

4D Tracking and Vertexing with ACTS

PF,

in collaboration with

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NextGen
Next Generation Triggers



ATLAS
EXPERIMENT

COMETA workshop
21 February 2025

What is ACTS?

Community platform for R&D across various experiment

Robust concurrency through thread-safety by design

Minimal external dependencies, easy to build

Modern architecture and code, unit tested, continuous integration

Experiment-independent toolkit for track reconstruction applications

- **A Common Tracking Software (ACTS) is**

- An open-source library written in modern C++



<https://github.com/acts-project/acts>

<https://acts.readthedocs.io/en/>

- **Goal:**

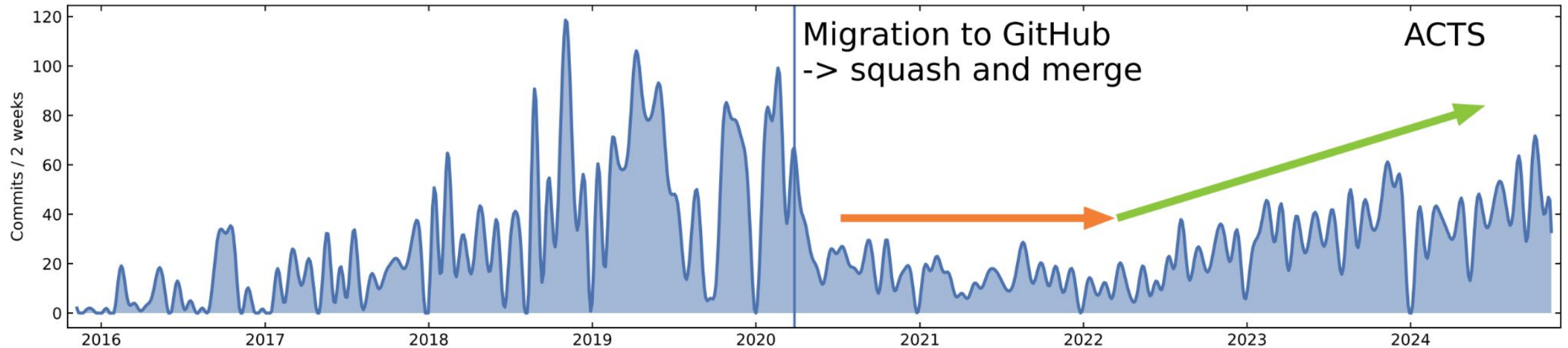
- Provide established **tracking algorithms within a modern package**
- Provide testbed for **R&D activities, machine learning and heterogeneous computing**

[ACTS, Ai et al '22](#)

Courtesy of P. Gessinger

ACTS current activity

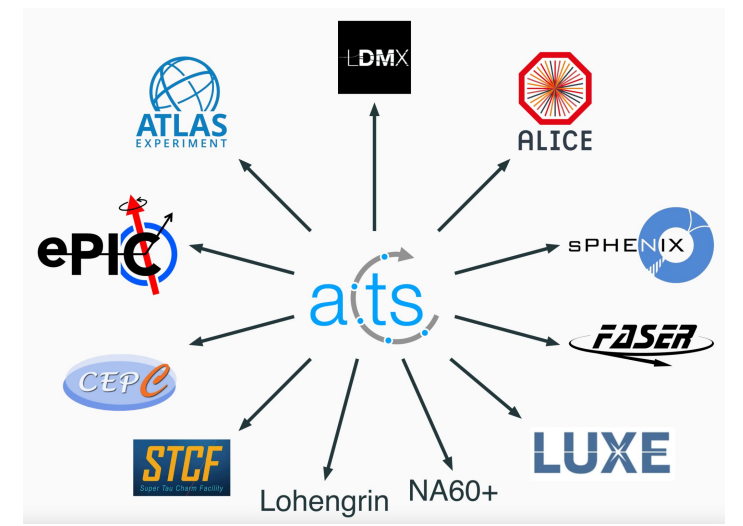
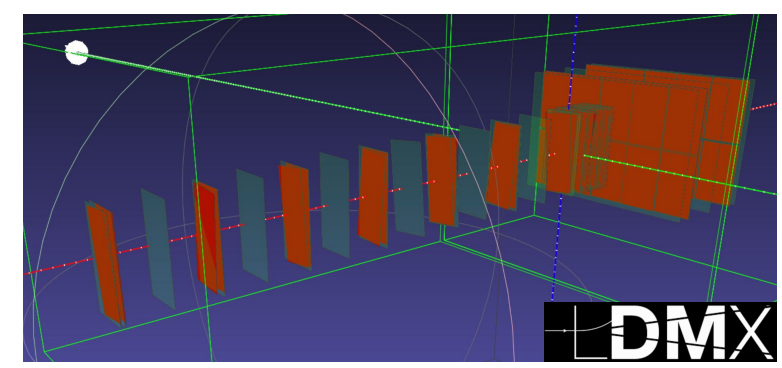
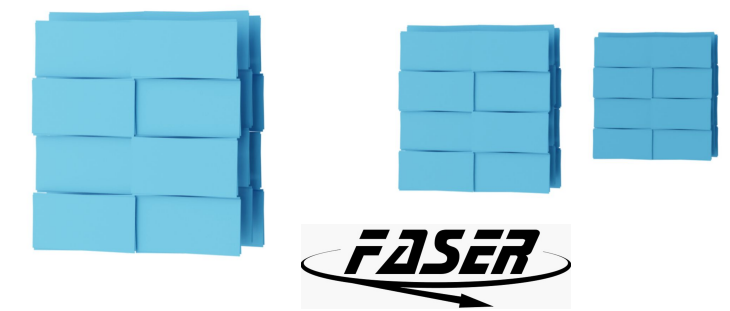
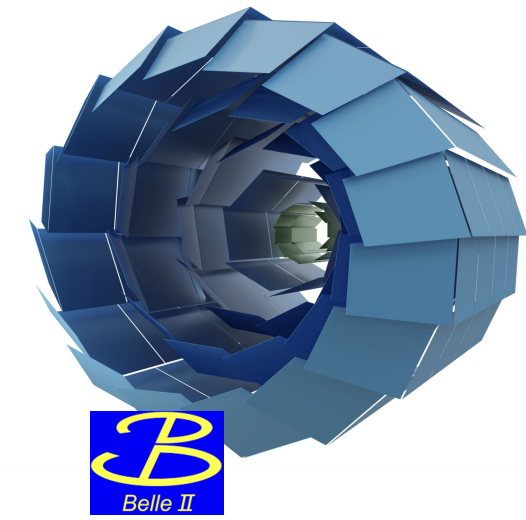
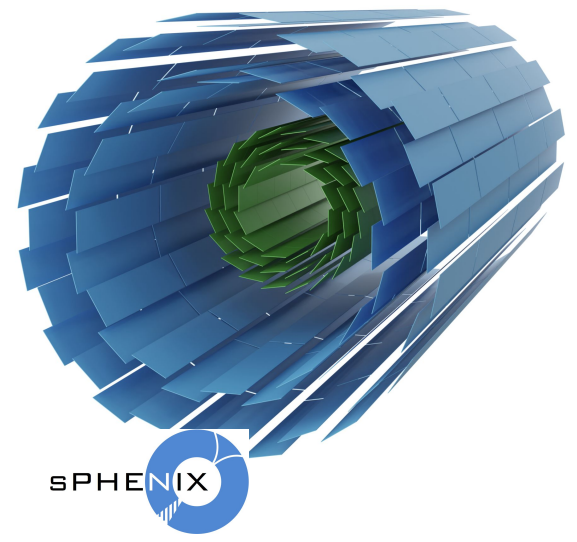
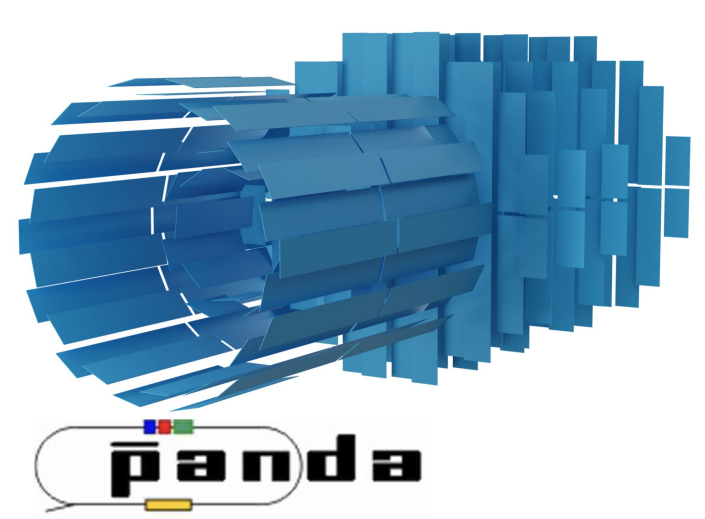
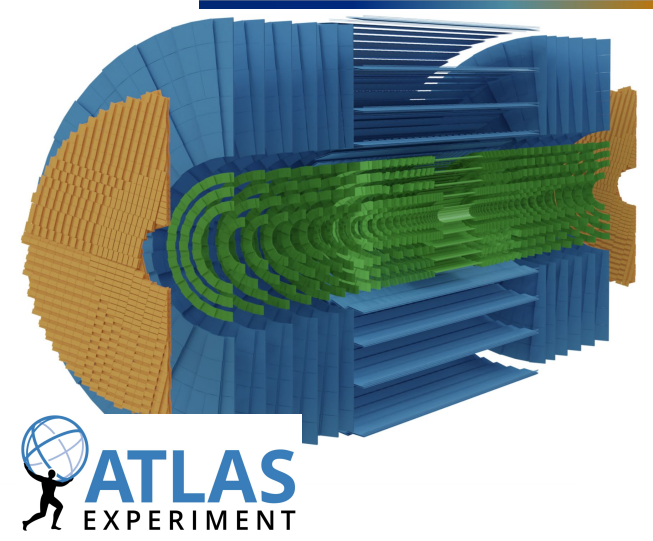
Courtesy of P. Gessinger



[ACTS Workshop '24](#)

