# QCD in the Era of the LHC 

Theory and Practice


Peter Skands (CERN)





## The Large Hadron Collider

Apr 5 2012 at 00:38 CEST: LHC shift crew declared 'stable beams' for physics data taking at 8 TeV

Huge investment in resources and manpower Journal Publications: 85 ATLAS, 80 CMS, 25 LHCb, 22 ALICE Searches for new physics still inconclusive

Searching towards lower cross sections, the game gets harder + Intense scrutiny (after discovery) requires high precision

## Theory task: invest in precision

This talk: to give an idea of how we (attempt to) solve QCD, and future developments

## Scattering Experiments



LHC detector
Cosmic-Ray detector Neutrino detector X-ray telescope
$\rightarrow$ Integrate differential cross sections over specific phase-space regions

Predicted number of counts
= integral over solid angle

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> In particle physics: Integrate over all quantum histories

## THEORY

$$
\mathcal{L}=\bar{\psi}_{q}^{i}\left(i \gamma^{\mu}\right)\left(D_{\mu}\right)_{i j} \psi_{q}^{j}-m_{q} \bar{\psi}_{q}^{i} \psi_{q i}-\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu \nu}^{a} F^{a \mu \nu}
$$

$\rightarrow$ colour-octet gauge bosons: gluons

+ (in SM): colour-triplet fermions: quarks
Free parameters $=$ quark masses and value of $\alpha_{s}$




## Why not Lattice for LlWC?

## To "resolve" a hard LHC collision

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## To include hadronization



Proper time $t \sim \frac{1}{0.5 \mathrm{GeV}} \sim 0.4 \mathrm{fm} / c \quad \times$ Lorentz Boost Factor
Boost factor at $\mathrm{LHC} \approx 10^{4}$
$\rightarrow$ would need $\approx 4000 \mathrm{fm}$ to fit entire collision
$\rightarrow 10^{34}$ lattice points in total
Biggest lattices today are $64 \times 64 \times 64 \times 128 \approx 10^{7}$

Lattice $\rightarrow$ one or a few hadrons at a time

$\Rightarrow$ The Way of the Chicken

- Who needs QCD? I'll use leptons
- Sum inclusively over all QCD
- Leptons almost IR safe by definition
- WIMP-type DM, Z', EWSB $\rightarrow$ may get some leptons

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- At least need well-understood PDFs
- High precision $=$ higher orders $\rightarrow$ enter QCD (and more QED)
- Isolation $\rightarrow$ indirect sensitivity to QCD
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## Convergence:

Calculus: $\{A\}$ converges to $B$ if an $n$ exists for which $\left|A_{i>n}-B\right|<\varepsilon$, for any $\varepsilon>0$

Monte Carlo: $\{A\}$ converges to $B$ if n exists for which the probability for $\left|A_{i>n}-B\right|<\varepsilon$, for any $\varepsilon>0$, is $>\mathrm{P}$, for any $\mathrm{P}[0<\mathrm{P}<1]$

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"This risk, that convergence is only given with a certain probability, is inherent in Monte Carlo calculations and is the reason why this technique was named after the world's most famous gambling casino. Indeed, the name is doubly appropriate because the style of gambling in the Monte Carlo casino, not to be confused with the noisy and tasteless gambling houses of Las Vegas, is serious and sophisticated."
F. James, "Monte Carlo theory and practice", Rept. Prog. Phys. 43 (1980) 1145

## Convergence

## MC convergence is Stochastic!

$$
\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \text { in any dimension }
$$

preed dot ilize
Fixed dof tize

| Uncertainty <br> (after $\boldsymbol{n}$ function evaluations) | $\mathrm{n}_{\text {eval }} /$ bin | Approx <br> Conv. Rate <br> (in ID) | Approx <br> Conv. Rate <br> (in D dim) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Trapezoidal Rule (2-point) | $2^{\mathrm{D}}$ | $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{n}^{2}$ | $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{n}^{2 / \mathrm{D}}$ |
| Simpson's Rule (3-point) | $3^{\mathrm{D}}$ | $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{n}^{4}$ | $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{n}^{4 / \mathrm{D}}$ |
| $\ldots$ m-point (Gauss rule) | $\mathrm{m}^{\mathrm{D}}$ | $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{n}^{2 \mathrm{~m}-1}$ | $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{n}^{(2 \mathrm{~m}-\mathrm{I}) / \mathrm{D}}$ |
| Monte Carlo | I | $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{n}^{1 / 2}$ | $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{n}^{1 / 2}$ |

> + many ways to optimize: stratification, adaptation, ...
> + gives "events" $\rightarrow$ iterative solutions,
> + interfaces to detector simulation \& propagation codes

## Monte Carlo Generators



Calculate Everything $\approx$ solve $\mathrm{QCD} \rightarrow$ requires compromise!
Improve lowest-order perturbation theory, by including the 'most significant' corrections
$\rightarrow$ complete events (can evaluate any observable you want)

## Existing Approaches

PYTHIA : Successor to JETSET (begun in 1978). Originated in hadronization studies: Lund String. HERWIG : Successor to EARWIG (begun in 1984). Originated in coherence studies: angular ordering. SHERPA : Begun in 2000. Originated in "matching" of matrix elements to showers: CKKW.

