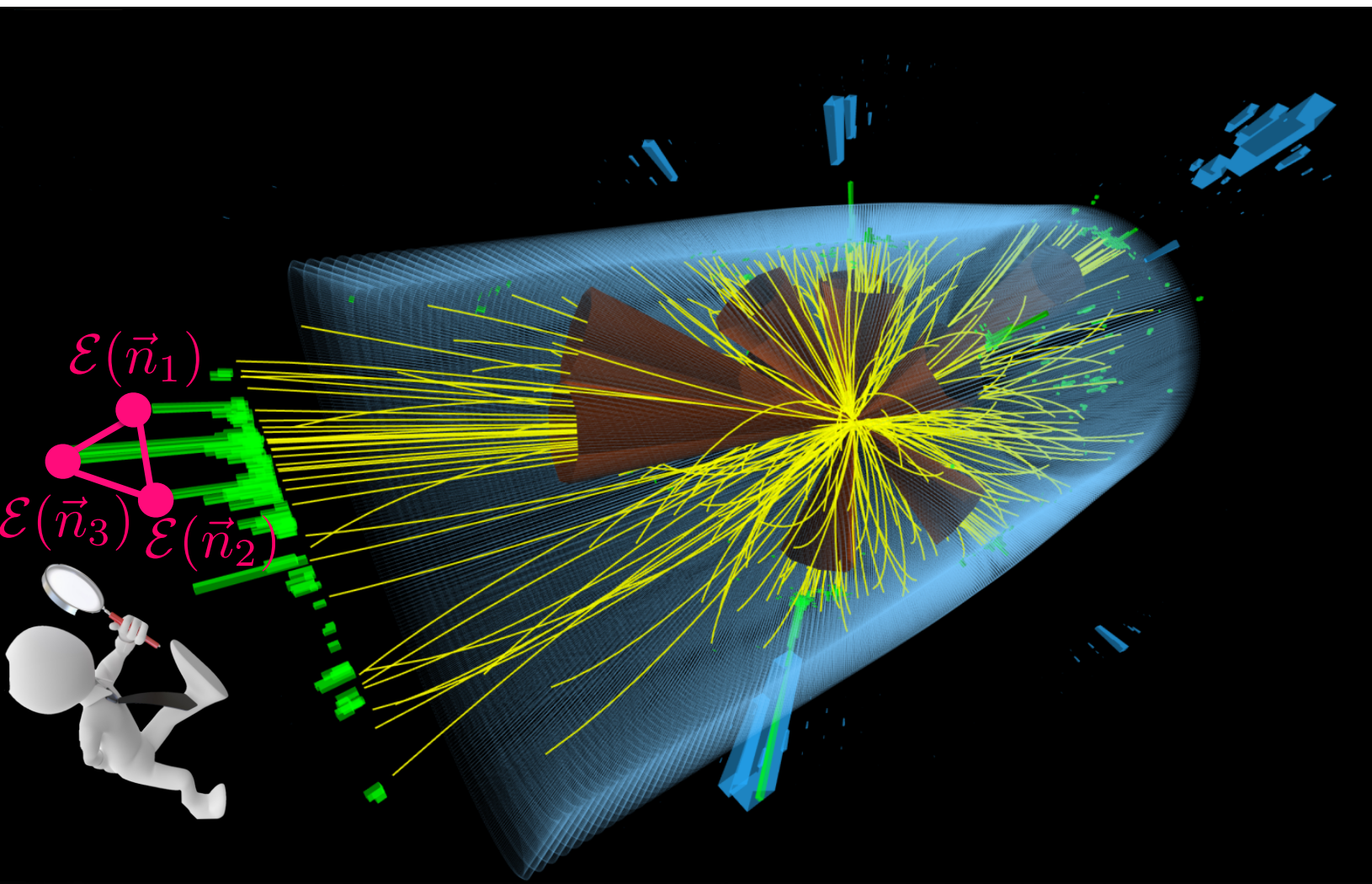


A diagram of a particle detector cross-section, likely a calorimeter, showing a central region with many green lines radiating outwards, representing particle tracks. The detector is divided into segments by yellowish-brown blocks. The background is dark with faint mathematical expressions like  $\text{Li}_2(1-z)$ ,  $\text{Li}_2(z)$ ,  $\text{Li}_3$ , and  $\sqrt{z}$ .

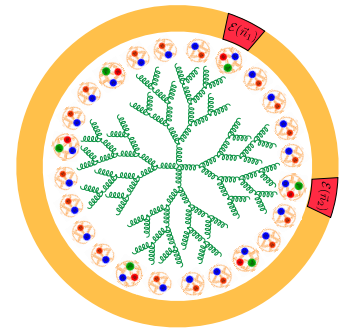
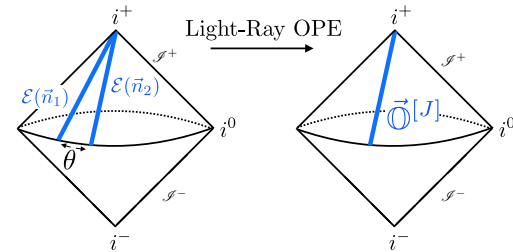
# Energy Correlators and Tracks

Ian Moulton  
Yale

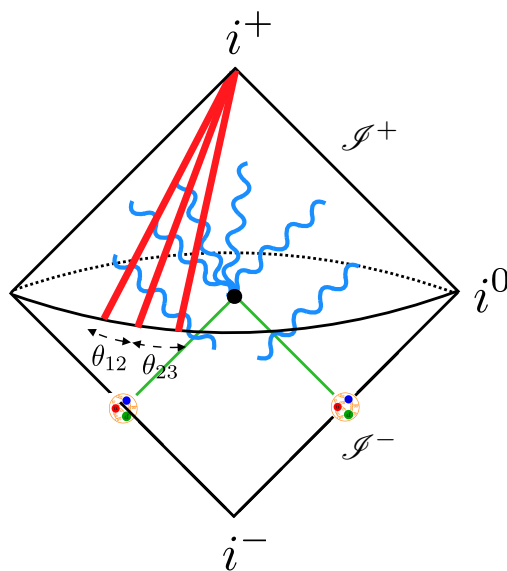


# Outline

- Rethinking Jets with Energy Correlators
- Extending Precision Perturbative QCD with Track Functions



# Rethinking Jets with Energy Correlators



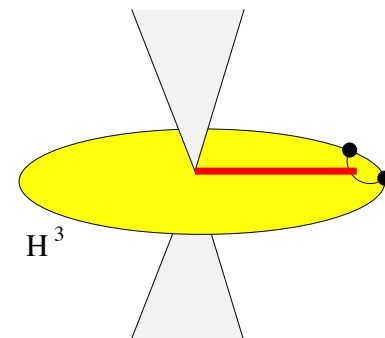
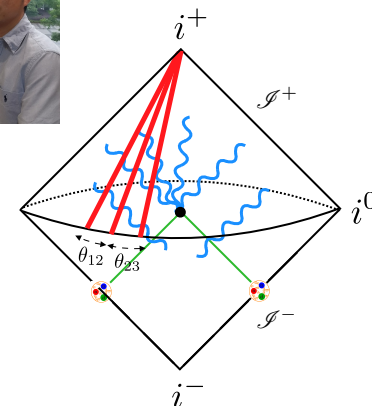
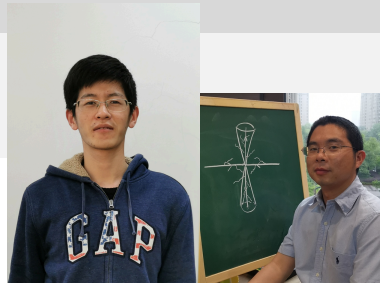
# References

- Directly based on:

- Dixon, Moulton, Zhu, [arXiv:1905.01310](#)
- Chen, Luo, Moulton, Yang, Zhang, Zhu, [arXiv:1912.11050](#)
- Chen, Moulton, Zhang, Zhu, [arXiv:2004.11381](#)
- Komiske, Moulton, Thaler, Zhu, [Forthcoming](#)
- Chen, Moulton, Zhu, [arXiv:2011.02492](#)
- Chen, Moulton, Sandor, Zhu, [Forthcoming](#)

- See also/ Thanks to perspectives from:

- Hofman, Maldacena
- Belitsky, Hohenegger, Korchemsky, Sokatchev, Zhiboedov
- Korchemsky
- Kravchuk, Simmons Duffin
- Chang, Kologlu, Simmons Duffin, Kravchuk, Zhiboedov
- Henn, Sokatchev, Yan, Zhiboedov
- Chicherin, Henn, Sokatchev, Yan
- Dixon, Luo, Shtabovenko, Yang, Zhu
- ...



