

# ML/AI ACTIVITIES IN ATLAS

Glance at Recent Developments

Geoffrey Gilles

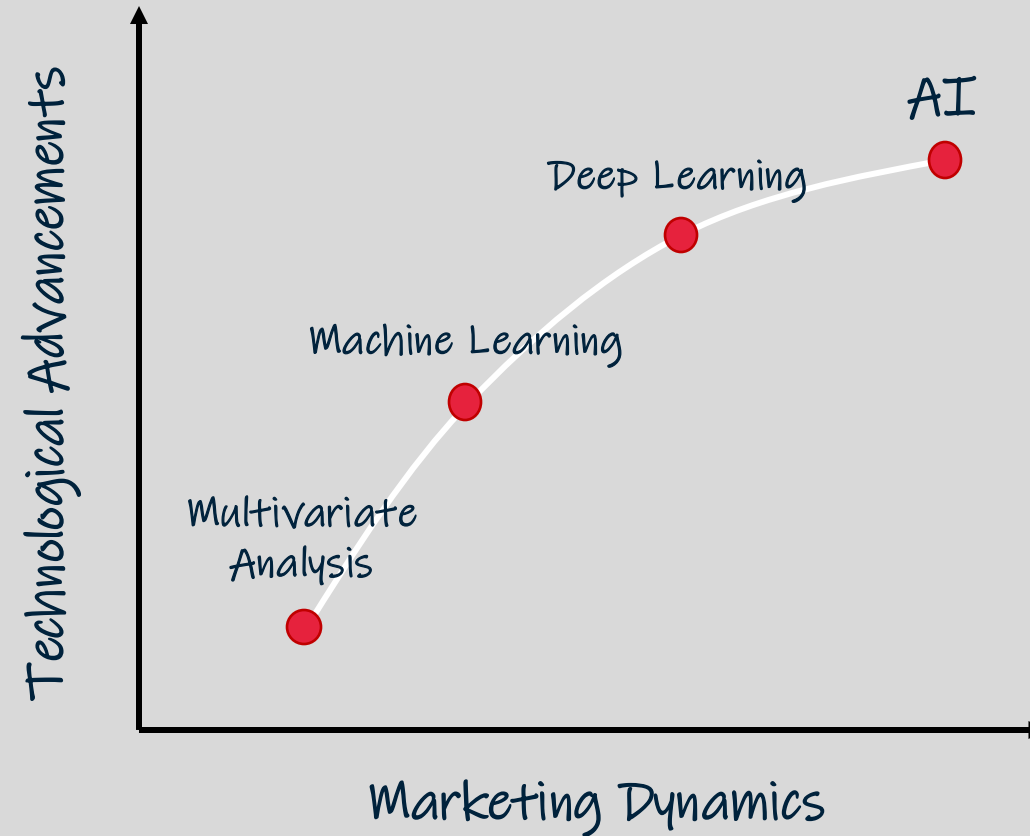
NIKHEF - Dutch National Institute for Subatomic Physics

