

The pile-up challenge and how to address it with 4D Tracking

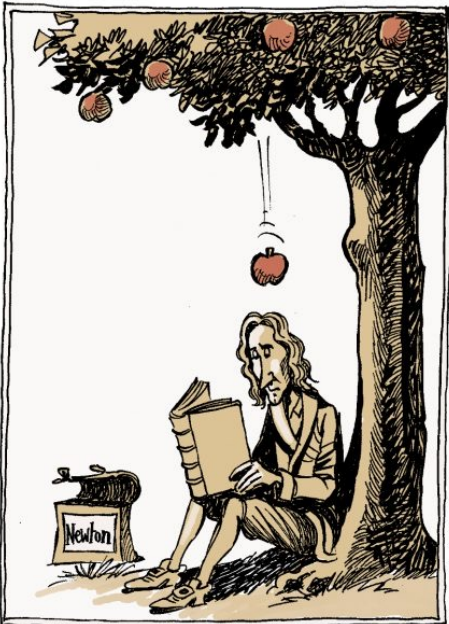
FCC-hh Studies for the next European Strategy: kickoff meeting

September 3rd, 2024

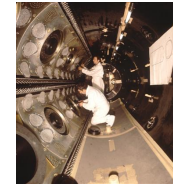
*Valentina M.M. Cairo, Ariel Schwartzman, P. Butti, P. Gessinger,
A. Salzburger, L. Santi, A. Stefl, N. Calace, S. Merianos, N. Hartman,
H. Yang, X. Ai, Y. Wang, et al.*

AT THE HEART OF COLLIDER PHYSICS: CHALLENGES AND BREAKTHROUGHS

Collisions That Changed The World



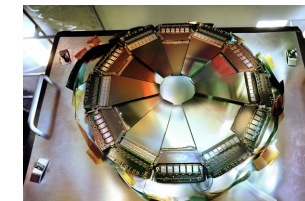
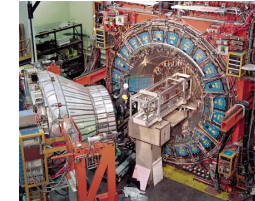
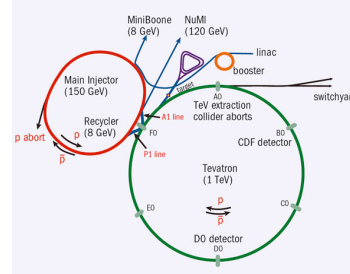
The weak neutral currents and the *bubble chamber* era



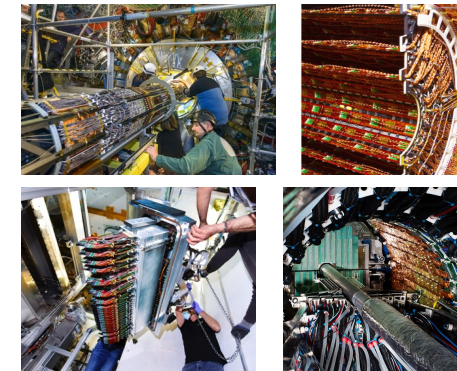
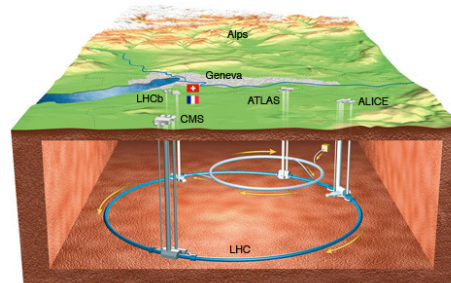
The W,Z bosons and the *drift chamber* era



The top quark and the *silicon strip* era

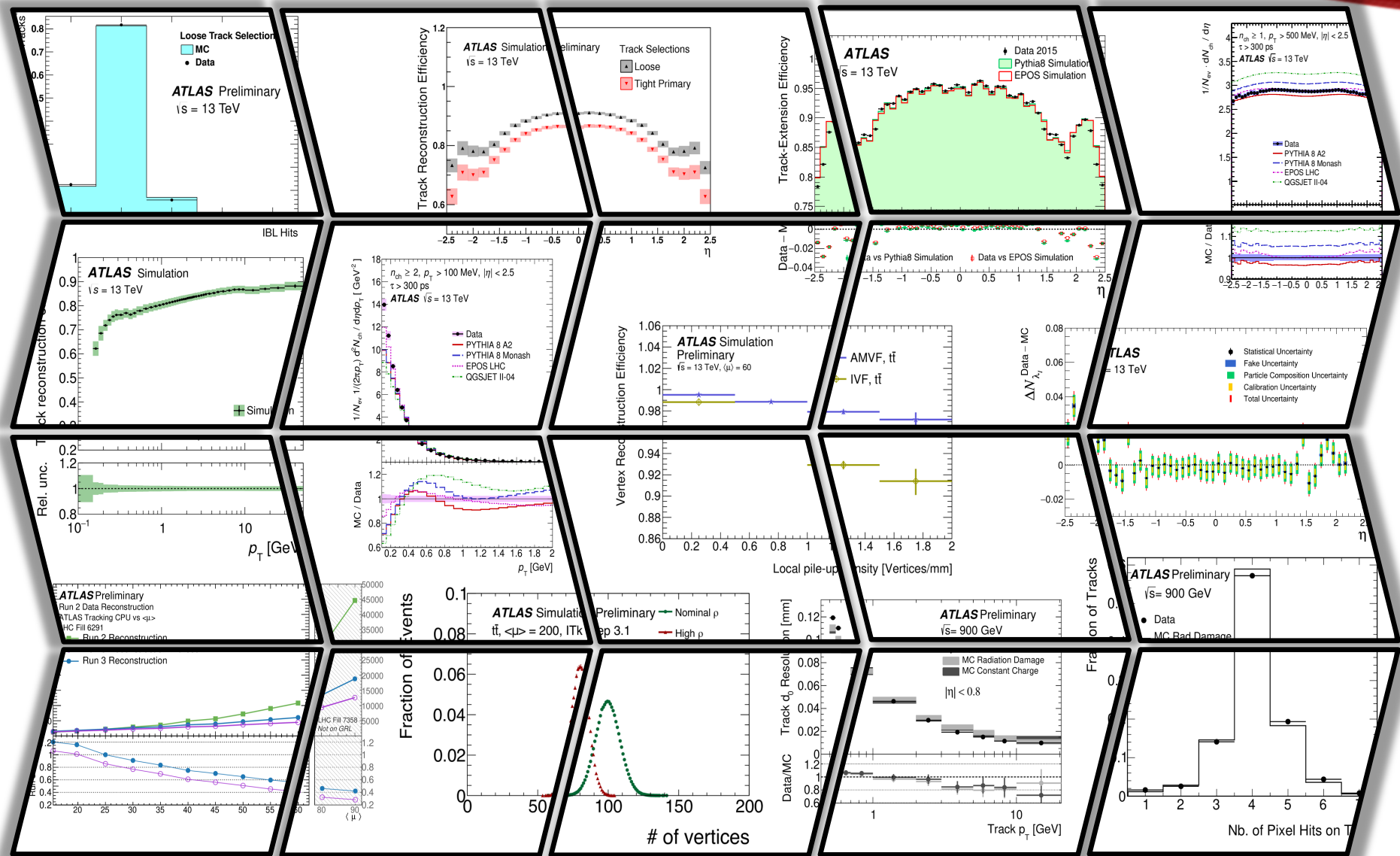


The Higgs boson (and more!) and the *silicon pixel* era

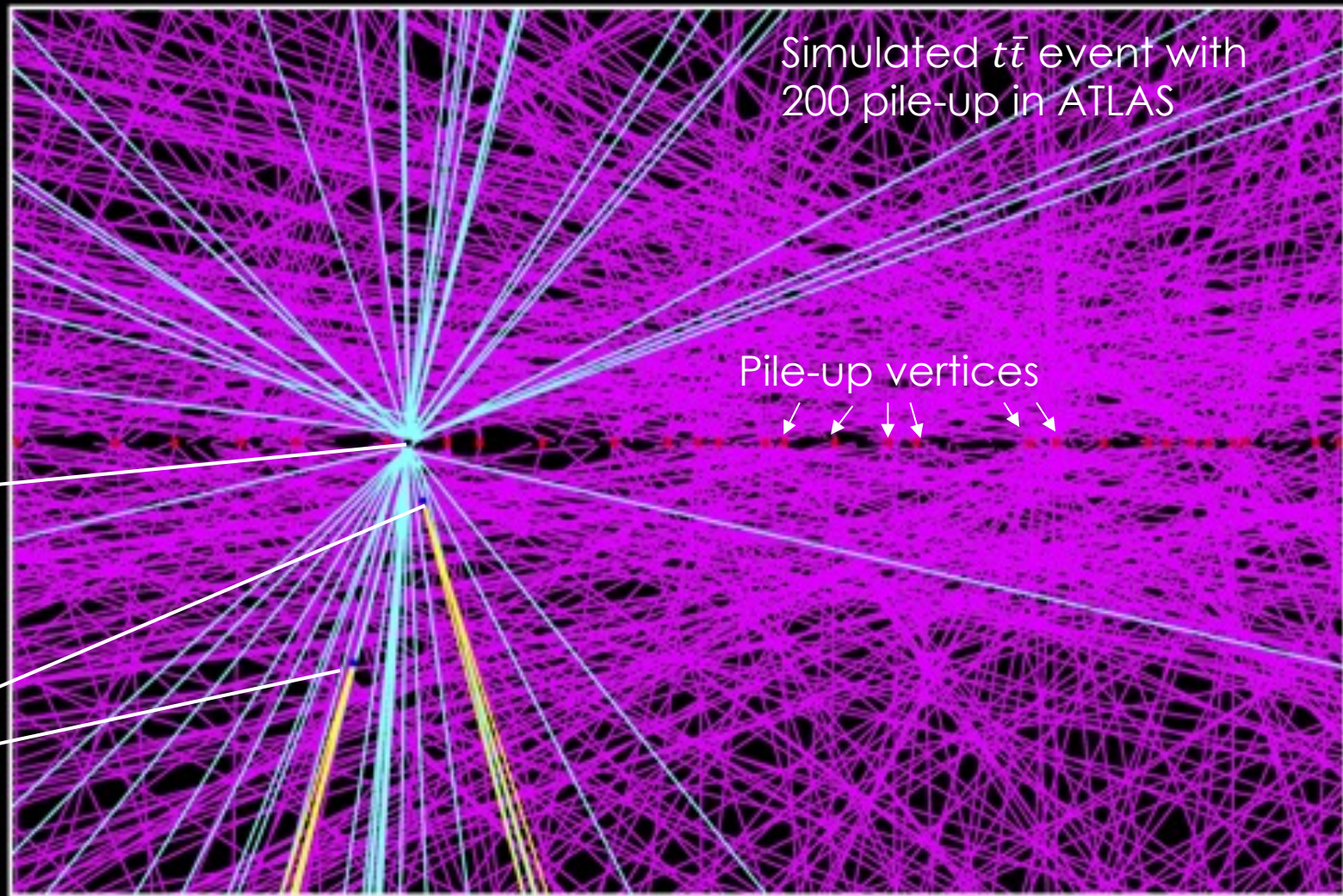


TRACKS AND VERTICES

The building blocks of physics events at colliders



THE PILE-UP CHALLENGE @ HADRON COLLIDERS



Simulated $t\bar{t}$ event with
200 pile-up in ATLAS

Pile-up vertices

2.5 mm

12 cm

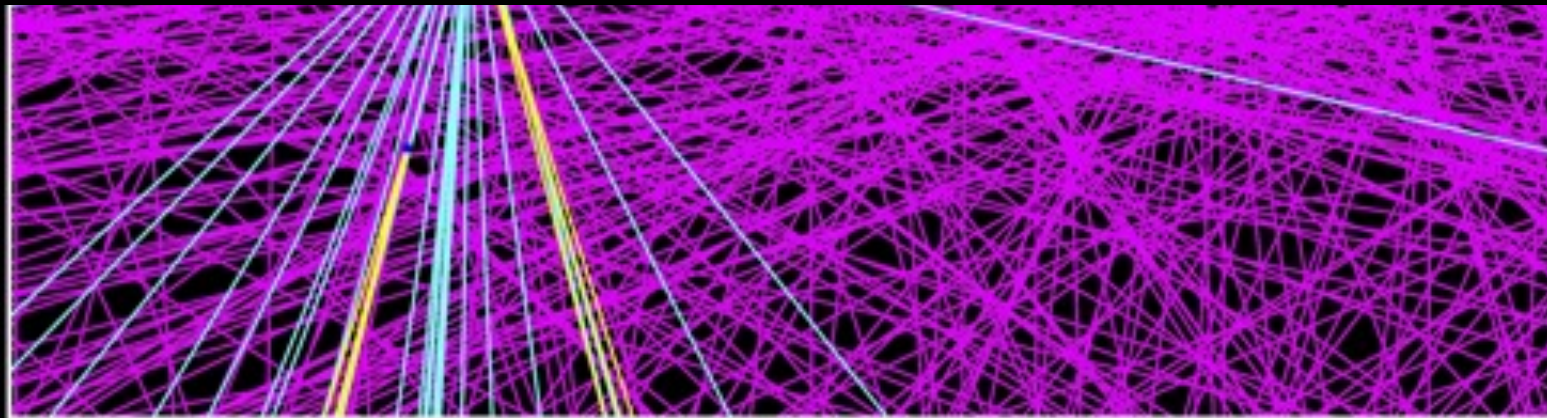
Signal candidate
vertex
("hard scatter")

Secondary
vertices

THE PILE-UP CHALLENGE @ HADRON COLLIDERS

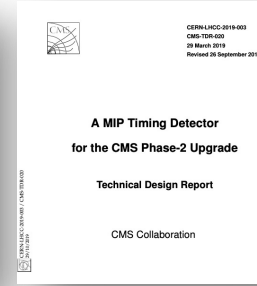
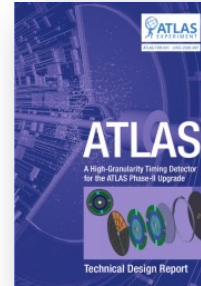


Misassociations of pile-up tracks to the hard-scatter vertex is likely.
If we could **determine** not only the position but also **the time** at which the hard-scatter occurred, pile-up contamination would be strongly reduced...



UNFOLDING A NEW DIMENSION

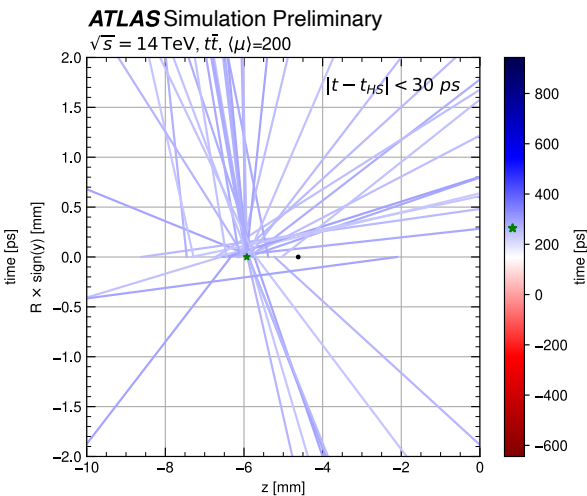
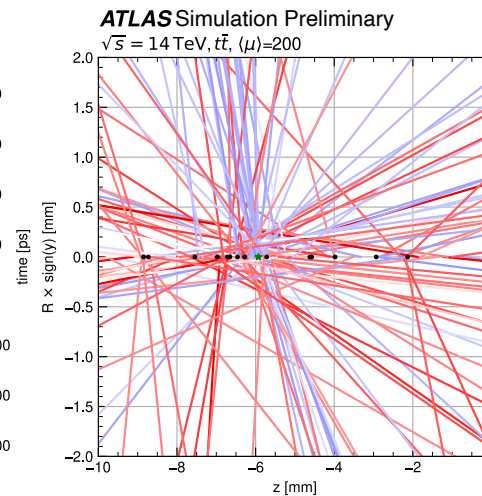
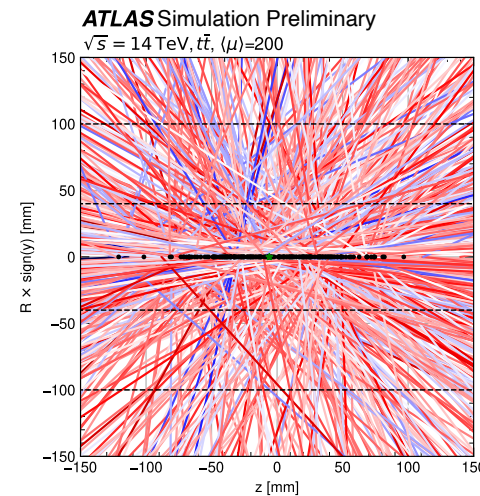
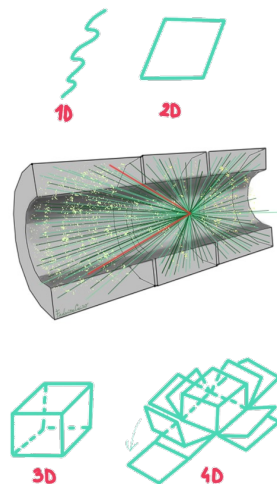
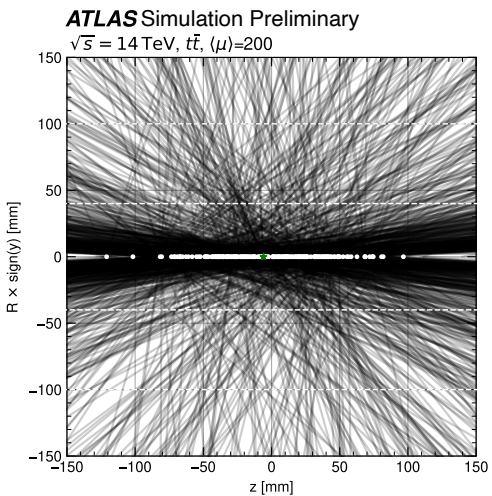
- Addition of timing layers to HEP detectors growing area of interest
- **Next step in advancing technologies are real 4-dimensional silicon trackers** (resolution of $\mathcal{O}(10 \mu\text{m})$ & $\mathcal{O}(10 \text{ps})$)
- **Excellent opportunity during HL-LHC and, in particular, for future energy frontier trackers**
 - First exploratory studies in ATLAS



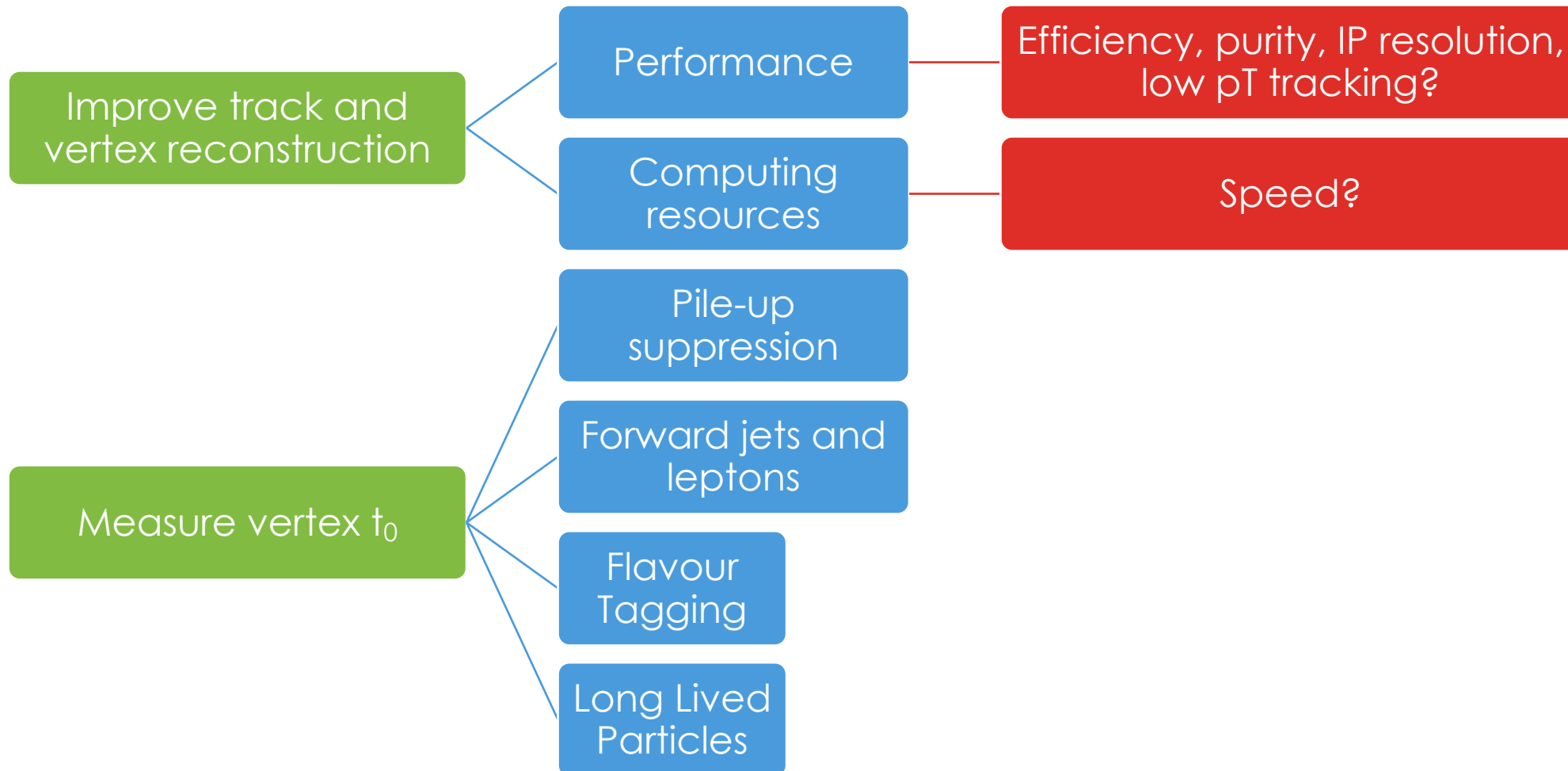
FLAVOUR PHYSICS | FEATURE

LHCb looks forward to the 2030s

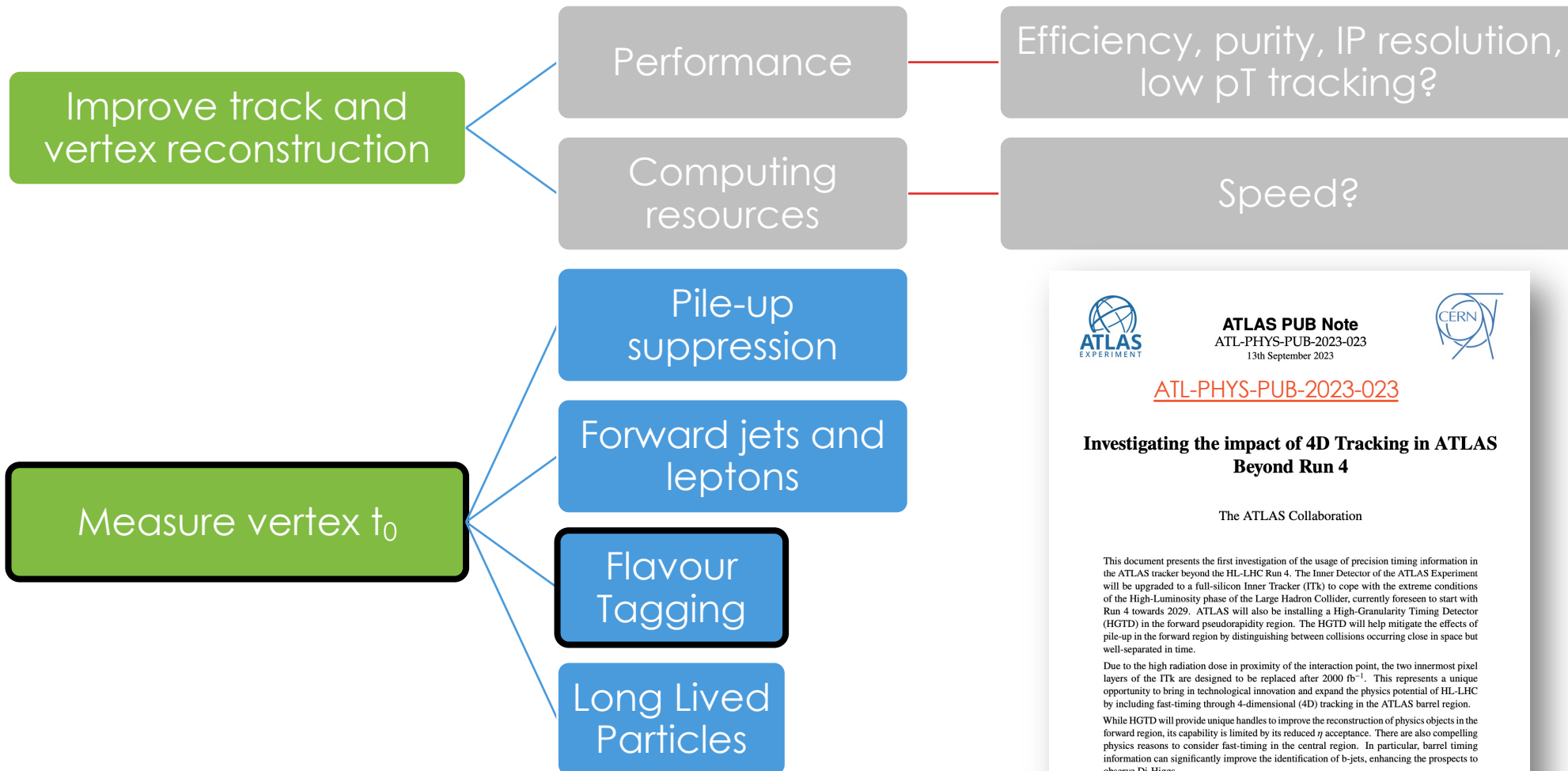
1 March 2023



IMPACT ON EXPERIMENTAL PERFORMANCE



IMPACT ON EXPERIMENTAL PERFORMANCE



ATLAS PUB Note
ATL-PHYS-PUB-2023-023
13th September 2023



[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2023-023](#)

