

Transforming Particle Physics

Tilman Plehn

Universität Heidelberg

Genova, December 2024



All about LHC physics

LHC physics

ML introduction

Examples

Calibration

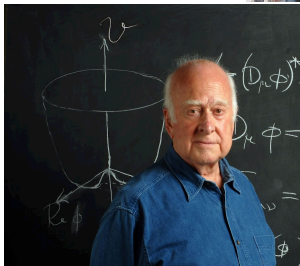
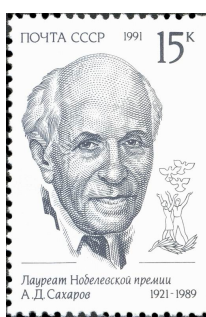
Generative AI

Transformation

Anomalies

Classic motivation

- dark matter?
- matter vs antimatter?
- origin of Higgs boson?



All about LHC physics

Classic motivation

- dark matter?
- matter vs antimatter?
- origin of Higgs boson?

LHC physics

- fundamental questions
- huge data set
- first-principle, precision simulations
- complete uncertainty control

Successful past

- measurements of total rates
- analyses inspired by simulation
- model-driven Higgs discovery



All about LHC physics

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First-principle, precision simulations

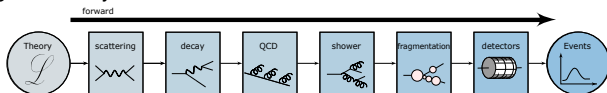
- start with Lagrangian
- calculate scattering using QFT
- simulate collisions
- simulate detectors

→ LHC collisions in virtual worlds

BSM searches

- compare simulations and data
- infer underlying theory [SM or BSM]
- publish useable results

→ Understand LHC data systematically



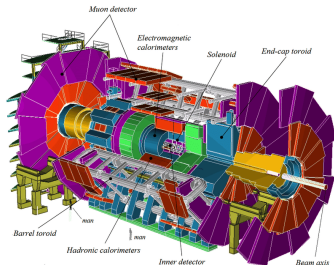
LHC data

Collaborations

- ATLAS & CMS general purpose
LHCb, ALICE, FASER specialized
- 1000s of scientists per experiment

Detectors

- built around pp interaction point
- measuring outgoing particles
- collision rate 40 MHz



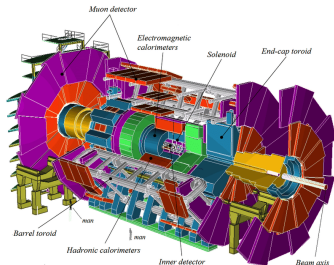
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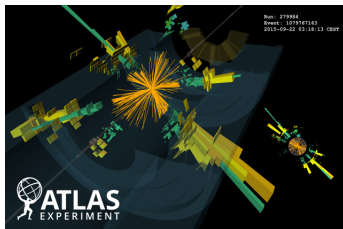
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Event format

- ATLAS event size 1.6 MB
data stream 3 PB/s
 - measure:
energy, momentum, charge, etc
 - electrons, muons easy
quarks, gluons as jets [20-50 particles]
- Event: 100+ ntuples ($E, \vec{p}, Q...$)



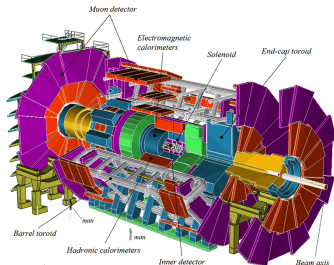
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ML applications

- data selection/compression
 - object reconstruction
 - object classification
 - analysis
 - simulation
 - theory calculations
 - event generation
 - inference
- Everything, faster and better



2024 Nobel prize

Neural networks using physics

- **John Hopfield** [physicist in search of problems]
biological system and spin system with same mathematics
paper for: physicists, computer scientists, neurobiologists
- **Physics is a point of view**
- **Geoffrey Hinton** [easily passing as a physicist]
minimal energy with noisy neurons
log-likelihood maximization
- **Nobel prize in biology/medicine for thermal equilibrium?**



Geoffrey Hinton

Emeritus Prof. Computer Science, University of Toronto
Verified email at cs.toronto.edu - [Homepage](#)

