

Belle II Trigger System

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Outline

- Belle II detector
- TRG construction
- Current TRG status
- Developing
- Summary

The Belle II detector

Vertex detector (VXD)

Inner 2 layers: pixel detector (PXD)
Outer 4 layers: strip sensor (SVD)

e^- (7GeV)

Central Drift Chamber (CDC)

He (50%), C₂H₆ (50%), small cells, long lever arm

ElectroMagnetic Calorimeter (ECL)

Barrel: CsI(Tl) + waveform sampling

Particle Identification

Barrel: Time-Of-Propagation counters (TOP)
Forward: Aerogel RICH (ARICH)

e^+ (4GeV)

K_L/μ detector (KLM)

Outer barrel: Resistive Plate Counter (RPC)
Endcap/inner barrel: Scintillator

Level-1 trigger system

CDC+ECL+TOP+KLM
L1 trigger latency 5 μ sec

Data acquisition (DAQ) system

Maximum 30 kHz L1 trigger
1MB/event

Computing system

GRID
Tens of PB / year

Belle II Physics Mind-map

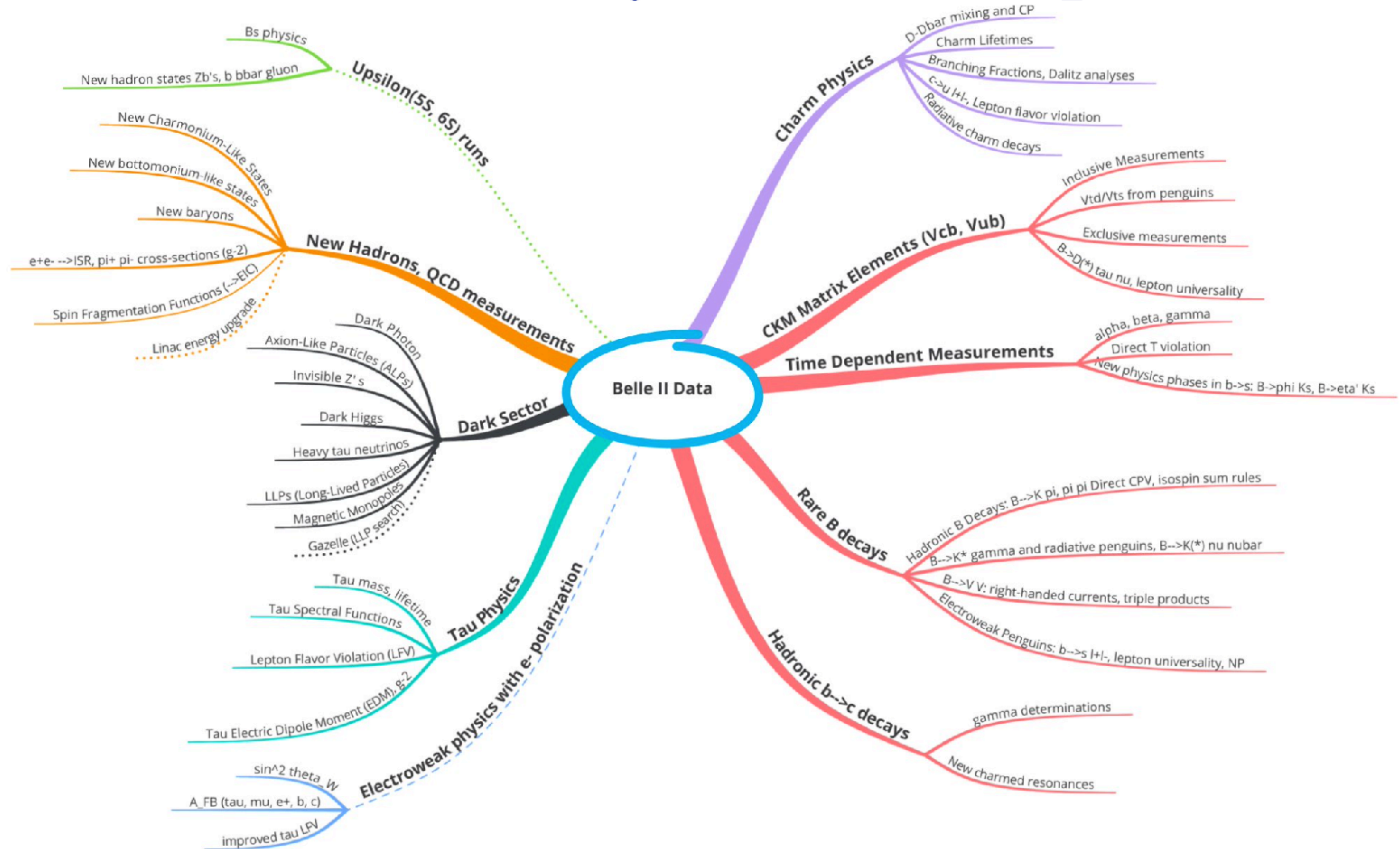
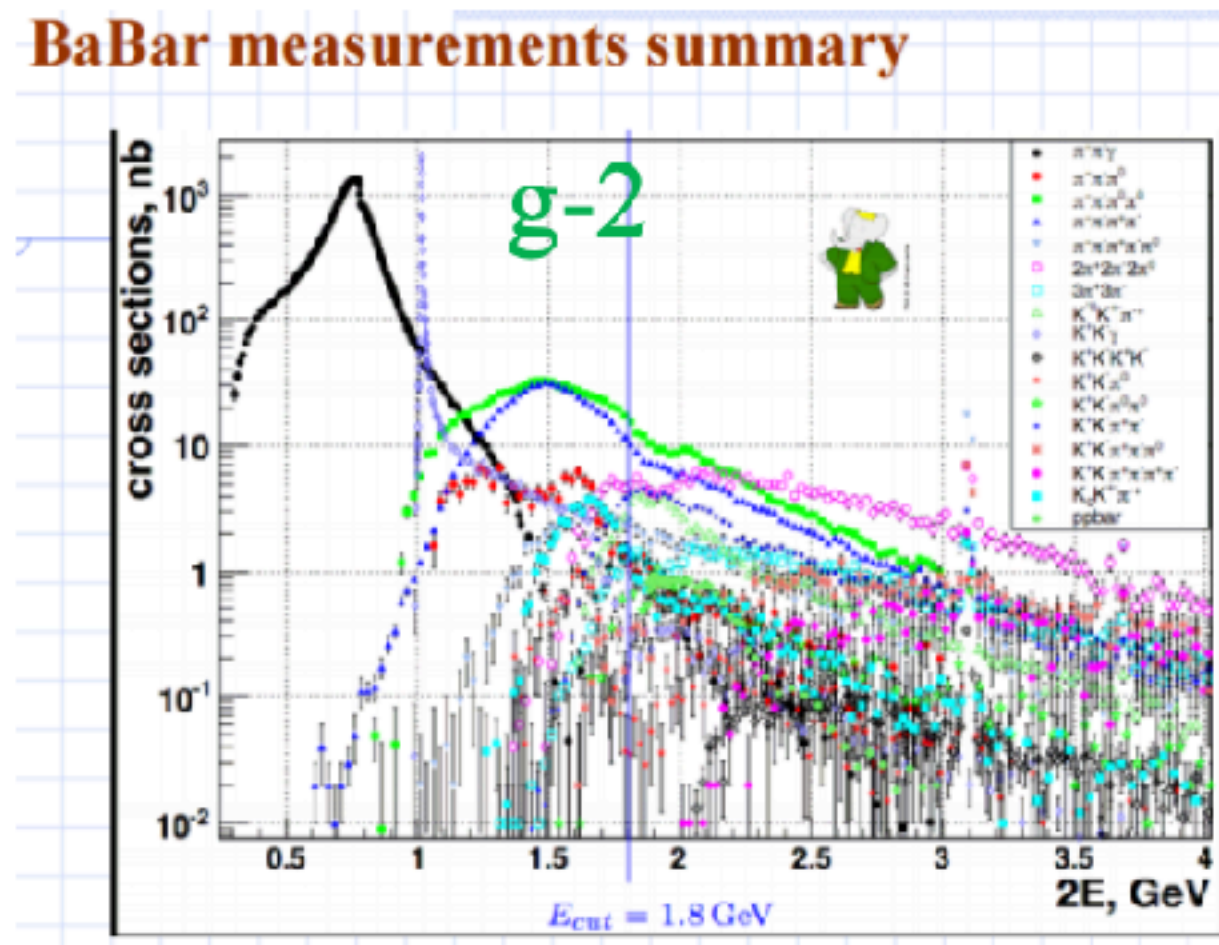


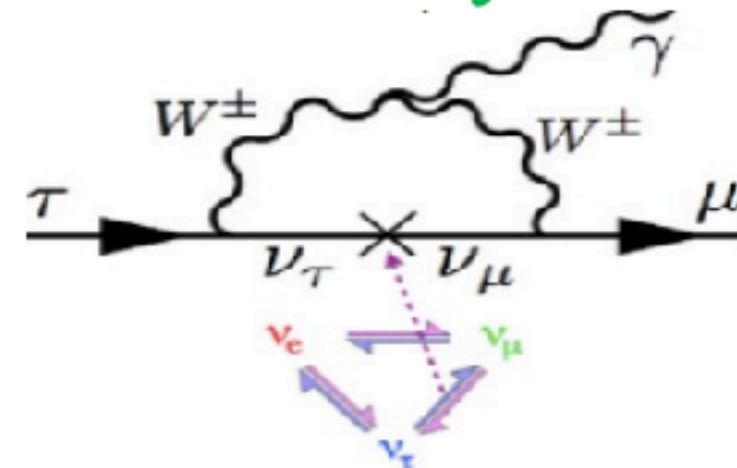
Image courtesy of Tom Browder

Trigger Challenges

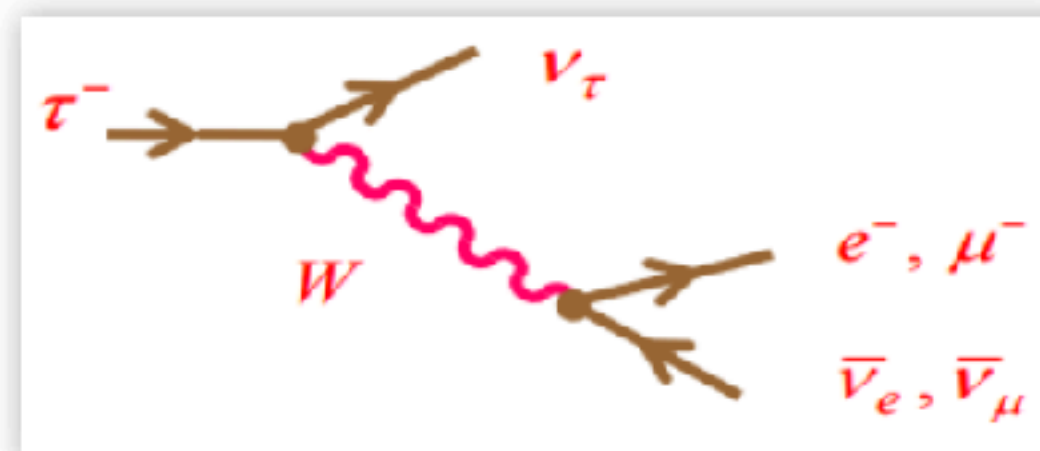
- High luminosity, high background
 - Total physics trigger rate: 15 kHz @ $8.0 \times 10^{35}/cm^2/s$ (designed)
 - Large beam-related, QED background
- Physics process trigger
 - $\Upsilon(4S)$ + continuum, ~100% efficiency
 - Low multiplicity process, challenge trigger



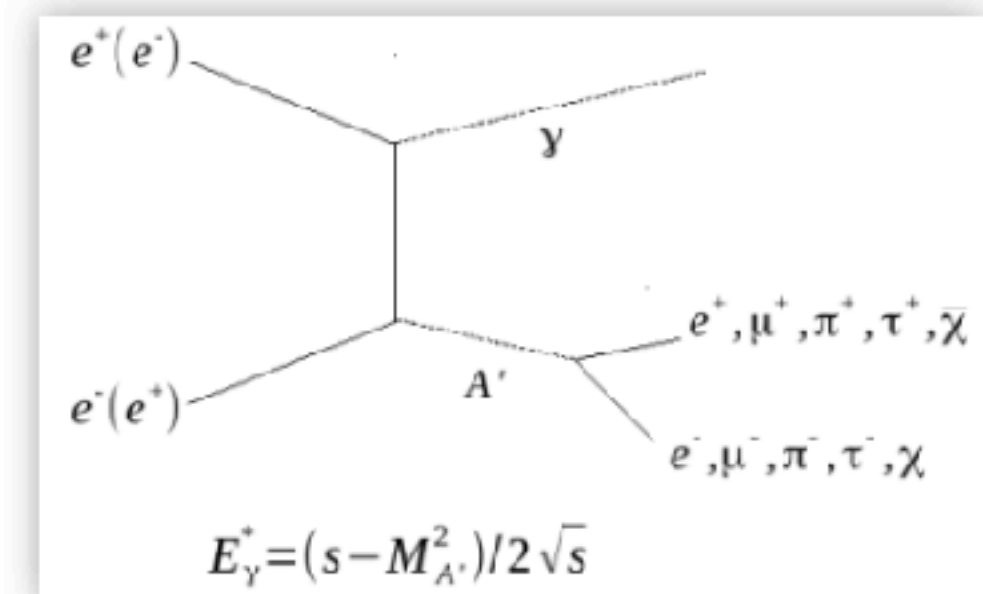
LFV tau decay



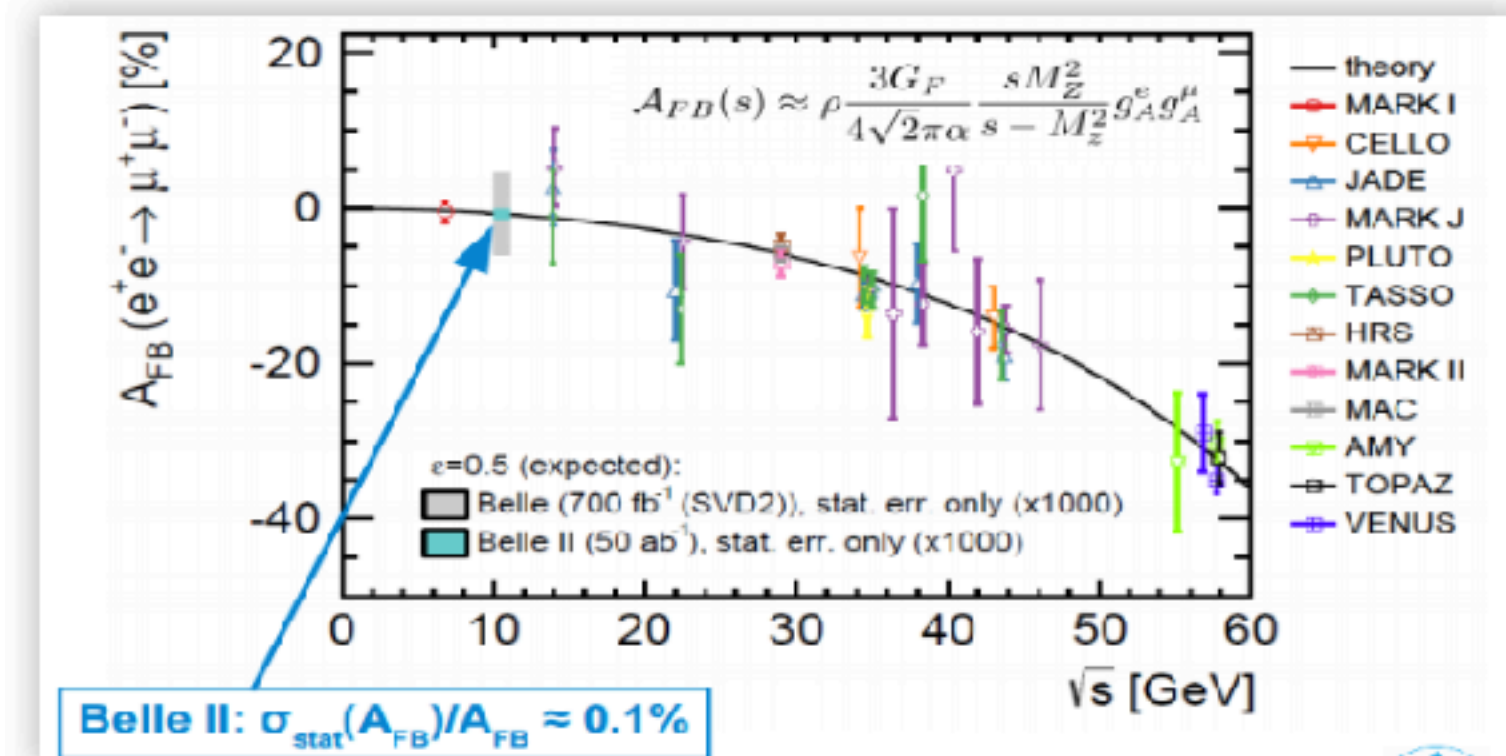
Leptonic tau decay



Dark photon



Precision electroweak tests



Belle II TRG pipeline



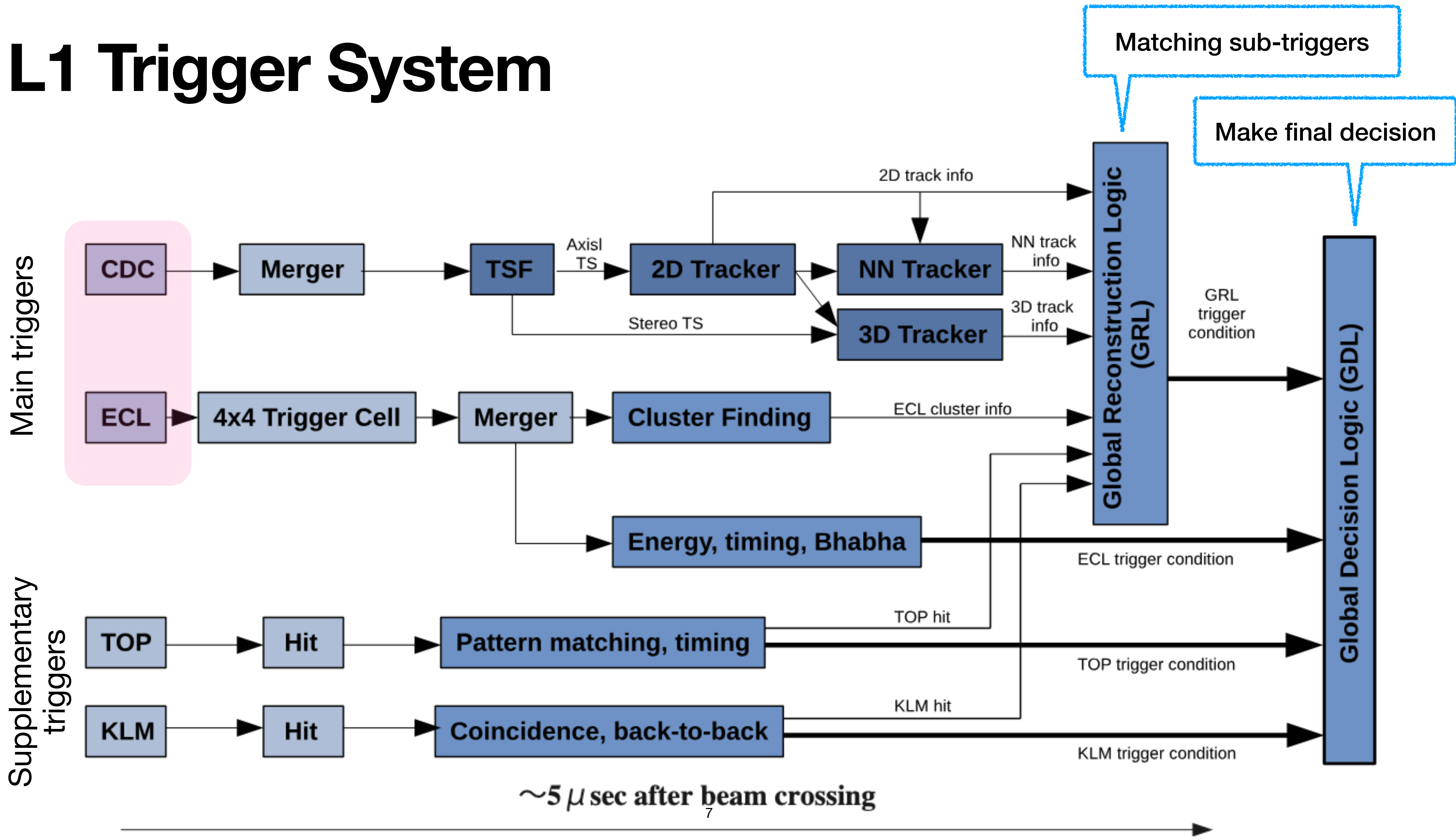
Expected trigger rate @ $\mathcal{L}_{\text{ins}} = 6.0 \times 10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2}/\text{s}$

bhabha	B-physics	qq-bar	two photon	di-muon	di-tau	di-gamma	dark sector
> 50 kHz	1 kHz	2 kHz	10 kHz	0.6 kHz	0.6 kHz	2 kHz	??

