

# The Fast Track to Discovery

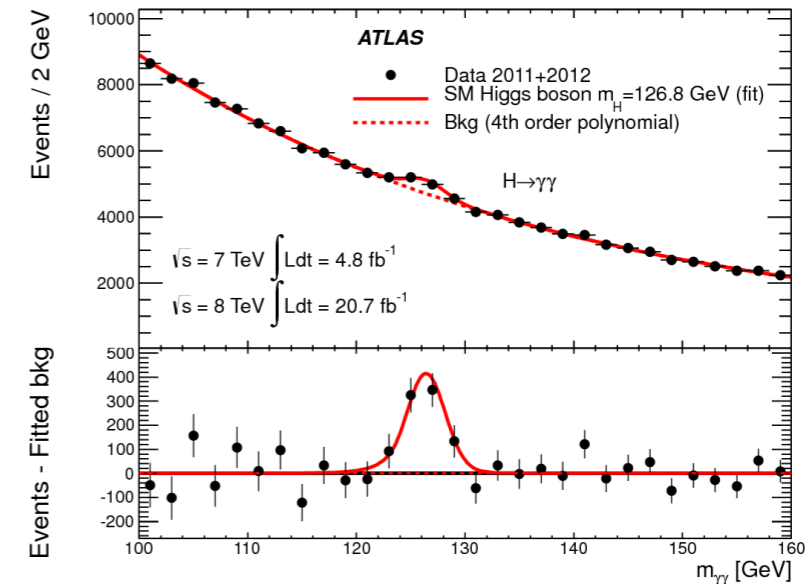
Tova Holmes, University of Chicago  
University of Chicago HEP Seminar  
1.28.2019

My goal:

find new fundamental particles

# Higgs discovery, 2012

Most recent machine to accomplish that goal:  
**the Large Hadron Collider**



CERN, ATLAS Higgs Discovery



I've been working with the ATLAS collaboration since 2010

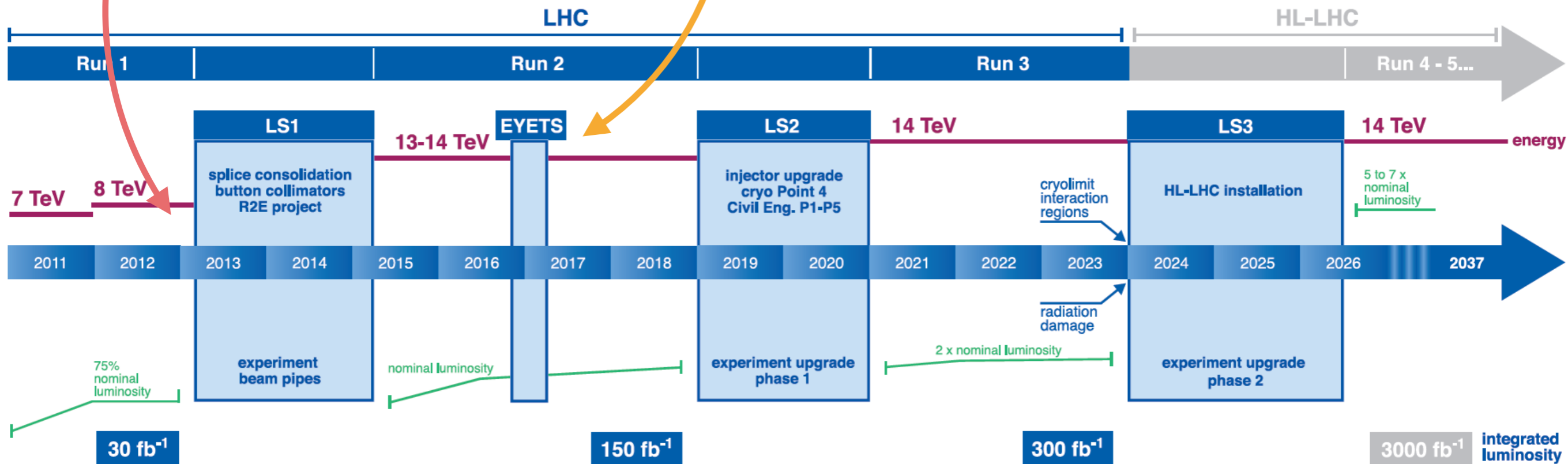
muon spectrometer R&D,  
muon performance, pixel  
detector R&D, IBL  
commissioning, machine  
learning for hit clustering,  
supersymmetry searches,  
hardware tracking,  
outreach podcasting

