



# CORNER CLIPPING EVENTS IN ICECUBE

Michael Bogert

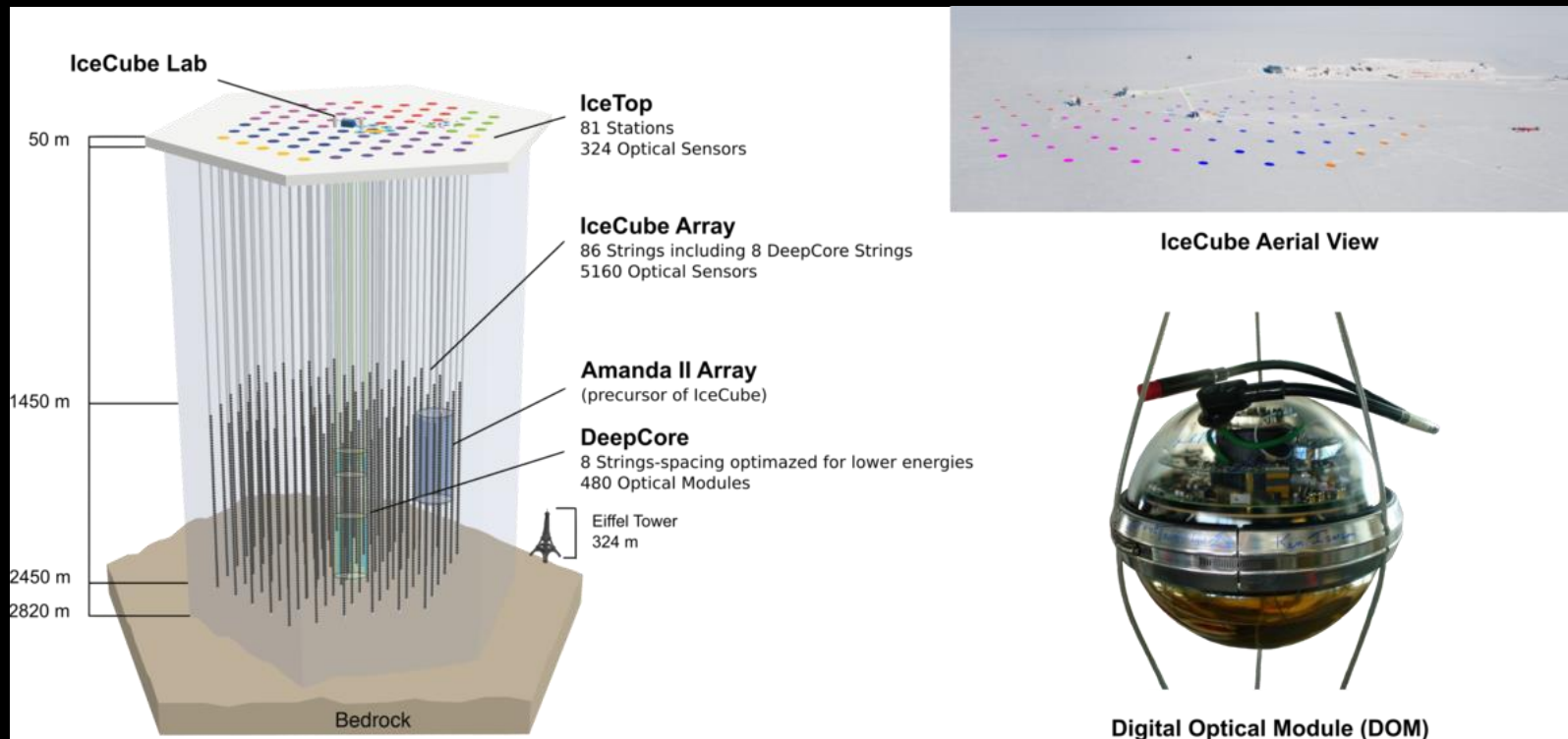
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# BRIEF OVERVIEW

- Background info
  - IceCube, neutrino events
- Purpose of my research
  - The problem, what I'm trying to accomplish, why it's important
- Steps I took
- Results, discussion

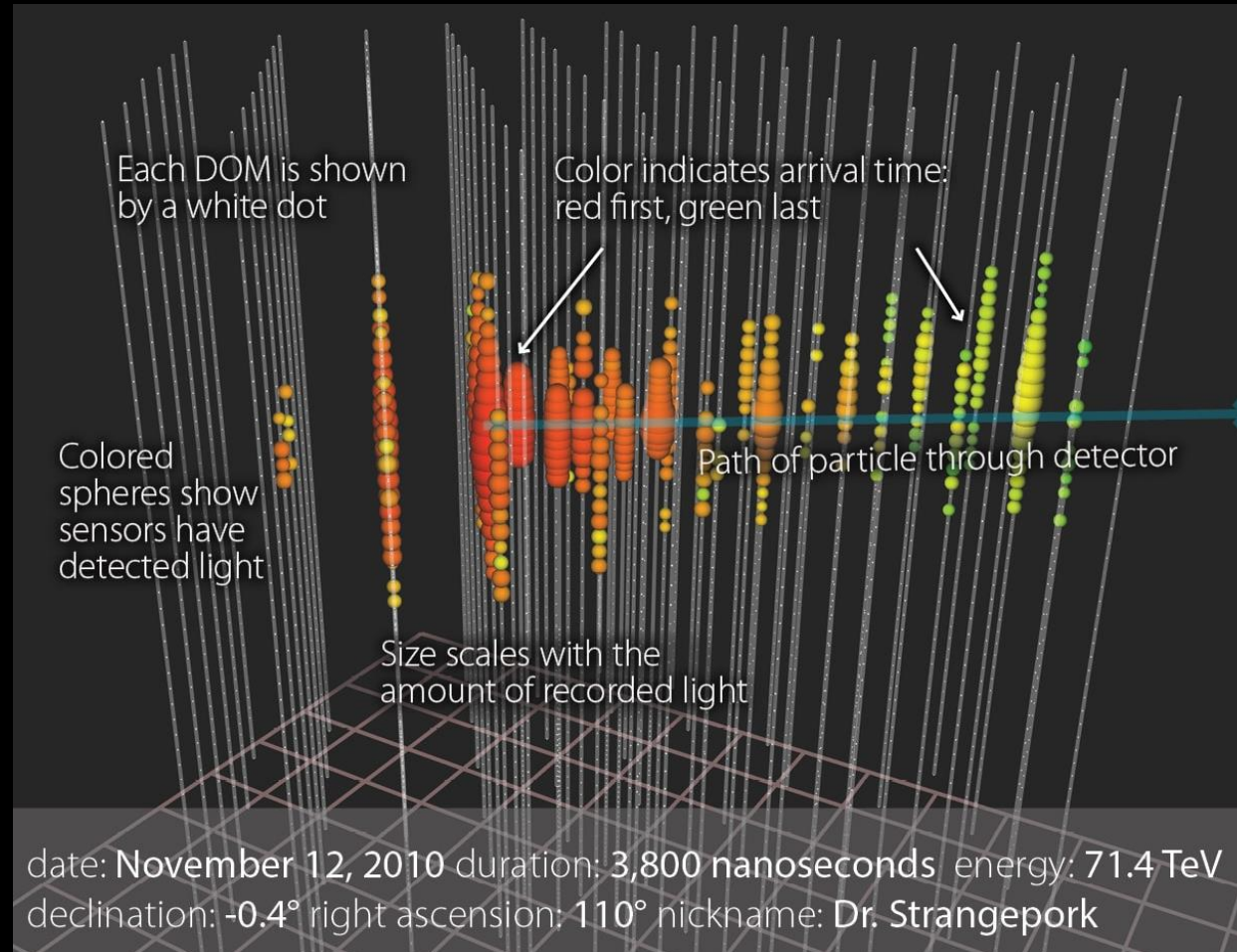
# ICECUBE

- Neutrino detection experiment
- 1 km<sup>3</sup> detector with 5,000 light sensors (DOMs)