# Energy Flow Operators

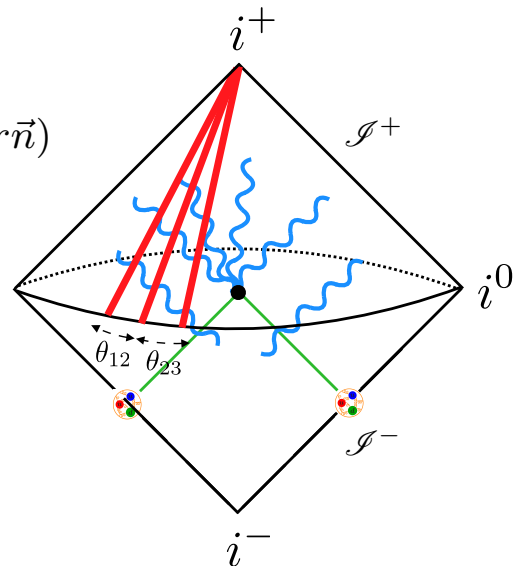
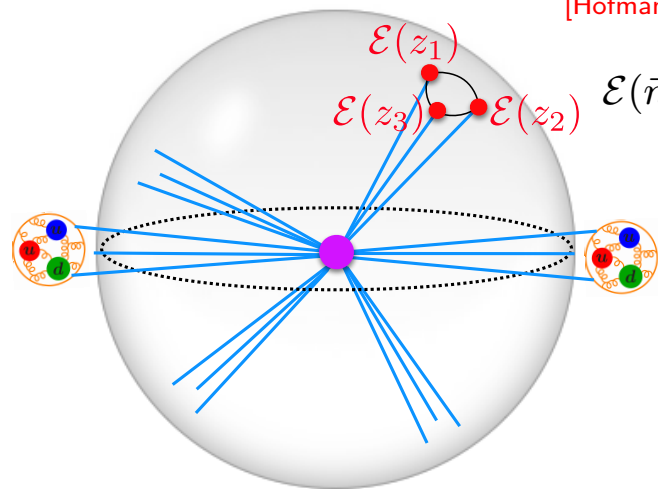
- From a field theory perspective, this is the study of matrix elements of **Energy Flow/ ANEC/ Lightray operators**

[Sveshnikov, Tkachov; Korchemsky, Sterman]

[Hofman, Maldacena]

$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}) = \int_0^\infty dt \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} r^2 n^i T_{0i}(t, r\vec{n})$$

$$\langle \Psi | \mathcal{E}(\hat{n}_1) \cdots \mathcal{E}(\hat{n}_k) | \Psi \rangle$$

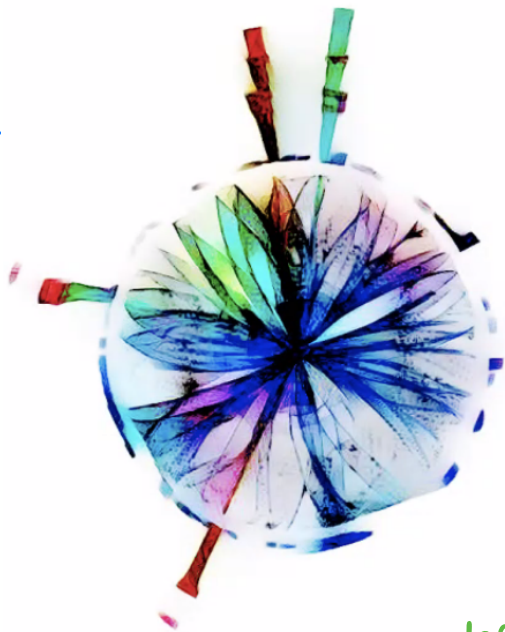


- These correlation functions completely characterize the flow of energy (or other charges) at infinity. Have a direct correspondence with “calorimeter cells” in real experiments.

# Two Descriptions:

## Correlation functions

$$\begin{aligned} &\langle E(n_1) \rangle \\ &\langle E(n_1) E(n_2) \rangle \\ &\langle E(n_1) E(n_2) E(n_3) \rangle \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$



## Jet Shapes

- Jet mass
- angularities
- ⋮
- all standard
- substructure observables.

Related by expansion in moments:

$$m = \langle \delta(m - m[E(n_1), E(n_2)]) \rangle = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \delta^{(n)}(m) \langle (m[E(n_1), E(n_2)])^n \rangle$$

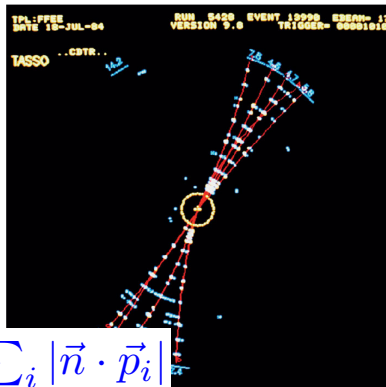
destroys symmetries.

In principle equivalent, but probe physics in very different ways

# Jet Shapes

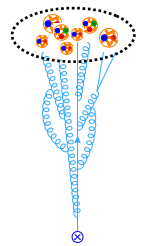
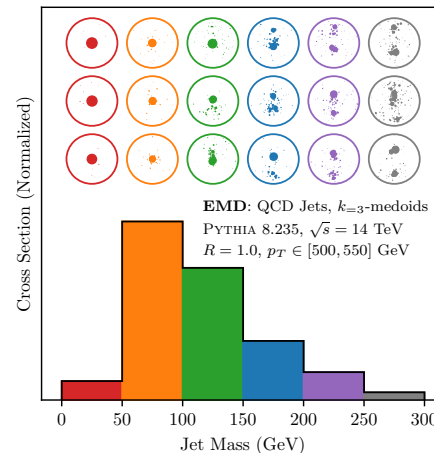
- The classic approach to studying jets (dating back to Farhi's “thrust” in 1977) is to use “jet shapes”, which measure the spread of radiation.

LEP



$$T = \max_{\vec{n}} \frac{\sum_i |\vec{n} \cdot \vec{p}_i|}{Q}$$

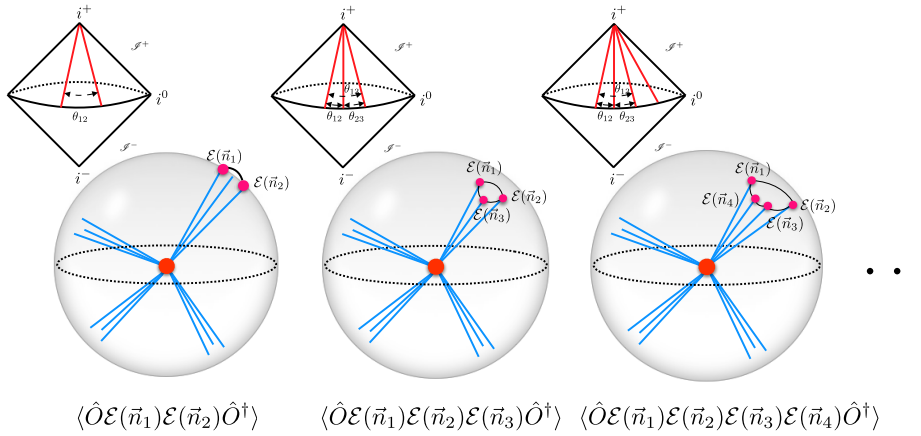
LHC



- Organize jets by phase space regions  $\implies$  useful for tagging.

