# Issues in the QFT foundations of MCEG

John Collins (Penn State)

- Factorized inclusive cross sections v. MCEGs
- Whence MCEG?
- Issues/complications/...

#### Factorization v. MCEG: Factorized inclusive cross sections

E.g., Drell-Yan  $(H_A + H_B \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- (\text{or c.}) + X)$ 



$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}Q^2 \,\mathrm{d}y} = \sum_{j} \int \mathrm{d}\xi_A \,\mathrm{d}\xi_B \,f_{i/A}(\xi_A,\mu) f_{j/B}(\xi_B,\mu) \frac{\mathrm{d}\hat{\sigma}_{ij}}{\mathrm{d}Q^2 \,\mathrm{d}y}$$
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}\ln\mu} f_{i/H}(x,\mu) = \sum_{j} \int_{x-1}^{x+1} P_{i/j}\left(\frac{x}{\xi},\mu\right) f_{j/H}(\xi,\mu)$$

Predictive power from

- Universality of pdfs (& fragmentation fns.) incl. non-perturbative parts;
- Expand  $d\hat{\sigma}$  in powers of  $\alpha_s(Q)$ ;
- Expand DGLAP kernel in powers of  $\alpha_s(\mu)$ ;

Same idea applies to many inclusive processes. Extends to TMD factorization, etc.

## MCEGs answer: "What accompanies the DY pair (etc)?"



Drell-Yan as typical example Basic parton-model set-up Blobs: momenta collinear to parent hadron

• Extra lines  $\Longrightarrow$  large effect



MC algorithm: conditional distribution (k, gluon) given hard scattering, etc

#### **MCEG:** Now iterate



Large & variable dimension for distribution of final state particles

Hence MC implementation is appropriate

Add in non-perturbative model of hadronization/final-state interaction, etc

 $pp \rightarrow (Z \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-) + jets$ 



ATLAS Experiment © 2012 CERN

#### Importance of MCEG





Seymour & Marx, arXiv:1304.6677

- Produce N particles  $\implies$  need roughly N! graphs. (N.B. + loops, + non-pert.)
- MCEG reduces O(>N!) computation to approximation with O(N) computation
- Why use MCEG:
  - Full final state,
  - Use with data analysis,
  - Estimate complicated observables

#### Some examples of mismatches and conceptual complications

Generally: Mismatches between verbal summary of physics and actual implementation and reality.

- Momentum is not conserved (in standard approximations)
- Feynman graphs don't match exactly entities in MCEG
- Momentum-space calculations v. coordinate-space understanding
- Multiple regions for single graphs
- Feynman-graph-like physics beyond literal perturbation theory
- Spin v. classical-like simulation in MCEG
- Entanglement of states in different parts of process
- Intuition of local evolution v. Schrödinger and Heisenberg picture formalisms.

Deep conceptual issues are encountered just under the surface

# Momentum is not conserved in standard approximation for factorization, I

LO for hard scattering for DY  $d\sigma / dQ^2 dy$  arises from



(Extra gluon is example of possible structure inside collinear factors.)

• Use light-front coordinates (+, -, T):

$$p_A \simeq \left(\sqrt{s/2}, \ m^2/2p_A^+, \ \mathbf{0}_T\right), \ p_B \simeq \left(m^2/2p_B^-, \ \sqrt{s/2}, \ \mathbf{0}_T\right),$$
$$q = \left(e^y \sqrt{(Q^2 + q_T^2)/2}, \ e^{-y} \sqrt{(Q^2 + q_T^2)/2}, \ \mathbf{q}_T\right)$$

• . . .

#### Momentum is not conserved in standard approximation II



- In  $\delta^{(4)}(q k_A k_B)$ , replace  $k_A \mapsto (k_A^+, 0, \mathbf{0}_T) \quad k_B \mapsto (0, k_B^-, \mathbf{0}_T)$ . I.e., retain only large components of parton momenta.
- Good to leading power in  $k_T/Q$  (with similar change in Dirac numerators)
- Get factorization with standard parton densities:

$$\int \mathrm{d}k_A^- \,\mathrm{d}^2 \mathbf{k}_{A,T} \xrightarrow{k_A} \int \mathbf{k}_B \,\mathrm{d}^2 \mathbf{k}_{B,T} \times \int \mathrm{d}k_B^+ \,\mathrm{d}^2 \mathbf{k}_{B,T}$$

