

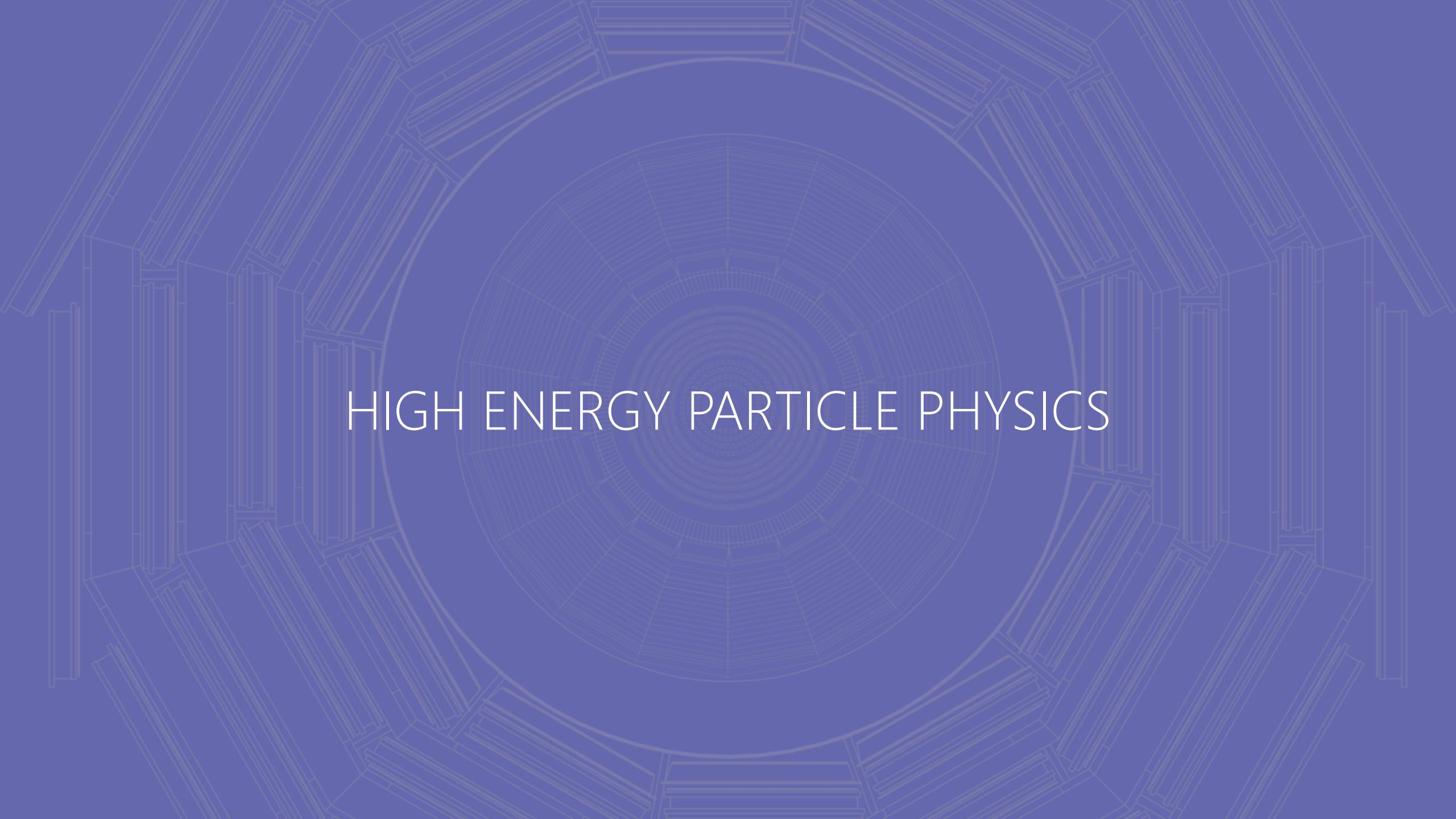
# GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS AT THE LARGE HADRON COLLIDER

GAGE DEZOORT  
7/14/2022

- **About me:** I'm a fourth-year Ph.D. student in the Physics department who has developed a strong interest in geometric deep learning methods applied to physics tasks
  - High energy particle physics (HEP)
    - The Standard Model (SM) and beyond
    - Large Hadron Collider (LHC) physics
    - Detectors and measurements
  - Graph-based learning methods
    - Graph-structured data
    - Graph neural networks (GNNs)
    - Common architectures
  - GNNs at the LHC
    - Reconstruction (clustering)
    - Identification (classification)
  - Conclusions
- 
- Please ask questions; feel free to interrupt!

## GNNS AT THE LHC

### INTROS AND OVERVIEW



# HIGH ENERGY PARTICLE PHYSICS

# HIGH ENERGY PARTICLE PHYSICS

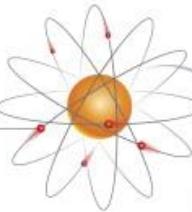
## THE STANDARD MODEL (SM)

### Heart of the matter

A full explanation of where stuff gets its mass from is buried deep in the atomic nucleus

ATOM

Electron  
Mass 0.5 MeV



Atom:  
 $10^{-10}$  m

ATOMIC NUCLEUS

The protons and neutrons in the nucleus  
make up the vast bulk of matter's mass

PROTON  
938.3 MeV

Up quark  
2.3 MeV

Down quark  
4.8 MeV

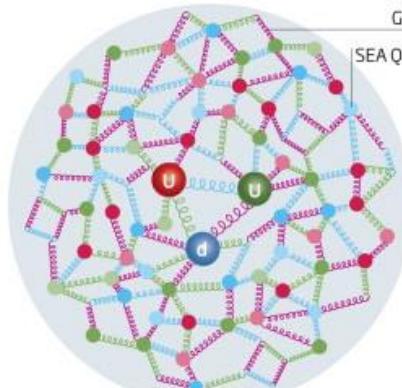


NEUTRON  
939.6 MeV



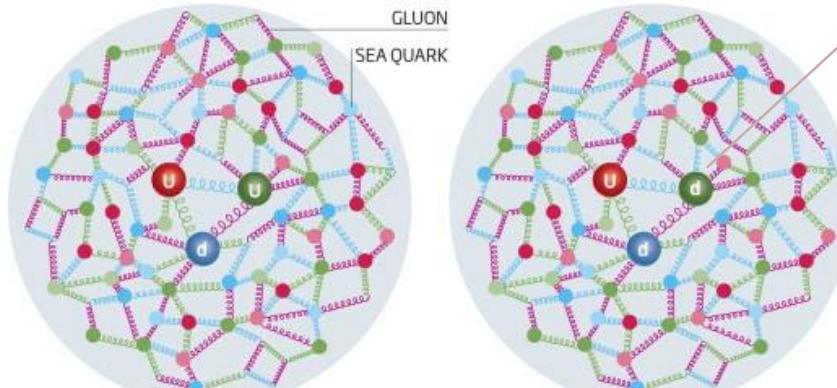
Nuclei:  
 $10^{-15} - 10^{-14}$   
m

SEA QUARK



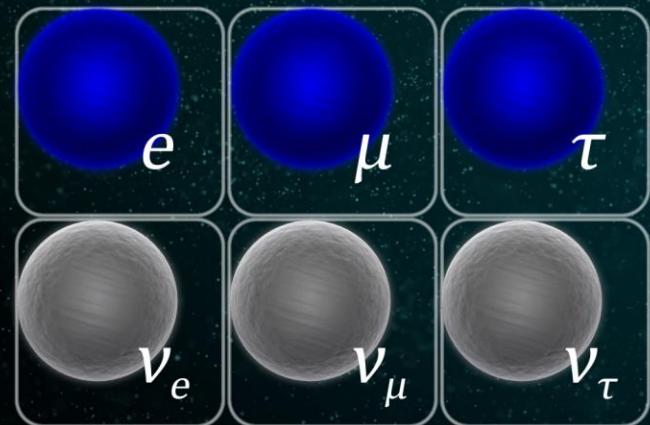
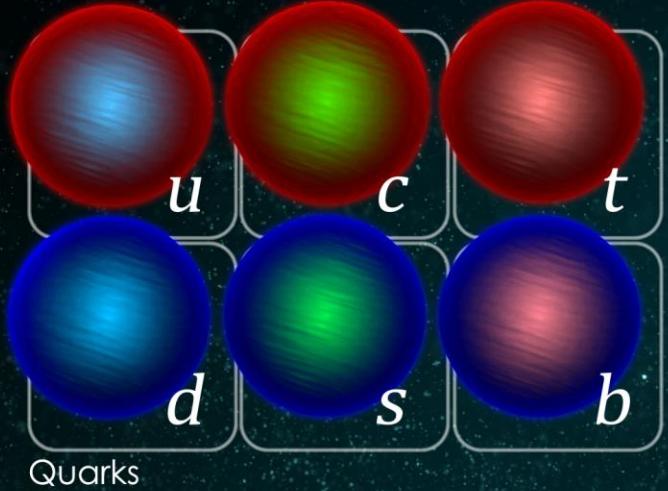
Most of a proton or neutron's mass is contained in the interaction energies  
of a "sea" of quarks, antiquarks and the gluons that bind them

Nucleon:  
 $<10^{-15}$  m

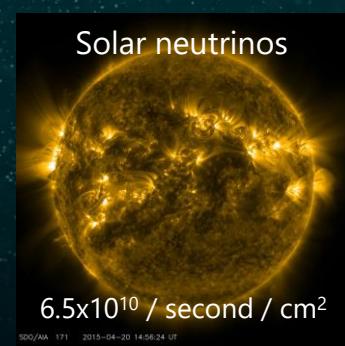
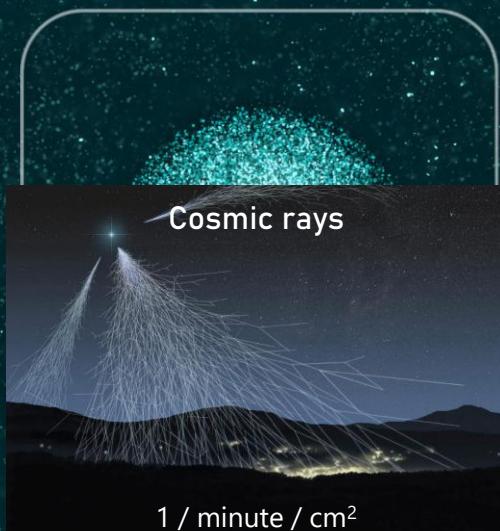
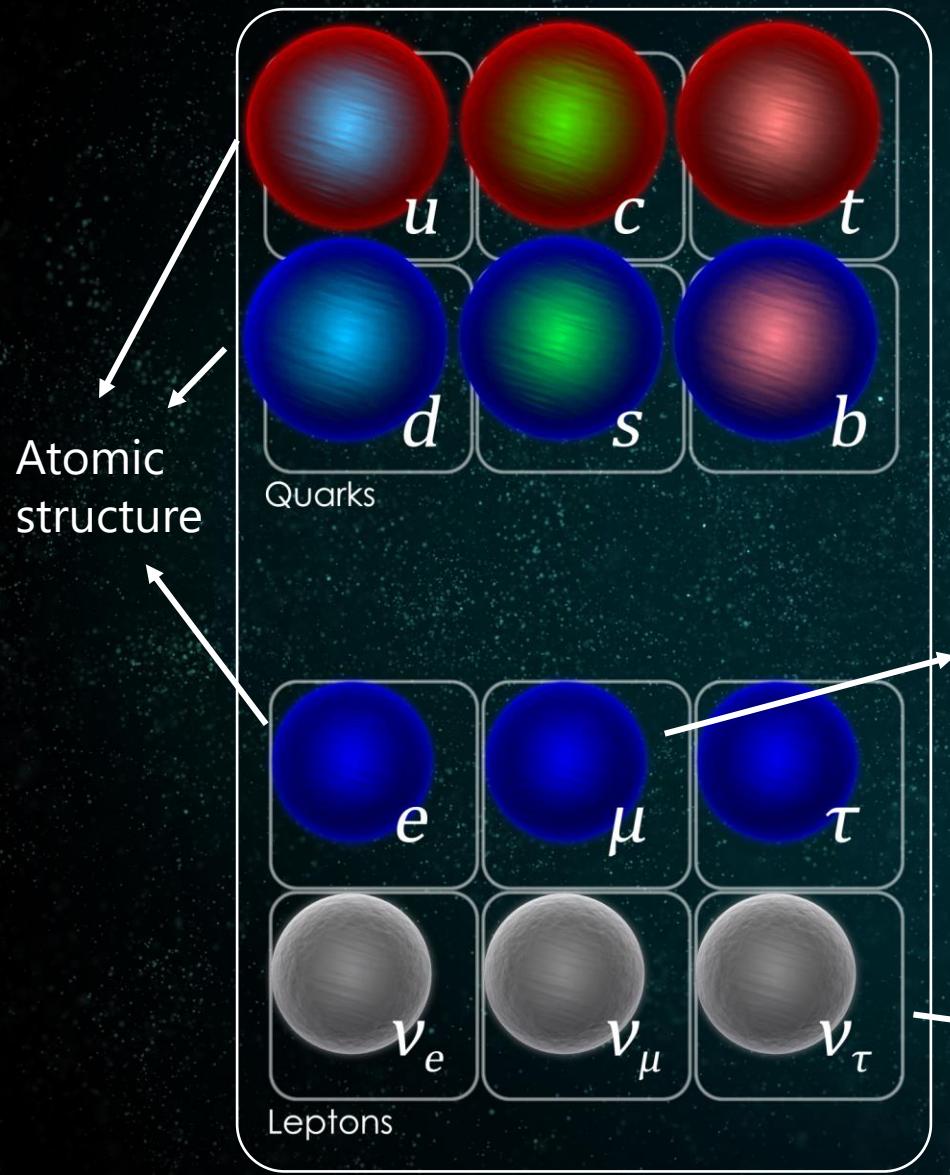


Quark:  
 $<10^{-19}$  m

No observed  
spatial structure  
→ elementary  
particle!

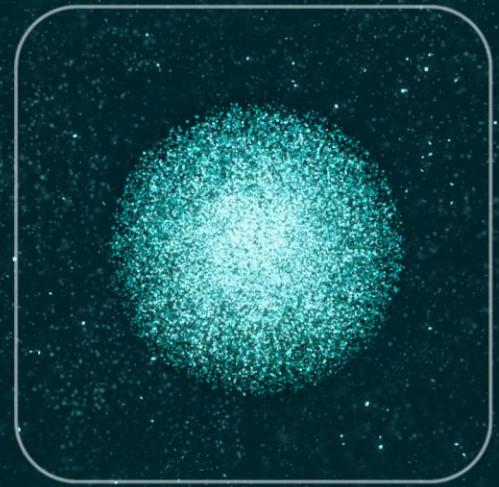
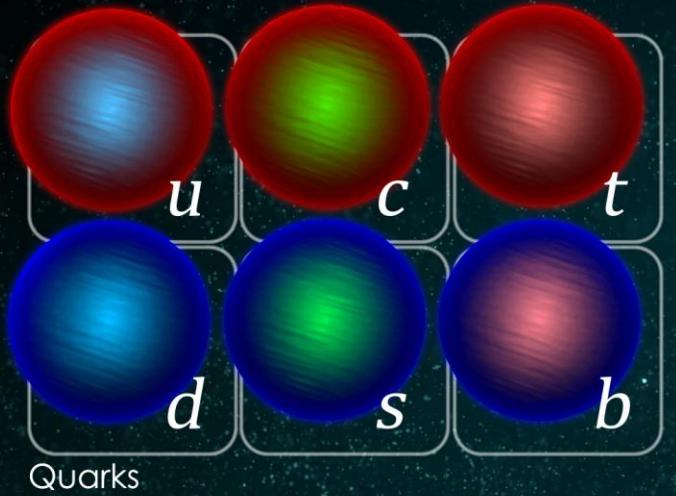


# Matter Particles



ACCELERATING SCIENCE

# Force Carriers



...where's gravity? The SM is incomplete!  
→ wide range of Beyond the SM (BSM)  
theories w/ additional particles/interactions



ACCELERATING SCIENCE

# HIGH ENERGY PARTICLE PHYSICS THE STANDARD MODEL (SM)

## BROKEN SYMMETRY AND THE MASS OF GAUGE VECTOR MESONS\*

F. Englert and R. Brout

Faculté des Sciences, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Bruxelles, Belgium  
(Received 26 June 1964)

## BROKEN SYMMETRIES AND THE MASSES OF GAUGE BOSONS

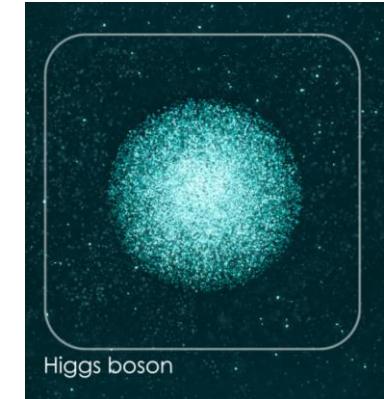
Peter W. Higgs

Tait Institute of Mathematical Physics, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland  
(Received 31 August 1964)

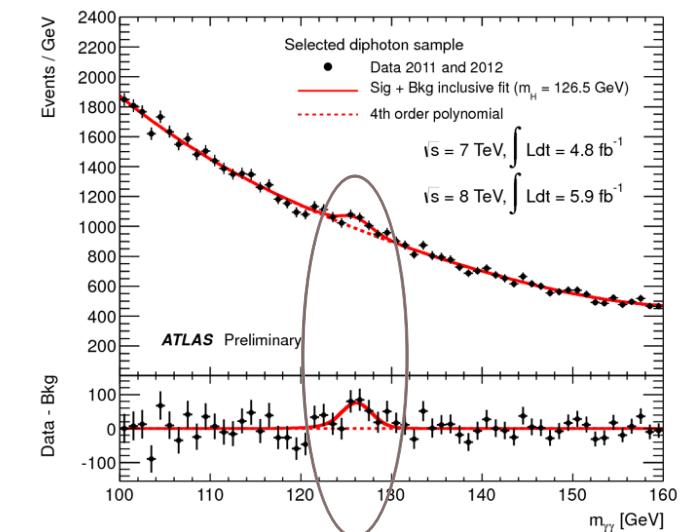
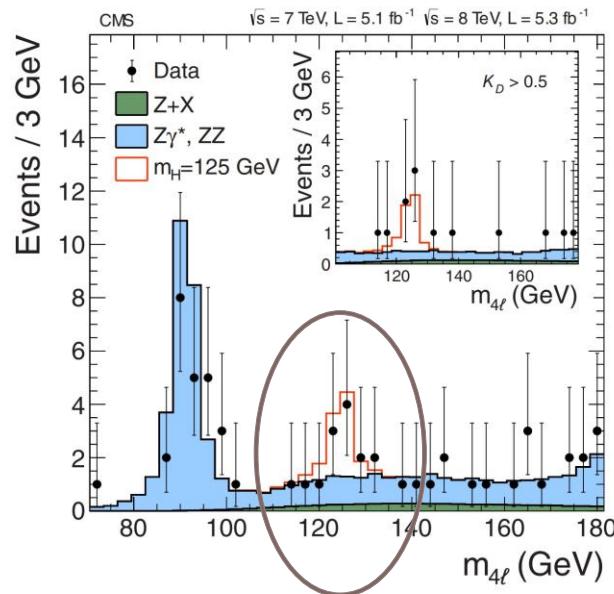
## GLOBAL CONSERVATION LAWS AND MASSLESS PARTICLES\*

G. S. Guralnik,<sup>†</sup> C. R. Hagen,<sup>‡</sup> and T. W. B. Kibble

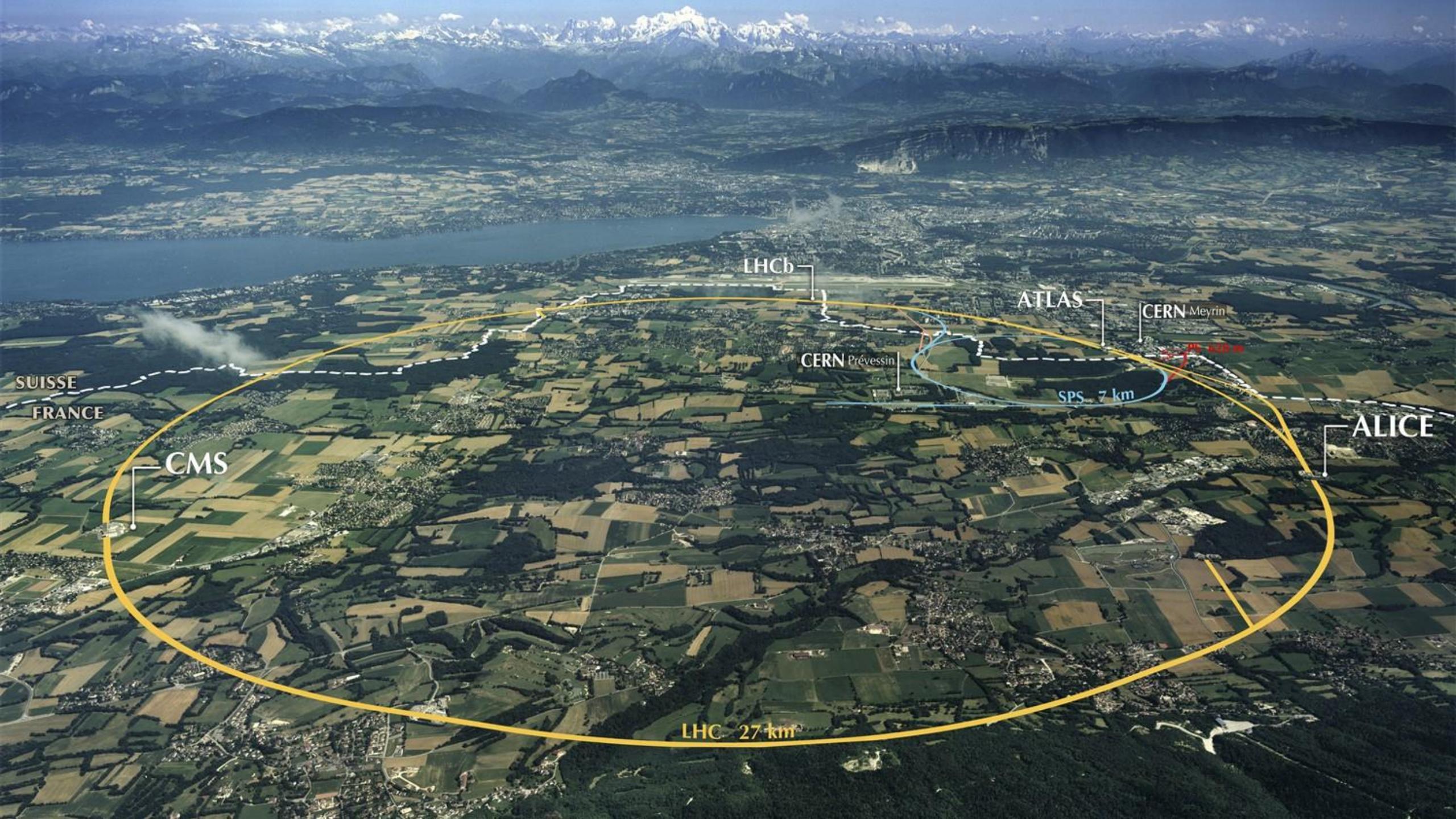
Department of Physics, Imperial College, London, England  
(Received 12 October 1964)



