

# Collision Course

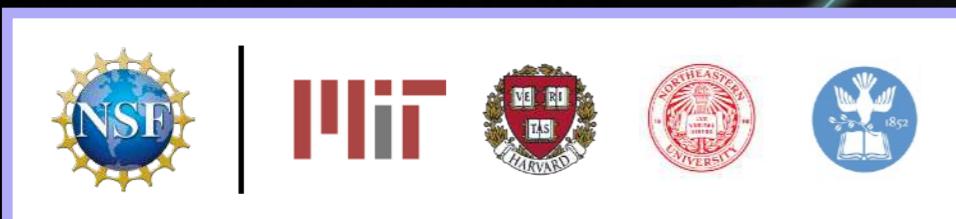
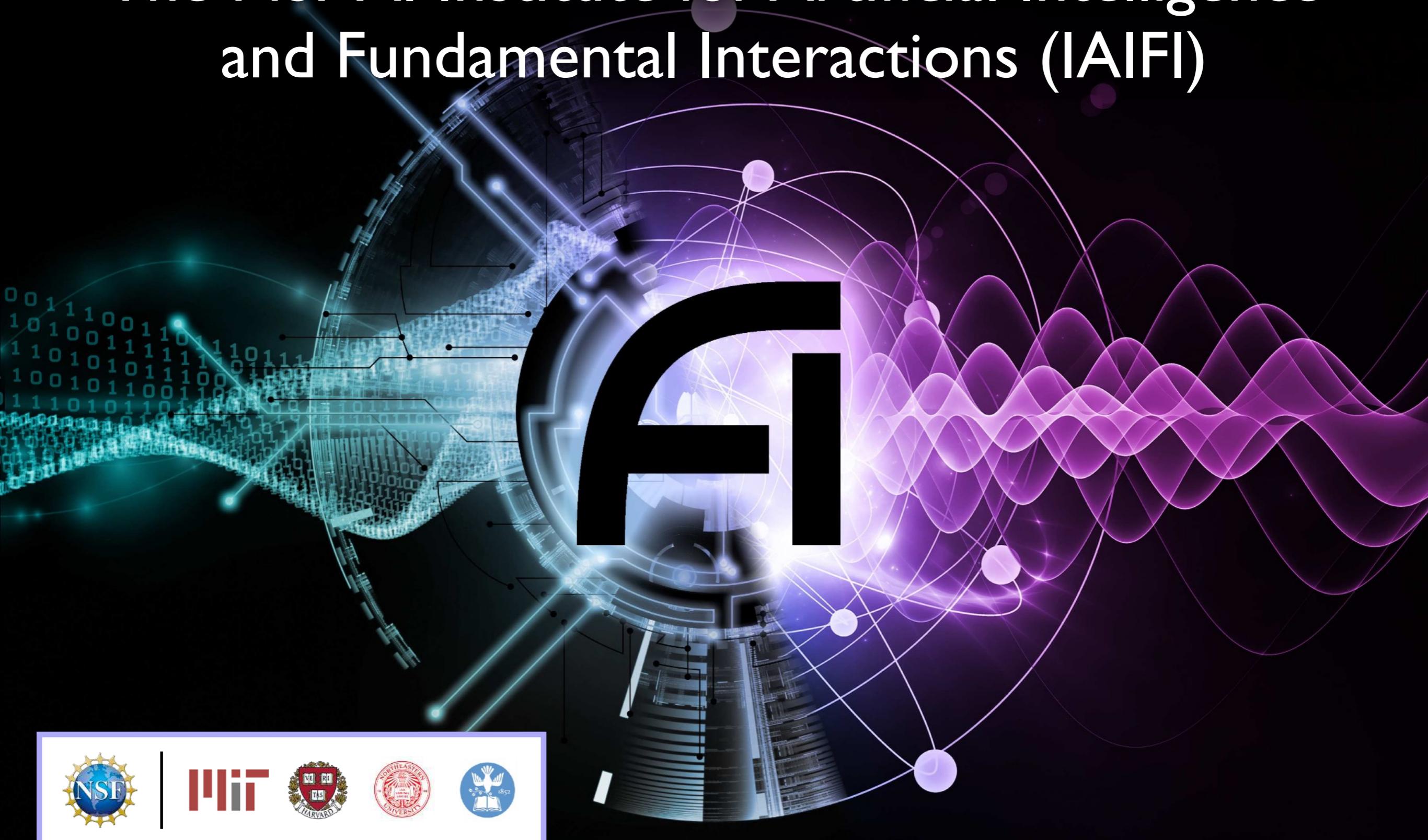
## Particle Physics meets Machine Learning

Jesse Thaler



8.S50 — January 15, 2021

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



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

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

“eye-phi”



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



Pulkit Agrawal  
Lisa Barsotti  
Isaac Chuang  
William Detmold  
Bill Freeman  
Philip Harris  
Kerstin Perez  
Alexander Rakhlin

Phiala Shanahan  
Tracy Slatyer  
Marin Soljacic  
Justin Solomon  
Washington Taylor  
Max Tegmark  
Jesse Thaler  
Mike Williams



Demba Ba  
Edo Berger  
Cora Dvorkin  
Daniel Eisenstein  
Doug Finkbeiner  
Matthew Schwartz  
Yaron Singer  
Todd Zickler



James Halverson  
Brent Nelson

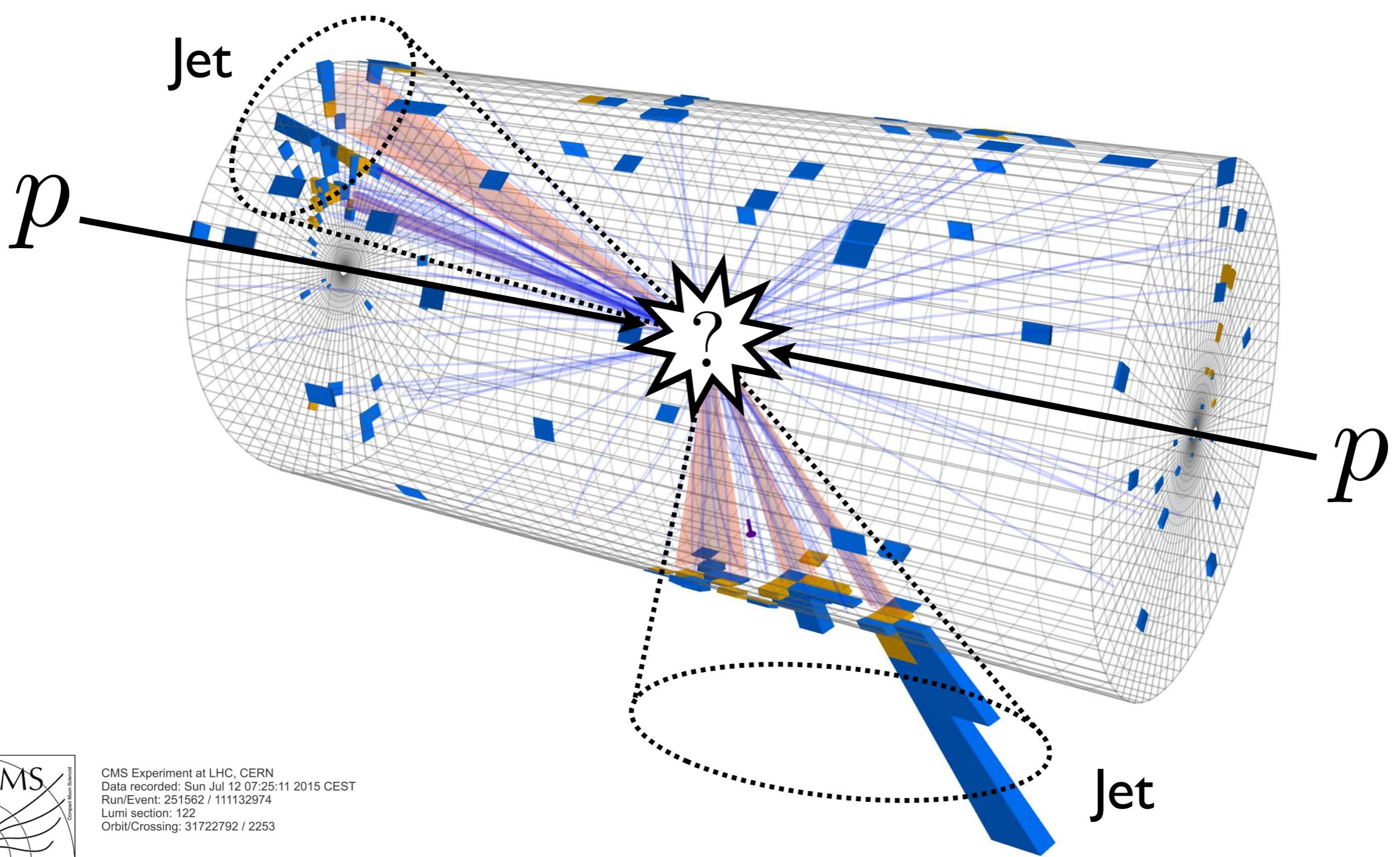


Taritree Wongjirad

MIT c Boston Area: Critical Mass for Transformative Ab Initio AI Research

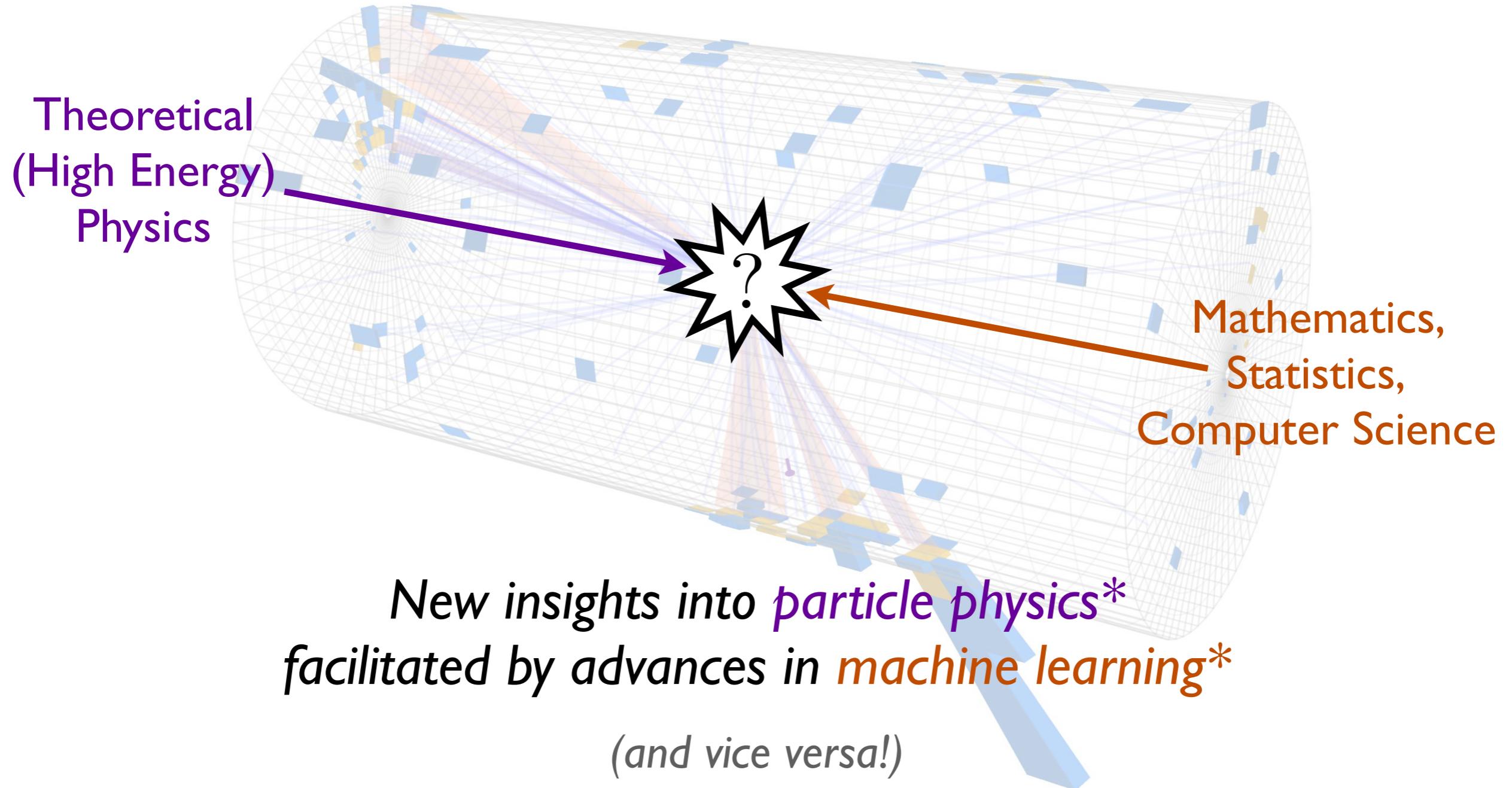
# “Collision Course”

“Theoretical Physics for Machine Learning”  
Aspen Center for Physics, January 2019



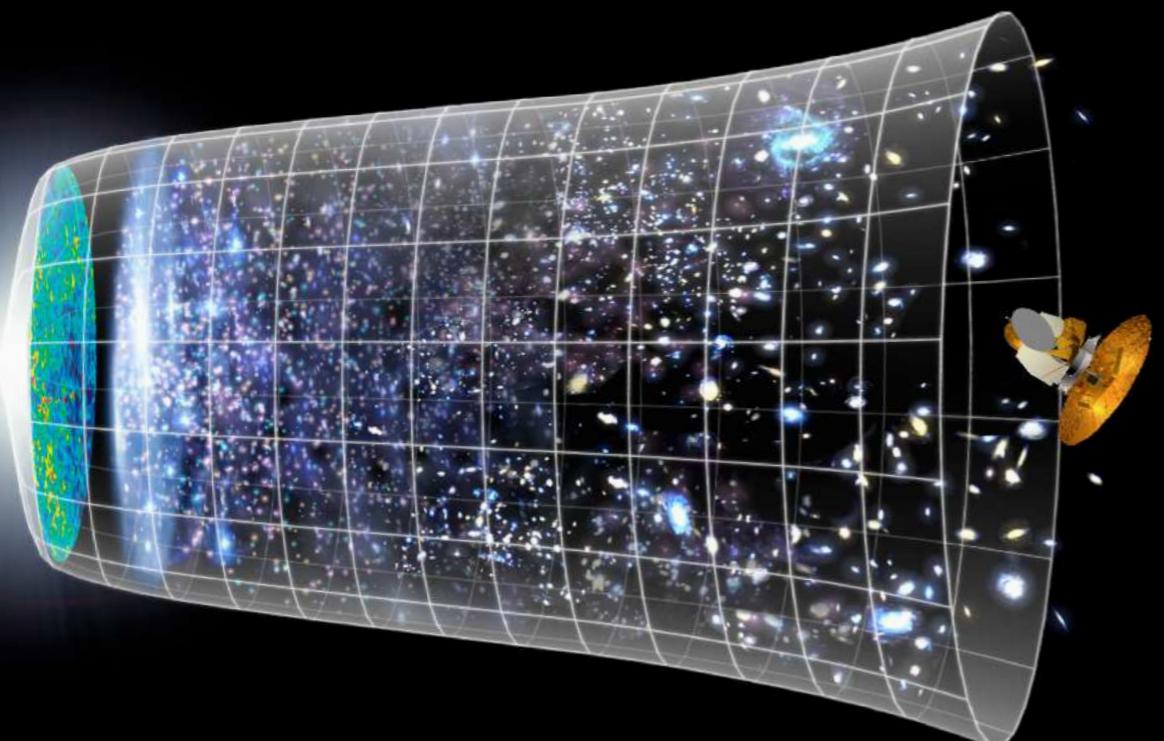
# “Collision Course”

“Theoretical Physics for Machine Learning”  
Aspen Center for Physics, January 2019

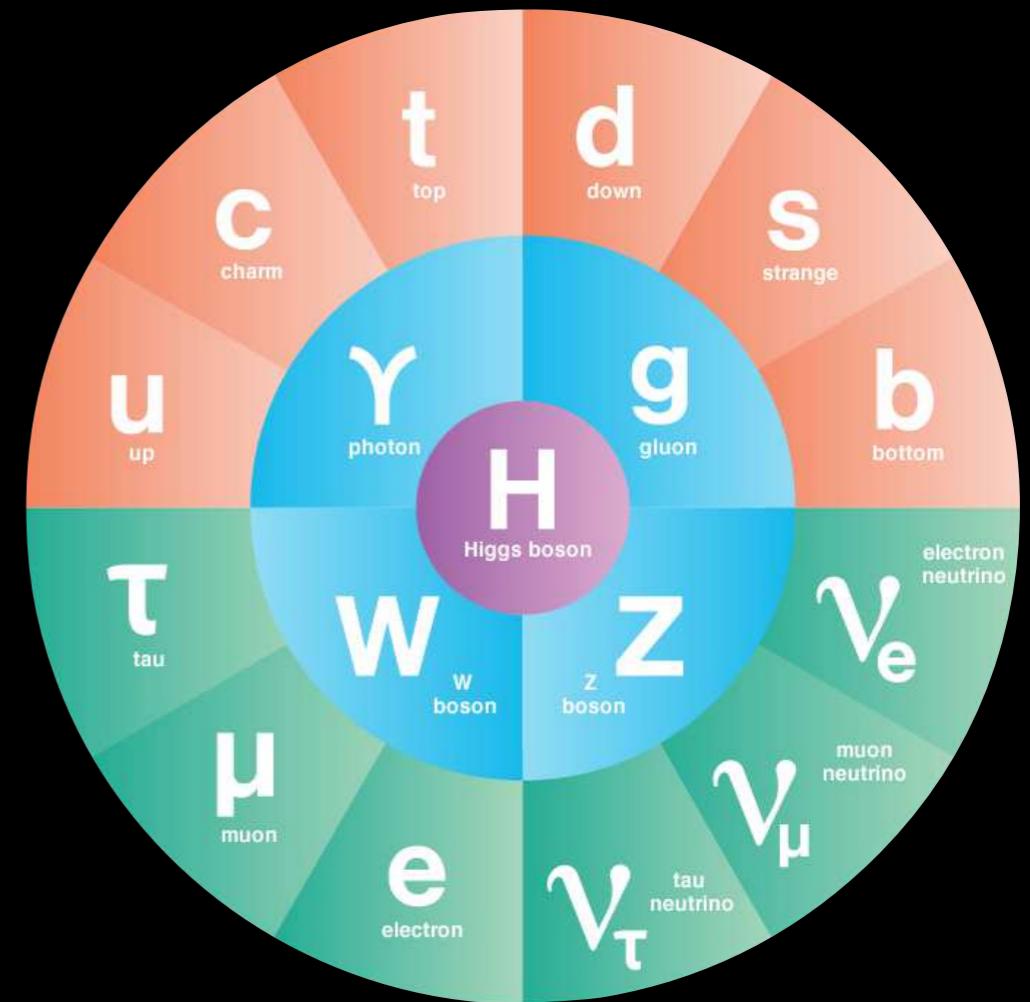


# Pillars of Fundamental Physics

## Big Bang Cosmology



## Standard Model

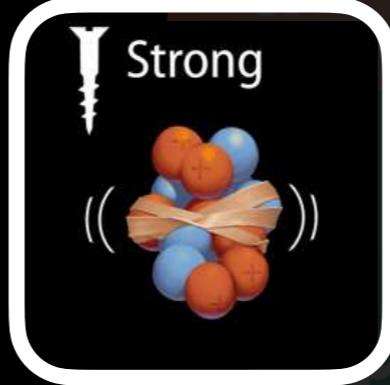
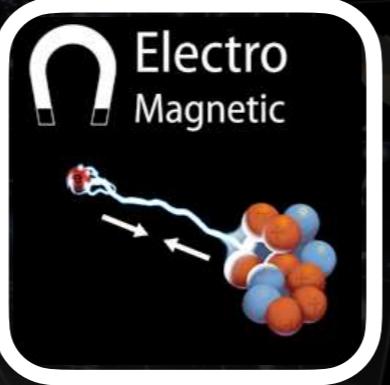