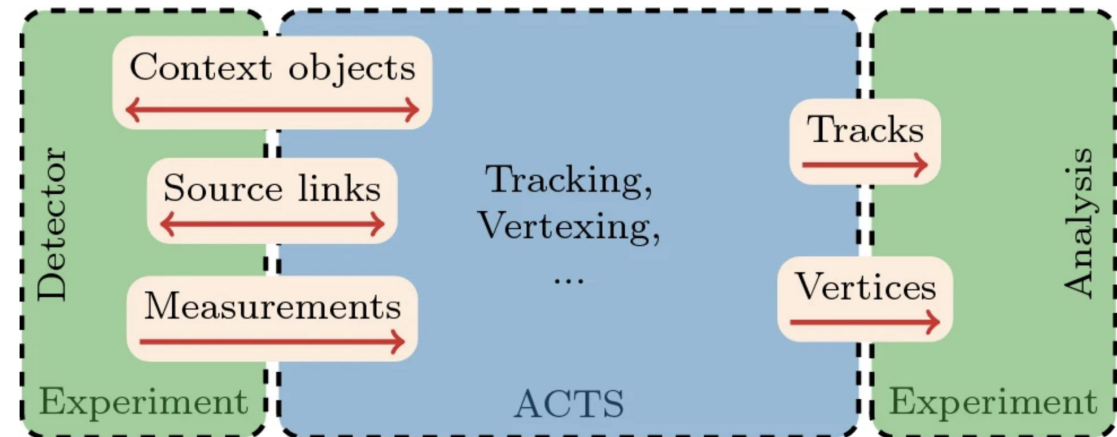
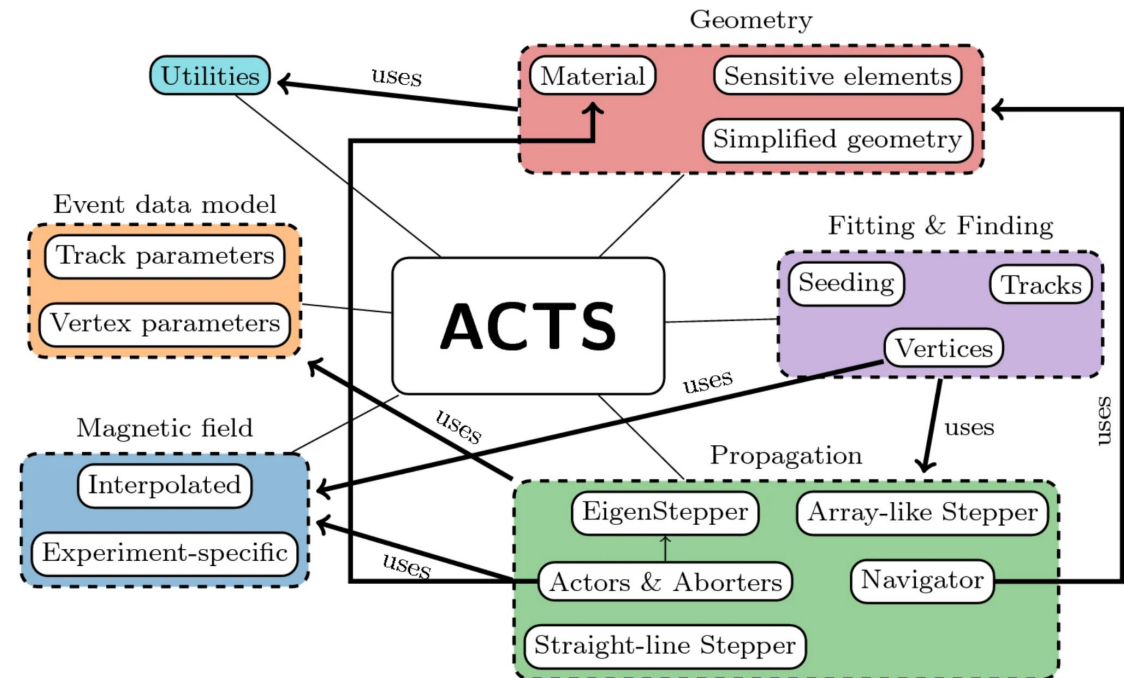
- Project is approaching **10 years of lifetime**
- **Very active and growing community** of developers
- 39 releases, 40+ contributors from multiple experiments

Deployment on experiments



The ACTS Library

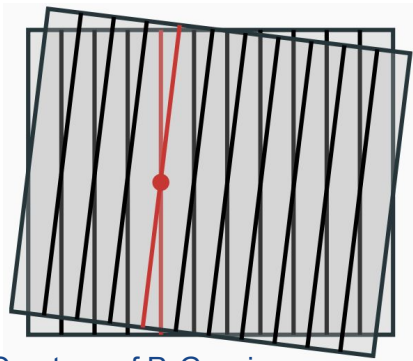
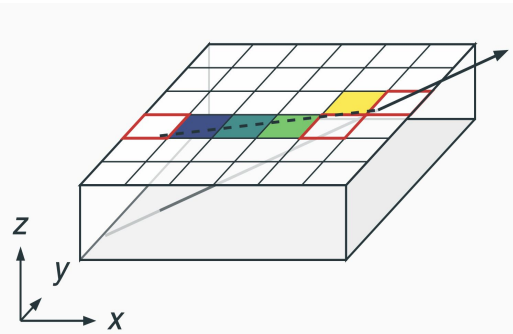
- The ACTS library is made of two main packages
 - **Core:** collection of algorithms and components to build a tracking algorithm to be exported and used in a specific experiment reconstruction framework
 - **Examples:** standalone event generation, simplified detector interaction and track reconstruction
 - Not intended to be used directly by experiments for reconstruction
- The library can be extended via dedicated **Plugins:**
 - **Machine Learning** algorithms support (ONNX, ExaTrk, ..)
 - **Detector Description** packages (DD4Hep, GeoModel, ...)
 - **Heterogeneous computing** (CUDA, Detray, ...)



[ACTS, Ai et al '22](#)

Tracking in a nutshell

Measurements



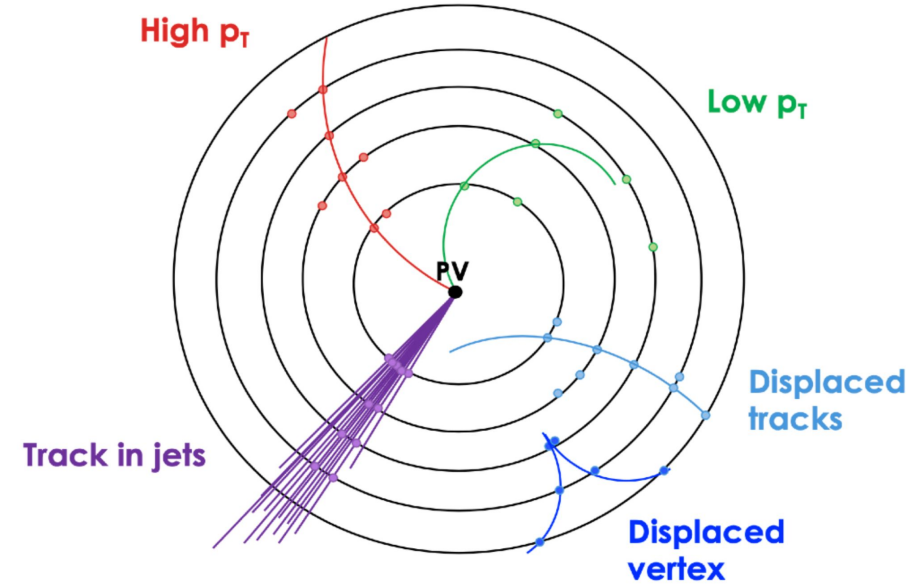
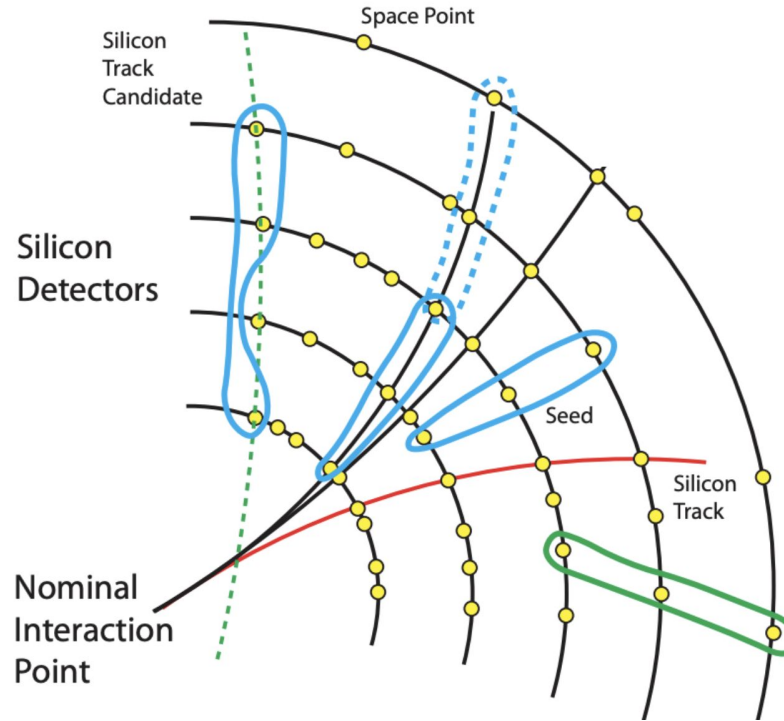
Courtesy of P. Gessinger

