



ALICE

Characterisation of charm-quark fragmentation via azimuthal correlations of charm hadrons and charged particles

PhD candidate:
Antonio Palasciano

Supervisors:
Prof. Giuseppe Eugenio Bruno
Dott. Fabio Colamaria

Dottorato in Fisica, XXXVI ciclo
PhD Final Examination, 11 April 2024

Heavy-flavour physics

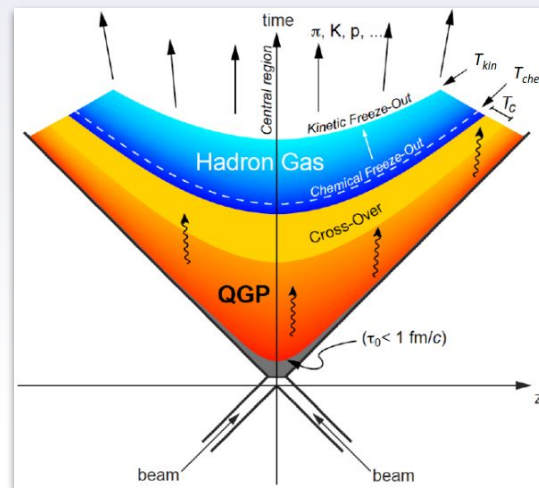
Heavy-flavour (HF) quark mass of the order of $\sim \text{GeV}/c^2$

- mainly produced in **hard-scattering** processes
- **thermal** production/annihilation negligible

In Pb-Pb collisions, produced **before** the QGP formation

$$\tau_{\text{QGP}} \sim 1 \text{ fm}/c \text{ (production timescale: } \Delta\tau \sim 1/Q \sim 1/2m)$$

→ Full evolution of the system experienced



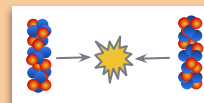
Measurement of HF hadrons: access to charm and beauty quarks dynamics



Test for **pQCD**
Reference for **Pb-Pb**
Hadronisation




Cold Nuclear Matter (**CNM**) effects
Modification of PDFs in nuclei
Hot nuclear matter effects
Flow



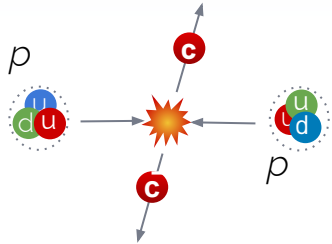
Hot nuclear matter effects
Energy loss in the QGP
Modification to hadronisation

From HF quarks to hadrons

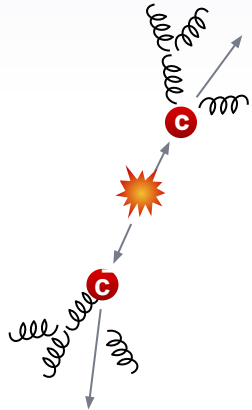
 From heavy-quark production to final state particles

time 

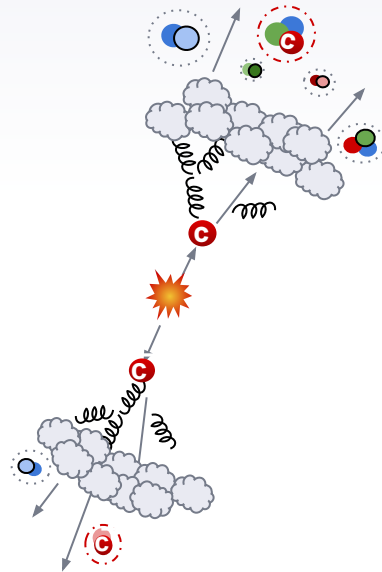
Hard scattering
(example: LO)



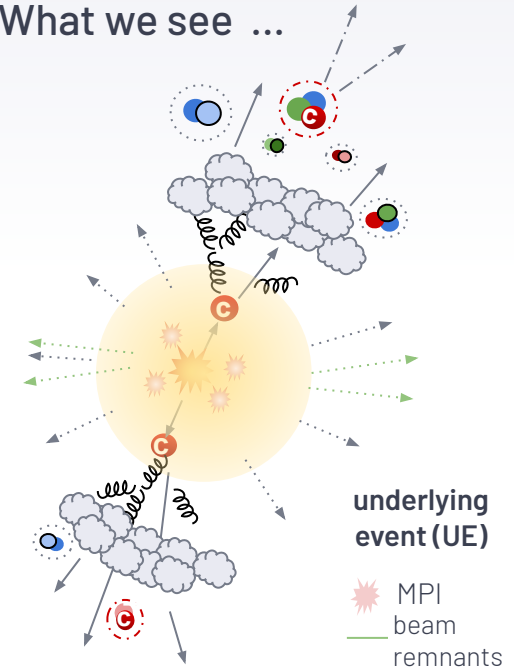
Parton shower



Hadronisation



What we see ...



Azimuthal correlations between HF particles

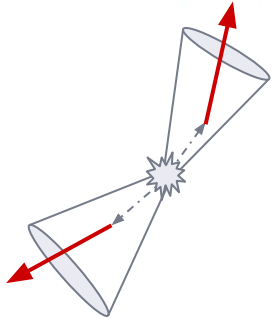
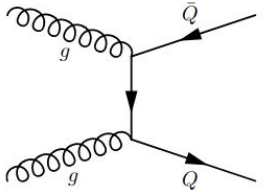


ALICE

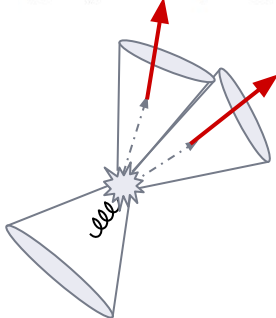
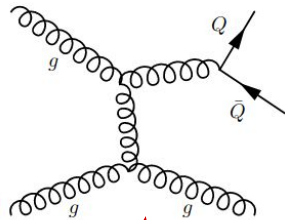


Footprints of HF-quark production mechanisms

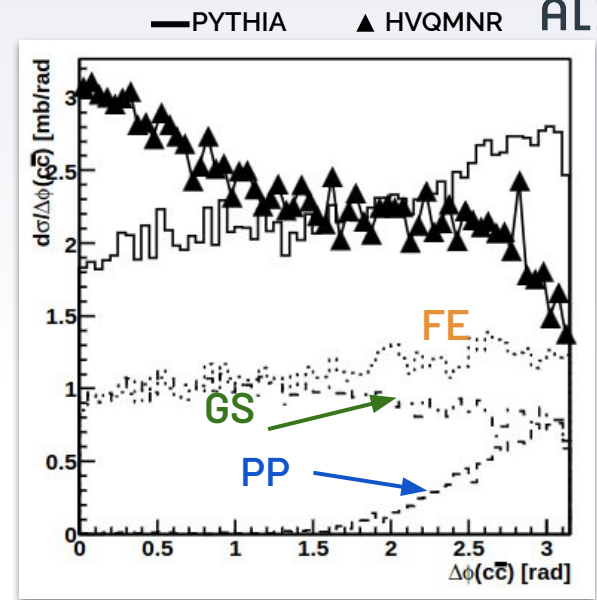
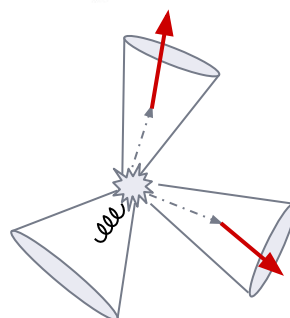
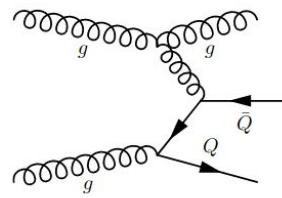
LO: pair production (PP)



NLO: gluon splitting (GS)



NLO: flavour excitation (FE)



[arXiv:hep-ph/0311048](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0311048)

Correlations between:

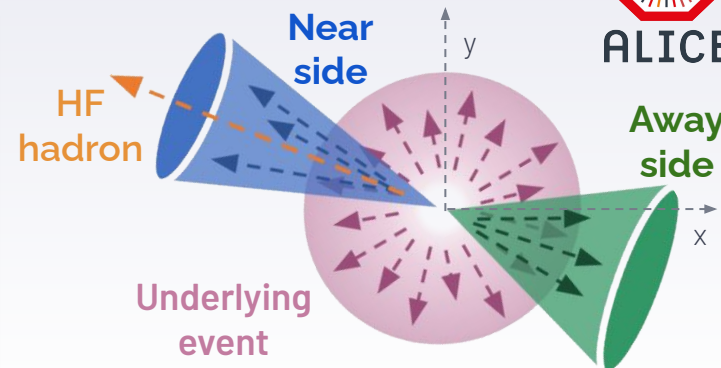
- HF - HF → ideal probe
- HF - h → sensitivity

Azimuthal correlations of HF and charged particles



ALICE

Away side



Investigation of heavy-flavour quark fragmentation

The heavy-flavour jet is characterised with:

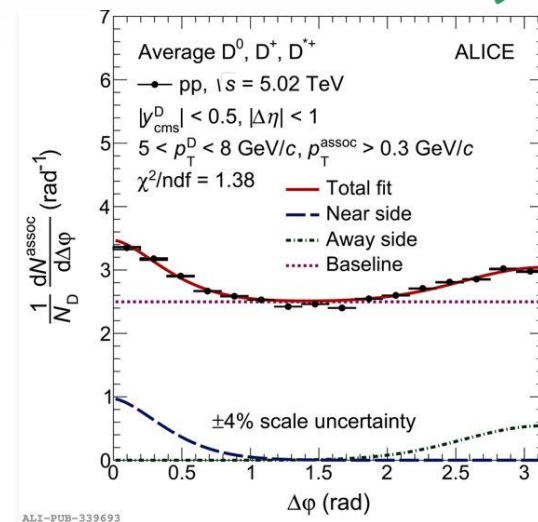
- Angular opening
- Multiplicity of particles
- Momentum distribution among its constituents



Validation of parton-shower models and Monte Carlo generators



Possible modifications induced in the charm-jet by a different hadronisation mechanisms



ALI-PUB-339693

EPJ C 80 (2020) 979

Enhanced Λ_c^+ / D^0 production ratio in pp



ALICE

Open heavy-flavour hadron production cross section calculated by factorisation approach:

$$\frac{d\sigma^{H_c}}{dp_T^{H_c}}(p_T; \mu_F, \mu_R) = PDF(x_1, \mu_F) \otimes PDF(x_2, \mu_F) \otimes \frac{d\sigma^c}{dp_T^c}(p_T; \mu_F, \mu_R) \otimes D_{c \rightarrow H_c}(z = p_{H_c}/p_c, \mu_F)$$

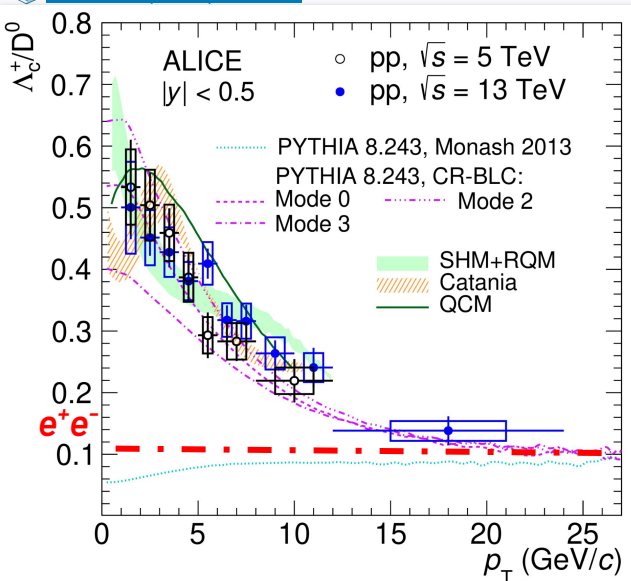
Parton distribution functions

Hard scattering cross section (pQCD)

Fragmentation function (hadronisation)

Assumed **universal** across collision systems (ee, ..., AA)

PRL 128 (2022) 012001



p_T -dependent enhancement of Λ_c^+ / D^0 ratio in pp than e^+e^-

~~PYTHIA 8 Monash~~, tuned on e^+e^- , significantly underestimates the data

LEP: $(0.113 \pm 0.013 \pm 0.006)$ EPJC 75 (2015) 19

Enhanced Λ_c^+ / D^0 production ratio in pp



ALICE

Open heavy-flavour hadron production cross section calculated by factorisation approach:

$$\frac{d\sigma^{H_c}}{dp_T^{H_c}}(p_T; \mu_F, \mu_R) = PDF(x_1, \mu_F) \otimes PDF(x_2, \mu_F) \otimes \frac{d\sigma^c}{dp_T^c}(p_T; \mu_F, \mu_R) \otimes D_{c \rightarrow H_c}(z = p_{H_c}/p_c, \mu_F)$$

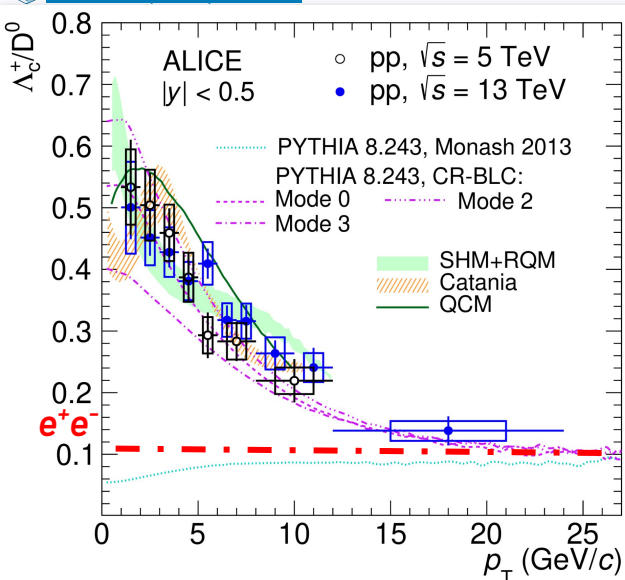
Parton distribution functions

Hard scattering cross section (pQCD)

Fragmentation function (hadronisation)

Assumed **universal** across collision systems (ee, ..., AA)

PRL 128 (2022) 012001

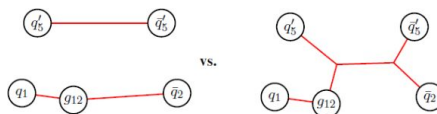


p_T -dependent enhancement of Λ_c^+ / D^0 ratio in pp than e^+e^-

Different hadronisation mechanism proposed:

✓ CR modes in PYTHIA 8

JHEP 1508 (2015) 003



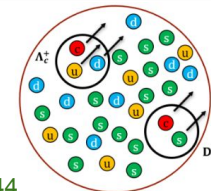
✓ Coalescence in:

→ Catania

arXiv:2012.12001

→ QCM

EPJC (2018) 78:344



✓ Augmented charm feed-down in SHM+RQM

→ PDG: $5 \Lambda_c^+$, $3 \Sigma_c^+$, $8 \Xi_c^+$, $2 \Omega_c^+$ PLB 795

→ RQM: $+ 18 \Lambda_c^{*+}$, $42 \Sigma_c^{*+}$, $62 \Xi_c^{*+}$, $34 \Omega_c^{*+}$ (2019) 117-121

LEP: $(0.113 \pm 0.013 \pm 0.006)$ EPJC 75 (2015) 19

Charm-tagged jets



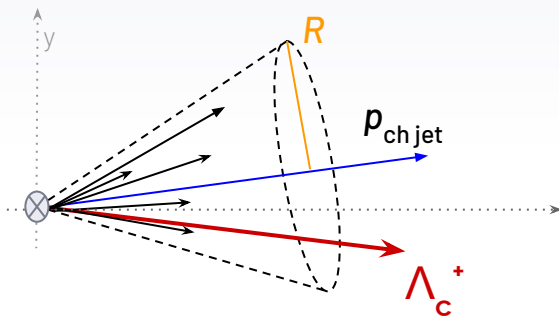
ALICE

→ Probe the fragmentation of charm quarks into charm mesons and baryons

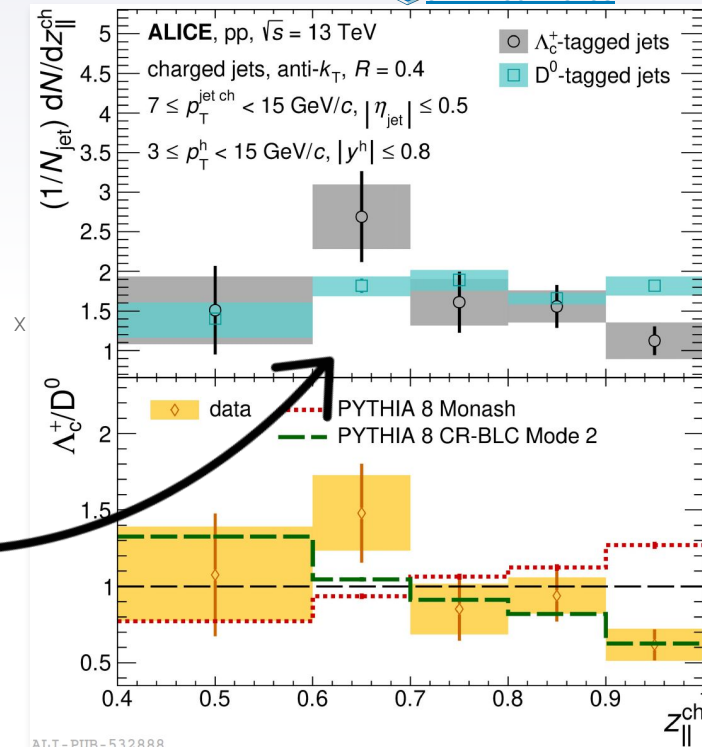
[arXiv:2301.13798](https://arxiv.org/abs/2301.13798)

Longitudinal momentum fraction

$$z_{||} = \frac{\vec{p}_{\text{ch jet}} \cdot \vec{p}_{\text{HF}}}{\vec{p}_{\text{ch jet}} \cdot \vec{p}_{\text{ch jet}}}$$



- hint of **softer fragmentation** into Λ_c^+ than D^0
 - does this reflect in azimuthal correlations?
- Better reproduced by **PYTHIA8, CR mode 2** than **Monash**



Charm hadron - charged particles azimuthal correlation analyses

A Large Ion Collider Experiment



ALICE

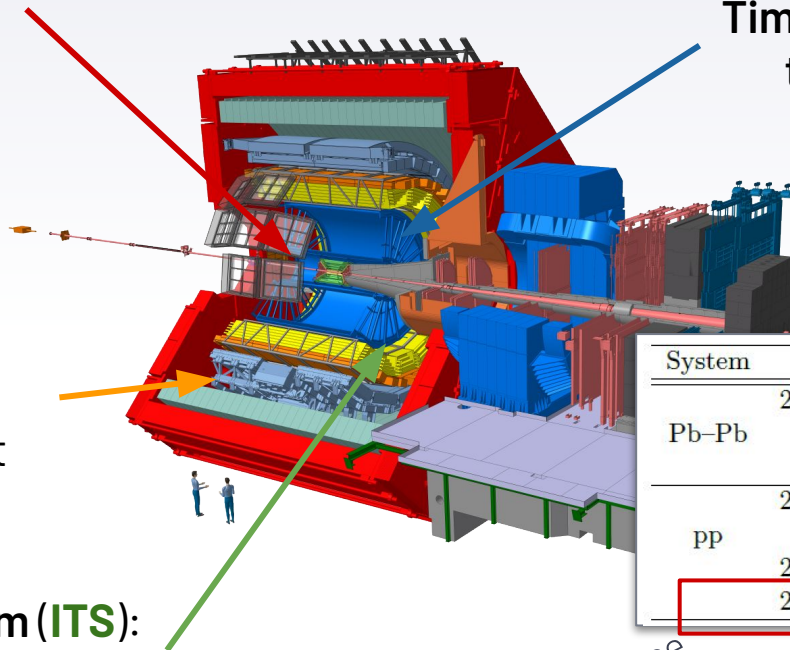
V0:

trigger and event selection

Time Projection Chamber (TPC):
tracking and PID via dE/dx

Time-Of-Flight Detector (TOF):

PID via time of flight



Inner Tracking System (ITS):
tracking, vertexing

System	Year	$\sqrt{s_{NN}}$ (TeV)	L_{int}
Pb-Pb	2010-2011	2.76	$\approx 75 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$
	2015	5.02	$\approx 250 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$
	2018	5.02	$\approx 1 \text{nb}^{-1}$
pp	2009-2013	0.9, 2.76	$\approx 200 \text{nb}^{-1}, \approx 100 \text{nb}^{-1}$
		7, 8	$\approx 1.5 \text{pb}^{-1}, \approx 2.5 \text{pb}^{-1}$
	2015-2017	5.02	$\approx 1.8 \text{pb}^{-1}$
	2015-2018	13	$\approx 25 \text{pb}^{-1}$

