# Search for the standard model Higgs boson in $\ell\nu$ +jets final states in 9.7 fb<sup>-1</sup> of $p\bar{p}$ collisions with the D0 detector

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We present, in detail, a search for the standard model Higgs boson, H, in final states with a charged lepton (electron or muon), missing energy, and two or more jets in data corresponding to  $9.7~{\rm fb}^{-1}$  of integrated luminosity collected at a center of mass energy of  $\sqrt{s}=1.96~{\rm TeV}$  with the D0 detector at the Fermilab Tevatron  $p\bar{p}$  Collider. The search uses b-jet identification to categorize events for improved signal versus background separation and is sensitive to associated production of the H with a W boson,  $WH \to \ell \nu b\bar{b}$ ; gluon fusion with the Higgs decaying to W boson pairs,  $H \to WW \to \ell \nu jj$ ; and associated production with a vector boson where the Higgs decays to W boson pairs,  $VH \to VWW \to \ell \nu jjjj$  production (where V=W or Z). We observe good agreement between data and expected background. We test our method by measuring WZ and ZZ production with  $Z \to b\bar{b}$  and find production rates consistent with the standard model prediction. For a Higgs boson mass of 125 GeV, we set a 95% C.L. upper limit on the production of a standard model Higgs boson of  $5.8 \times \sigma_{\rm SM}$ , where  $\sigma_{\rm SM}$  is the standard model Higgs boson production cross section, while the expected limit is  $4.7 \times \sigma_{\rm SM}$ . We also interpret the data considering models with fourth generation fermions, or a fermiophobic Higgs boson.

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#### I. INTRODUCTION

The Higgs boson is the massive physical state that emerges from electroweak symmetry breaking in the Higgs mechanism [1–3]. This mechanism generates the masses of the weak gauge bosons and explains the fermion masses through their Yukawa couplings to the Higgs boson field. The mass of the Higgs boson  $(M_H)$  is a free parameter in the standard model (SM). Precision measurements of various SM electroweak parameters constrain  $M_H$  to be less than 152 GeV at the 95% C.L. [4–6]. Direct searches at the CERN  $e^+e^-$  Collider (LEP) [7] exclude  $M_H < 114.4$  GeV at the 95% C.L. The ATLAS and CMS

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Collaborations, using pp collisions at the CERN LHC, exclude masses from  $110 < M_H < 600$  GeV, except for a narrow region between 122 and 127 GeV [8, 9]. Both experiments observe a resonance at a mass of  $\approx 125 \text{ GeV}$ , primarily in the  $\gamma\gamma$  and ZZ final states, with a significance greater than 5 standard deviations (s.d.) that is consistent with SM Higgs boson production [10, 11]. The CDF and D0 Collaborations at the Fermilab Tevatron Collider report a combined analysis that excludes the region  $147 < M_H < 179$  GeV [12] and shows evidence at the 3 s.d. level for a particle decaying to  $b\bar{b}$ , produced in association with a W or Z boson, consistent with SM WH/ZH production [13]. Demonstrating that the observed resonance is the SM Higgs boson requires also observing it at the predicted rate in the bb final state, which is the dominant decay mode for masses below  $M_H \lesssim 135$  GeV.

The dominant production process for the Higgs boson at the Tevatron Collider is gluon fusion  $(gg \to H)$ , followed by the associated production of a Higgs boson with a vector boson (VH), then via vector boson fusion  $(VVqq' \to Hqq')$ . At masses below  $M_H \approx 135$  GeV, the Higgs boson mainly decays to a pair of b quarks, while for larger masses, the dominant decay is to a pair of W bosons. Because the  $H \to b\bar{b}$  process is difficult to distinguish from background at hadron colliders, it is more

effective to search for the Higgs boson produced in association with a vector boson for this decay channel.

This Article presents a search by the D0 collaboration for the SM Higgs boson using events containing one isolated charged lepton ( $\ell = e$  or  $\mu$ ), a significant imbalance in transverse energy  $(\cancel{E}_T)$ , and two or more jets. It includes a detailed description of the  $WH \rightarrow \ell \nu b \bar{b}$ search, initially presented in Ref. [14] and used as an input to the result presented in Ref. [13], differing from and superseding that result due to an updated treatment of some systematic uncertainties as described in Sec. X below. The complete analysis comprises searches for the production and decay channels:  $WH \rightarrow \ell \nu b\bar{b}$ ,  $H \to WW^* \to \ell \nu j j$  (where j = u, d, s, c), and  $VH \to$  $VWW^* \to \ell \nu j j j j$  (where V = W or Z). This search also considers contributions from ZH production and from the decay  $H \rightarrow ZZ$  when one of the charged leptons from  $Z \to \ell\ell$  decay is not identified in the detector. We optimize the analysis by subdividing data into mutually exclusive subchannels based on charged lepton flavor, jet multiplicity, and the number and quality of candidate b quark jets. This search also extends the most recent D0  $WH \rightarrow \ell \nu bb$  search [14] by adding subchannels with looser b-quark jet identification requirements and subchannels with four or more jets. These additional subchannels are primarily sensitive to  $H \to WW^* \to \ell \nu jj$ and  $VH \rightarrow VWW^* \rightarrow \ell \nu j j j j$  production and extend the reach of our search to  $M_H = 200$  GeV. We present a measurement of VZ production with  $Z \to b\bar{b}$  as a cross check on our methodology in Sec. XI. In addition to our standard model interpretation, we consider interpretations of our result in models with a fourth generation of fermions, and models with a fermiophobic Higgs as described in Sec. XIII.

Several other searches for  $WH \to \ell\nu b\bar{b}$  production have been reported at a  $p\bar{p}$  center-of-mass energy of  $\sqrt{s}=1.96$  TeV, most recently by the CDF Collaboration [15]. The results presented here supersede previous searches by the D0 Collaboration, presented in Refs. [16–20], which used subsamples of the data presented in this Article. They also supersede a previous search for Higgs boson production in the  $\ell\nu jj$  final state by the D0 Collaboration [21].

# II. THE DO DETECTOR

This analysis relies on all major components of the D0 detector: tracking detectors, calorimeters, and muon identification system. These systems are described in detail in Ref. [22–25].

Closest to the interaction point is the silicon microstrip tracker (SMT) followed by the central scintillating fiber tracker (CFT). These detector subsystems are located inside a 2 T magnetic field provided by a superconducting solenoid. They track charged particles and are used to reconstruct primary and secondary vertices for pseudorapidities [26] of  $|\eta| < 3$ . Outside the solenoid is the liq-

uid argon/uranium calorimeter consisting of one central calorimeter (CC) covering  $|\eta| \lesssim 1$  and two end calorimeters (EC) extending coverage to  $|\eta| \approx 4$ . Each calorimeter contains an innermost finely segmented electromagnetic layer followed by two hadronic layers, with fine and coarse segmentation, respectively. The main functions of the calorimeters are to measure energies and help identify electrons, photons, and jets using coordinate information of significant energy clusters. They also give a measure of the  $E_T$ . A preshower detector between the solenoidal magnet and central calorimeter consists of a cylindrical radiator and three layers of scintillator strips covering the region  $|\eta| < 1.3$ . The outermost system provides muon identification. It is divided into a central section that covers  $|\eta| < 1$  and forward sections that extend coverage out to  $|\eta| \approx 2$ . The muon system is composed of three layers of drift tubes and scintillation counters, one layer before and two layers after a 1.8 T toroidal magnet.

### III. EVENT TRIGGER

Events in the electron channel are triggered by a logical OR of triggers that require an electromagnetic object and jets, as described in Ref. [20]. Trigger efficiencies are modeled in the Monte Carlo (MC) simulation by applying the trigger efficiency, measured in data, as an event weight. This efficiency is parametrized as a function of electron  $\eta$ , azimuthal angle  $\phi$  [27], and transverse momentum  $p_T$ . For the events selected in our analysis, these triggers have an efficiency of (90-100)% depending on the trigger and the region of the detector.

The muon channel uses an inclusive trigger approach, based on the logical OR of all available triggers, except those containing lifetime-based requirements that can bias the performance of b-jet identification. To determine the trigger efficiency, we compare data events selected with a well-modeled logical OR of the single muon and muon+jets triggers ( $T_{\mu OR}$ ), which are about 70% efficient, to events selected using all triggers. The increase in event yield in the inclusive trigger sample is used to determine an inclusive trigger correction for the MC trigger efficiency,  $P_{\rm corr}$ , relative to the  $T_{\mu OR}$  trigger ensemble:

$$P_{\rm corr} = \frac{(N_{\rm Data} - N_{\rm MJ})_{incl} - (N_{\rm Data} - N_{\rm MJ})_{T_{\mu \rm OR}}}{N_{MC}}, (1)$$

where the numerator is the difference between the number of data events in the inclusive trigger sample and the  $T_{\mu\text{OR}}$  trigger sample, after subtracting off instrumental multijet (MJ) backgrounds, and the denominator is the number of MC events (after the event selection and normalization to data described in Sec. VIII and the MC corrections are applied as described in Sec. VIA) with the trigger efficiency set to 1. The total trigger efficiency estimate for events in the muon channel is  $T_{\mu\text{OR}} + P_{\text{corr}}$ , limited to be  $\leq 1$ .

Triggers based on jets and  $E_T$  make the most significant contributions to the inclusive set of triggers beyond

those included in the well-modeled  $T_{\mu \text{OR}}$  trigger set. To account for these contributions, the correction from  $T_{\mu \text{OR}}$  triggers to the inclusive set of triggers is parametrized as a function of the scalar sum of the transverse momenta of all jets,  $H_T$ , and the  $\not\!E_T$ , and is derived for separate regions in muon  $\eta$ .

For  $|\eta| < 1.0$ , events are dominantly triggered by single muon triggers, while for  $|\eta| > 1.6$ , triggers based on the logical OR of muon+jets prevail. The third region,  $1.0 < |\eta| < 1.6$ , is a mixture of single muon and muon+jets triggers. In the  $|\eta| < 1.0$  and  $1.0 < |\eta| < 1.6$  regions the detector support structure allows only partial coverage by the muon system. This impacts the muon trigger efficiency in the region  $-2 < \phi < -1.2$ . In these regions, we therefore derive separate corrections. The inclusive trigger approach results in a gain of about 30% in efficiency over using only muon and the muon+jets triggers. Examples of these corrections,  $P_{\rm corr}$  are shown in Fig. 1.

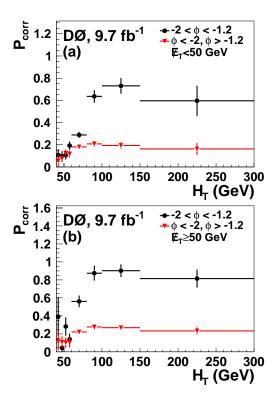


FIG. 1: (color online) Data-derived muon trigger correction to account for the resulting efficiency gain in moving from single muon and muon+jets triggers to inclusive triggers as a function of  $H_T$  for  $|\eta| < 1.0$ , shown (a) for events with  $\not\!\!E_T < 50$  GeV and (b) for events with  $\not\!\!E_T \geq 50$  GeV. The black circles show the correction when the muon is in the region of  $\phi$  (-2 <  $\phi$  < -1.2) where there is a gap in the muon coverage for detector supports, and the red triangles show the correction elsewhere in  $\phi$ .

# IV. IDENTIFICATION OF LEPTONS, JETS, AND $E_T$

To reconstruct the candidate  $W(\to \ell \nu)$  boson, our selected events are required to contain a single identified electron or muon together with significant  $E_T$ . To ensure statistical independence with channels that contain more than one lepton, we do not consider events with more than one electron or muon. Two or more jets are also required in order to study  $WH \to \ell \nu b\bar{b}$ ,  $H \to WW \to \ell \nu jj$ , and  $VH \to VWW \to \ell \nu jjj$  production. Two sets of lepton identification criteria are applied for each lepton channel in order to form a "loose" sample, used to estimate the multijet background from data as described in Sec. VII, and a "tight" sample used to perform the search. The event selection procedure, prior to b-jet categorization, is similar to that described in Ref. [20] and described in more detail below.

Electrons with  $p_T > 15$  GeV are selected in the pseudorapidity regions  $|\eta| < 1.1$  and  $1.5 < |\eta| < 2.5$ , corresponding to the CC and EC, respectively. A multivariate discriminant is used to identify electrons. The discriminant is based on a boosted decision tree [28–32] (BDT) as implemented in the TMVA package [33] with input variables that are listed below. The BDTs are discussed in more detail in Sec. IX. The loose and tight electron samples are defined by different requirements on the response of this multivariate discriminant that are chosen to retain high electron selection efficiencies while suppressing backgrounds at differing rates.

Leptons coming from the leptonic decays of W bosons tend to be isolated from jets. Isolated electromagnetic showers are identified within a cone in  $\eta$ - $\phi$  space of  $\Delta \mathcal{R} =$  $\sqrt{\Delta \eta^2 + \Delta \phi^2} < 0.4$  [34]. In the CC (EC), an electromagnetic shower is required to deposit 97% (90%) of its total energy within a cone of radius  $\Delta \mathcal{R} = 0.2$  in the electromagnetic calorimeter. The showers must have transverse and longitudinal distributions that are consistent with those expected from electrons. In the CC region, a reconstructed track, isolated from other tracks, is required to have a trajectory that extrapolates to the electromagnetic (EM) shower. The isolation criteria restrict the sum of the scalar  $p_T$  of tracks with  $p_T > 0.5$  GeV within a hollow cone of radius  $0.05 < \Delta R < 0.4$  surrounding the electron candidate to be less than 2.5 GeV. The BDT is constructed using additional information such as: the number and scalar  $p_T$  sum of tracks in the cone of radius  $\Delta \mathcal{R} < 0.4$  surrounding the candidate cluster, track-tocluster-matching probability, the ratio of the transverse energy of the cluster to the transverse momentum of the track associated with the shower, the EM energy fraction, lateral and longitudinal shower shape characteristics, as well as the number of hits in the various layers of the tracking detector, and information from the central preshower detector. The discriminants are trained using  $Z/\gamma^* \to ee$  data events.

We select muons with  $p_T > 15$  GeV and  $|\eta| < 2.0$ . They are required to have reconstructed track segments in layers of the muon system both before and after the toroidal magnet, except where detector support structure limits muon system coverage, for which the presence of track segments in any layer is sufficient. The local muon system track must be spatially matched to a track in the central tracker.

Muons originating from semi-leptonic decays of heavy flavored hadrons are typically not isolated due to jet fragmentation and secondary particles from the partial hadronic decays. We employ a loose muon definition, requiring minimal separation of  $\Delta \mathcal{R}(\mu,j) > 0.5$  between the muon and any jet, while the tight identification has additional isolation requirements. For tight muons, the scalar sum of the  $p_T$  of tracks with  $\Delta \mathcal{R} < 0.5$  around the muon candidate is required to be less than  $0.4 \times p_T^{\mu}$ . Furthermore, the transverse energy deposits in the calorimeter in a hollow cone of  $0.1 < \Delta \mathcal{R} < 0.4$  around the muon must be less than  $0.12 \times p_T^{\mu}$ . To suppress cosmic ray muons, scintillator timing information is used to require hits in the detector to coincide with a beam crossing.

To reduce backgrounds from  $Z/\gamma^* \to \ell\ell$ +jets and  $t\bar{t}$  production, we reject events containing more than one tight-isolated charged lepton.

Jets are reconstructed in the calorimeters in the region  $|\eta| < 2.5$  using an iterative midpoint cone algorithm, with a cone size of  $\Delta \mathcal{R} = 0.5$  [35]. To minimize the possibility that jets are caused by noise or spurious energy deposits, the fraction of the total jet energy contained in the electromagnetic layers of the calorimeter is required to be between 5% and 95%, and the energy fraction in the coarse hadronic layers of the calorimeter is required to be less than 40%. To suppress noise, different energy thresholds are also applied to clustered and to isolated cells [36]. The energy of the jets is scaled by applying a correction determined from  $\gamma$ +jet events using the same jet-finding algorithm. This scale correction accounts for additional energy (e.g., residual energy from previous bunch crossings and energy from multiple  $p\bar{p}$  interactions) that is sampled within the finite cone size, the calorimeter energy response to particles produced within the jet cone, and energy flowing outside the cone or moving into the cone via detector effects [36]. We also apply an additional correction that accounts for the flavor composition of jets [37].

