

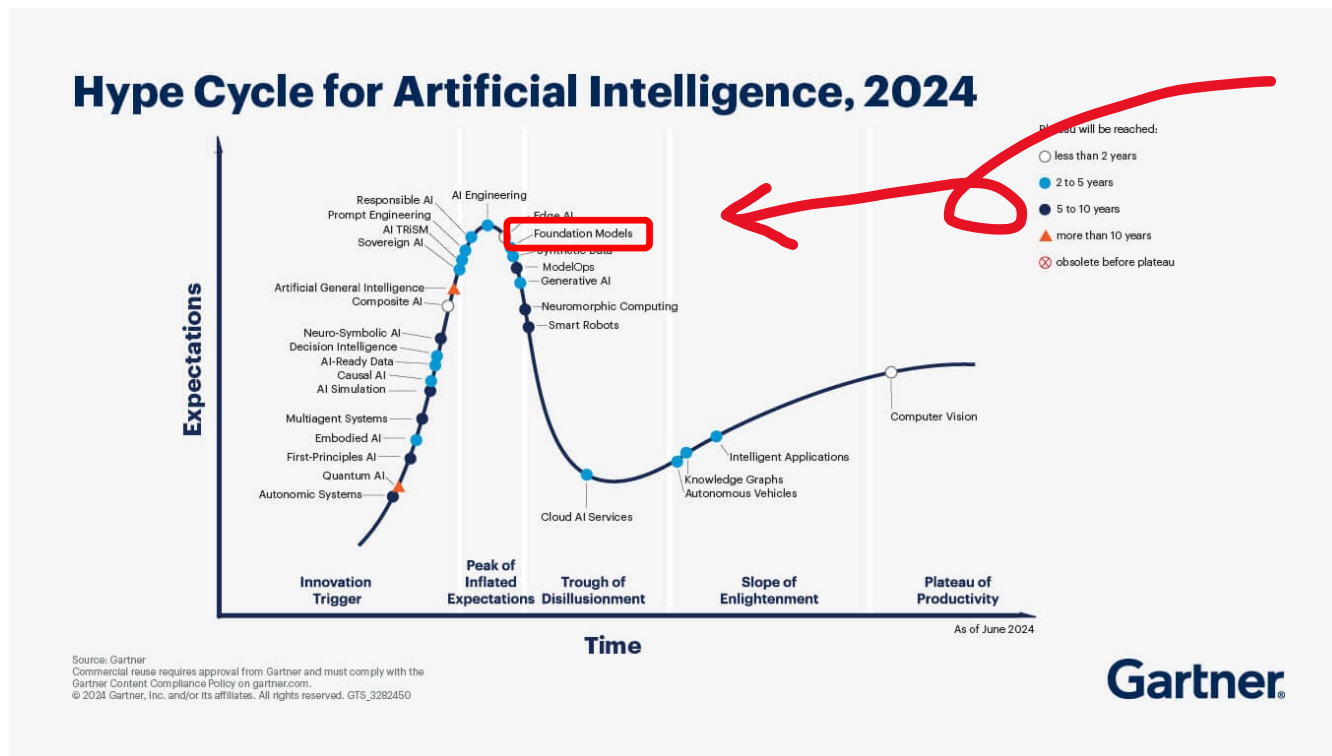
A study of foundation models for event classification in collider physics

Tomoe Kishimoto

Computing Research Center, KEK

tomoe.kishimoto@kek.jp

Introduction



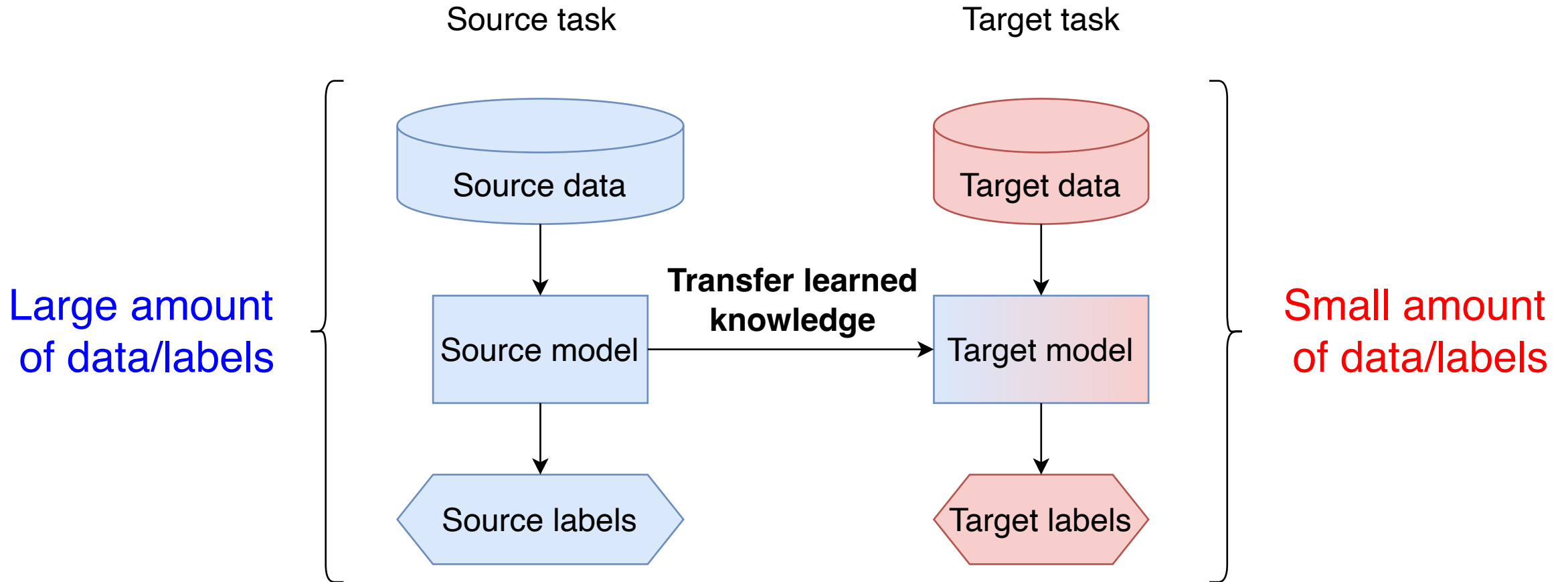
➤ “Foundation models” is one of the keywords for AI

- Pre-training using a large amount of “unlabeled” data
- Fine-tuning for a target application (transfer learning)

