

Machine-learning methods for polarisation tagging

Mathieu PELLEN

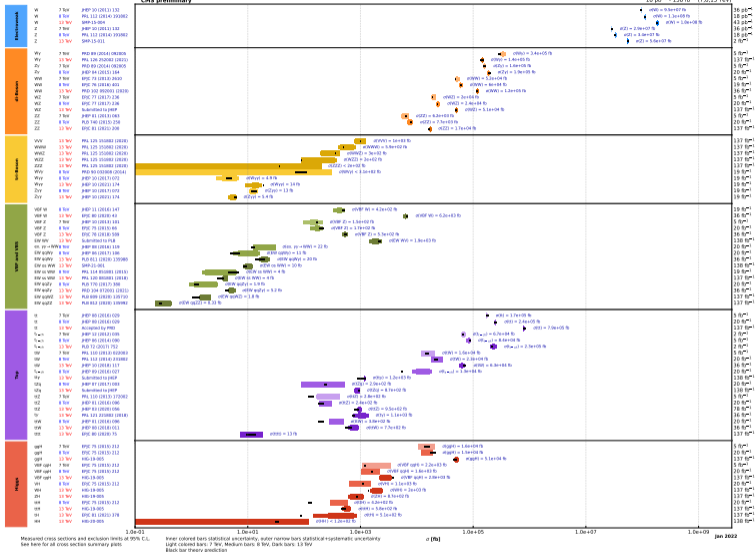
University of Freiburg

COMETA workshop on vector-boson polarisations
Toulouse, France

23rd of September 2024



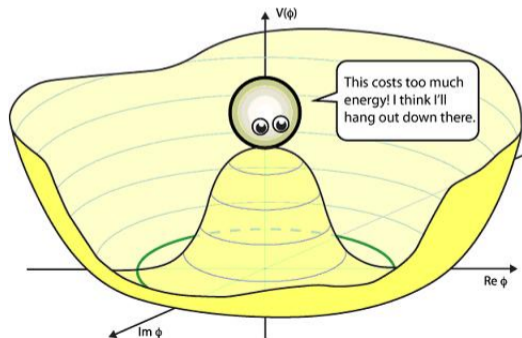
Overview of CMS cross section results



● Triumph of the Standard Model ...

Motivation for polarisation studies

- Polarisation of gauge bosons (W and Z) related to Electroweak symmetry breaking
 - longitudinal polarisation
 - “the Higgs mechanism is the conversion of Goldstone modes into the longitudinal polarisation mode of massive weak bosons” [Pelliccioli]
 - probe of new physics/extended Higgs sector



Master formula

$$\left| \mathcal{M}^{\text{NWA}}(Zj) \right|^2 = \frac{\pi}{M_Z \Gamma_Z} \left| \sum_{h \in \Lambda} \mathcal{M}_h(pp \rightarrow Zj) \cdot \mathcal{M}_h(Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) \right|^2$$

with $\Lambda = \{+1, -1\}$ (Transverse), 0 (Longitudinal)

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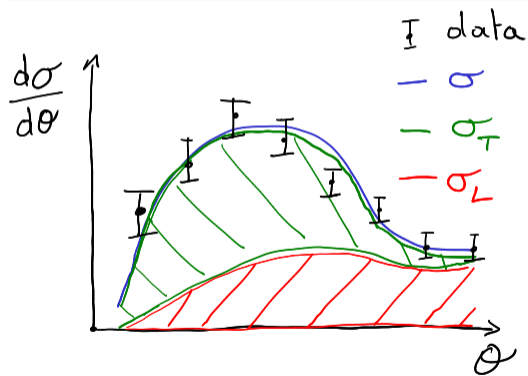
$$\left| \mathcal{M}^{\text{NWA}}(\text{Zj}) \right|^2 = \frac{\pi}{M_Z \Gamma_Z} \left| \sum_{h \in \Lambda} \mathcal{M}_h(\text{pp} \rightarrow \text{Zj}) \cdot \mathcal{M}_h(\text{Z} \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-) \right|^2$$

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- Unpolarised cross section $\sigma_{\text{unp.}} \sim |\mathcal{M}^{\text{NWA}}|^2$ (experimentally measured)
- Polarised cross section: $\sigma_{\text{L}} \sim |\mathcal{M}_0|^2 \cdot |\Gamma_0|^2$
- Polarisation fraction: $f_{\text{L}} = \sigma_{\text{L}} / \sigma_{\text{unp.}}$

