

ALICE

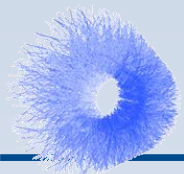
# Track Reconstruction in the ALICE TPC using GPUs for LHC Run 3

David Rohr for the ALICE Collaboration

drohr@cern.ch, CERN

*Connecting the Dots 2018*

**21.3.2018**



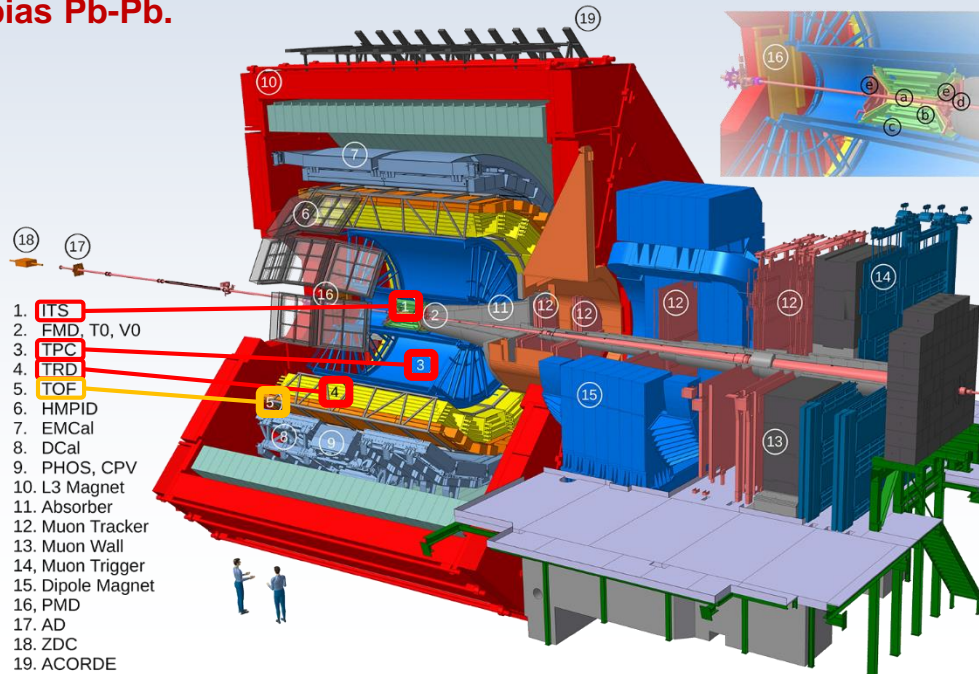
# ALICE Upgrade for Run 3

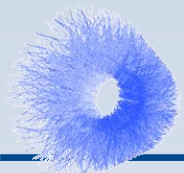
- ALICE uses mainly 3 detectors for tracking: ITS, TPC, TRD + (TOF)
- Luminosity will increase significantly in Run 3:  
500 Hz – 1 kHz triggered → 50 kHz continuous min-bias Pb-Pb.
- We want to adapt the HLT tracking for Run 3.
- Ideally, create one tracker as fast as the HLT version with competitive resolution to the offline version.

- 50+ times as many events!



50+ times as much data?





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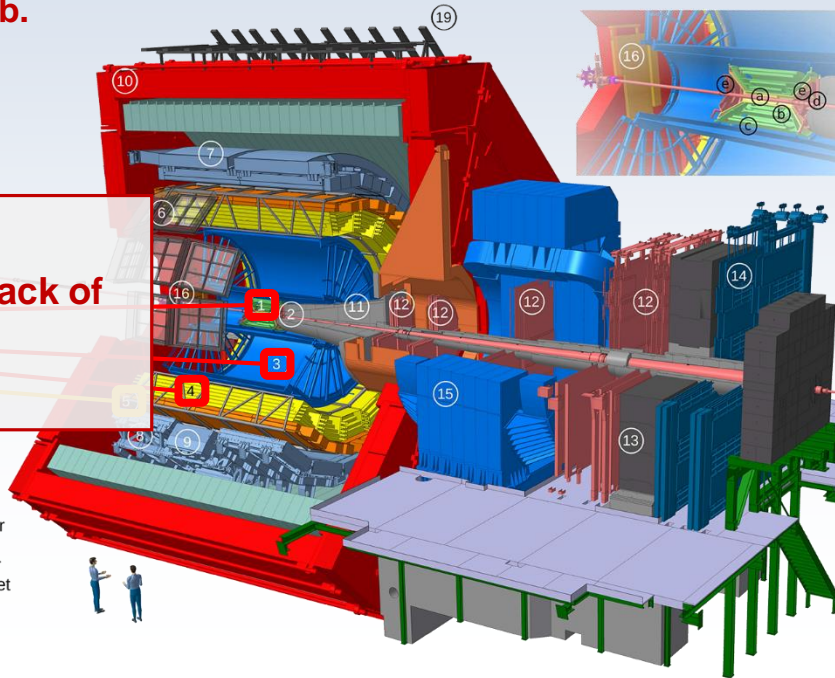


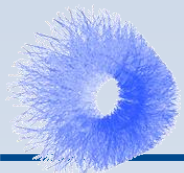
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We need either a huge stack of disks...

1. FMD, T0, V0
2. FMD, T0, V0
3. TPC
4. TRD
5. TOF
6. HMPID
7. EMCAL
8. DCal
9. PHOS, CPV
10. L3 Magnet
11. Absorber
12. Muon Tracker
13. Muon Wall
14. Muon Trigger
15. Dipole Magnet
16. PMD
17. AD
18. ZDC
19. ACORDE





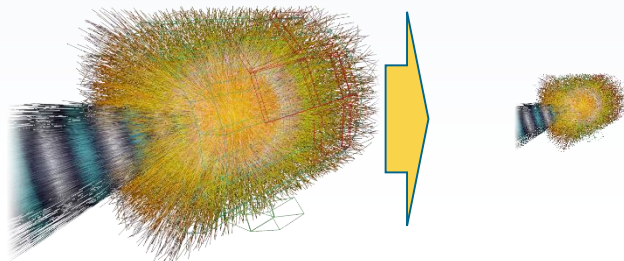
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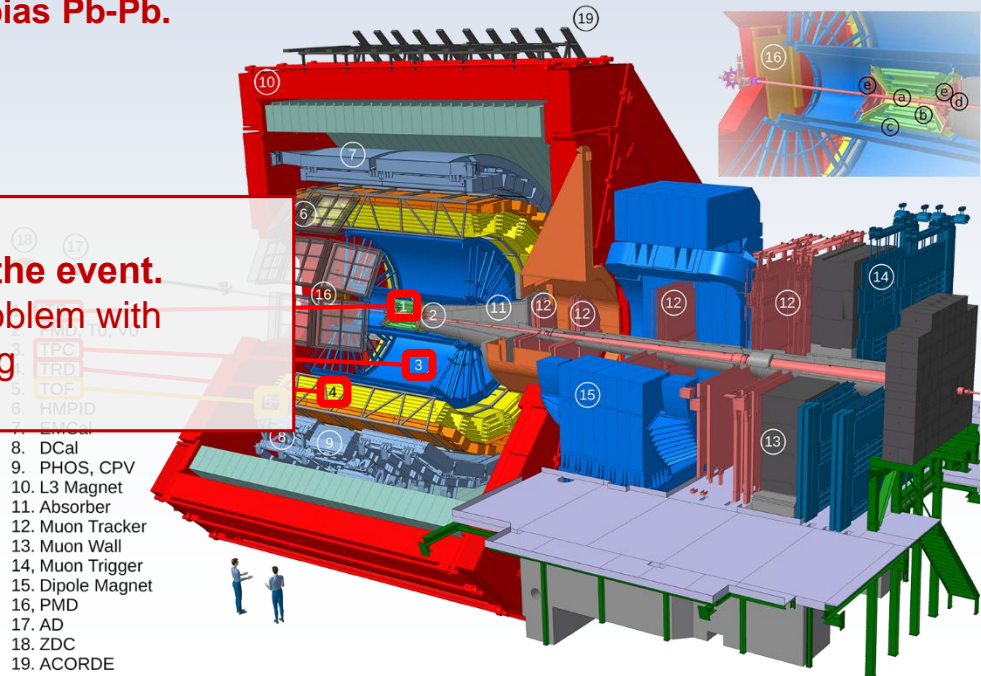


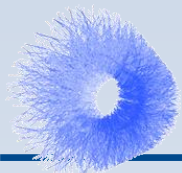
**50+ times as much data?**



**...or shrink the event.**

- Same problem with computing

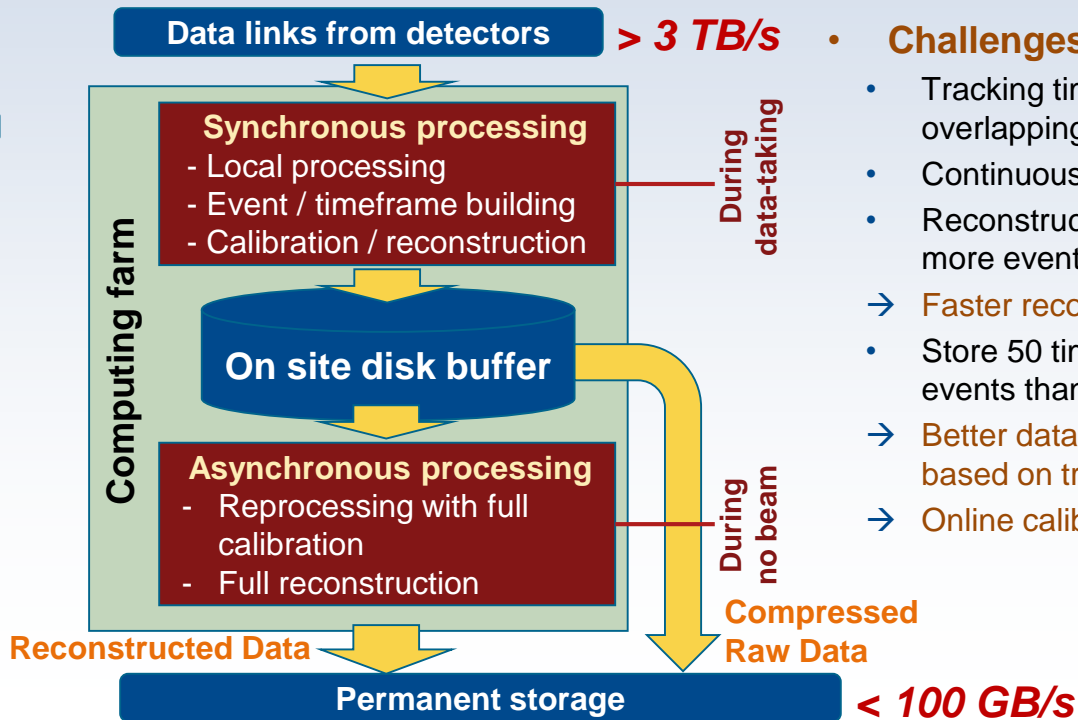
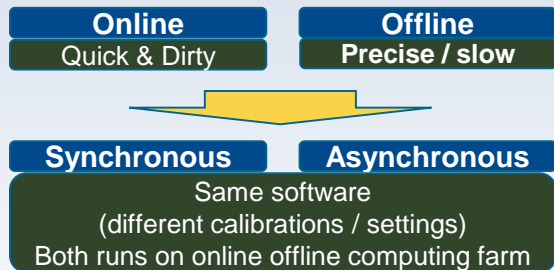




# Implications of the ALICE Upgrade for Tracking

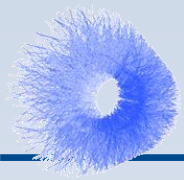
- **ALICE will perform a major upgrade for high luminosity data taking.**
  - This includes the entire computing infrastructure: ALICE Online Offline Computing Upgrade **O<sup>2</sup>**.

## Change of paradigm:

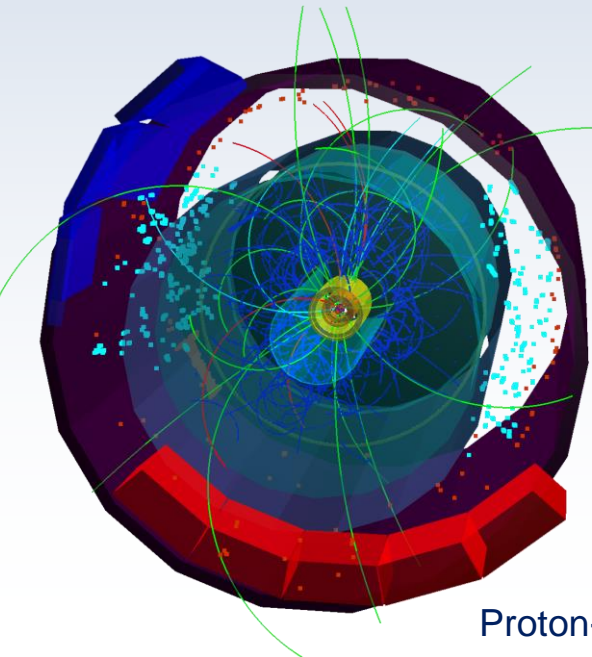


## Challenges:

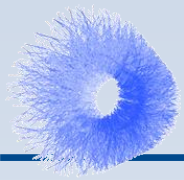
- Tracking time frames with overlapping events.
- Continuous readout.
- Reconstruct 50 times more events in same time.
- **Faster reconstruction**
- Store 50 times more events than in Run 2.
- **Better data compression based on tracks.**
- **Online calibration.**



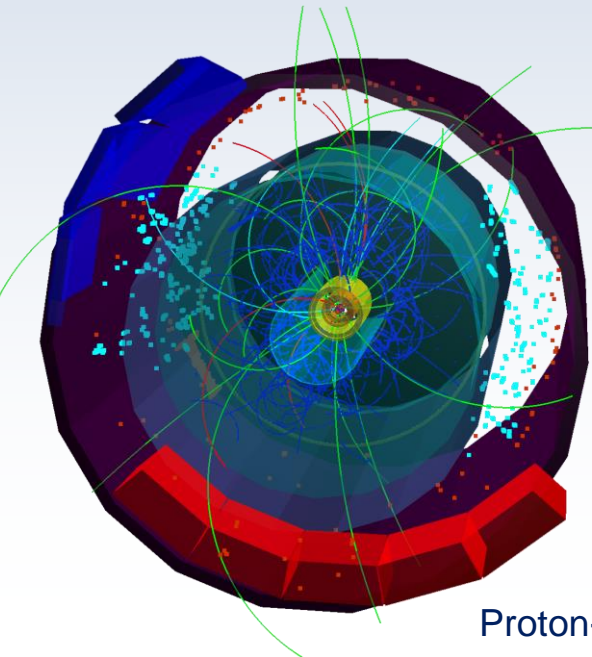
# From few 100 Hz single events to Pb-Pb time frames



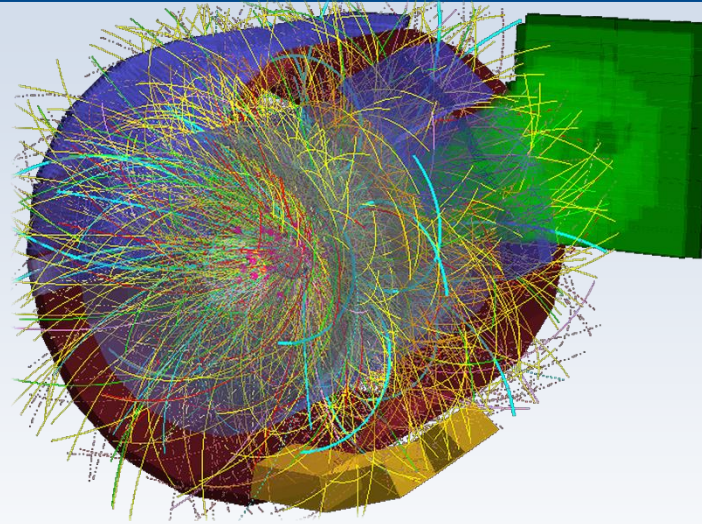
Proton-Proton



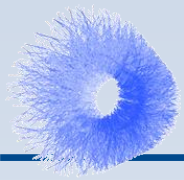
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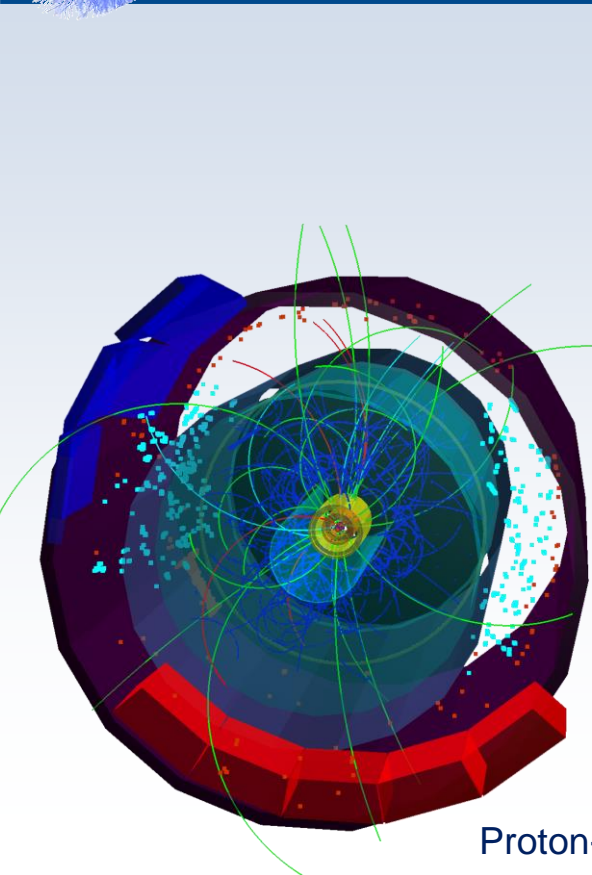
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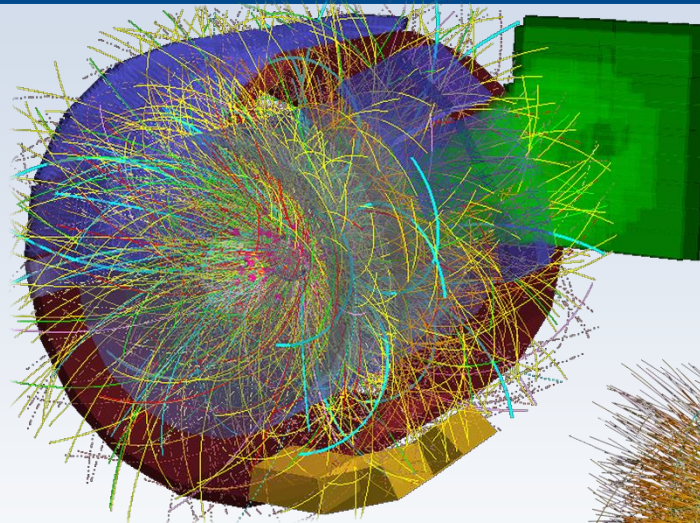
Proton-Lead



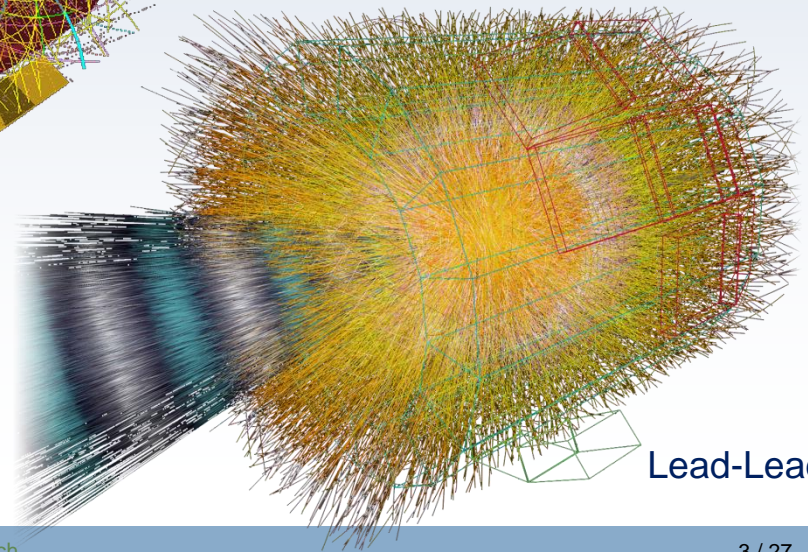
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Proton-Lead