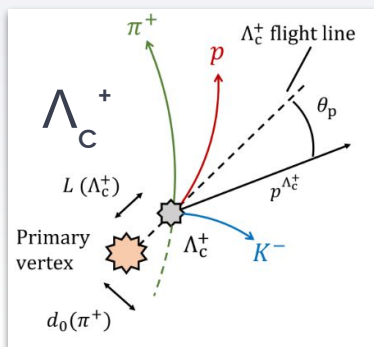
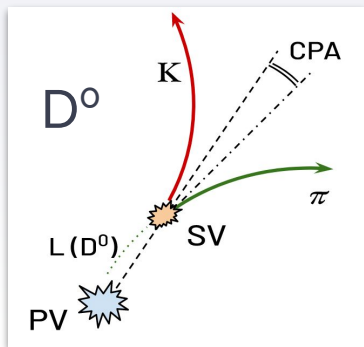
For these analyses

Selected **pp minimum-bias** events:

$$N_{\text{evt}} = 1.7\text{B}, L_{\text{int}} \sim 29 \text{nb}^{-1}$$

Trigger candidate reconstruction

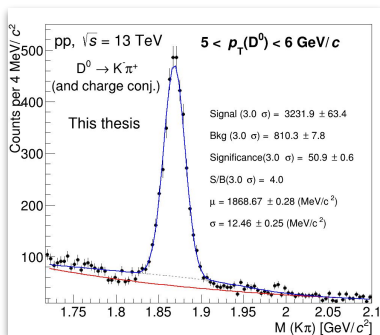
Two trigger charm hadron cases are analysed:



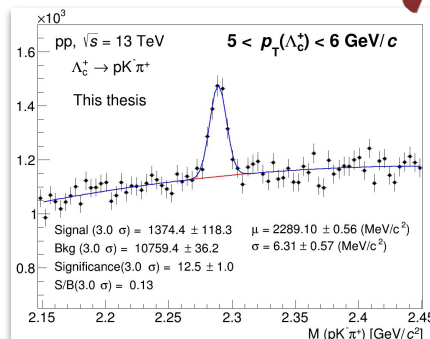
Hadron	Mass (MeV/c)	$c\tau$ (μm)	Decay (BR)
D^0	1864.84 ± 0.05	123	$K^- \pi^+ ((3.95 \pm 0.03)\%)$
Λ_c^+	2286.46 ± 0.14	60.4	$pK^- \pi^+ ((6.26 \pm 0.29)\%)$

Identification performed through variables related to
 → the **displaced decay topology**
 → daughter **PID information** in **TPC** and **TOF** detectors

Rectangular selections



ML selections *dmlc* **XGBoost**



Associated particles

Only "primary" particles¹ considered:

- $|\eta| < 0.8$ (Barrel acceptance)
- satisfying **tracking** requirements (**ITS**, **TPC**)
- $DCA_{xy,z} < 1 \text{ cm}$

¹ [ALICE "primary" particles](#)

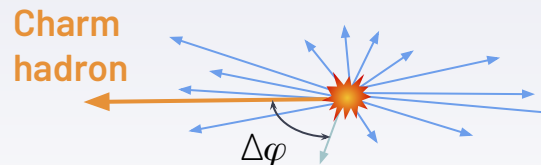
Building $(\Delta\varphi, \Delta\eta)$ angular correlation distributions



ALICE

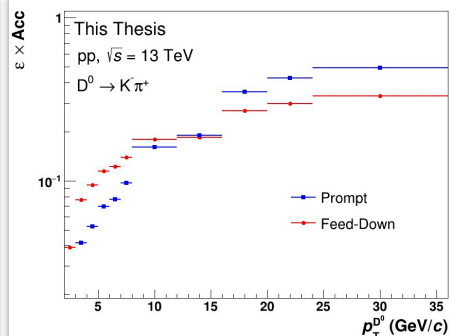
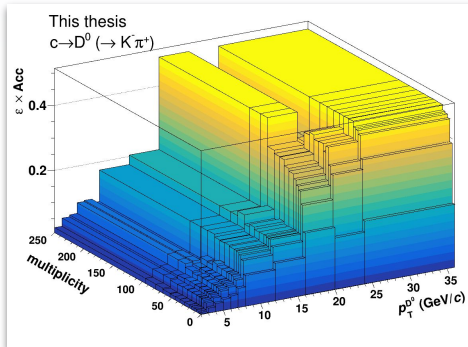
The angular separation $(\Delta\varphi, \Delta\eta)$ between each candidate and charged associated particles is stored in 2D angular correlation distributions.

Each correlation pair is weighted by:



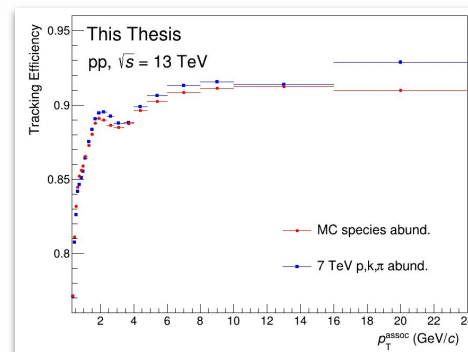
Trigger candidate reconstruction efficiency

$\varepsilon \times \text{Acc}$ (tracklets mult, p_T)



Associated particle tracking efficiency

$\varepsilon_{\text{track}}$ ($p_T, \eta, z_{\text{vtx}}$)



Angular correlation distributions $(\Delta\varphi, \Delta\eta)$ are then built in separate transverse momentum intervals.

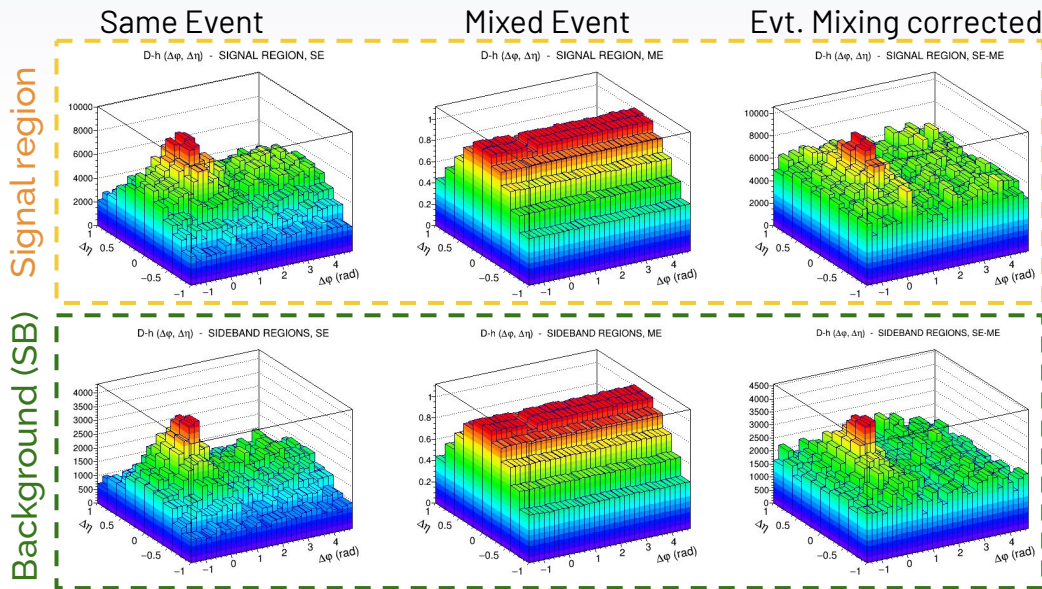
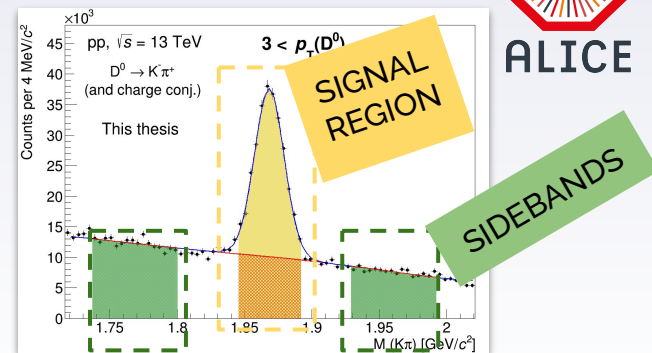
Event-mixing & background subtraction



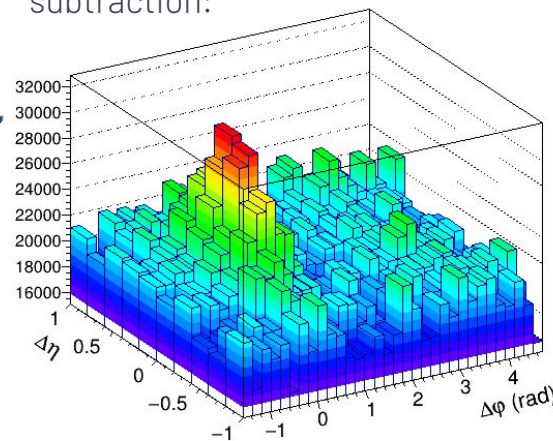
ALICE

A M_{inv} based analysis is performed to extrapolate signal correlation distributions

→ The **Evt. Mixing correction** is applied considering events with similar features (pool) in terms of **event multiplicity**, and z_{vtx} position.



After pool integration and background subtraction:

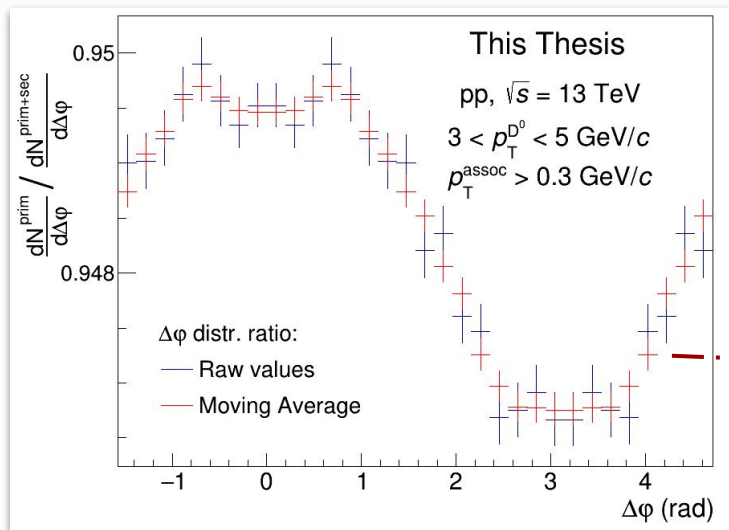
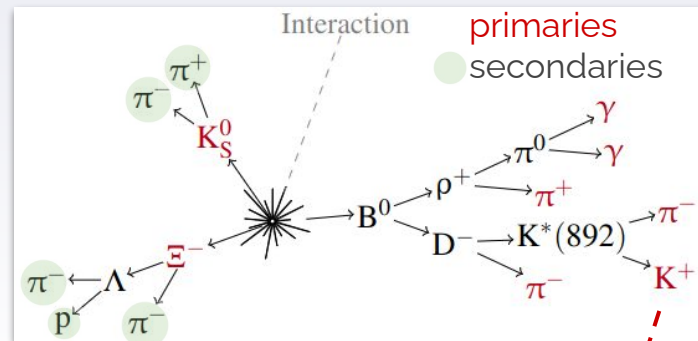


Secondary particle contamination

Stable particles surviving **DCA** cuts, generally coming from:

- interaction of **primary tracks** with the **detector material**
- products of **weak decays** (excluding HF fragments)

The contamination is estimated from Monte Carlo simulations



$\Delta\phi$ -distributions computed considering only **primaries** and associated inclusive sample to determine the $\Delta\phi$ -modulation

The **moving average** ($\Delta\phi$) is considered as a bin-by-bin modulation of the azimuthal correlation distribution.

Beauty feed-down subtraction



ALICE

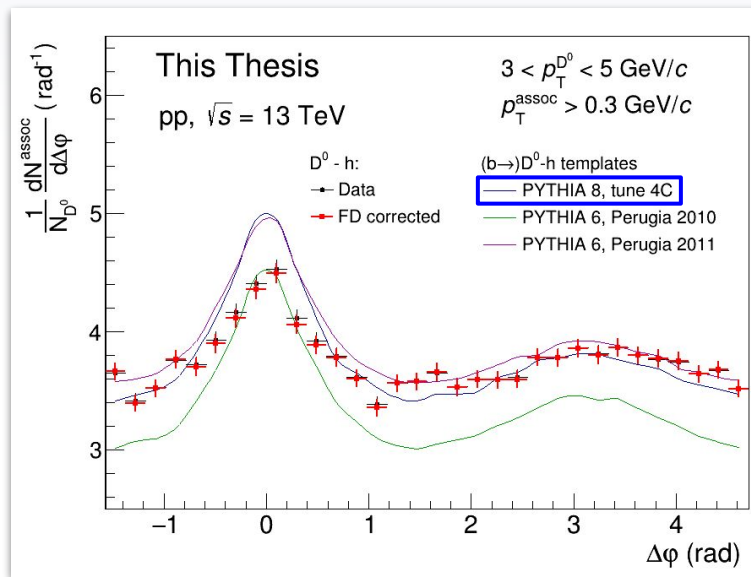
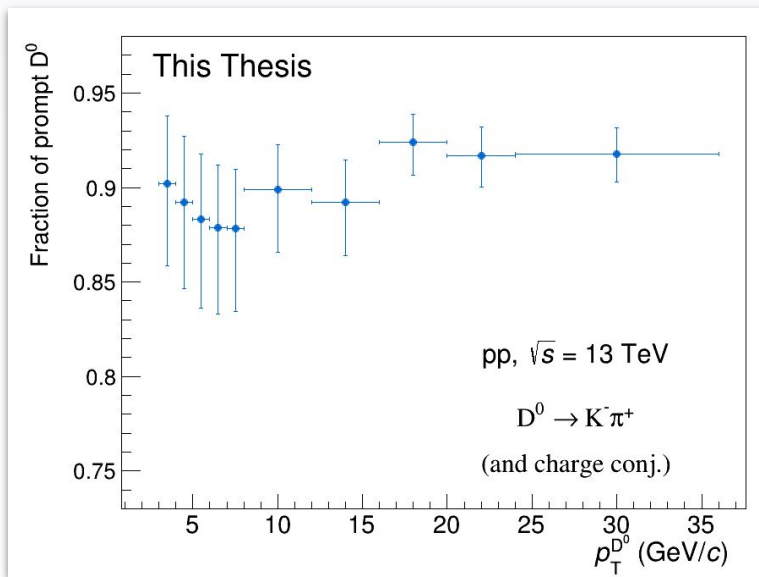
Contamination from beauty feed-down is subtracted considering:

→ fraction of non-prompt charm hadrons

$$f_{\text{prompt}} = 1 - \frac{N_{\text{raw}}^{D+\bar{D}} \text{feed-down}}{N_{\text{raw}}^{D+\bar{D}}}$$

→ non prompt H_c -h correlation MC templates

$$\tilde{C}_{\text{prompt}}(\Delta\varphi) = \frac{1}{f_{\text{prompt}}} \left(\tilde{C}_{\text{inclusive}}(\Delta\varphi) - (1 - f_{\text{prompt}}) \tilde{C}_{\text{feed-down}}^{\text{MC templ}}(\Delta\varphi) \right)$$



* Λ_c : beauty $d\sigma^{\text{FONLL}}/dp_T$, FF(b→ Λ_b) LHCb, $\Lambda_b \rightarrow \Lambda_c$ performed by PYTHIA 8

Beauty bias in azimuthal correlations



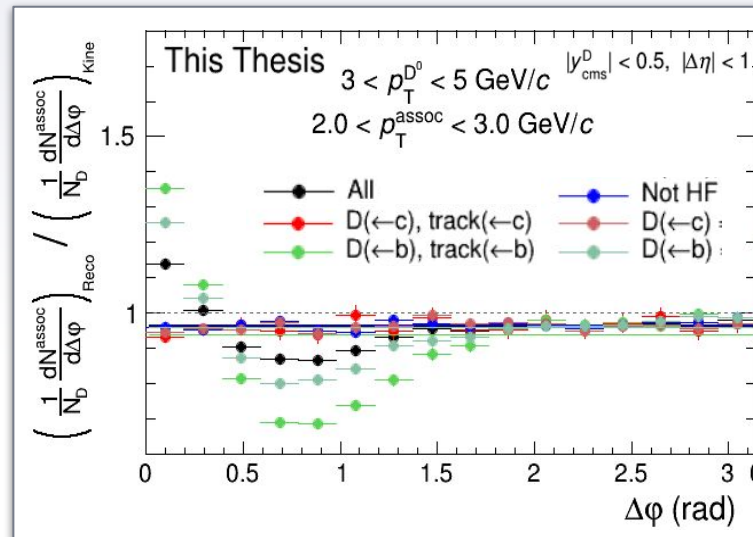
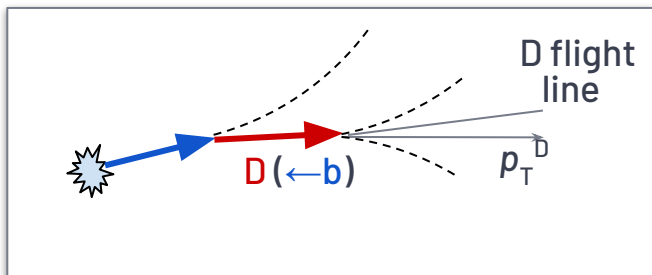
ALICE

From MC simulations:

→ difference between generated and reconstructed level in $\Delta\varphi$ correlation distributions with **beauty-origin**

□ enhancement at $\Delta\varphi \sim 0$, followed by a depletion

→ induced by **topological selections** on the non-prompt hadron (mainly $\cos\theta_p$)



$$C(\Delta\varphi)_{\text{corr}} = C(\Delta\varphi)_{\text{raw}} \cdot \left[\frac{c \rightarrow D^0|_{\text{amplit}}}{(b+c) \rightarrow D^0|_{\text{amplit}}} \cdot f_{\text{prompt}} + \frac{b \rightarrow D^0|_{\text{amplit}}}{(b+c) \rightarrow D^0|_{\text{amplit}}} \cdot \frac{(1-f_{\text{prompt}})}{\text{modul}} \right]$$

A $\Delta\varphi$ -dependent modulation around $\Delta\varphi \sim 0$, is therefore applied to the correlation distribution.

Fit of the azimuthal correlation distributions



ALICE

→ D^0 distributions averaged with D^+ and D^* results

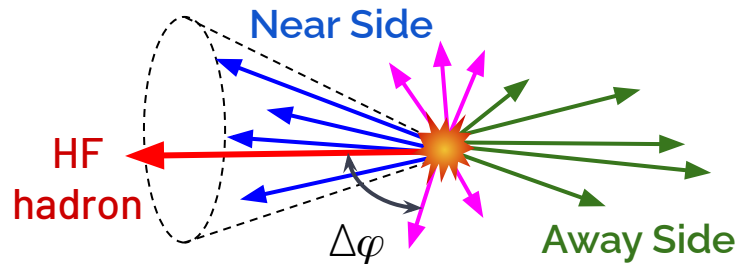
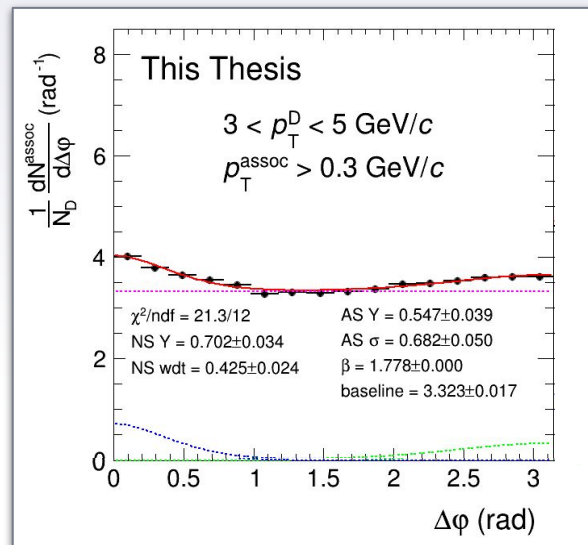
The fully corrected azimuthal correlation distribution are then fitted considering the periodic function:

$$f(\Delta\varphi) = \boxed{a} + \boxed{\frac{Y_{NS} \times \beta}{2\alpha \Gamma(1/\beta)} \times e^{-\left(\frac{\Delta\varphi}{\alpha}\right)^\beta}} + \boxed{\frac{Y_{AS}}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_{AS}} \times e^{-\frac{(\Delta\varphi-\pi)^2}{2\sigma_{AS}^2}}}$$

Generalized Gaussian → β is fixed to Monte Carlo templates

The properties of the peaks are described by:

- Y_{NS} , Y_{AS} are the **per-trigger associated particle yields**
- σ_{NS} , σ_{AS} the **widths of the two peaks**

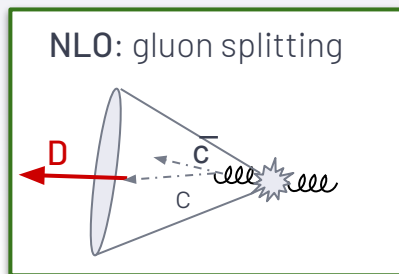
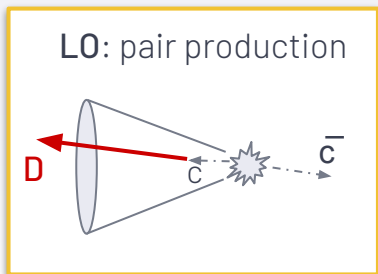


