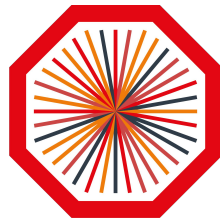


# High Energy Physics Acronym Dictionary

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**ALICE**

**SCAN ME**





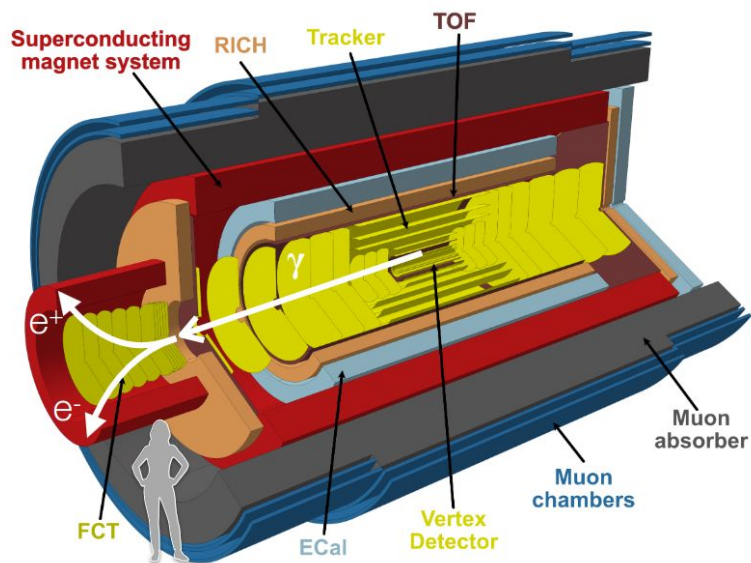
# Simulation studies for soft photon measurements with the Forward Conversion Tracker for ALICE 3

Casper van Veen

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# ALICE 3 - A Large Ion Collider Experiment 3



Scheduled for run 5 - 2035

$$\sqrt{S_{NN}} = 14\text{TeV} \quad L_{pp} = 3.0 \times 10^{32} (\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1})$$

The luminosity will be 2 orders of magnitude lower than CMS and ATLAS, but this allows for the first layer to be 5 mm away from the interaction point.

More of ALICE 3 and its physics program:

LOI: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2211.02491.pdf>

# ALICE 3 - A Large Ion Collider Experiment 3

Vertex detector: First tracking layer 5 mm away from interaction point inside the beam pipe

TOF: Time of Flight - particle identification over the full acceptance of  $|\eta| < 4$

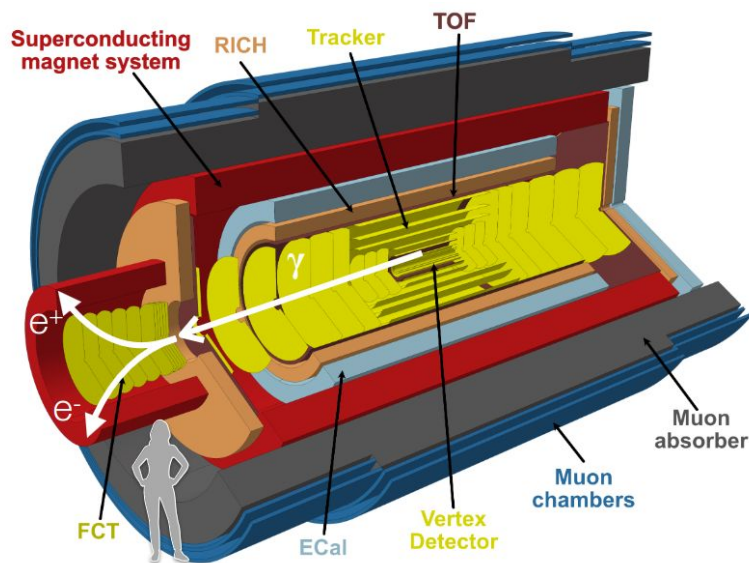
$$\eta \equiv -\ln \left[ \tan \left( \frac{\theta}{2} \right) \right]$$

RICH: Ring-Imaging CHerenkov detector - extends the PID capabilities of the TOF

Tracker: All-silicon pixel trackers to track charged particles

ECal: Electromagnetic Calorimeter - detects photons (e.g. direct photons)

Muon chambers: Detects muons



# ALICE 3 - The Forward Conversion Tracker

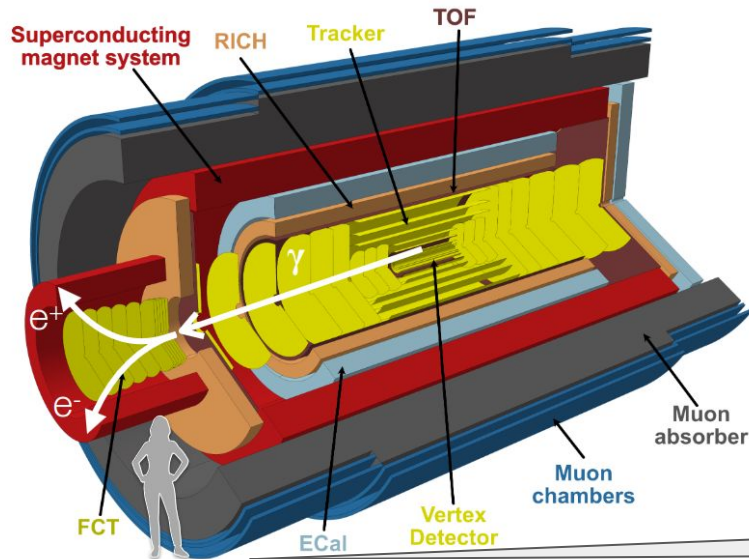
~9 consecutive silicon discs with pixel trackers

The FCT will measure soft photons in the forward direction via photon conversion

$$-3 > \eta > -5$$

Measure photon spectrum predicted by Low's theorem and shine light on the soft photon puzzle

in the range of 1 to 10  
 $p_T$  MeV/c



The FCT will have a dipole magnet instead of a solenoid for better tracking

# The forward region

---

Low's theorem predicts the soft photon spectrum. What is a soft photon?

The transverse momentum of the photon must be small in comparison to the scales in the production process, but the photon must still have enough energy to convert into an electron and positron.

$$E_{\gamma} = p_T \cosh(\eta)$$

$E_{\gamma} = 100 \text{ MeV}$ :

$\eta$	3	4	5
$p_T \text{ (MeV}/c)$	10	3.7	1.3

For photon conversions to be measurable, we estimate the energy of the photon must at least be 10 MeV, otherwise tracks in the detector are hardly visible and energy loss due to multiple scattering effects are too prominent.

And so the region for the Forward Conversion Tracker was chosen

$$-3 > \eta > -5$$

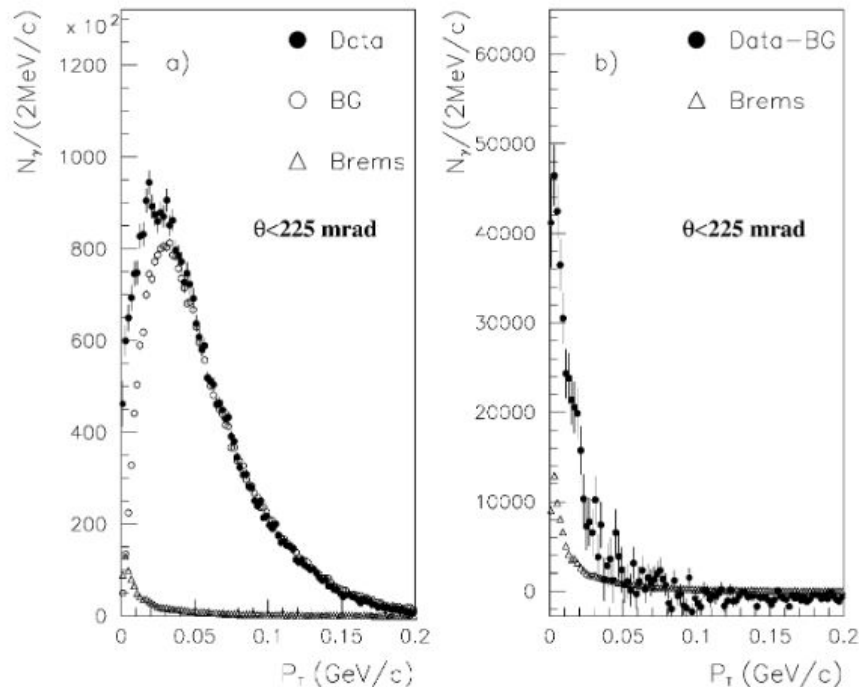
# The FCT to solve the Soft photon puzzle

