Introduction to Event Generators

Lecture 2: Parton Showers







Peter Skands (Monash University) 11th MCnet School, Lund 2017

RECAP: THE STRUCTURE OF QUANTUM FIELDS

What we actually see when we look at a "jet" (or inside a proton)

An ever-repeating self-similar pattern of quantum fluctuations

At increasingly smaller energies or distances : **scaling** (modulo $\alpha_s(Q)$ scaling violation)

To our best knowledge, this is what a fundamental ('elementary') particle really looks like





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Nature makes copious use of such structures - **Fractals**









THE STRUCTURE OF JETS

Most bremsstrahlung is driven by **divergent propagators** → simple structure

Amplitudes factorise in singular limits (→ universal "scale-invariant" or "conformal" structure)



Partons ab \rightarrow "collinear": $|\mathcal{M}_{F+1}(\dots, a, b, \dots)|^2 \xrightarrow{a||b}{\rightarrow} g_s^2 \mathcal{C} \frac{P(z)}{2(p_a \cdot p_b)} |\mathcal{M}_F(\dots, a+b, \dots)|^2$

Gluon j
$$\rightarrow$$
 "soft": Coherence \rightarrow Parton j really emitted by (i,k) "colour antenna"
 $|\mathcal{M}_{F+1}(\dots, i, j, k\dots)|^2 \stackrel{j_g \to 0}{\rightarrow} g_s^2 \mathcal{C} \frac{(p_i \cdot p_k)}{(p_i \cdot p_j)(p_j \cdot p_k)} |\mathcal{M}_F(\dots, i, k, \dots)|^2$

+ scaling violation: $g_s^2 \rightarrow 4\pi \alpha_s(Q^2)$

Can apply this many times → nested factorizations

SCALING QCD, IN ACTION

Naively, QCD radiation suppressed by $\alpha_s \approx 0.1$

 \rightarrow Truncate at fixed order = LO, NLO, ...

But beware the jet-within-a-jet-within-a-jet ...

Example: 100 GeV can be "soft" at the LHC

SUSY pair production at LHC₁₄, with $M_{SUSY} \approx 600 \text{ GeV}$



All the scales are high, Q >> 1 GeV, so perturbation theory **should** be OK



RECAP: APROPOS FACTORISATION

Why are Fixed-Order QCD matrix elements not enough?

F.O. QCD requires Large scales (α_s small enough to be perturbative \rightarrow high-scale processes)

F.O. QCD also requires **No hierarchies** Bremsstrahlung poles $<1/Q^2$ integrated over phase space $<dQ^2 \rightarrow$ logarithms \rightarrow large if upper and lower integration limits are hierarchically different



PARTON SHOWERS

So it's not like you can put a cut at X (e.g., 50, or even 100) GeV and say: "ok, now fixed-order matrix elements will be OK"

Harder Processes are Accompanied by Harder Jets

The hard scale Q_{HARD} of your process will "start off" the fractal

Sooner or later you **will** resolve bremsstrahlung structure (when $Q_{Resolved}/Q_{HARD} \ll 1$)

Extra radiation:

Will generate corrections to your kinematics

Is an unavoidable aspect of the quantum description of quarks and gluons (no such thing as a "bare" quark or gluon; they *always* depend on how you look at them)

Extra jets from bremsstrahlung can be important combinatorial background especially if you are looking for decay jets of similar p_T scales (often, $\Delta M \ll M$)

This is what parton showers are for



BREMSSTRAHLUNG

For any basic process $d\sigma_X = \checkmark$ (calculated process by process)

$$d\sigma_{X+1} \sim N_C 2g_s^2 \frac{ds_{i1}}{s_{i1}} \frac{ds_{1j}}{s_{1j}} d\sigma_X \quad \checkmark$$

$$d\sigma_{X+2} \sim N_C 2g_s^2 \frac{ds_{i2}}{s_{i2}} \frac{ds_{2j}}{s_{2j}} d\sigma_{X+1} \quad \checkmark$$

$$d\sigma_{X+3} \sim N_C 2g_s^2 \frac{ds_{i3}}{s_{i3}} \frac{ds_{3j}}{s_{3j}} d\sigma_{X+2} \quad \dots$$

NB: here just iterating a single eikonal emission; should really sum over all emitters.