# Pillars of Fundamental Physics

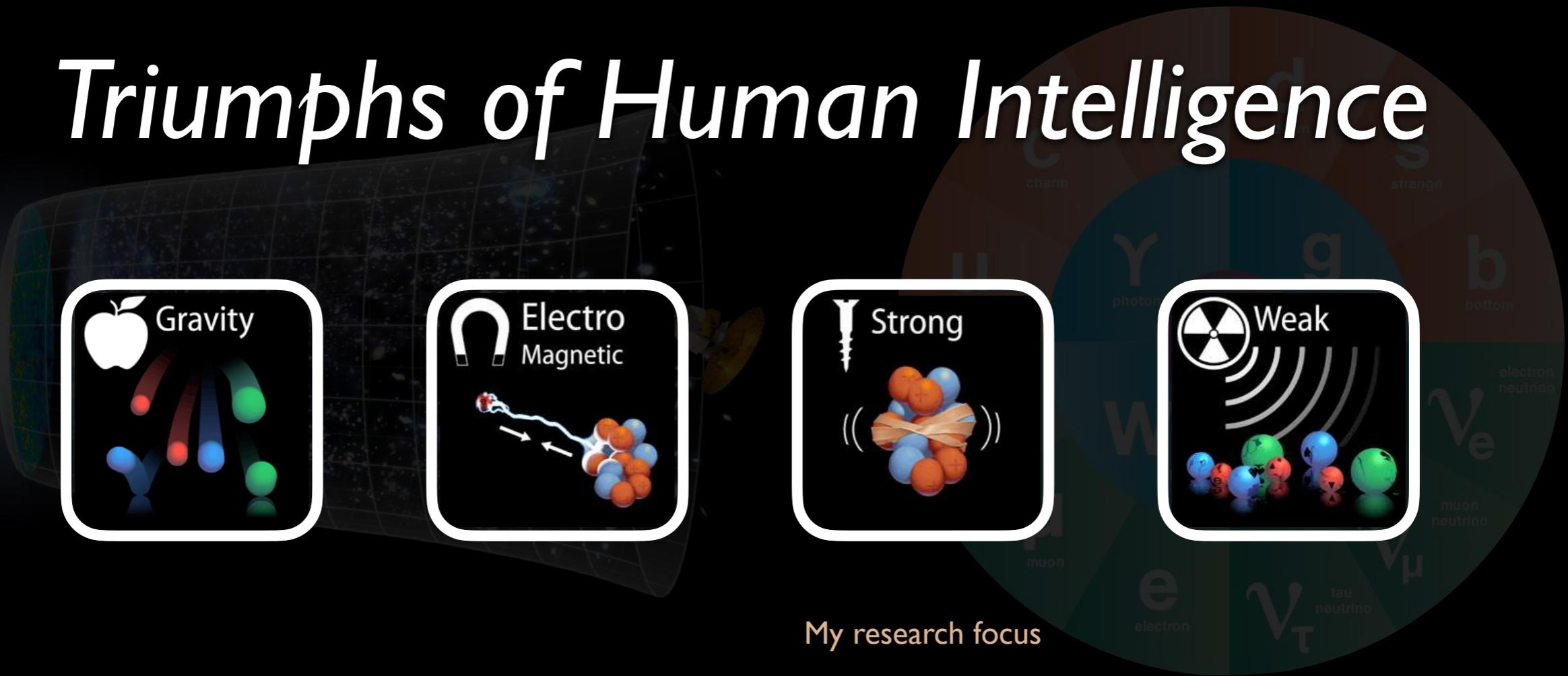
Big Bang Cosmology

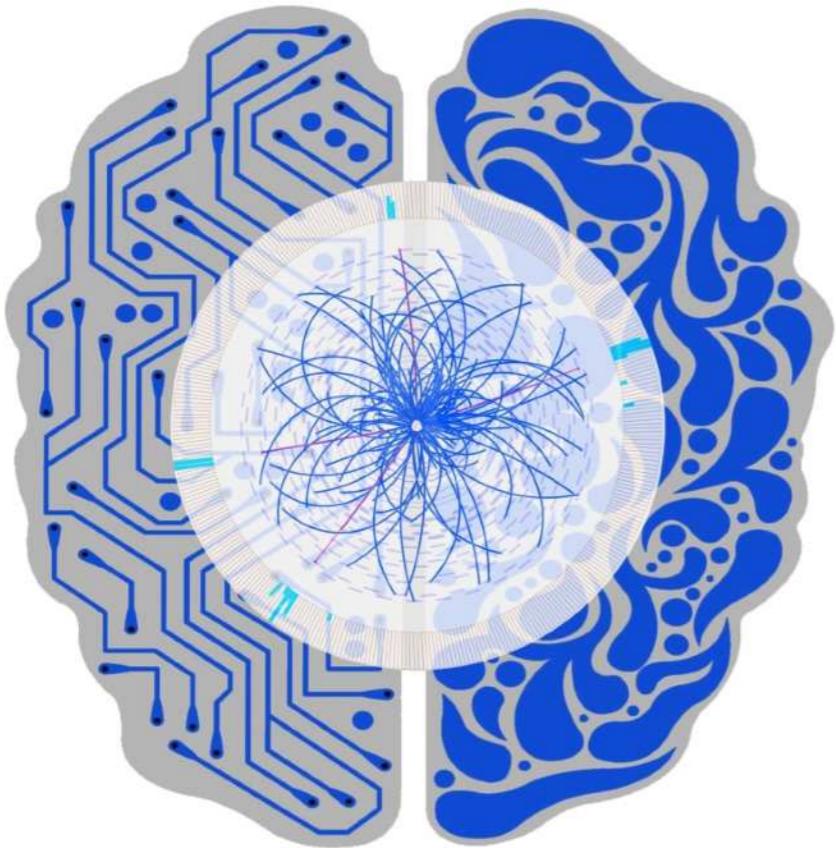
Standard Model

## Triumphs of Human Intelligence



My research focus





*Can we teach a machine  
to “think” like a physicist?*

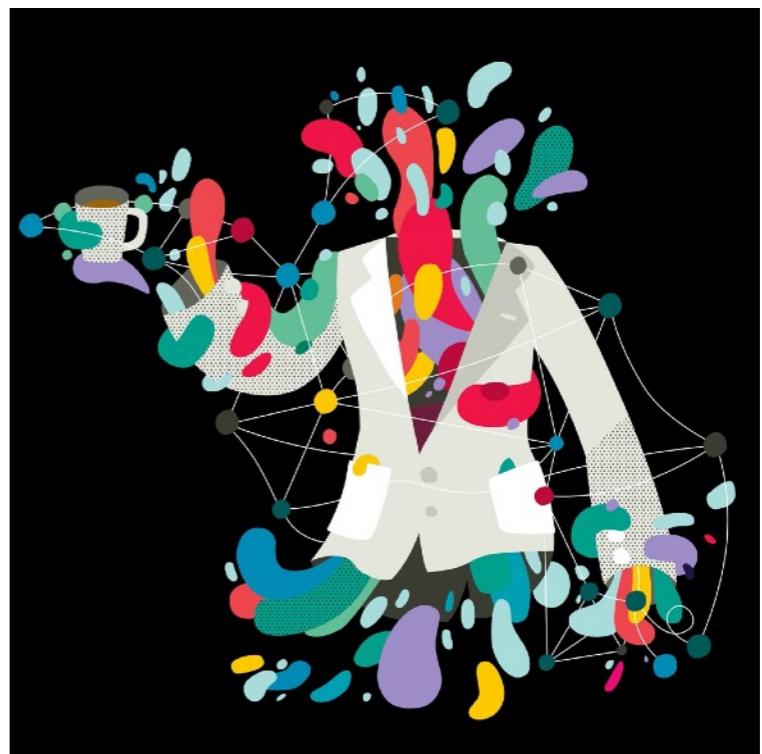
The New York Times



By Dennis Overbye

Nov. 23, 2020

Can a Computer Devise a Theory of Everything?



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

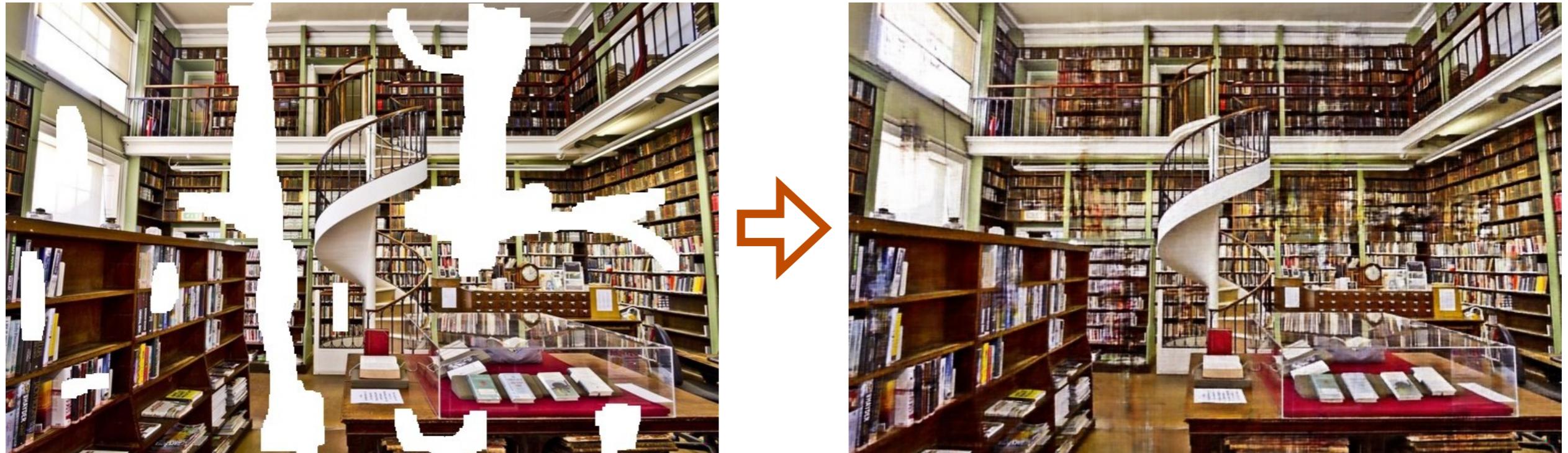


*Machine learning that incorporates  
first principles, best practices, and domain knowledge  
from fundamental physics*

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

# Deep Learning

*E.g. Inpainting*

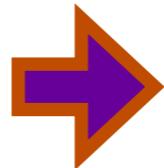


increased computational power and large data sets

[Ulyanov, Vedaldi, Lempitsky, CVPR 2018]

# Deep Learning meets Deep Thinking

E.g. *Inpainting*

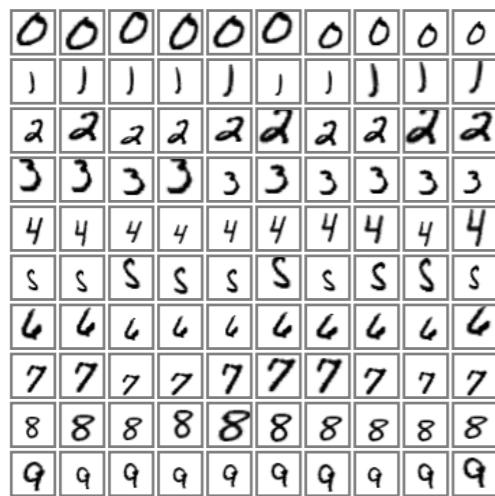
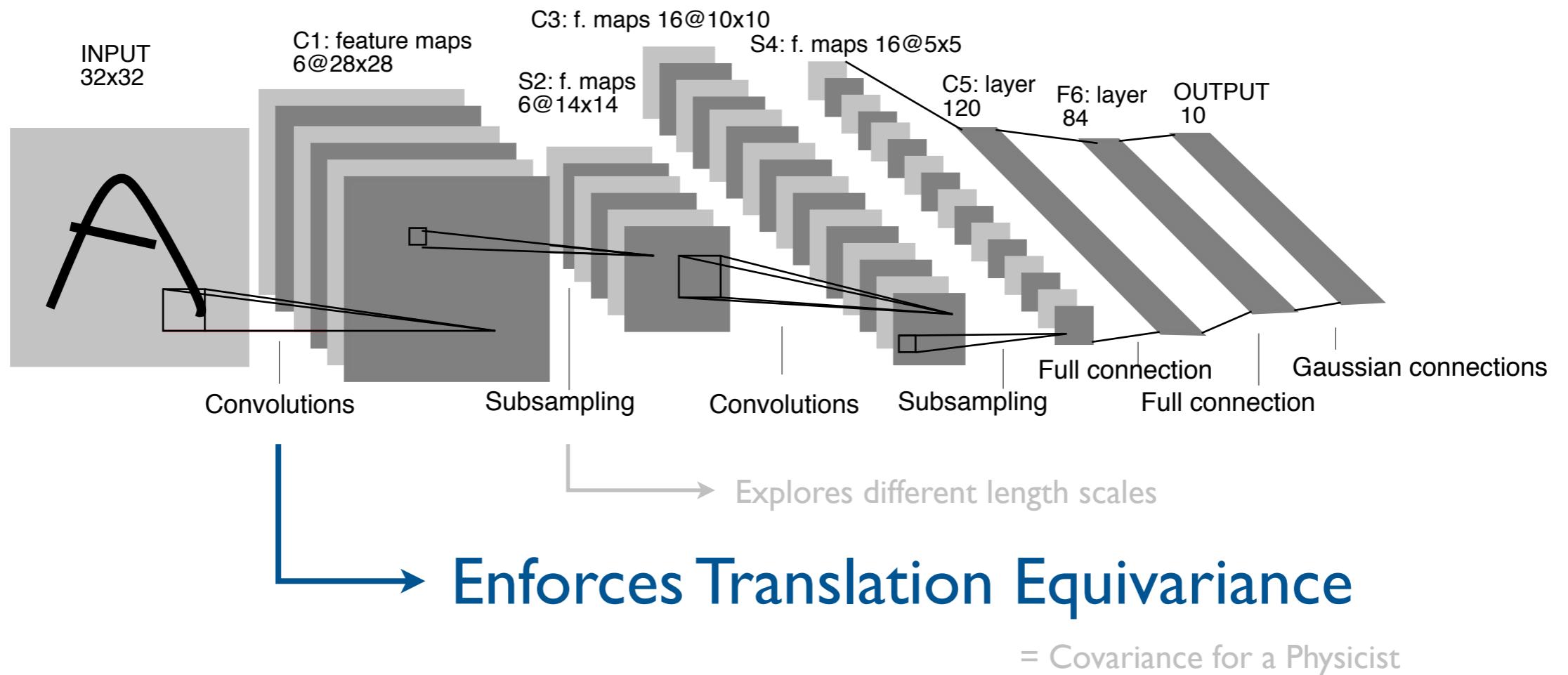


Using randomly initialized neural network (!)

Progress made by understanding the structure of problems  
(not just increased computational power and large data sets)

[Ulyanov, Vedaldi, Lempitsky, CVPR 2018]

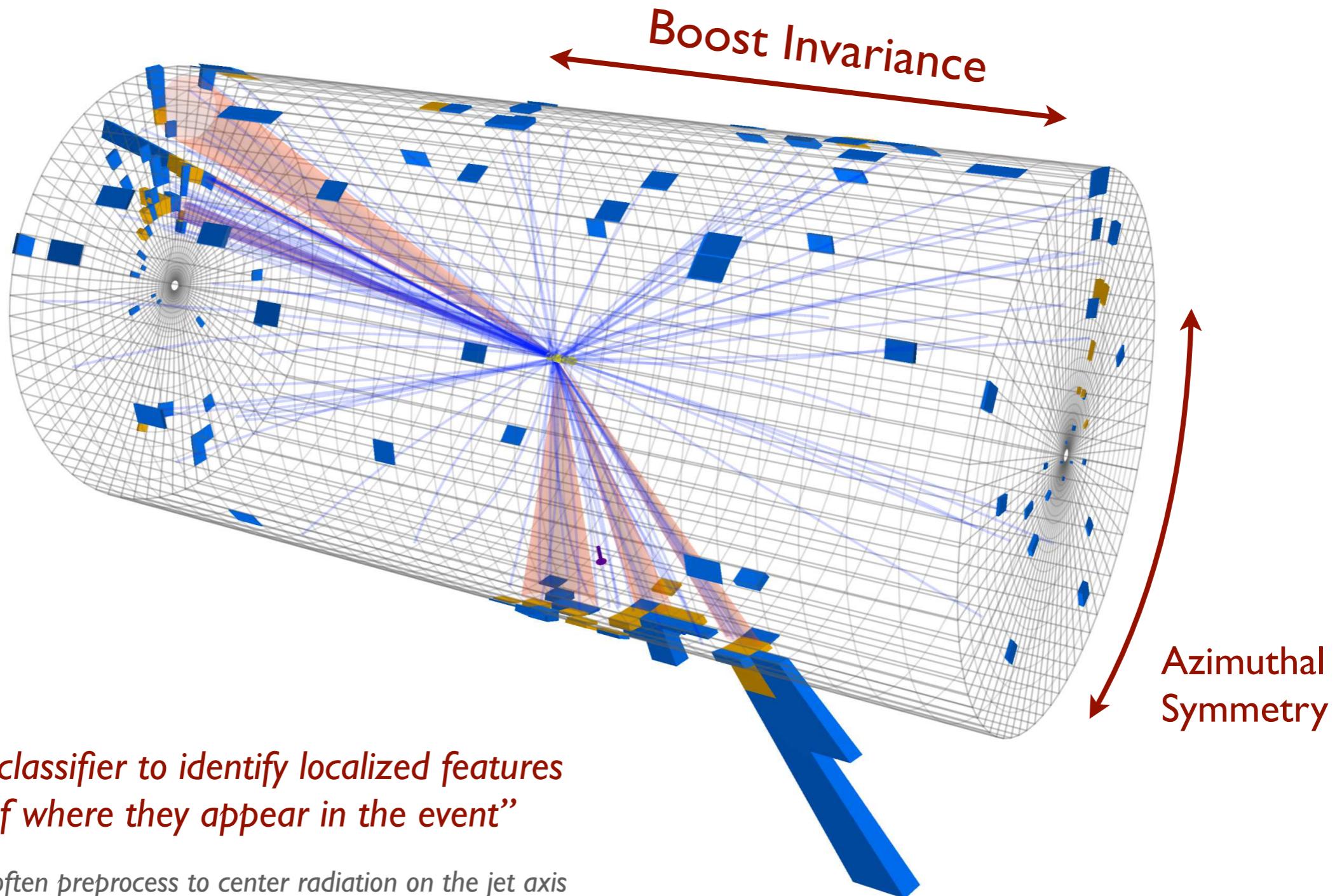
# Symmetries of Convolutional NNs



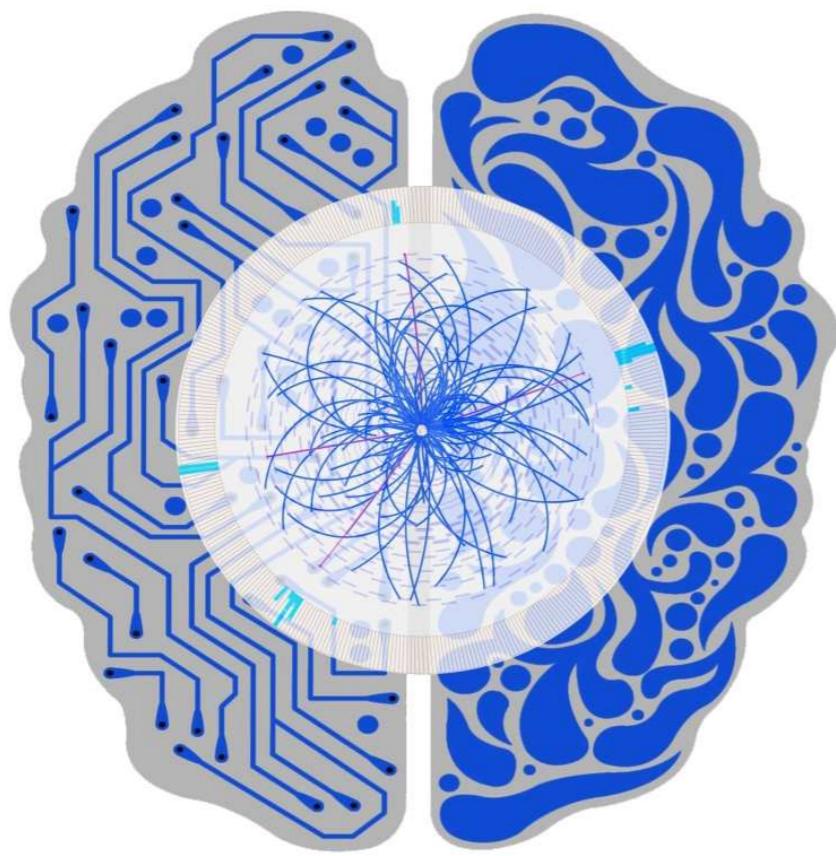
*"I want my classifier to identify localized features regardless of where they appear in the image"*

[image from LeCun, Bottou, Bengio, Haffner, 1998]

# Symmetries of Collision Events



[image from CMS, 2015]



*Can we encode known  
structures of particle  
physics data into a neural  
network architecture?*

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

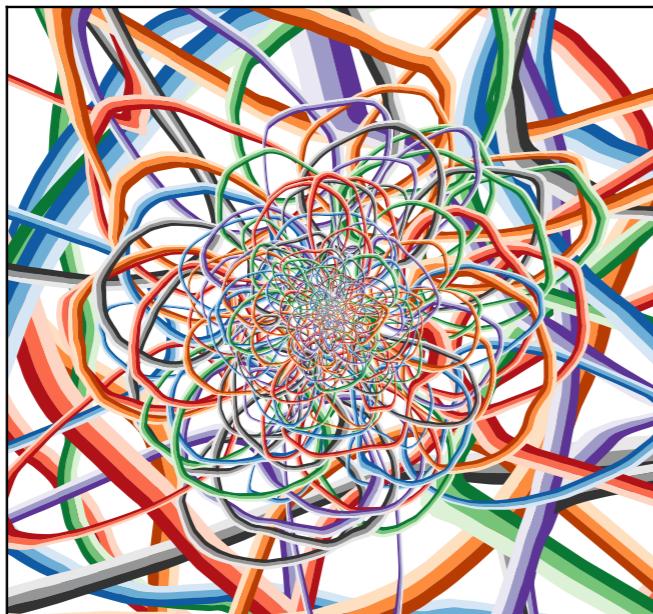


Convolutional Neural Networks  $\leftrightarrow$  Translational Equivariance

$\Rightarrow$  Momentum Conservation

Energy Flow Networks  $\leftrightarrow$

Identical Particles (QM)  
Infrared/Collinear Safety (QFT)



[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, JHEP 2019]

$$\begin{matrix} \text{AI} \\ \times \text{ AI} \\ = \text{AI}^2 \end{matrix}$$

Powerful strategy to  
analyze LHC collisions

Efficient neural network  
for point clouds

Cross-cutting research  
across disciplines



# Likelihood Ratio Trick

Many particle physics problems  
can be expressed in this form!

