

Acts: A common tracking software

Xiaocong Ai for the ACTS developers
UC Berkeley

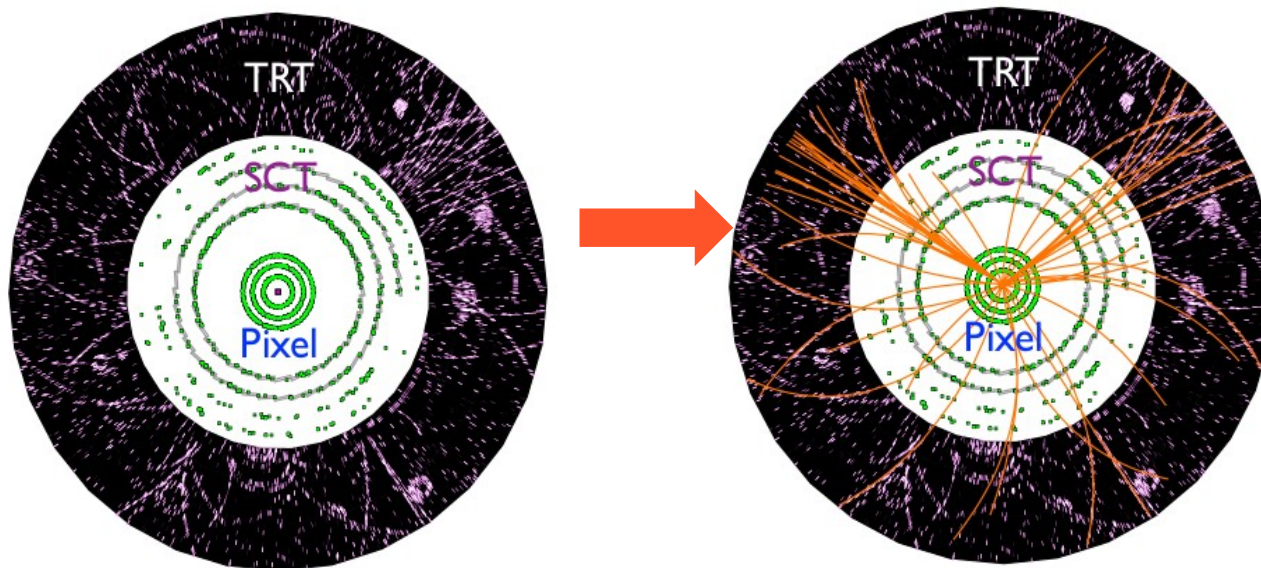
DPF 2019, Boston, Jul 31, 2019



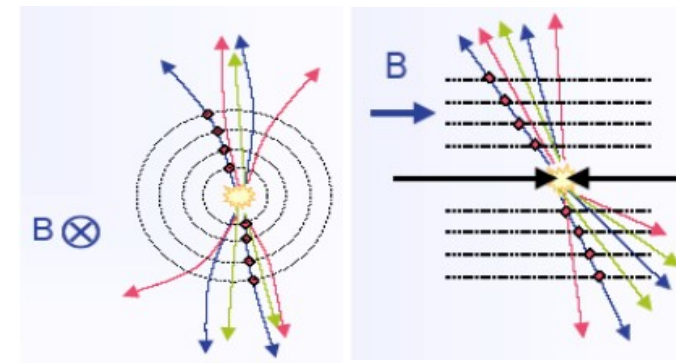
Tracking concept

- Particles traverse the detector resulting in electronic signals due to interaction with material
- Tracking system is used to measure position and momentum (by curvature in magnetic field) of charged particle by recording signals along the trajectory

e.g. ATLAS tracking system (Inner Detector)



Helical track in solenoidal B field



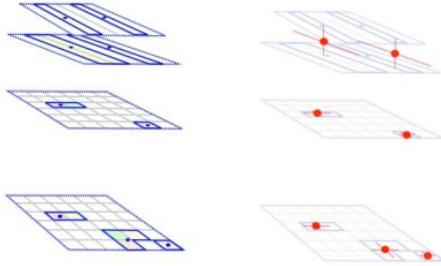
- **Track reconstruction (of charged particle)**
 - Identify the group of hits that correspond to the charged particle trajectory
 - Estimate trajectory parameter (position, momentum)

- Reconstructed tracks/vertexes are ingredients for physics object reconstruction

Tracking recap

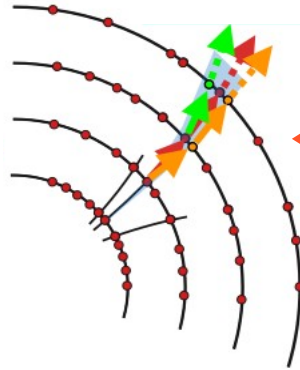
Input data preparation

- Usually includes:
 - Raw data converted to cluster/drift circle
 - ✓ need calibration constants
 - 3D SpacePoint formation
 - ✓ need alignment constants



Track finding (pattern recognition)

- Identify the group of hits corresponding to a track

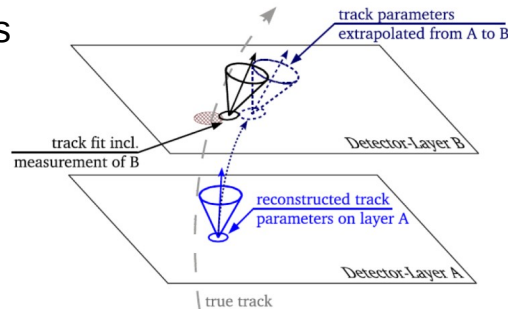


- Global (all hits considered simultaneously)
- Local (progressively adding hits)
 - e.g. track seeding + track following
 - Track seeding: find seeds from 2/ 3 hits and provide initial track parameter
 - Track following: propagate track parameter to search for additional hits

Track fitting

- Estimate trajectory's parameter

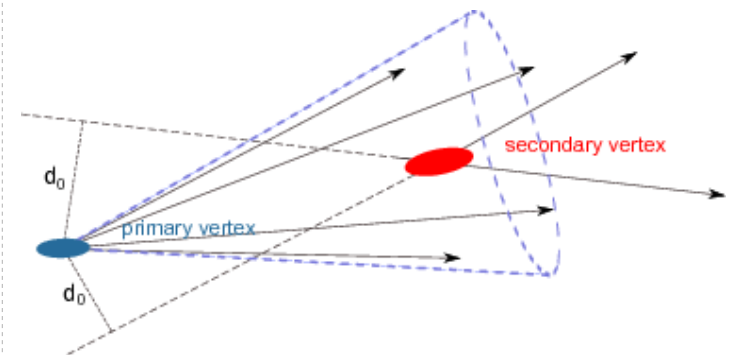
- Least squares estimation (simultaneous consideration of all measurements)
- [Kalman Filter](#) (progressively from one measurement to the next)
 - e.g. [Gaussian-sum filters \(GSF\)](#) to handle non-Gaussian energy loss of electron Bremsstrahlung
- Could be merged with track following
- Need non-Gaussian extension



