

Higgs Boson  
dataset: From  
Description to  
Ensemble

Robert  
Castellano,  
Yannick  
Kimmel,  
Wanda Wang,  
Ho Fai Wong

Exploratory  
data analysis

Models

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# Higgs Boson dataset: From Description to Ensemble

Robert Castellano, Yannick Kimmel, Wanda Wang, Ho Fai Wong

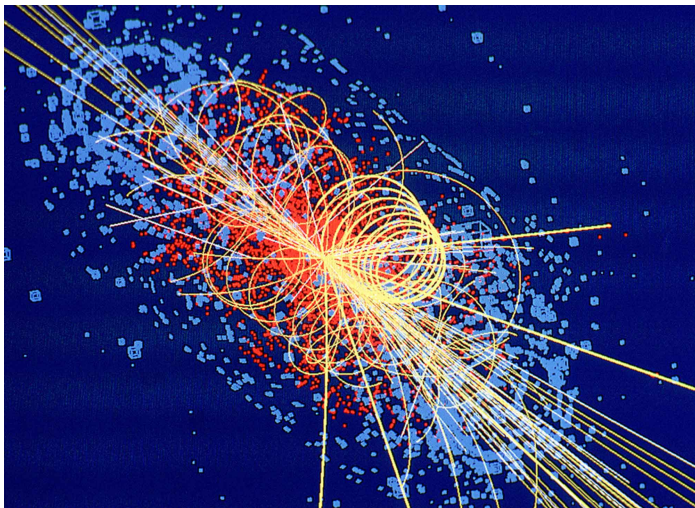
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# Exploratory data analysis

# Sparse dataset

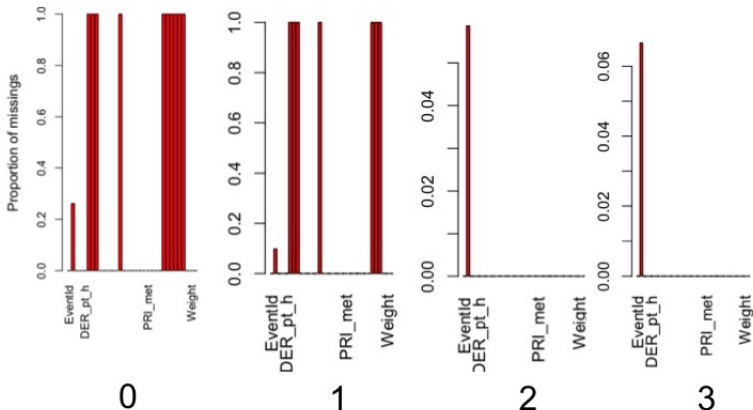
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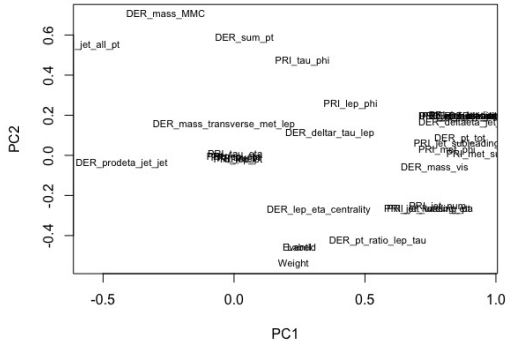
- Jet number can be treated as a factor for missingness.

# Principal component analysis

## Higgs Boson dataset: From Description to Ensemble

## Exploratory data analysis

## Models



	PC1	PC2	PC3	PC4	PC5	PC6	PC7	PC8	PC9	h2	u2	com
DER_mass_MMC	0.25	-0.45	-0.02	0.55	0.04	-0.02	0.01	-0.24	0.00	0.63	0.3693	2.8
Label	0.23	-0.54	-0.07	0.11	0.24	0.01	-0.01	-0.36	-0.04	0.55	0.4476	2.8

- PCA shows that derived mass and label have a very strong relationship.

