

# Search for Higgs production in association with a top quark pair in the $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ final state

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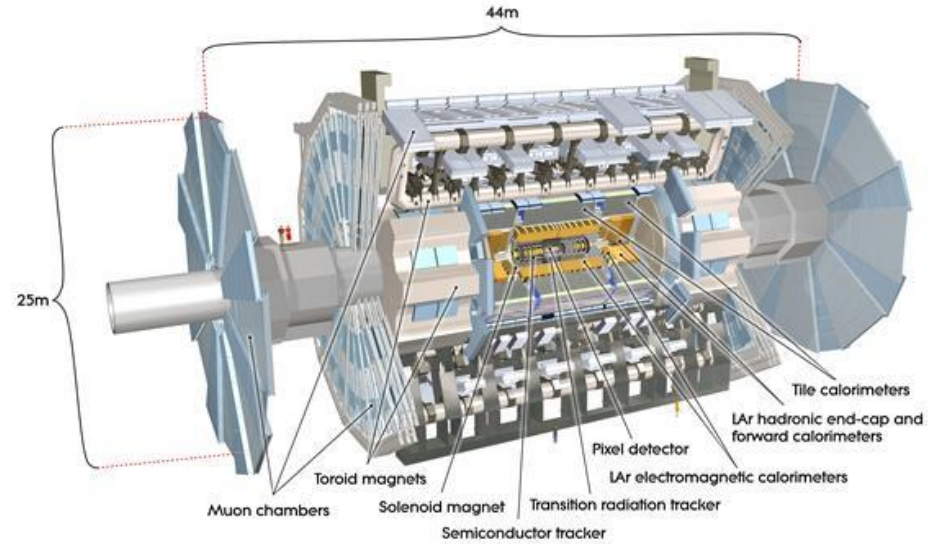
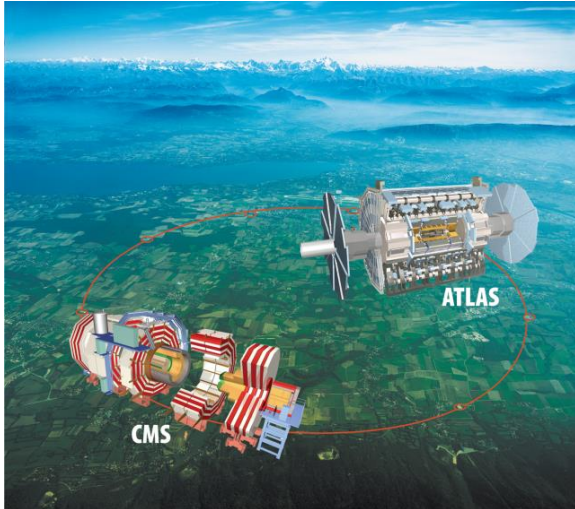
May 30, 2017

# Introduction

- LHC and ATLAS
- Higgs Production
- $ttH \rightarrow bb$  semileptonic channel
- Matrix Element Method
- MVA Techniques

# LHC and ATLAS

- Large Hadron Collider
- 27 km circumference
- Proton beams colliding at 13 TeV centre-of-mass energy