# WHAT IS AN EVENT?

- Neutrino interaction recorded by detector
- Events are viewed in steamshovel, a visualization software



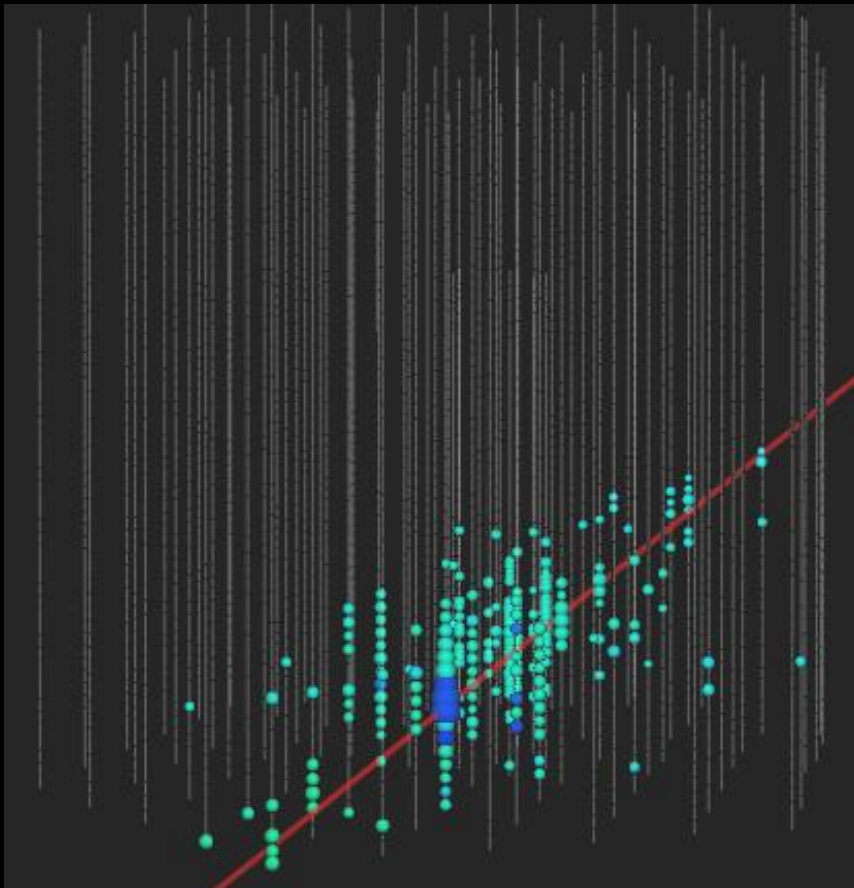
Picture from <https://icecube.wisc.edu/science/icecube/>



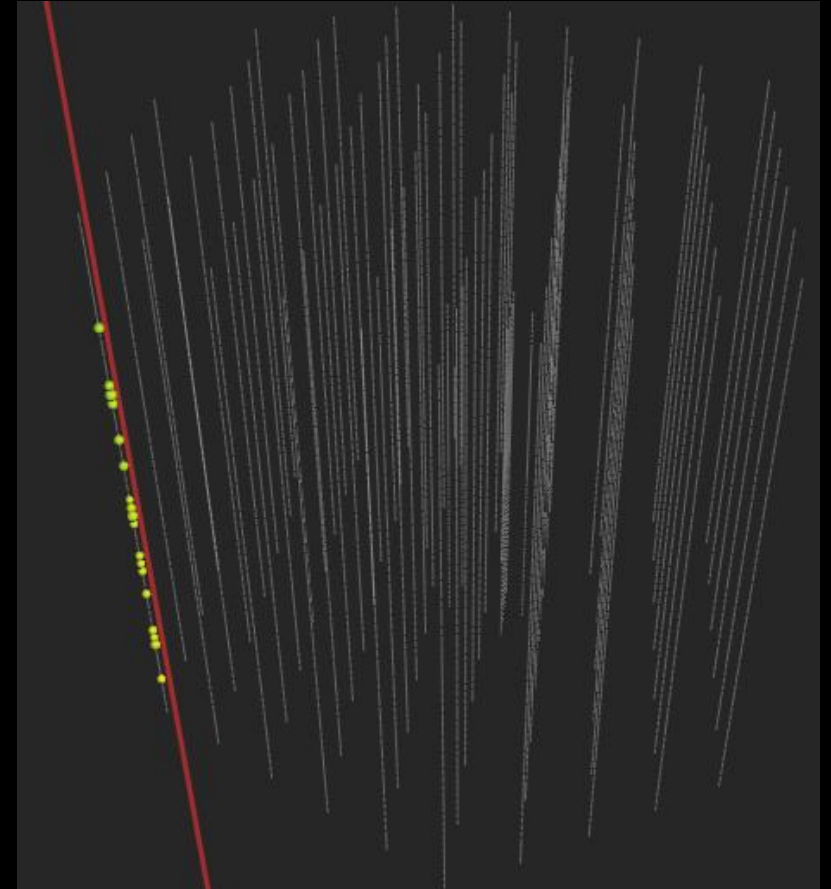
# EVENT CATEGORIES

- Two categories: Normal events and corner clipping events
- Reconstruction of a corner clipper can't be trusted