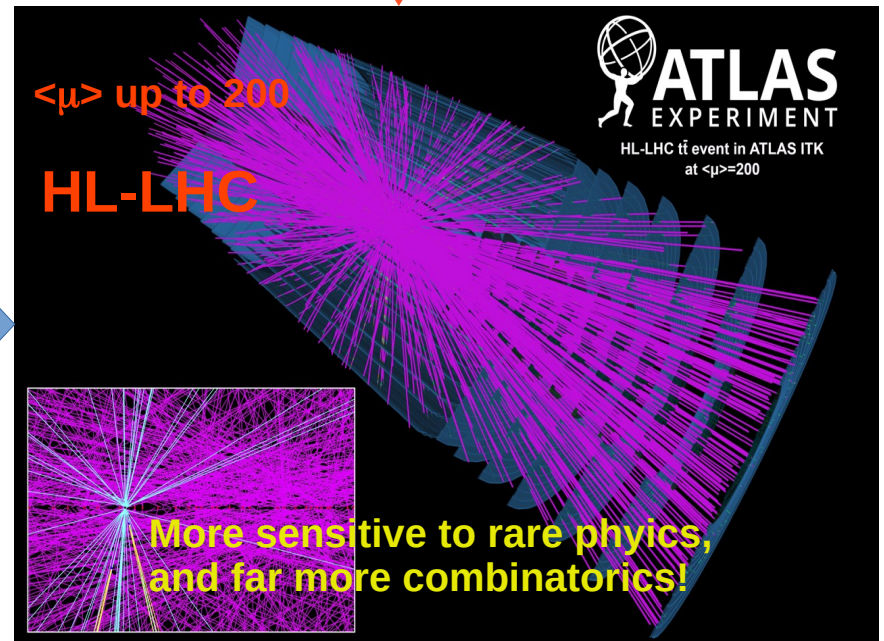
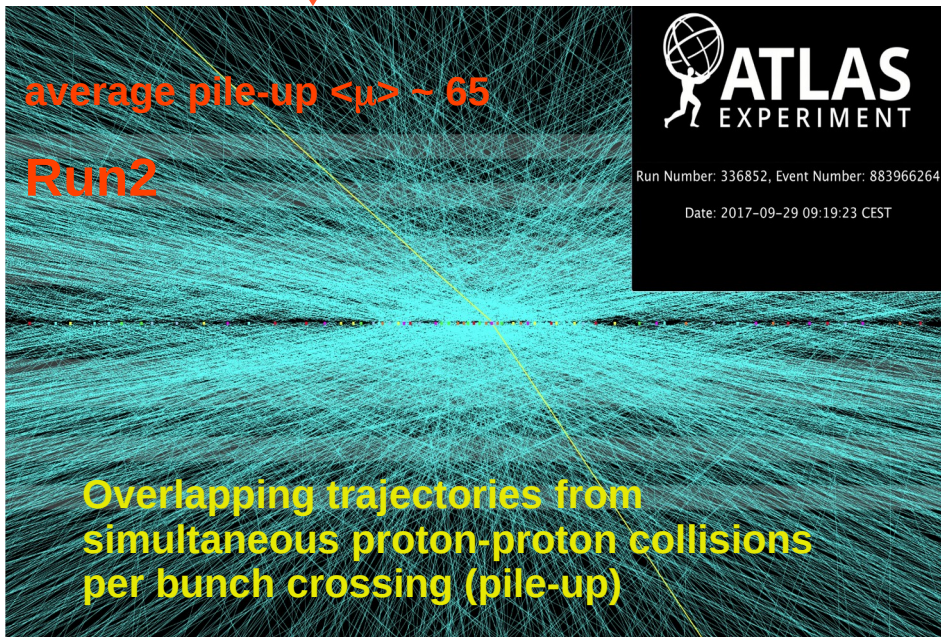
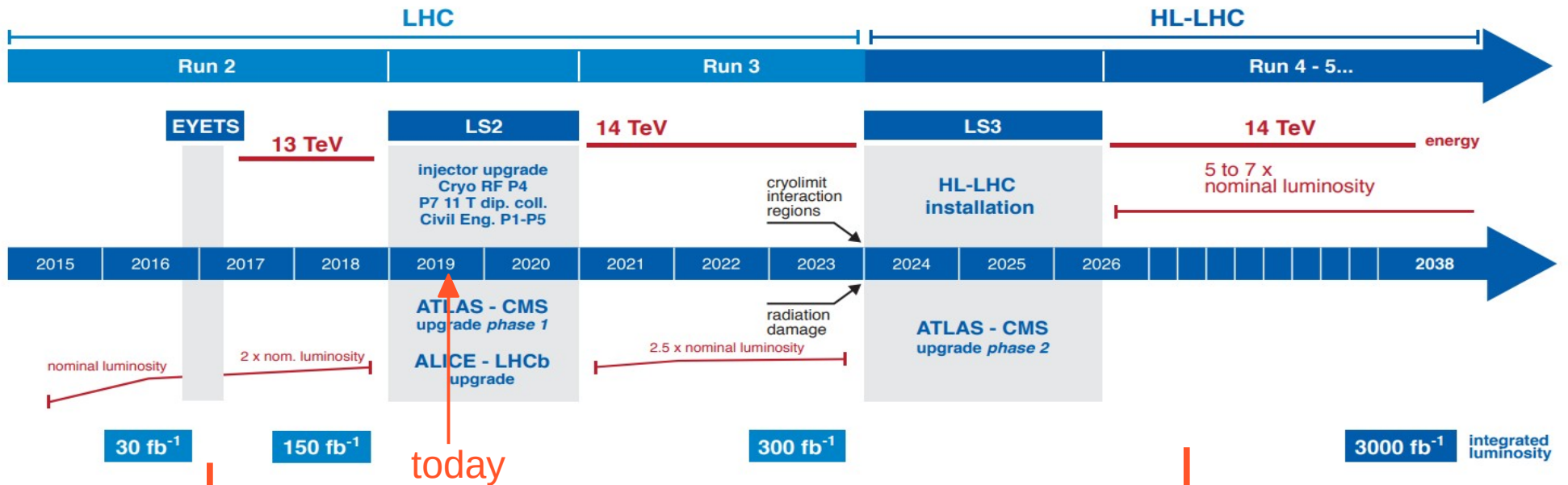
[S. Fleischmann's thesis](#)

Vertex finding

- Associate sets of tracks to the same interaction point
- Estimate vertex properties

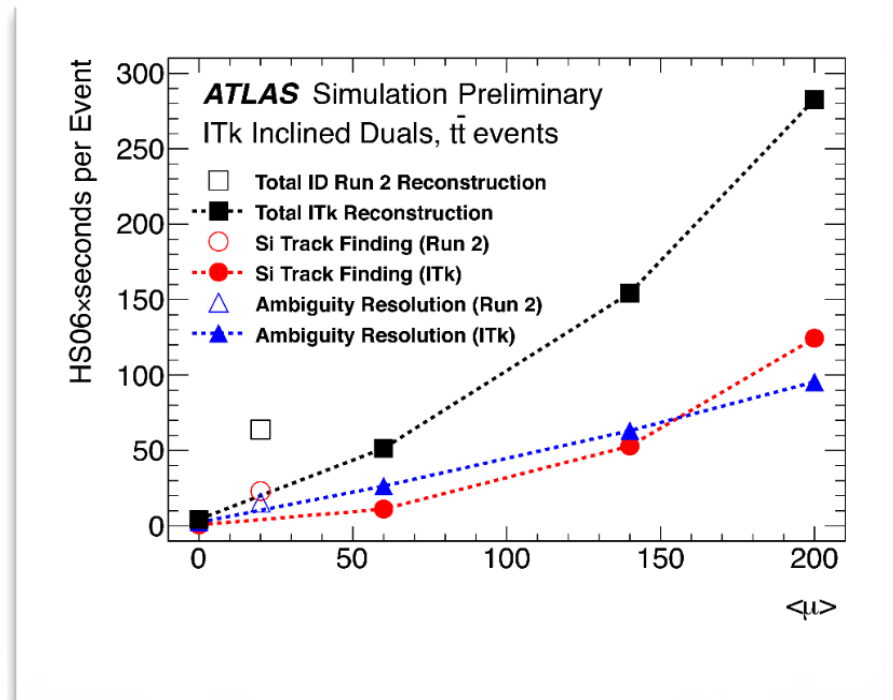


High-Luminosity LHC (HL-LHC)



Tracking challenge

- Tracking presents the greatest challenge to CPU at future hadron collider, e.g. HL-LHC, FCC-hh
 - Explosion in hit combinatorics from ~1000 overlaid pileup tracks
- Fast and accurate tracking software is necessary
 - Write **thread-safe** code which can be executed concurrently to maximize memory access
 - e.g. involved on-going migration of ATLAS's software framework (Athena) to a multi-threading framework (AthenaMT)
 - Use performant software technology
 - e.g. [Eigen algebra library](#) to optimize data structure
 - Improve tracking strategy
 - e.g. Machine Learning techniques
 - Adapted to modern hardware architectures
 - e.g. **multi-core**, GPU



TrackML Challenge



Featured Prediction Competition

TrackML Particle Tracking Challenge
High Energy Physics particle tracking in CERN detectors

\$25,000 Prize Money

CERN · 651 teams · a year ago

Overview Data Kernels Discussion Leaderboard Rules

Join Competition

Solutions at [arXiv:1904.06778](https://arxiv.org/abs/1904.06778)

Acts: a common tracking software

- A tracking toolkit for future detectors and modern computing infrastructure based on LHC tracking experience
- An open-source platform for tracking algorithms R&D
 - Collaboration across experiments: ATLAS, LHCb, FCC-hh, FASER, CEPC and external contributors, e.g. machine learning experts



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Acts website. The navigation bar at the top includes 'Acts', 'Home', 'About', 'Modules', 'Guides', and 'Clients'. The main content area features the title 'A Common Tracking Software (Acts)' and a large logo with the letters 'a:ts' in blue and grey. Below the logo, there is a list of navigation links: 'Introduction', 'Repository structure', 'Releases', 'History', and 'License and authors'. The 'Releases' section is highlighted, showing the latest release as 'v0.10.03' on '17 Jul 2019'. There are links for 'Download', 'Release Notes', and 'Documentation'. The URL 'http://acts.web.cern.ch/ACTS/' is displayed in red text.

