



# NOVELTY (ANOMALY) DETECTION AT COLLIDERS

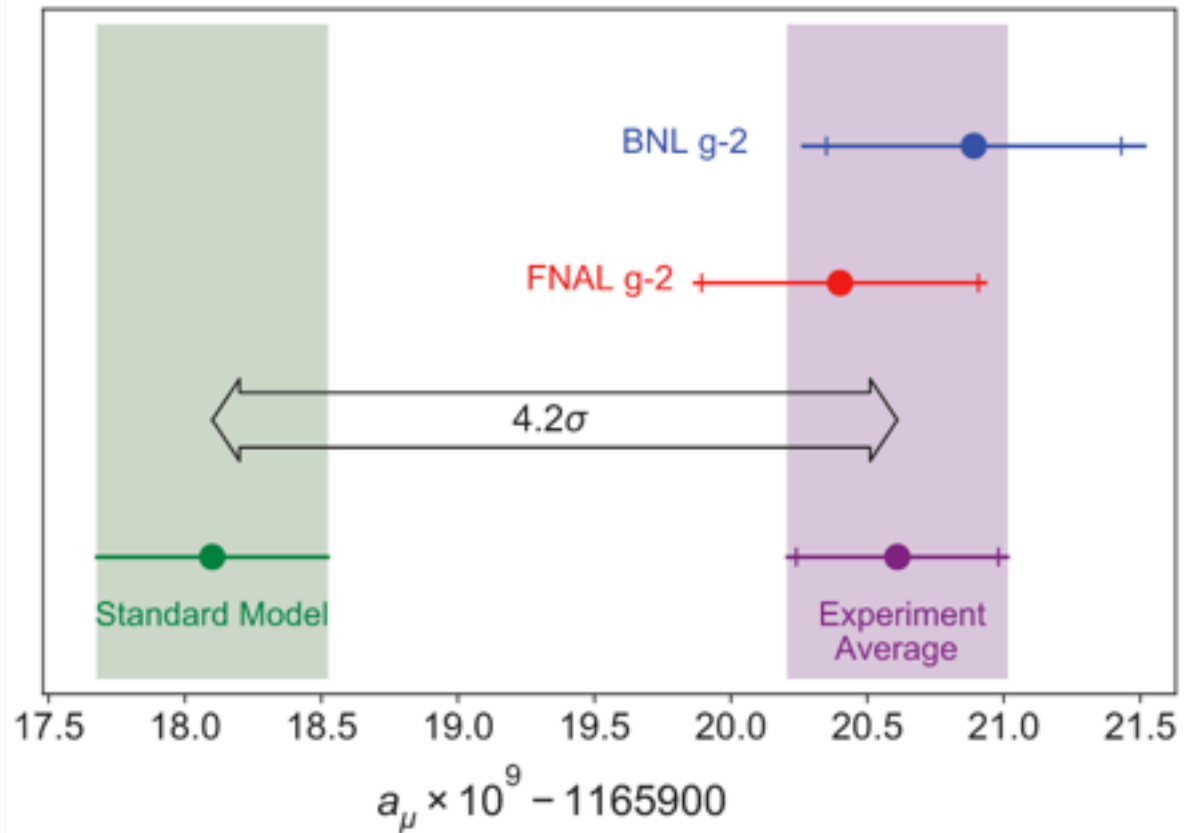
Tao Liu

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

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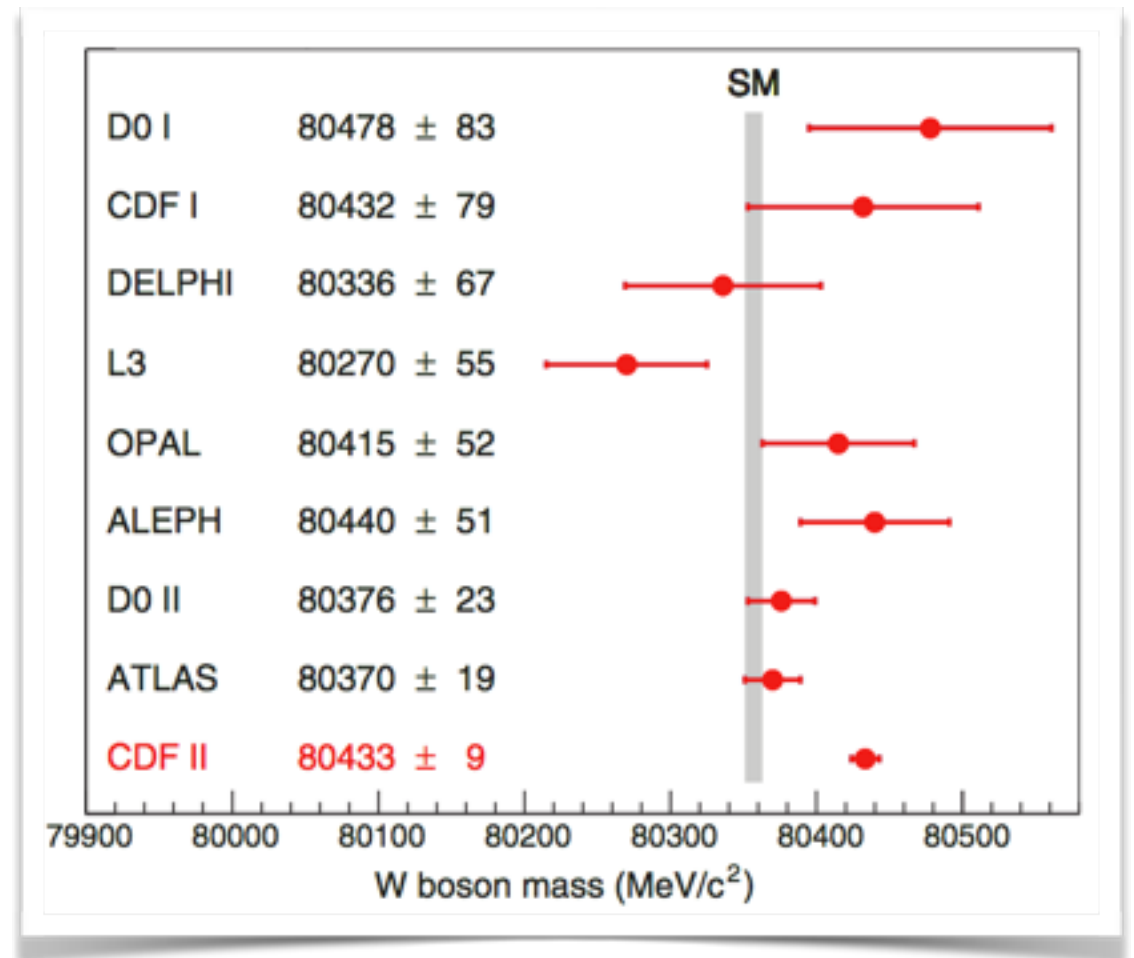


# Hints for NP?



Muon g-2 Anomaly

[PhysRevLett.126 (2021)]



CDFII W Mass Anomaly

[Science 376 (2022)]



# Null Results for NP Direct Searches at LHC

Google

Null Results, LHC

About 295,000 results (0.39 seconds)

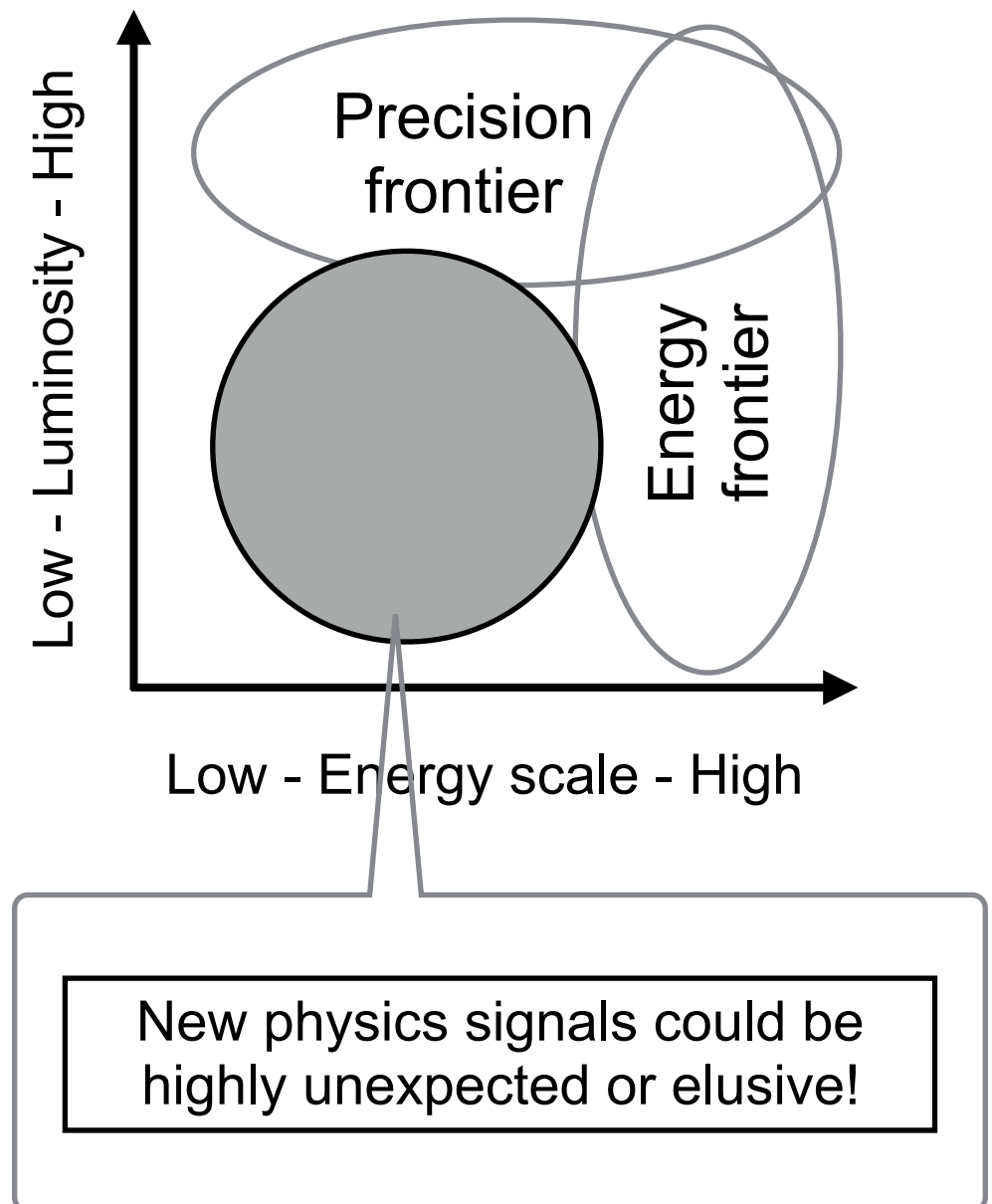
<https://www.insidescience.org> > news > when-scientists-...  
**When Scientists Find Nothing: The Value of Null Results**  
3 Jun 2020 — The LHC is one expensive instrument that did get the green light to explore the unknown, but for the machine to even function, researchers must ...

<https://www.symmetrymagazine.org> > article > the-unse...  
**The unseen progress of the LHC | symmetry magazine**  
2 May 2019 — These studies don't get the same attention as the Higgs boson, but these null results—results that don't support a certain hypothesis—have ...

<https://conference.ippp.dur.ac.uk> > event  
**Interpreting the LHC Null results (17 November 2017) · IPPP ...**  
Interpreting the LHC Null results. by Rick Gupta (IPPP). Friday 17 Nov 2017, 14:00 → 15:00 Europe/London. OC218 (IPPP) ...

<https://link.aps.org> > doi > PhysRevD.93.035022  
**Extracting constraints from direct detection searches of ...**  
by Q Riffard · 2016 · Cited by 9 — In the light of the null results from supersymmetry searches at the LHC, the squark sector is pushed to high masses. We show that for a squark ...

<https://www.project-syndicate.org> > commentary > large-h...  
**We Don't Need a Bigger Particle Collider - Project Syndicate**  
18 Apr 2019 — Yes, null results are also results. They can rule out hypotheses. But if you need to develop a new theory, they are not very useful. A null ...





