Casimir Meets Poisson:

analytic control over counting observables for quark-gluon discrimination



Goals of this talk:

- To explain why counting observables perform better than Sudakov distributed observables in quark-gluon discrimination
- To demonstrate analytic control over a new counting observable: soft drop multiplicity



Sudakov distributed observables

Sudakov distributed observables typically take form:

$$e = \sum_{i \in J} f(p_i)$$

in limit of soft and collinear emissions.

• infrared and collinear (IRC) safe provided f(p) is linear in p's energy

• e.g. jet mass:
$$m^2 = \sum_{i,j\in J} 2 E_i E_j (1 - \cos \theta_{ij}) \rightarrow E_J \sum_{i\in J} E_i \theta_i^2$$

good analytic control but poor quark-gluon discrimination

Sudakov suppression



emission probability at LL from parton of flavor i = q or g:

$$dP_i = rac{2 \, a_s \, C_i}{\pi} \, rac{dz}{z} \, rac{d heta}{ heta}$$

cumulative probability distribution:

$$\Sigma_i(e) = \exp\left[-\frac{2\,a_s\,C_i}{\pi}\right]$$

$$\implies \Sigma_g(\boldsymbol{e}) = [\Sigma_q(\boldsymbol{e})]^{C_A/C_F}$$

discrimination power limited by $\frac{C_A}{C_F} = \frac{9}{4}$

Counting observables

 $n_{tr} = (number of charged particles in a jet)$

- good quark-gluon discrimination; a useful benchmark for our study
- not IRC safe
- cannot calculate discrimination power, but at asymptotically high energies:

$$\langle \textit{\textit{n}}_{
m tr}
angle_g \sim rac{\textit{\textit{C}}_{\textit{A}}}{\textit{\textit{C}}_{\textit{F}}} \, \langle \textit{\textit{n}}_{
m tr}
angle_q$$



Ellis, Stirling, Webber *QCD and Collider Physics* (1996)



then

Larkoski, Marzani, Soyez, Thaler JHEP 1405 (2014) 146

 z_1, θ_1

angular cut

 $\theta < \theta_{\rm cut}$

 z_2, θ_2



Soft drop multiplicity

 $n_{SD} = (number of emissions counted by ISD)$

- implicit dependence on ISD parameters: z_{cut} , β , θ_{cut}
- simply an emission count: an IRC safe counting observable amenable to pQCD calculation



n_{SD} as a discriminator

- could define other observables on the $\{z_n, \theta_n\}$ set
 - e.g. weighted multiplicity $\sum_{n} (z_n)^{\kappa}$ which we have studied
- but n_{SD} contains all discriminatory info in $\{z_n, \theta_n\}$ set at LL
 - distribution of counted emissions in
 (z, θ) plane has identical prediction
 for quarks and gluons





LL evolution equations

define $P_n(\theta) = (\text{probability of } n \text{ counts by ISD with } \theta_{\text{cut}} = \theta)$

evolution equations $P_{n}(\theta - \delta\theta) = P_{n-1}(\theta) \left[\frac{\delta\theta}{\theta} \int_{\substack{\text{counted} \\ \text{by ISD}}} \frac{dz}{z} \frac{2 a_{S} C_{i}}{\pi} \right] + P_{n}(\theta) \left[1 - \frac{\delta\theta}{\theta} \int_{\substack{\text{counted} \\ \text{by ISD}}} \frac{dz}{z} \frac{2 a_{S} C_{i}}{\pi} \right]$ $\implies \text{ solution } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} P_n = \frac{1}{n!} A^n e^{-A}, \quad \text{where } A = \frac{2 \, \alpha_S \, C_i}{\pi} \cdot \boxed{\text{counted}} \\ A_n = \frac{2 \, \alpha_S \, C_i}{\pi} \left(\log \frac{R}{\theta_{\text{cut}}} \right) \left(\log \frac{1}{2z_{\text{cut}}} + \frac{\beta}{2} \log \frac{R}{\theta_{\text{cut}}} \right) \end{array} \right\}$ coupling

Casimir Meets Poisson

$$P_{n} \stackrel{\text{LL}}{=} \frac{1}{n!} A^{n} e^{-A}, \text{ where } A = \frac{2 \alpha_{S} C_{i}}{\pi} \cdot \text{ counted}$$
mean and relative width:
$$\begin{pmatrix} \langle n_{\text{SD}} \rangle_{g} = \frac{C_{A}}{C_{F}} \langle n_{\text{SD}} \rangle_{q} & \text{just like } n_{\text{tr}} \\ \frac{\Delta n_{\text{SD}}}{n_{\text{SD}}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\langle n_{\text{SD}} \rangle}} & \text{as means increase} \\ (e.g. \text{ with ISD parameters}) \\ \text{relative widths decrease} \\ \implies \text{ improved discrimination} \end{cases}$$

What stops us from achieving arbitrarily good discrimination power? nonperturbative and higher order effects...

Nonperturbative effects



For a reliable analytic calculation,

choose z_{cut} , β , θ_{cut} to avoid the nonperturbative regime.

Optimizing discrimination power

- Larger area of measured phase space leads to better discrimination power, due to: $\frac{\Delta n_{\rm SD}}{n_{\rm SD}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\langle n_{\rm SD} \rangle}}$
- With β = fixed, choose z_{cut} , θ_{cut} to maximize perturbative area:



Optimized discrimination power: $\beta = -1$



Next-to-leading log corrections $\theta_{\rm cut}$ (LL) (NLL) $P_n \sim \exp\left[a_S^n L^{n+1} + a_S^n L^n + \cdots\right]$ • At NLL, emissions not necessarily soft, can be either quarks or gluons,

must keep track of energy losses and flavor changes:

$$P_n^{(i)}(\theta_{\text{cut}}) = \sum_{j=q,g} \int dZ \ P_n^{i \to j(Z)}(\theta_{\text{cut}})$$

- More complicated evolution equations: solution not Poissonian.
- Discrimination power reduced at NLL due to flavor mixing: a quark may convert into a collinear gluon

Z_{cut}

Analytic results: LL, NLL



MONTE CARLO RESULTS

- Pythia 8.219
- Herwig 7.0.1
- Sherpa 2.2.0
- Vincia 2.0.01

Sjöstrand, Mrenna, Skands, JHEP05 (2006) 026 Bellm et al, Eur. Phys. J. C 76 (2016) 196 Gleisberg et al, JHEP 0902 (2009) 007 Giele, Kosower, Skands, Phys. Rev. D78 (2008) 014026



Nonperturbative effects in MC





If we do allow significant nonperturbative sensitivity...



Summary and outlook

- Due to their Poisson-like nature, counting observables outperform Sudakov distributed observables in quark-gluon discrimination.
- A new IRC safe counting observable:
 - soft drop multiplicity n_{SD} .
- Used NLL evolution equations to reliably compute n_{SD} distribution and compared to MC's.
- What next:
 - compare LHC measurement, analytic calculation, and MC's
 - other counting observables, e.g. trimmed subjet multiplicity

BACKUP SLIDES



$$n_{\rm SD}^{(\kappa)} = \sum_n (z_n)^{\kappa}$$





Analytic results: $\beta = -0.5$



Nonperturbative effects: $\beta = -0.5$