# Correlators

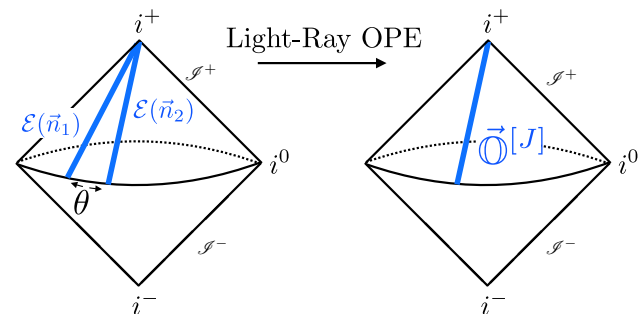
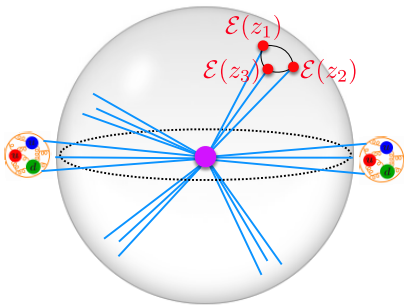
- A second approach is to directly measure the fundamental correlators:



- Not defined event by event. Only defined as ensemble average.
- These objects are much simpler to understand theoretically and offer new ways to study jets.

# Why Correlators?

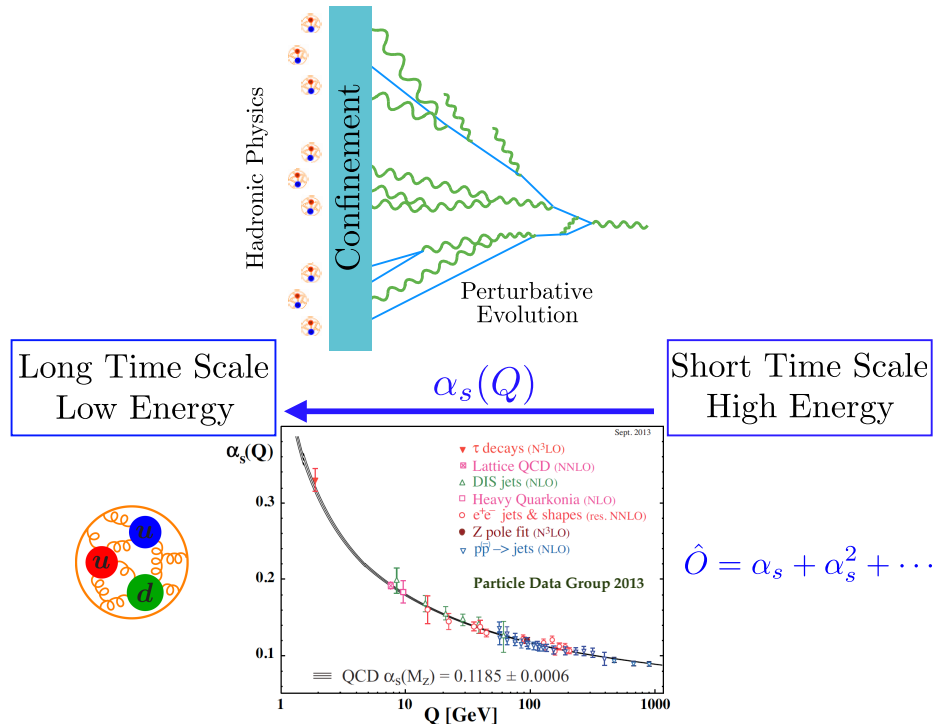
- Reason 1: These are genuine correlation functions living on the celestial sphere. This enables the use of a variety of sophisticated techniques (OPE, conformal blocks, symmetry, ...) that can't be used for jet shapes.



- Reason 2: Correlators probe dynamics at a fixed scale. While I will use an angle, this can easily be converted to “formation time”,  $\tau_f \sim \frac{1}{E \theta^2}$ .

# Imaging Jets with Correlators

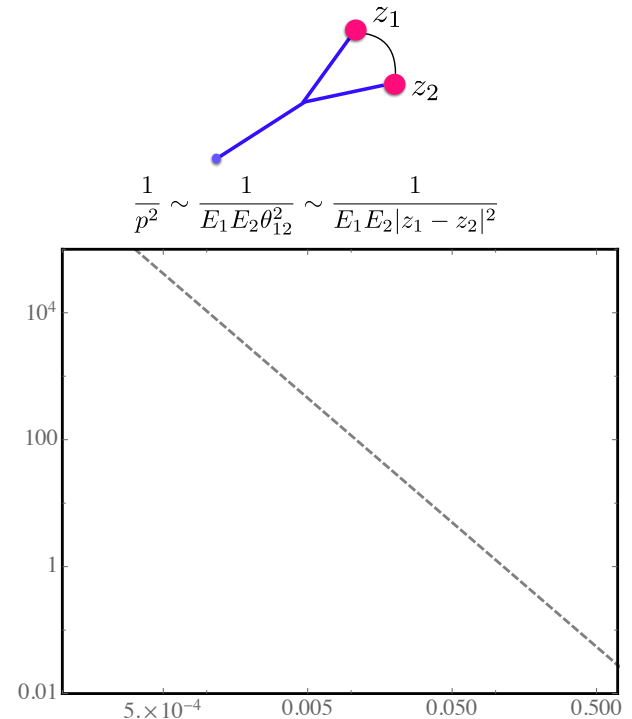
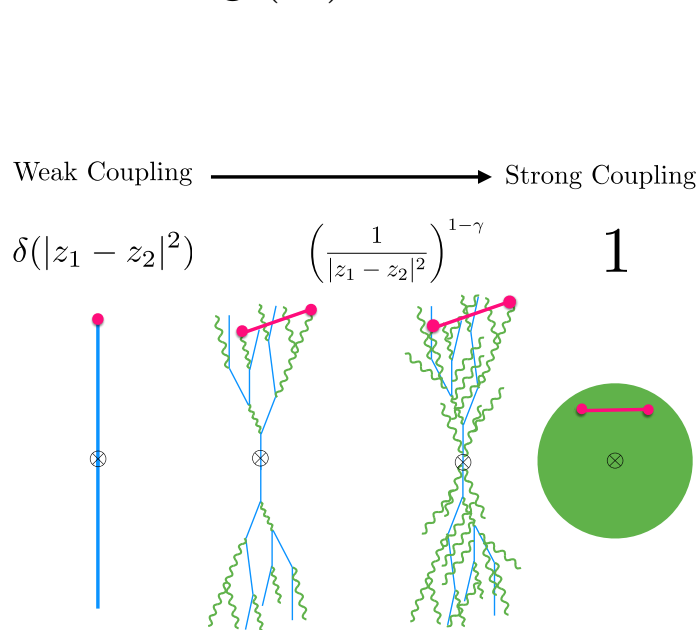
- Real world QCD is complicated: Jets exhibit a transition from weakly coupled quarks and gluons to freely propagating hadrons.



- Expect two qualitatively different regimes in a correlation function.

# Limiting Behavior

- In a **weakly coupled conformal theory**, have a power law scaling.
- Scaling  $(\theta^2)^{1-\gamma}$  associated with the pole of the underlying partons.

