

# QCD and Jets through the Lens of Machine Learning

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Presentation with Frédéric Dreyer

New Physics from Precision at High Energies, KITP, Santa Barbara — March 30, 2021

# The NSF AI Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Fundamental Interactions (IAIFI)

“eye- $\phi$ hi”



*Advance physics knowledge — from the smallest building blocks of nature  
to the largest structures in the universe — and galvanize AI research innovation*



[<http://iaifi.org>, MIT News Announcement]

# AI<sup>2</sup>: Ab Initio Artificial Intelligence



*Machine learning that incorporates  
first principles, best practices, and domain knowledge  
from fundamental physics*

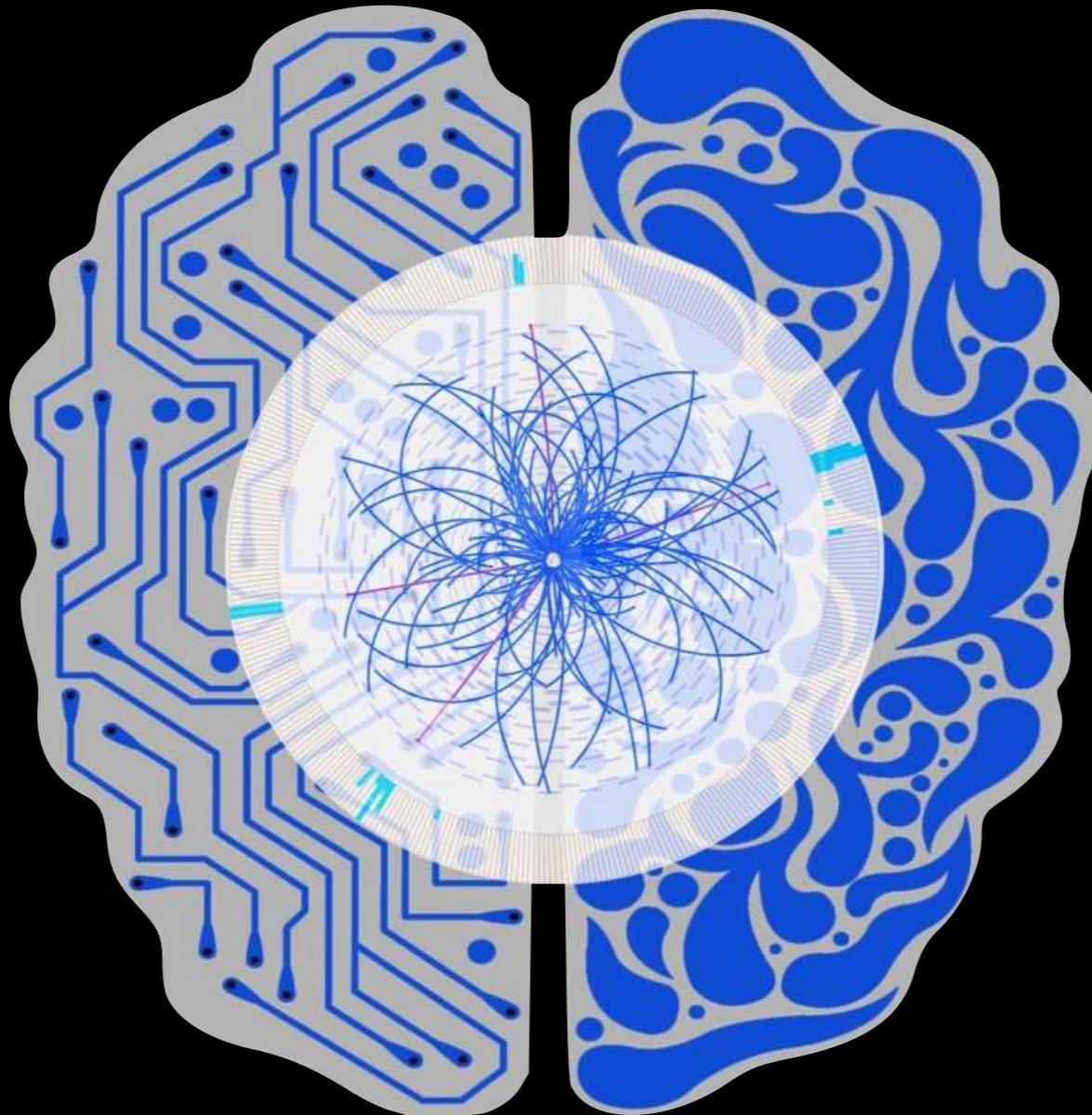
*Symmetries, conservation laws, scaling relations, limiting behaviors, locality, causality,  
unitarity, gauge invariance, entropy, least action, factorization, unit tests,  
exactness, systematic uncertainties, reproducibility, verifiability, ...*

*What aspects of QCD and Jets can be phrased as well-defined optimization problems?*

*Do we have deep enough physics principles and/or rich enough data sets (real or synthetic) such that machine learning will yield trustable answers?*

Apologies that citations/examples in this talk are not (even close to) complete!

# The Lens of Machine Learning



*What formalisms are needed to leverage ML for HEP?*

# Likelihood Ratio Trick

Many HEP problems can be expressed in this form!

Key example of *simulation-based inference*

Goal: Estimate  $p(x)$  /  $q(x)$

Training Data: Finite samples  $P$  and  $Q$

Learnable Function:  $f(x)$  parametrized by, e.g., neural networks

Loss Function(al):  $L = -\langle \log f(x) \rangle_P + \langle f(x) - 1 \rangle_Q$

Asymptotically:  $\arg \min L = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  *Likelihood ratio*

$-\min_{f(x)} L = \int dx p(x) \log \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  *Kullback–Leibler divergence*

[see e.g. D’Agnolo, Wulzer, [PRD 2019](#); simulation-based inference in Cranmer, Brehmer, Louppe, [PNAS 2020](#); relation to f-divergences in Nguyen, Wainwright, Jordan, [AoS 2009](#); Nachman, Thaler, [arXiv 2021](#)]

# Likelihood Ratio Trick

Many HEP problems can be expressed in this form!

Key example of *simulation-based inference*

Asymptotically, same structure as **Lagrangian mechanics!**

Action:  $L = \int dx \mathcal{L}(x)$

Lagrangian:  $\mathcal{L}(x) = -p(x) \log f(x) + q(x)(f(x) - 1)$

Euler-Lagrange:  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial f} = 0$

Solution:  $f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$

Requires shift in theoretical focus from solving problems to *specifying problems*

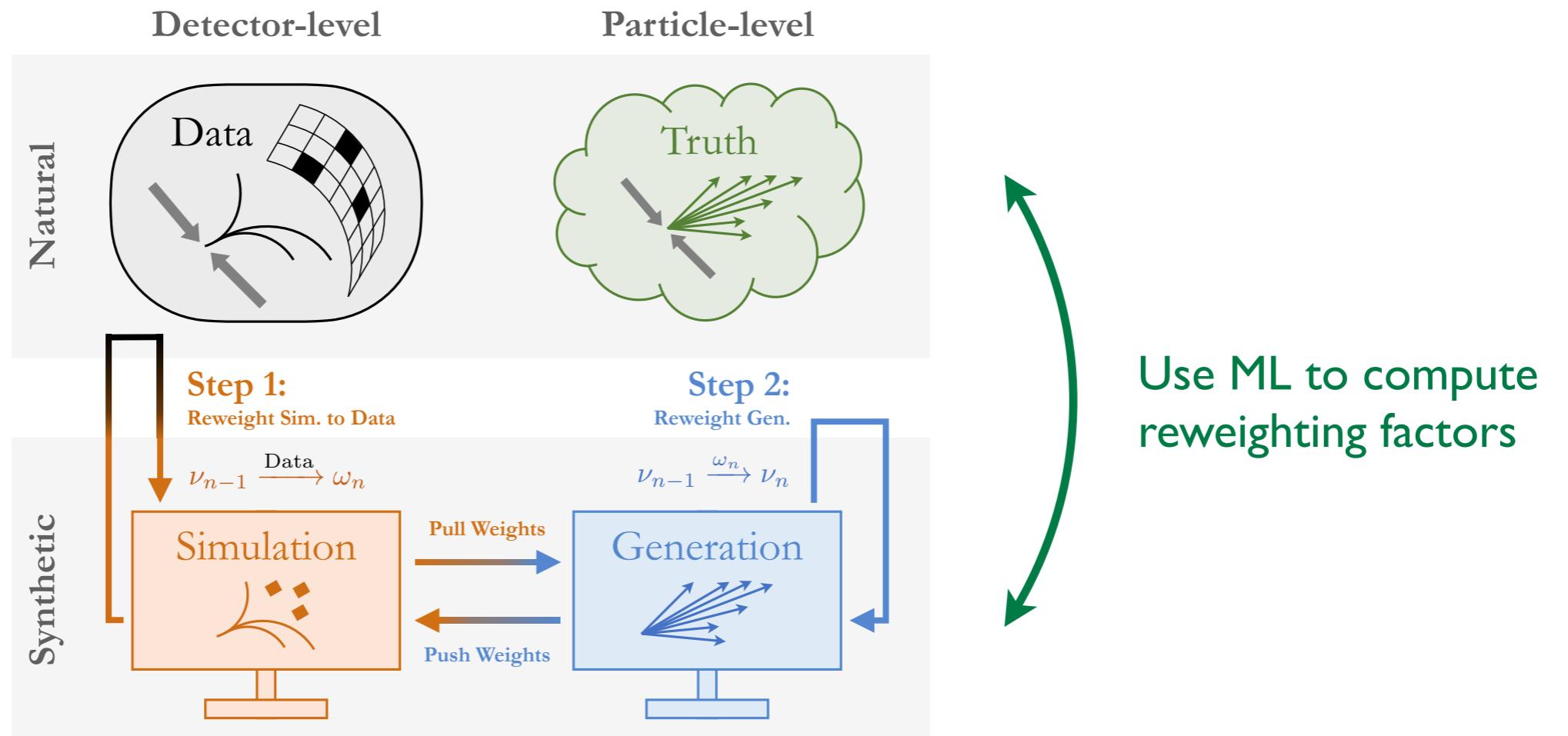
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# E.g. Detector Unfolding

OmniFold



*Multi-dimensional unbinned detector corrections  
via iterated application of likelihood ratio trick*

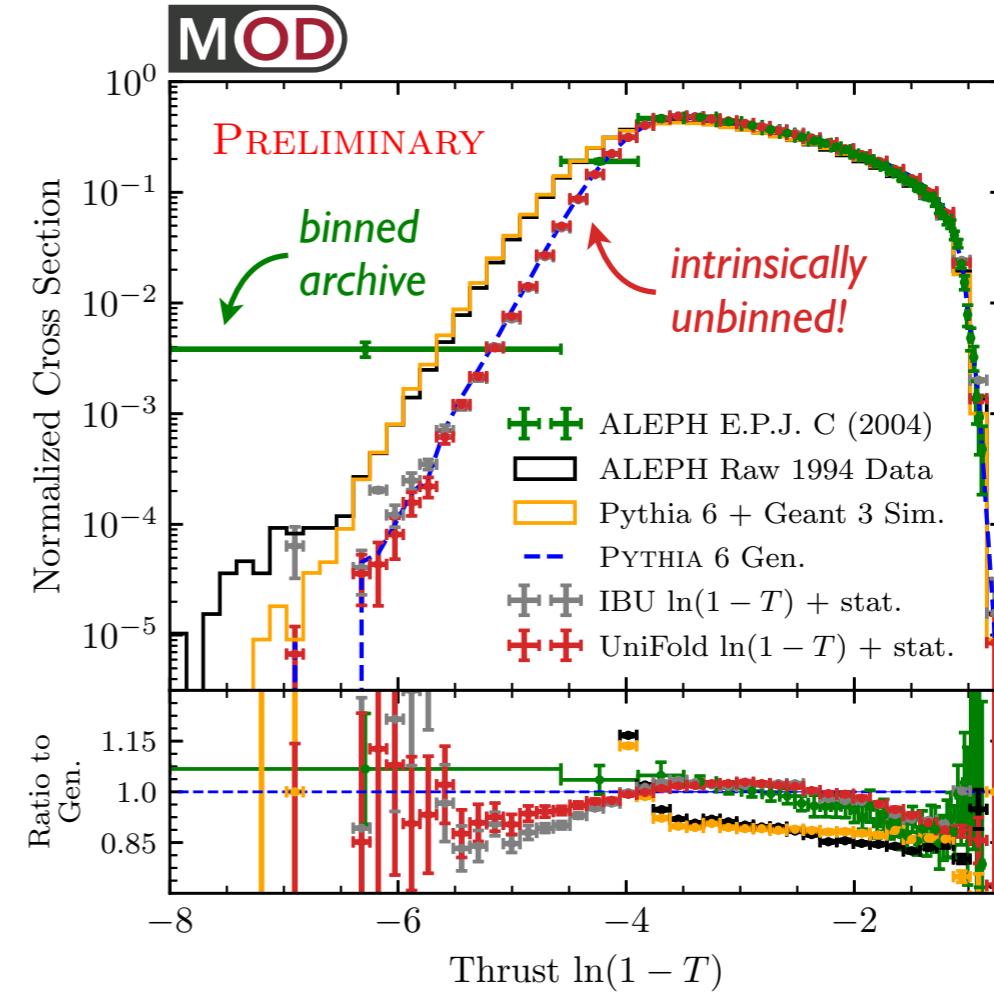
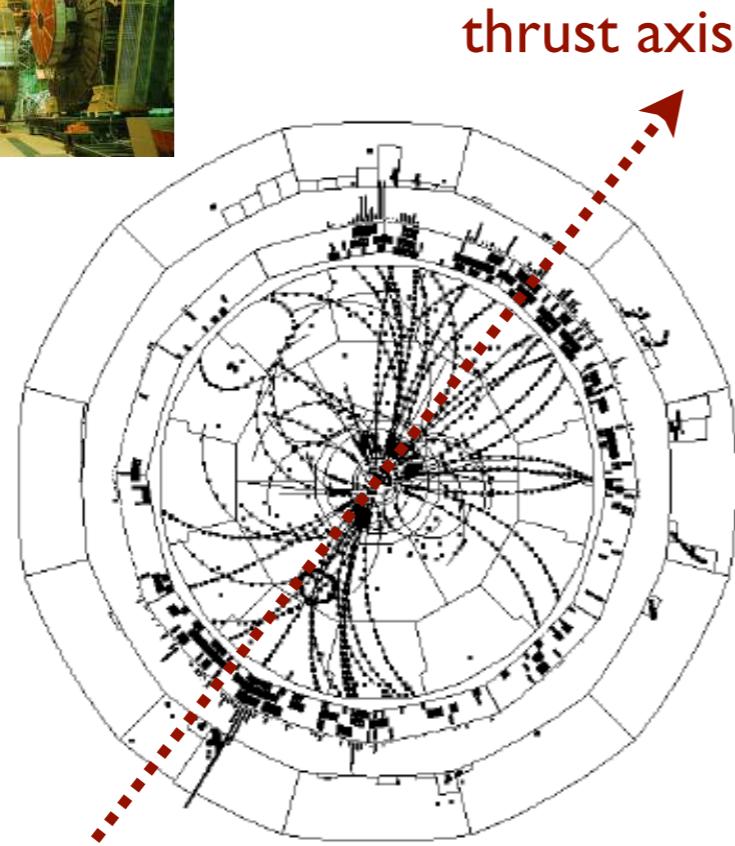


[Andreassen, Komiske, Metodiev, Nachman, JDT, PRL 2020]

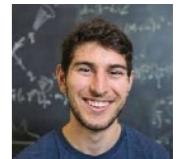


# E.g. Detector Unfolding

## Back to the Future with ALEPH Archival Data



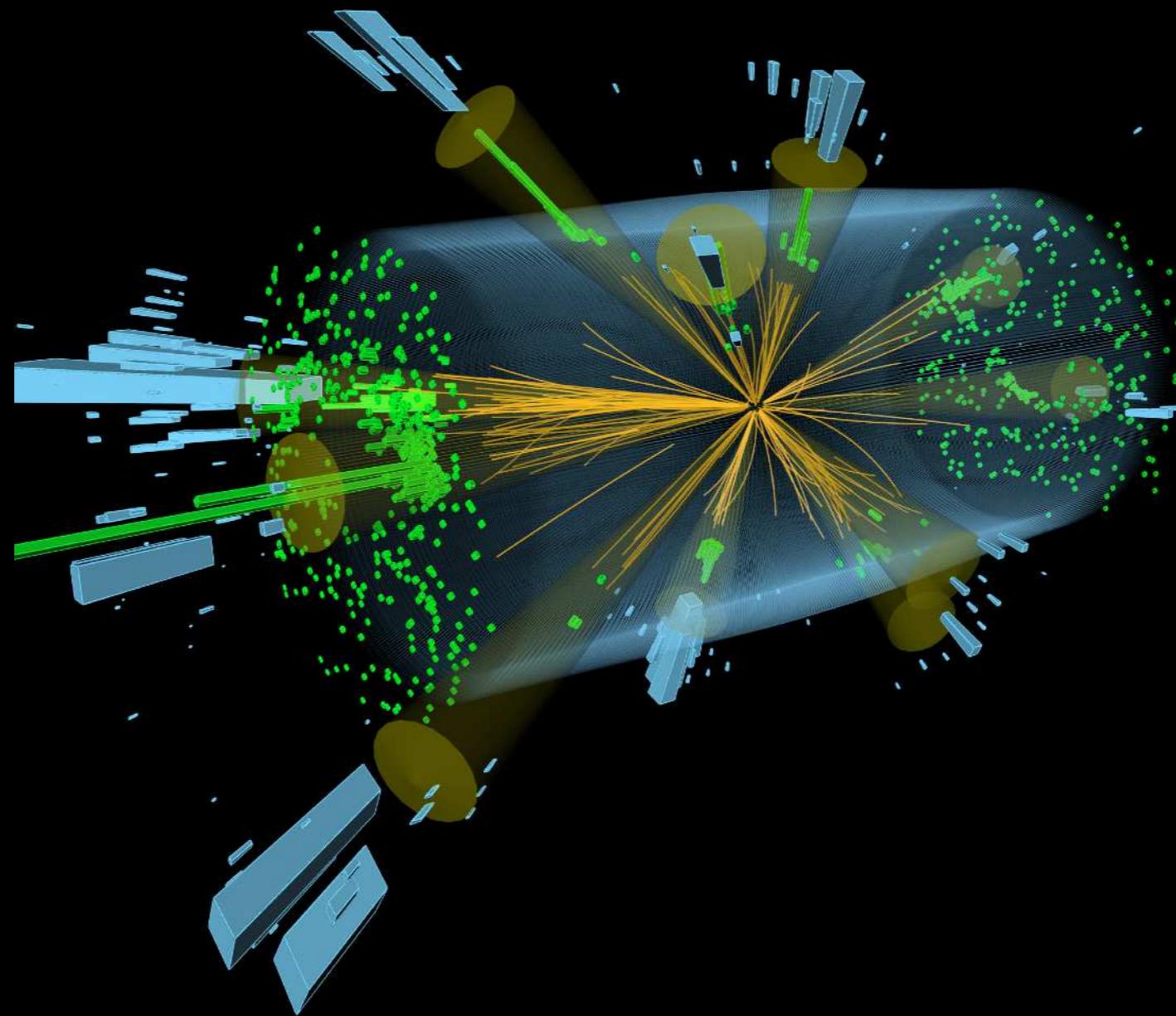
[talk by Badea, [ICHEP 2020](#); cf. ALEPH, [EPJC 2004](#)]  
[see also Badea, Baty, Chang, Innocenti, Maggi, McGinn, Peters, Sheng, JDT, Lee, [PRL 2019](#)]