WA102 experiment in 2002

Excess of  $4.1 \pm 0.8$  measured on top of what was predicted by Low's theorem

b) same as a), but with background subtracted

*A. Belogianni et al. / Physics Letters B 548 (2002) 129–139*





# Most previous experiments show an excess of a factor of 4-8



Experiment	Year	Collision energy	Photon $p_T$	Photon / Brems Ratio	Detection method	Reference (click to go to paper)
$\pi^+p$	1979	10.5 GeV	$p_T < 30 \text{ MeV}/c$	$1.25 \pm 0.25$	bubble chamber	<a href="#">Goshaw et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 43, 1065 (1979)</a>
$K^+p$ WA27, CERN	1984	70 GeV	$p_T < 60 \text{ MeV}/c$	$4.0 \pm 0.8$	bubble chamber (BEBC)	<a href="#">Chliapnikov et al., Phys. Lett. B 141, 276 (1984)</a>
$\pi^+p$ CERN, EHS, NA22	1991	250 GeV	$p_T < 40 \text{ MeV}/c$	$6.4 \pm 1.6$	bubble chamber (RCBC)	<a href="#">Botterweck et al., Z. Phys. C 51, 541 (1991)</a>
$K^+p$ CERN, EHS, NA22	1991	250 GeV	$p_T < 40 \text{ MeV}/c$	$6.9 \pm 1.3$	bubble chamber (RCBC)	<a href="#">Botterweck et al., Z. Phys. C 51, 541 (1991)</a>
$\pi^-p$ , CERN, WA83, OMEGA	1993	280 GeV	$p_T < 10 \text{ MeV}/c$ ( $0.2 < E_\gamma < 1 \text{ GeV}$ )	$7.9 \pm 1.4$	calorimeter	<a href="#">Banerjee et al., Phys. Lett. B 305, 182 (1993)</a>
p-Be	1993	450 GeV	$p_T < 20 \text{ MeV}/c$	$< 2$	pair conversion, calorimeter	<a href="#">Antos et al., Z. Phys. C 59, 547 (1993)</a>
p-Be, p-W	1996	18 GeV	$p_T < 50 \text{ MeV}/c$	$< 2.65$	calorimeter	<a href="#">Lissauer et al., Phys.Rev. C54 (1996) 1918</a>
$\pi^-p$ , CERN, WA91, OMEGA	1997	280 GeV	$p_T < 20 \text{ MeV}/c$ ( $0.2 < E_\gamma < 1 \text{ GeV}$ )	$7.8 \pm 1.5$	pair conversion	<a href="#">Belogianni et al., Phys. Lett. B 408, 487 (1997)</a>
$\pi^-p$ , CERN, WA91, OMEGA	2002	280 GeV	$p_T < 20 \text{ MeV}/c$ ( $0.2 < E_\gamma < 1 \text{ GeV}$ )	$5.3 \pm 1.0$	pair conversion	<a href="#">Belogianni et al., Phys. Lett. B 548, 122 (2002)</a>
$pp$ , CERN, WA102,	2002	450 GeV	$p_T < 20 \text{ MeV}/c$ ( $0.2 < E_\gamma < 1 \text{ GeV}$ )	$4.1 \pm 0.8$	pair conversion	<a href="#">Belogianni et al., Phys. Lett. B 548, 129 (2002)</a>
$e^+e^- \rightarrow 2 \text{ jets}$ CERN, DELPHI	2006	91 GeV (CM)	$p_T < 80 \text{ MeV}/c$ ( $0.2 < E_\gamma < 1 \text{ GeV}$ )	$4.0 \pm 0.3 \pm 1.0$	pair conversion	<a href="#">DELPHI, Eur. Phys. J. C 47, 273 (2006)</a>
$e^+e^- \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$ CERN, DELPHI	2008	91 GeV (CM)	$p_T < 80 \text{ MeV}/c$ ( $0.2 < E_\gamma < 1 \text{ GeV}$ )	$\sim 1$	pair conversion	<a href="#">DELPHI, Eur. Phys. J. C57, 499 (2008)</a>



# Low's theorem

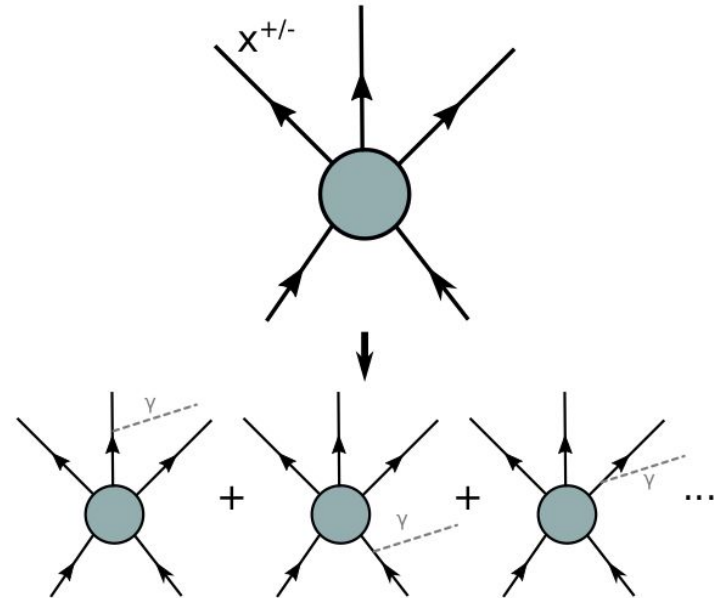
Low's theorem predicts the inner bremsstrahlung spectrum in a process independent way for m to n scattering processes

Condition:  $E_\gamma$  or  $p_T$  must be small in comparison to the scales in the process

$$\langle out | a_+^{out}(\vec{q}) \mathcal{S} | in \rangle = e \left[ \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{Q_k^{out} p_k^{out} \cdot \varepsilon^+}{p_k^{out} \cdot q} - \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{Q_k^{in} p_k^{in} \cdot \varepsilon^+}{p_k^{in} \cdot q} \right] \langle out | \mathcal{S} | in \rangle + \mathcal{O}(q^0)$$

Andrew Strominger, arXiv:1703.05448 eq 2.9.1. p 30

So by evaluating the scattering processes without photons, you can get the inner bremsstrahlung spectrum without having to calculate all the underlying processes



# Low's theorem - for a single event

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For a single event, Low's theorem predicts

$$\frac{d^3 N}{dE_\gamma d\theta d\phi} = -\frac{\alpha}{2\pi^2} \cos(\theta/2) \sin(\theta/2) E_\gamma \sin(\theta) \left( \sum_i \eta_i q_i \frac{P_i}{P_i K} \right)^2 \sim \frac{1}{E_\gamma}$$

$\eta$ : prefactor (+/-1)

$q$ : charge

$P$ : particle four momentum

$K$ : photon four momentum

$\theta$ : Polar angle

$\phi$ : Azimuthal angle

Average number of photons per event when integrated over  $E$ ,  $\eta$  and  $\phi$

# Low Photon Generator

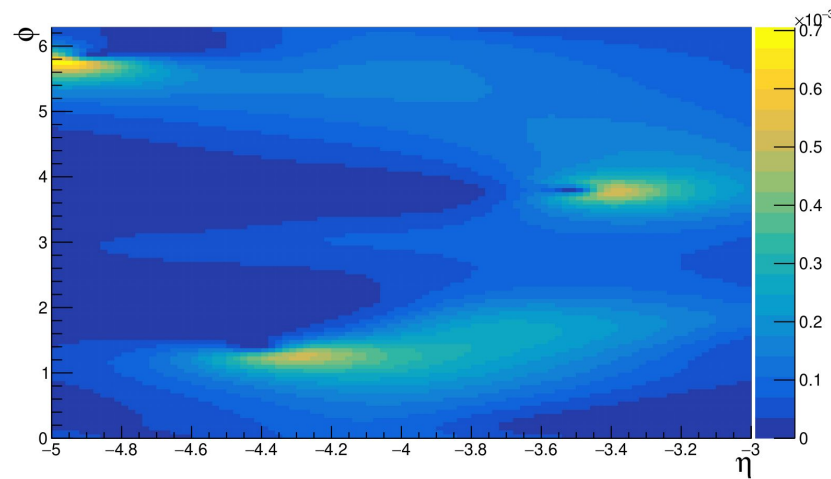
To generate collisions of particles, PYTHIA 8.3 is used

But PYTHIA does not generate the inner bremsstrahlung spectrum, so we needed an additional generator

Narrow peaks + Dead cone effect + Interference effects  
produce structures on small scales  
-> Emission at finite angle

It fills a 100 x 100 grid which tells you the amount of photons that are emitted in a certain pseudorapidity and azimuthal region.

It then samples from this distribution to generate photons with corresponding energy, pseudorapidity and azimuthal angle.



