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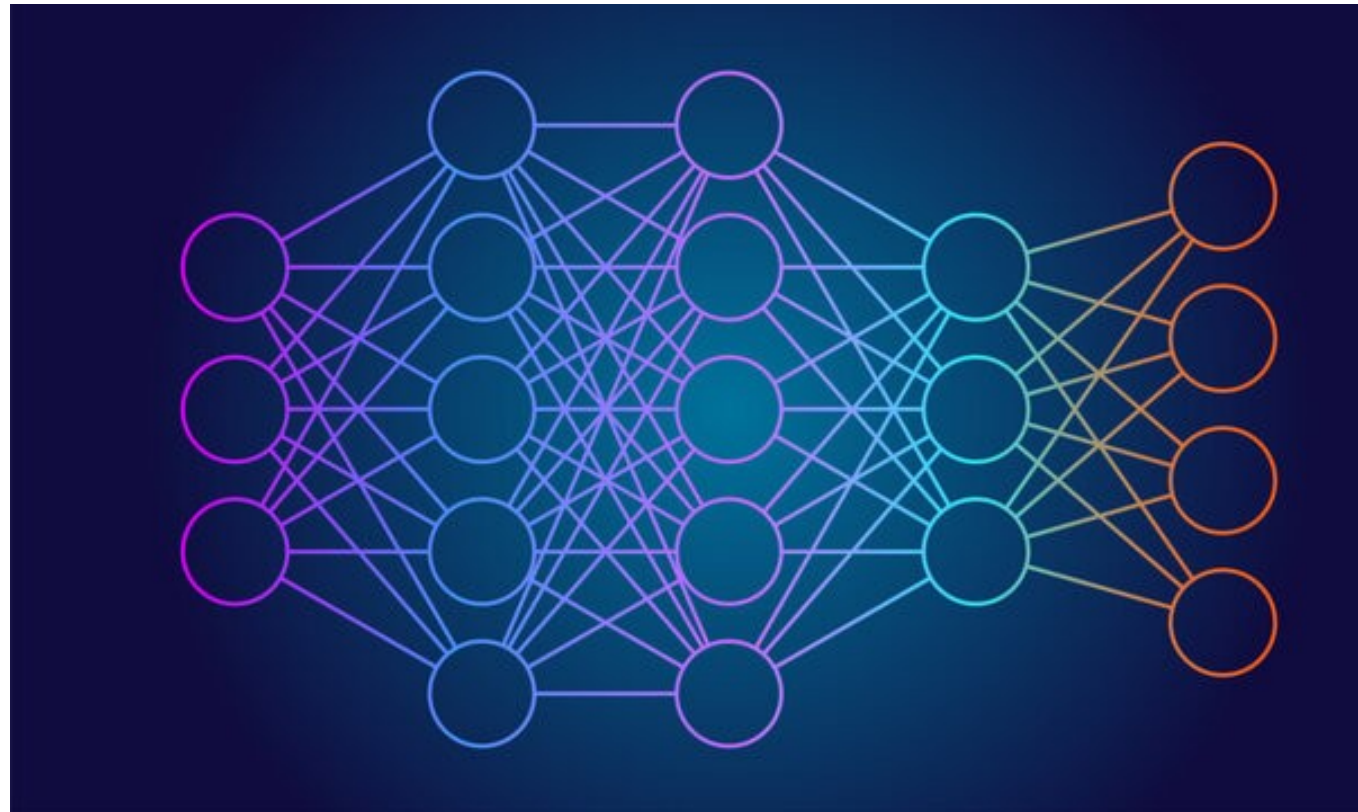
# Using machine learning in searches for Lorentz invariance violation



