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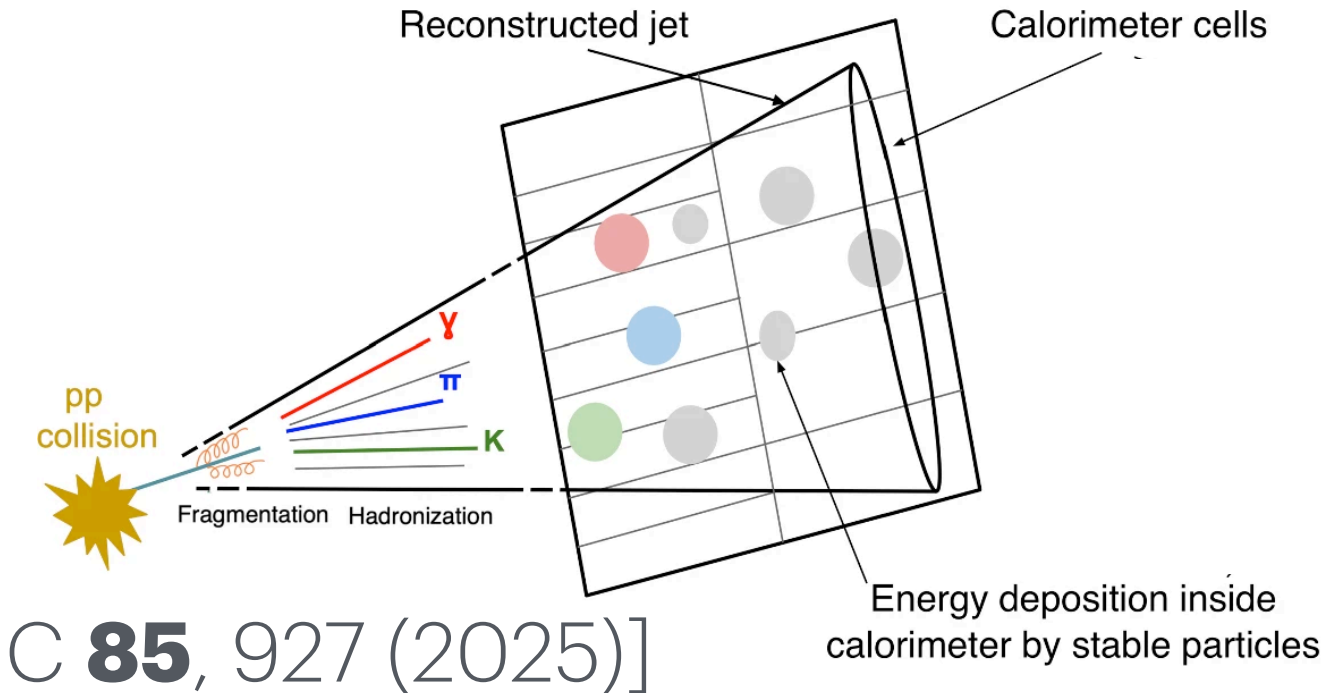
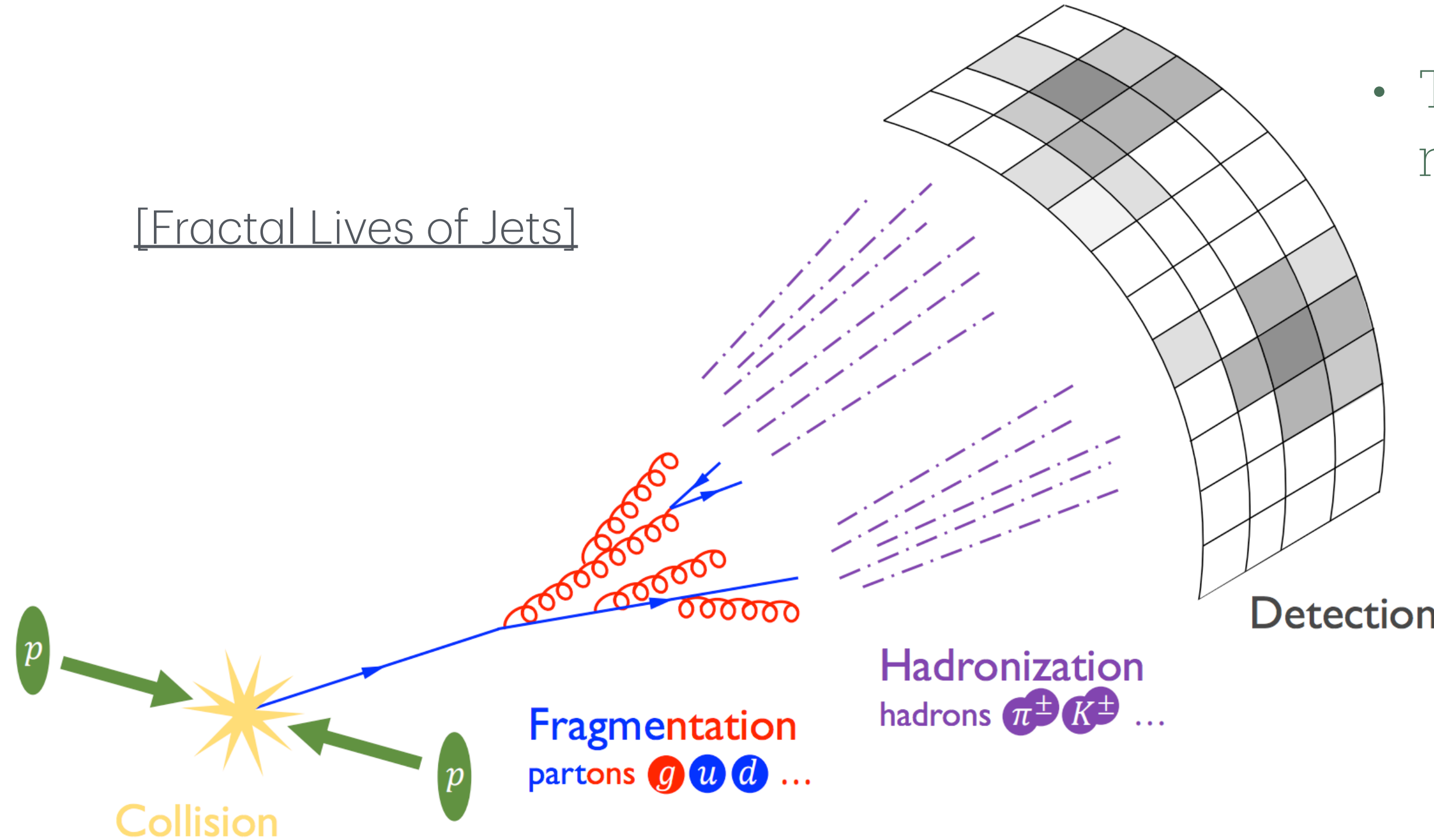
# ML based Jet Calibration in HL-LHC

IOP - 2026, Edinburgh

April 8th 2026

# What are jets?

- The quarks and gluons produced in p-p collision radiate, or fragment based on laws of perturbative QCD
- When their energy reach below  $\Lambda_{QCD}$ , non-perturbative QCD kicks in and due to confinement, these partons hadronize to form hadrons
- We cluster these hadrons detected in a narrow section of the detector. These are what we call jets.



[Eur. Phys. J. C **85**, 927 (2025)]

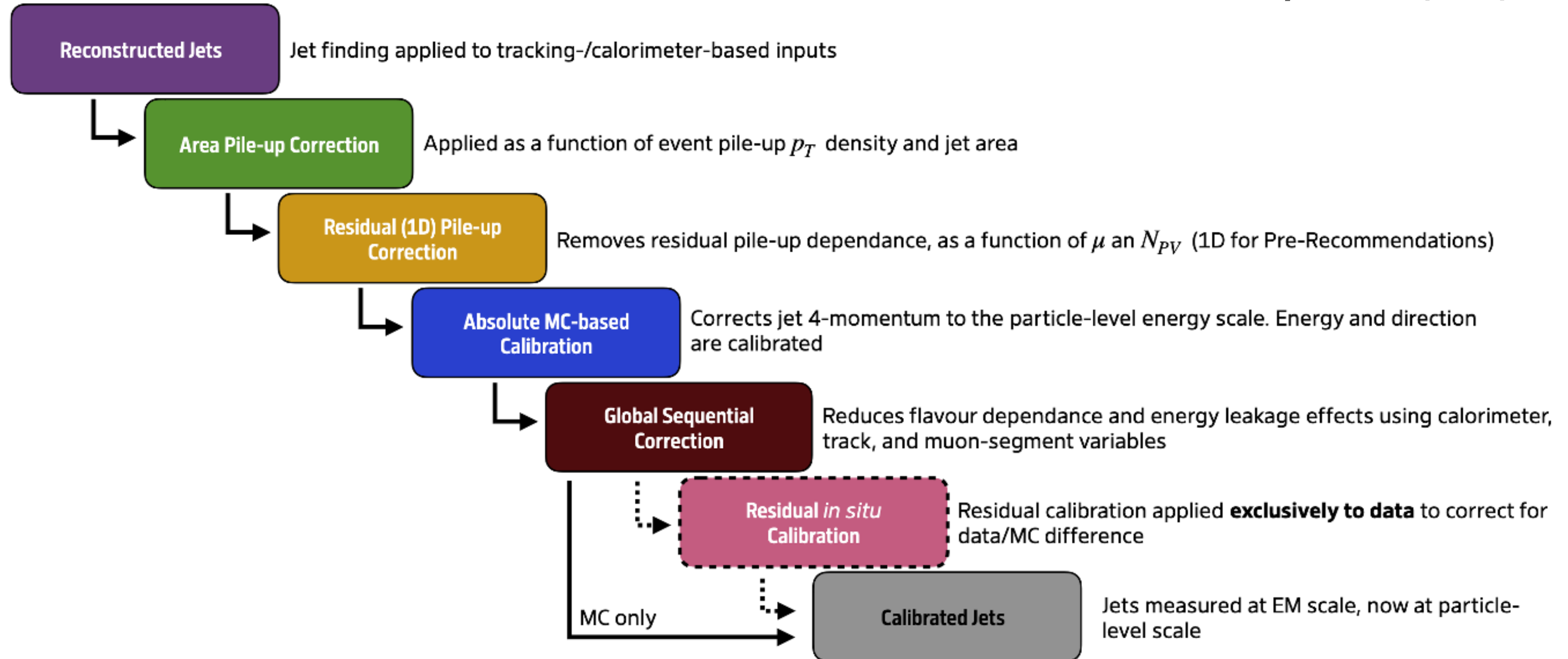
- But our detectors are not perfect!

Hence these jets that are clustered need to be calibrated!