# Machine Learning at Colliders

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- The High Energy Physics (HEP) community has a long history of using ML for data analysis
  - Neural network for top quark search @D0 (1990)
  - BDT was first used by MiniBooNe for neutrino data (2004)
- Novelty (anomaly) detection represents a new task of ML at colliders







# What Is Novelty (Anomaly) Detection?

Signal Processing 99 (2014) 215–249

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

 **Signal Processing**

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/sigpro](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/sigpro)




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Review

## A review of novelty detection

Marco A.F. Pimentel\*, David A. Clifton, Lei Clifton, Lionel Tarassenko

*Institute of Biomedical Engineering, Department of Engineering Science, University of Oxford, Oxford OX3 7DQ, UK*

 CrossMark

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ARTICLE INFO	ABSTRACT
<p><i>Article history:</i> Received 17 October 2012 Received in revised form 16 December 2013 Accepted 23 December 2013 Available online 2 January 2014</p> <p><i>Keywords:</i> Novelty detection One-class classification Machine learning</p>	<p><u>Novelty detection is the task of classifying test data that differ in some respect from the data that are available during training. This may be seen as “one-class classification”, in which a model is constructed to describe “normal” training data.</u> The novelty detection approach is typically used when the quantity of available “abnormal” data is insufficient to construct explicit models for non-normal classes. Application includes inference in datasets from critical systems, where the quantity of available normal data is very large, such that “normality” may be accurately modelled. In this review we aim to provide an updated and structured investigation of novelty detection research papers that have appeared in the machine learning literature during the last decade.</p> <p>© 2014 Published by Elsevier B.V.</p>

No prior knowledge on the signals is available for model training



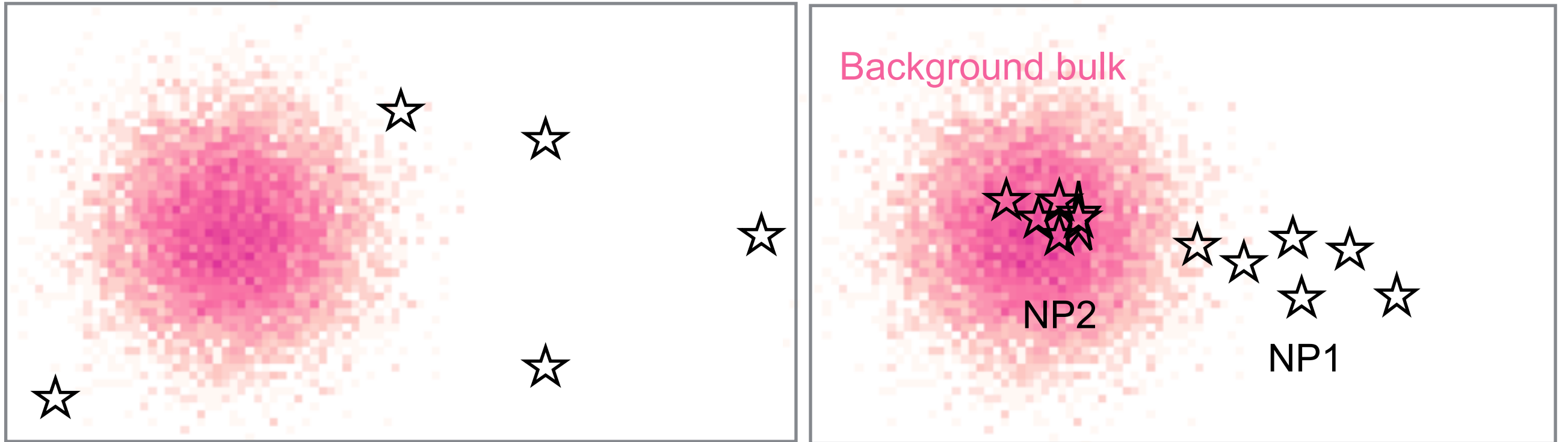
# Applications in Our Daily Life



- Gate Control System (GCS): trained with personal data (face, fingerprint, iris, voice,...) of the residents/users of a building
- Is a visitor allowed to enter?
  - Recognized as a resident/user - Yes
  - Recognized as a stranger - No
- Many others: defect detection for materials, intrusion detection for cyber-security, event detection in sensor networks, health monitoring for people, etc.



# Novel (Anomalous) Events at Colliders



“Novel (Anomalous) events”  
evaluated by the GCS

“Novel (Anomalous) events”  
evaluated at the collider

The “usual” novel (anomalous) events tend to be individual or unrelated, while the ones at colliders tend to be collective or clustered (QFT) and hence from a distribution.

Individually, they may not be distinguishable from the backgrounds

=> To perform this task at colliders, dedicated designs for novelty evaluators are needed



## First Efforts in This Direction... ..

Weakly supervised learning

kNN method  
+ evaluator  
complementarity

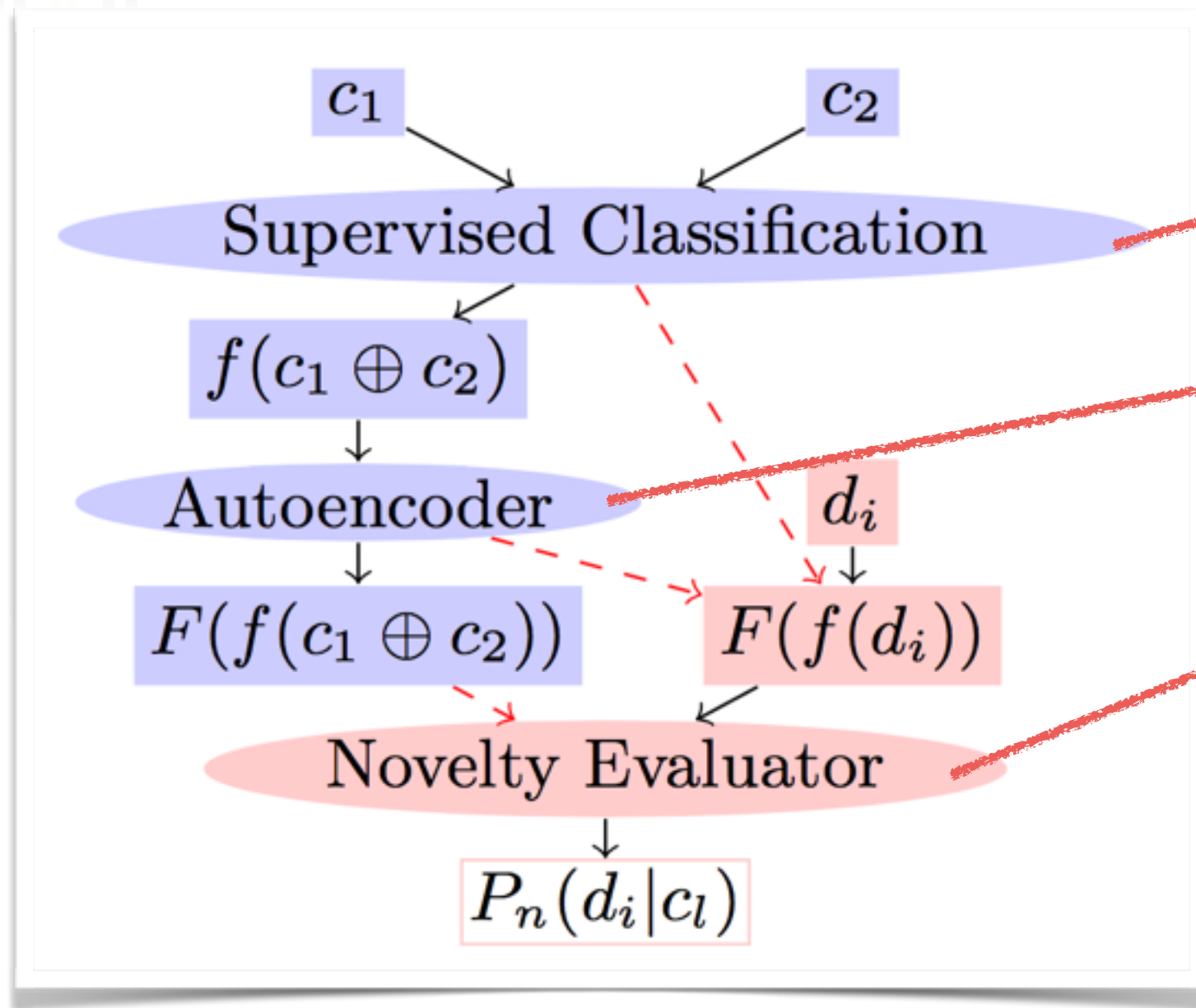
AE reconstruction  
error

- [arXiv:1702.00414]: “Weakly Supervised Classification in High Energy Physics”, L. Dery, B. Nachman, F. Rubbo and A. Schwartzman
- [arXiv:1706.09451]: “(Machine) learning to do more with less”, T. Cohen, M. Freytsis and B. Ostdiek
- [arXiv:1708.02949]: “Classification without labels: Learning from mixed samples in high energy physics”, E. M. Metodiev, B. Nachman, and J. Thaler
- [1805.02664]: “Anomaly Detection for Resonant New Physics with Machine Learning”, J. Collins, K. Howe, B. Nachman
- [arXiv:1806.02350]: “Learning New Physics from a Machine”, R. T. D’Agnolo and A. Wulzer
- [arXiv:1807.06038]: “Guiding New Physics Searches with Unsupervised Learning”, De Simone and T. Jacques
- [arXiv:1807.10261]: “Novelty Detection Meets Collider Physics”; J. Hajer, Y.-Y. Li, TL, and H. Wang
- [arXiv:1808.08992]: “Searching for New Physics with Deep Autoencoders”, M. Farina, Y. Nakai, and D. Shih
- [arXiv:1808.08979]: “QCD or What?”, T. Heimel, G. Kasieczka, T. Plehn, and J. M. Thompson

• ... ..



# Workflow



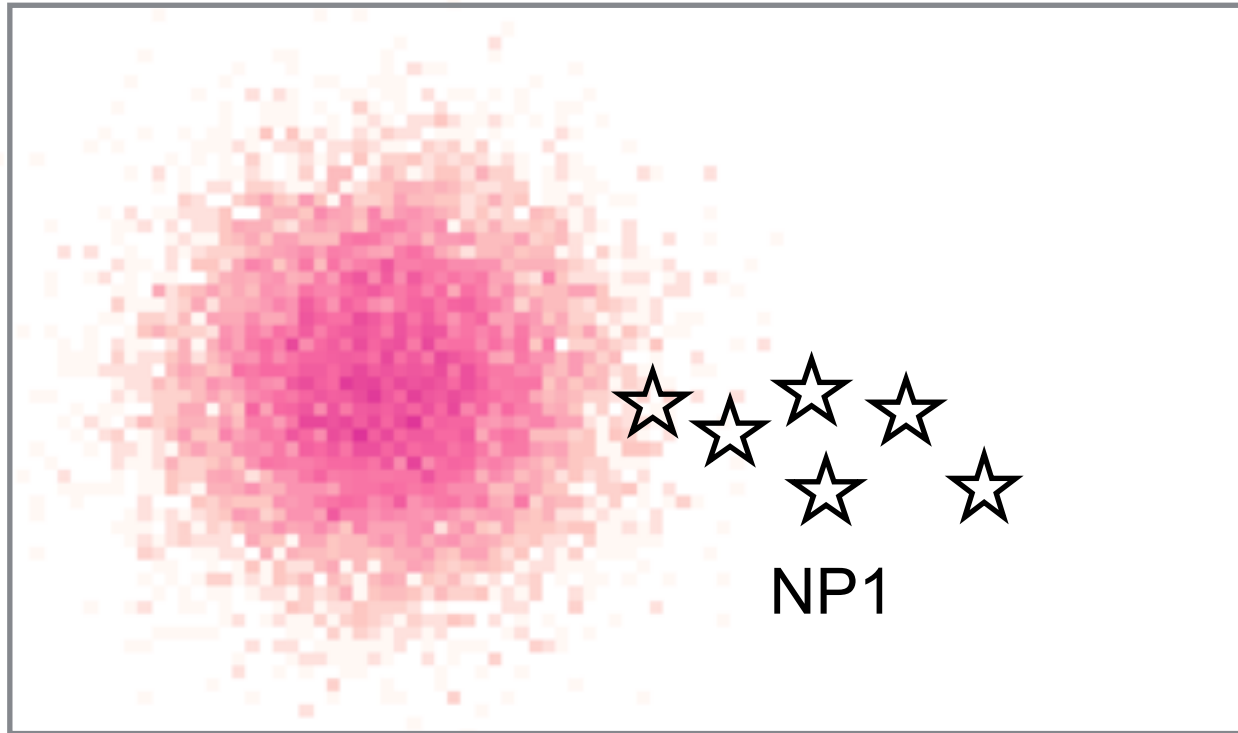
- Step 1: (SM/background) feature learning
- Step 2: dimensionality reduction of feature space (**auto-encoder**)
- Step 3: novelty evaluation of testing data
- Detection sensitivity can be analyzed based on novelty response of the testing sample