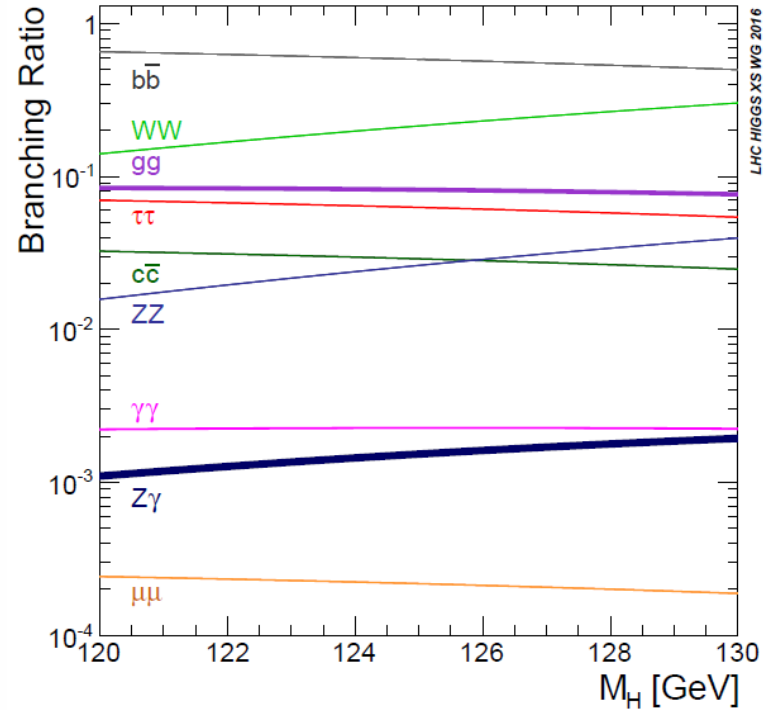
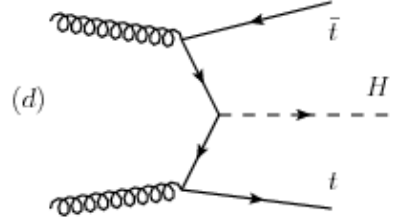
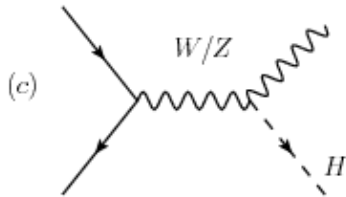
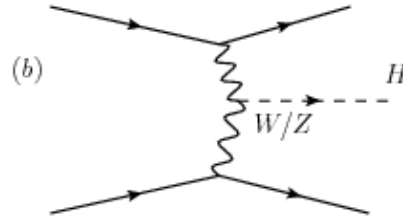
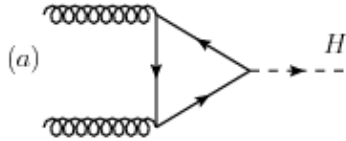


- “A Toroidal LHC ApparatuS”
- 25m diameter x 46m length, 7000 tonnes
- 3000 physicists, 180 institutions involved



# Higgs Production

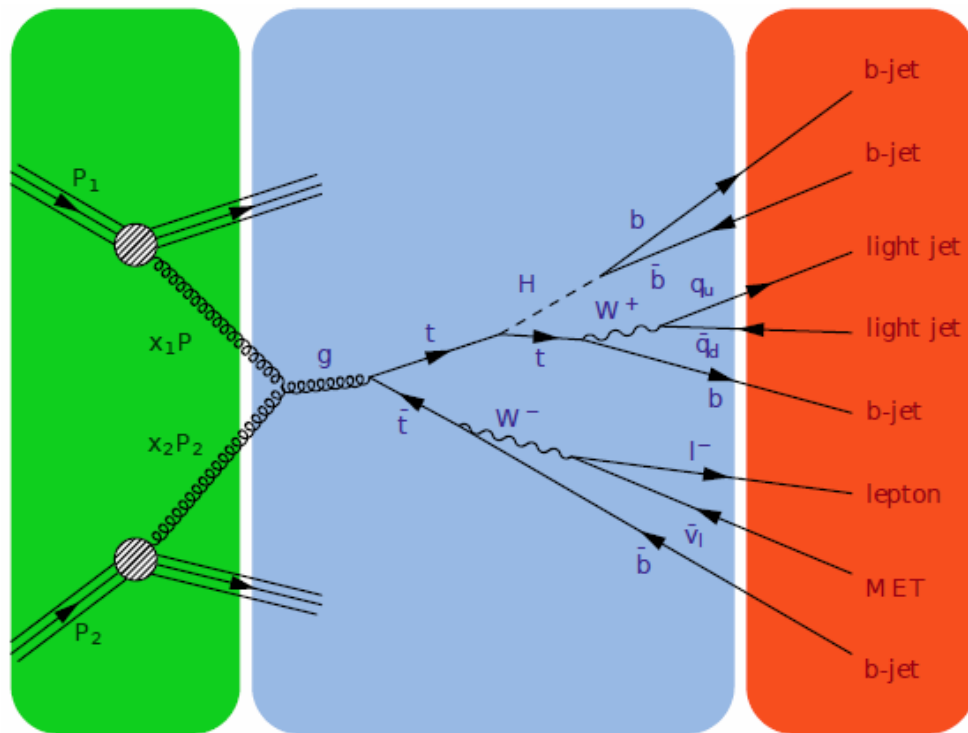
- ggF, VBF, associated production, ttH
- ttH - fourth highest Higgs production cross-section
- Direct measurement of Higgs-top Yukawa coupling