↑
dominate

Physics Target ~ 15 kHz, ~100% efficiency of $B\bar{B}$ events

L1 Trigger System



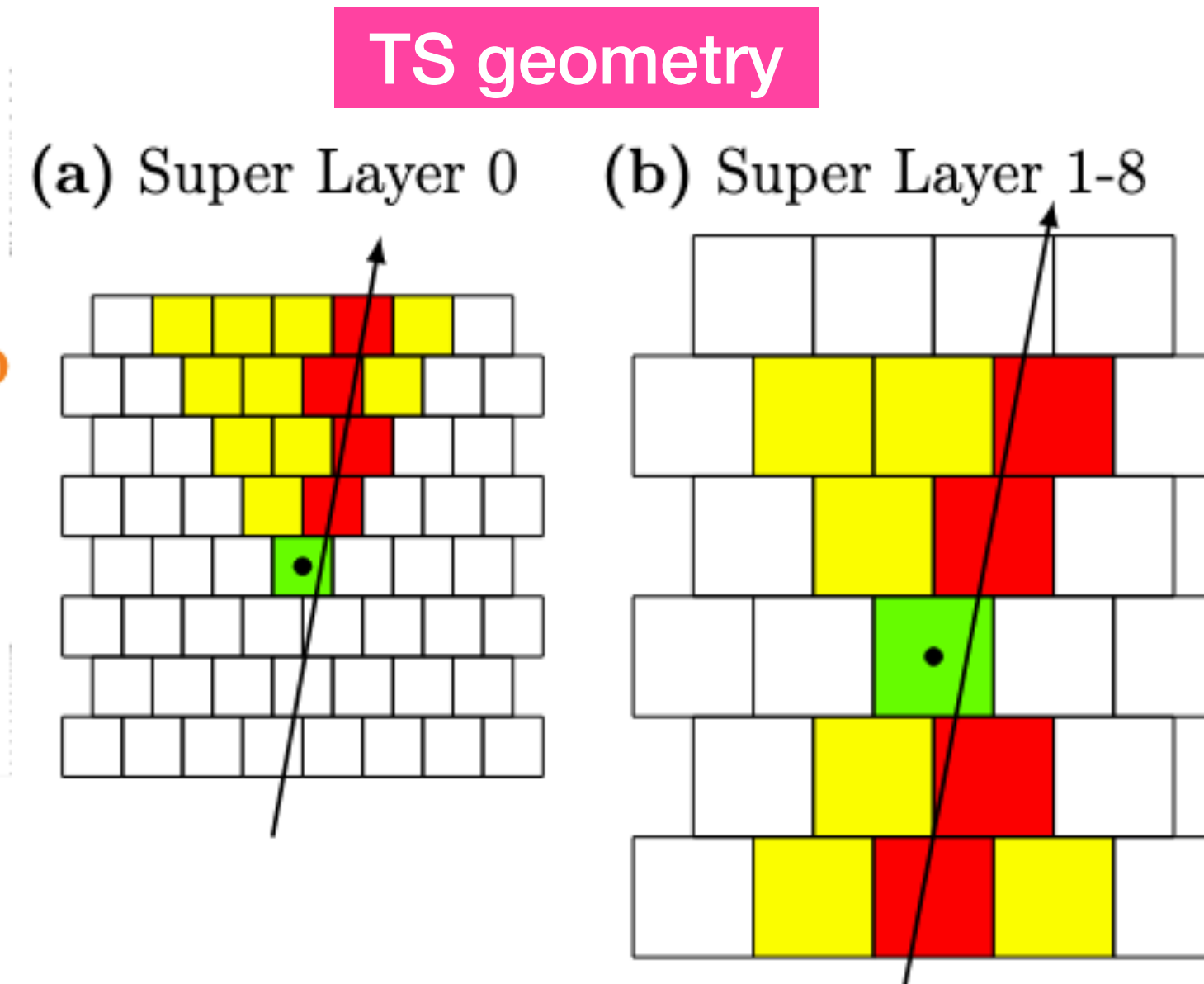
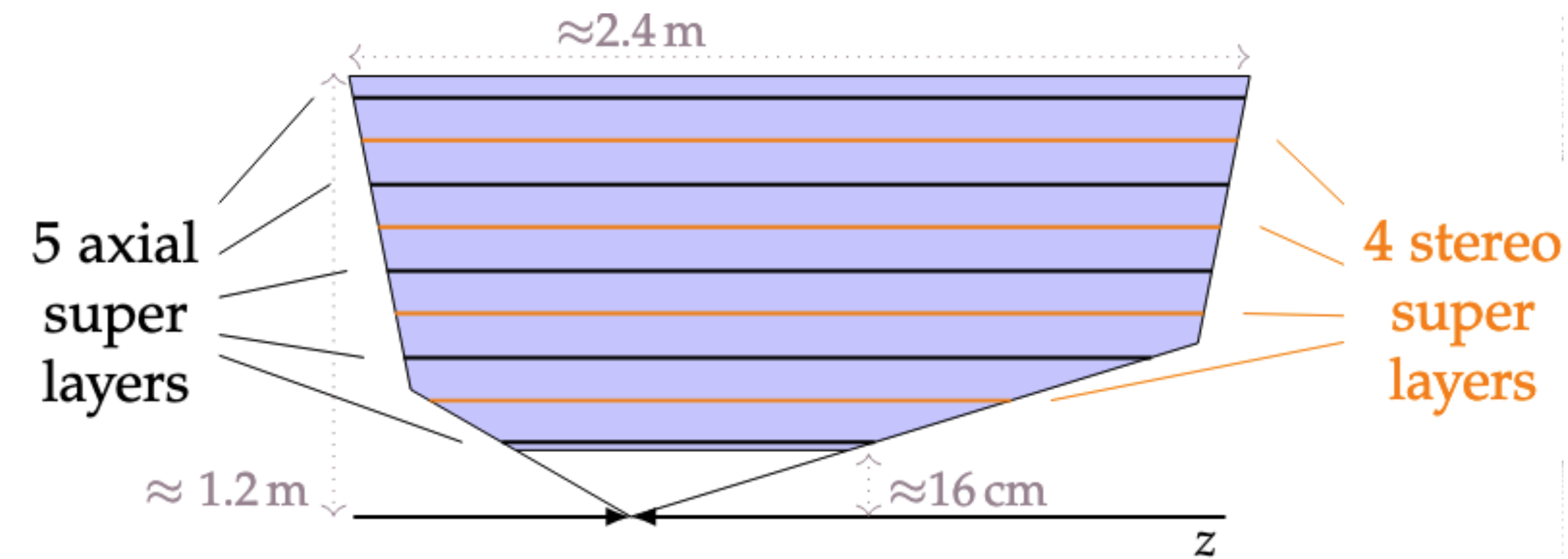
- Universal FPGA board developed for Belle II
- QSFP optical transceiver (GTX,GTH,GTY)
- Register access through VME
- Total ~30boards, common in subtrigger

UT	3 rd generation	4 th generation
FPGA	Xilinx Virtex6 XC6VHX380/565T	Xilinx Virtex Ultrascale XCVU080/160
Logic gate	382k/580k	975k/2026k
IO	GTH 11Gbps × 24lane GTX 6Gbps × 40lane NIM, LVDS, RJ45 JTAG, VME bus	GTY 25Gbps × 32lane GTH 15Gbps × 32lane NIM, LVDS, RJ45 JTAG, VME bus



CDCTR

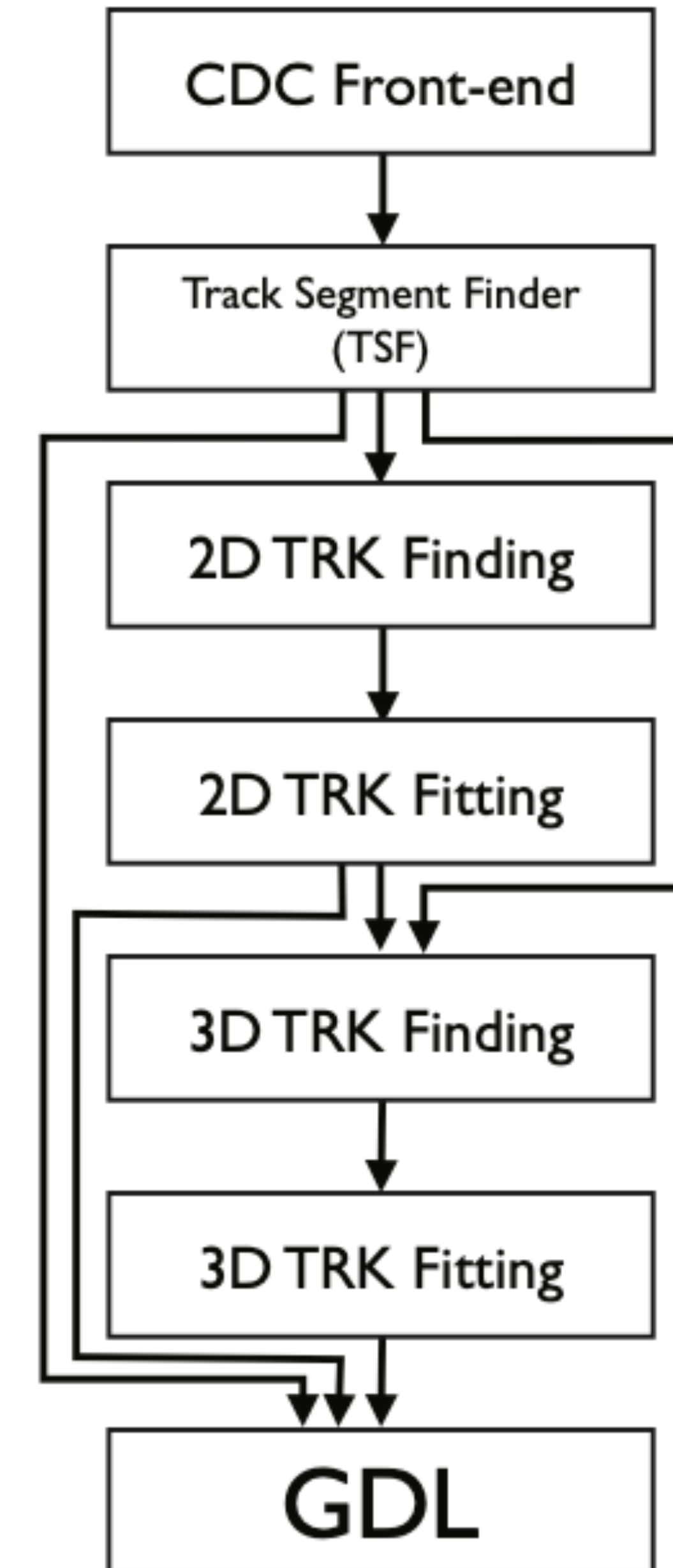
Provides the charged track information

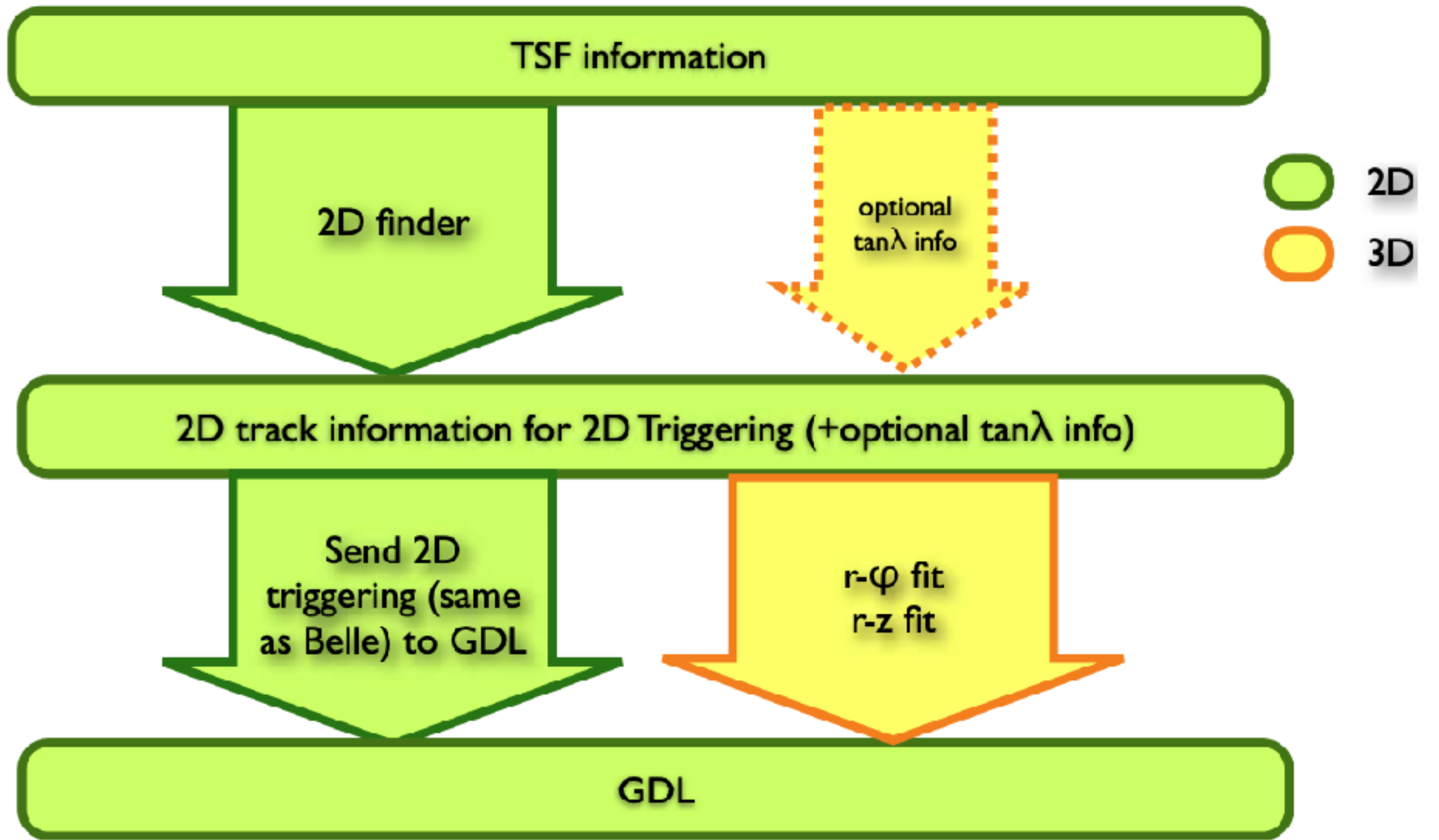
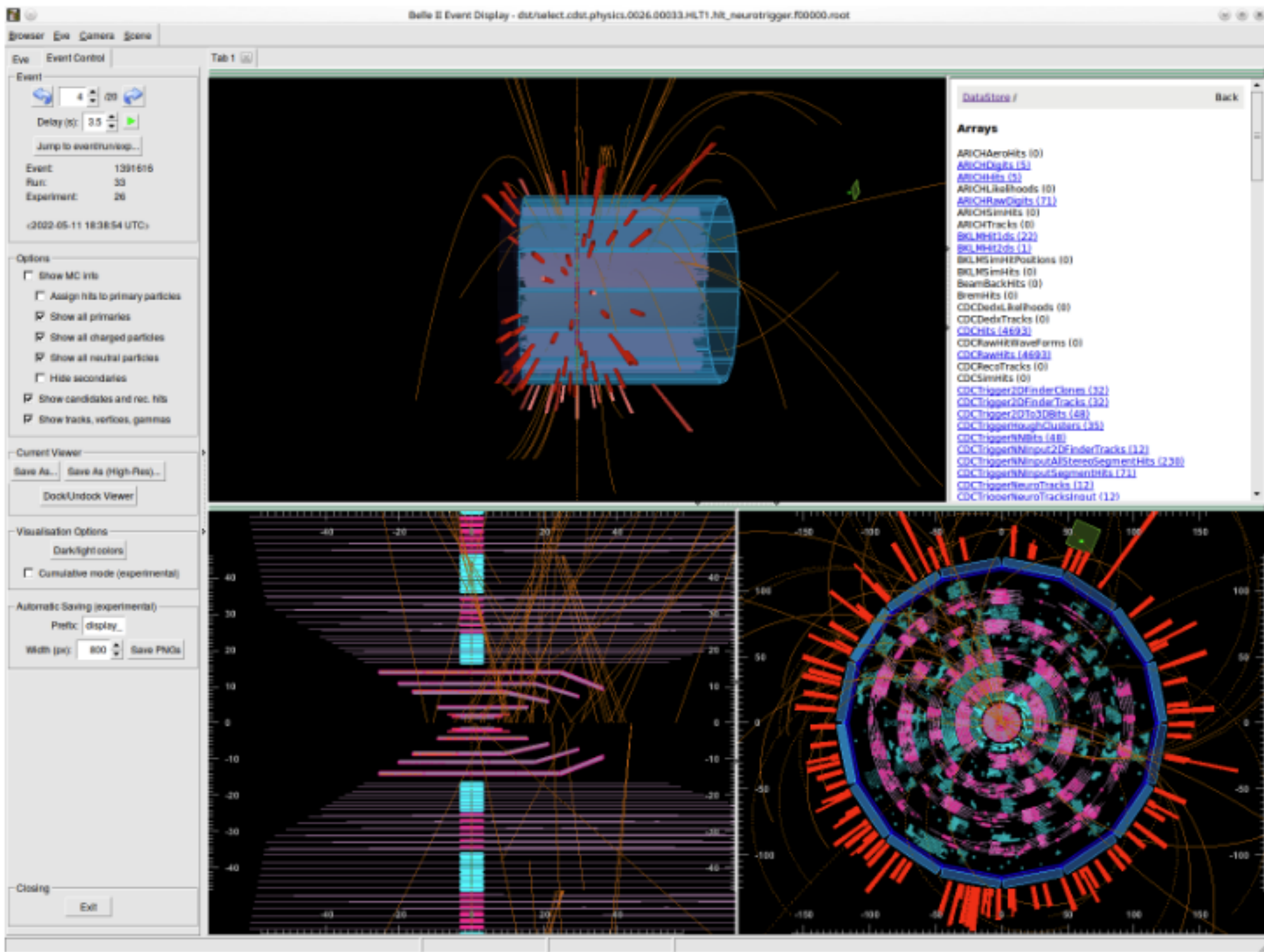


Wire hit information sent to TSF; 2336 TS in total.

TS hit is determined by look-up method.

