

MC event generation tutorial

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Setup: Docker images and containers

❖ We will be running event generators via Docker

- Like a virtual Linux machine that you run inside your own PC
- VM *image* files are O(1 GB): download these in advance!
- Apologies, they can currently run slow on Mac OS



❖ Containers and volume binding

- You can **run** an image multiple times: each copy is a *container*
- By default the data from each container stays on your machine... this eats a *lot* of disk space! use **--rm** to make it auto-delete, or periodically **docker system prune**
- To make it easy to get data in and out of your container, make a “portal” directory: **-v /some/host/dir:/some/container/dir**

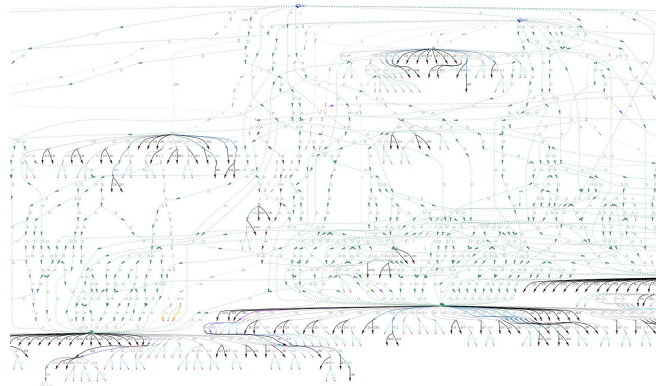
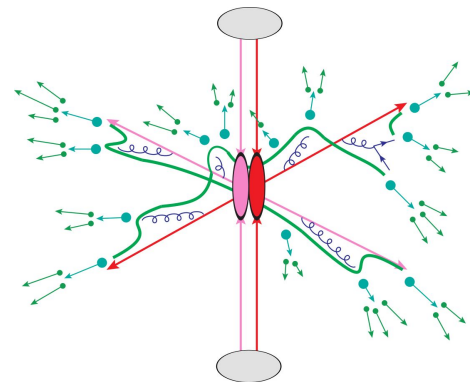
❖ Rivet+Pythia+MG5_aMC@NLO image

- **docker pull hepstore/rivet-tutorial:main**
- **docker run -it --rm -v \$PWD:/host hepstore/rivet-tutorial:main**
- Test:
 - # rivet -h**
 - # pythia8-main144 -h**



MC generation

- ❖ **MC generation: where theory meets experiment**
 - The fundamental pp collision, without a surrounding detector
- ❖ **Components of a fully exclusive SHG chain**
 - QFT matrix element sampling at fixed order in QCD etc.
 - *Dressed* with approximate collinear splitting functions, iterated in factorised Markov-chain “parton showers”
 - FS parton evolution terminated at $Q \sim 1$ GeV: phenomenological hadronisation modelling. Mixed with MPI modelling.
 - Finally particle decays, and other niceties
- ❖ **Today**
 - hands-on tutorial with Pythia8 and MadGraph5
 - for background principles see the lecture slides
 - introduction to running generators and studying their output
 - generation biasing for efficient phase-space population
 - ME/PS merged generation with extra ME jets
 - ~~Writing a Rivet MC analysis code~~
 - ~~BSM model configuration and generation~~



Generator basics

❖ First, get your Pythia Docker container started

- `$ docker pull hepstore/rivet-tutorial:main`
- `$ docker run -it --rm -v $PWD:/host hepstore/rivet-tutorial:main`



purple = command shell

❖ Pythia8: shower-hadronisation generator (SHG) with many LO processes built-in

- Pythia 8.3 docs: <https://pythia.org/latest-manual/Welcome.html>
- We'll use the "main93" example interface. Open a blank command file: `# nano py8-top.cmnd`
- Add the lines:
`Beams:eCM = 13000`
`Top:all = on`
`Main:writeHepMC = on`
- And run: `# pythia8-main144 -c py8-top.cmnd -o TOP -n 100`



blue = generator configs

❖ Examine the output

- `less TOP.hepmc`
- Run a basic physics analysis on it: `# rivet -a MC_FSPARTICLES TOP.hepmc -H TOP.yoda`
- View the histogram data: `$ less TOP.yoda; # yodals -v TOP.yoda`
- `# rivet-mkhtml TOP.yoda -o /host/rivet-plots-top`
- And point your (host-system) Web browser at it, e.g. `$ firefox rivet-plots-top/index.html`

More statistics = no more event files

❖ The HepMC ASCII files are very large!