# Mass as a predictor of Higgs Boson presence

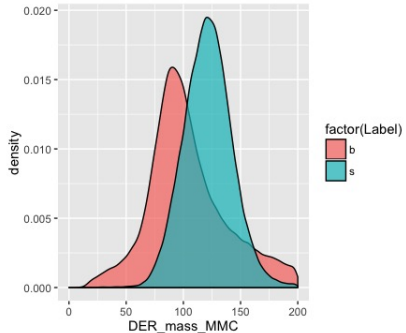
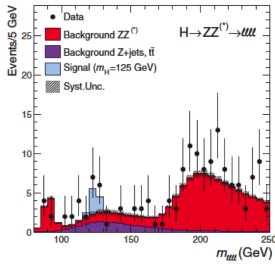
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- Derived mass of Higgs Boson is different from other Bosons and subatomic particles.

# Mass as a predictor of Higgs Boson presence

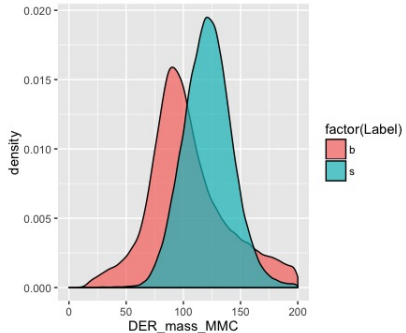
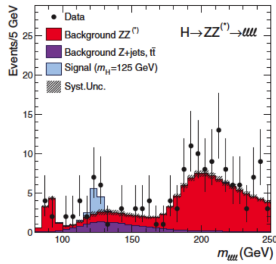
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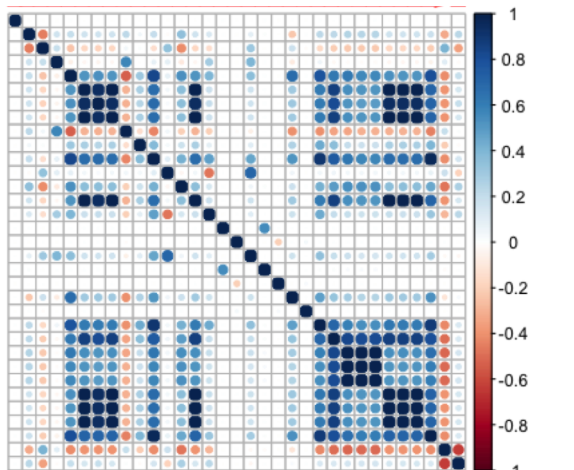
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- Derived mass of Higgs Boson is different from other Bosons and subatomic particles.
- Simulated dataset increases signal, and must be offset using weights.

# Correlation matrix



- There are several variables with strong covariance among the 33 variables.

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# Initial Feature Engineering

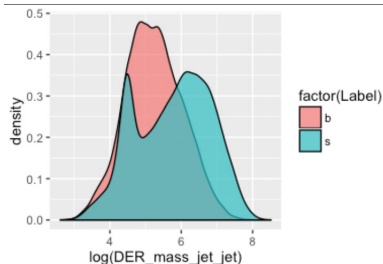
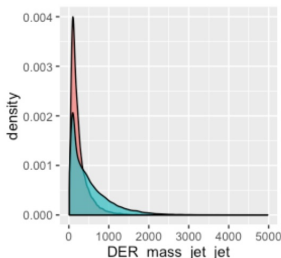
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- 14 Features with long-tailed distributions were log transformed to reduce the positive skew towards smaller values, generating a more uniform distribution.. E.g. `DER_mass_jet_jet`: The invariant mass of the two jets.

# Logistic Regression - Variable Importance

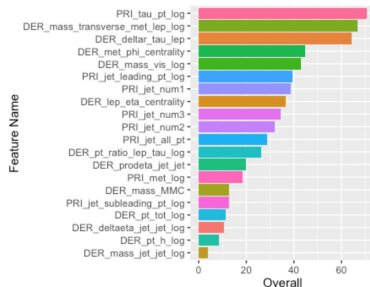
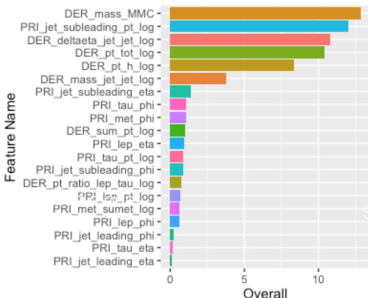
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- Saturated Model vs. Stepwise BIC Model

# Choice of AUC as model fit metric

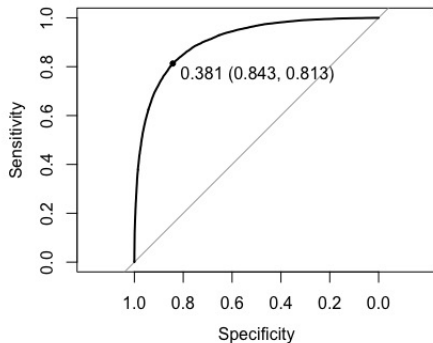
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- Maximizes the true positive rate while also minimizes the false positive rate.