+ MORE SPECIALIZED: ALPGEN, MADGRAPH,ARIADNE,VINCIA,WHIZARD, MC@NLO, POWHEG, ...


## (Traditional) Monte Carlo Generators

## Perturbative Evolution

## Hard Process

Leading Order, Infinite Lifetimes,

Based on small-angle singularity of accelerated charges (synchrotron radiation, semi-classical)


Altarelli-Parisi Splitting Kernels
Leading Logarithms, Leading Color, ...

+ Colour coherence


## Factorization Scale

## Perturbative Evolution: Bremsstrahlung



## Perturbative Evolution: Bremsstrahlung



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## Perturbative Evolution: Bremsstrahlung



## Perturbative Evolution: Bremsstrahlung



## The Strong Coupling

## Bjorken scaling

To first approximation, QCD is SCALE INVARIANT (a.k.a. conformal)

A jet inside a jet inside a jet inside a jet ...

If the strong coupling did not "run", this would be absolutely true (e.g, N=4 Supersymmetric Yang-Mills)

As it is, the coupling only runs slowly (logarithmically) at high energies $\rightarrow$ can still gain insight from fractal analogy


## Bremsstrahlung



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This gives an approximation to infinite-order tree-level cross sections (here "double-log approximation: DLA") (Running coupling and a few more subleading singular terms can also be included $\rightarrow$ MLLA, NLL, ...)

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But something is not right ...

Total cross section would be infinite ...

## Loops and Legs

## Coefficients of the Perturbative Series



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## Coefficients of the Perturbative Series



$\rightarrow$ includes both real (tree) and virtual (loop) corrections

## Bootstrapped Perturbation Theory

## Resummation



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## New: Markovian pQCD*

*)pQCD : perturbative QCD
Start at Born level
$\left|M_{F}\right|^{2}$


VINCIA: Giele, Kosower, Skands, PRD78(2008)0I4026 \& PRD84(20II)054003

+ ongoing work with M. Ritzmann, E. Laenen, L. Hartgring, A. Larkoski, J. Lopez-Villarejo PYTHIA: Sjöstrand, Mrenna, Skands, JHEP 0605 (2006) 026 \& CPC I78 (2008) 852

Note: other teams working on alternative strategies with similar goals Perturbation theory is solvable $\rightarrow$ expect improvements

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(Why we believe Markov + unitarity is the method of choice for complex problems)

Initialization Time
(seconds)


Time to Generate $1000 \mathrm{Z} \rightarrow \mathrm{qq}$ showers (seconds)


$$
\mathrm{Z} \rightarrow \underset{\text { gqortran } / \mathrm{g}^{++}}{(\mathrm{q}=u d \mathrm{with} \mathrm{gcc} \text { v.4.4-O2 on single } 3.06 \mathrm{GHz} \text { processor with } 4 \mathrm{~GB} \text { memory }}
$$

Generator Versions: Pythia 6.425 (Perugia 201 I tune), Pythia 8.150, Sherpa I.3.0, Vincia I. 026 (without uncertainty bands, NLL/NLC=OFF)

## Uncertainties

## A result is only as good as its uncertainty

Normal procedure:
Run MC 2N+I times (for central + N up/down variations)
Takes $2 \mathrm{~N}+\mathrm{I}$ times as long

+ uncorrelated statistical fluctuations


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## Instead: Automate \& do everything in one run

All events have central weight $=1$
Compute unitary alternative weights on the fly
$\rightarrow$ sets of alternative weights representing variations (all with $\langle w\rangle=$ I)
Same events, so only have to be hadronized/detector-simulated ONCE!
$\rightarrow$ Used to provide automatic Theory Uncertainty Bands in VINCIA

## Quantifying Precision




Note:VINCIA so far only developed for final-state radiation (fragmentation)
Initial State under development, to follow this autumn

## Hadronization

## The problem:

- Given a set of partons resolved at a scale of $\sim I \mathrm{GeV}$ (the perturbative cutoff), need a "mapping" from this set onto a set of on-shell colour-singlet (i.e., confined) hadronic states.