Could also have built an approximation from iterating collinear emissions (DGLAP)





BREMSSTRAHLUNG

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$$d\sigma_{X+3} \sim N_C 2g_s^2 \frac{ds_{i3}}{s_{i3}} \frac{ds_{3j}}{s_{3j}} d\sigma_{X+2} \quad ..$$

NB: here just iterating a single eikonal emission; should really sum over all emitters.

Could also have built an approximation from iterating collinear emissions (DGLAP)

Singularities: universal (mandated by gauge theory) **Non-singular terms:** process-dependent

$$\frac{|\mathcal{M}(Z^0 \to q_i g_j \bar{q}_k)|^2}{|\mathcal{M}(Z^0 \to q_I \bar{q}_K)|^2} = g_s^2 \, 2C_F \, \left[\frac{2s_{ik}}{s_{ij}s_{jk}} + \frac{1}{s_{IK}} \left(\frac{s_{ij}}{s_{jk}} + \frac{s_{jk}}{s_{ij}}\right)\right]$$

$$\frac{|\mathcal{M}(H^0 \to q_i g_j \bar{q}_k)|^2}{|\mathcal{M}(H^0 \to q_I \bar{q}_K)|^2} = g_s^2 \, 2C_F \left[\frac{2s_{ik}}{s_{ij}s_{jk}} + \frac{1}{s_{IK}} \left(\frac{s_{ij}}{s_{jk}} + \frac{s_{jk}}{s_{ij}} + 2 \right) \right]$$

"SOFT" "COLLINEAR" +F



BREMSSTRAHLUNG

For any basic process $d\sigma_X = \checkmark$ (calculated process by process) $d\sigma_{X+1} \sim N_C 2g_s^2 \frac{ds_{i1}}{s_{i1}} \frac{ds_{1j}}{s_{1j}} d\sigma_X \checkmark$ $d\sigma_{X+2} \sim N_C 2g_s^2 \frac{ds_{i2}}{s_{i2}} \frac{ds_{2j}}{s_{2j}} d\sigma_{X+1} \checkmark$ $d\sigma_{X+3} \sim N_C 2g_s^2 \frac{ds_{i3}}{s_{i3}} \frac{ds_{3j}}{s_{2i}} d\sigma_{X+2} \ldots$

Iterated factorization

Gives us a universal approximation to ∞-order tree-level cross sections. Exact in singular (strongly ordered) limit.

Non-singular terms (non-universal) → Uncertainties for hard radiation

But something is not right ... Total σ would be infinite ...



LOOPS AND LEGS

Coefficients of the Perturbative Series



RECAP: ADDING JETS AT FIXED ORDER







*) for so-called IR safe observables; discussed in Lecture 3



UNITARITY → **EVOLUTION** (RESUMMATION)

Probability for nothing to happen (~virtual + unresolved-real) + Probability for something to happen (~ resolved real) = 1

Unitarity: sum(probability) = 1
Kinoshita-Lee-Nauenberg

$$q_{k}$$
 (sum over degenerate quantum states = finite; infinities must cancel) q_{k} q_{k} (sum over degenerate quantum states = finite; infinities must cancel) q_{k} q_{k} q_{k} (sum over degenerate quantum states = finite; infinities must cancel) q_{k} q_{k} q_{k} (sum over degenerate quantum states = finite; infinities must cancel) q_{k} q_{k} q_{k} (sum over degenerate quantum states = finite; infinities must cancel) q_{k} q_{k} q_{k} q_{k} (sum over degenerate quantum states = finite; infinities must cancel) q_{k} q_{k}

Imposed by Event evolution: "detailed balance"

When (X) branches to (X+1): Gain one (X+1). Loose one (X).