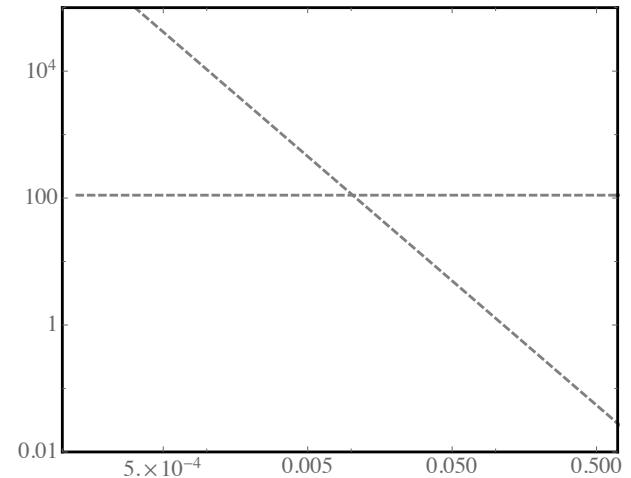
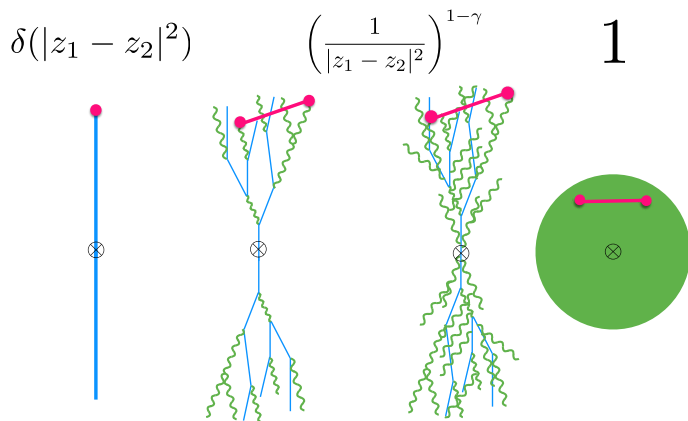


- Small angle singularity associated with the existence of jets in QCD.

# Limiting Behavior

- A second limiting behavior is a **uniform distribution of energy**.
- This occurs in strongly coupled  $\mathcal{N} = 4$  where you produce “mush” instead of jets. [Hofman, Maldacena]

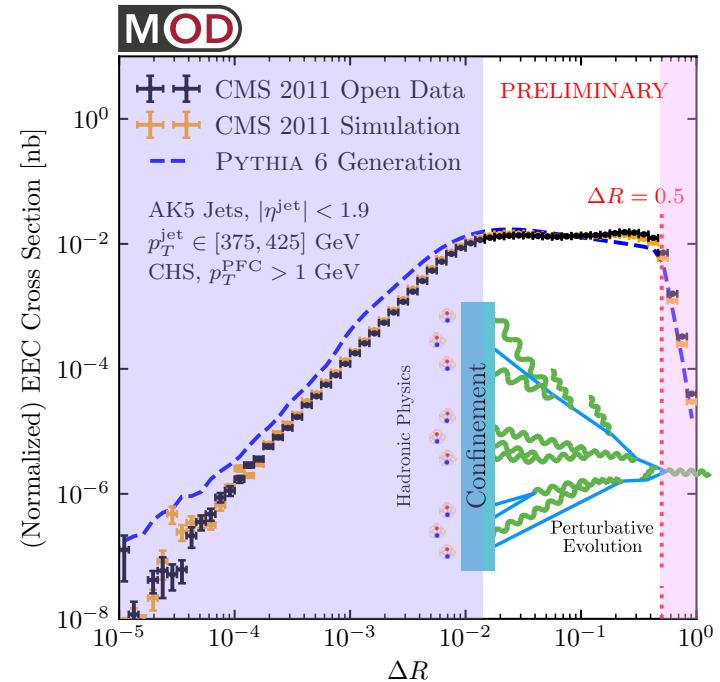
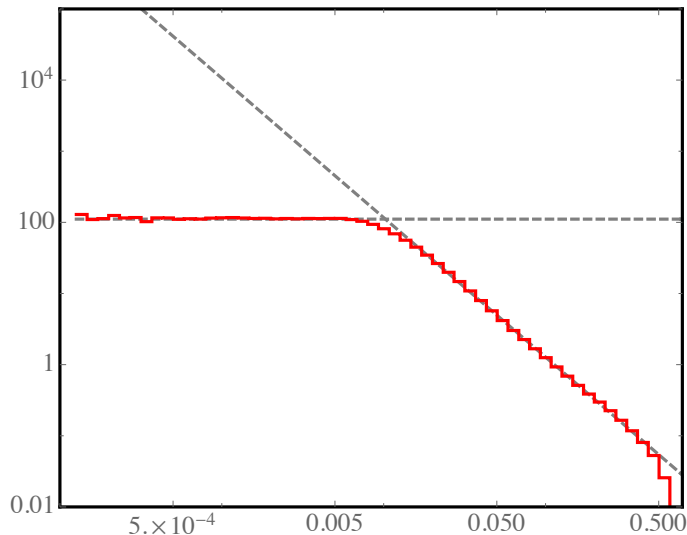
Weak Coupling  $\longrightarrow$  Strong Coupling



- What do we see in QCD?

# Two-point Correlator with Data

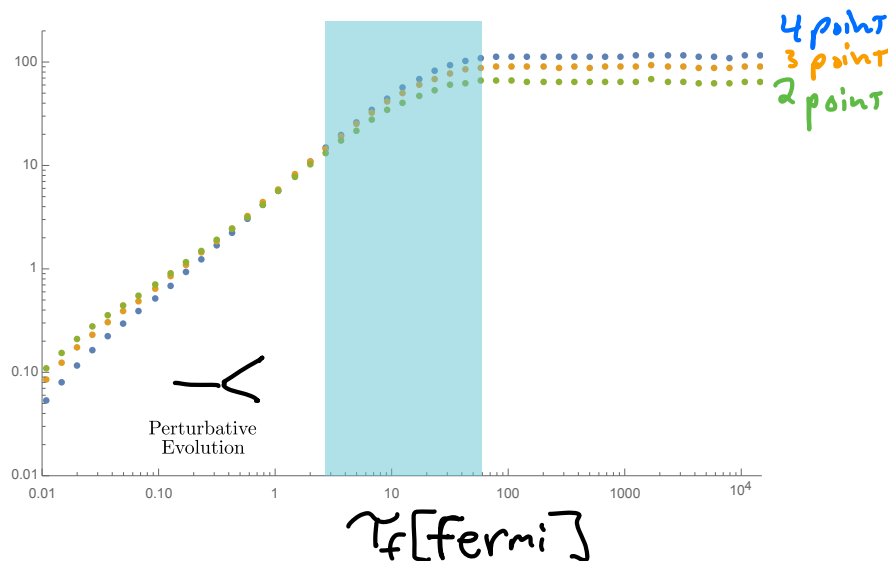
- Allow one to “image” a jet at a given scale.



- Distinct phases of QCD clearly visible by eye. Clean scaling behavior in each regime.

# Relation with Formation Time

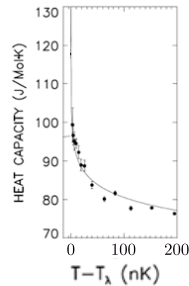
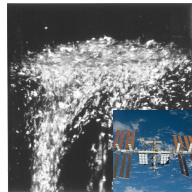
- Note: These correlators have a close relationship with “formation time”, where one has the approximate relation  $\tau_f \sim \frac{1}{E \theta^2}$ .
- All our calculations can therefore be mapped to  $\tau_f$  using a simple Jacobian.
- Useful to “reintroduce scales” for interpretation in Heavy Ion/ Nuclear applications.
- See Raghav’s Talk!



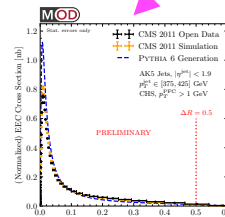
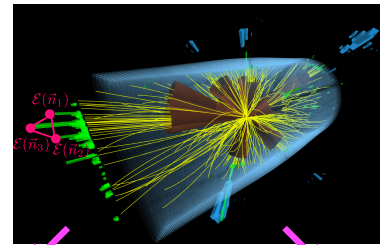
# Conformal Colliders Meet the LHC

- Progress in **jet substructure** allows for the **direct measurement of these correlators, and their associated lightray OPE scaling**, inside high energy jets at the LHC.

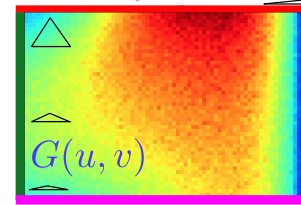
Local OPE



Lightray OPE



Scaling



Shape

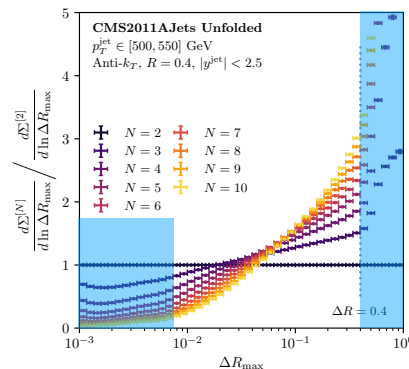
- Formulating the study of jet substructure in terms of correlation functions opens door to use of new techniques and opportunity for interplay with CFT developments.