MC models do this in three steps
I. Map partons onto continuum of highly excited hadronic states (called 'strings' or 'clusters')
2. Iteratively map strings/clusters onto discrete set of primairy hadrons (string breaks / cluster splittings / cluster decays)
3. Sequential decays into secondary hadrons (e.g., $\rho>\pi \pi, \Lambda^{0}>n \pi^{0}, \pi^{0}>\gamma \gamma, \ldots$ )

Distance Scales $\sim 10^{-15} \mathrm{~m}=1$ fermi

## From Partons to Strings



## From Partons to Strings

```
Short Distances ~ pQCD
```



Partons


Long Distances $\sim$ Linear Confinement


Strings (Flux Tubes), Hadrons

$$
F(r) \approx \mathrm{const}=\kappa \approx 1 \mathrm{GeV} / \mathrm{fm} \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad V(r) \approx \kappa r
$$

- Motivates a model:
- Separation of transverse and longitudinal degrees of freedom
- Simple description as I+I dimensional worldsheet - string with Lorentz invariant formalism


## The (Lund) String Model

## Map:

- Quarks > String Endpoints
- Gluons > Transverse Excitations (kinks)
- Physics then in terms of string worldsheet evolving in spacetime
- Probability of string break constant per unit area > AREA LAW


Gluon = kink on string, carrying energy and momentum

## Simple space-time picture

Details of string breaks more complicated $\rightarrow$ tuning

## Shameless Advertising

Test4Theory - A Virtual Atom Smasher

(Get yours today!) http://lhcathome2.cern.ch/

## Conclusions

## QCD phenomenology is witnessing a rapid evolution:

Dipole/antenna shower models, (N)LO matching, better interfaces/tuning, ... New techniques developed to compute complex QCD amplitudes (e.g., unitarity), and to embed these within shower resummations (VINCIA)
Driven by demand of high precision for LHC environment
Will automatically benefit other communities, like astro-particle and heavy-ion
Non-perturbative QCD is still hard
Lund string model remains best bet, but $\sim 30$ years old
Lots of input from LHC: total cross sections, min-bias, multiplicities, ID particles, correlations, shapes, you name it ... (THANKYOU to the experiments!)
New ideas (like AdS/QCD, hydro, ...) still in their infancy; but there are new ideas!
"Solving the LHC" is both interesting and rewarding
The key to high precision $\rightarrow$ maximum information about ALL OTHER physics...

Want more information? 2012 edition of Review of Particle Physics (PDG) will include a new Section, on "Monte Carlo Event Generators", by P. Nason \& PS.

## Backup Slides

## Stratified Sampling


$\rightarrow$ make it twice as likely to throw points in the peak
$\rightarrow$ faster convergence
for same number
of function evaluations

## Adaptive Sampling



## Importance Sampling

Functions: Breit-Wigner

$\rightarrow$ or throw points according to some
smooth peaked
function for which you have, or can construct, a
random number generator
(here: Gauss)

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## 3)Importance sampling:

$$
\int_{a}^{b} f(x) \mathrm{d} x=\int_{a}^{b} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \mathrm{d} G(x)
$$

Effectively does flat MC with changed integration variables

Fast convergence if
$f(x) / g(x) \approx 1$

## (Color Flow in MC Models)

## "Planar Limit"

Equivalent to $\mathrm{N}_{\mathrm{c}} \rightarrow \infty$ : no color interference*
*) except as reflected by the implementation of QCD coherence effects in the Monte Carlos via angular or dipole ordering

Rules for color flow:


For an entire cascade:



Coherence of pQCD cascades $\rightarrow$ not much "overlap" between strings $\rightarrow$ planar approx pretty good
LEP measurements in WW confirm this (at least to order $10 \% \sim 1 / N_{c}{ }^{2}$ )

## Hadronization

## One Breakup:




$\underset{\text { Law }}{\underset{\text { Area }}{\rightarrow}} \operatorname{Prob}\left(m_{q}^{2}, p_{\perp q}^{2}\right) \propto \exp \left(\frac{-\pi m_{q}^{2}}{\kappa}\right) \exp \left(\frac{-\pi p_{\perp q}^{2}}{\kappa}\right) \underset{\text { Lund FF }}{\text { Causality }} f(z) \propto \frac{1}{z}(1-z)^{a} \exp \left(-\frac{b\left(m_{h}^{2}+p_{\perp h}^{2}\right)}{z}\right)$

Iterated Sequence:


## The Denominator ${ }^{6-\frac{1}{c} m^{n}}$

## In a traditional parton shower, you would face the following problem:

Existing parton showers are not really Markov Chains
Further evolution (restart scale) depends on which branching happened last $\rightarrow$ proliferation of terms

Number of histories contributing to $\mathrm{n}^{\text {th }}$ branching $\propto \mathbf{2}^{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{n}$ !