- They waste space, and CPU due to the writing/re-reading time
- Useful for debugging, though

❖ Better that we pass the events to Rivet in memory instead

- `# nano py8-top.cmnd`
- And change to:
 - `Beams:eCM = 13000`
 - `Top:all = on`
 - `Main:runRivet = on`
 - `Main:analyses = MC_TTBAR,MC_JETS,MC_FSPARTICLES,MC_ELECTRONS,MC_MUONS`
- `# pythia8-main144 -c py8-top.cmnd -o TOP -n 5000`
- `# rivet-mkhtml TOP.yoda -o /host/rivet-plots-top`

❖ Inspect the output

- Do the lepton distributions make sense?
- The jets?
- What happens to the statistics at high p_T ?

Jet-event generation

❖ Let's make some inclusive-jet events

- In Pythia, this just means a $pp \rightarrow jj$ ME. Everything else comes from the PS, especially ISR
- It does remarkably well for that (thanks to a few tricks)
- But mostly we use higher-order generators for the ME nowadays. Py8 is quick, though!

❖ We start with the obvious configuration

- `# nano py8-jets.cmnd`
 `Beams:eCM = 13000`
 `HardQCD:all = on`
 `PhaseSpace:pThatMin = 10`
 `Main:runRivet = on`
 `Main:rivetAnalyses = MC_JETS`
- `# pythia8-main144 -c py8-jets.cmnd -o JETS -n 6000` (there's a reason for this number of events!)

❖ View the output

- `# rivet-mkhtml JETS.yoda -o /host/rivet-plots-jets`
- And view: what's happened to the p_T tails and 3rd, 4th jet distributions?
- We can improve this with ME phase-space slicing and/or enhancement

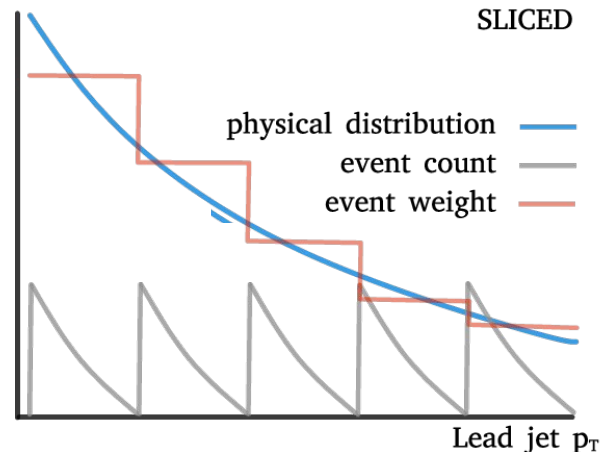
Jet-event slicing

❖ The statistics died off at high p_T

- The unweighted events are asymptotically distributed like the physical $d\sigma/dp_T$
- \Rightarrow far too many low- p_T events for our needs! Rapidly drop below systematics threshold
- Simple solution: stick together several runs in orthogonal *slices* of ME phase-space

❖ Three slices, the top-one open-ended

- Add a max p_T^{hat} to py8-jets.cmnd:
PhaseSpace:pThatMin = 10
PhaseSpace:pThatMax = 50
pythia8-main144 -c py8-jets.cmnd -o JETS0 -n 2000
- Then a min/max pair above that:
PhaseSpace:pThatMin = 50
PhaseSpace:pThatMax = 100
pythia8-main144 -c py8-jets.cmnd -o JETS1 -n 2000
- And a final min-only:
PhaseSpace:pThatMin = 100
pythia8-main144 -c py8-jets.cmnd -o JETS2 -n 2000
- Plot and study: # rivet-merge JETS?.yoda -o JETS_SLICE.yoda
rivet-mkhtml JETS{0,1,2}.yoda:LineStyle=dotted JETS_SLICE.yoda:Sliced -o /host/rivet-plots-jets