The PRL "symmetry breaking" papers (1964) famously describe how mass arises in the SM...  
"Higgs mechanism" → observable mass state (**Higgs boson**)

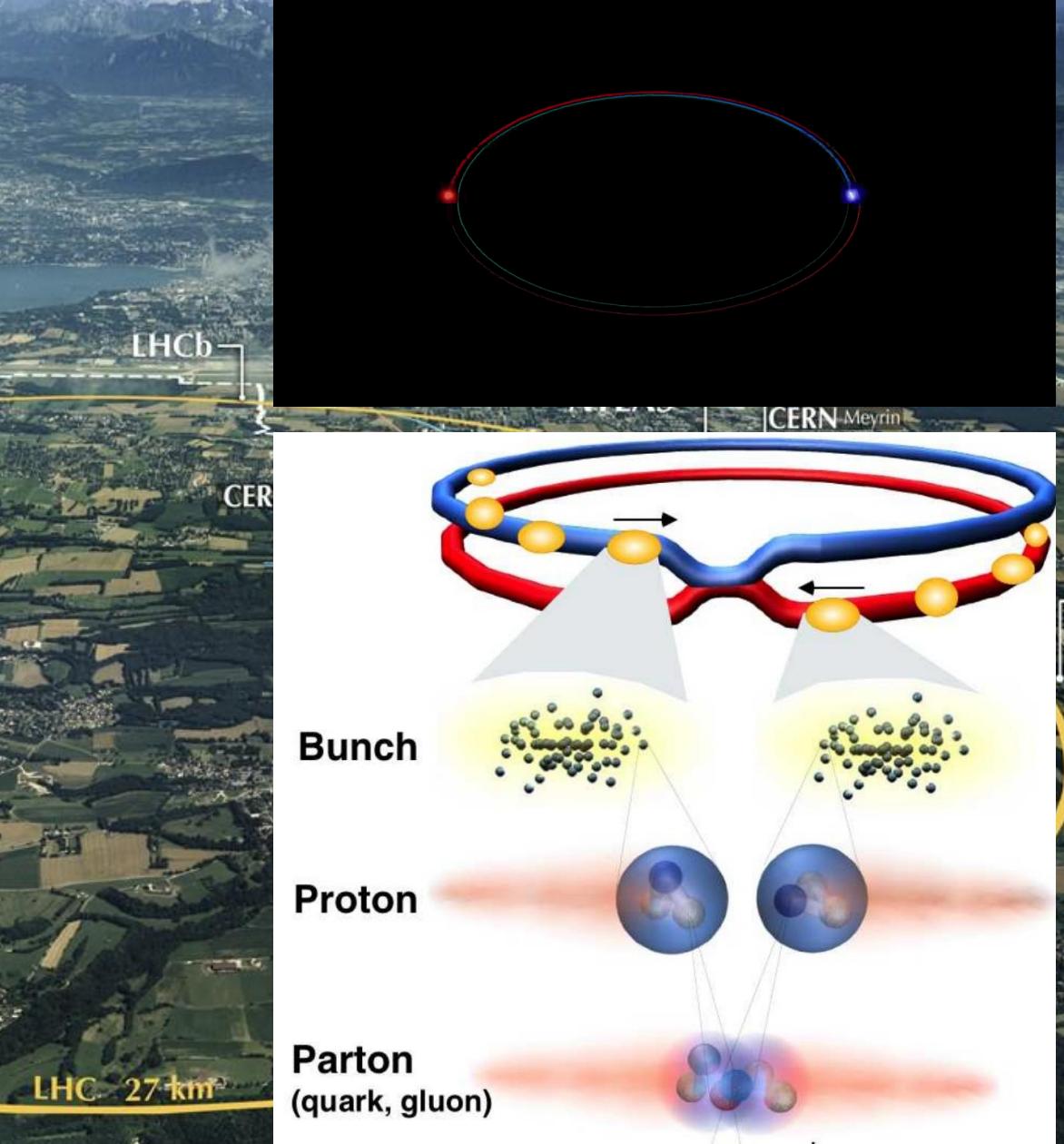
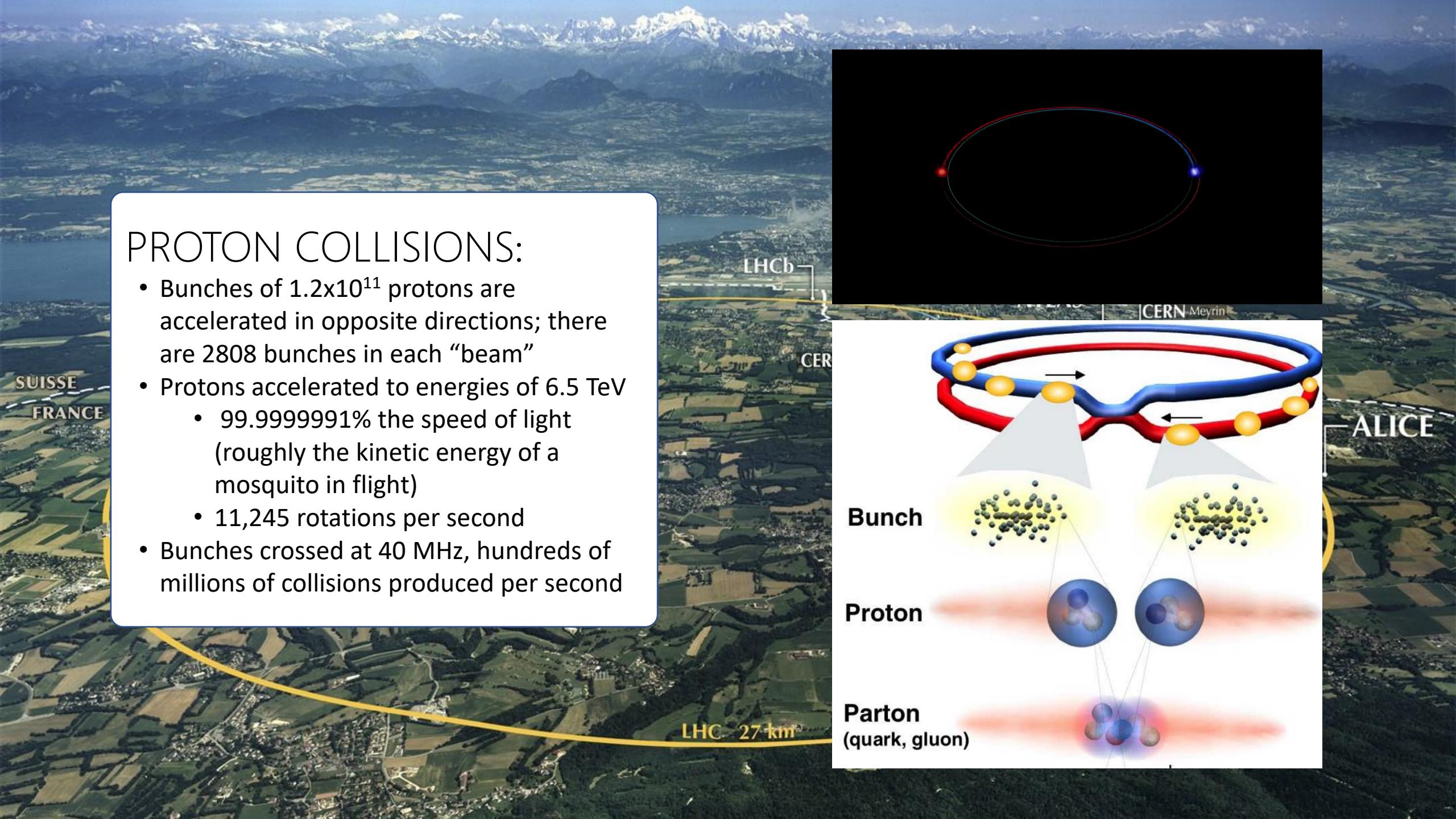


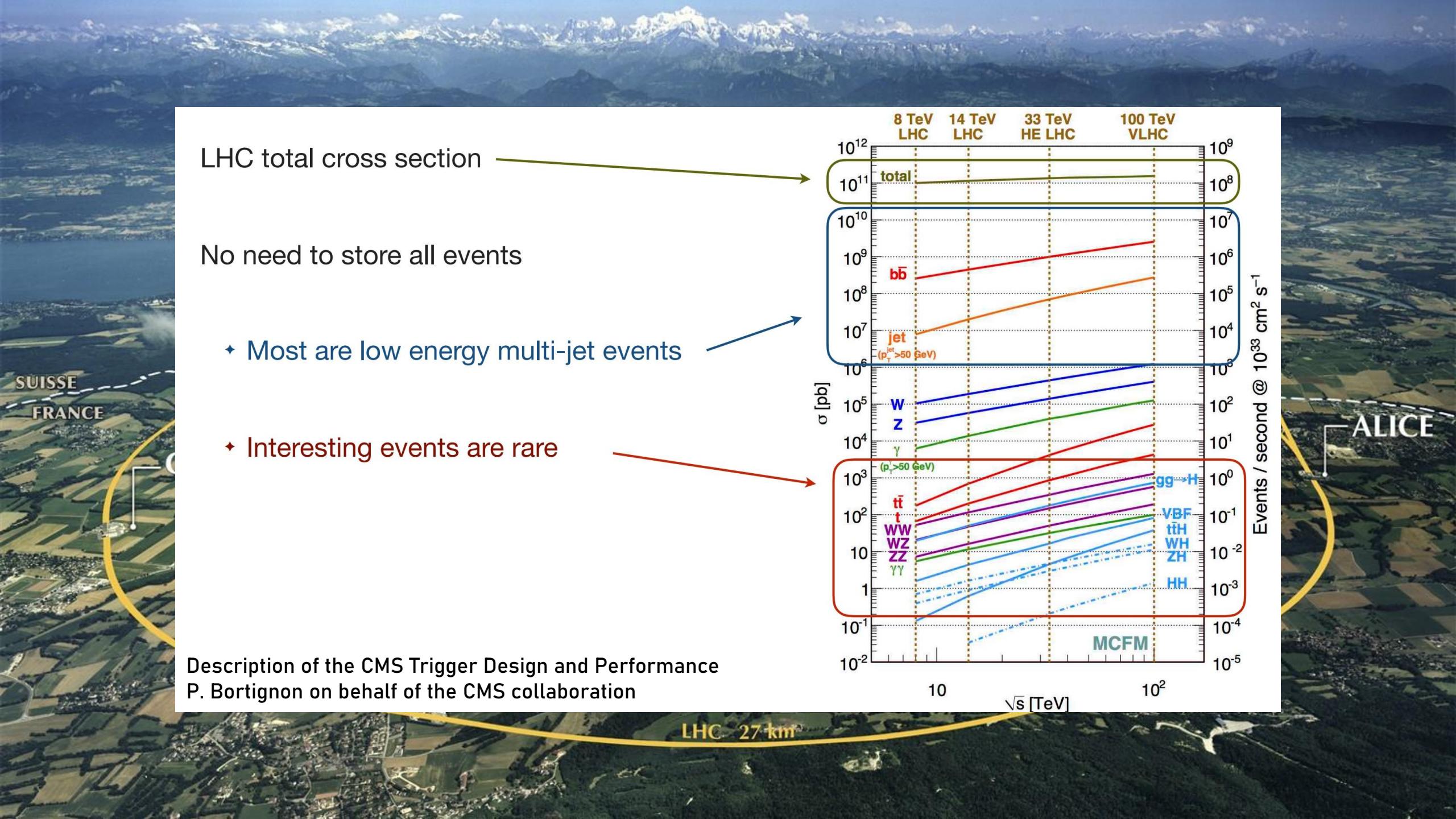
The Higgs boson was discovered at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) in 2012!

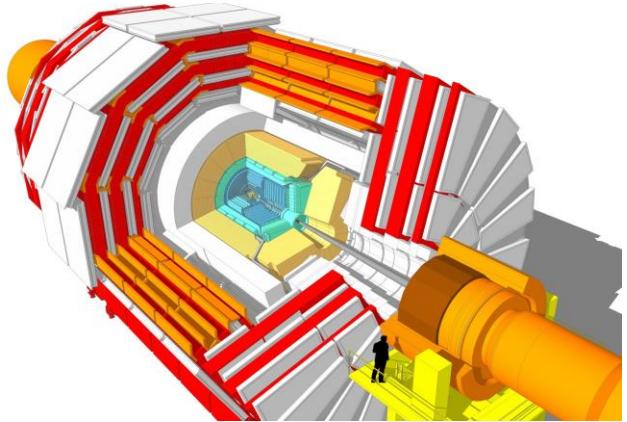


## PROTON COLLISIONS:

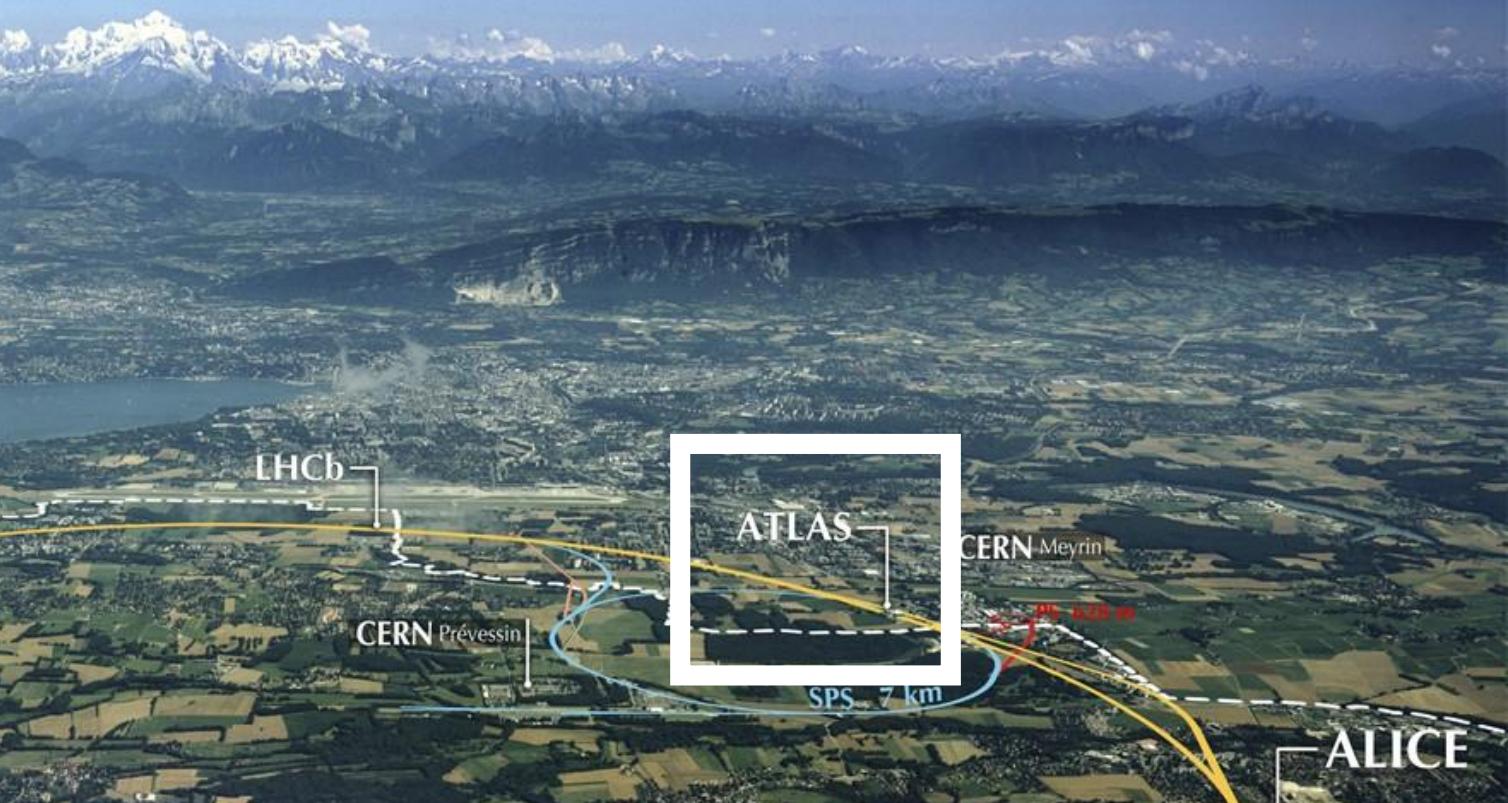
- Bunches of  $1.2 \times 10^{11}$  protons are accelerated in opposite directions; there are 2808 bunches in each “beam”
- Protons accelerated to energies of 6.5 TeV
  - 99.999991% the speed of light (roughly the kinetic energy of a mosquito in flight)
  - 11,245 rotations per second
- Bunches crossed at 40 MHz, hundreds of millions of collisions produced per second



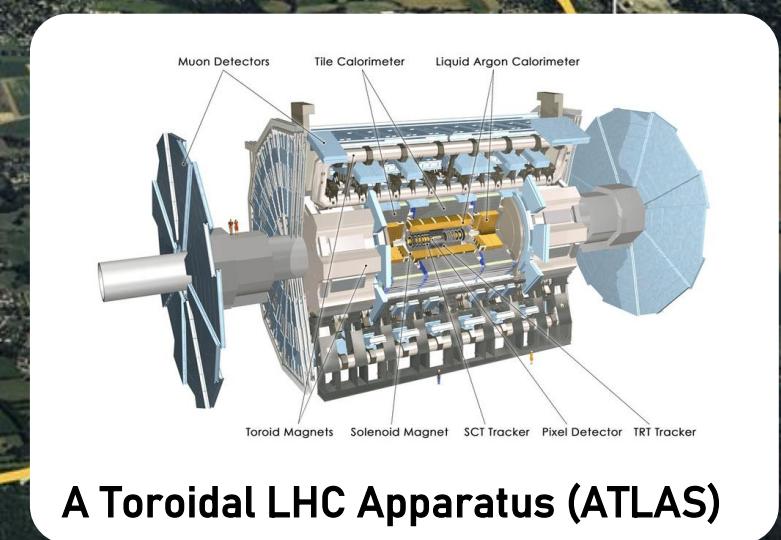




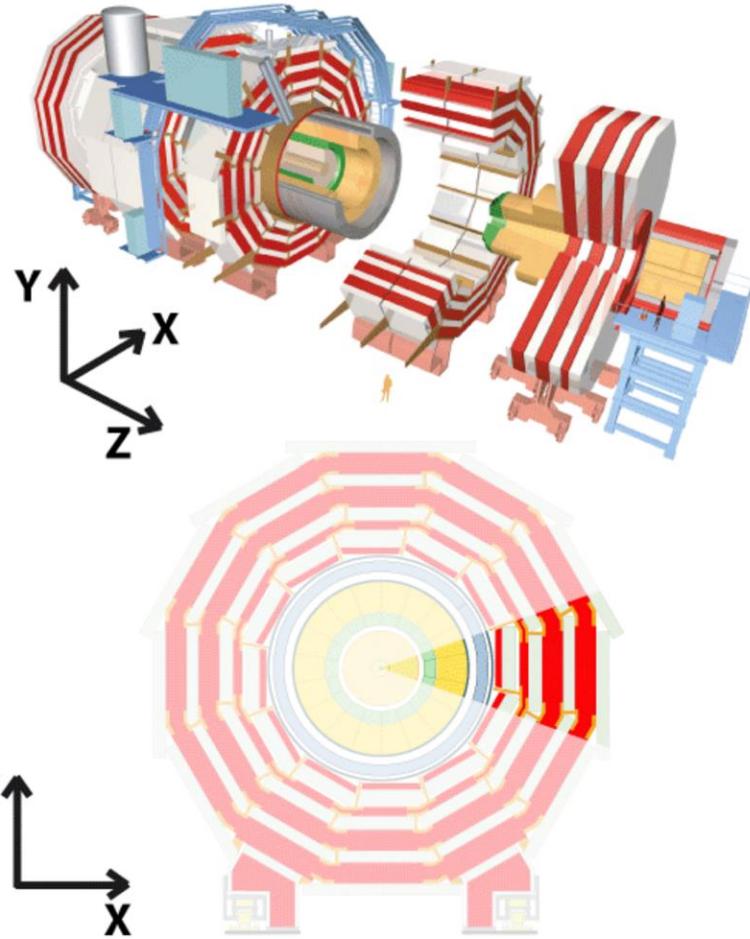
**Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS)**



