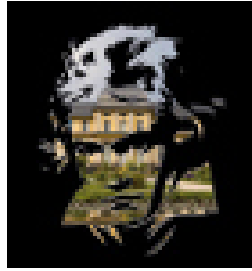


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Fragmentation functions at Belle

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Fragmentation functions (FFs) describe the formation of final state particles from a partonic initial state. Precise knowledge of these functions is a key ingredient in accessing quantities such as the nucleon spin structure in semi-inclusive deep inelastic scattering and proton proton collisions. However, fragmentation functions can currently not be determined from first principles Quantum Chromodynamics and have to be extracted from experimental data. The Belle experiment at KEK, Japan, provides a large data sample for high precision measurements of quantities allowing for first-time or more precise extractions of fragmentation functions. Completed and ongoing analyses for extractions of spin-independent (unpolarized FFs) as well as spin-dependent fragmentation functions (Collins and Interference FFs) at Belle will be presented.

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