*Thanks to Zef for the inputs*





# The AI Hype Arc

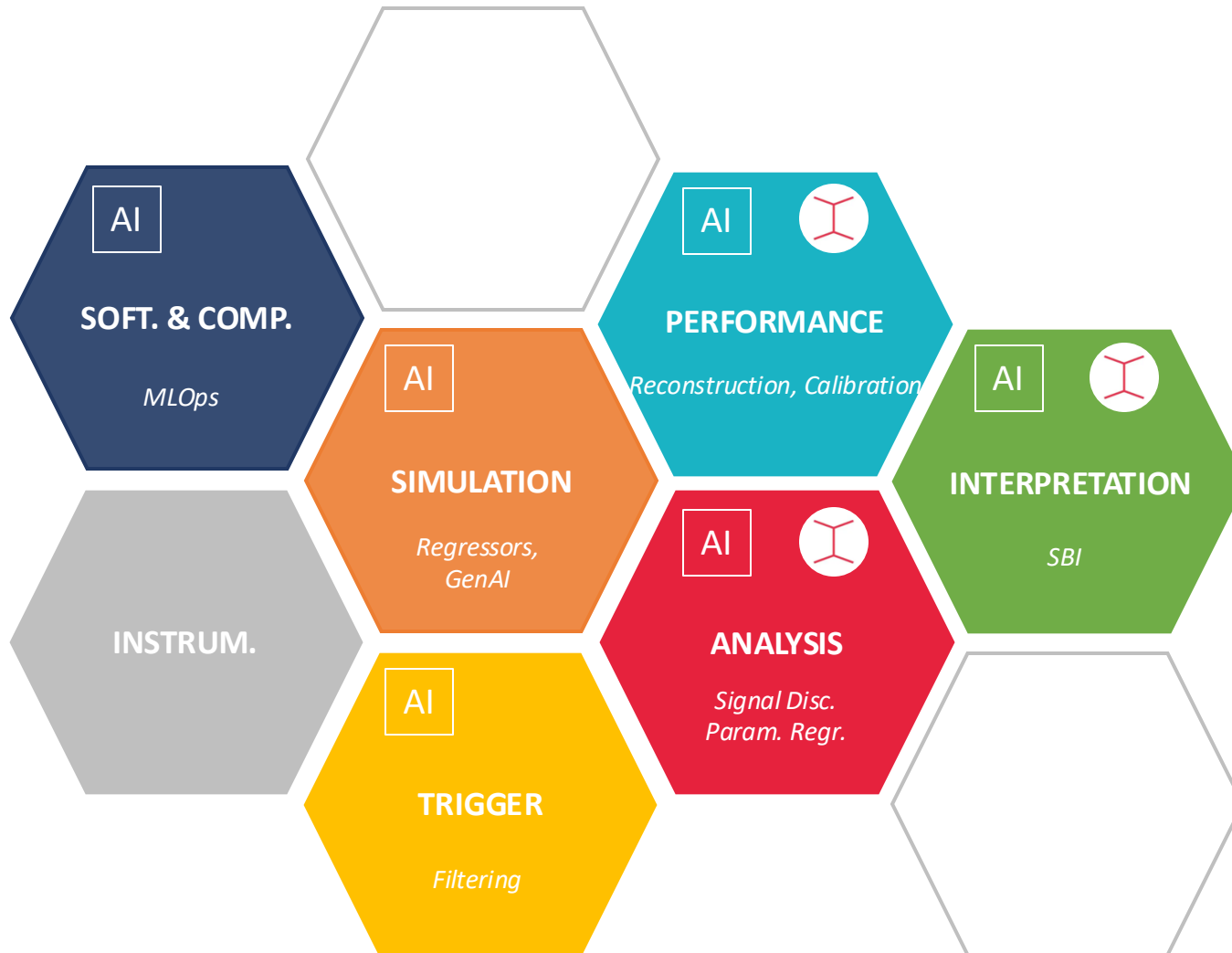


GGM GILLES

# INTRODUCTION

AI in ATLAS - NIKHEF's Group Activity

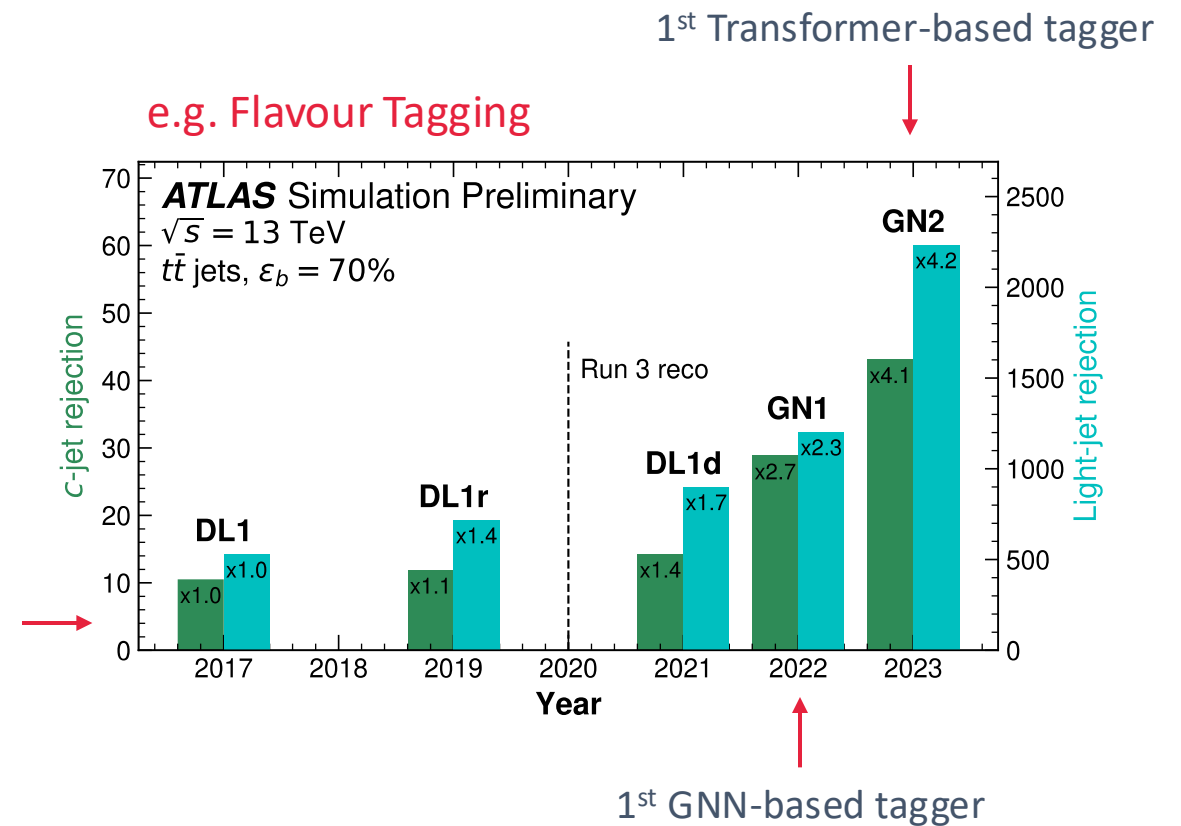
# AI IN ATLAS



- Present in almost all sectors
- Collaboration forum supporting developments & tools
- Nikhef's AI activities focused on
  - Combined performance
  - Physics analysis
  - Interpretation

# STEADY PROGRESS

1<sup>st</sup> Deep Feed-Forward  
NN-based tagger



- ATLAS builds on pioneering AI history to achieve groundbreaking physics results
- Deep Learning advances unlocked new applications and pushed performance boundaries
- Cutting-edge and classical AI techniques still coexists, reflecting diverse group expertise

