



# Jet substructure at the LHC with energy correlators

CERN QCD Seminar

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Based on [2205.03414](#) and [2210.09311](#)



Evan Craft



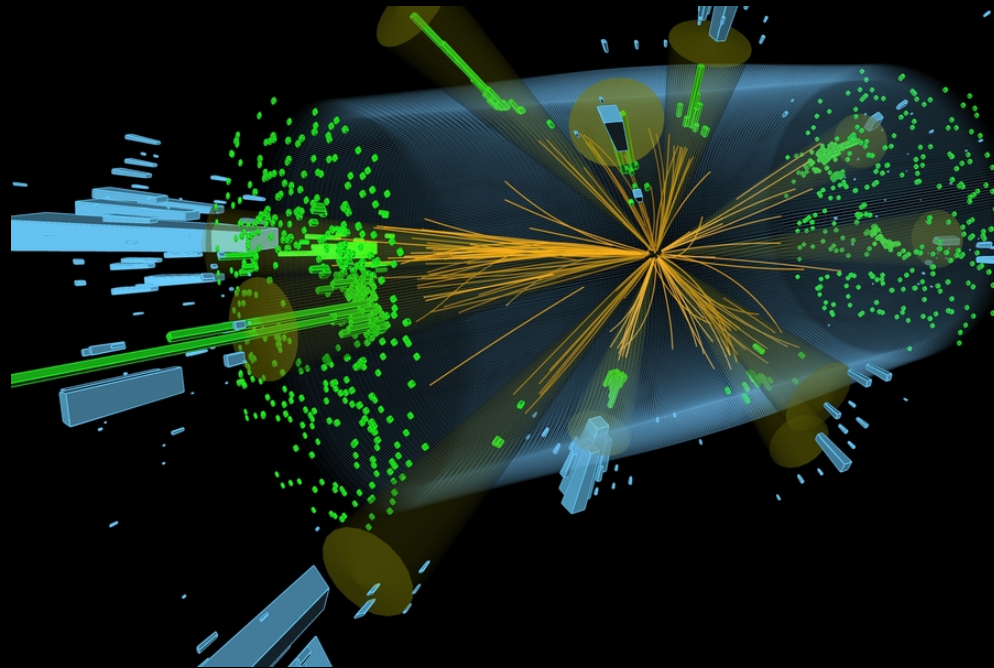
Kyle Lee



Ian Moulton

# QCD at Hadron Colliders

Almost every LHC event contains jets



Jets are reconstructed using jet algorithms (anti- $k_T$ )

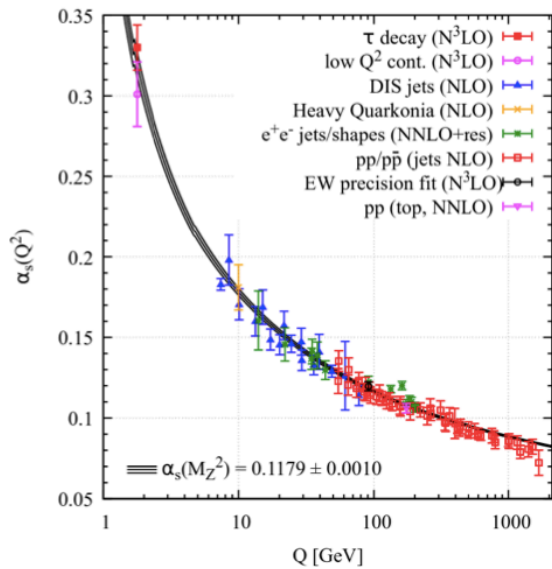
Cacciari, Salam 2006  
Salam, Soyez 2007

**How can we learn the most about underlying physics from the reconstructed jets?**

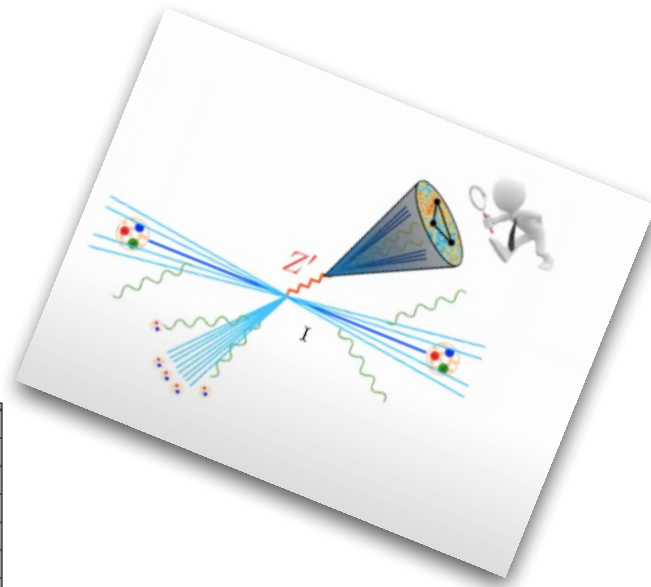
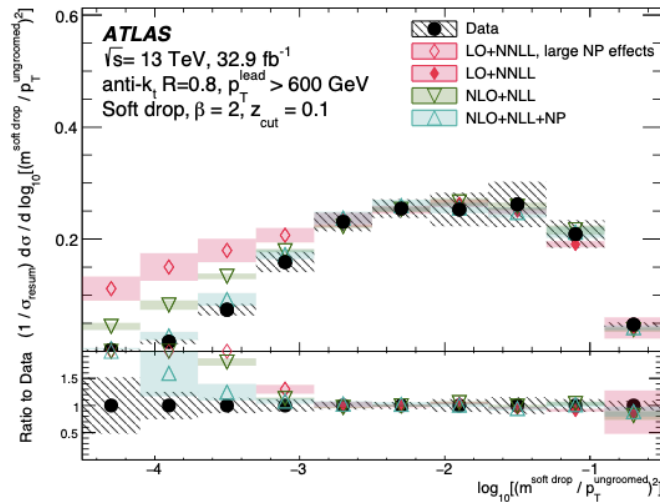
# Jets at the LHC

## Jet substructure

### QCD precision tests



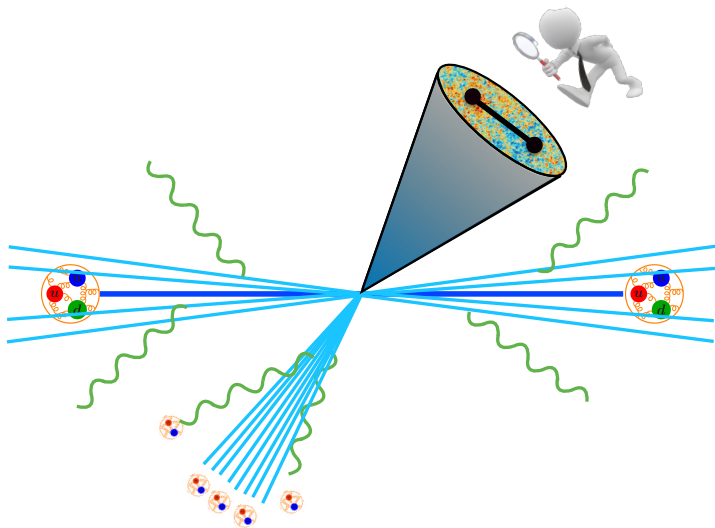
### New Physics



Both precision measurements and New Physics searches require precise description of jet cross sections.

# Jet substructure

Study the internal structure of a jet



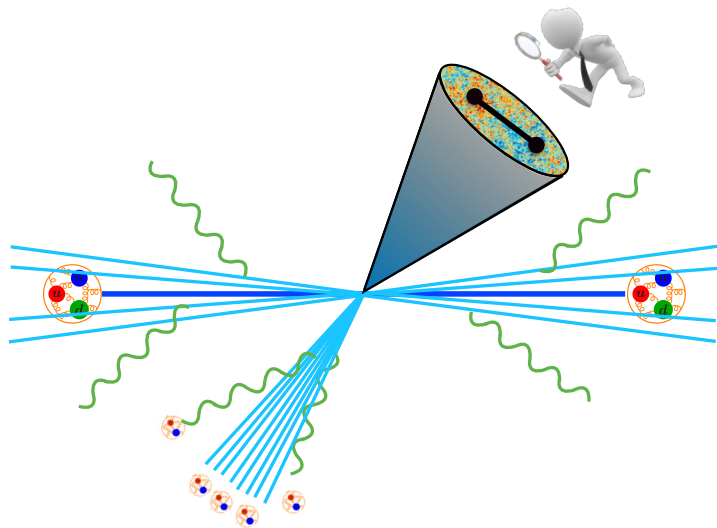
Any physics dynamics will be imprinted in the energy distributions inside the jet.

## Asymptotic energy flux

- Study the statistical properties of energy flux within a jet.
- Particles within the jet are detected at infinity.
- This requires new theoretical tools to study jet substructure.

# Jet substructure

Study the internal structure of a jet



Any physics dynamics will be imprinted in the energy distributions inside the jet.

