

# *B*-tagging at LEP and SLC

G. Borissov,  
Lancaster University, UK

3<sup>rd</sup> FCC Physics and Experiments Workshop  
CERN, 16 January 2020

# Introduction

- Flavour physics, which studies both the production and properties of quark flavours in various processes, is an essential part of a physics program of all past and future collider experiments
- Experiments at LEP and SLC pioneered the development of a special tool generically called *b-tagging*, which aimed to separate heavy ( $b$  and  $c$ ) and light ( $u, d, s$ ) quarks
- The main principle behind this development is providing a universal, efficient, and reliable method of flavour separation, which can be used in various applications

# Introduction

- Several important ideas and technical solutions in  $b$ -tagging were put forward and implemented by the dedicated work of many people in five collaborations ALEPH, DELPHI, L3, OPAL, and SLD (will be called ADLOS in the following)
- The experience gained at  $e^+e^-$  colliders provides a solid basis for the development of  $b$ -tagging at LHC. It can also be useful for the future experiments at FCC

# Introduction

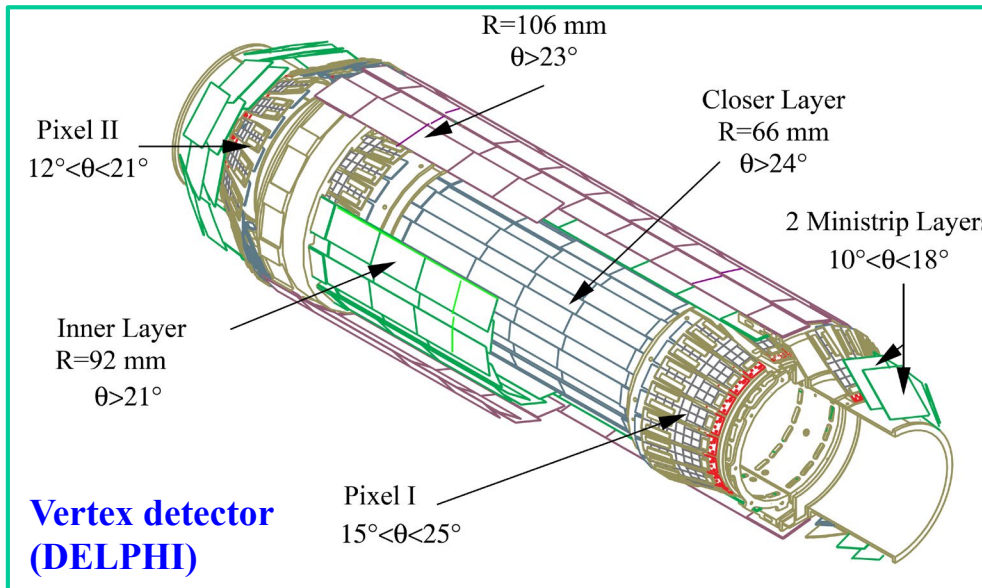
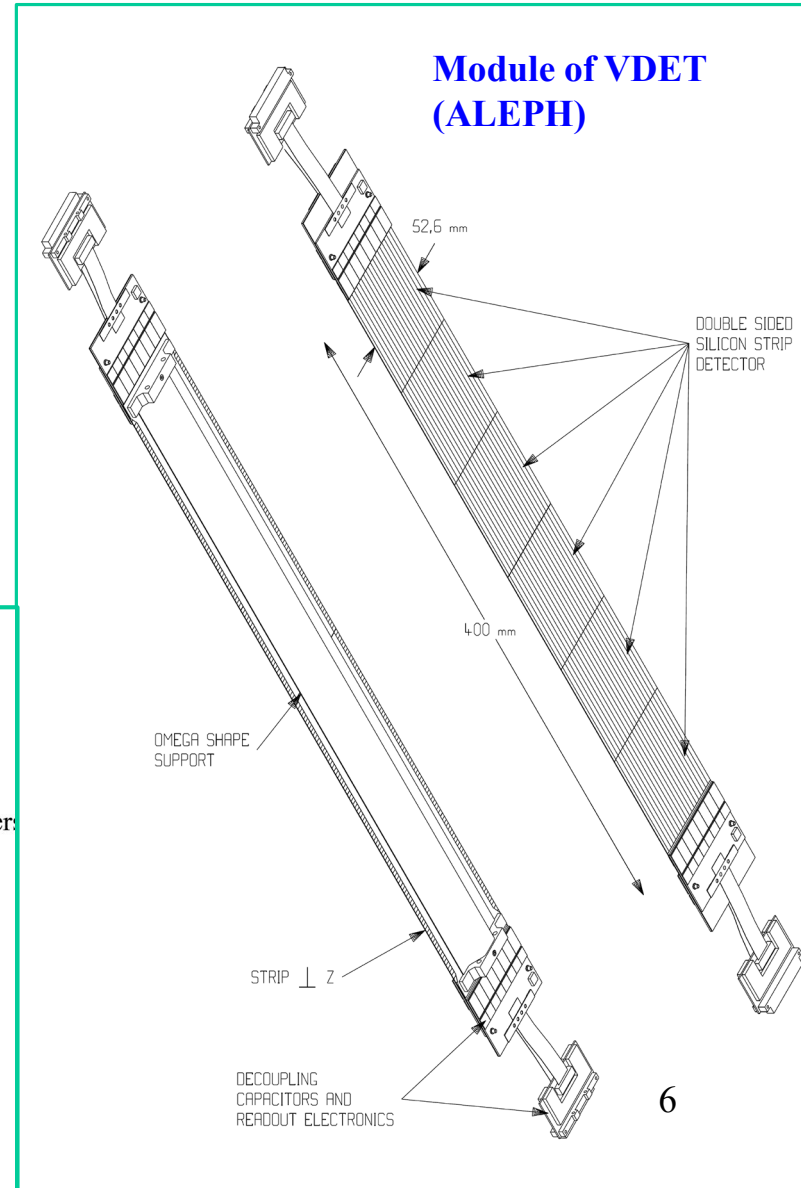
- The aim of this talk is
  - to summarise the achievements of  $b$ -tagging at LEP and SLD
  - to underline the main ideas of  $b$ -tagging developed at LEP and SLC
  - to draw some conclusions, which can be important for the design of flavour tagging algorithms at FCC