Key example of *simulation-based inference*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

# Likelihood Ratio Trick

Many particle physics problems  
can be expressed in this form!

Key example of *simulation-based inference*

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

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

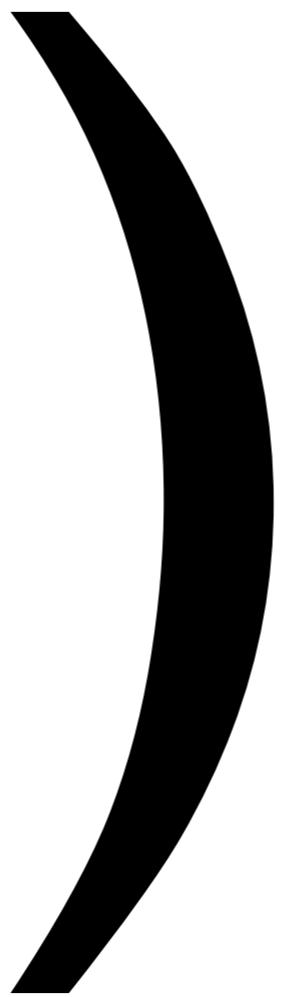
Lagrangian:  $\mathcal{L}(x) = -p(x) \log f(x) + q(x)(f(x) - 1)$

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

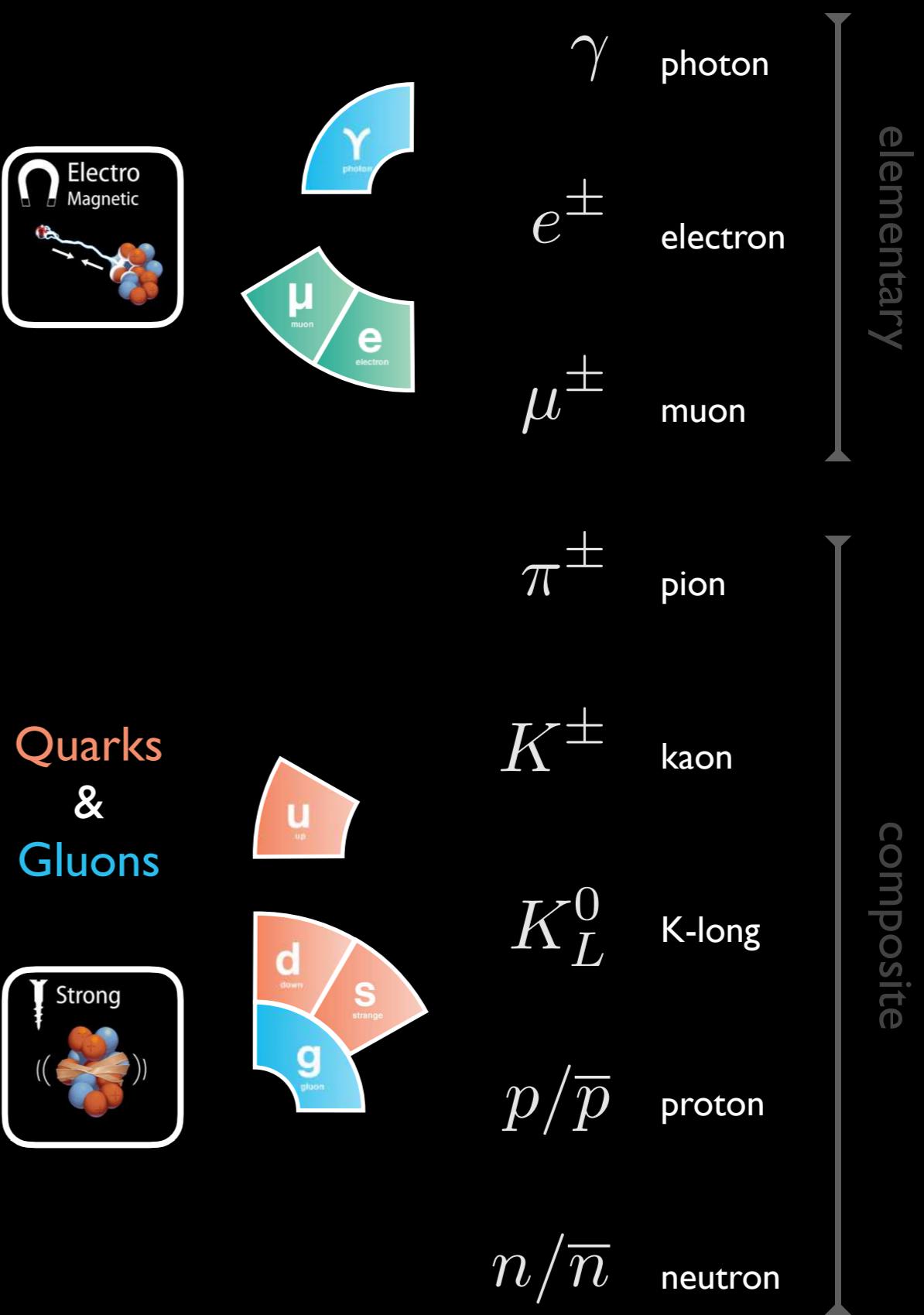
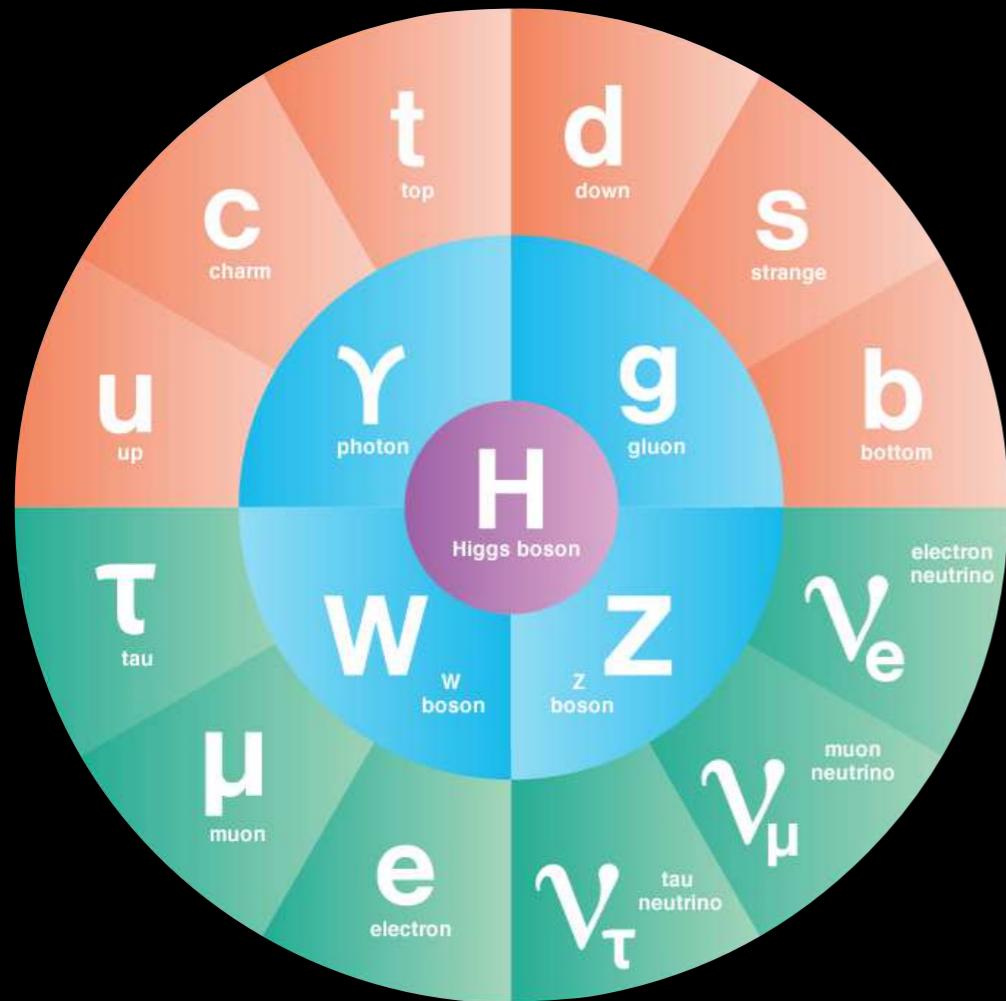
Solution:  $f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$

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

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

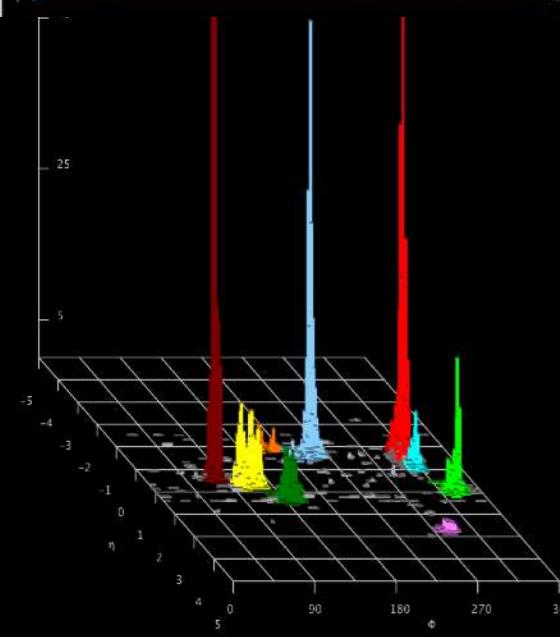
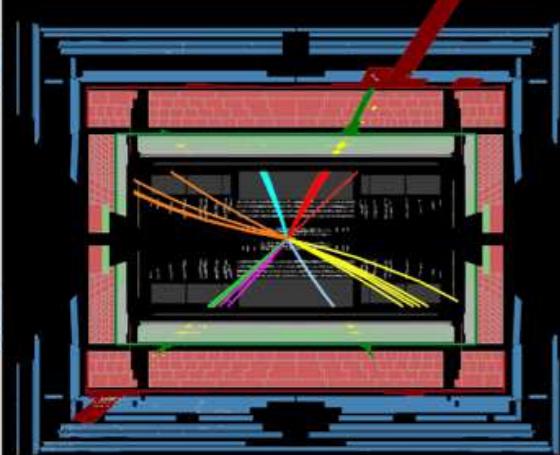