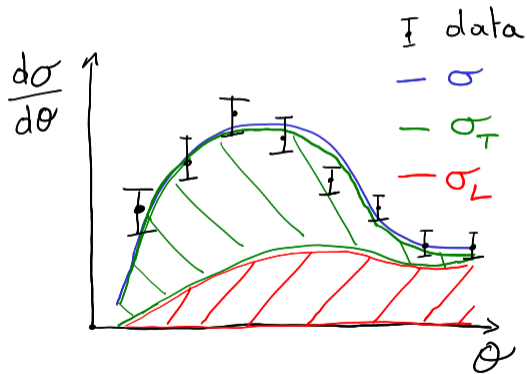
“Measuring polarisation”

- No measurement of polarisation: *template method*
→ extraction of parameters based on theory input



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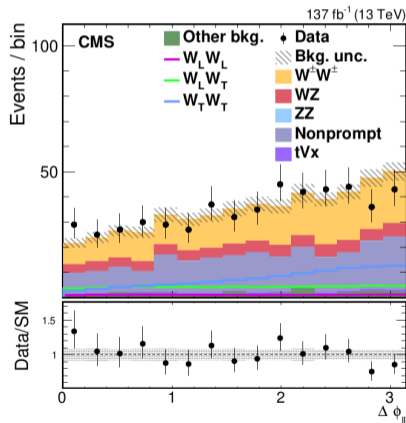


Shortcomings about polarisation extraction

- ⚠ Polarisation only defined for on-shell bosons
- ⚠ Only the unpolarised prediction is observed

Experimental analyses

- WZ: [ATLAS; 1902.05759, 2211.09435], [CMS; 2110.11231]
- Vector-boson scattering $W^\pm W^\pm$ [CMS; 2009.09429]



Process	$\sigma \mathcal{B}$ (fb)	Theoretical prediction (fb)
$W_L^\pm W_L^\pm$	$0.32^{+0.42}_{-0.40}$	0.44 ± 0.05
$W_X^\pm W_T^\pm$	$3.06^{+0.51}_{-0.48}$	3.13 ± 0.35
$W_L^\pm W_X^\pm$	$1.20^{+0.56}_{-0.53}$	1.63 ± 0.18
$W_T^\pm W_T^\pm$	$2.11^{+0.49}_{-0.47}$	1.94 ± 0.21

[CMS; 2009.09429]

Drawbacks of the *template method*

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Typical in experiment:

→ NN/BDT on samples of longitudinally polarised vs. background samples

Drawbacks:

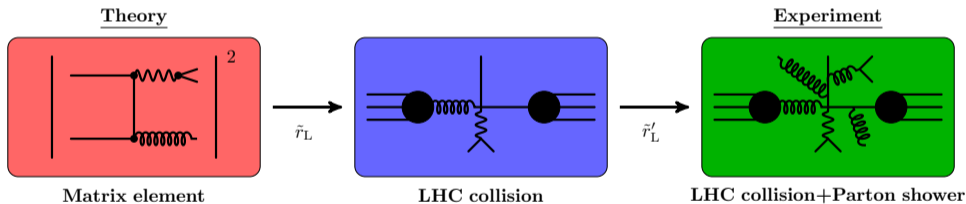
- Difficult learning
 - large samples needed
- Ill defined discrimination between signal and background
 - Indirect link to polarisation definition
- Unclear what to feed (empirical and high-level variables)
 - possibly not optimal

- **New idea for polarisation extraction:**

Amplitude-assisted tagging of longitudinally polarised bosons using wide neural networks

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General idea

Use amplitude to extract theory parameters / pseudo observables from data

→ requires the use of neural network [Grossi, Incudini, MP, Pelliccioli; 2306.07726]

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- ~~Unclear what are the *optimal* observables~~ → optimal by definition
- ~~Interpretation at the integrated level~~
→ event-by-event interpretation (fully differential)

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→ Alternative approaches:

- *matrix-element method* [Kondo; J. Phys. Soc. Jap. 57 (1988) 4126-4140 / 60 (1991) 836-844.]
- *optimal-observable method* [Diehl, Nachtmann; Z. Phys. C 62 (1994) 397-412, hep-ph/9603207], [Janot; 1503.01325]
- *MELA* (*Matrix Element Likelihood Approach*) [Gao, Gritsan, Melnikov, Schulze, et al.; 1001.3396, 1208.4018, 1309.4819, 1606.03107]