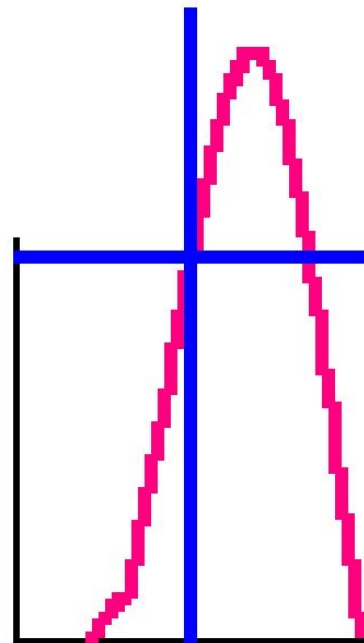
# Random sampling

The function is very “peaked”, especially for electrons. To account for the shape of the function, the sampling follows the recipe:

- 1) Propose a bin based on the cumulative integral scaled to 1
- 2) Rejection sample in the area of the bin for phi and eta
  - a) Accept -> Done
  - b) Reject -> Select new bin and repeat

This then gives you sampling according to the analytical pdf.

Peaked bin example



# Rejection sampling

## Rejection sampling

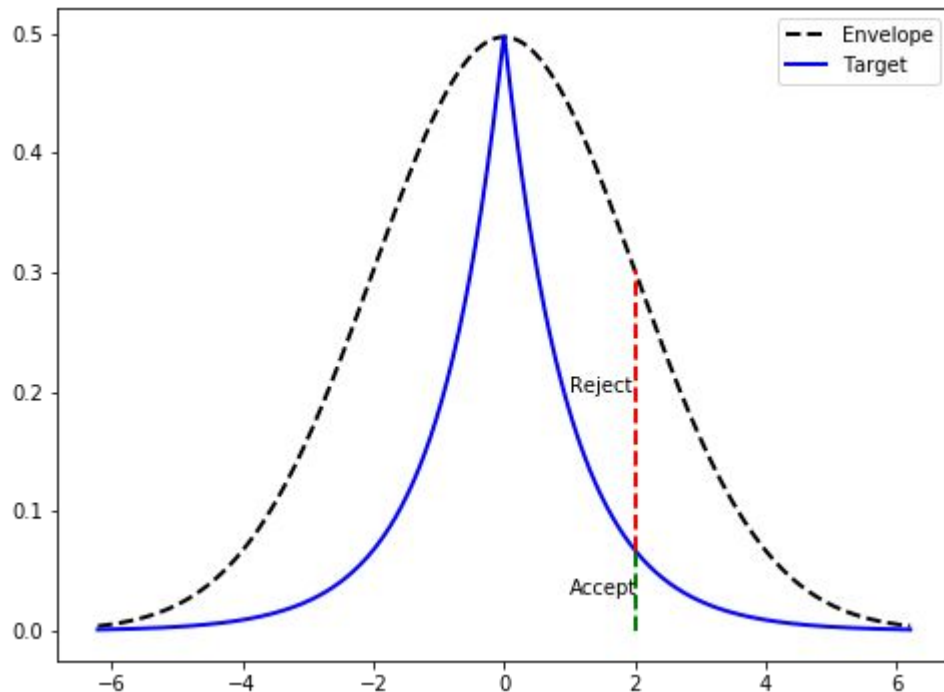
- Target Function
- Envelope function (proxy)

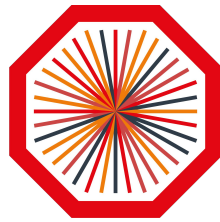
### For the Low Photon Generator

- The envelope function is flat.
- The height of the envelope function is selected to be 3 times the value of the proposed bin.

The value of 3 is chosen because the peaks inside the region of the proposed bin all have values smaller than 3 times the center bin value.

This also gives you an accept ratio of  $\sim 0.33$  which is computationally doable.





**ALICE**

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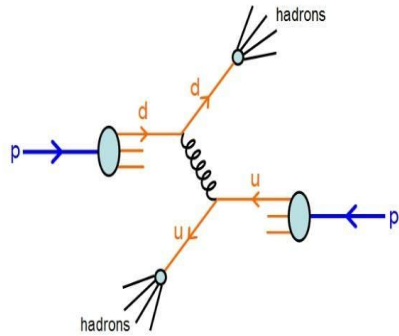
We have our signal (simulated)!

Now to find it...

# What does a simulated event look like?

We have our collision, handled by PYTHIA and the Low Photon Generator

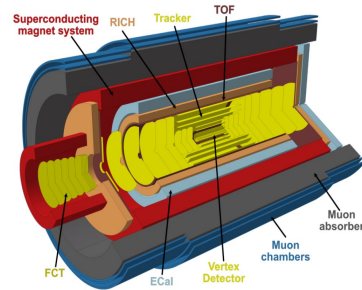
The generator



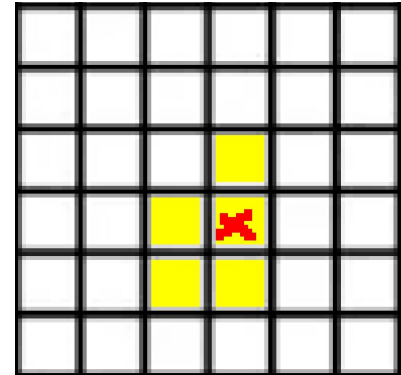
Then the final particles get propagated through the detector setup with GEANT4

The engine

Particle stack

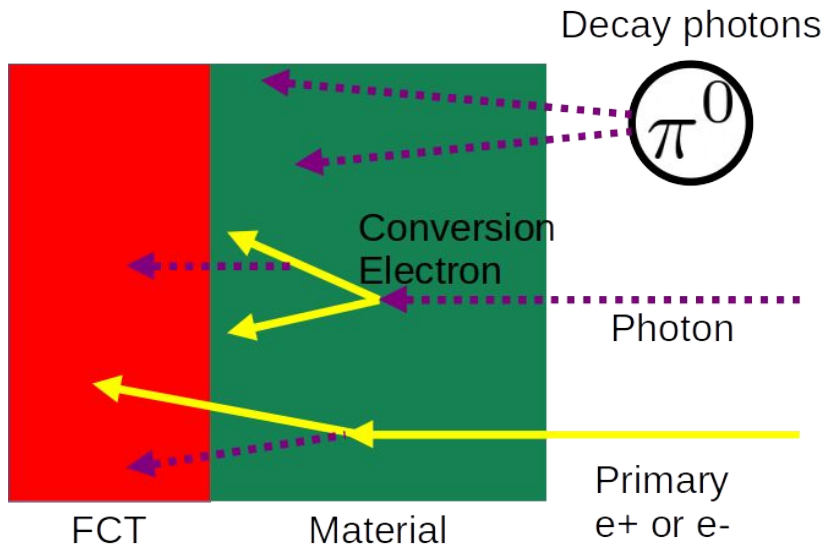


Hits





# Background to arrive at the FCT



Background from material interactions will be very prominent

Reminder:

$$1 < p_T < 10 \text{ MeV}/C$$

$$-3 > \eta > -5$$

$$E_\gamma > 10 \text{ MeV}$$

# Expected signal to arrive at the FCT

Low =  $1 / 0.033 \text{ pT}$

**Analytic Low signal,**  
not actual simulation

Primary particle emission  
(PYTHIA):

$$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma \quad \eta \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

