Correlators of conserved and nonconserved charges in QCD

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Collider experiments transform an initial state, e.g. pp, into a final state.

(Almost) all we know is based on the different production rates of different states.

Fine for theories with a mass gap and suppressed multiparticle production.

Introduction

Collider experiments transform an initial state, e.g. pp, into a final state.

(Almost) all we know is based on the different production rates of different states.

Fine for theories with a mass gap and suppressed multiparticle production.

Not the case of real world at high energy!

Need to "coarse grain" your Hilbert space into jets… matching, merging…

Worse at high energies: what does "diboson" means at $\sqrt{s}=10\text{TeV}$?

Overview on Correlators

A different set of observables: correlators

Basham, Brown, Ellis, Love '78

An experimental measure is presented for a precise test of quantum chromodynamics. This measure involves the asymmetry in the energy-weighted opening angles of the jets of hadrons produced in the process $e^+e^- \rightarrow$ hadrons at energy W. It is special for several reasons: It is reliably calculable in asymptotically free perturbation theory; it has rapidly vanishing (order $1/w^2$) corrections due to nonperturbative confinement effects; and it is straightforward to determine experimentally.

$$
\frac{d\langle E\rangle}{d\chi} = \sum_{i} \int d\Omega |\mathcal{A}|^2 E_i \delta(\cos \theta_i - \chi)
$$

Citations per year

Jets from Quantum Chromodynamics

George Sterman and Steven Weinberg Phys. Rev. Lett. 39, 1436 - Published 5 December 1977

Discovery of Three-Jet Events and a Test of Quantum Chromodynamics at PETRA

D. P. Barber et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 43, 830 - Published 17 September 1979

Physics Letters B Volume 86, Issues 3-4, 8 October 1979, Pages 418-425

Evidence for gluon bremsstrahlung in e⁺e⁻ annihilations at high energies

PLUTO Collaboration, Ch. Berger, H. Genzel, R. Grigull, W. Lackas, F. Raupach, A. Klovning, E. Lillestöl, E. Lillethun, J.A. Skard, H. Ackermann, G. Alexander³, F. Barreiro, J. Bürger, L. Criegee, H.C. Dehne, R. Devenish⁴, A. Eskreys⁵, G. Flügge, G. Franke...K. Wacker¹³

The spectacular discovery of the gluon shifted the attention towards *jets*

Sveshnikov, Tkachov '95 Energy weights have an operatorial definition

$$
\mathcal{O}_n = \lim_{r \to \infty} \int dt r^2 n_i T_{i0}(t, r\hat{n}) \qquad \Longrightarrow \qquad \mathcal{O}_n \sim \int d^4k \delta(k^2) \delta^{(2)}(\Omega_{\vec{k}} - \Omega_{\vec{n}}) k^0 a_k^{\dagger} a_k
$$

These act as "detectors" or "calorimeters": Extract the energy of particles along detector's direction.

$$
\mathcal{O}_{\hat{n}_i}|\alpha\rangle = \sum_i E_i \delta(\hat{p}_i - \hat{n}_i)|\alpha\rangle
$$

In particular, it implies that one can write these phase space reweightings as correlators:

$$
\frac{d\langle E\rangle}{d\chi} = L_{\mu\nu} \int d^4x \langle 0|j^{\mu}(x) \mathcal{O}_{\hat{n}}j^{\nu}(0)|0\rangle
$$

In hindsight, this was a breakthrough. As long as the operator is well defined, as is the case of the energy operator, this gives a perfectly robust definition of observables in a gauge theory, avoiding the theoretical nuance of defining an S-matrix for a gauge theory.

