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# Application of Supervised Machine Learning to the Search for New Physics in ATLAS data

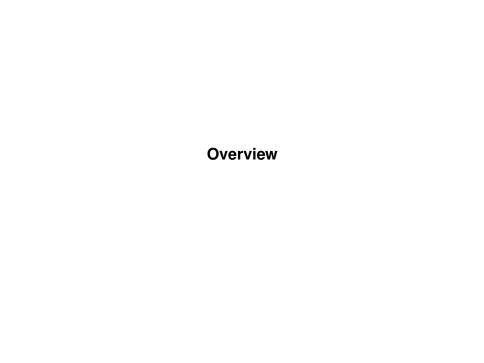
A Study of Ordinary Dense, Parameterized and Ensemble Networks and their Application to High Energy Physics

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May 20, 2023

#### **Outline**

- 1 Overview
- 2 Introduction & Motivation
- 3 The Implementation
- 4 Methods & Results
- 5 Conclusion & Outlook
- 6 References



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Why apply machine learning to HEP problems?

How do we search for new physics?

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# A summary of the applied methods

Three neural network variants

- Ordinary dense neural network
- Ensemble networks utilizing Local-Winner-Takes-All (LWTA) layers
- Parameterized neural networks (PNN)

One boosted decision tree method

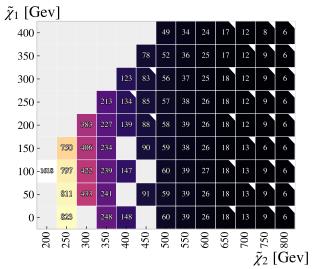
XGBoost using default settings

# How are the methods compared?

# **Training strategy**

# Mass combinations of the chargino-neutralino pair

- Full signal grid
  - 89 mass combinations
- Original signal set: white corners
  - 30 mass combinations
- The smaller the masses, the larger the contribution



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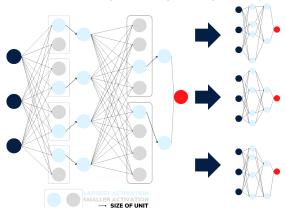
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An introduction and study of each method

## Ordinary dense neural network

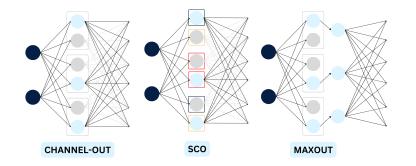
### **Ensemble methods - LWTA**

- Dropout
- What is LWTA?
- Competing nodes Units
- Encode information in pattern specific pathways



# **Channel-Out, SCO and Maxout**

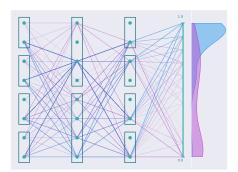
Layer	Separate Weights & Biases	Static Units
Channel-Out	Yes	Yes
SCO	<i>Yes</i>	No
Maxout	No	Yes



# Visualization and study of sparse pathways

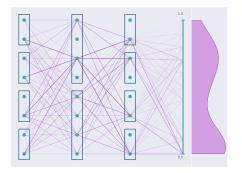
- A study of the implementation and effect of LWTA layers
- Visualize the activation and paths of 100 randomly sampled events
  - 50 background
  - 50 signal
- The bolder the line the more frequently the path is used.

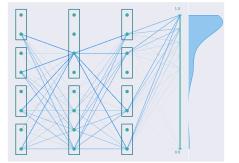
### Before training



#### After training

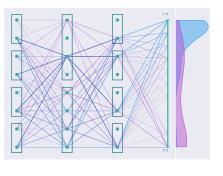
# Background

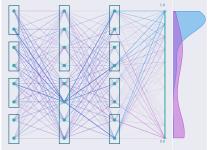




#### Signal

# Comparing activation of Maxout with SCO

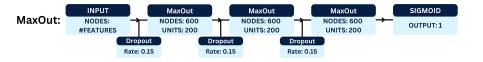




**Maxout** 

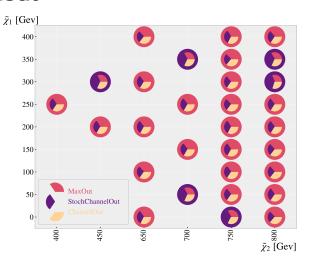
SCO

#### **Ensemble network architecture**



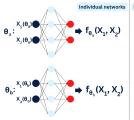
# Comparing sensitivity of channel-out, SCO and maxout

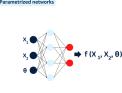
- Maxout: 23/30
- SCO: 7/30
  - No trend for preferred masses
  - Possibly improve without layer on prediction



