



Particle identification and tracking with timing detectors in ALICE and LHCb in Run 5

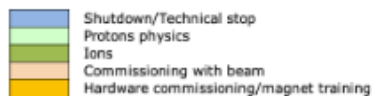
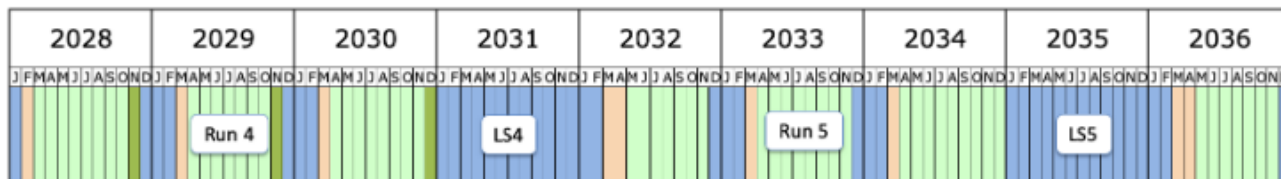
Stefania Bufalino

Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare and
Politecnico di Torino

on behalf of the ALICE and LHCb Collaborations



HL-LHC an amazing opportunity



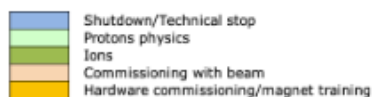
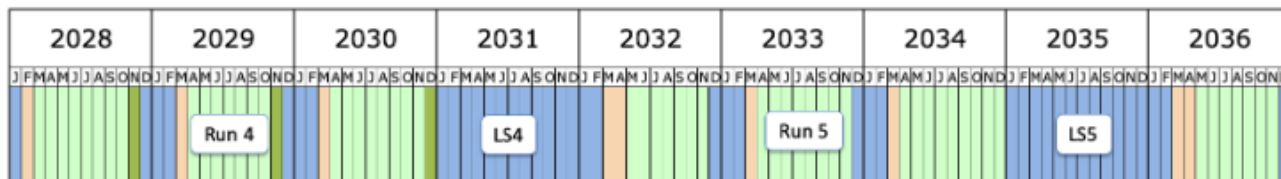
Link to [LHC schedule](#)

- HL-LHC will run from 2025 to ~ 2040
- Detector construction typically 5+ years before shutdown **for installation–R&D** for LS4 (**LS5**) projects **over next five (ten) years**

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link to [LHC schedule](#)



Physics programme limited by the detectors
Use of timing is key strategy to overcome challenges



Expression of Interest and a Physics Case

[\[CERN-LHCC-2017-003\]](#) [\[CERN-LHCC-2018-027\]](#)

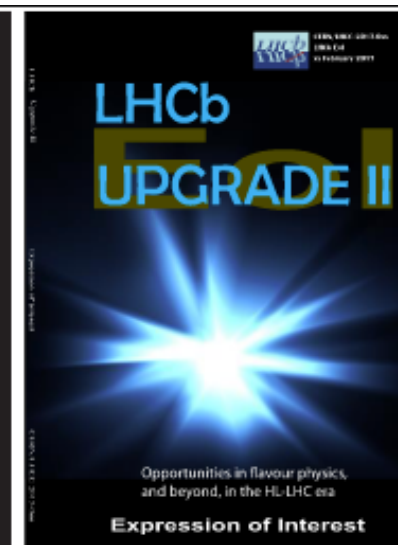
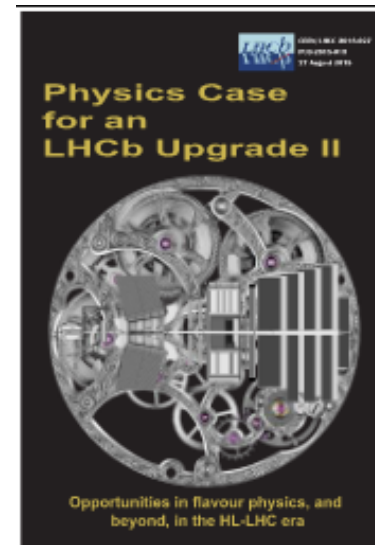
LHCb Upgrade II

Mentioned in the Physics Briefing book for the 2020

[European Strategy Particle Physics](#): "The LHCb Upgrade II...will enable a wide range of flavour observables to be determined at HL-LHC with unprecedented precision»

How?

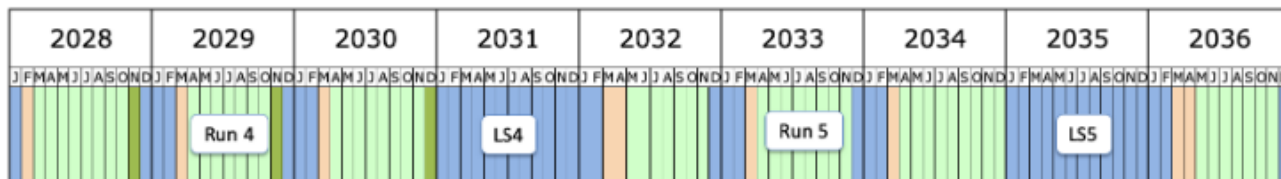
- install a new detector for the beginning of Run 5
- operate at $\mathcal{L} \sim 1.5 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
- collect 250 fb^{-1}



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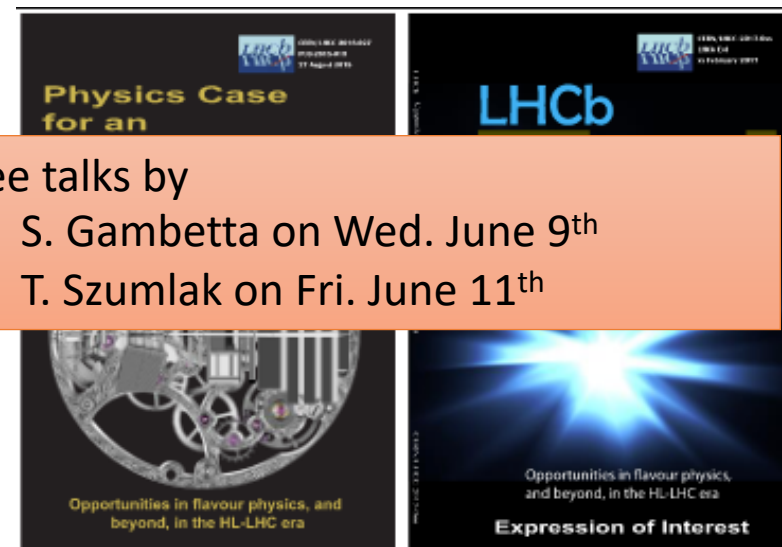
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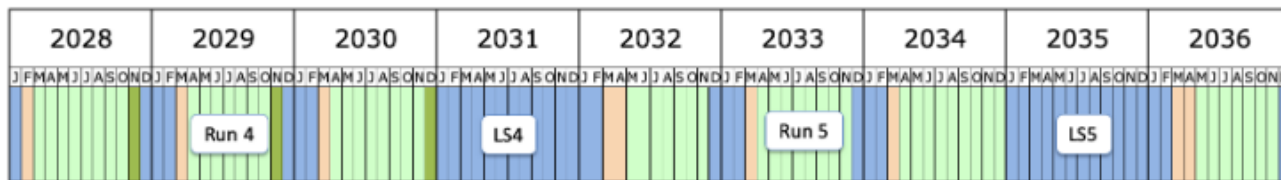
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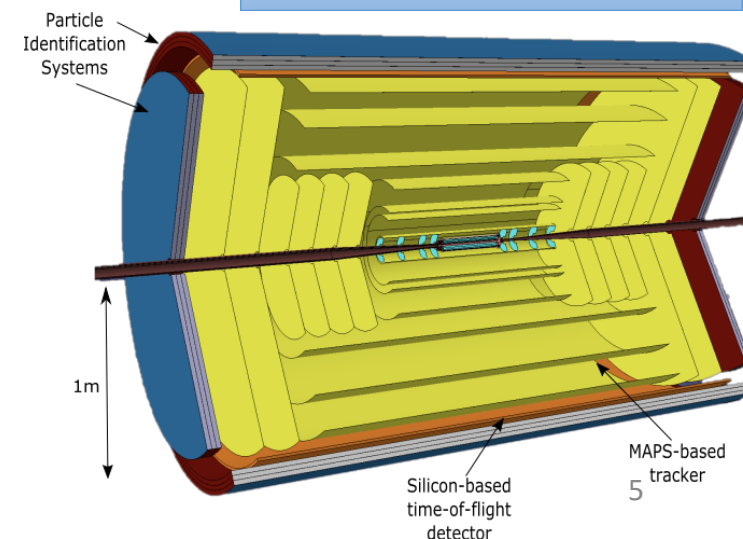
"Ambition to design a new experiment to continue with a rich heavy-ion programme at the HL-LHC" mentioned in the [Update of the European strategy for particle physics](#)

2019: first document outlining possible concepts and physics opportunities
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1902.01211>

How?