Track Seeds

CKF(*) Track Candidates

Ambiguity Resolution

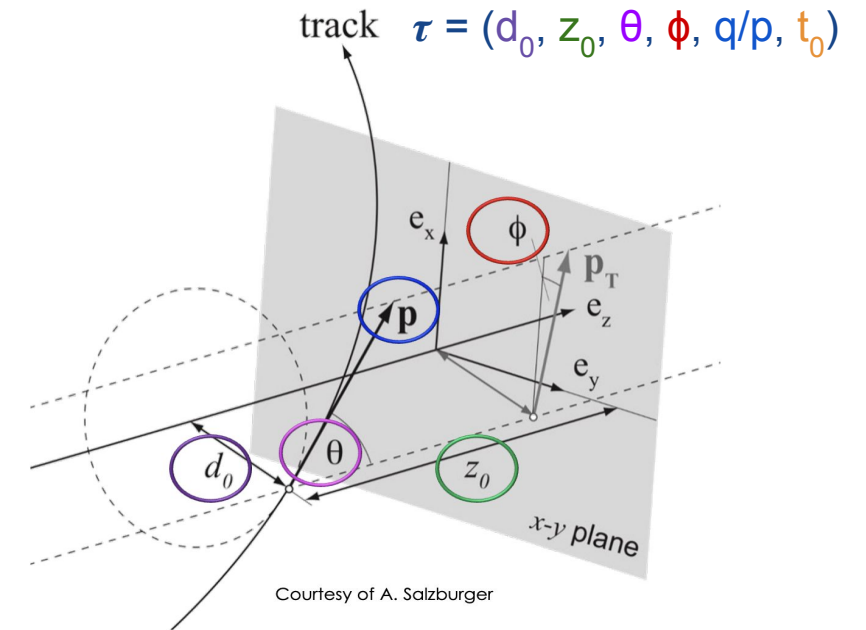
Dedicated tracking passes



Courtesy of V.Cairo

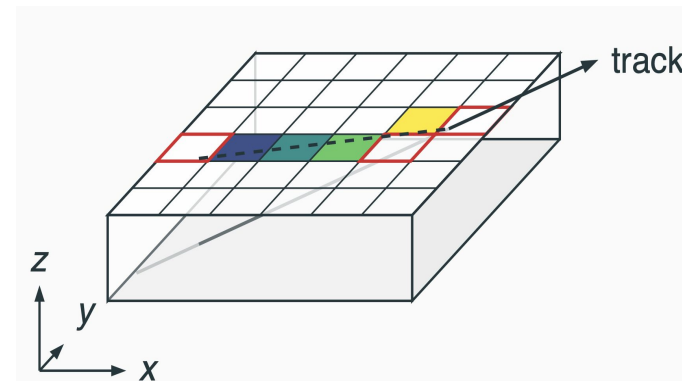
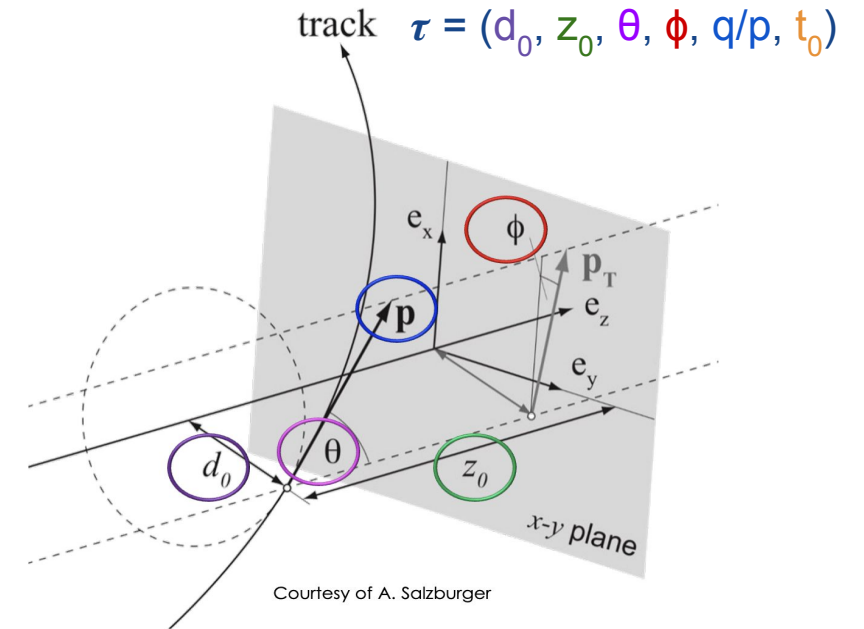
Track parameterization in ACTS

- Tracks in ACTS are parameterized by a 6 dimensional vector with respect a reference surface, line or point
 - 2 impact parameters d_0, z_0
 - 2 angles θ, ϕ
 - charge over momentum magnitude q/p
 - **track time t_0**
- This parameterization allows:
 - Seamless computation of track time of arrival on sensitive devices
 - Kalman Filter step with time measurements



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 - This parameterization allows:
 - Seamless computation of track time of arrival on sensitive devices
 - Kalman Filter step with time measurements
- Possibility to easily add time measurement on devices
 - From truth smearing, no digitization



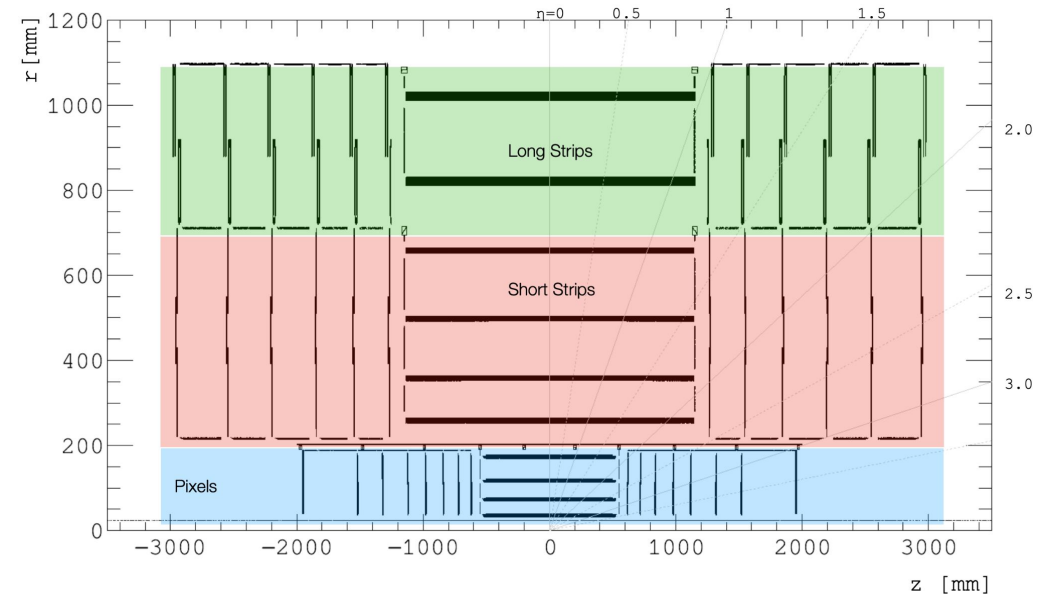
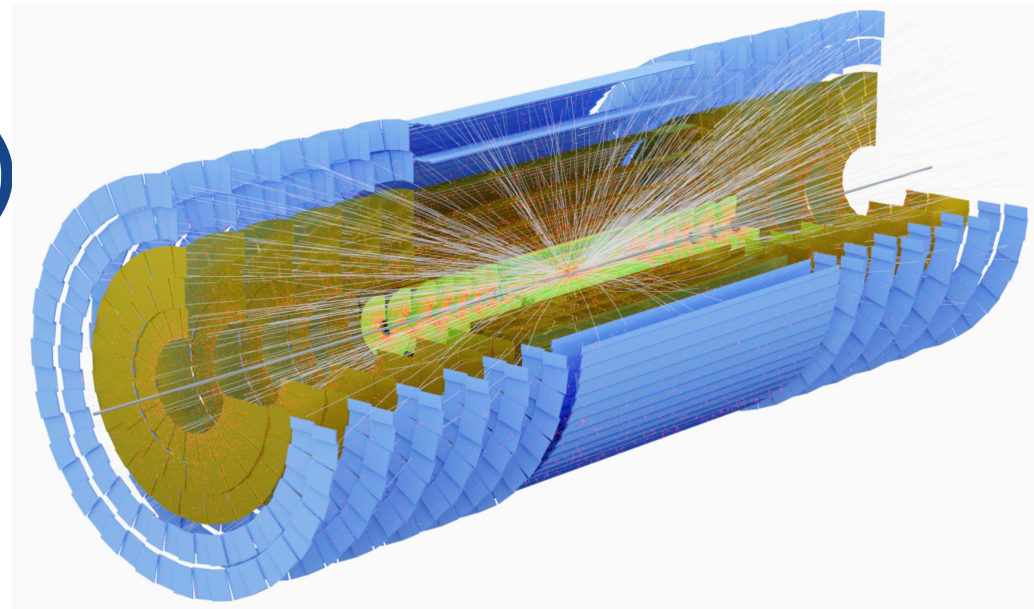
$$m = (X, Y) \quad 2D$$



$$m = (X, Y, T) \quad 3D$$

The Open Data Detector (ODD)

- The **Example** framework comes with a generic silicon (HL-)LHC based on **DD4Hep**
- Heavily in use in the **development of the ACTS track reconstruction toolkit**
- Basis of performance and regression monitoring of ACTS
- Plan to produce a large **Open Access Dataset** to supersede the **TrackML** one for tracking algorithm R&D in a more realistic environment
- No digitization support, only **hit-smearing with user-defined resolutions**



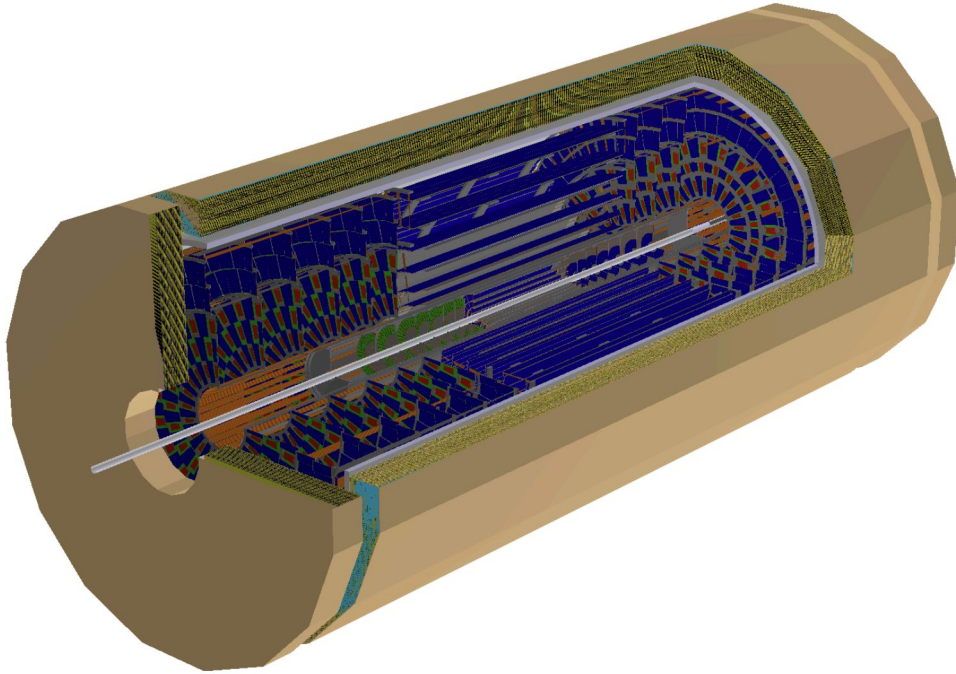
[OpenDataDetector](#)

