# Towards an Understanding of the Correlations in Jet Substructure

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## 5 1 Introduction

The characteristic feature of collisions at the LHC is a  $^{54}$ center-of-mass energy, 7 TeV in 2010 and 2011, of 8 TeV 55 in 2012, and near 14 TeV with the start of the second 56 phase of operation in 2015, that is large compared to 57 even the heaviest of the known particles. Thus these 58 particles (and also previously unknown ones) will often 59 be produced at the LHC with substantial boosts. As a 60 12 result, when decaying hadronically, these particles will 61 not be observed as multiple jets in the detector, but 62 14 rather as a single hadronic jet with distinctive internal 15 substructure. This realization has led to a new era of 16 sophistication in our understanding of both standard 63 17 QCD jets and jets containing the decay of a heavy particle, with an array of new jet observables and detection  $^{64}$ 19 techniques introduced and studies. To allow the efficient  $^{65}$ sharing of results from these jet substructure studies a  $^{66}\,$ 21 series of BOOST Workshops have been held on a yearly  $^{67}$ basis: SLAC (2009, [?]), Oxford University (2010, [?]), 23 Princeton University University (2011, [?]), IFIC Va-24 lencia (2012 [?]), University of Arizona (2013 [?]), and, 25 most recently, University College London (2014  $\ref{201}$  ). Af-  $\ref{10}$ 26 ter each of these meetings Working Groups have func-  $^{72}\,$ tioned during the following year to generate reports  $^{73}$ 28 highlighting the most interesting new results, includ-74 ing studies of ever maturing details. Previous BOOST  $^{75}$ 30 reports can be found at [1,2,3]. 31

The following report from BOOST 2013 thus views the study and implementation of jet substructure techniques as a fairly mature field. The report attempts to focus on the question of the correlations between the plethora of observables that have been developed and employed, and their dependence on the underlying jet parameters, especially the jet radius R and jet  $p_T$ . The report is organized as follows: NEED TO GENERATE AN OUTLINE OF THE REPORT - ESPECIALLY AS I UNDERSTAND IT MYSELF.

## 2 Monte Carlo Samples and Event Selection

 $_{43}$  2.1 Quark/gluon and W tagging

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Samples were generated at  $\sqrt{s}=8$  TeV for QCD dijets, and for  $W^+W^-$  pairs produced in the decay of

a (pseudo) scalar resonance and decaying hadronically. The QCD events were split into subsamples of gg and  $q\bar{q}$  events, allowing for tests of discrimination of hadronic W bosons, quarks, and gluons.

Individual gg and  $q\bar{q}$  samples were produced at leading order (LO) using Madgraph5, while  $W^+W^-$  samples were generated using the JHU Generator to allow for separation of longitudinal and transverse polarizations. Both were generated using CTEQ6L1 PDFs[REF]. The samples were produced in exclusive  $p_T$  bins of width 100 GeV, with the slicing parameter chosen to be the  $p_T$  of any final state parton or W at LO. At the parton-level the  $p_T$  bins investigated were 300-400 GeV, 500-600 GeV and 1.0-1.1 TeV. Since no matching was performed, a cut on any parton was equivalent. The samples were then all showered through Pythia8 (version 8.176) using the default tune 4C.

#### 2.2 Top tagging

Samples were generated at  $\sqrt{s}=14$  TeV. Standard Model dijet and top pair samples were produced with Sherpa 2.0.0[REF], with matrix elements of up to two extra partons matched to the shower. The top samples included only hadronic decays and were generated in exclusive  $p_T$  bins of width 100 GeV, taking as slicing parameter the maximum of the top/anti-top  $p_T$ . The QCD samples were generated with a cut on the leading parton-level jet  $p_T$ , where parton-level jets are clustered with the anti- $k_t$  algorithm and jet radii of  $R=0.4,\,0.8,\,1.2$ . The matching scale is selected to be  $Q_{\rm cut}=40,60,80$  GeV for the  $p_{T\,\rm min}=600,1000,$  and 1500 GeV bins, respectively.

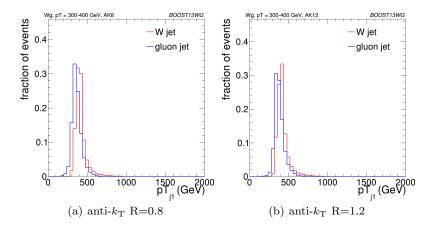


Fig. 1 Comparisons of the leading jet  $p_T$  spectrum of the gg background to the WW signal in the  $p_T$  300-400 GeV parton  $p_T$  slice using the different anti- $k_T$  jet distance parameters explored in this  $p_T$  bin. These distributions are formed prior to the 300-400 GeV leading jet  $p_T$  requirement.

# 3 Jet Algorithms and Substructure Observables

In this section, we define the jet algorithms and observables used in our analysis. Over the course of our study, 79 we considered a larger set of observables, but for the fi-80 nal analysis, we eliminated redundant observables for  $_{103}$ 81 presentation purposes. In Sections 3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and  $3.4_{_{104}}^{_{104}}$ 82 we first describe the various jet algorithms, groomers, 100 taggers and other substructure variables used in these 84 studies, and then in Section 3.5 list which observables are considered in each section of this report, and the exact settings of the parameters used. 87

# 3.1 Jet Clustering Algorithms

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Jet clustering: Jets were clustered using sequential<sup>113</sup>
jet clustering algorithms[REF]. Final state particles i,<sup>114</sup>
j are assigned a mutual distance  $d_{ij}$  and a distance
to the beam,  $d_{i\mathrm{B}}$ . The particle pair with smallest  $d_{ij}$ are recombined and the algorithm repeated until the<sup>115</sup>
smallest distance is instead the distance to the beam,  $d_{i\mathrm{B}}$ , in which case i is set aside and labelled as a jet.
The distance metrics are defined as

$$d_{ij} = \min(p_{Ti}^{2\gamma}, p_{Tj}^{2\gamma}) \frac{\Delta R_{ij}^2}{R^2}, \tag{1}$$

$$d_{iB} = p_{T_i}^{2\gamma},\tag{2}$$

where  $\Delta R_{ij}^2 = (\Delta \eta)^2 + (\Delta \phi)^2$ . In this analysis, we usene the anti- $k_t$  algorithm  $(\gamma = -1)$ , the Cambridge/Aachem<sub>17</sub> (C/A) algorithm  $(\gamma = 0)[\mathbf{REF}]$ , and the  $k_t$  algorithm<sub>18</sub>  $(\gamma = 1)[\mathbf{REF}]$ , each of which has varying sensitivity to<sub>19</sub> soft radiation in defining the jet.

**Qjets:** We also perform non-deterministic jet cluster-122 ing[**REF**]. Instead of always clustering the particle pair<sub>123</sub>

with smallest distance  $d_{ij}$ , the pair selected for combination is chosen probabilistically according to a measure

$$P_{ij} \propto e^{-\alpha (d_{ij} - d_{\min})/d_{\min}},\tag{3}$$

where  $d_{\rm min}$  is the minimum distance for the usual jet clustering algorithm at a particular step. This leads to a different cluster sequence for the jet each time the Qjet algorithm is used, and consequently different substructure properties. The parameter  $\alpha$  is called the rigidity and is used to control how sharply peaked the probability distribution is around the usual, deterministic value. The Qjets method uses statistical analysis of the resulting distributions to extract more information from the jet than can be found in the usual cluster sequence. We use  $\alpha=0.1$  and 25 trees per event for all the studies presented here.

## 3.2 Jet Grooming Algorithms

**Pruning:** Given a jet, re-cluster the constituents using the C/A algorithm. At each step, proceed with the merger as usual unless both

$$\frac{\min(p_{Ti}, p_{Tj})}{p_{Tij}} < z_{\text{cut}} \text{ and } \Delta R_{ij} > \frac{2m_j}{p_{Tj}} R_{\text{cut}}, \tag{4}$$

in which case the merger is vetoed and the softer branch discarded. The default parameters used for pruning [REF] in this study are  $z_{\rm cut}=0.1$  and  $R_{\rm cut}=0.5$ . One advantage of pruning is that the thresholds used to veto soft, wide-angle radiation scale with the jet kinematics, and so the algorithm is expected to perform comparably over a wide range of momenta.

**Trimming:** Given a jet, re-cluster the constituents into  $_{156}$  subjets of radius  $R_{\text{trim}}$  with the  $k_t$  algorithm. Discard  $_{158}$  all subjets i with

$$p_{Ti} < f_{\text{cut}} \, p_{TJ}.$$
 (5)

The default parameters used for trimming [**REF**] in this tudy are  $R_{\text{trim}} = 0.2$  and  $f_{\text{cut}} = 0.03$ .

Filtering: [REF] Given a jet, re-cluster the constituents<sup>64</sup> into subjets of radius  $R_{\rm filt}$  with the C/A algorithm. Re-<sup>165</sup> define the jet to consist of only the hardest N subjets, <sup>166</sup> where N is determined by the final state topology and <sup>167</sup> is typically one more than the number of hard prongs in <sup>168</sup> the resonance decay (to include the leading final-state <sup>169</sup> gluon emission). ED: Do we actually use filtering <sup>170</sup> as described here anywhere? (BS: Yes, it is used <sup>171</sup> in the HEPTopTagger.)

**Soft drop:** Given a jet, re-cluster all of the constituents<sup>174</sup> using the C/A algorithm. Iteratively undo the last stage<sup>175</sup> of the C/A clustering from j into subjets  $j_1$ ,  $j_2$ . If

$$\frac{\min(p_{T1}, p_{T2})}{p_{T1} + p_{T2}} < z_{\text{cut}} \left(\frac{\Delta R_{12}}{R}\right)^{\beta}, \tag{6}$$

discard the softer subjet and repeat. Otherwise, take  $j_{181}^{180}$  to be the final soft-drop jet[**REF**]. Soft drop has two input parameters, the angular exponent  $\beta$  and the soft-drop scale  $z_{\rm cut}$ , with default value  $z_{\rm cut}=0.1$ . **ED: Soft-drop actually functions as a tagger when**  $\beta=-1^{184}$ 

# 3.3 Jet Tagging Algorithms

**Modified Mass Drop Tagger:** Given a jet, re-cluster<sup>189</sup> all of the constituents using the C/A algorithm. Itera-<sup>190</sup> tively undo the last stage of the C/A clustering from  $j^{191}$  into subjets  $j_1$ ,  $j_2$  with  $m_{j_1} > m_{j_2}$ . If either

$$m_{j_1} > \mu \, m_j \text{ or } \frac{\min(p_{T1}^2, p_{T2}^2)}{m_j^2} \, \Delta R_{12}^2 < y_{\text{cut}},$$
 (7)<sup>194</sup>

then discard the branch with the smaller transverse mass  $m_T = \sqrt{m_i^2 + p_{Ti}^2}$ , and re-define j as the branch with the larger transverse mass. Otherwise, the jet is tagged. If de-clustering continues until only one branch remains, the jet is untagged. In this study we use by default  $\mu = 1.0$  and  $y_{\rm cut} = 0.1$ .

**Johns Hopkins Tagger:** Re-cluster the jet using the <sup>203</sup> C/A algorithm. The jet is iteratively de-clustered, and at each step the softer prong is discarded if its  $p_{\rm T}$  is<sub>204</sub> less than  $\delta_p p_{\rm T\,jet}$ . This continues until both prongs are harder than the  $p_{\rm T}$  threshold, both prongs are softer than the  $p_{\rm T}$  threshold, or if they are too close ( $|\Delta \eta_{ij}|$  +

 $|\Delta\phi_{ij}|<\delta_R$ ); the jet is rejected if either of the latter conditions apply. If both are harder than the  $p_{\rm T}$  threshold, the same procedure is applied to each: this results in 2, 3, or 4 subjets. If there exist 3 or 4 subjets, then the jet is accepted: the top candidate is the sum of the subjets, and W candidate is the pair of subjets closest to the W mass. The output of the tagger is  $m_t, m_W$ , and  $\theta_{\rm h}$ , a helicity angle defined as the angle, measured in the rest frame of the W candidate, between the top direction and one of the W decay products. The two free input parameters of the John Hopkins tagger in this study are  $\delta_p$  and  $\delta_R$ , defined above.

**HEPTopTagger:** Re-cluster the jet using the C/A algorithm. The jet is iteratively de-clustered, and at each step the softer prong is discarded if  $m_1/m_{12} > \mu$  (there is not a significant mass drop). Otherwise, both prongs are kept. This continues until a prong has a mass  $m_i < m$ , at which point it is added to the list of subjets. Filter the jet using  $R_{\text{filt}} = \min(0.3, \Delta R_{ij})$ , keeping the five hardest subjets (where  $\Delta R_{ij}$  is the distance between the two hardest subjets). Select the three subjets whose invariant mass is closest to  $m_t$ . The output of the tagger is  $m_t$ ,  $m_W$ , and  $\theta_h$ , a helicity angle defined as the angle, measured in the rest frame of the W candidate, between the top direction and one of the W decay products. The two free input parameters of the HEP-TopTagger in this study are m and  $\mu$ , defined above.

Top Tagging with Pruning: For comparison with the other top taggers, we add a W reconstruction step to the trimming algorithm described above. A W candidate is found as follows: if there are two subjets, the highest-mass subjet is the W candidate (because the W prongs end up clustered in the same subjet); if there are three subjets, the two subjets with the smallest invariant mass comprise the W candidate. In the case of only one subjet, no W is reconstructed.

Top Tagging with Trimming: For comparison with the other top taggers, we add a W reconstruction step to the trimming algorithm described above. A W candidate is found as follows: if there are two subjets, the highest-mass subjet is the W candidate (because the W prongs end up clustered in the same subjet); if there are three subjets, the two subjets with the smallest invariant mass comprise the W candidate. In the case of only one subjet, no W is reconstructed.

## 3.4 Other Jet Substructure Observables

Qjet mass volatility: As described above, Qjet algorithms re-cluster the same jet non-deterministically

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to obtain a collection of interpretations of the jet. For223 each jet interpretation, the pruned jet mass is computed with the default pruning parameters. The mass volatil-224 ity,  $\Gamma_{\text{Qiet}}$ , is defined as

$$\Gamma_{\text{Qjet}} = \frac{\sqrt{\langle m_J^2 \rangle - \langle m_J \rangle^2}}{\langle m_J \rangle},$$
 (8)

where averages are computed over the Qiet interpretations.

 $N\text{-}\mathbf{subjettiness:}\ N\text{-}\mathbf{subjettiness[REF]} \mathbf{quantifies}\ \mathbf{how}^{^{231}}$ well the radiation in the jet is aligned along N directions. To compute N-subjettiness,  $\tau_N^{(\beta)}$ , one must first<sup>233</sup> identify N axes within the jet. Then,

$$\tau_N = \frac{1}{d_0} \sum_i p_{Ti} \min\left(\Delta R_{1i}^{\beta}, \dots, \Delta R_{Ni}^{\beta}\right),$$
(9)<sup>235</sup>

where distances are between particles i in the jet and  $^{237}$ 

$$d_0 = \sum_i p_{Ti} R^{\beta} \tag{10}_{240}$$

and R is the jet clustering radius. The exponent  $\beta$  is<sub>242</sub> a free parameter. There is also some choice in how the<sub>243</sub> axes used to compute N-subjettiness are determined.244 The optimal configuration of axes is the one that min-245 imizes N-subjettiness; recently, it was shown that the<sub>246</sub> "winner-takes-all" (WTA) axes can be easily computed and have superior performance compared to other min-  $^{^{247}}\!\!$ imization techniques [REF]. We use both the WTA and 248 one-pass  $k_t$  optimization axes in our analyses.

A more powerful discriminant is often the ratio.

$$\tau_{N,N-1} \equiv \frac{\tau_N}{\tau_{N-1}}. (11)_{_{25.}}^{^{25}}$$

While this is not an infrared-collinear (IRC) safe ob-253 servable, it is calculable [REF]and can be made  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{IRC}^{^{254}}}$ safe with a loose lower cut on  $\tau_{N-1}$ .