- Increase rate capabilities: luminosities x20-x50 higher than in ALICE in Run 3-4 ($\langle L_{NN} \rangle \sim \text{up to } 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$)
- Improve vertexing: innermost layers possibly inside beam pipe
- Tracking over a wide momentum range (down to a few tens of MeV/c) and rapidity coverage ($|\eta| \leq 4$)

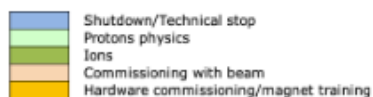
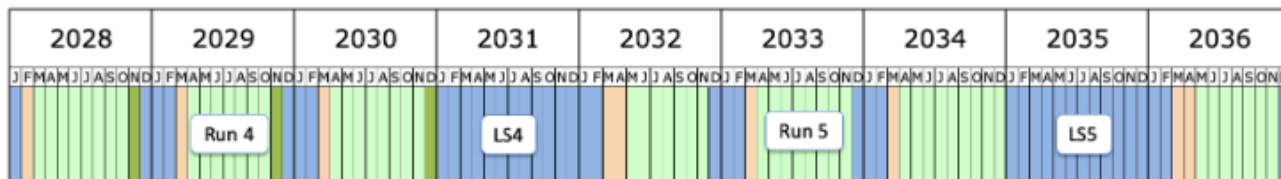
ALICE 3



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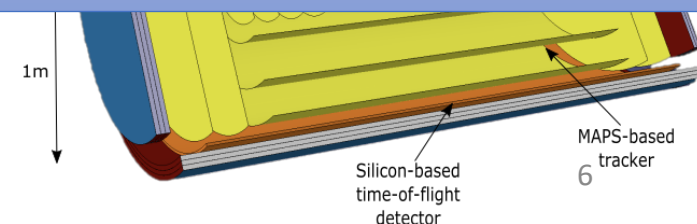
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ALICE 3



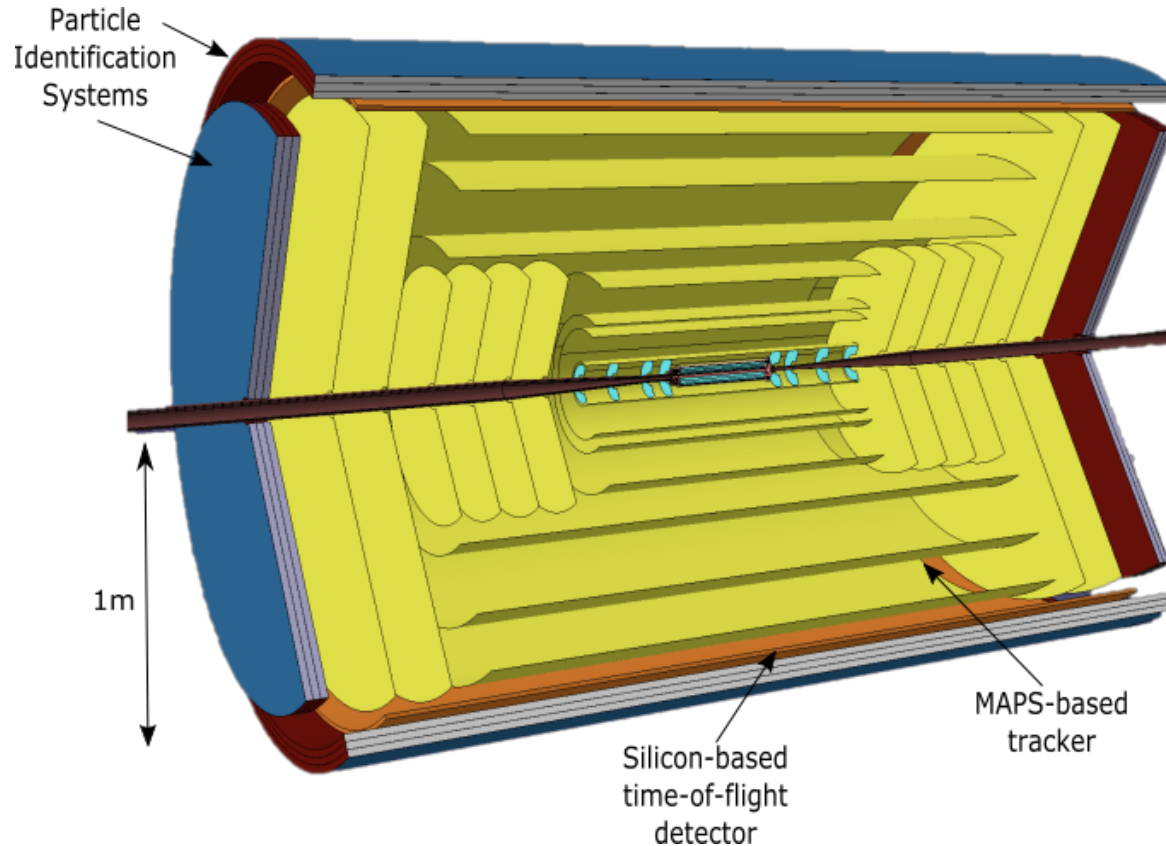
See talks by

- A. Uras on Mon. June 7th
- G. Contin on Wed. June 9th
- C. Lippmann on Fri. June 11th



A next heavy ion generation experiment

ALICE 3: compact layout



physics goals drive detector requirements

Physics Potential

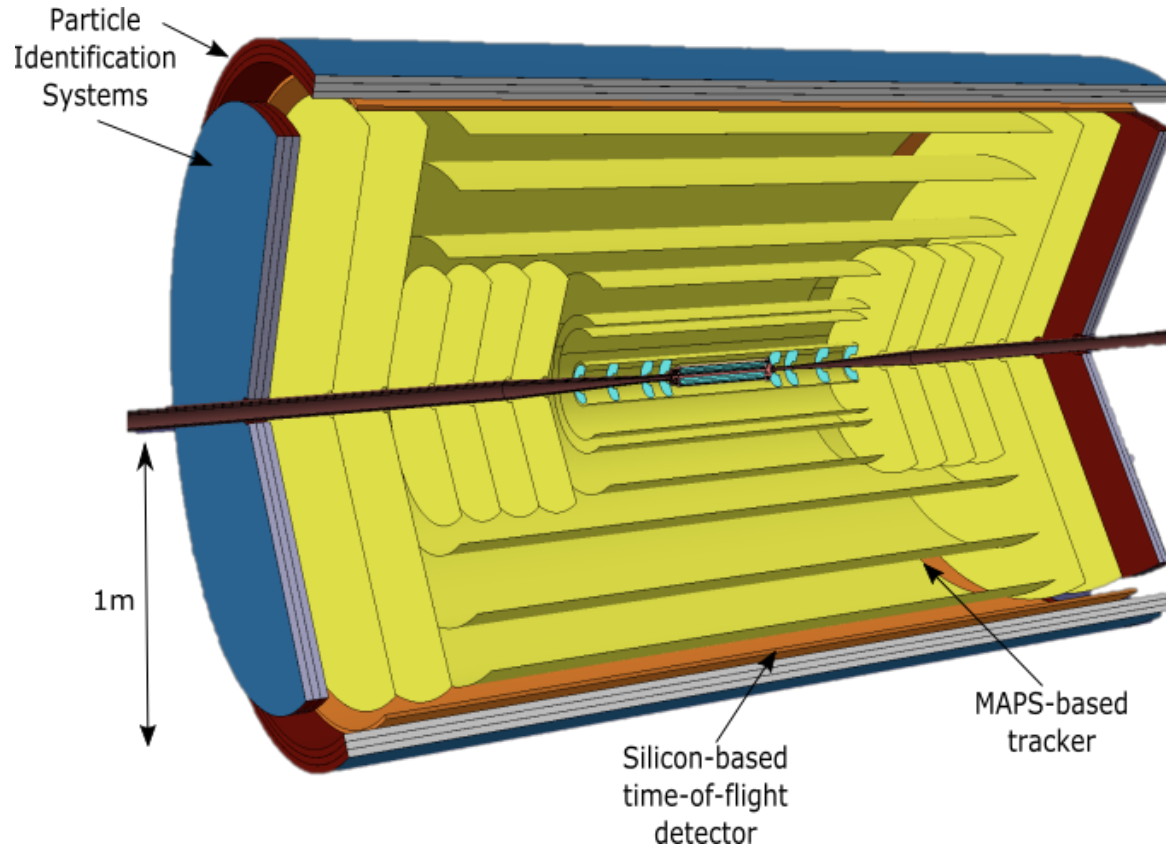
- Access doubly and triply heavy-quark hadrons
- Precise dielectron measurements
- Soft and ultra-soft photons