Jet energy calibration and resolution are adjusted in simulated events to match those measured in data. This correction is derived from  $Z(\rightarrow ee)$ +jet events from the  $p_T$  imbalance between the Z boson and the recoiling jet in MC simulation when compared to that observed in data, and applied to jet samples in MC events. Differences in reconstruction thresholds in simulation and data are also taken into account, and the jet identification efficiency and jet resolution are adjusted in the simulation to match those measured in data. All selected jets are required to have  $p_T > 20$  GeV and  $|\eta| < 2.5$ . We require that jets originate from the primary  $p\bar{p}$  vertex (PV), such that each selected jet is matched to at least two tracks with  $p_T > 0.5$  GeV that have at least one hit in the SMT detector

and a distance of closest approach with respect to the PV of less than 0.5 cm in the transverse plane and less than 1 cm along the beam axis (z). Interaction vertices are reconstructed from tracks that have  $p_T > 0.5$  GeV with at least two hits in the SMT. The primary vertex is the reconstructed vertex with the highest average  $p_T$  of its tracks. Vertex reconstruction is described in more detail in Ref. [38]. We also require that the PV be reconstructed within  $z_{PV} = \pm 60$  cm of the center of the detector.

The  $\not\!E_T$  is calculated from individual calorimeter cell energies in the electromagnetic and fine hadronic sections of the calorimeter and is required to satisfy  $\not\!E_T > 15 \text{ GeV}$  for the electron channel and  $\not\!E_T > 20 \text{ GeV}$  for the muon channel. Energy from the coarse hadronic layers that is contained within a jet is also included in the  $\not\!E_T$  calculation. A correction for the presence of any muons and all energy corrections applied to electrons and jets are propagated to the value of  $\not\!E_T$ .

# V. TAGGING OF b-QUARK JETS

The b-tagging algorithm for identifying jets originating from b quarks is based on a multivariate discriminant using a combination of variables sensitive to the presence of tracks or secondary vertices displaced significantly in the x-y plane from the  $p\bar{p}$  interaction vertex. This algorithm provides improved performance over the neural network algorithm described in Ref. [38].

Jets considered by the b-tagging algorithm are required to be "taggable," i.e., contain at least two tracks with each having at least one hit in the SMT. The efficiency of this requirement accounts for variations in detector acceptance and track reconstruction efficiencies at different locations of the PV prior to the application of the b-tagging algorithm, and depends on the z position of the PV and the  $p_T$  and  $\eta$  of the jet. For jets that pass through the geometrical acceptance of the tracking system, this efficiency is typically about 97%. The efficiency for b-tagging is determined with respect to taggable jets. The correction for taggability is measured in the selected data sample, while the corrections for b-tagging are determined in an independent heavy-flavor jet enriched sample of events that include a jet containing a muon, as described in Ref. [38]. The efficiency for jets to be taggable and to satisfy b-tagging requirements in the simulation is corrected to reproduce the respective efficiencies in data.

We define six independent tagging samples with zero, one loose, one tight, two loose, two medium, or two tight b-tagged jets. An inclusive "pretag" sample is also considered for parts of this analysis. Events with no jets satisfying the b-tagging criteria are included in the zero b-tag sample. If exactly one jet is b-tagged, and the b-identification discriminant output for that jet,  $b_{\rm ID}^{j_i}$ , satisfies the tight selection threshold ( $b_{\rm ID}^{j_i} > 0.15$ ), that event is considered part of the one tight b-tag sample. Events with exactly one b-tagged jet that fails the tight selection threshold, but passes the loose selection threshold

 $(b_{
m ID}^{j_i}>0.02)$  are included in the one loose b-tag sample. Events with two or more b-tagged jets are assigned to either the two loose b-tags, two medium b-tags, or two tight b-tags category, depending on the value of the average b-identification discriminant of the two jets with the highest discriminant values, i.e., the double tight category is required to satisfy  $(b_{
m ID}^{j_1}+b_{
m ID}^{j_2})/2>0.55$ ; the medium category is  $0.35<(b_{
m ID}^{j_1}+b_{
m ID}^{j_2})/2\leq0.55$ ; and the loose category is  $0.02<(b_{
m ID}^{j_1}+b_{
m ID}^{j_2})/2\leq0.35$  (see Fig. 2). The operating point for the loose (medium, tight) threshold has an identification efficiency of 79% (57%, 47%) for individual b jets, averaged over selected jet  $p_T$  and  $\eta$  distributions, with a b-tagging misidentification rate of 11% (0.6%, 0.15%) for light quark jets (lf), calculated by the method described in Ref. [38].

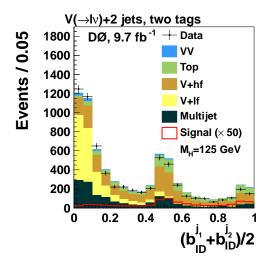


FIG. 2: (color online) Average of the b-identification discriminant outputs of each jet in events with two jets.

#### VI. MONTE CARLO SIMULATION

We account for all Higgs boson production and decay processes that can lead to a final state containing exactly one charged well isolated lepton,  $\not\!\!E_T$ , and two or more jets. The signal processes considered are:

- Associated production of a Higgs boson with a vector boson where the Higgs boson decays to  $b\bar{b}$ ,  $c\bar{c}$ ,  $\tau\tau$ , or VV. The associated weak vector boson decays leptonically in the case of  $H \to b\bar{b}$  and either leptonically or hadronically in the case of  $H \to WW$ . Contributions from  $Z(\to \ell\ell)H(\to b\bar{b})$  production arise from identifying only one charged lepton in the detector, with the other contributing to the  $E_T$ .
- Higgs boson production via gluon fusion with the subsequent decay  $H \to VV$ , where one weak vector boson decays leptonically (with exactly one identified lepton).

• Higgs boson production via vector boson fusion with the subsequent decay  $H \to VV$ , where one weak vector boson decays leptonically (with exactly one identified lepton).

Various SM processes can mimic expected signal signatures, including V+jets, diboson (VV), MJ,  $t\bar{t}$ , and single top quark production.

All signal processes and most of the background processes are estimated from MC simulation, while the MJ background is evaluated from data, as described in Sec. VII. We use PYTHIA [39] to simulate all signal processes and diboson processes. The V+jets and  $t\bar{t}$  samples are simulated with the Alpgen [40] MC generator interfaced to PYTHIA for parton showering and hadronization, while the Singletop event generator [41, 42] interfaced to PYTHIA is used for single top quark events. To avoid overestimating the probability of further partonic emissions in PYTHIA, the MLM factorization ("matching") scheme [43] is used. All of these simulations use CTEQ6L1 [44, 45] parton distribution functions (PDF).

A full GEANT-based [46] detector simulation is used to process signal and background events. To account for residual activity from previous beam crossings and contributions from the presence of additional  $p\bar{p}$  interactions, events from randomly selected beam crossings with the same instantaneous luminosity profile as the data are overlaid on the simulated events. All events are then reconstructed using the same software as used for data.

The signal cross sections and branching fractions are normalized to the SM predictions [12]. The WH and ZHcross sections are calculated at next-to-next-to-leading order (NNLO) [47], with MSTW2008 NNLO PDFs [48]. The gluon fusion process uses the NNLO+next-to-nextto-leading log (NNLL) calculation [49], and the vector boson fusion process is calculated at NNLO in QCD [50]. The Higgs boson decay branching fractions are obtained with HDECAY [51, 52]. We use NLO cross sections to normalize single top quark [53] and diboson [54, 55] production, while we use an approximate NNLO calculation for  $t\bar{t}$  production [56]. The  $p_T$  of the Z boson in Z+jets events is corrected to match that observed in data [57]. The  $p_T$  of the W boson in W+jets events is corrected using the same dependence but taking into account the differences between the  $p_T$  spectra of the Z and W bosons in NNLO QCD [58]. Additional scale factors to account for higher order terms in the ALPGEN MC for the V+heavy flavor jets, V + hf, are obtained from MCFM [55, 59]. The V+jets processes are then normalized to data for each lepton flavor and jet multiplicity separately as described in Sec. VIII.

#### A. MC Reweighting

Motivated by previous comparisons of ALPGEN with data [60] and with other event generators [43], we develop corrections to W + jets and Z + jets MC samples

to correct for the shape discrepancies in kinematic distributions between data and simulation. The corrections are derived based on the direct comparison between data and MC samples prior to the application of b-tagging, where any contamination from signal is very small.

To improve the description of jet directions, we correct the  $\eta$  distributions of the leading and second leading jets in W/Z+jets events. The correction function is a fourthorder polynomial determined from the ratio of the V+jets events in MC and data minus non-V+jets backgrounds. The modeling of the lepton  $\eta$  in W+jets events is adjusted by applying a second-order polynomial correction. Correlated discrepancies observed in the leptonically decaying W boson transverse momentum,  $p_T^W$ , and the jet angular separation,  $\Delta \mathcal{R}(j_1, j_2)$ , are corrected through two reweighting functions in the two-dimensional  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  $p_T^W$  plane [20]. The  $p_T^W$  reweighting is applied only to W + jets events, while the  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  reweighting is applied to both W + jets and Z + jets events. Each of these corrections is designed to change differential distributions, but to preserve normalization. Corrections are on the order of a few percent in the highly populated region of each distribution and may exceed 10% for extreme values of each distribution.

All corrections are derived in events selected with muon+jets triggers to minimize uncertainties due to contamination from MJ events, and are applied to both the electron and muon channels. Additional  $p_T^W$ ,  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$ , and lepton  $\eta$  corrections and corresponding systematic uncertainties are determined from events selected with inclusive muon triggers and are applied to events containing muons, accounting for variations in modeling distributions of the inclusively triggered events.

#### VII. MULTIJET BACKGROUND

The MJ background, events where a jet is misidentified as a lepton, is determined from the data prior to the application of b-tagging, using a method similar to the one used in Ref. [20]. This method involves applying event weights that depend on the relative efficiency  $\varepsilon_{\rm LT}^\ell$ , of a lepton passing loose requirements to subsequently pass the tight requirements and a similar relative probability,  $P_{\rm LT}^{\rm MJ}$ , for a MJ event to pass these sequential selections. A MJ template is constructed by selecting events from data in which the lepton passes the loose isolation requirement, but fails the tight requirement, as described in Sec. IV. Each event in the MJ template is weighted by

$$w_{\rm MJ} = \frac{P_{\rm LT}^{\rm MJ}}{1 - P_{\rm LT}^{\rm MJ}},$$
 (2)

where  $P_{\rm LT}^{\rm MJ}$  is a function of the event kinematics. Since the MJ template contains a contribution from events with real leptons originating from leptonic decays of W/Zbosons, we correct the normalization of the  $V+{\rm jets}$  MC using the event weight

$$w_{\rm VJ} = 1 - \frac{P_{\rm LT}^{\rm MJ} \left(1 - \varepsilon_{\rm LT}^{\ell}\right)}{\varepsilon_{\rm LT}^{\ell} \left(1 - P_{\rm LT}^{\rm MJ}\right)},\tag{3}$$

where  $\epsilon_{\mathrm{LT}}^{\ell}$  and  $P_{\mathrm{LT}}^{\mathrm{MJ}}$  are functions of event kinematics. The efficiencies  $\epsilon_{\mathrm{LT}}^{\ell}$  are functions of lepton  $p_T$ , and they are determined from  $Z/\gamma^* \to \ell\ell$  events. The probabilities  $P_{\mathrm{LT}}^{\mathrm{MJ}}$  are determined in the region  $5 < E_T < 15$  GeV from the measured ratio of the number of events with tight leptons and those with loose leptons after correcting each sample for the expected MC contribution from real leptons in the specific kinematic interval. Electron channel probabilities are parametrized in  $p_T$ , calorimeter detector  $\eta$ , and min  $\Delta\phi(E_T,j)$  while probabilities in the muon channel are parametrized in  $p_T$  for different regions in muon detector  $\eta$  and  $\Delta\phi(E_T,\mu)$ .

#### VIII. EVENT SELECTION

Events are required to have one isolated charged lepton, large  $E_T$ , and two or more jets, as described in Sec. IV. To suppress MJ backgrounds, events must satisfy the additional requirement that  $M_T^W > 40 \text{ GeV} 0.5 \times \cancel{E}_T$ , where  $M_T^{W'}$  is the transverse mass [61] of the W boson. We then perform the final normalization of the V+jets and MJ backgrounds via a simultaneous fit to data in the  ${\cal M}_T^W$  distribution after subtracting the other SM background predictions from the data as described in Refs. [14, 19, 20]. The distribution of  $M_T^W$  after this normalization procedure is shown in Fig. 3(a). We perform separate fits for each lepton flavor and jet multiplicity category before dividing events into categories based on the number and quality of identified b jets, as described in Sec. V. All events passing these selection criteria constitute the pretag sample, and each pretag event also belongs to exactly one of the six independent b-tag categories. Only the zero and one-loose b-tag categories are considered when searching for the signal in events with four or more jets because  $t\bar{t}$  production dominates the small amount of signal present in higher b-tag categories.

The expected number of events from each signal and background category is compared to the observed data for each b-jet identification category for events with two jets, three jets, and four or more jets in Tables I, II, and III, respectively. Selected kinematic distributions are shown for all selected events in Figs. 3 and 4, and the dijet invariant mass for events with two jets is shown for all b-tag categories in Figs. 5 and 6. In all plots, data points are shown with error bars that reflect the statistical uncertainty only. Discrepancies in data-MC agreement are within our systematic uncertainties described in Sec. X.

TABLE I: Observed number of events in data and expected number of events from each signal and background source (where V = W, Z) for events with exactly two jets. The expected signal is quoted at  $M_H = 125$  GeV. The total background uncertainty includes all sources of systematic uncertainty added in quadrature.

	Pretag	0 b-tags	1 loose b-tag 1	tight b-tag	2 loose b-tags	2 med. b-tags	2 tight b-tags
$VH \to \ell \nu b \bar{b}$	37.3	6.4	4.0	11.6	3.2	4.6	7.7
$H \to VV \to \ell \nu j j$	24.7	18.8	3.9	1.8	0.3	0.07	0
$VH \to VVV \to \ell \nu j j j j$	13.0	9.3	2.3	1.2	0.3	0.04	0.01
Diboson	5686	4035	968	535	109	42	38
V + (g, u, d, s)-jets	182271	148686	26421	6174	1762	132	13
$V + (b\bar{b}/c\bar{c})$	27443	15089	4872	5236	978	691	691
$top (t\bar{t} + single top)$	3528	758	455	1289	247	333	462
Multijet	58002	43546	9316	3700	946	298	195
Total expectation	276930	212114	42032	16935	4043	1496	1400
Total uncertainty	$\pm\ 14998$	$\pm\ 11352$	$\pm 2438$	$\pm$ 1696	$\pm 362$	$\pm~117$	$\pm~175$
Observed events	276929	211 169	42774	16406	4057	1358	1165

TABLE II: Observed number of events in data and expected number of events from each signal and background source (where V = W, Z) for events with exactly three jets. The expected signal is quoted at  $M_H = 125$  GeV. The total background uncertainty includes all sources of systematic uncertainty added in quadrature.

	Pretag	0 b-tags	1 loose b-tag 1	l tight b-tag	2 loose b-tags	2  med.  b-tags	2 tight b-tags
$VH \to \ell \nu b \bar{b}$	8.6	1.3	1.0	2.4	0.9	1.1	1.7
$H \to VV \to \ell \nu j j$	8.8	6.0	1.7	0.8	0.3	0.07	0.01
$VH \to VVV \to \ell \nu j j j j$	7.3	4.5	1.6	0.9	0.3	0.05	0.01
Diboson	1138	727	238	113	42	14	10
V + (g, u, d, s)-jets	24086	18078	4577	976	582	34	3
$V + (b\bar{b}/c\bar{c})$	6625	3213	1349	1250	411	228	164
$top (t\bar{t} + single top)$	3695	563	419	1123	365	460	570
Multijet	10364	6629	2162	933	367	130	82
Total expectation	45908	29209	8746	4395	1768	867	830
Total uncertainty	$\pm\ 2582$	$\pm$ 1619	$\pm$ 587	$\pm$ 528	$\pm~209$	$\pm$ 118	$\pm 113$
Observed events	45907	28924	8814	4278	1815	879	797

TABLE III: Observed number of events in data and expected number of events from each signal and background source (where V=W,Z) for events with four or more jets. The expected signal is quoted at  $M_H=125~{\rm GeV}$ . The total background uncertainty includes all sources of systematic uncertainty added in quadrature.

