Imaging QCD Dynamics with Jet Substructure



LUX ET VERITAS

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Jet Substructure!



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Jet Substructure

• Jet substructure has emerged as a central new technique at colliders:



• Has evolved well beyond its origin to have a large impact on BSM, SM, high energy QCD and nuclear physics.

Decoding Energy Flux

• Subtle questions about QCD are imprinted in collider energy flux:



• Requires development of field theoretic techniques to interpret correlations in terms of the dynamics of the underlying field theory.

Outline

• Decoding Energy Flux

• Scaling Behavior of Quarks and Gluons

• Imaging Intrinsic and Emergent Scales of QCD







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Decoding Energy Flux



Decoding Energy Flux

• In condensed matter physics or cosmology we decode the underlying dynamics using correlation functions.



• What is the analog for collider physics?

Defining the Problem

• What is a detector?



[Caron Huot, Kologlu, Kravchuk, Meltzer, Simmons Duffin]



• To be able to understand subtle signals in energy flux, we must understand what a detector is in Quantum Field Theory.

Calorimeter Cells in Field Theory

 Calorimeter cells can be given a field theoretic definition in terms of light-ray operators. [Hofman, Maldacena] [Korchemsky, Sterman]

[Korchemsky, Sterman] [Ore, Sterman] [Basham, Brown, Ellis, Love]



 Provides a sharp link between experimentally measurable observables and the underlying QFT.

Energy Correlators: Reality

Figure: Wenging Fan



• Imaging the confinement transition with Jet Substructure!

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Scaling Behavior of Quarks and Gluons



Scaling Behavior in QFT

• Scaling behavior in Euclidean regime well understood.

$\lambda\text{-point}$ of Helium







$$\mathcal{O}(x)\mathcal{O}(0) = \\ \sum x^{\gamma_i} c_i \mathcal{O}_i$$

The OPE Limit of Lightray Operators

• Energy flow operators admit a Lorentzian OPE: "the lightray OPE"



[Hofman, Maldacena] [Chang, Kologlu, Kravchuk, Simmons Duffin, Zhiboedov] QCD: [Dixon, Moult, Zhu]

• Predicts universal scaling behavior in correlations of energy flux at energies $E\gg\Lambda_{\rm QCD}$. See early work by [Konishi, Ukawa, Veneziano]



• Beautiful scaling behavior in energy flux, even in complicated hadronic environment!

Scaling Behavior in Jets

Thanks to Helen Caines, Meng Xiao, ChenFeng Lu,

Andrew Tamis, Ananya Rai.

• Measurements from ALICE, CMS and STAR from 15 GeV to 1784 GeV recently released!



• Dominated by classical scaling. Can we accurately measure anomalous scaling?

The Spectrum of a Jet

• The light-ray OPE predicts that the N-point correlators develop an anomalous scaling that depends on N.



• Directly probes the spectrum of (twist-2) lightray operators from asymptotic energy flux.



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Anomalous Scaling of 3/2 Ratio

• Anomalous scaling measured from 15 GeV to 1784 GeV!



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The Strong Coupling

- Proof of principle α_s can be extracted from jet substructure in complicated hadron collider environment: 4% accuracy.
- Hope to use high energies of the LHC to resolve previous tensions in α_s extractions.





The Confinement Transition



Dynamics of Hadronization

• What are the dynamics of the hadronization process?



The Confinement Transition

• Energy correlators allow the hadronization process to be directly imaged inside high energy jets: transition from interacting quarks and gluons and free hadrons clearly visible!



Beyond Energy Flux



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The Space of Detectors

- Details of the hadronization process are encoded in the quantum numbers (charge, flavor, ...): By definition, energy flux is insensitive!
- What is the space of detectors over which we can gain theoretical control?



Factorization

- More general observables can be calculated by combining factorization into universal matrix elements, with the Renormalization Group.
- Tremendous recent progress in understanding renormalization group evolution of functions characterizing correlations in the hadronization process (beyond DGLAP).



• Enables the calculation of correlations on energy flux carried by hadrons of specific quantum numbers: e.g. $\langle \Psi | \mathcal{E}_+(\hat{n}_1) \cdots \mathcal{E}_-(\hat{n}_k) | \Psi \rangle$

Charged Energy Flux

- Opposite sign hadrons exhibit enhanced small angle correlations relative to like sign hadrons.
- Not electromagnetic in nature: generated by hadronization!



