# Utilizing Unsupervised Machine Learning In BSM Physics Searches At The LHC

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November 4, 2019

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Machine Learning & Particle Physics

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- This is partially because we do not know the particular standard model extension that nature has chosen, and as such it is very difficult to conduct a search.
- For example there are virtually infinite supersymmetric theories that could be chosen.

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- Oetermine statistical significance.

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- The problem is that one must start by choosing a signal.
- This means that you can't find something unless you already know what to look for.
- This is a problem when there are an infinite number models to test.
- We want to be able to detect a signal without making any assumptions about it.

# Unsupervised Machine Learning and Anomaly Detection

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darkmachines.org @dark\_machines on twitter

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We want to ask "how anomalous is a given event compared to the SM background?"

- We can do this using unsupervised machine learning.
- Train an anomaly detection algorithm on the standard model background.
- A minimal preselection is applied. The training variables are  $p_T$ ,  $\eta$ ,  $\phi$  of each particle, jet, and  $\mathcal{E}_T$ . Physical variables such as  $m_T$  and  $H_T$  are also used. Missing particles and jets are zero padded.

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- We can then pass in any given event and the algorithm will assign a measure of anomalousness to it.
- If we assume that the signal is kinematically different from the background, this allows us to create a method of detecting a signal without making any further assumptions about it.

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The anomaly detection algorithm I will show today is called an Isolation Forest.

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- The isolation forest works by creating trees which randomly slice the dataset until an event is isolated.
- The anomaly score of a given event is then inversely proportional to the tree depth, or how many times the dataset needs to be sliced in order to isolate that event. A highly anomalous event should take fewer slices to isolate than a totally typical event.

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Image: A matrix and a matrix

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#### Some Results

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The first signal we will look at is a 1 TeV gluino signal.

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• Good starting place as it's easy to differentiate from the standard model background.

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The first signal we will look at is a 1 TeV gluino signal.

- Good starting place as it's easy to differentiate from the standard model background.
- Note that it does not matter what this signal is, as this model is signal independent.

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#### Isolation Forest on Gluino Production



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#### Isolation Forest on Gluino Production



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#### The next signal we will look at is a 404 GeV supersymmetric top signal.

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The next signal we will look at is a 404 GeV supersymmetric top signal.

• This is a bit of a challenge as it's kinematics are very similar to the top quark.

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#### Isolation Forest on Stop Production



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#### Summary

• Standard LHC search techniques have been unable to detect any new physics, partially due to the fact that you need to choose a signal to search for.

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- Standard LHC search techniques have been unable to detect any new physics, partially due to the fact that you need to choose a signal to search for.
- We, alongside Dark Machines have developed a technique that is able to differentiate signal from background without making any assumptions about the signal.

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#### Summary

- Standard LHC search techniques have been unable to detect any new physics, partially due to the fact that you need to choose a signal to search for.
- We, alongside Dark Machines have developed a technique that is able to differentiate signal from background without making any assumptions about the signal.
- This technique is not enough to discover a signal on its own but provides a powerful tool that can be used to determine signal regions to explore further.

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# End

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Machine Learning & Particle Physics

November 4, 2019

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