Use conformal and Hough transformation to search for 2D tracks

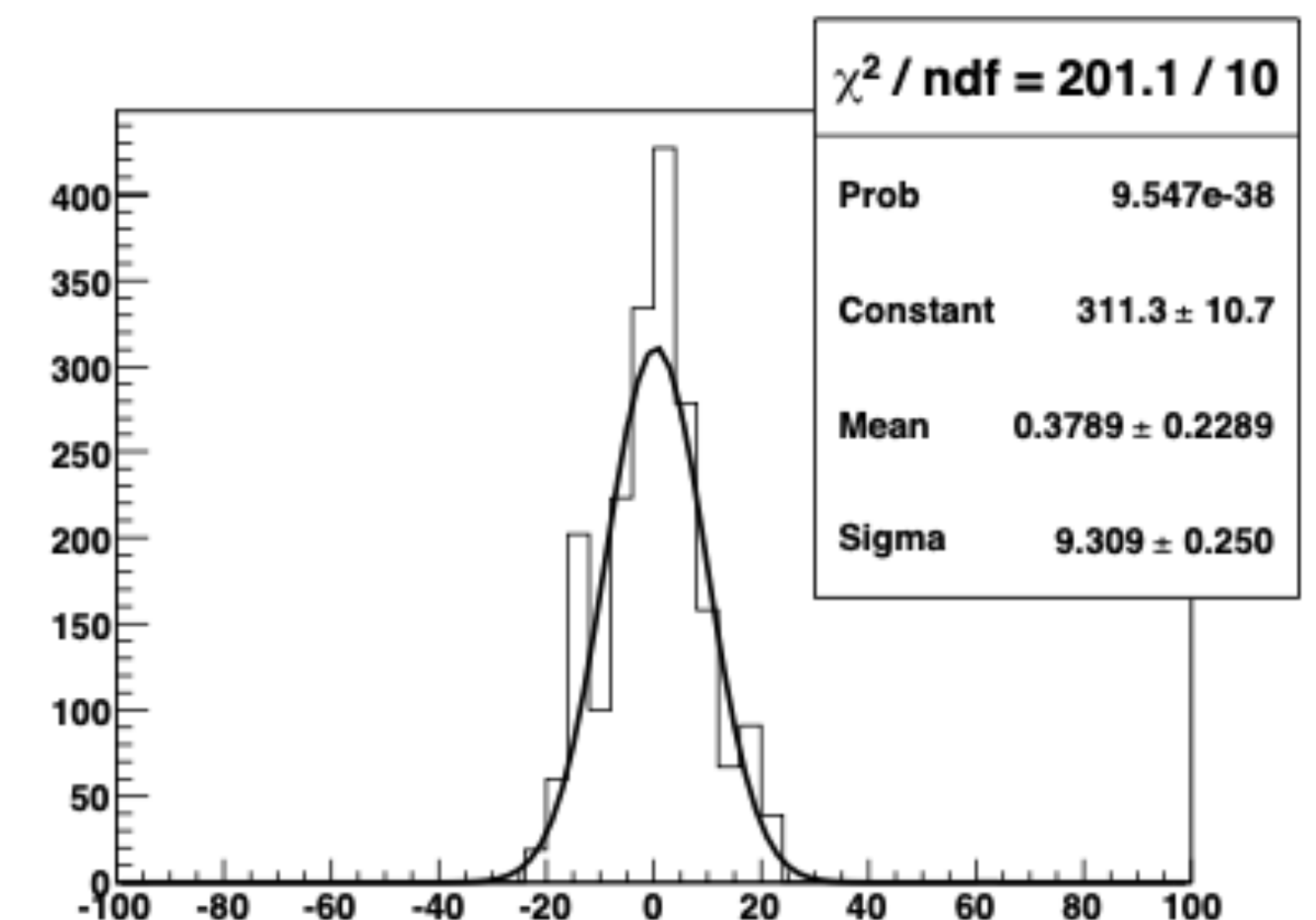




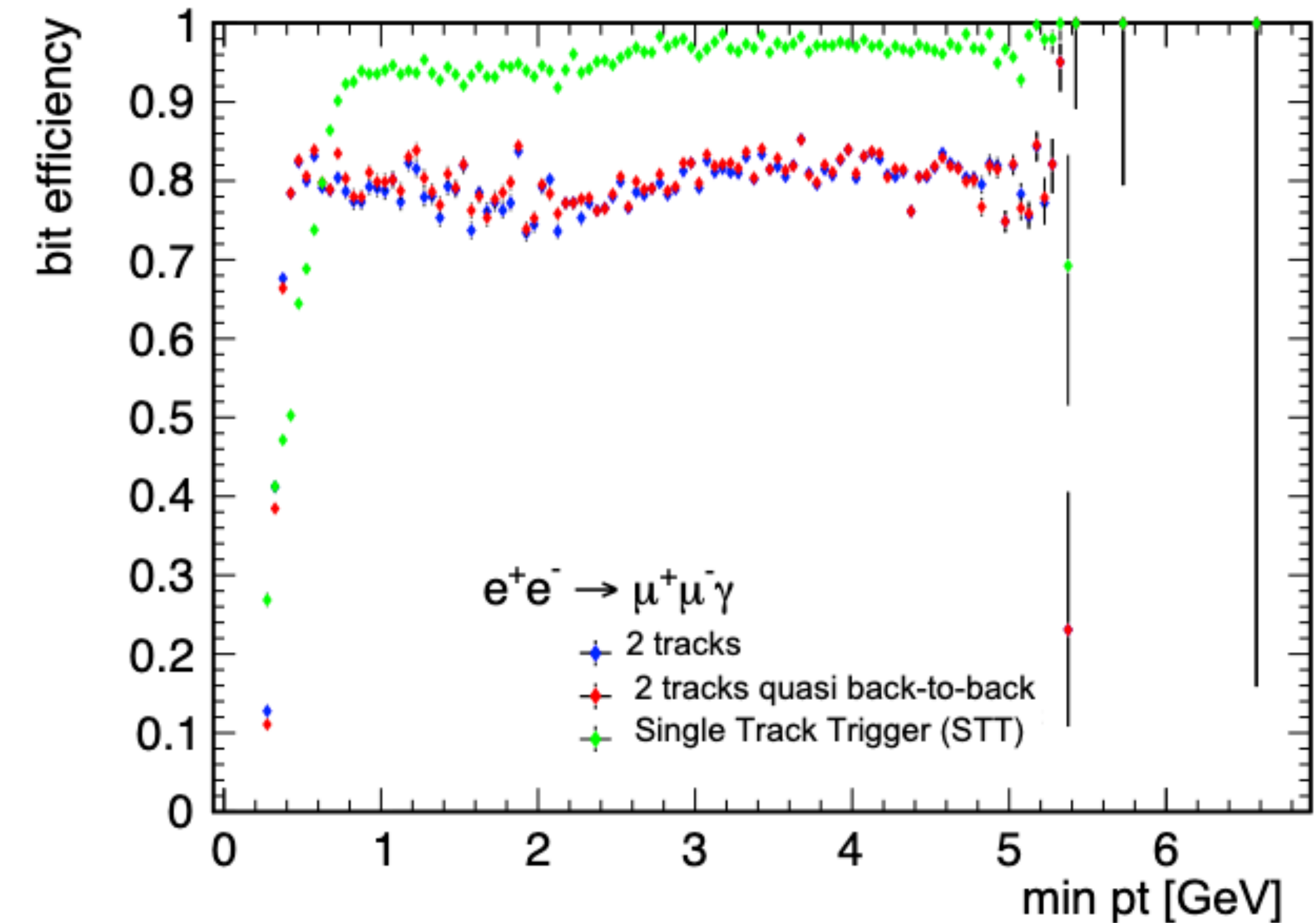
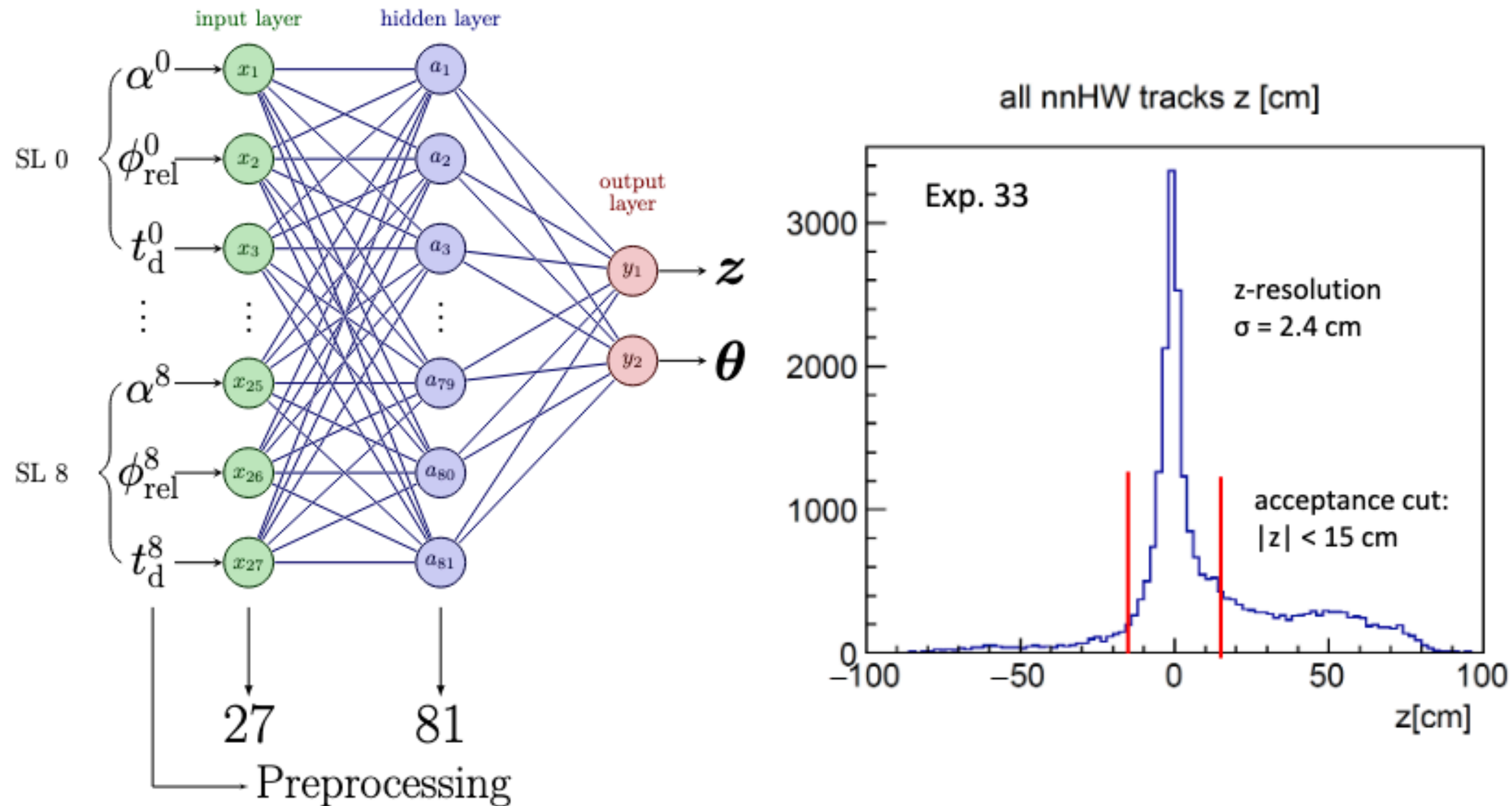
High Background: Large number of fake 2D track candidates.

2-step 3D fitter: $r - \phi$ fit; $r - z$ fit

z_0 resolution ~ 10 cm



Neural network track trigger



Better z_0 resolution with NN 3D track

Formally used in Belle II

Single-Track-Trigger:

$|z| < 15$ cm and $p > 0.7$ GeV (via θ)

(S. Bähr et al., arXiv:2402.14962,

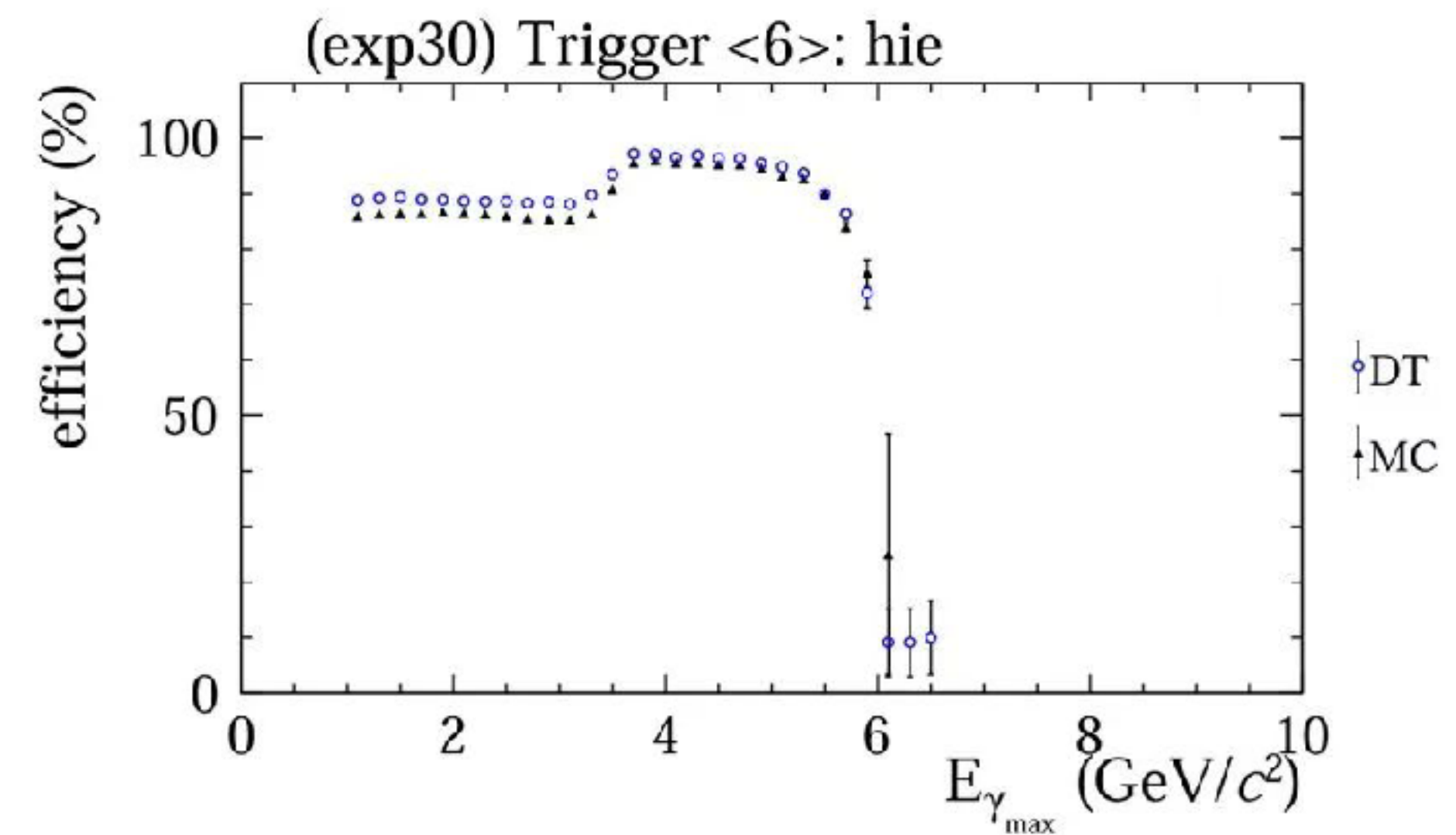
NIMA 1073 (2025) 170279

ECLTRG

- Generate fast signals for both neutral- and charged-particle
- Good timing resolution: ~ 7 ns determined by the most energetic trigger cell (TC)
- Two main schemes:
 - Total energy, sensitive to physics events with high electromagnetic energy deposit (i.e., hie)
 - Cluster counting, sensitive to multi-hadronic physics events (i.e., c4)
- Also provide bhabha and $\gamma\gamma$ trigger

hie: Basic ECL trigger. Requires sum of trigger towers > 1 GeV, with 100 MeV threshold per tower.

- tower $\approx 4 \times 4$ crystals.
- sum is over θ_{ID}^{L1} range [2, 15]
- Bhabha veto



Physics trigger

For example, bhabha events identification:

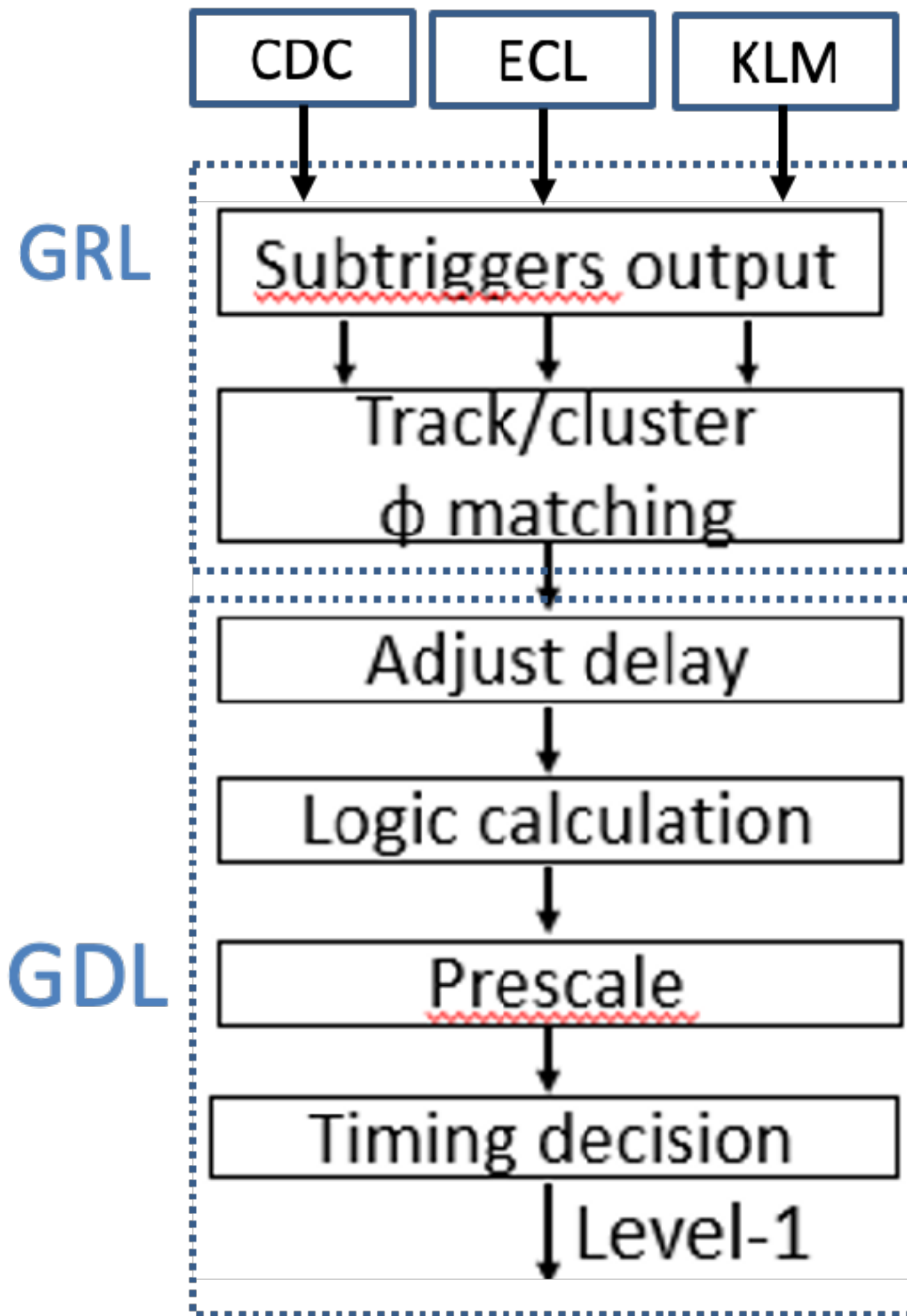
Two ECL clusters after fast reconstruction

$$\sum \theta_{CM} \in [165, 190], \Delta\phi_{CM} \in [160, 200]$$

$$(E1 > 3 \text{ GeV} \ \& \ E2 > 3 \text{ GeV}) \text{ or } (E1 > 4.5 \text{ GeV} \ || \ E2 > 4.5 \text{ GeV})$$

Yes or No

One bit is sent



-GDL: Global decision logic

-calculate if trigger condition (output bit) is satisfied or not with subtrigger input

-apply prescale

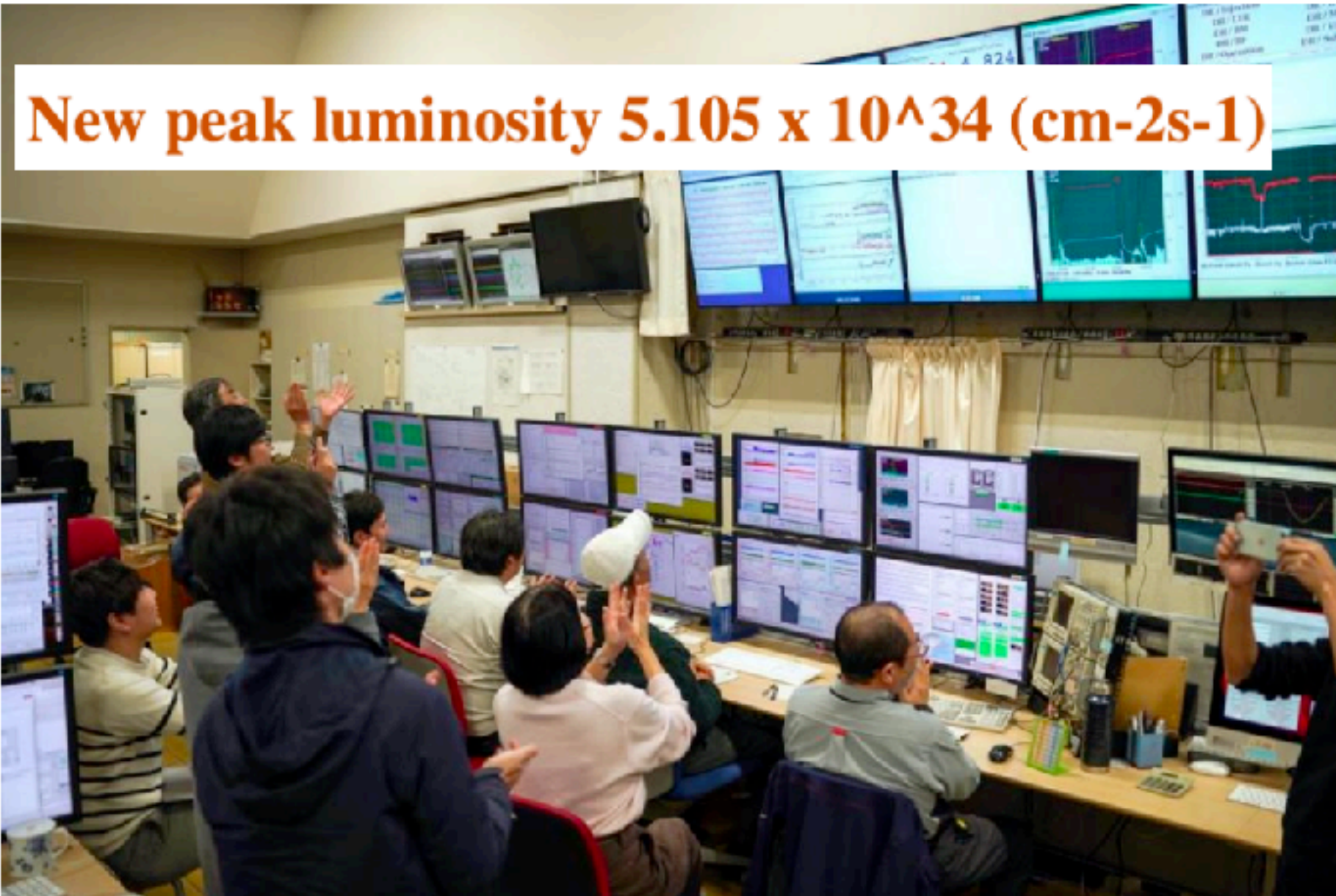
-If one of trigger bit satisfied, provide Level1 signal to take data

Now in Belle II have ~160 pre-defined trigger bits targeting to different physics events.

