

# Monte Carlo techniques

## Application to QCD

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Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung

# Introduction

## Quotation

« **Monte Carlo** refers to any type of techniques that makes use of **random numbers**, probabilities and statistics **to solve** a problem numerically. »

Hannes JUNG

# Introduction



## Motivation

- MC techniques are widely used in physics:
  - ▶ deal with high-dimensional problems;
  - ▶ often easy to interpret at event level.
- Today we will introduce them
  - ▶ first with pedagogical examples,
  - ▶ then in the context of Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD).
- We will alternate slides and hands-on sessions.

Main source: QCD and MC lectures, by Hannes JUNG

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## Goal

Calculate the following integral:

$$I = \int_{\Omega} f(u) \, du \quad (1)$$

for any (more or less smooth) function  $f$ .

## Exercises

- Either in plain C++ or in Python with Jupyter notebooks
- Just follow the instructions on the [GitHub](#) repository.

### Advice: work in pairs

- Formulate your choices loudly.
- Review one another.
- Exchange ideas.

Red block

Question!

Grey block

Hands on!

# Basics

Definitions

Law of Large Numbers

MC integration

Random number generator

Integration

Gaussian generator

Importance sampling

Conclusion

## Probability density function (p.d.f.)

The random variable  $X$  has p.d.f.  $g$  (non-negative, integrable, and normalised to unity) if:

$$\mathbb{P}[a \leq X \leq b] = \int_a^b g(x) \, dx \quad (2)$$



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## Expectation value and variance

Given  $f$  a function of a random variable  $X$  following a p.d.f.  $g$ :

$$\text{expectation value} \quad \mathbb{E}[f] = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x)g(x) \, dx \quad (3)$$

$$\text{variance} \quad \mathbb{V}[f] = \mathbb{E}[(f - \mathbb{E}[f])^2] \quad (4)$$

## General form

Given realisations  $x_i$  of the random variable  $X$ , for  $N \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\mu \equiv \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f(x_i) \longrightarrow \mathbb{E}[f] \quad (5)$$

### General form

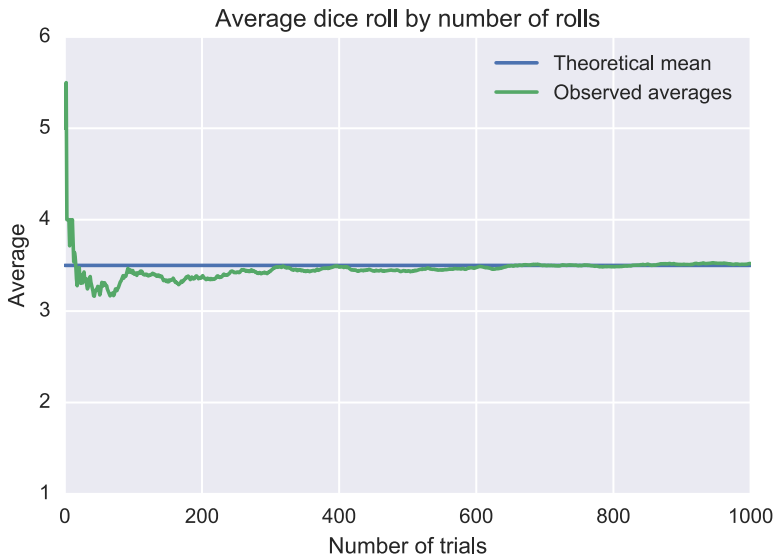
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### Simple form

If  $x_i \equiv u_i \sim \mathcal{U}[a, b]$ , for  $N \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f(u_i) \longrightarrow \frac{1}{b-a} \int_a^b f(u) \, du \quad (6)$$



## Apply simple form of LLN

$$I \approx I_{\text{MC}} = \frac{b-a}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f(u_i) \quad (7)$$

$$\sigma_{\text{MC}}^2 = \mathbb{V}[I_{\text{MC}}] = \frac{(b-a)^2}{N} \mathbb{V}[f] \quad (8)$$

$$= \frac{(b-a)^2}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (f(u_i))^2 - \frac{1}{N} I_{\text{MC}}^2 \quad (9)$$

Introduction

Basics

Definitions

Law of Large  
Numbers

MC  
integration

Random  
number  
generator

Integration

Gaussian  
generator

Importance  
sampling

Conclusion

Application

Summary

Back-up

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## Question

How to generate random numbers?