# Instrumental ingredients

- Essential instrumental ingredients for  $b$ -tagging, which largely determine its performance, are
  - Vertex detector
  - Beam interaction point (beam spot)

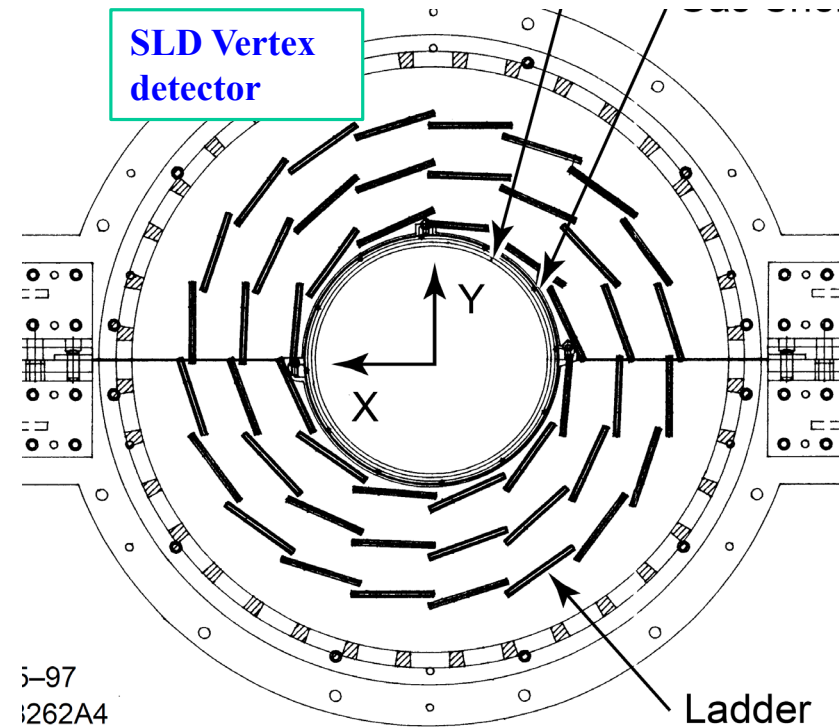
# Vertex detectors

- At LEP, vertex detectors were based on (double sided) silicon micro-strip detectors
  - 2 layers in ALEPH, L3, OPAL
  - 3 layers in DELPHI
- SLD used CCD detectors which measure space points