Normal event



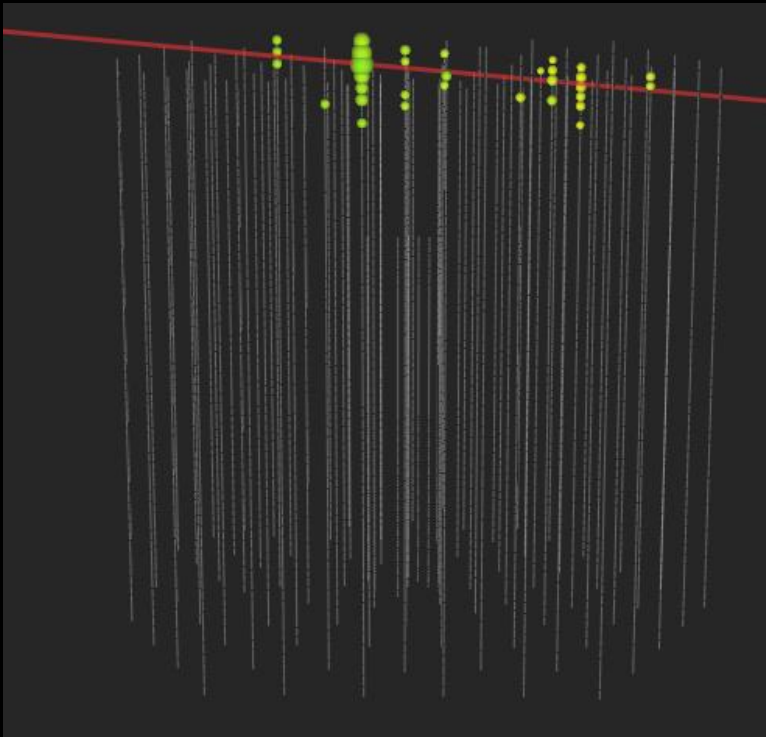
Corner clipper



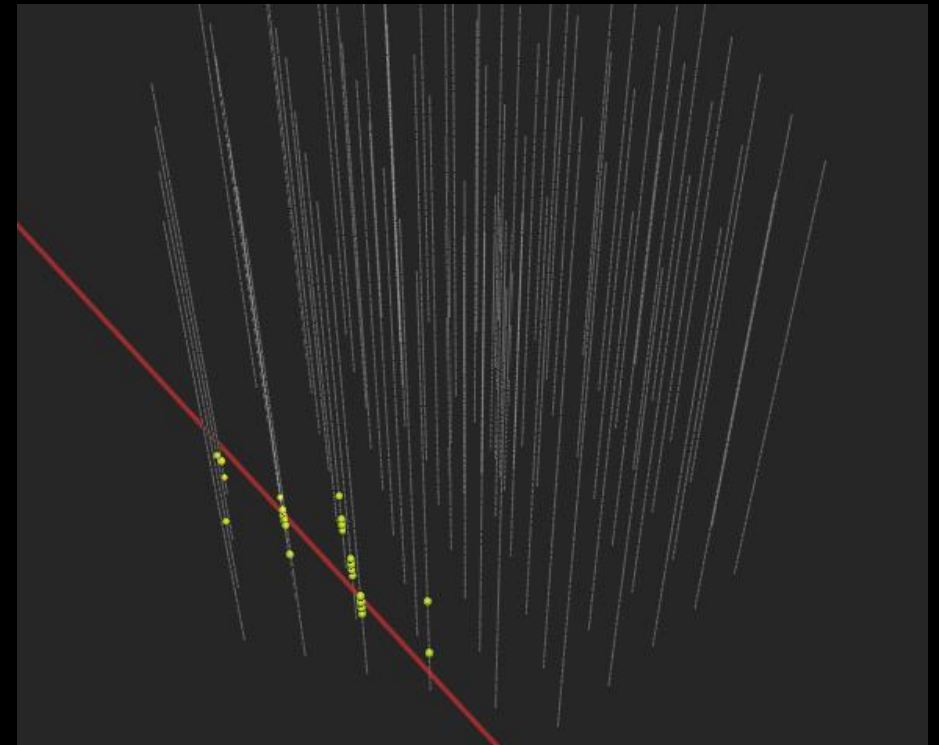
# MULTIPLE TYPES OF CLIPPERS

- Corner clippers don't just have to be on 1 or 2 strings
  - Can clip the top/bottom of detector
  - Can cut through a side

Clip through top of detector



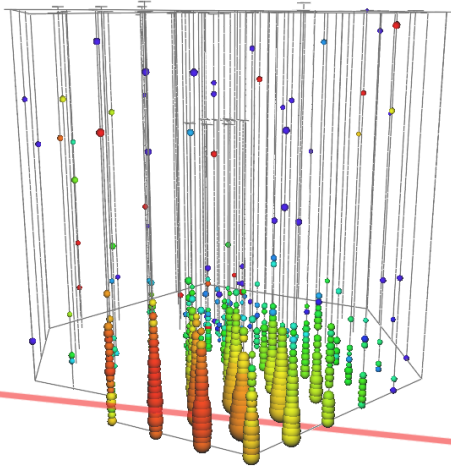
Clip through multiple strings



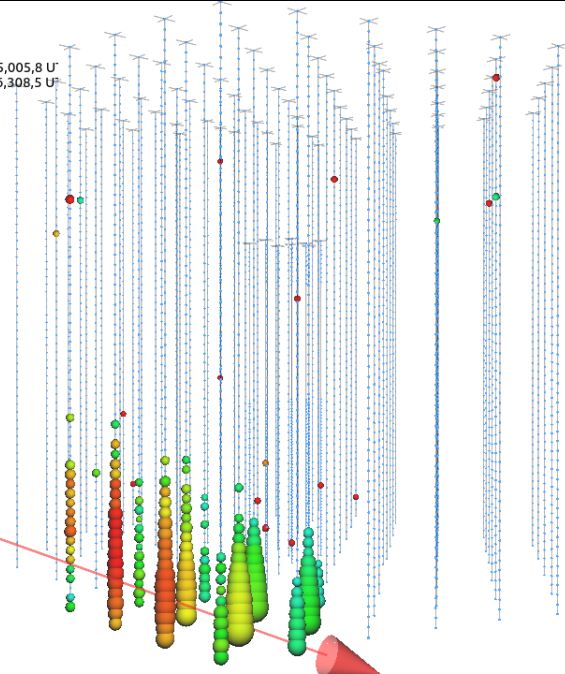
# THE PROBLEM

- Detector constantly recording events ( $10^{11}$  events per year)
- No method to filter out corner clippers
  - Easily identifiable by eye, but difficult to define algorithmically
- Alerts are sent out for interesting events ( $> \sim 330$  TeV)
  - Sent out automatically before visual confirmation, may be retracted

Event 133091/81419-0  
Time 2019-09-22 09:42:45 UTC  
Duration 21302.7 ns



```
[13EventHeader:  
  StartTime: 2019-09-22 09:42:45.628,765,005,8 U  
  EndTime: 2019-09-22 09:42:45.628,786,308,5 U  
  RunID: 133091  
  SubrunID: 0  
  EventID: 81419  
  SubEventID: 0  
  SubEventStream: Inicesplit  
]
```