Close and frequent communication with physicists.

Challenge: High trigger rate and DAQ saturation

The Level-1 trigger rate has reached a maximum exceeding 10 kHz.
The luminosity was less than one-tenth of the target luminosity.



Revealing potential risks of **DAQ saturation** in future operations.

Date	L	L1-Trigger
Exp20 Run905	$\sim 2.0 \times 10^{34} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$	$\sim 11 \text{ kHz}$
2024c	$\sim 3.2 \times 10^{34} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$	$\sim 6 \text{ kHz}$
Before-LS2	$\sim 2.8 \times 10^{35} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$	Requirement < 30 kHz
LS2	$\sim 6.0 \times 10^{35} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$	Requirement < 30 kHz

To facilitate future data acquisition, we must ensure that TRG system:

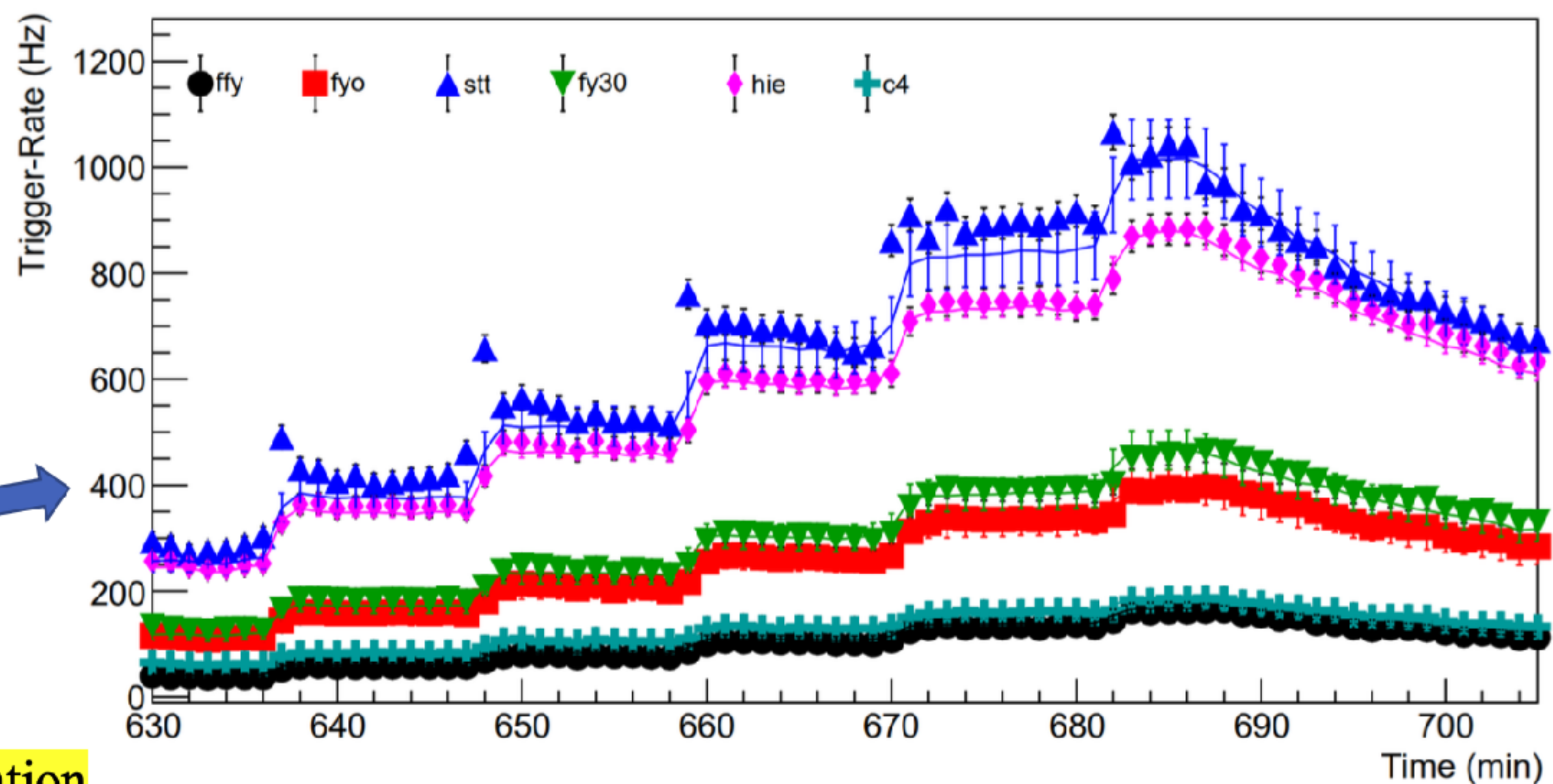
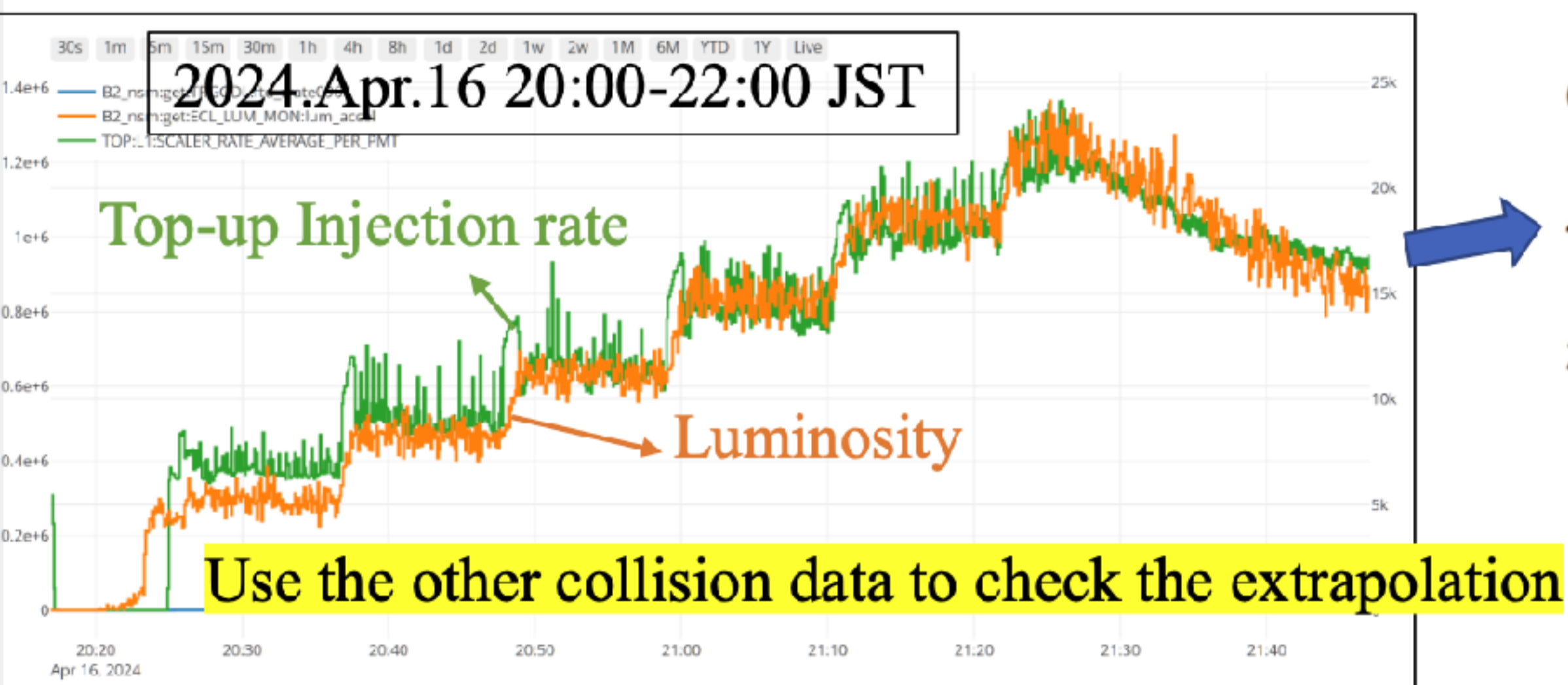
- ① operates in a high-performance status
- ② and will not exceed the trigger limitation.

TRG Rate extrapolation

Extrapolation:
$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{bit}} = \bar{D} + T^{\text{LER}} \times \left(\frac{I^2}{n_b \sigma_x^* \sigma_y^* \sigma_z^*} \right)^{\text{LER}} + T^{\text{HER}} \times \left(\frac{I^2}{n_b \sigma_x^* \sigma_y^* \sigma_z^*} \right)^{\text{HER}} + B^{\text{LER}} \times (I \bar{P}_{\text{eff}})^{\text{LER}} + B^{\text{HER}} \times (I \bar{P}_{\text{eff}})^{\text{HER}} + \kappa \times \mathcal{L}$$

*The dots with shapes are experimental trigger rate.

*The curves with statistical errors are extrapolation.



$$\mathcal{R}_{L1} = \Sigma f_i \times \mathcal{R}_i$$

where \mathcal{R}_i is the individually extrapolated rate for the i^{th} bit and the factor $f_i \equiv \frac{\mathcal{R}_i^{\text{Exclusive}}}{\mathcal{R}_i^{\text{Raw}}} \in [0,1]$ quantifies effective trigger rate after overlap exclusion. $\mathcal{R}_i^{\text{Raw}}$ is the raw rate of the individual trigger measured in the experiment, while $\mathcal{R}_i^{\text{Exclusive}}$ is obtained by excluding events that trigger simultaneously with other bits.

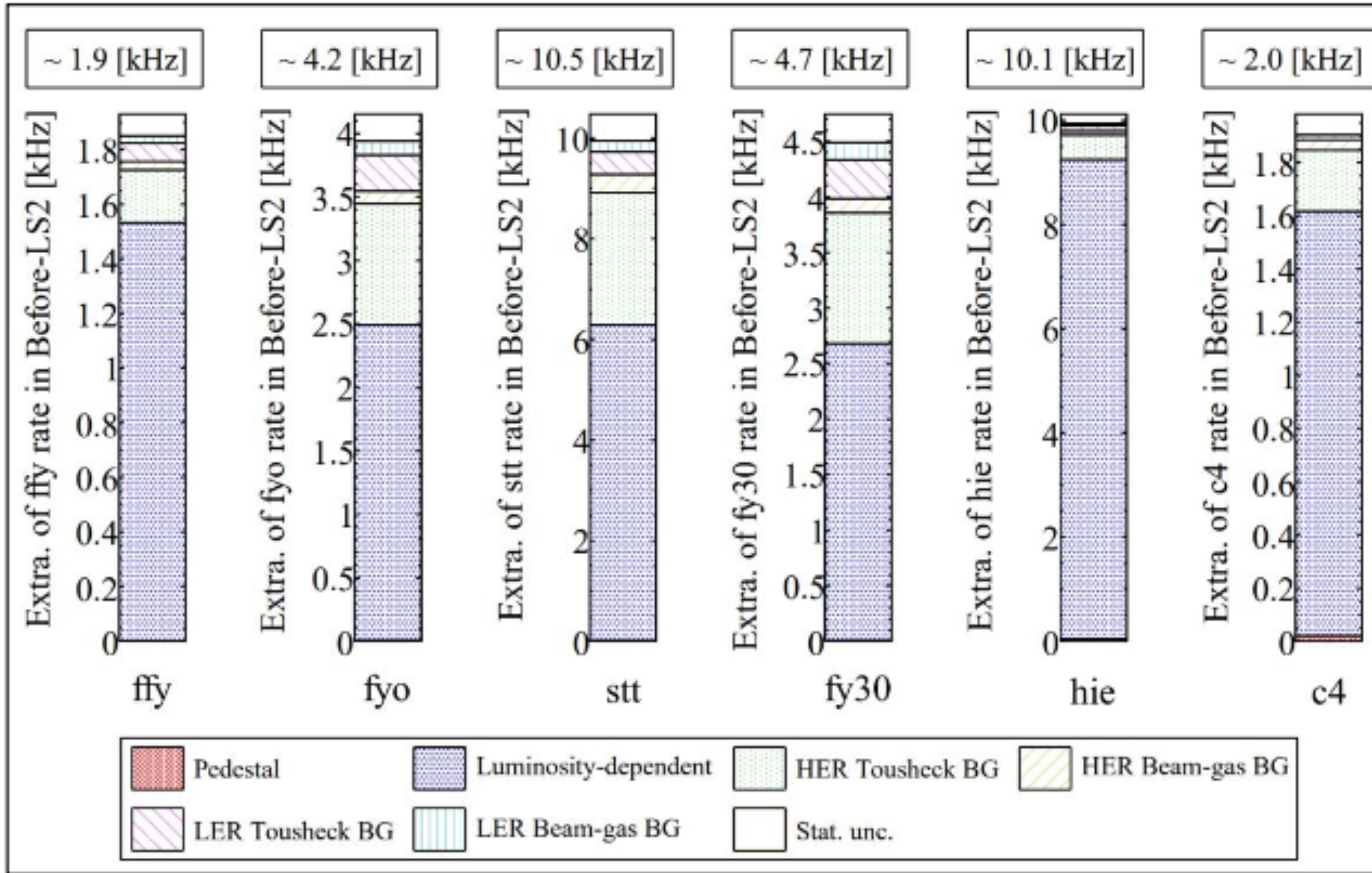


Fig. The extrapolation to Before-LS2

$$\mathcal{R}_{L1} \sim 13\text{kHz} @ 2.8 \times 10^{35} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} (\text{Before-LS2})$$