# Essential parameters

- The quality of  $b$ -tagging depends on
  - Number of layers of vertex detector
  - Distance to the interaction point of the first layer
    - Especially important for the impact parameter (IP) resolution
  - Distance between the first and last layers
  - Detector resolution
    - Determines the IP resolution



# Essential parameters

- The properties of vertex detectors at LEP were similar
  - $R\phi$  resolution was better because of the properties of vertex detectors
- The IP resolution in SLD was superior because of a better hit resolution of CCD and smaller radius of the first layer

Table taken from: ADLOS Coll., hep-ex/0509008

Parameter	ALEPH	DELPHI	L3	OPAL	SLD
Number of layers	2	3	2	2	3
Radius of layers (cm)	6.5/11.3	6.3/9/11	6.2/7.7	6.1/7.5	2.7 – 4.8
$R\phi$ IP resolution ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	25	20	30	16	8
Rz IP resolution ( $\mu\text{m}$ )		30	100	35	10

– note: the IP resolution is given for 45 GeV muons



# Beam Spot

- The size of the beam spot (beam crossing area) is essential for  $b$ -tagging

- At LEP, the typical beam-spot size was

$$\sigma_x \approx 150 \mu m, \sigma_y \approx 10 \mu m$$

- At SLC, the beam-spot size was

$$\sigma_x \approx 4 \mu m, \sigma_y \approx 4 \mu m$$

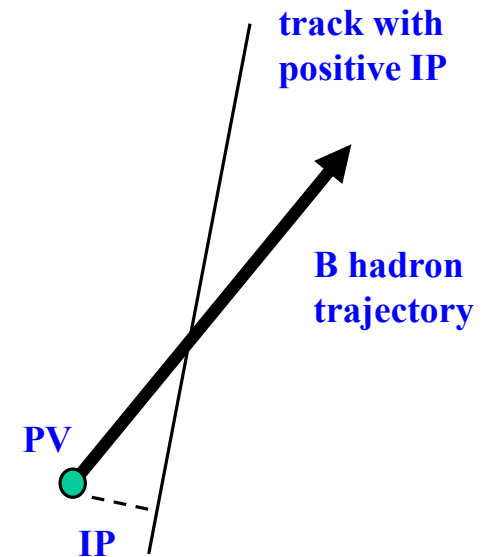
- These parameters and the precision of the tracking detector determine the precision of the primary vertex (PV) reconstruction

- LEP:  $\sigma_x \approx 60 - 80 \mu m, \sigma_y \approx 10 \mu m, \sigma_z \approx 60 - 100 \mu m$

- SLD:  $\sigma_x \approx 4 \mu m, \sigma_y \approx 4 \mu m, \sigma_z \approx 17 \mu m$