# Current Jet Calibration Scheme

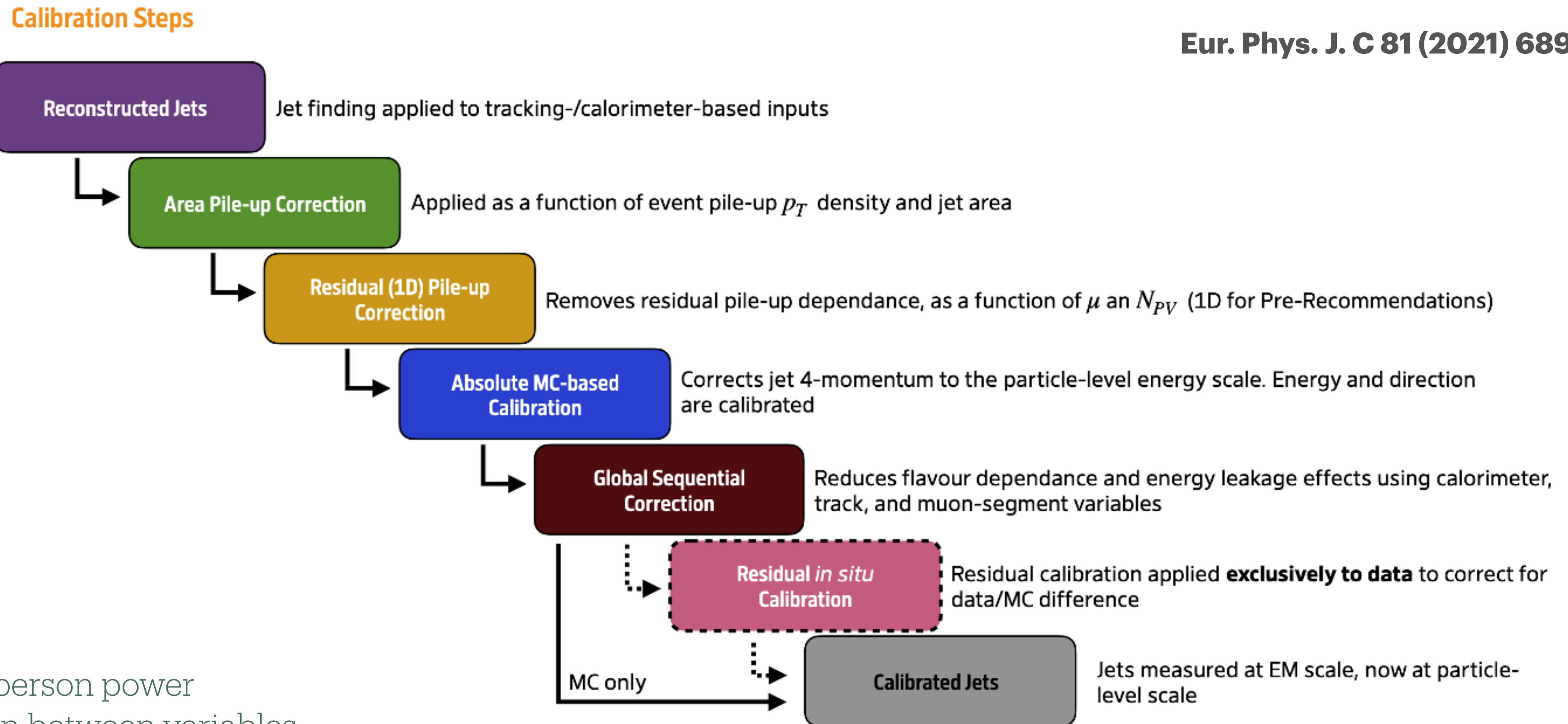
Eur. Phys. J. C 81 (2021) 689

## Calibration Steps



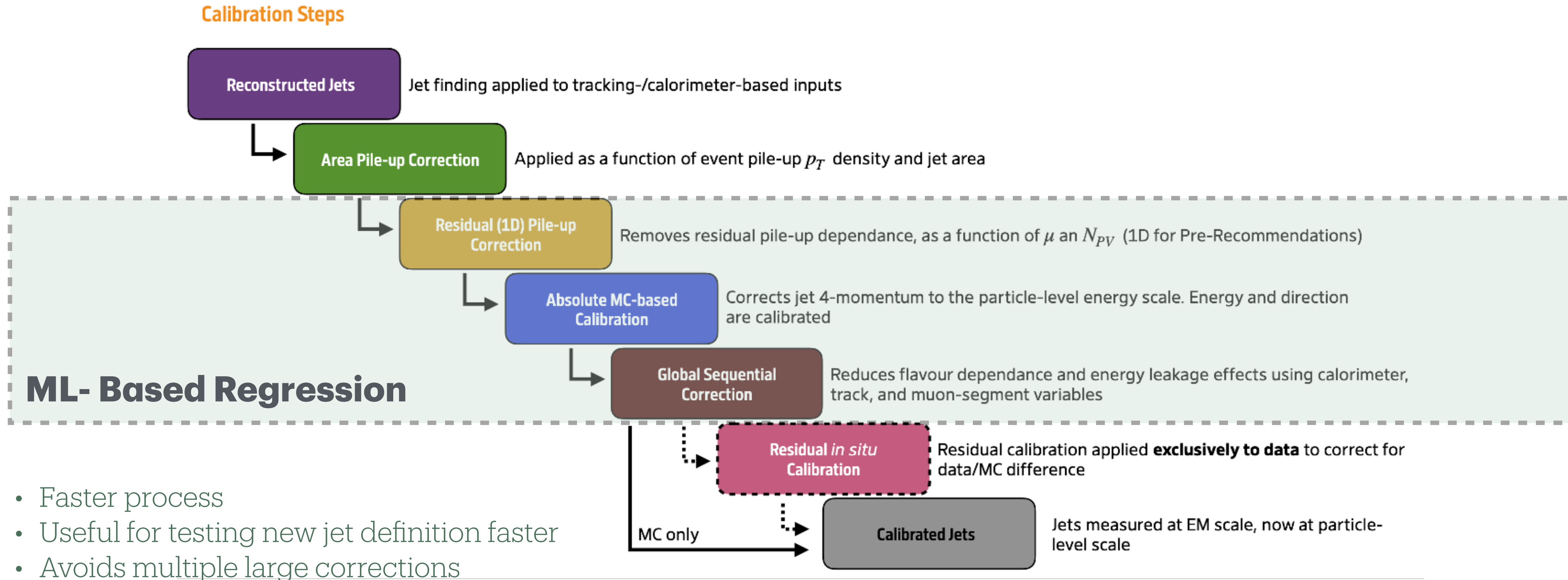
# Current Jet Calibration Scheme

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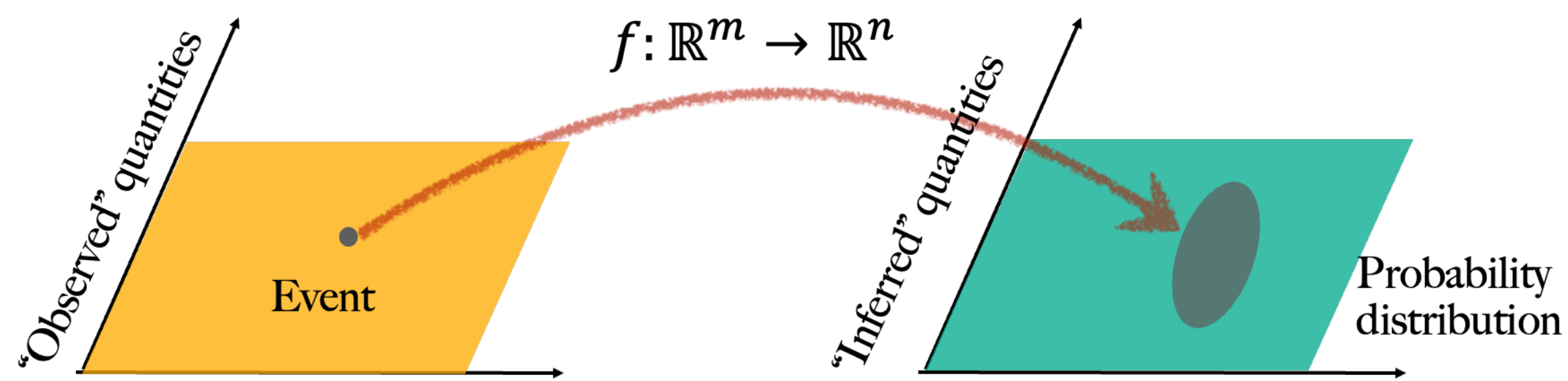


- Time taking
- Requires a lot of person power
- Loss of correlation between variables
- Introduction of artificial constraints.

# The New Scheme



# Main Idea



- From Bayes’ Theorem, we have:

$$p(\vec{z}_{true} | \vec{x}_{measured}) \propto p(\vec{x}_{measured} | \vec{z}_{true}) \cdot p(\vec{z}_{true})$$

**Posterior**                      **Likelihood**                      **Prior**

- We try to estimate the posterior density from the detector response

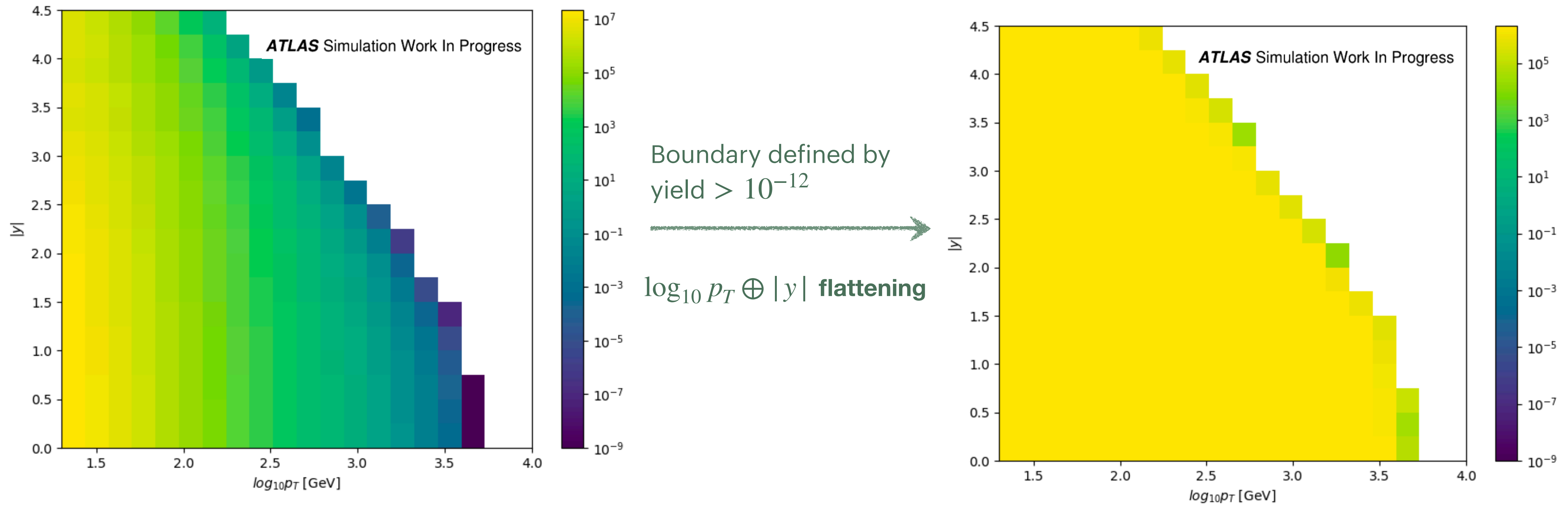
$$p(\vec{x}_{measured} | \vec{z}_{true}) \sim \text{Universal across training and testing samples}$$

**BUT**

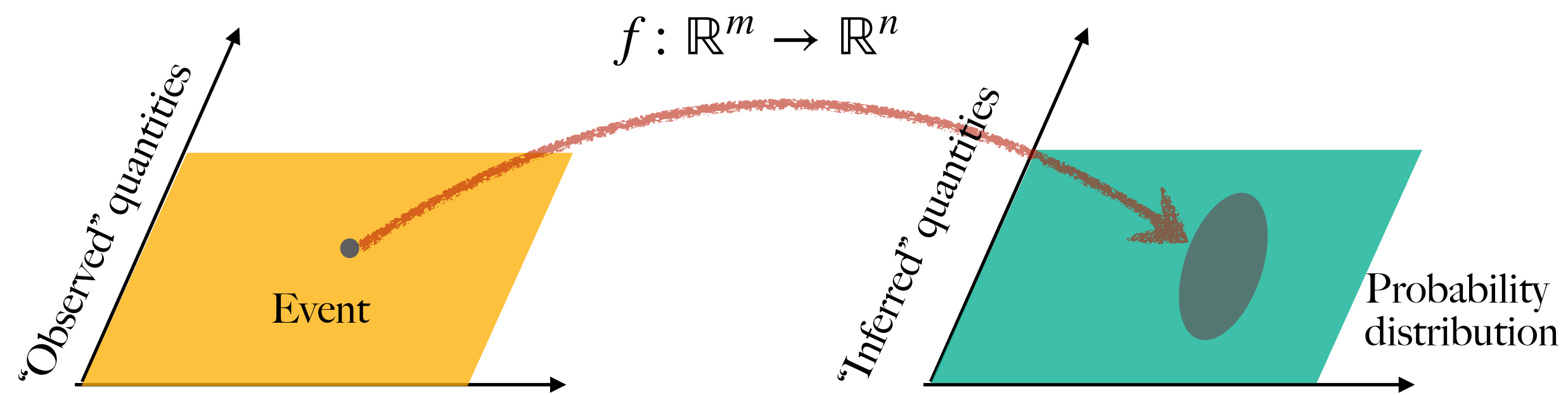
$$p(\vec{z}_{true})$$

**Prior might not be**

# Prior Flattening



# The Network

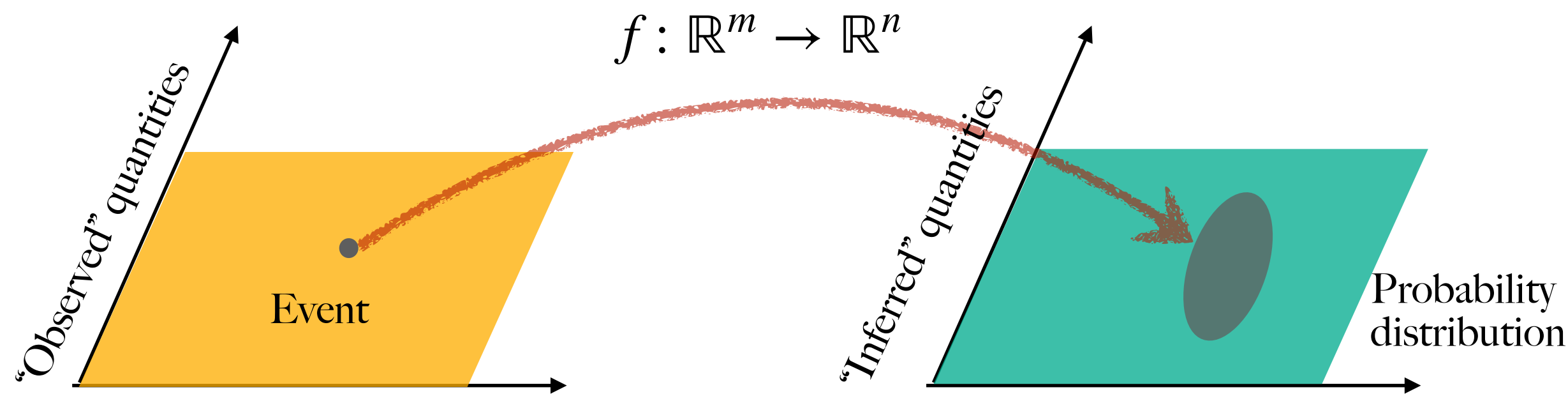


- From Bayes' Theorem, we have:

$$\text{Posterior } p(\vec{z}_t | \vec{x}_r) = \frac{p(\vec{x}_r | \vec{z}_t) \cdot p(\vec{z}_t)}{\int p(\vec{x}_r | \vec{z}'_t) \cdot p(\vec{z}'_t) \cdot d\vec{z}'_t}$$

→ Intractable

# The Network



- From Bayes' Theorem, we have:

$$p(\vec{z}_t | \vec{x}_r) = \frac{p(\vec{x}_r | \vec{z}_t) \cdot p(\vec{z}_t)}{\int p(\vec{x}_r | \vec{z}'_t) \cdot p(\vec{z}'_t) \cdot d\vec{z}'_t}$$

**Posterior**

**Ansatz:**  $q_\phi(\vec{z}_t | \vec{x}_r) \rightarrow q_\phi(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r) = \int q_\phi(\vec{z}_t | \vec{x}_r) \cdot p(\vec{x}_r | \vec{x}_t) \cdot p(\vec{x}_t) \cdot d\vec{x}_t$

- We minimise the 'distance' between  $q_\phi(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r)$  and  $p(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r)$  :

$$d_{KL}[p(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r) || q_\phi(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r)] = \int_{y \sim p(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r)} p(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r) \cdot \ln \left[ \frac{p(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r)}{q_\phi(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r)} \right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{p(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r)} \ln \left[ \frac{p(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r)}{q_\phi(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r)} \right]$$

.....

$$\underset{\phi}{\operatorname{argmin}} \{d_{KL}[p(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r) || q_\phi(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r)]\} = \underset{\phi}{\operatorname{argmin}} \{ \mathbb{E}_{p(\vec{z}_t, \vec{x}_r)} [-\ln(q_\phi(\vec{z}_t | \vec{x}_r))] \}$$

- So we can use  $-\ln(q_\phi(\vec{z}_t | \vec{x}_r))$  as our loss function to train a NN and learn the parameters of our ansatz posterior density.

