### Profile likelihood unfolding with large number of bins

### France-Berkeley PHYSTAT Conference on Unfolding 10–13 Jun 2024, LPNHE, Paris

Josh Bendavid<sup>1)</sup>, Matteo Defranchis<sup>2)</sup>, David Walter<sup>2)</sup>









Binned maximum likelihood unfolding is the genuine solution to Poisson nature of counting experiments

$$
\vec{n}|\vec{\lambda} \sim \text{Poisson}(\mathbf{K}\vec{\lambda} + \vec{b})
$$

• It gives the smallest unbiased variance



Binned profile likelihood unfolding

- **D** Background subtraction accounted for directly in likelihood
- **D** Systematic uncertainties accounted for directly during unfolding as nuisance parameters
- Profile nuisance parameters during unfolding to make most use of data
- **D** Simultaneous fit across categories and all bins
- **C** Expensive numerical minimization

### Binned maximum likelihood unfolding

Any template shape fit can be expressed as a many-channel counting experiment, negative log likelihood can be written as

$$
L = -\ln\left(\mathcal{L}(data|\vec{\mu}|\))\right) = \sum_{i}^{N^{reco}} \left(n_i^{obs} \ln n_i^{exp}(\vec{\mu}) + n_i^{exp}(\vec{\mu})\right)
$$

n exp*i,p*: Yield for each reco bin and process μ*p:* Signal strength modifier for each process

$$
n_i^{\text{exp}} = \sum_{p}^{N_{\text{Procs}}} \mu_p n_{i,p}^{\text{exp}}
$$

 $\bullet$  Each gen bin is represented by a separate process (template), scaled by the  $\mu_p$ 



# Binned profile maximum likelihood unfolding

Any template shape fit can be expressed as a many-channel counting experiment, negative log likelihood can be written as

$$
L = -\ln\left(\mathcal{L}(\text{data}|\vec{\mu},\vec{\Theta})\right) = \sum_{i}^{N^{\text{reco}}} \left(n_i^{\text{obs}}\ln n_i^{\text{exp}}(\vec{\mu},\vec{\Theta}) + n_i^{\text{exp}}(\vec{\mu},\vec{\Theta})\right) + \sum_{k}^{N^{\text{sys}}}\frac{1}{2}\left(\Theta_k - \Theta_k^0\right)^2
$$

n exp*i,p*: Yield for each reco bin and process μ*p:* Signal strength modifier for each process

$$
n_i^{\text{exp}} = \sum_{p}^{N^{\text{procs}}} \mu_p n_{i,p}^{\text{exp}} \prod_{k}^{N^{\text{syst}}} \kappa_{i,p,k}^{\Theta_k}
$$

 $\bullet$  Each gen bin is represented by a separate process (template), scaled by the  $\mu_p$ 

Θ*k*: Nuisance parameter constrained to unit Gaussian for each systematic uncertainty

κ: size of systematic, 3D tensor of reco bins, processes, and nuisance parameters (log normal variations)

• The templates are scaled correlated for each systematic uncertainty

$$
\kappa_{i,p,k} = \left(1 + \frac{v_{i,p,k}^{\text{exp}}}{n_{i,p}^{\text{exp}}}\right)
$$

- #Histograms ~ #gen bins ∙ #systematics
- Potentially 10's of thousands of histograms



### Binned profile maximum likelihood unfolding

Uncertainties/ covariances can be inferred from likelihood function

$$
L = -\ln\left(\mathcal{L}(data|\vec{\mu}, \vec{\Theta})\right) = \sum_{i}^{N^{\text{reco}}} \left(n_i^{\text{obs}} \ln n_i^{\text{exp}}(\vec{\mu}, \vec{\Theta}) + n_i^{\text{exp}}(\vec{\mu}, \vec{\Theta})\right) + \sum_{k}^{N^{\text{syst}}} \frac{1}{2} \left(\Theta_k - \Theta_k^0\right)^2
$$

- Exact: Likelihood scan computationally expensive/slow
- In Gaussian limit: Covariance = Inverse Hessian matrix (second derivative)

In summary

- Challenging minimization problem
- Convergence to global minimum required
- Uncertainties/ covariances need to be computed accurately
- Time/memory of minimization must be kept under control

$$
\mathbf{H}_{f} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^{2} f}{\partial x_{1}^{2}} & \frac{\partial^{2} f}{\partial x_{1} \partial x_{2}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^{2} f}{\partial x_{1} \partial x_{n}} \\ \frac{\partial^{2} f}{\partial x_{2} \partial x_{1}} & \frac{\partial^{2} f}{\partial x_{2}^{2}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^{2} f}{\partial x_{2} \partial x_{n}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^{2} f}{\partial x_{n} \partial x_{1}} & \frac{\partial^{2} f}{\partial x_{n} \partial x_{2}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^{2} f}{\partial x_{n}^{2}} \end{bmatrix}
$$

