

# Constructing model-agnostic likelihoods

## A method for the reinterpretation of particle physics results

Lorenz Gärtner<sup>1</sup>, Nikolai Hartmann<sup>1</sup>, Lukas Heinrich<sup>2</sup>, Malin Horstmann<sup>2</sup>,  
Thomas Kuhr<sup>1</sup>, M eril Reboud<sup>3</sup>, Slavomira Stefkova<sup>4</sup>, Danny van Dyk<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>LMU Munich, <sup>2</sup>TU Munich, <sup>3</sup>Universit at Siegen, <sup>4</sup>KIT, <sup>5</sup>IPPP Durham

16.05.2024





## Publishing statistical models: Getting the most out of particle physics experiments

Kyle Cranmer<sup>1\*</sup>, Sabine Kraml<sup>21</sup>, Harrison B. Prosper<sup>35</sup> (editors),  
Philip Bechtle<sup>3</sup>, Florian U. Bernlochner<sup>4</sup>, Itay M. Bloch<sup>5</sup>, Enzo Canonero<sup>6</sup>, Marcin Chrzaszcz<sup>7</sup>, Andrea Coccaro<sup>8</sup>, Jan Conrad<sup>9</sup>, Glen Cowan<sup>10</sup>, Matthew Feickert<sup>11</sup>, Nahuel Ferreiro Iachellini<sup>12,13</sup>, Andrew Fowlie<sup>14</sup>, Lukas Heinrich<sup>15</sup>, Alexander Held<sup>16</sup>, Thomas Kuhr<sup>13,16</sup>, Anders Kvellestad<sup>17</sup>, Maeve Madigan<sup>18</sup>, Farvah Mahmoudi<sup>15,19</sup>, Knut Dundas Mora<sup>20</sup>, Mark S. Neubauer<sup>11</sup>, Maurizio Pierini<sup>15</sup>, Juan Rojo<sup>8</sup>, Sezen Sekmen<sup>22</sup>, Luca Silvestrini<sup>23</sup>, Veronica Sanz<sup>24,25</sup>, Giordon Stark<sup>26</sup>, Riccardo Torre<sup>8</sup>, Robert Thorne<sup>27</sup>, Wolfgang Waltenberger<sup>28</sup>, Nicholas Wardle<sup>29</sup>, Jonas Wittbrodt<sup>30</sup>

*Forum* [8], with the current status and updated recommendations presented in Ref. [6]. This paper takes these decade-long efforts to what we argue is the logical conclusion: **if we wish to maximize the scientific impact of particle physics experiments, decades into the future, we should make the publication of full statistical models, together with the data to convert them into likelihood functions, standard practice.** A statistical model provides the complete mathematical description of an experimental analysis and is, therefore, the appropriate starting

[arXiv:2109.04981](https://arxiv.org/abs/2109.04981) [hep-ph]

- Publishing likelihoods is good, but likelihood  $\neq$  statistical model.
- Model dependent likelihood  $\rightarrow$  **limited interpretability**

# Increase interpretability? Reinterpretation!



What result would we get if we replace  
signal **model A** with signal **model B**?

- Analysis results are based on a statistical model

$$p(\text{data}|\text{model A})$$

- Unfortunately, we cannot say much about

$$p(\text{data}|\text{model B})$$

- Kinematic shape differences affect acceptance / efficiency.
- **What do we need to probe new physics?**



# redist

A novel shape-respecting reinterpretation method

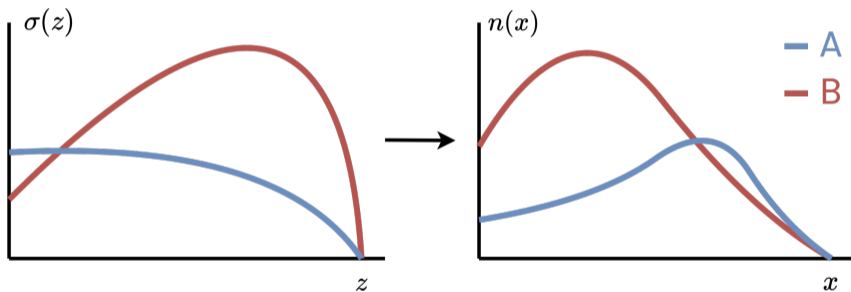
[arXiv:2402.08417](https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.08417) [hep-ph]