→ Q: Is the concept of foundation models beneficial to collider physics

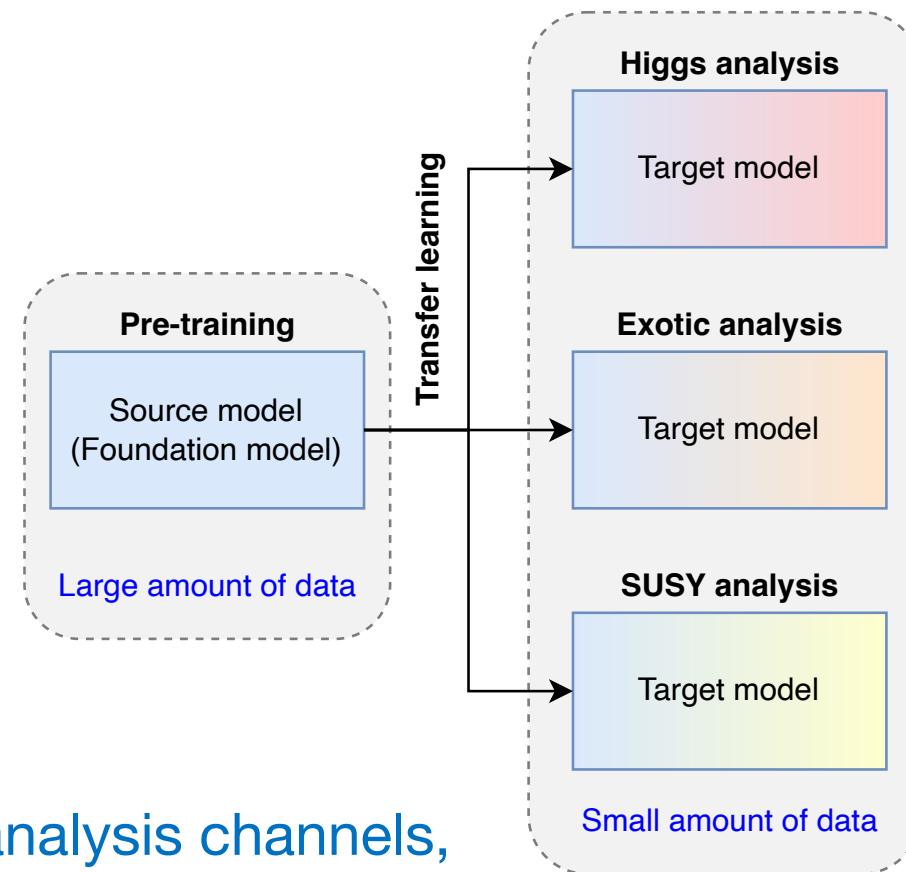
[Gartner.com](https://www.gartner.com)

Transfer learning



Use case of physics analysis

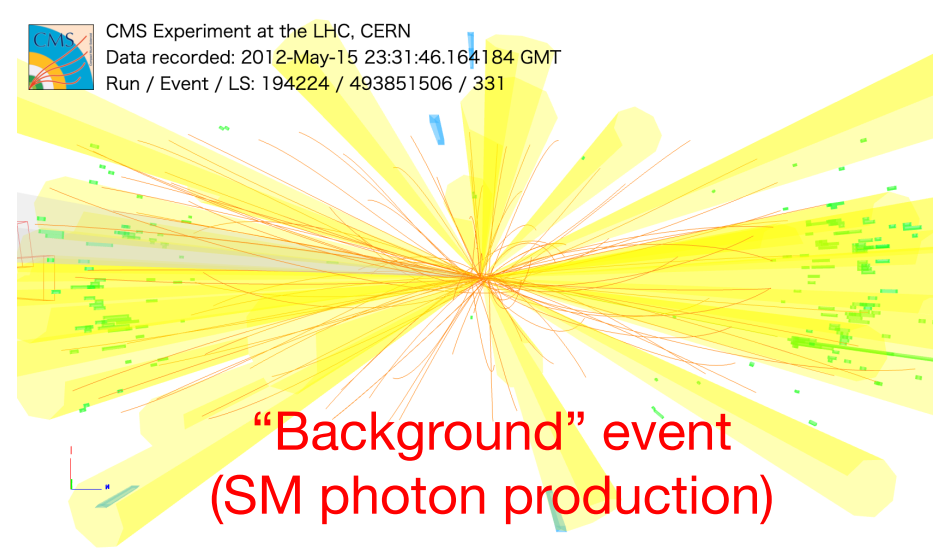
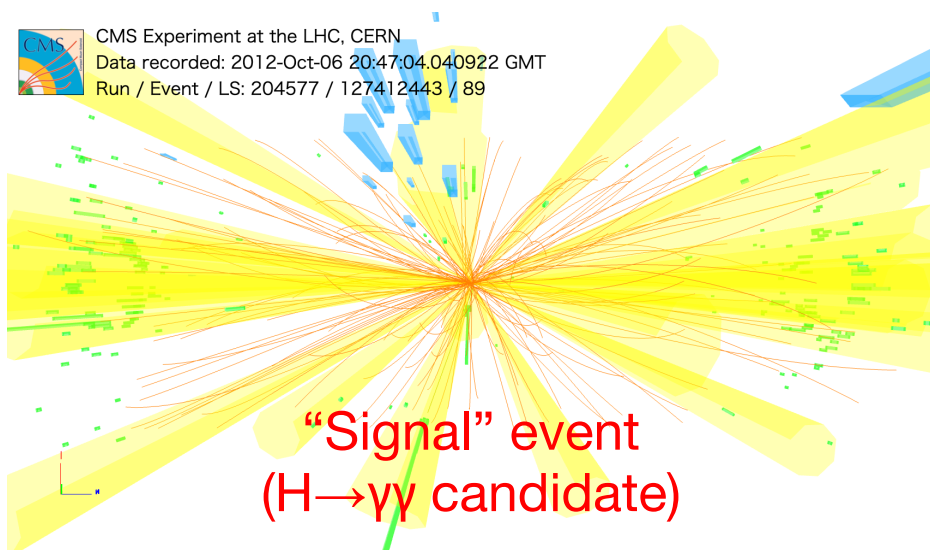
- Many analysis channels in collider physics
 - Higgs, Exotic, SUSY, etc
 - Currently, dedicated DL models are trained from scratch for each channel
 - ← Large amount of training data (MC) for each channel



→ If transfer learning can be applied to different analysis channels, computing resources for MC simulations and DL training are saved

Event classification

- The concept is examined using “event classification” problem
 - A typical problem in HEP, signal event vs. background event



→ Reconstructed particles (objects) are the basic information for the classification

Datasets (CMS Opendata)

