

# CERN IT Machine Learning Infrastructure Workshop: **Inputs from *LHCb***

October 11<sup>th</sup> 2023

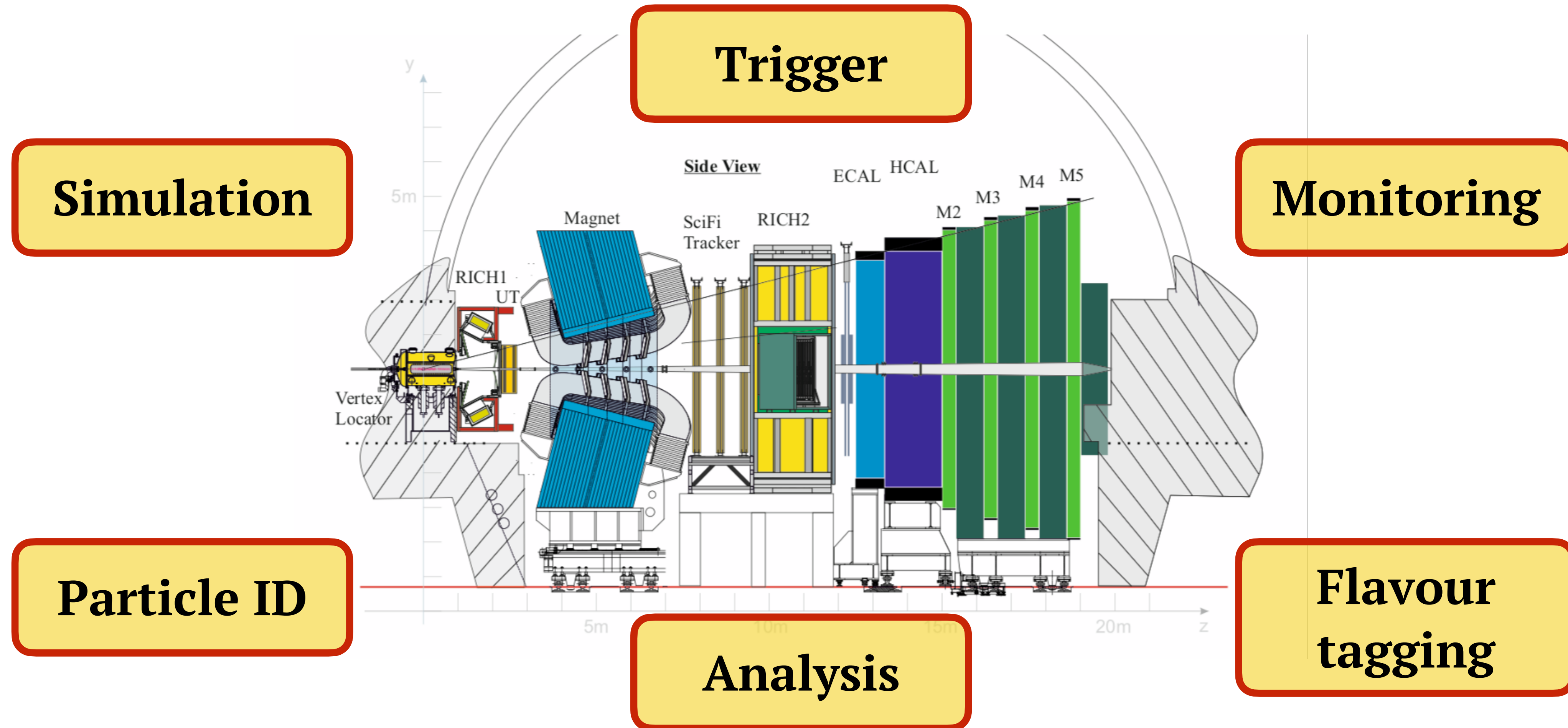
Simon Akar

on behalf of the LHCb collaboration



# Machine Learning @ LHCb

- A long and diversified history of ML applications in LHCb:



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## Disclaimers:

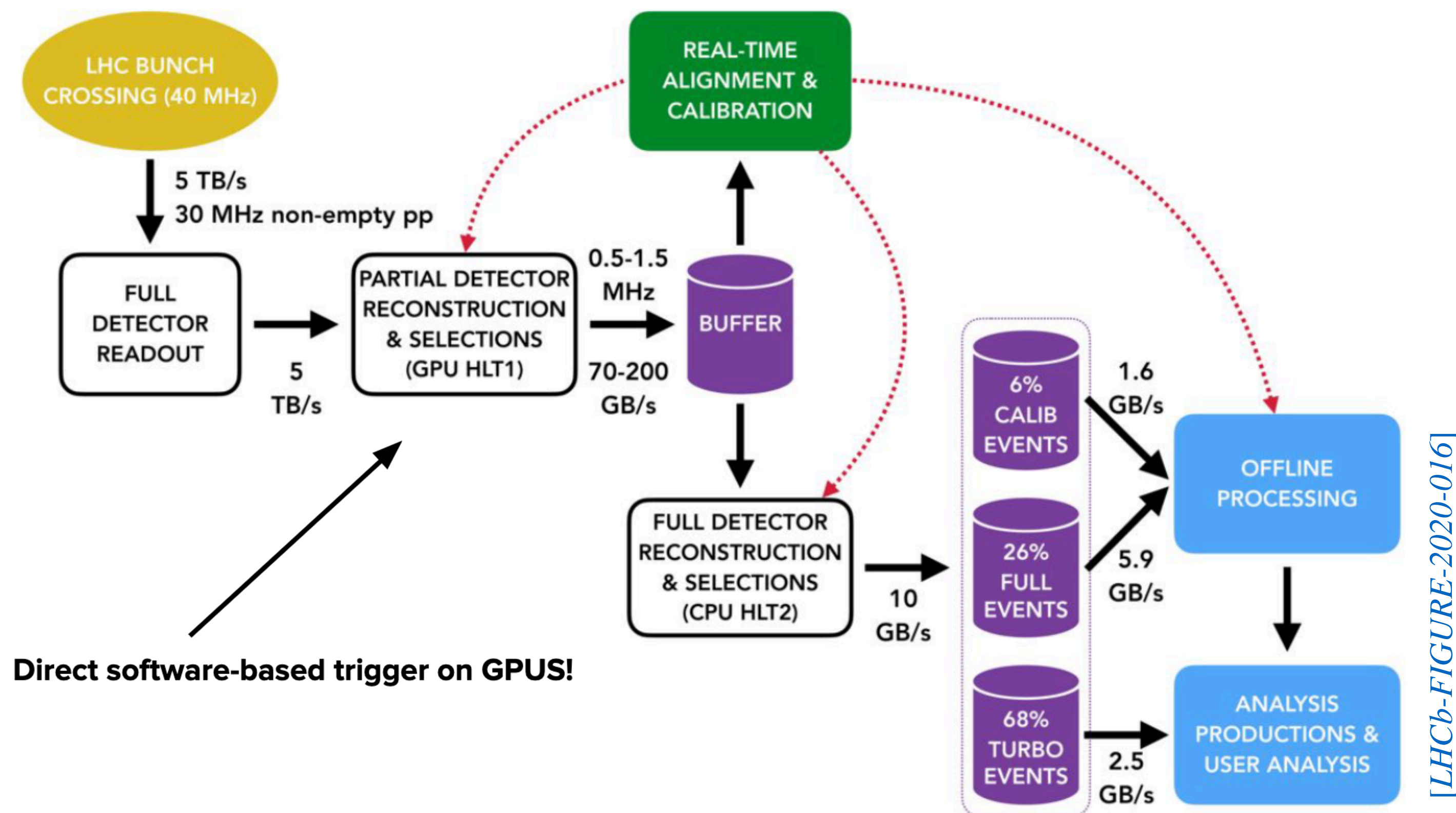
- Not an exhaustive overview of ML applications in LHCb, but a highlight of relevant use cases for today's workshop
  - (I) Identify the challenges for a fully exploited implementation of ML/DL
  - (II) Which common services / solutions would we most benefit from as a community
- Wide range of concepts covered in this talk:  
Detailed discussions on certain specific technical considerations might be better covered offline



# Machine Learning @ LHCb

## Trigger & Online ops.

- **ML-based algorithms (BDT) in inclusive particle selections already during Run1 & Run 2** covering the majority of the collaboration's published analyses in Run 1 already [[LHCb-PUB-2011-016](#), [arxiv:1510.00572](#)]
- **New paradigm in Run 3 with full software trigger implementation** [[CERN-LHCC-2018-014](#) ; [LHCB-TDR-018](#)]
  - 326 GPUs reduce incoming data rate from 5 to approximately 0.1 TB/s
  - All subdetectors data available at trigger level
  - Opened window for **ML application (inference) at earliest selection level as possible directly in the online environment**



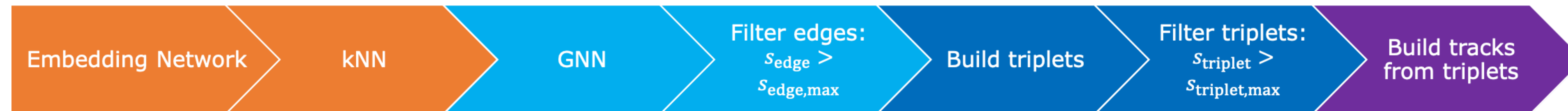
# Machine Learning @ LHCb

## Trigger & Online ops.

Several on-going efforts to implement ML algorithms inside LHCb online system

- **High-throughout Graph Neural Network track reconstruction at LHCb:** [[talk@CTD2023](#)]

- **Track reconstruction** in the Velo (high-granularity tracking system)
- Using GNN pipeline is based on the work of the Exa.TrkX collaboration



- Training performed using **PyTorch** on **local ressources** (LIP6 Paris — Sorbonne Université)
- Inference on low-level features
- High parallelization over hits / edges  $\Rightarrow$  adapted to GPUs
- Very promising preliminary physics performances
- **On-going R&D to run inference on GPUs in Allen (HLT1)**
  - ↳ **what throughput on HLT1 GPU farm** (identify potential bottlenecks for future upgrades)
  - ↳ **study the possibility to extend approach to full detector**

