

## ***b*-flavour tagging in *pp* collisions**

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In the system of neutral  $B$  mesons  $CP$ -violation and neutral meson mixing can be measured using time-dependent analyses, as performed at the LHCb experiment. For such analyses the knowledge of the flavour of the mesons at production is mandatory. This information is provided by "flavour tagging" techniques. A description of the flavour tagging algorithms used at the LHCb experiment during Run I for  $pp$  collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 7, 8 \text{ TeV}$  is reported. The good performance of the flavour tagging techniques allow high precision measurements in the  $B^0$  and  $B_s^0$  sector. Some recent developments are also discussed.

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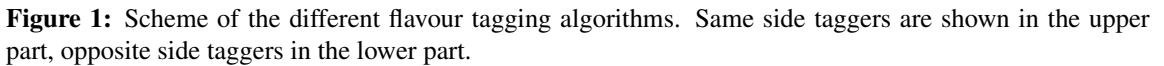
\*Speaker.

The aim of the Flavour Tagging algorithms is to determine the flavour of neutral  $B$  mesons at their production. These algorithms are called taggers and can be classified in two groups. The same side (SS) taggers use charged particles which are created in the fragmentation process of the signal  $b$  quark. The opposite side (OS) taggers infer the flavour of the non-signal  $b$  quark of the  $b\bar{b}$  pair produced in the  $pp$  collision by looking e.g. for leptons originating from semileptonic  $b \rightarrow cW$  transitions or kaons coming from  $b \rightarrow c \rightarrow s$  transitions (Figure 1) [1].

$$\epsilon_{\text{tag}} = \frac{N_{\text{right}} + N_{\text{wrong}}}{N_{\text{all}}}, \quad (1.1)$$
$$\omega = \frac{N_{\text{wrong}}}{N_{\text{right}} + N_{\text{wrong}}} \quad (1.2)$$

Each tagger provides a per-event tag decision  $d$  and a probability  $\eta$  to be wrong. This predicted mistag probability  $\eta$  is calibrated on data with a function  $\omega(\eta)$ . Weighting each signal candidate with  $D = 1 - 2\omega(\eta)$  leads to an corrected per-event dilution factor. The statistical power of a  $CP$  or mixing asymmetry measurement using tagging algorithms is proportional to an effective tagging efficiency

Thus any augmentation to this effective tagging efficiency increases the statistical precision in these time dependent measurements at LHCb.



## 2. Flavour Tagging algorithms at LHCb

For the opposite side tagging algorithms there are mainly two different types of algorithms. Single particle taggers identify electrons, muons and kaons coming from the other  $b$  hadron. To select these particles a large impact parameter significance with respect to the primary vertex and a large transverse momentum  $p_T$  are required. For particle identification cuts on the difference between the logarithm of the likelihood for the muon, electron, kaon or proton and the pion hypothesis are applied. In case of multiple candidates from one tagging algorithm the candidate with the highest transverse momentum is chosen.

In contrast to this method the OS vertex charge tagger does not use single tracks but a weighted charge of a secondary vertex to take a tag decision. The secondary vertex is reconstructed from two tracks which have the highest probability to originate from the OS  $b$  hadron. From this seed more tracks that are compatible with coming from the secondary vertex but not from the primary vertex are added to the vertex to form the final  $b$  hadron candidate. Finally a weighted charge is calculated as a sum of the charges  $Q_i$  of all tracks associated to the vertex

$$Q_{\text{vtx}} = \frac{\sum_i p_T^k(i) Q_i}{\sum_i p_T^k(i)}, \quad (2.1)$$

weighted by their transverse momentum  $p_T$  to the power  $k$ . The value  $k$  optimises the effective tagging efficiency.

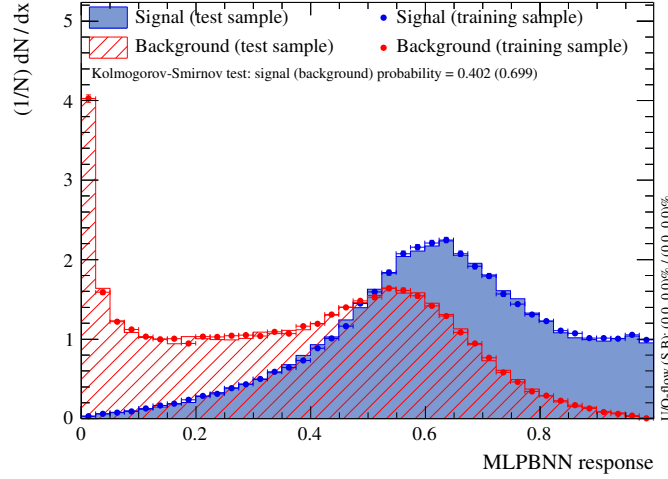
For the same side tagging one has to distinguish between  $B_d^0$  and  $B_s^0$  mesons as the accompanying quark is a  $d$  or a  $s$  quark, respectively. In case of a  $B_d^0$  meson an additional pion from the  $d$  quark which can hadronise with an  $u$  quark emerges. Also pions from excited states as  $B^*$  and  $B^{**}$  have the same charge as pions from the direct fragmentation process with a  $B^0$  meson. Therefore the pion candidates are required to be charged particles with high momentum and transverse momentum originating from the primary vertex [11]. If the signal  $B$  meson is a  $B_s^0$  a kaon can be formed out of the additional  $s$  quark and an  $u$  quark.

