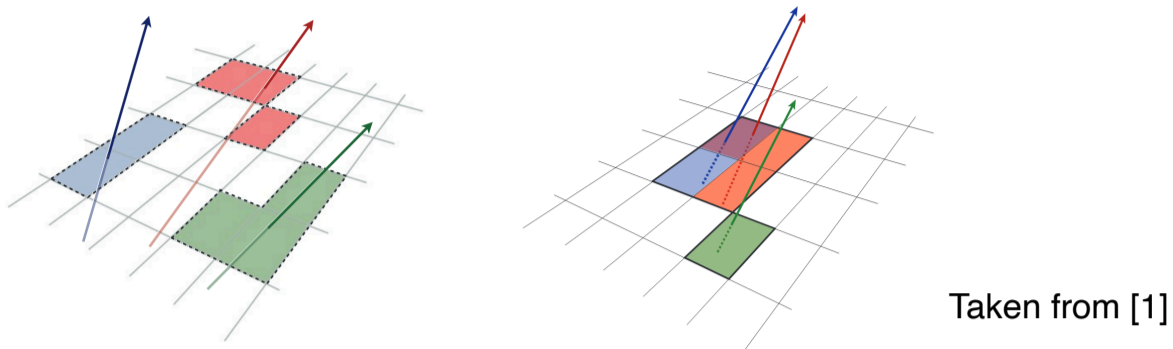


Clustering and tracking in dense hadronic environments with the ATLAS ITk.

Cluster merging

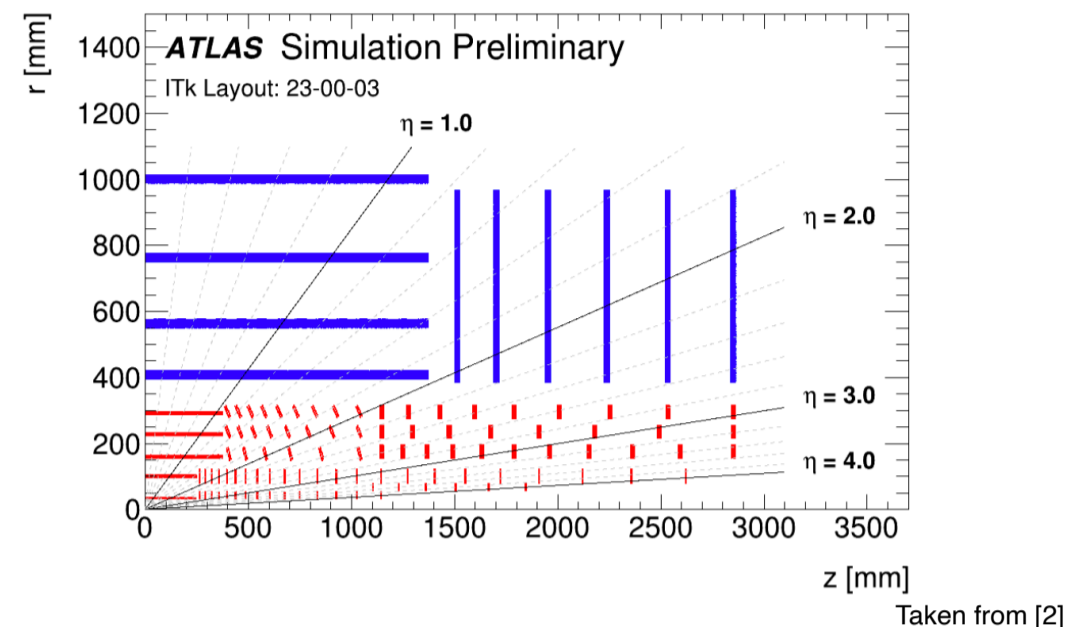
- > In environments with a high density of charged particles such as the center of high- p_T jets, silicon clusters can merge



- > Merged clusters usually end on multiple tracks
 - > Tracks sharing clusters are penalised in the reconstruction, hence tracking **efficiency is reduced**
- > Merged clusters **reduce the quality of tracking**
 - > Track parameter resolution worsens and this affects jet flavour tagging
 - > Flavour tagging is crucial for many measurements and searches
- > Merged clusters are identified (Number Network) and split (Mixture Density Network) with the current detector
- > Expected tracking performance in dense environments with the ITk?