		Selections	# of events
Pre-training →	Collision data	lepton ≥ 1 + jets ≥ 2 + bjets ≥ 1	$\sim 10^6$
Event classification	H+tb[ref.] vs ttbar+jets	lepton ≥ 1 + jets ≥ 4 + bjets ≥ 1	$\sim 10^6$
	H+HW[ref.] vs ttbar+jets	lepton ≥ 1 + tau ≥ 1 + jets ≥ 3 + bjets ≥ 1	$\sim 10^6$
	ttH[ref.] vs ttbar+jets	lepton ≥ 1 + jets ≥ 4 + bjets ≥ 2	$\sim 10^6$
	ttH[ref.] vs ttbar+jets	lepton ≥ 2 + jets ≥ 2 + bjets ≥ 1	$\sim 10^6$

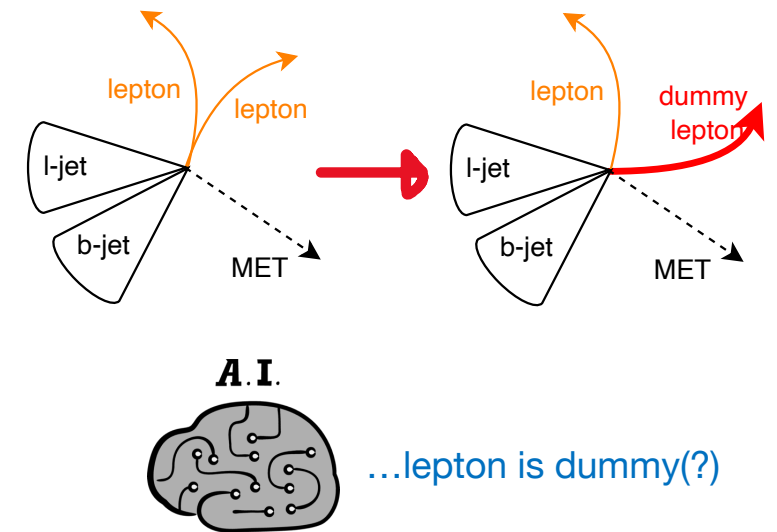
- Pre-training is performed using collision data (unlabelled data) based on the foundation model concept
 - $\sim 10^7$ events are available after the selection, but only $\sim 10^6$ events are used
 - NVIDIA A100: $\sim 10^4$ events/sec (10^7 events / $10^4 \times 500$ epochs = 138 hours)

Pre-training strategy

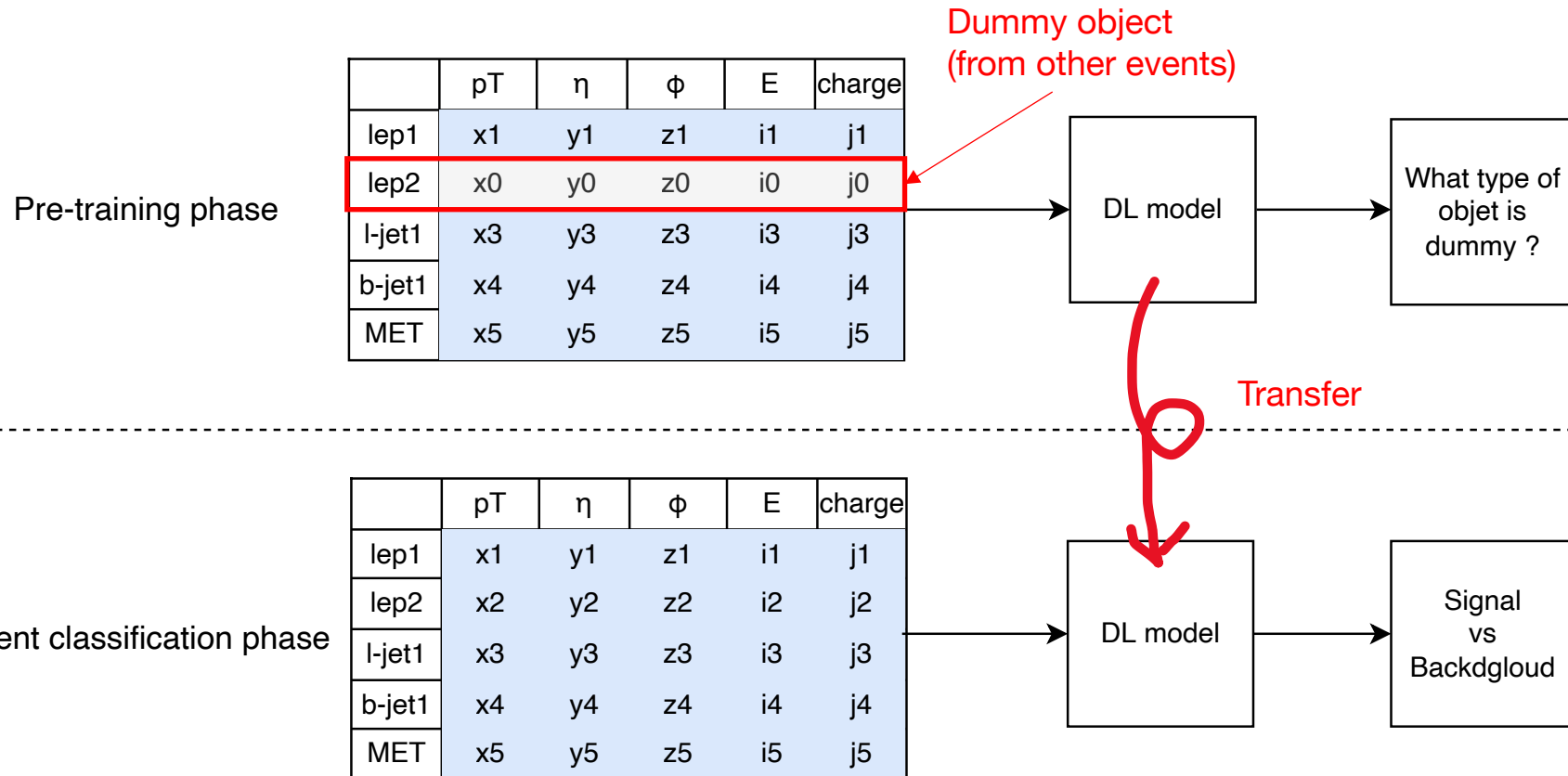
- Only low-level features of each object (4-vector + charge) are used as inputs
- **Self-supervised learning** is employed to handle the unlabeled collision data

- Strategy:

- An object (lepton, tau, b-jet, light-jet, or MET) is randomly replaced with a dummy object when preparing a mini-batch
 - DL model is trained to predict what type of object was replaced