- $b\bar{b}$  decay mode maximizes XS x BR for ttH

# ttHbb

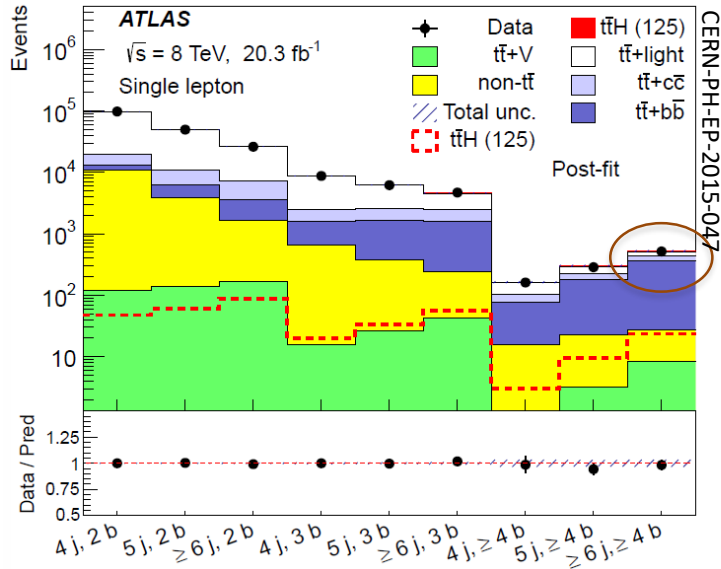
- $t\bar{t}H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  semileptonic channel
  - 2 b quarks from Higgs
  - 2 b quarks from top decay  $t \rightarrow Wb$
  - 1 leptonic W decay – lepton + neutrino
  - 1 hadronic W decay – 2 light jets
- Main background  $t\bar{t} + b\bar{b}$ 
  - Higgs replaced by gluon
  - Similar kinematics
- Combinatoric Background
  - Which b-jets are from Higgs decay?



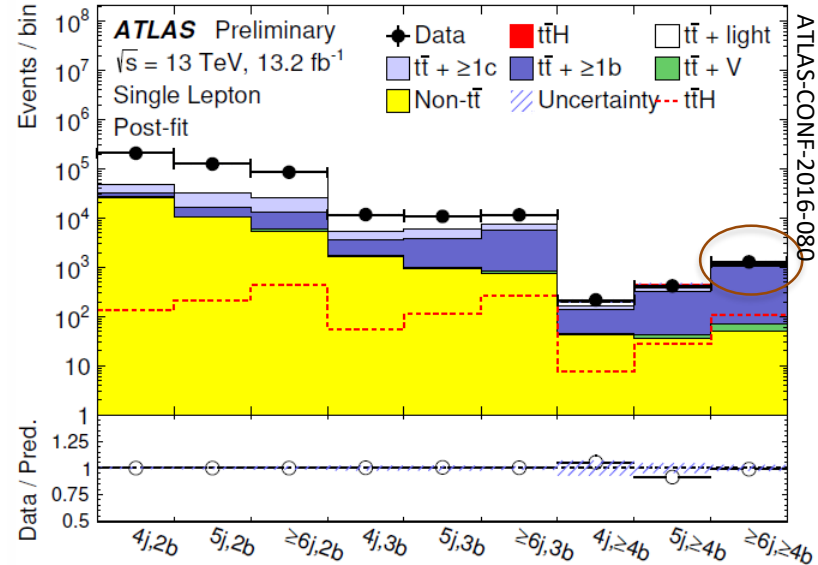
Olaf Nackenhorst, CERN-THESIS-2015-186

# Previous Results

Run 1 (2012)



