



Long-lived Particles

Experimental constraints

Karri Folan DiPetrillo
University of Chicago
IMCC Physics Meeting
6 July 2023

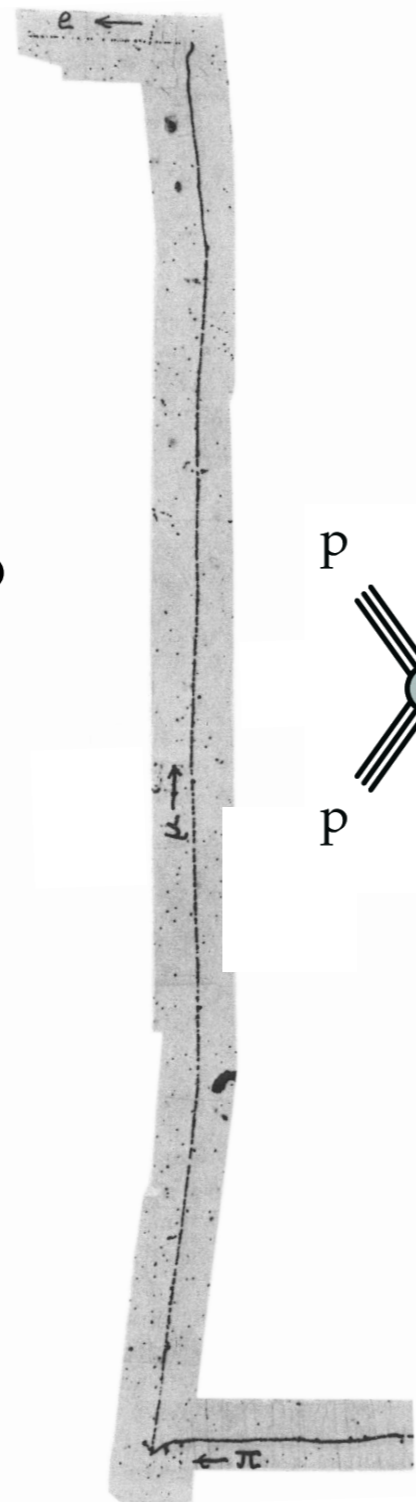


Long-lived particle reminder

Motivation

$$\tau^{-1} = \Gamma \sim y^2 \left(\frac{m}{\Lambda} \right)^n \Phi$$

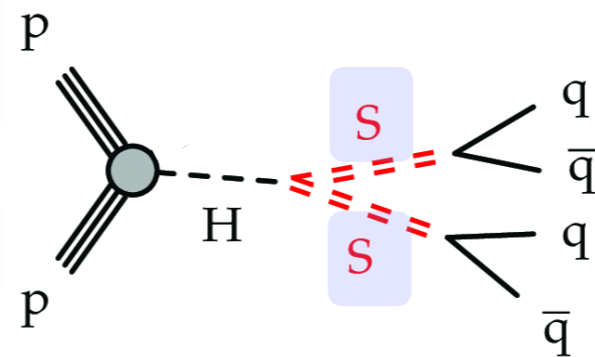
y - small coupling
 $m \ll \Lambda$ - scale suppression
 Φ - small phase space



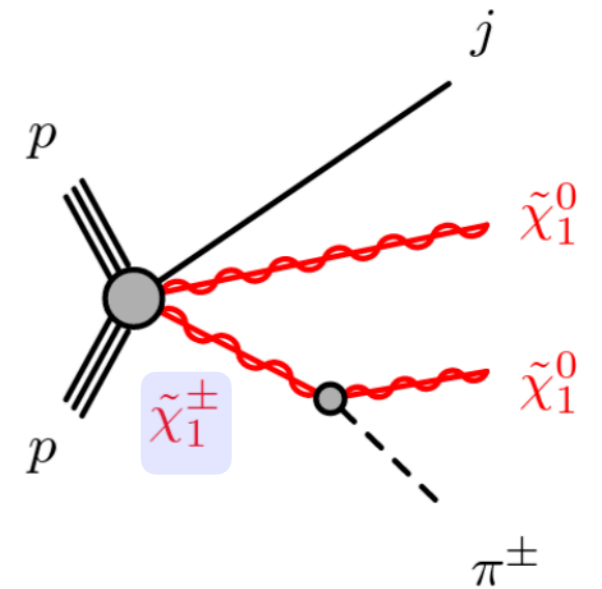
(1949) *Nature* **163**, 82.

Commonly appear in your favorite model

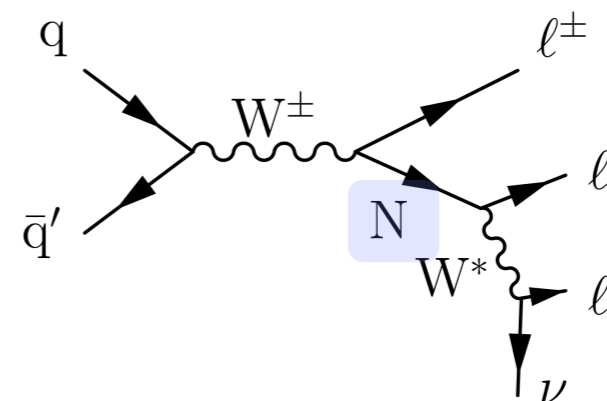
Higgs portal



Supersymmetry



Heavy Neutral Leptons



How we've looked for LLPs at the LHC

Indirect Detection via decay products

Tracking

impact parameter
secondary vertex

Calorimetry

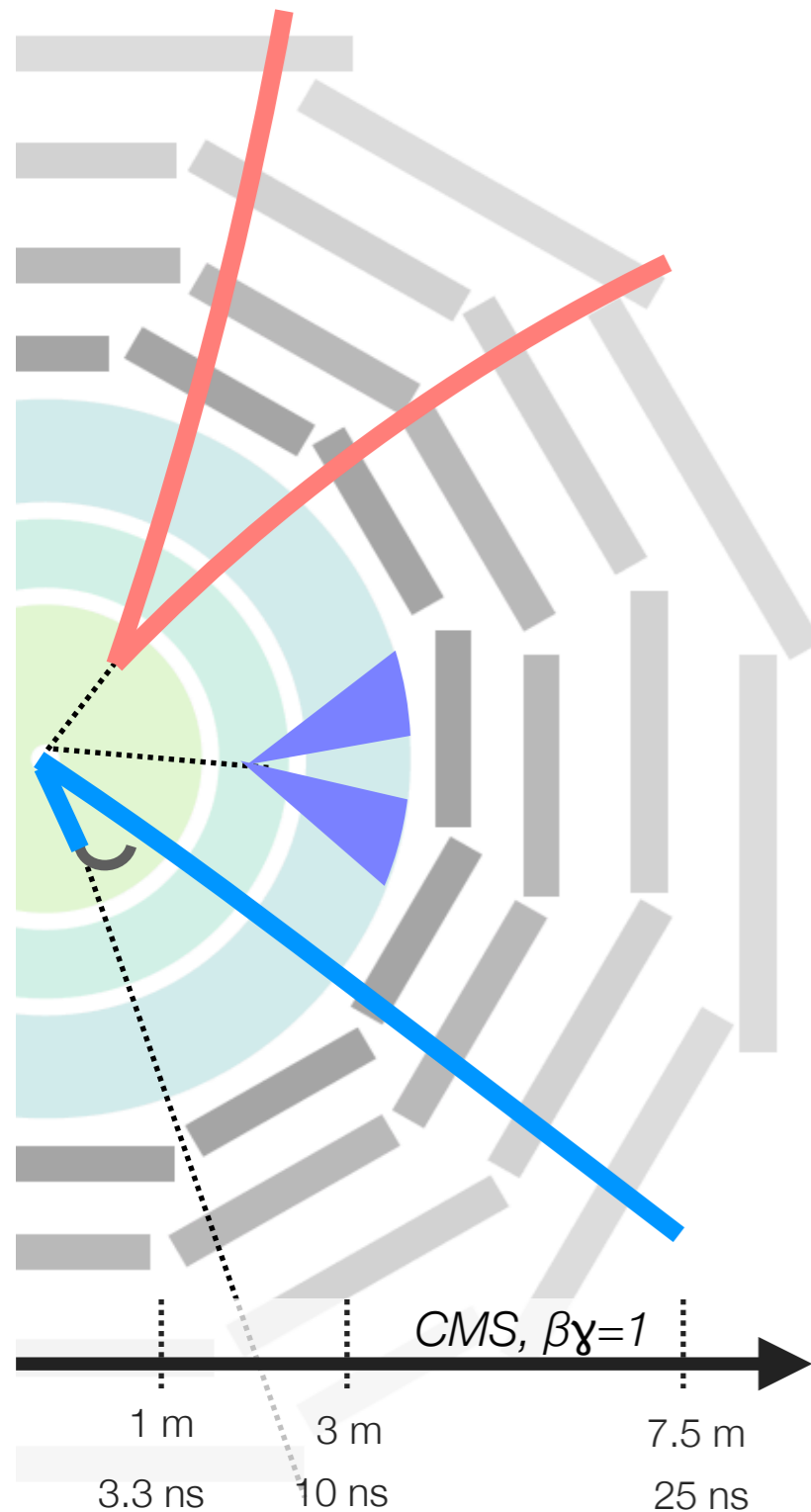
shower shape
delay

Direct Detection of **Charged** long-lived particles

anomalous ionization

time of flight

infer decay
via missing hits

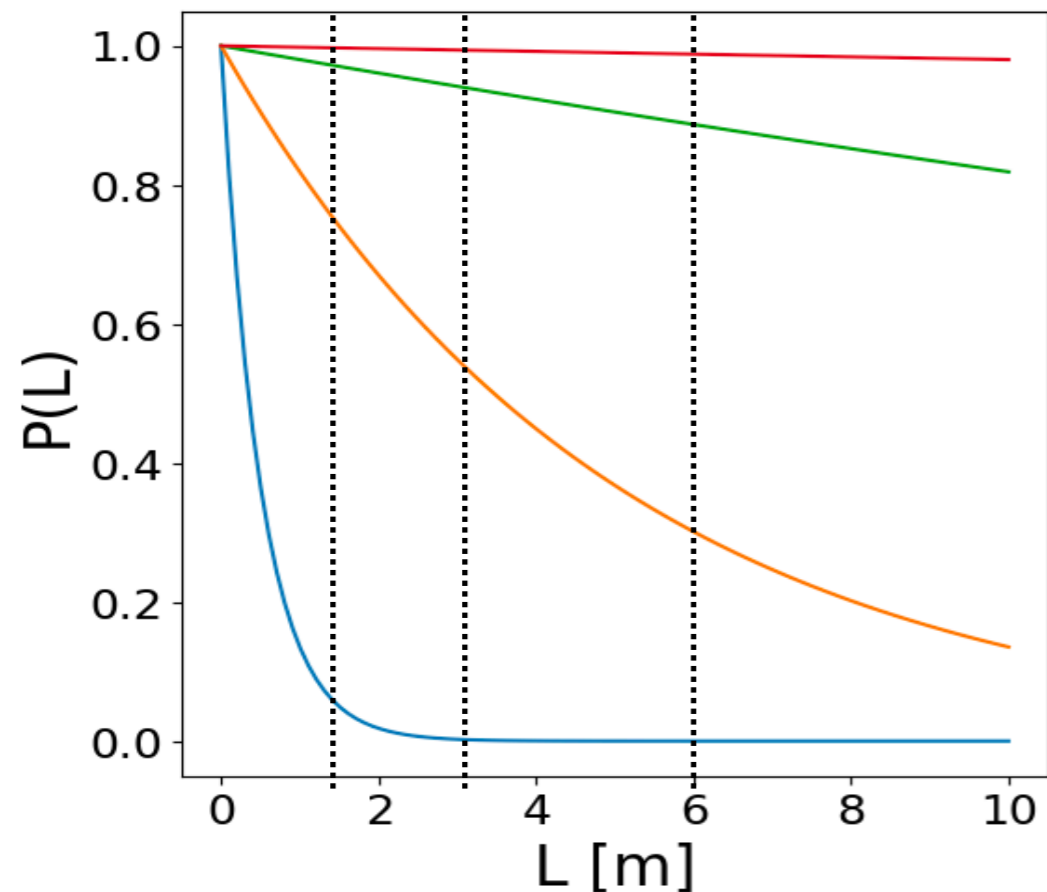


Understanding sensitivity

Long-lived particle decay position follows an exponential with mean = $\beta\gamma c\tau$

Acceptance
driven by detector volume

Efficiency
driven by everything else

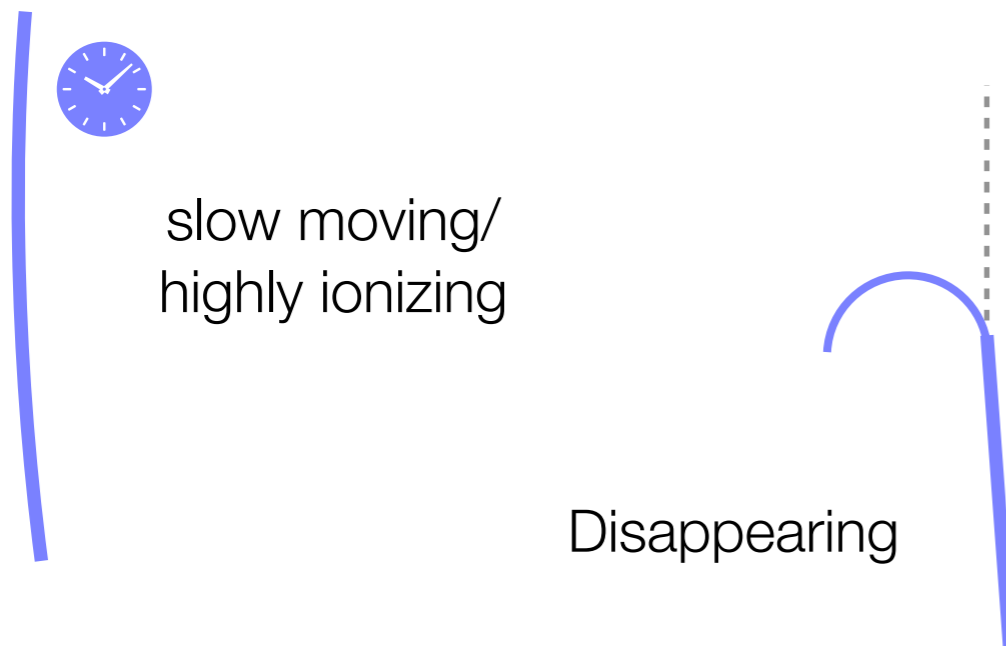


- Detector technology
- Data Acquisition & Storage
- Reconstruction
- Standard Model Backgrounds
- Non-standard Backgrounds