Investigating the impact of 4D Tracking in ATLAS Beyond Run 4

The ATLAS Collaboration

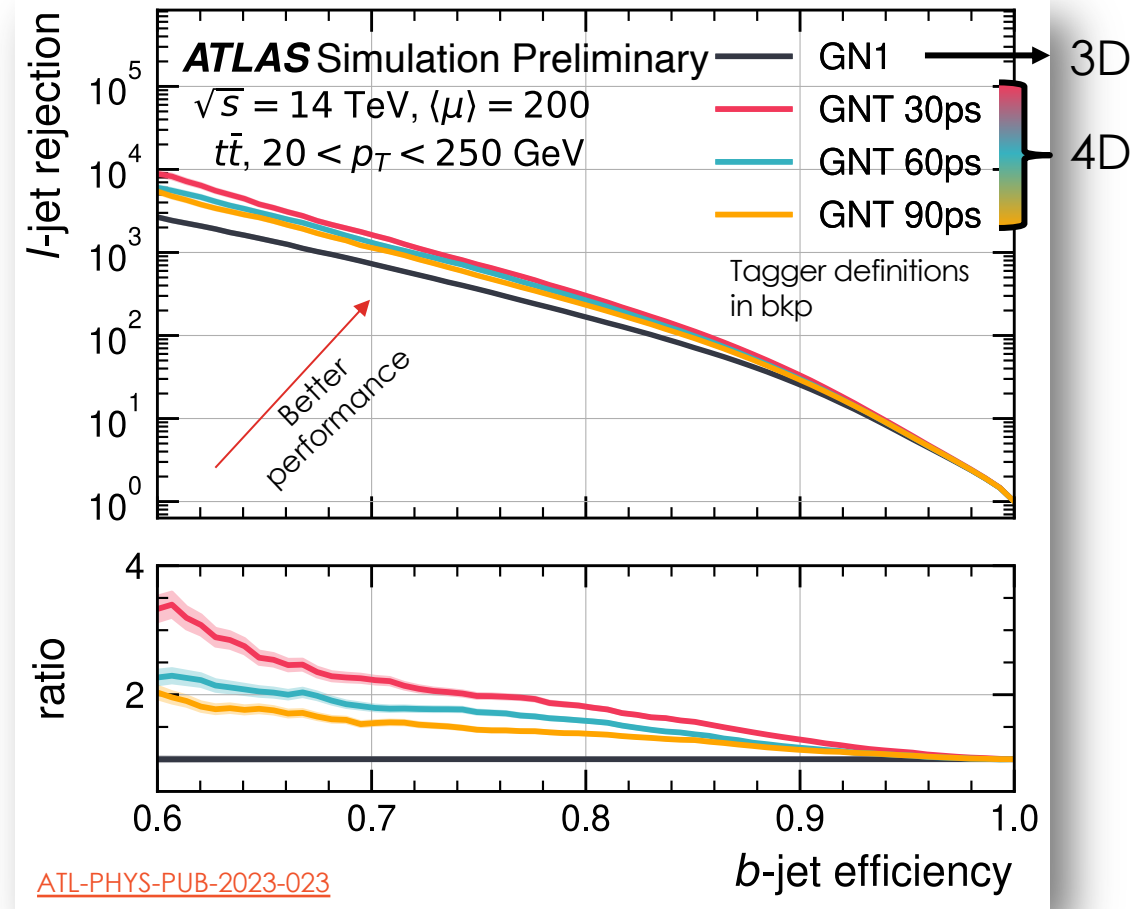
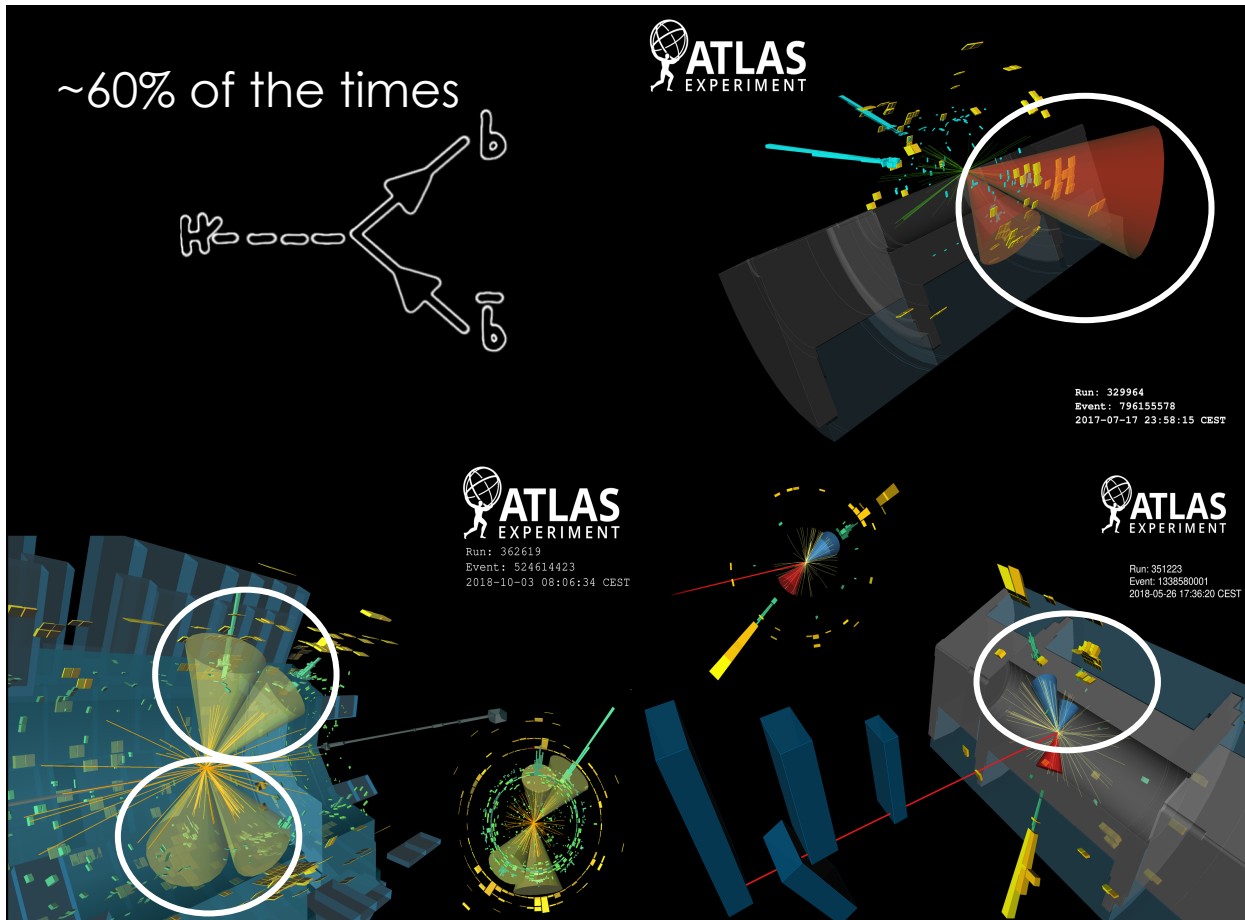
This document presents the first investigation of the usage of precision timing information in the ATLAS tracker beyond the HL-LHC Run 4. The Inner Detector of the ATLAS Experiment will be upgraded to a full-silicon Inner Tracker (ITk) to cope with the extreme conditions of the High-Luminosity phase of the Large Hadron Collider, currently foreseen to start with Run 4 towards 2029. ATLAS will also be installing a High-Granularity Timing Detector (HGTD) in the forward pseudorapidity region. The HGTD will help mitigate the effects of pile-up in the forward region by distinguishing between collisions occurring close in space but well-separated in time.

Due to the high radiation dose in proximity of the interaction point, the two innermost pixel layers of the ITk are designed to be replaced after 2000 fb⁻¹. This represents a unique opportunity to bring in technological innovation and expand the physics potential of HL-LHC by including fast-timing through 4-dimensional (4D) tracking in the ATLAS barrel region.

While HGTD will provide unique handles to improve the reconstruction of physics objects in the forward region, its capability is limited by its reduced η acceptance. There are also compelling physics reasons to consider fast-timing in the central region. In particular, barrel timing information can significantly improve the identification of b-jets, enhancing the prospects to observe Di-Higgs.

This note documents the main physics impacts that a 4D tracking upgrade beyond Run 4 could have in ATLAS. The studies are based on full simulated Monte Carlo samples, but use a simplified, and idealistic, model for track-time resolution. The goal is to assess early the physics merits of timing information in the central pseudorapidity region, before a dedicated long-term simulation effort is potentially launched as a second step.

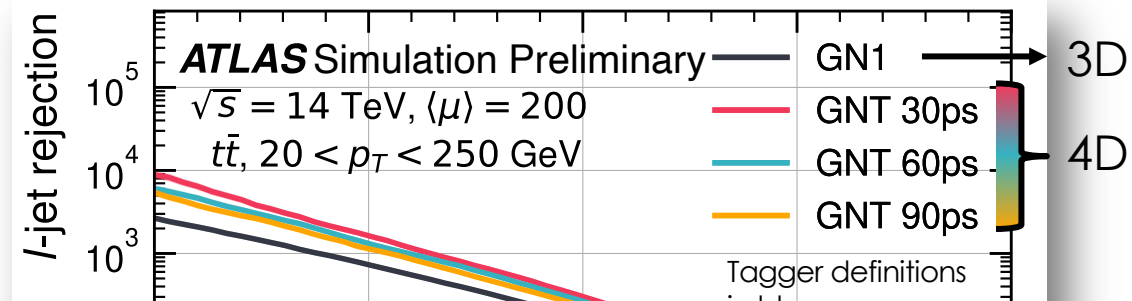
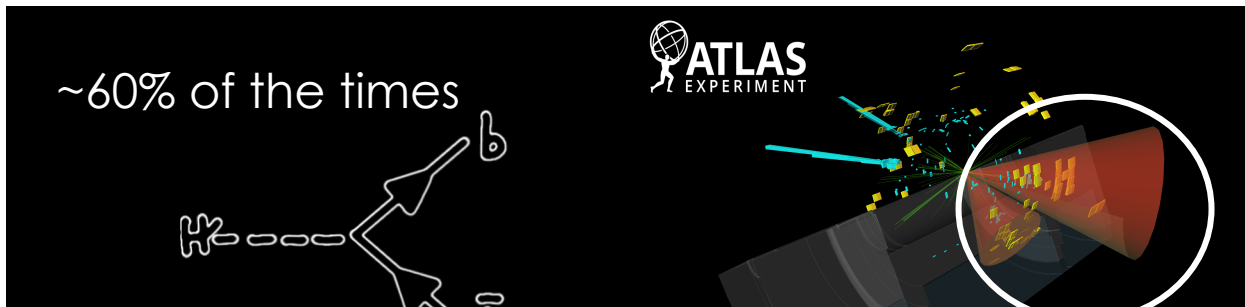
4-DIMENSIONAL TRACKING & *b*-TAGGING



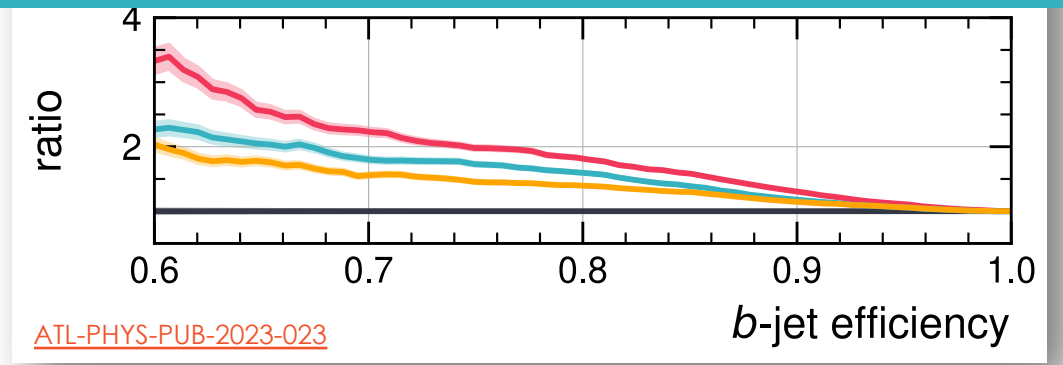
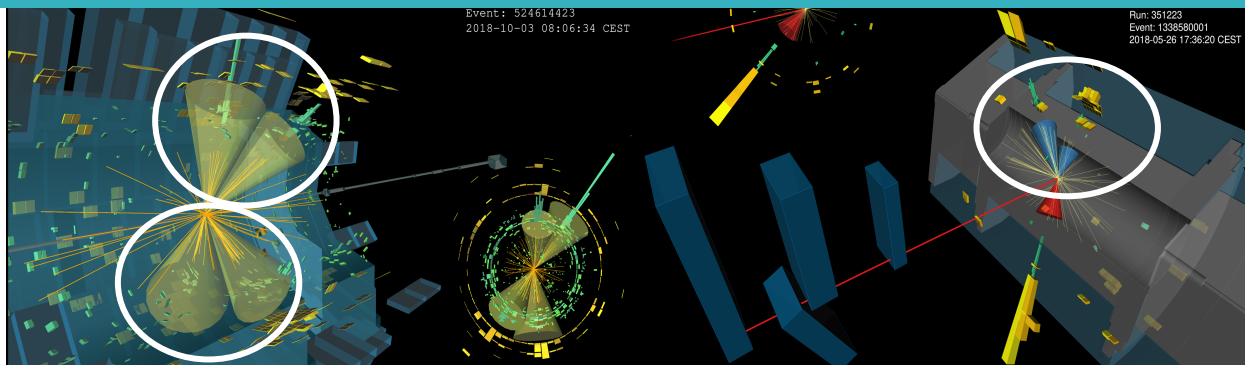
Interesting potential *HH* sensitivity increase!

Could boost the reach of rarer *HH* production modes, e.g. *ttHH*

4-DIMENSIONAL TRACKING & *b*-TAGGING



This is an executive summary, much more on the determination of the vertex time and on the GNT physics is in the extra slides, happy to talk more about it if there are questions!



Interesting potential *HH* sensitivity increase!

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BEYOND ATLAS

4D Tracking has applications in all **Future Collider experiments** (review paper [here](#) written during the Snowmass 2021 exercise)

- FCC-hh (1000 pile-up) was also previously studied and mentioned in there

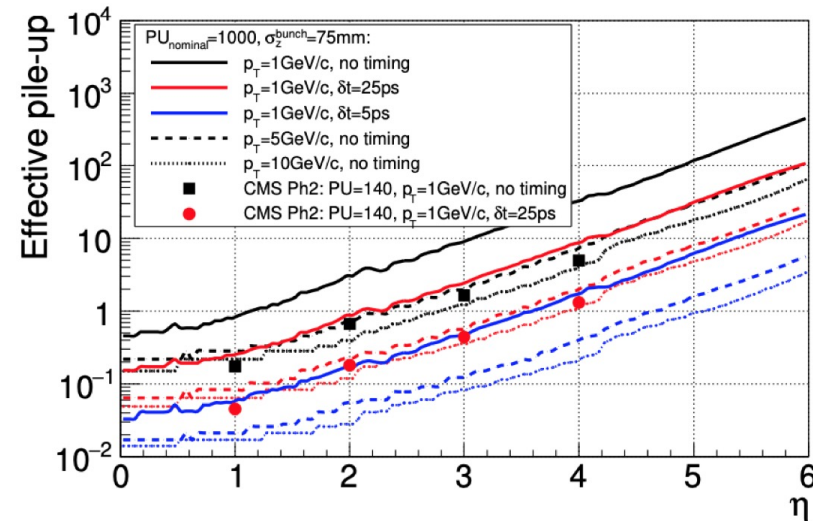


Figure 1: From Ref. [9]. An effective pile-up in the FCC-hh tracker. Several options of timing resolution per track in 3D vertexing are assumed: no timing (black), $\delta t = 25$ ps (red) and $\delta t = 5$ ps (blue). Several p_T values are shown: 1 GeV/c (solid), 5 GeV/c (dashed) and 10 GeV/c (dotted). For reference the effective pile-up for CMS Phase 2 layout, $p_T = 1$ GeV/c and nominal pile-up=140 is added.

Extreme timing resolution of 5 - 10 ps per track is essential to keep the effective pileup low and prevent the merging of unrelated vertices

ACTS-BASED STUDIES



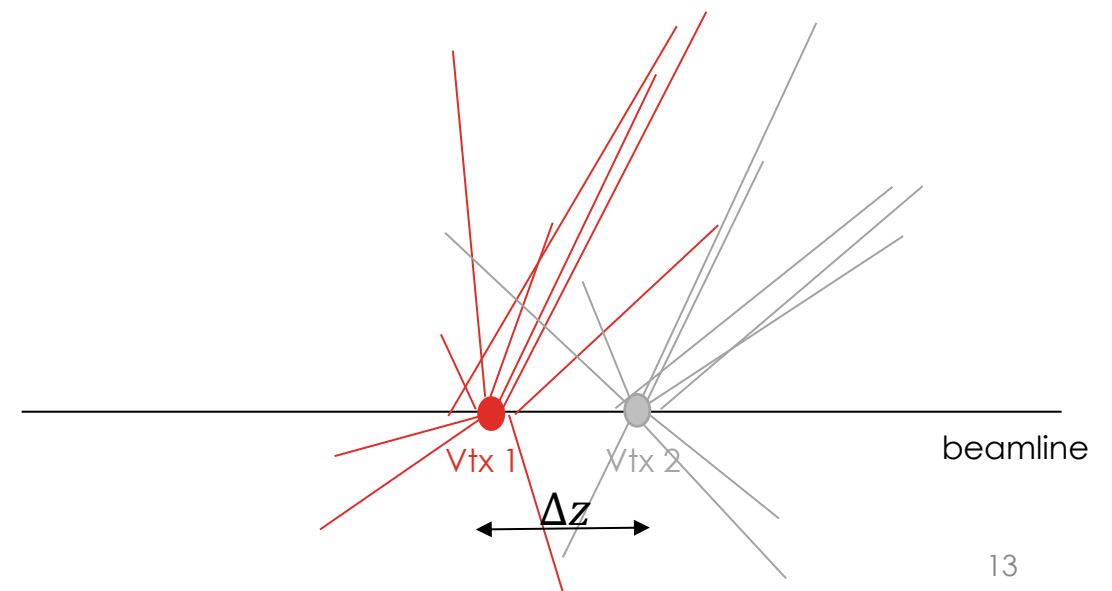
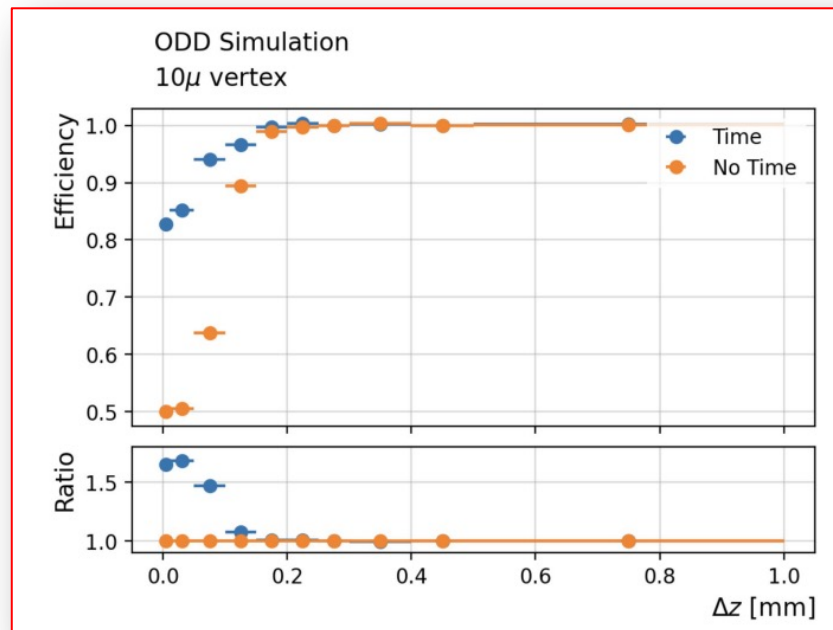
A Common Tracking Software (ACTS): very useful library to perform time-assisted track reconstruction, will be adopted by ATLAS during HL-LHC, already adopted in Run 3 for ATLAS vertexing and employed by several other experiments (running and/or future):

- Embedded time measurement as one of the 6 track parameters
- We can perform detailed hit-to-track and track-to-vertex association studies
- Offer a generic **Open Data Detector (ODD)** layout for a silicon tracker

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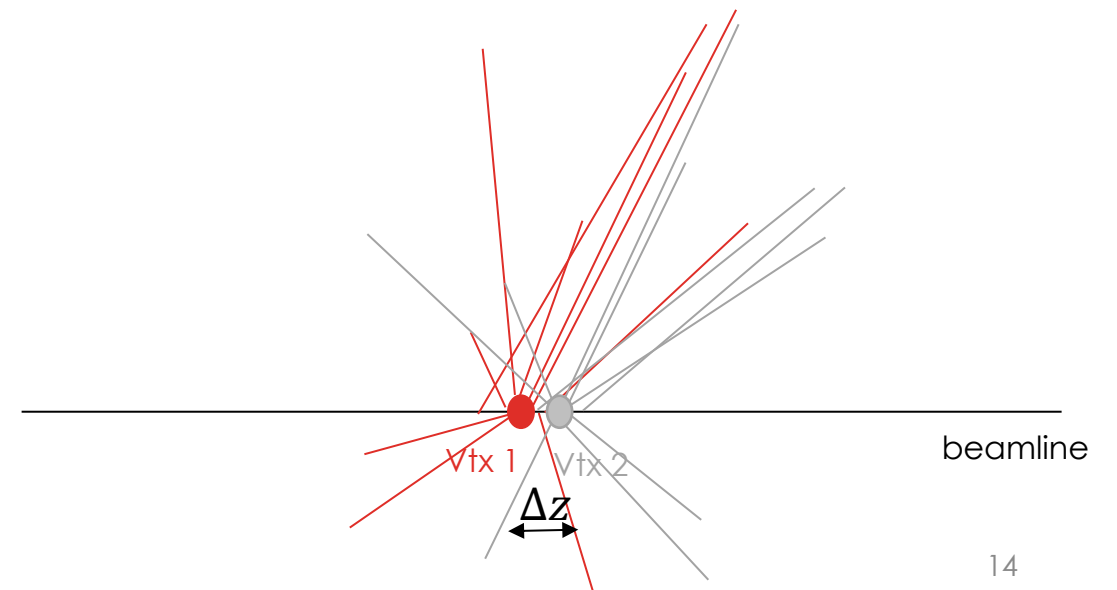
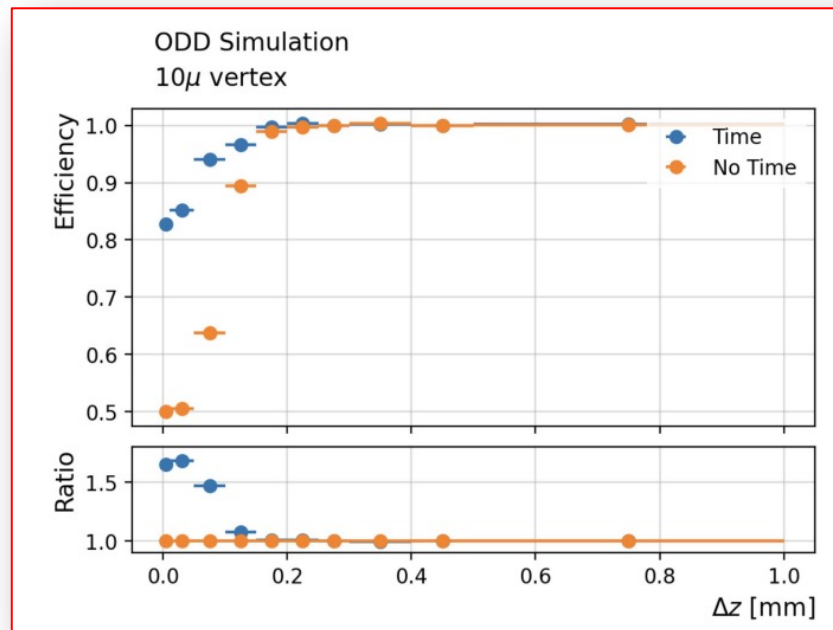
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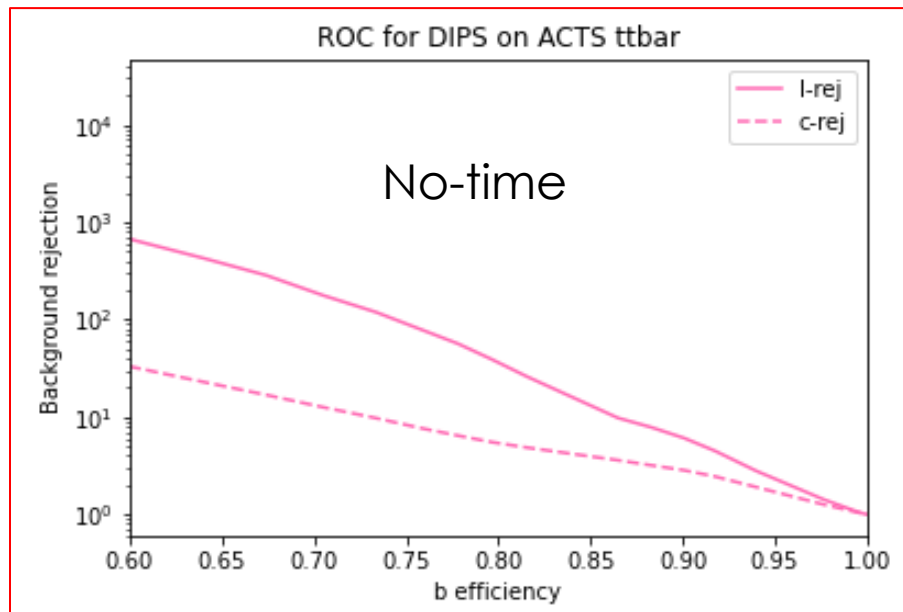
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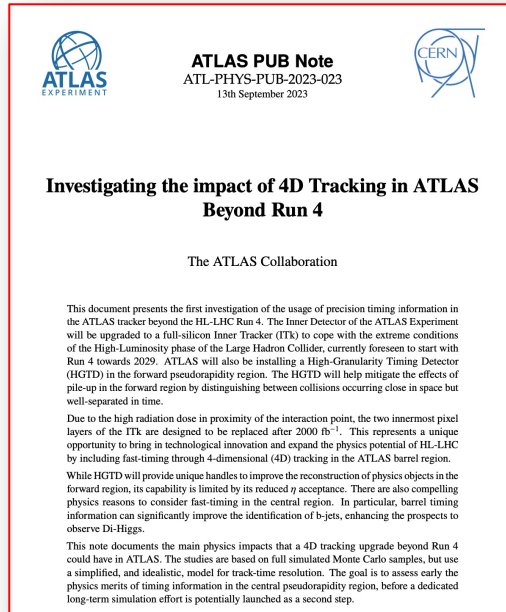
- Furthermore, jet reconstruction algorithms (e.g. Fast Jet) **can and have been** interfaced with ACTS to build particle level jets, which can in turn be used for jet and flavour tagging studies



Incoming student to complete the studies with timing information

THE CURRENT TEAM (ALGO)

Me & Lorenzo Santi (CERN)
Ariel Schwartzman (SLAC)



Four-dimensional Vertexing: algorithm and performance

Pierfrancesco Butti^{a,b}, Valentina M. M. Cairo^b, Paul Gessinger-Befurt^b,
Andreas Salzburger^b, Lorenzo Santi^{b,c}, Ariel Schwartzman^a, Andreas Steff^b, and
Felix Russo^b

^aSLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, 2575 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, California 94025-7015, USA

^bExperimental Physics Department, CERN, Geneva, Switzerland

^cINFN and Sapienza University of Rome

September 3, 2024

Time assisted flavour-tagging with a generic detector layout

Pierfrancesco Butti^{a,b}, Valentina M. M. Cairo^b, Nicole Hartman^c, Camille Mauceri^d,
Lorenzo Santi^b, Ariel Schwartzman^a, Andraz Tomsic^e, and Madison VanWyngarden^d

^aSLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, 2575 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, California 94025-7015, USA

^bExperimental Physics Department, CERN, Geneva, Switzerland

^cTechnical University of Munich, Arcisstraße 21, Munich, Bavaria, 80333, Germany

^dBoston University, Commonwealth Ave, Boston, MA 02215, USA

^eJozef Stefan Institute, Jamova cesta 39, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenija

Layout studies and Material Budget studies: Me, P. Butti,
A. Schwartzman, N. Calace, S. Merianos, etc

Other tracking experts in the CERN team also involved: M. Elsing, etc

Recently-initiated collaboration
with USTC and Zhengzhou
University on low-level tracking

A WORD ON TECHNOLOGY

- Several groups working on **developing 4D tracking technologies that could meet the HL-LHC specifications should such replacements take place**, but intensive **R&D is still required and several options are being looked at**:
 - Hybrid Low Gain (DC, AC-coupled), monolithic Low Gain, hybrid No Gain (Planar, 3D), monolithic No Gain (CMOS), and many more!

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 - Hybrid Low Gain (DC, AC-coupled), monolithic Low Gain, hybrid No Gain (Planar, 3D), monolithic No Gain (CMOS), and many more!
- **Radiation Hardness is a key challenge!**
 - At the **HL-LHC** the innermost layers are placed at **$O(30)$ mm** from the IP and will receive doses of **$O(10)$ MGy** after **2 ab^{-1}** of data
 - At **FCC-hh**, radius of **$O(20)$ mm**, radiation levels **0.4 GGy expected after 30 ab^{-1}** and a fluence of 6×10^{17} per cm^2 1 MeV neq.
 - These are approximately **30 times (600 times) more intense than the environment at the HL-LHC (LHC)**.
 - Dedicated R&D efforts for **extreme timing resolutions and radiation hardness** is needed. These will also be correlated with the spatial resolution and the changes in the material budget, thus analyzing the interplay among them is of key interest

SUMMARY & NEXT STEPS

- Very first investigation of **4D Tracking** impact as a replacement of the ATLAS innermost ITk layers:
 - **Vertex t_0 resolution** and impact on **b-tagging** has been demonstrated
 - Both aspects are **being extended to the ACTS realm**
- **More in-depth Tracking & Vertexing studies started with ODD**
 - Complete 4D vertexing implemented in ACTS
 - Preliminary seeding CPU gain explored (extra slides)
 - Started to look at layout studies to estimate impact of material budget changes, potential pitch changes etc

SUMMARY & NEXT STEPS

- **Some of the conclusions from these studies could be included in the EU Strategy report either as they are or adapted to FCC if time allows**
 - Tracking and b-tagging performance
 - FCC-hh layout and time requirements (how many layers, what time resolution, etc.)
 - Explore trigger capabilities
- J. Nierman (EP R&D fellow) and A. Salzburger will translate the FCC-hh (Tracker) into ACTS, in particular to [detray](#)/[traccc](#) to play with the mu-1000 scenario
- New collaborators are very welcome to join and we could consider more FCC-dedicated studies

CONCLUSIONS

- Our team is broadly investigating 4D tracking in various contexts: HL-LHC, FCC-ee ToF, muC, and FCC-hh, with extensive usage of ACTS ODD
- 4D Tracking is a unique handle for pile-up rejection at hadron colliders
- Both algorithms and technologies are being developed and offer interesting opportunities for HL-LHC and, even more so, FCC-hh!