## Pseudo random generator for a uniform distribution

- Linear congruential generator (e.g. `std::rand()`) to generate integer numbers in  $[0, m[$ .

$$I_{i+1} \equiv aI_i + c \pmod{m} \quad (10)$$

$I_0$  seed

$a$  multiplier

$c$  increment

$m$  modulus

- RANLUX, which may be seen as a linear congruential generator with a smart choice of  $a$ ,  $c$ ,  $m$ , implemented in `TRandom1`.
- The **Mersenne Twister** generator, as implemented in `TRandom3` or `std::mt19937_64`.
- ...

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## Question

What would be the desired properties for a good pseudo random generator?



Introduction

Basics

Definitions

Law of Large  
NumbersMC  
integrationRandom  
number  
generator

Integration

Gaussian  
generatorImportance  
sampling

Conclusion

Application

Summary

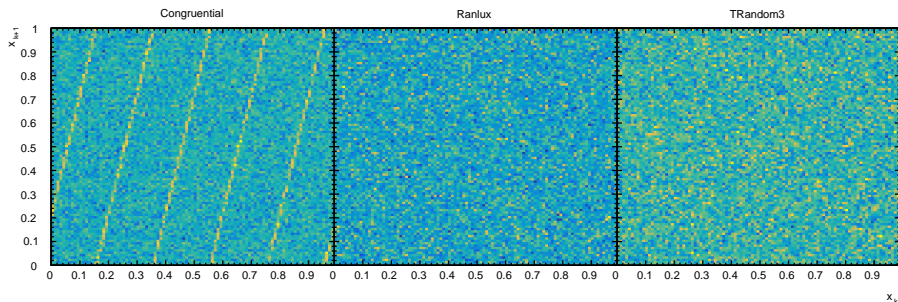
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## Exercise #1

Check the correlations of numbers generated with the linear congruential generator and with one of the TRandom classes in ROOT.

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## Exercise #3

Calculate the following integral with the help of MC generators:

$$\int_0^1 3x^2 \, dx \quad (11)$$

and its uncertainty for different values of  $N$ .

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## Result

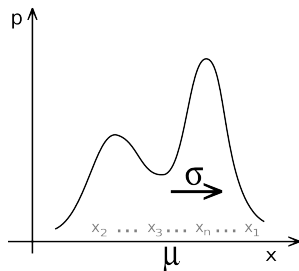
$$N = 10^3 : \quad I_{\text{MC}} = 1.02013 \pm 0.0274001 \quad (12)$$

$$N = 10^6 : \quad I_{\text{MC}} = 0.99945 \pm 0.0008942 \quad (13)$$

## Central limit theorem (CLT)

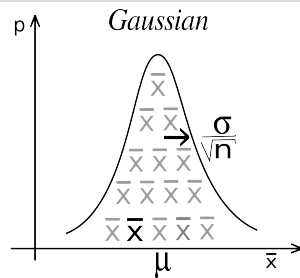
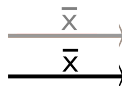
Given  $N$  i.i.d. random variables  $X_i$  with expected value  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ , then for  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , the average random variable  $\bar{X}_N$  tends to follow a normal distribution:

$$\bar{X}_N \equiv \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N X_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2) \quad (14)$$



population  
distribution

samples  
of size  $n$



sampling distribution  
of the mean

Introduction

Basics

Definitions

Law of Large  
NumbersMC  
integrationRandom  
number  
generator

Integration

Gaussian  
generatorImportance  
sampling

Conclusion

Application

Summary

Back-up

## Exercise #2

Construct a Gaussian random number generator with the help of the CLT and of one of the uniform pseudo random number generators.

## Reminder

For  $u_i \sim \mathcal{U}[0, 1]$ ,  $\mu = N/2$  and  $\sigma^2 = N/12$ .

# Basics

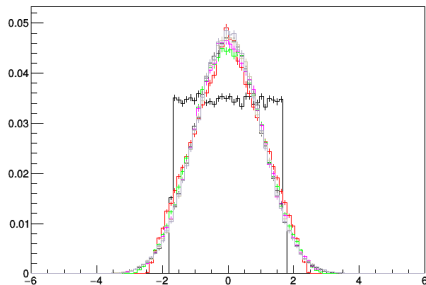
## Gaussian generator

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### Reminder

For  $u_i \sim \mathcal{U}[0, 1]$ ,  $\mu = N/2$  and  $\sigma^2 = N/12$ .