**Run 1**  
We completed  
the Standard  
Model

**Run 2**  
We did our  
best to break  
it

Luminosity x5  
Energy +60%

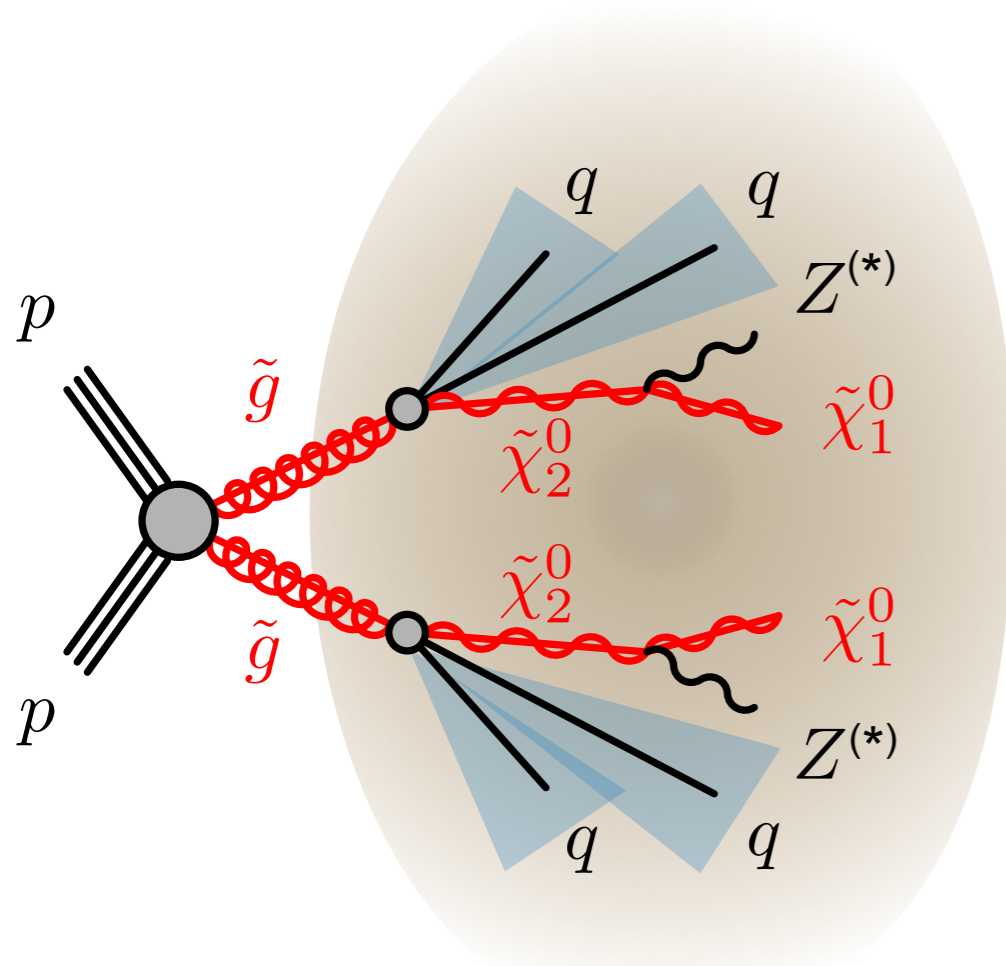
# LHC / HL-LHC Plan



# Looking beyond the Standard Model

## Typical Supersymmetry Search

Search for jets, missing energy and leptons from Z



### large $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ requirements

Lightest supersymmetric particle is stable, and escapes the detector without interacting

### large $n_{\text{jets}}$

color-charged SUSY particles emit jets as they go through decay chains

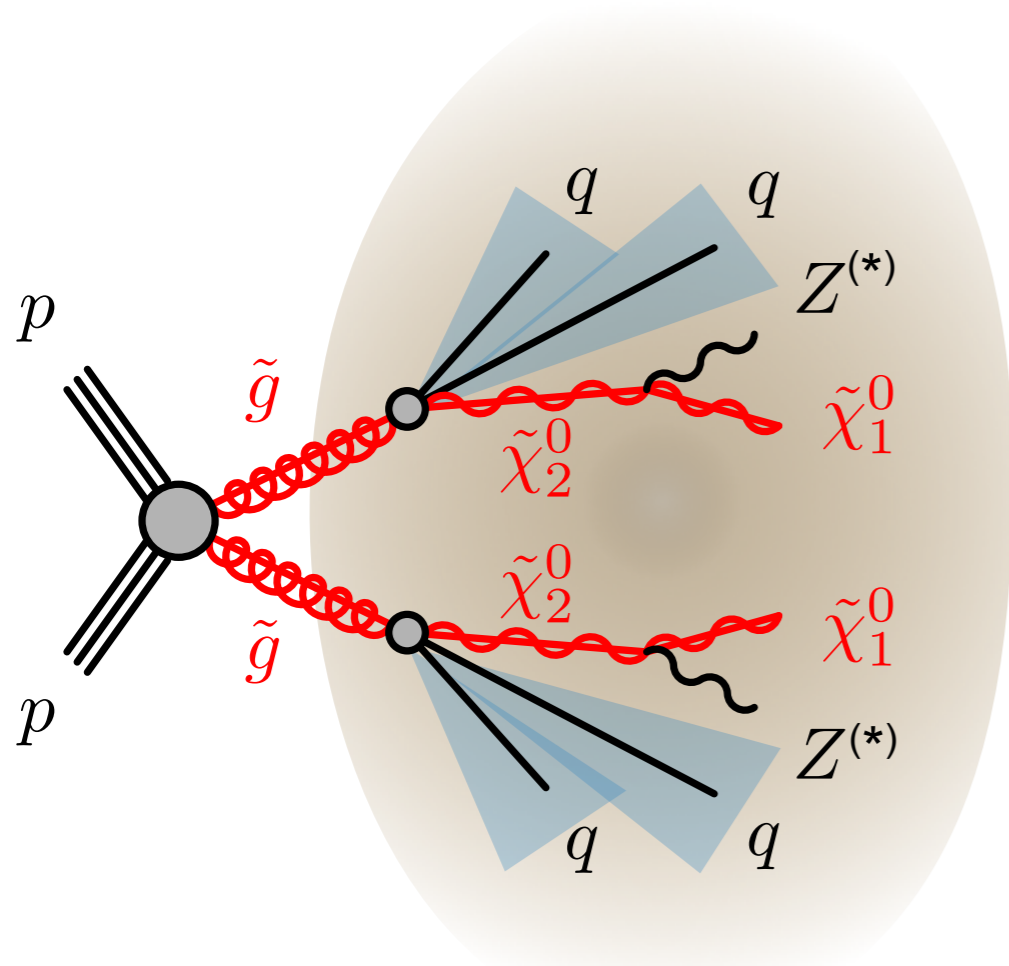
### large total energy

sum the total energy of the event to isolate events that are likely to contain very massive particles