[CHEP '23](#)

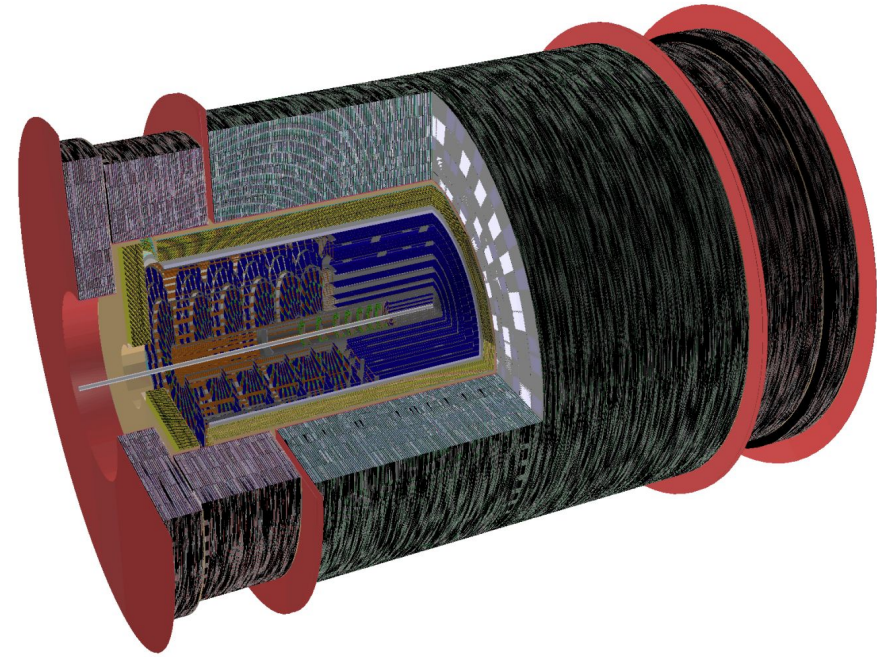
[ODD @ CTD '23](#)

[ODD @ ACAT 21](#)

The ODD Extensions



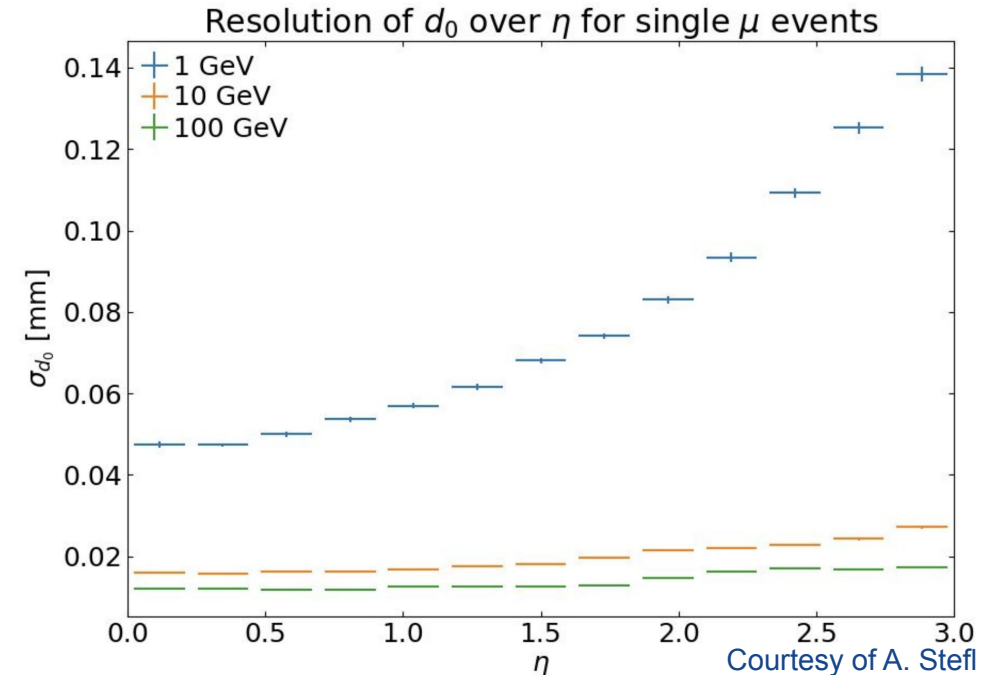
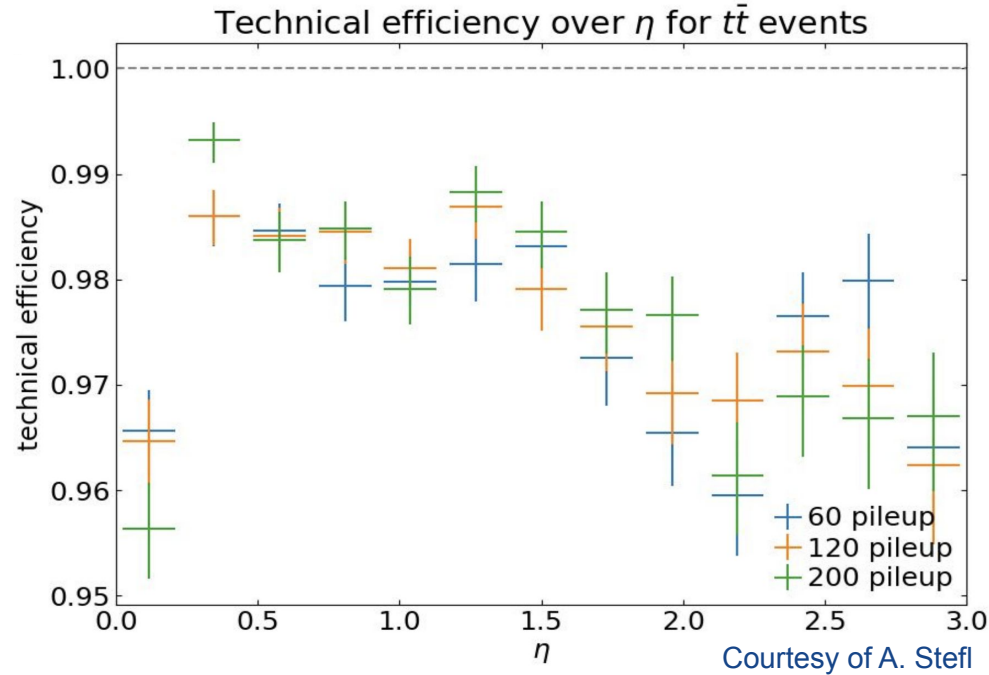
- Recently added an ODD Electromagnetic Calorimeter
 - High granularity SiW sampling calorimeter
- CALICE type, proposed for CLIC, CLD and ILD - inspired CMS HGCal



- Possible expansion with the FCC-hh Tile Calorimeter
 - derivate of ATLAS Tile Calorimeter
- Another option could be Silicon Based HCAL

 [OpenDataDetector](#) [CHEP '23](#) [ODD @ CTD '23](#) [ODD @ ACAT 21](#)

The ODD Tracking Performance



- Tracking efficiency defined as **Reconstructible Particles / Reconstructed Tracks**
- Evaluated on $t\bar{t}$ samples at different PU conditions as well as single particle samples
- Track parameter resolutions approach intrinsic layout resolution at high PU
- **Viable R&D platform for tracking algorithm research**



[OpenDataDetector](#)

[CHEP '23](#)

[ODD @ CTD '23](#)

[ODD @ ACAT 21](#)

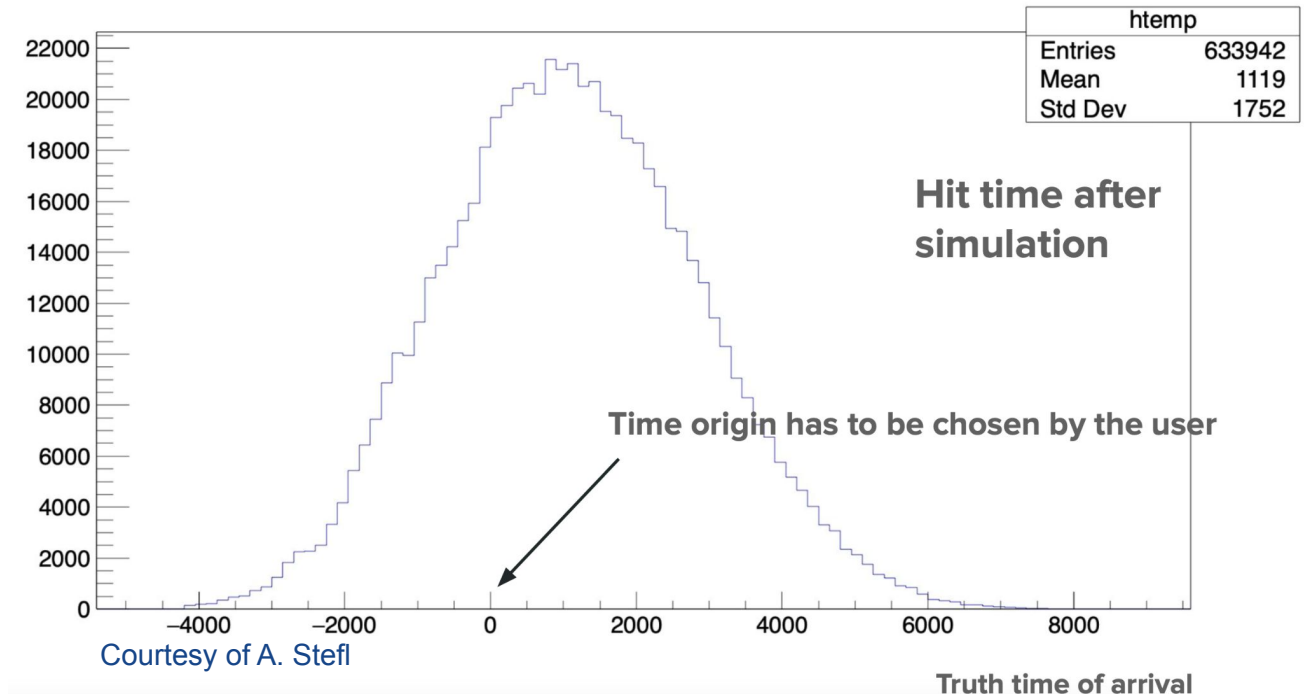
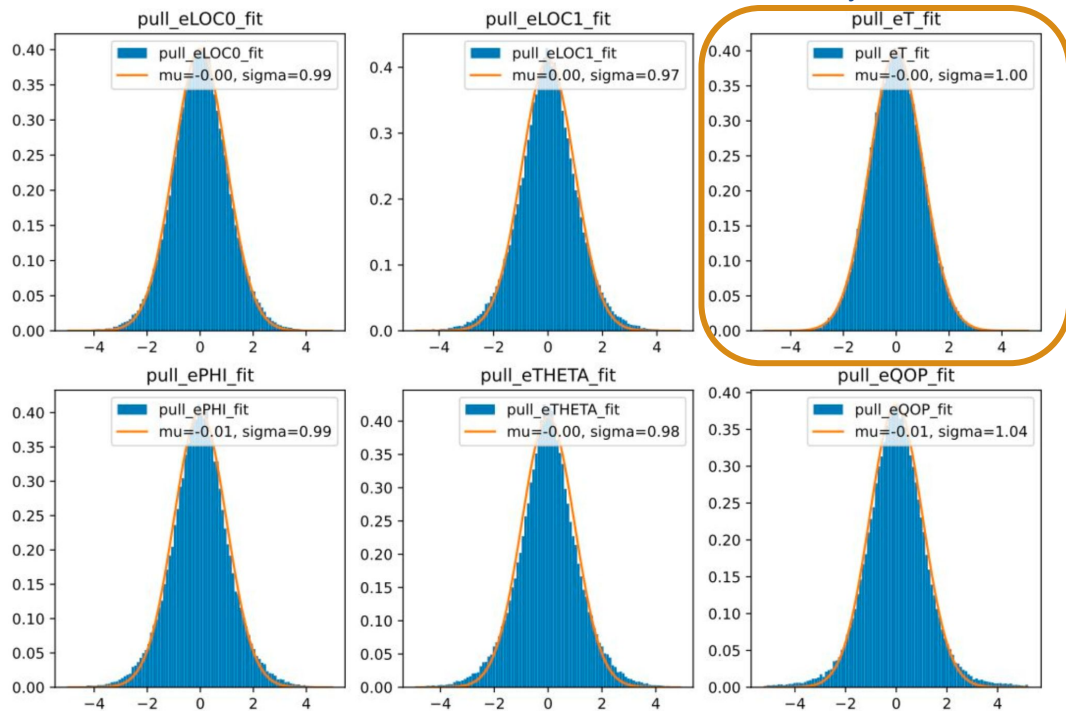