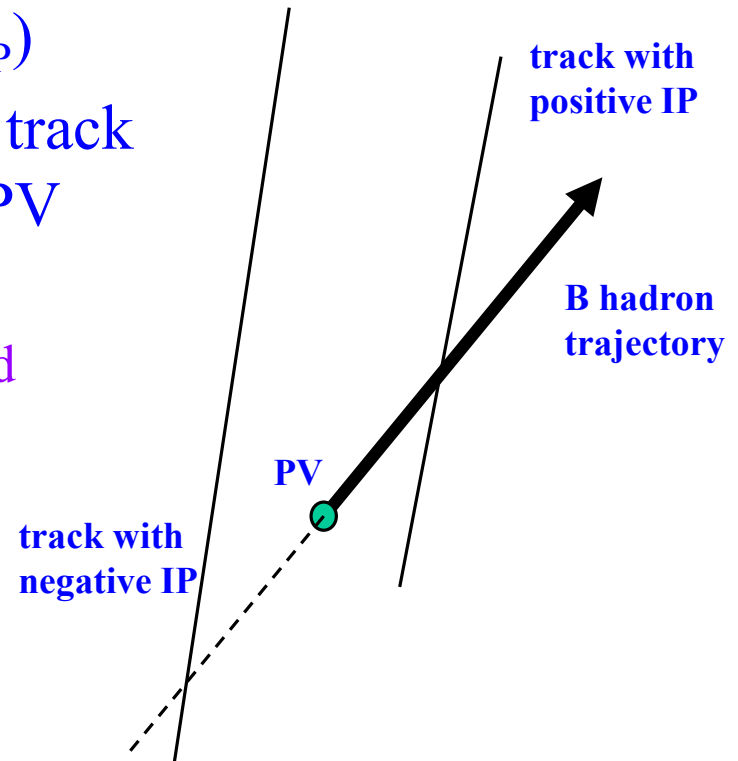
# Impact parameter

- The main properties of  $B$  hadrons allowing their separation from light hadrons are
  - the displaced decay vertex
  - large mass
  - large decay multiplicity
- Because of these properties  $B$ -hadron decays produce many charged tracks with large impact parameter (IP)
  - IP is defined as the distance of closest approach of the track to PV
  - typical value of IP for  $B$ -decay products is  $\sim 300 \mu\text{m}$  to be compared to the IP resolution  $\sim 8\text{-}30 \mu\text{m}$  (in  $R\phi$  plane)



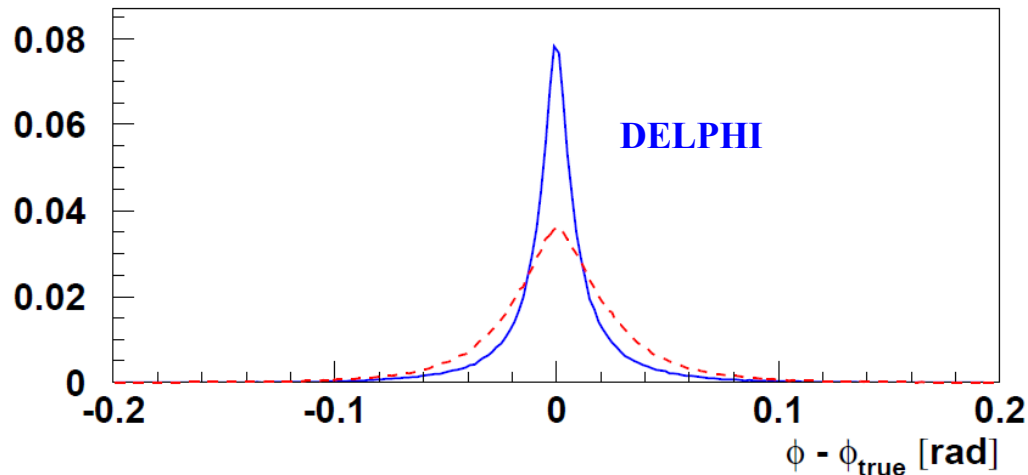
# Track significance

- Typical quantity used for b-tagging is the lifetime-signed track significance ( $IP/\sigma_{IP}$ )
- Lifetime sign of IP is positive if the track crosses the trajectory of  $B$  hadron after PV
  - Many tracks from  $B$  decay have positive IP
  - Tracks with negative IP are mainly produced in PV and their IP is due to detector resolution



# Direction of $B$ hadron

- To determine the lifetime sign, the direction of the decaying  $B$  hadron should be known
- Usually, it is approximated by the direction of the jet
- If the position of the decay vertex (SV) is known, the direction from PV to SV is used