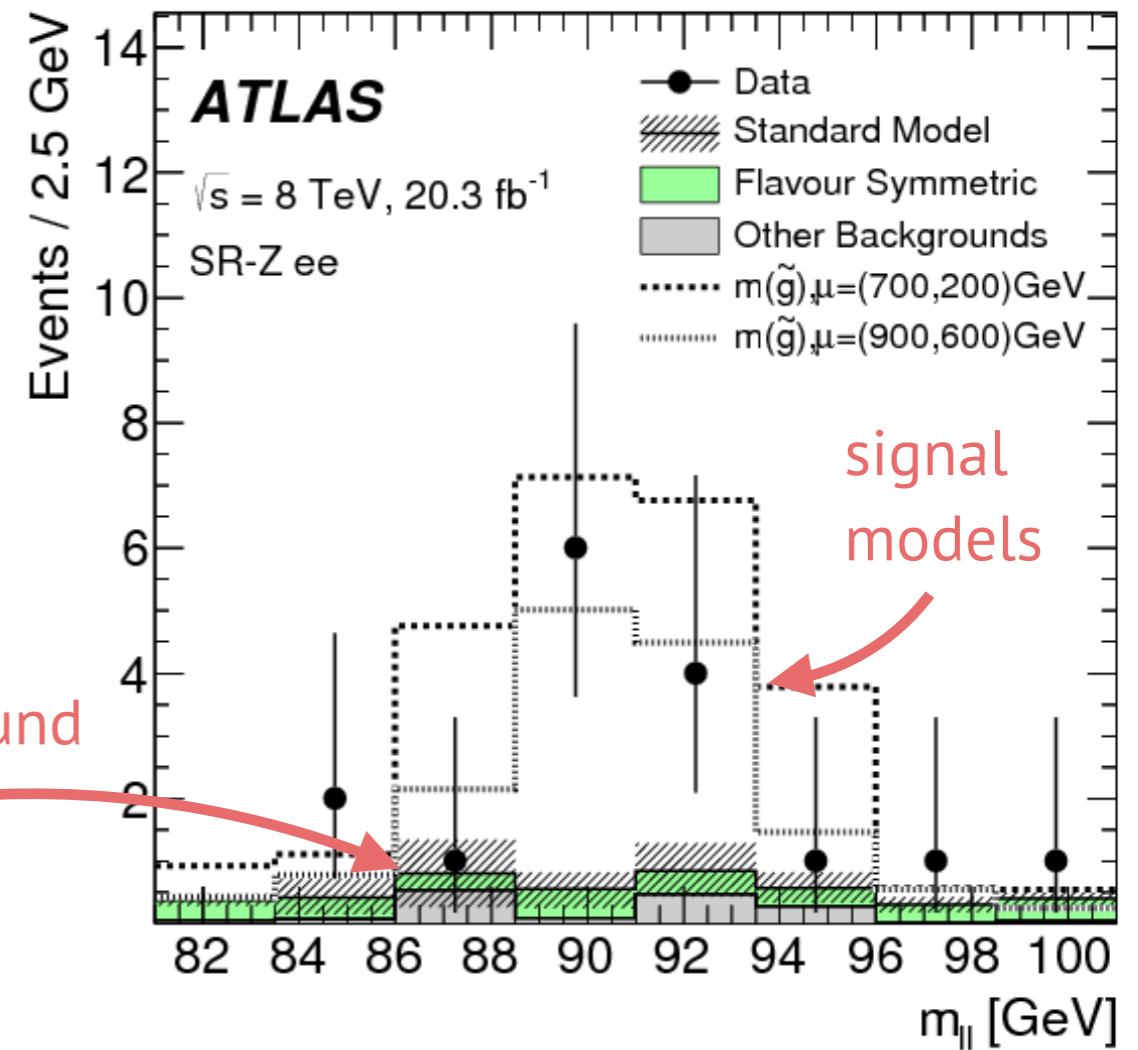
Plus: **two leptons** consistent with the decay of a Z boson