Unprecedented insight into QGP world:
heavy-quark coalescence, medium temperature,
chiral-symmetry restoration

A next heavy ion generation experiment

ALICE 3: compact layout



physics goals drive detector requirements

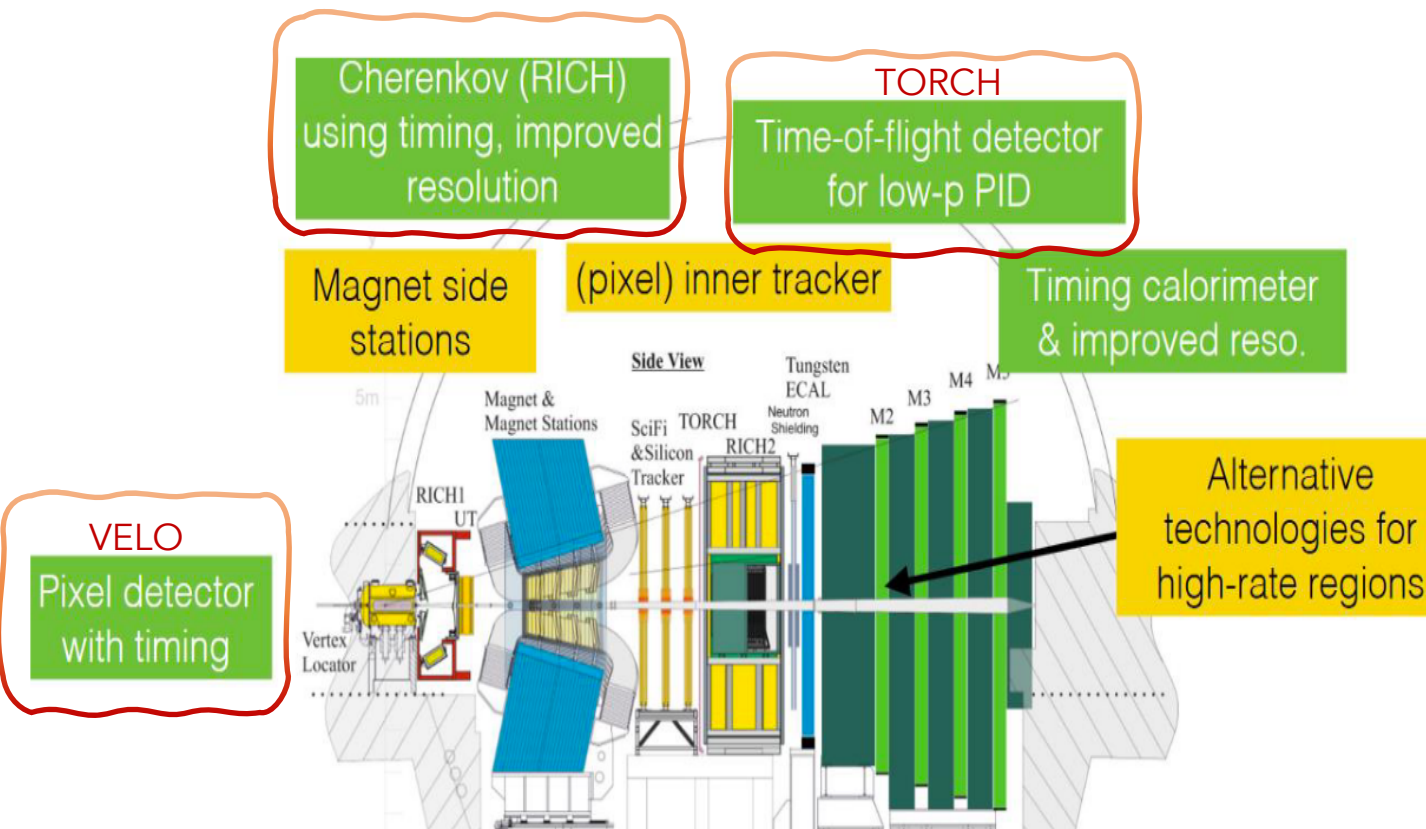
- **Large acceptance:** truly-cylindrical layers + endcaps ($|\eta| < 4$ coverage)
- **Low mass tracker:**
 - ~ 12 tracking barrel layers based on CMOS sensors
 - $\sim 0.1\%$ X_0 vertexing layers
 - $\sim 1\%$ X_0 tracking layers
- **High resolution**
 - $< 3\ \mu\text{m}$ vertexing layers
 - $\sim 10\ \mu\text{m}$ tracking layers
- **Particle ID:**
 - Silicon **TOF for hadron and low p_T electron ID with $\sim 20\ \text{ps}$ timing resolution**
 - Shower Pixel Detector for photons and high p_T

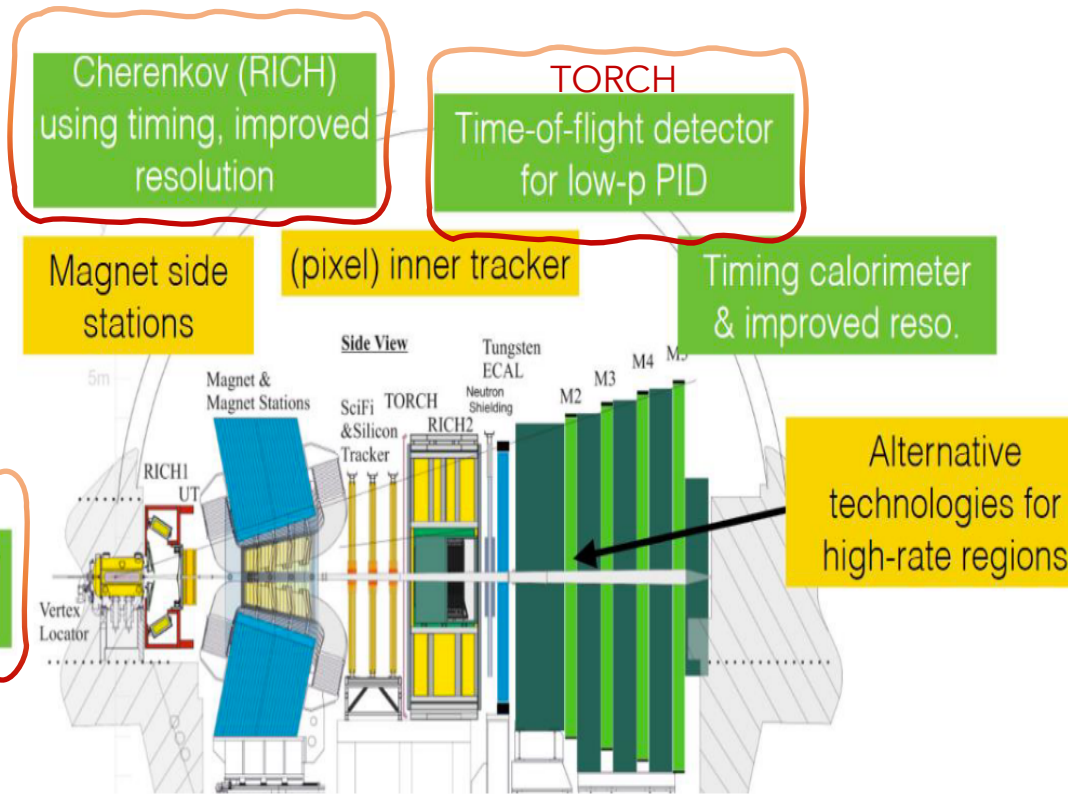
Timing is the key!

