

Machine Learning

Tilman Plehn

Experiment

QCD and symmetries

Generators and pdfs

Amplitudes to events

Unfolding and errors

Strings and formulas

Machine Learning for Particle Theory

Tilman Plehn

Universität Heidelberg

KET, 11/2021



Executive ML-summary

Neural network just a numerical function

- regression [just function]
- classification [probability]
- generation [sampled pdf]
- rules [reinforcement learning]
- bijective, invertible mappings possible
- learned from high-dimensional data
- no theory pre-processing
- best interpolation on the market [fit for grown-ups]
- extremely fast to evaluate

Particle physics defined by

- fundamental questions
 - lot of data
 - first-principles predictions
 - precision analysis
- ⇒ Many examples for applications



Cool experimental ML-applications

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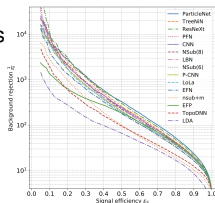
Strings and formulas

Top tagging [supervised classification]

– different NN-architectures

– tagger comparison

⇒ Just do it right...



SciPost Physics

Submission

The Machine Learning Landscape of Top Taggers

G. Kaselka^{1(a)}, T. Plehn^{2(a)}, A. Butter³, K. Cranmer⁴, D. DeLoraine⁵, B. M. Eklund⁶, M. Fairhead⁷, D. A. Ferguson⁸, M. Fischer⁹, C. Ge¹⁰, L. Gornik¹¹, J. F. Kaniwiec¹², P. T. Komarek¹³, S. Lusa¹⁴, A. Luter¹⁵, S. Mostanu¹⁶, E. M. Mosteher¹⁷, I. Moore¹⁸, D. Nadanas^{19(a)}, K. Nankervis^{20(a)}, J. Parkes²¹, H. Qiu²², Y. Rong²³, M. Roper²⁴, D. Shih²⁵, J. M. Thompson²⁶, and S. Varma²⁷

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- 3 Centre for Cosmology and Particle Physics and Centre for Data Science, NYU, USA
- 4 NHEUC, Dept. 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 Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 10 Center for Theoretical Physics, MIT, Cambridge, USA
- 11 CPY, Universitat Catòlica de Lovaina, Lovaina-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 LPJHEP, CNRS & Sorbonne Université, Paris, France
- 16 III. Physikalisches Institut A, RWTH Aachen University, Germany



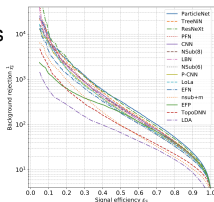
Cool experimental ML-applications

Top tagging [supervised classification]

- different NN-architectures

- tagger comparison

⇒ Just do it right...



SciPost Physics

Submission

The Machine Learning Landscape of Top Taggers

G. Kaselka^{1(a)}, T. Plehn^{2(a)}, A. Sauer³, K. Cranmer⁴, D. DeLoraine⁵, B. M. Dolan⁶, M. Fairhead⁷, D. A. Ferguson⁸, W. Fisher⁹, C. Gao¹⁰, L. Gousiou¹¹, J. F. Gonzalez¹², P. T. Komar¹³, S. Linn¹⁴, A. Linn¹⁵, S. Mandula¹⁶, E. M. Steiner¹⁷, L. Muser¹⁸, D. Nadler^{19(a)}, K. Nakamura^{20(a)}, J. Papaleo²¹, E. Qin²², Y. Bai²³, M. Rieger²⁴, D. Rubin²⁵, J. M. Thompson²⁶, and S. Varma²⁷

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³ Center for Cosmology and Particle Physics and Center for Data Science, MIT, USA

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¹⁰ Center for Theoretical Physics, MIT, Cambridge, USA

¹¹ CP3, Universit at Catholique 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

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¹⁶ III. Physikalisches Institut A, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

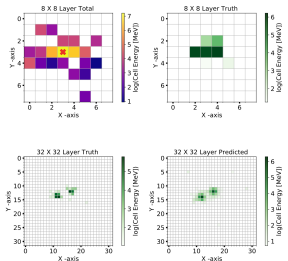
Particle flow [super-resolution generative nets]

- mother of jet tools

- combined detector channels

⇒ Showing off :)

[also Erdmann et al, Kasieczka et al, Wolf et al...]