	Pretag	0 b-tags	1 loose $b$ -tag
$VH \to \ell \nu b \bar{b}$	1.4	0.2	0.2
$H \to VV \to \ell \nu j j$	2.4	1.4	0.6
$VH \rightarrow VVV \rightarrow \ell \nu j j j j$	3.6	2.0	0.8
Diboson	199	112	46
V + (g, u, d, s)-jets	3055	2143	679
$V + (b\bar{b}/c\bar{c})$	1280	542	286
top $(t\bar{t} + \text{single top})$	2889	311	268
Multijet	2092	1110	450
Total expectation	9516	4217	1729
Total uncertainty	$\pm$ 530	$\pm$ 231	$\pm~144$
Observed events	9685	3915	1786

# IX. MULTIVARIATE SIGNAL DISCRIMINANTS

We employ multivariate analysis (MVA) techniques to separate signal from background events. To separate signal from the MJ events, we use a boosted decision tree implemented with the TMVA package [33] . This multivariate analysis is described in Sec. IX A. A BDT is also used to separate signal from other specific background sources in events with four or more jets (see Sec. IX D). For the final multivariate analysis, we use a BDT in the one tight b-tag channel and all three two b-tag channels, and we use a random forest decision tree (RF) [62] implemented in the STATPATTERNRECOGNITION (SPR) package [28, 63] for events in the zero and one loose b-tag channels.

The BDT and the RF are forms of machine learning techniques known as decision trees. Decision trees operate on a series of yes/no splits on events that are known to be classified as either signal or background.

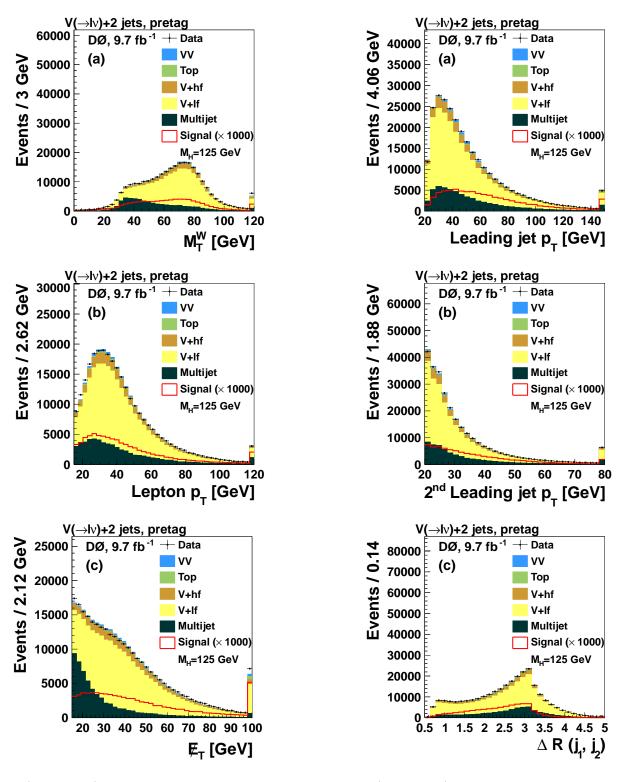


FIG. 3: (color online) Distributions for all selected events with two jets of (a) transverse mass of the lepton- $\not\!\!E_T$  system, (b) charged lepton  $p_T$ , and (c)  $\not\!\!E_T$ . The signal is multiplied by 1000. Overflow events are added to the last bin.

FIG. 4: (color online) Distributions for all selected events with two jets of (a) leading jet  $p_T$ , (b) second-leading jet  $p_T$ , and (c)  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the leading and second-leading jets. The signal is multiplied by 1000. Overflow events are added to the last bin.

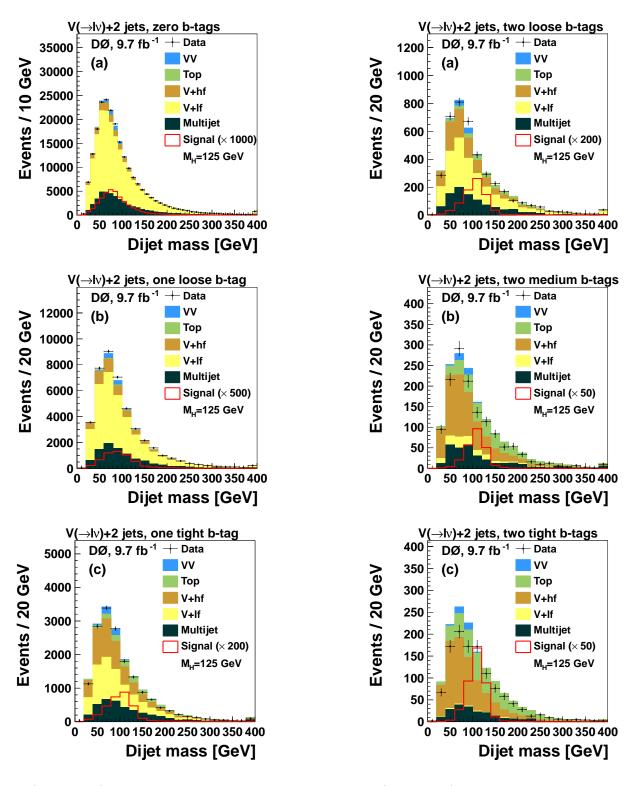


FIG. 5: (color online) Invariant mass of the leading and second-leading jets in events with two jets and (a) zero b-tags, (b) one loose b-tag, and (c) one tight b-tag. The signal is multiplied by 1000, 500, and 200, respectively. Overflow events are added to the last bin.

FIG. 6: (color online) Invariant mass of the leading and second-leading jets in events with two jets and (a) two loose b-tags, (b) two medium b-tags, and (c) two tight b-tags. The signal is multiplied by 200, 50, and 50, respectively. Overflow events are added to the last bin.

The splitting is done to maximally separate signal from background. The resulting nodes are continually split to optimally separate signal from background until either a minimum number of events in a node is reached or the events in a node are pure signal or pure background. The technique of boosting in the BDT builds up a series of trees where each tree is retrained, boosting the weights for events that are misclassified in the previous training. The RF technique creates a collection of decision trees where each tree is trained on a subset of the training data that is randomly sampled.

We train separate BDTs and RFs for each lepton flavor, jet multiplicity, and tagging category, and for each hypothesized Higgs boson mass in steps of 5 GeV. Since the branching fraction for the Higgs decay to b quarks is only significant over the mass range 90–150 GeV, we restrict the search in the one tight and two b-tag channels to this range of  $M_H$ . In the zero and one loose b-tag channels, the primary signal contribution is from Higgs decays to vector bosons, the search is performed over the mass range of 100–200 GeV.

Each of the final BDTs and RFs are trained to distinguish the signal from all of the backgrounds. We choose variables to train the BDTs and RFs that have good agreement between data and background simulation (since the expected contribution from signal events is small), and so that there is a good separation between signal and at least one background. Background and signal samples are each split into three independent samples for use in training, testing, and performing the final statistical analysis with each multivariate discriminant. We ensure that the discriminant is not biased towards statistical fluctuations in the training sample by comparing the training output to the testing sample. The independent sample used for the limit setting procedure ensures that any optimizations performed based on the output of the training and testing samples do not bias the final limits.

#### A. Multivariate multijet discriminators

We train two separate BDTs to separate the MJ background from signal events: one for  $VH(\to b\bar{b}, c\bar{c}, \tau\tau)$ signals, MVA<sub>MJ</sub>(VH), and one for  $H \rightarrow VV$  signals,  $MVA_{MJ}(H \to VV)$ . The variables used in training these BDTs are chosen to exploit kinematic differences between the MJ and signal events, and are documented in Appendix A. To improve the training statistics, we combine signal events for  $M_H = 120$ , 125, and 130 GeV in training. We find that a BDT trained on this combination of Higgs boson masses has a similar performance when applied to other masses, eliminating the need for a mass dependent MJ discriminant. The BDT outputs  $MVA_{MJ}(VH)$  and  $MVA_{MJ}(H \to VV)$  are shown in Fig. 7. The MVA<sub>MJ</sub>(VH) and MVA<sub>MJ</sub> $(H \to VV)$  discriminant outputs are used as input variables to the final MVAs, as detailed in Appendix A.

#### B. Final $WH \to \ell \nu b \bar{b}$ MVA analysis

In events with two or three jets and one tight b-tag or two b-tags, the  $WH \to \ell\nu b\bar{b}$  process provides the dominant signal contribution. To separate signal from background, we train a BDT on the  $WH \to \ell\nu b\bar{b}$  signal and all backgrounds. The lists of input variables to the MVA and their descriptions are included in Appendix A. Figures 8 and 9 show examples of some of the most effective discriminating variables used in our BDTs for the two-jet and three-jet channels, respectively, in the one tight b-tag and all two b-tags channels. Figures 10 and 11 show the BDT output for the two and three-jet channels, respectively, in the one tight b-tag and all the two b-tag channels.

#### C. Final $H \to WW \to \ell \nu jj$ MVA analysis

The  $H \to WW \to \ell \nu jj$  process provides the dominant signal in events with two or three jets and zero b-tags or one loose b-tag, since the W boson decays producing a b quark are rare. For signal searches in these channels, we apply a multivariate technique based on the RF discriminant. Events in the above tagging categories are examined for  $100 \le M_H \le 150$  GeV. Since we do not perform the search in the one tight and two b-tag channels for  $M_H > 150$  GeV, events having exactly two or three jets in all b-tagging categories (i.e. pretag events) are used in the search for  $155 \le M_H \le 200$  GeV.

To suppress MJ background in the electron channel in these subchannels, we select events with MVA<sub>MJ</sub>( $H \rightarrow VV$ ) > -0.4 for  $M_H \leq 150$  GeV in events with zero or one loose tag, and MVA<sub>MJ</sub>(VH) > -0.5 for  $M_H \geq 155$  GeV in all events. These requirements were optimized to maximize the ratio of number of signal events to the square root of the number of background events. The MJ component in the zero or one loose b-tag muon channel is small, so there is no cut applied to the MJ MVA outputs.

We train a RF on the total signal and background from all considered physics processes. We optimize the RF independently in the electron and muon channels for each b-tag and jet multiplicity category. As the signal shape is strongly driven by the signal mass hypothesis, we optimize the MVA variable list at two different mass points: at  $M_H = 125$  GeV for masses below 150 GeV and at  $M_H = 165 \text{ GeV}$  for masses above 150 GeV. Because the resolution of the reconstructed Higgs boson mass is about 20 GeV for channels presented in this Article, optimizing the input variable list at only these mass points is sufficient. Each RF is trained using between 14 and 30 well modeled discriminating variables formed from kinematic properties of either elementary objects like jets or leptons, or composite objects, such as reconstructed W boson candidates (see Figs. 12 and 13). The lists of input variables and their descriptions are included in Appendix A. The final RF discriminants for the electron

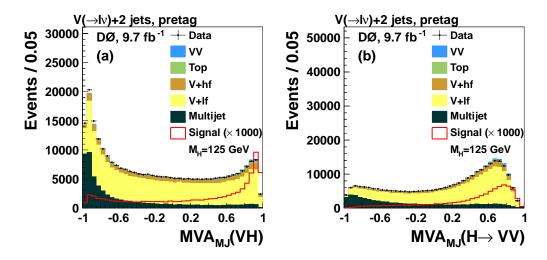


FIG. 7: (color online) The multivariate discriminant output for (a)  $MVA_{MJ}(VH)$  and (b)  $MVA_{MJ}(H \to VV)$ , for all events. The signal is multiplied by 1000.

and muon channels are shown in Figs. 14 and 15.

# D. Final $VH \rightarrow VWW \rightarrow \ell\nu jjjj$ MVA analysis

The majority of signal events with four or more jets and zero b-tags or one loose b-tag are from the  $VH \rightarrow$  $VWW \rightarrow \ell \nu j j j j$  process, but there are significant contributions from direct production via gluon fusion and vector boson fusion. Identification of the Higgs boson decay products in  $VH \rightarrow VWW$  events is complicated by the combinatorics of pairing four jets into two hadronically decaying vector boson candidates and then two of the three total vector boson candidates into the Higgs boson candidate. The discriminating variables are different for fully hadronic and semileptonic Higgs boson decays, and determining the Higgs boson candidate for an event also determines which of these two decay scenarios is considered. Variables unique to a particular decay scenario are set to a default value outside of the physical range of that variable in events reconstructed under the alternate decay scenario. To reconstruct the two hadronically decaying vector boson candidates, we examine the leading four jets in an event and choose the jet pairings that minimize:

$$E_{ab,cd} = |m_{ab} - M_W| + |m_{cd} - M_W|, \tag{4}$$

where  $m_{ab}$  ( $m_{cd}$ ) is the invariant mass of the  $a^{\rm th}$  and  $b^{\rm th}$  ( $c^{\rm th}$  and  $d^{\rm th}$ ) jets, and  $M_W = 80.4$  GeV [71]. The Higgs boson candidate is then determined by considering the semileptonically decaying W boson and the two hadronically decaying vector bosons and selecting the vector boson candidate pair with the minimum  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  separation in an event, out of the three possible pairings.

Diverse signal processes contribute to the inclusive four-jet channel with relative contributions varying with

 $M_H$ . To help mitigate the effect of having many signal and background contributions to this search channel, we use two layers of multivariate discriminants to improve the separation of signal from background. The first layer of training focuses on separating the sum of all signal processes from specific sets of backgrounds. Input variables for each background-specific discriminant are selected based on the separation power between the total signal and the backgrounds being considered. Backgroundspecific discriminants are trained to separate the sum of all Higgs boson signal processes from three specific background categories:  $t\bar{t}$  and single top quark production, V+jets production, and diboson production. The input variables and their descriptions are listed in Appendix A. Separate background-specific discriminants are trained for each Higgs boson mass point considered. Sample inputs and output responses of the background-specific discriminants are shown in Figs. 16 and 17, respectively, for  $M_H = 125 \; \text{GeV}.$ 

The background-specific discriminants are used as inputs to the final RF discriminant that is trained to discriminate all signal processes from the total background contributions. Additional input variables for the final discriminant are selected based on their separation power between the total signal and the total background, and are required to be well modeled. The input variables for each lepton and b-tag category are listed in Appendix A. Sample inputs and output responses of the final discriminants are shown in Figs. 18 and 19, respectively, for  $M_H = 125 \; \mathrm{GeV}$ .

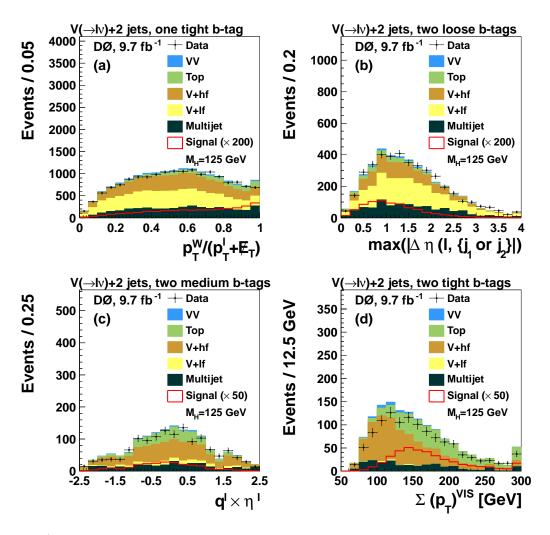


FIG. 8: (color online) Distributions of some of the most significant inputs to the final discriminant in events with exactly two jets and either one tight b-tag, two loose b-tags, two medium b-tags, or two tight b-tags: (a)  $p_T^W/(p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T)$ , shown for events with one tight b-tag; (b) max  $|\Delta \eta(\ell, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\})|$  [64], shown for events with two loose b-tags; (c)  $q^\ell \times \eta^\ell$  [65], shown for events with two medium b-tags; (d)  $\sum (p_T)^{\text{VIS}}$  [66], shown for events with two tight b-tags. The signal is multiplied by 200, 200, 50, and 50, respectively. Overflow events are added to the last bin.

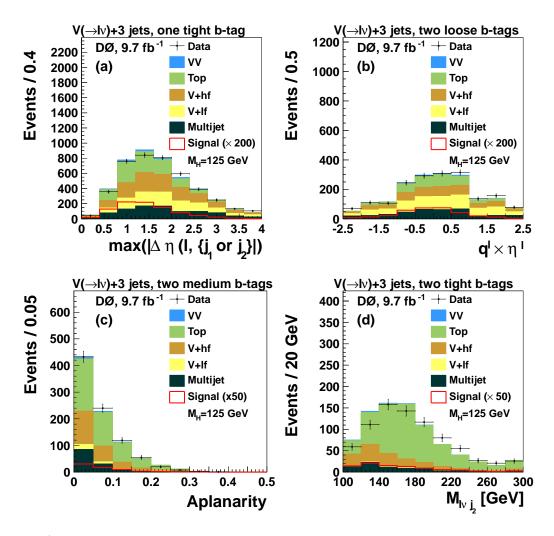


FIG. 9: (color online) Distributions of some of the most significant inputs to the final discriminant in events with exactly three jets and either one tight b-tag, two loose b-tags, two medium b-tags, or two tight b-tags: (a) max  $|\Delta \eta(\ell, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\})|$  [64], shown for events with one tight b-tag; (b)  $q^{\ell} \times \eta^{\ell}$  [65], shown for events with two loose b-tags; (c) aplanarity [67], shown for events with two medium b-tags; (d)  $m_{\ell\nu j_2}$  [68, 69], shown for events with two tight b-tags. The signal is multiplied by 200, 50, and 50, respectively. Overflow events are added to the last bin.