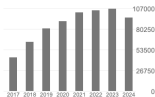
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TITLE	CITED BY	YEAR
Imagenet classification with deep convolutional neural networks A Krizhevsky, I Sutskever, GE Hinton Advances in neural information processing systems 25	167249 *	2012
Deep learning Y LeCun, Y Bengio, G Hinton Nature 521 (7553), 436-44	88090	2015
Learning internal representations by error-propagation DE Rumelhart, GE Hinton, RJ Williams Parallel Distributed Processing: Explorations in the Microstructure of ...	55420 *	1986
Dropout: a simple way to prevent neural networks from overfitting N Srivastava, G Hinton, A Krizhevsky, I Sutskever, R Salakhutdinov The journal of machine learning research 15 (1), 1929-1958	54232	2014

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Physics using neural networks

- applications all over experiment
- regression $x \rightarrow f_{\theta}(x)$
- classification $x \rightarrow f_{\theta}(x) \in [0, 1]$
- generation $r \sim \mathcal{N} \rightarrow f_{\theta}(r)$
- conditional generation $r \sim \mathcal{N} \rightarrow f_{\theta}(r|x)$
- Complexity a feature, not a problem



Formulas for theory self-respect

Encoding a particle energy

- expectation value from probability

$$\langle E \rangle(x) = \int dE E p(E|x)$$

- internal representation θ

$$\langle E \rangle = \int dE E \int d\theta p(E|\theta) p(\theta|E_{\text{train}})$$

- training a generalization of θ -probability

$$\int d\theta p(E|\theta) p(\theta|E_{\text{train}}) \approx \int d\theta p(E|\theta) q(\theta)$$



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- similarity from minimal KL-divergence

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\text{KL}}[q(\theta), p(\theta|E_{\text{train}})] &\equiv \int d\theta q(\theta) \log \frac{q(\theta)}{p(\theta|E_{\text{train}})} \\ &= \int d\theta q(\theta) \log \frac{q(\theta)p(E_{\text{train}})}{p(E_{\text{train}}|\theta)p(\theta)} \\ &= - \int d\theta q(\theta) \log p(E_{\text{train}}|\theta) + \int d\theta q(\theta) \log \frac{q(\theta)}{p(\theta)} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

→ Ultimate simplification and more...

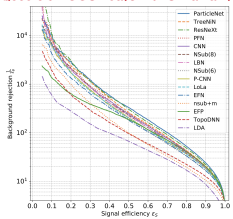
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} &= - \int d\theta q(\theta) \log p(E_{\text{train}}|\theta) + D_{\text{KL}}[q(\theta), p(\theta)] \\ &\rightarrow (E_{\theta} - E_{\text{train}})^2 + c(\theta - \theta_0)^2 \end{aligned}$$



ML in experiment

Top tagging [classification, 2016-today, good old BOOST days with S Marzani]

- 'hello world' of LHC-ML
 - end of QCD-taggers
 - ever-improving [Huilin Qu]
- Driving NN-architectures

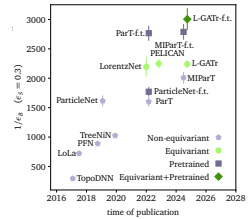


SciPost Physics Submission

The Machine Learning Landscape of Top Taggers

G. Kasieczko (ed)¹, T. Plehn (ed)², A. Butter³, K. Cranmer⁴, D. Debnath⁵, B. M. Dolan⁶, M. Fairbairn⁷, D. A. Faroughy⁷, W. Fisher⁸, C. Gay⁹, L. Grzesiak⁹, J. F. Kanieta¹⁰, P. T. Komarek¹¹, S. Laha¹², A. Lauer¹³, S. Marzani¹⁴, E. M. Metodiev¹⁵, L. Moore¹⁶, B. Nachreiner^{17,18}, K. Nishitani^{19,20}, J. Pineda²¹, H. Qiu²², Y. Rauh²³, M. Ripken²⁴, D. Shi²⁵, J. M. Thompson²⁶, and S. Varma²⁷

