

Status of Λ_c^+ Reconstruction in the ePIC framework

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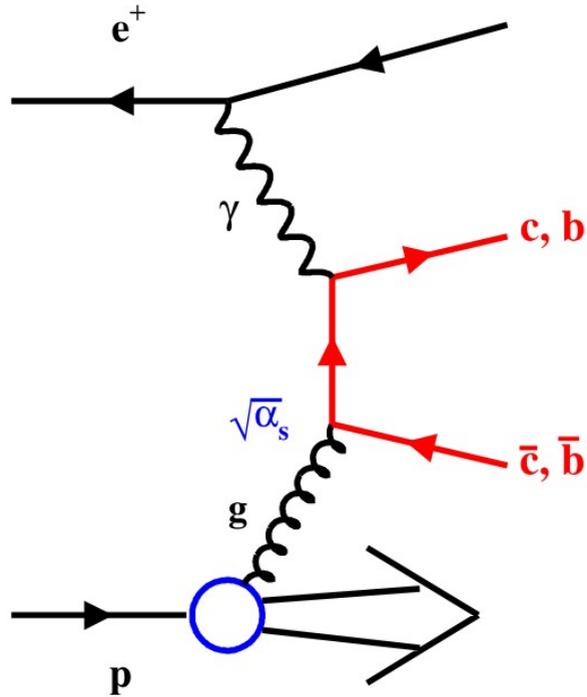
Summer 2025 Joint EICUG/ePIC Collaboration Meeting



Heavy-flavor Production

Boson-Gluon Fusion (BGF) is leading order [LO] mechanism

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ppnp.2015.06.002>



$$\gamma^* g \rightarrow c \bar{c} \text{ or } b \bar{b}$$

$$c \rightarrow D^0 (c \bar{u}) \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$$

$$c \rightarrow \Lambda_c^+ (udc) \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+$$

Particle	Mass (GeV/c ²)	cτ (μm)
D [±]	1.869	312
D ⁰	1.864	123
B [±]	5.279	491
B ⁰	5.280	456
Λ _c ⁺	2.286	60

Study includes Λ_c⁺ and Λ_c⁻ both

Virtual photon (γ*) from the electron interacts with a gluon from the proton, produces c c-bar or b b-bar pair

Additional Next to Leading Order (NLO) Mechanisms

Gluon splitting, QCD Compton Scattering

Hadronization: Heavy-Flavor Baryon over Meson Ratios

Heavy-flavor hadrons production cross section in nucleon-nucleon collisions using the factorization approach:

$$\frac{d\sigma^{NN \rightarrow H_Q X}}{dp_T^{H_Q}}(\sqrt{s_{NN}}, M_Q, \mu_F^2, \mu_R^2) = \sum_{i,j=q,\bar{q},g} f_i(x_1, \mu_F^2) \otimes f_j(x_2, \mu_F^2) \otimes d\sigma^{ij \rightarrow Q\bar{Q}}(\alpha_s(\mu_R^2), \mu_F^2, M_Q, x_1, x_2, \sqrt{s_{NN}}) \otimes D_Q^{H_Q}(z, \mu_F^2)$$

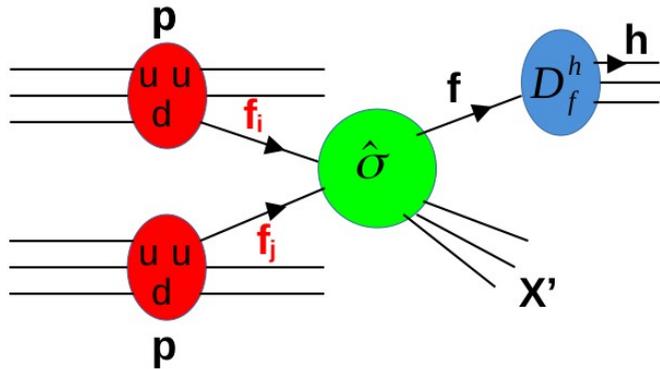
<https://doi.org/10.22323/1.449.0261>

Parton distribution functions

Hard Scattering Cross-section

Fragmentation function

$$z = p_{H_Q} / p_Q$$



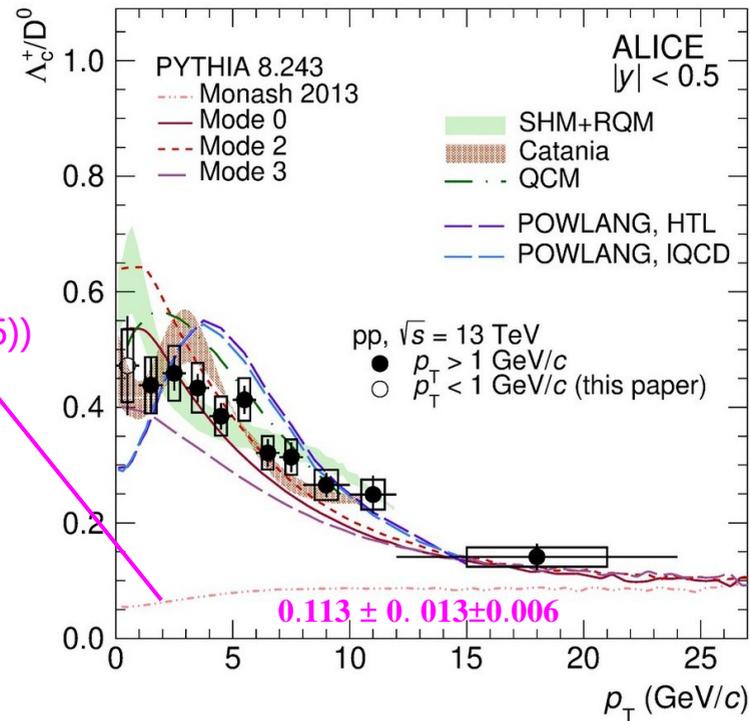
x = momentum fraction of parton
 μ_F : Factorisation scale
 μ_R : Renormalisation scale
 $z = p_{H_Q} / p_Q$

(LEP average, EPJC 75, 19 (2015))

Fragmentation function: A non-perturbative function assumed to be universal and extracted from e^+e^- or ep collision data

Charm/beauty baryon-to-meson (Λ_c^+ / D^0) ratios:

- Higher than measurements at e^+e^- , ep collisions for $p_T < 10$ GeV/c
- Predictions that include baryon enhancement mechanisms describe data



JHEP 12 (2023) 086

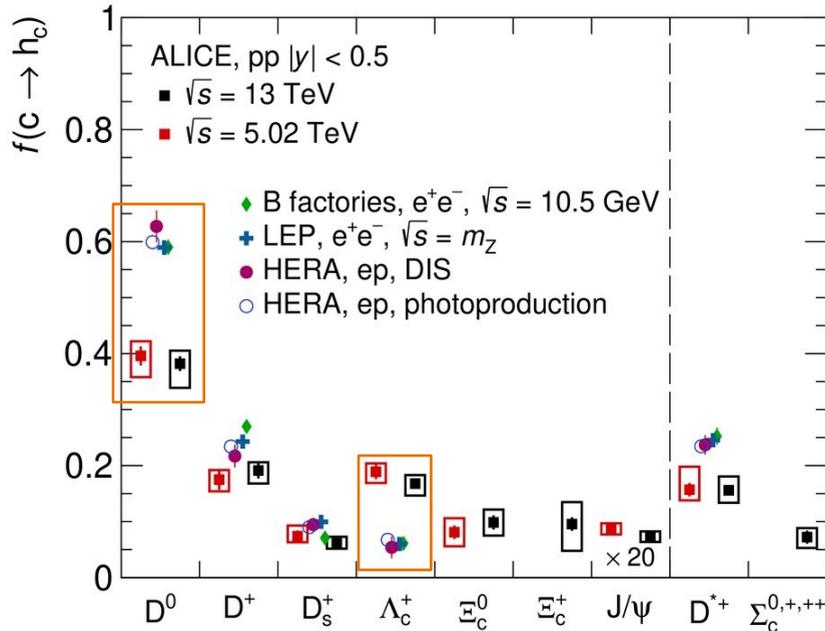
ALI-PUB-567876

Hadronization: Heavy-Flavor Baryon over Meson Ratios

Ξ_c^0/D^0 ratio underestimated by all the models, though Catania is close to the measurements