• How far can we push into the confinement transition? Experimental measurements will be crucial.

Identifying Intrinsic and Emergent Scales of QCD



Imaging Emergent and Intrinsic Scales of QCD

- Upshot: Massless QCD above the confinement scale exhibits powerlaw scaling in energy flux ⇒ any new scale introduced into the system will imprint itself at a characteristic scale.
- Understanding of jets in vacuum allows them to be used as well calibrated probes in more complicated systems: hot and cold nuclear matter.









Application I: Resolving the Scales of the QGP



- The QGP introduces a number of new scales into the problem.
- Here we will consider the simplest case of a static medium.
- We will focus on one scale, $\theta_L \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{LE}}$, which determines the angle at which splittings resolve the medium

Application I: Resolving the Scales of the QGP

• QGP scales cleanly imprinted in two-point correlation.



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Application II: Imaging Cold Nuclear Matter

- EIC will provide high energy collisions on a variety of nuclei.
- Allows for the study of medium modification in a simplified setting.



[Devereaux, Fan, Ke, Lee, Moult]

• The size of the nucleus represents a clear physical scale that will be imprinted in the angular structure of the correlator.

Application II: Imaging Cold Nuclear Matter

• Nuclear sizes cleanly imprinted into correlators.





- Achieve femtometer resolution from asymptotic energy flux!
- Provides a common language from hot to cold QCD.

Jet Substructure

- Significant recent progress in our ability to study QCD using jet substructure.
- Energy correlators provide a precise mapping between asymptotic energy flux, and properties of the underlying field theory.
- We can track different quantum numbers through the confinement transition.
- We can identify scales in complicated QCD systems: hot and cold nuclear matter.

• Can this provide new ways of studying spin?

Spin Physics with Jet Substructure



Spin in Jet Substructure

Much less work incorporating spin into this story
⇒ deserves more investigation.

- I will briefly highlight two approaches:
 - Perturbative spin correlations

• Correlations between hadrons



• Higher point correlators in unpolarized jets are sensitive to perturbative spin effects.



• We can rotate the squeezed pair to reveal a $\cos(2\phi)$ interference pattern in the detector!

• Energy correlators probe operators with definite quantum numbers: twist-2 spin-3 transverse spin 2.



• Full result exhibits an angular "ripple" on top of a power law.



- First analytic resummation incorporating spin interference effects in jet substructure.
- Allows for validation of recent implementations of spin correlations in parton showers.



• Nice interplay between analytic calculations and parton shower development.

Spin Correlations: Nucleons

- Extended using the Nucleon-Energy-Correlator to DIS.
- Probes linearly polarized gluons inside the nucleus.



FIG. 2. The measurement proposed as a probe of the gluon polarization in the DIS process. The energy flow into different pixels (in red blocks) at \vec{n}_a and \vec{n}_b are recorded, for $\theta_a \ll \theta_b$. ϕ angles are measured from the plane where lies the leptons. The measurement of $E_a(\vec{n}_a)$ induces the NEEC.

• Very interesting for EIC.



FIG. 4. $cos(2\phi)$ asymmetry at $O(\alpha_s^2 + \alpha_s^3)$ in the Breit frame.

Spin Correlations: Hadrons

- Alternatively, one can study correlations on subsets of hadrons.
- Recent proposal (Kang, Lee, Shao, Zhao): azimuthally dependent two-point correlator on pions.



Figure 2: $A_{ee}^{S \times S}(\tau)$ for $S \times S = \{\pi^+, \pi^-\} \times \{\pi^+, \pi^-\}, \{\pi^+\} \times \{\pi^-\}$ and $\{\pi^-\} \times \{\pi^-\}$ at $\sqrt{s} = 10.6$ GeV with Collins functions fitted in [14].

Provides direct sensitivity to the Collins function.

Summary

• Jet Substructure provides new ways to study the dynamics of QCD.

• Correlation functions, $\langle \mathcal{E}(n_1)\cdots \mathcal{E}(n_k)\rangle$, provide a sharp link between theory and experiment.

• Look forward to their application to spin physics!





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