Hadronic Top Quark Polarimetry with ParticleNet

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Top quark spin

Top quark decays before it hadronizes or spin flips

$$
\tau_{had} \sim 1/\Lambda_{QCD} \sim 10^{-24} s
$$

$$
\tau_{flip} \sim m_t/\Lambda_{QCD}^2 \sim 10^{-21} s
$$

Mahlon, Parke 2010

■ Top polarization can be observed from the angular distribution of its decay products, which provides us an opportunity for non-resonant new physics searches.

$$
\frac{1}{\Gamma d \cos \xi_k} = \frac{1}{2} (1 + \beta_k \cos \xi_k) \quad \beta_k = \begin{cases} +1, & \text{for } l^+ \text{ or } \bar{d}\text{-quark.} \\ -0.31, & \text{for } \bar{\nu} \text{ or } u\text{-quark.} \\ -0.41, & \text{for } b\text{-quark.} \end{cases}
$$

 $\tau_{top} \approx 5 \times 10^{-25} s$

Brandenburg, Si, Uwer 2002

Spin analyzing power

Entanglement and Bell Inequalities with Top Quarks

- The LHC provides a unique environment to study entanglement and Bell's inequality at high energy
- Top quark pair production is an optimal candidate for these studies

Afik, Nova 2020 Fabbrichesi, Floreanini, Panizzo 2021 Severi, Boschi, Maltoni, Sioli 2021 Saavedra, Casas 2022 Severi, Vryonidou 2022 **ZD**, Gonçalves, Kong, Navarro 2023 Han, Low, Wu 2023 ATLAS Nature vol 633, 542–547 (2024) CMS 2406.03976 CMS 2409.11067 **ZD**, Gonçalves, Kong, Larkoski, Navarro 2024 **ZD**, Gonçalves, Kong, Larkoski, Navarro 2024

Hadronic top polarimetry

- Semi-leptonic and hadronic channel has much higher event rate than dileptonic channel
- **down-type quark is best polarimeter, but tagging it in a collider environment is challenging**
- We can use a proxy direction for down-quark

Optimal hadronic direction

Top quark spin

 \boldsymbol{b}

dhard

■ Using a linear combination of soft jet directions as the proxy

 q_{soft}

Tweedie 2014

Beyond kinematic information

■ The optimal hadronic direction uses all the kinematic information (momentum) of the top decay products. At particle-level, jets contain more information than just momentum.

$$
\vec{q}_{\text{opt}} = p(d \to q_{\text{hard}} | c_W, {\{\mathcal{O}\}}) \hat{q}_{\text{hard}} + p(d \to q_{\text{soft}} | c_W, {\{\mathcal{O}\}}) \hat{q}_{\text{soft}}
$$

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Machine Learning Strategy

- **Example 1** Light jet flavor identification within top jet cone
- **. Input the jet constituent momenta and charge** information for each of the subjets
- **Train the neural network to identify the down**type jet
- **Interpret the neural network score as** theconditional probability of each jet being down-type and form a new proxy direction

Network Architecture

- We modified based on the ParticleNet architecture by utilizing three separate graph convolutions instead of one, corresponding to each of the jet inputs.
- **The three graphs are then** pooled and concatenated.
- Additional features for the overall top jet can also be fed into the linear layers.

Qu, Gouskos 2019

See also: Gong et al. 2022 Bogatskiy, Hoffman, Miller, Offermann 2022

Input features

- Each particles within the jets will be associated with two sets of coordinates: the η and ϕ with respect to the top jet axis, or with respect to the individual subjet axis.
- The log-normalized energy and transverse momentum of each particles.
- Basic particle identification information.
- One could try to include more precise PID, separating the charged hadrons.

Performance on jet flavor identification

- The ROC curve of the network trained and tested on the unpolarized top data.
- "kinematics" curve is the baseline constructed using a fully connected DNN with jet momenta input.

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Spin correlation (β) based on cuts

- We can put cuts on the neural network scores to significantly improve the spin correlation.
- We can apply large cuts on the events as long as we still have a larger cross section than dileptonic $t\bar{t}$.

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Kaon/Pion discrimination

- **Performance can be further improved significantly with** Kaon/Pion discrimination
- They are not well distinguished at the LHC, but can be improved with future timing detector
- In principle, we can consider imperfect Kaon/Pion label
- Theoretical challenge of handling non perturbative effects of hadronization

Beyond polarimetry

- Doing light quark jet tagging within the top jet can help us understand more about the light quarks themselves, not just about top quarks
- The model's performance depends on the generation of quarks
- We could also include additional information such as charm tagging
- A well tuned model may enable us to do a direct measurement on Cabbibo angle.

Summary and discussion

- We can train a machine learning model on identifying the light jet flavor within the top jet and use it to improve the spin analyzing power of the hadronic top.
- $\bullet u$ \overline{d} discrimination is challenging in general but can be improved in tagged top jet.
- With the inclusion of variables beyond kinematic information in the input, we can improve the spin analyzing power compared to the direction constructed using only kinematics.
- **The neural networks also provides a way to make selections on the** events to improve the spin analyzing power, which means better top spin measurements.

Back up

Data preparation

- **We generate 14TeV** $pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} \rightarrow \ell^- \nu 2b2j$ events using MG5, with no cuts except for $p_{Tt} > 200$ GeV.
- **Three sets of samples where the top quark is unpolarized, left hand polarized** and right hand polarized in the $t\bar{t}$ rest frame.
- Parton shower and hadronization are done with PYTHIA8 without MPI.
- **Identify the top jet using CA algorithm with** $R = 1.5$, and $p_T > 250$ GeV. And decluster following the algorithm to find the subjets.
- We match the hadron level jets with true parton level momenta, by using the smallest ΔR between the two.

Analytical results

$$
p(\bar{d} \rightarrow q_{\text{hard}}|c_W, \mathcal{Q}_{\kappa,h}, N_h, \mathcal{Q}_{\kappa,s}, N_s) = \frac{1}{p(\bar{d} \rightarrow q_{\text{hard}}|c_W) + \frac{p(\mathcal{Q}_{\kappa,h}|u \rightarrow q_{\text{hard}}, N_h)}{p(\mathcal{Q}_{\kappa,h}|\bar{d} \rightarrow q_{\text{hard}}, N_h)} \, p(u \rightarrow q_{\text{hard}}|c_W)} \times \frac{1}{\frac{p(\mathcal{Q}_{\kappa,s}|\bar{d} \rightarrow q_{\text{soft}}, N_s)}{p(\mathcal{Q}_{\kappa,s}|u \rightarrow q_{\text{soft}}, N_s)}} \, p(\bar{d} \rightarrow q_{\text{soft}}|c_W) + p(u \rightarrow q_{\text{soft}}|c_W)} \times p(\bar{d} \rightarrow q_{\text{hard}}|c_W) \, .
$$

DNN

- **.** Using Jets momenta as input
- Total of 20k trainable parameters
- Trained on 200k unpolarized samples
- Tested on 50k right-hand and left-hand polarized samples.

GNN

- Total of 77k trainable parameters
- **Trained on 200k unpolarized samples**
- Tested on 50k right-hand and left-hand polarized samples.