D-h near-side properties comparison with \sqrt{s}



ALICE

Near-Side: description of charm-jet constituents, their momentum and angular displacement wrt the trigger

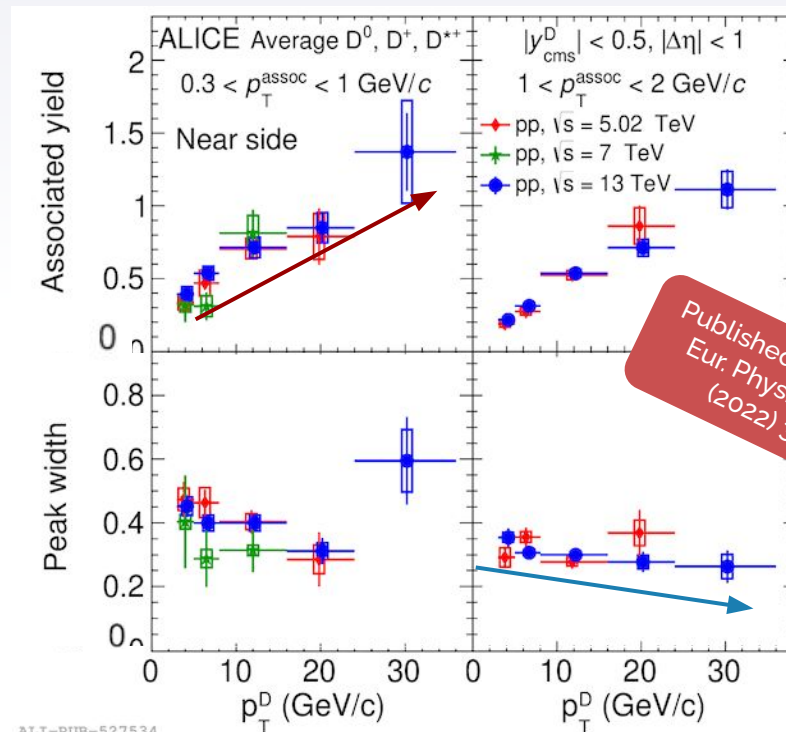


With increasing p_T^D :

- More energetic parton
 - more phase space for other fragments
 - **increasing yields**
- Larger heavy-quark boost
 - more collimated shower
 - **sharpening of the peak**



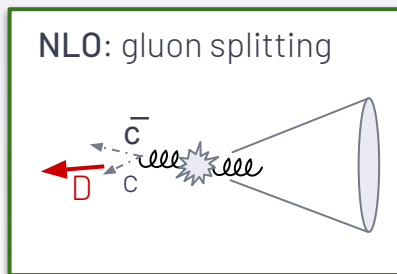
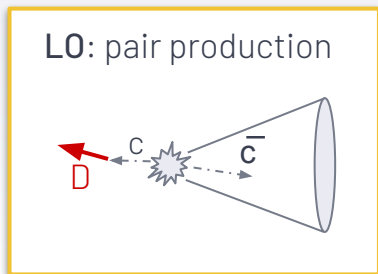
No centre-of-mass energy dependence



ALI-PUB-527534

D-h away-side properties comparison with \sqrt{s}

Away-Side provide description of the recoil-jet, not necessarily developed by a charm

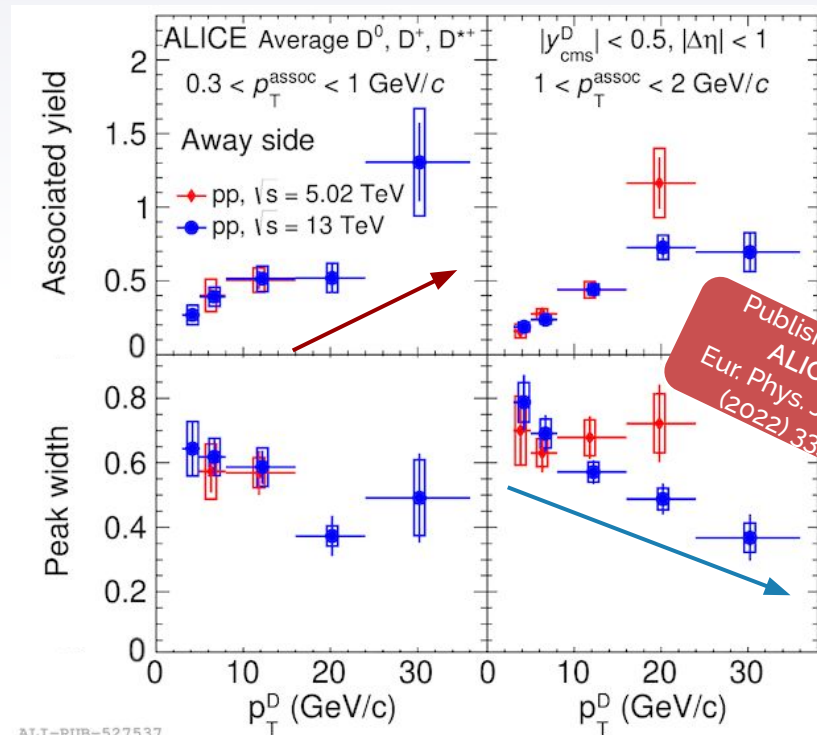


As for the NS, with increasing p_T^D :

- More energetic parton
 - more phase space for other fragments
 - **increasing yields**
 - more collimated shower
 - **sharpening of the peak**



No centre-of-mass energy dependence



ALI-PUB-527537

Near-side characterisation in MC predictions

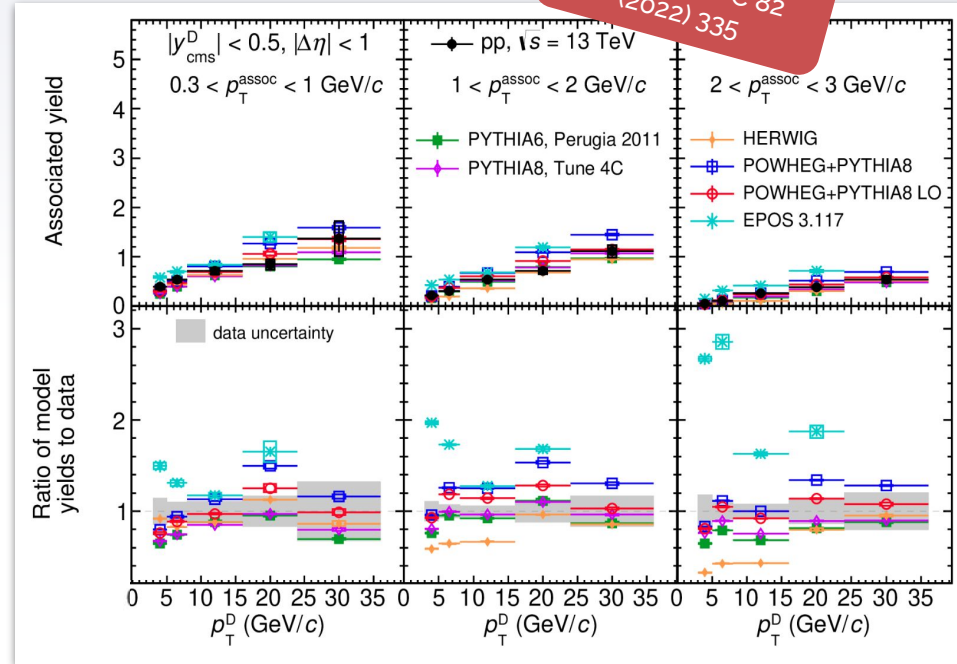


Validation of charm-jet description by Monte Carlo generators

Published by ALICE
Eur. Phys. J. C 82
(2022) 335

NS yields:

- Larger values at high- $p_T(D)$ by **POWHEG+PYTHIA8** than **PYTHIA8** because of **GS** contribution
- About 10% larger yields for **POWHEG+PYTHIA8** w.r.t. **POWHEG+PYTHIA8 LO**
 - more collinear production via **GS**
- **HERWIG** tends to underestimate the NS yields at low $p_T(D)$ and at high $p_T(assoc)$
- **EPOS** overestimates the yields over the whole p_T range



PYTHIA8 and **POWHEG+PYTHIA8** provide the best description

In **Backup**
more details

Comparison Λ_c^+ vs D measurements



ALICE

D mesons - h

Λ_c^+ - h

[Eur. Phys. J. C 82, 335 \(2022\)](#)

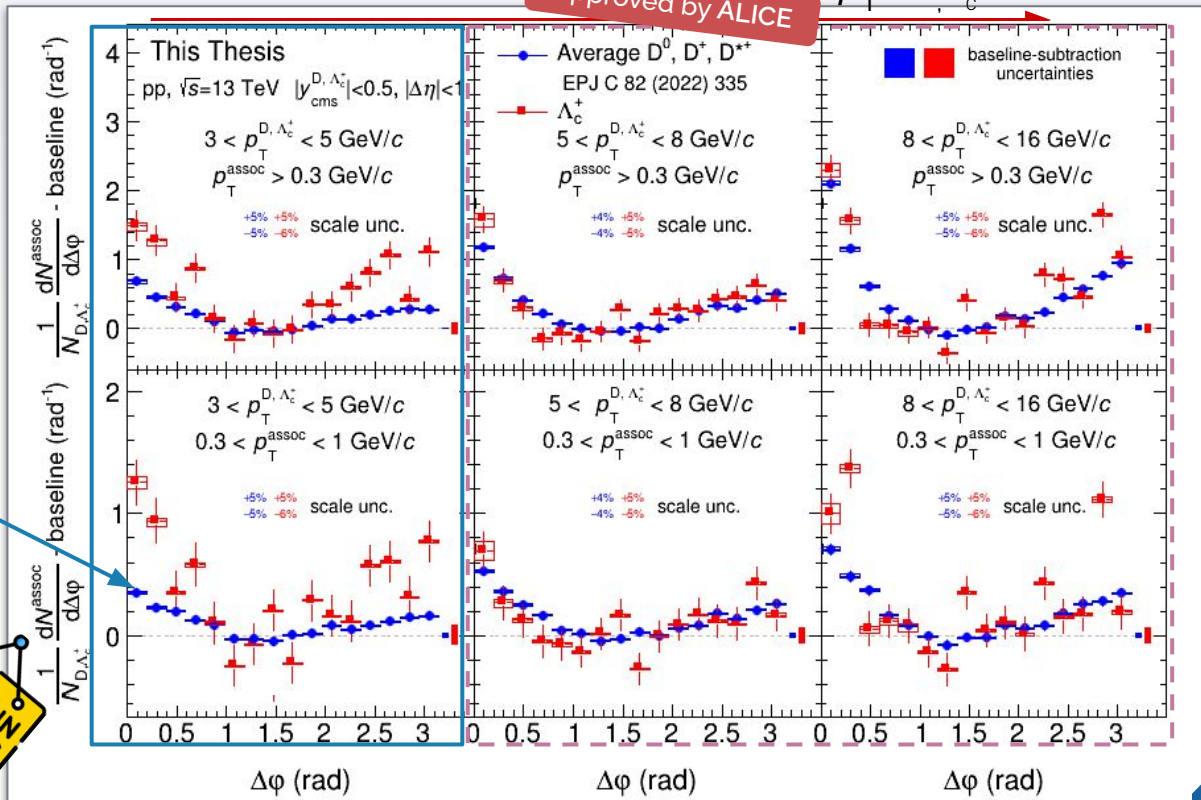
→ good agreement between the $\Delta\phi$ distribution for $p_T(\Lambda_c^+) > 5 \text{ GeV}/c$
 → small deviations in NS peaks

→ Significant deviation for low- $p_T(\Lambda_c^+)$ from D-h measurements

PAPER IN PROGRESS

Approved by ALICE

$p_T(D, \Lambda_c^+)$



*Other transverse momentum intervals in backup

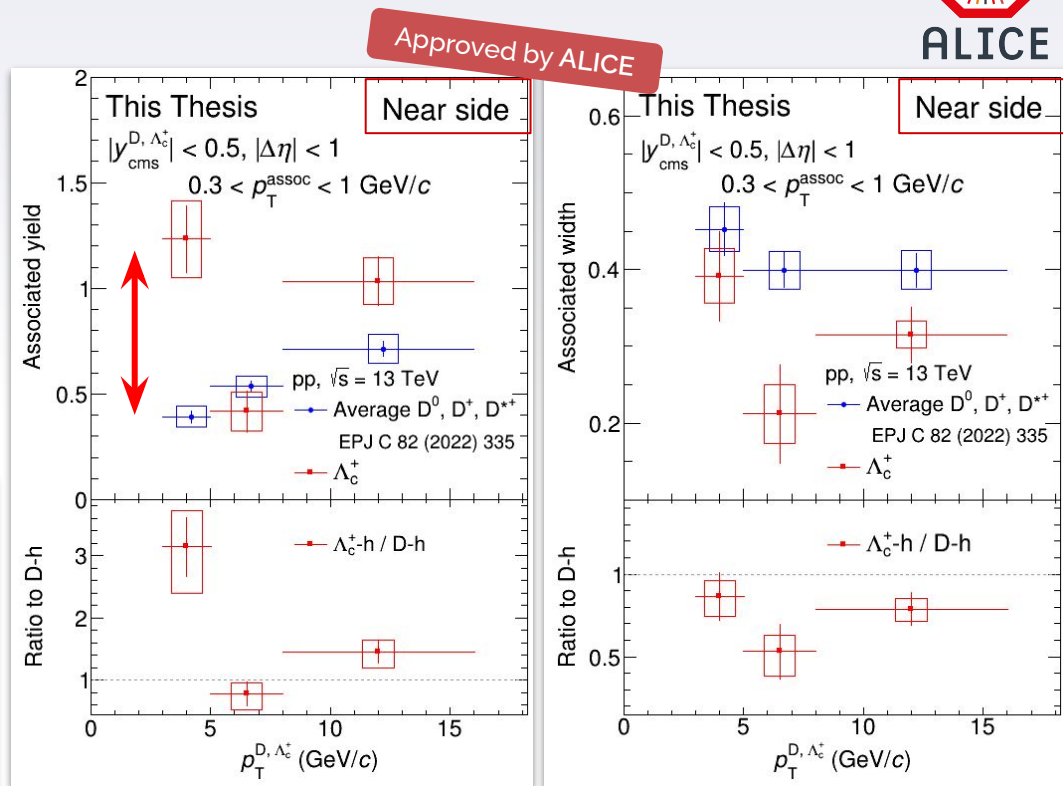
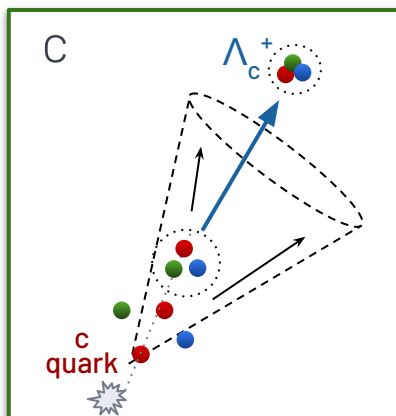
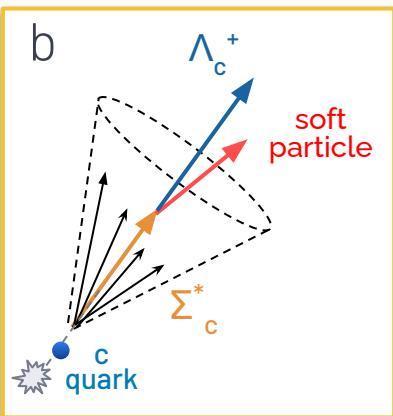
Characterisation of the Λ_c^+ -jet



ALICE

Higher NS yields in Λ_c^+ -h than D-h at low- p_T :

- a) different energy of the charm quark as a consequence of a softer Λ_c^+ fragmentation
- b) decay of higher mass charm states (SHM+RQM)
- c) hadronisation by coalescence



*Other transverse momentum intervals in backup

Characterisation of the recoil-jet

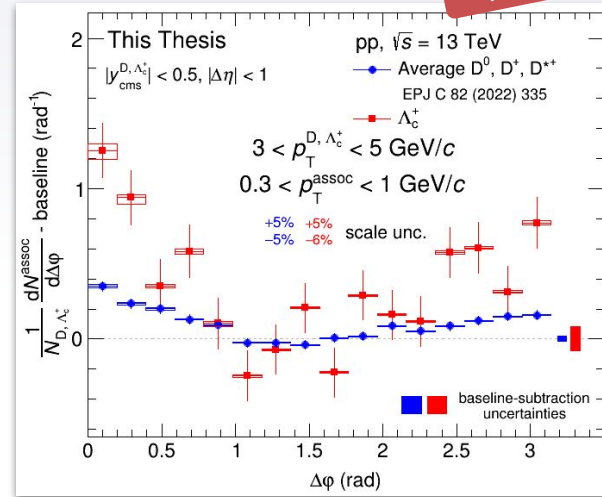
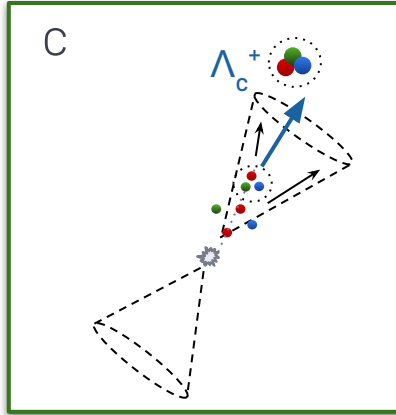
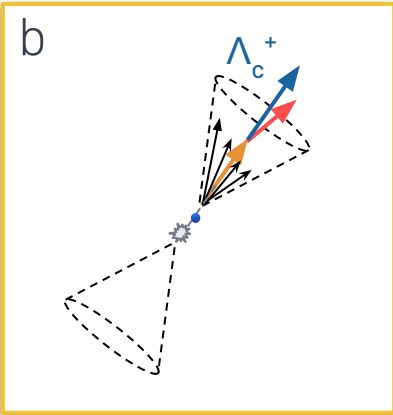
The difference between Λ_c^+ and D fragmentation and/or hadronisation reflects also in the AS.

a) **different energy** of the **charm quark** as a consequence of a **softer** Λ_c^+ fragmentation

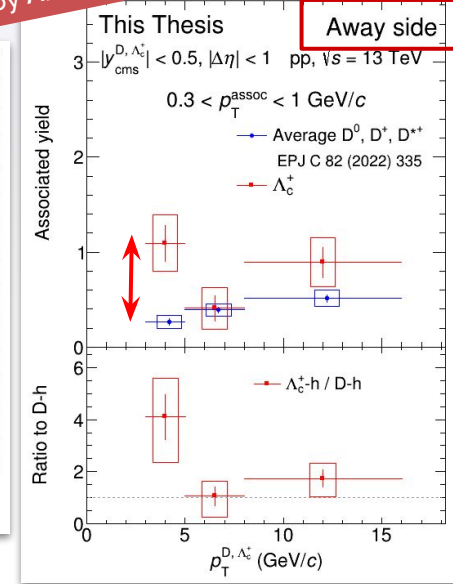
Less probable hypothesis:

b) decay of **higher mass charm states (SHM+RQM)**

c) hadronisation by **coalescence**



Approved by ALICE



Difference between **charm-to-meson** and **charm-to-baryon fragmentation**

*Other transverse momentum intervals in backup

Λ_c^+ -h in MC simulations



ALICE

PYTHIA 8 expectations could be tested

→ Monash, CR modes, POWHEG+PYTHIA8

PYTHIA 8 Monash+Reso including SHM+RQM baryons

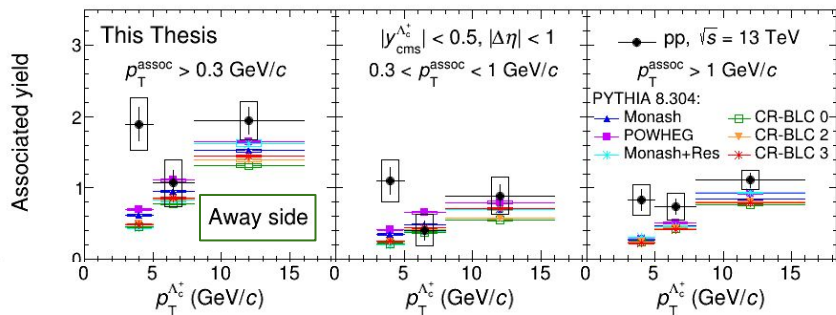
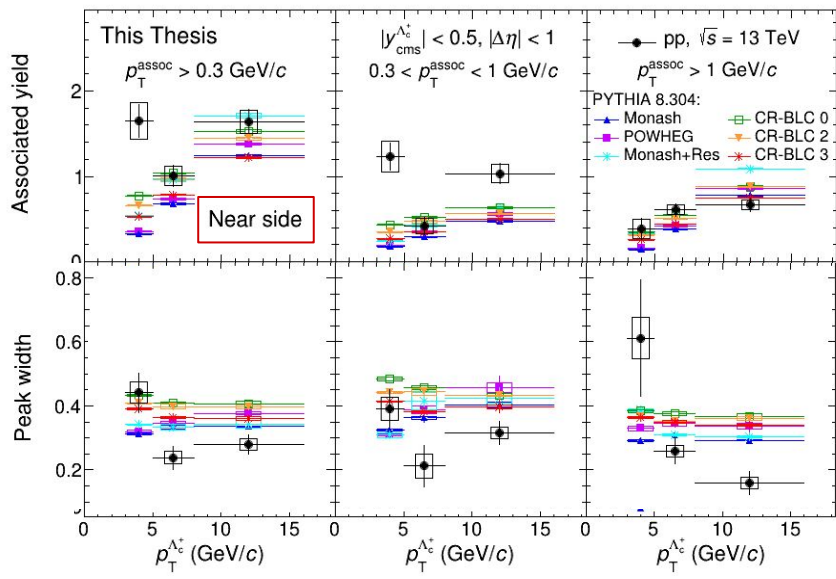
At small p_T^{assoc} , discrepancies in the NS & AS yields

→ Hierarchies in models:

NS: Monash < mode 3 < mode 2 < mode 0

AS: opposite

→ Reso impacts more for $p_T(\Lambda_c^+) > 5 \text{ GeV}/c$



charm-to-baryon fragmentation not properly described by MC generators



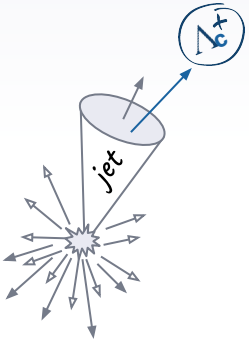
PYTHIA 8 CR-BLC modes, despite predicting the Λ_c^+/D^0 p_T -dependence, are not able to fully describe the charm-jet fragmentation

Summary



- Charm fragmentation detailed with **D-h correlations** in pp at $\sqrt{s}=13$ TeV
- no modification depending on the centre-of-mass energy
 - sharpening of correlation peaks with increasing trigger p_T
 - **PYTHIA8** and **POWHEG+PYTHIA8** reproducing within uncertainties the data
 - confirming what observed in D-jets

Published by ALICE
Eur. Phys. J. C 82
(2022) 335



- Hint of softer fragmentation **Λ_c^+ -h correlations** as in **Λ_c^+ -jets**
- discrepancies in **Λ_c^+ -h** can help in constraining Monte Carlo models
 - **PYTHIA8 CR modes** despite reproducing the in-jet Λ_c^+/D^0 ratio, fails with correlations
 - in contact with authors for **modified hadronisation** predictions

Approved by ALICE
Paper in preparation

Thanks for your attention!

