

# Transforming Particle Physics with AI

Tilman Plehn

Universität Heidelberg

Würzburg, GRK 2994, March 2025



# Brief ML-intro

## Similar to fit

- approximate  $f_{\theta}(x) \approx f(x)$
- no function, but very many  $\theta$
- data representation  $\theta$

## Applications

- regression  $x \rightarrow f_{\theta}(x)$
- classification  $x \rightarrow p_{\theta}(x) \in [0, 1]$
- generation  $r \sim \mathcal{N} \rightarrow p_{\theta}(r)$
- conditional generation  $r \sim \mathcal{N} \rightarrow p_{\theta}(r|x)$

## LHC

- training on simulations
  - $x$  always interpretable phase space
  - symmetries, locality, etc known
- **Benefitting from complexity?!**



# Training and uncertainties

Learned scalar field  $f_\theta(x) \approx f(x)$

- maximize parameter probability given  $(f_j, \sigma_j)$

$$\theta = \operatorname{argmax} p(\theta|x) = \operatorname{argmax} \frac{p(x|\theta) p(\theta)}{p(x)}$$

→ Gaussian likelihood loss

$$p(x|\theta) \propto \prod_j \exp\left(-\frac{|f_j - f_\theta(x_j)|^2}{2\sigma_j^2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L} \equiv -\log p(x|\theta) = \sum_j \frac{|f_j - f_\theta(x_j)|^2}{2\sigma_j^2}$$



# Training and uncertainties

Learned scalar field  $f_\theta(x) \approx f(x)$

- maximize parameter probability given  $(f_j, \sigma_j)$

$$\theta = \operatorname{argmax} p(\theta|x) = \operatorname{argmax} \frac{p(x|\theta) p(\theta)}{p(x)}$$

→ Gaussian likelihood loss

$$p(x|\theta) \propto \prod_j \exp\left(-\frac{|f_j - f_\theta(x_j)|^2}{2\sigma_j^2}\right)$$
$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L} \equiv -\log p(x|\theta) = \sum_j \frac{|f_j - f_\theta(x_j)|^2}{2\sigma_j^2}$$

Unknown uncertainties

- loss including normalization

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{|f(x) - f_\theta(x)|^2}{2\sigma_\theta(x)^2} + \log \sigma_\theta(x) + \dots$$

- if needed replace with Gaussian mixture model

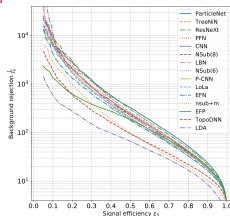
→ Learning function and (systematic) uncertainty



# ML in experiment

## Top tagging [classification, 2016-today]

- '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. Kasieczka<sup>1(a)</sup>, T. Plehn<sup>2(a)</sup>, A. Brucher<sup>3</sup>, K. Cranmer<sup>4</sup>, D. DeLoraine<sup>5</sup>, B. M. Dillon<sup>6</sup>, M. Fairbairn<sup>7</sup>, D. A. Faroughy<sup>8</sup>, W. B. Fisher<sup>9</sup>, C. Gao<sup>7</sup>, L. Gendreau<sup>7</sup>, J. F. Kaniuek<sup>10,11</sup>, P. T. Komiske<sup>12</sup>, S. Lee<sup>13</sup>, A. Latta<sup>14</sup>, S. Mariani<sup>15</sup>, E. M. Martinelli<sup>16</sup>, L. Moore<sup>17</sup>, B. Nachman<sup>18,19</sup>, K. Nishikawa<sup>20,21</sup>, J. Pineda<sup>22</sup>, H. Qi<sup>23</sup>, Y. Rath<sup>24</sup>, M. Rogers<sup>25</sup>, D. Shih<sup>26</sup>, J. M. Thompson<sup>27</sup>, and S. Verra<sup>28</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institut für Experimentalphysik, Universität Hamburg, Germany

<sup>2</sup> Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Heidelberg, Germany

<sup>3</sup> Center for Cosmology and Particle Physics and Center for Data Science, NYU, USA

