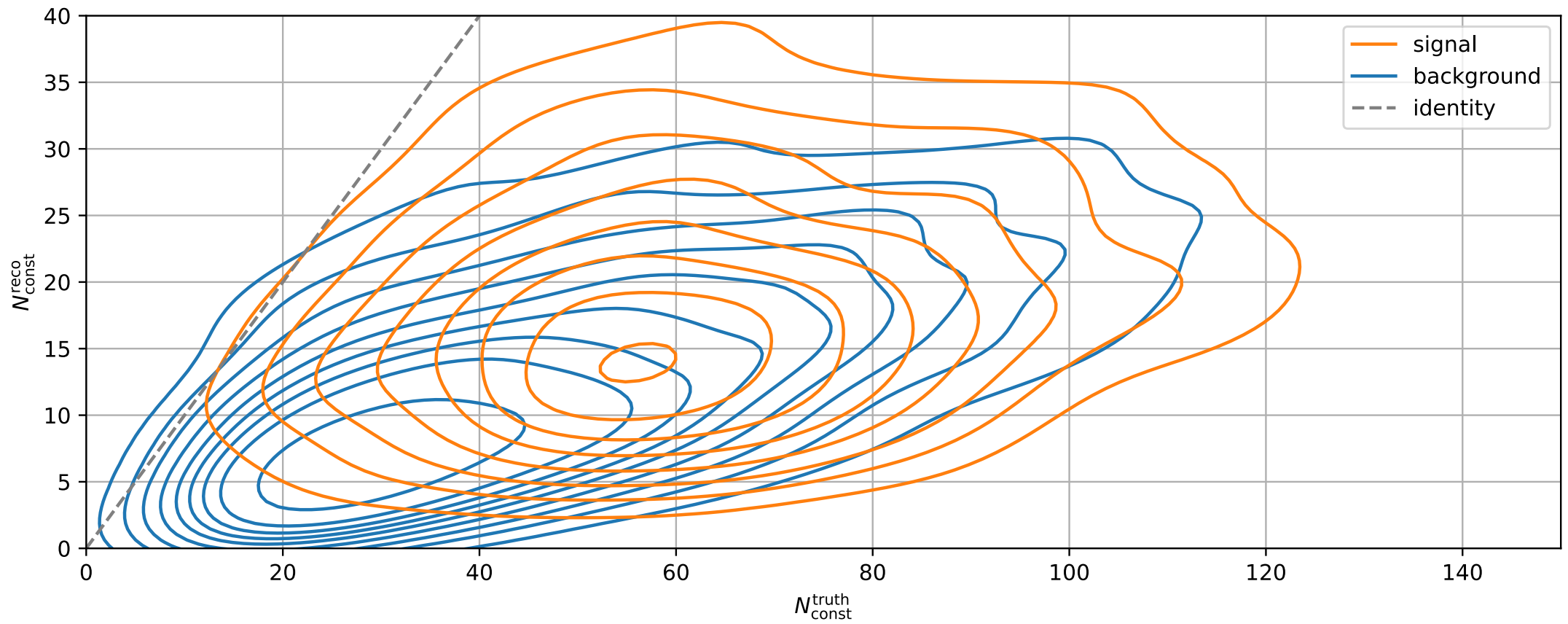
$E_{\text{thresh}} / \text{MeV}$	$\text{NN}_{\text{thresh}}$	$\text{AUC}(\tau_{21}^{\text{reco}})$	$\text{AUC}(\tau_{32}^{\text{reco}})$	$\text{AUC}(D_2^{\text{reco}})$	$\Delta\text{AUC}(\tau_{21}^{\text{reco}})$	$\Delta\text{AUC}(\tau_{32}^{\text{reco}})$	$\Delta\text{AUC}(D_2^{\text{reco}})$	$\langle\Delta\text{AUC}\rangle$
550	4	0.557	0.531	0.656	+0.014	+0.012	-0.010	0.005
550	5	0.552	0.528	0.657	+0.009	+0.009	-0.009	0.003