CERN Meyrin

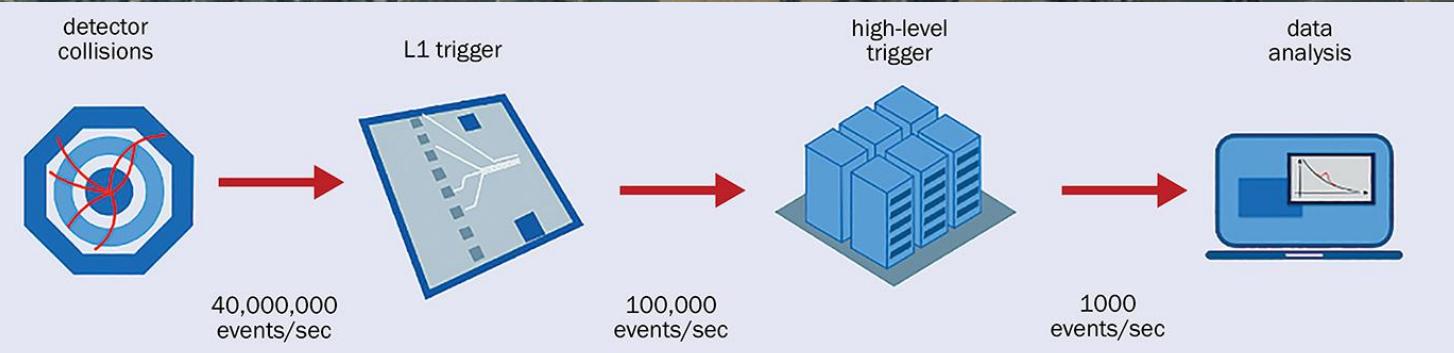
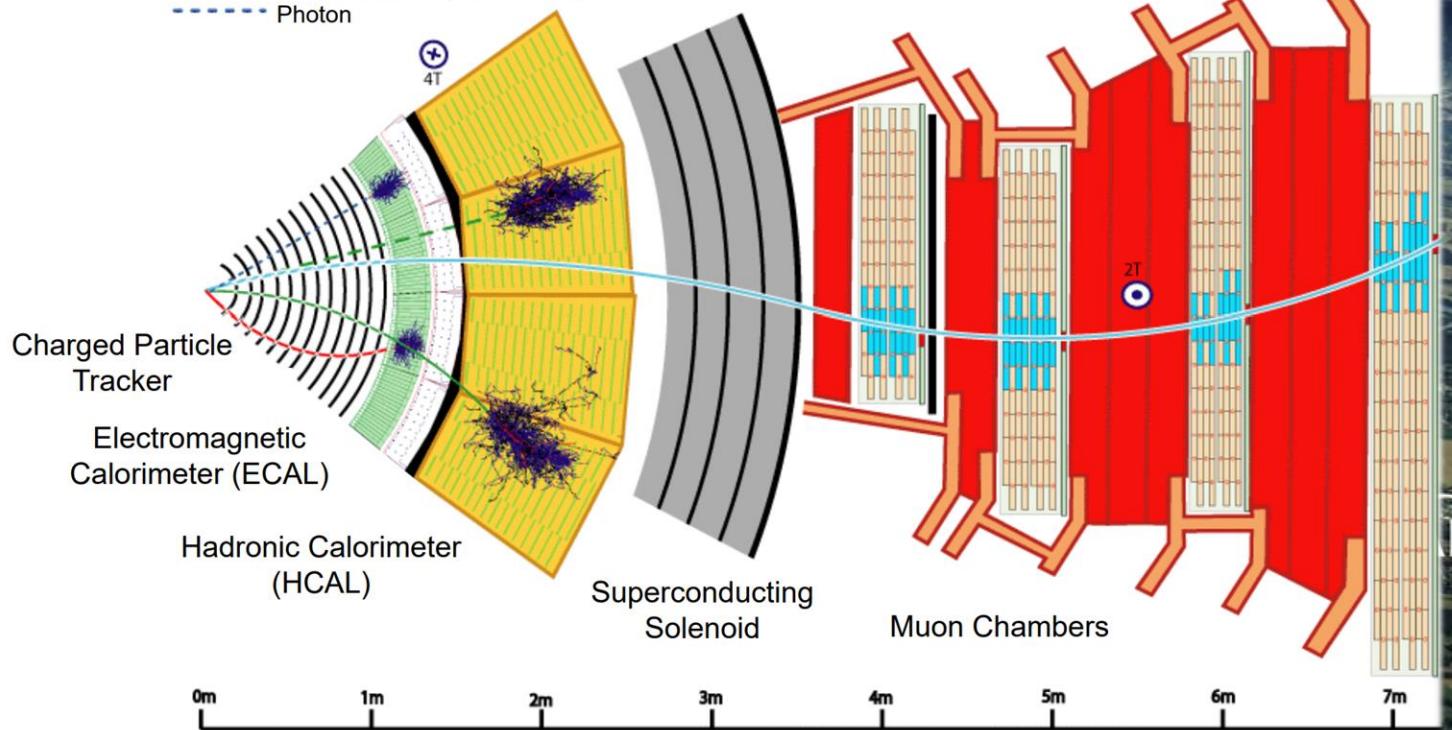


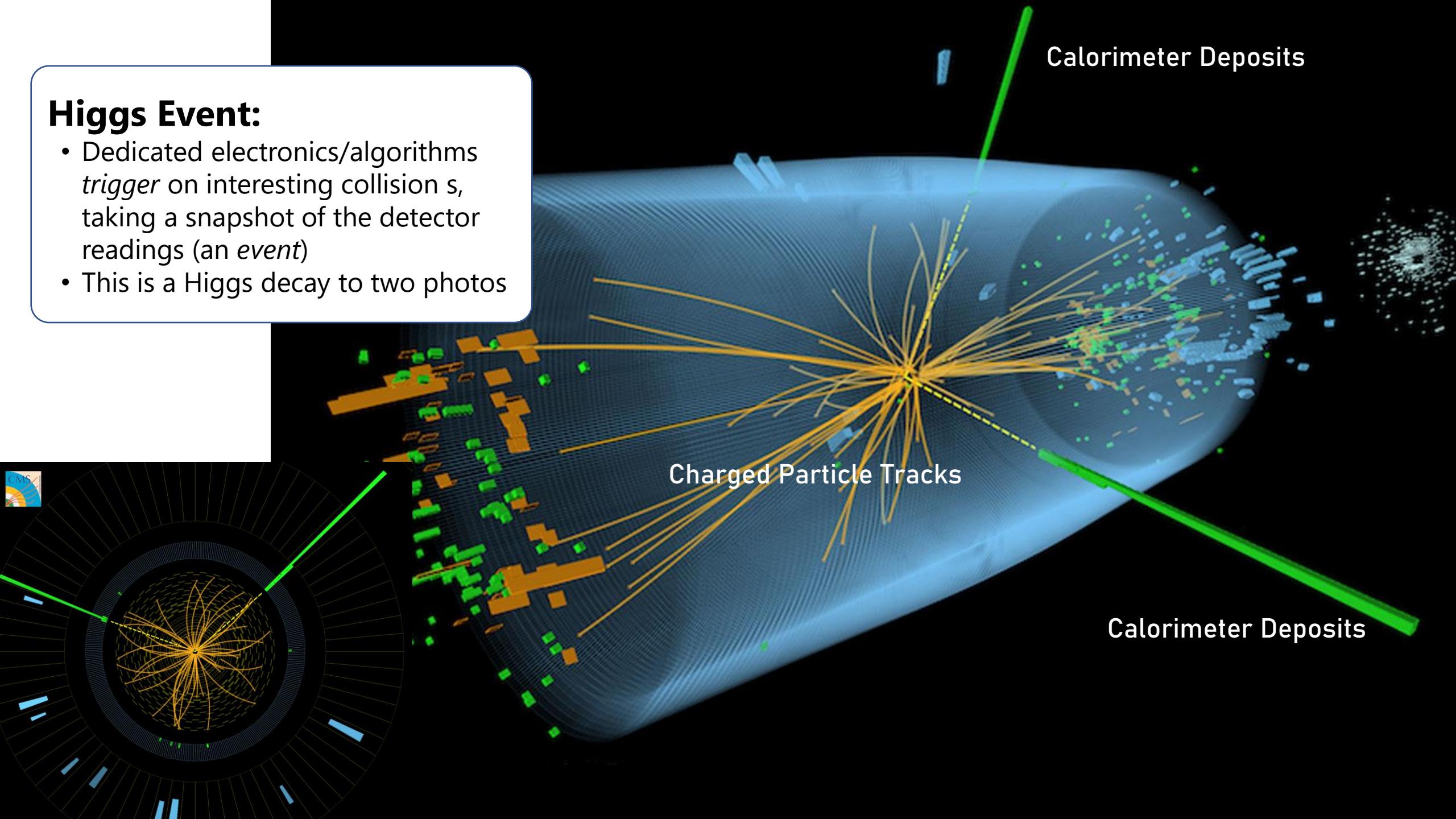
**A Toroidal LHC Apparatus (ATLAS)**



**Legend:**

- Muon
- Electron
- Charged Hadron (ex. Pion)
- Neutral Hadron (ex. Neutron)
- Photon



A 3D visualization of a particle collision event in the CMS detector. The event shows a central region with many yellow 'Charged Particle Tracks' radiating outwards. These tracks are surrounded by blue 'Calorimeter Deposits', which appear as clusters of small squares and rectangles. The CMS logo is visible in the bottom left corner.

Calorimeter Deposits

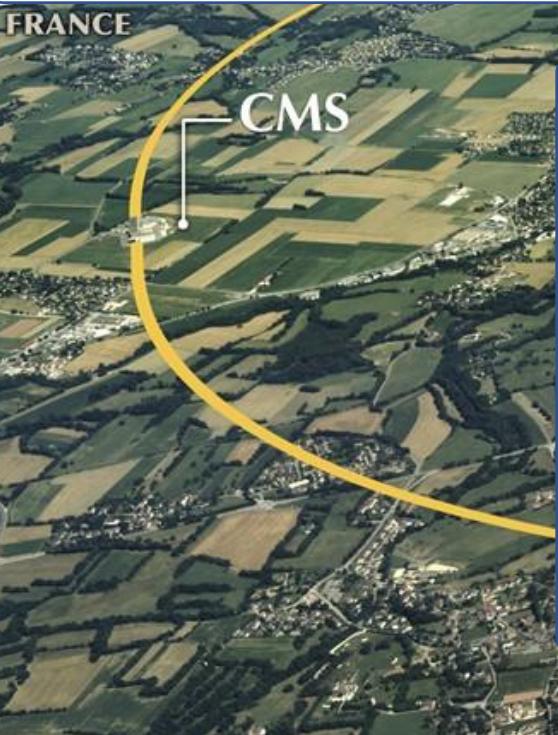
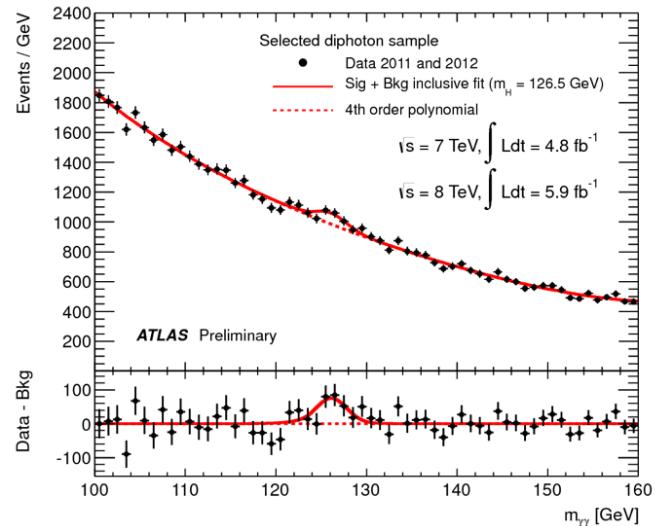
## Higgs Event:

- Dedicated electronics/algorithms *trigger* on interesting collision  $s$ , taking a snapshot of the detector readings (an *event*)
- This is a Higgs decay to two photons

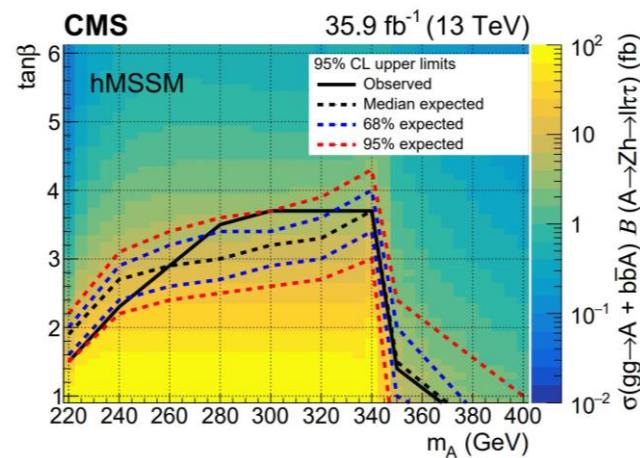
Charged Particle Tracks

Calorimeter Deposits

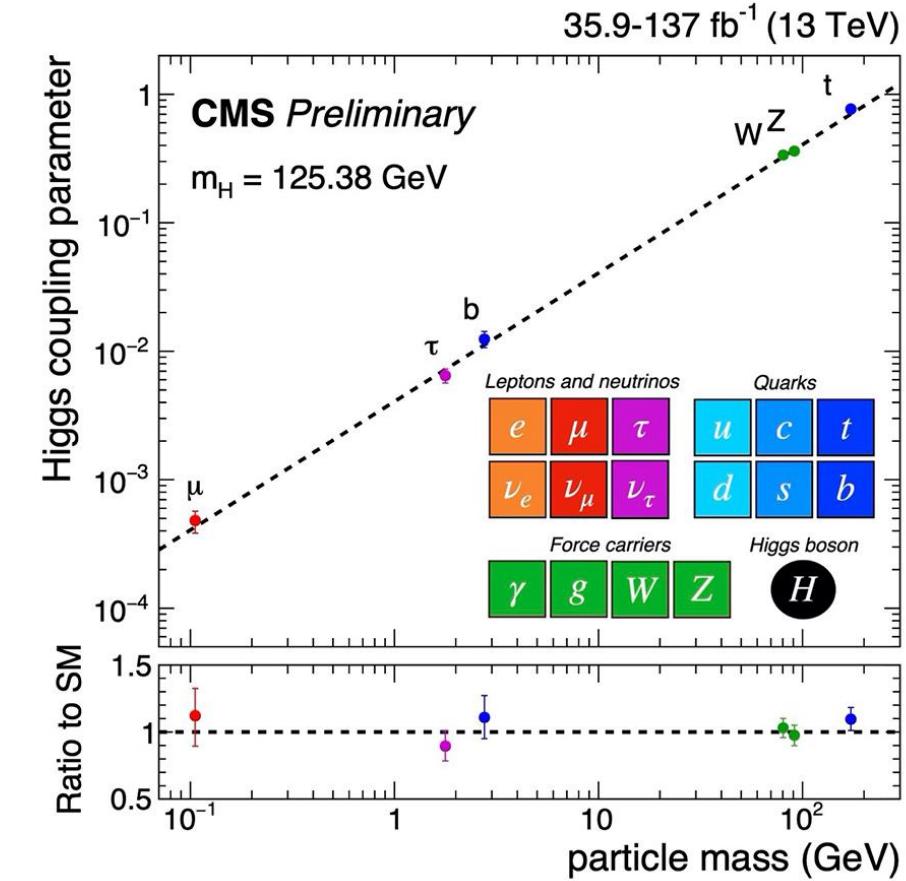
# Discovering New Particles

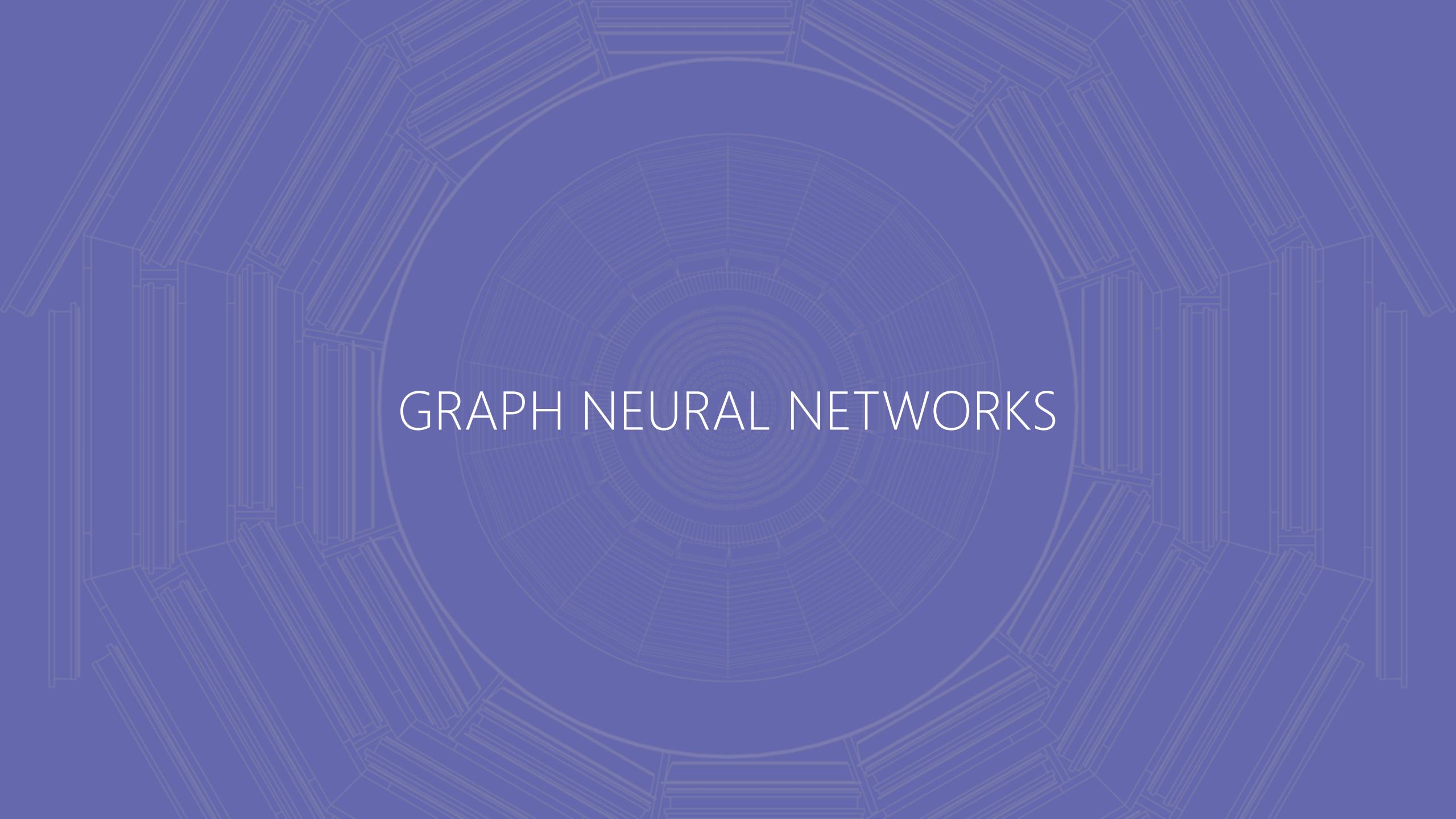


## Placing Limits on New Physics



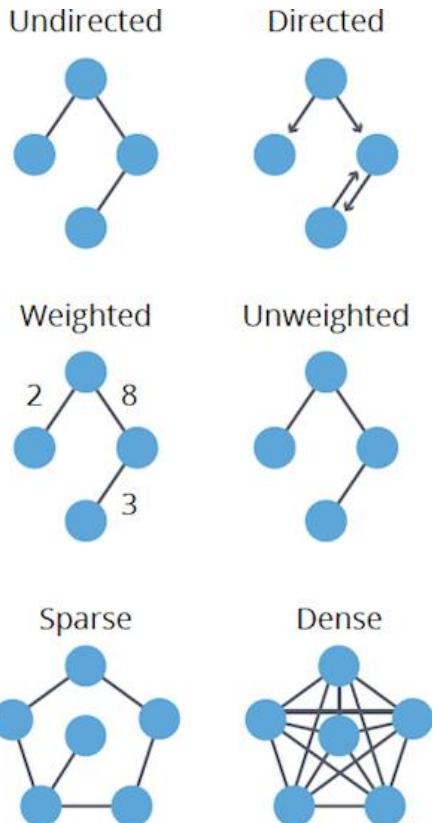
## Precision Measurements





# GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS

- Graphs represent relational data
  - Entities → Nodes:  $u \in \mathcal{V}$ 
    - Node features:  $x_u \in \mathbb{R}^{d_V}$
  - Relations → Edges:  $(u, v) \in \mathcal{E}$ 
    - Edge features:  $e_{uv} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_E}$



Directed edges specify  
an incoming and  
outgoing node

Edge features might be  
weights or otherwise more  
complicated attributes

Sparsity is problem-  
dependent... roughly,  
sparse if  $|\mathcal{E}| \ll |\mathcal{V}|^2$

## GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS

### GRAPH-STRUCTURED DATA

- Graphs represent relational data
  - Entities → Nodes:  $u \in \mathcal{V}$
  - Node features:  $x_u \in \mathbb{R}^{d_V}$
  - Relations → Edges:  $(u, v) \in \mathcal{E}$
  - Edge features:  $e_{uv} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_E}$

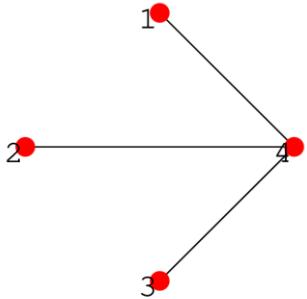
## Edge Representations



Adjacency Matrices

$$A_{adjacency} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_V \times d_V}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



Incidence Matrices

$$A_{incidence} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_V \times d_E}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



**PyTorch**  
geometric    *optimized for sparse adjacency structure*

Sparse Index Lists (COO)

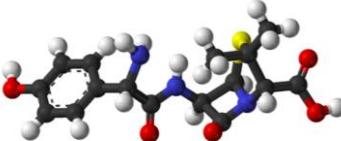
$$I_{coo} \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times d_E}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} [1 & 2 & 3] \\ [4 & 4 & 4] \end{bmatrix}$$

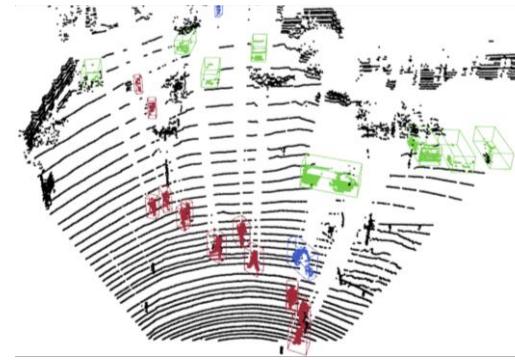
# GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS

## GRAPH-STRUCTURED DATA

## Drug Discovery

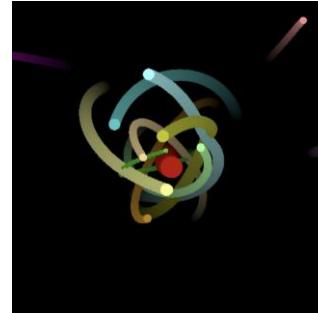
$GNN($    $) \rightarrow$  global molecular property

## Instance Segmentation

$GNN($    $) \rightarrow$  

[2003.01251.pdf \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2003.01251.pdf)

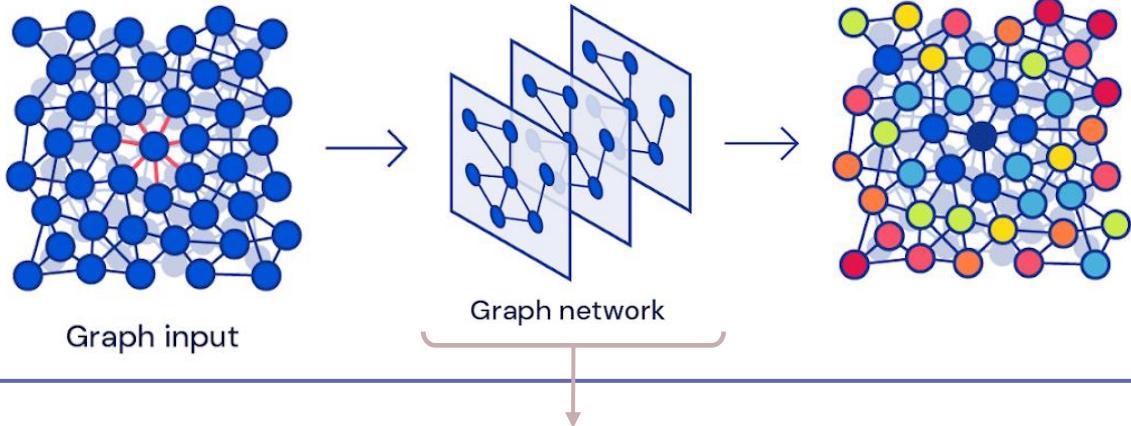
## Physics Simulation

$GNN($    $) \rightarrow$  

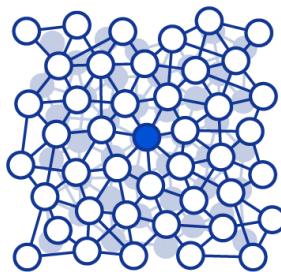
[\[1612.00222\] Interaction Networks for Learning about Objects, Relations and Physics \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/pdf/1612.00222.pdf)

GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS  
HIGH-LEVEL EXAMPLES

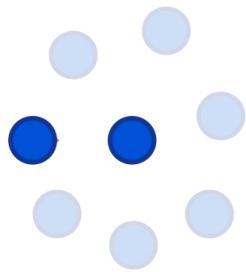
## GNNs: High-Level View



### Propagation Modules: Neural Message Passing



n 0 1 2 3



Edge update

"Messages" computed from each node's neighborhood are used to update graph features...  $k$  iterations → info from  $k$ -hop neighborhood

# GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS GNN OVERVIEW

# GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS LEARNING ON SETS

## Set Learning

- Many real-world objects don't have a natural ordering
- Why not DNNs on sets? Many different orderings of the inputs to consider... need a permutation symmetric function of inputs!