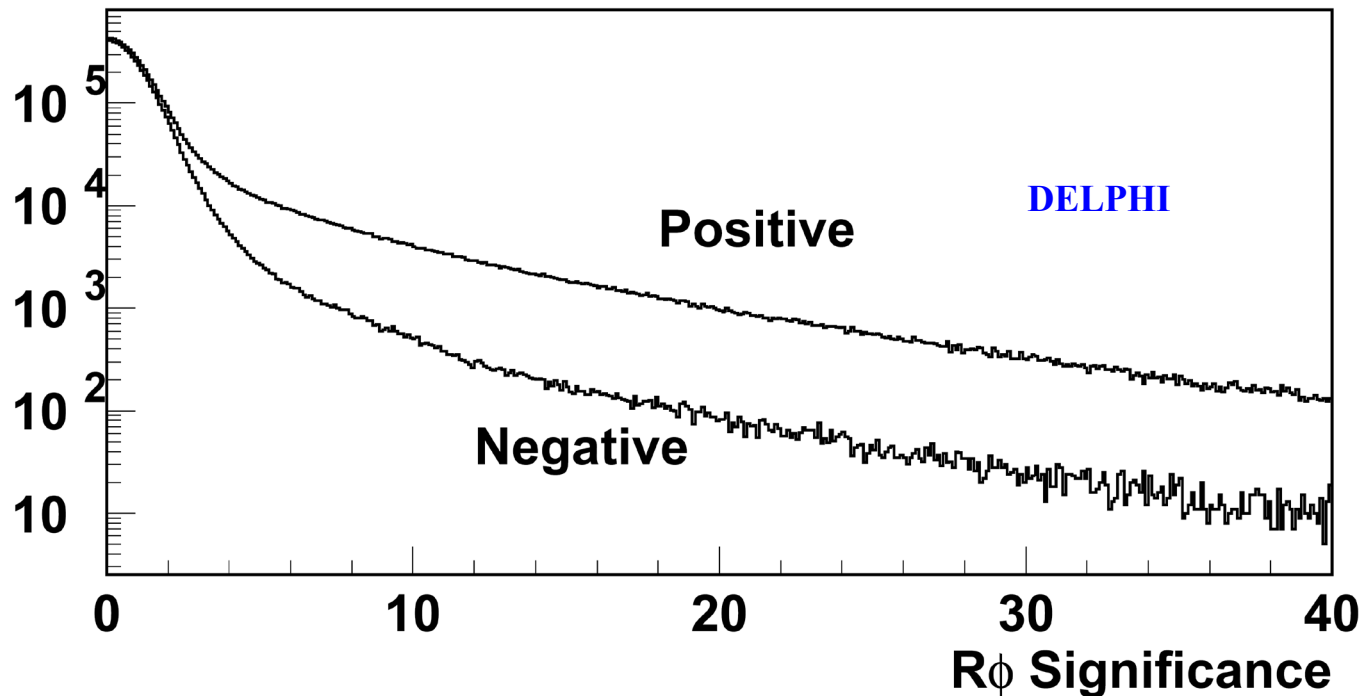


Solid line – direction from PV to SV is used as the direction of B hadron

Dashed line – direction of jet is used as the direction of B hadron

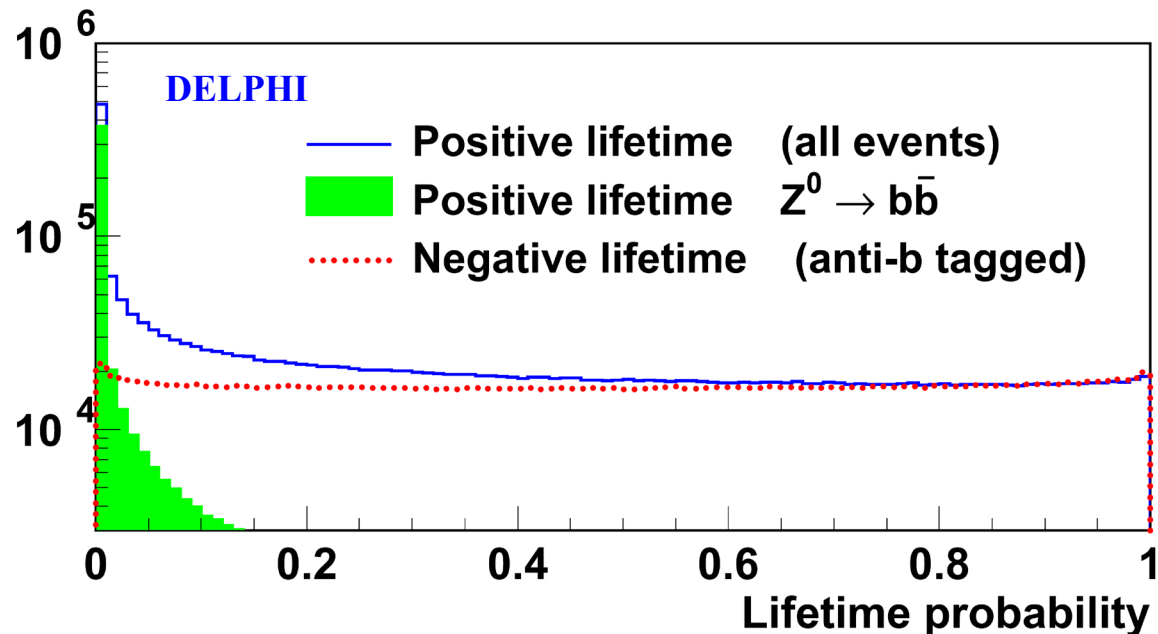
# Lifetime sign

- Lifetime sign provides a clear discrimination between the tracks from  $B$  hadrons and from background
  - Significance of tracks with negative IP is mainly determined by the resolution and can be used for the calibration of  $b$ -tagging



