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(for the FASER collaboration)

Results from FASER

Dark photon search CONF note on CERN Document Server

Collider neutrino direct detection paper (submitted to PRL)

FASER collaboration

- 87 members from 24 institutes in 10 countries

International laboratory covered by a cooperation agreement with CERN

Outline

- Physics motivation and goals
- The FASER detector
- 2022 operations and results
- Forward physics facility for HL-LHC

Motivation: search for long-lived A'

- Dark photon coupling to Standard Model fermions:
  - $\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} m_{A'}^2 A'^2 - \epsilon e \sum_f q_f \, A'_\mu \bar{f} \gamma^\mu f$
- Assuming $m_{A'} < 2m_\chi$, $m_{A'} \sim (\text{MeV} - \text{GeV})$ and $\epsilon \sim (10^{-6} - 10^{-3})$ give thermal relic density in range expected for dark matter
- Dark photon sources at LHC:
  - Neutral pion decay: $\pi^0 \to \gamma A'$
  - Eta meson decay: $\eta \to \gamma A'$
  - Dark bremsstrahlung: $pp \to ppA'$
- For $2m_e < m_{A'} < 2m_\mu$, $A' \to e^+e^-$ is ~100% of branching ratio
- Long decay length for boosted A', assuming $E'_A \gg m_{A'} \gg m_e$:
  - $L = c\beta\tau\gamma \approx (80 \text{ m}) \left(\frac{10^{-5}}{\epsilon}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\text{E}'_\text{A}}{\text{TeV}}\right) \left(\frac{100 \text{ MeV}}{m_{A'}}\right)^2$

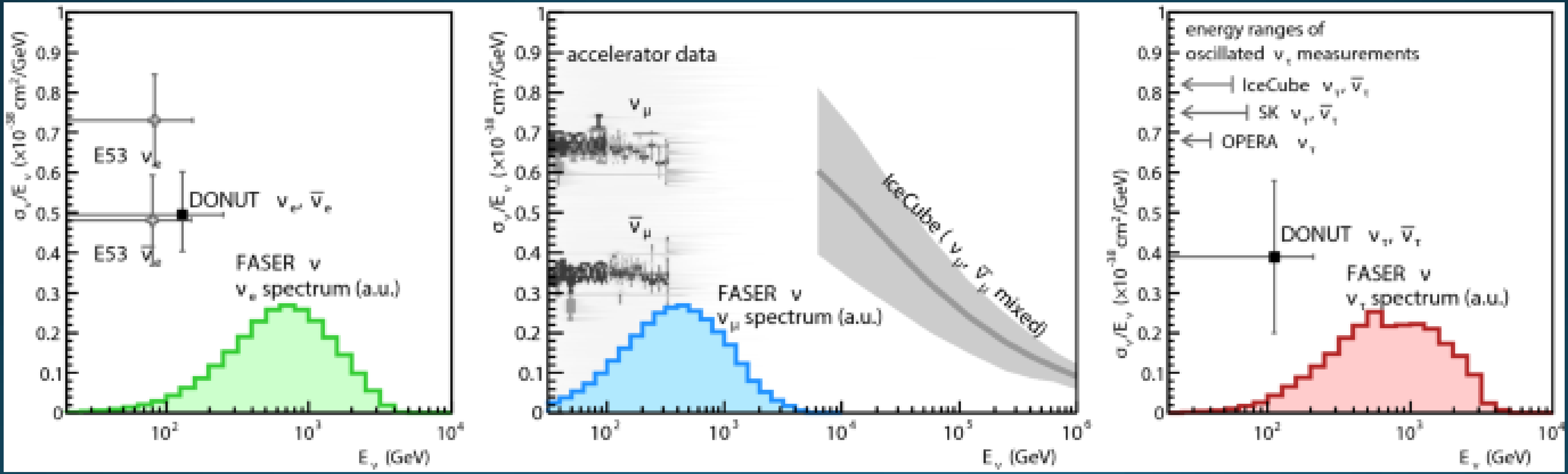
Feng, Galon, Kling and Trojanowski, *Phys. Rev. D* 97 (2018) no. 3, 035001

Motivation: ALP's and other searches

- Re-casts of dark photon searches:
  - $B-L$ gauge boson
  - "Proto-phobic" gauge boson
- Axion-like particles
  - Photon coupling (see Feng, Galon, Kling and Trojanowski)
  - W coupling (see Kling and Trojanowski)
  - Gluon coupling (see Aloni, Soreq and Williams)
  - Typically decay to $\gamma\gamma$
    - Sensitive to decays in decay volume and spectrometer (~4 meters)
- Will not discuss these further today

FASER's Physics Reach for Long-Lived Particles: PRD 99 090511 (2019)

Motivation: collider neutrinos



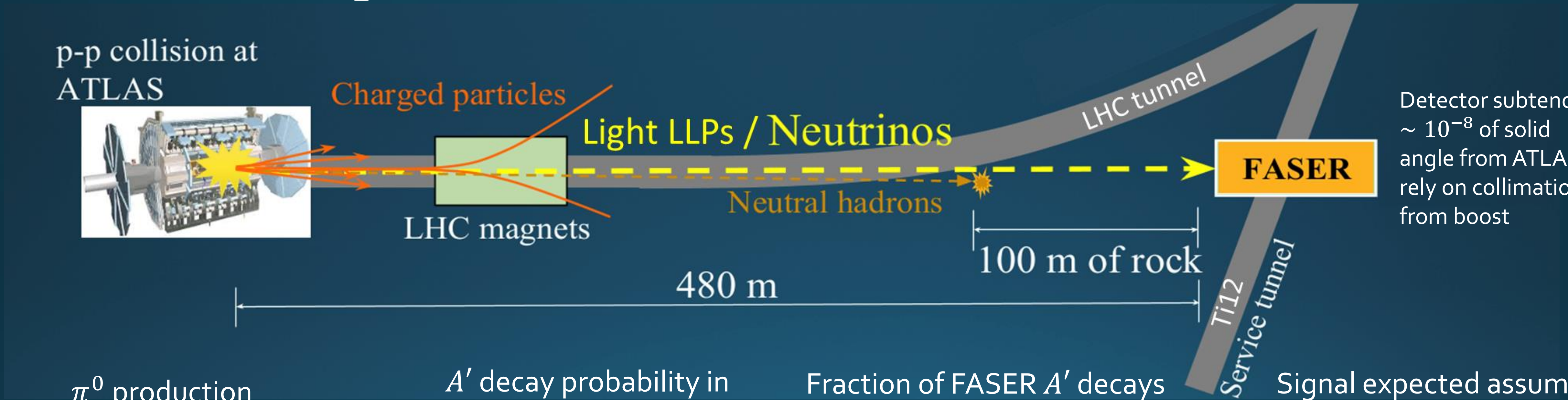
Expect ~1300 $\nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e$ interactions in 150/fb

Expect ~20,000 $\nu_\mu + \bar{\nu}_\mu$ interactions in 150/fb

Expect ~20 $\nu_\tau + \bar{\nu}_\tau$ interactions in 150/fb

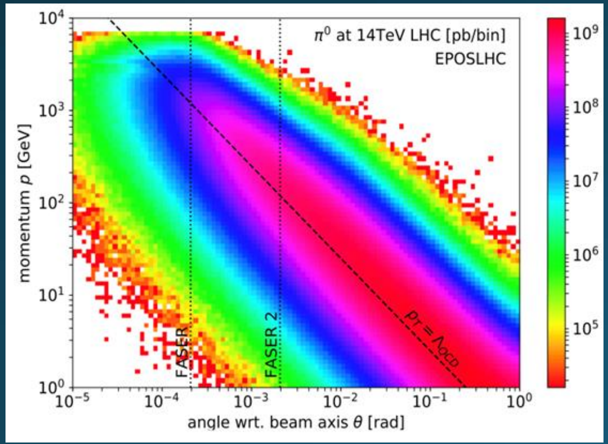
"Detecting and Studying High-Energy Collider Neutrinos with FASER at the LHC," EPJC 80, 61 (2020)

Looking forward in FASER

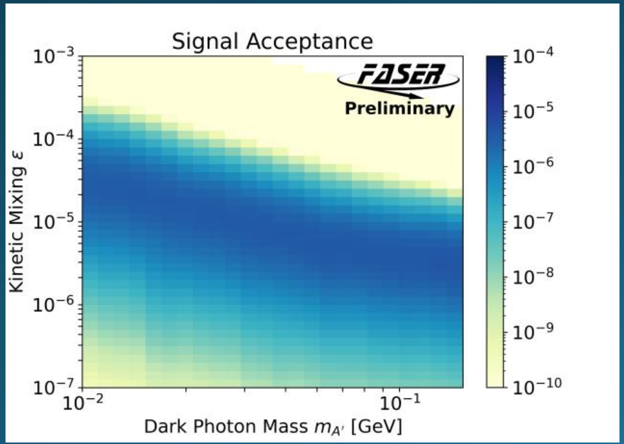


Detector subtends $\sim 10^{-8}$ of solid angle from ATLAS; rely on collimation from boost

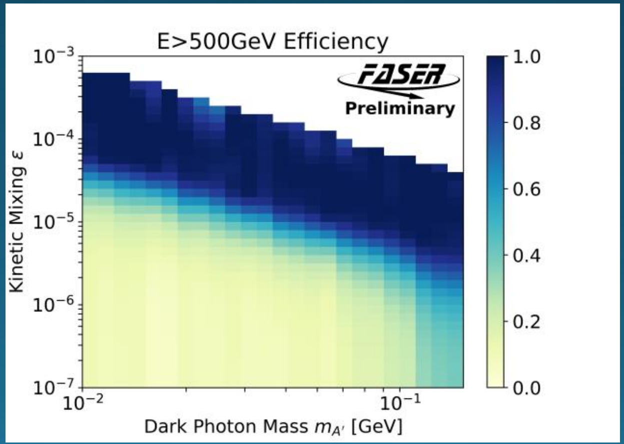
π^0 production
arXiv:1901.04468



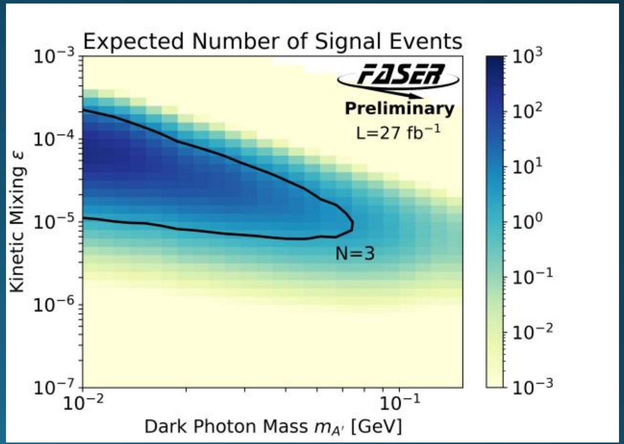
A' decay probability in 1.5 m decay volume @480 m



Fraction of FASER A' decays with $E > 500$ GeV

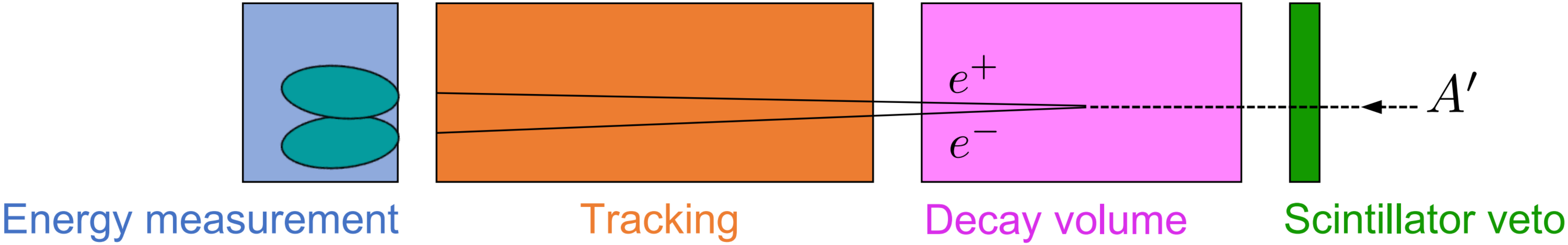


Signal expected assuming 50% selection efficiency



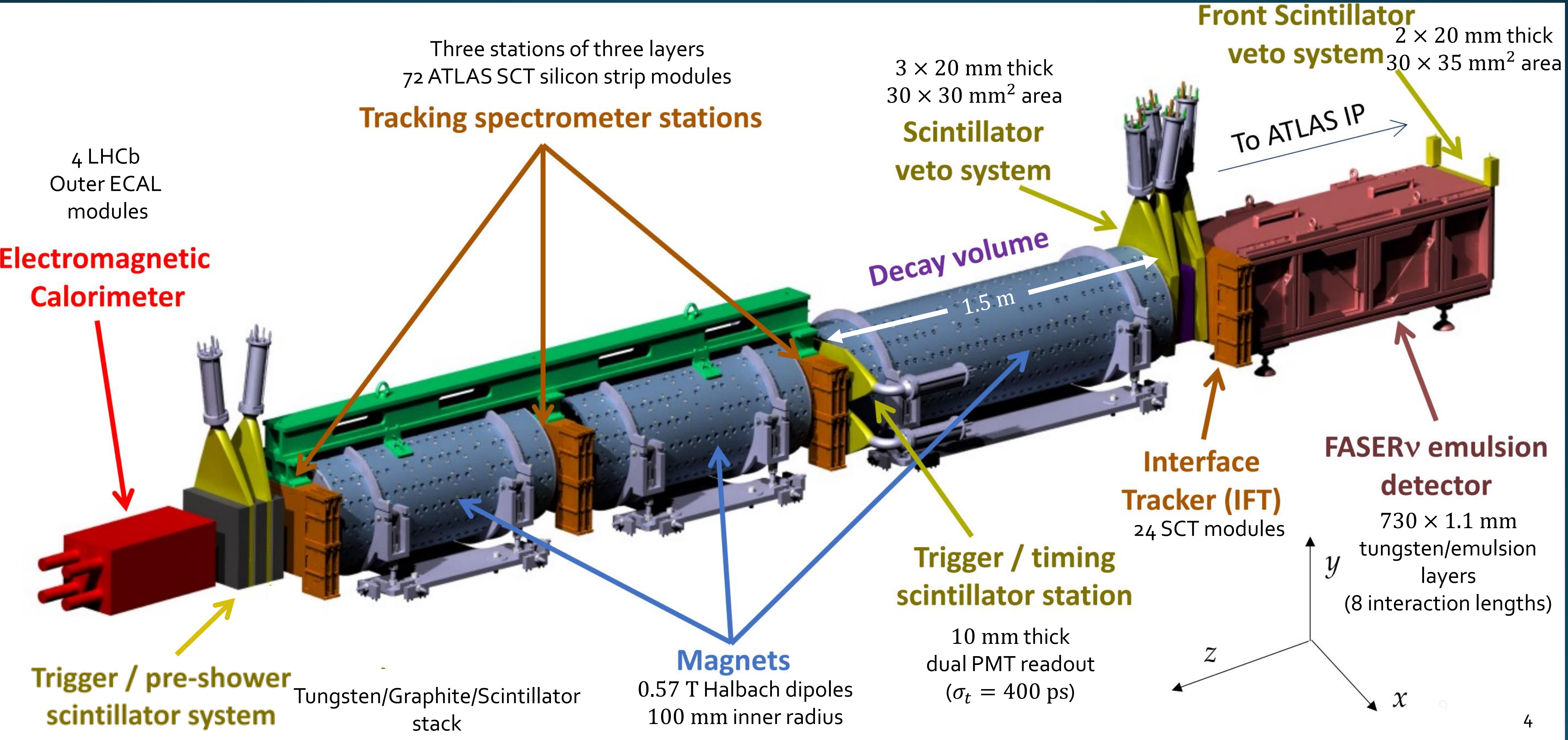
Generator level studies

$A' \rightarrow e^+e^-$ signature



- Veto entering charged particles
- Reconstruct two energetic charged tracks
- Confirm particle ID and energy with large shower in EM Calorimeter