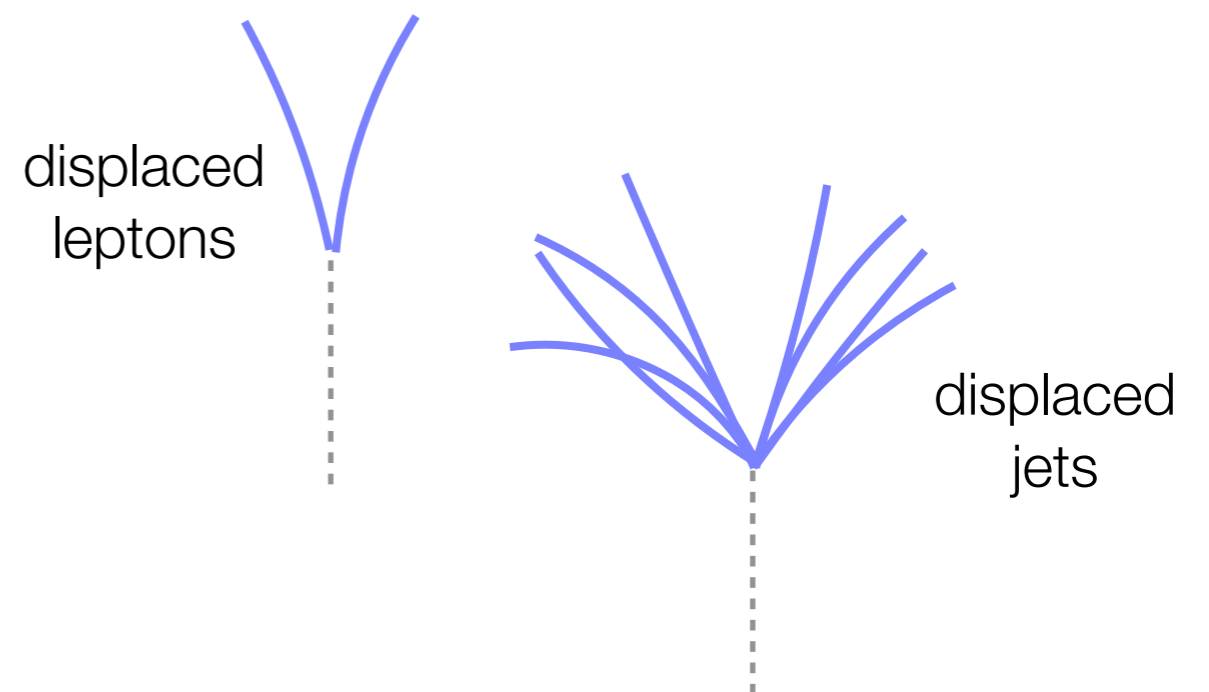
1. Tracker tends to 'win' on acceptance & efficiency
2. All challenges connect to beam induced background

Consider a range of well motivated track-based LLP signatures
Map challenges posed by beam induced background to signal sensitivity
Assuming 3 TeV detector design as a baseline

Heavy meta-stable charged particles (HSCPs)



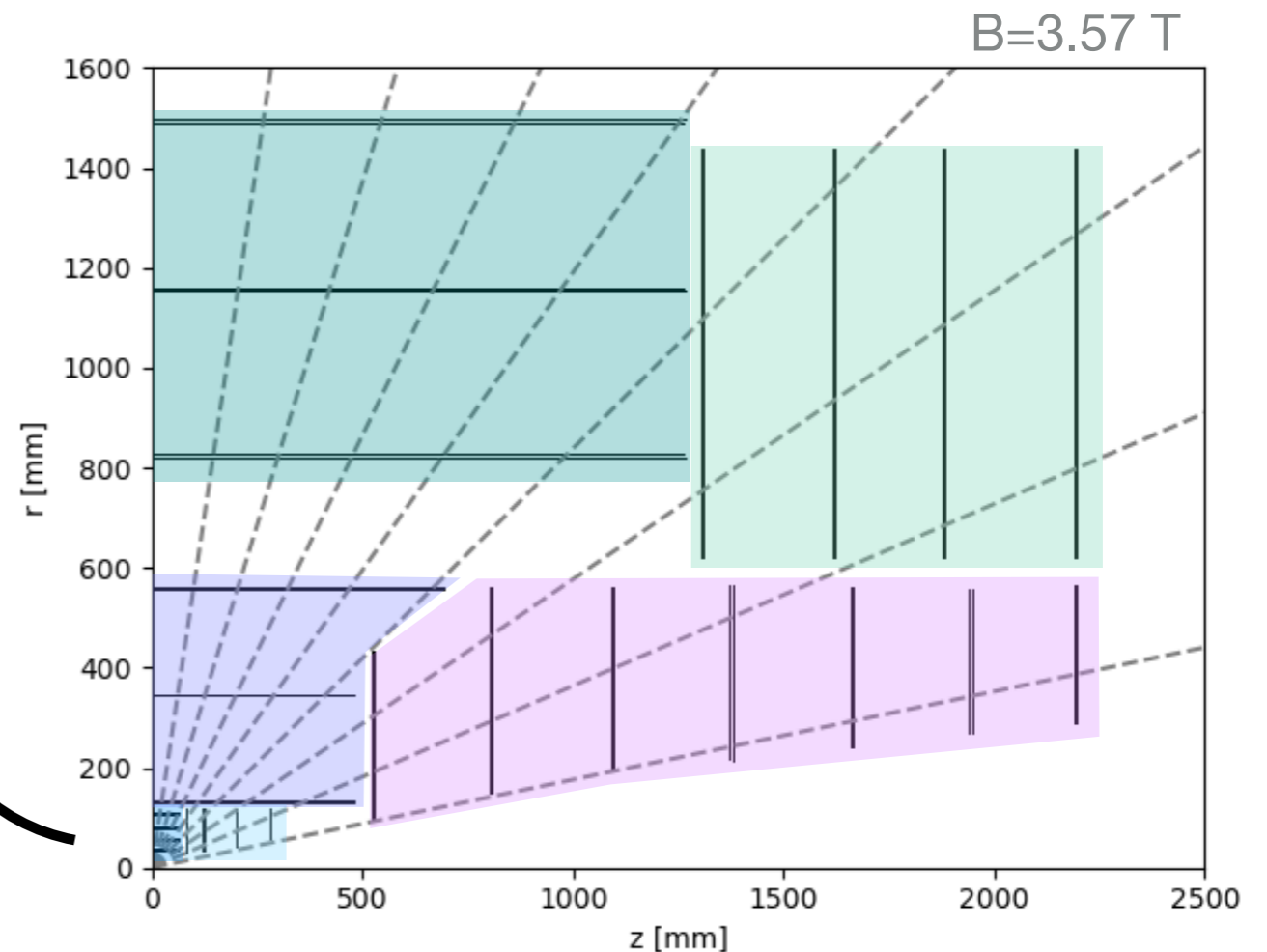
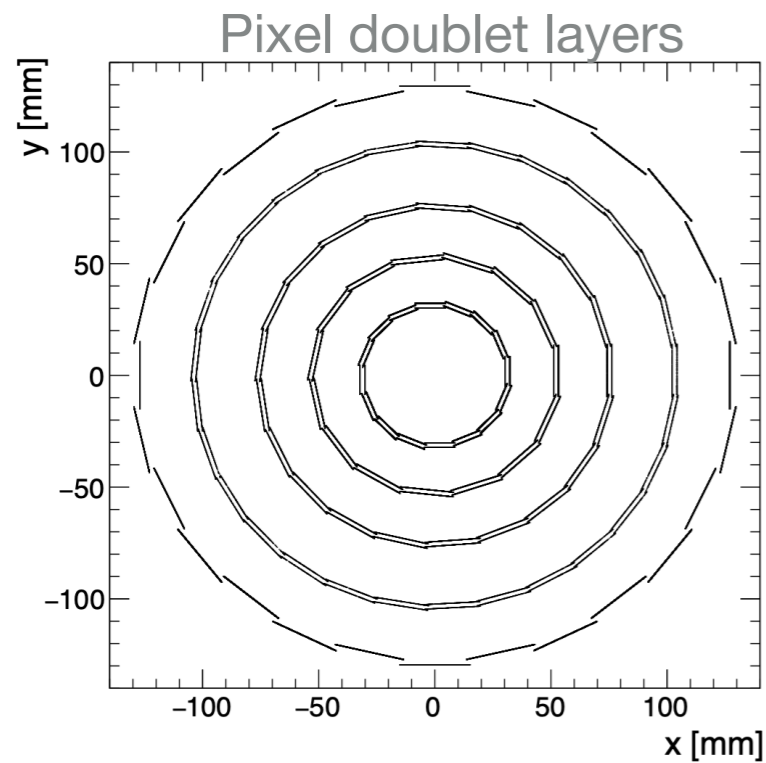
Displaced tracks



Tracker geometry reminder

I'll mostly focus on the barrel for simplicity

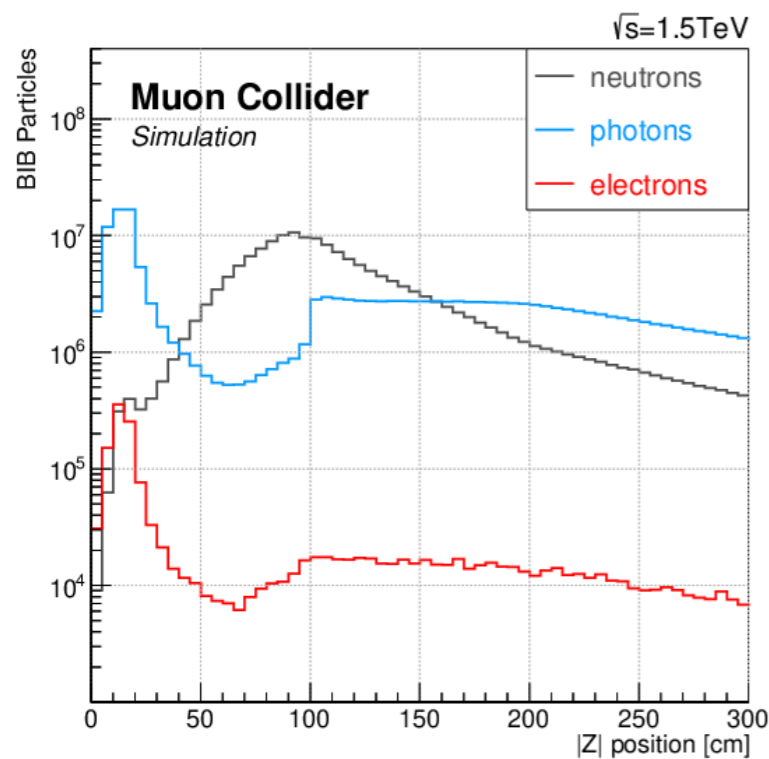
	Vertex Detector	Inner Tracker	Outer Tracker
cell size	25x25 μm^2	50 μm x 1 mm	50 μm x 10 mm
thickness	50 μm	100 μm	100 μm
σ_t	30 ps	60 ps	60 ps



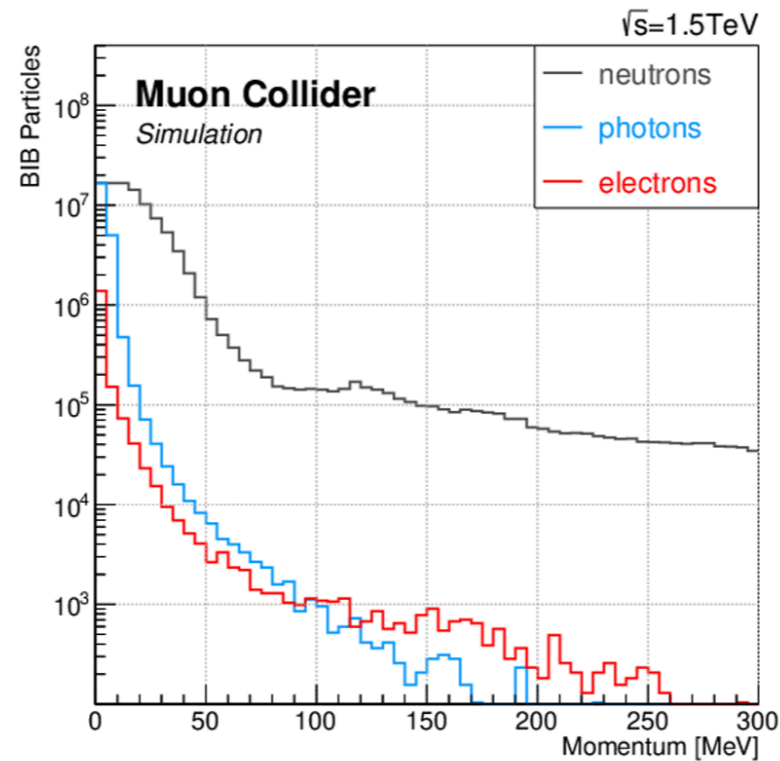
Beam induced background reminder

$\sim 10^8$ low momentum particles per event
Drives nearly every aspect of detector design

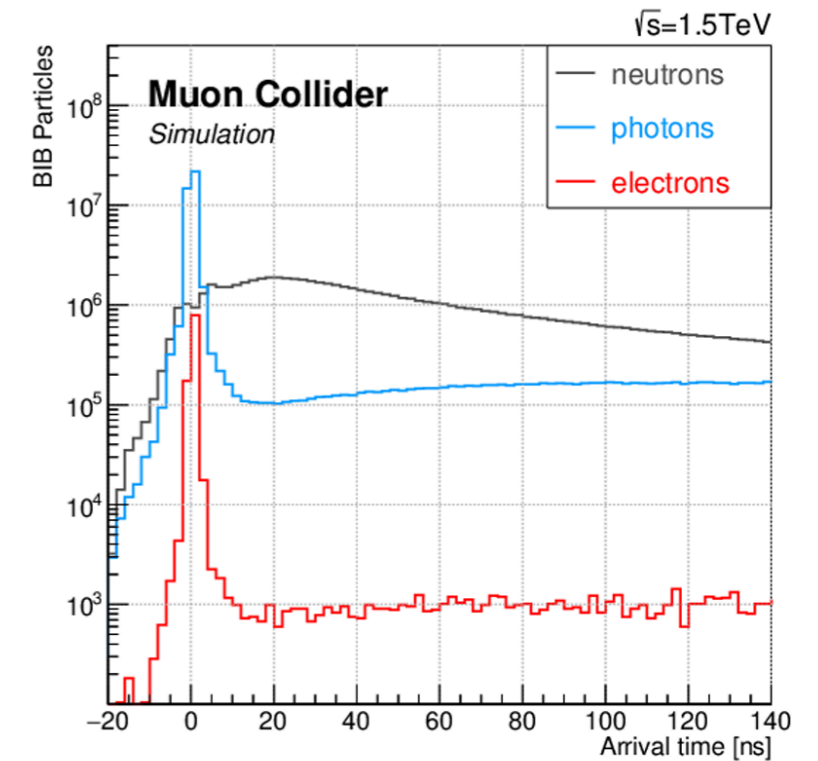
Unusual position & direction



Majority < 200 MeV



Partially out of time



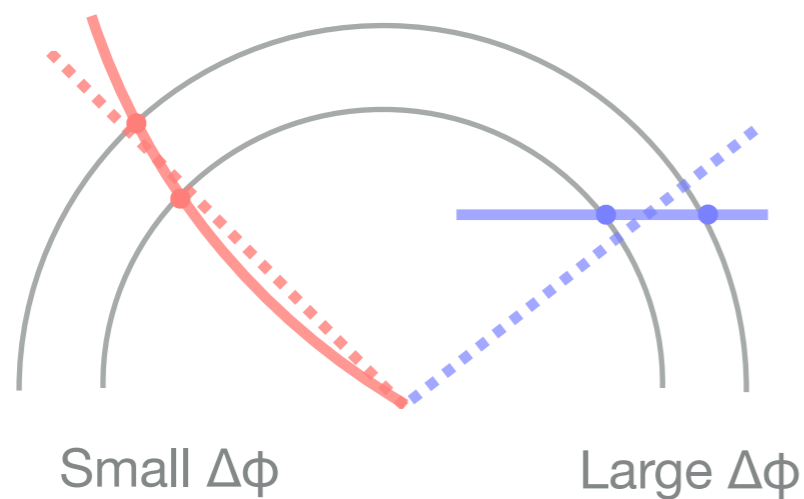
distributions depend on beam energy, nozzle, and magnets