**Permutation invariance:**  $f(PX) = f(X)$

e.g. DeepSets: take a set  $X$  and two approximators (MLPs)  $\phi, \psi$

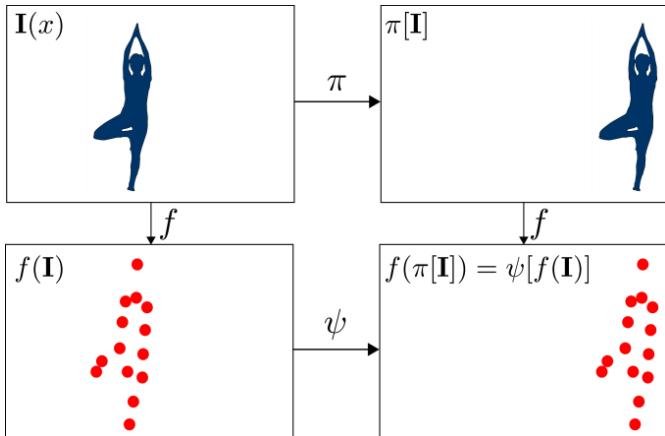
$$f(X) = \phi\left(\sum_{x \in X} \psi(x)\right)$$

any permutation invariant function of countable sets      ↓  
latent representation of each element  
sum aggregation is permutation-invariant

- These are “global” predictions on a set (returns number(s) aggregated from the whole set)
- In graphs, we have more structure (edges) and might require per-node or per-edge predictions...

# GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS LEARNING ON GRAPHS

## Equivariance Illustration



## Graph Learning Template:

- Graphs support arbitrary pairwise relations between nodes
- Relational inductive bias: input graphs explicitly define relations for the learning model to leverage

## Node Neighborhoods:

- Neighborhood of  $u$ :  $N(u) = \{v : (u, v) \in E\}$
- Neighborhood node features:  $X_{N(u)} = \{\{x_v : v \in N(u)\}\}$
- Neighborhood edge features:  $E_{N(u)} = \{\{e_{uv} : (u, v) \in E\}\}$

**Permutation invariance:**  $f(PX, PAP^T) = f(X, A) \rightarrow$  graph-level predictions

**Permutation equivariance:**  $f(PX, PAP^T) = Pf(X, A) \rightarrow$  node-level predictions

## Permutation equivariant function of graphs:

$$f(X, A) = \begin{pmatrix} g(\mathbf{x}_1, X_{N(1)}, E_{N(1)}) \\ g(\mathbf{x}_2, X_{N(2)}, E_{N(2)}) \\ \dots \\ g(\mathbf{x}_{|V|}, X_{N(|V|)}, E_{N(|V|)}) \end{pmatrix}$$

permutation equivariant function of graphs

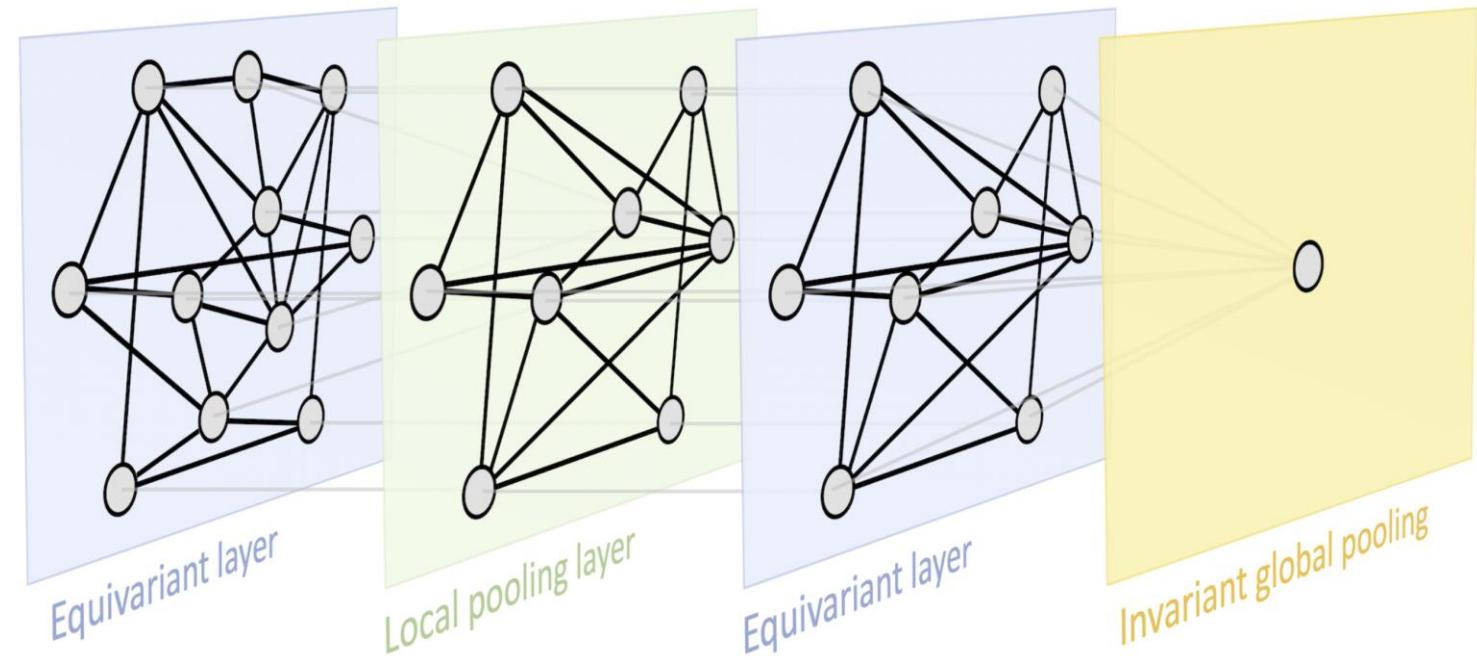
equivalence enforced by applying  $g$  to all nodes equally

local function operating on each node's neighborhood... needs to be permutation invariant!

# GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS GNN LAYERS

## Applying Equivariant Layers:

- Equivariant layers update the state of each node while preserving the structure of the graph
- Pooling layers subsample or otherwise combine graph nodes
  - Global pooling is used for graph-level predictions



# GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS

## NEURAL MESSAGE PASSING

### Message Passing (MPNN) Layers:

Framework for many equivariant graph updates

At each layer  $k$ , compute messages in each node's neighborhood:

$$\mathbf{m}_{uv}^{(k)} = \psi^{(k)} \left( \mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{h}_v^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{e}_{uv}^{(k-1)} \right)$$

Aggregate messages in a permutation-invariant way:

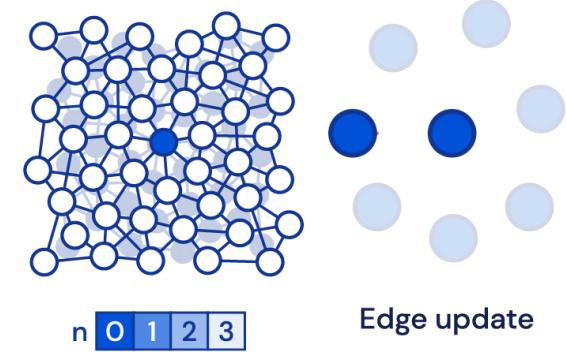
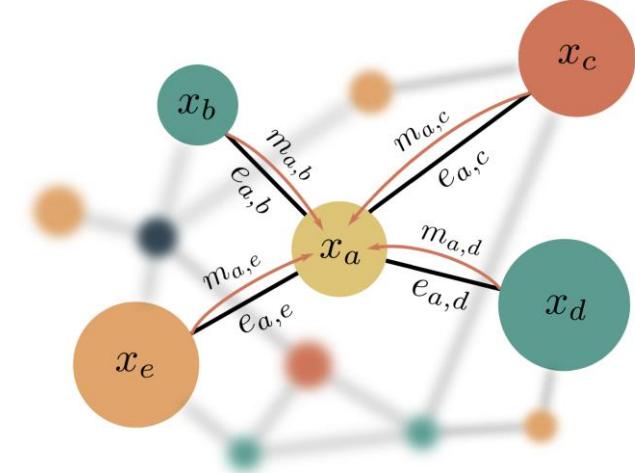
$$\mathbf{a}_u^{(k)} = \bigoplus_{v \in N(u)} \mathbf{m}_{uv}^{(k)}$$

Messages passed only from u's direct neighbors

Any permutation invariant operation (e.g. sum, mean, max)

Update the node's state based on the messages it received:

$$\mathbf{h}_u^{(k)} = \phi^{(k)}(\mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{a}_u^{(k)})$$



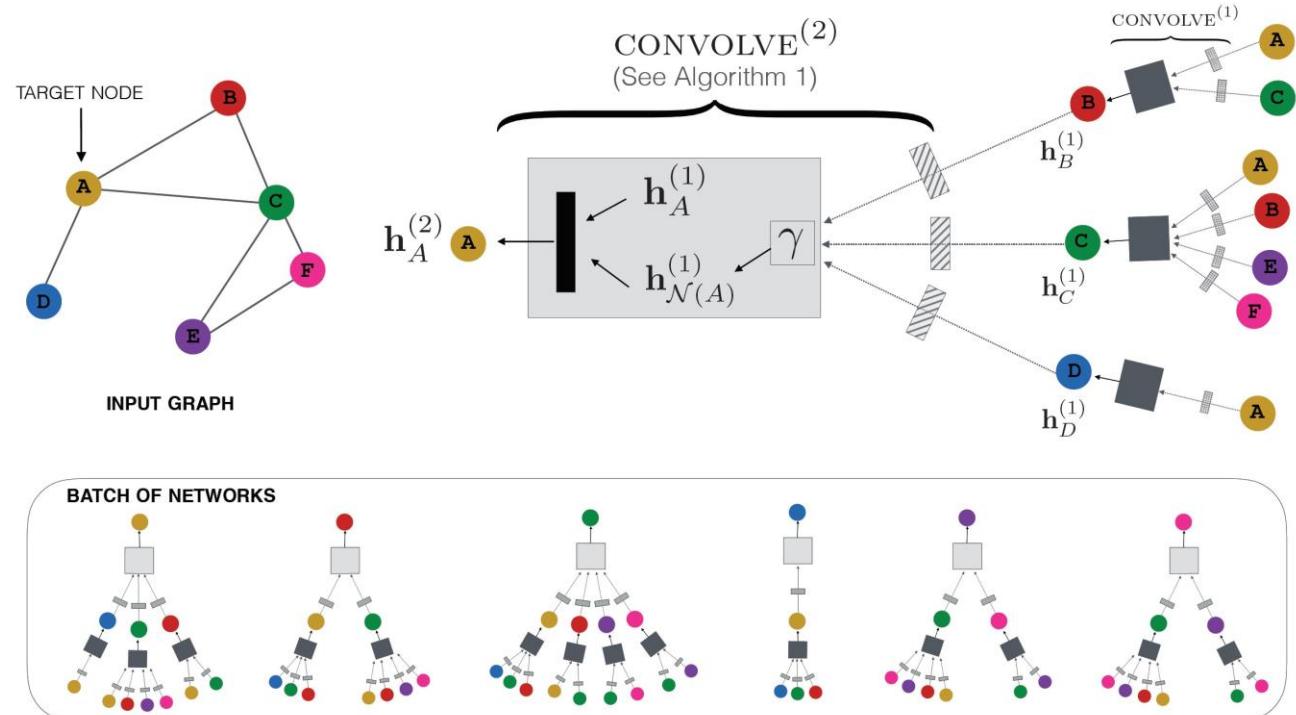
# GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS

## REPEATED MESSAGE PASSING

### Generic MPNN Layers:

$$\mathbf{h}_u^{(k)} = \phi^{(k)} \left[ \mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \bigoplus_{v \in N(u)} \psi^{(k)} \left( \mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{h}_v^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{e}_{uv}^{(k-1)} \right) \right]$$

**Node Updates:** collecting info from each node's  $k$ -hop neighborhood at the  $k^{\text{th}}$  layer



<https://doi.org/10.1145/3219819.3219890>

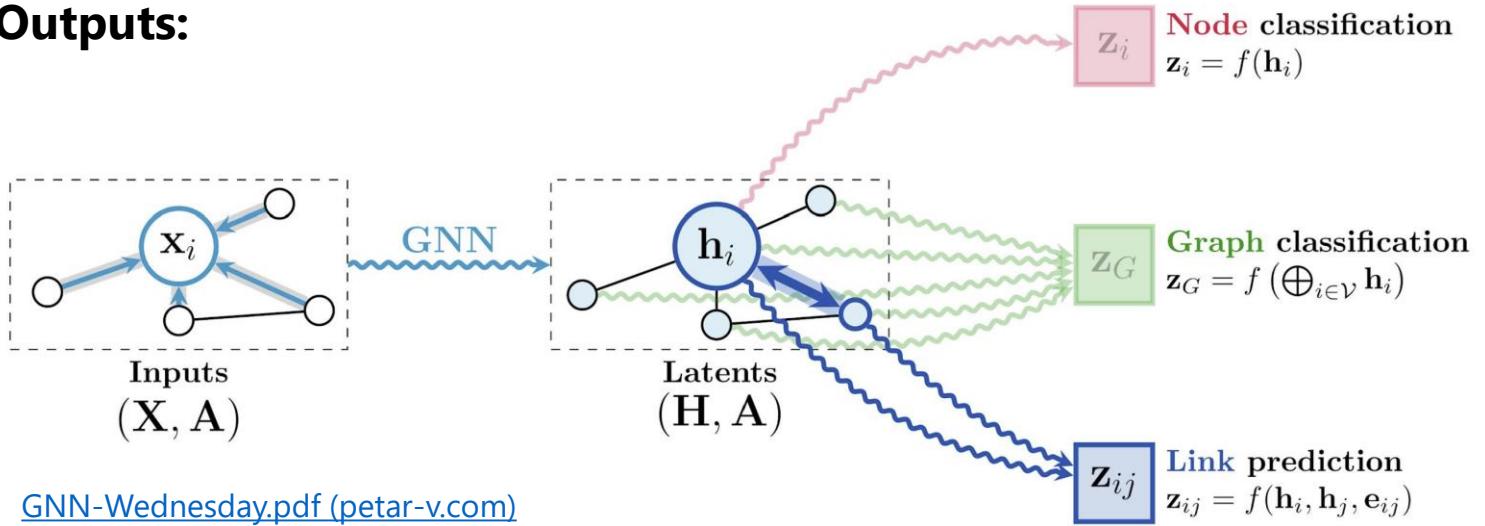
# GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS

## PREDICTIONS, LIMITATIONS

### Generic MPNN Layers:

$$\mathbf{h}_u^{(k)} = \phi^{(k)} \left[ \mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \bigoplus_{v \in N(u)} \psi^{(k)} \left( \mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{h}_v^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{e}_{uv}^{(k-1)} \right) \right]$$

### Outputs:



### Limitations:

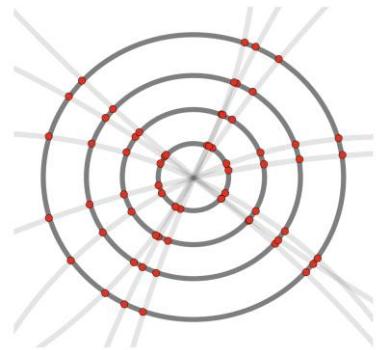
- Not every problem is easily mapped to a graph
- MPNNs aren't guaranteed to solve every problem  
(e.g. discerning some non-isomorphic graphs, generic MPNN's representational power upper bounded by the 1-WL test)



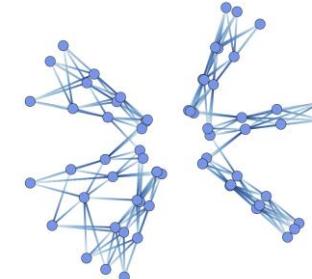
# GNNS AT THE LHC

## Low-Level Reconstruction Tasks

Combine detector signals to form “building blocks” for various particle types



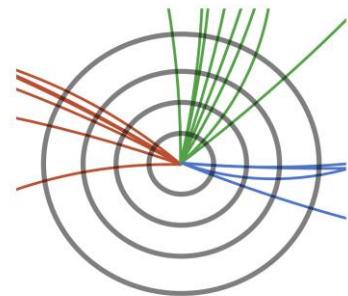
Track Reconstruction



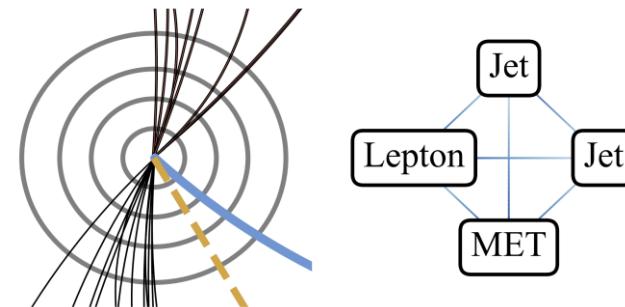
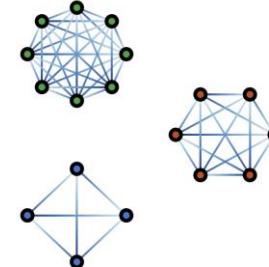
Calorimeter Segmentation

## Higher Level Particle-based Tasks

Given a set of particles, can we combine them to represent a specific decay?  
Can we identify a physics signal?



Jet Identification



Event Classification

GNNS AT THE LHC  
COMMON APPLICATIONS

# GNNS AT THE LHC

## WHY GNNS?

### **Common Justifications** (task-dependent)

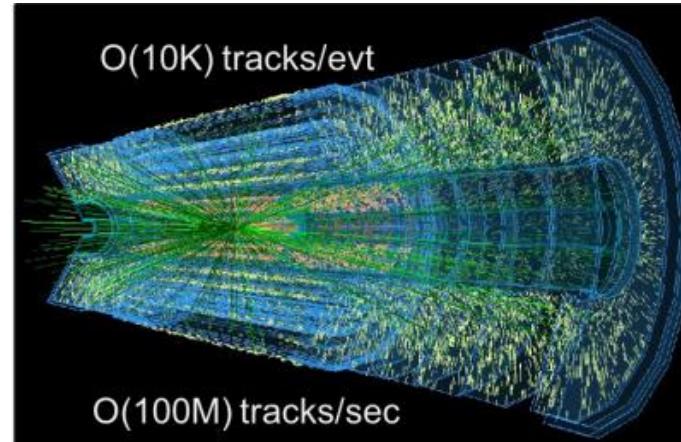
- Many LHC datasets have inherent relational structure and/or no inherent ordering
- Grids, sequences, etc. cannot naturally represent irregular detector geometries
  - A small fraction of sensors are activated in any given event → data is sparse
  - Many different data sizes (particle counts, sensor readings, etc.)
- LHC data is heterogeneous
  - Data recorded from multiple subdetectors
  - Different types of particles
- Excellent performance
  - Relational inductive bias
  - Message passing leverages low-level detector info in addition to global (or otherwise human-devised) info
  - Generally smaller architectures (qualitatively speaking)

**Trackers** are the innermost detector layers responsible for sampling particle trajectories

Tracks allow us to measure *momentum, direction, origin, and charge*

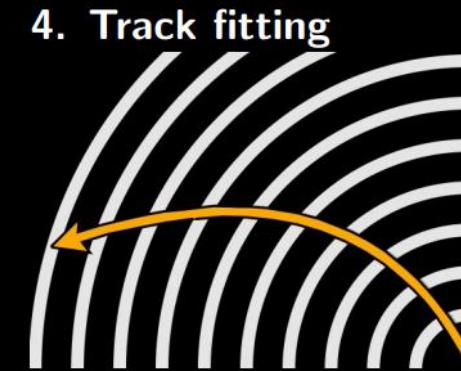
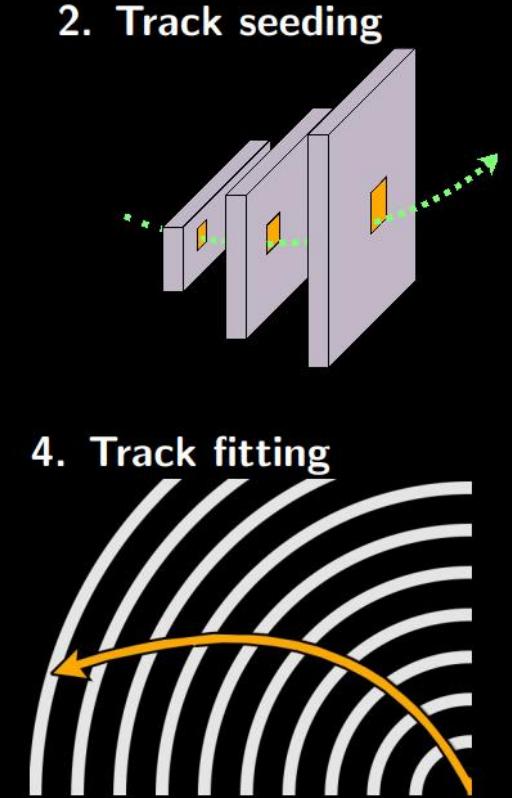
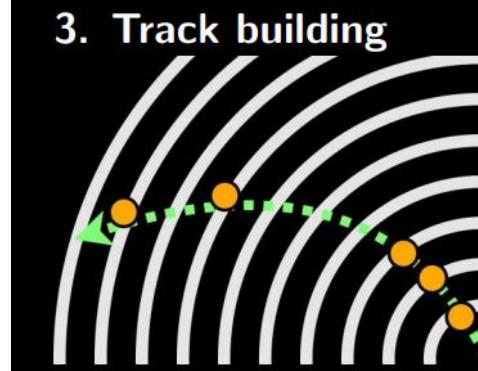
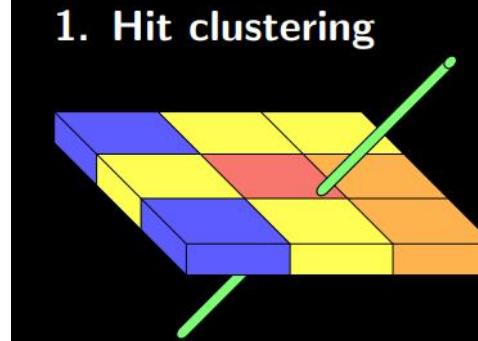
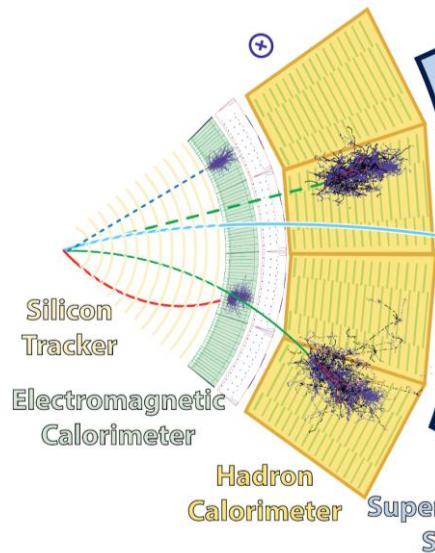
### Challenge:

This is where we're headed... many, many tracks per event!