**Energy correlation functions:** The transverse momentum version of the energy correlation functions are defined as [REF]:

$$ECF(N,\beta) = \sum_{i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_N \in j} \left( \prod_{a=1}^N p_{Ti_a} \right) \left( \prod_{b=1}^{N-1} \prod_{c=b+1}^N \Delta R_{i_b i_b}^{59} \right)^{258}$$

$$(12)^{261}$$

where i is a particle inside the jet. It is preferable to<sub>263</sub> work in terms of dimensionless quantities, particularly the energy correlation function double ratio:

$$C_N^{(\beta)} = \frac{\text{ECF}(N+1,\beta) \, \text{ECF}(N-1,\beta)}{\text{ECF}(N,\beta)^2}.$$
 (13)266

This observable measures higher-order radiation from 268 leading-order substructure.

3.5 Observables for Each Analysis

# Quark/gluon discrimination:

- The ungroomed jet mass, m.
- 1-subjettiness,  $\tau_1^{\beta}$  with  $\beta = 1, 2$ . The N-subjettiness axes are computed using one-pass  $k_t$  axis optimiza-
- 1-point energy correlation functions,  $C_1^{(\beta)}$  with  $\beta =$
- The pruned Qjet mass volatility,  $\Gamma_{\text{Qjet}}$ .
- The number of constituents ( $N_{\text{constits}}$ ).

# W vs. gluon discrimination:

- The ungroomed, trimmed  $(m_{\text{trim}})$ , and pruned  $(m_{\text{prun}})$ jet masses.
- The mass output from the modified mass drop tagger  $(m_{\text{mmdt}})$ .
- The soft drop mass with  $\beta = -1$ , 2  $(m_{\rm sd})$ .
- 2-point energy correlation function ratio  $C_2^{\beta=1}$  (we also studied  $\beta = 2$  but did not show its results be-
- cause it showed poor discrimination power). – N-subjettiness ratio  $\tau_2/\tau_1$  with  $\beta=1$   $(\tau_{21}^{\beta=1})$  and with axes computed using one-pass  $k_t$  axis optimization (we also studied  $\beta = 2$  but did not show its results because it showed poor discrimination power).
- The pruned Qjet mass volatility.

# Top vs. QCD discrimination:

- The ungroomed jet mass.
- The HEPTopTagger and the Johns Hopkins tagger.
- Trimming and grooming supplemented with W candidate identification.
- N-subjettiness ratios  $\tau_2/\tau_1$  and  $\tau_3/\tau_2$  with  $\beta = 1$ and the "winner-takes-all" axes.
- 2-point energy correlation function ratios  $C_2^{\beta=1}$  and
- The pruned Qjet mass volatility,  $\Gamma_{\text{Qjet}}$ .

# 4 Multivariate Analysis Techniques

 $\mathrm{ECF}(N,\beta) = \sum_{i_1 < i_2 < \ldots < i_N \in j} \left(\prod_{a=1}^N p_{Ti_a}\right) \left(\prod_{b=1}^{N-1} \prod_{c=b+1}^N \Delta R_{i_b i_c}^{\mathsf{59}}\right) \beta \\ \sum_{b=1}^{\mathsf{Multivariate techniques are used to combine variables into an optimal discriminant. In all cases variables are combined using a boosted decision tree (BDT)$  $\beta$  Multivariate techniques are used to combine varias implemented in the TMVA package [4]. We use the BDT implementation including gradient boost. An example of the BDT settings are as follows:

- NTrees=1000
- BoostType=Grad
- Shrinkage=0.1
- UseBaggedGrad=F
- nCuts=10000
- MaxDepth=3

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UseYesNoLeaf=FnEventsMin=200

Exact parameter values are chosen to best reduce the effect of overtraining.

## 5 Quark-Gluon Discrimination

In this section, we examine the differences between quarkand gluon-initiated jets in terms of substructure variables, and to determine to what extent these variables  $^{327}$ are correlated. Along the way, we provide some theoretical understanding of these observables and their per-328 formance. The motivation for these studies comes not only from the desire to "tag" a jet as originating from 329 a quark or gluon, but also to improve our understand-330 ing of the quark and gluon components of the QCD331 backgrounds relative to boosted resonances. While re-332 cent studies have suggested that quark/gluon tagging333 efficiencies depend highly on the Monte Carlo generator334 used, we are more interested in understanding the scal-335 ing performance with  $p_T$  and R, and the correlations<sup>336</sup> between observables, which are expected to be treated337 consistently within a single shower scheme.

# 5.1 Methodology

These studies use the qq and gg MC samples, described<sub>343</sub> previously in Section 2. The showered events were clus-344 tered with FASTJET 3.03[REF] using the anti- $k_{\mathrm{T}}$  algo-345 rithm[REF] with jet radii of R = 0.4, 0.8, 1.2. In both<sub>346</sub> signal and background, an upper and lower cut on the347 leading jet  $p_T$  is applied after showering/clustering, to<sub>348</sub> ensure similar  $p_T$  spectra for signal and background in<sub>349</sub> each  $p_T$  bin. The bins in leading jet  $p_T$  that are inves-350 tigated in the W-tagging and q/g tagging studies are<sub>351</sub> 300-400 GeV, 500-600 GeV, 1.0-1.1 TeV. The distribu-352 tion of the leading jet  $p_T$  for the qq and WW samples<sub>353</sub> in the 300-400 GeV parton  $p_T$  slice prior to the require-354 ment on the leading jet  $p_T$  is shown in Figure 1, for the 355 R=0.8 and R=1.2 anti- $k_{\rm T}$  jet radii considered in this<sub>356</sub>  $p_T$  slice. Figures 2 and 3 show the equivalent leading 357 jet  $p_T$  distributions for the jet radii considered in the 358  $500\text{-}600~\mathrm{GeV}$  and 1.0 -  $1.1~\mathrm{TeV}$  slices respectively. Var- $_{359}$ ious jet grooming approaches are applied to the jets, as<sub>360</sub> described in Section 3.4. Only leading and subleading<sub>361</sub> jets in each sample are used.

Figure 4 shows a comparison of the  $p_T$  and  $\eta$  dis-363 tributions of the quark and gluon samples with  $p_T$  =364 500 – 600 GeV. The differences in the  $p_T$  distributions365 can be attributed to different out-of-cone radiation pat-366 terms for quark and gluons; these differences becomes67

smaller as the R parameter is increased. The different  $\eta$  distributions are related to the different parton distribution functions initiating qq and gg production. The qualitative features of the  $\eta$  distributions do not change as the R parameter is changed. As the  $p_T$  increases, the  $\eta$  distributions peak more strongly near zero, as the probability peaks for processes initiated by partons of comparable energy. In our analysis, we make a narrow window cut of 100 GeV in  $p_T$  after showering, and so the effects of the different q/g  $p_T$  spectra on our analysis is suppressed. (**ED: check**)

#### 5.2 Single Variable Discrimination

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Figure 5 shows the mass of jets in the quark and gluon samples when using different groomers. Jets built with the anti- $k_{\rm T}$  algorithm with R=0.8 and with  $p_T=500-650$  GeV are used (**BS:Check pT bins in this section!**). Qualitatively, the application of grooming shifts the mass distributions towards lower values as expected. No clear gain in discrimination can be seen, and for certain grooming parameters, such as the use of soft drop with  $\beta=-1$  a clear loss in discrimination power is observed; this is because the soft-drop condition for  $\beta=-1$  discards collinear radiation, and the differences between quarks and gluons are manifest in the collinear structure (spin, splitting functions, etc.).

The performance of different substructure variables is explored in Figure 6. Among those considered,  $n_{\text{constits}}$  provides the highest separation power, followed by  $C_1^{\beta=0}$  and  $C_1^{\beta=1}$  as was also found by the CMS and ATLAS Collaborations[**REF**].

To more quantitatively study the power of each observable as a discriminator for quark/gluon tagging, Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curves are built by scanning each distribution and plotting the background efficiency (to select gluon jets) vs. the signal efficiency (to select quark jets). Figure 7 shows these ROC curves for all of the variables shown in Figure 6 and the ungroomed mass, representing the best performing mass variable, for jets of  $p_T = 300 - 400$  GeV. In addition, we show the ROC curve for the tagger built from a BDT combining all the variables. The details of how the BDT is constructed are explained in Section 4. Clearly,  $n_{\text{constits}}$  is the best performing variable for all Rs, even though  $C_1^{\beta=0}$  is close, particularly for R=0.8. Most other variables have similar performance, except the Q-jet volatility, which shows significantly worse discrimination (this may be due to our choice of rigidity  $\alpha = 0.1$ , while other studies suggest that a smaller value, such as  $\alpha = 0.01$ , produces better results). The combination of all variables shows somewhat better discrimination.

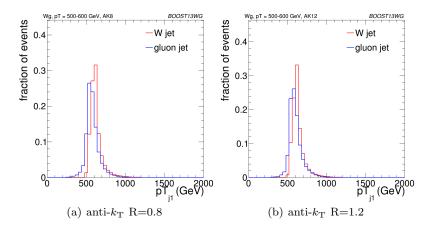


Fig. 2 Comparisons of the leading jet  $p_T$  spectrum of the gg background to the WW signal in the  $p_T$  500-600 GeV parton  $p_T$  slice using the different anti- $k_T$  jet distance parameters explored in this  $p_T$  bin. These distributions are formed prior to the 500-600 GeV leading jet  $p_T$  requirement.

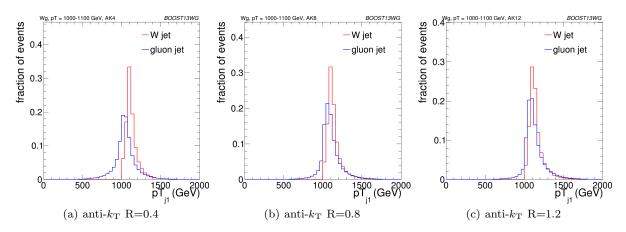


Fig. 3 Comparisons of the leading jet  $p_T$  spectrum of the gg background to the WW signal in the  $p_T$  1.0-1.1 TeV parton  $p_T$  slice using the different anti- $k_T$  jet distance parameters explored in this  $p_T$  bin. These distributions are formed prior to the 500-600 GeV leading jet  $p_T$  requirement.

We now examine how performance of masses and ss substructure observables changes with  $p_T$  and R. For section jet masses, few variations are observed as the radius pa-387 rameter of the jet reconstruction is increased in the two shighest  $p_T$  bins; this is because the radiation is more collimated and the dependence on R is consequently smaller. However, for the 300-400 GeV bin, the use of small-R jets produces a shift in the mass distributions towards lower values, so that large-R jet masses are smaller at low- $p_T$  as expected from the spatial constraints imposed by the R parameter. These statements are explored more quantitatively later in this section. (BS: Do we have plots for this?)

The evolution of some of the substructure variable distributions with  $p_T$  and R is less trivial than for the jet masses. In particular, changing the R parameter at  $p_T$ 

high  $p_T$  changes significantly the  $C_a^{\beta}$  for  $\beta > 0$  and the  $n_{\rm constits}$  distributions, while leaving all other distributions qualitatively unchanged. This is illustrated in Figure 8 for  $\beta = 0$  and  $\beta = 1$  using a = 1 in both cases for jets with  $p_T = 1 - 1.2$  TeV.

The shift towards lower values with changing R is evident for the  $C_1^{\beta=1}$  distributions, while the stability of  $C_1^{\beta=0}$  can also be observed. These features are present in all  $p_T$  bins studied, but are even more pronounced for lower  $p_T$  bins. The shape of the Q-jet volatility distribution shows some non-trivial shape that deserves some explanation. Two peaks are observed, one at low volatility values and one at mid-volatility. These peaks are generated by two somewhat distinct populations. The high volatility peak arises from jets that get their mass primarily from soft (and sometimes wide-angle) emissions. The removal of some of the constituents when

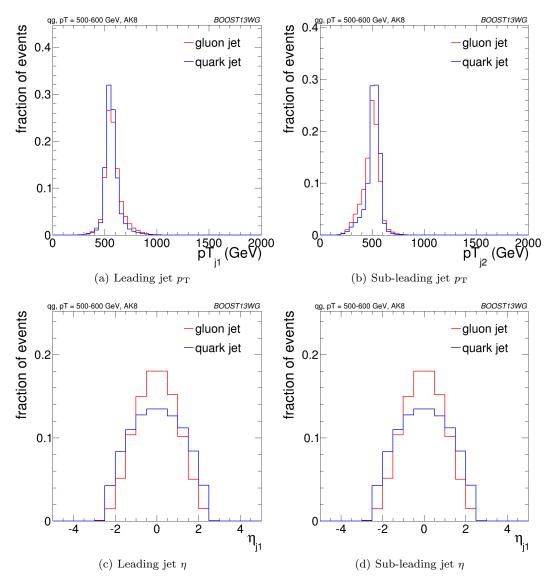


Fig. 4 Comparisons of quark and gluon  $p_T$  and  $\eta$  distributions in the sample used for the jets of  $p_T = 500 - 600$  GeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm.

building Q-jets thus changes the mass significantly, in-416 creasing the volatility. The lower volatility peak cor-417 responds to jets for which mass is generated by a hard emission, which makes the fraction of Q-jets that change the mass significantly to be smaller. Since the proba-418 bility of a hard emission is proportional to the colour charge (squared), the volatility peak is higher for gluon<sup>419</sup> jets by about the colour factor  $C_A/C_F$ .

In summary, the overall discriminating power be-422 tween quarks and gluons decreases with increasing R<sub>423</sub> due to the reduction in the amount of out-of-cone radi-424 ation differences and and increased contamination from 425 the underlying event (**BS: is this ok?**). The broad per-426 formance features discussed for this  $p_T$  bin also apply427

to the higher  $p_T$  bins. These is further quantified in the next section.

# 5.3 Combined Performance and Correlations

The quark/gluon tagging performance can be further improved over cuts on single observables by combining multiple observables in a BDT; due to the challenging nature of q/g-tagging, any improvement in performance with multivariable techniques could be critical for certain analyses, and the improvement could be more substantial in data than the marginal benefit found in MC and shown in Fig. 7. Furthermore, insight can be gained into the features allowing for quark/gluon

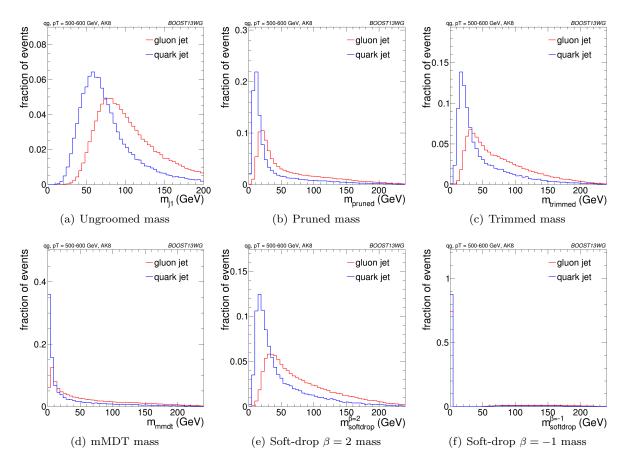


Fig. 5 Comparisons of ungroomed and groomed quark and gluon mass distributions for leading jets in the  $p_T = 500 - 650$  GeV bin using the anti- $k_{\rm T}$  R=0.8 algorithm.

discrimination if the origin of the improvement is un-450 derstood. To quantitatively study this improvement, we451 build quark/gluon taggers from every pair-wise combi-452 nation of variables studied in the previous section for comparison with the all-variable combination.