# The Gaussian Density Network

- Used Keras with Tensorflow Backend

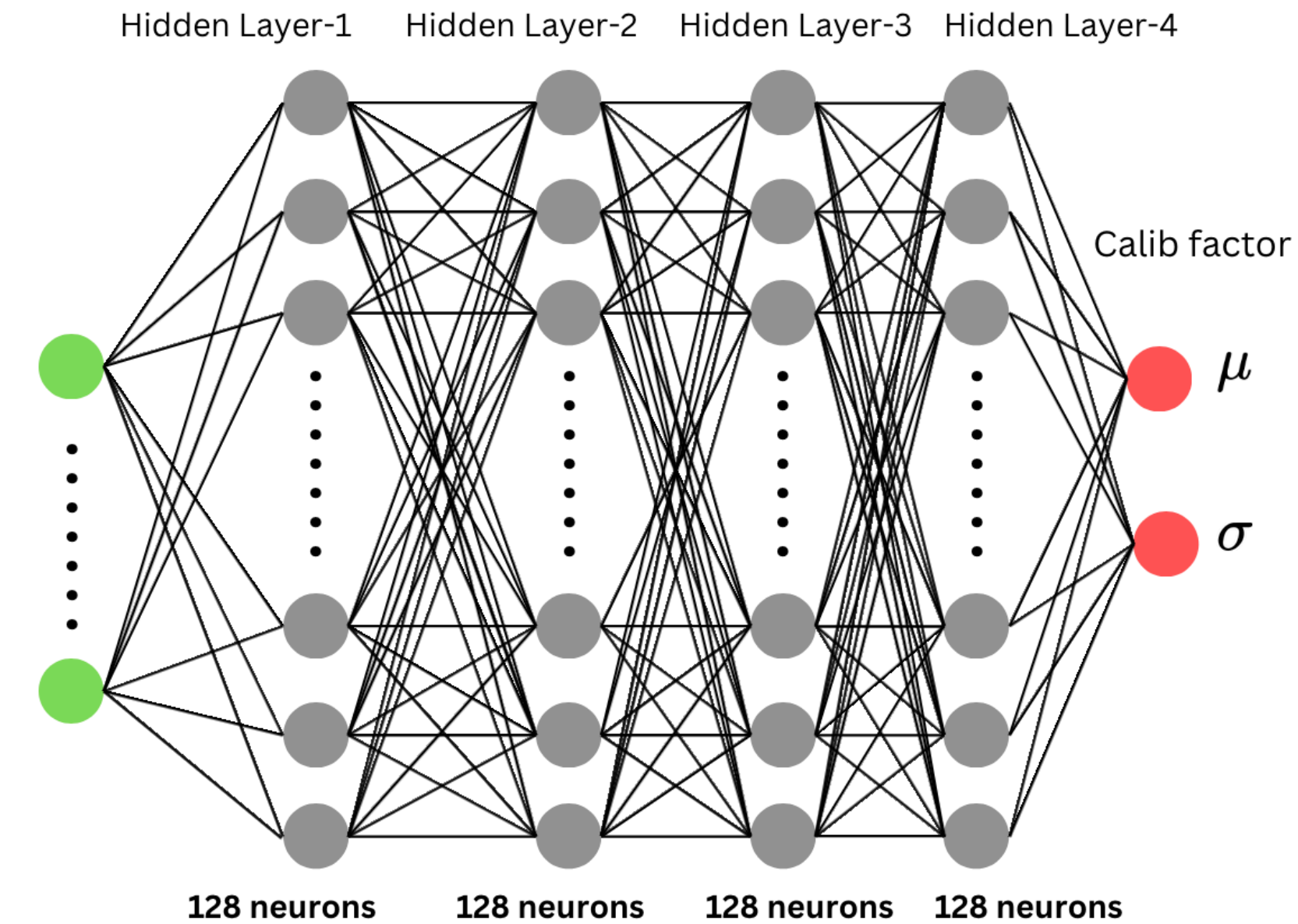
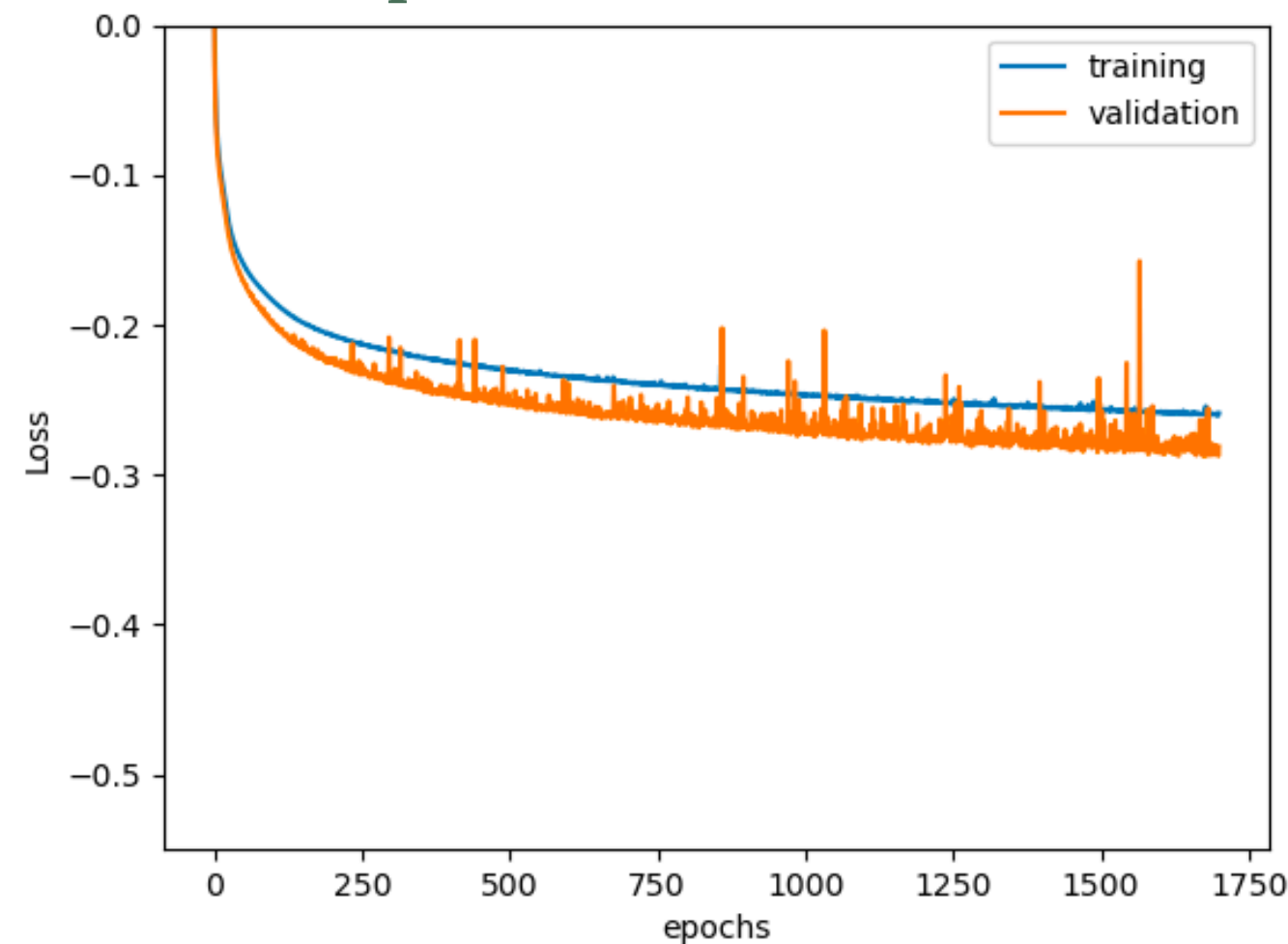
- Network Learns the Calibration factor:  $c = \frac{p_T^{true}}{p_T^{reco}}$

- With a gaussian posterior :  $q_\phi(\vec{z}_t | \vec{x}_r) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{(z_t - \mu)^2}{2\sigma} \right]$

- Learns  $\mu, \sigma$

- 4 Hidden Layers, each with 128 neurons

- Adam Optimiser with LR=  $10^{-6}$



## Inputs

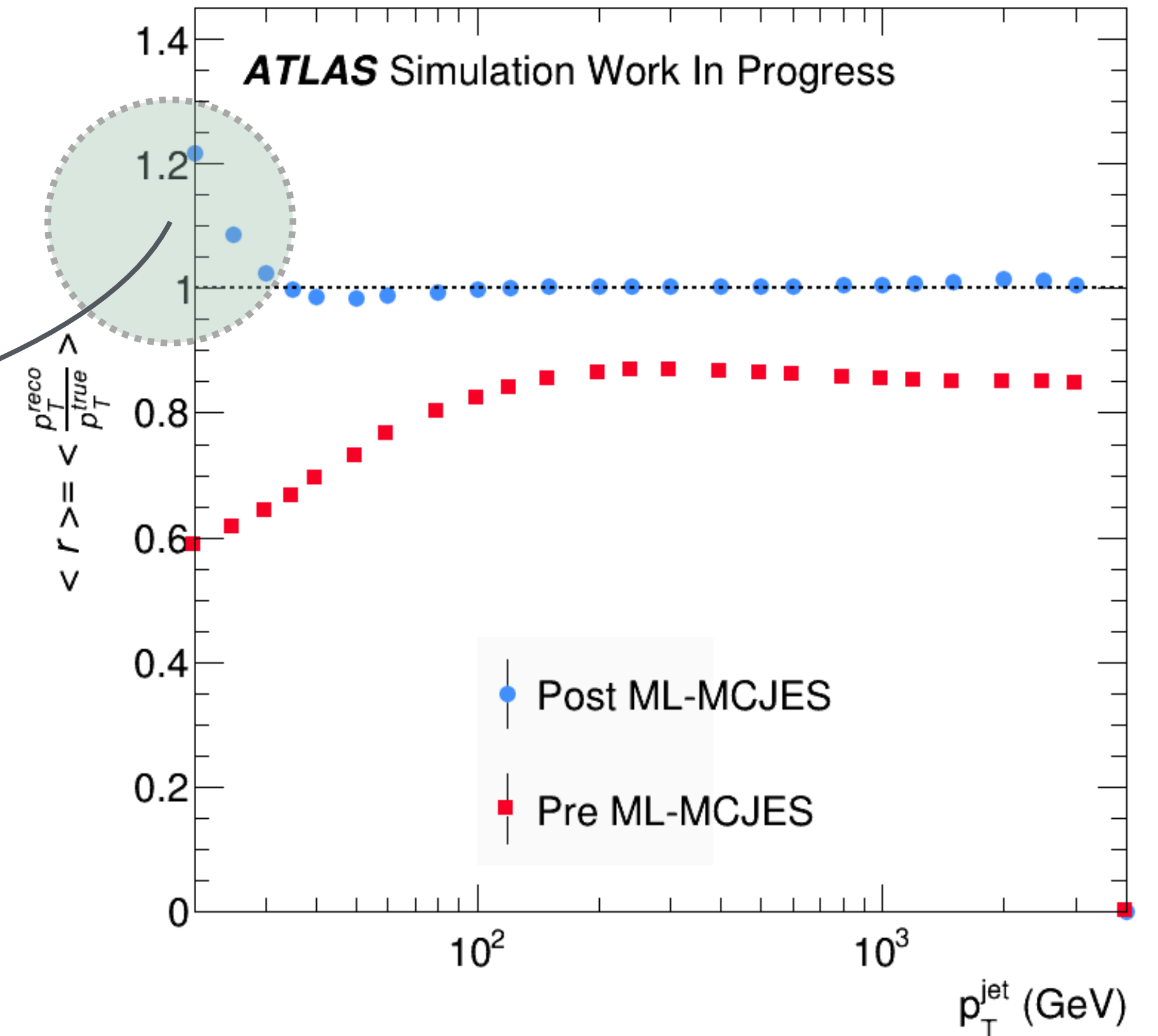
| Category       | Variable         | Description   |
|----------------|------------------|---|
| Calorimeter    | $N_{90\%}$       | The minimum number of clusters containing 90% of the jet energy   |
| Jet kinematics | $p_T^*$          | The jet $p_T$ after the MCJES calibration   |
|                | $y_{det}$        | The detector $y$  |
| Tracking       | $w_{track}^*$    | The average $p_T$ -weighted transverse distance in the $\eta$ - $\phi$ plane between the jet axis and all tracks of $p_T > 1$ GeV ghost-associated with the jet |
|                | $N_{track}^*$    | The number of tracks with $p_T > 1$ GeV ghost-associated with the jet   |
|                | $f_{charged}^*$  | The fraction of the jet $p_T$ measured from ghost-associated tracks   |
| Muon segments  | $N_{segments}^*$ | The number of muon track segments ghost-associated with the jet   |
| Pile-up        | $\mu_{act}$      | The actual number of interactions per bunch crossing  |
|                | $N_{PV}$         | The number of reconstructed primary vertices  |