[Andreassen, Komiske, Metodiev, Nachman, JDT, [PRL 2020](#)]



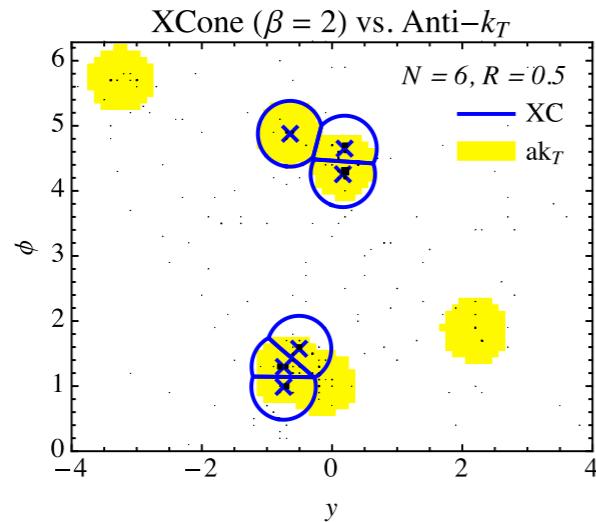
# Machine Learning for QCD and Jets



*What collider tasks can be phrased as optimization problems?*

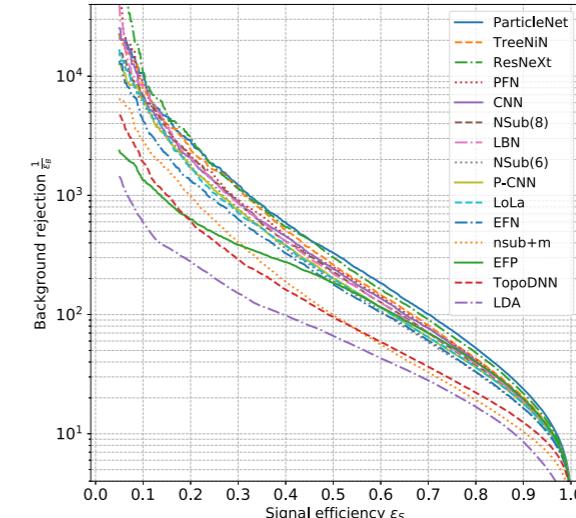
# Optimization for QCD and Jets

## Jet Algorithms



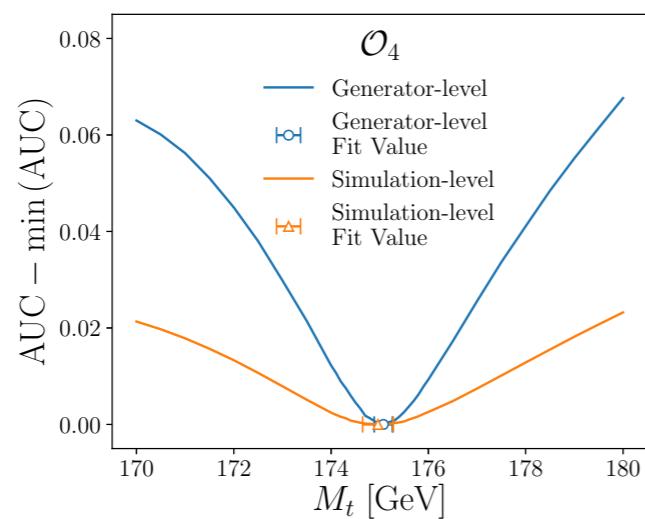
[e.g. Stewart, Tackmann, JDT, Vermilion, Wilkason, [JHEP 2015](#)]

## Jet Classification



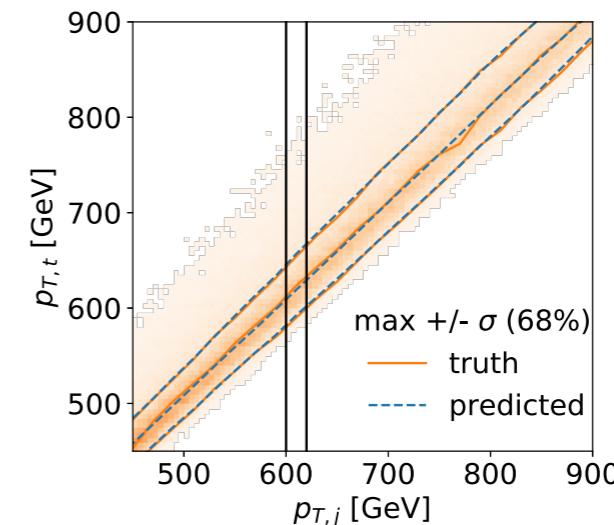
[e.g. Kasieczka, Plehn, et al., [SciPost 2019](#)]

## Parameter Estimation



[e.g. Andreassen, Hsu, Nachman, Suaysom, Suresh, [PRD 2021](#)]

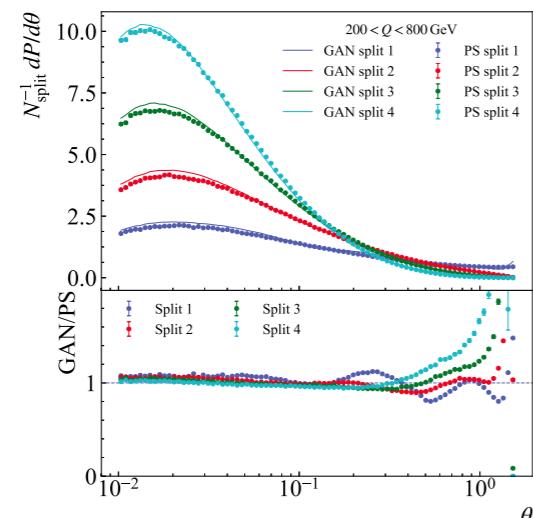
## Uncertainty Quantification



[e.g. Kasieczka, Luchmann, Otterpohl, Plehn, [SciPost 2020](#)]

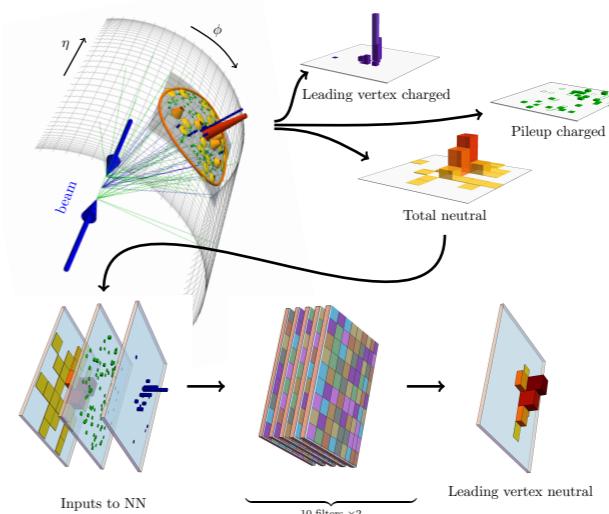
# More Optimization for QCD and Jets

## Parton Shower Modeling/Tuning



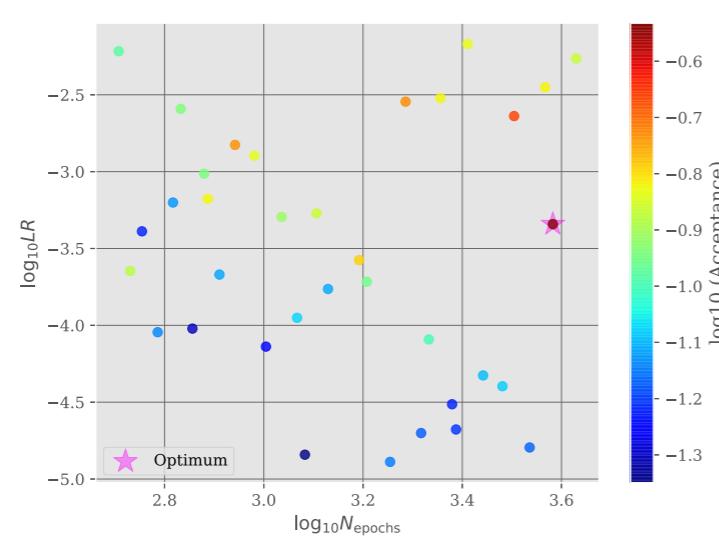
[e.g. Lai, Neill, Płoskoń, Ringer, arXiv 2020]

## Pileup Mitigation



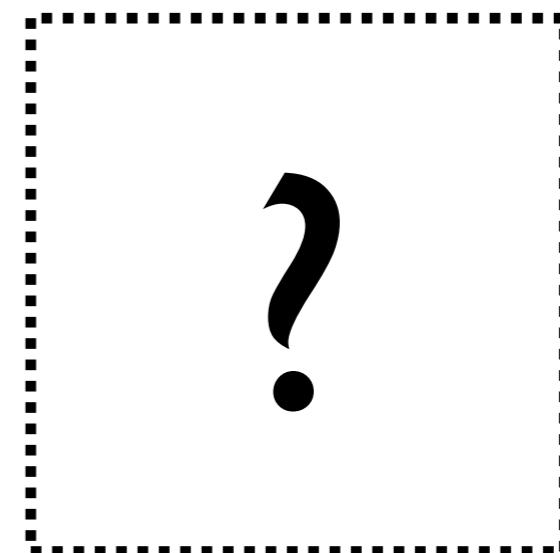
[e.g. Komiske, Metodiev, Nachman, Schwartz, JHEP 2017]

## Phase Space Integration



[e.g. Gao, Höche, Isaacson, Krause, Schulz, PRD 2020]

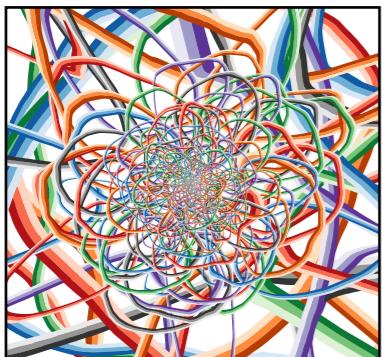
## Amplitude Calculations



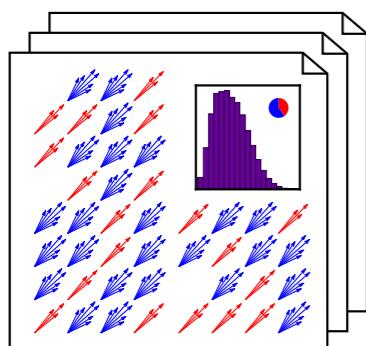
# From Curmudgeon to Evangelist



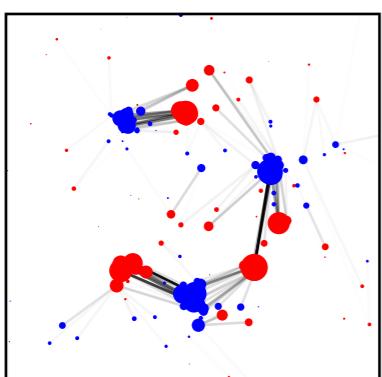
*What have been helpful guides in pursuing  $ML \leftrightarrow QCD$ ?*



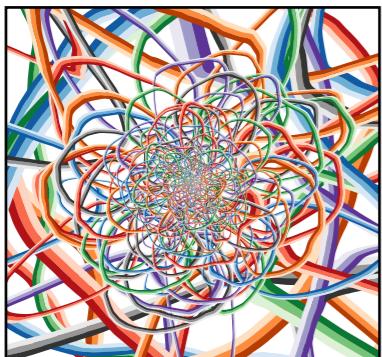
*Can theoretical structures be encoded directly?*



*Can strategy be defined on physical final states?*



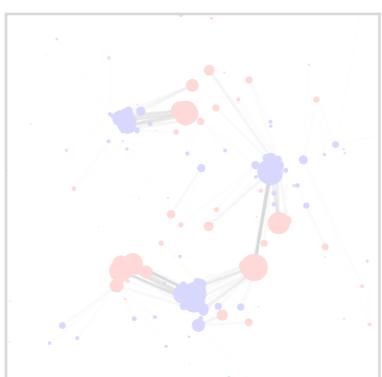
*Can we leverage unsupervised machine learning?*



*Can theoretical structures be encoded directly?*



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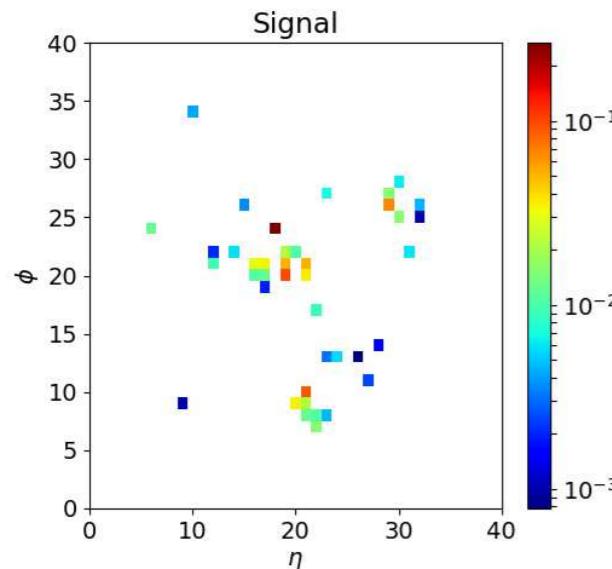


*Can we leverage unsupervised machine learning?*

# Jet Representations

## Pixelized Image

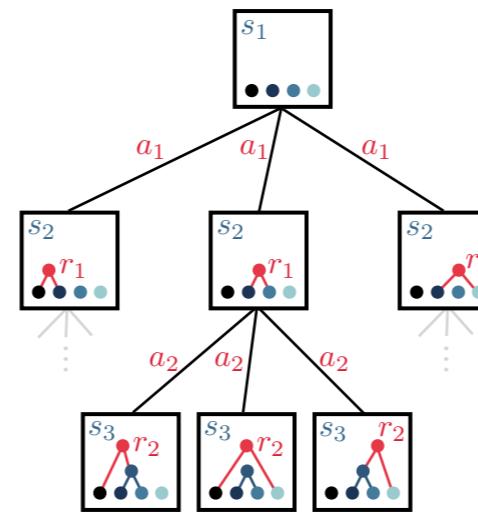
*Calorimetry*



[review in Kagan, [arXiv 2020](#)]

## Hierarchical Tree

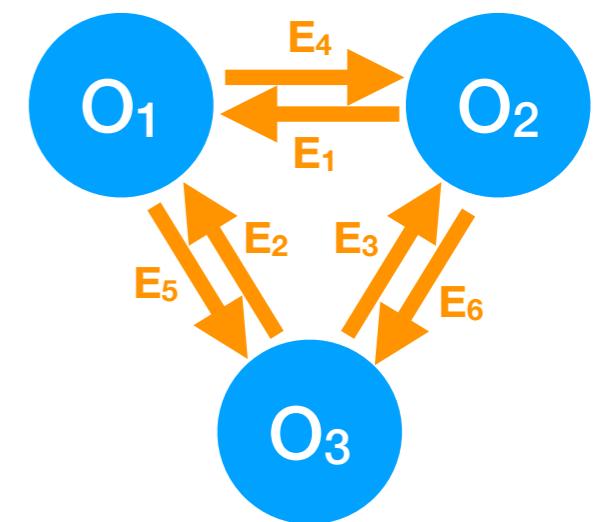
*Binary Splittings*



[e.g. Brehmer, Macaluso, Pappadopulo, Cranmer, [NeurIPS 2020](#)]

## Graphs

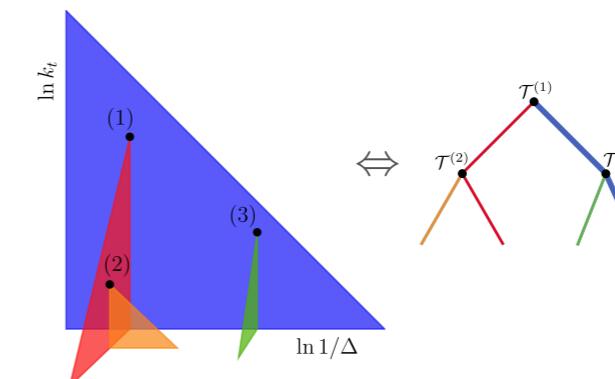
*Pairwise Interactions*



[e.g. Moreno, Cerri, Duarte, Newman, Nguyen, Periwal, Pierini, Serikova, Spiropulu, Vlimant, [EPJC 2020](#)]