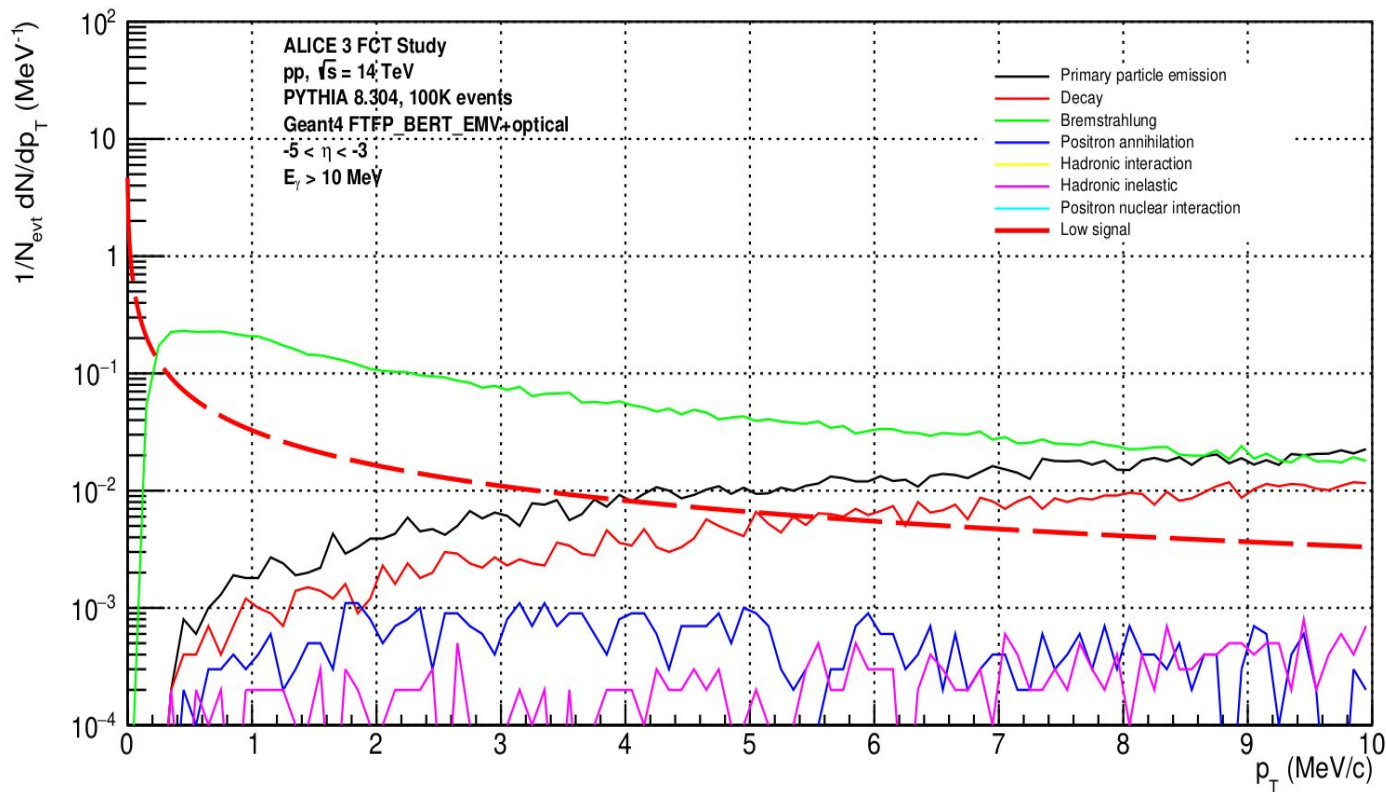
- Direct photons

Decay (GEANT4):

$$K_S^0 \rightarrow \pi^0 \pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma\gamma\gamma$$

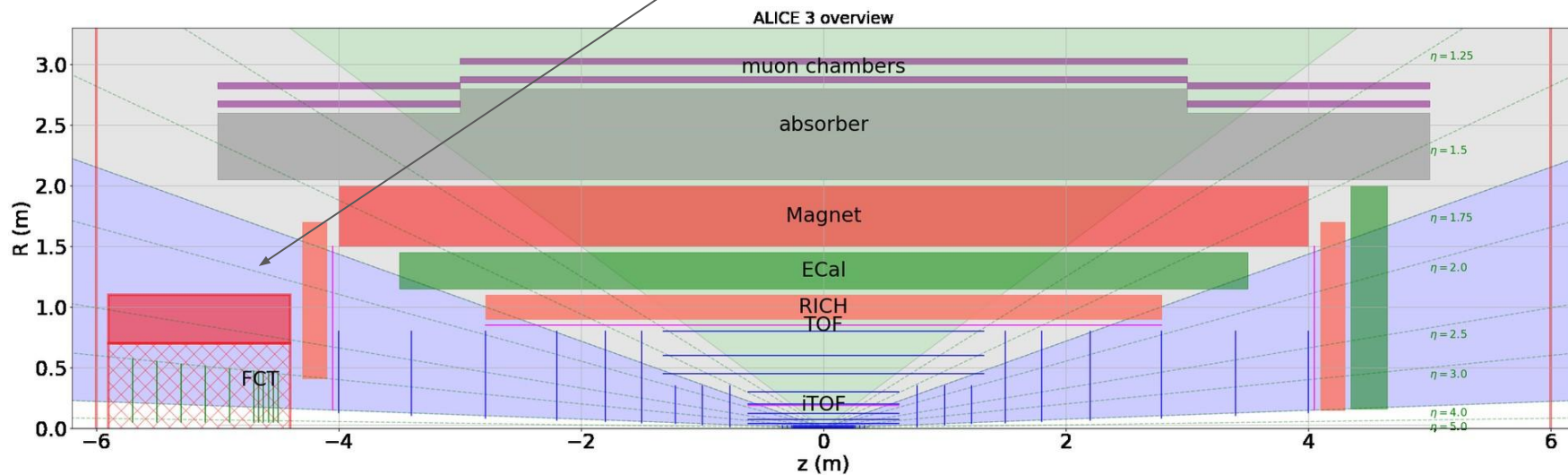
Bremsstrahlung:

- Material interactions



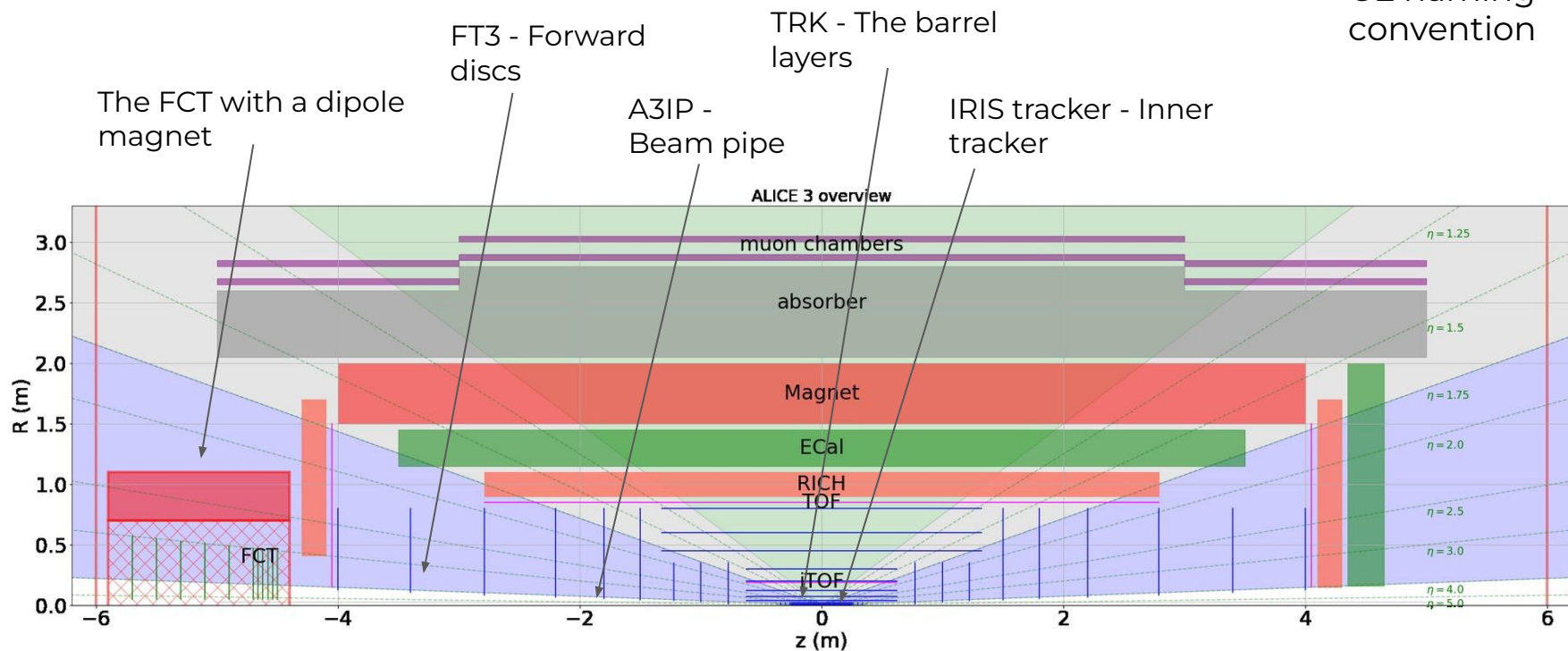
# The Forward Conversion Tracker

The FCT with a  
dipole magnet



# The Forward Conversion Tracker - Material in front

O2 naming convention

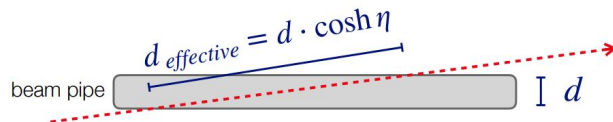
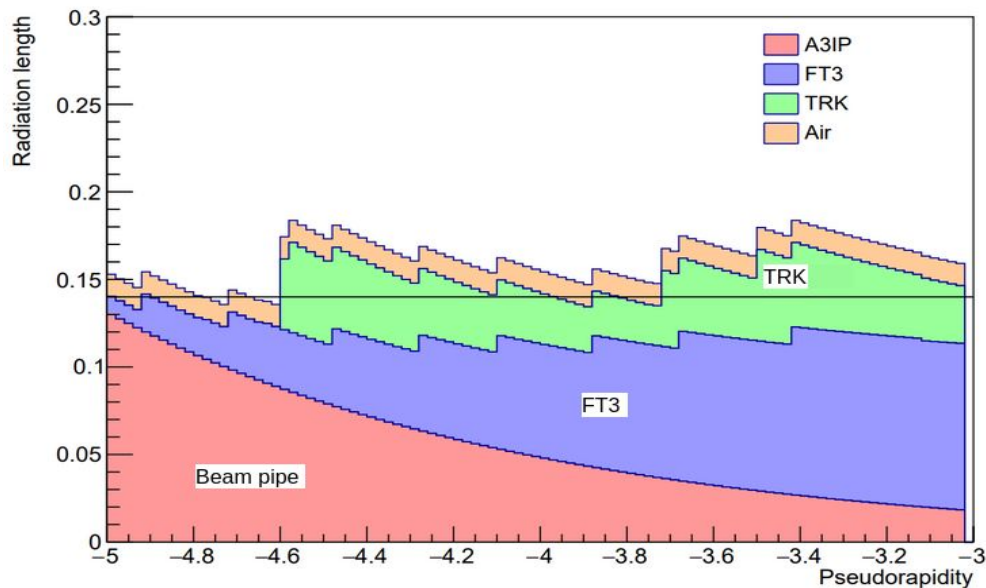


# Material budget in front of the FCT - As per the LOI

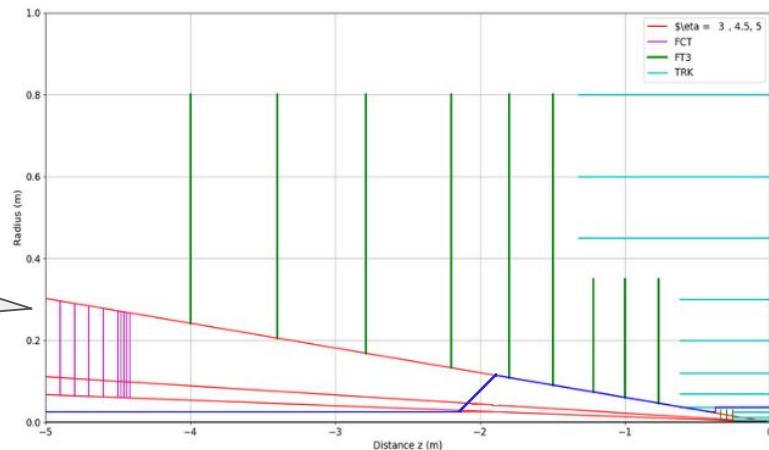
LOI: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2211.02491.pdf>

- Big contribution from the beam pipe (A3IP)
  - becomes larger at higher pseudorapidity
- The FT3 (disc layers) cover the FCT
- The barrel layers still cover some of the FCT
- Air could be replaced by helium balloons
- Services, like the vacuum vessel, are not in this plot yet

Material budget



# Material budget in front of the FCT - Ideal scenario

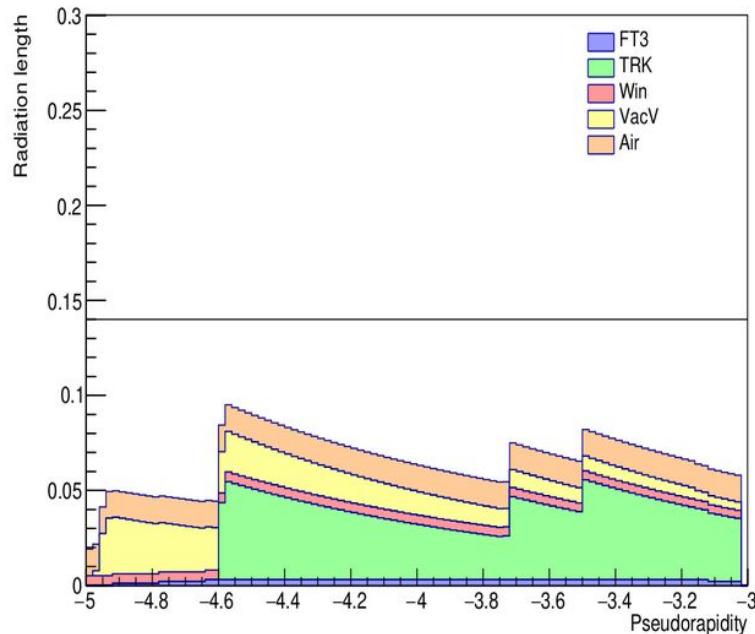


For this setup:

- The FT3 (disc layers) do not contribute
- There is a window in the beam pipe to allow for less effective material of the beam pipe
- The TRK (barrel layers) still contribute

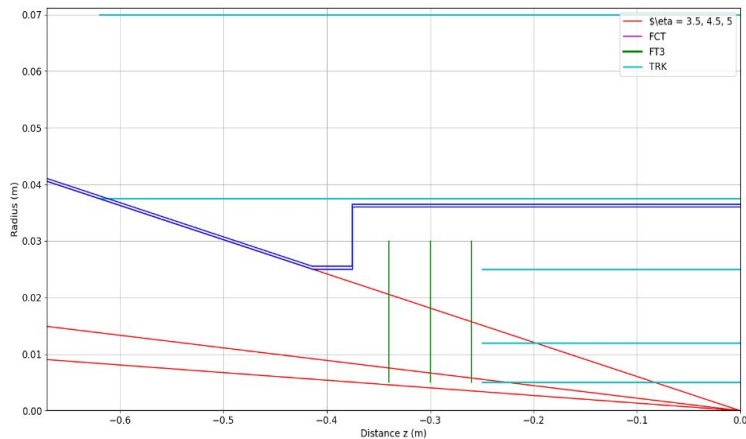
With these optimizations there will be room for the services to be added

Material budget



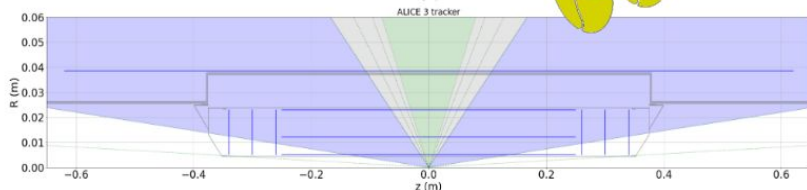
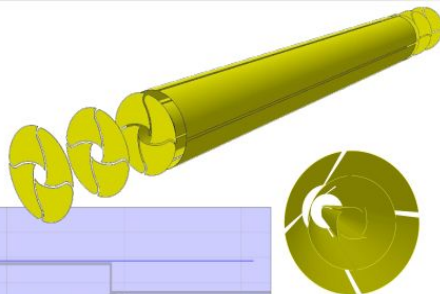
FCT in the pseudorapidity -3 to -5