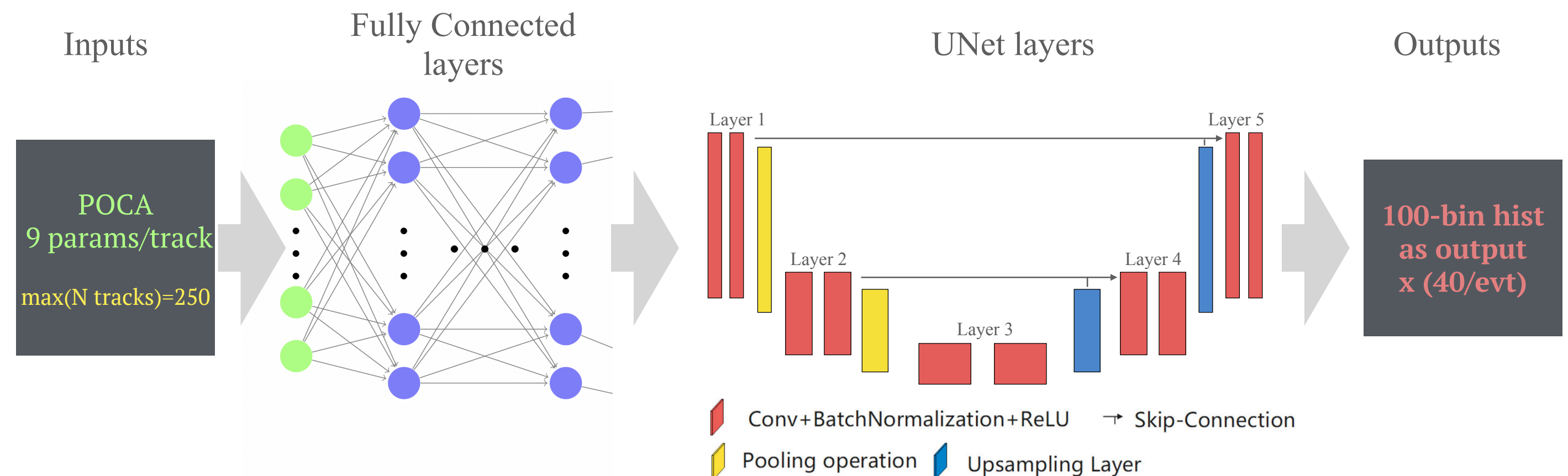


# Machine Learning @ LHCb

## Trigger & Online ops.

Several on-going efforts to implement ML algorithms inside LHCb online system

- **DNN for finding primary vertices in  $pp$  collisions at the LHC:** [[talk@CHEP2023](#), [arxiv:2309.12417](#)]
  - Identify PV positions from tracks low-level features
  - High parallelization over tracks / events  $\Rightarrow$  adapted to GPUs
  - **Non trivial hybrid MLP + CNN architecture**
- **Common training platform for LHCb and ATLAS**
- Training performed using **PyTorch** on **local ressources** (University Cincinnati)
- Very promising preliminary physics performances
- **On-going R&D to run inference for LHCb on GPUs in Allen (HLT1)**

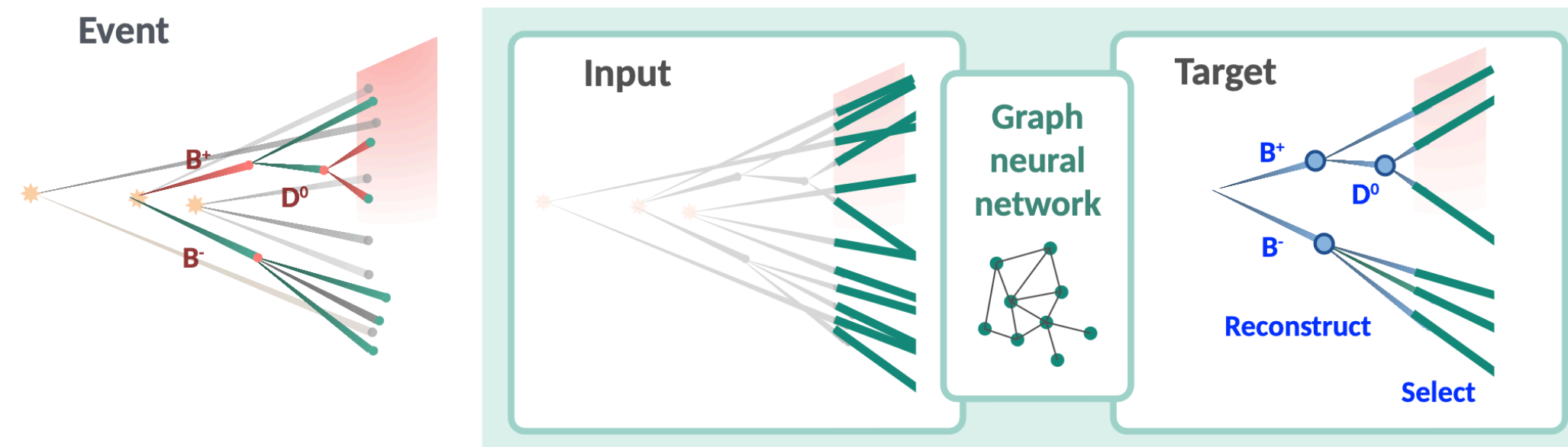


# Machine Learning @ LHCb

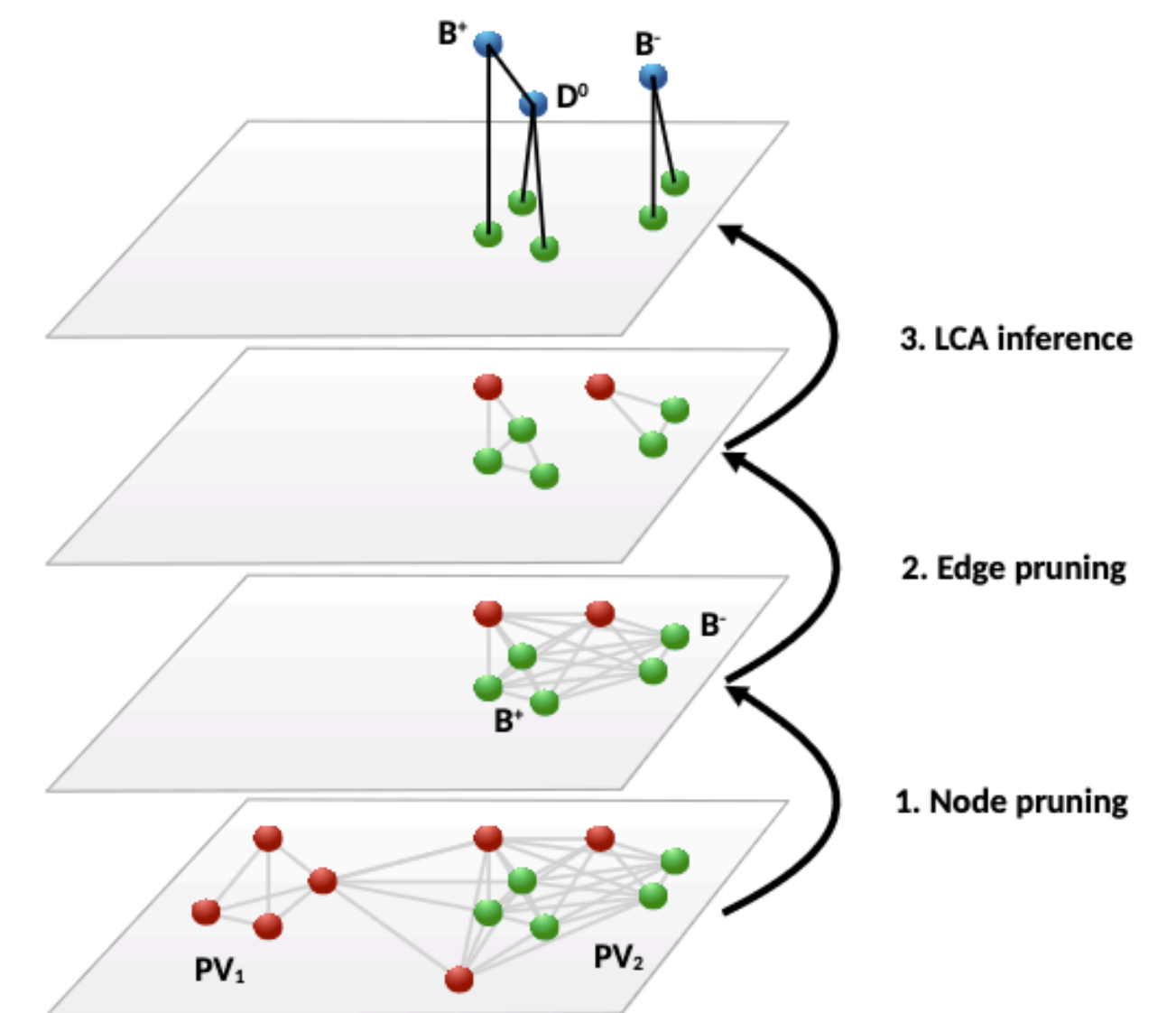
## Trigger & Online ops.