Why the BIB is a problem (hit-level)

2303.08533

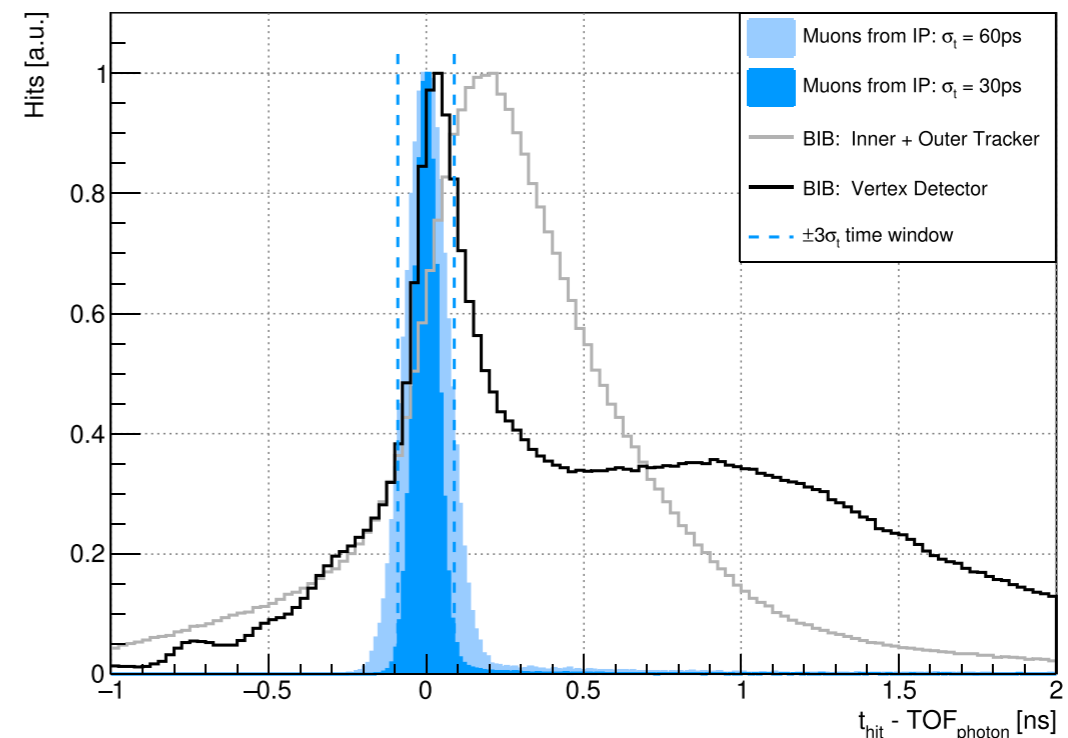
All the handles we use to reject hits from BIB can reject long-lived signal

Pointing requirement



A pointing requirement of $\Delta\phi < 2-3$ mrad at $R = 30$ mm
Corresponds to $d_0 \approx 100 \mu\text{m}^*$

Corrected time of arrival



Most studies assume
1 ns integration window and
 $\pm 3\sigma$ time of arrival cut

LLP hit efficiency

How do pointing, timing, and charge measurements impact LLP hit efficiency?

Example: meta-stable charged LLP pair production

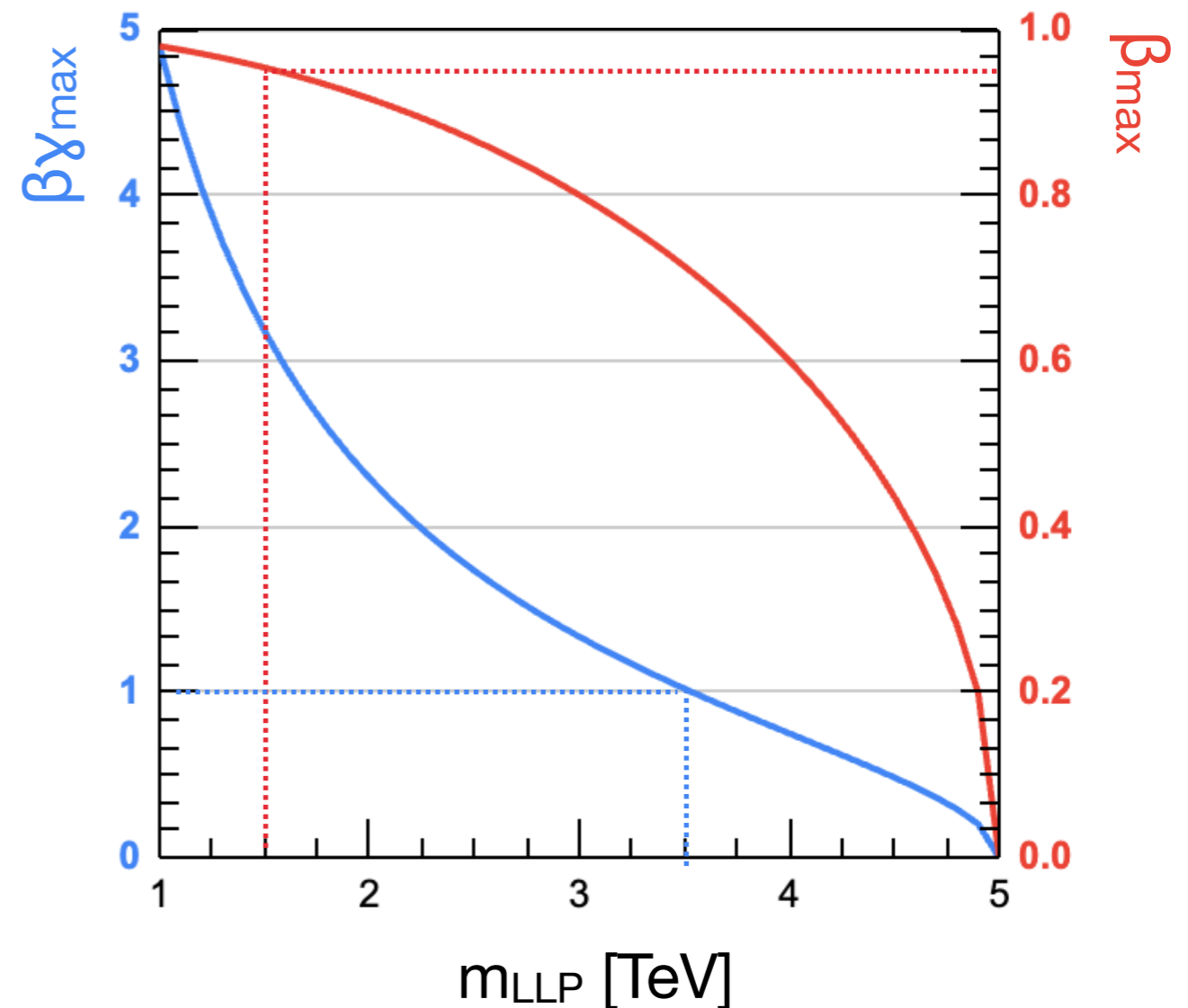
$$p_{\max} = \sqrt{(\sqrt{s}/2)^2 - m_{\text{LLP}}^2}$$

Pointing: prompt high p_{T} isolated tracks

Slowly moving: $m_{\text{LLP}} \approx 1.5$ TeV

Highly Ionizing: $m_{\text{LLP}} \approx 3.5$ TeV

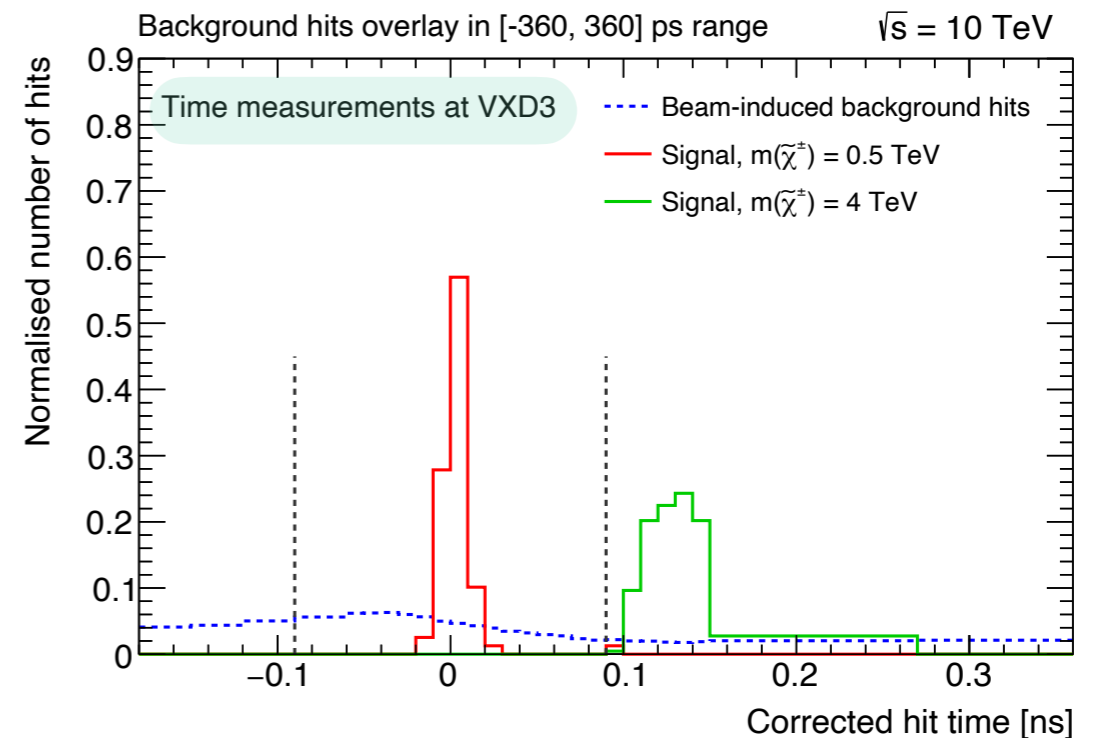
Obtain mass from delay or dE/dx , and track momentum



Massive long-lived particles arrive late with respect to prompt particles

$$t_{\text{delay}} = 30 \text{ ps} (1 - \beta^{-1}) \left(\frac{L}{10 \text{ mm}} \right)$$

Layer	Delay for LLPs at $\eta=0$ (ns)		
	1.5 TeV	4 TeV	4.8 TeV
VTX0	0.01	0.07	0.23
VTX3	0.01	0.11	0.39
VTX8	0.02	0.26	0.92
IB2	0.1	1.22	4.27
OB0	0.14	1.8	6.31
OB3	0.26	3.29	11.52



To reconstruct tracks from massive LLPs, need to extend timing windows

up to $O(100 \text{ ps})$ in pixel and $O(\text{few ns})$ in Inner/Outer Tracker

Challenging given beam induced background

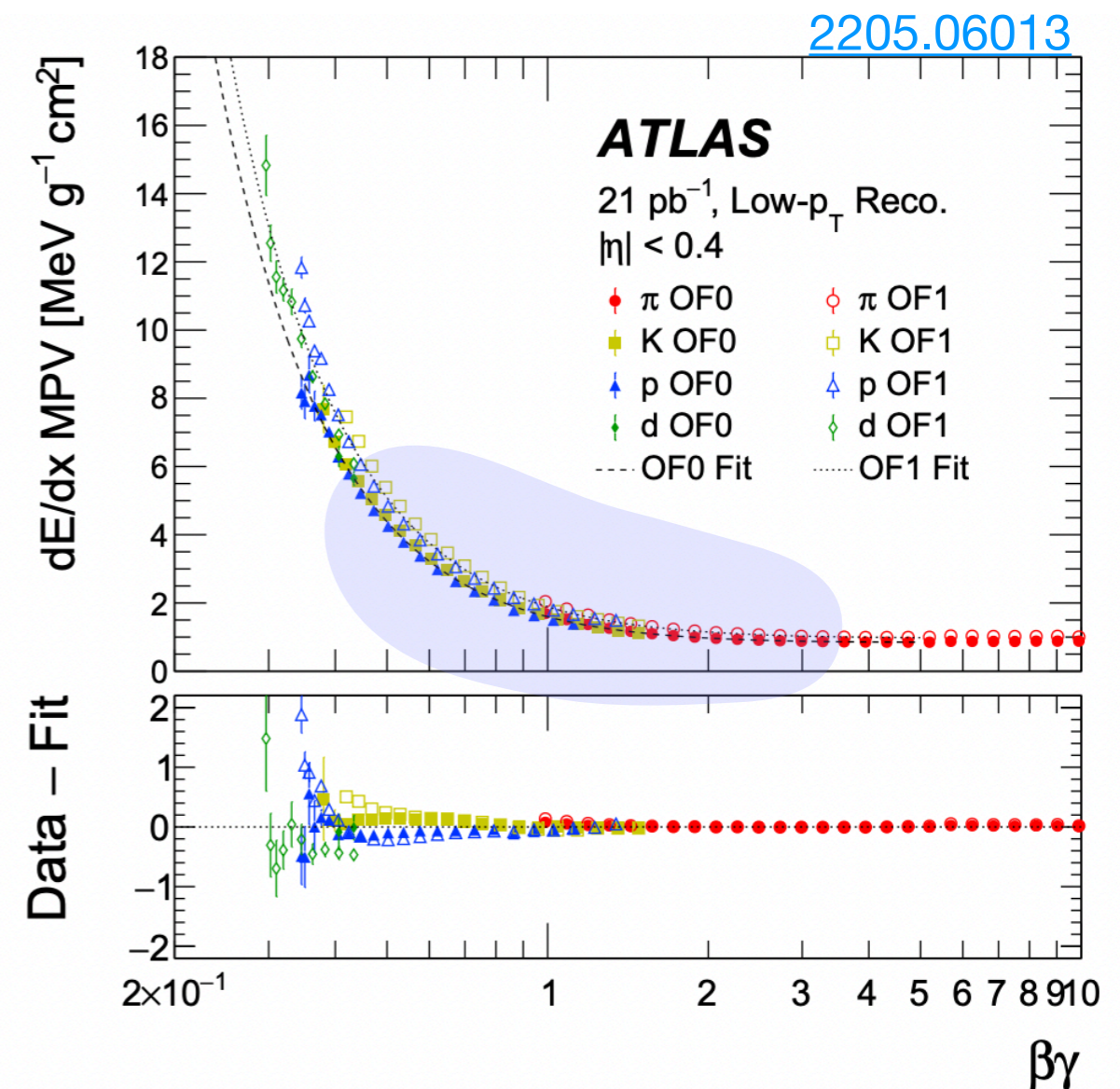
Cluster charge & shape

Energy deposited by an incident particle (dE/dx) depends on $\beta\gamma$
 Cluster shape depends on position, incident angle, etc

	Momentum	Mass	dE/dx
LLP	High	High	Moderate
BIB	Low	Low	Moderate
Prompt μ	High	Low	Low

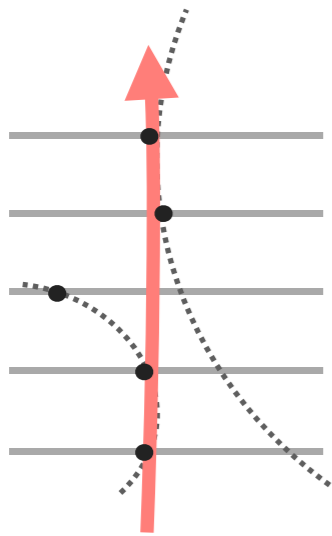
Cannot reject high dE/dx clusters if shape is consistent with high p_T particles