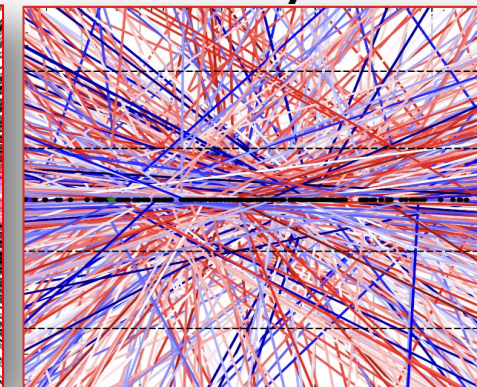
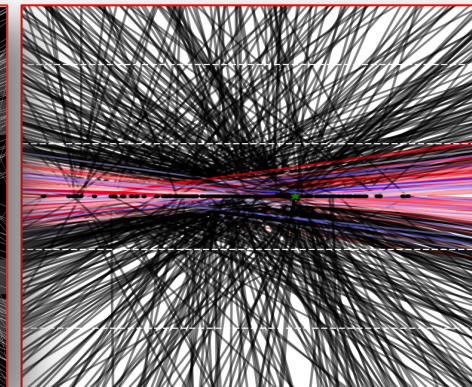
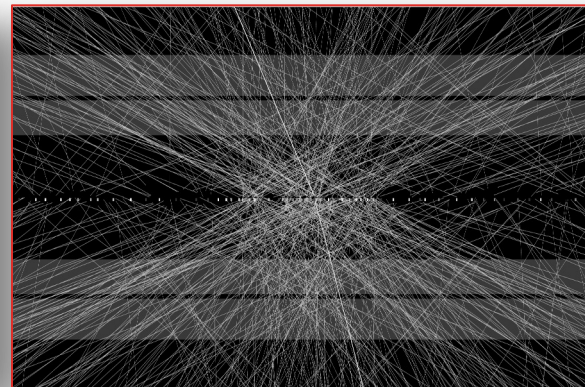
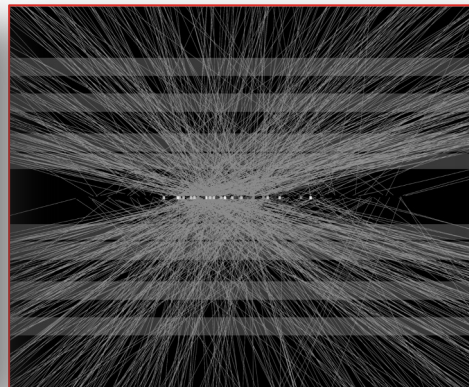
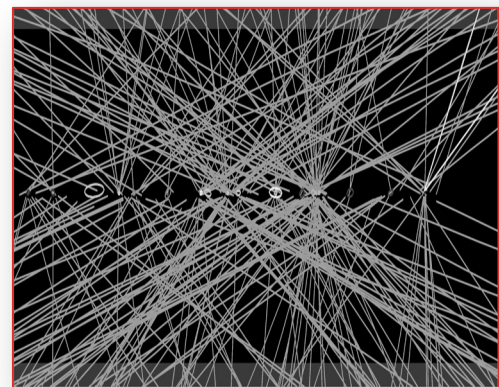
2009

2015

2022

2029

...and beyond?



$\langle \text{pile-up} \rangle \sim 20$

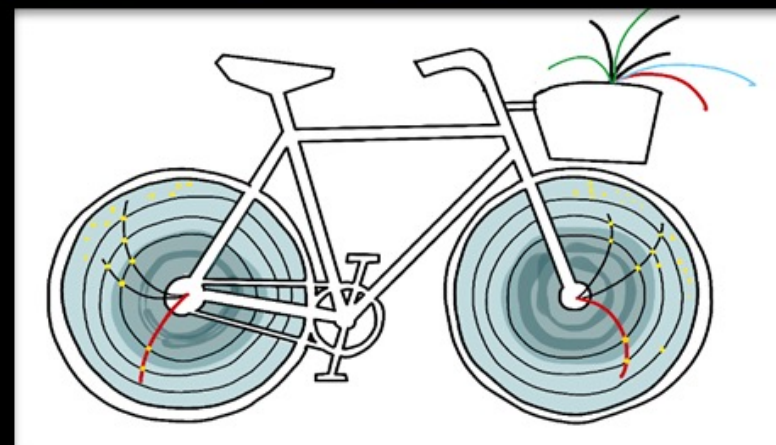
$\langle \text{pile-up} \rangle \sim 30$

$\langle \text{pile-up} \rangle \sim 60$

$\langle \text{pile-up} \rangle \sim 140$

$\langle \text{pile-up} \rangle \sim 200$

THANK YOU!



E.T. Exploring Tracking-lands, by F. Cairo

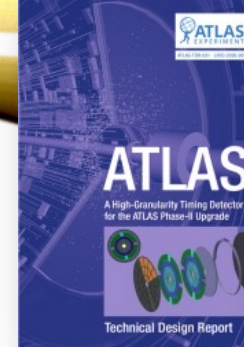
Valentina Maria Martina Cairo

EXTRA SLIDES

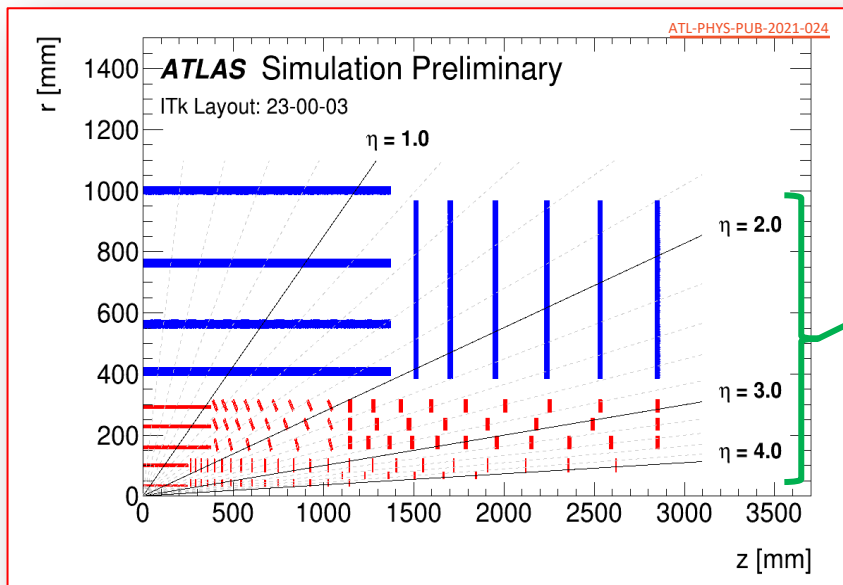


UNFOLDING A NEW DIMENSION

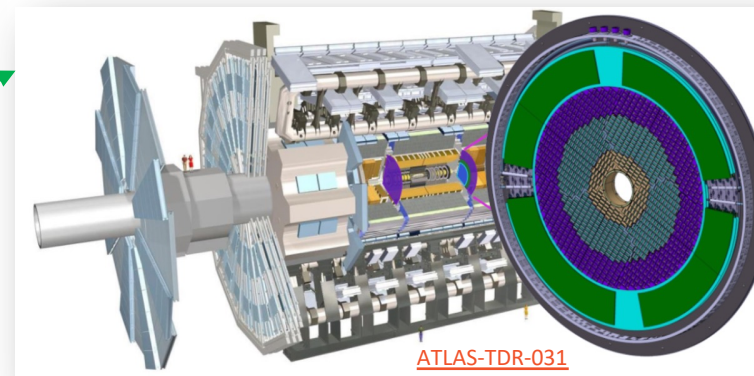
Addition of timing layers to HEP detectors growing area of interest



03.09.24

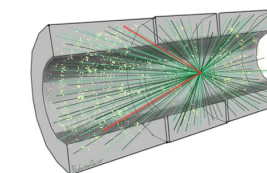


High Granularity Timing Detector



New handles to improve event reconstruction in the forward region, but limited by its reduced η acceptance...

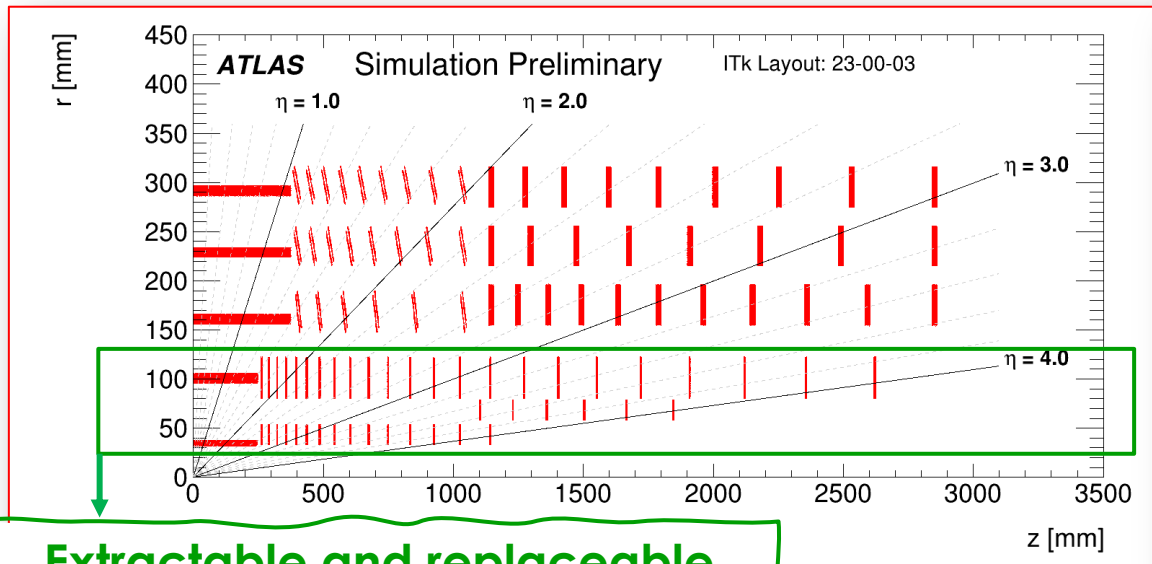
Can we maximize the ATLAS physics potential beyond Run 4 by extending the timing coverage to the full η acceptance?



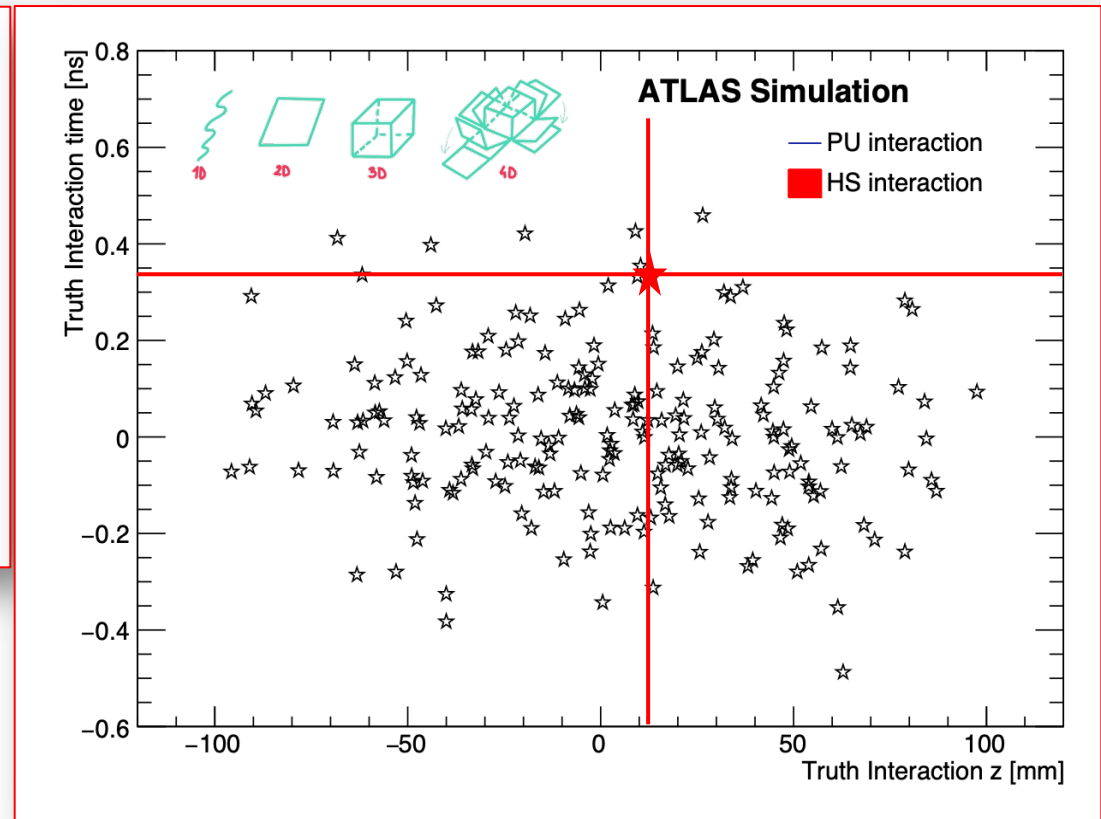
UNFOLDING A NEW DIMENSION

Next step in advancing technologies are real 4-dimensional silicon trackers (resolution of $O(10 \mu m)$ & $O(10 ps)$)

- Excellent opportunity during HL-LHC and, in particular, for future energy frontier trackers
- **First exploratory studies in ATLAS**
 - Also looked at in LHCb



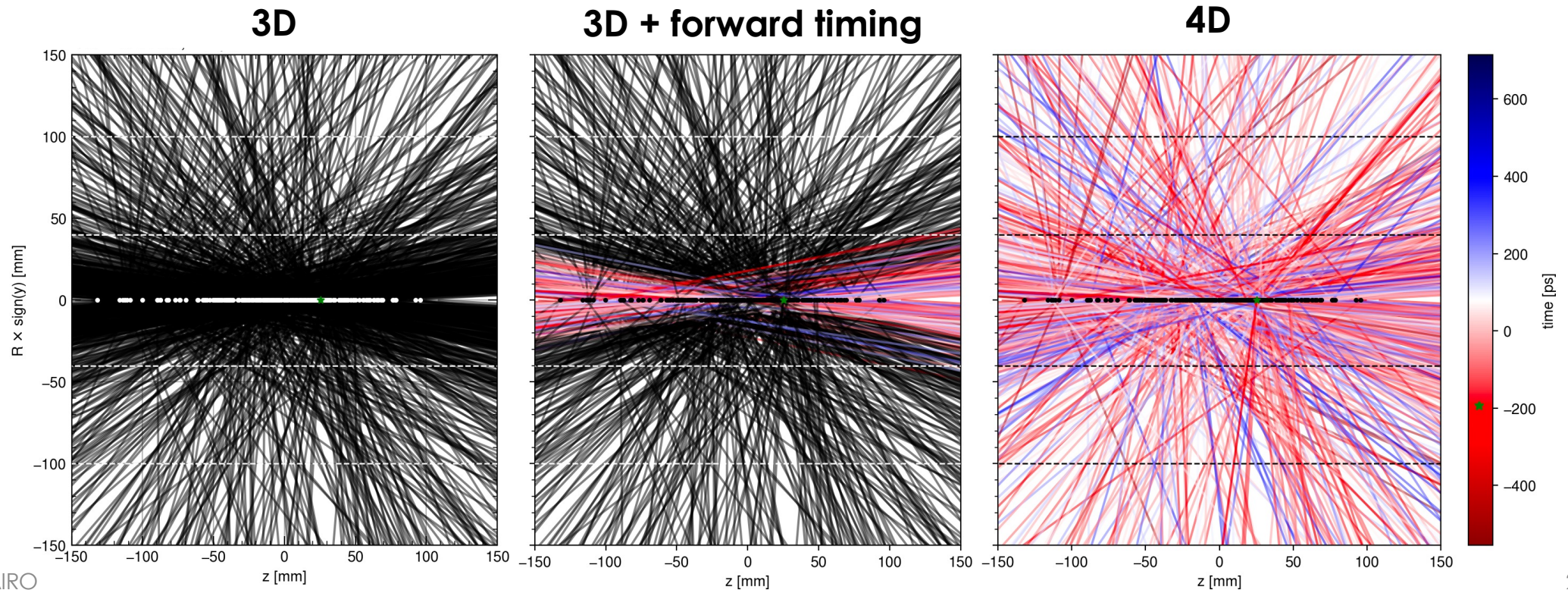
**Extractable and replaceable
half-way through HL-LHC
(rad-hard up to 10-15 MGy)**



UNFOLDING A NEW DIMENSION

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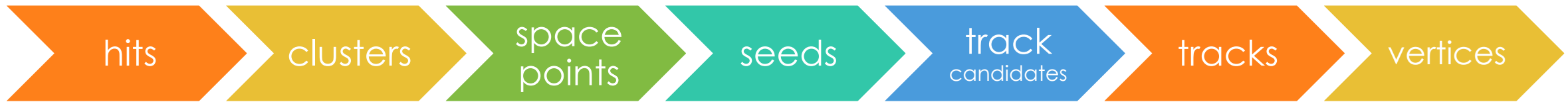
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THE RECONSTRUCTION CHAIN



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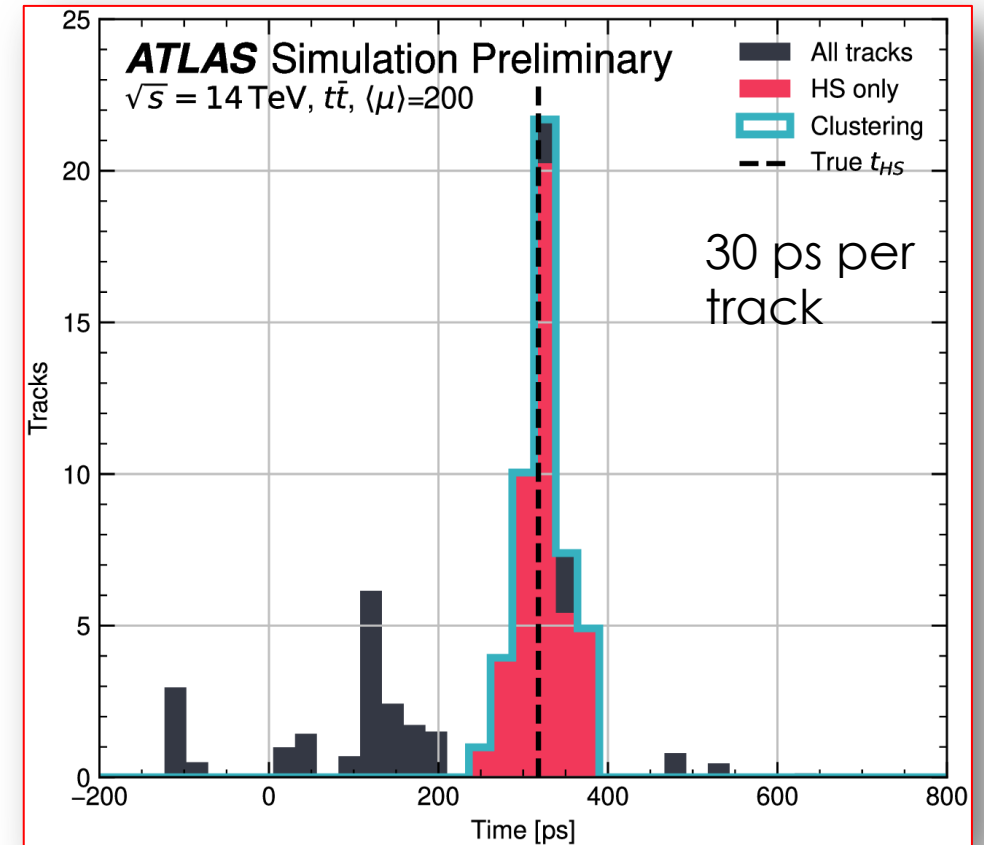
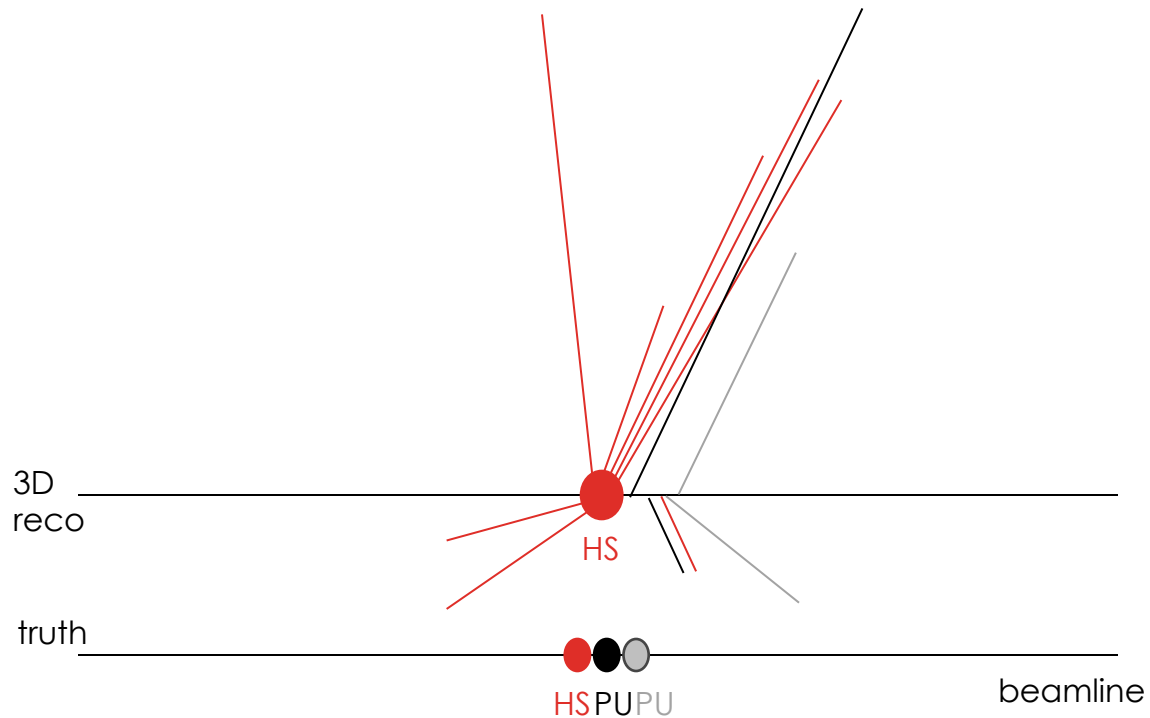


In this first study, track-time was added here, based on truth information and smeared by 30, 60, 90 ps

N.B. track-time, not hit-time

DETERMINING THE VERTEX TIME

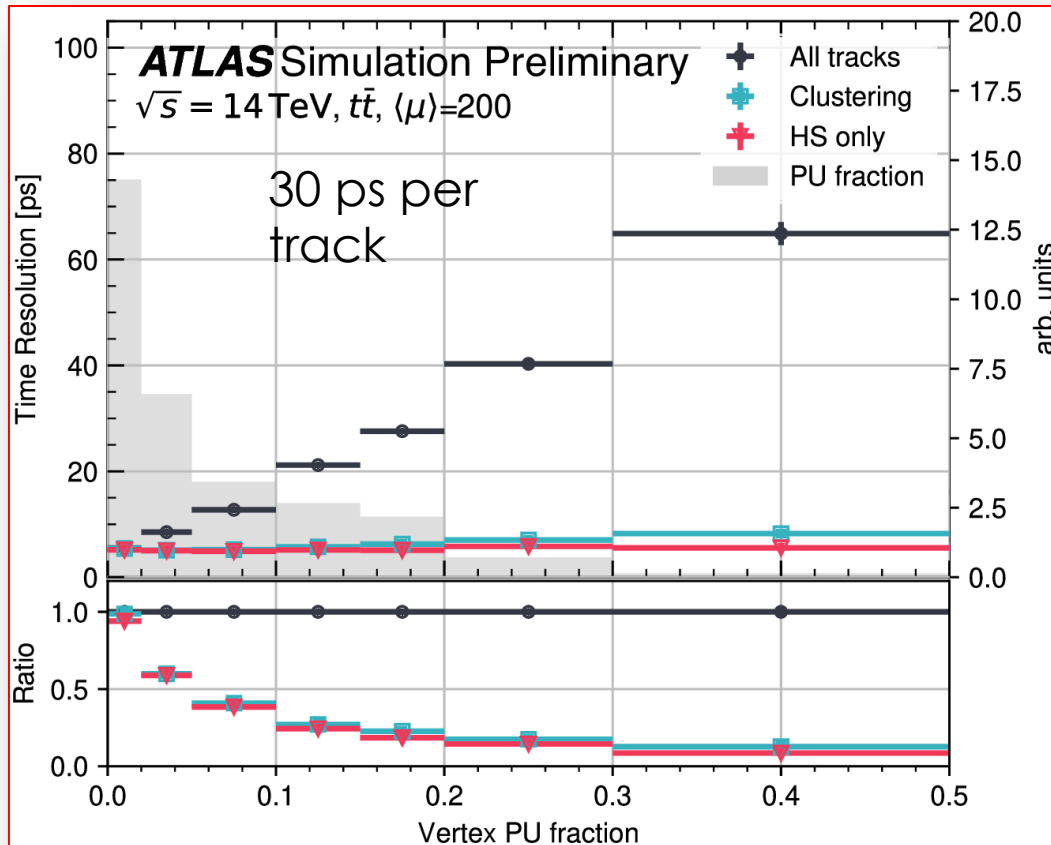
- With 4D tracking, **each** charged particle would have a timestamp
- Determining **vertex time crucial for reconstruction/identification of other objects**, e.g. b-jets



Time clustering a posteriori on 3D vertex
 → spurious tracks removed effectively!