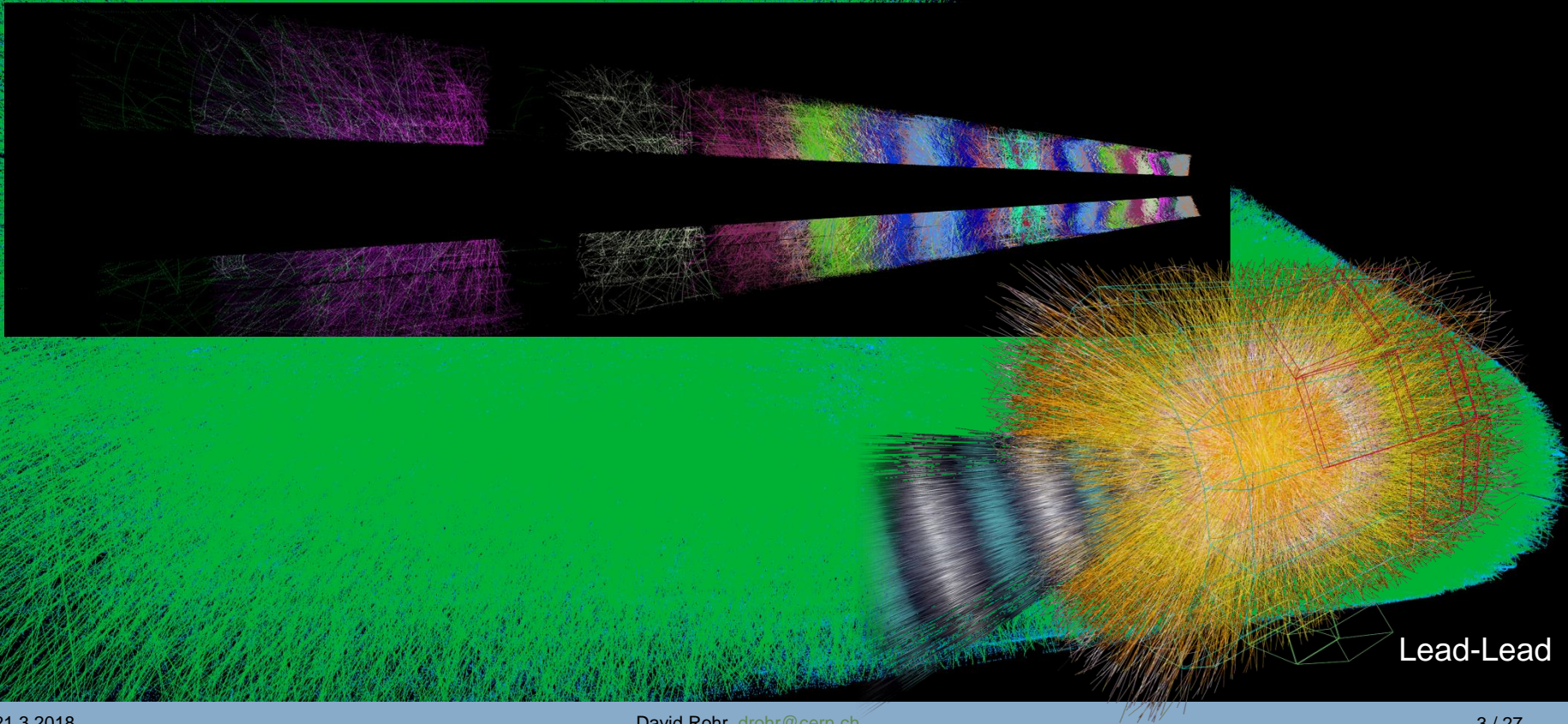
Lead-Lead

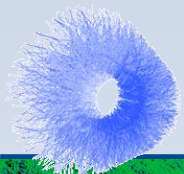




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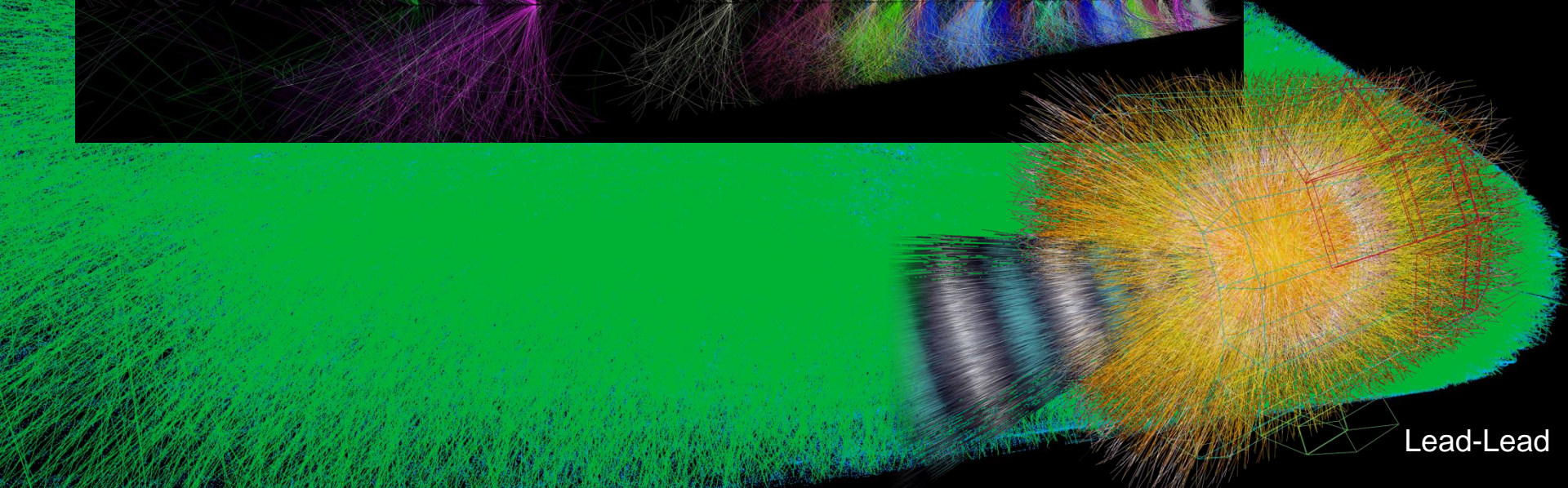
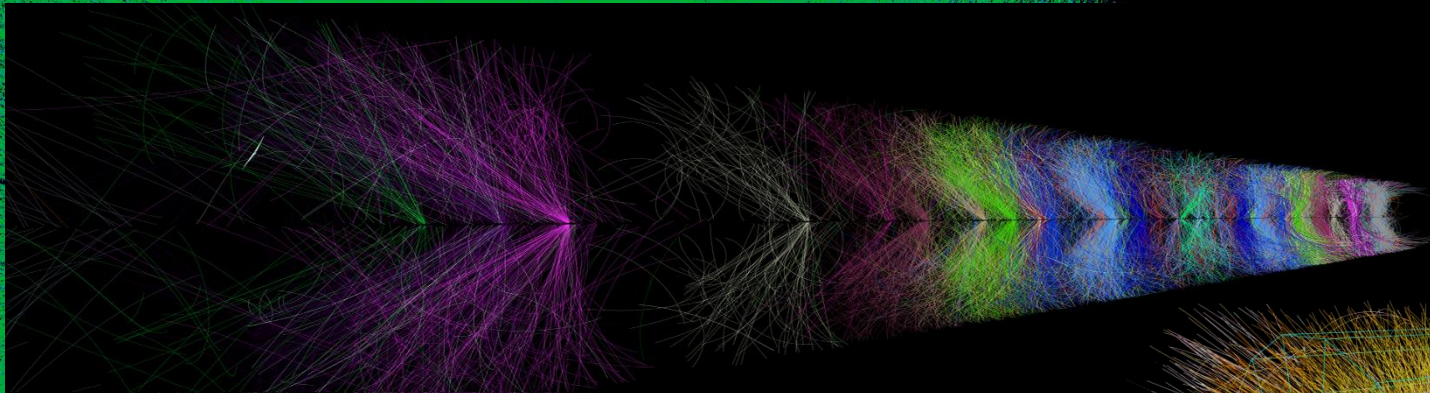
- Longitudinal crosssection of time frame in TPC, different collisions in different color.





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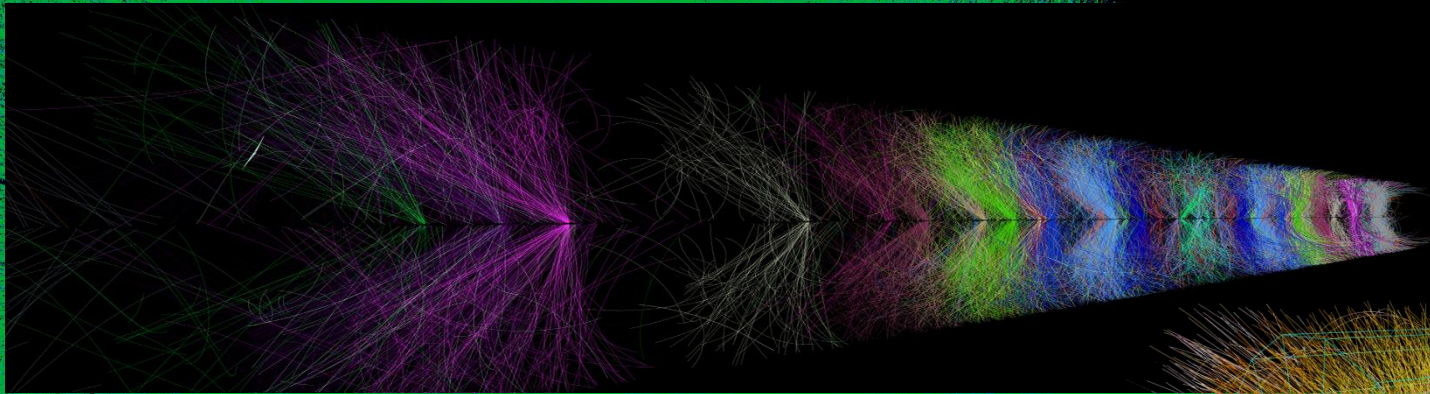
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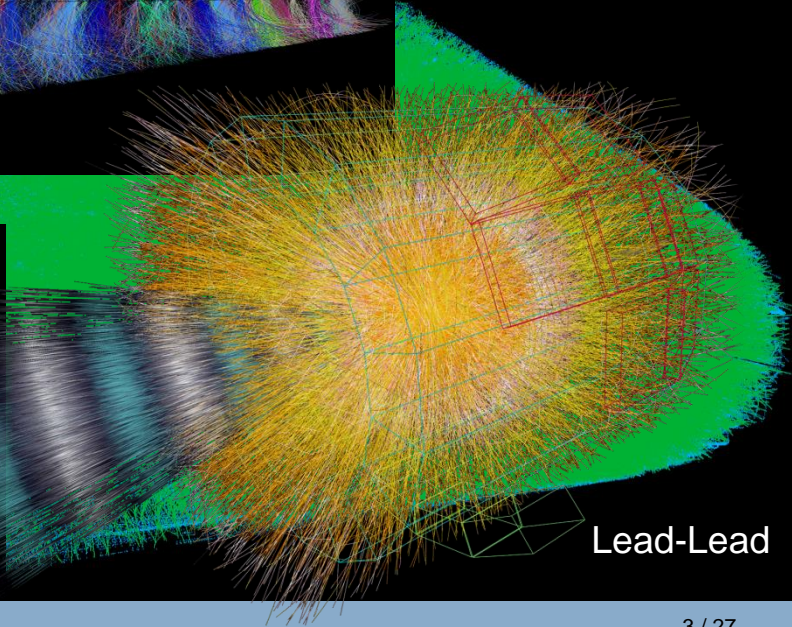
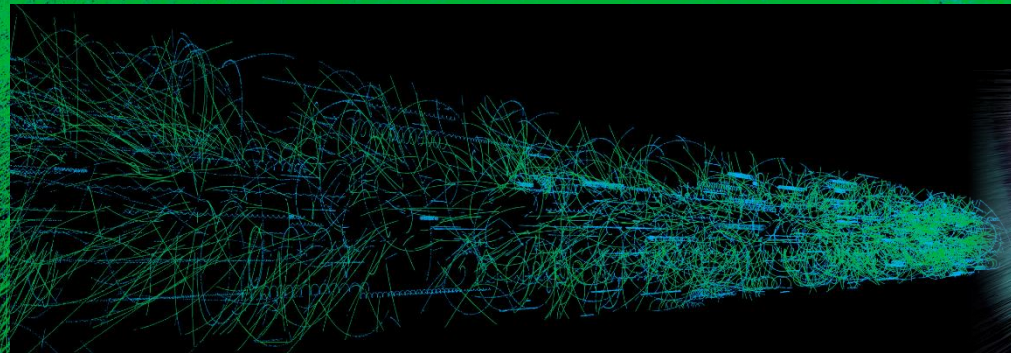


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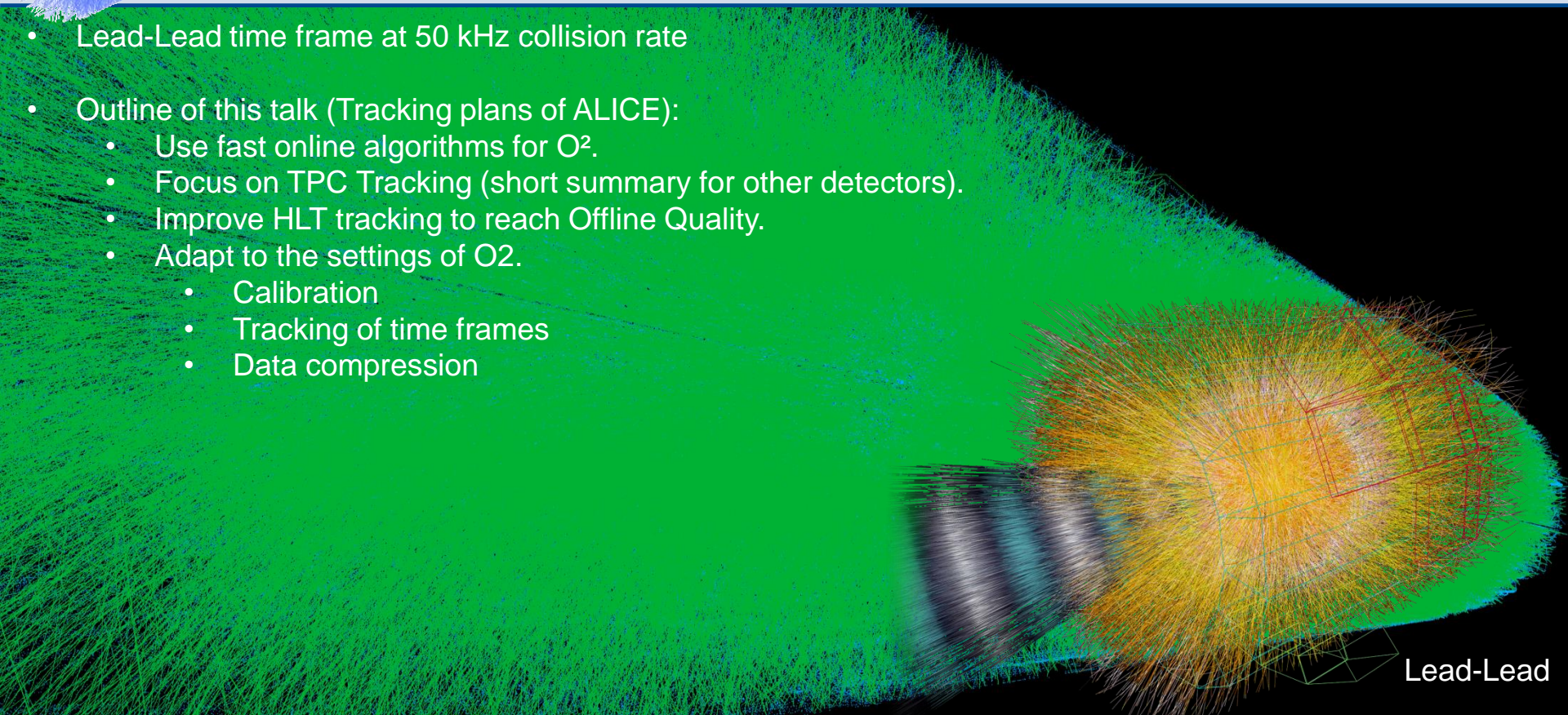
- Time frame with pp collisions.



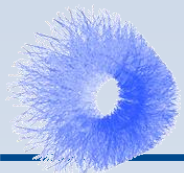


# From few 100 Hz single events to Pb-Pb time frames

- Lead-Lead time frame at 50 kHz collision rate
- Outline of this talk (Tracking plans of ALICE):
  - Use fast online algorithms for  $O^2$ .
  - Focus on TPC Tracking (short summary for other detectors).
  - Improve HLT tracking to reach Offline Quality.
  - Adapt to the settings of O2.
    - Calibration
    - Tracking of time frames
    - Data compression

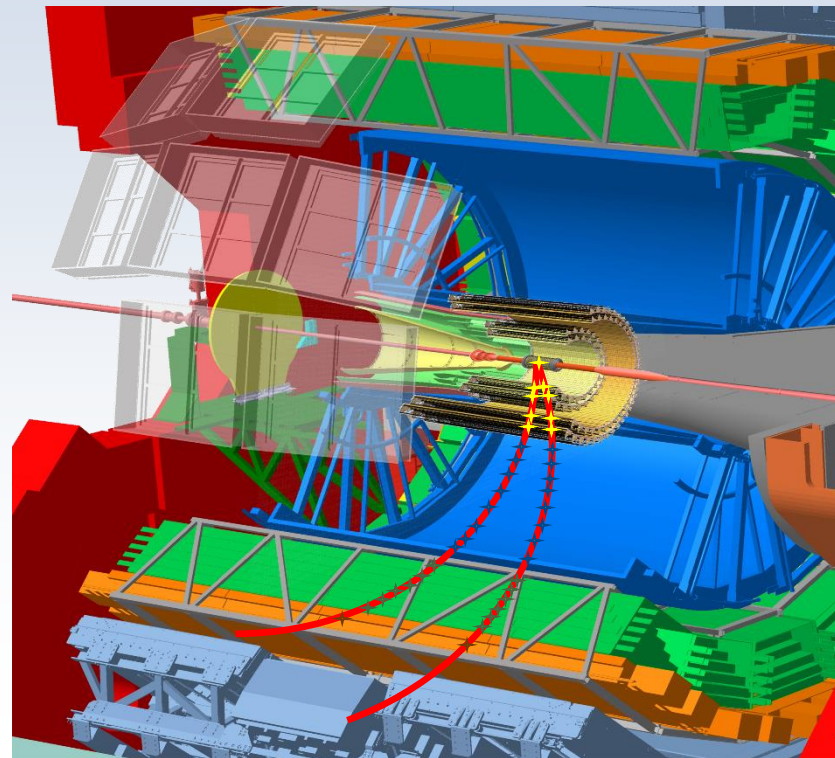


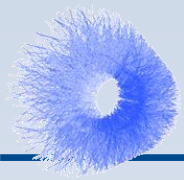
Lead-Lead



# Tracking in ALICE

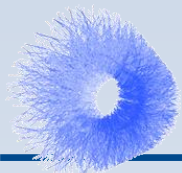
- **ALICE uses mainly 3 detectors for tracking: ITS, TPC, TRD + (TOF)**
  - **7 layers ITS** (Inner Tracking System – silicon tracker)
  - **152 pad rows** TPC (Time Projection Chamber)
  - **6 layers TRD** (Transition Radiation Detector)
  - **1 layer TOF** (Time Of Flight Detector)
- **Today, ALICE has two tracking implementations for the TPC:**
  - A fast online tracker in the HLT.
  - The offline TPC tracker as reference.
  - Both use the Kalman filter for track following and track fitting.
  - The HLT uses a Cellular Automaton for seeding.
- **Other detectors:**
  - HLT and offline tracker for ITS (TPC prolongation).
  - No HLT TRD tracking so far.
  - TOF can be used as single last tracking layer.





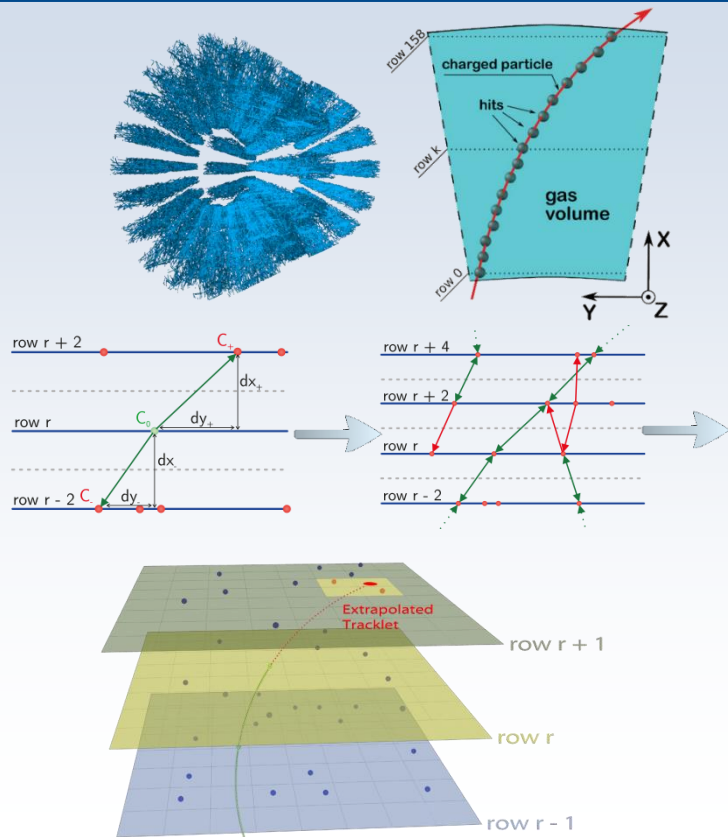
# ONLINE TRACKING WITH OFFLINE QUALITY

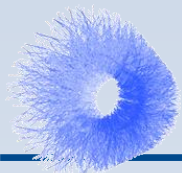
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# Run 3 Tracking derived from current tracking in ALICE HLT

- **TPC Volume is split into 36 sectors.**
  - The tracker processes each sector individually.
  - Increases data locality, reduce network bandwidth, but reduces parallelism.
  - Each sector has 159 read out rows in radial direction.
  - Tracking runs in 2 phases:
- **1. Phase: Sector-Tracking (within a sector)**
  - Heuristic, combinatorial search for track seeds using a **Cellular Automaton**.
    - A) Looks for three hits composing a straight line (**link**).
    - B) Concatenates links.
  - Fit of track parameters, extrapolation of track, and search for additional clusters using the **Kalman Filter**.





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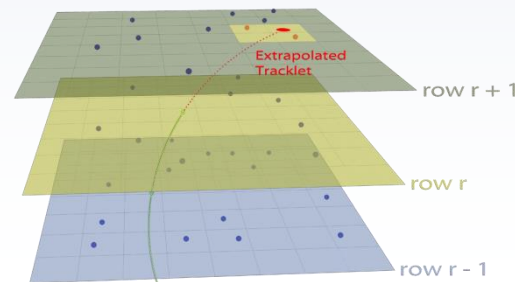
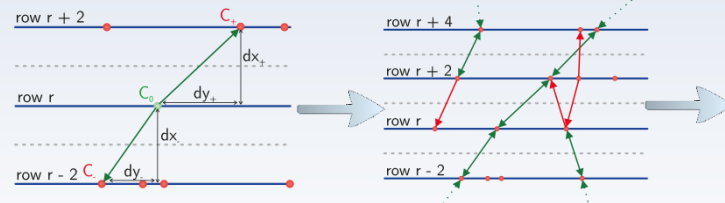
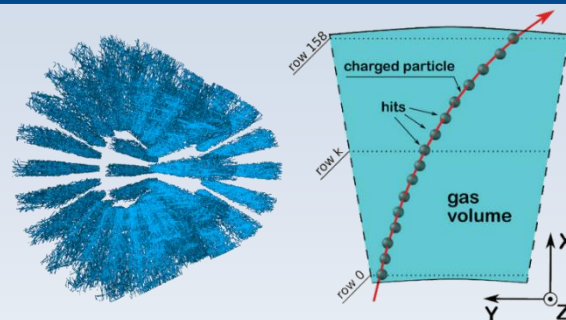
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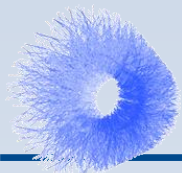
- **2. Phase: Track-Merger**

- Combines the track segments found in the individual sectors.

- **Phase 1 track finding implemented in a common generic source code, that runs on CPU and GPU, supporting CUDA, OpenCL, and OpenMP.**





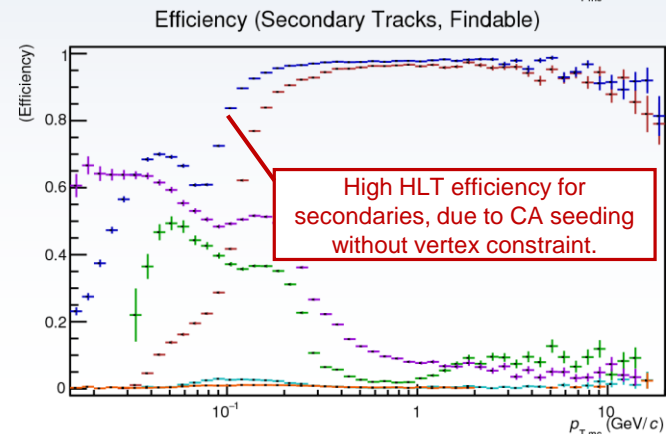
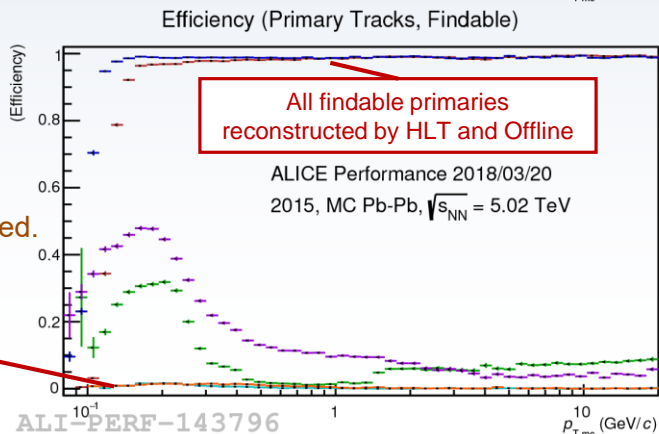
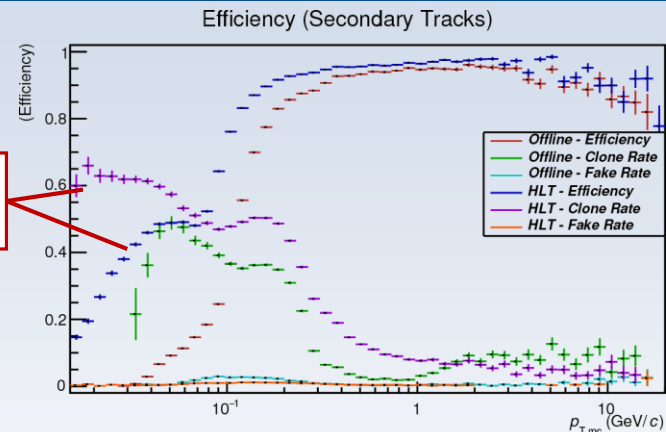
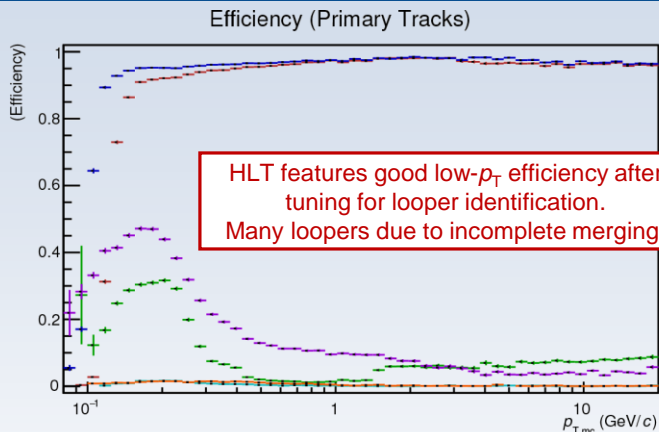


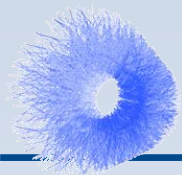
# Tracking efficiency (Run 2, HLT v.s. Offline – Pb-Pb)

- Offline and HLT feature good efficiency.
- In order to compare the tracking algorithm, the offline calibration and error parameterization is applied in both cases.
- Absolutely same result in pp.