[github.com/lorenzennio/redist](https://github.com/lorenzennio/redist)



# Shape-respecting reinterpretation

Kinematic to reconstructed number density



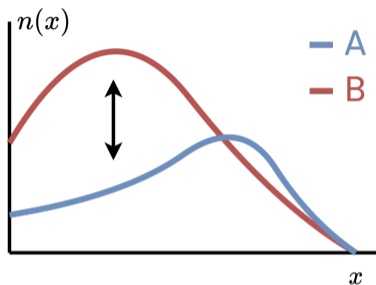
$z$  – kinematic d.o.f.

$x$  – reconstruction / fitting variable(s)

$$n(x) = \int dz L \varepsilon(x|z) \sigma(z) = \int dz n(x, z)$$



# A new signal distribution



$$n_B(x) = \int dz L \varepsilon(x|z) \quad \sigma_B(z) = \int dz L \varepsilon(x|z) \quad \sigma_A(z) \quad \frac{\sigma_B(z)}{\sigma_A(z)} = \int dz \underbrace{n_A(x, z)}_{\text{main object}} \quad w(z) .$$

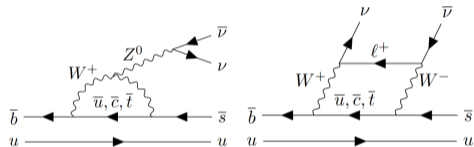
Likelihood +  $n(x, z)$  = model-agnostic likelihood


$$B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$$

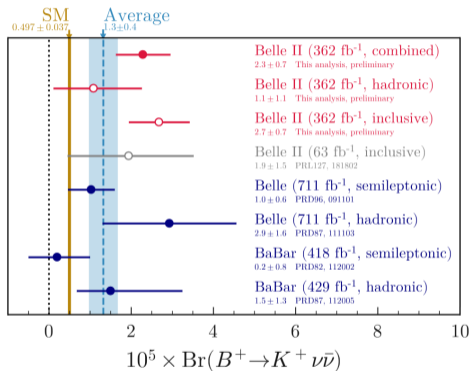
A flavor physics showcase



# Why reinterpret $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ ?



- Suppression of FCNCs in the SM



[arXiv:2311.14647](https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.14647) [hep-ex]

→ BSM effects could substantially affect observables.





# Ingredients for reinterpretation

1. Likelihood  $L(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{a} \mid \boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi})$
2. Joint number density  $n(x, z)$
3. Decay kinematics  $\rightarrow w(z)$

# 1. pyhf statistical model

A statistical model for multi-bin histogram-based analysis and its interval estimation.



**Likelihood** function for observed event counts  $\mathbf{n}$  is

$$L(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{a} \mid \eta, \chi) = \underbrace{\text{Pois}(\mathbf{n} \mid \nu(\eta, \chi))}_{\text{data likelihood}} \underbrace{c(\mathbf{a} \mid \chi)}_{\text{constraint likelihood}}$$

Expected number of events are

$$\nu(\eta, \chi) = \kappa(\eta, \chi) \left( \nu^0(\eta, \chi) + \Delta(\eta, \chi) \right).$$

Use `redist` for bin weights  $\kappa(\eta, \chi) = n_B / n_A$ .

# 1. Bayesian pyhf statistical model

A statistical model for multi-bin histogram-based analysis and its interval estimation.