ICHEP 2016



- Tiny signal compared to background
- Run 1 - Matrix Element Method with Neural Network
- ICHEP – Reconstruction and Classification BDTs

# Matrix Element Method

- Likelihood that event was produced by a specific process

## Matrix Element

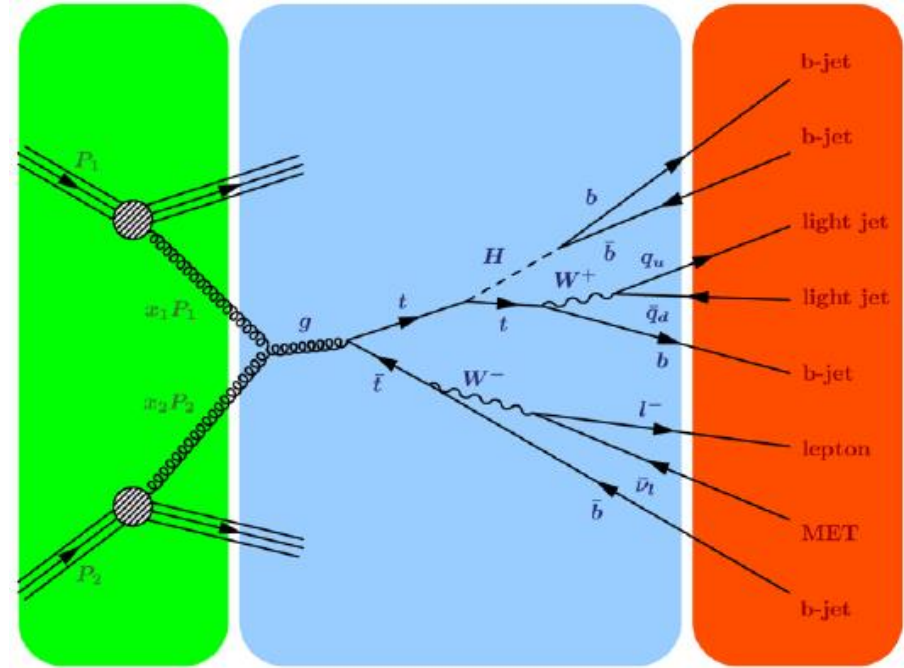
- Theoretical description of signal or background process

## Parton distribution function

- Accounts for initial collision

## Transfer functions

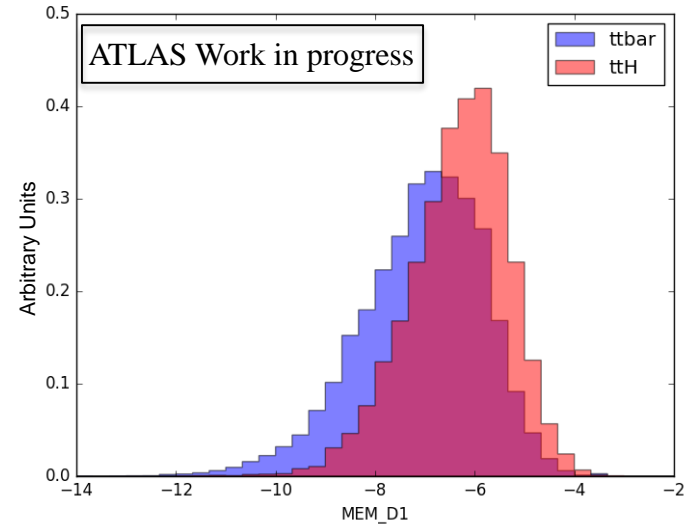
- Maps detector response to event level
- Quarks undergo parton shower, hadronization  $\rightarrow$  jets