*Imposes implicit theoretical prior; affects choice of network architecture*

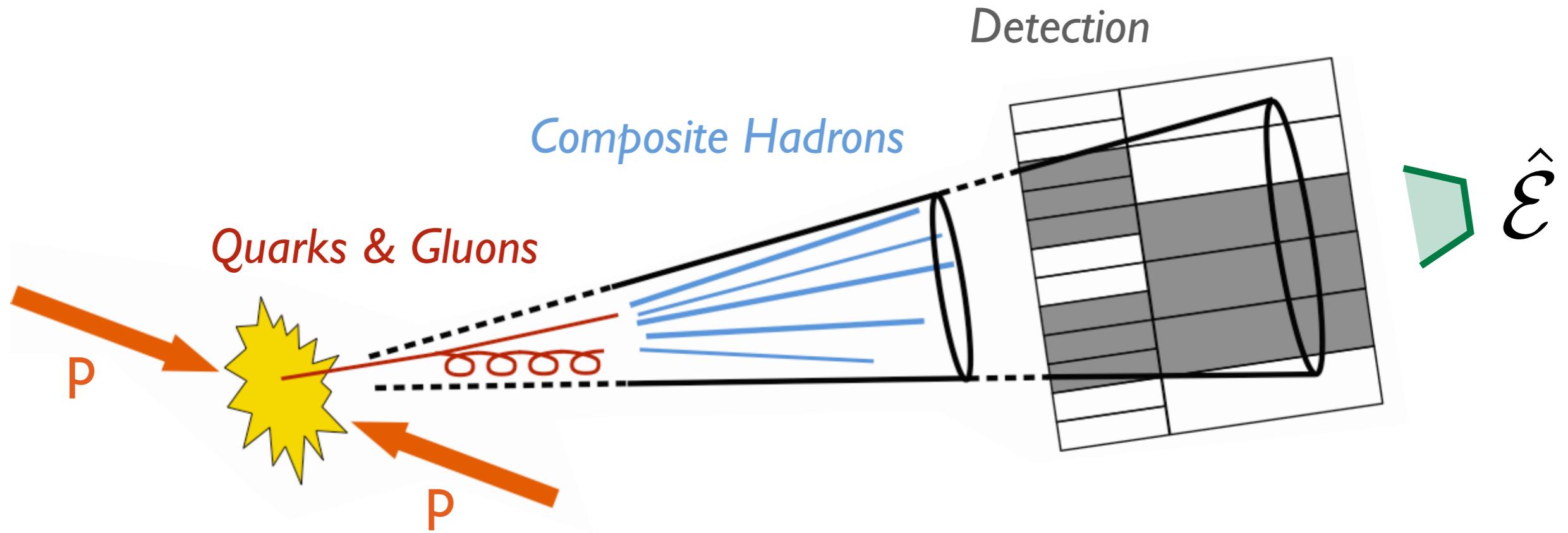
See Frédéric's talk for  
Lund Plane + Graph Networks



# Energy Flow Representation

Emphasizes *infrared and collinear safety*

Theory



## Energy Flow:

Robust to hadronization and detector effects  
Well-defined for massless gauge theories

$$\hat{\mathcal{E}} \simeq \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \hat{n}_i T^{0i}(t, vt\hat{n})$$

[see e.g. Sveshnikov, Tkachov, [PLB 1996](#); Hofman, Maldacena, [JHEP 2008](#); Mateu, Stewart, [JDT, PRD 2013](#); Belitsky, Hohenegger, Korchemsky, Sokatchev, Zhiboedov, [PRL 2014](#); Chen, Moult, Zhang, Zhu, [PRD 2020](#)]  
[complementary perspective on IRC unsafe information in Chakraborty, Lim, Nojiri, Takeuchi, [JHEP 2020](#)]

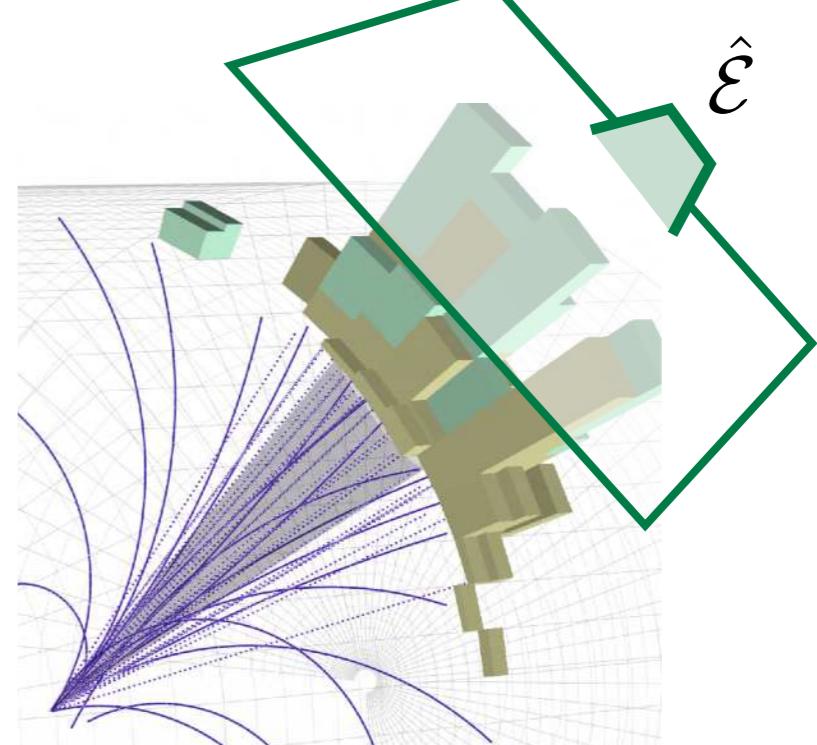
# Jets as Weighted Point Clouds

- Energy-Weighted Directions

$$\vec{p} = \{E, \hat{n}_x, \hat{n}_y, \hat{n}_z\}$$

↑      |  
Energy      Direction

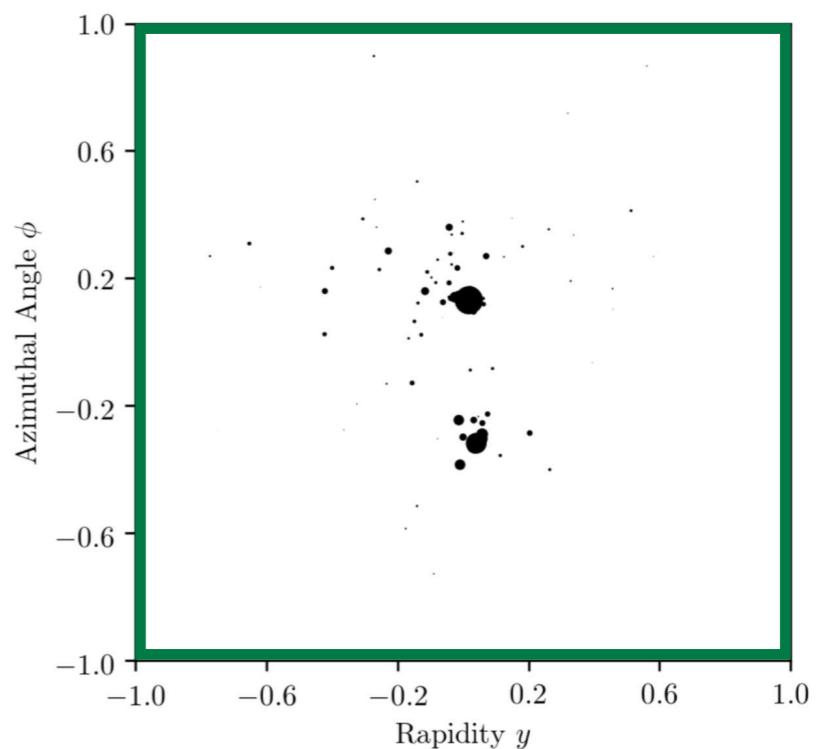
(suppressing “unsafe” charge/flavor information)



- Equivalently: Energy Density

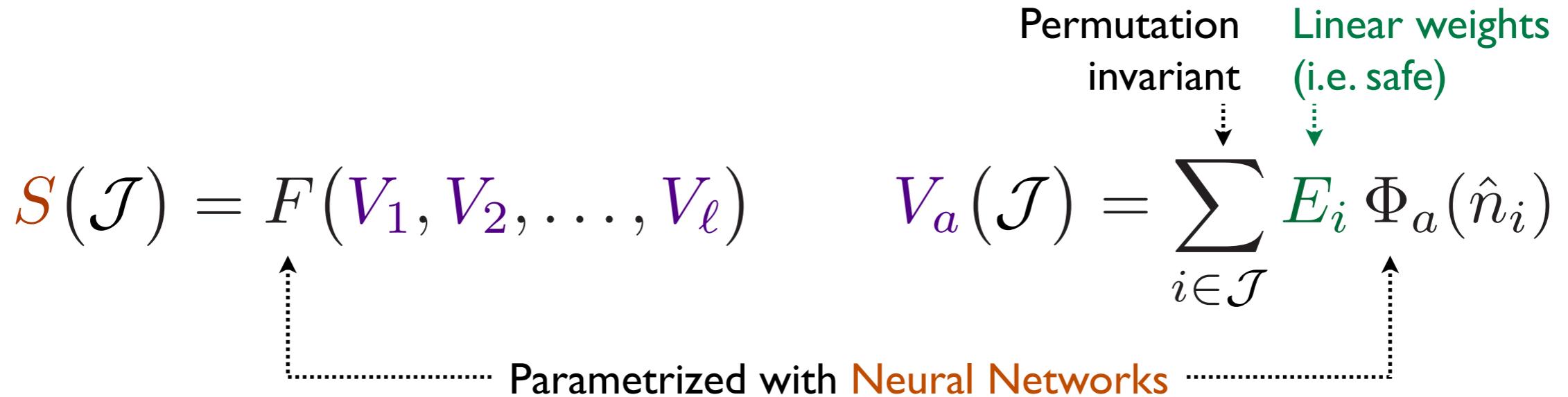
$$\rho(\hat{n}) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{J}} E_i \delta^{(2)}(\hat{n} - \hat{n}_i)$$

↑      ↑  
Energy      Direction



# Energy Flow Networks

Architecture designed around **symmetries** and **interpretability**



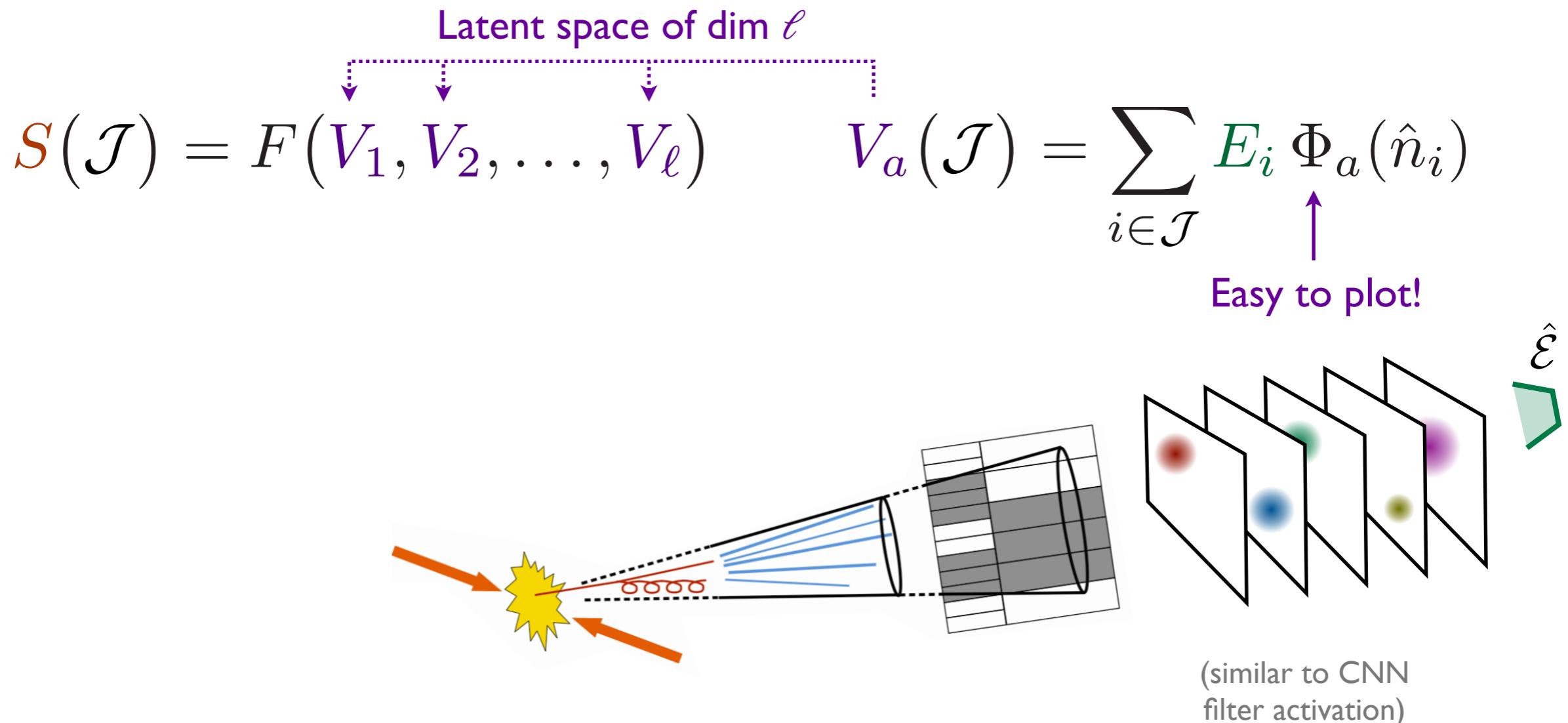
*Provably describes any\* **safe** observable (!)  
Excellent jet classification performance*

[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [JHEP 2019](#); see also Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [JHEP 2018](#); code at [energyflow.network](#); special case of Zaheer, Kottur, Ravanbakhsh, Poczos, Salakhutdinov, Smola, [NIPS 2017](#); other set-based architecture in Qu, Gouskos, [PRD 2020](#); Mikuni, Canelli, [EPJP 2020](#); Dolan, Ore, [arXiv 2020](#); Lorentz-equivariant approach in Bogatskiy, Anderson, Offermann, Roussi, Miller, Kondor, [arXiv 2020](#)]



# Energy Flow Networks

Architecture designed around symmetries and *interpretability*

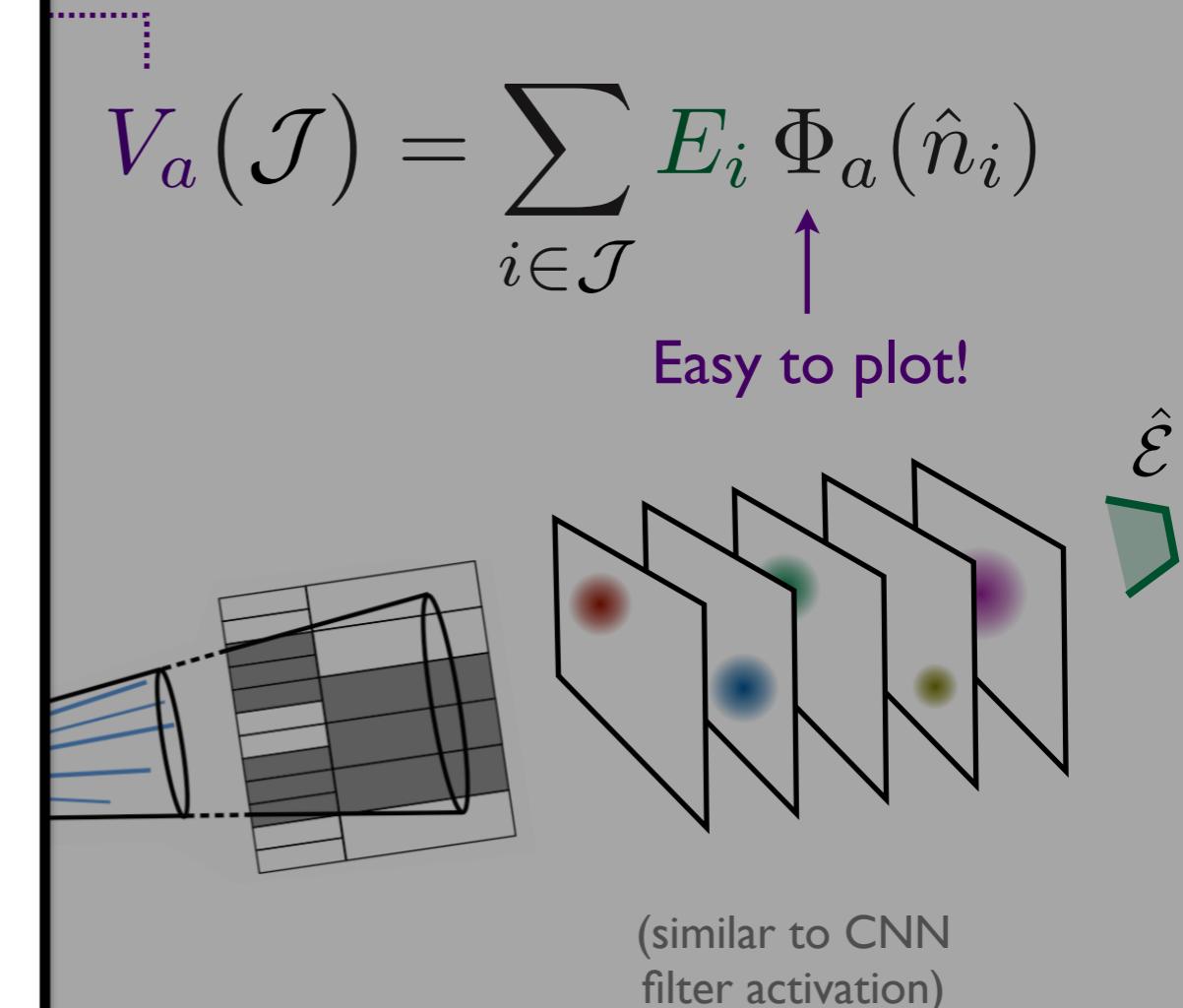
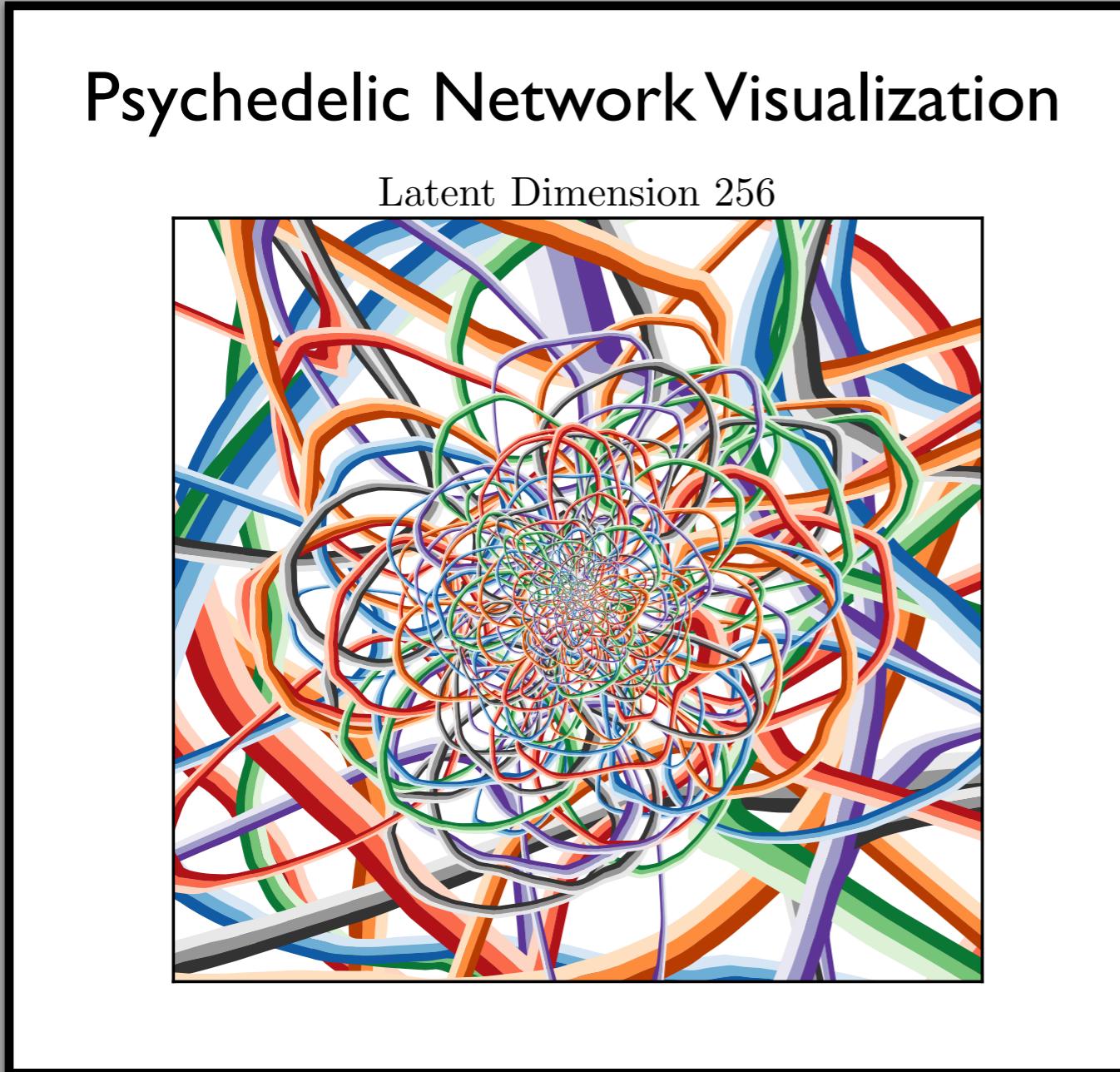