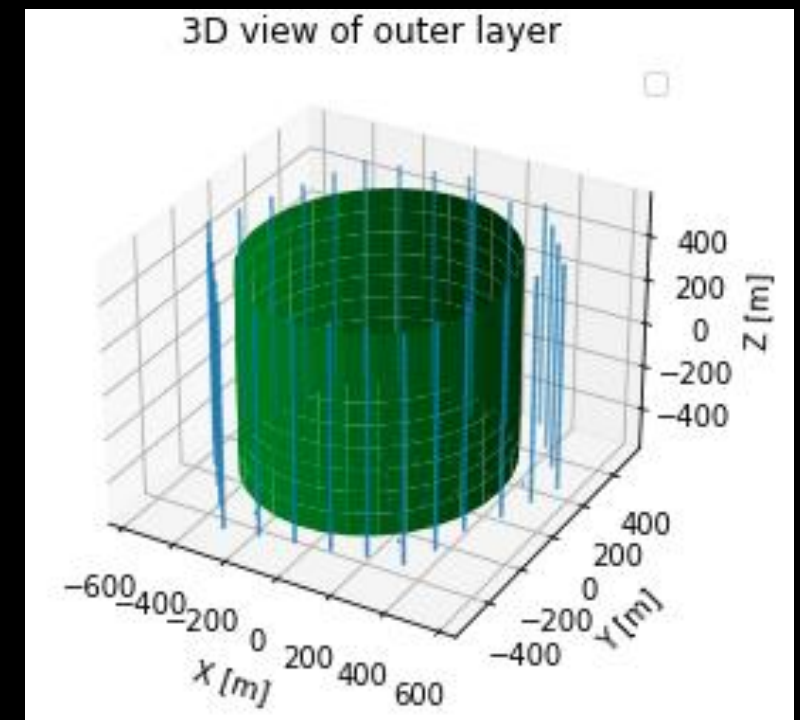
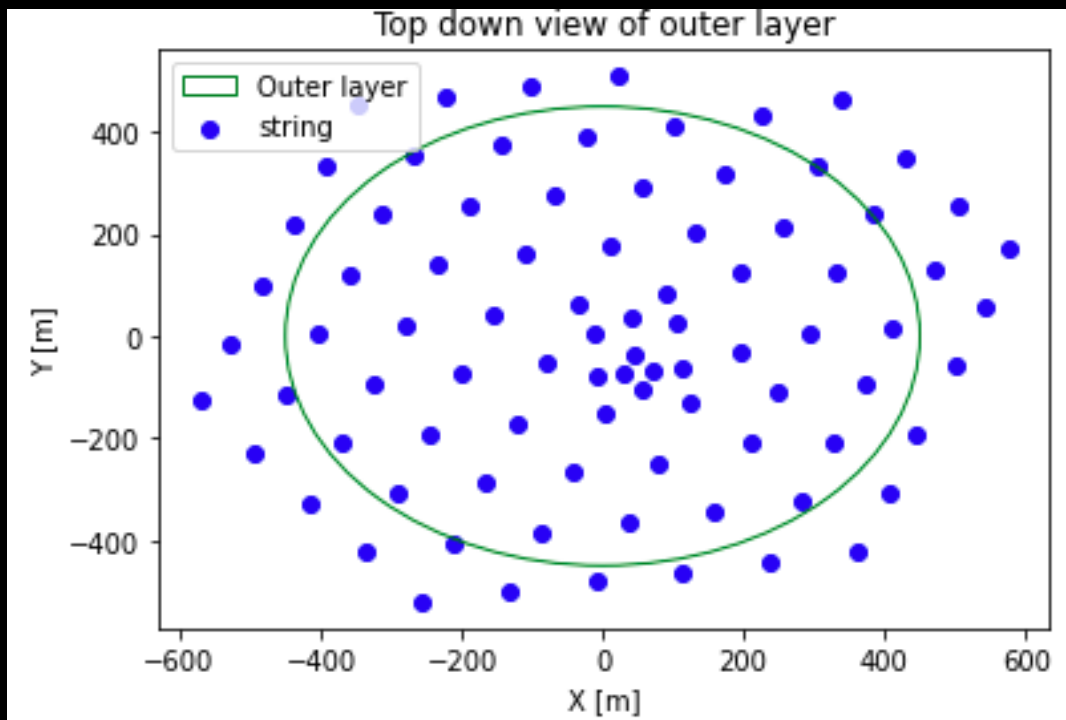
# GOAL/WHY IT MATTERS

- Goals
  - Come up with a reliable way to classify events (normal or corner clipper)
  - Use machine learning to further improve classification
- Why it matters
  - Significant number of corner clippers (too many to go through by eye)
  - Reconstructing corner clippers wastes time/resources



# INITIAL STEPS

- Get familiar with corner clippers
  - Come up with common features all corner clippers should share



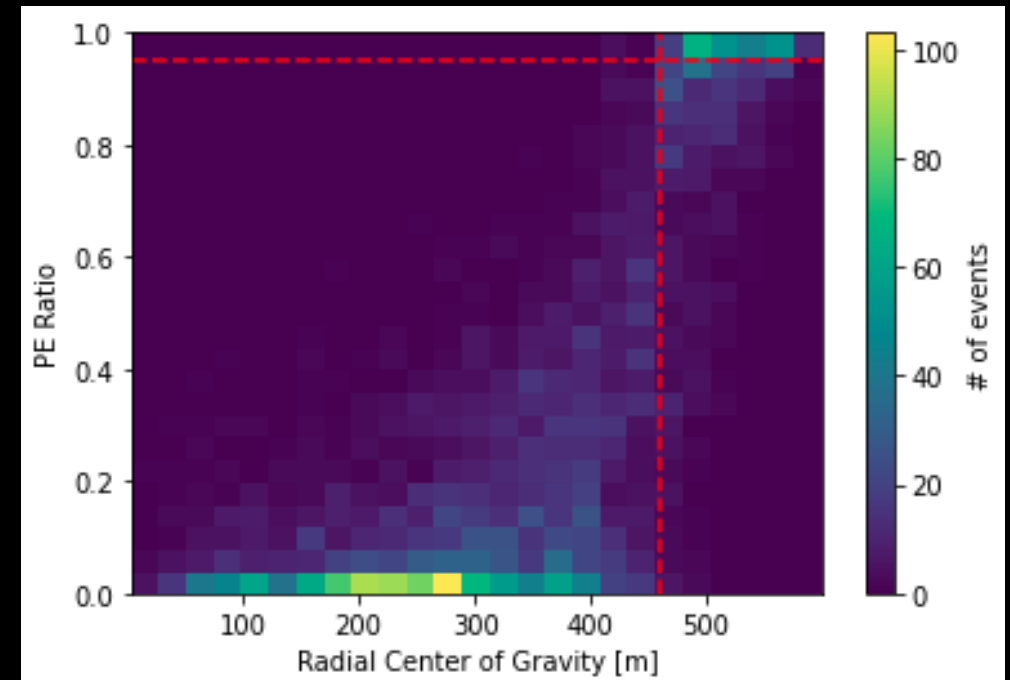
# COMMON FEATURES

- Decided all corner clipping events should have a “radial center of gravity” far from the center<sup>[1]</sup>

$$COG(\rho) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^{\#DOMs} q_i \rho_i}{\sum_{i=0}^{\#DOMs} q_i}$$

where  $q_i$  = # of photoelectrons (PEs) at the  $i^{\text{th}}$  DOM,  $\rho_i$  is the radial distance

- Should also have high ratio of  $\frac{\# \text{ Outer PEs}}{\# \text{ Total PEs}}$