- All plots are Monte Carlo.
- All plots are TPC only.
- Resolutions at inner end of TPC.
- Findable tracks: min 70 TPC hits.
- Others: min 1 TPC hit.
- Other offline features (dE/dx, ...) disabled.

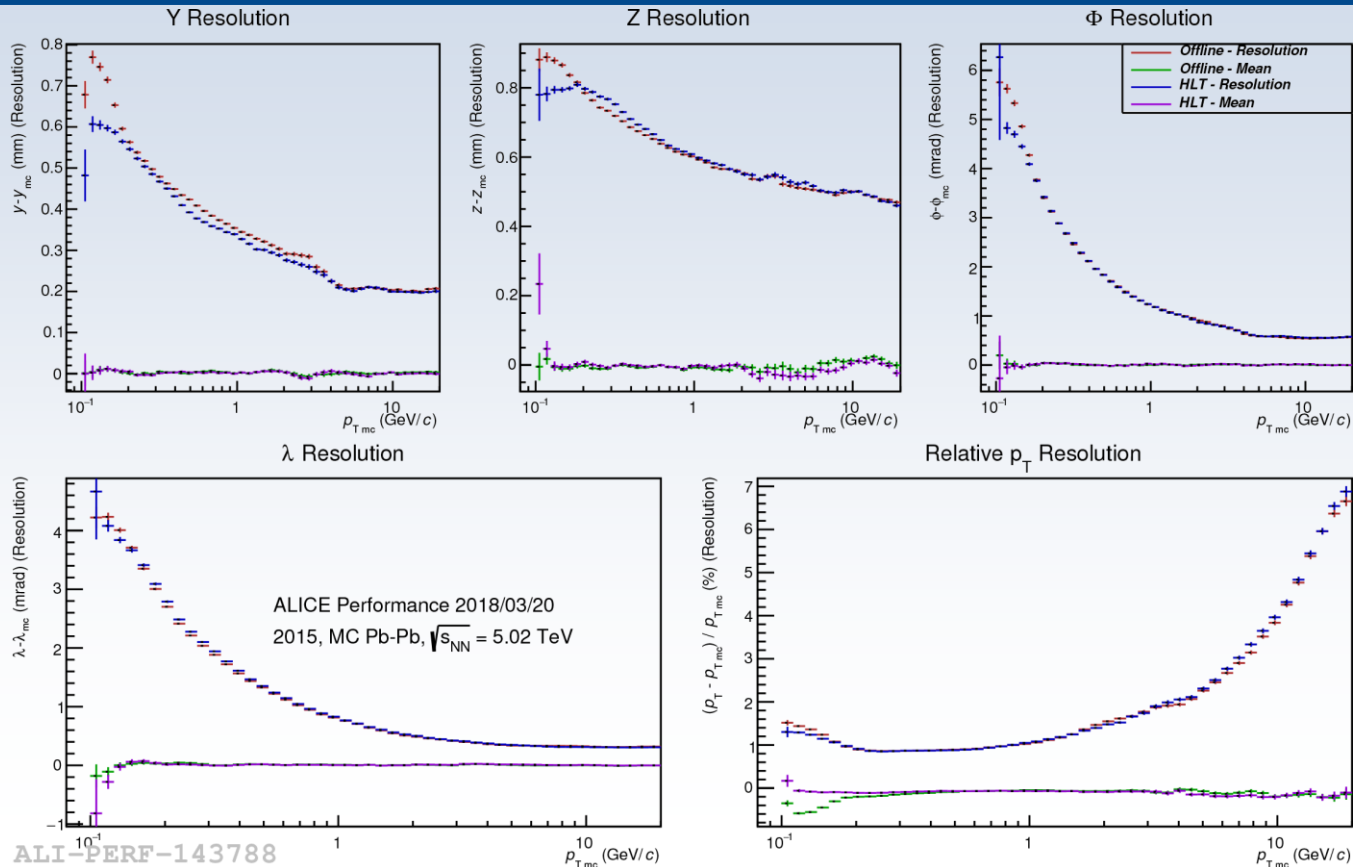
Practically zero fake rate for both trackers

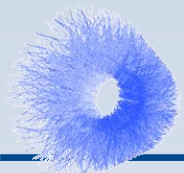




# Track resolution (Run 2, Pb-Pb, no space-charge distortions)

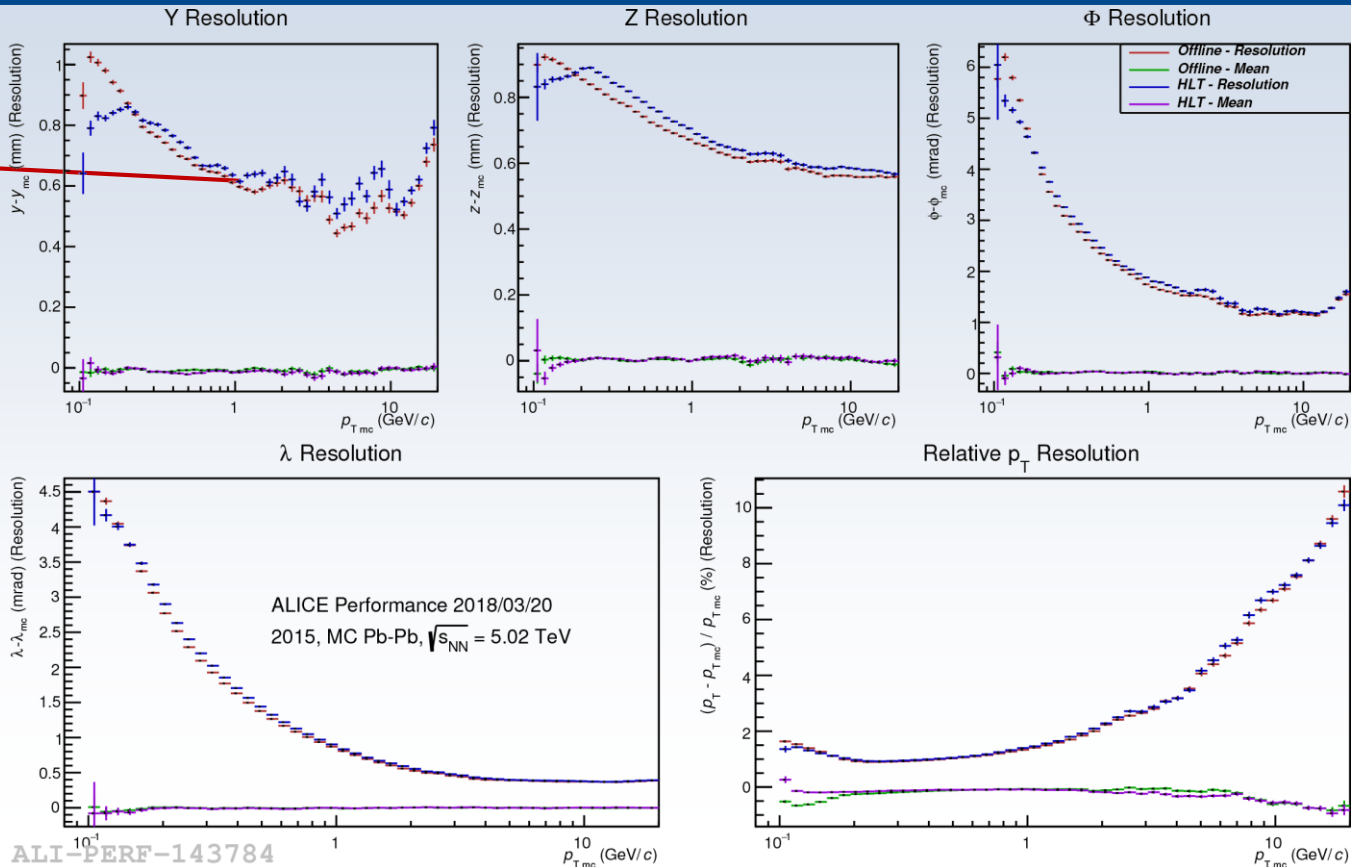
- HLT / Offline resolution practically identical (no space-charge distortions).
- Improvements in HLT tracking:
  - Propagation using polynomial approximation of 3D B-field.
  - Outlier cluster rejection during refit.
  - Improved cluster error parameterization, depending on flags set by clusterizer. (edge, deconvoluted, ...)
  - 3-way fit. (inward, outward, inward)
- Absolutely same result for pp. (see backup)

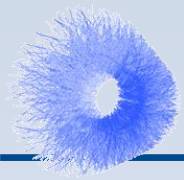




# Track resolution (Run 2, Pb-Pb, with space-charge distortions)

- Small differences with space-charge distortions.
- Similar structure in y-resolution.
- HLT/O<sup>2</sup> has not been tuned for distortions so far.
- Only using systematic cluster error parameterization obtained from offline distortion map residuals.

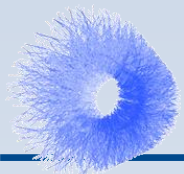




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# RECONSTRUCTION AND CALIBRATION IN RUN 3

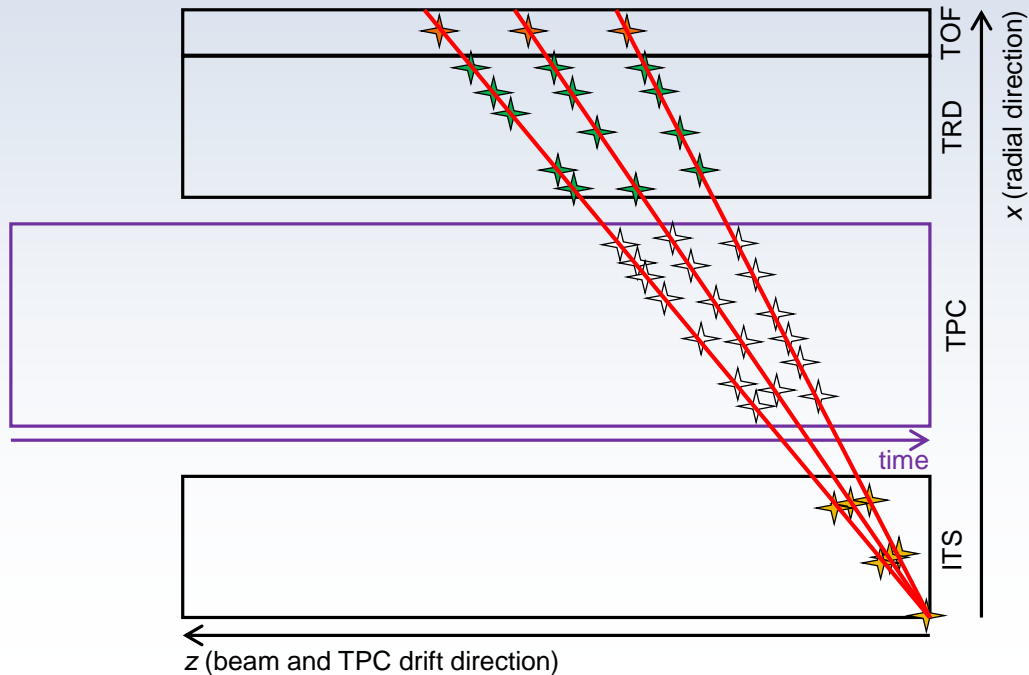
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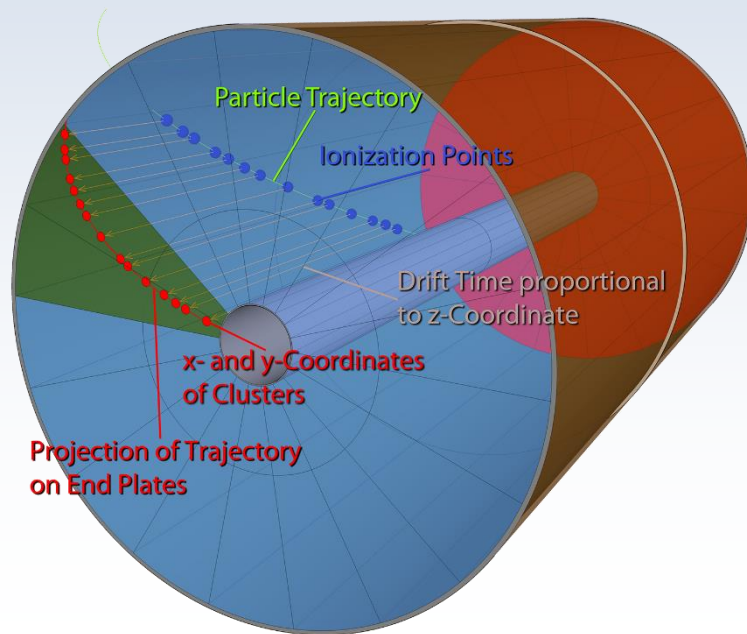
# The tracking challenge

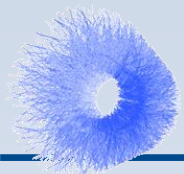
- Tracking continuous data...

- The TPC sees **multiple overlapped collisions** (shifted in time).
- Other detectors know the (rough) time of the collision.



- Problem: TPC clusters have no defined z-position but only a time. They can be shifted in z arbitrarily.**

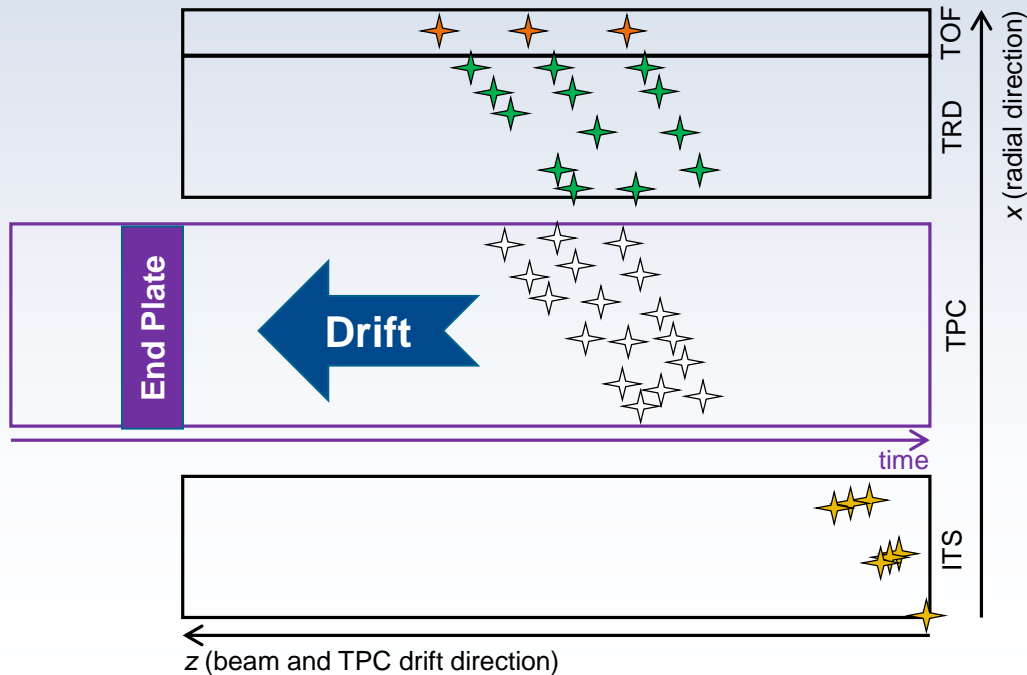




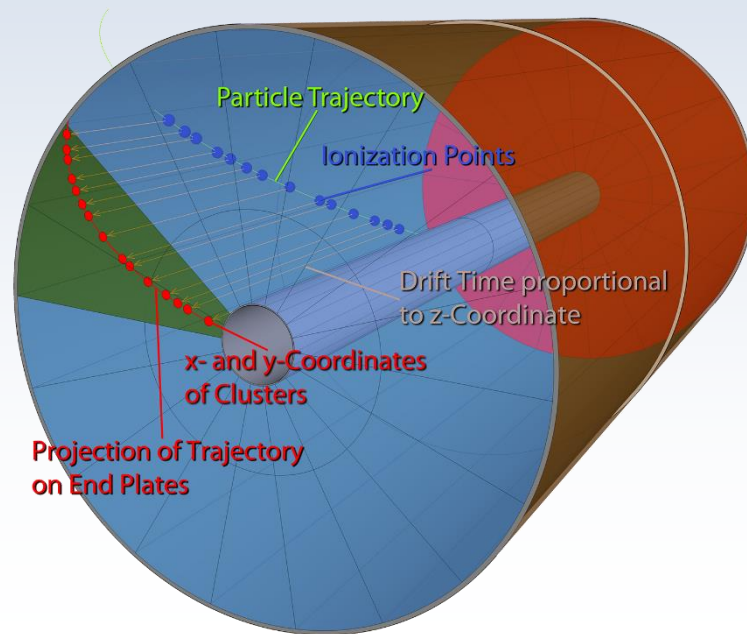
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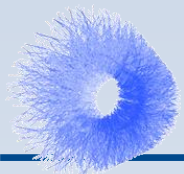
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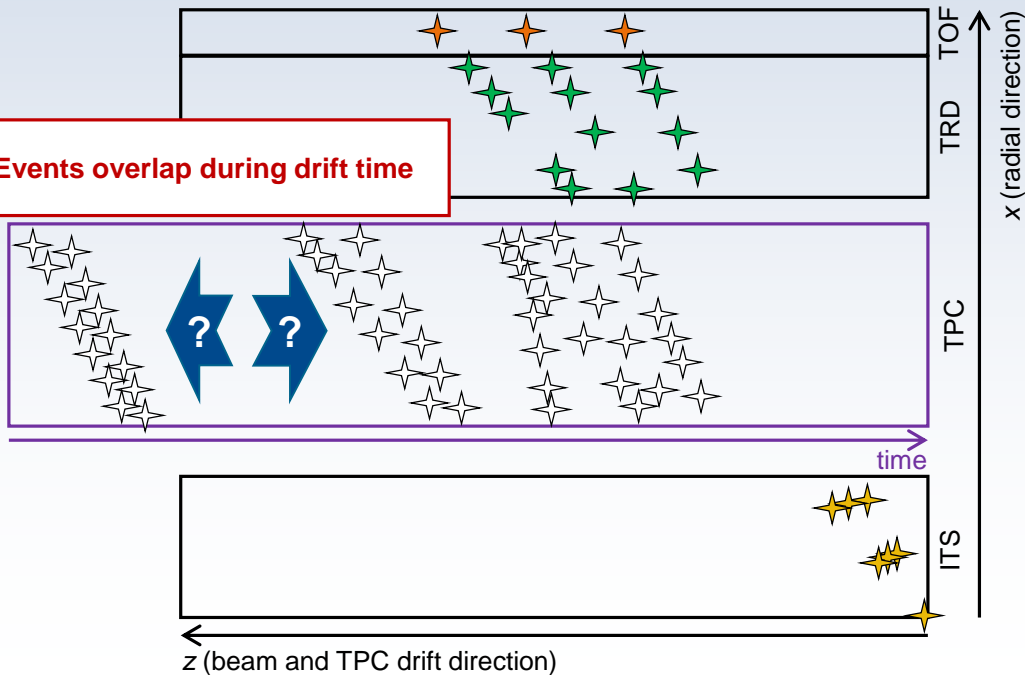


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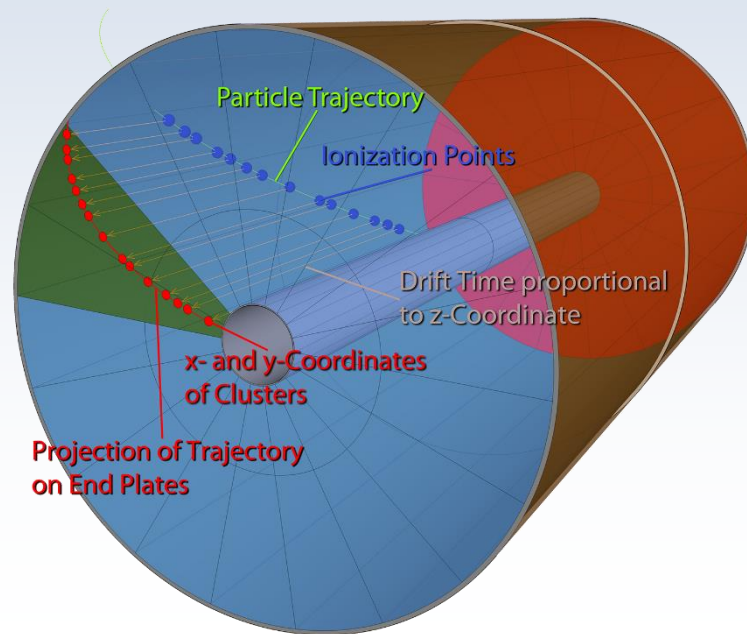
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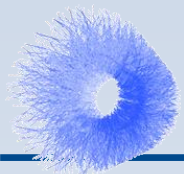
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Events overlap during drift time



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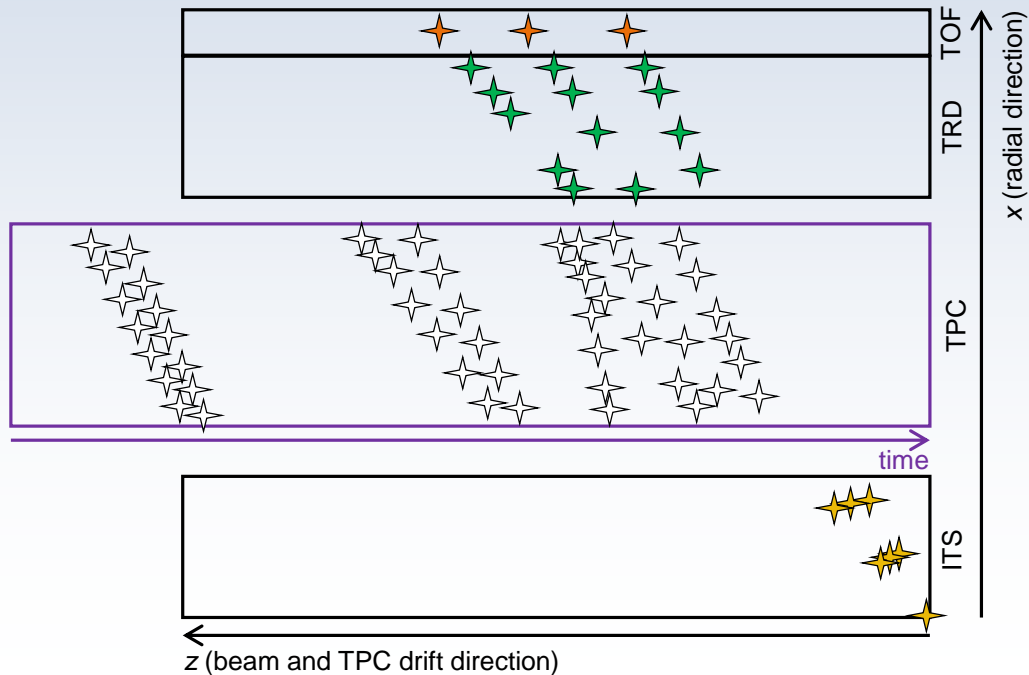




