



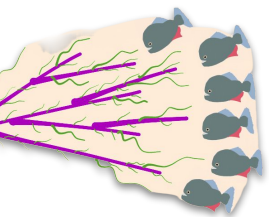
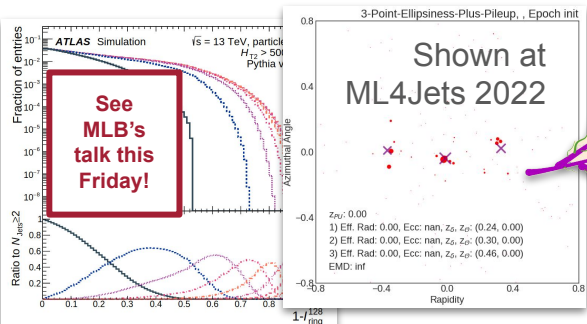
# ***SPECTER***: Efficient Evaluation of the Spectral **EMD**

Rikab Gambhir

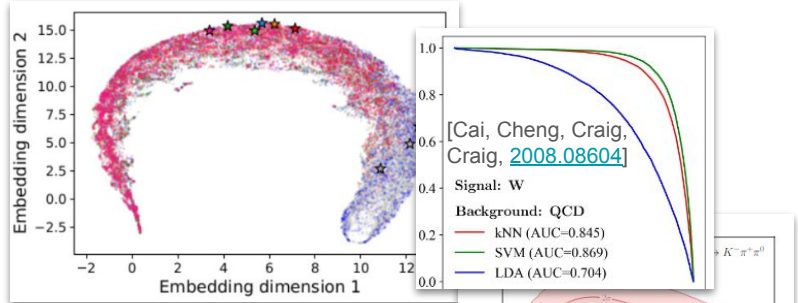
Email me questions at [rikab@mit.edu](mailto:rikab@mit.edu)!

Based on [RG, Larkoski, Thaler, 23XX.XXXX]

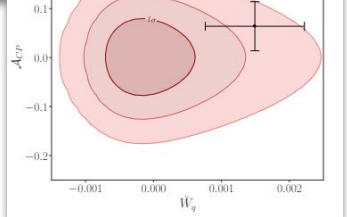
# The Wasserstein Metric, a.k.a. Earth/Energy Mover's Distance (EMD) has seen increasing interest in jet physics:



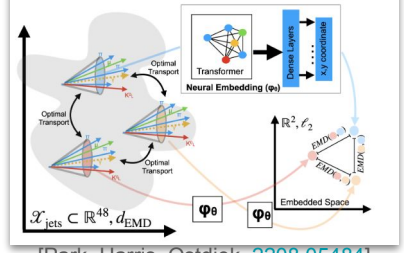
[Alipour-Fard, Komiske, Metodiev, Thaler, [2305.00989](#)]



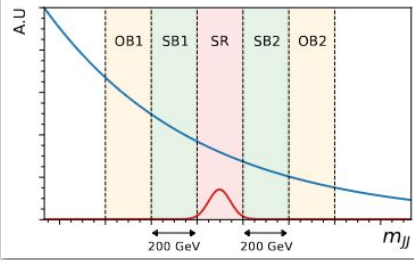
[Romao, Castro, Milhano, Pedro, Vale, [2004.09360](#)]



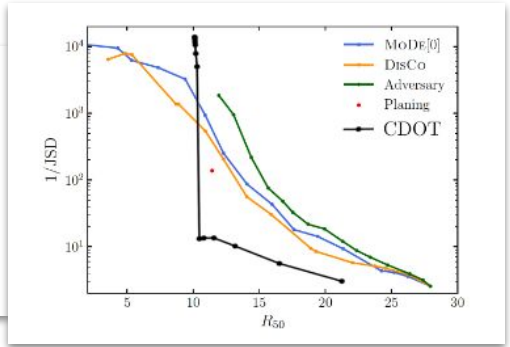
[Davis, Menzo, Youssef, Zupan, [2301.13211](#)]



[Park, Harris, Ostdiek, [2208.05484](#)]



[Raine, Klein, Sengupta, Golling, [2203.09470](#)]



[Chakravarti, Kuusela, Wasserman, ML4Jets 2022]

both computationally, and also in QCD calculations...

But! The EMD is **hard/expensive to calculate**, and even **harder to minimize**...

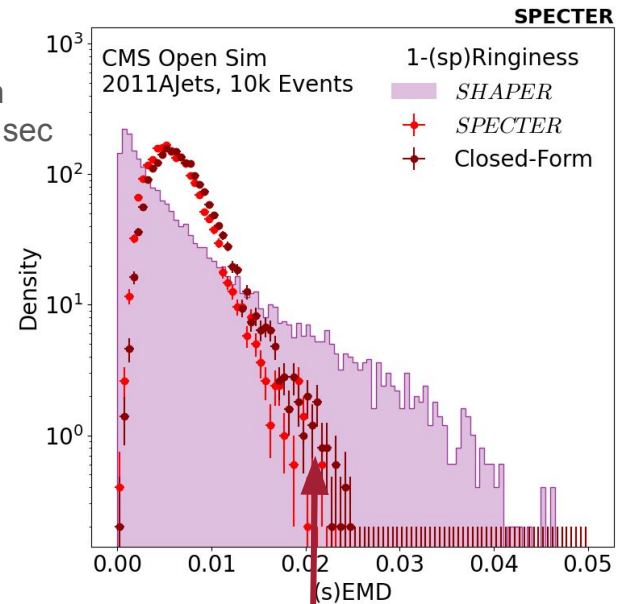
Not an exhaustive list, let me know if I haven't included your recent EMD application!



# Today ...

Making the EMD and associated observables *easier* and *faster* to calculate using the **Spectral EMD (SEMD)** and **SPECTER**

**Old Method:** ~ 3 hours  
**New (Numeric):** ~15 min  
**New (Closed Form):** ~3 sec  
On my laptop's CPU



With these tools, we can calculate this dark curve in *seconds*, equivalent to  $\sim 10^6$  OT problems\*!



SPECTER

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SEMD}_{\beta,p=2}(s_A, s_B) = & \sum_{i < j \in \mathcal{E}_A} 2E_i E_j \omega_{ij}^2 + \sum_{i < j \in \mathcal{E}_B} 2E_i E_j \omega_{ij}^2 \\ & - 2 \sum_{n \in \mathcal{E}_A^2, l \in \mathcal{E}_B^2} \omega_n \omega_l (\min [S_A(\omega_n^+), S_B(\omega_l^+)] - \max [S_A(\omega_n^-), S_B(\omega_l^-)]) \\ & \times \Theta (S_A(\omega_n^+) - S_B(\omega_l^-)) \Theta (S_B(\omega_l^+) - S_A(\omega_n^-)) , \end{aligned}$$

Logo made with DALL-E. Preliminary.