TALKs

- 10th International Workshop on CHARM Physics - CHARM2020
"Charm jet and correlation measurements with ALICE in pp and p-Pb collisions at the LHC"
- Quark-Gluon Plasma Characterisation with Heavy Flavour Probes, ECT* Workshop, Trento, Nov 2021,
"Charm fragmentation studies with ALICE at the LHC"
- 108^o Congresso Nazionale della Società Italiana di Fisica, SIF 2022, Milano, Set 2022,
"Charm jets and correlations with ALICE at the LHC"
- 11th International Conference on Hard and Electromagnetic Probes of High-Energy Nuclear Collisions, Mar 2023
"First measurements of in-jet fragmentation and correlations of charmed mesons and baryons in pp collisions with ALICE"

POSTERS

- XXIXth International Conference on Ultra-relativistic Nucleus-Nucleus Collisions, Krakow, April 2022,
"Beauty measurement prospects with ALICE 3" (POSTER)
- Quinto Incontro Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare, Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso, May 2022,
"Investigating heavy-flavour fragmentation and hadronization with jets and correlation measurements with ALICE" (POSTER)
- 152th LHCC meeting, Nov 2023
"Azimuthal correlation between D mesons and charged particles in pp collision at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV with ALICE" (POSTER)



ALICE

Additional Material

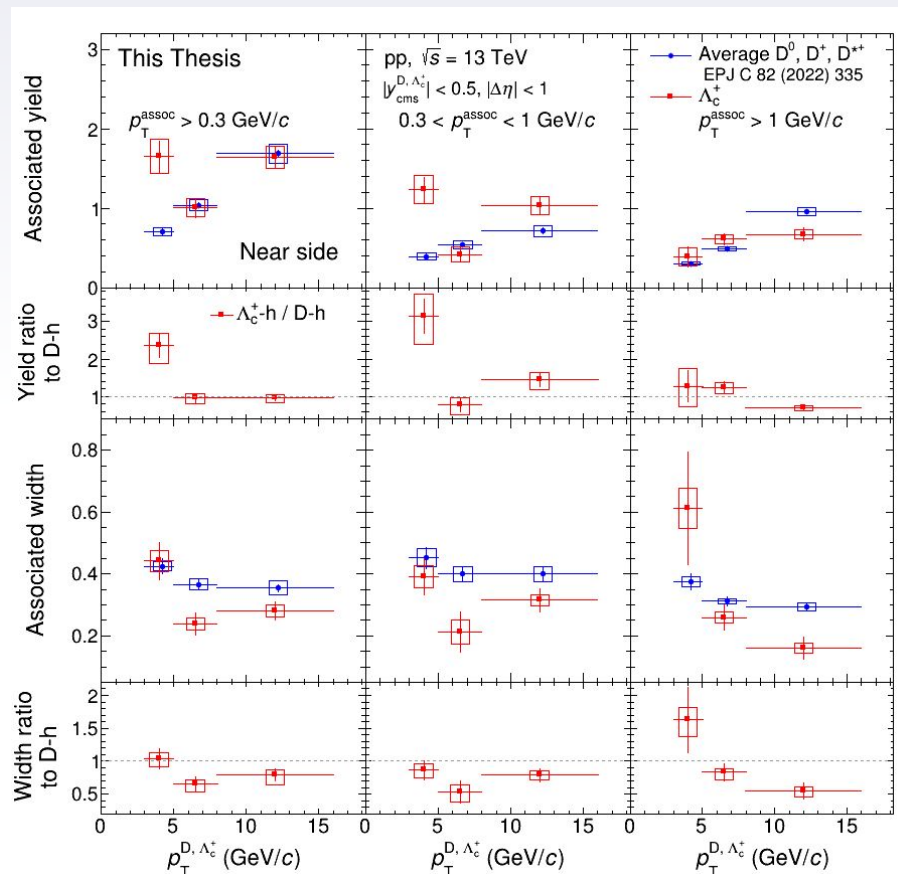


ALICE

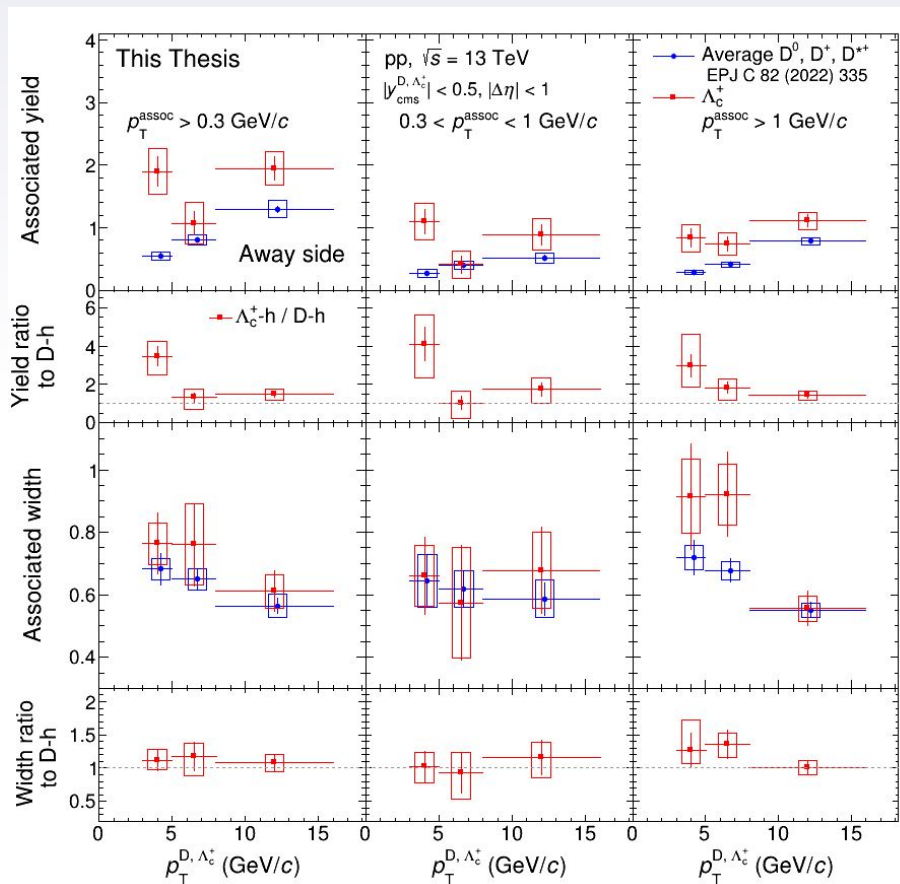
Results

Antonio Palasciano

Λ_c^+ -h correlations: Near-side



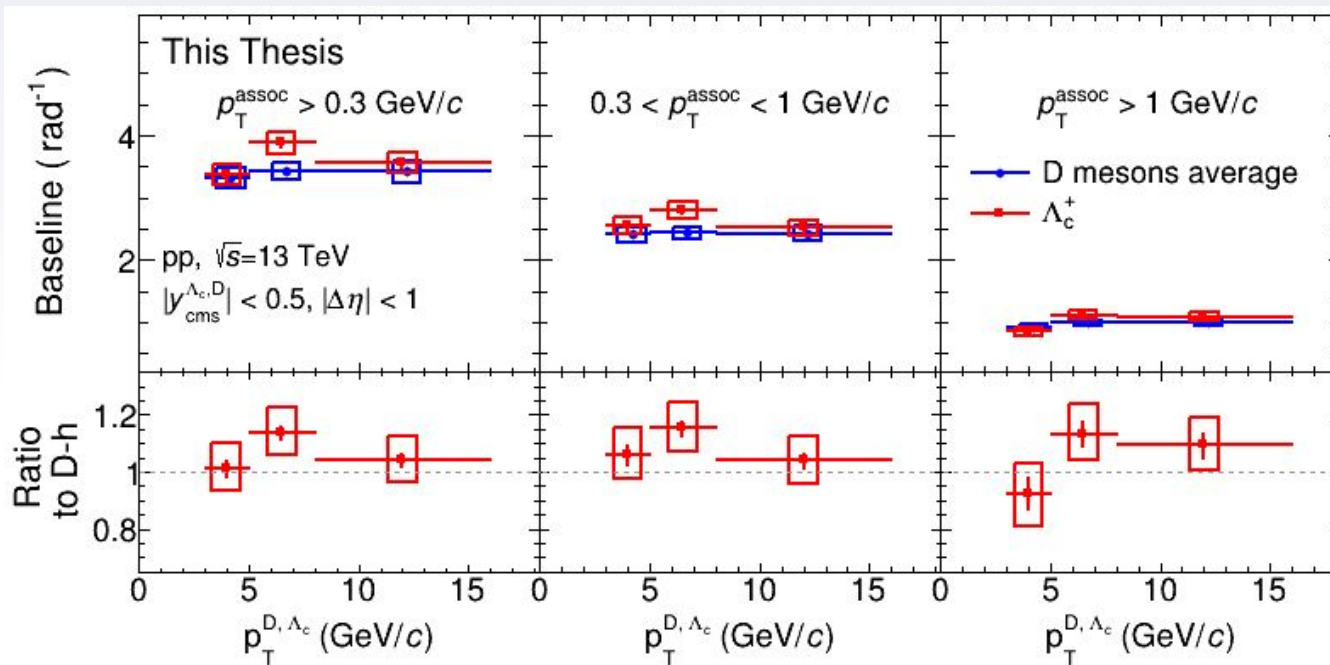
Λ_c^+ -h correlations: Away-side



Λ_c^+ -h correlations: Baseline



ALICE

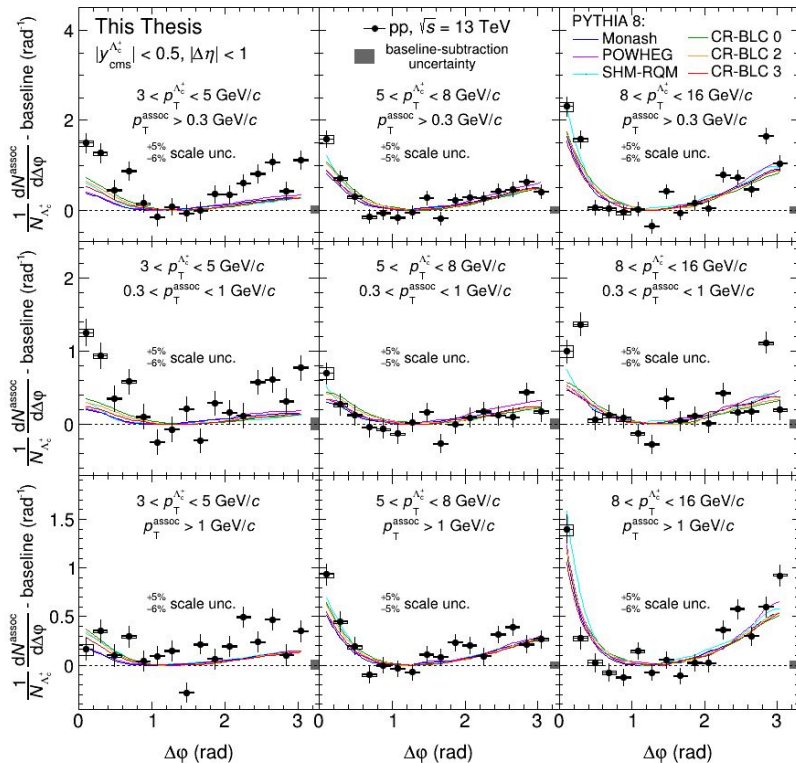


$\Delta\phi$ comparison with model predictions

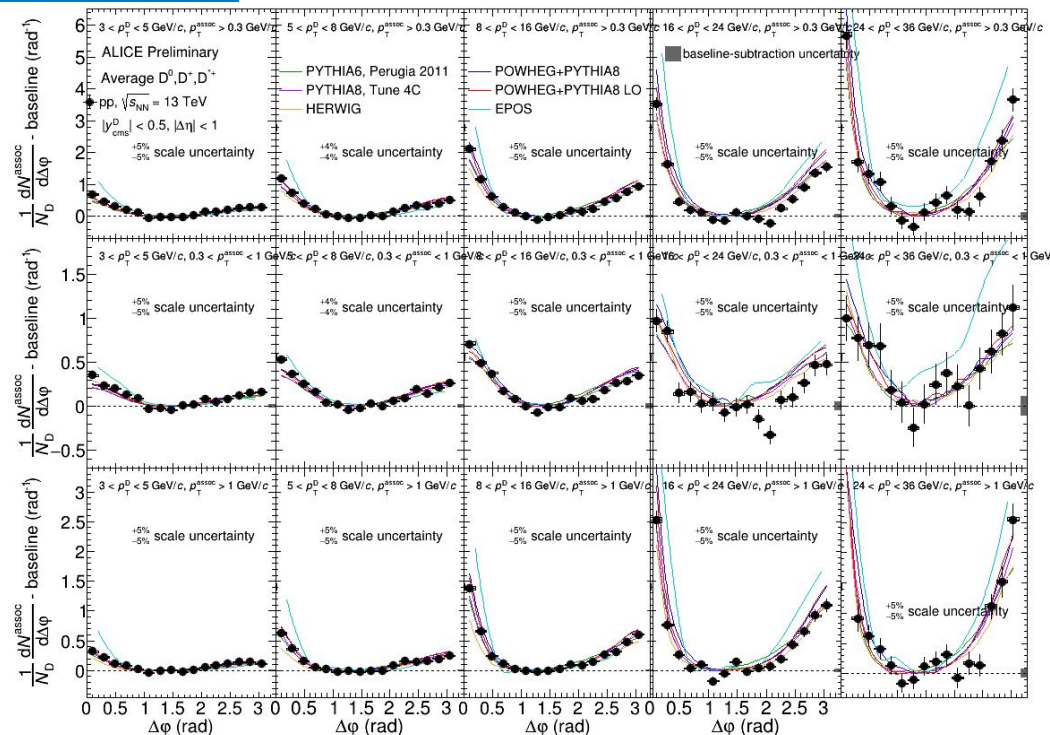


ALICE

$\Lambda_c^+ - h$

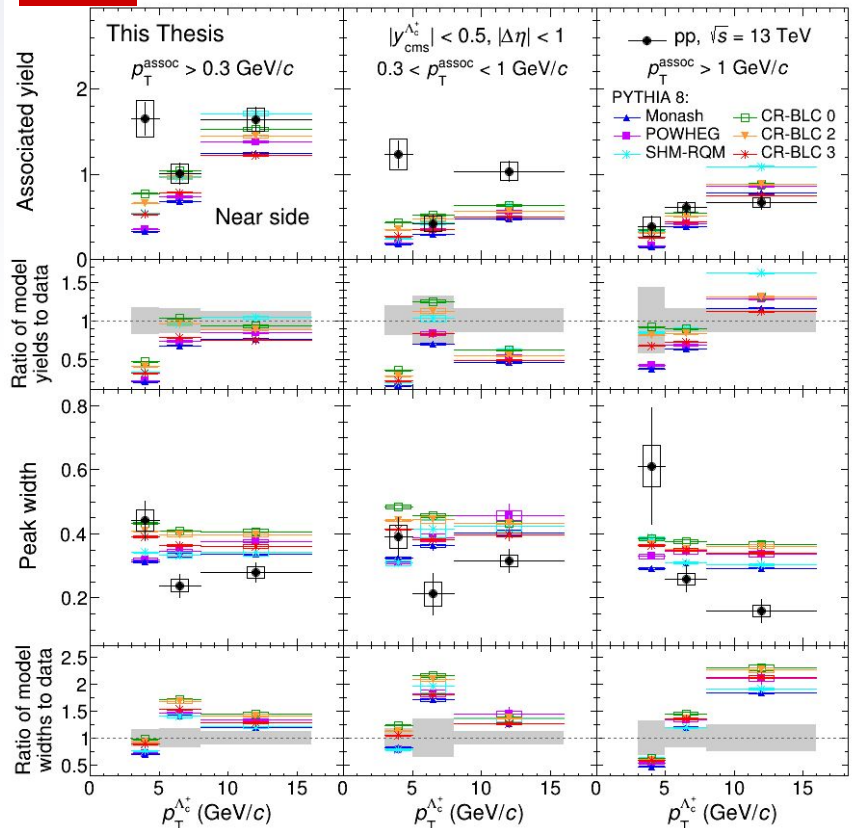


D mesons - h



Near-side

$\Lambda_c^+ - h$

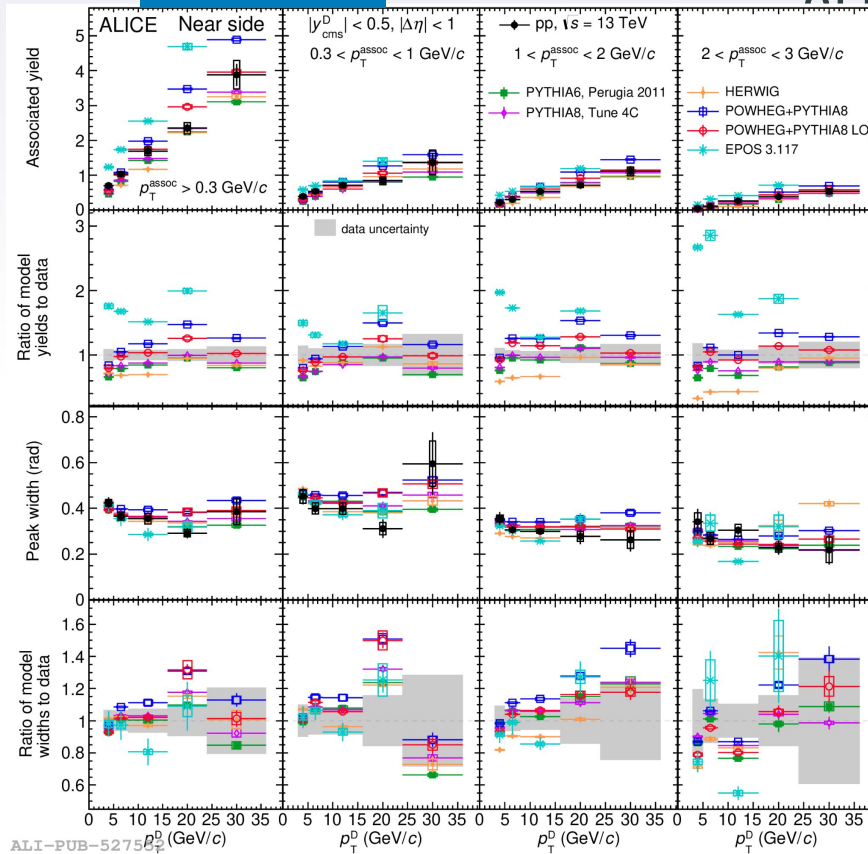


D mesons - h

Eur. Phys. J. C 82, 335 (2022)