Physics Potential

- Improvement in sensitivities for selected CP-violating observables
- Improvement in sensitivities for selected rare decays and lepton-universality tests

Experimental sensitivity to New Physics scales several orders of magnitude above those accessible to direct searches





TORCH

- large area time of flight detector to provide **PID in the GeV/c momentum range**
- exploit prompt production of Cherenkov light in a quartz radiator plate to provide a fast timing signal.
- aim for a **resolution of 10-15 ps per track**

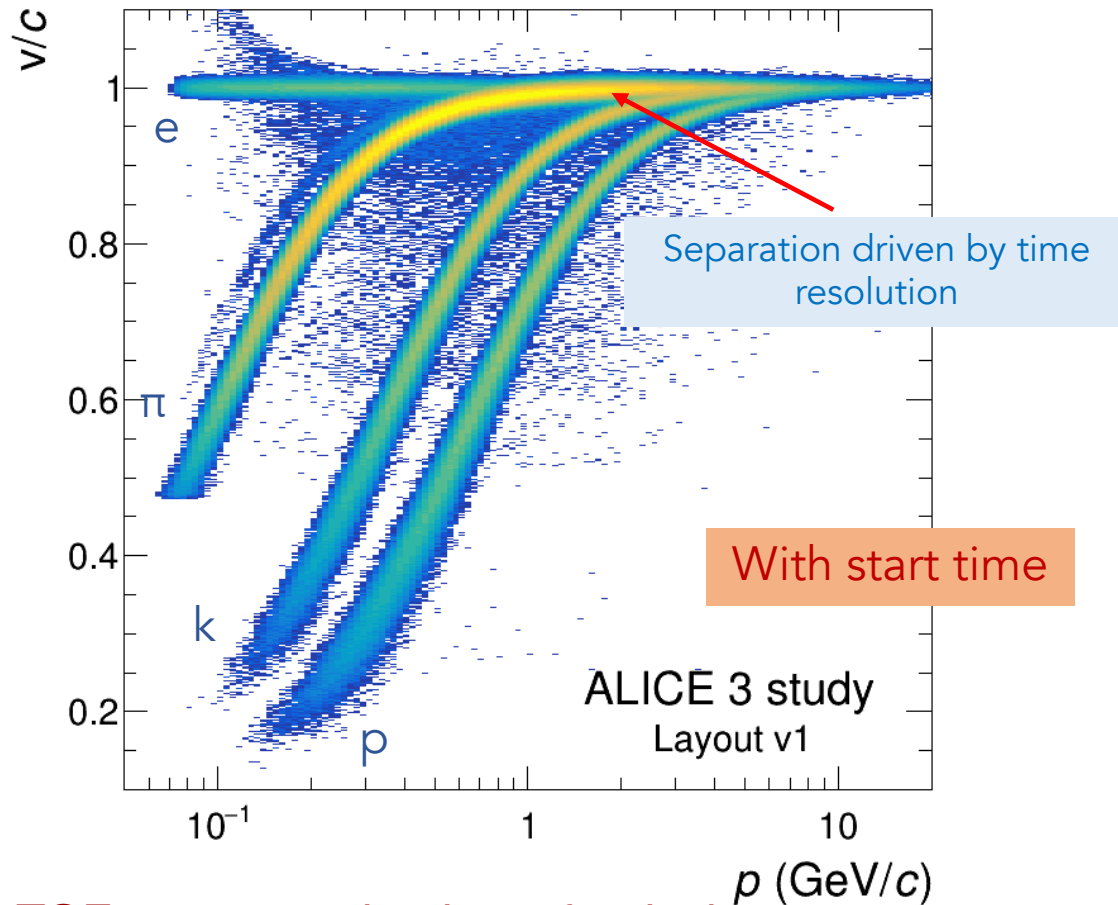
VELO

- 7.5 times more pile-up than upgrade I
- reduce fraction of fake tracks with 4D tracking
- **timing to remove effective pile-up (timestamp required ~ 50 ps) and to improve PV reconstruction**

RICH Detectors

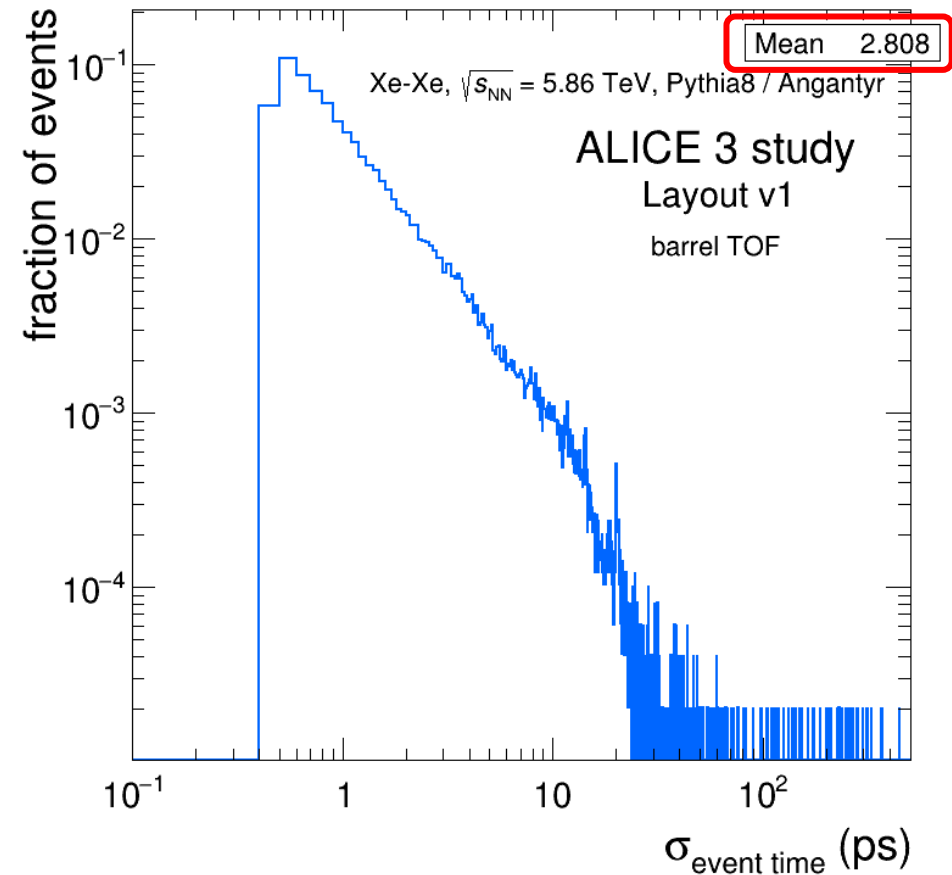
- current detectors would have 100% occupancy
- timing allows to recover loss of PID performance
- **possible time resolution of ~ 100 ps**

Timing is the key!



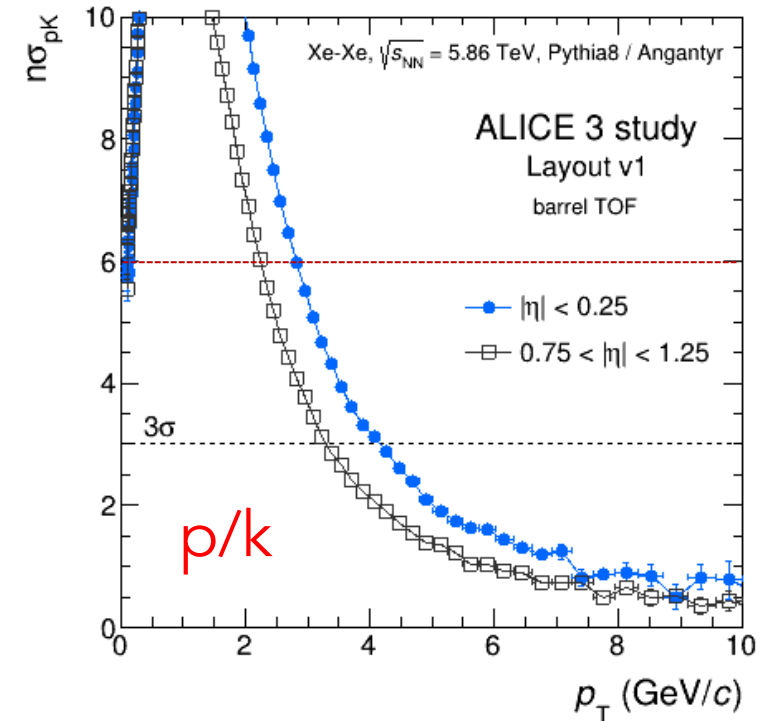
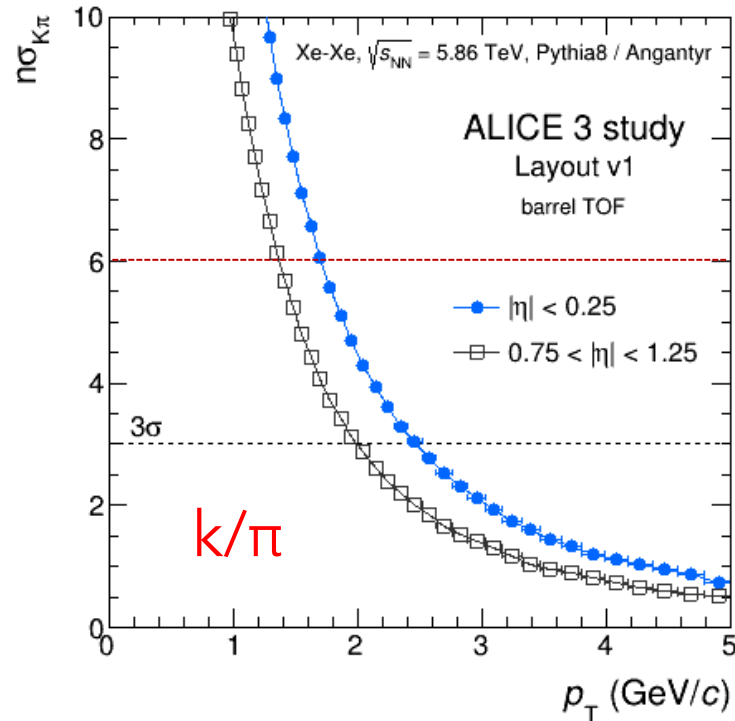
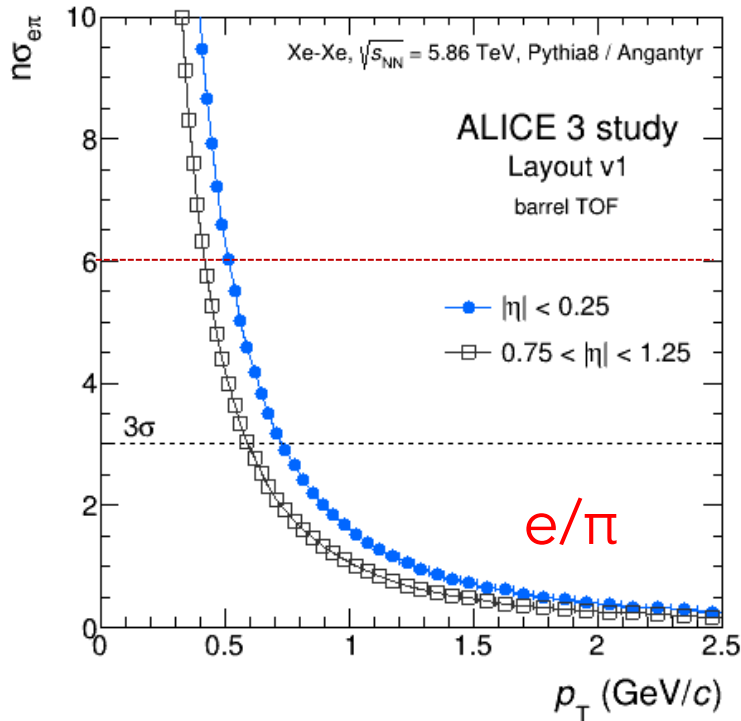
TOF measures the time of arrival