**Posterior** function for observed event counts  $\mathbf{n}$  is

$$p(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi} | \mathbf{n}, \mathbf{a}) \propto \underbrace{\text{Pois}(\mathbf{n} | \boldsymbol{\nu}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}))}_{\text{data likelihood}} \underbrace{p(\boldsymbol{\chi} | \mathbf{a})}_{\text{constraint prior}} \underbrace{p(\boldsymbol{\eta})}_{\text{unconstraint prior}}$$

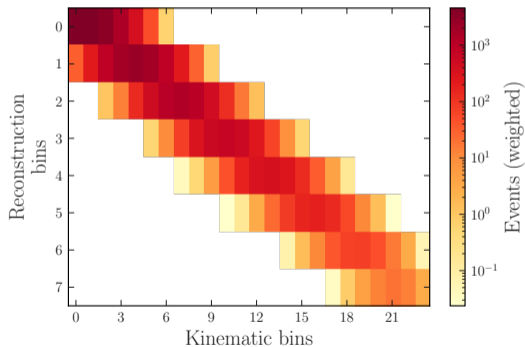
Expected number of events are

$$\boldsymbol{\nu}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) = \boldsymbol{\kappa}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) \left( \boldsymbol{\nu}^0(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) + \boldsymbol{\Delta}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) \right).$$

Use `redist` for bin weights  $\boldsymbol{\kappa}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) = n_B / n_A$ .

## 2. Joint number density

The main object for reinterpretation,  $n_A(x, z)$ .  
This should be provided by the experimental analysts.



In this example the reconstruction variable is  $x = a_{rec}^2$ , and the kinematic variable is  $z = a_{gen}^2$ .

# 3. Decay kinematics



Weak effective theory differential branching ratio dependence on the Wilson coefficients.



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dB(B \rightarrow K\nu\bar{\nu})}{dq^2} = & \frac{3G_F^2 \alpha^2 \tau_B}{32\pi^5 m_B^3} |V_{ts}^* V_{tb}|^2 \sqrt{\lambda_{BK}} q^2 \left[ \frac{\lambda_{BK}}{24q^2} \left| f_+(q^2) \right|^2 |C_{VL} + C_{VR}|^2 \right. \\ & + \frac{(m_B^2 - m_K^2)^2}{8(m_b - m_s)^2} \left| f_0(q^2) \right|^2 |C_{SL} + C_{SR}|^2 \\ & \left. + \frac{2\lambda_{BK}}{3(m_B + m_K)^2} \left| f_T(q^2) \right|^2 |C_{TL}|^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

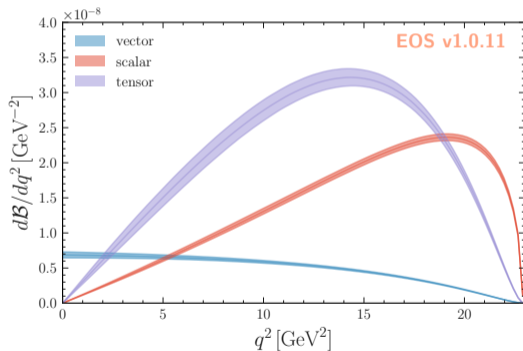
for  $J^P = 0^-$  kaon states.

[[arXiv:2111.04327](https://arxiv.org/abs/2111.04327) [hep-ph]]



# 3. Decay kinematics

## Weak effective theory contributions



SM contains only *vectorial* contribution.