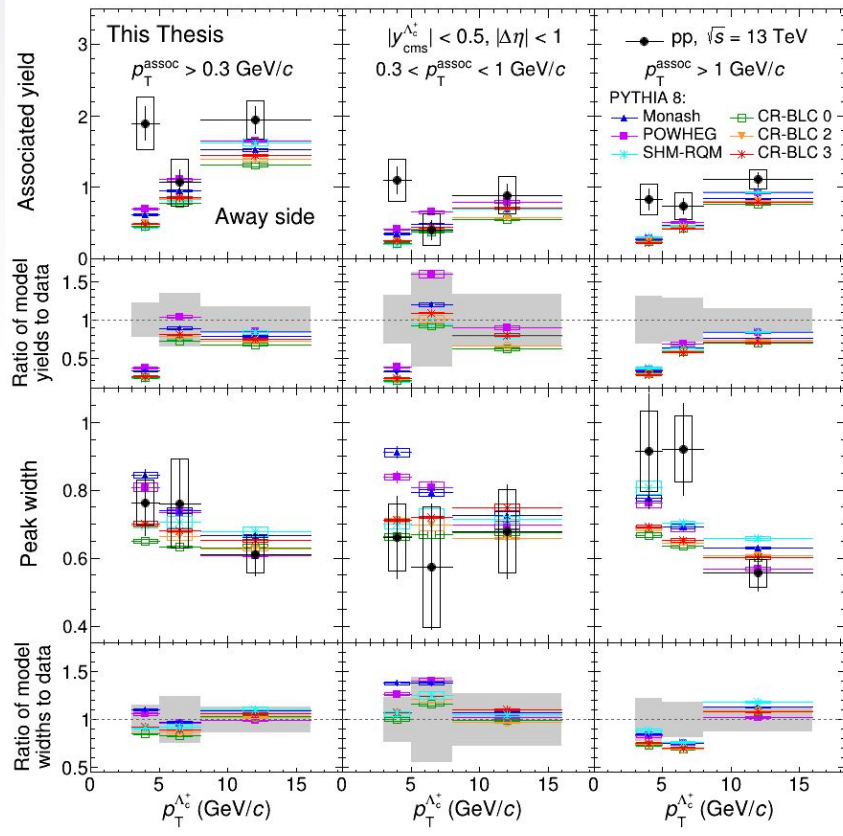
ALICE



ALI-PUB-5275

Away-side

$\Lambda_c^+ - h$

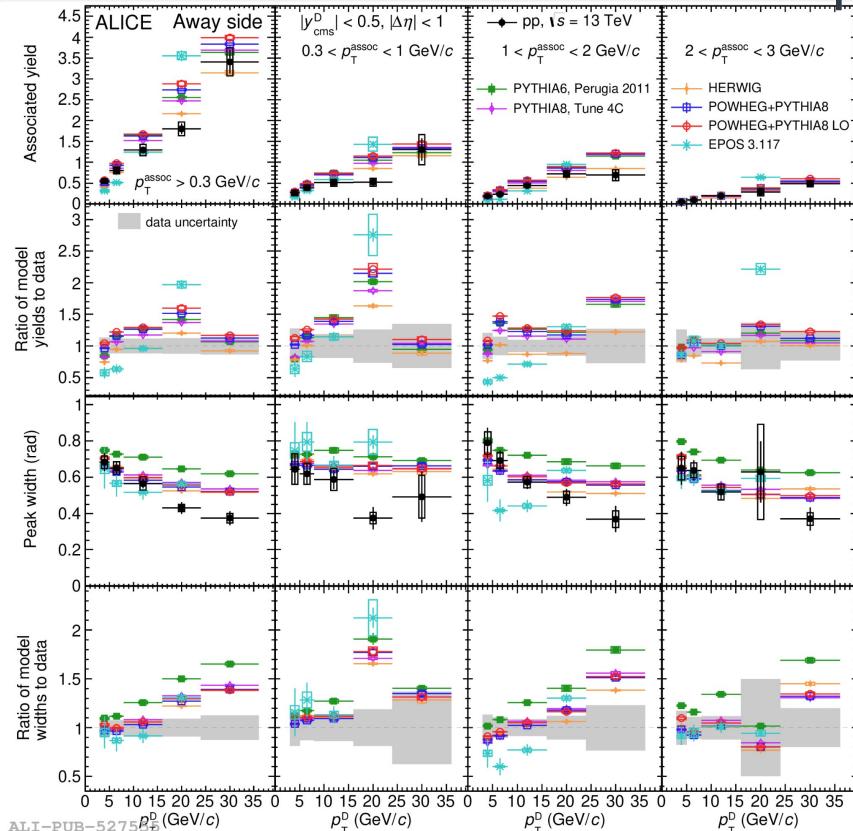


D mesons - h

[Eur. Phys. J. C 82, 335 \(2022\)](#)



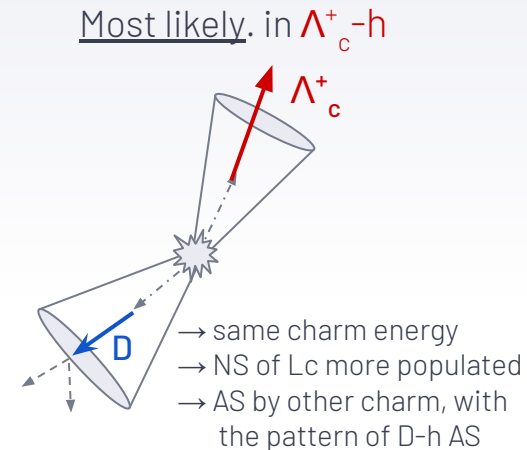
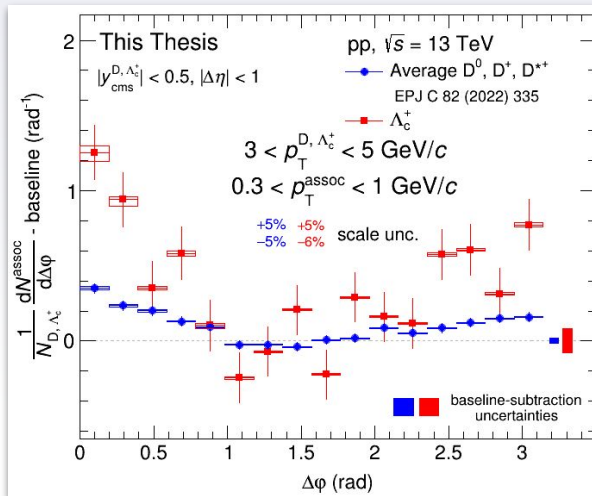
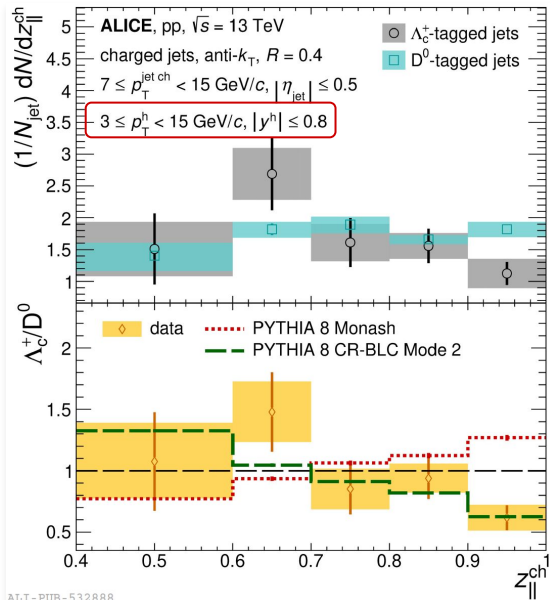
ALICE



Softer fragmentation, why?



ALICE



The Λ_c^+-h near-side is more populated than in the $D-h$

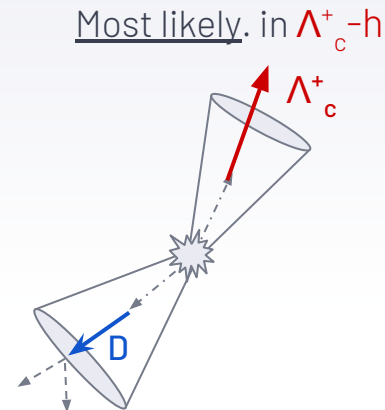
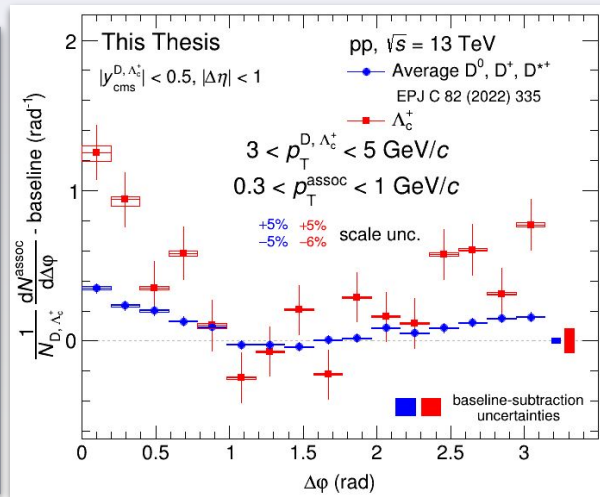
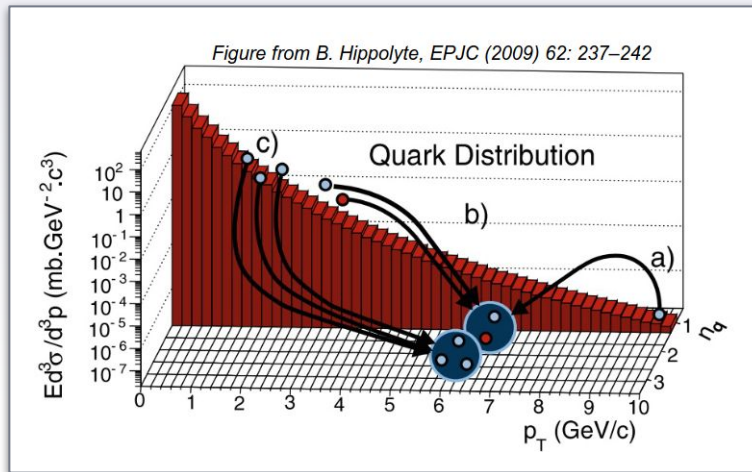
- observed only for low- p_T^{assoc}
- only for low- $p_T(\Lambda_c^+)$

hadronisation?

Enhancement in AS, tells us the softer fragmentation is a good hypothesis

To the same charm quark energy, a less energetic Λ_c^+ than D meson
 → more phase-space available for other particles in the charm jet

Is it coalescence?



In most of the models, it requires a rich parton environments:

- high-mult, QGP droplets (Catania)
- many not-correlated particles
- larger baseline → **NOT OBSERVED**

- need for another (2x) parton to coalesce with (?)
- $p_T^{\Lambda_c, \text{coal}} > p_T^{\Lambda_c, \text{fragm}}$
charm shower jet related to fragmentation
→ smaller yields in NS → **LARGER OBSERVED**

Enhancement in AS, tells us the **coalescence** is **NOT a good hypothesis**

Influence of event multiplicity?



ALICE

Baseline → Underlying event
(particles not correlated)

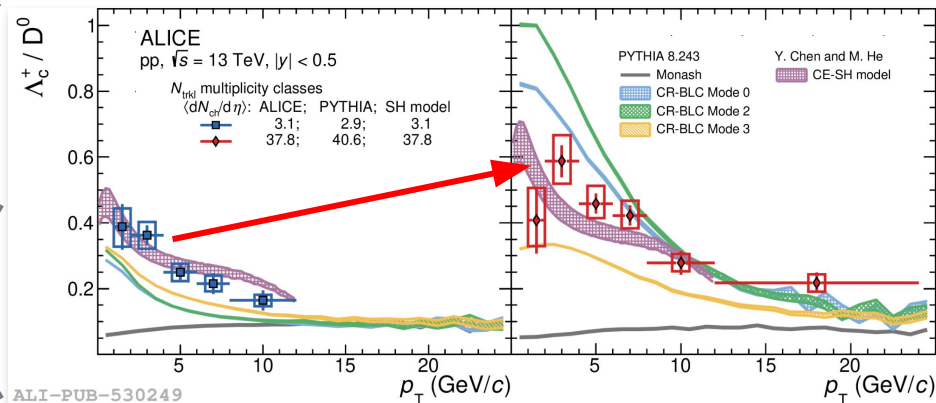
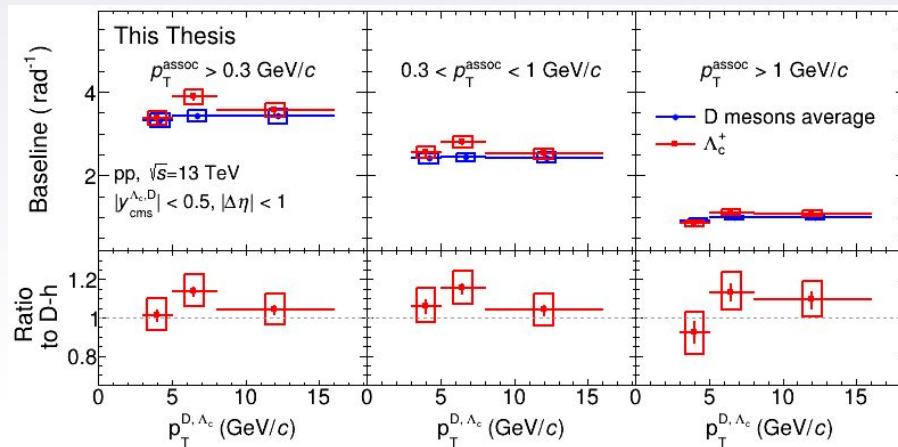
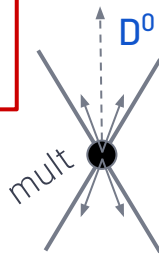
▪ compatibility in 1σ between D -h and Λ_c^+ -h

→ no evidence of potential biases originated by the increasing Λ_c^+ / D^0 with multiplicity

Open question:

- is this increase related to the larger in-jet particle production?
- is this related to the hint of slightly larger baseline in 5-8?

In case of QGP droplets (Catania)
what we would see?



ALI-PUB-530249



ALICE

Analyses details

Antonio Palasciano

Candidate selection with Machine Learning



ALICE

Trigger particle: $\Lambda_c \rightarrow pK^-$
 π^+

Λ_c decay mode	Branching Ratio(Γ_i/Γ_{tot})
$pK^- \pi^+$	(6.23±0.33)%
$p\bar{K}^0(892)^0$	(2.13±0.30)%
$\Delta(1232)^{++}K^-$	(1.18±0.27)%
$\Lambda(1520)\pi^+$	(2.43±0.6)%
$pK^- \pi^+$ nonResonant	(3.8±0.4)%

Pre-Selections¹:

$\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow pK^- \pi^+$	p_T interval (GeV/c)
$p_T(K)$ (GeV/c)	> 0.4
$p_T(p)$ (GeV/c)	> 0.5
$p_T(\pi)$ (GeV/c)	> 0.4
DCA	< 0.05
dist ₁₂	> 0.01
σ_v	< 0.06
decay length	> 0.005
cos θ_p	> 0.

- 7 $p_T(\Lambda_c)$ intervals: 3-4, 4-5, 5-6, 6-7, 7-8, 8-12, 12-16 GeV/c

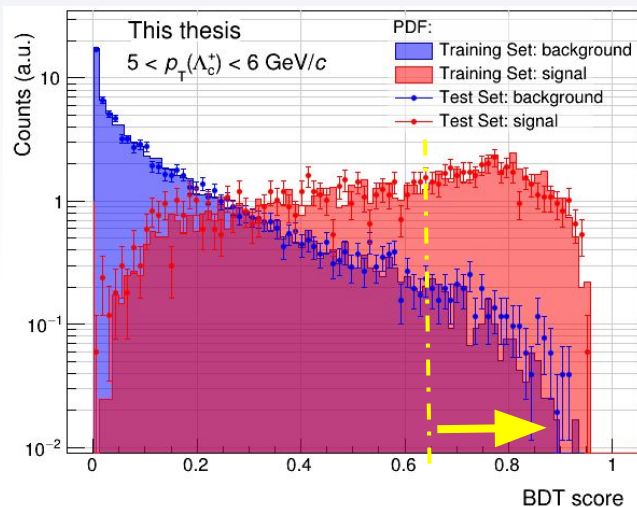
- Binary classification algorithm: XGBOOST, through [hype4ml](#) package
- Topological and PID variables were considered for the discrimination (more info on variables are in the [Additional Material](#))

Number of signal and background for train and test of the model

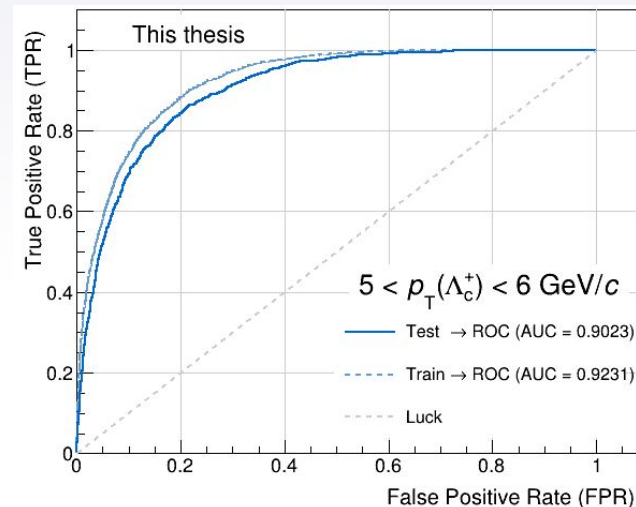
p_T	# prompt Λ_c	# Background
3 - 4	$6.5 \cdot 10^3$	$3 \cdot N_{Sig}$
4 - 5	$6.0 \cdot 10^3$	$3 \cdot N_{Sig}$
5 - 6	$4.8 \cdot 10^3$	$3 \cdot N_{Sig}$
6 - 7	$3.3 \cdot 10^3$	$3 \cdot N_{Sig}$
7 - 8	$2.3 \cdot 10^3$	$5 \cdot N_{Sig}$
8 - 12	$4.1 \cdot 10^3$	$5 \cdot N_{Sig}$
12 - 16	$1.2 \cdot 10^3$	$8 \cdot N_{Sig}$

Model performances

The trained model provides a BDT score for the classification between **background** and **signal** candidates



- the agreement between training and test samples is a test against **overfitting**
- the separation between classes provides indication on the BDT cut value



The ROC (and the ROC(AUC)) give indication about the discrimination performances of the model

Definition of the ML working point

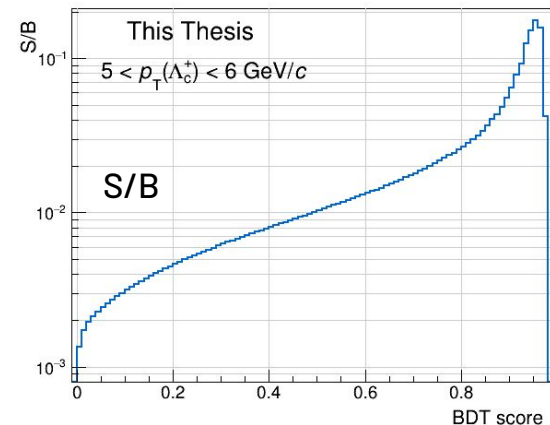
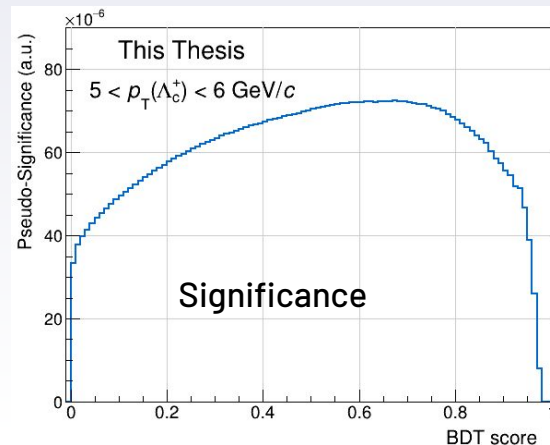
The expected significance and the S/B were computed:

Signal (ML):
$$S_{ML} = 2 \cdot \frac{d\sigma_{PP}^{FONLL, \Lambda_c^+}}{dp_T dy} \cdot \Delta p_T \Delta y \cdot BR \cdot (\epsilon \times Acc)_{ML}$$

Background (ML): integral under the peak region ($\pm 3\sigma$) obtained from the M_{inv} sideband fit function

Max of **S/B** and **Significance** (per-event) not best choice:

- correlation distributions built up to the background subtraction;
- a scan in BDT score to test possible $\Delta\phi$ dependence on BDT value
- BDT score inducing smaller stat. fluctuation was chosen



"Associated particles"

Physics selection: Physical primary

Kinematic cuts: $-0.8 < \eta < 0.8$

Quality cuts: SetRequireSigmaToVertex(kFALSE);

SetRequireTPCRefit(kTRUE);

SetRequireITSRefit(kFALSE);

SetMinNClustersITS(2);

SetMinNCrossedRowsTPC(70);