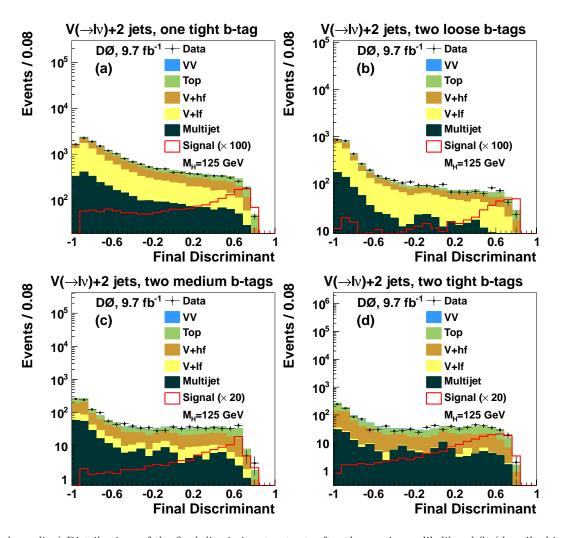


FIG. 10: (color online) Distributions of the final discriminant output, after the maximum likelihood fit (described in Sec. XII), in events with exactly two jets and: (a) one tight b-tag, (b) two loose b-tags, (c) two medium b-tags, and (d) two tight b-tags. The signal is multiplied by 100, 100, 20, and 20, respectively.

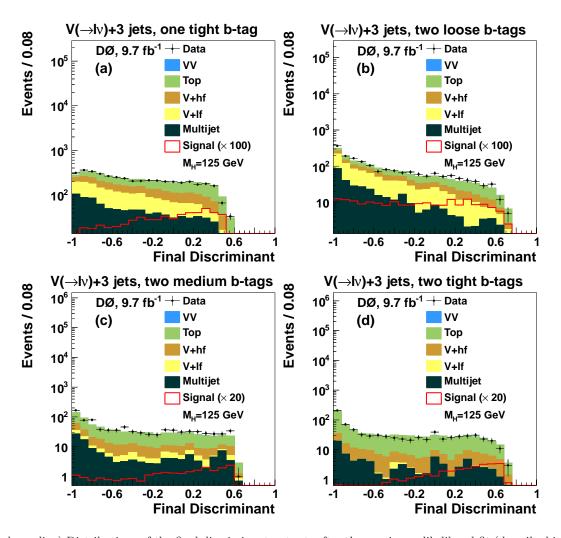


FIG. 11: (color online) Distributions of the final discriminant output, after the maximum likelihood fit (described in Sec. XII), in events with exactly three jets and: (a) one tight b-tag, (b) two loose b-tags, (c) two medium b-tags, and (d) two tight b-tags. The signal is multiplied by 100, 100, 20, and 20, respectively.

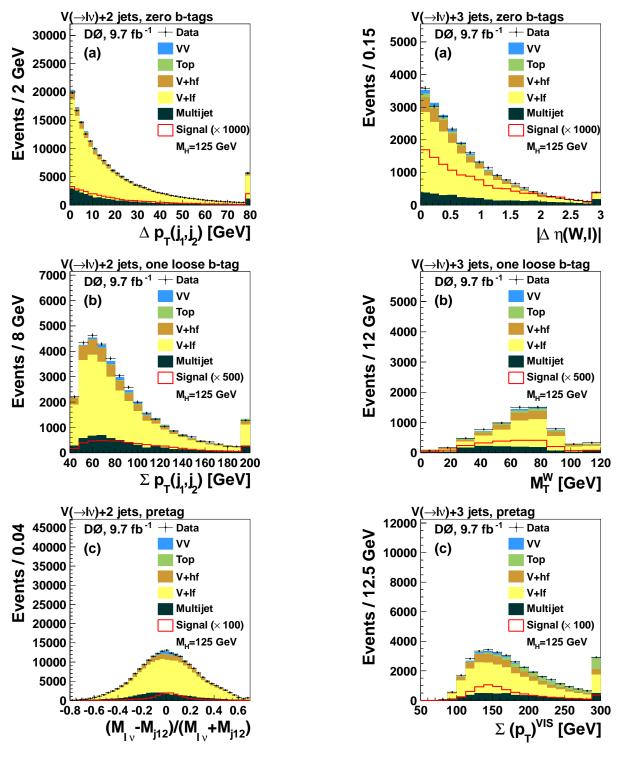


FIG. 12: (color online) Distributions of the most significant inputs to the final multivariate discriminants for the two-jets zero and one loose b-tag channels: (a)  $\Delta p_T(j_1,j_2)$ , shown for events with zero b-tags for  $M_H=125$  GeV; (b)  $\sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}$ , shown for events with one loose b-tag for  $M_H=125$  GeV; (c)  $(M_{\ell\nu}-M_{j_{12}})/(M_{\ell\nu}+M_{j_{12}})$ , shown for all tags for  $M_H=165$  GeV. The signal is multiplied by 1000, 500, and 100, respectively. Overflow events are added to the last bin.

FIG. 13: (color online) Distributions of the most significant inputs to the final multivariate discriminants for the three-jets zero and one loose b-tag channels: (a)  $|\Delta\eta(W,\ell)|$  [69, 70], shown for events with zero b-tags for  $M_H=125~{\rm GeV}$ ; (b)  $M_T^W$ , shown for events with one loose b-tag for  $M_H=125~{\rm GeV}$ ; (c)  $\sum (p_T)^{\rm VIS}$  [66], shown for all tags for  $M_H=165~{\rm GeV}$ . The signal is multiplied by 1000, 500, and 100, respectively. Overflow events are added to the last bin.

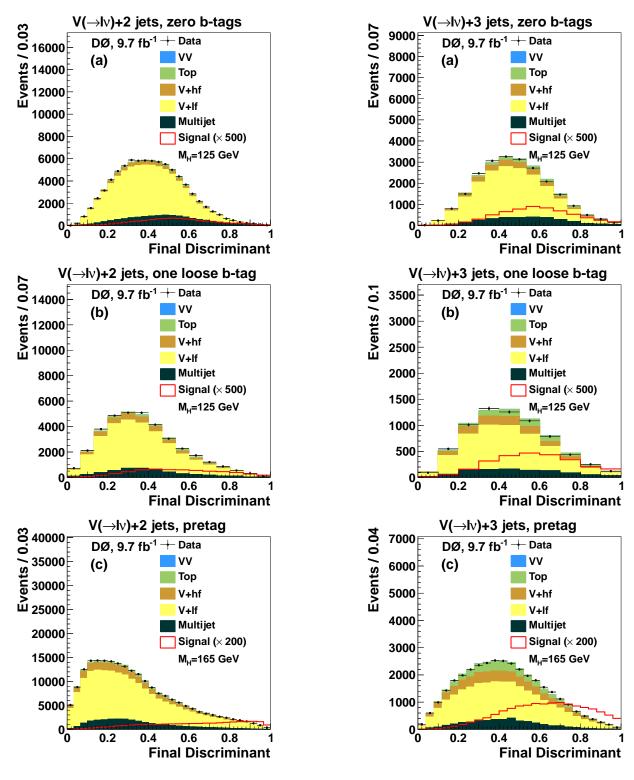


FIG. 14: (color online) Distributions of the final discriminant output, after the maximum likelihood fit (described in Sec. XII), for events in the following channels: (a) two jets, zero b-tags for  $M_H = 125$  GeV, (b) two jets, one loose b-tag for  $M_H = 125$  GeV, (c) two jets, all tags  $M_H = 165$  GeV. The signal is multiplied by 500, 500, and 200, respectively.

FIG. 15: (color online) Distributions of the final discriminant output, after the maximum likelihood fit (described in Sec. XII), for events in the following channels: (a) three jets, zero b-tags for  $M_H = 125$  GeV, (b) three jets, one loose b-tag for  $M_H = 125$  GeV, (c) three jets, all tags  $M_H = 165$  GeV. The signal is multiplied by 500, 500, and 200, respectively.

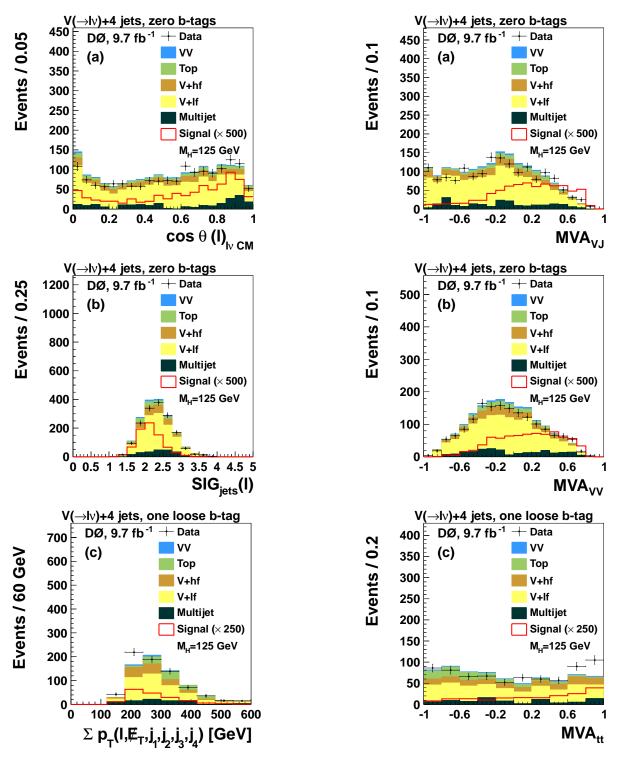


FIG. 16: (color online) Distributions of the most significant inputs to background-specific multivariate discriminants for the  $\geq 4$ -jet subchannels: (a)  $\cos\theta(\ell)_{\ell\nu\text{CM}}$  [69, 72], input to discriminant against V+jets backgrounds, shown for events with zero b-tags; (b)  $\mathcal{SIG}_{\text{jets}}(\ell)$  [73], input to discriminant against diboson backgrounds, shown for events with zero b-tags; (c)  $\sum p_T(\ell, \cancel{E}_T, j_1, j_2, j_3, j_4)$ , input to discriminant against top quark backgrounds, shown for events with one loose b-tag. The  $M_H=125$  GeV signal is multiplied by 250 in (c) and by 500 in (a) and (b). Overflow events are added to the last bin.

FIG. 17: (color online) Distributions of the output of background-specific multivariate discriminants for the  $\geq$  4-jet subchannels: (a) discriminant against V+jets backgrounds, shown for events with zero b-tags; (b) discriminant against diboson backgrounds, shown for events with zero b-tags; (c) discriminant against top quark backgrounds, shown for events with one loose b-tag. The  $M_H=125~{\rm GeV}$  signal is multiplied by 250 in (c) and by 500 in (a) and (b).

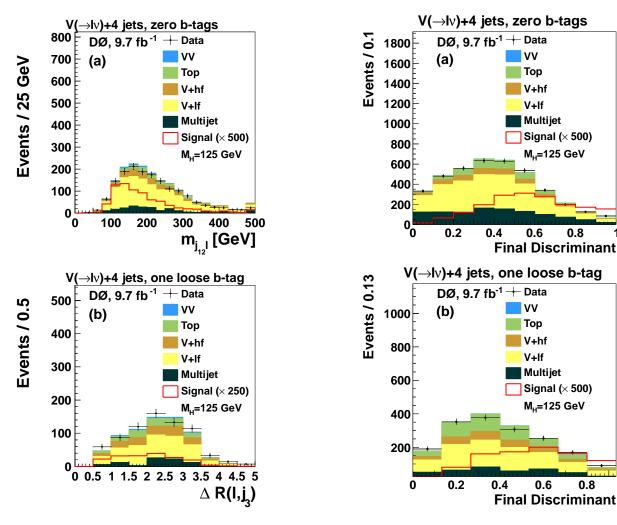


FIG. 18: (color online) Distributions of the most significant inputs, other than background-specific multivariate discriminants, to the final multivariate discriminants for the  $\geq$  4-jet subchannels: (a)  $m_{j_{12}\ell}$ , shown for events with zero b-tags; (b)  $\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell,j_3)$ , shown for events with one loose b-tag. The  $M_H=125~{\rm GeV}$  signal is multiplied by 500 in (a) and 250 in (b). Overflow events are added to the last bin.

FIG. 19: (color online) Distributions of the final discriminant output, after the maximum likelihood fit (described in Sec. XII), at  $M_H=125~{\rm GeV}$  for the four or more jets channels with: (a) zero b-tags and (b) one loose b-tag. The  $M_H=125~{\rm GeV}$  signal is multiplied by 500.

#### X. SYSTEMATIC UNCERTAINTIES

We assess systematic uncertainties on signals and backgrounds for each of the jet multiplicity and b-tag channels by repeating the full analysis after varying each source of uncertainty by  $\pm 1$  s.d. We consider uncertainties that affect both the normalizations and the shapes of our MVA outputs.

We include theoretical uncertainties on the  $t\bar{t}$  and single top quark production cross sections (7% [53, 56]), diboson production cross section (6% [54]), V+lf production (6%), and V+hf production (20%, estimated from MCFM [55, 59]). Since the V+jets experimental scaling factors for the three- and four-jet channels are different from unity, we apply an additional systematic uncertainty on the V+jets samples that is uncorrelated across jet multiplicity and lepton flavor bins. The size of this uncertainty is taken as the uncertainty from the V+jets fit to data, described in Sec. VII.

uncertainty on the integrated luminosity (6.1% [74]) affects the normalization of the expected signal and simulated backgrounds. Uncertainties that affect the final MVA distribution shapes include jet taggability (3\% per jet), b-tagging efficiency (2.5\%-3\% per heavy-quark jet), the light-quark jet misidentification rate (10% per jet), jet identification efficiency (5%), and jet energy calibration and resolution (varying between 5% and 15%, depending on the process and channel) as described in Ref. [20]. We also include uncertainties from modeling that affect both the shapes and normalizations of the final MVA distributions. These include an uncertainty on the trigger efficiency in the muon channel as derived from the data (3%-5%), lepton identification and reconstruction efficiency (5%-6%), the MLM matching [40] applied to V+light-flavor events  $(\approx 0.5\%)$ , the ALPGEN renormalization and factorization scales, and the choice of parton distribution functions (2%) as described in Ref. [20]. The trigger uncertainty in the muon channel is calculated as the difference between applying a trigger correction calculated using the Alpgen reweightings derived on the  $T_{\mu OR}$  trigger sample and applying the nominal trigger correction. Since we reweight our ALPGEN samples, we include separate uncertainties on each of the five functions used to apply the reweighting. The adjusted functions are calculated by shifting the parameter responsible for the largest shape variation of the fit by  $\pm 1$  s.d. then calculating the remaining parameters for the function using the covariance matrix obtained from the functional

We determine the uncertainty on the MJ background shape by relaxing the requirement from Sec. VIII on  $M_T^W$  to  $M_T^W > 30 \text{ GeV} - 0.5 \times E_T$  and repeating the analysis with this selection in place. The positive and negative variations are taken to be symmetric. The uncertainty on the MJ rate is 15% (20%) for the electron (muon) channel. Since our MJ sample is statistically limited, we do not correlate the uncertainties on the rate and shape

across the subchannels. Since we simultaneously fit MJ and V+jets to match data, we apply a normalization uncertainty to the V+jets samples that is anticorrelated with the MJ normalization systematics and scales as the relative MJ to V+jets normalization.