## Well-defined in QFT!

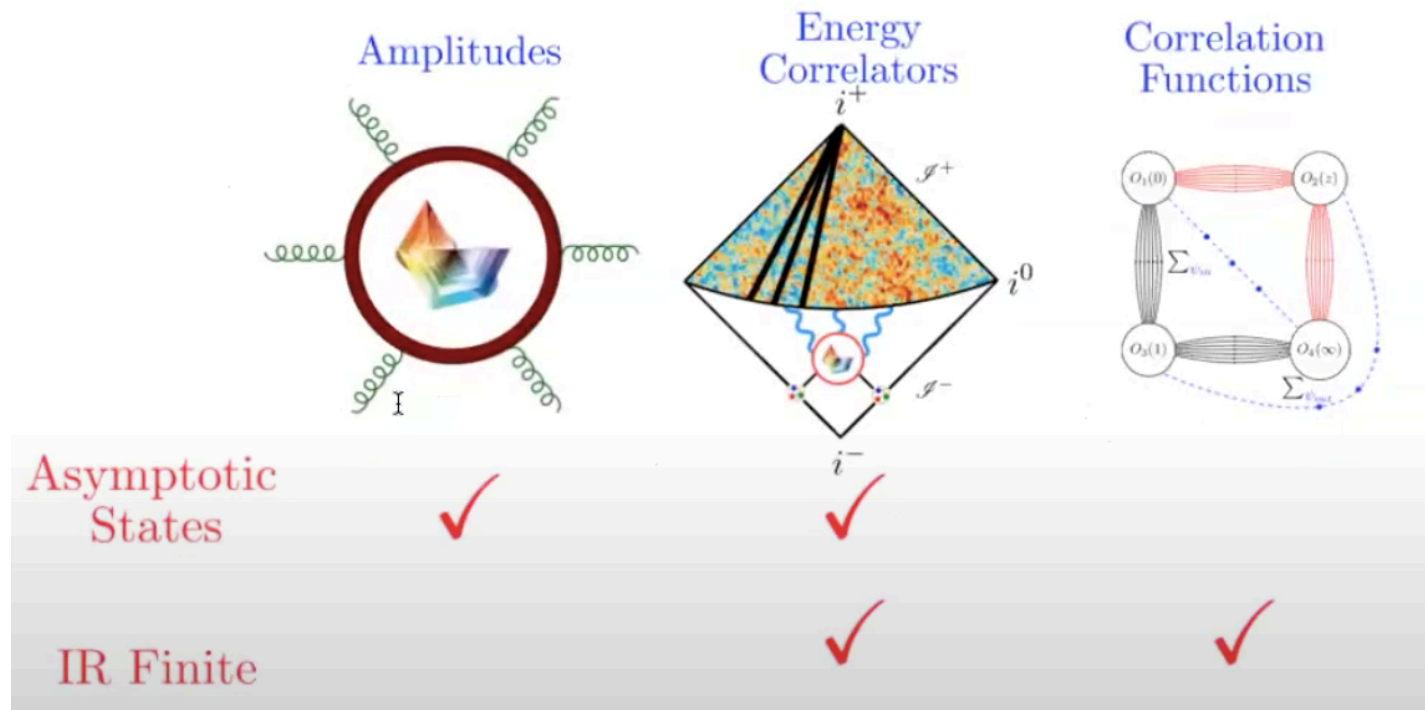
- Distribution of energy inside the jet is described by correlation functions of the energy flow operators  $\Rightarrow$  energy correlators.

$$\langle \Psi | \varepsilon(\vec{n}_1) \varepsilon(\vec{n}_2) \dots \varepsilon(\vec{n}_n) | \Psi \rangle$$

[Basham, Brown, Ellis, Love]

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

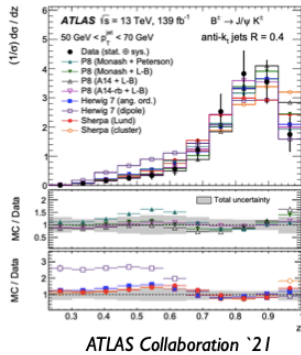
# Energy Correlators



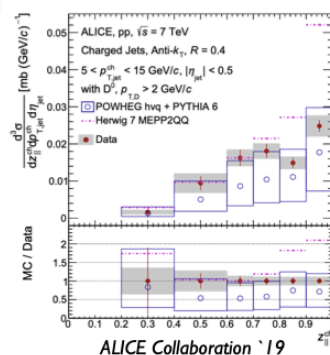
# Heavy quarks at the LHC

Effort to better understand their hadronization

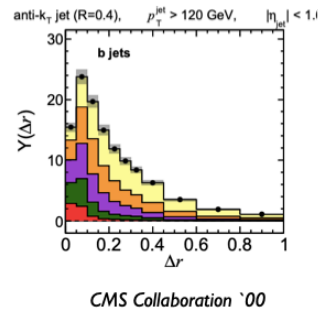
- Many interesting processes include heavy quark effects:  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ ,  $h \rightarrow c\bar{c}$



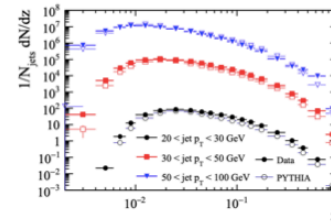
ATLAS



ALICE



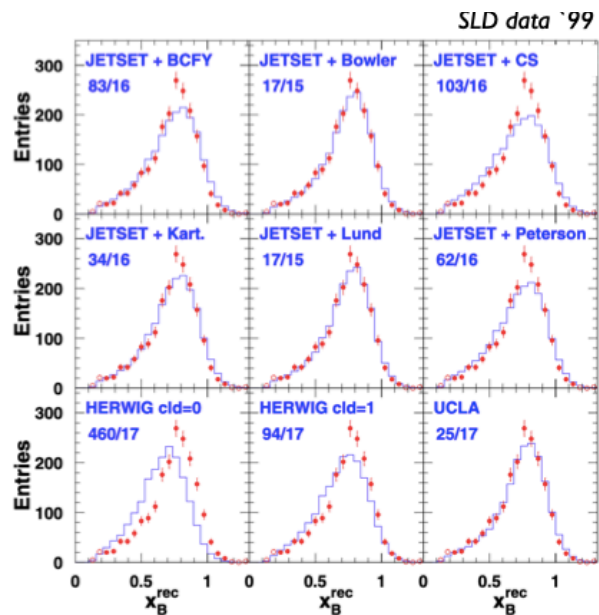
CMS



LHCb

# Heavy Quarks in Parton Shower

## Heavy quark effects



Parton Showers + different hadronization models  
compared to SLD data ('99)

- Monte Carlo work mostly well for light quarks.
- Heavy quarks such as b-(beauty) and c-(charm) quarks are less understood how they develop in the shower.
- Their mass is non-negligible and this introduces an extra scale in the problem!

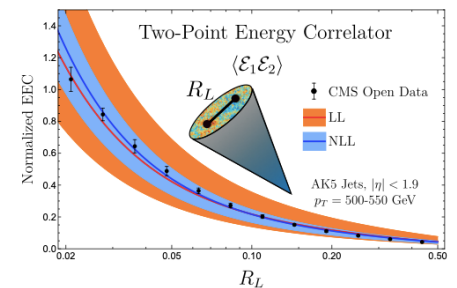


# Energy Correlators

Progress on understanding the light-ray operators allows for the calculation and measurement of jet substructure properties from energy correlators.



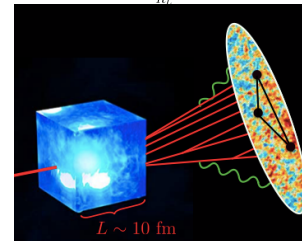
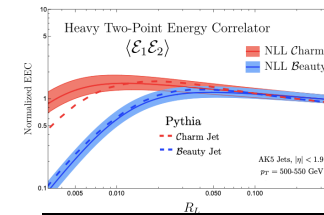
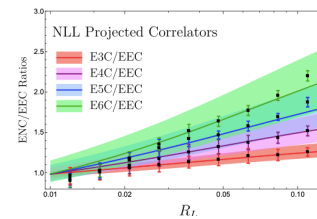
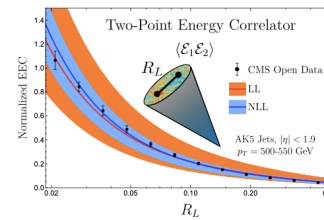
- Scaling behaviour in the IR and UV region
- Intrinsic scale effects



# Energy correlators for jet substructure at LHC

## Outline

- Scaling behavior
- Spectrum of the jet
- Intrinsic mass effects
- Applications



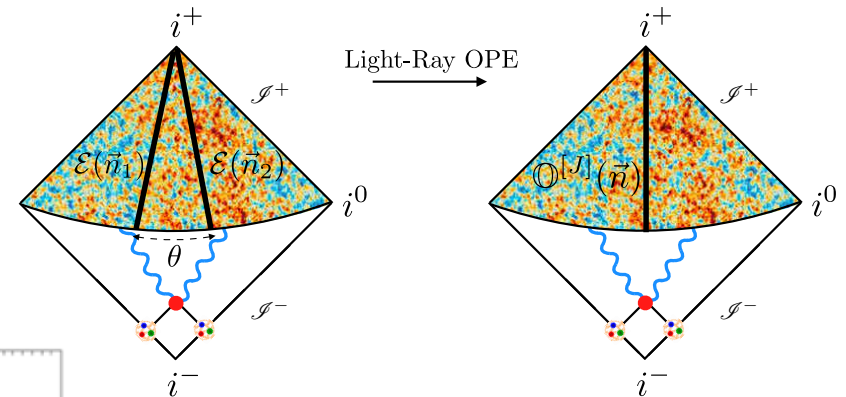
# Scaling behavior

We will study energy correlators inside high energy jets at the LHC: small angle behavior

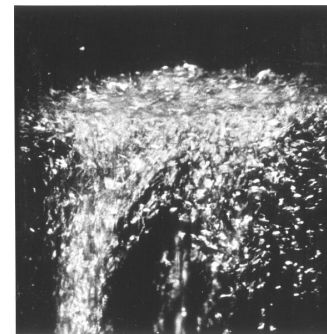
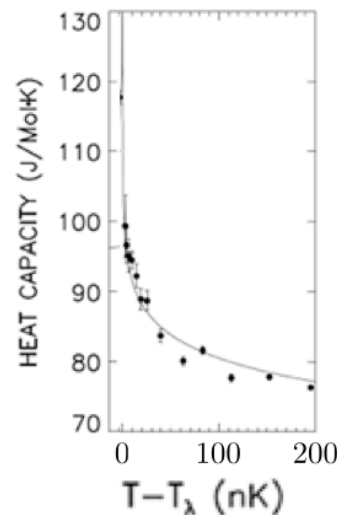
- Energy correlators admit an OPE

$$\langle \Psi | \varepsilon(\vec{n}_1) \varepsilon(\vec{n}_2) | \Psi \rangle \sim \sum \theta^{\gamma_i} \mathcal{O}_i(\vec{n}_1)$$

- Universal scaling behavior in QFT as operators are brought together!