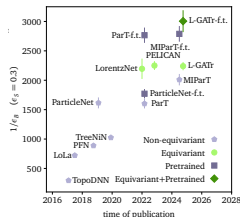
<sup>4</sup> NICT, Dept. of Physics and Astronomy, Rutgers, The State University of NJ, USA

<sup>5</sup> Jozef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia

<sup>6</sup> Theoretical Particle Physics and Cosmology, King's College London, United Kingdom

<sup>7</sup> Department of Physics and Astronomy, The University of British Columbia, Canada

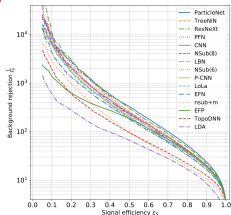
<sup>8</sup> Department of Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA



# ML in experiment

## Top tagging [classification, 2016-today]

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



SelfPost Physics

Submission

### The Machine Learning Landscape of Top Taggers

G. Kasieczka<sup>(a)(1)</sup>, T. Plehn<sup>(a)(2)</sup>, A. Bortone<sup>(3)</sup>, R. Cruzera<sup>(4)</sup>, D. DeMaor<sup>(5)</sup>, B. M. Dillon<sup>(6)</sup>, M. Fairhead<sup>(7)</sup>, D. A. Faruqi<sup>(8)</sup>, W. Fisher<sup>(9)</sup>, C. Gao<sup>(10)</sup>, L. González<sup>(11)</sup>, J. P. Kauer<sup>(12)</sup>, P. T. Komatsu<sup>(13)</sup>, S. Lela<sup>(14)</sup>, A. Lister<sup>(15)</sup>, S. Maiani<sup>(16)</sup>, E. M. Metodiev<sup>(17)</sup>, L. Moore<sup>(18)</sup>, B. Nachman<sup>(19)</sup>, K. Nisitsch<sup>(20)</sup>, J. Poeschl<sup>(21)</sup>, H. Qu<sup>(22)</sup>, Y. Rath<sup>(23)</sup>, M. Ringer<sup>(24)</sup>, D. Shih<sup>(25)</sup>, J. M. Thompson<sup>(26)</sup>, and S. Varrault<sup>(27)</sup>

- 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, 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 California, Santa Barbara, USA
- 9 Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 10 Center for Theoretical Physics, MIT, Cambridge, USA
- 11 CP3, Universitè 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
- 15 LPTHE, CNRS & Sorbonne Université, Paris, France
- 16 III. Physikalisches Institut A, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

## Particle flow [2020-today]

- basis of jet analyses
- combining detectors with different resolution
- Optimality the key

### Towards a Computer Vision Particle Flow \*

Francesco Armando Di Bello<sup>(a)</sup>, Sanmay Ganguly<sup>(b)</sup>, Eilam Gross<sup>(c)</sup>, Marumi Kado<sup>(d)</sup>, Michael Pin<sup>(e)</sup>, Lorenzo Santi<sup>(f)</sup>, Jonathan Shlomi<sup>(g)</sup>

<sup>(a)</sup>Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot 76100, Israel

<sup>(b)</sup>CERN, CH-1211, Geneva 23, Switzerland

<sup>(c)</sup>Università di Roma Sapienza, Piazza Aldo Moro, 2, 00185 Roma, Italy e INFN, Italy

<sup>(d)</sup>Università Paris-Saclay, CNRS/IN2P3, DCLab, 91405, Orsay, France

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

Farook Mukhtar<sup>(a)</sup>, Josep Pata<sup>(b)</sup>, Javier Duarte<sup>(c)</sup>, Eric Wulff<sup>(d)</sup>,

Manuela Pineda<sup>(e)</sup> and Juan-Roch Vilmar<sup>(f)</sup>

(on behalf of the CMS Collaboration)

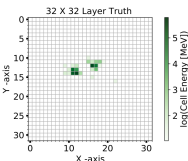
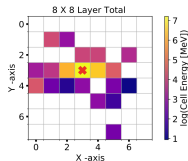
<sup>(a)</sup>University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92037, USA