ATLAS tracking software (Athena)

- Performance tested and known
- Hard to maintain after > 15 years
- Design not thread-safe



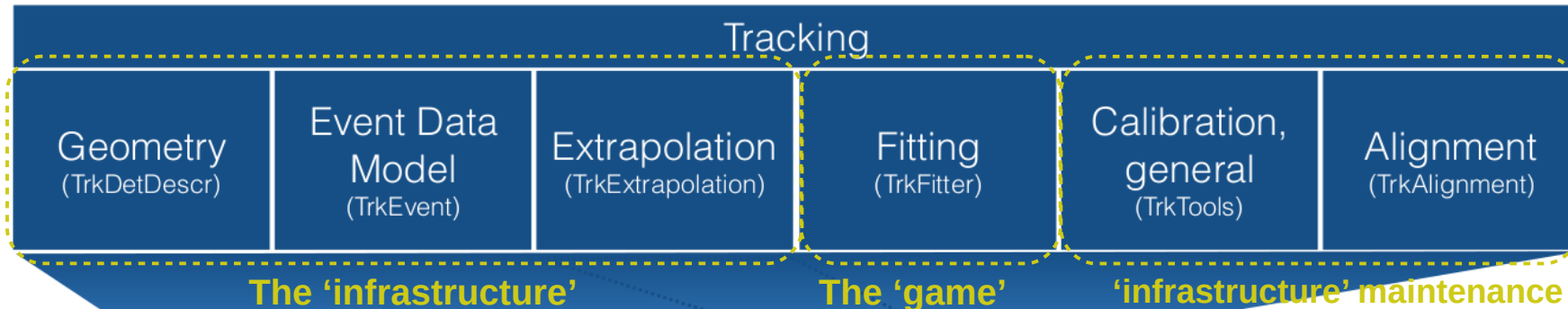
Acts

- Preserve and improve ATLAS tracking code
 - Modern C++ 17 concepts
 - Facilitate usability and maintenance
 - Thread-safe design
 - Minimal dependencies to simplify integration with software framework

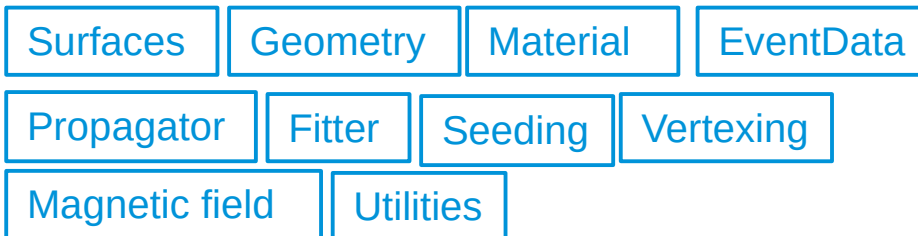
ACTS components

ATLAS Tracking modules

Most figures from [A. Salzburger's slides](#)



Simulate particle trajectories through detector with simplified material effects

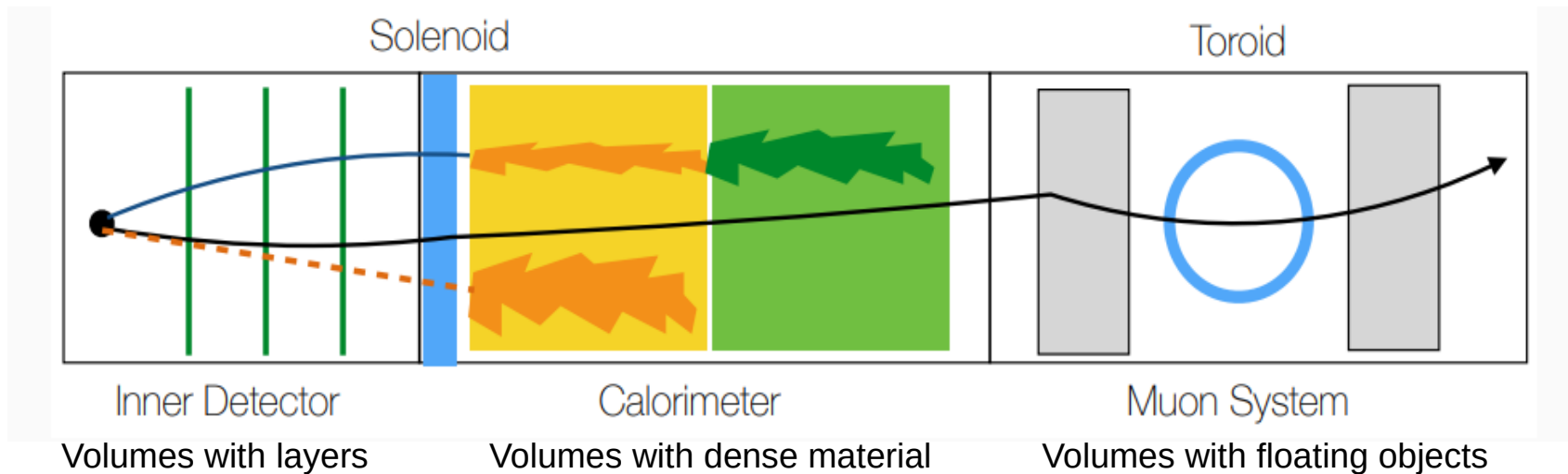
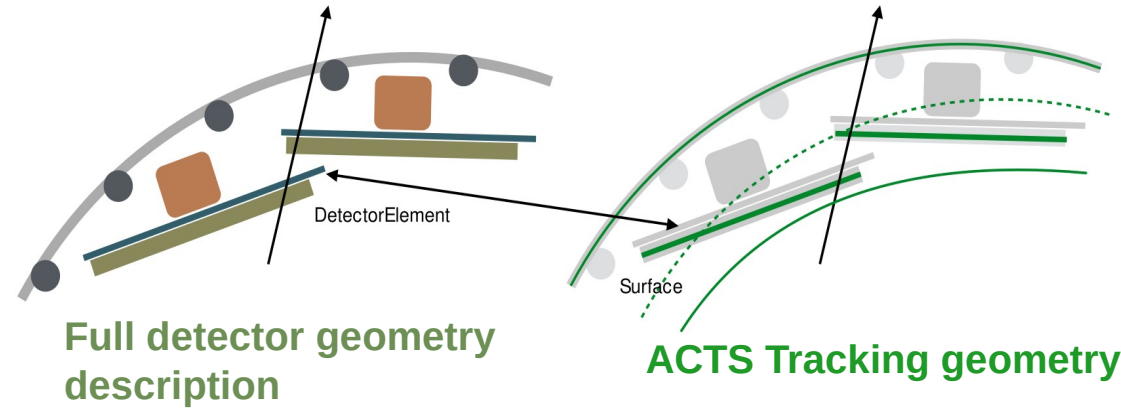