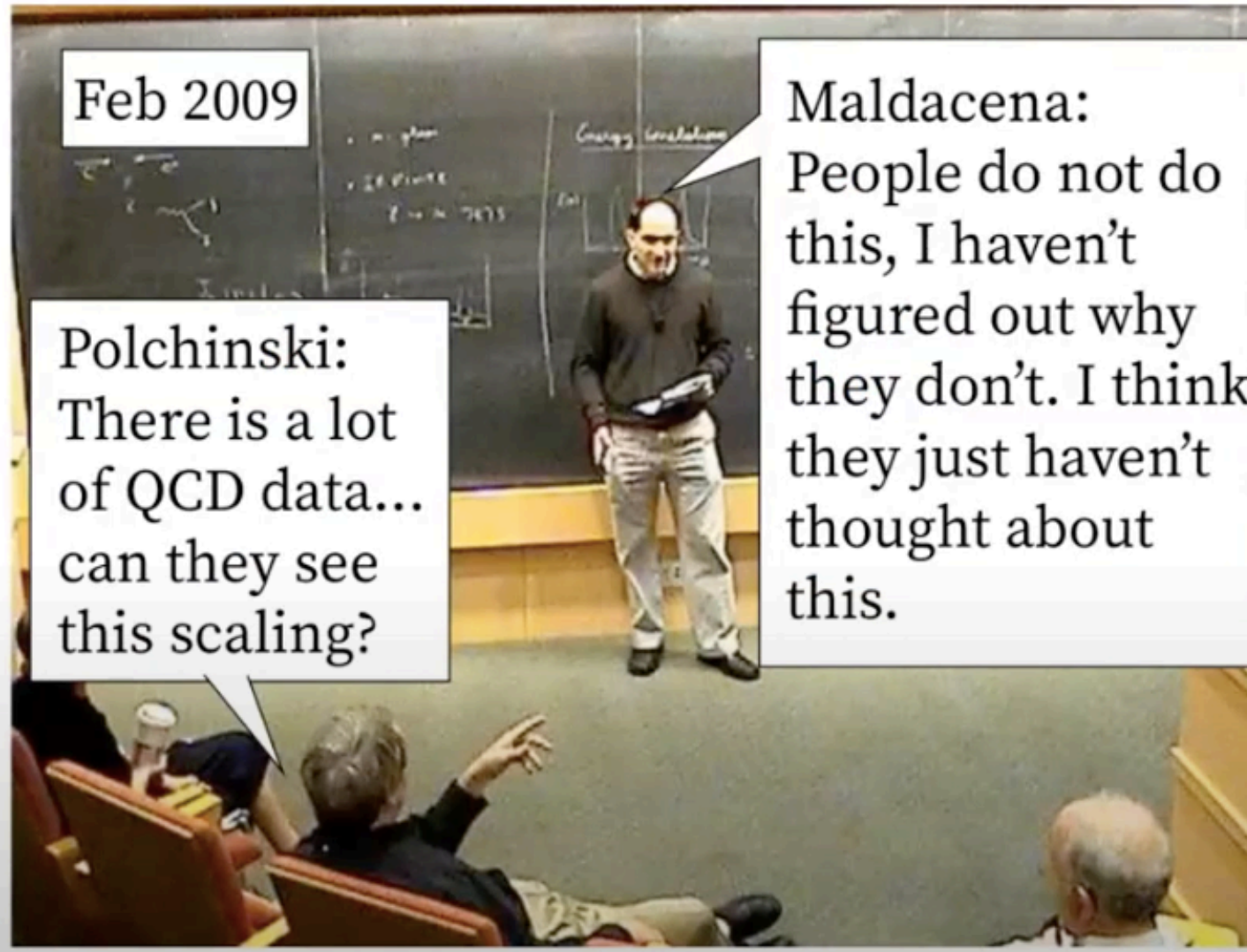
[Hofman, Maldacena]  
[Chang, Kologlu, Kravchuk, Simmons Duffin, Zhiboedov]



Feb 2009

Polchinski:  
There is a lot  
of QCD data...  
can they see  
this scaling?

Maldacena:  
People do not do  
this, I haven't  
figured out why  
they don't. I think  
they just haven't  
thought about  
this.

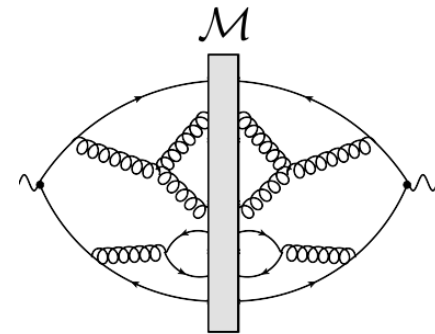


# Event shape observables

Traditionally the way of thinking of jet substructure

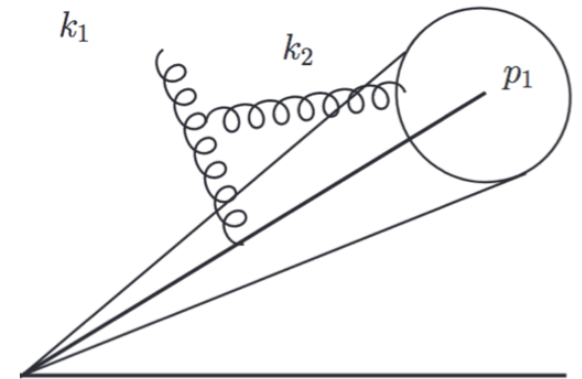
- Sometimes such observables can be complicated to compute at higher orders or for more complicated processes
- Underlying Event (UE) sensitivity
- Difficult to make generalized statements

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



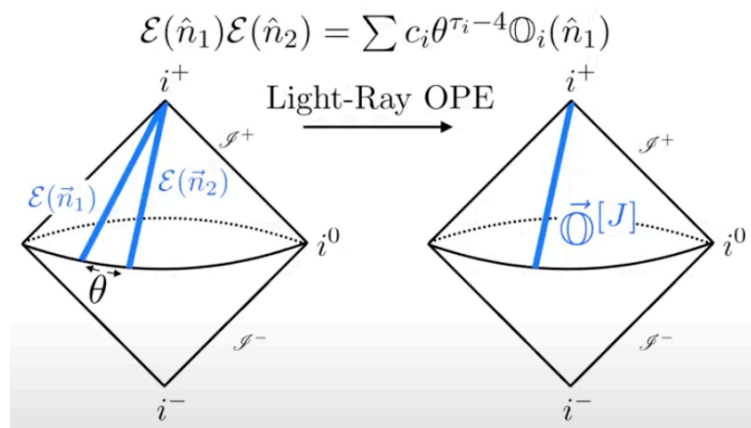
# Free of non-global logarithms

- Jet substructure calculations usually suffer from non-global logs: soft and wide angle radiation.
- In jet physics such effects are removed with soft drop and grooming algorithms.  $\Rightarrow$  calculations depend on such algorithms, usually cumbersome
- For energy correlators such effects are suppressed (observable weighted by energy)  $\Rightarrow$  no need for jet grooming or soft drop!
- Energy Correlators are free of non-global logs



# The light-ray OPE

- The leading scaling behaviour at the LHC is described by the leading terms in the OPE: twist two light-ray operators.
- Light-ray OPE is a rigorous and convergent expansion in CFT.



[Hofman, Maldacena]  
[Chang, Kologlu, Kravchuk, Simmons Duffin, Zhiboedov]

# Leading twist light-ray OPE

## Control scaling at leading power

- Twist-2 operators in QCD are characterized by a spin  $J$  and transverse spin  $j=0,2$ .
- They can be transformed to a twist-2 light-ray operator vector parametrized by  $J$

**Local Operators** [Kravchuk, Simmons Duffin]

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{transverse spin-0} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{O}_q^{[J]} = \frac{1}{2^J} \bar{\psi} \gamma^+ (iD^+)^{J-1} \psi \\ \mathcal{O}_g^{[J]} = -\frac{1}{2^J} F_a^{\mu+} (iD^+)^{J-2} F_a^{\mu+} \end{array} \right. \\
 \text{transverse spin-2} \quad \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{g}(\lambda)}^{[J]} = -\frac{1}{2^J} F_a^{\mu+} (iD^+)^{J-2} F_a^{\nu+} \epsilon_{\lambda,\mu} \epsilon_{\lambda,\nu} \\
 \text{helicity } \pm
 \end{array}
 \xrightarrow{\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} r^2 \int_0^\infty dt}
 \vec{\mathbb{O}}^{[J]}(\vec{n}) =
 \begin{array}{l}
 \mathbb{O}_q^{[J]}(\vec{n}) \\
 \mathbb{O}_g^{[J]}(\vec{n}) \\
 \mathbb{O}_{\tilde{g},+}^{[J]}(\vec{n}) \\
 \mathbb{O}_{\tilde{g},-}^{[J]}(\vec{n})
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{l}
 \text{unpolarized} \\
 \text{polarized}
 \end{array}$$



# Leading twist light-ray OPE

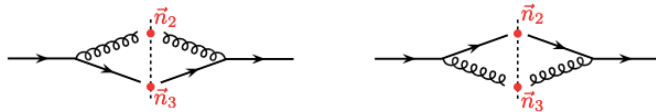
## Explicit result in QCD

- Leading power expansion depends on coefficients that are analytic in  $J$ .

$$\mathcal{E}(\hat{n}_1)\mathcal{E}(\hat{n}_2) = -\frac{1}{2\pi}\frac{2}{\theta^2}\vec{\mathcal{J}}\left[\widehat{C}_\phi(2) - \widehat{C}_\phi(3)\right]\vec{\mathcal{O}}^{[3]}(\hat{n}_1) + \dots,$$

$$\vec{\mathcal{O}}^{[J]}(\hat{n}_1)\mathcal{E}(\hat{n}_2) = -\frac{1}{2\pi}\frac{2}{\theta^2}\left[\widehat{C}_\phi(J) - \widehat{C}_\phi(J+1)\right]\vec{\mathcal{O}}^{[J+1]}(\hat{n}_1) + \dots$$

[Chen, Moutl, Zhu]

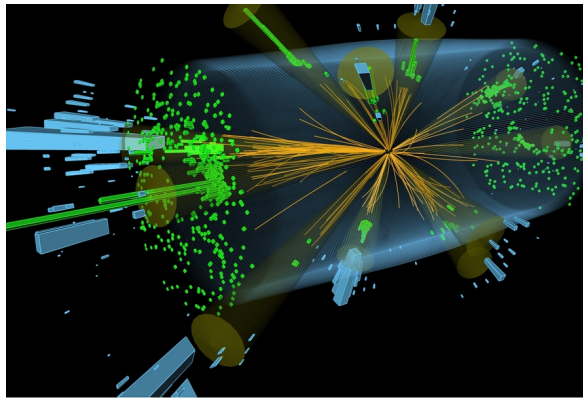


$$\widehat{C}_\phi(J) = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_{qq}(J) & 2n_f\gamma_{qg}(J) & 2n_f\gamma_{q\bar{g}}(J)e^{-2i\phi}/2 & 2n_f\gamma_{qg}(J)e^{2i\phi}/2 \\ \gamma_{gq}(J) & \gamma_{gg}(J) & \gamma_{g\bar{g}}(J)e^{-2i\phi}/2 & \gamma_{g\bar{g}}(J)e^{2i\phi}/2 \\ \gamma_{\bar{g}q}(J)e^{2i\phi} & \gamma_{\bar{g}g}(J)e^{2i\phi} & \gamma_{\bar{g}\bar{g}}(J) & \gamma_{\bar{g}\bar{g},\pm}(J)e^{4i\phi} \\ \gamma_{\bar{g}q}(J)e^{-2i\phi} & \gamma_{\bar{g}g}(J)e^{-2i\phi} & \gamma_{\bar{g}\bar{g},\pm}(J)e^{-4i\phi} & \gamma_{\bar{g}\bar{g}}(J) \end{pmatrix}$$

- OPE coefficients for polarized operators are **power suppressed**.