¹ Institut für Experimentalphysik, Universität Hamburg, Germany
² Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Heidelberg, Germany
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⁴ NHECT, Dept. of Physics and Astronomy, Rutgers, The State University of NJ, USA
⁵ Jozef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia
⁶ Theoretical Particle Physics and Cosmology, King's College London, United Kingdom
⁷ Department of Physics and Astronomy, The University of British Columbia, Canada
⁸ Department of Physics, University of Pittsburgh, State University, USA

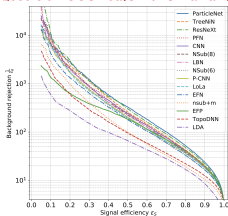


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- ever-improving [Huilin Qu]

→ **Driving NN-architectures**



SciPost Physics

Submission

The Machine Learning Landscape of Top Taggers

G. Kasieczko (ed)¹, T. Plehn (ed)², A. Bartsch³, K. Cranmer⁴, D. Datta⁵, B. M. Dillon⁶, M. Fairhead⁷, D. A. Faroughy⁸, W. Fisher⁹, C. Gao¹⁰, L. Goodson¹¹, J. F. Gonzalez¹², P. T. Kenned¹³, S. Laha¹⁴, A. Latorre¹⁵, S. Marzani¹⁶, E. M. Metodiev¹⁷, E. Moon¹⁸, B. Nachman^{19,20}, K. Nomura^{21,22}, J. Poulsen²³, H. Qu²⁴, Y. Rath²⁵, M. Rinke²⁶, D. Shih²⁷, J. M. Thompson²⁸, and S. Verra²⁹

- 1 Institut für Experimentalphysik, Universität Hamburg, Germany
- 2 Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Heidelberg, Germany
- 3 Center for Cosmology and Particle Physics and Center for Data Science, NYU, USA
- 4 NHEKCT, Dep. of Physics and Astronomy, Rutgers, The State University of NJ, USA
- 5 Josef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 6 Theoretical Particle Physics and Cosmology, King's College London, United Kingdom
- 7 Department of Physics and Astronomy, The University of British Columbia, Canada
- 8 Department of Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA
- 9 Department of Mathematics and Physics, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 10 Center for Theoretical Physics, MIT, Cambridge, USA
- 11 CP3, Universit es Catholiques de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium
- 12 Physics Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, USA
- 13 Simons Inst. for the Theory of Computing, University of California, Berkeley, USA
- 14 National Institute for Subatomic Physics (NIKHEF), Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 15 LPTHE, CNRS & Sorbonne Universit , Paris, France
- 16 III. Physikalisches Institut A, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

Particle flow [2020-today]

- mother of jet analyses
- combining detectors with different resolution
- optimality the key

→ **Modern jet analysis basics**

Towards a Computer Vision Particle Flow *

Francesco Armando Di Bello^{1,2}, Samay Ganguly^{3,4}, Elian Gross⁵, Marumi Kado^{6,7}, Michael Pitt⁸, Lorenzo Santit⁹, Jonathan Shlomo¹⁰

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²CEBN, CH 1211, Geneva 23, Switzerland

³Universit  di Roma Sapienza, Piazza Aldo Moro, 2, 00185 Roma, Italy & INFN, Italy

⁴Universit  Paris-Saclay, CNRS/IN2P3, UCLM, 91195, Orsay, France

Progress towards an improved particle flow algorithm at CMS with machine learning

Fareeh Mokhtar¹, Jonney Patel², Javier Duarte³, Eric Walff⁴, Maurizio Pierini⁵ and Jean-Bloch Villmann⁶ (on behalf of the CMS Collaboration)

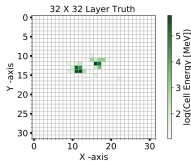
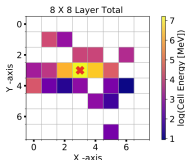
¹University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093, USA

²HEP/PS, SLAC, 25750, Menlo Park, CA, USA

³European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), CH 1211, Geneva 23, Switzerland

⁴California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91125, USA

⁵INFN, Istituti Nazionali del Nord, Pavia, Italy

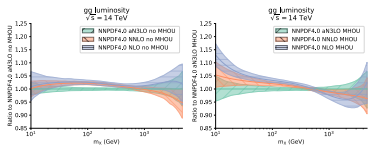


ML in phenomenology

Parton densities [NNPDF, 2002-today]

