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On-line Tracking Processors at Hadron Colliders: the SVT Experience at CDF II and Beyond

The Silicon Vertex Trigger (SVT) provides the CDF experiment with a powerful tool for fast and precise track finding and fitting at trigger level. The system enhances the experiment reach on B-physics and large P_T -physics coupled to b quarks. We will review the design and the performance of the SVT with particular attention to the recent upgrade that improved its capabilities. Finally, we will focus on additional improvements of the functionality of such a system in a more general experimental context.

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