# Looking beyond the Standard Model

Search for jets, missing energy and leptons from Z



## Run 1 Signal Region

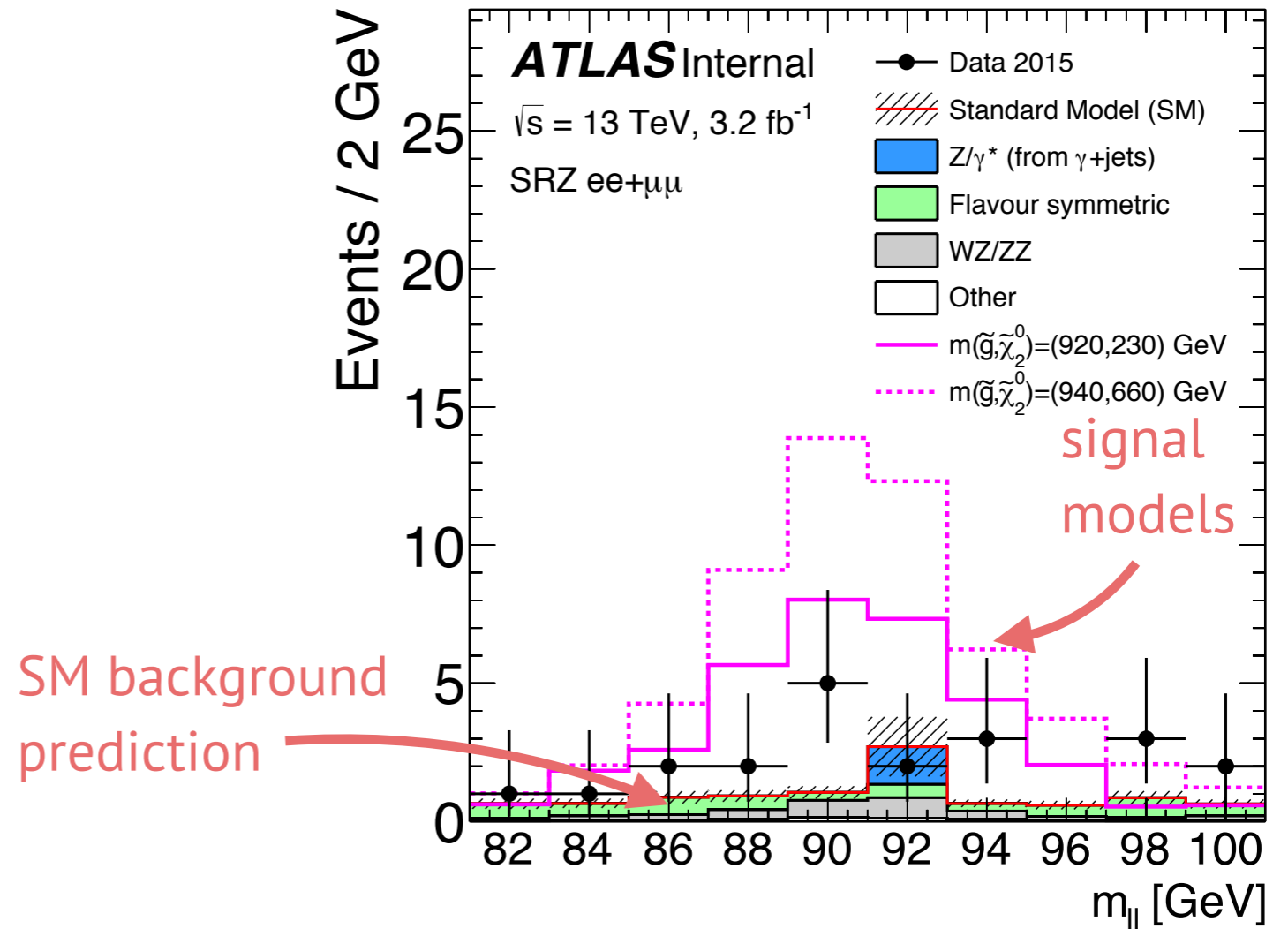


SM background prediction

$3\sigma$  excess

# Looking beyond the Standard Model

First look in Run 2 data  
Still ambiguous



2.2.σ excess