[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, *JHEP* 2019; see also Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, *JHEP* 2018; code at [energyflow.network](https://energyflow.network); special case of Zaheer, Kottur, Ravanbakhsh, Poczos, Salakhutdinov, Smola, *NIPS* 2017; other set-based architecture in Qu, Gouskos, *PRD* 2020; Mikuni, Canelli, *EPJP* 2020; Dolan, Ore, *arXiv* 2020; Lorentz-equivariant approach in Bogatskiy, Anderson, Offermann, Roussi, Miller, Kondor, *arXiv* 2020]



# Energy Flow Networks

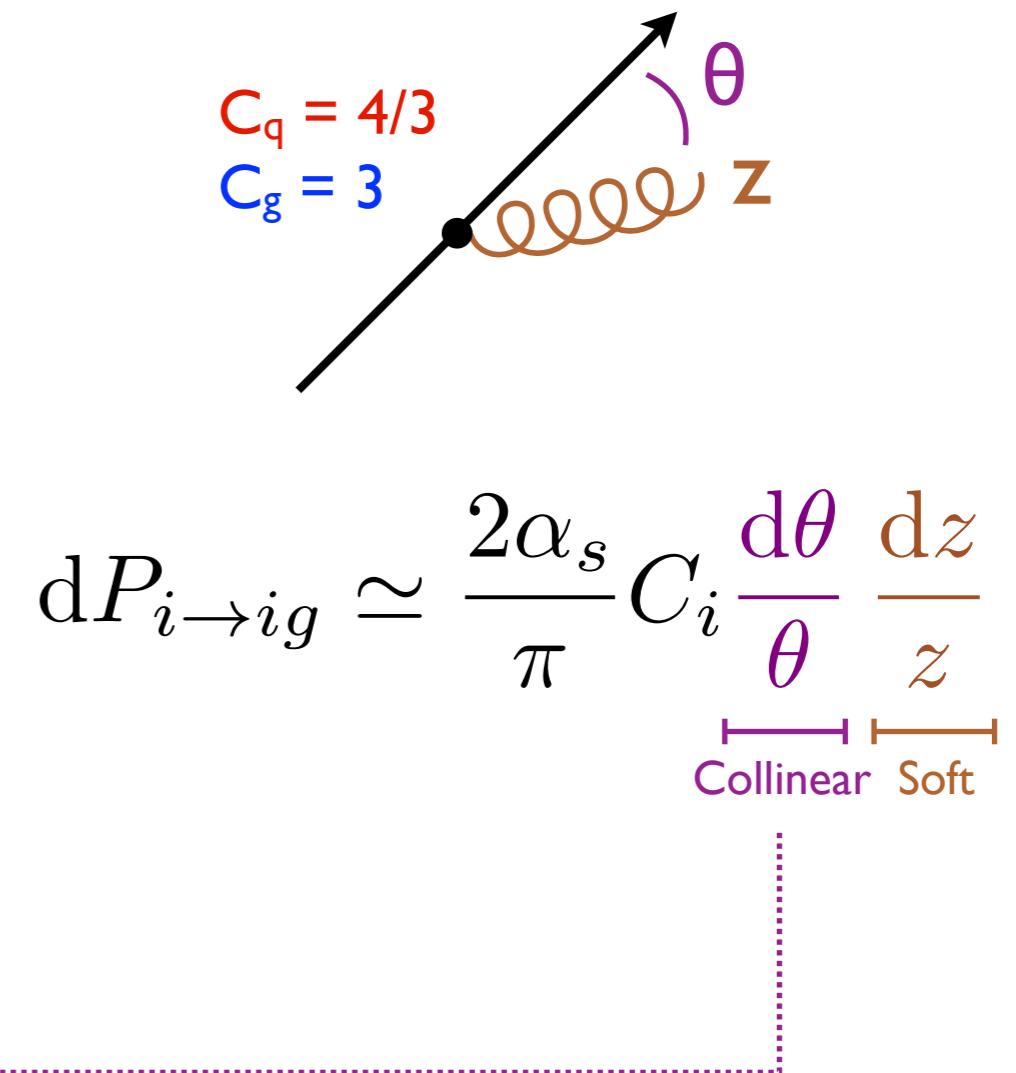
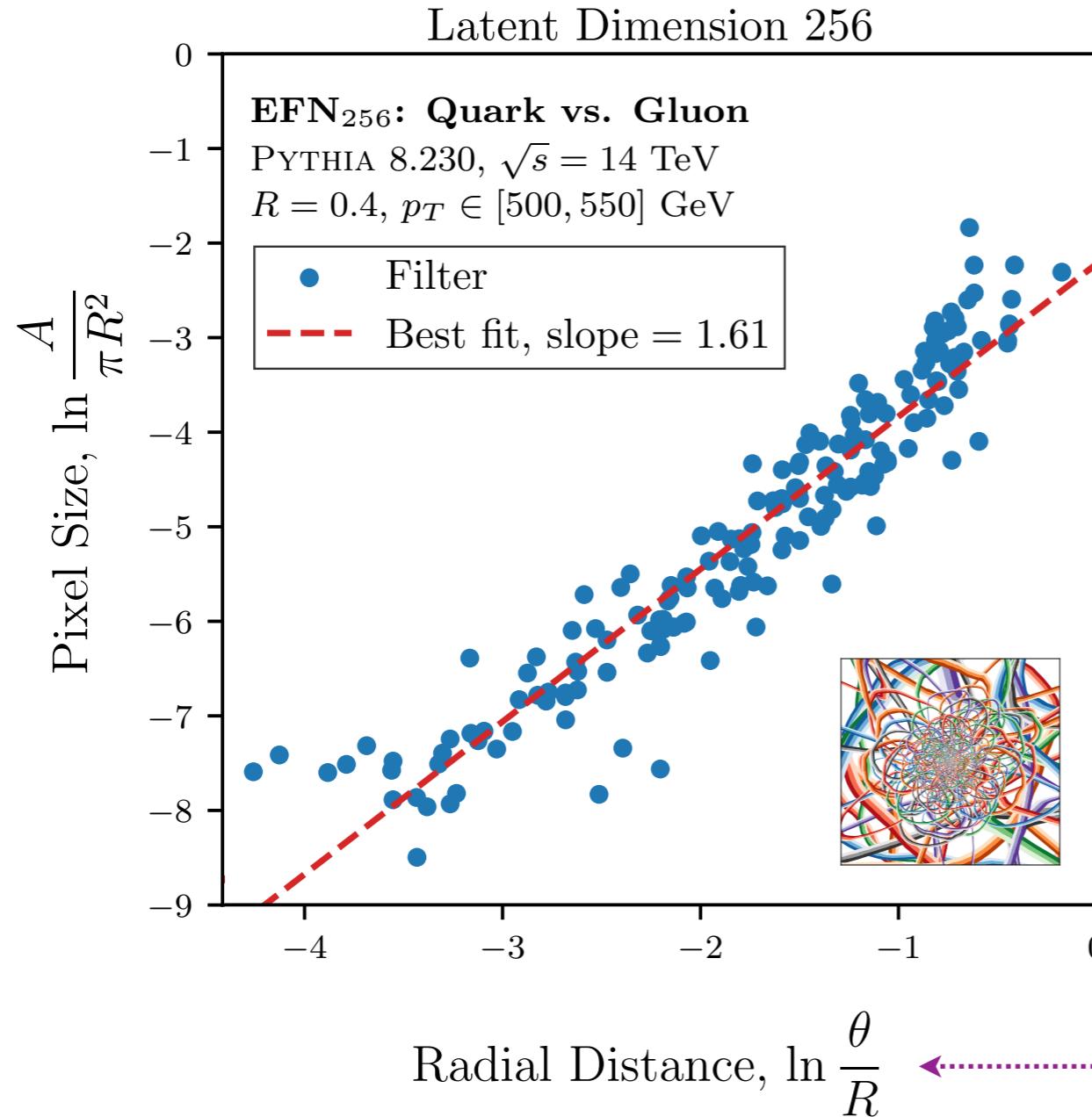
Architecture designed around symmetries and *interpretability*



[Komiske, Metodiev, *JDT, JHEP* 2019; see also Komiske, Metodiev, *JDT, JHEP* 2018; code at [energyflow.network](https://energyflow.network); special case of Zaheer, Kottur, Ravanbakhsh, Poczos, Salakhutdinov, Smola, *NIPS* 2017; other set-based architecture in Qu, Gouskos, *PRD* 2020; Mikuni, Canelli, *EPJP* 2020; Dolan, Ore, *arXiv* 2020; Lorentz-equivariant approach in Bogatskiy, Anderson, Offermann, Roussi, Miller, Kondor, *arXiv* 2020]

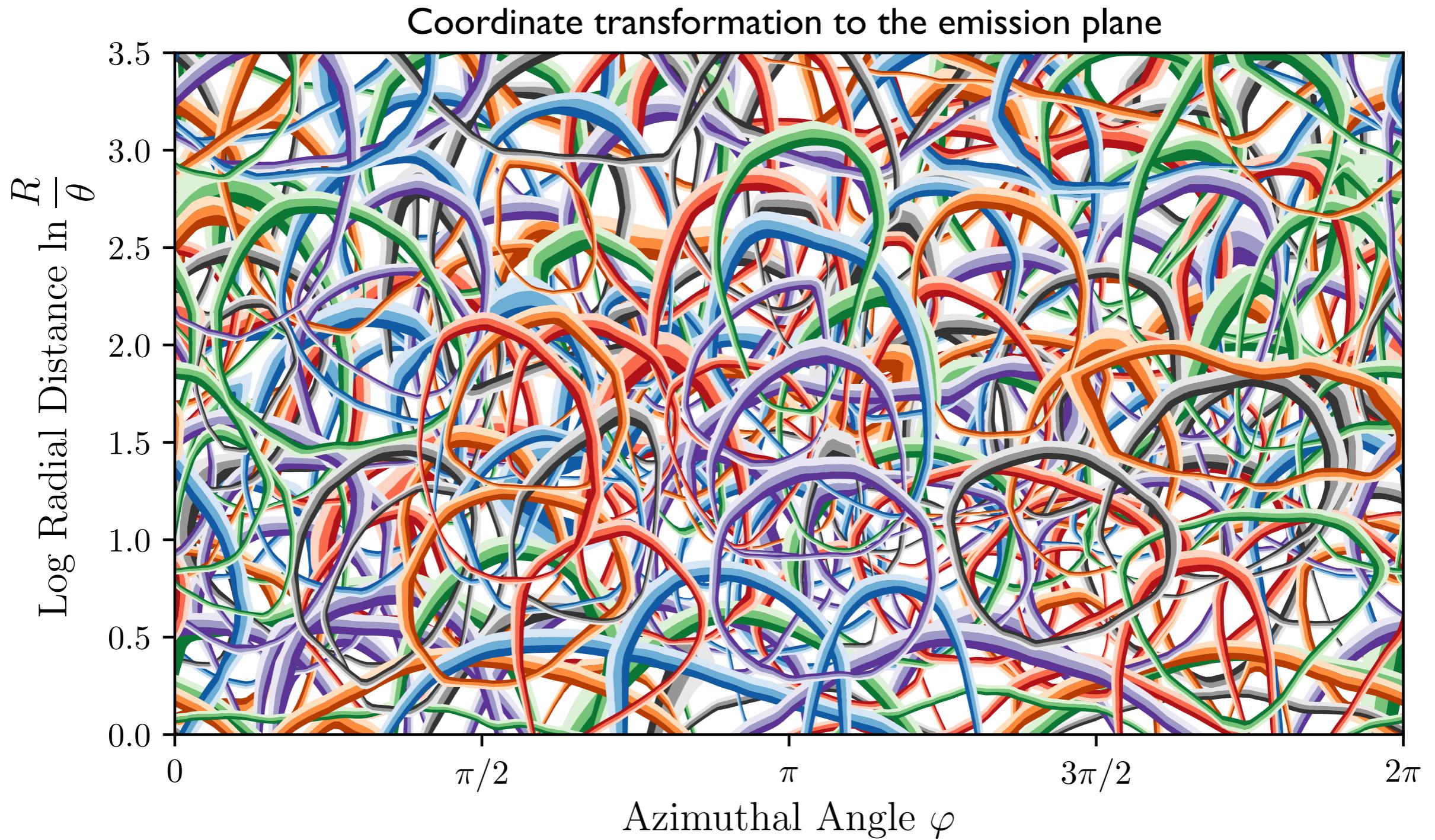
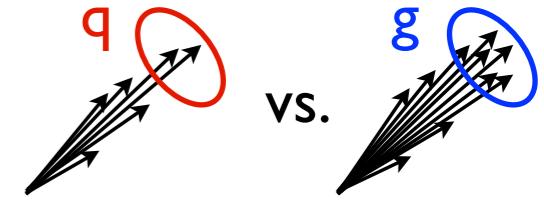


# Machine Learning Collinear QCD

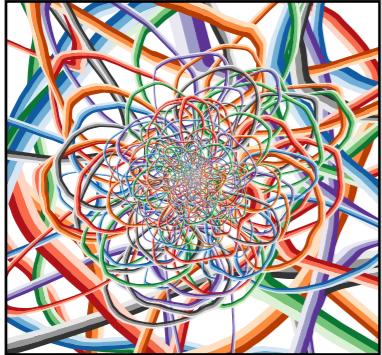


[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, JHEP 2019]

# En Route to the Lund Plane

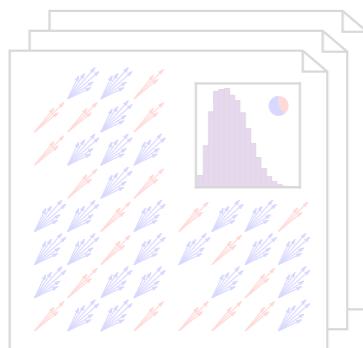


[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [JHEP 2019](#); see also Dreyer, Salam, Soyez, [JHEP 2018](#)]

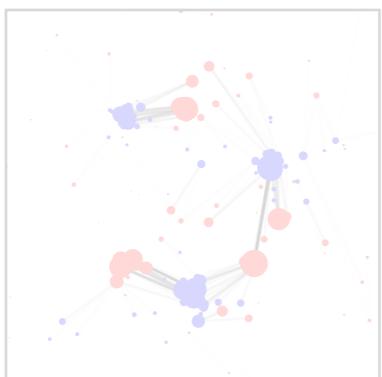


*Can theoretical structures be encoded directly?*

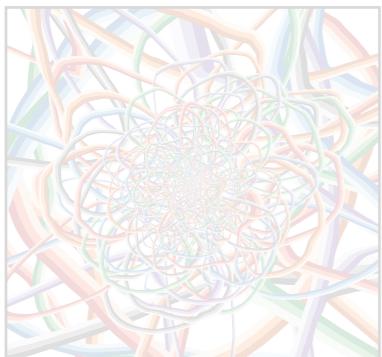
Energy Flow Networks  $\Leftrightarrow$  IRC Safety + Permutations