# Particle Physics 101

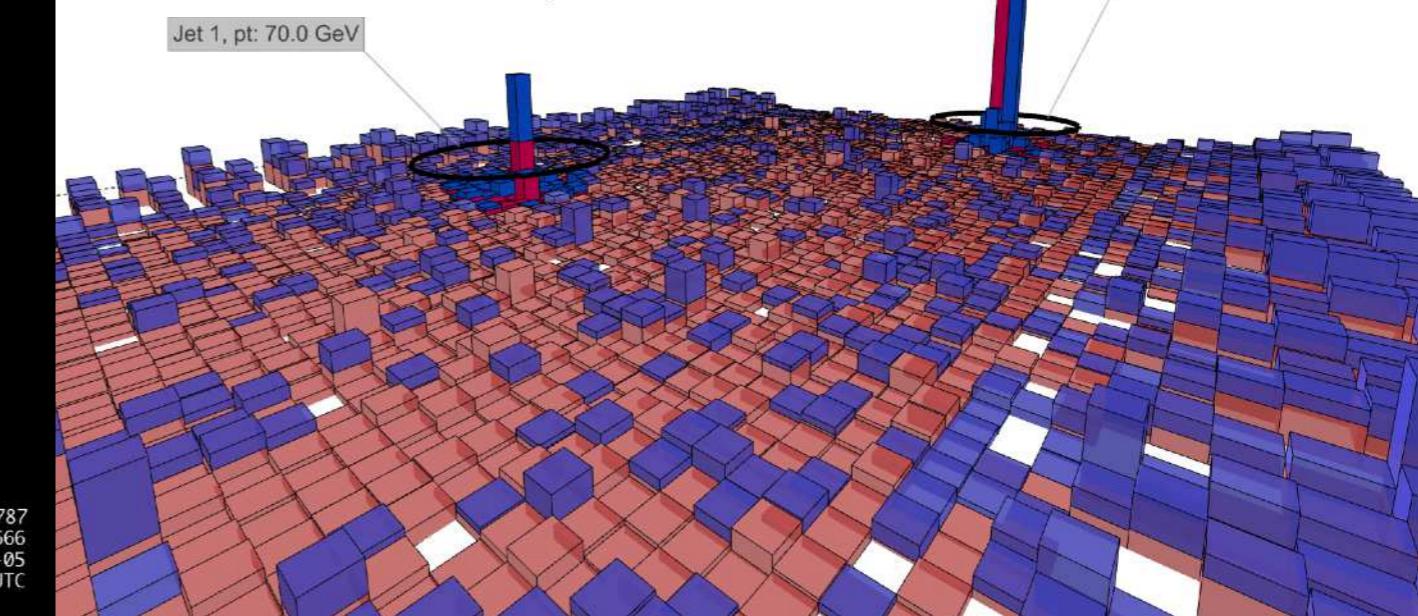
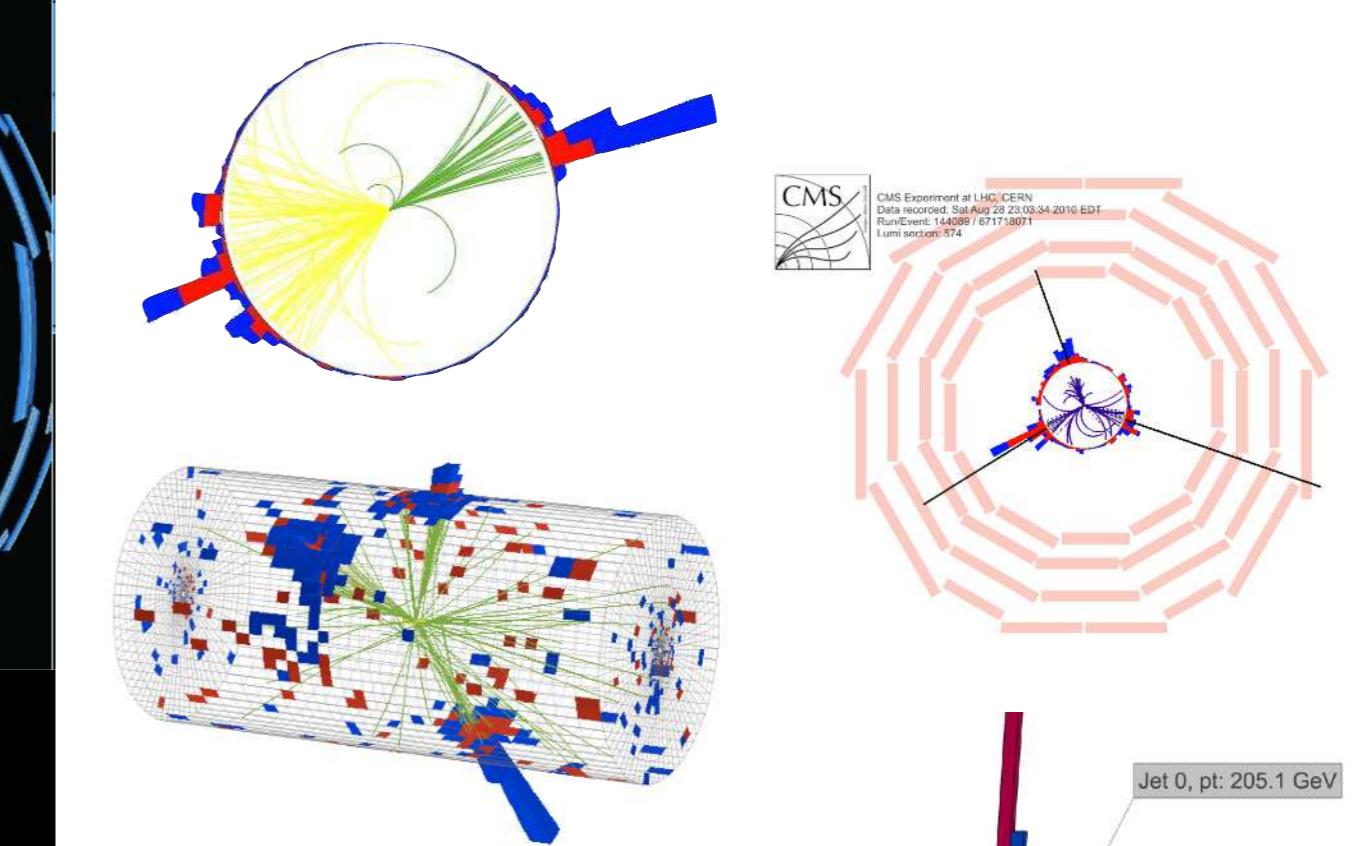
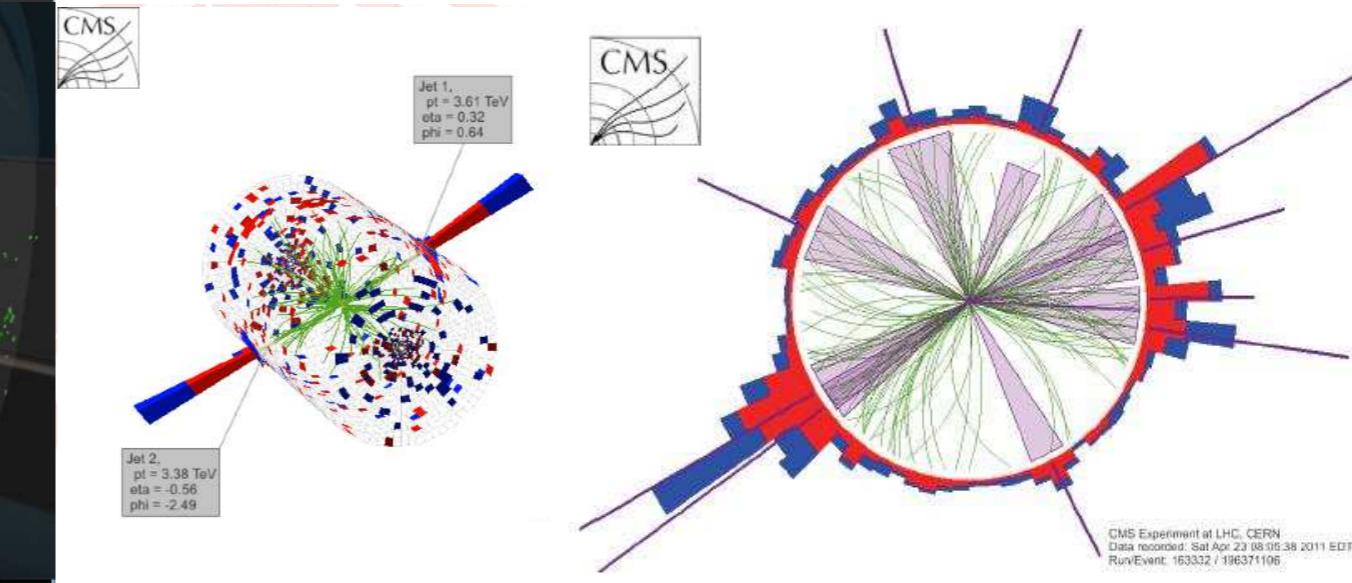
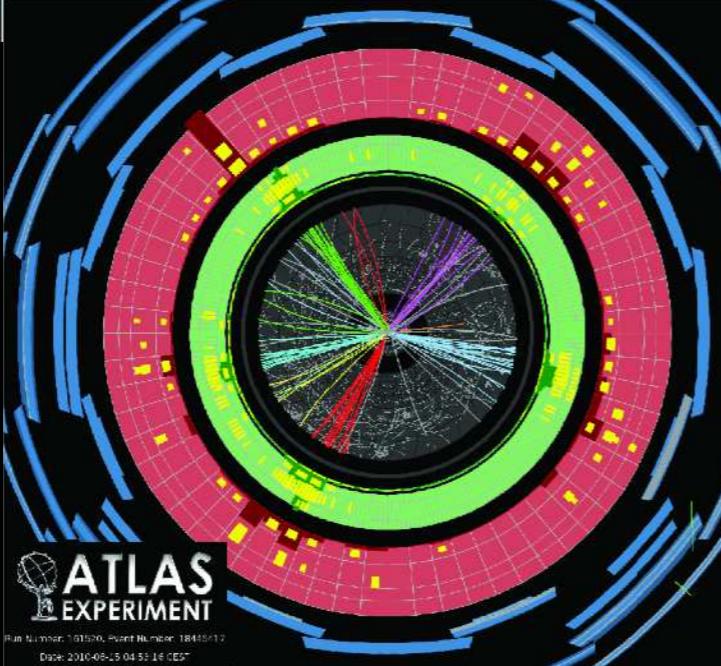
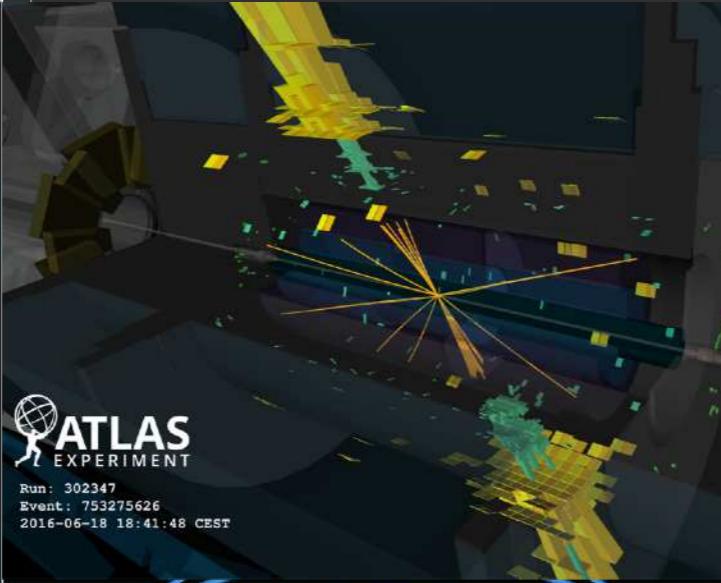
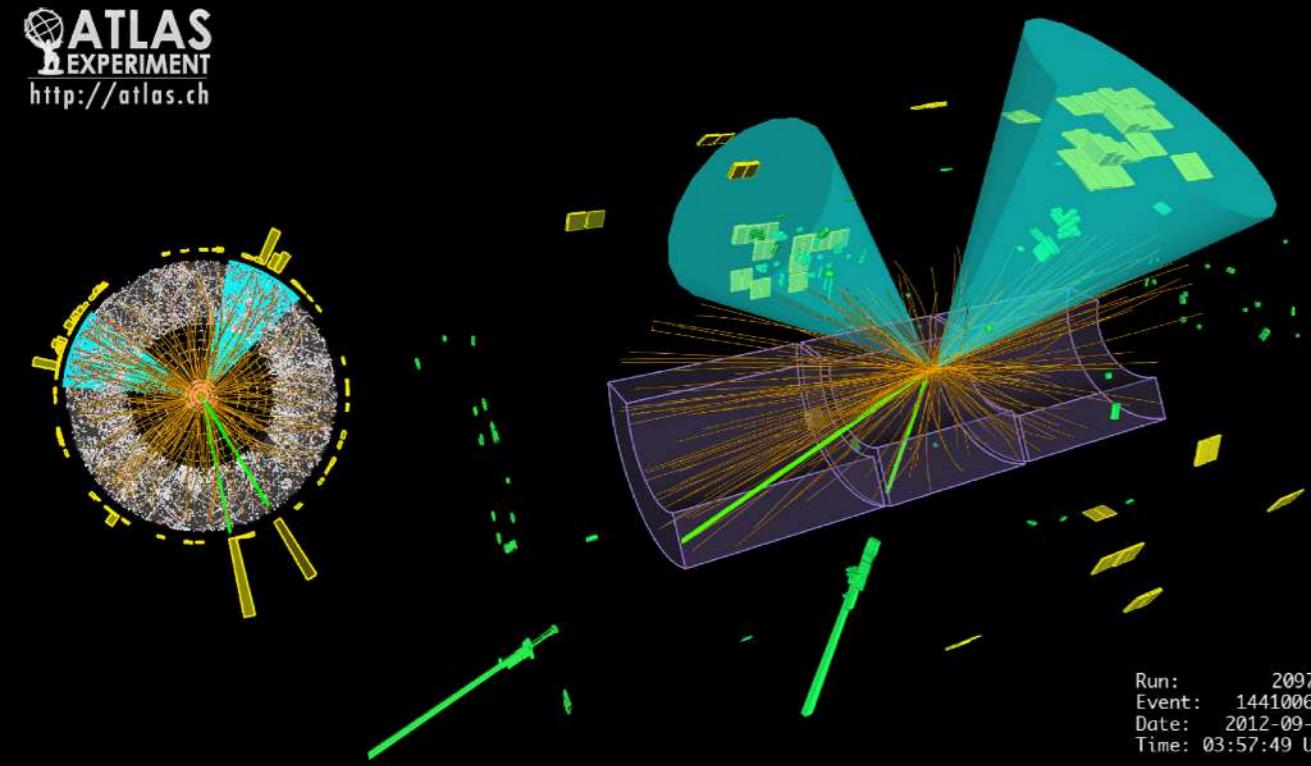


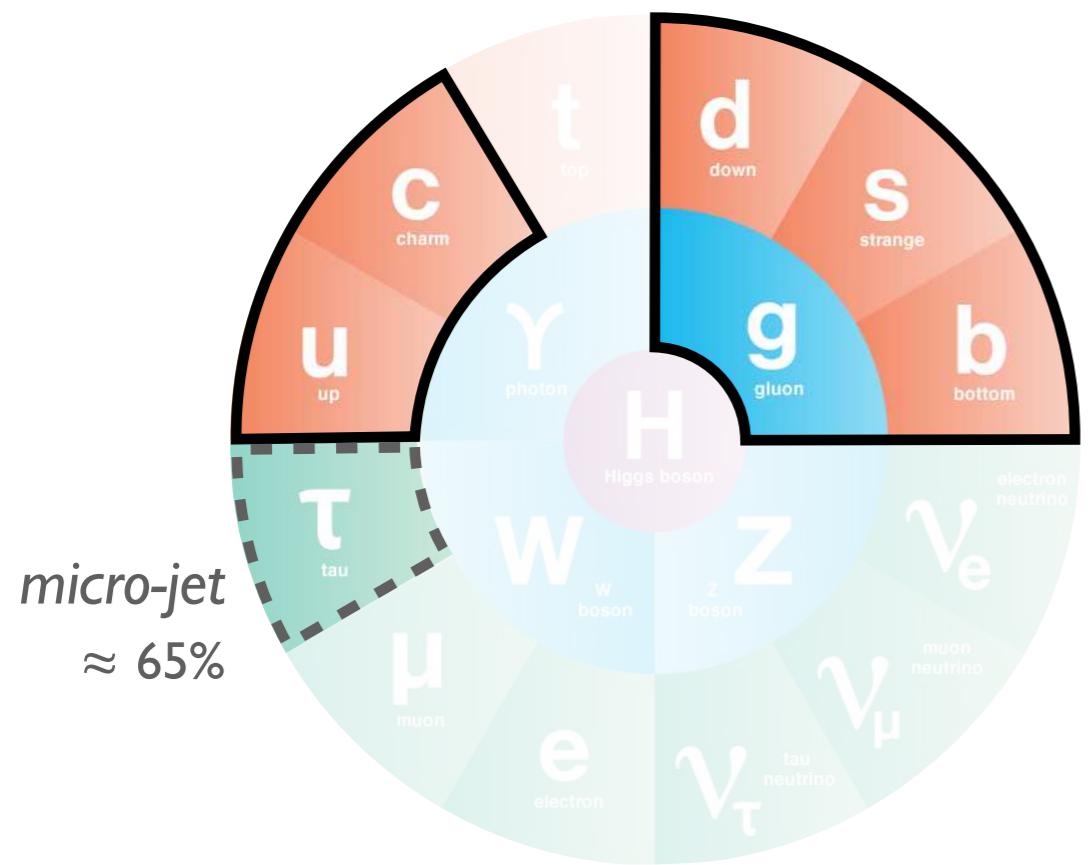
Run Number: 159224, Event Number: 3533152

Date: 2010-07-18 11:05:54 CEST



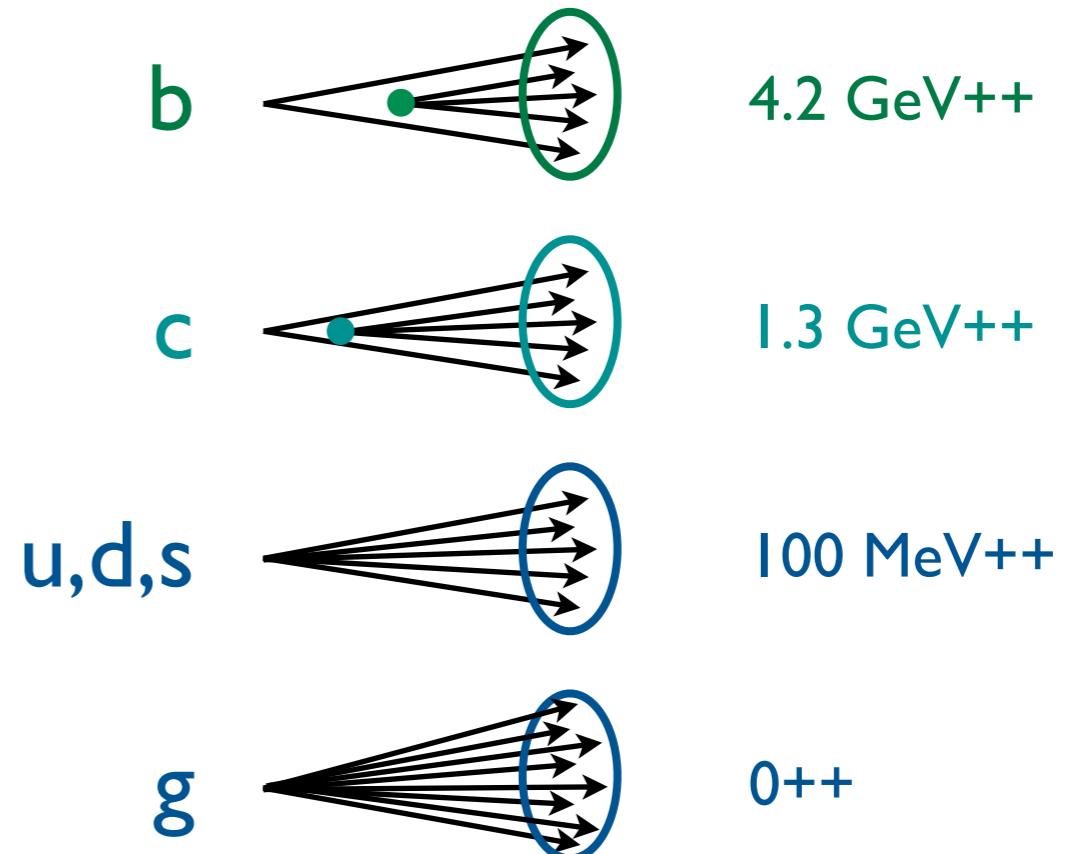
**ATLAS**  
EXPERIMENT  
<http://atlas.ch>