# XI. WZ AND ZZ PRODUCTION WITH $Z \rightarrow b\bar{b}$

The SM processes  $W(\to \ell\nu)Z(\to b\bar{b})$  and  $Z(\to \ell\ell)Z(\to b\bar{b})$  $b\bar{b}$ ) where one of the leptons from the  $Z \to \ell\ell$  decay is not reconstructed, result in the same final state signature as the Higgs boson in this search. Therefore, we search for these processes to validate our analysis methodology. The only change in the analysis is in the training of the final discriminant in events with two or three jets with one tight b-tag or two b-tags. We train using the WZ and ZZ diboson processes as signal while leaving the WWprocess as a background. The output of this discriminant is used to measure the combined WZ and ZZ cross section by performing a maximum likelihood fit to data using signal plus background models, with maximization over the systematic uncertainties as described in detail in Sec. XII. The expected significance of the measurement using the MVA output is 1.8 s.d. We measure a cross section of  $0.50 \pm 0.34$  (stat.)  $\pm 0.36$  (syst.) times the expected SM cross section of  $4.4 \pm 0.3$  pb. Figure 20 shows the MVA discriminant output for the diboson cross section (WZ + ZZ) with background-subtracted data and signal scaled to the best fit value.

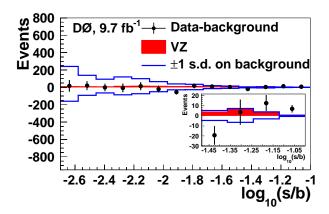


FIG. 20: (color online) Final MVA discriminant output shown for the expected diboson signal and background-subtracted data rebinned as a function of  $\log(S/B)$ , after the maximum likelihood fit, summed over b-tag channels. The error bars on data points represent the statistical uncertainty only. The post-fit systematic uncertainties are represented by the solid lines. The signal expectation is shown scaled to the best fit value. The inset gives an expanded view of the high  $\log(S/B)$  region.

# XII. UPPER LIMITS ON THE HIGGS BOSON PRODUCTION CROSS SECTION

We derive upper limits on the Higgs boson production cross section multiplied by the corresponding branching fraction in units of the SM prediction. The limits are calculated using the modified frequentist  $CL_s$  approach [75–77], and the procedure is repeated for each assumed value of  $M_H$ .

Two hypotheses are considered: the background-only hypothesis (B), in which only background contributions are present, and the signal-plus-background (S+B) hypothesis in which both signal and background contributions are present.

The limits are determined using the MVA output distributions, together with their associated uncertainties, as inputs to the limit setting procedure. To preserve the stability of the limit derivation procedure in regions of small background statistics in the one tight b-tag and all two b-tags categories, the width of the bin at the largest MVA output value is adjusted by comparing the total background and signal+background expectations until the statistical significances for B and S+B are, respectively, greater than 3.6 and 5.0 s.d. from zero. remaining part of the distribution is then divided into equally sized bins. In the zero b-tags and one loose b-tag categories, the width of the bin at largest MVA output is set such that the relative statistical uncertainty on the signals plus background entries is less than 0.15. The remaining bins are distributed uniformly. The rebinning procedure is checked for potential biases in the determination of the final limits, and no such bias is observed.

We evaluate the compatibility of the data with the background-only and signal+background hypotheses. This is done using the log likelihood ratio (LLR), which is twice the negative logarithm of the ratio of the Poisson likelihoods, L, of the signal+background hypothesis to the background only hypothesis,  $LLR = -2 \ln(L_{S+B}/L_B)$ .

Systematic uncertainties are included through nuisance parameters that are assigned Gaussian probability distributions (priors). The signal and background predictions are functions of the nuisance parameters. Each common source of systematic uncertainty (such as the uncertainties on predicted SM cross sections, identification efficiencies, and energy calibration, as described in Sec. X) is taken to be correlated across all channels except as otherwise noted in Sec. X.

The inclusion of systematic uncertainties in the generation of pseudoexperiments has the effect of broadening the expected LLR distributions and, thus, reducing the ability to resolve signal-like excesses. This degradation can be partially reduced by performing a maximum likelihood fit to each pseudoexperiment (and data), once for the B hypothesis and once for the S+B hypothesis. The maximization is performed over the systematic uncertainties. The LLR is evaluated for each outcome using the ratio of maximum likelihoods for the fit to each

hypothesis. The resulting degradation of the limits due to systematic uncertainties is  $\sim 30\%$  for searches in the vicinity of  $M_H = 125$  GeV.

The medians of the obtained LLR distributions for the B and S+B hypotheses for each tested mass are presented in Fig. 21. The corresponding  $\pm 1$  s.d. and  $\pm 2$  s.d. values for the background-only hypothesis at each mass point are represented by the shaded regions in the figure. The LLR values obtained from the data are also presented in the figure.

The MVA discriminant distributions, for the Higgs boson mass point  $M_H=125~{\rm GeV}$ , after subtracting the total posterior background expectation are shown in Fig. 22. The signal expectation is shown scaled to the observed upper limit (described later) and the uncertainties in the background after the constrained fit are shown by the solid lines.

Upper limits are calculated at 23 discrete values of the Higgs boson mass, spanning the range 90–200 GeV and spaced in increments of 5 GeV, by scaling the expected signal contribution to the value at which it can be excluded at the 95% C.L. The expected limits are calculated from the background-only LLR distribution whereas the observed limits are quoted with respect to the LLR values measured in data. The expected and observed 95% C.L. upper limits results for the Higgs boson production cross section multiplied by the decay branching fraction are shown, as a function of the Higgs boson mass  $M_H$ , in units of the SM prediction in Fig. 23. The values obtained for the expected and observed limit to SM ratios at each mass point are listed in Table IV for all one-tight, two-loose, two-medium, and two-tight b-tag subchannels together, for the two-jet and three-jet, zero and one loose b-tag subchannels (all b-tag categories for  $M_H > 150 \text{ GeV}$ ) together, the  $\geq 4$ -jet subchannels, and the combination of all subchannels.

### XIII. INTERPRETATIONS IN FOURTH GENERATION AND FERMIOPHOBIC HIGGS MODELS

Extensions of the minimal electroweak symmetry breaking mechanism of the SM may be allowed, including models with a fourth generation of fermions or with a Higgs boson that has modified couplings to fermions, as in fermiophobic Higgs models (FHM). We interpret our results in these scenarios using the subchannels that are sensitive to  $H \to WW$  decays: events with two or more jets and zero or one loose b-tag for  $M_H \leq 150$  GeV, extended to include pretag two- and three-jet events for  $M_H \geq 155$  GeV. These are the first results for these models in the  $\ell\nu$ +jets final state.

Previous results from the Tevatron Collider experiments in the context of a fourth generation of fermions set a limit on the  $M_H$  of 131  $< M_H <$  207 GeV [78]. The ATLAS [79] and CMS [80] collaborations exclude  $140 < M_H < 185$  GeV and  $144 < M_H < 207$  GeV, re-

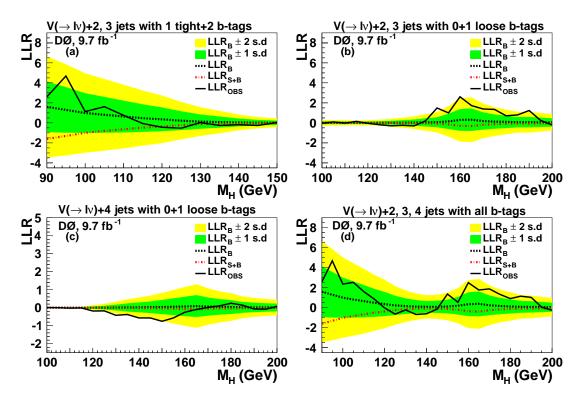


FIG. 21: (color online) The expected and observed log likelihood ratios as functions of the hypothesized Higgs boson mass  $M_H$  for the (a) electron and muon, two and three jets, one tight and two b-tag channels; (b) electron and muon, two and three jets, zero and one loose b-tag channels; (c) electron and muon, four or more jets, zero and one loose b-tag channels; (d) combination of all channels. The dashed red and black lines correspond to the median LLR of the signal+background and background-only hypotheses, respectively. The solid line corresponds to the LLR obtained from the data, and the shaded regions are the  $\pm 1$  s.d. and  $\pm 2$  s.d. values for the background-only hypothesis.

TABLE IV: The expected and observed 95% C.L. limits, as a function of the Higgs boson mass  $M_H$ , presented as ratios of production cross section times branching fraction to the expected SM prediction.

									Co	mbin	ed 95	% C.1	L. Liı	nit /	$\sigma_{SM}$								
$M_H$ (GeV)	90	95	100	105	110	115	120	125	130	135	140	145	150	155	160	165	170	175	180	185	190	195	200
								2  or	3 jet	s wit	h one	tigh	t <i>b</i> -ta	g or	two t	-tag	S						
Expected	1.8	1.9	2.2	2.5	2.9	3.4	3.8	4.7	5.8	7.9	11.1	16.7	20.8	_	_	_	_	_	-	-	_	-	_
Observed	1.6	1.3	2.2	2.0	2.1	2.9	3.4	4.8	6.6	10.1	13.6	18.8	18.5	_	_	-	-	_	_	_	_	_	
								2 or	3 jet	s wit	h zero	b-ta	gs or	one	loose	b-ta	g						
Expected	_	_	29.8	30.0	32.6	34.0	32.5	27.5	21.6	16.2	13.3	10.3	9.1	5.7	4.2	4.0	5.0	6.1	6.8	7.9	7.8	9.0	9.7
Observed	_	-	34.4	24.9	41.4	31.4	40.3	43.5	32.3	19.1	17.0	7.3	3.3	4.5	3.3	2.8	3.5	3.2	4.4	4.5	4.8	7.0	12.2
							4	or m	ore j	ets w	ith ze	ero b-	tags	or on	e loo	se b-	tag						
Expected	-	-	357	316	224	139	68.6	41.2	26.2	19.4	15.5	13.7	11.3	9.7	8.3	7.3	8.5	10.0	11.4	13.7	15.6	17.3	18.8
Observed	_	-	365	331	369	182	149	71.2	63.4	31.8	28.3	24.9	21.9	14.6	10.9	8.5	8.7	9.5	8.8	11.2	15.7	19.2	19.8
										All	chan	nels	comb	ined									
Expected	1.8	1.9	2.2	2.5	2.9	3.4	3.8	4.7	5.0	6.7	7.8	7.9	5.7	5.2	3.8	3.7	4.4	5.4	5.9	7.0	7.2	8.3	8.9
Observed	1.6	1.3	2.3	1.7	2.9	4.6	5.3	5.8	8.5	9.9	10.7	9.6	6.1	4.6	4.0	2.8	2.8	3.4	4.2	5.7	8.4	6.9	11.4

spectively. Previous searches for the fermiophobic Higgs boson in  $H \to \gamma \gamma$  and  $H \to VV$  channels, with two leptons in the final state, were carried out at the LEP  $e^+e^-$  Collider [81–84], by the CDF [85] and D0 [86] Collaborations, and by the ATLAS [87] and CMS [88] Collaborations, with the most stringent limits being set

by the CMS experiment where the excluded range is  $110 < M_H < 194$  GeV.

The Hgg coupling is enhanced in fourth-generation models, which leads to a higher rate of  $gg \to H$  production and a larger decay width of  $H \to gg$  than in the SM [89–92]. However, since  $H \to gg$  is loop-

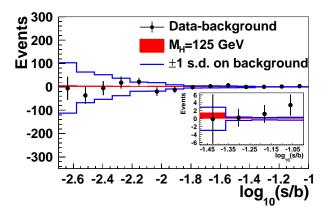


FIG. 22: (color online) The MVA discriminant output distribution minus the total background expectation for  $M_H = 125$  GeV rebinned as a function of  $\log(S/B)$ . The post-fit uncertainties are represented by the solid lines. The signal expectation is shown scaled to the best fit value. The inset gives an expanded view of the high  $\log(S/B)$  region.

mediated, the  $H \to WW^*$  decay mode dominates for  $M_H > 135$  GeV, as in the SM. We consider two scenarios for the presence of a fourth generation. In the "low-mass" scenario, we assume a fourth-generation neutrino mass of  $m_{\nu 4} = 80$  GeV and a value for the fourth-generation charged lepton mass of  $m_{\ell 4} = 100$  GeV, while in the "high-mass" scenario, we assume values for the fourthgeneration neutrino and lepton masses of  $m_{\nu 4} = m_{\ell 4} =$ 1 TeV. Both scenarios set the fourth-generation quark masses to the values in Ref. [92]. After applying our selection criteria, the total expected signal for  $gg \to H$  production in the low-mass (high-mass) fourth-generation model is enhanced by a factor of 7.2 (7.5) over the SM production rate for  $M_H = 125$  GeV. We only consider gluon fusion Higgs boson production, and we set limits on  $\sigma(gg \to H) \times \mathcal{B}(H \to WW^*)$ . These limits are compared with the predicted  $gg \to H$  production cross section results from HDECAY [51], as shown in Fig. 24. We exclude the "low-mass" scenario for  $150 < M_H < 188$  GeV, and the "high-mass" scenario for  $150 < M_H < 190$  GeV.

In the FHM, the Higgs boson does not couple to fermions at tree level but is otherwise SM-like. This suppresses production via gluon fusion to a negligible rate and forbids direct decay to fermions. Production in association with a vector boson or via vector boson fusion is allowed. For this interpretation, we set the contribution from  $gg \to H$  production to zero and scale the contributions from other production and decay mechanisms to reflect the predicted rate in the FHM. After applying our selection criteria, the total expected signal for vector boson fusion and  $VH \to VWW$  production in the FHM is enhanced by a factor of 4.2 over the SM production rate for  $M_H = 125$  GeV. The expected and observed cross section times branching fraction limits are compared to the FHM predictions in Fig. 25.

#### XIV. SUMMARY

We have presented a search for SM Higgs boson production in lepton  $+ \not\!\!E_T + \text{jets}$  final states with a dataset corresponding to 9.7 fb<sup>-1</sup> of integrated luminosity collected with the D0 detector. The search is sensitive to  $VH \rightarrow Vb\bar{b}$ ,  $H \rightarrow WW^* \rightarrow \ell\nu jj$ , and  $WH \rightarrow$  $WWW^* \rightarrow \ell \nu j j j j$  production and decay, and supersedes previous  $VH \to Vb\bar{b}$  and  $H \to WW^* \to \ell\nu jj$ searches published by D0. To maximize our signal sensitivity, we subdivide the dataset into 36 independent subchannels according to lepton flavor, jet multiplicity, and the number and quality of b-tagged jets and apply multivariate analysis techniques to further discriminate between signal and background. We test our method by examining SM WZ and ZZ production with  $Z \to b\bar{b}$  decay and find production rates consistent with the SM prediction. We observe no significant excess over the background prediction as expected from the amplitude of a 125 GeV SM Higgs boson signal, given the sensitivity of this single channel. Significance is achieved by combining this channel with the other low mass channels analyzed at the Tevatron [13], while here we set 95% C.L. upper limits on the Higgs boson production cross section for masses between 90 and 200 GeV. For  $M_H = 125$  GeV, the observed (expected) upper limit is 5.8 (4.7) times the SM prediction. We interpret the data also in models with fourth generation fermions, or a fermiophobic Higgs boson. In these interpretations, we exclude  $150 < M_H < 188(190)$  GeV in the "low-mass" ("high-mass") fourth generation fermion scenario, and provide 95% C.L limits on the production cross section in the fermiophobic model.

#### XV. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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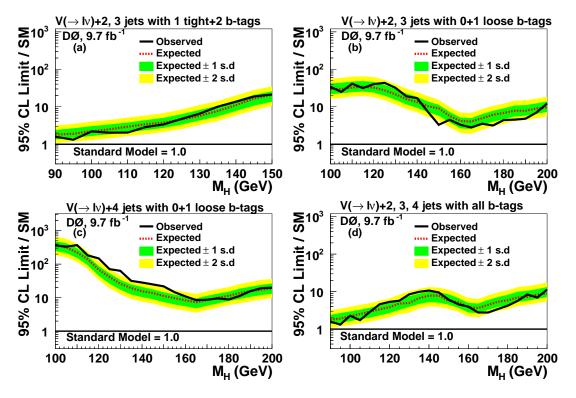
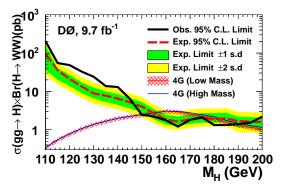
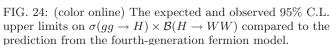


FIG. 23: (color online) The expected and observed 95% C.L. upper limits on SM Higgs boson production for the (a) electron and muon, two and three jets, one tight and two b-tag channels; (b) electron and muon, two and three jets, zero and one loose b-tag channels ( $M_H \leq 150 \text{ GeV}$ ) and pretag channels ( $M_H \geq 155 \text{ GeV}$ ); (c) electron and muon, four or more jets, zero and one loose b-tag channels; (d) combination of all channels. The limits are presented as ratios to the expected SM prediction. The dashed line corresponds to the expected limit, and the solid line corresponds to the limit observed in data. The shaded regions are the  $\pm 1$  s.d. and  $\pm 2$  s.d. values for the expected limit.





