Energy-energy correlations: from QCD to $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM and back

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"Current Themes in High Energy Physics and Cosmology"

Why we like $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

- Maximally supersymmetric, conformal four-dimensional gauge theory
- Is believed to be integrable, in the planar limit at least
- Remarkable relations between various quantities:
 - × Scattering amplitudes: $A_n(p_i) = \langle p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n | S | 0 \rangle$
 - × (Light-like) Wilson loops: $W_n = \langle \operatorname{tr} P \exp\left(i \oint_{C_n} dx \cdot A(x)\right) \rangle$
 - × Correlation functions: $G_n(x_i) = \langle \mathcal{O}(x_1) \mathcal{O}(x_2) \dots \mathcal{O}(x_n) \rangle$
- Scattering amplitudes suffer from IR divergences and require a regularisation
- \checkmark Exact scattering matrix S = 1

How much physics can we learn from scattering amplitudes in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM?



✓ PETRA (1978-1986) and LEP (1989-2010)





- A virtual photon or Z⁰-boson decay into quarks and gluons that undergo a hadronization process into hadrons
- Final states can be described using the class of *infrared finite* observables (event shapes): energy-energy correlations (EEC), thrust, heavy mass, ...
- Can be computed in perturbative QCD, hadronisation corrections are 'small' at high energy

Energy-energy correlations

✓ Function of the angle $0 \le \chi \le \pi$ between detected particles [Basham,Brown,Ellis,Love]

$$\operatorname{EEC}(\chi) = \left\langle \frac{1}{\Delta \chi} \sum_{a,b} \frac{E_a E_b}{Q^2} \theta \left(\Delta \chi - |\cos \theta_{ab} - \cos \chi| \right) \right\rangle_{\operatorname{events}}$$

Total energy $\sum_a E_a = Q$

Conventional ('amplitude') approach

$$EEC(\chi) = \frac{1}{\sigma_{tot}} \sum_{a,b} \int d\sigma_{a+b+X} \frac{E_a E_b}{Q^2} \delta(\cos\theta_{ab} - \cos\chi)$$

Weak coupling expansion in QCD

$$\operatorname{EEC}(\chi) = a_{\mathrm{S}} A(\chi) + a_{\mathrm{S}}^2 B(\chi) + O(a_{\mathrm{S}}^3)$$

- Current status (1978 today):
 - X Very precise experimental data

× Poor analytical control, $B(\chi)$ is known numerically

Final goal: develop more efficient method to computing EEC



Energy-energy correlation, EEC



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e^+e^- annihilation in $\mathcal{N}=4$ SYM

✓ Define EEC in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM and evaluate it at weak/strong coupling



✓ From QCD to $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM: introduce an analog of the electromagnetic current

× (protected) half-BPS operator built from the six real scalars Φ^I (with I = 1, ..., 6)

$$O_{\mathbf{20}'}^{IJ}(x) = \operatorname{tr}\left[\Phi^{I}\Phi^{J} - \frac{1}{6}\delta^{IJ}\Phi^{K}\Phi^{K}\right]$$

- **X** To lowest order in the coupling, $O_{20'}(x)$ produces a pair of scalars out of the vacuum
- × For arbitrary coupling, the state $O_{20'}(x)|0\rangle$ can be decomposed into an infinite sum over on-shell states with an arbitrary number of scalars (*s*), gauginos (λ) and gauge fields (*g*)

$$\int d^4x \,\mathrm{e}^{iqx} \,O_{\mathbf{20'}}(x)|0\rangle = |ss\rangle + |ssg\rangle + |s\lambda\lambda\rangle + \dots$$

EEC in $\mathcal{N}=4$ SYM

Conventional approach

$$\operatorname{EEC}(\chi) = \frac{1}{\sigma_{\operatorname{tot}}} \sum_{a,b,X} \int \mathrm{dLIPS} \left| \mathcal{A}_{a+b+X} \right|^2 \frac{E_a E_b}{Q^2} \delta(\cos \chi - \cos \theta_{ab})$$