Towards a Computer Vision Particle Flow *

Francesco Aronico Di Biase^{1(a)}, Samay Ganguly^{1(a)}, Eliam Gross¹, Marumi Kado^{1(a)}, Michael Pfl², Lorenzo Sauti³, Jonathan Shown⁴

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²CERN, CH 1211, Geneva 23, Switzerland

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

⁴Universit  Paris-Saclay, CNRS/IN2P3, DCLab, 91145, Orsay, France

Fig. 7: An event display of total energy shower (within topochamber), as captured by a calorimeter layer of 8×8 granularity, along with the location of the track, denoted by a red cross (left) and the same shower is captured by a calorimeter layer of 32×32 granularity (middle). The bottom right panel shows the corresponding event predicted by the NN. The figure shows that the shower originating from a $n^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ is resolved by a 32×32 granularity layer.



Jets, QCD, symmetries

Experiment

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Strings and formulas

Lund plane representation [input preprocessing]

- QCD-inspired input with cutting-edge networks
- angular separation vs transverse momentum

⇒ Understanding data helps

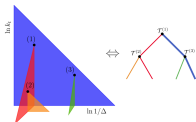
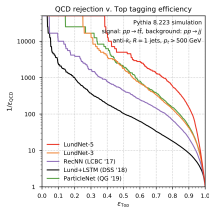


Figure 1. The Lund plane representation of a jet (left) where each emission is positioned according to $\ln k_T$ and Δ , respectively, and the corresponding mapping to a binary Lund tree of regions (right). The thick blue line represents the primary sequence of regions C_{primary} .



PREPARED FOR SUBMISSION TO JHEP

0UTP-20-15P

Jet tagging in the Lund plane with graph networks

Frédéric A. Dreyer,^a Niklas Gaß^b

^aBolet Poincaré Centre for Theoretical Physics, Chemin de l'Écluse, F-91191, Orsay CEDEX 2, FRANCE

^bCBM, EP Department, CH-1111 Geneva 23, Switzerland

ABSTRACT: The identification of boosted heavy particles such as top quarks or vector bosons is one of the key problems arising in experimental studies at the Large Hadron Collider. In this article, we introduce LundNet, a novel jet tagging method which relies on graph neural networks and an efficient description of the radiation pattern within a jet to optimally disentangle signatures of boosted objects from background events. We apply this framework to a number of different benchmarks, showing significantly improved performance for top tagging compared to existing state-of-the-art algorithms. We study the robustness of the LundNet taggers to non-perturbative and detector effects, and show how kinematic cuts in the Lund plane can mitigate overfitting of the neural network to model-dependent contributions. Finally, we consider the computational complexity of this method and its scaling as a function of kinematic Lund plane cuts, showing an order of magnitude improvement in speed over previous graph-based taggers.



Jets, QCD, symmetries

Lund plane representation [input preprocessing]

- QCD-inspired input with cutting-edge networks
- angular separation vs according to momentum

⇒ Understanding data helps

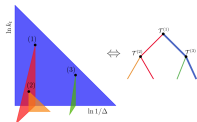
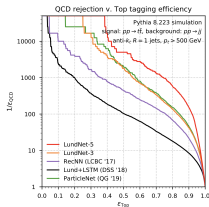


Figure 1. The Lund plane representation of a jet (left) where each emission is positioned according to its k_{\perp} and Δ contribution, and the corresponding mapping to a binary Lund tree of splittings (right). The thick blue line represents the primary sequence of splittings C_{primary} .