- needs start time for good PID performance
- collision time jitter ~ 300 ps (9 cm bunch length)



TOF can measure the event time

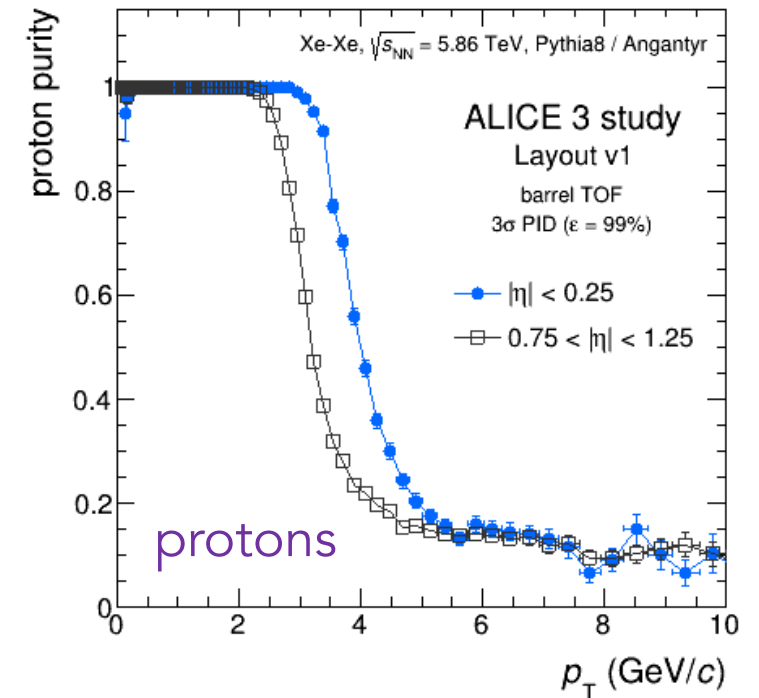
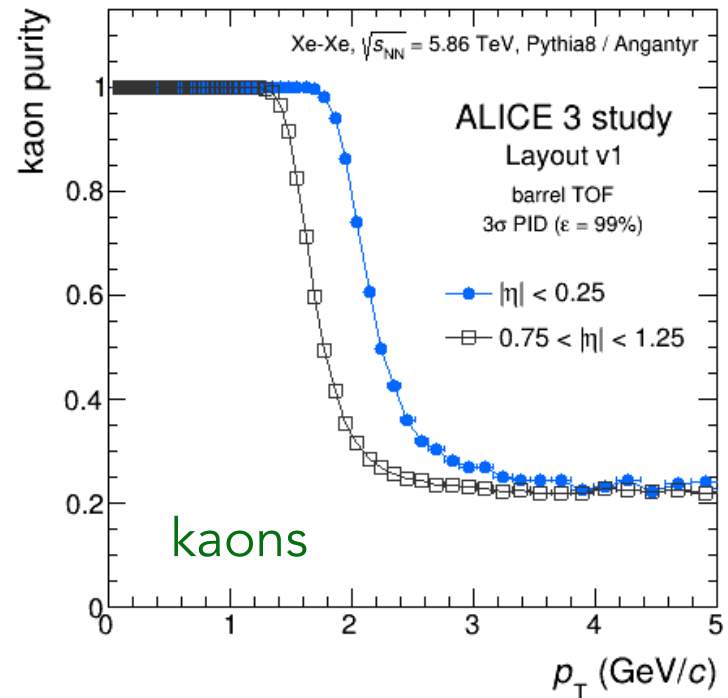
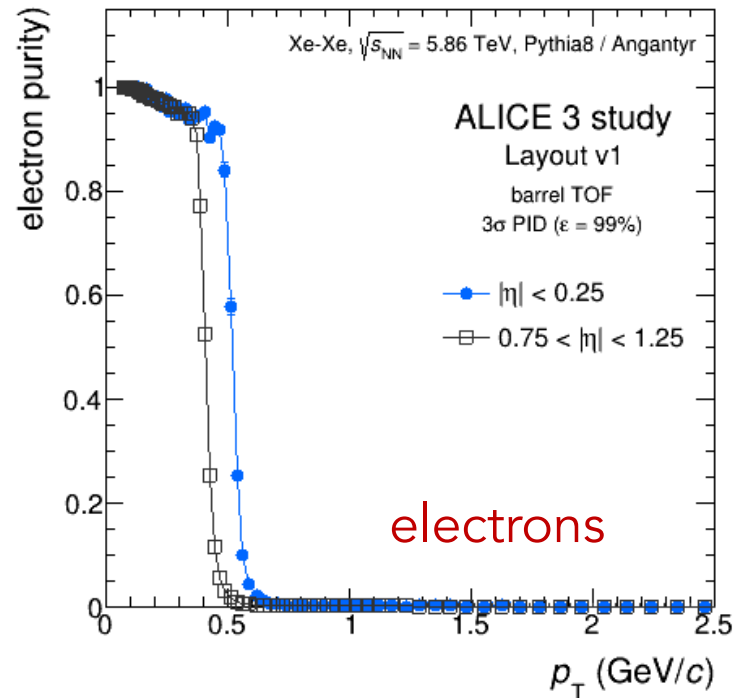
- combinatorial algorithm (min. 2 tracks)
- resolution $\propto 1 / \sqrt{N_{\text{tracks}}}$



- B = 0.2 T, $|\eta| < 0.25$ and $0.75 < \eta < 1.25$
- Straight track approximation
- 20 ps time of flight resolution at R = 1 m

3σ (6σ) separation at $|\eta| < 0.25$ up to

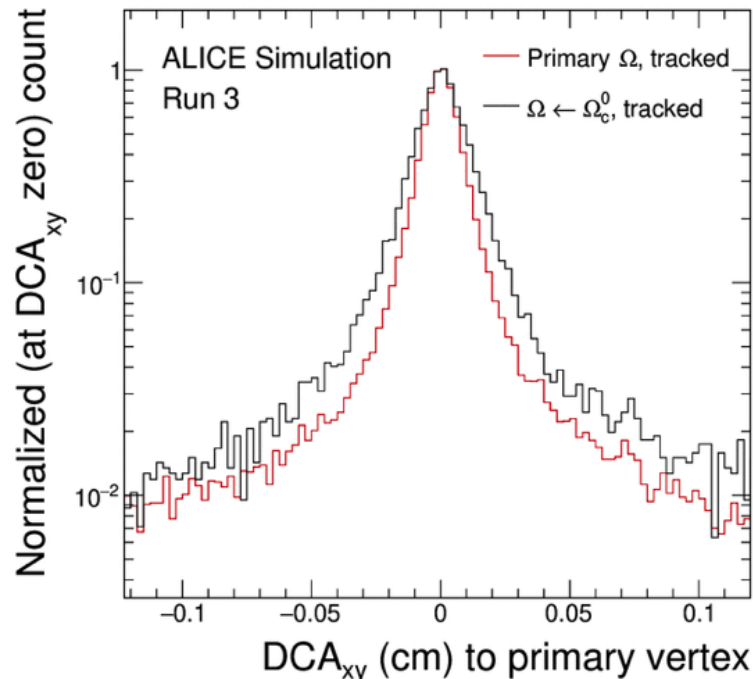
- e/π ~ 750 (600) MeV/c
- k/π ~ 2.6 (1.9) GeV/c
- p/k ~ 4.2 (3.2) GeV/c