\* $10^6 = 10\text{k events} \times \sim 150 \text{ epochs}$

Central Idea: use the **Spectral EMD**<sup>1</sup>!

For  $p = 2$ , possible to find an exact solution for the optimal transport problem on the spectral representation of events:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SEMD}_{\beta, p=2}(s_A, s_B) = & \sum_{i < j \in \mathcal{E}_A} 2E_i E_j \omega_{ij}^2 + \sum_{i < j \in \mathcal{E}_B} 2E_i E_j \omega_{ij}^2 \\ & - 2 \sum_{n \in \mathcal{E}_A^2, l \in \mathcal{E}_B^2} \omega_n \omega_l \left( \min [S_A(\omega_n^+), S_B(\omega_l^+)] - \max [S_A(\omega_n^-), S_B(\omega_l^-)] \right) \\ & \times \Theta (S_A(\omega_n^+) - S_B(\omega_l^-)) \Theta (S_B(\omega_l^+) - S_A(\omega_n^-)) , \end{aligned}$$

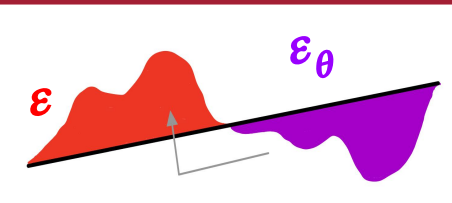
Can be computed exactly in  $O(N^2 \log N)$ , as opposed to the full EMD in  $O(N^3)$   
Closed form, easy derivatives and extremely easy to calculate programmatically!

Our framework for doing  
this, built in Python with JAX

← **SPECTER**

See also: Sinkhorn, Sliced Wasserstein, WGANs, Linearized EMDs, ...

# Technical Details ...



For  $p = 2$ , possible problem on the sp

For events  $A, B$ , the  $p$  **spectral EMD** is defined as (1D OT!):  
 EMD = Work done to move "dirt" optimally  

$$\text{SEMD}_{\beta,p}(s_A, s_B) \equiv \int_0^{E_{\text{tot}}^2} dE^2 |S_A^{-1}(E^2) - S_B^{-1}(E^2)|^p$$

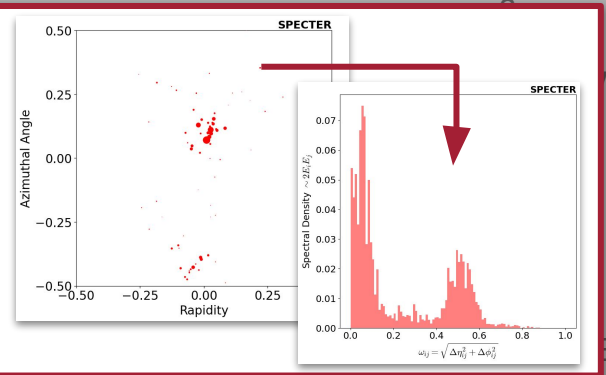
$$\text{SEMD}_{\beta,p=2}(s_A, s_B) = \sum_{i < j \in \mathcal{E}_A} 2E_i E_j \omega_{ij}^2 + \sum_{i < j \in \mathcal{E}_B} 2E_i E_j \omega_{ij}^2 - 2 \sum_{n \in \mathcal{E}_A^2, l \in \mathcal{E}_B^2} \omega_n \omega_l (\min [S_A(\omega_n^+), S_B(\omega_l^+)] - \max [S_A(\omega_n^-), S_B(\omega_l^-)]) \times \Theta (S_A(\omega_n^+) - S_B(\omega_l^-)) \Theta (S_B(\omega_l^+) - S_A(\omega_n^-)),$$

**S = cumulative spectral function**  
 ± indicates whether or not to include  $\omega$  in the sum

The trick: Sum over pairs  $n$  of particles within each event.  
 Looks like  $O(N^4)$ , but with clever sorting & indexing in 1D, reduces to  **$O(N^2)$** !

The **spectral density function**  

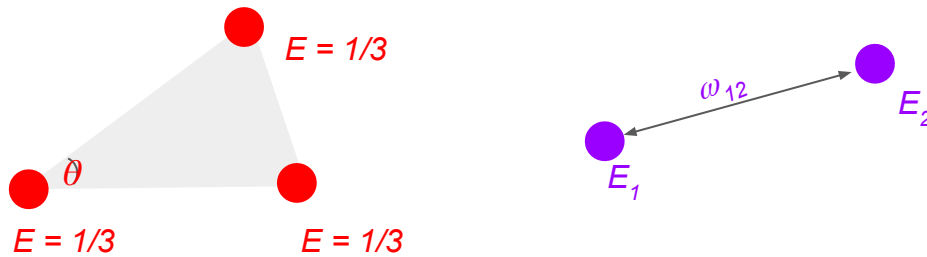
$$s(\omega) = \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N E_i E_j \delta(\omega - \omega(\hat{n}_i, \hat{n}_j))$$
 Pairwise Distances  
 Reduces events to 1D, while preserving all\* information about the event, up to translations and rotations.  
 \*up to measure 0, but important degeneracies, ask me about this later!



With a geometry based metric, we can now define IRC-safe **shape observables** by finding events that minimize the metric:

$$\mathcal{O}(\mathcal{E}) = \min_{\mathcal{E}' \in \mathcal{M}} [\text{SEMD}(s(\mathcal{E}), s(\mathcal{E}'))]$$

e.g. How 2-pointy are jets? (*2-subjettiness*)  
Minimize the metric over 2-particle events



Pictured: Approximating the *2-subjettiness* with the spectral *2-s(pr)ubjettiness*, which is much faster!