### Example 1: multi process unfolding in CMS [\[CMS-PAS-TOP-23-004\]](https://cds.cern.ch/record/2893862?ln=en)

tZq, ttZ, and tWZ are mutual backgrounds

- Simultaneously unfold differential cross sections
- $\cdot$  Combined fit of tZq and ttZ enriched selection
- Fit reco variable and event classifier to separate gen bins and processes



### [\[CMS-PAS-TOP-23-004\]](https://cds.cern.ch/record/2893862?ln=en) Example 1: multi process unfolding in CMS

Obtain unfolded cross sections together with full covariance matrix

• Allow consistent re interpretation e.g. in EFT (operators effect both processes)



Specifications: 144 reco bins, 8 gen bins 13 processes in total, ~400 systematics

- $\cdot$  O(1,000) histograms
- Computationally "easy" with today's hardware
- Done on traditional CMS way with Combine (roofit via minuit)

# Example 2: W helicity in CMS

At LO at LHC, W produced via  $q\overline{q}$ 

Due to pure left handed coupling, W helicity determined by its direction relative to incoming quark

• W helicity contains information about PDFs

#### [\[PRD 102 \(2020\) 092012\]](https://journals.aps.org/prd/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevD.102.092012)



Left-handed





# Example 2: W helicity in CMS

Decay (anti) lepton prefers to travel (alongside) against direction of W spin

- Polarization states can be extracted from charged lepton  $|\eta|$   $p_T$  distribution
- Avoid dependence on less precise MET

Measure transverse polarization states for W+ and W- in bins of boson rapidity

- Longitudinal component fixed to theory prediction with inflated uncertainty
- Separate signal template for each gen bin



#### [\[PRD 102 \(2020\) 092012\]](https://journals.aps.org/prd/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevD.102.092012)

### Example 2: W helicity in CMS

#### Reco distributions for one charge



#### [\[PRD 102 \(2020\) 092012\]](https://journals.aps.org/prd/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevD.102.092012)

### Example 2: W helicity in CMS

#### Unfolded differential cross sections with full covariance matrix



Specifications:

- 3320 reco bins, 40 gen bins, 78 processes in total
- 1354 systematic uncertainties
	- Theory (PDFs, QCD scale, ...) Experiment (efficiencies, lepton energy/momentum scale, backgrounds, …)
- $\cdot$  O(100,000) histograms
- It's "challenging"

#### [\[PRD 102 \(2020\) 092012\]](https://journals.aps.org/prd/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevD.102.092012)

# Example 2: W helicity in CMS

Also measured:

- Double differential cross section in  $|\eta|$  and  $p_T$  for W+ and W- simultaneously
- $2*18*18 = 648$  gen bins
- $\cdot$  2448 reco bins
- 1051 nuisance parameters



### The tool: minimization with tensorflow

Roofit via minuit insufficient

• Limited stability and efficiency (e.g. can not be parallelized)

Tensorflow library with automatic gradient computation via back propagation for minimization:

- Second derivative, trust region based minimizer to reliably find global minimum [\[arXiv:1506.07222\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/1506.07222)
- Fast, numerically accurate, stable
- Parallelized vector processing units and/or multiple threads
- Sparse tensor implementation to minimize memory consumption (if response matrix is close-to-diagonal, e.g. leptonic observables)
- See also [\[talk at PyHEP 2020 from J. Bendavid\]](https://indico.cern.ch/event/882824/contributions/3932491/)

Future upgrade to newer tools foreseen, such as tensorflow 2, JAX, ...

• More efficient computation of hessian matrix

### The future of profile likelihood unfolding

Previous analysis was "only" on 2016 data, a small fraction of current data and what will come with Run  $3/$  HL LHC.

- More data will allow finer  $\&$  more gen and reco bins
- More processes can be measured simultaneously
- Combination of data taking periods and improved precision will require more nuisance parameters



3D tensor will grow to an unmanageable size

- Memory and computation
- #Histograms ~ #gen bins ∙ #systematics

$$
n_i^{\text{exp}} = \sum_{p}^{N_{\text{process}}} \mu_p n_{i,p}^{\text{exp}} \prod_{k}^{N_{\text{sys}}^{\text{sys}}} \kappa_{i,p,k}^{\Theta_k}
$$