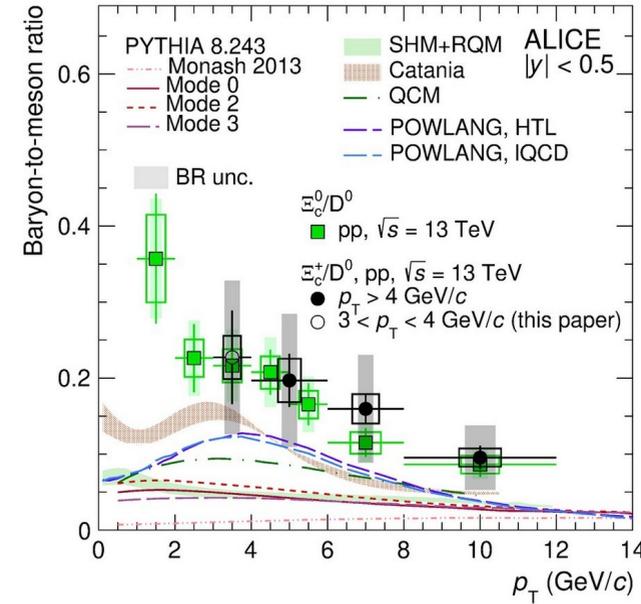
Fragmentation fraction: probability that a heavy quark hadronizes into a specific hadron species

Violation of universality of fragmentation fractions among different collision systems

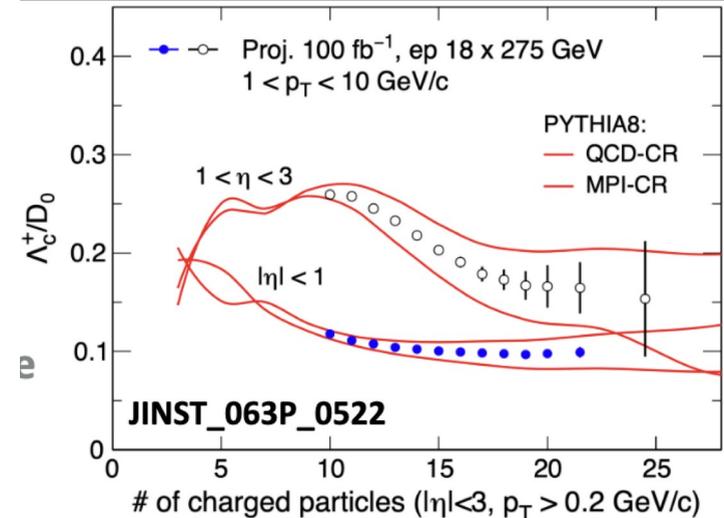


Dependence of Baryon-to-meson ratio on the collision systems

[JHEP 12 \(2023\) 086](#)



ALI-PUB-567881



ALI-PUB-567906

Hadron chemistry (Λ_c/D^0): impact at low- p_T range and forward rapidity (ePIC)

Main objective is to measure Λ_c^+/D^0 ratio in ep, eAu (10X100 GeV) DIS collisions with $Q^2 > 1\text{GeV}^2$

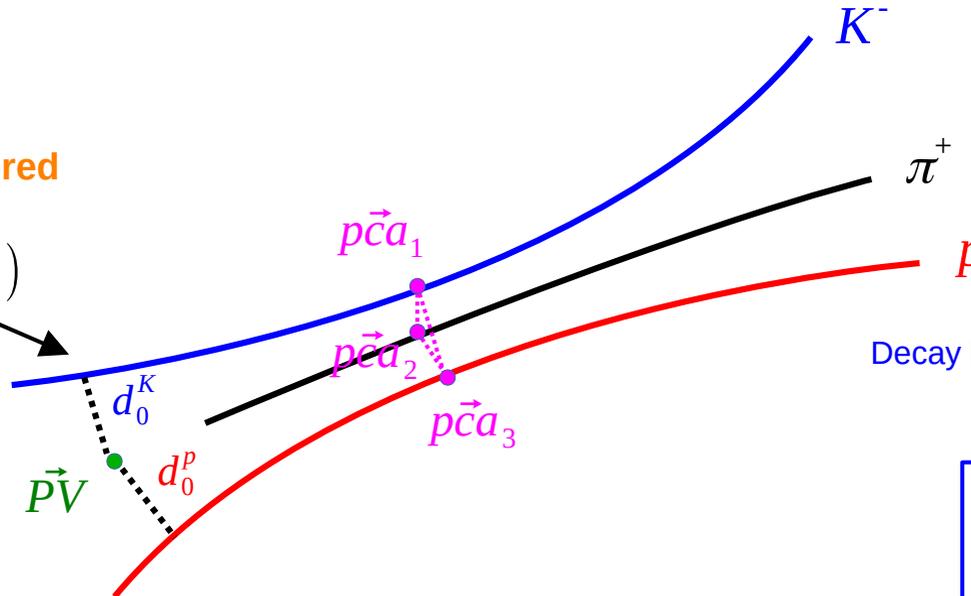
Topological Variables (Λ_c^+)

Secondary Vertex (Analytical approach)

$$\vec{S}\vec{V} = \frac{p\vec{c}a_1 + p\vec{c}a_2 + p\vec{c}a_3}{3}$$

SV for preliminary studies
Track errors are currently ignored

$$\text{Track}_{\text{DCA}} = (\vec{r}_0, \vec{p}_0, q)$$



$$\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow p K^- \pi^+$$

$$\text{DCA}_{k\pi} = |p\vec{c}a_1 - p\vec{c}a_2|, \quad \text{DCA}_{k p} = |p\vec{c}a_1 - p\vec{c}a_3|, \quad \text{DCA}_{p\pi} = |p\vec{c}a_3 - p\vec{c}a_2|$$

$$\text{DCA}_{12} = \min \{ \text{DCA}_{nK}, \text{DCA}_{Kp}, \text{DCA}_{n\pi} \} \text{ Cut}$$

[My Slides](#)

Decay length (dl), Primary Vertex (PV),
Secondary Vertex (SV)

Topological Variables:

- DCA_{k^-} and DCA_{π^+} with respect to the reconstructed primary vertex ($d0_k$, $d0_pi$)
- Decay length of Λ_c baryon (decaylength)
- $\cos\theta$ (angle between \vec{dl} and \vec{p}_{Λ_c})
- DCA_{12} minimum distance between the daughter tracks
- DCA_{Λ_c} impact parameter of reconstructed Λ_c baryon

$d0_{xy}$: In the transverse plane

$$\vec{dl} = \vec{S}\vec{V} - \vec{P}\vec{V}$$

$$\cos\theta = \frac{\vec{dl} \cdot \vec{p}_{\Lambda_c}}{|\vec{dl}| |\vec{p}_{\Lambda_c}|}$$

$$\text{DCA}_{\Lambda_c} = dl \sin\theta$$

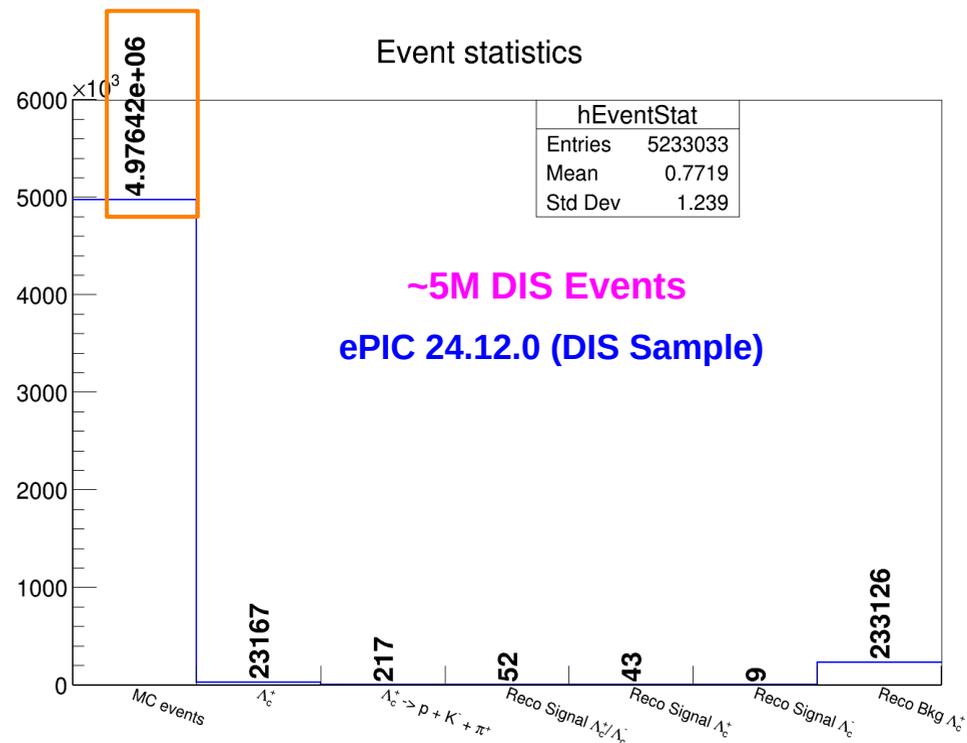
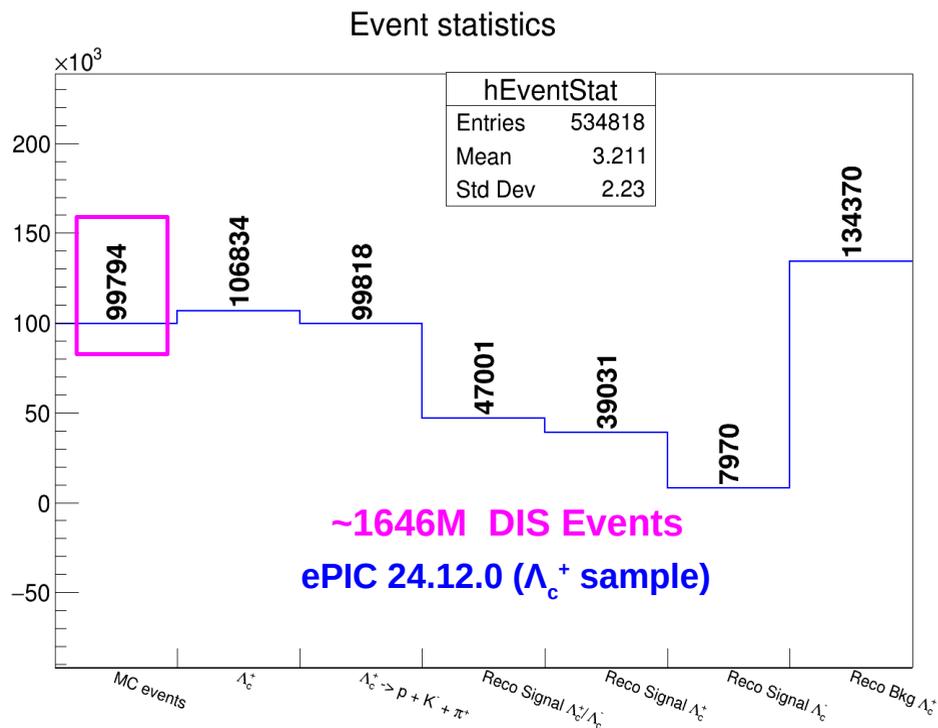
Use AdaptiveMultiVertexFinder or KFParticle for secondary vertexing, as they account for track errors