PREPARED FOR SUBMISSION TO JHEP

0UTP-20-19F

Jet tagging in the Lund plane with graph networks

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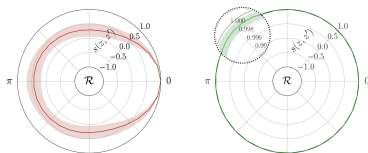
²CERN, EP Department, CH-1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland

ABSTRACT. The identification of boosted heavy particles such as top quarks or vector bosons is one of the key problems arising in experimental studies at the Large Hadron Collider. In this article, we introduce LundNet, a novel jet tagging method which relies on graph neural networks and an efficient description of the radiation pattern within a jet to optimally disentangle signatures of boosted objects from background events. We apply this framework to a number of different benchmarks, showing significantly improved performance for top tagging compared to existing state-of-the-art algorithms. We study the robustness of the LundNet taggers to non-perturbative and detector effects, and show how iterative cuts in the Lund plane can mitigate overfitting of the neural network to model-dependent distributions. Finally, we consider the computational complexity of this method and its scaling as a function of kinematic Lund plane cuts, showing an order of magnitude improvement in speed over previous graph-based taggers.

Self-supervised training [contrastive learning, transformer network]

- rotations, translations, permutations, soft splittings, collinear splittings
- learn symmetries/augmentations

⇒ Symmetry-aware latent space



SciPost Physics

Submission

Symmetries, Safety, and Self-Supervision

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August 11, 2021

Abstract

Collider searches face the challenge of defining a representation of high-dimensional data such that physical symmetries are manifest, the discriminating features are retained, and the choice of representation is non-physicist agnostic. We introduce JetCLR to solve the mapping from low-level data to universal observables through self-supervised contrastive learning. As an example, we construct a data representation for top and QCD jets using a permutation-invariant transformer-convolutional network and visualize its symmetry properties. We compare the JetCLR representation with alternative representations using linear classifier tests and find it to work quite well.



Non-QCD and parton densities

Experiment

QCD and symmetries

Generators and pdfs

Amplitudes to events

Unfolding and errors

Strings and formulas

Anomaly searches [unsupervised training]

- look for non-QCD jets, non-SM events
- idea of BSM searches, trigger

⇒ Latent density?

arXiv:2008.08862

arXiv:2008.08862

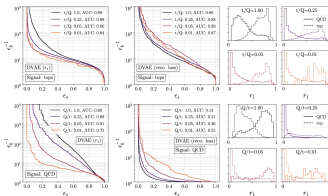
Better Latent Spaces for Better Autoencoders

Hans M. Henn¹, Tilman Plehn², Christof Sauer³, and Peter Skrzaniak³¹ Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Heidelberg, Germany² Physikalisches Institut, Universität Heidelberg, Germany³ Heidelberg Collaboratory for Inverse Processing, Universität Heidelberg, Germany

April 21, 2021

Abstract

Autoencoders as tools behind anomaly searches at the LHC have the structural problem that they only work in one direction, extracting jets with higher complexity but not the other way around. To address this, we derive classifiers from the latent space of (variational) autoencoders, specifically in Gaussian mixture and Dirichlet latent space. In particular, the Dirichlet setup solves the problem and improves both the performance and the interpretability of the networks.



Non-QCD and parton densities

Anomaly searches [unsupervised training]

- look for non-QCD jets, non-SM events
 - idea of BSM searches, trigger
- ⇒ Latent density?

