# Learning when you know (basically) nothing



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Outline: Background ---> LLP ---> CWoLA ---> The future

### Motivation



Current paradigm: Train on simulation -> Test on data

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Use adversaries to penalize learning data versus simulation

Louppe et al. 1611.01046









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### Solution: train directly on (unlabeled) data!

### Weakly Supervised Classification in High Energy Physics

### Lucio Mwinmaarong Dery, Benjamin Nachman, Francesco Rubbo, Ariel Schwartzman

(Submitted on 1 Feb 2017 (v1), last revised 3 Jul 2017 (this version, v4))

As machine learning algorithms become increasingly sophisticated to exploit subtle features of the data, they often become modependent on simulations. This paper presents a new approach called weakly supervised classification in which class proportion the only input into the machine learning algorithm. Using one of the most challenging binary classification tasks in high energy physics – quark versus gluon tagging – we show that weakly supervised classification can match the performance of fully super algorithms. Furthermore, by design, the new algorithm is insensitive to any mis-modeling of discriminating features in the data simulation. Weakly supervised classification is a general procedure that can be applied to a wide variety of learning problems to performance and robustness when detailed simulations are not reliable or not available.

Comments:8 pages, 4 figuresSubjects:High Energy Physics - Phenomenology (hep-ph); Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability (physics.data-an); Machine L<br/>(stat.ML)Journal reference:JHEP 05 (2017) 145DOI:10.1007/JHEP05(2017)145Cite as:arXiv:1702.00414 [hep-ph] for this version)







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# Classification without labels: Learning from mixed samples in high energy physics

#### Eric M. Metodiev, Benjamin Nachman, Jesse Thaler

#### (Submitted on 9 Aug 2017 (v1), last revised 8 Sep 2017 (this version, v2))

Modern machine learning techniques can be used to construct powerful models for difficult collider physics problems. In many applications, however, these models are trained on imperfect simulations due to a lack of truth-level information in the data, which risks the model learning artifacts of the simulation. In this paper, we introduce the paradigm of classification without labels (CWoLa) in which a classifier is trained to distinguish statistical mixtures of classes, which are common in collider physics. Crucially, neither individual labels nor class proportions are required, yet we prove that the optimal classifier in the CWoLa paradigm is also the optimal classifier in the traditional fully-supervised case where all label information is available. After demonstrating the power of this method in an analytical toy example, we consider a realistic benchmark for collider physics: distinguishing quark- versus gluon-initiated jets using mixed quark/gluon training samples. More generally, CWoLa can be applied to any classification problem where labels or class proportions are unreliable, but statistical mixtures of the classes are available.

Comments:16 pages, 5 figures; v2: intro extended and references addedSubjects:High Energy Physics - Phenomenology (hep-ph); High Energy Physics - Experiment (hep-ex); Machine Learning (stat.ML)Report number:MIT--CTP 4922Cite as:arXiv:1708.02949 [hep-ph]<br/>(or arXiv:1708.02949v2 [hep-ph] for this version)



Idea: classify mixed sample 1 from mixed same 2 and then apply it to distinguish S from B.

**Theorem 1.** Given mixed samples  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  defined in terms of pure samples S and B using Eqs. (2.3) and (2.4) with signal fractions  $f_1 > f_2$ , an optimal classifier trained to distinguish  $M_1$  from  $M_2$  is also optimal for distinguishing S from B.

*Proof.* The optimal classifier to distinguish examples drawn from  $p_{M_1}$  and  $p_{M_2}$  is the likelihood ratio  $L_{M_1/M_2}(\vec{x}) = p_{M_1}(\vec{x})/p_{M_2}(\vec{x})$ . Similarly, the optimal classifier to distinguish examples drawn from  $p_S$  and  $p_B$  is the likelihood ratio  $L_{S/B}(\vec{x}) = p_S(\vec{x})/p_B(\vec{x})$ . Where  $p_B$  has support, we can relate these two likelihood ratios algebraically:

$$L_{M_1/M_2} = \frac{p_{M_1}}{p_{M_2}} = \frac{f_1 \, p_S + (1 - f_1) \, p_B}{f_2 \, p_S + (1 - f_2) \, p_B} = \frac{f_1 \, L_{S/B} + (1 - f_1)}{f_2 \, L_{S/B} + (1 - f_2)},\tag{2.6}$$



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Increase the number of training events ->

(LLP = weak supervision)





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1.0

### Future outlook

# We have developed two methods for training classifiers directly on (unlabeled) data.

**LLP**: non-trivial to train, applies to any number of samples, small dependence on knowledge of fractions.

**CWoLa**: easy to train, only works for 2 samples, no dependence on fractions, can't directly compute ROC

The performance has been demonstrated in 'simple' cases - we are now working on applying these techniques in more complex scenarios.

### Future outlook

L. Dery, P. Komiske, E. Metodiev, **BPN**, F. Rubbo, M. Schwartz