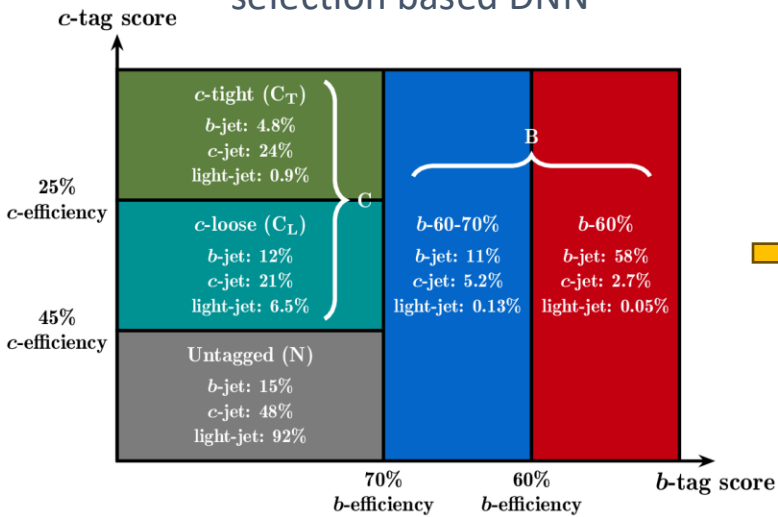
# GLANCE AT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Combined Performance, Physics Analysis & Interpretation

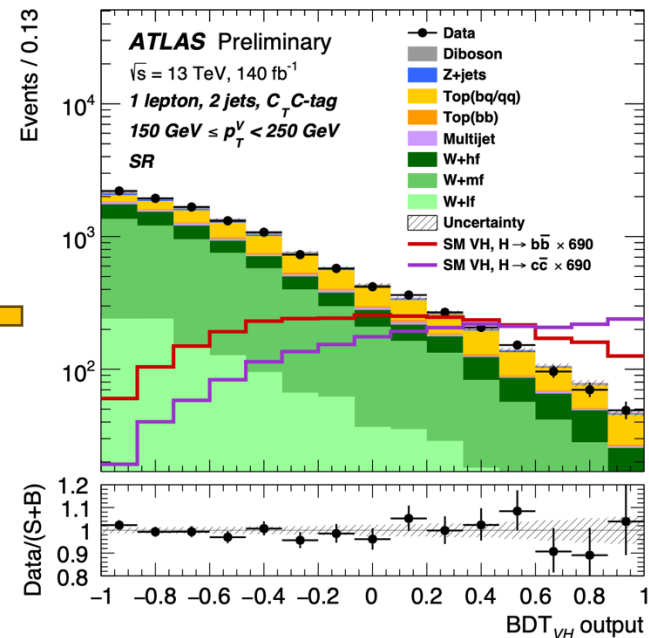
# DNN+BDT TO DELIVER TOP-TIER RESULTS

- Recent joint  $VH(\bar{b}b/\bar{c}c)$  measurement, probing 2<sup>nd</sup> gen. fermion Higgs couplings among others
- Complex analysis, fitting  $\sim 50$  SR and  $\sim 100$  CR defined by tagging and kinematic requirements

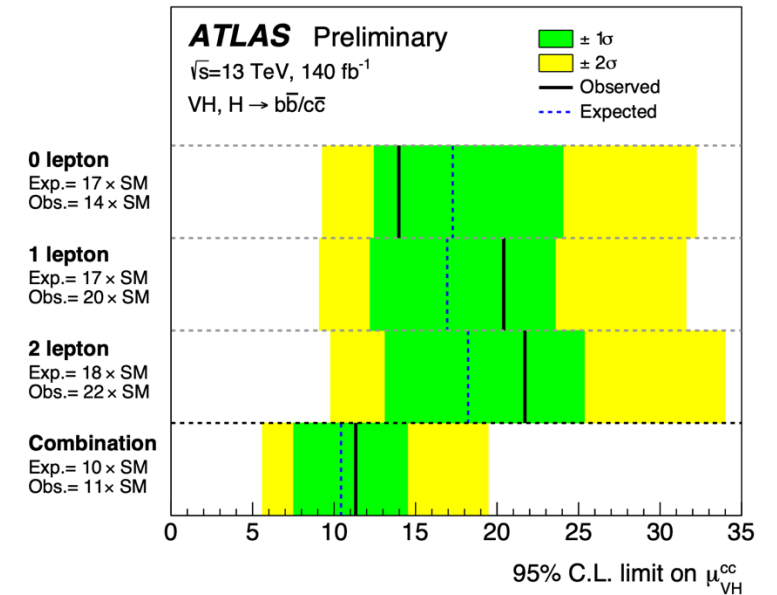
Orthogonal  $b$ - and  $c$ -tagging selection based DNN



