



RooFit A tool kit for data modeling in ROOT

Wouter Verkerke (NIKHEF)



What is RooFit ?

Focus: coding a probability density function

- Focus on one practical aspect of many data analysis in HEP: How do you formulate your p.d.f. in ROOT
 - For 'simple' problems (gauss, polynomial), ROOT built-in models well sufficient



 But if you want to do unbinned ML fits, use non-trivial functions, or work with multidimensional functions you are quickly running into trouble

Why RooFit was developed

- BaBar experiment at SLAC: Extract sin(2 β) from time dependent CP violation of B decay: $e^+e^- \rightarrow Y(4s) \rightarrow BB$
 - Reconstruct both Bs, measure decay time difference
 - Physics of interest is in decay time dependent oscillation

$$f_{sig} \cdot \left[\text{SigSel}(m; \overline{p}_{sig}) \cdot \left(\text{SigDecay}(t; \vec{q}_{sig}, \sin(2\beta)) \otimes \text{SigResol}(t \mid dt; \vec{r}_{sig}) \right) \right] + (1 - f_{sig}) \left[\text{BkgSel}(m; \overline{p}_{bkg}) \cdot \left(\text{BkgDecay}(t; \vec{q}_{bkg}) \otimes \text{BkgResol}(t \mid dt; \vec{r}_{bkg}) \right) \right]$$

- Many issues arise
 - Standard ROOT function framework clearly insufficient to handle such complicated functions → must develop new framework
 - Normalization of p.d.f. not always trivial to calculate → may need numeric integration techniques
 - Unbinned fit, >2 dimensions, many events → computation performance important → must try optimize code for acceptable performance
 - Simultaneous fit to control samples to account for detector performan

RooFit – a data modeling language for ROOT

Extension to ROOT – (Almost) no overlap with existing functionality



Project timeline

- 1999 : Project started
 - First application: 'sin2b' measurement of BaBar (model with 5 observables, 37 floating parameters, simultaneous fit to multiple CP and control channels)
- 2000 : Complete overhaul of design based on experience with sin2b fit
 - Very useful exercise: new design is still current design
- 2003 : Public release of RooFit with ROOT
- 2004 : Over 50 BaBar physics publications using RooFit
- 2007 : Integration of RooFit in ROOT CVS source
- 2008 : Upgrade in functionality as part of RooStats project
 - Improved analytical and numeric integration handling, improved toy MC generation, addition of workspace
- 2009 : Now ~100K lines of code
 - (For comparison RooStats proper is ~5000 lines of code)
- 2012 : Higgs discovery models formulated in RooFit using workspace concept



Data modeling - Desired functionality

Building/Adjusting Models

- ✓ *Easy to write* basic PDFs (\rightarrow normalization)
- ✓ Easy to compose complex models (modular design)
- ✓ *Reuse* of existing functions
- ✓ Flexibility No arbitrary implementation-related restrictions

Using Models

- ✓ Fitting : Binned/Unbinned (extended) MLL fits, Chi² fits
- ✓ Toy MC generation: Generate MC datasets from any model
- ✓ Visualization: Slice/project model & data in any possible way
- ✓ Speed Should be as fast or faster than hand-coded model

Data modeling – OO representation

• Idea: represent math symbols as C++ objects



 Result: 1 line of code per symbol in a function (the C++ constructor) rather than 1 line of code per function

Data modeling – Constructing composite objects

 Straightforward correlation between mathematical representation of formula and RooFit code



Model building – (Re)using standard components

RooFit provides a collection of compiled standard PDF classes



Easy to extend the library: each p.d.f. is a separate C++ class

Model building – (Re)using standard components

- Library p.d.f.s can be adjusted on the fly.
 - Just plug in any function expression you like as input variable
 - Works universally, even for classes you write yourself



• Maximum flexibility of library shapes keeps library small

Special pdfs – Kernel estimation model

- Kernel estimation model
 - Construct smooth pdf from unbinned data, using kernel estimation technique



Special pdfs – Morphing interpolation

- Special operator pdfs can interpolate existing pdf shapes
 - Ex: interpolation between Gaussian and Polynomial
 - w.factory("Gaussian::g(x[-20,20],-10,2)") ;
 - w.factory("Polynomial::p(x, {-0.03, -0.001})") ;
 - w.factory("IntegralMorph::gp(g,p,x,alpha[0,1])") ;