Data Sample ($Q^2 > 1 \text{ GeV}^2$)

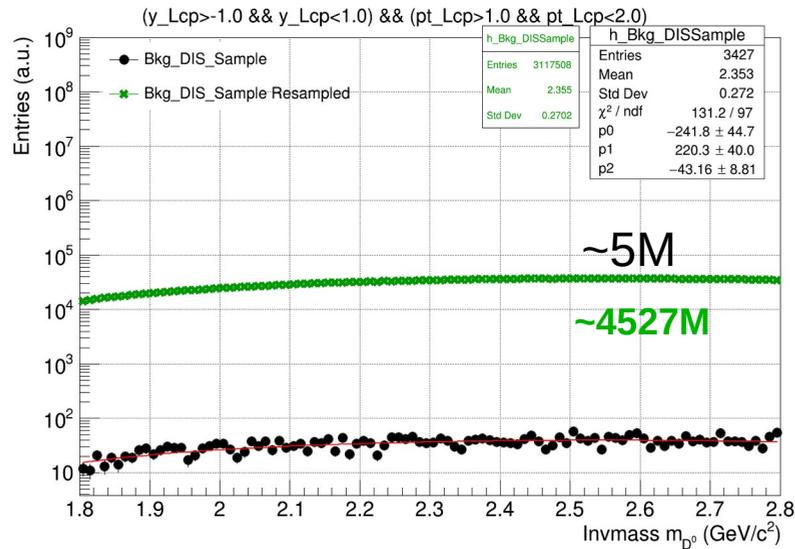
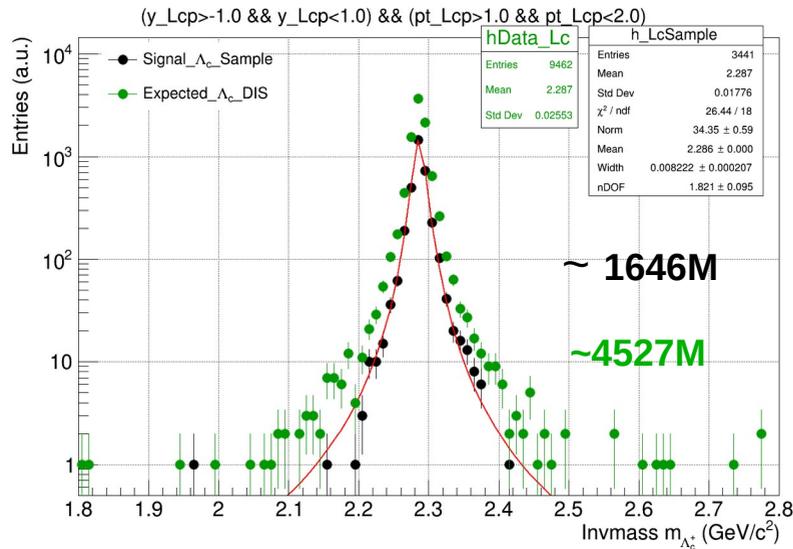
➤ Reconstruction of Λ_c^+ Baryon

- ➔ Λ_c^+ sample **PYTHIA8 ep, NC, 10X100, $Q^2 > 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ events (~1646 M DIS): Events = 99,794**
- ➔ DIS Sample: 24.12.0/epic_craterlake/DIS/NC/10x100/minQ2=1: **Total files 5180 and Events = 4,976,419**

Truth Particle Identification (PID)



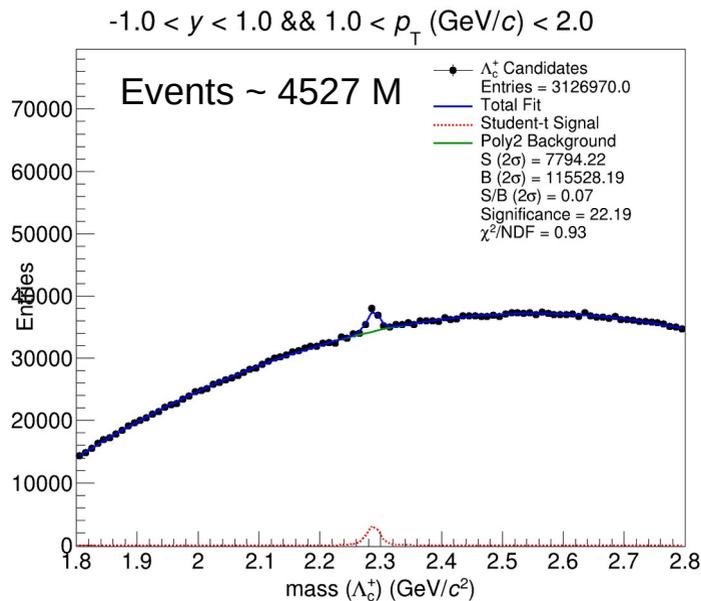
Merging Signal and Background (Λ_c^+ Sample and DIS Events)



Sampling

Topological selection (dimensions in mm)

($m_{\Lambda_c} > 1.8$ && $m_{\Lambda_c} < 2.8$) && (d0xy_p > 0.02 && d0xy_p < 10.) && (d0xy_pi > 0.02 && d0xy_pi < 10.) && (d0xy_k > 0.02 && d0xy_k < 10.) && decay_length < 100.