# Reinterpretation results

(insights from toy study)

# Results from toy study



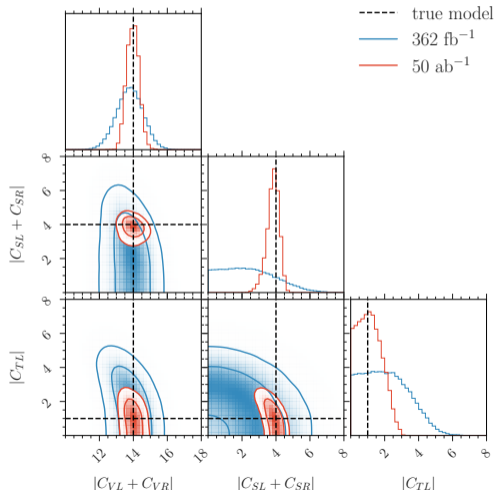
- Analysis assumes SM (**model A**)
  - $C_{VL} \simeq 6.6, C_i = 0 \quad \forall \quad i \neq VL$
- Weak effective theory (**models B**)
- "Data" contains new physics
- Uniform priors:

$$5 \leq |C_{VL} + C_{VR}| \leq 20$$

$$0 \leq |C_{SL} + C_{SR}| \leq 15$$

$$0 \leq |C_{TL}| \leq 15$$

[arXiv:2402.08417](https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.08417) [hep-ph]





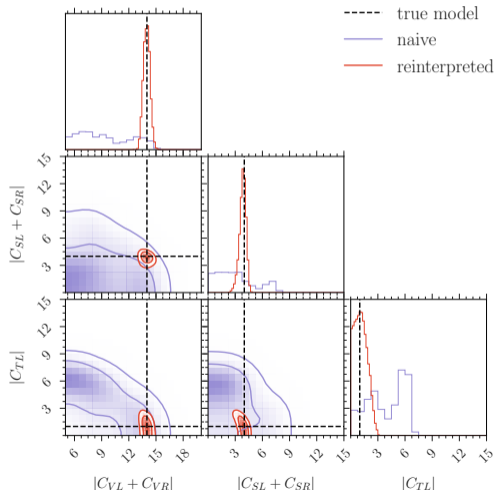


# The necessity for reinterpretation

*Simplified model reinterpretation, assuming acceptances / efficiencies are independent of kinematic shape differences (e.g. simple BR rescaling).*

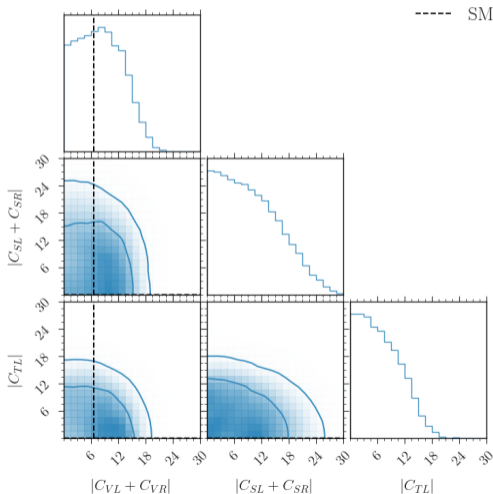
→ **biased posterior**

[arXiv:2402.08417 \[hep-ph\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.08417)





# $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$ @ Belle II $63\text{fb}^{-1}$



Application to the first  $B^+ \rightarrow K^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$   
analysis of  $63\text{fb}^{-1}$  Belle II data,  
[Phys.Rev.Lett.127.181802](https://arxiv.org/abs/1802.08765).

# Summary



- **Shape-respecting reinterpretation through reweighting**
  - Model-agnostic likelihoods
  - Only requires **likelihood** +  $n(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})$ .
  - **FAST**
- **Scientific benefits**
  - **Bias-free inference** on BSM parameters.
  - **Combinations** with other channels and/or experiments.



[arXiv:2402.08417](https://arxiv.org/abs/2402.08417) [hep-ph]

Publishing model-agnostic likelihoods is crucial for a bias-free exploitation of experimental results.



[lorenz.gaertner@physik.uni-muenchen.de](mailto:lorenz.gaertner@physik.uni-muenchen.de)

# Effective field theory

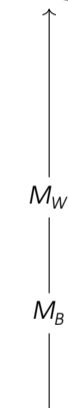


- **High energy collisions**  
 $W$  boson potentially on-shell (massive)
- **Lower energy quark decays**  
 $W$  boson always off-shell
- **Weak effective theory**  
 $W$  is integrated out

$$\mathcal{L}_{SM} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{WET} = \sum C_i \mathcal{O}_i$$

- **Parametrization** i.t.o.  
Wilson coefficients  $\psi = \{C_i\}$ .