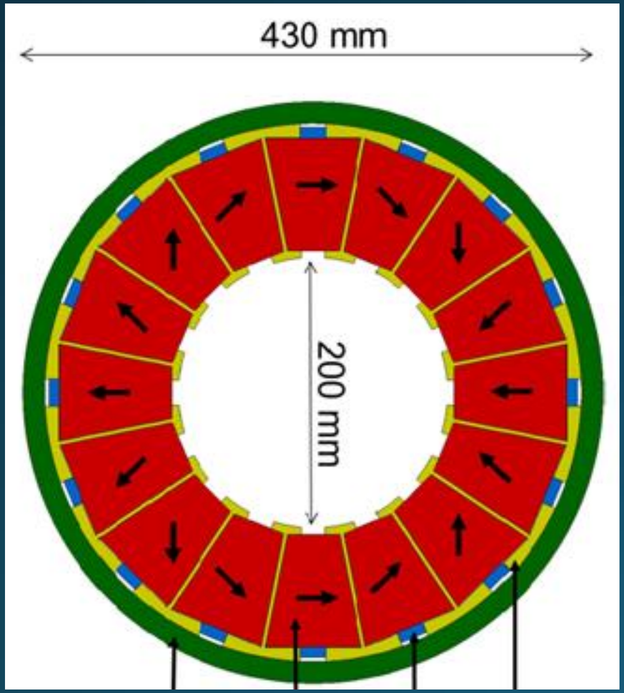
FASER Detector (arXiv:2207.11427)

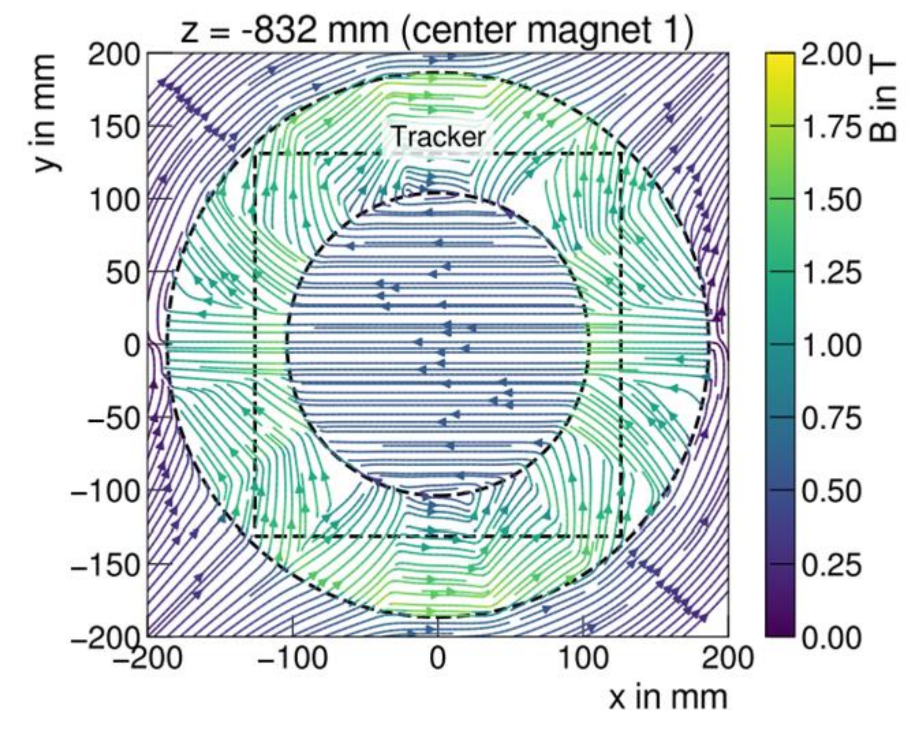


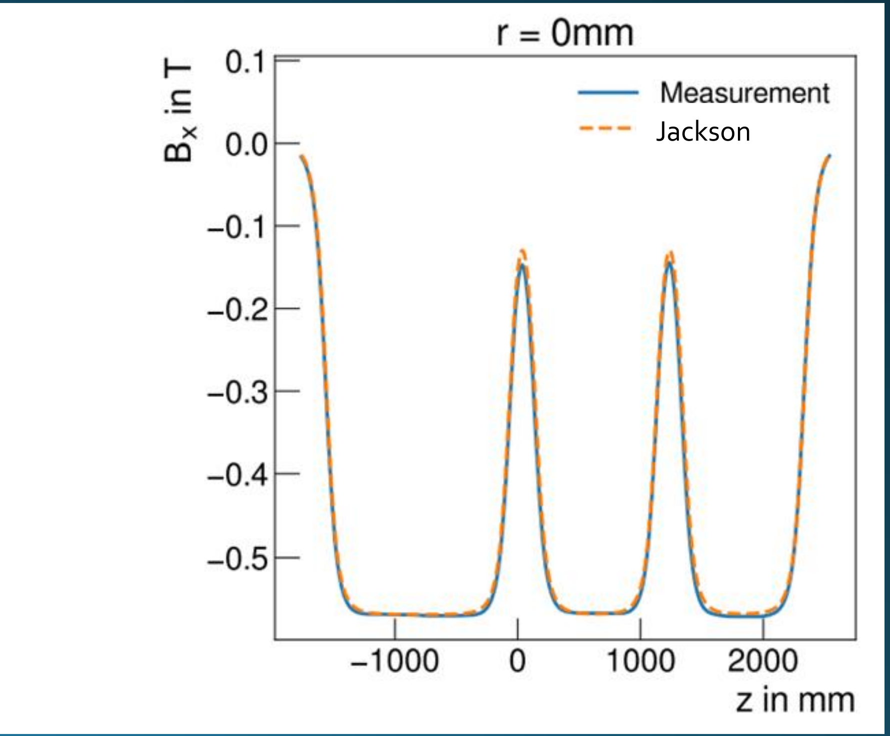
In 2018…

Magnets

- Three permanent magnets with "Halbach" design produce very uniform dipole field of 0.57 T
- The most expensive part of the experiment!

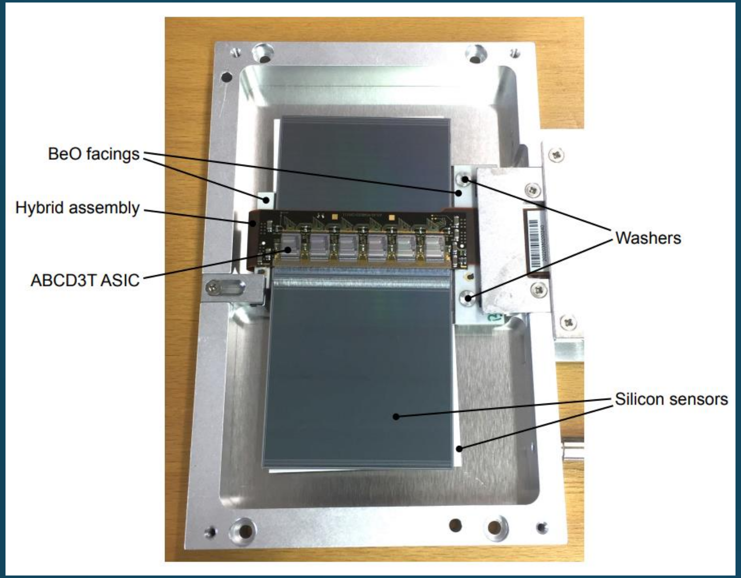


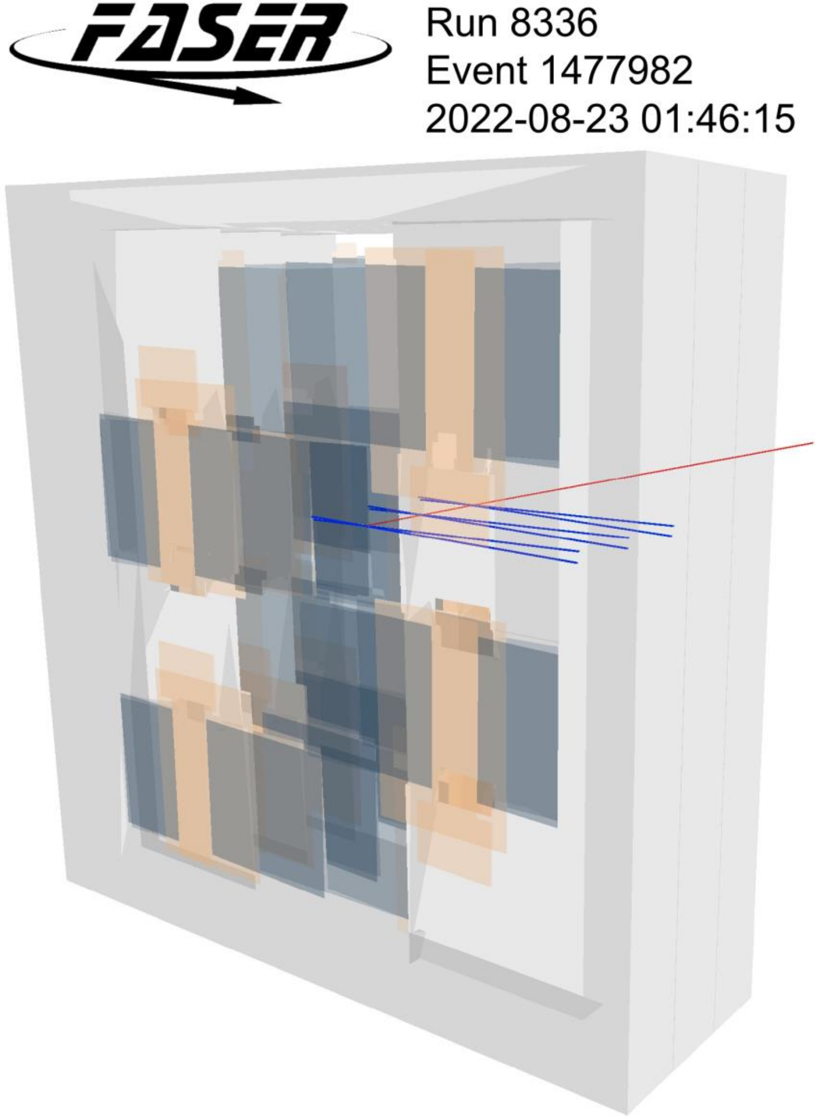




Tracker

- Silicon microstrip detector modules (SCT) gifted by ATLAS
  - 1 plane = 8 modules (two-sided)
  - 1 station = 3 planes
  - Full detector = 4 stations



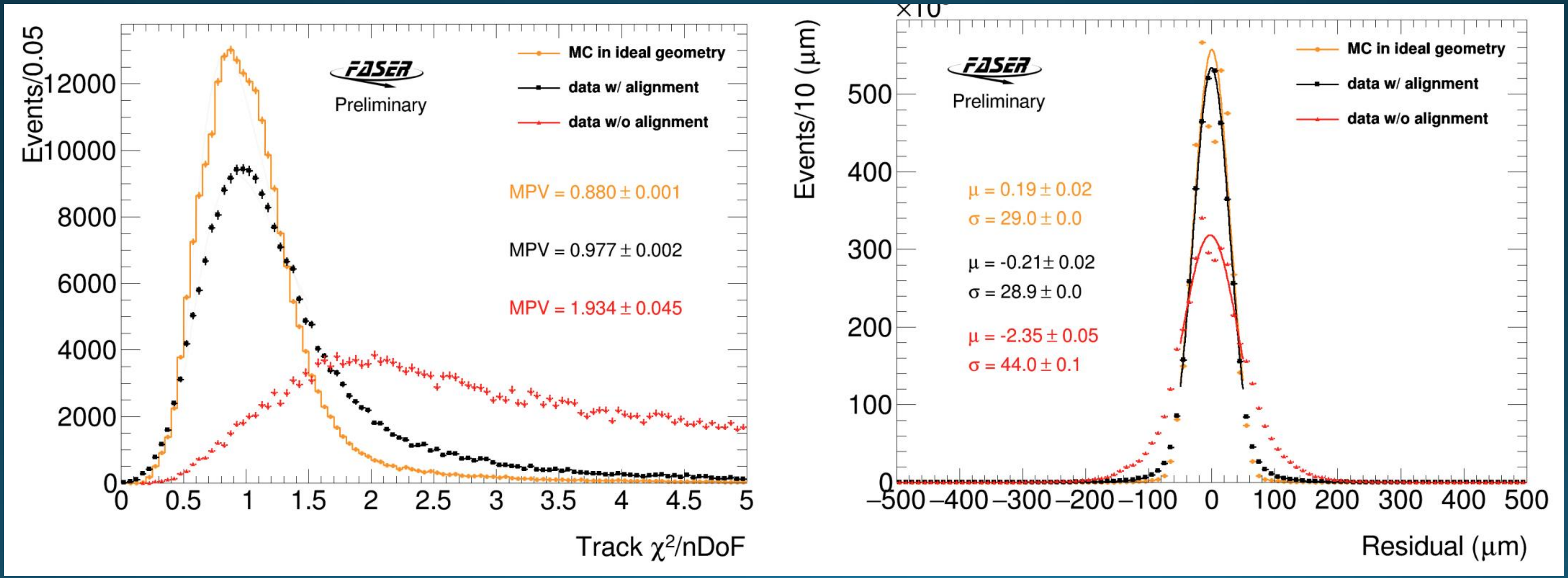


- Extremely precise ($\sim 20\ \mu\text{m}$) position resolution in one direction
  - Use two sensors with $40\ \text{mrad}$ stereo angle to get 3D space point
- Reconstruct charged particle trajectories
- Measure momenta using bending in field

