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Abstract

Jet substructure can provide valuable insight into the time evolution of a jet, which involves perturbative fragmentation well described by quantum chromodynamics. However, the regime of jet evolution in which non-perturbative effects begin to dominate, leading to hadronization, is of great interest to study. A novel substructure observable in hadronic collisions, the Energy-Energy Correlator (EEC) examines jet evolution as a function of correlations between all constituents of the jet, separating its behavior into independent regimes dominated by **non-perturbative** and **perturbative** dynamics respectively, highlighting the transition between the two.

Motivation: Jet Evolution

Jets in vacuum undergo fragmentation and eventually hadronize and are measured in detectors

Evolution across both **perturbative** and **non-perturbative** regimes – time information is encoded onto angular scales [1]

$$\text{Formation Time: } t_f \propto \frac{1}{\Delta R^2} \quad \text{Smaller angle} \rightarrow \text{later time}$$

Angular scales between all particles separate out these regimes of jet evolution and isolate transition between them - onset of hadronization

STAR Experiment and $p_{T,jet}$ Correction

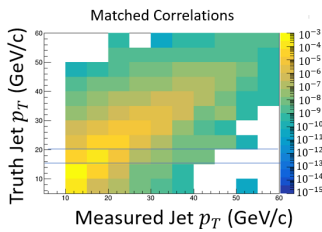
Time Projection Chamber:

-High angular precision on charged tracks for determination of angular distance

Electromagnetic Calorimeter:

-Allows for determination of full jet momentum

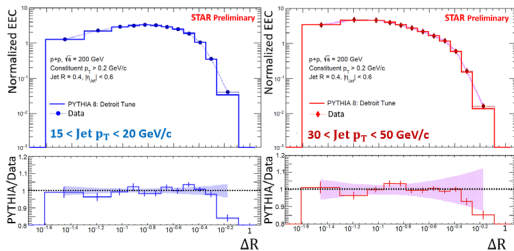
Detector effects simulated and corrected for via PYTHIA6 + GEANT3 embedding



Construct $p_{T,jet}$ mapping from tracks measured in both GEANT (measured level) and PYTHIA (truth level) samples

Add measured distributions together in ratios determined from a selection on truth $p_{T,jet}$ in the response matrix

Monte-Carlo Comparison



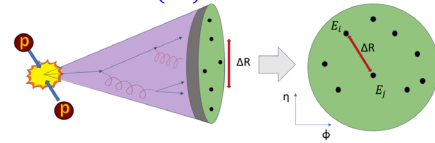
All stages of jet evolution in vacuum in EEC distribution are well described by PYTHIA8 Detroit Tune within errors – useful as baseline for future studies of medium interaction

Energy-Energy Correlator (EEC)

Examines the correlations between all possible pairs of two particles differential in their angular scale (ΔR) weighted by their energy product

$$\text{Normalized EEC} = \frac{1}{A} \frac{d(A)}{d(\Delta R)} \quad \text{where } A = \sum_{\text{Jets}} \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{E_i E_j}{p_{T,jet}^2}$$

Transverse jet momentum: $p_{T,jet}$

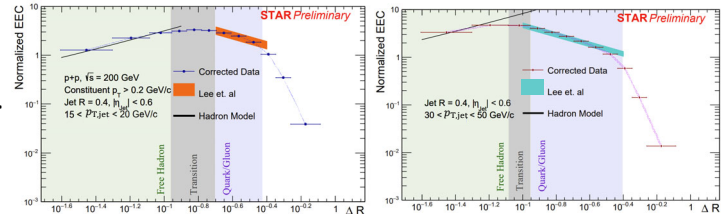


Energy of one charged constituent in pair: E_i

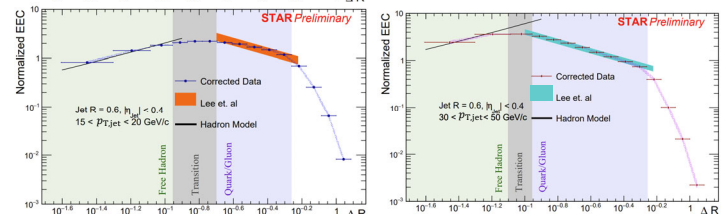
Results

Expected behavior in **non-perturbative** and **perturbative** regimes recovered, compared with toy hadron model and pQCD calculation respectively

$R=0.4$



$R=0.6$



$15 < \text{Jet } p_T < 20 \text{ GeV/c}$

$30 < \text{Jet } p_T < 50 \text{ GeV/c}$

Transition moves to lower angles (later times) at higher jet energies - Consistent with measurements from ALICE [2] and CMS [3]

Transition region occurs at consistent scale proportional to $p_{T,jet} * \Delta R_{Turnover} \sim 2-3 \text{ GeV} \rightarrow$ Implies consistent scale of hadronization [4]

$$\text{Turnover} \propto \frac{A_{QCD}}{p_{T,jet}}$$

Jet radius has small effect on location of turnover regime, but extends phase space for observing perturbative effects

Summary and Outlook

First Measurement of EEC at STAR - separates **non-perturbative** and **perturbative** effects into angular scales, many future applications

Potentially resolve scales of interaction with Quark-Gluon Plasma [5]

In future, can probe how hadronization changes across correlations with different charge signs [6]

– see poster by Youqi Song for charge-correlator ratio measurement

1 Apolinário et al. 2021 EPJC 81, 561 3 Lu, BOOST 2023 5 Andres et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 130 (2023) 26, 262301
2 Cruz-Torres, Hard Probes 2023 4 Komiske et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 130 (2023) 5, 051901 6 Lee, Moullet (2023): arXiv:2308.00746