Differential equation with evolution kernel $\frac{d\sigma_{X+1}}{d\sigma_X}$ (or, typically, a soft/collinear approximation thereof) $\frac{d\sigma_X}{d\sigma_X}$ Evolve in some measure of resolution ~ hardness, 1/time ... ~ fractal scale + account for scaling violation via quark masses and $g_s^2 \rightarrow 4\pi \alpha_s(Q^2)$

→ includes both real (tree) and virtual (loop) corrections, to arbitrary order



EVOLUTION ~ FINE-GRAINING





At most inclusive level "Everything is 2 jets"



At (slightly) finer resolutions, some events have 3, or 4 jets

Fixed order: $\sigma_{X+n} \sim \alpha_s^n \sigma_X$



Scale Hierarchy!



At high resolution, most events have >2 jets



Unitarity: Reinterpret as number of emissions diverging, while cross section remains $\sigma_{\text{inclusive}}$

EVOLUTION EQUATIONS

What we need is a differential equation

Boundary condition: a few partons defined at a high scale (Q_F)

Then evolves (or "runs") that parton system down to a low scale (the hadronization cutoff ~ 1 GeV) \rightarrow It's an evolution equation in Q_F

Close analogue: nuclear decay

Evolve an unstable nucleus. Check if it decays + follow chains of decays.





THE SUDAKOV FACTOR

In nuclear decay, the Sudakov factor counts:

How many nuclei remain undecayed after a time t

Probability to remain undecayed in the time interval $[t_1, t_2]$

$$\Delta(t_1, t_2) = \exp\left(-\int_{t_1}^{t_2} c_N \,\mathrm{d}t\right) = \exp\left(-c_N \,\Delta t\right)$$

The Sudakov factor for a parton system "counts":

The probability that the parton system doesn't evolve (branch) when we run the factorization scale (~1/time) from a high to a low scale

(i.e., that there is no state change)

Evolution probability per unit "time"

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}P_{\mathrm{res}}(t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{-\mathrm{d}\Delta}{\mathrm{d}t} = c_N \,\Delta(t_1, t)$$

(replace t by shower evolution scale)

(replace c_N by proper shower evolution kernels)



NUCLEAR DECAY



A SHOWER ALGORITHM

1.0

0.8

0.2

0.0⊾ 0.0

0.2

0.4

t1

0.6

 $y_{ii} = s_{ii}/s_{iik} = 1-x_k$

0.8

1.0

 $s_{jk}/s_{jjk} = 1 - x_i$ 9.0 9.0 9.0

, − ⊥ ⊥

1. For each evolver, generate a random number $R \in [0,1]$

Solve equation $R = \Delta(t_1, t)$ for t (with starting scale t_l)

Analytically for simple splitting kernels,

else numerically and/or by trial+veto

 \rightarrow t scale for next (trial) branching



To find second (linearly independent) phase-space invariant

Solve equation
$$R_z = \frac{I_z(z,t)}{I_z(z_{\max}(t),t)}$$
 for z (at scale t)
With the "primitive function" $I_z(z,t) = \int_{z_{\min}(t)}^z dz \left. \frac{d\Delta(t')}{dt'} \right|_{t'=t}$

3. Generate a third Random Number,
$$R_{\phi} \in [0,1]$$

Solve equation $R_{\varphi} = \varphi/2\pi$ for $\phi \rightarrow$ Can now do 3D branching Accept/Reject based on full kinematics. Update $t_1 = t$. Repeat.



BOOTSTRAPPED PERTURBATION THEORY

Start from an **arbitrary lowest-order** process (green = QFT amplitude squared) **Parton showers** generate the (LL) bremsstrahlung terms of the rest of

the perturbative series (approximate infinite-order resummation)



WHAT ARE THE EVOLUTION KERNELS?