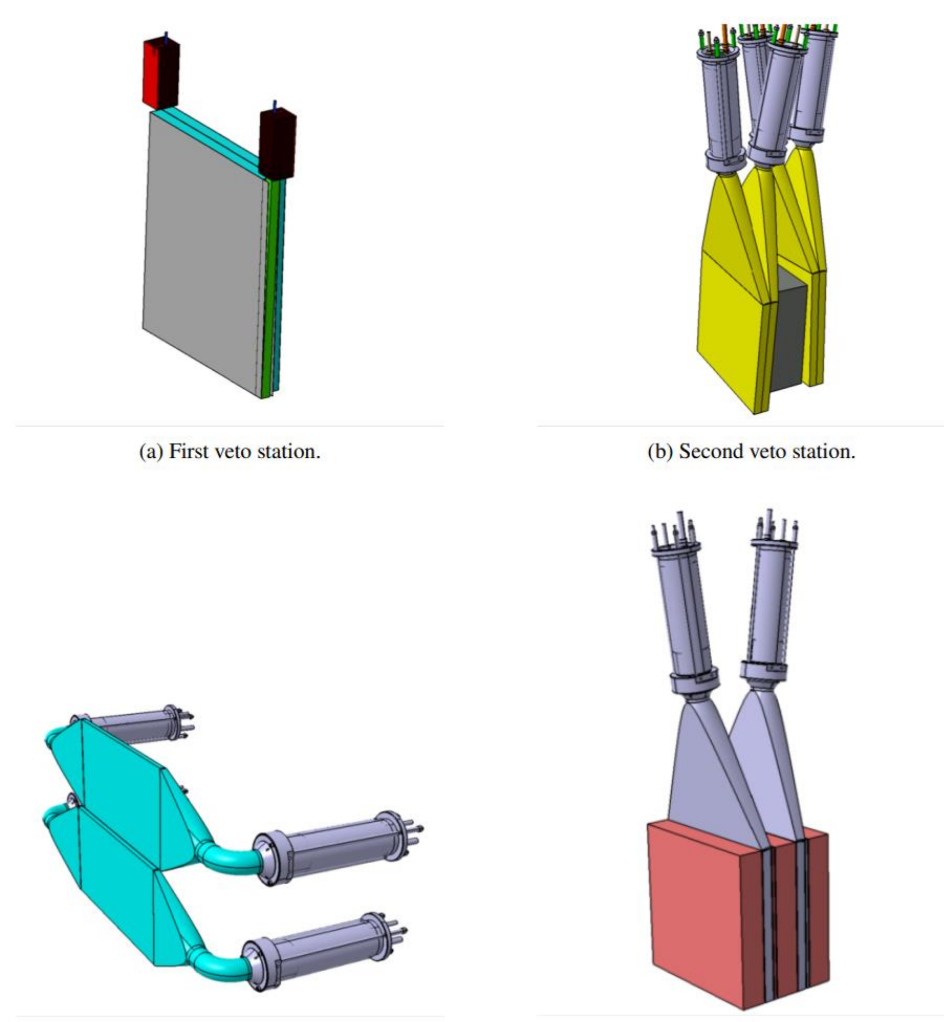
"The tracking detector of the FASER experiment," NIM 166825 (2022)

Tracker alignment

- Preliminary alignment of three downstream tracker stations used in dark photon and neutrino searches



Scintillators

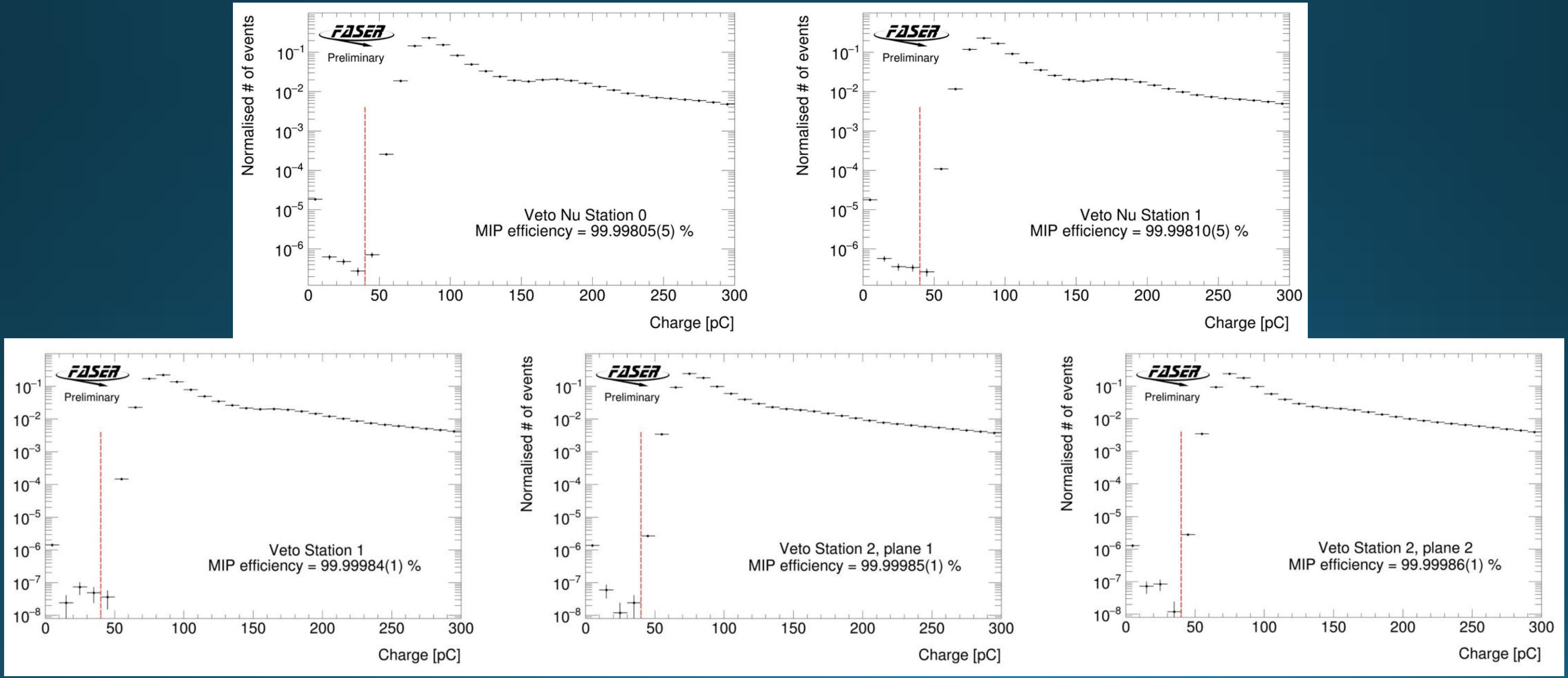


(a) First veto station.
(b) Second veto station.
(c) Timing station.
(d) Preshower station.

- Scintillators used to veto charged particles, trigger and measure timing
- Veto scintillators:
  - Upstream and downstream of FASERν
  - 20 mm thick, single PMT readout
- Timing scintillators
  - Between decay volume and first spectrometer tracking station
  - 10 mm thick, dual PMT readout ($\sigma_t \approx 400$ ps)
- Preshower scintillators
  - In front of calorimeter
  - 20 mm thick, single PMT readout
- CAEN digitizer records waveform for all 15 PMT channels (including calorimeter)

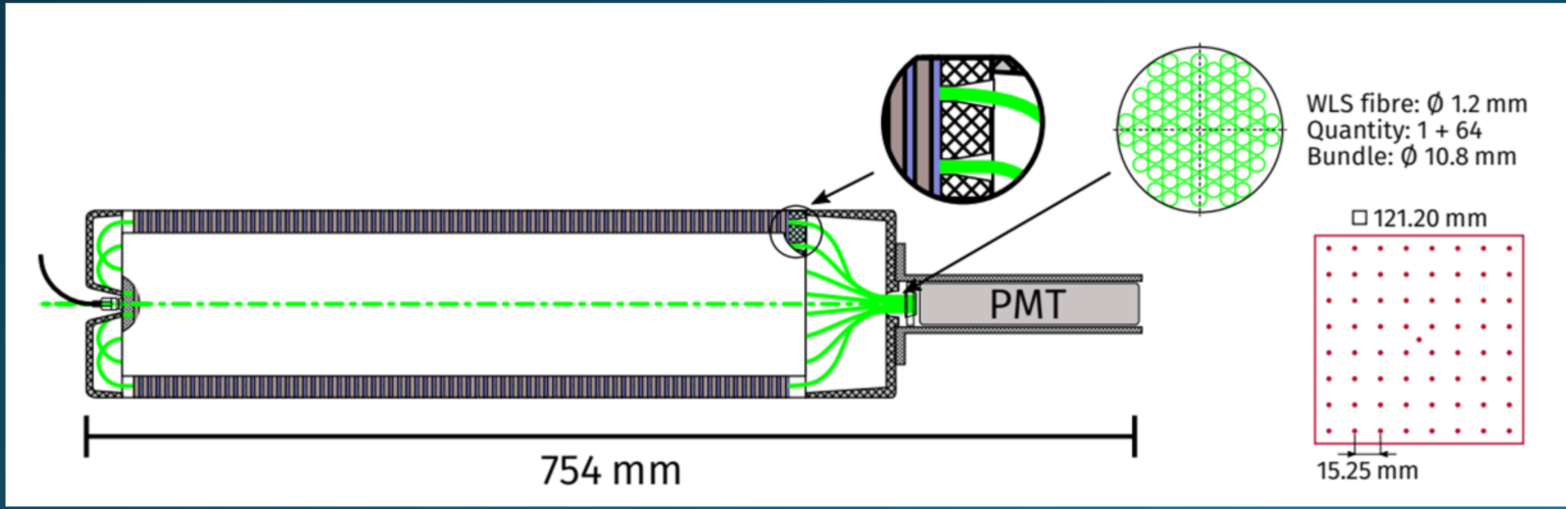
Scintillator performance

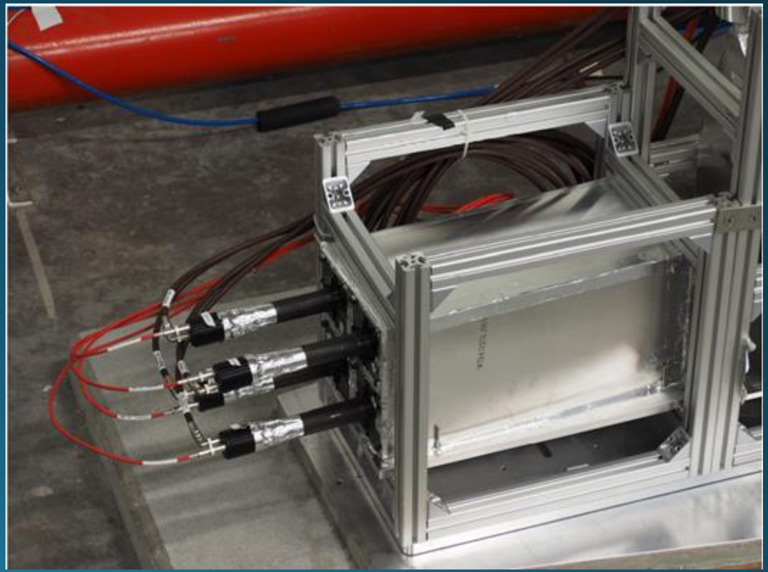
- All veto scintillator inefficiencies measured to be $< 2 \times 10^{-5}$



Calorimeter

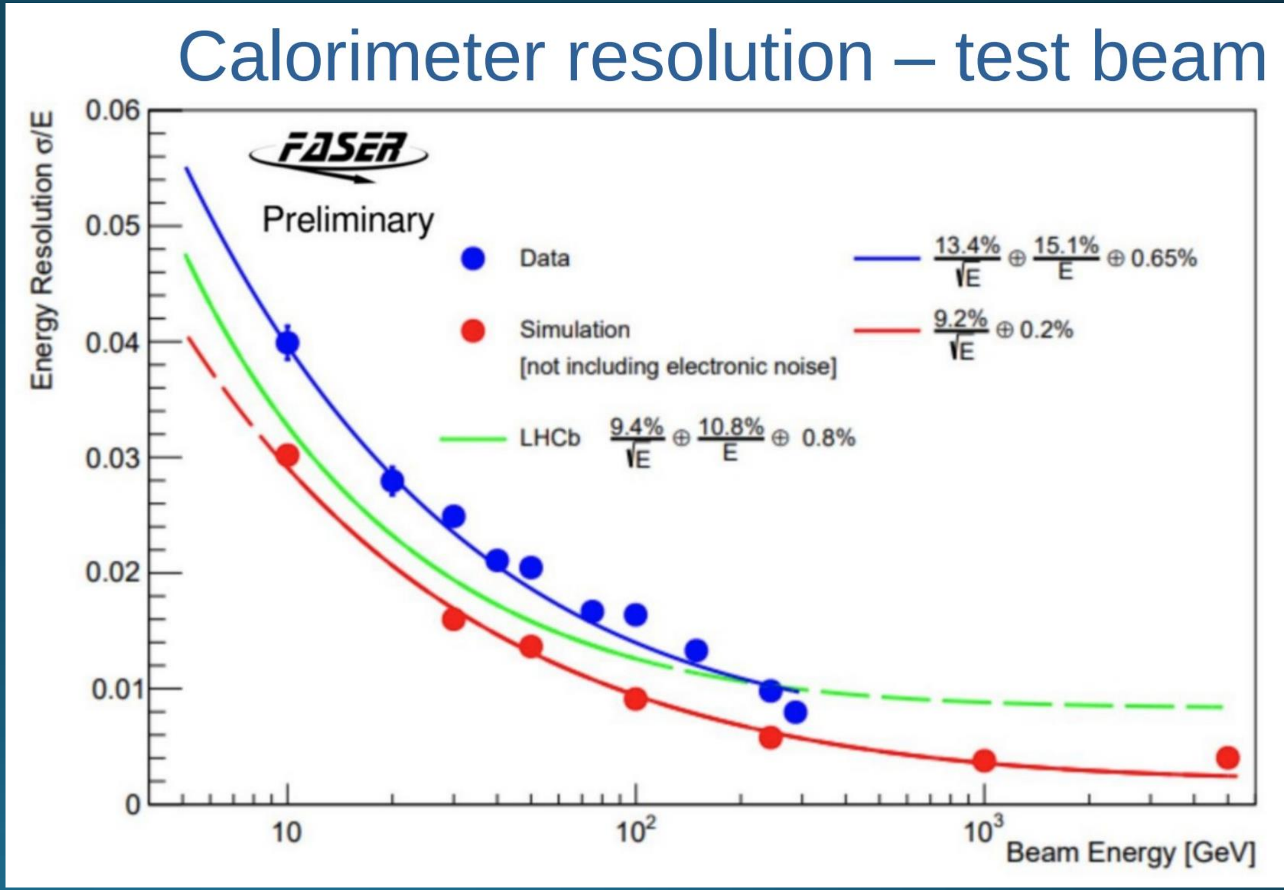
- 4 LHCb outer ECAL modules loaned to us
  - “Shashlik” design with fibers readout by PMT
  - 67 layers of scintillator alternating with 66 layers of tungsten
  - Total depth: 25 radiation lengths