Frascati, 25. 9. 2024

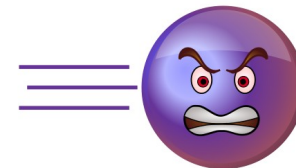
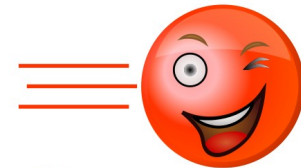
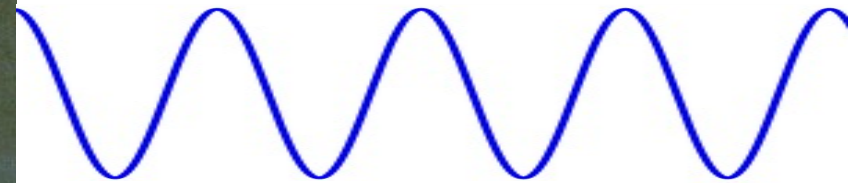
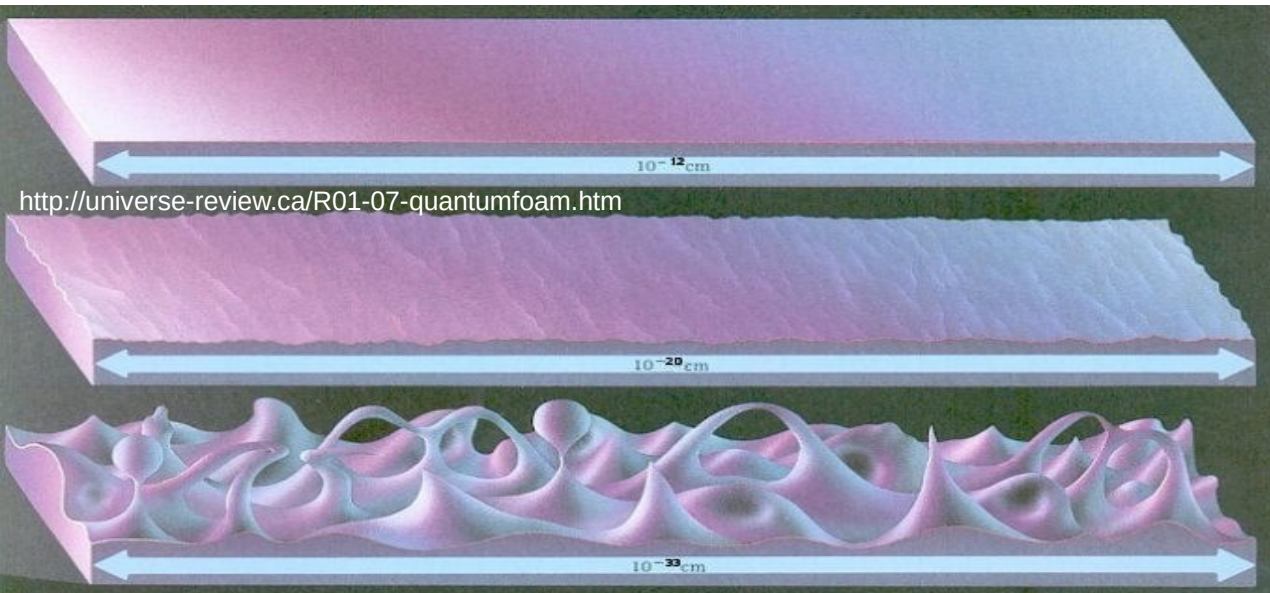
# Outline

- Lorentz invariance violation (LIV)
- Motivation for employing Artificial neural networks (ANN)
- ANN for LIV
- Training ANN
- Results (work in progress)



# Lorentz invariance violation (LIV)

- Attempt at measuring Quantum Gravity



# Lorentz invariance violation (LIV)

- Modified photon dispersion relation
- Usual starting point in searches for effects of QG with gamma rays

$$E^2 = p^2 c^2 \times \left[ 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} S_n \left( \frac{E}{E_{\text{QG},n}} \right)^n \right]$$

Diagram illustrating the modified photon dispersion relation with annotations:

- **photon energy**: Points to the variable  $E$  in the numerator of the fraction.
- **QG energy scale**: Points to the denominator  $E_{\text{QG},n}$ .
- **$S = \pm 1$** : Points to the coefficient  $S_n$ .