Several on-going efforts to implement ML algorithms inside LHCb online system

- **Graph Neural Network for Full Event Interpretation at LHCb** [[talk@CHEP2023](#), [arxiv:2304.08610](#)]
  - Proof of concept: **Reduction of event size** by a holistic one-go analysis of the full event



- Training performed using **TensorFlow**
- Ongoing detailed performance and timing studies
- **Resources for model training were difficult to obtain:**  
Lack of adequate resources @CERN (training over several days)  
↳ Finally used **Future SOC Lab** cluster with docker containers for libraries

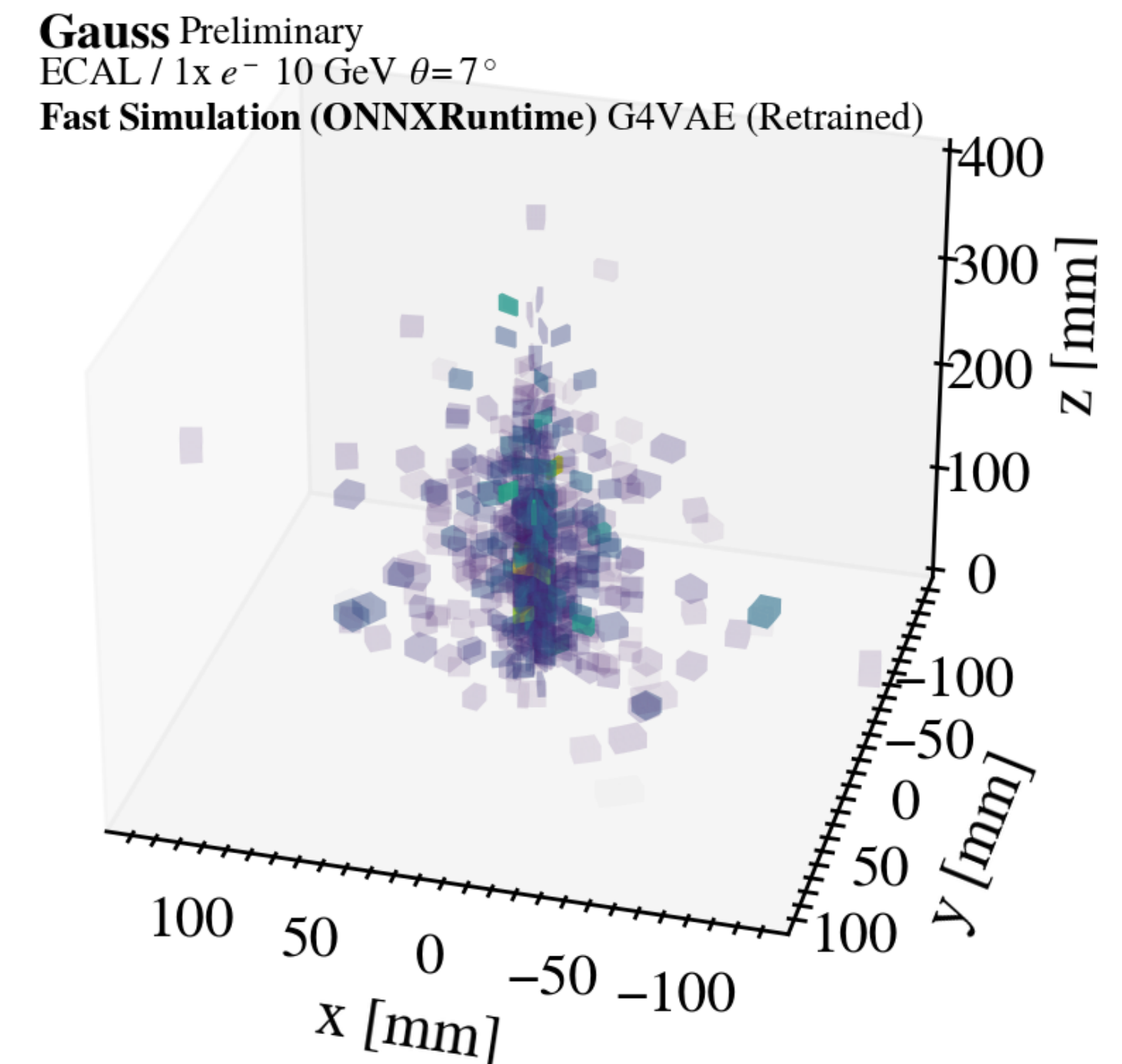


# Machine Learning @ LHCb

## Simulation

Computing resources too limited to use GEANT detailed simulation for the large simulated samples needed!