DETERMINING THE VERTEX TIME

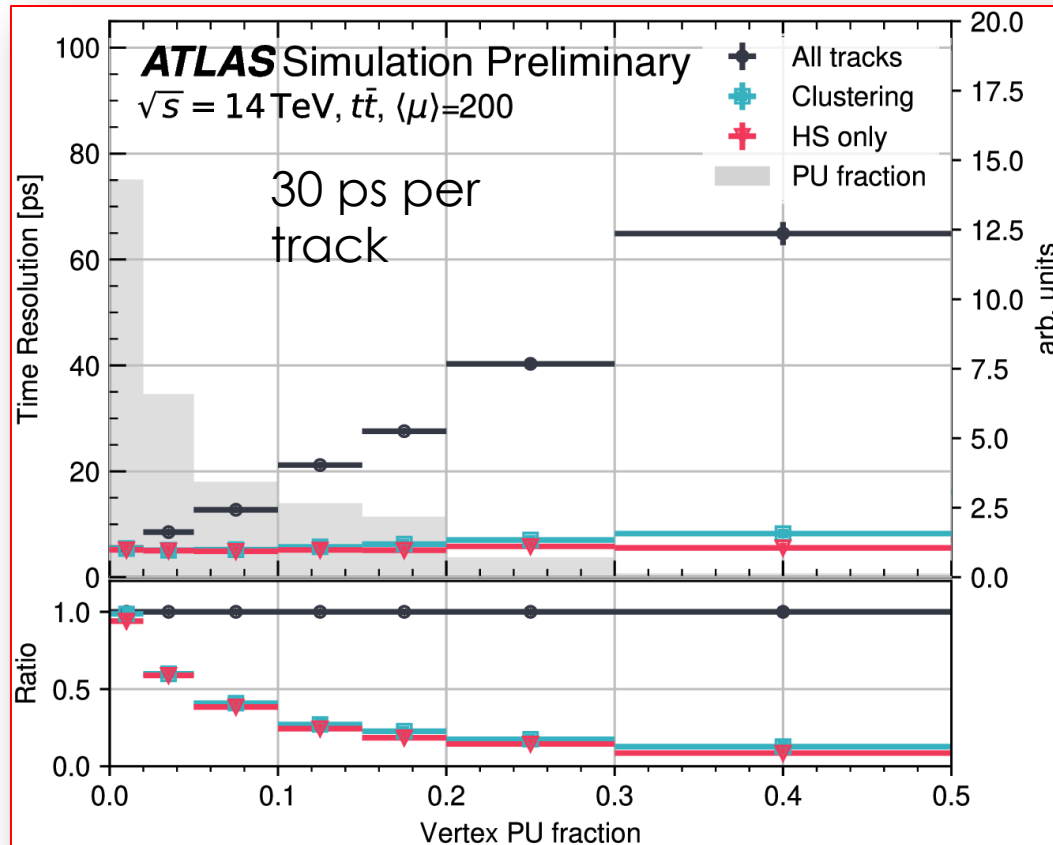
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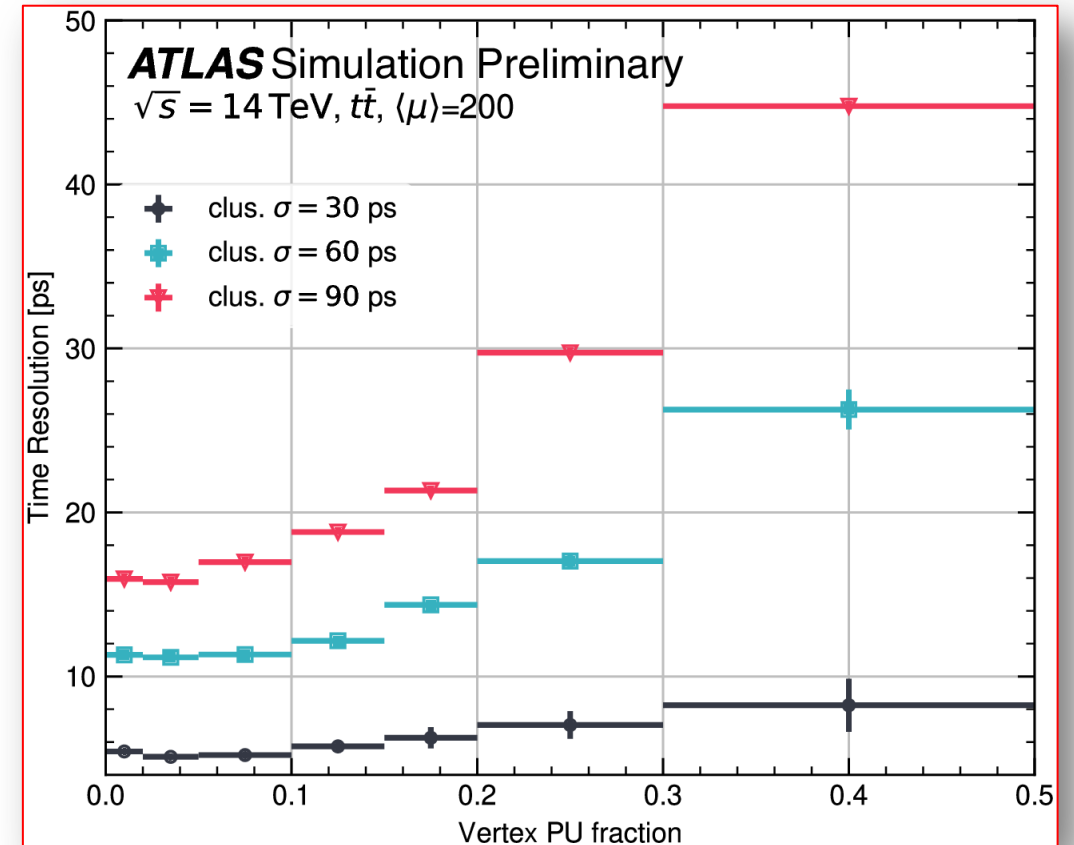
Excellent vertex time resolution can be achieved

DETERMINING THE VERTEX TIME

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- Determining **vertex time crucial for reconstruction/identification of other objects**, e.g. b-jets

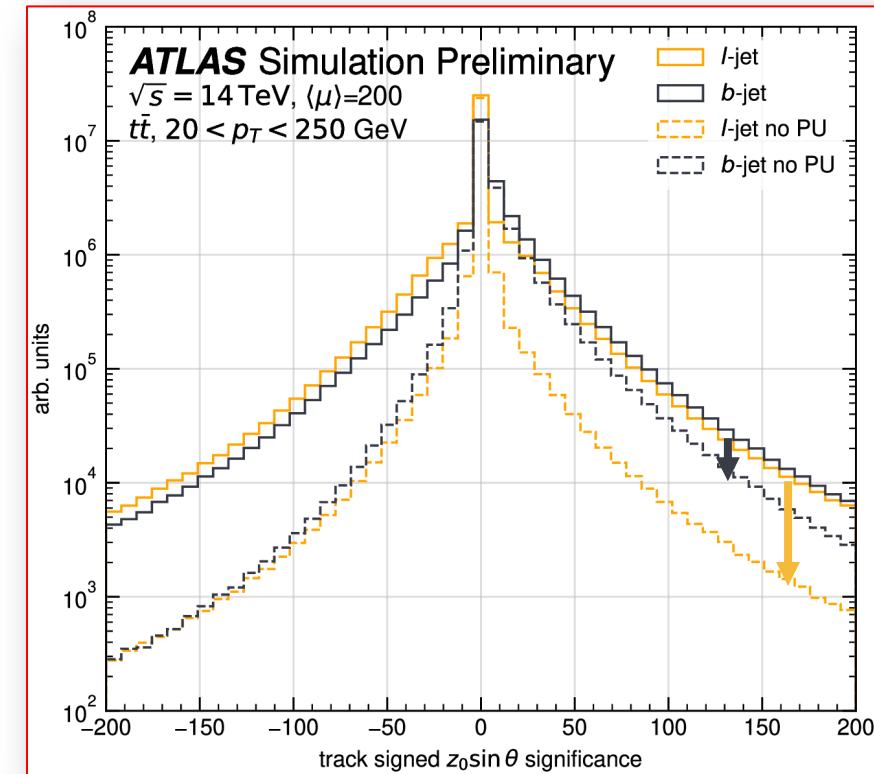
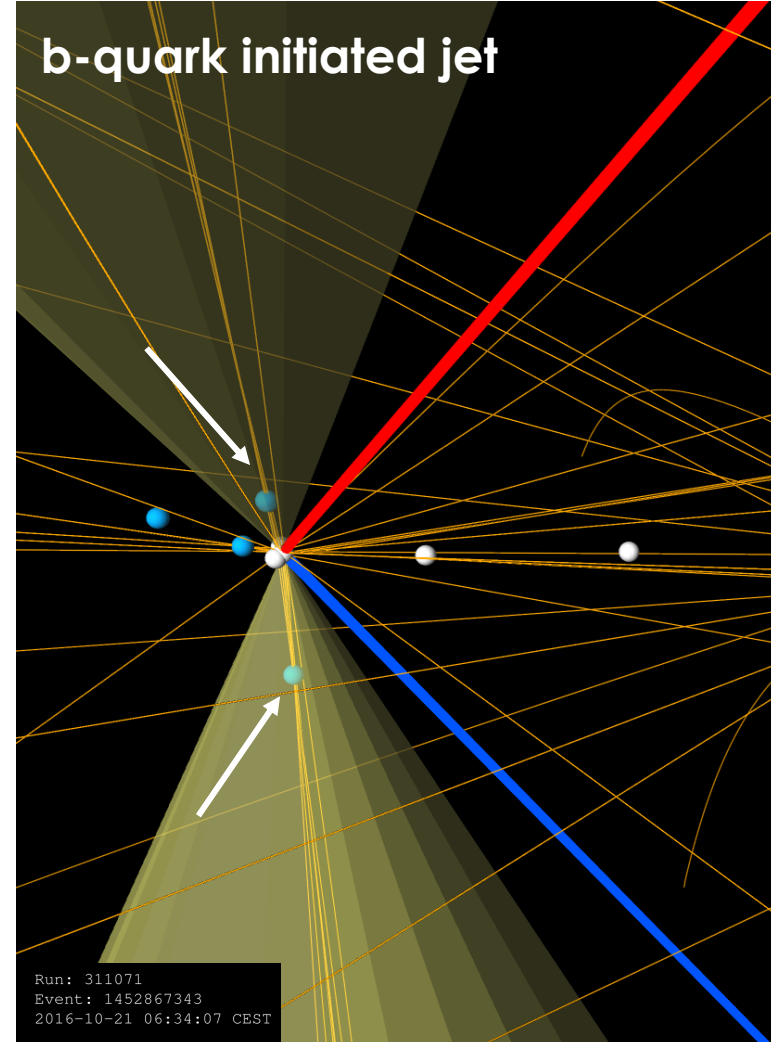
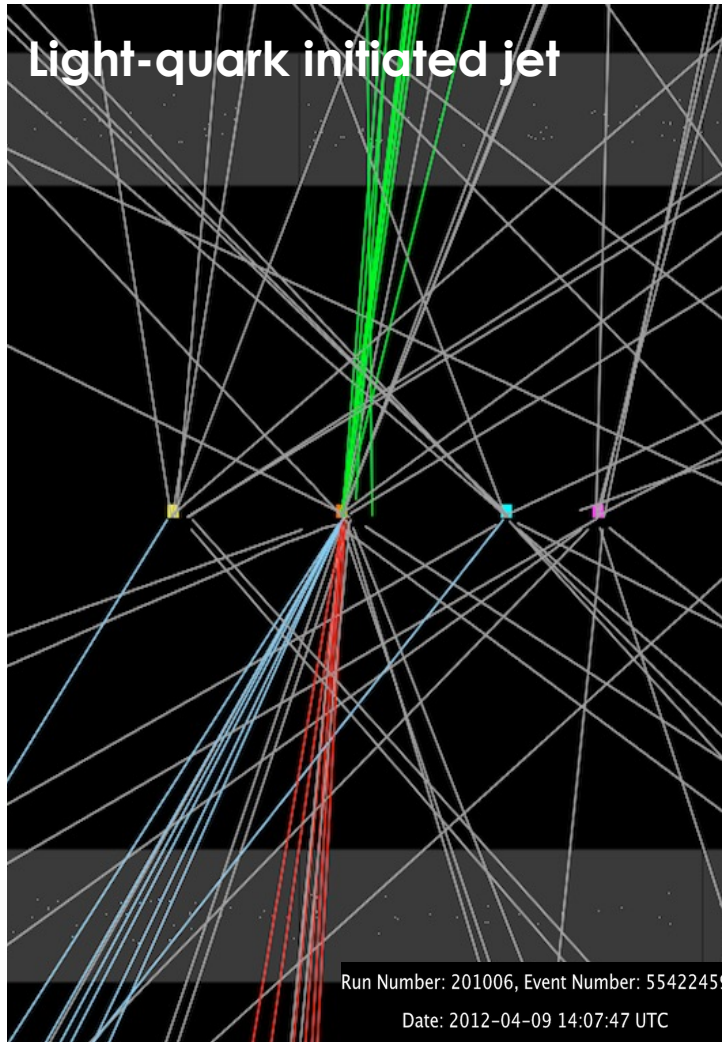


Excellent vertex time resolution can be achieved

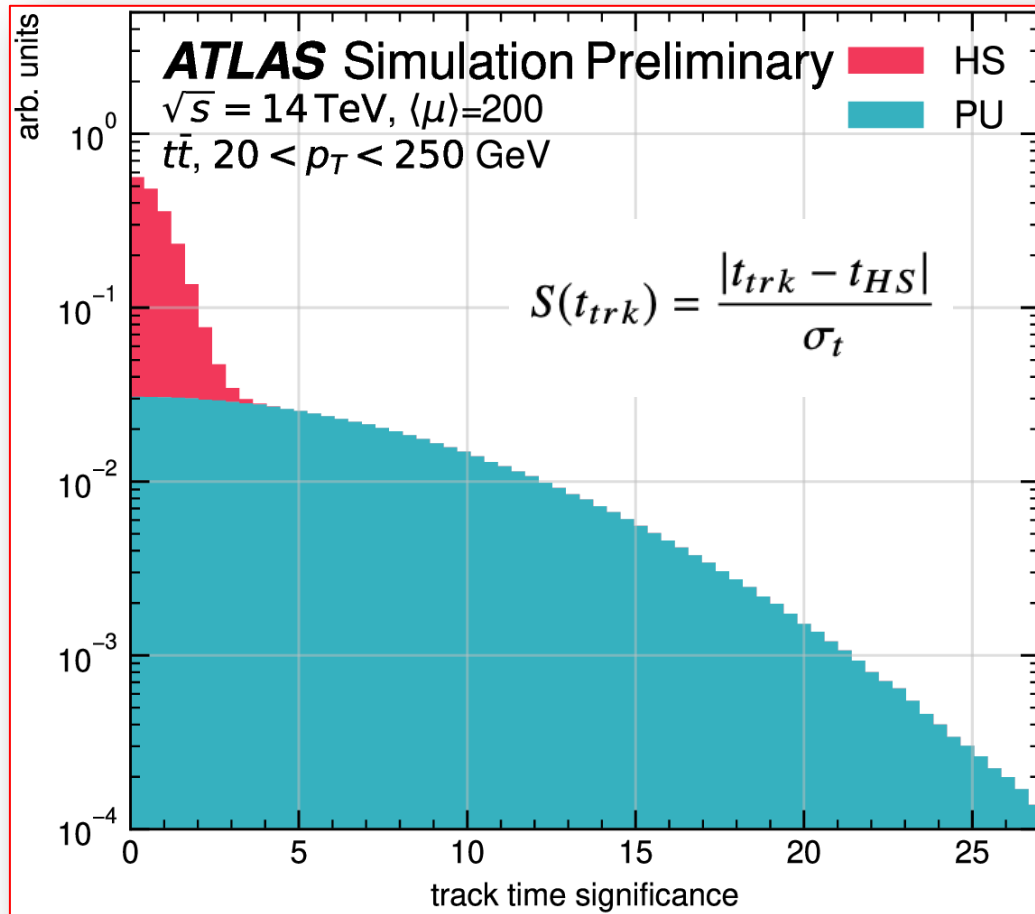


The better the track-time resolution, the more PU-robust the vertex time resolution

THE KEY FEATURES FOR b -TAGGING

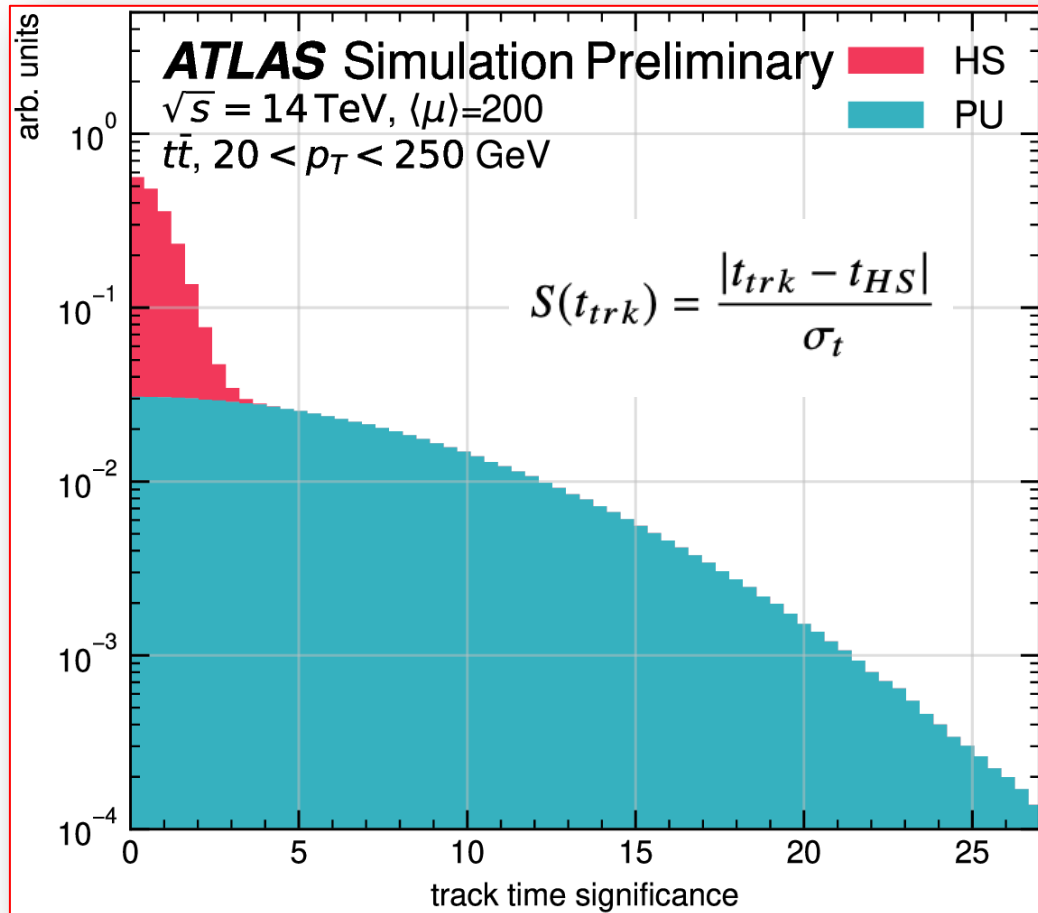


GNT – 4D b -TAGGING



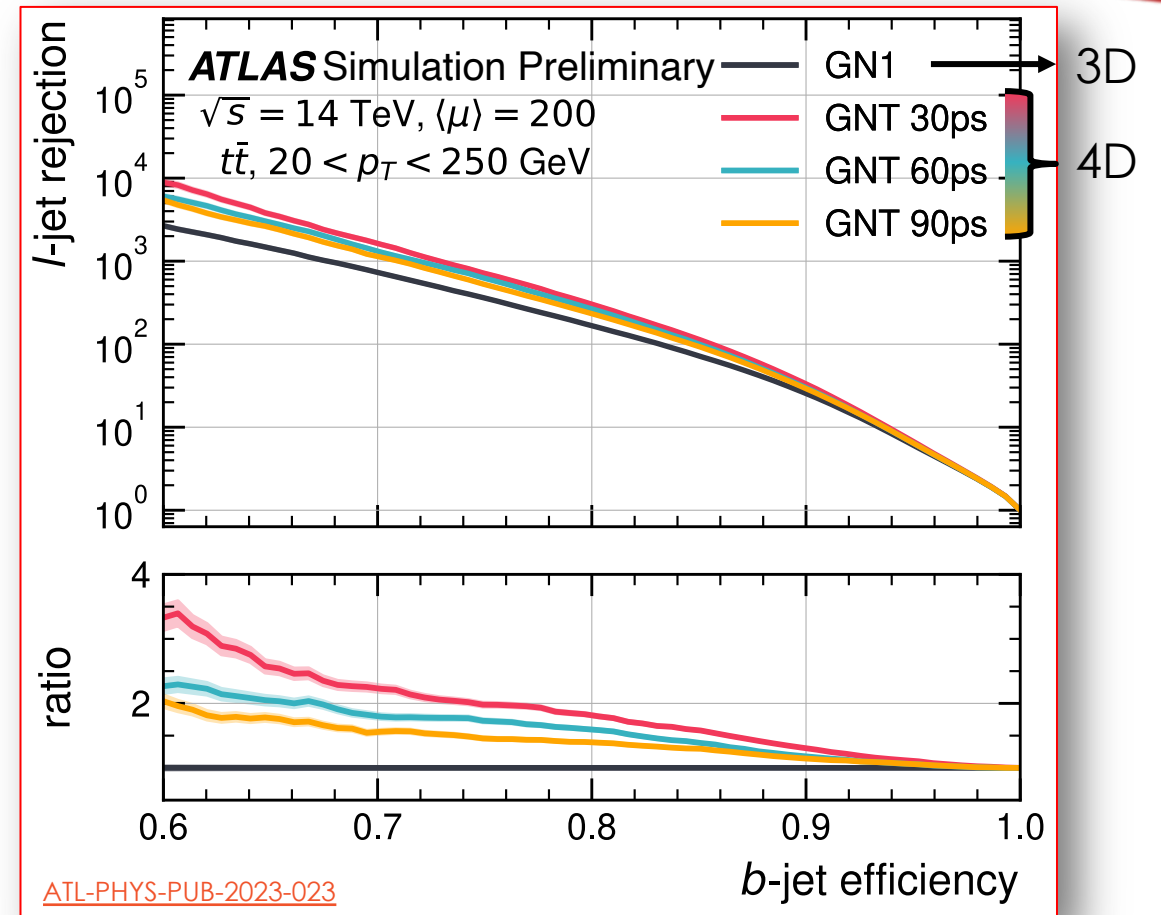
Known track and vertex time, a track time significance is built

GNT – 4D b -TAGGING



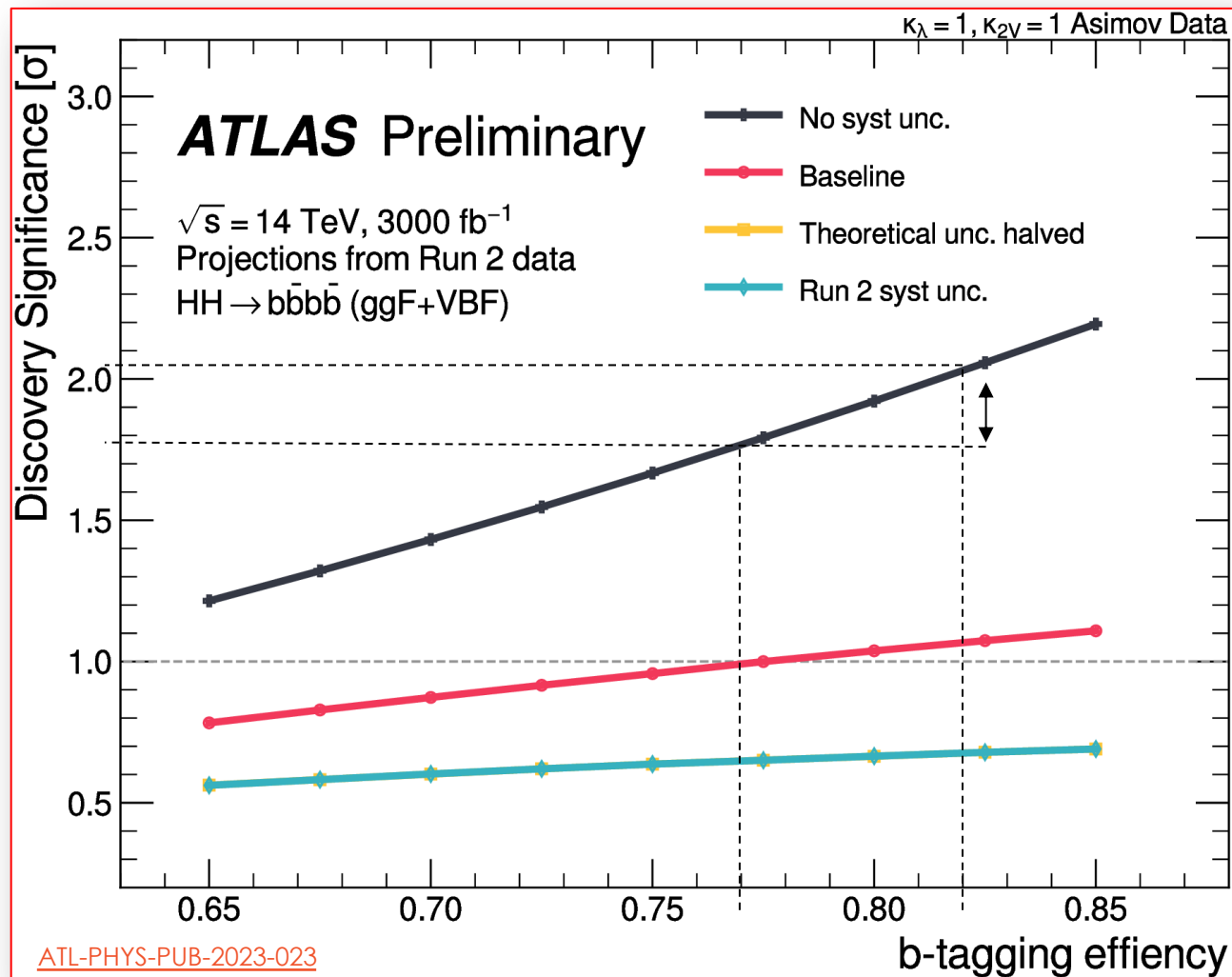
Known track and vertex time, a track time significance is built

V.M.M.CAIRO



Interesting potential sensitivity increase for Higgs physics, in particular **HH**, whose observation is a high-priority goal for HL-LHC

HH PROSPECTS

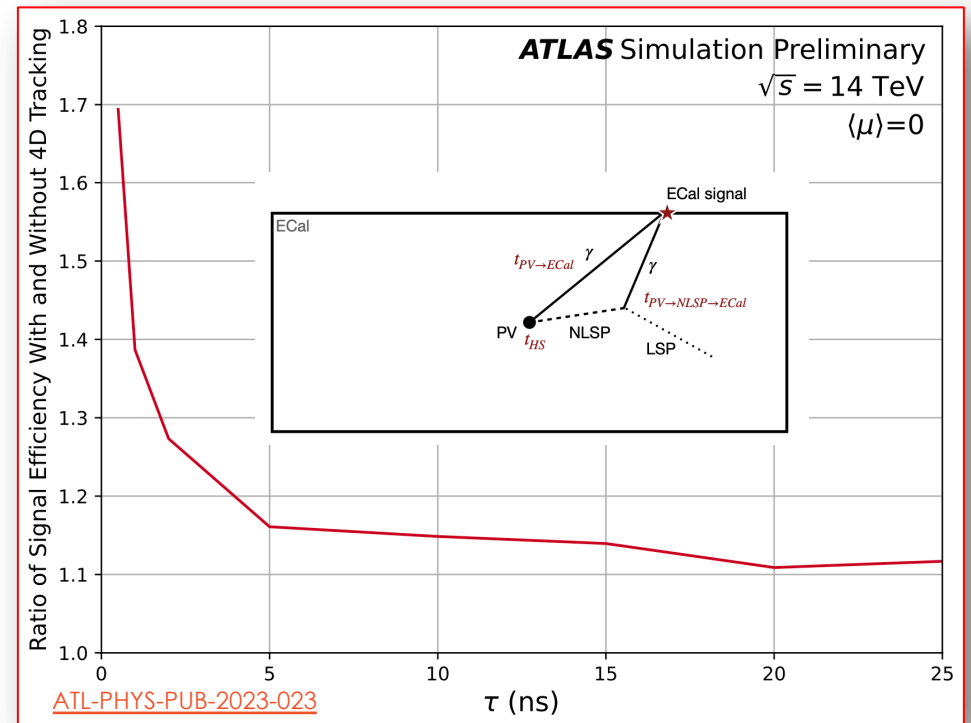
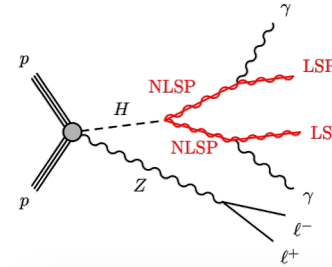


e.g. 77% to 82% \rightarrow
 $\sim 0.3\sigma$ improvement
(more than
500 fb^{-1} of data!)

