

# Neural network development in the analysis of single top-quark production in association with a Higgs boson and light-quark at ATLAS

Christian Kirfel

15th of March 2020



BMBF-ErUM-Forschungsschwerpunkt  
**ATLAS-EXPERIMENT**

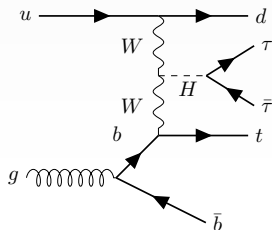
Ausbau von ATLAS am LHC: Physik mit dem ATLAS-Experiment

**ErUM-FSP T02**

**ATLAS**



# tHq lepditau channel selection



- Number of jets: 2
- Number of b-jets: 1
- number of leptons:  $1e/\mu$
- number of taus: 2 hadronic taus
- $E_{T,miss}$ : no cut (to 800 GeV)

- Jets:
  - $p_T > 35 \text{ GeV}$
  - $|\eta| < 4.5$
- Electrons:
  - $p_T > 20 \text{ GeV}$  leading 27 GeV
  - $|\eta| < 2.5$  not in 1.37 - 1.52
- Muons:
  - $p_T > 20 \text{ GeV}$  leading 27 GeV
  - $0.01 < |\eta| < 2.5$
- Taus:
  - $p_T > 20 \text{ GeV}$  leading 27 GeV
  - $|\eta| < 2.5$  not in 1.37 - 1.52

# Challenges

## Different sizes of background processes

- Dominating background can diminish the significance of secondary backgrounds in training
- Especially very signal-like backgrounds are likely to be mislabeled

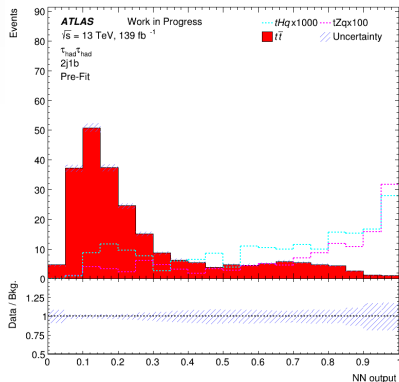
## Negative weights in Monte Carlo

- Negative weights are needed in Monte Carlo generation to avoid double counting.
- In neural network training negative weights lead to an unwanted behaviour.

## Accelerating network optimisation

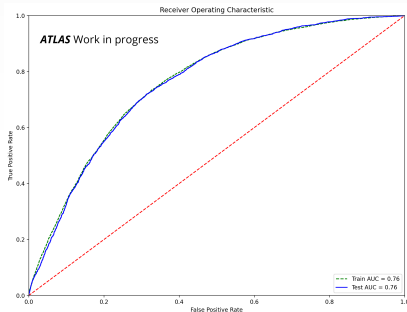
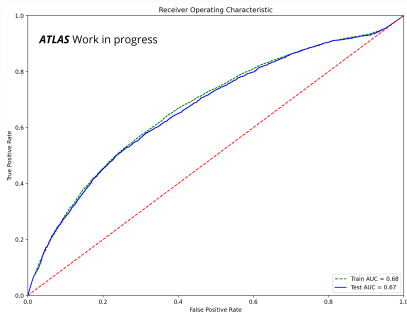
- Exploration of new features is only possible in an optimised network
- An evolutionary optimisation approach minimises the work effort

# Background processes in neural network training



- $t\bar{t}$  dominates the training
- $tZq$  classified as signal
- Approaches:
  - multiple networks
  - multiple targets
  - reweighting samples

# Impact of negative weights on the training



- About 35% negative weights
- Breaks the networks training
- Possible approaches: absolutes or just positive weights for training

# Problems in network optimisation

## Obstacles of optimisation processes

- Grid searches are both tedious and resource intensive
- Knowledge gained in one problem is rarely universal
- Experienced users can develop a bias towards certain hyperparameters

## Applications of evolutionary optimisation

- A neural network should be developed in parallel to an ongoing analysis.
- New additions need a new optimisation.

# Evolutionary optimisation of neural networks

- Combination of a grid searches with a survival of the fittest setup
- Start with a number of random hyperparamters
- Evaluate the set of hyperparameters
- Create a a new set of networks based on the previous best
- Add recombination and variation to avoid local minima and bias



# Example of an evolutionary training

- Signal:  $tHq$
- Background:  $t\bar{t}$
- Testing: nodes, layers, dropout
- Fixed hyperparameters:
  - Optimizer: Adam
  - Activation: relu, sigmoid
  - Batchsize: 1000
  - Epochs per generation: 25

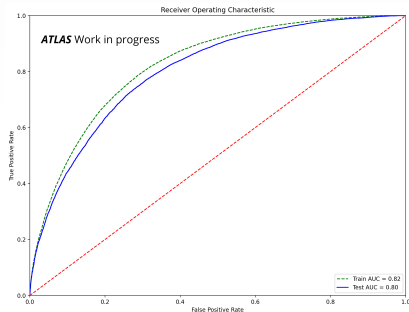
## Initial parameters

- Layers: 1 – 10
- Nodes: 1 – 100
- Dropout: 0 – 1

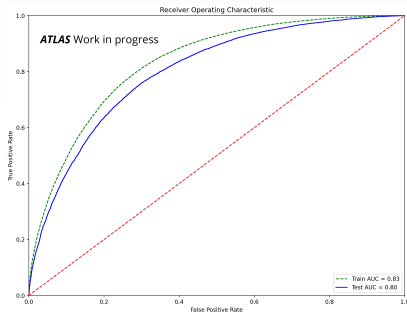
## Final parameters

- Layers: [2 : 6]
- Nodes: [30 : 90]
- Dropout: [0.1 : 0.7]

# Comparing ROC to a grid search

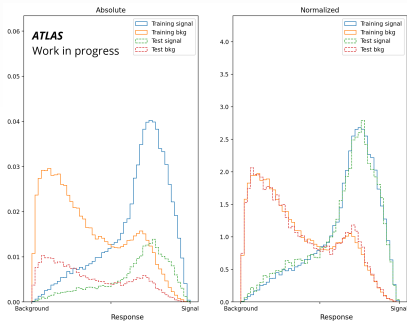


Grid search

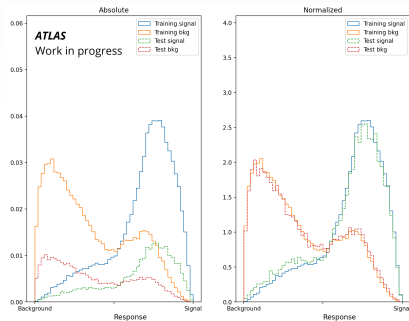


Evolutionary search

# Comparing response to a grid search



Grid search



Evolutionary search

# Conclusions

---

- Using neural networks for signal to background separation in the  $tHq$  channel is an interesting analysis that offers many challenges.
- Negative weights resulting from Monte Carlo generators cannot easily be handled by machine learning algorithms.
- Different sizes of background samples result in smaller backgrounds getting ignored or even classified as signal
- Evolutionary optimisation of neural networks is a nice approach to reoptimise a network automatically in an ongoing analysis.