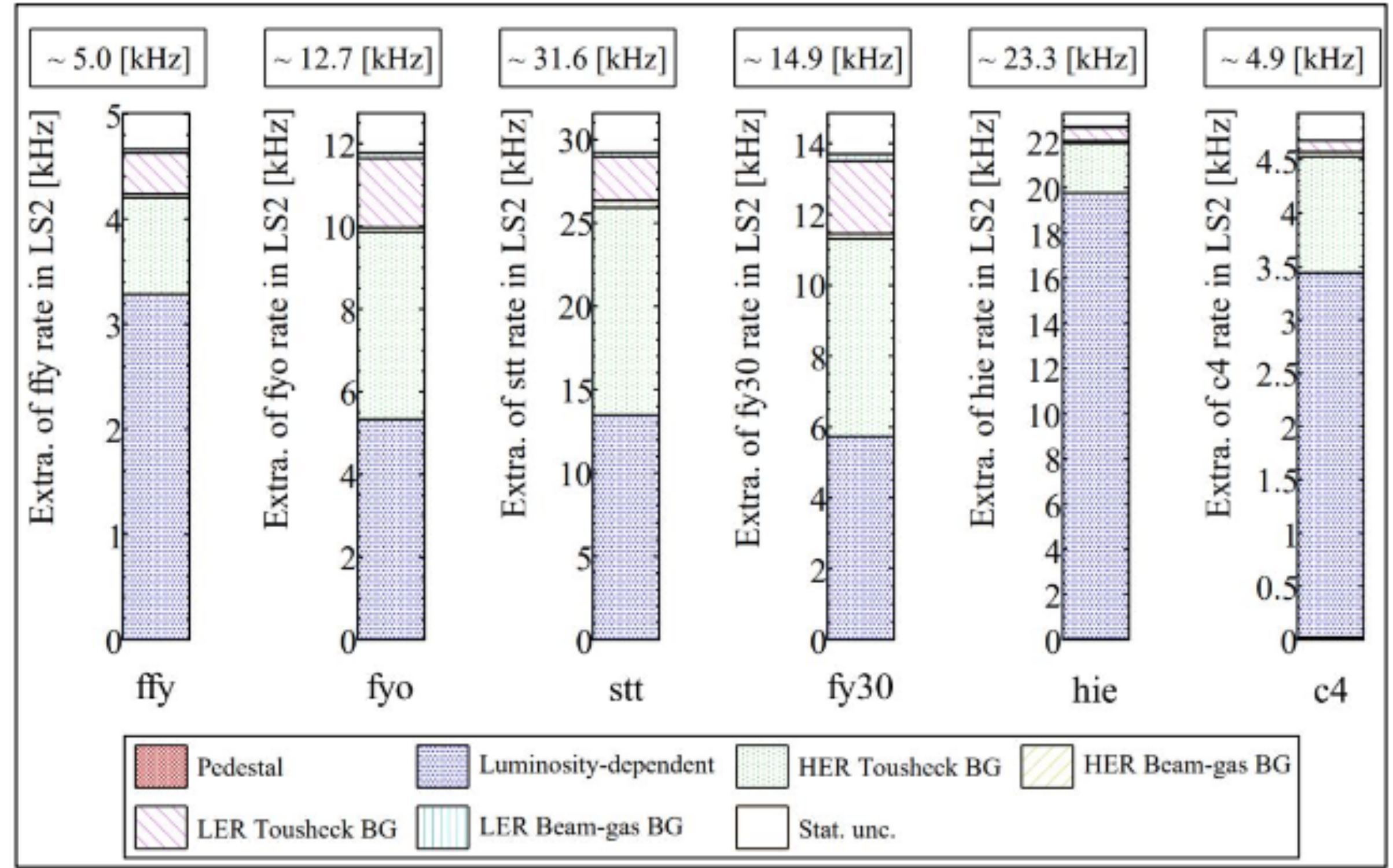


Fig. The extrapolation to LS2

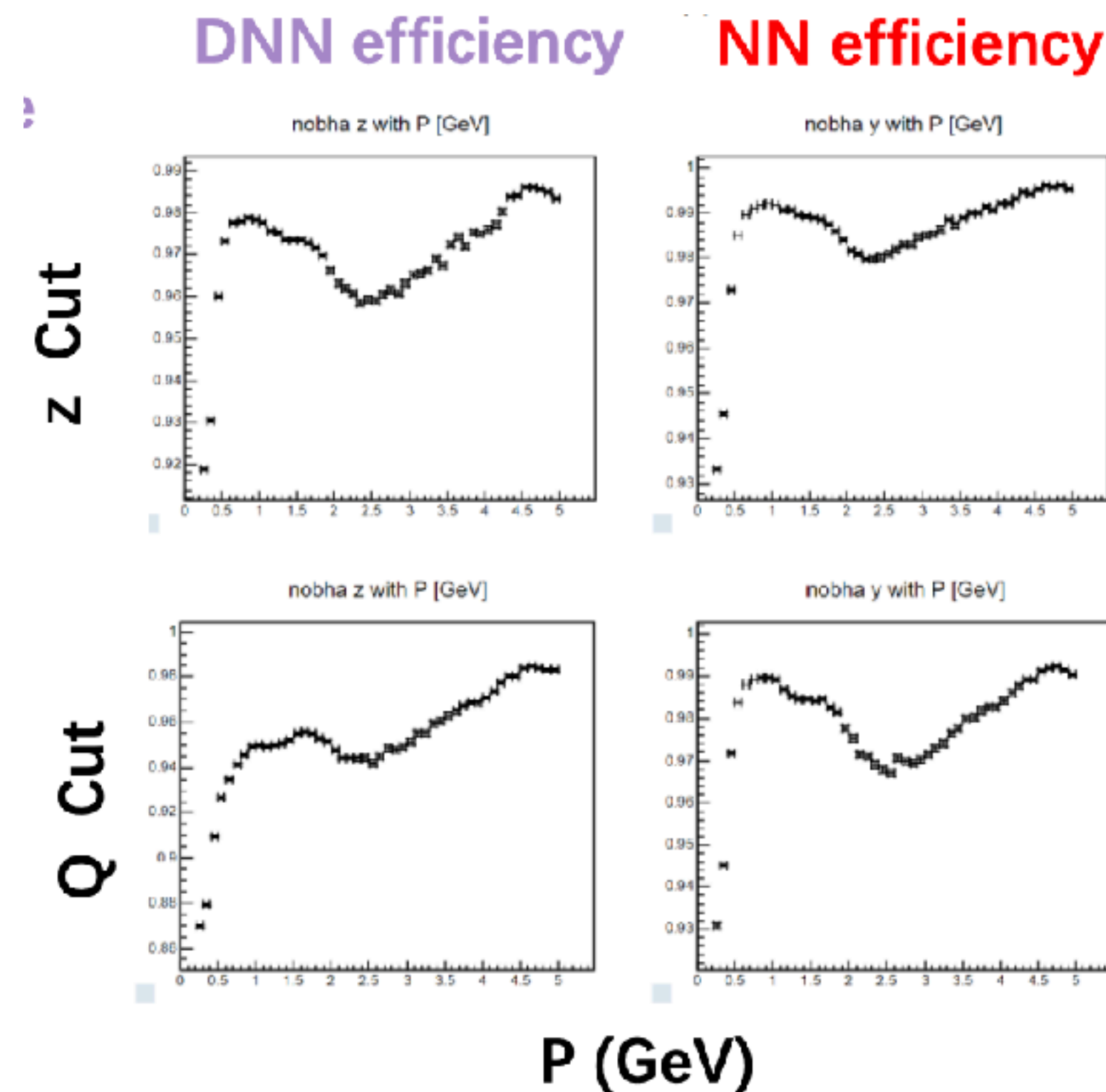
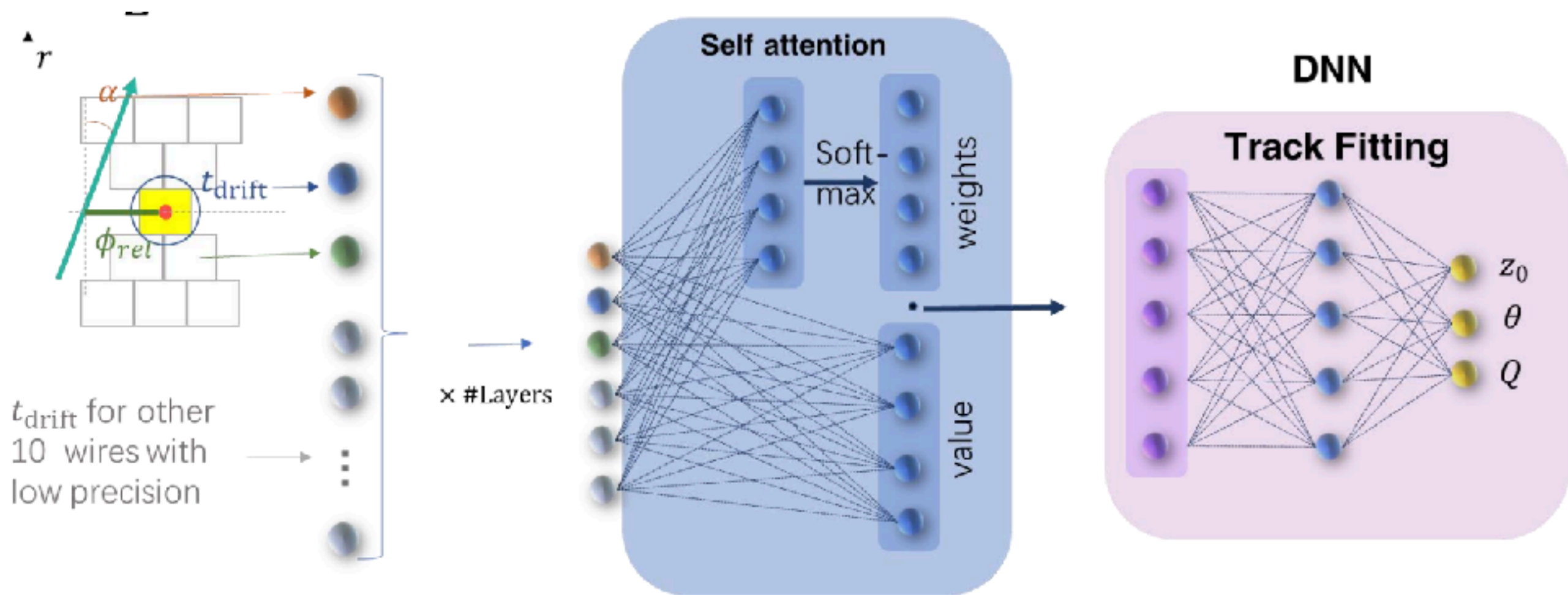
$$\mathcal{R}_{L1} \sim \mathbf{32kHz} @ 6.0 \times 10^{35} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1} (\text{LS2})$$

CDCTR

DNN track

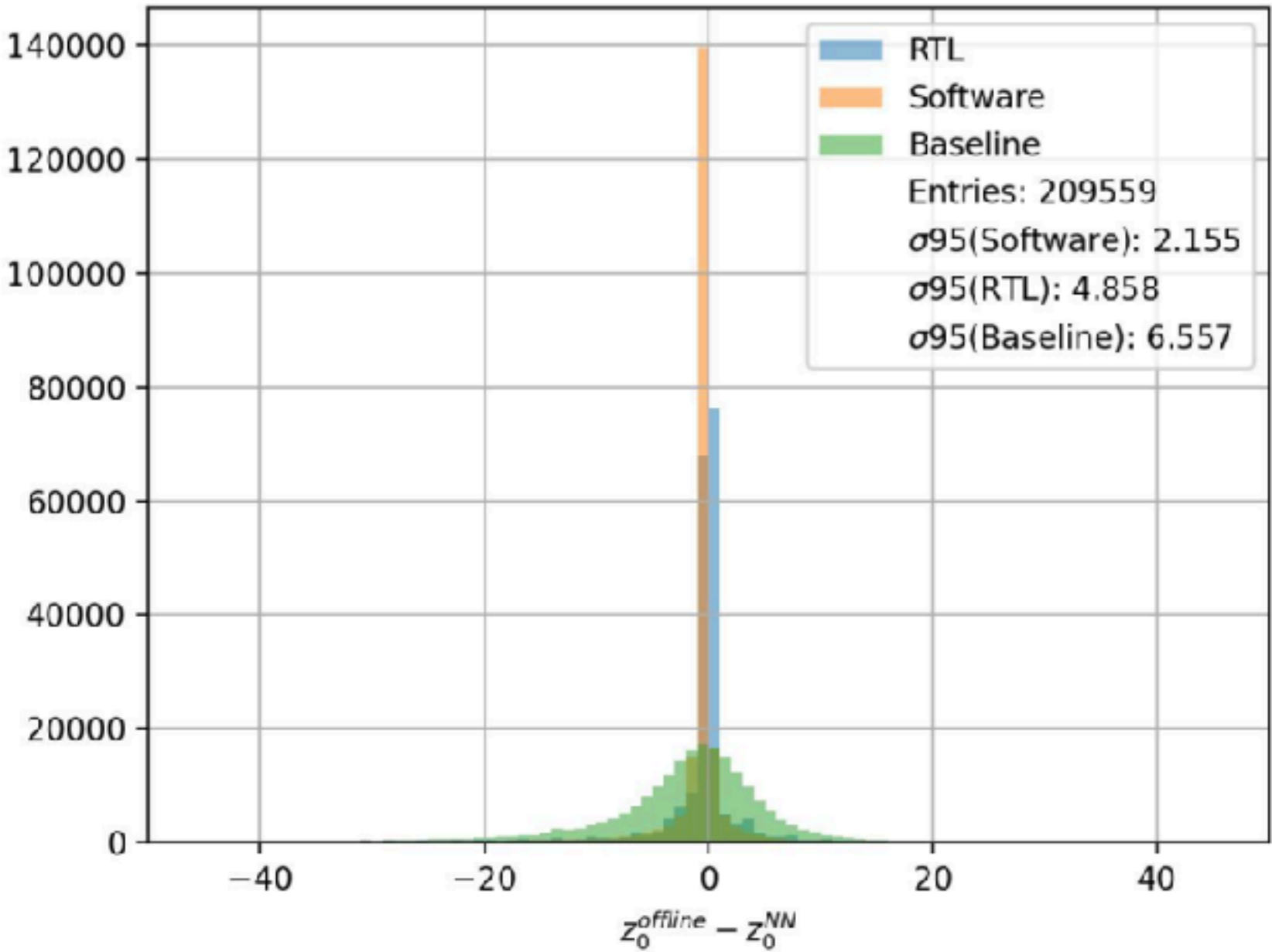
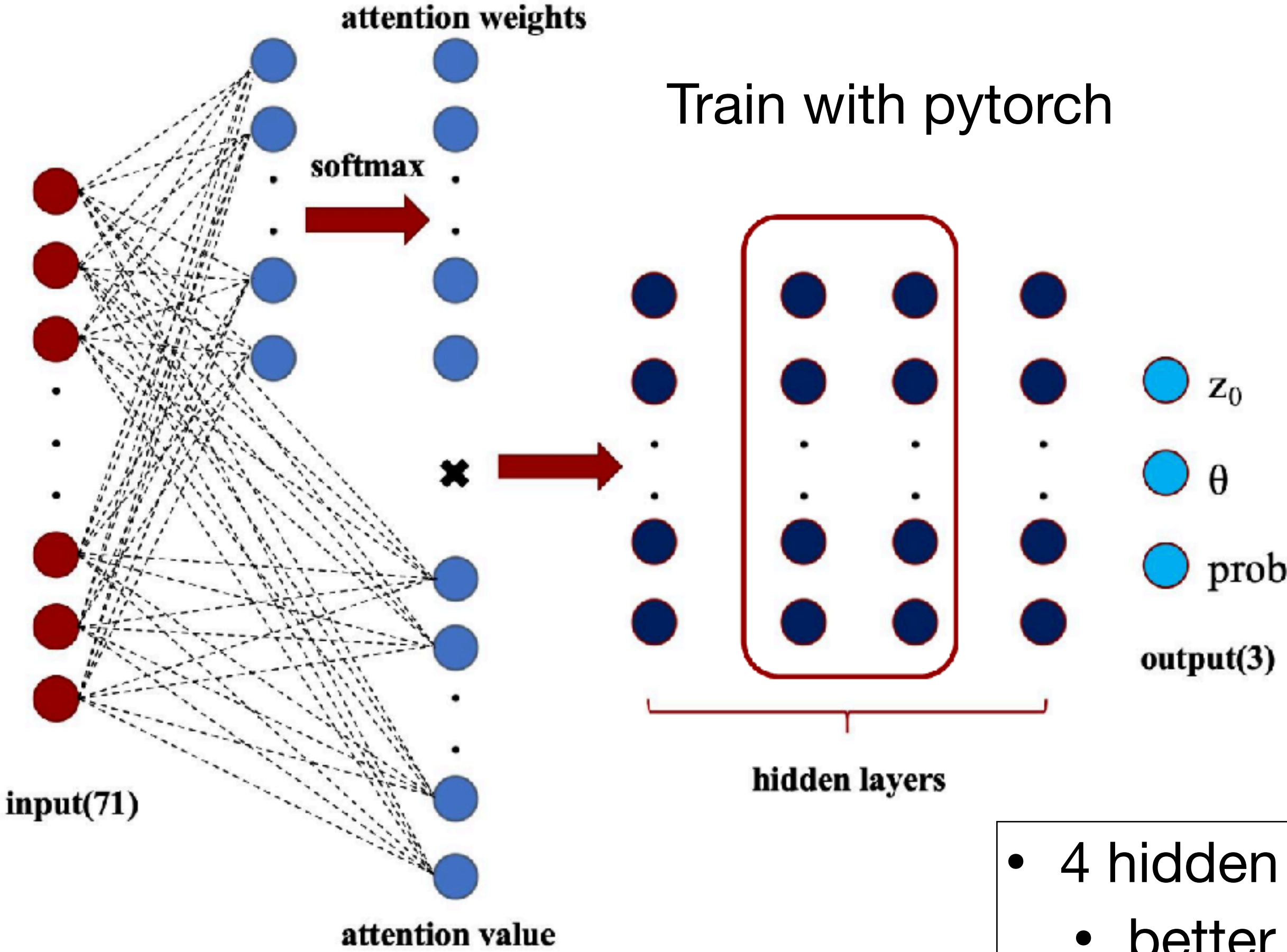
- DNN track trigger is developed with
- Additional inputs
 - New architecture
 - Higher complexity and higher depth
 - New output Q

71 inputs: α , t_{drift} , ϕ_{rel} from 9 SLs & extra t_{drift} from 4 stereo SLs



CDCTR

DNN track



	Initial	quantization
LUT	858308(95.38%)	686,780(76.32%)
DSP	572(29.06%)	318(16.16%)
latency	637.8 ns	582.7 ns

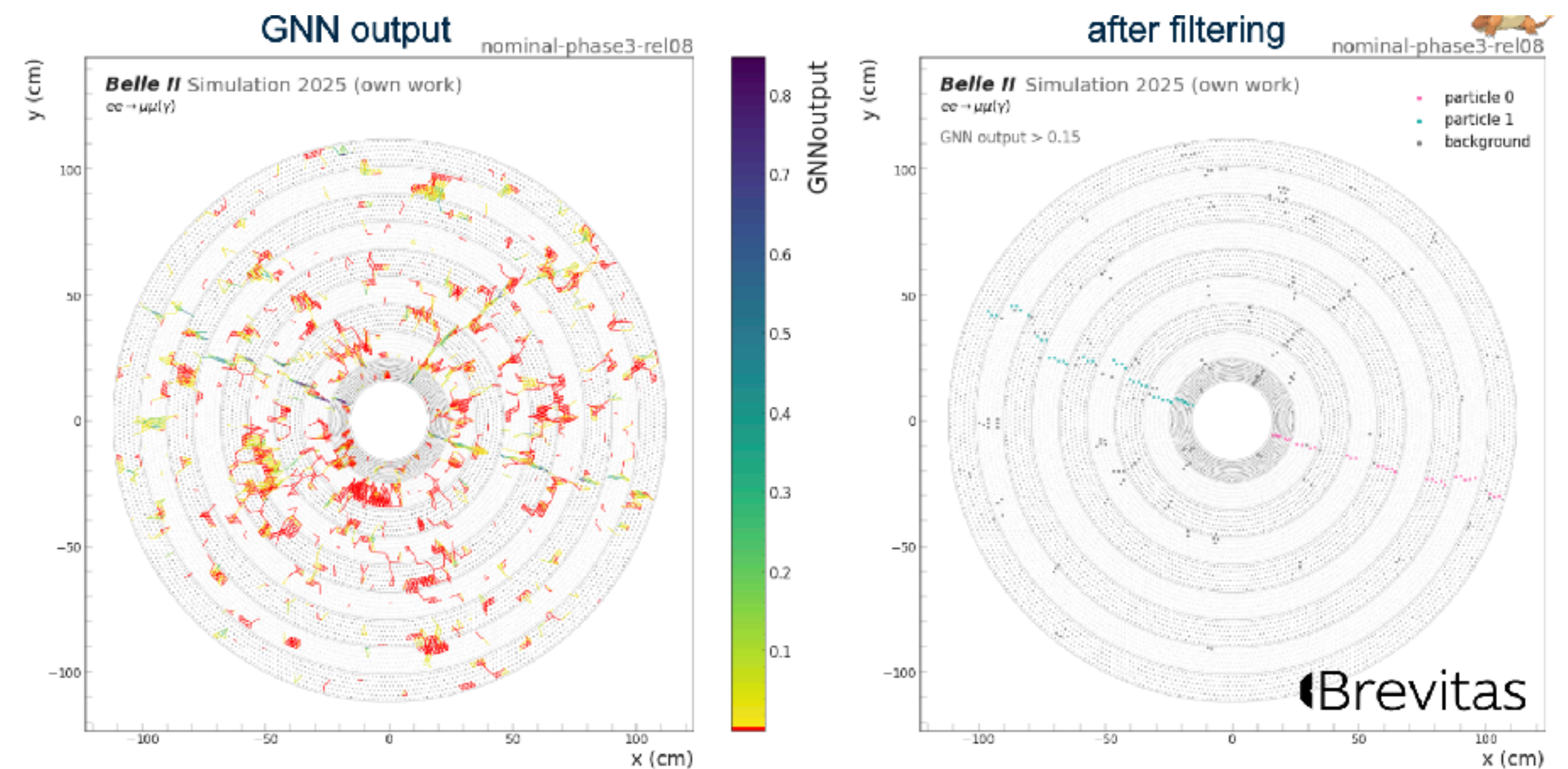
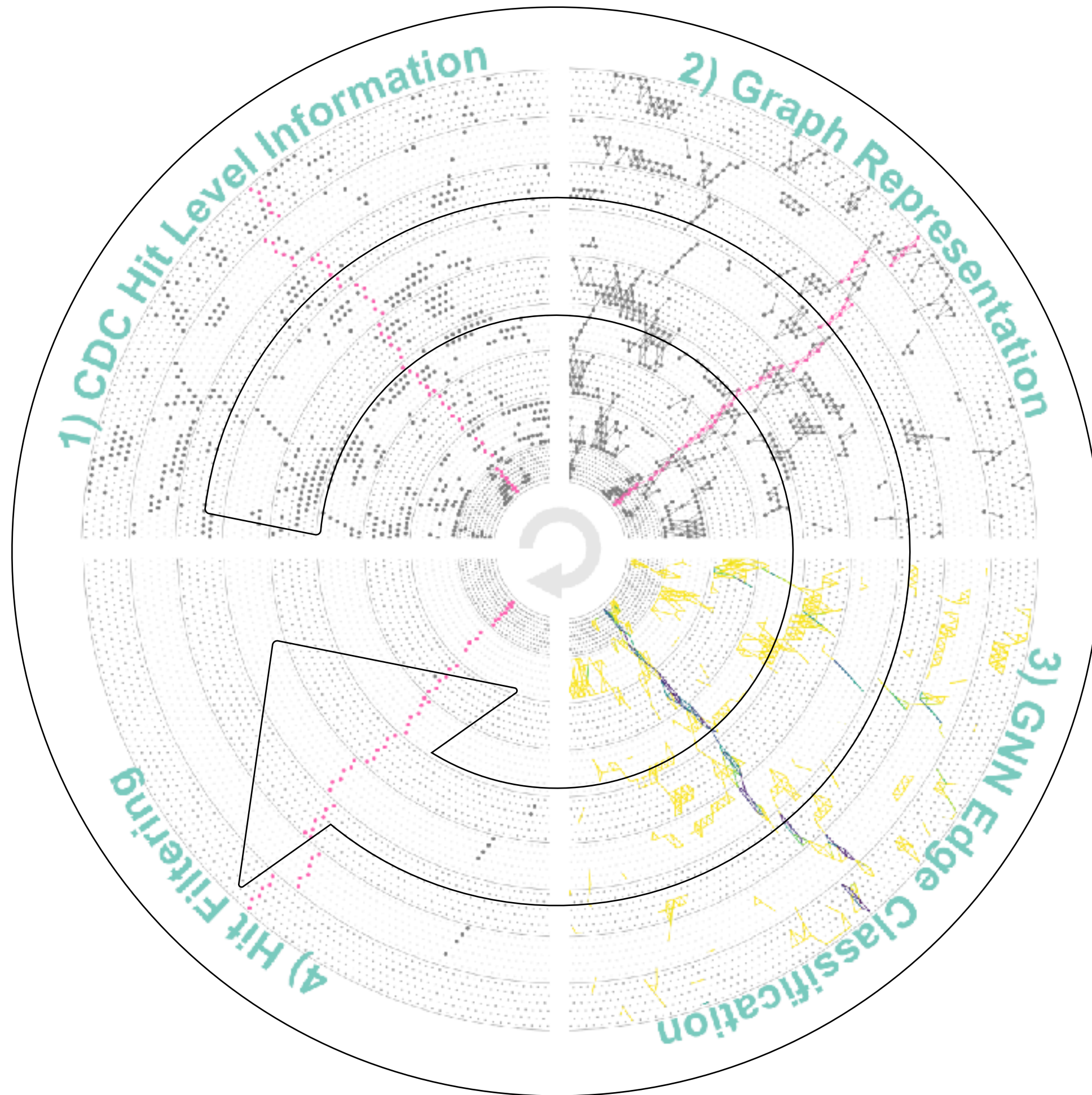
- 4 hidden layers
 - better performance
- Per channel symmetric quantization
 - optimize hardware resources and reduce latency

CDCTRG hit cleanup

Target: clean up background CDCTRG hits

Plug before Track Segment Finder (TSF)

- Quantisation (NeuraLUT || Brevitas) needed to fulfill hardware constraints.
- Results looks promising and stable.