Energy



$$\mathcal{L}_{SM} \propto [\bar{q}_u \gamma^\mu P_L q_d] \frac{M_W}{q^2 - M_W} [\bar{l} \gamma_\mu P_L \nu_l]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{WET} \propto \sum_{ij} C_{ij} [\bar{q}_u \Gamma_i q_d] [\bar{l} \Gamma_j \nu_l]$$



# Weak Effective Theory for $B \rightarrow K \nu \bar{\nu}$

## Contribution operators

The effective Lagrangian is

$$\mathcal{L}^{WET} = \sum_{X=L,R} C_{VX} \mathcal{O}_{VX} + \sum_{X=L,R} C_{SX} \mathcal{O}_{SX} + C_{TL} \mathcal{O}_{TL} + \text{h.c.}$$

The  $d = 6$  contributing operators in and beyond the SM are given by

$$\mathcal{O}_{VL} = (\bar{\nu}_L \gamma_\mu \nu_L) (\bar{s}_L \gamma^\mu b_L) \quad \mathcal{O}_{VR} = (\bar{\nu}_L \gamma_\mu \nu_L) (\bar{s}_R \gamma^\mu b_R)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{SL} = (\bar{\nu}_L^c \nu_L) (\bar{s}_R b_L) \quad \mathcal{O}_{SR} = (\bar{\nu}_L^c \nu_L) (\bar{s}_L b_R)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{TL} = (\bar{\nu}_L^c \sigma_{\mu\nu} \nu_L) (\bar{s}_R \sigma^{\mu\nu} b_L)$$

[arXiv:2111.04327 [hep-ph]]

A statistical model for multi-bin histogram-based analysis and its interval estimation.

pyhf = pythonic HistFactory

Interval estimation based on

HistFactory: A tool for creating statistical models for use with RooFit and RooStats

Kyle Cranmer, George Lewis, Lorenzo Moneta, Akira Shibata, Wouter Verkerke

June 20, 2012

**Contents**

1	Introduction	2
-	-	-

Eur. Phys. J. C (2011) 71: 1554  
 DOI 10.1140/epjc/i10052-011-1554-0

THE EUROPEAN  
 PHYSICAL JOURNAL C

Special Article - Tools for Experiment and Theory

**Asymptotic formulae for likelihood-based tests of new physics**

Glen Cowan<sup>1</sup>, Kyle Cranmer<sup>2</sup>, Eilam Gross<sup>1</sup>, Ofer Vitells<sup>1,3</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>Physics Department, Royal Holloway, University of London, Egham TW20 0EX, UK  
<sup>2</sup>Physics Department, New York University, New York, NY 10003, USA  
<sup>3</sup>Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot 76100, Israel

Received: 15 October 2010 / Revised: 6 January 2011 / Published online: 9 February 2011  
 © The Author(s) 2011. This article is published with open access at Springerlink.com

**Abstract** We describe likelihood-based statistical tests for data sets by a single representative one, referred to here as the “Asimov” data set.<sup>1</sup> In the past, this method has been used in high energy physics for the discovery of new phenom-

# HistFactory / pyhf statistical model



A statistical model for multi-bin histogram-based analysis and its interval estimation.