# Energy Correlators at the LHC

## Factorization Formula



$$\frac{d\Sigma}{dp_T d\eta dz} = \sum_i \mathcal{H}_i(p_T z, \eta, \mu) \otimes \int_0^1 dx x^N \mathcal{F}_{ij}(z, x, p_T R, \mu) J_j^{[N]}(z, x, \mu)$$

Hard function: includes pdfs

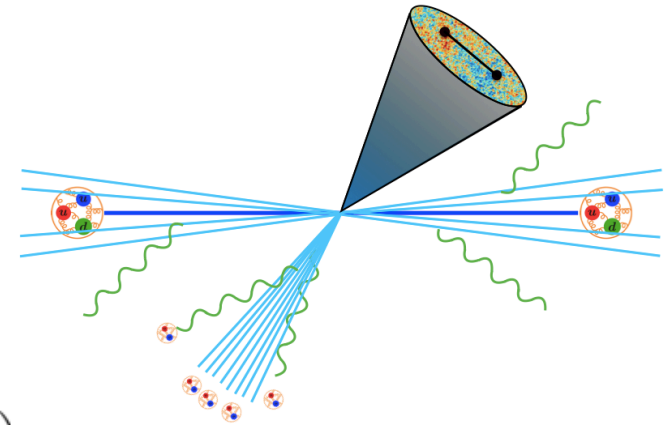
Matching coefficient, jet algorithm

Energy correlator jet function

Can calculate any higher point correlator at the LHC

[Lee, BM, Moutl]

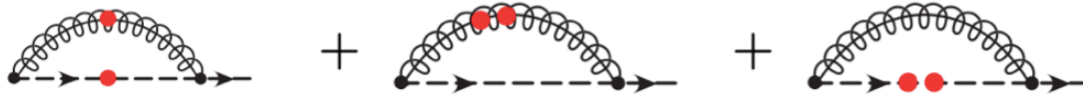
# Energy correlator jet function



- EEC jet function definition:

$$J(z) = \sum_{i,j} \text{Tr} \langle 0 | \not{n} \xi_n(x) \delta(\omega - \bar{n} \cdot \mathcal{P}) \bar{\xi}_n(0) | 0 \rangle \frac{E_i E_j}{(Q/2)^2} \delta \left( z - \frac{1 - \cos \chi_{ij}}{2} \right)$$

- There are three type of diagrams that contribute at one-loop



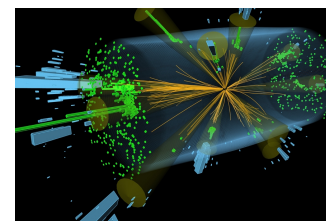
$$\ni x(1-x)\delta\left(z - \frac{1 - \cos \chi_{12}}{2}\right)$$

$$\ni (1-x)^2\delta(z)$$

$$\ni x^2\delta(z)$$

# Two-point energy correlator

## The simplest jet substructure observable

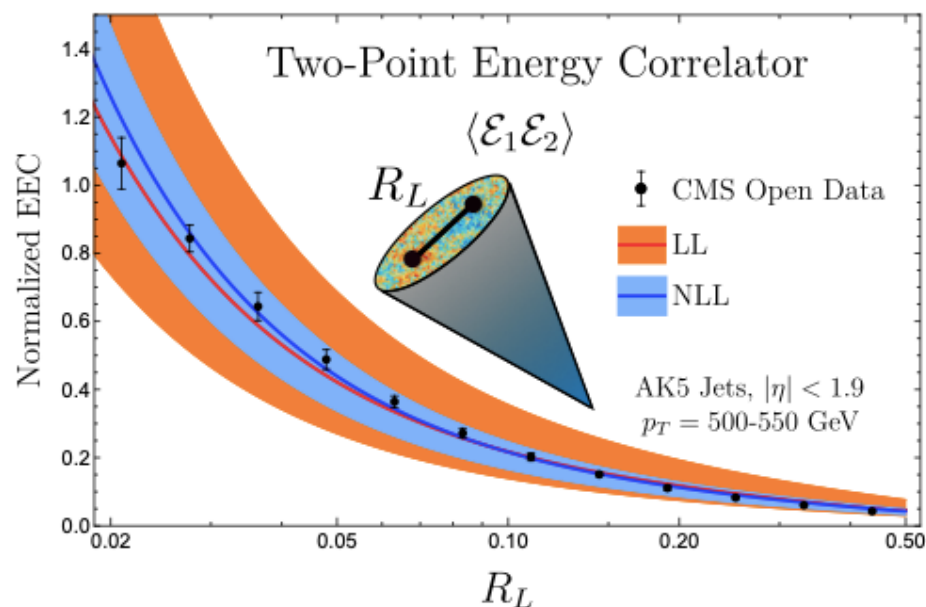


- The complicated LHC environment is described by a simple observable!

- Probe the OPE structure of  $\langle \varepsilon(\vec{n}_1)\varepsilon(\vec{n}_2) \rangle$

$$\langle \Psi | \varepsilon(\vec{n}_1)\varepsilon(\vec{n}_2) | \Psi \rangle \sim \sum \theta^i \mathcal{O}_i(\vec{n}_1)$$

- A jet substructure observable that can test quantum scaling behavior of operators.



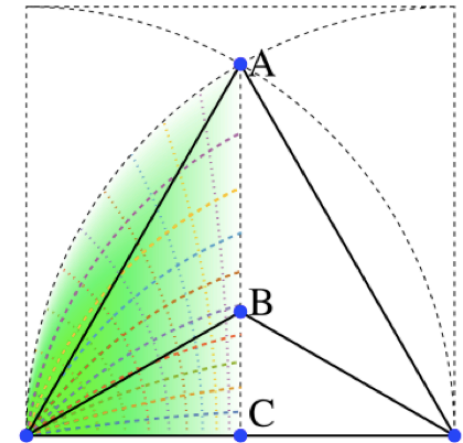
[Lee, BM, Moutl]

# Higher point correlators

## Scaling behavior

- The high energies at the LHC are a suitable environment to test higher point correlation functions of the energy flow operator.
- For higher points one measures the “projected” correlators to the two-point correlator.
- Integrate over all shapes with fixed, largest angle  $R_L$

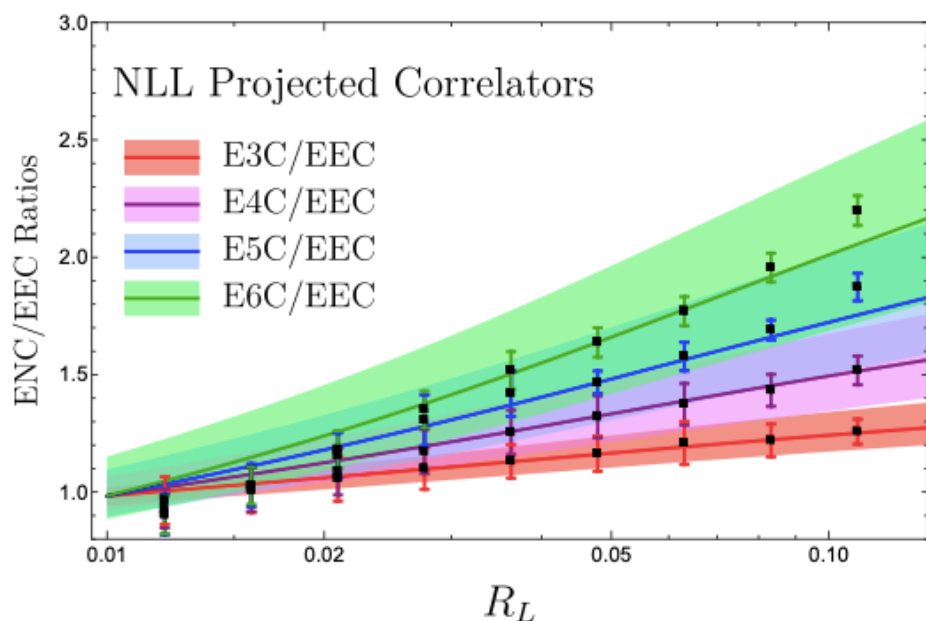
$$J_{\text{EEC}}^{N-\text{proj}}(R_L, x, \mu) = \int d\{\zeta\} \delta(R_L - \max[\{\zeta\}]) J_{\text{EEC}}^N(\{\zeta\}, x, \mu)$$



Space of 3-point correlator

# The jet spectrum

## Higher-point correlators



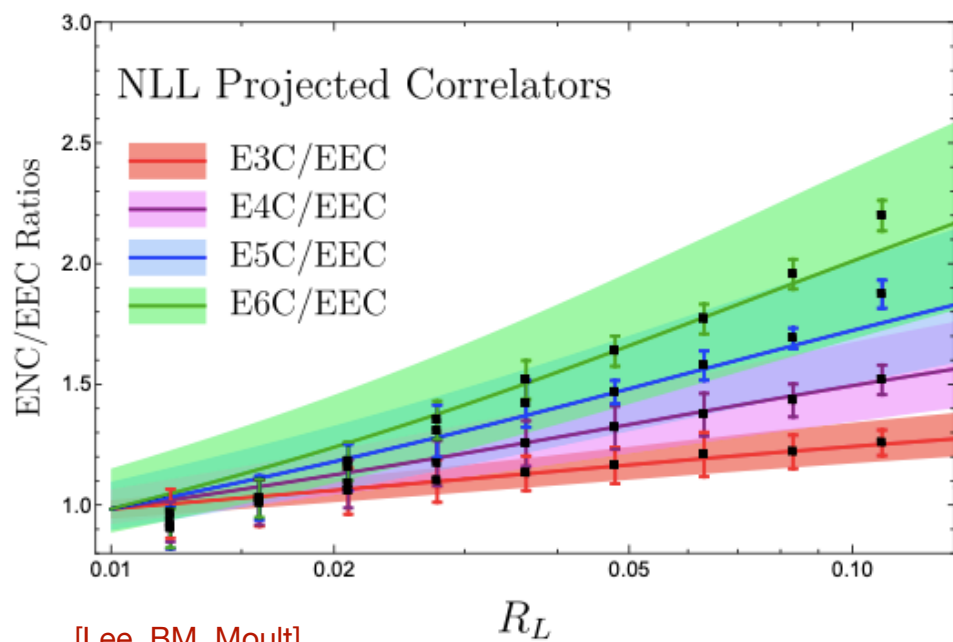
[Lee, BM, Moult]