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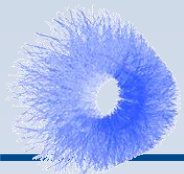
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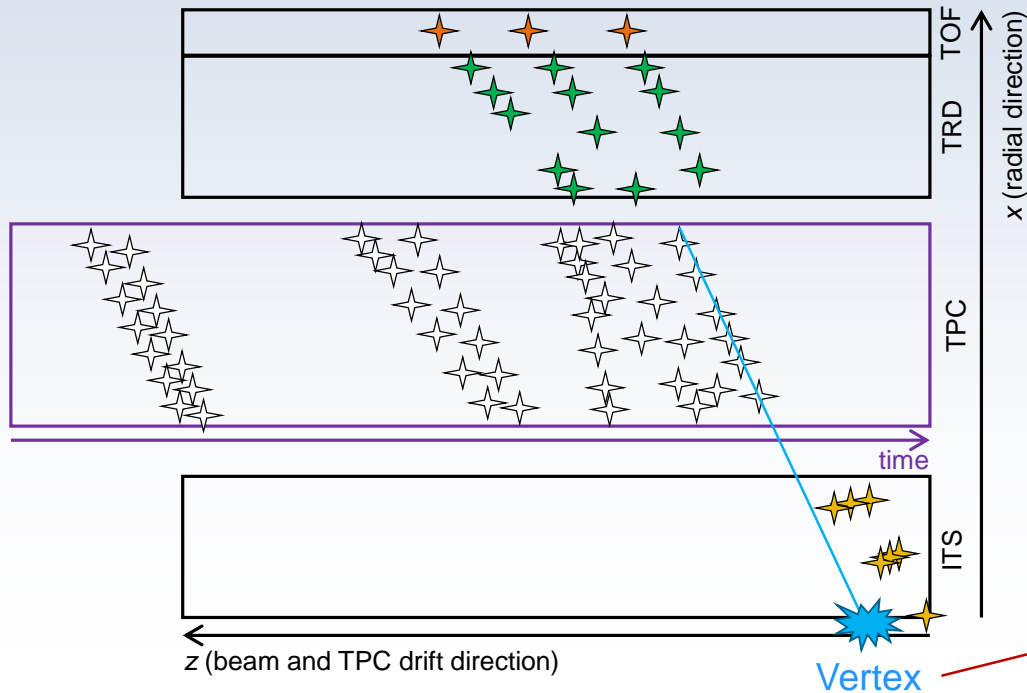


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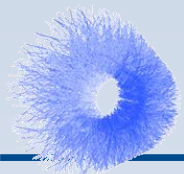
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$$z \sim t - t_{\text{Vertex}}$$

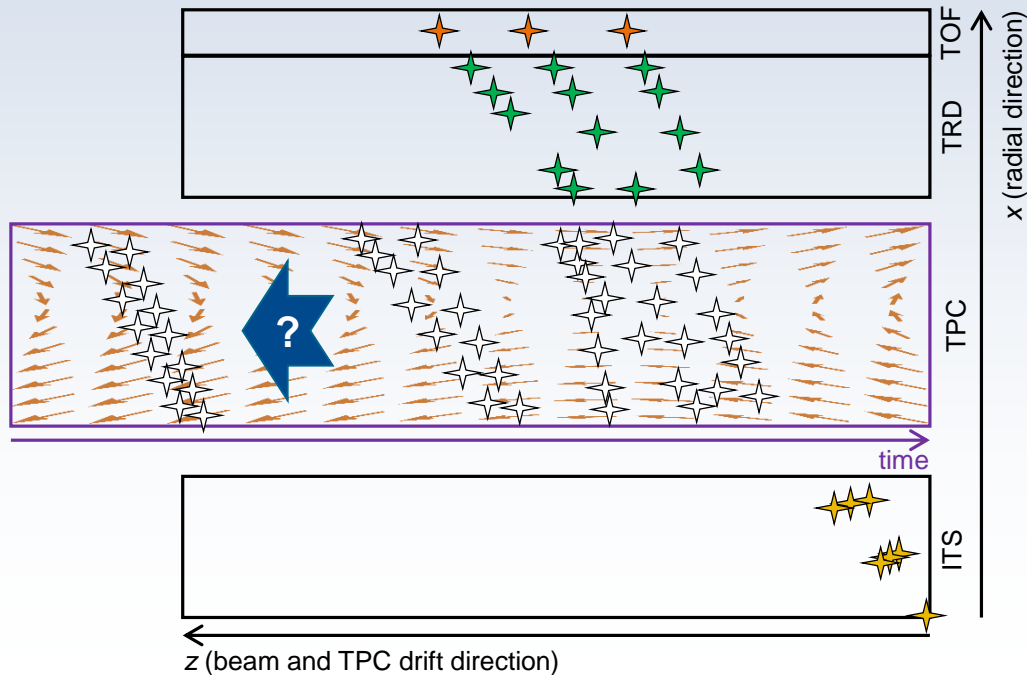
→ Need to identify the primary vertex, before assigning final z to cluster.



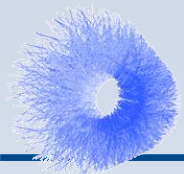
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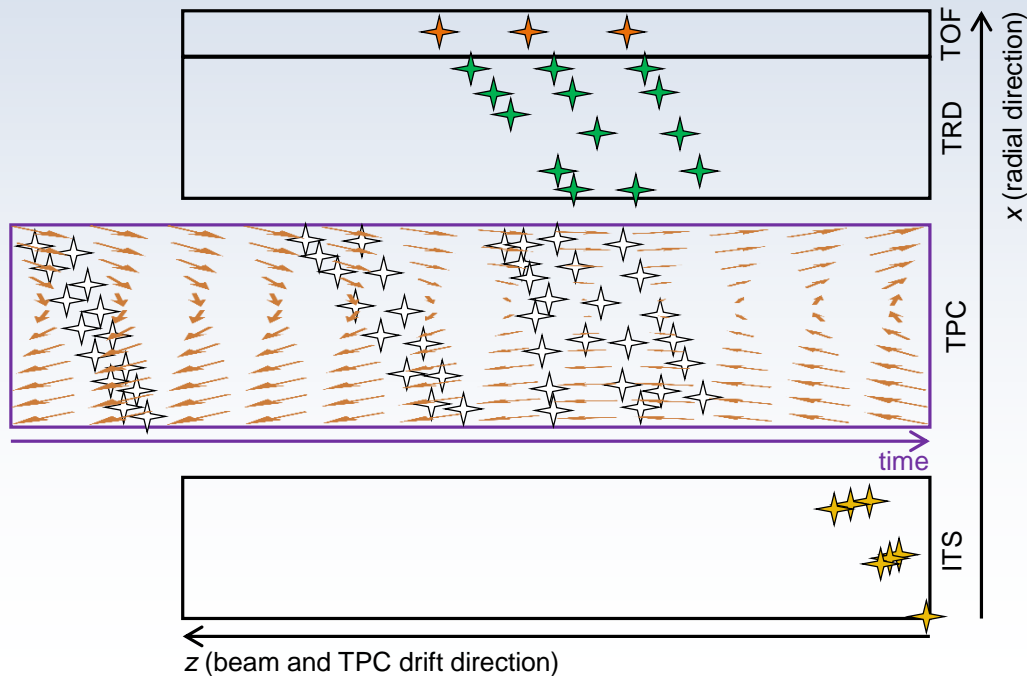
- Problem: TPC clusters have no defined z-position but only a time. They can be shifted in z arbitrarily.**
- GEM amplifications produces ions that deflect the electrons during the drift. The correction of these space-charge distortions requires the absolute z position.**



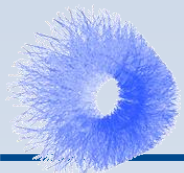
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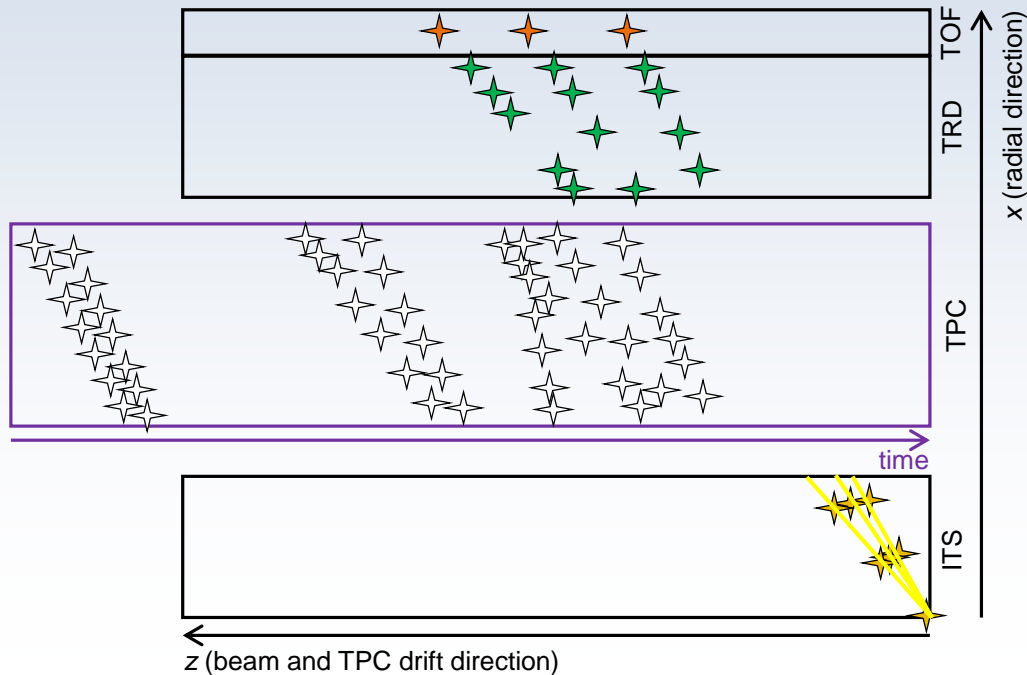
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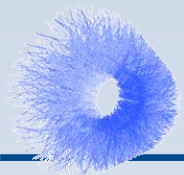
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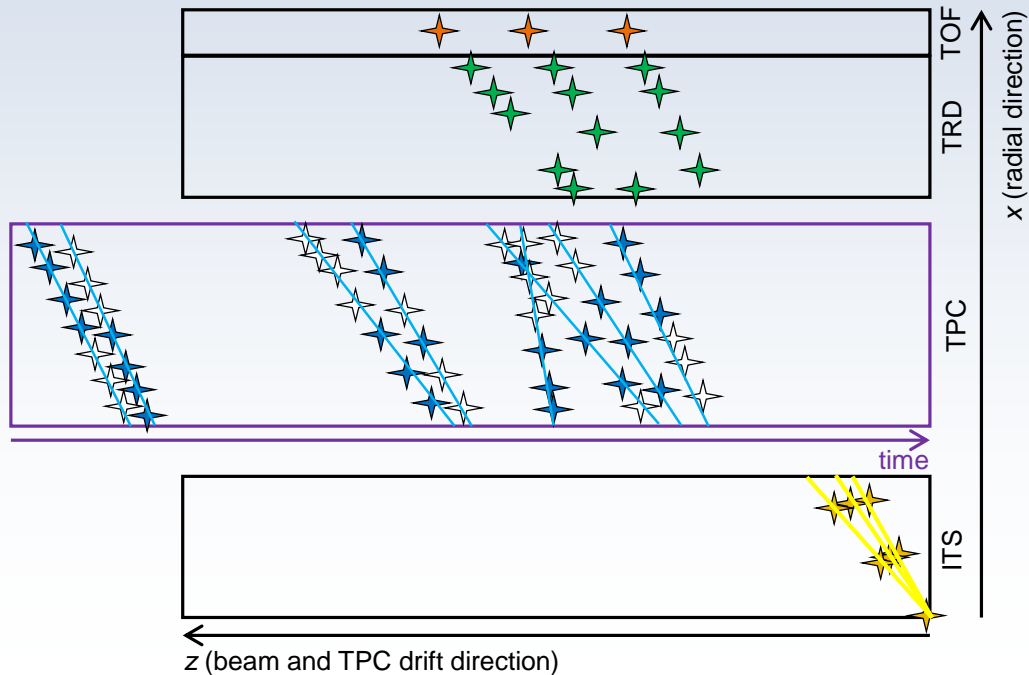
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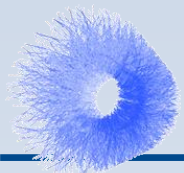
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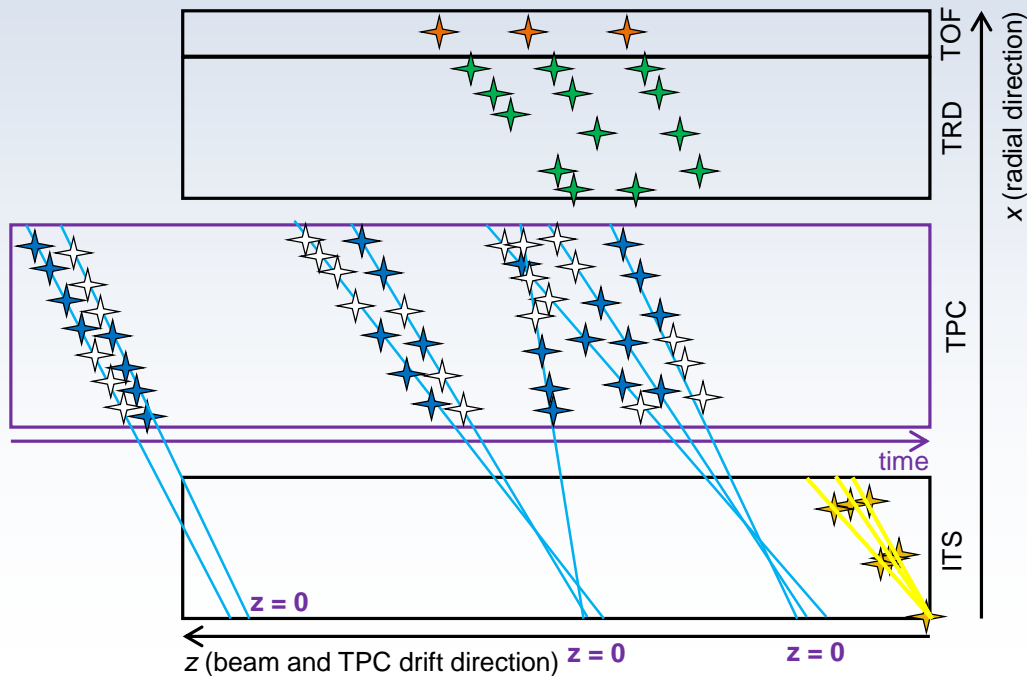
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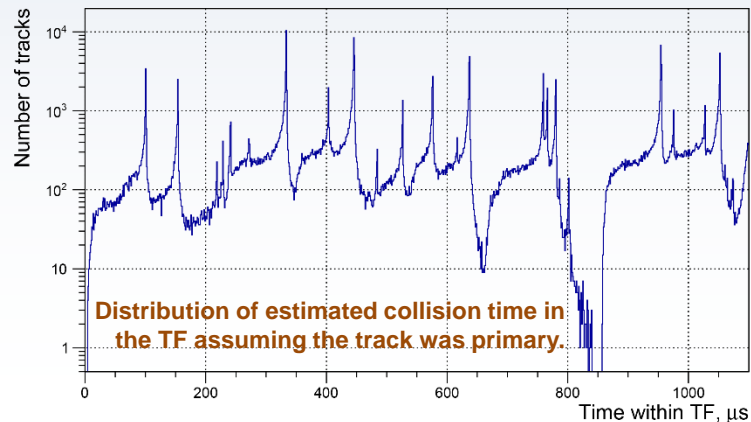
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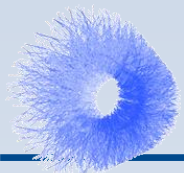
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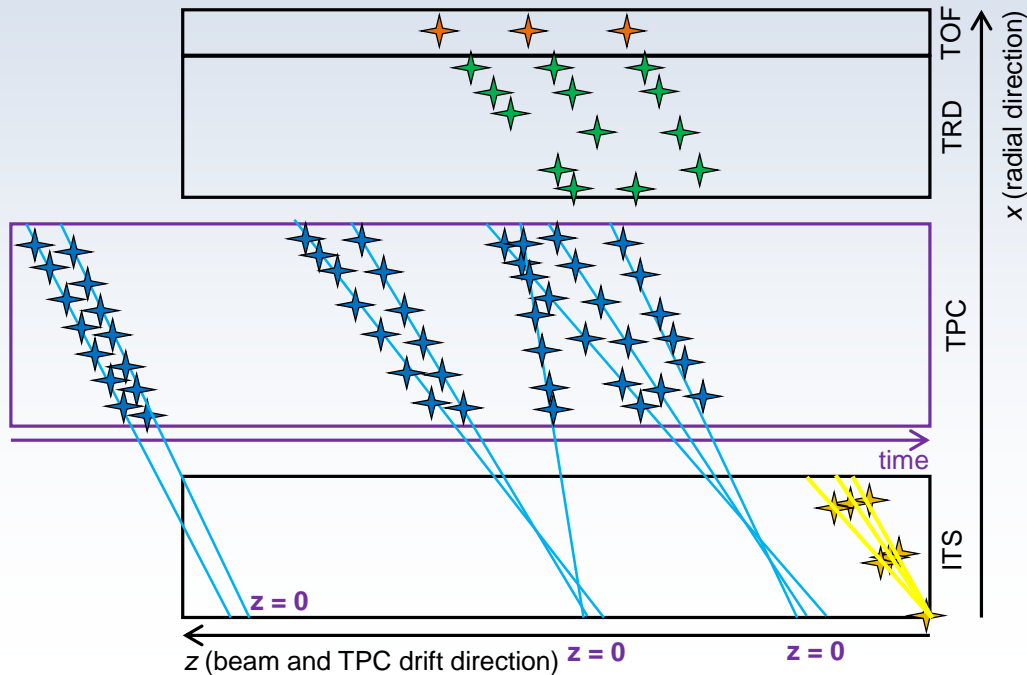




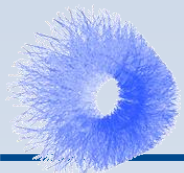
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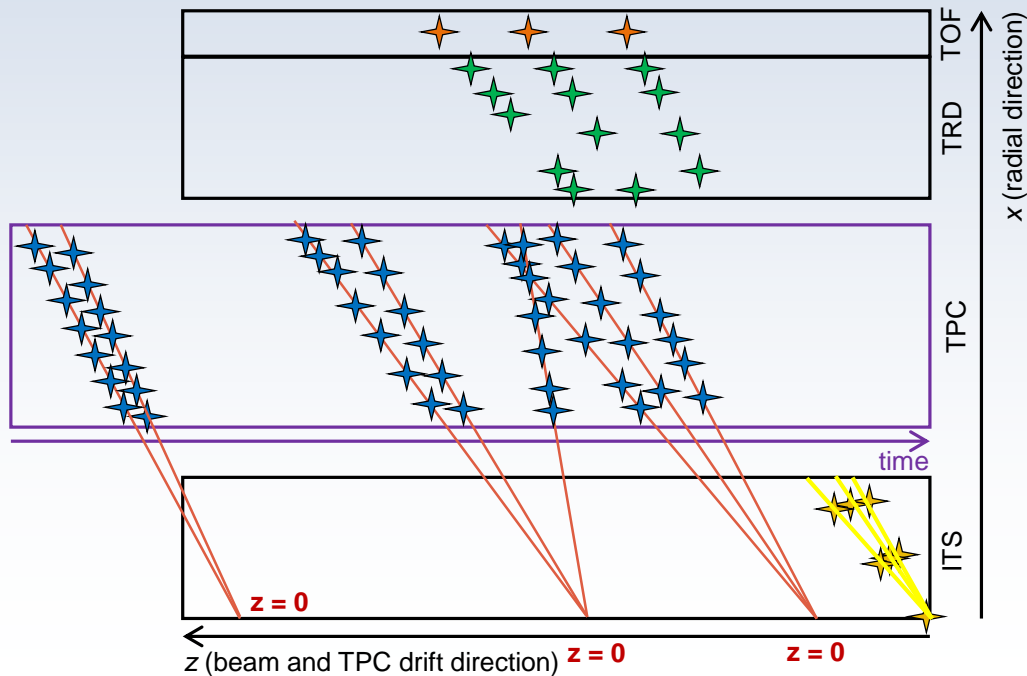
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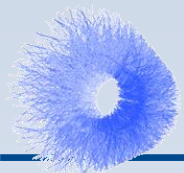
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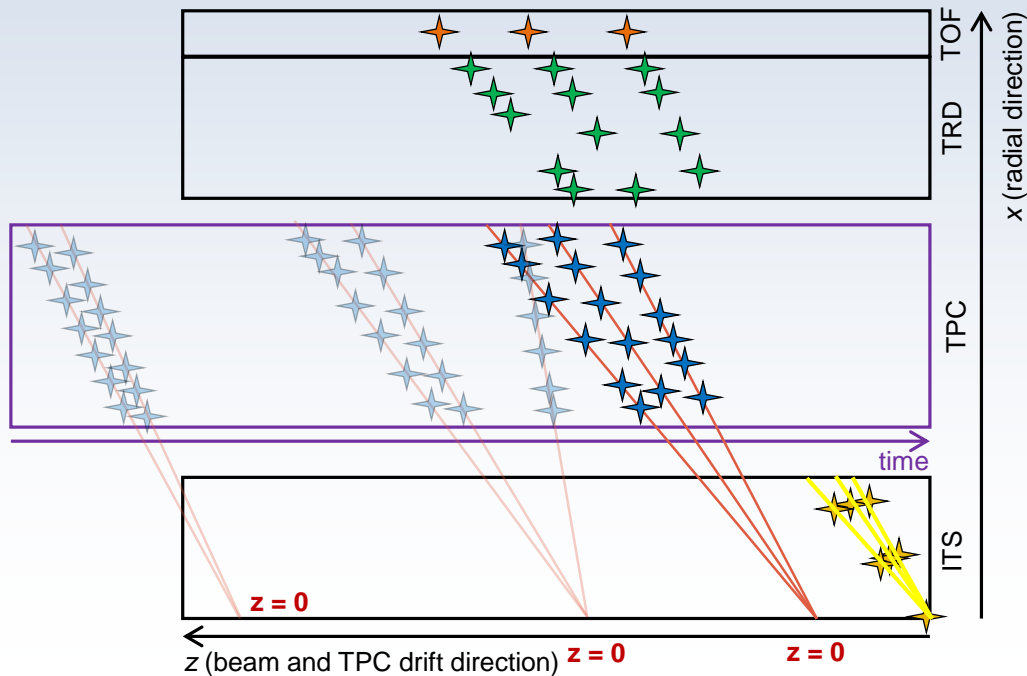