• Change of momentum values  $\Leftrightarrow$  Non-conservation of momentum

# Why doesn't momentum-non-conservation matter for *inclusive* cross sections?

- Inclusive cross-section doesn't involve whole final state
- Approximation is valid to leading power in  $k_{A,T}/Q$ ,  $k_{B,T}/Q$ , m/Q.
- When  $k_{A,T}, k_{B,T}$  are order  $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$ , that's fine (if rest of final-state is *not* used).
- But when  $k_{A,T}, k_{B,T}$  get closer to Q, there are larger errors.
- These are corrected with NLO, NNLO, etc, hard scattering and evolution, with subtractions to prevent double counting.
- But it's *not* obvious exactly what is the final state!!
- For MCEG, momentum non-conservation does matter, especially when  $k_{A,T}, k_{B,T}$  get near Q . . .

#### Momentum-non-conservation and MCEGs

- For MCEG, momentum non-conservation does matter, especially when  $k_{A,T}, k_{B,T}$  get near  $Q. \ldots$
- E.g., std. approx. for  $\delta^{(4)}(q k_A k_B)$  in



replaces  $k_A$  and  $k_B$  by large components:  $k_A \mapsto (k_A^+, 0, \mathbf{0}_T) \quad k_B \mapsto (0, k_B^-, \mathbf{0}_T).$ 

- MCEG *must* correct the kinematics by some prescription.
  See documentation *and* code!
- This messes up simple minded construction of NLO corrections, because it messes up the double-counting subtractions.
- [Hence: Entanglement of the QM states for the beam remnants.]

#### Subgraphs v. basic entities in MCEG algorithms

E.g.,  $e^+e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$ 



• In strongly-ordered region  $\theta_{l,p_A} \ll \theta_{k,p_A}$ , MCEG algorithm uses tree structure:



and so makes k given  $\{e^+e^- \to q\bar{q}\}$ , and then l given  $\{e^+e^- \to q\bar{q} \& \text{ gluon } k\}$ 

- But *both* graphs (etc) are needed (and others).
- So correct MCEG object  $\neq$  obvious (approximated) subgraph.

Feynman graph in momentum space v. coordinate-space ideas



- Graphs are calculated in momentum space. (Plane waves are uniform in space.)
- But coordinate-space description is: Quark is emitted at  $\alpha$ , *then* it emits gluon at  $\alpha$ , *then* it gets to hard scattering at  $\gamma$ . Gluon splits later at  $\delta$ .
- But  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  space-like; time-ordering is frame dependent.
- Calculation of splitting has  $k_B + l$  and l on-shell, as appropriate *approximation*; they are off-shell in reality.
- But they aren't on-shell, and they always hadronize, and color gets neutralized.

### Spin

- Suppose intermediate state has N partons. The density matrix is  $2^N \times 2^N$ .
- But there's an O(N) algorithm (JCC, NPB 304, 794 (1988)), used in HERWIG.
- E.g., in



- Single quarks unpolarized
- Split A, unpolarized
- Azimuth  $\implies$  measurement  $\implies$  density-like matrix for A
- A and  $B{\rm 's}$  spin state entangled
- Deduce conditional density matrix of  ${\cal B}$
- Generate azimuthal dependence of its decay.
- Result: Correct correlations to appropriate accuracy, O(N) computation, but anticausal algorithm.

#### Feynman graphs v. hadronization & color neutralization

Lund string (t-z) in  $e^+e^-$  annihilation:



Lund: Production of  $q\bar{q}$  pairs uniform in space-time volume in flux tube.

N.B. Time-dilation of hadronization time near q and  $\bar{q}$ .

Intuition (approximate): Local evolution in space-time.

To be contrasted with Heisenberg and Schrödinger pictures.

## Conclusions

- MCEG: O(N) approximation to O(>N!) computational problem.
- Biggest practical issues:
  - What's the nature of the approximation?
  - How to improve it *systematically*?
- Issues about spin etc. Anti-intuitive O(N) algorithm.
- Mismatches of words and deeds
- $\bullet\,$  Link to fundamental issues in QFT and QM