For each tagger a multivariate classifier trained on simulated data distinguishes between correct and incorrect tag decisions  $d$ . For each decision made, this classifier then calculates the mistag probability  $\eta$ . Inputs to this classifier

### 2.1 SS kaon tagging using neural nets (NN)

The first version of the SS kaon tagger uses a selection based on rectangular cuts to identify the tagging kaon and a neural net (NN) was only used to estimate the mistag probability  $\eta$ . For the SS kaon neural net tagger the basic idea is to use two NN. The first NN distinguishes between fragmentation tracks and the underlying event tracks (see figure 2.1). The fragmentation tracks are the signal tracks for the SS kaon tagger, i.e. the tracks are the searched tagging particle tracks [2]. The second NN assigns the final tag and mistag [3].

Compared to the cut-based SS kaon the SS kaon NN gives a relative improvement of 50 % (41 %) in  $\epsilon_{\text{eff}}$  for  $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- \pi^+$  ( $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \phi$ ). This improvements can be observed also when comparing the effective tagging efficiencies in the measurements of  $\phi_s$  at LHCb. The effective tagging efficiencies  $\epsilon_{\text{eff}}$  for the  $CP$  analyses in  $B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^+ K^-$ ,  $\bar{B}_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+ \pi^-$  and  $\bar{B}_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^+ D_s^-$  are listed in table 2.1.



**Figure 2:** Distribution of NN response for fragmentation tracks (signal) and underlying event tracks (background) [2]

Decay mode	$\epsilon_{\text{eff}} (1 \text{ fb}^{-1})$	$\epsilon_{\text{eff}} (3 \text{ fb}^{-1})$
$B_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^+ K^-$	3.13 % [4]	3.73 % [5]
$\bar{B}_s^0 \rightarrow J/\psi \pi^+ \pi^-$	2.43 % [6]	3.89 % [7]
$\bar{B}_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^+ D_s^-$	-	5.33 % [8]

**Table 1:** Tagging efficiencies and effective tagging efficiencies for the  $CP$  analyses measuring  $\phi_s$ . In the analyses on  $1 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  the cut-based version of the SS kaon was used, the analyses on the whole Run I dataset with  $3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  used the neural net based version.

## 2.2 New development: OS charm tagger

The OS charm tagger uses charm hadrons from the decay chain  $b \rightarrow c$  from the opposite side  $b$  quark to tag the initial flavour. The reconstructed  $D$  modes related to the OS  $b$  decay are listed in table 2.2. For each mode one boosted decision tree is used to calculate the mistag probability

Decay mode	Relative $\epsilon_{\text{tag}}$	Relative $\epsilon_{\text{eff}}$
$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+$	10.0 %	24.0 %
$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	5.9 %	8.4 %
$D^+ \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+$	10.3 %	2.6 %
$D^0, D^+ \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ X$	69.7 %	61.5 %
$D^0, D^+ \rightarrow K^- e^+ X$	0.5 %	0.2 %
$D^0, D^+ \rightarrow K^- \mu^+ X$	3.4 %	0.3 %
$\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow p^+ K^- \pi^+$	0.2 %	2.4 %

**Table 2:**  $D$  meson decay modes with their relative contributions to  $\epsilon_{\text{tag}}$  and  $\epsilon_{\text{eff}}$  which are used by the OS charm tagger.

$\eta$  and then the candidate with the best prediction is picked [9]. The OS charm tagger provides a relatively clean measure of the  $B$  flavour, i.e. it provides low values of  $\eta$ . Depending on the decay mode its stand-alone effective tagging efficiency is  $\epsilon_{\text{eff}} = 0.30 \%$  to  $0.40 \%$  [9].