A light-weight Gaudi style framework for integration and concurrency test

Tracking geometry

How to describe detector geometry for tracking

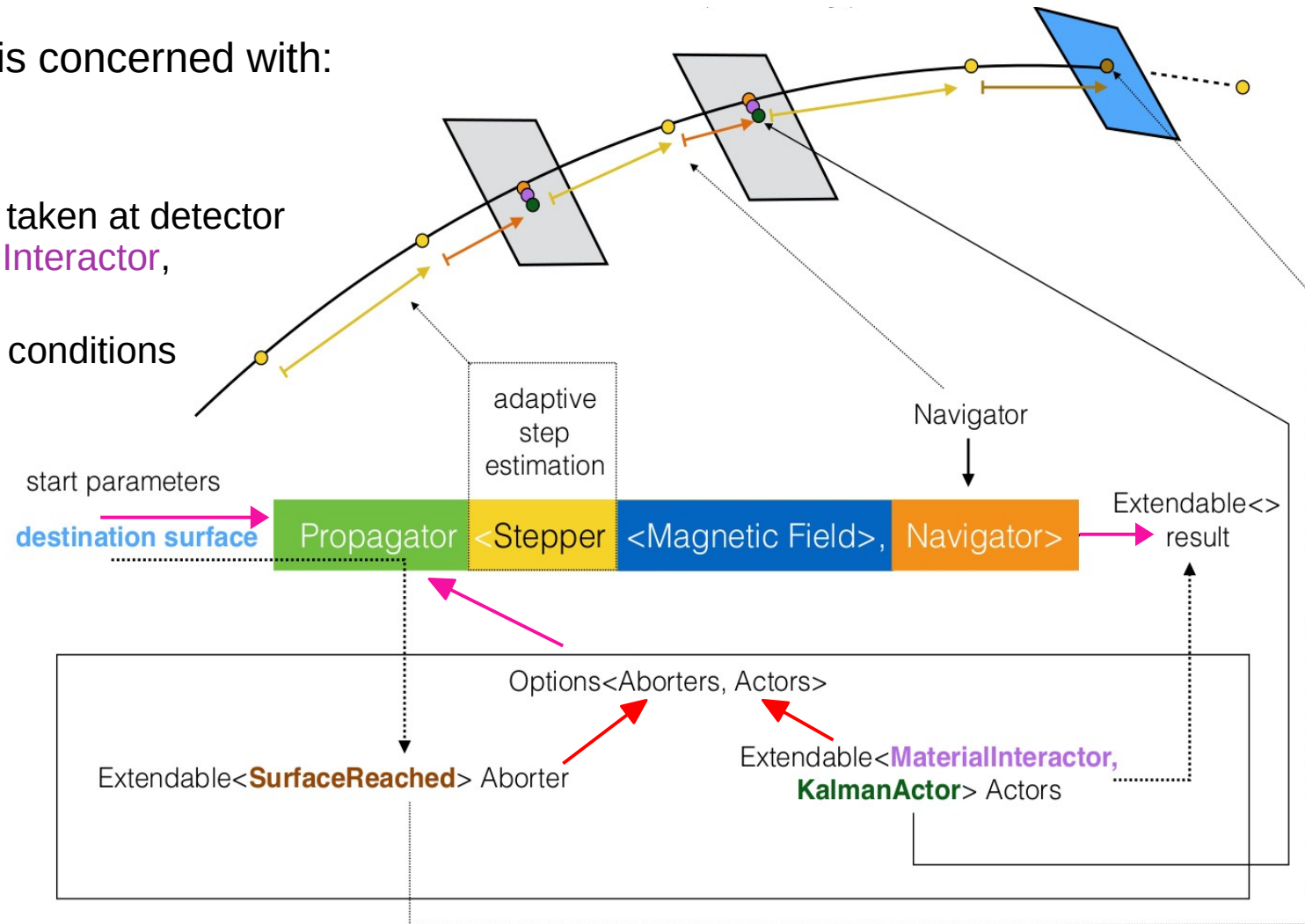
- A simplified geometry from full detector geometry
 - Basic concepts: surfaces
- Geometry plugins provide converters from different geometry description formats ([DD4hep](#), [TGeo](#))
- Detector geometry implementation
 - Supporting silicon tracker & calorimeter & Muon System



Propagator

How to propagate track parameter from one detector part to next

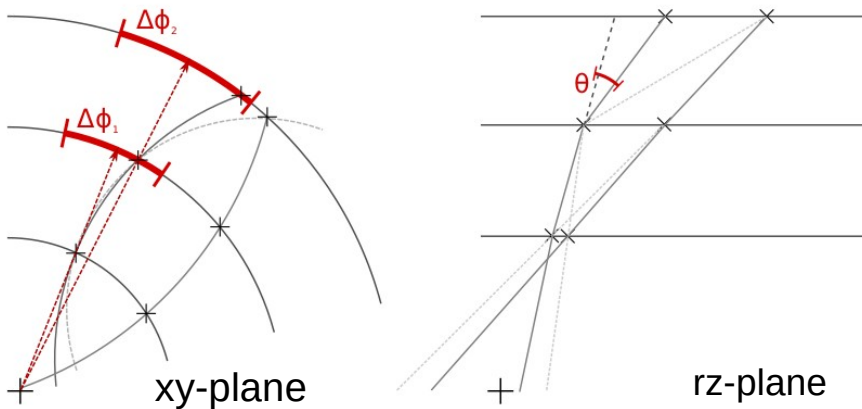
- Different propagation scenario determined by the **Stepper** and **Navigator**:
 - **Stepper**: integration of equation of motion for the charged particle (in a magnetic field) and provide step estimation
 - **Navigator**: determine navigation step size to reach detector according to tracking geometry
- A specific propagation is concerned with:
 - Start parameters
 - Option list:
 - Actors: list of actions taken at detector surface, e.g. **MaterialInteractor**, **KalmanActor**
 - Aborters: list of abort conditions
 - Result:
 - propagation status
 - track parameter
 - action outputs



Pattern Recognition

- Strategy: transcribe ATLAS pattern recognition code into ACTS code design
 - A simple **combinatorial seed finder** is available in ACTS. Tested and validated against AthenaMT
 - **Combinatorial Kalman Filter** for track following to be imported

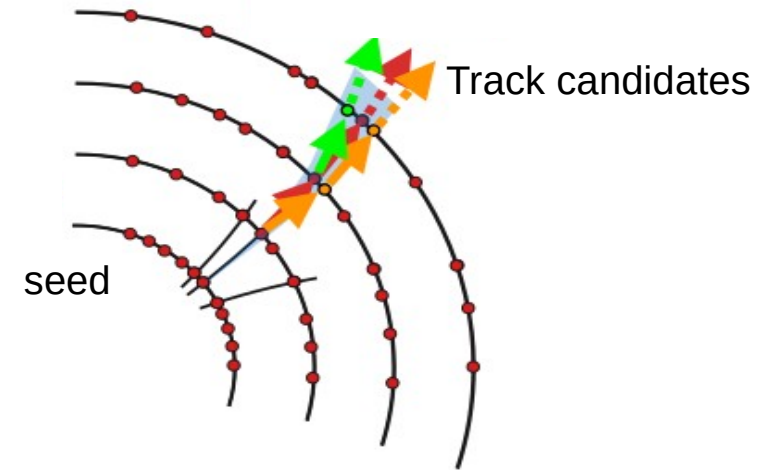
The combinatorial seed finder in ACTS



→ Starting from hits on first layer, search hits on the second and third layer within an azimuth angle window

→ Associate two hit doublets based on polar angles

The combinatorial track finder



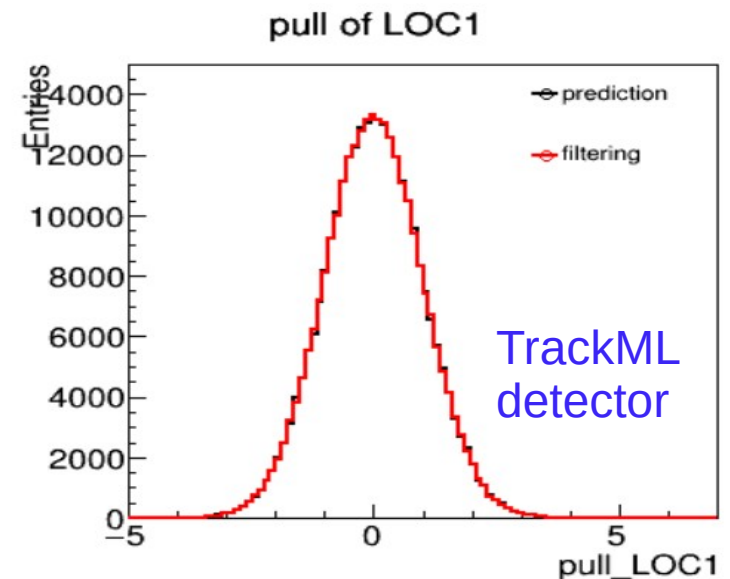
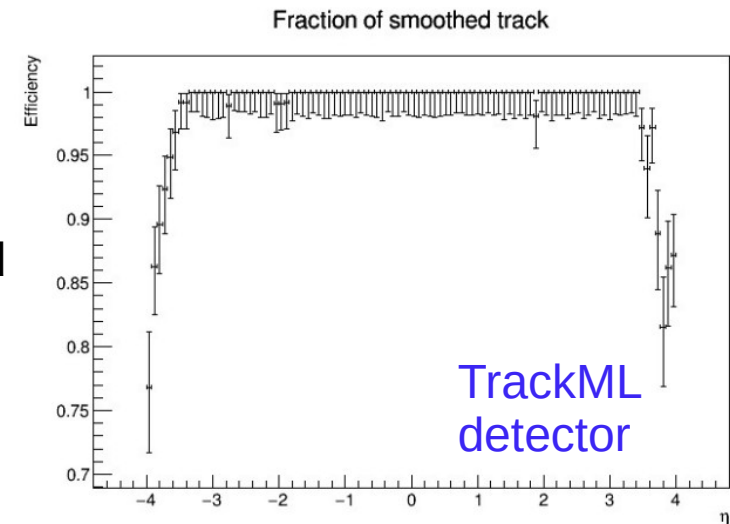
→ Starting from seeds, incorporate additional space-points from the remaining layers

→ Multiple track candidates per seed

→ Ambiguity solving is usually needed to remove track candidates with bad quality