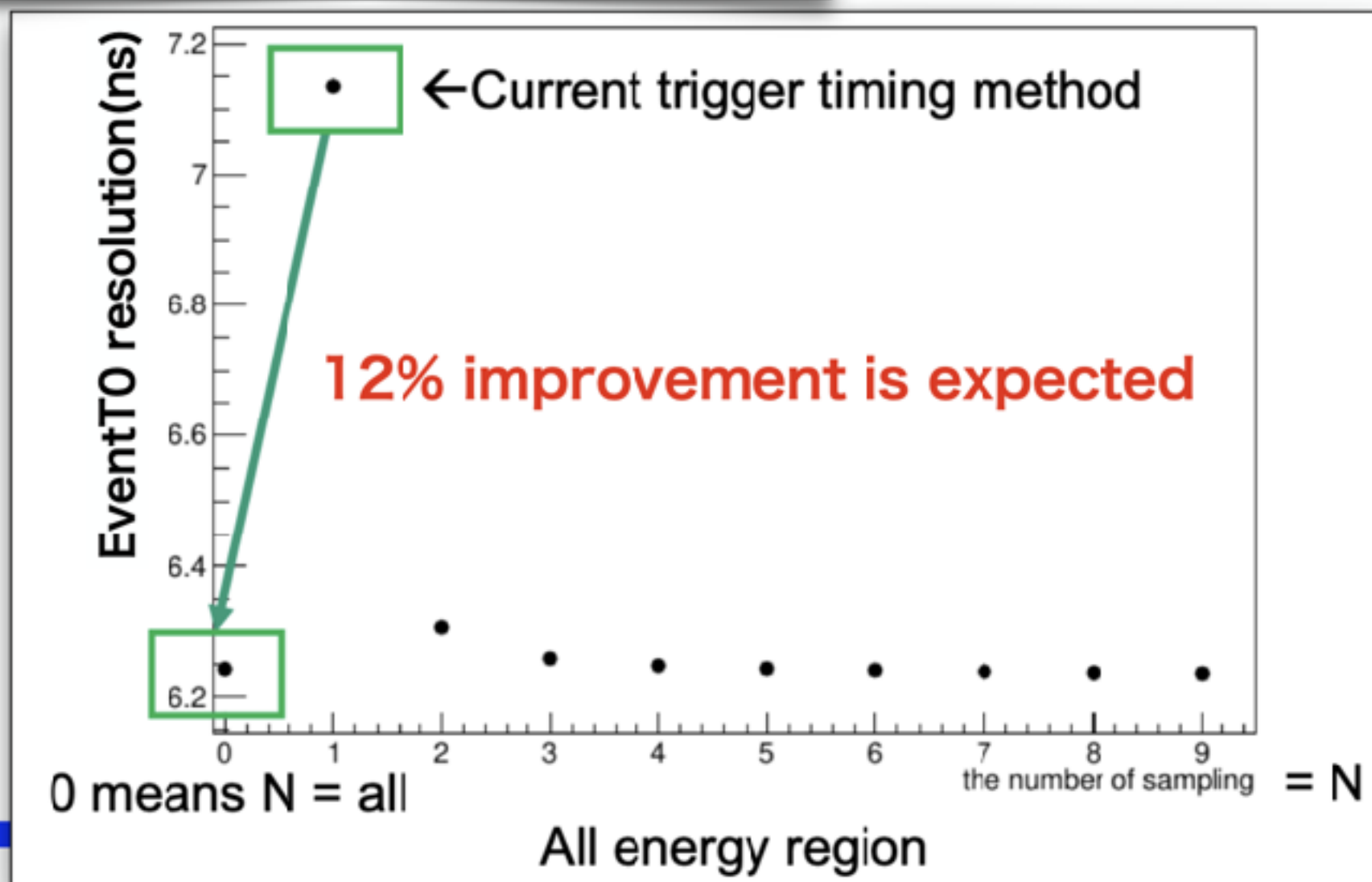
In developing/testing/debugging

ECLTRG

New event timing logic

- Target: "good" resolution of L1 timing for SVD to reduce dead time
- Event timing in ecltrg was determined by timing of most energetic TC
- Check the resolutions for energy weighted TC timing by varying N(TC)

$$(\text{trigger timing}) = \frac{\sum_i^N E_i t_i}{\sum_i^N E_i}$$



Firmware

- Meets requirements of latency and timing closure
- Test bench: consistent with simulation

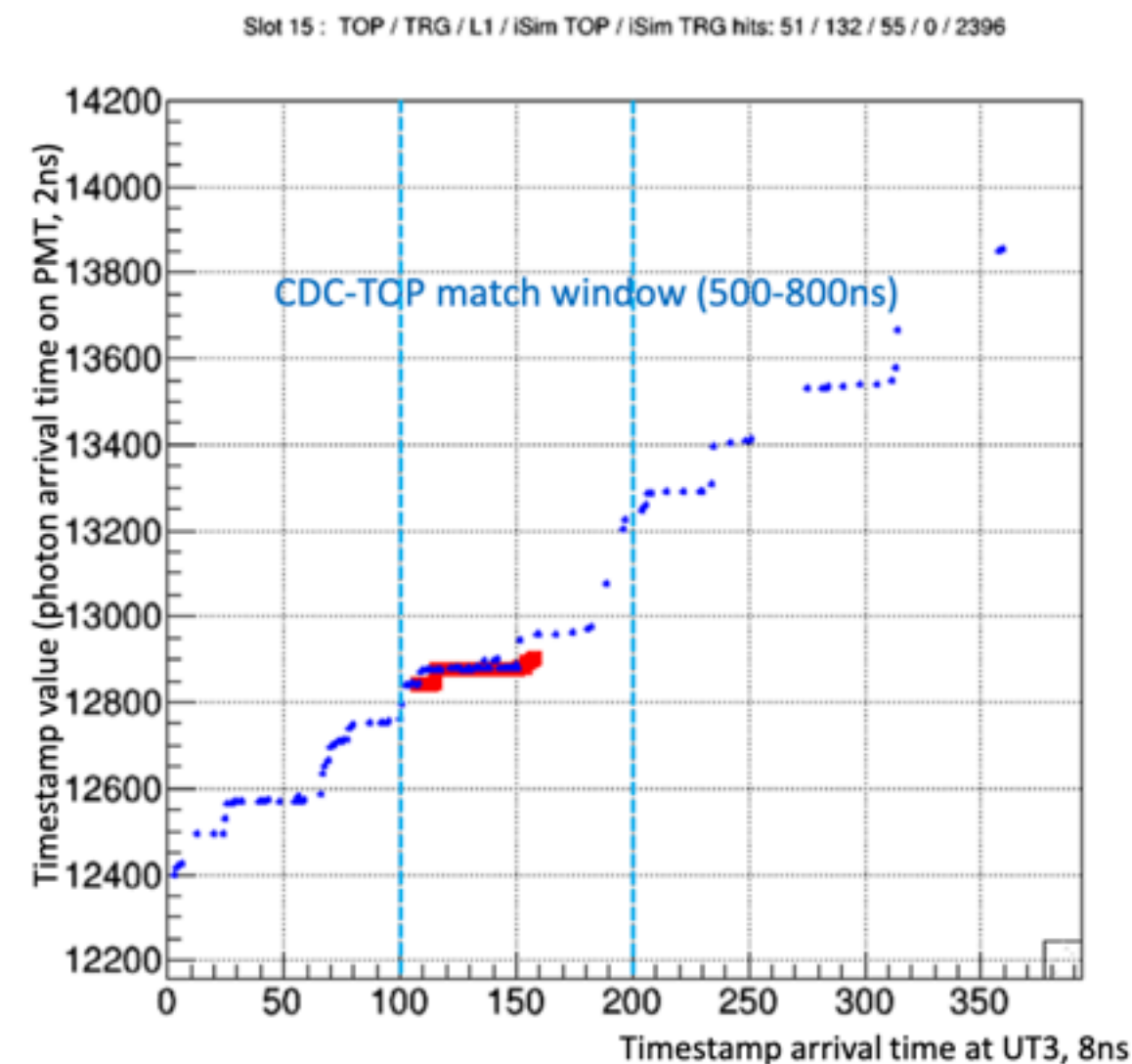
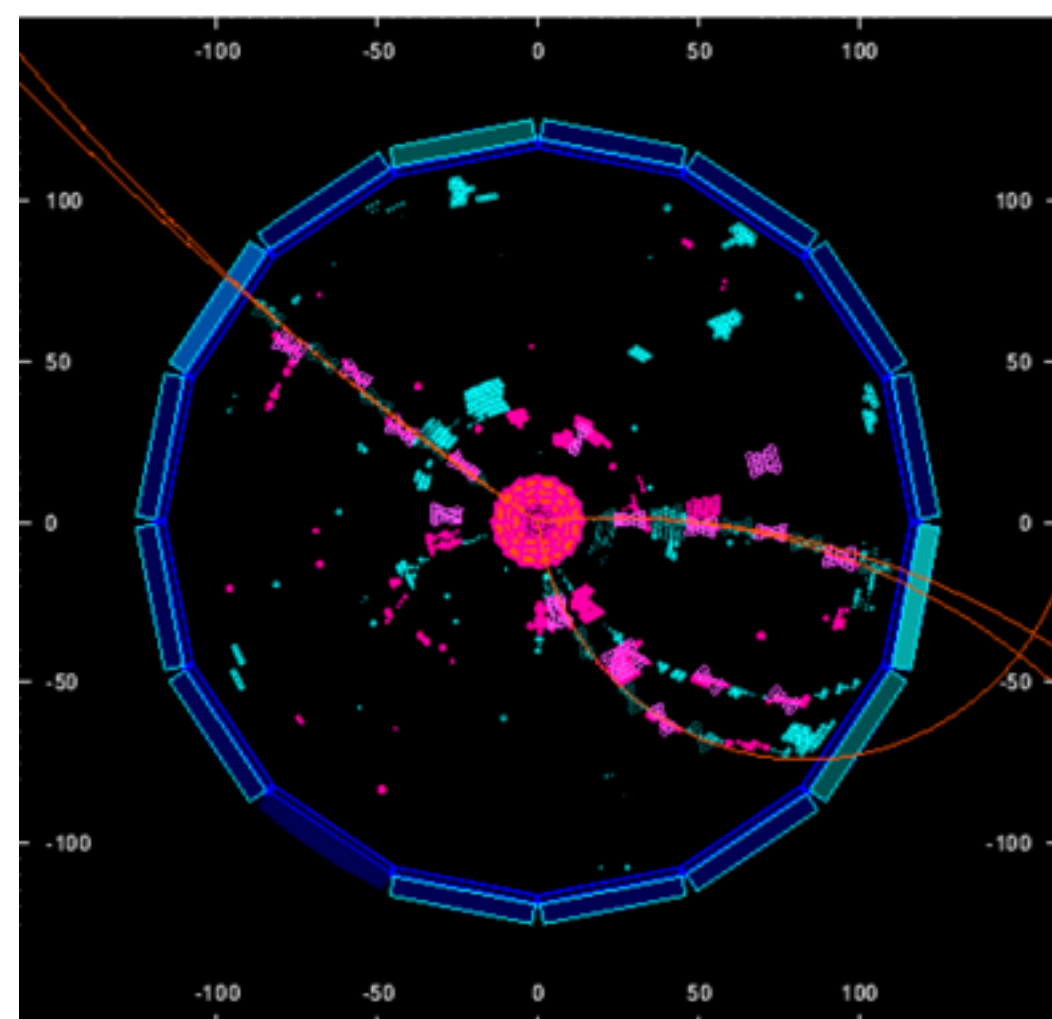
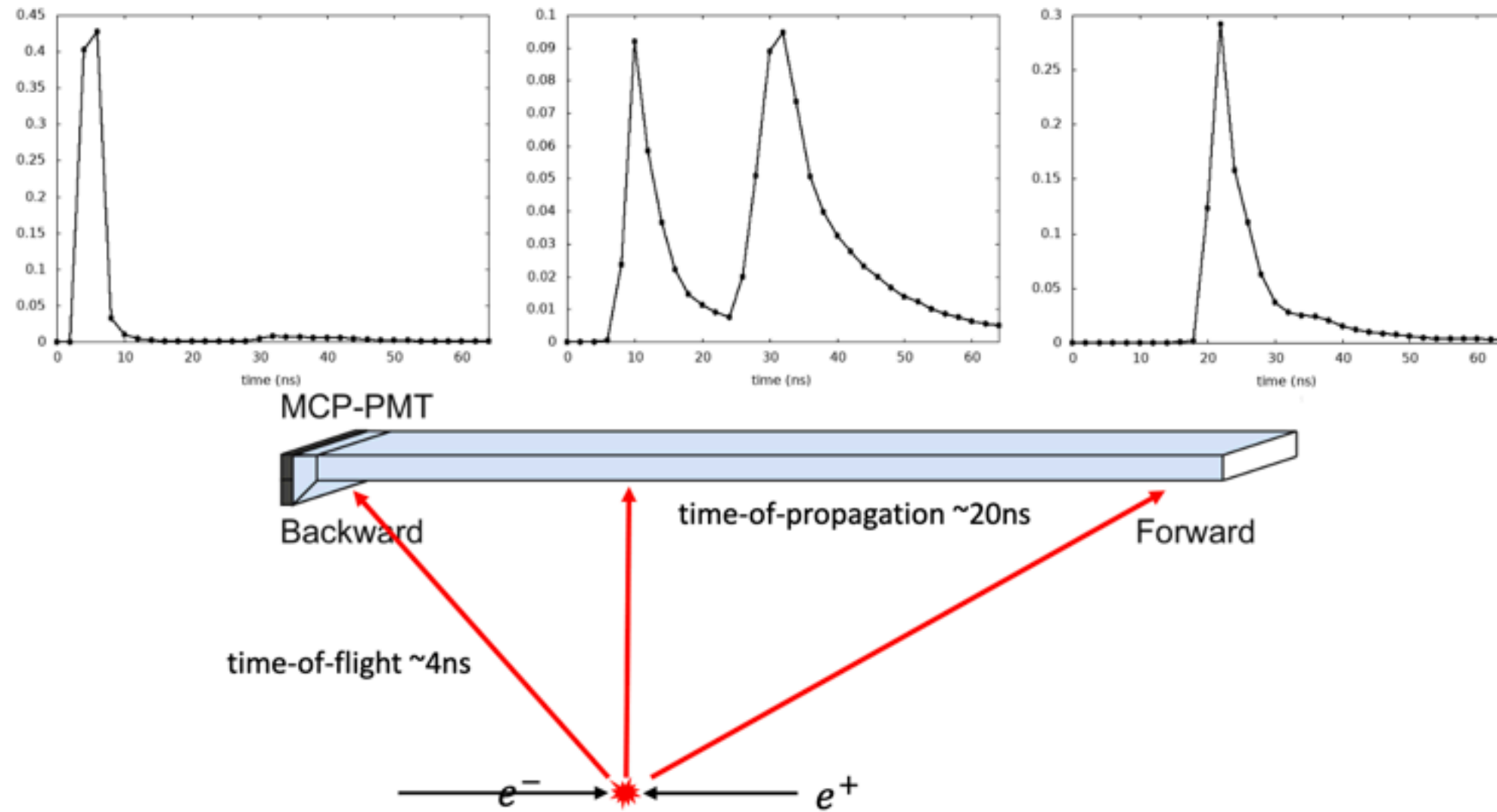
TSIM

- Results are consistent with expectation.

TOPTRG

Fast and precise measurement of collision timing (t_0), to suppress out-of-time hits and reduce data volume.

- TOP Trigger efficiency for cosmic events is $\sim 93\%$
- For hadronic events is only $\sim 34\%$ because of beam background photons
- Match with track information from 2D TRG track
- TOP Trigger efficiency for hadronic events improves to $\sim 70\%$
- Future
 - Use 3D track; ML based approach
 - Need to run FW faster - More progress needed



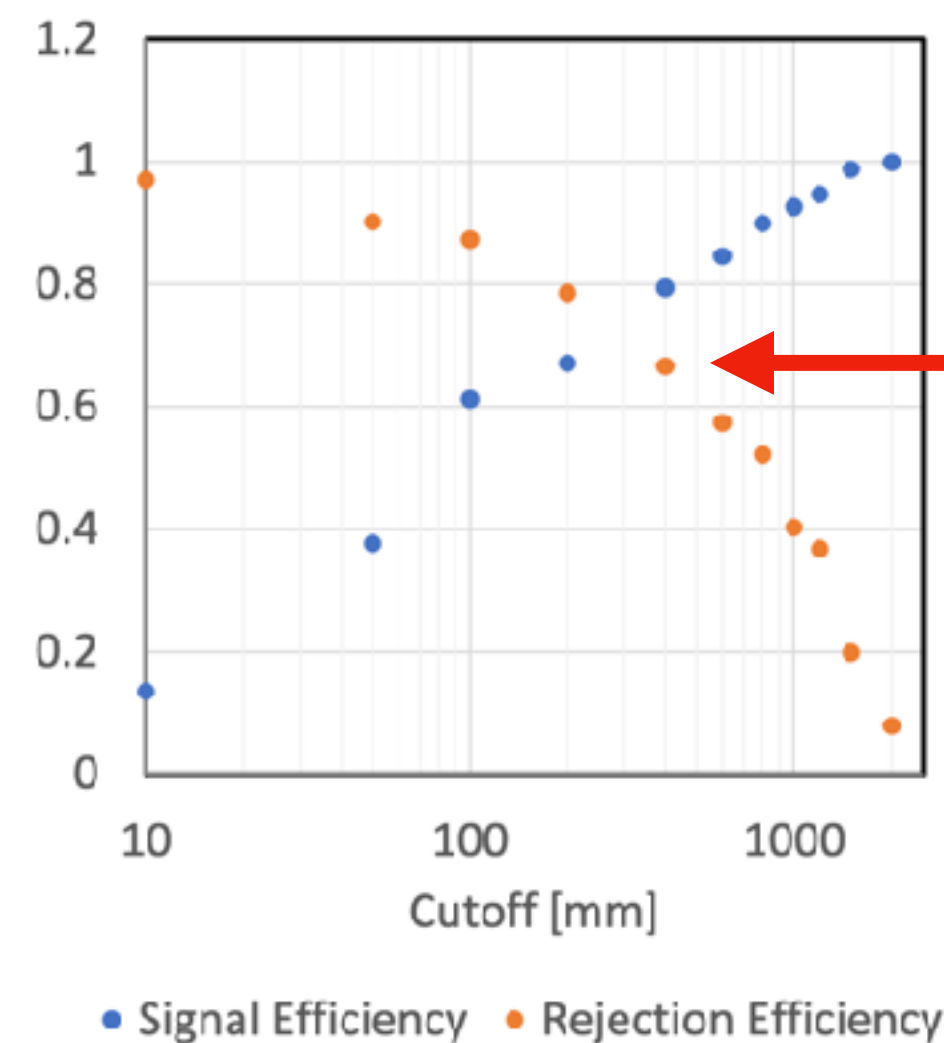
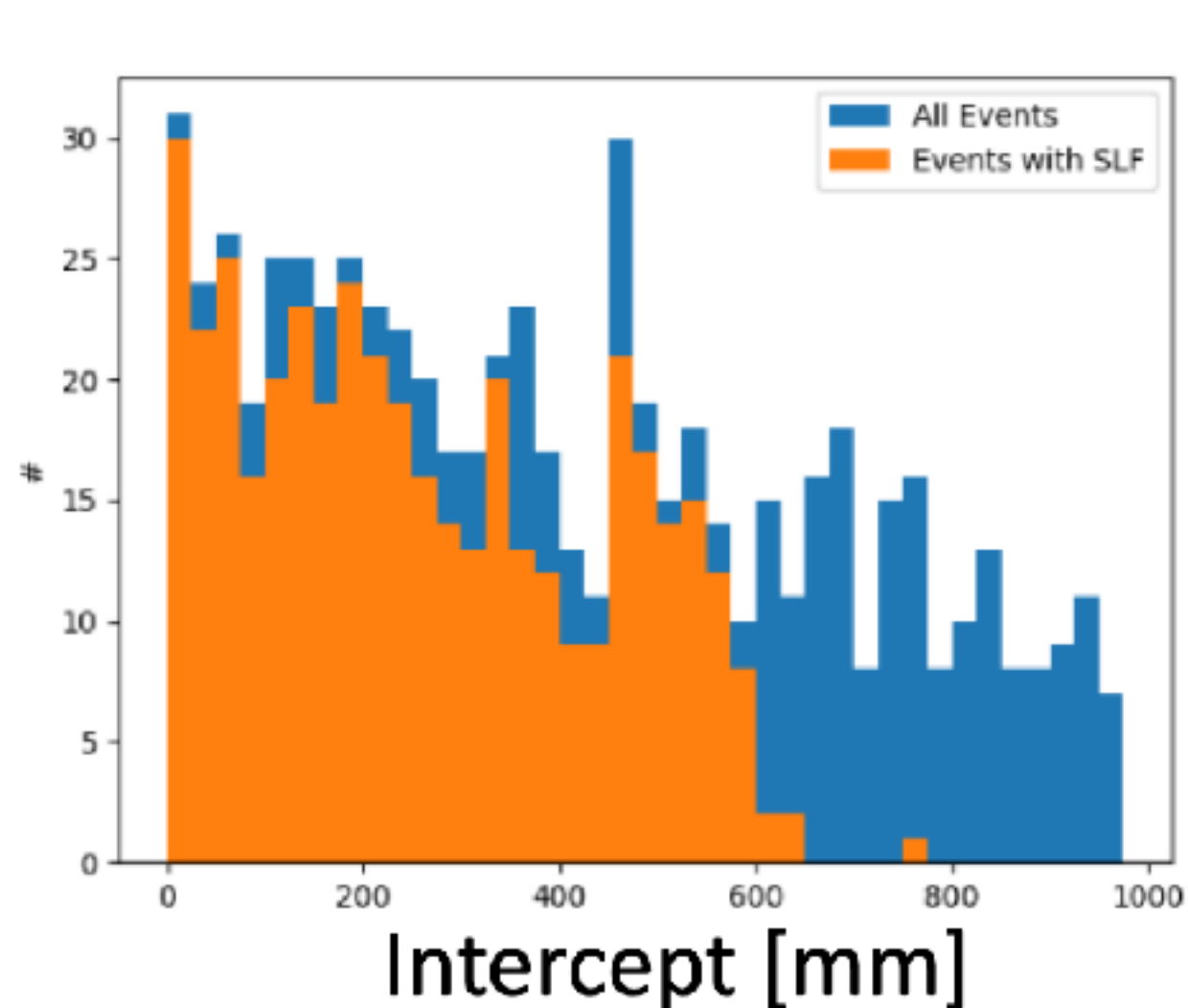
KLMTRG

Used to take μ^+ pair events, necessary for calibration.