Want coarse dE/dx information at hit or cluster level

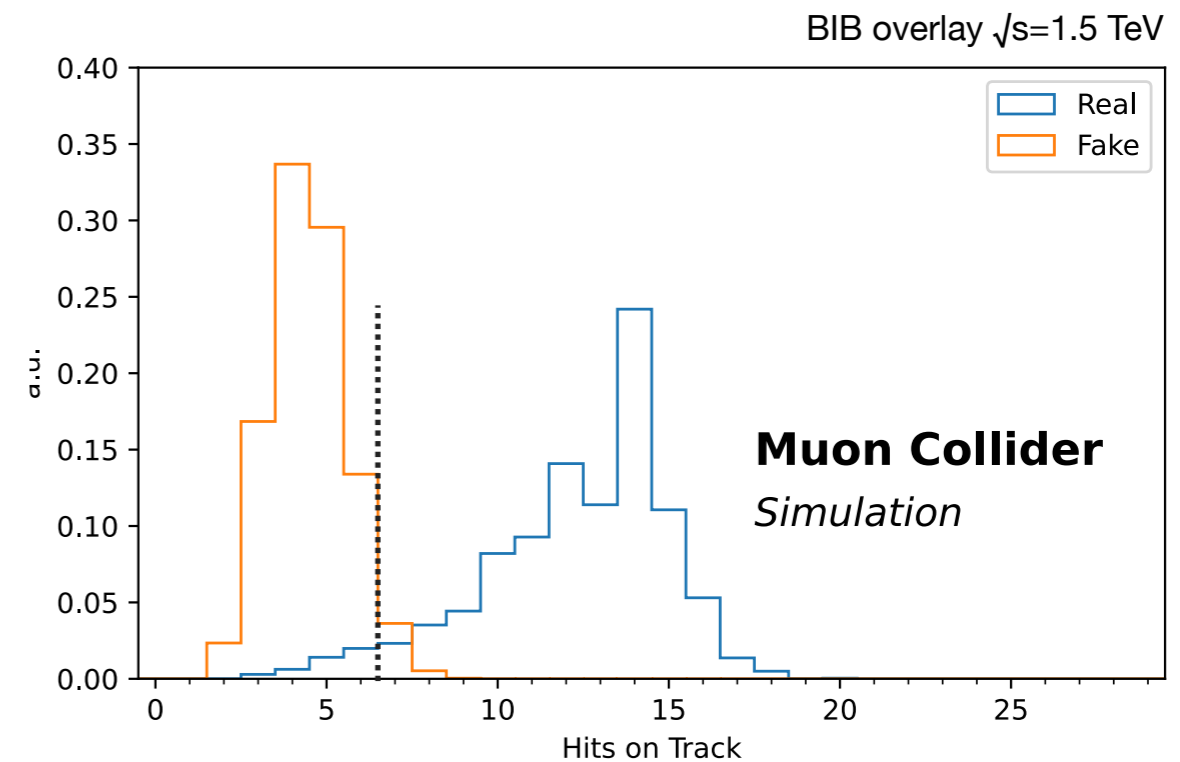
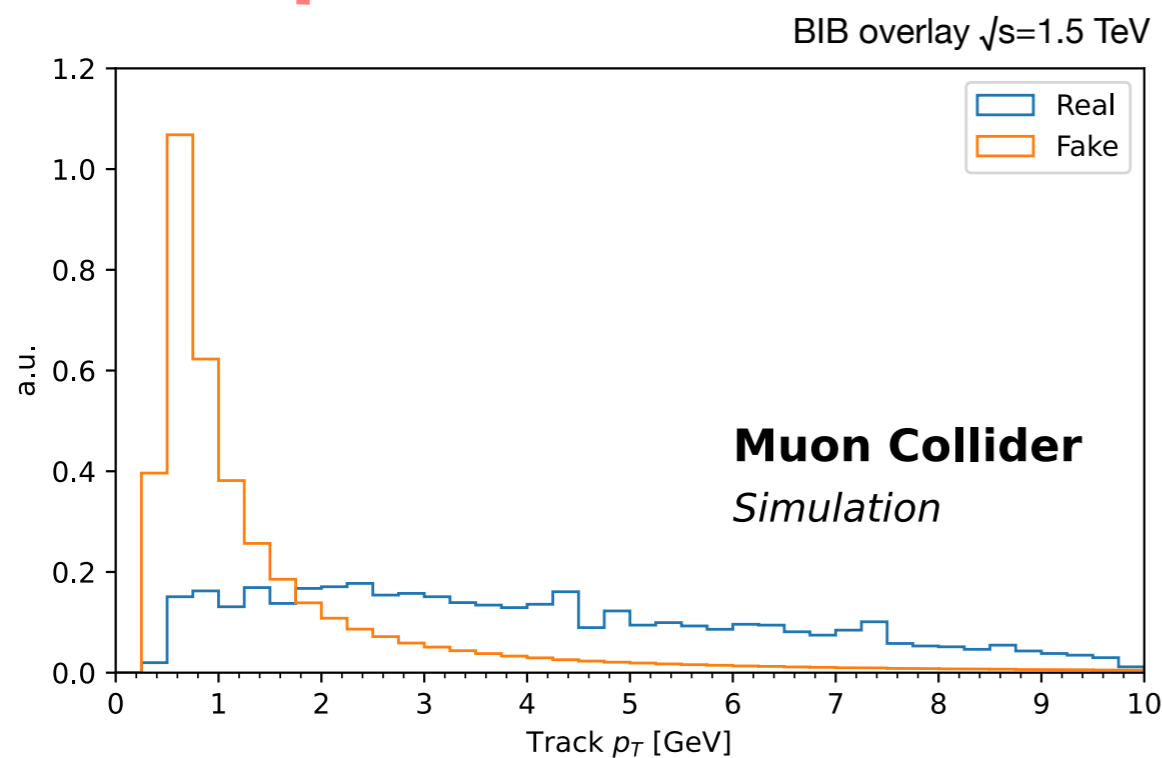


Why the BIB is a problem (track-level)

[2303.08533](#)



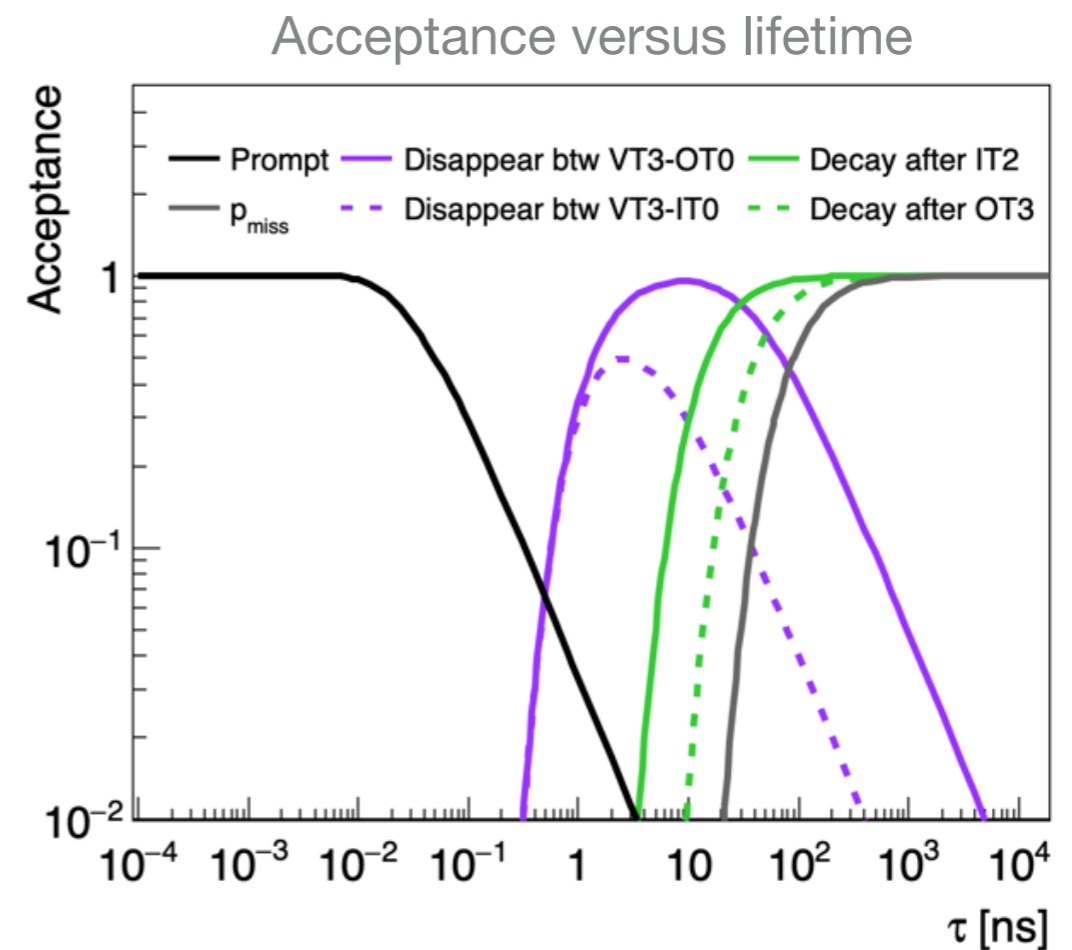
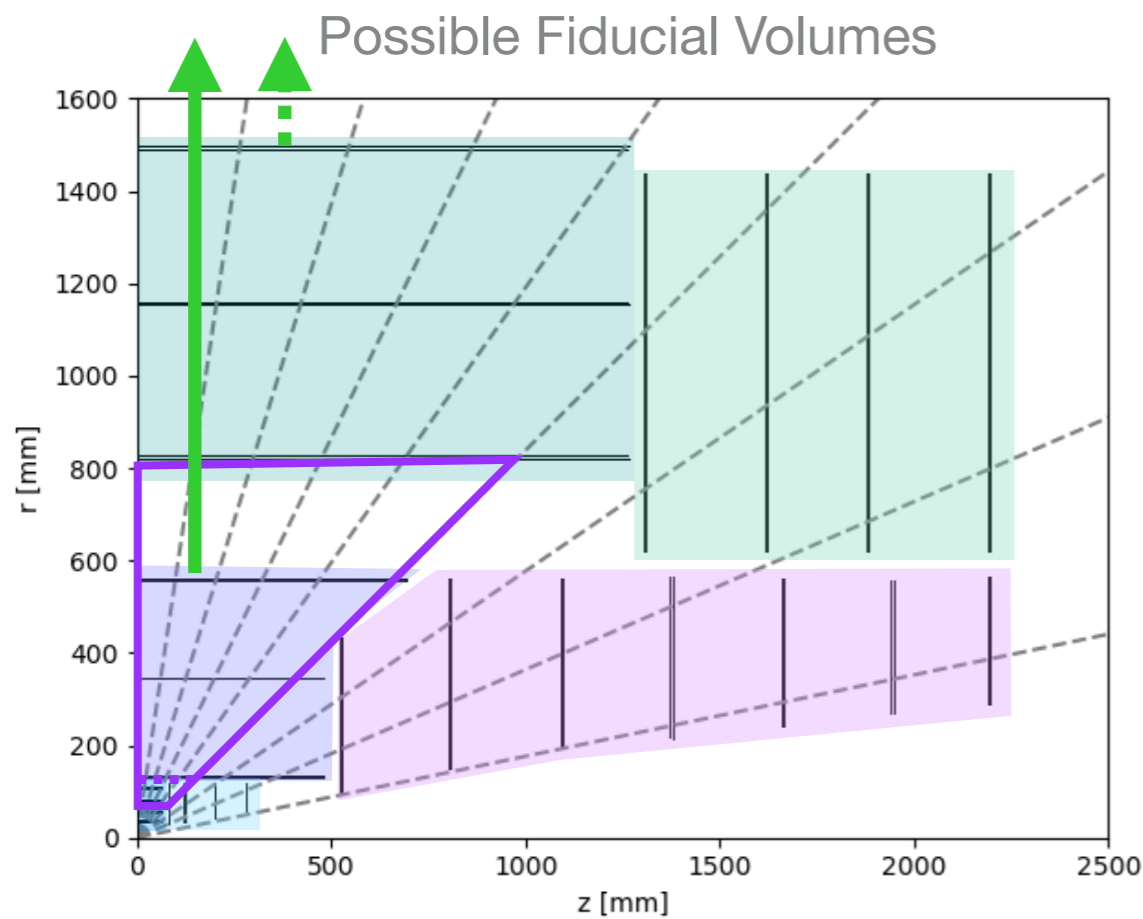
Remaining hits result in $\sim 100k$ 'fake' tracks per event
low p_T , poor quality of fit, and low n_{hit}



n_{hit} requirements determine fiducial volume for displaced and disappearing tracks

Direct Detection Acceptance

What is the minimum n_{hits} per track for meta-stable charged particles?

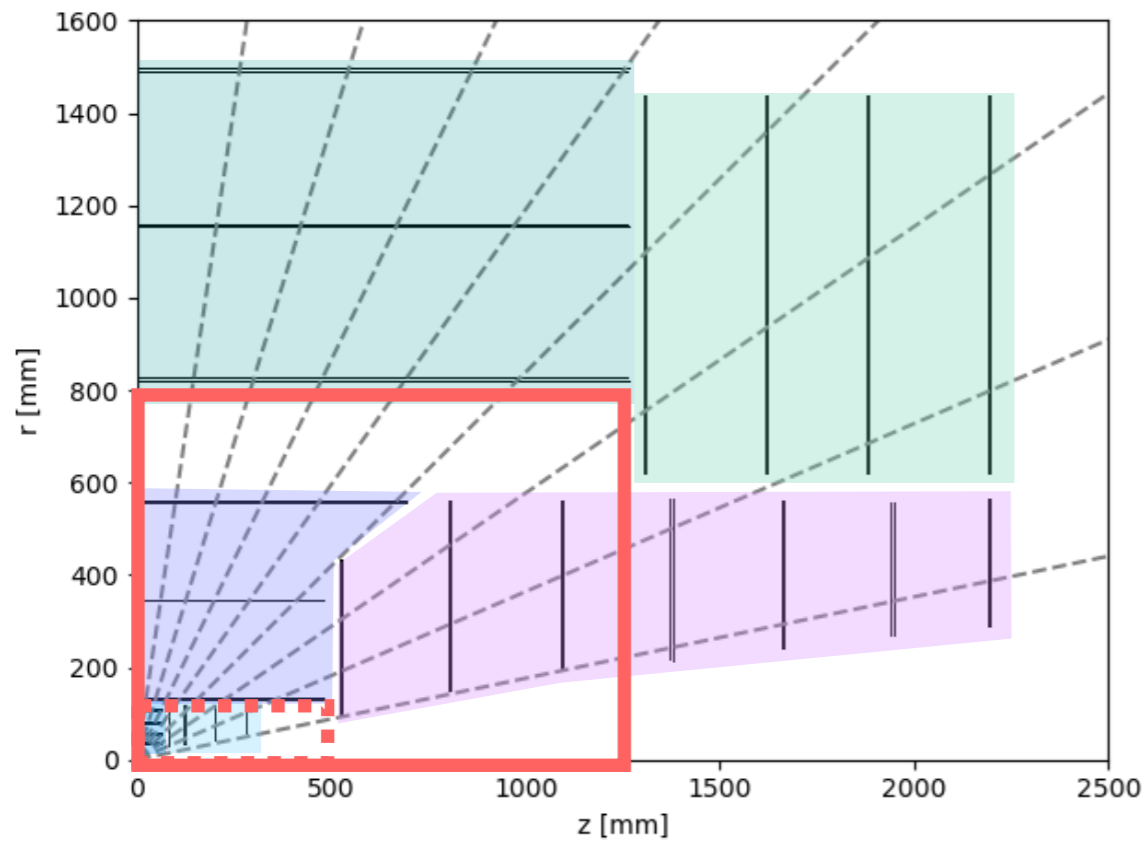


Assume two LLP decays at $\eta=0$, $\beta\gamma=5$, require ≥ 1 decay w/in detector volume
3 TeV Muon Collider Geometry,