Track fitting and Vertexing

- Kalman Filter prototype in validation/improvement
 - 100% efficiency for truth particle trajectories (sets of truth hits from simulation)
 - Parameter pull is (approximately) Gaussian distributed
 - Hole (missing measurement on sensitive detector region) search and outlier (measurements not compatible with track hypothesis) logic in progress
- GSF (approximates non-Gaussian energy loss of electron Bremstrahlung as Gaussian mixture) prototype in progress
 - Multi-component stepper and material interactor complete
 - Multi-component Kalman filtering and smoothing in progress
- Vertex finder prototype ([Iterative vertex finder](#) and [multi-adaptive vertex fitter](#)) in optimization



Alignment/Calibration

Capabilities to handle detector geometry and condition change

- Multi-threading event processing needs to allow track reconstruction with **multiple** alignment constant, calibration constant or even magnetic field **simultaneously**
- ACTS uses contextual conditions concept to support on-the-fly event-dependent changes of alignment/calibration/magnetic field

```
/// Aggregated information to run one algorithm over one event.
struct AlgorithmContext
{
    size_t          algorithmNumber;    ///< Unique algorithm identifier
    size_t          eventNumber;       ///< Unique event identifier
    WhiteBoard&    eventStore;        ///< Per-event data store
    Acts::GeometryContext geoContext;  ///< Per-event geometry context
    Acts::MagneticFieldContext magFieldContext; ///< Per-event magnetic Field context
    Acts::CalibrationContext calibContext; ///< Per-event calibration context
};
```

- Contextual calibration tool will be implemented

Propagation test with contextual alignment constant in both **single-thread** and **multi-thread** event processing

Parallelism testbed

Test with different alignment every single event

A. Salzburger

```
salzburg$ export ACTSFW_NUM_THREADS=1
salzburg$ ./ACTFWAlignablePropagationExample -n10 --prop-ntests 1000 --bf-values 0 0 2 --output-root 1
12:49:10 Sequencer INFO Added context decorator GeometryRotationDecorator
12:49:10 Sequencer INFO Added service RandomNumbersSvc
12:49:10 Sequencer INFO Appended algorithm PropagationAlgorithm
12:49:11 Sequencer INFO Added writer RootPropagationStepsWriter
12:49:11 Sequencer INFO Starting event loop for
12:49:11 Sequencer INFO 1 services
12:49:11 Sequencer INFO 0 readers
12:49:11 Sequencer INFO 1 writers
12:49:11 Sequencer INFO 1 algorithms
12:49:11 Sequencer INFO Run the event loop
12:49:11 Sequencer INFO start event 0 12:51:19 Sequencer INFO start event 0
12:49:12 Sequencer INFO event 0 done 12:51:19 Sequencer INFO start event 5
12:49:12 Sequencer INFO start event 1 12:51:19 Sequencer INFO start event 8
12:49:13 Sequencer INFO event 1 done 12:51:19 Sequencer INFO start event 7
12:49:13 Sequencer INFO start event 2 12:51:20 Sequencer INFO event 7 done
12:49:14 Sequencer INFO event 2 done 12:51:20 Sequencer INFO start event 2
12:49:14 Sequencer INFO start event 3 12:51:21 Sequencer INFO event 8 done
12:49:15 Sequencer INFO event 3 done 12:51:21 Sequencer INFO start event 9
12:49:15 Sequencer INFO start event 4 12:51:21 Sequencer INFO event 5 done
12:49:16 Sequencer INFO event 4 done 12:51:21 Sequencer INFO start event 6
12:49:16 Sequencer INFO start event 5 12:51:21 Sequencer INFO event 0 done
12:49:17 Sequencer INFO event 5 done 12:51:21 Sequencer INFO start event 1
12:49:17 Sequencer INFO start event 6 12:51:22 Sequencer INFO event 2 done
12:49:19 Sequencer INFO event 6 done 12:51:22 Sequencer INFO start event 3
12:49:19 Sequencer INFO start event 7 12:51:23 Sequencer INFO event 9 done
12:49:19 Sequencer INFO event 7 done 12:51:23 Sequencer INFO start event 4
12:49:19 Sequencer INFO start event 8 12:51:23 Sequencer INFO event 6 done
12:49:20 Sequencer INFO event 8 done 12:51:23 Sequencer INFO event 1 done
12:49:20 Sequencer INFO start event 9 12:51:23 Sequencer INFO event 3 done
12:49:22 Sequencer INFO event 9 done 12:51:24 Sequencer INFO event 4 done
12:49:22 Sequencer INFO Running end-of-run hooks of writers and services
```

12 seconds

5 seconds

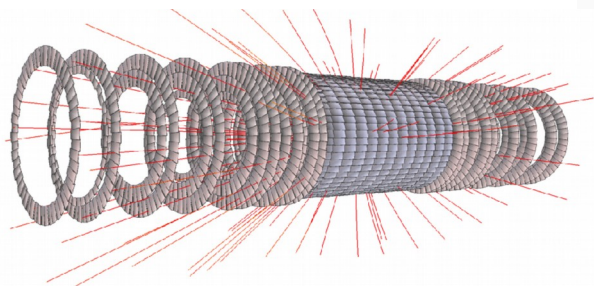
Integration with AthenaMT/FCCSW

Plugins (e.g. geometry, magnetic field, EDM) are needed to interface ACTS to experiment software

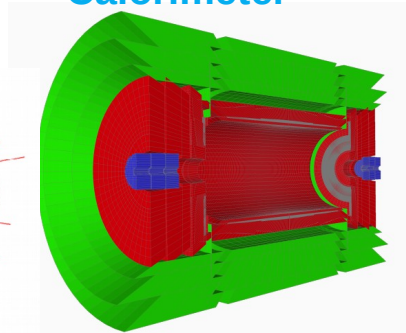
Integration to ATLAS AthenaMT

- Geometry implemented for Inner Detector and Calorimeter (prototype)
- MT-ready or MT-prepared seeding, alignment, extrapolation and fitter

ATLAS current
Pixel+SCT



ATLAS current
Calorimeter

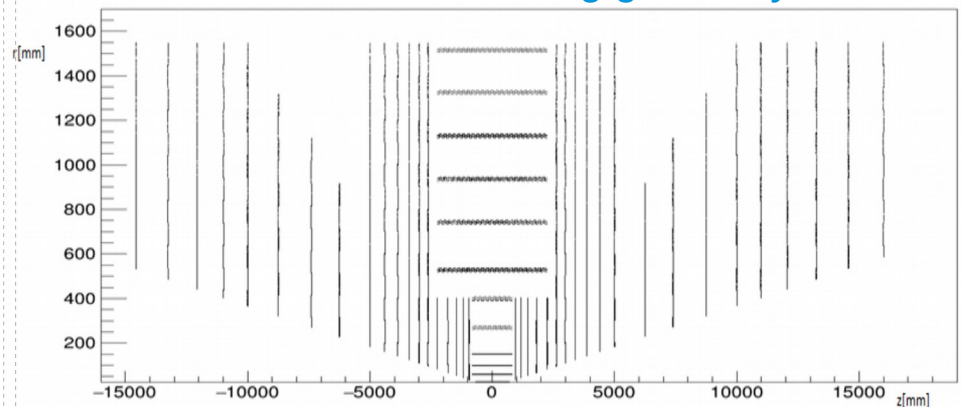


P. Gessinger

Integration to FCC FCCSW

- ACTS provides fast sim/digi + tracking toolkit for FCCSW
- DD4HepPlugin helps link back to ACTS tracking geometry