<sup>(b)</sup>DESY, Notkestr. 85, 22607 Hamburg, Germany

<sup>(c)</sup>European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), CH-1211, Geneva 23, Switzerland

<sup>(d)</sup>California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91125, USA

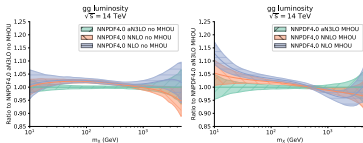
<sup>(e)</sup>manuela.pineda@cern.ch, <sup>(f)</sup>josep.pata@cern.ch, <sup>(g)</sup>manuel.vilmar@cern.ch



# ML in phenomenology

## Parton densities [NNPDF, 2002-today]

- LHC-ML classic
  - pdfs with uncertainties and without bias
- Driving precision



## The Path to N<sup>2</sup>LO Parton Distributions

### The NNPDF Collaboration:

Richard D. Ball<sup>1</sup>, Andrea Barzanti<sup>2</sup>, Alessandro Cacciari<sup>2,3</sup>, Stefano Carrazza<sup>2</sup>, Juan Cruz-Martinez<sup>2</sup>, Luigi Del Debbio<sup>1</sup>, Stefano Forte<sup>2</sup>, Tommaso Gehrmann<sup>2,4</sup>, Felix Heinrich<sup>2,5,6</sup>, Zakari Kamenik<sup>2</sup>, Niccolò Lauretti<sup>2</sup>, Giacomo Maga<sup>2,5</sup>, Emanuele R. Nocera<sup>3</sup>, Tamas R. Rapcsanyi<sup>2,5</sup>, Juan Rojo<sup>4,5</sup>, Christopher Schwan<sup>2,6</sup>, Roy Stogner<sup>2</sup>, and Maria Ubald<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The Hugh Christie for Theoretical Physics, University of Edinburgh, JCHE, RD, Mayfield BA, Edinburgh EH9 1JZ, Scotland

<sup>2</sup>TJ Lab, Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Milano and INFN, Sezione di Milano, Via Celoria 16, I-20133 Milano, Italy

<sup>3</sup>CERN, Theoretical Physics Department, CH-1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland

<sup>4</sup>Department of Physics and Astronomy, Vrije Universiteit, 105-1081 RV Amsterdam

<sup>5</sup>HEP Theory Group, Science Park 105, 10900 IC Amsterdam, The Netherlands

<sup>6</sup>University of Jyväskylä, Department of Physics, P.O. Box 35, FI-40014 University of Jyväskylä, Finland

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

<sup>8</sup>DAMTP, University of Cambridge, Wilberforce Road, Cambridge, CB3 0WA, United Kingdom

<sup>9</sup>Dipartimento di Fisica, Università degli Studi di Torino and INFN, Sezione di Torino, Via Pietro Giuria 1, I-10125 Torino, Italy

<sup>10</sup>Universität Würzburg, Institut für Theoretische Physik und Astrophysik, 97074 Würzburg, Germany

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



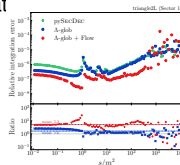
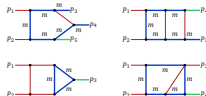




## Optimizing integration paths [invertible networks]

- compute Feynman integrals
- learn optimal integration path

→ To be implemented...



SciPost

SciPost Phys. 12, 129 (2022)

### Targeting multi-loop integrals with neural networks

Ramon Winterhalder<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Vinay Megrey<sup>4</sup>, Emilio Villa<sup>1</sup>, Stephen F. Jones<sup>2</sup>, Mathias Kerzer<sup>4,6</sup>, Anja Rott<sup>2,3</sup>, Gudrun Heinrich<sup>4,6</sup> and Tilman Plehn<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Heidelberg, Germany

<sup>2</sup> HEHKA - Heidelberg Karlsruhe Strategic Partnership, Heidelberg University, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Germany

<sup>3</sup> Centre for Cosmology, Particle Physics and Phenomenology (CP3), Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium

<sup>4</sup> Institut für Theoretische Physik, Karlsruher Institut für Technologie, Germany

<sup>5</sup> Institute for Particle Physics Phenomenology, Durham University, UK

<sup>6</sup> Institut für Astrophysik, Karlsruher Institut für Technologie, Germany

### Abstract

Numerical evaluations of Feynman integrals often proceed via a deformation of the integration contour into the complex plane. While valid contours are easy to construct, the numerical precision for a multi-loop integral can depend critically on the chosen contour. We present methods to optimize this contour using a combination of optimized, global complex shifts and a normalizing flow. They can lead to a significant gain in precision.

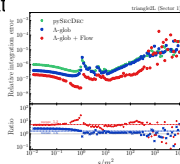
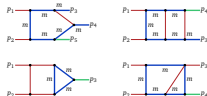


# ML in theory

## Optimizing integration paths [invertible networks]

- compute Feynman integrals
- learn optimal integration path

→ To be implemented...



SciPost

SciPost Phys. 12, 129 (2022)

### Targeting multi-loop integrals with neural networks

Ramon Winterhalder<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Vinay Mehta<sup>4</sup>, Emilio Villa<sup>1</sup>, Stephen F. Jones<sup>5</sup>,  
Mathias Kermer<sup>6</sup>, Anja Rottler<sup>2,3</sup>, Gudrun Heinrich<sup>2,4</sup> and Tilman Plehn<sup>1,2</sup>

- 1 Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Heidelberg, Germany
- 2 HEKA - Heidelberg Karlsruhe Strategic Partnership, Heidelberg University, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Germany
- 3 Centre for Cosmology, Particle Physics and Phenomenology (CP3), Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium
- 4 Institut für Theoretische Physik, Karlsruher Institut für Technologie, Germany
- 5 Institute for Particle Physics Phenomenology, Durham University, UK
- 6 Institut für Astronomiephysik, Karlsruher Institut für Technologie, Germany

### Abstract

Numerical evaluations of Feynman integrals often proceed via a deformation of the integration contour into the complex plane. While valid contours are easy to construct, the numerical precision for a multi-loop integral can depend critically on the chosen contour. We present methods to optimize this contour using a combination of optimized, global complex shifts and a normalizing flow. They can lead to a significant gain in precision.

## String landscape [reinforcement learning]

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

→ Islands of Standard Model?

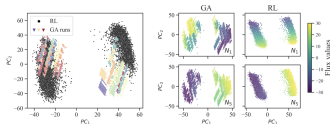


Figure 1: Left: Cluster structure in dimensionally reduced flux samples for RL and 25 GA runs (PCA on all samples of GA and RL). The colors indicate individual GA runs. Right: Dependence on flux (input) values ( $N_1$  and  $N_2$  respectively) in relation to principal components for a PCA fit of the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

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

Alex Cole  
University of Amsterdam  
a.w.cole@uva.nl

Sven Krippendorff  
Arnold Sommerfeld Center for Theoretical Physics  
LMU Munich  
sven.krippendorff@physik.uni-muenchen.de

Andreas Schachner  
Center for Mathematical Sciences  
University of Cambridge  
as2073@cam.ac.uk

Gary Shiu  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
shiug@physics.wisc.edu

### 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 this vacua, we are able to reveal novel features (suggesting 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.



# Statistics and systematics

## Statistical approach [Bahl, Elmer, Favaro, Haußmann, TP, Winterhalder]

- expectation value with internal representation  $\theta$

$$\langle A \rangle = \int dA \, A \, p(A|x) = \int dA \, A \int d\theta \, p(A|\theta) \, p(\theta|A_{\text{train}})$$

- training a generalization

$$\int d\theta \, p(A|\theta) \, p(\theta|A_{\text{train}}) \approx \int d\theta \, p(A|\theta) \, q(\theta)$$



## Statistical approach [Bahl, Elmer, Favaro, Haußmann, TP, Winterhalder]

- expectation value with internal representation  $\theta$

$$\langle A \rangle = \int dA A p(A|x) = \int dA A \int d\theta p(A|\theta) p(\theta|A_{\text{train}})$$