### 3. Calibration of the Flavour Tagging

The mistag estimate  $\eta$  provided by the different tagging algorithms has to be corrected and transformed into the true mistag probability  $\omega$ . This is done with a linear calibration function

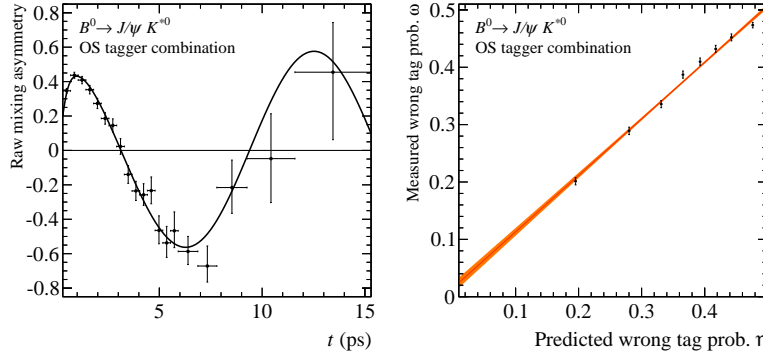
$$\omega(\eta) = p_0 + p_1 (\eta - \langle \eta \rangle) \quad (3.1)$$

with the mean mistag estimate  $\langle \eta \rangle$ . The parameters  $p_0$  and  $p_1$  of this calibration function are extracted in two different ways. Using charged decay modes as  $B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi K^+$  and  $B^+ \rightarrow D^0 \pi^+$  the true mistag  $\omega$  can be extracted by comparing the tag decision with the charge of the kaon or pion in the final state. In neutral decay modes as  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^{*0}$ ,  $B^0 \rightarrow D^{*-} \mu^+ \nu_\mu$  or  $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s^- \pi^+$  a full time-dependent analysis is needed to extract  $\omega$  from the mixing asymmetry:

$$A_{\text{mix}}(t) \propto (1 - 2\omega) \cos(\Delta m_d t) \quad (3.2)$$

In both cases the calculation of  $\omega$  is done in bins of the mistag estimate  $\eta$  and the linear function 3.1 is fitted to the  $(\omega, \eta)$  pairs. Figure 3 shows the time dependent mixing asymmetry of equation 3.2 in the case of the  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^{*0}$  decay and the linear calibration function resulting from the fit of all the bins in  $\eta$ .

In analyses systematic uncertainties coming from the Flavour Tagging are assigned for the uncer-



**Figure 3:** Overall mixing asymmetry (left) and resulting calibration function (right) for the OS tagger combination in the calibration mode  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^{*0}$ .

tainties associated with the calibration method and for the validity of the calibration in the signal decay mode. Adding these two categories of systematic uncertainties, the size of the systematic uncertainty is of the order of the size of the statistical uncertainty on the calibration. For most analyses during Run I the systematic uncertainties are much smaller than the statistical uncertainties. Therefore one calibration per tagger valid for all channels is provided.

For analyses where the systematic uncertainties are dominated by the Flavour Tagging uncertainties and the systematic uncertainties are of the order of the statistical uncertainties an “ad-hoc” calibration using the best-suited control channel for the analyses is performed.

### 3.1 $CP$ violation in $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K_s^0$ ( $\sin 2\beta$ )

The measurement of  $CP$  violation in  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K_s^0$  was performed both on  $1 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  and on the whole Run I dataset of  $3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . The effective tagging power increased from  $\varepsilon = 2.38\%$  ( $1 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ ) [10] to  $\varepsilon = 3.02\%$  ( $3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ ) [11]. This increase was due to the use of the SS pion tagger which adds more than  $0.376\%$  in the newest analysis. As in the measurement of  $\sin 2\beta$  the statistical uncertainties are of the order of the systematic uncertainties and the flavour tagging contribution was expected to be a dominant factor an “ad-hoc” calibration was performed. The OS taggers were calibrated with the control channel  $B^+ \rightarrow J/\psi K^+$ , the SS pion tagger was calibrated with  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K^{*0}$ . For both decay modes the decay and kinematic properties of the tagging particles should be similar to the signal decay, especially as both are reconstructed in the  $J/\psi X$  mode. Systematic uncertainties were evaluated on the calibration method itself and due to the portability to the  $B^0 \rightarrow J/\psi K_s^0$  decay. This approach decreased the size of the systematic uncertainty coming from the flavour tagging calibration to  $33\%$  of the total systematic uncertainty [11].

## 4. Conclusion

During Run I the performance of the Flavour Tagging improved for the SS kaon tagging and for the OS tagging in the order of  $40\%$  and  $15\%$  respectively. Many time-dependent measurements could be performed successfully with high precision.

## References

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