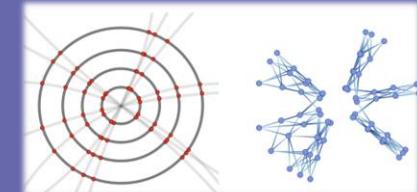
# GNN TRACKING

## TRADITIONAL TRACKING METHODS



**Tracking:** rebuilding particle trajectories from spatial measurements, traditionally an iterative process  
... doesn't scale with increasing detector activity!

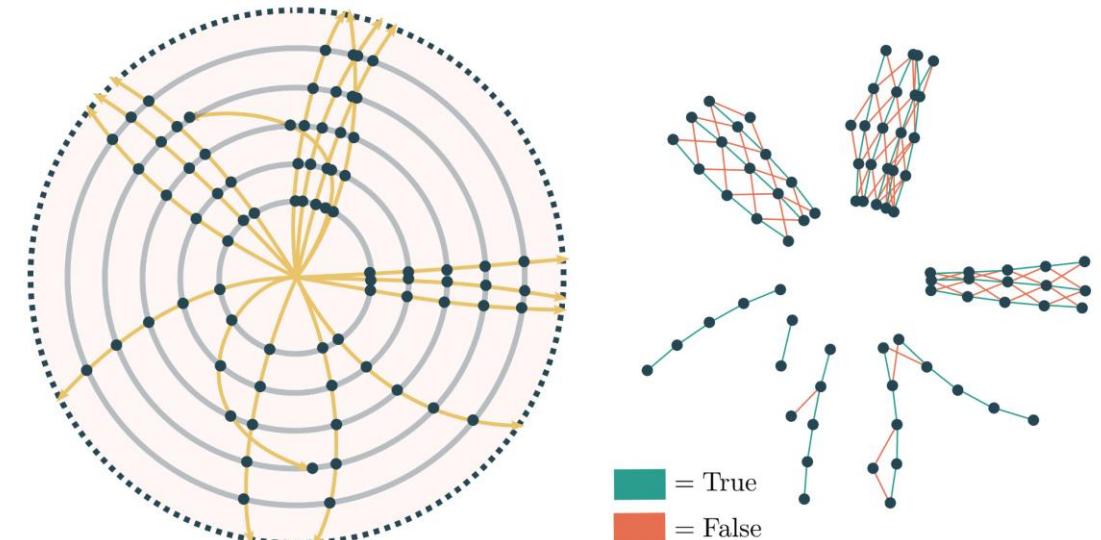
[Connecting the dots: applying deep learning techniques in HEP | EP News \(cern.ch\)](#)



# GNN TRACKING POSED AS AN ML TASK

## Edge Classification Task

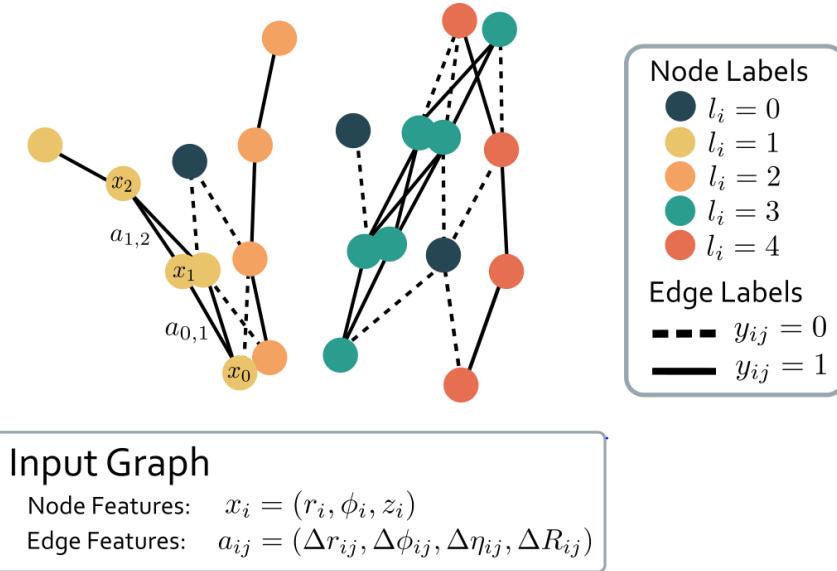
- Draw edges to hypothesize various particle trajectories, train a GNN to classify edges



Input data is a 3D  
*point cloud*

Train on graphs with edge  
truth labels

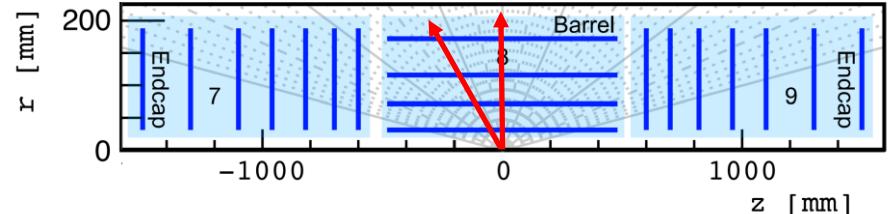
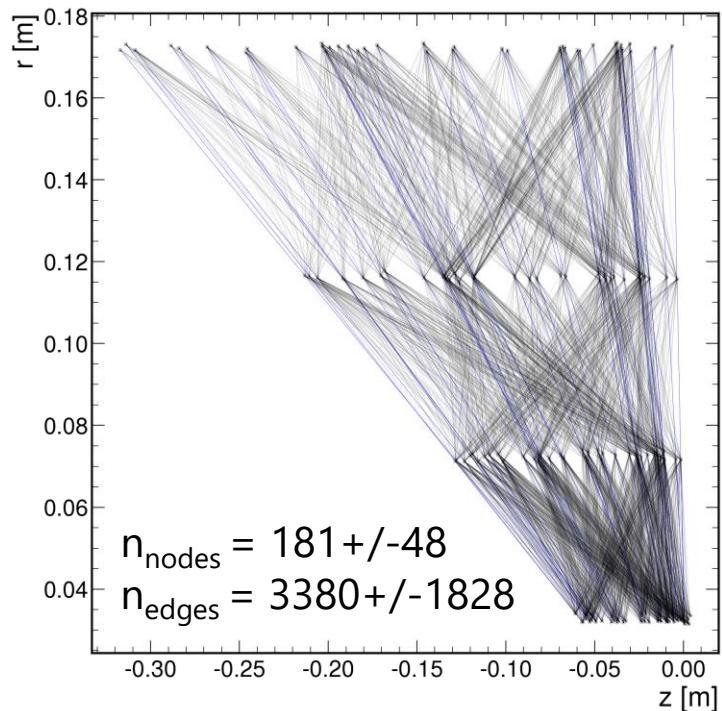
- **Key steps** (general to many GNN workflows)
  - 1) Graph construction from underlying data
  - 2) GNN inference
  - 3) Post-processing of GNN predictions

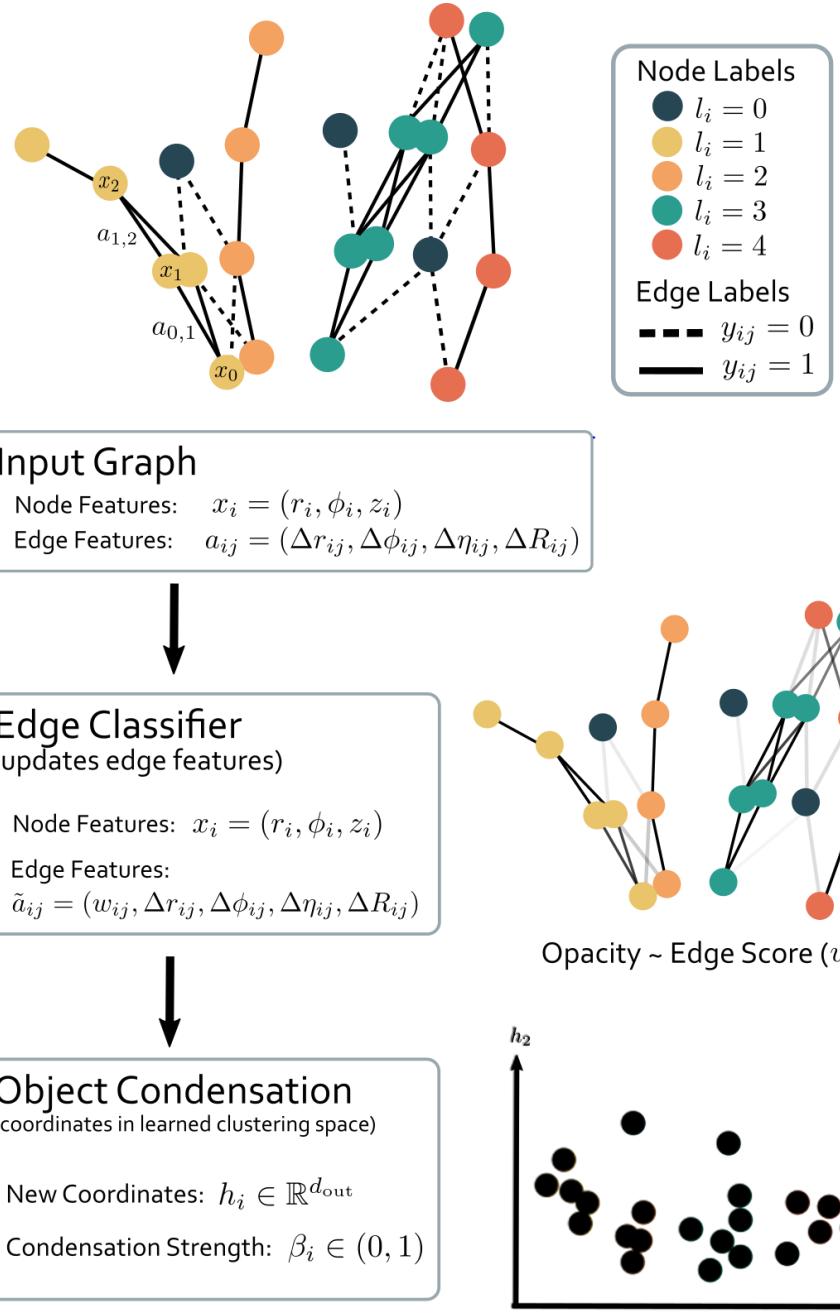


## Example GNN-based tracking workflow

### 1) Graph Construction

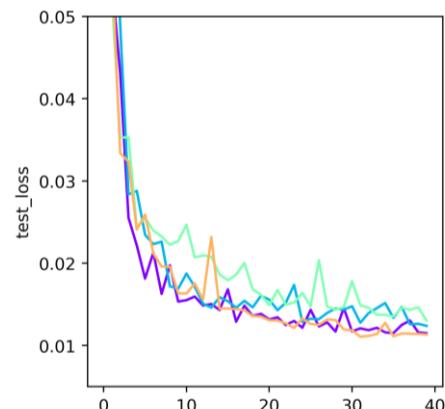
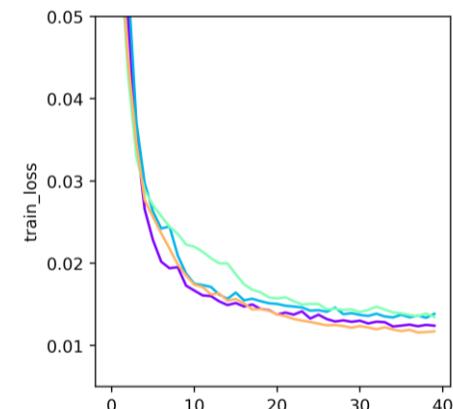
Draw edges between particles detector hits based on some initial constraints, clustering, etc.



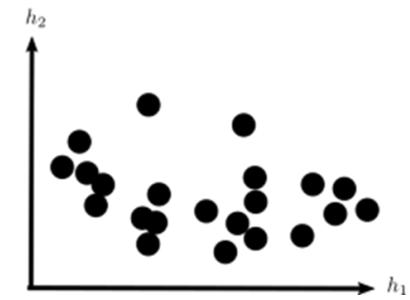


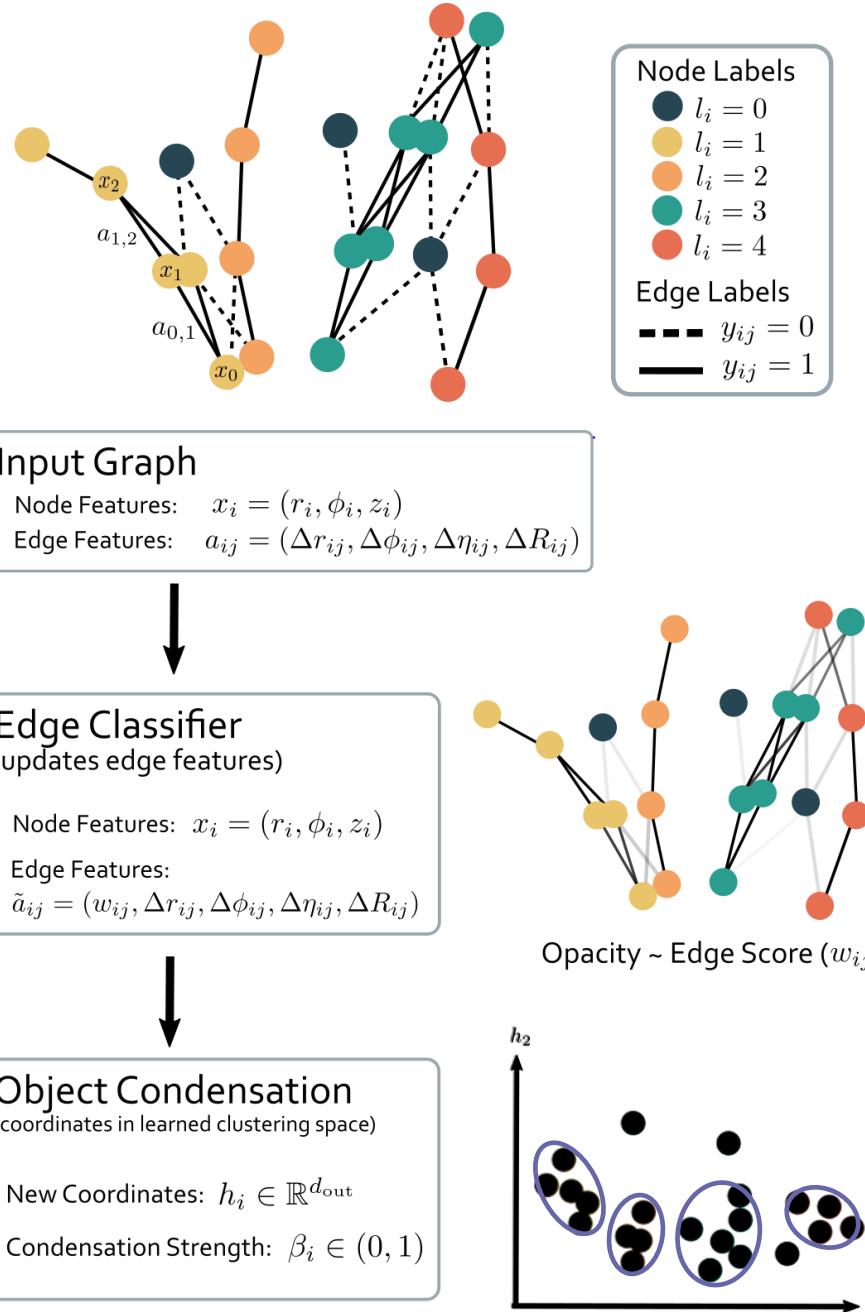
## 2) GNN Inference

Train a GNN to classify the edges (binary cross entropy)  
**and** cluster signals belonging to the same particle (object condensation)



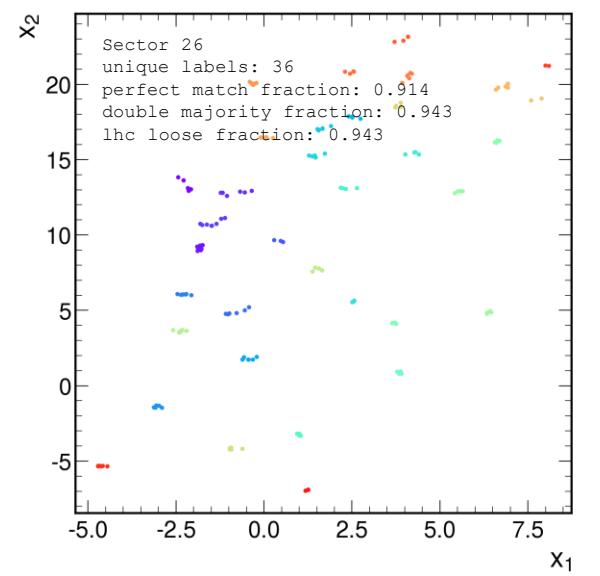
**Output:** track hit coordinates  
 in a learned clustering space



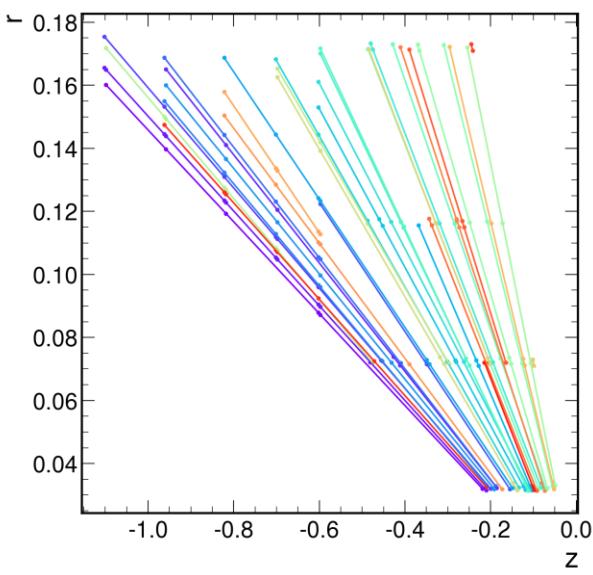


### 3) Postprocessing

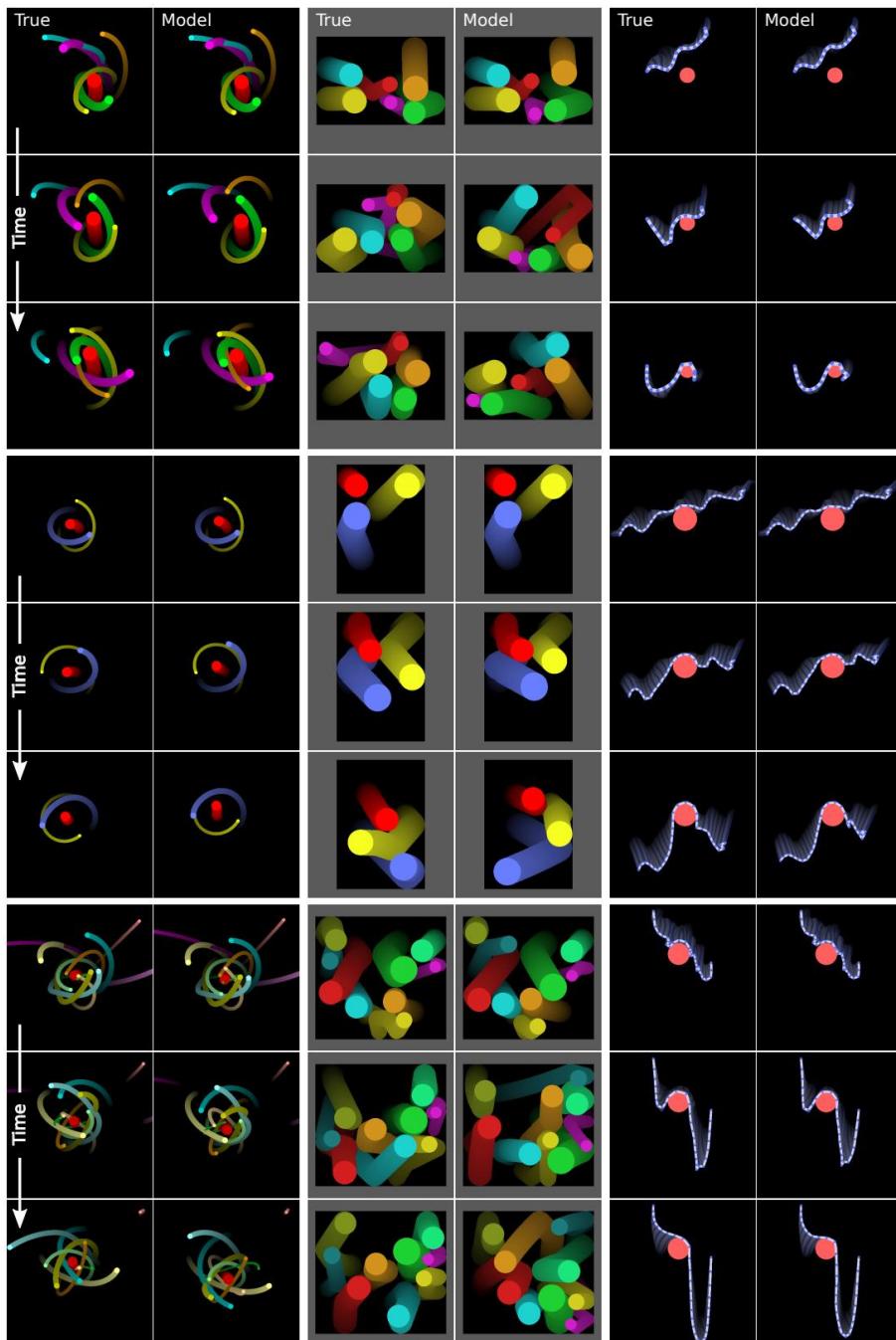
Cluster hits in the learned coordinate space to form track candidates!