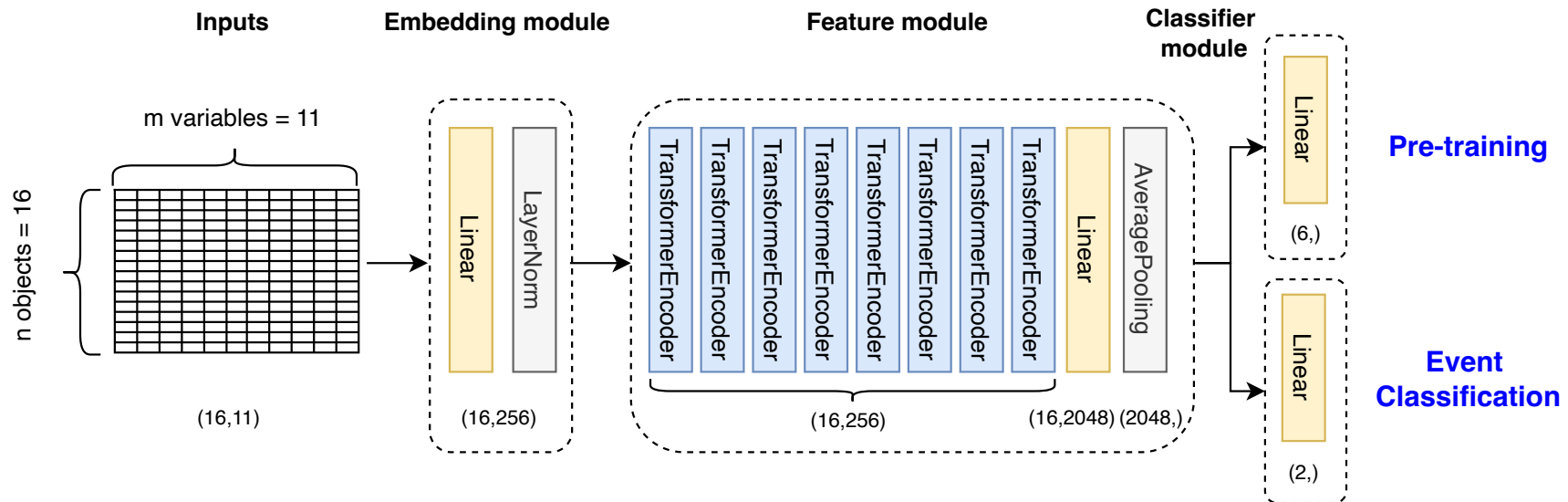
Pre-training strategy



→ Random masks
increase prediction pattern
(data augmentation)

DL model

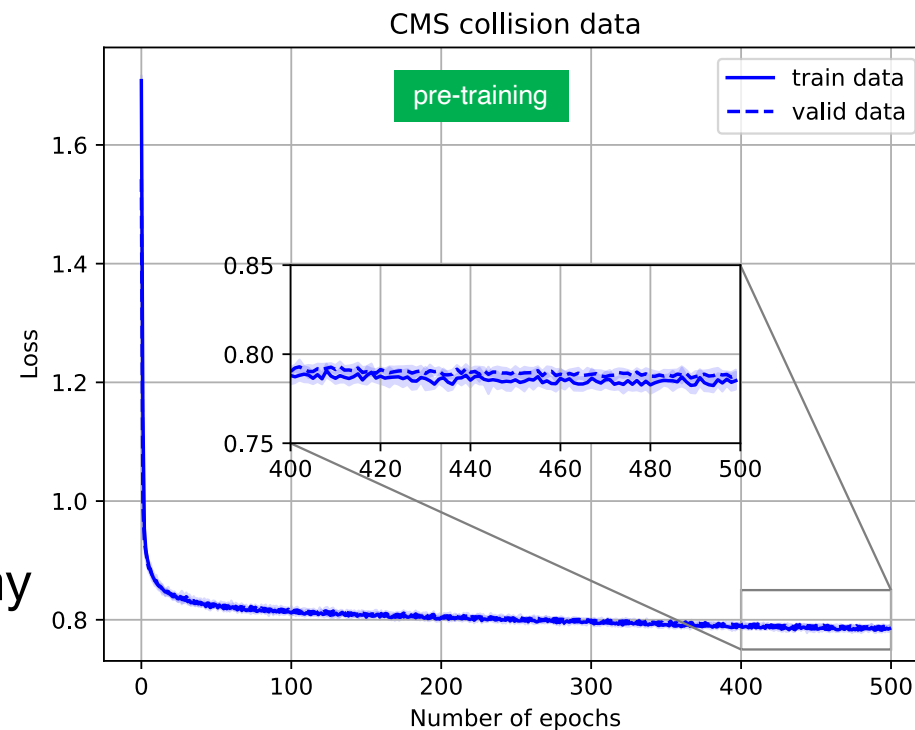
- Transformer encoder is employed:
 - ~11M trainable parameters



- Weight parameters of embedding and feature modules are transferred and fine-tuned
- Classifier module is always trained from scratch