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In order to quantitatively study the value of each  $^{455}\,$ variable for quark/gluon tagging, we study the gluon<sup>456</sup> rejection, defined as  $1/\epsilon_{\rm gluon}$ , at a fixed quark selection<sup>457</sup> efficiency of 50% using jets with  $p_T = 1 - 1.2$  TeV and 458 for different R parameters. Figure 9 shows the gluon<sup>459</sup> rejection for each pair-wise combination. The pair-wise460 gluon rejection at 50% quark efficiency can be compared 461 to the single-variable values shown along the diagonal.462 The gluon rejection for the BDT all-variable combina-463 tion is also shown on the bottom right of each plot. As<sub>464</sub> already observed in the previous section,  $n_{\text{constits}}$  is the most powerful single variable and  $C_1^{(\beta=0)}$  follows closely.466 However, the gains are largely correlated; the combined<sub>467</sub> performance of  $n_{\text{constits}}$  and  $C_1^{(\beta=0)}$  is generally poorer<sub>468</sub> than combinations of  $n_{\rm constits}$  with other jet substruc-469 ture observables, such as  $au_1$ . Interestingly, in spite of the high correlation between  $n_{\rm constits}$  and  $C_1^{(\beta=0)}$ , the two-471 variable combinations of  $n_{\rm constits}$  generally fare worse than two-variable combinations with  $C_1^{(\beta=0)}$ . In particular, the combinations of  $\tau_1^{\beta=1}$  or  $C_1^{(\beta=1)}$  with  $n_{\rm constits}$  are capable of getting very close to the rejection achievable through the use of all variables for R=0.4 and R=0.8.

Tagger performance is generally better at small R. The overall loss in performance with increasing R can be seen in most single variables we study; this is expected, since more of the parton radiation is captured in the jet and more contamination from underlying event occurs, suppressing the differences between q/g jets. The principal exceptions are  $C_1^{(\beta=0)}$  and the Q-jet mass volatility, which are both quite resilient to increasing R. For  $C_1^{(\beta=0)}$ , this is due to the fact that the exponent on  $\Delta R$  is zero, and so soft radiation at the periphery of the jet does not substantially change the distribution; as a result, the performance is largely independent of R. Similarly, the soft radiation distant from the jet centre will be vetoed during pruning regardless of the cluster sequence, and so the R-dependence of  $\Gamma_{\text{Qjet}}$  is not significant. (BS: Check my logic?) Their combination,

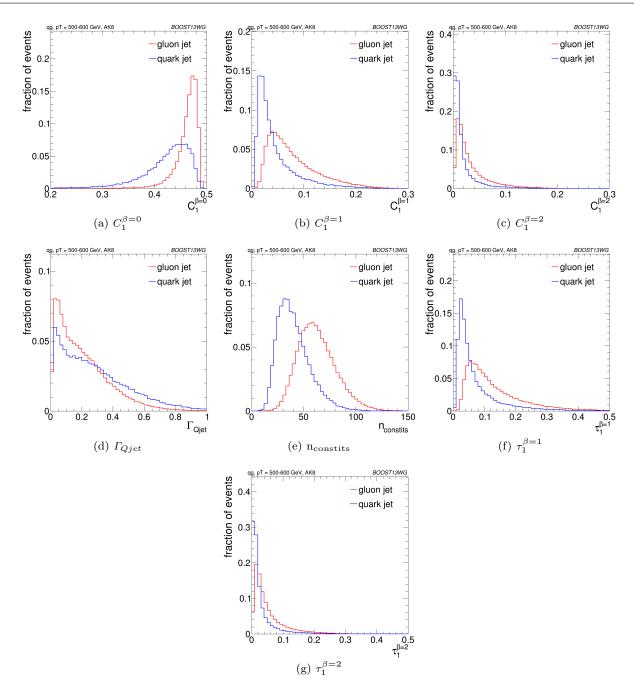


Fig. 6 Comparisons of quark and gluon distributions of different substructure variables for leading jets in the  $p_T = 500 - 650$  GeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm.

however, does perform slightly worse at larger R. (BS:480 I don't understand this, but it is a  $\sim 10\%$  ef-481 fect, so maybe not too significant?). By contrast,482  $\tau_1^{(\beta=2)}$  and  $C_1^{(\beta=2)}$  are particularly sensitive to increas-483 ing R since, for  $\beta=2$ , large-angle emissions are given<sup>484</sup> a larger weight.

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These observations are qualitatively similar across<sup>487</sup> all ranges of  $p_T$ . Quantitatively, however, there is a loss<sup>488</sup>

of rejection power for the taggers made of a combination of variables as the  $p_T$  decreases. This can be observed in Fig. 10 for anti- $k_T$  R=0.4 jets of different  $p_T$ s. Clearly, most single variables retain their gluon rejection potential at lower  $p_T$ . However, when combined with other variables, the highest performing pairwise combinations lose ground with respect to other pairwise combinations. This is also reflected in the rejection of the tagger that uses a combination of all variables,

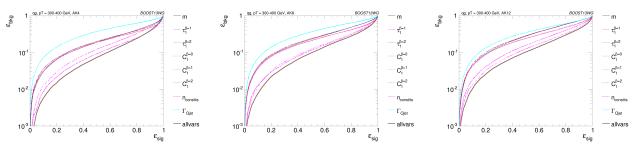


Fig. 7 The ROC curve for all single variables considered for quark-gluon discrimination in the  $p_T$  500 GeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm.

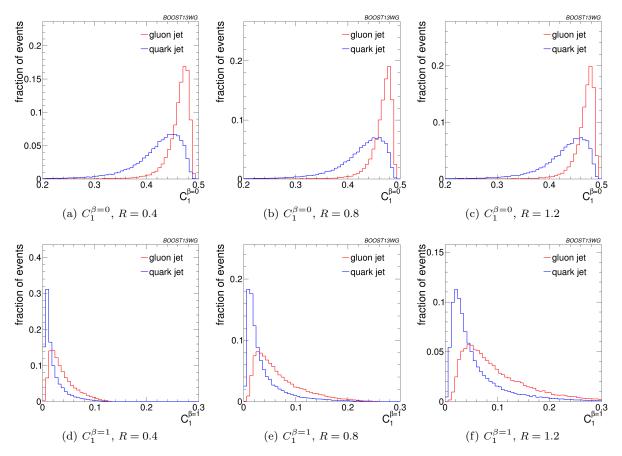


Fig. 8 Comparisons of quark and gluon distributions of  $C_1^{\beta=0}$  (top) and  $C_1^{\beta=1}$  (bottom) for leading jets in the  $p_T = 1-1.2$  TeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  algorithm with R = 0.4, 0.8 and 1.2.

which is lower at lower  $p_T$ s. [do we understand this?] (BS: This is a bit of a guess, but could it be that there is typically less radiation for low  $p_T$ , and so you're more sensitive to fluctuations; since you have less access to information, combinations of observables perform less well than at high  $p_T$ .)

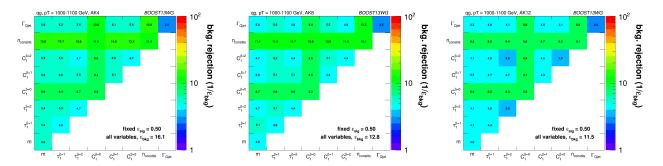


Fig. 9 Gluon rejection defined as  $1/\epsilon_{\rm gluon}$  when using each 2-variable combination as a tagger with 50% acceptance for quark jets. Results are shown for jets with  $p_T = 1 - 1.2$  TeV and for (left) R = 0.4; (centre) R = 0.8; (right) R = 1.2. The rejection obtained with a tagger that uses all variables is also shown in the plots.

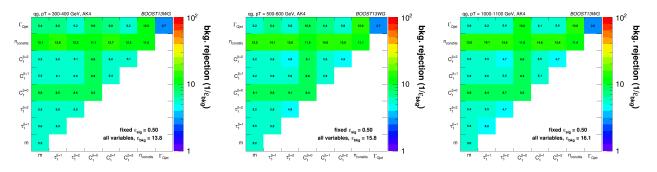


Fig. 10 Gluon rejection defined as  $1/\epsilon_{\rm gluon}$  when using each 2-variable combination as a tagger with 50% acceptance for quark jets. Results are shown for R=0.4 jets with  $p_T = 300 - 400$  GeV,  $p_T = 500 - 600$  GeV and  $p_T = 1 - 1.2$  TeV. The rejection obtained with a tagger that uses all variables is also shown in the plots.

## 6 Boosted W-Tagging

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In this section, we study the discrimination of a boosted  $^{^{519}}$ hadronically decaying W signal against a gluon background, comparing the performance of various groomed 522 jet masses, substructure variables, and BDT combinations of groomed mass and substructure. We produce ROC curves that elucidate the performance of the various groomed mass and substructure variables. A range of different distance parameters R for the anti- $k_{\rm T}$  jet algorithm are explored, as well as a variety of kinematic regimes (lead jet  $p_T$  300-400 GeV, 500-600 GeV. 1.0-1.1 TeV). This allows us to determine the performance of observables as a function of jet radius and jet boost, and to see where different approaches may break<sub>530</sub> down. The groomed mass and substructure variables are then combined in a BDT as described in Section 4,531 and the performance of the resulting BDT discriminant<sub>532</sub> explored through ROC curves to understand the degree<sub>333</sub> to which variables are correlated, and how this changes<sub>534</sub> with jet boost and jet radius.

#### 6.1 Methodology

These studies use the WW samples as signal and the dijet gg samples to model the QCD background, as described previously in Section 2. Whilst only gluonic backgrounds are explored here, the conclusions as to the dependence of the performance and correlations on the jet boost and radius have been verified to hold also for qg backgrounds. **ED:** To be checked!

In each of the three  $p_T$  slices considered jets are reconstructed using the anti- $k_T$  algorithm with distance parameter R=0.4, 0.8 and 1.2, as described in Section 2. They then have various grooming approaches applied as described in Section 3.5. (ED: Better if some of the information from Sections 2 and 3.5 is brought into this section to avoid this back-referencing?)

# 6.2 Single Variable Performance

In this section we will explore the performance of the various groomed jet mass and substructure variables in terms of discriminating signal and background, and how this performance changes depending on the kinematic bin and jet radius considered.

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Figure 11 the compares the signal and backgrounds89 in terms of the different groomed masses explored for<sub>590</sub> the anti- $k_{\rm T}$  R=0.8 algorithm in the  $p_T$  500-600 bin. Ones91 can clearly see that in terms of separating signal and 592 background the groomed masses will be significantly 593 more performant than the ungroomed anti- $k_{\rm T}$  R=0.8594 mass. Figure 12 compares signal and background in the 595 different substructure variables explored for the sames96 jet radius and kinematic bin.

Figures 13, 14 and 15 show the single variable ROC598 curves compared to the ROC curve for a BDT combi-599 nation of all the variables (labelled "allvars"), for each600 of the anti- $k_{\rm T}$  distance parameters considered in each<sup>601</sup> of the kinematic bins. One can see that, in all cases,602 the "allvars" option is considerably better performant603 than any of the individual single variables considered,604 indicating that there is considerable complementarity<sup>605</sup> between the variables, and this will be explored further the result of the second seco in the next section.

Although the ROC curves give all the relevant in-608 formation, it is hard to compare performance quanti-609 tatively. In Figures 16, 17 and 18 are shown matrices<sup>610</sup> which give the background rejection for a signal effi-611 ciency of 70% when two variables (that on the x-axis612 and that on the y-axis) are combined in a BDT. These613 are shown separately for each  $p_T$  bin and jet radius<sup>514</sup> considered. In the final column of these plots are shown<sup>615</sup> the background rejection performance for three-variables 16 BDT combinations of  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}+C_2^{\beta=1}+X$ . These results 17 will be discussed later in Section 6.3.3. The diagonal of these plots correspond to the background rejections for a single variable BDT, and can thus be examined to get<sub>618</sub> a quantitative measure of the individual single variable performance, and to study how this changes with jet<sub>619</sub> radius and momenta.

One can see that in general the most performant<sub>621</sub> single variables are the groomed masses. However, in<sub>622</sub> certain kinematic bins and for certain jet radii,  $C_2^{\beta=1}$ <sub>623</sub> has a background rejection that is comparable to  $or_{624}$ better than the groomed masses.

By comparing Figures 16(a), 17(a) and 18(b), we<sup>626</sup> can see how the background rejection performance evolves as we increase momenta whilst keeping the jet radius 528 fixed to R=0.8. Similarly, by comparing Figures 16(b), 15(b) variable combinations involve a groomed mass and a and 18(c) we can see how performance evolves with  $p_{T^{630}}$ for R=1.2. For both R=0.8 and R=1.2 the background rejection power of the groomed masses increases with632 increasing  $p_T$ , with a factor 1.5-2.5 increase in rejec-633 tion in going from the  $300-400~\mathrm{GeV}$  to  $1.0-1.1~\mathrm{TeV}$  bins.634 ED: Add some of the 1-D plots comparing sig-635 nal and bkgd in the different masses and pT bins $_{636}$ here? However, the  $C_2^{\beta=1}$ ,  $\Gamma_{Qjet}$  and  $\tau_{21}^{\beta=1}$  substructure<sub>37</sub> variables behave somewhat differently. The background<sub>638</sub>

rejection power of the  $\varGamma_{Qjet}$  and  $\tau_{21}^{\beta=1}$  variables both decrease with increasing  $p_T$ , by up to a factor two in going from the 300-400 GeV to 1.0-1.1 TeV bins. Conversely the rejection power of  $C_2^{\beta=1}$  dramatically increases with increasing  $p_T$  for R=0.8, but does not improve with  $p_T$  for the larger jet radius R=1.2. **ED**: Can we explain this? Again, should we add some of the 1-D plots?

By comparing the individual sub-figures of Figures 16, 17 and 18 we can see how the background rejection performance depends on jet radius within the same  $p_T$  bin. To within  $\sim 25\%$ , the background rejection power of the groomed masses remains constant with respect to the jet radius. However, we again see rather different behaviour for the substructure variables. In all  $p_T$  bins considered the most performant substructure variable,  $C_2^{\beta=1}$ , performs best for an anti- $k_{\rm T}$  distance parameter of R=0.8. The performance of this variable is dramatically worse for the larger jet radius of R=1.2 (a factor seven worse background rejection in the 1.0-1.1 TeV bin), and substantially worse for R=0.4. For the other jet substructure variables considered,  $\Gamma_{Qjet}$  and  $au_{21}^{eta=1}$ , their background rejection power also reduces for larger jet radius, but not to the same extent. ED: Insert some nice discussion/explanation of why jet substructure power generally gets worse as we go to large jet radius, but groomed mass performance does not. Probably need the 1-D figures for this.

#### 6.3 Combined Performance

The off-diagonal entries in Figures 16, 17 and 18 can be used to compare the performance of different BDT two-variable combinations, and see how this varies as a function of  $p_T$  and R. By comparing the background rejection achieved for the two-variable combinations to the background rejection of the "all variables" BDT, one can understand how much more discrimination is possible by adding further variables to the two-variable BDTs.

One can see that in general the most powerful twonon-mass substructure variable  $(C_2^{\beta=1}, \Gamma_{Qjet} \text{ or } \tau_{21}^{\beta=1}).$ Two-variable combinations of the substructure variables are not powerful in comparison. Which particular mass + substructure variable combination is the most powerful depends strongly on the  $p_T$  and R of the jet, as discussed in the sections that follow.