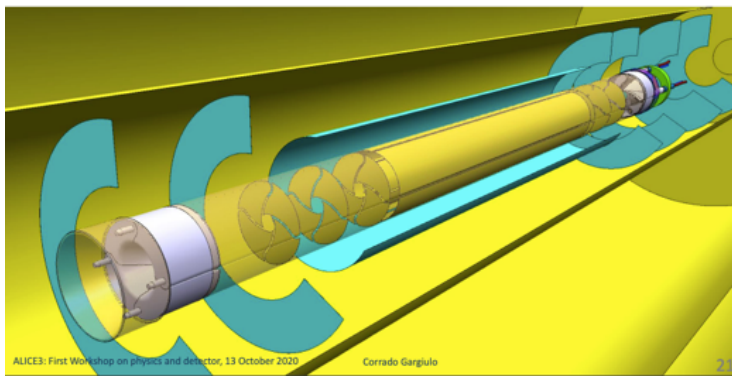
- 0.1% mismatch rate assumed in the simulation
- detector effects and start-time included
- At $|\eta| < 0.25$ excellent performance ($>90\%$ purity) up to ~ 500 MeV/c (electrons), ~ 2 GeV/c (kaons) and ~ 4 GeV/c (protons)

ALICE 3: strangeness tracking

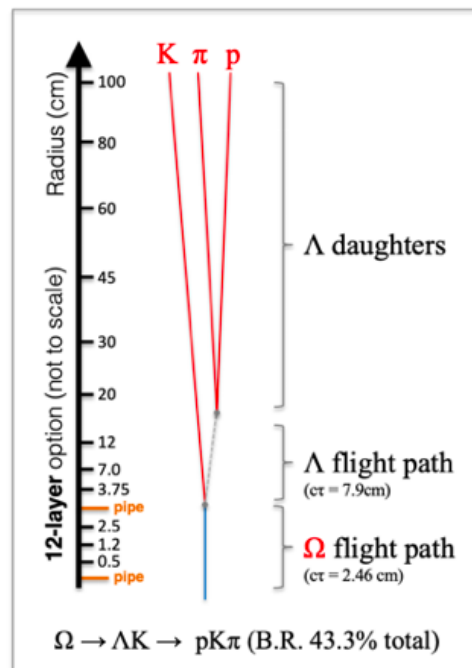
strangeness tracking with ITS2



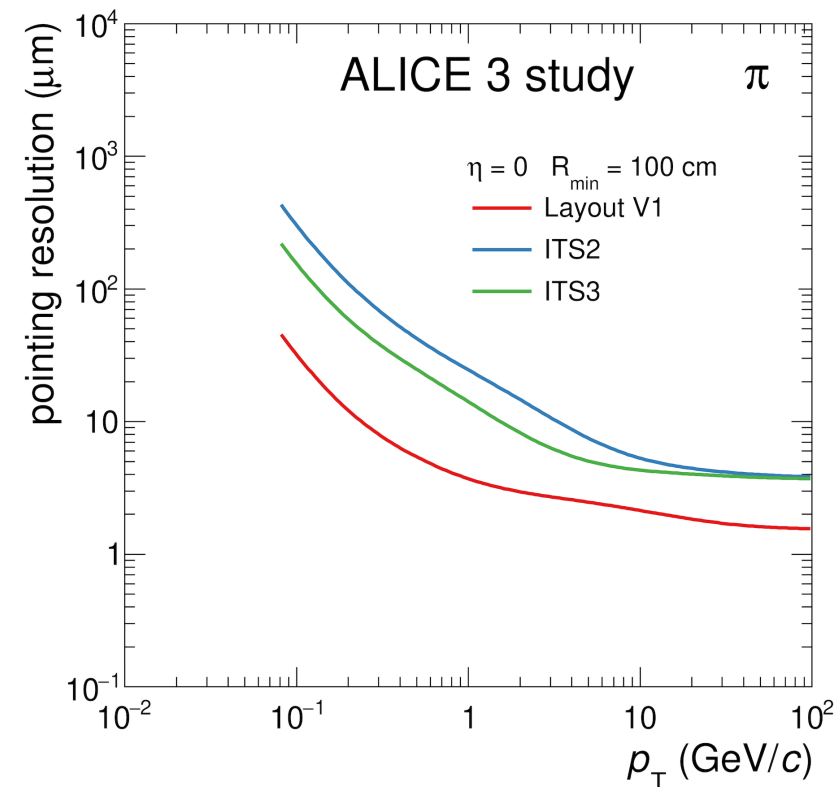
ALI-SIMUL-489593



strangeness tracking in Run 5



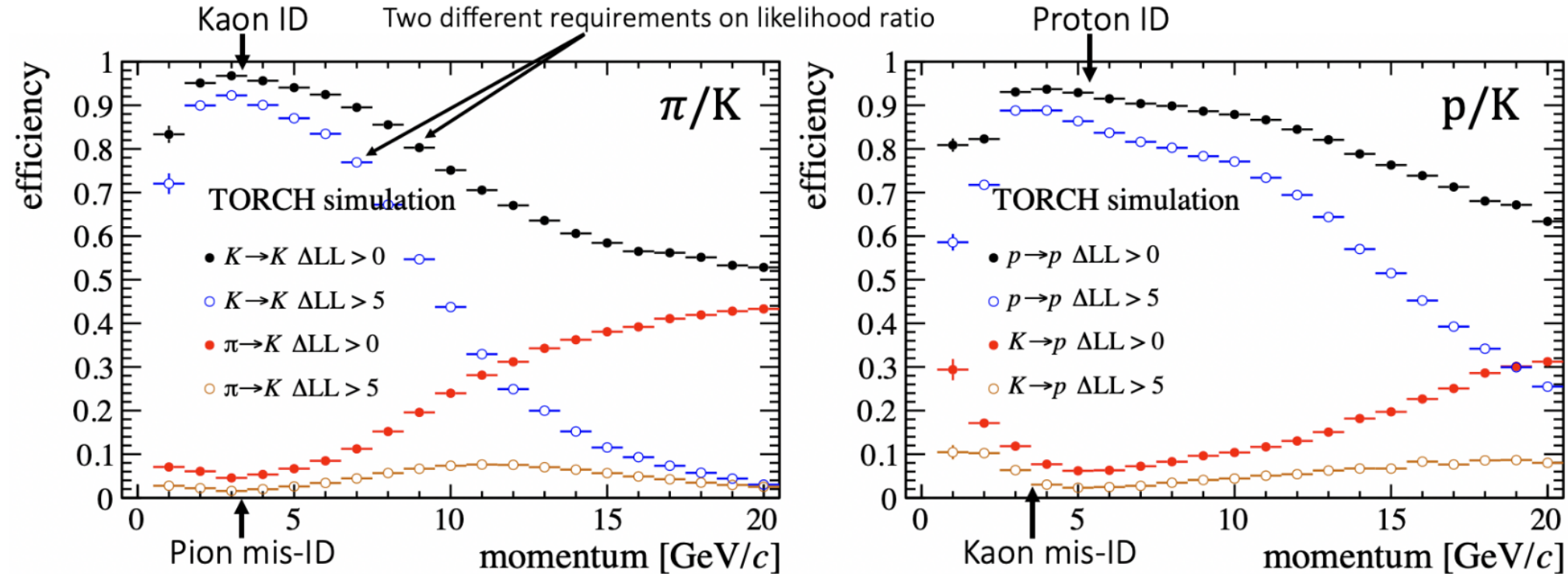
Impact parameter resolution with retractable layer