#### Parameterized neural network

- For diverse data set, X, dependent on a parameter,  $X(\theta)$ 
  - Classical approach: One model for each parameter
  - PNN approach: Include  $\theta$  as feature in feature set
- Signal events using masses  $\{A, B\}_{GeV}$  to generate event during simulation will include the parameters A and B in feature set
- Background assigned parameters randomly using same distribution as signal
- Motivation
  - Network will associate parameters with trends in the data



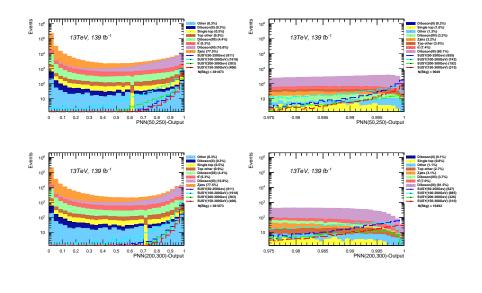


#### **PNN** architecture



# Study the effect of the parameters in the PNN

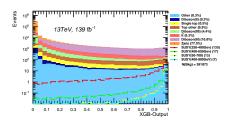
- Study if the parameters effect the training as intended
- Test: Manually assign all the events, both background and signal, the same parameters (mass combinations) thereby assigning most of the signal the wrong parameters
- Hypothesis: PNN performs better when events are assigned correct parameters
- First test: All events are given parameters {50,250}<sub>GeV</sub>
- Second test: All events are given parameters {200,300}<sub>GeV</sub>

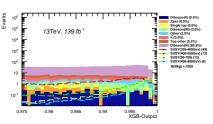


# **Efficiency table**

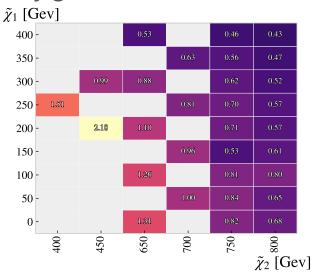
Channel Parameters	(50, 250)	(100, 200)	(150, 300)	(200, 300)
(50, 250)	80.8%	45.8%	77.5%	50.1%
(200, 300)	77.3%	54.6%	76.3%	<b>59.0%</b>

#### **Boosted decision trees - XGBoost**

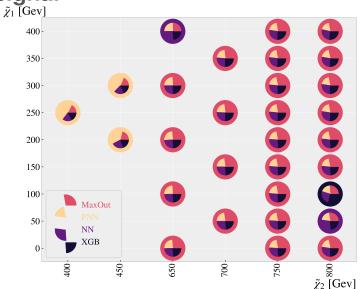




# Sensitivity grid



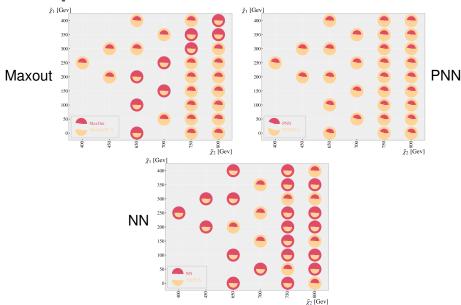
# Comparing the sensitivity on a subset of the signal



# Increasing sensitivity through a PCA

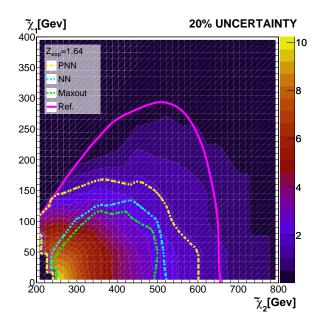
- What is PCA?
- Dimensionality reduction
- Creates new features using linear combination of original features
- Ranks from most to least variance
- This analysis
  - Demand conservation of 99.9% of variance/spread
  - 5 features removed

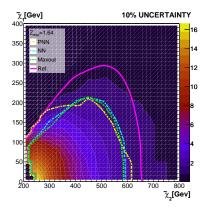
## Compare methods with and without PCA

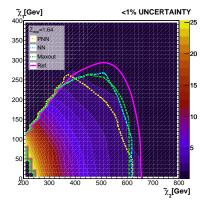


# Comparing the methods to previous analysis

- Compare the expected limits of three best models to analysis made by ATLAS in 2021 [1]
- Introduce flat uncertainty for realistic comparison (20%, 10%, < 1%)
- Include top performing methods
  - Maxout model with PCA
  - PNN with PCA
  - Ordinary dense neural network withou PCA







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#### References I



ATLAS Collaboration.

'Search for chargino–neutralino pair production in final states with three leptons and missing transverse momentum in  $\sqrt{s}$  = 13 TeV pp collisions with the ATLAS detector'.

http://arxiv.org/abs/2106.01676



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