- **Fast simulation:** Replace Geant4 simulation with ML-generated output in specific area of the detector
  - Typically calo shower generation with GANs [[talk@CHEP2019](#)]
    - ↳ Energy deposit generation  $\Rightarrow$  same pipeline as data-taking
  - Similar efforts among HEP experiments [[CaloChallenge workshop](#)]
  - **Geant4/CERN-SFT initiative** to train on experiment-independent datasets to compare various models objectively: VAEs, GANs, Diffusion models, Normalizing Flows [[talk@EP-SFT meeting](#)]
  - LHCb/Gaussino add the infrastructure and retrain on the target geometry [[talk@CHEP2023](#)]
  - **Challenges:** maintainability, large models, complex inference & retraining infrastructure
  - **Desiderata:** training accessible from different institutes



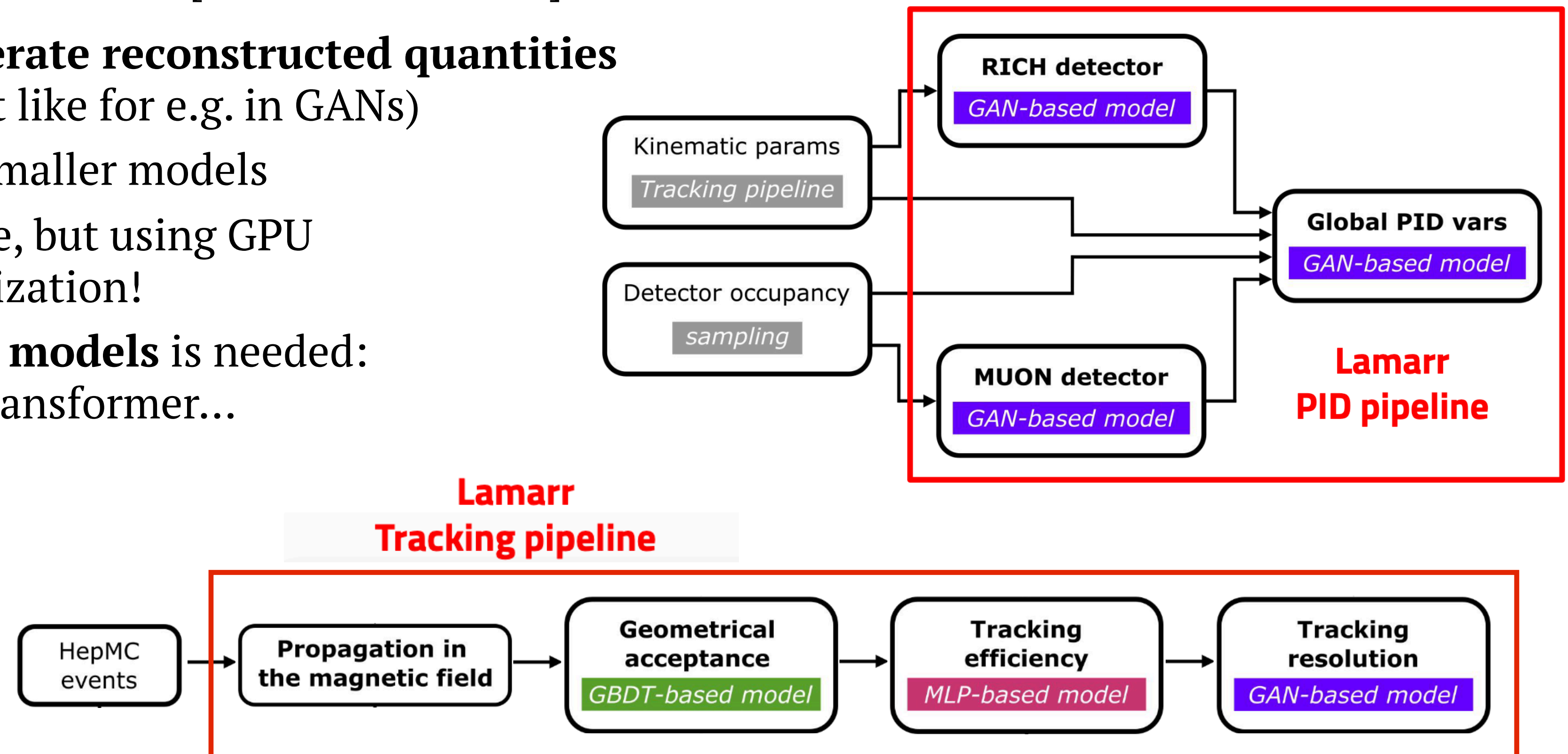


# Machine Learning @ LHCb

## Simulation

Computing resources too limited to use GEANT detailed simulation for the large simulated samples needed!

- **Ultra-fast simulation: LAMARR** [[talk@CHEP2023](#)]
  - ML models used to generate reconstructed quantities (instead of energy deposit like for e.g. in GANs)
  - Scalar features  $\Rightarrow$  much smaller models
  - Inference on CPU possible, but using GPU would allow high parallelization!
  - **Pipeline of multiple ML models** is needed: GBDT, MLP, GAN, RNN, transformer...