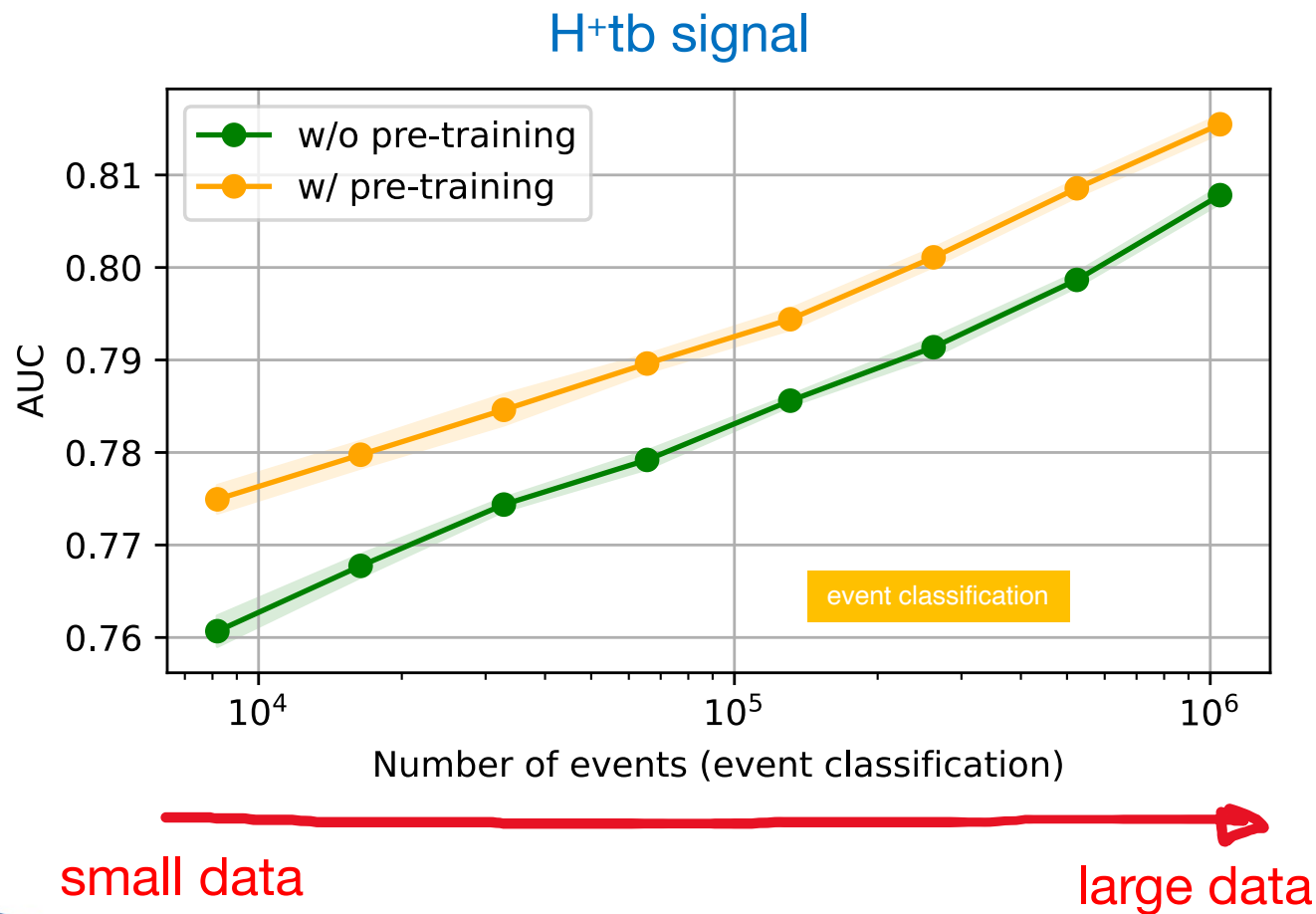
Training details

- Basically, the same setting between the pre-training and event classification phases:
 - SGD optimizer:
 - Learning rate: 10^{-2} - 10^{-4} (CosineAnnealingLR)
 - Batch size: 512, Epochs: 500
 - Cross entropy loss:
 - Pre-training: lepton, b-jet, l-jet, MET, or No dummy
 - Event classification: signal or background
- NVIDIA A100: ~20 batches/s
 - ~13 hours for one training



~1M events used

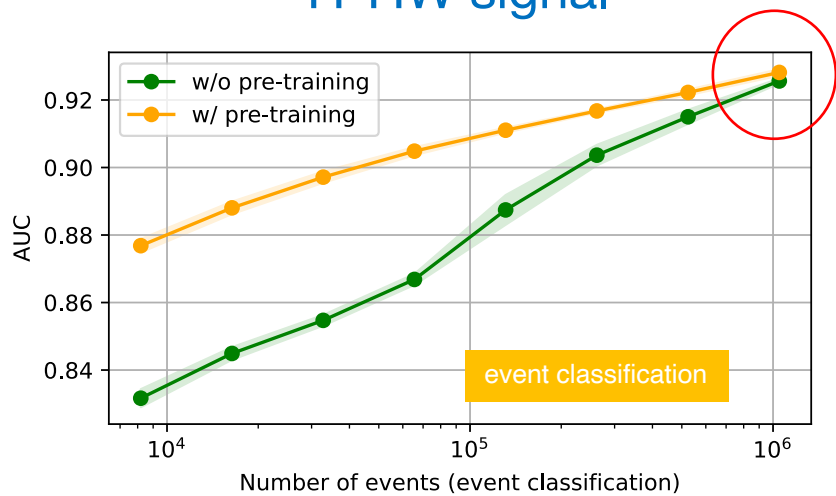
AUC of event classification



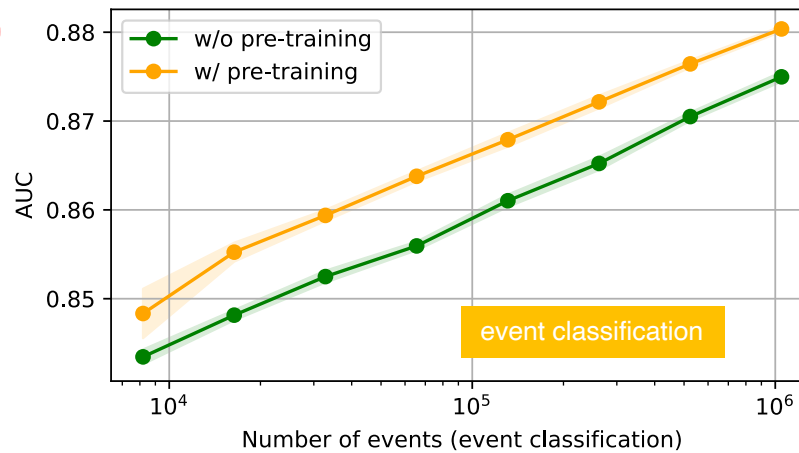
- Significant improvements by introducing the pre-training
- **Future work:** need to check if the performances converge when more data ($>10^6$) are added