Signal vs. bkg discrimination using BDT



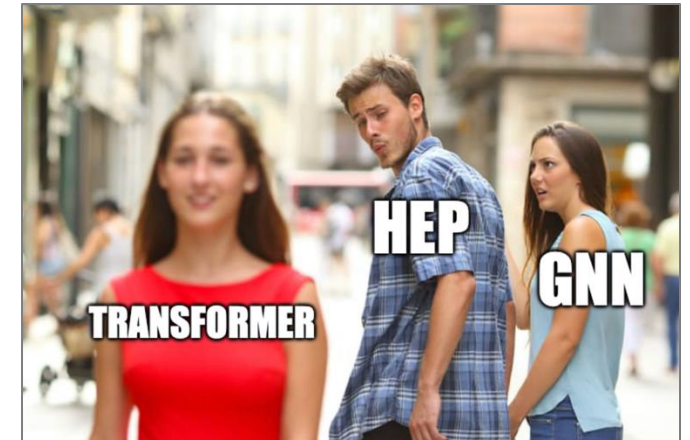
Strongest observed limit to date



# THE TRANSFORMER EXPLOSION



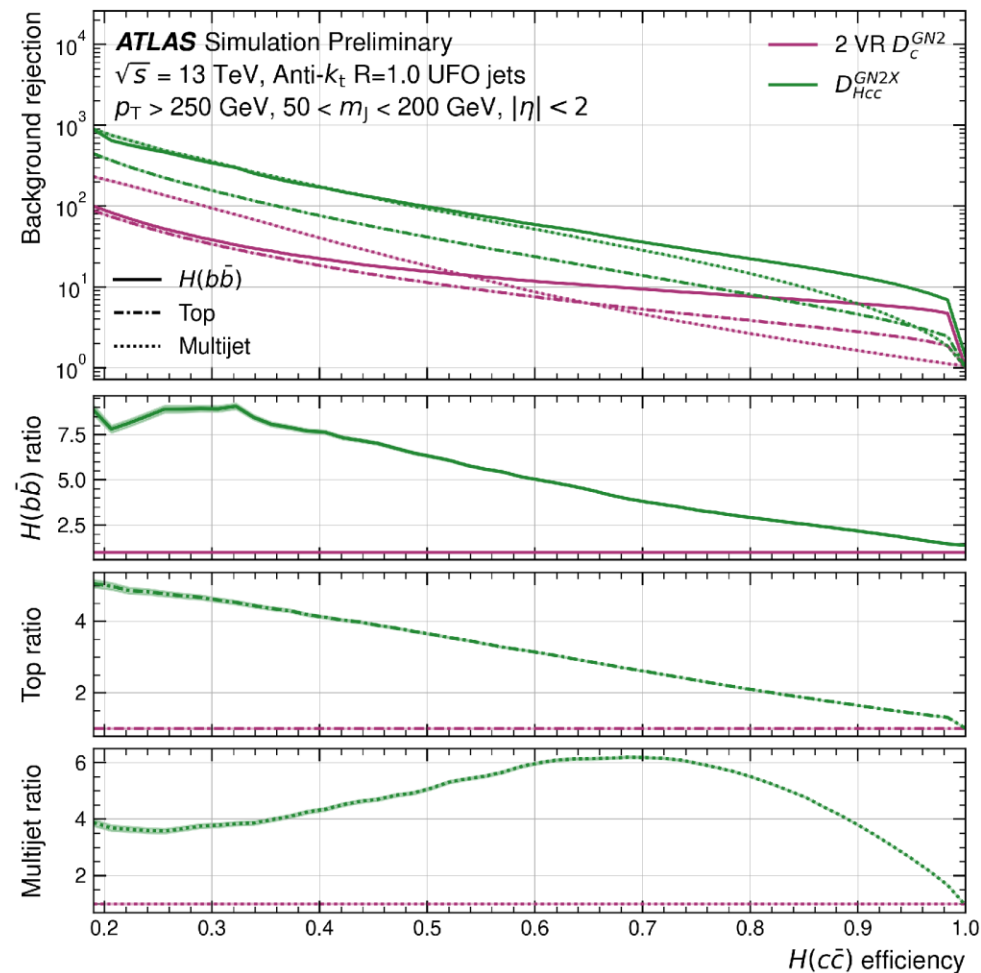
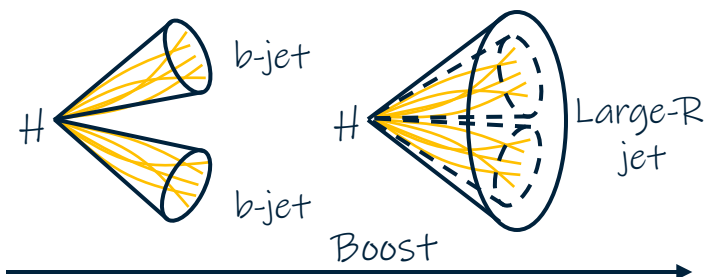
- Transformer introduced by a team at Google Brain in 2017 [[link](#)]
  - Emerged as a **dominant paradigm** in Machine Learning across various applications
  - Ability to model complex relationships and deliver **outstanding performance**
- Powerful technique across various ML applications
  - Based on “Attention Mechanism” (see backup)
  - Excel at capturing contextual relationships
  - High capacity for learning intricate features
  - Parallelizability & Reduced computing resources
  - Scalability
- ATLAS Nikhef particularly focused on Transformer applications