550	3	0.555	0.523	0.654	+0.012	+0.004	-0.012	0.001
500	4	0.542	0.519	0.667	+0.000	+0.000	+0.000	0.000
500	5	0.541	0.517	0.666	-0.001	-0.001	-0.000	-0.001
500	3	0.541	0.517	0.666	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001	-0.001
450	4	0.526	0.507	0.680	-0.016	-0.011	+0.013	-0.004
450	5	0.524	0.504	0.678	-0.018	-0.014	+0.011	-0.007
450	3	0.524	0.504	0.678	-0.018	-0.014	+0.011	-0.007

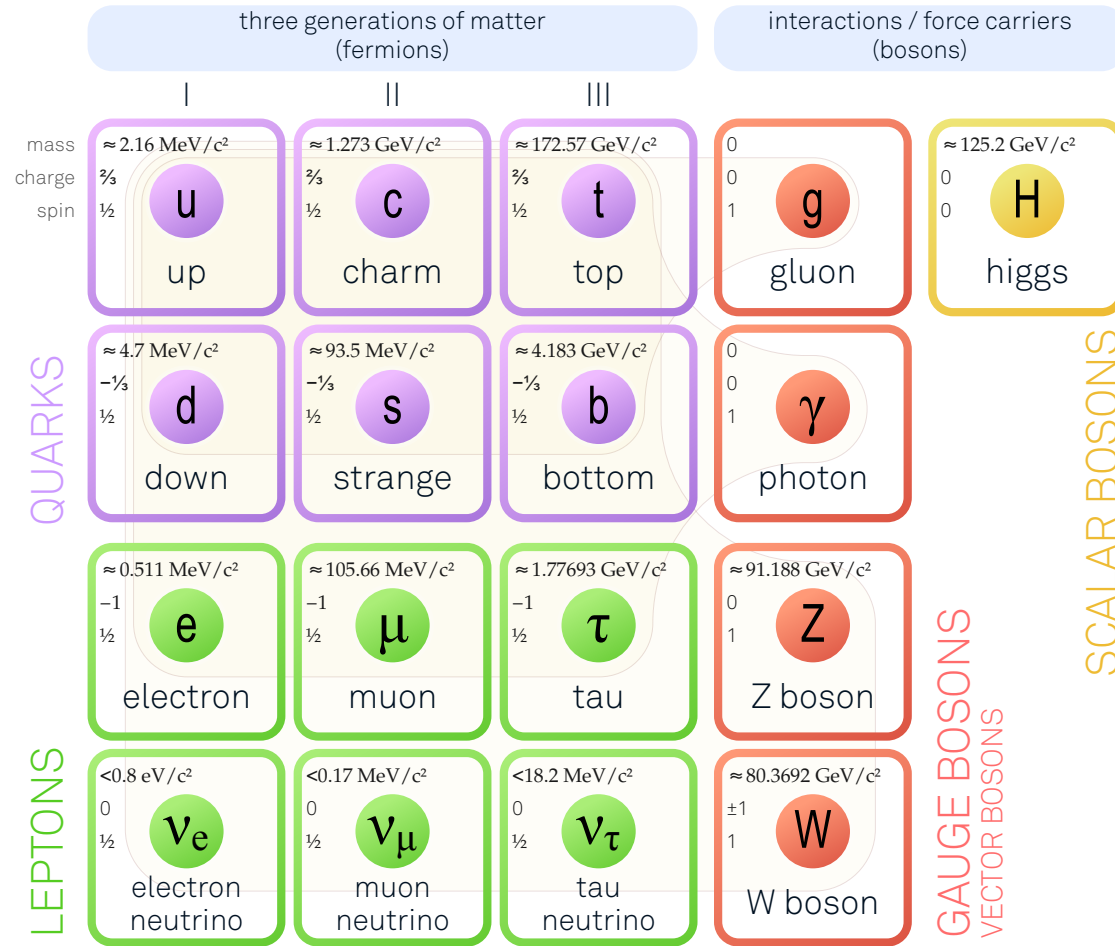












Link 