- pdfs without functional bias and full uncertainties
- precision and calibrated uncertainties

→ Drivers of ML-theory



The Path to N²LO Parton Distributions

The NNPDF Collaboration

Richard D. Ball¹, Andrea Bharucha², Alessandro Cacciari^{3,4}, Stefano Carrazza⁵, Juan Cruz-Martinez⁶, Luigi Del Degan⁷, Stefano Forte⁸, Tommaso Gehrmann⁹, Hilke Hehner^{10,11}, Zakari Karakochev⁹, Niccolò Leonardi², Giacomo Magni^{4,5}, Emanuele M. Nicosia⁹, Tanjaana H. Reheismanjaya^{4,5}, Juan Rojo^{4,5}, Christopher Schmidt¹², Roy Steegmans⁴, and Martin Ubald⁹

¹The Hugh Downs Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Edinburgh, JCMB, KB, Hughfield Rd, Edinburgh EH9 1JZ, Scotland

²TU Eindhoven, Department of Physics, Universiteit of Milano and INFN, Sezione di Milano, Via Celestina 16, I-20133 Milano, Italy

³CERN, Theoretical Physics Department, CH-1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland

⁴Department of Physics and Astronomy, Piipä University, ME-1001 BY, Amsterdam

⁵Mathijl Theory Group, Science Park 105, 1098 XJ Amsterdam, The Netherlands

⁶University of Jyväskylä, Department of Physics, P.O. Box 35, FI-00014 University of Jyväskylä, Finland

⁷Helsinki Institute of Physics, P.O. Box 64, FI-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland

⁸DAMTP, University of Cambridge, Wilberforce Road, Cambridge, CB3 0BB, United Kingdom

⁹Departmento di Fisica, Universit  di Torino and INFN, Sezione di Torino, Via Particolaria 1, I-10125 Torino, Italy

¹⁰Universit t W rzburg, Institut f r Theoretische Physik und Astrophysik, 97074 W rzburg, Germany

This paper is dedicated to the memory of Stefano Catani, Grand Master of QCD, great scientist and human being

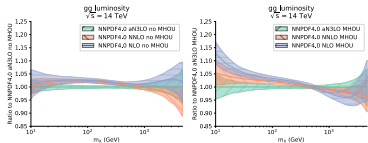


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¹The Open Centre for Theoretical Physics, University of Edinburgh, JCMB, KB, Hughold St, Edinburgh EH9 3JZ, Scotland

²Yale Department of Physics, University of Michigan and INFN, Sezione di Milano, Via Celoria 16, I-20133 Milano, Italy

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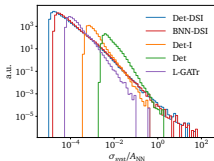
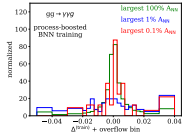
¹⁰Universität Würzburg, Institut für Theoretische Physik und Astrophysik, 97074 Würzburg, Germany

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Fast event generation [Sherpa, Madgraph, Badger...]

- loop-amplitudes expensive
- training fit or interpolation

→ Precision NN-amplitudes



PREPARED FOR SUBMISSION TO JHEP

19PP/20/118

Optimising simulations for diphoton production at hadron colliders using amplitude neural networks

Joseph Aylett¹, Silvio Badger², Ryan Moudil³

¹Australian Particle Physics Phenomenology, Department of Physics, Durham University, Durham, DH1 1TA, United Kingdom

²Mathstat for Data Science, Durham University, Durham, DH1 1TA, United Kingdom

³Department of Physics and Arnold-Boyer Center, University of Toronto, and INFN, Sezione di Torino, Via P. Giuria 1, I-10125 Torino, Italy

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ABSTRACT: Machine learning technology has the potential to dramatically optimise event generation and simulation. We continue to investigate the use of neural networks to approximate matrix elements for high-multiplicity scattering processes. We focus on the case of loop-induced diphoton production through gluon fusion, and develop a realistic simulation method that can be applied to hadron collider observation. Neural networks are trained using the one-loop amplitudes implemented in the *FastJet*++ library, and compared to the Sherpa Monte Carlo event generator, where we perform a detailed study for $2 \rightarrow 3$ and $2 \rightarrow 4$ -scattering processes. We also consider how the trained networks perform when varying the kinematic cuts affecting the phase space and the reliability of the neural network simulation.