AUC of event classification

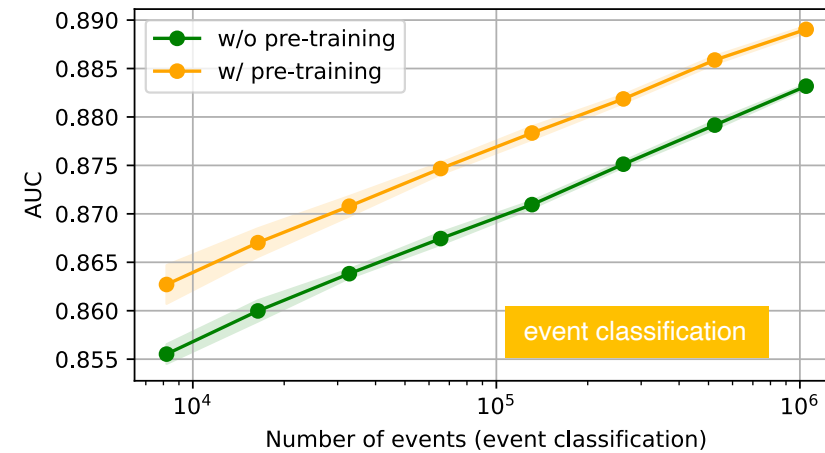
H⁺HW signal



ttH (1lep) signal



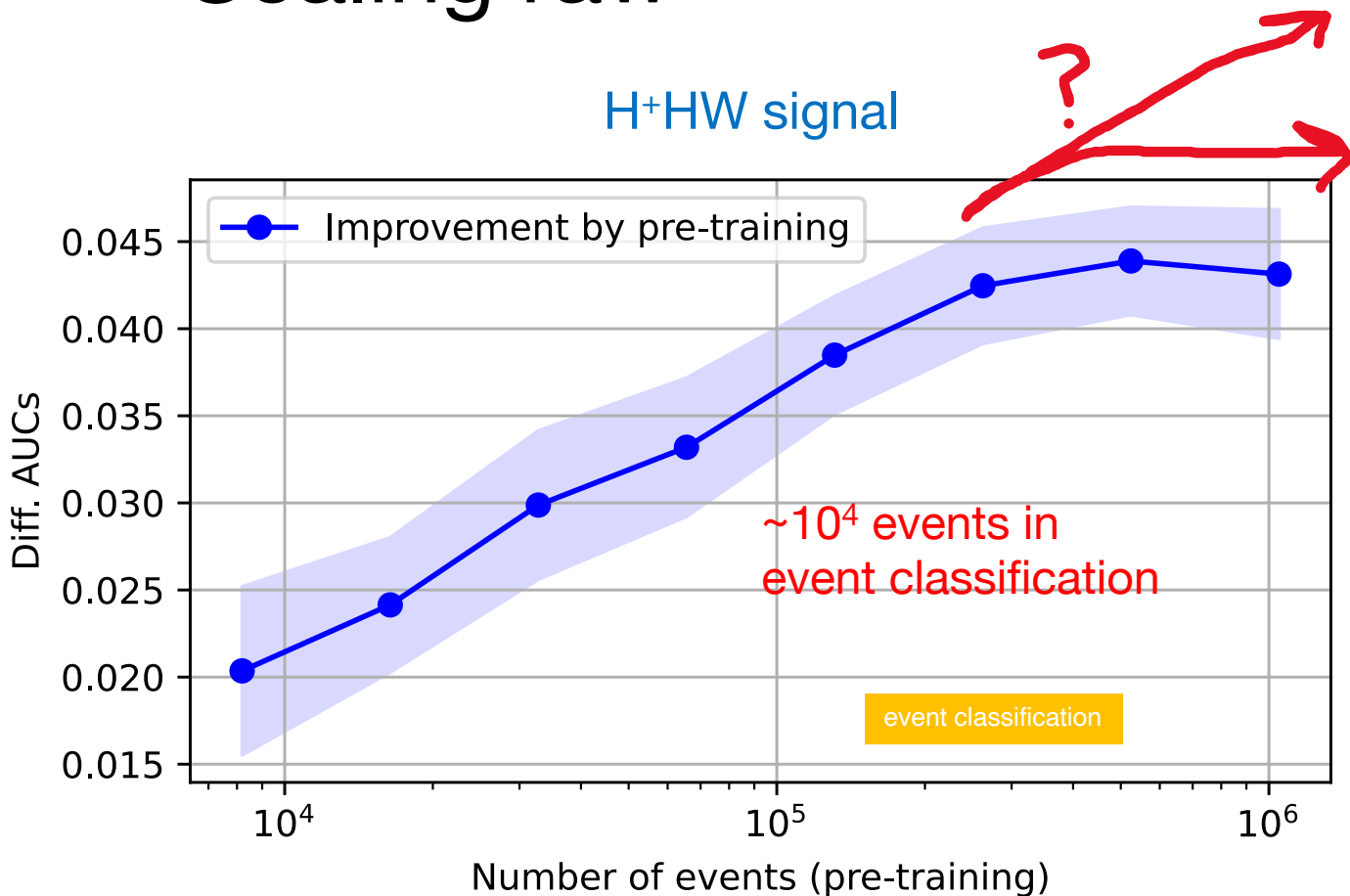
ttH (2lep) signal



➤ The improvements are confirmed for all signal events

→ The pre-trained model (foundation model) is well generalized

Scaling raw

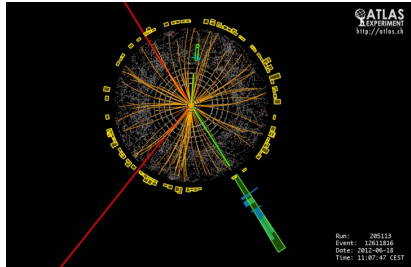


- The scaling behavior encourages a pre-training with a larger data
 - However, the number of events in the CMS open data itself and computing resources are limited

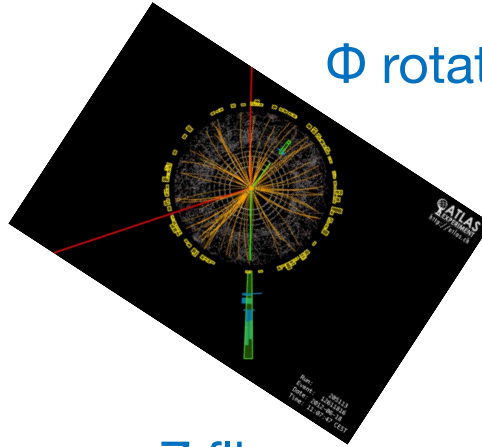
→ Data augmentation is examined

Lorentz transformation

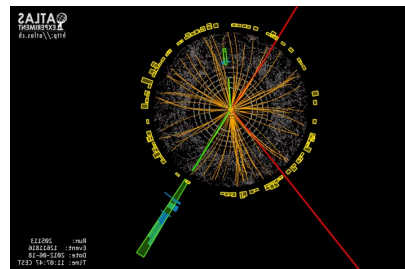
Original event
(Higgs candidate)



Φ rotation



Z flip



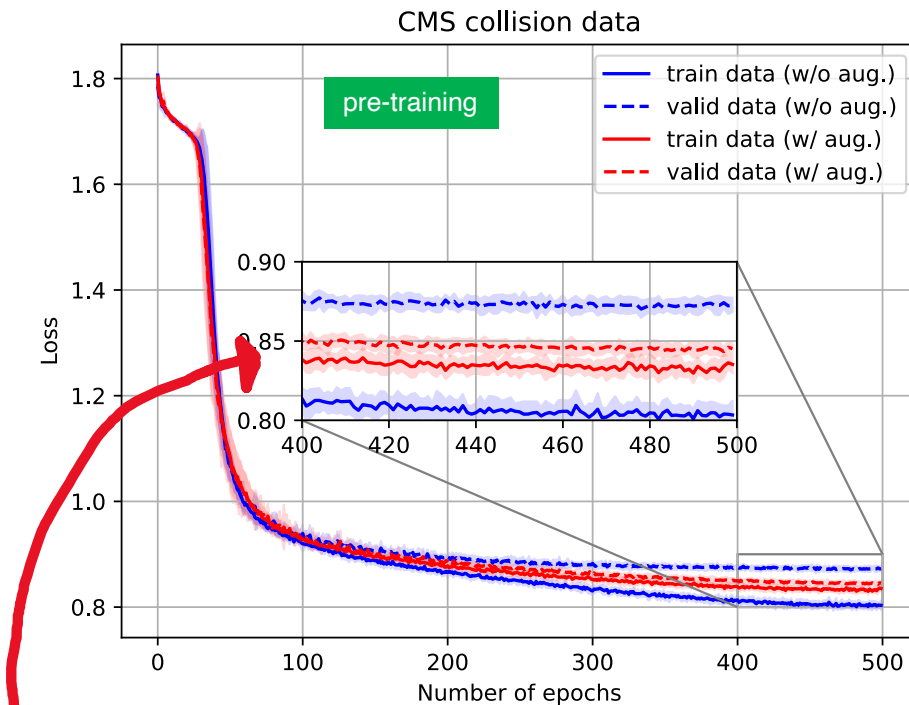
Lorentz boost
(z direction)