[Chen, Moult, Zhang, Zhu]

- Can be observed at the high energies at the LHC at high precision
- Ratio of the higher-point correlators with the two-point isolates anomalous scaling!
- The anomalous scaling behavior depends on  $N$  (slope increases with  $N$ )  
↓
- First hand probe of the anomalous dimensions of QCD operators.
- Non-perturbative effects cancel in the ratio

# The jet spectrum

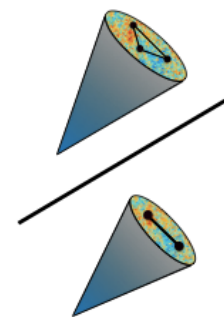
## Higher-point correlators



[Lee, BM, Moulton]

[Chen, Moulton, Zhang, Zhu]

Asymptotic energy flux directly probes the spectrum of (twist-2) light-ray operators at the quantum level!



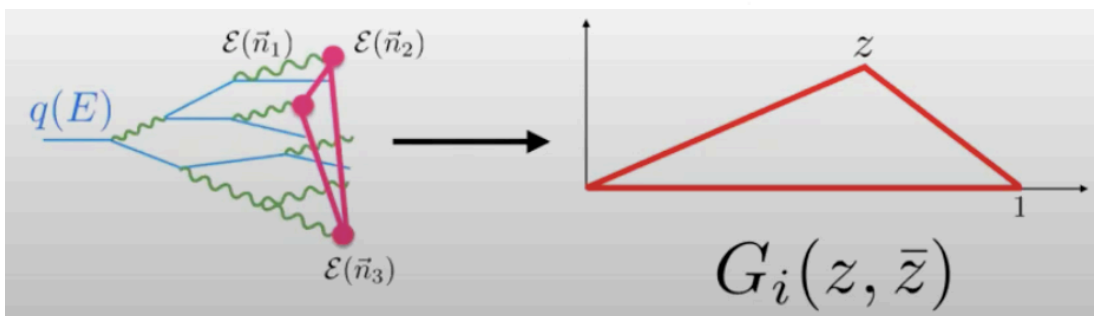
$$\frac{\langle \mathcal{E}_1 \mathcal{E}_2 \cdots \mathcal{E}_{J-1} \rangle}{\langle \mathcal{E}_1 \mathcal{E}_2 \rangle} \sim \frac{\langle \mathbb{O}^{[J]} \rangle}{\langle \mathbb{O}^{[3]} \rangle}$$

# Higher point correlators at higher orders

Can probe the nature of interactions in more details

- Explicit results for  $N > 2$  were presented by Hofman and Maldacena

$$\langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \cdots \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_n) \rangle = \left( \frac{q}{4\pi} \right)^n \left[ 1 + \sum_{i < j} \frac{6\pi^2}{\lambda} [(\vec{n}_i \cdot \vec{n}_j)^2 - \frac{1}{3}] + \frac{\beta}{\lambda^{3/2}} \left[ \sum_{i < j < k} (\vec{n}_i \cdot \vec{n}_j)(\vec{n}_j \cdot \vec{n}_k)(\vec{n}_i \cdot \vec{n}_k) + \cdots \right] + o(\lambda^{-2}) \right]$$



Should be able to observe this shape dependence!



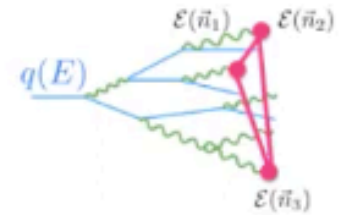
# Example: Three point correlator

## 1 → 3 splitting

To compute in perturbation theory, one integrates over the energy fraction of particles, with the angles of observed particles fixed.

At lowest order in perturbation theory, one has:

$$\int d\omega_1 d\omega_2 d\omega_3 \delta(1 - \omega_1 - \omega_2 - \omega_3) (\omega_1 \omega_2 \omega_3) P_{1 \rightarrow 3}$$



Consider for illustration a simple Mandelstam invariant in the splitting function  $P_{1 \rightarrow 3} \supset \frac{1}{s_{123}}$ .

One obtains integrals of the form:

$$\int d\omega_1 d\omega_2 d\omega_3 \delta(1 - \omega_1 - \omega_2 - \omega_3) \frac{\omega_1 \omega_2 \omega_3}{\omega_1 \omega_2 z_{12}^2 + \omega_1 \omega_3 z_{13}^2 + \omega_2 \omega_3 z_{23}^2}$$

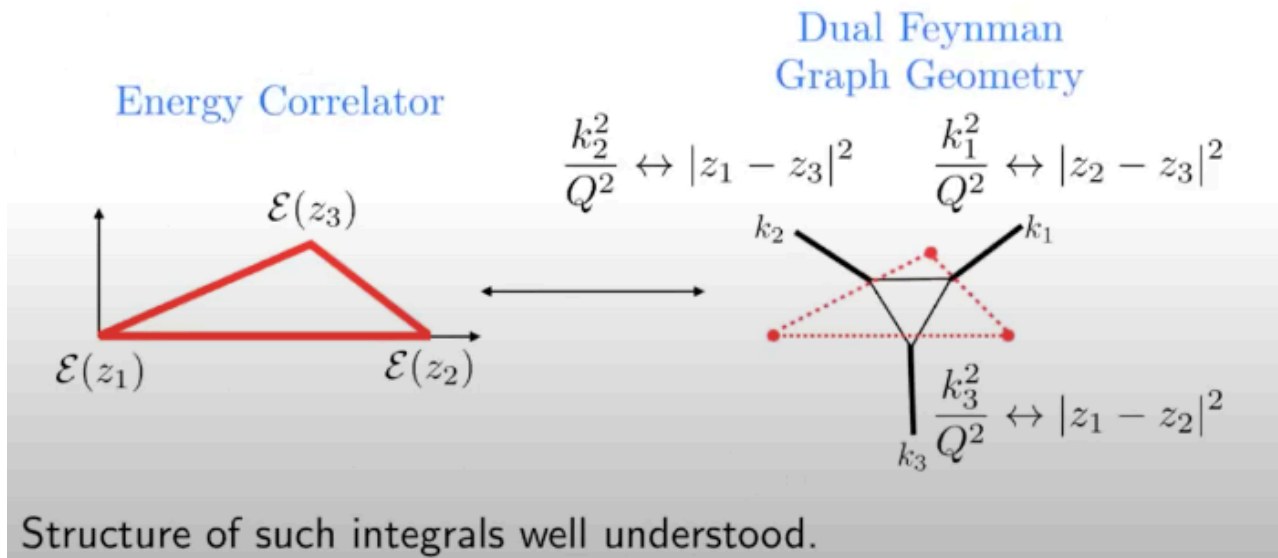
# Example: Three point correlator

## 1 → 3 splitting

This is recognized as a dual Feynman loop integral, where the  $|z_{ij}|^2$  are the dual coordinates:

$$x_i^\mu - x_{i+1}^\mu = p_i^\mu, x_{ij}^2 = (x_i - x_j)^2 = (p_i + \dots + p_{j-1})^2,$$

$$x_{ij}^2 \leftrightarrow |z_{ij}|^2$$

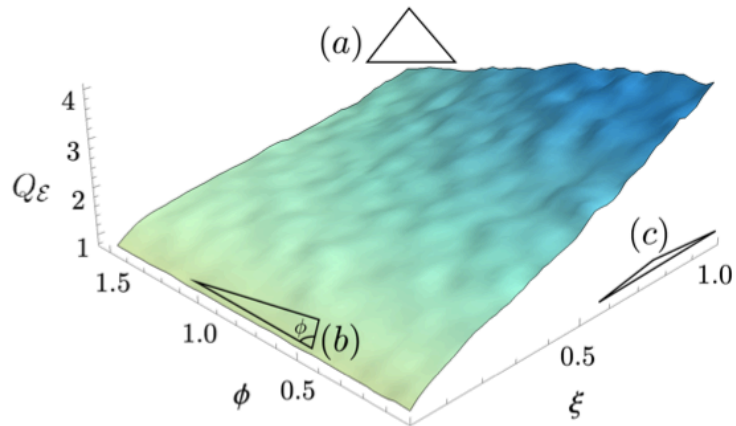


# Non-Gaussianities inside high energy jets

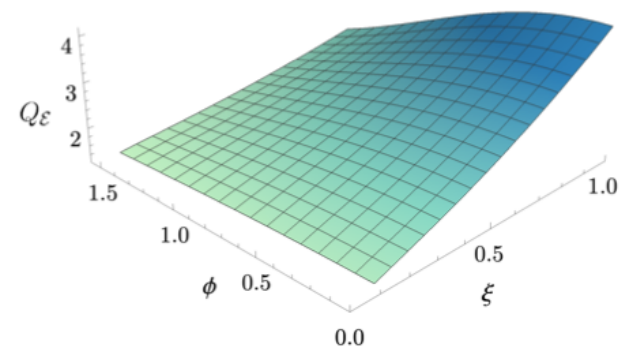
## Theoretical control on high point functions