✓ The amplitude of creation of the final state |a, b, X = everything



 $\checkmark\,$ Matrix elements ($s_{ij}=(p_i+p_j)^2$ with $p_i^2=0$)

$$|\mathcal{A}_{ss}|^{2} = |\langle s(p_{1})s(p_{2})|O_{\mathbf{20}'}|0\rangle|^{2} = \frac{2}{s_{12}} \left[1 + aF_{\text{virt}}(q^{2})\right]$$
$$|\mathcal{A}_{ssg}|^{2} = |\langle s(p_{1})s(p_{2})g(p_{3})|O_{\mathbf{20}'}|0\rangle|^{2} = a\frac{s_{12}}{s_{13}s_{23}}$$
$$|\mathcal{A}_{s\lambda\lambda}|^{2} = |\langle \lambda(p_{1})\lambda(p_{2})s(p_{3})|O_{\mathbf{20}'}|0\rangle|^{2} = a\frac{2}{s_{12}}$$

't Hooft coupling $a=g_{\rm YM}^2 N/(4\pi^2)$

EEC from amplitudes I

The total cross section

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}(q) = \int \mathsf{dLIPS}_2 |\mathcal{A}_{ss}|^2 + \int \mathsf{dLIPS}_3 \left(|\mathcal{A}_{ssg}|^2 + |\mathcal{A}_{s\lambda\lambda}|^2 \right) + O(a^2)$$
$$= \frac{N^2 - 1}{16\pi} \left[1 + aF_{\text{virt}}(q^2) \right] + a \int \mathsf{dLIPS}_3 \frac{s_{12}^2 + 2s_{13}s_{23}}{s_{12}s_{13}s_{23}} + O(a^2) = \frac{N^2 - 1}{16\pi} + \mathbf{0} \cdot a + O(a^2)$$

Energy-energy correlations

$$\operatorname{EEC} = \left[\int \mathsf{dLIPS}_2 w(p_1, p_2) \left| \mathcal{A}_{ss} \right|^2 + \int \mathsf{dLIPS}_3 w(p_1, p_2, p_3) \left(\left| \mathcal{A}_{ssg} \right|^2 + \left| \mathcal{A}_{s\lambda\lambda} \right|^2 \right) + O(a^2) \right] / \sigma_{\text{tot}}$$

Weight factors for EEC

$$w(p_1, p_2, \dots) = \sum_{a,b} \frac{E_a E_b}{q^2} \delta(\cos \theta_{ab} - \cos \chi)$$

One-loop calculation (unprotected quantity)

[Zhiboedov],[Engelund,Roiban]

$$EEC_{\mathcal{N}=4} = \frac{a}{4z^2(1-z)} \ln \frac{1}{1-z} + O(a^2)$$

IR finite, positive definite function of $z = (1 - \cos \chi)/2$, 0 < z < 1

 \checkmark Two-loop correction is hard to compute ($\sim 10^2$ diagrams)



Conventional approach

$$\operatorname{EEC}(\chi) = \frac{1}{\sigma_{\text{tot}}} \sum_{a,b,X} \int \mathrm{dLIPS} \left| \mathcal{A}_{a+b+X} \right|^2 \frac{E_a E_b}{Q^2} \delta(\cos \chi - \cos \theta_{ab})$$

The amplitude of creation of the final state $|a, b, X = \text{everything}\rangle$



- Main disadvantages:
 - × presence of infrared divergences in transition amplitudes \mathcal{A}_{a+b+X}
 - \star integration over the Lorentz invariant phase space of the final states dLIPS
 - \checkmark necessity for summation over all final states \sum_X
 - * no analytical results beyond one loop
- ✓ New approach: EEC can be computed from *correlation functions of energy flow operators*

