

Testing the flavour dependence of QCD parton showers



using heavy-flavour jet substructure with ALICE

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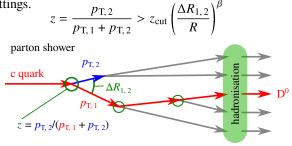
The parton-flavour dependence of splittings in parton showers can be explored using heavy-flavour jets. We report charm-tagged jet substructure measurements, using jets tagged with a reconstructed D^0 meson. Using the newly collected Run 3 data, these measurements span a large range of jet transverse momenta, allowing us to systematically probe the contribution of mass effects at low jet transverse momenta, where the dead-cone effect of the charm quark is significant, as well as the contribution of Casimir colour factor effects at high transverse momenta as the charm-tagged jet sample is quark-enriched.

Heavy-flavour jet groomed substructure

Heavy-flavour jets are tagged with a reconstructed D^0 meson.

The jet constituents, including the D⁰, are reclustered using the Cambridge–Aachen algorithm.

The resulting tree of angular-ordered splittings is groomed using the Soft-drop (SD) condition to identify perturbative splittings. $(AB + \lambda)^{\beta}$

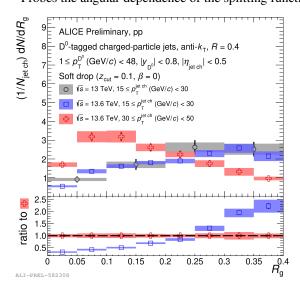


Splittings passing the grooming condition are used to construct observables characterising the parton shower. These observables are closely linked to fundamental ingredients of the QCD splitting functions describing $1 \rightarrow 2$ parton emissions.

Groomed opening angle R_g

Opening angle $\Delta R_{1,2}$ of the first splitting passing SD

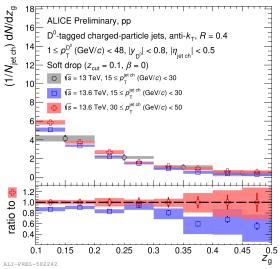
- Probes the angular dependence of the splitting function.



More collimated perturbative emissions for larger jet $p_{\rm T}$

Groomed momentum fraction z_{σ}

Momentum fraction *z* of the first splitting passing SD - Converges to the splitting function.

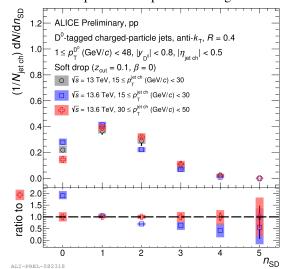


More probable perturbative emissions for larger jet p_T

Number of groomed splittings n_{SD}

Number of splittings passing SD along the charm branch

- Targets number of perturbative emissions.
- Links to the perturbative part of the fragmentation function.



More abundant perturbative emissions for larger jet p_T

Conclusions

The data sample of pp collisions recorded by ALICE in Run 3 allowed us to improve the precision of the measurements of the heavy-flavour jet substructure and extend their kinematic reach. We observe that with increasing jet p_T , perturbative emissions of gluons by charm quarks become more probable, more collimated and more abundant. These results are consistent with the expected mass effects.