# Energy Correlators in Open Data

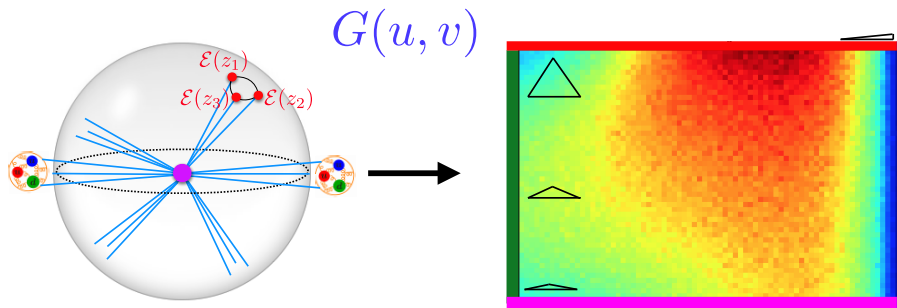
- Many interesting features of the energy correlators can be directly measured in data.
- To illustrate, I will focus on two of the most important features

## 1 Scaling behavior:

$$\mathcal{E}(\hat{n}_1)\mathcal{E}(\hat{n}_2) = \theta^{\gamma_i} \sum \mathbb{O}_i(\hat{n}_1)$$

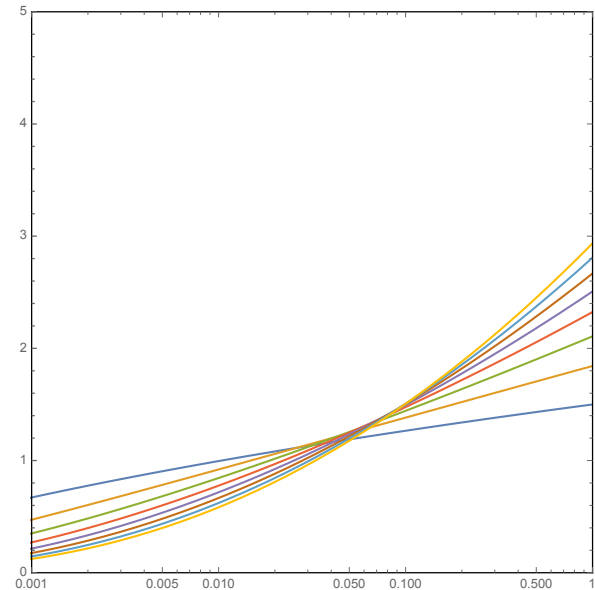
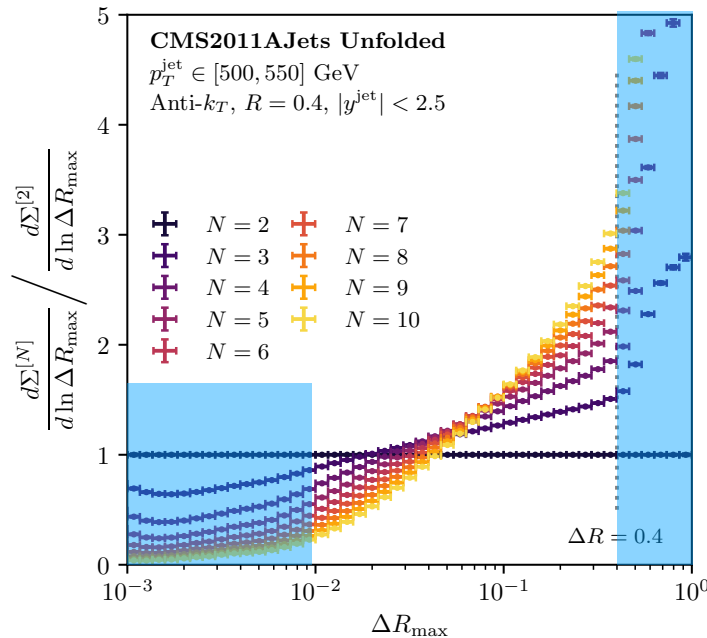


## 2 Shape dependence of the Three-Point Correlator



# Anomalous Scaling in Data

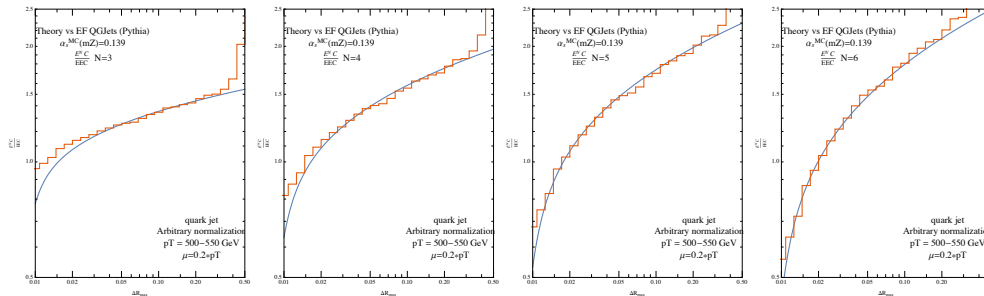
- Anomalous scaling of energy correlators up to 10 points:



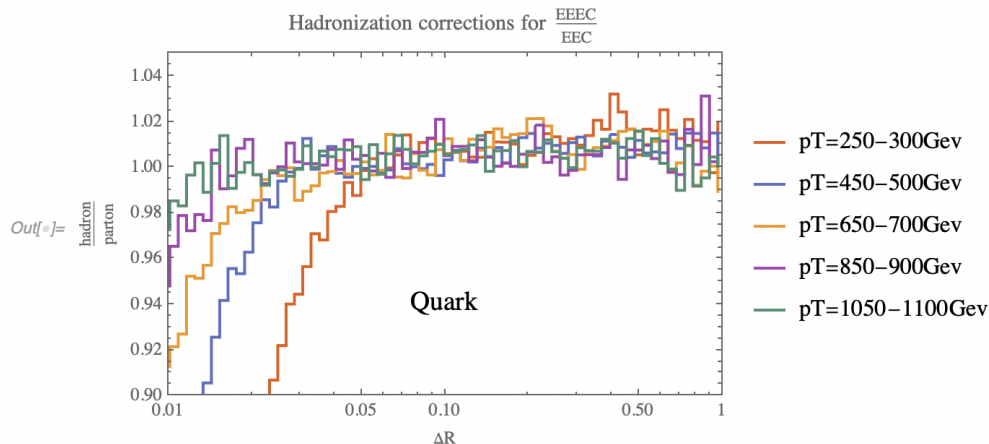
- Lorentzian scaling of lightray operators at the quantum level!!
- Proper treatment of exp/theory uncertainties, etc. ongoing.

# Anomalous Scaling

- Quantitative Comparison

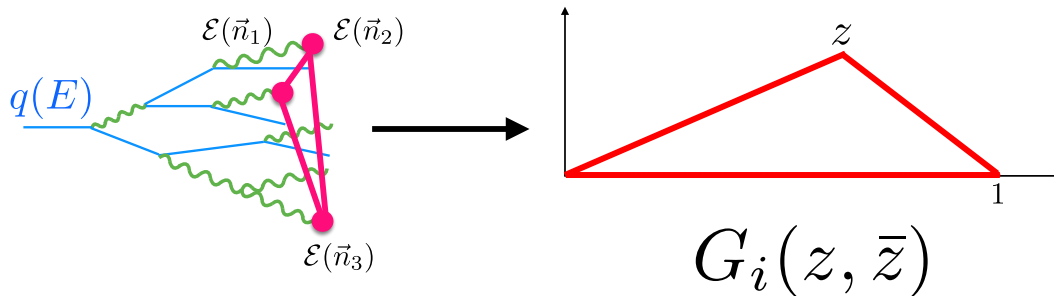


- Ratios have **remarkably** small non-perturbative corrections!