$E_{\text{QG},n} = \mathcal{O}(E_{\text{Pl}}) \simeq 1.22 \times 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$

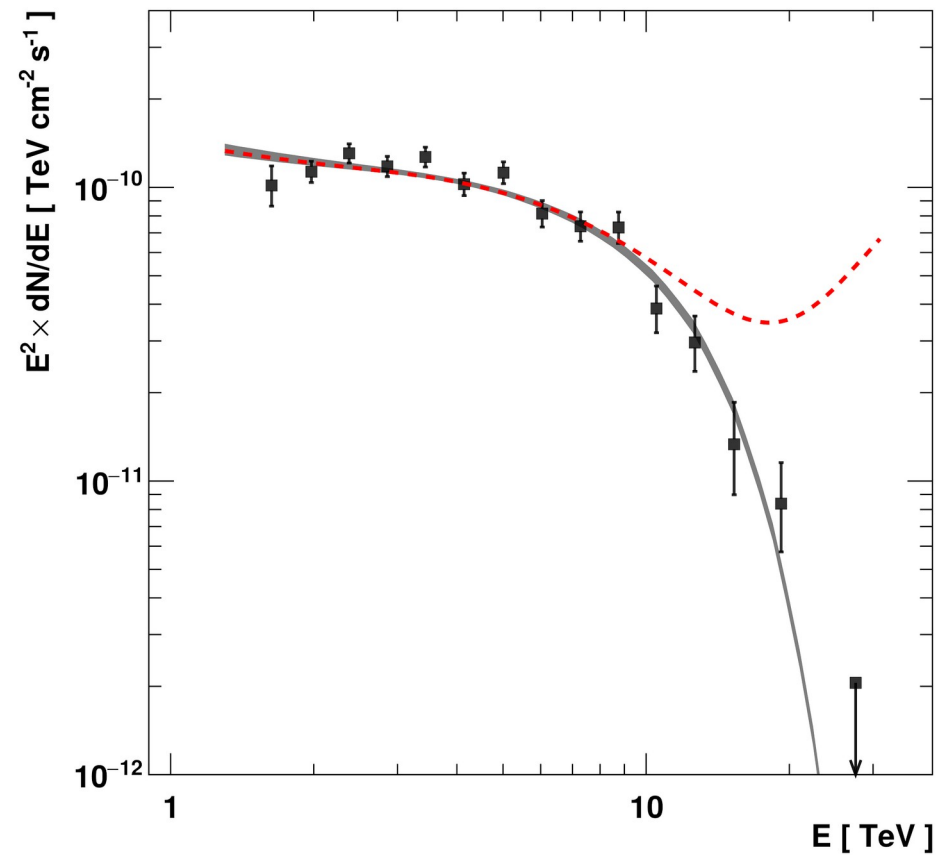
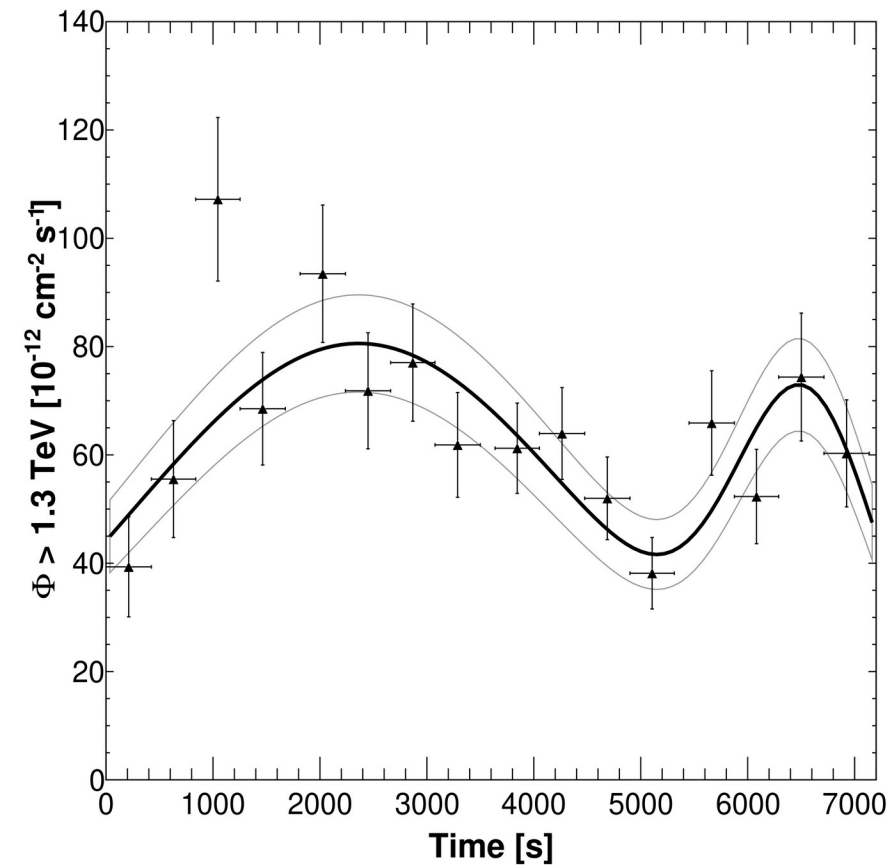
- Not a direct consequence of any particular QG model
- Simple way of parametrizing “out of the ordinary” behaviour