Closed form: Only need to solve for  $2E_1E_2$

Observable  $\iff$  Manifolds

Many existing observables have this form!

$$\mathcal{O}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathcal{E}) = \min_{\mathcal{E}' \in \mathcal{M}} \text{EMD}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}')$$

$$\theta = \text{argmin}_{\mathcal{E}' \in \mathcal{M}} \text{EMD}(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}')$$

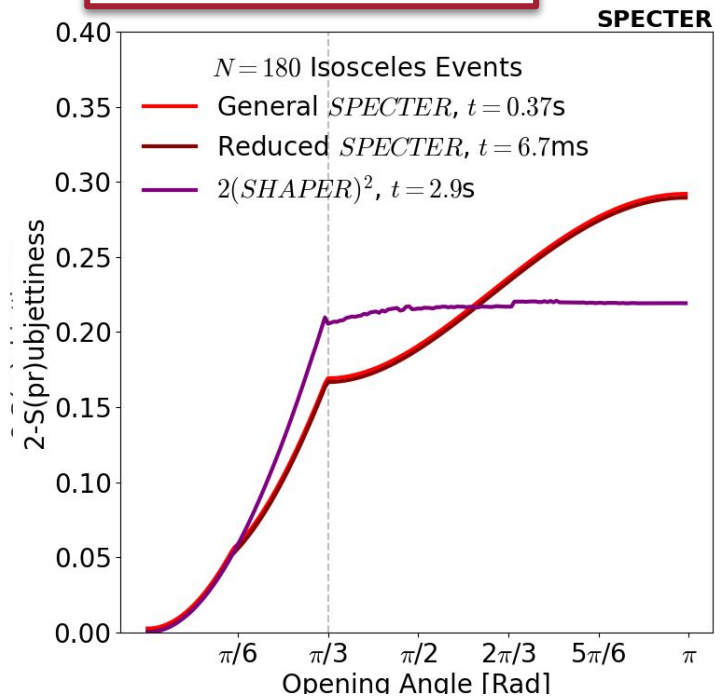
Observables  $\iff$  Manifold of Shapes

- $N$ -subjettiness  $\iff$  Manifold of  $N$ -point events
- $N$ -jettiness  $\iff$  Manifold of  $N$ -point events with floating total energy
- Thrust  $\iff$  Manifold of back-to-back point events
- Event Isotropy  $\iff$  Uniform distribution
- ... and more!

All of the form "How much like [shape] does my event look like?"

We generalize this to build more observables!

12 See i.e. my talk from ML4Jets 2022!

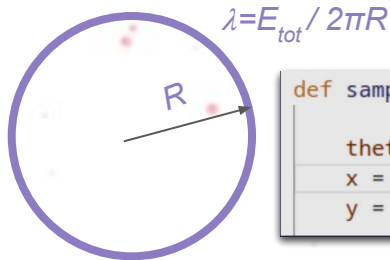


Not all spectral functions correspond to a physical event, so we must choose whether we minimize over events or spectral functions – ask me about “ghost events” later!



## Full Example: How “ring-like” are jets?

**Step 1:** Define the shape with parameters



```
def sample_circle(params, N, seed):  
    thetas = jax.random.uniform(seed, shape=(N,))  
    x = params["Radius"] * jnp.cos(thetas)  
    y = params["Radius"] * jnp.sin(thetas)
```

Unlike ordinary EMD, not necessary to specify center / orientation!

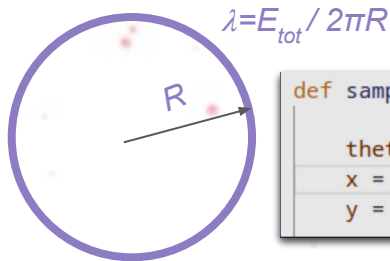
**Shapes** are parameterized distributions of energy on the detector space.

Many of your favorite observables, like  $N$ -(sub)jettiness, thrust, and angularities take the form of finding the shape that best fits an event's energy distribution.

Custom shapes define custom IRC-safe observables – to define a shape, all you need is to define a parameterized energy distribution and how to sample points from it!

## Full Example: How “ring-like” are jets?

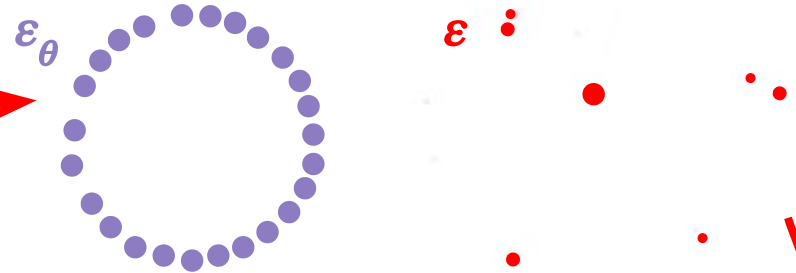
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**Step 2:** Sample from Parameterized Shapes



**Step 3:** Calculate the spectral metric between events and shapes

$$\text{SEMD}_{\beta, p=2}(s_A, s_B) = \sum_{i < j \in \mathcal{E}_A} 2E_i E_j \omega_{ij}^2 + \sum_{i < j \in \mathcal{E}_B} 2E_i E_j \omega_{ij}^2 - 2 \sum_{n \in \mathcal{E}_A^+, l \in \mathcal{E}_B^+} \omega_n \omega_l (\min[S_A(\omega_n^+), S_B(\omega_l^+)] - \max[S_A(\omega_n^-), S_B(\omega_l^-)]) \times \Theta(S_A(\omega_n^+) - S_B(\omega_l^-)) \Theta(S_B(\omega_l^+) - S_A(\omega_n^-)) ,$$

Key difference from previous work: We use the SEMD, *not* the EMD!

The  $p = 2$  spectral EMD between two sets of discrete points has a closed-form solution with only binary discrete minimizations.

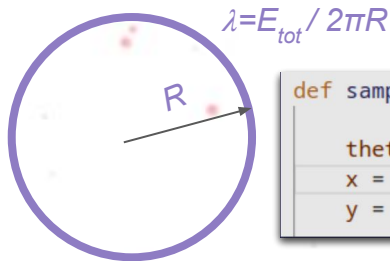
We discretize our shape by randomly sampling points from it.

If the spectral functions are sorted, can compute the SEMD in  $\sim O(N^2 \log N)$  time!



## Full Example: How “ring-like” are jets?

**Step 1:** Define the shape with parameters



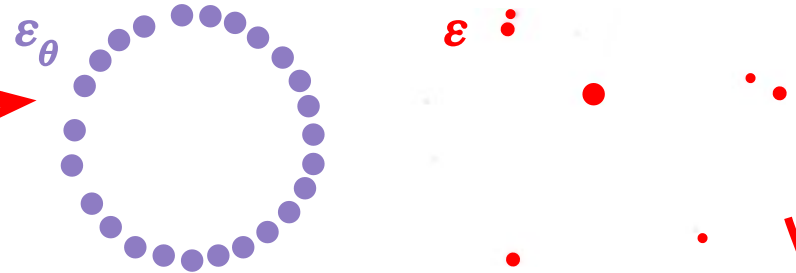
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```

Unlike ordinary EMD, not necessary to specify center / orientation!