There is also modest improvement in the background rejection when different groomed masses are combined, compared to the single variable groomed mass perfor-

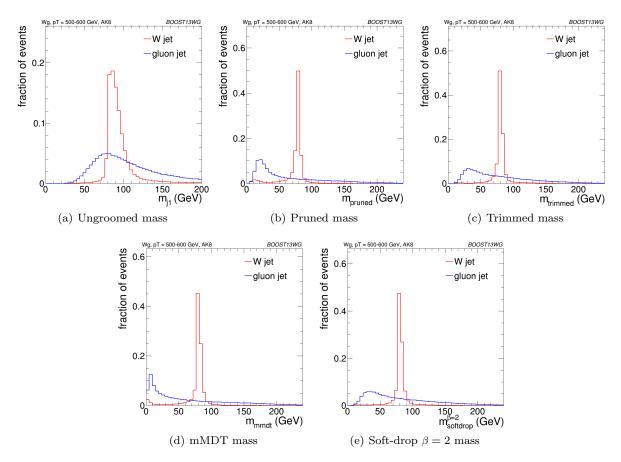


Fig. 11 Comparisons of the QCD background to the WW signal in the  $p_T$  500-600 GeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm: leading jet mass distributions.

mance, indicating that there is complementary informa-659 tion between the different groomed masses. In addition,660 there is an improvement in the background rejection661 when the groomed masses are combined with the un-662 groomed mass, indicating that grooming removes some 663 useful discriminatory information from the jet. These 664 observations are explored further in the section below. 665

Generally one can see that the R=0.8 jets offer the  $_{666}$  best two-variable combined performance in all  $p_T$  bins  $_{667}$  explored here. This is despite the fact that in the high- $_{668}$  est 1.0-1.1 GeV  $p_T$  bin the average separation of the  $_{669}$  quarks from the W decay is much smaller than  $0.8_{_{770}}$  and well within 0.4. This conclusion could of course be  $_{671}$  susceptible to pile-up, which is not considered in this  $_{672}$  study.

## 6.3.1 Mass + Substructure Performance

As already noted, the largest background rejection at 677 70% signal efficiency are in general achieved using those 578 two variable BDT combinations which involve a groome 649 mass and a non-mass substructure variable. For both 680

R=0.8 and R=1.2 jets, the rejection power of these two variable combinations increases substantially with increasing  $p_T$ , at least within the  $p_T$  range considered here.

For a jet radius of R=0.8, across the full  $p_T$  range considered, the groomed mass + substructure variable combinations with the largest background rejection are those which involve  $C_2^{\beta=1}$ . For example, in combination with  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}$ , this produces a five-, eight- and fifteen-fold increase in background rejection compared to using the groomed mass alone. In Figure 19 the low degree of correlation between  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}$  versus  $C_2^{\beta=1}$  that leads to these large improvements in background rejection can be seen. One can also see that what little correlation exists is rather non-linear in nature, changing from a negative to a positive correlation as a function of the groomed mass, something which helps to improve the background rejection in the region of the W mass peak.

However, when we switch to a jet radius of R=1.2 the picture for  $C_2^{\beta=1}$  combinations changes dramatically. These become significantly less powerful, and the most powerful variable in groomed mass combinations

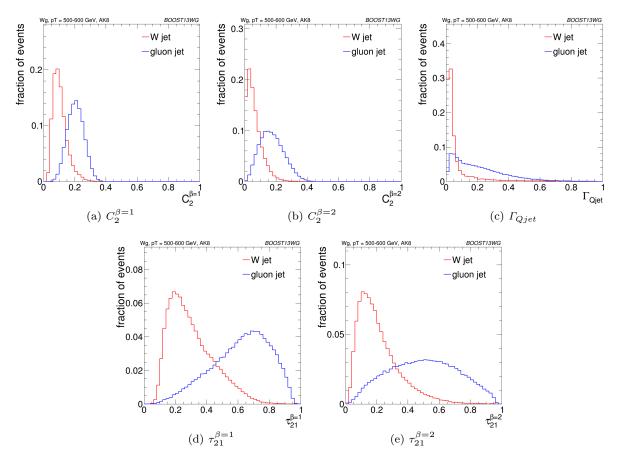


Fig. 12 Comparisons of the QCD background to the WW signal in the  $p_T$  500-600 GeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm: substructure variables.

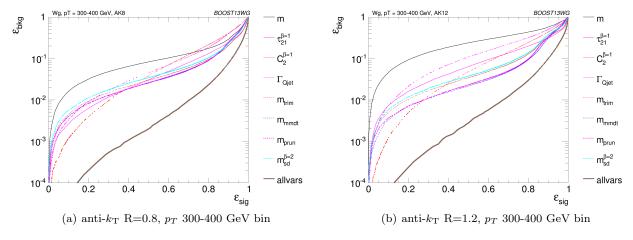


Fig. 13 The ROC curve for all single variables considered for W tagging in the  $p_T$  300-400 GeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm and R=1.2 algorithm.

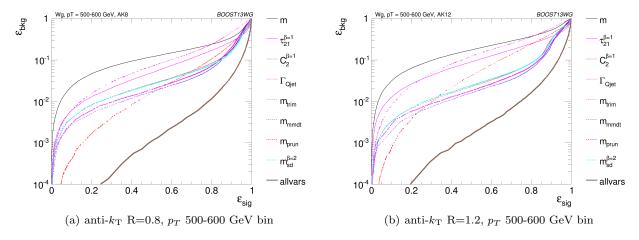


Fig. 14 The ROC curve for all single variables considered for W tagging in the  $p_T$  500-600 GeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm and R=1.2 algorithm.

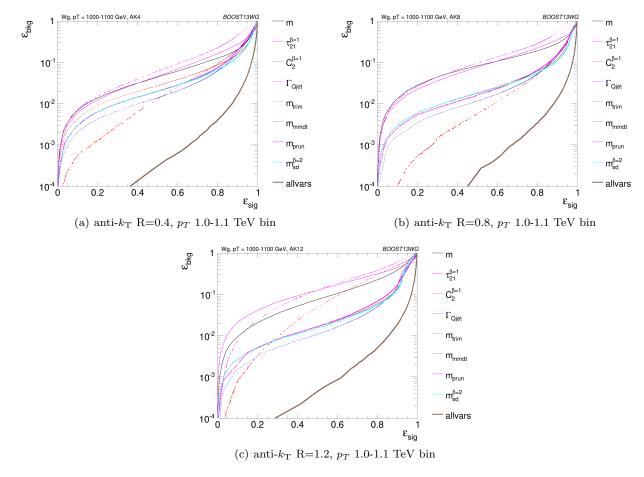


Fig. 15 The ROC curve for all single variables considered for W tagging in the  $p_T$  1.0-1.1 TeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.4 algorithm, anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm and R=1.2 algorithm.

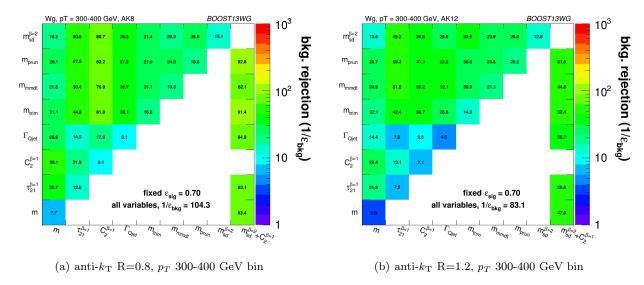


Fig. 16 The background rejection for a fixed signal efficiency (70%) of each BDT combination of each pair of variables considered, in the  $p_T$  300-400 GeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm and R=1.2 algorithm. Also shown is the background rejection for a BDT combination of all of the variables considered.

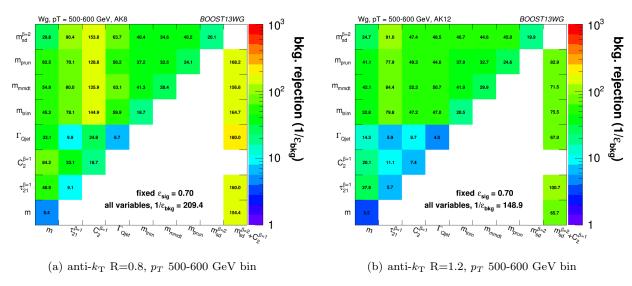


Fig. 17 The background rejection for a fixed signal efficiency (70%) of each BDT combination of each pair of variables considered, in the  $p_T$  500-600 GeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm and R=1.2 algorithm. Also shown is the background rejection for a BDT combination of all of the variables considered.

becomes  $\tau_{21}^{\beta=1}$  for all jet  $p_T$  considered. Figure 20 shows<sub>591</sub> can see from Figure 21 that the negative correlation between  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}$  and  $C_2^{\beta=1}$  in the  $p_T$  1.0<sub>592</sub> tween  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}$  and  $\tau_{21}^{\beta=1}$  that is clearly visible for R=0.4 decreases for larger jet radius, such that the groomed ure 21 is the equivalent set of distributions for  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}$ and  $\tau_{21}^{\beta=1}$ . One can see from Figure 20 that, due to the objective to the objective for the objective forms and  $\tau_{21}^{\beta=1}$ . sensitivity of the observable to to soft, wide-angle ra-696 diation, as the jet radius increases  $C_2^{\beta=1}$  increases and becomes more and more smeared out for both signal<sup>697</sup> and background, leading to worse discrimination power. This does not happen to the same extent for  $\tau_{21}^{\beta=1}$ . We<sup>698</sup>

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mass and substructure variable are far less correlated and  $\tau_{21}^{\beta=1}$  offers improved discrimination within a  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}$ mass window.

## $6.3.2 \; Mass + Mass \; Performance$

The different groomed masses and the ungroomed mass are of course not fully correlated, and thus one can al-

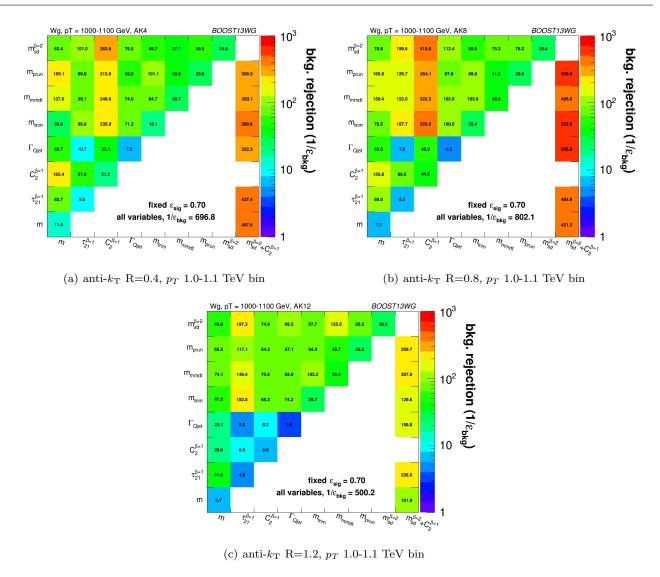


Fig. 18 The background rejection for a fixed signal efficiency (70%) of each BDT combination of each pair of variables considered, in the  $p_T$  1.0-1.1 TeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.4, R=0.8 and R=1.2 algorithm. Also shown is the background rejection for a BDT combination of all of the variables considered.

ways see some kind of improvement in the background<sub>715</sub> rejection (relative to the single mass performance) when<sub>716</sub> two different mass variables are combined in the BDT.<sub>717</sub> However, in some cases the improvement can be dra-<sub>718</sub> matic, particularly at higher  $p_T$ , and particularly for<sub>719</sub> combinations with the ungroomed mass. For example,<sub>720</sub> in Figure 18 we can see that in the  $p_T$  1.0-1.1 TeV bin<sub>721</sub> the combination of pruned mass with ungroomed mass<sub>722</sub> produces a greater than eight-fold improvement in the<sub>723</sub> background rejection for R=0.4 jets, a greater than five-<sub>724</sub> fold improvement for R=0.8 jets, and a factor ~two im-<sub>725</sub> provement for R=1.2 jets. A similar behaviour can be<sub>726</sub> seen for mMDT mass. In Figures 22, 23 and 24 is shown<sub>727</sub> the 2-D correlation plots of the pruned mass versus the<sub>728</sub> ungroomed mass separately for the WW signal and  $g_{q_{729}}$ 

background samples in the  $p_T$  1.0-1.1 TeV bin, for the various jet radii considered. For comparison, the correlation of the trimmed mass with the ungroomed mass, a combination that does not improve on the single mass as dramatically, is shown. In all cases one can see that there is a much smaller degree of correlation between the pruned mass and the ungroomed mass in the backgrounds sample than for the trimmed mass and the ungroomed mass. This is most obvious in Figure 22, where the high degree of correlation between the trimmed and ungroomed mass is expected, since with the parameters used (in particular  $R_{trim} = 0.2$ ) we cannot expect trimming to have a significant impact on an R=0.4 jet. The reduced correlation with ungroomed mass for pruning in the background means that, once we have made the

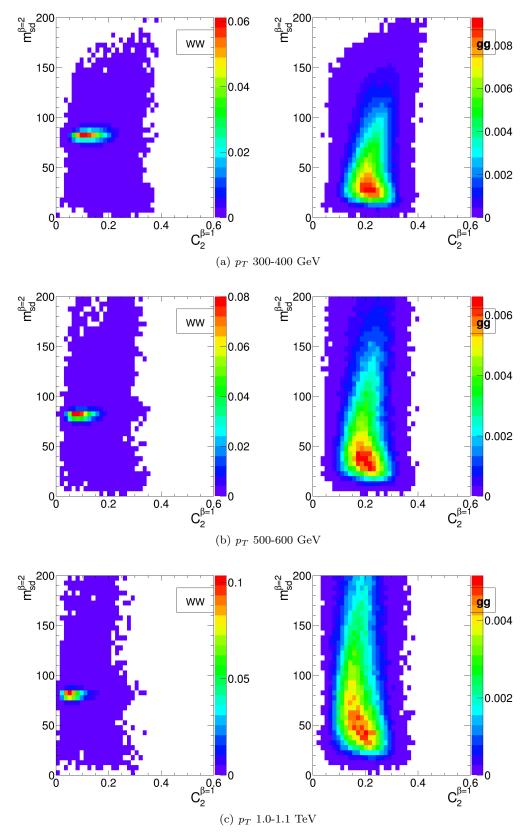


Fig. 19 2-D plots showing  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}$  versus  $C_2^{\beta=1}$  for R=0.8 jets in the various  $p_T$  bins considered.

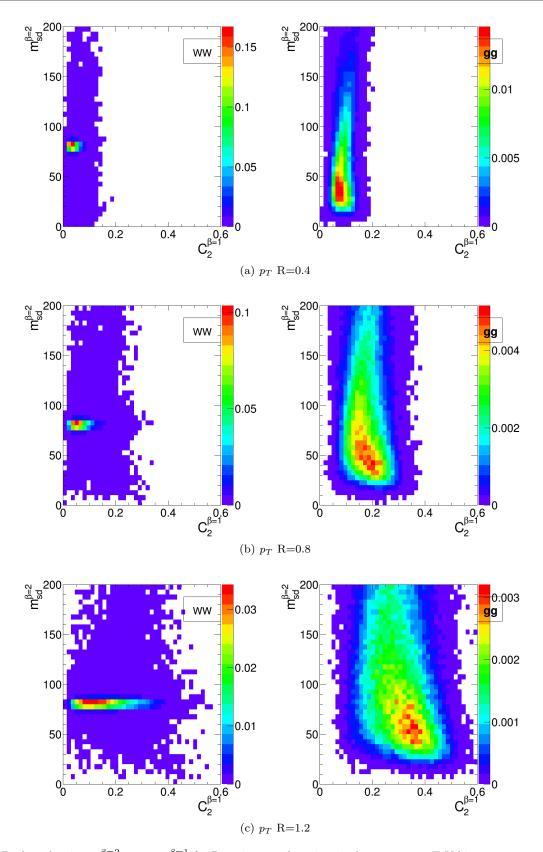


Fig. 20 2-D plots showing  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}$  versus  $C_2^{\beta=1}$  for R=0.4, 0.8 and 1.2 jets in the  $p_T$  1.0-1.1 TeV bin.