$$\underbrace{P_{t\bar{t}H}(\vec{x}_{\text{Detector}}, m_H)}_{\text{probability}} = \frac{1}{\underbrace{\sigma_{t\bar{t}H}(m_H)}_{\text{normalization}}} \int \underbrace{dp_{g1} dp_{g2} f(p_{g1}) f(p_{g2})}_{\text{parton density function}} \underbrace{d\sigma_{t\bar{t}H}(\tilde{x}_{\text{Parton}}, m_H)}_{\text{differential cross section}} \underbrace{W(\vec{x}_{\text{Parton}}, \vec{x}_{\text{Detector}})}_{\text{transfer functions}}$$

# Using MEM

- Likelihood calculated for  $t\bar{t}H$  and  $t\bar{t}b\bar{b}$  processes
  - Discriminating variable  $D_1 = L_{t\bar{t}H}/L_{t\bar{t}b\bar{b}}$
- Computationally demanding
  - 7D integration over jet energies, neutrino  $p_z$
  - Monte Carlo integration – VEGAS
  - Implementation can run on CPUs or GPUs
- 12 different b-jet assignment for b quarks
  - Use sum of likelihoods for all permutations





# MEM Inputs

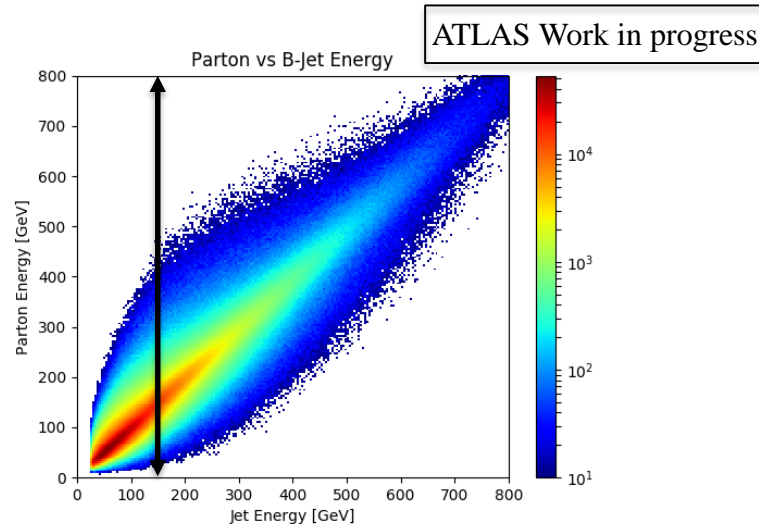
- 1 Lepton
  - Assume well-measured in detector ( $\delta$ -function TFs)
- 1 Neutrino
  - $\vec{p}_T = -\Sigma\vec{p}_T$  of final state particles
  - Integrate over  $p_z$  (or solve assuming on-shell W)
- Quarks
  - b quarks: 4 highest  $p_T$  b-tagged jets
  - Light quarks: 2 remaining jets that minimize  $|m_W - m_{jj}|$
  - Jet directions assumed well-measured
  - TFs to constrain integration over parton energy

Initial state partons

- Assume aligned with beam axis
- Solve for  $E, p_z$  with final state  $\Sigma E, \Sigma p_z$