*Can strategy be defined on physical final states?*

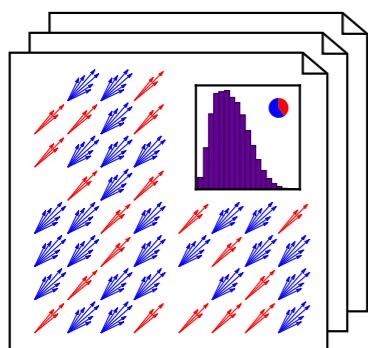


*Can we leverage unsupervised machine learning?*

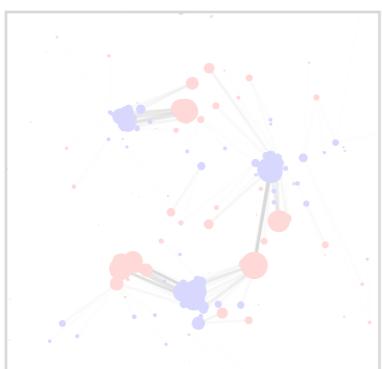


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Energy Flow Networks  $\leftrightarrow$  IRC Safety + Permutations



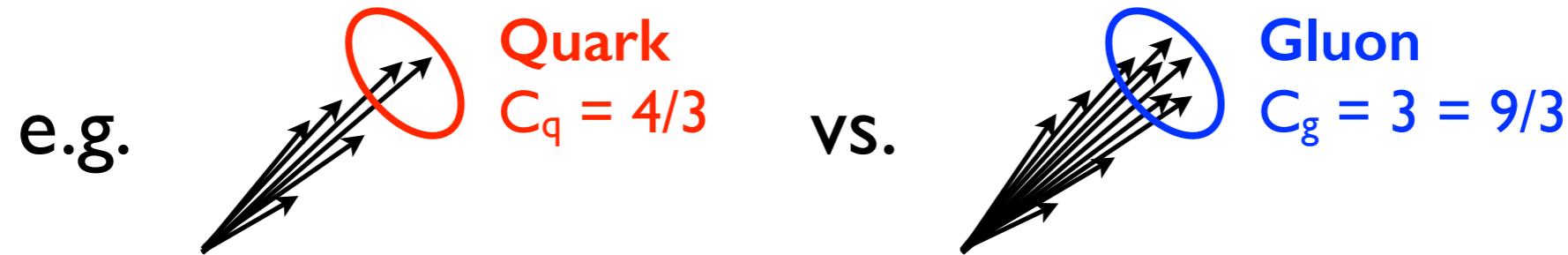
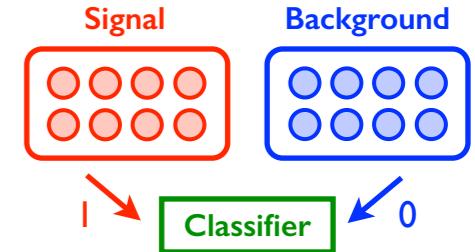
*Can strategy be defined on physical final states?*



*Can we leverage unsupervised machine learning?*

# Quark/Gluon Classification

“Hello, World!” of Jet Physics



Find  $h\left(\begin{array}{c} \nearrow \\ \nearrow \\ \nearrow \\ \nearrow \end{array}\right)$  such that

$$h(\text{Quark}) = 1$$
$$h(\text{Gluon}) = 0$$

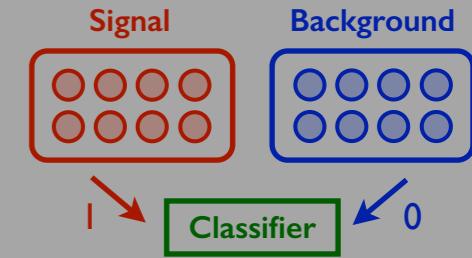
Best you can do:  $h(\mathcal{J}) = \frac{p(\mathcal{J}|Q)}{p(\mathcal{J}|Q) + p(\mathcal{J}|G)}$

(Neyman-Pearson lemma)

[see e.g. Gras, Höche, Kar, Larkoski, Lönnblad, Plätzer, Siódmok, Skands, Soyez, JDT, [JHEP 2017](#); Komiske, Metodiev, Schwartz, [JHEP 2017](#); Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [JHEP 2018](#)]

# Quark/Gluon Classification

“Hello, World!” of Jet Physics



*What do you mean by “quark” and “gluon”?*

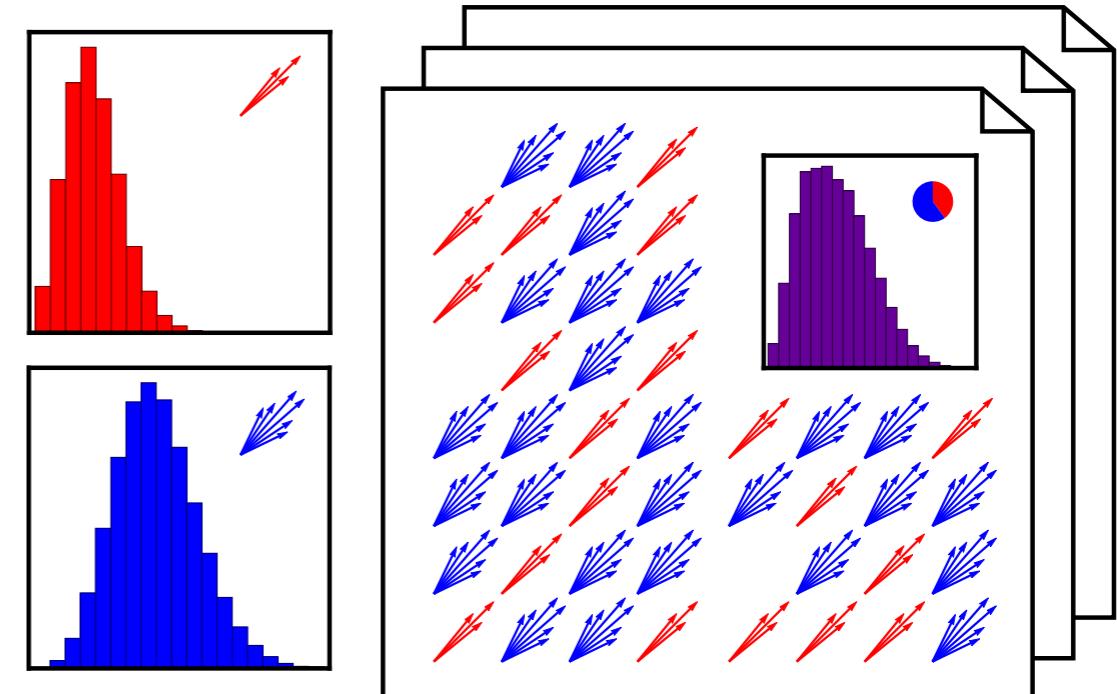
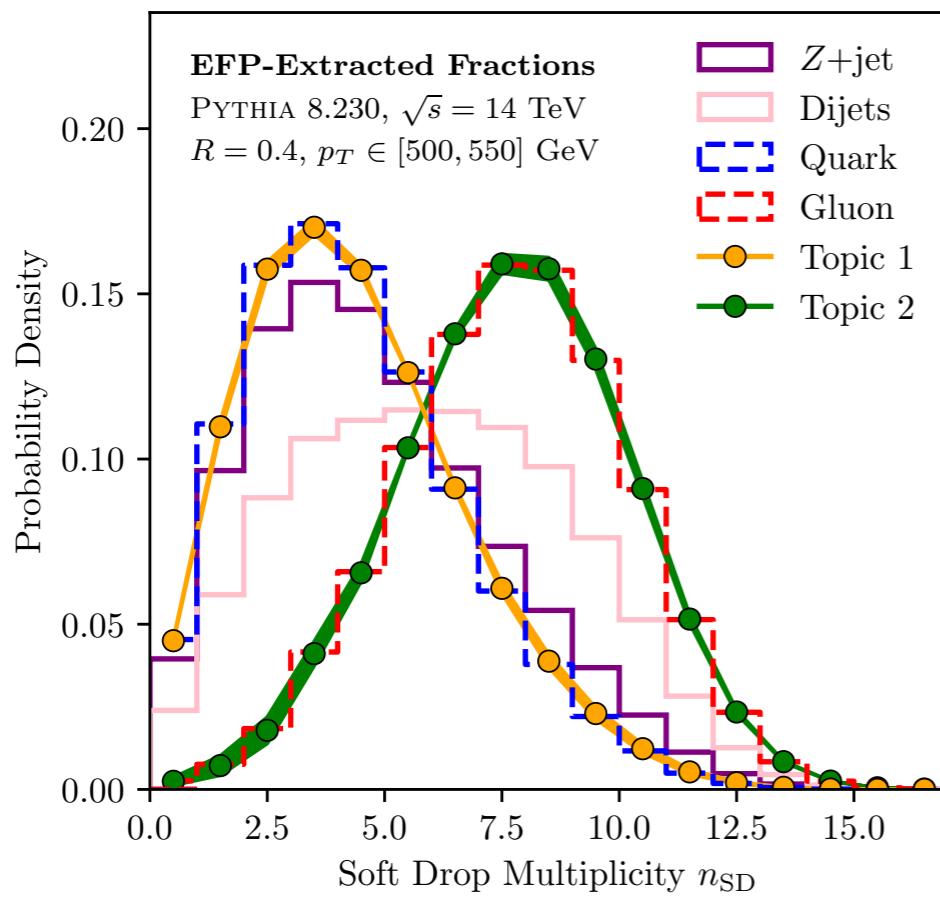
*Jets are clusters of colorless hadrons!*

*Parton shower “truth” is but a (useful) fiction!*

[see e.g. Gras, Höche, Kar, Larkoski, Lönnblad, Plätzer, Siódmok, Skands, Soyez, JDT, [JHEP 2017](#); Komiske, Metodiev, Schwartz, [JHEP 2017](#); Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [JHEP 2018](#)]

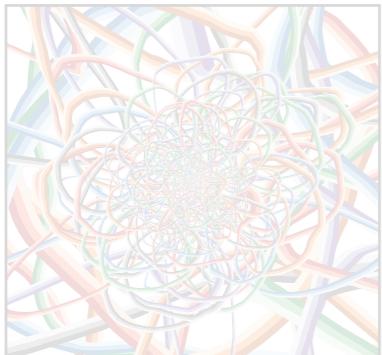
# Topic Modeling to Disentangle Jet Categories

While you can't unambiguously label individual jets, you can extract **quark** and **gluon** distributions from **hadron-level measurements**



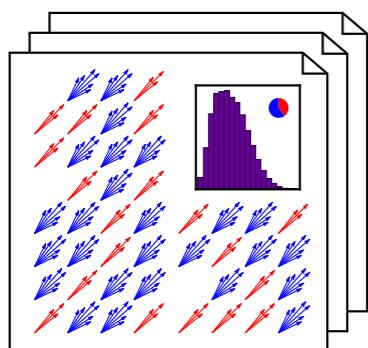
Key concept from natural language processing: “**anchor words**”

[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [JHEP 2018](#); using Metodiev, Nachman, JDT, [JHEP 2017](#); Metodiev, JDT, [PRL 2018](#)]  
see also Blanchard, Flaska, Handy, Pozzi, Scott, [PLMR 2013](#); Katz-Samuels, Blanchard, Scott, [JMLR 2016](#)]



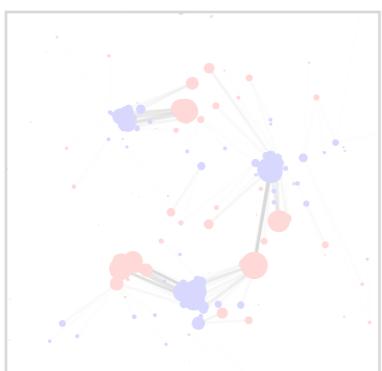
*Can theoretical structures be encoded directly?*

Energy Flow Networks  $\Leftrightarrow$  IRC Safety + Permutations

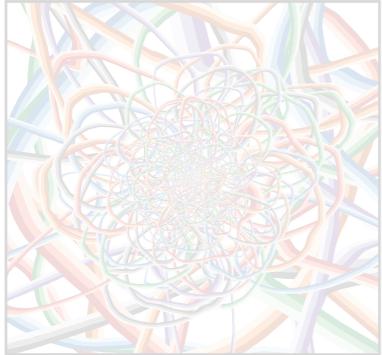


***Can strategy be defined on physical final states?***

Jet Topics  $\Leftrightarrow$  Hadron-Level Approach to QCD Partons

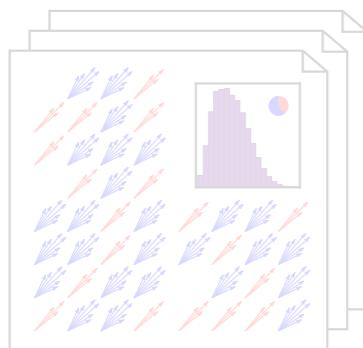


*Can we leverage unsupervised machine learning?*



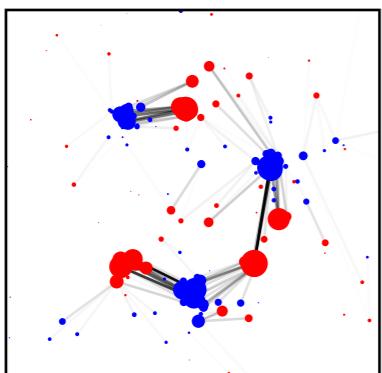
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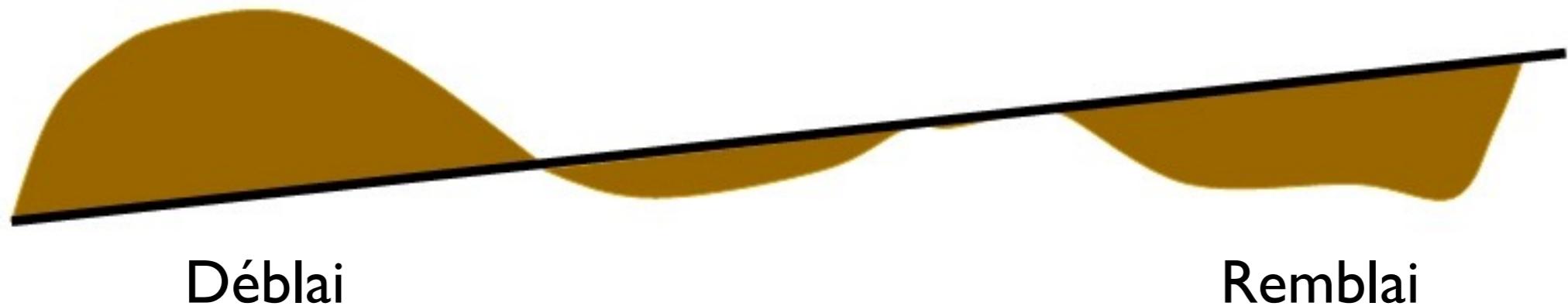
*Can we leverage unsupervised machine learning?*

# The Earth Mover's Distance

## Optimal Transport:

[Peleg, Werman, Rom, [IEEE 1989](#);  
Rubner, Tomasi, Guibas, [ICCV 1998](#), [ICCV 2000](#);  
Pele, Werman, [ECCV 2008](#); Pele Taskar, [GSI 2013](#)]

Minimum “work” (stuff  $\times$  distance) to make one distribution look like another distribution



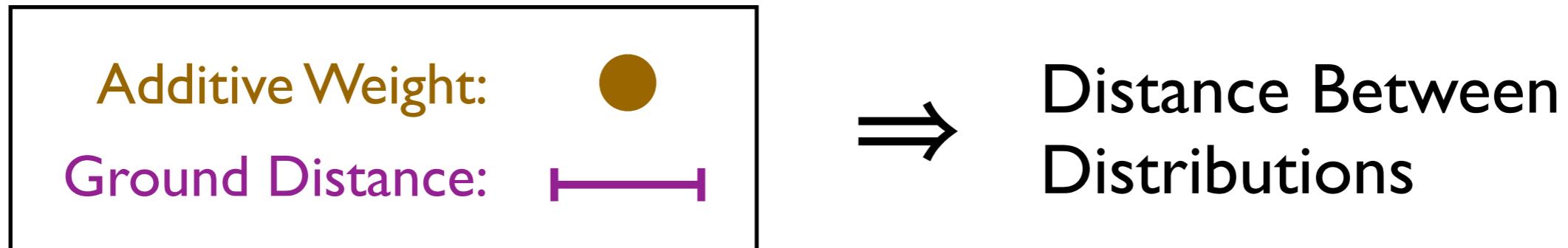
[h/t Niles-Weed, [ML4Jets 2020](#); Monge, 1781; Vaserštejn, 1969; [Wikipedia](#)]

# The Earth Mover's Distance

Optimal Transport:

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Pele, Werman, [ECCV 2008](#); Pele Taskar, [GSI 2013](#)]

Minimum “work” (**stuff** × **distance**) to make  
**one distribution** look like **another distribution**