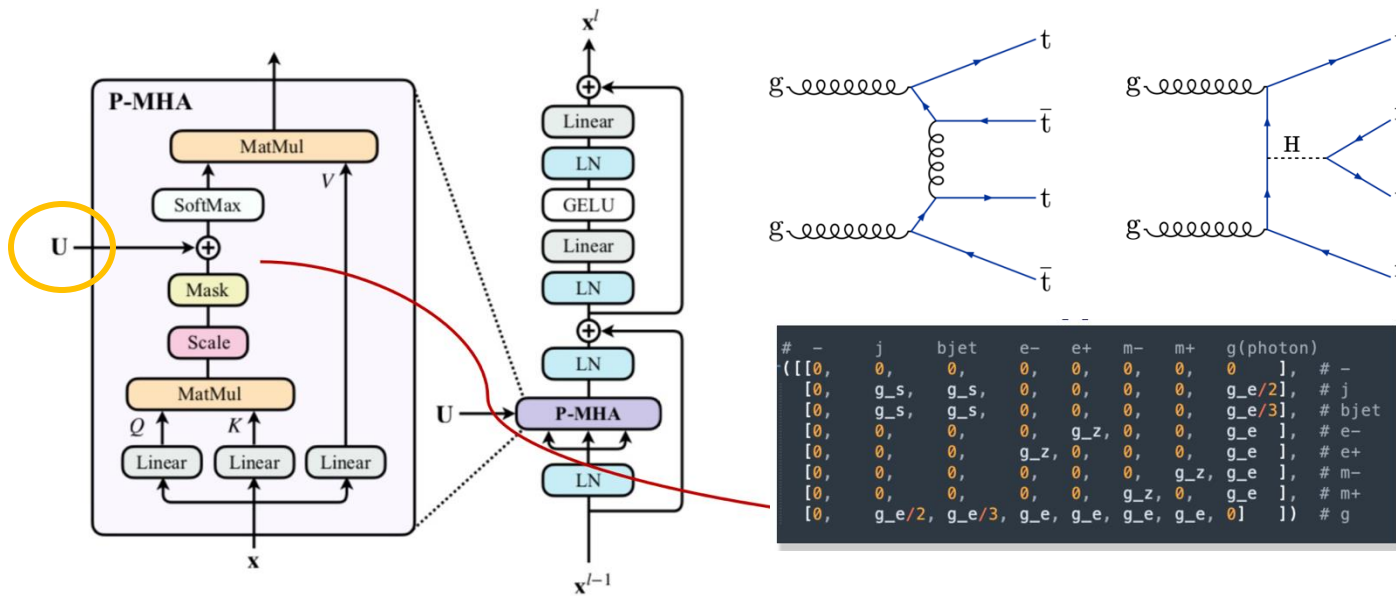
# APPLICATION TO BOOSTED HIGGS-BOSON TAGGING

- High-performance tagging of boosted Higgs-boson decaying to Heavy Flavour crucial in
  - Crucial in improving sensitivity to New Physics
  - Precise measurement Higgs properties
- New cutting-edge algorithm based on Transformer
  - Learning for sequence of particle tracks within Large-R jet proxying Higgs-boson candidate
  - Remarkable performance improvements



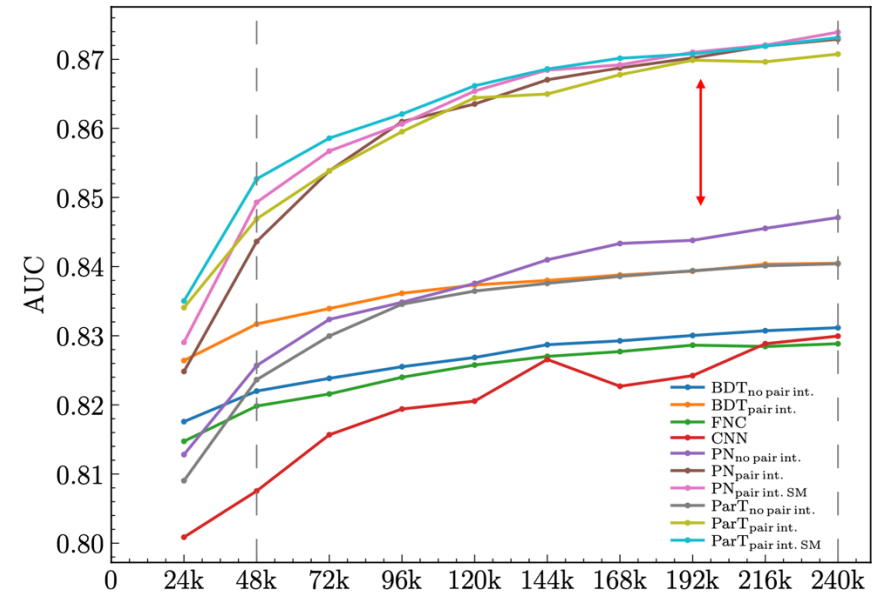
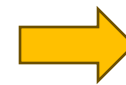
# SMARTER TRANSFORMER FOR 4-TOP SEARCH

- 4-top production is the rarest top production and heaviest final state ever observed
- First observation in 2023, possible source of New Physics to now be precisely measured
- Introducing pair-wise features & SM interaction matrix into Particle Transformer architecture