- Can be measured on LHC data

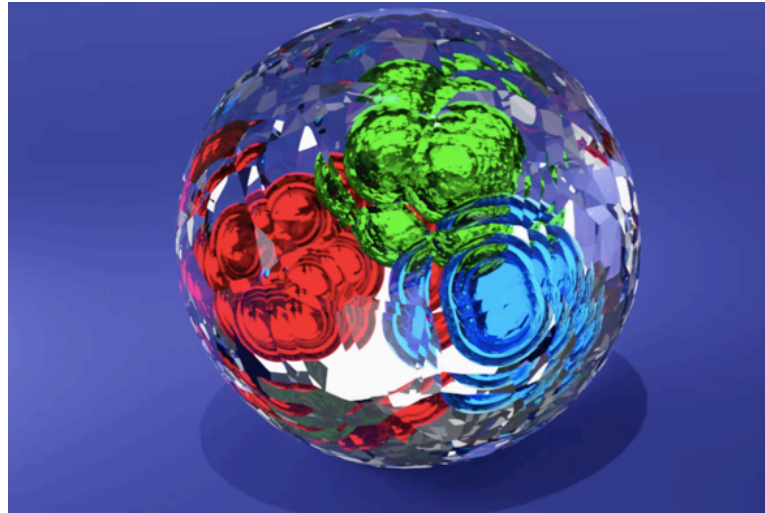
CMS Open Data,  $R_L \in (0.3, 0.4)$



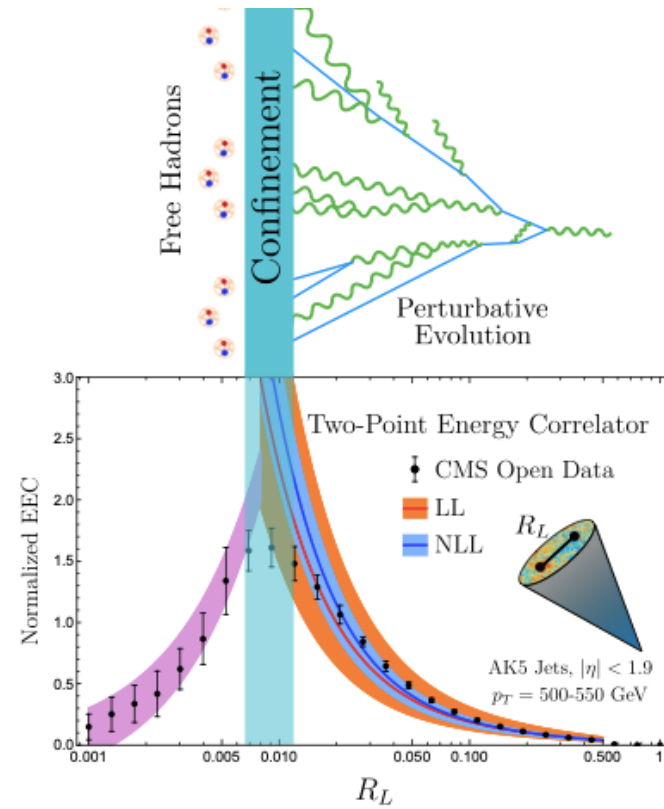
LL + LO prediction,  $R_L = 0.35$



[Chen, Mout, Thaler, Zhu]



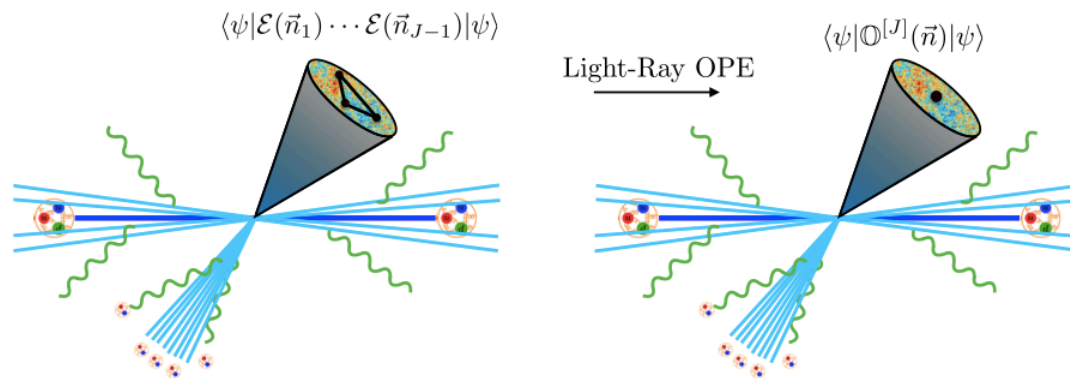
**Confinement transition in jet substructure?**



**Any underlying dynamics will be imprinted in the energy correlators, including hadronization transition.**

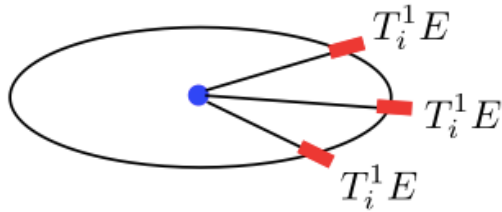
# Jet substructure from first principles!

- Energy correlator is a jet substructure observable defined from first principles in QFT  
⇒ No room for ambiguity what it's being measured in theory.



- Formalism we have presented can be applied for any conserved charge for LHC processes.
- No jet grooming or pruning is needed to extract the final results, pure QFT calculation!
- Not sensitive to soft and wide angle radiations.

# Implementation on tracks



$$E_i \rightarrow \int dx_i x_i T_i(x_i) E_i = T_i^{(1)} E_i$$

Multiply by the first moment of the track function

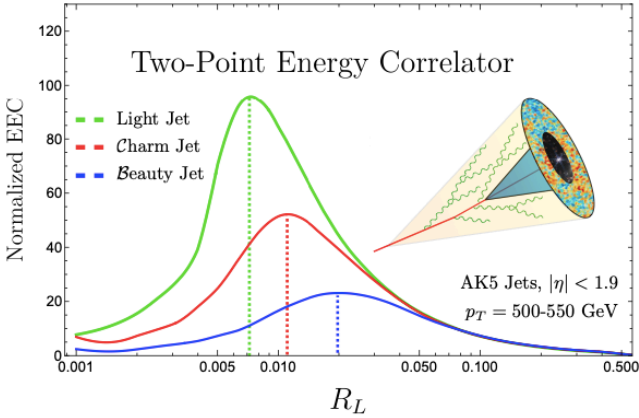
The anomalous dimension can also be measured from these first moments!

- Incorporate information not only from the calorimeter but also from the tracks.

[Li, Moul, van Velzen, Waalewijn, Zhu]

- Possible using track functions.
- Better precision

# Beautiful and Charming Energy Correlators





# Energy Correlators on heavy jets

## Introduce an additional scale

- At the LHC energies there is access to the transition phase from massless to massive behaviour  $\Rightarrow$  more complexity
- **Also very interesting!**
  - Can probe intrinsic mass effects of quarks before confinement into hadrons

# Factorization theorem

Can compute any higher point correlators on massive quarks at LHC at NLL

$$\Sigma^{[M]}(R_L, p_T^2, m_Q, \mu) = \int_0^1 dx x^N \underbrace{\vec{J}^{[M]}(R_L, x, m_Q, \mu)}_{\text{Massive Energy Correlator Jet Function (NLO)}} \cdot \overbrace{\vec{H}(x, p_T^2, \mu)}^{\text{Hard function (NNLO)}}$$

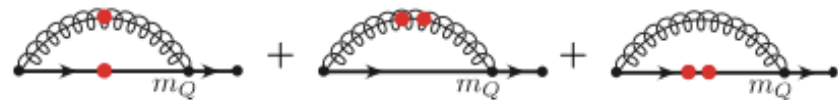
[Czakon, Generet, Mitov, Poncelet; 2021]

$$\mu_H \sim p_T$$

$$\mu_J \sim p_T R$$

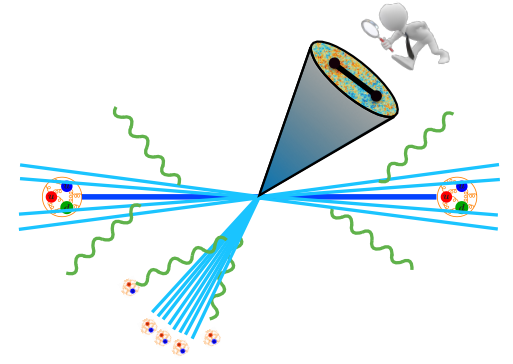
[Craft, Lee, BM, Moulst]

Massive Energy Correlator Jet Function (NLO)



# Heavy quark jet function

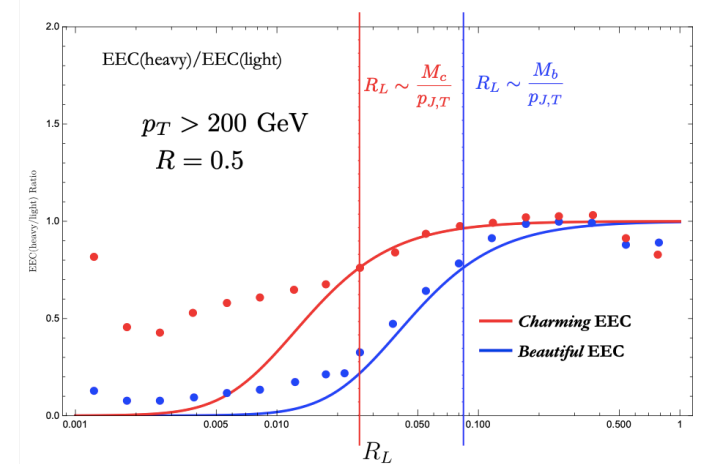
## Result



$$J_Q^{\text{bare}}(z, M, \mu) = \delta(z) \left( 1 + \frac{\alpha_s C_F}{4\pi} \left[ - \left( \gamma_{qq}^{(0)}(3) + \gamma_{gq}^{(0)}(3) \right) \left( \frac{1}{\epsilon_{\text{UV}}} + \ln \frac{\mu^2}{M^2} \right) - \frac{19}{6} \right] \right. \\ \left. + \frac{\alpha_s C_F}{\pi} \frac{1}{z} \left[ \frac{3}{4} - \frac{5}{2} \delta^2 - \frac{\delta^4}{1 + \delta^2} + 3\delta^3 \arctan \left( \frac{1}{\delta} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \delta^2 (1 - \delta^2) \ln \frac{\delta^2}{1 + \delta^2} \right] \right)$$

The mass should not affect the UV behavior of the jet function.  
This can be seen from comparing the UV poles with the light quark jet function.