GNN outputs 2D coordinates for each hit



Colors are cluster labels generated by DBSCAN (not the GNN)



## Interaction Networks:

[\[1612.00222\] Interaction Networks for Learning about Objects, Relations and Physics \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1612.00222)

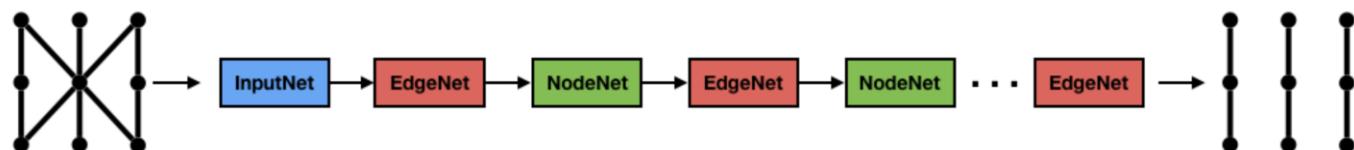
Physics-motivated MPNNs suitable for graphs with pre-constructed edges (originally applied to "next timestep" physics simulations)

- (**Edge Block**) compute an interaction between two entities:

$$e_{uv}^{(k)} = \text{MLP}_{\psi}^{(k)} \left( [h_u^{(k-1)}, h_v^{(k-1)}, e_{u,v}^{(k-1)}] \right)$$

- (**Node Block**) use the interaction to update the state of the receiving node:

$$h_u^{(k)} = \text{MLP}_{\phi}^{(k)} \left( h_u^{(k-1)}, \sum_{v \in N(u)} e_{u,v}^{(k)} \right)$$

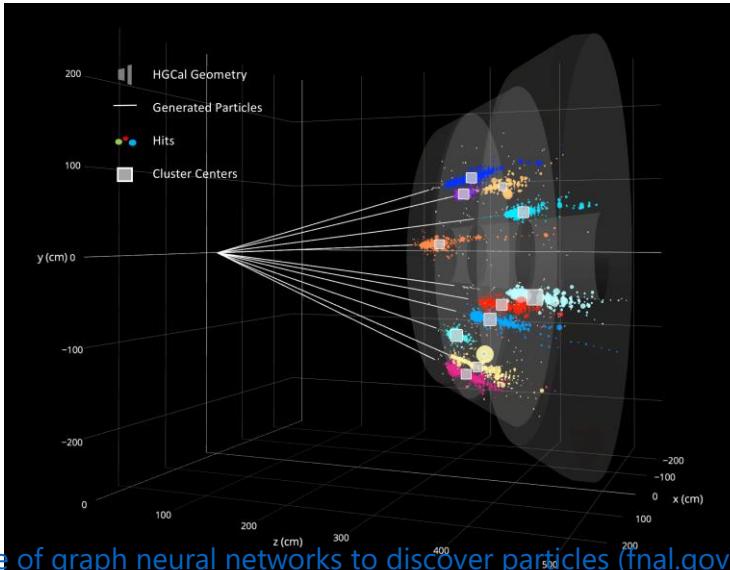
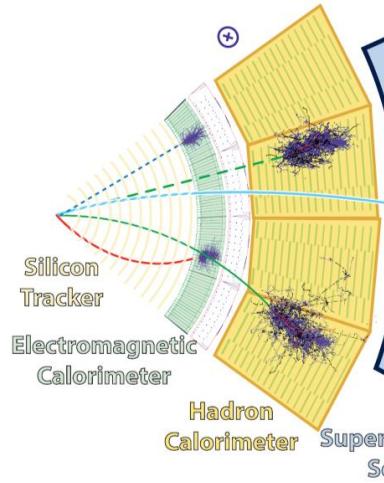


a common form for many GNN tracking architectures  
[1810.06111.pdf \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.06111)

**Calorimeters** are designed to absorb particles by forcing them to shower

Calorimeter showers allow us to measure *position, ID, and energy*

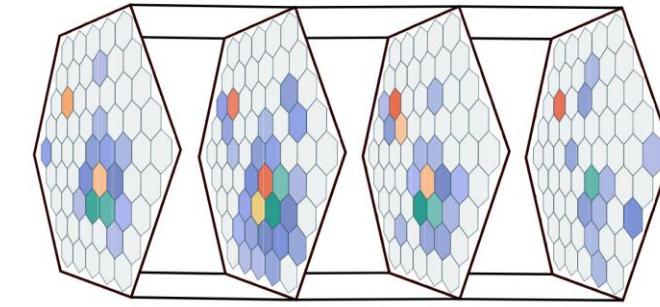
**Challenge:** disentangling showers, using them to predict energy / particle ID



[The next big thing: the use of graph neural networks to discover particles \(fnal.gov\)](http://fnal.gov)

## Calorimeter Segmentation Tasks

Input data is a set of calorimeter hit cells (features are e.g. energy, position) → embed as graph nodes



- **Edge Classification:** pre-construct a graph and classify edges to form a mesh on the calorimeter hits representing the particle shower
- **Node Classification:** separate two calorimeter showers by predicting the fractional assignment of each hit
- **Object Condensation:** see next slides

# GNN CALORIMETRY

## OVERVIEW / TASKS

# GNNS AT THE LHC IMPLICIT GRAPH LEARNING

## Dynamic Graph Construction

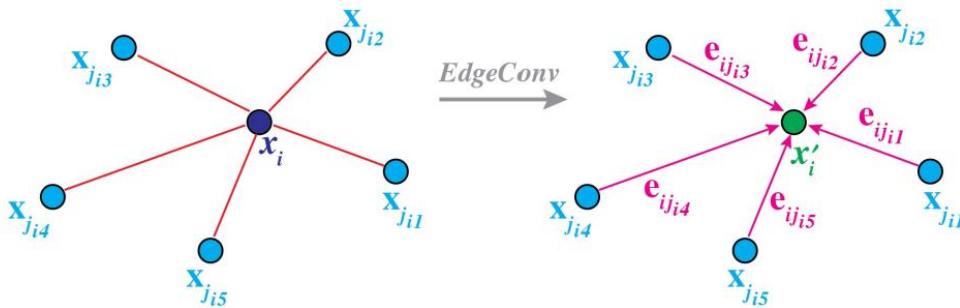
In many cases it is preferable *not* to precompute edges and, instead, form them as part of the learning algorithm

### e.g. EdgeConv GNN Layers

During inference, draw edges between nodes clustered by  $k$ -NN; use these edges for subsequent message passing → local graph creation

$$h_u^{(k)} = \max_{v \in N(u)} MLP_{\phi}^{(k)}(h_u^{(k-1)}, h_v^{(k-1)} - h_u^{(k-1)})$$

global      local

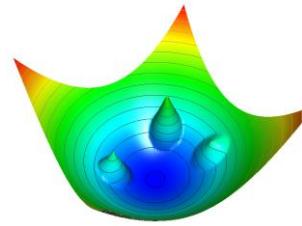


A lightweight version of this operation (GravNet) has been developed at the LHC and applied to calorimeter segmentation!

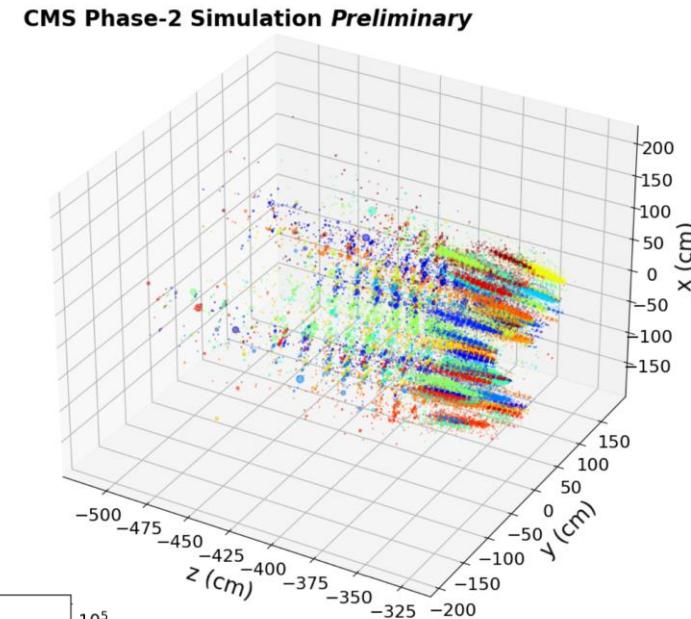
**Object Condensation:** a GNN learning strategy designed to 1) cluster nodes belonging to the same object (**segmentation**), 2) suppress noise, and 3) predict the properties of objects formed by graph nodes (**regression**)

- Applied GravNet layers to perform object condensation on calorimeter data and subsequent energy regression
- Up to 400 particle showers (each with up to 1600 hits) are considered per event
- GNN based on GravNet, a lightweight EdgeConv layer performing dynamic graph construction

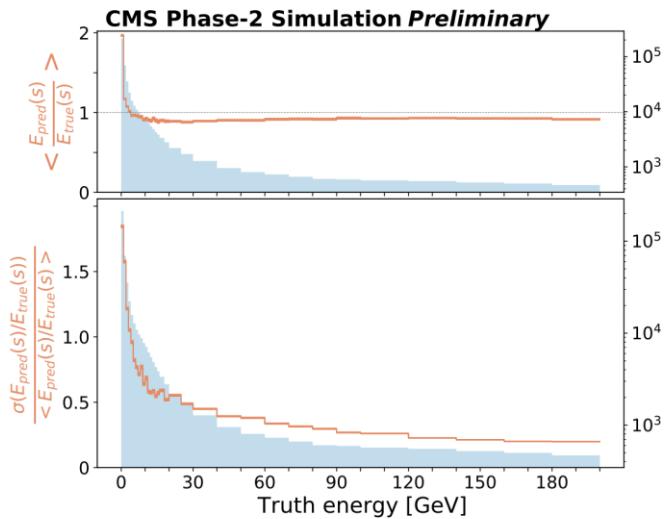
[Object Condensation 2002.03605.pdf \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2002.03605.pdf)



Showers  
are well-  
segmented



Predicted shower  
energies match  
truth



[Multi-particle reconstruction in the High Granularity Calorimeter using object condensation and graph neural networks](#)

# GNN CALORIMETRY

## OBJECT CONDENSATION EXAMPLE

**Particle flow (PF)** algorithms combine tracks and calorimeter clusters to form physics objects (electrons, photons, muons, etc.)

### PF via Node Classification:

A recent GNN-based PF algorithm considered *heterogeneous nodes* representing tracks, electromagnetic calorimeter (ECAL) clusters, and hadronic calorimeter (HCAL) clusters

- Targets (per node):

$$y_j = [\text{PID}, p_T, E, \eta, \phi, q]$$

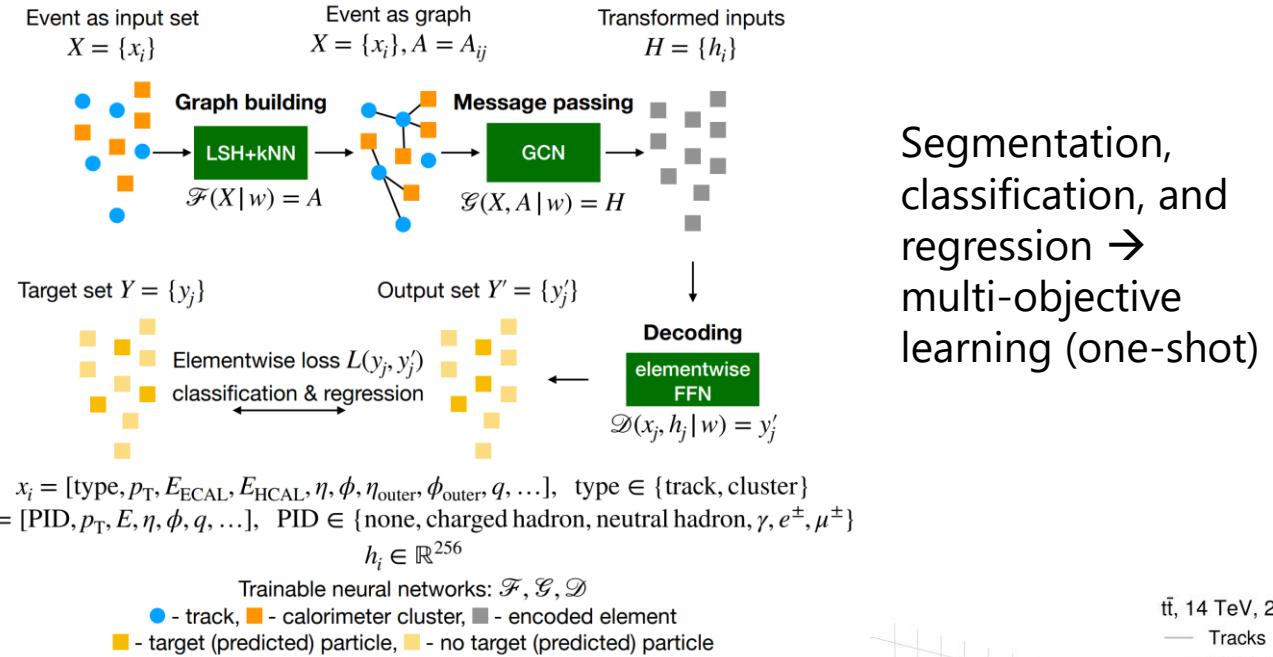
PID  $\in \{\text{charged hadron, neutral hadron, } \gamma, e^\pm, \mu^\pm\}$

- Nodes:

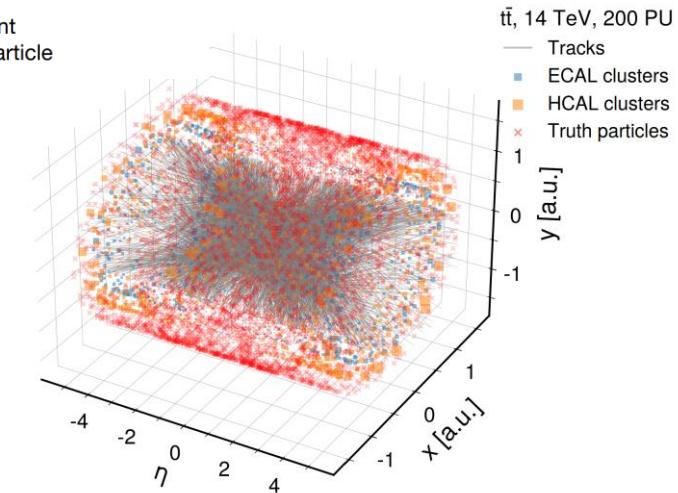
$$x_i = [\text{type}, p_T, E_{\text{ECAL}}, E_{\text{HCAL}}, \eta, \phi, \eta_{\text{outer}}, \phi_{\text{outer}}, q]$$

type  $\in \{\text{track, cluster}\}$

[\[2101.08578\] MLPF: Efficient machine-learned particle-flow reconstruction using graph neural networks \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.08578)



Graph structure computed dynamically, not trained explicitly;  
~5000 elements per graph

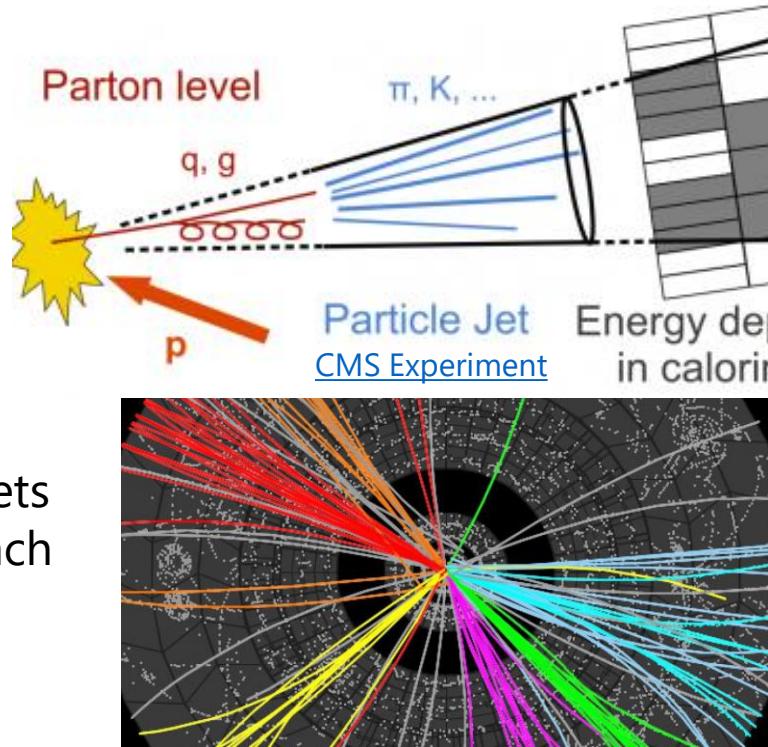


# GNN EVENT RECONSTRUCTION

## MLPF EXAMPLE

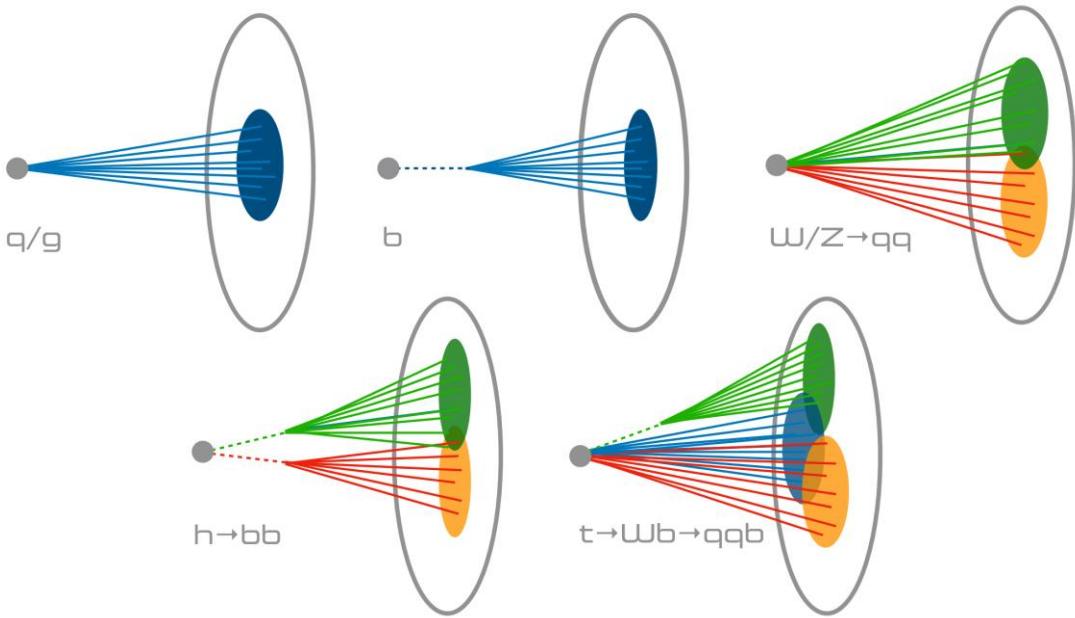
**Jets** are collimated sprays of particles produced when quarks or gluons are produced in isolation

Correctly reconstructing and classifying jets is critical for many important physics measurements (e.g. Higgs  $\rightarrow b$  quarks)



O(1) to O(10) jets produced in each particle event

**Jet Identification:** what particle initiated the jet?



Isolated quarks and gluons form collimated jets; heavier objects decaying to multiple quarks that are reconstructed into larger jets

# GNN JET IDENTIFICATION

## JETS AND PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

# GNN JET IDENTIFICATION SET-BASED APPROACHES

## Set-based Architectures

Treat jets as *sets* of particles with kinematic features (energy, momentum, direction, mass)

- **Particle/Energy Flow Networks** apply the DeepSets result directly:

Observable Decomposition. An observable  $\mathcal{O}$  can be approximated arbitrarily well as:

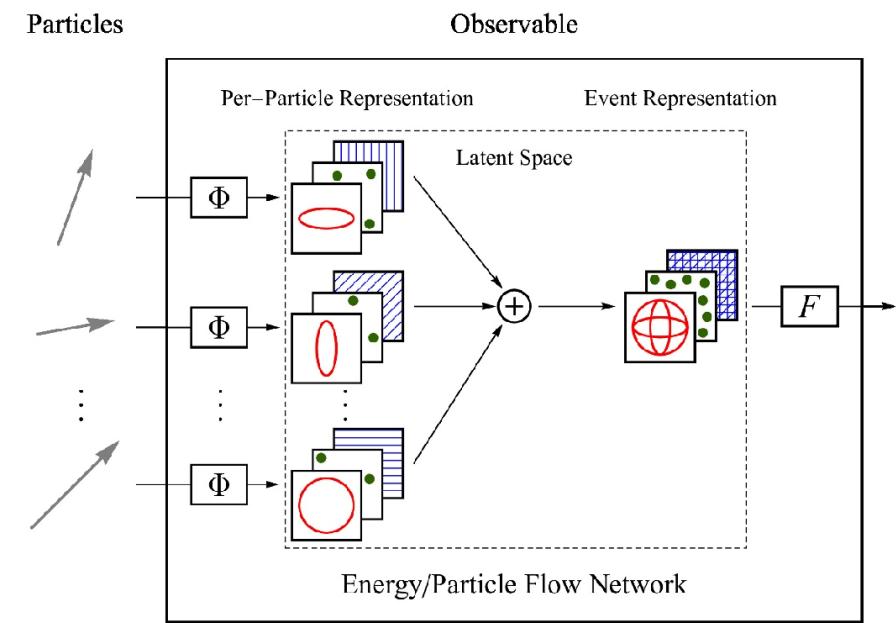
$$\mathcal{O}(\{p_1, \dots, p_M\}) = F \left( \sum_{i=1}^M \Phi(p_i) \right), \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\ell$  is a per-particle mapping and  $F : \mathbb{R}^\ell \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous function.