ATLAS-CONF-2015-082

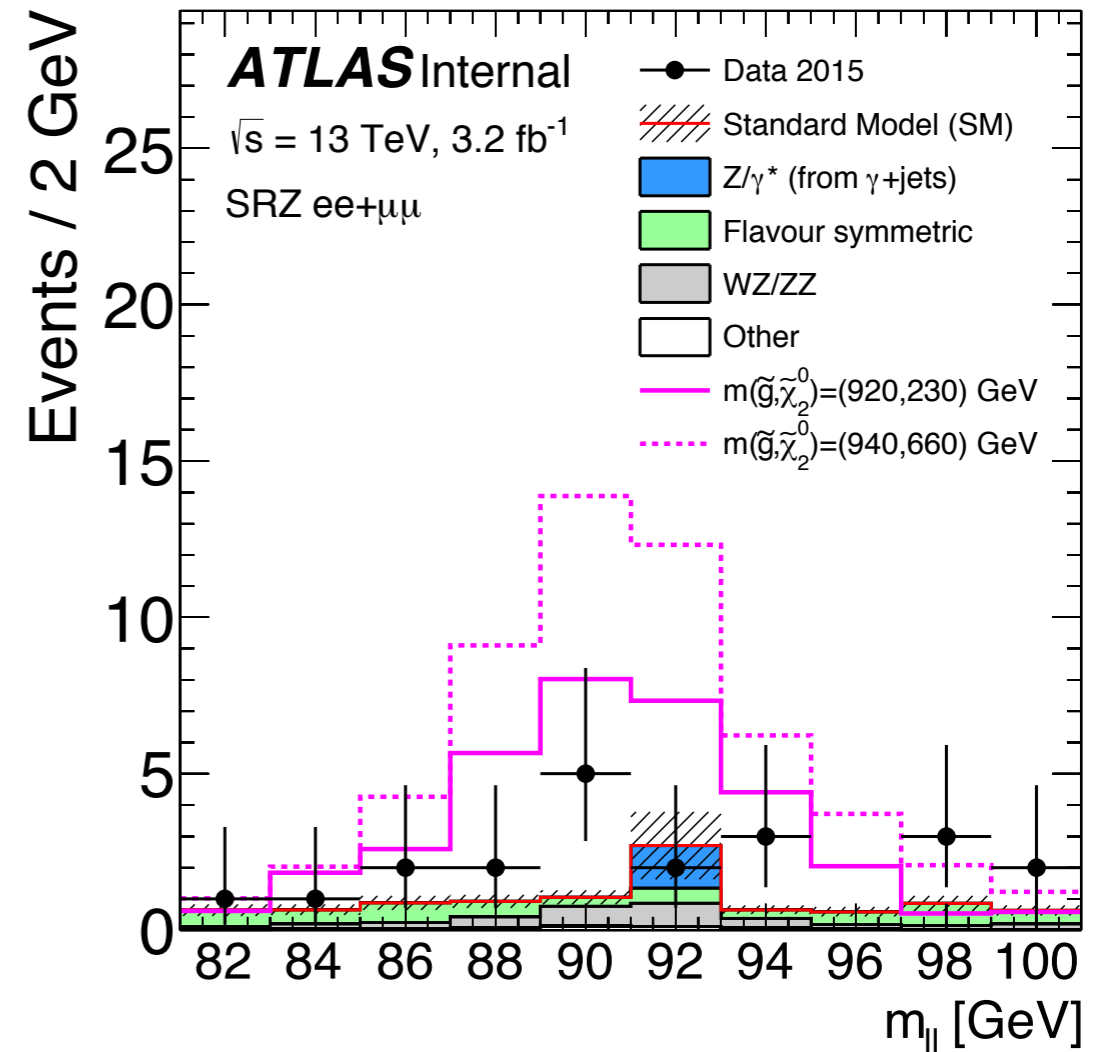


# Looking beyond the Standard Model

This is what **exciting** looked like

Hint of **TeV-scale** Supersymmetry  
Repeated, consistent **excesses**

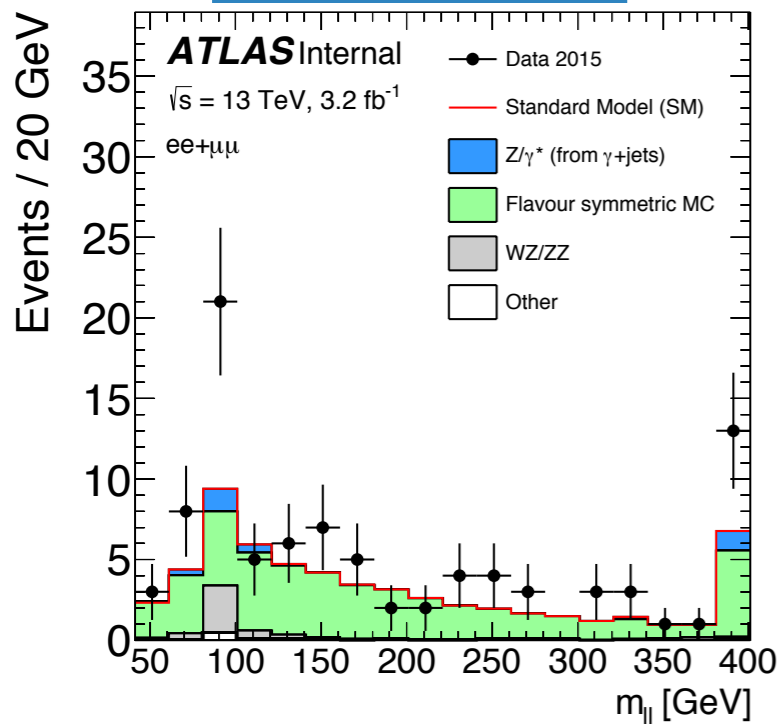
Background estimates to improve  
Much **more data** coming