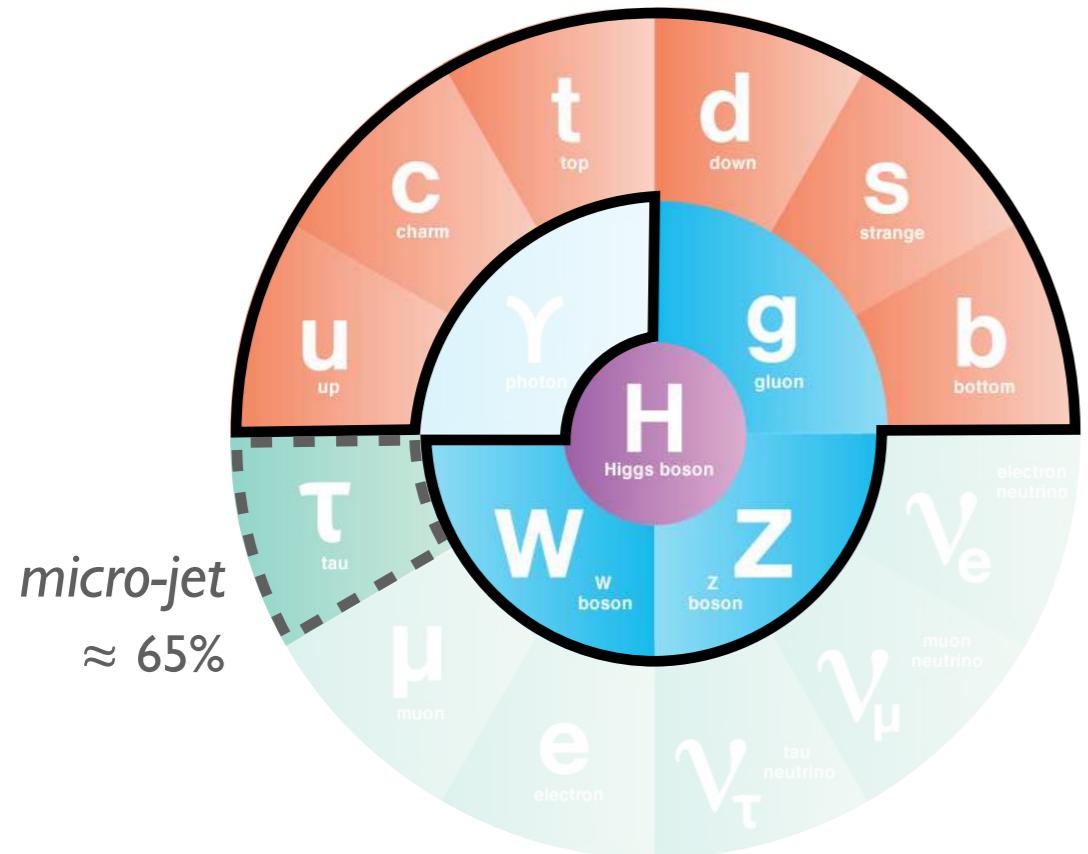




## *Jets from the Standard Model*

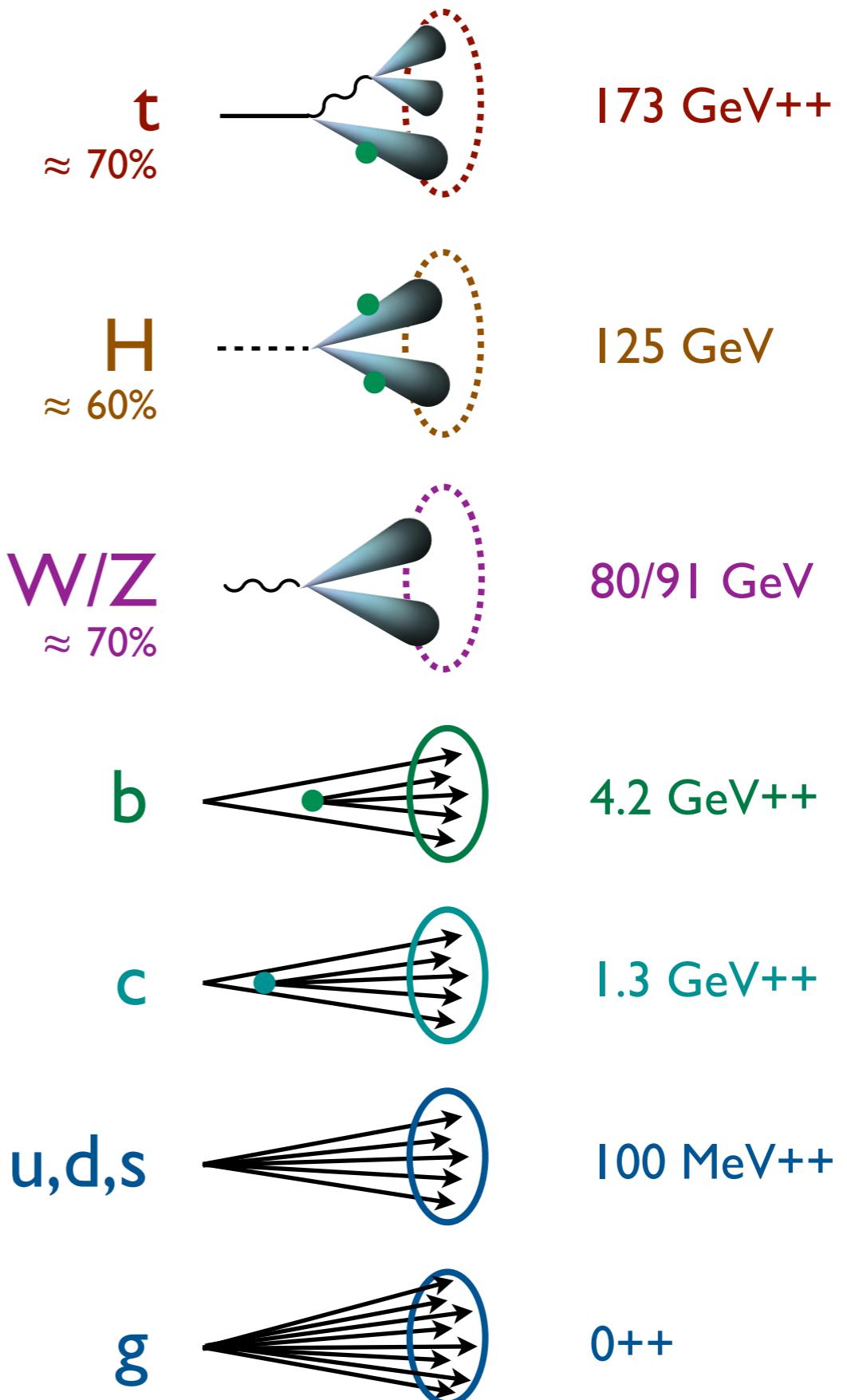
$\text{++}$  = Mass from QCD Radiation





## *Jets from the Standard Model*

$\text{++}$  = Mass from QCD Radiation



T E H M



$\gamma$

photon



$e^+$

electron



$\mu^+$

muon



$\pi^+$

pion



$K^+$

kaon



$K_L^0$

K-long



$p/\bar{p}$

proton



$n/\bar{n}$

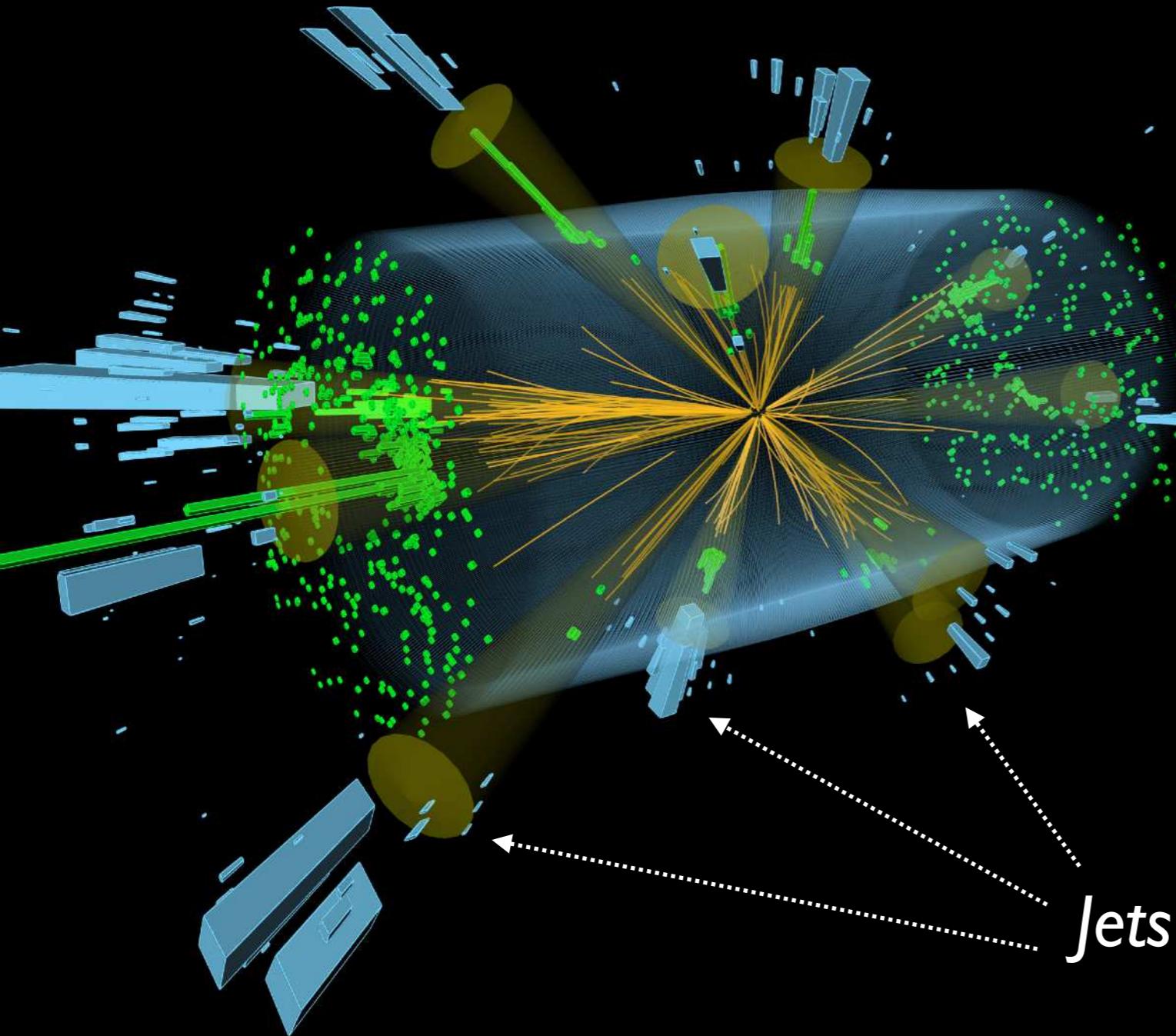
neutron

elementary

composite

# Collider Event

Collection of points in (momentum) space



T E H M

 $\gamma$ 

photon

 $e^+$ 

electron

 $\mu^+$ 

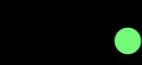
muon

 $\pi^+$ 

pion

 $K^+$ 

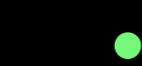
kaon

 $K_L^0$ 

K-long

 $p/\bar{p}$ 

proton

 $n/\bar{n}$ 

neutron

elementary

composite

# Point Cloud

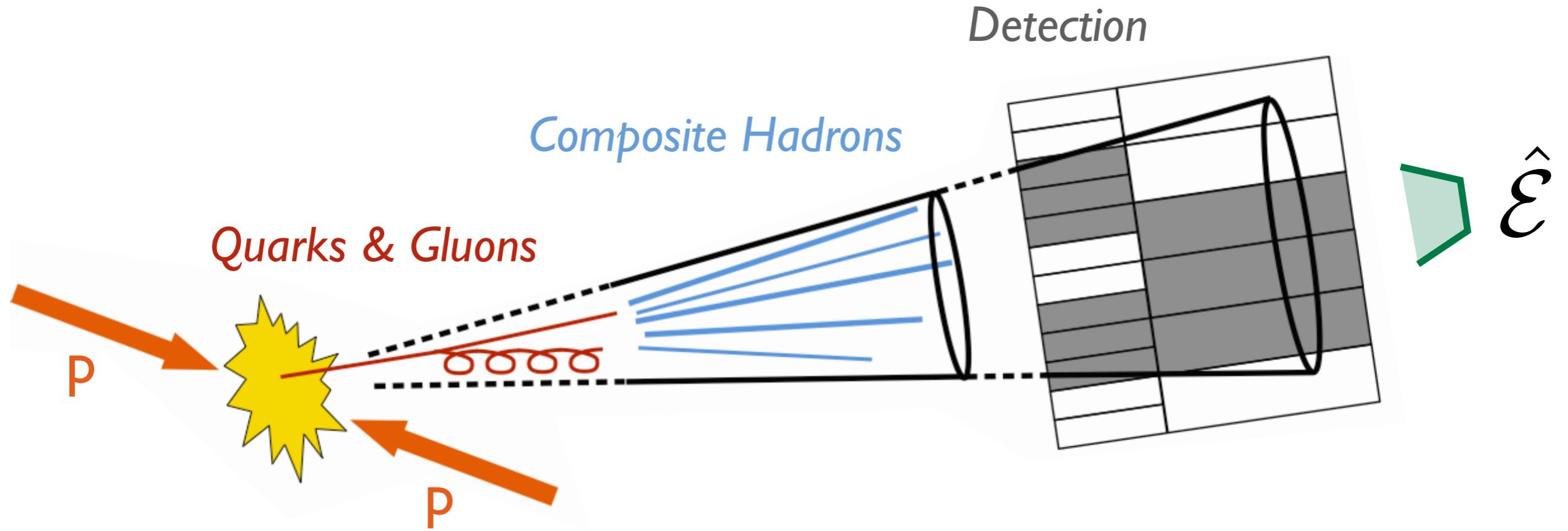
Collection of points in (position) space



[Popular Science, 2013]

# Dynamics of Jet Formation

Theory



*Energy Flow:*  
Robust to hadronization and detector effects

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

[see e.g. Sveshnikov, Tkachov, [PLB 1996](#); Hofman, Maldacena, [JHEP 2008](#); Mateu, Stewart, [JDT, PRD 2013](#); Belitsky, Hohenegger, Korchemsky, Sokatchev, Zhiboedov, [PRL 2014](#); Chen, Moult, Zhang, Zhu, [PRD 2020](#)]

# Principles of Fundamental Physics

*Robustness of Energy Flow*

[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, JHEP 2018]



Patrick Komiske



Eric Metodiev



SF



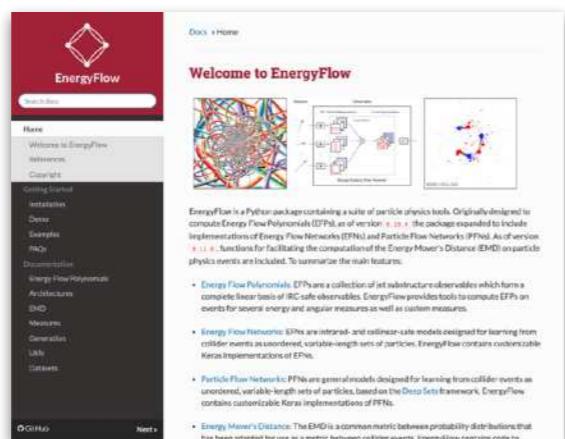
**Power of Artificial Intelligence**

*Point Cloud Learning*

[Zaheer, Kottur, Ravanbakhsh, Poczos, Salakhutdinov, Smola, NIPS 2017]

# Energy Flow Networks

<https://energyflow.network/>  
[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, JHEP 2019]



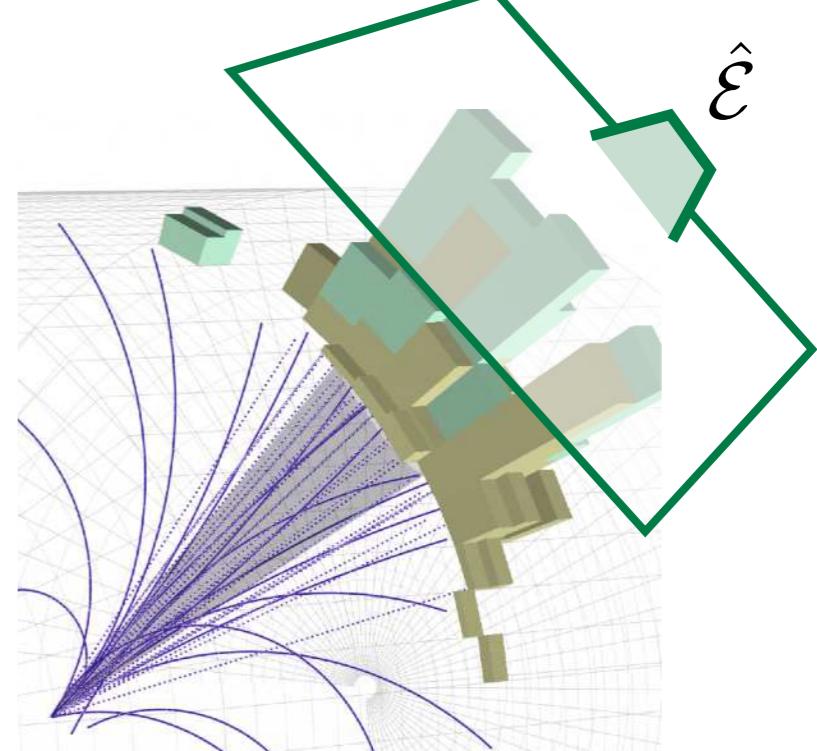
# Jets as Weighted Point Clouds

- Energy-Weighted Directions

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

↑      |  
Energy      Direction

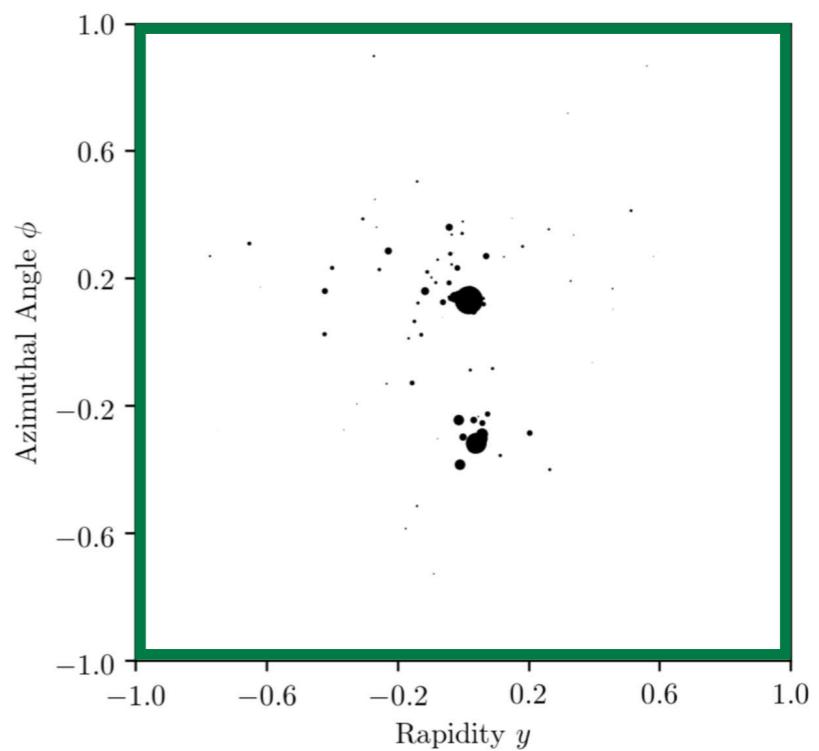
(suppressing “unsafe” charge/flavor information)



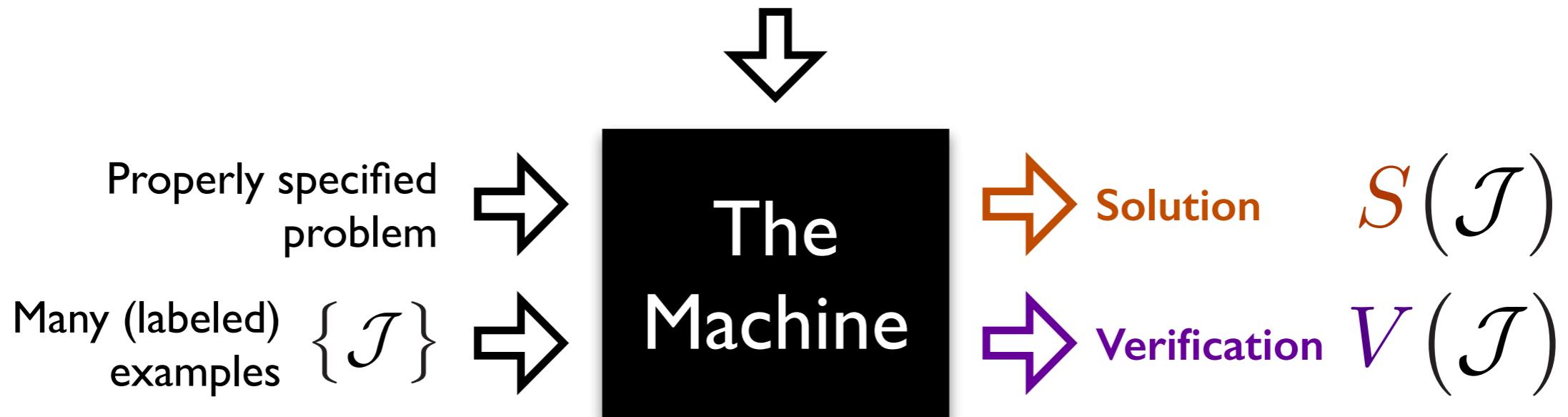
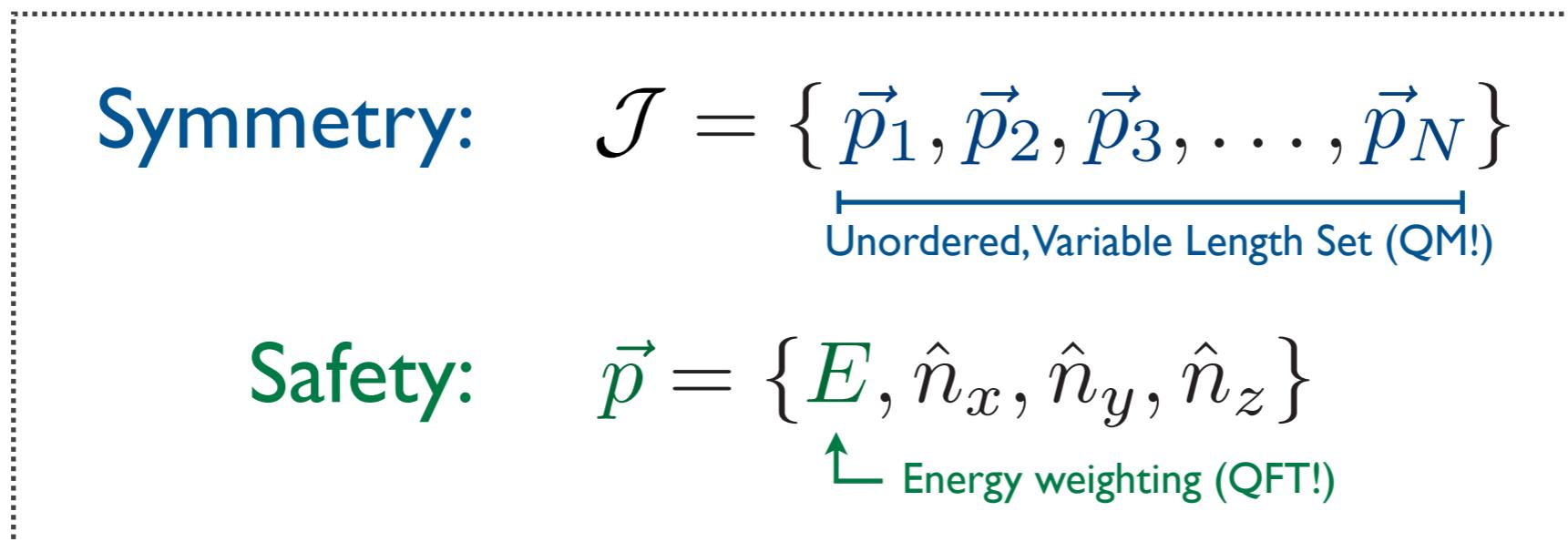
- Equivalently: Energy Density

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

↑      ↑  
Energy      Direction



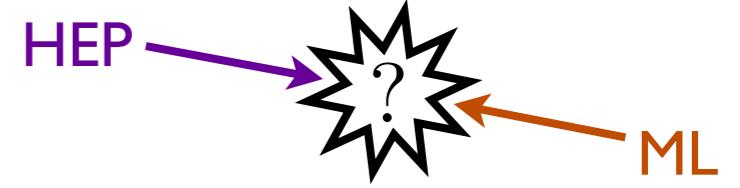
# “Thinking” Like a Physicist



*Check that answer  
is physically sensible*

# Energy Flow Networks

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



$$S(\mathcal{J}) = F(V_1, V_2, \dots, V_\ell)$$
$$V_a(\mathcal{J}) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{J}} E_i \Phi_a(\hat{n}_i)$$

Permutation invariant  $\downarrow$  Linear weights (i.e. safe)  $\downarrow$

Parametrized with Neural Networks

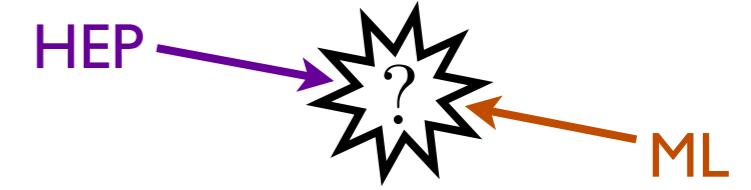
*Provably describes any\* **safe** observable (!)*  
*Excellent jet classification performance*

[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [JHEP 2019](#); see also Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [JHEP 2018](#); code at [energyflow.network](#); special case of Zaheer, Kottur, Ravanbakhsh, Poczos, Salakhutdinov, Smola, [NIPS 2017](#)]