[arXiv:1807.10261; J. Hajer, Y.-Y. Li, TL, and H. Wang]





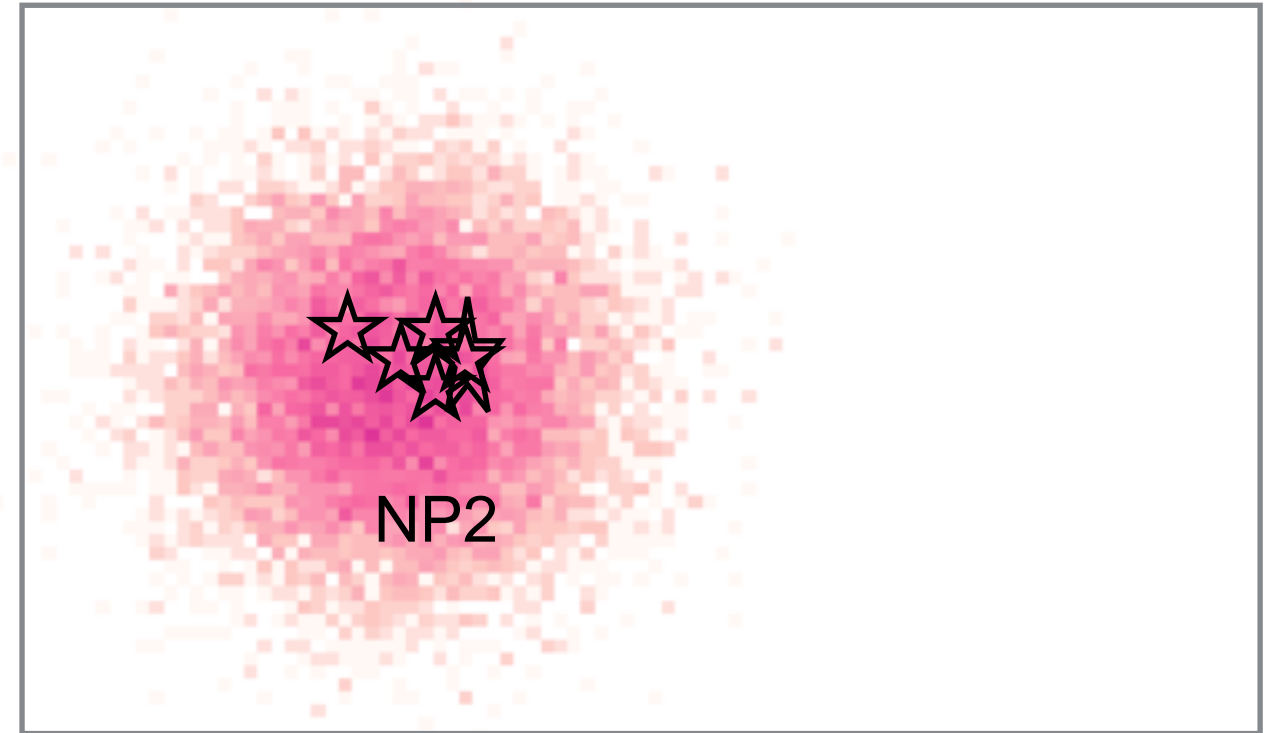
## Two Classes of Evaluators



### Isolation-based Evaluators

The novelty of a testing event is individually evaluated based on its distance to or isolation from the background bulk (known-pattern data) in the feature space.

Other testing events do not play a role in this process.



### Clustering-based Evaluators

The novelty for a testing event is evaluated according to the event clustering/collective effect on top of the background bulk (known-pattern data) in the feature space.

Other testing events (especially the ones nearby) will contribute in this process.

Below we demonstrate using the k-Nearest-Neighbors (kNN) method (simple, intuitive and **representative**)



## kNN-based $O_{iso}$

$$\Delta_{iso} = \frac{d_{train} - \langle d'_{train} \rangle}{\langle d'_{train} \rangle^{1/2}} \quad \mathcal{O} = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{c\Delta}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \right)$$

Novelty measure: not normalized

Novelty evaluator:  $0 \leq \mathcal{O} \leq 1$

- $d_{train}$  : mean distance of a testing data point to its k nearest neighbors **in the training sample (physical distance)**
- $\langle d'_{train} \rangle$ : average of the mean distances of its k nearest neighbors to their respective k nearest neighbors **in the training sample** (reference distance) :
- Novelty response is evaluated by comparing the physical distance of the testing event and the reference distance.

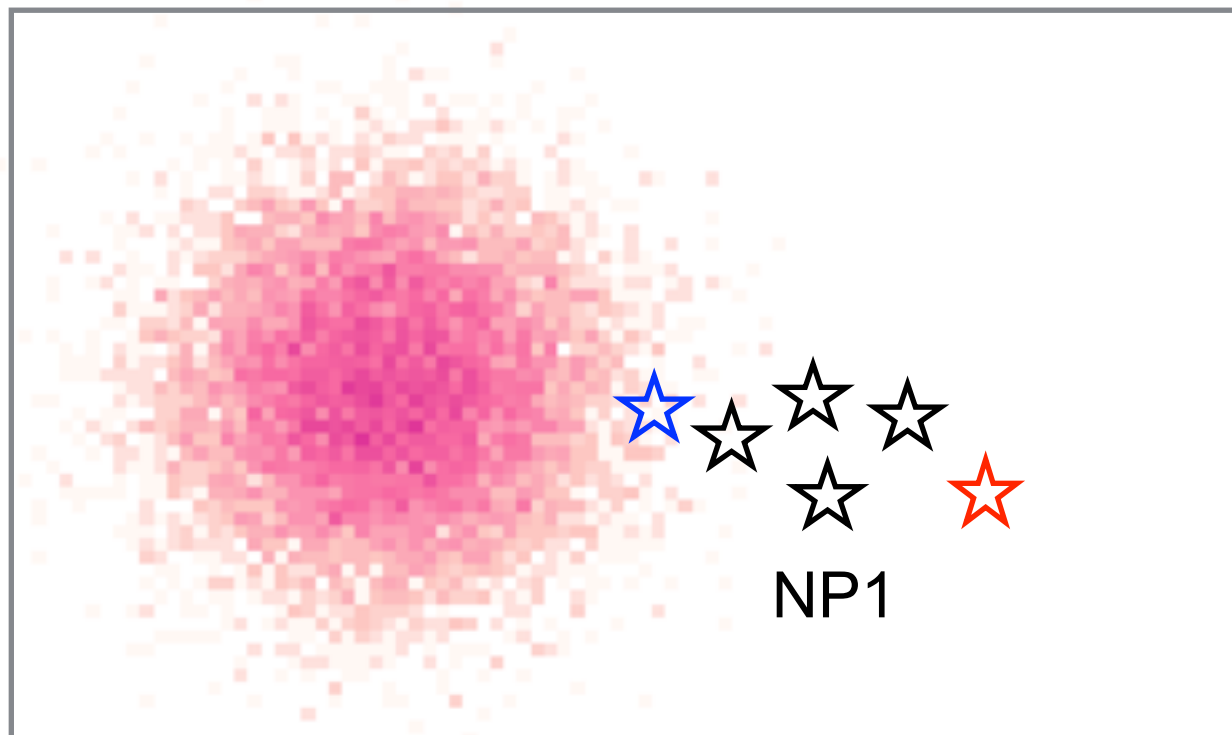




## kNN-based O\_iso

$$\Delta_{\text{iso}} = \frac{d_{\text{train}} - \langle d'_{\text{train}} \rangle}{\langle d'_{\text{train}} \rangle^{1/2}}$$

$$\mathcal{O} = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \text{erf} \left( \frac{c\Delta}{\sqrt{2}} \right) \right)$$



Tends to be  
scored low



Tends to be  
scored high



## kNN-based O\_clu

$$\Delta_{\text{iso}} = \frac{d_{\text{train}} - \langle d'_{\text{train}} \rangle}{\langle d'_{\text{train}} \rangle^{1/2}} \quad \Delta_{\text{clu}} = \frac{d_{\text{test}}^{-m} - d_{\text{train}}^{-m}}{d_{\text{train}}^{-m/2}}$$

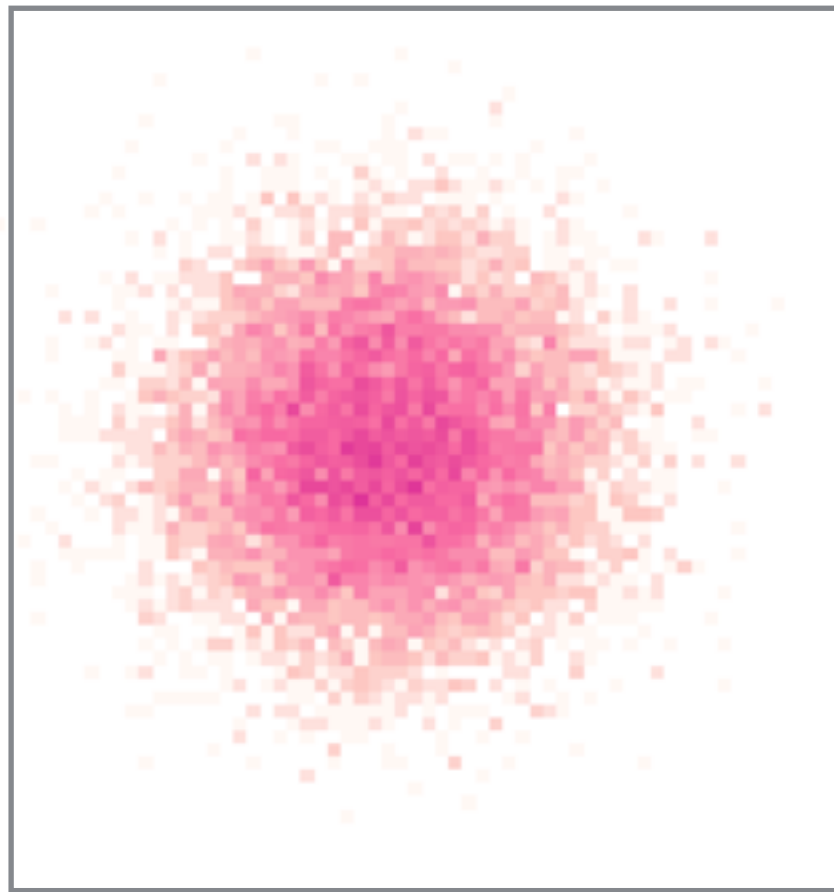
- $d_{\text{train}}$  : mean distance of a testing event to its k nearest neighbors in the training dataset
- $d_{\text{test}}$  : mean distance of a testing event to its k nearest neighbors in the testing dataset
- m: dimension of the feature space =>  $d^{-m}$ : a measure of local density
- Novelty response is evaluated by comparing local densities of the testing event defined by the training and testing datasets