Likelihood function for observed event counts  $\mathbf{n}$  is

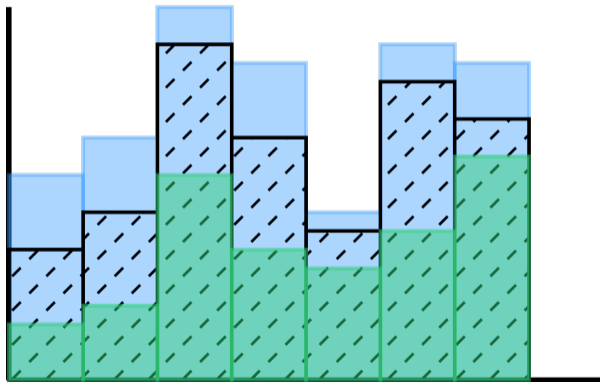
$$L(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{a} \mid \boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) = \underbrace{\prod_{c \in \text{channels}} \prod_{b \in \text{bins}} \text{Pois} \left( n_{cb} \mid \nu_{cb}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) \right)}_{\text{multiple channels}} \underbrace{\prod_{\chi \in \boldsymbol{\chi}} c_{\chi} (a_{\chi} \mid \chi)}_{\text{constraint terms}}$$

Expected number of events per channel per bin are

$$\nu_{cb}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) = \sum_{s \in \text{samples}} \underbrace{\prod_{\kappa \in \kappa} \kappa_{scb}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi})}_{\text{multiplicative modifiers}} \left( \nu_{scb}^0(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) + \underbrace{\sum_{\Delta \in \Delta} \Delta_{scb}(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi})}_{\text{additive modifiers}} \right).$$

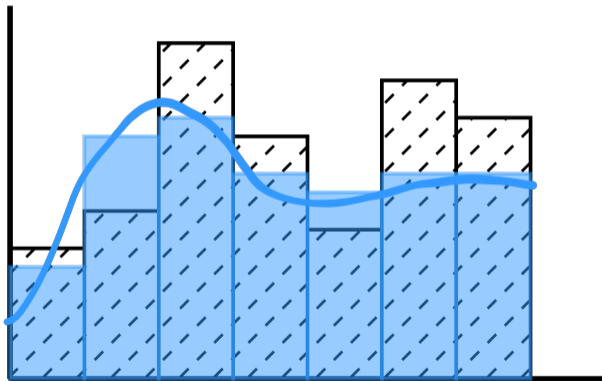
Use `redist` for bin weights  $\kappa(\boldsymbol{\eta}, \boldsymbol{\chi}) = n_B / n_A$ .

# Modifiers





# Custom modifiers



# Modifiers and constraints



Description	Modification	Constraint Term $c_\chi$	Input
Uncorrelated Shape	$\kappa_{scb}(\gamma_b) = \gamma_b$	$\prod_b \text{Pois}(r_b = \sigma_b^{-2}   \rho_b = \sigma_b^{-2} \gamma_b)$	$\sigma_b$
Correlated Shape	$\Delta_{scb}(\alpha) = f_p(\alpha   \Delta_{scb, \alpha=-1}, \Delta_{scb, \alpha=1})$	$\text{Gaus}(a = 0   \alpha, \sigma = 1)$	$\Delta_{scb, \alpha=\pm 1}$
Normalisation Unc.	$\kappa_{scb}(\alpha) = g_p(\alpha   \kappa_{scb, \alpha=-1}, \kappa_{scb, \alpha=1})$	$\text{Gaus}(a = 0   \alpha, \sigma = 1)$	$\kappa_{scb, \alpha=\pm 1}$
MC Stat. Uncertainty	$\kappa_{scb}(\gamma_b) = \gamma_b$	$\prod_b \text{Gaus}(a_{\gamma_b} = 1   \gamma_b, \delta_b)$	$\delta_b^2 = \sum_s \delta_{sb}^2$
Luminosity	$\kappa_{scb}(\lambda) = \lambda$	$\text{Gaus}(l = \lambda_0   \lambda, \sigma_\lambda)$	$\lambda_0, \sigma_\lambda$
Normalisation	$\kappa_{scb}(\mu_b) = \mu_b$		
Data-driven Shape	$\kappa_{scb}(\gamma_b) = \gamma_b$		