## Question

What if  $f$  covers different orders of magnitude? or has a divergency? (e.g.  $1/x$ )

Introduction

Basics

Definitions

Law of Large  
NumbersMC  
integrationRandom  
number  
generator

Integration

Gaussian  
generatorImportance  
sampling

Conclusion

Application

Summary

Back-up





## Question

What if  $f$  covers different orders of magnitude? or has a divergency? (e.g.  $1/x$ )

## Using the general form of LLN

Consider a p.d.f.  $g$  such that the  $x_i$ s populate more the region(s) of interest:

$$I = \int_a^b f(u) \, du = \int_a^b \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} g(x) \, dx = \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{f}{g} \right] \quad (15)$$

$$\Rightarrow I \approx I_{\text{MC}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{f(x_i)}{g(x_i)} \quad (16)$$

$$\sigma_{\text{MC}}^2 = \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{f(x_i)}{g(x_i)} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{N} I_{\text{MC}}^2 \quad (17)$$

## Generation of non-uniformly distributed random numbers

Given  $u_i \sim \mathcal{U}[0, 1]$ , the sample  $x_i$  are described by the p.d.f.  $g$  if:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{x_i} g(x) \, dx = u_i \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(x) \, dx \quad (18)$$

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### Exercise #5

- Calculate the following integral (and its uncertainty) using uniformly distributed random numbers (i.e. without importance sampling):

$$\int_{0.0001}^1 \frac{(1-x)^5}{x} \, dx \quad (19)$$

- Then, given Eq. 18, show how to draw random numbers with  $g(x) \sim \frac{1}{x}$ , and repeat this integral with importance sampling.
- Compare with the exact result using the incomplete Beta function.

## Result from exercise #5

- With linear sampling:

$$N = 10^3 : I_{\text{MC}} = 4.85467 \pm 1.23751 \quad (20)$$

$$N = 10^6 : I_{\text{MC}} = 6.90493 \pm 0.098539 \quad (21)$$

$$N = 10^9 : I_{\text{MC}} = 6.92964 \pm 0.00314253 \quad (22)$$

- To draw random numbers:

$$x_i = x_{\min} \left( \frac{x_{\max}}{x_{\min}} \right)^{u_i} \quad (23)$$

Then with importance sampling:

$$N = 10^5 : 6.93396 \pm 0.00992476 \quad (24)$$

- Exact value: 6.92747479226

Introduction

Basics

Definitions

Law of Large  
NumbersMC  
integrationRandom  
number  
generator

Integration

Gaussian  
generatorImportance  
sampling

Conclusion

Application

Summary

Back-up

## MC integration

Utilise elements of probability theory to calculate integrals.



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Utilise elements of probability theory to calculate integrals.

## Other methods

- Stratified sampling

$$\int_a^b f(x) \, dx = \int_a^c f(x) \, dx + \int_c^b f(x) \, dx \quad (25)$$

- Subtraction method

$$\int_a^b f(x) \, dx = \int_a^b g(x) \, dx + \int_a^b (f(x) - g(x)) \, dx \quad (26)$$

- Hit & Miss (a.k.a. brute force method)

- ...

# Application

Introduction

PDF evolution

Cross section calculation

## Factorisation

$$\underbrace{\sigma_{pp \rightarrow \text{jet}+X}}_{\text{hadronic cross section}} = \sum_{ij \in gq\bar{q}} \underbrace{f_i(x_i, \mu_F^2) \otimes f_j(x_j, \mu_F^2)}_{\text{PDFs}} \otimes \underbrace{\hat{\sigma}_{ij \rightarrow \text{jet}+X} \left( x_i, x_j, \frac{Q^2}{\mu_F^2}, \frac{Q^2}{\mu_R^2}, \alpha_S(\mu_R^2) \right)}_{\text{partonic cross section}}$$