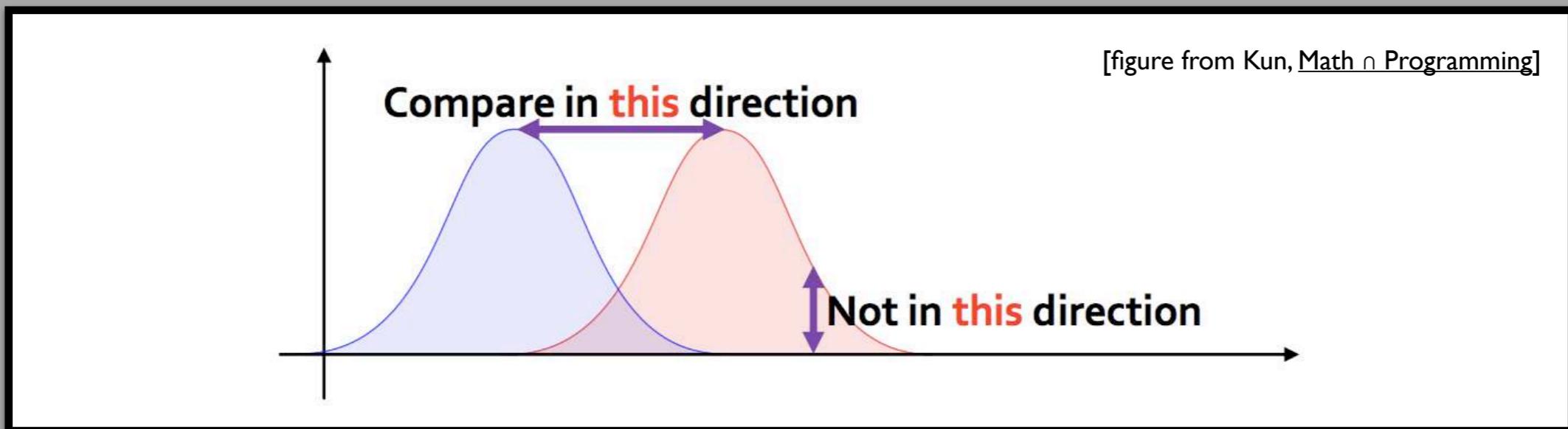
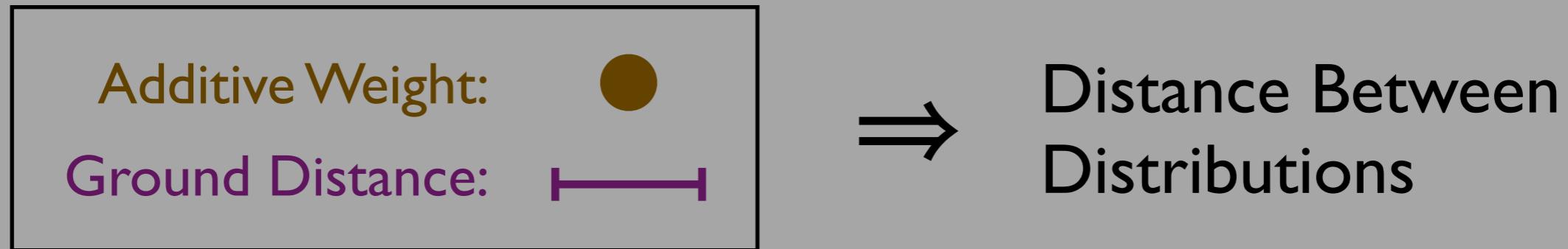
[h/t Niles-Weed, [ML4Jets 2020](#); Monge, 1781; Vaserštejn, 1969; [Wikipedia](#)]

# The Earth Mover's Distance

Optimal Transport:

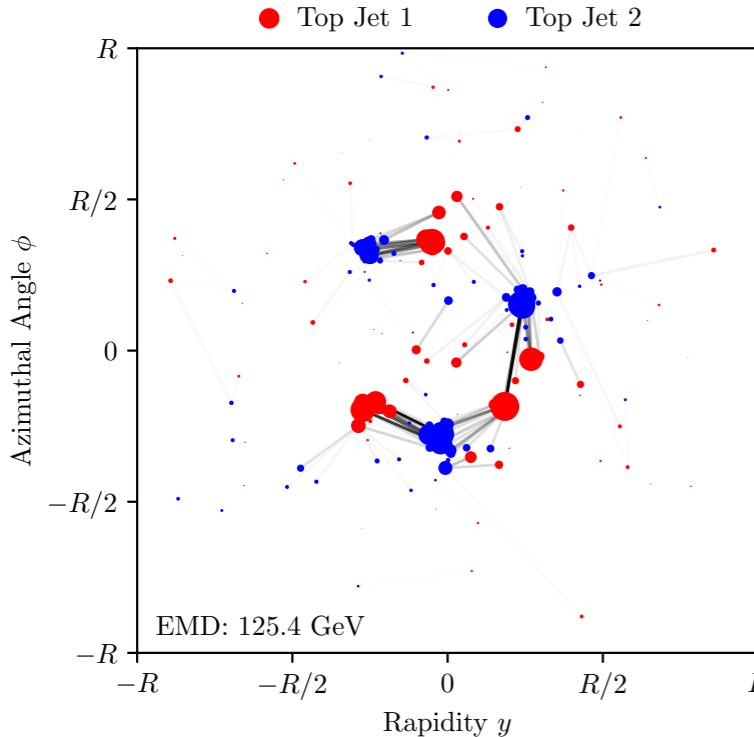
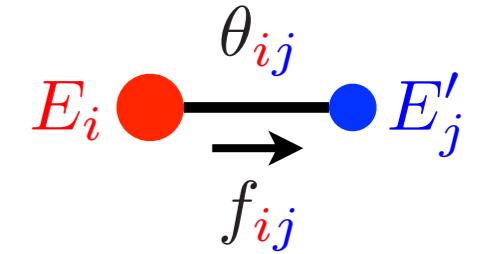
[Peleg, Werman, Rom, [IEEE 1989](#);  
Rubner, Tomasi, Guibas, [ICCV 1998](#), [ICCV 2000](#);  
Pele, Werman, [ECCV 2008](#); Pele Taskar, [GSI 2013](#)]

Minimum “work” (**stuff  $\times$  distance**) to make  
**one distribution** look like **another distribution**



[h/t Niles-Weed, [ML4Jets 2020](#); Monge, 1781; Vaserštejn, 1969; [Wikipedia](#)]

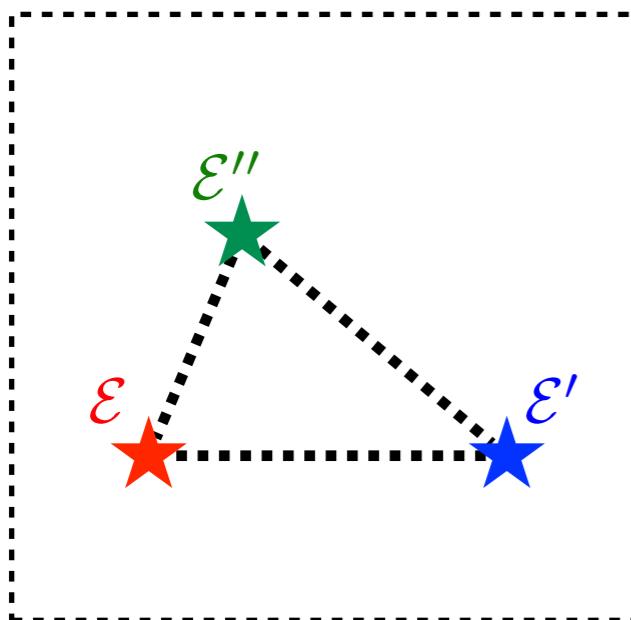
# The Energy Mover's Distance



Optimal transport between energy flows...

$$\text{EMD}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}') = \min_{\{f\}} \sum_i \sum_j f_{ij} \frac{\theta_{ij}}{R} + \left| \sum_i E_i - \sum_j E'_j \right|$$

↑  
in GeV                          Cost to move energy                  Cost to create energy



...defines a metric on the space of events

$$0 \leq \text{EMD}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}') \leq \text{EMD}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}'') + \text{EMD}(\mathcal{E}', \mathcal{E}'')$$

(assuming  $R \geq \theta_{\max}/2$ , i.e.  $R \geq$  jet radius for conical jets)

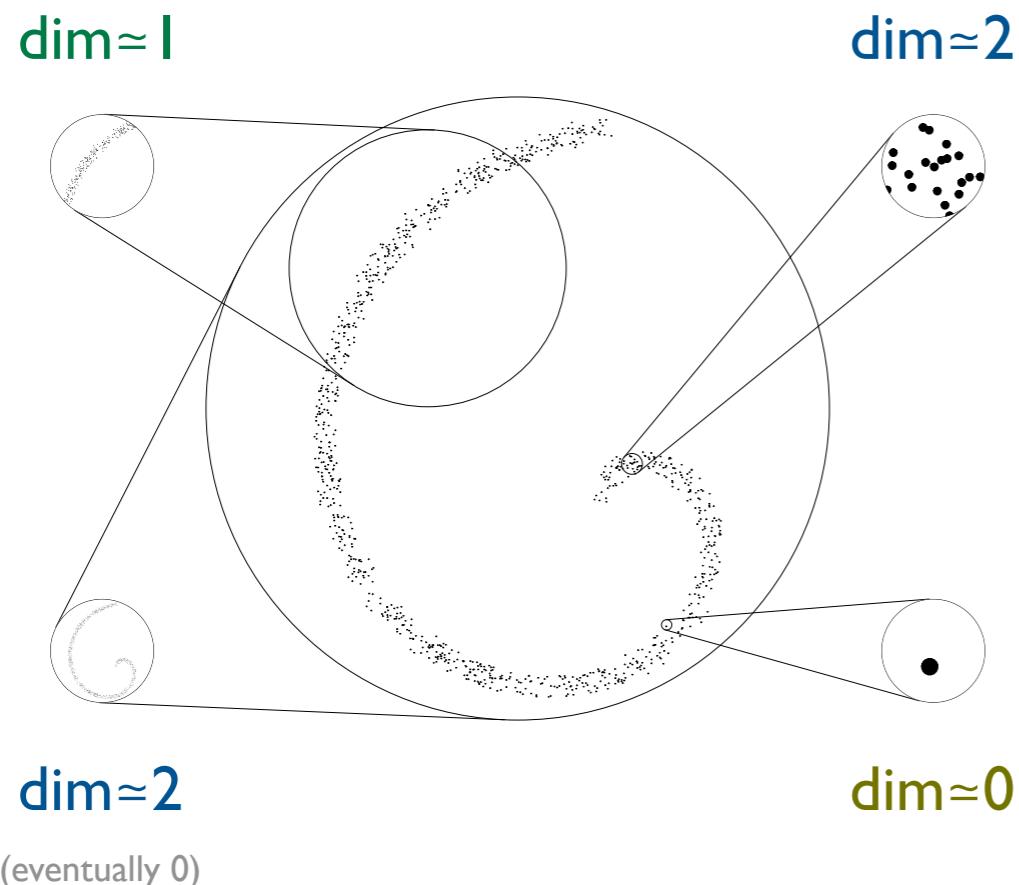
[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [PRL 2019](#); see also Pele, Werman, [ECCV 2008](#); Pele, Taskar, [GSI 2013](#)  
 [see flavored variant in Crispim Romão, Castro, Milhano, Pedro, Vale, [EPJC 2021](#)]  
 [see computational speed up in Cai, Cheng, Craig, Craig, [PRD 2020](#)]  
 [see graph network approach in Mullin, Pacey, Parker, White, Williams, [arXiv 2019](#)]

# Dimensionality of Space of Jets

$$N_{\text{neighbors}}(r) \sim r^{\text{dim}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{dim}(r) \sim r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \ln N_{\text{neighbors}}(r)$$

[Grassberger, Procaccia, [PRL 1983](#); Kégl, [NIPS 2002](#)]



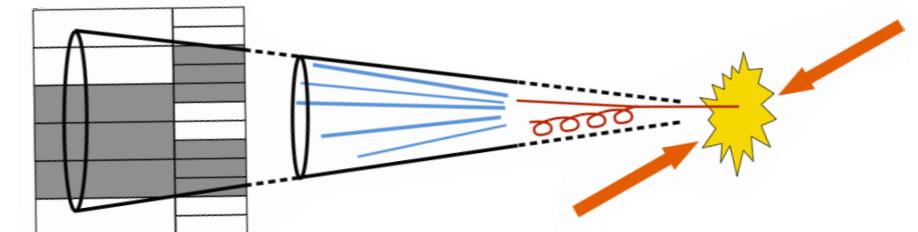
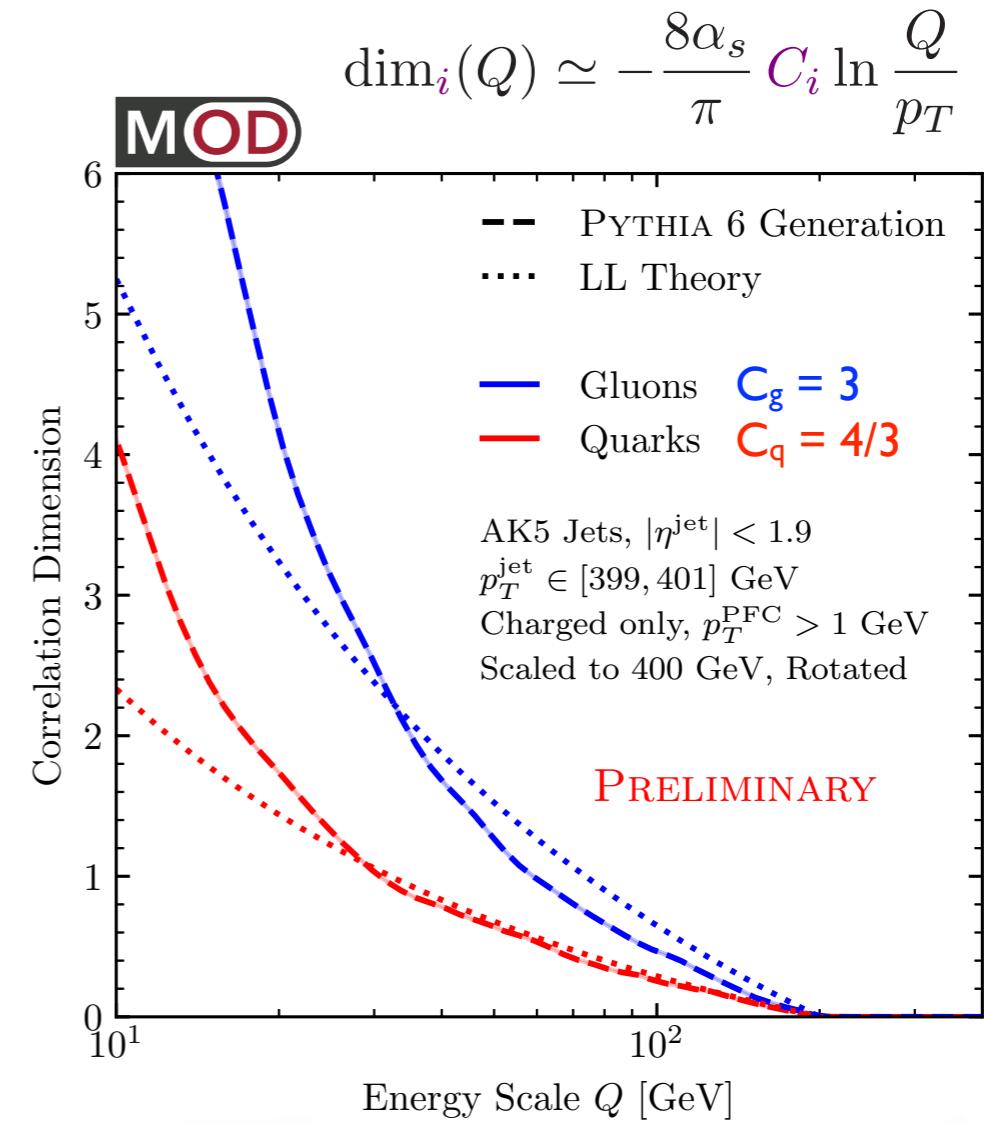
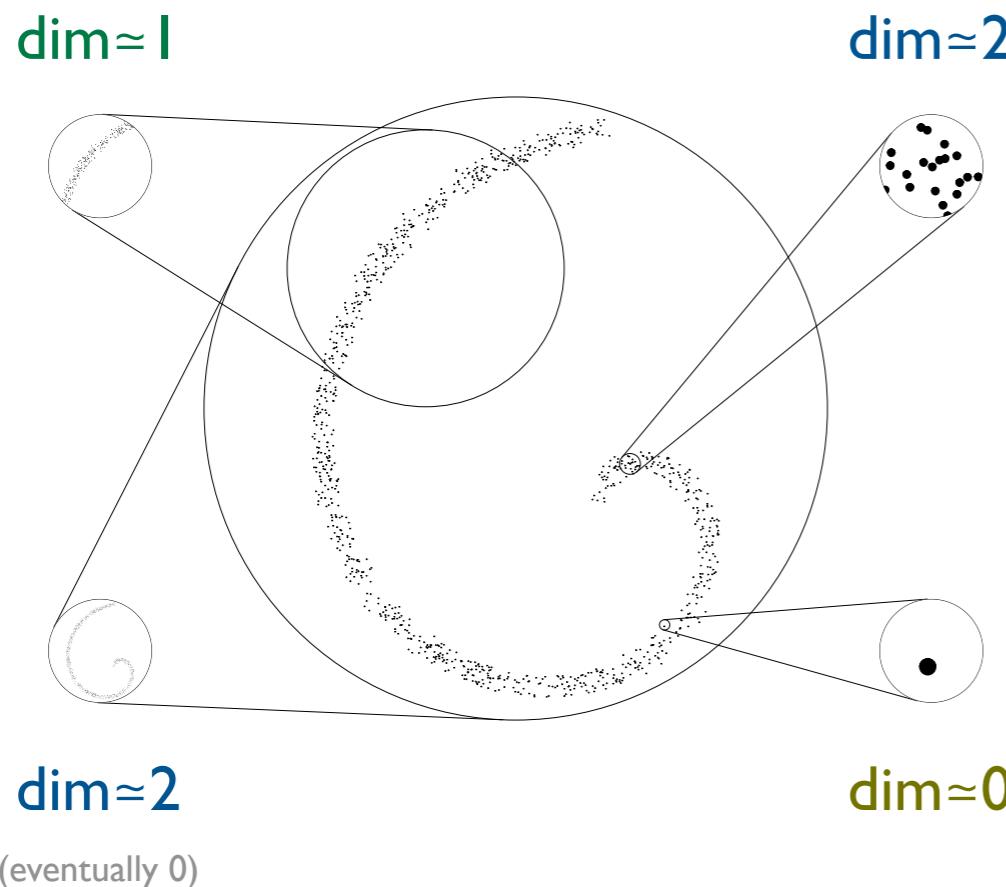
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$$\Rightarrow \dim(r) \sim r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \ln N_{\text{neighbors}}(r)$$

[Grassberger, Procaccia, [PRL 1983](#); Kégl, [NIPS 2002](#)]