## kNN-based O\_clu

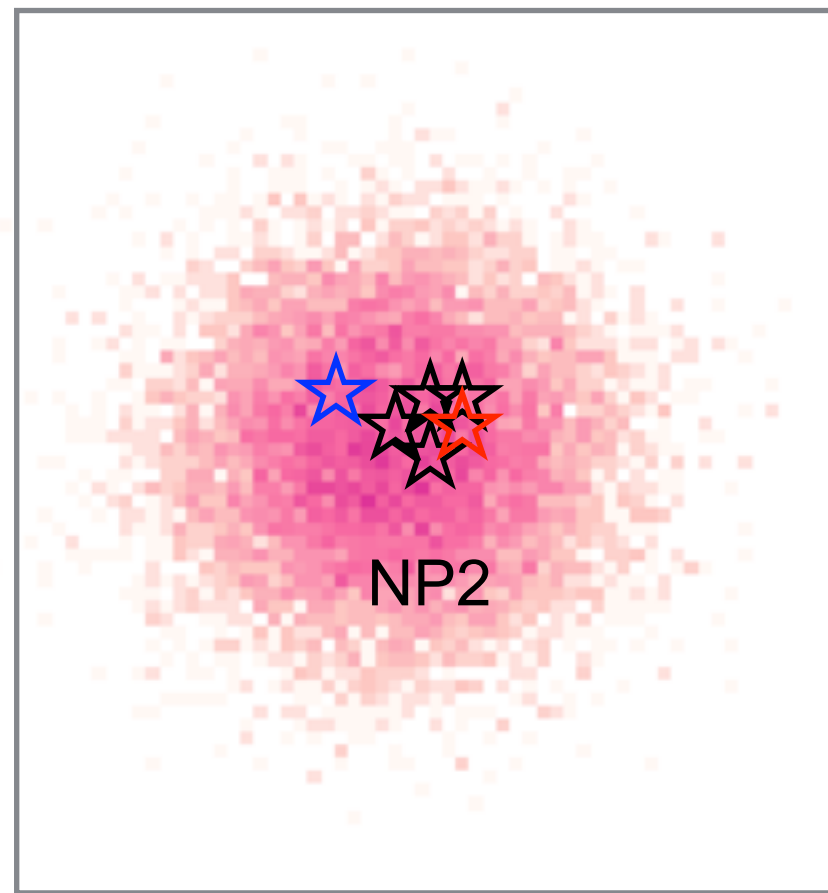
$$\Delta_{\text{iso}} = \frac{d_{\text{train}} - \langle d'_{\text{train}} \rangle}{\langle d'_{\text{train}} \rangle^{1/2}}$$

$$\Delta_{\text{clu}} = \frac{d_{\text{test}}^{-m} - d_{\text{train}}^{-m}}{d_{\text{train}}^{-m/2}}$$



Training dataset

VS



Testing dataset



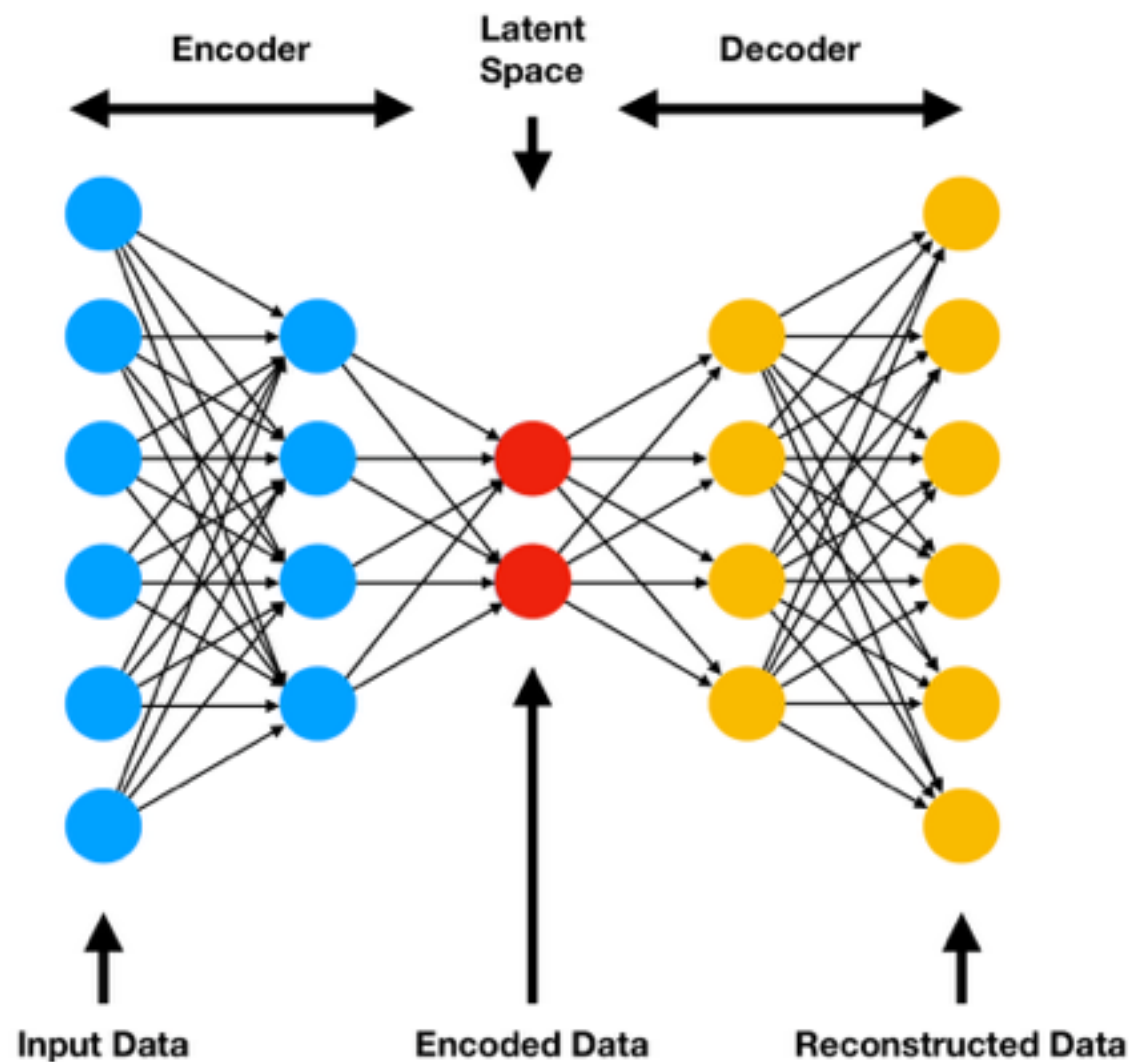
Tends to be  
scored low



Tends to be  
scored high



# Reconstruction Error of AE: Isolation-Based



$$L = |x - x'|^2$$

[T. Heime et. al.; M. Farina et. al; 2018]

- Autoencoder: a special NN with its latent space being defined with a demand of minimizing event reconstruction error
- Reconstruction error as a measure of distance to/difference from the known-pattern data
- Novelty is evaluated individually for the testing events => Isolation-based!



# Weakly-supervised Learning

## PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

Highlights Recent Accepted Collections Authors Referees

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### Dijet Resonance Search with Weak Supervision $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV $pp$ Collisions in the ATLAS Detector

G. Aad *et al.* (ATLAS Collaboration)

Phys. Rev. Lett. **125**, 131801 – Published 21 September 2020

Article

PDF

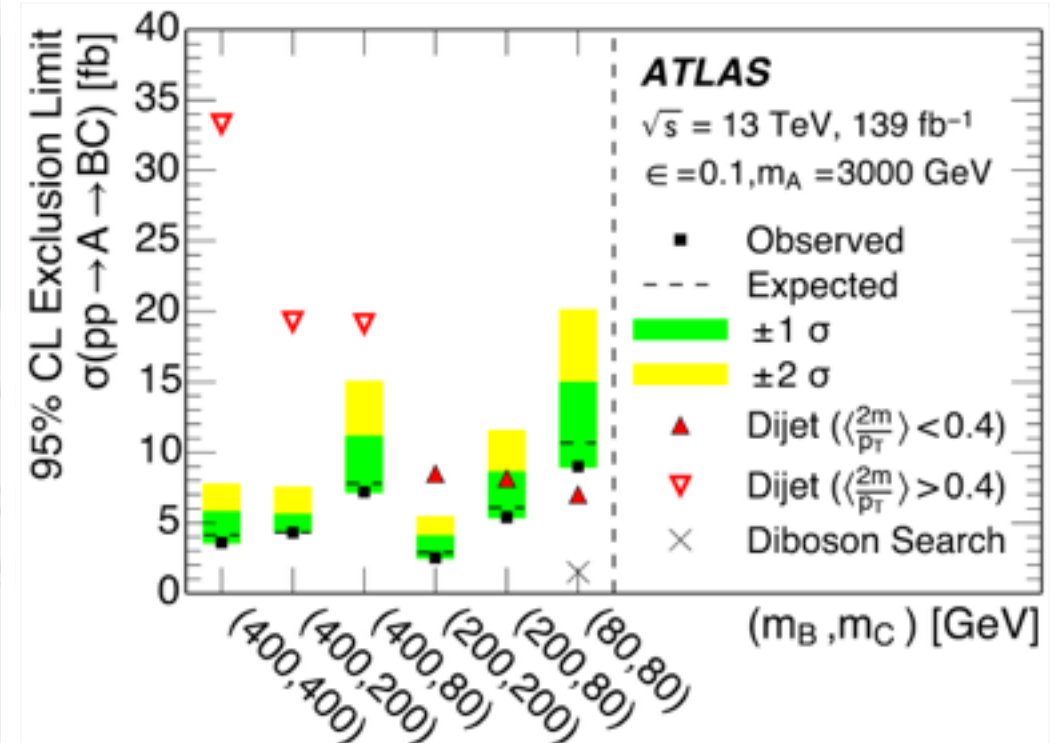
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Export Citation



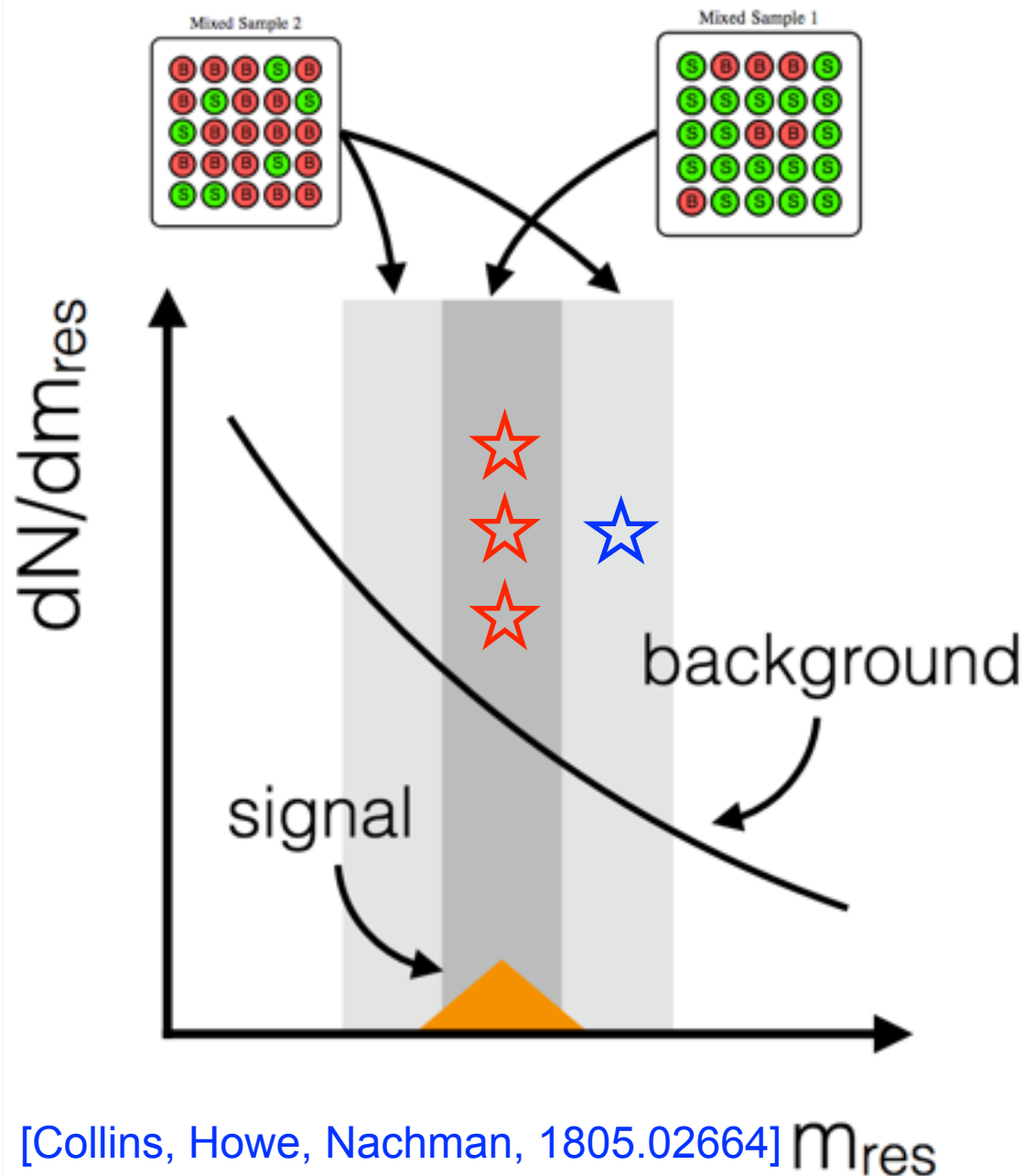
#### ABSTRACT

This Letter describes a search for narrowly resonant new physics using a machine-learning anomaly detection procedure that does not rely on signal simulations for developing the analysis selection. Weakly supervised learning is used to train classifiers directly on data to enhance potential signals. The targeted topology is dijet events and the features used for