# The Three-Point Energy Correlator

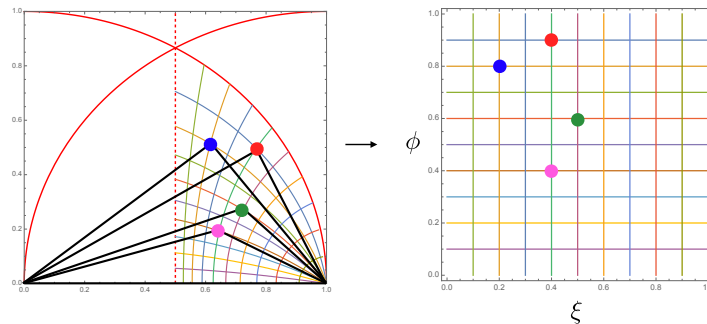
- The first correlator with non-trivial shape dependence in the collinear limit is the three-point correlator.
- Depends on a scaling variable  $x$ , and cross ratio variables  $(z, \bar{z})$  or  $(u, v)$ .



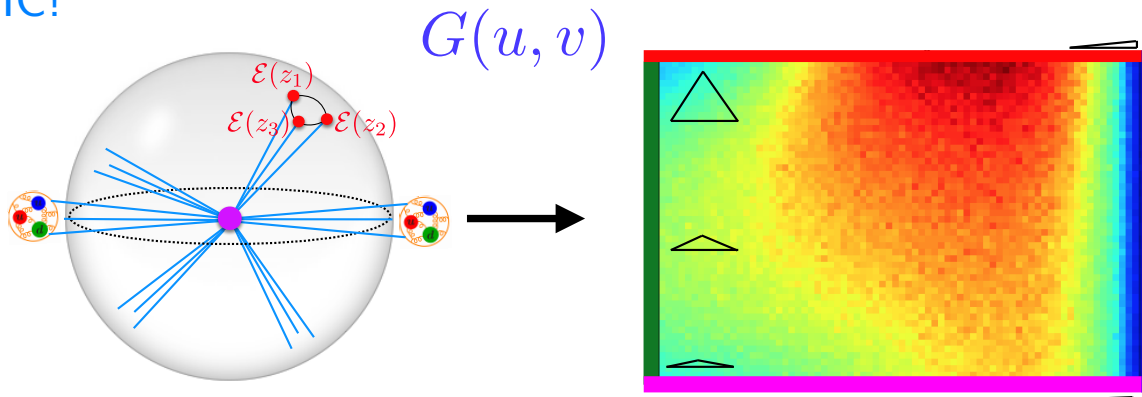
- “Kinematics” equivalent to a CFT 4 point function.

# Shape Dependence in Data

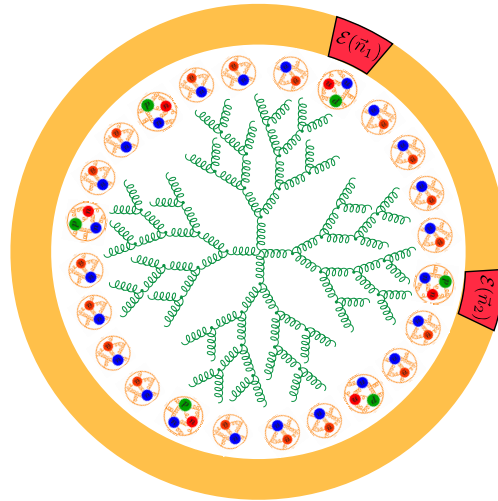
- Standard parametrization is inconvenient for experimental binning:  
We can map to a square grid by “blowing up” the OPE region.



- Can directly measure correlation functions of lightray operators at the LHC!



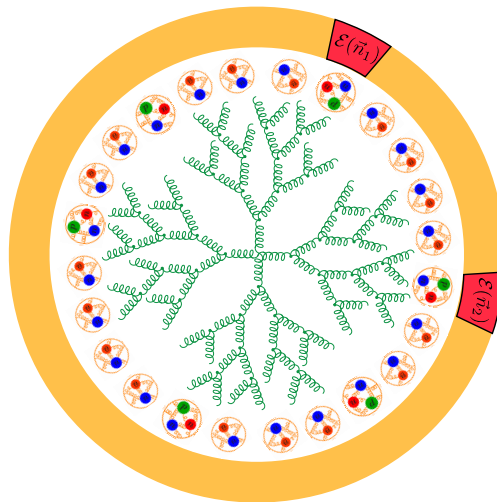
# Extending Precision Perturbative QCD with Track Functions



Li, IM, Schrijnder van Velzen, Waalewijn, Zhu

# Energy Flow of Hadrons

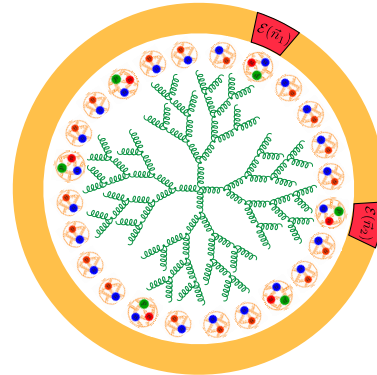
- Improving precision is not just performing higher order calculations, one also has to **develop techniques to perform new classes of calculations**.
- Many interesting measurements of energy flow on a **restricted set of hadronic states,  $R$** , e.g. Charged hadrons (tracks). These cannot be computed in perturbation theory.



$$\langle \mathcal{E}_R(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}_R(\vec{n}_2) \cdots \mathcal{E}_R(\vec{n}_k) \rangle$$

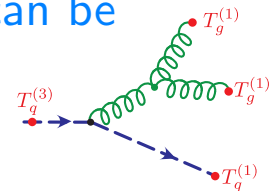
# Tracks and Energy Correlators

- Energy correlators are weighted by energy flow through detector cells as a function of angle.
- How to go from full calorimeter to tracks? **simply multiply by first moment of a track function!**



$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \mathcal{E}_R(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}_R(\vec{n}_2) \cdots \mathcal{E}_R(\vec{n}_k) \rangle \\ &= \sum_{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k} T_{i_1}(1) \cdots T_{i_k}(1) \langle \mathcal{E}_{i_1}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}_{i_2}(\vec{n}_2) \cdots \mathcal{E}_{i_k}(\vec{n}_k) \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

- Upshot: **Any analytic calculation of energy correlators can be upgraded to tracks!**
- Exhibit interesting evolution.

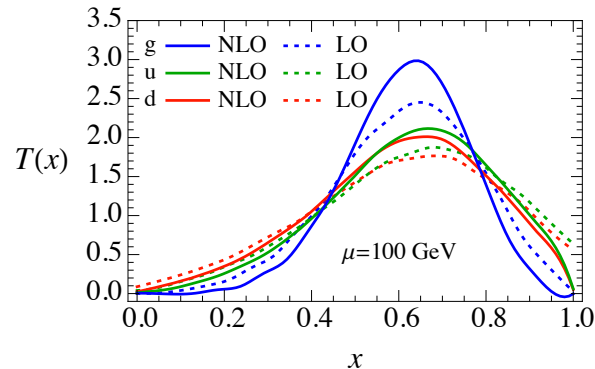


# Track Functions

- **Track functions** are a non-perturbative function describing the total energy fraction going into hadrons with a particular property,  $R$ .

$$T_q(x) = \int dy^+ d^2 y_\perp e^{ik^- y^+ / 2} \frac{1}{2N_c} \sum_X \delta\left(x - \frac{P_R}{k_-}\right) \text{tr} \left[ \frac{\gamma^-}{2} \langle 0 | \psi(y^+, 0, y_\perp) | R \bar{R} \rangle \langle R \bar{R} | \bar{\psi}(0) | 0 \rangle \right]$$

- e.g. for charged particles:



- Note: Fragmentation functions describe energy fraction carried by an individual hadron. Track functions describe total energy fraction carried by all particles of type  $R$ . This is necessary for computing energy flow observables.