The ITk

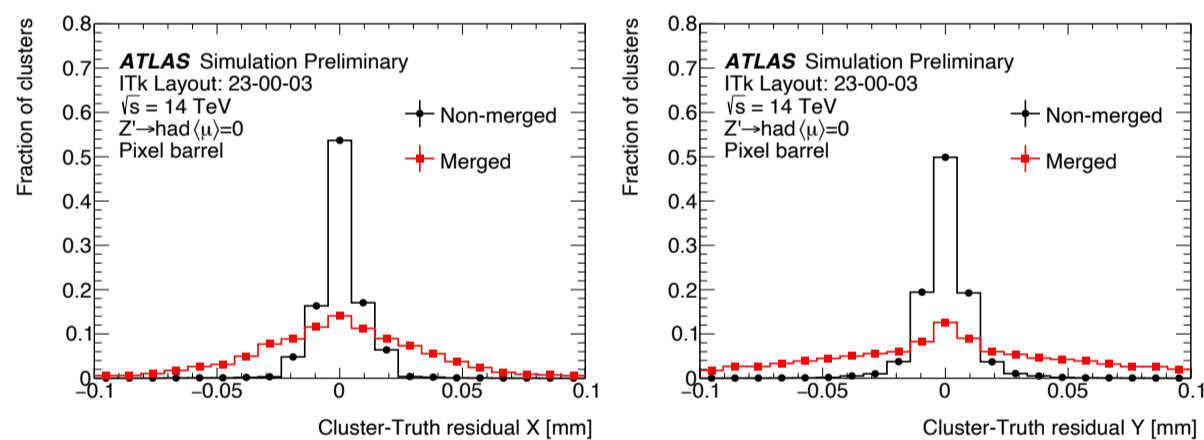
- > All-silicon ATLAS tracker for High-Luminosity LHC
- > Pixel and Strip sub-detectors
- > Finer granularity than current ID (but higher occupancy)



Pixel pitch	Innermost layer	Other layers
ITk	25 μm \times 100 μm	50 μm \times 50 μm
Current ID	50 μm \times 250 μm	50 μm \times 300 μm

Effects of cluster merging

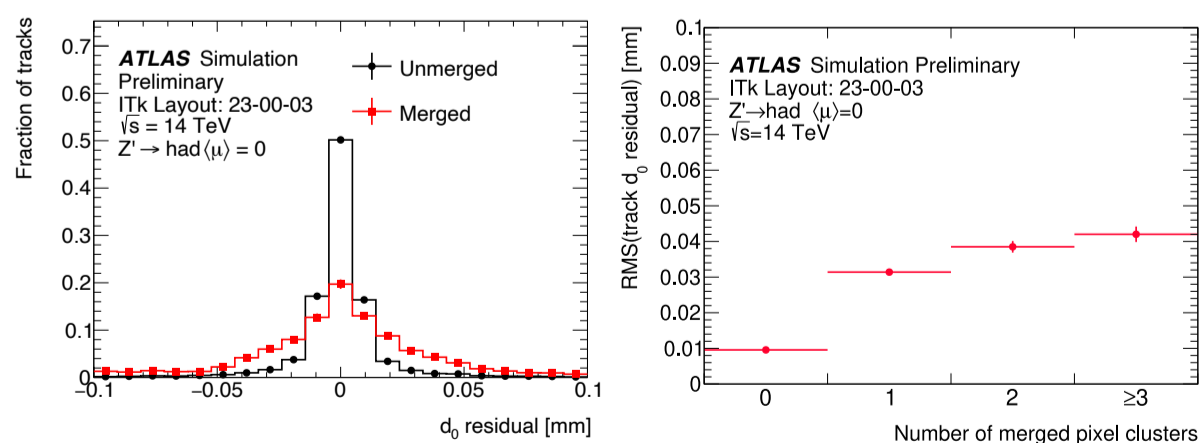
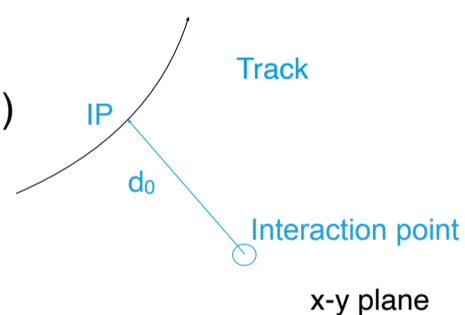
- > **Cluster position residuals** ($x_{\text{reco}} - x_{\text{truth}}^{\text{particle}}$)
- > Reconstructed position of merged clusters is degraded