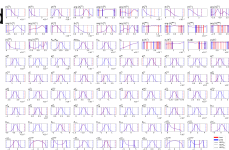


ML in theory

Learned likelihoods [Pierini, Reyes-Gonzales, Torre,...]

- $\mathcal{O}(100)$ physics and nuisance parameters
- learn fast likelihood
- supervised vs unsupervised

→ Similar to phase space...



The NFLikelihood: an unsupervised DNNLikelihood from Normalizing Flows

Roberto Reyes-Gonzalez^{1,2,3*} and Ricardo Torre^{2,†}

¹ Department of Physics, University of Genoa, Via Dodecaneso 23, I-16146 Genoa, Italy

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Abstract

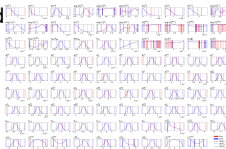
We propose the NFLikelihood, an unsupervised version, based on Normalizing Flows, of the DNNLikelihood proposed in Ref. [1]. We show, through realistic examples, how Autoregressive Flows, based on affine and rational quadratic spline bijections, are able to learn complicated high-dimensional Likelihoods arising in High Energy Physics (HEP) analyses. We focus on a toy LHC analysis example already considered in the literature and on two Effective Field Theory fits of flavor and electroweak observables, whose samples have been obtained through the HEPFIT code. We discuss advantages and disadvantages of the unsupervised approach with respect to the supervised one and discuss a possible interplay between the two.



Learned likelihoods [Pierini, Reyes-Gonzales, Torre,...]

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Roberto Reyes-Gonzalez^{1,2,*} and Ricardo Torre^{3,†}

¹ Department of Physics, University of Geneva, Via Dufourcote 23, 1205 Geneva, Italy
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³ Institut für Theoretische Teilchenphysik und Kosmologie, RWTH Aachen, 52074 Aachen, Germany

* roberto.reyes@unige.ch
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Abstract

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Navigating string landscape [reinforcement learning]

- searching for viable vacua
- high dimensions, unknown global structure

→ Model space sampling

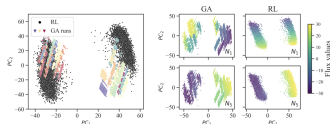


Figure 1: Left: Cluster structure in dimensionally reduced flux samples for RL and 25 GA runs (PCA) on all samples of GA and RL. The colors indicate individual GA runs. Right: Dependence on flux (input) values (N_1 and N_2 , respectively) in relation to principal components for a PCA fit of the individual output of GA and RL.

Probing the Structure of String Theory Vacua with Genetic Algorithms and Reinforcement Learning

Alex Cole
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Seun Krippendorfer
 Arnold Sommerfeld Center for Theoretical Physics
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 as2073@cam.ac.uk

Guy Shiu
 University of Wisconsin-Madison
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Abstract

Identifying string theory vacua with desired physical properties at low energies requires searching through high-dimensional solution spaces – collectively referred to as the string landscape. We highlight that this search problem is amenable to reinforcement learning and genetic algorithms. In the context of flux vacua, we are able to reveal novel features (outgoing previously unidentified symmetries) in the string theory solutions required for properties such as the string coupling. In order to identify these features robustly, we combine results from both search methods, which we argue is imperative for reducing sampling bias.



Regression — LHC style

Energy calibration with uncertainties [ATLAS + Vogel, 2412.04370]

- interpretable calorimeter phase space x
- learned calibration function

$$\mathcal{R}^{\text{BNN}}(x) \pm \Delta \mathcal{R}^{\text{BNN}}(x) \approx \frac{E^{\text{obs}}(x)}{E^{\text{dep}}(x)}$$

- **uncertainties:** noise in data
network expressivity
data representation ...