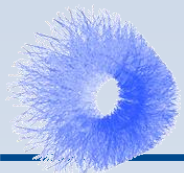
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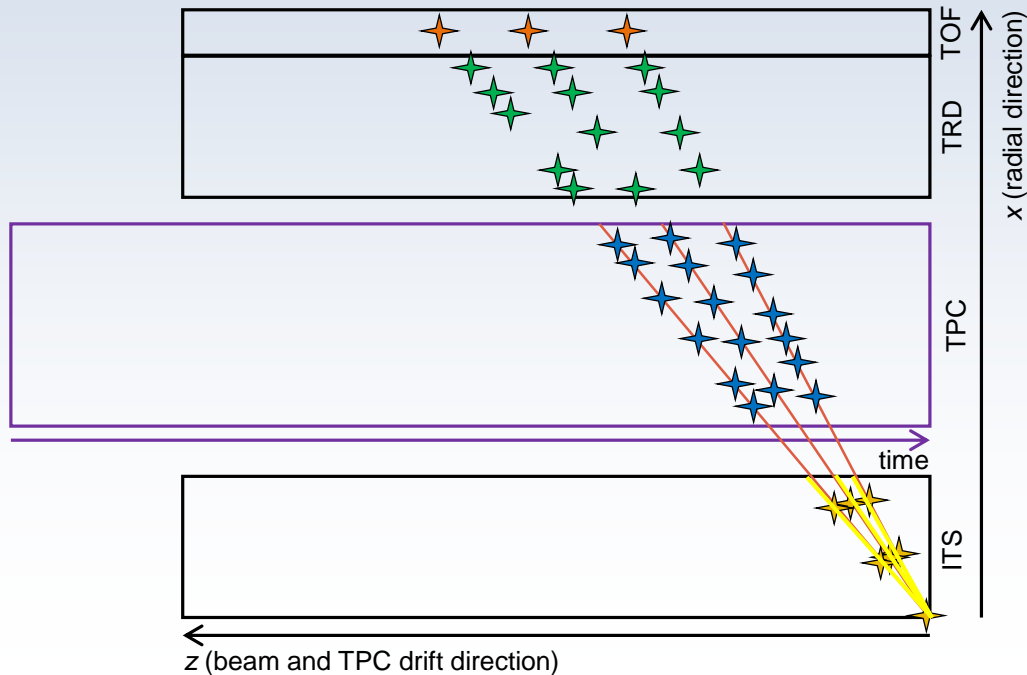
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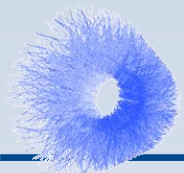
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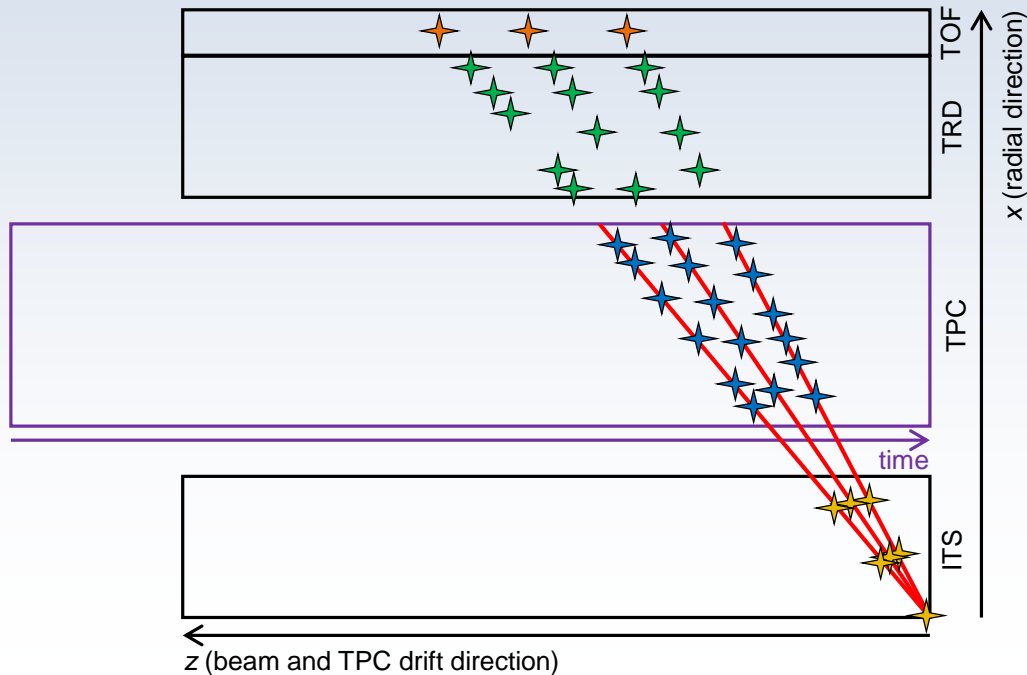
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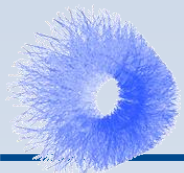
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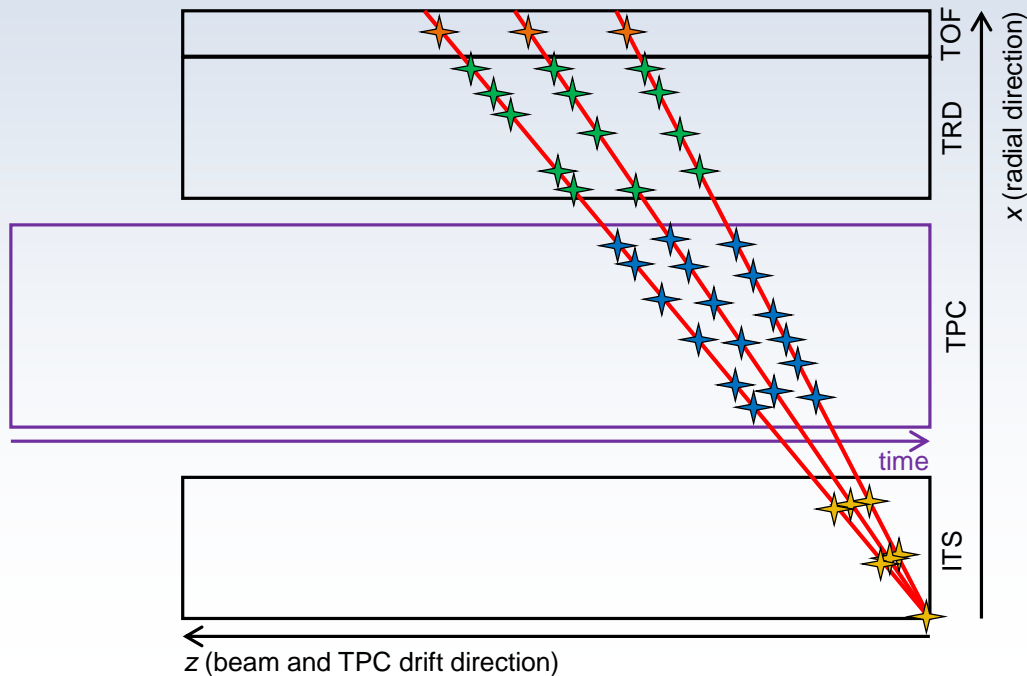
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- Refit ITS + TPC track outwards.



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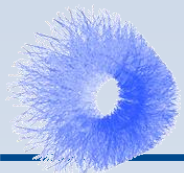
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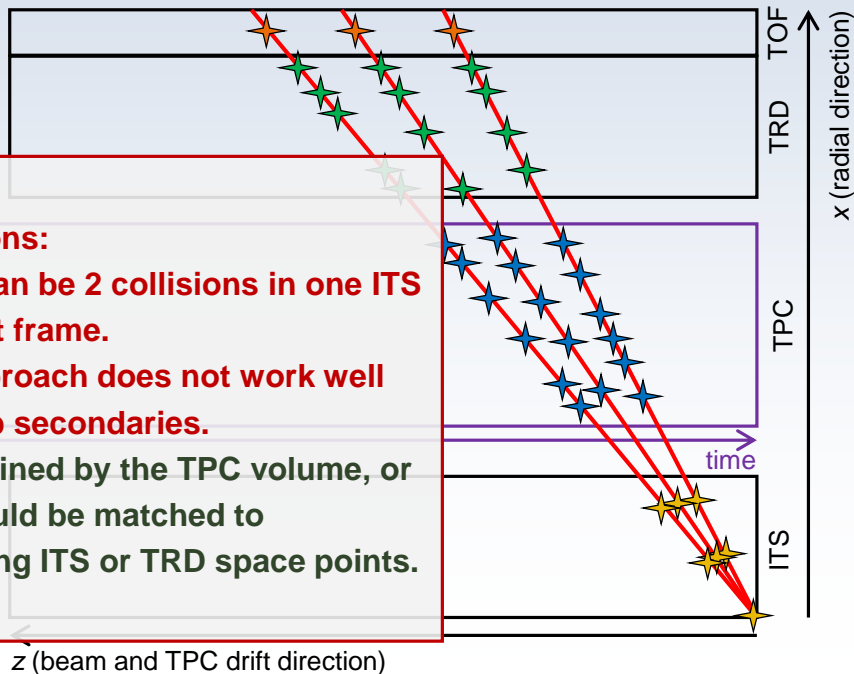
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- Match TPC track to ITS track, fixing the time and thus the  $z$  position of the TPC track.
- Refit ITS + TPC track outwards.
- Prolong into TRD / TOF.



# The tracking challenge

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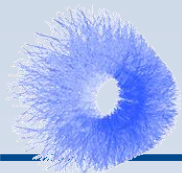


## Complications:

- There can be 2 collisions in one ITS read out frame.
- The approach does not work well for deep secondaries.
- Constrained by the TPC volume, or they could be matched to remaining ITS or TRD space points.

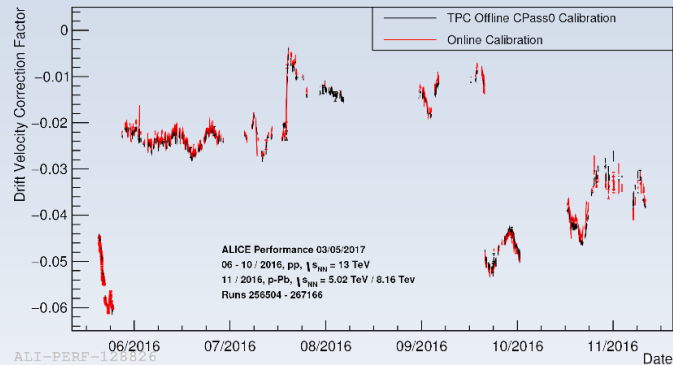
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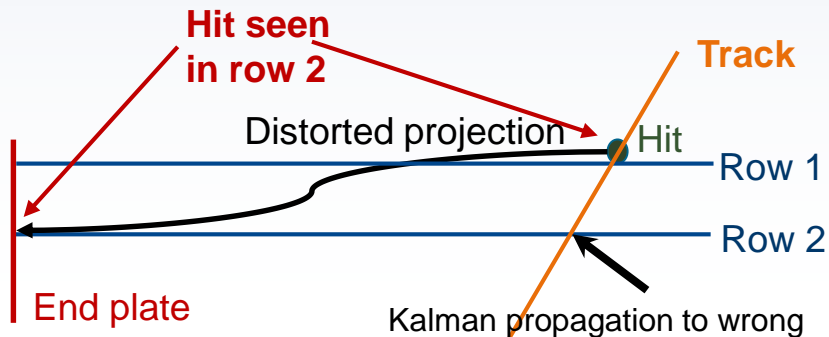


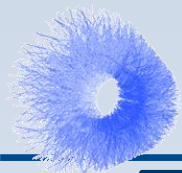
# Tracking with GEM TPC, plan for Run3

- **Run 2 tracking needs on thy fly calibration...**
    - ...and cluster conversion from row, pad, time to x, y, z.
    - Online calibration exercised in the HLT for TPC drift velocity.
      - No difference to Offline drift velocity calibration.
    - **Online calibration with feedback loop: Calibration produced during n seconds / minutes used for the following n seconds / minutes.**
  - Two space-charge distortion calibration algorithms foreseen.
    1. ITS – TRD interpolation (see next slide).
    2. Integrated digital currents.
  - The first is already running for Run 2 offline, the second requires continuous read out.
- 
- **Work ongoing to perform most of the distortion calibration work online.**
  - **A related problem imposed by the distortions:**
    - The tracking must perform the Kalman update at the correct radius even when clusters are seen at the wrong pad row.

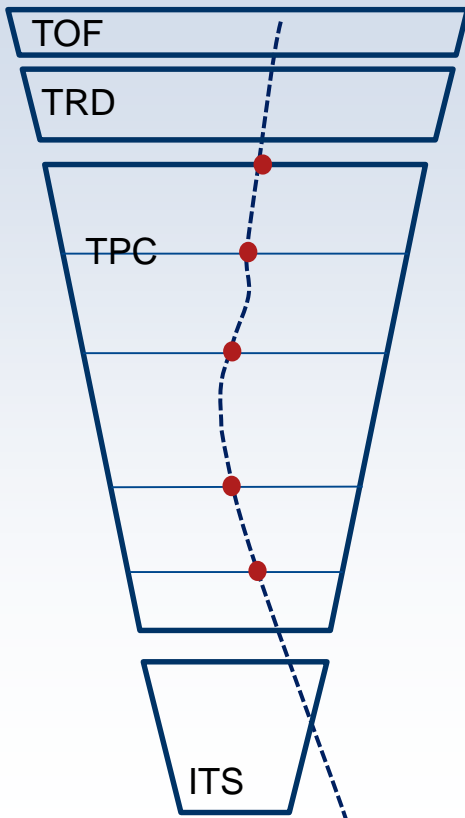


Residuals of cluster z-position in HLT:  
Before online calibration: **30 mm**  
With online calibration: **0.5 mm**

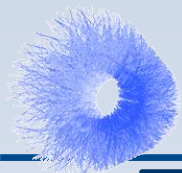




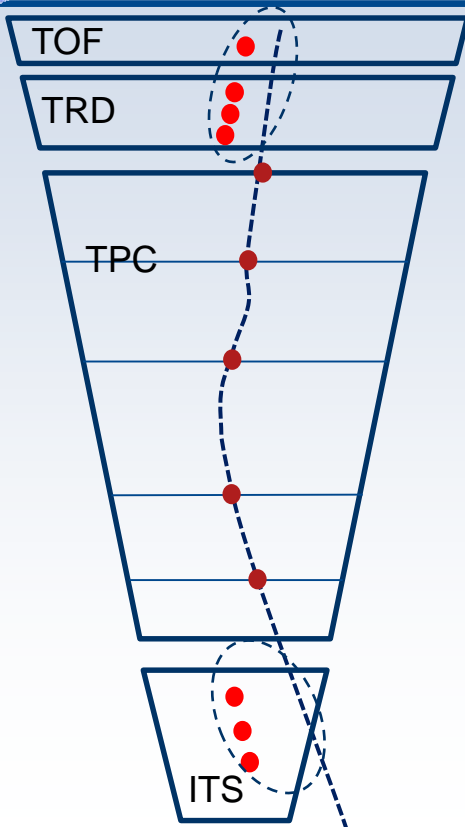
# Space-charge Distortions corrections (in Pb-Pb Run 2)



- Reconstruct TPC tracks with relaxed tolerances (applying “default distortion maps” if available)
- Match to ITS and TRD/TOF with relaxed tolerances
- Refit ITS-TRD-TOF part and interpolate to TPC as a **reference** of the **true track position** at every pad-row
- Collect Y, Z differences between **distorted clusters** and **reference** points in sub-volumes (voxels) of TPC
- Extract 3D vector of distortion in every voxel
- Create smooth parameterization (fast interpolation by Chebyshev polynomials) to use for correction during following reconstruction
  
- Distortions change with time: 40 min intervals. (min 15-20 min for statistics)
- 15 (in Y/X) x 5 (in Z/X) voxels per padrow  $\Rightarrow$  ~430K in total

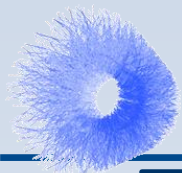


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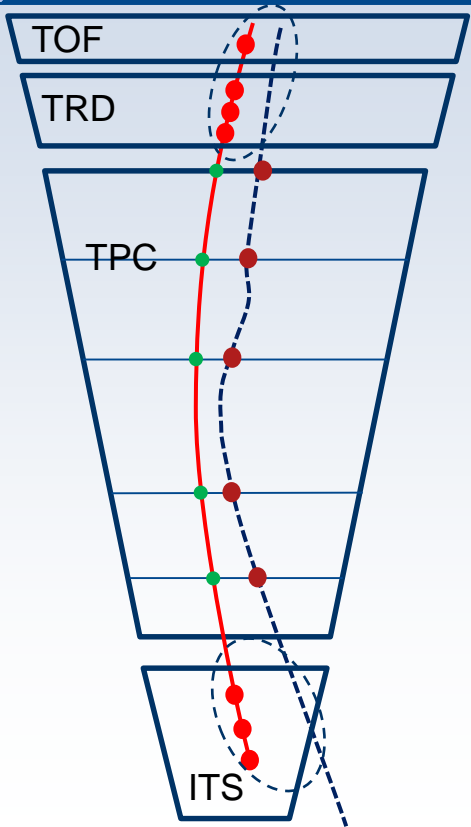


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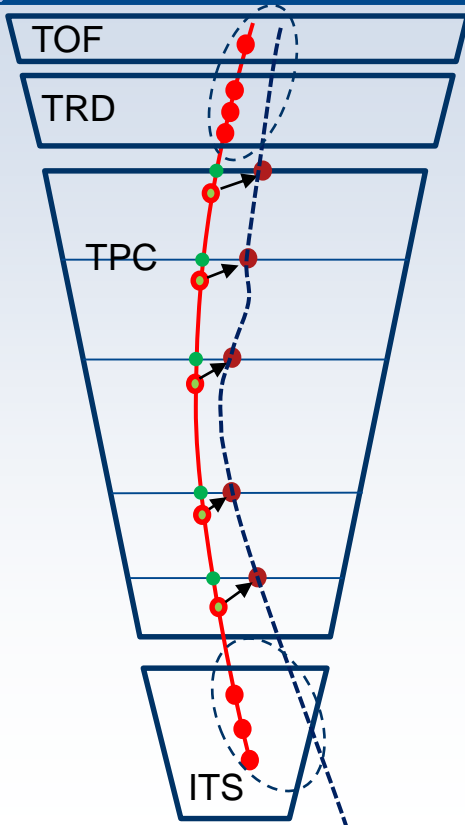
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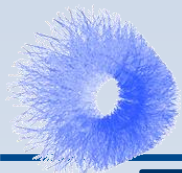
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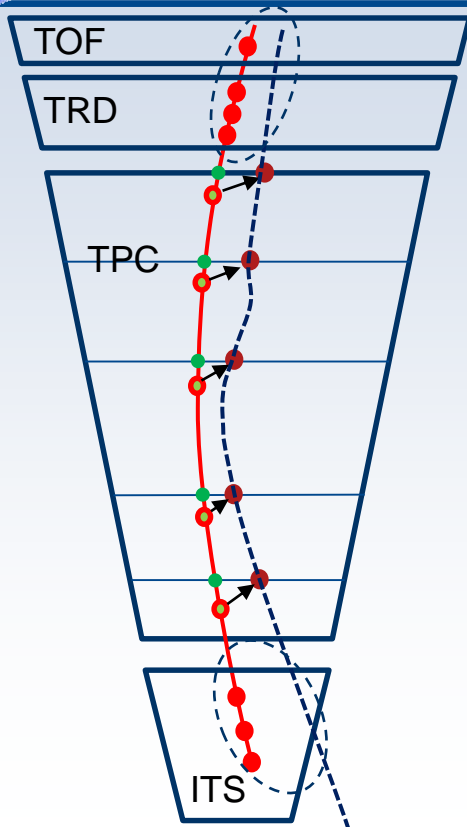
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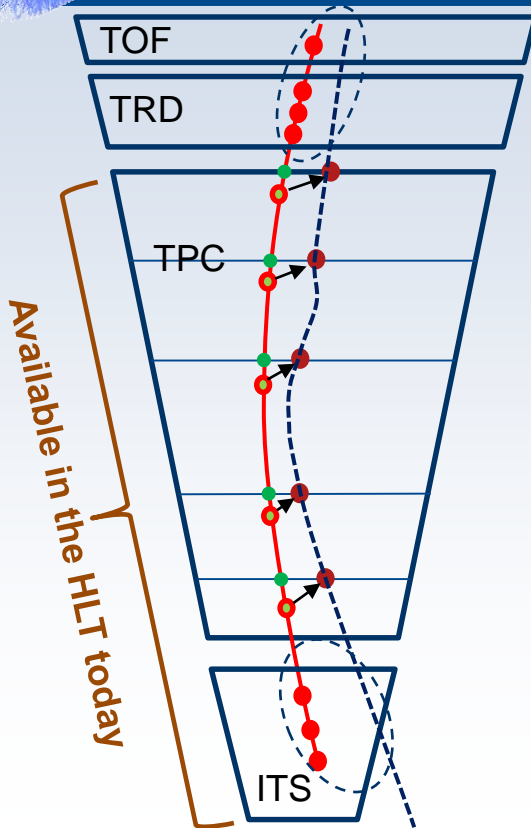


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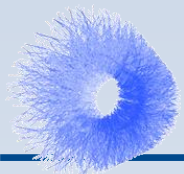
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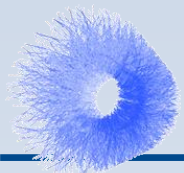
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- **For Run 3: In addition, integrate the digital currents at the TPC pads to account for fluctuations in the distortions.**

- **Running offline**
- **To be implemented for HLT during Run 2 as prototype for Run 3**
- **Needs TRD and TOF reconstruction in the HLT (not available yet)**



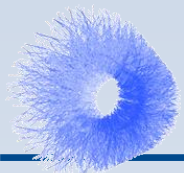
# TPC TIME FRAME TRACKING IN O<sup>2</sup>

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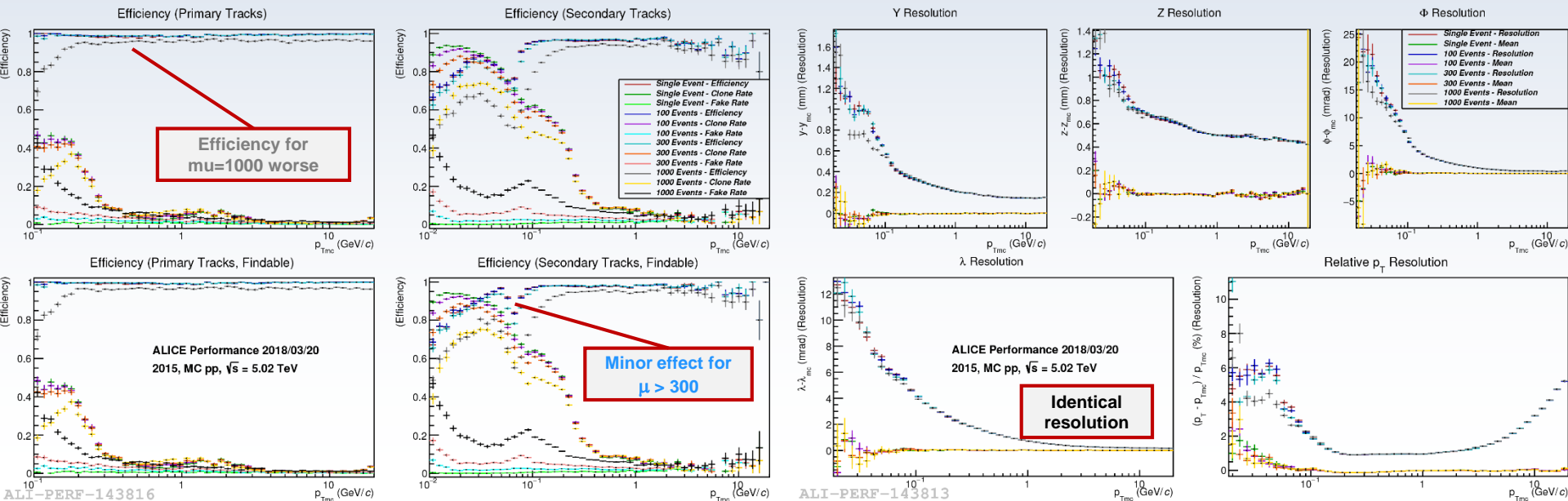
# Time frame tracking / robustness

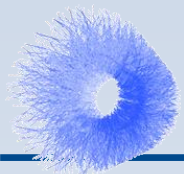
- **The following plots...**
  - Compare the HLT /  $O^2$  tracking for different scenarios (pile-up, time frame length, interaction rate, ...)
  - Exact same data as before (same events, but reshuffled and arranged in time frames).
  - Raw QA of all tracks, no cuts except for  $|\eta| < 0.9$ .
  - Full time frame border simulated. Collisions with incomplete drift time ignored on QA (Quality Assurance) level.
  - In order to compare only the tracking algorithm, events are overlapped on the level of clusters → no clusterization effects.



