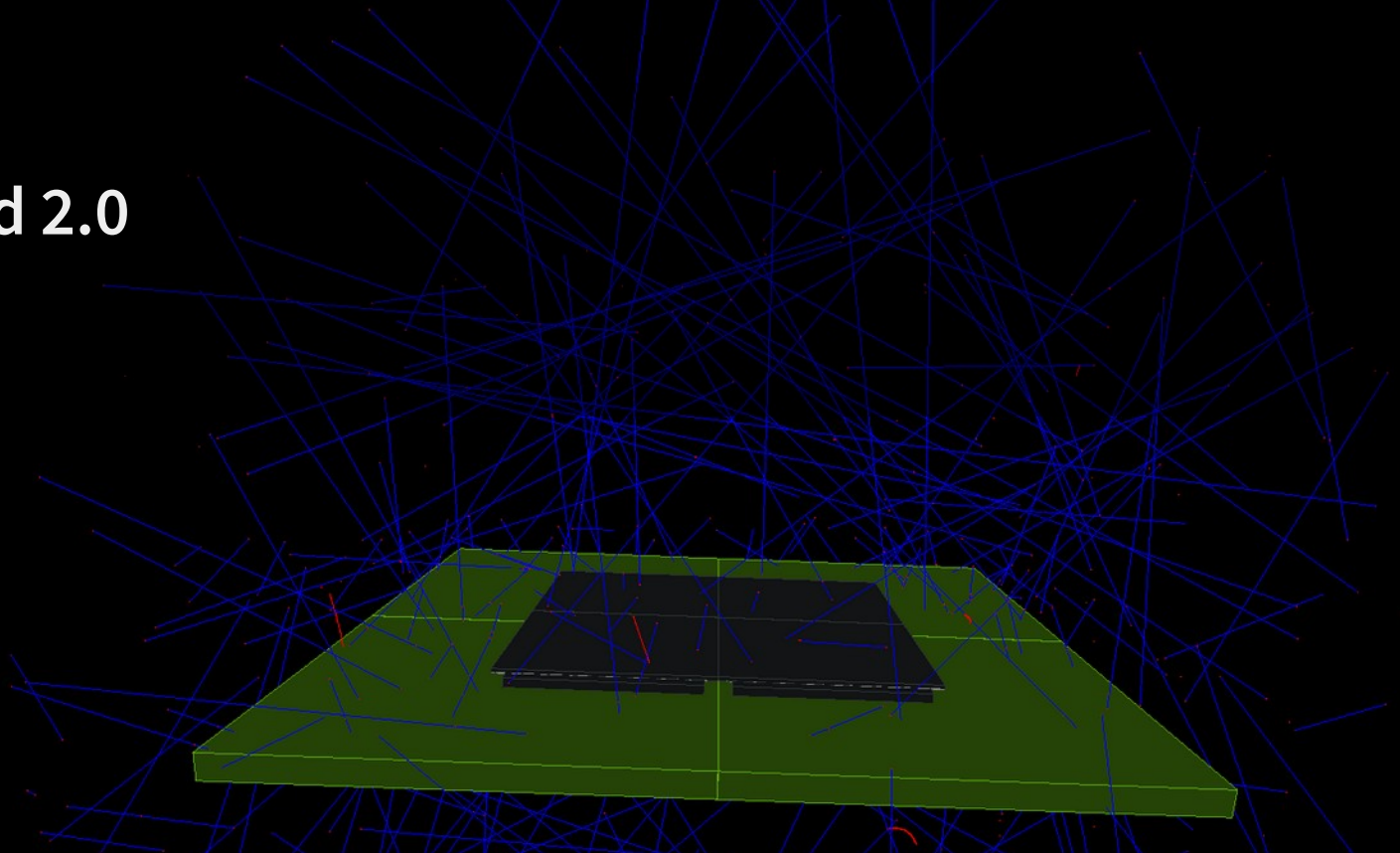
cern.ch/allpix-squared

Allpix Squared 2.0

An Overview

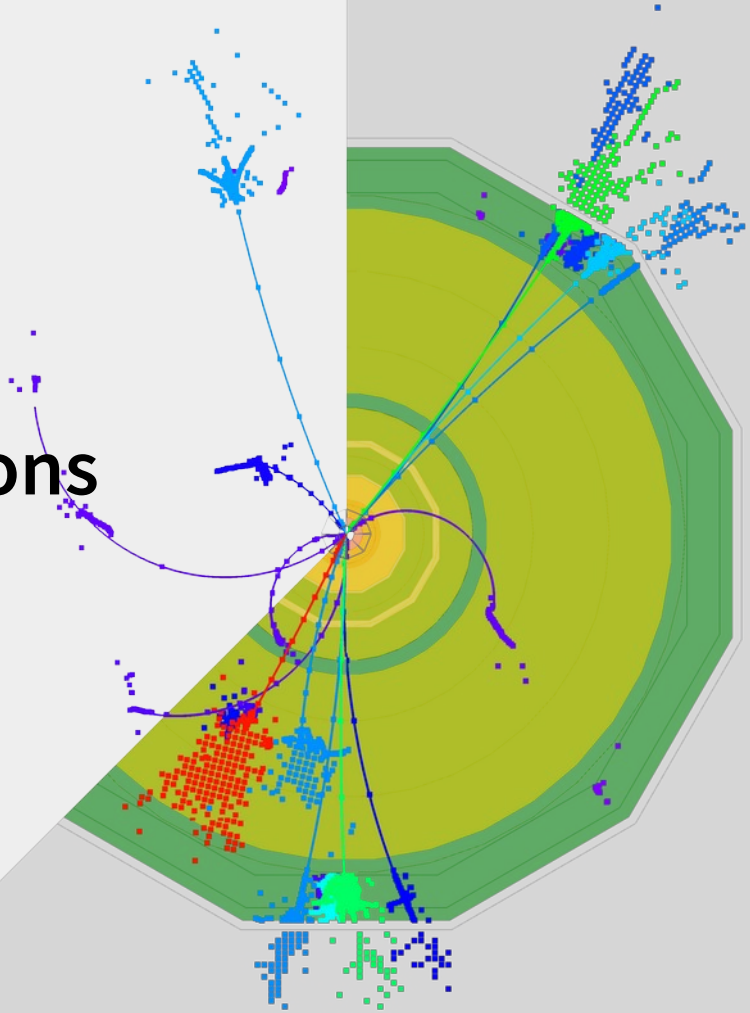


Simon Spannagel, DESY

2nd Allpix Squared User Workshop

17 August 2021

Monte Carlo Simulations
of Silicon Detectors



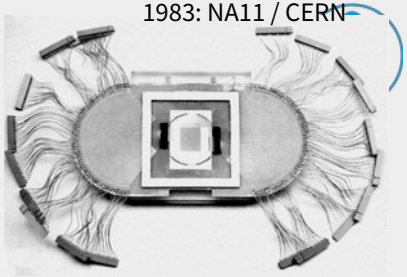
Silicon Detectors in Particle Physics

- Silicon detectors vital for many measurements
  - Fine segmentation, fast readout: high track multiplicities
  - Precise position measurement: momentum determination
    collision point (vertexing)
    particle identification (flavor tagging)

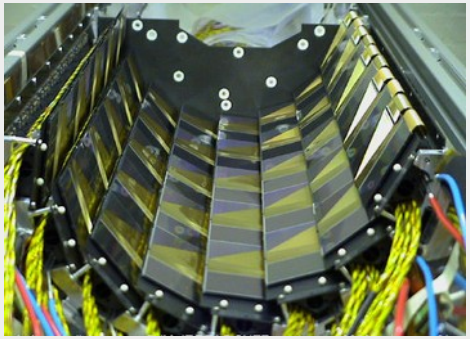
- Instrumental in discovery of Higgs boson at LHC
  - Tracking detectors: strips, 200 m^2 silicon, 70M channels
  - Vertex detectors: pixels, 1 m^2 silicon, 140M channels

- Detector R&D underway for
  - Upgrade of HL-LHC: more radiation damage resilience
  - Future colliders: *faster, higher, better*