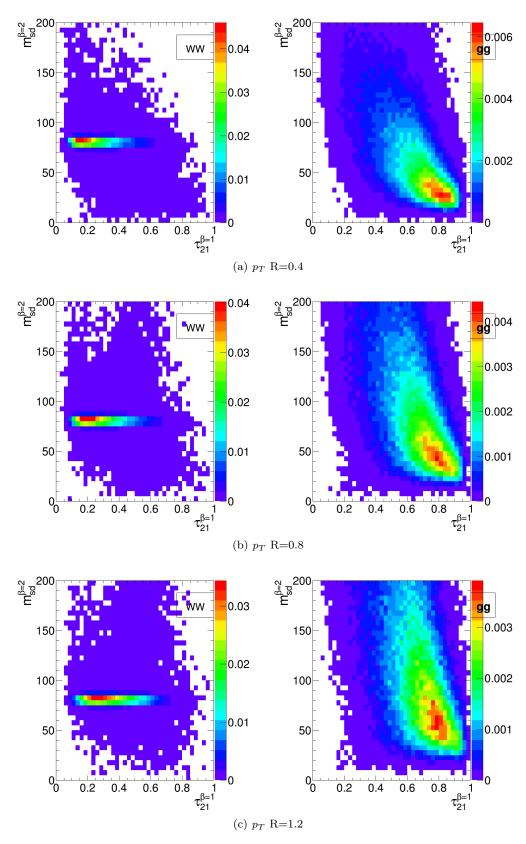


Fig. 21 2-D plots showing  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}$  versus  $\tau_{21}^{\beta=1}$  for R=0.4, 0.8 and 1.2 jets in the  $p_T$  1.0-1.1 TeV bin.

requirement that the pruned mass is consistent with T81 a W (i.e. ~80 GeV), a relatively large difference be-782 tween signal and background in the ungroomed mass 783 still remains, and can be exploited to improve the back-784 ground rejection further. In other words, many of the 785 background events which pass the pruned mass require-786 ment do so because they are shifted to lower mass (to 787 be within a signal mass window) by the grooming, but 788 these events still have the property that they look very 789 much like background events before the grooming. A 790 single requirement on the groomed mass only does not 791 exploit this. Of course, the impact of pile-up, not con-792 sidered in this study, could significantly limit the degree 793 to which the ungroomed mass could be used to improve 794 discrimination in this way.

# 6.3.3 "All Variables" Performance

As well as the background rejection at a fixed 70% sig-797 nal efficiency for two-variable combinations, Figures 16, 47 and 18 also report the background rejection achieved<sub>799</sub> by a combination of all the variables considered into a<sub>800</sub> single BDT discriminant. One can see that, in all cases,801 the rejection power of this "all variables" BDT is signif- $_{802}$ icantly larger than the best two-variable combination.803 This indicates that beyond the best two-variable com-804 bination there is still significant complementary infor-805 mation available in the remaining variables in order to<sub>806</sub> improve the discrimination of signal and background.807 How much complementary information is available ap-808 pears to be  $p_T$  dependent. In the lower  $p_T$  300-400 and  $p_T$ 500-600 GeV bins the background rejection of the "all<sub>810</sub> variables" combination is a factor  $\sim 1.5$  greater than<sub>811</sub> the best two-variable combination, but in the highest<sub>812</sub>  $p_T$  bin it is a factor  $\sim 2.5$  greater.

The final column in Figures 16, 17 and 18 allows<sub>814</sub> us to explore the all variables performance a little fur-815 ther. It shows the background rejection for three vari-816 able BDT combinations of  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}+C_2^{\beta=1}+X$ , where X is the variable on the y-axis. For jets with R=0.4818 and R=0.8, the combination  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}+C_2^{\beta=1}$  is the best X performant (or very close to the best performant) two-820 variable combination in every X bin considered. For X =1.2 this is not the case, as X is superceded by X =2 X =1.2 this is not the case, as X =1 is superceded by X =2 X =1 in performance, as discussed earlier. Thus, in con-823 sidering the three-variable combination results it is best X =2 that, for the lower X =3 X =0.4 and X =0.8 cases. Here we see X =2 that, for the lower X =3 X =4 X =5 X =5 of the "all variables" background rejection. However, in the highest X =1.0-829 1.1 TeV bin, whilst adding the third variable does im-830 prove the performance considerably, we are still X =40%831

from the observed "all variables" background rejection, and clearly adding a fourth or maybe even fifth variable would bring considerable gains. In terms of which variable offers the best improvement when added to the  $m_{sd}^{\beta=2}+C_2^{\beta=1}$  combination, it is hard to see an obvious pattern; the best third variable changes depending on the  $p_T$  and R considered.

In conclusion, it appears that there is a rich and complex structure in terms of the degree to which the discriminatory information provided by the set of variables considered overlaps, with the degree of overlap apparently decreasing at higher  $p_T$ . This suggests that in all  $p_T$  ranges, but especially at higher  $p_T$ , there are substantial performance gains to be made by designing a more complex multivariate W tagger.

#### 6.4 Conclusions

We have studied the performance, in terms of the degree to which a hadronically decaying W boson can be separated from a gluonic background, of a number of groomed jet masses, substructure variables, and BDT combinations of the above. We have used this to build a picture of how the discriminatory information contained in the variables overlaps, and how this complementarity between the variables changes with  $p_T$  and anti- $k_T$  distance parameter R.

In terms of the performance of individual variables, we find that, in agreement with other studies [REF], in general the groomed masses perform best, with a background rejection power that increases with increasing  $p_T$ , but which is more constant with respect to changes in R. Conversely, the performance of other substructure variables, such as  $C_2^{\beta=1}$  and  $\tau_{21}^{\beta=1}$  is more susceptible to changes in radius, with background rejection power decreasing with increasing R.

The best two-variable performance is obtained by combining a groomed mass with a substructure variable. Which particular substructure variable works best in combination is strongly dependent on  $p_T$  and R.  $C_2^{\beta=1}$  offers significant complimentarity to groomed mass at smaller R, owing to the small degree of correlation between the variables. However, the sensitivity of  $C_2^{\beta=1}$  to soft, wide-angle radiation leads to worse discrimination power at large R, where  $\tau_{21}^{\beta=1}$  performs better in combination. Our studies also demonstrate the potential for enhanced discrimination by combining groomed and ungroomed mass information, although the use of ungroomed mass in this may in practice be limited by the presence of pile-up that is not considered in these studies.

By examining the performance of a BDT combination of all the variables considered, it is clear that

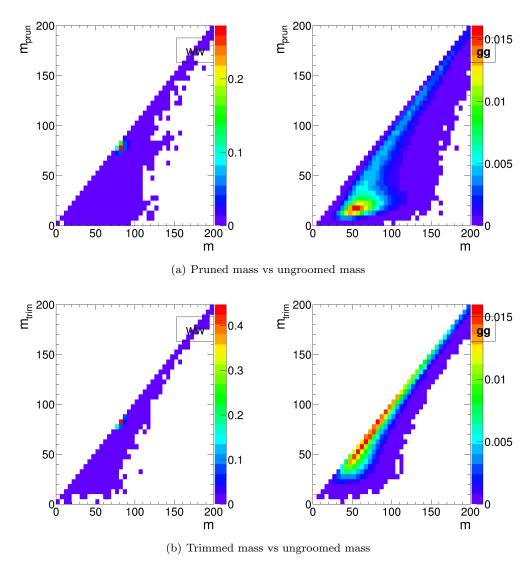


Fig. 22 2-D plots showing the correlation between groomed and ungroomed mass for WW and gg events in the  $p_T$  1.0-1.1 TeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.4 algorithm.

- $_{832}$  there are potentially substantial performance gains to
- <sub>833</sub> be made by designing a more complex multivariate W
- tagger, especially at higher  $p_T$  .

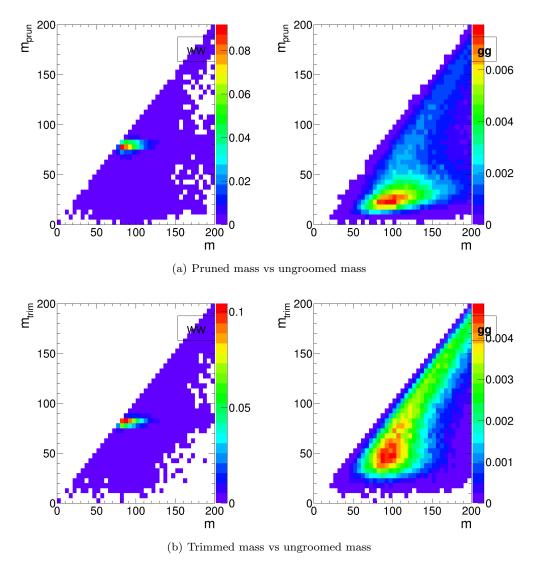


Fig. 23 2-D plots showing the correlation between groomed and ungroomed mass for WW and gg events in the  $p_T$  1.0-1.1 TeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm.

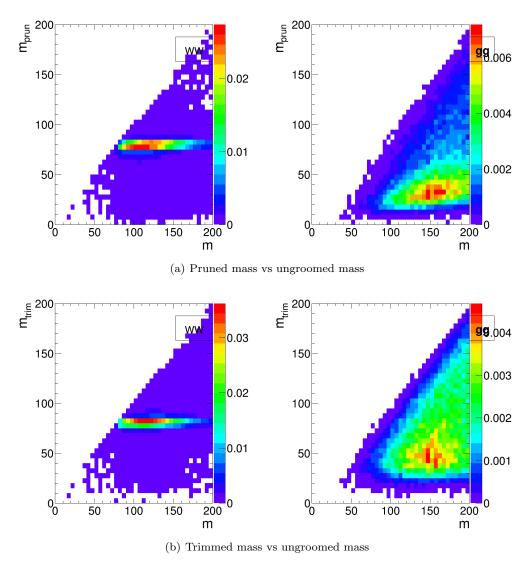


Fig. 24 2-D plots showing the correlation between groomed and ungroomed mass for WW and gg events in the  $p_T$  1.0-1.1 TeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=1.2 algorithm.

# 5 7 Top Tagging

In this section, we study the identification of boosted 871 top quarks at Run II of the LHC. Boosted top quarks result in large-radius jets with complex substructure, containing a *b*-subjet and a boosted *W*. The additional kinematic handles coming from the reconstruction of 672 the *W* mass and *b*-tagging allows a very high degree of discrimination of top quark jets from QCD back-874 grounds.

We consider top quarks with moderate boost (600-893 1000 GeV), and perhaps most interestingly, at high<sub>894</sub> boost ( $\gtrsim 1500$  GeV). Top tagging faces several chal-895 lenges in the high- $p_T$  regime. For such high- $p_T$  jets,896 the *b*-tagging efficiencies are no longer reliably known.897 Also, the top jet can also accompanied by additional898

radiation with  $p_T \sim m_t$ , leading to combinatoric ambiguities of reconstructing the top and W, and the possibility that existing taggers or observables shape the background by looking for subjet combinations that reconstruct  $m_t/m_W$ . To study this, we examine the performance of both mass-reconstruction variables, as well as shape observables that probe the three-pronged nature of the top jet and the accompanying radiation pattern

We use the top quark MC samples described in Section 2.2. The analysis relies on FASTJET 3.0.3 for jet clustering and calculation of jet substructure observables. Jets are clustered using the anti- $k_t$  algorithm. An upper and lower  $p_T$  cut are applied after jet clustering to each sample to ensure similar  $p_T$  spectra in each bin. The bins in leading jet  $p_T$  that are investigated for top tagging are 600-700 GeV, 1-1.1 TeV, and 1.5-1.6 TeV. Jets are clustered with radii  $R=0.4,\,0.8,\,$  and 1.2; R=0.4 jets are only studied in the 1.5-1.6 TeV bin because for top quarks with this boost, the top decay products are all contained within an R=0.4 jet.

# 7.1 Methodology

We study a number of top-tagging strategies, in particular:

- 1. HEPTopTagger
- 2. Johns Hopkins Tagger (JH)
- 3. Trimming
- 4. Pruning

The top taggers have criteria for reconstructing a top and W candidate, and a corresponding top and W mass, as described in Section 3.3, while the grooming algorithms (trimming and pruning) do not incorporate a W-identification step. For a level playing field, where grooming is used we construct a W candidate mass,  $m_W$ , from the three leading subjets by taking the mass of the pair of subjets with the smallest invariant mass; in the case that only two subjets are reconstructed, we take the mass of the leading subjet. The top mass,  $m_t$ , is the mass of the groomed jet. All of the above taggers and groomers incorporate a step to remove pile-up and other soft radiation.

We also consider the performance of jet shape observables. In particular, we consider the N-subjettiness ratios  $\tau_{32}^{\beta=1}$  and  $\tau_{21}^{\beta=1}$ , energy correlation function ratios  $C_3^{\beta=1}$  and  $C_2^{\beta=1}$ , and the Qjet mass volatility  $\Gamma$ . In addition to the jet shape performance, we combine the jet shapes with the mass-reconstruction methods described above to determine the optimal combined performance.

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For determining the performance of multiple vari-949 ables, we combine the relevant tagger output observ-950 ables and/or jet shapes into a boosted decision tree951 (BDT), which determines the optimal cut. Addition-952 ally, because each tagger has two input parameters, as953 described in Section 3.3, we scan over reasonable values954 of the parameters to determine the optimal value that955 gives the largest background rejection for each top tag-956 ging signal efficiency. This allows a direct comparison of957 the optimized version of each tagger. The input values958 scanned for the various algorithms are:

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- HEPTopTagger: m \in [30, 100] GeV, \mu \in [0.5, 1]
- JH Tagger: \delta_p \in [0.02, 0.15], \delta_R \in [0.07, 0.2]
- Trimming: f_{\text{cut}} \in [0.02, 0.14], R_{\text{trim}} \in [0.1, 0.5]
- Pruning: z_{\text{cut}} \in [0.02, 0.14], R_{\text{cut}} \in [0.1, 0.6]
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## 7.2 Single-observable performance

We start by investigating the behaviour of individual <sup>968</sup> jet substructure observables. Because of the rich, three- <sup>969</sup> pronged structure of the top decay, it is expected that <sup>970</sup> combinations of masses and jet shapes will far out- <sup>971</sup> perform single observables in identifying boosted tops. <sup>972</sup> However, a study of the top-tagging performance of sin- <sup>973</sup> gle variables facilitates a direct comparison with the  $W^{974}$  tagging results in Section 6, and also allows a straight- <sup>975</sup> forward examination of the performance of each observ- <sup>976</sup> able for different  $p_T$  and jet radius.

Fig. 25 shows the ROC curves for each of the top-978 tagging observables, with the bare (ungroomed) jet mas879 also plotted for comparison. The jet shape observables<sup>980</sup> all perform substantially worse than jet mass, unlike  $W^{981}$ tagging for which several observables are competitive982 with or perform better than jet mass (see, for exam-983 ple, Fig. 11). To understand why this is the case, con-984 sider N-subjettiness. The W is two-pronged and the  $^{985}$ top is three-pronged; therefore, we expect  $\tau_{21}$  and  $\tau_{32}^{986}$ to be the best-performant N-subjettiness ratio, respec-987 tively. However,  $\tau_{21}$  also contains an implicit cut on the 988 denominator,  $\tau_1$ , which is strongly correlated with jet<sup>989</sup> mass. Therefore,  $\tau_{21}$  combines both mass and shape in-990 formation to some extent. By contrast, and as is clear<sup>991</sup> in Fig.25(a), the best shape for top tagging is  $\tau_{32}$ , which<sup>992</sup> contains no information on the mass. Therefore, it is un-993 surprising that the shapes most useful for top tagging994 are less sensitive to the jet mass, and under-perform rel-995 ative to the corresponding observables for W tagging. 996

Of the two top tagging algorithms, we can see from Figure 25 that the Johns Hopkins (JH) tagger out-998 performs the HEPTopTagger in terms of its signal-to-999 background separation power in both the top and  $W_{000}$  candidate masses. In Figure 26 we show the histograms  $W_{000}$ 

for the top mass output from the JH and HEPTopTagger for different R in the  $p_T$  1.5-1.6 TeV bin, and in Figure 27 for different  $p_T$  at at R =0.8, optimized at a signal efficiency of 30%. One can see from these figures that the likely reason for the better performance of the JH tagger is that, in the HEPTopTagger algorithm, the jet is filtered to select the five hardest subjets, and then three subjets are chosen which reconstruct the top mass. This requirement tends to shape a peak in the QCD background around  $m_t$  for the HEPTopTagger, while the JH tagger has no such requirement. It has been suggested by Anders et al. [5] that performance in the HEPTopTagger may be improved by selecting the three subjets reconstructing the top only among those that pass the W mass constraints, which somewhat reduces the shaping of the background. The discrepancy between the JH and HEPTopTaggers is more pronounced at higher  $p_T$  and larger jet radius (see Figs. 30 and 33). Note that both the JH tagger and the HEP-TopTagger are superior to the grooming algorithms at using the W candidate inside of the top for signal discrimination; this is because the the pruning and trimming algorithms do not have inherent W-identification steps and are not optimized for this purpose.