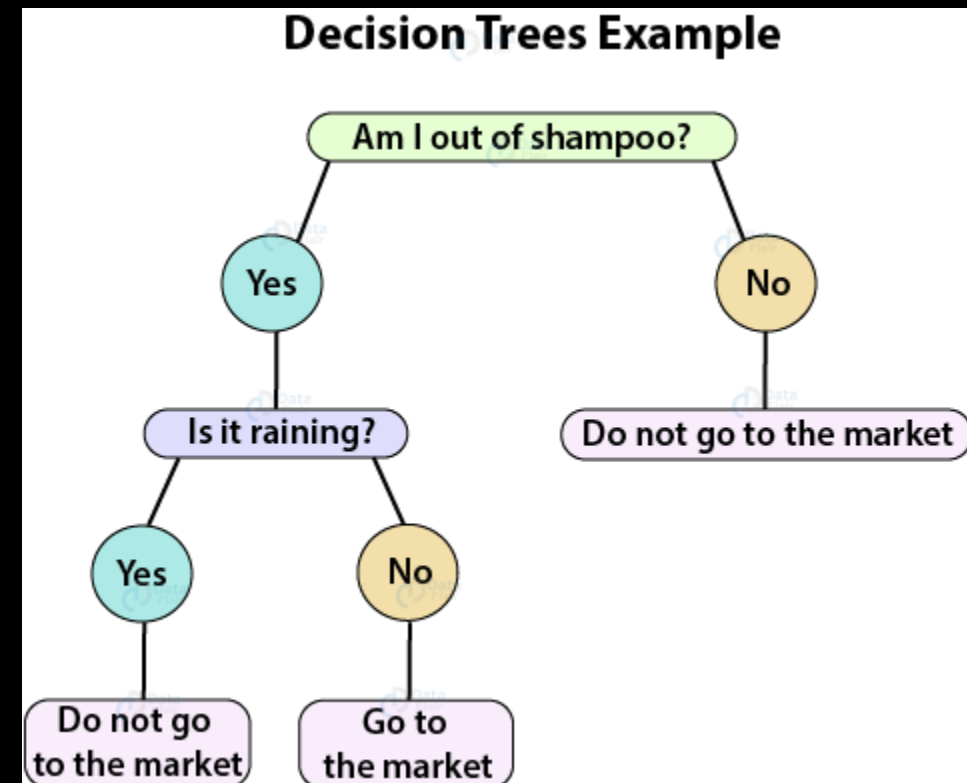


# STARTING POINT

- Hypothesized cluster of events in top-right corner of 2D histogram were corner clippers – they were
- Could now use  $COG(\rho)$  and PE ratio as features in machine learning algorithms
- Secondary features added
  - $COG(z)$  - vertical center of gravity
  - Total PEs – Corner clippers should have low # of total PEs

# MACHINE LEARNING ALGORITHMS

- Machine learning algorithms are methods that will predict results based on input data<sup>[2]</sup>
- 4 categories: unsupervised learning, supervised learning, semi-supervised learning, and reinforcement



Picture from <https://data-flair.training/blogs/r-decision-trees/>

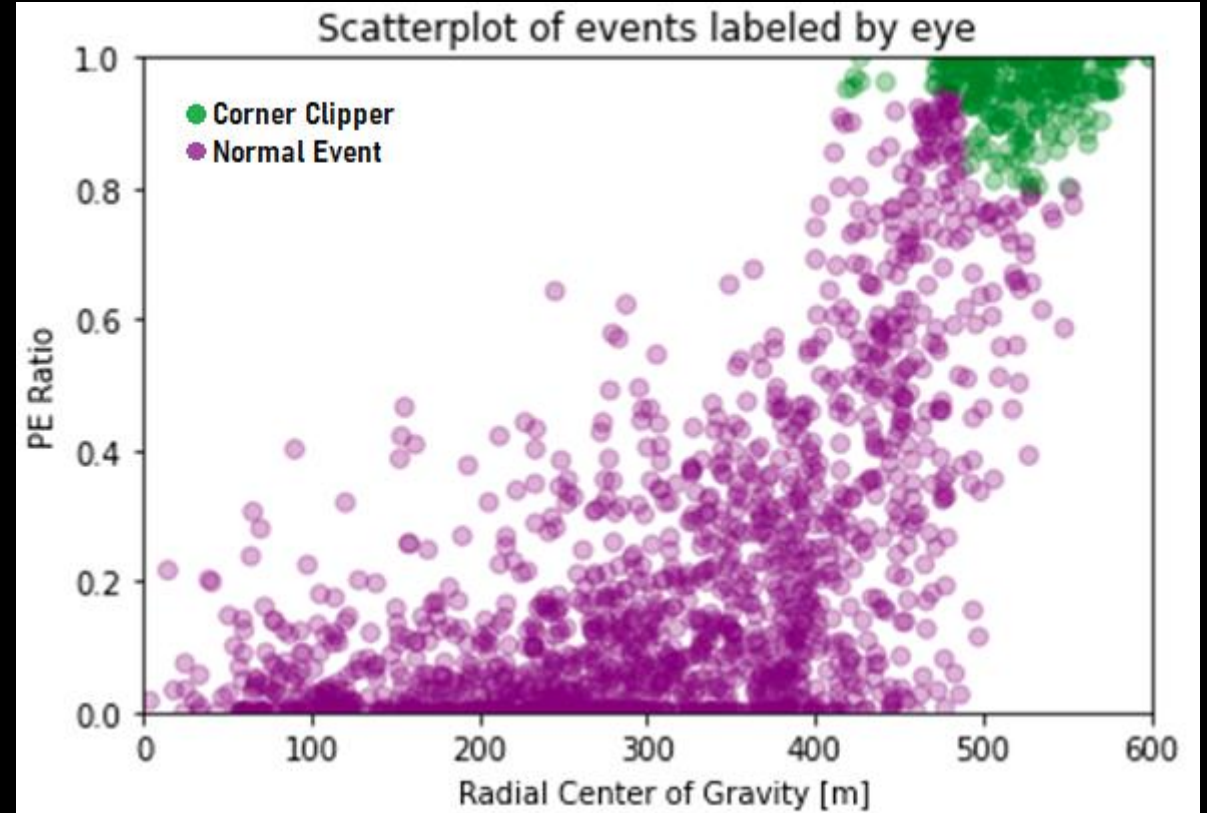


# SUPERVISED LEARNING

- Learn by example (data is labeled)
  - Split data into training & test set: practice on training then predict on test
- Binary classification is a type of supervised learning that will label data as positive (1) or negative (0)
- Corner clipper = 1, normal event = 0

# CLASSIFICATION METHODS

- Tried multiple classification algorithms after labeling data (3,517 events, 737 clippers → 21% corner clippers)
  - K-Nearest Neighbors
  - Decision Trees
  - Random Forests
- Made scatter plot to see locations
  - Green = corner clipper
  - Purple = normal



# WHAT MAKES AN ALGORITHM GOOD?

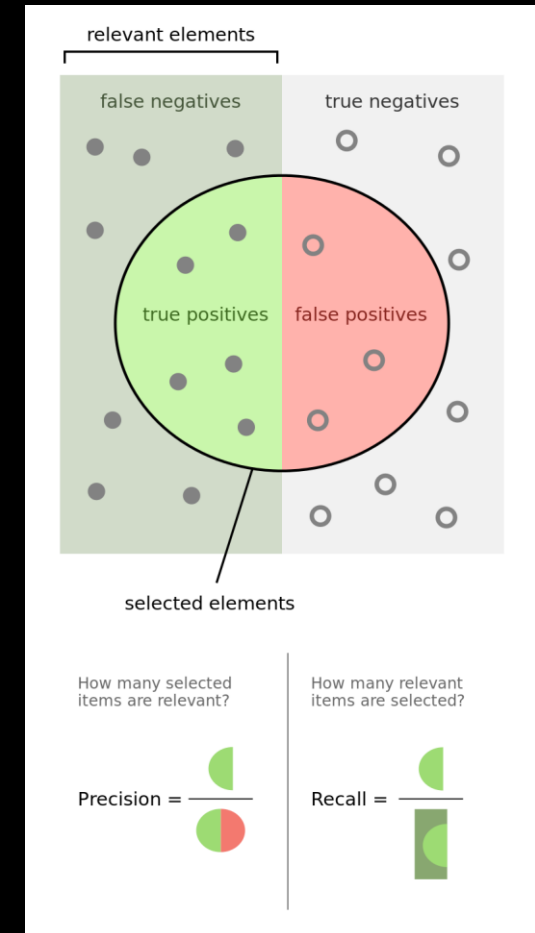
	Corner clipper (true label)	Normal event (true label)
Corner clipper (prediction)	True Positive	False positive
Normal event (prediction)	False Negative	True Negative