SoPon Plehn Schneiders

Better Latent Spaces for Better Autoencoders

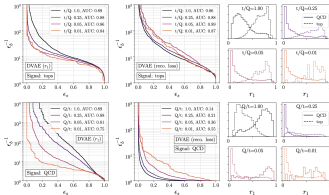
Bert M. Dolan¹, Tilman Plehn², Christof Sauer³, and Peter Sorensen³

¹ Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Heidelberg, Germany
² Physikalisches Institut, Universität Heidelberg, Germany
³ Heidelberg Collaboratory for Image Processing, Universität Heidelberg, Germany

April 20, 2021

Abstract

Autoencoders can learn latent anomaly models at the LHC from the structured problem that they only work in one direction, extracting jets with higher complexity but not the other way around. In this talk, we derive classifiers from the latent space of (retrieval) autoencoders, specifically in ConvNet architecture and Dirichlet latent spaces. In particular, the Dirichlet step solves the problem and improves both the performance and the interpretability of the networks.



NNPDF → N3PDF [full blast]

- starting point: pdfs without functional ansatz
 - moving on: cutting-edge ML everywhere
- ⇒ Leaders in ML-theory

N3PDF
 Machine Learning (ML) for QCD

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For the public

A data-based parametrization of parton distribution functions

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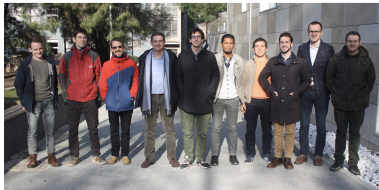
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* Quantum Research Center, Technology Innovation Institute, Abu Dhabi, UAE

Received: date / Revised: online date

Abstract. Since the first determination of a structure function many decades ago, all methodologies used to describe structure functions or parton distribution functions (PDFs) have employed a common procedure as part of the parametrization. The NNPDF collaboration pioneered the use of neural networks to overcome the inherent bias of extracting the shape of a function with a fixed functional form while still keeping the same common procedure as a parametrization. Over the years various, increasingly sophisticated, techniques have been introduced to minimize the effect of the problem on the PDF determination. In this paper we present a methodology to ensure the predictive reliability, identify significantly simplifying the methodology, without a loss of efficiency and finding good agreement with previous results.

PACS. 22.20.+1 Quantum chromodynamics; 22.20.+1 Phenomenological models; 84.20.+1 Neural Networks



Events and amplitudes

Speeding up Sherpa [normalizing flows]

- precision simulations limiting factor for Runs 3&4
 - unweighting critical
- ⇒ Phase space sampling

	$gg \rightarrow Higgs$	$gg \rightarrow Higgs$	$gg \rightarrow Higgs$	$gg \rightarrow Higgs$
σ_{tot}	$1.1e-2$	$7.2e-3$	$6.8e-3$	$4.6e-4$
$\sigma_{1+2+3+4}$	$8.7e-3$	$5.8e-3$	$4.7e-3$	$3.0e-4$
$(\sigma_{real}/\sigma_{total})$	30312	2017	189	64
$\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{full}$	52.03	32.52	49.76	206.19
$\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{surrogate}$	$2.4e-2$	$3.1e-2$	$2.1e-2$	$1.5e-2$
$\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{full}/\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{surrogate}$	0.6689	0.9264	0.9264	0.9581
$\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{full}/\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{surrogate}$	2.21	4.80	1.47	0.19
$\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{full}/\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{surrogate}$	30.49	19.14	27.76	25.24
$\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{full}/\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{surrogate}$	$4.3e-2$	$6.4e-2$	$3.1e-2$	$7.1e-2$
$\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{full}/\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{surrogate}$	0.5683	0.9060	0.9363	0.9221
$\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{full}/\rho_{1+2+3+4}^{surrogate}$	3.90	8.26	5.91	2.22

Table 6: Performance measures for partonic channels contributing to $gg \rightarrow 3$ jets production at the LHC.