N.B. this plot was made by
scaling to the full HL-LHC
luminosity

OTHER PHYSICS CASES

- **VBF H** \rightarrow **inv** extensively studied at the time of the HGTD TDR, results still valid
- Long Lived Particles studied in the PubNote, in particular **delayed photons**
- Other applications to be further explored, e.g. **c-tagging** (similar considerations as for b-tagging), **tau reconstruction and identification**, etc



A COMPARISON WITH CMS' MIP TIMING DETECTOR

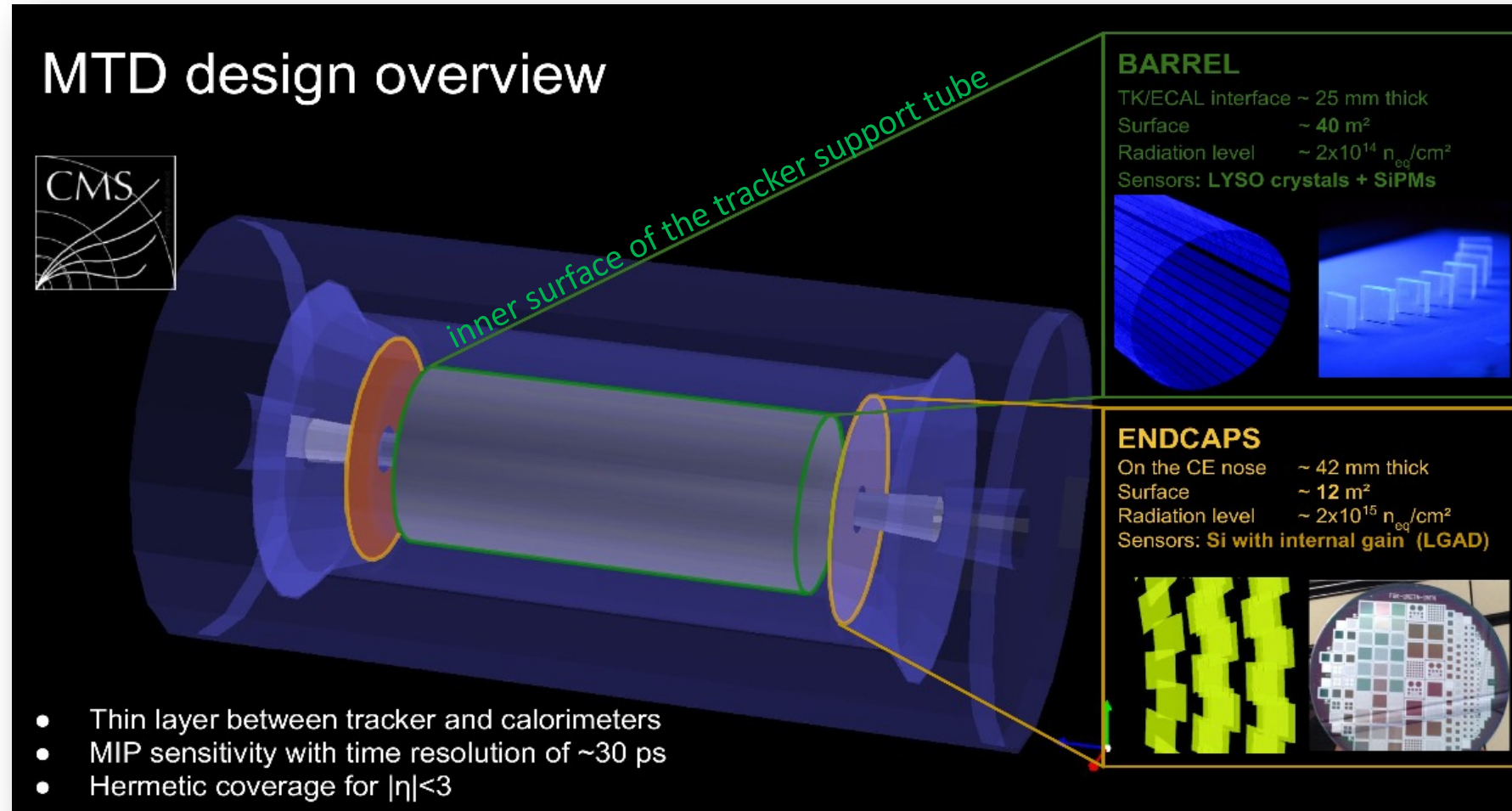
From CMS MTD TDR: “The MTD will give timing information for MIPs with 30–40 ps resolution at the beginning of HL-LHC operation in 2026, degrading slowly as a result of radiation damage to 50–60 ps by the end of HL-LHC operations.”

Table 1.1: Expected scientific impact of the MIP Timing Detector, taken from Ref. [8].

Signal	Physics measurement	MTD impact
H \rightarrow $\gamma\gamma$ and H \rightarrow 4 leptons	+15–25% (statistical) precision on the cross section \rightarrow Improve coupling measurements	Isolation and Vertex identification
VBF \rightarrow H \rightarrow $\tau\tau$	+30% (statistical) precision on cross section \rightarrow Improve coupling measurements	Isolation VBF tagging, p_T^{miss}
HH	+20% gain in signal yield \rightarrow Consolidate searches	Isolation b-tagging
EWK SUSY	+40% background reduction \rightarrow 150 GeV increase in mass reach	MET b-tagging
Long-lived particles (LLP)	Peaking mass reconstruction \rightarrow Unique discovery potential	β_{LLP} from timing of displaced vertices

about 200. The integrated luminosity \times efficiency is increased and this gain is equivalent to collecting data for three additional years beyond the ten year run planned for the HL-LHC.

CMS' MIP TIMING DETECTOR



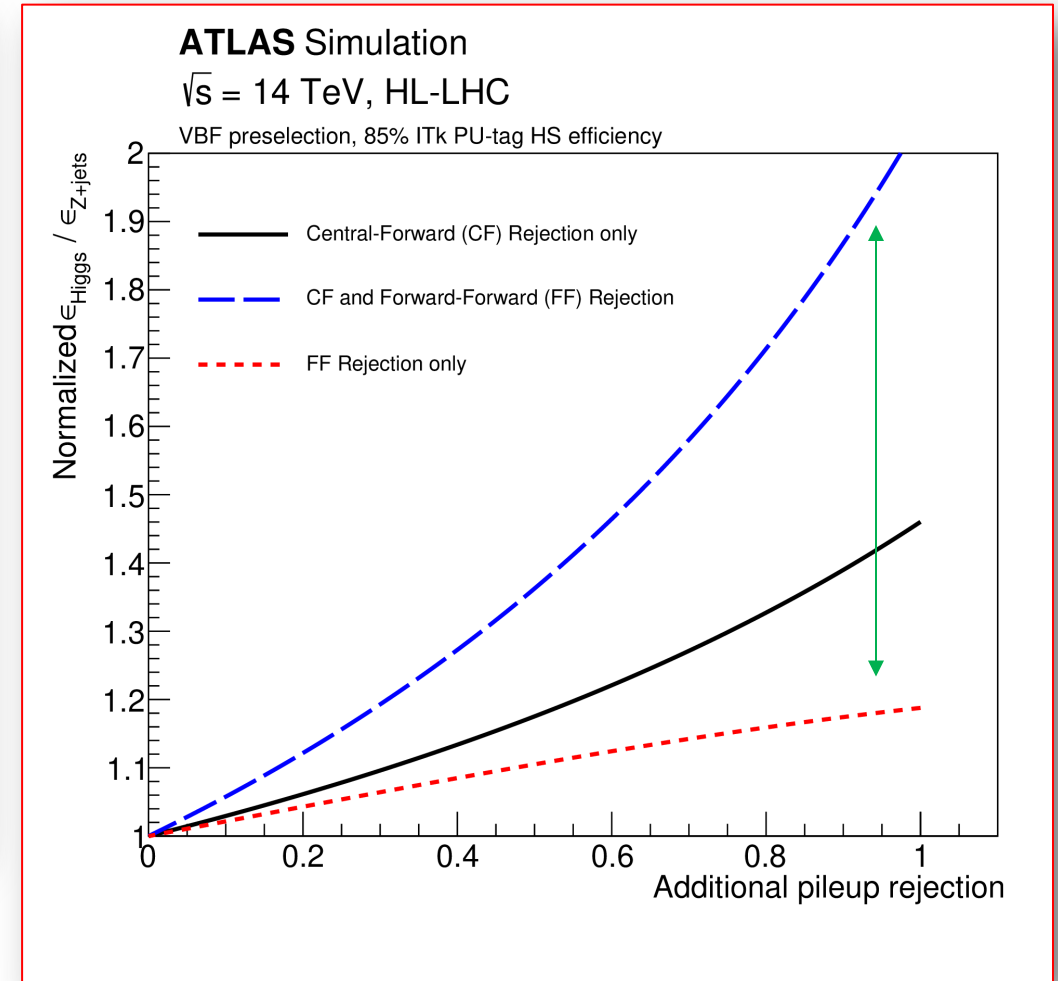
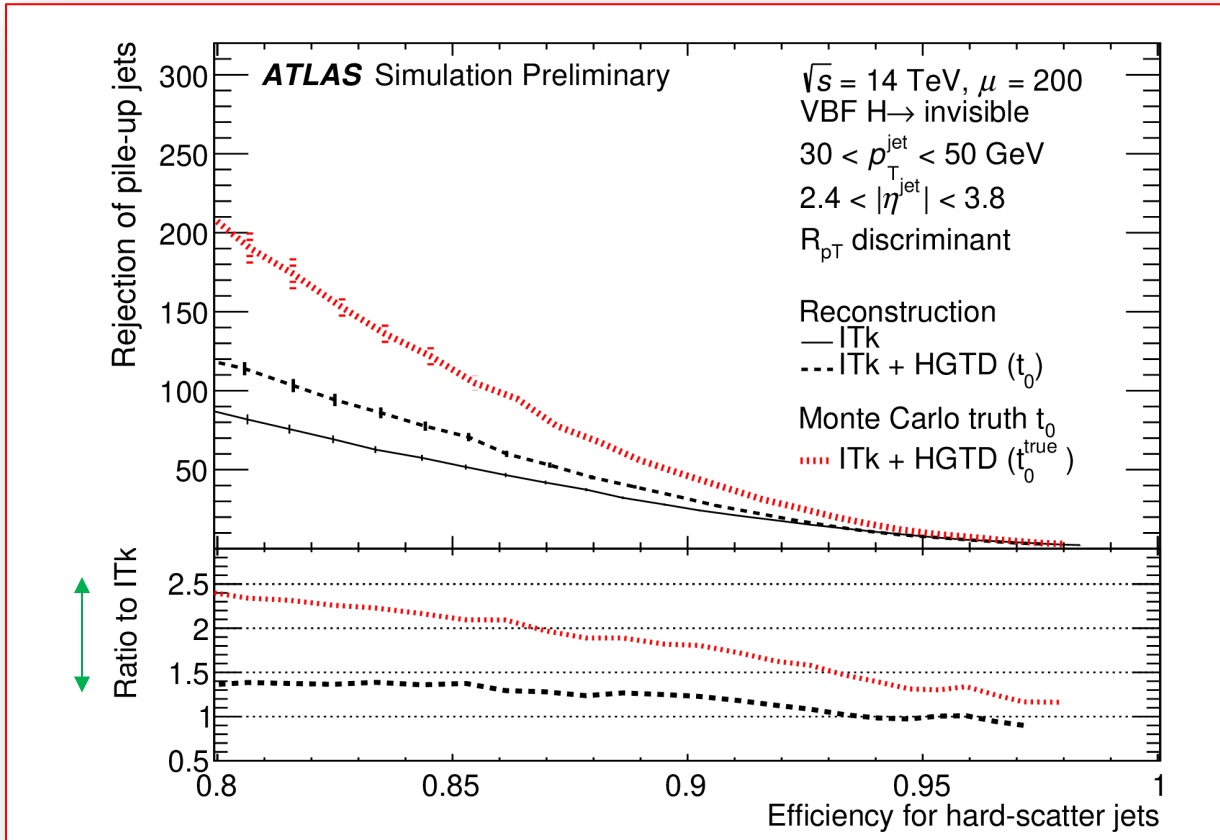
$|\eta| < 1.5$

$1.5 < |\eta| < 3.0$

Beyond Run 4, CMS is also considering to add timing layers in the innermost part of the tracker.

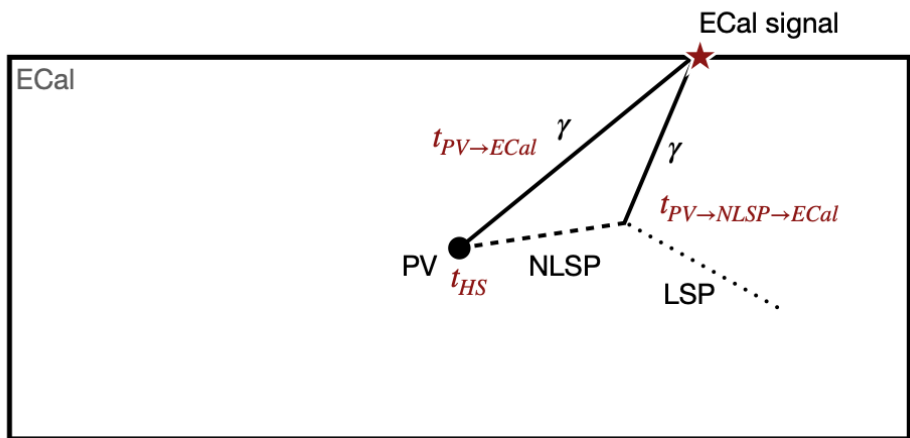
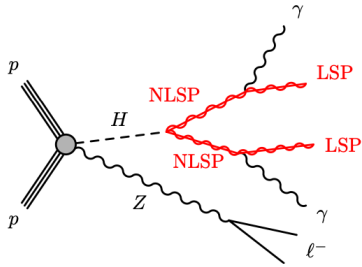
OTHER PHYSICS CASES

VBF $H \rightarrow inv$



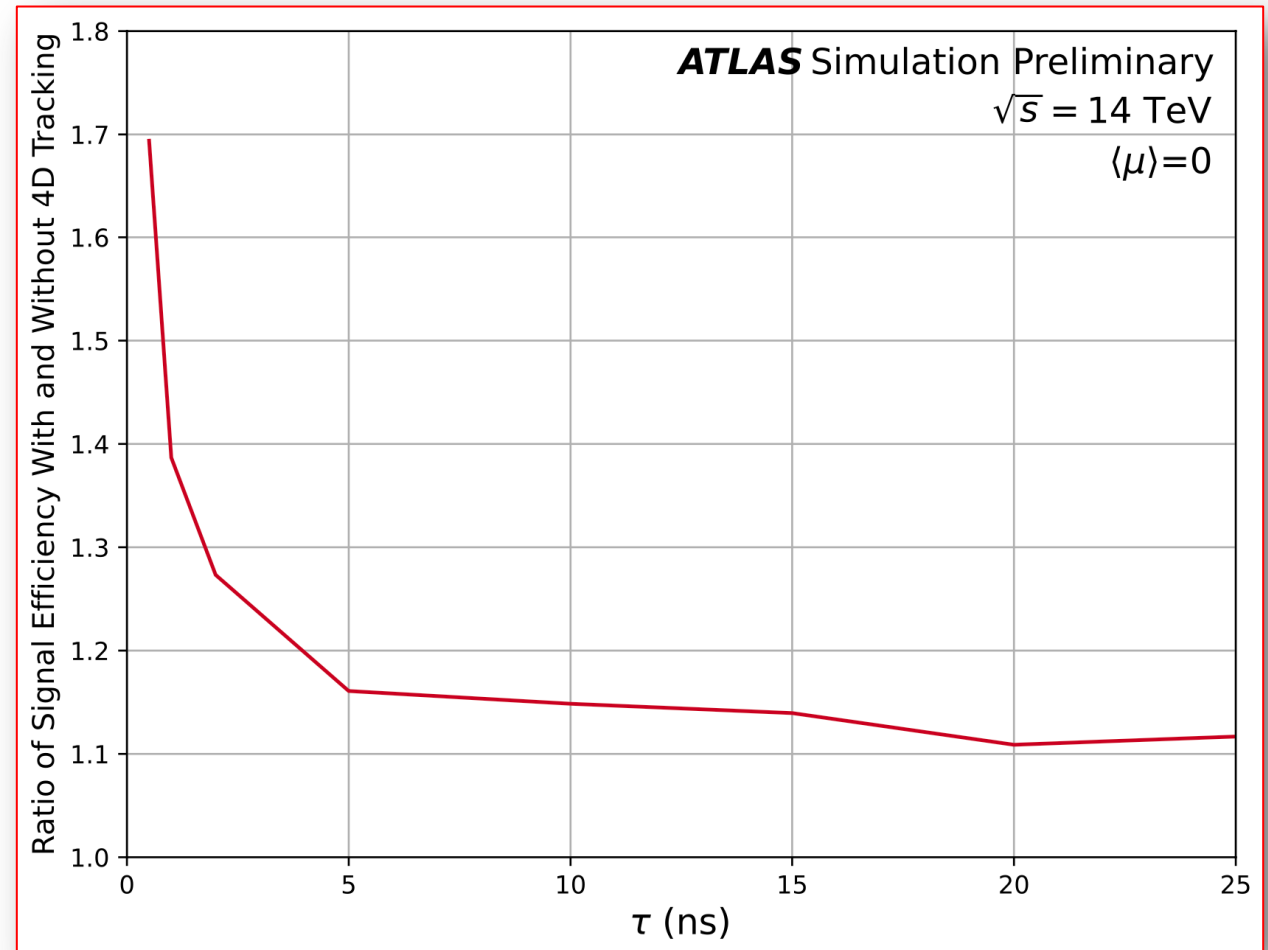
OTHER PHYSICS CASES

Delayed photons



$$t_{\text{ECal}}^{\text{Measured}} = t_0 + t_{\text{IP} \rightarrow \text{ECal}}$$

$$\Delta t^{\text{Reconstructed}} = t_{\text{ECal}}^{\text{Measured}} - t_{\text{IP} \rightarrow \text{ECal}}^{\text{Reconstructed}} - t_0^{\text{Reconstructed}}$$



VBF HIGGS \rightarrow INVISIBLE

$VBF H \rightarrow inv$ extensively studied at the time of the HGTD TDR, results still valid!

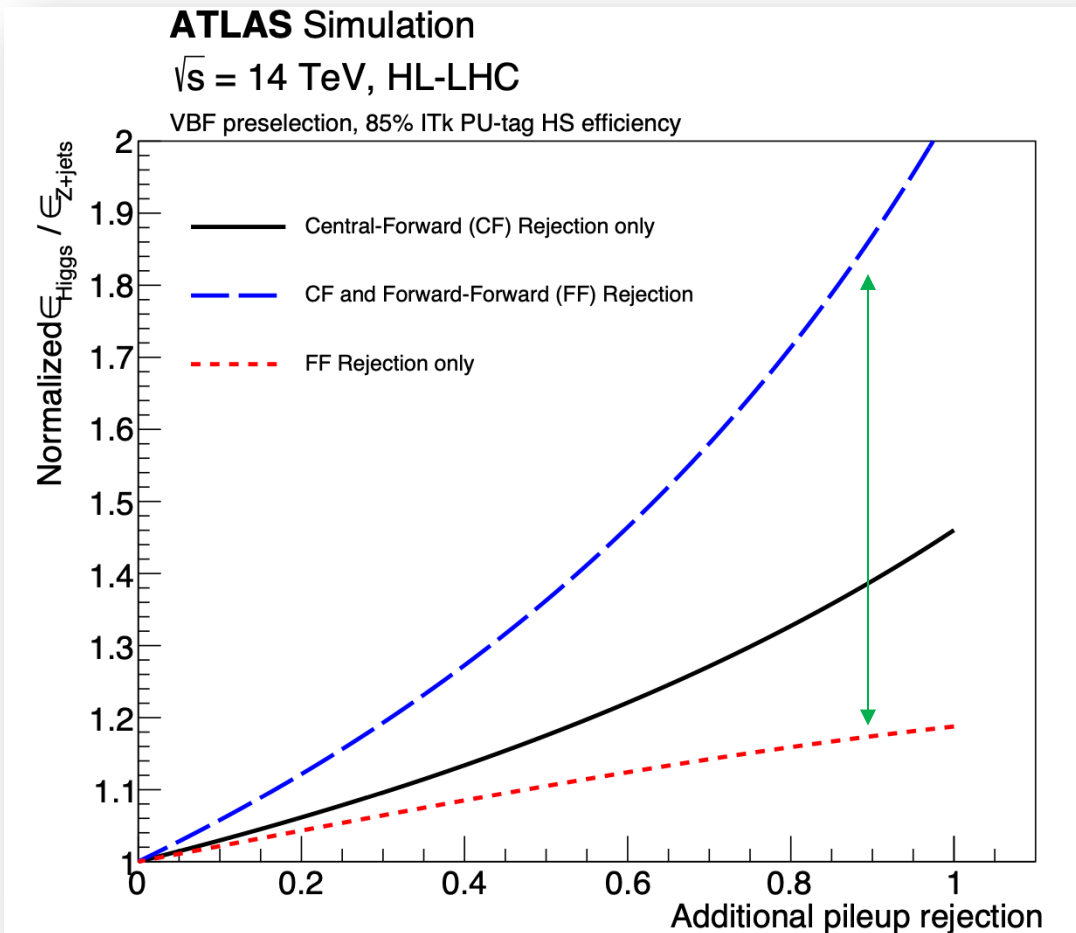


Fig. 3.25

Normalized signal over background gain relative to ITk-only pileup jet suppression performance, as a function of the additional pileup jet rejection from HGTD. The solid black (dotted red) line represents the HGTD improvement from the CF (FF) event topologies separately. The dotted blue line shows the total improvement when the combined HGTD+ITk pileup suppression algorithm is applied to all jets in the event.

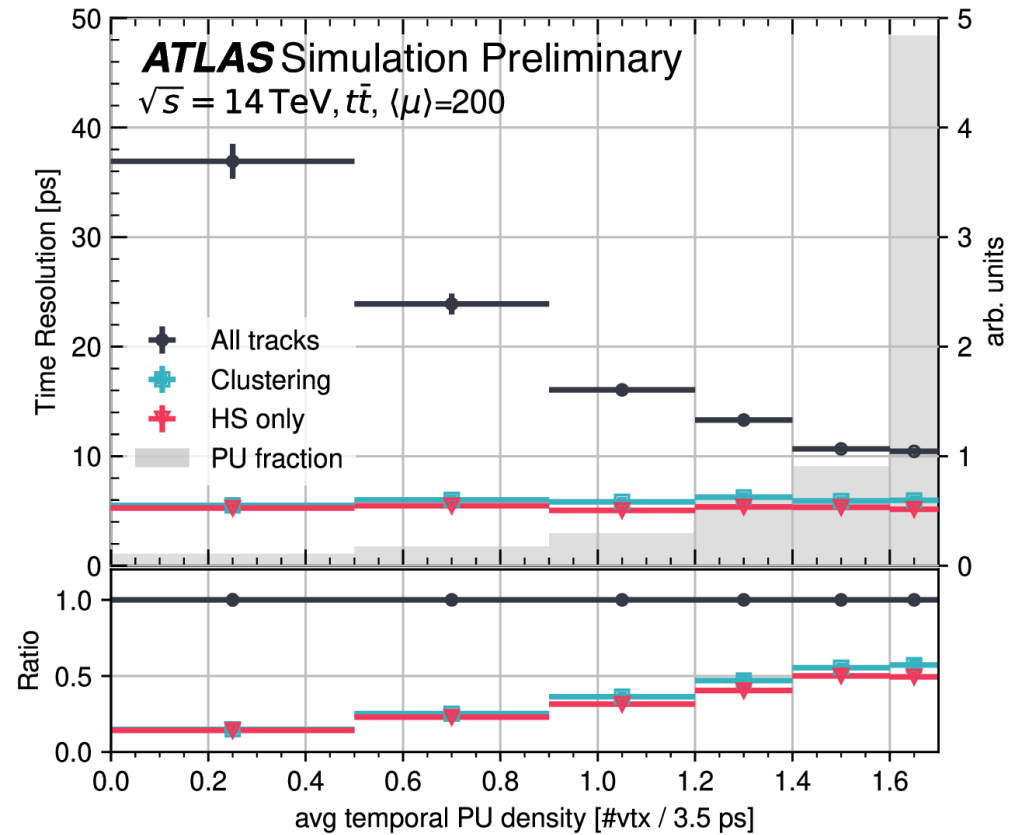
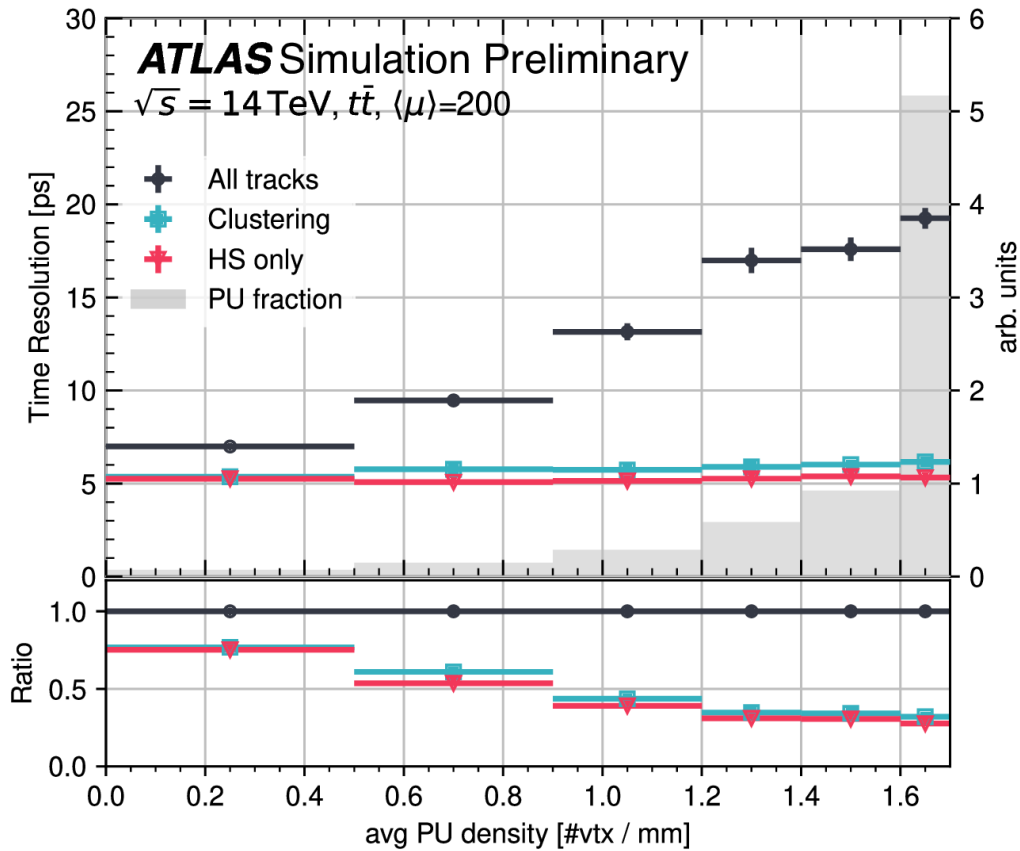
VERTEX TO

The average spatial pile-up density is defined as:

$$\langle \rho \rangle(z_{HS}) = \frac{\langle \mu \rangle}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_z} \exp\left(-\frac{z_{HS}^2}{2\sigma_z^2}\right)$$

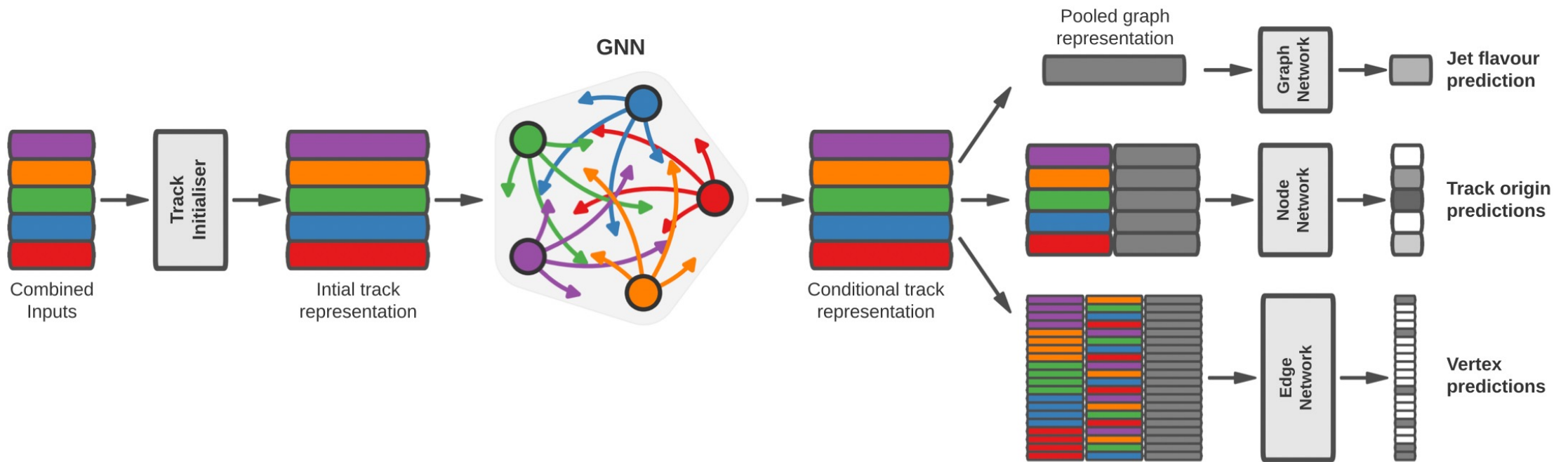
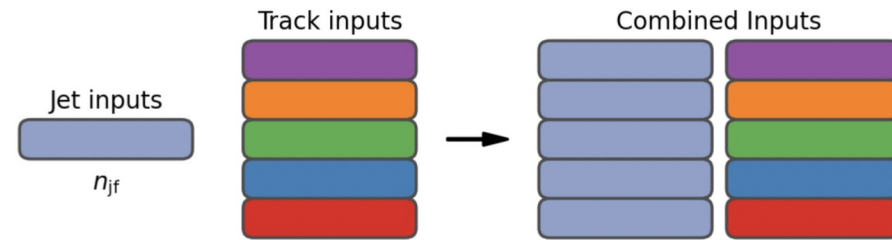
The average temporal pile-up density is defined as:

$$\langle \rho \rangle(t_{HS}) = \frac{\langle \mu \rangle}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_t} \exp\left(-\frac{t_{HS}^2}{2\sigma_t^2}\right)$$