# Weakly-supervised Learning: Clustering-Based



- Assign labels to each event in the mixed samples ( $0 \Rightarrow M0$ ;  $1 \Rightarrow M1$ ) and then performs supervised learning
- $S0/B0 \neq S1/B1$ : optimize  $S0/B0$  vs  $S1/B1 \Leftrightarrow$  optimize  $S$  vs  $B$
- If  $S0/B0 \Rightarrow 0$ ,  $S1/B1 \Rightarrow 1$ , then reduced to fully supervising learning
- Novelty is evaluated essentially based on local density  $\Rightarrow$  clustering-based



Tends to be scored low



Tends to be scored high





## More Novelty Evaluators

[arXiv:2202.02165; X.-H. Jiang, A. Juste, Y.-Y. Li, TL]

$\mathcal{O}_{\text{iso}}$	$k$ -nearest-neighbors( $k$ NN)-based $\mathcal{O}_{\text{iso}}$ [1]
	Autoencoder(AE)-based [12–21]
	Graph [22], classical $k$ -means clustering [23]
$\mathcal{O}_{\text{clu}}$	$k$ NN-based $\mathcal{O}_{\text{clu}}$ [1], TS [24]
	$t$ -score [2, 25], ANODE [26], Poissonian Mixture Model [27]
	CWoLa [28–31], TNT [32], SALAD [33]
	SULU [34]
	UCluster [35]

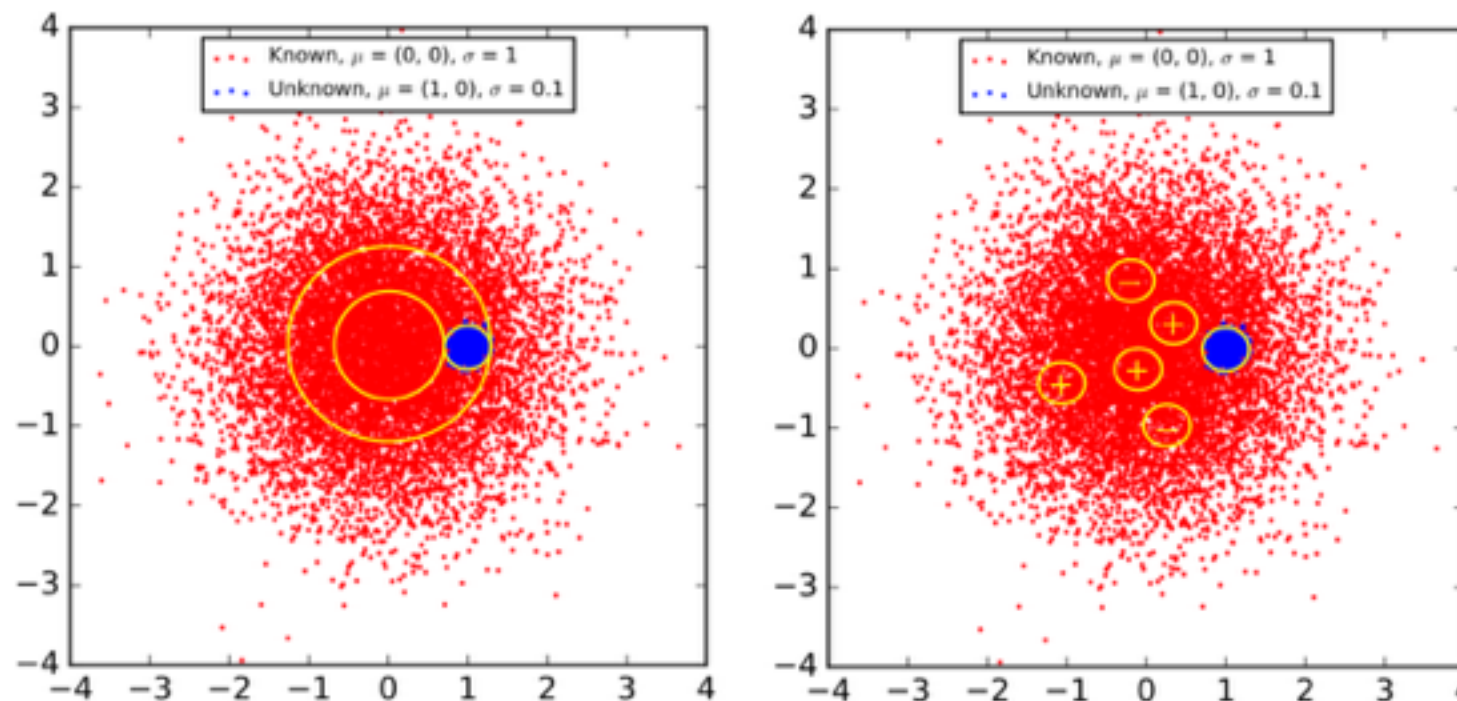
Designed in different manners, but to be either isolation-based or clustering-based





# Why Synergize O\_iso and O\_clu?

- Sensitive to the signals of different patterns
  - Isolation-based: signal events far away from the background bulk
  - Clustering-based: signal events creating a difference in the local density
- Subject to the reducible backgrounds of different sources
  - Isolation-based: events equidistant from the background bulk
  - Clustering based: statistical fluctuations
- Can broaden the coverage over signal patterns and suppress reducible backgrounds





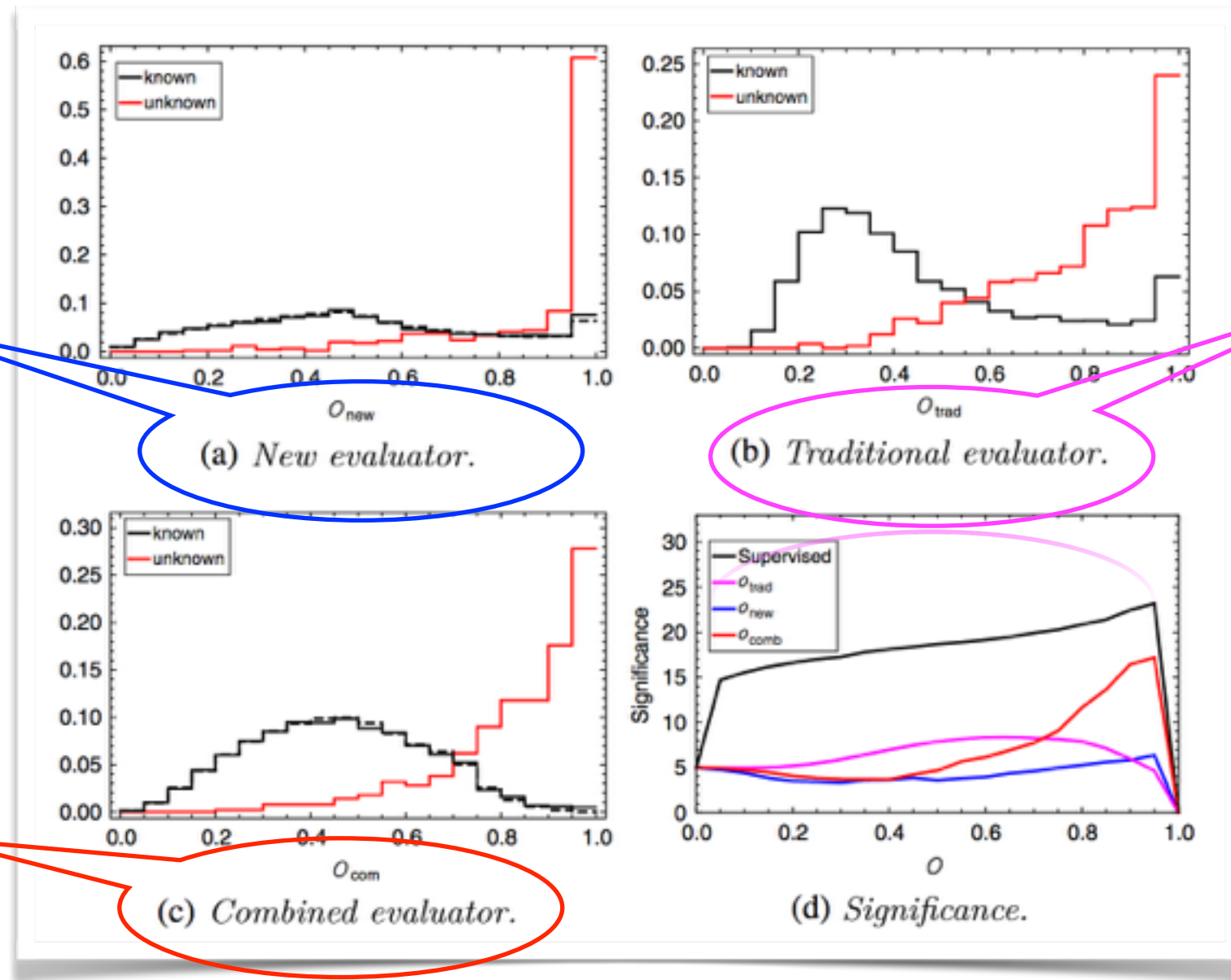
# Synergizing $\mathcal{O}_{iso}$ and $\mathcal{O}_{clu}$ - First Effort

kNN-based  $\mathcal{O}_{clu}$

kNN-based  $\mathcal{O}_{iso}$

kNN-based  $\mathcal{O}_{syn}$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{O}_{syn} &= f(\mathcal{O}_{iso}, \mathcal{O}_{clu}) \\ &= \sqrt{\mathcal{O}_{iso} \mathcal{O}_{clu}}\end{aligned}$$



[arXiv:1807.10261; J. Hajer, Y.-Y. Li, TL, and H. Wang]



# Synergizing O\_iso and O\_clu - More Systematic Treatment

arXiv > hep-ph > arXiv:2202.02165

Search...

Help | Advance

High Energy Physics – Phenomenology

[Submitted on 4 Feb 2022]

## Detecting New Physics as Novelty -- Complementarity Matters

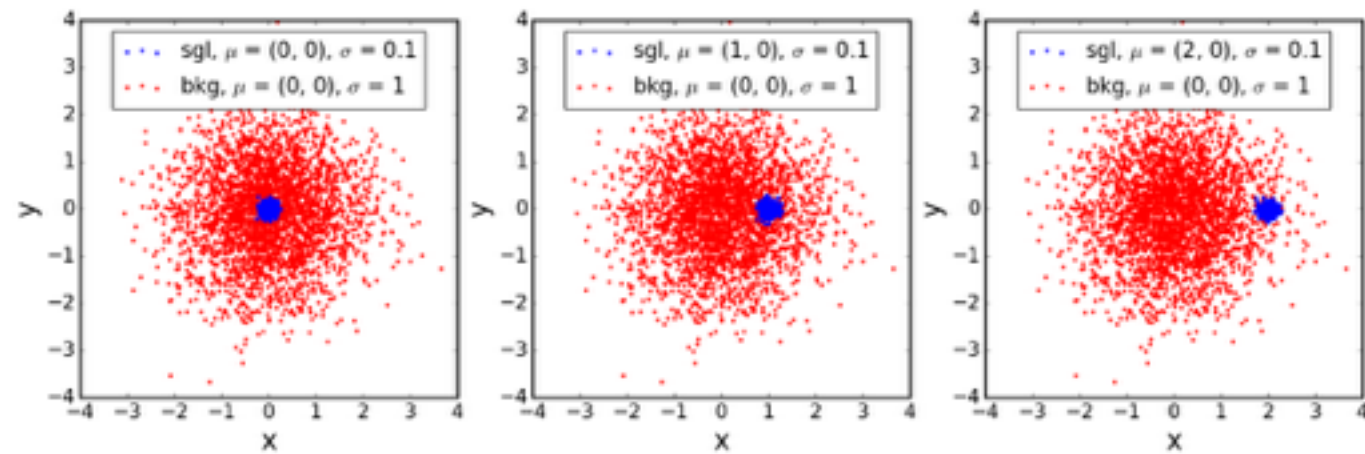
Xu-Hui Jiang, Aurelio Juste, Ying-Ying Li, Tao Liu

Novelty detection is a task of machine learning that aims at detecting novel events without a prior knowledge. In particular, its techniques can be applied to detect unexpected signals from new phenomena at colliders. In this paper, we develop an analysis scheme that exploits the complementarity, originally studied in Ref.~\cite{Hajer:2018kqm}, between isolation-based and clustering-based novelty evaluators. This approach can significantly improve the performance and overall applicability of novelty detection at colliders, which we demonstrate using a variety of two dimensional Gaussian samples mimicking collider events.