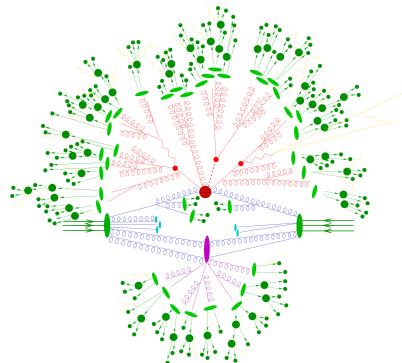
## Phenomenology of MC event generators

interaction = Parton Distribution Function (PDF)

- ⊗ Matrix Element (ME)
- ⊗ Parton Shower (PS)
- ⊗ underlying event (UL)
- ⊗ hadronisation
- ⊗ photon radiation

## Application

### Introduction

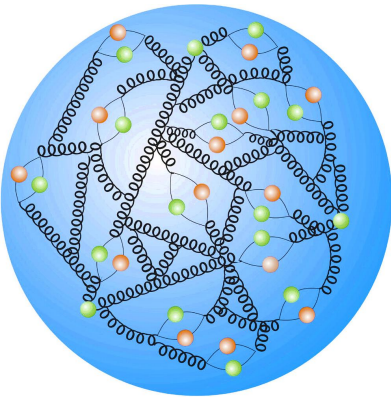




## Physics case

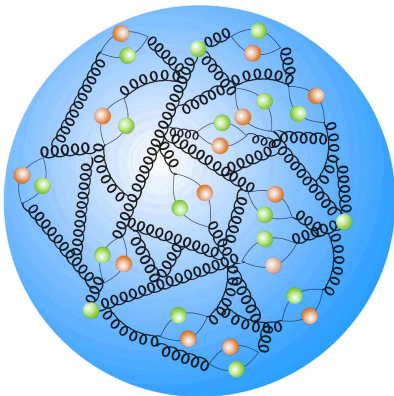
- First, we will try to better understand the PDFs and their evolution:
  - ▶ We will assume a simplistic PDF  $f(x, t_0 = m_p) = 3 \frac{(1-x)^5}{x}$ .
  - ▶ We will use MC integration to calculate this PDF at harder scales  $t$ .
- Then, we will consider  $gg \rightarrow hX$  and investigate the kinematics of  $h$ :
  - ▶ First we will neglect the PDF evolution and consider partons directly taken from our simplistic PDF.
  - ▶ Then we will combine the PDF evolution for each of the incoming partons and see the impact on the kinematics.

**NB:** We calculate everything at the lowest order in perturbation theory.



# Application

## PDF evolution

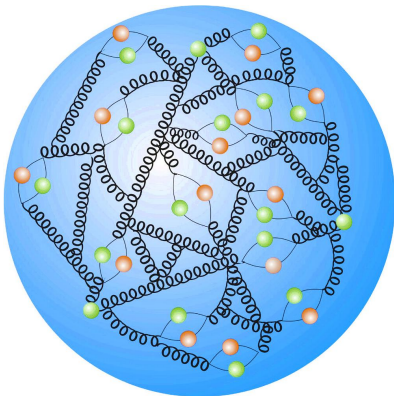


# Application

## PDF evolution

### Nature of PDFs

- Complex objects describing the non-perturbative content of the hadron.
- Also contain a perturbative part, whose (collinear) evolution is described by DGLAP equations.
- Parameterised with a non-physical variable, the scale.
- More-or-less universal, to be constrained with real data.



# Application

## PDF evolution

### Nature of PDFs

- Complex objects describing the non-perturbative content of the hadron.
- Also contain a perturbative part, whose (collinear) evolution is described by DGLAP equations.
- Parameterised with a non-physical variable, the scale.
- More-or-less universal, to be constrained with real data.