- training a generalization

$$\int d\theta p(A|\theta) p(\theta|A_{\text{train}}) \approx \int d\theta p(A|\theta) q(\theta)$$

- similarity from minimal KL-divergence

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

- regularized likelihood loss

$$\mathcal{L} = - \int d\theta q(\theta) \log p(A_{\text{train}}|\theta) + D_{\text{KL}}[q(\theta), p(\theta)]$$



## Statistical approach [Bahl, Elmer, Favaro, Haußmann, TP, Winterhalder]

- expectation value with internal representation  $\theta$

$$\langle A \rangle = \int dA A p(A|x) = \int dA A \int d\theta p(A|\theta) p(\theta|A_{\text{train}})$$

- training a generalization

$$\int d\theta p(A|\theta) p(\theta|A_{\text{train}}) \approx \int d\theta p(A|\theta) q(\theta)$$

- similarity from minimal KL-divergence

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

- regularized likelihood loss

$$\mathcal{L} = - \int d\theta q(\theta) \log p(A_{\text{train}}|\theta) + D_{\text{KL}}[q(\theta), p(\theta)]$$

→ **Variance** [Bayesian networks]

$$\sigma^2 = \int dA \int d\theta (A - \langle A \rangle)^2 p(A|\theta) q(\theta) \equiv \sigma_{\text{syst}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{stat}}^2$$

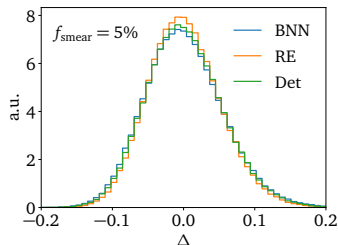
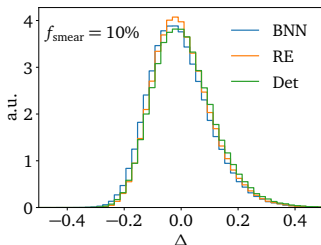


# Amplitudes with calibrated uncertainties

Loop amplitude  $gg \rightarrow \gamma\gamma g(g)$  over phase space [Badger, Butter, Luchmann, Pitz, TP]

- systematics: **artificial noise**
- statistics plateau
- accuracy over phase space

$$\Delta(x) = \frac{A_{\text{NN}}(x) - A_{\text{true}}(x)}{A_{\text{true}}(x)}$$



## Amplitudes with calibrated uncertainties

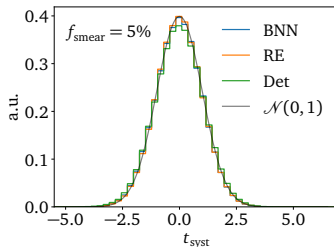
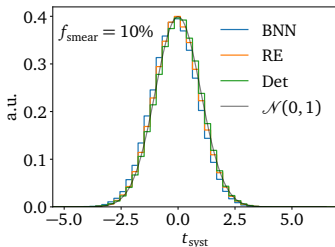
Loop amplitude  $gg \rightarrow \gamma\gamma g(g)$  over phase space [Badger, Butter, Luchmann, Pitz, TP]

- systematics: artificial noise
- statistics plateau
- accuracy over phase space

$$\Delta(x) = \frac{A_{\text{NN}}(x) - A_{\text{true}}(x)}{A_{\text{true}}(x)}$$

- pull over phase space

$$t_{\text{syst}}(x) = \frac{A_{\text{NN}}(x) - A_{\text{true}}(x)}{\sigma_{\text{syst}}(x)}$$



# Amplitudes with calibrated uncertainties

Loop amplitude  $gg \rightarrow \gamma\gamma g(g)$  over phase space [Badger, Butter, Luchmann, Pitz, TP]