# Machine Learning @ LHCb

## Particle ID

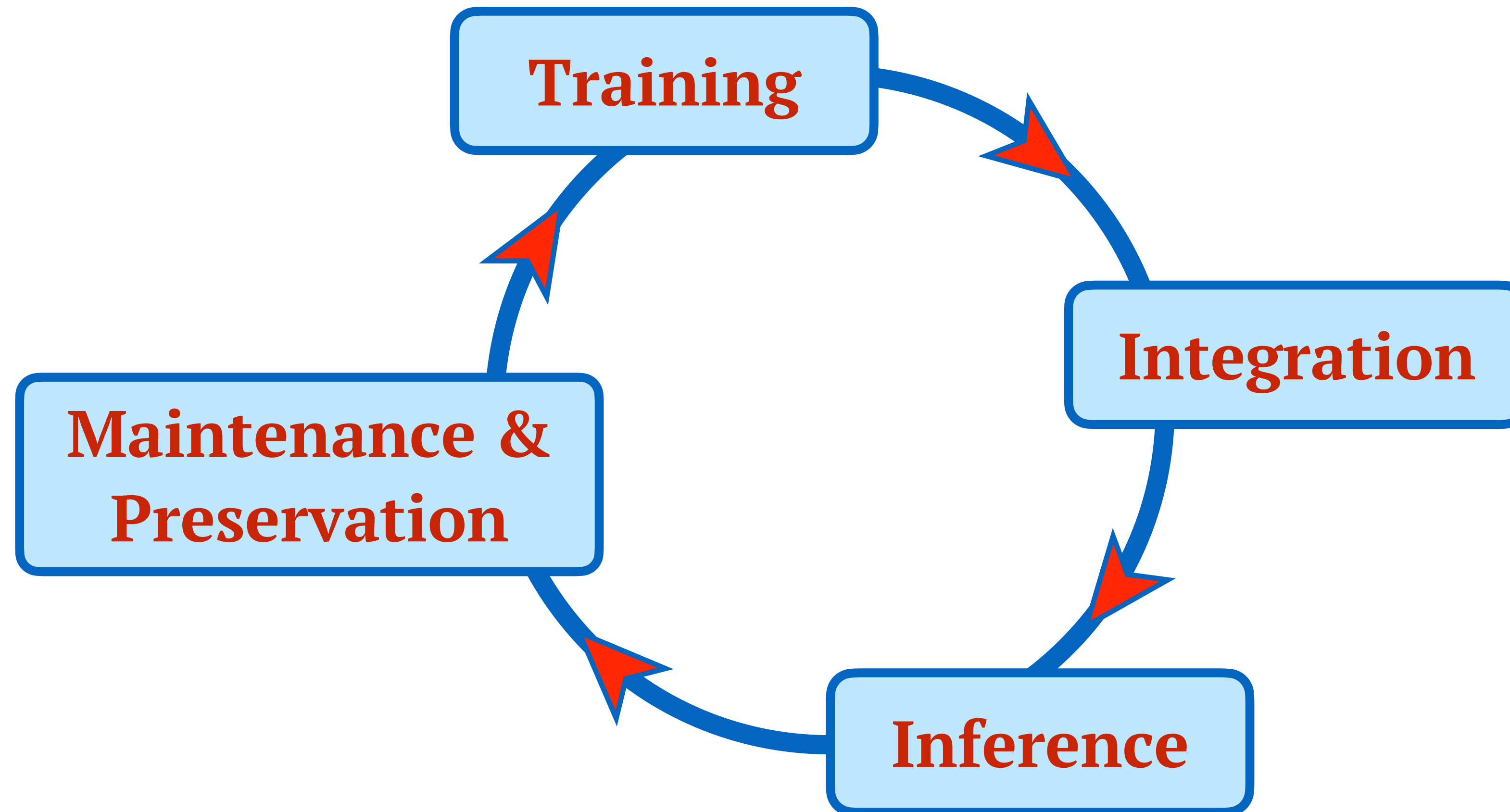
## Flavour tagging

- **ML-based algorithms used already for many years in general performance tools**
  - PID classification: [[Int. J. Mod. Phys. A 30, 1530022 \(2015\)](#)]
  - FT algorithm: **MLP** [[arxiv:1602.07252](#)], **BDT** [[Eur.Phys.J.C 77 \(2017\) 4, 238](#)]
- **Recent developments to improve robustness & performances**
  - PID classification: *Robust Neural Particle Identification Models* [[arxiv:2212.07274](#)]
  - FT algorithm: *Fast inclusive flavo(u)r tagging at LHCb* [[talk@CHEP2023](#)]

## Analysis

- **Plethora of techniques and models applied throughout the LHCb analysis landscape**
  - Typically simple models (BDT) thanks to the inherent high signal/background ratio in LHCb's environment
  - Developed and using fitters on GPU to perform fits on millions of events (e.g. charm analyses)

# Usage of ML: current & future challenges



**Efficient and sustainable exploitation of ML/DL presents challenges at various steps**  
**Common solutions among CERN collaborations is paramount!**



# Usage of ML: current & future challenges

## Training

- **Currently most of the ML/DL trainings performed using resources available at local institutes/national facilities**
  - Models still relatively small (compared to industry)
  - SWAN system found to have some limitations (e.g. long trainings)
  - Need **robust & flexible pipelines for updated trainings, especially for production applications**
- **Multi-GPU batch system support would be beneficial**
  - Hyperparameters optimisation (lunch hundreds of trainings with different configuration)
  - Distributed computation (e.g. GAN shower generation for simulation)
  - Requires CUDA-enabled software packages available:  
ONNXRuntime, PyTorch, Tensorflow, VTK, ROOT, PyCUDA, cupy

# Usage of ML: current & future challenges

## Integration

- **Integration of ML/DL models in software is not straightforward**
  - Most LCG stacks are not GPU-enabled
  - **Most libraries already available in LCG\_10Ncuda stacks**  
recent need for additional packages for GNN and multi-GPU processing: **cugraph, nccl, cutlass**
  - LCG cuda-enabled stacks built with **gcc11**, LHCb production compiler uses **gcc12**  
[very responsive communication with LCG]
- **Expertise from IT (core software engineers with ML expertise)**
  - Understanding which models are particularly efficient on which architectures (CPU vs GPU) and why?
    - ↳ Profiling computing resources to make efficient use of models processing data