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{F} \sim K+K+K+K \neq \begin{array}{c}
i=2 \\
\rightarrow 4 \text { terms }
\end{array} \\
& (K \sim(\pi+(K) \substack{i=1 \\
\rightarrow 2 \text { terms }} \substack{i}
\end{aligned}
$$

(+ parton showers have complicated and/or frame-dependent phase-space mappings, especially at the multi-parton level)

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Parton- (or Catani-Seymour) Shower: After 2 branchings: 8 terms After 3 branchings: 48 terms After 4 branchings: 384 terms
(+ parton showers have complicated and/or frame-dependent phase-space mappings, especially at the multi-parton level)

## Matched Markovian Antenna Showers

Antenna showers: one term per parton pair

$$
\mathbf{2 n}^{\mathrm{n}}!\rightarrow \mathrm{n}!
$$

Giele, Kosower, Skands, PRD 84 (20II) 054003

(+ generic Lorentzinvariant and on-shell phase-space factorization)

+ Change "shower restart" to Markov criterion:
Given an n-parton configuration,"ordering" scale is

$$
Q_{\text {ord }}=\min \left(Q_{E I}, Q_{E 2}, \ldots, Q_{E n}\right)
$$

Unique restart scale, independently of how it was produced

+ Matching: $\mathbf{n !} \rightarrow \mathbf{n}$
Given an n-parton configuration, its phase space weight is:
$\left|M_{n}\right|^{2}$ : Unique weight, independently of how it was produced


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+ Sector antennae Larkosi, Peskin,Phys.Rev.D8I (20I0) 054010
$\rightarrow$ I term at any order Lopez-Villarejo, Skands, JHEP IIII (201I) I50


## Approximations

## Q: How well do showers do?

Exp: Compare to data. Difficult to interpret; all-orders cocktail including hadronization, tuning, uncertainties, etc
Th: Compare products of splitting functions to full tree-level matrix elements
Plot distribution of Logıo(PS/ME)
Dead Zone: I-2\% of phase space have no strongly ordered paths leading there*
*fine from strict LL point of view: those points correspond to "unordered" non-log-enhanced configurations

## Generate Branchings without imposing strong ordering

At each step, each dipole allowed to fill its entire phase space
Overcounting removed by matching

+ smooth ordering beyond matched multiplicities

$$
\frac{\hat{p}_{\perp}^{2}}{\hat{p}_{\perp}^{2}+p_{\perp}^{2}} P_{\mathrm{LL}} \quad \begin{array}{lll}
\hat{p}_{\perp}^{2} \text { last branching } \\
p_{\perp}^{2} & \text { current branching }
\end{array}
$$




## Better Approximations

## Distribution of Logıo(PSLo/MELo) (inverse ~ matching coefficient)



Leading Order, Leading Color, Flat phase-space scan, over all of phase space (no matching scale)


## + Matching (+ full colour)




## Uncertainties

For each branching, recompute weight for:

- Different renormalization scales
- Different antenna functions
- Different ordering criteria
- Different subleading-color treatments

|  | Weight |
| :--- | :---: |
| Nominal | I |
| Variation | $P_{2}=\frac{\alpha_{s 2} a_{2}}{\alpha_{s 1} a_{1}} P_{1}$ |

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For each failed branching:

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P_{2 ; \mathrm{no}}=1-P_{2}=1-\frac{\alpha_{s 2} a_{2}}{\alpha_{s 1} a_{1}} P_{1}
$$

## Uncertainties

## For each branching, recompute weight for:

- Different renormalization scales
- Different antenna functions
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## + Matching

Differences explicitly matched out
(Up to matched orders)
(Can in principle also include variations of matching scheme...)

|  | Weight |
| :--- | :---: |
| Nominal | 1 |
| Variation | $P_{2}=\frac{\alpha_{s 2} a_{2}}{\alpha_{s 1} a_{1}} P_{1}$ |

## + Unitarity

For each failed branching:

$$
P_{2 ; \mathrm{no}}=1-P_{2}=1-\frac{\alpha_{s 2} a_{2}}{\alpha_{s 1} a_{1}} P_{1}
$$

## Automatic Uncertainties

## Vincia:uncertaintyBands = on



Variation of renormalization scale (no matching)

## Automatic Uncertainties

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Variation of "finite terms" (no matching)