ALI-SIMUL-491785

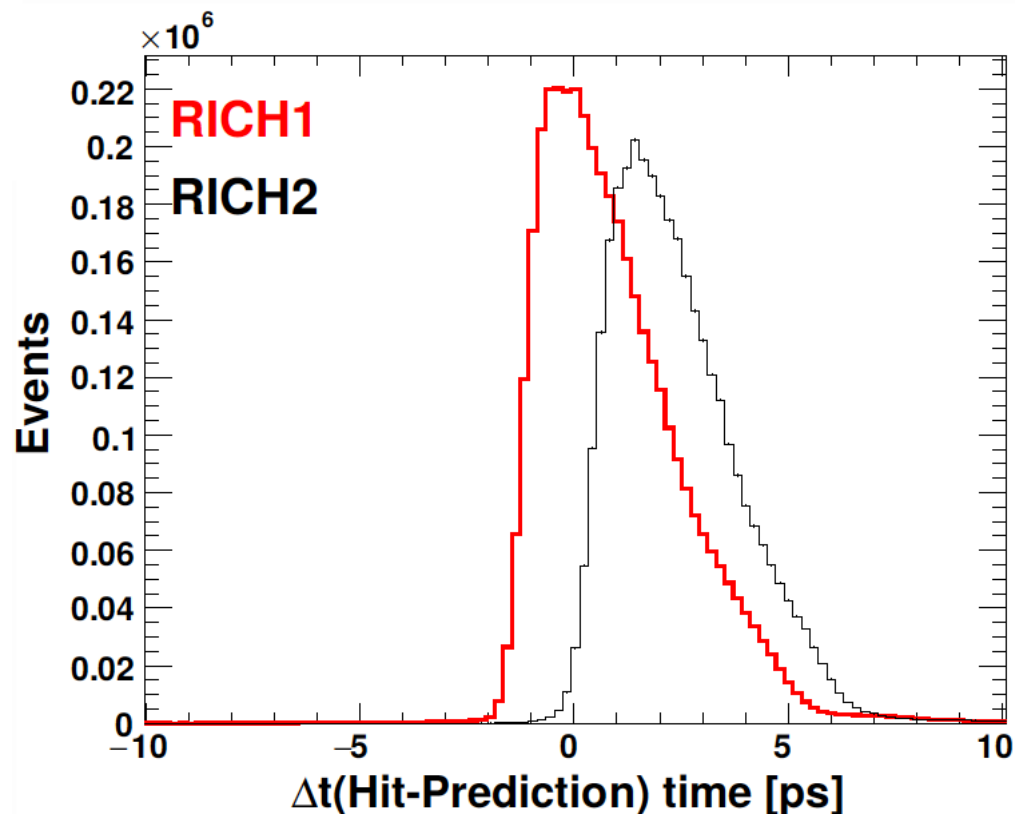
- impact parameter resolution $< 10 \mu$ m for $p_T > 0.2$ GeV/c
- Simulation effort ongoing also for heavy flavour channels

LHCb PID performance with TORCH

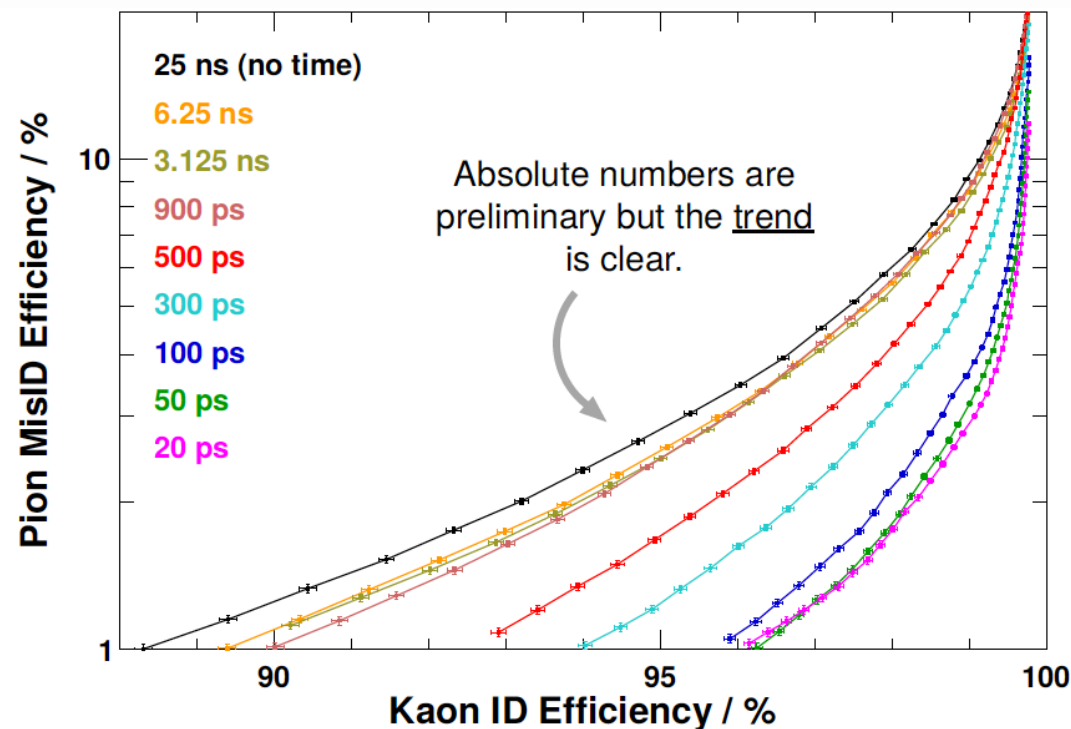


- TORCH simulated in Upgraded LHCb detector framework (GEANT4)
- PID performance determined for **Upgrade II conditions** (Run 5)
- **Good separation expected between $\pi/K/p$ in the 2–10 GeV/c range and beyond**
- Performance modelling ongoing

LHCb PID performance with RICH

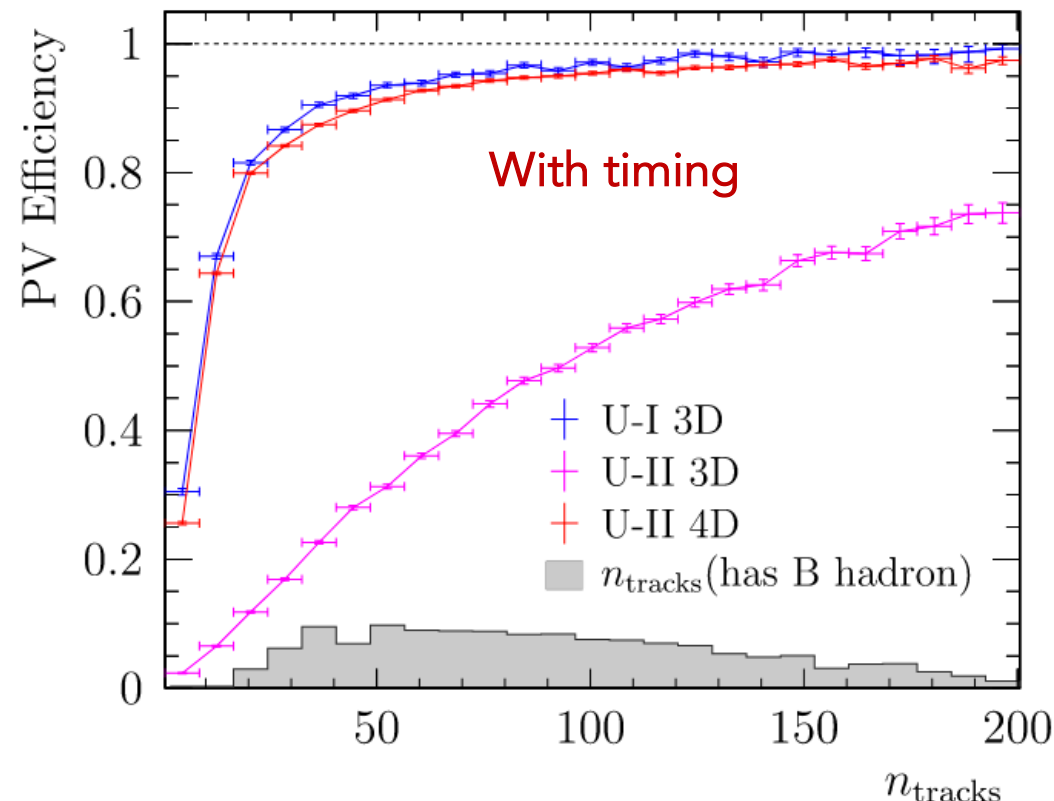
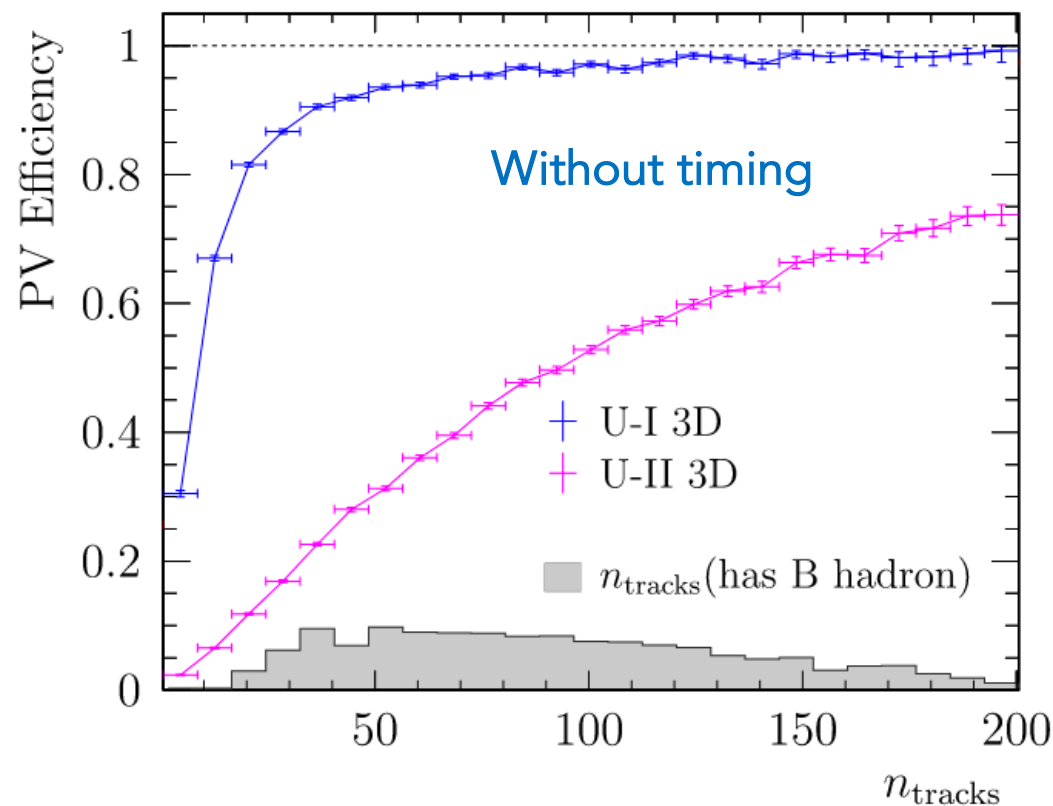