Total cross section from the optical theorem

$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}(q) = \sum_{X} (2\pi)^4 \delta^{(4)}(q - p_X) |\mathcal{A}_{O_{20'} \to X}|^2$$
$$= \int d^4 x \ e^{iqx} \sum_{X} \langle 0|O^{\dagger}(0)|X\rangle \ e^{-ixp_X} \langle X|O(0)|0\rangle$$
$$= \int d^4 x \ e^{iqx} \langle 0|O^{\dagger}(x)O(0)|0\rangle = \frac{1}{16\pi} (N^2 - 1)\theta(q^0)\theta(q^2)$$

Wightman correlation function, protected for 1/2-BPS operators

Generalization to EEC

$$EEC \sim \sum_{X} \langle 0|O^{\dagger}(x)|X\rangle w(X) \langle X|O(0)|0\rangle = \langle 0|O^{\dagger}(x)\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_{1})\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_{2})O(0)|0\rangle$$

Energy flow operator

$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n})|X\rangle = \sum_{a} E_a \,\delta^{(2)}(\Omega_{\vec{p}_a} - \Omega_{\vec{n}})|X\rangle$$

✓ Relation to the energy-momentum tensor in N = 4 SYM [Sveshnikov,Tkachov],[GK,Oderda,Sterman]

$$\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}) = \int_0^\infty dt \lim_{r \to \infty} r^2 \, \vec{n}^i T_{0i}(t, r\vec{n})$$



EEC from correlation functions II

Energy flow correlations [GK,Sterman],[Belitsky,GK,Sterman],[Hofman,Maldacena]

$$\langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1)\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2)\rangle_q = \sigma_{\text{tot}}^{-1} \int d^4x \, e^{iqx} \langle 0|O^{\dagger}(x) \, \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1)\mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \, O(0)|0\rangle$$

Energy flow in the direction of \vec{n}_1 and \vec{n}_2

 \checkmark Average over the orientations \vec{n}_1 and \vec{n}_2 with the relative angle χ kept fixed

$$EEC = \int d\Omega_1 d\Omega_2 \,\delta(\vec{n}_1 \cdot \vec{n}_2 - \cos\chi) \langle \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_1) \mathcal{E}(\vec{n}_2) \rangle_q / q^2$$

Multi-fold integral of Wightman 4pt function

$$\operatorname{EEC} \sim \underbrace{\int d^4 x \, \mathrm{e}^{iqx}}_{\text{Fourier}} \underbrace{\int_0^\infty dt_1 dt_2 \lim_{r_i \to \infty} r_1^2 r_2^2}_{\text{Detector limit}} \underbrace{\langle 0|O^{\dagger}(x) \, T_{0\vec{n}_1}(x_1) T_{0\vec{n}_2}(x_2) \, O(0)|0\rangle}_{\text{Wightman corr. function}} \bigg|_{x_i} = (t, r\vec{n}_i)$$

- × Compute corr.function $\langle O^{\dagger}(x)T(x_1)T(x_2)O(0)\rangle$ in Euclid
- X Continue to Minkowski with Wightman prescription
- X Take detector limit + perform Fourier



Quantum corrections to various correlation functions are determined by the same scalar function

$$\langle O(x_1)O(x_2)O(x_3)O(x_4)\rangle_E = \frac{1}{x_{12}^2 x_{23}^2 x_{34}^2 x_{41}^2} \Phi(u, v; a)$$
$$\langle O(x_1)T(x_2)T(x_3)O(x_4)\rangle_E = \frac{1}{(x_{12}^2 x_{23}^2 x_{34}^2)^2} P(\partial_u, \partial_v)\Phi(u, v; a)$$

Conformal ratios

$$u = x_{12}^2 x_{34}^2 / (x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2), \qquad v = x_{23}^2 x_{41}^2 / (x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2)$$

✓ Universal function in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM at weak coupling

[Eden,Schubert,Sokatchev],[Bianchi et al]

$$\Phi(u,v) = a \Phi^{(1)}(u,v) + a^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}(1+u+v) \left[\Phi^{(1)}(u,v)\right]^2 + 2\left[\Phi^{(2)}(u,v) + \frac{1}{u}\Phi^{(2)}(v/u,1/u) + \frac{1}{v}\Phi^{(2)}(1/v,u/v)\right]\right) + O(a^3)$$

