



#### Heavy-Flavor tagged jets at sPHENIX

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#### sPHENIX experiment



- Running period 2023-2025
- >7m long, >5m high, 1000 tons ٠
- Tracking detectors (MVTX, INTT, TPC, TPOT), calorimeters (EMCAL, HCAL), and endcaps (MBD, sEPD, ZDC, SMD)
- 1.4 T Magnetic Field,  $|\eta| \leq 1.1$ •
- Tracking detectors capable of streamed readout
  - Hybrid DAQ supporting 15 kHz triggering

**Time Projection** Chamber (TPC) Intermediate Tracker (INTT) Microvertex Detector (MVTX) **TPC Outer** 





## **Physics motivation**

- Heavy-flavor (HF) hadrons
  - Heavy quarks (charm and beauty) are mostly produced in hard partonic scatterings processes in the early stages of the collisions.
  - Because of their large mass, the production cross section can be calculated using pQCD down to low  $p_{\rm T}$ .
  - Excellent probe for Quark-Gluon Plasma (QGP) as they are produced before QGP is formed and experience the entire QGP evolution





# **Physics motivation**

- HF-tagged jets
  - Give direct access to the initial parton kinematics
  - Provide further constraints on pQCD-based models
  - Quark initiated jets
  - Information on heavy-quark energy loss in the QGP
    - Collisional energy loss might be significant
    - Redistribution of lost energy
    - Measurement of radiative energy loss dead cone effect
- HF hadronization, fragmentation, and its modification by QGP, and flow
  - Jet substructure provides additional information, complementary to RAA and v2
- Comparing to past RHIC measurements
  - sPHENIX offers high rate, precise tagging, and full calorimetry jets
- Comparing to past LHC measurements
  - sPHENIX offers temperature closer to T0, lower fraction of gluon splitting





## **Different HF tagging methods**

#### 1. Impact parameter method

- Selecting jets containing one or more displaced tracks from the primary vertex
- High efficiency, lower purity
- Works very well in pp, p-A. A-A might be challenging
- A. Track counting method [this talk]
  - First step, simple to deploy, usually lower purity
  - arXiv:1211.4462 [CMS], arXiv:2110.06104 [ALICE]
- B. Data-driven track probability method
  - Next step, requires deep knowledge of detector performance, higher purity
  - arXiv:1211.4462[CMS], arXiv:2110.06104[ALICE], arXiv:1002.4224[D0], arXiv:0311003[DELPHI]



## **Different HF tagging methods**

#### 2. Secondary vertex reconstruction

- Constrains on topology and vertex invariant mass
- Can be used to separate prompt (c) and non-prompt (b) signals
- Helps to constraint the background
- arXiv:2110.06104[ALICE], arXIV:1211.4462[CMS]

#### 3. HF-hadron tagging

- Requires fully reconstructed HF-hadron inside a jet
- Looking at hadronic [this talk] or (semi-)leptonic HF decays channels to tag the jet
- High purity, lower efficiency
- Allows the study of additional HF-jet substructure variables  $(z_{||})$  and modification of other  $(g, p_T D, z_g, R_g, n_{SD}, \ln 1/\theta)$
- arXiv:2204.10167[ALICE], arXiv:1911.01461[CMS]



## **Particle flow**

- Almost half of the jet energy is carried by the neutral particles
  - The importance to study full jets
  - sPHENIX has the first mid-rapidity HCAL at RHIC!
- Initial implementation of particle flow at sPHENIX to connect charged tracks and calorimeter information





Number of Particles in Jet



#### **Track counting method**

- One of the "simplest" methods to start with
  - Only requires a track and primary vertex
  - This method was used in the sPHENIX performance studies





## Track counting method

- 1. The main discriminator is the signed significance of track-to-primary-vertex DCA in transverse plane SDCA<sub>xy</sub>
  - $SDCA_{xy} = sgn\left(\overrightarrow{p_{xy}^{jet}} \cdot \overrightarrow{DCA_{xy}^{jet}}\right) \frac{|\overrightarrow{DCA_{xy}}|}{unc(|\overrightarrow{DCA_{xy}}|)}$
  - The significance is defined as DCA in transverse plane between the track and the primary vertex divided by its uncertainty
  - The sign is defined as a signum (sgn) of the scalar product of the jet axis and the DCA vector
    - Tracks originating from primary vertex should have sgn(x) = 0
    - due to limited resolution, they will have both sgn(x) = +1 and sgn(x) = -1 values
    - Track originating from secondary decays will have sgn(x) = +1





## **Simulation Sample/Jet-Track Selection**

- Simulation configuration:
  - PYTHIA 8 + GEANT 4, pp 200 GeV, HardQCD:all,  $\hat{Q} = 7 \text{ GeV}/c$ , without pile up
- Jet selection:
  - Anti- $k_T$ , E-scheme, R = 0.4,  $p_{T,jet}^{truth} \ge 10 \text{ GeV}/c$ ,  $p_{T,jet}^{reco} \ge 5 \text{ GeV}/c$
- Track selection:
  - $p_{T,track} \ge 500 \text{ MeV}/c$
- For the *SDCA*<sub>xy</sub> calculation further track selection is required:
  - $\chi^2/nDOF < 5$
  - TPC clusters  $\geq 30$
  - INTT clusters  $\geq 2$
  - MVTX clusters  $\geq 3$





#### Large progress made during commissioning



2023 cosmic, silicon alignment

2023 ion run, MVTX-Only PV estimation

2024 proton data, cluster size Consistent with ALICE and CMS



## **SDCA**<sub>xy</sub> probabilities

- Signed significance ( $SDCA_{xy}$ ) probability of tracks, and  $SDCA_{xy}$  of the first-, second-, and third- most significant track
- Clear separation of flavours





#### **Next steps**

- 1. First look at HF-tagged full jets using particle flow at sPHENIX
- 2. Optimize the track selection and jet tagger under the Run24 condition, including the pile up and apply in 2024 on p+p data
- 3. Tune the track and jet selection to achieve high purity and efficiency
- 4. Implement Jet Probability method
- 5. Introduce the machine learning to further improve the performance



## **HF hadron tagging**

- Better jet background rejection
- Allow study of jet spectrum down to low pT
- Heavy-quark initiated jet structure and parton shower
- 1. D mesons are reconstructed via  $D^0 \rightarrow K^-\pi^+$  exploiting sPHENIX excellent tracking capabilities
- 2. D-meson decay daughters are removed from the particle list and replaced by the Dmeson 4-momentum vector
- Jet is tagged as D-meson tagged if there is a fully reconstructed D0 particle inside the jet





## **HF hadron tagging**

- Jet tagging successfully implemented
- Next step: Commissioning of the full framework





## HF hadron tagging

• Angular resolution is a key element in the study of heavy-flavor jet structure





## Summary

- sPHENIX is the first detector with full calorimetry in mid rapidity at RHIC
- sPHENIX started collecting first pp data
  - Data reconstruction, calibration, and alignment underway
  - DCA resolution < 40 um crucial for separation of prompt and non-prompt D-meson
- Focus on commissioning the particle flow and pp data
- Multiple HF jet tagging strategies were explored



Thank you for your attention