## Incorporating Tracks

[1303.6637]

- For a  $\delta$ -function type observable  $e$  measured using partons:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{de} = \sum_N \int d\Pi_N \frac{d\sigma_N}{d\Pi_N} \delta[e - \hat{e}(p_i^\mu)]$$

tracks

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\bar{e}} = \sum_N \int d\Pi_N \frac{d\bar{\sigma}_N}{d\Pi_N} \int \prod_{i=1}^N dx_i T_i(x_i) \delta[\bar{e} - \hat{e}(x_i p_i^\mu)]$$

full functional form of T

- For an energy correlator at partonic level: e.g. 2-point correlator (EEC)

$$\frac{d\Sigma}{d\cos\chi} = \sum_{i,j} \int \frac{E_i E_j}{Q^2} \delta(\cos\chi - \cos\chi_{ij}) d\sigma$$

$$E_i^n \rightarrow \int dx_i T_i(x_i) x_i^n E_i^n$$

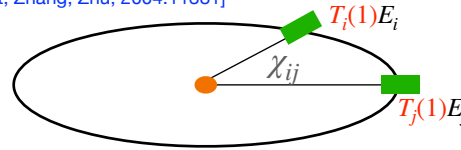
$$= T_i(n) E_i^n$$

Mellin moments

only moments of T

$$\left( \frac{d\Sigma}{d\cos\chi} \right)_{\text{tr}} = \sum_{i,j} T_i(1) T_j(1) \int \frac{E_i E_j}{Q^2} \delta(\cos\chi - \cos\chi_{ij}) d\bar{\sigma}$$

Track EEC



- Energy correlators: tracking easily included and can use modern fixed-order techniques.

- Note: This is simply a factual distinction between amount of non-perturbative input needed for (groomed) mass vs. energy correlators. No amount of thought/ theory work can overcome it.
- My conclusion: Energy correlators are superior for studies of substructure where angular resolution is required!

# RG Evolution

- Unlike DGLAP, the evolution of track functions is non-linear.

## Track Function Evolution

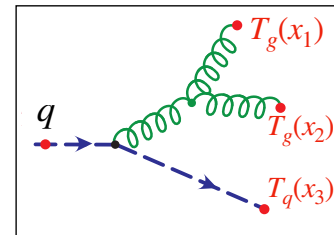
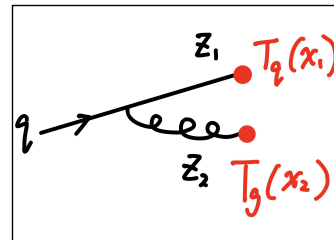
- LO evolution [1303.6637]

$$\frac{d}{d \ln \mu^2} T_i(x, \mu) = a_s(\mu) \sum_{j,k} \int dz dx_1 dx_2 P_{i \rightarrow jk}^{(0)}(z_1, z_2) \delta(1 - z_1 - z_2) \\ \times T_j(x_1, \mu) T_k(x_2, \mu) \delta[x - z_1 x_1 - z_2 x_2] .$$

Nonlinear, involving contributions from both branches of the splitting.

- Beyond leading order: Involves contributions from multiple branchings.
- While for fragmentation functions: Only one branch observed  $\rightarrow$  Linearity

$$\frac{d}{d \ln \mu^2} d_{hi}(z, \mu) = \sum_j d_{hij} \otimes P_{ji}^T(z, \mu)$$



# RG Evolution

- Evolution of low moments largely fixed by symmetries

## A Surprising Symmetry:

- Energy conservation implies the evolution is **shift-symmetric**:  $x \rightarrow x + a$

$$\frac{d}{d \ln \mu^2} T_i(x+a) = \sum_X \int \left( \prod_m dx_m dz_m T_{i_m}(x_m+a) \right) P_{i \rightarrow i_1 \dots i_m}(\{z_m\}) \delta \left( 1 - \sum_m z_m \right) \delta \left( x - \sum_m x_m z_m \right)$$

- This uniquely fixes the form of the evolution of the first three moments:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{d \ln \mu^2} \Delta &= [-\gamma_{qq}(2) - \gamma_{gg}(2)] \Delta, \\ \frac{d}{d \ln \mu^2} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_g(2) \\ \sigma_q(2) \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} -\gamma_{gg}(3) & -\gamma_{qg}(3) \\ -\gamma_{gq}(3) & -\gamma_{qq}(3) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_g(2) \\ \sigma_q(2) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_g^{\Delta^2} \\ \gamma_q^{\Delta^2} \end{bmatrix} \Delta^2, \\ \frac{d}{d \ln \mu^2} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_g(3) \\ \sigma_q(3) \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} -\gamma_{gg}(4) & -\gamma_{qg}(4) \\ -\gamma_{gq}(4) & -\gamma_{qq}(4) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_g(3) \\ \sigma_q(3) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_{gg}^{\sigma\Delta} & \gamma_{qg}^{\sigma\Delta} \\ \gamma_{gq}^{\sigma\Delta} & \gamma_{qq}^{\sigma\Delta} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_g(2) \\ \sigma_q(2) \end{bmatrix} \Delta + \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_g^{\Delta^3} \\ \gamma_q^{\Delta^3} \end{bmatrix} \Delta^3 \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\gamma_{ji}(n) = - \int_0^1 dz z^{n-1} P_{ji}(z, a_s)$  where  $P_{ji}$  denotes the singlet timelike splitting function.

For fragmentation functions:

$$\frac{d}{d \ln \mu^2} d_{hi}(z, \mu) = \sum_j d_{hj} \otimes P_{ji}(z, \mu)$$

- Scale invariant  $d(y) \rightarrow d(ay)$ .

**shift-invariant objects:**

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta &:= T_q(1) - T_g(1) \\ \sigma_i(2) &:= T_i(2) - T_i(1)^2 \\ \sigma_i(3) &:= T_i(3) - 3T_i(2)T_i(1) + 2T_i(1)^3 \end{aligned}$$

# RG Evolution

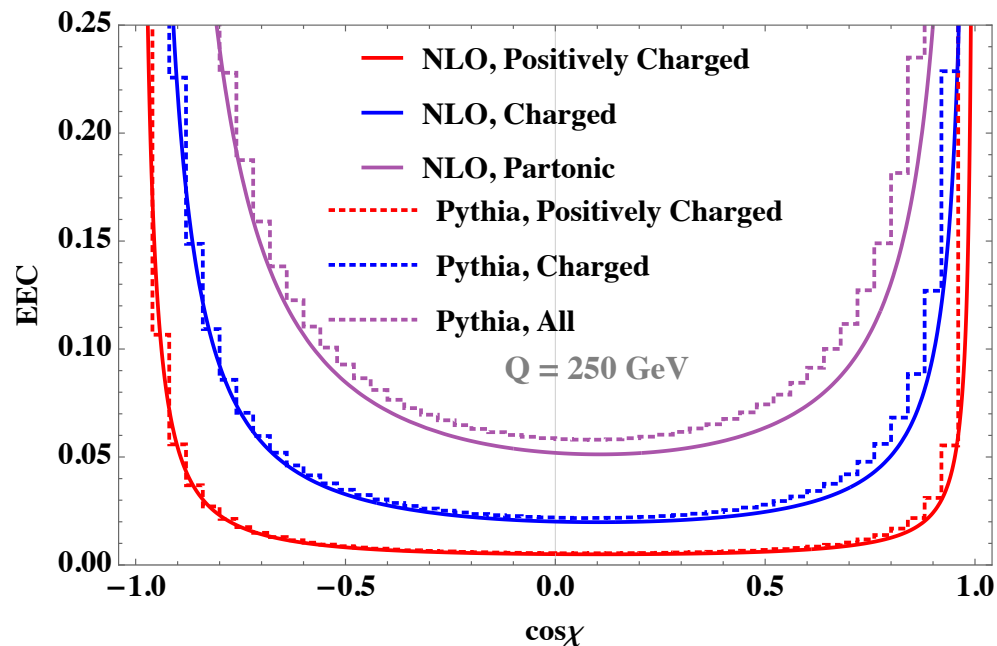
- We have computed the NLO evolution of the first three moments of the quark and gluon track functions.
- e.g. for gluons:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{d \ln \mu^2} T_g(2) &= -\gamma_{gg}^{(1)}(3) T_g(2) + \sum_q \left( -2\gamma_{qg}^{(1)}(3) \right) T_q(2) + \left[ C_A^2 \left( -8\zeta_3 + \frac{2158}{675} + \frac{26\pi^2}{45} \right) - \frac{4}{9} C_A n_f T_F \right] T_g(1) T_g(1) + \dots, \\ \frac{d}{d \ln \mu^2} T_g(3) &= -\gamma_{gg}^{(1)}(4) T_g(3) + \sum_q \left( -2\gamma_{qg}^{(1)}(4) \right) T_q(3) + \left[ C_A^2 \left( 24\zeta_3 + \frac{767263}{4500} - \frac{278\pi^2}{15} \right) - \frac{2}{3} C_A n_f T_F \right] T_g(2) T_g(1) \\ &\quad + \sum_q \left[ C_A T_F \left( \frac{23051}{1125} - \frac{28}{15} \pi^2 \right) - C_F T_F \frac{28}{15} \right] T_g(1) T_q(1) T_q(1) + \dots.\end{aligned}$$