← This data is still a Higgs candidate, and should occur with the same probability as the original event

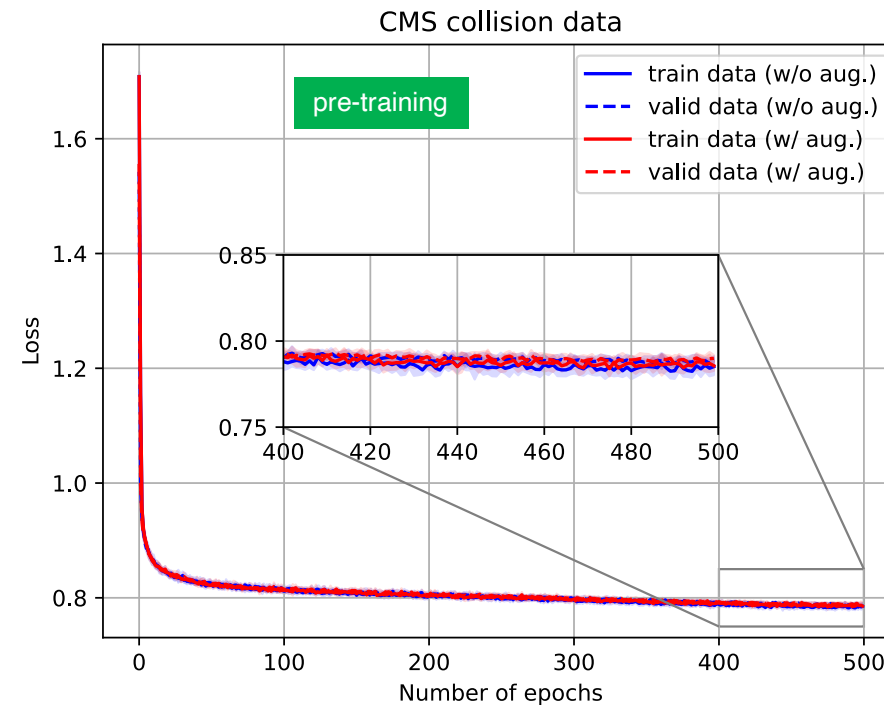
➤ These transformations are applied randomly before being fed into the DL model (pre-training phase)

DA (pre-training phase)

$\sim 10^4$ events used



$\sim 10^6$ events used

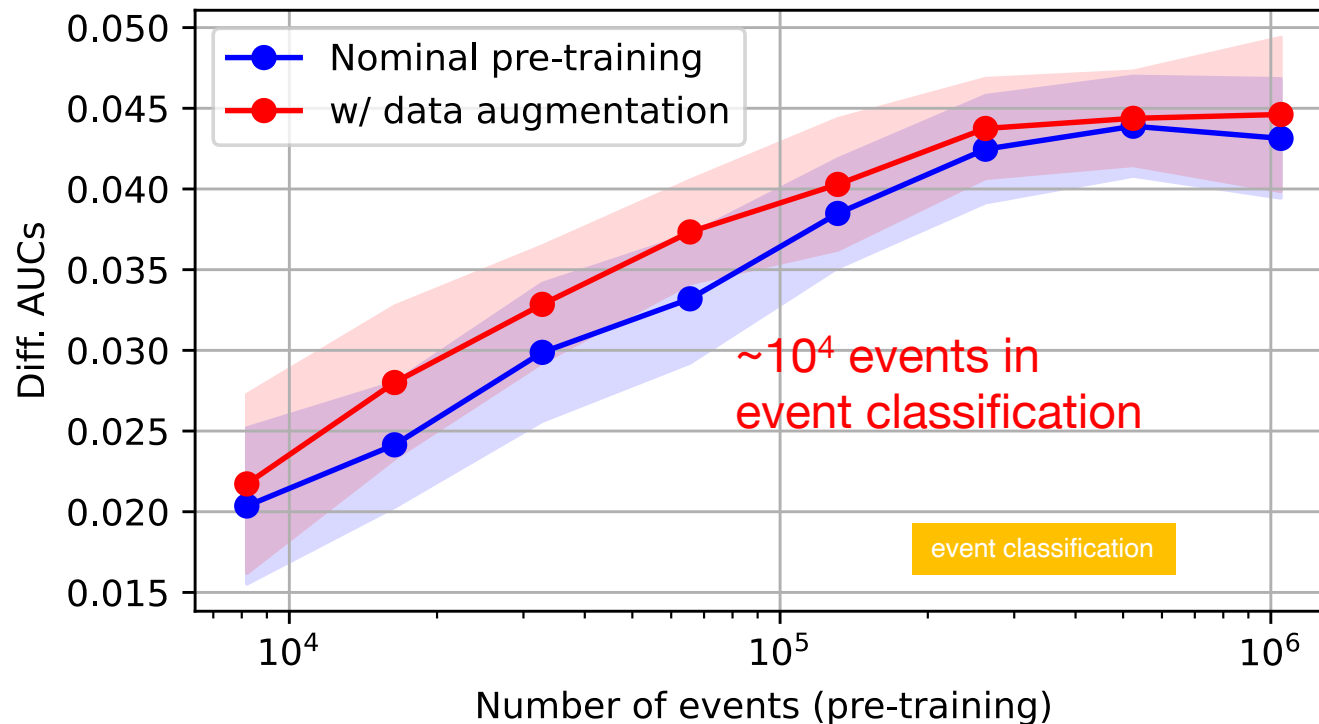


No effect(?)

→ Over-fitting is suppressed by the data augmentation if the number of events is small

Improvements for event classification

H+HW signal



➤ Improvements for the downstream event classification are not so visible (within the standard deviation)

→ Do you have any other data augmentation ideas?