We have an explicit formula for the spectral EMD, so we can automatically differentiate through it

Standard ML procedure: Sample, calculate gradients, gradient descent, repeat! Analogous to WGANs.

**Step 2:** Sample from Parameterized Shapes

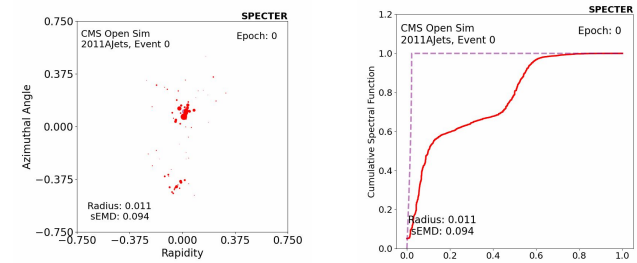


**Step 3:** Calculate the spectral metric between events and shapes

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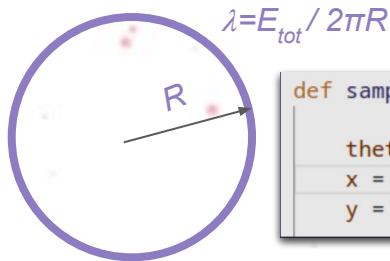
**Step 4:** Minimize w.r.t. parameters using grads



Pictured: Animation of optimizing for the radius  $R$

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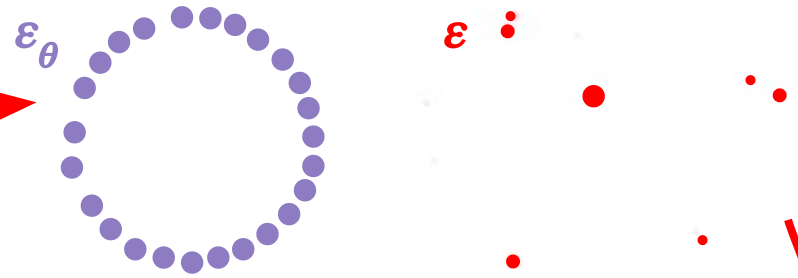
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# SPECTER

Our code framework for these calculations



**Step 2:** Sample from Parameterized Shapes

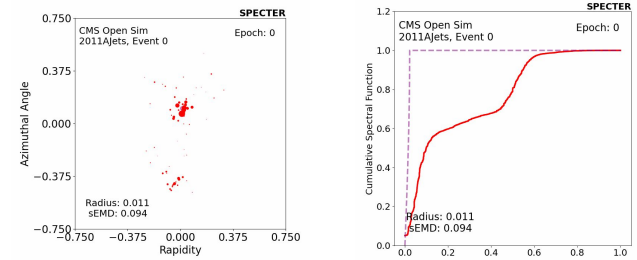


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Key difference from previous work: We use the SEMD, *not* the EMD!

**Step 4:** Minimize w.r.t. parameters using grads



Pictured: Animation of optimizing for the radius  $R$

**SPECTER** is our code interface for performing these steps: sampling from user-defined shapes, calculating spectral functions and differentiable EMDS, and optimizing over parameters.

Built in highly parallelized and compiled JAX

SPECTER is a “sequel” to SHAPER, introduced last ML4Jets. SPECTER is *not* an acronym, don’t ask me what it stands for.



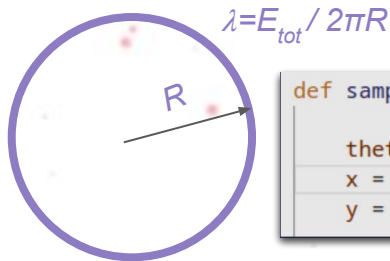
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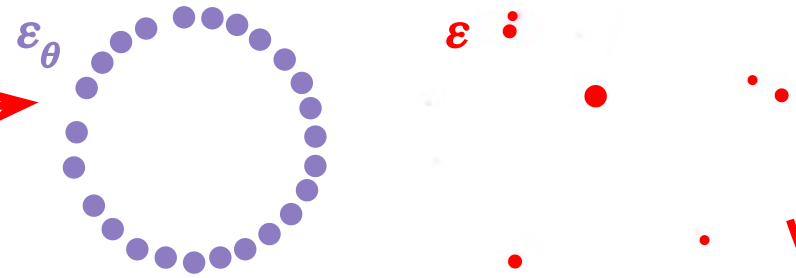
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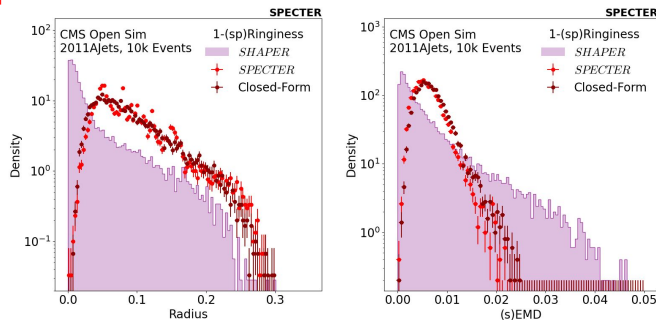
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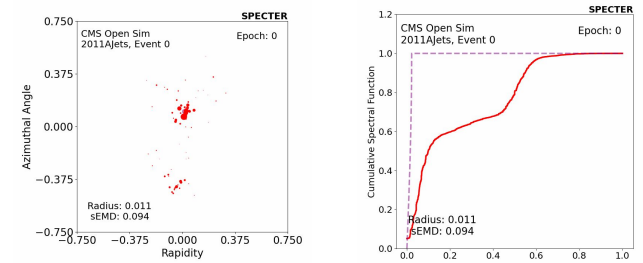
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Pictured: 10k Jets, CMS 2011AJets Open Sim

## Step 5: Plots!



## Step 4: Minimize w.r.t. parameters using grads

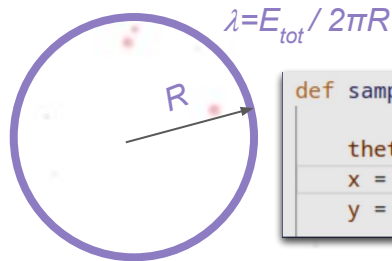


Pictured: Animation of optimizing for the radius  $R$

# Full Example: How “ring-like” are jets?



## Step 1: Define the shape with parameters



Unlike ordinary EMD, not necessary to s

## Alternatively...

The spectral EMD, and its optimization, are often partially or **completely solvable** in closed form!