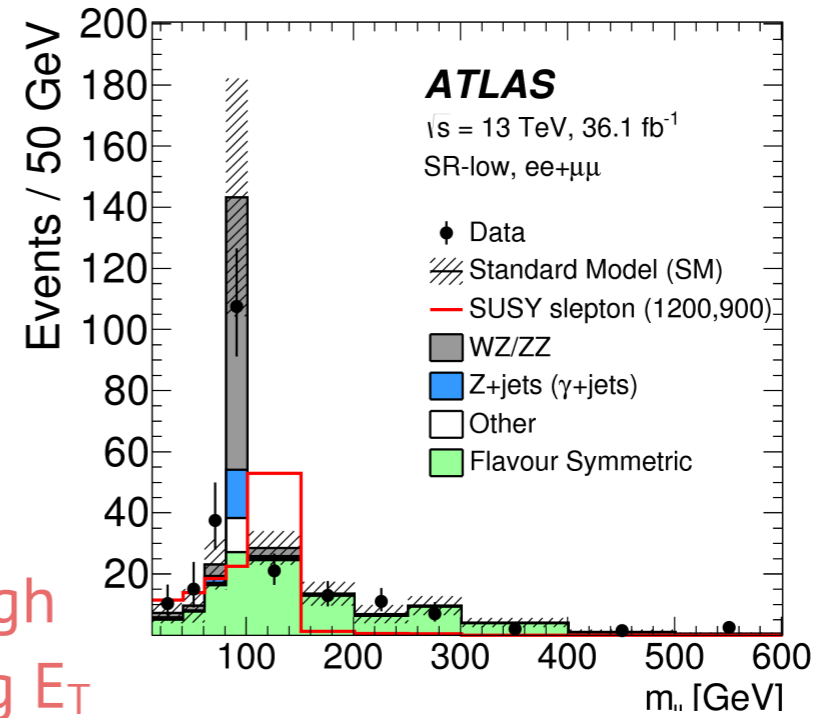
ATLAS-CONF-2015-082

# Looking beyond the Standard Model

First Run 2  
Data



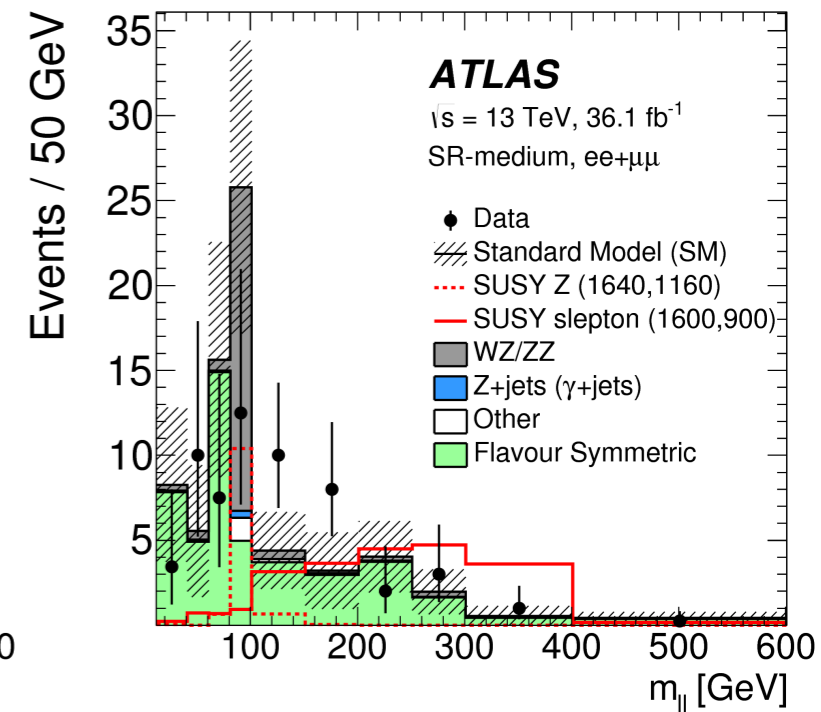
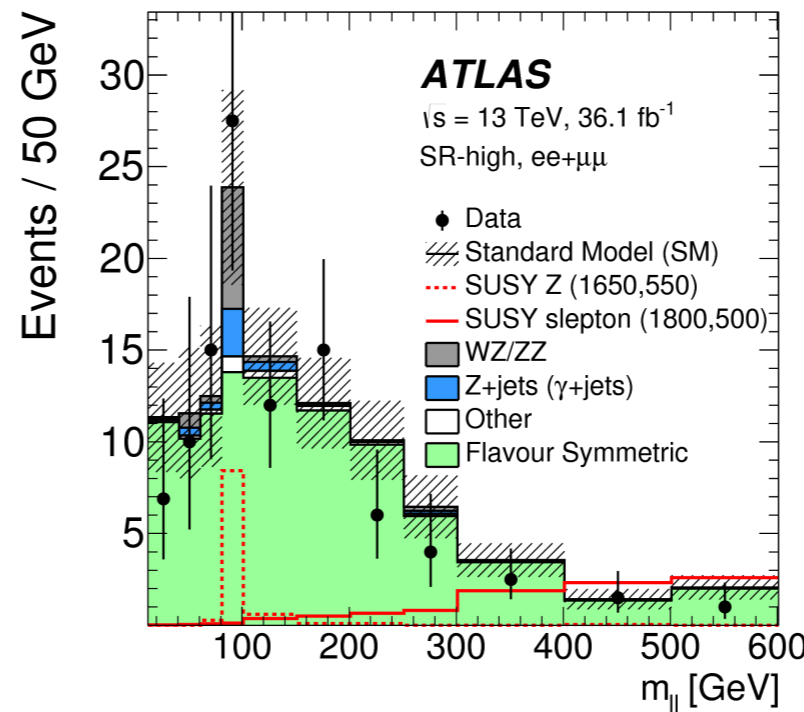
~10x  
luminosity