SciPost Physics

Submission

MCNET-21-33

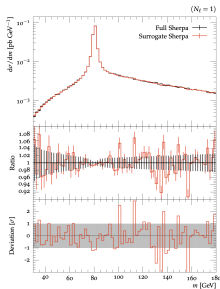
Accelerating Monte Carlo event generation – rejection sampling using neural network event-weight estimates

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September 27, 2021

Abstract

The generation of unit-weight events for complex scattering processes presents a severe challenge to modern Monte Carlo event generators. Even when using sophisticated phase-space sampling techniques adapted to the underlying transition matrix elements, the efficiency for generating unit-weight events from weighted samples can become a limiting factor in practical applications. Here we present a novel two-stage unweighting procedure that makes use of a neural-network surrogate for the full event weight. The algorithm can significantly accelerate the unweighting process, while it still guarantees unbiased sampling from the correct target distribution. We apply, validate and benchmark the new approach in high-multiplicity LHC production processes, including $2W+4$ jets and $0+3$ jets, where we find speed-up factors up to ten.



Events and amplitudes

Speeding up Sherpa [normalizing flows]

- precision simulations limiting factor for Runs 3&4
 - unweighting critical
- ⇒ Phase space sampling

	$gg \rightarrow Hgg$	$gg \rightarrow ggg$	$uu \rightarrow ugg$	$u\bar{u} \rightarrow Hgg$
r_{full}	$1.1e-2$	$7.3e-3$	$6.8e-3$	$6.6e-4$
$r_{\text{full,full}}$	$8.7e-3$	$5.8e-3$	$4.7e-3$	$3.6e-4$
$r_{\text{full}}/r_{\text{full,full}}$	3013	3117	199	56
$r_{\text{NN}}^{\text{full}}$	52.03	32.12	69.76	206.19
$r_{\text{NN}}^{\text{full,full}}$	$2.4e-2$	$3.8e-2$	$3.1e-2$	$5.6e-3$
$r_{\text{NN}}^{\text{full}}/r_{\text{NN}}^{\text{full,full}}$	0.9889	0.9884	0.9994	0.9881
$r_{\text{NN}}^{\text{full}}$	2.21	4.89	1.47	0.19
$r_{\text{NN}}^{\text{full,full}}$	20.49	19.14	27.78	25.34
$r_{\text{NN}}^{\text{full}}/r_{\text{NN}}^{\text{full,full}}$	$4.3e-2$	$4.4e-2$	$5.1e-2$	$7.1e-2$
$r_{\text{NN}}^{\text{full}}$	0.9683	0.9900	0.9943	0.9821
$r_{\text{NN}}^{\text{full,full}}$	3.90	8.20	3.91	2.22

Table 6: Performance measures for partonic channels contributing to $l\bar{l}+3$ jet production at the LHC.

SciPost Physics

Submission

MCNET-21-33

Accelerating Monte Carlo event generation – rejection sampling using neural network event-weight estimates

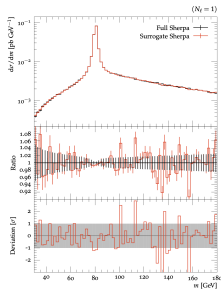
K. Dauteriv¹, T. Jausen², S. Schwanze², F. Singer¹

¹ Institut für Kern- und Teilchenphysik, TU Dresden, Dresden, Germany
² Institut für Theoretische Physik, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany

September 27, 2021

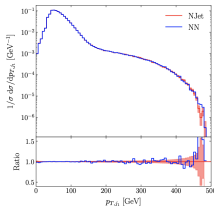
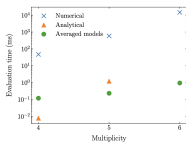
Abstract

The generation of unbi-weight events for complex scattering processes presents a severe challenge to modern Monte Carlo event generators. Even when using sophisticated phase-space sampling techniques adapted to the underlying transition matrix elements, the efficiency for generating unbi-weight events from weighted samples can become a limiting factor in practical applications. Here we present a novel two-stage unweighting procedure that makes use of a neural-network surrogate for the full event weight. The algorithm can significantly accelerate the unweighting process, while it still guarantees unbiased sampling from the correct target distribution. We apply, validate and benchmark the new approach in high-multiplicity LHC production processes, including $2/\bar{l}l+4$ jets and $l\bar{l}+4$ jets, where we find speed-up factors up to ten.