# Performance of the Network

- We look at the closure in the jet response  $r = \frac{p_T^{reco}}{p_T^{truth}}$  in bins of  $p_T^{truth}$
- In ideal case  $r = 1$

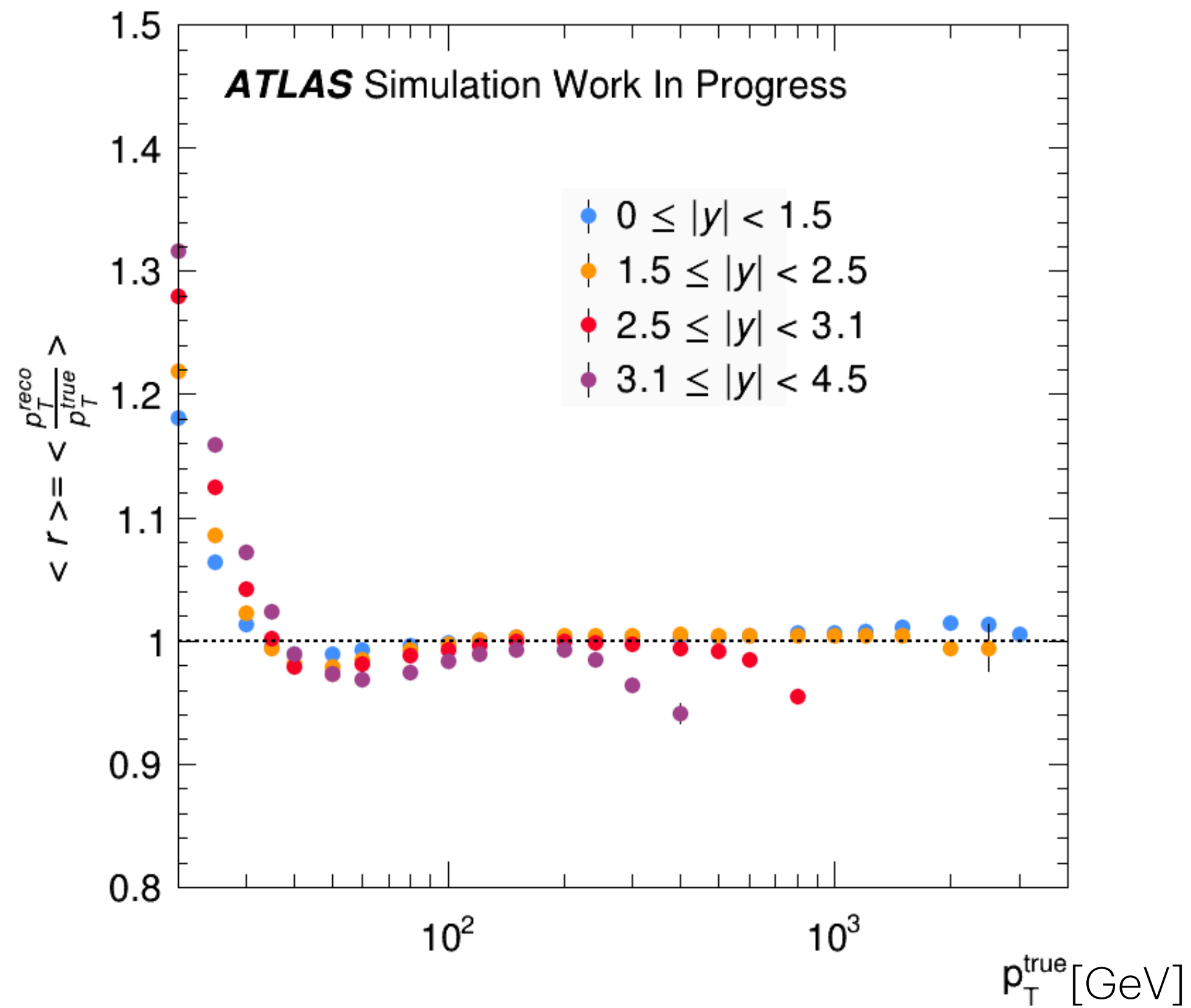
- Average response closes very well in bins of  $p_T^{truth}$ 
  - Some non-closure in low  $p_T^{truth}$  bins

- Why do we have a over-correction in low  $p_T$  jets?
  - Explored in slide 18 + 19



# Performance of the Network

Rapidity dependence of calibration

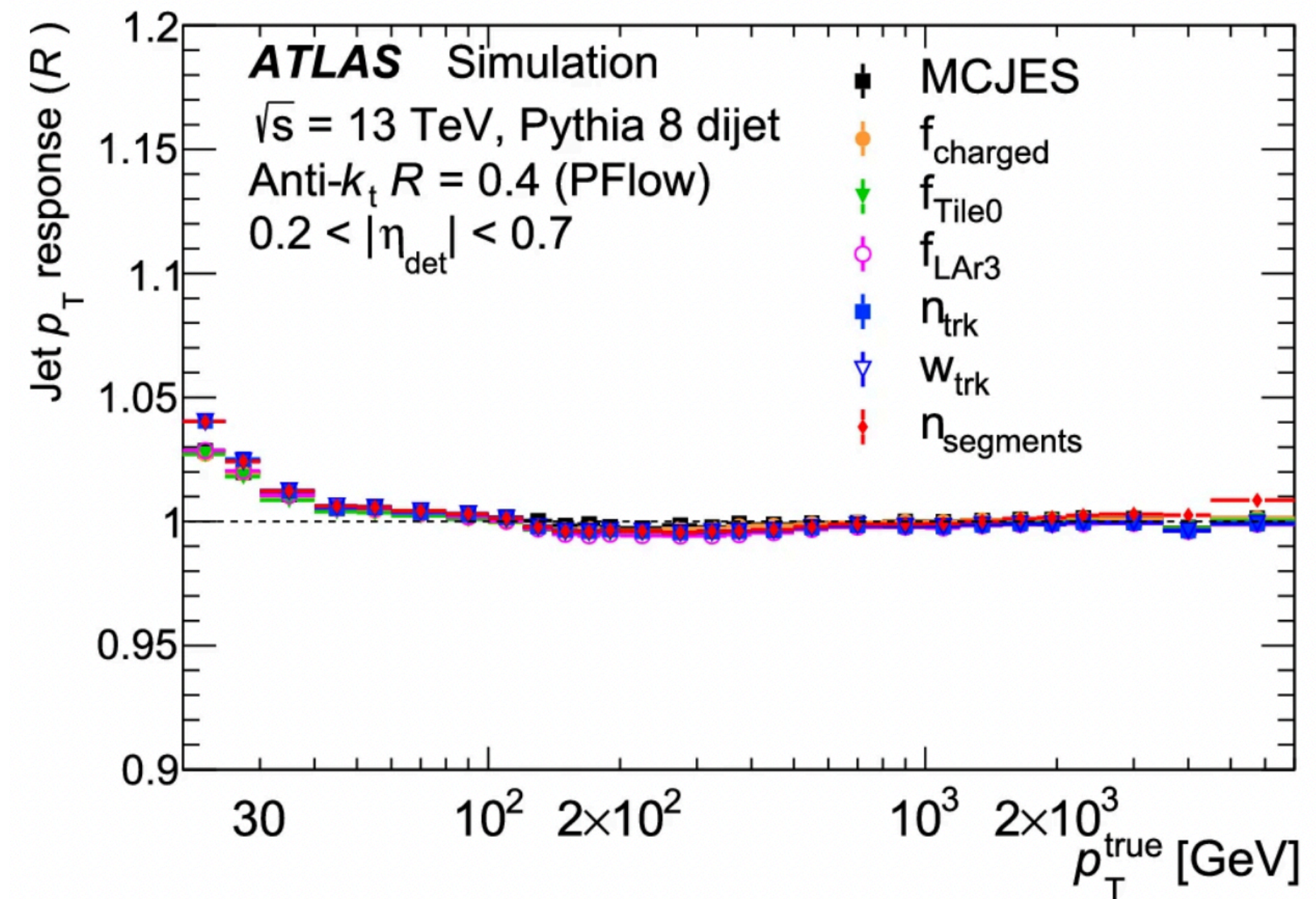
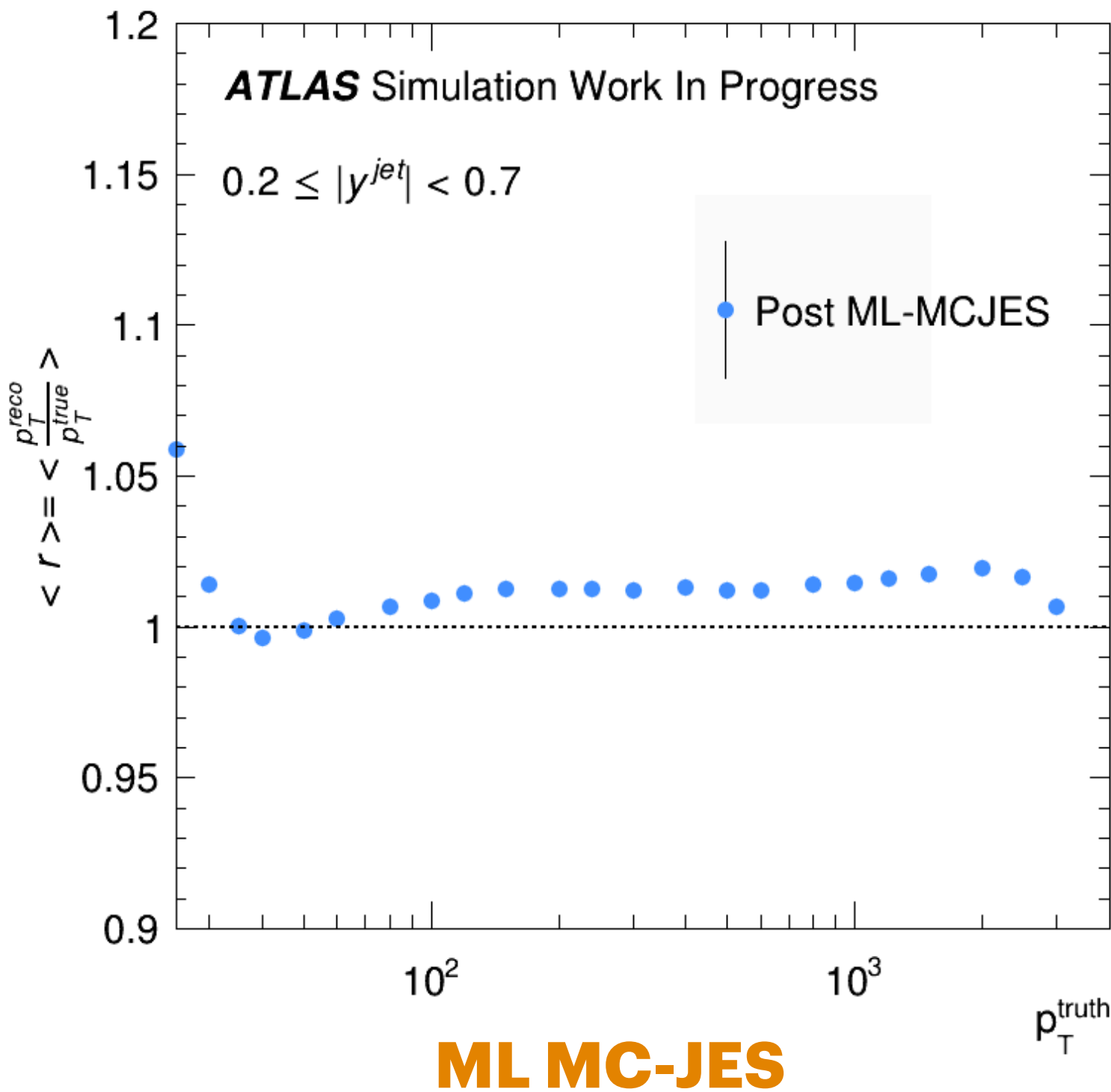


- Slightly more non-closure in high rapidity jets across all  $p_T$  bins.