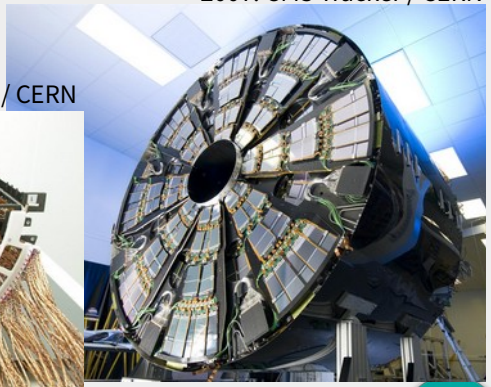
1983: NA11 / CERN



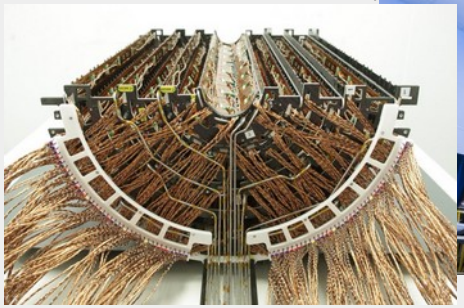
2000: ZEUS MVD / DESY



2007: CMS Tracker / CERN



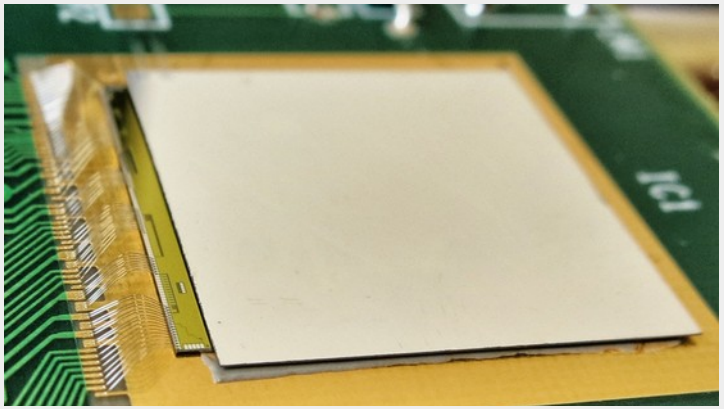
2017: CMS Phase 1 Pixel / CERN



Silicon Detectors in Particle Physics

Demands on detectors are high:

- Very high particle flux, tens of MHz / cm^2
- Maximum resolution, minimum (scattering-) mass
- Very high granularity for high particle rates,
  fast readout, minimal dead time (few ns)
- “Smart” detectors
  (zero suppression, clustering, on-chip processing, fast data links)

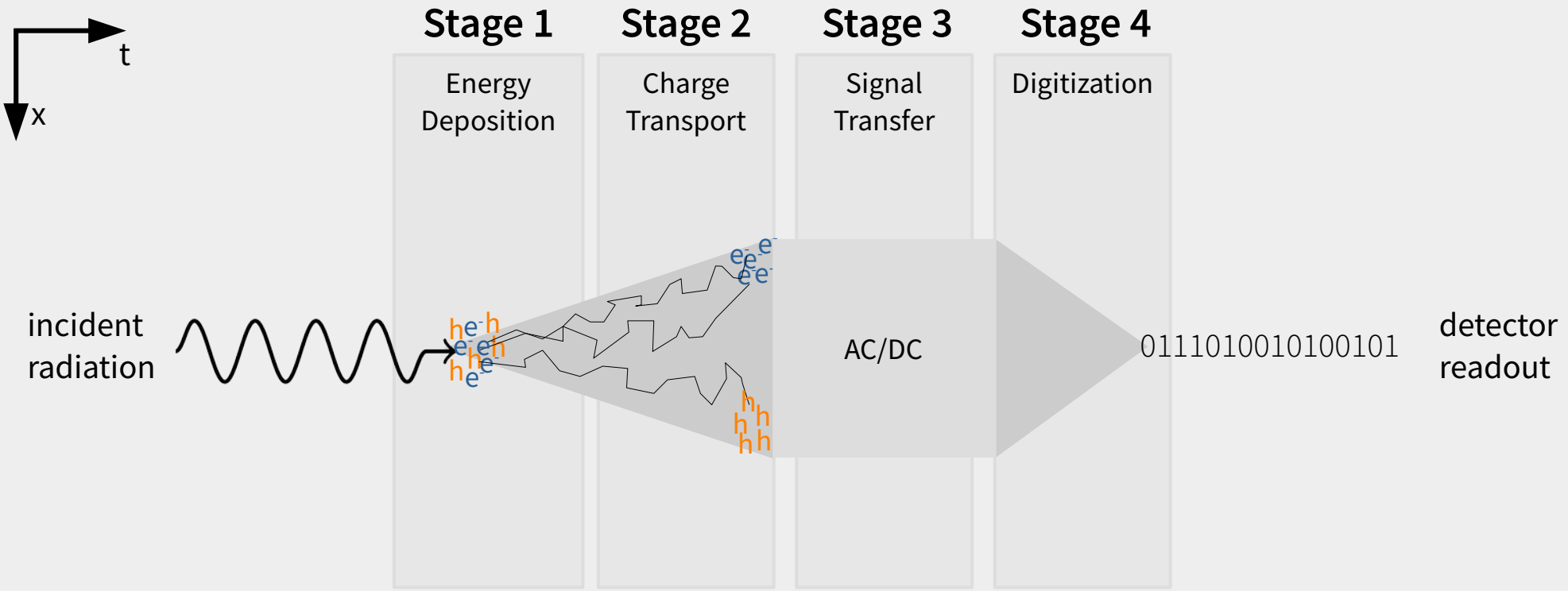


100 µm Timepix with 100 µm Sensor

Many different technologies used for different purposes:
hybrid – dedicated sensor + mixed-mode CMOS, monolithic CMOS imaging, LGADs, 3D sensors, …