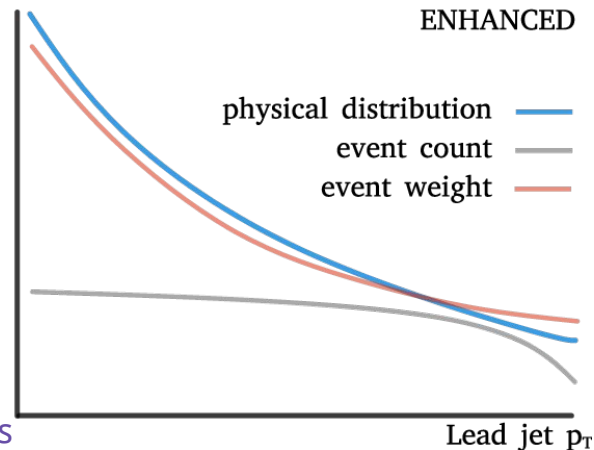
Jet-event enhancement

❖ The statistics work better now, and the correctly xs-normalised sum is smooth

- We still have falling stats in each slice, though: “sawtooth” statistical error
- Can we “continuously slice”? Yes! Sample from $p_T^{\text{hat},n} d\sigma/dp_T^{\text{hat}}$, with weights $1/p_T^{\text{hat},n}$
- Since LO $2 \rightarrow 2$ process, p_T^{hat} is unambiguous

❖ Enhanced dijet generation

- Enable biasing in py8-jets.cmnd:
`PhaseSpace:pThatMin = 10`
`PhaseSpace:bias2Selection = on`
`# pythia8-main144 -c py8-jets.cmnd -o JETS_ENH -n 3000`
- Pretty-printing of all methods:
`# rivet-mkhtml JETS.yoda:Raw:LineColor=red \`
`JETS{0,1,2}.yoda:LineColor=purple:LineStyle=dotted \`
`JETS_SLICE.yoda:Slice:LineColor=green \`
`JETS_ENH.yoda:Enh:LineColor=orange -o /host/rivet-plots-jets`
- Study the output. Which is better at phase-space coverage?
Compare the numbers of events generated



V+jets production

❖ W/Z+jets are the biggest and most CPU-consuming MC samples at the LHC

- Followed by ttbar, single-top, diboson, ...
- The “classic” development lab for beyond-LO methods, because
 - Born process at $2 \rightarrow 1$ tree level; jets (and hence all $Z p_T$) is beyond LO
 - colour-singlet boson is unproblematic for QCD
 - vector boson: symmetry protection \Rightarrow small NLO corrections w.r.t. Higgs
 - massive boson = naturally “anchored” scale choices: more stable than massless jets or photons

❖ First, let's make a Pythia8 version, then go to MG5

- `# nano py8-zmm.cmd`
 `Beams:eCM = 13000`
 `WeakBosonAndParton:qqbar2gmZg = on`
 `WeakBosonAndParton:qg2gmZq = on`
 `PhaseSpace:pThatMin = 20`
 `23:onMode = off`
 `23:onIfAny = 13`
 `Main:runRivet = on`
 `Main:rivetAnalyses = MC_JETS`
- `# pythia8-main144 -c py8-zmm.cmd -o Py-ZJ -n 5000`

V+jets production: MG5

❖ Use MadGraph via the same image

- `# cd /work/MG5_aMC/`
`# bin/mg5_aMC`
- MG5 is a fixed-order ME generator that interfaces with Pythia's showers, decays, etc.

❖ Generate the lowest-order jet-multiplicity sample

- `> generate p p > mu+ mu- j`
`> output PROC-ZJ`
`> launch`
`> ... (don't enable Pythia showering, do edit run card, run with <Rtn>)`
`> quit`
- `# cp -r PROC-ZJ /host/`
⇒ look at diagrams and LHE event files:
`# zless PROC-ZJ/Events/run_01/unweighted_events.lhe.gz`
- `# nano py8-lhe.cmnd`
`Beams:frameType = 4`
`Beams:LHEF = unweighted_events.lhe.gz`
`Main:runRivet = on`
`Main:rivetAnalyses = MC_JETS`
- `# pythia8-main144 -c py8-lhe.cmnd -o MG-ZJ`

Feynman diagrams will be generated automatically in the SubProcesses (sub)folders. You can also use the `> display diagrams` command... but not very effectively in Docker since there's no graphics

V+jets production: MG5 jet-merging

❖ We can also make higher-order MEs (here just tree-level)

- Make different-multiplicity processes, configure to merge and remove ME/PS overlaps

```
# bin/mg5_aMC
```

```
> generate p p > mu+ mu- j
```

```
> add process p p > mu+ mu- j j
```

```
> output PROC-ZJJ
```

```
> launch
```

```
> ... (edit run card, disable 'ickkw' and add ptlnd cut at 30 GeV, run with <Rtn>)
```

```
> quit
```

Add a [QCD] suffix to generate a process at QCD NLO. Slow!!