Speeding up amplitudes [regression]

- loop-amplitudes expensive
 - interpolation standard
- ⇒ Network amplitudes



PREPARED FOR SUBMISSION TO JHEP

19PP/20/136

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

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ABSTRACT: Modern 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 modular simulation method that can be applied to hadronic collider observables. Neural networks are trained using the one-loop amplitudes implemented in the *kkMC* library, and interfaced to the Sherpa Monte Carlo event generator, where we perform a detailed study for 2 + 2 and 2 + 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 simulations.



Invertible event generation and errors

Unfolding and inversion [conditional normalizing flows]

- shower/hadronization unfolded by jet algorithm
- detector/decays unfolded e.g. in tops
- calibrated inverse sampling

⇒ **Backwards generation**

Quantum Physics **Submission**

Invertible Networks or Partons to Detector and Back Again

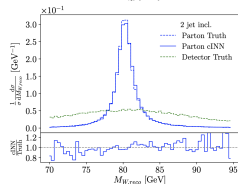
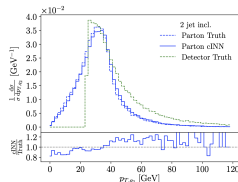
Mario Dellepiane¹, Anja Denner², Ganga Kumbhar³, Tilman Plehn¹, Anand Ramakrishna^{2,3}, Ramon Waterklotz², Lorenz Ardenne², and Ulrich Klöbe²

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³ Institut für Experimentelle Physik, Universität Hamburg, Germany
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October 2, 2020

Abstract

For simulations where the forward and the inverse direction have a physics meaning, invertible neural networks are especially useful. A conditional INN can invert a detector simulation in terms of high-level observables, specifically for ZW production at the LHC. It allows for a per-event statistical interpretation. Next, we allow for a variable number of QCD jets. We unfold detector effects and QCD radiation to a pre-defined hard process, again with a per-event probabilistic interpretation over parton-level phase space.



Invertible event generation and errors

Unfolding and inversion [conditional normalizing flows]

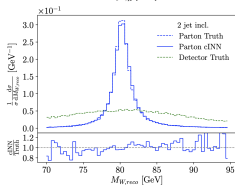
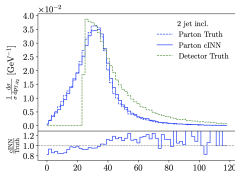
- shower/hadronization unfolded by jet algorithm
- detector/decays unfolded e.g. in tops
- calibrated inverse sampling

⇒ Backwards generation



Abstract

For simulations where the forward and the inverse directions have a physics meaning, invertible neural networks are especially useful. A conditional INN can invert a detector simulation in terms of high-level observables, specifically the $2R$ production at the LHC. It allows for a per-event statistical interpretation. Next, we allow for a variable number of QCD jets. We study detector effects and QCD radiation in a generalised hadron process, again with a per-event probabilistic interpretation over parton-level phase space.



Generative networks with uncertainties [Bayesian discriminator-flows]

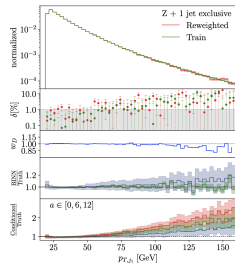
- control through discriminator [GAN-like]
- uncertainties through Bayesian networks

⇒ Precision & control



Abstract

Generative networks are opening new avenues in fast event generation for the LHC. We show how generative flow networks can reach percent-level precision for kinematic distributions, how they can be trained jointly with a discriminator, and how this discriminator improves the generation. Our joint training relies on a novel coupling of the two networks which does not require a Nash equilibrium. We thus estimate the generation uncertainty through a Bayesian network setup and through conditional data augmentation, while the discriminator ensures that there are no systematic inaccuracies compared to the training data.