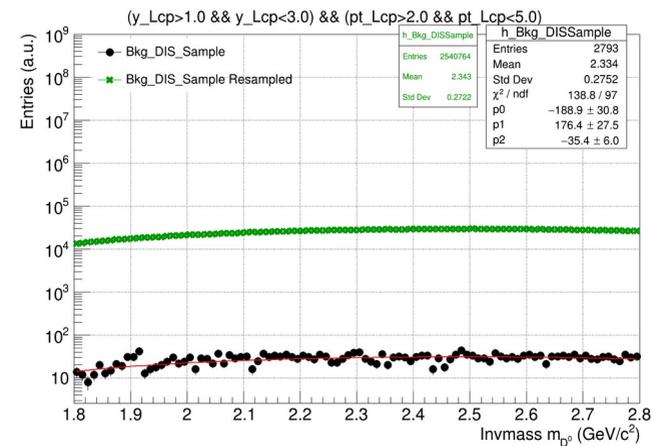
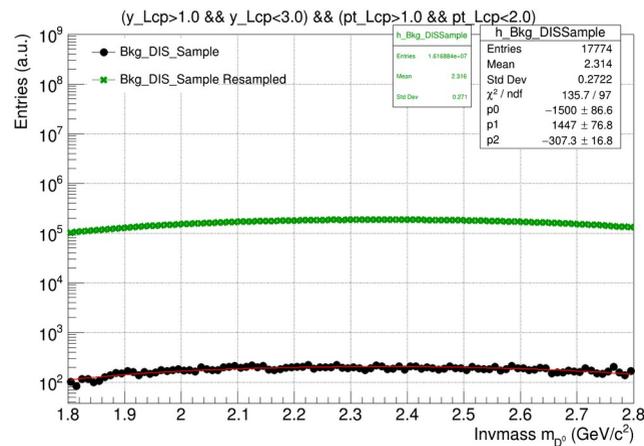
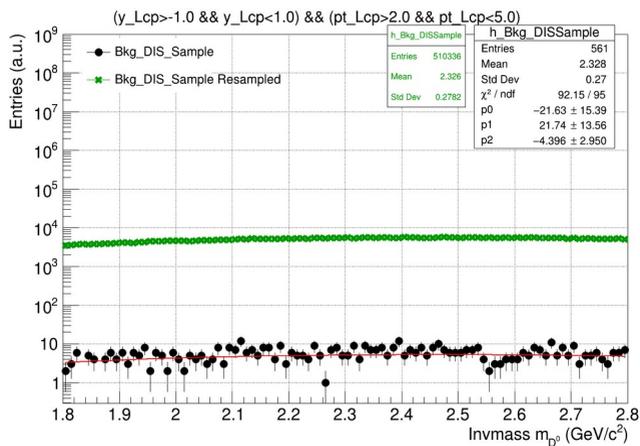
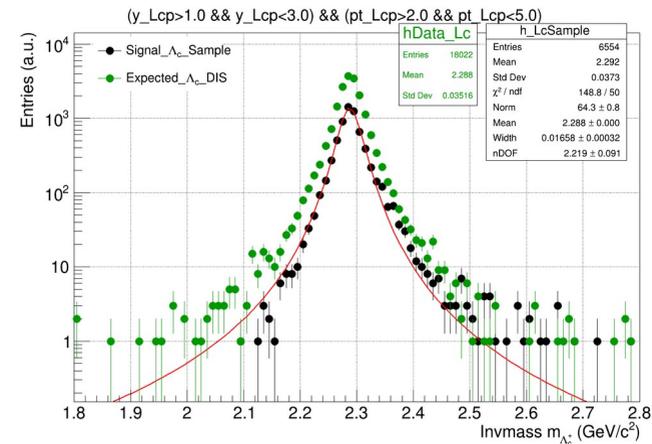
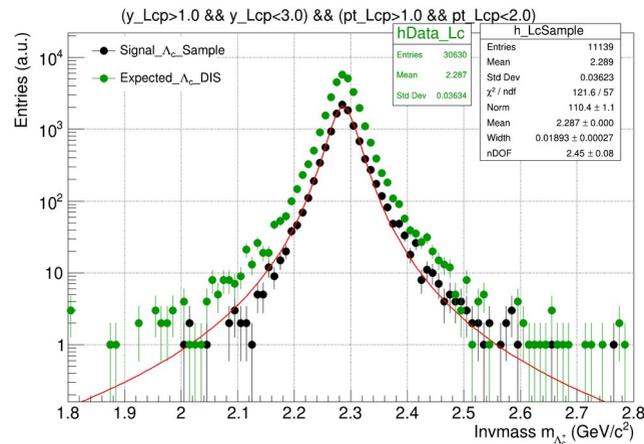
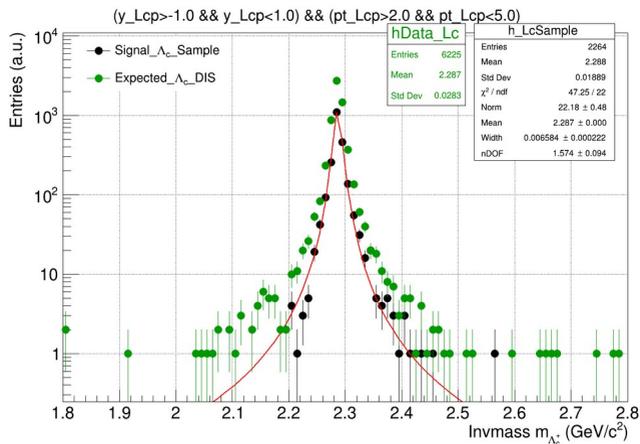
$$N_{\text{events}} = L_{\text{int}} \times \sigma$$

$$N_{\text{events}} = 10 \text{ fb}^{-1} \times 4.527 \times 10^5 \text{ pb}$$

$$N_{\text{events}} = 10 \times 4.527 \times 10^5 \times 10^3 = 4527 \text{ M}$$

Merging Signal and Background (Λ_c^+ Sample and DIS Events)

~4527M (Sampled)

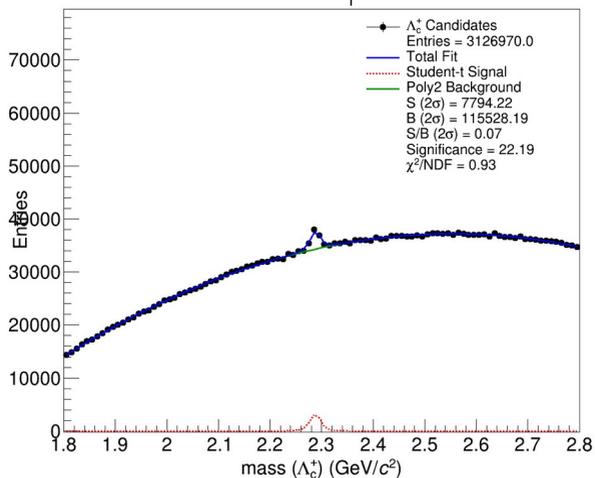


Invariant Mass Plots (Λ_c^+)

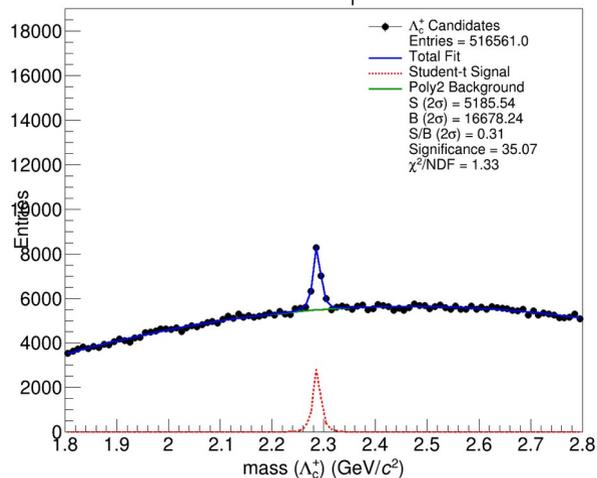
$$L_{\text{int}} = 10 \text{ fb}^{-1}$$

$$N_{\text{events}} = 10 \times 4.527 \times 10^5 \times 10^3 = 4527 \text{ M}$$

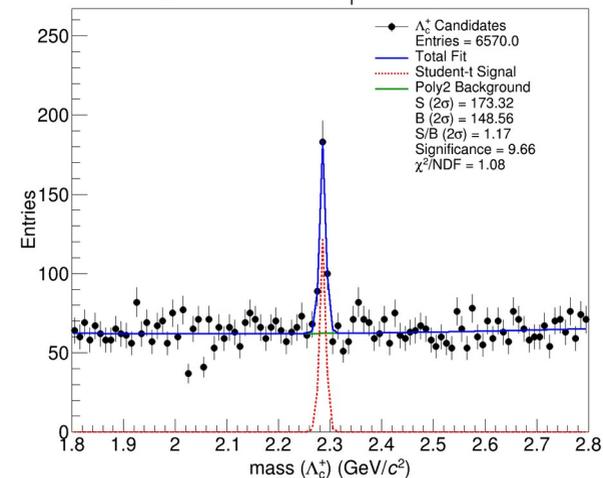
$-1.0 < y < 1.0 \ \&\& \ 1.0 < p_T \text{ (GeV/c)} < 2.0$



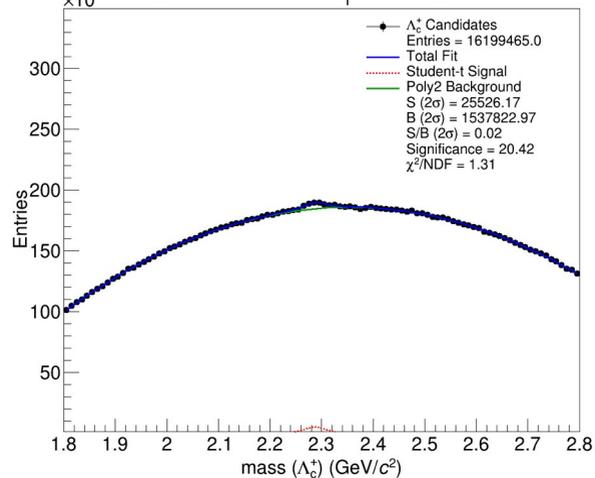
$-1.0 < y < 1.0 \ \&\& \ 2.0 < p_T \text{ (GeV/c)} < 5.0$