# Multiplicity / event pile-up (pp)

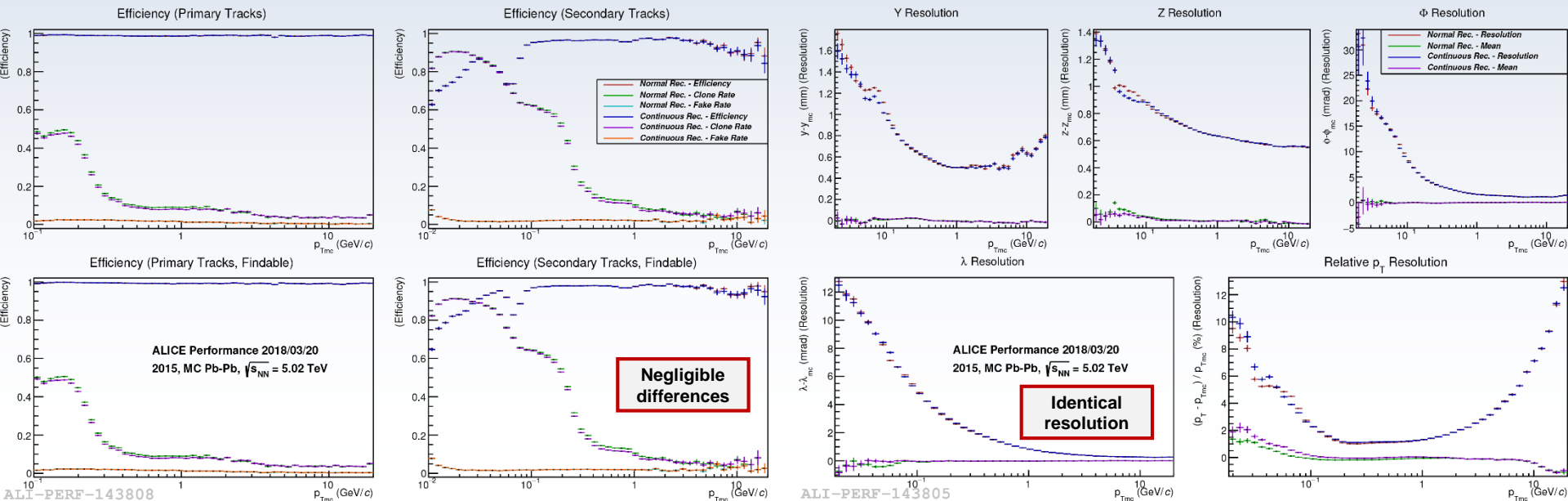
- Overlaying up to  $\mu = 100$  pp TPC events (in-bunch pile-up) has absolutely no impact on efficiency, minimal impact on fake rate.
- At 300 overlaid pp events, one starts to see a small deterioration in the efficiency below 120 MeV/c.
- Above (at  $\mu = 1000$ ), there is a significant effect, but the tracking still works.
- Pile-up has does not affect resolution at all.



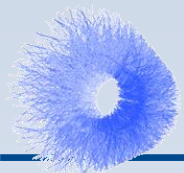


# Normal tracking / z-independent tracking

- In continuous tracking, the absolute z-position of the track is not known, but estimated from the assumption that the track is primarily pointing towards the origin (B-field tracks and cluster errors are computed under this assumption).
- Naturally, secondary tracks suffer a bit, while primaries are mostly unaffected.
- **No significant difference between Run 2 tracking and z-independent Run 3 tracking.**

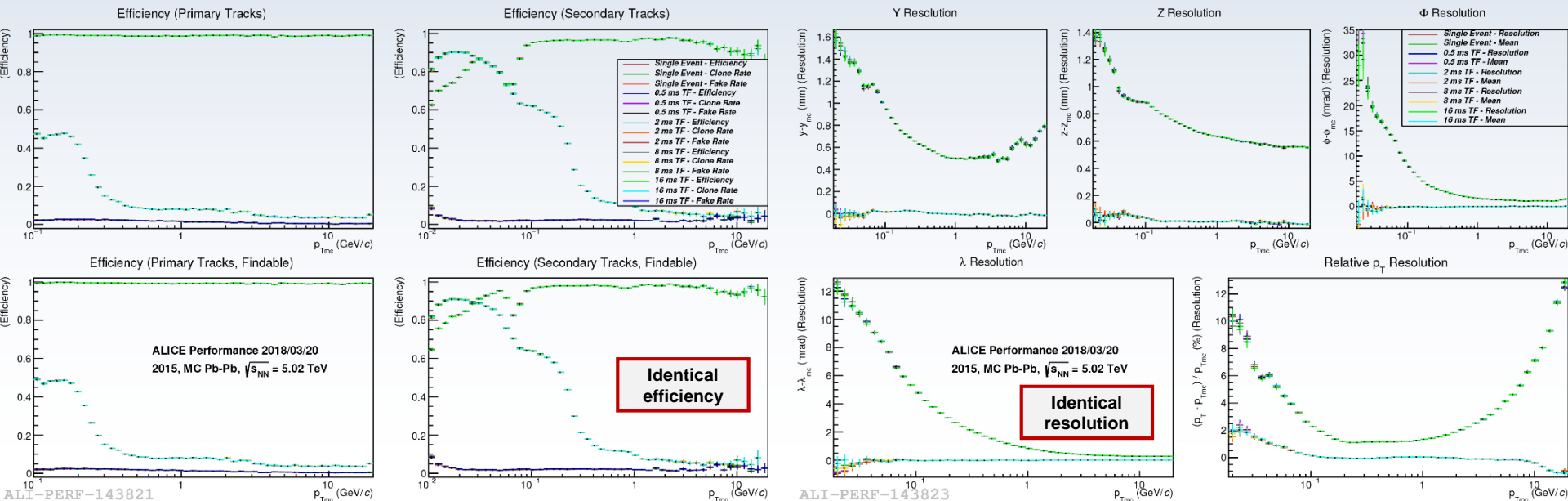


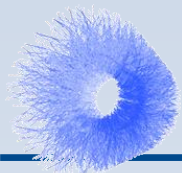




# Length of time frame

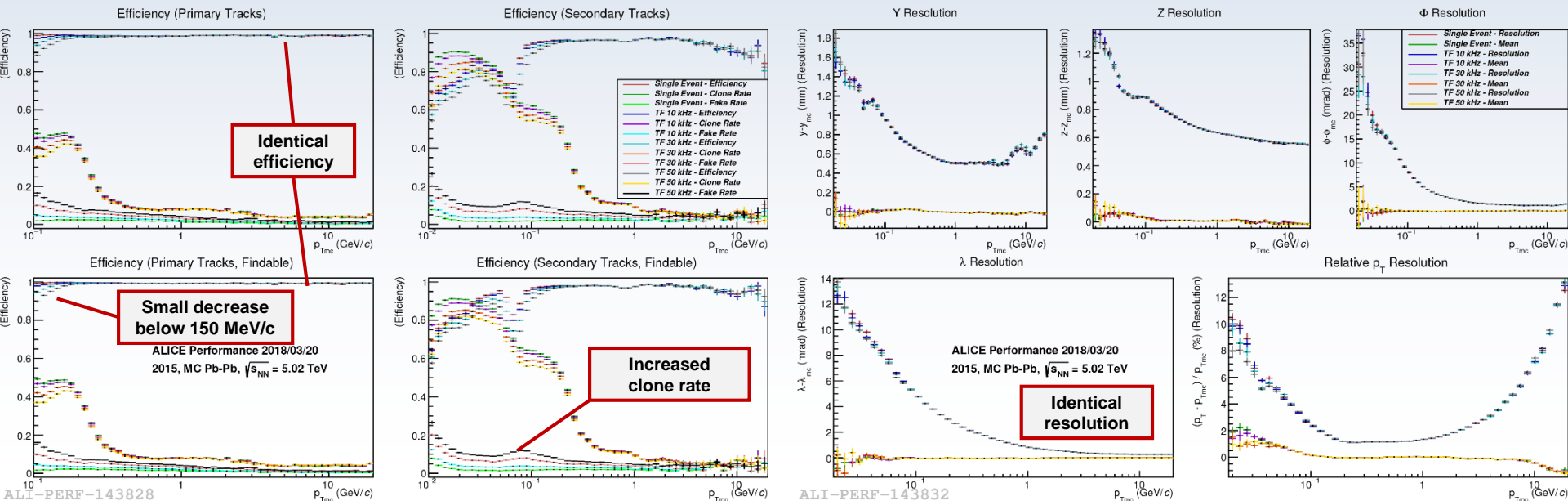
- **Identical result independent of length of time frame.**
- No problem with floating point precision / representation (thanks to shift in z).



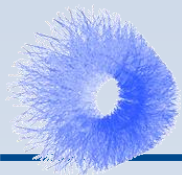


# Tracking time frames at different interaction rates

- Simulation uses correct bunch structure as expected for Run 3 Pb-Pb (from ALICE TPC upgrade TDR).
- Practically no deterioration of resolution, even at 50 kHz.
- Minor efficiency decrease below 150 MeV/c.
- Still, fake rate increases with interaction rate (in particular for low  $p_T$ ) – Should improve with better merging.

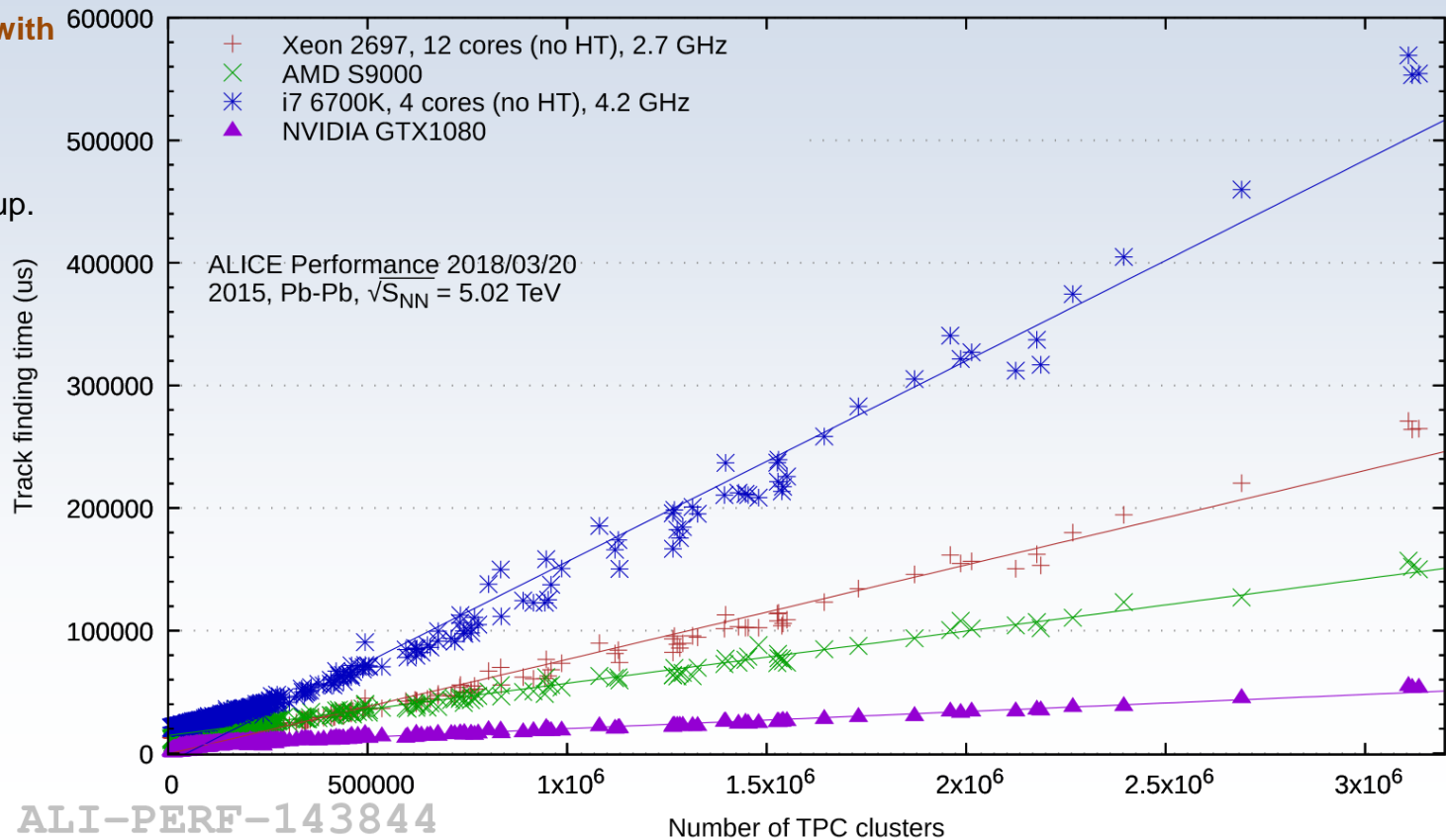


ALI-PERF-143828

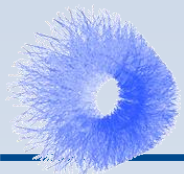


# Tracking time (Run 2 / Pb-Pb)

- **Tracking time is linear with event size in all cases.**
- About 50 ms for largest events in Run 2.  
(Central Pb-Pb with pile-up.)

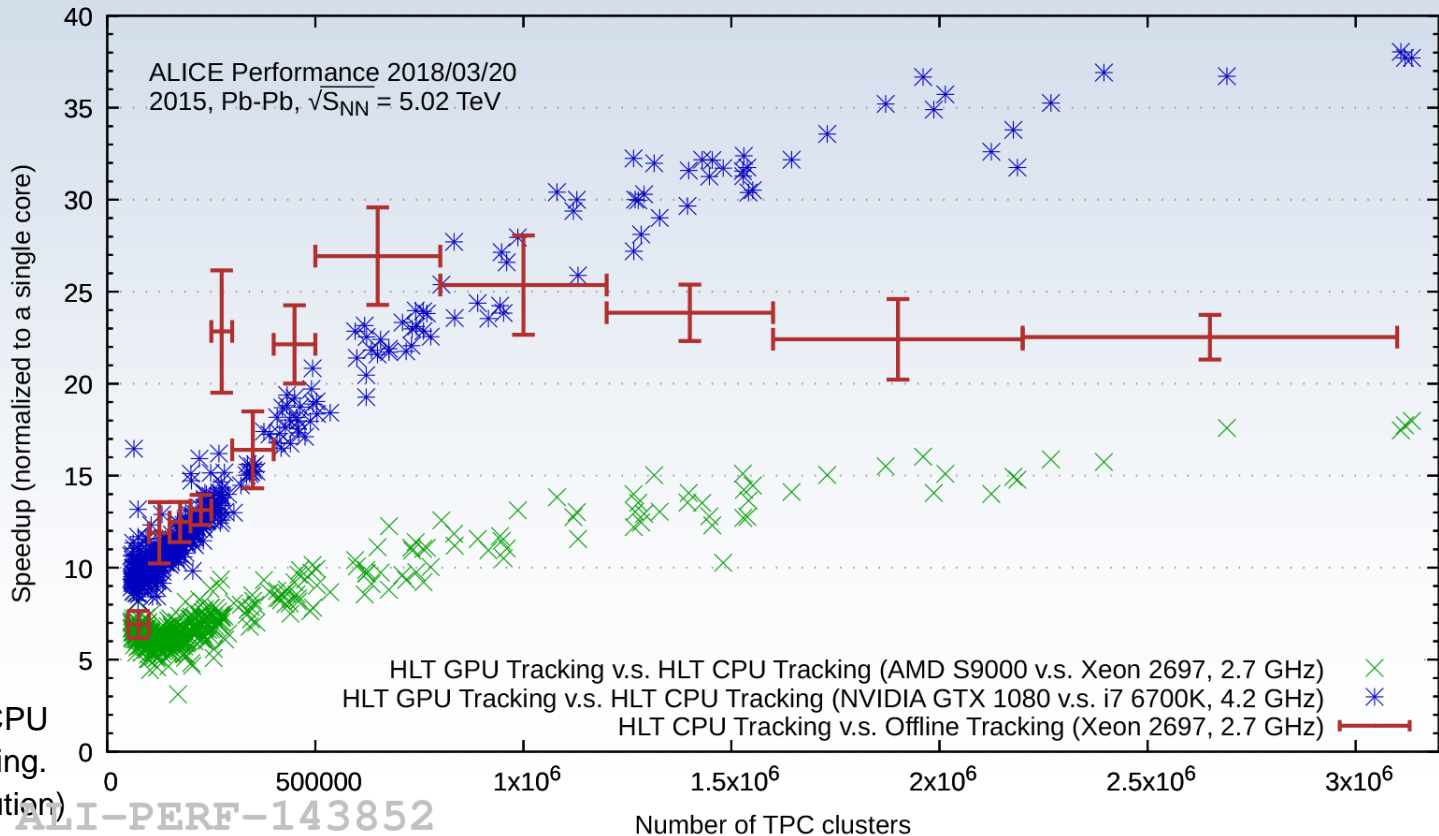


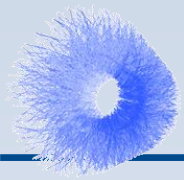
ALI-PERF-143844



# Tracking time

- Speed-up normalized to single core.
- For the blue curve, this is exactly the speed-up.
- For the GPU curves, this is corrected by the CPU resources required for GPU pre- and postprocessing.
  - How many cores does the GPU replace.
- Significant (>20x) speed-up compared to offline.
- A modern GPU replaces about 40 cores @4.2 GHz.
- Significant gain with new GPU models.
- One GPU replaces >800 CPU cores running Offline tracking. (at same efficiency / resolution)

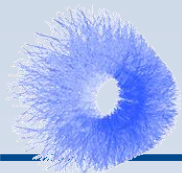




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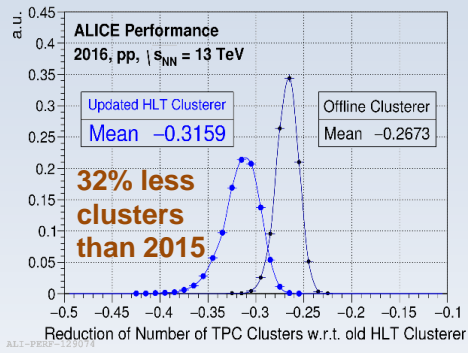
# DATA COMPRESSION & LOOPER REJECTION

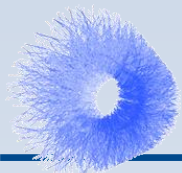
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# Data Compression

- **Data compression steps:**
  - Online cluster finding (in hardware on FPGA).
    - Enables better entropy compression.
    - Can perform noise suppression.
  - Entropy reduction steps.
    - Fixed point integer format.
    - Store differences instead of absolute positions.
    - Use track model to reduce position / charge entropy.
  - Entropy encoding.
    - Huffman encoding (Run 1 – 2) / Arithmetic encoding / ANS / etc.



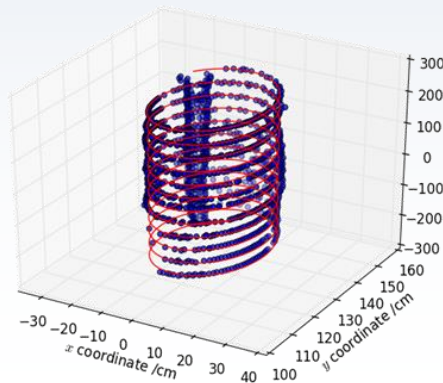
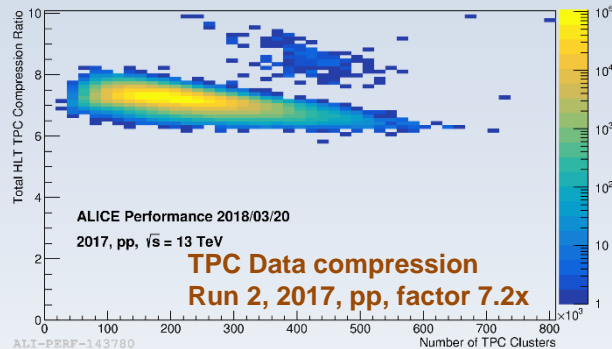
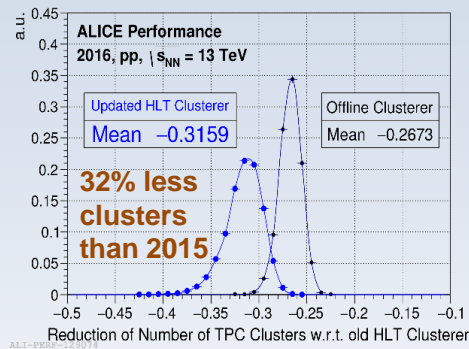


# Data Compression

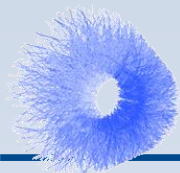
Factor 7.2

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  - Fixed point integer format.
  - Store differences instead of absolute positions.
  - Use track model to reduce position / charge entropy.
- Entropy encoding.
  - Huffman encoding (Run 1 – 2) / Arithmetic encoding / ANS / etc.
- Remove clusters of tracks not used for physics: (looping tracks below 50 MeV/c, additional legs of tracks below 200 MeV/c, track segments with high inclination angle)
  - Normal TPC tracking finds low- $p_T$  tracks down to 10 MeV/c.
  - “Afterburner” (Hough transform, machine learning, etc.) finds what is left.



Work in Progress

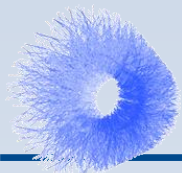


# TPC Data Compression

## • Overview of compression achieved per TPC compression step

<b>Configuration</b>		2016 pp	2015 Pb–Pb	2017 pp	2017 pp	2016 pp	2015 Pb–Pb
Data	2013	2016 pp	2015 Pb–Pb	2017 pp	2017 pp	2016 pp	2015 Pb–Pb
TPC gas	neon	argon	argon	neon	neon	argon	argon
RCU version	1	2	1	2	2	2	2
Cluster finder version	run 1	old	old	old	improved	improved	improved
Compression version	run 1 / 2	run 1 / 2	run 1 / 2	run 1 / 2	run 1 / 2	run 3 prototype	run 3 prototype
<b>Compression step</b>							
Cluster finder	1.20x	1.50x	1.28x	1.42x	1.81x	1.72x	1.70x
Branch merging	1.05x	-	1.05x	-	-	-	-
Integer format	2.50x	2.50x	2.50x	2.50x	2.40x	2.40x	2.40x
(bits per cluster)	77 bits	77 bits	77 bits	77 bits	80 bits	80 bits	80 bits
<b>Entropy reduction</b>							
Position differences	-	2% / -1.2 bits	16% / -7.2 bits	2% / -1.0 bits	2% / -1.0 bits	-1.0 bits	-4.5 bits
Track model	-	-	-	-	-	-14.5 bits	-14.3 bits
Track model + differences	-	-	-	-	-	-8.0 bits	-8.41 bits
Logarithmic precision	-	-	-	-	15% / -6.6 bits	-7.3 bits	-7.3 bits
<b>Entropy encoding</b>							
Huffman coding	1.36x	1.49x	1.75x	1.46x	1.68x	2.08x	2.12x
Arithmetic coding	-	-	-	-	-	2.18x	2.22x
Total compression	4.26x	5.58x	5.89x	5.18x	7.28x	9.00x	9.10x
(bits per cluster)	56.6 bits	51.7 bits	44.0 bits	52.8 bits	47,7 bits	36,7 bits	36,0 bits





# TPC Data Compression

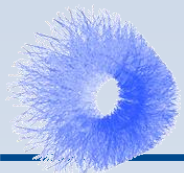
- Overview of compression achieved per TPC compression step

Configuration		2016 pp	2015 Pb–Pb	2017 pp	2017 pp	2016 pp	2015 Pb–Pb
Data	2013	2016 pp	2015 Pb–Pb	2017 pp	2017 pp	2016 pp	2015 Pb–Pb
TPC gas	neon	argon	argon	neon	neon	argon	argon
RCU version	1	2	1	2	2	2	2
Cluster finder version	run 1	old	old	old	improved	improved	improved
Compression version	run 1 / 2	run 1 / 2	run 1 / 2	run 1 / 2	run 1 / 2	run 3 prototype	run 3 prototype
Compression step							
Cluster finder	1.20x					1.72x	1.70x
Branch merging	1.05x					-	-
Integer format (bits per cluster)	2.50x 77 bit					2.40x 80 bits	2.40x 80 bits
Entropy reduction							
Position differences						-1.0 bits	-4.5 bits
Track model						-14.5 bits	-14.3 bits
Track model + differences						-8.0 bits	-8.41 bits
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Huffman coding	1.36x					2.08x	2.12x
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Total compression (bits per cluster)	4.26x 56.6 bits	5.58x 51.7 bits	5.89x 44.0 bits	5.18x 52.8 bits	7.28x 47,7 bits	9.00x 36,7 bits	9.10x 36,0 bits

**Run 3 compression prototype: factor 9.1.**

- Track model compression** stores cluster to track residuals instead of absolute positions.
- Arithmetic encoding** (small improvement of 4-5%).
- General improvements.**

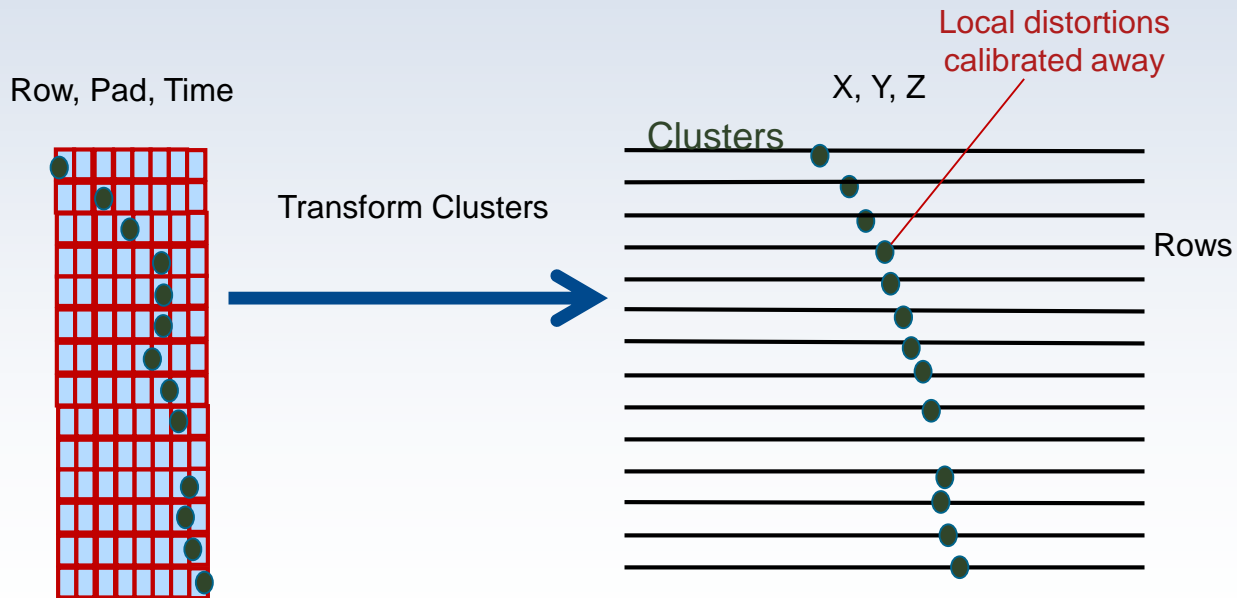
**Next step: reject clusters not used for physics.**  
**Goal: 20x total compression factor.**

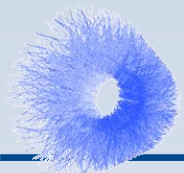


# Track model compression

## Work in Progress

- **Idea:** store only residuals of clusters to extrapolated track.
- **Smaller entropy** than absolute (differential) coordinates → **Better Huffman compression.**
- **Constraint:** Clusters shall be stored in native TPC coordinates (Row, Pad, Time), independent from calibration.