# Motivation for using ANN

- Possible consequences of LIV on gamma rays
  - Energy dependent photon group velocity
  - Modified reaction thresholds
  - Modified reaction cross sections
  - Vacuum birefringence
  - ...
- So far only one study of more than one LIV effect using the same data set ([Abdalla+ 2019](#))
  - Effects **not considered simultaneously!**
- **How can multiple effects be tested simultaneously?**
  - NB: Single LIV effect can influence different stages of gamma-ray life
    - e.g. modified reaction threshold or cross section affect gamma-ray absorption on background radiation, but also extensive shower development (gamma-ray detection and reconstruction)

# Playground

- Mrk 501 flare from 2014 by H.E.S.S. ([Abdalla+ 2019](#))
  - Simple temporal and spectral distributions
  - ~ 2000 gamma rays  $1.3 \text{ TeV} < E < 30 \text{ TeV}$

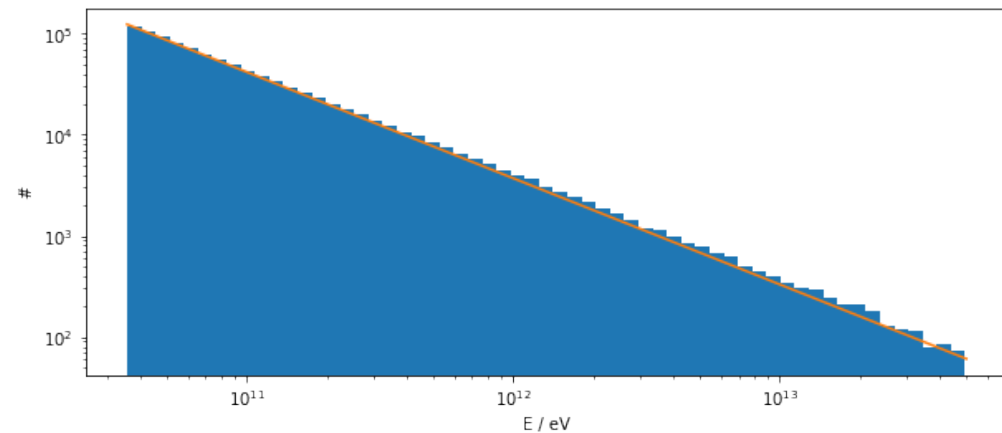
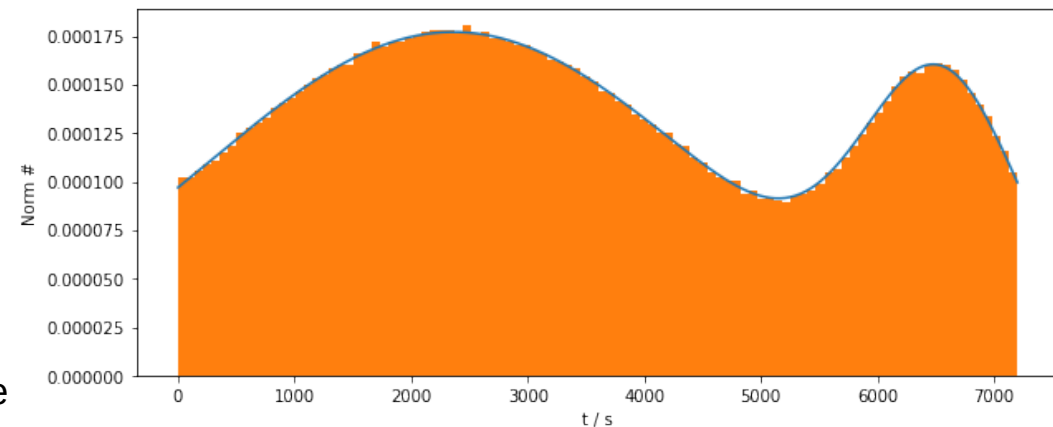