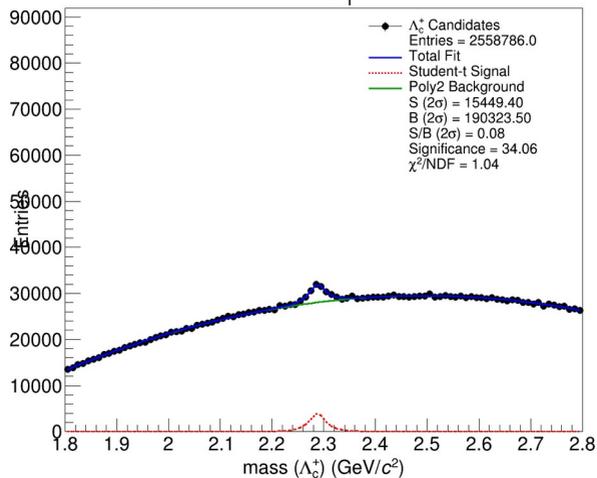
$-1.0 < y < 1.0 \ \&\& \ 5.0 < p_T \text{ (GeV/c)} < 10.0$



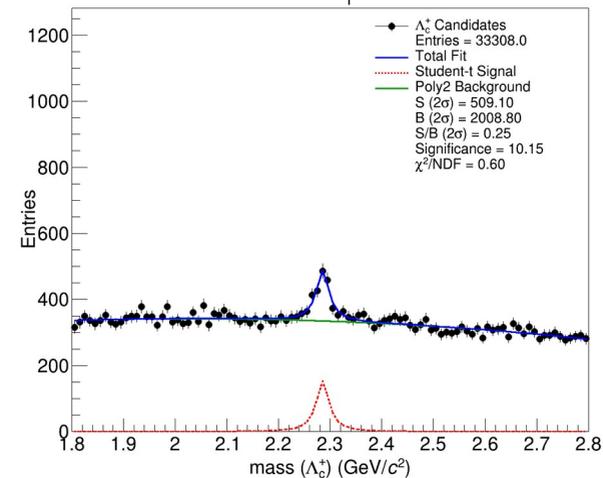
$1.0 < y < 3.0 \ \&\& \ 1.0 < p_T \text{ (GeV/c)} < 2.0$



$1.0 < y < 3.0 \ \&\& \ 2.0 < p_T \text{ (GeV/c)} < 5.0$



$1.0 < y < 3.0 \ \&\& \ 5.0 < p_T \text{ (GeV/c)} < 10.0$



Implementation of Machine Learning Boosted Decision Tree (BDT) Binary Classifier

hipe4ml package

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5070131>

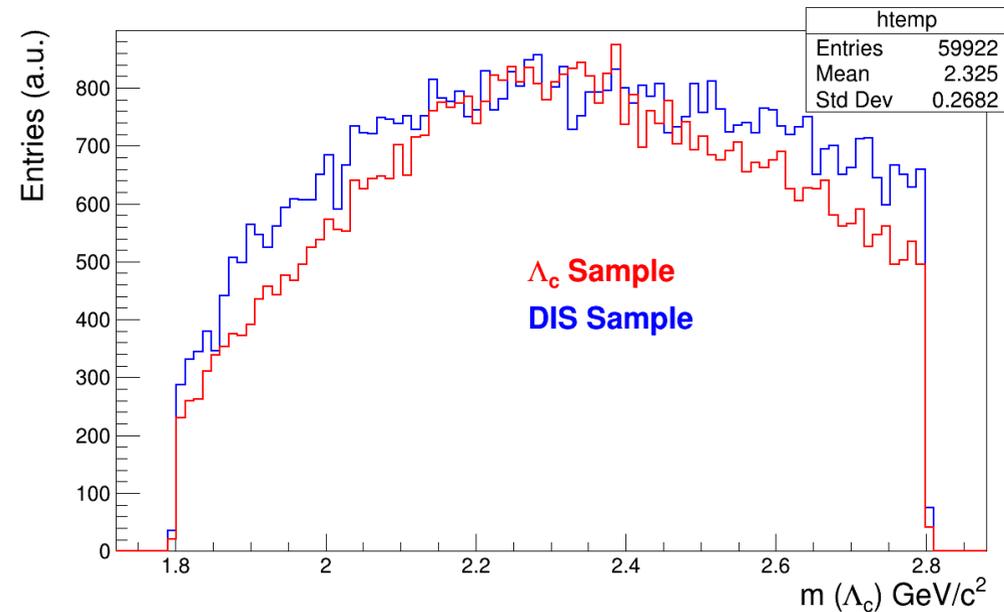
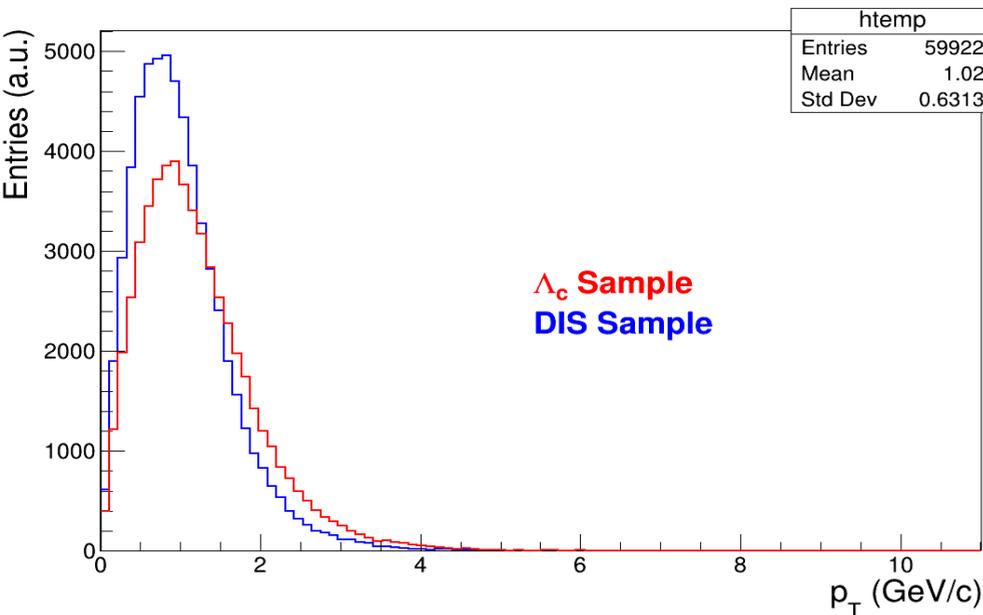
Comparison of Bkg features between Λ_c^+ and DIS Sample

The shape of features are different for the two backgrounds so they were not merged for ML