# Transfer Functions

- PDF for parton energy for given jet energy
- Double Gaussian or Crystal Ball function
- Parameters dependent on  $E_{jet}$
- Different TFs for b-jets, light jets



$$CB(E_j, E_p) = N \cdot \begin{cases} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) & x \leq \alpha \\ A \cdot (B + x)^{-n} & x > \alpha, \end{cases}$$

$$x = \frac{E_p - E_j - \mu}{\sigma}$$

$$A = \left(\frac{n}{|\alpha|}\right)^n \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{|\alpha|^2}{2}\right)$$

$$B = \frac{n}{|\alpha|} - |\alpha|$$

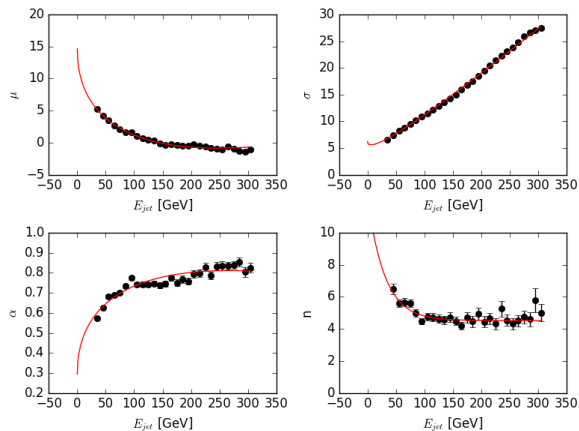
$$C = \frac{n}{|\alpha|} \cdot \frac{1}{n-1} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{|\alpha|^2}{2}\right)$$

$$D = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{|\alpha|}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\right)$$

$$N = \frac{1}{\sigma(C + D)}$$

# Transfer Functions

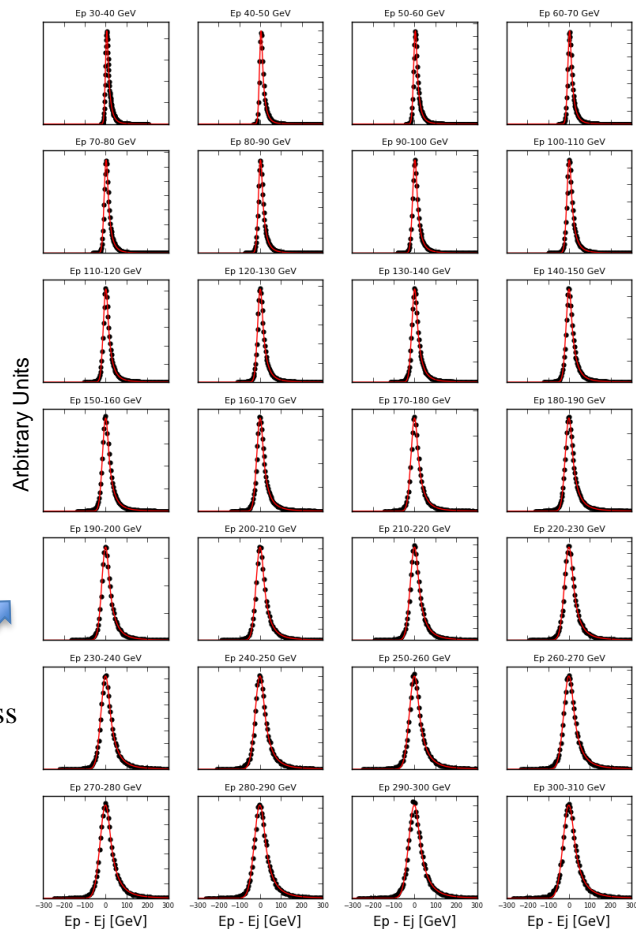
- Match quarks to jets
  - $\Delta R < 0.3$
- Fit 10 GeV  $E_{jet}$  slices
- Fit resulting parameters to  $E_{jet}$



$$CB(E_j, E_p) = N \cdot \begin{cases} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right) & x \leq \alpha \\ A \cdot (B + x)^{-n} & x > \alpha, \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= 14.65 + 0.06293E_j - 1.976\sqrt{E_j} \\ \sigma &= 6.184 + 0.09858E_j - 0.4842\sqrt{E_j} \\ \alpha &= 0.2938 - 0.001944E_j + 0.06344\sqrt{E_j} \\ n &= 4.867 \end{aligned}$$