Reco bin

#### Linearize the dependence of the signal (sum of gen bins) on nuisance parameters

$$
n_i^{\text{exp}} = \sum_{p}^{N^{\text{bkg}}} n_{i,p}^{\text{exp}} \prod_{k}^{N^{\text{sys}}}\kappa_{i,p,k}^{\Theta_k} + n_{i,\text{sig}}^{\text{exp}} \prod_{k}^{N^{\text{sys}}}\kappa_{i,k,\text{sig}}^{\Theta_k} \prod_{l}^{N^{\text{gen}}}\kappa_{i,l,\text{sig}}^{\mu_l}
$$

- Treating signal strength multiplier similar to nuisance parameters
- Signal tensor reduced to 2D
- #Histograms  $\sim$  #gen bins + #systematics



Reco bin

$$
n_i^{\text{exp}} = \sum_{p}^{N^{\text{bkg}}} n_{i,p}^{\text{exp}} \prod_{k}^{N^{\text{syst}}} \kappa_{i,p,k}^{\Theta_k} + n_{i,\text{sig}}^{\text{exp}} \prod_{k}^{N^{\text{syst}}} \kappa_{i,k,\text{sig}}^{\Theta_k} \prod_{l}^{N^{\text{gen}}}_{l} \kappa_{i,l,\text{sig}}^{\mu_l}
$$

$$
\kappa_{i,k,\text{sig}} = 1 + \frac{v_{i,k,\text{sig}}^{\text{exp}}}{n_{i,\text{sig}}^{\text{exp}}}
$$

Size of systematic effect  $v_{i,k,\text{sig}}^{\text{exp}}$  does not directly depend on individual gen bins anymore

- This assumption could potentially lead to a bias
- But signal strength modifier are unconstrained, starting value can be chosen freely
- Iterative procedure applied to mitigate bias

1) Initial fit

- 2) Re compute histograms with reweighting gen bin contribution via postfit signal strength modifiers
- 3) Repeat fit

$$
n_i^{\text{exp}} = \sum_{p}^{N^{\text{bkg}}} n_{i,p}^{\text{exp}} \prod_{k}^{N^{\text{syst}}} \kappa_{i,p,k}^{\Theta_k} + n_{i,\text{sig}}^{\text{exp}} \prod_{k}^{N^{\text{syst}}} \kappa_{i,k,\text{sig}}^{\Theta_k} \prod_{l}^{N^{\text{gen}}}_{l} \kappa_{i,l,\text{sig}}^{\mu_l}
$$
\n
$$
\kappa_{i,l,\text{sig}} = 1 + \frac{v_{i,l,\text{sig}}^{\text{exp}}}{n_{i,\text{sig}}^{\text{exp}}}
$$

Size of gen bin variation  $v_{i,l,\text{sig}}^{\text{exp}}$  is in principle arbitrary

• Small dependency observed - mainly for convergence of iterative procedure

Validation: benchmark linearized likelihood unfolding vs. exact likelihood unfolding

- Real world example: use MiNNLO MC with realistic detector simulation and unfold Z boson dilepton  $p_T$ ,  $|Y|$ 
	- 200 gen bins
	- $\cdot$  400 reco bins
	- 41 Explicit nuisance parameters (PDFs +  $\alpha_s$ ) + implicit MC stat. uncertainties
- Inject pseudo data by rewighting to HERAPDF2.0 PDF set (nominal is PDF4LHC21)
	- Do central values and uncertainties agree?



Extracted differential cross section from initial fit

- Almost perfect agreement in central values between exact and linearized unfolding
- Deviations much smaller than stat. uncertainty



Relative uncertainties from initial fit

- Good agreement in total and data stat. uncertainty
- Larger relative disagreement for some individual sources of uncertainties e.g. MC stat. (green) and PDF (red)



Relative uncertainties

- Good agreement in total and data stat. uncertainty
- Larger relative disagreement for some individual sources of uncertainties e.g. MC stat. (green) and PDF (red)

Agreement improves through iterative procedure of linearized unfolding

- Re compute histograms with reweighting gen bin contribution via postfit signal strength modifiers – and repeat fit
- Size of gen bin variation  $v_{i,l,\text{sig}}^{\text{exp}}$  chosen as 1% of gen bin contribution
	- Better choice possible, e.g. based on uncertainty
	- Studies ongoing



1 iteration



### Summary

Unfolded distributions provide input for global PDF/EFT/… fits

Binned profile likelihood unfolding is established as a reliable method

• Problem requires expensive numerical minimization

Modern libraries with automatic differentiation via back propagation allow robust and fast minimization

• Unfolding with up to 1000 gen bins well possible

However, complexity may grow soon to unmanageable level

- Linearization procedures can provide remedy
- Validation shows agreement with exact likelihood unfolding can be restored via iterative procedure (1 iteration sufficient in realistic toy study)

### Backup