Simple observation

$$f_{\text{L}}(\mathcal{O}) = \frac{d\sigma_{\text{L}}}{d\mathcal{O}} \bigg/ \frac{d\sigma_{\text{unp}}}{d\mathcal{O}} \quad \text{with} \quad \sigma \propto \int d\Phi |\mathcal{M}|^2$$

→ At the **event-by-event/phase-space-point** level, at leading order (LO), equivalent to

$$r_{\text{L}} = \frac{|\mathcal{M}_{\text{L}}|^2}{|\mathcal{M}|^2}$$

⚠ r_{L} is the probability for an event to be longitudinally polarised

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NB:

- All information about longitudinal polarisation contained in $r_{\mathcal{L}}$
- **If $r_{\mathcal{L}}$ was a physical observable, only its measurement would be required to extract polarisation**
or
Polarised predictions obtainable by reweighting unpolarised ones with $r_{\mathcal{L}}$

- Z+j production at the LHC at $\sqrt{s} = 13.6$ TeV
- MADGRAPH5_AMC@NLO for checks
[Alwall, et al.; 1405.0301], [Buarque Franzosi, Mattelaer, Ruiz, Shil; 1912.01725]
- RECOLA [Actis et al.; 1605.01090] for r_L computation
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→ *Generation* set-up

$$p_{T,j} > 10 \text{ GeV}, \quad |y_j| < 5, \quad \text{and} \quad 76 \text{ GeV} < M_{\mu^+\mu^-} < 106 \text{ GeV}$$

→ *Inclusive* set-up

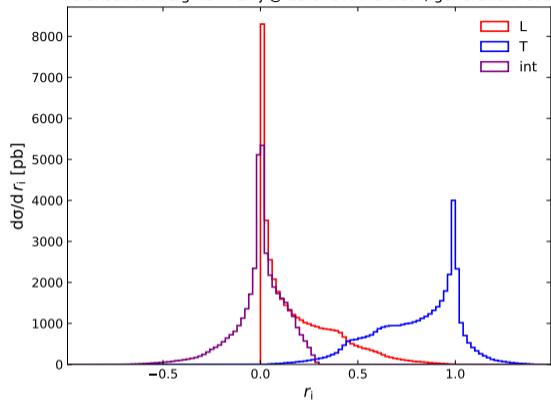
$$p_{T,j} > 20 \text{ GeV}, \quad |y_j| < 4, \quad \text{and} \quad 81 \text{ GeV} < M_{\mu^+\mu^-} < 101 \text{ GeV}$$

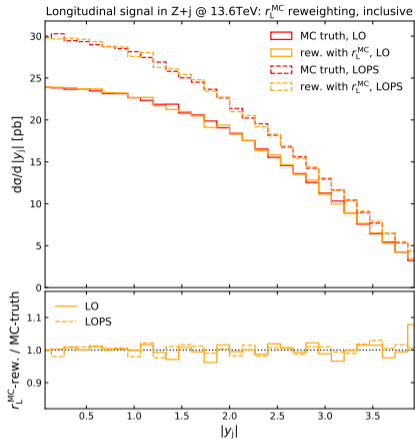
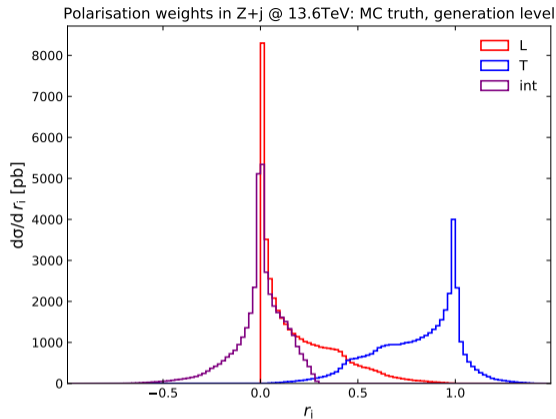
⚠ No cuts on Z-boson decay products