- Two morphing algorithms available
 - IntegralMorph (Alex Read algorithm).
 CPU intensive, but good with discontinuities
 - MomentMorph (Max Baak).
 Fast, can handling multiple observables (and soon multiple interpolation parameters), but doesn't work well for all pdfs

Handling of p.d.f normalization

- Normalization of (component) p.d.f.s to unity is often a good part of the work of writing a p.d.f.
- RooFit handles most normalization issues transparently to the user
 - P.d.f can advertise (multiple) analytical expressions for integrals
 - When no analytical expression is provided, RooFit will automatically perform numeric integration to obtain normalization
 - More complicated that it seems: even if gauss(x,m,s) can be integrated analytically over x, gauss(f(x),m,s) cannot. Such use cases are automatically recognized.
 - Multi-dimensional integrals can be combination of numeric and p.d.f-provided analytical partial integrals
- Variety of numeric integration techniques is interfaced
 - Adaptive trapezoid, Gauss-Kronrod, VEGAS MC...
 - User can override parameters globally or per p.d.f. as necessary

Model building – (Re)using standard components

• Most physics models can be composed from 'basic' shapes



Model building – (Re)using standard components

Most physics models can be composed from 'basic' shapes



(FFT) Convolution – works for all models

• Example

```
w.factory("Landau::L(x[-10,30],5,1)") :
w.factory("Gaussian::G(x,0,2)") ;
```

w::x.setBins("cache",10000) ; // FFT sampling density
w.factory("FCONV::LGf(x,L,G)") ; // FFT convolution

w.factory("NCONV::LGb(x,L,G)") ; // Numeric convolution



Automated vs. hand-coded optimization of p.d.f.

- Automatic pre-fit PDF optimization
 - Prior to each fit, the PDF is analyzed for possible optimizations
 - Optimization algorithms:
 - Detection and *precalculation of constant terms* in any PDF expression
 - Function *caching* and lazy evaluation
 - *Factorization* of multi-dimensional problems where ever possible
 - Optimizations are always tailored to the specific use in each fit.
 - Possible because OO structure of p.d.f. allows automated analysis of structure

• No need for users to hard-code optimizations

- Keeps your code understandable, maintainable and flexible without sacrificing performance
- Optimization concepts implemented by RooFit are applied consistently and completely to all PDFs
- Speedup of factor 3-10 reported in realistic complex fits
- Fit parallelization on multi-CPU hosts
 - Option for automatic parallelization of fit function on multi-CPU hosts (no explicit or implicit support from user PDFs needed)



Sharing models

Sharing data and functions

- Sharing data is in HEP is relatively easy ROOT TTrees, THx histograms almost universal standard
- Sharing functions (likelihood / probability density) much more difficult
 - No standard protocol for defining p.d.f.s and likelihood functions
 - Structurally functions are much more complicated than data
- Essentially all methods start with the basic probability density function or likelihood function $L(x|\theta_r,\theta_s)$
 - Building a good model is the hard part!
 - want to re-use it for multiple methods
 - Language to common tools
- Common language for probability density functions and likelihood functions very desirable for easy exchange of information → RooFit

RooFit core design philosophy - Workspace

 The workspace serves a container class for all objects created



Using the workspace

- Workspace
 - A generic container class for all RooFit objects of your project
 - Helps to organize analysis projects
- Creating a workspace

RooWorkspace w("w") ;

- Putting variables and function into a workspace
 - When importing a function or pdf, all its components (variables) are automatically imported too

```
RooRealVar x("x","x",-10,10) ;
RooRealVar mean("mean","mean",5) ;
RooRealVar sigma("sigma","sigma",3) ;
RooGaussian f("f","f",x,mean,sigma) ;
// imports f,x,mean and sigma
w.import(myFunction) ;
```

Using the workspace

Looking into a workspace

```
w.Print() ;
variables
------
(mean,sigma,x)
p.d.f.s
-----
RooGaussian::f[ x=x mean=mean sigma=sigma ] = 0.249352
```