 10^{-2}

 10^{-3}

 10^{-4}

 10^{-3}

Energy weights have an OPE **Energy weights have an OPE Energy weights have an OPE**

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 $\overline{10}$ ⁰

CMS 2011 Open Data

 $AK5$ Jets, n^{jet} < 1.9

 $p_T^{\text{jet}} \in [500, 550] \text{ GeV}$ CHS, $p_T^{\text{PFC}} > 1$ GeV

 10^{-1}

 R_L

 $\frac{1}{10^{-2}}$

 $\theta \sim \Lambda_{QCD}/E_{jet}$
 $\Lambda_{QCD}/E_{jet} \gg \theta$

Strong coupling measurement inside jets

Chen, Gao, Li, Xu, Zhang, X. Zhu '23 CMS-PAS-SMP-22-015 '23 CERN-EP-2024-010 '24

Best determination of a_s using jet substructure

Handle on nonperturbative corrections: Chen, Monni, Xu, X. Zhu '24

$$
\lim_{n_1 \to n_2} \mathcal{E}(n_1)\mathcal{E}(n_2) = \frac{1}{x_L} \vec{C} \cdot \vec{\mathbb{O}}_{\tau=2}^{[J=3]}(n_2)
$$

$$
+ \frac{\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}}{x_L^{\frac{3}{2}}} \vec{D} \cdot \vec{\mathbb{O}}_{\tau=2}^{[J=2]}(n_2) + \cdots
$$

$$
\text{ENC}_{\Psi_q}^{\text{N.P.}}(x_L, Q) \equiv \text{ENC}_{\Psi_q}(x_L, Q) - \text{ENC}_{\Psi_q}^{\text{P.T.}}(x_L, Q),
$$

OPE structure predicts scaling of nonperturbative corrections, which can be matched across different scales

In the rest of the talk I tell you what are we seeing here:

For a global charge with an associated conserved current J^{μ} ,

$$
\mathcal{D}_n = \lim_{r \to \infty} \int_0^\infty dt r^2 n_i J^i(t, r\vec{n})
$$

is a *detector* that measures the asymptotic flux of charge in the direction \vec{n} ,

Acting on physical multiparticle states as

$$
\mathcal{D}_n|\alpha\rangle = \sum_i q_i \delta^{(2)}(\Omega_n - \Omega_i)|\alpha\rangle
$$

In the presence of an operator exciting the QCD vacuum, the one point correlator is given by

$$
\mathcal{D}_n\rangle = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \int d^4x e^{ip \cdot x} \langle \mathcal{O}^\dagger(x) \mathcal{D}_n \mathcal{O}(0) \rangle
$$

=
$$
\frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \sum_{\alpha,i} \delta^{(d)}(p - p_\alpha) \omega_i \delta^{(2)}(\Omega_n - \Omega_i) |\langle \alpha | \mathcal{O} | 0 \rangle|^2
$$

That J^{μ} is conserved has two important consequences:

i) IR finiteness against soft and collinear radiation.

Since the conserved charge is preserved under collinear radiation, the detector acts homogeneously on the set of collinear particles, measuring the total charge.

It is fully inclusive on the rest of the event, ensuring the cancellation of collinear IR divs.

That J^{μ} is conserved has two important consequences:

i) IR finiteness against soft and collinear radiation.

Soft radiation is instead annihilated by detectors of conserved charges. Using universality of soft interactions, a soft photon/gluon contributes as

$$
\int d\Phi_2 \frac{p_q^{\mu} p_{\bar{q}}^{\nu} + p_q^{\nu} p_{\bar{q}}^{\mu} - q^2/2\eta^{\mu\nu}}{q^2} \sum_{i=q\bar{q}} w_i \delta^{(2)}(\Omega_i - \Omega_n)
$$

which vanishes due to opposite fermion anti-fermion charges

$$
\frac{1}{1-\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{1-\lambda_i} \frac{1}{1-\lambda_i} + \frac{1}{1-\lambda_i} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{1-\lambda_i} \frac{1}{1-\lambda_i} = 0
$$

That J^{μ} is conserved has two important consequences:

ii) Vanishing of anomalous dimension

What you measure What you compute

In general, operators get anomalous dimensions. Non-conserved quantities at hadron level are mapped to unknown operators at quark level.

Symmetry allows to map between scales.

Beyond one point:

As long as detectors measure conserved charges,

$$
\langle \mathcal{D}_{n_1}\mathcal{D}_{n_2}\cdots \mathcal{D}_{n_m}\rangle
$$

is collinear safe for sufficiently separated directions.

IR-safety under soft emissions puts restrictions on the operators, as they are forced to annihilate the soft sector.