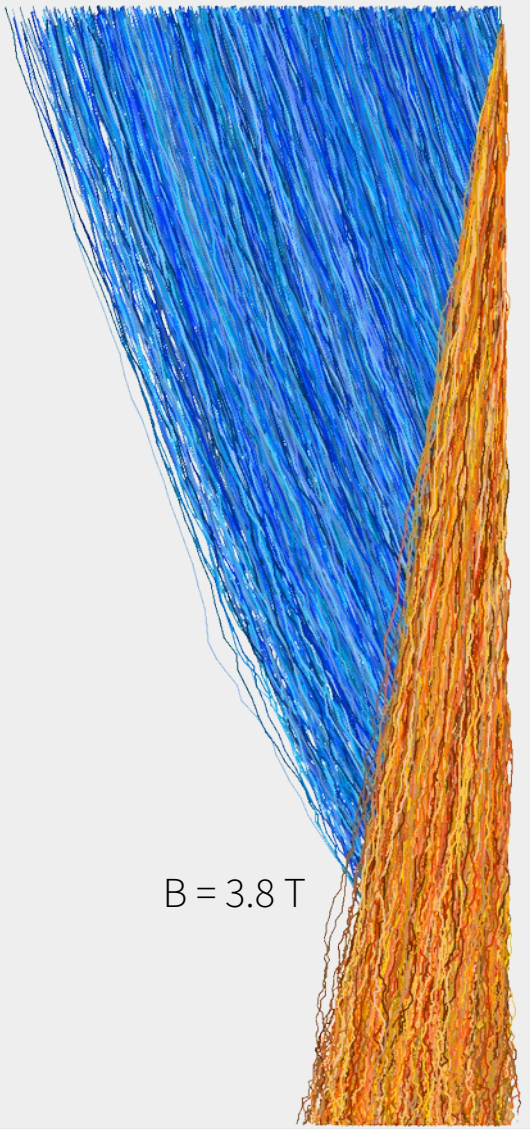
- Simulations required for thoroughly understanding detector performance in realistic conditions
- Tools needed to cover wide range of detector technologies

Minimum Ionizing Particle Detector – Broken Down



The Allpix Squared Framework

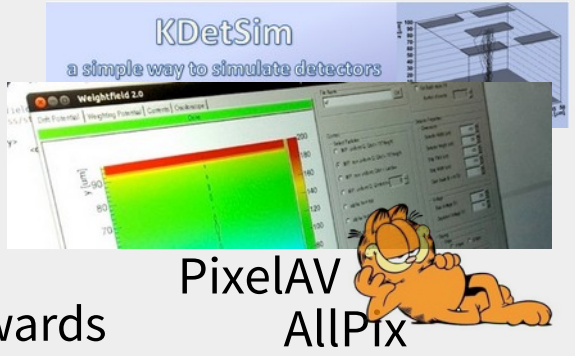
Monte Carlo Simulation



Yet Another Monte Carlo Simulation Framework?

Proliferation of many different codes for detector simulation:

- Some are experiment-specific
- Some are specialized on specific detector types
- Some are written as part of a PhD thesis and abandoned afterwards



A new framework with…

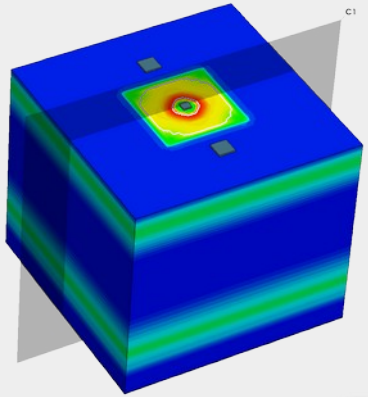
- Integration of Existing Toolkits
- Well-Tested & Validated Algorithms
- Low Entry Barrier for New Users
- Clean & Maintainable Code

Integration of Existing Toolkits

- Many very powerful tools developed and employed over decades of detector R&D
  Leverage their capabilities by providing interfaces for their integration

- **Geant4** – simulating energy deposition of particles passing through matter
  - Extensive toolkit, detailed simulation of many interactions & processes (e.g. decays)
  - Cumbersome to use for beginners, complexity often overwhelming at first
  - Provide abstraction layer that auto-generates models and calls Geant4 kernel

- **TCAD** – solving Poisson's equation using doping information
  - Detailed understanding of field configuration, sensor behavior
  - Tools & knowledge widely spread in community → see e.g. talk by J. Schwandt
  - Provide possibility to import results to complement MC simulations



Well-Tested & Validated Algorithms

- Simulations provide insights into physical processes – but only if they model them correctly!
  Validation of algorithms crucial and time-consuming process

- With Allpix Squared, we strive for
  - Validating as much as possible against known data
  - Publishing reference studies including full simulation configuration used
  - Providing automated test for every new feature