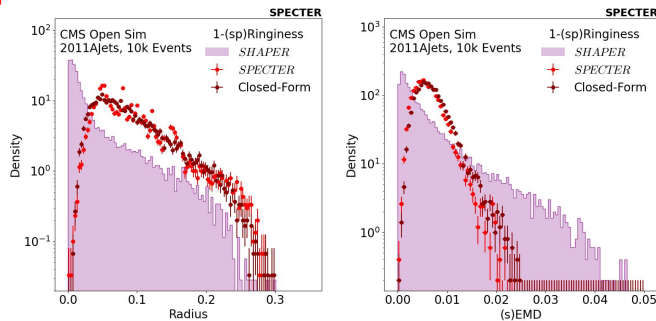
$$R_{\text{opt}} = \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{\substack{n \in \mathcal{E}^2 \\ \omega_n < \omega_{n+1}}} \omega_n \left[ \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2E_{\text{tot}}^2} \sum_{\substack{n \leq m \in \mathcal{E}^2 \\ \omega_m < \omega_{m+1}}} (2EE)_m \right) - \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2E_{\text{tot}}^2} \sum_{\substack{n < m \in \mathcal{E}^2 \\ \omega_m < \omega_{m+1}}} (2EE)_m \right) \right]$$

$$\text{SEMD}_{\beta,p=2}(s, s_{\text{jet ring}}) = \sum_{i < j \in \mathcal{E}} 2E_i E_j \omega_{ij}^2 - 2E_{\text{tot}}^2 R_{\text{opt}}^2$$

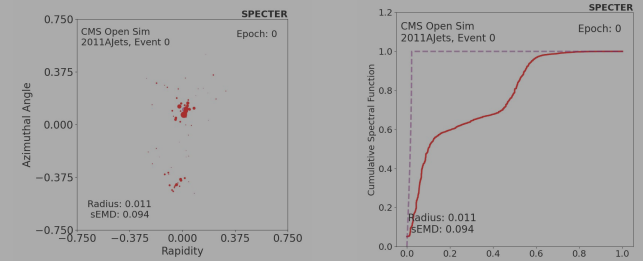
For many shapes, we can completely short circuit having to perform expensive optimization over an optimal transport problem entirely!

Pictured: 10k Jets, CMS 2011AJets Open Sim

## Step 5: Plots!



## Step 4: Minimize w.r.t. parameters using grads



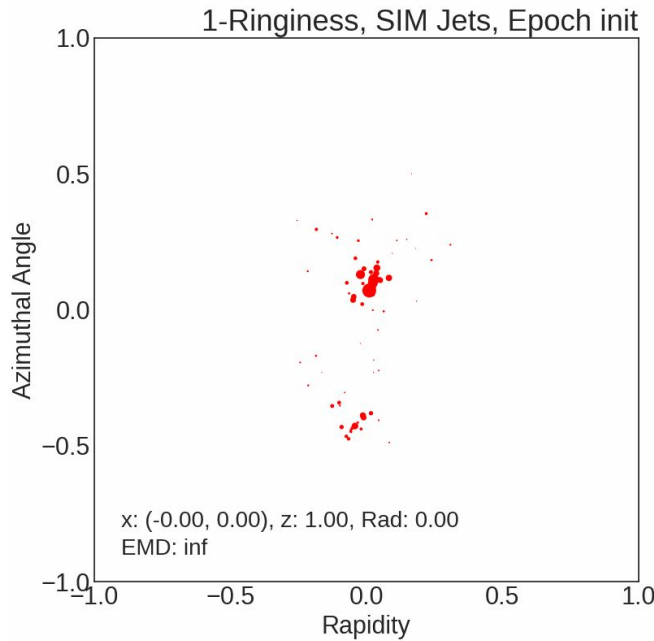
Pictured: Animation of optimizing for the radius  $R$

To distinguish SEMD observables from EMD observables, I will add “s” or “sp”

# Hearing Jets (sp)Ring

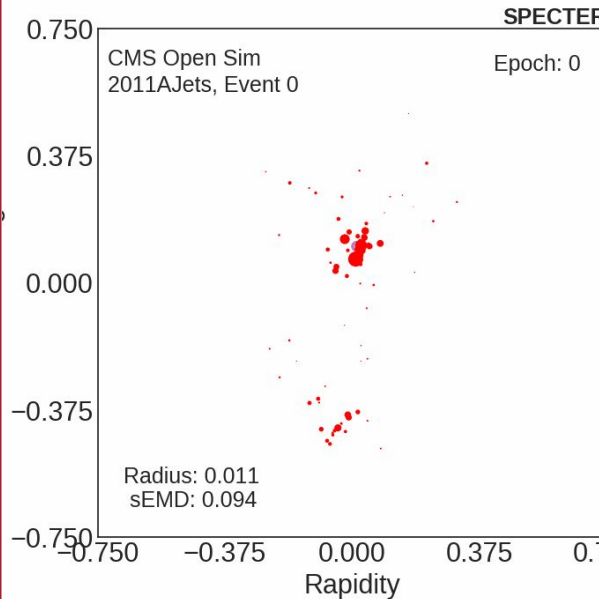


## EMD

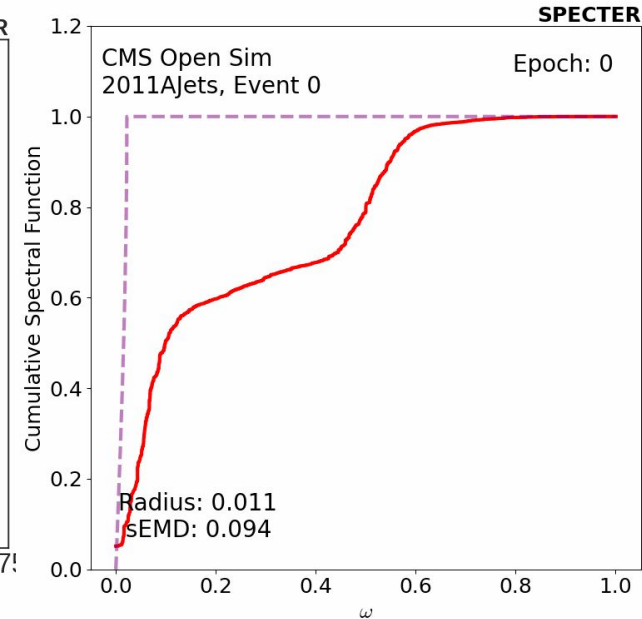


Calculated using SHAPER<sup>1</sup>  
Position of ring must be optimized – can use as jet algorithm