- Look at Completeness (recall) and Precision

$$\text{Completeness} = \frac{\# \text{True positives}}{\# \text{True positives} + \# \text{False Negatives}}$$

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{\# \text{True positives}}{\# \text{True positives} + \# \text{False Positives}}$$

- Prioritize completeness > precision (want low #FN)



# ALGORITHM COMPARISONS

- Tried multiple algorithms
- Found the best by comparing precision & completeness values

	Hard-Cut	K-Nearest Neighbors	Gaussian Naïve Bayes	Decision Tree	Decision Tree w/ Bagging	Random Forest	MPLRegress ion	Support Vector Machine
Precision	0.99	0.8	0.72	0.97	0.94	0.99	0.94	0.9
Completeness	0.67	0.47	.06	0.93	0.87	0.96	0.86	0.8

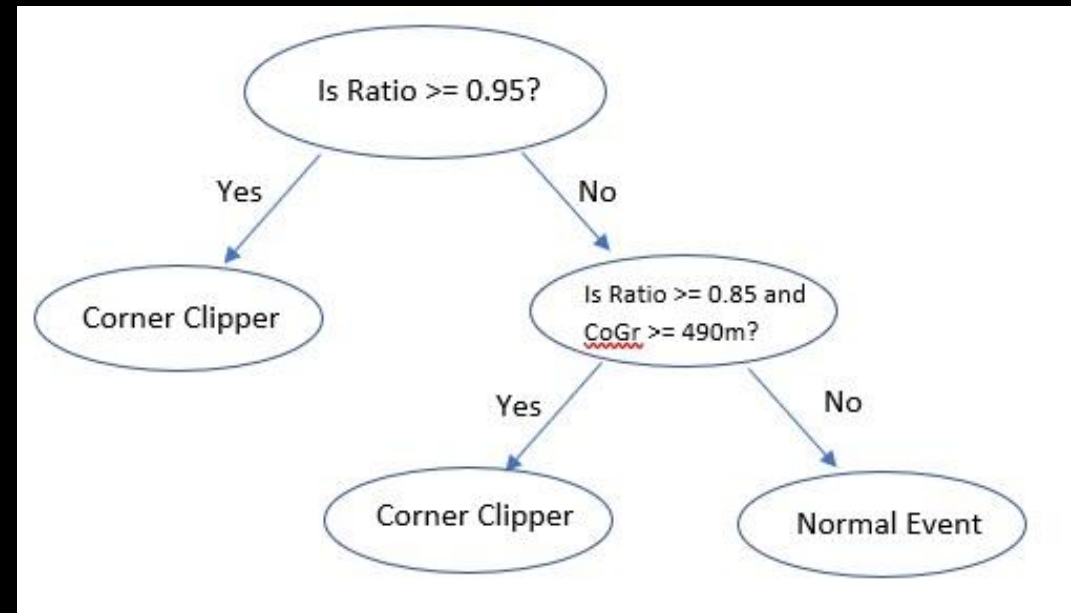
- Random Forest performed best

Info about the different algorithms can be found at [https://scikit-learn.org/stable/supervised\\_learning.html](https://scikit-learn.org/stable/supervised_learning.html) and [https://scikit-learn.org/stable/modules/generated/sklearn.neural\\_network.MLPRegressor.html](https://scikit-learn.org/stable/modules/generated/sklearn.neural_network.MLPRegressor.html)



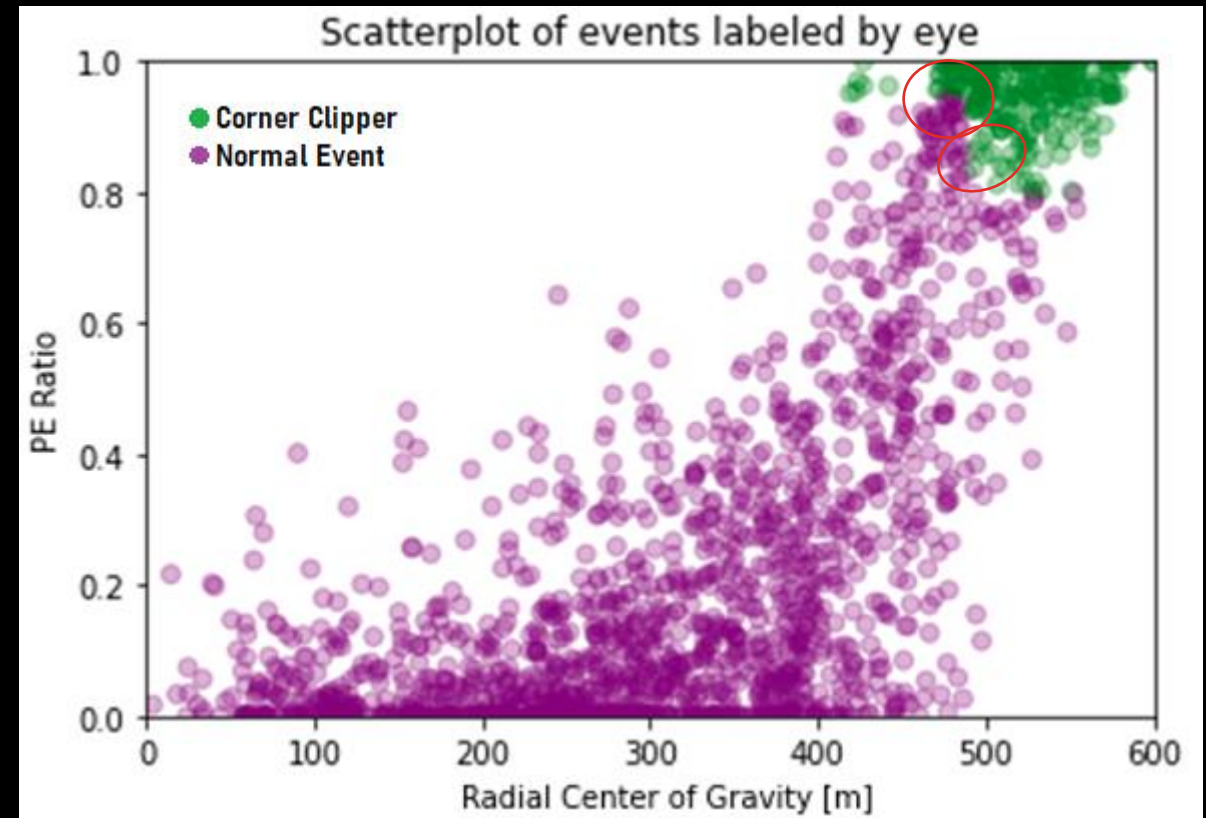
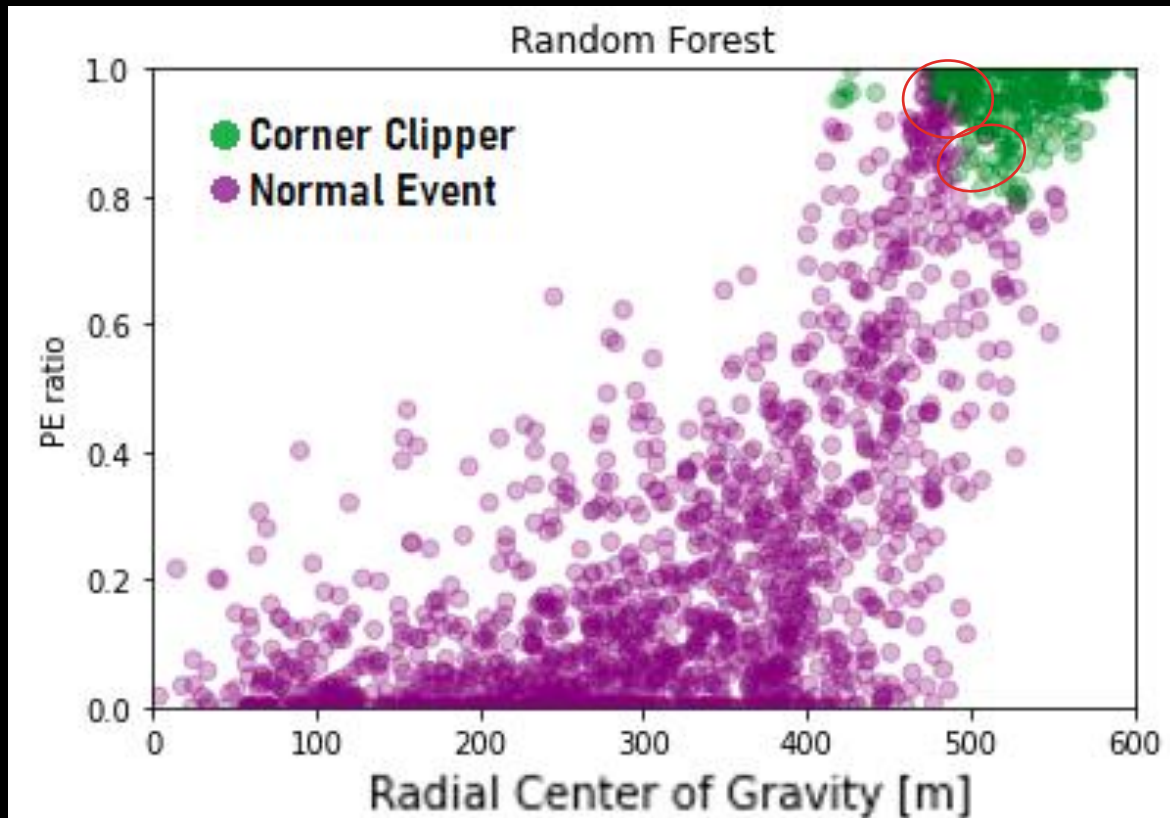
# RANDOM FOREST