- systematics: **artificial noise**
- statistics plateau
- accuracy over phase space

$$\Delta(x) = \frac{A_{\text{NN}}(x) - A_{\text{true}}(x)}{A_{\text{true}}(x)}$$

$$t_{\text{syst}}(x) = \frac{A_{\text{NN}}(x) - A_{\text{true}}(x)}{\sigma_{\text{syst}}(x)}$$

- pull over phase space

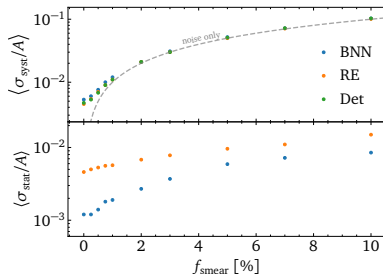
## Towards zero noise

- scaling

$$\sigma_{\text{syst}}^2 - \sigma_{\text{syst},0}^2 \approx \sigma_{\text{train}}^2$$

- plateau  $\langle \sigma_{\text{syst}}/A \rangle \sim 0.4\%$

→ **Limiting factor??**





# Amplitudes with calibrated uncertainties

Loop amplitude  $gg \rightarrow \gamma\gamma g(g)$  over phase space [Badger, Butter, Luchmann, Pitz, TP]

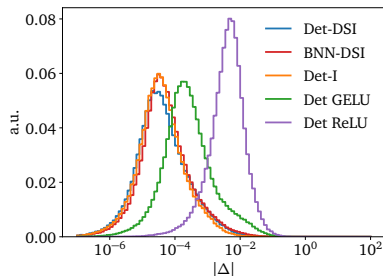
- systematics: artificial noise
- statistics plateau
- accuracy over phase space
- pull over phase space

$$\Delta(x) = \frac{A_{\text{NN}}(x) - A_{\text{true}}(x)}{A_{\text{true}}(x)}$$

$$t_{\text{syst}}(x) = \frac{A_{\text{NN}}(x) - A_{\text{true}}(x)}{\sigma_{\text{syst}}(x)}$$

## Data pre-processing

- amplitude from invariants
- learn Minkowski metric
- Deep-sets-invariant network  
L-GATr transformer



# Amplitudes with calibrated uncertainties

Loop amplitude  $gg \rightarrow \gamma\gamma g(g)$  over phase space [Badger, Butter, Luchmann, Pitz, TP]

- systematics: artificial noise
- statistics plateau
- accuracy over phase space

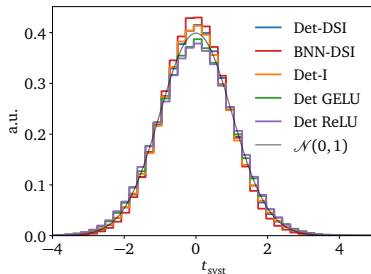
$$\Delta(x) = \frac{A_{\text{NN}}(x) - A_{\text{true}}(x)}{A_{\text{true}}(x)}$$

- pull over phase space

$$t_{\text{syst}}(x) = \frac{A_{\text{NN}}(x) - A_{\text{true}}(x)}{\sigma_{\text{syst}}(x)}$$

## Data pre-processing

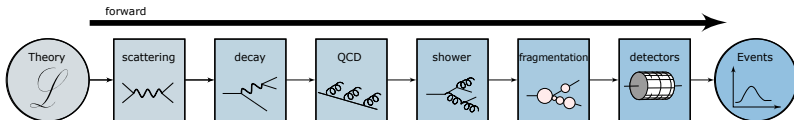
- amplitude from invariants
  - learn Minkowski metric
  - Deep-sets-invariant network  
L-GATr transformer
- Calibrated systematics



# Generative AI

Simulations, MadNIS, calorimeters,... [Roman's AI-Physics teams]