Calorimeter: energy resolution

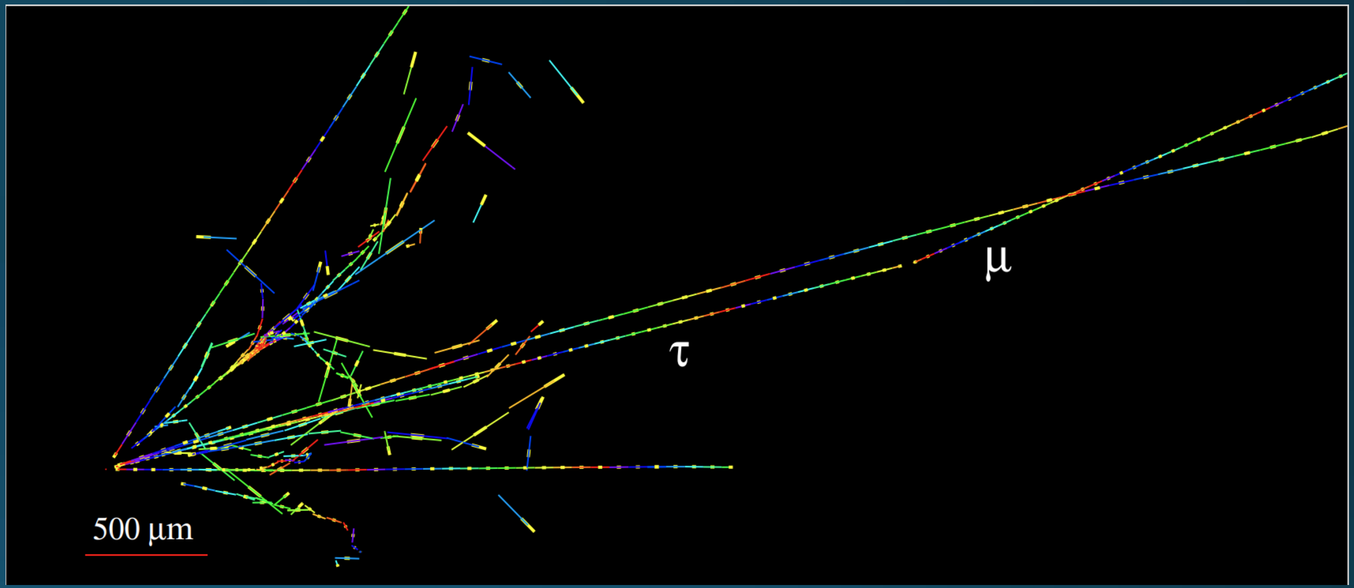
- Calorimeter response measured in dedicated 2021 test-beam campaign
  - Results close to performance quoted by LHCb
- Resolution ~1% or better at energies of interest in dark photon search



Test-beam paper in preparation!

FASERν

- 730 layers of 1.1 mm thick Tungsten plates interleaved with emulsion films
- 30 cm height, 25 cm width
- Total mass 1.1 tons
- Sub-micron spatial resolution
- Replaced over course of each year's run to limit track density
- Development and scanning of films from 2022 underway

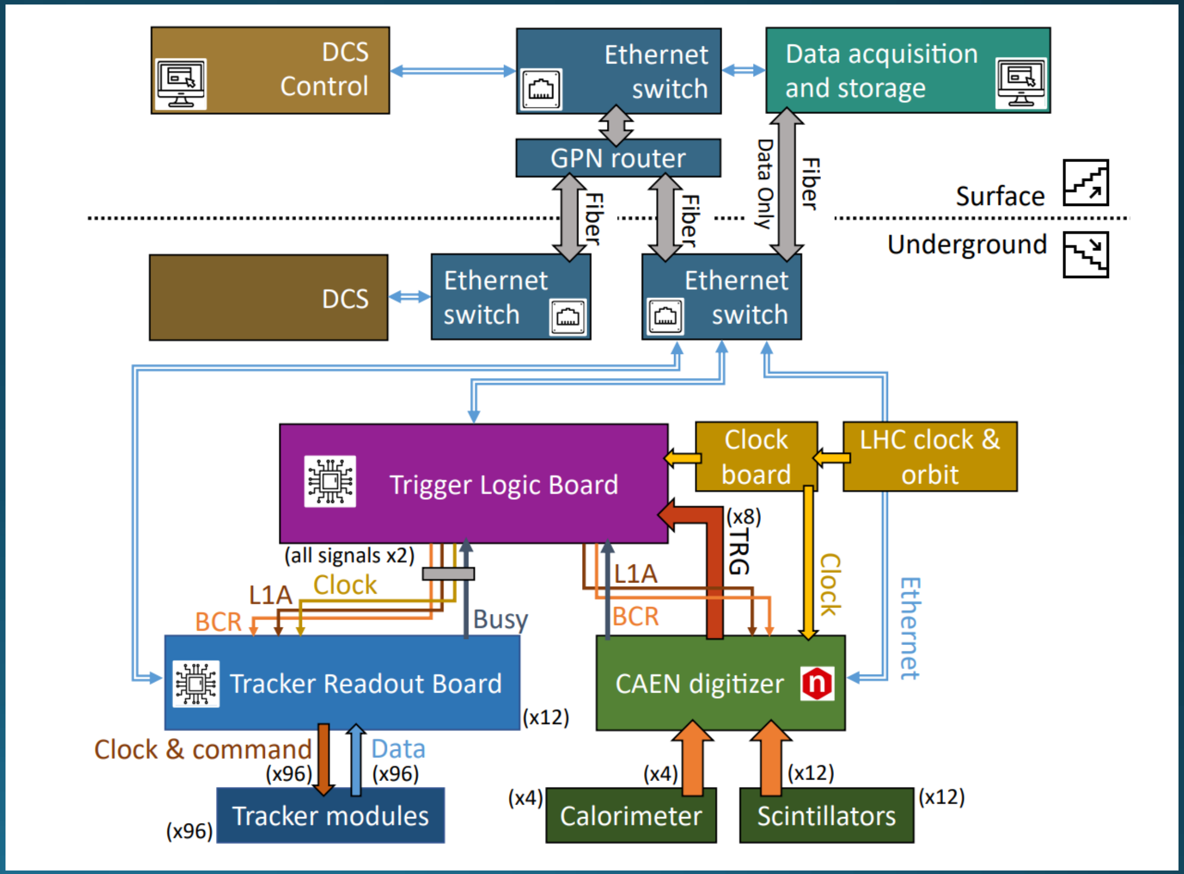


Simulated ν_τ charged-current interaction, and $\tau \rightarrow \mu$ decay, in FASERν

"Technical Proposal of FASERν neutrino detector," arXiv:2001.03073

Trigger and Data acquisition

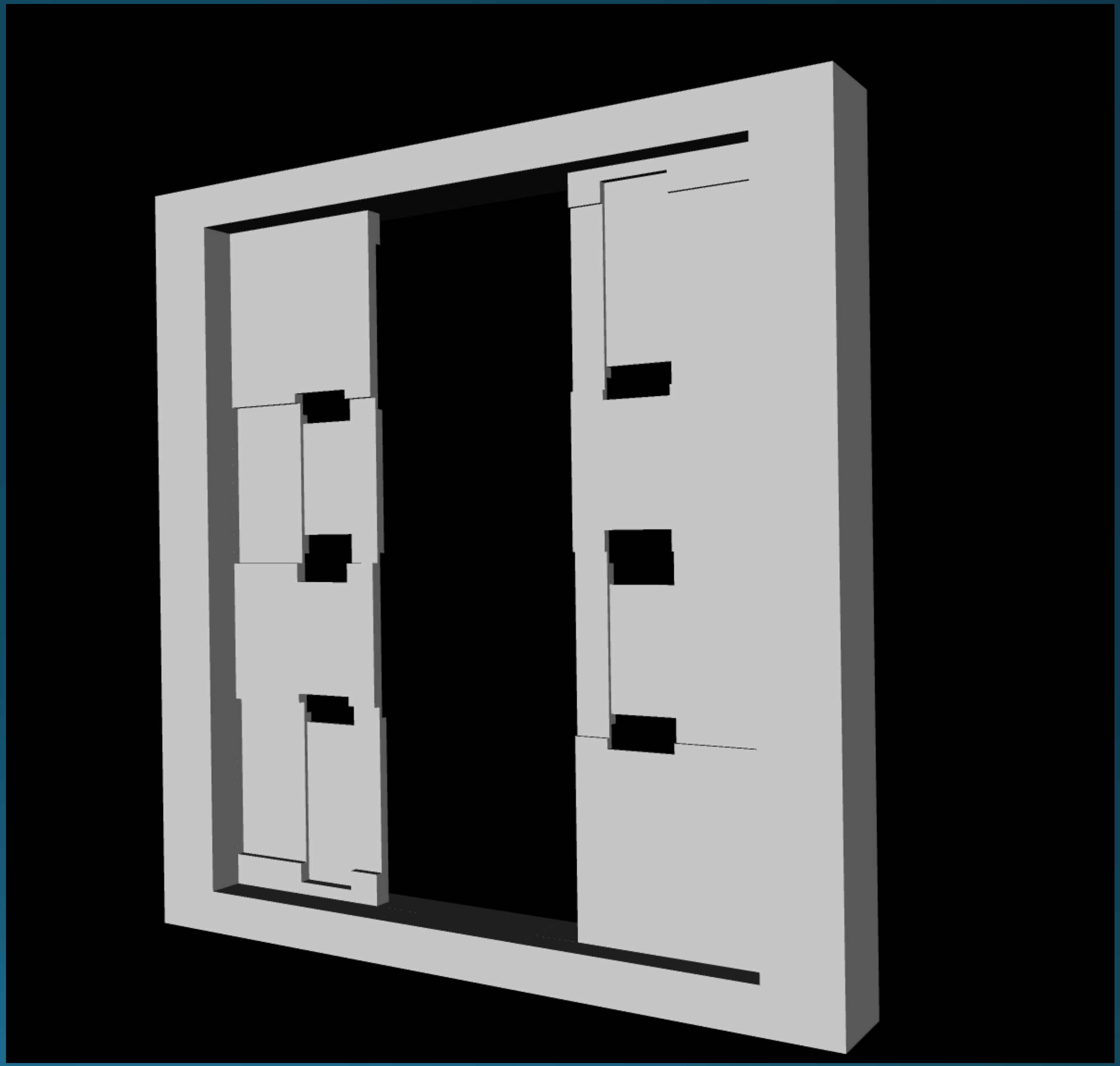
- Based on open-source DAQling framework
- Automated, continuous data-taking
  - No control room or dedicated shift-takers
- Trigger rates up to 1.3 kHz
  - Inputs from scintillators and calorimeter (CAEN digitizer)
- DAQ deadtime in 2022 run: 1.3%
- Event size: 21.5 kB, dominated by PMT waveform data



"The trigger and data acquisition system of the FASER experiment," [JINST 16 P12028 (2021)]

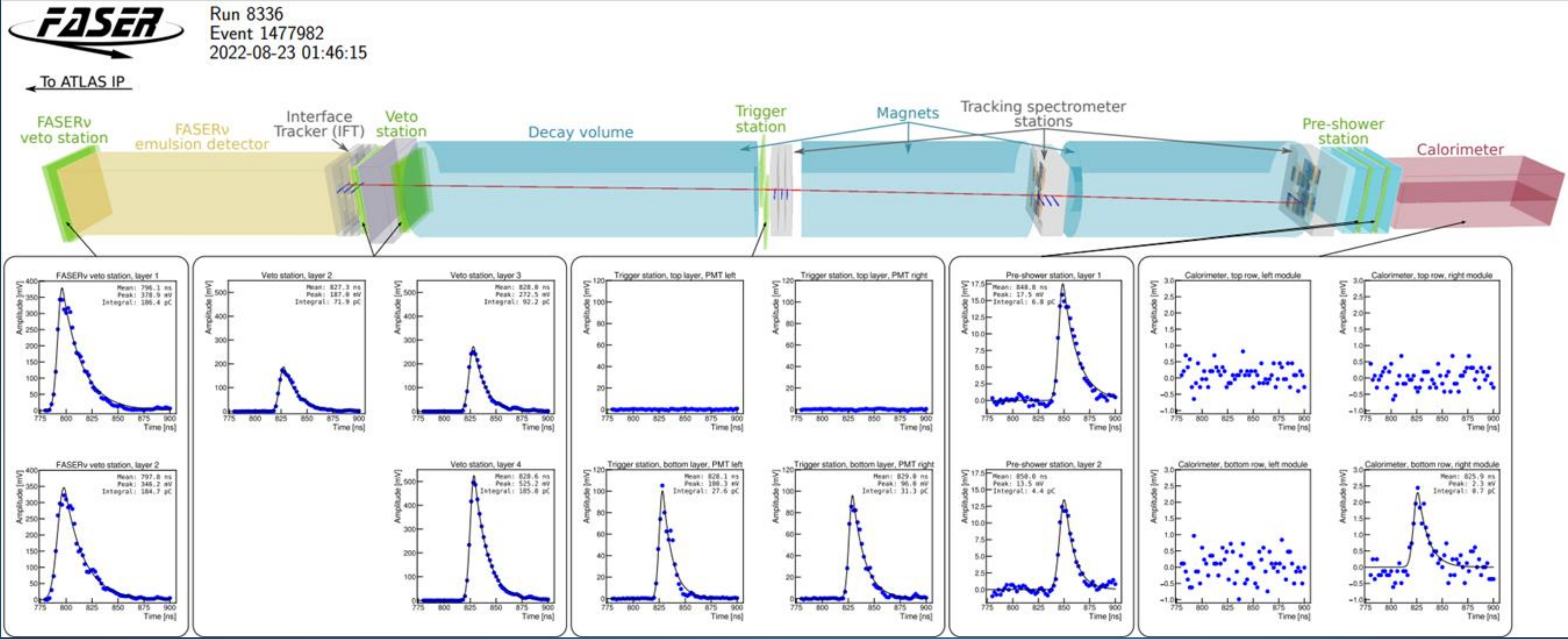
Offline software

- Adapted open-source Gaudi/Athena framework to FASER
  - “Calypso”
  - No time/person-power to build our own from scratch
- Use native ATLAS/LHCb geometry descriptions for SCT/Calorimeter modules, respectively
- ACTS track reconstruction in production before ATLAS…