### DGLAP equations

$$\frac{df_a(x, \mu_F^2)}{d \ln \mu_F^2} = \sum_{b \in \{q, g\}} \int_x^1 \frac{dz}{z} \frac{\alpha_S(\mu_F^2)}{2\pi} f_b\left(\frac{x}{z}, \mu_F^2\right) P_{ba}(z) \quad (27)$$

$f_a$  PDF for  
parton  $a \in \{q, g\}$

$x$  momentum fraction

$\mu_F^2$  factorisation scale

$\alpha_S$  strong coupling (running)

$P_{ba}$  splitting function

## Iterative expression

From scale  $t_0$  to scale  $t$ :

$$f(x, t) = \underbrace{f(x, t_0) \Delta_s(x, t_0, t)}_{\text{evolution without radiation}} + \underbrace{\int \frac{dz}{z} \int \frac{dt'}{t'} \Delta_s(x, t', t) P(z) f\left(\frac{x}{z}, t'\right)}_{\text{parton splitting}} \quad (28)$$

with the Sudakov form factor (probability of non-branching):

$$\Delta_s(x, t_0, t) = \exp \left( - \int_x^{z_M} dz \int_{t_0}^t \frac{dt''}{t''} \frac{\alpha_S(t'')}{2\pi} P(z) \right) \quad (29)$$

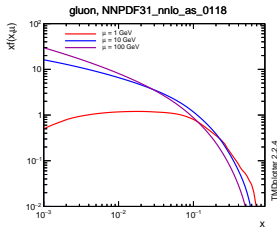
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## Properties

- Factorisation property is only proven rigorously for a few processes but holds for many others.
- Usually constrained with real data, regularly updated with newer data appearing on the market.

## Splitting functions

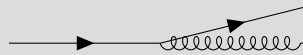
$$P_{qq}^{\text{LO}}(z) = \frac{4}{3} \frac{1+z^2}{1-z}$$


(30)

$$P_{gq}^{\text{LO}}(z) = \frac{3}{2} (z^2 + (1-z)^2)$$


(31)

$$P_{qg}^{\text{LO}}(z) = \frac{4}{3} \frac{1+(1-z)^2}{z}$$


(32)

$$P_{gg}^{\text{LO}}(z) = 3 \left( \frac{z}{1-z} + \frac{1-z}{z} + z(1-z) \right)$$


(33)

## Splitting functions

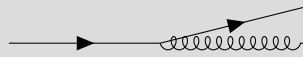
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(33)

## Exercise #6

Calculate  $\Delta_S$  to describe the PDF evolution without branching from a starting scale of  $t_0 = m_p^2 \approx 1 \text{ GeV}^2$  to a scale of 10, 100, 500  $\text{GeV}^2$ .

- For the integral in  $\Delta_S$ , use  $0.01 < z < 0.99$ .
- Consider the running of the strong coupling  $\alpha_S$ .
- Try first  $P_{qq}$ , then  $P_{gg}$ .



## Exercise #7

Evolve a PDF  $f(x, t_0) = 3 \frac{(1-x)^5}{x}$  from a starting scale of  $t_0 = m_p^2 \approx 1 \text{ GeV}^2$  to a hard scale of  $t = 100 \text{ GeV}^2$  (alternate evolution and branching until the scale is reached).

- Consider  $\alpha_S = 0.1$  for simplification.
- To simplify the calculation, you may use  $P_{gg}(z) \approx 6 \left( \frac{1}{z} + \frac{1}{1-z} \right)$  for the splitting, and only  $P_{gg}(z) \approx 6 \frac{1}{1-z}$  for  $\Delta_s$ .
- In addition, the partons start with an intrinsic  $k_T \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 0.7^2)$ .

Plot  $xf(x)$  and  $k_T$  at the starting and hard scales.

## Exercise #8

Calculate the hadronic cross section of Higgs production via gluon fusion at the lowest order, with the same starting distributions for  $x$  and  $k_T$  as previously, but neglecting the evolution for the moment.

- Assume  $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$ .
- Require  $120 < m_h < 130 \text{ GeV}$ .
- The partonic cross section is given by  $\hat{\sigma} = \alpha_S^2 \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \frac{G_F}{576}$  with  $G_F = 1.166 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$ .
- The Higgs production follows a Breit-Wigner distribution:

$$P(m) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\Gamma_h}{(m - m_h)^2 + \Gamma_h^2/4} \quad (34)$$

Plot the kinematics of the partons and of the Higgs ( $p_T, \eta, m$ ).

## Exercise #9

Calculate the hadronic cross section of Higgs production via gluon fusion at the lowest order, with the same starting distributions for  $x$  and  $k_T$  as previously, considering in addition the evolution from a starting scale at the proton mass to a hard scale at the Higgs mass.

- Consider only  $P_{gg}$  in the evolution.
- Make the same assumptions as in exercise #8.