# Usage of ML: current & future challenges

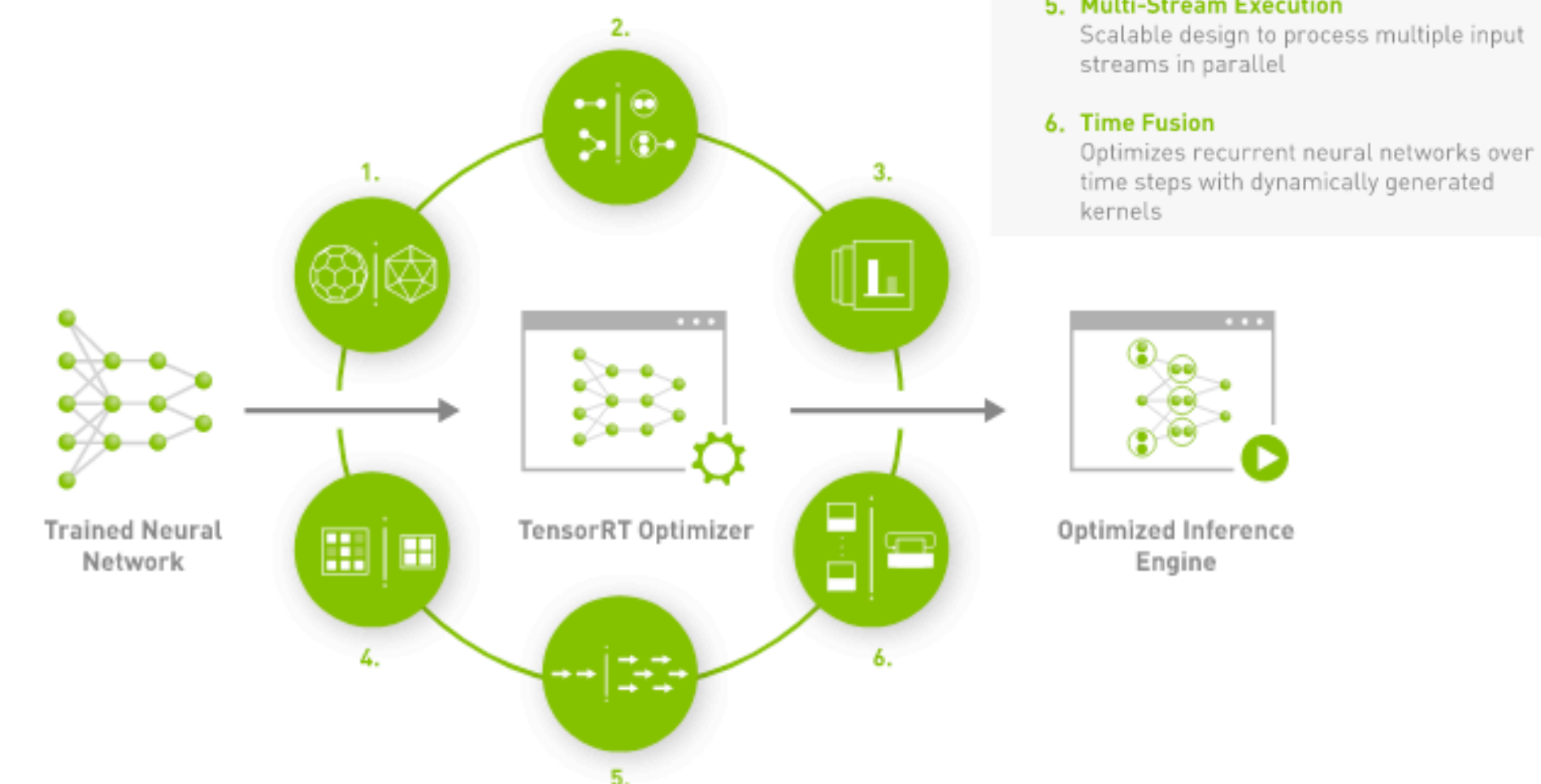
## Inference

- **Inference (production systems) is currently the main challenge:**

- Needs to be **fast, flexible & easily maintainable**
- Standardized ML-model data format: e.g. **ONNX**
- WIP on generic interface allowing access to desired backends: PyTorch C++ API, ONNXRuntime, TMVA::SOFIE...  
[[talk@EP-SFT meeting](#)]

- **Ongoing developments / studies inside LHCb:**

- [[talk@CHEP2023](#)]
- Inference on **GPUs** (NVIDIA A5000) using **TensorRT**
- Benchmark for a **simple MLP** for ghost track probability  
17 features — 2 hidden layers (25x20) — 1 output