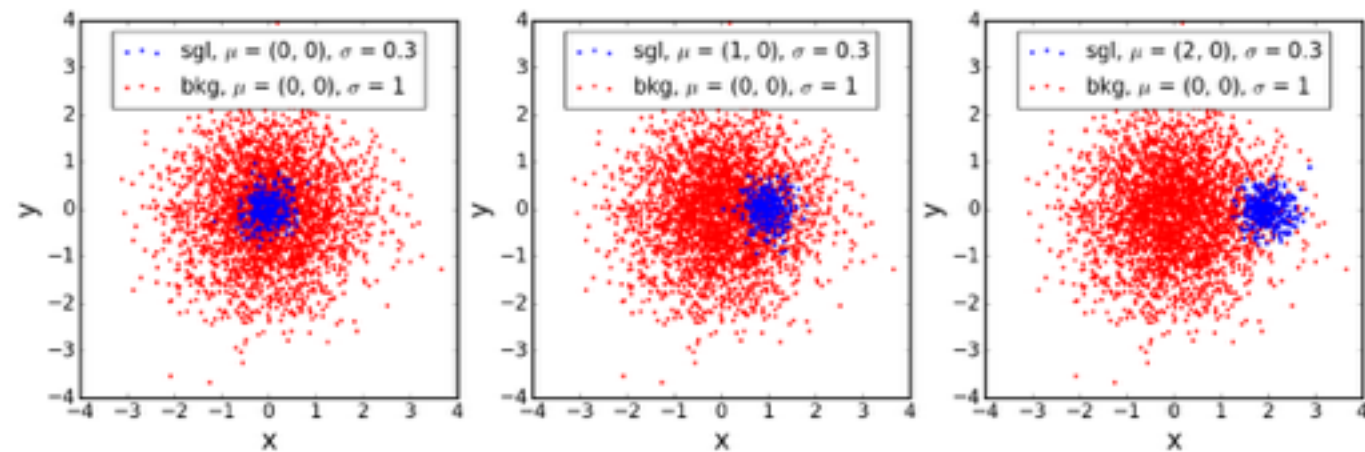


## 2D Gaussian Benchmarks

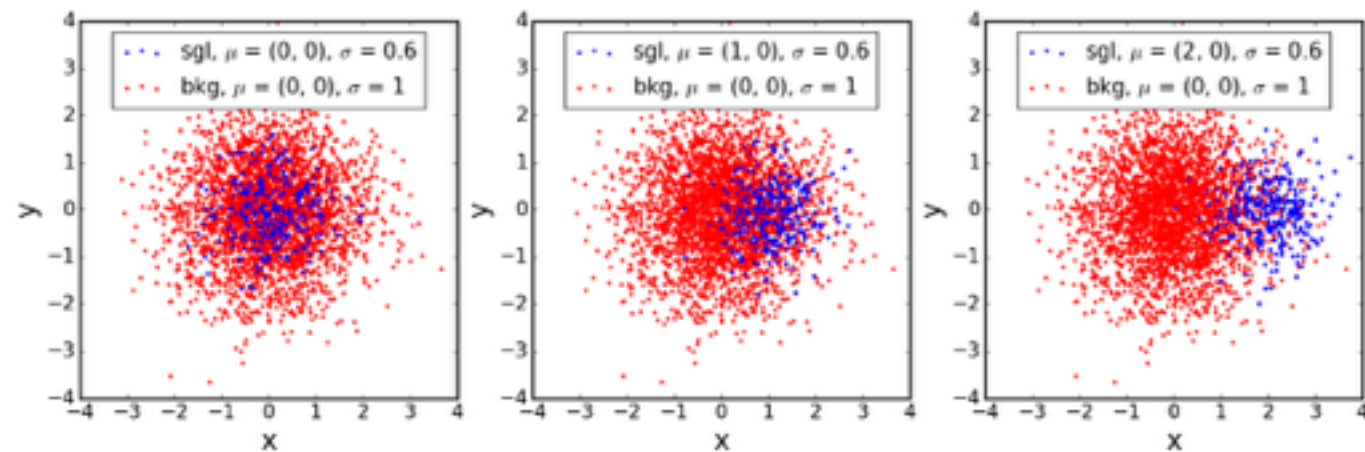
$R1 : \sigma = 0.1$



$R2 : \sigma = 0.3$



$R3 : \sigma = 0.6$



$C1 : \mu = (0, 0)$

$C2 : \mu = (1, 0)$

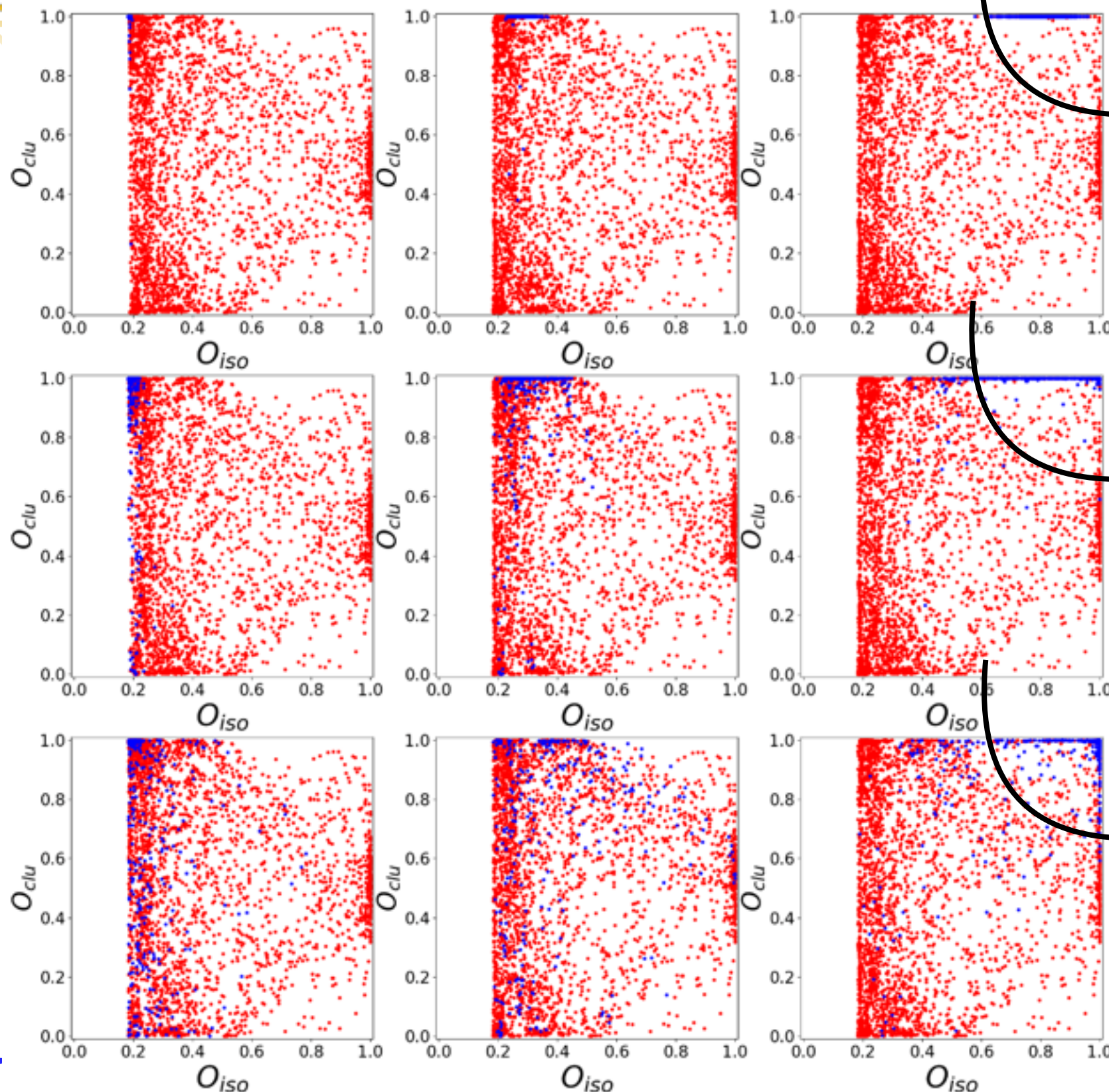
$C3 : \mu = (2, 0)$

$B = 10000, S = 1000$





# Complementarity Between $O_{iso}$ and $O_{clu}$



- Signals: sensitive to different patterns

$O_{iso}$ :  $C1 < C2 < C3$

$O_{clu}$ :  $R3 < R2 < R1$

- Reducible backgrounds: mutually suppressed to various extents
- $O_{syn}$  works well for certain cases (right column) only

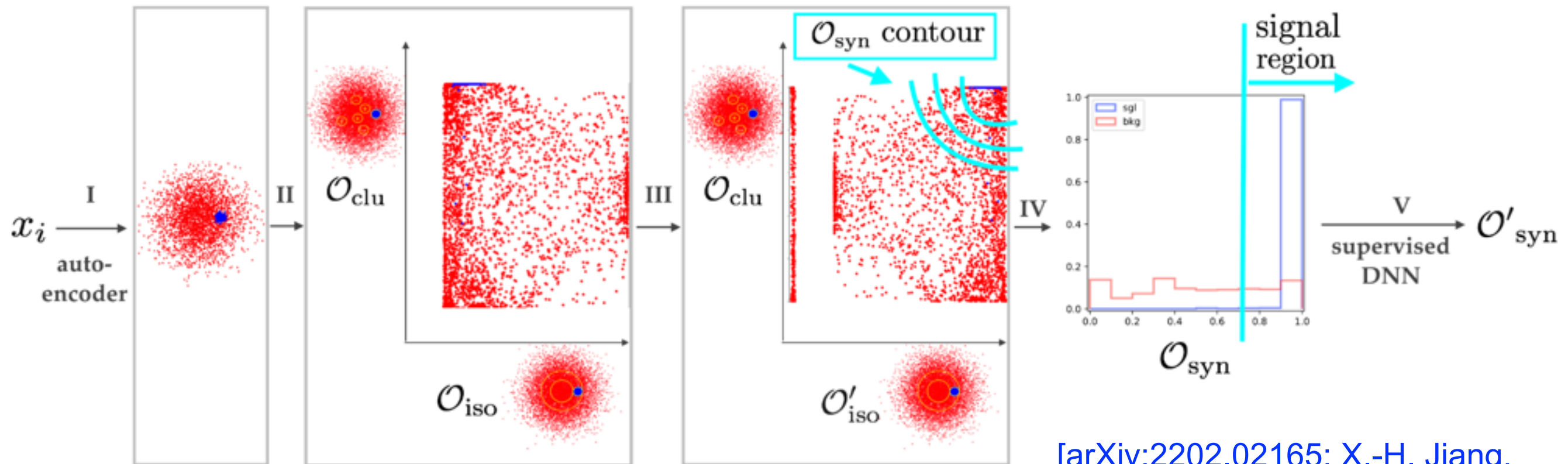
$$O_{syn} = \sqrt{O_{iso} O_{clu}}$$

Question:

How to recognize well the signal events in a general context, based on the  $O_{iso}$  and  $O_{clu}$  evaluations?