String landscape and learned formulas

Navigating string landscape [reinforcement learning]

- searching for viable vacua
 - high dimensions, unknown global structure
- ⇒ Phase space sampling

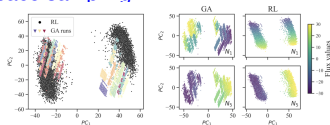


Figure 1: *Left:* Cluster structure in dimensionally reduced flux samples for RL and 25 GA runs (PCA on all samples of GA and RL). The colors indicate individual GA runs. *Right:* Dependence on flux (input values N_1 and N_5 respectively) in relation to principal components for a PCA fit of the individual output of GA and RL.

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

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Abstract

Identifying string theory vacua with desired physical properties at low energies require 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 (including 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.



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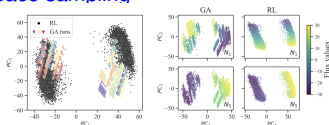


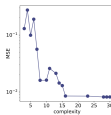
Figure 1: *Left:* Cluster structure in dimensionally reduced flux samples for RL and 25 GA runs (PCA on all samples of GA and RL). The colors indicate individual GA runs. *Right:* Dependence on flux (input) values (N_1 and N_2 respectively) in relation to principal components for a PCA fit of the individual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

Learning formulas [genetic algorithm, symbolic regression]

- approximate numerical function through formula
 - example: score/optimal observables
- ⇒ Useful approximate formulas

comp	def/function	MSE
3	$a \cdot \Delta\phi$	$1.30 \cdot 10^{-1}$
4	$\sin(a \cdot \Delta\phi)$	$2.75 \cdot 10^{-1}$
5	$a \cdot \Delta\phi \cdot \epsilon_{p,1}$	$9.93 \cdot 10^{-2}$
6	$1 - x_{p,1} \sin(\Delta\phi + a)$	$1.90 \cdot 10^{-1}$
7	$(-x_{p,1} - a) \sin(\sin(\Delta\phi))$	$5.63 \cdot 10^{-2}$
8	$(a - x_{p,2}) \cdot x_{p,2} \sin(\Delta\phi)$	$1.63 \cdot 10^{-2}$
14	$x_{p,1}(a \cdot \Delta\phi - \sin(\sin(\Delta\phi)))(x_{p,2} + b)$	$1.44 \cdot 10^{-2}$
15	$(-x_{p,2}(a \cdot \Delta\phi^2 + x_{p,1}) + b) \sin(\Delta\phi + c)$	$1.30 \cdot 10^{-2}$
16	$-x_{p,2}(a - \delta \Delta\phi)(x_{p,2} + c) \sin(\sin(\Delta\phi + d))$	$8.50 \cdot 10^{-3}$
28	$(x_{p,2} + a)(b \cdot \epsilon_{p,1}(c - \Delta\phi) - x_{p,1}(d \cdot \Delta\phi) + x_{p,3} + f) \sin(\Delta\phi + g)$	$8.18 \cdot 10^{-3}$

Table 8: Score hall of fame for simplified WBF Higgs production with $f_{\text{WBF}} = 0$, including a optimization fit.



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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 (suggesting previously undetected 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.

SciPost Physics

Submission

Back to the Formula — LHC Edition

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November 16, 2021

Abstract

While neural networks offer an attractive way to numerically encode functions, actual formulas remain the language of theoretical particle physics. We use symbolic regression trained on matrix-element information to contrast, for instance, optimal LHC observables. This way we invert the usual simulation paradigm and extract easily interpretable formulas from complex associated ZH production. We then validate it for the known case of CP-violation in weak-isospin Higgs production, including detector effects.



Making ML-progress

ML has arrived in particle theory

- neural networks = modern numerics
- applications all over the place [+ Lattice + Cosmology + Astrophysics]
- remember how we worked before MCMC?
- not a fashion about to vanish
- black box only if we do not look
- gaining visibility in AI research
- educational aspect crucial
- links to greater AI projects obvious