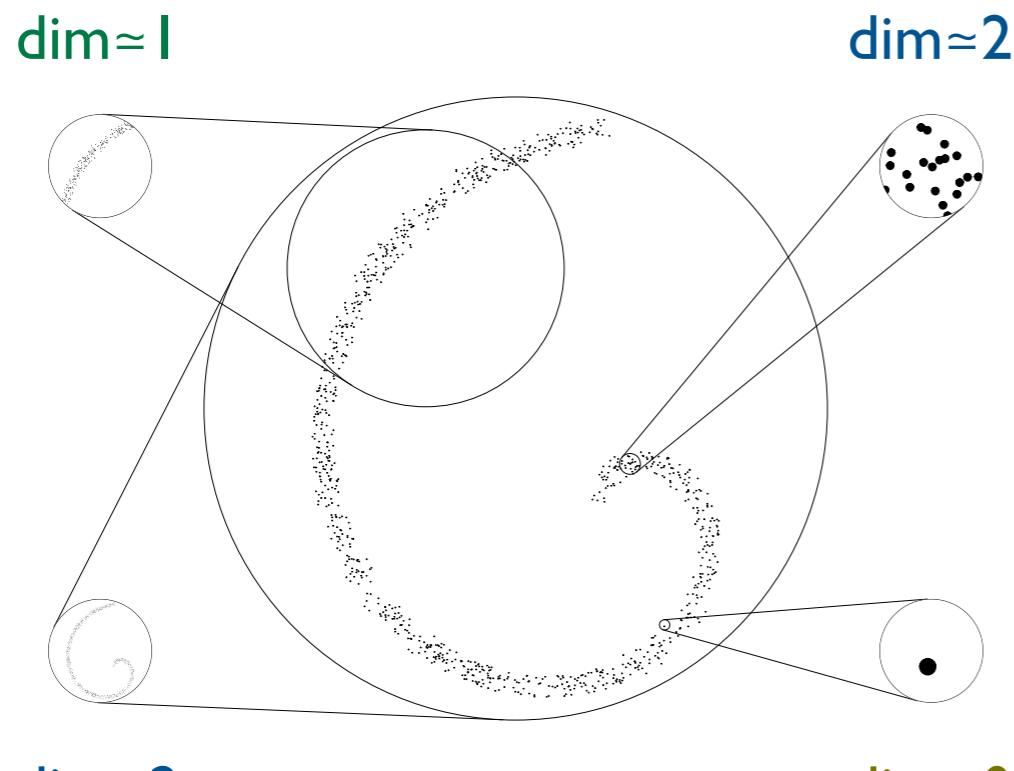
# Dimensionality of Space of Jets



$$N_{\text{neighbors}}(r) \sim r^{\dim}$$

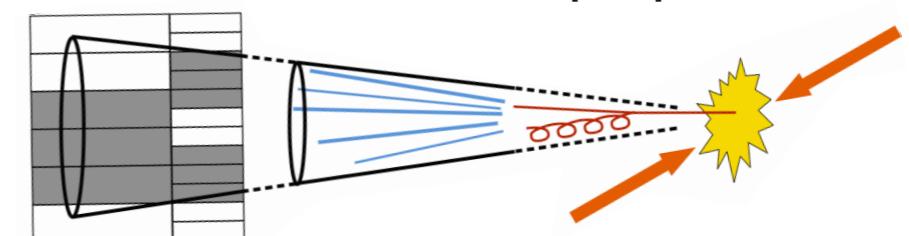
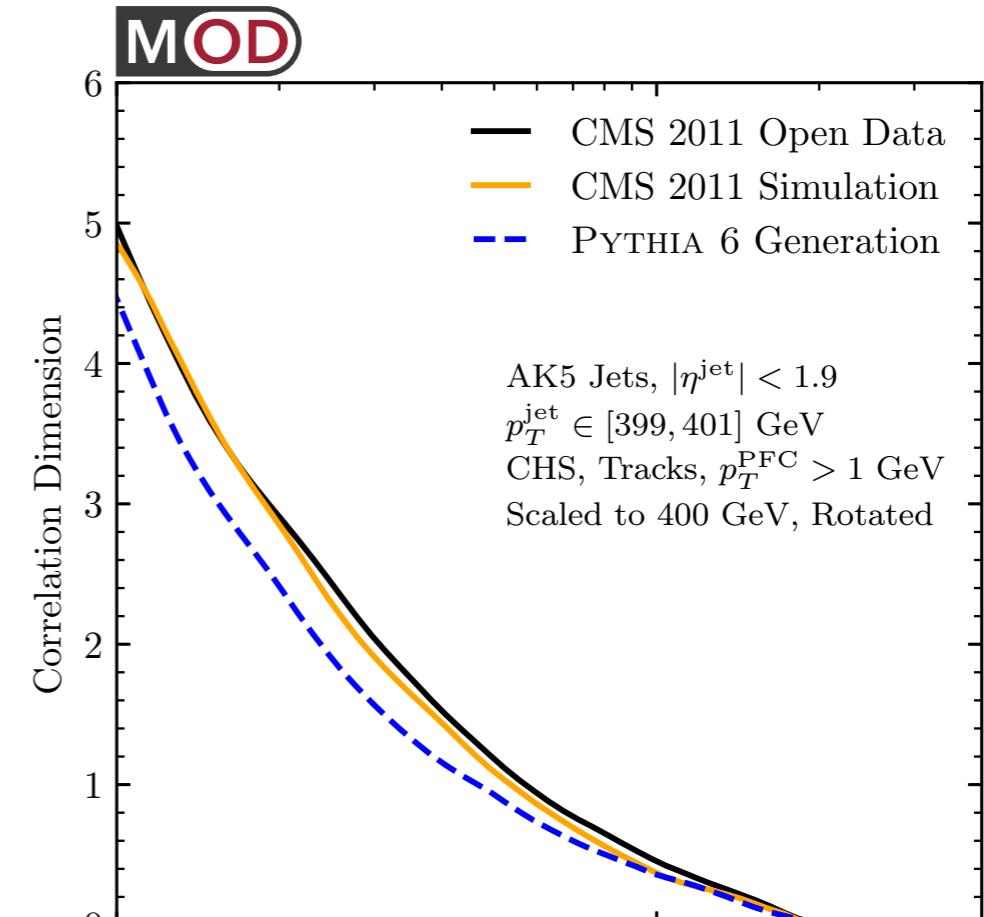
$$\Rightarrow \dim(r) \sim r \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \ln N_{\text{neighbors}}(r)$$

[Grassberger, Procaccia, [PRL 1983](#); Kégl, [NIPS 2002](#)]



(eventually 0)

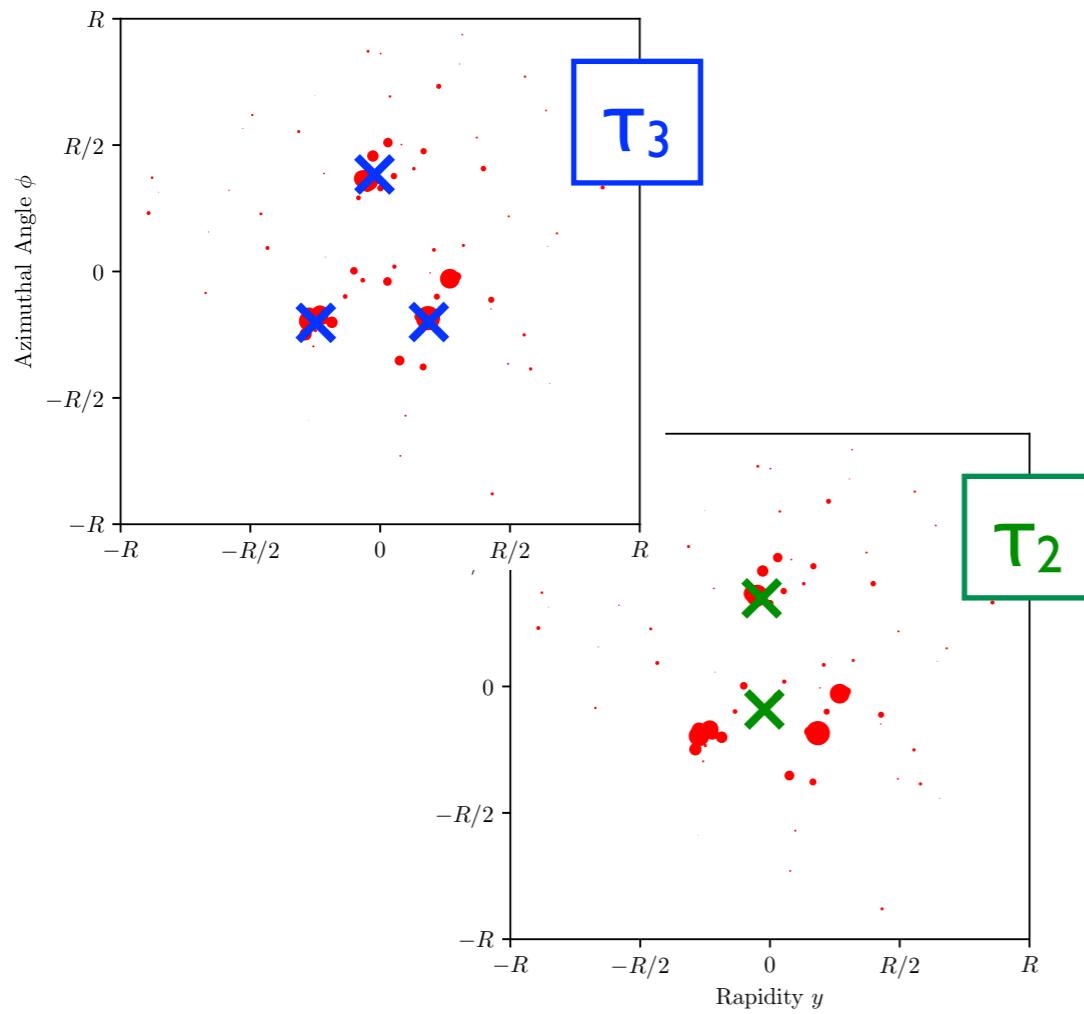
[Komiske, Mastandrea, Metodiev, Naik, [JDT, PRD 2020](#);  
using [CMS Open Data](#)]



# N-subjettiness

*Ubiquitous jet substructure observable used for almost a decade...*

$$\tau_N(\mathcal{J}) = \min_{N \text{ axes}} \sum_i E_i \min \{\theta_{1,i}, \theta_{2,i}, \dots, \theta_{N,i}\}$$

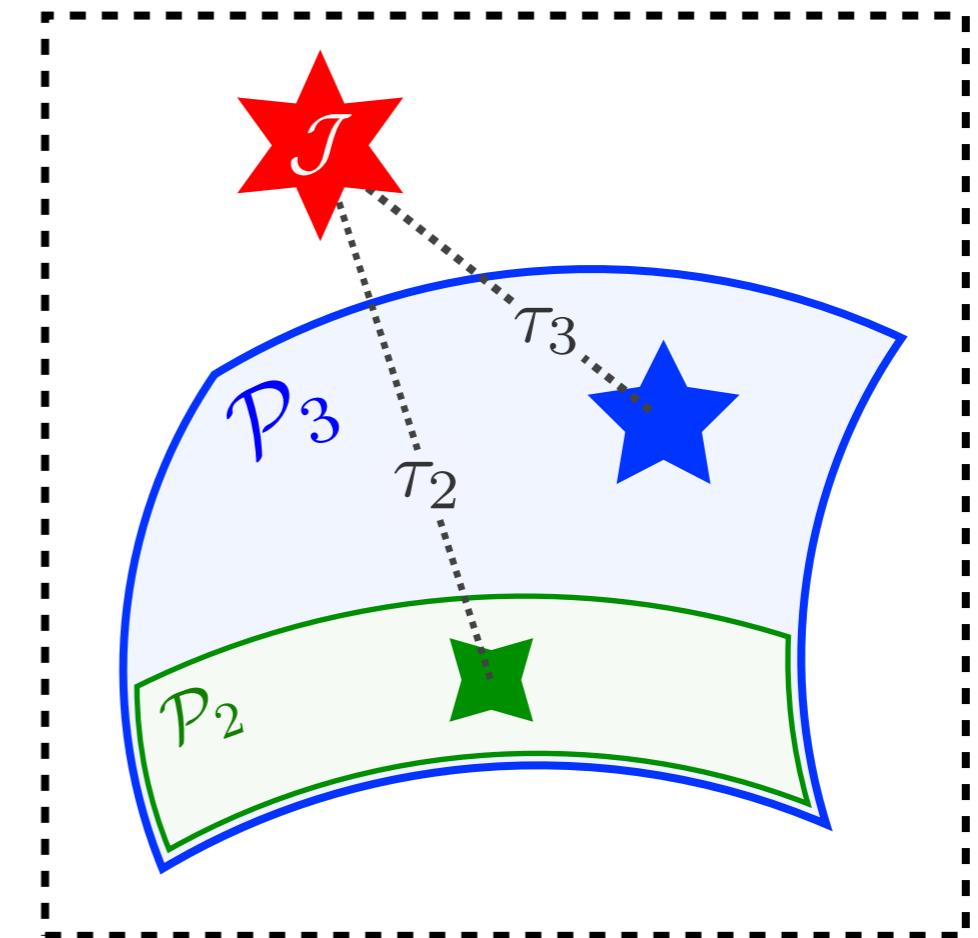
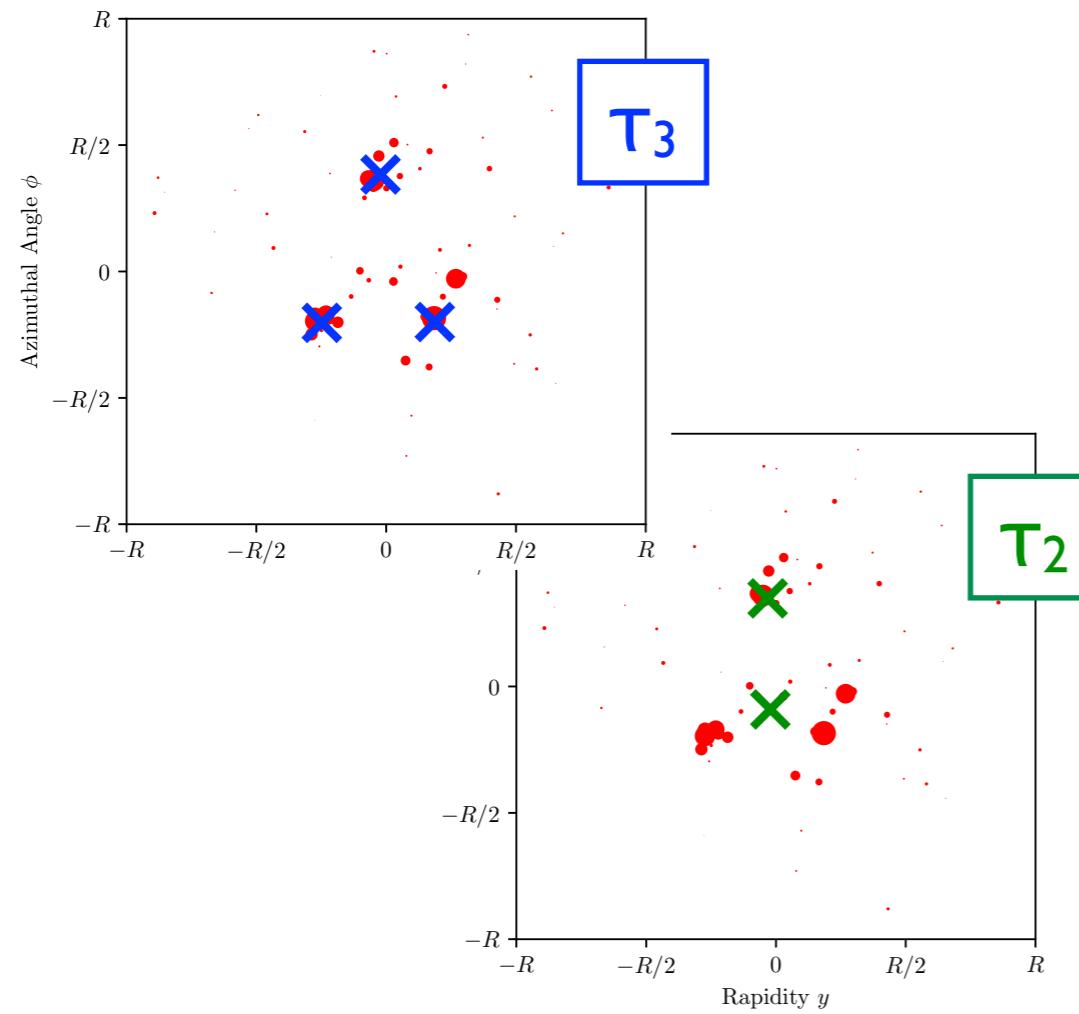


[JDT, Van Tilburg, [JHEP 2011](#), [JHEP 2012](#);  
based on Brandt, Dahmen, [ZPC 1979](#); Stewart, Tackmann, Waalewijn, [PRL 2010](#)]