GNN

[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-027.pdf](#)



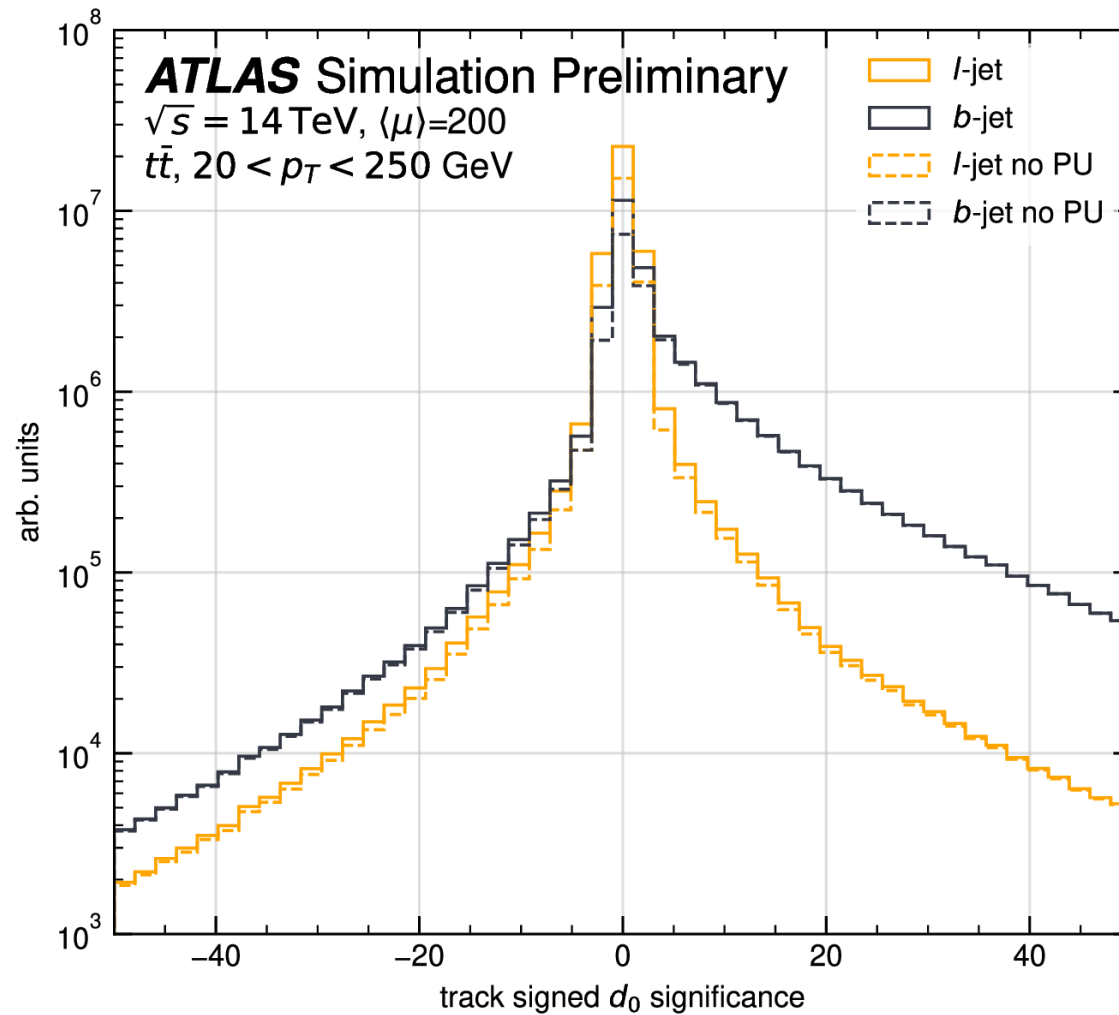
GNN

Track Variables	GN1 ITk	GN1 ITk time
d0	x	x
z0SinTheta	x	x
$\sigma(\text{Theta})$	x	x
qOverP	x	x
$\sigma(\text{qOverP})$	x	x
φ	x	x
$\sigma(\varphi)$	x	x
signed d0 significance	x	x
signed z0 significance	x	x
$\Delta\eta(\text{trk, jet})$	x	x
$\Delta\varphi(\text{trk, jet})$	x	x
n pix hits	x	x
n pix hits (11 variables)	x	x
dt		x

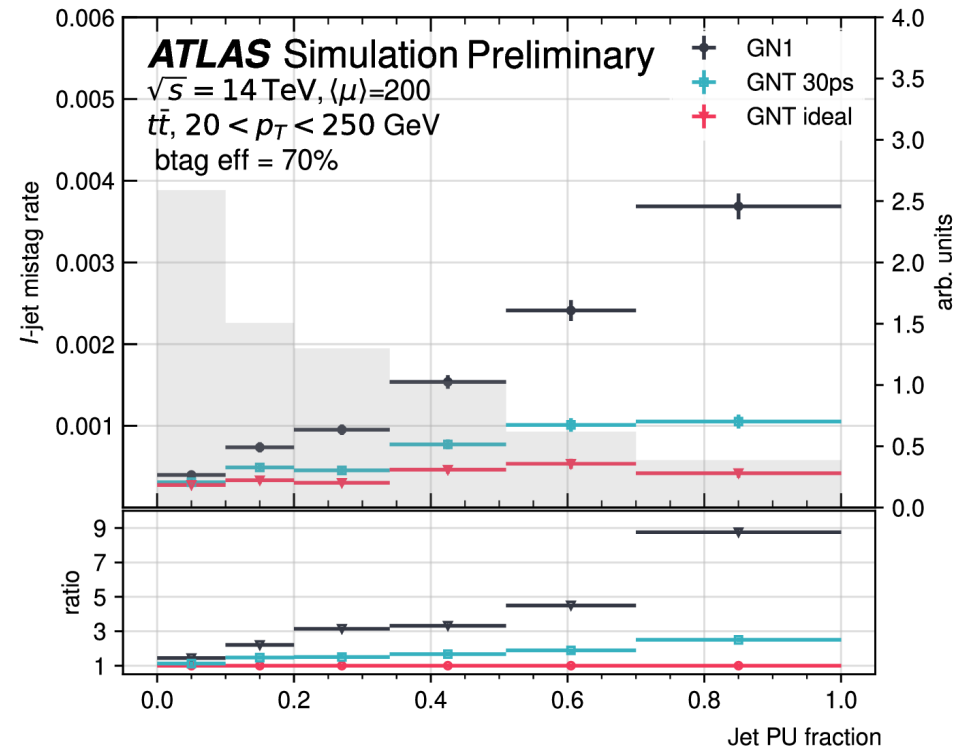
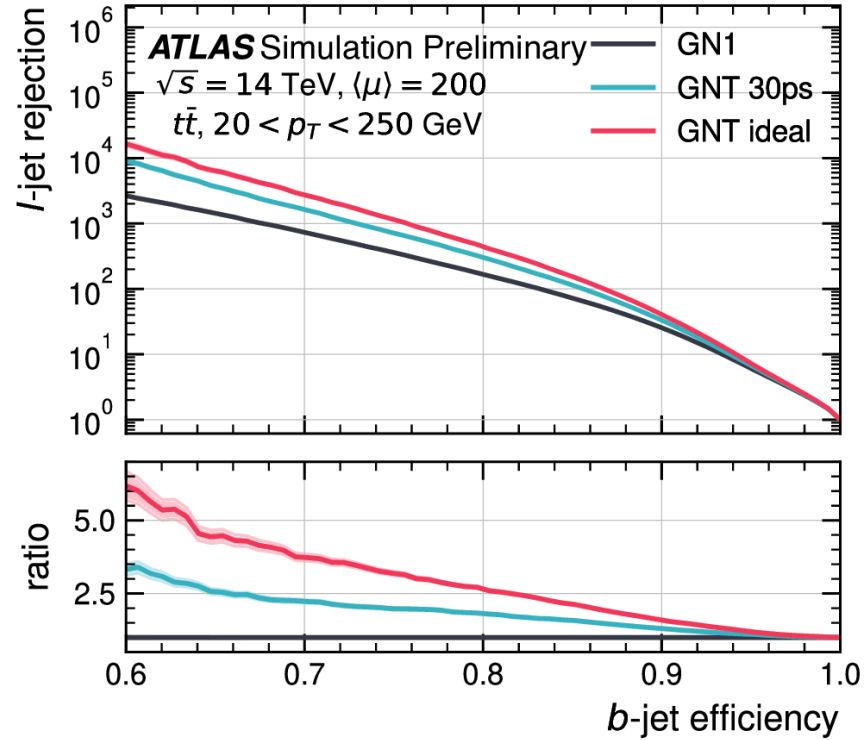
nPixHits
 nStripHits
 nInnermostPixHits
 nNextToInnermostPixHits
 nInnermostPixShared
 nInnermostPixSplit
 nPixShared
 nPixSplit
 nStripShared
 nPixHoles
 nStripHoles

Number of pixel hits
 Number of strip hits
 Number of hits from the innermost pixel layer
 Number of hits from the next-to-innermost pixel layer
 Number of shared hits from the innermost pixel layer
 Number of split hits from the innermost pixel layer
 Number of shared pixel hits
 Number of split pixel hits
 Number of shared strip hits
 Number of pixel holes
 Number of strip holes

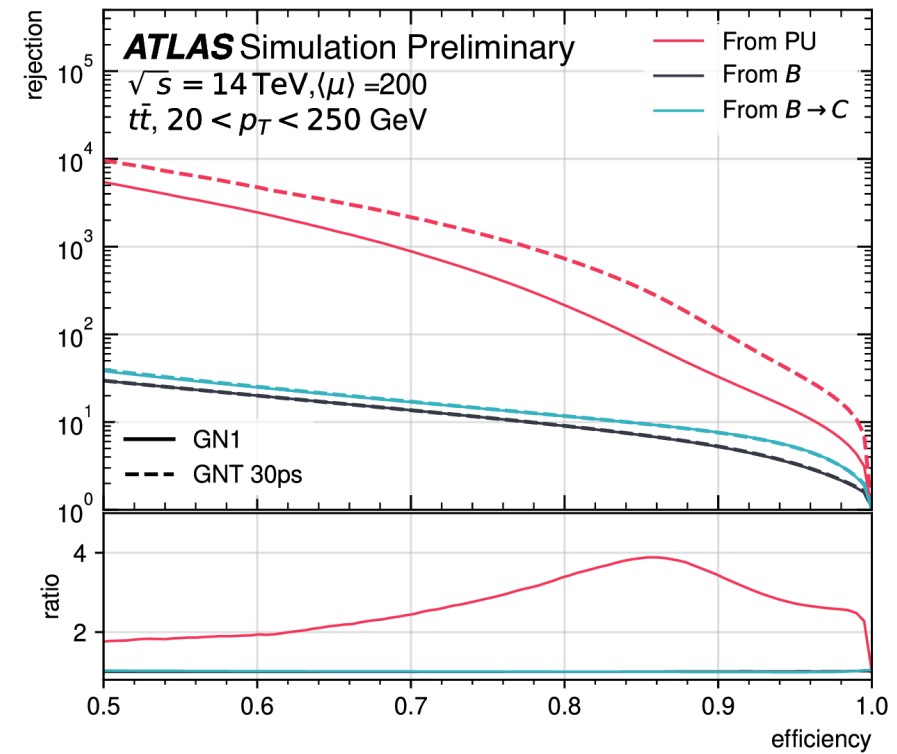
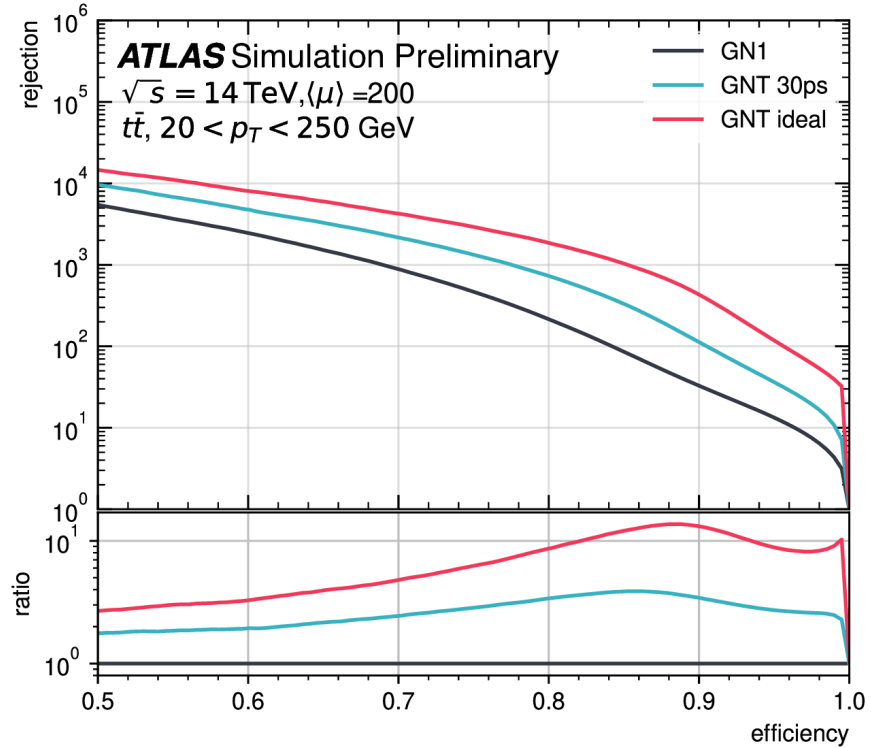
4D TRACKING



4D FTAG



4D FTAG



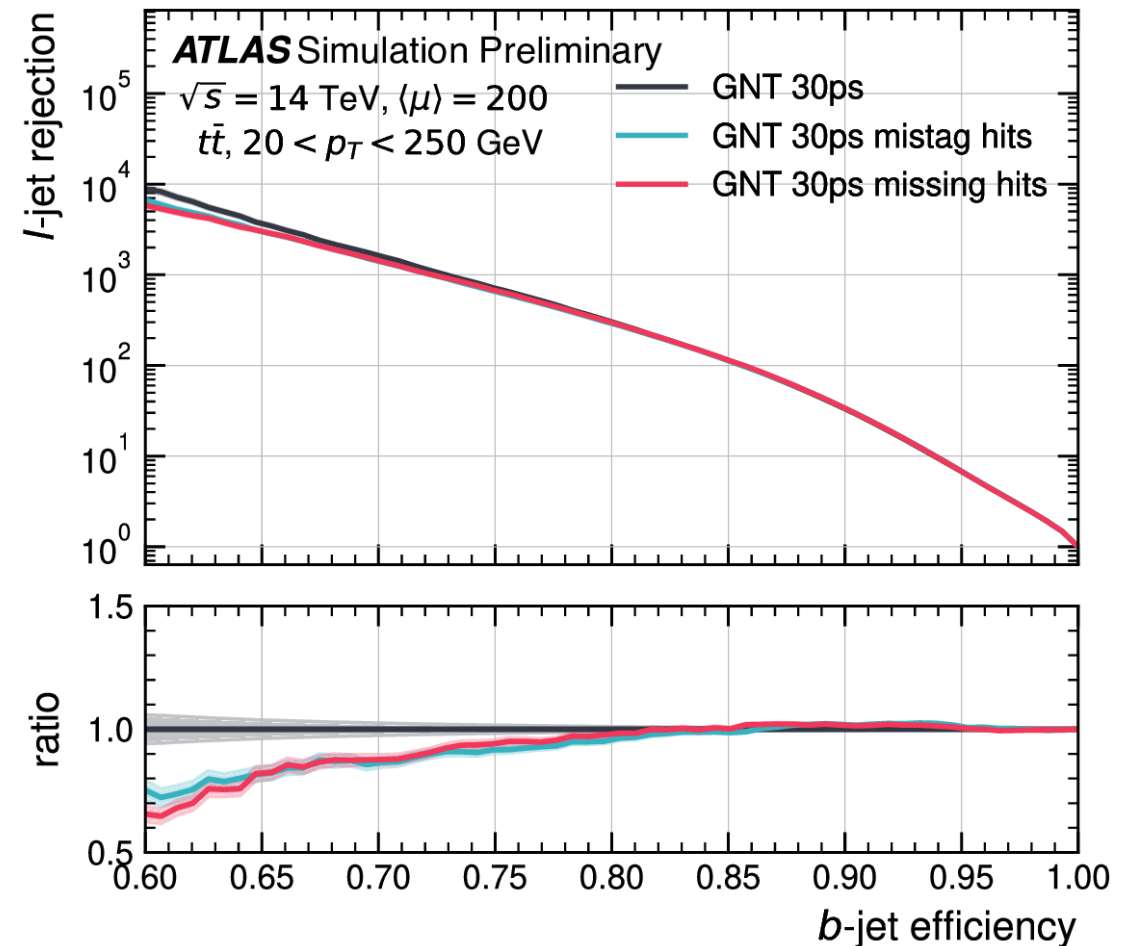
4D FTAG

A complete simulation is needed for an accurate study

We investigated independently the impact of missing hits and mistag hits showing that the performances get degraded mostly at low b-jet efficiencies

missing hit: assuming time only in 2nd layer; if a track has no hit the significance of the track is randomly emulated as HS

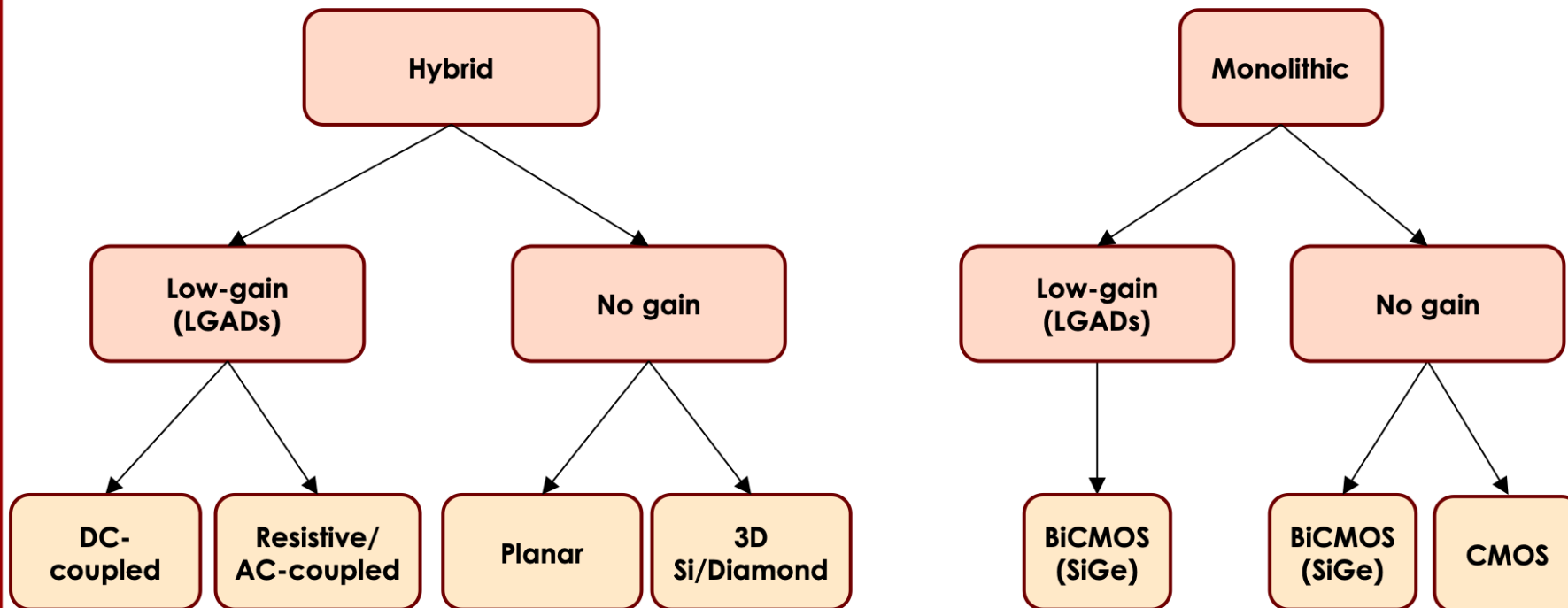
mistag hit: for tracks with Truth Match Probability < 80% the significance is randomly emulated as PU



Technologies

Presently explored options

The present R&D in position sensitive timing detectors shows the same variety that is present in standard silicon sensors. In the following, I will cover a few examples from this chart.



Nicolo Cartiglia, INFN, Torino, PSD12, 14/09/21

9

https://indico.cern.ch/event/797047/contributions/3638198/attachments/2308674/3928223/Position_sensitive_timing.pdf

Technologies

- AC-LGADs
 - **Characterization of BNL and HPK AC-LGAD sensors with a 120 GeV proton beam (R. Heller et al.)**
 - <https://arxiv.org/abs/2201.07772>
 - *“We present a world’s first demonstration of silicon sensors in a test beam that simultaneously achieve better than **5–10 μm position and 30 ps time resolution.**”*

Name Unit	Pitch μm	Primary signal amp. mV	Position res. μm	Time res. ps
BNL 2020	100	101 ± 10	≤ 6	29 ± 1
BNL 2021 Narrow	100	104 ± 10	≤ 9	32 ± 1
BNL 2021 Medium	150	136 ± 13	≤ 11	30 ± 1
BNL 2021 Wide	200	144 ± 14	≤ 9	33 ± 1
HPK C-2	500	128 ± 12	22 ± 1	30 ± 1
HPK B-2	500	95 ± 10	24 ± 1	27 ± 1

Technologies

- Monolithics (<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2404.12885>)

PREPARED FOR SUBMISSION TO JINST

Testbeam results of irradiated SiGe BiCMOS monolithic silicon pixel detector without internal gain layer

T. Moretti,^a M. Milanesio,^a R. Cardella,^a T. Kugathasan,^a A. Picardi,^{a,b} I. Semendyaev,^a M. Elviretti,^c H. R cker,^c K. Nakamura,^d Y. Takubo,^d M. Togawa,^d F. Cadoux,^a R. Cardarelli,^a L. Cecconi,^a S. D bieux,^a Y. Favre,^a C. A. Fenoglio,^a D. Ferrere,^a S. Gonzalez-Sevilla,^a L. Iodice,^a R. Kotitsa,^{a,b} C. Magliocca,^a M. Nessi,^{a,b} A. Pizarro-Medina,^a J. Sabater Iglesias,^a J. Saidi,^a M. Vicente Barreto Pinto,^a S. Zambito,^a L. Paolozzi,^{a,b} and G. Iacobucci^{a,1}

^aD partement de Physique Nucl aire et Corpusculaire (DPNC), University of Geneva, 24 Quai Ernest-Ansermet, CH-1211 Geneva 4, Switzerland
^bCERN, CH-1211 Geneva 23, Switzerland
^cIHP — Leibniz-Institut f r innovative Mikroelektronik, Im Technologiepark 25, Frankfurt (Oder), Germany
^dHigh Energy Accelerator Research Organization, Oho 1-1, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-ken, Japan

E-mail: giuseppe.iacobucci@unige.ch


ABSTRACT: Samples of the monolithic silicon pixel ASIC prototype produced in 2022 within the framework of the Horizon 2020 MONOLITH ERC Advanced project were irradiated with 70 MeV protons up to a fluence of 1×10^{16} n_{eq}/cm², and then tested using a beam of 120 GeV/c pions. The ASIC contains a matrix of 100 μm pitch hexagonal pixels, read out by low noise and very fast frontend electronics produced in a 130 nm SiGe BiCMOS technology process. The dependence on the proton fluence of the efficiency and the time resolution of this prototype was measured with the frontend electronics operated at a power density between 0.13 and 0.9 W/cm². The testbeam data show that the detection efficiency of 99.96% measured at sensor bias voltage of 200 V before irradiation becomes 96.2% after a fluence of 1×10^{16} n_{eq}/cm². An increase of the sensor bias voltage to 300 V provides an efficiency to 99.7% at that proton fluence. The timing resolution of 20 ps measured before irradiation rises for a proton fluence of 1×10^{16} n_{eq}/cm² to 53 and 45 ps at HV = 200 and 300 V, respectively.

¹Corresponding author.

arXiv:2404.12885v3 [physics.ins-det] 21 Jun 2024

Technologies

- TDC studies, see [1, 2]



SLAC
NATIONAL
ACCELERATOR
LABORATORY

TDC with dithering in 28nm CMOS technology for future 4D trackers

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TWEPP 2022 - Topical Workshop on Electronics for Particle Physics - 19th - 23rd September, Bergen, Norway

Introduction

Precision timing at 10ps levels will be transformative at future collider experiments. In case of high-energy, high-luminosity hadron colliders, including Run/6 upgrades of HL-LHC, an integrated four-dimensional tracker with timing resolution of 10-50ps can drastically reduce the combinatorial challenge of track reconstruction at very high pileup densities. 4D trackers and timing layers are also expected to play important roles at future muon, electron-positron, and electron-ion colliders.

Time-to-Digital Converters (TDC) are one of the critical circuit blocks necessary to enable 4D operation in trackers. The High Energy Physics (HEP) community identified TDCs in 28 nm CMOS technology as the next step in microelectronics scaling for HEP designs. We present the design of a TDC in 28 nm CMOS technology, which achieves 6.2ps resolution by implementing sliding-scale/dithering techniques to improve conversion linearity.

Voltage-Controlled Delay Cell

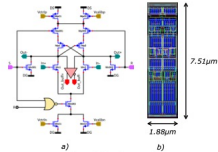


Fig. 4: Delay cell a) schematic, b) layout.

- Differential Cascade Voltage Switch Logic (DCVSL) implementation;
- Current-starved approach for delay control;
- Additional delay-control transistors for trimming/calibration purposes;
- Separate buffered outputs for time measurement operations;
- Set/Reset operation for enabling the TDC sliding-scale/dithering function.

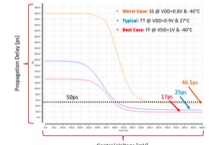


Fig. 5: Simulated (RCK) delay-voltage characteristic at different process corners, supply voltages and temperatures

- START + two STOP signal for simultaneous time-of-arrival (TOA) and time-over-threshold (TOT) measurements;
- Coarse time resolution (TOT): 50ps;
- Fine time resolution (TOA): 56.25ps - 50ps = 6.25ps;
- Sliding-scale/dithering technique for improvement of conversion linearity:**
 - Both ring oscillators have programmable starting conditions via delay cell set/reset function;
 - Starting conditions randomly selected each measurement cycle and corresponding values subtracted from the conversion result;
 - Same time intervals converted with different parts/bins of the TDC conversion characteristics;
 - Sliding-scale transforms the non-linearities into stochastic variable thus effectively improving the conversion linearity at the expense of slightly worsening single-shot precision.

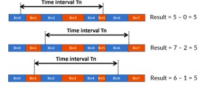


Fig. 7: Sliding-scale principle: non-ideal converter (bins with different sizes) converts the same quantity with different bins, averaging of bin sizes is performed, resulting in equivalent converter with improved linearity.

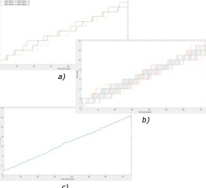


Fig. 8: Simulated TDC conversion characteristics a) for 3 different oscillator starting conditions, b) characteristics for all possible starting condition combinations, c) equivalent characteristics with sliding-scale enabled

Science Case: 4D Tracking

Pico-second timing for 4-dimensional trackers and calorimetry is a hallmark of future experimental capabilities for all future colliders. Various applications of 4-dimensional trackers along with an overview of the state-of-the-art technology have been summarized in: Berry, Doug, et al., "4-Dimensional Trackers," arXiv preprint arXiv:2203.13901 (2022).

e^e Higgs factories
Large-radius pico-second timing layers can provide time-of-flight particle identification capabilities at low momentum, as well as new capabilities for enhancing calorimetry energy measurements and improve the jet energy resolution.