$$J_q^{\text{bare}}(z, \mu) = \delta(z) + \frac{\alpha_s C_F}{4\pi} \left[ \delta(z) \left( -\frac{3}{\epsilon_{\text{UV}}} - \frac{37}{3} \right) + 3 \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} \mathcal{L}_0 \left( \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} z \right) \right] \\ = \delta(z) + \frac{\alpha_s C_F}{4\pi} \left[ \delta(z) \left( - \left( \gamma_{qq}^{(0)}(3) + \gamma_{gq}^{(0)}(3) \right) \frac{1}{\epsilon_{\text{UV}}} - \frac{37}{3} \right) + 3 \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} \mathcal{L}_0 \left( \frac{Q^2}{\mu^2} z \right) \right]$$

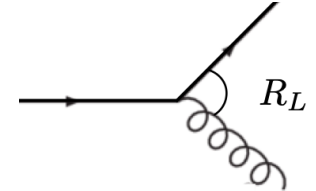


[Craft, Lee, BM, Moul]t

# Massive jets

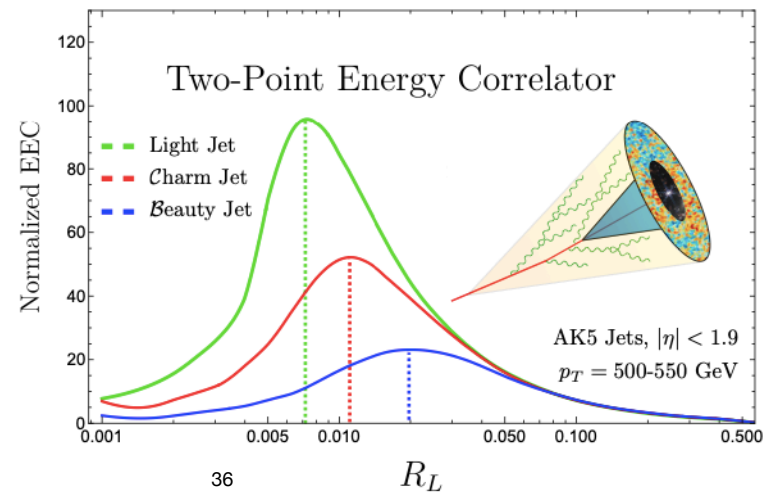
## Massive Energy Correlator Jet Function

$$\Sigma^{[N]} \left( R_L, p_T^2, m_Q, \mu \right) = \int_0^1 dx x^N \overbrace{\vec{J}^{[N]} \left( R_L, x, m_Q, \mu \right)}^{\text{Jet Function}} \cdot \underbrace{\vec{H} \left( x, p_T^2, \mu \right)}_{\text{Hard function}}$$



Virtuality  $\sim p_T R_L + m_Q^2$

- Formation time changes with the mass of the quark.
- Can clearly see this from the two-point EEC.

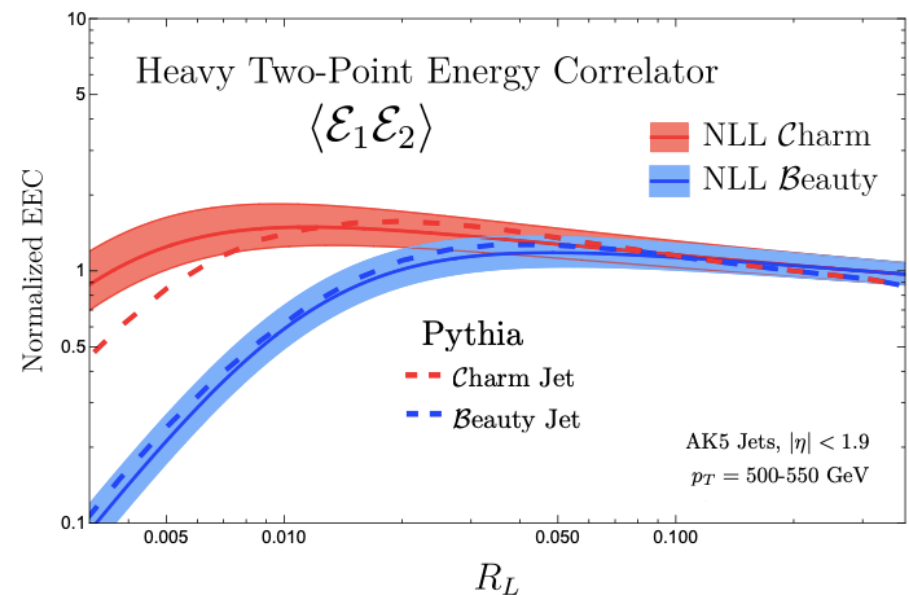


[Craft, Lee, BM, Moutl]

# Massive two point correlator

## First massive jet substructure observable at NLL

- Scaling behaviour identical to massless case for larger scales.
- A turn-over for  $R_L \rightarrow m_Q/p_T$
- The change in the slope is perturbative effect contrary to massless jets:  $R_L \rightarrow \Lambda_{QCD}/p_T$
- The turn-over region is of interest for improving heavy quark description is parton shower.

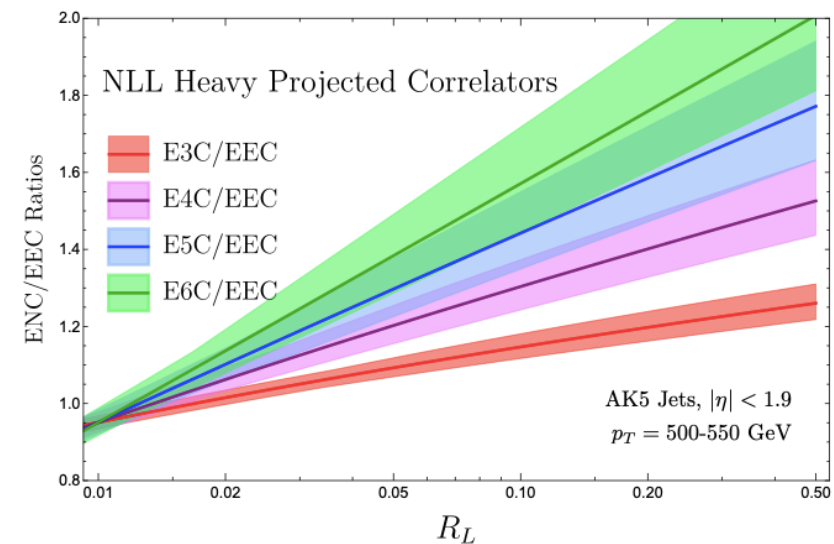


[Craft, Lee, BM, Moutl]

# Projected energy correlators

## Resolve the UV scaling behaviour

- Ratios of higher point correlators with the two point EEC are independent of IR effects, including quark mass.
- The exact behaviour as the massless case.
- Non-trivial cross check of the factorization theorem!
- Anomalous dimensions should not be affected by the IR physics.



[Craft, Lee, BM, Moutl]

# Dead-cone effect in QCD

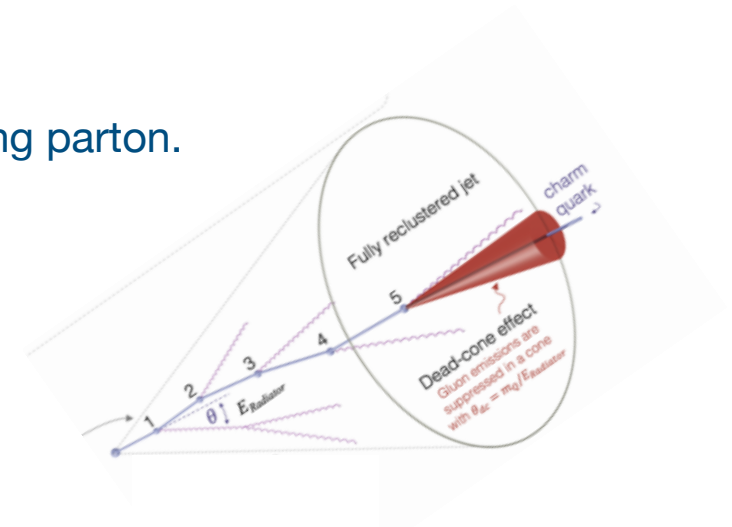
## Fundamental phenomena

- Parton-shower pattern depends on the mass of the emitting parton.
- Angular suppression  $\propto \frac{M}{E}$ .

Observable used for the observation of the dead-cone effect in LHC data

$$R(\theta) = \frac{1}{N^{\text{D}^0 \text{ jets}}} \frac{dn^{\text{D}^0 \text{ jets}}}{d \ln(1/\theta)} \bigg/ \frac{1}{N^{\text{inclusive jets}}} \frac{dn^{\text{inclusive jets}}}{d \ln(1/\theta)} \bigg|_{k_T, E_{\text{Radiator}}}$$

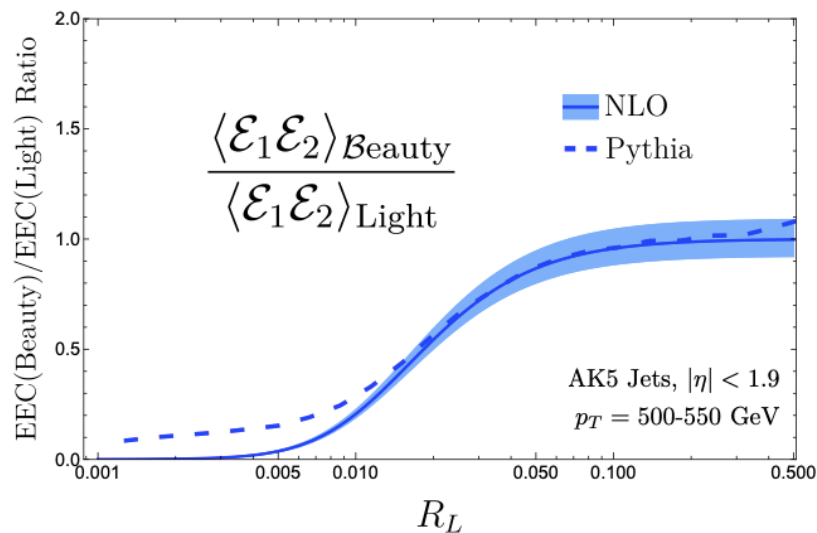
- Not possible to calculate it from first principles in QFT.