- **Direct Application:**

$$\text{PFN: } F \left( \sum_{i=1}^M \Phi(p_i) \right)$$

any corresponding  
particle information



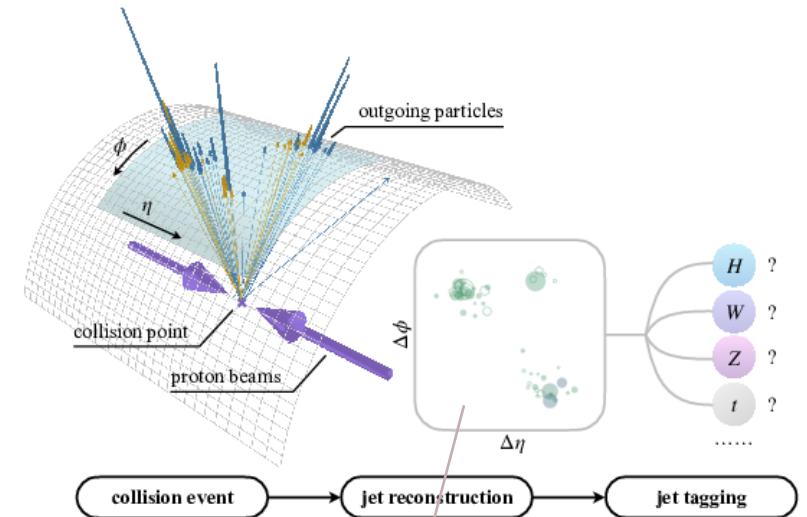
# GNN JET IDENTIFICATION PARTICLE CLOUDS / PARTICLE GRAPHS

## Particle Cloud GNNs

Apply GNNs w/ dynamic graph construction (EdgeConv) to make predictions on point clouds

e.g.

[\[1902.08570\] ParticleNet: Jet Tagging via Particle Clouds \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.08570)



Particles can be viewed as a “particle cloud” of kinematic features at different spatial locations

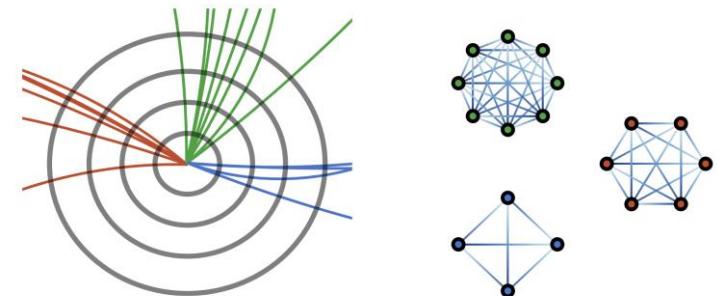
## Particle Graph GNNs

Apply a GNN to a pre-constructed graph with particles as nodes

e.g.

[\[2001.05311\] ABCNet: An attention-based method for particle tagging \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/2001.05311)

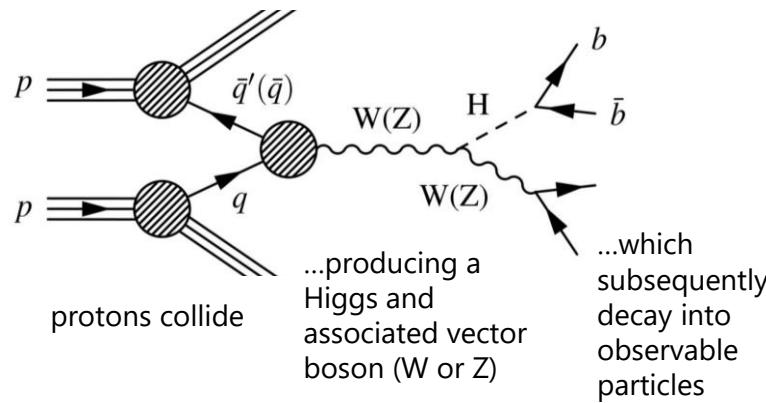
[\[1908.05318\] JEDI-net: a jet identification algorithm based on interaction networks \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/1908.05318)



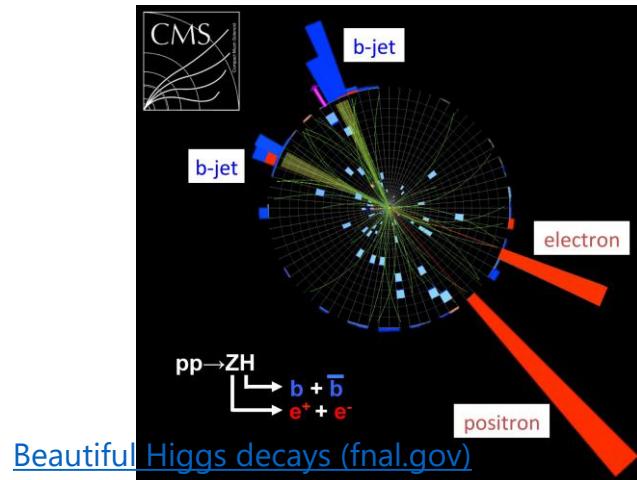
In this case, the particles comprising three jets have been embedded as nodes in fully connected graphs

**Signals** are collections of particles (topology + kinematics) produced by an interesting physics process

What happened:



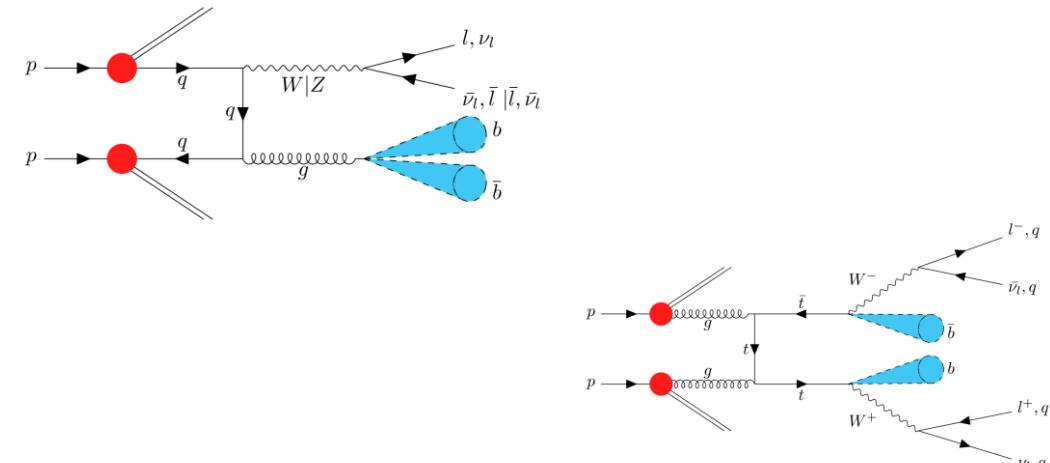
What we see:



# GNN SIGNAL IDENTIFICATION PHYSICS SIGNALS

**Signal Identification:** is this event really the signal we're looking for?

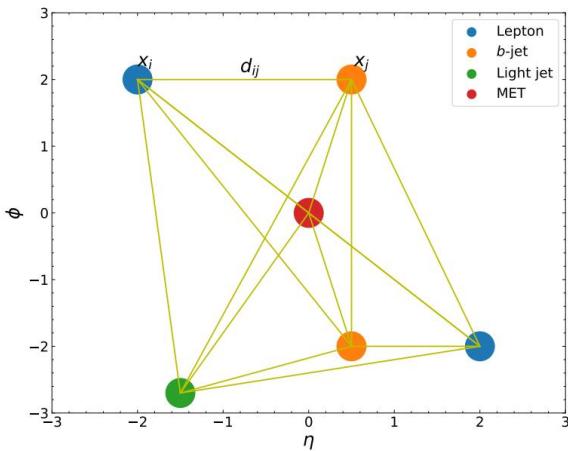
**Background Rejection:** lots of other processes look like the signal, and are often produced at a much higher rate



[Associated Production with a vector boson and decay into  \$b\$ -quarks using the ATLAS Run-2 dataset \(Dwayne Spiteri\) \(inspirehep.net\)](#)

# GNN JET IDENTIFICATION EVENT-LEVEL TASKS

**Event (Graph-Level) Classification:** heterogeneous nodes representing different particles / observables



$x$	photon	lepton charge	$b$ -jet or light jet	MET	$p_T$ (TeV)	$E$ (TeV)	$m$ (TeV)
1	0	1	0	0	0.132	0.135	0.000
2	0	-1	0	0	0.025	0.025	0.000
3	0	0	1	0	0.163	0.227	0.012
4	0	0	1	0	0.052	0.053	0.006
5	0	0	-1	0	0.047	2.485	0.011
6	0	0	0	1	0.078	0.078	0.000

nodes have explicit particle labels  
→ heterogeneous structure

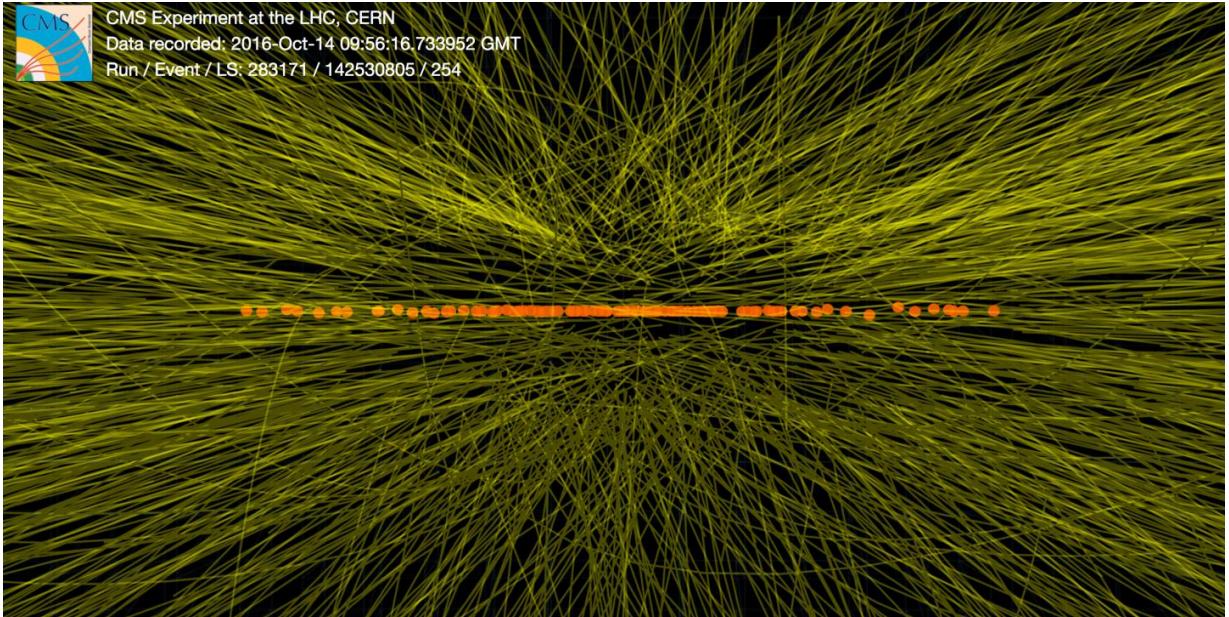
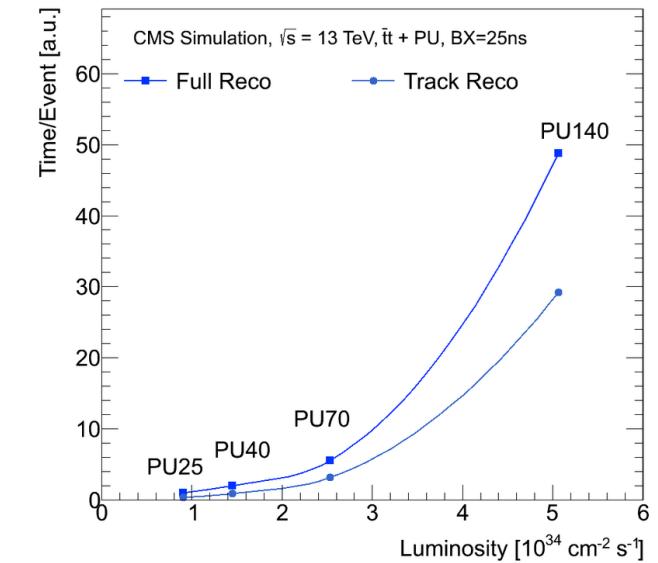
Use MPNNs to update node states to “agree” (global average pool them) on a graph-level classification of signal vs. background

- GNNs are being applied to a wide range of physics tasks at the LHC
  - Track and calorimeter reconstruction, energy regression, particle and signal identification
  - Topics not covered here: generative modeling, anomaly detection, detector calibration, algorithmic acceleration, interpretability
- A variety of graph-based learning approaches:
  - Pre-constructed vs. dynamically computed graphs
  - Node, edge, and graph-level predictions
  - One-shot (multi-objective) learning functions
  - Heterogeneous graph nodes
- GNN layers are quickly becoming one of the “standard building blocks” for LHC architectures

... thanks for listening!

## CONCLUSIONS

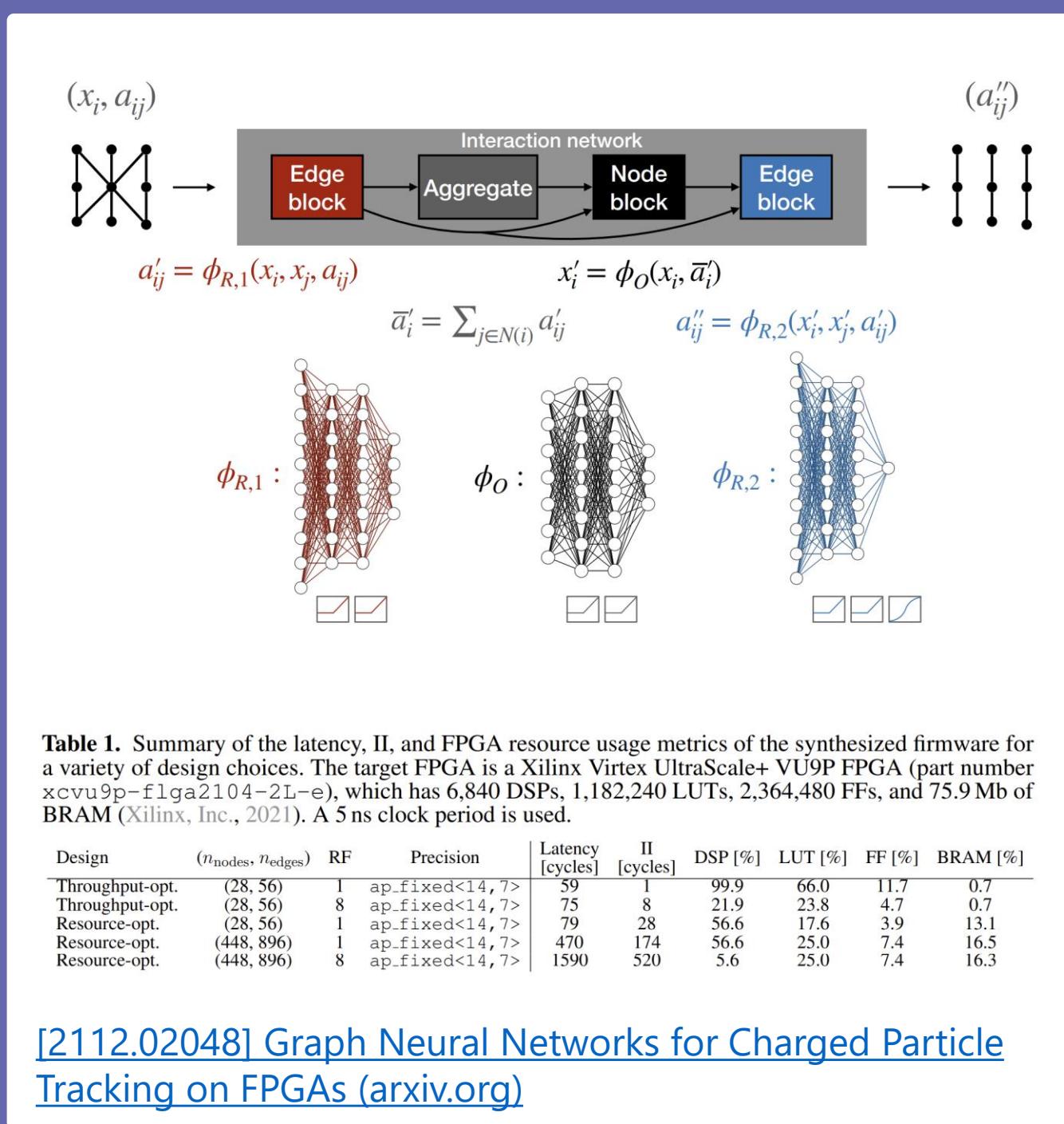
# GNNS AT THE LHC GNN TRACKING AT THE HL-LHC



**Many overlapping interactions → many tracks per event!**

# GNNS AT THE LHC

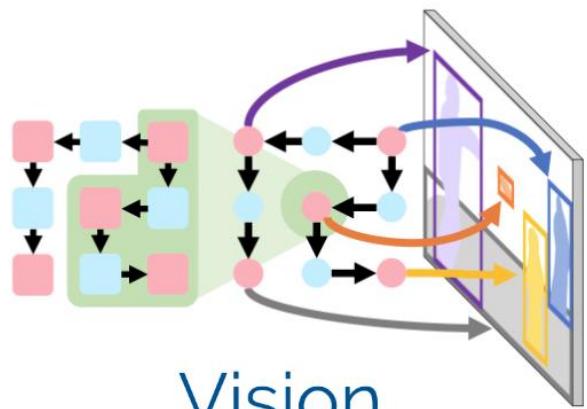
## ACCELERATED GNN TRACKING



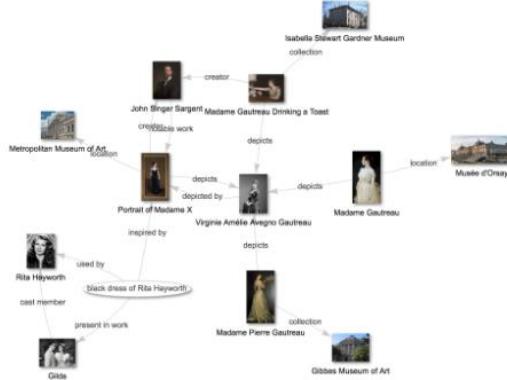
**Table 1.** Summary of the latency, II, and FPGA resource usage metrics of the synthesized firmware for a variety of design choices. The target FPGA is a Xilinx Virtex UltraScale+ VU9P FPGA (part number xcvu9p-flga2104-2L-e), which has 6,840 DSPs, 1,182,240 LUTs, 2,364,480 FFs, and 75.9 Mb of BRAM (Xilinx, Inc., 2021). A 5 ns clock period is used.

Design	$(n_{\text{nodes}}, n_{\text{edges}})$	RF	Precision	Latency [cycles]	II [cycles]	DSP [%]	LUT [%]	FF [%]	BRAM [%]
Throughput-opt.	(28, 56)	1	ap_fixed<14, 7>	59	1	99.9	66.0	11.7	0.7
Throughput-opt.	(28, 56)	8	ap_fixed<14, 7>	75	8	21.9	23.8	4.7	0.7
Resource-opt.	(28, 56)	1	ap_fixed<14, 7>	79	28	56.6	17.6	3.9	13.1
Resource-opt.	(448, 896)	1	ap_fixed<14, 7>	470	174	56.6	25.0	7.4	16.5
Resource-opt.	(448, 896)	8	ap_fixed<14, 7>	1590	520	5.6	25.0	7.4	16.3

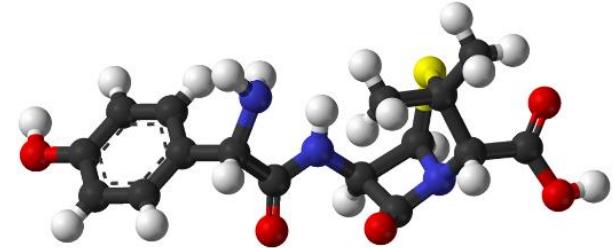
[2112.02048] Graph Neural Networks for Charged Particle Tracking on FPGAs (arxiv.org)



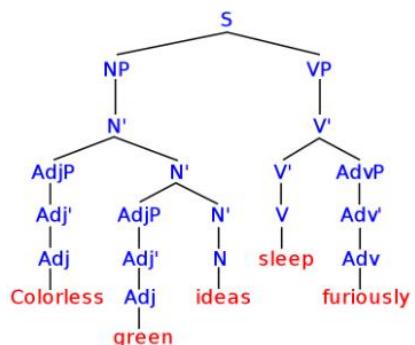
Vision



Knowledge graphs



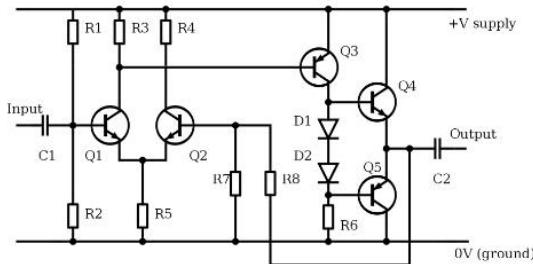
Chemistry



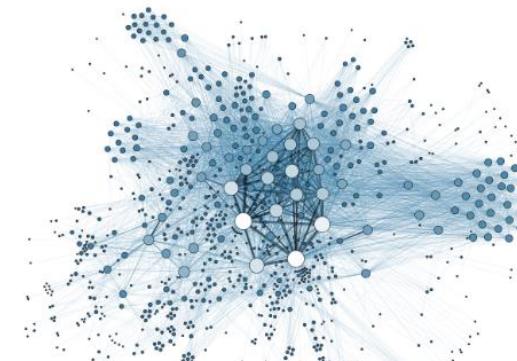
Language



Traffic networks



Circuits

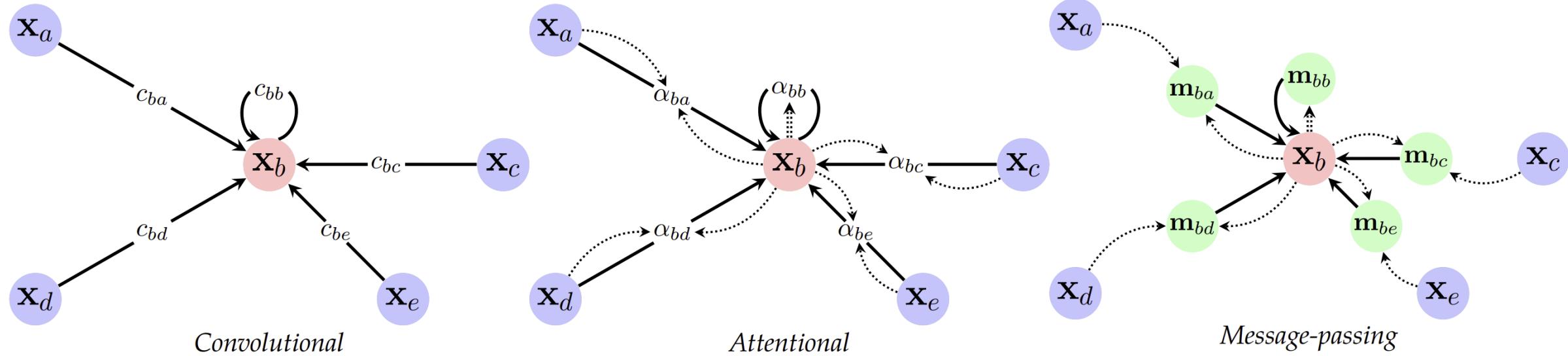


Social networks

GRAPH NEURAL NETWORKS  
GRAPH EXAMPLES

**Generic MPNN Layers:**  $\mathbf{h}_u^{(k)} = \phi^{(k)} \left[ \mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \bigoplus_{v \in N(u)} \psi^{(k)} \left( \mathbf{h}_u^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{h}_v^{(k-1)}, \mathbf{e}_{uv}^{(k-1)} \right) \right]$