# Choice of AUC as model fit metric

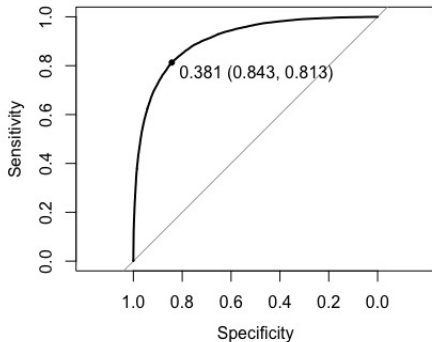
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- Maximizes the true positive rate while also minimizes the false positive rate.
- Produces a smooth and continuous function unlike AMS.

# Logistic Regression - Analysis

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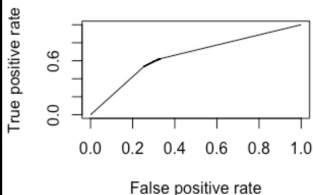
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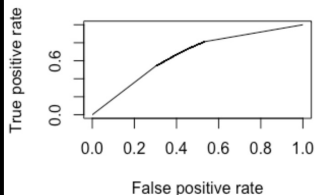
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**Saturated AUC: 0.655**



**BIC AUC : 0.663**



- Saturated Model: R.Squared: 0.20227; Stepwise BIC model: R.Squared: 0.20223.

# Logistic Regression - Analysis

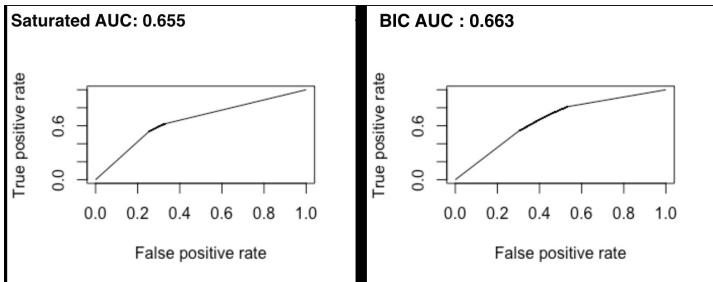
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- Saturated Model: R.Squared: 0.20227; Stepwise BIC model: R.Squared: 0.20223.
- In comparing the deviance of the stepwise model to the deviance of the saturated model, the p-value for the overall test of deviance is  $> 0.65$  (high)

# Logistic Regression - Analysis

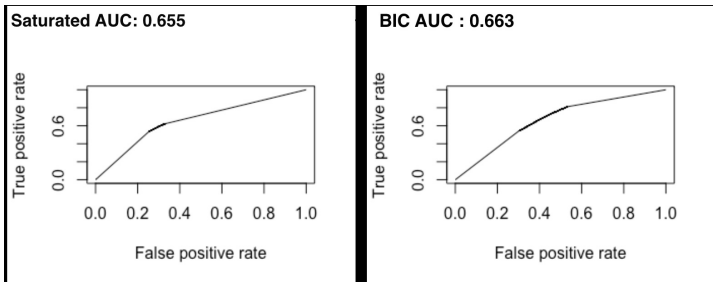
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- Saturated Model: R.Squared: 0.20227; Stepwise BIC model: R.Squared: 0.20223.
- In comparing the deviance of the stepwise model to the deviance of the saturated model, the p-value for the overall test of deviance is  $> 0.65$  (high)
- AUC plots are also not very different from one another.