# Performance of the Network

## Comparison to current MC-JES

- Remarkable closure for jets with  $p_T \geq 25$  GeV in ML-MCJES.
- Closure comparable to the current MC-JES with (upto 5% non-closure)



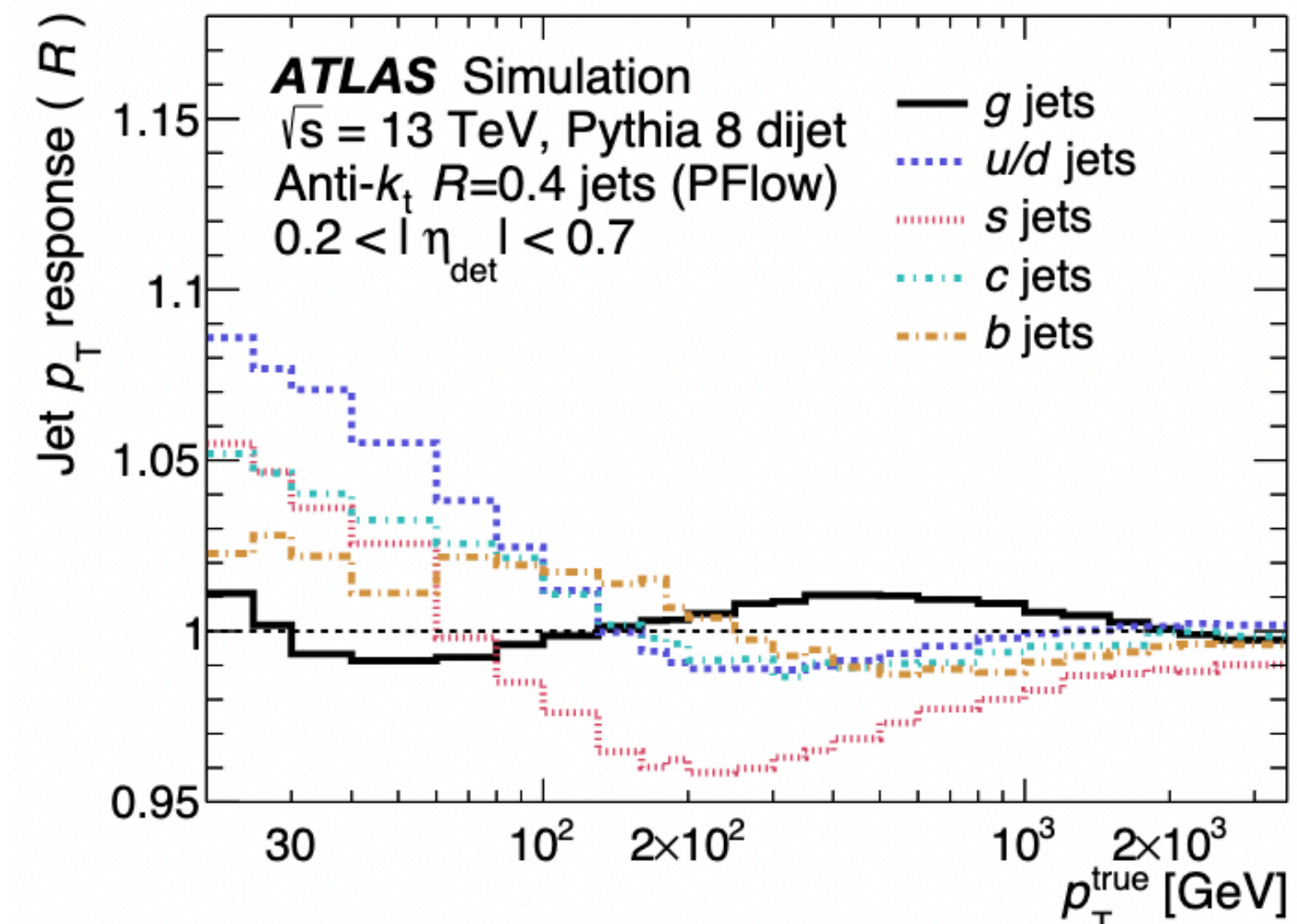
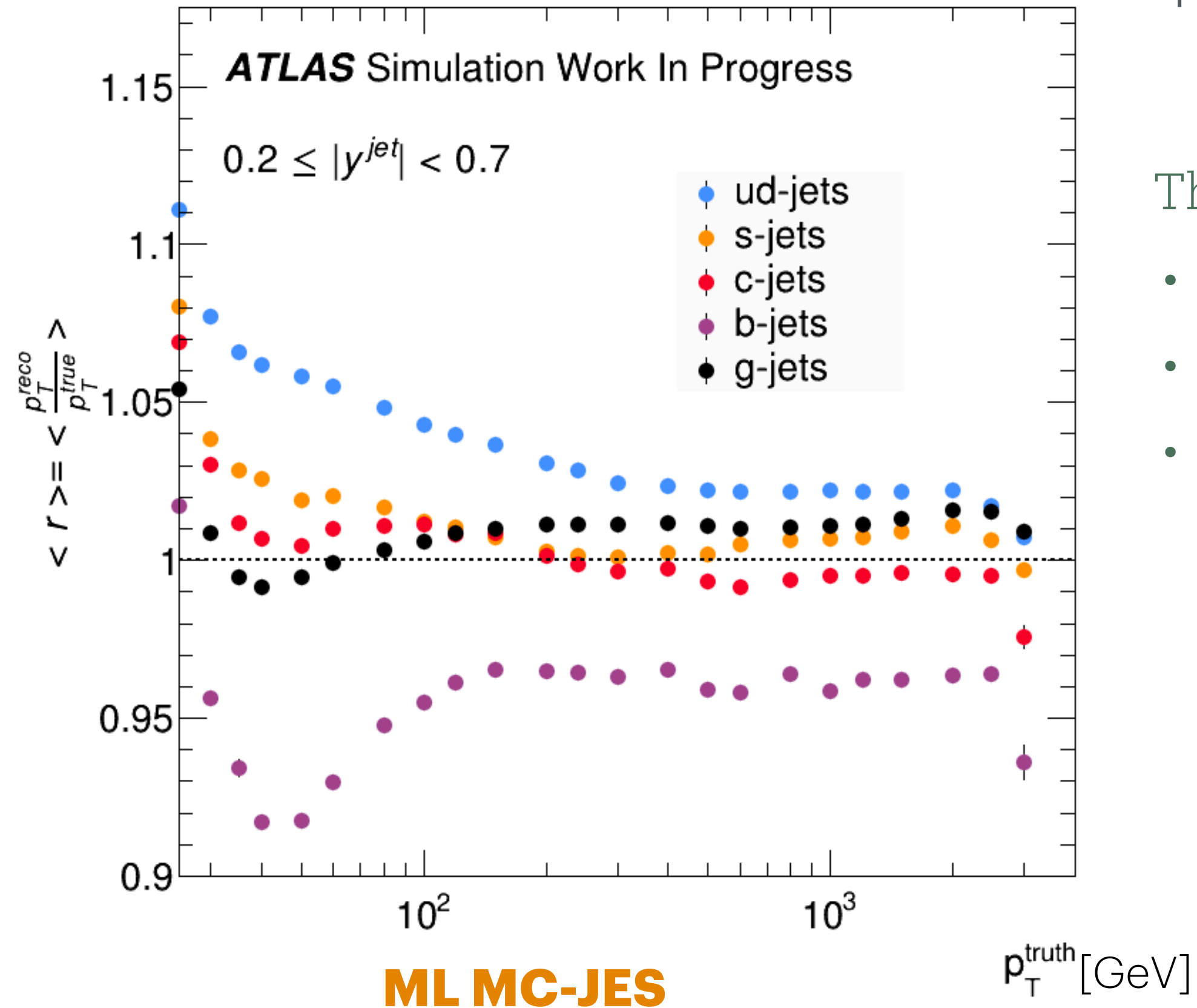
**Current MC-JES: Eur. Phys. J. C (2023) 83:761**

# Performance of the Network

## Flavor dependence of calibration

There are flavour dependencies on the Average response of the calibrated jets.

- Gluon jets have better closure than quark jets.
- b-jets have the worst closure of all jet flavours.
- Similar trends seen in current GNNC Calibrations in Run-3 jets.

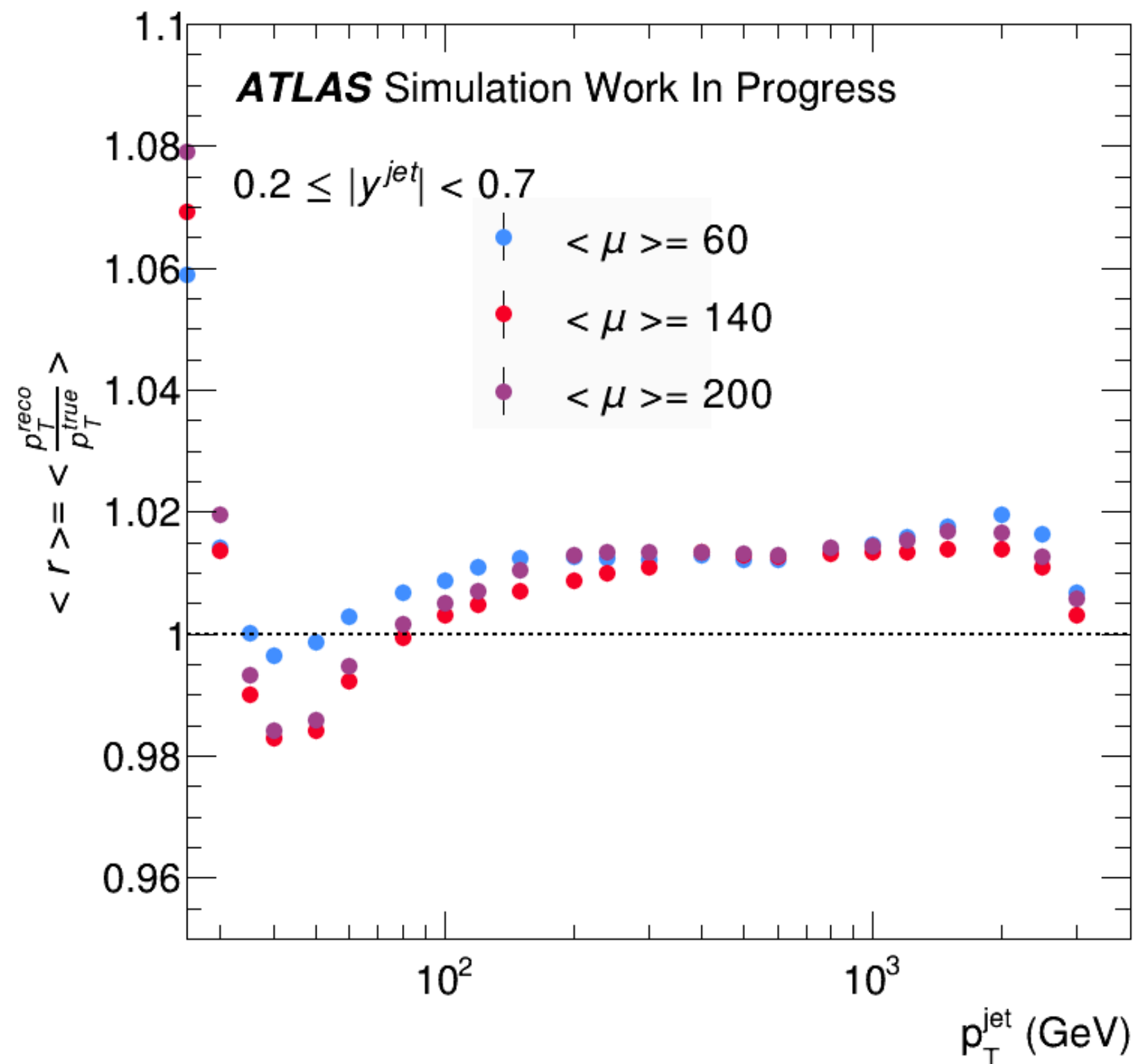


**Current Calibration: Eur. Phys. J. C (2023) 83:761**

# Performance of the Network

## Pile-up dependence of ML-MCJES

### Most important for the HL-LHC era



- A separate NN was trained for different pileup conditions
- Very good closure (Non-closure  $< 5\%$ ) in most  $p_T$  bins.
- Low  $p_T$  jets coming from high pileup conditions have worse closure than low pileup ones.
- Pileup dependence is very low.

