Energy correlators of the gluon splitting to heavy quarks

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In collaboration with João Barata, Kyle Lee, and João Silva





Understanding the fundamental interactions is just the beginning!

Heavy-ion collisions and quark-gluon plasma







energy

Heavy-ion collisions



energy

Heavy-ion collisions



Studying the dense QCD medium







Modification of jets as a probe of quark-gluon plasma



Large effect:

• Half as many jets per p_T in heavy-ion collisions

• Enhanced asymmetry of back-to-back jets

"baseline" jet properties

Parton splittings in vacuum





Iteratively apply splitting functions, descending in angle, virtuality

Parton showers connect perturbative QCD to hadronic world

A single high-energy parton in finite-temperature QCD

Parton undergoes transverse momentum diffusion



Kicks occasionally induce gluon radiation

Radiation can't be resolved instantaneously







Baier, Dokshitzer, Mueller, Peigne, Schiff (1996), Zakharov (1996) Arnold, Moore, Yaffe (2003)

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Fig: adapted from Yacine Mehtar-Tani QM'19

A high-energy parton fragments even in vacuum

Detailed interplay of vacuum physics and medium modification



vacuum shower



vacuum shower in medium

medium shower



Improved theory

• Improved parton radiation spectrum

Mehtar-Tani, Tywoniuk, Andres, Dominguez, Salgado, ...

• Parton showers in medium

Caucal, Iancu, Mueller, Soyez, Wiedemann, Zapp, ...

No current theories capture full complexity

Improved phenomenology

• Deconstructing a jet to access individual splittings

Building up a picture of a medium-modified jet from phenomenology

• Hadrons to splittings



Jet substructure: use (approximate) angular ordering of QCD to access kinematics of splittings in the shower



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Energy correlators: re-organize event information in terms of correlation functions of energy flow, sorted by angle



$$\mathcal{E}(\hat{n}) = \int_{0}^{\infty} dt \lim_{r \to \infty} r^{2} n^{i} T_{0i}(t, r\hat{n})$$
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}\theta} = \sum_{i,j} \int d\sigma \frac{E_{i} E_{j}}{Q^{2}} \delta\left(\theta - \theta_{ij}\right) \sim \langle \Psi \left| \mathcal{E}\left(\hat{n}_{1}\right) \mathcal{E}\left(\hat{n}_{2}\right) \right| \Psi \rangle$$

• Organize different physics effects into small/ large angle information

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Building up a picture of a medium-modified jet from phenomenology

• Hadrons to splittings



• Flavor-dependence of splittings



Accessing heavy flavor splitting functions



• At high energies, access light flavor splittings

Focus of this talk: phenomenology of $g \rightarrow c\bar{c}$

Phenomenologically accessing the $g \rightarrow c\bar{c}$ splitting in jets



Ilten, Rodd, Thaler, Williams [1702.02947]

Energy correlators in jets with two heavy quarks

Normal EEC (without flavor tagging)







Energy correlators in jets with two heavy quarks

Normal EEC (without flavor tagging)



... etc for all particles and all events



Energy correlators in jets with two heavy quarks

Normal EEC (without flavor tagging)



20 * throughout, normalize by total number of jets

In vacuum: quark mass effects in energy correlators



earlier, at larger angles heavy/light EEC at small angles

See also Craft, Lee, Mecaj, Moult [2210.09311]

 $\theta_{\text{dead-cone}} \sim m_Q/E$

Next step: understanding the medium modification of the $g \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ correlator

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Medium effects: medium modification of the $g \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ splitting function



$$P_{g \to c\bar{c}}(E_g, k_c^2, z) = P_{g \to c\bar{c}}^{\text{vac}}(k_c^2, z) + P_{g \to c\bar{c}}^{\text{med}}(E_g, k_c^2, z)$$

Resum many soft gluon interactions with a medium of length L Inspired by charm but the quark mass is just a parameter

Attems, JB, Innocenti, Mazeliauskas, Park, van der Schee, Wiedemann JHEP 01 (2023) 080 [2203.11241]