This happens if one of the detectors measures the energy, or a quark flavour highly suppressed during parton shower, like *b* or *c.*

$$
\langle \mathcal{Q}_{n_1} \mathcal{Q}_{n_2} \rangle \otimes \qquad \qquad \langle \mathcal{E}_{n_1} \mathcal{Q}_{n_2} \rangle \otimes \qquad \qquad \langle \mathcal{E}_{n_1} \mathcal{E}_{n_2} \mathcal{Q}_{n_3} \rangle \otimes \qquad \qquad
$$

$$
\langle \mathcal{I}_{n_1} \mathcal{B}_{n_2} \rangle \otimes \qquad \qquad \langle b_{n_1} \mathcal{B}_{n_2} \rangle \otimes \qquad \qquad
$$

We will look at the one point correlator when the QCD vacuum is excited by a chiral current

$$
J_h(x) = \varepsilon_h^{\mu} \bar{q} \gamma_{\mu} P_L q(x)
$$

as it happens in the decay of an electroweak gauge boson. It leads to the density matrix

$$
\langle \mathcal{D}_n \rangle_{hh'} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{N}} \int d^4x e^{ip \cdot x} \langle J^\dagger_{h'}(x) \mathcal{D}_n J_h(0) \rangle
$$

It represents the average charge measured at a given direction, in the presence of a vector decay with momentum p^{μ} and helicity $h, h' = +, -, 0$

The three point *JDJ* correlator

$$
H_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mu\nu} = \int d^4x e^{ip\cdot x} \langle J^{\mu\dagger}(x) \mathcal{D}_n J^{\nu}(0) \rangle
$$

can be decomposed as

$$
H_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mu\nu} = \left(-\eta^{\mu\nu} + p^{\mu}p^{\nu}/Q^2\right)H_{\mathcal{D}}^0
$$

+
$$
\left(\frac{Q^2n_{\mu}n_{\nu} + p_{\mu}p_{\nu}}{Qn \cdot p} - \frac{n_{\mu}p_{\nu} + p_{\mu}n_{\nu}}{Q}\right)H_{\mathcal{D}}^n
$$

-
$$
\frac{i}{Q}\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}p_{\alpha}n_{\beta}H_{\mathcal{D}}^o,
$$

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$$

$$
+ \left(\frac{Q^2n_{\mu}n_{\nu} + p_{\mu}p_{\nu}}{Qn \cdot p} - \frac{n_{\mu}p_{\nu} + p_{\mu}n_{\nu}}{Q}\right)H_{\mathcal{D}}^n
$$

$$
- \frac{i}{4\pi}b_{\mathcal{D}}\epsilon^{ijk}\epsilon_{h',i}^*n_j\epsilon_{h,k}
$$

$$
- \frac{i}{Q}\epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}p_{\alpha}n_{\beta}H_{\mathcal{D}}^o,
$$

Total charge,
fixed by symm.

$$
\langle \mathcal{D} \rangle = \frac{H_{\mathcal{D}}^0 + \frac{1}{3} H_{\mathcal{D}}^n}{\mathcal{N}}, \quad a_{\mathcal{D}} = \frac{H_{\mathcal{D}}^n}{H_{\mathcal{D}}^0 + \frac{1}{3} H_{\mathcal{D}}^n}, \quad b_{\mathcal{D}} = \frac{H_{\mathcal{D}}^o}{\mathcal{N}}
$$

Tree level:

Values fixed by angular momentum, as only two-quark states contribute

One loop:

Cancellation of soft and collinear divergences

Correlators of conserved charges

Correlators of conserved charges

Strangeness density is generated nonperturbatively.

Mechanism is the one described by isospin, as production of kaons is responsible for both effects.

The strangeness generated is indeed equal to the generated isospin.