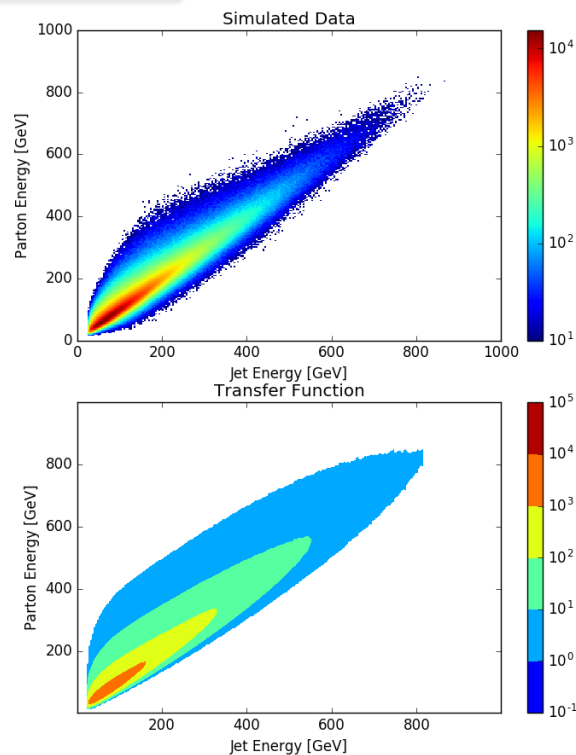
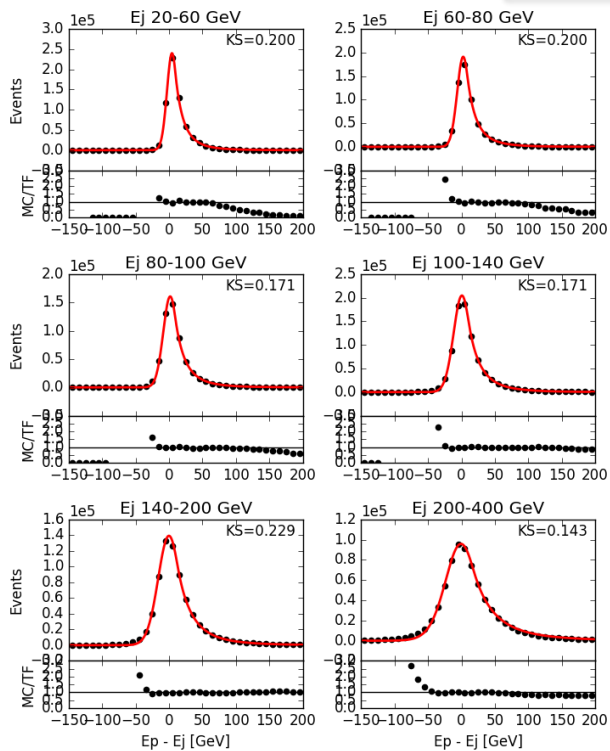
ATLAS Work in progress