- learn phase space density  
fast sampling Gaussian  $\rightarrow$  phase space  
Bayesian generative network  $\rightarrow$  uncertainties
- Variational Autoencoder  
 $\rightarrow$  low-dimensional physics
- GAN [Butter, TP, Winterhalder]  
 $\rightarrow$  generator trained by classifier
- Normalizing Flow [Bellagente, Haußmann, Luchmann, TP]  
 $\rightarrow$  bijective mapping
- Diffusion [Butter, Hütsch, Palacios, TP, Sorrenson, Spinner]  
 $\rightarrow$  ODE solving
- JetGPT, ViT [Favaro, Ore, Palacios, TP]  
 $\rightarrow$  non-local structures
- L-GATr for LHC [Brehmer, Breso, de Haan, TP, Qu, Spinner, Thaler]  
 $\rightarrow$  Lorentz-covariant data representation



# Controlling generative AI

## Compare generated with training data [Das, Favaro, Heimgel, Krause, TP, Shi]

- generation: unsupervised density
- classify training vs generated events  $D(x)$   
learned density ratio [Neyman-Pearson]

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

→ Test ratio over phase space



# Controlling generative AI

## Compare generated with training data [Das, Favaro, Heimes, Krause, TP, Shi]

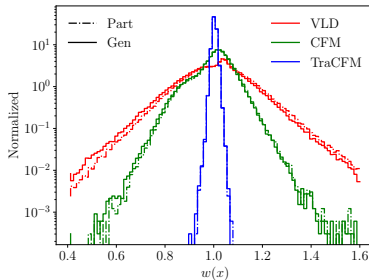
- generation: unsupervised density
- classify training vs generated events  $D(x)$   
learned density ratio [Neyman-Pearson]

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

→ Test ratio over phase space

## Testing NN-generators [Heidelberg-Berkeley-Irvine]

- accuracy from width of weight distribution
  - tails indicating failure mode
- Systematic performance test

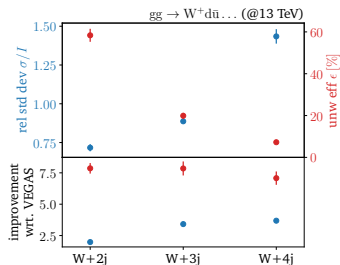
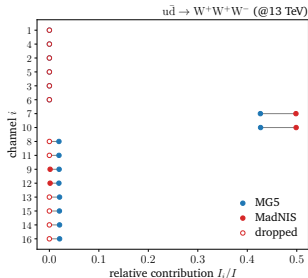


# Neural importance sampling

## ML-channel weights & ML-Vegas [Heimel, Hütsch, Maltoni, Mattelaer, TP, Winterhalder]

- simple goal 1: learn channel weights [regression]
- simple goal 2: learn Vegas mapping [invertible generation]
- technically: online + buffered training
- minimize integration variance

→ Beat MadGraph and its team...



# Transforming LHC physics

## Number of searches [Sabine's talk]

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

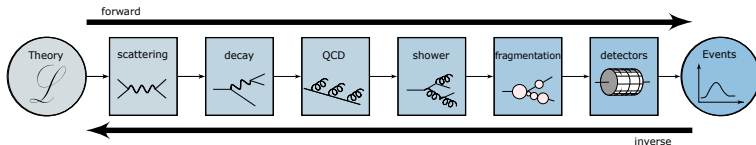
## Optimal analyses

- update theory predictions
- include predictions not in event generators

## 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

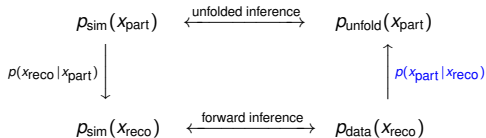
→ **Unfold to suitable level** [Andrea's talk]



# ML-Unfolding

View as generative inference [Köthe etal, Macke etal]

- four phase space distributions



- learn conditional probabilities from  $(x_{\text{part}}, x_{\text{reco}})$  [forward-inverse symmetric]

→ Unbinned and high-dimensional unfolding

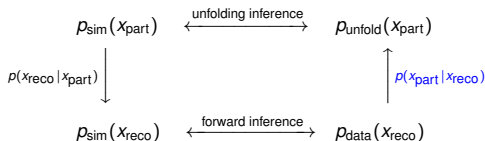




# ML-Unfolding

View as generative inference [Köthe etal, Macke etal]