Regression — LHC style

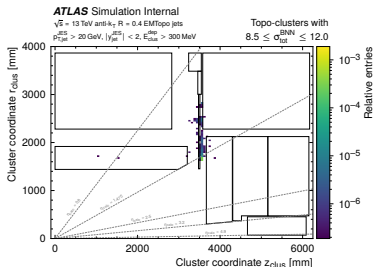
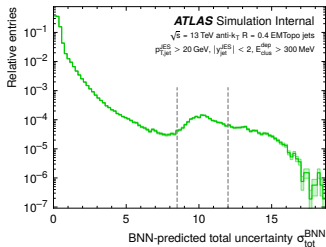
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- **uncertainties:** noise in data
network expressivity
data representation ...

→ Understand (simulated) detector

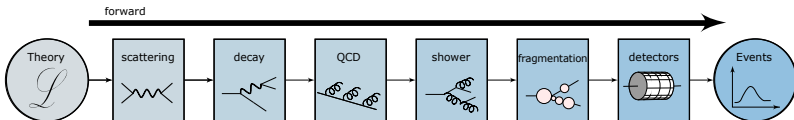
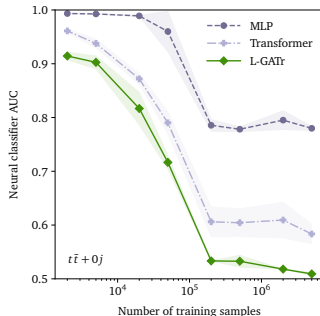


Generative AI

Simulations, MadNIS, calorimeters,... [Milano: Winterhalder]

- learn phase space density
fast sampling Gaussian \rightarrow phase space
- Variational Autoencoder
 \rightarrow low-dimensional physics
- Generative Adversarial Network
 \rightarrow generator trained by classifier
- Normalizing Flow/Diffusion
 \rightarrow (bijective) mapping [ask R Torre]
- JetGPT, ViT
 \rightarrow non-local structures
- Equivariant L-GATr
 \rightarrow Lorentz symmetry for efficiency

\rightarrow Combinations: equivariant transformer CFM...



Compare generated with training data [cf Refereeing the Referees]

- regression accuracy $\Delta = (E_{\text{data}} - E_{\theta})/E_{\text{data}}$
- harder for generation, unsupervised density
classify training vs generated events $D(x)$
learned density ratio [Neyman-Pearson]

$$w(x_i) = \frac{D(x_i)}{1 - D(x_i)} = \frac{\rho_{\text{data}}(x_i)}{\rho_{\text{model}}(x_i)}$$

→ Test ratio over phase space



Compare generated with training data [cf Refereeing the Referees]

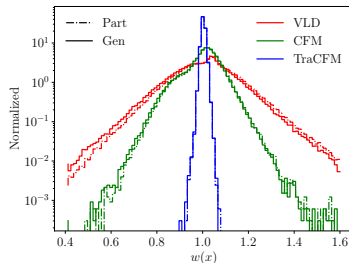
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→ Test ratio over phase space

Progress in NN-generators

- any generative AI task
 - compare different architectures
 - accuracy from width of weight distribution
 - tails indicating failure mode
- Systematic performance test



Transforming LHC physics

Number of searches

- optimal inference: signal and background simulations
- CPU-limitation for many signals?

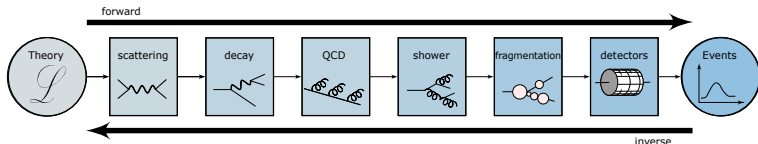
Optimal analyses

- theory limiting many analyses, but continuous progress
- allow for analyses to be updated?

Public LHC data

- common lore:
LHC data too complicated for amateurs
- in truth:
hard scattering and decay simulations public
BSM physics not in hadronization and detector

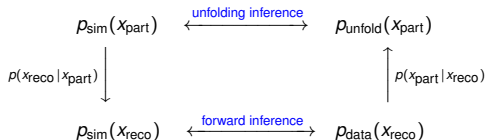
→ **Unfold to suitable level**



ML-Unfolding

Basic structure

- four phase space distributions



- two conditional probabilities

$$p(x_{\text{part}} | x_{\text{reco}}) = p(x_{\text{reco}} | x_{\text{part}}) \times \frac{p_{\text{sim}}(x_{\text{part}})}{p_{\text{sim}}(x_{\text{reco}})}$$

- forward and inverse generation symmetric [stochastic]
- learnable from paired events $(x_{\text{part}}, x_{\text{reco}})$

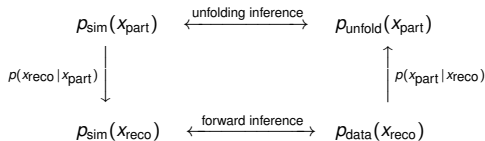
→ ML for unbinned and high-dimensional unfolding?