## Spectral EMD



Calculated using **SPECTER**  
Translationally invariant – no need to optimize over position  
Secretly a 1D optimal transport problem over the spectral function



# Hearing Jets (sp)Ring

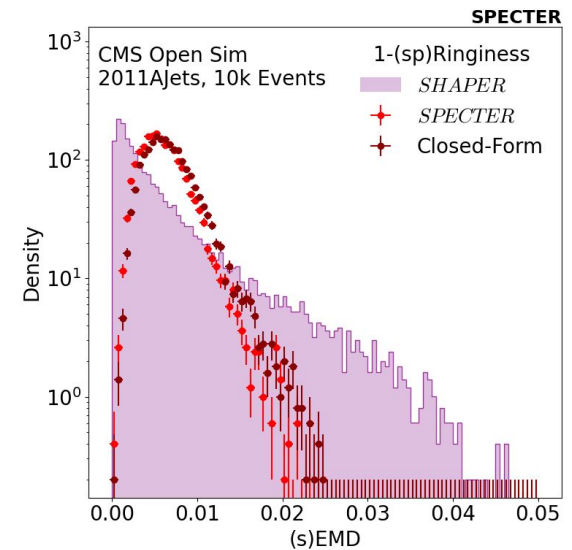
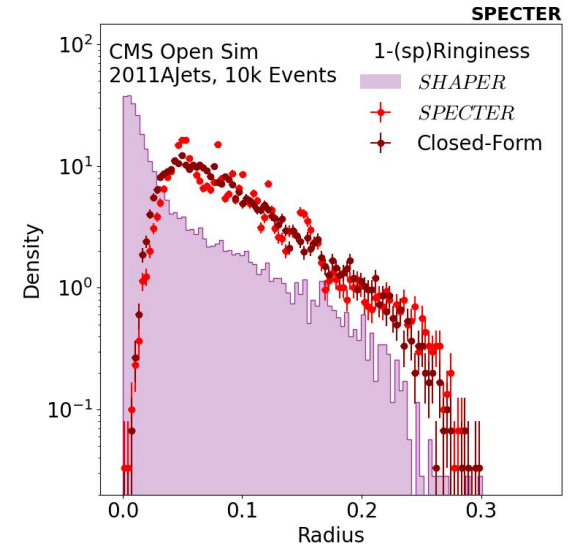
Runtimes (Laptop CPU 12th Gen Intel(R) Core(TM) i7-1255U):

**SHAPER (EMD)**: ~ 3 hours / 10k events

**Generalized SPECTER**: ~15 minutes / 10k events

**Closed Form SPECTER**: ~3 seconds / 10k events

The SEMD and EMD give qualitatively different radii!  
We can try to use our expression for  $R_{opt}$  to do fixed-order calculations to try to understand the the SEMD result:





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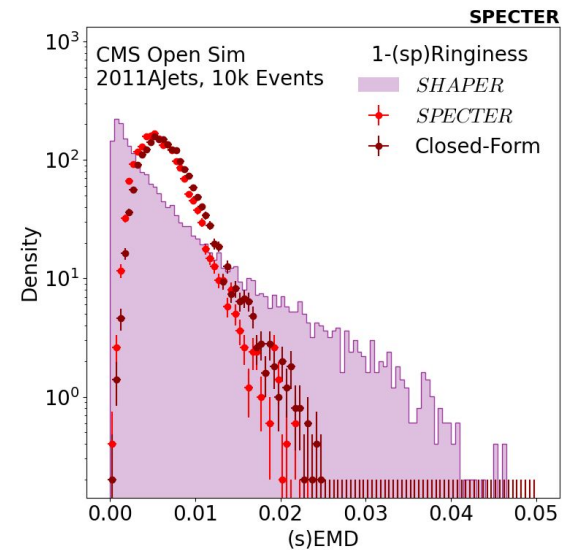
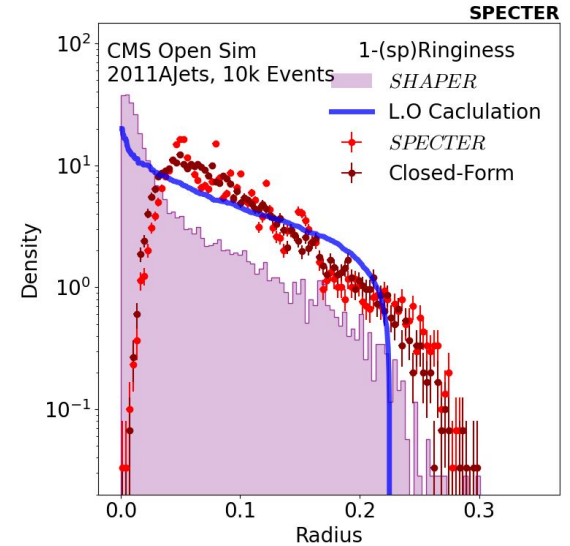
**Closed Form SPECTER**: ~3 seconds / 10k events

The SEMD and EMD give qualitatively different radii!  
 We can try to use our expression for  $R_{opt}$  to do fixed-order calculations to try to understand the the SEMD result:

$$R_{opt} = \frac{2}{\pi} \omega \sin(z(1-z)\pi)$$

$$\frac{d\sigma^{LO}}{dR_{opt}} \sim \frac{\alpha_S}{\pi} \sum_{i=q,g} f_i \int_0^R \frac{d\theta}{\theta} \int_0^1 dz P_i(z) \delta(R_{opt} - R_{opt}(z, \theta))$$