# ANN for LIV – First attempt

- Testing simultaneous LIV effect on photon group velocity & gamma-ray absorption
- Focussing on 2<sup>nd</sup> order correction to dispersion relation
- Input data: Light curve parameters (6) + spectral parameters (2)
- Output data: Light curve parameters (6) + spectral parameters (2) +  $E_{QG}$
- Assuming no source-intrinsic correlation
- Assuming perfect instrument

# Creating training data sets

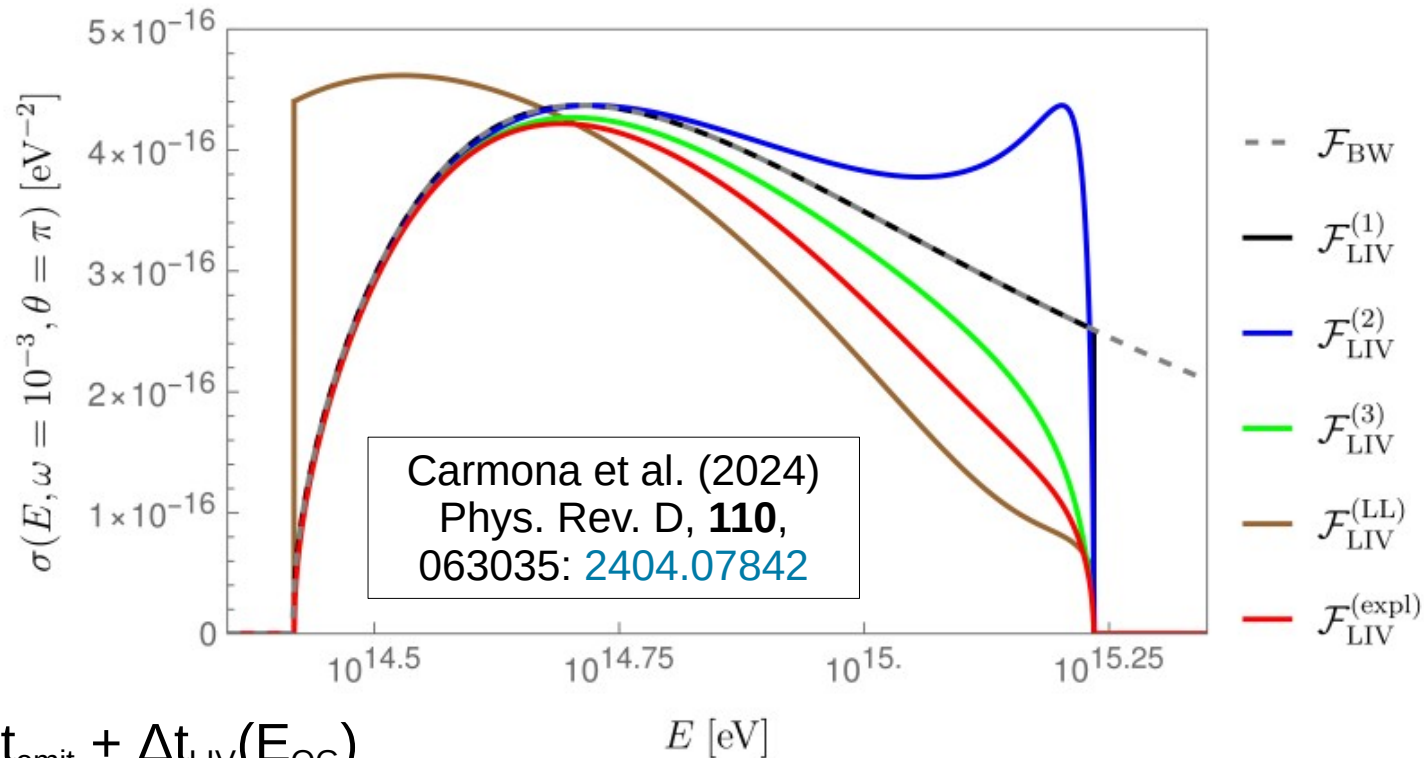
- $10^6$  gamma rays simulated with  $t_{\text{emit}}, E_{\text{emit}}$ 
  - Light curve: sum of two Gaussians
  - Spectral distribution: power-law
- Performed 210 times for  $10^9 < E_{\text{QG}} < 10^{30}$
- 210 pools with  $10^6$  tuples:
  - $t_{\text{emit}}, E_{\text{emit}}, t_{\text{detect}}, E_{\text{detect}}, P_{\text{survive}}$