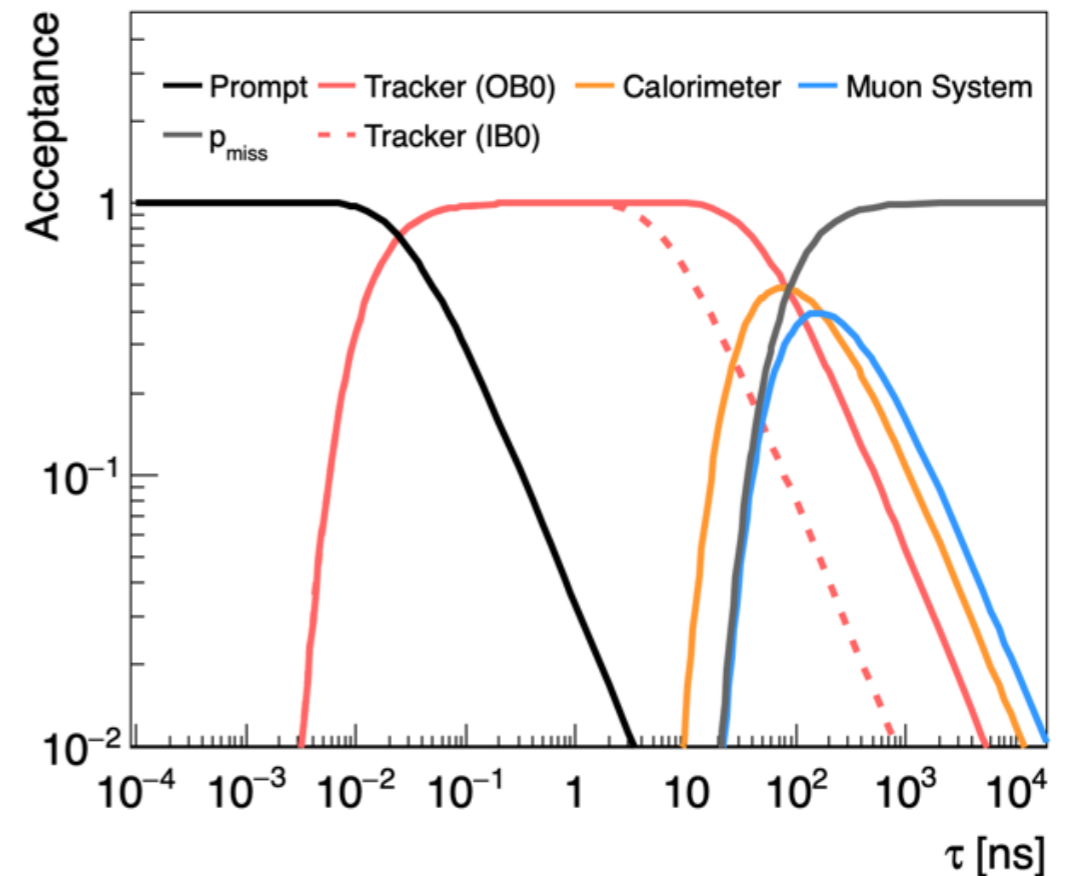
Displaced Track Acceptance

What is the minimum n_{hits} needed for displaced tracks?

Possible Fiducial Volumes



Acceptance versus lifetime



Assume two LLP decays at $\eta=0$, $\beta\gamma=5$, require ≥ 1 decay w/in detector volume
3 TeV Muon Collider Geometry,

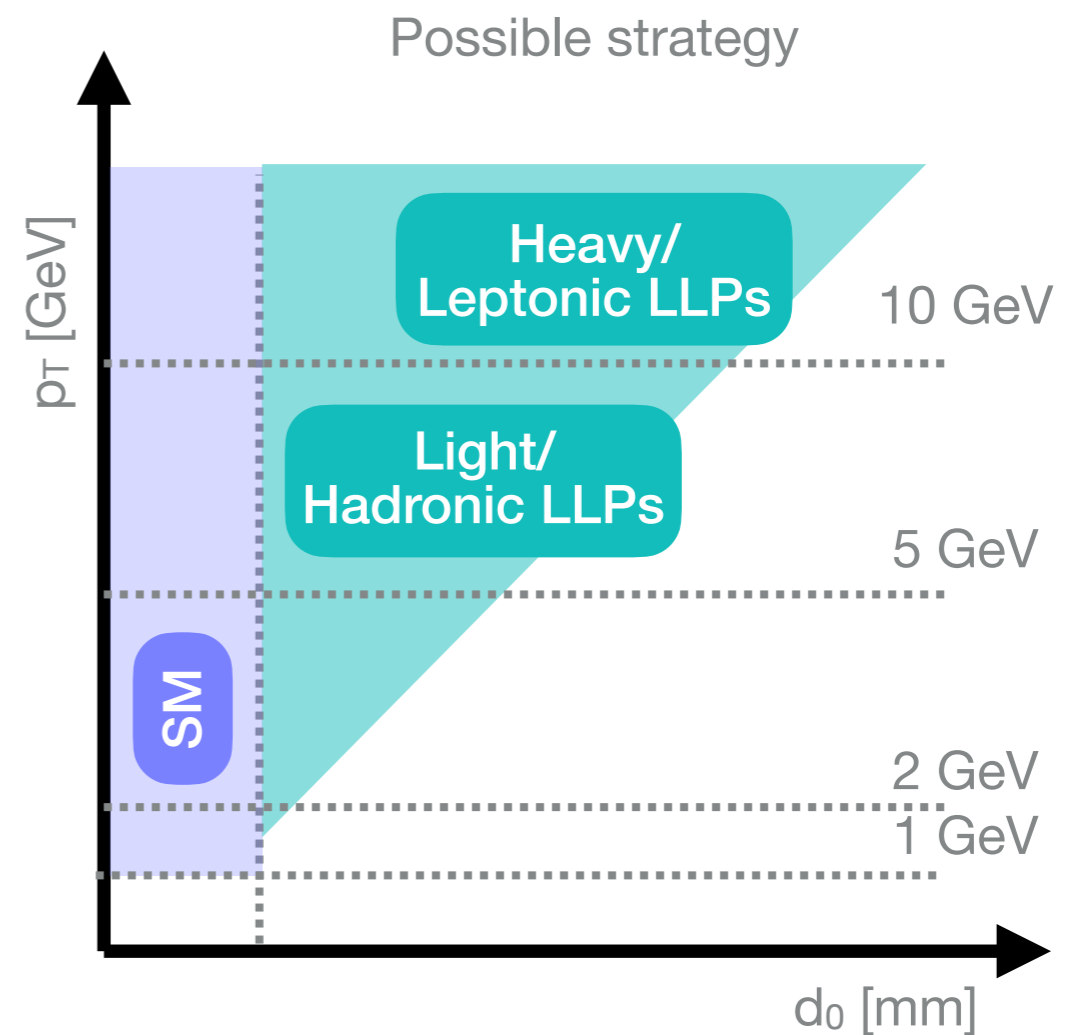
Non-standard tracking

[2211.05720, 2102.11292]

Most (all) studies have focused on prompt tracks
Do we have any hope for displaced or unusual tracks?

Yes, many possible solutions

- Multiple iterations of tracking a la CMS: easiest to most difficult
- For displaced tracks: compensate for increased combinatorics with increased p_T cut
- For slowly moving tracks: compensate for relaxed time windows with tighter pointing, p_T , and n_{hit} requirements, fit to velocity
- Seed regions of interest



Detector modeling

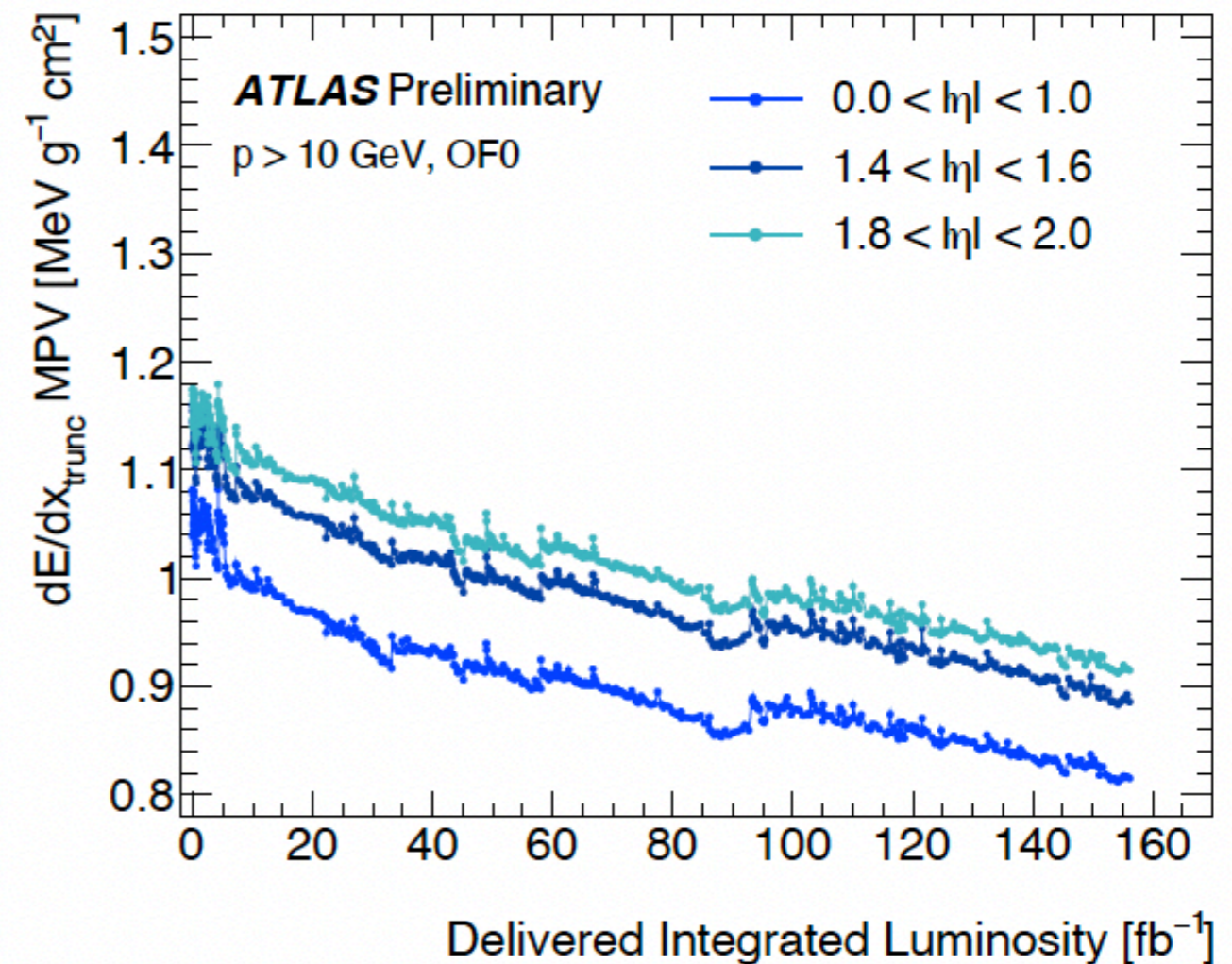
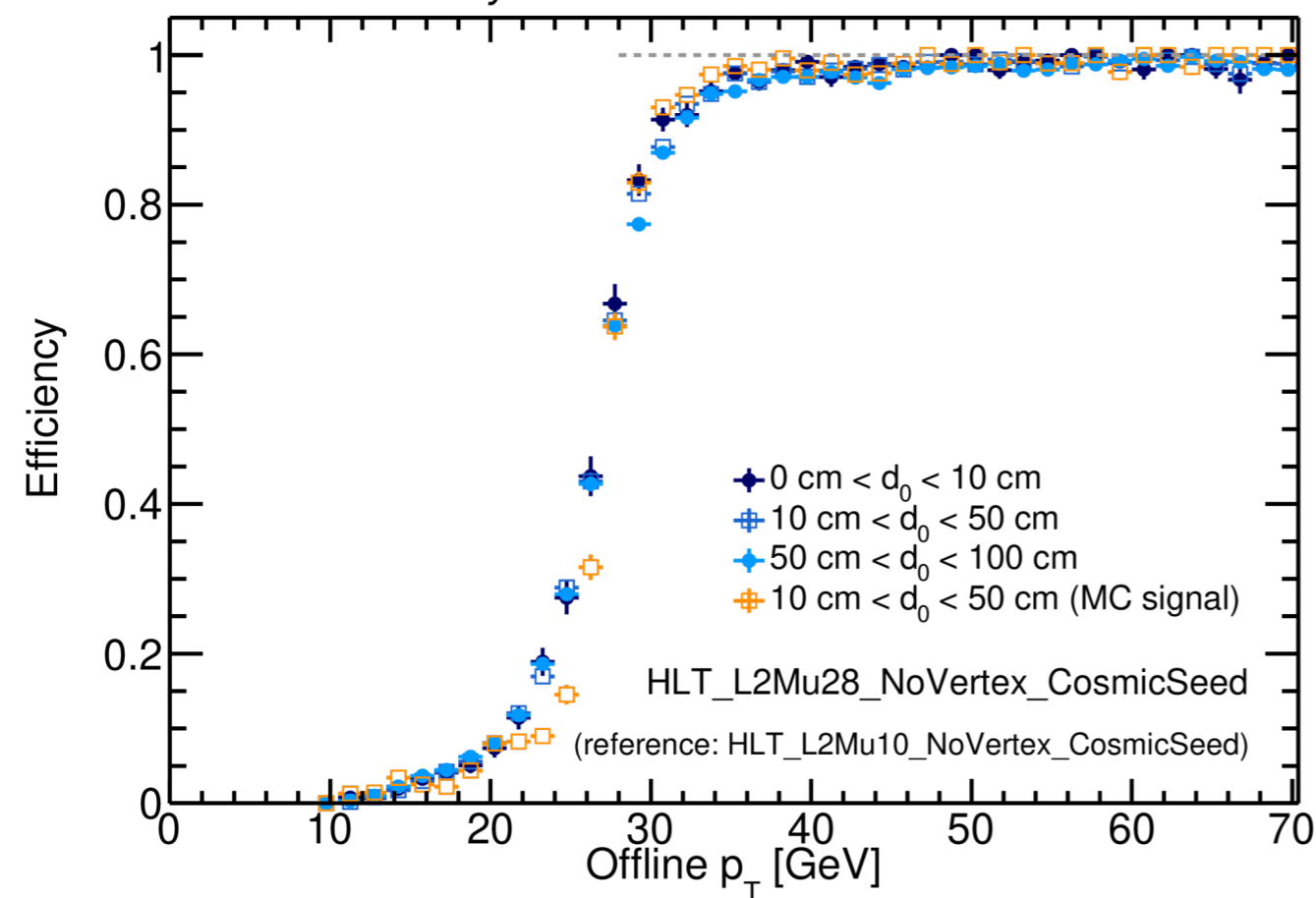
Need to make sure all custom reconstruction & selections are well modeled