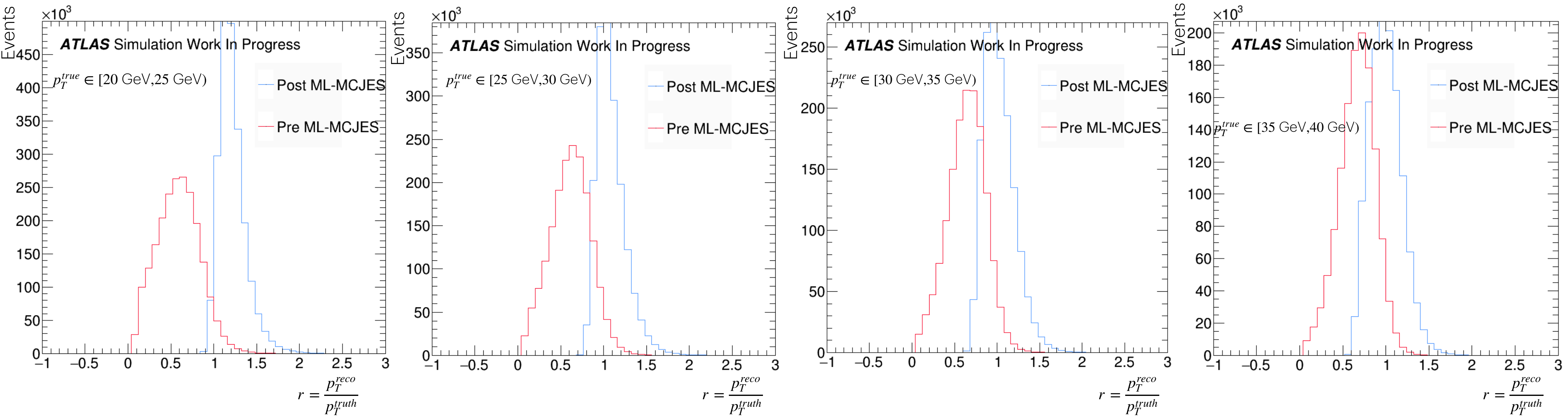
# Conclusions

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- Closure is extremely good in jets with  $p_T > 25$  GeV. But why do we have non-closures in the low  $p_T$  bins?

# Conclusions

## Response distributions in jet $p_T$ bins



- Non-gaussian tails in the response distribution - shifts the mean response upwards
  - As we go to higher  $p_T$  bins, the response looks more and more gaussian - the gaussian ansatz works better!

# Conclusions

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- Closure is extremely good in jets with  $p_T > 25$  GeV.
- We can make use of Mixture Density Networks (MDNs)
  - Modelling the non-gaussian tails of the posterior density in low  $p_T$  jets

# Conclusions

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- Closure is extremely good in jets with  $p_T > 25$  GeV.
- We can make use of Mixture Density Networks (MDNs)
  - Modelling the non-gaussian tails of the posterior density in low  $p_T$  jets
- Use of calorimeter cluster information as inputs can improve the calibration

|             |                        |   |
|-------------|------------------------|---|
| Calorimeter | $f_{\text{LAr}0-3^*}$  | The $E_{\text{frac}}$ measured in the 0th-3rd layer of the EM LAr calorimeter           |
|             | $f_{\text{Tile}0^*-2}$ | The $E_{\text{frac}}$ measured in the 0th-2nd layer of the hadronic tile calorimeter    |
|             | $f_{\text{HEC},0-3}$   | The $E_{\text{frac}}$ measured in the 0th-3rd layer of the hadronic end cap calorimeter |
|             | $f_{\text{FCAL},0-2}$  | The $E_{\text{frac}}$ measured in the 0th-2nd layer of the forward calorimeter          |

# Can we do better?

- Closure is extremely good in jets with  $p_T > 25$  GeV.
- We can make use of Mixture Density Networks (MDNs)
  - Modelling the non-gaussian tails of the posterior density in low  $p_T$  jets
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**But we are already doing very well!**

