

10<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Boosted Objects Phenomenology, Reconstruction and Searches

## **CWoLa Hunting:**

## Extending the Bump Hunt with Machine Learning

# Based on:

[1805.02664] Jack Collins, Kiel Howe, Ben Nachman







#### Edited from [1703.01927]







# **Fully Supervised learning vs Weak Supervision**



## **CwoLa Hunting: Basic Picture**



## **CwoLa Hunting: Basic Picture**



## The problem(s) of overfitting

1) Create fake bumps out of background fluctuations



2) Leads to sub-optimal discriminant for true signal



# **Avoiding fake bumps: Simplest Solution**

Train/Test Split



# 'Wastes' half of the data

# Train & Test on same dataset



Create fake bumps by overfitting to statistical fluctuations

## **Avoiding fake bumps: Cross Validation**



### **Nested Cross-Validation**



Figure 7. Illustration of the nested cross-validation procedure. Left: the dataset is randomly partitioned bin-by-bin into five groups. Center: for each group, an ensemble classifier is trained on the remaining groups. For each of the four possible combinations of these four groups into three training groups and one validation group, a set of invidual classifiers are trained and the one with best validation performance is selected. The ensemble classifier is formed by the average of the four selected individual classifiers. Right: Data are selected from each test group using a threshold cut from their corresponding ensemble classifier. The selected events are then merged into a single  $m_{JJ}$  histogram.















## No Signal → No Bump!

(Need to be careful to make this work. Details in backup slides and in paper)



**CWoLa Hunting** 





















- 1)Need some variable X (e.g. m\_JJ) in which bg is smooth and signal is localized
- 2)Need some other variables {Y} (e.g. jet substructure) which may provide discriminating power which may be a-priori unknown.
- 3){Y} should not be strongly correlated with X over the X-width of the signal.

Or alternatively, if correlated, there may be a way to decorrelate (e.g. if we can predict or measure the correlation, that can be subtracted away to create new uncorrelated variables).



## **Performance Comparison**



Figure 11. Truth-label ROC curves for taggers trained using CWoLa with varying number of signal events, compared to those for a dedicated tagger trained on pure signal and background samples (solid black) and one trained to discriminate W and Z jets from QCD (dashed black). The CWoLa examples have B = 81341 in the signal region and S = (230, 352, 472, 697).