# Improved Workflow for Novelty Detection



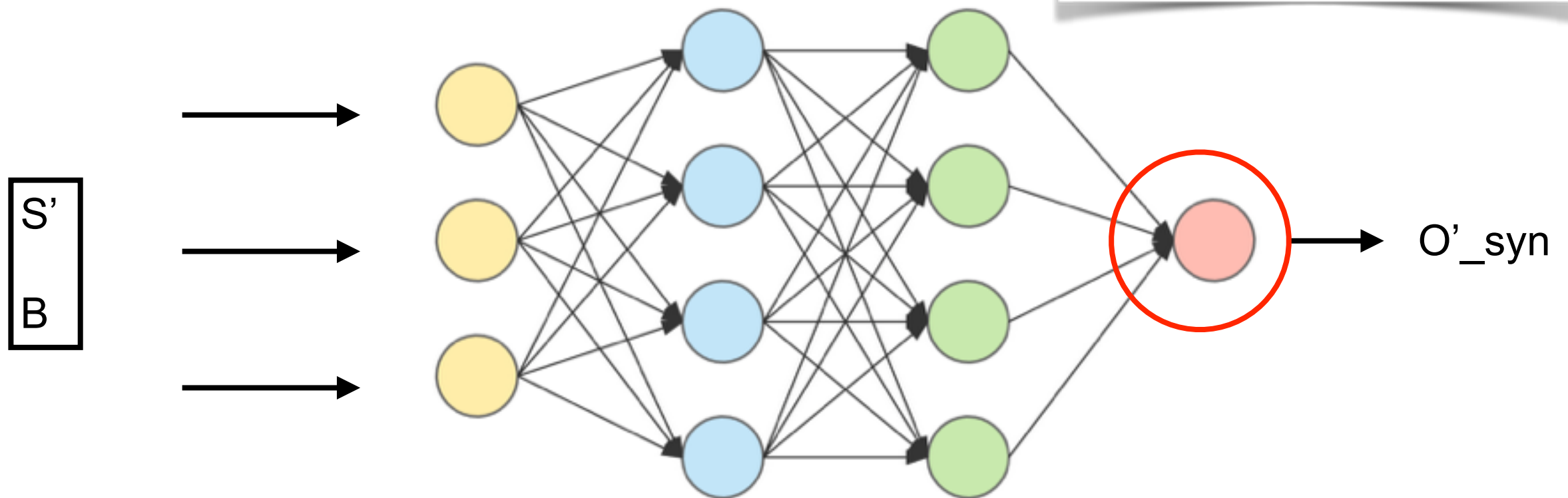
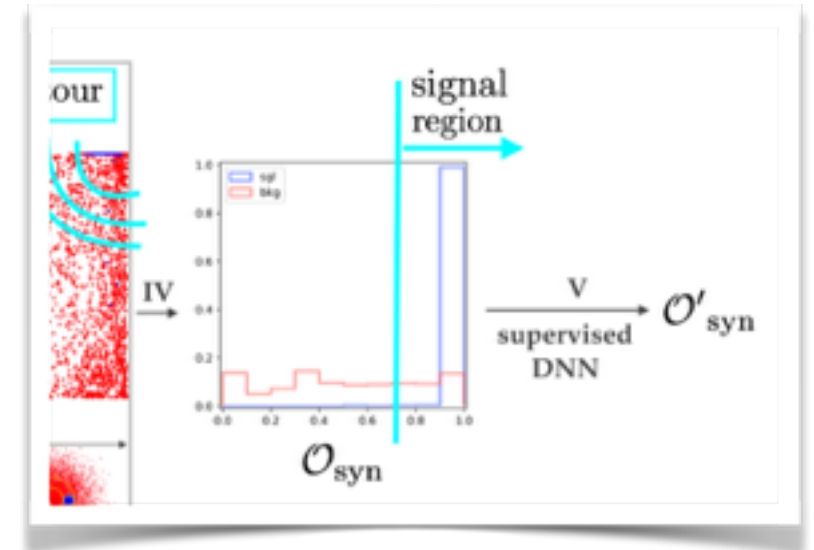
[arXiv:2202.02165; X.-H. Jiang, A. Juste, Y.-Y. Li, TL]

- Step III: bin resorting of  $O_{iso} \Rightarrow O'_{iso}$
- Step IV: signal-like region identifying:  $O_{syn} = \sqrt{O'_{iso} O_{clu}}$
- Step V: novelty re-evaluating (using the DNN score of weakly supervised learning as  $O'_{syn}$ ), as a further optimization



# Synergy-based Evaluator $O'_{\text{syn}}$

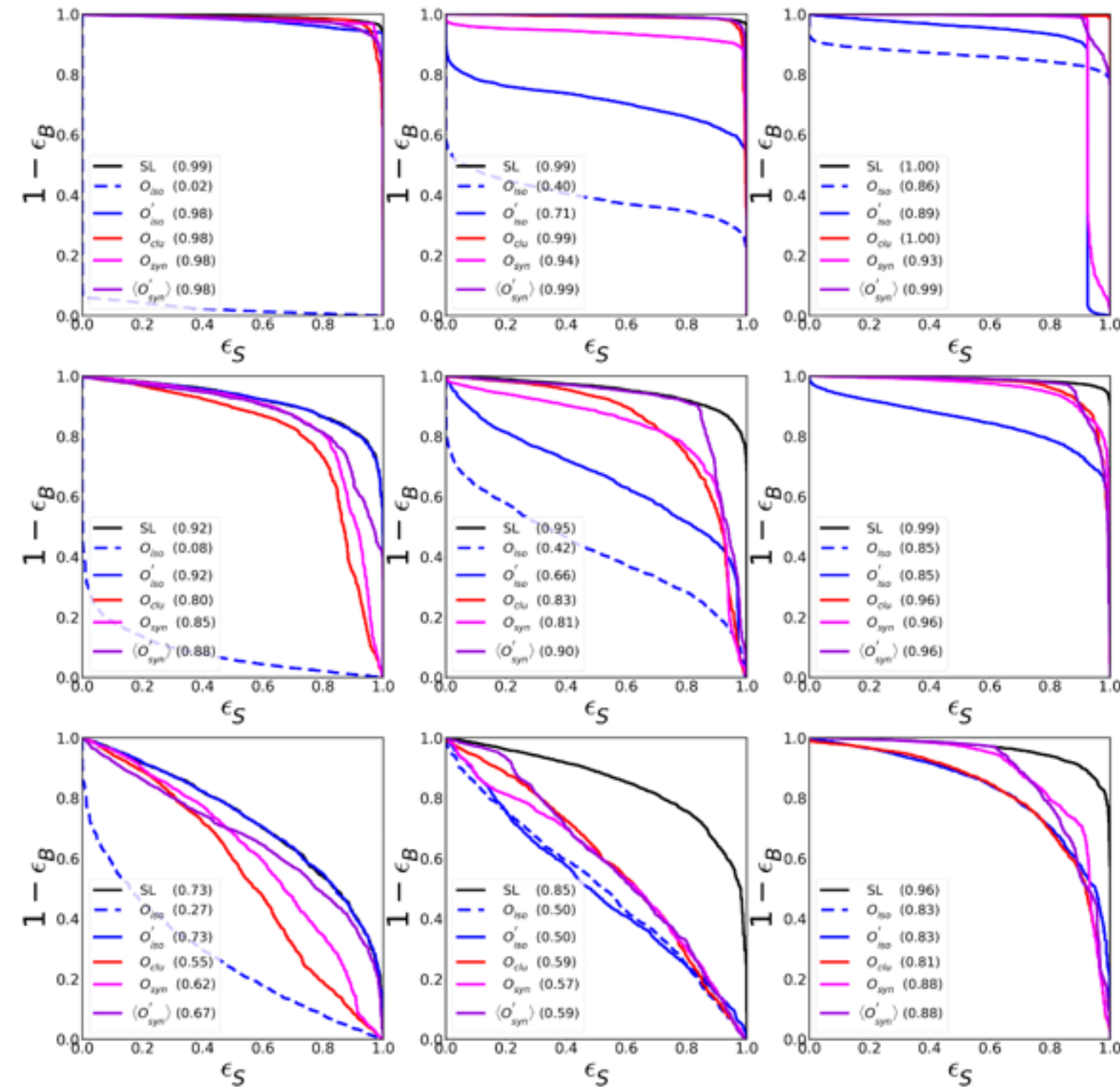
- Build up a new NN of supervised learning, and use its output neuron as a synergy-based evaluator ( $O'_{\text{syn}}$ )
  - Signal-like ( $S'$ ):  $O_{\text{syn}} > r$
  - Background (B): from simulation







# ROC Curves and AUC Values



kNN-based  $O_{iso}$

kNN-based  $O_{clu}$

kNN-based  $O_{syn}$

kNN-based  $O'_{syn}$

Supervised (ref)

- $O_{syn}$ : performs universally better than  $O_{iso}$  or  $O_{clu}$  or both
- $O'_{syn}$ : performs the best or among the best in almost all cases
- The sensitivity gap between  $O'_{syn}$  and SV is small (except for BP 8)



# Generalization of Our Analysis Scheme

$\mathcal{O}_{\text{iso}}$	$k$ -nearest-neighbors( $k$ NN)-based $\mathcal{O}_{\text{iso}}$ [1]
	Autoencoder(AE)-based [12–21]
	Graph [22], classical $k$ -means clustering [23]
$\mathcal{O}_{\text{clu}}$	$k$ NN-based $\mathcal{O}_{\text{clu}}$ [1], TS [24]
	$t$ -score [2, 25], ANODE [26], Poissonian Mixture Model [27]
	CWoLa [28–31], TNT [32], SALAD [33]
	SULU [34]
	UCluster [35]

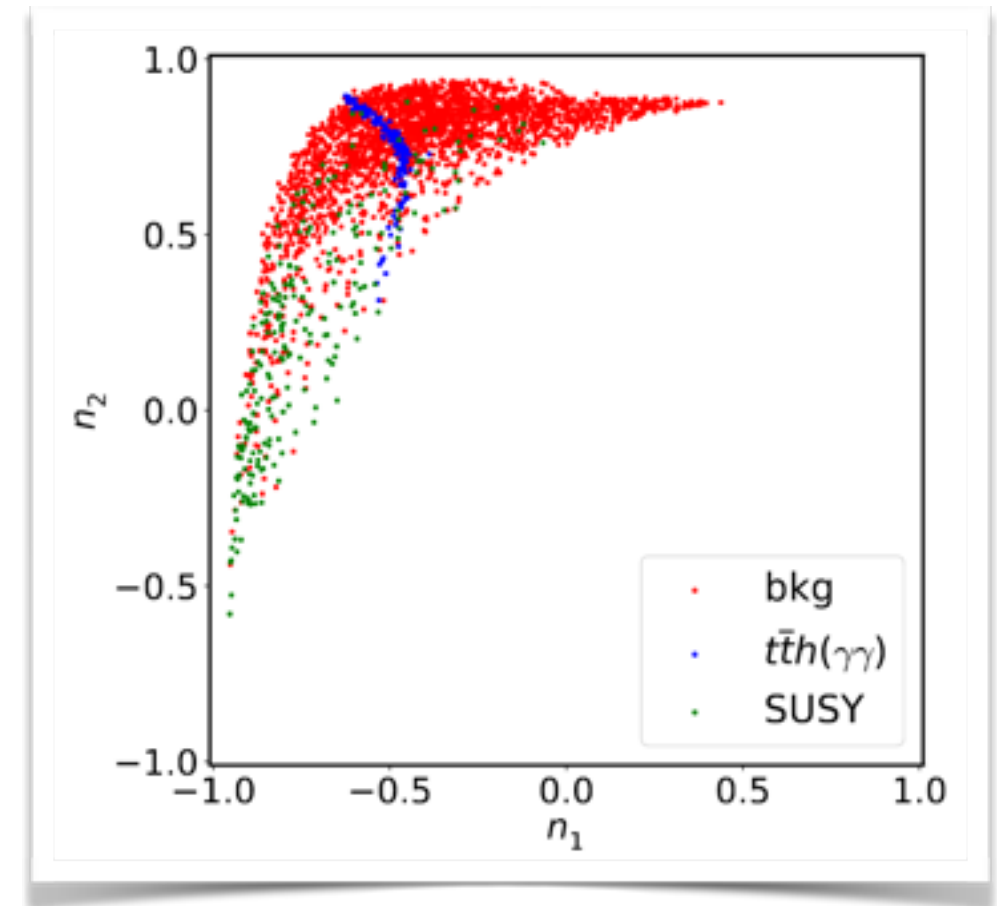
The proposed analysis scheme is **very general** (although it is demonstrated using the kNN-based evaluators):

- one can pair any of the isolation-based and clustering-based evaluators to define  $\mathcal{O}_{\text{syn}}$  and  $\mathcal{O}'_{\text{syn}}$ , with the expectation of similar improvement for detection sensitivities
- one can even develop a clustering-based “partner” evaluator for each isolation-based evaluator, as it occurs to the kNN-based designs, and then embed them into this scheme (see the backups for such a realization using AE reconstruction error)



# Application to $t\bar{t}$ +diphoton at LHC

	Process
Backgrounds	$t\bar{t}\gamma\gamma$
	$t\bar{t}\gamma$
	$t\bar{t}$
	Continuum $\gamma\gamma$
$t\bar{t}h$	$t\bar{t}h(\gamma\gamma)$
SUSY	$\tilde{t}\tilde{t} \rightarrow t\bar{t}\gamma\gamma + 2\tilde{G}$