 $\Phi^{(1)}(u,v)$ 'box' integral, $\Phi^{(2)}(u,v)$ 'double' box integral

✓ $\mathcal{N} = 4$ superconf. symmetry allows us to determine $\Phi_{\text{weak}}(u, v)$ to six loops [Eden,Heslop,GK,Sokatchev] ✓ AdS/CFT correspondences predicts $\Phi(u, v)$ at strong coupling [Arutyunov, Frolov]

From Euclid to Minkowski

- Brute force method: compute anew using Schwinger-Keldysh technique (too hard)
- Better method: analytically continue correlation functions from Euclid to Minkowski+Wightman
- ✓ Warm-up example: free scalar propagator $D_{\text{Euclid}}(x) = \langle \phi(x)\phi(0) \rangle \sim 1/x^2$

$$\begin{aligned} |0|\phi(x)\phi(0)|0\rangle &= \sum_{n} \langle 0|\phi(x)|n\rangle \langle n|\phi(0)|0\rangle \\ &= \sum_{E_n>0} e^{-iE_n(x^0 - i0) + i\vec{p}\vec{x}} \langle 0|\phi(0)|n\rangle \langle n|\phi(0)|0\rangle \sim \frac{1}{(x^0 - i0)^2 - \vec{x}^2} \end{aligned}$$

- How to get Wightman correlation functions ('magic' recipe)
 - X Go to Mellin space:

$$\Phi_{\text{Euclid}} = \int_{-\delta - i\infty}^{-\delta + i\infty} \frac{dj_1 dj_2}{(2\pi i)^2} M(j_1, j_2; a) \, u^{j_1} v^{j_2} \,, \qquad u = \frac{x_{12}^2 x_{34}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2} \,, \qquad v = \frac{x_{23}^2 x_{41}^2}{x_{13}^2 x_{24}^2}$$

× Substitute $x_{ij}^2 \rightarrow x_{ij,+}^2 = x_{ij}^2 - i0 \cdot x_{ij}^0$

$$\Phi_{\text{Wightman}} = \int_{-\delta - i\infty}^{-\delta + i\infty} \frac{dj_1 dj_2}{(2\pi i)^2} M(j_1, j_2; a) \left(\frac{x_{12, +}^2 x_{34, +}^2}{x_{13, +}^2 x_{24, +}^2}\right)^{j_1} \left(\frac{x_{23, +}^2 x_{41, +}^2}{x_{13, +}^2 x_{24, +}^2}\right)^{j_2}$$

✓ $M(j_1, j_2; a)$ is known both at weak and strong coupling in planar $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

[Mack]

All-loop prediction for EEC

Master formula

$$\operatorname{EEC}(\chi) = \frac{1}{4z^2(1-z)} \int_{-\delta-i\infty}^{-\delta+i\infty} \frac{dj_1 dj_2}{(2\pi i)^2} \underbrace{\frac{M(j_1, j_2; a)}{\operatorname{corr.function}}}_{\operatorname{corr.function}} \underbrace{\frac{K(j_1, j_2)}{\operatorname{detector}}}_{\operatorname{detector}} \underbrace{\left(\frac{1-z}{z}\right)^{j_1+j_2}}_{\operatorname{angular dependence}}$$

The dependence on the angle χ enters through

$$z = (1 - \cos \chi)/2, \qquad 0 < z < 1$$

Detector function is independent on the coupling

$$K(j_1, j_2) = \frac{2\Gamma(1 - j_1 - j_2)}{\Gamma(j_1 + j_2)[\Gamma(1 - j_1)\Gamma(1 - j_2)]^2}$$

The dependence on the coupling constant resides in the Mellin amplitude

$$\Phi(u,v;a) = \int_{-\delta-i\infty}^{-\delta+i\infty} \frac{dj_1 dj_2}{(2\pi i)^2} M(j_1, j_2; a) u^{j_1} v^{j_2}$$
$$M(j_1, j_2; a) = \underbrace{a M^{(1)}(j_1, j_2) + a^2 M^{(2)}(j_1, j_2)}_{\text{are known}} + \dots$$