4D Track Fitting and time information in the ODD

- Track finding and fitting can use time information
- Fully integrated in track propagation and filtering formalism

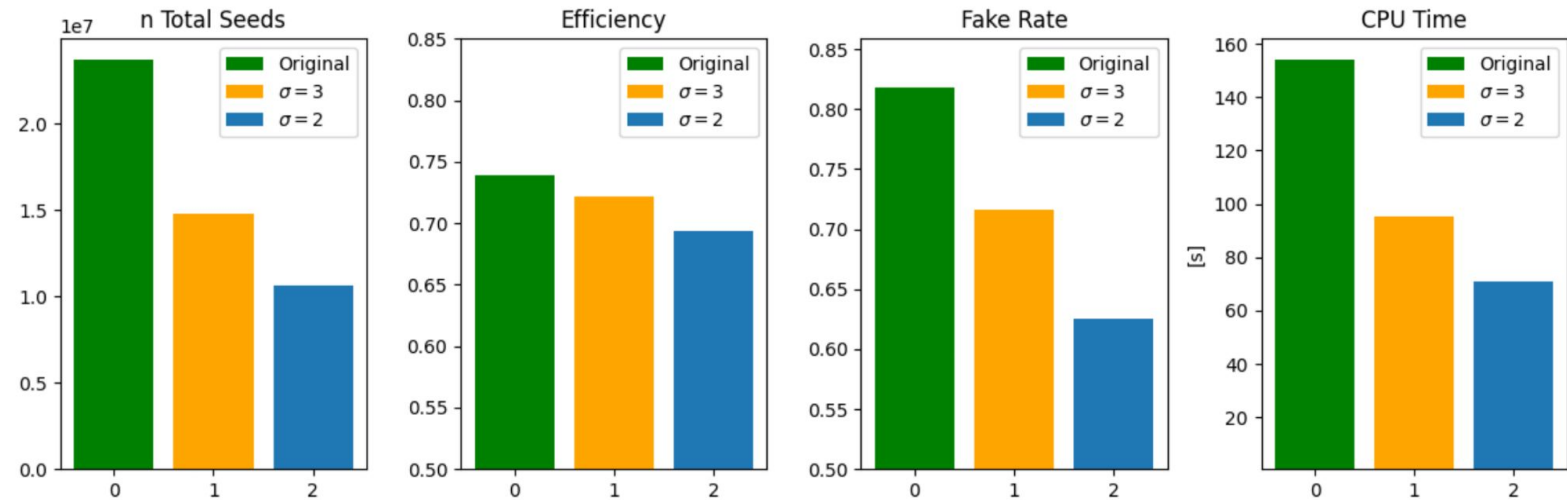
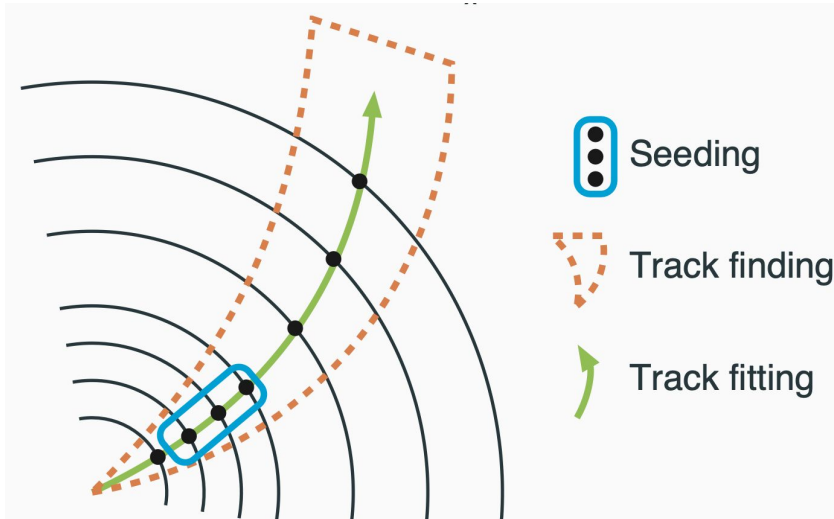
- Possible to run event simulation with time
- Event Data Model and I/O already supporting time information
- Algorithms can take time automatically
 - Or it can be toggled to use it

Courtesy of A. Stefl



Track seeding with timing information

- Hit time information can be used at different stages of track reconstruction
- Depending on the experimental environment, seed finding is very computationally expensive
 - High-efficiency, often low purity
- Investigated seed finding improvement using $\sigma=30\text{ps}$ time resolution in ODD, $t\bar{t}$ $\mu=200$
 - Large reduction of Fake Rate and CPU timing (*)



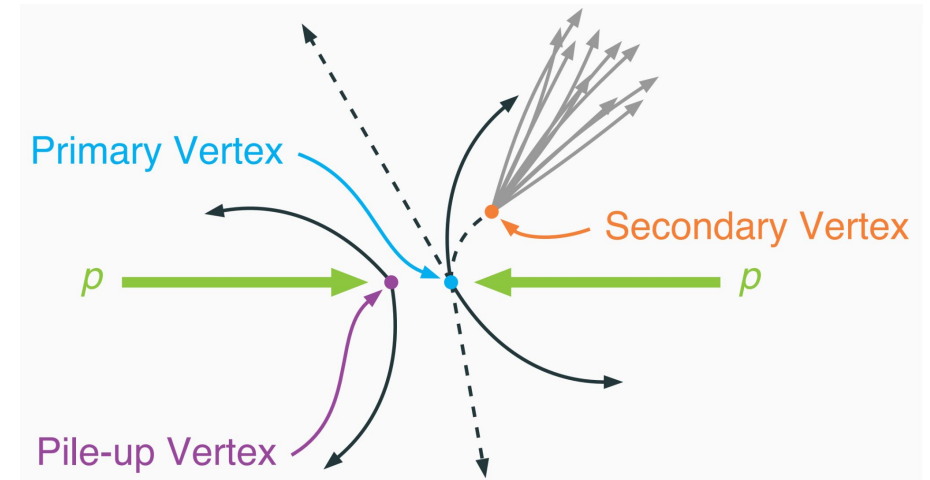
(*) Seeding algorithm not optimized in this test

[Steven's Summer Project](#)

Vertexing in ACTS

- **Vertexing**: finding the tracks origins / interaction points and estimate their location
- Generally split in two parts: **Finding** and **Fitting**
- We distinguish between **primary** and **secondary** vertexing
 - Depending on the distance from the beamline
- **Secondary vertexing still missing in ACTS line-up**

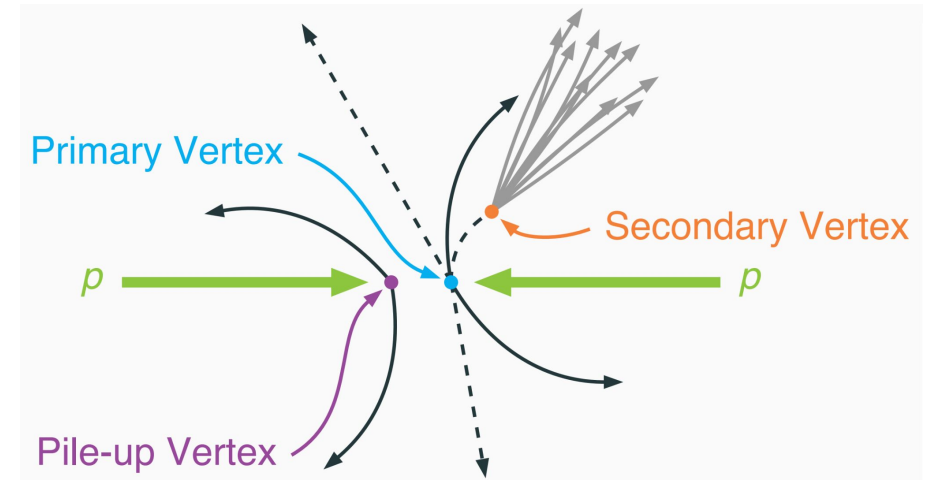
Courtesy of P. Gessinger



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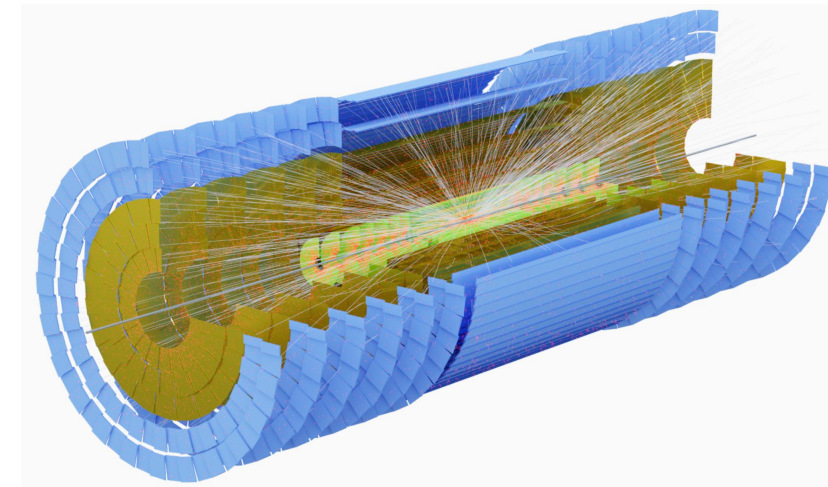
Courtesy of P. Gessinger