First observation for QCD by ALICE collab in [2106.05713]

# Intrinsic mass effects

## Dead-cone effect



[Craft, Lee, BM, Moul]t

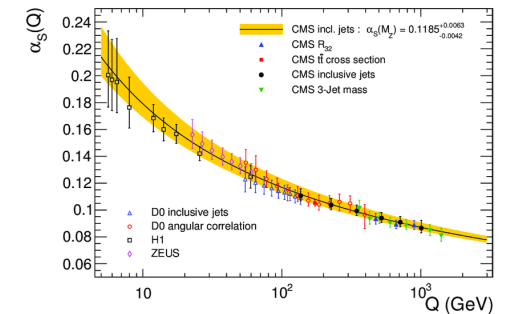
- Ratios of the massive and massless EEC isolate mass (IR) effects.
- A transition region related to the quark mass, which is perturbatively calculable.
- Excellent agreement with MC.
- Small angle suppression can be interpreted as a dead-cone effect.



# Applications of these results

- Precision measurements,  
example: strong coupling, since the anomalous dimensions are proportional to  $\alpha_s$ .

- Better jet modeling in MC simulations, especially for heavy quarks.



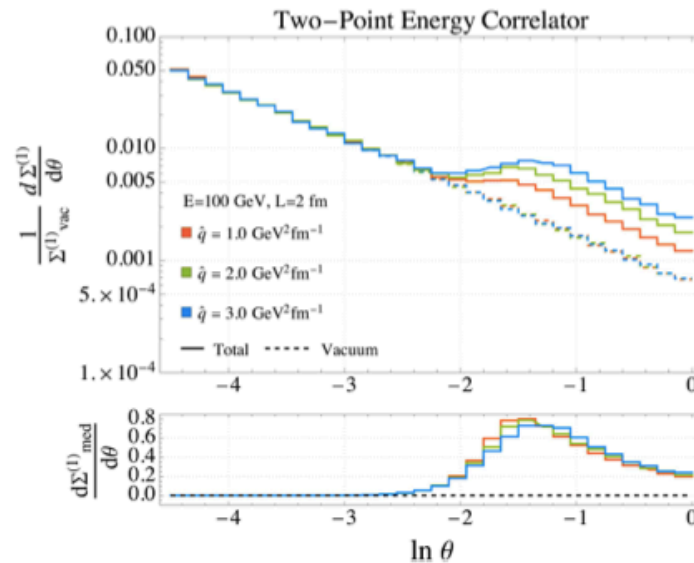
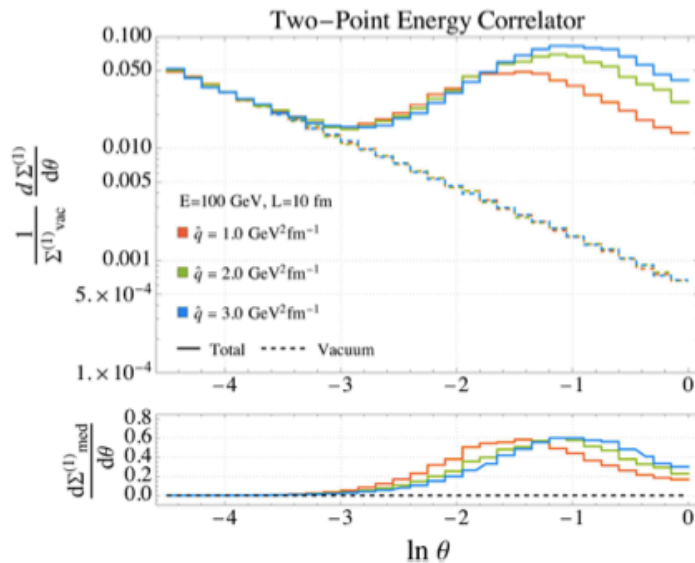
- Higher order NLL are important for better precision in parton showers:  
“reference resummation” for testing DGLAP finite moments.

# Applications of these results

## Heavy Ions

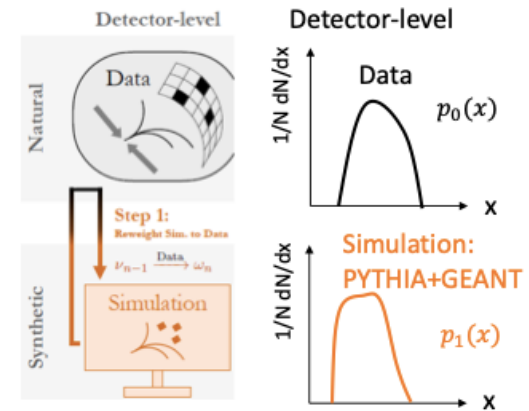
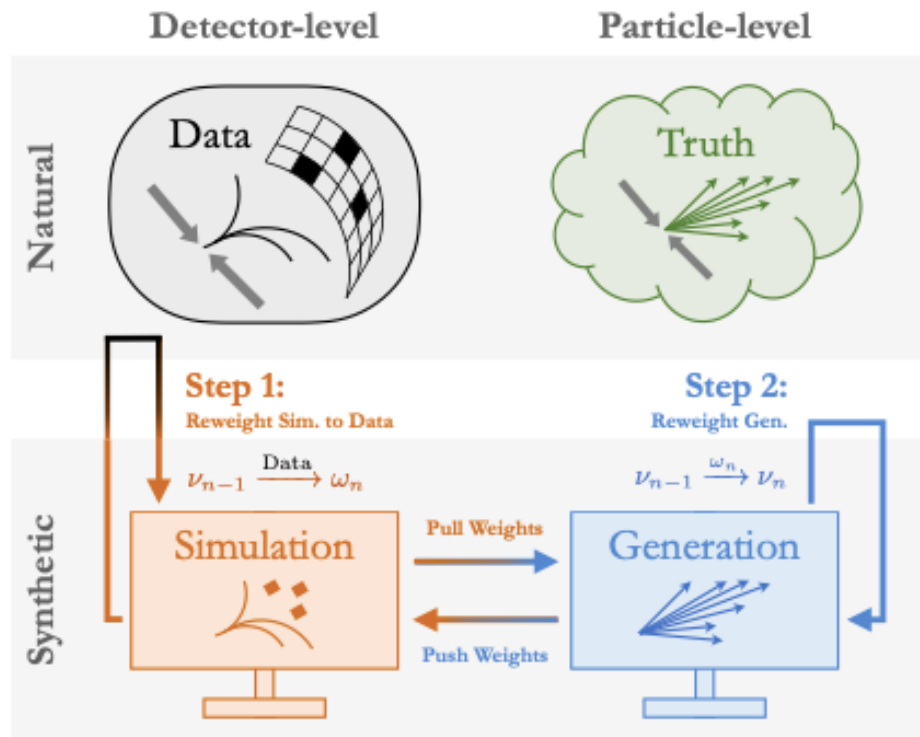
- Might help understand properties of the QGP.
- Intrinsically that is a multi-scale problem too, global properties of plasma.

[Andres, Dominguez, Kunnawalkam Elayawalli, Holguin, Marquet, Moul]t



# Energy Correlators and Machine Learning

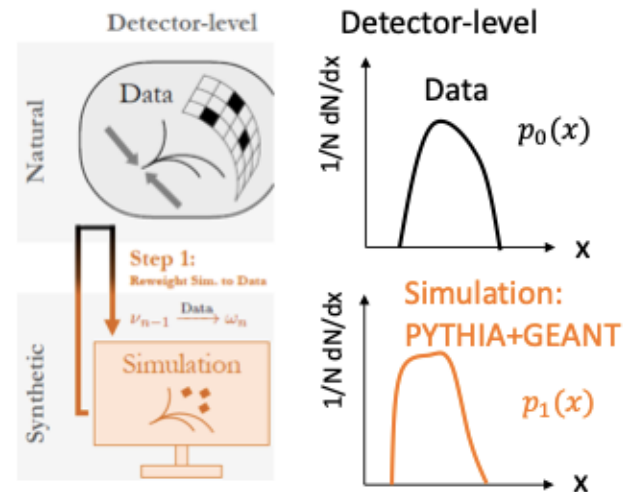
## Unfolding for detector effects



# Energy Correlators and Machine Learning

## Omnifold

- Simultaneously unfold for multiple observables; suitable for energy correlators
- **Correlation information is preserved**
- Unbinned method

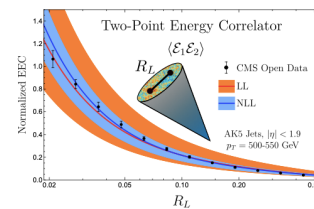


# Conclusions

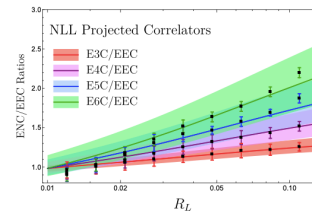
- Factorization formula for calculating energy correlators study jet substructure at the LHC.

$$\frac{d\Sigma}{dp_T d\eta dz} = \sum_i \mathcal{H}_i(p_T z, \eta, \mu) \otimes \int_0^1 dx x^N \mathcal{F}_{ij}(z, x, p_T R, \mu) J_j^{[N]}(z, x, \mu)$$

- Can probe a universal scaling behavior of QFT in the complicated LHC environment.



- Higher-point correlators can be calculated for LHC and probe anomalous scaling dimension of operators.

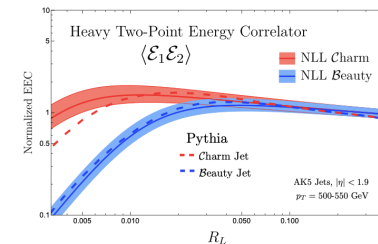


# Conclusions

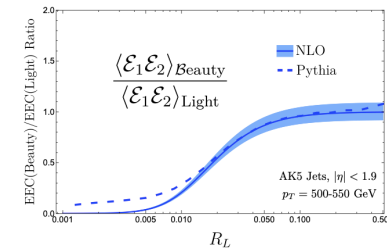
- A simple factorization formula for massive quark jets: massive EEC first jet substructure observable at NLL

$$\Sigma^{[N]}(R_L, p_T^2, m_Q, \mu) = \int_0^1 dx x^N \vec{J}^{[N]}(R_L, x, m_Q, \mu) \cdot \vec{H}(x, p_T^2, \mu)$$

- Intrinsic mass effects of strongly interacting elementary particles.



- Energy Correlators can be used to observe the dead-cone effect.



- There is a myriad of future applications of such jet observables that can be applied to both QCD in the vacuum and heavy ions

**Thank You!**