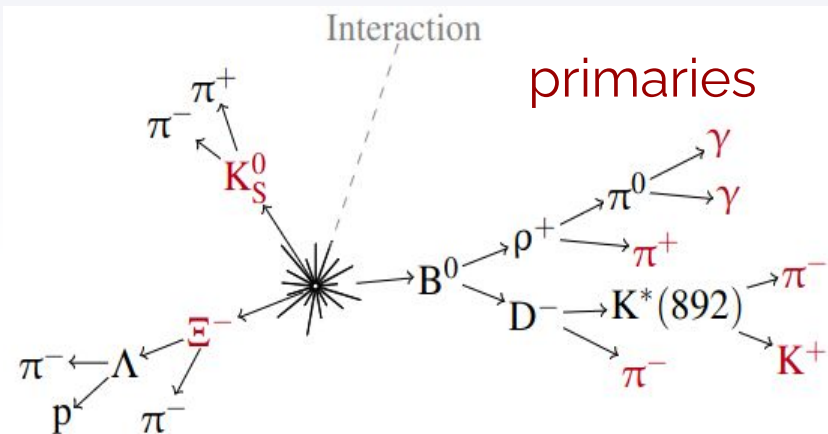
SetMinRatioCrossedRowsOverFindableClustersTPC(0.8);

SetMaxChi2PerClusterTPC(4);

SetMaxDCAToVertexZ(1.);

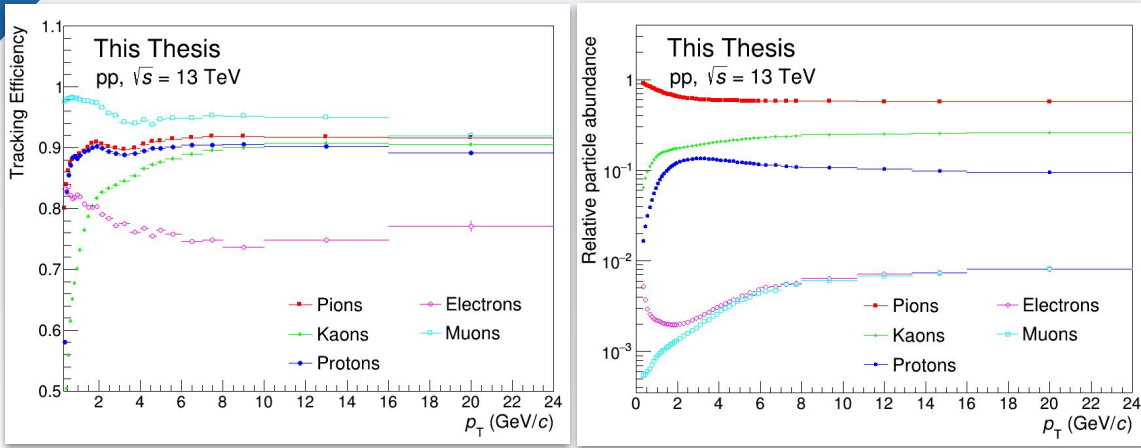
SetMaxDCAToVertexXY(1.);

"prompt particles produced at the primary vertex"



In these analyses, only e, μ, π, K, p are taken into account

Associated particle efficiency



Starting from MC simulations, the efficiency per species is computed and averaged with its relative abundance

Because of difference in particle abundance with respect to data, a reweighting procedure is considered

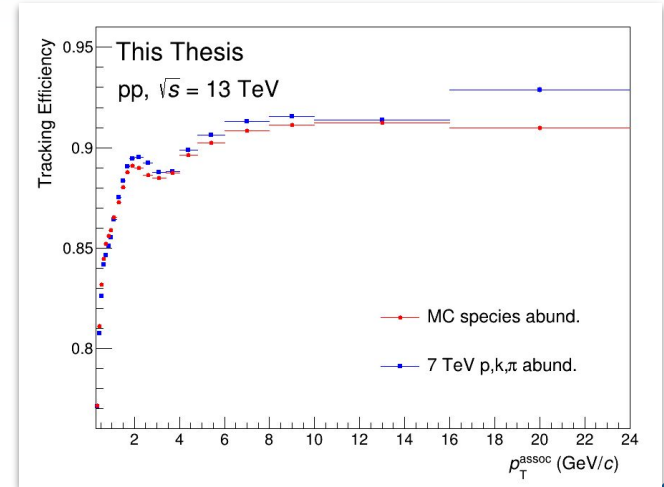
π, K, p : relative reweight to data abundancies, then the sum is scaled to its overall MC fraction

e (MC abundance) μ (MC abundance)

$$\varepsilon_{All5Part}^j = \left[\sum_i^{\pi, K, p} \varepsilon_i^j \cdot \frac{N_i^{Data}(p_T)}{N_{\pi+K+p}^{Data}(p_T)} \right] \cdot \frac{N_{\pi+K+p}^{MC}(p_T)}{N_{All5Part}^{MC}(p_T)} + \varepsilon_e^j \cdot \frac{N_e^{MC}(p_T)}{N_{All5Part}^{MC}(p_T)} + \varepsilon_\mu^j \cdot \frac{N_\mu^{MC}(p_T)}{N_{All5Part}^{MC}(p_T)}$$

j = period

A weighted average on the number of event per data acquisition period is then performed for the extraction of the final tracking efficiency

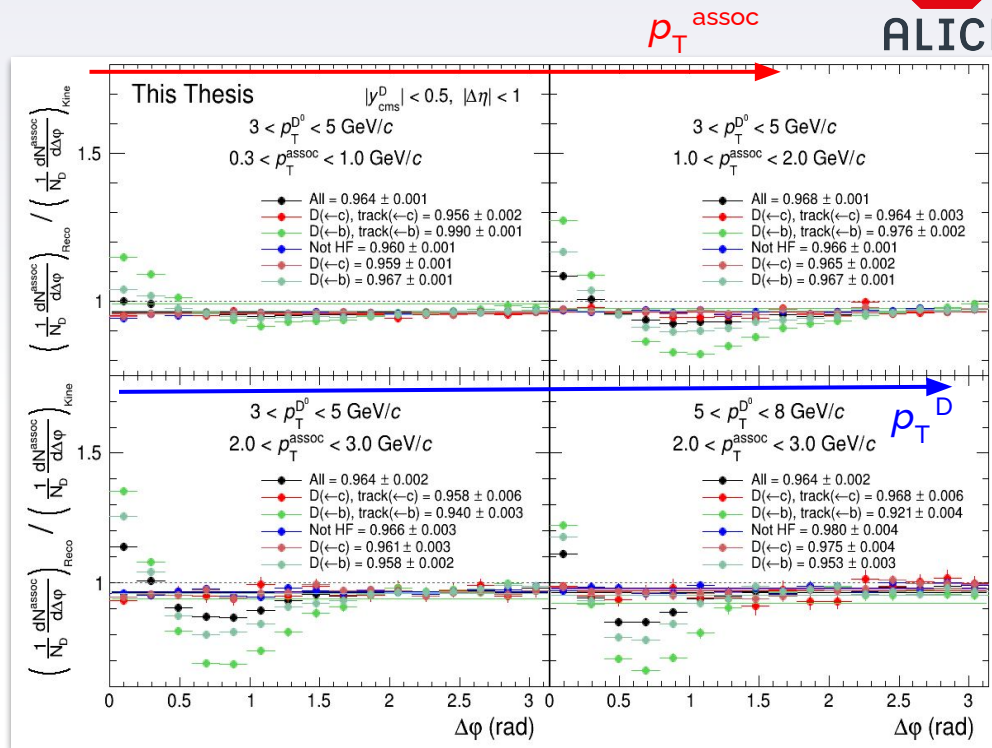
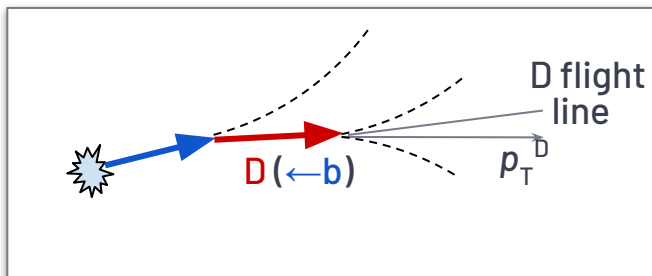


Beauty bias in azimuthal correlations

Difference between generated and reconstructed level in correlation distributions with **beauty-origin**

- enhancement at $\Delta\varphi \sim 0$, followed by a depletion

→ induced by topological selections (mainly $\cos\theta_p$)

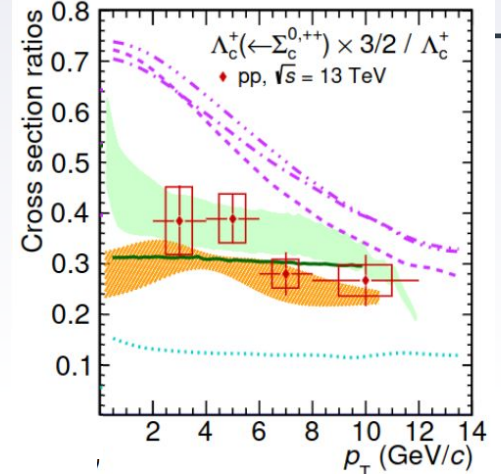
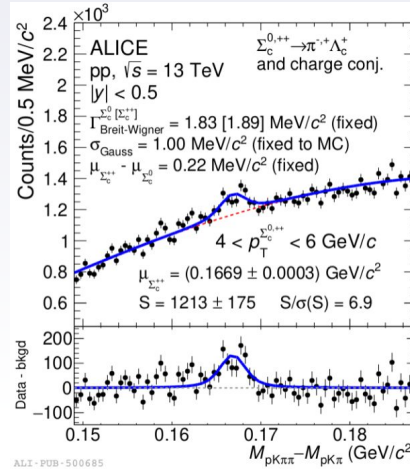
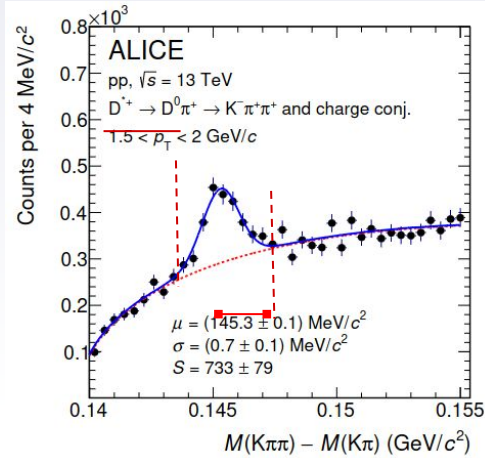


A $\Delta\varphi$ -dependent modulation around $\Delta\varphi \sim 0$, is therefore applied to the correlation distribution.

Soft- π subtraction



ICE



Cut on the D^0 +track M_{inv} :

- if $(m^{D^*} - 3\sigma) < M_{inv} < (m^{D^*} + 3\sigma)$,
- assoc. track not accounted in correlations

For the Λ_c , this is not feasible

→ Monte Carlo driven approach

- a) simulation of the $\Sigma_c^{0,++}(2455) \rightarrow \Lambda_c^+ + \pi^+(\pi^-)$ decay kinematics
- b) computation of $\Lambda_c^+ - \pi^+$ distributions
- c) subtraction from data correlation distributions
 - $\Lambda_c^+(\leftarrow \Sigma_c^{0,++})$ measured spectrum
 - π efficiency correction over reweighted eff. map



ALICE

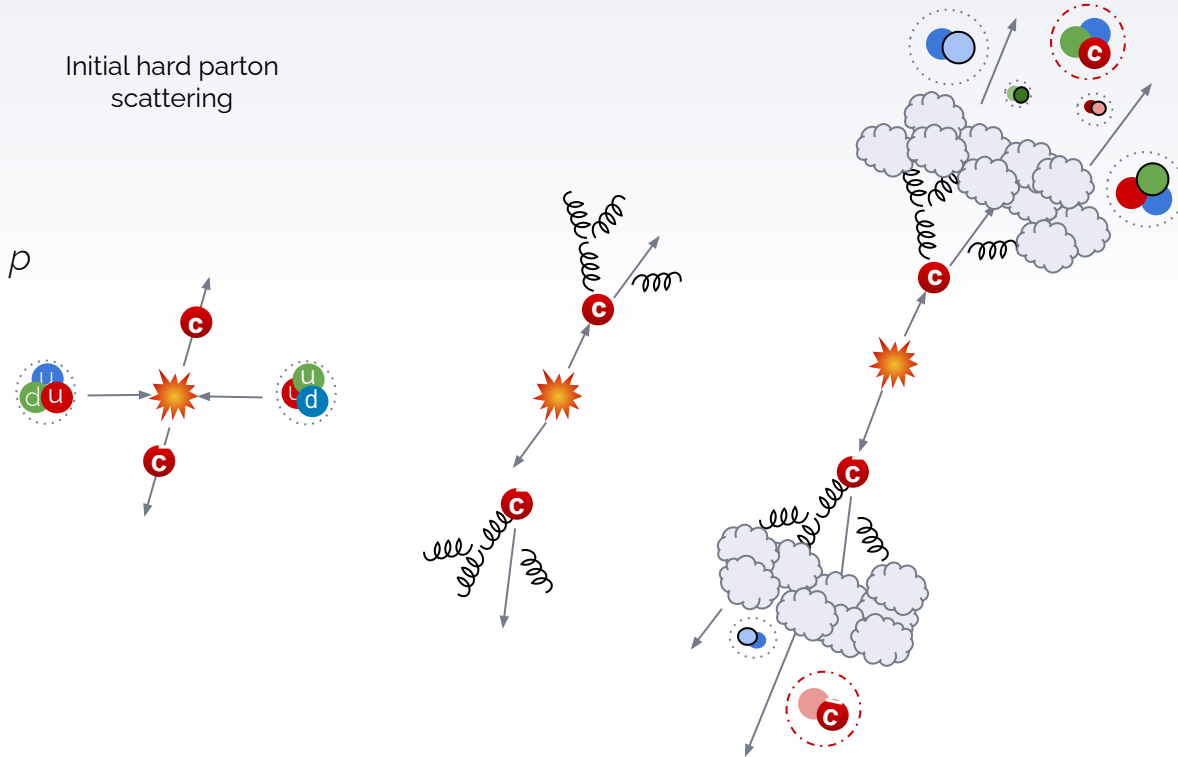
More about introduction

Overview



ALICE

Initial hard parton scattering



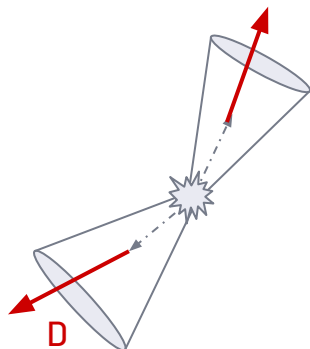
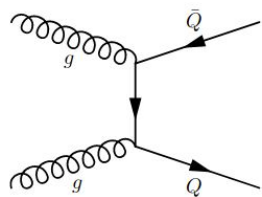
HF azimuthal correlations



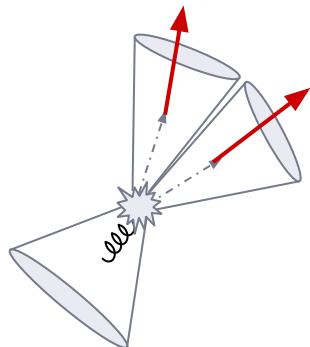
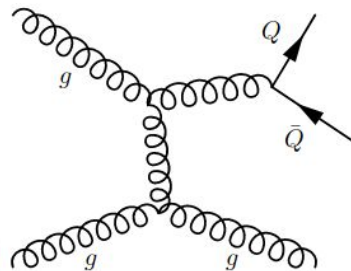
ALICE

Footprints of charm production mechanisms

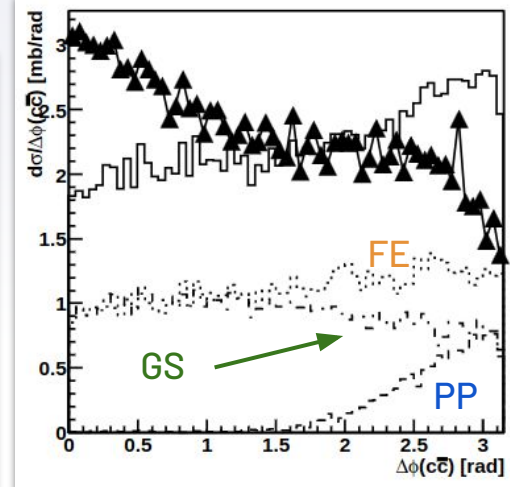
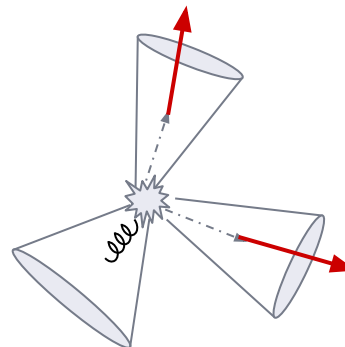
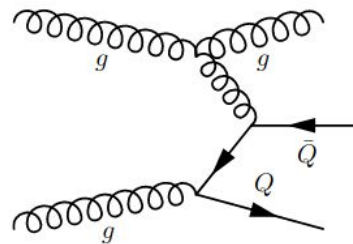
LO: pair production (PP)



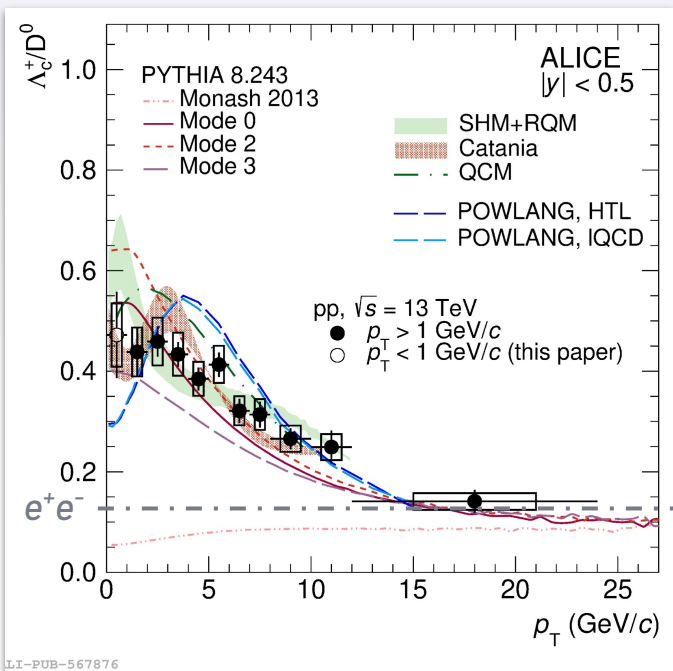
NLO: gluon splitting (GS)



NLO: flavour excitation (FE)



Λ_c^+ / D^0 ratio in pp



LEP: $(0.113 \pm 0.013 \pm 0.006)$

EPJC 75 (2015) 19

Significant enhancement of Λ_c^+ / D^0 ratio in pp than e^+e^- observed at different collision energy

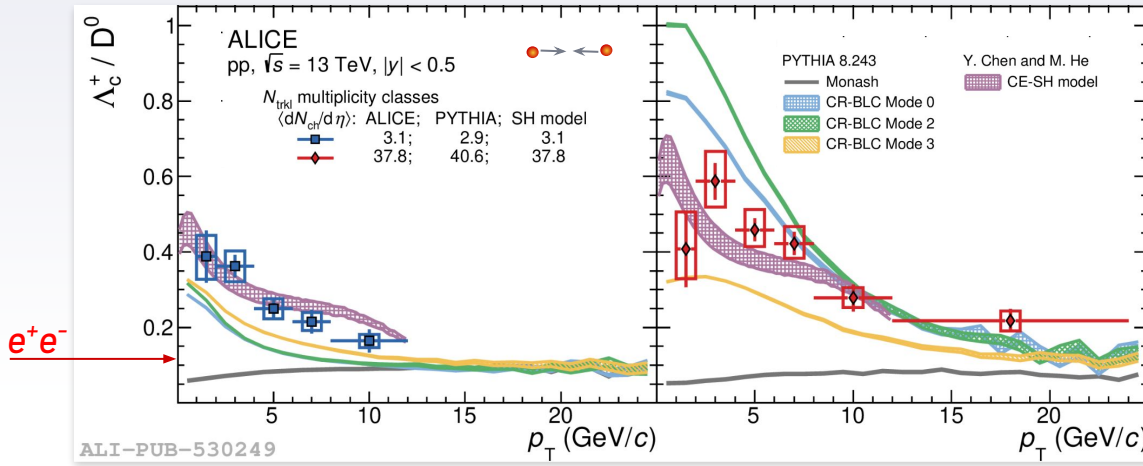
- ✗ **PYTHIA 8 Monash**, tuned on e^+e^- , underestimates data
- ✓ **CR-BLC** reconciles **PYTHIA** predictions with measurements:
→ "junction" topologies in MPI enhance baryon production

A good agreement is observed:

- ✓ **Catania**: thermalized system of u,d,s and g
→ Hadronization via interplay of fragmentation and coalescence
- ✓ **SHM**: quark hadronisation driven by **statistical weights**
- ✓ **+RQM**: Augmented set of excited charm baryon states
- ✓ **Quark (re)combination Mechanism**
 - charm is combined with co-moving light antiquark or two quarks.
 - charm baryon abundances determined by **thermal weights**.