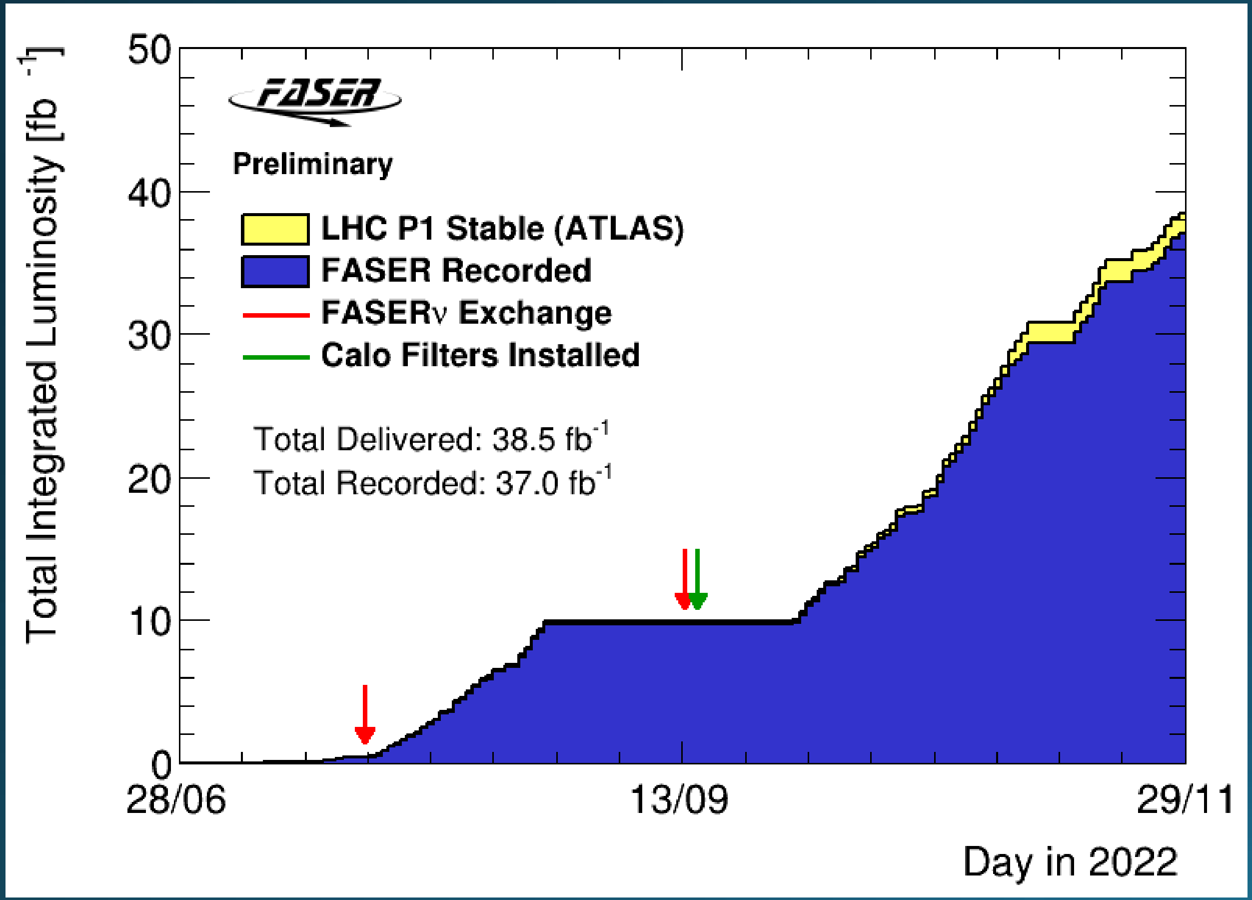


FASER tracker frame, as constructed and rendered in Calypso/Athena

A muon traversing FASER

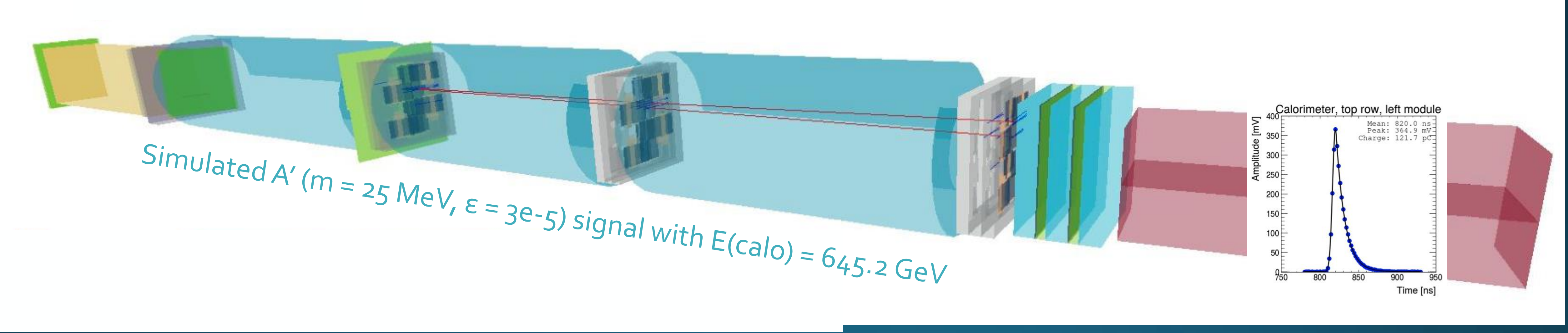


Operations and data set



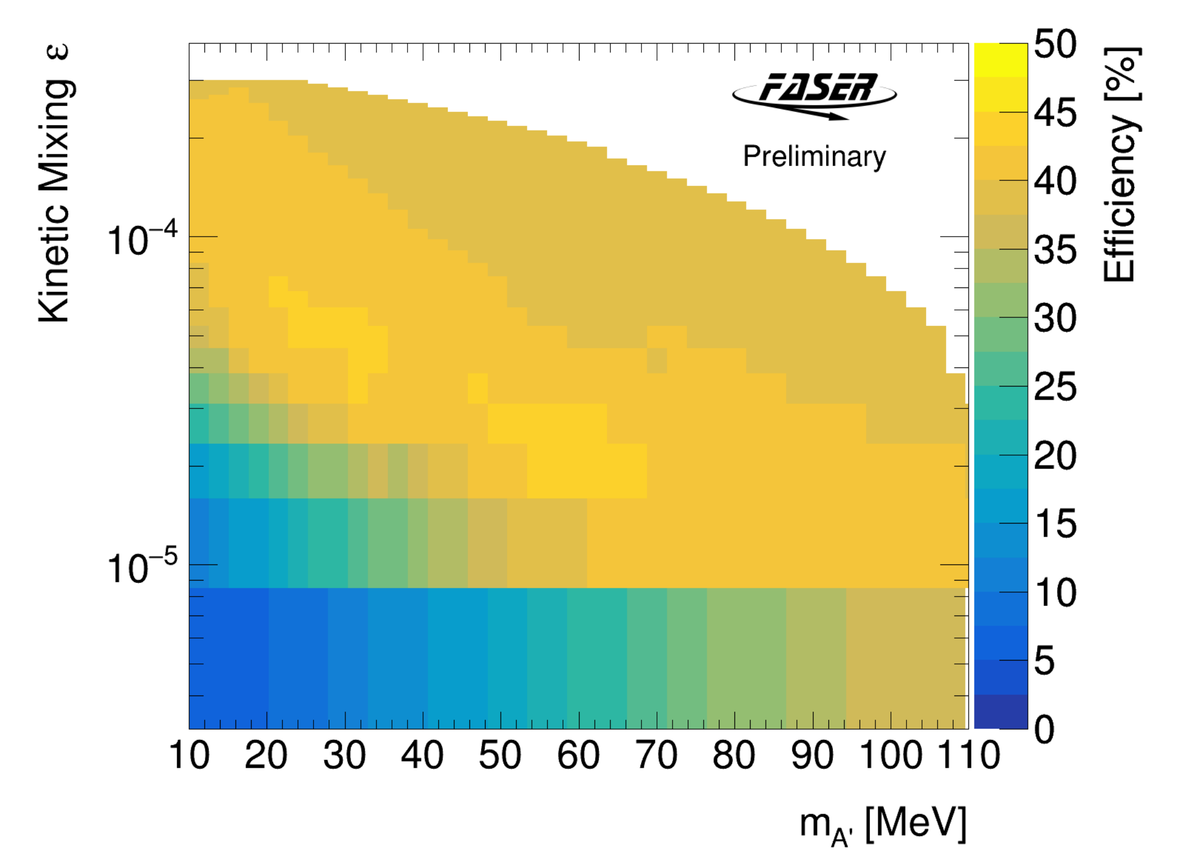
- Detector performed almost flawlessly in 2022
  - Recorded 96.1% of delivered luminosity
  - Over 350M single muon events
- Calorimeter gain optimized for TeV energies after second emulsion exchange (green arrow)
  - 27.1/fb used for dark photon search

Simulated $A' \rightarrow e^+e^-$



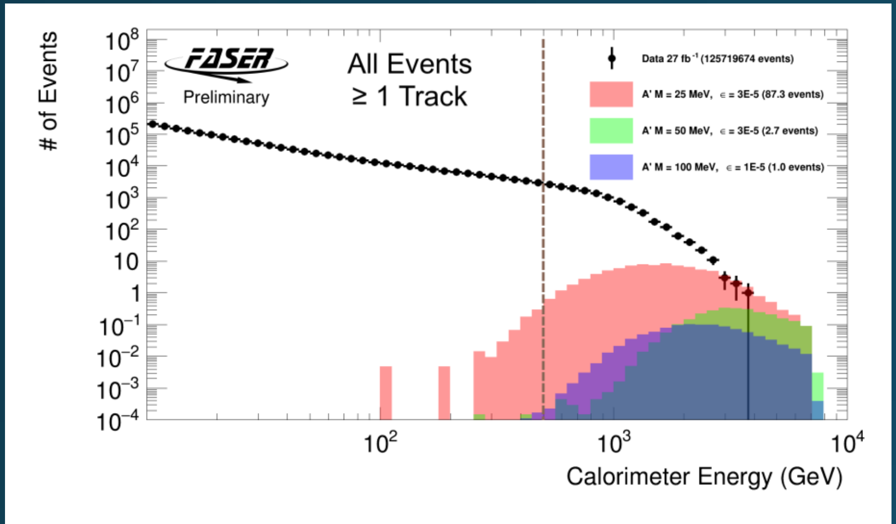
$A' \to e^+e^-$ selection

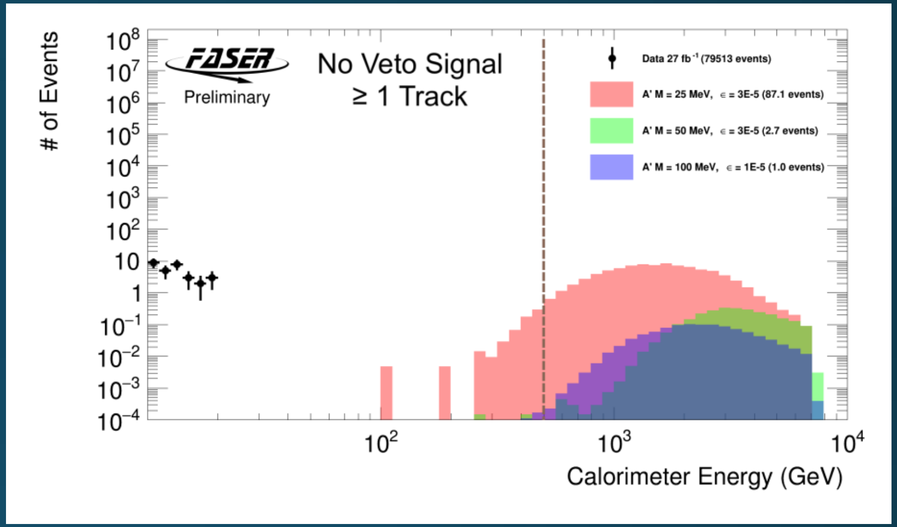
- Events with no veto activity and $E_{\text{calo}} > 100$ GeV blinded until selection finalized.
- Simple selection optimized for discovery:
  - Collision event with good data quality
  - No signal (> 40 pC) in any veto
  - Timing and preshower consistent with ≥ 2 minimum ionizing tracks
  - Exactly two good fiducial tracks:
    - $p > 20$ GeV and $r < 95$ mm
    - Extrapolate to $r < 95$ mm at vetos
  - $E > 500$ GeV in EM calorimeter

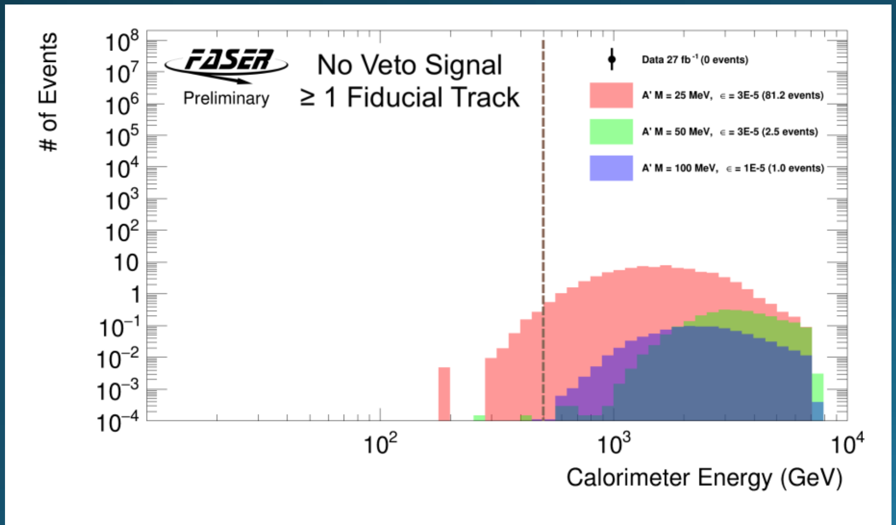


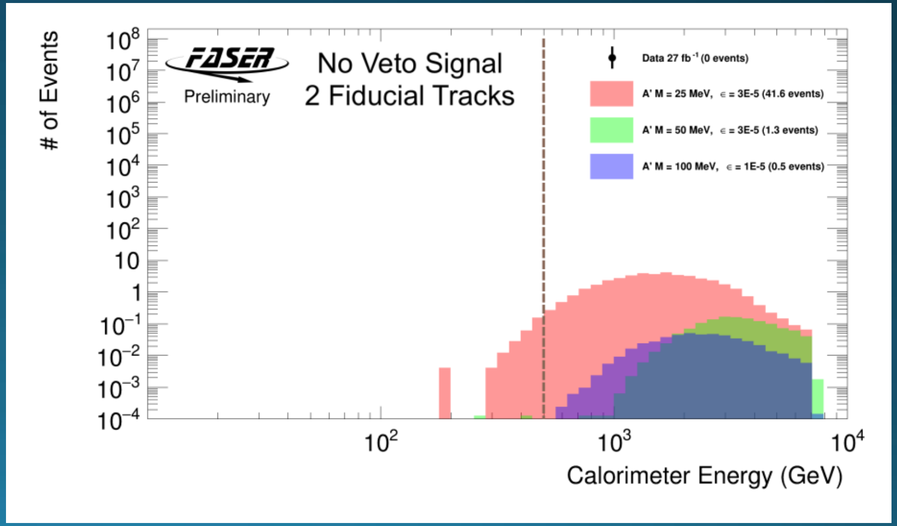
Selection efficiency ~ 40% over region of sensitivity