New algorithm, Straight line fitter (SLF):

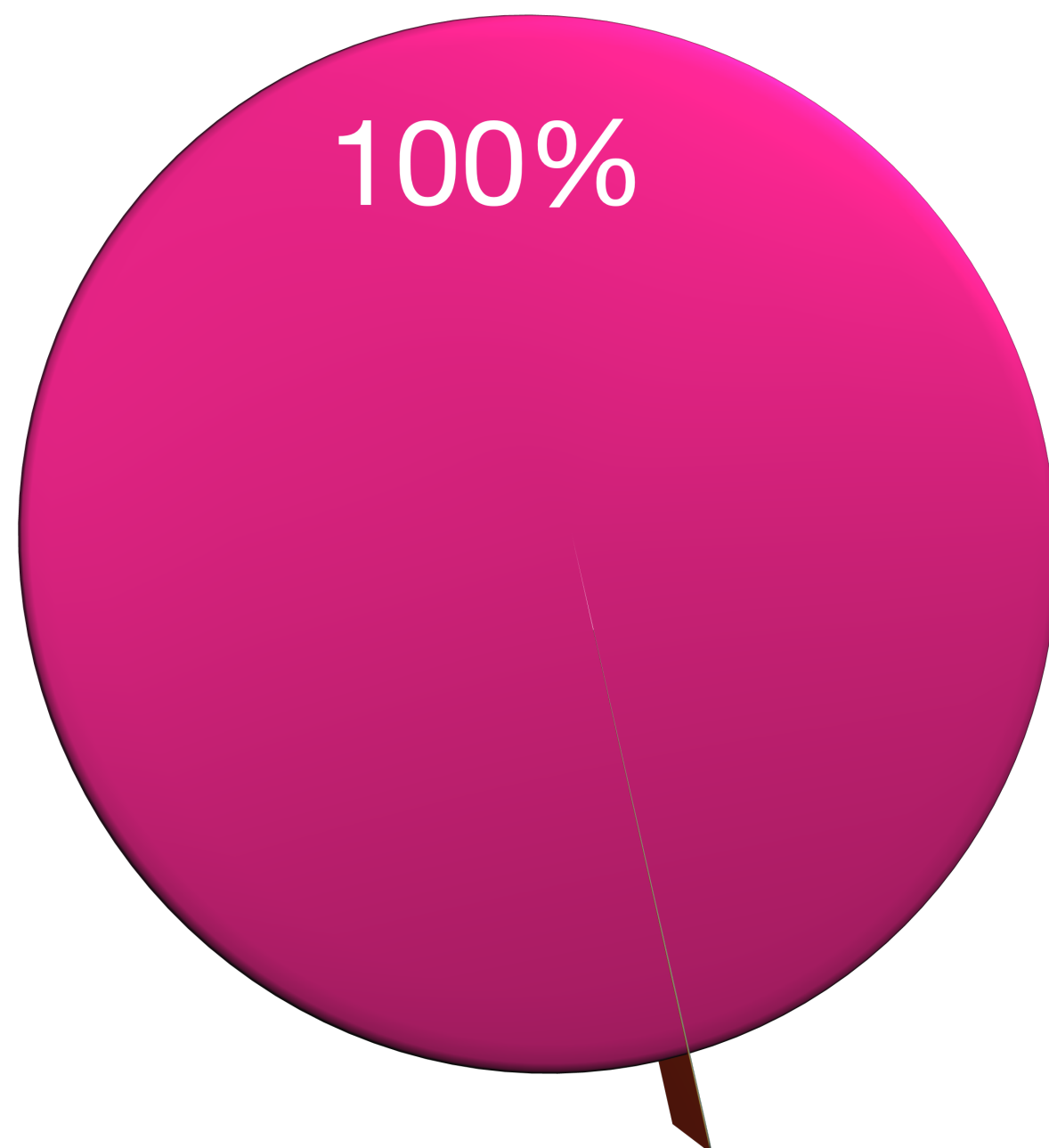
Target: ~2 times smaller cosmic rate while keep same muon efficiency

- Histogram of Events as function of the Intercept
- Events with SLF show a steep drop-off after 600 mm



At a cutoff of ~500 mm, the internal trigger rate is reduced by a factor of ~2.

- Y4S
- uubar
- ddbar
- ssbar
- ccbar
- bhabha
- dimuon
- di-gamma
- eeee
- eemumu



Cross section of bhabha will increase to $1.23 \times 10^5 \text{ nb}$ when $0.5^\circ < \theta_e^* < 179.5^\circ$

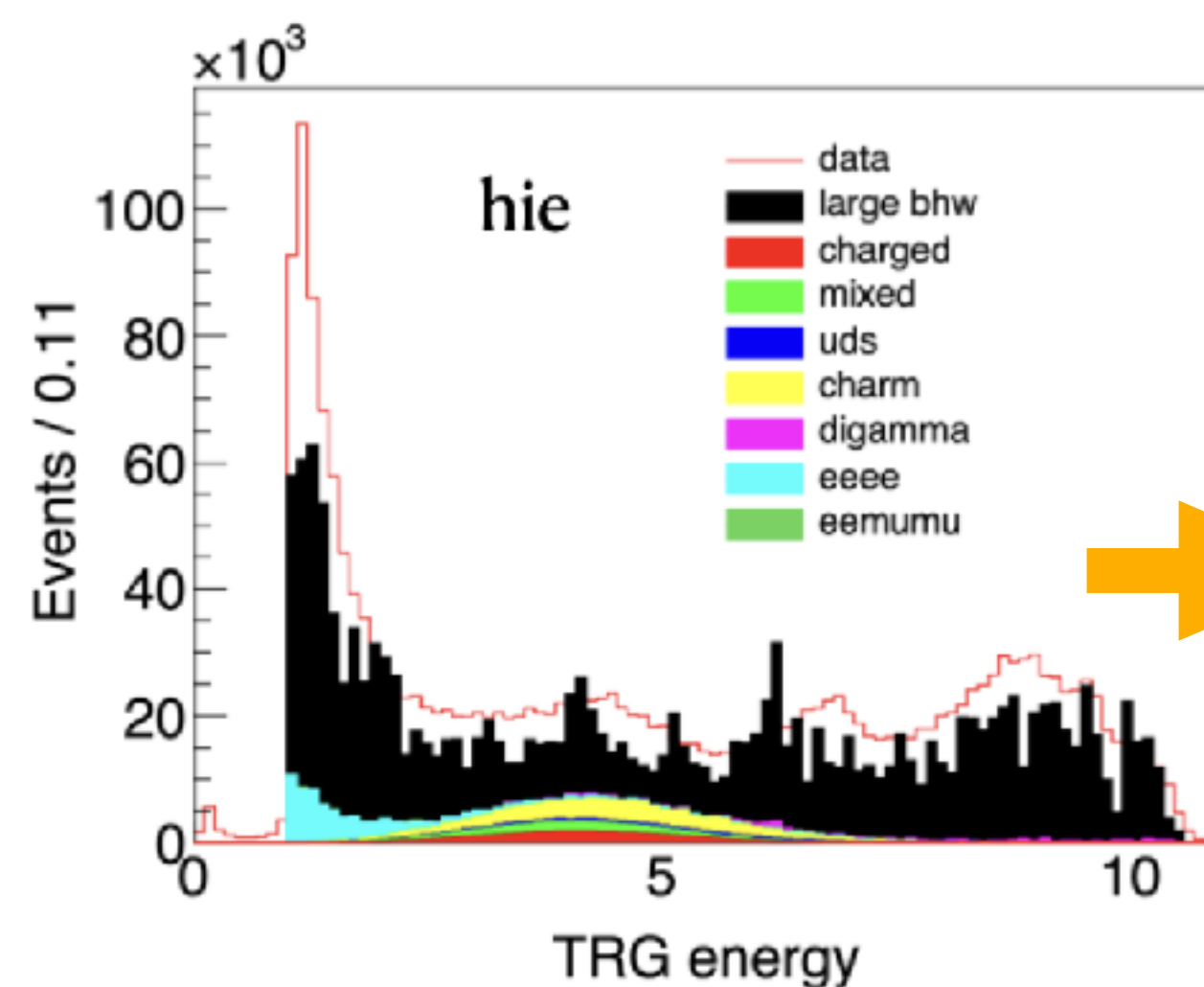
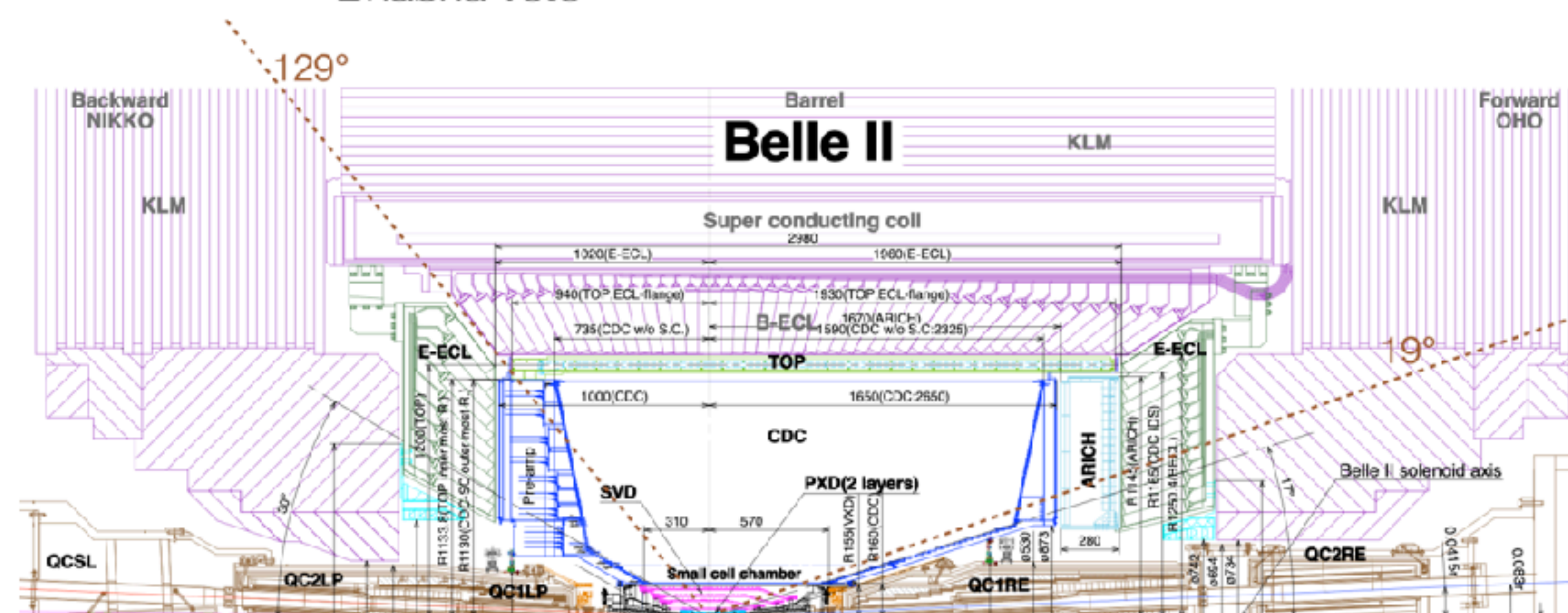
Significant effect to ECL trigger;
Needs optimization.

newhie = hie && 1-cluster-veto && 2-clusters-veto

Not on F-endcap

Second energetic ($E_{\text{dep}} > 0.5 \text{ GeV}$) photon not on endcap

- **hie**: Basic ECL trigger. Requires sum of trigger towers $> 1 \text{ GeV}$, with 100 MeV threshold per tower.
 - tower $\approx 4 \times 4$ crystals.
 - sum is over θ_{ID}^{L1} range $[2, 15]$
 - Bhabha veto



bit logics	bhabha	taupair	eeee	data
hie	1531	735879	2628	2950
fff ffolc4 hie	1601	856847	3506	4476
newhie	510	695997	1173	1640
fff ffo c4 newhie	558	823458	2165	3185

TRG rate reduced 1/2 while keep high trg rate to physics events.

GRL

ML for τ events

input variables

Energy

$\{E_1, \dots, E_6\}$ (12 bits, LSB = 5.5 MeV)

Azimuthal Angle

$\{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_6\}$ (7 bits, LSB = 1.6025°)

Polar Angle

$\{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_6\}$ (8 bits, LSB = 1.6025°)

Average Cluster Time

$\{t_1, \dots, t_6\}$ (8 bits, LSB = 1 ns)

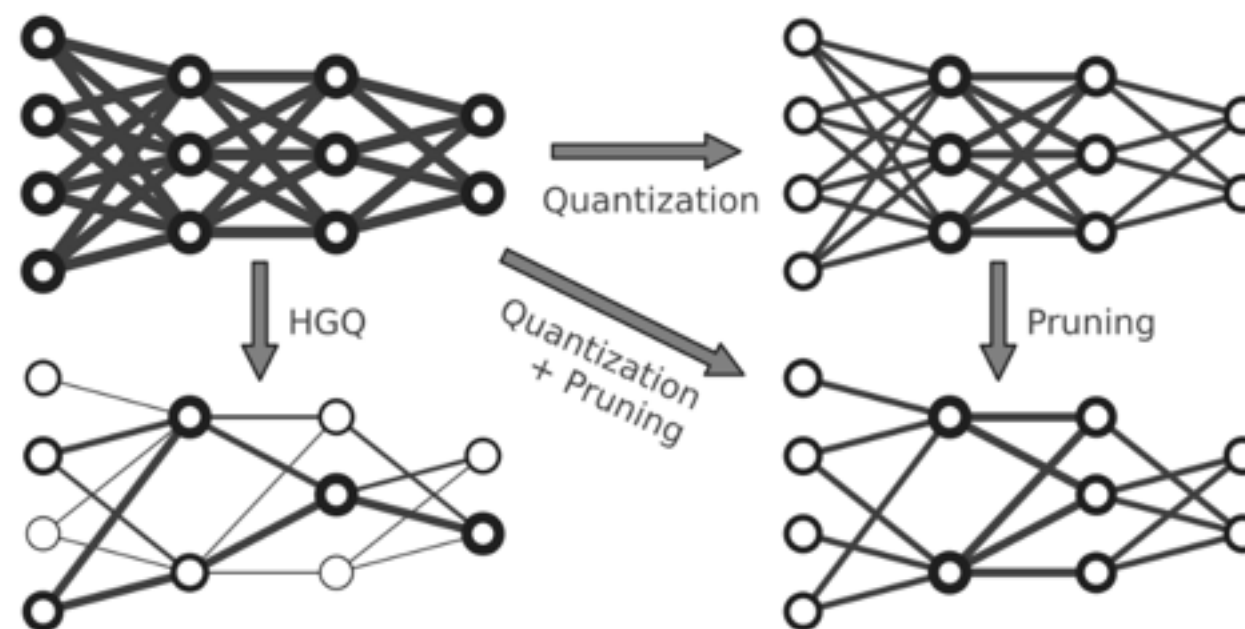
dataset

Exp 35 Run 2191, identify
signal with offline preselection

Hidden layer

- 64 Nodes per Layer
- Dense + ReLU Activation

High-Granularity Quantization

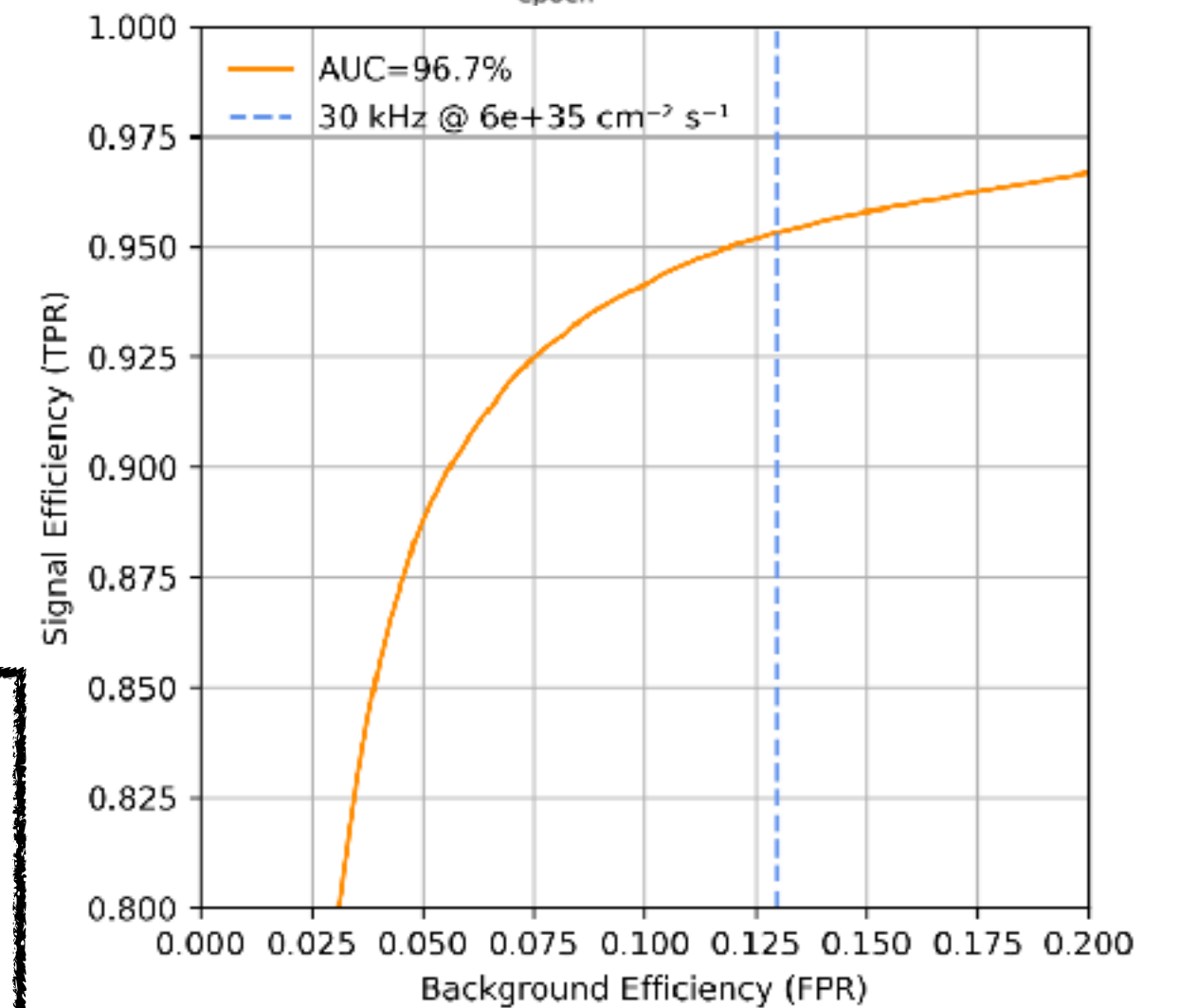
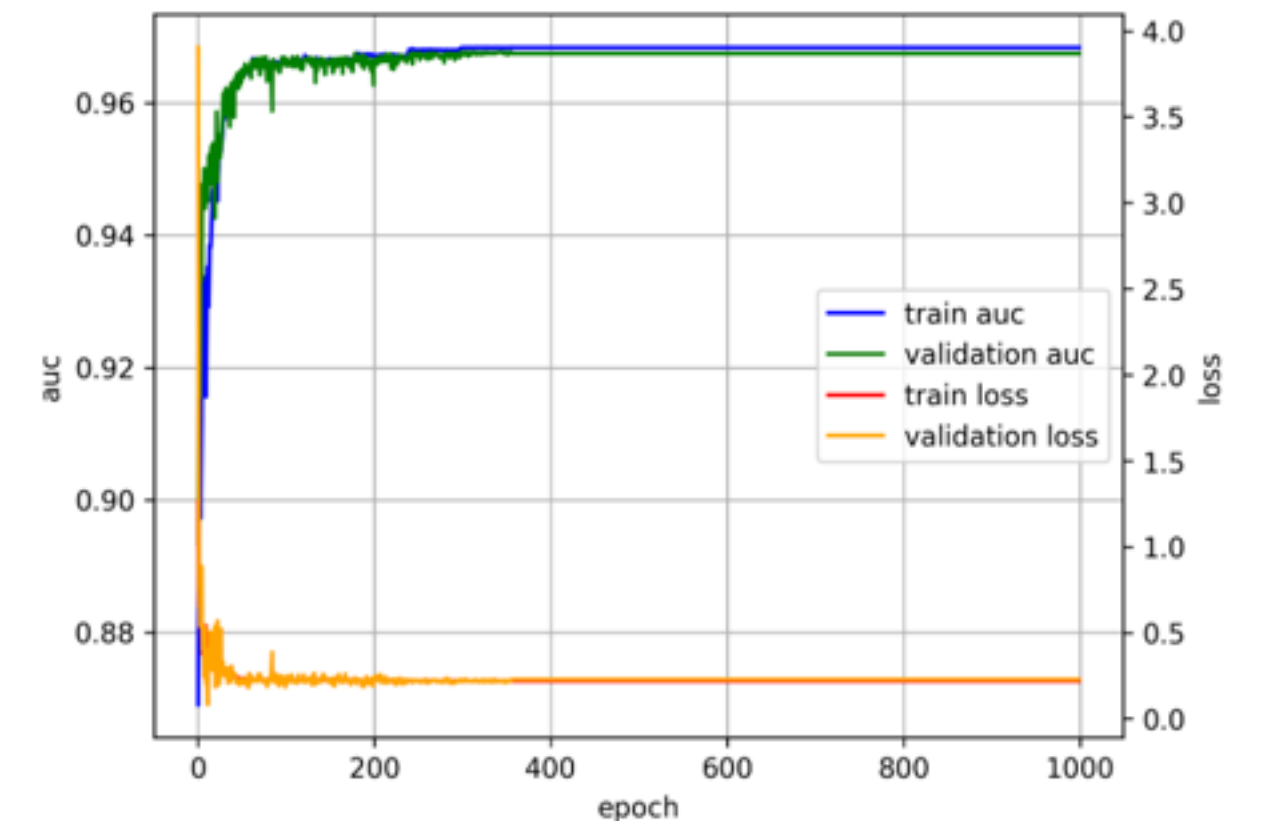