In Figures 28 and 30 we directly compare ROC curves for jet shape observable performance and top mass performance respectively in the three different  $p_T$ bins considered whilst keeping the jet radius fixed at R=0.8. The input parameters of the taggers, groomers and shape variables are separately optimized in each  $p_T$  bin. One can see from Figure 28 that the tagging performance of jet shapes do not change substantially with  $p_T$ . The observables  $\tau_{32}^{(\beta=1)}$  and Qjet volatility  $\Gamma$ have the most variation and tend to degrade with higher  $p_T$ , as can be seen in Figure 29. This makes sense, as higher- $p_T$  QCD jets have more, harder emissions within the jet, giving rise to substructure that fakes the signal. By contrast, from Figure 30 we can see that most of the top mass observables have superior performance at higher  $p_T$  due to the radiation from the top quark becoming more collimated. The notable exception is the HEPTopTagger, which degrades at higher  $p_T$ , likely in part due to the background-shaping effects discussed earlier.

In Figures 31 and 33 we directly compare ROC curves for jet shape observable performance and top mass performance respectively for the three different jet radii considered within the  $p_T$  1.5-1.6 TeV bin. Again, the input parameters of the taggers, groomers and shape variables are separately optimized for each jet radius. We can see from these figures that most of the top tagging variables, both shape and reconstructed top mass, perform best for smaller radius. This is likely because,

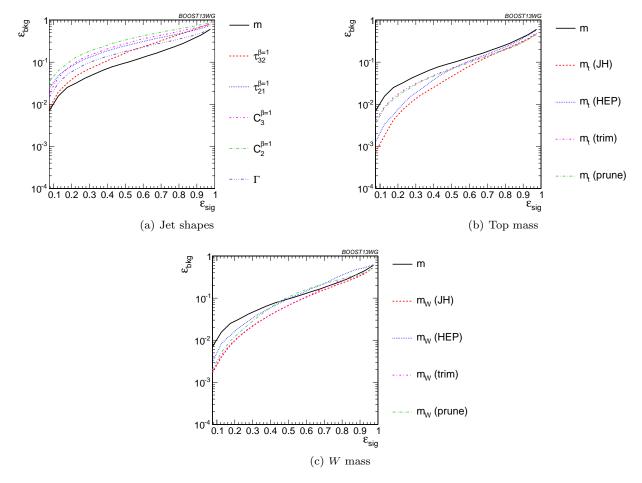


Fig. 25 Comparison of single-variable top-tagging performance in the  $p_T = 1-1.1$  GeV bin using the anti- $k_T$ , R=0.8 algorithm.

at such high  $p_T$ , most of the radiation from the topo23 quark is confined within R = 0.4, and having a larger<sub>024</sub> jet radius makes the observable more susceptible to con±025 tamination from the underlying event and other uncor±026 related radiation. In Figure 32, we compare the individ+027 ual top signal and QCD background distributions for 128 each shape variable considered in the  $p_T$  1.5-1.6 TeV<sub>029</sub> bin for the various jet radii. One can see that the distributions for both signal and background broaden with increasing R, degrading the discriminating power. Fot<sup>030</sup>  $C_2^{(\beta=1)}$  and  $C_3^{(\beta=1)}$ , the background distributions are shifted upward as well. Therefore, the discriminating  $^{031}$ power generally gets worse with increasing R. The main  $^{1032}$ exception is for  $C_3^{(\beta=1)}$ , which performs optimally at  $^{1033}$ R = 0.8; in this case, the signal and background coinci<sup>1034</sup> dentally happen to have the same distribution around 035 R=0.4, and so R=0.8 gives better discrimination. 1036 ED: Should we also include 1-D plots compar<sup>1037</sup> ing signal vs bkgd in the top mass, and how  $^{1038}$ this varies with radius? Having said that, there a a lot of 1-D plots here already, might want  $t\dot{o}^{040}$ 

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try and cut down. (How about now? I've added them to Fig. 26, 27, and removed some other plots. We should decide if we want them; if we do, we need to explain about how the optimization at  $\epsilon_S = 0.3 - 0.35$  prefers an aggressive trimmer which suppresses the background mass but also tends to give a spurious peak around  $m_W$ .

# 7.3 Performance of multivariable combinations

We now consider various BDT combinations of the observables from Section 7.2, using the techniques described in Section 4. In particular, we consider the performance of individual taggers such as the JH tagger and HEPTopTagger, which output information about the top and W candidate masses and the helicity angle; groomers, such as trimming and pruning, which remove soft, uncorrelated radiation from the top candidate to improve mass reconstruction, and to which we have added a W reconstruction step; and the combination of the outputs of the above taggers/groomers,

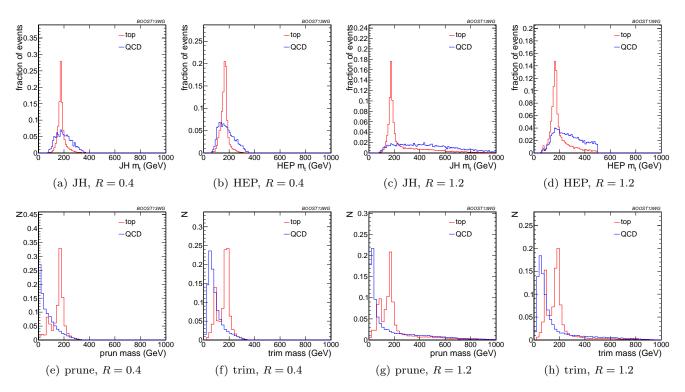


Fig. 26 Comparison of top mass reconstruction with the Johns Hopkins (JH), HEPTopTaggers (HEP), pruning, and trimming at different R using the anti- $k_{\rm T}$  algorithm,  $p_{\rm T}=1.5-1.6$  TeV. Each histogram is shown for the working point optimized for best performance with  $m_t$  in the 0.3-0.35 signal efficiency bin, and is normalized to the fraction of events passing the tagger. In this and subsequent plots, the HEPTopTagger distribution cuts off at 500 GeV because the tagger fails to tag jets with a larger mass.

both with each other, and with shape variables such as N-subjettiness ratios and energy correlation ratios. For N-subjettiness ratios and energy correlation ratios. For all observables with tuneable input parameters, we scan N-scan and optimize over realistic values of such parameters, as described in Section 7.1.

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In Figure 34, we directly compare the performance of of the HEPTopTagger, the JH tagger, trimming, and or 2 pruning, in the  $p_T = 1 - 1.1$  TeV bin using jet radius<sub>073</sub> R=0.8, where both  $m_t$  and  $m_W$  are used in the groomers<sub>1074</sub> Generally, we find that pruning, which does not natu+075 rally incorporate subjets into the algorithm, does noto76 perform as well as the others. Interestingly, trimming<sub>1077</sub> which does include a subjet-identification step, performs<sub>78</sub> comparably to the HEPTopTagger over much of theory range, possibly due to the background-shaping observed. in Section 7.2. By contrast, the JH tagger outperforms<sub>081</sub> the other algorithms. To determine whether there  $is_{082}$ complementary information in the mass outputs from 083 different top taggers, we also consider in Figure 34 a084 multivariable combination of all of the JH and  ${\rm HEP}_{\pm 085}$ TopTagger outputs. The maximum efficiency of the comes bined JH and HEPTopTaggers is limited, as some fractor tion of signal events inevitably fails either one or otheross of the taggers. We do see a 20-50% improvement in the income of the taggers. performance when combining all outputs, which suggests that the different algorithms used to identify the top and W for different taggers contains complementary information.

In Figure 35 we present the results for multivariable combinations of the top tagger outputs with and without shape variables. We see that, for both the HEP-TopTagger and the JH tagger, the shape observables contain additional information uncorrelated with the masses and helicity angle, and give on average a factor 2-3 improvement in signal discrimination. We see that, when combined with the tagger outputs, both the energy correlation functions  $C_2 + C_3$  and the Nsubjettiness ratios  $\tau_{21} + \tau_{32}$  give comparable performance, while the Qjet mass volatility is slightly worse; this is unsurprising, as Qjets accesses shape information in a more indirect way from other shape observables. Combining all shape observables with a single top tagger provides even greater enhancement in discrimination power. We directly compare the performance of the JH and HEPTopTaggers in Figure 35(c). Combining the taggers with shape information nearly erases the difference between the tagging methods observed in Figure 34; this indicates that combining the shape in-

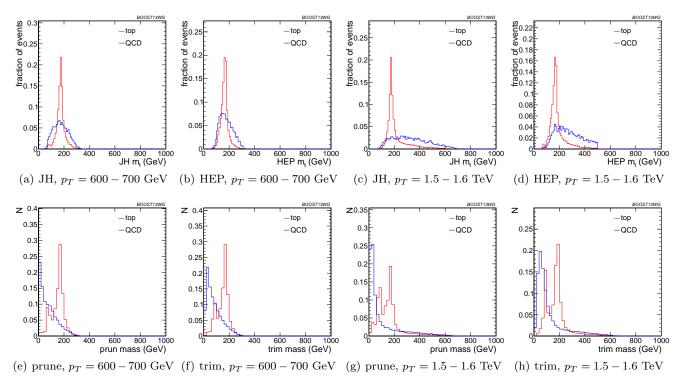


Fig. 27 Comparison of top mass reconstruction with the Johns Hopkins (JH), HEPTopTaggers (HEP), pruning, and trimming at different  $p_T$  using the anti- $k_T$  algorithm, R = 0.8. Each histogram is shown for the working point optimized for best performance with  $m_t$  in the 0.3 - 0.35 signal efficiency bin, and is normalized to the fraction of events passing the tagger.

formation with the HEPTopTagger identifies the differ<sub>\*115</sub> ences between signal and background missed by the tag<sub>\*116</sub> ger alone. This also suggests that further improvement<sub>117</sub> to discriminating power may be minimal, as various<sub>118</sub> multivariable combinations are converging to within a<sub>119</sub> factor of 20% or so.

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In Figure 36 we present the results for multivariable combinations of groomer outputs with and without shape variables. As with the tagging algorithms, combinations of groomers with shape observables improves their discriminating power; combinations with  $\tau_{32} + \tau_{21}^{1124}$  perform comparably to those with  $C_3 + C_2$ , and both of these are superior to combinations with the mass volatility,  $\Gamma$ . Substantial improvement is further possible by combining the groomers with all shape observables. Not surprisingly, the taggers that lag behind in performance enjoy the largest gain in signal-background discrimination with the addition of shape observables. Once again, in Figure 36(c), we find that the differences between pruning and trimming are erased when combined with shape information.

Finally, in Figure 37, we compare the performance<sub>135</sub> of each of the tagger/groomers when their outputs are<sub>136</sub> combined with all of the shape observables considered<sub>137</sub> One can see that the discrepancies between the perfor<sub>138</sub>

mance of the different taggers/groomers all but vanishes, suggesting perhaps that we are here utilising all available signal-background discrimination information, and that this is the optimal top tagging performance that could be achieved in these conditions.

Up to this point we have just considered the combined multivariable performance in the  $p_T$  1.0-1.1 TeV bin with jet radius R=0.8. We now compare the BDT combinations of tagger outputs, with and without shape variables, at different  $p_T$ . The taggers are optimized over all input parameters for each choice of  $p_T$  and signal efficiency. As with the single-variable study, we consider anti- $k_{\rm T}$  jets clustered with R=0.8 and compare the outcomes in the  $p_T = 500 - 600 \text{ GeV}, p_T = 1 - 1.1$ TeV, and  $p_T = 1.5 - 1.6$  TeV bins. The comparison of the taggers/groomers is shown in Figure 38. The behaviour with  $p_T$  is qualitatively similar to the behaviour of the  $m_t$  observable for each tagger/groomer shown in Figure 30; this suggests that the  $p_T$  behaviour of the taggers is dominated by the top mass reconstruction. As before, the HEPTopTagger performance degrades slightly with increased  $p_T$  due to the background shaping effect, while the JH tagger and groomers modestly improve in performance.

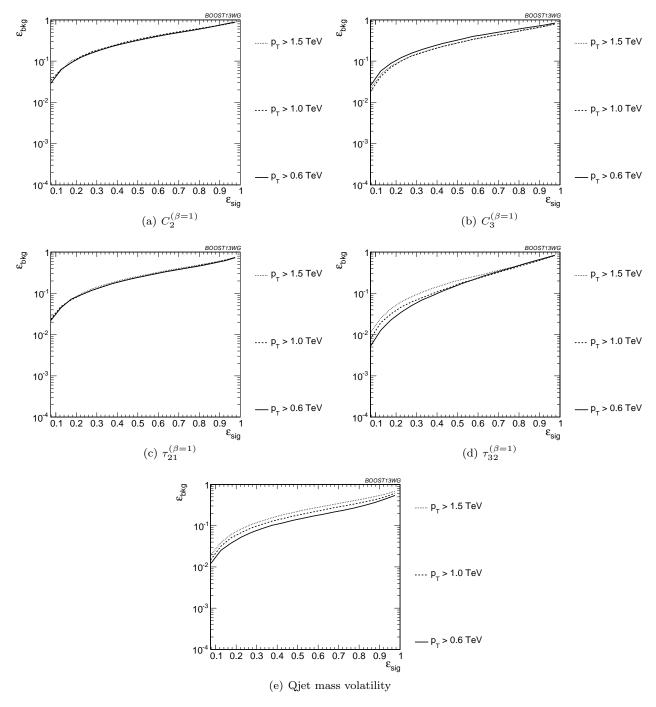


Fig. 28 Comparison of individual jet shape performance at different  $p_T$  using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm.

In Figure 39, we show the  $p_T$  dependence of BDT<sub>147</sub> combinations of the JH tagger output combined with<sub>148</sub> shape observables. We find that the curves look nearly<sub>149</sub> identical: the  $p_T$  dependence is dominated by the top<sub>150</sub> mass reconstruction, and combining the tagger outputs<sub>151</sub> with different shape observables does not substantially<sub>152</sub> change this behaviour. The same holds true for trim<sub>1153</sub> ming and pruning. By contrast, HEPTopTagger ROG<sub>154</sub>

curves, shown in Figure 40, do change somewhat when combined with different shape observables; due to the suboptimal performance of the HEPTopTagger at high  $p_T$ , we find that combining the HEPTopTagger with  $C_3^{(\beta=1)}$ , which in Figure 28(b) is seen to have some modest improvement at high  $p_T$ , can improve its performance. Combining the HEPTopTagger with multiple shape observables gives the maximum improvement in

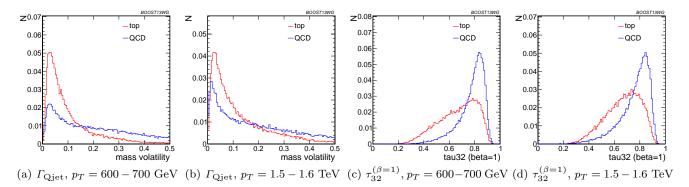


Fig. 29 Comparison of  $\Gamma_{\text{Qjet}}$  and  $\tau_{32}^{\beta=1}$  at R=0.8 and different values of the  $p_T$ . These shape observables are the most sensitive to varying  $p_T$ .