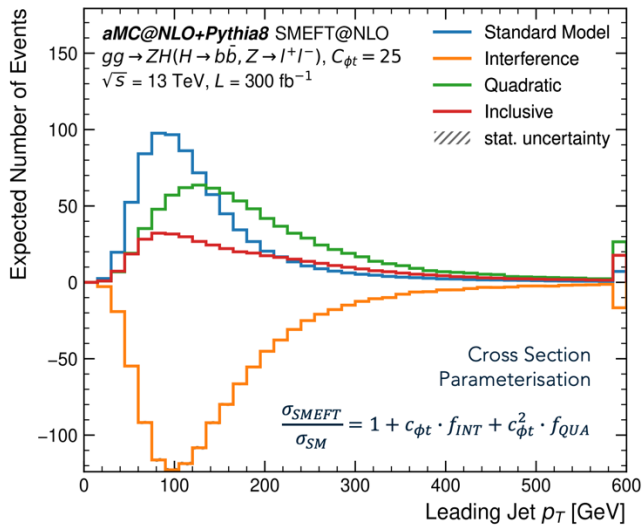
(b) Particle Attention Block

Improved signal efficiency and background regression

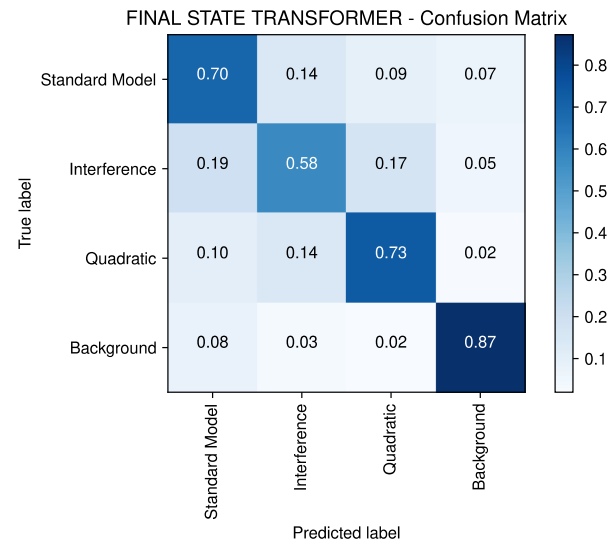
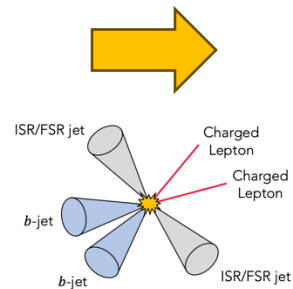


# EXPLORING SBI FOR SMEFT INTERPRETATION

- Discriminate SM from EFT and bkg using Transformer learning from entire event information
- Allow to construct likelihood functions that capture intricacies of SMEFT interactions and detector responses in unprecedented details
- Prospective study exploiting  $gg \rightarrow ZH$  events shows  $c_{\phi t}$  coefficient to be constrained to  $[-5,10]$

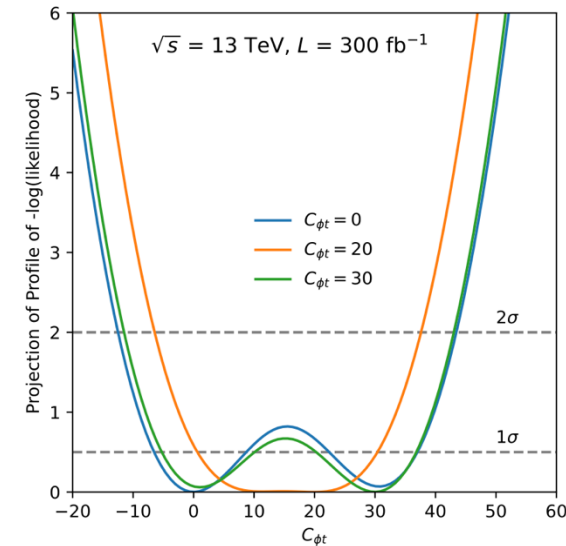


TRANSFORMER



SBI

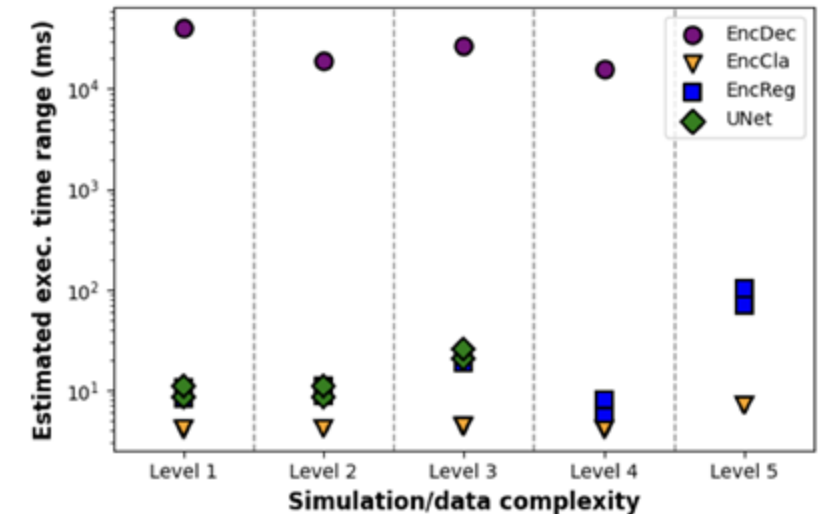
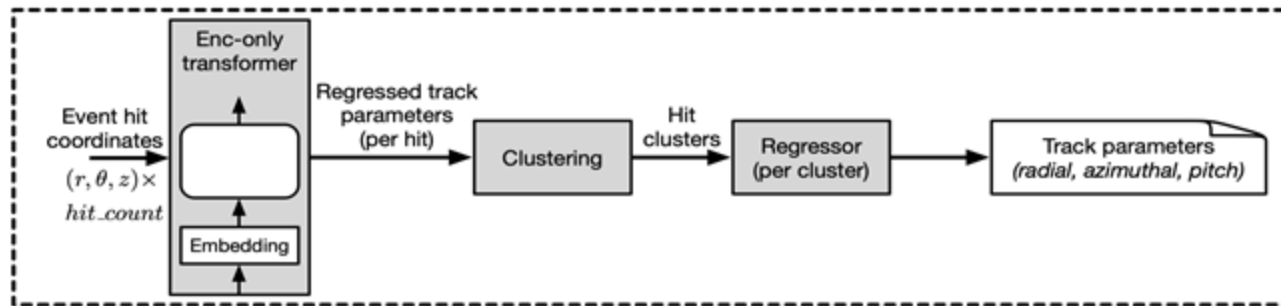
$$\mathcal{L} = P_{obs}^{SM} + c_{\phi t} \cdot P_{obs}^{INT} + c_{\phi t}^2 \cdot P_{obs}^{QUA} + \mu_{BKG} \cdot P_{obs}^{BKG}$$