# Energy Flow Networks

Architecture designed around symmetries and *interpretability*

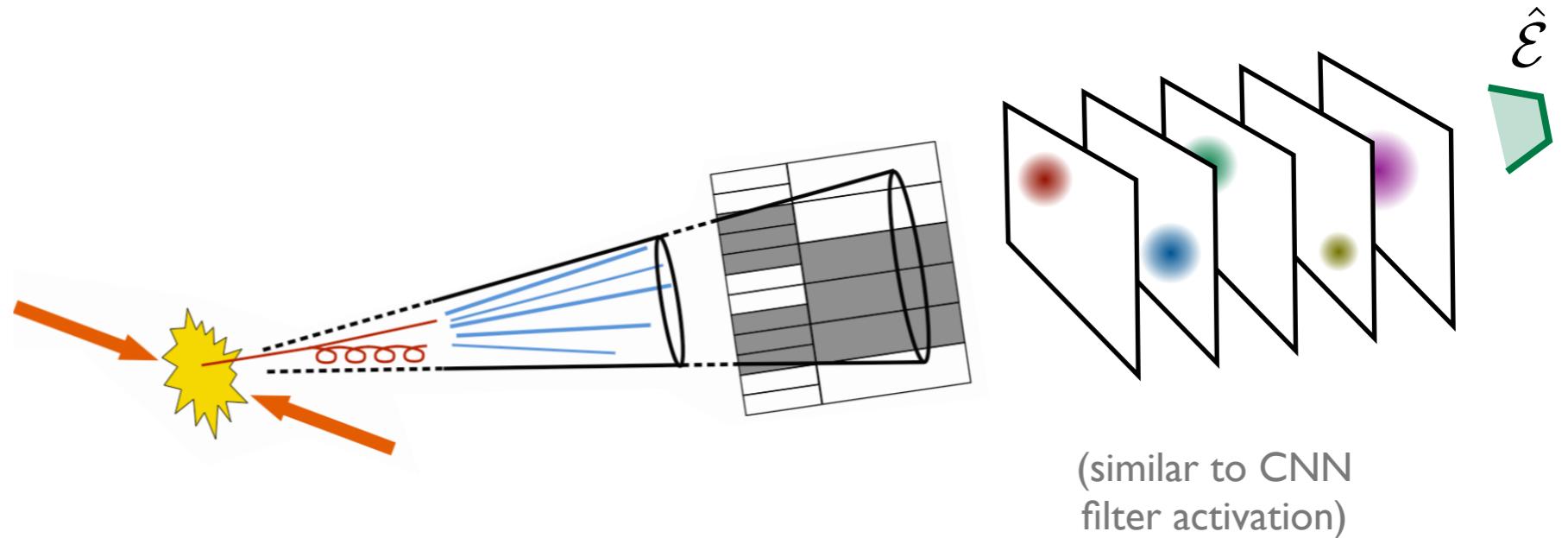


$$S(\mathcal{J}) = F(V_1, V_2, \dots, V_\ell)$$

Latent space of dim  $\ell$

$$V_a(\mathcal{J}) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{J}} E_i \Phi_a(\hat{n}_i)$$

*Easy to plot!*

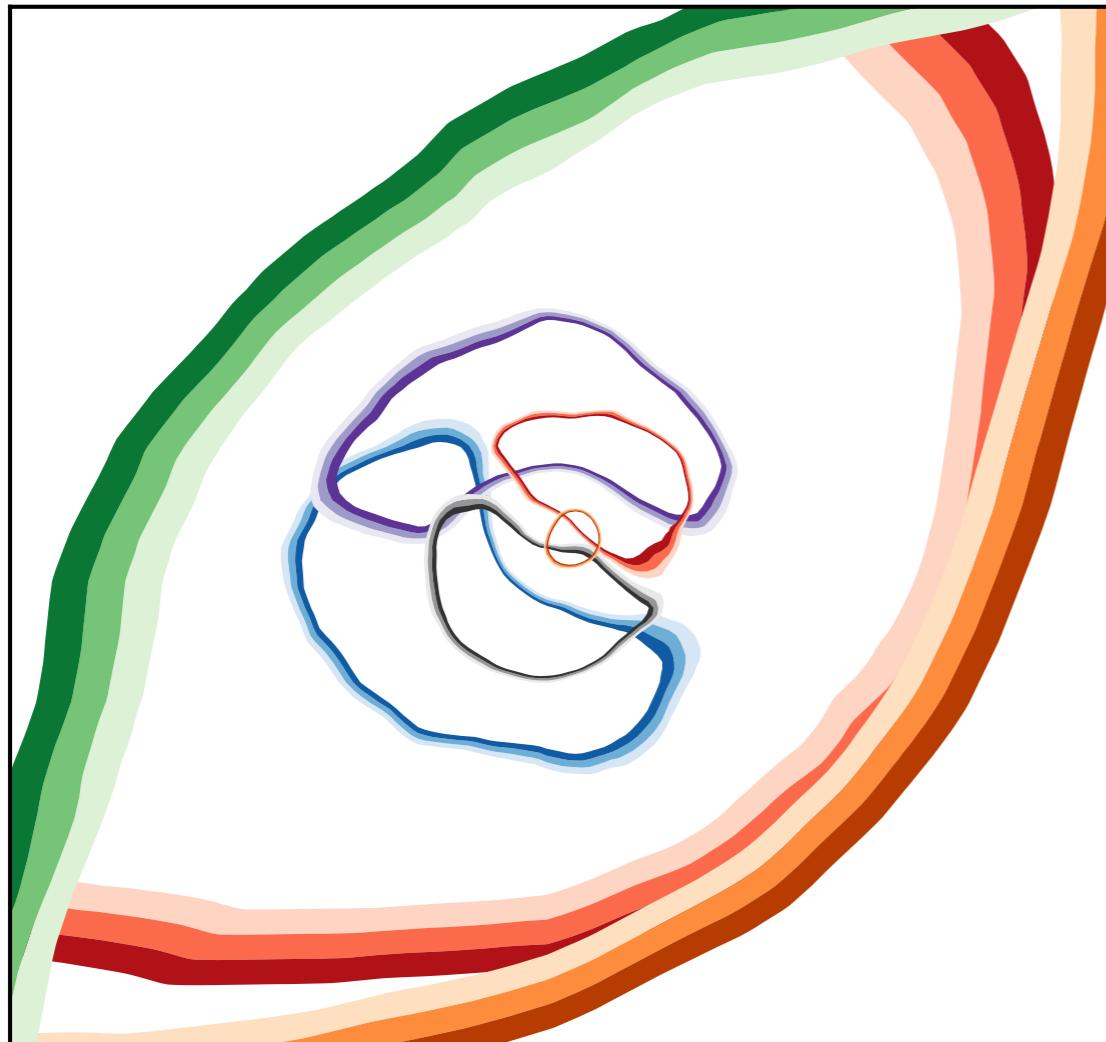


[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [JHEP 2019](#); see also Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [JHEP 2018](#); code at [energyflow.network](#); special case of Zaheer, Kottur, Ravanbakhsh, Poczos, Salakhutdinov, Smola, [NIPS 2017](#)]

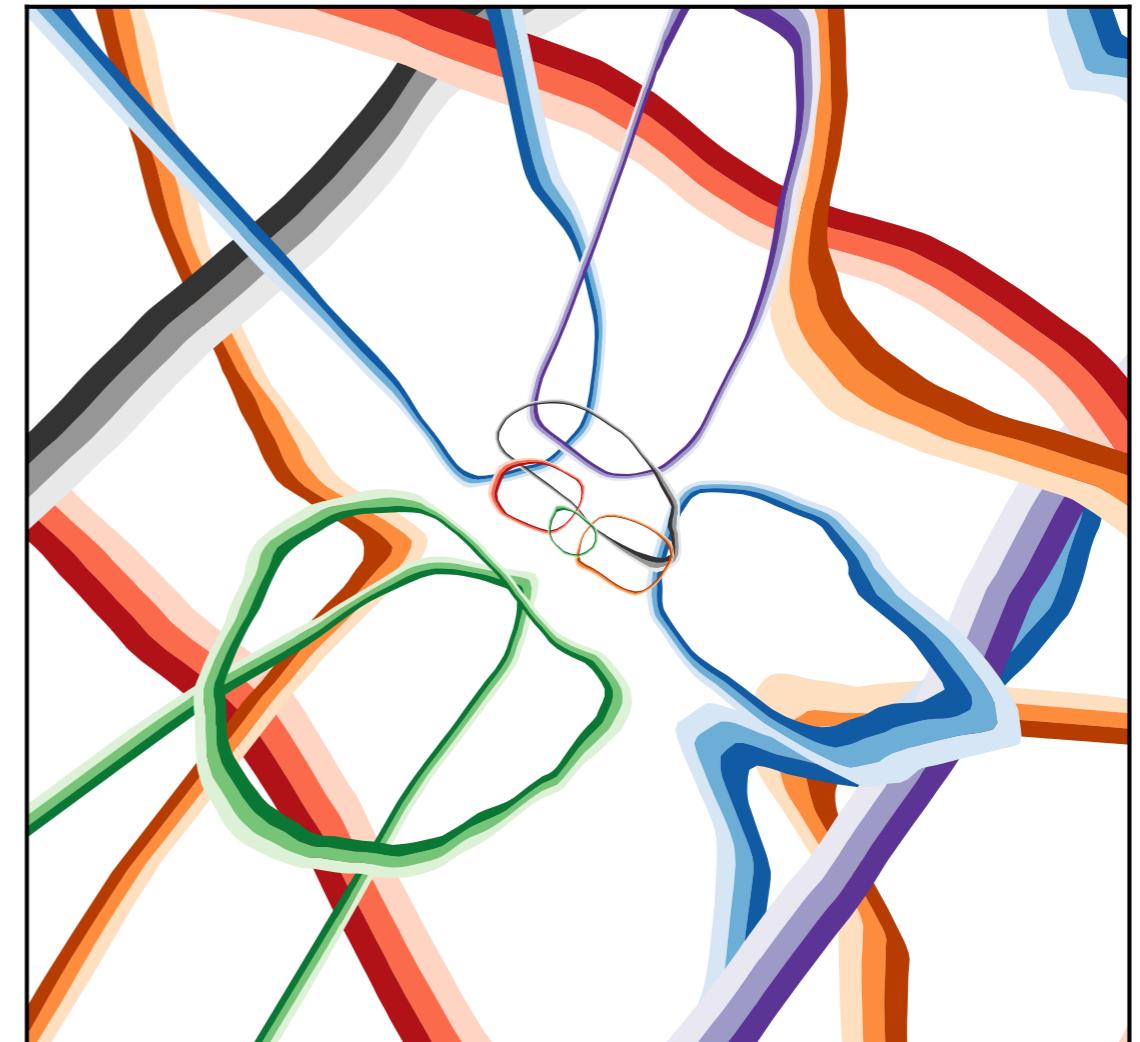


# Psychedelic Network Visualization

Latent Dimension 8



Latent Dimension 16



“Hello, World!” of Jets:

**Quark**



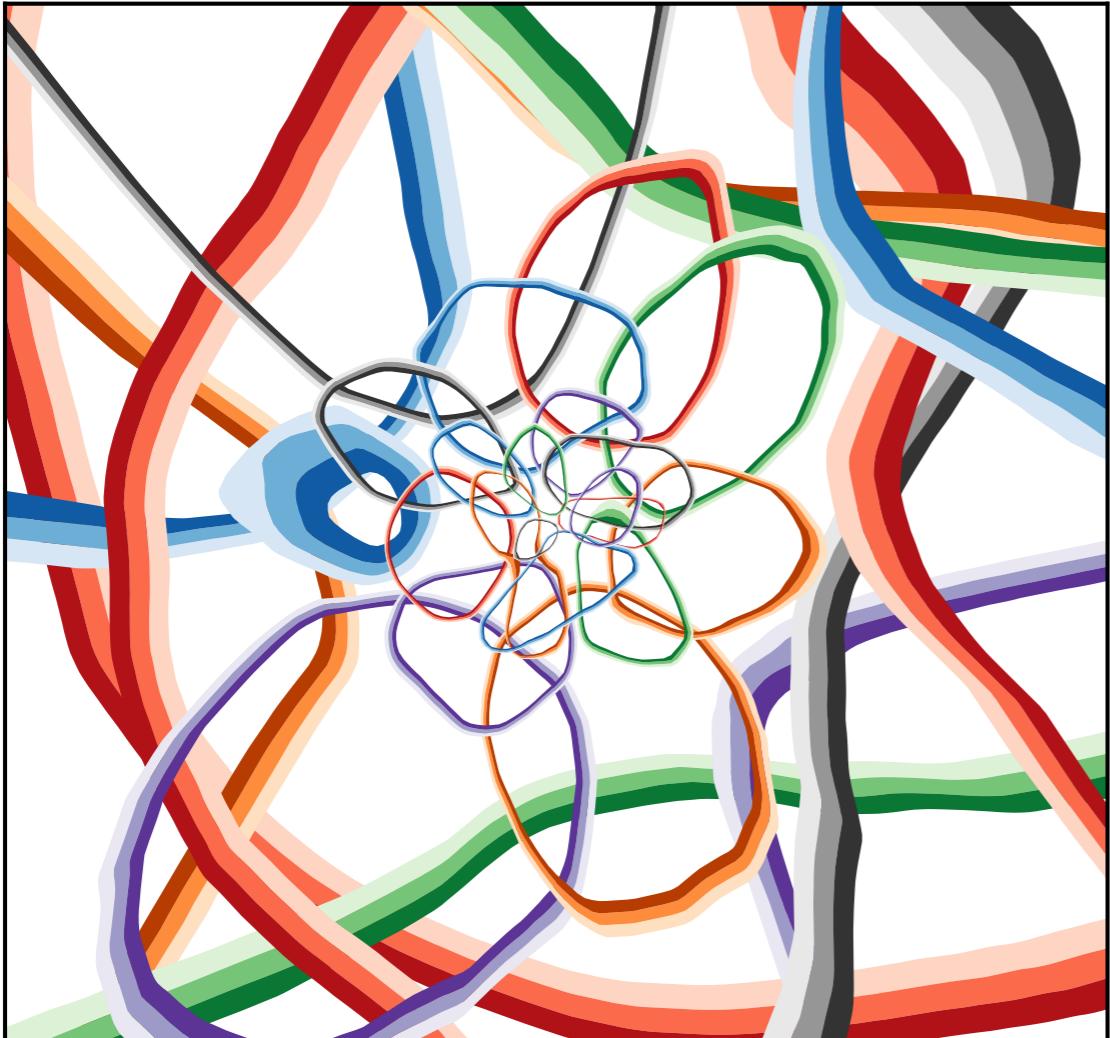
vs.