Warm up exercise

Master formula at one loop

$$\text{EEC}^{(1-\text{loop})} = \frac{a}{4z^2(1-z)} \int_{-\delta-i\infty}^{-\delta+i\infty} \frac{dj_1 dj_2}{(2\pi i)^2} M^{(1)}(j_1, j_2; a) K(j_1, j_2) \left(\frac{1-z}{z}\right)^{j_1+j_2}$$

Mellin amplitude

$$M^{(1)}(j_1, j_2) = -\frac{1}{4} \left[\Gamma(-j_1) \Gamma(-j_2) \Gamma(1+j_1+j_2) \right]^2$$
$$K(j_1, j_2) = \frac{2 \Gamma(1-j_1-j_2)}{\Gamma(j_1+j_2) [\Gamma(1-j_1) \Gamma(1-j_2)]^2}$$

✓ Change integration variable $j_1 + j_2 \rightarrow j_1$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EEC}^{(1-\text{loop})} &= -\frac{a}{4z^2(1-z)} \int \frac{dj_1 dj_2}{(2\pi i)^2} \frac{j_1^2}{2(j_1-j_2)^2 j_2^2} \frac{\pi}{\sin(\pi j_1)} \left(\frac{1-z}{z}\right)^{j_1} \\ &= \frac{a}{4z^2(1-z)} \int \frac{dj_1}{2\pi i} \frac{\pi}{j_1 \sin(\pi j_1)} \left(\frac{1-z}{z}\right)^{j_1} \\ &= \frac{a}{4z^2(1-z)} \sum_{k=-1}^{-\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k} \left(\frac{1-z}{z}\right)^k \\ &= \frac{a}{4z^2(1-z)} \ln \frac{1}{1-z} \end{aligned}$$

EEC at two loops

Final result for EEC

$$\operatorname{EEC}_{\mathcal{N}=4} = \frac{1}{4z^2(1-z)} \left\{ aF_1(z) + a^2 \left[(1-z)F_2(z) + \frac{1}{4}F_3(z) \right] + O(a^3) \right\}, \qquad z = \frac{1}{2}(1-\cos\chi)$$

 $F_w(z)$ are linear combinations of functions of homogenous weight w = 1, 2, 3

$$F_{1}(z) = -\ln(1-z)$$

$$F_{2}(z) = 4\sqrt{z} \left[\text{Li}_{2} \left(-\sqrt{z} \right) - \text{Li}_{2} \left(\sqrt{z} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \ln z \ln \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{z}}{1-\sqrt{z}} \right) \right] + (1+z) \left[2\text{Li}_{2}(z) + \ln^{2}(1-z) \right] + 2\ln(1-z) \ln \left(\frac{z}{1-z} \right) + z\frac{\pi^{2}}{3},$$

$$F_{3}(z) = (1-z)(1+2z) \left[\ln^{2} \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{z}}{1-\sqrt{z}} \right) \ln \left(\frac{1-z}{z} \right) - 8\text{Li}_{3} \left(\frac{\sqrt{z}}{\sqrt{z}-1} \right) - 8\text{Li}_{3} \left(\frac{\sqrt{z}}{\sqrt{z}+1} \right) \right] - 4(z-4)\text{Li}_{3}(z) + 6(3+3z-4z^{2})\text{Li}_{3} \left(\frac{z}{z-1} \right) - 2z(1+4z)\zeta_{3} + 2\left[(3-4z)z \ln z + 2(2z^{2}-z-2)\ln(1-z) \right] \text{Li}_{2}(z) + \frac{1}{3}\ln^{2}(1-z) \left[4(3z^{2}-2z-1)\ln(1-z) + 3(3-4z)z \ln z \right] + \frac{\pi^{2}}{3} \left[2z^{2} \ln z - (2z^{2}+z-2)\ln(1-z) \right]$$