Summary

- Focusing on foundation models (transfer learning) and studying their applications to collider physics
 - Motivated by reduction of computing resources for future experiments
- Developed a self-supervised learning using real data in pre-training
 - The pre-trained model provides significant improvements in event classification when the # of events is small
 - The scaling behavior encourages pre-training with a larger data
 - Data augmentation technique in our physics data was discussed
 - (Need to check the scalability with larger models and larger data)

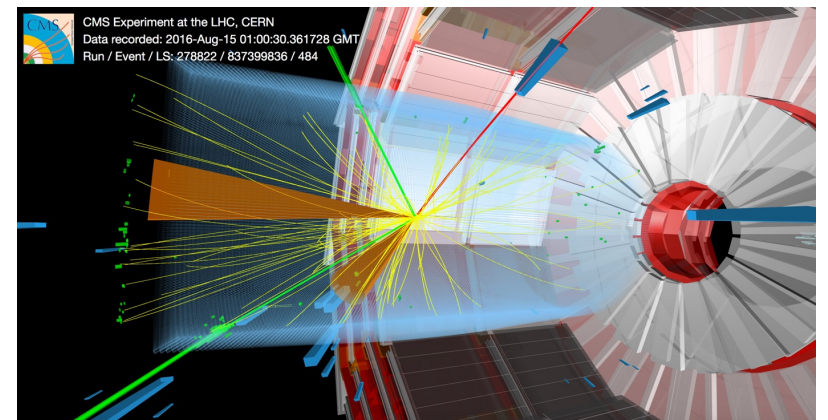
Backup

CMS open data

- LHC-CMS released new open data in 2024
 - 70 TB of 13 TeV collision data in 2016 and 830 TB of MC simulations
 - 16.4 fb⁻¹ collision data (the Higgs discovery required 10.4 fb⁻¹)
 - **Nano AOD format**
 - Possible to analyse by pure ROOT (and RDataFrame) 😊
 - (Previous open data requires the CMS software...)

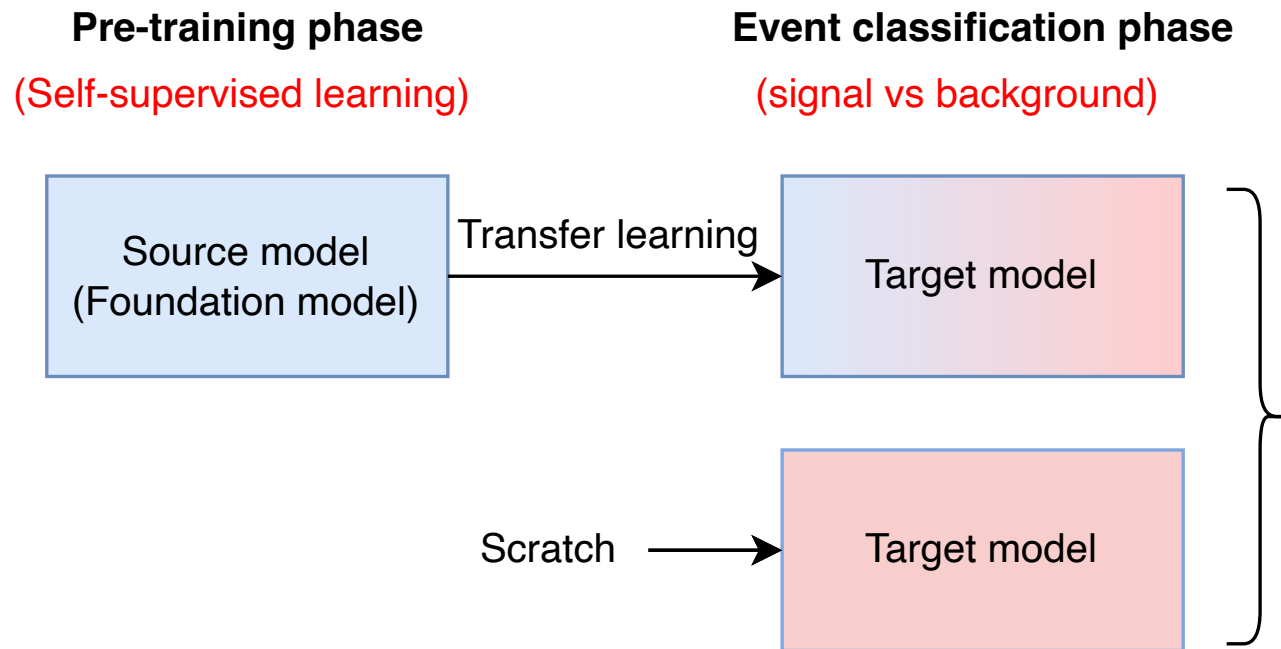
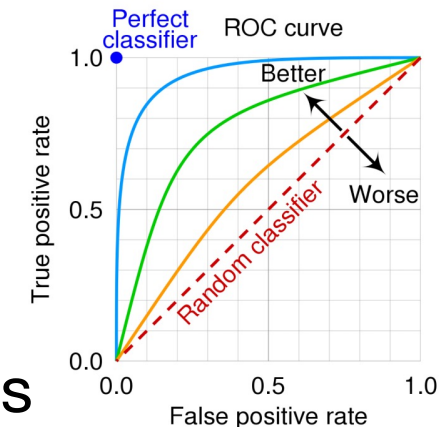
→ This study should be reproducible

A candidate event in which a top quark is produced in association with a Z boson.



AUC metric

- Event classification performances are evaluated with AUC metrics



→ AUC values of event classifications are compared with and without a foundation model

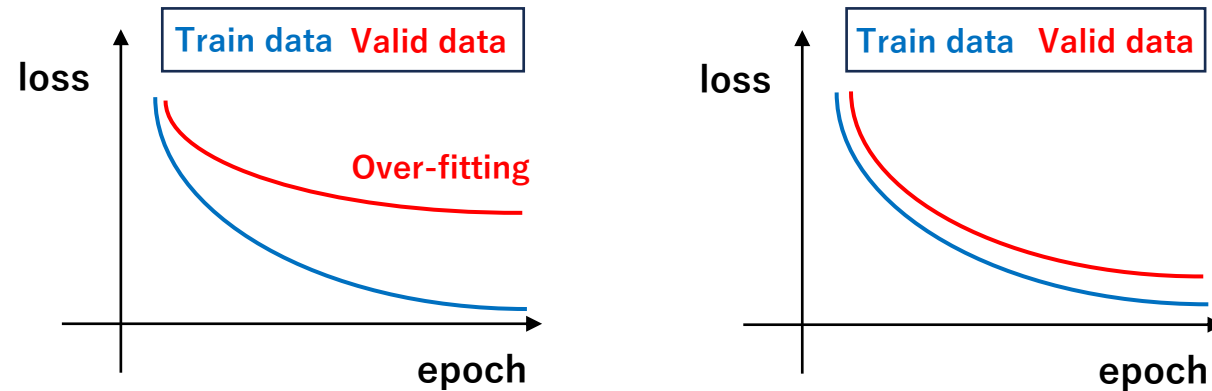
Data augmentation

- Data augmentation is well established technique in computer vision field



[albumentations](#)

→ Easy to increase data with low computing cost, and effective to suppress over-fitting



Data augmentation(?)

Scaling raw