$A' \rightarrow e^+e^-$ cut flow: calorimeter energy









Dark photon backgrounds

- Veto inefficiency
  - Negligible
- Muon-induced neutral hadrons
  - Estimated from three-track sample, ignoring muon and removing photon conversions
- Geometric muon background
  - Negligible
- Neutrino interactions in detector material
  - Estimated from GENIE sample, corrected for material missing in simulation
  - Small, but dominant background
- Non-collision (cosmic or beam) background
  - Negligible

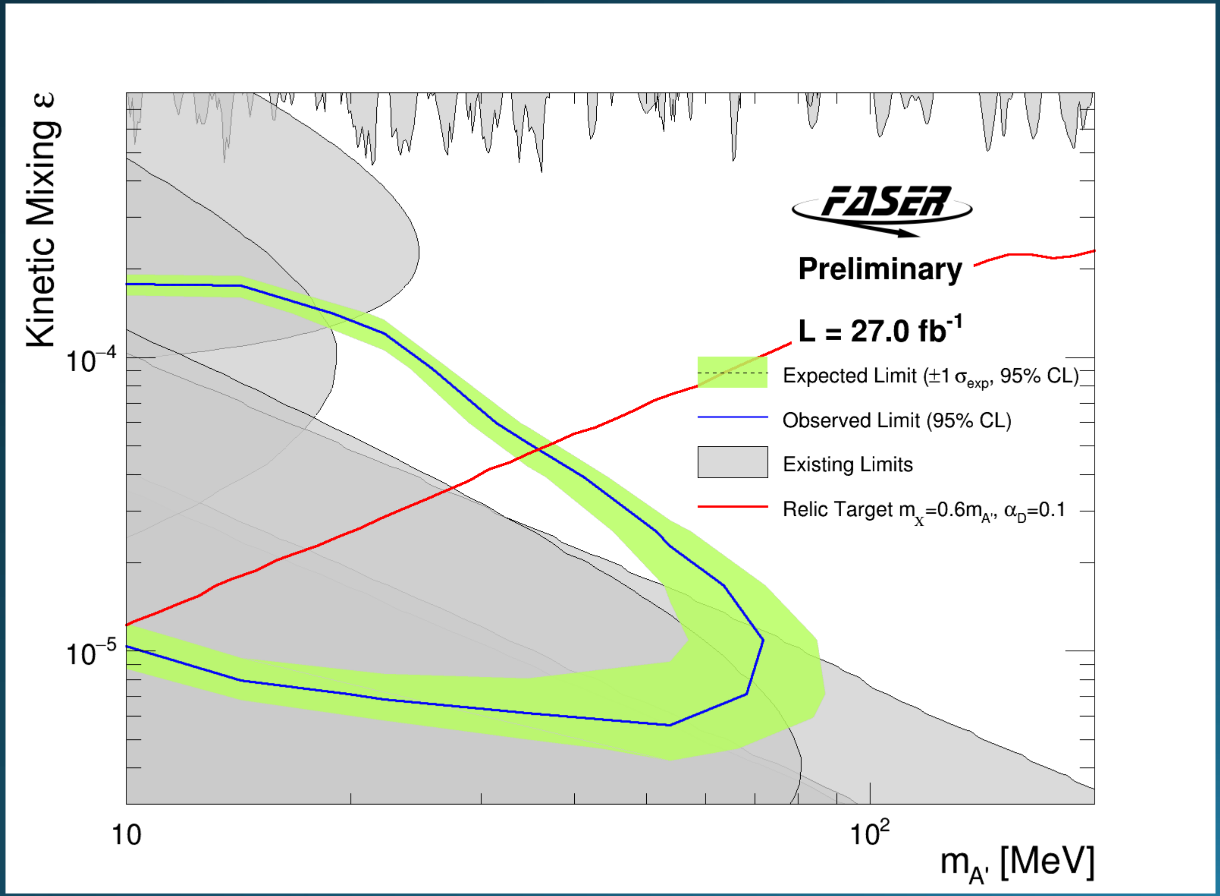
Scintillator	Efficiency
NuVeto-0	0.9999805(5)
NuVet0-1	0.9999810(5)
Veto-0	0.9999985(1)
Veto-1	0.9999984(1)
Veto-2	0.9999986(1)

Process	Background Estimate
Veto inefficiency	Negligible
Neutral hadron & geometric muon background	$(0.22 \pm 0.31) \times 10^{-3}$
Neutrino interactions	$(1.8 \pm 2.4) \times 10^{-3}$
Non-collision background	Negligible
Total background	$(2.0 \pm 2.4) \times 10^{-3}$

See https://cds.cern.ch/record/2853210/files/CERN-FASER-CONF-2023-001.pdf for more details and validation studies

$A' \rightarrow e^+e^-$ result

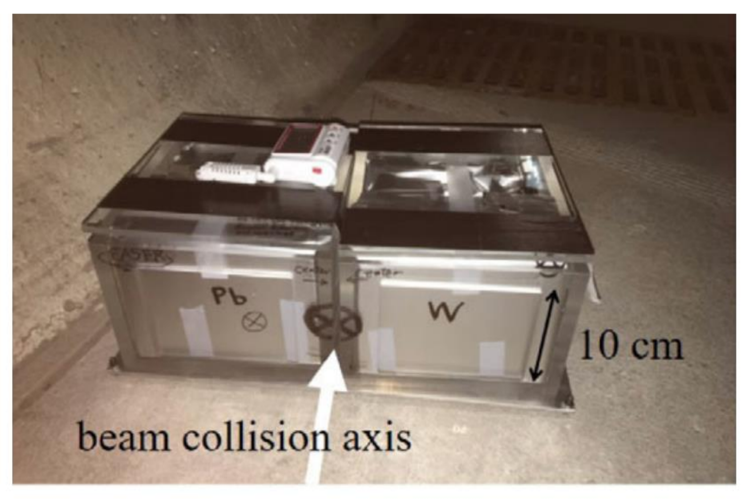
- 95% CL excluded region based on 0 events passing selection
  - 0 events with even 1 fiducial track

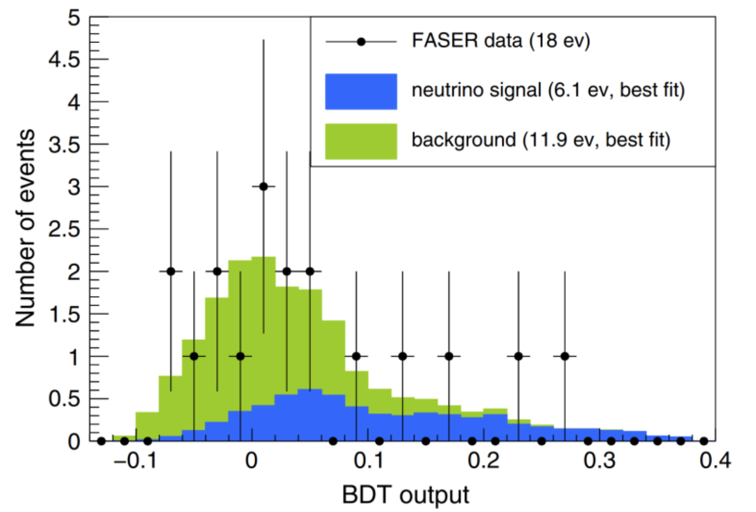


Source	Systematic Uncertainty	Typical Effect on Signal Yield
Theory, Statistics and Luminosity		
A' cross section	$\frac{0.15 + (E_{A'}/4\ \mathrm{TeV})^3}{1 + (E_{A'}/4\ \mathrm{TeV})^3}$	15-45%
Luminosity	2.2%	2.2%
MC statistics	$\sqrt{\sum W^2}$	1-2%
Tracking		
Momentum scale	5%	< 0.5%
Momentum resolution	5%	< 0.5%
1-track efficiency	3%	3%
2-track efficiency	15%	15%
Calorimetry		
Energy scale	6%	< 1%

Collider Neutrinos: Pilot search

- Copious meson production makes the LHC an intense source of the world's highest energy man-made neutrinos
  - De Rujula and Ruckl (1984)
- First search using 29 kg emulsion detector in 2018
  - 12.2/fb at 13 TeV CMS energy
  - 2.7 σ excess of neutrino-like neutral vertices
- FASERν emulsion detector will study in detail with Run-3 data

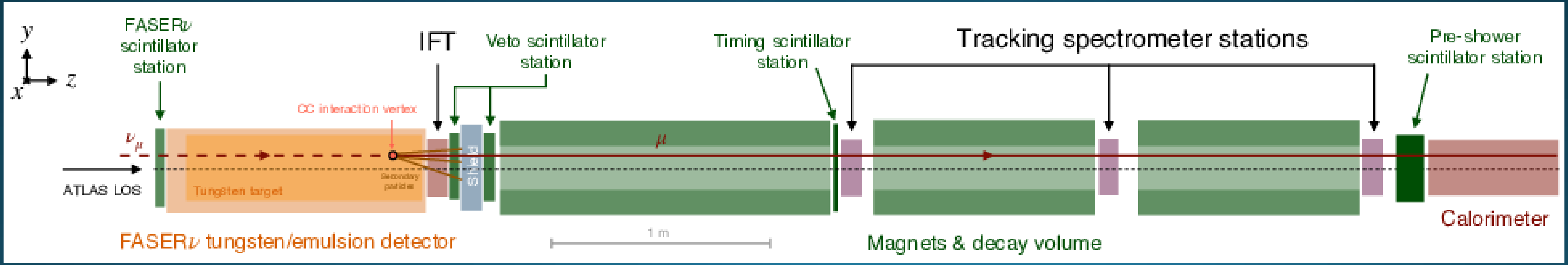




"First neutrino interaction candidates at the LHC," PRD 104 L091101 (2021)

Collider neutrino search

- Active electronic detector can find ν_μ and $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ CC interaction signal above background:
  - Long, high-momentum fiducial track
  - No activity in forward veto station
  - Blinded analysis (35.4/fb Run-3 luminosity used for neutrino search)



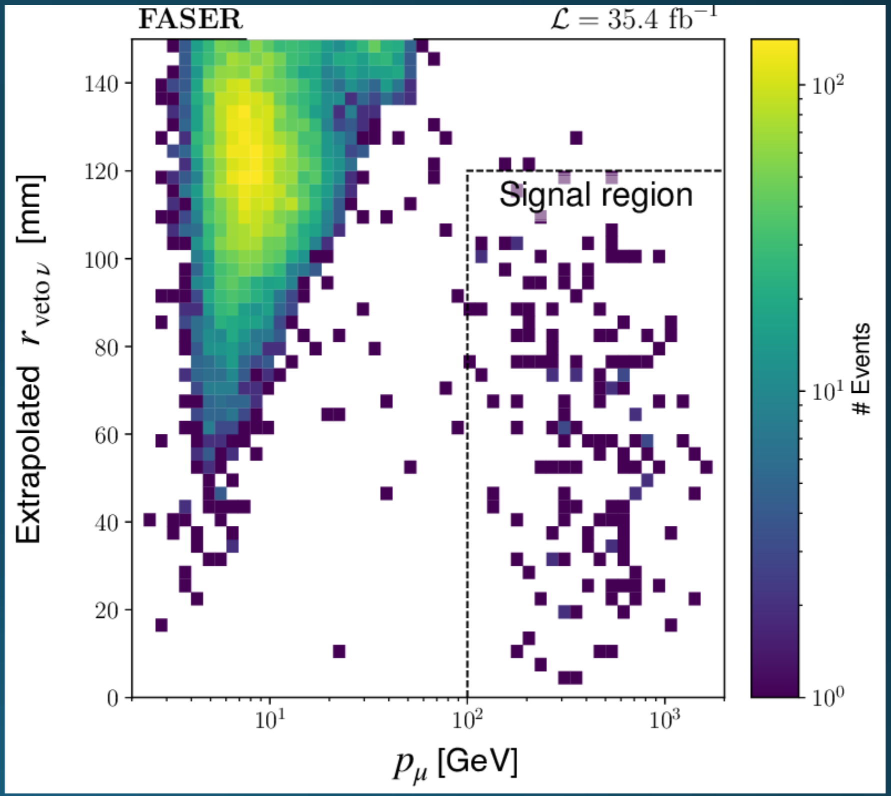
Expected backgrounds

- Veto inefficiency
  - Measured using singles rate in forward veto (only one of two layers fire)
  - Negligible
- Muon-induced neutral hadrons
  - $n_{had} = 0.11 \pm 0.06$ (stat) estimated from simulation
  - Conservative; ignores likely veto signal from parent muon
- Geometric muons (leakage around veto)
  - $n_{geo} = 0.08 \pm 1.83$ (stat) extrapolated from side-band

Please see https://arxiv.org/pdf/2303.14185.pdf for details

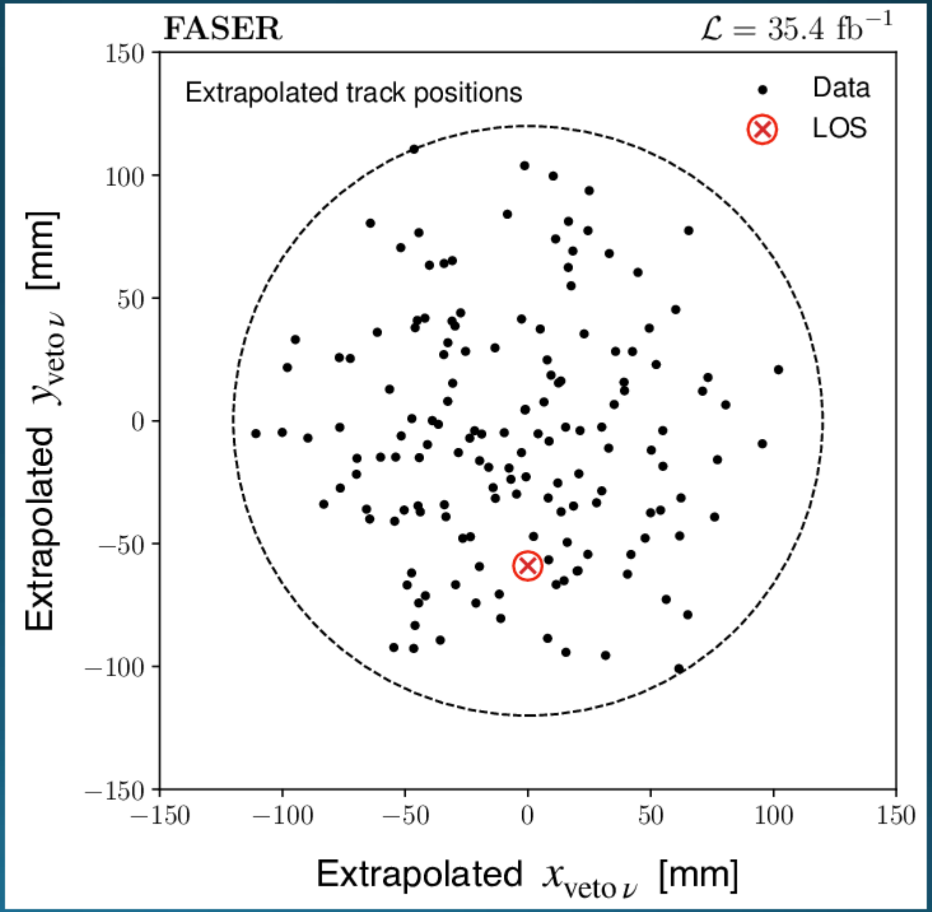
Collider neutrinos: results

- 153^{+12}_{-13} neutrino-like events observed over backgrounds
- “No signal” hypothesis excluded at 16 σ
- No attempt to measure cross section, but luminosity-normalized prediction agrees well with data.