From weak to strong coupling



- ✓ At weak coupling $EEC_{N=4}$ has a shape which is remarkably similar to the one in QCD
- Going from one to two loops, EEC flattens
- ✓ This agrees with strong coupling prediction for EEC in planar $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM

[Hofman,Maldacena]

$$\operatorname{EEC}_{\mathcal{N}=4} \overset{a \to \infty}{\sim} \frac{1}{2} \left[1 + a^{-1} \left(1 - 6z(1-z) \right) + O(a^{-3/2}) \right]$$

No jets at strong coupling

End-point asymptotics I

Small angle correlations $\chi \to 0$ (or $z \sim \chi^2 \to 0$): calorimeters measure nearly collinear particles

EEC
$$\stackrel{z \to 0}{\sim} \frac{a}{4z} \left[1 + a \left(\ln z - \frac{1}{2} \zeta_3 + \zeta_2 - 3 \right) \right]$$



 \checkmark Corrections are enhanced by $\ln z$, no homogenous transcedentality

✓ Resummation of leading log's $a(a \ln z)^k$ using the "jet calculus"

[Konishi,Ukawa,Veneziano]

EEC
$$\stackrel{z \to 0}{\sim} \frac{a}{4z} \int_0^1 dx \, x^2 D(x, Q^2 / S_{ab})$$

= $\frac{a}{4z} (Q^2 / S_{ab})^{-\gamma_T(3)} = \frac{a}{4} z^{-1 + \gamma_T(3)}$

 $\gamma_T(3) = a + O(a^2)$ – twist-2 *time-like* anomalous dimension of spin S = 3

 $D(x,Q^2/S_{ab})$ probability to fragment into a pair of partons with $S_{ab} = 2E_a E_b(1 - \cos \chi) \sim Q^2 z$

Resummation weakens singularity of EEC for $\chi \rightarrow 0$, jets at weak coupling

$$\int_0^{\chi_0} d\cos\chi \,\text{EEC} \sim \frac{a}{\gamma_T(3)} \sim 1\,,\qquad (\chi_0 \ll 1)$$

End-point asymptotics II

EEC in the back-to-back kinematics $\chi \to \pi$ (or $y \equiv 1 - z \sim (\pi - \chi)^2 \to 0$)

✓ Large (Sudakov) corrections $a^k (\ln y)^n$ come from the emission of soft and collinear particles

All order resummation

$$\text{EEC} \sim \frac{1}{8y} H(a) \int_0^\infty db \, b \, J_0(b) S(b^2/y;a)$$

 $J_0(b)$ Bessel function; $S(b^2/y; a)$ the Sudakov form factor (with $b_0 = 2 e^{-\gamma_E}$)

$$S = \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\Gamma_{\rm cusp}(a)\ln^2\left(\frac{b^2}{yb_0^2}\right) - \Gamma(a)\ln\left(\frac{b^2}{yb_0^2}\right)\right]$$

Dependence on the coupling constant is encoded in three functions

$$\Gamma_{\text{cusp}}(a) = a - \frac{1}{2}\zeta_2 a^2$$
, $\Gamma(a) = -\frac{3}{2}\zeta_3 a^2$, $H(a) = 1 - \zeta_2 a$

✓ Perturbative corrections to $EEC(z \rightarrow 1)$ have homogeneous transcedentality

$$\left[\operatorname{EEC}_{\operatorname{QCD}}(z \to 1)\right]_{\operatorname{maximal transcedentality}} = \operatorname{EEC}_{\mathcal{N}=4}(z \to 1)$$

[Collins, Soper]

Conclusions and open questions

- Energy correlations are good/nontrivial physical observables in $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM
- Relation to energy flow correlations in QCD (most complicated part)?
- ✓ All symmetries of $\mathcal{N} = 4$ SYM are preserved, what is the manifestation of integrability?
- Interpolation between weak and strong coupling?
- Other proposals for 'good' observables?