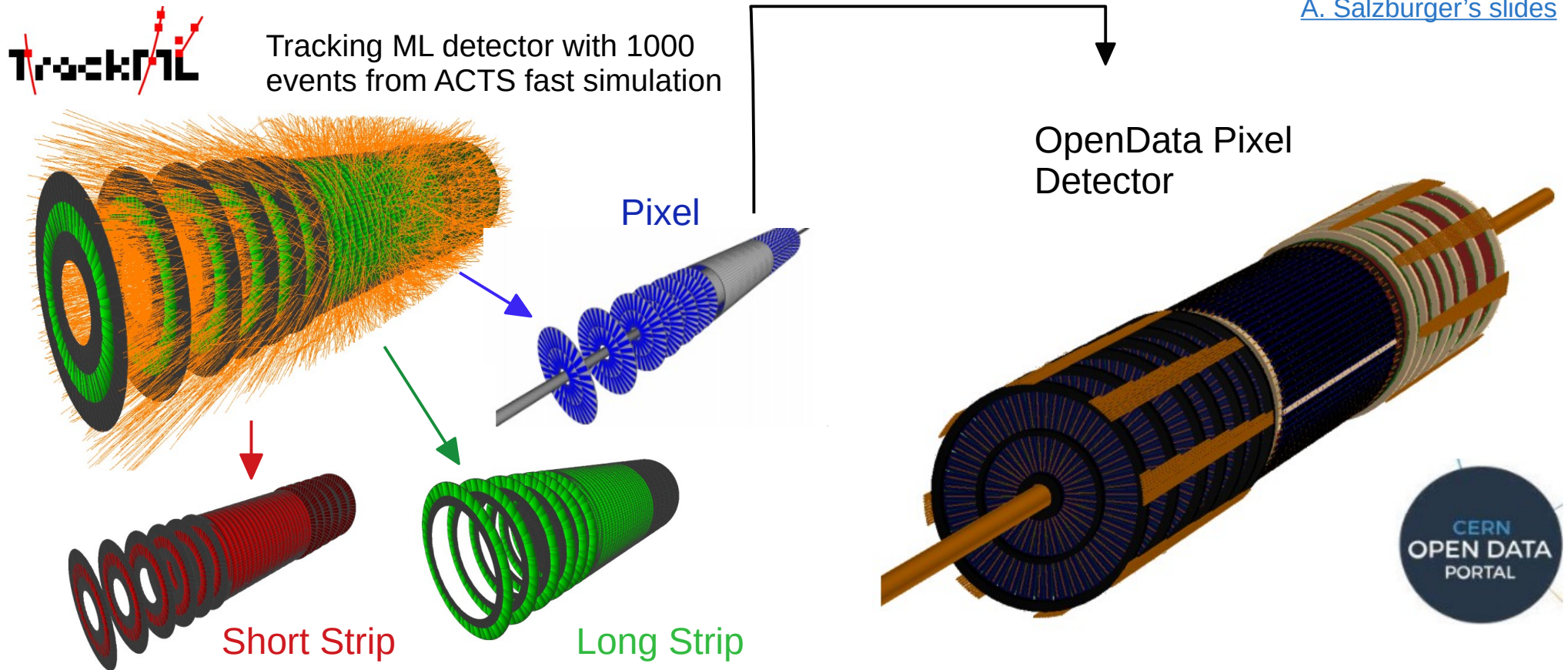
FCC-hh tracking geometry



J. Hdrinka

Application: TrackML/OpenData Detector

More details in
[A. Salzburger's slides](#)



- Dataset is simulated with ACTS fast simulation
 - Includes multiple scattering, energy loss and hadronic interactions (no particle decay)
 - Not enough material
- TrackML dataset is also used for other projects:
 - e.g. [Hep.TrkX & Exa.TrkX project](#) (talk by X. Ju later today)

- Simulating a realistic detector
 - Realistic material description
 - Full material interaction
- Large benchmark dataset to be released as CERN OpenData

Summary








































- Large increase in track multiplicity at future colliders needs high performance tracking software with ability to exploit parallel architectures
- ACTS provides a **framework-independent** and **detector-independent** tracking toolkit tested for strict **thread-safety** with developers across experiments
 - Basic tracking modules (geometry, extrapolation engine, EDM, fitter) prototypes are working and optimized
 - Concurrent alignment and calibration infrastructure in progress
 - Working towards a full tracking solution
- ACTS is also designed as a testbed for algorithm R&D
 - e.g. used as fast simulation engine and provide reference implementation of solutions for Tracking ML

Don't hesitate to get in touch if experiments are interested in collaboration with or using ACTS!

Q&A

ACTS members/developers

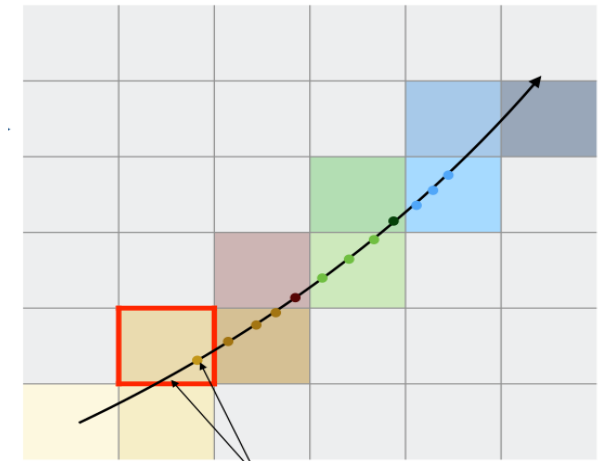
Members with access to acts 39

 Andreas Salzburger @asalzbur Given access 3 years ago	 Nicholas Styles @nstyles Given access 2 years ago	 Tobias Golling @golling Given access 2 years ago	 Bastian Schlag @bschlag Given access 8 months ago
 Julia Hrdinka @jhrdinka Given access 3 years ago	 Dmitry Emelianov @demelian Given access 2 years ago	 Felice Pantaleo @fpantale Given access 2 years ago	 Jovan Mitrevski @jmitrevs Given access 7 months ago
 Noemi Calace @ncalace Given access 3 years ago	 Paolo Calafiura @calaf Given access 2 years ago	 Paul Gessinger-Befurt @pagessin Given access 1 year ago	 Xiaocong Ai @xai It's you Given access 7 months ago
 Valentin Volkl @vavolkl Given access 3 years ago	 Benedikt Hegner @hegner Given access 2 years ago	 Marco Rovere @rovere Given access 1 year ago	 Simone Pagan Griso @spagan Given access 5 months ago
 Moritz Kiehn @msmk Given access 2 years ago	 Sarka Todorova @nova Given access 2 years ago	 Fabian Klimpel @fklimpel Given access 1 year ago	 Gang Zhang @gang Given access 3 months ago
 Robert Johannes Langenberg @rlangenb Given access 2 years ago	 Wolfgang Liebig @liebig Given access 2 years ago	 John Smith @jrsmith Given access 11 months ago	 Tim Adye @adye Given access 4 weeks ago
 Hadrien Benjamin Grasland @hgraslan Given access 2 years ago	 Shaun Roe @sroe Given access 2 years ago	 Shih-Chieh Hsu @schsu Given access 11 months ago	
 ATS Jenkins @atsjenkins Given access 2 years ago	 Vincenzo Innocente @innocent Given access 2 years ago	 Heather Gray @hgray Given access 10 months ago	
 Stewart Martin-Haugh @smh Given access 2 years ago	 David Rousseau @droussea Given access 2 years ago	 Lauren Alexandra Tompkins @tompkins Given access 10 months ago	
 Karolos Potamianos @karolos Given access 2 years ago	 Markus Elsing @elsing Given access 2 years ago	 Jin Zhang @jinz Given access 9 months ago	
 Edward Moyse @emoyse Given access 2 years ago	 Frank-Dieter Gaede @fgaede Given access 2 years ago		
	 David Chamont @chamont Given access 2 years ago		

ATLAS
LHCb
FCCSW
CEPC
FASER

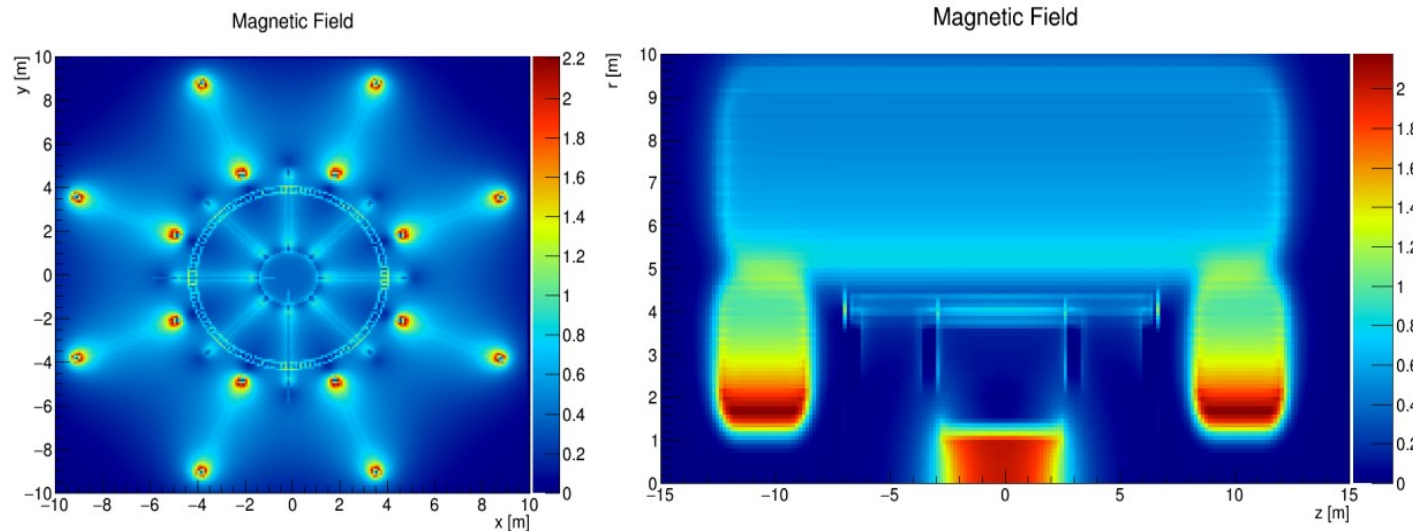
Magnetic field

- Simulation and reconstruction needs extensive lookup to magnetic field
- Cache of field value could make the access less expensive
 - Facilitate repetitive access to similar locations
- In ACTS, the cache is passed between magnetic field service and client via client function argument
 - Cache is thread-local thus thread-safe