# N-subjettiness = Point to Manifold EMD

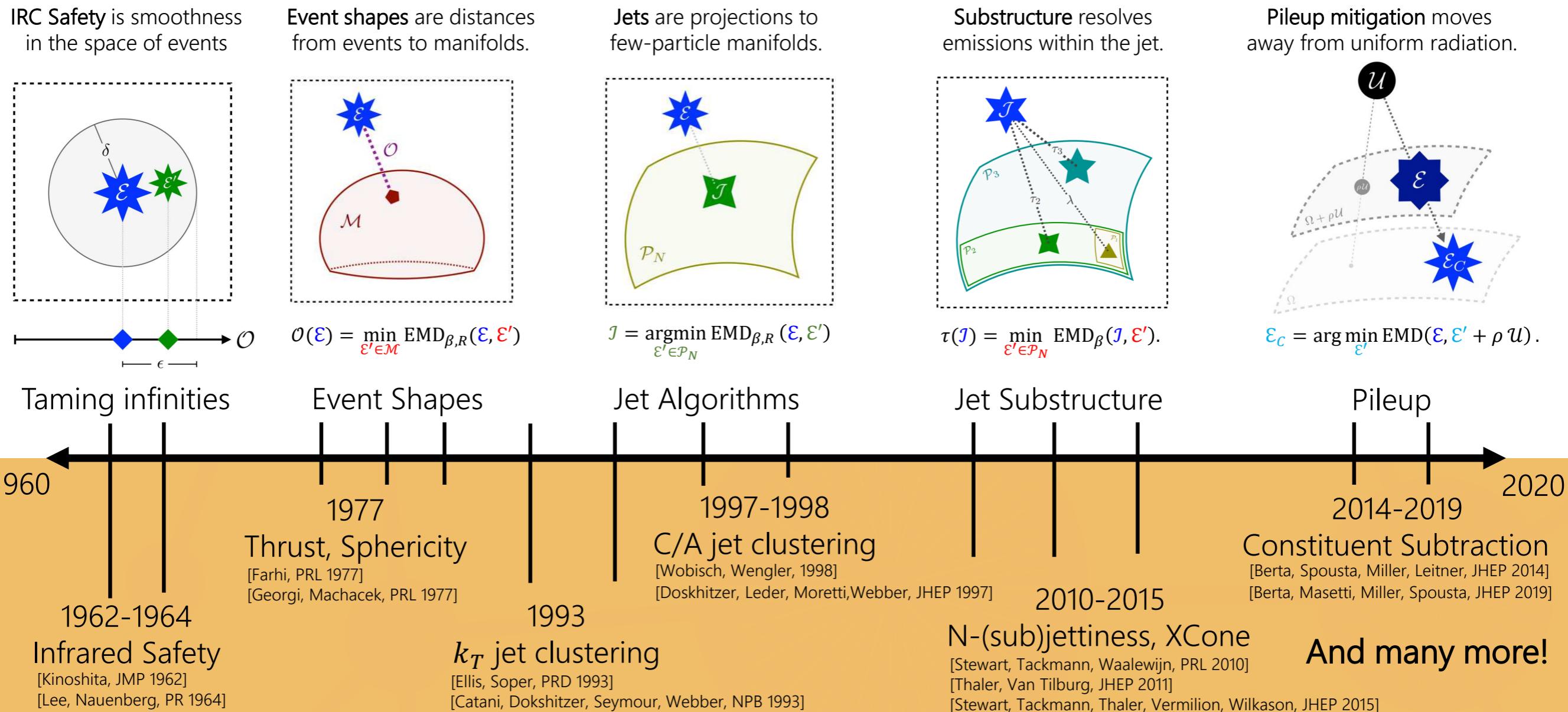
*...is secretly an optimal transport problem*

$$\tau_N(\mathcal{J}) = \min_{\mathcal{J}' \in \mathcal{P}_N} \text{EMD}(\mathcal{J}, \mathcal{J}')$$

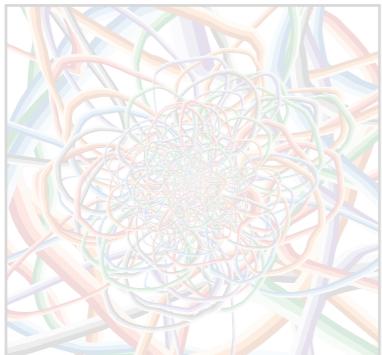


[JDT, Van Tilburg, [JHEP 2011](#), [JHEP 2012](#);  
rephrased via Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [JHEP 2020](#); see opposite limit in Cesarotti, JDT, [JHEP 2020](#)]

# Six Decades of Collider Physics Translated into a New Geometric Language!

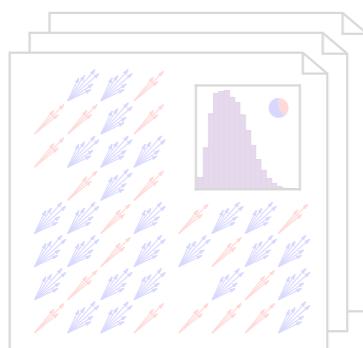


[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, JHEP 2020; timeline by Metodiev]



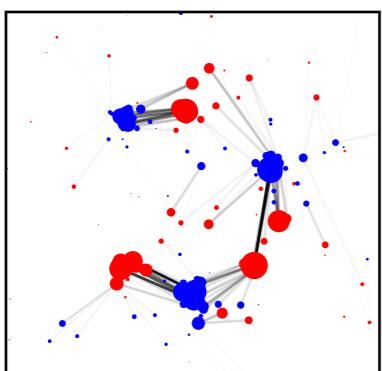
*Can theoretical structures be encoded directly?*

Energy Flow Networks  $\Leftrightarrow$  IRC Safety + Permutations



*Can strategy be defined on physical final states?*

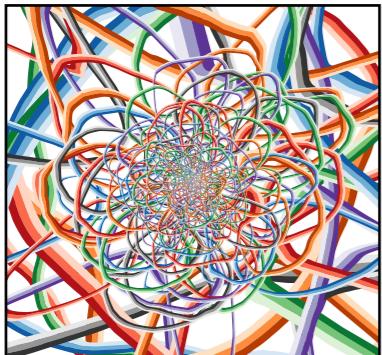
Jet Topics  $\Leftrightarrow$  Hadron-Level Approach to QCD Partons



*Can we leverage unsupervised machine learning?*

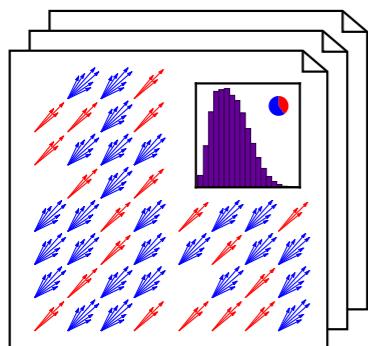
Energy Mover's Distance  $\Leftrightarrow$  Geometric Strategies for Collider Physics

# QCD and Jets through the Lens of ML



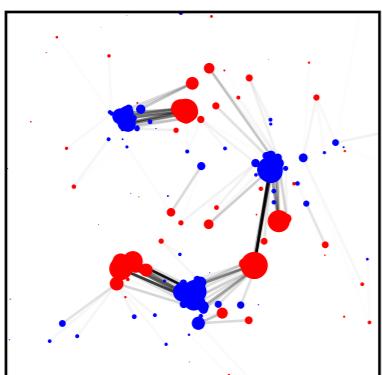
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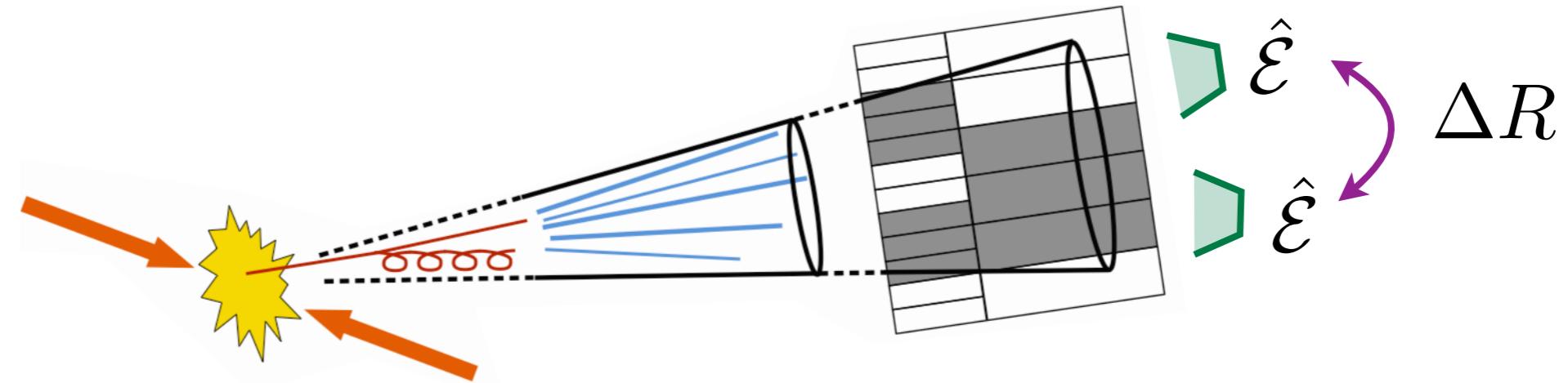
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Energy Mover's Distance  $\Leftrightarrow$  Geometric Strategies for Collider Physics

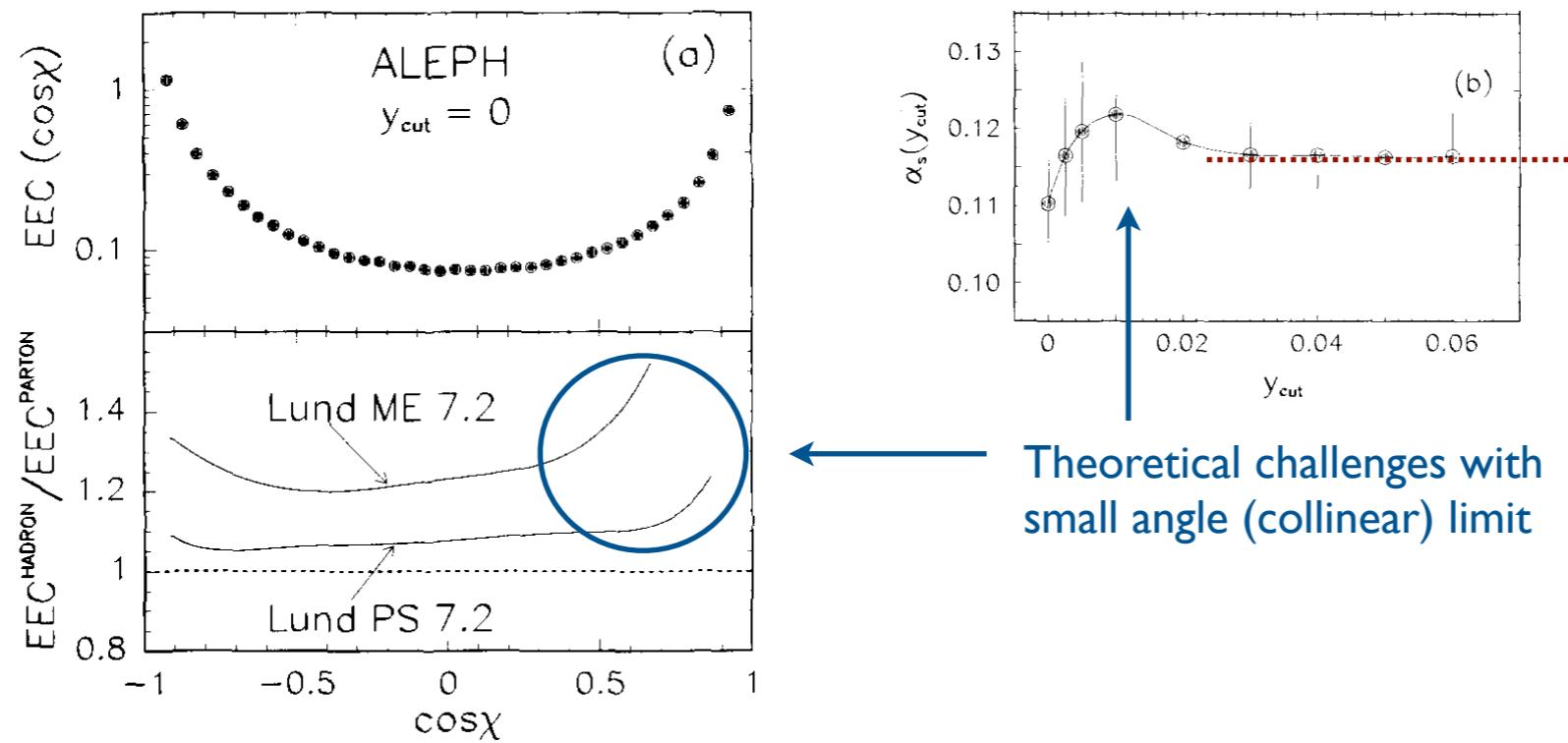
*And now... Frédéric's perspective on ML  $\Leftrightarrow$  QCD!*

# Backup Slides

# Energy-Energy Correlators

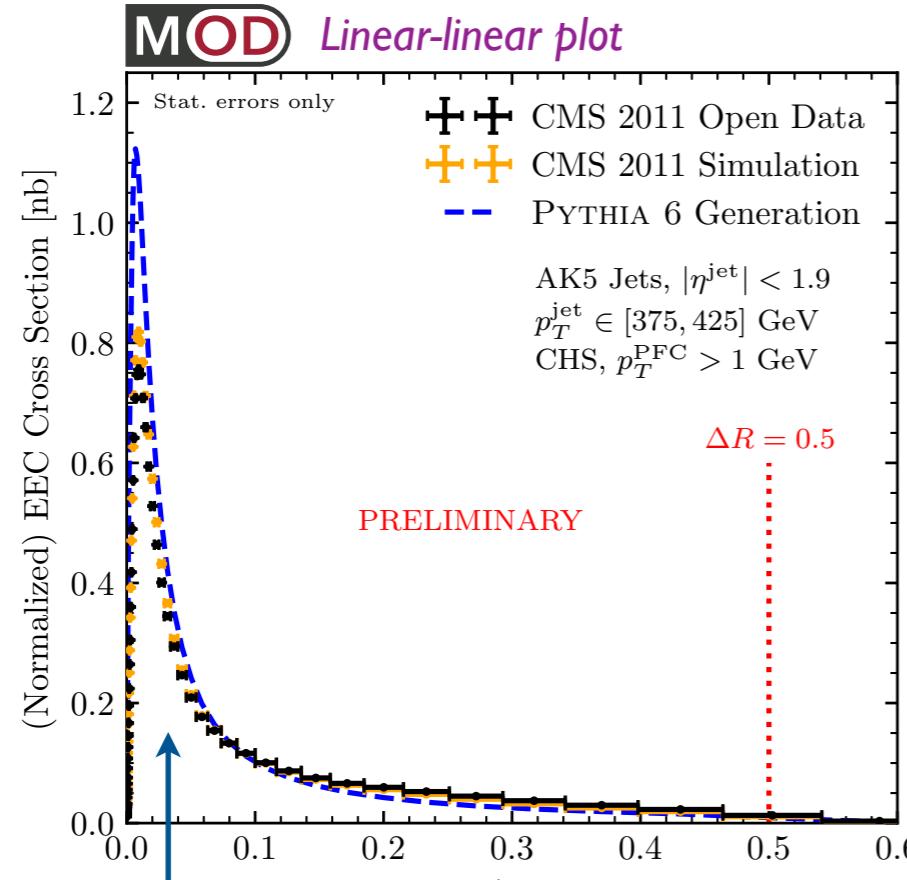


A long history in probing collinear dynamics of QCD



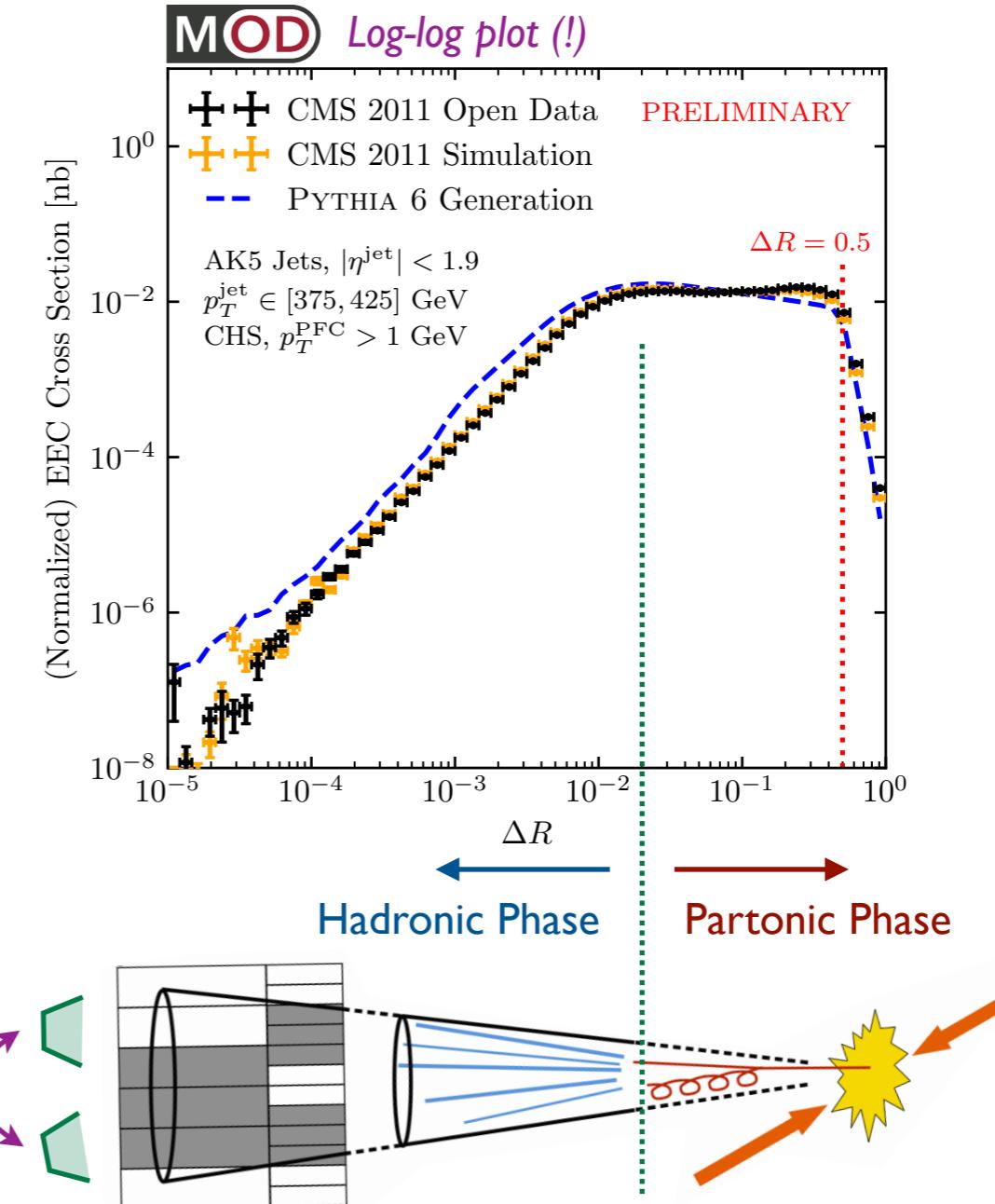
[Basham, Brown, Ellis, Love, [PRL 1978](#); ALEPH, [PLB 1991](#); see Chen, Moult, Zhang, Zhu, [PRD 2020](#)]

# QCD Phase Transition in Jets?



Are we learning something about small angle limit of QCD?

First Jet EEC Plot from the LHC (!)



[Komiske, Moult, JDT, Zhu, in progress; see talks by Moult, [BOOST 2019](#), [BOOST 2020](#)]