Recall: two universal (bremsstrahlung) limits:

Collinear (DGLAP) Limit: two partons becoming parallel

Partons ab \rightarrow "collinear": $|\mathcal{M}_{F+1}(\dots, a, b, \dots)|^2 \xrightarrow{a||b}{\rightarrow} g_s^2 \mathcal{C} \frac{P(z)}{2(p_a \cdot p_b)} |\mathcal{M}_F(\dots, a+b, \dots)|^2$

Soft (eikonal) Limit: an emitted gluon having vanishing energy

 $\begin{array}{ll} \textbf{Gluon j} \rightarrow \textbf{"soft":} & \textbf{Coherence} \rightarrow \textbf{Parton j really emitted by (i,k) "colour antenna"} \\ |\mathcal{M}_{F+1}(\ldots,i,j,k\ldots)|^2 \stackrel{j_g \rightarrow 0}{\rightarrow} g_s^2 \mathcal{C} \, \frac{(p_i \cdot p_k)}{(p_i \cdot p_j)(p_j \cdot p_k)} |\mathcal{M}_F(\ldots,i,k,\ldots)|^2 \end{array}$

→ can build different types of parton showers (and, in general, different kinds of resummations)



TYPES OF PARTON SHOWERS



Starting from collinear (parton) limit:



DGLAP: from collinear limit of MEs $(p_b+p_c)^2 \rightarrow 0$

+ evolution equation from invariance with respect to $Q_F \rightarrow RGE$



... with Q² some measure of "hardness" $\mathrm{d}t = \frac{\mathrm{d}Q^2}{Q^2} = \mathrm{d}\ln Q^2$ = event/jet resolution measuring parton virtualities / formation time / ...

NB: dipoles, antennae, also have DGLAP kernels as their collinear limits



COHERENCE

QED: Chudakov effect (mid-fifties)

 $\overbrace{\operatorname{cosmic ray } \gamma \text{ atom}}^{e^+}e^+$







DGLAP AND COHERENCE: ANGULAR ORDERING

Physics: (applies to any gauge theory)

Interference between emissions from colour-conne partons (e.g. i and k) \rightarrow coherent **dipole** patterns

(More complicated multipole effects beyond leading



DGLAP kernels, though incoherent a priori, can reproduce this pattern (at least in an azimuthally averaged sense) by angular ordering

Start from the M.E. factorisation formula in the **soft limit**

$$\frac{E_j^2 (p_i \cdot p_k)}{(p_i \cdot p_j)(p_j \cdot p_k)} = \frac{1 - \cos \theta_{ik}}{(1 - \cos \theta_{ij})(1 - \cos \theta_{jk})} = \frac{1 - \cos \theta_{ik}}{(1 - \cos \theta_{ij})(1 - \cos \theta_{jk})} \pm \frac{1}{2(1 - \cos \theta_{ij})} \mp \frac{1}{2(1 - \cos \theta_{jk})}$$
Soft Eikonal Factor
$$\int_0^{2\pi} \frac{d\varphi_{ij}}{4\pi} \left(\frac{1 - \cos \theta_{ik}}{(1 - \cos \theta_{ij})(1 - \cos \theta_{jk})} + \frac{1}{1 - \cos \theta_{ij}} - \frac{1}{1 - \cos \theta_{jk}} \right) = \frac{1}{2(1 - \cos \theta_{ij})} \left(1 + \frac{\cos \theta_{ij} - \cos \theta_{ik}}{|\cos \theta_{ij} - \cos \theta_{ik}|} \right)$$
Take the ij piece and integrate over azimuthal angle $d\varphi_{ij}$ (using explicit momentum representations)
$$\Rightarrow \text{ Soft radiation} \text{ averaged over } \varphi_{ij}: \rightarrow \frac{1}{1 - \cos \theta_{ij}} \text{ if } \theta_{ij} < \theta_{ik} \text{ ; otherwise } 0$$
kill radiation outside ik opening angle
$$\psi_{ij} = \frac{1}{1 - \cos \theta_{ij}} (1 + \frac{\cos \theta_{ij} - \cos \theta_{ik}}{|\cos \theta_{ij} - \cos \theta_{ik}|})$$





IN QCD

Example taken from: Ritzmann, Kosower, PS, PLB718 (2013) 1345

dron collisions



 $qq \rightarrow qq$ scattering at 45°, for the two different color flows. The light (red) histogram shows the emission density for the forward flow, and the dark (blue) histogram shows the emission density for the backward flow.