Eg. validating displaced muon trigger efficiency with Cosmics

Eg. Calibrating dE/dx for $|\eta|$ and detector conditions with SM particles

CMS Preliminary [CMSDisplacedMuons](#)

[2205.06013](#)

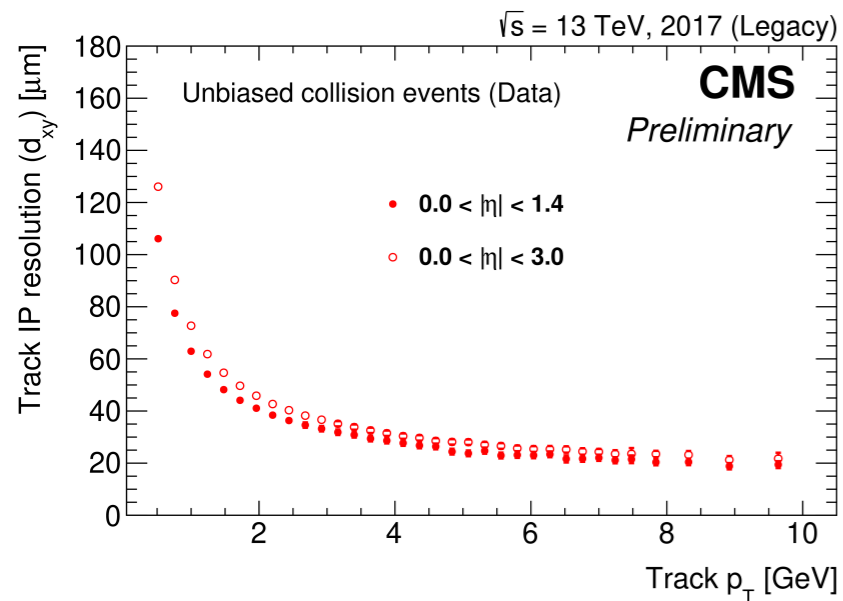


Unusual backgrounds

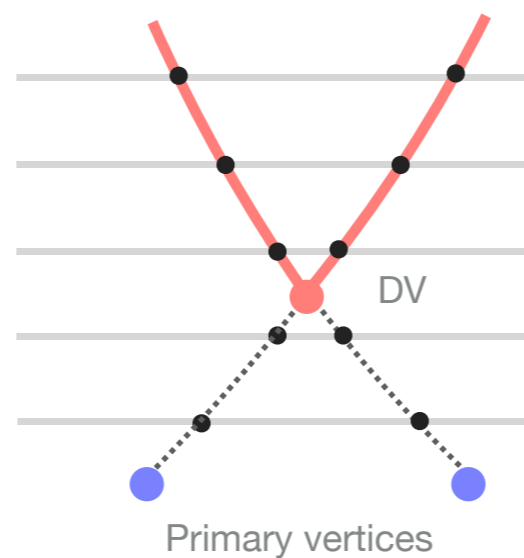
Go as close to the interaction point as possible
 Reject as many displaced backgrounds as possible

d0 tails of prompt SM particles

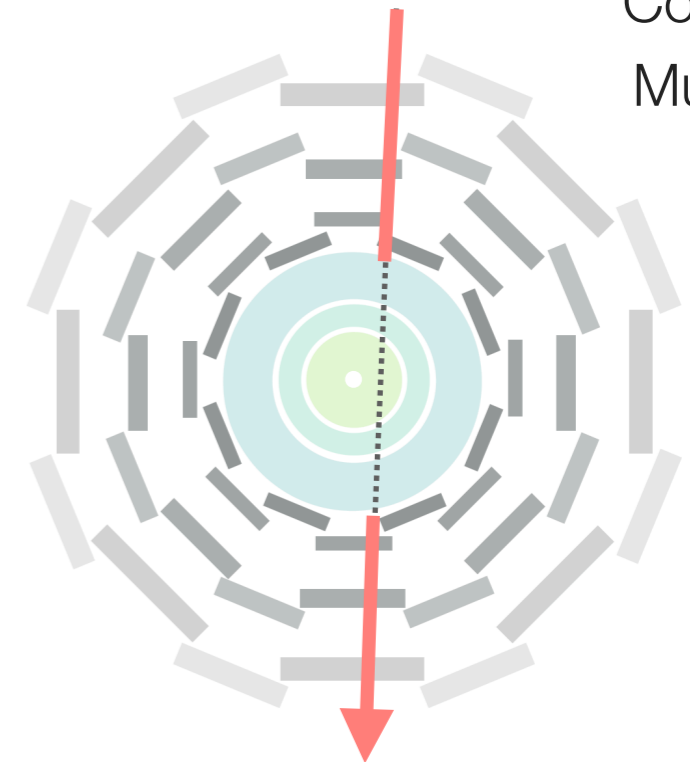
[CMSTrackingPOG](#)



Randomly crossing tracks



Cosmic Muons

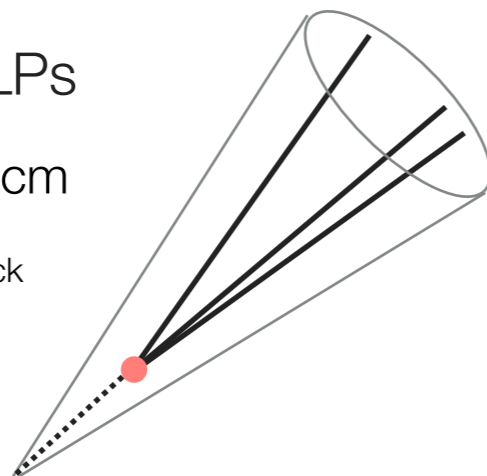


Material interactions

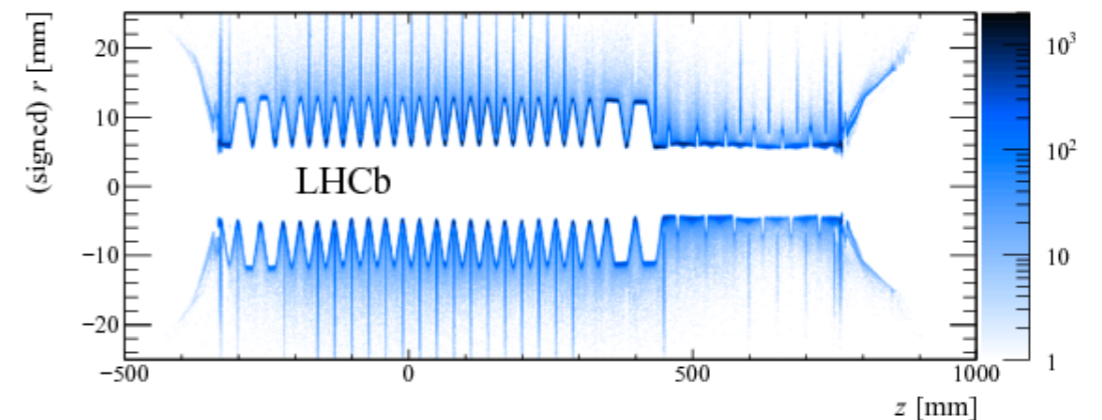
Standard Model LLPs

1 TeV b-jet $\langle L \rangle \sim 10 \text{ cm}$

Low mass and n_{Track}



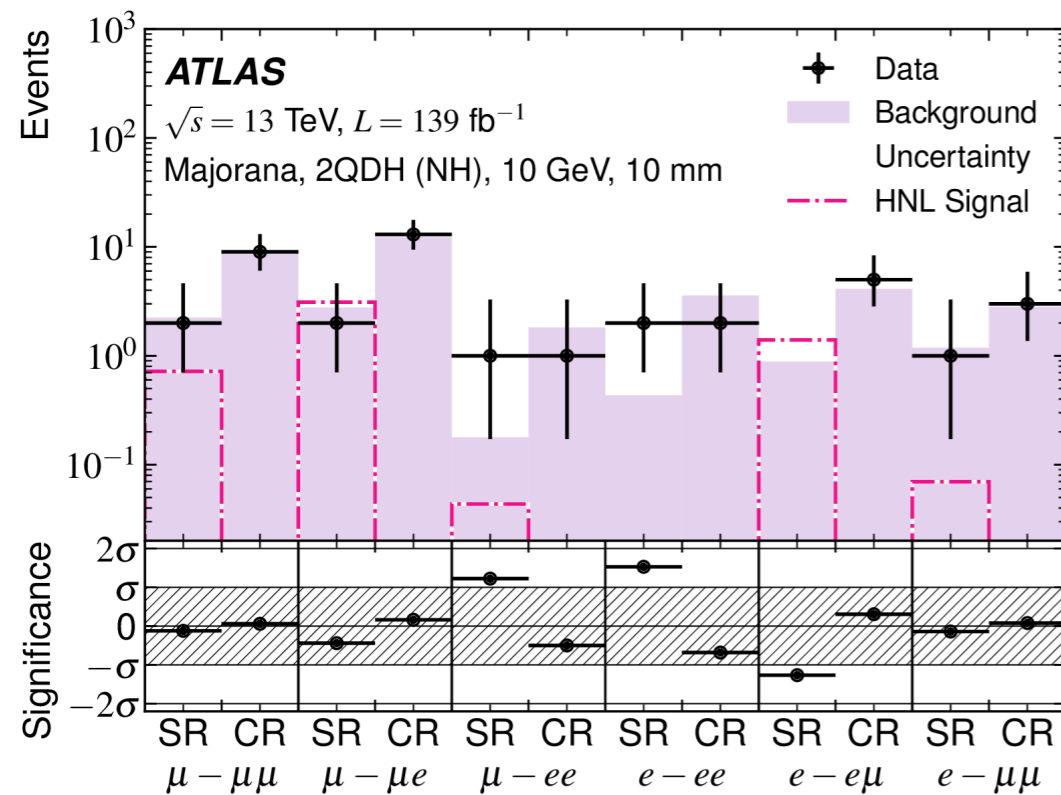
[1803.07466](#)



Selection & Analysis Strategy

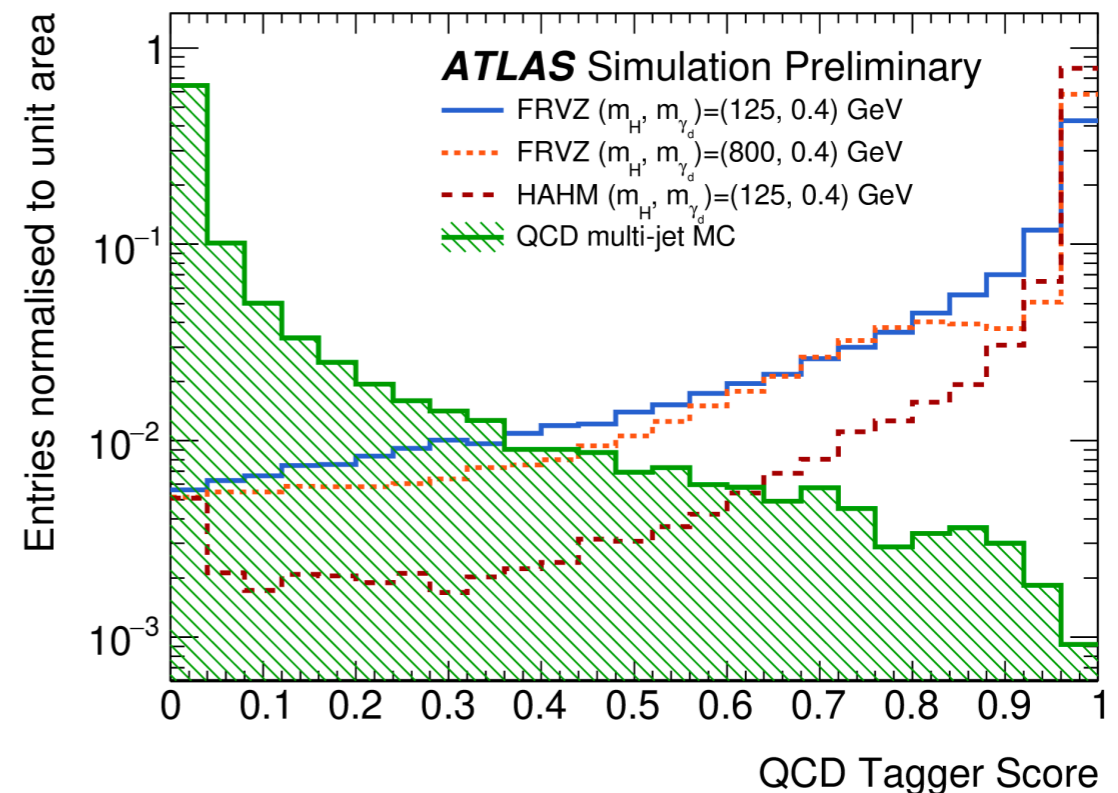
Past: achieve ~ 0 background with \sim simple selections

Now: sophisticated techniques to access lower masses and probe full lifetime range



eg. Heavy neutral leptons
 Categorize in lepton flavor & charge
 Vertex Mass & displacement

[ATLAS-EXOT-2019-29](#)
 CMS: [2201.05578](#)