# Usage of ML: current & future challenges

## Inference

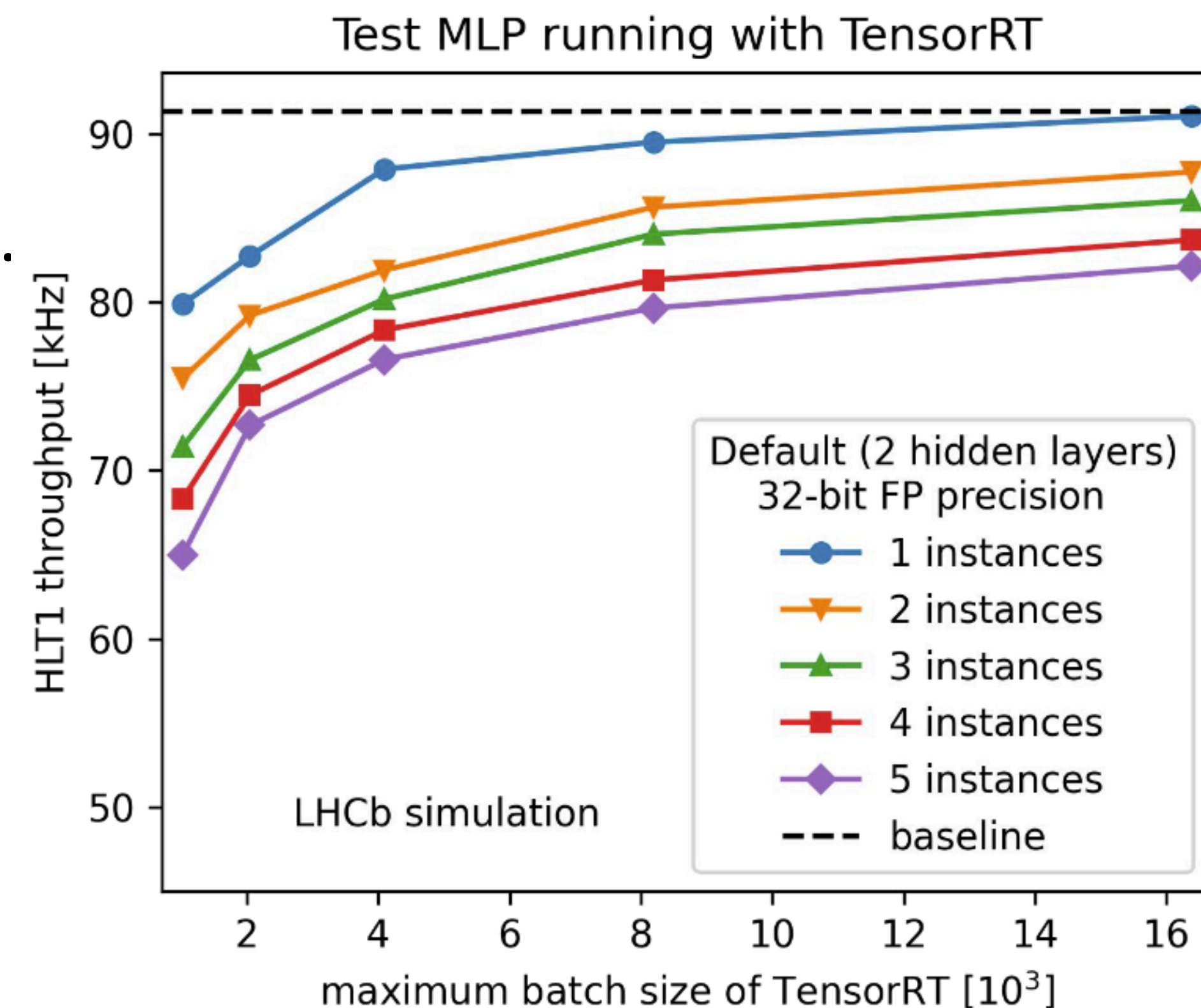
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[[talk@EP-SFT meeting](#)]

- **Ongoing developments / studies inside LHCb:**

[[talk@CHEP2023](#)]

- Tested throughput impact of TensorRT inference
  - ↳ Multiple copies of typical sized MLPs seems to **effect throughput in an acceptable way**
  - ↳ Promising avenue of having flexible ML reconstruction and selection at the first trigger level



# Usage of ML: current & future challenges

## Maintenance & Preservation

- **Key aspect that needs to become standard practice**
  - Online ML applications need to be well structured with **flexible and robust retraining pipelines**
- **CI/CD system**
  - GitLab runners with GPU
  - Pipeline training to make optimal use of resources (e..g. for large models in simulation)
- **MLOps**
  - Necessity for a **powerful tool** allowing **versioning of model, data and hyperparameters**:  
*e.g. MLFlow & Dvc for versioning of Deep Learning datasets  $\Rightarrow$  common storage space like EOS?!*
  - **Models organisation** and fast retraining:  
*e.g. Snakemake used for the ultra-fast simulation project*

# Summary

- **Multiple on-going developments of ML/DL in LHCb**
  - **Online** (tracks reconstruction, PV finding, trigger) & **Offline** (simulation, performance, analysis)
  - Majority built on **PyTorch** library (few TensorFlow) with **trainings** done using **local resources**
- **Currently the main challenges lie in the integration, inference & maintenance**
  - Working towards **standardization (ONNX)** for ML-model data format
  - Effort to enable a **generic backend inference interface in LHCb production systems**
- **Would benefit from collaboration with / support from experts at IT department**
  - **Large state-of-the-art GPU clusters available for the CERN community**
  - **Multi-GPU batch system** — hyperparameter optimisation
  - **Integrated MLOps tools** — model, data & hyperparameters versioning
  - **Profiling expertise** — efficient integration and use of models used to process data
  - **Maintenance expertise** — keeping updated versions of the different backend packages



# Supplementary material

# Supplementary material

- **Latest reports on ML applications in LHCb:**

## Trigger & Online

- *Applications of Lipschitz neural networks to the Run 3 LHCb trigger* [[talk@CHEP2023](#)]
- *Graph Neural Networks for Full Event Interpretation at LHCb* [[talk@CHEP2023](#), [arxiv:2304.08610](#)]
- *DNN for finding primary vertices in proton-proton collisions at the LHC* [[talk@CHEP2023](#), [arxiv:2309.12417](#)]
- *High-throughput machine learning inference with NVIDIA TensorRT* [[talk@CHEP2023](#)]
- *High-throughout GNN track reconstruction at LHCb* [[talk@CTD2023](#)]

## Simulation

- *The LHCb ultra-fast simulation option, LAMARR* [[talk@CHEP2023](#)]
- *From prototypes to large scale detectors: the Gaussino simulation framework* [[talk@CHEP2023](#)]

## Flavour tagging

- *Fast inclusive flavo(u)r tagging at LHCb* [[talk@CHEP2023](#)]