Strategy for Machine Learning

Signal: Signal from Λ_c^+ Sample + Signal from DIS Sample

Background: Background from DIS Sample



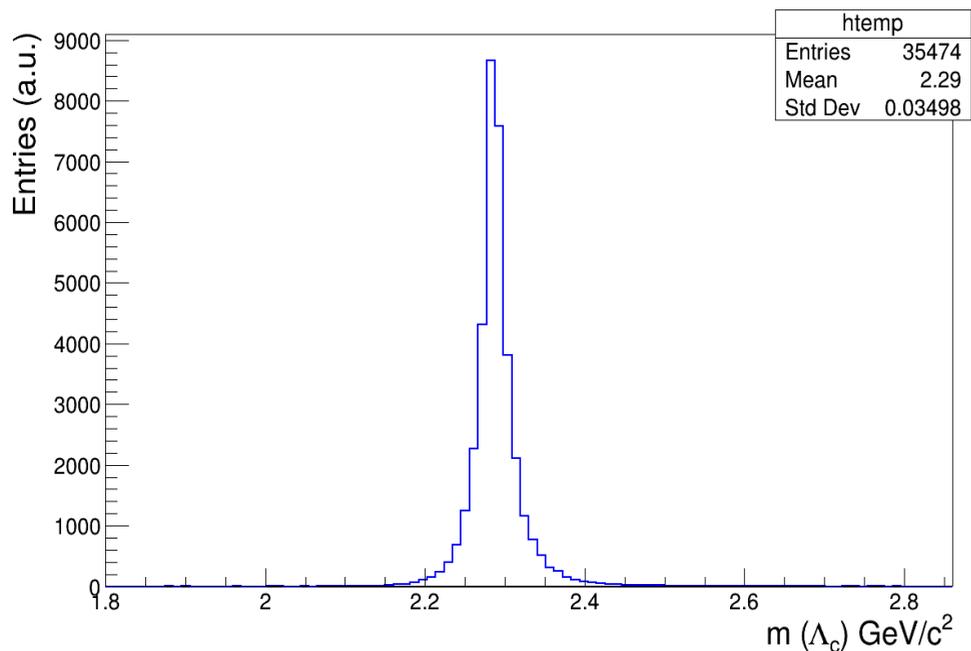
Data Sample for ML

Topological Preselection

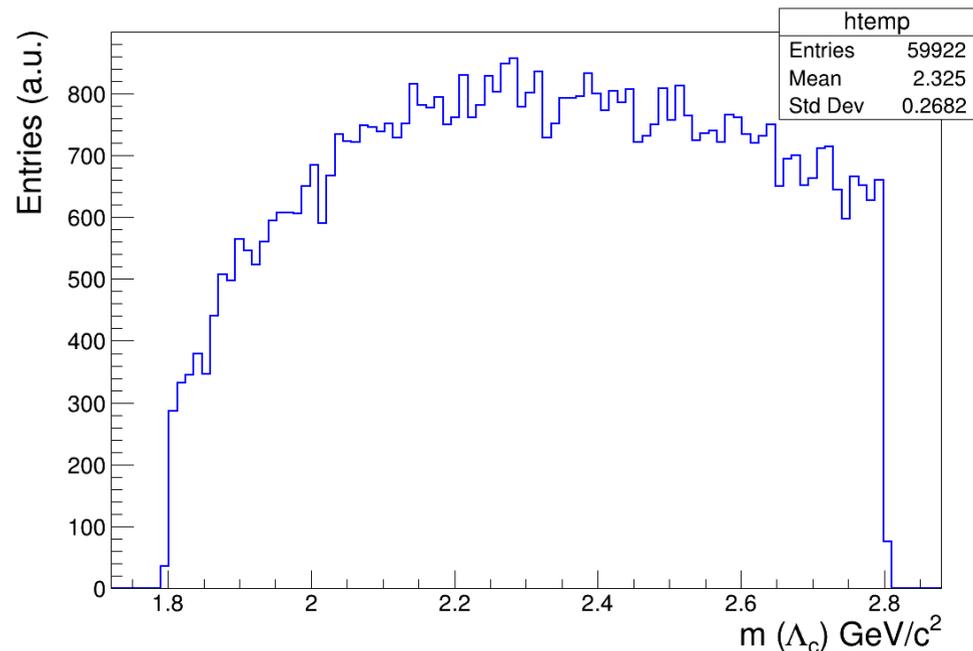
$(m_{\Lambda_c} > 1.8 \ \&\& \ m_{\Lambda_c} < 2.8) \ \&\& \ (d0xy_p > 0.02 \ \&\& \ d0xy_p < 10.) \ \&\& \ (d0xy_pi > 0.02 \ \&\& \ d0xy_pi < 10.) \ \&\& \ (d0xy_k > 0.02 \ \&\& \ d0xy_k < 10.) \ \&\& \ decay_length < 100.$

Training Sample: 80%, Test Sample: 20%

Signal: Signal from Λ_c^+ Sample + Signal from DIS Sample



Background: Background from DIS Sample



Correlation Matrix

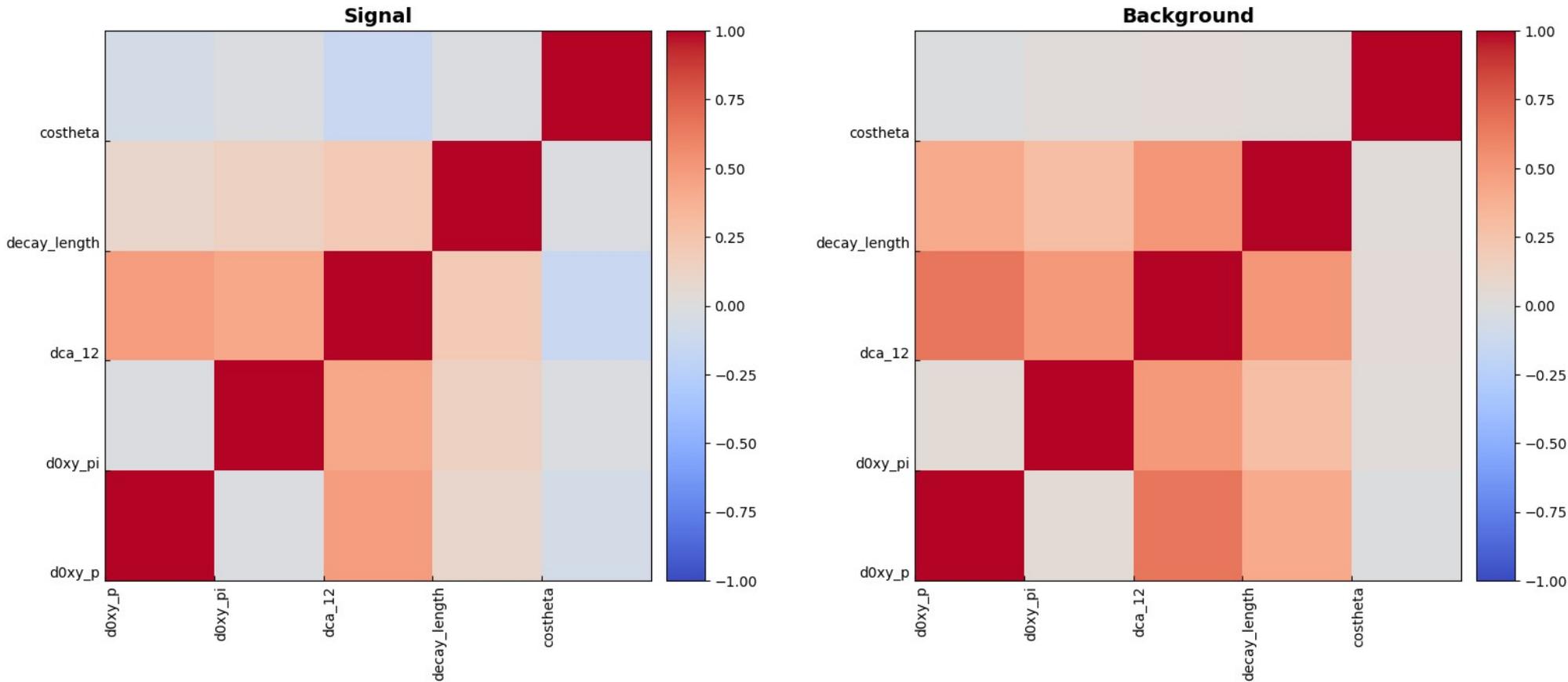
$$-1 < y < 1$$

$$1 < p_T(\Lambda_c^+) < 10 \text{ GeV}/c$$

Signal candidates: 3113

Background candidates : 3113

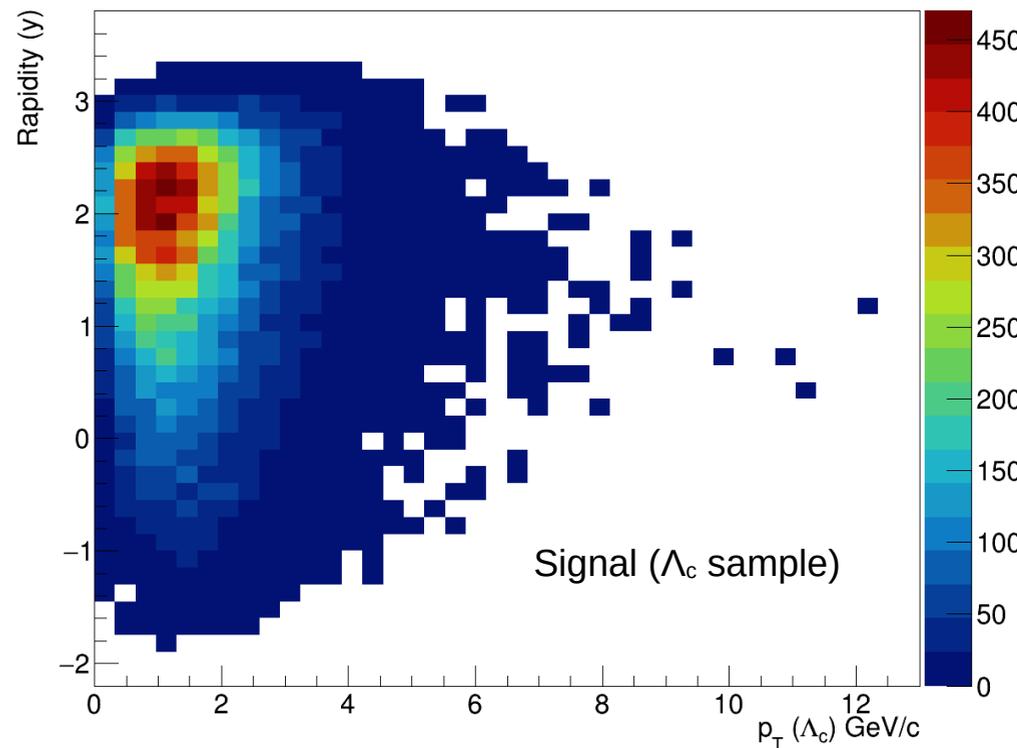
Keeping only a few features due to limited statistics and also analytical approach for secondary vertexing