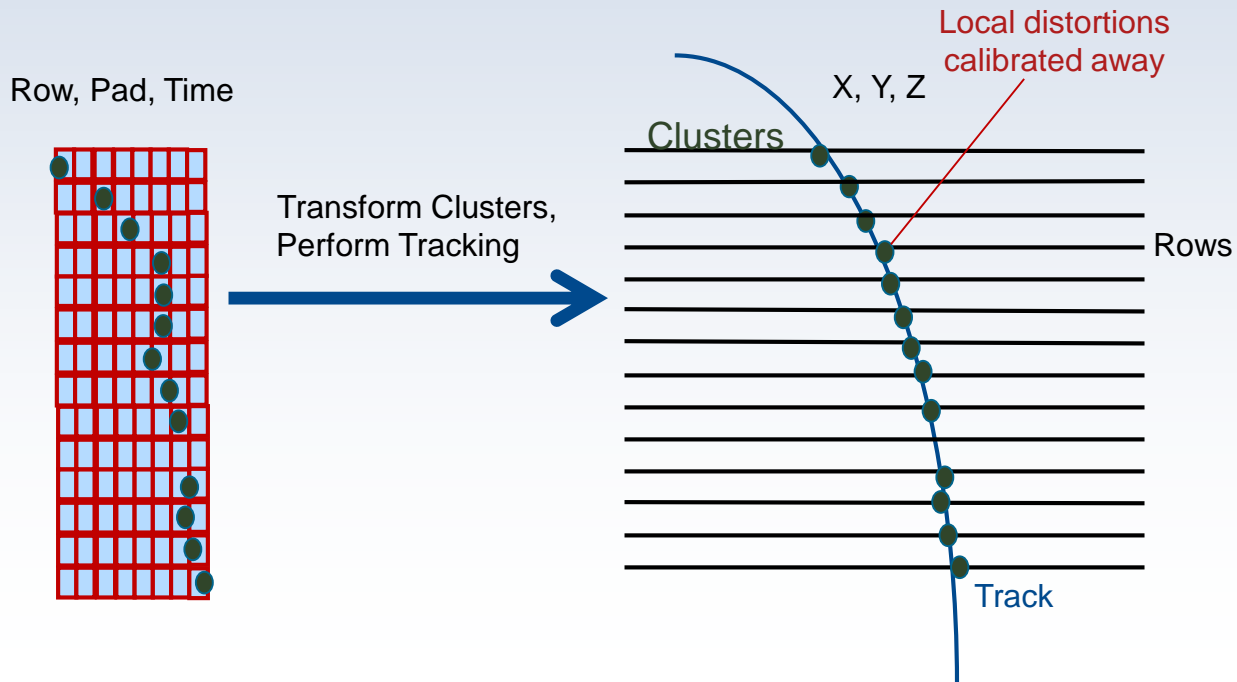


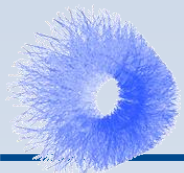


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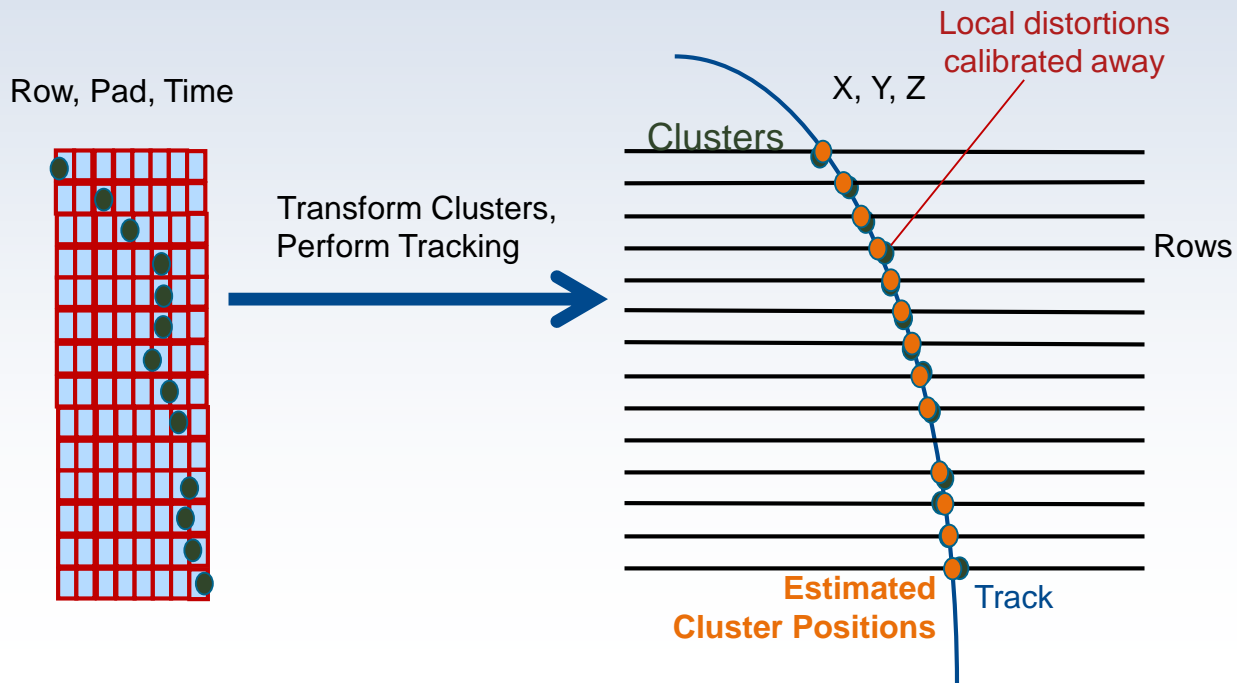


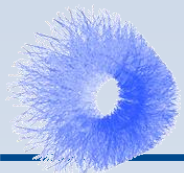


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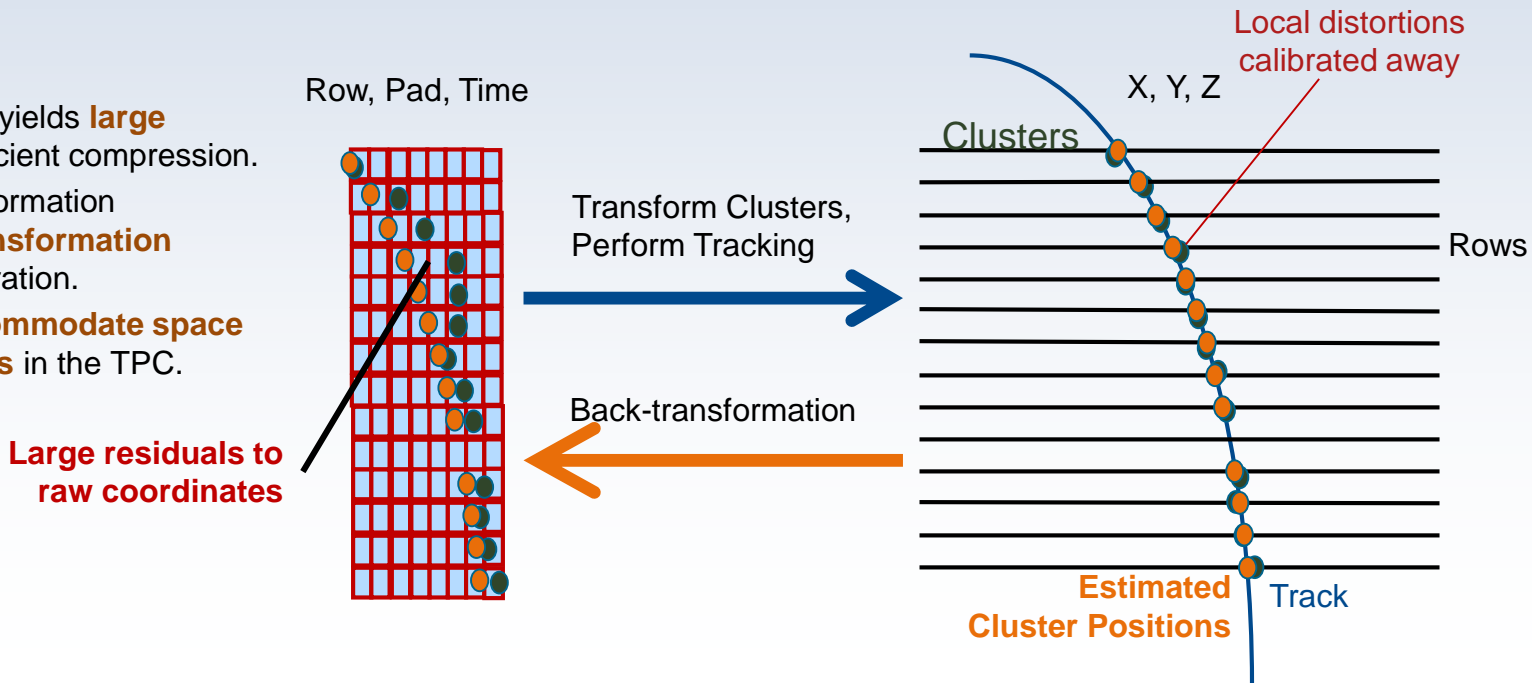
# Track model compression

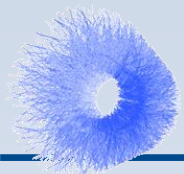
## Work in Progress

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- **Smaller entropy** than absolute (differential) coordinates → **Better Huffman compression**.
- **Constraint:** Clusters shall be stored in native TPC coordinates (Row, Pad, Time), independent from calibration.

- **Problems:**

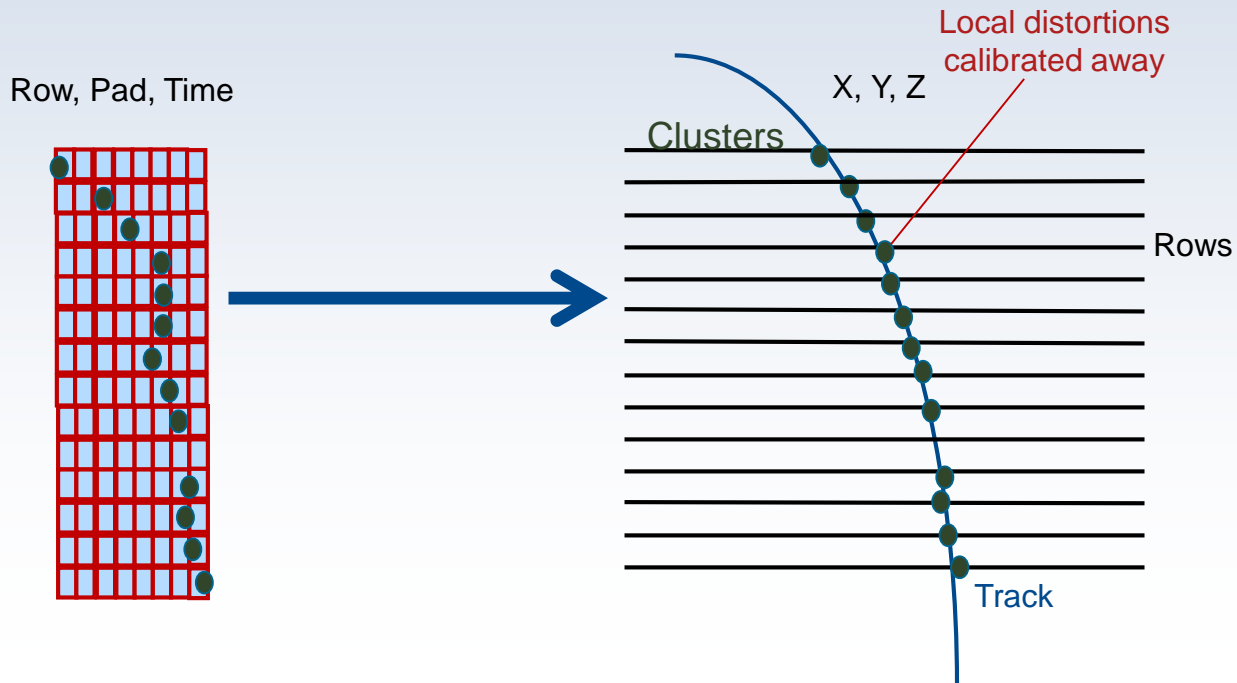
- Helix prolongation yields **large residuals** → inefficient compression.
- Linear back-transformation **cannot revert transformation** based on full calibration.
- Helix **cannot accommodate space charge distortions** in the TPC.

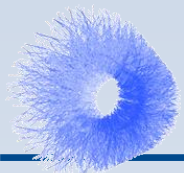




# Track model compression

Work in Progress

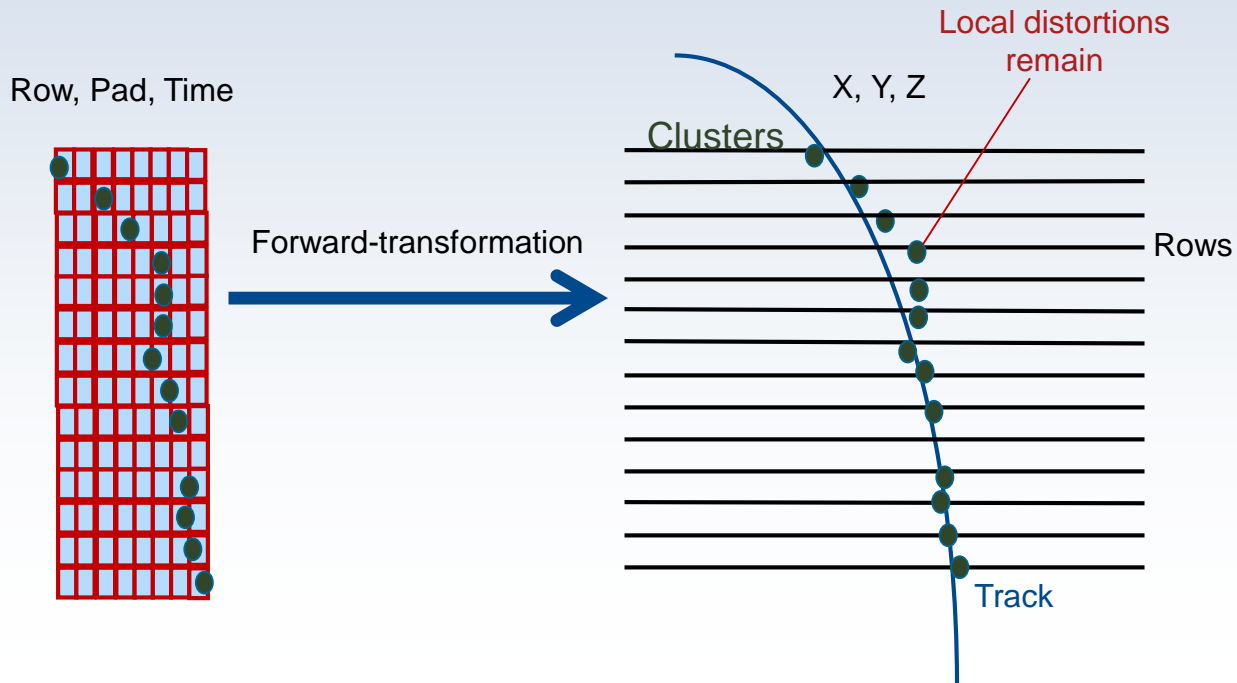


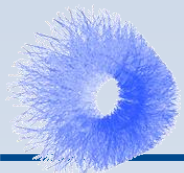


# Track model compression

## Work in Progress

- **Solution:**
  - Employ **fast, reversible polynomial approximation**. (*In principle, every transformation works, but the closer the better!*)

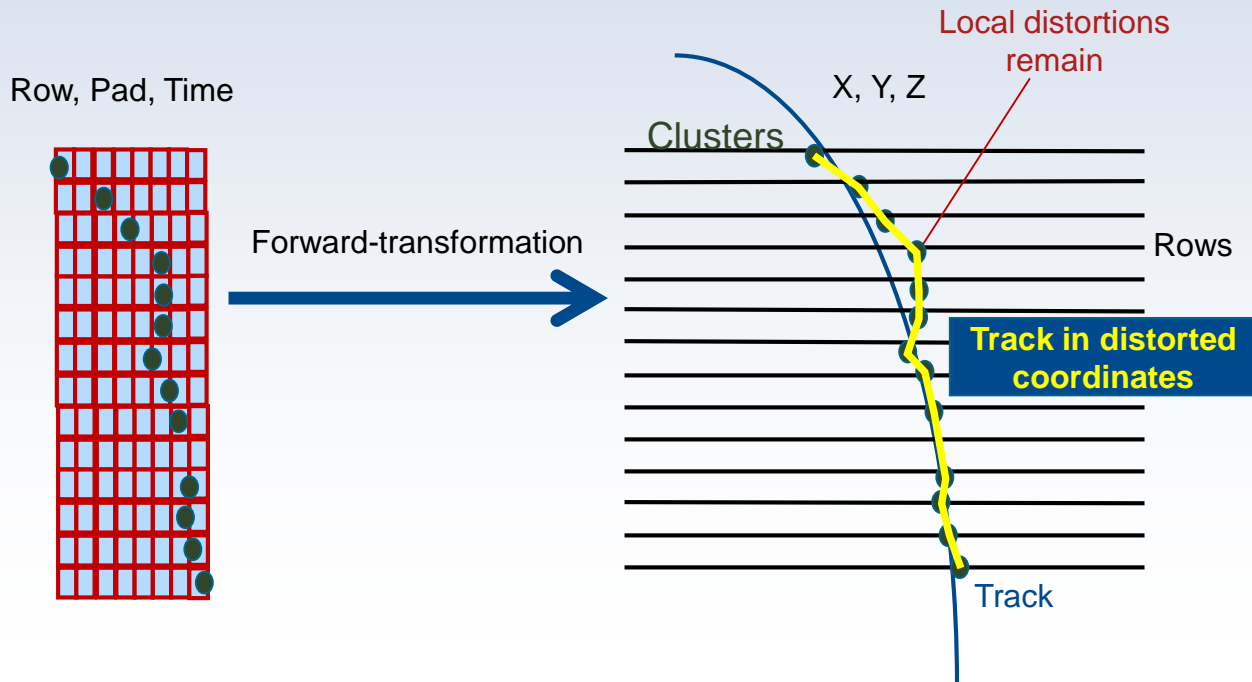




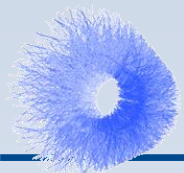
# Track model compression

## Work in Progress

- **Solution:**
  - Employ **fast, reversible polynomial approximation**. (*In principle, every transformation works, but the closer the better!*)
  - **Refit track in distorted coordinate system.**



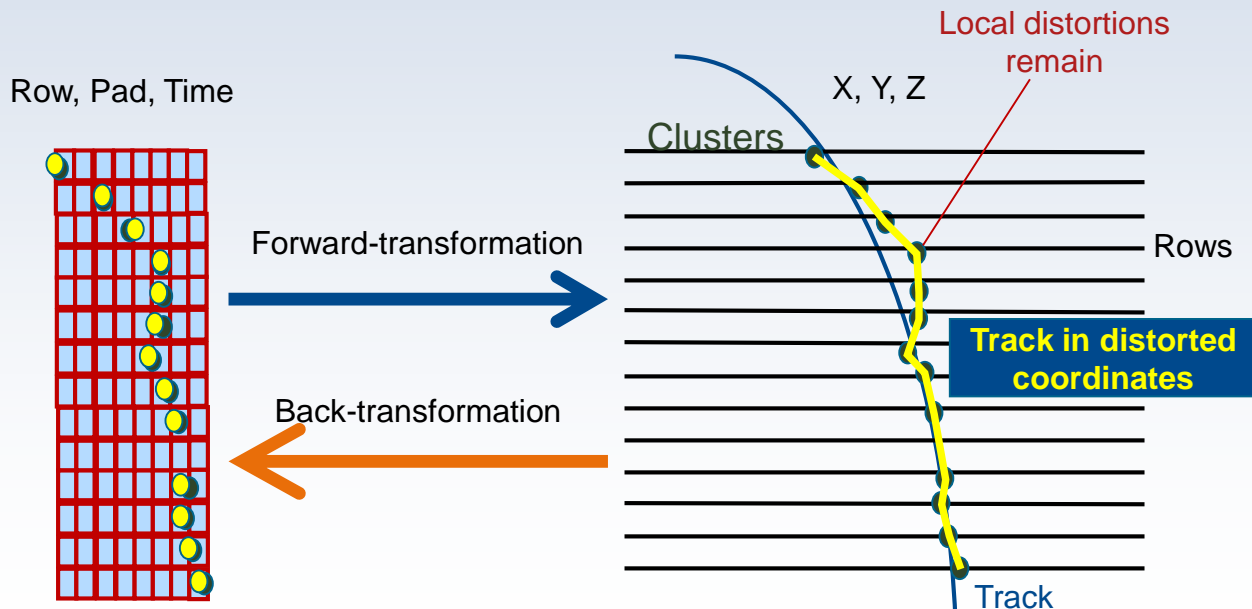




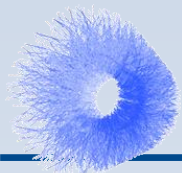
# Track model compression

## Work in Progress

- **Solution:**
  - Employ **fast, reversible polynomial approximation**. (*In principle, every transformation works, but the closer the better!*)
  - **Refit track in distorted coordinate system.**