- four phase space distributions

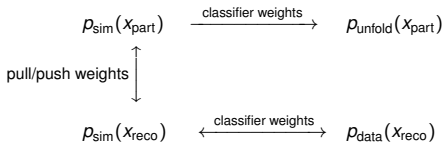


- learn conditional probabilities from  $(x_{\text{part}}, x_{\text{reco}})$  [forward-inverse symmetric]

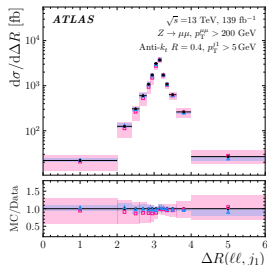
→ Unbinned and high-dimensional unfolding

## OmniFold

- learn  $p_{\text{sim}}(x_{\text{reco}}) \leftrightarrow p_{\text{data}}(x_{\text{reco}})$
- reweight  $p_{\text{sim}}(x_{\text{part}}) \rightarrow p_{\text{unfold}}(x_{\text{part}})$



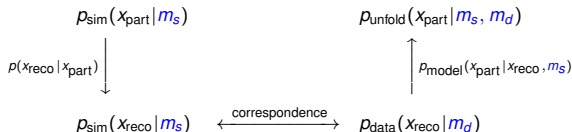
→ Z+jets in 24D [ATLAS]



# Unfolding top decays

## Top mass as high school project [Favaro, Palacios, TP + CMS]

- first measure  $m_t$  in unfolded data  
then unfold full kinematics
- simulation  $m_s$  vs data  $m_d$  [too bad to reweight]



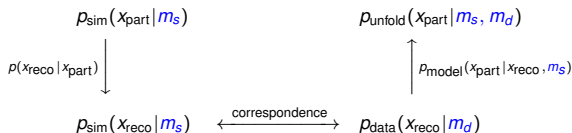
→ train on  $m_s$ -range  
include batch-wise  $M_{jjj} \in x_{\text{reco}}$



# Unfolding top decays

## Top mass as high school project [Favaro, Palacios, TP + CMS]

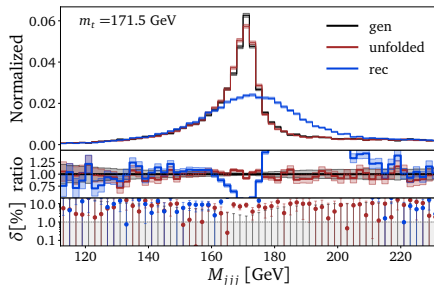
- first measure  $m_t$  in unfolded data  
then unfold full kinematics
- simulation  $m_s$  vs data  $m_d$  [too bad to reweight]



- train on  $m_s$ -range  
include batch-wise  $M_{jjj} \in x_{\text{reco}}$

## Preliminary unfolding results [TraCFM]

- 4D for  $m_t$  [Andrea's talk]  
uncluding  $m_W$ -calibration
  - 12D published data
- CMS data next



# ML for LHC Theory

## RTGs perfect for method development, like ML

- 1 just another numerical tool for a numerical field
- 2 completely transformative new language
  - driven by (money from) data science and medical research
  - particle physics should be leading scientific AI
  - 10000 Einsteins...
  - ...improving established tools
  - ...developing new tools for established tasks
  - ...transforming through new ideas

→ Complexity becoming our friend

### Modern Machine Learning for LHC Physicists

Tilman Plehn<sup>a,\*</sup>, Anja Butter<sup>a,b</sup>, Barry Dillon<sup>a</sup>,  
Theo Heimel<sup>c</sup>, Claudius Krause<sup>c</sup>, and Ramon Winterhalder<sup>d</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Institut für Theoretische Physik, Universität Heidelberg, Germany

<sup>b</sup> LPNHE, Sorbonne Université, Université Paris Cité, CNRS/IN2P3, Paris, France

<sup>c</sup> HEPHY, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria

<sup>d</sup> CP3, Université catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium

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.<sup>1</sup>

:2211.01421v2 [hep-ph] 17 Mar 2024