### Different Equivariant Node Updates:



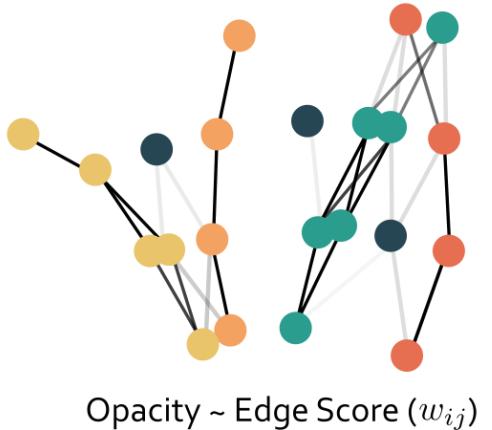
[2104.13478.pdf \(arxiv.org\)](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2104.13478.pdf)

### Edge Classifier (updates edge features)

Node Features:  $x_i = (r_i, \phi_i, z_i)$

Edge Features:

$\tilde{a}_{ij} = (w_{ij}, \Delta r_{ij}, \Delta \phi_{ij}, \Delta \eta_{ij}, \Delta R_{ij})$



- Optimize BCE as usual:

$$\mathcal{L}_w(y_j, w_j) = - \sum_{j=1}^{|\mathcal{E}|} (y_j \log w_j + (1 - y_j) \log(1 - w_j))$$

```
# re-embed the graph twice with add aggregation
x1, edge_attr_1 = self.in_w1(x, edge_index, edge_attr)
x2, edge_attr_2 = self.in_w2(x1, edge_index, edge_attr_1)

# combine all edge features, use to predict edge weights
initial_edge_attr = torch.cat([edge_attr, edge_attr_1,
                               edge_attr_2], dim=1)
edge_weights = torch.sigmoid(self.w(initial_edge_attr))
```

## EDGE CLASSIFICATION BINARY CROSS ENTROPY

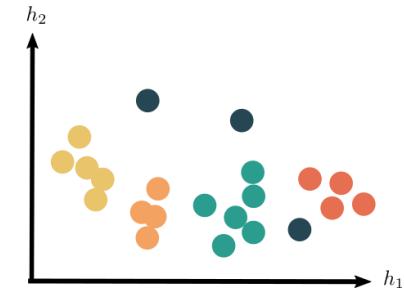
# OBJECT CONDENSATION

POTENTIAL LOSS +  
BACKGROUND SUPPRESSION

Object Condensation  
(coordinates in learned clustering space)

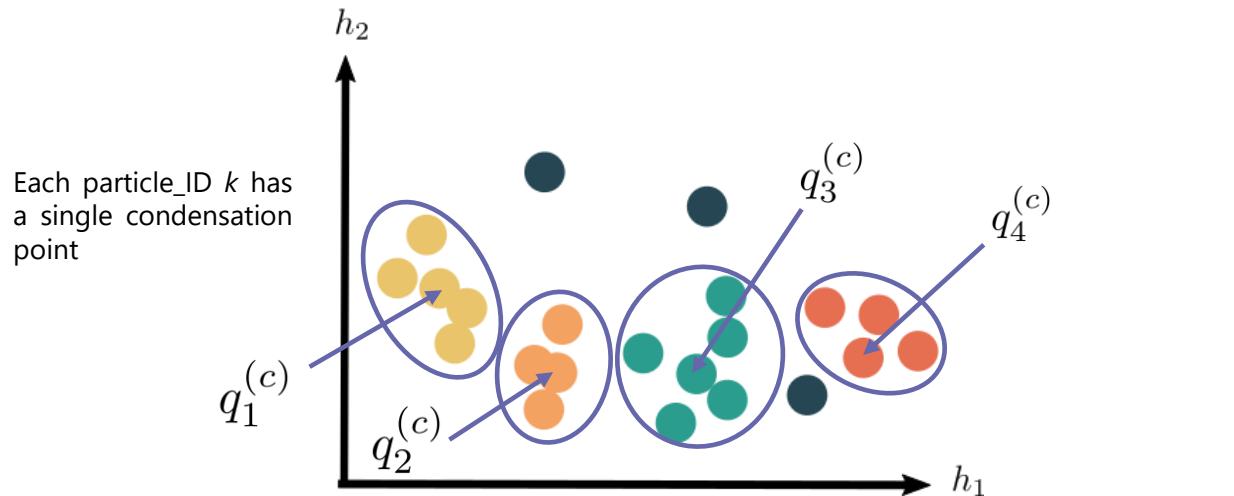
New Coordinates:  $h_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{out}}}$

Condensation Strength:  $\beta_i \in (0, 1)$



- **Predict** condensation “likelihood” ( $\beta_i \in (0, 1)$ ) and learned clustering coordinates ( $h_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_h}$ )
- Define a charge per node:  $q_i = \operatorname{arctanh}^2 \beta_i + q_{\min}$ 
  - Condensation points:  $q_k^{(c)} = \max_i q_i \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=k\}}$

Indicator function: the  $i^{\text{th}}$  node's particle\_ID ( $l_i$ ) must be  $k$



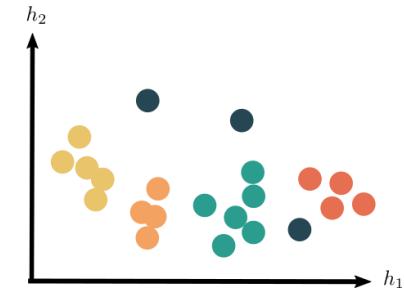
# OBJECT CONDENSATION

POTENTIAL LOSS +  
BACKGROUND SUPPRESSION

Object Condensation  
(coordinates in learned clustering space)

New Coordinates:  $h_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{out}}}$

Condensation Strength:  $\beta_i \in (0, 1)$

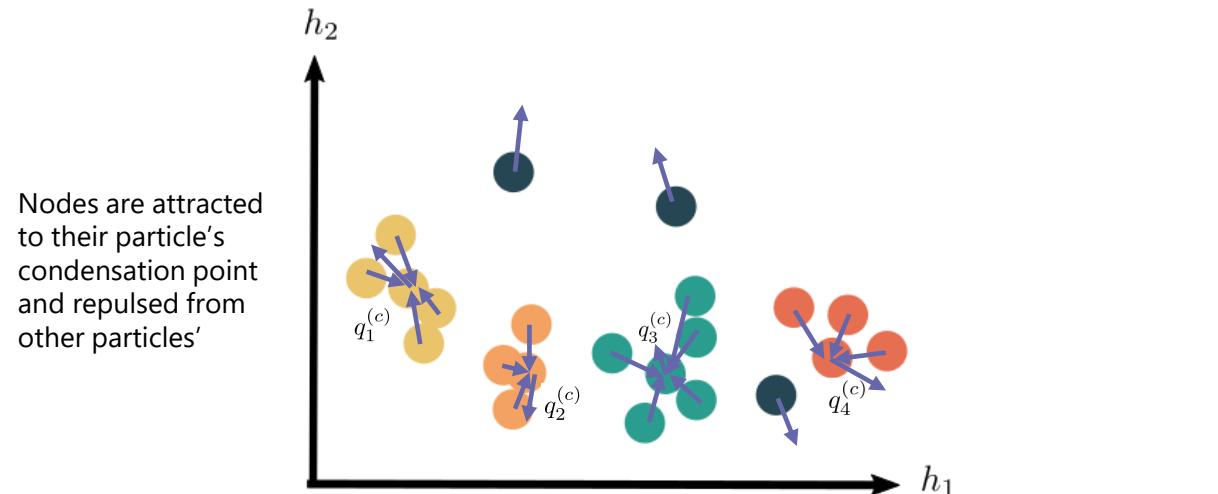


- Condensation points:  $q_k^{(c)} = \max_i q_i \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=k\}}$
- Optimize two terms:

- Potential Loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_V = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{V}|} \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} q_i \sum_{k=1}^K \left( \mathbb{1}_{(l_i=k)} V_k^{\text{attract}}(h_i) + (1 - \mathbb{1}_{(l_i=k)}) V_k^{\text{repulse}}(h_i) \right)$$

$$V_k^{\text{attract}}(h) = \|h - h_\alpha\|_2^2 q_k^{(c)} \quad V_k^{\text{repulse}}(h) = \max(0, 1 - \|h - h_\alpha\|) q_k^{(c)}$$



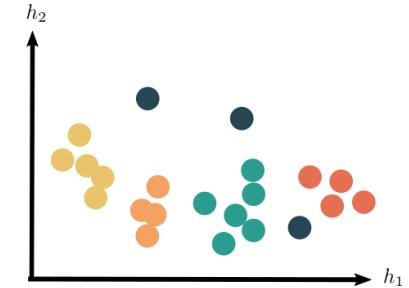
# OBJECT CONDENSATION

POTENTIAL LOSS +  
BACKGROUND SUPPRESSION

**Object Condensation**  
(coordinates in learned clustering space)

New Coordinates:  $h_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{out}}}$

Condensation Strength:  $\beta_i \in (0, 1)$



- **Predict** condensation “likelihood” ( $\beta_i \in (0, 1)$ ) and learned clustering coordinates ( $h_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_h}$ )
- Define a charge per node:  $q_i = \operatorname{arctanh}^2 \beta_i + q_{\min}$ 
  - Condensation points:  $q_k^{(c)} = \max_i q_i \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=k\}}$
- Optimize two terms:
  - Potential Loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_V = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{V}|} \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} q_i \sum_{k=1}^K \left( \mathbb{1}_{(l_i=k)} V_k^{\text{attract}}(h_i) + (1 - \mathbb{1}_{(l_i=k)}) V_k^{\text{repulse}}(h_i) \right)$$

$$V_k^{\text{attract}}(h) = \|h - h_\alpha\|_2^2 q_k^{(c)} \quad V_k^{\text{repulse}}(h) = \max(0, 1 - \|h - h_\alpha\|) q_k^{(c)}$$

- Background Loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_\beta = \frac{1}{K} \sum_k (1 - \beta_k^{(c)}) + s_B \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} \beta_i \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=0\}}}{\sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=0\}}}$$

Sum over noise hits  
(here, any particle  
hitting only one  
detector layer –  
 $O(20-50)$  hits)

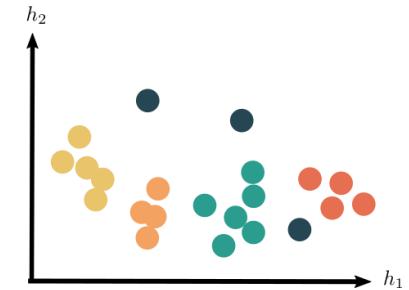
# OBJECT CONDENSATION

POTENTIAL LOSS +  
BACKGROUND SUPPRESSION

**Object Condensation**  
(coordinates in learned clustering space)

New Coordinates:  $h_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{out}}}$

Condensation Strength:  $\beta_i \in (0, 1)$



- Predict condensation likelihood ( $\beta_i \in (0, 1)$ ) and learned clustering coordinates ( $h_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_h}$ )
- Define a charge per node:  $q_i = \operatorname{arctanh}^2 \beta_i + q_{\min}$ 
  - Condensation points:  $q_k^{(c)} = \max_i q_i \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=k\}}$
- Optimize two terms:
  - Potential Loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_V = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{V}|} \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} q_i \sum_{k=1}^K \left( \mathbb{1}_{(l_i=k)} V_k^{\text{attract}}(h_i) + (1 - \mathbb{1}_{(l_i=k)}) V_k^{\text{repulse}}(h_i) \right)$$

$10 \times$

$$V_k^{\text{attract}}(h) = \|h - h_\alpha\|_2^2 q_k^{(c)} \quad V_k^{\text{repulse}}(h) = \max(0, 1 - \|h - h_\alpha\|) q_k^{(c)}$$

- Background Loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_\beta = \frac{1}{K} \sum_k (1 - \beta_k^{(c)}) + s_B \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} \beta_i \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=0\}}}{\sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=0\}}}$$

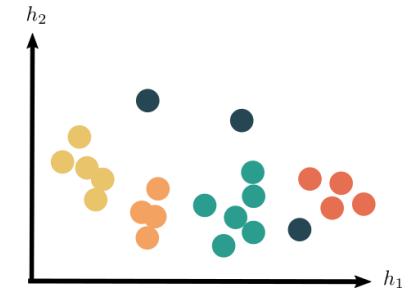
# OBJECT CONDENSATION

POTENTIAL LOSS +  
BACKGROUND SUPPRESSION

Object Condensation  
(coordinates in learned clustering space)

New Coordinates:  $h_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{out}}}$

Condensation Strength:  $\beta_i \in (0, 1)$



- Optimize two terms:

$$\mathcal{L}_V = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{V}|} \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} q_i \sum_{k=1}^K \left( \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=k\}} V_k^{\text{attract}}(h_i) + (1 - \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=k\}}) V_k^{\text{repulse}}(h_i) \right)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_\beta = \frac{1}{K} \sum_k (1 - \beta_k^{(c)}) + s_B \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} \beta_i \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=0\}}}{\sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=0\}}}$$

- Architecture:

```
# combine edge weights with original edge features
edge_attr_w = torch.cat([edge_weights,
                        initial_edge_attr], dim=1)
xc1, edge_attr_c1 = self.in_c1(x, edge_index, edge_attr_w)
xc2, edge_attr_c2 = self.in_c2(xc1, edge_index, edge_attr_c1)
xc3, edge_attr_c3 = self.in_c3(xc2, edge_index, edge_attr_c2)
all_xc = torch.cat([x, xc1, xc2, xc3], dim=1)
beta = torch.sigmoid(self.B(all_xc))
xc = self.x(all_xc)
return edge_weights, xc, beta
```

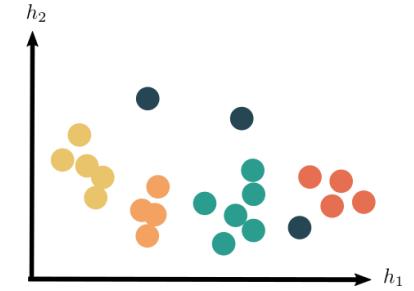
# TOTAL LOSS

SUM OF PARTS

Object Condensation  
(coordinates in learned clustering space)

New Coordinates:  $h_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{out}}}$

Condensation Strength:  $\beta_i \in (0, 1)$



- Three terms:
  - Edge Classification
$$\mathcal{L}_w(y_j, w_j) = - \sum_{j=1}^{|\mathcal{E}|} (y_j \log w_j + (1 - y_j) \log(1 - w_j))$$
  - Attraction/Repulsion → scale by  $10^4$ 
$$\mathcal{L}_V = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{V}|} \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} q_i \sum_{k=1}^K \left( \mathbb{1}_{(l_i=k)} V_k^{\text{attract}}(h_i) + (1 - \mathbb{1}_{(l_i=k)}) V_k^{\text{repulse}}(h_i) \right)$$
  - Background Suppression → scale by  $2.5 \times 10^{-3}$ 
$$\mathcal{L}_\beta = \frac{1}{K} \sum_k (1 - \beta_k^{(c)}) + s_B \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} \beta_i \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=0\}}}{\sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} \mathbb{1}_{\{l_i=0\}}}$$

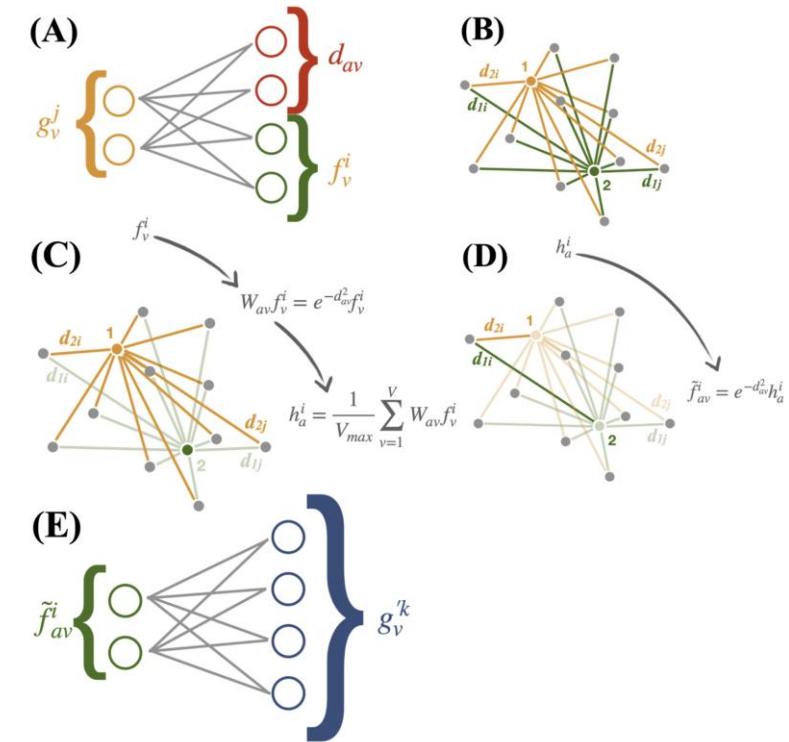
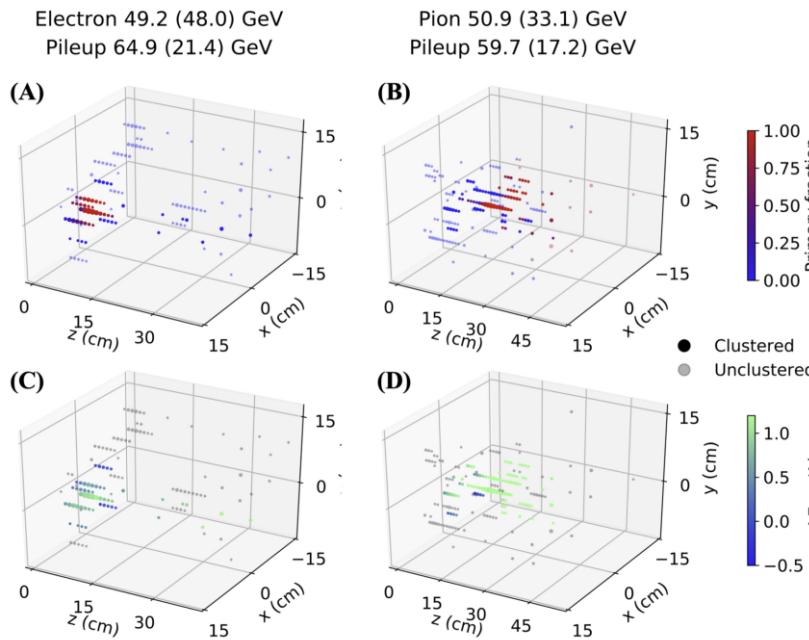
# GNNS AT THE LHC GRAVNET

## Dynamic Graph Construction

In many cases it is preferable *not* to precompute edges and, instead, form them as part of the learning algorithm

### e.g. GravNet/GarNet

Dynamic graph construction in a learned feature space, extract new node features in learned coordinates



# GNN JET IDENTIFICATION SET-BASED APPROACHES

## Set-based Architectures

Treat jets as *sets* of particles with kinematic features (energy, momentum, direction, mass)

- **Particle/Energy Flow Networks** apply the DeepSets result directly (learnable permutation-invariant approximators with MLPs  $F, \Phi$ ):

**Observable Decomposition.** An observable  $\mathcal{O}$  can be approximated arbitrarily well as:

$$\mathcal{O}(\{p_1, \dots, p_M\}) = F \left( \sum_{i=1}^M \Phi(p_i) \right), \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^\ell$  is a per-particle mapping and  $F : \mathbb{R}^\ell \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous function.

- **Direct Application:**

$$\text{PFN: } F \left( \sum_{i=1}^M \Phi(p_i) \right)$$

any corresponding  
particle information

- **Specific to Jets:**

$$\text{EFN: } F \left( \sum_{i=1}^M z_i \Phi(\hat{p}_i) \right)$$

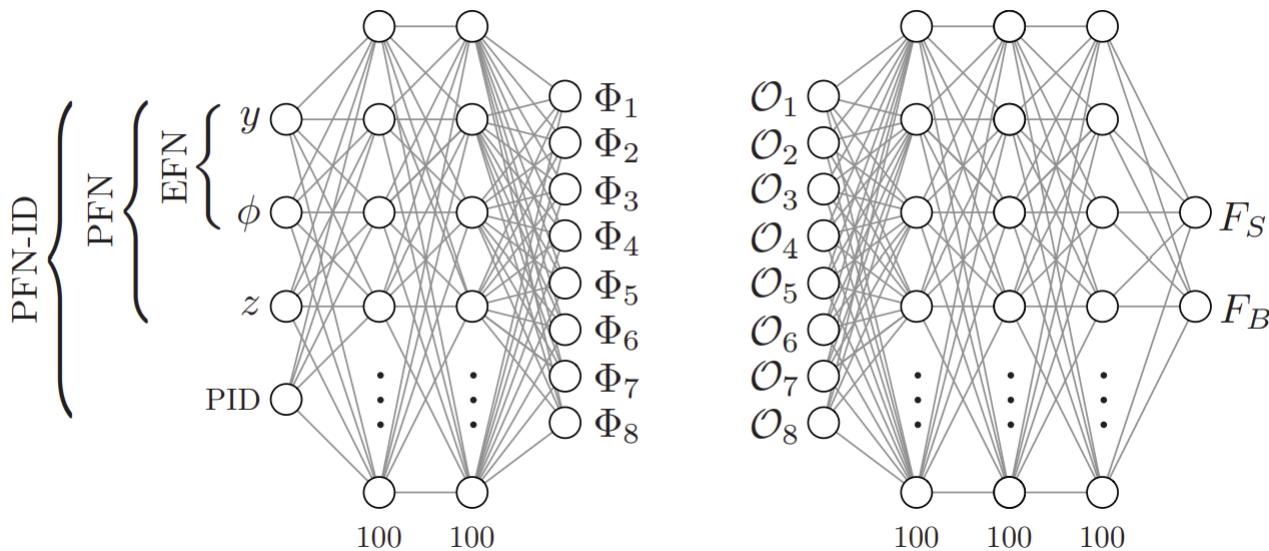
directional information  
---  
energy weight

# GNN JET IDENTIFICATION SET-BASED APPROACHES

## Set-based Architectures

Treat jets as *sets* of particles with kinematic features (energy, momentum, direction, mass)

- **Particle/Energy Flow Networks** apply the DeepSets result directly (learnable permutation-invariant approximators with MLPs  $F, \Phi$ ):



Produce a latent representation of each particle in the set ( $\Phi$ )

Form an observable from each latent feature by summing over particles... produce classification results

$$\text{e.g. EFN: } \mathcal{O}_a = \sum_i z_i \Phi_a(y_i, \phi_i)$$