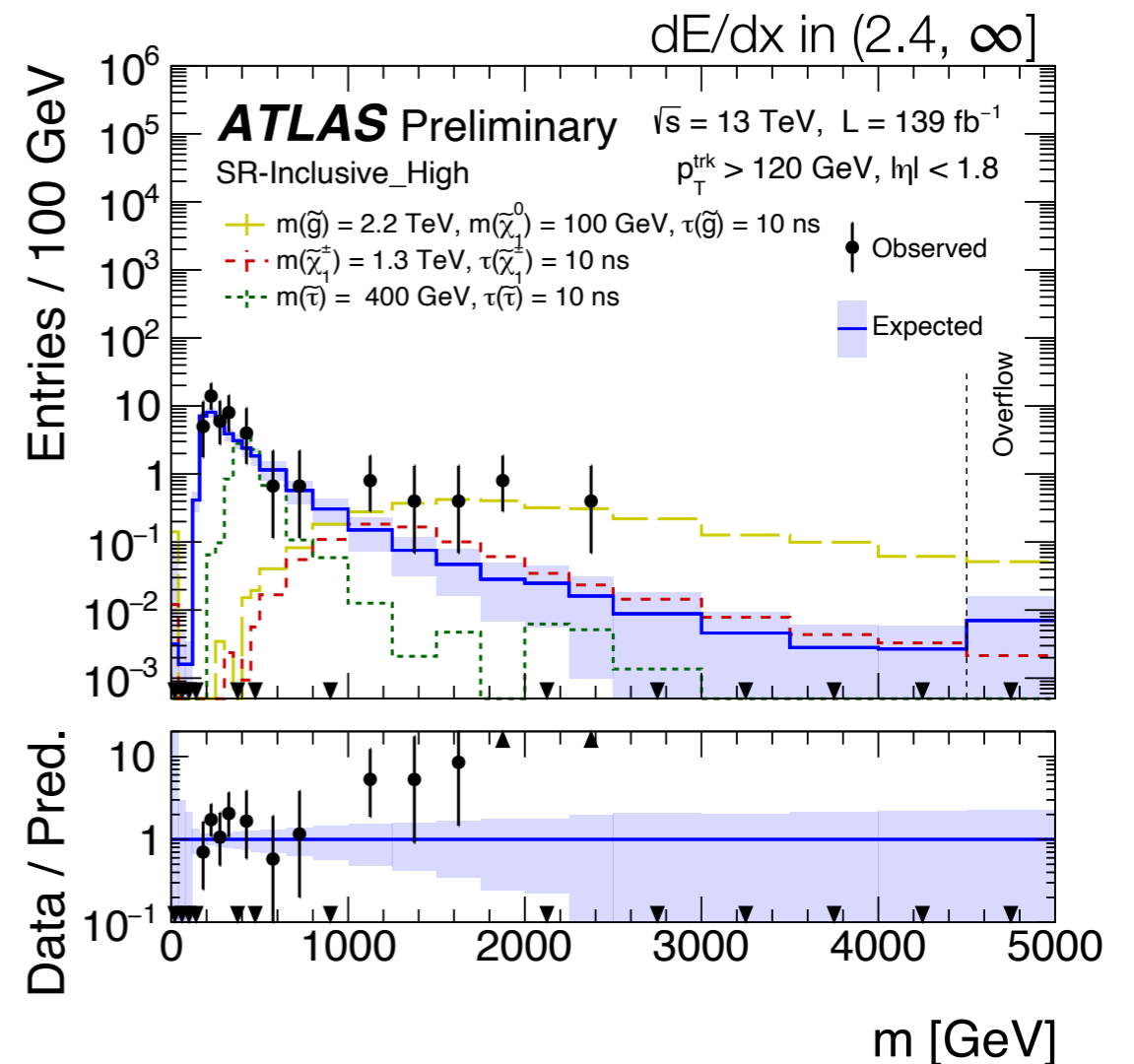
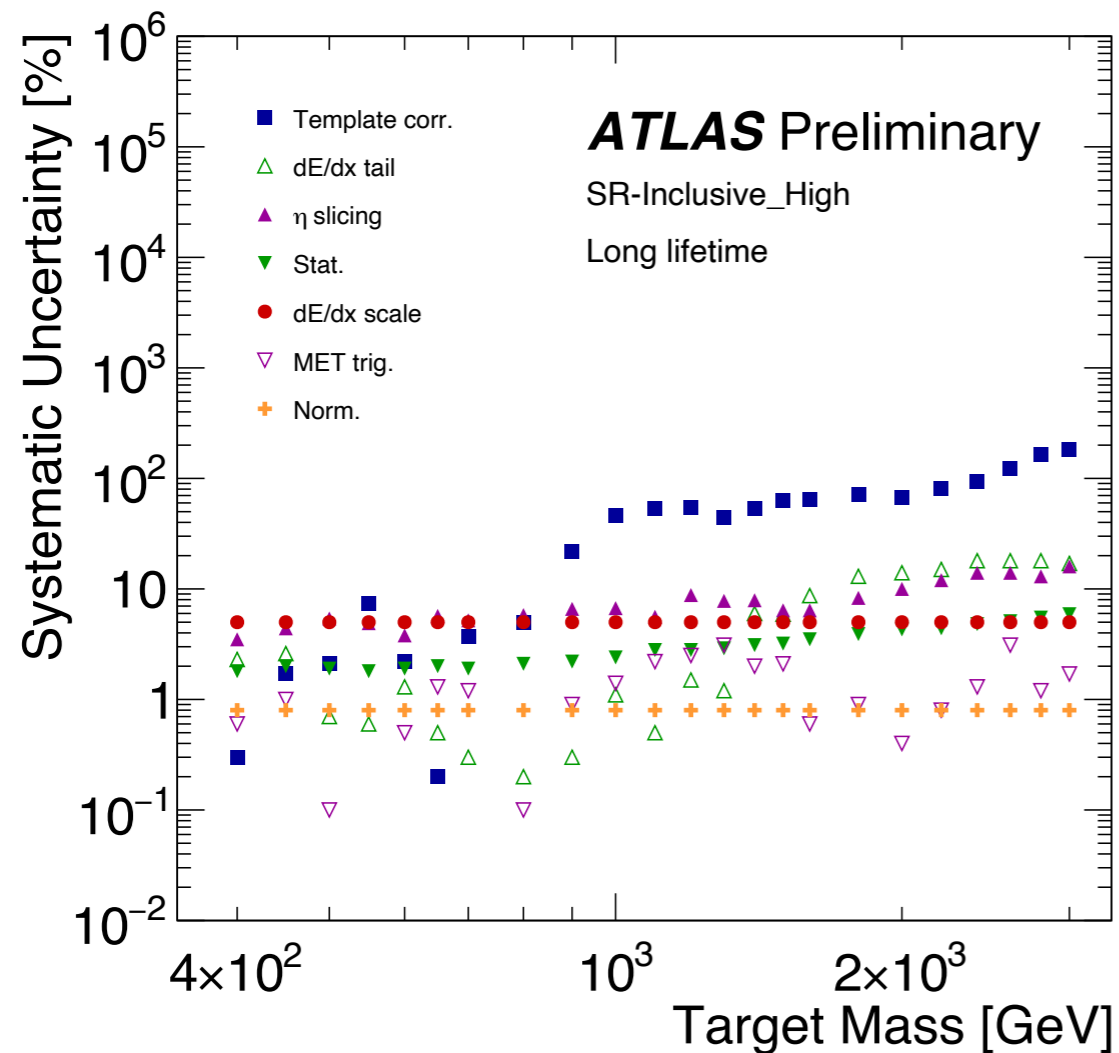
eg. Displaced lepton jets
 input calorimeter cells/clusters
 into advanced Neural Networks

[ATLAS-CONF-2022-001](#)

Background estimation

Always data-driven, sometimes very tricky

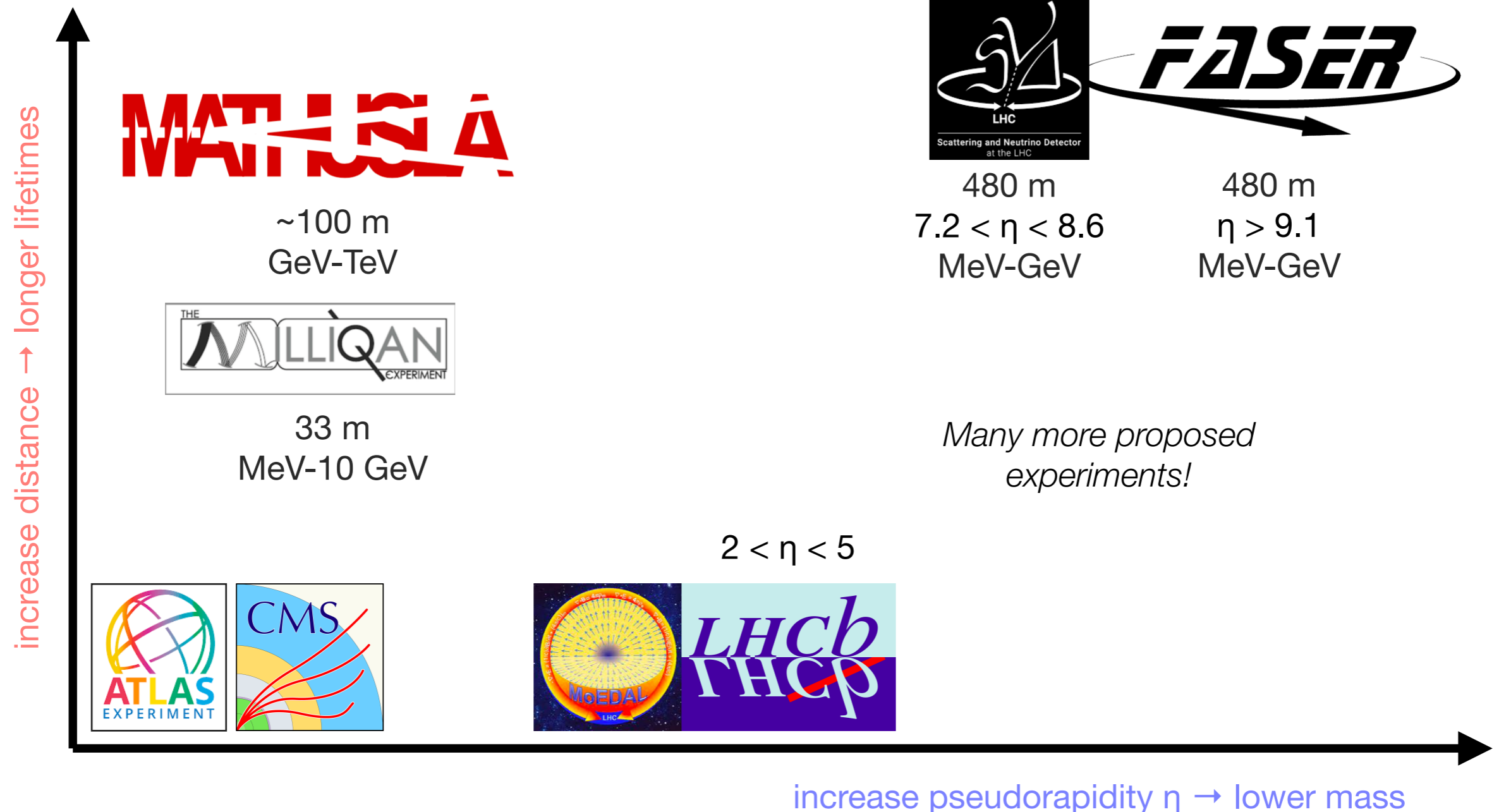
Finding signal free control regions, correlations between key variables, unexpected backgrounds, etc



Aux Detectors

Different physics than the LHC...

We should think about how increasing distance or going forward could probe interesting phase space



Conclusions

- Tracker tends to be the most powerful detector volume for LLPs
- Many challenges posed by the beam induced background
- Optimistic we can overcome these challenges
- A lot of exciting work ahead!



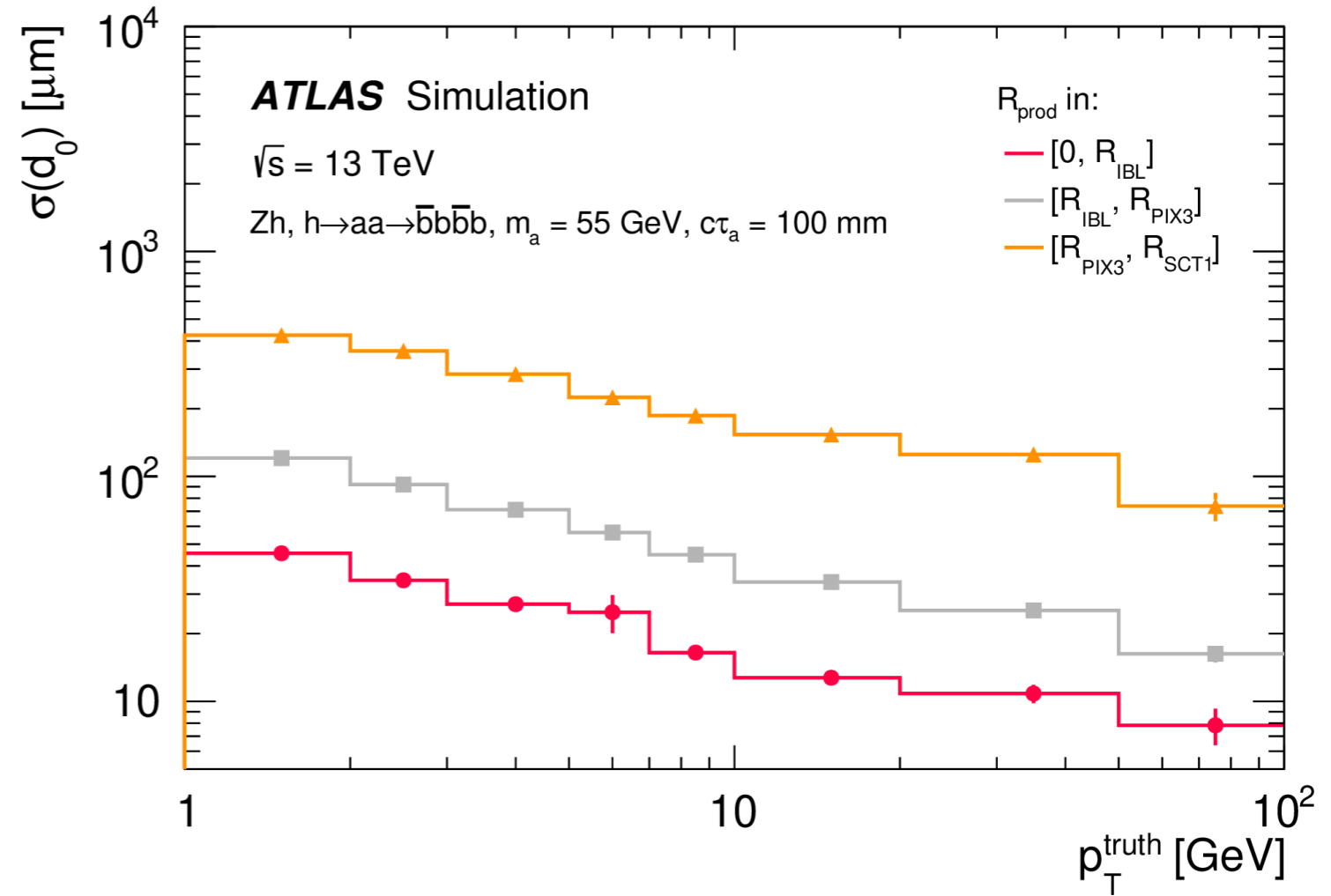
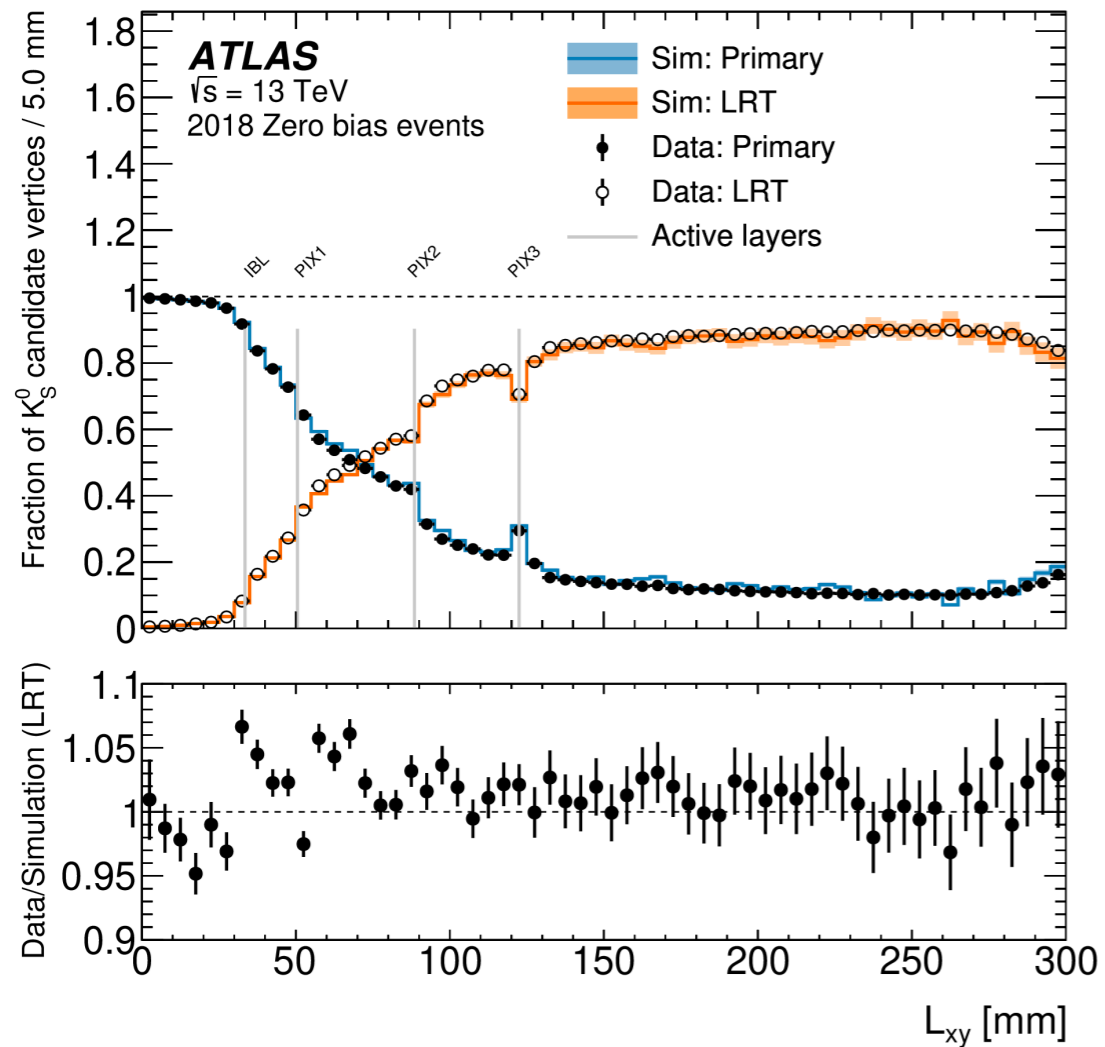
Long-lived Particles