# Creating training data sets

- $P_{\text{survive}}$  – survival probability for photon of energy  $E_{\text{detect}}$ , and considering  $E_{\text{QG}}$



- $t_{\text{detect}} = t_{\text{emit}} + \Delta t_{\text{LIV}}(E_{\text{QG}})$

- $E_{\text{detect}} = E_{\text{emit}} / (1+z)$

Based on Jacob & Piran, 2008: [0712.2170](#)

# Creating training data sets

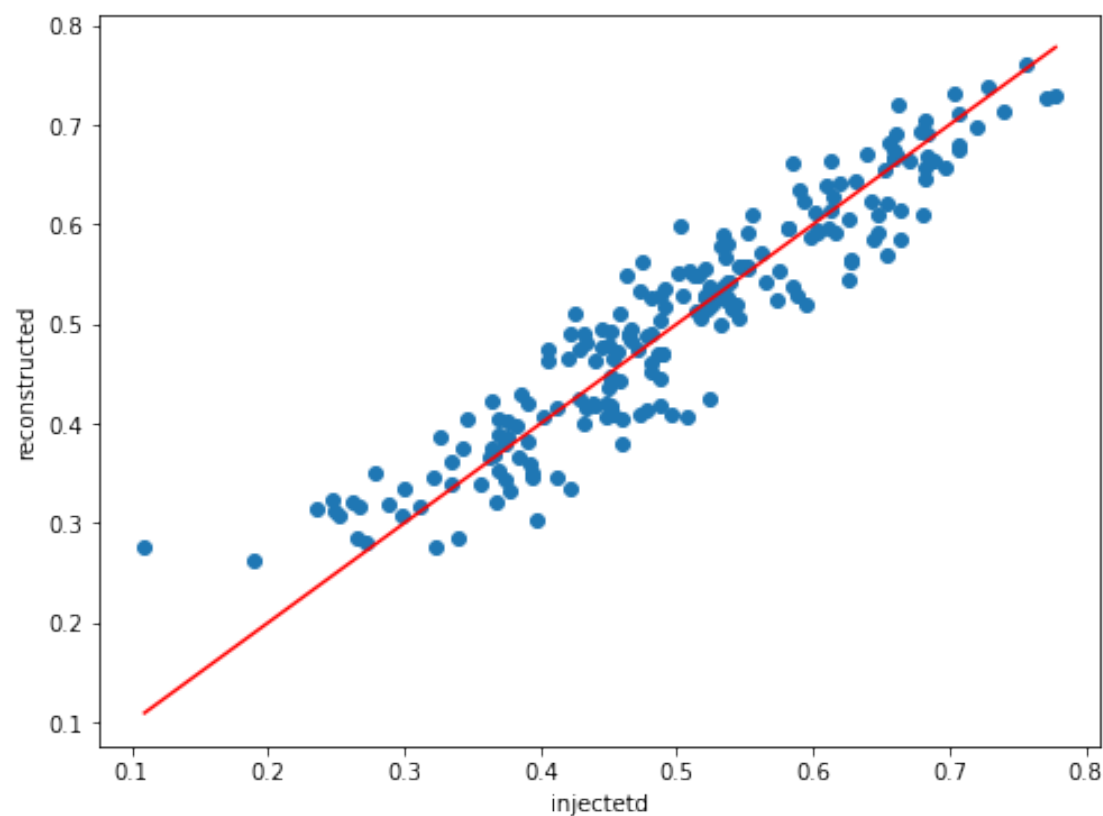
- Samples created by randomly picking from pool till  $N_{\text{detect}} = 2000$ 
  - Accounting for survival probability
  - Fit temporal and spectral distributions at detection to get input data: 6 pars for temporal + 2 for spectral distributions
  - Fit temporal and spectral distributions at emission to get output data: 1 par  $E_{\text{QG}}$  + 6 pars for temporal + 2 for spectral distributions
  - Repeat **100** times for each pool (21'000 samples)