The constriants due to unitarity can be seen from evaluating the spatial components of the correlator at the center of mass,

$$
H_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mu\nu} = \int d^4x e^{ip\cdot x} \langle J^{\mu\dagger}(x)\mathcal{D}_n J^{\nu}(0) \rangle
$$

$$
H_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mu\nu} = (-\eta^{\mu\nu} + p^{\mu}p^{\nu}/Q^2) H_{\mathcal{D}}^0
$$

$$
\sum_{\alpha,i\in\alpha} \delta^{(4)}(p_{\alpha} - p)E_i\delta^{(2)}(\Omega_i - \Omega_n)\langle 0|J^{i\dagger}|\alpha\rangle\langle\alpha|J^{j}|0\rangle
$$

$$
+ \left(\frac{Q^2n_{\mu}n_{\nu} + p_{\mu}p_{\nu}}{Qn \cdot p} - \frac{n_{\mu}p_{\nu} + p_{\mu}n_{\nu}}{Q}\right)H_{\mathcal{D}}^n
$$

$$
- \frac{i}{Q} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta}p_{\alpha}n_{\beta}H_{\mathcal{D}}^o,
$$

The constriants due to unitarity can be seen from evaluating the spatial components of the correlator at the center of mass,

$$
H_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mathbf{ZZ}} = \int d^4x e^{ip\cdot x} \langle J^{\mathbf{Z}^{\dagger}}(x) \mathcal{D}_n J^{\mathbf{Z}}(0) \rangle
$$

\n
$$
H_{\mathcal{D}}^{\mathbf{ZZ}} = \left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{I}^{\mu\nu} + p \mathbf{U} p^{\nu} / Q^2 \right) H_{\mathcal{D}}^0
$$

\n
$$
\sum_{\alpha, i \in \alpha} \delta^{(4)}(p_{\alpha} - p) E_i \delta^{(2)}(\Omega_i - \Omega_n) \langle 0 | J^{\mathbf{Z}^{\dagger}} | \alpha \rangle \langle \alpha | J^{\mathbf{Z}} | 0 \rangle > \mathbf{0}
$$

\n
$$
+ \left(\frac{Q^2 \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{W} + p_{\mu} \mathbf{W}^0}{Qn \cdot p} - \frac{n_{\mu} p_{\nu}}{Q} \mathbf{W}^0 \mathbf{W}^1 \right) H_{\mathcal{D}}^n
$$

\n
$$
- \frac{i}{Q} \epsilon^{\mu \nu \alpha} \mathbf{W}^0 \mathbf{W}^0 \mathbf{W}^0 \mathbf{W}^0 \mathbf{W}^0.
$$

which implies that

$$
H_{\mathcal{E}}^0 \ge 0
$$

$$
H_{\mathcal{E}}^0 + H_{\mathcal{E}}^n \ge 0
$$

$$
- \frac{3}{2} < a_{\mathcal{E}} = \frac{H_{\mathcal{E}}^n}{H_{\mathcal{E}}^0 + \frac{1}{3}H_{\mathcal{E}}^n} < 3
$$

(

The bound is saturated by two-particle states

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The bound is saturated by two-particle states

QCD flows from one boundary to the other!

)

All applies to operators other than energy, as long as they are positive.

At low *k*, radiative corrections become more important

At *k=0*, the observable is the particle number density

At high *k*, radiation is highly suppressed and only two particle states contribute

Densities at different *k* constrained with each other.

The scalar functions can be schematically written as

$$
H(k) = \int d\Phi \rho(\Phi) (\mathcal{E}(\Phi))^k \qquad \begin{array}{c} \rho(\Phi) \ge 0 \\ \mathcal{E}(\Phi) \ge 0 \\ \mathcal{E}(\Phi) \le 1 \end{array}
$$

 $\lambda = \lambda$

So the derivatives in *k* obey

$$
(-1)^N \frac{d^N H(k)}{dk^N} > 0
$$

i.e. it is a completely monotonic function in *k*.

It can be shown that evaluating the function at *k, k+a, k+2a,...*leads to the *H(k)*'s to obey the Hausdorff moment problem.

$$
H^{0} \succ 0, \quad H^{1} \succ 0,
$$

\n
$$
H^{0} - H^{1} \succ 0, \quad H^{1} - H^{2} \succ 0
$$
\nwith\n
$$
(H^{p})_{ij} = H(k + (i + j + p - 2)a)
$$

Densities at different *k* constrained with each other.

Higher *k* densities are very efficiently constrained from lower *k* ones.

Lower *k* densities have however one sided bounds. Data is close to the kink.

Correlator-based observables offer a different perspective on collider data, with strong theoretical roots that constrain and simplify them.

One point (and some higher point) correlators of conserved charges are perturbatively IR safe.

Thank you!