For a given track the time of arrival (ToA) of Cherenkov photons on the detector plane can be predicted to better than 10 ps



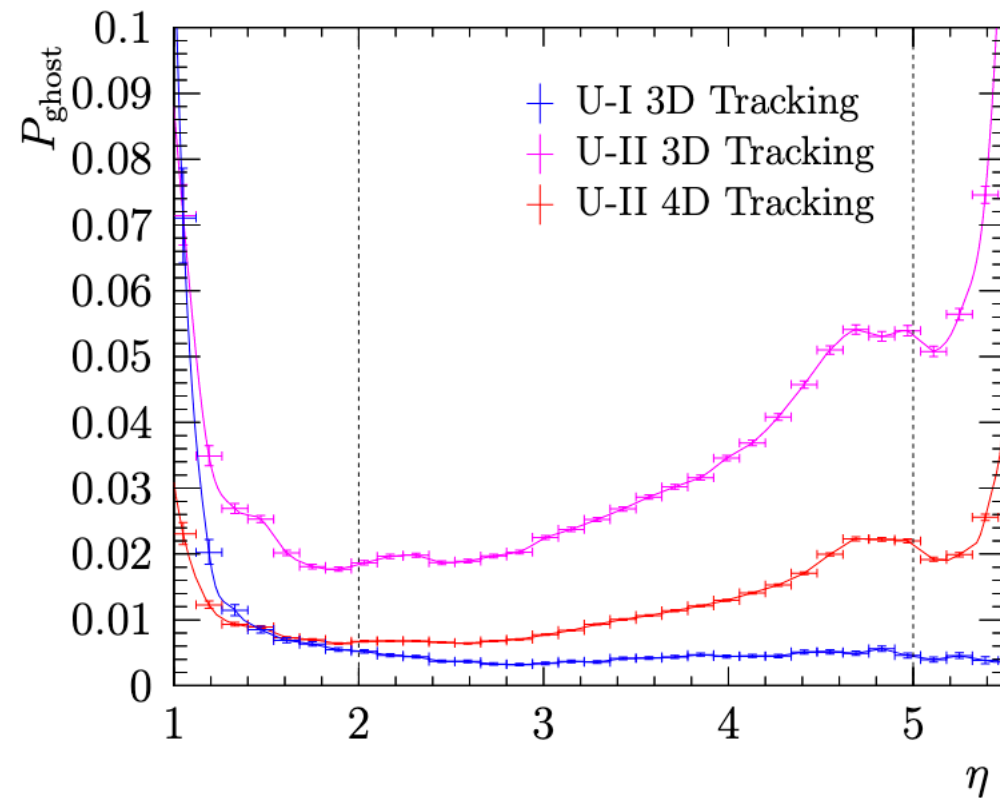
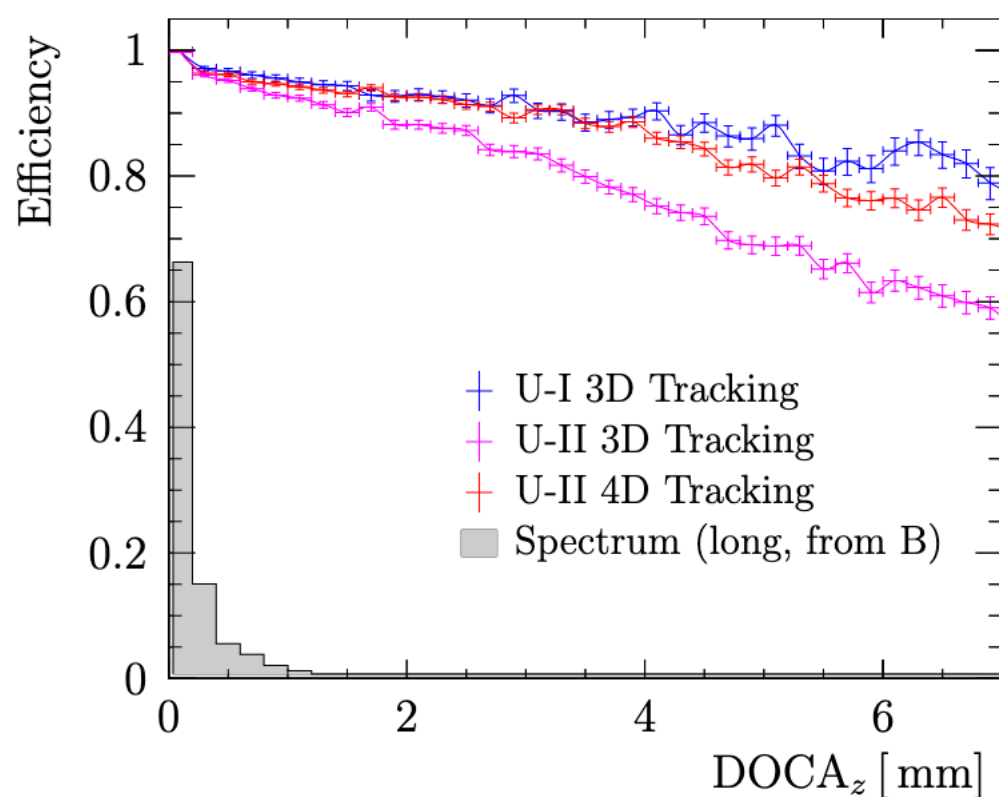
- Clear improvement as time gates of smaller width are applied around the predicted hit time.
- The trend highlights the benefit of pursuing the best time resolution for the future detector technologies.

LHCb phase II challenge: vertexing



- At ~ 50 interactions / bunch crossing, primary vertex separation is comparable to the per-track pointing resolution to the beam axis (~ 1 mm) : **reconstruction becomes tough.**
- Adding 50 ps/ hit timestamp almost completely **recovers the Upgrade-I vertex reconstruction efficiency**

LHCb phase II challenge: 4D tracking



Four-dimensional tracking brings improvements to:

- Tracking efficiency and its spatial uniformity, important for **control of systematic uncertainties as correlated with decay times**.
- Large reduction in **ghost rate (down to ~1%)**.

Summary

- High luminosity running presents **many opportunities and challenges for experiments**
- **Exciting physics cases** under study from LHCb and ALICE
- **Promising results shown for** PID and tracking performances
- **R&D effort** driven by physics and the use of **timing is a key strategy** to overcome challenges
- **Short term plan:**
 - Letter of Intent by the end of 2021 for the ALICE 3 project
 - Framework TDR for the LHCb Upgrade phase II