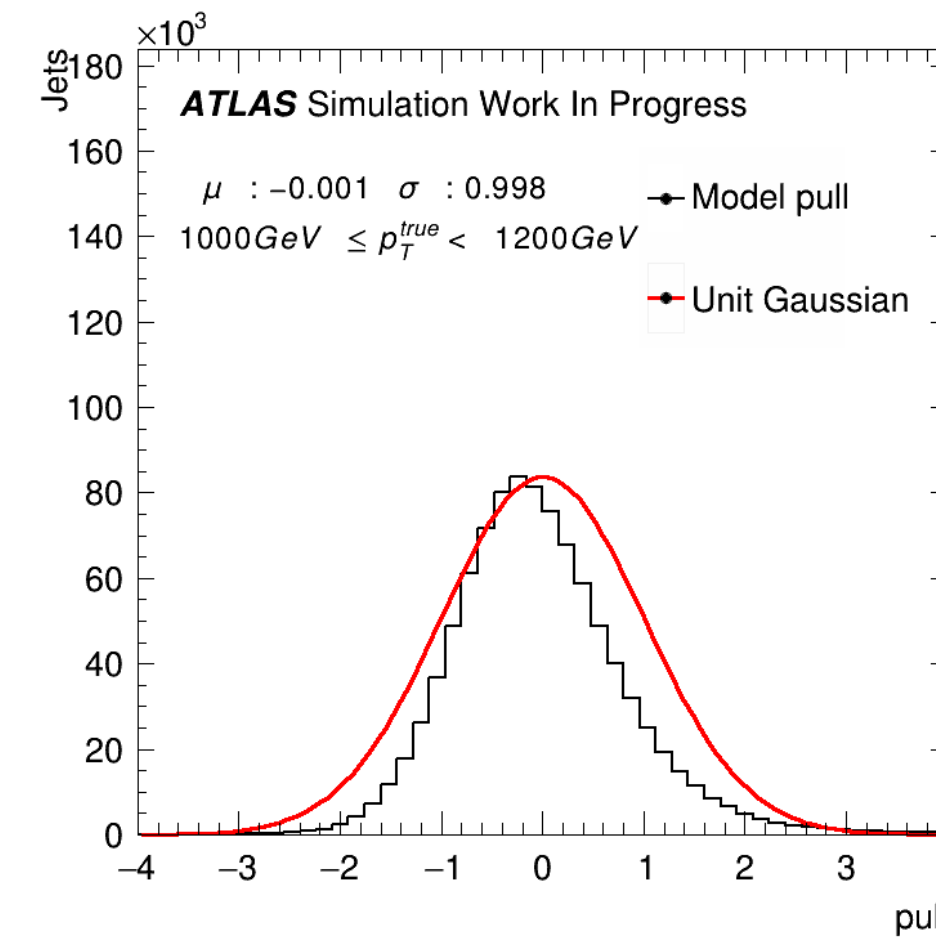
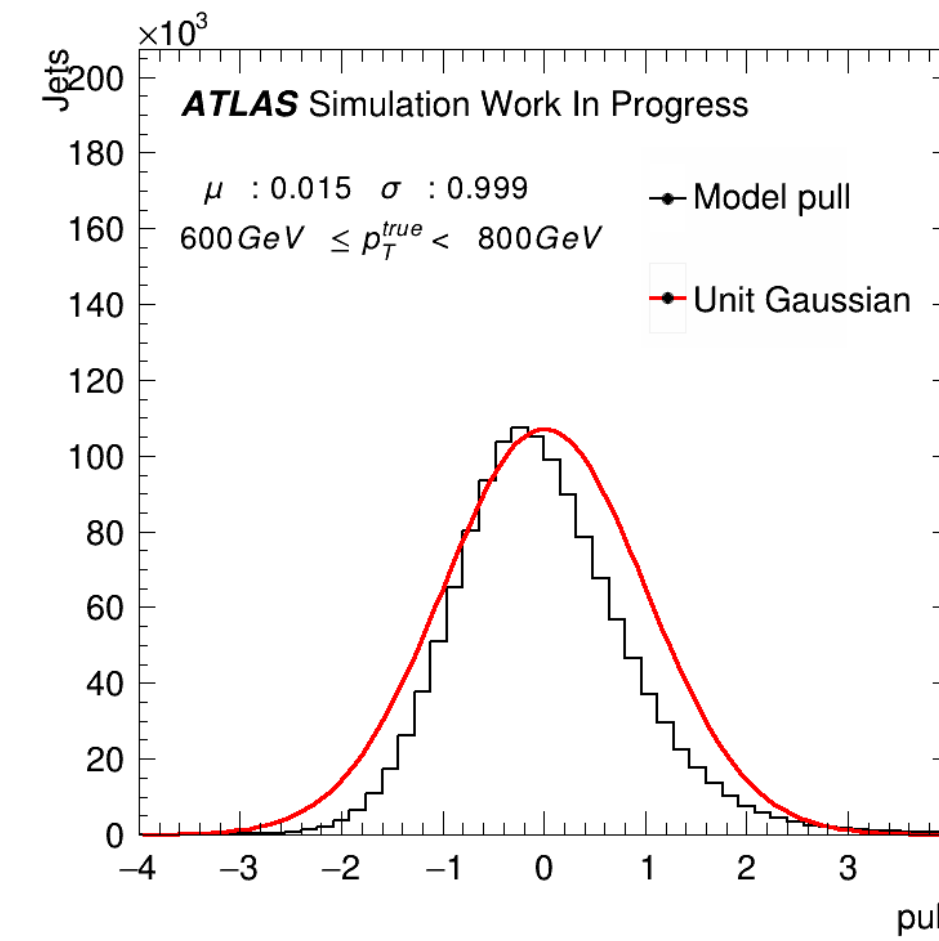
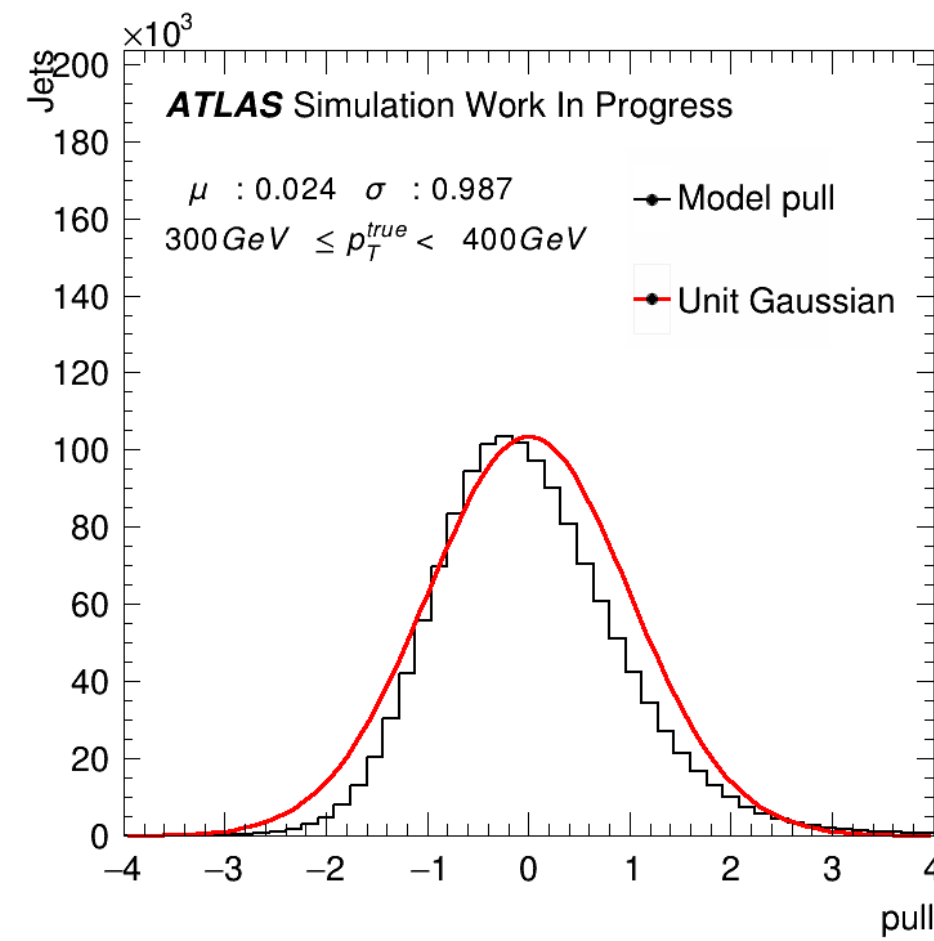
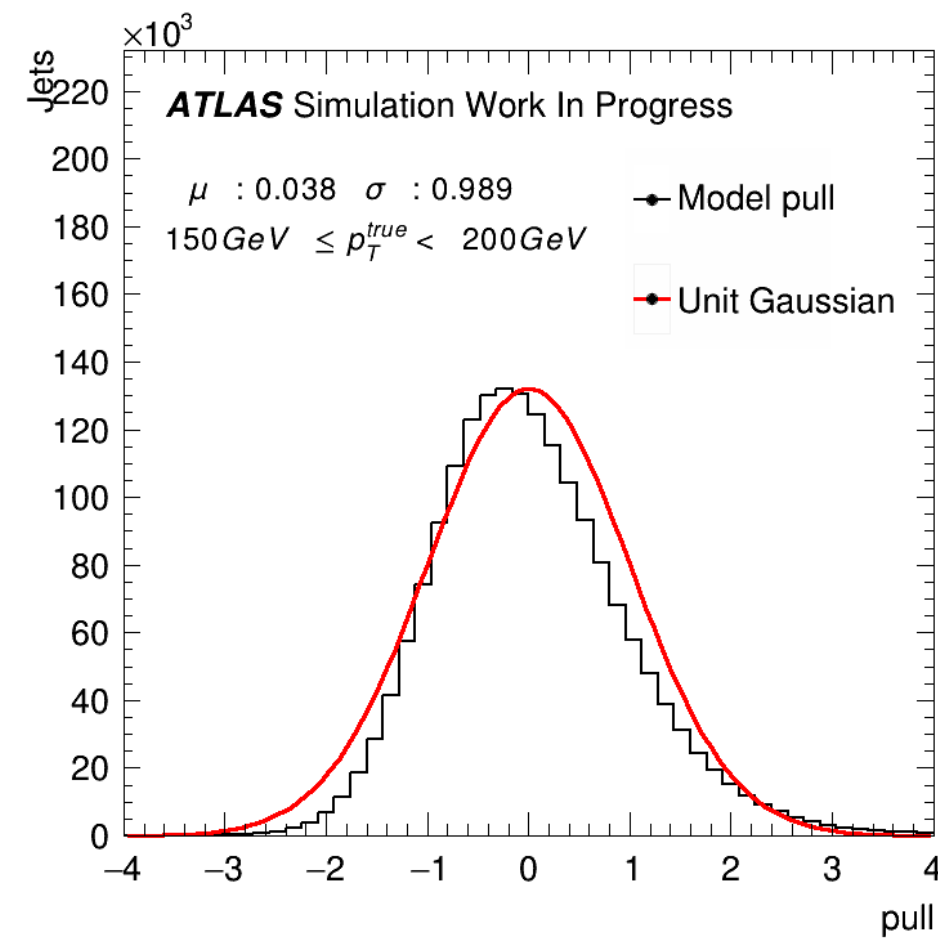
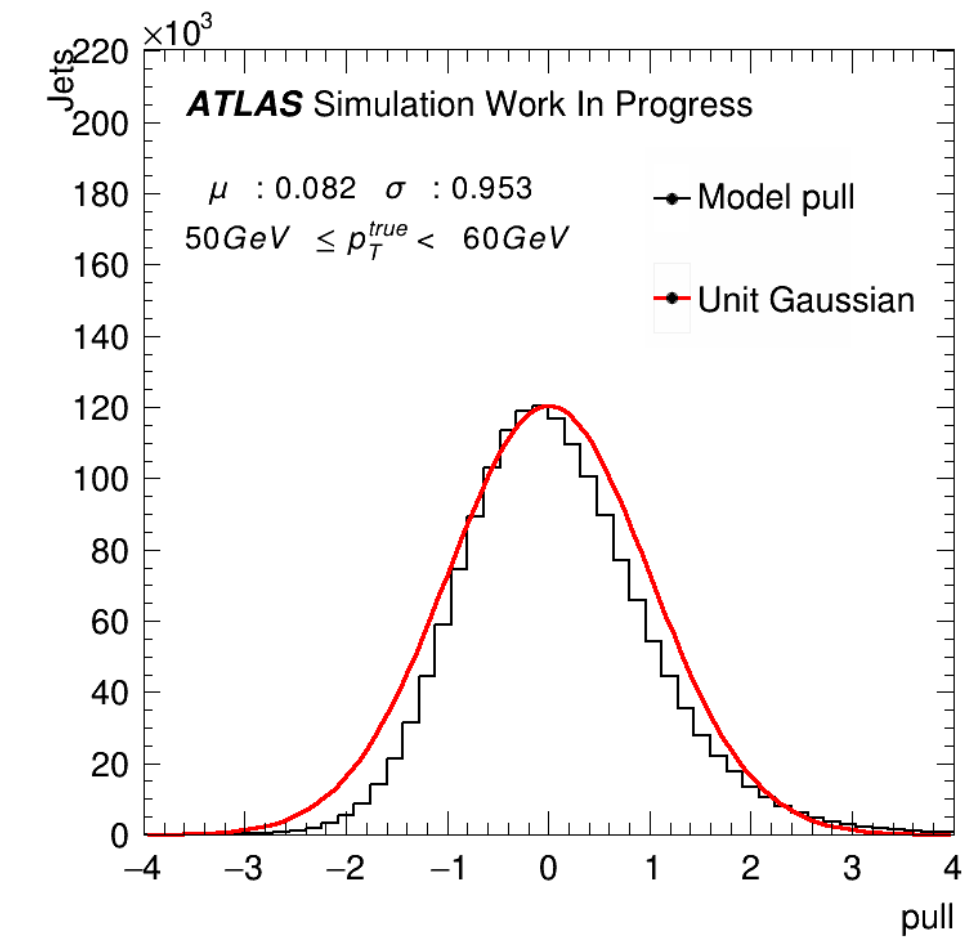
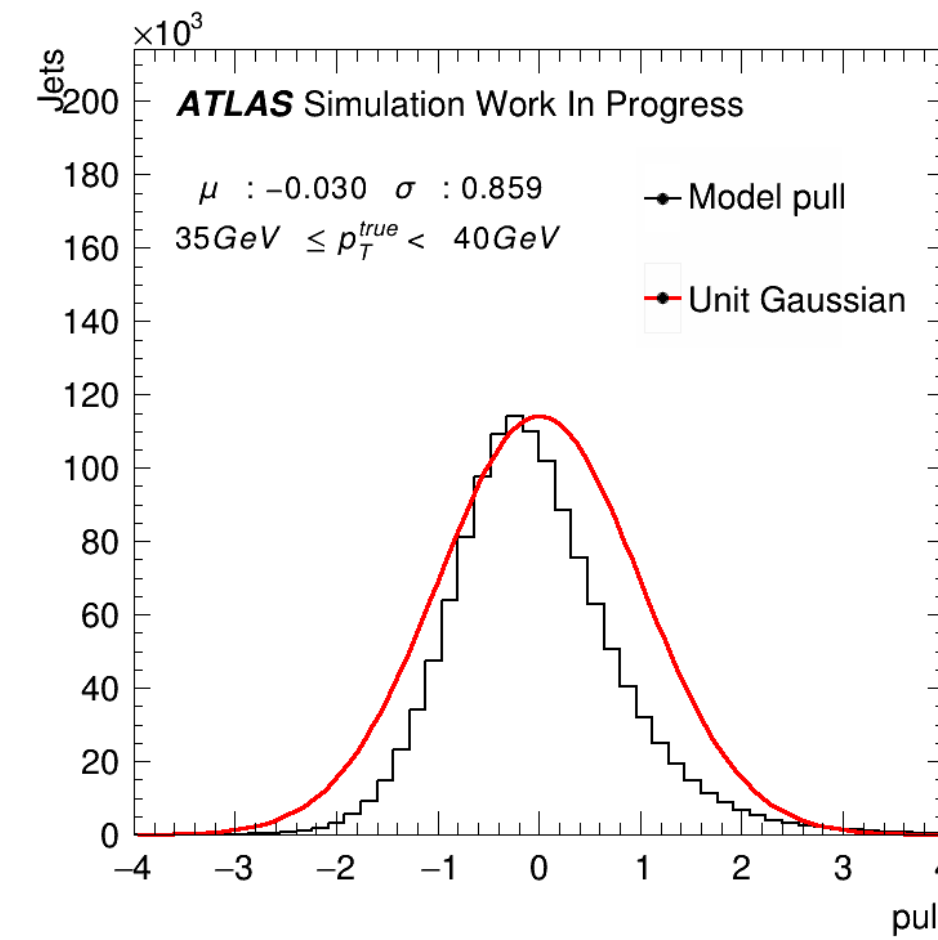
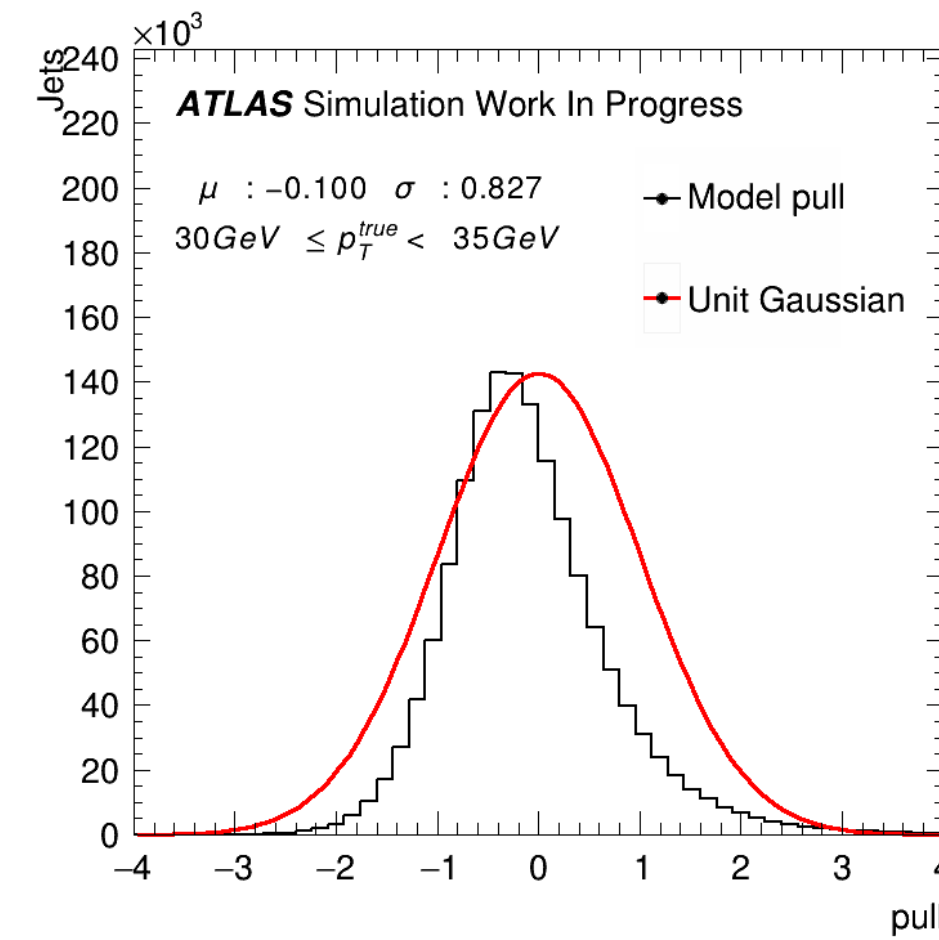
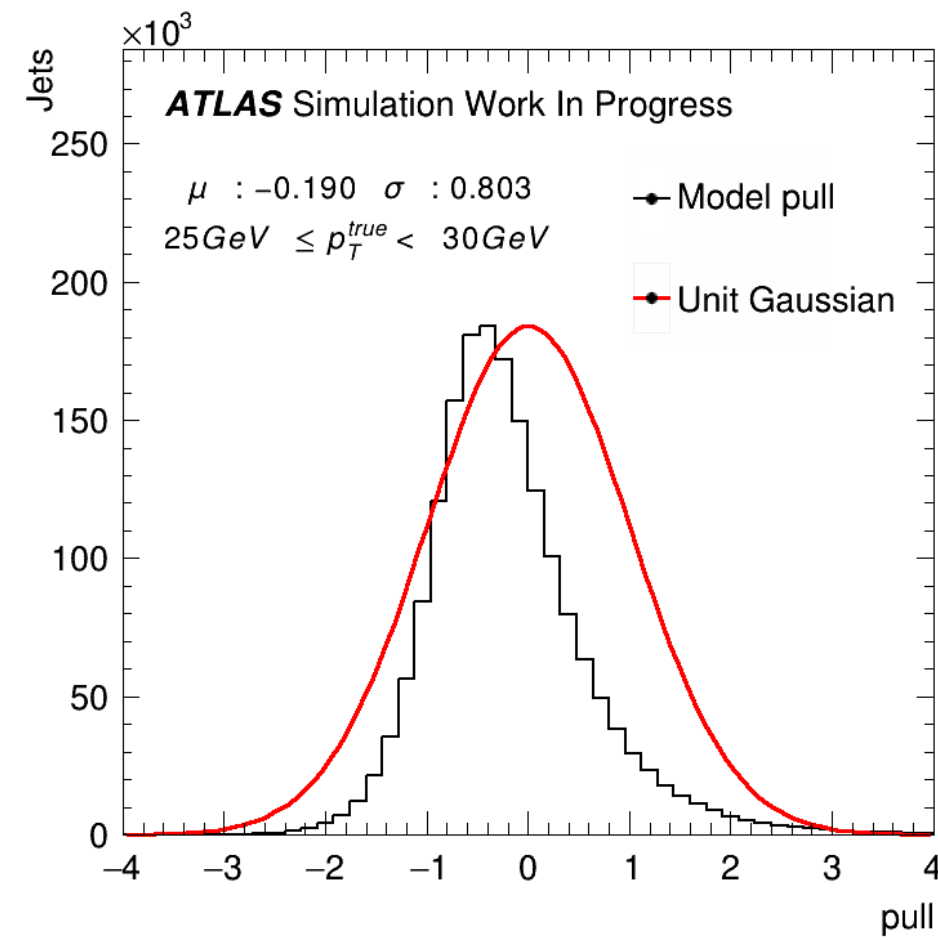
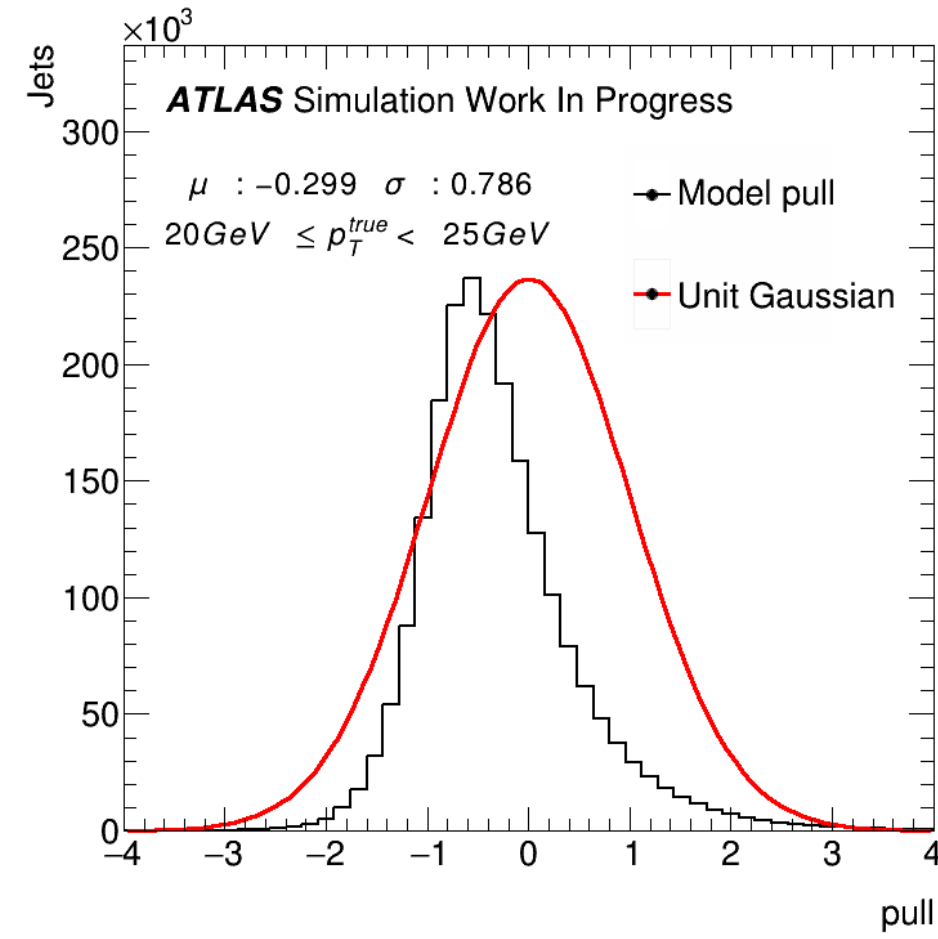
- Time taken for training the NN for 1700 epochs: 12hrs
  - Time taken for inference: 1 min
- } Much faster than current jet calibration scheme

