Abstract Submitted for the APR09 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Search for Standard Model  $H \to \tau\tau$  Decays using a new  $\tau$  identification algorithm PIERLUIGI TOTARO, INFN, Trieste (Italy), CDF COLLAB-ORATION — Clean and efficient identification of  $\tau$  leptons is required for a number CDF Run II analyses such as  $W \to \tau\nu$  and  $Z \to \tau\tau$  production cross section measurements, top quark dilepton studies, and searches for both SUSY particles and MSSM Higgs bosons. Improved  $\tau$  lepton identificantion can also be used to help improve the sensitivity of standard model Higgs boson searches by increasing the number of final states available to the analyses. We present a new  $\tau$  lepton identification method based on a Boosted Decision Tree (BDT) approach, which like other multivariate methods can provide higher selection efficiency as a function of the associated fake rate with respect to what one obtains using a rectangular set of selection criteria. The performance of the new algorithm, which gives an improvement on order of 15% over the current CDF  $\tau$  identification algorithm, will be shown.

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Date submitted: 09 Jan 2009

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