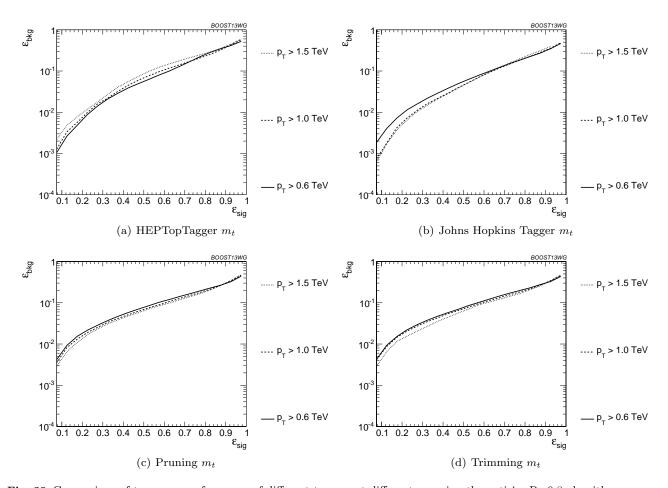


Fig. 30 Comparison of top mass performance of different taggers at different  $p_T$  using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm.

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performance at high  $p_T$  relative to at low  $p_T$ .

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In Figure 41 we compare the BDT combinations<sup>164</sup> of tagger outputs, with and without shape variables, at different jet radius R in the  $p_T = 1.5 - 1.6$  TeV bini The taggers are optimized over all input parameters for each choice of R and signal efficiency. We find that, 168

for all taggers and groomers, the performance is always best at small R; the choice of R is sufficiently large to admit the full top quark decay at such high  $p_T$ , but is small enough to suppress contamination from additional radiation. This is not altered when the taggers are combined with shape observable. For example, in Figure 42 is shown the depedence on R of the JH tag-

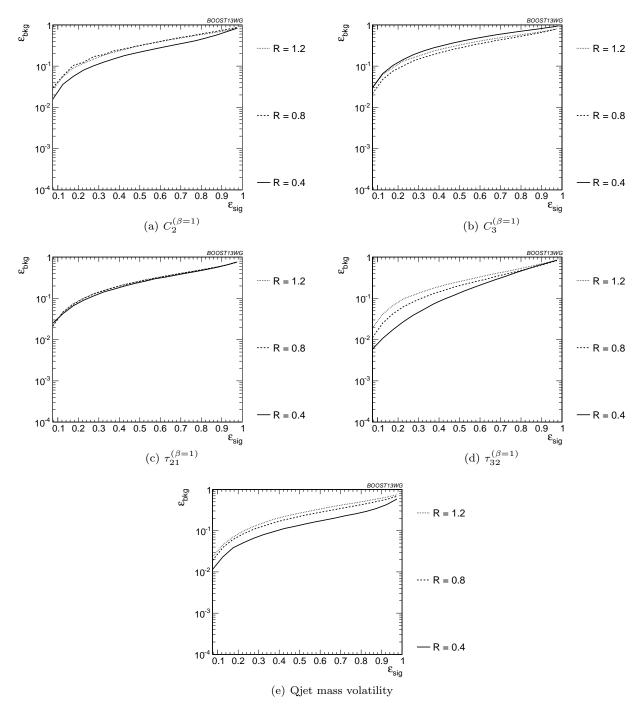


Fig. 31 Comparison of individual jet shape performance at different R in the  $p_T = 1.5 - 1.6$  TeV bin.

ger when combined with shape observables, where one<sub>173</sub> can see that the R-dependence is identical for all combinations. The same holds true for the HEPTopTagger<sub>1175</sub> trimming, and pruning.

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# 7.4 Performance at Sub-Optimal Working Points

Up until now, we have re-optimized our tagger and groomer parameters for each  $p_T$ , R, and signal efficiency working point. In reality, experiments will choose a finite set of working points to use. How do our results hold up when this is taken into account? To address this concern, we replicate our analyses, but only optimize

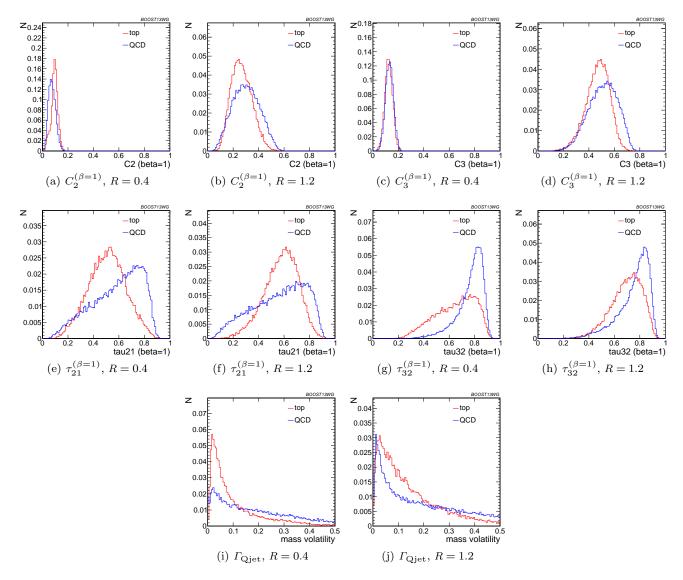


Fig. 32 Comparison of various shape observables in the  $p_T = 1.5 - 1.6$  TeV bin and different values of the anti- $k_T$  radius R.

the top taggers for a particular  $p_T/R/{\rm efficiency}$  and aprino ply the same parameters to other scenarios. This allows us to determine the extent to which re-optimization is necessary to maintain the high signal-background disting crimination power seen in the top tagging algorithms we study. The shape observables typically do not have any input parameters to optimize. Therefore, we focus on the taggers and groomers, and their combination with shape observables, in this section.

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Optimizing at a single  $p_T$ : We show in Figure 43<sup>205</sup> the performance of the top taggers, using just the recon<sup>1206</sup> structed top mass as the discriminating variable, with<sup>207</sup> all input parameters optimized to the  $p_T = 1.5 - 1.6^{208}$  TeV bin, relative to the performance optimized at each<sup>209</sup>  $p_T$ . We see that while the performance degrades by<sup>210</sup> about 50% when the high- $p_T$  optimized points are used<sup>211</sup>

at other momenta, this is only an O(1) adjustment of the tagger performance **ED**: what does O(1) mean?, with trimming and the Johns Hopkins tagger degrading the most. The jagged behaviour of the points is due to the finite resolution of the scan. We also observe a particular effect associated with using suboptimal taggers: since taggers sometimes fail to return a top candidate, parameters optimized for a particular efficiency  $\varepsilon_S$  at  $p_T = 1.5 - 1.6$  TeV may not return enough signal candidates to reach the same efficiency at a different  $p_T$ . Consequently, no point appears for that  $p_T$  value. This is not often a practical concern, as the largest gains in signal discrimination and significance are for smaller values of  $\varepsilon_S$ , but it is something that must be considered when selecting benchmark tagger parameters and signal efficiencies.

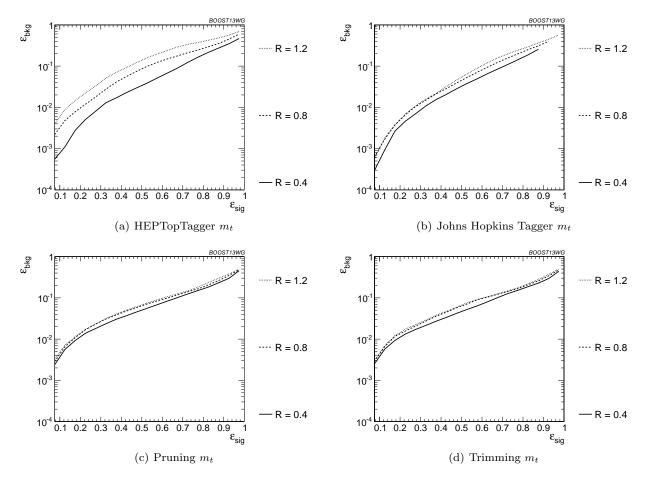


Fig. 33 Comparison of top mass performance of different taggers at different R in the  $p_T = 1.5 - 1.6$  TeV bin.

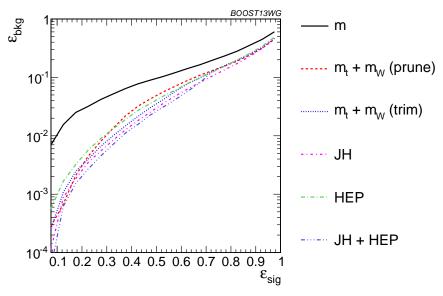


Fig. 34 The performance of the various taggers in the  $p_T = 1 - 1.1$  TeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm. For the groomers a BDT combination of the reconstructed  $m_t$  and  $m_W$  are used. Also shown is a multivariable combination of all of the JH and HEPTopTagger outputs. The ungroomed mass performance is shown for comparison.

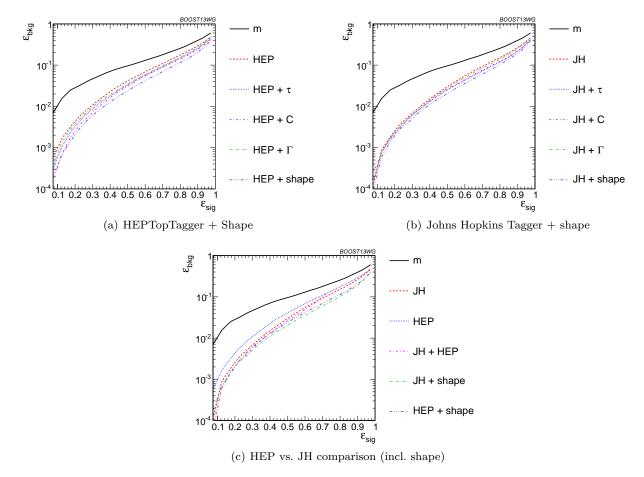


Fig. 35 The performance of BDT combinations of the JH and HepTopTagger outputs with various shape observables in the  $p_T=1-1.1$  TeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm. Taggers are combined with the following shape observables:  $\tau_{21}^{(\beta=1)} + \tau_{32}^{(\beta=1)}$ ,  $C_2^{(\beta=1)} + C_3^{(\beta=1)}$ ,  $\Gamma_{\rm Qjet}$ , and all of the above (denoted "shape").

The degradation in performance is more pronounced<sup>232</sup> for the BDT combinations of the full tagger outputs<sup>233</sup> shown in Figure 44), particularly at very low signal effit<sup>234</sup> ciency where the optimization picks out a cut on the tail<sup>235</sup> of some distribution that depends precisely on the  $p_T/R_{236}$  of the jet. Once again, trimming and the Johns Hopt<sup>237</sup> kins tagger degrade more markedly. Similar behaviour<sup>238</sup> holds for the BDT combinations of tagger outputs plus<sup>239</sup> all shape observables.

Optimizing at a single R: We perform a similar anal<sup>1242</sup> ysis, optimizing tagger parameters for each signal ef<sup>1243</sup> ficiency at R=1.2, and then use the same paramet<sup>1244</sup> ters for smaller R, in the  $p_T$  1.5-1.6 TeV bin. In Fig<sup>1245</sup> ure 45 we show the ratio of the performance of the<sup>246</sup> top taggers, using just the reconstructed top mass as<sup>247</sup> the discriminating variable, with all input parameters<sup>248</sup> optimized to the R=1.2 values compared to input<sup>249</sup> parameters optimized separately at each radius. While<sup>250</sup> the performance of each observable degrades at small<sup>251</sup>

 $\epsilon_{\rm sig}$  compared to the optimized search, the HEPTop-Tagger fares the worst as the observed is quite sensitive to the selected value of R. It is not surprising that a tagger whose top mass reconstruction is susceptible to background-shaping at large R and  $p_T$  would require a more careful optimization of parameters to obtain the best performance.

The same holds true for the BDT combinations of the full tagger outputs, shown in Figure 46). The performance for the sub-optimal taggers is still within an O(1) factor of the optimized performance, and the HEPTop-Tagger performs better with the combination of all of its outputs relative to the performance with just  $m_t$ . The same behaviour holds for the BDT combinations of tagger outputs and shape observables.

Optimizing at a single efficiency: The strongest assumption we have made so far is that the taggers can be reoptimized for each signal efficiency point. This is useful for making a direct comparison of the power of

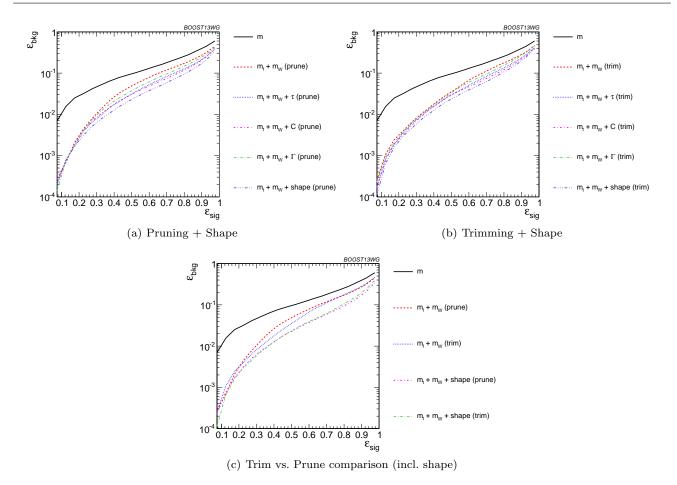


Fig. 36 The performance of the BDT combinations of the trimming and pruning outputs with various shape observables in the  $p_T = 1 - 1.1$  TeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm. Groomer mass outputs are combined with the following shape observables:  $\tau_{21}^{(\beta=1)} + \tau_{32}^{(\beta=1)}$ ,  $C_2^{(\beta=1)} + C_3^{(\beta=1)}$ ,  $\Gamma_{Qjet}$ , and all of the above (denoted "shape").

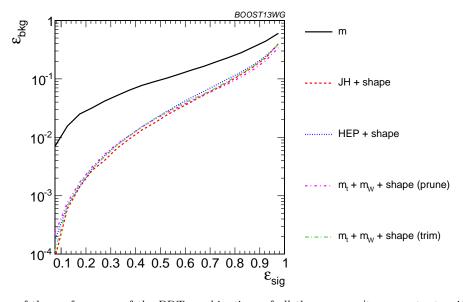


Fig. 37 Comparison of the performance of the BDT combinations of all the groomer/tagger outputs with all the available shape observables in the  $p_T=1-1.1$  TeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm. Tagger/groomer outputs are combined with all of the following shape observables:  $\tau_{21}^{(\beta=1)} + \tau_{32}^{(\beta=1)}$ ,  $C_2^{(\beta=1)} + C_3^{(\beta=1)}$ ,  $\Gamma_{\rm Qjet}$ .

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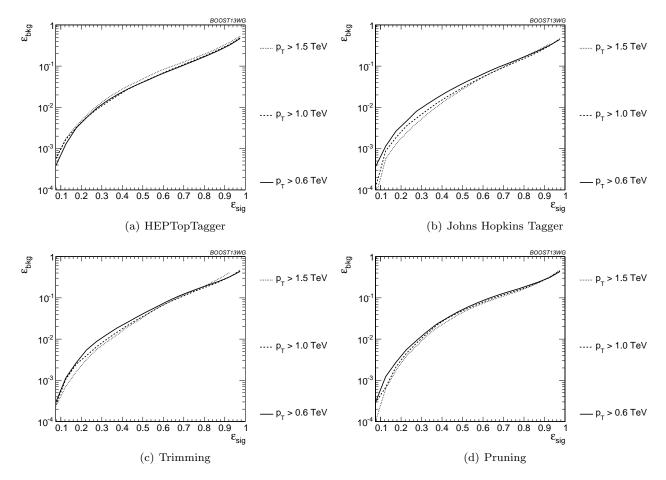


Fig. 38 Comparison of BDT combination of tagger performance at different  $p_T$  using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm.

different top tagging algorithms, but is not particularly<sub>274</sub> practical for the LHC analyses. We now consider the effects when the tagger inputs are optimized once, in<sub>275</sub> the  $\varepsilon_S = 0.3 - 0.35$  bin, and then used to determine the<sub>276</sub> full ROC curve. We do this in the  $p_T 1 - 1.1$  TeV bin<sub>277</sub> and with R = 0.8.