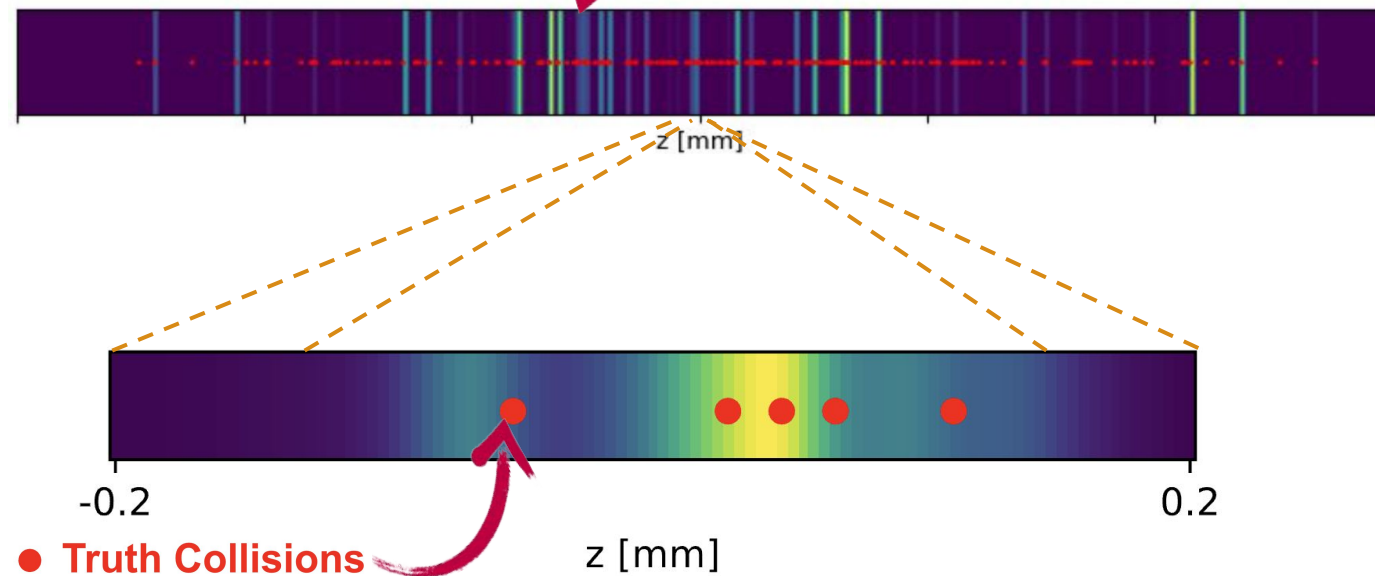
- **Vertexing in ACTS is generally a low person-power area**
 - Great opportunity to step-up and get involved

4D Vertexing in ACTS - Finding

- ACTS provides two finding algorithms:
 - **Iterative Vertex Finder (IVF)**
 - **Adaptive Multi-Vertex Finder (AMVF) (*)**
- Several methods to find local maxima of track agglomerates.
- **Ex: Adaptive grid density finder**
 - Tracks with large d_0 are dampened away



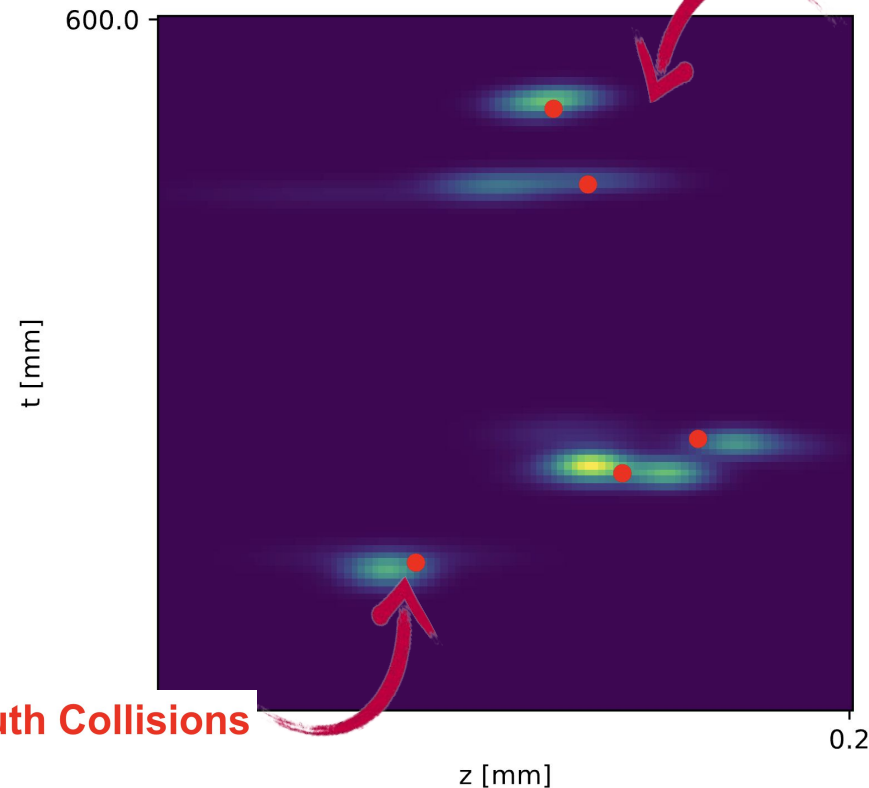
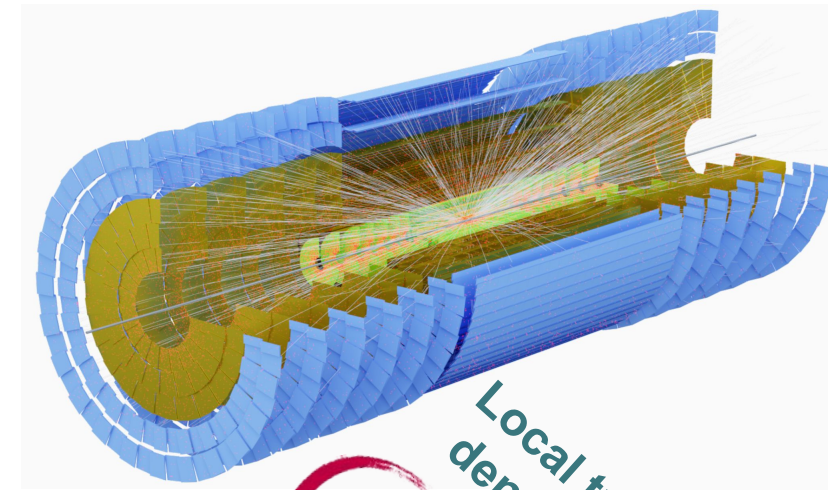
Local track density maxima



(*) [ATL-PHYS-PUB-2019-015](#)

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 - **Adaptive Multi-Vertex Finder (AMVF) (*)**
- Several methods to find local maxima of track agglomerates.
- **Ex: Adaptive grid density finder**
 - Tracks with large d_0 are dampened away
- **Extended ACTS vertex finding algorithms to include track time information**