# ANN structure

- First attempts for development purposes
- ANN with 3 hidden layers:
  - Input layer: 8 neurons: Detected light curve parameters (6) + detected spectrum parameters (2)
  - Output layer: 9 neurons: Emitted light curve parameters (6) + emitted spectrum parameters (2) +  $E_{QG}$
  - Hidden layers: 1000 neurons
- 2500 iterations
- Manageable on laptop

# Results 1

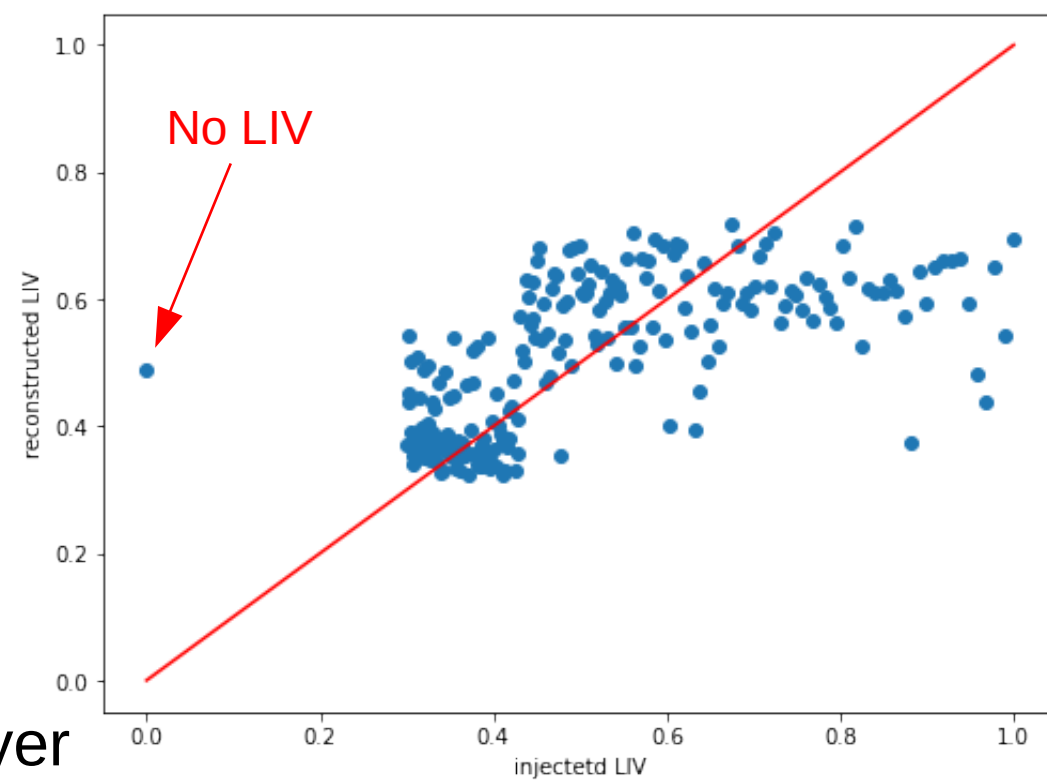
- All parameters mapped to  $[0, 1]$  interval
- **Clear correlation** between injected and reconstructed parameters describing spectrum and light curve
- Some improvement possible by adjusting the mapping  $[\text{par}_{\min}, \text{par}_{\max}] \rightarrow [0, 1]$