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The performance of each tagger, normalized to its279 performance optimized in each bin, is shown in Fig<sub>+280</sub> ure 47 for cuts on the top mass and W mass, and in<sub>281</sub> Figure 48 for BDT combinations of tagger outputs and 282 shape variables. In both plots, it is apparent that op+283 timizing the taggers in the 0.3-0.35 efficiency bin gives 284 comparable performance over efficiencies ranging from<sub>285</sub> 0.2-0.5, although performance degrades at small and<sub>286</sub> large signal efficiencies. Pruning appears to give espe<sub>1287</sub> cially robust signal-background discrimination without<sub>288</sub> re-optimization, possibly due to the fact that there are 289 no absolute distance or  $p_T$  scales that appear in the 290 algorithm. Figures 47 and 48 suggest that, while opti+291 mization at all signal efficiencies is a useful tool for com+292 paring different algorithms, it is not crucial to achieve293 good top-tagging performance in experiments.

# 7.5 Conclusions

We have studied the performance of various jet substructure observables, groomed masses, and top taggers to study the performance of top tagging at different  $p_T$ and jet radius parameter. At each  $p_T$ , R, and signal efficiency working point, we optimize the parameters for those observables with tuneable inputs. Overall, we have found that these techniques, individually and in combination, continue to perform well at high  $p_T$ , which is important for future LHC running. In general, the John Hopkins tagger performs best, while jet grooming algorithms under-perform relative to the best top taggers due to the lack of an optimized W-identification step. Tagger performance can be improved by a further factor of 2-4 through combination with jet substructure observables such as  $\tau_{32}$ ,  $C_3$ , and Qjet mass volatility; when combined with jet substructure observables, the performance of various groomers and taggers becomes very comparable, suggesting that, taken together, the observables studied are sensitive to nearly all of the physical differences between top and QCD jets. A small

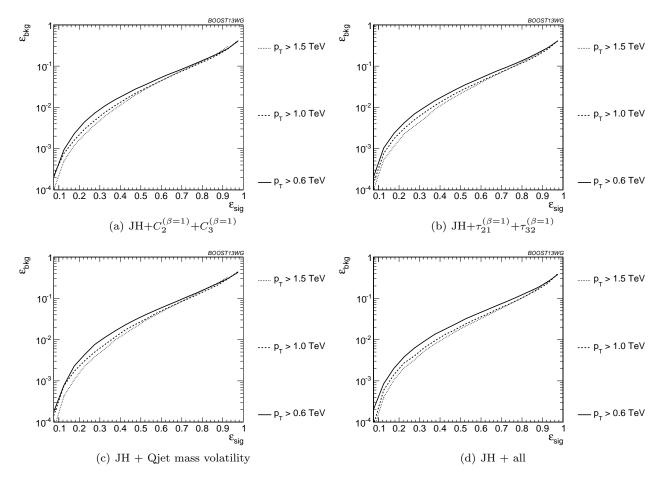


Fig. 39 Comparison of BDT combination of JH tagger + shape at different  $p_T$  using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm.

improvement is also found by combining the Johns Hop $_{^{1317}}$  kins and HEPTopTaggers, indicating that different tag $_{^{1318}}$  gers are not fully correlated.

Comparing results at different  $p_T$  and R, top tag\*320 ging performance is generally better at smaller R duæ221 to less contamination from uncorrelated radiation. Sim\*322 ilarly, most observables perform better at larger  $p_T$  due to the higher degree of collimation of radiation. Some observables fare worse at higher  $p_T$ , such as the N-subjettiness ratio  $\tau_{32}$  and the Qjet mass volatility  $\Gamma$ , as higher- $p_T$  QCD jets have more, harder emissions that fake the top jet substructure. The HEPTopTagger is also worse at large  $p_T$  due to the tendency of the tagger to shape backgrounds around the top mass. The  $p_T$ - and R-dependence of the multivariable combinations is dominated by the  $p_T$ - and R-dependence of the top mass reconstruction component of the tagger/groomer.

Finally, we consider the performance of various observable combinations under the more realistic assumption that the input parameters are only optimized at a single  $p_T$ , R, or signal efficiency, and then the same inputs are used at other working points. Remarkably, the

performance of all observables is typically within a factor of 2 of the fully optimized inputs, suggesting that while optimization can lead to substantial gains in performance, the general behaviour found in the fully optimized analyses extends to more general applications of each variable.

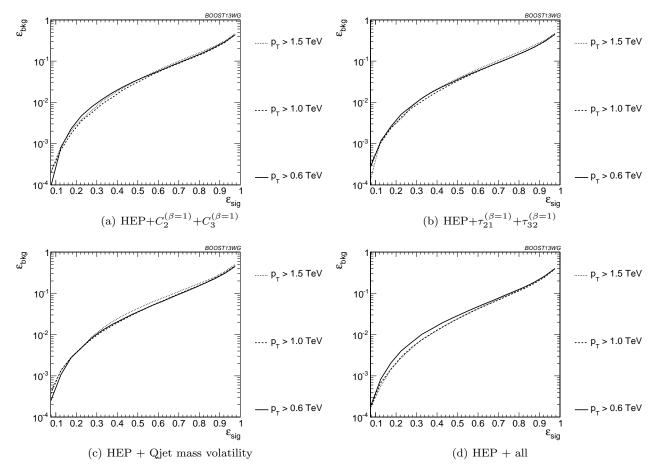


Fig. 40 Comparison of BDT combination of HEP tagger + shape at different  $p_T$  using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm.

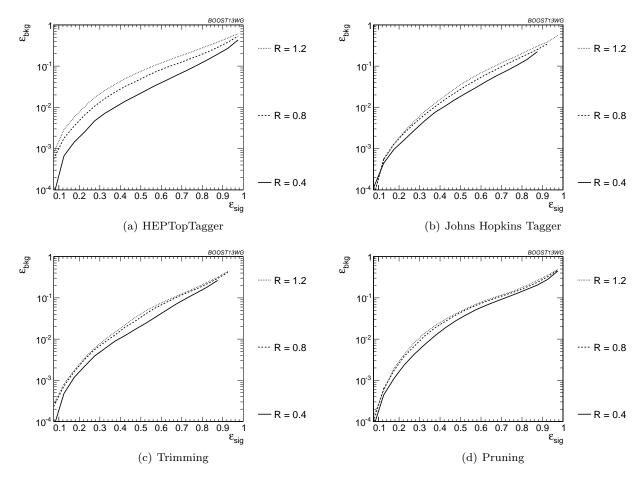


Fig. 41 Comparison of tagger and jet shape performance at different radius at  $p_T=1.5$ -1.6 TeV.

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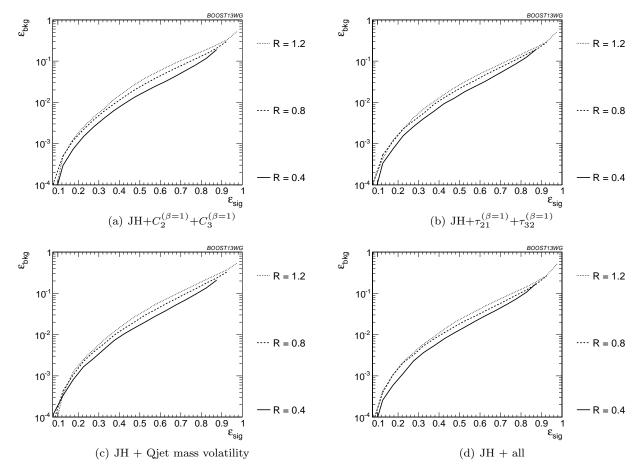


Fig. 42 Comparison of BDT combination of JH tagger + shape at different radius at  $p_T = 1.5$ -1.6 TeV.

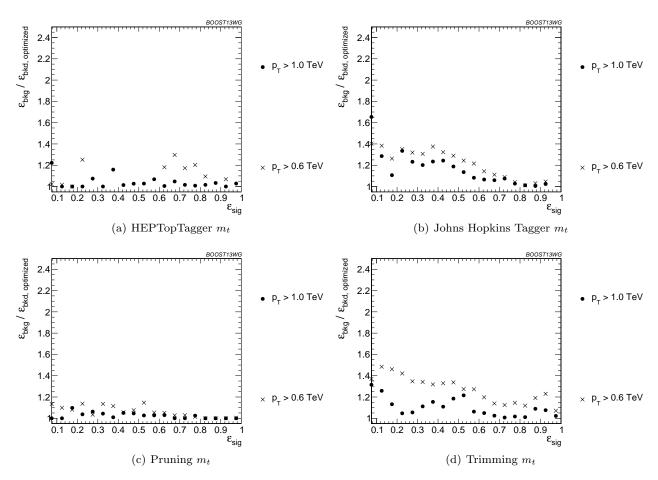


Fig. 43 Comparison of top mass performance of different taggers at different  $p_T$  using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm; the tagger inputs are set to the optimum value for  $p_T = 1.5 - 1.6$  TeV.

44 BOOST2013 participants

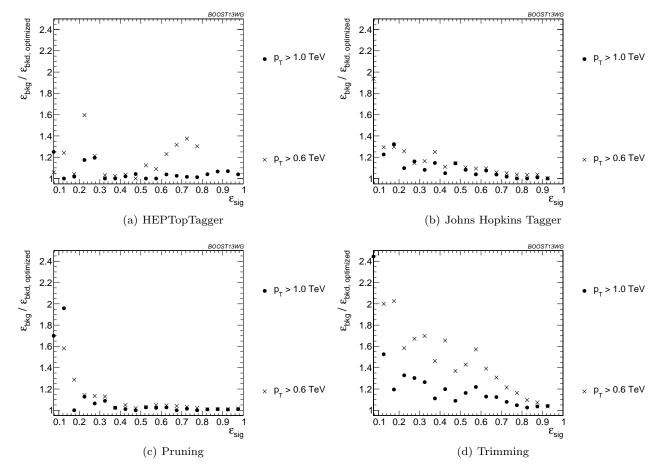


Fig. 44 Comparison of BDT combination of tagger performance at different  $p_T$  using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm; the tagger inputs are set to the optimum value for  $p_T = 1.5 - 1.6$  TeV.

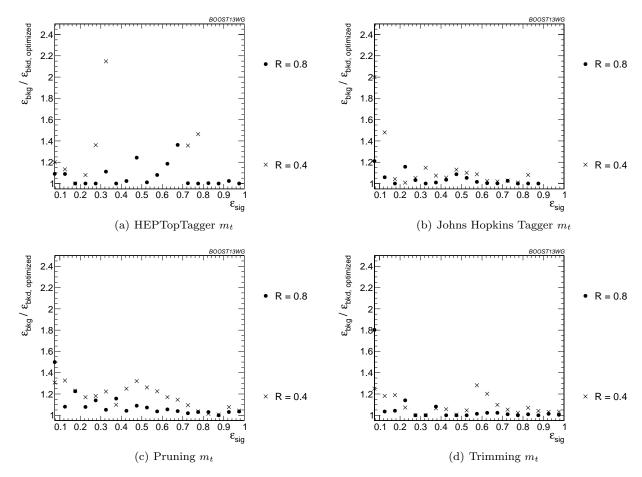


Fig. 45 Comparison of top mass performance of different taggers at different R in the  $p_T = 1500 - 1600$  GeV bin; the tagger inputs are set to the optimum value for R = 1.2.

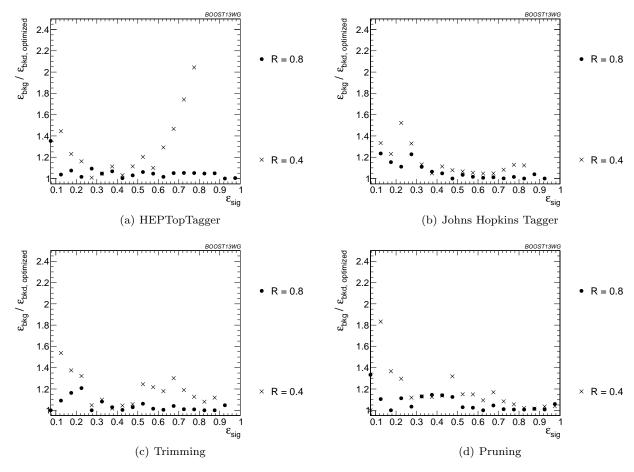


Fig. 46 Comparison of BDT combination of tagger performance at different radius at  $p_T = 1.5$ -1.6 TeV; the tagger inputs are set to the optimum value for R = 1.2.

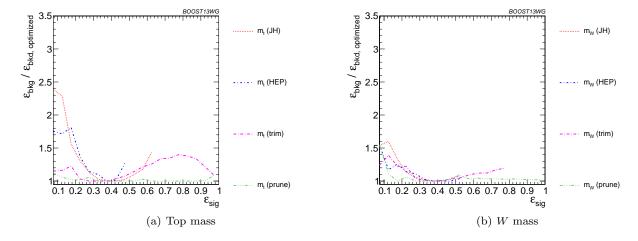


Fig. 47 Comparison of single-variable top-tagging performance in the  $p_T = 1-1.1$  GeV bin using the anti- $k_T$ , R=0.8 algorithm; the inputs for each tagger are optimized for the  $\varepsilon_{\rm sig} = 0.3-0.35$  bin.

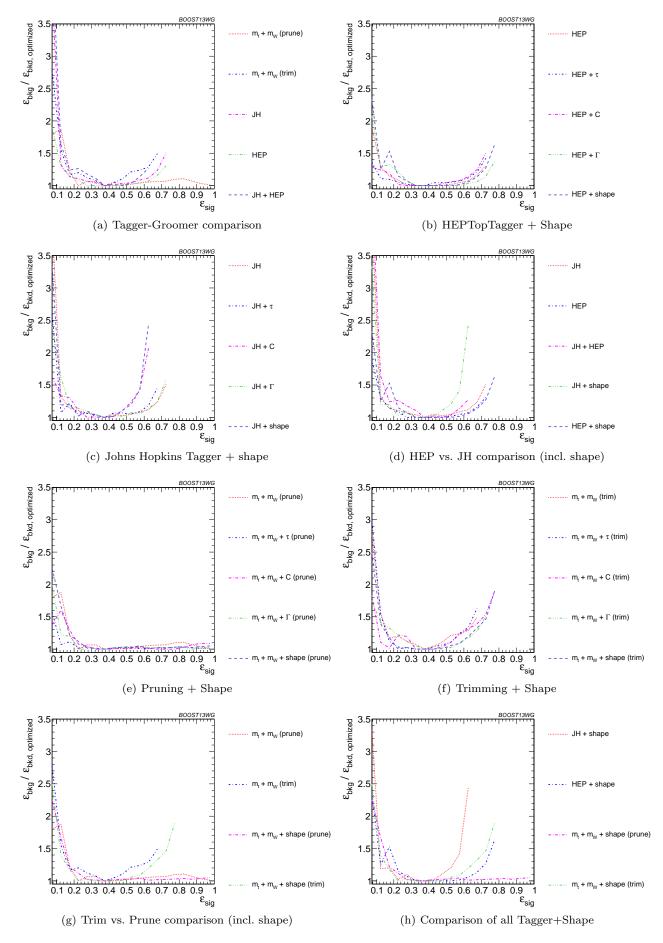


Fig. 48 The BDT combinations in the  $p_T=1-1.1$  TeV bin using the anti- $k_T$  R=0.8 algorithm. Taggers are combined with the following shape observables:  $\tau_{21}^{(\beta=1)} + \tau_{32}^{(\beta=1)}$ ,  $C_2^{(\beta=1)} + C_3^{(\beta=1)}$ ,  $\Gamma_{\rm Qjet}$ , and all of the above (denoted "shape"). The inputs for each tagger are optimized for the  $\varepsilon_{\rm sig}=0.3-0.35$  bin.

## 8 Summary & Conclusions

# This report discussed the correlations between observ $_{T346}$ ables and looked forward to jet substructure at Run II $_{1325}$ of the LHC at 14 TeV center-of-mass collisions eneer $_{1349}$ gies.

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