# Lifetime probability

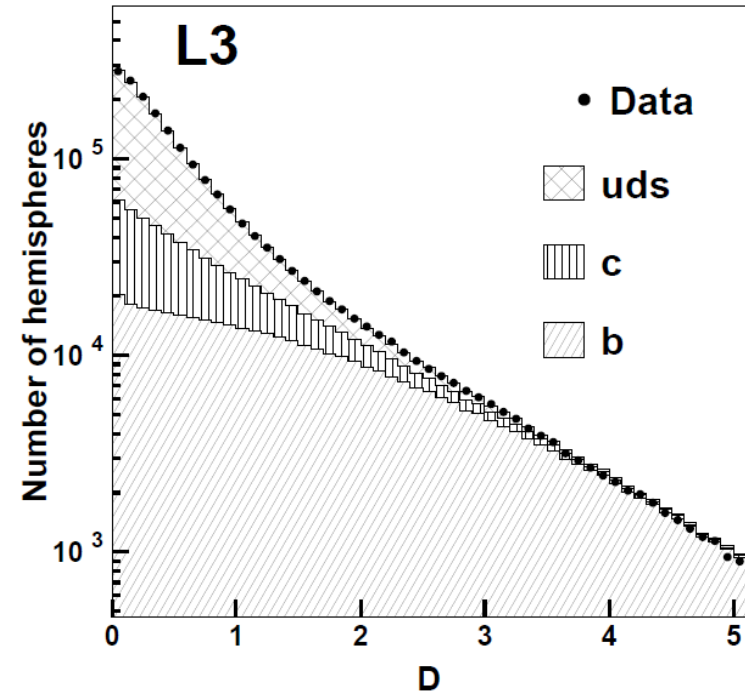
- $B$  hadrons produce many tracks with large positive IP
- An original idea to combine all available information into a single variable was proposed by ALEPH (Phys. Lett., B313 (1993) 535)
- They build a single variable  $P$ , which gives the probability for a group of tracks to come from the primary interaction
  - flat distribution between 0 and 1 if all tracks in the group come from the PV
  - If some tracks come from  $B$  decays the distribution peaks at zero



# Lifetime probability

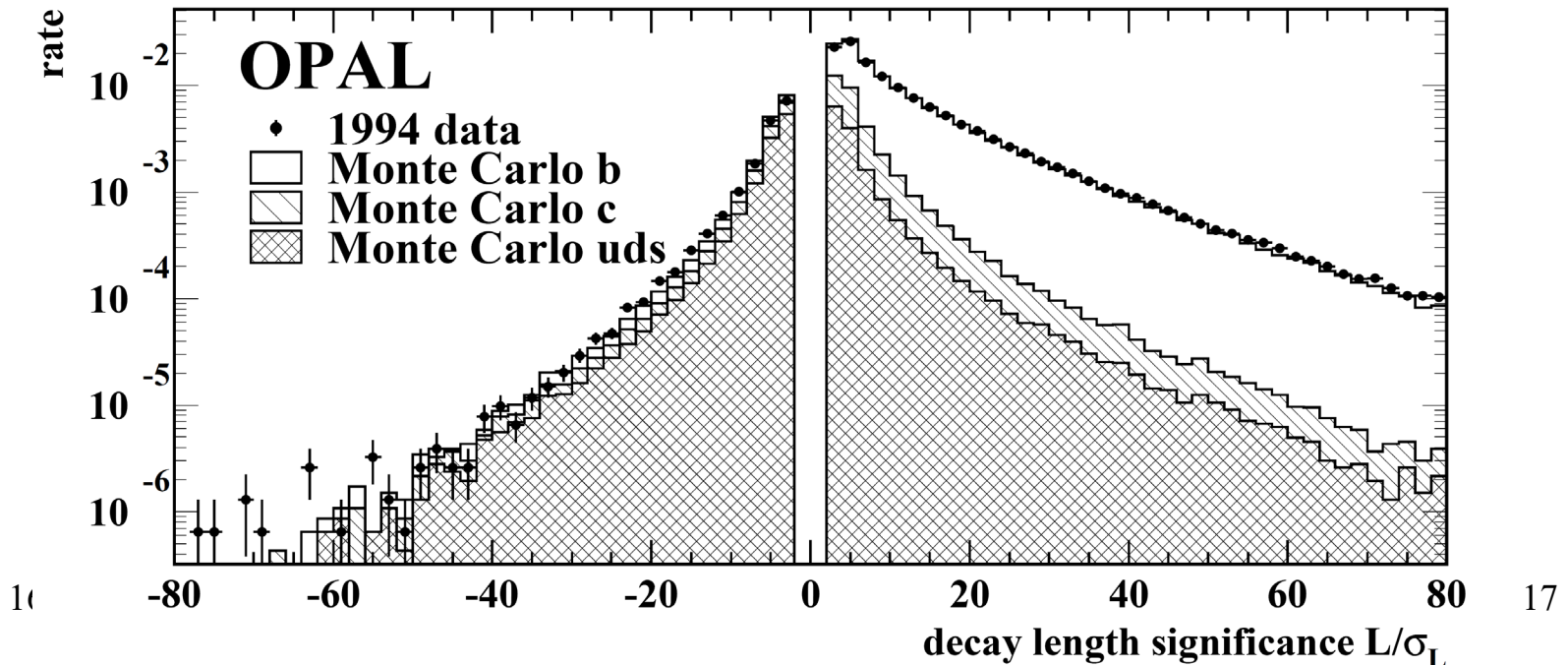
$-\log(P)$  in  $\Gamma(Z^0 \rightarrow b\bar{b})/\Gamma(Z^0 \rightarrow had)$  measurement