- More on automated testing: talk by me

NIMA 901 (2018) 164 – 172
doi:10.1016/j.nima.2018.06.020

NIMA 964 (2020) 163784
doi:10.1016/j.nima.2020.163784

In preparation…

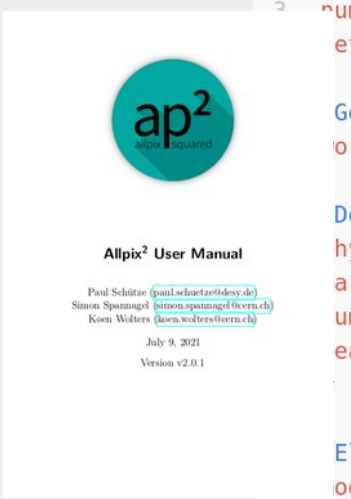
Low Entry Barrier for New Users

- Simulation frameworks often very complex:
  code complexity, lack of documentation, physics

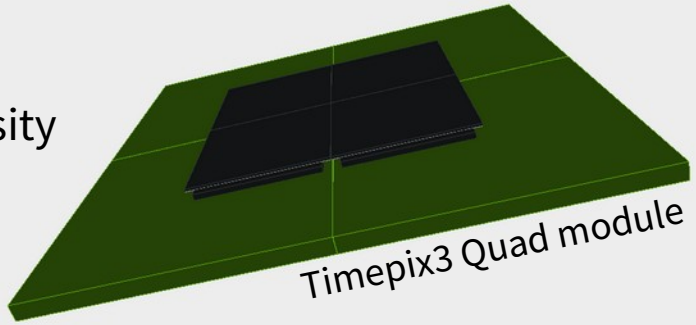
- Allpix Squared attempts to facilitate quick starts:
  - Extensive documentation / user manual / help forum
  - Human-readable configuration files
  - Support for physical units
  - No coding or code-reading required

- Successfully used e.g. in university education, summer schools, …

  → See talk by P. Schütze

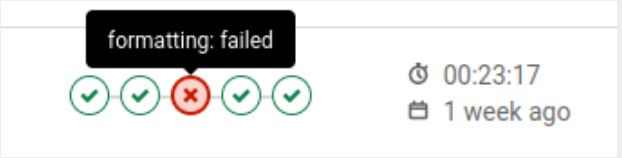



```
[AllPix]
log_level = "INFO"
number_of_events = 500000
detectors_file = "telescope.conf"

[GeometryBuilderGeant4]
world_material = "air"

[DepositionGeant4]
physics_list = FTFP_BERT_LIV
particle_type = "Pi+"
number_of_particles = 1
beam_energy = 120GeV
...

[ElectricFieldReader]
model="linear"
bias_voltage=150V
depletion_voltage=50V

[GenericPropagation]
temperature = 293K
charge_per_step = 10
spatial_precision = 0.0025um
timestep_max = 0.5ns

[SimpleTransfer]
```

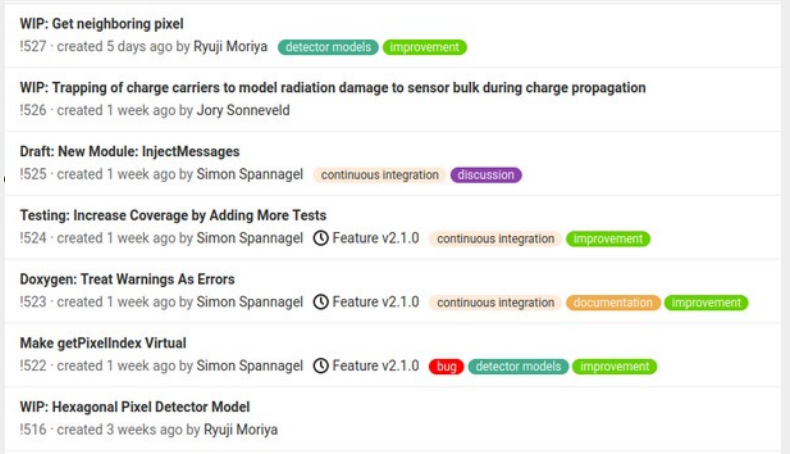


Clean & Maintainable Code

- Collaborative software development requires well-defined procedures – Otherwise quickly becomes unmaintainable