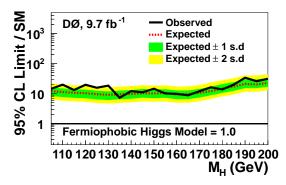


FIG. 25: (color online) The expected and observed 95% C.L. upper limits on fermiophobic Higgs boson production.

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- [65] Product of the lepton charge and its pseudorapidity.
- [66] Scalar sum of the  $p_T$  of the visible particles, including the charged lepton and jets.
- [67] Aplanarity is defined as  $3\lambda_3/2$ , where  $\lambda_3$  is the smallest eigenvalue of the normalized momentum tensor  $S^{\alpha\beta} = (\sum_i p_i^{\alpha} p_i^{\beta})/(\sum_i |\vec{p_i}|^2)$ , where  $\alpha, \beta = 1, 2, 3$  correspond to the x, y, z momentum components, and i runs over all visible objects.
- [68] Invariant mass of the system consisting of the charged lepton, reconstructed neutrino, and second leading jet.
- [69] The  $p_Z$  of the neutrino candidate is estimated by constraining the charged lepton and the neutrino system to the mass of the W boson and choosing the lowest magnitude solution.
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# APPENDIX A: MULTIVARIATE DISCRIMINATOR INPUT VARIABLES

The multivariate discriminators used in this search use input variables from five general categories: final state particle information, as measured in the D0 detector; kinematics of reconstructed objects, such as W boson candidates reconstructed from the leptonic or hadronic decay products; angular distributions between final state particles and reconstructed objects; topological variables that examine the net properties of all final state particles in an event; and special variables focused on discriminating Higgs boson candidate events from specific backgrounds. Certain multivariate discriminants trained to separate a Higgs boson signal from a specific background are also used as inputs for a final discriminant that is trained to separate the Higgs boson signal from all backgrounds.

Individual input variables are described in detail below. In the descriptions,  $\ell$  refers to the electron or muon in a selected event,  $\nu$  refers to the neutrino candidate, and  $j_n$  refers to jets as ordered by  $p_T$  where  $j_1$  is the jet with highest  $p_T$ . The  $p_Z$  of the neutrino candidate is estimated by constraining the charged lepton and the neutrino system to the mass of the W boson and choosing the lowest magnitude solution.

Input variable lists for each multivariate discriminant appear in Tables V–XVIII. The ranking by importance of the variables is determined in the BDT by counting how often the variables are used to split decision tree nodes, and by weighting each split occurrence by the separation gain-squared it has achieved and by the number of events in the node [33]. In the RF, the importance of variables are estimated after training in an independent sample of validation events. These events are run through the RF, once for each variable used. On each pass the class of each event is randomized whenever the variable under test is encountered and the change in the quadratic loss figure of merit is estimated:

$$FOM = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{\#events} wgt_i(event_i^{class} - RF(event_i))^2}{\sum_{i=1}^{\#events} wgt_i}$$
(A1)

where  $wgt_i$  is an event weight,  $event_i^{class}=1$  for signal, 0 for background, and  $RF(event_i)$  is the output of the RF classifier for a given event. Whenever the RF makes an incorrect assignment for an event the FOM increases in value. In this test the assignments are randomized for one variable at a time, effectively removing the predictive power of that variable, and the FOM will increase more when more powerful variables are removed in this manner.

The input variable distributions are defined as follows:

#### 1. Final State Particle Information

- $E(j_1)$ : Energy of the leading jet
- $p_T^{j_1}$ :  $p_T$  of the leading jet
- $p_T^{j_2}$ :  $p_T$  of the second leading jet
- $p_T^{j_3}$ :  $p_T$  of the third leading jet
- $q^{\ell} \times \eta^{\ell}$ : Product of the lepton charge and its pseudorapidity
- $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ : Smaller absolute value solution for  $p_Z$  of the reconstructed neutrino, reconstructed with the assumption all  $E_T$  is originating from W boson
- $p_Z^{\nu_2}$ : Larger absolute value solution for  $p_Z$  of the reconstructed neutrino
- $p_T$ : Missing  $p_T$  as determined from charged particle tracks in central tracking detector
- $\not\!\!E_T^{SC}$ : Scaled  $\not\!\!E_T$  is defined as  $\sum^{\mathrm{jets}} \{ E(j_i) \times \{ \overrightarrow{E_T} \cdot \overrightarrow{p(j_i)} / [\not\!\!E_T \times |\overrightarrow{p(j_i)}|] \}^2 \}$
- $E_T^{Sig}$ :  $E_T$  significance, a measure of the consistency of the observed  $E_T$  with respect to zero  $E_T$ , accounting for the uncertainty in the calorimeter objects that contribute to  $E_T$
- $p_T^{\text{Sig}}$ :  $p_T$  significance, a measure of the consistency of the observed  $p_T$  with respect to zero  $p_T$ , accounting for the uncertainty in the charged particle tracks that contribute to  $p_T$
- $q^{\ell} \times \eta^{j_2}$ : Product of the the lepton charge and pseudorapidity of the second leading jet
- $q^{\ell} \times \eta^{j_3}$ : Product of the the lepton charge and pseudorapidity of the third leading jet
- $b_{\text{ID}}^{j_{12}}$ : Averaged *b*-jet identification output for the highest energy *b*-tagged jets

# 2. Kinematics of Reconstructed Objects

- $m_{j_{12}}$ : Invariant mass of the leading and second leading jets
- $m_T^{j_{12}}$ : Transverse mass of the leading and second leading jets
- $m_{j_{123}}$ : Invariant mass of the leading, second leading, and third leading jets
- $m_{j_{1234}}$ : Invariant mass of the leading, second leading, third leading, and fourth leading jets
- $\Delta p_T(\ell, \not\!\!E_T)$ : Scalar difference:  $|p_T^{\ell} \not\!\!E_T|$
- $\Delta p_T(j_1, j_2)$ : scalar difference,  $p_T^{j_1} p_T^{j_2}$

- $\sum p_T(j_1, j_2, \ell)$ : Scalar sum of the  $p_T$  of the two leading jets and the lepton
- $\Delta p_T(\ell, \not\!\!E_T)/p_T^W$ : Ratio of the scalar difference between  $p_T^\ell$  and the  $\not\!\!E_T$ , to  $p_T^W$
- $\max(p_T^\ell, \not\!\!E_T)/p_T^W$ : Ratio of the  $\max(p_T^\ell, \not\!\!E_T)$  to  $p_T^W$
- $\min(p_T^\ell, \not\!\!E_T)/p_T^W$ : Ratio of the  $\min(p_T^\ell, \not\!\!E_T)$  to  $p_T^W$
- $p_T^W/(p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T)$ : Ratio of the  $p_T^W$  to  $p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T$
- $\Delta p_T(W,\ell)$ :  $|p_T^W p_T^\ell|$
- $\Delta p_T(W, \cancel{E}_T)$ :  $|p_T^W \cancel{E}_T|$
- $p_T^{j_{123}}$ :  $p_T$  of the system consisting of the leading, second leading, and third leading jets
- $\Delta p_T(j_2, j_{23})$ : scalar  $\Delta p_T$  between the second leading jet and the system consisting of the second leading and third leading jets
- $\sum_{i=1}^{2} p_T^{j_i}$ : Scalar sum of the  $p_T$  of the two leading jets,  $p_T^{j_1} + p_T^{j_2}$
- $\sum_{i=1}^{4} p_T^{j_i}$ : Scalar sum of the  $p_T$  of the leading, second leading, third leading and fourth leading jets
- $p_T^{j_{12}}/\sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}$ : Ratio of the  $p_T$  of the leading and second leading jet system to the scalar sum of the  $p_T$  of the two leading jets,
- $p_T^{j_{23}}/\sum_{i=2}^3 p_T^{j_i}$ : Ratio of the  $p_T$  of the system consisting of the second leading and third leading jets to the scalar sum of the  $p_T$  of the second leading and third leading jets
- Recoil $(p_T^{j_{12}})$ : Recoil  $p_T$  of the first and second leading jet system
- $m_{j_{12}\ell}$ : Invariant mass of the dijet system and the lepton
- $M_T^W$ : Transverse mass of the  $\ell\nu$  system
- $p_T^W$ :  $p_T$  of the  $\ell\nu$  system
- $p_T^{\ell} + \not\!\!E_T$ : Scalar sum of  $p_T^{\ell}$  and  $\not\!\!E_T$
- Recoil $(p_T^W)$ :  $p_T$  of the  $\ell\nu$  system with respect to the thrust vector,  $\vec{\ell} \vec{\nu}$
- $m_{\ell\nu j_1}$ : Invariant mass of the system consisting of the charged lepton, reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ ), and leading jet
- $m_{\ell\nu j_2}$ : Invariant mass of the system consisting of the charged lepton, reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ ), and second leading jet

- $p_T^{\ell\nu j_2}$ :  $p_T$  of the system consisting of the charged lepton, reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ ), and second leading jet
- $p_T^{\ell} + \not\!\!E_T + p_T^{j_2}$ : Scalar sum of the  $p_T$  of the charged lepton,  $\not\!\!E_T$ , and second leading jet
- $m_{\ell\nu j_{12}}$ : Invariant mass of the charged lepton, reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ ), and two leading jets
- $m_T^{\ell\nu j_{12}}$ : Transverse mass of the charged lepton,  $\not\!\!E_T$ , and two leading jets
- $m_{\ell\nu j_{12}}(p_Z(\nu)=0)$ : Invariant mass of the charged lepton, reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ ), and two leading jets, with the assumption that  $p_Z^{\nu}=0$
- $\sum p_T(\ell, \cancel{E}_T, j_1, j_2)$ : Scalar sum,  $p_T^{\ell} + \cancel{E}_T + \sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}$
- $\sum_{t=1}^{4} p_T(\ell, \cancel{E}_T, j_1, j_2, j_3, j_4)$ : Scalar sum,  $p_T^{\ell} + \cancel{E}_T + \sum_{j=1}^{4} p_T^{j_i}$
- $\mathcal{H}$ : Helicity is defined for an object A, coming from the decay of object C via  $C \to AB$ , as  $\arccos \theta_{AC}[(\overrightarrow{C} \cdot \overrightarrow{A})/(|C| \times |A|)]$
- $\mathcal{H}(j_{12}, j_1)$ : Helicity of the leading jet in the dijet system, calculated in the laboratory frame
- $\mathcal{V}$ : Velocity is defined for an object  $C \to AB$  as  $-\ln\{1 \{1 4 \times [(m_A^2 + m_B^2)/m_C^2]^{1/2}\}^{1/2}\}$
- $\mathcal{V}(j_{12})$ : Velocity of the dijet system
- $V_{j13}$ : Velocity of the system consisting of the leading and third leading jets
- $\mathcal{T}$ : Twist is  $\arctan(\Delta\phi/\Delta\eta)$
- $\mathcal{T}(j_{12})$ : Twist of the dijet system
- $\mathcal{T}_{j23}$ : Twist of the system consisting of the second leading and third leading jets
- $T_{W\to\ell\nu}$ : Twist of the  $\ell\nu$  system
- $\mathcal{W}$ : Width of a jet in  $(\eta, \phi)$  space defined as  $\sqrt{\eta_w^2 + \phi_w^2}$ , where  $\eta_w$  and  $\phi_w$  are the  $p_T$  weighted RMS  $\eta$  and  $\phi$  of energy deposits around the jet centroid.
- $W_{i3}$ : Width of the third leading jet

#### 3. Angular Distributions

- $\Delta \eta(j_1, j_2)$ : Separation in  $\eta$  between the two leading jets,  $|\eta_{j_1} \eta_{j_2}|$
- $\max |\Delta \eta(j_{12}, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\})|$ : Maximum  $\Delta \eta$  between the dijet system and the leading or second leading jet
- $\Delta \phi(j_1, j_2)$ : Separation in  $\phi$  between the two leading jets,  $|\phi_{j_1} \phi_{j_2}|$
- $\Delta \mathcal{R}(j_1, j_2)$ : Angular separation in  $(\eta, \phi)$  space between the two leading jets
- min  $\Delta \mathcal{R}(j_{12}, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\})$ : Minimum angular separation in  $(\eta, \phi)$  space between the dijet system and the leading or second leading jet
- $\Delta \phi(j_{12}, j_1)$ :  $|\phi_{j_{12}} \phi_{j_1}|$ , where  $\phi_{j_{12}}$  is the  $\phi$  of the dijet system
- $\Delta \phi(j_1, j_3)$ : Separation in  $\phi$  between the first and third leading jets,  $|\phi_{j_1} \phi_{j_3}|$
- $\Delta \mathcal{R}(j_3, j_{13})$ :  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the third leading jet and the system consisting of the leading and third leading jets
- $\Delta\phi(j_3, j_{23})$ :  $\Delta\phi$  between the third leading jet and the system consisting of the second leading and third leading jets
- $\angle(j_1, j_2)$ : 3D angle between the two leading jets
- $\cos \theta(j_1, j_2)_{\text{CM}}$ : Cosine of the angle between the two leading jets in the center of mass (CM) of the dijet system
- $\angle[\ell, \text{bis}(j_1, j_2)]$ : 3D angle between the charged lepton and the bisector of the dijet system
- $\Delta \phi[W, \text{bis}(j_1, j_2)]$ : Signed  $\Delta \phi$  between the  $\ell \nu$  system and the bisector of the dijet system
- $|\Delta \eta(\ell, j_1)|$ : Separation in  $\eta$  between the lepton and the leading jet,  $|\eta^{\ell} \eta^{j_1}|$
- $|\Delta \eta(\ell, j_2)|$ : Separation in  $\eta$  between the lepton and the second leading jet,  $|\eta^{\ell} \eta^{j_2}|$
- $|\Delta \eta(\ell, j_3)|$ : Separation in  $\eta$  between the lepton and the third leading jet,  $|\eta^{\ell} \eta^{j_3}|$
- $\max |\Delta \eta(\ell, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\})|$ : Maximum  $\Delta \eta$  between the charged lepton and the leading or second leading jet
- $\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, j_1)$ :  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the charged lepton and the leading jet
- $\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, j_2)$ :  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the charged lepton and the second leading jet

- $\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, j_3)$ :  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the charged lepton and the third leading jet
- $\Delta \phi(\not\!\!E_T, j_1)$ :  $\Delta \phi$  between the  $\not\!E_T$  and the leading jet
- $\Delta \mathcal{R}(\nu, j_1)$ :  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ ), and the leading jet
- min[ $\Delta \mathcal{R}(\nu, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\})$ ]: Minimum  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ ), and the leading or second leading jet
- $\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, \text{light jet})$ :  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the charged lepton and the leading non-b-tagged jet
- $\angle(\ell, j_{12})$ : 3D angle between the charged lepton and the dijet system
- $\Delta \eta(\ell, \nu)$ : Separation in  $\eta$  between the lepton and the reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ ),  $|\eta^{\ell} \eta^{\nu}|$
- $\max |\Delta \eta(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\})|$ : Maximum  $\Delta \eta$  between the  $\ell \nu$  system and charged lepton or reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ )
- $\Delta \phi(\ell, \not\!\!E_T)$ :  $\phi$  angle between the lepton and  $\not\!\!E_T$ .
- $\max |\Delta \phi(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \not\!\!E_T\})|$ : Maximum  $\Delta \phi$  between the  $\ell \nu$  system and the charged lepton or  $\not\!\!E_T$
- min  $|\Delta \phi(W, \{\ell \text{ or } E_T\})|$ : Minimum  $\Delta \phi$  between the  $\ell \nu$  system and the charged lepton or  $E_T$
- $\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, \nu)$ :  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the charged lepton and the reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ )
- $\max[\Delta \mathcal{R}(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\})]$ : Maximum  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the  $\ell \nu$  system and the charged lepton or reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ )
- min[ $\Delta \mathcal{R}(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\})$ ]: Minimum  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the  $\ell \nu$  system and the charged lepton or reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ )
- $|\Delta \eta(W, \ell)|$ :  $\Delta \eta$  between the  $\ell \nu$  system and the charged lepton
- $\Delta \mathcal{R}(W, \ell)$ :  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the  $\ell \nu$  system and the charged lepton
- $\Delta \mathcal{R}(W, \nu)$ :  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between the  $\ell \nu$  system and the reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ )
- $\angle(\ell, \nu)$ : 3D angle between the charged lepton and the reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ )
- $\cos \theta(\ell)_{\ell\nu\text{CM}}$ : Cosine of the angle between the charged lepton and the proton beam axis in the CM of  $\ell\nu$  system
- $\cos \theta(\ell)$ : Cosine of the angle between the charged lepton and the proton beam axis in the detector