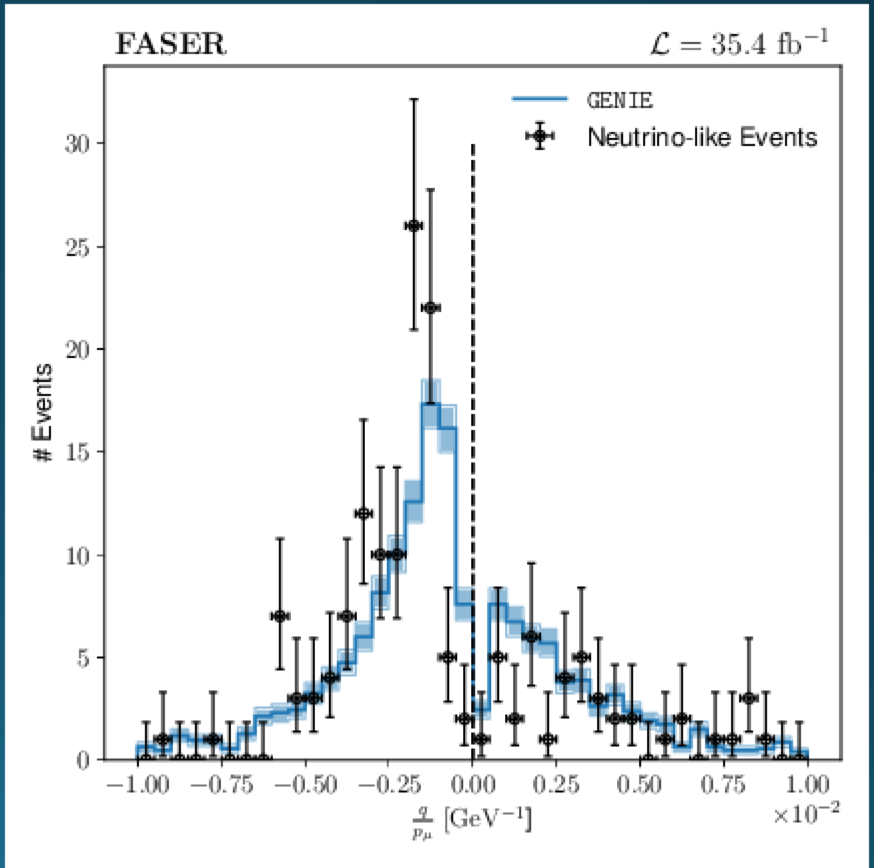
Collider neutrinos: extrapolation

- Extrapolate candidate charged tracks to front veto position
  - Uniform distribution not expected due to tighter cuts downstream
- No evidence of entering contamination near edges

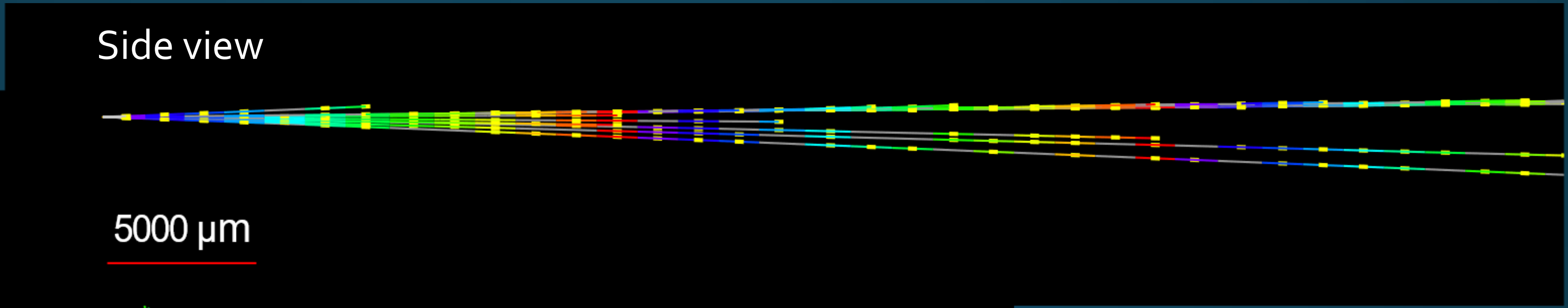


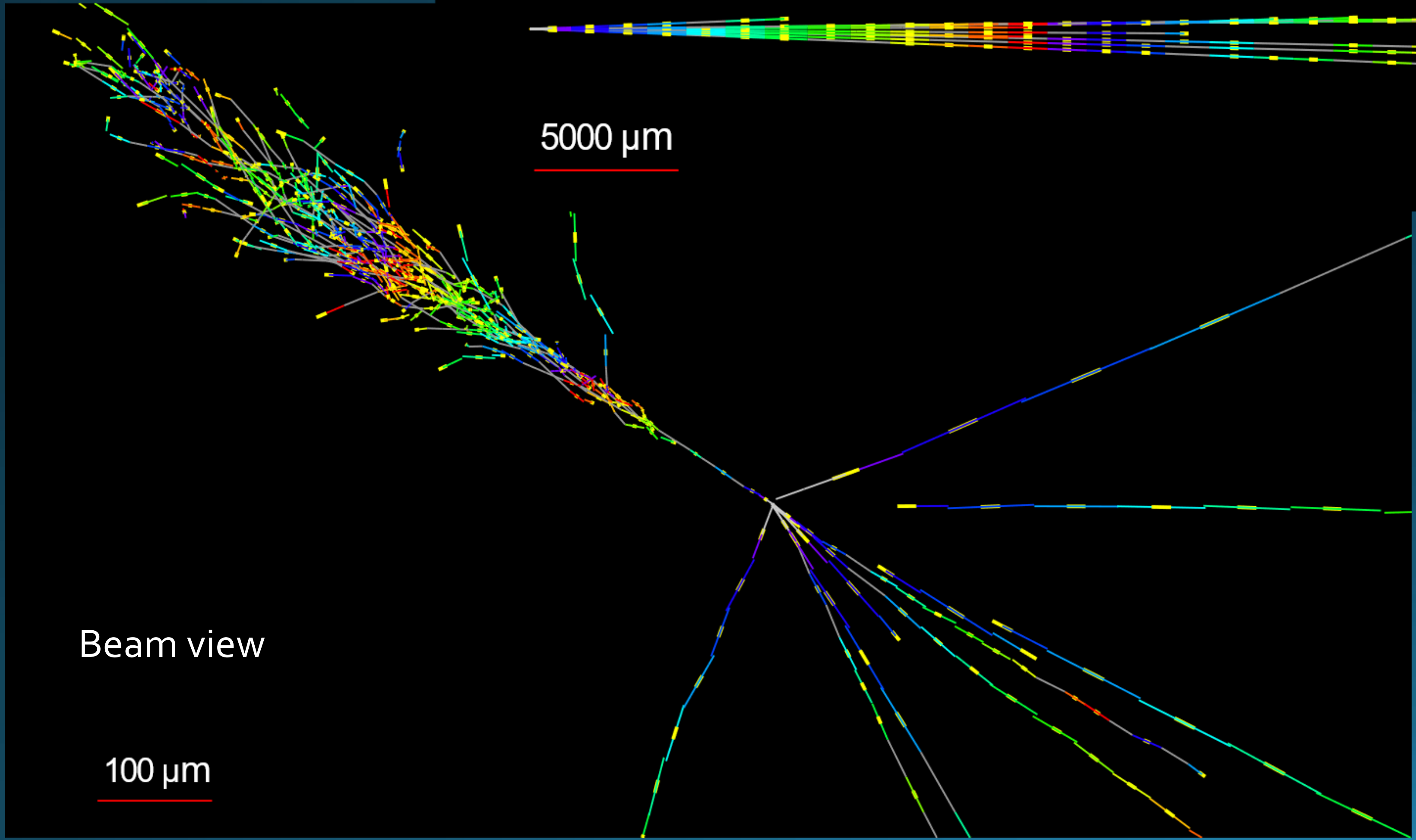
Collider neutrinos: q/p

- Clear evidence of both ν_μ and $\bar{\nu}_\mu$ interactions with $E_\nu > 300$ GeV
- Luminosity-normalized prediction from GENIE and F. Kling fluxes



Teaser: ν_e candidate in FASERν





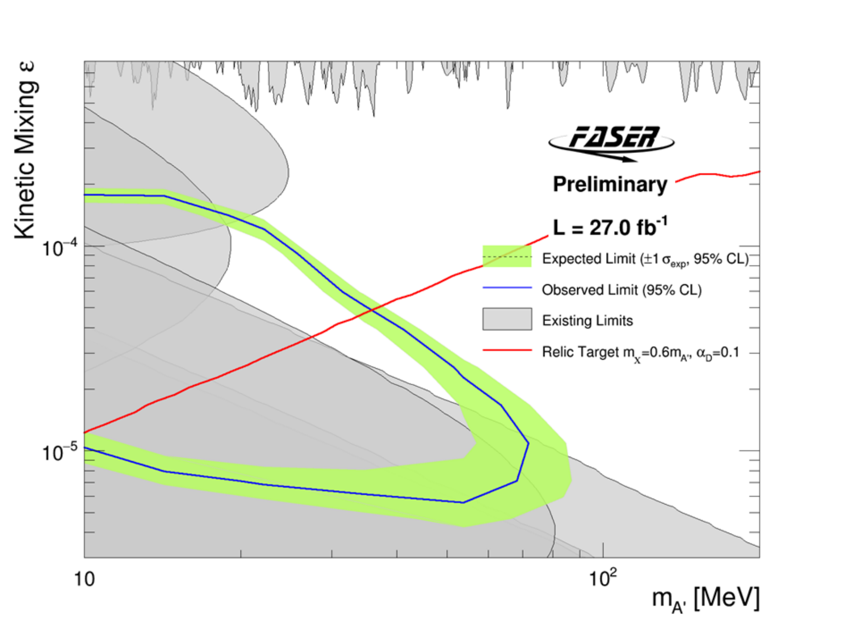
FASERν analysis in progress

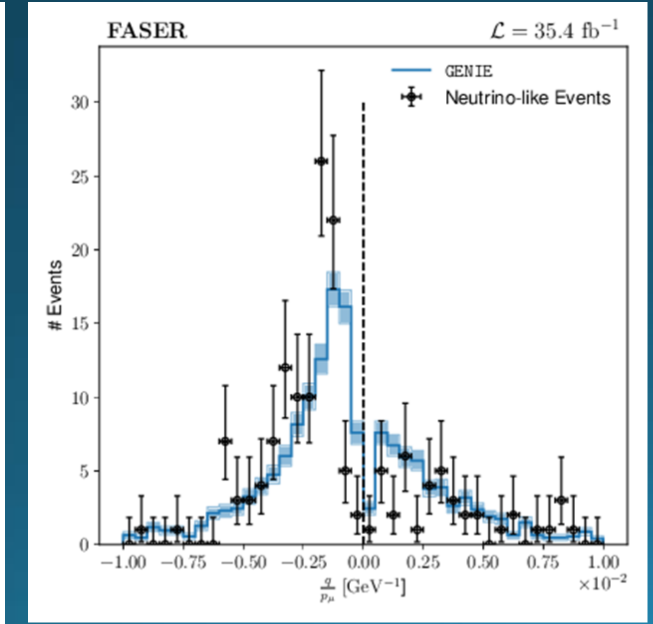
This event very ν_e-like

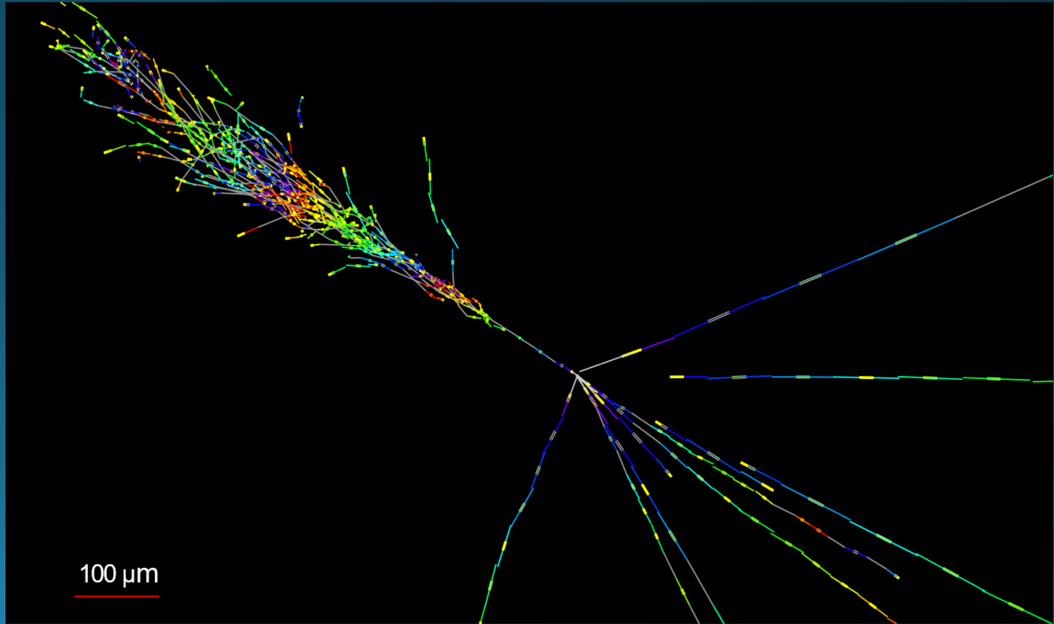
- Single track for 2 X_0
- Shower max at 7.8 X_0
- $\theta_e = 11$ mrad from beam
- $\phi_e - \phi_{\mathrm{others}} = 175°$