→ *Fiducial* set-up = *Inclusive* set-up +

$$p_{T,\mu^\pm} > 20 \text{ GeV} \quad \text{and} \quad |y_{\mu^\pm}| < 2.7$$

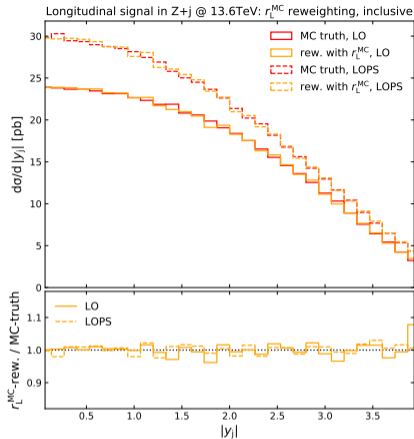
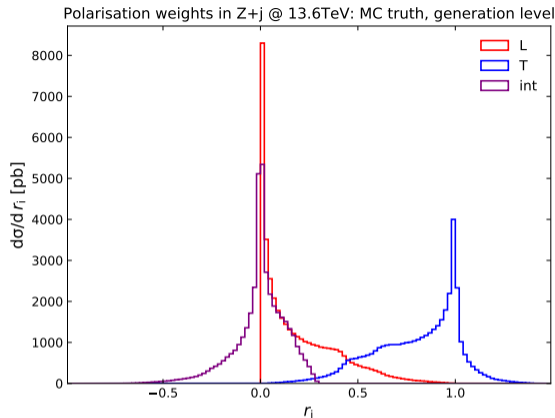
Polarisation weights in Z+j @ 13.6TeV: MC truth, generation level





NB: For LO+PS, reweighting done on events before PS

→ assumption: polarisation is not influenced by PS



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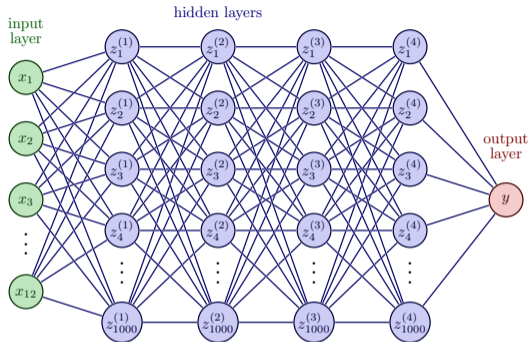
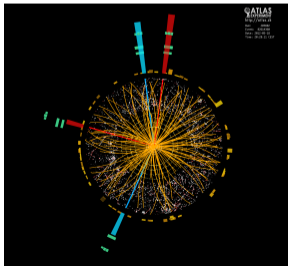
⚠ r_L requires knowledge of all momenta (initial and final)

⚠ r_L requires knowledge of the partonic process and the PDF: ($qg \rightarrow q$, $q\bar{q} \rightarrow g$, ...)

Solution → Wide neural networks

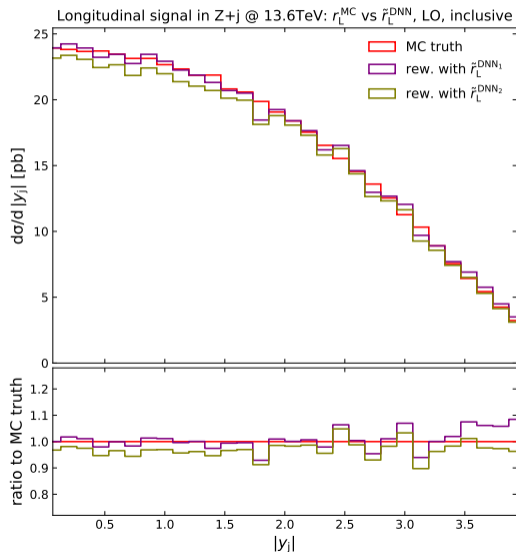
IN:

- Training with Monte Carlo events
→ Truth
- Parameter to learn: r_L
- Input: all accessible information
(leptons, jets, ...)



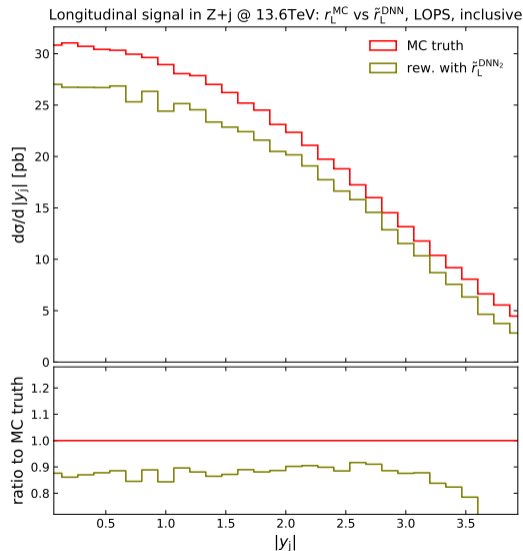
OUT:

- Result: \tilde{r}_L
 - Proxy of r_L
 - Relies only on accessible information



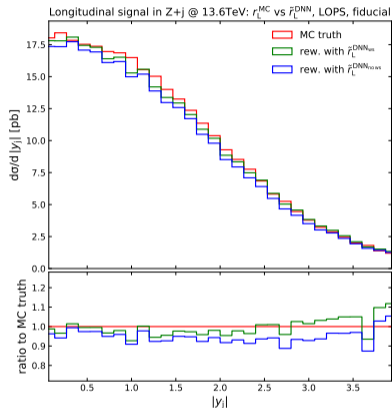
→ Method is working at LO
at per-cent level

LO+PS using LO training



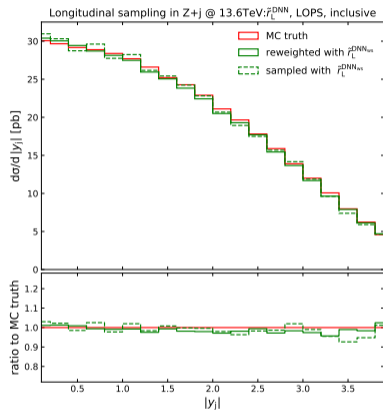
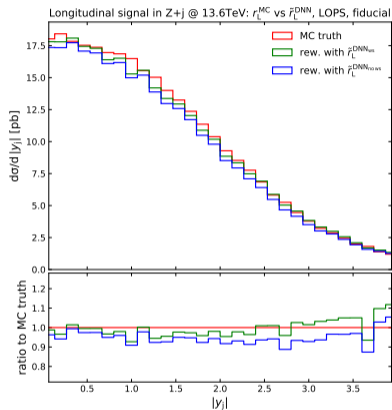
⚠ Failing!
(describing PS corrections instead
of polarisation)
→ Retraining ...
... with r_L computed before PS!

LO+PS with warm-up



→ Warmup training gives better results
Initial conditions of the LO+PS learning is set by LO learning

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NB: LO+PS is better reproduced than LO (less $\tilde{r}_L < 0$) → mitigation effect?

Summary - Amplitude-assisted tagging of longitudinally polarised bosons using wide neural networks



Experiment / Theory

- \tilde{r}_L is an approximation of r_L relying only on physical inputs
→ Use wide neural network
- Given a set of data/unpolarised sample
→ \tilde{r}_L allows to tag/reweight longitudinally-polarised events
- Can be used in experimental analysis/theoretical calculations
→ f_L extracted to be compared to theory predictions

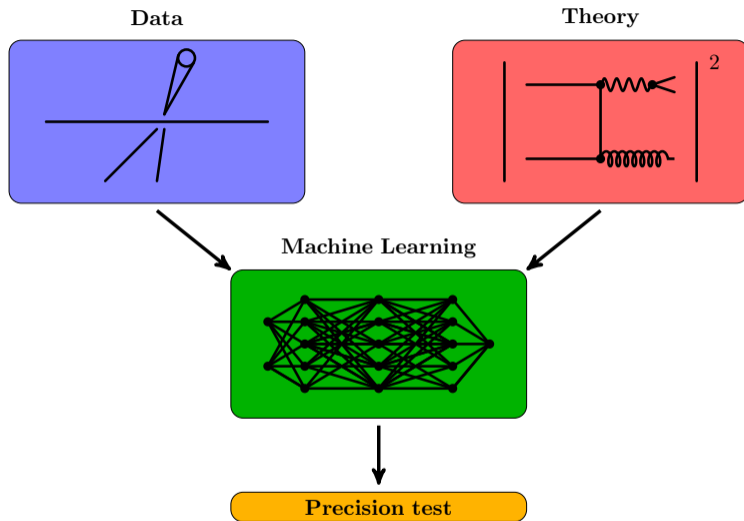
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- Model independence
 - Any model can be used *e.g.* EFT or simplified models

Natural extensions

- Extension of the method beyond LO
 - NLO QCD first
- Test on multi-boson processes
 - di-boson, tri-boson, vector-boson scattering
- Application to other problems (castable into ratios)
 - irreducible backgrounds: ttbb, vector-boson scattering, ...



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Thank you

BACK-UP