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# Backups

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# Pull Plots



$$\text{pull} = \frac{p_T^{\text{calib}} - p_T^{\text{truth}}}{\sigma_{p_T}^{\text{calib}}}$$

# What is SHAP value?

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- **SHAP (SHapley Additive exPlanations)** is a method to explain individual predictions of an ML model. — Based on Lloyd Shapley’s concept of Shapley value in co-operative games.
- Each input feature is a “player” in our game that tries to produce the model’s prediction.
- SHAP value determines how each player contributes to this final prediction.
- SHAP decomposes the prediction as:

$$f_{prediction} = f_{base} + \sum_i \phi_i$$

Average prediction of the model      Contribution of the feature  $i$

# What is SHAP value?

- For a trained network  $f(x)$ , SHAP defines:

$$\phi_i = \mathbb{E}_{S \subseteq F \setminus i} [f(x_{S \cup i}) - f(x_S)]$$

- Take a subset of features  $S$ .
- Compute model prediction without feature  $i$ :  $f(x_S)$
- Add the feature  $i$ :  $f(x_{S \cup i})$
- Measure the change in prediction.
- Average over all subsets.

Game Theory Version

But that would be computationally intensive for large NNs

- SHAP calculates the baseline.  
 $f(\text{baseline})$
- For a given jet total prediction shift is calculated  
 $\Delta f = f(x) - f(\text{baseline})$
- SHAP propagates contribution score through the network:
  - At each neuron:
    - $\Delta \text{output} = \sum$  contribution from each input
- This is done layer by layer.
- Finally SHAP assigns  $\phi_i$  of each feature  $i$  to  $\Delta f$

# Are you what I think you are?

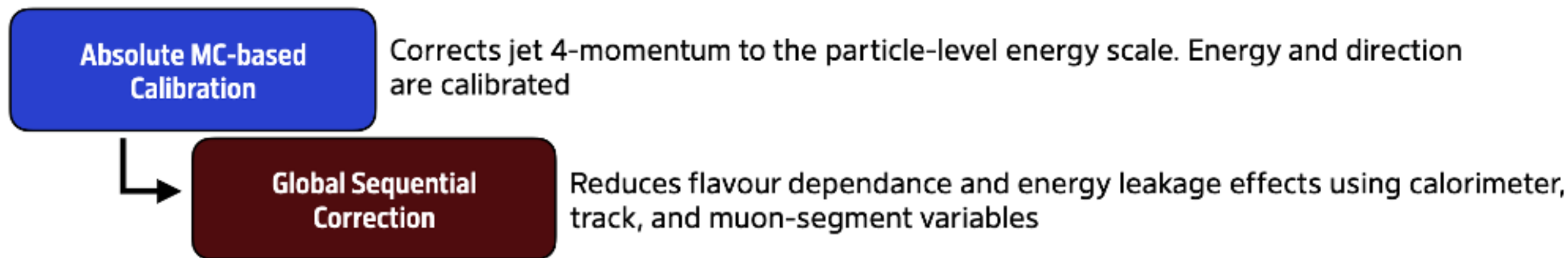
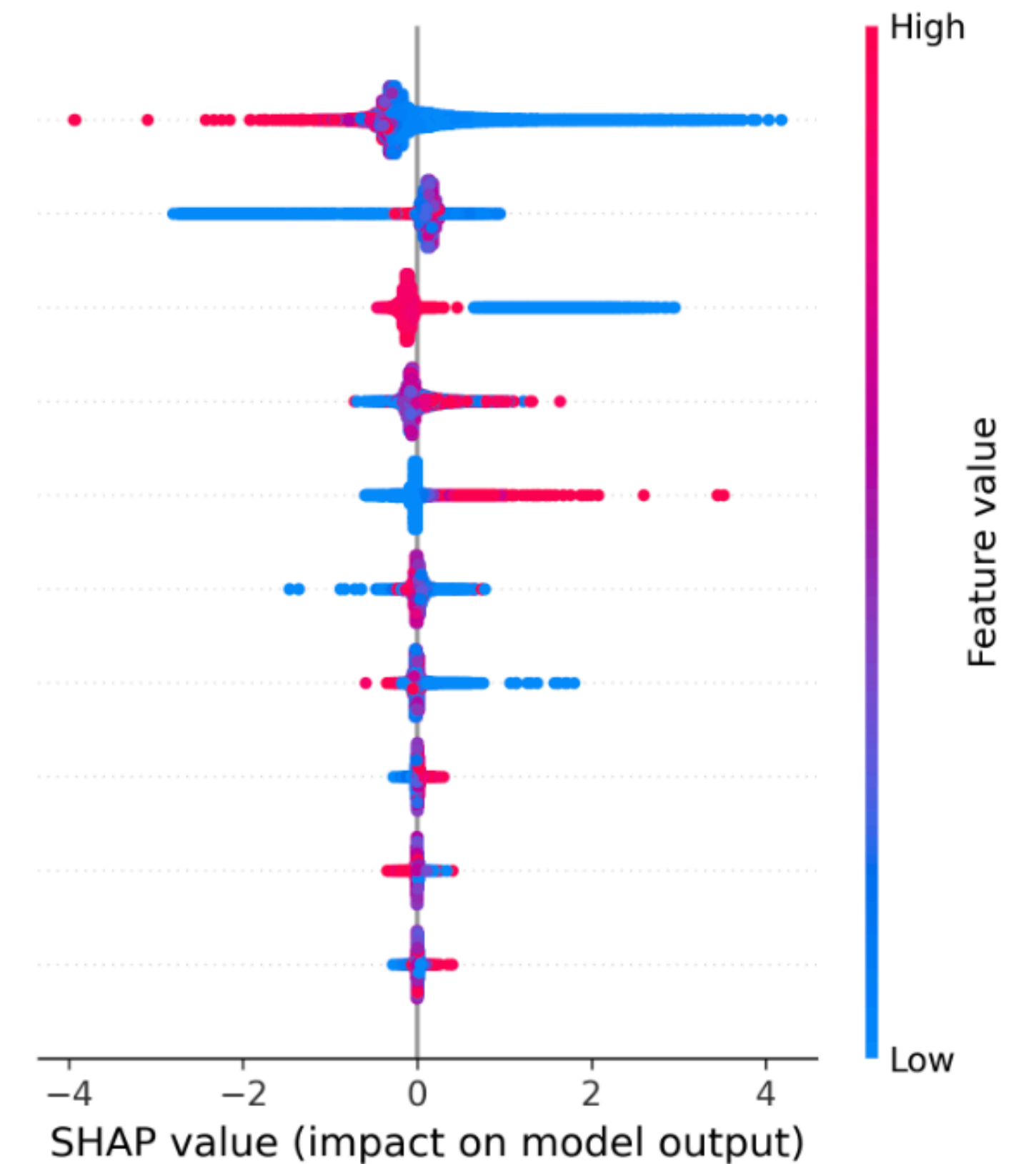


- We use SHAP to look at the feature importance to investigate if the network is leaning something unphysical

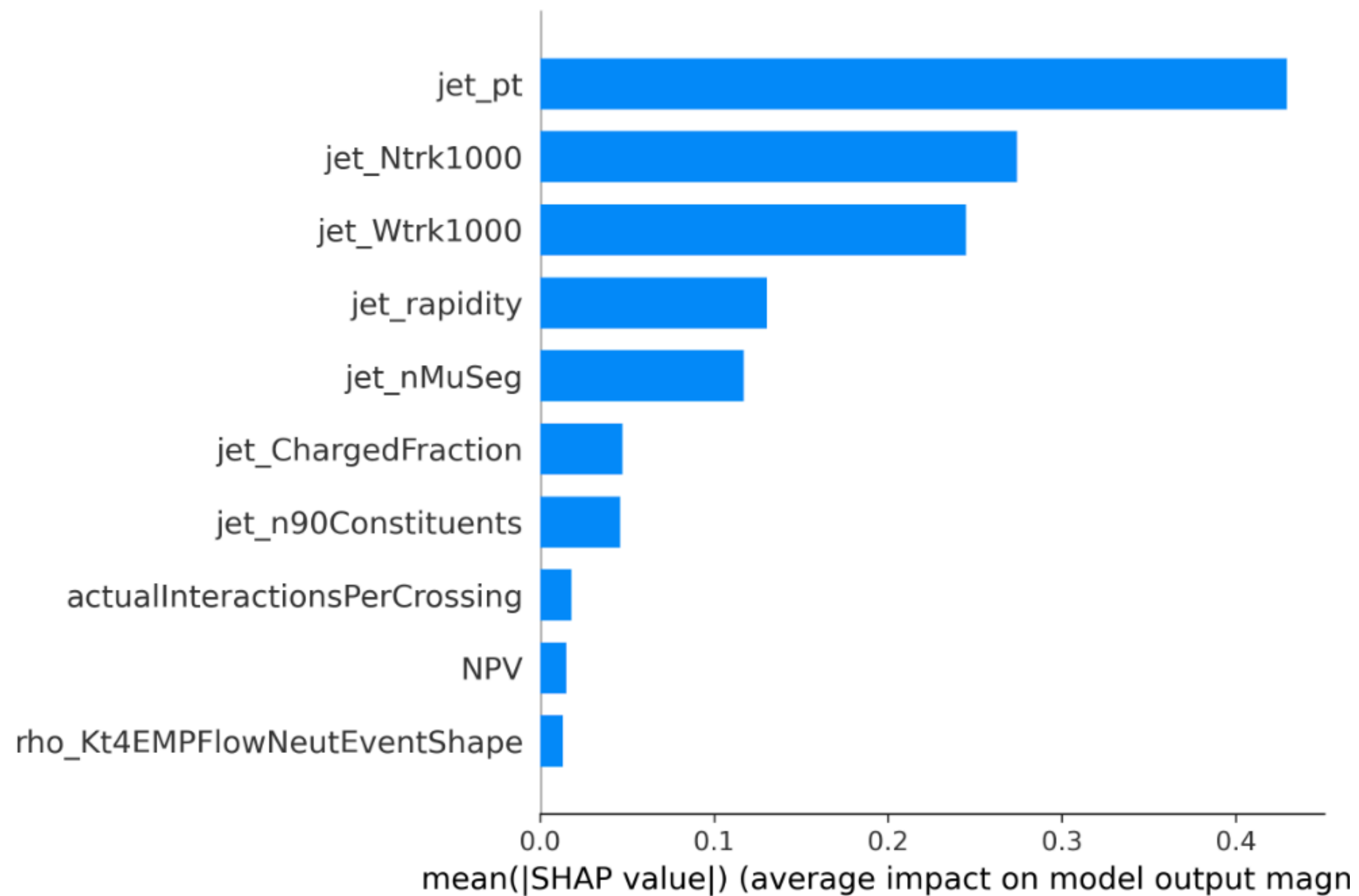
- High importance to  $p_T$  and  $y$ : like MC-JES
- $N_{trk}$ ,  $w_{trk}$ ,  $N_{\mu-seg}$ ,  $f^{Ch}$ ,  $N_{90\%}$ : like GSC

jet\_pt  
jet\_Ntrk1000  
jet\_Wtrk1000  
jet\_rapidity  
jet\_nMuSeg  
jet\_ChargedFraction  
jet\_n90Constituents

actualInteractionsPerCrossing  
NPV  
rho\_Kt4EMPFlowNeutEventShape



# SHAP Feature Importance



- High importance to jet kinematic variables ( $p_T$  and  $y$ ) and jet constituent variables ( $N_{trk}$ ,  $w_{trk}$ ,  $N_{\mu-seg}$ ,  $f^{Ch}$ ,  $N_{90\%}$ )
- Lower importance to pileup variables ( $\mu_{act}$ ,  $N_{P_V}$ ,  $\rho$ )