Results of the calculation:

- Depletion at small k_c^2
- Less modification with increasing E_g
- Medium-enhanced rate of $c\bar{c}$ production

broadening

formation-time dependence

gluons promoted above threshold

Attems, JB, Innocenti, Mazeliauskas, Park, van der Schee, Wiedemann Phys. Rev. Lett. 132 (2024) 21 [2209.13600]



- Enhancement at large angles
- Depletion at intermediate angles
 Momentum broadening effect
- No modification at very small angles

At small enough angles, massless splittings are always formed outside the medium





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For massive quarks, splittings can be formed in the medium for all angles!



 $\tau_f \sim \frac{2E_g z(1-z)}{m^2 + E_g^2 z^2 (1-z)^2 \theta^2}$

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-0.5



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Dead cone effects and medium effects populate different angular regions in energy correlators



Dead cone effects and medium effects populate different angular regions in energy correlators



Next step: understanding the impact of medium modification in phenomenology

Medium modification of the $g \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ splitting function in a parton shower



- Find jets containing $c\overline{c}$ (or $D\overline{D}$) pairs in vacuum Monte Carlo simulations (Pythia)
- Use shower to reconstruct kinematics of the $g \rightarrow c\bar{c}$ splitting
- Reweight events with $w_{g \to q\bar{q}}^{\text{med}} = 1 + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{Q^2}P_{g \to q\bar{q}}\right)^{\text{med}}(E_g, k_c^2, z)}{\left(\frac{1}{Q^2}P_{g \to q\bar{q}}\right)^{\text{vac}}(E_g, k_c^2, z)}$



Attems, JB, Innocenti, Mazeliauskas, Park, van der Schee, Wiedemann Phys. Rev. Lett. 132 (2024) 21 [2209.13600]

Reproduces medium-modified splitting function, with realistic kinematics Jasmine Brewer (Oxford) from vacuum shower

Medium modification of heavy flavor correlators



Qualitative signature of formation time effects at small angles

Estimating the effects of energy loss of the jet on heavy quark energy correlators

$$Q_{i} = \exp\left[-\int d\omega \int d^{2}\mathbf{k} \frac{dP_{i}^{\text{med}}}{d\omega d^{2}\mathbf{k}} (1 - e^{-\frac{\pi\omega}{p_{i}}})\right] = \exp\left[-\int_{T}^{\omega_{s}} d\omega \int d^{2}\mathbf{k} \frac{dP_{i}^{\text{med}}}{d\omega d^{2}\mathbf{k}} (1 - e^{-\frac{\pi\omega}{p_{i}}}) - \int_{\omega_{s}}^{\infty} d\omega \int d^{2}\mathbf{k} \frac{dP_{i}^{\text{med}}}{d\omega d^{2}\mathbf{k}} (1 - e^{-\frac{\pi\omega}{p_{i}}})\right]$$
Quenching weights
$$\begin{array}{c} \text{rapid turbulent} \\ \text{thermalization; } \omega \ll \omega_{c} \end{array}$$
Barata, Caucal, Soto-Ontoso, Szafron [2312.12527]
gy loss of parton-level jets in Pythia assuming coherence within θ_{c}

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{ocmbine jet constituents} \\ \text{inclusive jet } R_{AA} \end{array}$$

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Energ

 $\theta_c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\hat{q}L^3}}$ Jasmine Brewer (Oxford)

of cluster energy loss

ATLAS [1411.2357]

Effects of energy loss on energy correlators of jets with two heavy quarks

Energy loss shifts the EEC toward smaller angles...



...and enhances the charm yield*



Putting it together: interplay of mediummodified $g \rightarrow c\bar{c}$ splitting with energy loss

med(cc) / vac(cc)



To dig out formation time effects, would like new ways to reduce energy loss effects

Conclusions

• Unique imprint of formation time in the medium modification of massive $g \rightarrow q\bar{q}$ energy correlators



• Interplay of mass effects and medium effects



• Medium effects persist in more realistic simulations with energy loss