**WORK IN PROGRESS**

# Results 2

- Some **connection** between injected and reconstructed LIV parameter, but more work needed
- LIV parameter only in input layer
- Room for improvement:
  - Mapping  $[\text{par}_{\min}, \text{par}_{\max}] \rightarrow [0, 1]$
  - Parameter space coverage
  - ANN hyperparameter optimization



**WORK IN PROGRESS**

# Conclusion & Outlook

- First attempt at simultaneous testing of several LIV effects
- ANN could be a way to go, **however**
- **Make it work in the present form**
  - Test different ANN settings (hyperparameters): Learning rate, Number of iterations, Number of hidden layers, Number of hidden units (nodes), Choice of activation function
  - Test different choices of training sample
- Expand and investigate different approaches:
  - e.g. Individual events or bin contents as input data (instead of parameters)
  - Introduce realistic detectors (acceptance, energy resolution)
- Estimate sensitivity to systematic effects.
- Compare sensitivity to other analysis methods (e.g. likelihood)
- **Combine multiple observations**
- **Introduce additional LIV effects (e.g. EAS development)**
- **Introduce additional free parameters (source intrinsic correlation, cosmology, background models, etc.)**

**Short-term plans  
(immediate)**

**Mid-term plans  
(we'll get to that)**

**Long-term plans  
(if I had an army  
of students)**

# CA23130 - Bridging high and low energies in search of quantum gravity (BridgeQG)

📄 Downloads

[Home](#) > [Browse Actions](#) > Bridging high and low energies in search of quantum gravity (BridgeQG)

[www.cost.eu/actions/CA23130/](https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA23130/)

Description

Management Committee

Main Contacts and Leadership

Working Groups and Membership

## Description

Recent advances in both high-energy astrophysics and high-precision table-top experiments are pushing our capability to test nature in regimes where gravity meets quantum physics. Astrophysical observations are now potentially sensitive to tiny residual effects of Planck-scale physics, while table-top experiments are reaching the precision needed to test the interplay between gravity and quantum systems at ultra-low energies. Investigations of these regimes, in particular once they are combined, will provide important clues towards the understanding of the full-fledged theory of quantum gravity.

The main aim of the Action is to bring together scientists with a variety of complementary expertise: theorists working on quantum gravity or the

### Action Details

📄 MoU - 043/24

📅 CSO Approval date - 17/05/2024

📅 Start date - 18/09/2024

📅 End date - 17/09/2028

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## Searching for Quantum Gravity in the Sky

Bad Honnef Physics School

Workshop



[www.dpg-physik.de/veranstaltungen/2025/](https://www.dpg-physik.de/veranstaltungen/2025/)

Date:

📅 Su, 16.02.2025 ⌚ 18:30 - 📅 Fr, 21.02.2025 ⌚ 14:00

Speaker:

👤 Giacomo Rosati (Wroclaw), Jelena Strišković (Osijek), Rafael Alves Batista (Sorbonne), Caterina Trimarelli (L'Aquila)

Address:

📍 Physikzentrum Bad Honnef  
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