ML approach for Λ_c is implemented:

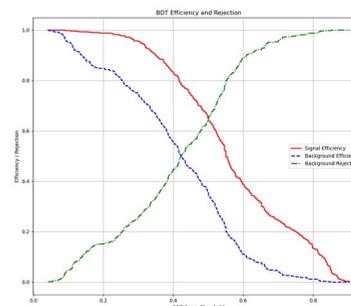
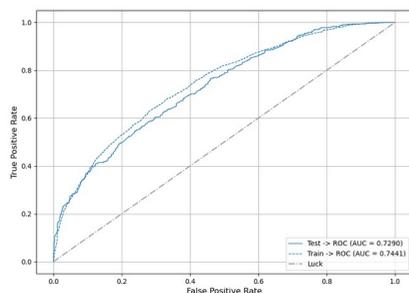
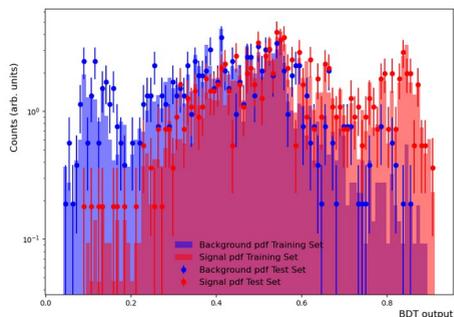
- Limited statistics due to a **small test sample**
- Poor DCA resolution at large rapidity ($c\tau \sim 60 \mu\text{m}$ for Λ_c)
- Secondary vertexing needs to be improved
- The ML approach will be optimized once a new sample with larger statistics becomes available to achieve the best results

At low p_T : $\sigma(\text{DCA}_p) > \sigma(\text{DCA}_k) > \sigma(\text{DCA}_\pi)$



No ML: No BDT Cut

$$\text{Significance}_{\text{BDT Cut}} = \frac{S_{\text{No ML}} \times \epsilon_{\text{Signal}}}{\sqrt{S_{\text{No ML}} \times \epsilon_{\text{Signal}} + B_{\text{No ML}} \times \epsilon_{\text{Background}}}}$$



$$\left(\frac{S}{B}\right)_{\text{BDT Cut}} = \left(\frac{S}{B}\right)_{\text{No ML}} \times \frac{\epsilon_{\text{Signal}}}{\epsilon_{\text{Background}}}$$

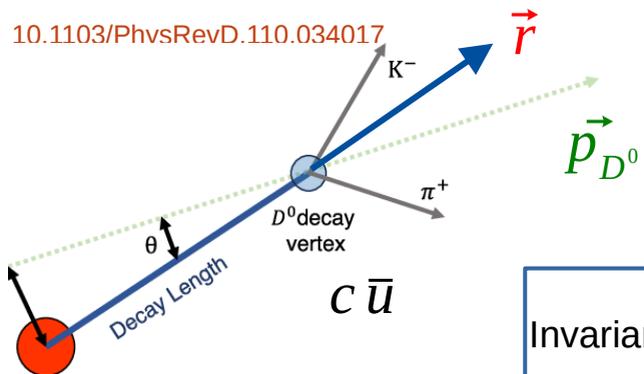
Summary and Future Plan

- Implemented the first version of the Λ_c^+ reconstruction code (will commit the code soon)
- Machine learning (ML) has also been developed but currently limited by insufficient statistics
- Future Steps:
 - ◆ Further improve the performance using secondary vertexing (e.g., KFParticle or AdaptiveMultiVertexFinder)
 - ◆ ML with a newly simulated large-statistics sample
 - ◆ Use realistic PID for protons once the new simulation is available
 - ◆ Extract the final results using ML in different y and p_T bins once full simulated sample is available
 - ◆ Evaluate the Λ_c^+ baryon reconstruction efficiency using both preselection and BDT cut efficiencies
 - ◆ Estimate the Λ_c^+/D^0 ratio using machine learning
 - ◆ Implement additional models, such as neural networks (Binary classifiers as well as Autoencoders)

Thank you for your attention!

Topological Variables

10.1103/PhvsRevD.110.034017



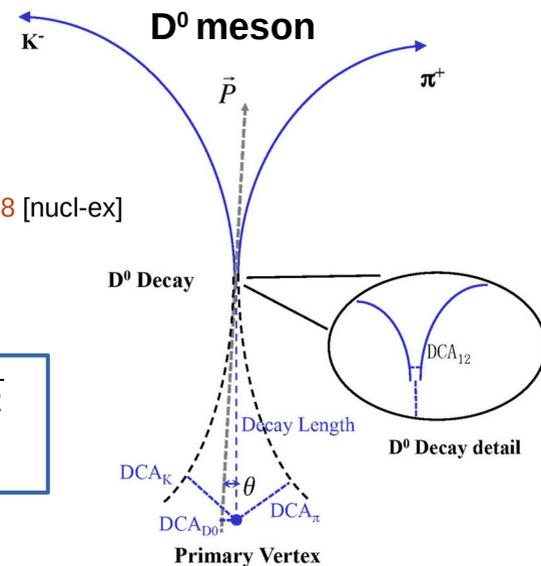
$c\bar{u}$
 $\tau = 123 \mu\text{m}$

$$\text{Invariant mass: } m_{D^0} = \sqrt{(E_{K^-} + E_{\pi^+})^2 - (\vec{p}_{K^-} + \vec{p}_{\pi^+})^2}$$

Topological Variables:

- DCA_{K^-} and DCA_{π^+} with respect to the reconstructed primary vertex ($d0_k$, $d0_pi$)
- Decay length of D^0 meson (decaylength)
- $\cos\theta$ (angle between \vec{dl} and \vec{p}_{D0})
- DCA_{12} distance between the daughter tracks of D^0
- DCA_{D0} impact parameter of reconstructed D^0 meson
- m_{D0} invariant mass of kaon and pion pairs
- pt_D0 reconstructed pt of the D^0 meson
- eta_D0 reconstructed η of the D^0 meson
- Multiplicity (mult)

arXiv:1911.12168 [nucl-ex]



Decay length (dl), Primary Vertex (PV),
Secondary Vertex (SV)

$$\vec{dl} = \vec{SV} - \vec{PV}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{dl} \cdot \vec{p}}{|\vec{dl}| |\vec{p}|}$$

$$DCA_{D0} = dl \sin \theta$$

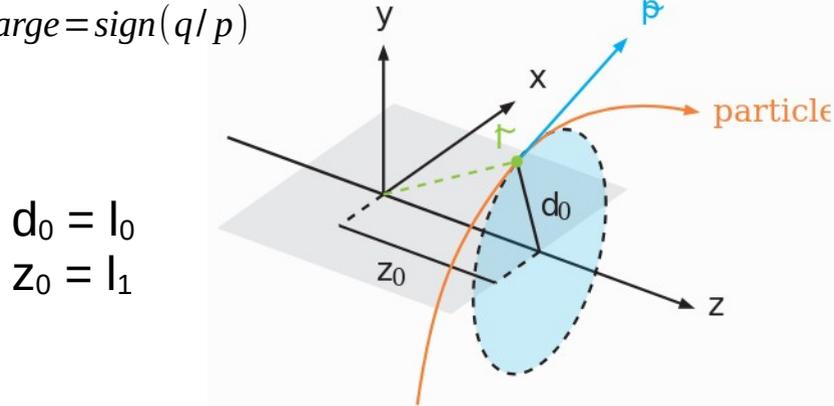
Track Parametrization (Local to Global)

Helical Track model: $(l_0, l_1, \phi, \theta, q/p)$

$$x = -l_0 \sin \phi, \quad y = l_0 \cos \phi, \quad z = l_1$$

$$p_x = p \cos \phi \sin \theta, \quad p_y = p \sin \phi \sin \theta, \quad p_z = p \cos \theta$$

$$\text{charge} = \text{sign}(q/p)$$



$$d_0 = l_0$$

$$z_0 = l_1$$

At Point of closest approach
(perigee surface)

$$(l_0, l_1, \phi, \theta, q/p)$$

Global (Lab frame)

$$(x, y, z, p_x, p_y, p_z, q)$$

```
Vector3 LineSurface::localToGlobal(const GeometryContext& gctx, const Vector2&
lposition, const Vector3& direction) const
```

```
{
    Vector3 unitZ0 = lineDirection(gctx);
    // get the vector perpendicular to the momentum direction and the straw axis
    Vector3 radiusAxisGlobal = unitZ0.cross(direction);
    Vector3 locZinGlobal = transform(gctx) * Vector3(0., 0., lposition[1]);
    // add loc0 * radiusAxis
    return Vector3(locZinGlobal + lposition[0] * radiusAxisGlobal.normalized());
}
```