Similar to  
Run 1 signal  
region

very high  
missing  $E_T$

very high  
total energy



ATLAS-CONF-2015-082

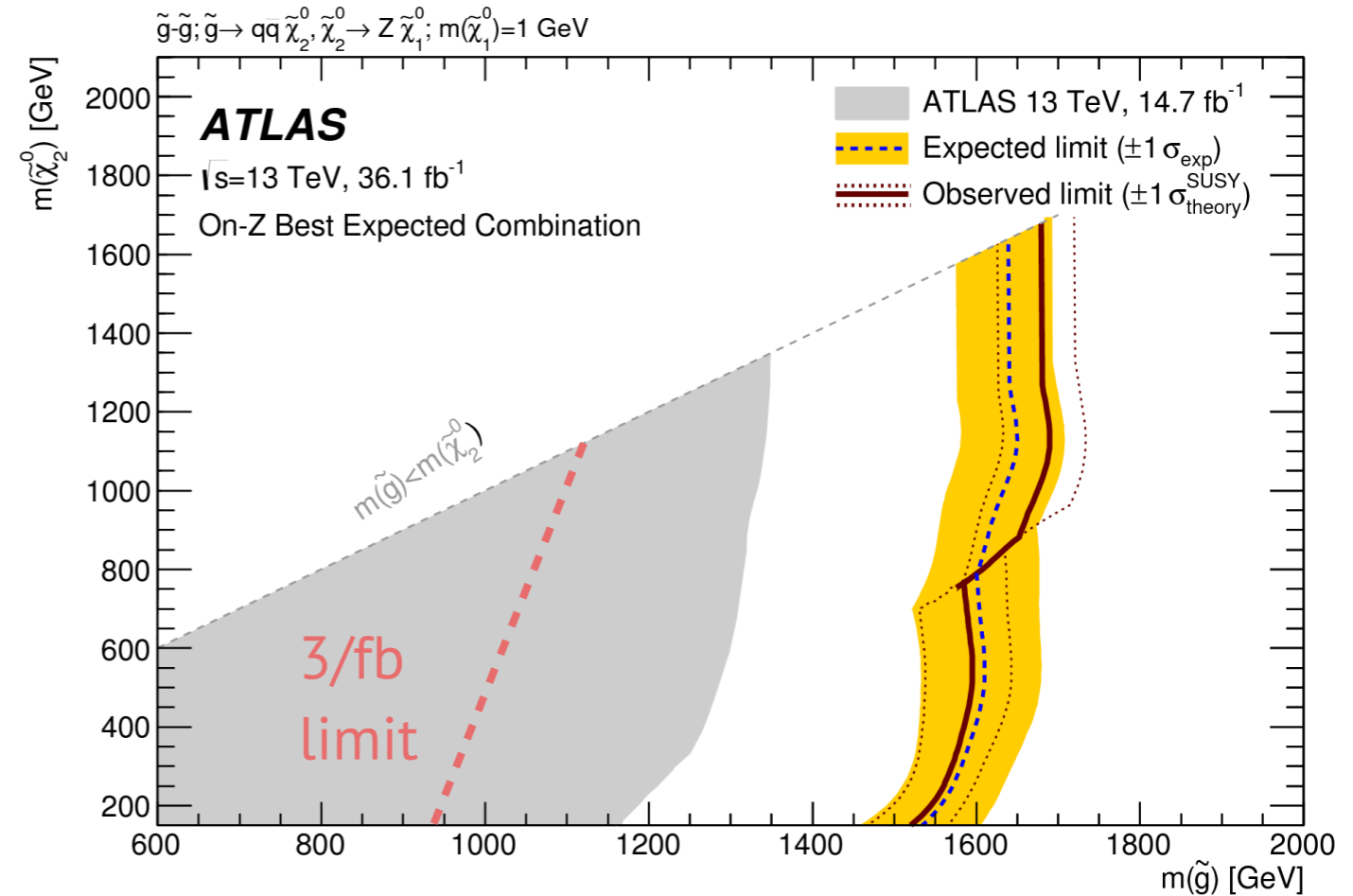
ATLAS-SUSY-2016-33

# Looking beyond the Standard Model

**No more hints of Supersymmetry**  
Pushed exclusions past TeV scale

Big gains from re-optimization  
already achieved

Not as exciting in 2019



ATLAS-SUSY-2016-33

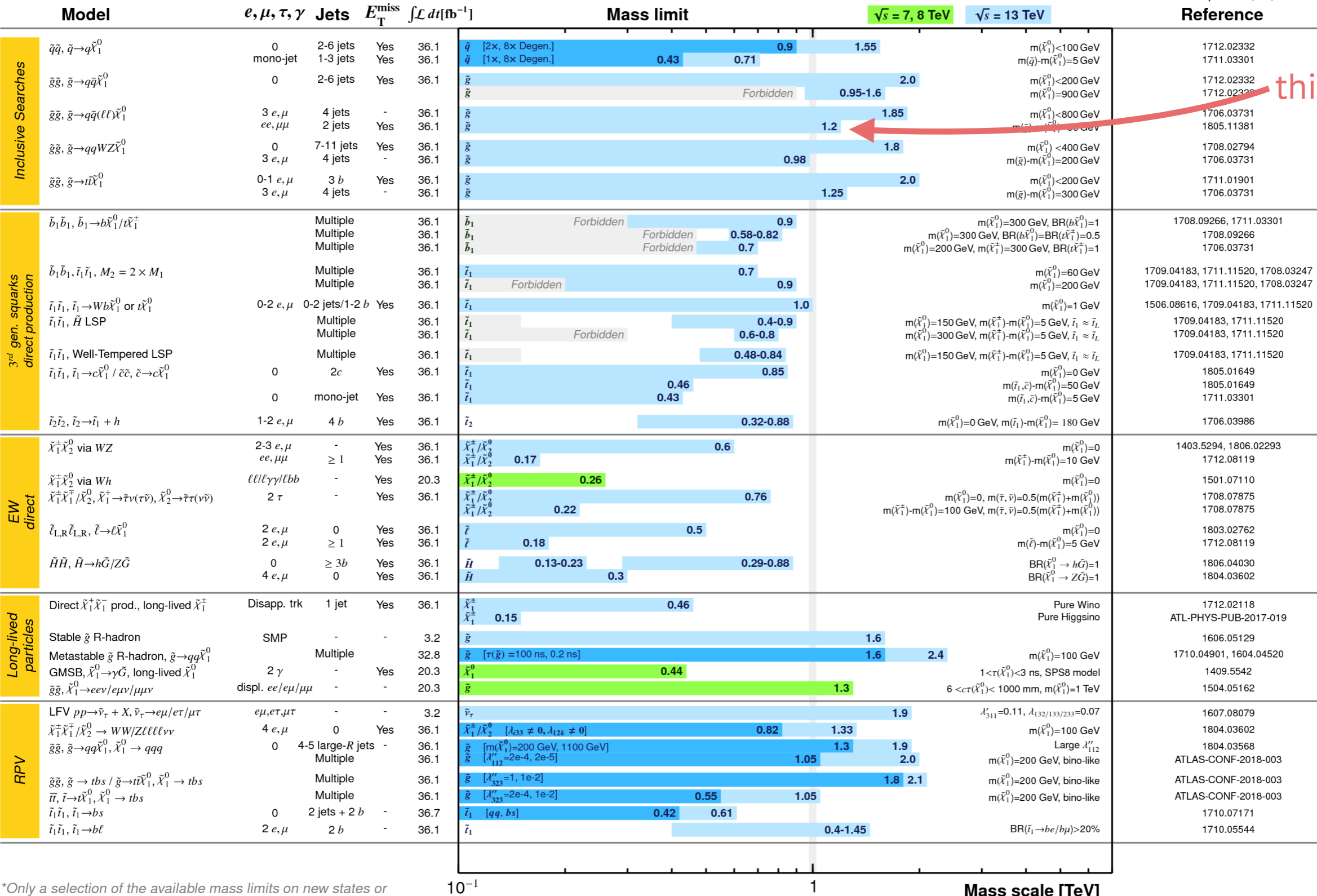
# ATLAS Supersymmetry Coverage

## ATLAS SUSY Searches\* - 95% CL Lower Limits

July 2018

ATLAS Preliminary

$\sqrt{s} = 7, 8, 13$  TeV



this search

10<sup>-1</sup> 1 Mass scale [TeV]

\*Only a selection of the available mass limits on new states or phenomena is shown. Many of the limits are based on simplified models, c.f. refs. for the assumptions made.

# ATLAS Supersymmetry Coverage

Long-lived particles	Direct $\tilde{\chi}_1^+ \tilde{\chi}_1^-$ prod., long-lived $\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm$	Disapp. trk	1 jet	Yes	36.1	$\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm$	0.46	