quark/gluon fraction      quark/gluon splitting function



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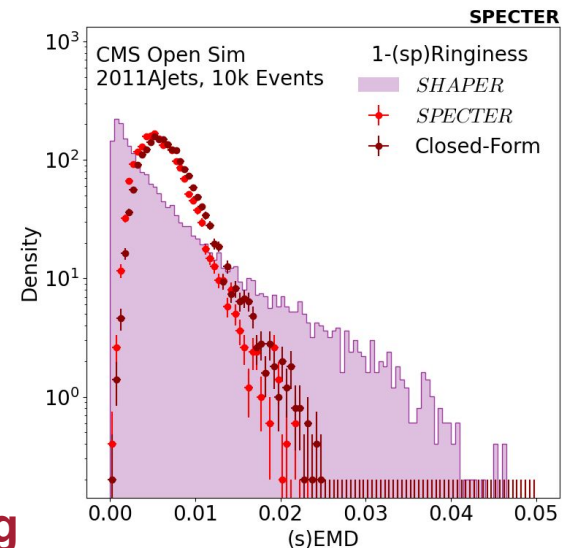
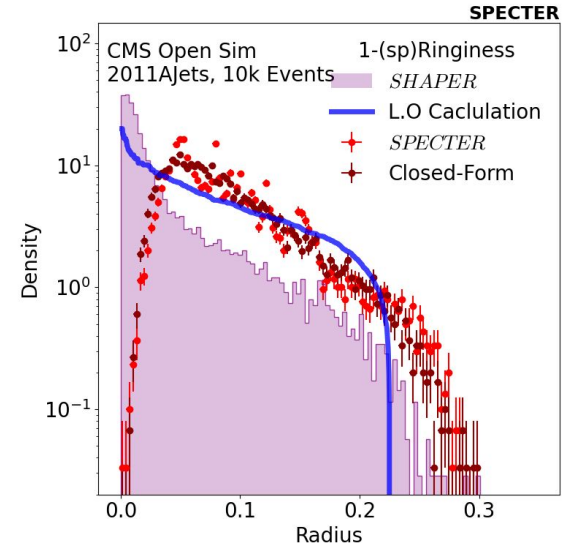
The SEMD and EMD give qualitatively different radii!  
 We can try to use our expression for  $R_{opt}$  to do fixed-order calculations to try to understand the the SEMD result:

$$R_{opt} = \frac{2}{\pi} \omega \sin(z(1-z)\pi)$$

$$\frac{d\sigma^{LO}}{dR_{opt}} \sim \frac{\alpha_S}{\pi} \sum_{i=q,g} f_i \int_0^R \frac{d\theta}{\theta} \int_0^1 dz P_i(z) \delta(R_{opt} - R_{opt}(z, \theta))$$

quark/gluon fraction      quark/gluon splitting function

**It's possible to gain a first-principles understanding of these ML-inspired observables!**



# Things to think about:

- The current implementation of SPECTER, shown today takes  $O(N^2)$  more memory than it ideally needs to, but this is not a fundamental issue and can be solved by staring at JAX documentation for even longer.
- For pairs of events with just a few particles, the SEMD and EMD<sup>2</sup> agree exactly before degenerate points in phase space – can we identify precisely when this happens?
- Not every shape has a completely closed-form solution, but it is usually possible to partially simplify and reduce the problem to 1D minimization, 1D root finding, or simple 1D numeric integrals.
- Closed-form and simple expressions means perturbative calculations may be possible – can we predict the radius of a jet?

# Conclusion

The **spectral EMD** can be used as an alternative to, or an approximation of, the EMD. It is **fast** and **easy to minimize**.

**SPECTER** is a code package for efficiently evaluating the spectral EMD and calculating shape observables.

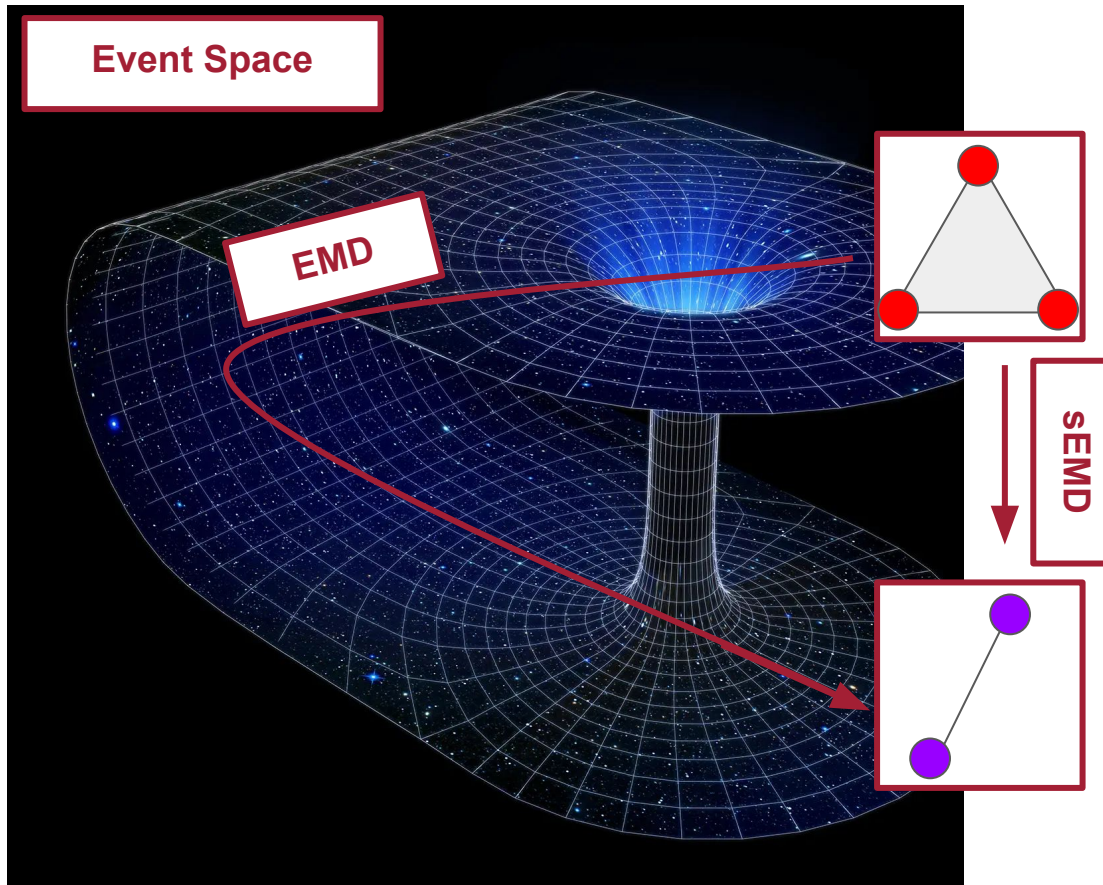
With the spectral EMD, many jet observables can be understood in **closed form**.