**Gluon**

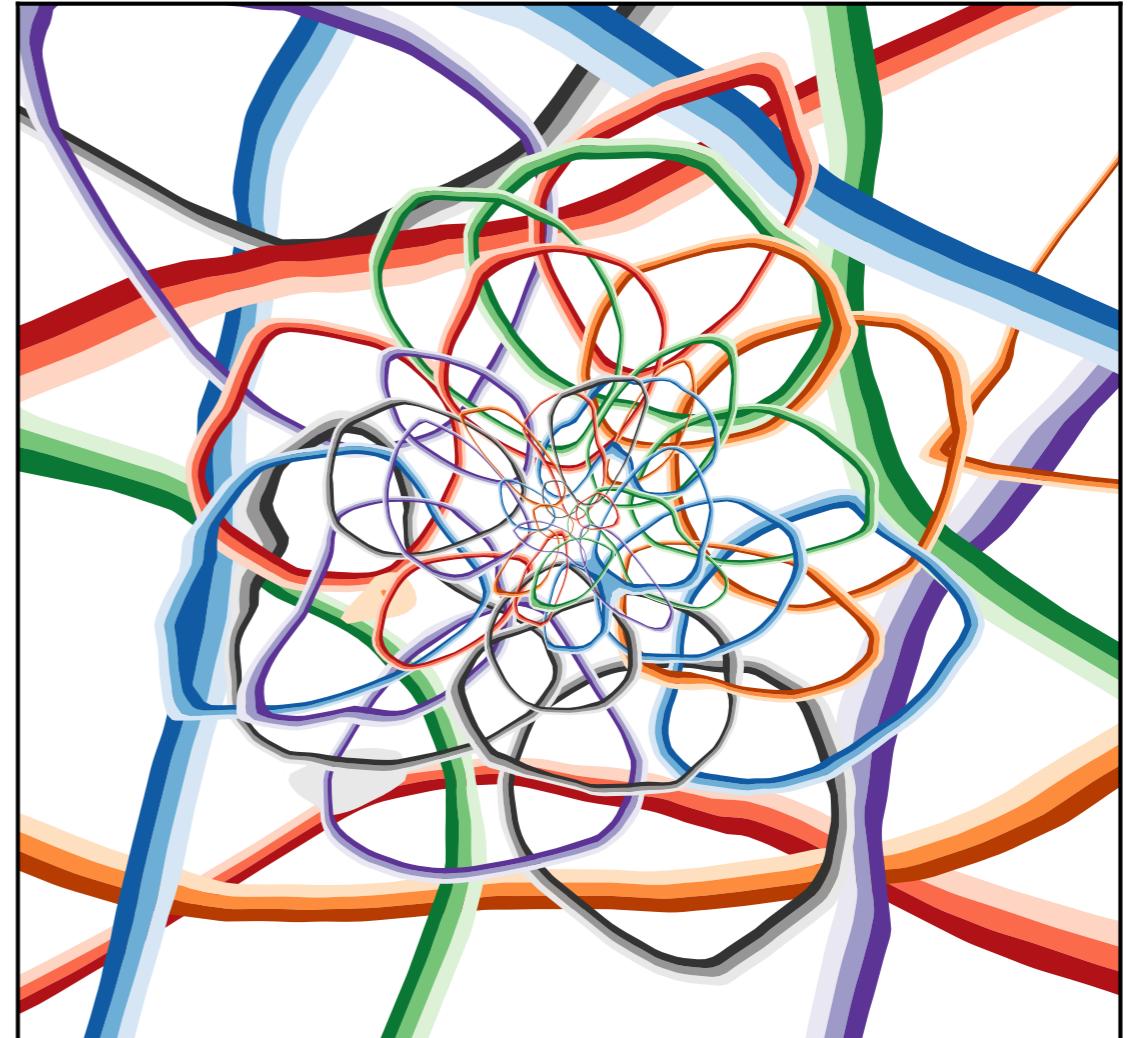


# Psychedelic Network Visualization

Latent Dimension 32

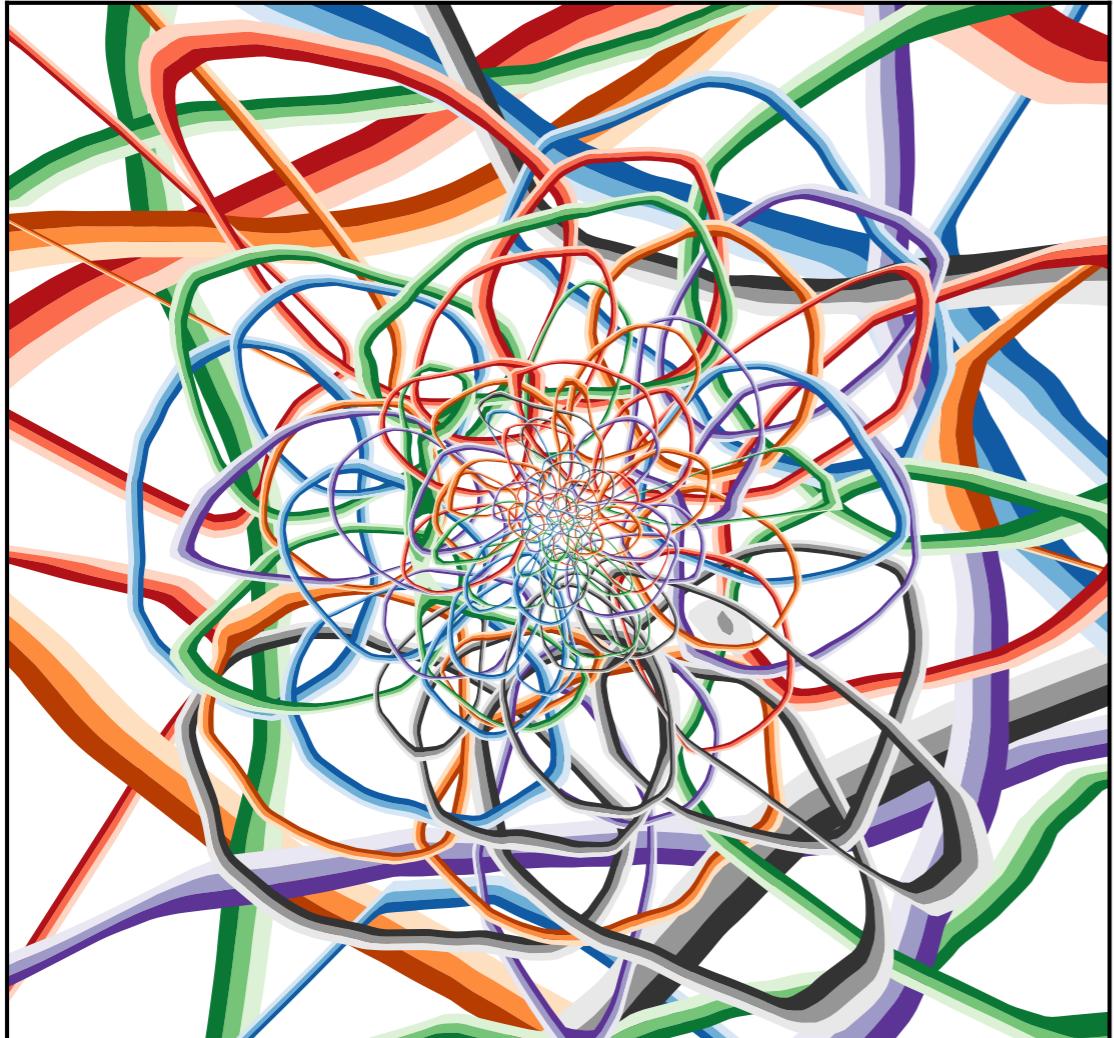


Latent Dimension 64

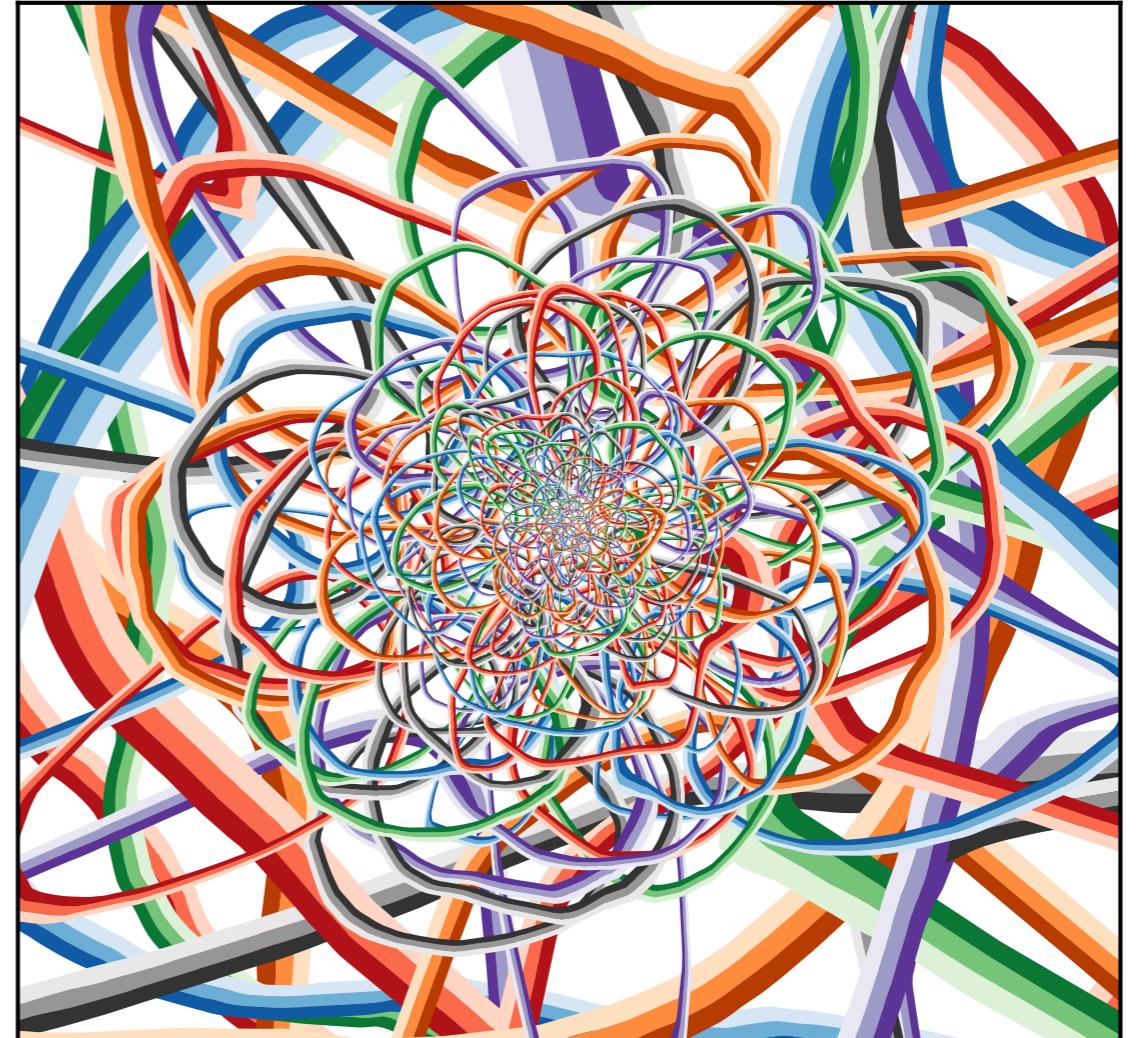


# Psychedelic Network Visualization

Latent Dimension 128

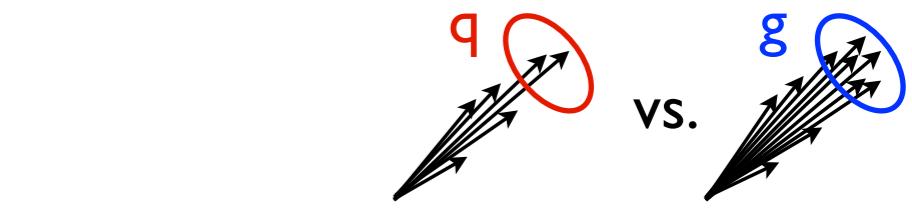
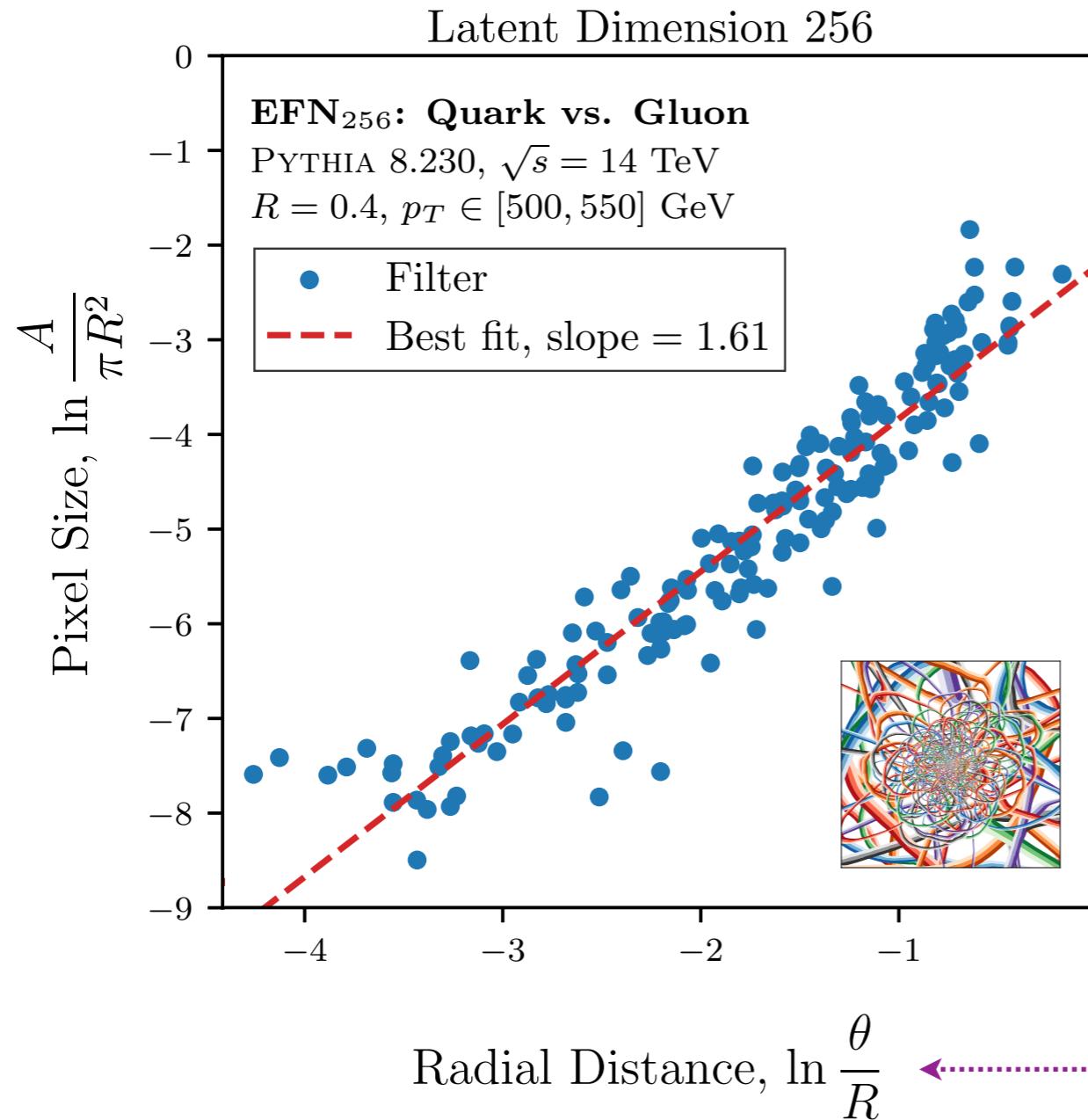
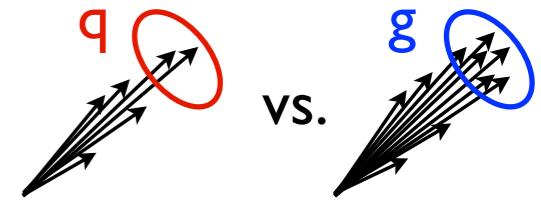


Latent Dimension 256



*Fractal structure of the strong force!*

# Scaling of Strong Interactions



$C_q = 4/3$

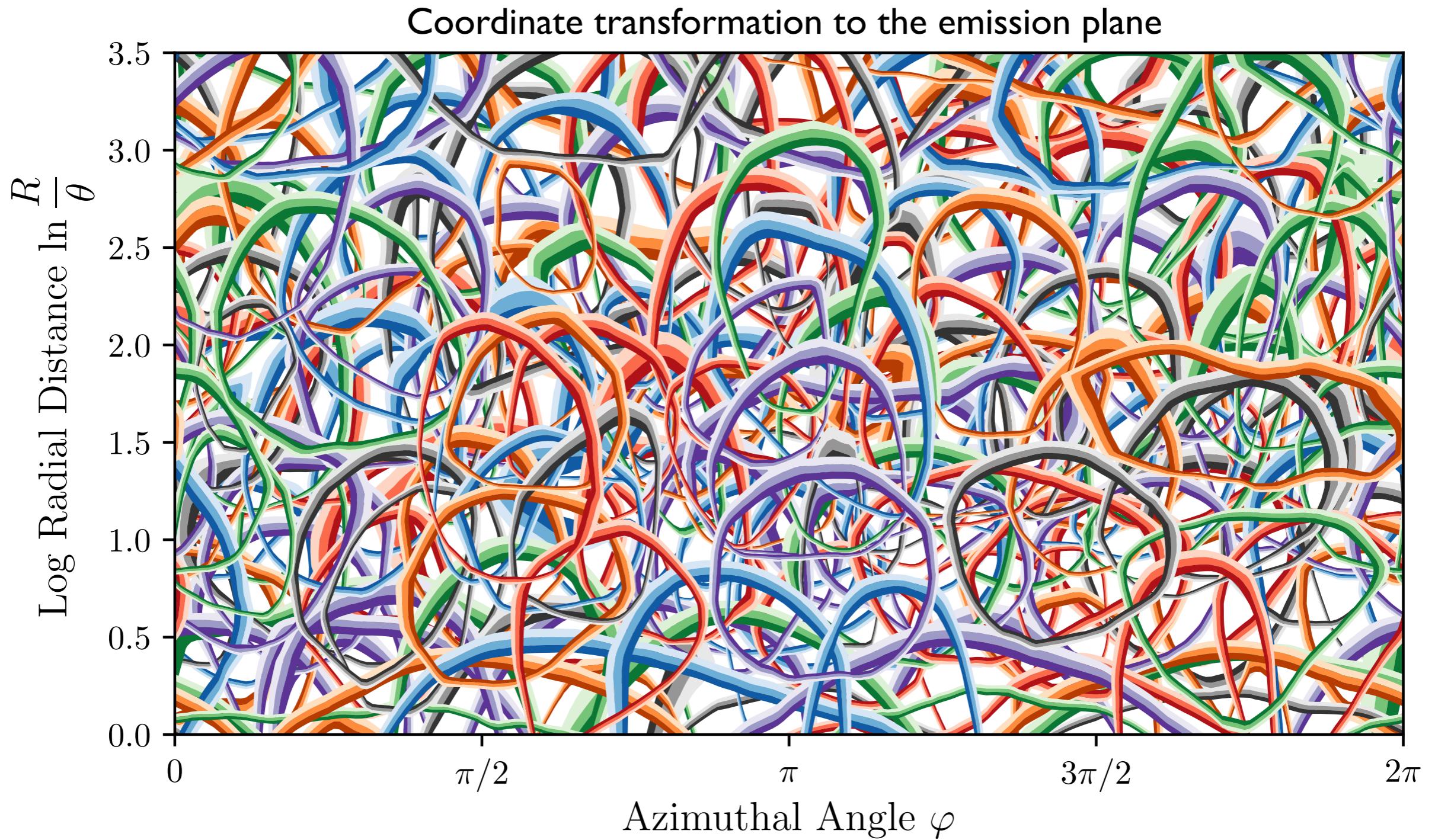
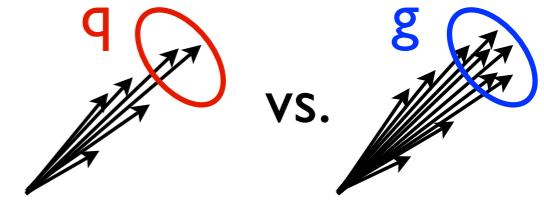
$C_g = 3$

$dP_{i \rightarrow ig} \sim \frac{2\alpha_s}{\pi} C_i \frac{d\theta}{\theta} \frac{dz}{z}$

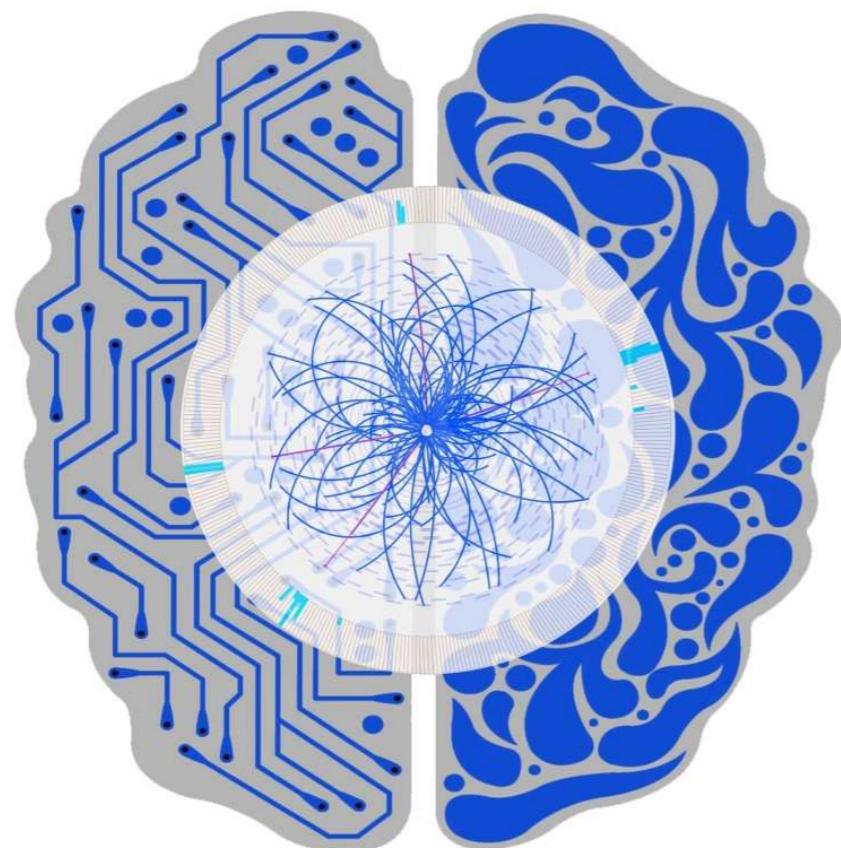
Collinear      Soft

[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, JHEP 2019]

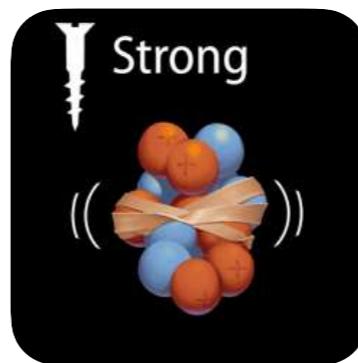
# Ready for the ICA?