• Getting variables and functions out of a workspace

```
// Variety of accessors available
RooPlot* frame = w.var("x")->frame() ;
w.pdf("f")->plotOn(frame) ;
```

Persisting workspaces

Workspaces can be trivially written to file

// Write workspace contents to file

w.writeToFile("myworkspace.root") ;

• And be read back into another ROOT session

```
// Open ROOT file
TFile* f = TFile::Open("myworkspace.root") ;
// Retrieve workspace
RooWorkspace* w = f->Get("w") ;
```

Sharing models using RooFit workspaces

- Internal sharing of likelihood models between analysis groups has been common within Higgs effort
- Aided by RooFit workspace concept
- What you share is not only a description of model, but an actual implementation (a callable C++ function)
 - Virtually zero overhead in getting things to work

```
// Setup [4 lines ]
TFile* f = TFile::Open("myfile.root") ;
RooWorkspace* w = f->Get("mywspace") ;
RooAbsPdf* model = w->pdf("mymodel") ;
RooAbsData* data = w->data("obsData") ;
```

// Core business

```
model->fitTo(*data) ;
```

RooAbsReal* nll = model->createNLL(*data) ;

• Works for **any** model

Scalability – an extreme example



A workspace provides you with a model implementation

- All RooFit models provide universal and complete fitting and Toy Monte Carlo generating functionality
 - Model complexity only limited by available memory and CPU power
 - Fitting/plotting a 5-D model as easy as using a 1-D model
 - Most operations are one-liners



Probability density function \rightarrow Likelihood

• Easy to create a likelihood from a model and a dataset

```
// Create likelihood (calculation parallelized on 8 cores)
RooAbsReal* nll = w::model.createNLL(data,NumCPU(8)) ;
```

• Easy to manipulate with ROOT minimizers

```
RooMinuit m(*nll) ; // Create MINUIT session
m.migrad() ; // Call MIGRAD
m.hesse() ; // Call HESSE
m.minos(w::param) ; // Call MINOS for 'param'
RooFitResult* r = m.save() ; // Save status (cov matrix etc)
```

• Can also insert likelihood function in a workspace

```
w.import(*nll) ; // for direct use by others
```

Working with profile likelihood

• A profile likelihood ratio $\lambda(p) = \frac{L(p, \hat{q})}{L(\hat{p}, \hat{q})} \leftarrow \text{Best L for given p}$

can be represent by a regular RooFit function (albeit an expensive one to evaluate)

```
RooAbsReal* ll = model.createNLL(data,NumCPU(8)) ;
RooAbsReal* pll = ll->createProfile(params) ;
```



(Not) sharing the (unbinned) data

- Potential discussion item when sharing workspaces is that you share not only the model, but also the (unbinned) data – which a collaboration for various reason may not want to make public
- No easy iron-clad solutions to this issue likelihood must have access to the data
- One simple solution currently provided are `sealed' likelihood functions in workspace → These refuse access to internal data.
 - Not iron-clad since a good programmer with a debugger can still extract this
 - But sealed likelihoods also offer opportunity to include 'copyright' message – printed whenever workspace with sealed likelihoods is loaded into memory

```
nll->seal("your copyright message goes here") ;
w->import(*nll) ;
```

Interfacing RooFit functions to other code

 Binding exist to represent RooFit likelihood and probability density functions as 'simple' C++ functions

```
// RooFit pdf object
RooAbsPdf* pdf ;
```

```
// Binding object
```

RooFunctor lfunc(*pdf,observables,parameters) ;

```
// Evaluate pdf through binding
// takes variables as array of doubles
double obs[n] ;
double par[m] ;
double val = lfunc.eval(obs,par) ;
```

Summary

- RooFit is a object-oriented data modeling language for HEP, part of ROOT distribution
 - Key concept is representing mathematical entities as C++ objects
- Extensively used since nearly 13 years, highly scalable with good performance
- Ability to persist these models into 'workspaces' in ROOT files allows to trivially share implementations of models
 - You read and use parametric likelihoods from other scientists with almost zero effort
 - Very effectively used in Higgs discovery effort



- Long-term retention ability of workspaces explicit goal
 - ROOT schema evolution framework provides tools to guarantee backward compatibility for reading existing workspaces