⇒ one-loop matching with MC@NLO; loop and legs merging/matching with FxFx

- Optional entertainment: # cp -r PROC-ZJJ PROC-ZJJBORKED ⇒ copy setup to overlap badly

```
# cd PROC-ZJJBORKED
```

```
# nano Cards/proc_card_mg5.dat
```

```
# nano Cards/run_card.dat
```

```
# bin/generate_events
```

⇒ set ickkw=0 (disables correct merging!)

❖ What's going on???

- The PS makes the different multiplicities overlap in phase-space: have to avoid double-counting
- CKKW(L) and MLM procedures do this by phase-space weights or cuts: we're turning them on/off

V+jets production: MEPS showering & analysis

❖ Run Pythia on the MG5 LHE events

- First, let's do it *wrong*, letting Pythia shower in the phase-space reserved for the ME:
- `pythia8-main144 -c py8-lhe.cmnd -o MG-ZJJ-sum`
- And now, with the shower merging enabled:
`# cp /usr/local/share/Pythia8/examples/main164ckkw.cmnd py8-ckkw.cmnd`
Edit file: disable HepMC out, enable Rivet MC_JETS, set $p_{T,Lund}$ cut = 30
`# pythia8-main164 -c py8-ckkw.cmnd` **← note different Pythia command! 164 knows merging**

❖ Analyse the Rivet histograms

- And plot the central values:
`# rivet-mkhtml Py-ZJ.yoda MG-ZJJ-merge.yoda MG-ZJJ-sum.yoda`
- MG5 events put lots of *weights* in the LHE file, incorporating e.g. scale and PDF variations. To plot them all, individually (hard to read, inflates the plot files):
`# rivet-mkhtml --with-variations MG-ZJJ-{merge,sum}.yoda`
To plot with simple envelopes:
`# rivet-mkhtml MG-ZJJ-{merge,sum}.yoda:"BandComponentEnv=.*"`
For more detailed band construction, see [the tutorial](#)

That's it!

- ❖ **Thanks for your time!**
- ❖ You now know how to run two of the most popular LHC event generators at Born and merged/matched levels
- ❖ ~~And how to set up and run any UFO new physics model~~
- ❖ ~~And write a new Rivet analysis~~
- ❖ These are superpowers — use them wisely!
- ❖ And the devil is in the details: black-box mode will only get you so far
- ❖ Sometimes it goes wrong, sometimes... it's complicated
- ❖ **Good luck!**



Backup / extras

Writing a custom MC analysis

❖ Just running pre-made Rivet analyses like MC_JETS would be very limiting

- Now we will very briefly write our own analysis code

❖ Inside your container, create a new C++ source file

- Rather than start from an empty file, we use rivet-mkanalysis to make a template code:

```
rivet-mkanalysis MYTEST  
nano MYTEST.cc
```

- Book a new histogram:

```
book(_h["jjmass"], "jjmass", logspace(20, 1.0, 1000.0));
```

- Require and get the two leading jets, add 4-vectors, histogram the mass:

```
if (jets.size() < 2) vetoEvent;  
FourMomentum pj = jets[0].mom() + jets[1].mom();  
_h["jjmass"]->fill(pj.mass()/GeV);
```

- Build, run and plot:

```
# rivet-build MYTEST.cc  
# rivet --pwd -a MYTEST PROC-ZJJMERGED/.../*.hepmc.gz -H mytest.yoda  
# rivet-mkhtml mytest.yoda -o /host/rivet-plots-mytest
```

Documentation on the code & physics objects from here:

<https://rivet.hepforge.org/doc>
<https://gitlab.com/hepcedar/rivet/-/blob/release-4-1-x/README.md>

← pick up the analysis .so from current working directory \$PWD

BSM physics generation

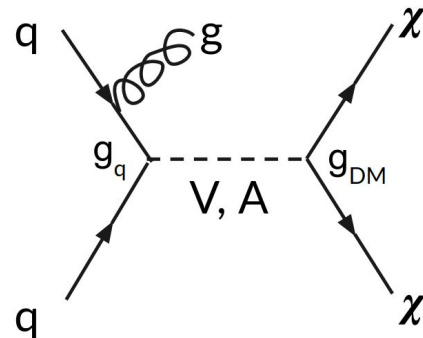
❖ Pythia8 has several built-in models, e.g. Z', SUSY, XD resonances...