# TRANSFORMER-BASED PARTICLE TRACKING

- Tracking becomes increasingly challenging in the context of HL-LHC upgrade
- “TrackFormers” project investigated Transformer architectures to perform hit association prediction, inspired by LLM
- Best models, achieving sub-second full event reconstruction on public Kaggle dataset

Example of Encoder Regressor Design



# CONCLUSIONS & OUTLOOKS



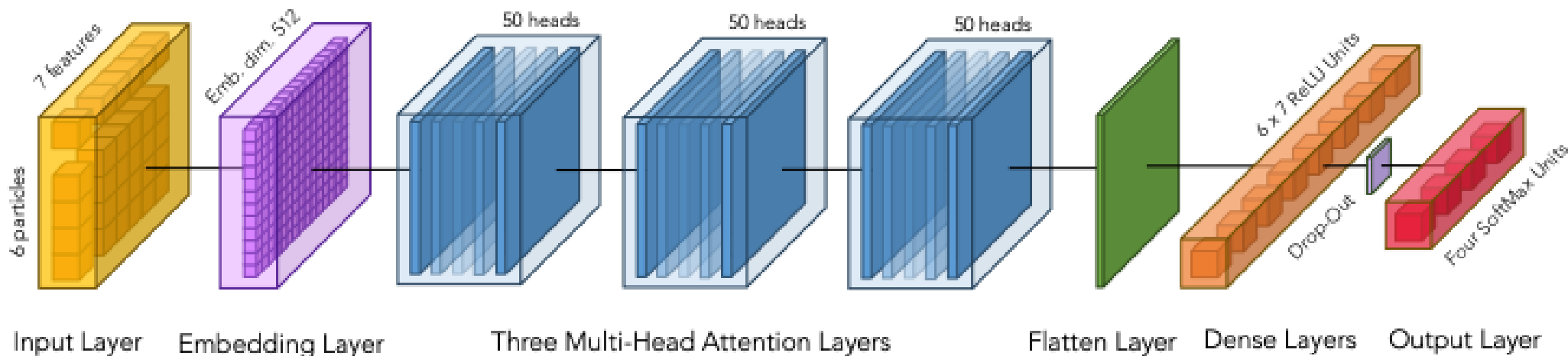
# CONCLUSIONS & OUTLOOKS

- ATLAS Nikhef's active role in AI developments
  - Strong involvement in AI advancements for enhanced performance and physics analysis
  - Contributing to high-impact, top-tier LHC results
  - Training next generation in cutting-edge AI techniques
- Emphasis on Transformer networks in recent research
  - Driving numerous innovative
  - Achieving outstanding performance in various tasks
- Enthusiastically supporting the Nikhef AI initiative
  - Committed to sharing knowledge and experience, particularly in Soft.& Comp. challenges

# FINAL STATE TRANSFORMER



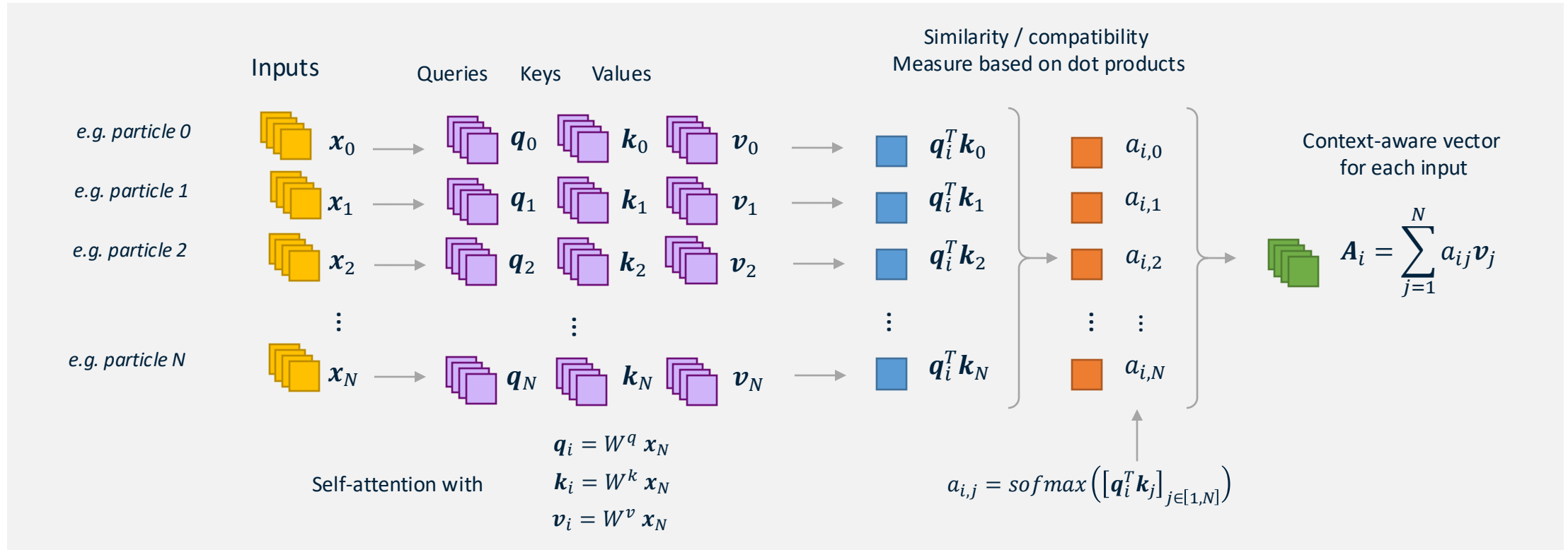
- ML development toolkit built upon Transformer encoders, tailored for HEP
- Leverage multi-head mechanism attention to improve classification and regression tasks
- User-friendly interface for integrating Transformers into research workflows