# Material budget in front of the FCT - Ideal scenario

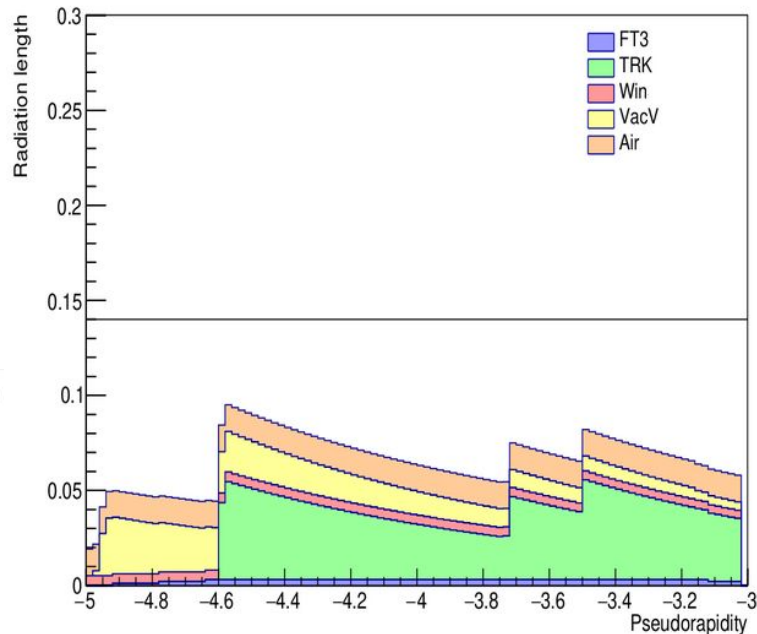


Artist impression

## IRIS (vertex)



## Material budget

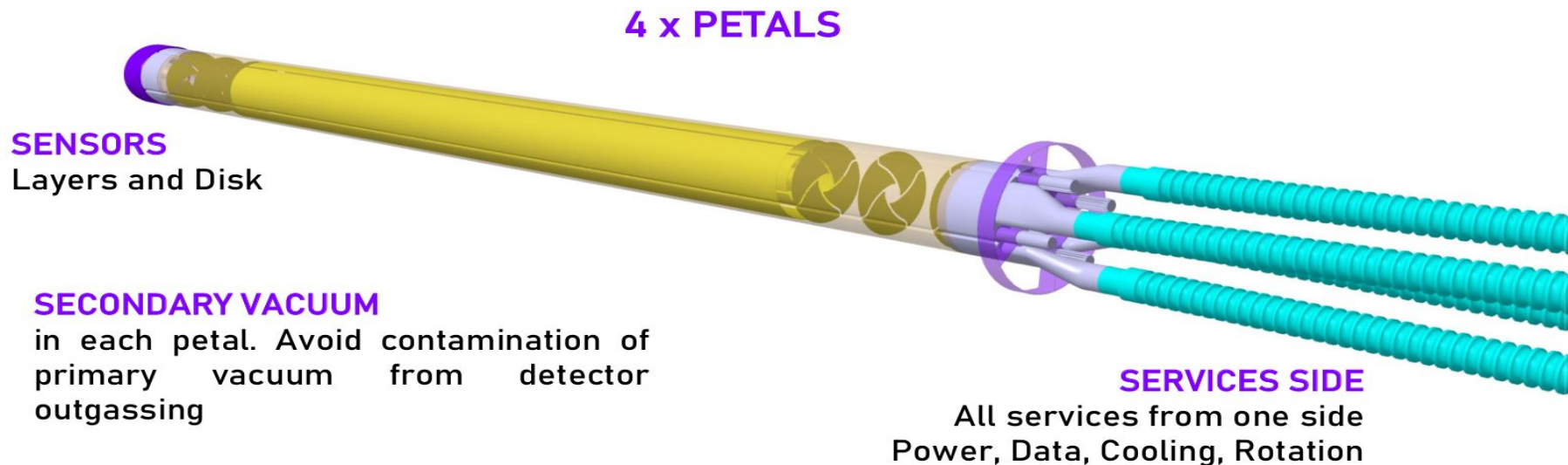


FCT in the pseudorapidity -3 to -5



## Iris tracker: **Petals**

IRIS is constituted by 4 petals; each petal consists in a vacuum case that contains sensors and are independently connected to services.