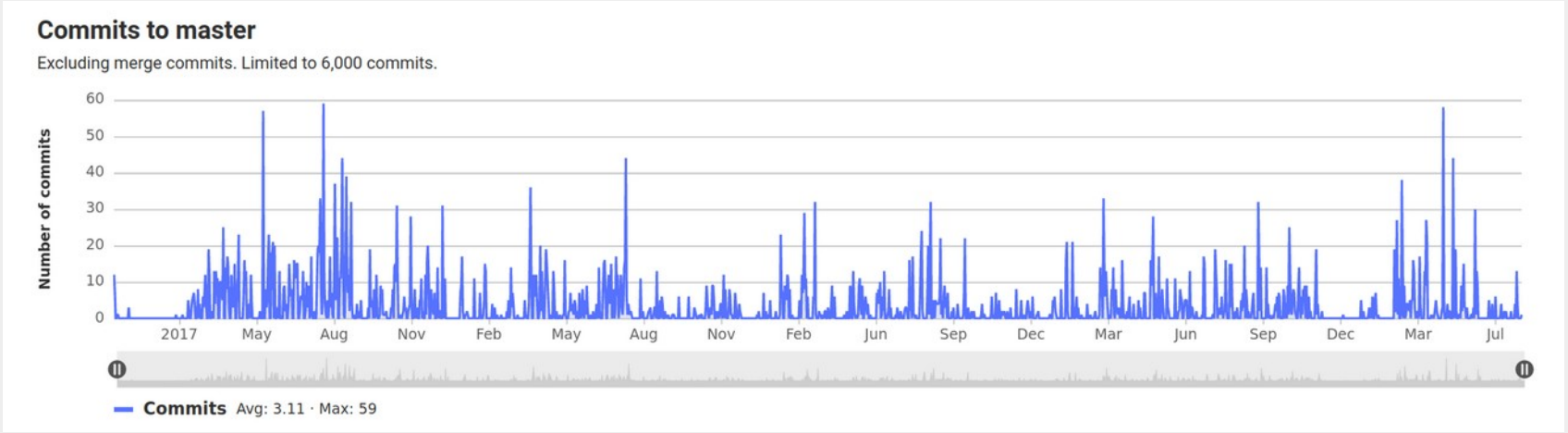
- Allpix Squared implements *best practices* for software development
  - Permissive open-source license: MIT
  - Extensive code reviews via merge requests
  - Strict enforcement of coding conventions & form
  - Regular static code analysis



- More on collaborative coding: talk by me

A Brief History of Allpix Squared

- Started end of 2016 at CERN in EP-LCG group, now main development at DESY
- Development driven by technical student during 2017 (K. Wolters)
- First release: August 2017
  Ever since: continuous support / development / releases / improvements
- Many applications in different fields,
  By now 38 contributors, more soon to come (pending merge requests)



v2.0.1	2021-07-09
v2.0	2021-06-10
v1.6.2	2021-04-01
v1.6.1	2021-01-28
v1.6	2020-10-29
v1.5.2	2020-09-14
v1.5.1	2020-07-26
v1.5	2020-04-14
v1.4.4	2020-03-10
v1.4.3	2020-01-10
v1.4.2	2019-11-26
v1.4.1	2019-09-13
v1.4	2019-07-09
v1.3.4	2019-06-07
v1.3.3	2019-04-13
v1.3.2	2019-02-21
v1.3.1	2018-12-17
v1.3	2018-11-21
v1.2.3	2018-11-13
v1.2.2	2018-09-07
v1.2.1	2018-08-02
v1.2	2018-06-13
v1.1.2	2018-04-25
v1.1.1	2018-03-08
v1.1	2018-01-11
v1.0	2017-08-[illegible]

Release of Allpix Squared 2.0

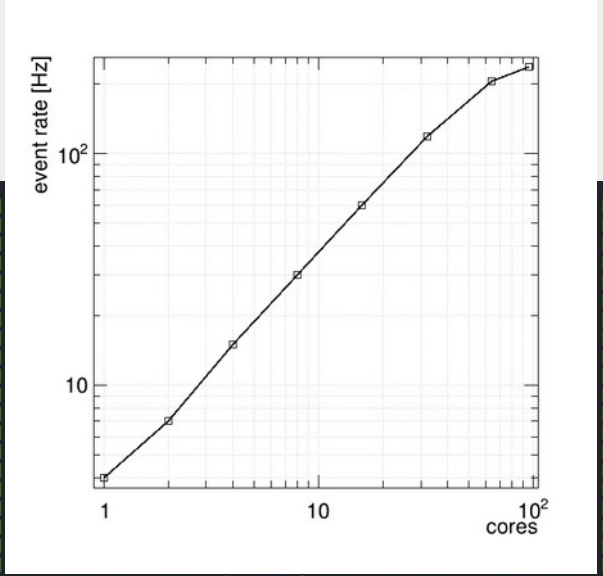
- First major release introducing structural changes to framework since 1.0 (08/2017)
  - More than 1500 commits over previous feature release 1.6
  - Introduced fully parallel event processing (Started as Google Summer of Code project)

- Further separation between physics models & algorithms
- A few selected features presented in the following, separate talks on
  - Charge-Sensitive amplifier front-end → by A. Vauth
  - Multithreading → by K. Wolters