More questions? Email me at [rikab@mit.edu](mailto:rikab@mit.edu)

# Appendices

# Degeneracies



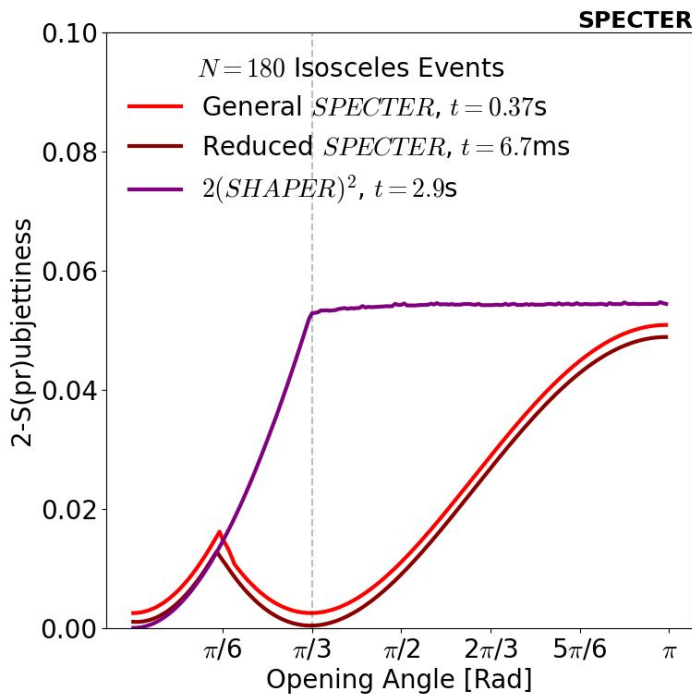
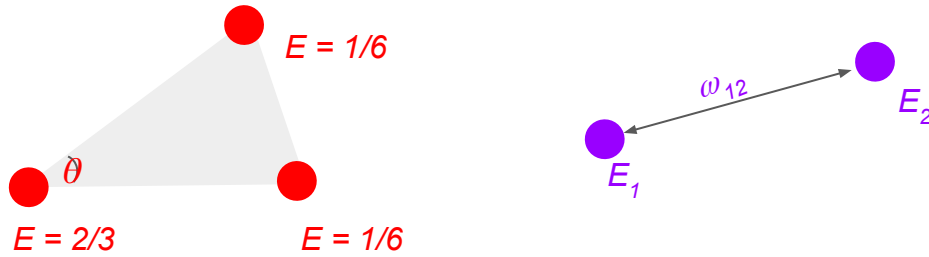
Highly symmetric configurations have degenerate spectral functions!

e.g. Equilateral Triangles\*  
“look like” 2 particle events in their spectral functions!

\*with the right energy weights.



# Degeneracies (Continued)



For this precise energy configuration, equilateral triangles are *exactly* degenerate with 2 particle events – so the spectral EMD only sees 2 particles!

Only measure 0 configuration of events – but events *near* this give spectral EMDs *near* zero against 2 particle events.

\*with the right energy weights.

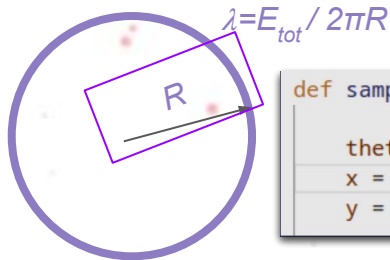
# Full Example: How “ring-like” are jets?

# SPECTER

Our code framework for these calculations



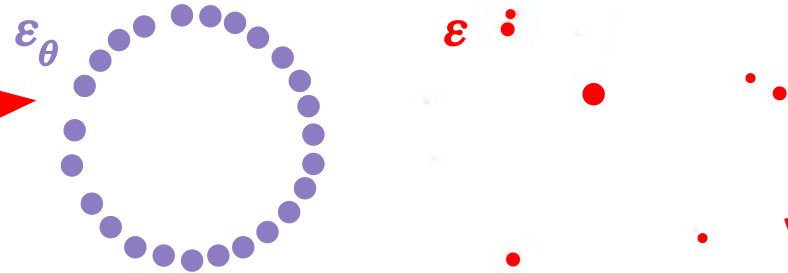
## Step 1: Define the shape with parameters



```
def sample_circle(params, N, seed):
    thetas = jax.random.uniform(seed, shape=(N,))
    x = params["Radius"] * jnp.cos(thetas)
    y = params["Radius"] * jnp.sin(thetas)
```

Unlike ordinary EMD, not necessary to specify center / orientation!

## Step 2: Sample from Parameterized Shapes



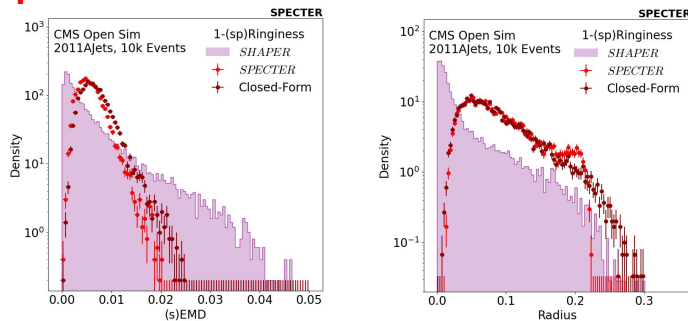
## Step 3: Calculate the spectral metric between events and shapes

$$\text{SEMD}_{\beta, p=2}(s_A, s_B) = \sum_{i < j \in \mathcal{E}_A} 2E_i E_j \omega_{ij}^2 + \sum_{i < j \in \mathcal{E}_B} 2E_i E_j \omega_{ij}^2 - 2 \sum_{n \in \mathcal{E}_A^+, l \in \mathcal{E}_B^-} \omega_n \omega_l (\min[S_A(\omega_n^+), S_B(\omega_l^+)] - \max[S_A(\omega_n^-), S_B(\omega_l^-)]) \times \Theta(S_A(\omega_n^+) - S_B(\omega_l^-)) \Theta(S_B(\omega_l^+) - S_A(\omega_n^-))$$

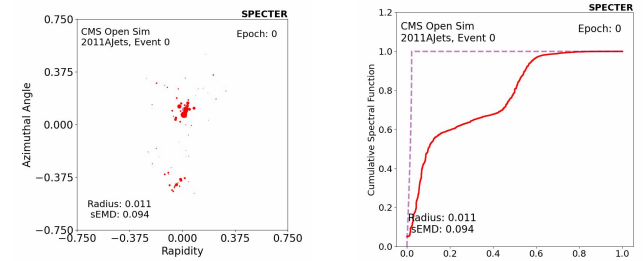
Key difference from previous work: We use the SEMD, *not* the EMD!

Pictured: 10k Jets, CMS 2011AJets Open Sim

## Step 5: Plots!



## Step 4: Minimize w.r.t. parameters using grads



Pictured: Animation of optimizing for the radius  $R$