- Importantly, this allows us to predict and absorb IR poles in energy correlator event shapes to  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$

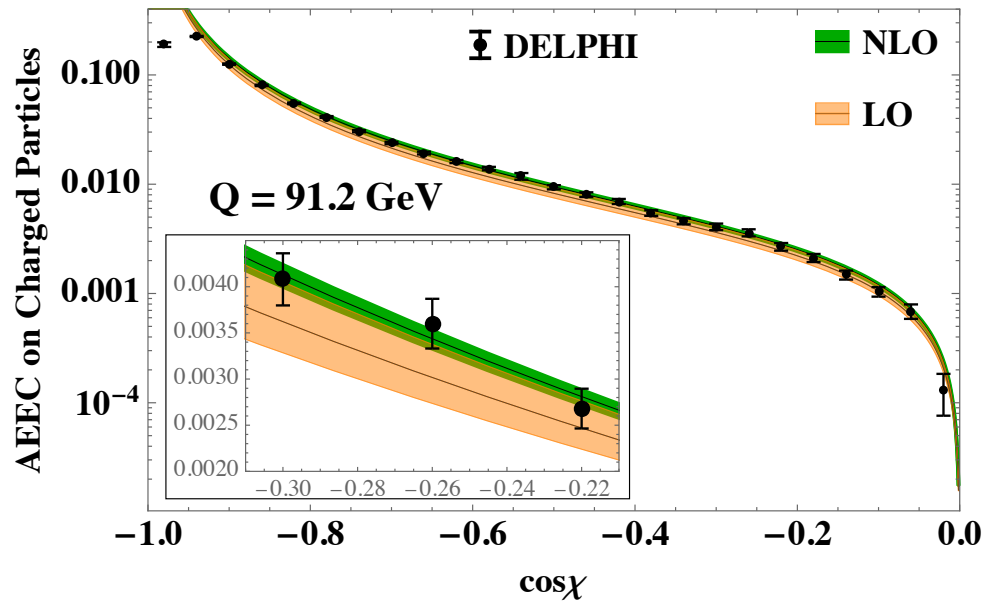
# Preliminary Track Phenomenology

- We can now begin to ask more refined questions about energy flow, while maintaining state of the art perturbative precision.



# Preliminary Track Phenomenology

- Higher order predictions with tracks!



# Interplay with Factorization Formulas

- Interfaces nicely with standard factorization formulas, allowing high order resummation on track based observables.

## Jet Substructure

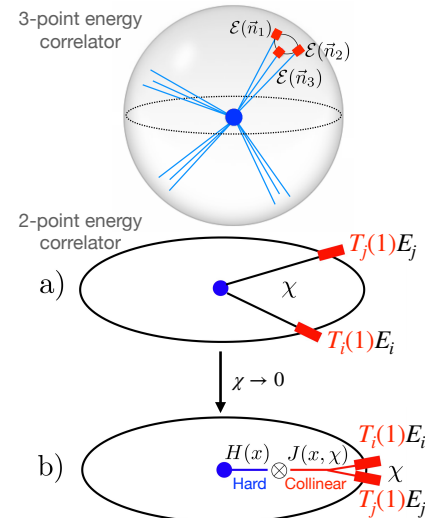
### In the collinear limit:

- The energy correlator is a jet substructure observable.
- Jet function constants (jet functions with the logarithmic dependence excluded):
  - The moments  $T_i(n)$  appear as the coefficients.
  - e.g. for track EECs, up to  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$

$$j^g = \frac{1}{4} T_g(2) + a_s \left\{ T_g(1) T_g(1) C_A \left( -\frac{449}{150} \right) + \sum_q T_q(1) T_{\bar{q}}(1) T_F \left( -\frac{7}{25} \right) \right\} \\ + a_s^2 \left\{ T_g(1) T_g(1) \left\{ C_A^2 \left( -\frac{527\zeta(3)}{10} + \frac{133639871}{3240000} - \frac{2159\pi^2}{1800} + \frac{19\pi^4}{90} \right) + C_A n_f T_F \frac{139}{270} \right\} + \sum_q T_q(1) T_{\bar{q}}(1) \dots \right\}$$

- Matches the state-of-the-art calculation for jet substructure, but now on tracks!

[Kardos, Larkoski, Trocsanyi, 2002.05730]



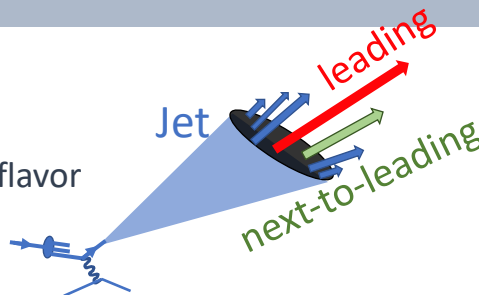
# Towards Interesting Questions

- Ability to probe charged energy flow opens the door to an interesting class of questions.

## New charge-energy correlation

Observable : charge-energy correlation,  $r_c$

- Correlations in momentum, charge and flavor
- **Leading(L)** and **next-to-leading (NL)** momentum particles in a jet



$$r_c \equiv \frac{N_{CC} - N_{C\bar{C}}}{N_{CC} + N_{C\bar{C}}}$$

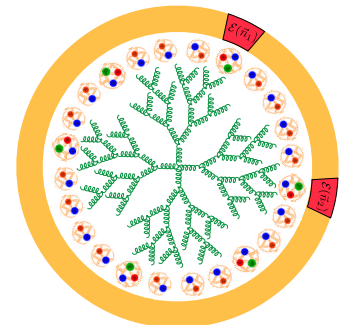
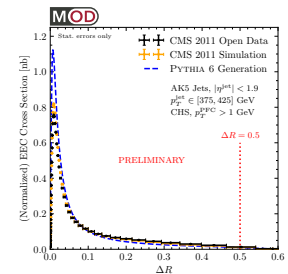
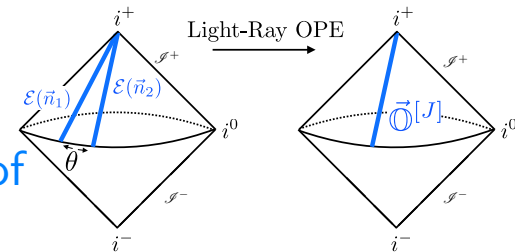
$N_{CC}$  : # Jets where L and NL particles with same sign charges

$N_{C\bar{C}}$  : # Jets where L and NL particles with opposite sign charges

- This can be formulated as the correlator  $\langle \mathcal{E}_+(n_1)(\mathcal{E}_-(n_2) - (\mathcal{E}_+(n_2))) \rangle$ , and computed to high perturbative accuracy.

# Summary

- There has been significant recent progress understanding the theoretical structure of energy correlator observables from a number of directions.
- Energy Correlators can be directly measured, and provide detailed probes of the physics of QCD jets.
- Track functions provide a bridge between perturbative and non-perturbative physics.



Thanks!