FASER Summary

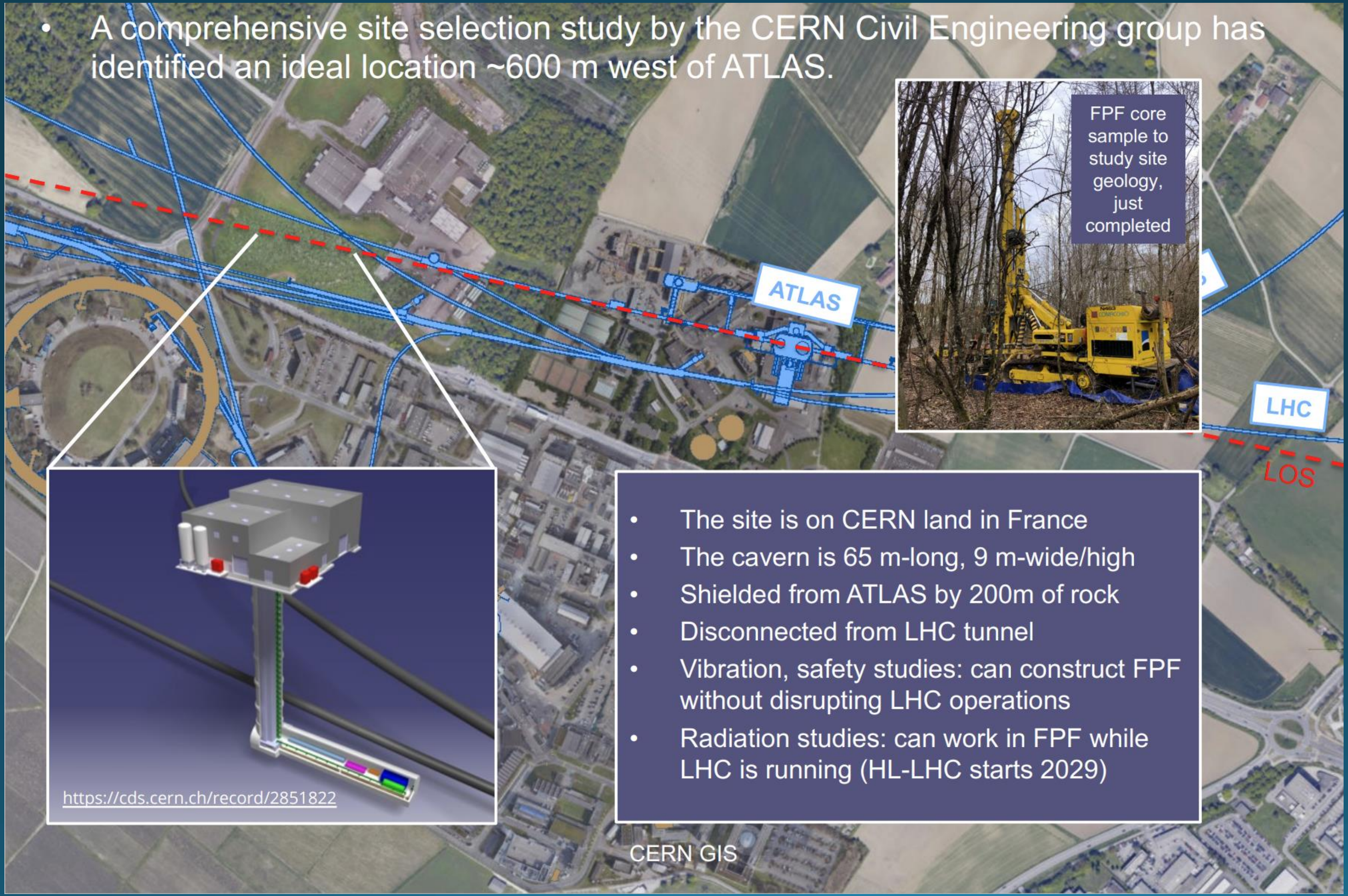
- FASER had a very successful start to Run-3
- A' exclusion in interesting thermal relic region
- First direct detection of 153 collider neutrino interactions
- High-resolution neutrino studies with FASERν underway
- Much more data to come!







Forward Physics Facility for HL-LHC



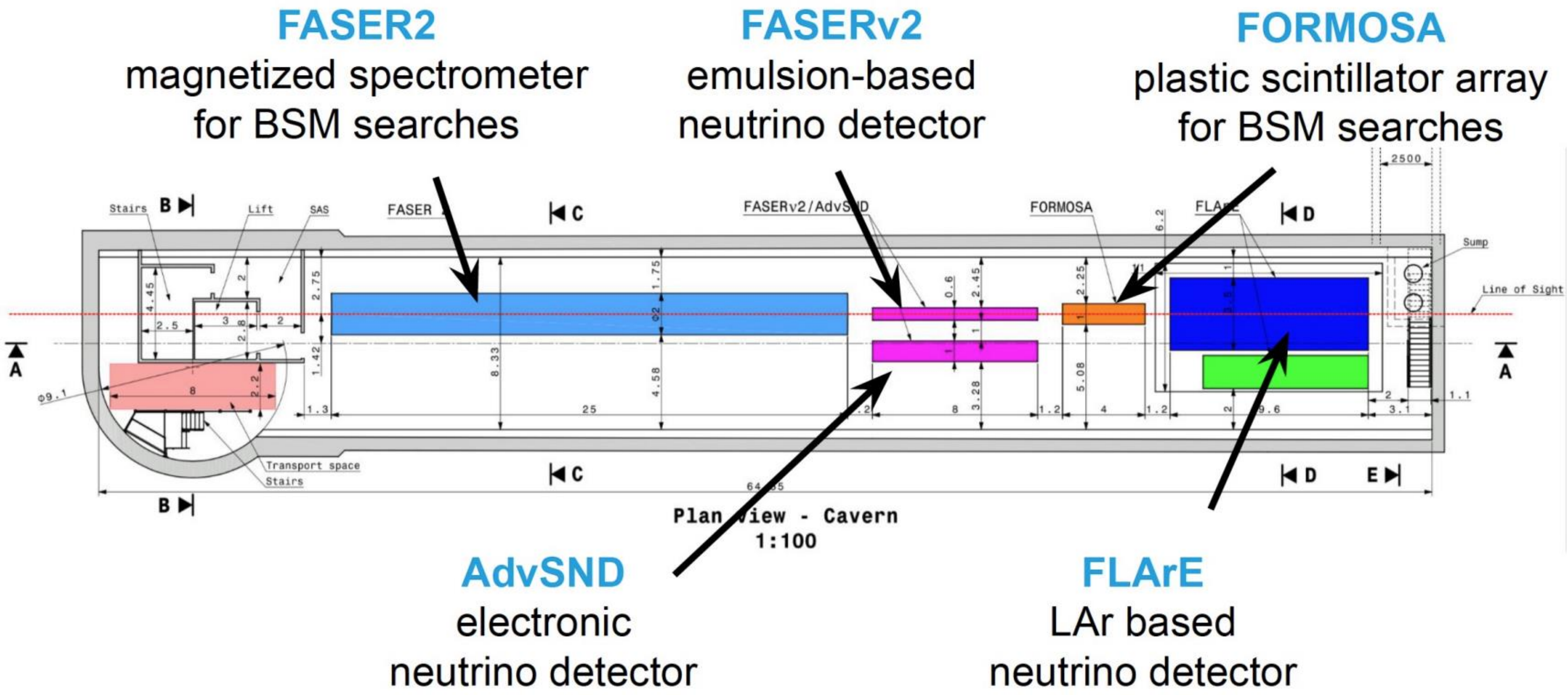
FPF slide credits:
[April 12 P5 report by Jonathan Feng]

[FPF Website]

FPF Whitepaper:
[arXiv: 2203:05090]

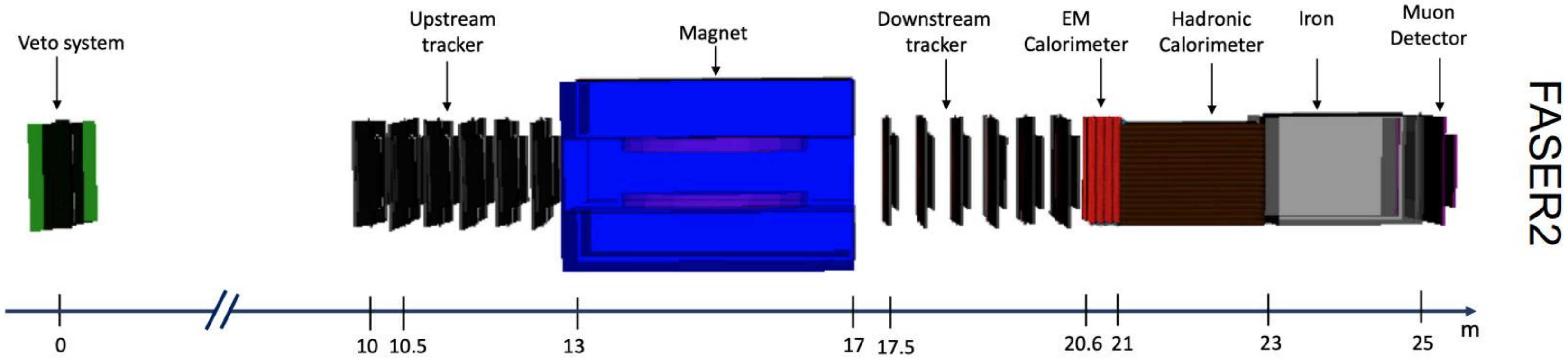
Forward Physics Facility for HL-LHC

- At present there are 5 experiments being designed for the FPF.
- Diverse technologies optimized for particular SM and BSM topics.
- FPF covers $\eta > 5.5$, experiments on LOS cover $\eta \gtrsim 7$.



FASER2 working design

- On-axis magnetic spectrometer
  - Superconducting magnet with 4 Tm bending power
  - Trackers based on LHCb's SciFi detector
- FASER → FASER2
  - R = 10 cm, L = 1.5 m (V = 0.05 m^3) → 3 m x 1 m x 10 m (V = 30 m^3)
  - Luminosity ~ 30 fb^{-1} → 3 ab^{-1}
  - Sensitivity increases over current bounds by ~60,000 for many models



Looking for additional U.S. groups interested in FASER2!

6th Forward Physics Facility Meeting: [CERN, June 8-9]

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  - CERN FLUKA team for simulations
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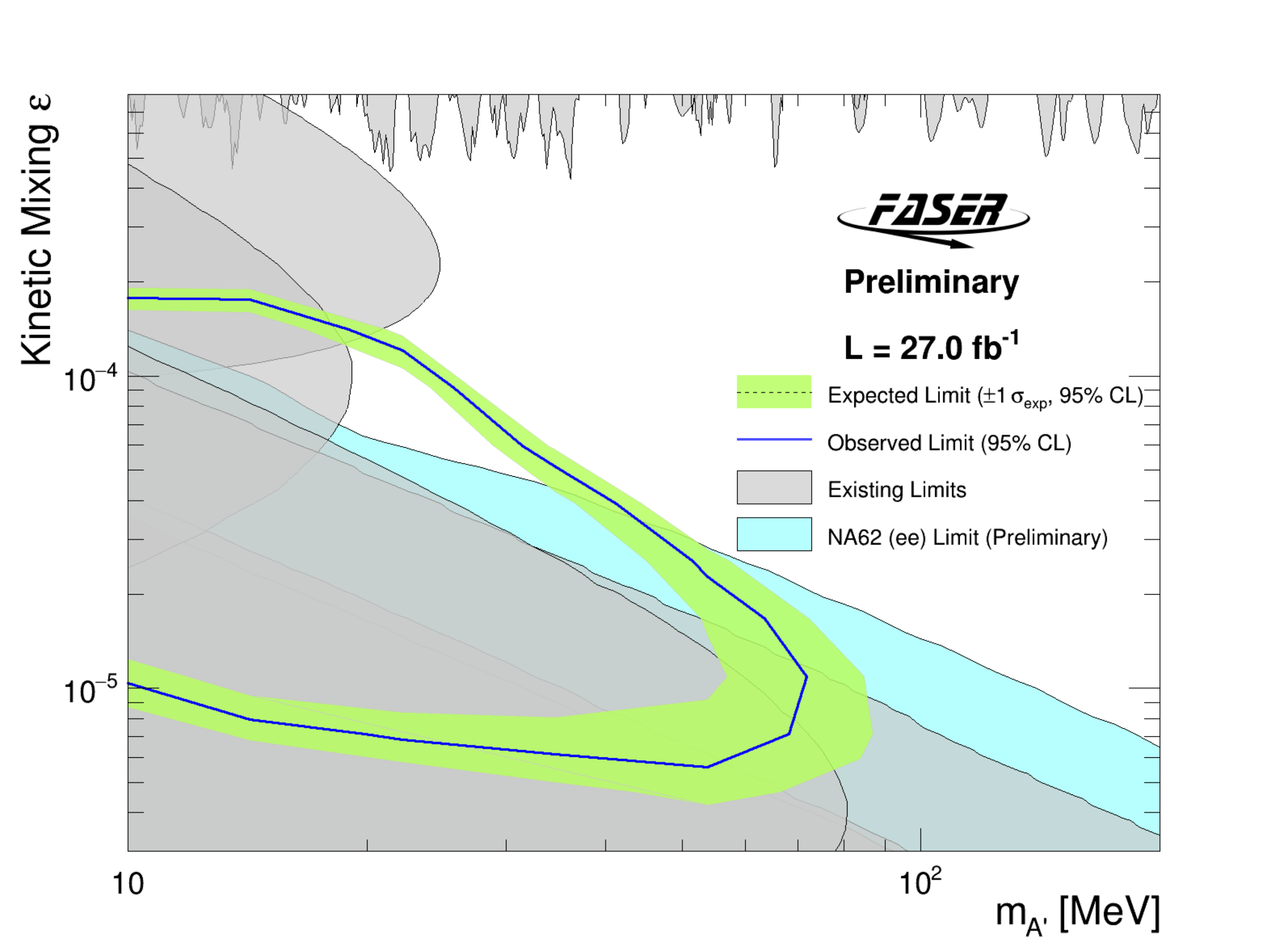
FASER publications

- The FASER Detector: arXiv:2207.11427
- The FASER W-Si High Precision Preshower Technical Proposal: CERN Document Server
- The tracking detector of the FASER experiment: NIM 166825 (2022)
- The trigger and data acquisition system of the FASER experiment: JINST 16 P12028 (2021)
- First neutrino interaction candidates at the LHC: PRD 104 L091101 (2021)
- Technical Proposal of FASERν neutrino detector: arXiv:2001.03073
- Detecting and Studying High-Energy Collider Neutrinos with FASER at the LHC: EPJC 80, 61 (2020)
- Input to the European Strategy for Particle Physics Update: arXiv:1901.04468
- FASER's Physics Reach for Long-Lived Particles: PRD 99 090511 (2019)
- Letter of Intent: arXiv:1812.09139
- Technical Proposal: arXiv:1811.10243

Supplemental material

Backup

FASER and NA-62 result from Moriond



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