Resource utilization $\sim \mathcal{O}(1\%)$

Latency $\sim \mathcal{O}(10 \text{ ns})$

Firmware validation & Software validation ongoing

output



Summary

- Belle II TRG system is running stably.
- Many approaches are explored to reduce the trigger rate. Especially, neural network technologies now firmly established on the first trigger level, uniquely used in Belle II. Many new features incoming:
 - CDC TRG DNN 3DHough
 - New ECLTRG timing Logic with multiple clusters;
 - KLMTRG SLF is ready.
 - NN based tau events trigger on GRL.
 - CDC GNN-based hit cleanup
 - CDC displaced vertex trigger (DVT)
 - Reducing beamBG with data-driven template and ML and TOPTRG
 - Algorithm on Versal AI-engine
 - VTXTRG studies

Back up

CDCTRG

3D Hough Track finder & DNN

Target:

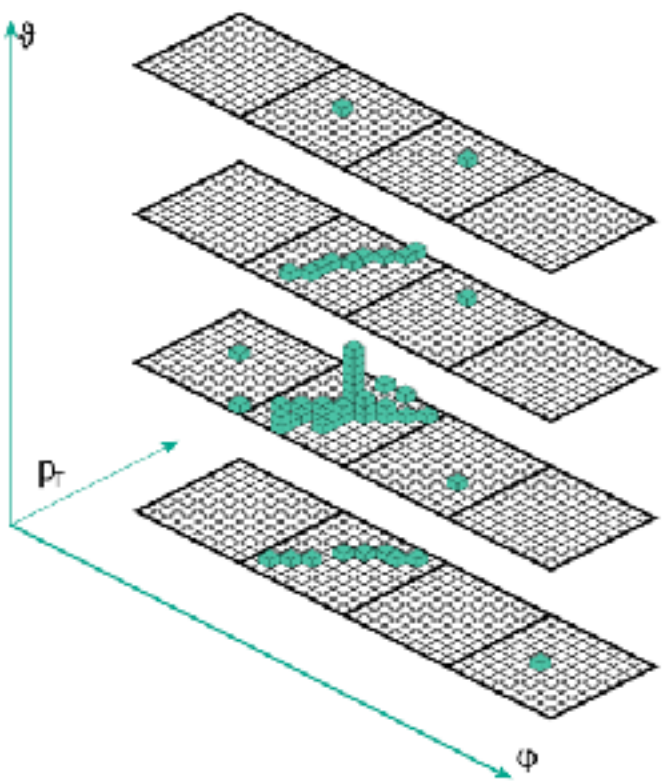
- New 3D Hough Finder + DNN to replace present single-layer NN Trigger
- Reduce TRG rate ~30% (current: 2D)

Software:

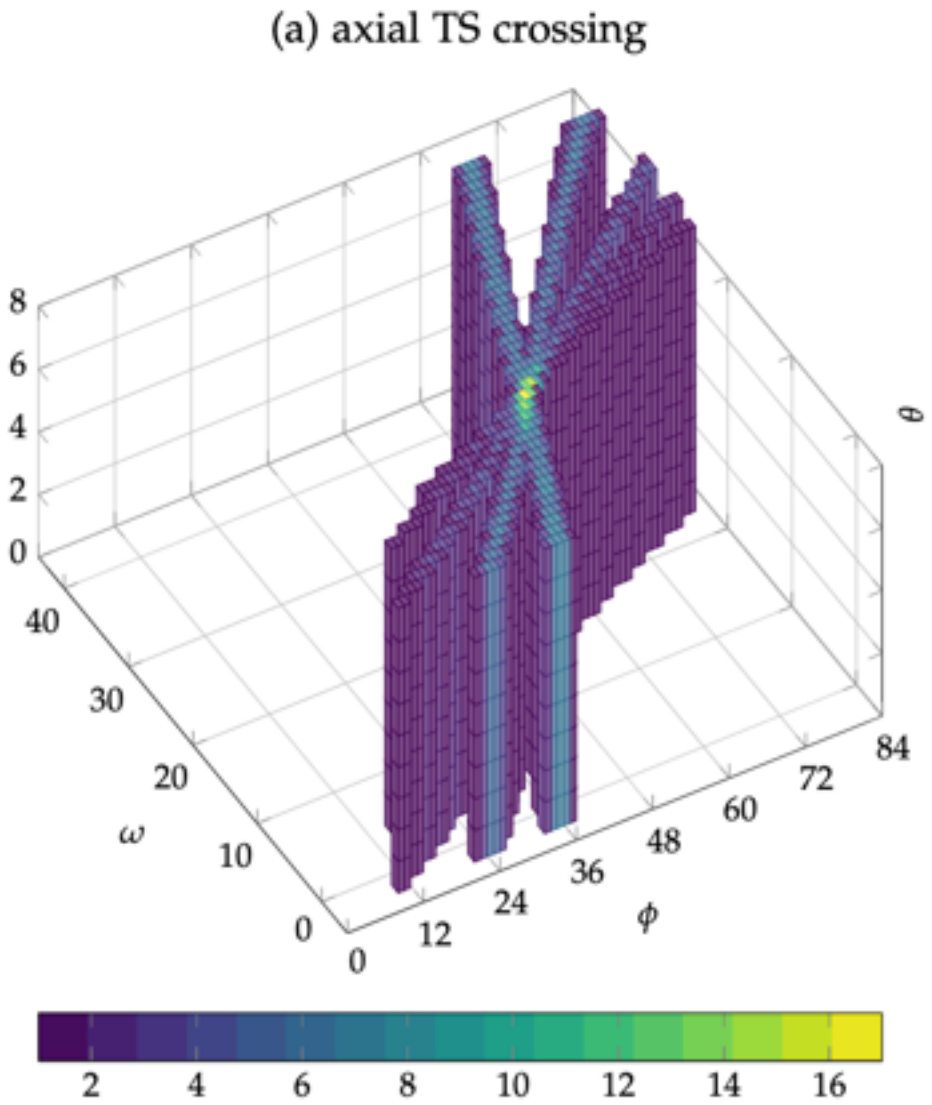
- 3DHough algorithm has been optimized
- DNN architecture is done
- Better efficiency and background rejection than 2DFinder, extension of polar angular range

Firmware:

- Each possible Hough curve in grid is pre-calculated
- Use look-up tables to generate the Hough curve

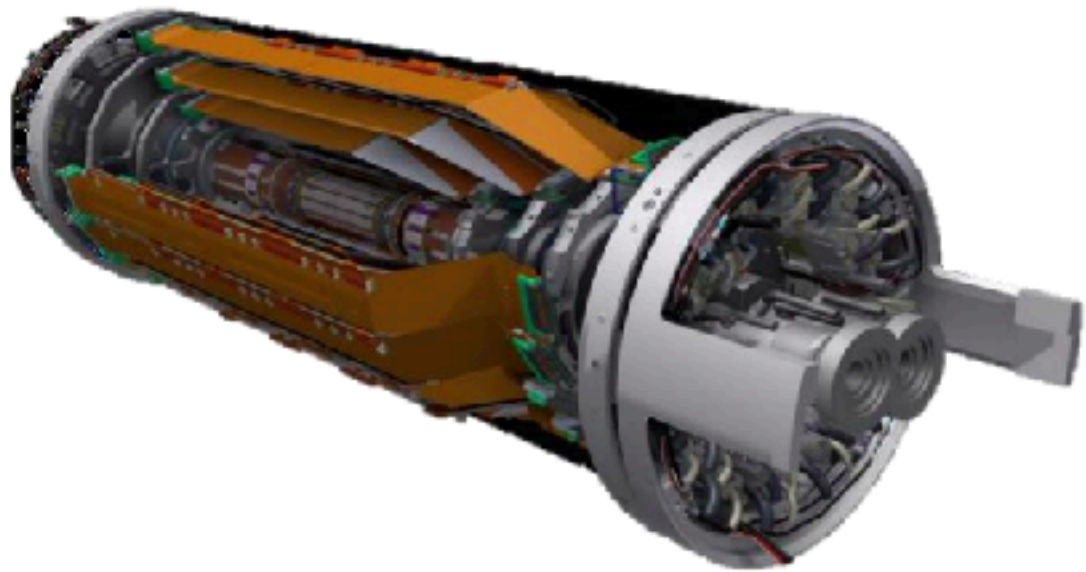


Combination	Efficiency $\geq (3, 2)$	Rejection $\geq (3, 2)$
Across the board: 0.25	98.44%	81.41%
Across the board: 0.5	95.78%	90.93%
Optimization: Equal	94.63%	95.70%
Optimization: 3×Eff.	97.08%	91.45%
Optimization: 6×Eff.	98.50%	85.51%
Optimization: 3×Rej.	90.71%	98.13%
Optimization: 6×Rej.	87.16%	99.00%

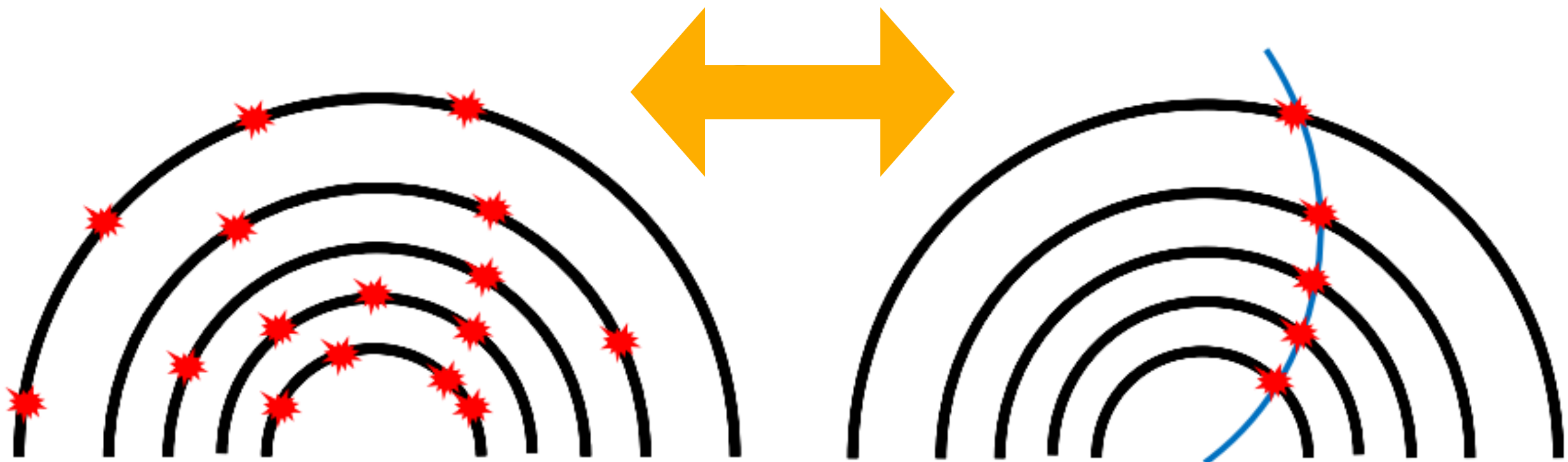
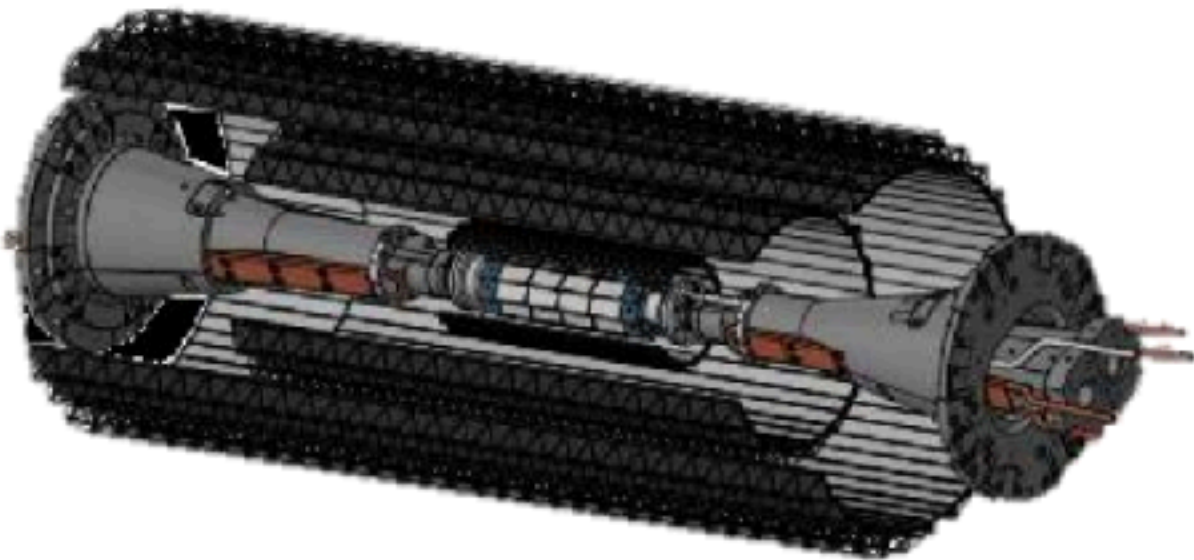


VTX TRG

Current inner vertex detector (VXD)

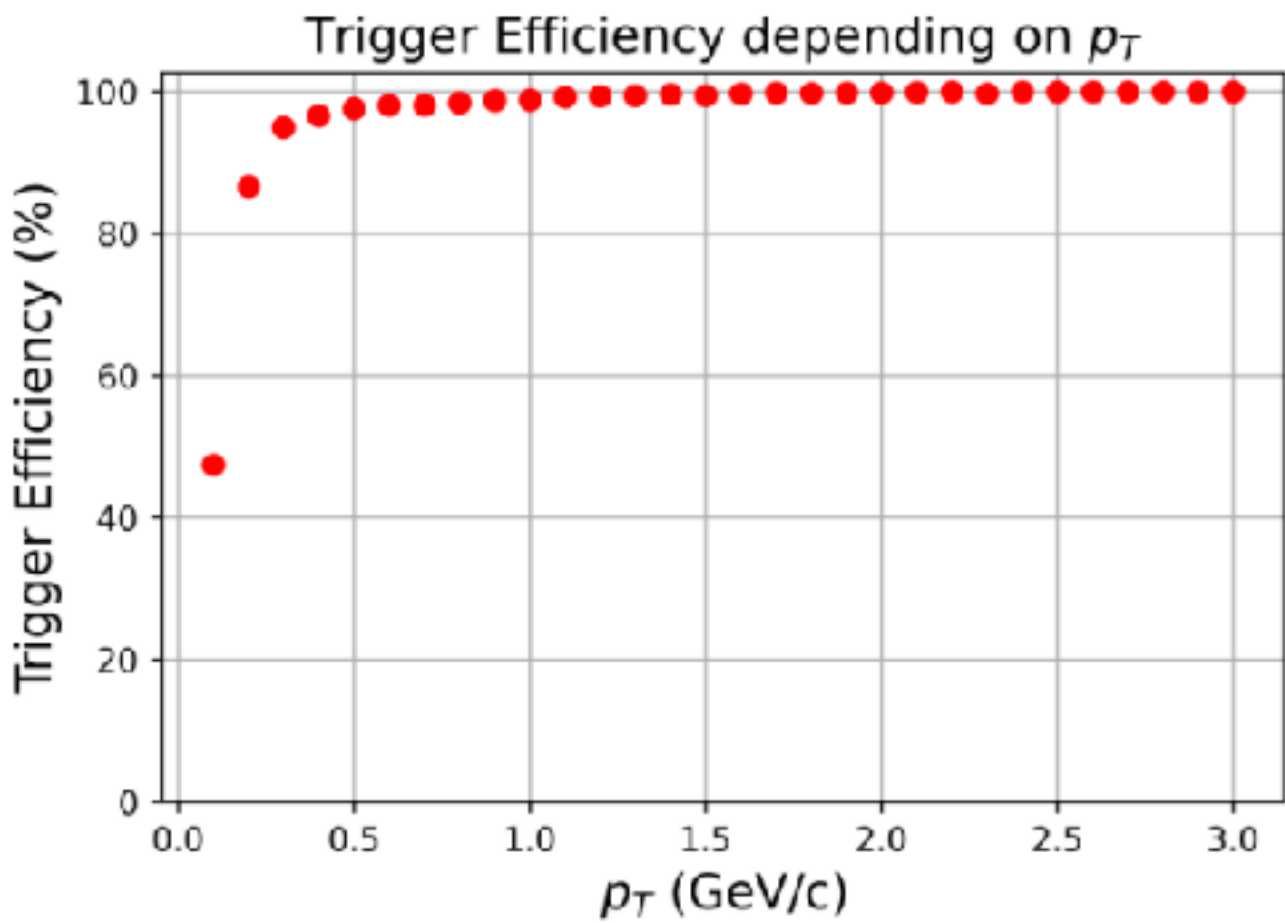


Future inner vertex detector (VTX)



VTXTRG will provide: (θ, ϕ, z_0)

High efficiency, very good z_0 resolution



	inner VTX		outer VTX		
Layer	1	2	3	4	5
Ladder	6	10	30	40	31
Sensor per Ladder	4	4	12	16	2×24
Distance to IP (mm)	14.1	22.1	69.1	89.5	140.0
Max Hit Rate (MHz cm ⁻²)	120	51.6	6.4	2.1	1.2

Table 2.1: VTX characteristics with OBELIX sensor

Huge background, CDC-VTX matching will be needed.