Another nice physics example is the SM contribution to the Tevatron top-quark forward-backward asymmetry from coherent showers, see: PS, Webber, Winter, JHEP 1207 (2012) 151



Out 2

INITIAL-STATE VS FINAL-STATE EVOLUTION





Virtualities are Timelike: p²>0

Start at $Q^2 = Q_F^2$ "Forwards evolution" Virtualities are Spacelike: p²<0

Start at $Q^2 = Q_F^2$

Constrained backwards evolution towards boundary condition = proton

Separation meaningful for collinear radiation, but not for soft ...

INITIAL-FINAL INTERFERENCE

A tricky aspect for many parton showers. Illustrates that quantum \neq classical !

Who emitted that gluon?



Real QFT = sum over amplitudes, then square \rightarrow interference (IF coherence) Respected by dipole/antenna languages (and by angular ordering, azimuthally averaged), but not by conventional DGLAP (\rightarrow all PDFs are "wrong")

Separation meaningful for collinear radiation, but not for soft ...



PERTURBATIVE AMBIGUITIES

The final states generated by a shower algorithm will depend on

- 1. The choice of perturbative evolution variable(s) $t^{[i]}$. \leftarrow scale choices
- 2. The choice of phase-space mapping $d\Phi_{n+1}^{[i]}/d\Phi_n$. \leftarrow Recoils, kinematics
- 3. The choice of radiation functions a_i , as a function of the phase-space variables.
- 4. The choice of renormalization scale function μ_R .
- 5. Choices of starting and ending scales.

Non-singular terms, Reparametrizations, Subleading Colour

Ordering & Evolution-

Phase-space limits / suppressions for hard radiation and choice of hadronization scale

→ gives us additional handles for uncertainty estimates, beyond just μ_R (+ ambiguities can be reduced by including more pQCD → matching!)



(ADVERTISEMENT: UNCERTAINTIES IN PARTON SHOWERS)

Recently, HERWIG, PYTHIA & SHERPA all published papers on automated calculations of shower uncertainties (based on tricks with the Sudakov algorithm)





Fixed Order Paradigm: consider a single physical process

Explicit solutions, process-by-process (to some extent automated) Standard-Model: typically NLO or NNLO Beyond-SM: typically LO or NLO

Accurate for hard process, to given perturbative order

Limited generality

Event Generators (Showers): consider all physical processes

Universal solutions, applicable to any/all processes

Process-dependence = subleading correction (→ matrix-element corrections)

Maximum generality

Common property of all processes is, e.g., limits in which they factorise! Accurate in strongly ordered (soft/collinear) limits (=bulk of radiation)

From MS to MC

CMW Nucl Phys B 349 (1991) 635 : Drell-Yan and DIS processes

PDG: 0.119

ME: 0.127

$$P(\alpha_s, z) = \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi} C_F^{A^{(1)}} \frac{1+z^2}{1-z} + \left(\frac{\alpha_s}{\pi}\right)^2 \frac{A^{(2)}}{1-z}$$

Eg Analytic resummation (in Mellin space): General Structure

$$\propto \exp\left[\int_{0}^{1} dz \frac{z^{N-1} - 1}{1 - z} \left[\int \frac{dp_{\perp}^{2}}{p_{\perp}^{2}} \left(A(\alpha_{s}) + B(\alpha_{s})\right)\right]\right]$$
$$A(\alpha_{s}) = A^{(1)} \frac{\alpha_{s}}{\pi} + A^{(2)} \left(\frac{\alpha_{s}}{\pi}\right)^{2} + \dots \\ A^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2}C_{F} \left(C_{A} \left(\frac{67}{18} - \frac{1}{6}\pi^{2}\right) - \frac{5}{9}N_{F}\right) = \frac{1}{2}C_{F}K_{\rm CMW}$$

