IML

Contribution ID: **5**   Type: **not specified**

What is the machine learning.

Tuesday 10 April 2018 16:30 (20 minutes)

Applications of machine learning tools to problems of physical interest are often criticized for producing sensitivity at the expense of transparency. In this talk, I explore a procedure for identifying combinations of variables – aided by physical intuition – that can discriminate signal from background. Weights are introduced to smooth away the features in a given variable(s). New networks are then trained on this modified data. Observed decreases in sensitivity diagnose the variable's discriminating power. Planing also allows the investigation of the linear versus non-linear nature of the boundaries between signal and background. I will demonstrate these features in both an easy to understand toy model and an idealized LHC resonance scenario.

Intended contribution length

20 minutes

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Session Classification: Session 4