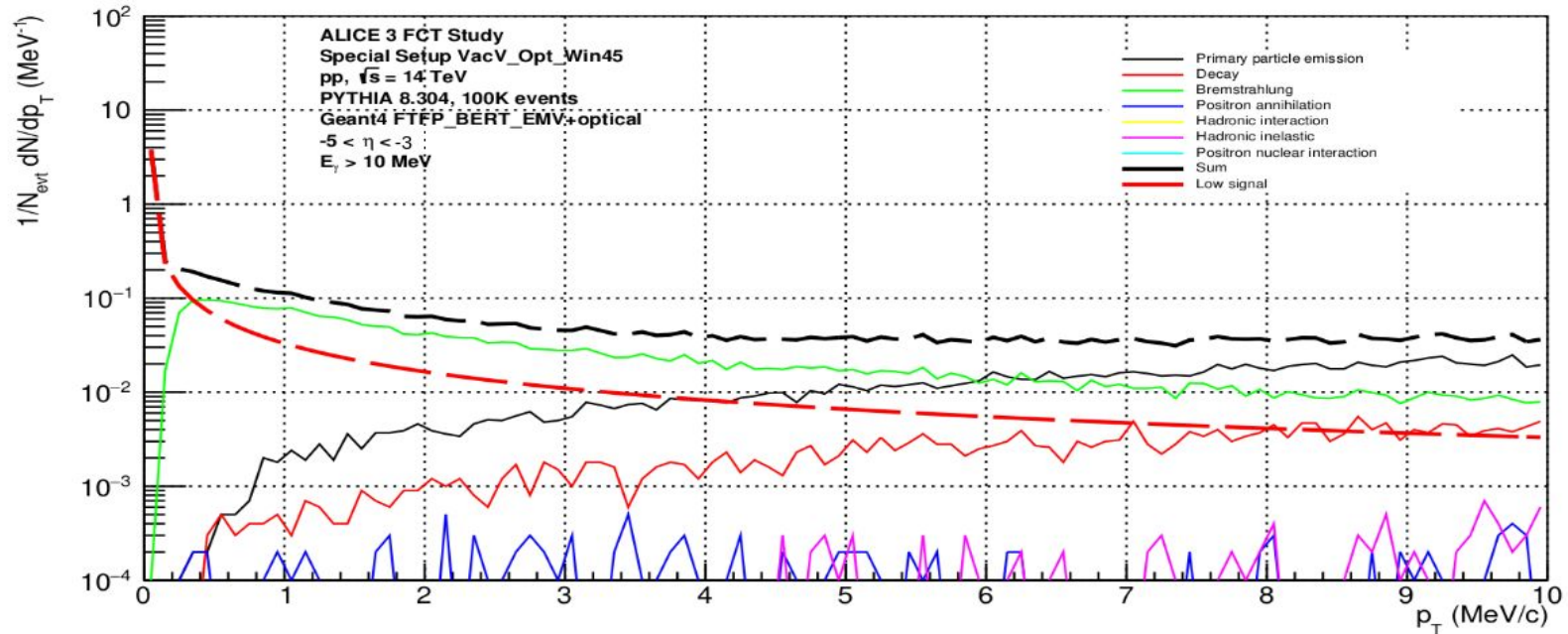


# Normalized photon distribution to reach the FCT

24

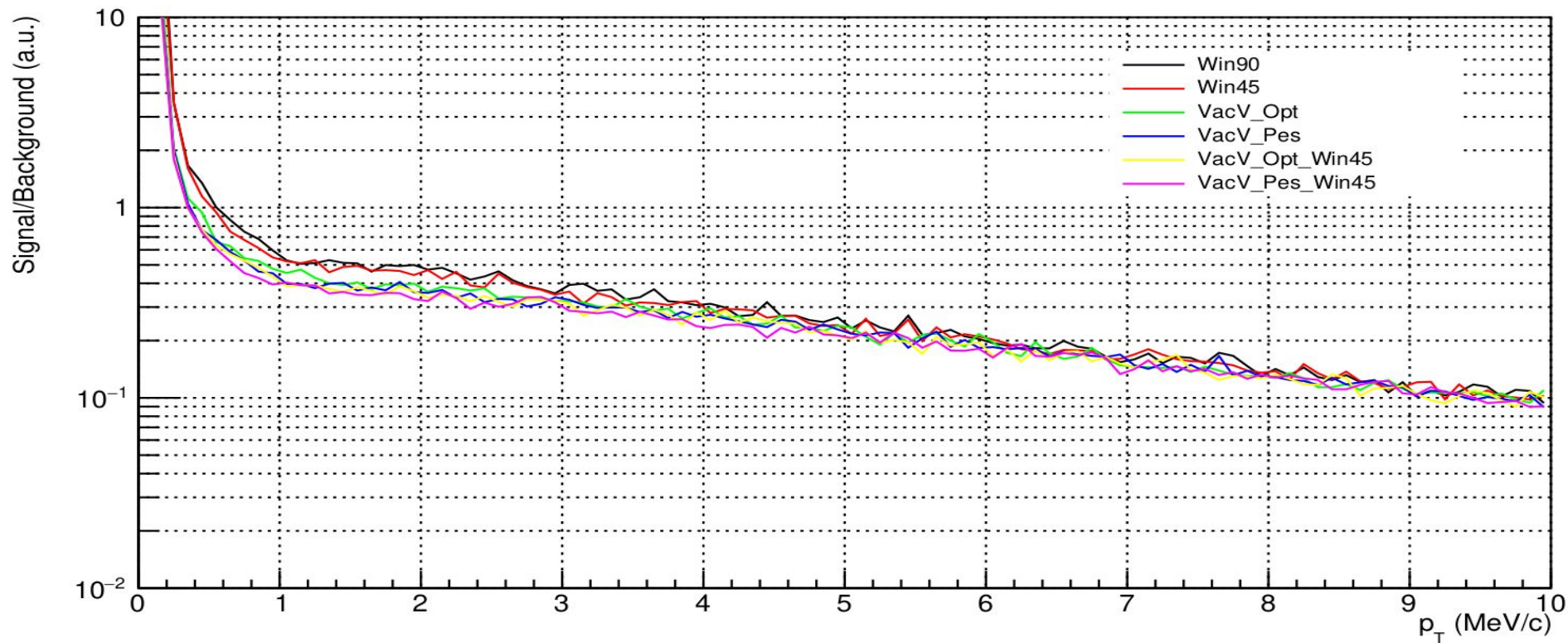


Pseudorapidity -3 to -5, Vacuum Vessel Optimistic + Diagonal Window



# Signal over background - pseudorapidity -3 to -5

25



# Even more background reduction - cuts on the data

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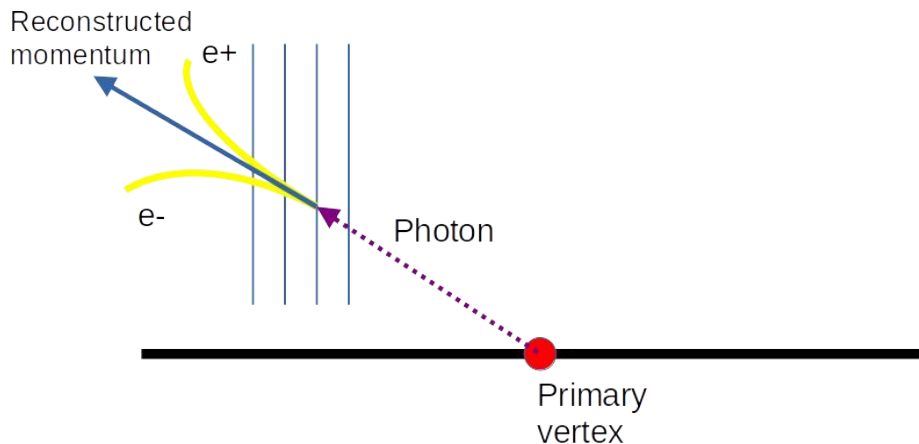


- Cut on the pointing angle

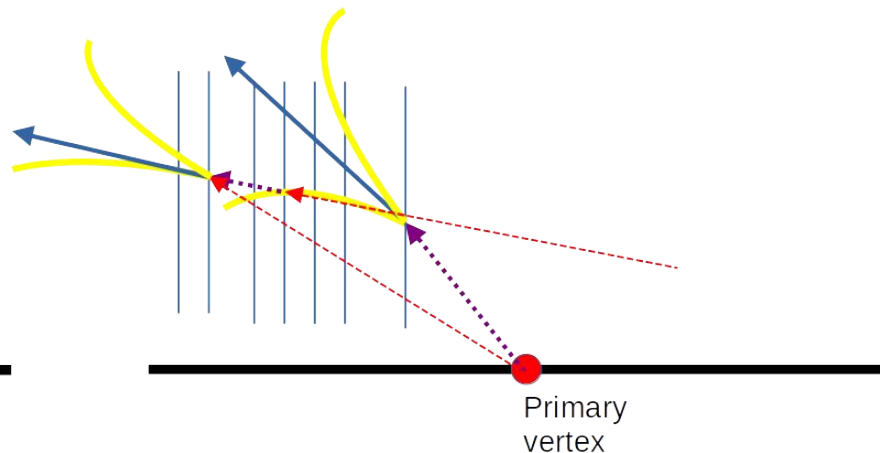
# Pointing angle

The pointing angle is the angle between the emitted photon and its reconstructed momentum

Pointing angle zero



Pointing angle not zero  
(of the second reconstructed momentum)



# Even more background reduction - cuts on the data

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- Cut on the pointing angle
  - Inner bremsstrahlungs photons have a pointing angle of 0
  - Requires a good position resolution

# Even more background reduction - cuts on the data

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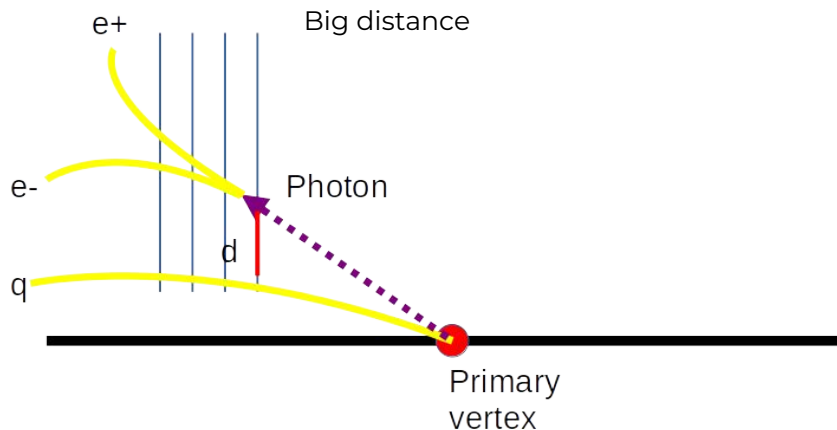
- Cut on the pointing angle
  - Inner bremsstrahlungs photons have a pointing angle of 0
  - Requires a good position resolution
- Cut on the distance between photon and charged particle



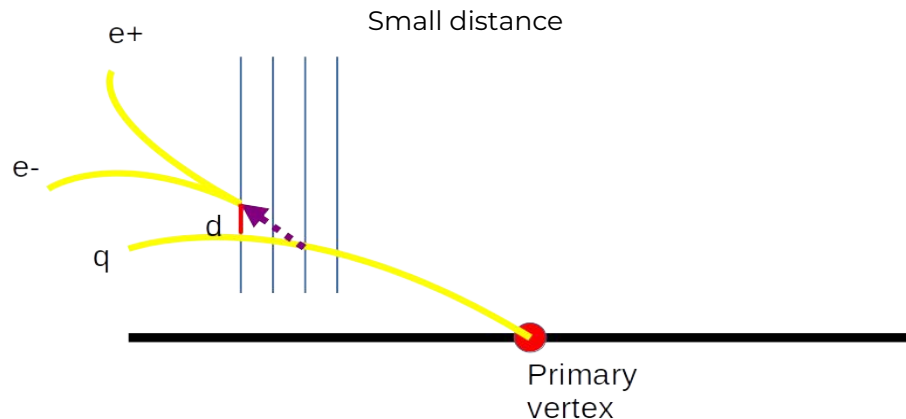
# The distance between photons and charged particles

Cut on the distance between the charged particle and the photon

Inner bremsstrahlung photon



Material interaction bremsstrahlung



# Even more background reduction - cuts on the data

---



- Cut on the pointing angle
  - Inner bremsstrahlungs photons have a pointing angle of 0
  - Requires a good position resolution
- Cut on opening angle between photon and charged particle
  - Inner bremsstrahlungs photons will be emitted close to the charged particle initially, but the magnetic field will bend the charged particles away

# Even more background reduction - cuts on the data

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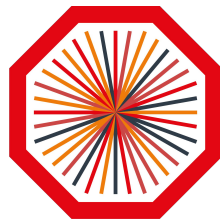
- Cut on the pointing angle
  - Inner bremsstrahlungs photons have a pointing angle of 0
  - Requires a good position resolution
- Cut on opening angle between photon and charged particle
  - Inner bremsstrahlungs photons will be emitted close to the charged particle initially, but the magnetic field will bend the charged particles away
- Select events without primary  $e^+/e^-$ 
  - $e^+/e^-$  make a lot of bremsstrahlung
  - Requires ePID, so an electromagnetic calorimeter

# Even more background reduction - cuts on the data

---



- Cut on the pointing angle
  - Inner bremsstrahlungs photons have a pointing angle of 0
  - Requires a good position resolution
- Cut on opening angle between photon and charged particle
  - Inner bremsstrahlungs photons will be emitted close to the charged particle initially, but the magnetic field will bend the charged particles away
- Select events without primary  $e^+/e^-$ 
  - $e^+/e^-$  make a lot of bremsstrahlung
  - Requires ePID, so an electromagnetic calorimeter
- As discussed before, reduction of material in front of the FCT
  - Expensive
  - Reshaping of the beam pipe is difficult



**ALICE**

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Investigation into background  
reduction is ongoing

But now possible via full event  
by event simulations

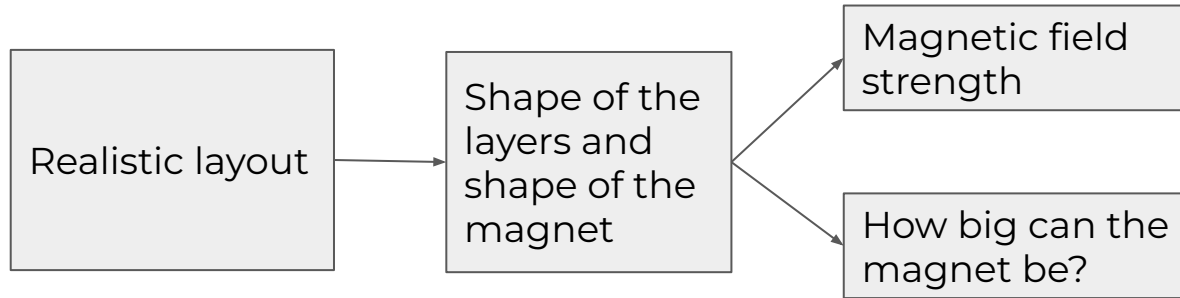
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# The Forward Conversion Tracker