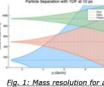


Fig. 1: Mass resolution for a time-of-flight system with a performance of 10 ps in 3D.

Hadron colliders
Address the increasing complexity of events at future high energy hadron collider. FCC-hh will need 5-10ps resolution per track to better control pile-up contamination.

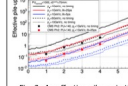


Fig. 2: a) Effective pile-up in the FC-hh tracker. Shorter periods of 20ms resolution per track in 3D, vetoing are assumed. For reference the effective pile-up for CBG Phase 2, layer 8, added.

Muon Collider
Suppression of beam induced background (BIB). Tracker resolution of ~30ps would achieve ~90% BIB reduction.

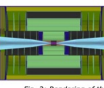


Fig. 3: Rendering of the Tracking Detector geometry for Muon Collider Detector (MCD).

Coll. Type	Beam Energy	Beam Spacing	Beam Size	Beam Current
HL-LHC	7 TeV	25 ns	10 μm	2.8e11
HL-FEL	10 GeV	100 ns	10 μm	1e11
HL-LEP	10 GeV	100 ns	10 μm	1e11
HL-ILC	10 GeV	100 ns	10 μm	1e11
HL-CLIC	10 GeV	100 ns	10 μm	1e11
HL-CEPC	10 GeV	100 ns	10 μm	1e11
HL-ILD	10 GeV	100 ns	10 μm	1e11
HL-ED	10 GeV	100 ns	10 μm	1e11
HL-ETD	10 GeV	100 ns	10 μm	1e11
HL-ETDR	10 GeV	100 ns	10 μm	1e11
HL-ETD	10 GeV	100 ns	10 μm	1e11
HL-ETDR	10 GeV	100 ns	10 μm	1e11

Table 1: Assumed nominal and time resolution in different sub-systems of the Tracking Detector.

TDC Architecture



Fig. 6: a) TDC block schematic b) TDC core layout

- 2D Vernier Architecture:
 - Fast Ring Oscillator with 50ps propagation delay cells;
 - Slow Ring Oscillator with 56.25ps propagation delay cells;

Summary

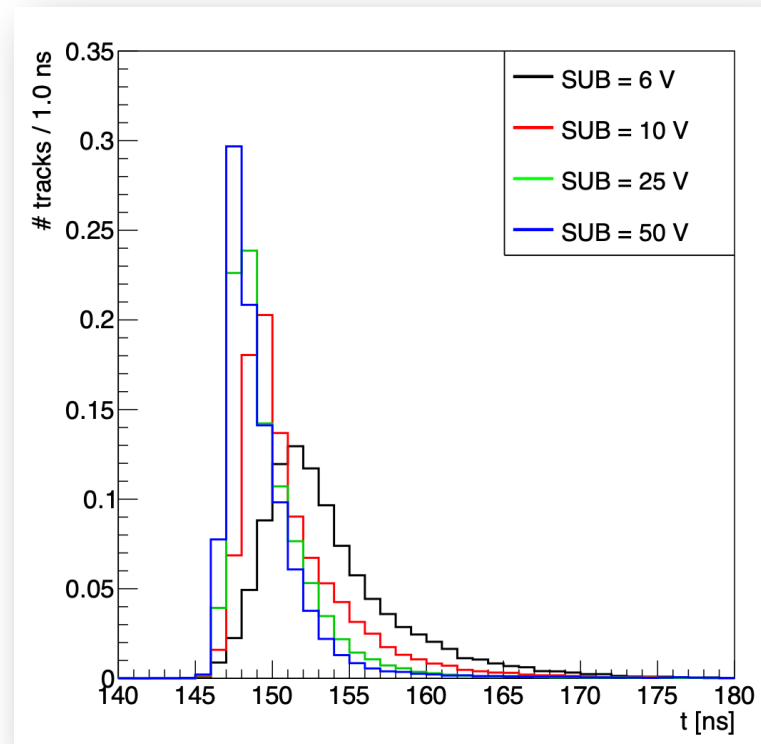
The TDC has been designed in 28nm CMOS technology and the prototype is expected to be submitted for fabrication at the beginning of 2023.

TDC metrics (Sim.)	
Technology	28nm
Timing resolution	6.25ps (TOA) / 50ps (TOT)
Time depth	1.6ns (8bit / 5bit)
TDC core area	44μm x 19μm
Power consumption (average, 25ms conversion cycle / bunch crossing)	10% occupancy 16μW 1% occupancy 2.5μW

Technologies

- MALTA

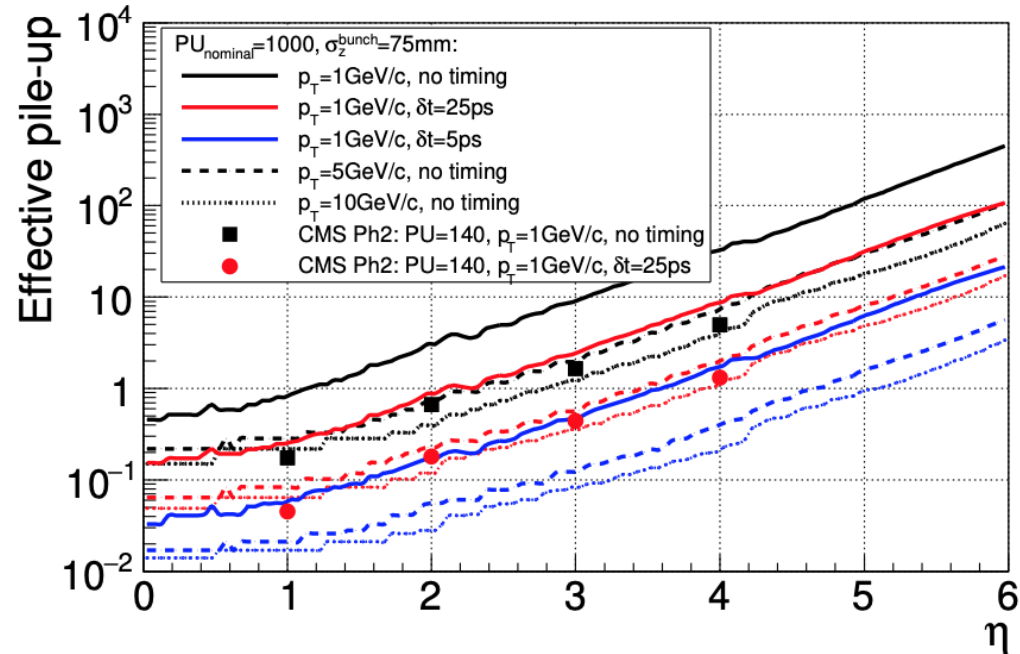
https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/viewauth/Atlas/MaltaApprovedPlots#Time_resolution



Difference in time of the fastest hit of the cluster (matched with the track in the DUT) and the time of the hit in the scintillator ($\sigma_{\text{PMT}} \approx 1$ ns not subtracted) for a MALTA non-irradiated sample Czochralski silicon with no modification (STD) versus substrate bias. Measurements were done with low energy electrons from Sr-90 β -decay

Future Collider Requirements

Effective pile-up is defined as the number of pile-up vertices which effectively lead to a confusing assignment of low p_T tracks to the original primary vertex



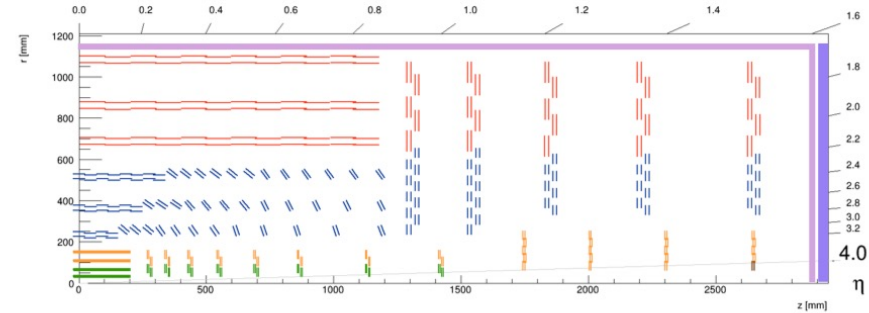
- Studies on primary vertexing at the FCC-hh demonstrate that 2D vertexing with an extreme timing resolution of 5 10 ps per track is essential to keep the levels of effective pile-up under control at large pseudorapidities ($|\eta| > 3$) which would otherwise reach level of tens or hundreds leading to large merging effects in vertex reconstruction and large confusion in vertex selection.
- Also: 30 times (600 times) more radiation compared to HL-LHC (LHC), making none of the existing technologies suitable

Technologies

Timing in tracking detectors

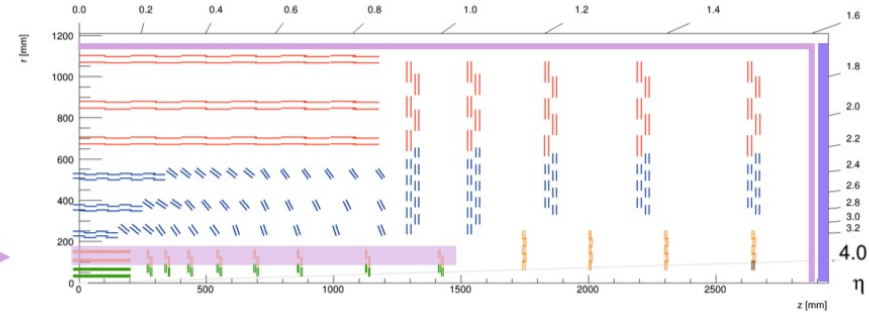
CMS installing the **timing layer** outside the tracker: \dashrightarrow

- $\sigma_t = 30\text{-}60\text{ps}$
- approved for the **Phase 2** upgrade ($\rightarrow 2027$)
- 1 time measurement per track
+ 1 more forward hit in **HGCAL**



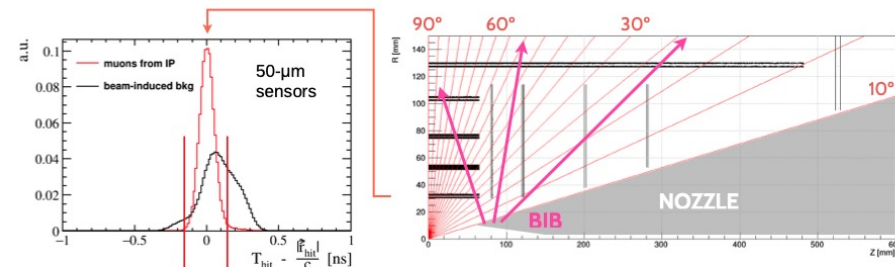
CMS might add 1-2 more **timing layers** closer to the IP \dashrightarrow

- $\sigma_t = 30\text{-}60\text{ps}$? \leftarrow depends on technology progress
granularity + radiation hardness + material budget constraints
- conceptually possible for the **Phase 3** upgrade ($\rightarrow 2036$)
Inner Tracker will have to be replaced to sustain the radiation damage throughout the HL-LHC program



Full tracker made of fast Si considered for Muon Collider

- $\sigma_t = 20\text{-}50\text{ps}$ \leftarrow planning for the distant future ($\rightarrow 2035+$)
- primarily used for TOF-based rejection of BIB hits
readout time windows tailored to sensor positions
- much more is possible with this timing information



AC-Coupled LGADs

AC-Coupled Low Gain Avalanche Diodes (AC-LGADs) [1, 2] are a new generation of silicon devices optimized for high-precision 4D tracking and conceived for experiments at future colliders. They are n-in-p sensors based on the LGAD technology with two additional key features (Figure 1): the AC-coupling of the read-out, occurring through a dielectric layer, and a continuous resistive n^+ implant. Given the presence of the resistive n^+ layer, AC-LGADs are called Resistive Silicon Detectors (RSD). RSD devices are provided with one continuous gain layer, and the read-out segmentation is obtained simply by the position of the AC pads; therefore, this design allows to reach 100% fill-factor.

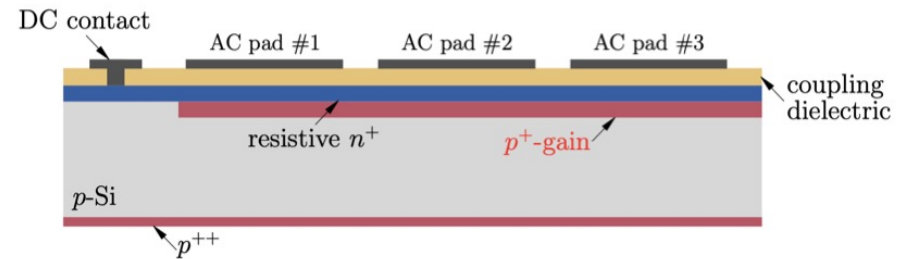


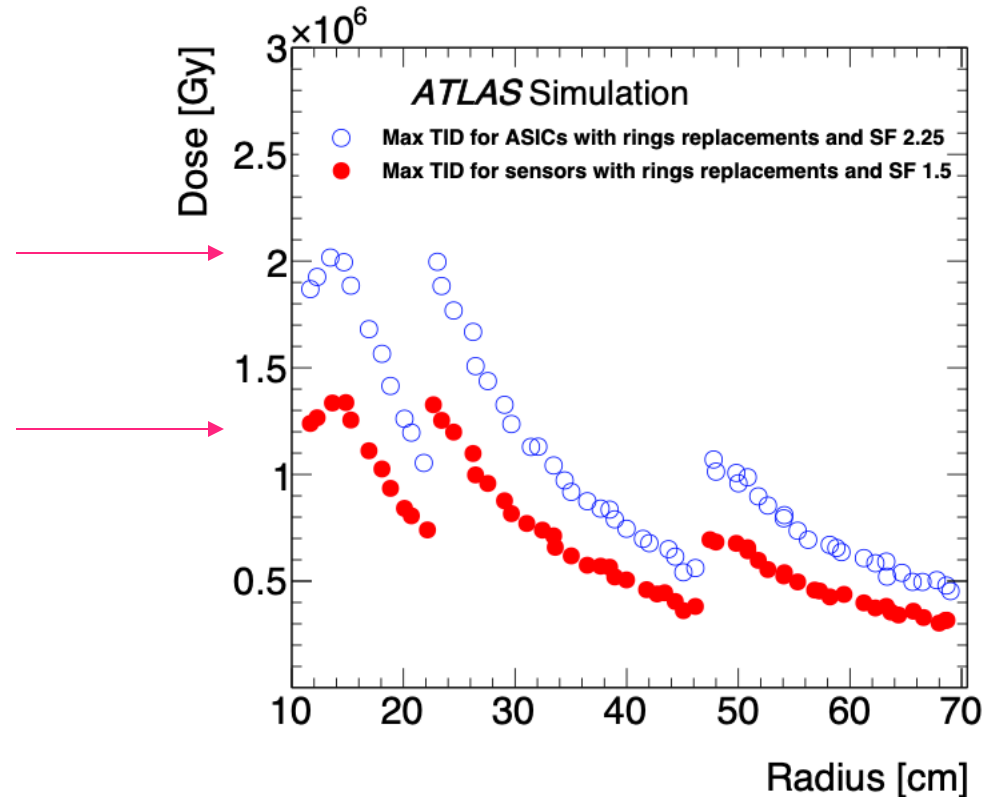
Figure 1: Cross-section of RSDs internal structure: their properties are based on the combination of a resistive n^+ layer and a coupling dielectric oxide, allowing a local AC-coupling.

The remarkable feature of this design is that it leads naturally to signal sharing among pads. Internal signal sharing, in combination with internal gain, opens a new avenue for high precision tracking without relying only

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2007.09528.pdf>

HGTD Rad. dose

[HGTD TDR](#), fig. 2.15



This leads to a total safety factor of 1.5 for the sensors that are most sensitive to the particle fluence, and 2.25 for the electronics which are more sensitive to the TID. After applying these, the detector would need to withstand $8.3 \times 10^{15} \text{ neq cm}^{-2}$ and **7.5 MGy** (if the vessel is not replaced)

How to boost analysis sensitivity in HL-LHC?

VBF $H \rightarrow \text{inv}$ extensively studied at the time of the [HGTD TDR](#), results still valid!

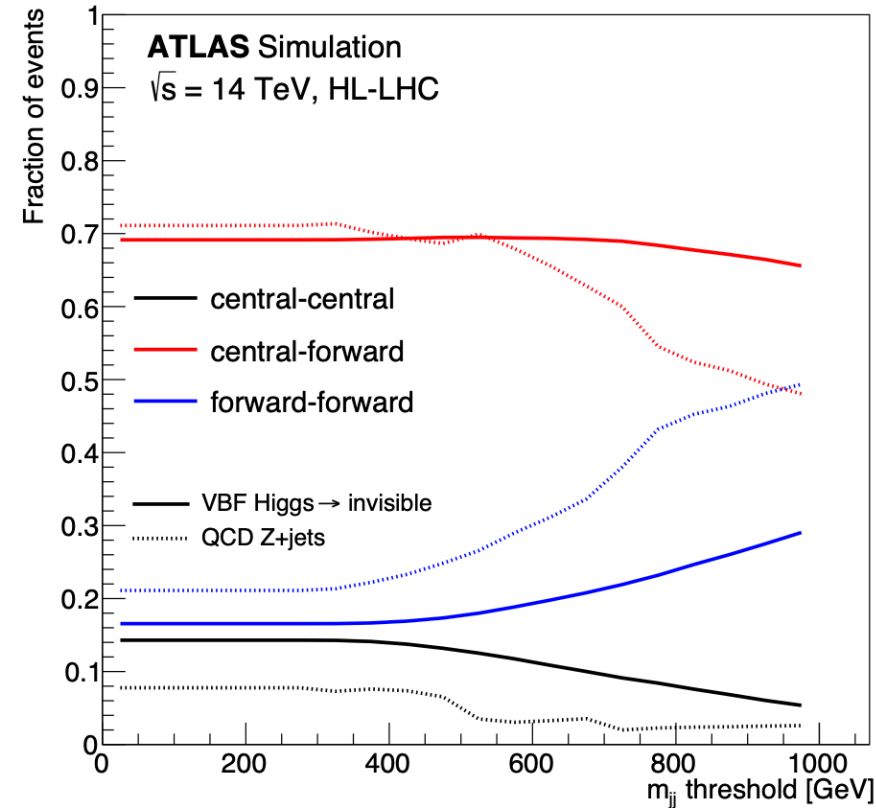
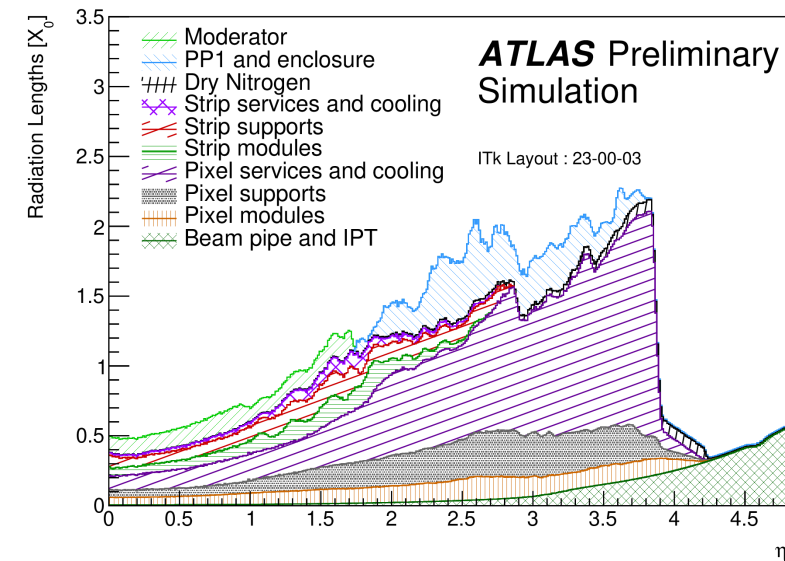
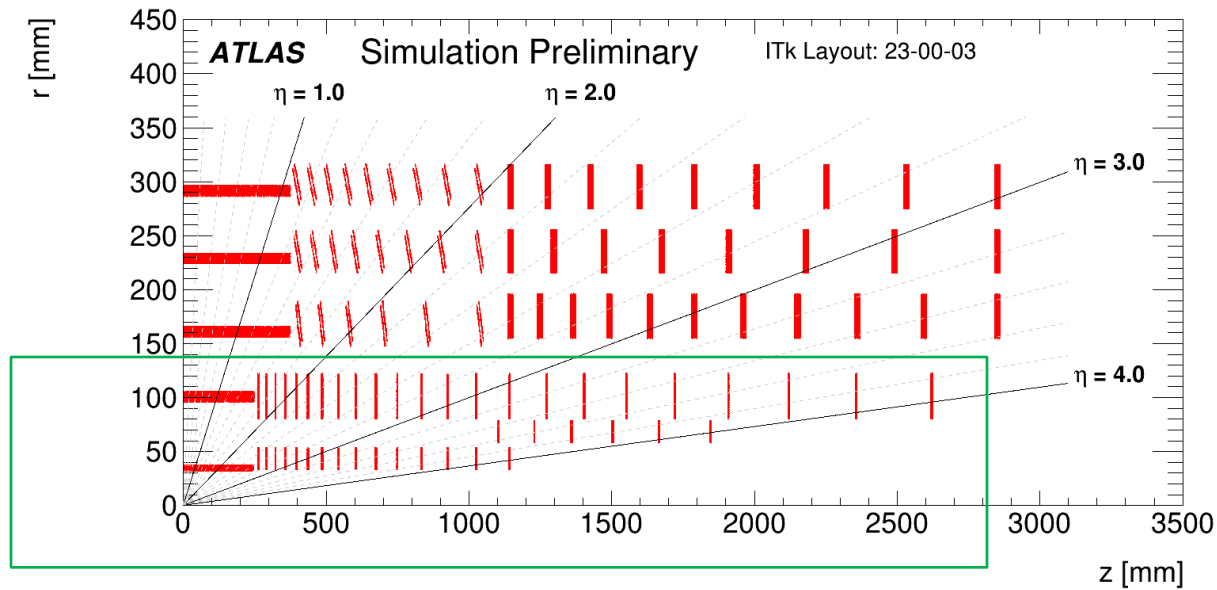


Figure 3.24: The dashed line shows the fraction of signal VBF $H \rightarrow \text{invisible}$ and Z+jet background events as a function of a m_{jj} threshold after a loose VBF preselection. Forward jets are those with $|\eta| > 2.4$. Solid (dotted) lines correspond to VBF $H \rightarrow \text{invisible}$ (Z+jet) events. The fraction of central-central, central-forward, and forward-forward events are shown in black, red, and blue colors respectively.

DETECTOR LAYOUT STUDIES

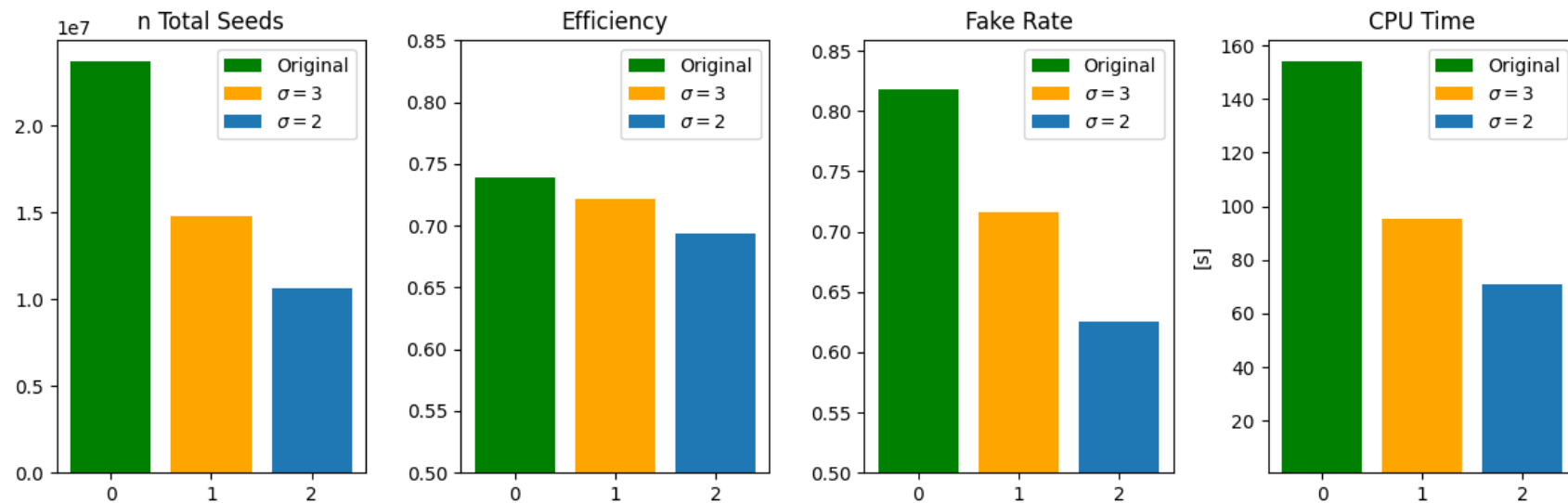
A change in tracking technology would imply changes in material budget due to different power, cooling, data transmission etc and would require a re-evaluation of the optimal detector layout



OTHER ACTIVITIES

CERN has initiated studies on seeding to evaluate **CPU** gains with former student Steven Bos, and plans to continue

<https://cds.cern.ch/record/2879352>



OTHER ACTIVITIES

DIPS algorithm with timing:

<https://cds.cern.ch/record/2908429>

Vertex Grid seeder optimization

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1435014/contributions/6038249/attachments/2902452/5090667/Poster2024-Nicollin.pdf>

RADIATION

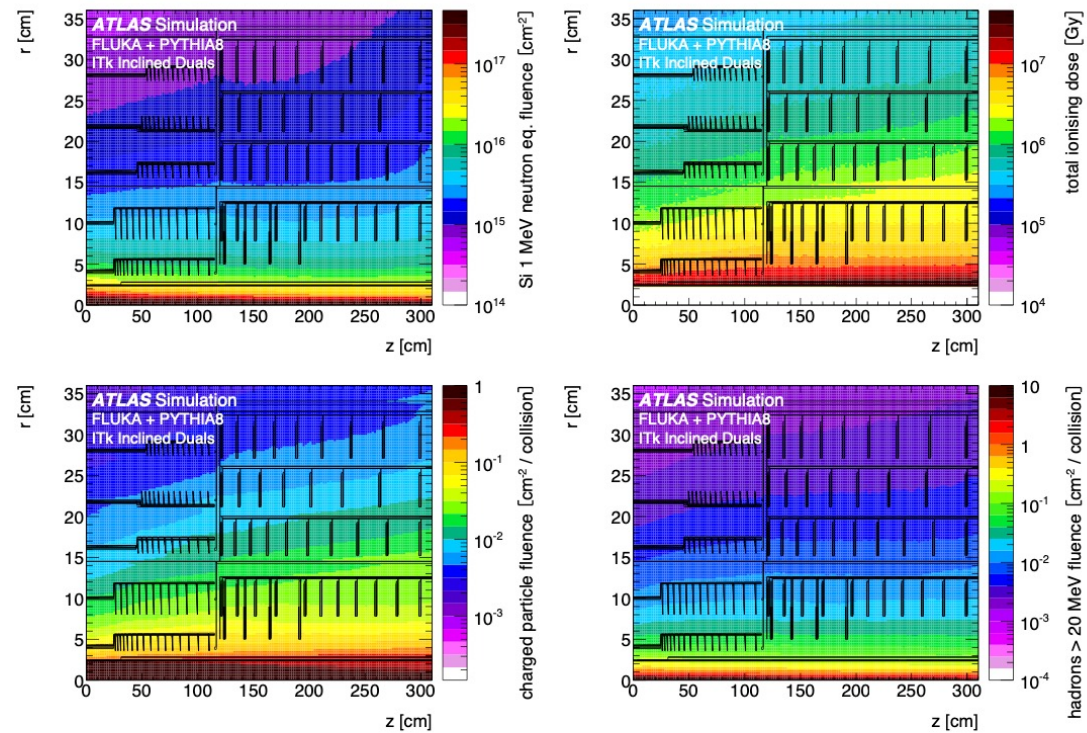
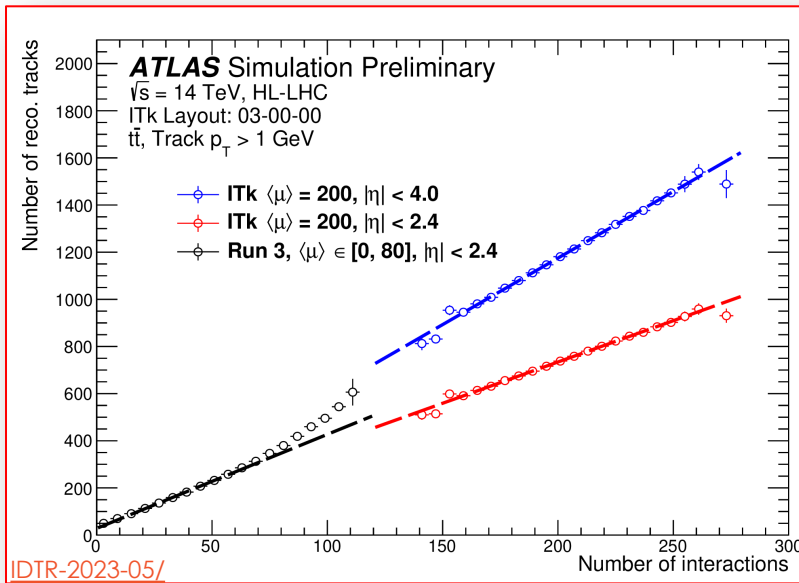


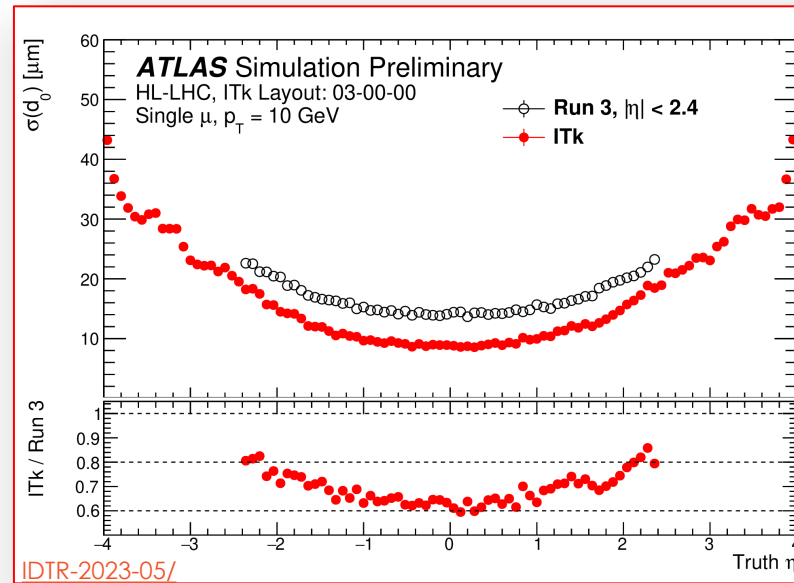
Figure 2.18: The fluence and dose distributions for the Pixel Detector. **Top left:** 1 MeV neutron equivalent fluence. **Top right:** Total ionising dose. **Bottom left:** Charged particle fluence. **Bottom right:** Hadron fluence for energies greater than 20 MeV. The top two lots are normalised to 4000 fb^{-1} . No safety factors are taken into account for this Figure.