- Many are steered just via Py8 parameters — see the manual
- SUSY in particular requires an SLHA file: use [hepstore/rivet-tutorial](#)
- Set up a command file with
 - `SUSY:all = on`
 - `SLHA:file = gg_g1500_chi100_g-ttchi.slha`
- Run and analyse

hepstore/rivet-tutorial is just the rivet-pythia Docker image with a few extra tutorial files in the work dir

❖ MG5 is really a generator generator: more flexible

- \Rightarrow can build new MEs for ~any UFO physics model (as can Sherpa, Herwig)
- E.g. a dark matter model:
 - `> import model DMsimp_s_spin1 --modelname`
 - `> generate p p > xd xd~ j`
- etc. DM mass, coupling can be set in the “param card” = SLHA
- Generate and analyse
- More control can be imposed by fixing new-physics couplings at amplitude level e.g. `NP==1` or ME-squared level e.g. `NP^2==1`



Since the MG5 conversion to use Python3, you may need to run a ‘convert’ command on your UFO, and re-import. The command-line will advise you if this is the case

Deprecated / broken

(MG5 3.5.9 broke “automatic” Pythia showering)

V+jets production: MG5+Py8

❖ Use MadGraph via the same image (maybe open it in a separate terminal)

- (`$ docker run -it --rm -v $PWD:/host hepstore/rivet-tutorial:main`)
`cd MG5_aMC/`
`bin/mg5_aMC`
- MG5 is a fixed-order ME generator that interfaces with Pythia's showers, decays, etc.

❖ Generate the lowest-order jet-multiplicity sample

- `> generate p p > mu+ mu- j`
`> output PROC-ZJ`
`> launch`
`> ... (enable Pythia with 1<Rtn>, edit param files, run with <Rtn>s)`
`> quit`
- `# cp -r PROC-ZJ /host/`
⇒ look at diagrams in the host file browser, xsec in web browser
- `# cd PROC-ZJ/Events/run_01/`
⇒ look at the LHE (and HepMC) event files:
`# zless unweighted_events.lhe.gz`

JPG Feyn diagrams will be generated automatically in the SubProcesses (sub)folders. You can also use the `> display diagrams` command... but not very effectively in Docker since there's no graphics

V+jets production: MG5+Py8 jet-merging

❖ We can also make higher-order MEs (here just tree-level)

```
➤ # ...  
# bin/mg5_aMC  
> generate p p > mu+ mu- j  
> add process p p > mu+ mu- j j  
> output PROC-ZJJMERGED  
> quit
```

Add a [QCD] suffix to generate a process at QCD NLO. Slow!!

⇒ one-loop matching with MC@NLO; loop and legs merging/matching with FxFx

```
➤ # cp -r PROC-ZJJMERGED PROC-ZJJBORKED
```

⇒ copy setup for broken, overlapping-process hack

```
# cd PROC-ZJJBORKED
```

```
# nano Cards/proc_card_mg5.dat
```

```
# nano Cards/run_card.dat
```

⇒ set ickkw=0 (disables correct merging!)

```
# bin/generate_events
```

```
➤ # cd ../PROC-ZJJMERGED
```

```
# bin/generate_events
```

❖ What's going on???

- The PS makes the different multiplicities overlap in phase-space: have to avoid double-counting
- CKKW(L) and MLM procedures do this by phase-space weights or cuts: we're trying MLM on/off

V+jets production: post-hoc analysis

❖ Run Rivet on the (zipped) MG5 HepMC events

- MG5 events have lots of weights, cf. the LHE file. Incorporating scale and PDF variations. But MG5 doesn't specify a default weight, so we need to identify that by hand:
- ```
rivet -a MC_JETS \
PROC-ZJ/Events/run_01/tag_1_pythia8_events.hepmc.gz -H MG-ZJ.yoda
```
- ```
# rivet -a MC_JETS \  
PROC-ZJJBORKED/Events/run_01/tag_1_pythia8_events.hepmc.gz -H MG-ZJJ-sum.yoda
```
- ```
rivet -a MC_JETS \
PROC-ZJJMERGED/Events/run_01/tag_1_pythia8_events.hepmc.gz -H MG-ZJJ-merge.yoda
```
- And plot: 

```
cp /host/Py-Z.yoda .
rivet-mkhtml Py-Z.yoda MG-Z*-filt.yoda --no-weights -o /host/rivet-plots-z
```

⇐ for speed / bug!

## ❖ Inspect the output

- See how the samples have different kinematics &  $N_{\text{jets}}$  ? ~~And the MG5 systematic uncertainty bands?~~