Layout and magnetic field strength  
optimizations

# The Forward Conversion Detector - Design

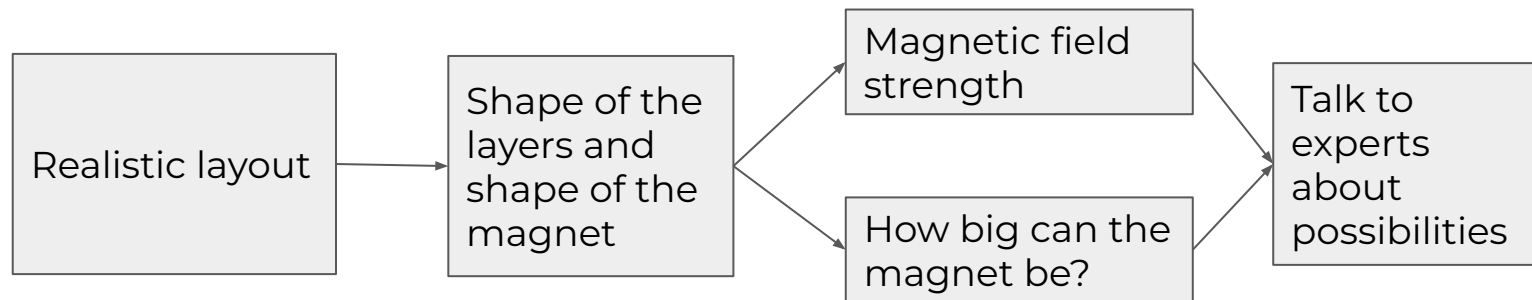
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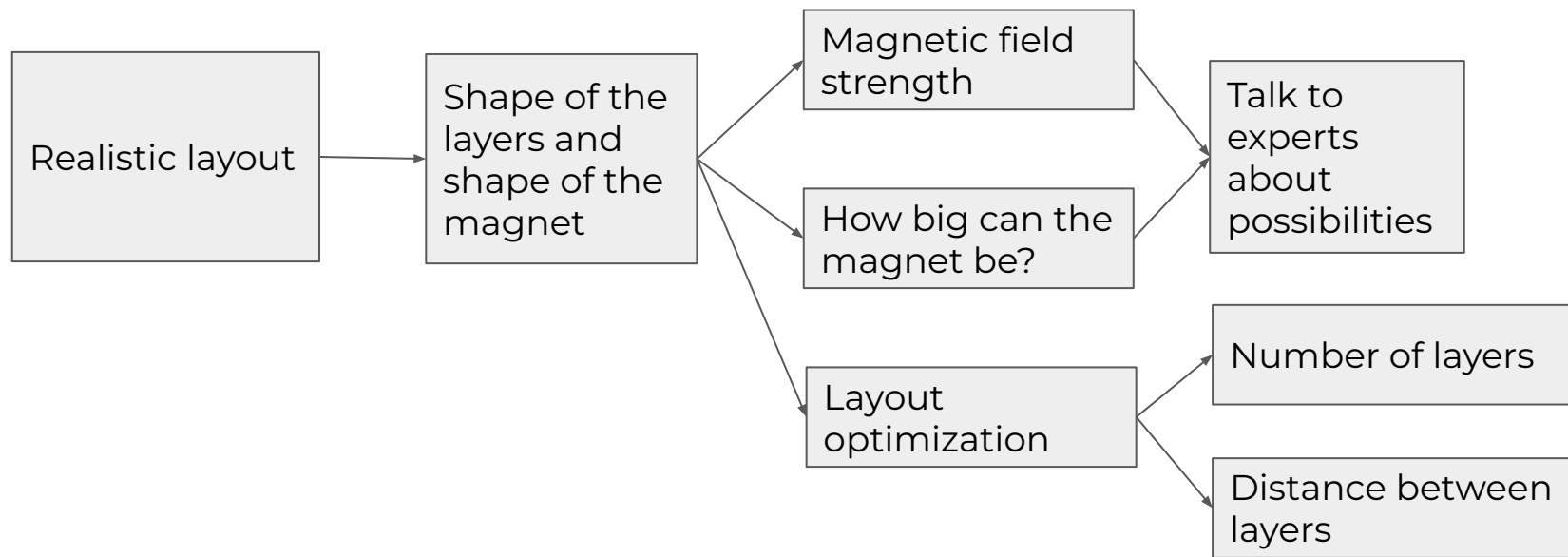


# The Forward Conversion Detector - Design

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# The Forward Conversion Detector - Design



# Conclusion

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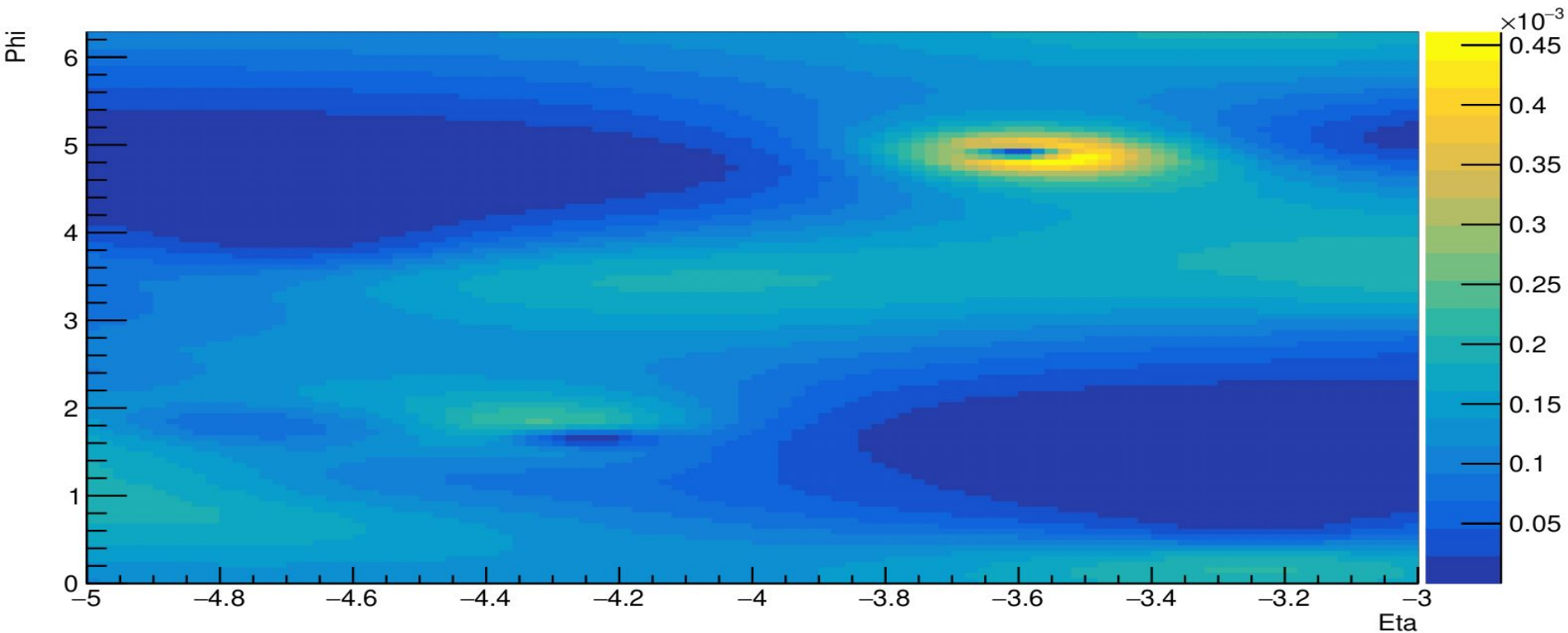
- The Low Photon Generator makes event by event studies possible
- Reduce the background by cutting on the data
  - Pointing angle
  - Distance charged particle and photon
  - Select events without primary  $e^+/e^-$
  - Reduce material in front of the FCT to reduce material interactions
- Optimize the design of the FCT
  - Magnetic field
    - Strength
    - Size
  - Layers
    - Distance between the layers
    - Number of layers



**ALICE**

# Backup slides

# More classical dead cone



# Contribution from the vacuum vessel and services

Services not included

## Window

0.5mm - Thickness

Beryllium - Material

45 / 90 - Angle (deg) wrt to bp

Same pseudorapidity coverage as FCT

## Horizontal Vacuum Vessel Wall

0.15mm - Thickness

Beryllium - Material

## Vertical Vacuum Vessel Wall

0.15mm - Thickness (Optimistic)

0.5mm - Thickness (Pessimistic)

Beryllium - Material

Material budget