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# Models



# Our models

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## ■ Random forest

# Our models

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- Random forest
- Gbm

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- Random forest
- Gbm
- Xgboost

# Random forest model

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- Tuning parameters
  - mtry: Number of splits per tree

# Random forest model

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- Tuning parameters
  - mtry: Number of splits per tree
- Performed 5-fold CV to tune parameters.
  - 20% of training data for mtry gride of 1, 2, 3, 6, 9
  - 80% of training data for mtry gride of 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
  - $mtry = 5$

# Random forest model

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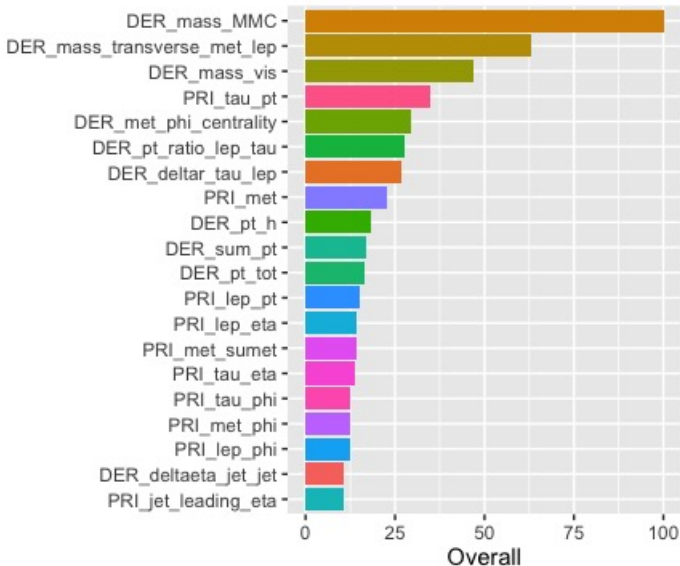
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- Tuning parameters
  - mtry: Number of splits per tree
- Performed 5-fold CV to tune parameters.
  - 20% of training data for mtry gride of 1, 2, 3, 6, 9
  - 80% of training data for mtry gride of 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
  - mtry = 5
- AUC on training data = .9071
- Kaggle rank = 1311
- AMS = 2.57949

# Random forest variable importance



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# Gbm model

## ■ Gradient boosting model

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# Gbm model

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- Gradient boosting model
- Tuning parameters
  - shrinkage: Learning rate
  - interaction\_depth: Depth of variable interactions
  - n.trees: Number of trees
  - n.minobsinnode: Minimum number of observations in a terminal node

# Gbm model

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- Gradient boosting model
- Tuning parameters
  - shrinkage: Learning rate
  - interaction\_depth: Depth of variable interactions
  - n.trees: Number of trees
  - n.minobsinnode: Minimum number of observations in a terminal node
- Performed 5-fold CV to tune parameters.
  - shrinkage = .1
  - interaction\_depth = 3
  - n.trees = 150
  - n.minobsinnode = 10

# Gbm model

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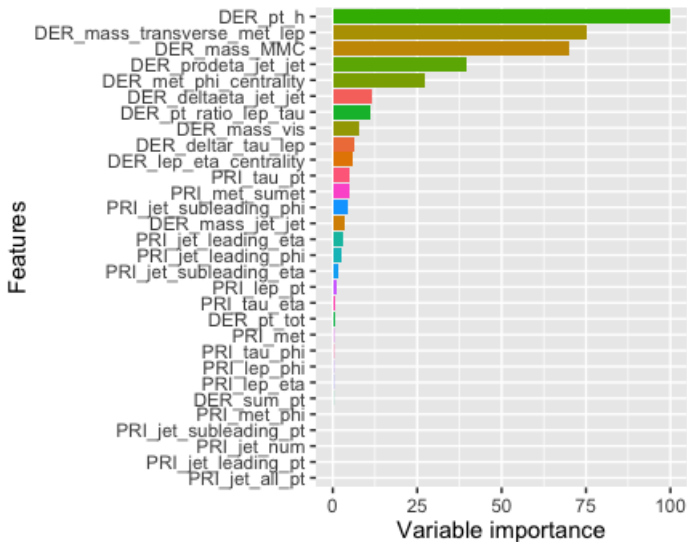
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- Gradient boosting model
- Tuning parameters
  - shrinkage: Learning rate
  - interaction\_depth: Depth of variable interactions
  - n.trees: Number of trees
  - n.minobsinnode: Minimum number of observations in a terminal node
- Performed 5-fold CV to tune parameters.
  - shrinkage = .1
  - interaction\_depth = 3
  - n.trees = 150
  - n.minobsinnode = 10
- AUC on training data = .855
- Kaggle rank = 1394
- AMS = 2.30069