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



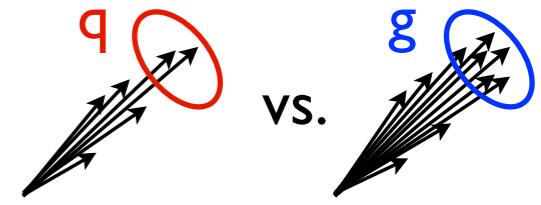
*We taught a machine to  
“think” like a physicist...*



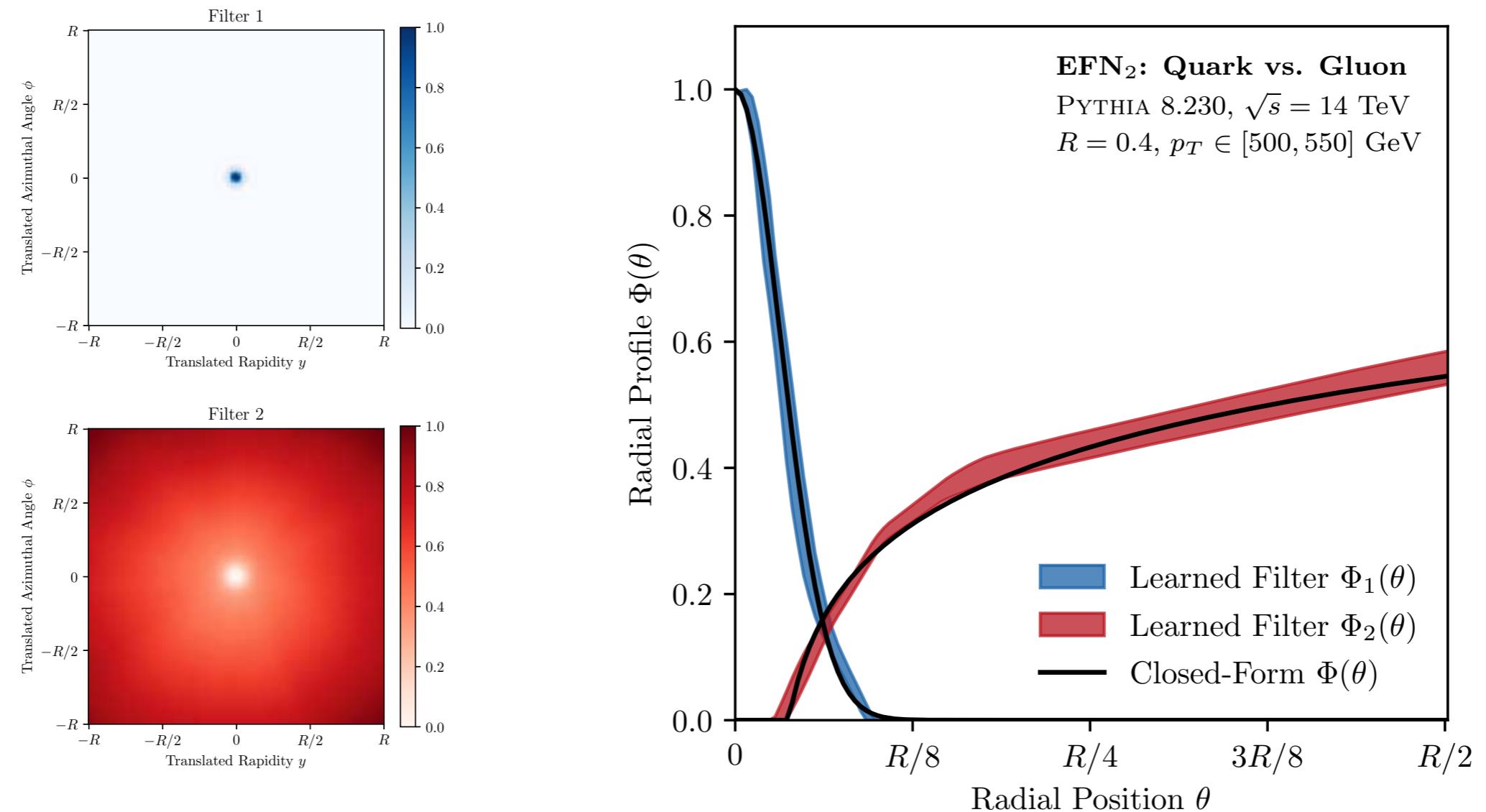
*...and it learned fractal  
structure of strong force!*

*“Ok, but did you really learn something  
you didn’t already know?”*

# Learning from the Machine



For  $\ell = 2$  EFN, radial moments: 
$$\sum_{i \in \text{jet}} z_i f(\theta_i)$$
 cf. Angularities:  
 $f(\theta) = \theta^\beta$



[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, JHEP 2019;  
cf. Larkoski, JDT, Waalewijn, JHEP 2014; using Berger, Kucs, Sterman, PRD 2003; Ellis, Vermilion, Walsh, Hornig, Lee, JHEP 2010]

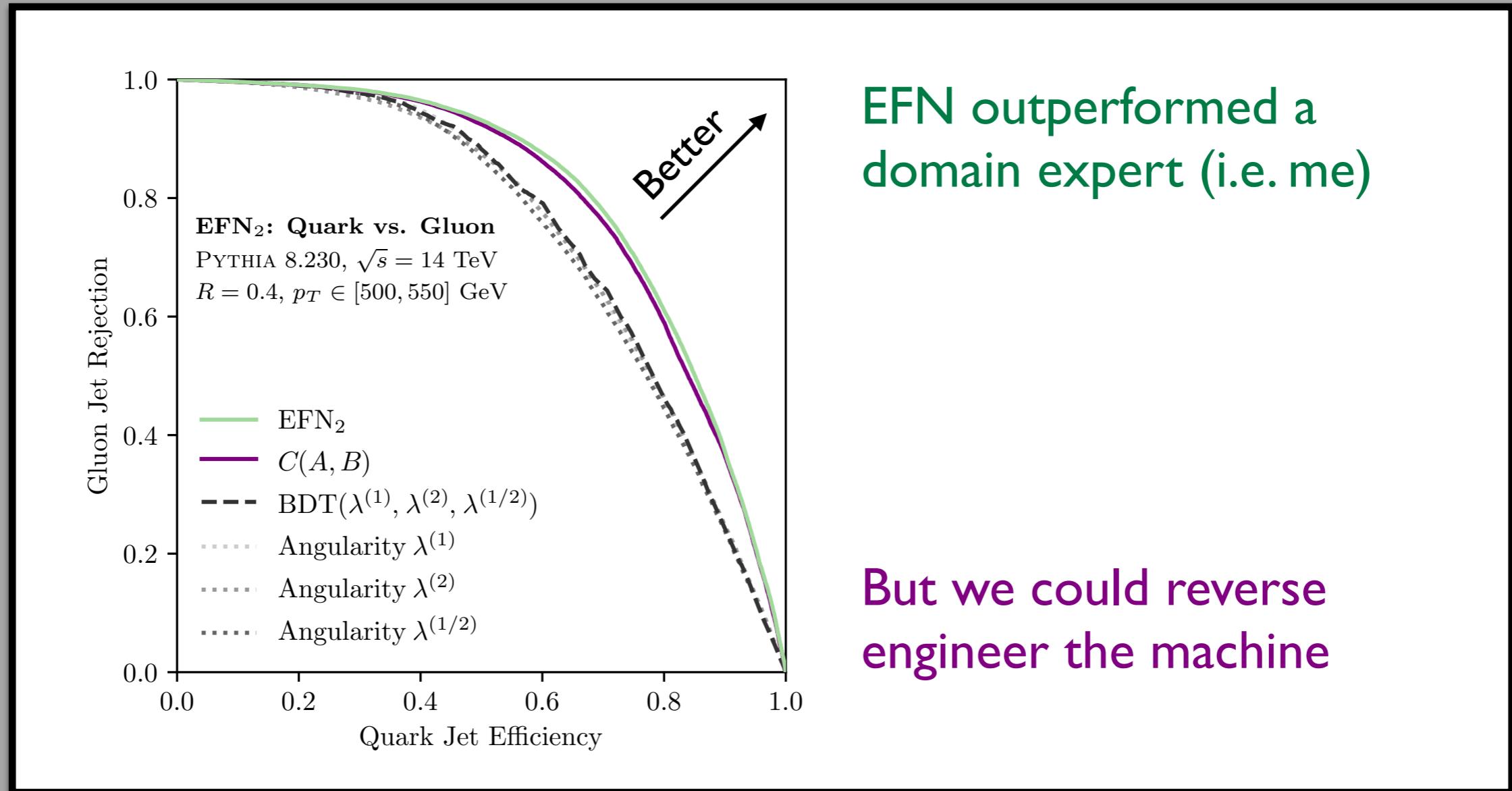
# Learning from the Machine



For  $\ell = 2$  EFN, radial moments:

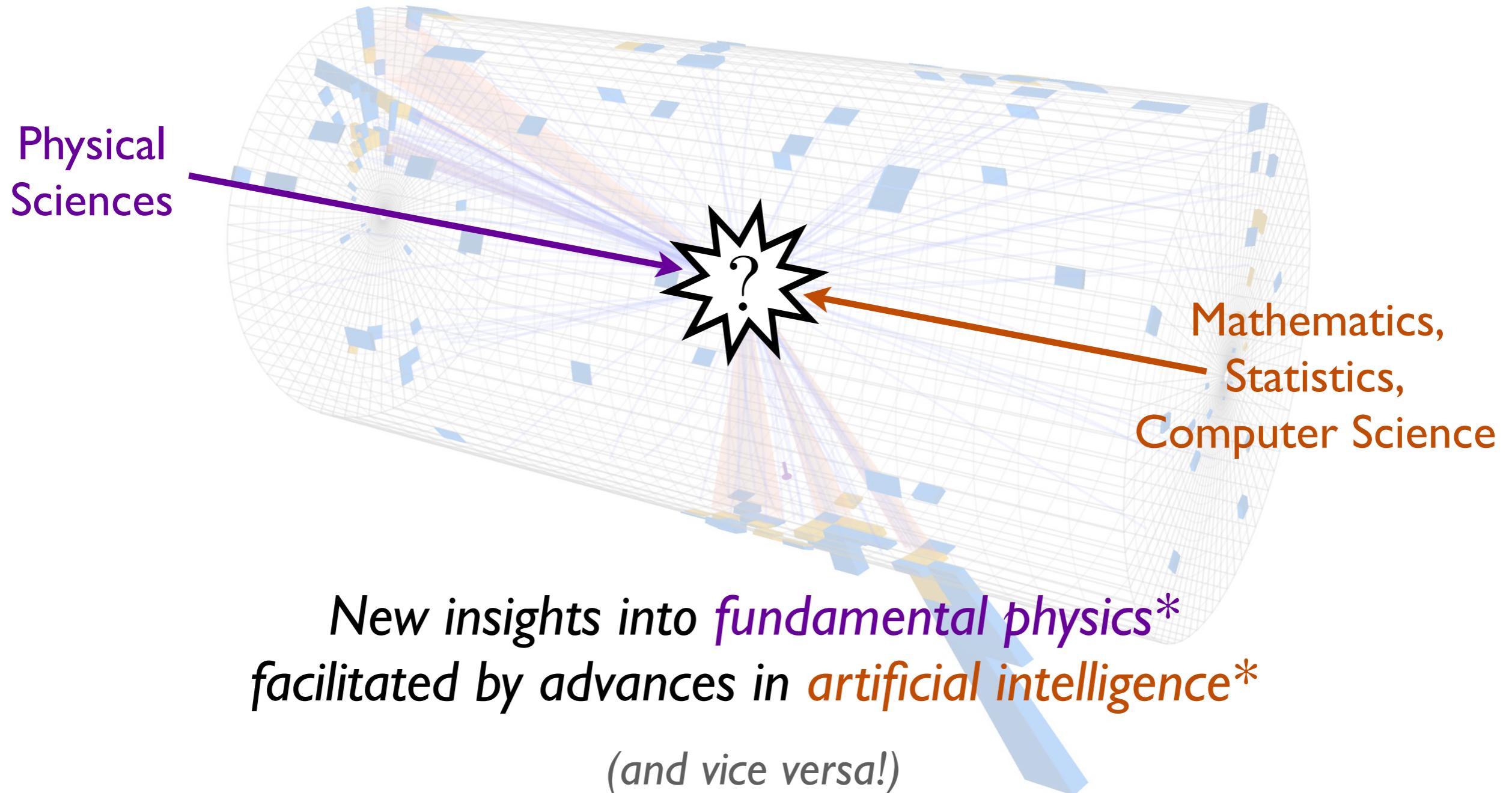
$$\sum_{i \in \text{jet}} z_i f(\theta_i)$$

cf. Angularities:  
 $f(\theta) = \theta^\beta$

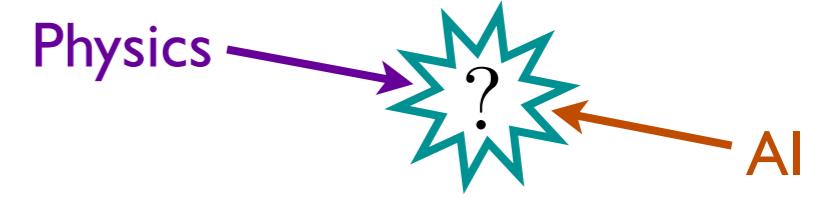


[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, [JHEP 2019](#);  
cf. Larkoski, JDT, Waalewijn, [JHEP 2014](#); using Berger, Kucs, Sterman, [PRD 2003](#); Ellis, Vermilion, Walsh, Hornig, Lee, [JHEP 2010](#)]

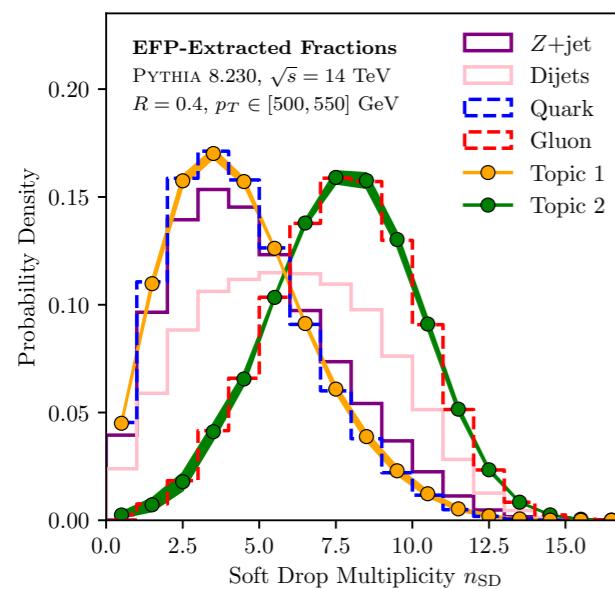
# “Collision Course”



# More Collisions

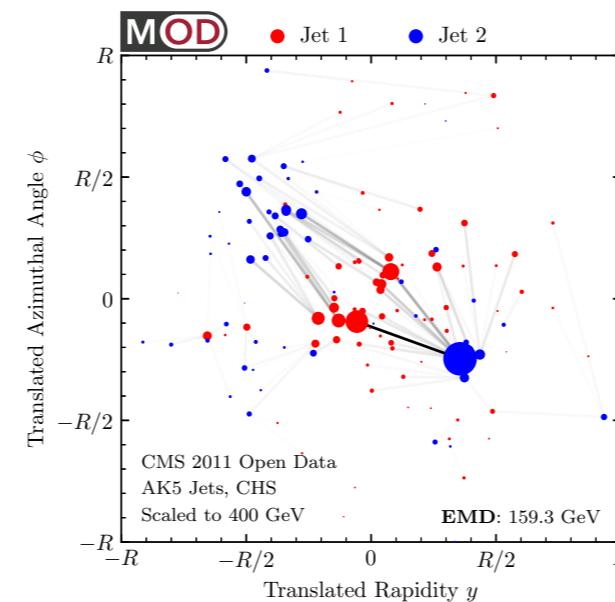


## Quark/Gluon Definitions via Blind Source Separation



[Metodiev, JDT, PRL 2018;  
Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, JHEP 2018]

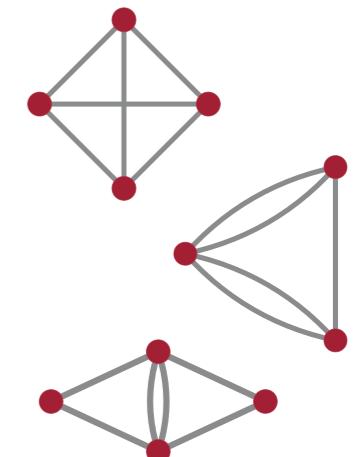
## Half-Century of Collider Physics via Optimal Transport (!)



[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT, PRL 2019, JHEP 2020;  
Komiske, Mastandrea, Metodiev, Naik, JDT, PRD 2020]

## Kinematic Decomposition via Graph Theory

Edges $d$	Leafless Multigraphs		
	Connected	All	A307316
1	0	0	0
2	1	1	1
3	2	2	2
4	4	5	5
5	9	11	11
6	26	34	34
7	68	87	87
8	217	279	279
9	718	897	897
10	2 553	3 129	3 129
11	9 574	11 458	11 458
12	38 005	44 576	44 576
13	157 306	181 071	181 071
14	679 682	770 237	770 237
15	3 047 699	3 407 332	3 407 332
16	14 150 278	15 641 159	15 641 159



[Komiske, Metodiev, JDT,  
JHEP 2018, PRD 2020]

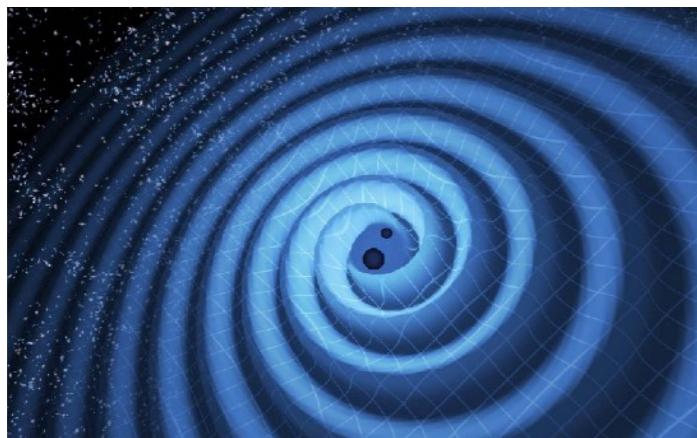
## New for 2021!

*Interdisciplinary PhD in Physics, Statistics & Data Science*

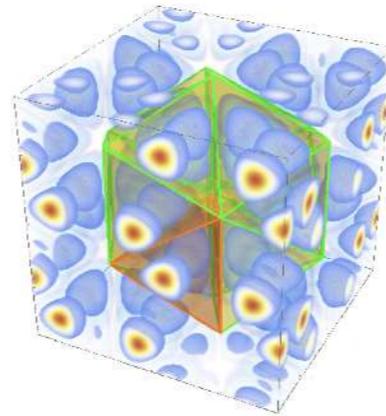
# *Artificial Intelligence $\leftrightarrow$ Fundamental Interactions*



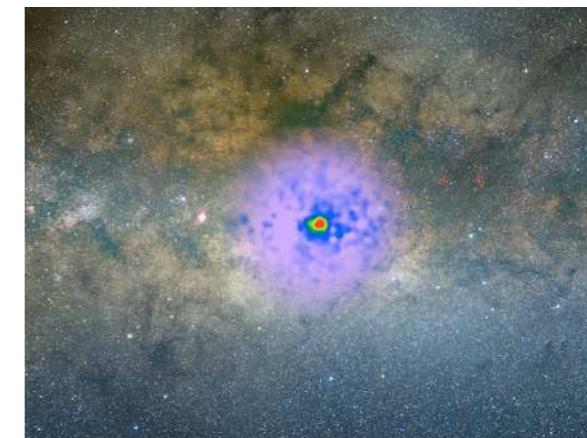
*Gravitational Waves*



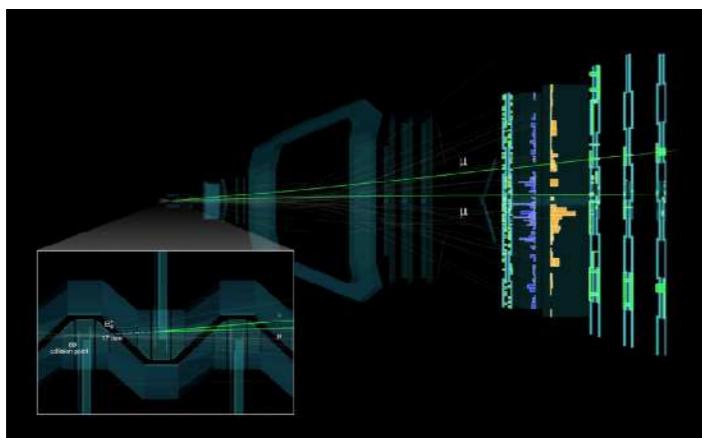
*Nuclear Physics*



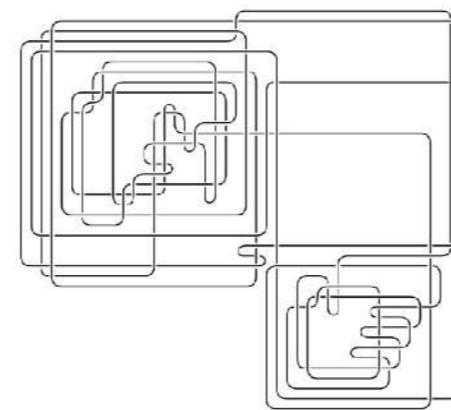
*Astrophysics*



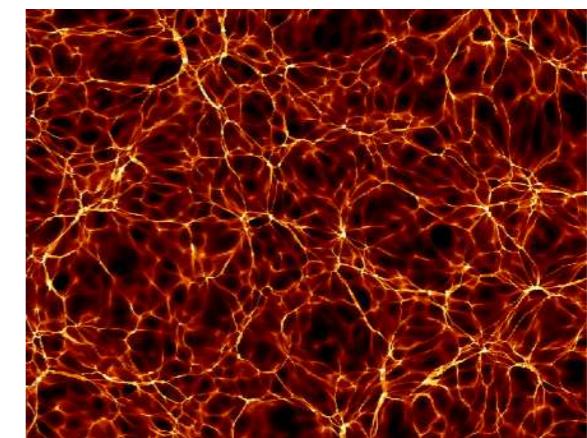
*Particle Colliders*



*Mathematical Physics*



*Dark Matter*



...

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



<http://iaifi.org/>

Physics  
Theory



AI Foundations

Physics  
Experiment