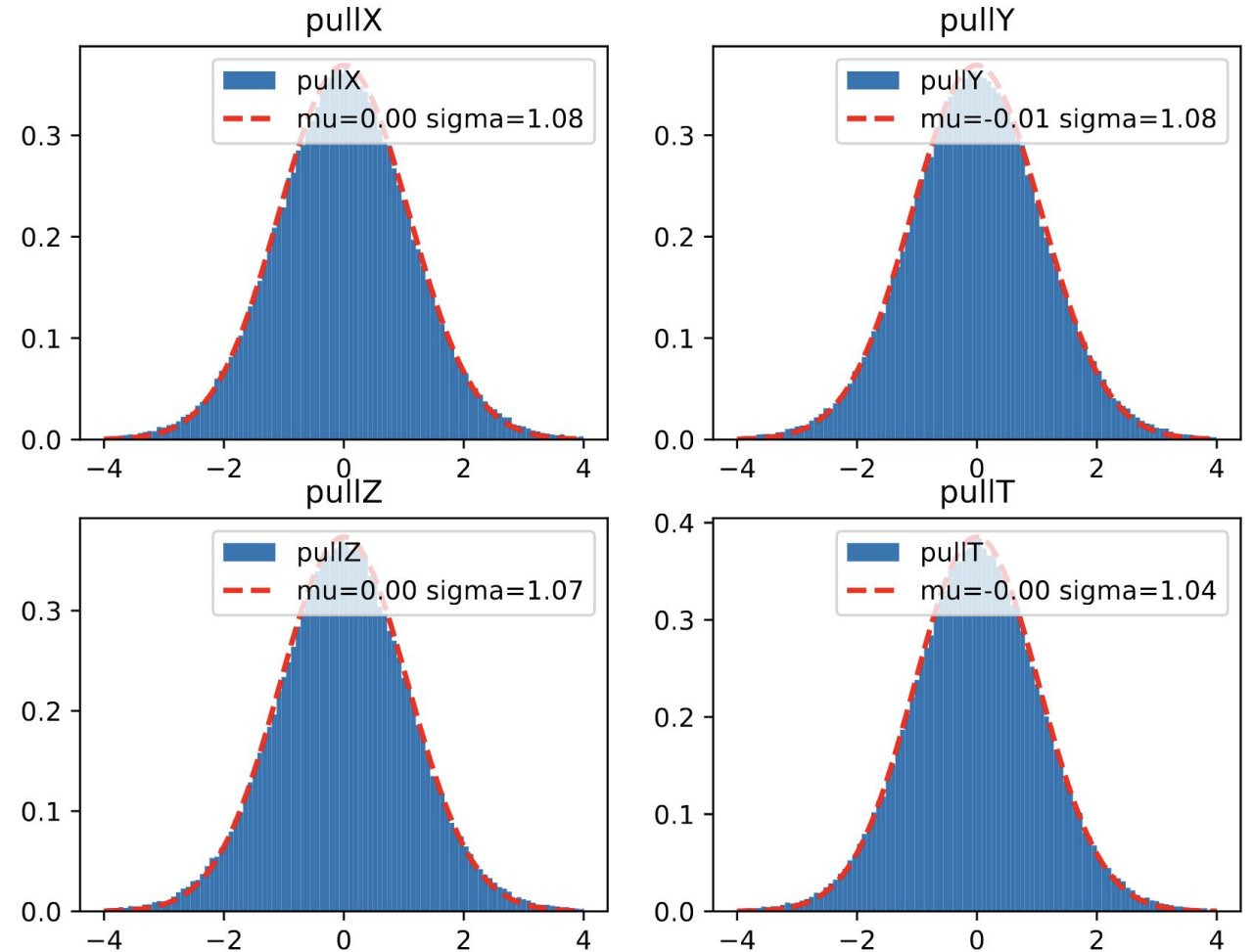


● Truth Collisions

(*) [ATL-PHYS-PUB-2019-015](https://arxiv.org/abs/1901.015)

4D Vertexing in ACTS - Fitting

- **ACTS implements a complete 4D vertexing fit**
 - First analytical derivation of the vertexing Jacobians and numerical implementation
- **Very good vertexing fit performance** tested on $t\bar{t}$ and single particle samples
- **Max-Likelihood** approach to correct for vertices composed by tracks with **multiple mass hypothesis**
 - Approach similar to (*)

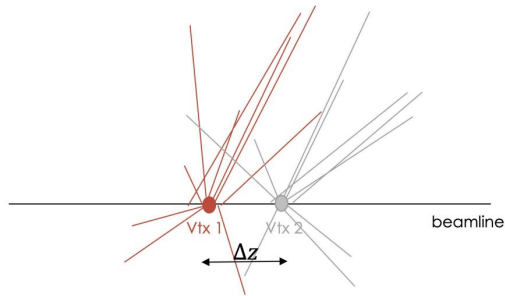


4D Vertexing pulls for 4μ -vertices

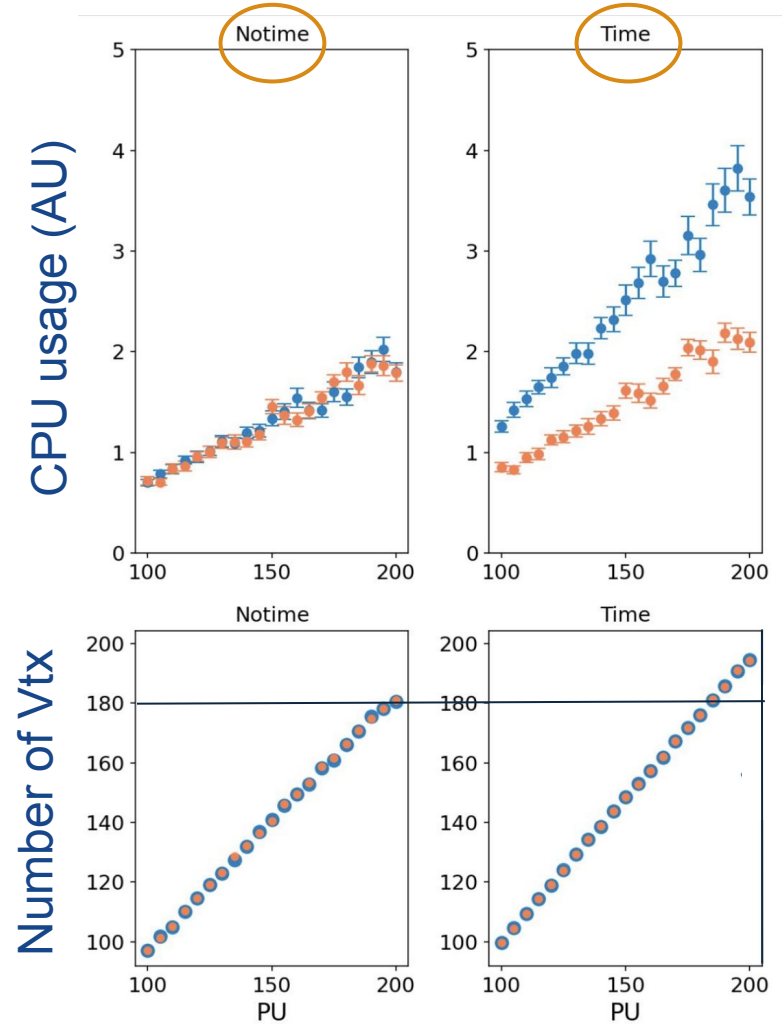
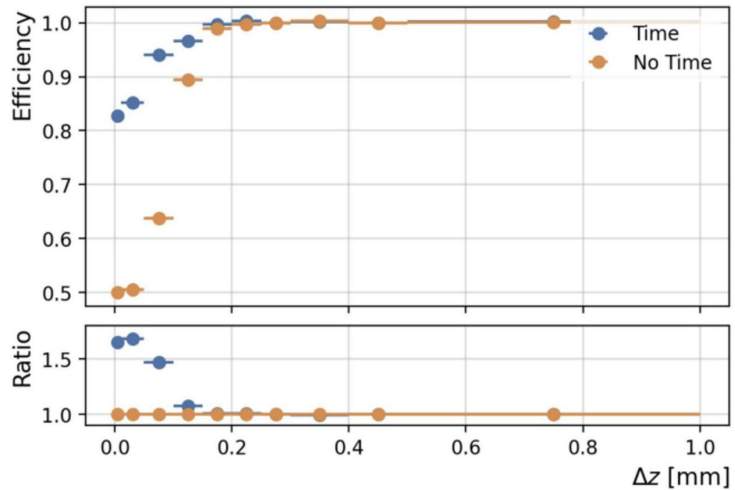
(*)[CMS Vertex Timing CHEP24](#)

4D Vertexing in ACTS - Results

- ACTS + ODD showcases the vertexing performance with time
- Clear benefit for dense environments



ODD Simulation
10μ vertex



- Tuning of 4D vertexing parameters allows for higher reconstruction efficiency with lower CPU budget (*)

(*)Cleo's Summer Project '24

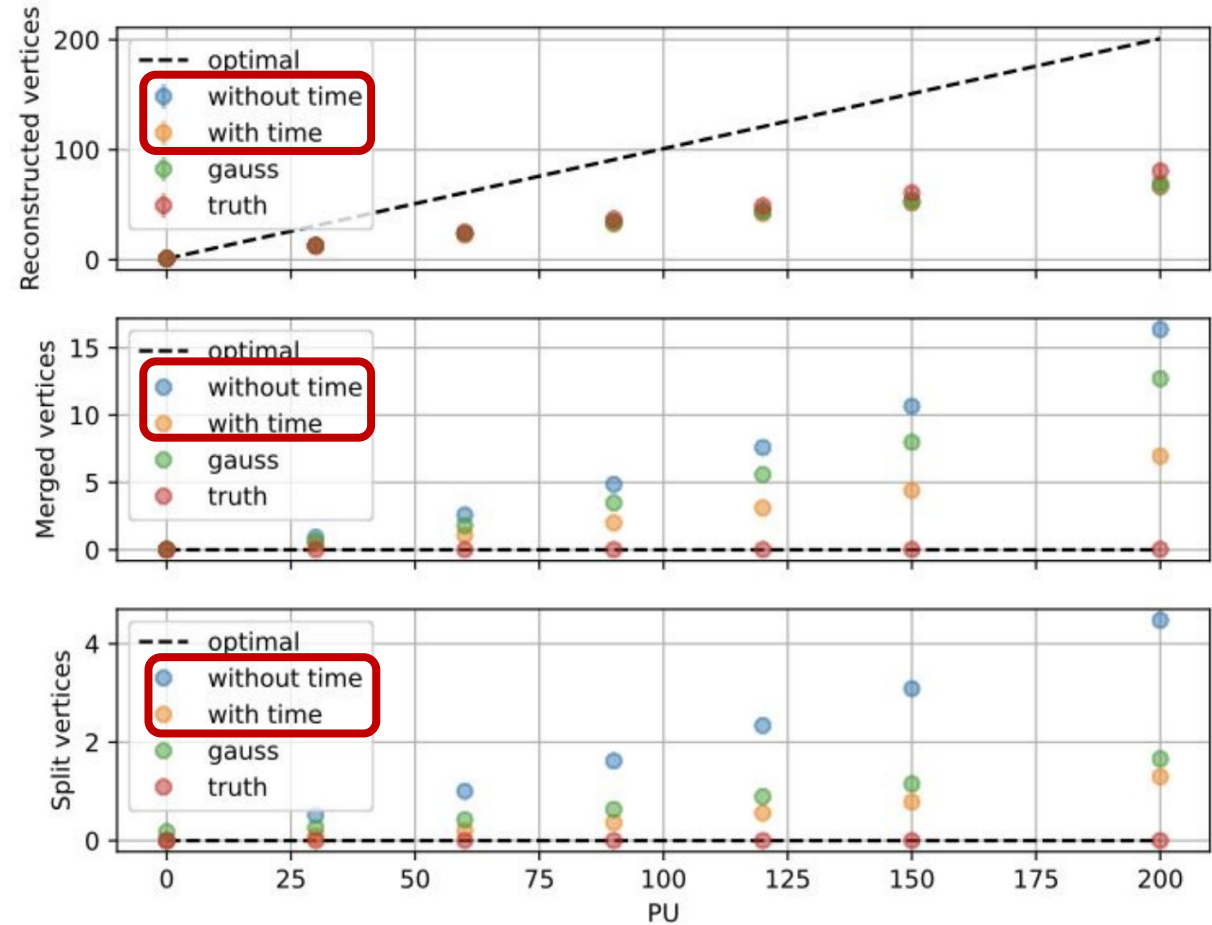
4D Vertexing in ACTS

- **ACTS implements a full 4D tracking and vertexing chain**
 - From hit-time associated to the measurements to vertex finding and fitting algorithms
 - Fully tested end-to-end on ODD detector
- Additional algorithms still need to be instrumented with timing information
- Fully portable chain to other experiment layouts (*)