**BACK UP**

# THE SELF-ATTENTION MECHANISM

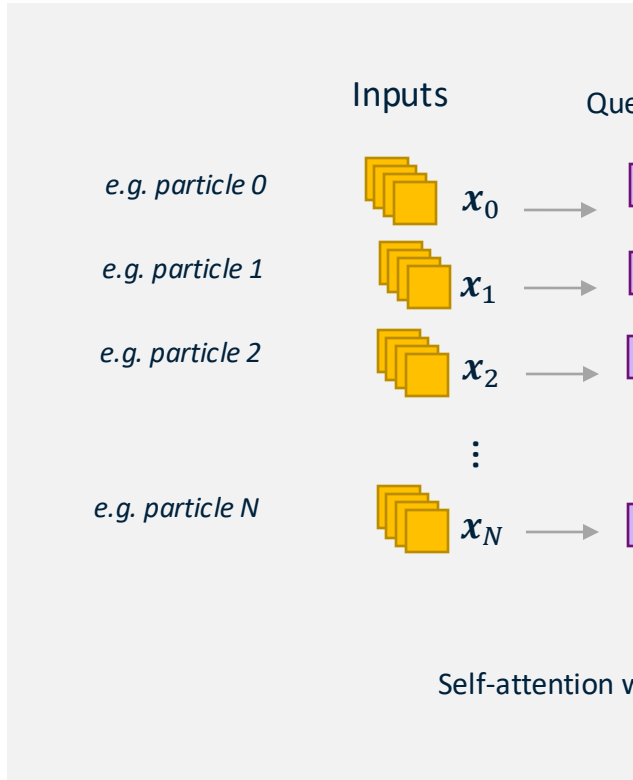
## IN A NUTSHELL



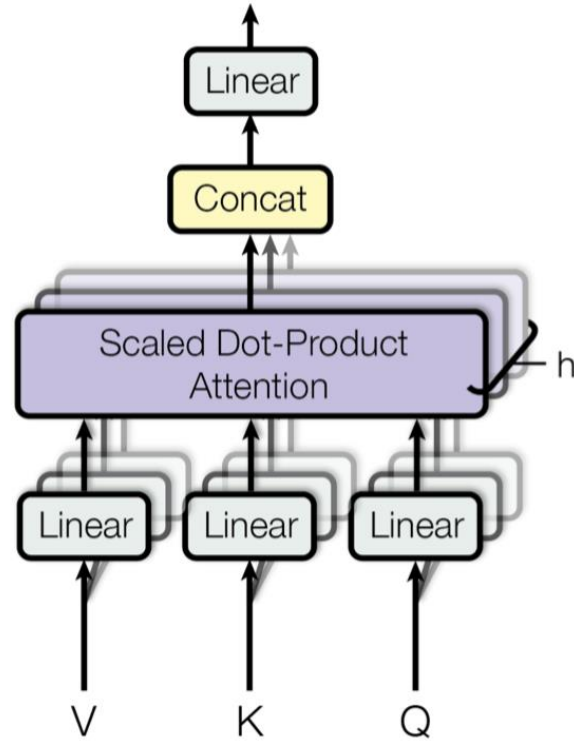
NB: Self attention can be seen as an example of message passing on a fully connected graph

# THE SELF-ATTENTION

## IN A NUTSHELL



### MULTI-HEAD ATTENTION PRINCIPLE

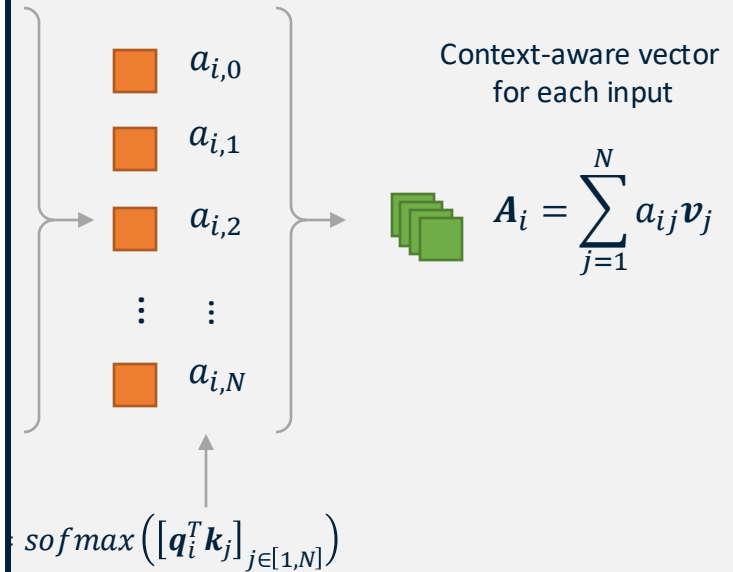


Using scale dot-product attention

$$\text{Attention}(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax}\left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}}\right)V$$

# SM

by / compatibility used on dot products



NB: Self attention can be seen as an example of message passing on a fully connected graph



# APPLICATION TO BOOSTED HIGGS-BOSON TAGGING