- > **Impact parameter d_0**

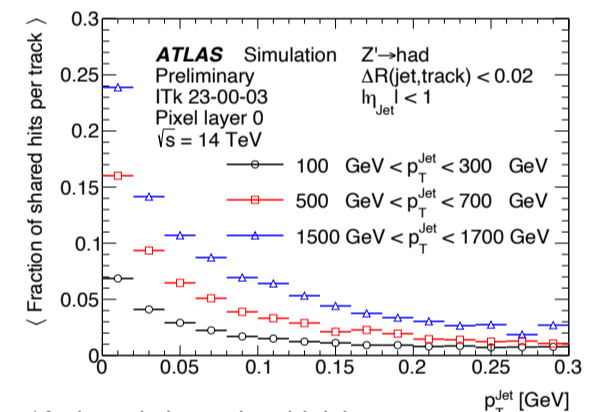
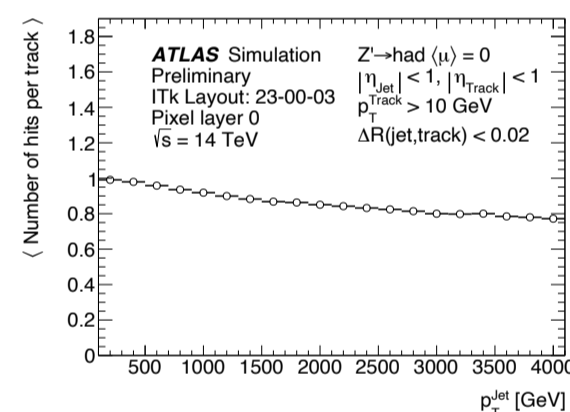
Width of residual distribution for d_0 (μm)

Process	Not merged	Merged
$t\bar{t} \langle \mu \rangle = 0$	12.4 \pm 0.1	34 \pm 2
$t\bar{t} \langle \mu \rangle = 200$	12.3 \pm 0.1	39 \pm 2
$Z' \rightarrow \text{had}$	9.57 \pm 0.08	33.4 \pm 0.6

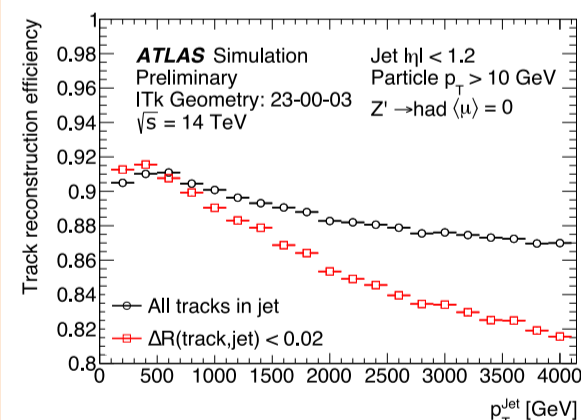


Tracks inside of jets

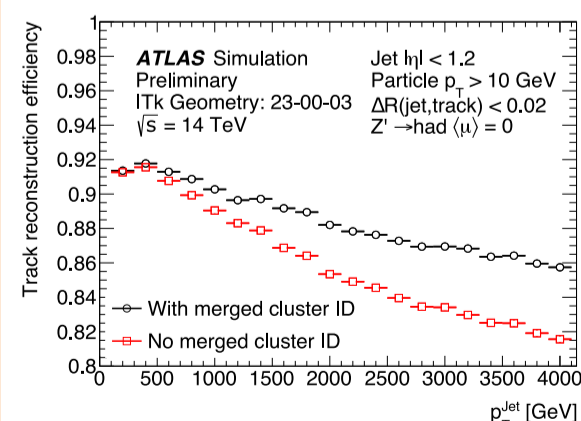
- > Number of clusters in the Pixel detector decreases with jet p_T
- > Fraction of Shared¹ clusters increases in jet core



- > **Efficiency of track reconstruction**



- > **No classification of merged clusters**
 - > Reconstruction efficiency reduction in jet core
 - > Better expected performance than current Inner Detector [3]



- > **Perfect vs no classification of merged clusters**
 - > **Focus on jet core**
 - > No identification of merged clusters leads to efficiency loss in jet core
 - > $\sim 1\%$ at 1 TeV

References

- > [1] ATLAS Collaboration, *Performance of the ATLAS track reconstruction algorithms in dense environments in LHC Run 2*, Eur. Phys. J. C 77 (2017) 673
- > [2] ATLAS Collaboration, *Expected tracking and related performance with the updated ATLAS Inner Tracker layout at the High-Luminosity LHC*, tech. rep. ATL-PHYS-PUB-2021-024
- > [3] ATLAS Collaboration, *Modelling of Track Reconstruction Inside Jets with the 2016 ATLAS $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV pp Dataset*, tech. Rep. ATL-PHYS-PUB-2017-016
- > [4] ATLAS Collaboration, *Clustering and Tracking in Dense Environments with the ATLAS Inner Tracker for the High-Luminosity LHC*, ATL-PHYS-PUB-2023-022