Field look up in Runge-Kutta integration

ATLAS Magnetic field in ACTS



Concurrency test



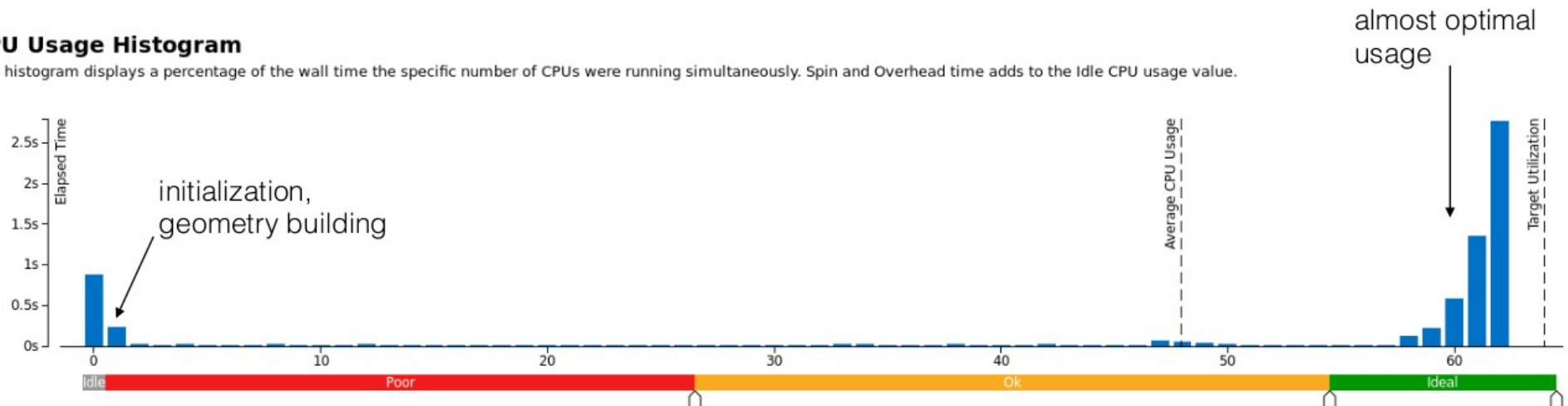
CERNopenlab

Intel Xeon e5-2698 v3, 2 sockets
32 Cores, 2 threads per core
64 Processors(cpu's)

- [Strategies for thread-safety](#)
 - const-correctness
 - Member method of tools has to be const to forbid altering of internal state
 - stateless tools and visitor cache
 - Tools have no internal cache. Client provides the cache in function call
- Run full propagation test (geometry description, geometry navigation, and particle propagation) with Intel Thread Building Block (TBB) multi-threaded mode
 - part of acts-framework CI test

CPU Usage Histogram

This histogram displays a percentage of the wall time the specific number of CPUs were running simultaneously. Spin and Overhead time adds to the Idle CPU usage value.



Vertex Finding

acts > acts-core > Merge Requests > !535

Merged

Opened 2 months ago by Bastian Schlag

Edit

Report abuse

Iterative vertex finder

Implements the Iterative Vertex Finder together with the ZScanVertexFinder used as the vertex seeding algorithm. Already adapted to 4D vertexing, ready to be merged after [!576 \(merged\)](#).

Edited 1 week ago by Bastian Schlag



Request to merge iterative_vertex_finder into master



acts > acts-core > Merge Requests > !566

Open

Opened 1 month ago by Bastian Schlag

Edit

Close merge request



WIP: Multi adaptive vertex fitter

Implements the multi adaptive vertex fitter, depends on some features from [!535 \(merged\)](#)

Edited 1 month ago by Bastian Schlag



Request to merge MultiAdaptiveVertexF... into master

The source branch is [62 commits behind](#) the target branch

Open in Web IDE

Check out branch

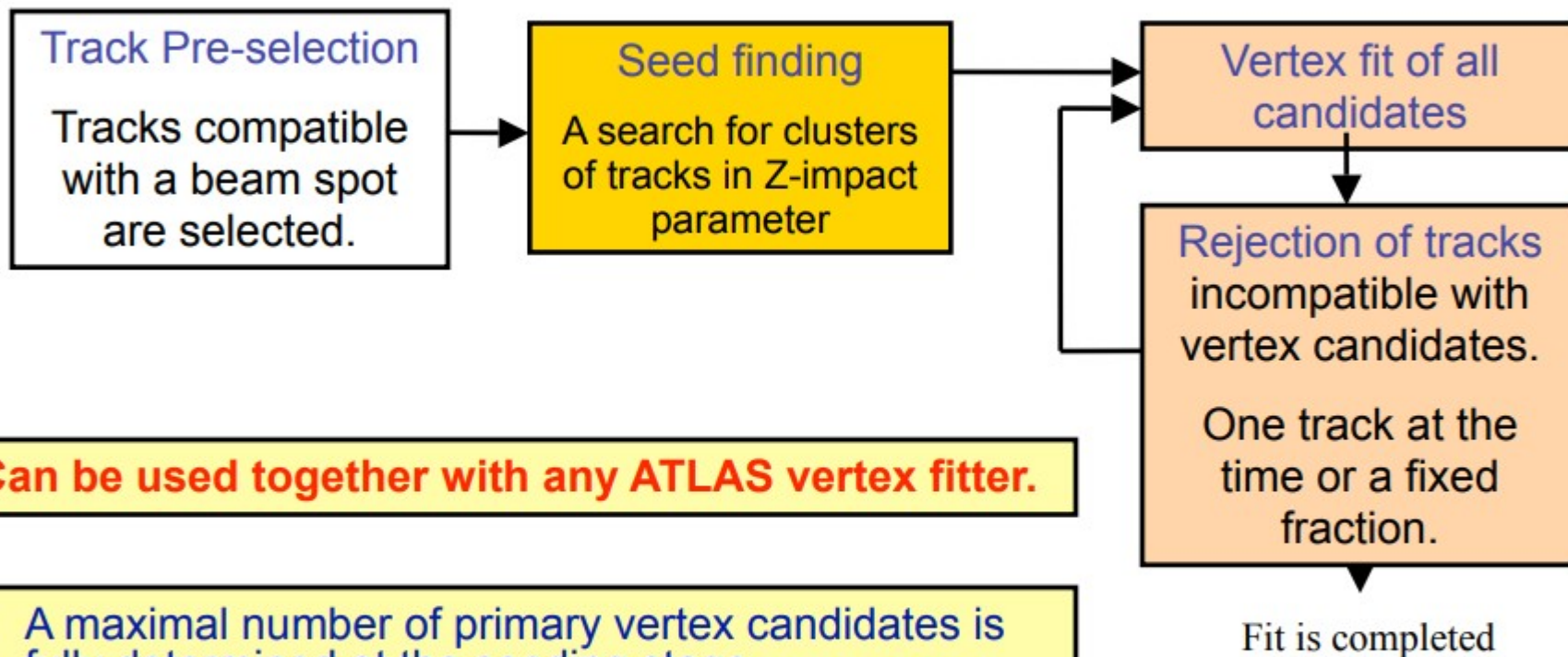


Now iterating
on the design
and optimising



InDetPriVxFinder

(Fitting after finding approach)



Can be used together with any ATLAS vertex fitter.

- A maximal number of primary vertex candidates is fully determined at the seeding stage.
- No possibility of re-using rejected tracks.
- The signal (tagged) primary vertex is selected according to the highest Σp_t of tracks.