Calculation

UnitZ0: is (0,0,1) vector along the z-axis for cylinder and disks.

direction: $(p \cos(\phi) \sin(\theta), p \sin(\phi) \sin(\theta), p \cos(\theta))$

radiusAxisGlobal = UnitZ0 Cross product direction = $(-p \sin(\phi) \sin(\theta), p \cos(\phi) \sin(\theta), 0)$

radiusAxisGlobal.Normalized = $(-\sin(\phi), \cos(\phi), 0)$ locZinGlobal = $(0,0,l_1)$ (is same as global)

Global position = locZinGlobal + lposition[0] * radiusAxisGlobal.normalized() = $(0,0,l_1) + l_0(-\sin(\phi), \cos(\phi), 0)$ Global Position = $(-l_0 \sin(\phi), l_0 \cos(\phi), l_1)$

Returns the components, which we are using in HF analysis.

$$x = -l_0 \sin \phi, \quad y = l_0 \cos \phi, \quad z = l_1$$

$-1 < y < 1$ and $1 < p_T (\Lambda_c^+) < 10 \text{ GeV}/c$

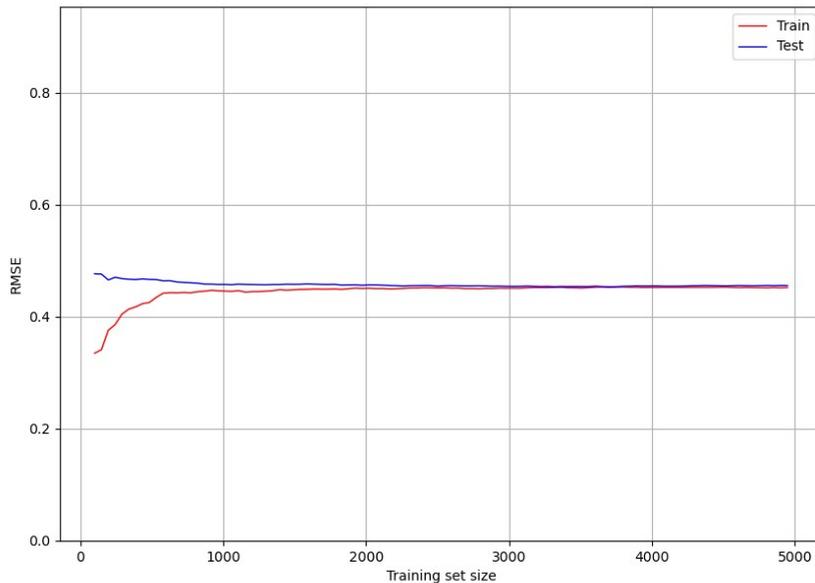
Important features:

- The training and test RMSE curves converge smoothly: Good generalization with low variance
- Model performance stabilizes beyond ~2000 training samples

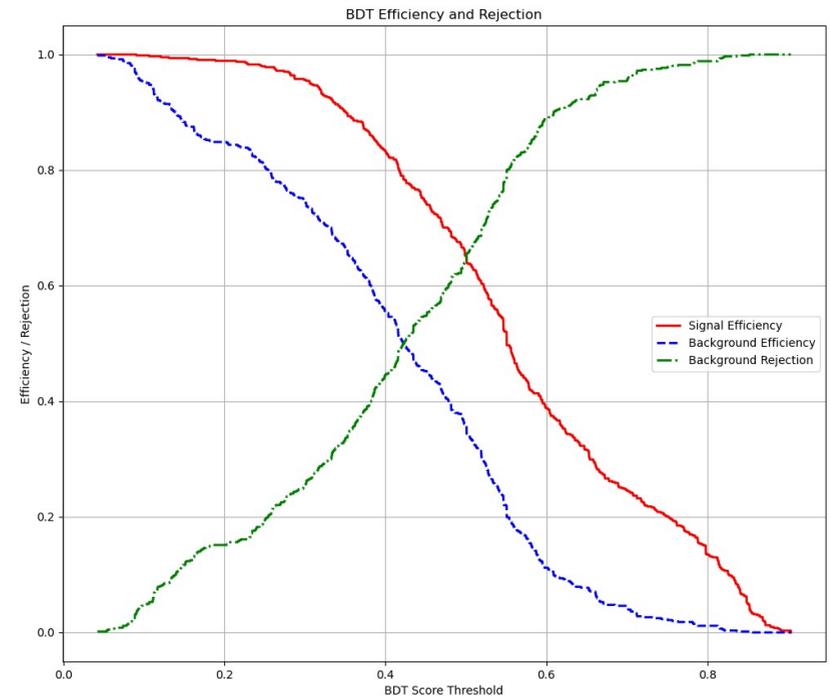
$$\text{Significance}_{\text{BDT Cut}} = \frac{S_{\text{No ML}} \times \epsilon_{\text{Signal}}}{\sqrt{S_{\text{No ML}} \times \epsilon_{\text{Signal}} + B_{\text{No ML}} \times \epsilon_{\text{Background}}}}$$

$$\left(\frac{S}{B}\right)_{\text{BDT Cut}} = \left(\frac{S}{B}\right)_{\text{No BDT Cut}} \times \frac{\epsilon_{\text{Signal}}}{\epsilon_{\text{Background}}}$$

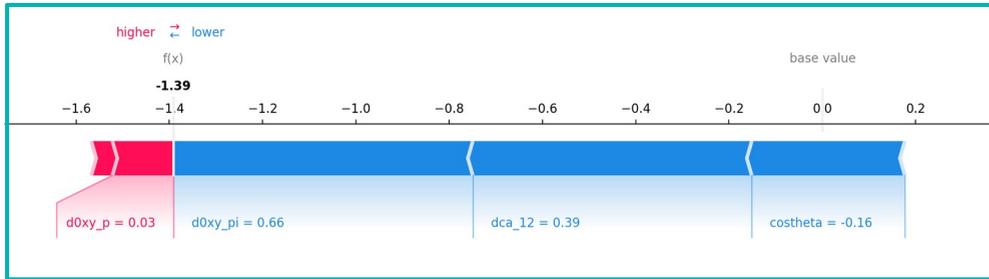
Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE)



BDT Efficiencies



Model's Prediction for a Single Λ_c^+ Baryon



Feature values

Based on concept of Game Theory in Mathematics
SHAP (SHapley Additive exPlanations)

--- Test Sample 0 ---

X_test:	feature values	SHAP Values from ML Model
d0xy_p	0.026224	0.13077936
d0xy_pi	0.655220	-0.64195323
Dca_12	0.389333	-0.5982297
decay_length	0.305697	0.04526144
Costheta	-0.158175	-0.32825777
y_test: 0		SHAP Sum: -1.3924

Base Value (Model's average prediction): 0.0010833276

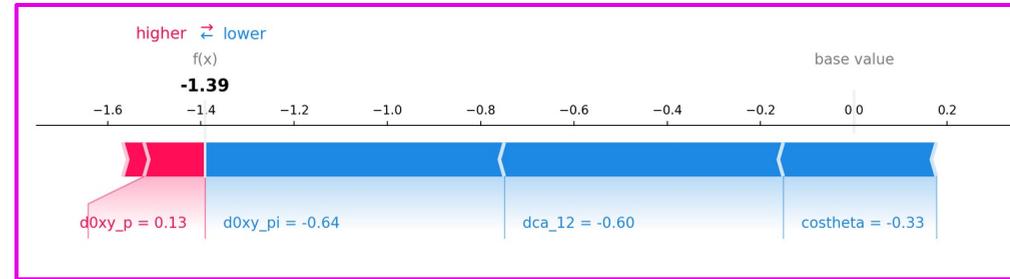
Model's Predicted Value: -1.3913167

Predicted Probabilities from model: [0.8008025 0.19919747]

SHAP Computed Probability: $1./[1+\exp(-\text{SHAP Predicted Value})]$

Background = 0.8008023559279468, Signal = 0.19919764407205323

If $f(x) > 0$: prediction pushes towards signal while for the other case as a background



SHAP Prediction from model for each feature

$$f(x) = \text{Base value} + \sum_{i=\text{features}} \text{SHAP}_i$$

$f(x)$: Model's prediction for a sample

Base value = Model's average prediction for entire data set

Sum of SHAP of individual features contributions

$$y_i = 0.0010833276 - 1.3924 = -1.3913167$$

$$\text{Sigmoid function: } S(f(x)) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-f(x)}}$$

For the classifier $f(x)$ is transformed in probability using sigmoid function

$$\text{Probability: } S(f(x)) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(-1.3913167)}} = 0.19919$$

Probability of being signal is ~ 20 % (prediction) while $y_{\text{test}} = 0$