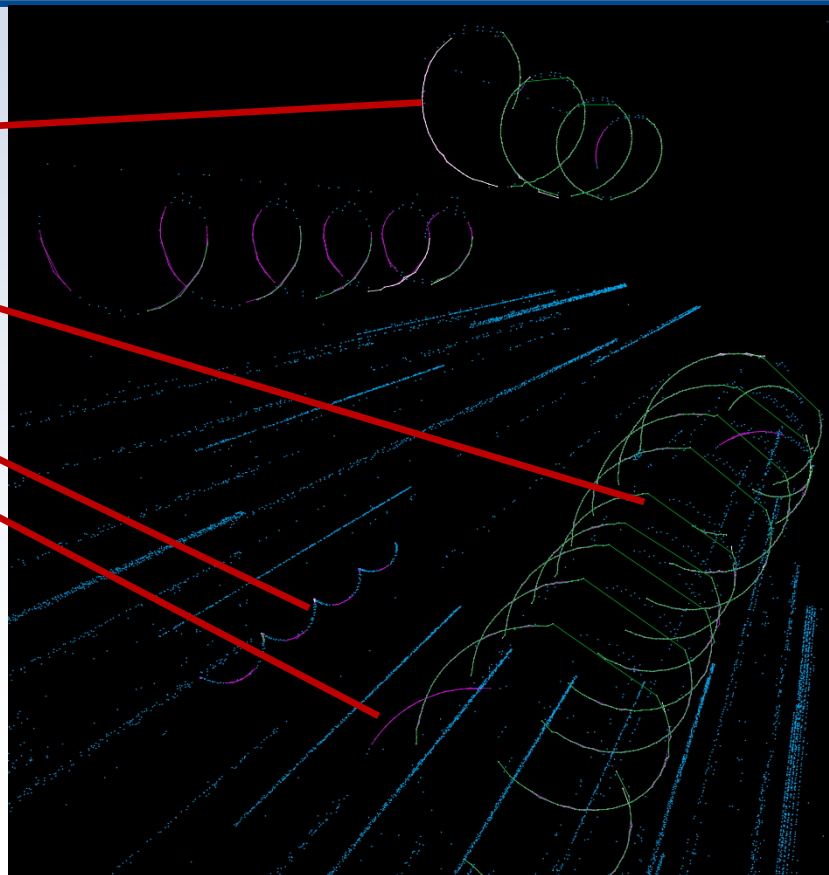


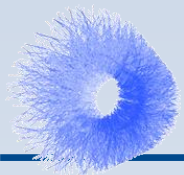
- **Non-associated clusters still compressed with differences scheme.**
- **Additional benefit: Cluster to track association is stored → Track found in HLT / synchronous phase available later.**



# Tracking of low- $p_T$ tracks

- **Track-merging and fit improved for low- $p_T$ :**
  - Most legs reconstructed correctly (green)
  - Refit fails rarely (only 1 white leg left).
  - Most legs merged on at least one side.
    - Cannot merge on both sides right so far.
  - Some seeds left, which do not make it to tracks.
    - Track fit fails for seeds below 10 MeV/c.
    - Some track-fit failures remain to be understood.
- **Green: Final tracks**
- **Blue: Unused clusters**
- **Purple: Segments found in first CA seeding phase but track prolongation did not find good track.**
- **White: Track prolongation found track, but the track is rejected later.**

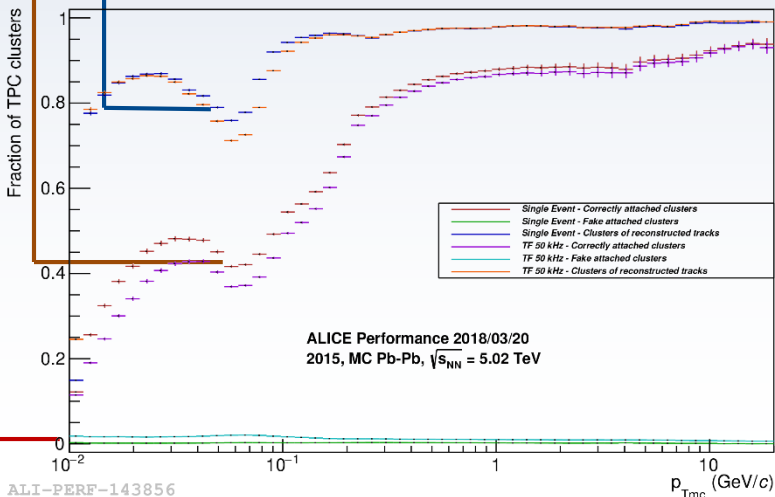




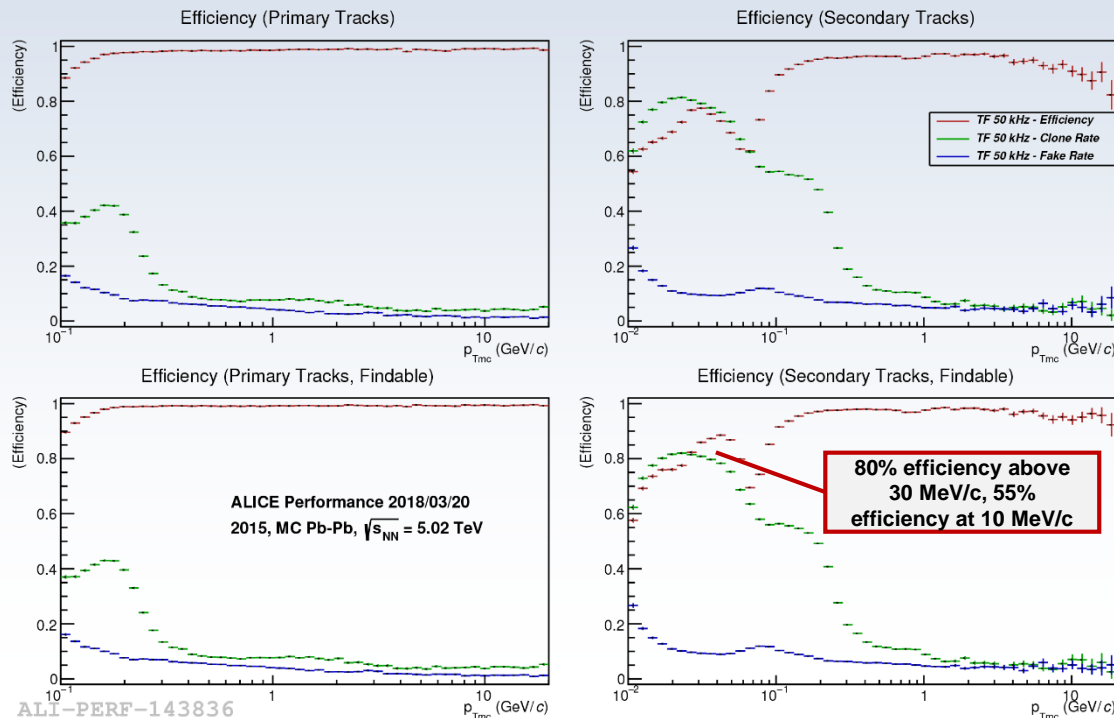
# Low- $p_T$ loop finding

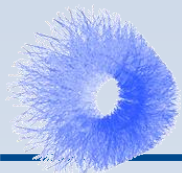
- Very good efficiency down to 10 MeV/c.
- Practically zero fake-cluster attachment for single Pb-Pb event processing.
- Small but non-zero fake attachment at 50 kHz.
- Small difference in fraction of attached hits.
- With additional feature to attach all adjacent hits, attachment rate should be close to the blue / orange curves.

Clusters Pt Distribution / Attachment (relative to all clusters)



## Efficiency, Pb-Pb, 50kHz

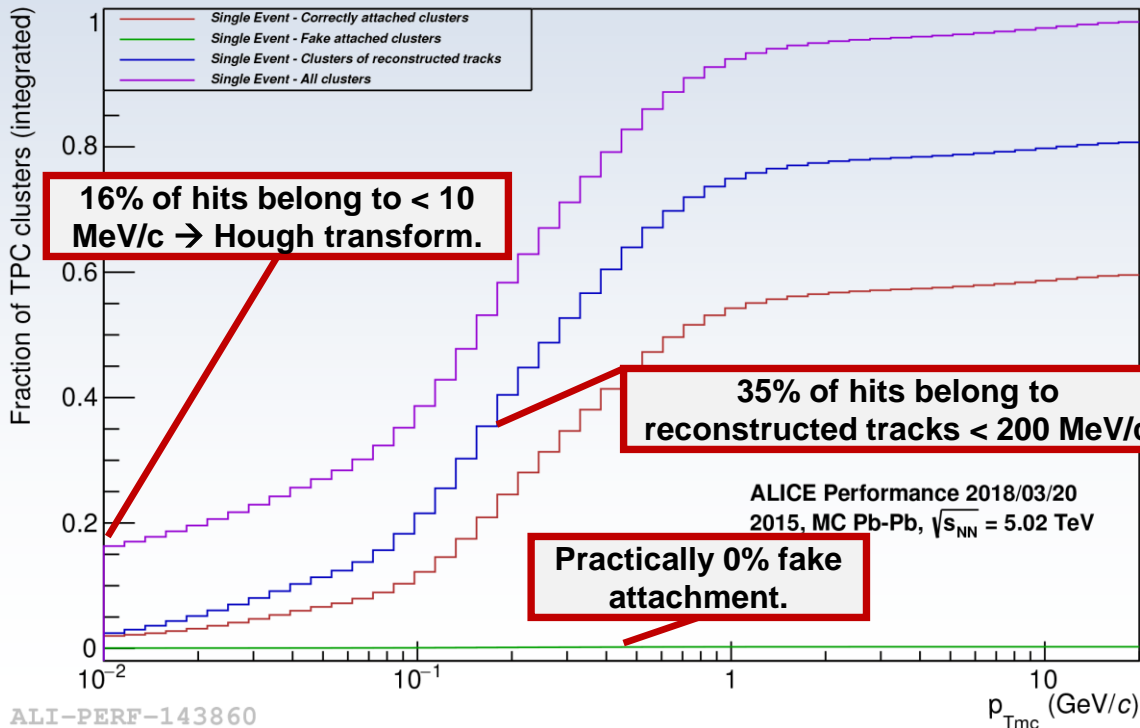


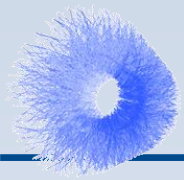


# Cluster removal for $O^2$

- Strategy: Track as low in  $p_T$  as possible with relaxed cuts (number of clusters, etc.), merge legs to get sufficient track quality.
- Attach all adjacent clusters using inter- / extrapolation.
- Remove all clusters assigned to
  - Tracks below 50 MeV/c.
  - Additional legs of tracks below 200 MeV/c.
  - High inclination-angle track segments.
- Use other method to remove what is left after tracking.
- Cluster statistics:
  - Purple: all clusters
  - Red: clusters attached to the correct track.
  - Green: clusters attached to wrong track.
  - Blue: All clusters (if attached or not) of a reconstructed track.
- Shared clusters and multiple-attached clusters are shown multiple times weighted correctly, so that the integral yields the total number of clusters.

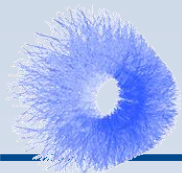
## Clusters Pt Distribution / Attachment (integrated)





# OTHER DETECTORS & THE GLOBAL PICTURE

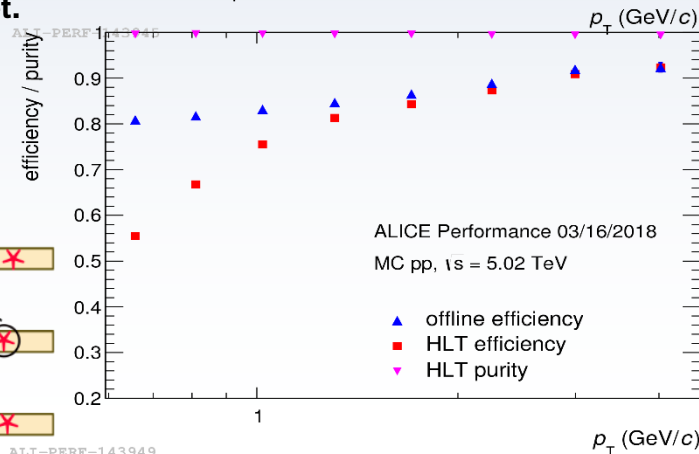
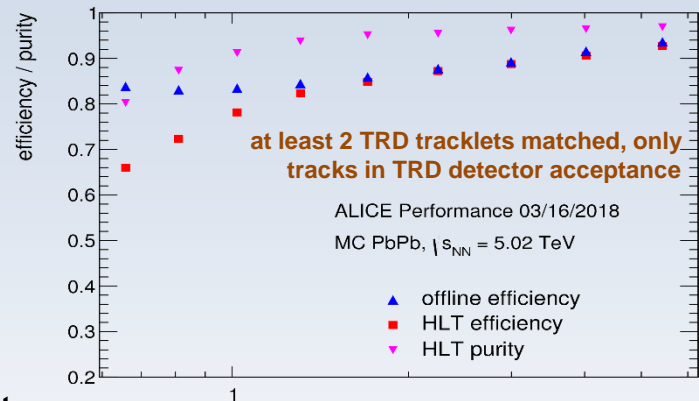
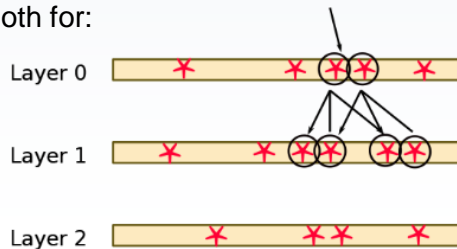
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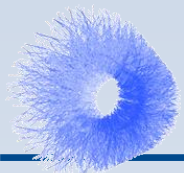
# Online TRD tracking in the HLT and for Run 3

## Work in Progress

- **Space-Charge Distortion Calibration** requires online TRD tracking.
  - Offline tracking uses **offline tracklets** created from hits around TPC tracks.
  - **Not available in Run 3**, use **online tracklets** created by TRD readout.
- **Same matching efficiency** for online and offline tracklets  $> 1.5 \text{ GeV}/c$ .
  - Efficiency drop at low  $p_T$  is caused by the absence of online tracklets (currently optimized for electron trigger at  $p_T > 3 \text{ GeV}/c$ )
- **Algorithm: Extrapolate TPC track through TRD layers, find closest tracklet.**
- **Next steps:**
  - Decision-tree based algorithm foreseen if needed for high occupancy.
  - Extending matching to  $p_T \sim 0.6 \text{ GeV}/c$  is important both for:
    - Disentangling between radial and  $\phi$  distortions.
    - Bridging TPC tracks to TOF.
  - Add TOF detector as well.



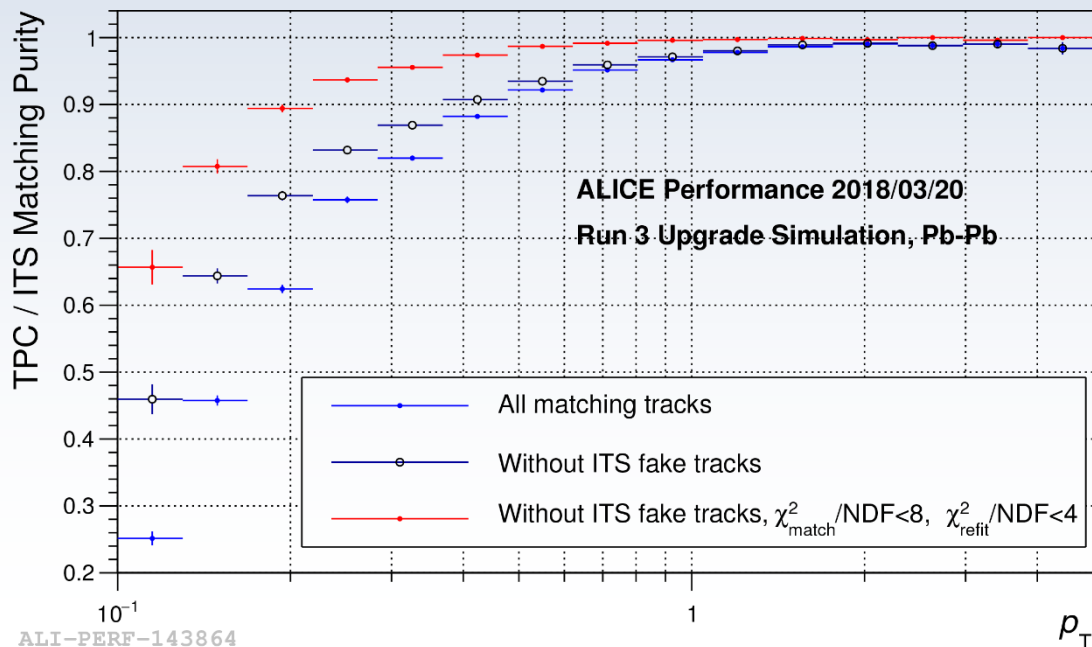
ALI-PERF-143949



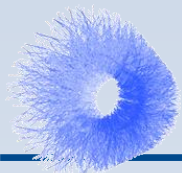
# TPC-ITS matching performance

## Work in Progress

- TPC-ITS matching for O<sup>2</sup> implemented and principally working.
  - Currently, significant amount of fake matches.
  - Unmerged loopers cause many fake matches.
  - Still working with loose time bracketing to avoid problems with inaccurate TPC vertex time estimate.



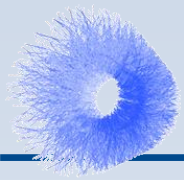
ALI-PERF-143864



# Summary

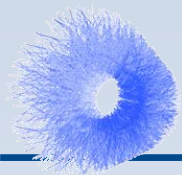
- **ALICE Run 3 upgrade is a major challenge for online computing / tracking / data compression.**
  - Improved HLT tracking used for  $O^2$ .
  - Identical resolution, equal or better efficiency compared to Run 2 offline tracking.
- **TPC tracking very robust.**
  - Length of time frame plays no role.
  - No effect until  $\mu = 100$ , negligible effect at  $\mu = 300$ , operational at reduced efficiency at  $\mu = 1000$ .
  - No significant problem with interaction rates up to **50 kHz** (only fake rate increases, should be mitigated by better merging).
  - Same resolution and efficiency for z-independent time frame tracking.
- **GPU replaces about 40 CPU cores @ 4.2 GHz (GTX 1080 v.s. Core i7 6700K).**
  - Tracking time is completely **linear** with number of TPC clusters.
  - > 20x faster than Run 2 offline tracker (on the CPU).
- **Good low- $p_T$  tracking efficiency for secondaries / loopers down to 10 MeV/c (55% at 10 MeV/c, > 80% above 30 MeV/c).**
  - Will allow rejection of significant fraction of clusters attached to tracks not used for physics.
  - Remaining clusters compressed with factor **9.1** using track model and entropy encoding, aiming for 20x total compression.
- **TPC and ITS tracking / merging available in  $O^2$  software.**
  - TRD tracking and TPC data compression being commissioned.
  - Online calibration scheme tested partially in Run 2 HLT.





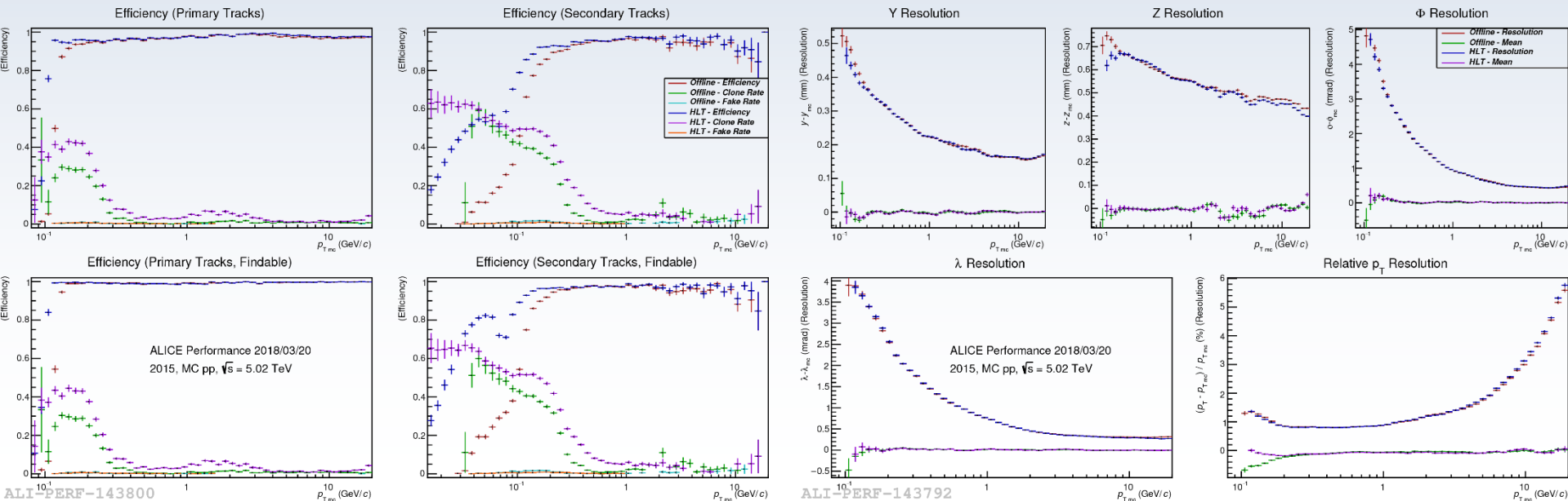
# APPENDIX

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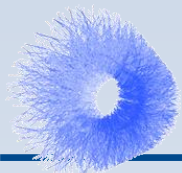
# Tracking efficiency / resolution (Run 2, HLT v.s. Offline – pp)

- For reference (same situation for pp).
  - Identical resolution.
  - Same efficiency for primaries.
  - Better efficiency for secondaries / low  $p_T$ .



ALI-PERF-143800

ALI-PERF-143792



# TPC Track Reconstruction Status

- **List of tracking improvements**

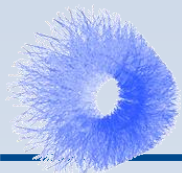
- Some improvements to tracking efficiency and resolution, in particular low- $p_T$
- Finally implemented fully z-independent tracking for  $O^2$  (can shift clusters in Z, assuming it is a primary pointing to the vertex at  $Z = 0$ ).
- Finally performed tuning of cluster rejection.
- Using offline error parameterization.
- Some features needed for  $O^2$  TPC-ITS matching.
- Finalized work on 3-way track fit with full 3d magnetic field parameterization.
- Full  $O^2$  / HLT tracking available in official ALICE repositories and default build.
- Outer TPC parameters available in HLT farm for TRD tracking.

- **Still missing:**

- Full low- $p_T$  merging still not implemented (clone rate higher than before due to better efficiency).
- Prolongation and merging across central electrode.
- Attaching all adjacent clusters to tracks – for looper rejection and better track model compression.
- Test HLT tracking with run 3 distortions.
- Update of compression prototype / retest compression in run 3 scenario.

- **Related:**

- Work on calibration / transformation framework ( $O^2$  needs tracking in pad, row, time  $\rightarrow$  transformation during the tracking on GPU).
- TPC Online Calibration could now provide histograms for TPC online QA.



# TPC Track Reconstruction Status

- **In summary: what has changed:**

- With all the recent tuning, in particular cluster rejection, and usage of offline cluster error parameterization, HLT / O<sup>2</sup> TPC tracking reaches equal resolution as offline track reconstruction (in overall plot, special cases like tracks going through the dead zone might still be different).
- Track fit time increases significantly (3-way fit, etc.), but still faster than track finding – and room for tuning.
- Full TPC tracking available in O<sup>2</sup> in official repository, used for TPC / ITS matching.
- All major apparent issues solved.
  
- I'd consider this a good baseline now (having the same resolution as offline in Run 2).
  - From now, we go on and optimize for Run 3 – we only need to maintain the resolution and we'll be as good as today.

- **The following plots...**

- ...basically repeat all of the comparisons shown during last offline weeks / tracking presentations / conferences, using the most recent tracking version.
- Many artifacts seen before have vanished.
- Findable TPC tracks for efficiency are required to have at least 70 TPC hits (other tracks need to have at least 1 TPC hit).
- Cuts are  $|\eta| < 0.9$ ,  $p_T > 200$  MeV/c.
- The comparison plot to offline applies in addition to the standard cuts from AliPerformanceRes/AliPerformanceEff.
- All plots use same calibration / error parameterization from Offline also for HLT.
- Comparing pure tracking algorithm.
- dE/dx and related features (x-talk / ion tail) disabled in offline for direct comparison (affects only dE/dx and timing, but not resolution.)