- Tons of small improvements, cleanup, documentation improvements: https://cern.ch/allpix-squared/post/2021-06-15-version-2.0.0/

Event-Based Seeding & Multithreading

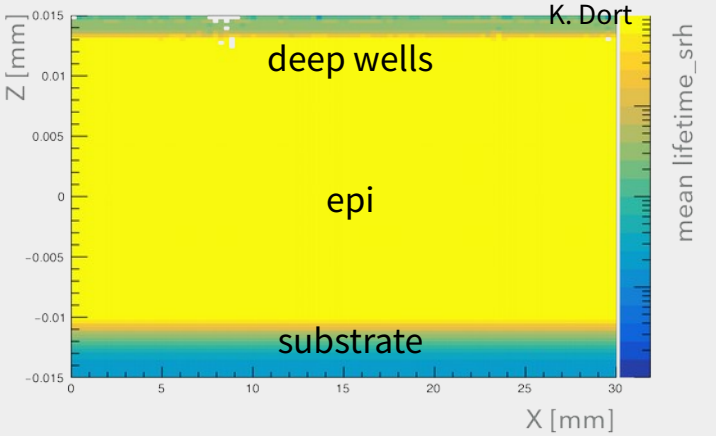
- Efficient use of system resources / multiple cores
- Retaining strong reproducibility: exact same result, independent of # workers, fully transparent to user / simulation
- See talk by K. Wolters



Allpix² fully utilizing 96 cores

Recombination of Charge Carriers

- In many applications: fast signal formation
  no need for recombination – all e/h pairs reach electrodes
- Sometimes, finite charge carrier lifetime becomes interesting:
  - High-dopant regions
  - Low electric fields, signal formation via diffusion



- Allpix Squared supports position-dependent doping maps & lifetime calculation
  - Shockley-Read-Hall recombination: medium doping concentrations
  - Auger recombination: high doping concentrations
  - Combination

$$\tau^{-1}(N_d) = \begin{cases} \tau_{srh}^{-1}(N_d) + \tau_a^{-1}(N_d) & (minority) \\ \tau_{srh}^{-1}(N_d) & (majority) \end{cases}$$

- Application example: monolithic active pixel sensors, see talk by K. Dort

Different Carrier Mobility Models

- Providing different charge carrier mobility models
  - Field dependent
  - Doping concentration dependent
  - Optimized for high-field situations
  - …
- Description & reference provided in user manual
- Selected via configuration file:

```
[GenericPropagation]
temperature = 293K
mobility_model = "masetti"
```

Jacoboni/Canali

$$\mu(E) = \frac{v_m}{E_c} \frac{1}{(1 + (E/E_c)^\beta)^{1/\beta}},$$

Hamburg

$$\mu_e^{-1}(E) = 1/\mu_{0,e} + E/v_{sat}$$

$$\mu_h^{-1}(E) = 1/\mu_{0,h} \qquad E < E_0$$

$$= 1/\mu_{0,h} + b \cdot (E - E_0) + c \cdot (E - E_0)^2 \qquad E \geq E_0$$

Masetti

$$\mu_e(N) = \mu_{0,e} + \frac{\mu_{max,e} - \mu_{0,e}}{1 + (N/C_{r,e})^{\alpha_e}} - \frac{\mu_{1,e}}{(1 + (C_{s,e}/N)^{\beta_e})}$$

$$\mu_h(N) = \mu_{0,h} + \frac{\mu_{max,h}}{1 + (N/C_{r,h})^{\alpha_h}} - \frac{\mu_{1,h}}{(1 + (C_{s,h}/N)^{\beta_h})} + e^{P_c/N}$$

Arora

$$\mu_e(N) = \mu_{min,e} + \mu_{0,e}/\left(1 + (N/N_{ref,e})^\alpha\right)$$

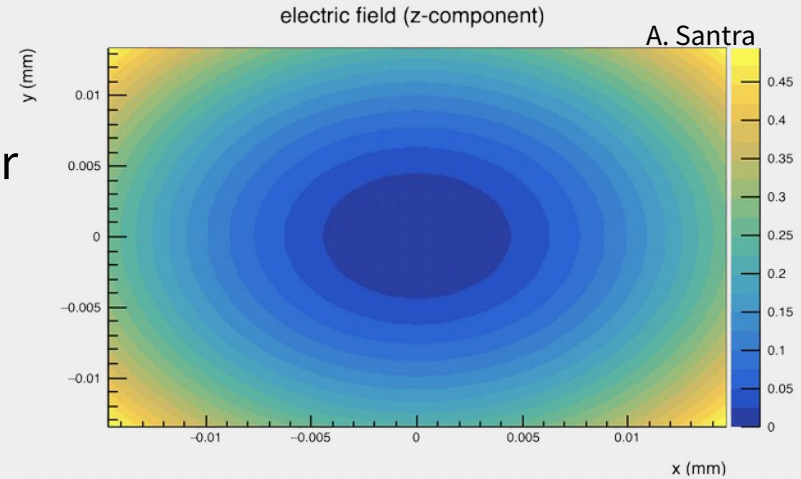
$$\mu_h(N) = \mu_{min,h} + \mu_{0,h}/\left(1 + (N/N_{ref,h})^\alpha\right)$$