2D latent space of AE

Two types of ``NP``: the same final state, but different signal patterns

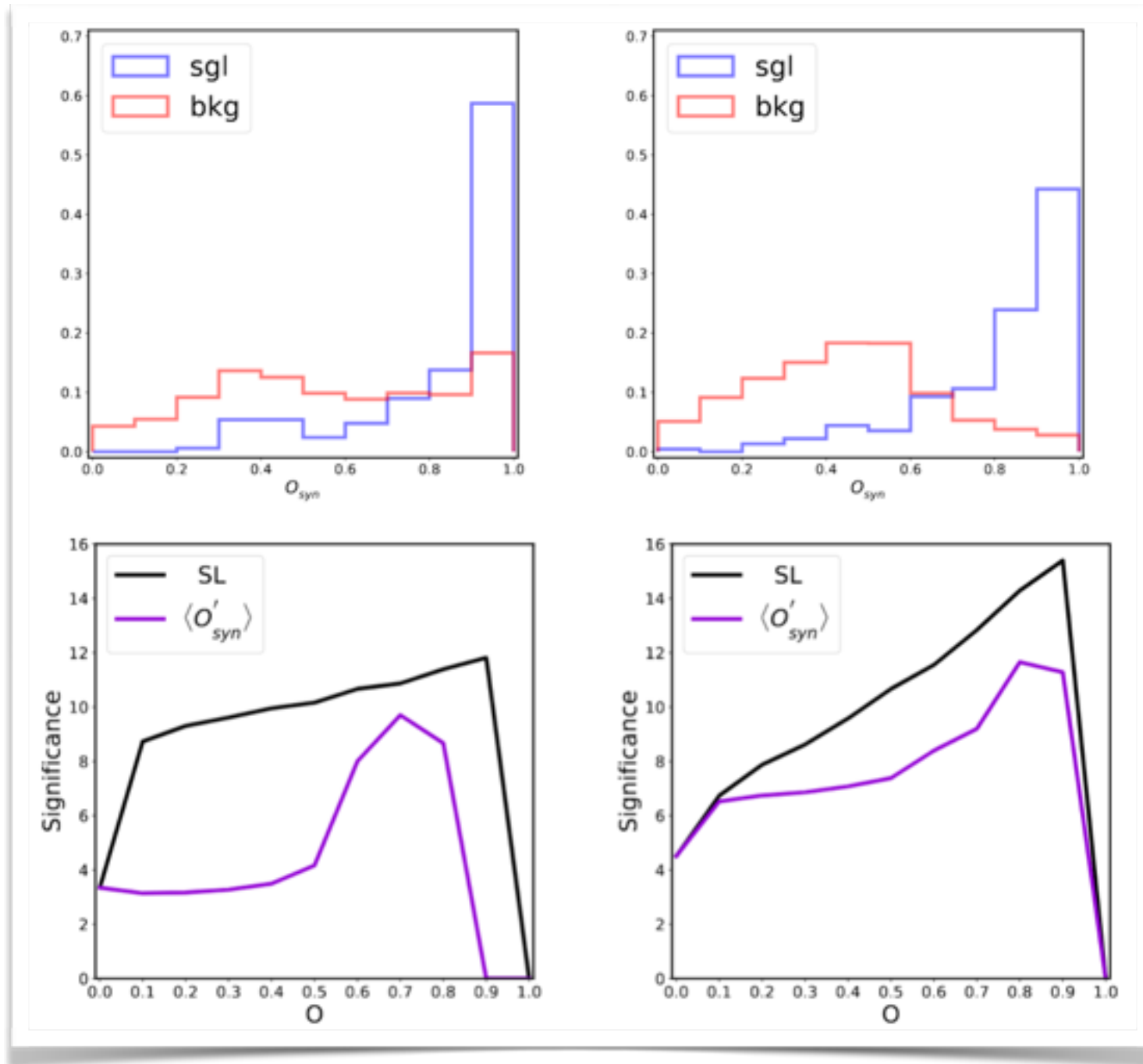
- $t\bar{t}h$ : resonance
- SUSY: broad distribution

[arXiv:2202.02165; X.-H. Jiang, A. Juste, Y.-Y. Li, TL]

=> Good for testing the proposed analysis scheme



# Application to $t\bar{t}$ +diphoton at LHC

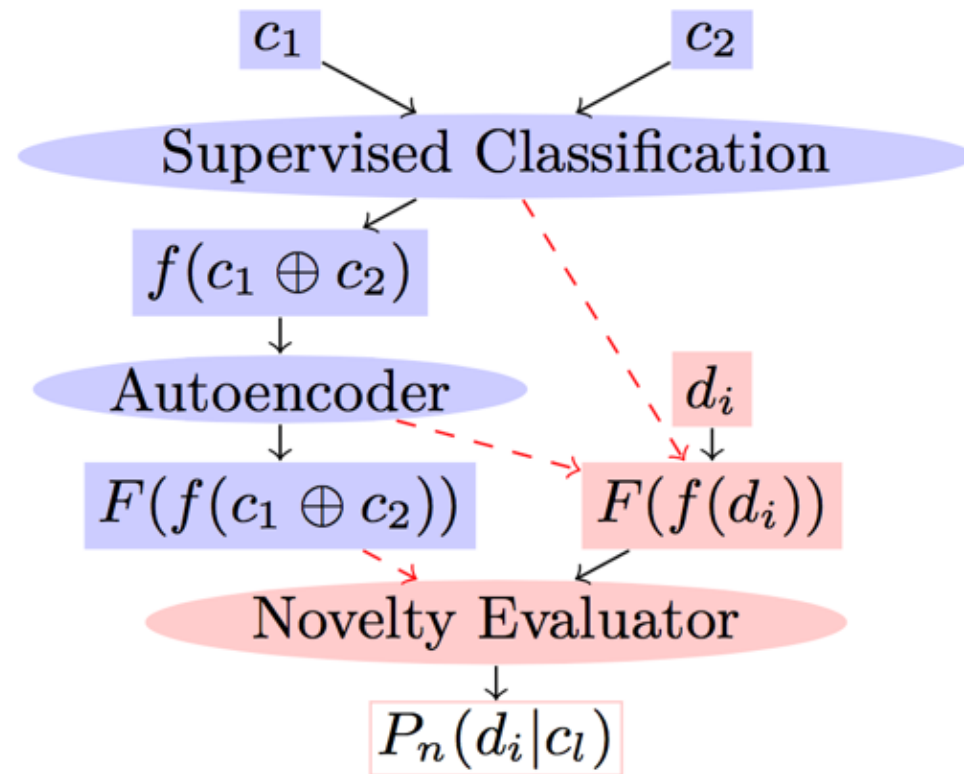


$t\bar{t}h$

SUSY



# Take-home Messages!



- Searching for highly unexpected/elusive NP signals strongly motivates ML novelty (anomaly) detection at colliders
- Novelty evaluators (despite their so-many proposals) are mostly designed as being isolation-based or clustering-based
- Complementarity generically exists between  $O_{iso}$  and  $O_{clu}$  (in terms of sensitive signal patterns and reducible backgrounds)
- Synergy-based evaluators/methods can bring us to farther, ...





UGC 大學教育資助委員會  
University Grants Committee

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GRF under grant No. 16302117

GRF under grant No. 16304315

*Thank you!*





## Backup: AE-Rec-Error-Based Evaluators

$$\Delta_{\text{iso}} = \frac{d_{\text{train}} - \langle d'_{\text{train}} \rangle}{\langle d'_{\text{train}} \rangle^{1/2}} \quad \Delta_{\text{clu}} = \frac{d_{\text{test}}^{-m} - d_{\text{train}}^{-m}}{d_{\text{train}}^{-m/2}}$$

- kNN: “d” is a distance measure, with Euclidean metric being assumed for the feature space
- AE: reconstruction error is a (squared) distance measure, namely  $d = R_{\text{AE}}^{1/2}$  but with a more complex metric for the feature space

Introduce AE-A and AE-B: the same architecture

AE-A: trained by training sample

AE-B: trained by testing sample

$$d_{\text{train}} \rightarrow R_{\text{AE-A}}^{1/2}$$

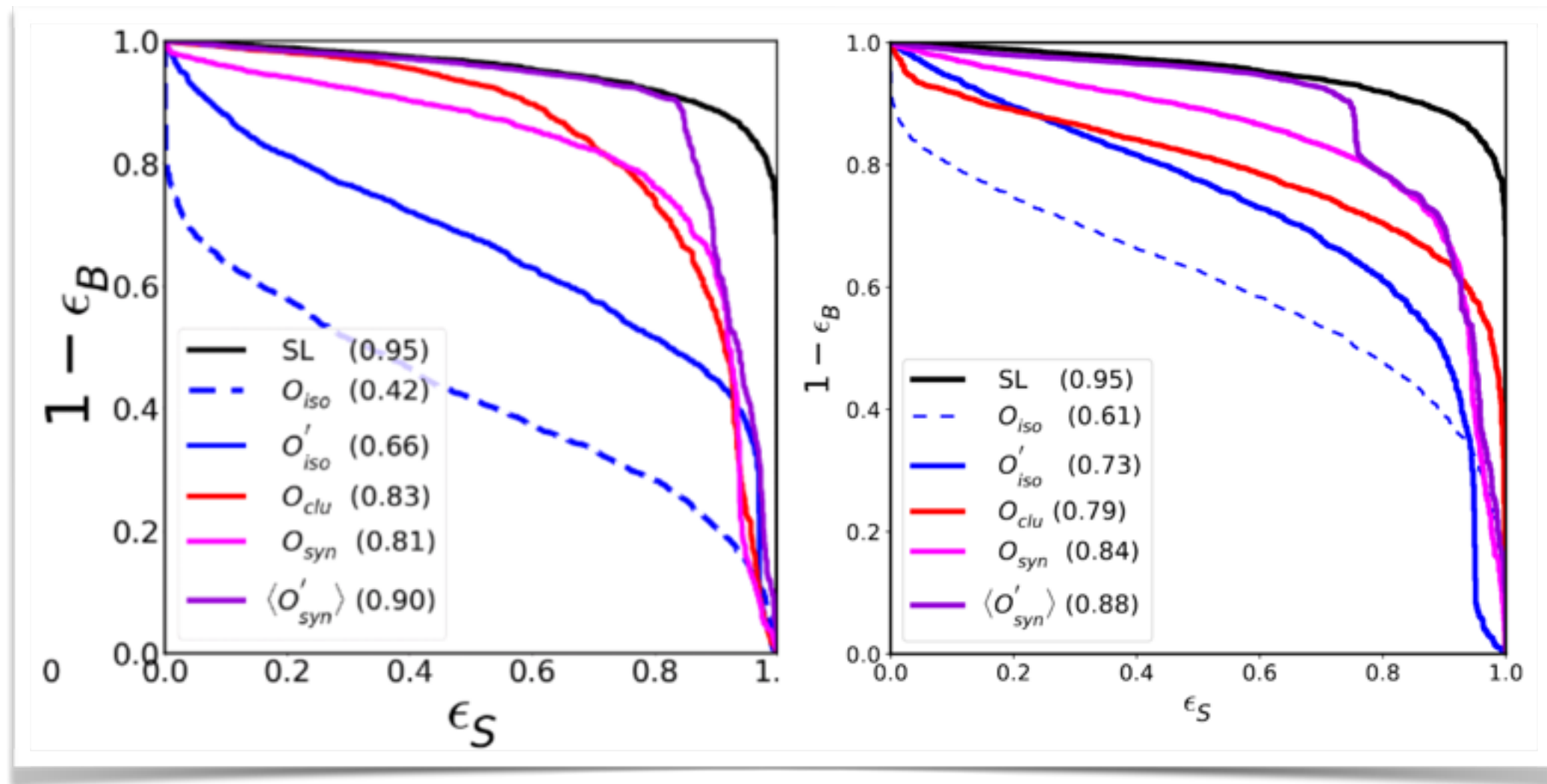
$$d_{\text{test}} \rightarrow R_{\text{AE-B}}^{1/2}$$

=> Reconstruction-error - based  $O_{\text{iso}}$  and  $O_{\text{clu}}$





## Backup: AE-Rec-Error-Based Evaluators



(For benchmark (C2, R2))

kNN-based

AE-rec-error-based