

Al-enhanced analysis of ππ scattering Wyatt Smith



Multi-Particle Reactions from the Standard Model, UC Berkeley, July 28 2025





Università Messina





- Pion-Pion scattering is extremely important in modern particle experiments!
- Heroic efforts to parameterize pionpion scattering - still ongoing, see Pablo Rabán's poster tomorrow!
- Data comes from several older experiments
- The shaded region is the error band It's extremely narrow!

Experimental data is old, data sets are incompatible, and errors are likely underestimated!

The pion-pion scattering amplitude. IV:



Neural Network = Complicated, arbitrarily scalable function

NN's provide extremely flexible models for fitting data

Neural Networks



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NN's provide extremely flexible models for fitting data

Why use NNs for physics?

- Less model dependence we don't know the right answer!
- Lower computational costs (one and done?)
- Established codebases efficient use of computing resources
- \$\$\$

Neural Networks



Overall Strategy

• Use neural network in place of human-writable model:

$$NN: E \to \{(\delta_{\ell}^{(I)}, \eta_{\ell}^{(I)})\}$$

- Train many neural networks on re-sampled data to produce a Monte Carlo-esque sample of models (think NNPDF)
- Error bars determined from the ensemble of the neural networks rather than from a single fit
- All physics content must be enforced by carefully constructed loss function!

$$F^{(I)}(s,t) = \frac{8}{\pi} \sum_{\ell} (2\ell + 1) P_{\ell}(\cos \theta)$$

$$t_{\ell}^{(I)}(s) = \frac{\sqrt{s}}{2k} \hat{f}_{\ell}^{(I)}(s), \quad \hat{f}_{\ell}^{(I)}(s) = \frac{\eta_{\ell}^{(I)}(s)e^{2s}}{2k} \hat{f}_{\ell}^{(I)}(s) = \frac{\eta_{\ell$$



Figure 2: Squares with zero, 250, 2500 and 25000 points.

https://thatsmaths.com/2020/05/28/the-monte-carlo-method/







Loss function



- relation, analyticity, crossing symmetry)
- physics
- λ 's are Lagrange multipliers that can be tuned/adjusted on the fly.

• MSE easily minimized due to the flexibility of even a simple NN (beware overfitting!)

• Δ_{Roy} contains discrepancies from Roy-like equations (enforcement of dispersion)

MSE_{Regge} forces the neural network to respect high-energy dominance of regge

Loss function

$LOSS = MSE + \lambda_{Roy} \Delta_{Roy} + \lambda_{Regge} MSE_{Regge}$

• The dispersive integral is in the loss function

$$\Delta_{\ell}^{(I)} = \left| \operatorname{Re} t_{\ell}^{I}(s) - ST_{\ell}^{I}(s) - DT_{\ell}^{I}(s) - \sum_{I', \ell'} \operatorname{P.V.} \int_{4M_{\pi}^{2}}^{s_{\max}} ds' K_{\ell\ell'}^{II'} \operatorname{Im} t_{\ell'}^{I'}(s') \right|$$

- Subtraction terms need to be predicted as well!
- on/off or multiplied by additional λ 's at will

$$LOSS + = \lambda_{SR} \Delta_{SR}$$

Data from different experiments, or from different isospins/partial waves can be turned

Additional constraints are no problem! Sum rules, continuity at transition to Regge, etc.



How to train a NN?

- Curriculum-based learning: Slowly increase weighting of Roy part of loss
- Force model weights to decay to combat overfitting
- Partial waves not made equal! Allow model to adaptively prioritize underperforming waves by readjusting weights
- Avoid large perturbations in weights when we're doing well -> Lower learning rate (velocity of parameter change)
- Not currently interested in high-energy description:

 $LOSS = MSE + \lambda_{Roy} \Delta_{Roy} + \lambda_{Regge} \Delta_{SERegge}$



Noha Nekamiche: https://medium.com/aiguys/curriculum-learning-83b1b2221f33









Preliminary ensemble (~2k NNs)



Diagnostics: Subtractions and Weights



- Clustering of subtraction terms capturing something real? (ChiPT predictions of scattering lengths?)
- \bullet the space of solutions!

Many weights near zero: We have more than enough parameters to span

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Diagnostics: MSE and Roy Losses



- Unweighted MSE and Roy histograms look reasonable
- Potential cuts in Roy loss?
- No major correlations in the MSE and Roy losses

Takeaways

- (Almost) fully model-independent description of $\pi\pi$ scattering is possible
- Error estimates from Monte-Carlo replicas are significantly increased due to model flexibility

- Discrimination of incompatible experimental data may be possible
- Resonance extraction soon!



A PHYSICIST FIRST