Plot the kinematics of the partons at the starting and hard scales, as well as the kinematics of the Higgs ( $p_T, \eta, m$ ).

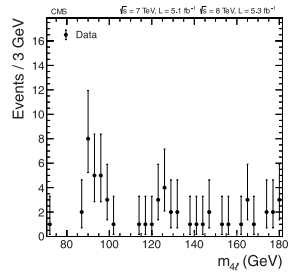
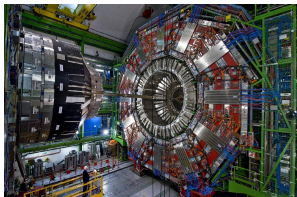
# Summary

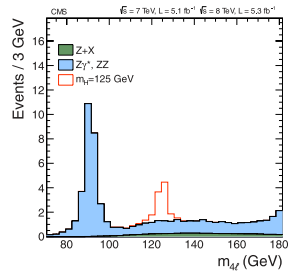
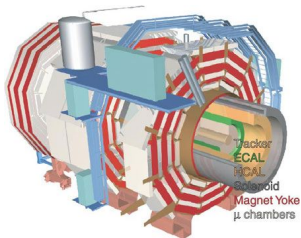
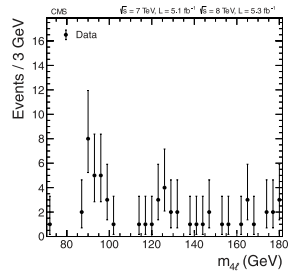
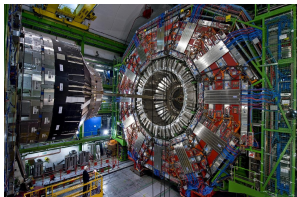
We have

- introduced MC integration;
- applied the basic techniques in purely pedagogical examples;
- then in a more realistic (though simplified) concrete example, based on QCD evolution.

# Thank you for your attention!

**Back-up**

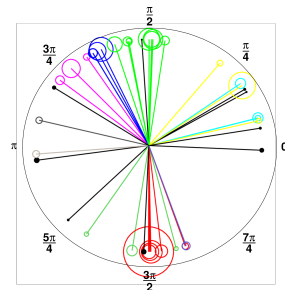
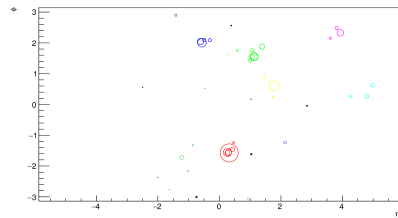
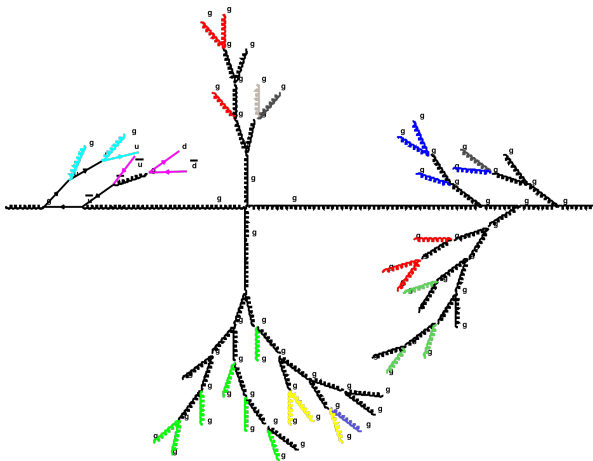






## Description

Visualisation of parton shower  
generated by PYTHIA 8 + partons  
merged by anti- $k_T$  jet algorithm



# Acronyms I

**CLT** Central limit theorem. 21–23

**DGLAP** after the five physicists DOKSHITZER, GRIBOV,  
LIPATOV, ALTARELLI and PARISI. 34–36

**i.i.d.** independent and identically distributed. 21

**LLN** Law of Large Numbers. 13, 14, 24, 25

**MC** Monte Carlo. 4, 5, 19, 20, 32, 33, 45

**ME** Matrix Element. 32

**p.d.f.** probability density function. 8, 9, 24–27

**PDF** Parton Distribution Function. 32–36, 39–41

**PS** Parton Shower. 32

**QCD** Quantum Chromodynamics. 4, 5, 45

# References I

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