- $|\Delta \eta(W, j_2)|$ :  $\Delta \eta$  between  $\ell \nu$  system and the second leading jet
- $\Delta \phi(W, j_2)$ :  $\Delta \phi$  between  $\ell \nu$  system and the second leading jet
- $\Delta \mathcal{R}(W, j_2)$ :  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  between  $\ell \nu$  system and the second leading jet
- $|\Delta \eta(W, j_{12})|$ :  $\Delta \eta$  between  $\ell \nu$  system and the dijet system
- $\angle (j_1, j_2)_{\text{HCM}}$ : 3D angle between the two leading jets in the  $H \to WW \to \ell \nu jj$  CM frame (HCM)
- $\cos[\angle(j_1, \ell\nu)]_{\text{HCM}}$ : Cosine of the 3D angle between the leading jet and  $\ell\nu$  system in the HCM
- $\cos[\angle(j_1,\ell)]_{\text{HCM}}$ : Cosine of the 3D angle between the charged lepton and the leading jet in the HCM
- $\cos[\angle(j_1^{j_{12}\text{CM}}, (W \to \ell\nu)^{\text{HCM}})]$ : Cosine of the 3D angle between the leading jet in energy in the CM of the dijet system and  $\ell\nu$  system in the  $H \to WW \to \ell\nu jj$  CM frame; jet energy is calculated in the  $H \to WW \to \ell\nu jj$  CM frame
- $\cos[\angle(\ell_{\ell\nu CM}, (W \to \ell\nu)_{\rm HCM})]$ : Cosine of the 3D angle between the charged lepton in the  $\ell\nu$  system CM and  $\ell\nu$  system in the  $H \to WW \to \ell\nu jj$  CM frame
- $\cos[\angle(\ell_{\ell\nu CM;4j},(W\to\ell\nu)_{\ell\nu jjCM;4j})]$ : Cosine of the 3D angle between the charged lepton in the  $\ell\nu$  system CM and  $\ell\nu$  system in the  $H\to WW\to\ell\nu jj$  CM frame for  $V(\to jj)H(\to WW\to\ell\nu jj)$  candidate events; jet energy is calculated in the  $H\to WW\to\ell\nu jj$  CM frame
- $\cos(\angle(j_1, \ell\nu))_{\text{HCM};4j}$ : Cosine of the 3D angle between the leading jet and  $\ell\nu$  system in the  $H \to WW \to \ell\nu jj$  CM frame frame for  $V(\to jj)H(\to WW \to \ell\nu jj)$  candidate events
- $\cos(\theta^*)$ :  $\theta^* = \angle(W, \text{incoming } u\text{-type quark})$  in HCM frame [93]
- $\cos(\chi^*)$ :  $\chi^* = \angle(\ell, \mathrm{spin}_W)$  in  $\ell\nu$  system CM frame [93]

#### 4. Topological Variables

- $\mathcal{A}$ : Aplanarity is  $3\lambda_3/2$  where  $\lambda_3$  is the smallest eigenvalue of the normalized momentum tensor  $S^{\alpha\beta} = (\sum_i p_i^{\alpha} p_i^{\beta})/(\sum_i |\vec{p_i}|^2)$ , where  $\alpha, \beta = 1, 2, 3$  correspond to the x, y, z momentum components, and i runs over selected objects. Without arguments, it is calculated for all visible objects
- $\mathcal{A}(\ell j_1 j_2)$ :  $\mathcal{A}$  calculated for the charged lepton, and leading and second leading jets

- $\mathcal{A}(\nu_1)$ :  $\mathcal{A}$  calculated for the charged lepton, reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ ), and all selected iets
- $\mathcal{C}$ : Centrality is  $(\sum_i p_T^i)/(\sum_i |\vec{p_i}|)$ , where i runs over  $\ell$  and all jets
- S: Sphericity is  $3(\lambda_2 + \lambda_3)/2$  where  $\lambda_3$  ( $\lambda_2$ ) is the smallest (second-smallest) eigenvalue of the normalized momentum tensor described under  $\mathcal{A}$ . Without arguments, it is calculated for all visible objects
- $S(\ell j_1 j_2)$ : S calculated for the charged lepton, and leading and second leading jets
- $\mathcal{S}(\ell\nu_2 j_1 j_2)$ :  $\mathcal{S}$  calculated for the charged lepton, reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_2}$ ), and leading and second leading jets
- $S(\nu_1)$ : S calculated for the charged lepton, reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ ), and all selected jets
- $p_T^{\text{VIS}}$ : Magnitude of the vector sum of the  $\vec{p}_T$  of the visible particles
- $\sum (p_T)^{\text{VIS}}$ : Scalar sum of the  $p_T$  of the visible particles
- $K_T^{\min}$ :  $\Delta \mathcal{R}(j_1, j_2) \times E_T^{j_2} / (\not\!E_T + E_T^{\ell})$ , where  $E_T$  is the transverse energy
- bis $(j_{12}, \nu)$ : Scalar product of the bisector of the dijet system and the  $\not\!\!E_T$  vector, i.e.  $\overrightarrow{\text{bis}(j_1, j_2)} \cdot \overrightarrow{\not\!E_T}$
- $m^{\text{Asym}}$ : Mass asymmetry between  $\ell\nu$  system and the dijet system:  $(m_{\ell\nu} m_{j_{12}})/(m_{\ell\nu} + m_{j_{12}})$
- $(p_T^W-p_T^{j_{12}})/(p_T^W+p_T^{j_{12}})$ :  $p_T$  asymmetry between  $\ell\nu$  system and the dijet system
- $p_T^W/p_T^{j_{12}}$ : Ratio of  $p_T^W$  to  $p_T^{j_{12}}$
- $(p_T^{\ell} + \cancel{E}_T \sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}) / \sum p_T(\ell, \cancel{E}_T, j_1, j_2)$ :  $\sum p_T$  asymmetry between  $\ell \nu$  system and the dijet system
- $(p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T)/\sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}$ : Ratio of  $p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T$  to  $\sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}$
- $p_T^{\ell\nu j_{12}}/\sum p_T(\ell, \cancel{E}_T, j_1, j_2)$ : Ratio of the  $p_T^{\ell\nu j_{12}}$  to  $\sum p_T(\ell, \cancel{E}_T, j_1, j_2)$
- $\mathcal{SIG}(j_{12}, j_1)$ : Based on the pull variables described in Ref. [94]. Sigma,  $\mathcal{SIG}$ , of the dijet system with respect to the leading jet defined as  $p_T^{j_2} \Delta \mathcal{R}(j_1, j_2) / \sum_{i=1}^{2} p_T^{j_i}$

- $\max[\mathcal{SIG}(j_{12}, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\})]$ : Maximum  $\mathcal{SIG}$  of the leading or second leading jet defined as  $p_T^{\max}(j_1, j_2) \Delta \mathcal{R}(j_1, j_2) / \sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}$  with respect to the dijet system
- min[ $\mathcal{SIG}(j_{12}, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\})$ ]: Minimum  $\mathcal{SIG}$  of the leading or second leading jet defined as  $p_T^{\min}(j_1, j_2)\Delta \mathcal{R}(j_1, j_2)/\sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}$  with respect to the dijet system
- $\mathcal{SIG}(W, \ell)$ :  $\mathcal{SIG}$  of the  $\ell\nu$  system with respect to the lepton, defined as  $(\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, \nu) \times \not\!\!E_T)/(p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T)$
- $\max[\mathcal{SIG}(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\})]$ : Maximum  $\mathcal{SIG}$  of the lepton or  $\not\!\!E_T$  defined as  $\max(p_T^\ell, \not\!\!E_T) \times \Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, \nu)/(p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T)$  with respect to the  $\ell \nu$  system
- $\min[\mathcal{SIG}(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\})]$ : Minimum  $\mathcal{SIG}$  of the lepton or  $\not\!\!E_T$  defined as  $\min(p_T^\ell, \not\!\!E_T) \times \Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, \nu)/(p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T)$  with respect to the  $\ell \nu$  system
- $SIG_{jets}(A)$ : Sigm defined for an object A, with respect to all jets in an event, as

$$\sum_{\text{jets}} [p_T^{\text{jet}} \times \Delta \mathcal{R}(A, \text{jet})] / \sum_{\text{jets}} (p_T^{\text{jet}})$$

- $SIG_{jets}(j_{123})$ :  $SIG_{jets}$  of the system consisting of the leading, second leading and third leading jets
- $SIG_{jets}(j_{1234})$ :  $SIG_{jets}$  of the system consisting of the leading, second leading, third leading and fourth leading jets
- $SIG_{jets}(\ell)$ :  $SIG_{jets}$  of the charged lepton
- $\mathcal{S}\mathcal{I}\mathcal{M}$ : Similarity is defined for two objects, A and B, as  $\min(p_T)^2 \times \Delta \mathcal{R}^2/(\sum p_T)^2$ , where  $\min(p_T)$  is the minimum  $p_T$  of the objects A and B,  $\Delta \mathcal{R}$  is the angular separation in  $(\eta, \phi)$  space between objects A and B, and  $\sum p_T$  is the scalar sum of the  $p_T$ s of A and B
- $SIM(\ell, \nu)$ : Similarity of the charged lepton and the reconstructed neutrino (assuming  $p_Z^{\nu_1}$ )

# 5. Discriminants to Separate Higgs Boson Events from a Specific Background

- MVA<sub>tt</sub>: Output of the multivariate discriminant trained against  $t\bar{t}$  and single top quark backgrounds
- MVA<sub>VJ</sub>: Output of the multivariate discriminant trained against V+jets backgrounds
- MVA<sub>VV</sub>: Output of the multivariate discriminant trained against diboson backgrounds
- MVA<sub>MJ</sub>( $H \to VV$ ): Output of the multivariate discriminant trained to distinguish  $H \to WW \to \ell \nu jj$  from the MJ background

• MVA<sub>MJ</sub>(VH): Output of the multivariate discriminant trained to distinguish  $WH \to \ell \nu b\bar{b}$  from the MJ background

TABLE V: Input variables for the MVA<sub>MJ</sub>(VH) and MVA<sub>MJ</sub>(H  $\rightarrow$  VV) discriminants. Two discriminants were trained to reject MJ events, one trained using  $VH \rightarrow \ell \nu b \bar{b}$  events as a signal and the second using  $H \rightarrow VV \rightarrow \ell \nu j j$  events as signal. Both discriminants use the same list of inputs. Variables are listed by their importance in the MVA.

MVA <sub>MJ</sub> Input Variables
$\eta^{ u}$
$ \!E_T^{\mathrm{Sig}} $
$\Delta \eta(\ell,  u)$
$\mathcal{T}_{W  o \ell  u}$
$\cos \theta(\ell)_{\ell\nu{ m CM}}$
$\mathcal{V}(j_{12})$
$m^{\mathrm{Asym}}$
$\mathcal{C}$
$\not\!\!E_T$
$p_T^{ m VIS}$
$\max  \Delta \eta(\ell, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\}) $

TABLE VI: Table of input variables for the final signal discriminant for the  $WH \rightarrow \ell \nu b \bar{b}$  channel. Variables are listed by their rank of importance when used in the two tight b-tagged (2T), two medium b-tagged (2M), two loose b-tagged (2L), and one tight b-tagged (1T) categories.

Variable	2T	2M	2L	1T
$MVA_{MJ}(VH)$	1	1		
$m_{b1b2}$	2	4	3	1
$p_T^W/(p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T)$	3	6	4	2
$b_{ m ID}^{j_{12}}$	4	13	1	4
$\cos(\chi^*)$	5	3		
$\max  \Delta \eta(\ell, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\}) $	6	11	2	3
$q^\ell \times \eta^\ell$	7	2	6	6
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, j_1)$	8	5		
$\min[\mathcal{SIG}(j_{12}, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\})]$	9	15	9	5
$q^\ell  imes \eta^{j_1}$	10	7	11	9
$\mathcal{V}(j_{12})$	11	12	7	11
$\cos(\theta^*)$	12	10		
$m_{\ell  u j_2}$	13	16	12	13
$m_T^{j_{12}}$	14	14		
$\mathcal{C}$	15	8	8	10
$\sum (p_T)^{ m VIS}$	16	9		
$m^{\text{Asym}}$			5	8
$\mathcal{A}$			10	12
$p_T^{j_2}$			13	7

TABLE VII: Table of input variables for the final signal discriminant for the  $H \to WW \to e\nu jj$  channel for two jets events. Variables are by their rank of importance when used in the zero b-tags (0T) and one loose b-tag (1T) categories for  $M_H \leq 150~{\rm GeV}$ .

Variable	0T	1T
$(p_T^\ell + E_T) / \sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}$	1	1
$ \Delta\eta(W,\ell) $	2	
$m_{j_{12}}$	3	4
$MVA_{MJ}(VH)$	4	6
$ \Delta\eta(W,j_2) $	5	
$\max  \Delta \eta(j_{12}, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\}) $	6	10
$\mathcal{A}(\ell j_1 j_2)$	7	
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell,j_1)$	8	
$\sum (p_T)^{ m VIS}$	9	15
$\mathcal{H}(j_{12},j_1)$	10	
$\max  \Delta \phi(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \not\!\!E_T\}) $	11	
$\Delta\phi(\ell, \not\!\!E_T)$	12	
$\Delta p_T(j_1,j_2)$	13	
$p_T^{j_1}$	14	7
$ \Delta\eta(\ell,j_1) $		2
$MVA_{MJ}(H \to VV)$		3
$ \Delta\eta(\ell,j_2) $		5
$\mathcal{V}(j_{12})$		8
$M_T^W$		9
$\cos \theta(\ell)_{\ell\nu{ m CM}}$		11
$p_T^{\ell  u j_2}$		12
$\Delta p_T(W, \cancel{E}_T)$		13
$p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T$		14
$\sum_{j} p_T(j_1,j_2,\ell)$		16
$\sum_{i=1}^{2} p_T^{j_i}$		17

TABLE VIII: Table of input variables for the final signal discriminant for the  $H \to WW \to e\nu jj$  channel for three jets events. Variables are listed by their rank of importance when used in the zero *b*-tags (0T) and one loose *b*-tag (1T) categories for  $M_H \leq 150$  GeV.

Variable	0T	1T
$MVA_{MJ}(VH)$	1	6
$m_{j_{12}}$	2	15
$(p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T) / \sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}$	3	2
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, j_1)$	4	
$ \Delta\eta(W,j_2) $	5	
$ \Delta \eta(W,\ell) $	6	
$\max  \Delta \eta(j_{12}, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\}) $	7	8
$\mathcal{A}(\ell j_1 j_2)$	8	
$\sum (p_T)^{ m VIS}$	9	16
$\max  \Delta \phi(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \not\!\!E_T\}) $	10	
$\Delta p_T(j_1,j_2)$	11	
$\mathcal{H}(j_{12},j_1)$	12	
$\Delta\phi(\ell,  ot\!\!\!E_T)$	13	
$p_T^{j_1}$	14	
$\text{MVA}_{\text{MJ}}(H \to VV)$		1
$ \Delta\eta(\ell,j_2) $		3
$ \Delta\eta(\ell,j_1) $		4
$\cos \theta(\ell)_{\ell\nu{ m CM}}$		5
$p_T^{j_2}$		7
$\mathcal{V}(j_{12})$		9
$M_T^W$		10
$p_T^{\ell  u j_2}$		11
$\Delta p_T(W, \cancel{E}_T)$		12
$p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T$		13
$\sum_{j} p_T(j_1, j_2, \ell)$		14
$\sum_{i=1}^{2} p_T^{j_i}$		17

TABLE IX: Table of input variables for the final signal discriminant for the  $H \to WW \to \mu\nu jj$  channel for two jets events. Variables are listed by their rank of importance when used in the tre zero b-tags (0T) and one loose b-tag (1T) categories for  $M_H \leq 150$  GeV.