ML-Unfolding

Basic structure

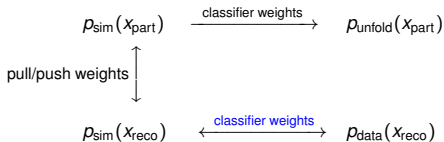
- four phase space distributions



→ ML for unbinned and high-dimensional unfolding?

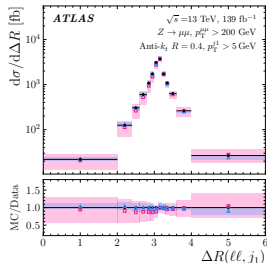
OmniFold [Andreassen, Komiske, Metodiev, Nachman, Thaler + ATLAS]

- learn $\rho_{\text{sim}}(x_{\text{reco}}) \leftrightarrow \rho_{\text{data}}(x_{\text{reco}})$ [Neyman-Pearson]
- reweight $\rho_{\text{sim}}(x_{\text{part}}) \rightarrow \rho_{\text{unfold}}(x_{\text{part}})$



- Z+jets in 24D [ATLAS]

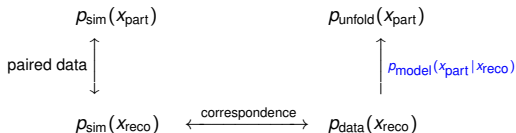
→ Driven by (now) established ML-classification



Unfolding by generation

Targeting conditional probability [Winterhalder]

- just like forward ML-generation
- learn inverse conditional probability from $(x_{\text{part}}, x_{\text{reco}})$



Improvements crucial

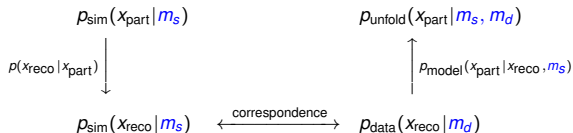
- 1 likelihood loss to generate posterior \rightarrow cINN
 - 2 make networks more precise \rightarrow TraCFM
 - 3 remove training prior
- \rightarrow Driven by generative networks



Unfolding top decays

A challenge [Favaro, Kogler, Paasch, Palacios Schweitzer, TP, Schwarz]

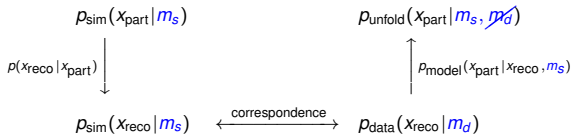
- first measure m_t in unfolded data
then unfold full kinematics
- model dependence: simulation m_s vs data m_d



Unfolding top decays

A challenge [Favaro, Kogler, Paasch, Palacios Schweitzer, TP, Schwarz]

- first measure m_t in unfolded data
then unfold full kinematics
- complete training bias $m_d \rightarrow m_s$ [too bad to reweight]



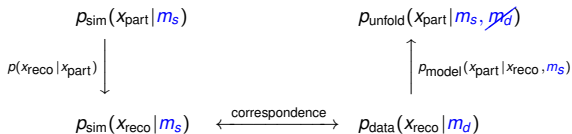
- 1 weaken bias by training on m_s -range
- 2 strengthen data by including batch-wise $m_d \sim M_{jjj} \in x_{\text{reco}}$



Unfolding top decays

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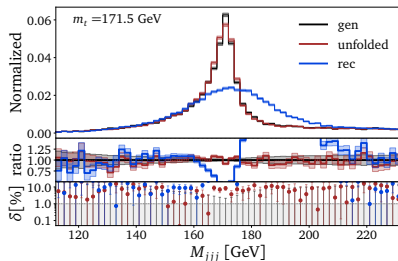
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Preliminary unfolding results [TraCFM]