- Based off Decision Trees
- Creates multiple trees (makes a forest) w/ varying attributes and depth
- Final tree is made by combining results of all trees



# CONCLUSIONS

- Algorithm works very well (1,759 test events , only 14 mislabeled  $\rightarrow$  99.2% correct)



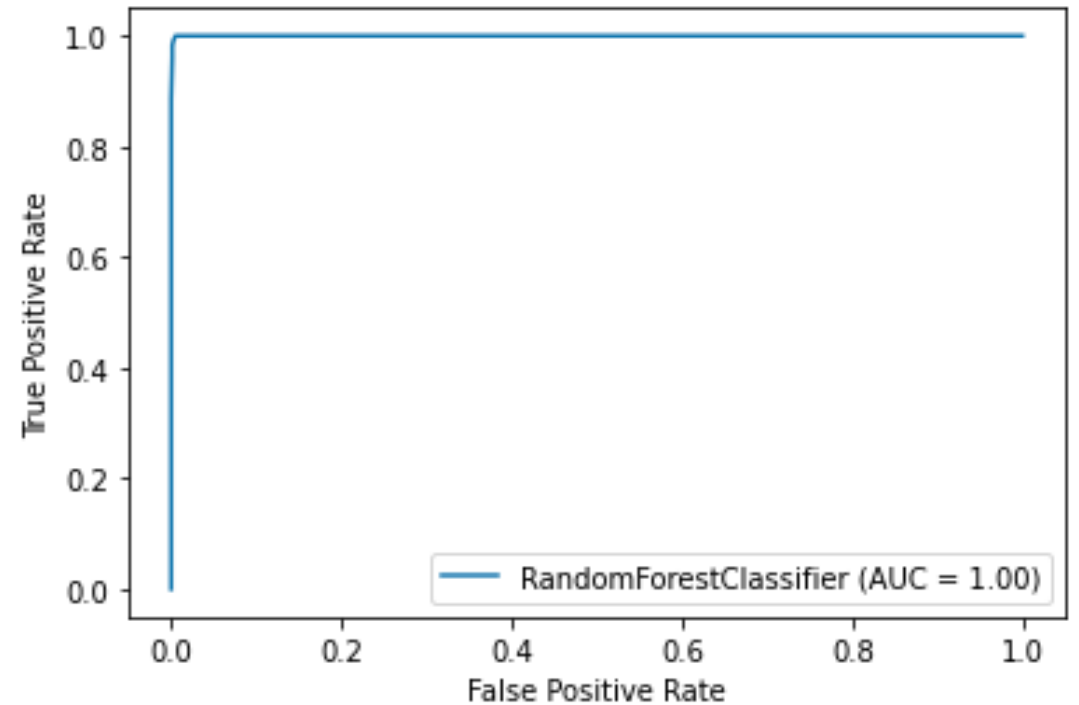
# CONCLUSIONS 2

- AUROC Curve
  - Closer the value is to 1, the better
- Measures degree of separability<sup>[3]</sup>
- Very close to 1, another good sign