(*) experiment-dependent tuning of the algorithms required

Merged Vtx: two truth vertices reconstructed as one vtx
Split Vtx: one truth vertex reconstructed as two vtx

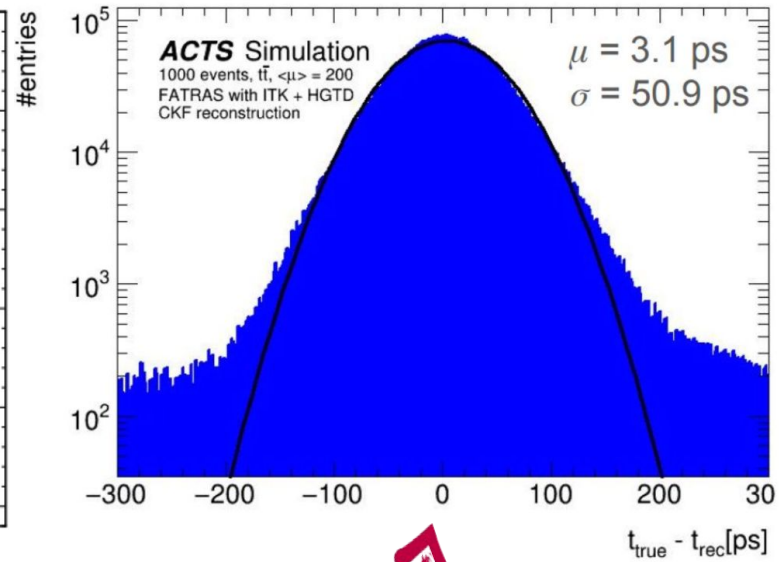
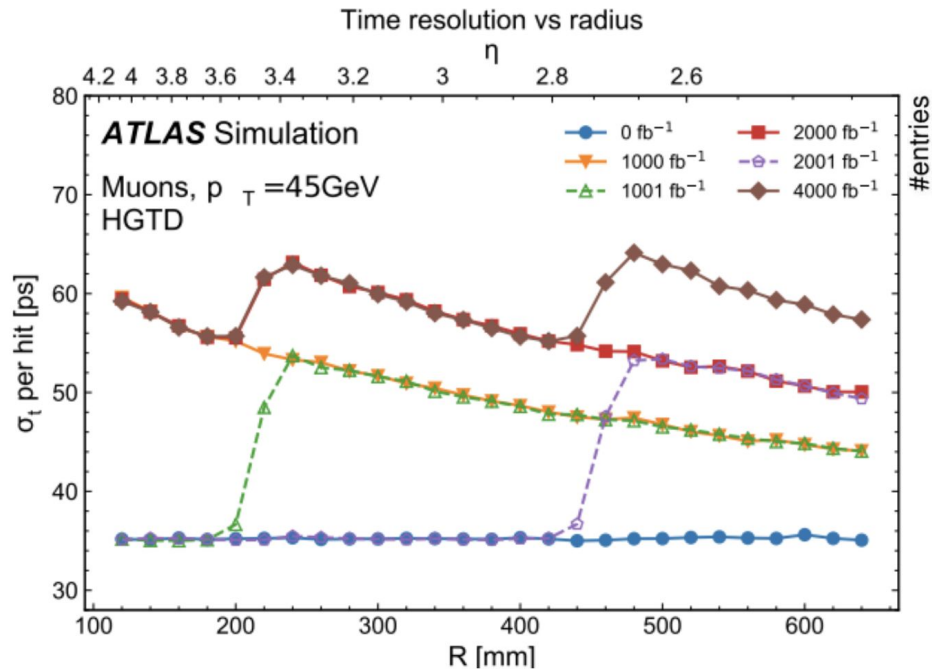
Vertex efficiency for ttbar over PU



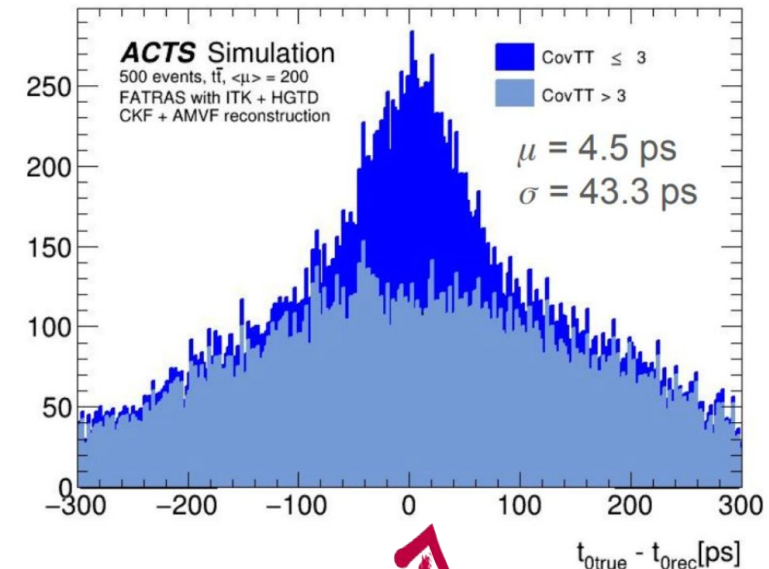
Optimal is just the ideal case. Reconstructible vertices are the **truth** points

ACTS 4D tracking and vertexing in ITk - HGTD

- ITk-HGTD ACTS standalone performance for CKF time fitting over radiation exposure
- Propagate track time information to vertex finding and fitting algorithms



track time ↗

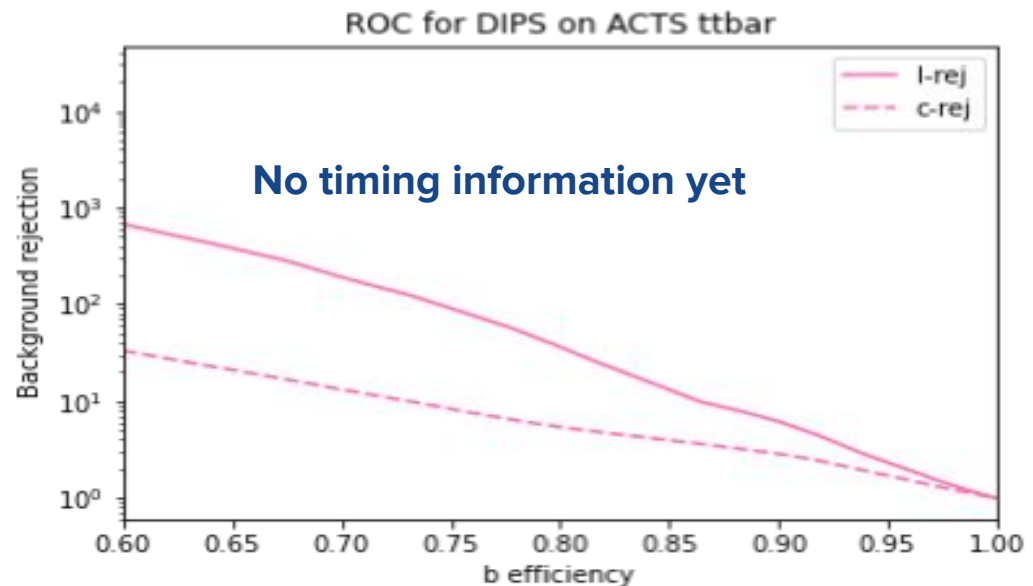
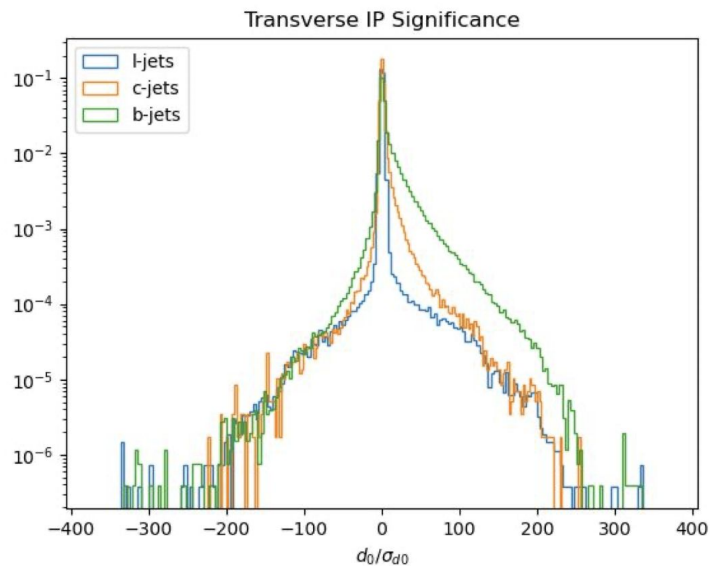


vtx time ↗

Courtesy of R. E. de Paula

A step beyond: flavour tagging with ODD

- Jet reconstruction algorithms (e.g. [FastJet](#)) can and have been interfaced with ACTS to build particle level jets, which can in turn be used for jet and flavour tagging studies (*)
- Jets formed by passing to FastJet Pythia8 stable particles (**truth Jets**) (see [ACTS-FastJet-repo](#)) allowing Track-Jet association
 - With new ODD layouts, Calorimeters could be used for same purpose
- ACTS can produce standardized ntuples for Flavour Tagging ML algorithms, i.e. [DIPS](#) or GNT (**)



(*) [C. Mauceri's Project](#) (*) DIPS has also been run on ITk geometry with timing information and confirms gains observed in GNT studies, see A. Tomsic's [studies](#)

Conclusions and Summary

- **A Common Tracking Software (ACTS) is an experiment independent toolkit for track reconstruction**
- Embraces **a large community of developers** and its usage is growing across various experiments
- **ACTS** not only natively **supports 4D tracking in its core algorithms**, but also provides a framework to develop, test and deploy 4D tracking algorithms using the Open Data Detector (ODD) as generic layout
- **ACTS can produce inputs to higher level reconstruction algorithms**, e.g. Flavour Tagging, Particle Identification, ...
- **ACTS track reconstruction can be applied to different detector layouts and experiments**



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