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Replace} \\ \text{(for z \rightarrow 1: soft gluon limit):} \end{array} \quad P_i(\alpha_s,z) = \frac{C_i \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \left(1 + K_{\text{CMW}} \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi}\right)}{1-z} \end{array}$

From MS to MC

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Replace
(for z \to 1: soft gluon limit):
$$P_i(\alpha_s, z) = \frac{C_i \frac{\alpha_s}{\pi} \left(1 + K_{\rm CMW} \frac{\alpha_s}{2\pi}\right)}{1-z}$$

$$\alpha_s^{(\rm MC)} = \alpha_s^{(\overline{\rm MS})} \left(1 + K_{\rm CMW} \frac{\alpha_s^{(\overline{\rm MS})}}{2\pi}\right)$$

Main Point:
Doing an

$$\Lambda_{\rm MC} = \Lambda_{\overline{\rm MS}} \exp\left(\frac{K_{\rm CMW}}{4\pi\beta_0}\right) \sim 1.57\Lambda_{\overline{\rm MS}} \tag{for nF=5}$$

Note also: used mu² = p_T² = (1-z)Q² Amati, Bassetto, Ciafaloni, Marchesini, Veneziano, 1980 Main Point: Doing an uncompensated scale variation actually ruins this result

PDG: 0.119

ME: 0.127

PS: 0.138

JACK OF ALL ORDERS, MASTER OF NONE?

Nice to have all-orders solution

But it is only exact in the singular (soft & collinear) limits

→ gets the bulk of bremsstrahlung corrections right, but fails equally spectacularly: for hard wide-angle radiation: **visible, extra jets**

... which is exactly where fixed-order calculations work!

So combine them!



Hartgring, Laenen, Skands, arXiv:1303.4974







(In all cases, 5-flavor running is still used above mt)

(INITIAL-STATE EVOLUTION)

DGLAP for Parton Density

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}f_b(x,t)}{\mathrm{d}t} = \sum_{a,c} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}x'}{x'} f_a(x',t) \frac{\alpha_{abc}}{2\pi} P_{a\to bc}\left(\frac{x}{x'}\right)$$

→ Sudakov for ISR

$$\Delta(x, t_{\max}, t) = \exp\left\{-\int_{t}^{t_{\max}} \mathrm{d}t' \sum_{a,c} \int \frac{\mathrm{d}x'}{x'} \frac{f_a(x', t')}{f_b(x, t')} \frac{\alpha_{abc}(t')}{2\pi} P_{a \to bc}\left(\frac{x}{x'}\right)\right\}$$
$$= \exp\left\{-\int_{t}^{t_{\max}} \mathrm{d}t' \sum_{a,c} \int \mathrm{d}z \frac{\alpha_{abc}(t')}{2\pi} P_{a \to bc}(z) \frac{x'f_a(x', t')}{xf_b(x, t')}\right\},$$



THE SHOWER OPERATOR

But instead of evaluating O directly on the Born final state, first insert a showering operator

Unitarity: to first order, S does nothing

 $\mathcal{S}(\{p\}_H, \mathcal{O}) = \delta\left(\mathcal{O} - \mathcal{O}(\{p\}_H)\right) + \mathcal{O}(\alpha_s)$



THE SHOWER OPERATOR

To ALL Orders



All-orders Probability that nothing happens

$$\Delta(t_1, t_2) = \exp\left(-\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \mathrm{d}t \; \frac{\mathrm{d}\mathcal{P}}{\mathrm{d}t}\right)$$

(Exponentiation) Analogous to nuclear decay $N(t) \approx N(0) \exp(-ct)$