Experimental constraints

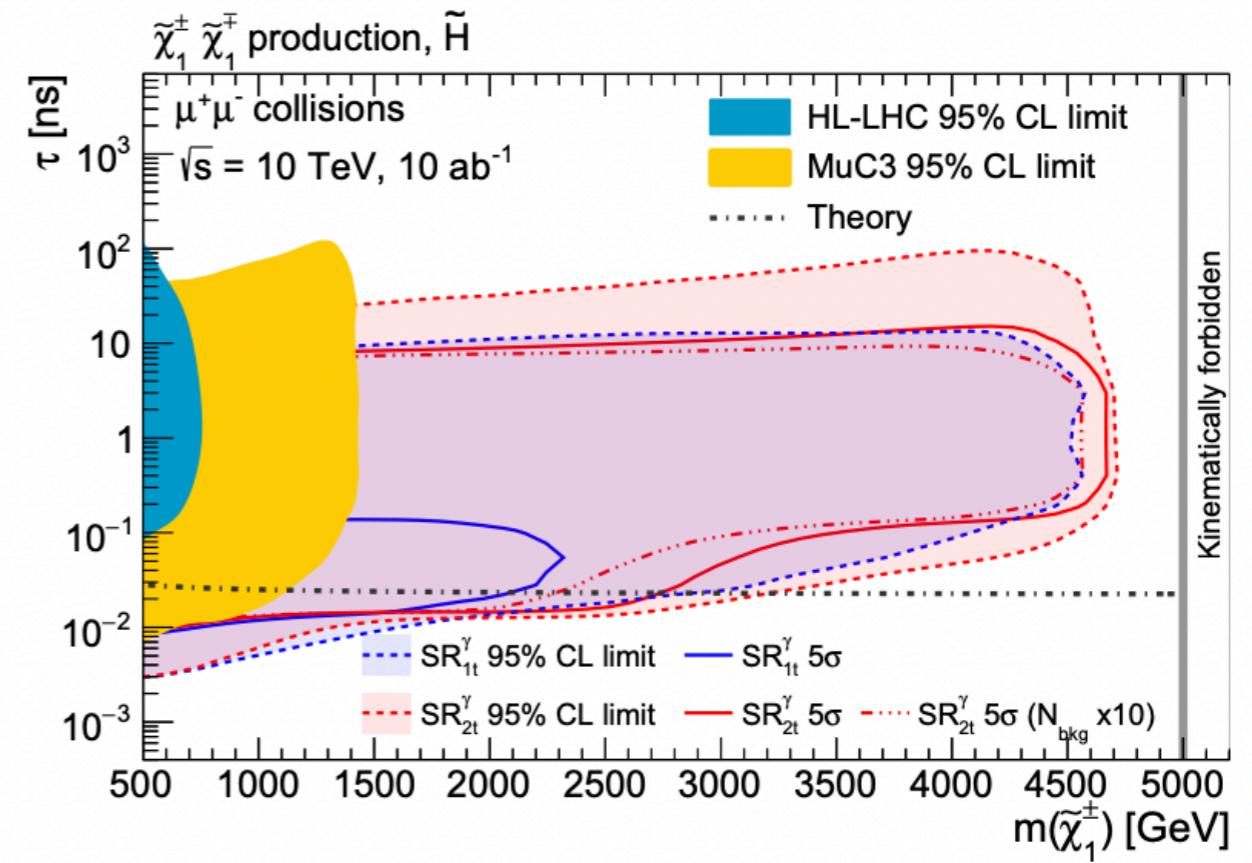
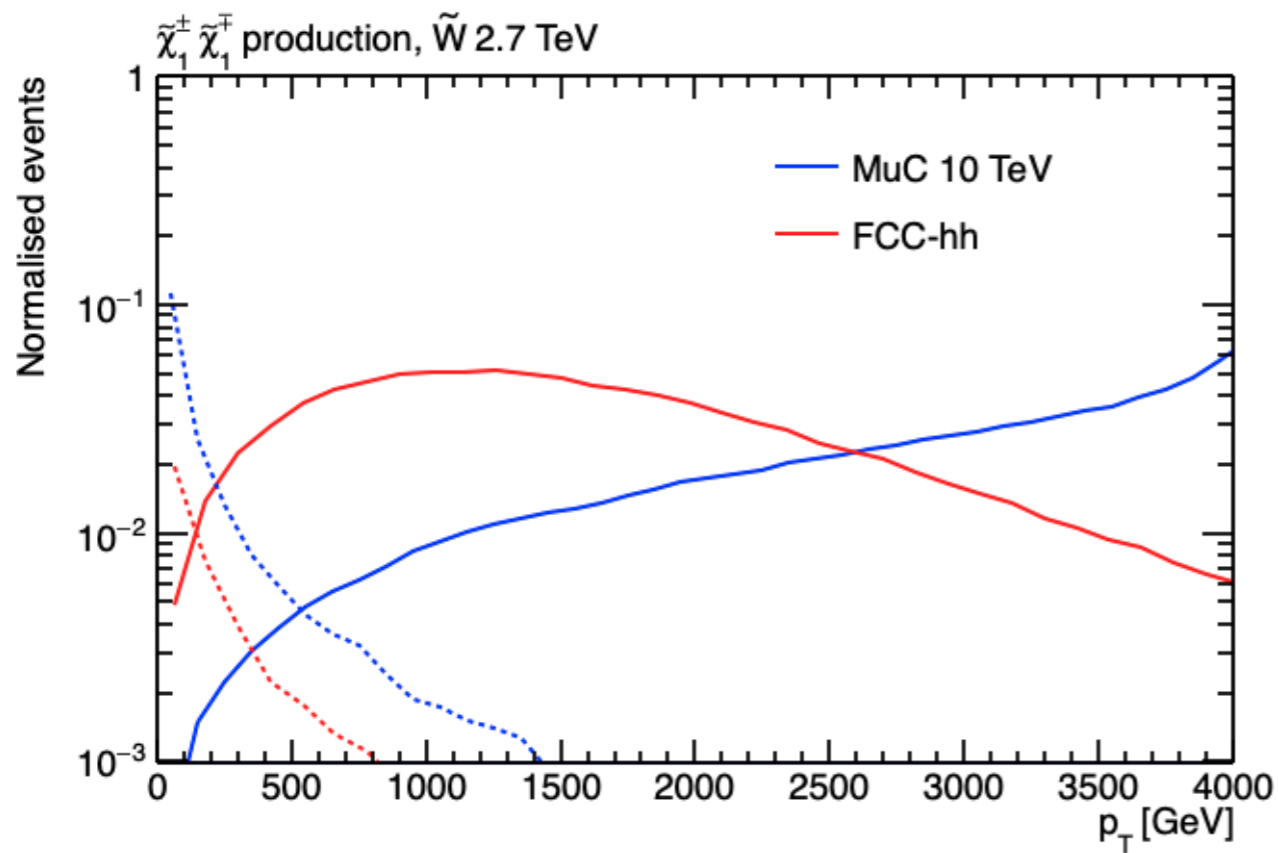
Karri Folan DiPetrillo
University of Chicago
IMCC Physics Meeting
6 July 2023



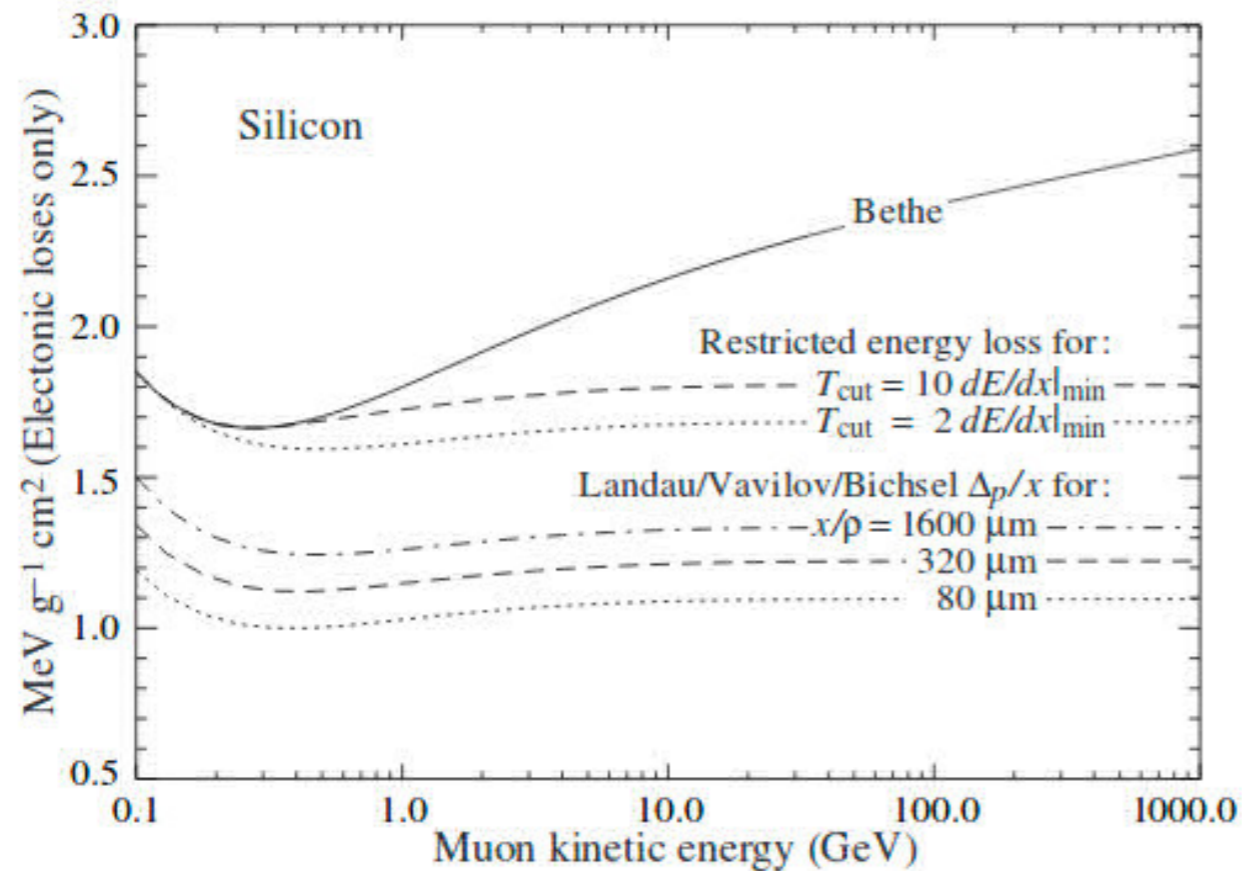
Large radius tracking



Charged LLPs/Disappearing track



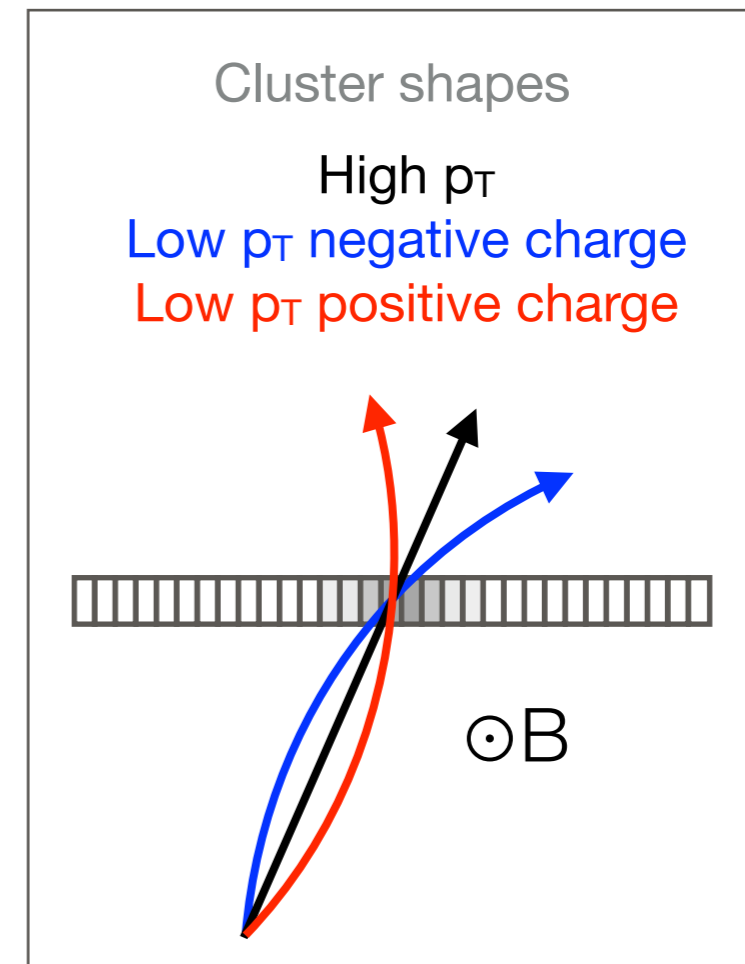
Cluster charge/shape



MPV & shape shifts
w/ detector thickness

$$\text{MPV} = 0.027 \times \ln(d) + 0.126 \text{ [keV]}$$

$$\text{width} = 0.31 \times d^{0.81} \text{ [keV]}$$



Time of flight

30 ps bunch length sets minimum time resolution (in MAP)

$$\left(\frac{\Delta m_{\text{ToF}}}{m}\right)^2 = \left[\left(\frac{\Delta p_{\text{T}}}{p_{\text{T}}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{1 - \beta^2}\right)^2 \left(\frac{\sigma_{t_{\text{hit}}}}{t_{\text{hit}}}\right)^2\right] \text{ Improves w/ } L$$

Need good p_{T} resolution to improve S/B separation and measure mass in case of discovery