HL-LHC TRACKING

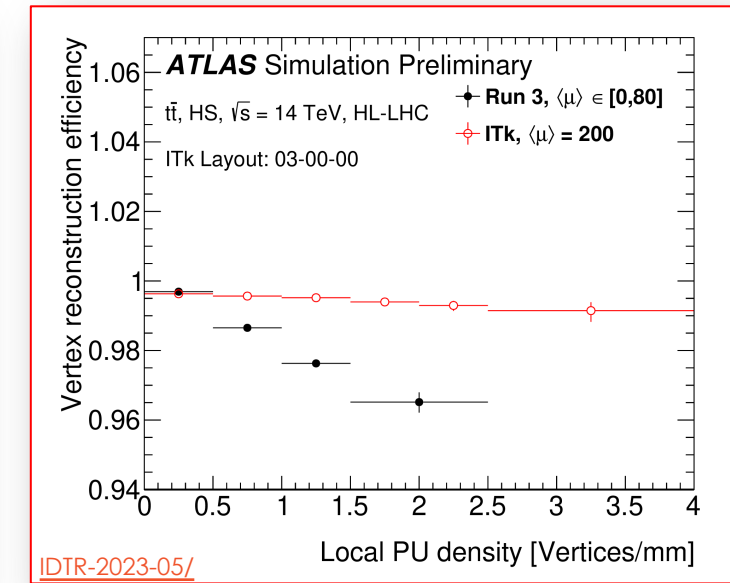
A detector designed to be pile-up robust, and algorithms designed to leverage such features



The lower the fake rate, the better the CPU and storage usage



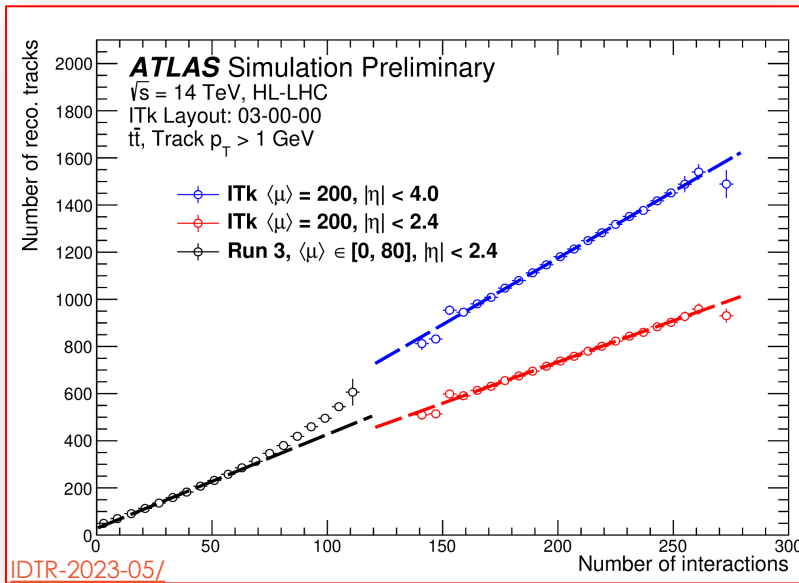
Improved IP resolution



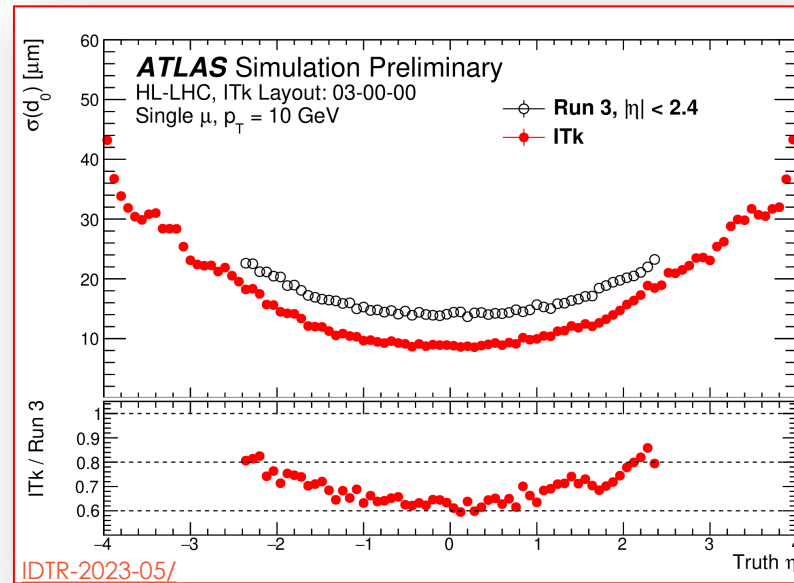
More PU-robust vertexing

HL-LHC TRACKING

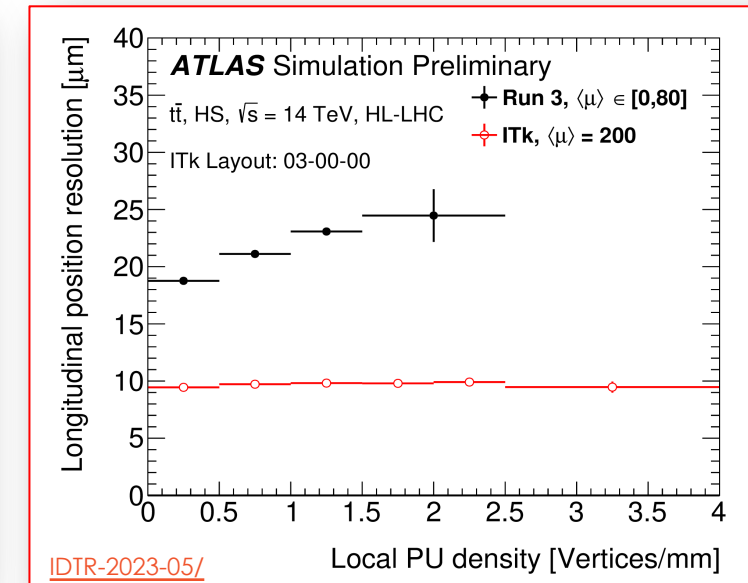
A detector designed to be pile-up robust, and algorithms designed to leverage such features



The lower the fake rate, the better the CPU and storage usage

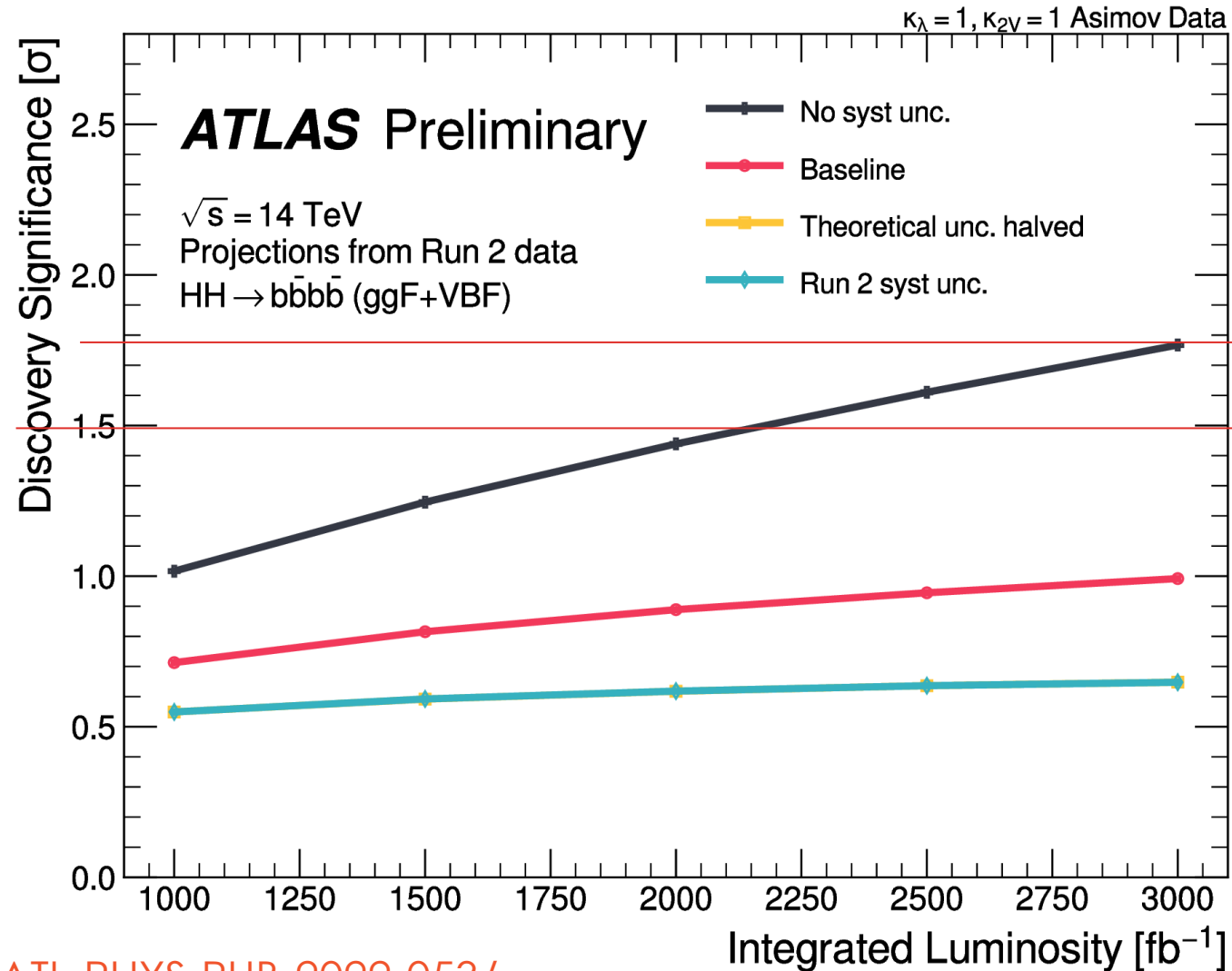


Improved IP resolution

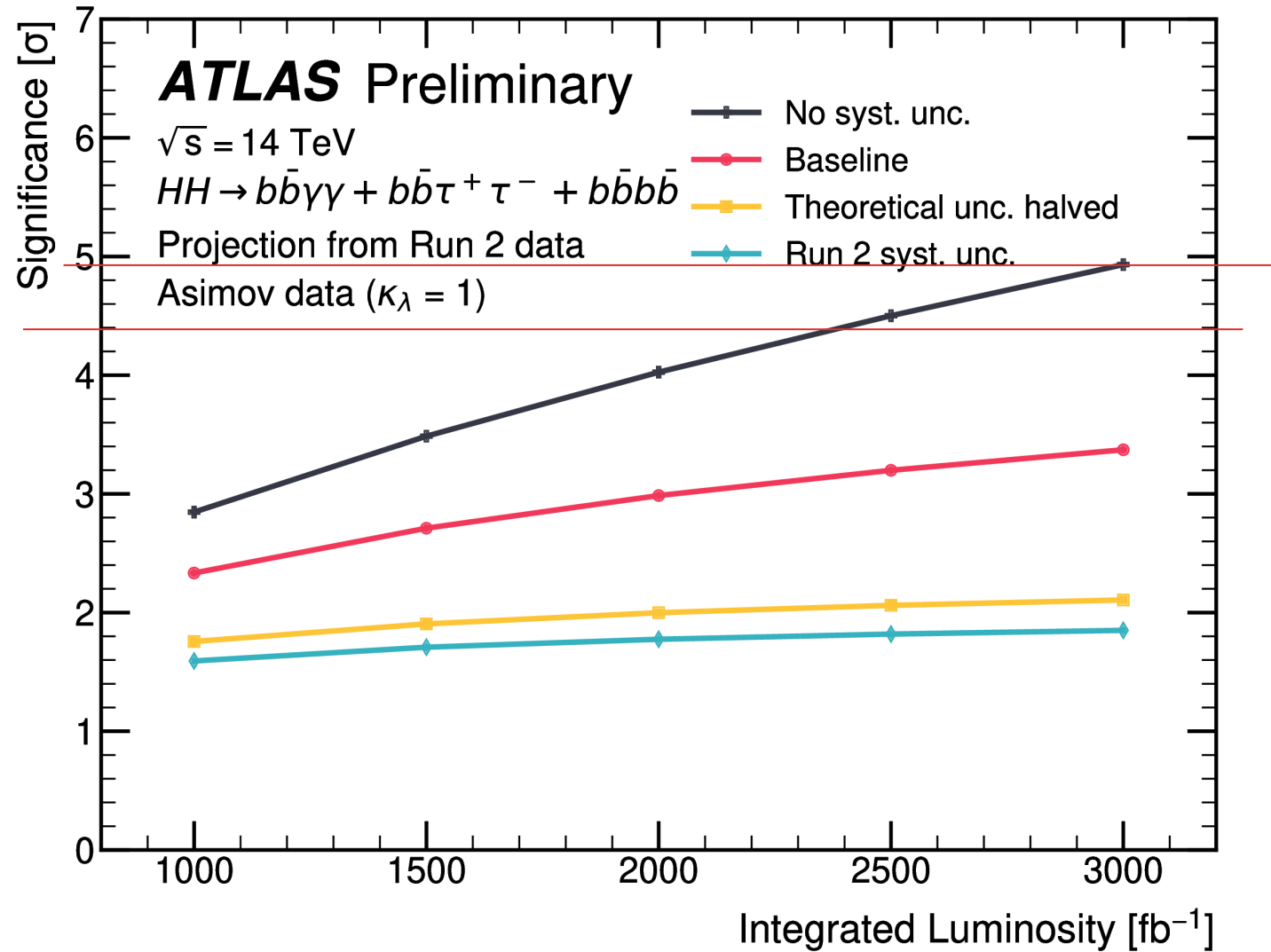


More PU-robust vertexing

HOW DOES HH LOOK IN HL-LHC?

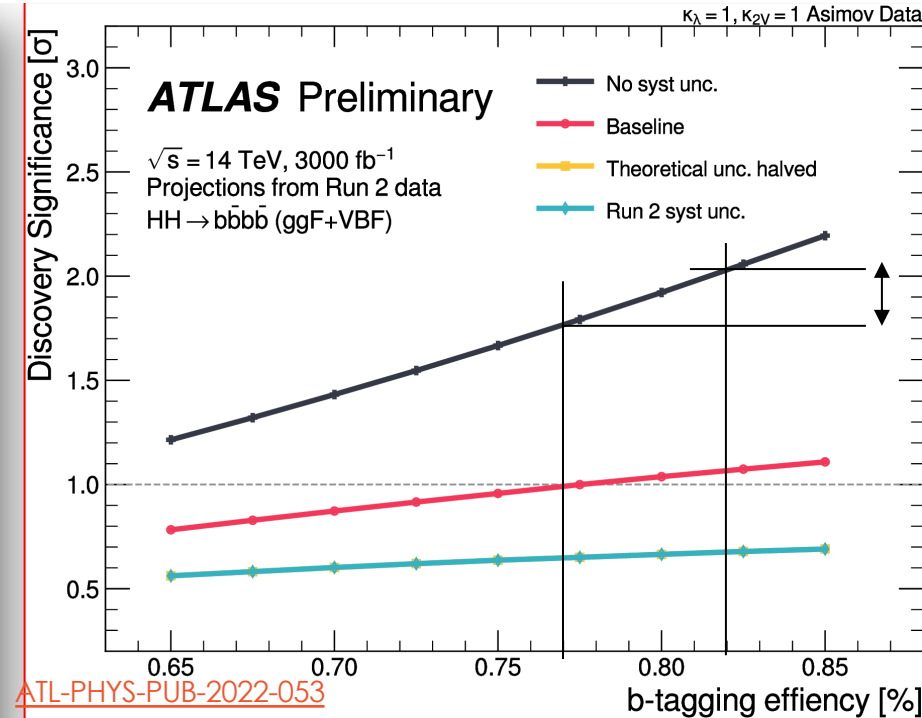
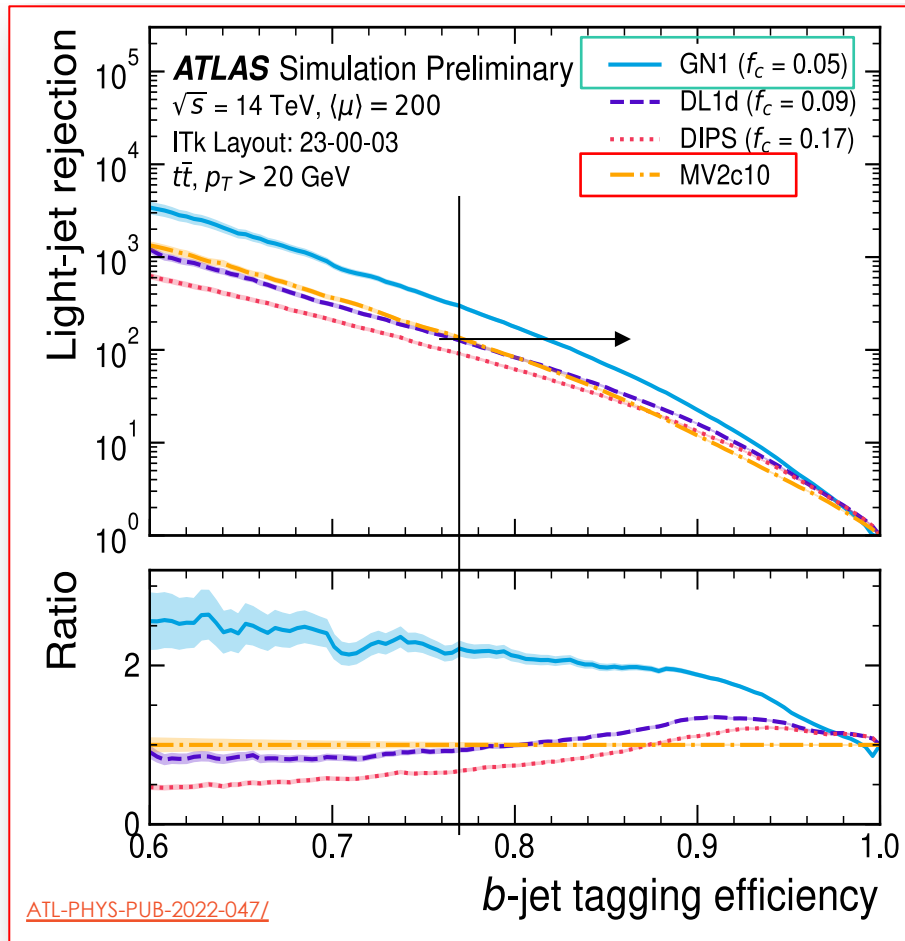


HOW DOES HH LOOK IN HL-LHC?



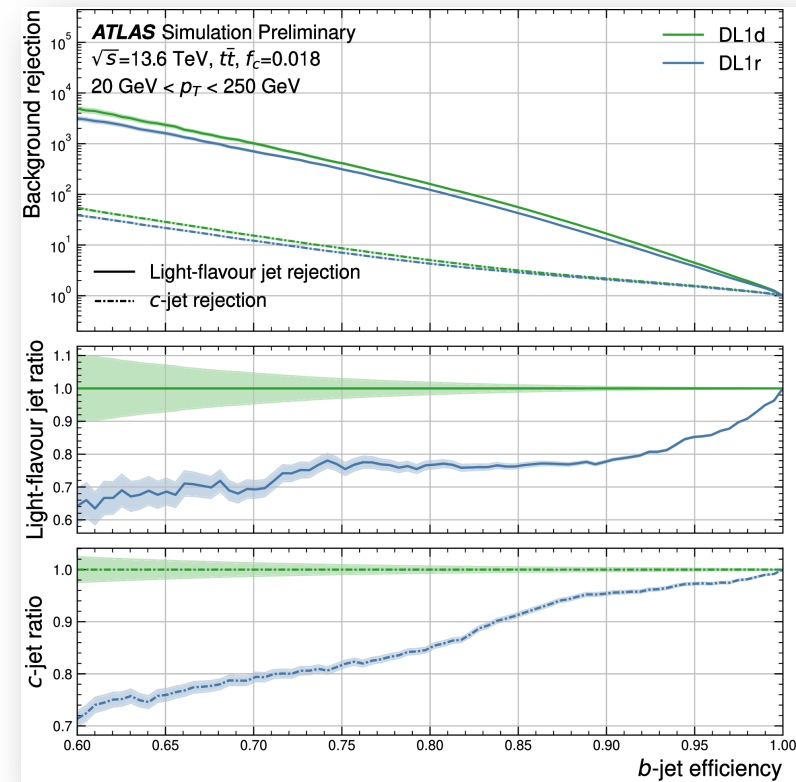
HOW DOES HH LOOK IN HL-LHC?

Modern flavor tagging algorithms based on **Graph Neural Networks** fully exploit the potential of the ITk \rightarrow large sensitivity gains for HH!

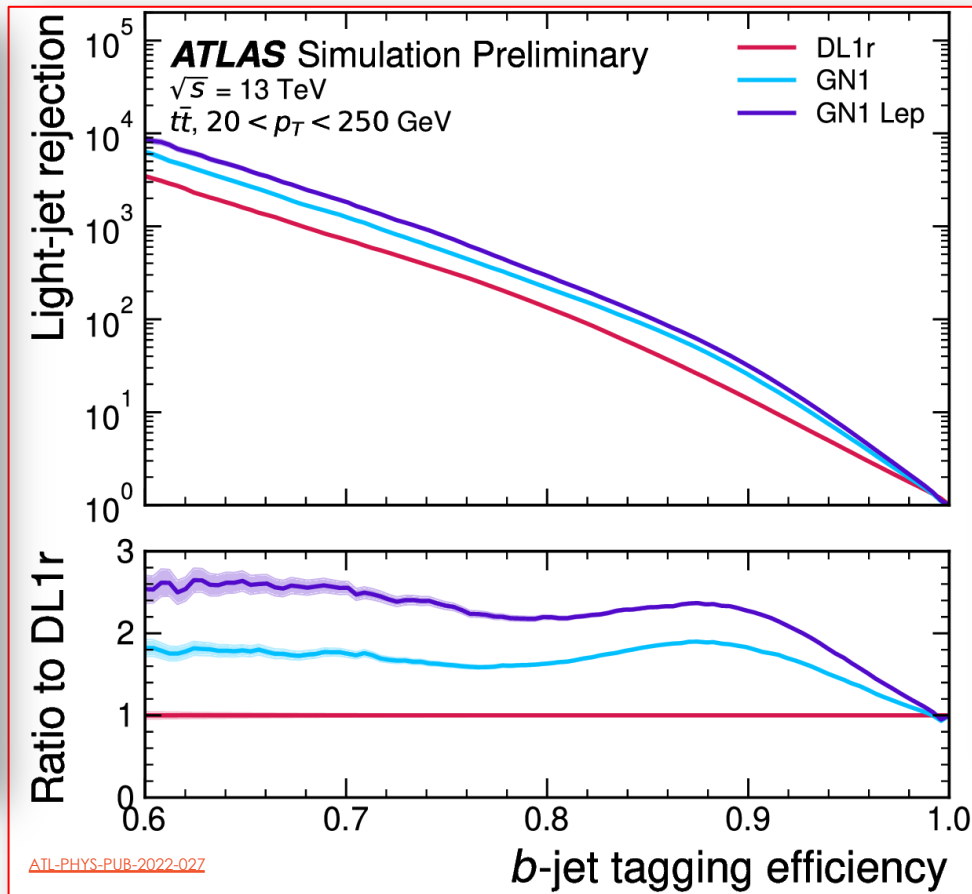


+ 5% efficiency for the same mistag rate \rightarrow + 0.3 σ sensitivity gain for $HH \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b}$

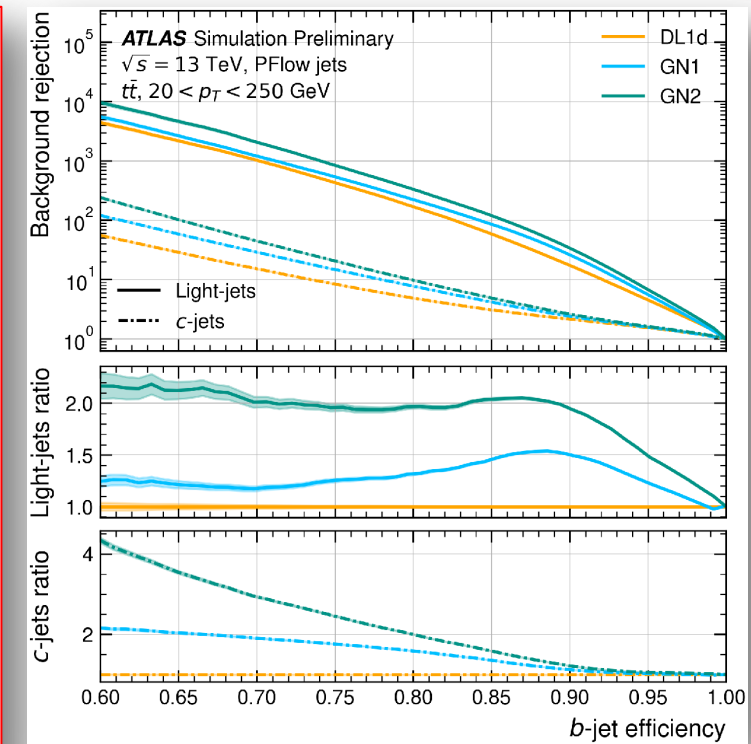
RUN 3 *b*-TAGGING



[FTAG-2022-004/](#)



[ATL-PHYS-PUB-2022-027](#)



[FTAG-2023-01/](#)