- Lifetime probability
  - Has simple and transparent meaning
  - Can be defined for any group of tracks (jet, hemisphere, event)
  - Very powerful and robust: no other combination of IP information gives a better separation between B and light hadrons
- Lifetime probability was a core variable of  $b$ -tagging in ALEPH, DELPHI, and L3



# Secondary vertex

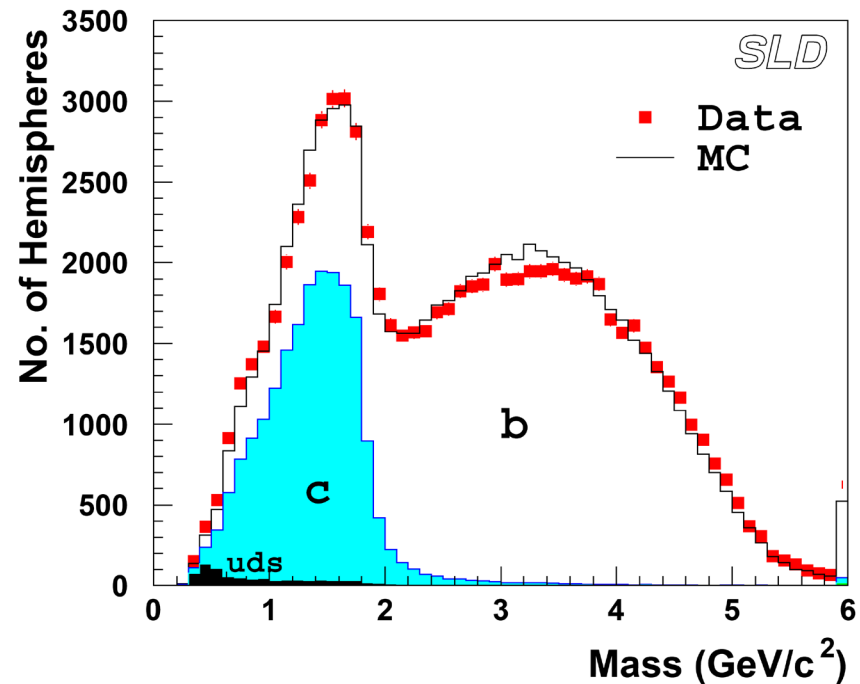
- OPAL based  $b$ -tagging on the secondary vertex (SV) reconstruction
  - Reconstruct SV using all track in a jet and progressively remove outliers
  - Use  $L/\sigma_L$  as a discriminating variable
  - Sign  $L/\sigma_L$  according to the relative positions of primary and secondary vertices