Extended Canali/Masetti

$$\mu(E, N) = \frac{\mu_m(N)}{\left(1 + (\mu_m(N) \cdot E/v_m)^\beta\right)^{1/\beta}}$$

Custom Analytical Electric Field Functions

- From beginning on, implementations for
  - Linear electric fields → “standard” planar sensor
  - TCAD field maps → complex “known” sensors



- Often other models are required, now added:
  - Parabolic shape → double-peaked electric field after irradiation
  - Possibility for custom analytical field functions
    → approximations of complex sensors

```
[ElectricFieldReader]
model = "custom"
field_function = "[0]*(x*x+y*y)"
field_parameters = 12500V/cm/cm
```

- Application example: approximating MAPS field, see talk by A. Santra

Unused Configuration Keys

- Small but handy feature…!
- Usage of configuration is tracked

```
|17:42:57.208|  (STATUS) Welcome to Allpix^2 v2.0.0+66^g955e960a2
|17:42:57.208|  (STATUS) Initialized PRNG with configured seed 0
|17:42:57.383|  (STATUS) Loaded 1 modules
|17:42:57.383|  (STATUS) Initializing 1 module instantiations
|17:42:57.384|    (INFO) [I:ElectricFieldReader:mydetector] Setting linear electric field from 100V b
|17:42:57.384|  (STATUS) Initialized 1 module instantiations
|17:42:57.384|  (STATUS) Multithreading enabled, processing events in parallel on 7 worker threads
|17:42:57.384|  (STATUS) Allocating a total of 3584 event slots for buffered modules
|17:42:57.387|  (STATUS) Starting event loop
|17:42:57.387|    (INFO) Starting event 1 with seed 2947667278772165694
|17:42:57.387|  (STATUS) Finished run of 1 events
|17:42:57.389|  (STATUS) Finalization completed
|17:42:57.389| (WARNING) Unused configuration keys in section ElectricFieldReader:mydetector:
                         depetion_voltage
|17:42:57.389|  (STATUS) Executed 1 instantiations in 0 seconds, spending 0% of time in slowest insta
|17:42:57.389|    (INFO)  Module ElectricFieldReader:mydetector took 0.000146556 seconds
|17:42:57.389|  (STATUS) Average processing time is 4 ms/event, event generation at 285 Hz
|17:42:57.389|  (STATUS) This corresponds to a processing time of 28 ms/event per worker
```

- User receives a **WARNING** for unused configuration keys at the end of the run – providing the possibility to
  - Clean up configuration files from unused parameters
  - Spot typos leading to wrong simulation results (`depetion_voltage != depletion_voltage`)

- Might be promoted to an **ERROR** in the future – let's see...

Ongoing Projects
and Developments

Ongoing Projects / Future Developments

- Alternative energy deposition modules

- More detector geometries
  - Hexagonal pixel layouts → see talk by R. Moriya
  - Radial strip geometries → see talk by R. Privara

- Other sensor materials, e.g. Germanium → see talk by T. Saleem
- 3D sensors
- Charge multiplication / LGAD detectors
- Radiation damage effects → see talk by J. Sonneveld

- Dedicated front-end modules, e.g. Timepix3 → see talk by P. Christodoulou

- Renovation of the user documentation

Summary

- Monte Carlo simulations:
  vital component of understanding & interpreting detector performance
- Allpix Squared:
  comprehensive MC simulation framework for silicon detectors
- Continuous development and support
  - New major release 2.0: multithreading capabilities & many new features
  - Regular patch releases with bug fixes
- Many new features already underway

New contributors always welcome!
Have a nice workshop!

Allpix Squared Resources

Website
https://cern.ch/allpix-squared

Repository
https://gitlab.cern.ch/allpix-squared/allpix-squared

Docker Images
https://gitlab.cern.ch/allpix-squared/allpix-squared/container_registry

User Forum:
https://cern.ch/allpix-squared-forum/

Mailing Lists:
allpix-squared-users https://e-groups.cern.ch/e-groups/Egroup.do?egroupId=10262858
allpix-squared-developers https://e-groups.cern.ch/e-groups/Egroup.do?egroupId=10273730

User Manual:
https://cern.ch/allpix-squared/usermanual/allpix-manual.pdf


DESY.