Fast Generation of Realistic Data-Driven Stereoscopic Shower Images using Generative Adversarial Networks

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Motivation

- ❖ **Overarching Motivation:** Tackling **Gamma/Hadron separation** problem in an observational data-driven manner (previous successes have been based on simulated events)
	- ➢ Previous efforts have used **supervised ML methods** trained on simulations (*Shilon+18, Miener+22, Spencer+21 Thesis*);
	- \triangleright Generalized Simulation \rightarrow Data application can be challenging (domain adaptation can be done)
	- ➢ Gamma : Hadron ratio in observational data is **heavily imbalanced (1:1000 1:10000)**.
		- Gammas can be perceived as "unusual" (or anomalous) in a pool of hadrons.
- ❖ **Unsupervised Deep Learning:** A promising (alternative) approach to learn features in a data-driven way. They are also useful for doing **anomaly detection**!
	- \triangleright Autoencoders focused on image-to-image reconstructions
	- ➢ **Generative Adversarial Networks** focused on generation of images that are representative; (e.g., *Elflein+23*)
	- \triangleright Transformers (and more...)

Outline

- ❖ **Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)** are established method to learn image-level features in a data-driven way (*Goodfellow+14*):
	- ➢ However Standard GAN framework poses following issues
		- Training instability: This motivates a new variant Wasserstein GAN (wGAN).
		- Not grounded by physical parameters: To be useful for domain applications, requires incorporation of relevant physical parameters, motivating Conditional wGAN (CwGAN).
		- **EXECUTE:** Previous efforts using CwGANs have been with simulated data.
	- ➢ **Our goal**: Train in a data driven manner a CwGAN that ultimately lead us to effective gamma/hadron separation
- ❖ **An Intermediate (useful) by-product of CwGAN**: Fast Generation of Realistic Data-Driven Stereoscopic Shower Images - this is the focus of my talk
- ❖ **Conclusions** of our CwGAN experiments!

Gamma-Hadron Separation: A Critical Scientific Analysis Step

- 1. Atmospheric showers from gamma rays and cosmic rays create distinct patterns on imaging.
- 2. We use data from the VERITAS observatory

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Schematic Overview of the VERITAS Data & Derived Parameters

Gamma photon

Centre of field of view

Schematic of our overarching goal: Data-driven learning of shower-image features

- 1. We expect that an unsupervised approach helps learn generalized diversity of shower features.
- 2. We anticipate the data to govern the model on what features are representative.

Our goal is to create a model – trained on stereoscopic images alongside physically-relevant parameters – that could learn a lower-dimensional representation which can help better distinguish Gamma vs. Hadrons.

We use VERITAS observational data of the Crab Nebula for our Deep Learning training

- Crab Nebula (SN 1054)
- $~^{\sim}$ 6500 Lightyears away
- Bright and steady source in TeV.
- **● Calibration standard for IACTs.**

Data Used for our Proof-of-Concept Training

- 1 Crab Run
- $~^{\sim}$ 120K events
- Size (per telescope) > 100

How we make VERITAS data compatible with deep learning tools

- 1. We project native hex pixels onto a 96x96 rectangular grid using bi-cubic interpolation.
- 2. We normalize per-telescope image such that the native charge distribution is conserved.
- **3. Normalizing scheme makes a BIG DIFFERENCE in training outcomes!!**

Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs): A good architecture for data-driven feature learning

- An established **unsupervised** feature learning framework
- A GAN, under the hood is comprised of **two CNN-based frameworks** Generator & Discriminator
- It learns **generalized feature representations** described by the data.
- One can use the representations to **generate realistic synthetic data** and finding **rarely occurring samples**

Example synthetically Generated Images

Traditional GANs suffer from training instabilities

- 1. The Generator can cheat the Discriminator by generating one particularly "good" sample (mode collapse)
- 2. The learning landscape can become "too volatile" resulting in the Generator to learn-unlearn iteratively.

Training progress

CwGAN is a variant of classical GANs, which can be used for parameter-guided image generation

Stereo-Images | Θ

Let's unpack what CwGAN means in the next couple of slides!

The training objective of a wGAN is to drive the **Real** and **Generated** distributions to be similar

We were able to successfully train a wGAN (unconditional) to generate stereoscopic shower images

Our CwGAN model generates qualitatively promising stereoscopic shower images

Random Generated Images conditioned on Θ

An Intermediate Validation Challenge: How to map from a given image to feature vector & parameters?

- 1. So, we trained a Validator model such that it can predict z from a stereoscopic image.
- 2. Simultaneously, we also require it to perform regression on Θ .
- 3. **Validator model** is trained by holding the **Generator** and **Discriminator** fixed!

Our Validation model is OK, but could be better! – It will be when trained on more balanced data

Random Generated Images

Conclusions

- 1. We have successfully demonstrated stereoscopic image generation with a CwGAN architecture trained on real VERITAS data
- 2. Next steps are to infer on simulated data to determine probabilistic gamma/hadron separation and parameter regression
- 3. Could also use architecture to train on simulations for fast stereoscopic image generation.

Backup Slides

Imaging Atmospheric Cherenkov Telescope (IACT)

Cherenkov radiation emitted by the cascade of secondary particles is captured using Photomultiplier Tubes. Properties of the primary are reconstructed with the help of Monte Carlo simulations of EAS and the corresponding Cherenkov image.

Stereoscopic imaging:

1. Better reconstruction of direction, core location, and energy of primary with multiple telescopes

2. Elimination of fluctuations in low energy range due to night sky background and muons by applying coincident trigger criteria

Gamma-Hadron Separation: A Critical Scientific Analysis Step

y-ray shower

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Charles Care collaboration

VERITAS

The Very Energetic Radiation Imaging Telescope Array System

- An array of four 12m-diameter imaging atmospheric Cherenkov telescopes
- Located at the Fred Lawrence Whipple Observatory in southern Arizona
- Energy range: 85 GeV to >30 TeV Energy resolution: 17%
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- Sensitivity: 1% Crab in ~25h

● Angular resolution: ~0.08 @ 1 TeV Source location accuracy: error < 50 arcsec

Deep Generative Learning as an avenue for data-driven learning of shower-image features

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) as feature extraction modules