Λ_c^+ / D^0 ratio vs Multiplicity

[PLB 829 \(2022\) 137065](#)



→ Multiplicity dependence observed in $1 < p_T < 12$ GeV/c

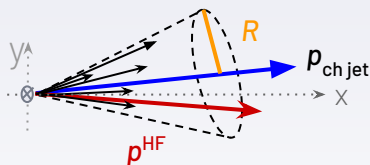
→ enhancement of Λ_c^+ / D^0 ratios in pp w.r.t. **LEP measurements** also in the **lowest multiplicity** interval.

From the comparison with models:

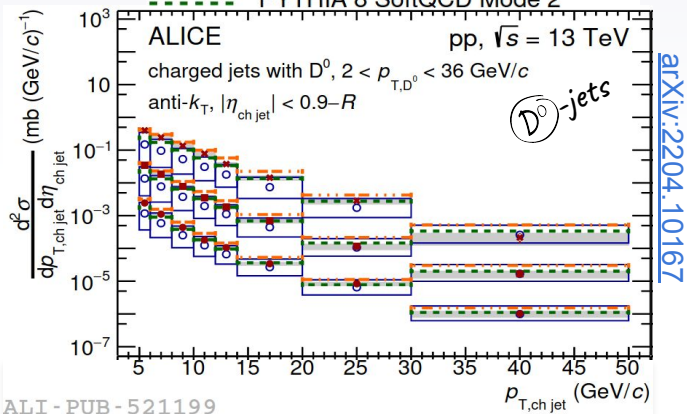
- ✗ PYTHIA Monash does not reproduce the multiplicity dependence, underestimating the ratios
- ✓ PYTHIA CR-BLC, CE-SH provide qualitative good description of the p_T evolution and multiplicity dependence.

Charm-tagged jets

Production of charm-jets



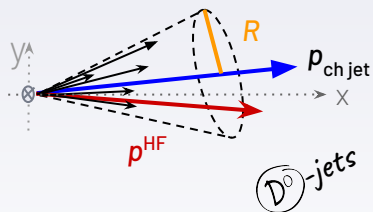
- \times $R=0.6$ (x10)
- \blacksquare $R=0.4$
- \bullet $R=0.2$ (x0.1)
- \circ POWHEG hvq + PYTHIA 8
- PYTHIA 8 HardQCD Monash 2013
- PYTHIA 8 SoftQCD Mode 2



- MC generators providing overall good description of the spectrum

Charm-tagged jets

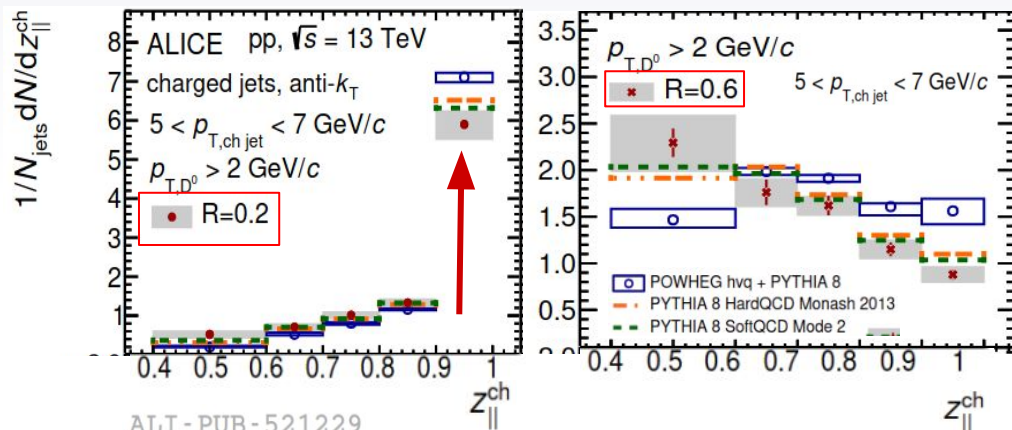
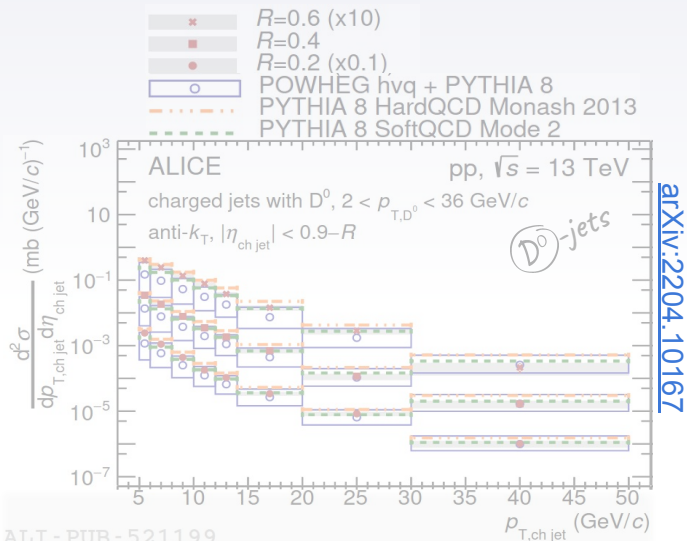
Production of charm-jets



Fragmentation of charm

Longitudinal momentum fraction

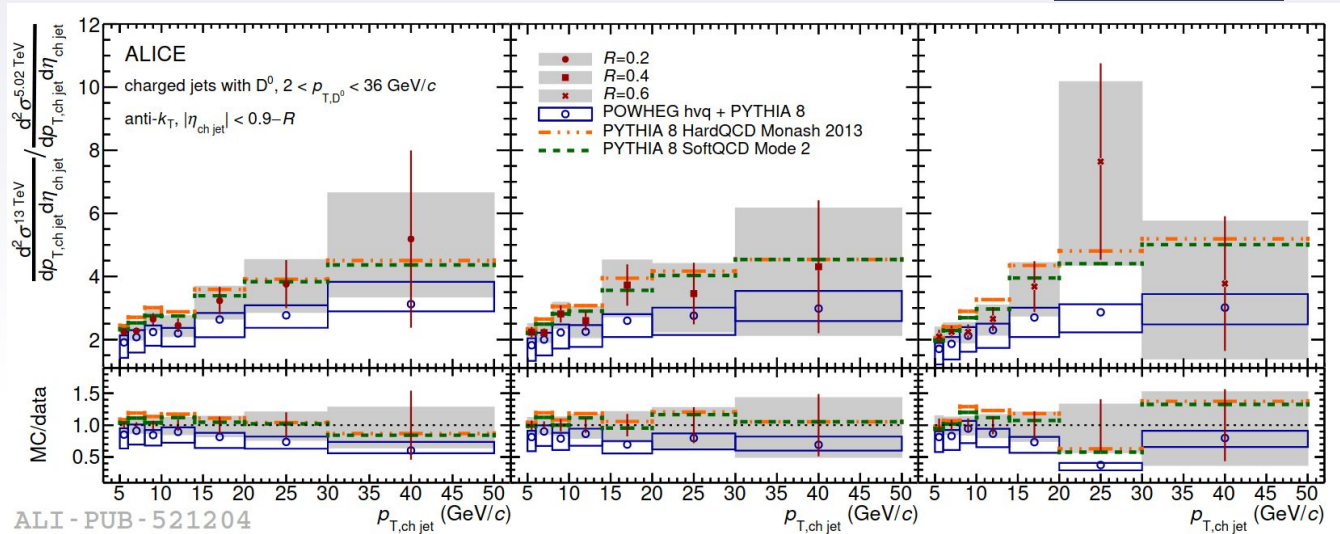
$$z_{||} = \frac{\vec{p}_{\text{ch jet}} \cdot \vec{p}^{\text{HF}}}{\vec{p}_{\text{ch jet}} \cdot \vec{p}_{\text{ch jet}}}$$



➤ MC generators providing overall good description of the spectrum

➤ $R=0.2$, small $\vec{p}_{\text{ch,jet}} \rightarrow D^0$ carries a large fraction of $\vec{p}_{\text{ch,jet}}$

➤ $R=0.6 \rightarrow$ hint of softer fragmentation wrt models



Hardening of the $p_{T, ch jet}$ spectra with increasing centre-of-mass energy.

→ **PYTHIA SoftQCD** correctly reproduce the data

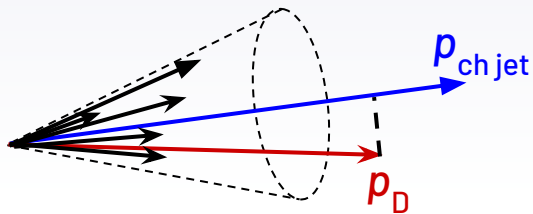
→ **POWHEG + PYTHIA 8** simulation tends to underestimate the measured cross section ratios

D⁰-jets: longitudinal momentum fraction

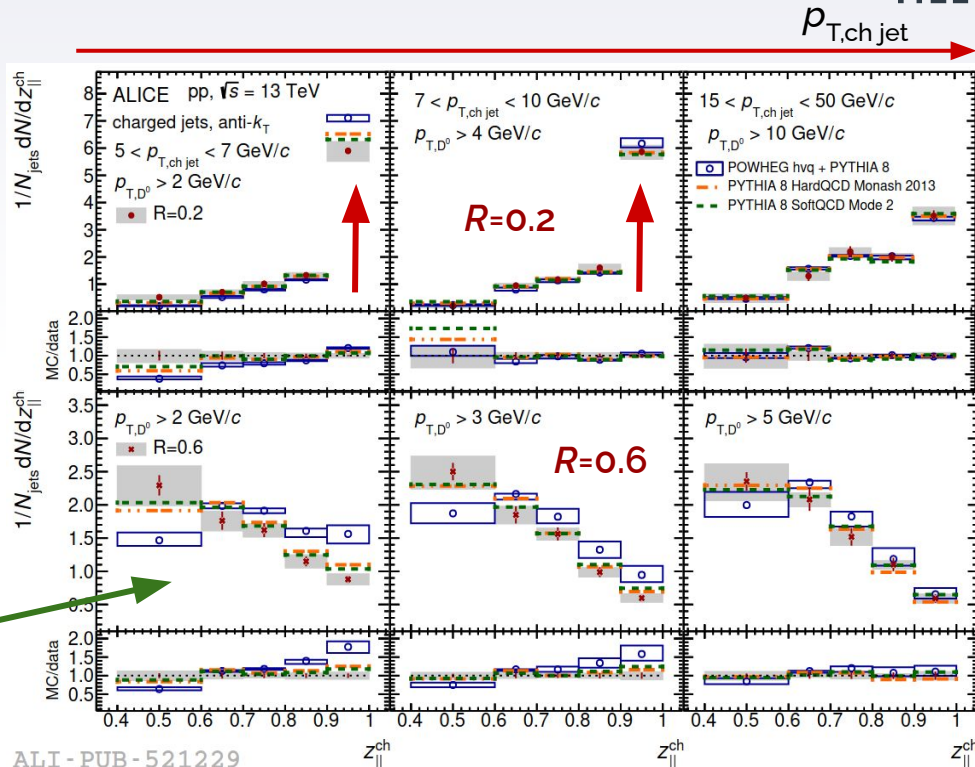


ALICE

Longitudinal momentum fraction $z_{||} = \frac{\vec{p}_{\text{ch jet}} \cdot \vec{p}_{\text{HF}}}{\vec{p}_{\text{ch jet}} \cdot \vec{p}_{\text{ch jet}}}$



- For $5 < p_T, \text{ch jet} < 10 \text{ GeV}/c$ and $R=0.2$ D⁰ carries a large fraction of $\vec{p}_{\text{ch jet}}$
- Hint of **softer fragmentation** compared to model predictions



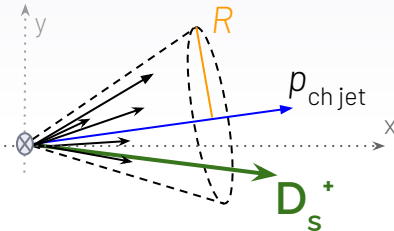
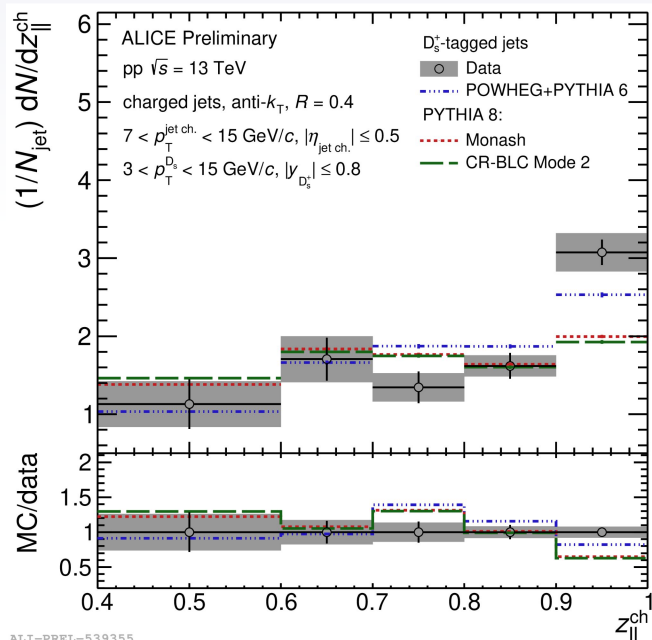
arXiv:2204.10167

PYTHIA: JHEP 1508 (2015) 003
 POWHEG: JHEP 06 (2010) 043

First measurement of D_s^+ -jets

Highlight possible differences in the **charm fragmentation** due to the **strange-quark** content of the tagged meson

➤ Good compatibility between models and data



ALI-PREL-539355

PYTHIA: JHEP 1508(2015)003
POWHEG: JHEP 06(2010)043

First measurement of D_s^+ -jets

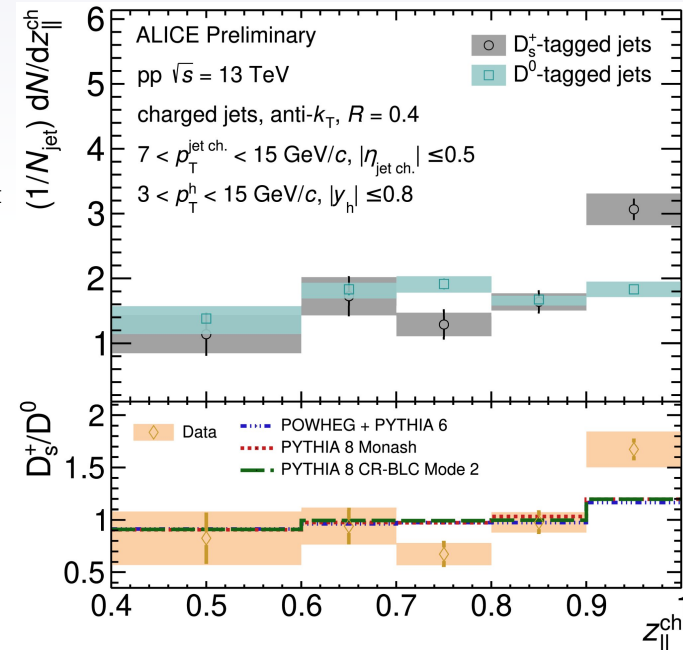
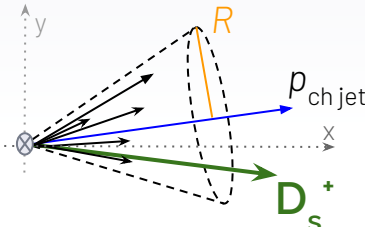
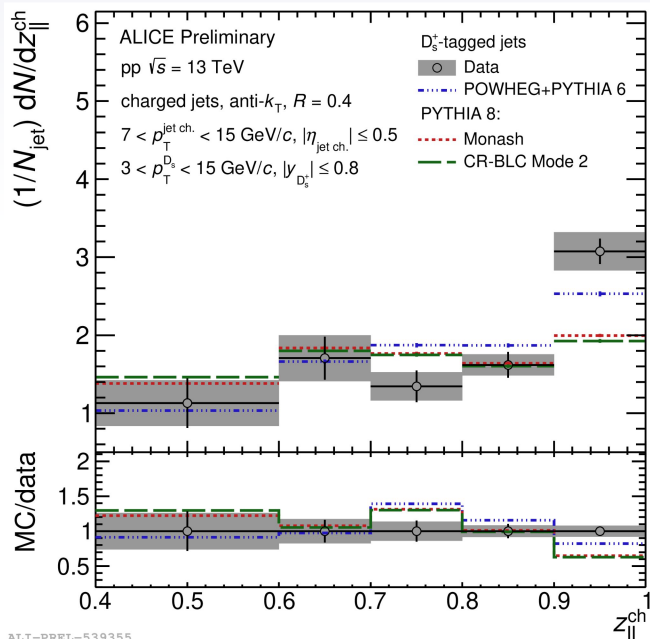


ALICE

Highlight possible differences in the **charm fragmentation** due to the **strange-quark** content of the tagged meson

➤ Good compatibility between models and data

➤ hint of harder fragmentation with respect to D^0



ALI-PREL-539355

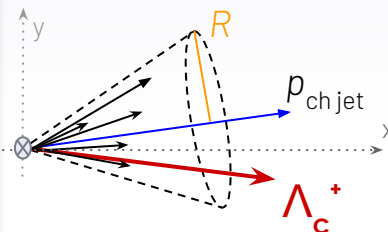
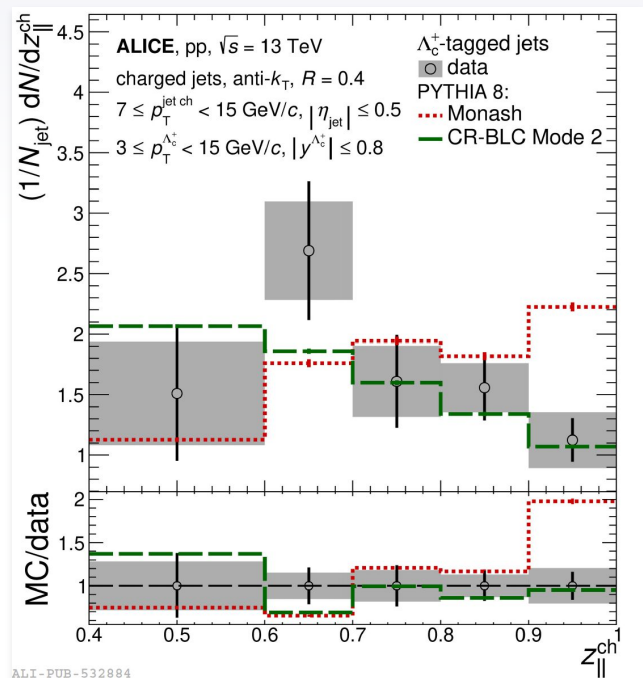
PYTHIA: JHEP 1508 (2015) 003
POWHEG: JHEP 06 (2010) 043

ALI-PREL-539362

→ Probe the fragmentation of charm quarks into charm baryons

- slightly harder fragmentation in **PYTHIA8 Monash**
- good agreement with **PYTHIA8 CR-BLC, mode 2**

arXiv:2301.13798



ALI-PUB-532884

PYTHIA: JHEP 1508 (2015) 003

Λ_c^+ -jets

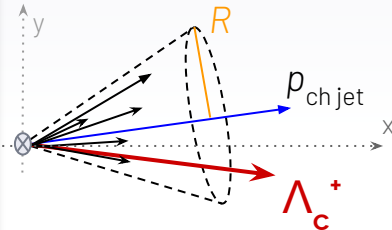
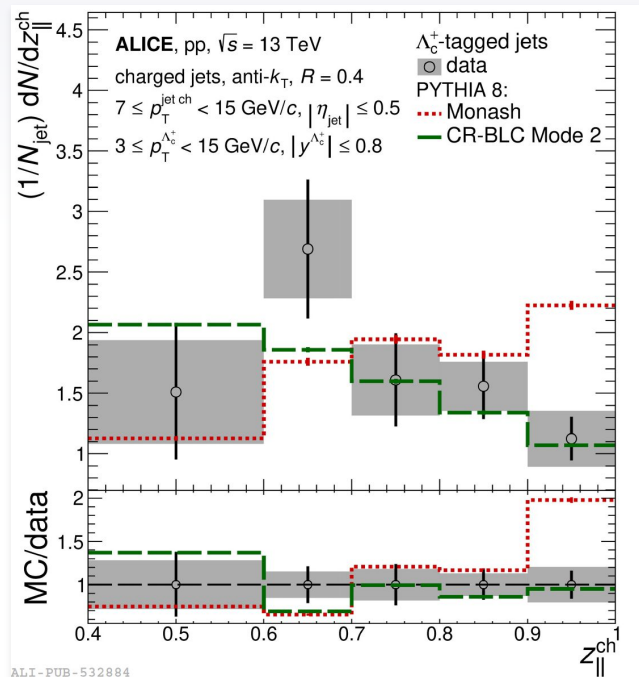