# TF Validation

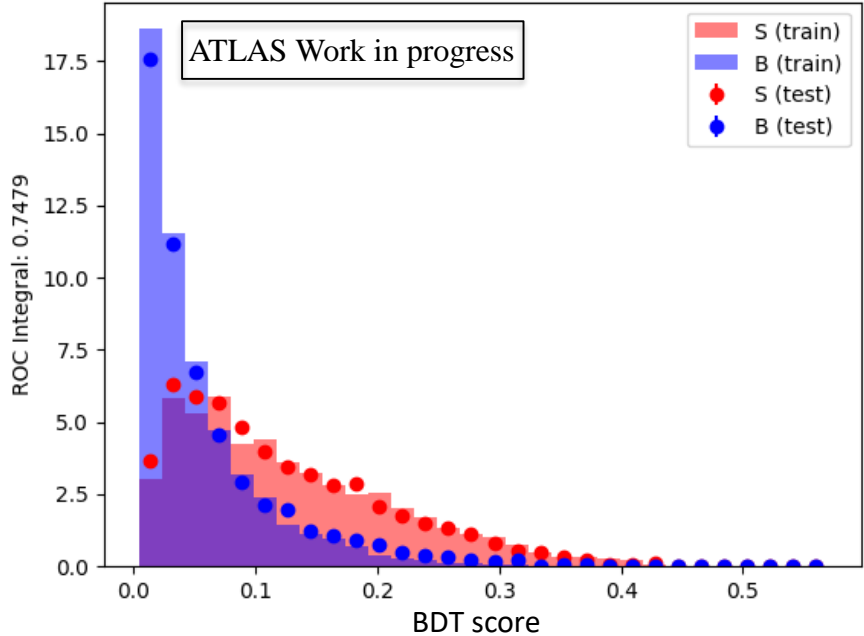
bjet Validation

ATLAS Work in progress



# MEM BDT

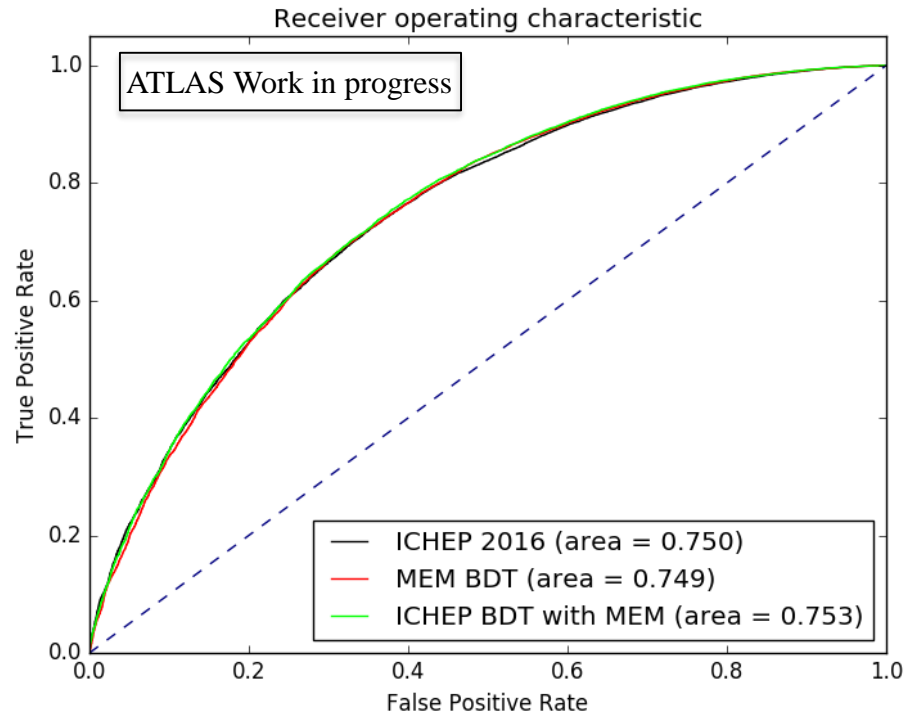
- Boosted Decision Trees outperform Neural Network from Run 1
- MEM in BDT to increase sensitivity
- 9 Kinematic variables
  - e.g.,  $\Delta R_{bb}^{avg}$ ,  $M_{bb}^{\min \Delta R}$ ,  $\Delta \eta_{jj}^{\max \Delta \eta}$
- Can combine with other MVA techniques for greater separation





# Comparison to previous results

- ROC curve
  - Sig vs bkg fraction remaining after continuous cuts on BDT
- Similar separation power to baseline from ICHEP
- Improvement when combined



# Status and Outlook

- MEM performs as well as other MVA techniques
- Motivated by theory
- Can be combined to increase performance
- Working on result for 2015-2016 data
- Expect evidence for  $t\bar{t}H$  in combination with all decay channels by end of 2017