$$TPR = \frac{\#TP}{\#TP + \#FN}$$

$$FPR = \frac{\#FP}{\#TN + \#FP}$$

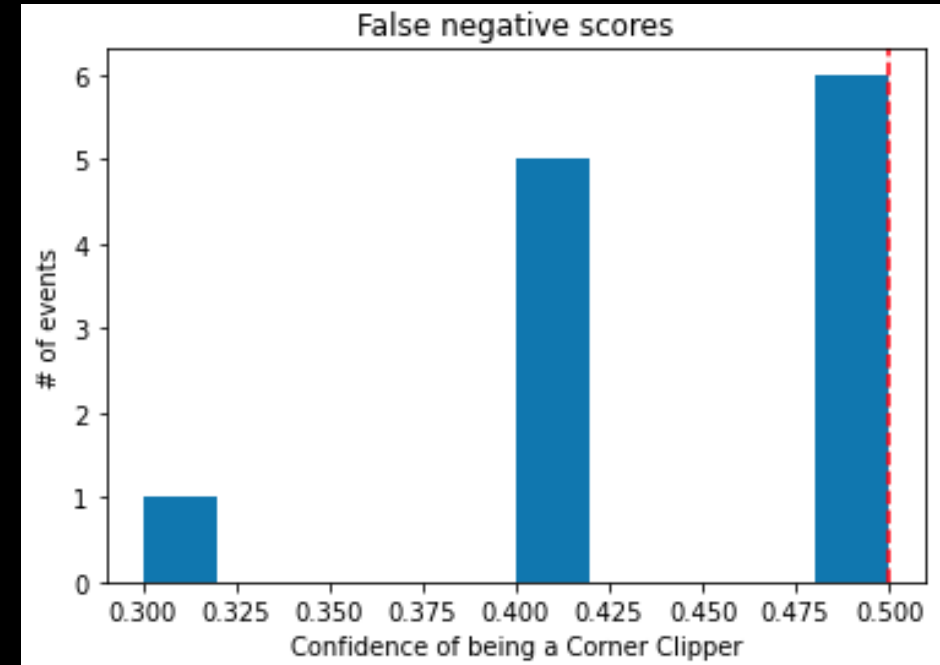
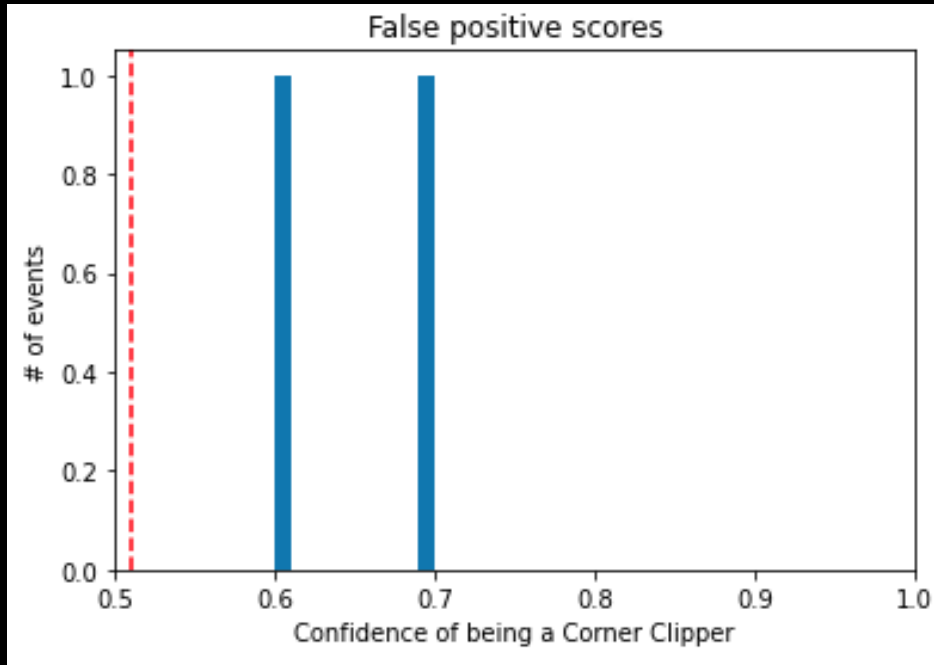
AUC score: 0.9998706019024396



# INCORRECT EVENTS

- How incorrect are they?
  - What type of event is hard to classify?

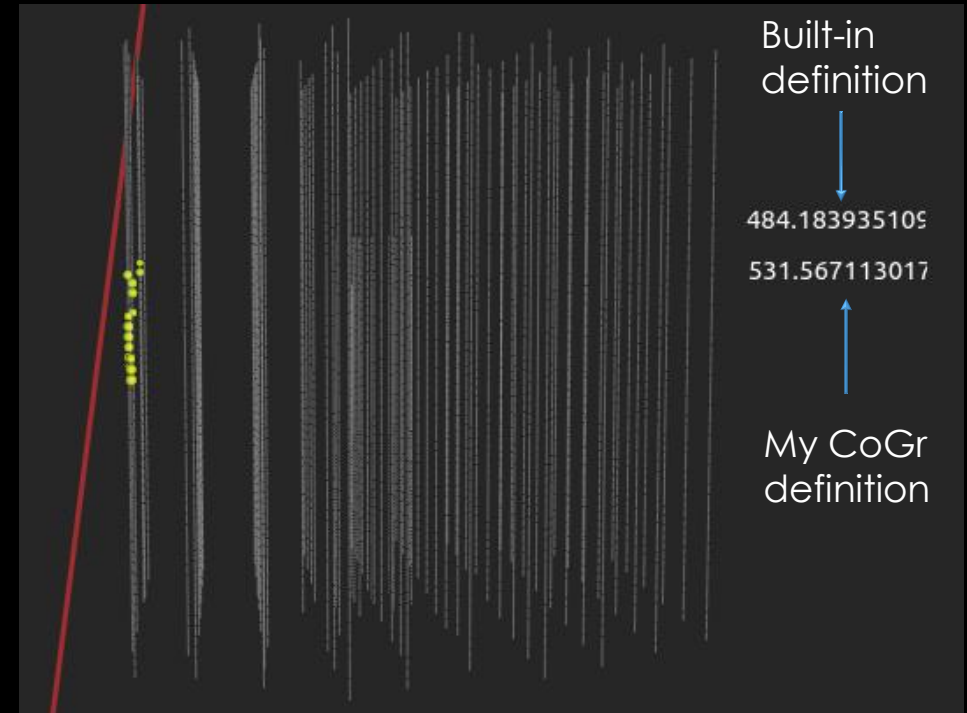
	Corner clipper (true label)	Normal event (true label)
Corner clipper (prediction)	True Positive	False positive
Normal event (prediction)	False Negative	True Negative





# EXAMPLE OF A FALSE NEGATIVE

- Event is a corner clipper, but not labeled as one
- 2 different CoGr's could be the issue



# FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS

- Overall, the method to identify corner clippers works very well
  - Can still be improved (fix CoGr issue)
- Replace Random Forest w/ faster algorithm
- Test on more/different event topologies

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A HUGE Thank You to Dr. Kurahashi and her grad students  
Mike C, Mike K, Luna, and Steve!

You guys are the best!!



# SOURCES

- [1] CARVER, Tessa. Time Integrated searches for Astrophysical Neutrino Sources using the IceCube Detector and Gender in Physics studies for the Genera Project. Université de Genève. Thèse, 2019. doi: 10.13097/archive-ouverte/unige:120924 <https://archive-ouverte.unige.ch/unige:120924>
- [2] Wakefield, K. (n.d.). A guide to the types of machine learning algorithms. Retrieved March 09, 2021, from [https://www.sas.com/en\\_gb/insights/articles/analytics/machine-learning-algorithms.html#:~:text=At%20its%20most%20basic%2C%20machine,values%20within%20an%20acceptable%20range.&text=There%20are%20four%20types%20of,%2Dsupervised%2C%20unsupervised%20and%20reinforcement](https://www.sas.com/en_gb/insights/articles/analytics/machine-learning-algorithms.html#:~:text=At%20its%20most%20basic%2C%20machine,values%20within%20an%20acceptable%20range.&text=There%20are%20four%20types%20of,%2Dsupervised%2C%20unsupervised%20and%20reinforcement).
- [3] Narkhede, S. (2021, January 14). *Understanding AUC - ROC Curve*. Medium. <https://towardsdatascience.com/understanding-auc-roc-curve-68b2303cc9c5>.



Questions?