ALICE

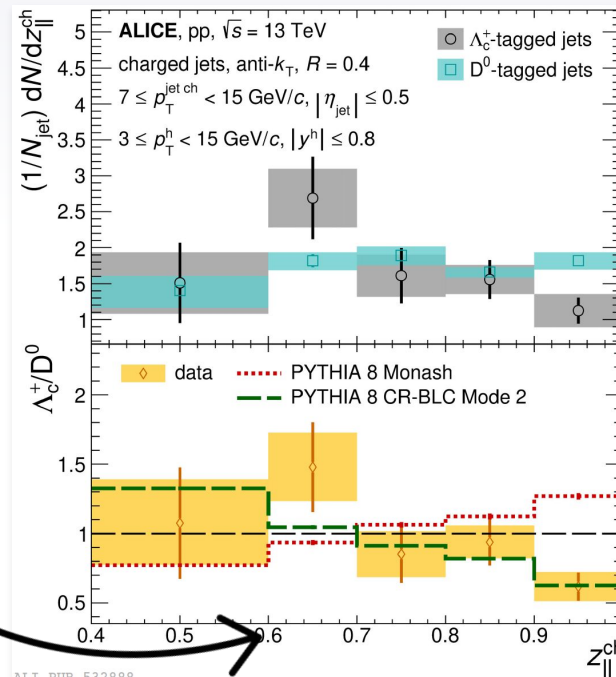
→ Probe the fragmentation of charm quarks into charm baryons

- slightly harder fragmentation in **PYTHIA8 Monash**
- good agreement with **PYTHIA8 CR-BLC, mode 2**
- hint of softer fragmentation into Λ_c^+ than D^0
- Correctly reproduced by **PYTHIA8, CR-BLC mode 2**

arXiv:2301.13798



Λ_c^+ softer fragm.
than D^0



PYTHIA: JHEP 1508 (2015) 003

Antonio Palasciano

Non-prompt Λ_c^+ / D^0 ratio

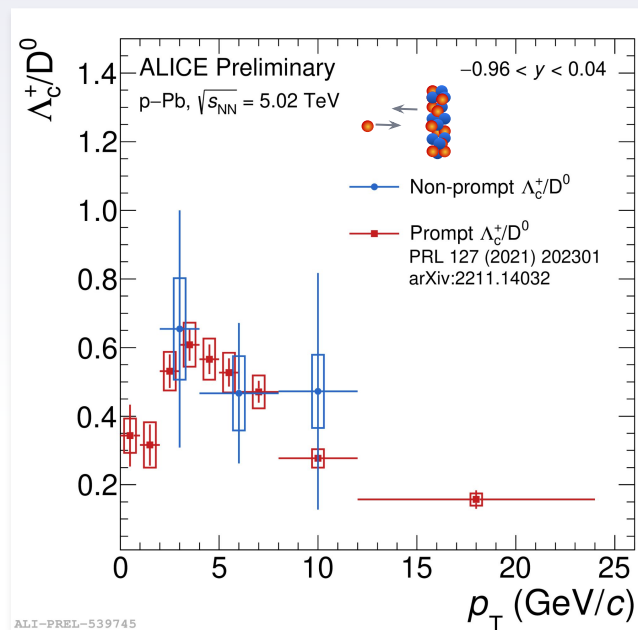
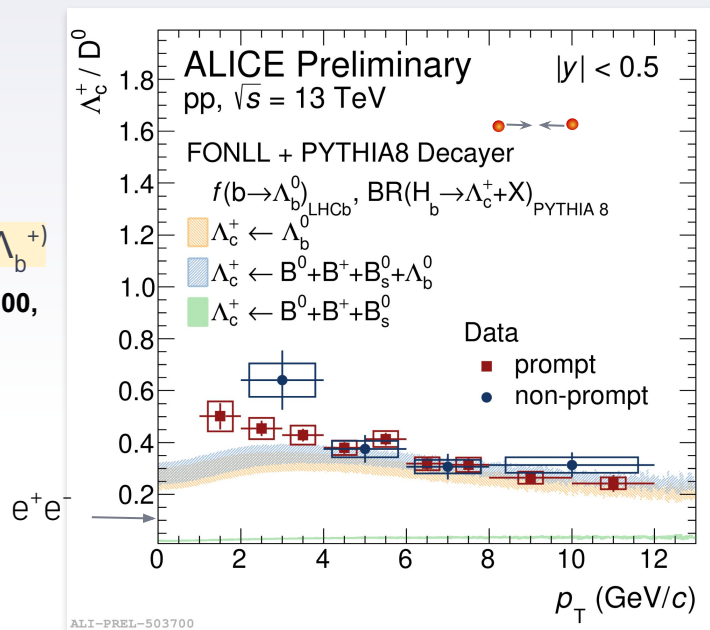


ALICE



$f(b \rightarrow \Lambda_b^+)$

Phys. Rev. D 100,
031102(R)



- Similar baryon-to-meson enhancement between **prompt** and **non-prompt** Λ_c^+ / D^0 ratio
- Measurement compatibility between collision systems

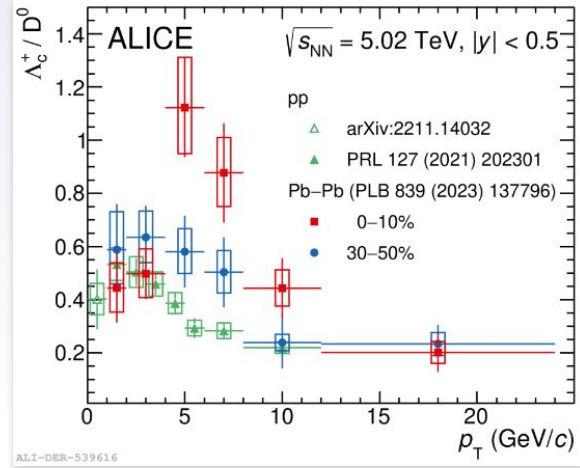
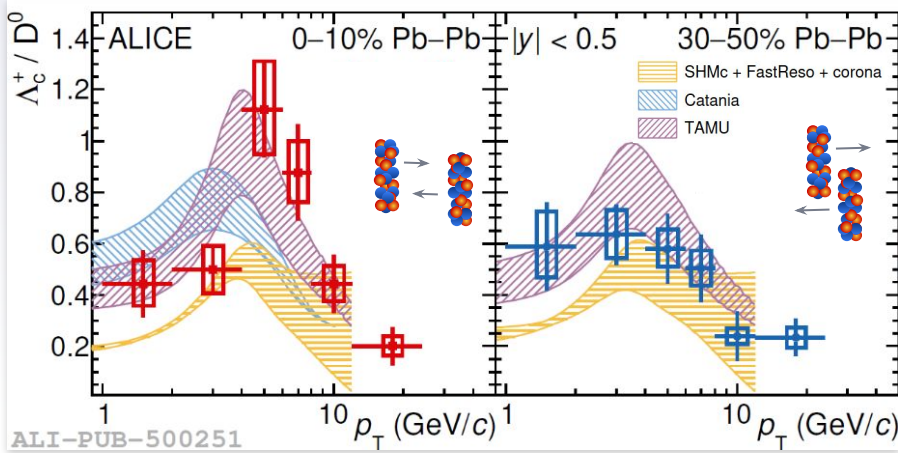
Non-prompt Λ_c^+ simulations with **FONLL** (LHCb FF $b \rightarrow \Lambda_b^+$) + **PYTHIA8** decayer

☀ most of **non-prompt** Λ_c^+ from Λ_b^+ decays → access to **beauty**-baryon production

Λ_c^+ / D^0 ratio in Pb–Pb



ALICE



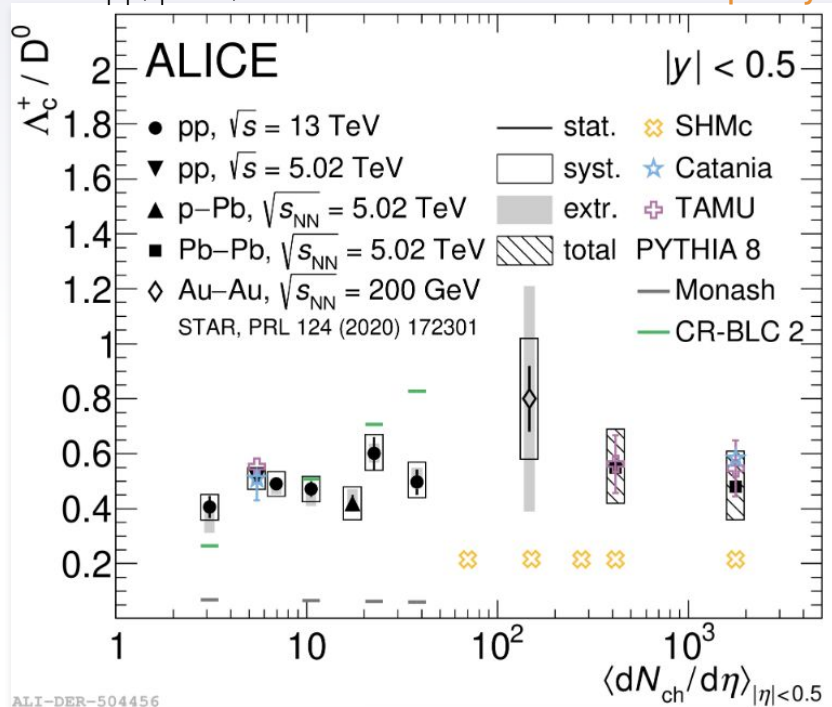
[Phys. Lett. B 839 \(2023\) 137796](#)

- ✓ enhancement in Λ_c^+ / D^0 ratios observed in Pb–Pb collisions
→ in central (0–10%) Pb–Pb collisions, for $4 \leq p_T < 8$ GeV/c, larger than pp (3.7σ)
- ✓ SHMc (statistical hadronization + charm) and Catania models able to catch the evolution with p_T
- ✓ Best description by TAMU (hydro. + fragmentation + coalescence + extra c-baryons)

Baryon-to-meson enhancement due to an interplay of radial flow and recombination?

P_T -integrated Λ_c^+ / D^0 ratio

pp, p-Pb, Pb-Pb as function of **event multiplicity**



No dependence of the p_T -integrated ratio on collision system and energy within uncertainties



Momenta redistribution can justify the differences in the p_T -differential ratio across collision systems



Flat trend reproduced by **Catania**, **TAMU** (hadronization via fragmentation+recombination)



Monash fails to describe the data

p-Pb: [Phys. Rev. C 104, 054905](#)

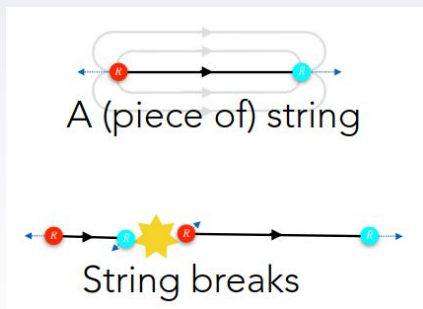
Pb-Pb: [Phys. Lett. B 839 \(2023\) 137796](#)

Models in details



ALICE

PYTHIA 8: Lund fragmentation model



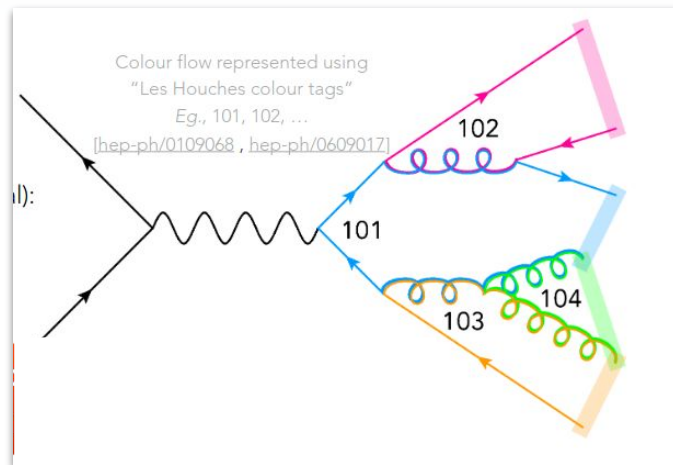
- 1) A given colour charge stretched in a **confinement field** to nearest anti-colour charge
- 2) Given sufficient energy, confinement field can break down by spontaneous ***qq pair creation***

? Between which partons should confining potentials form?

Starting point for **MC generators** = **Leading Colour limit** $N_c \rightarrow \infty$

- Probability for any given colour charge to accidentally be same as any other $\rightarrow 0$.
- Each colour appears only once & is matched by a unique anticolour.

Corrections are expected to be about $\sim 1/N_c \sim 10\%$



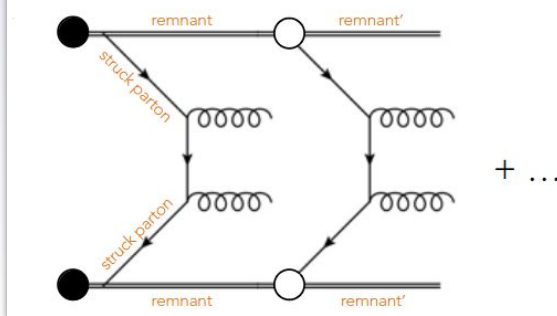
PYTHIA 8: Lund fragmentation model



How many parton systems are there in pp collisions?

- can have very many parton systems within a single pp collision (esp. in high-multiplicity events)
- All within ~ transverse size of a proton (= right on top of each other)

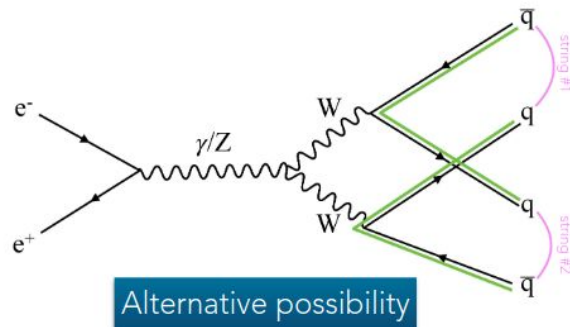
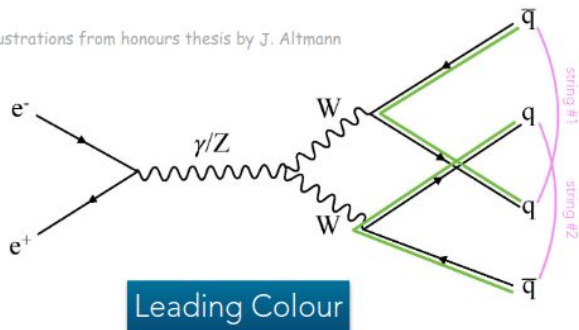
Multi-Parton Interactions (MPI)



From:

Skands, [QCD-Based CR in Pythia & Close-Packing](#)

Illustrations from honours thesis by J. Altmann



Probability for uncorrelated $q\bar{q}$ pair to **accidentally** be in colour-singlet state follows from $3 \otimes \bar{3} = 8 \oplus 1$
 ▣ 1 in 9 ▣
 $= 1/N_C^2$

PYTHIA 8: Lund fragmentation model



MPI + showers \implies partons with LC connections

Idea: restore missing $(1/N_C^2)$ colour correlations stochastically. Approximate all **LC-unconnected partons** as **uncorrelated** and consider SU(3) rules:

- (1) $3 \otimes \bar{3} = 8 \oplus 1$ for uncorrelated colour-anticolour pairs (allows "dipole CR")
- (2) $3 \otimes 3 = 6 \oplus \bar{3}$ for uncorrelated colour-colour pairs (allows "junction CR")

Technically: done by assigning all partons "colour indices" from 0 to 8.

E.g., any parton given colour index 0 can be confined with any parton with anti-index 0.

This reproduces the 1/9 stochastic probability in eq.(1).

Index 0 can also combine with two other partons (with indices 3 and 6) representing the confining (colour-neutral) combination of R, G, and B


This gives a decent approximation to the 3/9 probability in eq.(2).

Represented by "string junctions" in Pythia [\[hep-ph/0212264\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/0212264) \implies a new source of baryons and anti-baryons.

Finally, choose between which ones to actually set up confining potentials

Smallest measure of "invariant string length" \propto number of hadrons produced (" λ measure")

From:

 Skands, [OCD-Based CR in Pythia & Close-Packing](#)

PYTHIA 8: Color-reconnections beyond leading color



ALICE

Reconnections occur between two string pieces

→ only if in **causal contact** (compatible **formation time** $\tau_{\text{form}} \sim 1/m_{\text{string}}$)

! Resolve each other in between **formation** and **hadronisation** τ
(+ relative string boost)

- Mode 0:** no time-dilation constraints. m_0 controls the amount of CR (mode 0);
- Mode 2:** time dilation using the boost factor obtained from the final-state mass of the dipoles, requiring all dipoles involved in a reconnection to be causally connected (strict);
- Mode 3:** time dilation as in Mode 2, but requiring only a single connection to be causally connected (loose).

Parameter	Monash	Mode 0	Mode 2	Mode 3
StringPT:sigma	= 0.335	= 0.335	= 0.335	= 0.335
StringZ:aLund	= 0.68	= 0.36	= 0.36	= 0.36
StringZ:bLund	= 0.98	= 0.56	= 0.56	= 0.56
StringFlav:probQQtoQ	= 0.081	= 0.078	= 0.078	= 0.078
StringFlav:ProbStoUD	= 0.217	= 0.2	= 0.2	= 0.2
	= 0.5,	= 0.0275,	= 0.0275,	= 0.0275,
StringFlav:probQQ1toQQ0join	0.7,	0.0275,	0.0275,	0.0275,
	0.9,	0.0275,	0.0275,	0.0275,
	1.0	0.0275	0.0275	0.0275
MultiPartonInteractions:pT0Ref	= 2.28	= 2.12	= 2.15	= 2.05
BeamRemnants:remnantMode	= 0	= 1	= 1	= 1
BeamRemnants:saturation	-	= 5	= 5	= 5
ColourReconnection:mode	= 0	= 1	= 1	= 1
ColourReconnection:allowDoubleJunRem	= on	= off	= off	= off
ColourReconnection:m0	-	= 2.9	= 0.3	= 0.3
ColourReconnection:allowJunctions	-	= on	= on	= on
ColourReconnection:junctionCorrection	-	= 1.43	= 1.20	= 1.15
ColourReconnection:timeDilationMode	-	= 0	= 2	= 3
ColourReconnection:timeDilationPar	-	-	= 0.18	= 0.073

Relative boost causal contact condition

$$\gamma \tau_{\text{form}} < C_{\text{time}} \tau_{\text{had}} \Rightarrow \frac{\gamma c}{m_{\text{string}} \tau_{\text{had}}} < C_{\text{time}}$$

C_{time}

size of the allowed relative boost factor for reconnections to occur

$$r_{\text{had}} \sim \tau_{\text{had}} c \sim 1 \text{ fm} \quad m_0 \sim \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}$$

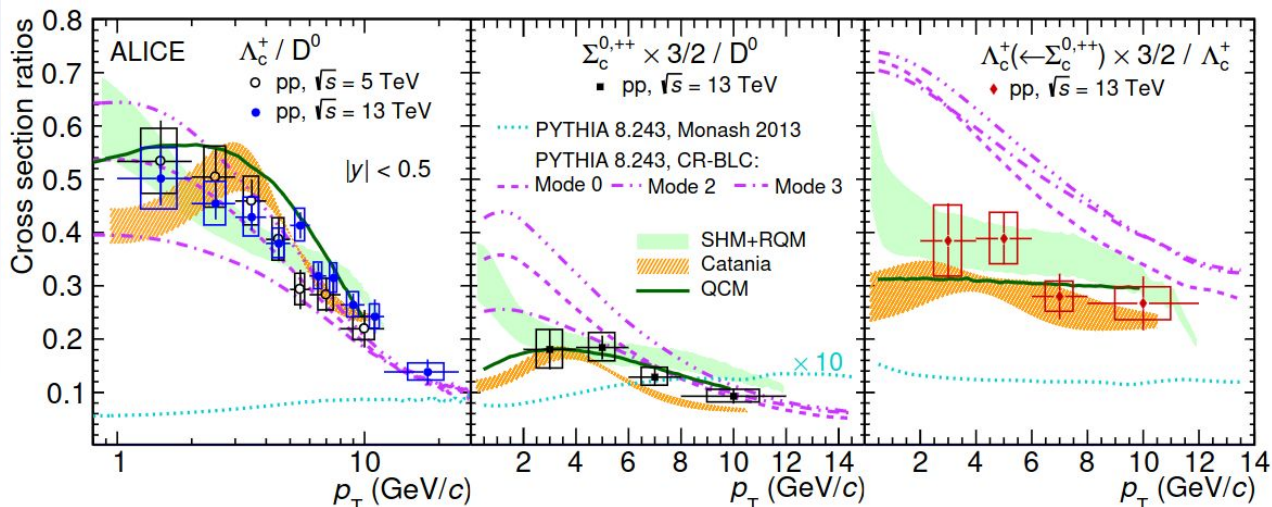


[String Formation Beyond Leading Colour](#)

PYTHIA 8: Color-reconnections beyond leading color



QCD CR model(s): Junctions drive order-of-magnitude increase at low- p_T Λ_c^+ / D^0
 \rightarrow mode 2 > mode 0 > mode 3



- **Mode 0:** no time-dilation constraints. m_0 controls the amount of CR (mode 0);
- **Mode 2:** time dilation using the boost factor obtained from the final-state mass of the dipoles, requiring all dipoles involved in a reconnection to be causally connected (strict);
- **Mode 3:** time dilation as in Mode 2, but requiring only a single connection to be causally connected (loose).

“Neither CR nor junction fragmentation were specifically designed/optimised for **heavy quarks**”
 “Needs further thought & theoretical work”
 Skands, [QCD-Based CR in Pythia & Close-Packing](#)