# Secondary vertex

- $b$ -tagging of SLD was also based on SV reconstruction
- Because of high quality of vertex detector and small beam-spot size, the reconstruction of SV in SLD was especially clean and efficient
- They used the mass of SV as the tagging variable
- They also included the neutral decay product in the computation of the mass

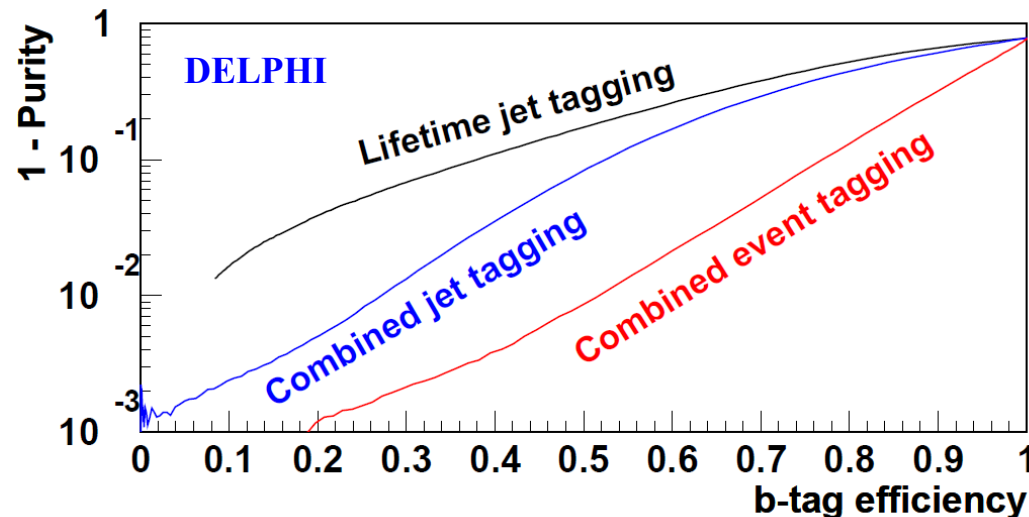


# Combined $b$ -tagging

- $b$ -tagging based on IP is efficient in suppressing light quarks
- However,  $c$ -hadrons also have lifetime. Hence, the separation of  $c$ - and  $b$ -quarks is less clean
- To overcome this difficulty, the experiments at LEP and SLC used additional variables, which have different distributions for  $c$ - and  $b$ -quarks
  - mass and multiplicity of SV
  - momentums of tracks

# Combined $b$ -tagging

- Different methods of combination of discriminating variables were used
  - SLD and OPAL used neural networks
  - DELPHI combined variables using the likelihood ratio technique
  - ALEPH used a linear sum of the lifetime probability and the second mass-sensitive variable
  - L3 used just the lifetime probability
- Combined  $b$ -tagging always demonstrated a much better performance



# Performance of $b$ -tagging

- The benchmark process to compare the performance of  $b$ -tagging is the measurement of  $\Gamma(Z^0 \rightarrow b\bar{b})/\Gamma(Z^0 \rightarrow had)$
- At LEP the best performance was in DELPHI
- Still, the performance of SLD is much better

Table taken from: ADLOS Coll., hep-ex/0509008

	ALEPH	DELPHI	L3	OPAL	SLD
$b$ purity (%)	97.8	98.6	84.3	96.7	98.3
$b$ efficiency (%)	22.7	29.6	23.7	25.5	61.8

- All numbers are given for the tagging of a single  $b$ -quark
- Many other measurements used the  $b$ -tagging

# Some lessons to learn

- SLD collaboration achieved the best b-tagging performance because of several ingredients
  - Pixels instead of strips in the vertex detector
  - Position the first layer was as close as possible to the interaction point
  - Small size of the beam spot
  - These ingredients are essential for a successful b-tagging in future experiments
- Lifetime probability developed at LEP is a very robust and transparent discriminating variable. It can be used as the basis of b-tagging in future experiments

# Some lessons to learn

- To improve the quality of  $b$ -tagging, and in particular, the separation between  $c$ - and  $b$ -quarks, the discriminating variables based on the properties of secondary vertex (mass, multiplicity) should be used
- The combination of all discriminating variables is a matter of taste
  - neural network is the most straightforward approach
  - other possibilities can be tried