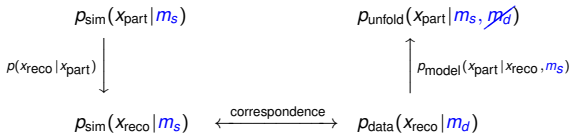
- 4D for calibrated mass measurement



Unfolding top decays

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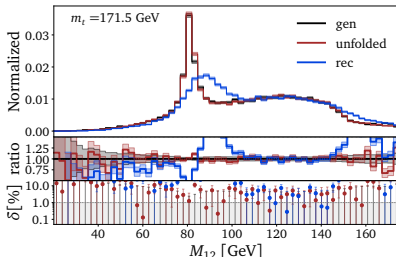
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Preliminary unfolding results [TraCFM]

- 4D for calibrated mass measurement
 - 12D published data
- CMS data next



ML for LHC Theory

Developing ML for the best science

- just another numerical tool for a numerical field
- transformative new language
- driven by money from data science and medical research
- 1000 Einsteins...
 - ...improving established tools
 - ...developing new tools for established tasks
 - ...transforming through new ideas

→ You can be the golden generation!

Modern Machine Learning for LHC Physicists

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March 19, 2024

Abstract

Modern machine learning is transforming particle physics fast, bullying its way into our numerical tool box. For young researchers it is crucial to stay on top of this development, which means applying cutting-edge methods and tools to the full range of LHC physics problems. These lecture notes lead students with basic knowledge of particle physics and significant enthusiasm for machine learning to relevant applications. They start with an LHC-specific motivation and a non-standard introduction to neural networks and then cover classification, unsupervised classification, generative networks, and inverse problems. Two themes defining much of the discussion are well-defined loss functions and uncertainty-aware networks. As part of the applications, the notes include some aspects of theoretical LHC physics. All examples are chosen from particle physics publications of the last few years.¹

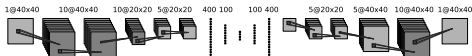
:2211.01421v2 [hep-ph] 17 Mar 2024



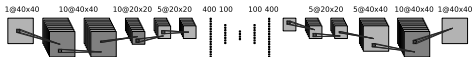
Anomaly searches

Non-resonant searches

- key: bottleneck
training on background
minimize reconstruction-MSE
unknown signal from bad MSE
 - reconstruct QCD jets → top jets hard to describe
 - reconstruct top jets → QCD jets just simple top-like jet
- Symmetric performance $S \leftrightarrow B?$



Anomaly searches



Non-resonant searches

- key: bottleneck training on background minimize reconstruction-MSE unknown signal from bad MSE
 - reconstruct QCD jets \rightarrow top jets hard to describe
 - reconstruct top jets \rightarrow QCD jets just simple top-like jet
- \rightarrow **Symmetric performance $S \leftrightarrow B$?**

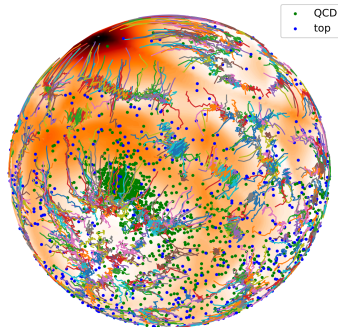
Missing and anomalous features

- compact latent space: sphere
- energy-based model normalized Boltzmann mapping $[E_\theta = \text{MSE}]$

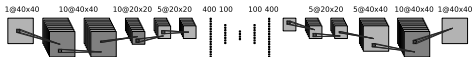
$$p_\theta(x) = \frac{e^{-E_\theta(x)}}{Z_\theta}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = -\langle \log p_\theta(x) \rangle = \langle E_\theta(x) + \log Z_\theta \rangle$$

- inducing background metric
- Z_θ from Markov Chain



Anomaly searches



Non-resonant searches

- key: bottleneck training on background minimize reconstruction-MSE unknown signal from bad MSE
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→ Symmetric performance $S \leftrightarrow B?$

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- inducing background metric
- Z_θ from Markov Chain

→ Proper anomaly search, at last...