Variable 0T 1T $\Delta \phi[W, \mathrm{bis}(j_1, j_2)]$ 1  $|\Delta \eta(W,\ell)|$ 2 7  $m_{j_{12}}$ 3  $p_T^{\ell} + E_T + p_T^{j_2}$ 4 16  $\min[\Delta \mathcal{R}(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\})]$ 5  $\Delta \mathcal{R}(j_1, j_2)$ 6 14  $\mathcal{SIM}(\ell,\nu)$ 7  $\sum_{i=1}^{2} p_T^{j_i}$ 8 4  $\min(p_T^\ell, \not\!\!E_T)/p_T^W$ 9  $\Delta p_T(\ell, \cancel{E}_T)$ 10  $\Delta \mathcal{R}(\nu, j_1)$ 11  $\Delta\phi(\cancel{E}_T, j_1)$ 12  $\mathcal{SIG}(j_{12},j_1)$ 13  $\sum (p_T)^{VIS}$ 14  $\Delta p_T(j_1,j_2)$ 15  $p_T^{j_1}$ 16 6  $|\Delta\eta(\ell,j_1)|$ 1 2  $\mathcal{H}(j_{12},j_1)$ 3  $|\Delta \eta(\ell, j_2)|$  $\cos \theta(\ell)_{\ell\nu \mathrm{CM}}$ 5  $\Delta \mathcal{R}(W, j_2)$ 6  $|\Delta\eta(W,j_{12})|$ 8  $m^{\rm Asym}$ 9  $bis(j_{12}, \nu)$ 10  $\Delta p_T(W,\ell)$ 11  $m_{\ell\nu j_2}$ 12  $\mathcal{T}_{W \to \ell \nu}$ 13 $\Delta\phi(j_1,j_2)$ 15  $m_T^{\ell\nu j_{12}}$ 17  $\sum p_T(j_1,j_2,\ell)$ 18  $\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, \nu)$ 19  $\Delta \phi(\ell, \not\!\!E_T)$ 20 21

TABLE X: Table of input variables for the final signal discriminant for the  $H \to WW \to \mu\nu jj$  channel for three jets events. Variables are listed by their rank of importance when used in the zero b-tags (0T) and one loose b-tag (1T) categories for  $M_H \leq 150$  GeV.

Variable	0T	1T
$p_T^{j_3}$	1	
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, j_2)$	2	
$ \Delta \eta(W,\ell) $	3	
$ \Delta \eta(\ell,j_1) $	4	2
$\cos \theta(j_1, j_2)_{\mathrm{CM}}$	5	22
$\Delta\phi(j_1,j_3)$	6	
$\mathcal{V}(j_{12})$	7	21
$\operatorname{Recoil}(p_T^W)$	8	16
$\mathcal{A}$	9	
$m_{\ell  u j_1}$	10	
$m_{j_{12}\ell}$	11	18
$K_T^{\min}$	12	
$\cos[\angle(j_1,\ell\nu)]_{\mathrm{HCM}}$	13	
$m_{\ell  u j_{12}}$	14	
$\Delta\phi(j_3,j_{23})$		1
$q^\ell  imes \eta^\ell$		3
$\Delta\phi(W,j_2)$		4
$ ot\!\!\!E_T^{ ext{SC}} $		5
$\mathcal{S}(\ell j_1 j_2)$		6
$m_{j_{123}}$		7
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\nu, j_1)$		8
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, \text{light jet})$		9
$\Delta\eta(j_1,j_2)$		10
$m^{ m Asym}$		11
$p_T^W/(p_T^\ell + E_T)$		12
$\mathcal{SIG}_{ m jets}(j_{123})$		13
$\mathcal{C}$		14
$\mathcal{SIG}(j_{12},j_1)$		15
$\cos \theta(\ell)_{\ell\nu{ m CM}}$		17
$M_T^W$		19
$m_{\ell\nu j_{12}}(p_Z(\nu)=0)$		20
$m_{j_{12}}$		23
$\mathcal{T}_{W  o \ell  u}$		24
$\Delta \eta(\ell, \nu)$		25

TABLE XI: Table of input variables for the final signal discriminant for the  $H \to WW \to e\nu jj$  channel for two jets events in the pretag category for  $M_H \geq 155$  GeV. Variables are listed by their importance in the MVA.

MVA Input Variables
$\sum (p_T)^{\mathrm{VIS}}$
$\operatorname{Recoil}(p_T^W)$
$m_{j_{12}}$
$m^{\mathrm{Asym}}$
$\mathcal{SIG}(W,\ell)$
$MVA_{MJ}(VH)$
$ \Delta\eta(W,\ell) $
$E(j_1)$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, j_1)$
$\max  \Delta \phi(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \not\!\!E_T\}) $
$\angle(j_1,j_2)$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(W,\ell)$
$\operatorname{Recoil}(p_T^{j_{12}})$
$\cos[\angle(j_1,\ell\nu)]_{\mathrm{HCM}}$
$\mathcal{H}(j_{12},j_1)$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, \text{light jet})$

TABLE XII: Table of input variables for the final signal discriminant for the  $H \to WW \to e\nu jj$  channel for three jets events in the pretag category for  $M_H \geq 155$  GeV. Variables are listed by their importance in the MVA.

MVA Input Variables
$\sum (p_T)^{\text{VIS}}$
$\operatorname{Recoil}(p_T^W)$
$MVA_{MJ}(VH)$
$\max  \Delta \phi(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \not\!\!E_T\}) $
$\mathcal{SIG}(W,\ell)$
$m^{ m Asym}$
$ \Delta \eta(W,\ell) $
$m_{j_{12}}$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, j_1)$
$E(j_1)$
$\angle(j_1,j_2)$
$\cos[\angle(j_1,\ell\nu)]_{\rm HCM}$
$\mathcal{H}(j_{12},j_1)$
$\operatorname{Recoil}(p_T^{j_{12}})$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, \text{light jet})$

TABLE XIII: Table of input variables for the final signal discriminant for the  $H \to WW \to \mu\nu jj$  channel for two jets events in the pretag category for  $M_H \geq 155$  GeV. Variables are listed by their importance in the MVA.

MVA Input Variables
$\mathcal{V}(j_{12})$
$\angle(\ell,  u)$
$\mathcal{S}(\ell j_1 j_2)$
$\Delta\phi[W,\mathrm{bis}(j_1,j_2)]$
$p_T^{j_1}$
$\min[\Delta \mathcal{R}(\nu, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\})]$
$\cos[\angle(j_1,\ell)]_{\mathrm{HCM}}$
$\not\!\!E_T$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(j_1,j_2)$
$p_T^{j_{12}} / \sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}$
$\min \Delta \mathcal{R}(j_{12}, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\})$
$p_T^W$
$\sum p_T(\ell, \cancel{E}_T, j_1, j_2)$
$\min  \Delta \phi(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \not\!\!E_T\}) $
$p_T^W/(p_T^\ell + E_T)$
$\min[\Delta \mathcal{R}(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\})]$
$\Delta\phi(j_{12},j_1)$
$\max[\mathcal{SIG}(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\})]$
$\Delta p_T(j_1,j_2)$
$\max(p_T^\ell, \not\!\!E_T)/p_T^W$
$\mathcal{SIG}(j_{12},j_1)$
$\min(p_T^\ell, \cancel{E}_T)/p_T^W$

TABLE XIV: Table of input variables for the final signal discriminant for the  $H \to WW \to \mu\nu jj$  channel for three jets events in the pretag category for  $M_H \geq 155$  GeV. Variables are listed by their importance in the MVA.

MVA Input Variables	_
$\sum (p_T)^{\text{VIS}}$	
$E(\ell)$	
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(j_1, j_2)$	
$(p_T^W - p_T^{j_{12}})/(p_T^W + p_T^{j_{12}})$	)
$m_{j_{12}\ell}$	
$\angle(j_1,j_2)_{\mathrm{HCM}}$	
$m_T^{j_{12}}$	
$\Delta \phi[W, \mathrm{bis}(j_1, j_2)]$	
$\Delta\phi(W,j_2)$	
$K_T^{\min}$	
$m_{\ell  u j_2}$	
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, j_1)$	
$\mathcal{S}( u_1)$	
$m_{\ell\nu j_{12}}(p_Z(\nu)=0)$	
$\cos \theta(\ell)_{\ell \nu { m CM}}$	
$\cos \theta(j_1, j_2)_{\mathrm{CM}}$	
$\min[\mathcal{SIG}(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\})]$	
$p_T^W/(p_T^\ell + E_T)$	
$\mathcal{SIG}(j_{12},j_1)$	
$\mathcal{SIG}_{ m jets}(j_{123})$	
$p_T^{j_{12}} / \sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}$	
$\mathcal{T}(j_{12})$	
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell,  u)$	
$p_T^{j_{123}}$	
	=

TABLE XV: Table of input variables for the MVA<sub>tt</sub> discriminant for the  $H \to WW \to \ell \nu jjjj$  channel. Variables are listed by their importance in the MVA.

MVA Input Variables
$\sum p_T(\ell, \cancel{E}_T, j_1, j_2, j_3, j_4)$
$m_{j_{1234}}$
$p_T^\ell + \not\!\!E_T$
$ ot\!\!E_T^{ m SC}$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell,j_3)$
$\angle(j_1,j_2)_{\mathrm{HCM}}$
$(p_T^W - p_T^{j_{12}})/(p_T^W + p_T^{j_{12}})$
$\mathcal{V}_{j13}$
$E(\ell)$
$M_T^W$
$m^{ m Asym}$
$p_T^{\ell\nu j_{12}}/\sum p_T(\ell, E_T, j_1, j_2)$
$K_T^{\min}$
$\mathcal{S}$
$ \Delta\eta(W,\ell) $
$\cos(\angle(j_1,\ell\nu))_{\mathrm{HCM};4j}$
$\cos[\angle(j_1^{j_{12}\mathrm{CM}}, (W \to \ell \nu)^{\mathrm{HCM}})]$
$p_Z^{ u_1}$
$\Delta\phi[W,\mathrm{bis}(j_1,j_2)]$
$\Delta p_T(j_2, j_{23})$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(j_3,j_{13})$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(W,\ell)$
$\angle(\ell,j_{12})$
$\angle(\ell, u)$
$p_Z^{ u_2}$
$\operatorname{Recoil}(p_T^W)$
$p_T^{\mathrm{Sig}}$
$\eta^{ u}$
$p_T^W/p_T^{j_{12}}$
$\min  \Delta \phi(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \not\!\!E_T\}) $

TABLE XVI: Table of input variables for the MVA $_{\rm VJ}$  discriminant for the  $H\to WW\to\ell\nu jjjj$  channel. Variables are listed by their importance in the MVA.

MVA Input Variables
$\overline{\mathcal{W}_{j3}}$
$\cos \theta(\ell)_{\ell\nu { m CM}}$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell,j_3)$
$\mathcal{T}_{j23}$
$q^\ell  imes \eta^\ell$
$\max  \Delta \eta(\ell, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\}) $
$m_{j_{12}\ell}$
$(p_T^{\ell} + \cancel{E}_T - \sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}) / \sum p_T(\ell, \cancel{E}_T, j_1, j_2)$
$\max  \Delta \eta(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\}) $
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell,  u)$
$\Delta \eta(j_1,j_2)$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(W,\ell)$
$\cos[\angle(\ell_{\ell\nu CM;4j},(W\to\ell\nu)_{\ell\nu jjCM;4j})]$
$\mathcal{SIG}_{ m jets}(\ell)$
$\mathcal{C}$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell, j_2)$
$(p_T^W - p_T^{j_{12}})/(p_T^W + p_T^{j_{12}})$
$\mathcal{A}$
$\cos[\angle(\ell_{\ell\nu CM}, (W \to \ell\nu)_{\rm HCM})]$
$\sum_{i=1}^4 p_T^{j_i}$
$\mathcal{SIM}(\ell,  u)$
$ \Delta \eta(W,\ell) $
$p_T^W$
$\mathcal{A}( u_1)$
$\angle(\ell,  u)$
$\eta^{ u}$
$E(\ell)$
$\operatorname{Recoil}(p_T^W)$
$p_T^W/p_T^{j_{12}}$

TABLE XVII: Table of input variables for the MVAVV discriminant for the  $H \to WW \to \ell \nu j j j j$  channel. Variables are listed by their importance in the MVA.

MVA Input Variables
$\cos \theta(\ell)_{\ell \nu \mathrm{CM}}$
$\mathcal{SIG}_{ m jets}(\ell)$
$q^\ell  imes \eta^{j_2}$
$\cos[\angle(j_1^{j_{12}\mathrm{CM}},(W\to\ell\nu)^{\mathrm{HCM}})]$
$(p_T^{\ell} + \cancel{E}_T - \sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}) / \sum p_T(\ell, \cancel{E}_T, j_1, j_2)$
$\max  \Delta \eta(\ell, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\}) $
$\mathcal{S}(\ell  u_2 j_1 j_2)$
$q^\ell  imes \eta^\ell$
$\angle(\ell,  u)$
$q^\ell  imes \eta^{j_3}$
$\eta^{ u}$
$ \Delta \eta(W,\ell) $
$(p_T^W - p_T^{j_{12}})/(p_T^W + p_T^{j_{12}})$
$\angle(j_1,j_2)_{\mathrm{HCM}}$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(W,\ell)$
$p_T^{\ell u j_{12}}/\sum p_T(\ell,  ot\!\!\!E_T, j_1, j_2)$
$\mathcal{SIM}(\ell, u)$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell,j_2)$
$m_{j_{12}\ell}$
$\cos[\angle(\ell_{\ell\nu CM;4j},(W\to\ell\nu)_{\ell\nu jjCM;4j})]$
$\mathcal{SIG}_{ m jets}(j_{123})$
$\mathcal{SIG}_{ m jets}(j_{1234})$
$\angle[\ell, \mathrm{bis}(j_1, j_2)]$
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(j_3,j_{13})$
$\sum_{i=1}^4 p_T^{j_i}$
i=1
$\max[\Delta \mathcal{R}(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\})]$
$p_T^W/p_T^{j_{12}}$

TABLE XVIII: Table of input variables for the final signal discriminant for the  $H \to WW \to \ell \nu j j j j$  channel. Variables are listed by their rank of importance when used in the zero b-tags (0T) and one loose b-tag (1L) categories for each charged lepton type.

Variable	e. 0T	e 1L	μ 0Τ	и 1L
MVA <sub>tt</sub>	1	5	$\frac{\mu}{5}$	3
$\text{MVA}_{\text{MJ}}(H \to VV)$	2	7	4	9
MVA <sub>VJ</sub>	3	1	1	1
$MVA_{VV}$	4	8	7	2
$\mathcal{SIG}_{ m jets}(\ell)$	5	12	14	
$m_{i_1,i_\ell}$	6			
$p_T^{j_23} / \sum_{i=2}^3 p_T^{j_i}$ $\not\!\!E_T^{\operatorname{Sig}}$	7		9	5
	8	14		
$MVA_{MJ}(VH)$	9	3	12	14
$E(\ell)$	10	6		16
$p_T^{j_{12}}/\sum_{i=1}^2 p_T^{j_i}$	11			
$q^\ell  imes \eta^\ell$	12		3	8
$\cos[\angle(\ell_{\ell\nu CM}, (W \to \ell\nu)_{\rm HCM})]$	13			
$\mathcal{A}( u_1)$	14			
$(p_T^W - p_T^{j_{12}})/(p_T^W + p_T^{j_{12}})$	15			
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(W,\ell)$	16			13
$\Delta p_T(\ell, \not\!\!E_T)/p_T^W$	17	11		
$\cos \theta(\ell)$	18	9		
$p_T^{ m VIS}$		2		
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\nu, j_1)$		4		
$\mathcal{SIG}_{ m jets}(j_{123})$		10		
$q^{\ell}  imes \eta^{j_1}$		13		
$ \Delta\eta(W,\ell) $		15	13	
$\max  \Delta \eta(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\}) $		16		
$\cos \theta(j_1, j_2)_{\mathrm{CM}}$			2	12
$\mathcal{C}$			6	
$ \Delta \eta(\ell,j_3) $			8	
$\cos[\angle(j_1,\ell\nu)]_{\mathrm{HCM}}$			10	
$\mathcal{A}$			11	
$p_T^\ell +  ot\!\!\!E_T$			15	
$\angle[\ell, \operatorname{bis}(j_1, j_2)]$			16	
$\cos \theta(\ell)_{\ell\nu{ m CM}}$			17	
$\mathcal{T}_{W  o \ell  u}$			18	
$\Delta\eta(\ell, u)$			19	
$M_T^W$			20	
$\Delta \mathcal{R}(\ell,j_3)$				4
$\cos[\angle(j_1,\ell)]_{\mathrm{HCM}}$				6
$m_{\ell\nu j_{12}}(p_Z(\nu)=0)$				7
$\mathcal{S}(\ell j_1 j_2)$				10
$\max[\Delta \mathcal{R}(W, \{\ell \text{ or } \nu\})]$				11
$\max[\mathcal{SIG}(j_{12}, \{j_1 \text{ or } j_2\})]$				15
$Recoil(p_T^W)$				17