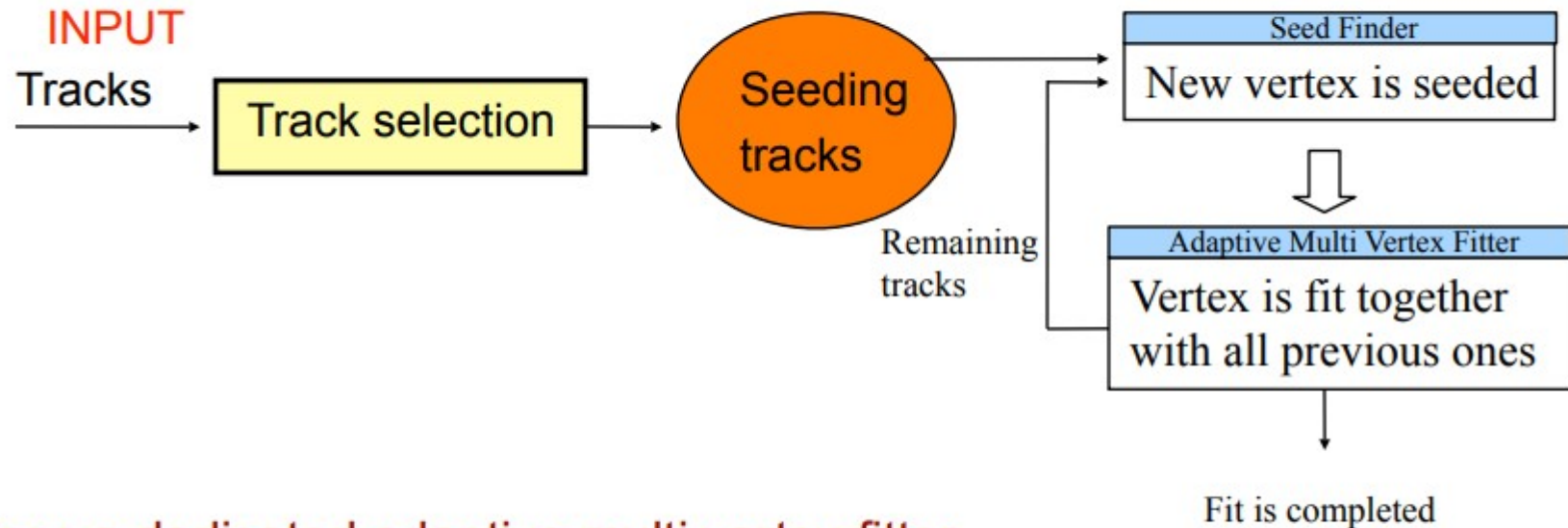
talk by A.Salzburger



AdaptiveMultiVertexFinder

(Finding through fitting approach)

- Adaptive multi vertex finder: **default ATLAS reco. algorithm** talk by A.Salzburger




- Uses a dedicated adaptive multi vertex fitter
 - Several vertices are fitted simultaneously, competing against each other in order to get a certain track assigned to them.
 - An annealing procedure is used: the assignment of tracks to vertices gets harder as the fit iteration number increases and the vertex position is known with more precision.
- The signal (tagged) vertex is selected according to the highest $\sum p_t^2 / N_{trk}$

TrackML in a nutshell



- ❑ Accurate simulation engine (ACTS <https://gitlab.cern.ch/acts/acts-core>) to produce realistic events
 - One file with list of 3D points
 - Ground truth : one file with point to particle association
 - Ground truth auxiliary : true particle parameter (origin, direction, curvature)
 - Typical events with ~ 200 parasitic collisions (~ 10.000 tracks/event)
- ❑ Large training sample 10k events, 0.1 billion tracks, 1 billion points, ~ 100 GByte
- ❑ Accuracy phase (May to August 2018) on Kaggle
 - Participants are given the test sample (with usual split for public and private leaderboard) and run the evaluation to find the tracks
 - They should upload the tracks they have found
 - A track is a list of 3D points
 - Score : fraction of points correctly grouped together
 - Evaluation on test sample with per-mille precision on 100 event
- ❑ Throughput phase Sep to Mar 2019 on Codalab
 - Strong CPU incentive

TrackML Challenge



R&D

Accuracy Phase

- **First : Top Quarks**
 - Johan Sokrates is an industrial Mathematics master student
 - Pair seeding, triplet extension, trajectory following, track cleaning, all **with machine learning for quality selection**
- **Second :**
 - Pei-Lien Chou is a software engineer in image-based deep learning in Taiwan
 - Machine learning to **predict the adjacency matrix**
- **Thirds :**
 - Sergey Gorbunov is a **physicist, expert in tracking**
 - Triplet seeding, trajectory following
- **Jury Innovative prize**
 - Yuval Reina is an electronic engineer and Trian Xylouris is an entrepreneur
 - Marginalized Hough transform with **machine learning classifier**
- **Jury Clustering prize**
 - Jean-François Puget CPMP is a software engineer at IBM. He is both competition and discussion Kaggle grandmaster
 - **DBSCAN clustering** with iterative Hough transform
- **Jury Deep Learning prize**
 - Nicole and Liam Finnie are software engineers
 - DBSCAN seeding, **trajectory following with LSTM**
- **Organization pick**
 - Diogo R. Ferreira is a professor/researcher, focusing on **data science** and nuclear fusion
 - **Pattern matching**

Throughput Phase

- First :
 - JSergey Gorbunov is a physicist, expert in tracking
 - Triplet seeding, multiple passes trajectory following
- Second :
 - Dmitry Emelivanov is a physicist
 - Connection graph, Cellular automaton, graph traversal with Kalman Filter
- Thirds :
 - Marcel Kunze is a computer scientist
 - Solution based on top quark, trained navigation on DAG of voxels to find doublets and triplets
- No jury selection yet

Sponsors



➔ Porting several of the solutions into ACTS
➔ TrackML Workshop at CERN on July 1-2 2019

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/742793/contributions/3291192>

04/10/19



Machine Learning in Tracking
CERN-DS Seminar, J.-R. Vlimant

DPF 2019 | Xiaocong Ai | Jul 31, 2019



6 25

Bremstrahlung Electron loses energy by a fraction $1 - z$

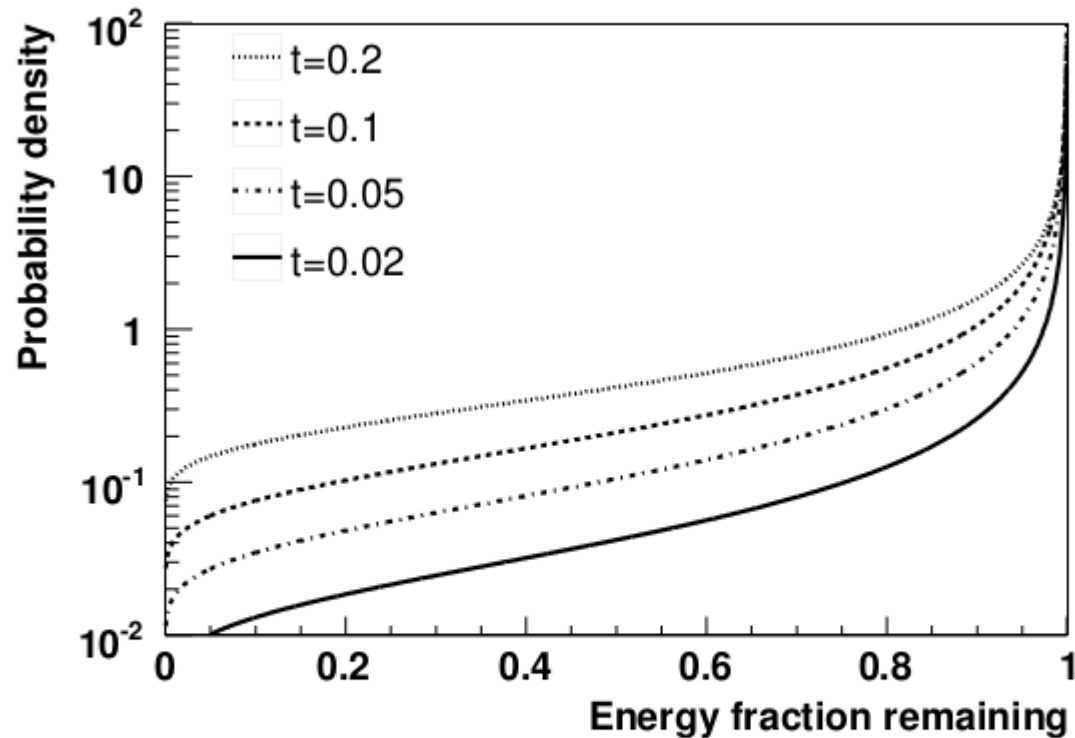


Figure 5.14: *The Bethe-Heitler distribution, which describes the energy loss of an electron when it traverses a material layer. t is the thickness of the layer in radiation lengths, i.e. $t = \frac{x}{X_0}$, with x the thickness in mm, and X_0 the radiation length in mm.*