# Gbm variable importance

Variable importance for gbm



# About xgboost

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- Fast gradient boosting algorithm implementing in C++ by Tianqi Chen

# About xgboost

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- Fast gradient boosting algorithm implementing in C++ by Tianqi Chen
- Parallel computing

# About xgboost

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- Fast gradient boosting algorithm implementing in C++ by Tianqi Chen
- Parallel computing
- More tuning parameters

# About xgboost

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- Fast gradient boosting algorithm implementing in C++ by Tianqi Chen
- Parallel computing
- More tuning parameters
- Not completely greedy in tree creation



# About xgboost

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- Fast gradient boosting algorithm implementing in C++ by Tianqi Chen
- Parallel computing
- More tuning parameters
- Not completely greedy in tree creation
- Generally faster and performs better than gbm.

# Xgboost model

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- Parameters we tuned:
  - nrounds: Number of trees
  - max\_depth
  - colsample\_bytree: Percent of parameters used at each split.  
tree
  - eta: Learning rate

# Xgboost model

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- Parameters we tuned:
  - nrounds: Number of trees
  - max\_depth
  - colsample\_bytree: Percent of parameters used at each split.  
tree
  - eta: Learning rate
- Performed 5-fold CV to tune parameters.
  - nrounds = 200
  - max\_depth = 5
  - colsample\_bytree = .85
  - eta = .2

# Xgboost model

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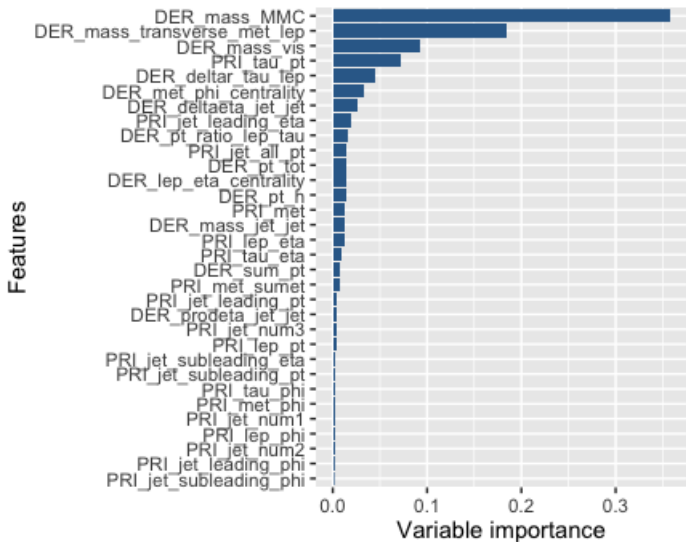
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- Parameters we tuned:
  - nrounds: Number of trees
  - max\_depth
  - colsample\_bytree: Percent of parameters used at each split. tree
  - eta: Learning rate
- Performed 5-fold CV to tune parameters.
  - nrounds = 200
  - max\_depth = 5
  - colsample\_bytree = .85
  - eta = .2
- AUC on training data = .9254
- Kaggle rank = 1340
- AMS = 2.49958

# Xgboost variable importance

Variable importance for xgboost



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- Combined three models by majority vote

# Ensemble

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- Combined three models by majority vote
- Kaggle rank = 1309

# Ensemble

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- Combined three models by majority vote
- Kaggle rank = 1309
- AMS = 2.58510



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## Room for improvement

# Feature engineering

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- We did not include any additional variables
  - Basic physics. e.g. Cartesian coordinates of momentum

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- We did not include any additional variables
  - Basic physics. e.g. Cartesian coordinates of momentum
  - Advanced physics: e.g. CAKE variable

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- We did not include any additional variables
  - Basic physics. e.g. Cartesian coordinates of momentum
  - Advanced physics: e.g. CAKE variable
  - Better understand the physics of additional variables

# Feature engineering

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- We did not include any additional variables
  - Basic physics. e.g. Cartesian coordinates of momentum
  - Advanced physics: e.g. CAKE variable
  - Better understand the physics of additional variables
- Log transforms

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## ■ More models

# Models

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- More models
- More sophisticated ensemble

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- More models
- More sophisticated ensemble
- Run different random seeds for the same model