	Stable $\tilde{g}$ R-hadron	SMP	-	-	3.2	$\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm$	0.15	
	Metastable $\tilde{g}$ R-hadron, $\tilde{g} \rightarrow qq\tilde{\chi}_1^0$		Multiple		32.8	$\tilde{g}$	1.6	
	GMSB, $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow \gamma \tilde{G}$ , long-lived $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	$2\gamma$	-	Yes	20.3	$\tilde{g}$ [ $\tau(\tilde{g}) = 100 \text{ ns}, 0.2 \text{ ns}$ ]	1.6	2.4
	$\tilde{g}\tilde{g}, \tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow ee/\mu\nu/\mu\mu$	displ. $ee/e\mu/\mu\mu$	-	-	20.3	$\tilde{\chi}_1^0$	0.44	$\tilde{g}$

Here the usual paradigm falls apart because we add another variable: **lifetime**

## Typical analysis workflow:

- ▷ Identify a well motivated, simplified model
- ▷ Examine the phenomenology of the model and how it changes with SUSY mass spectra
- ▷ Figure out how to separate the signal from SM background
- ▷ Design an analysis with related signal regions, targeting different points on a mass grid

Long-lived particles

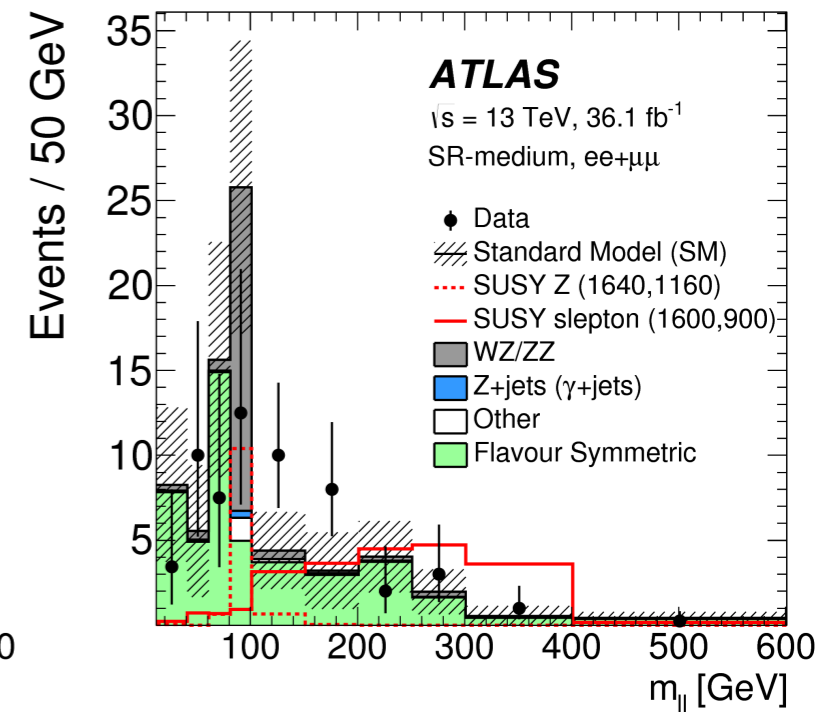
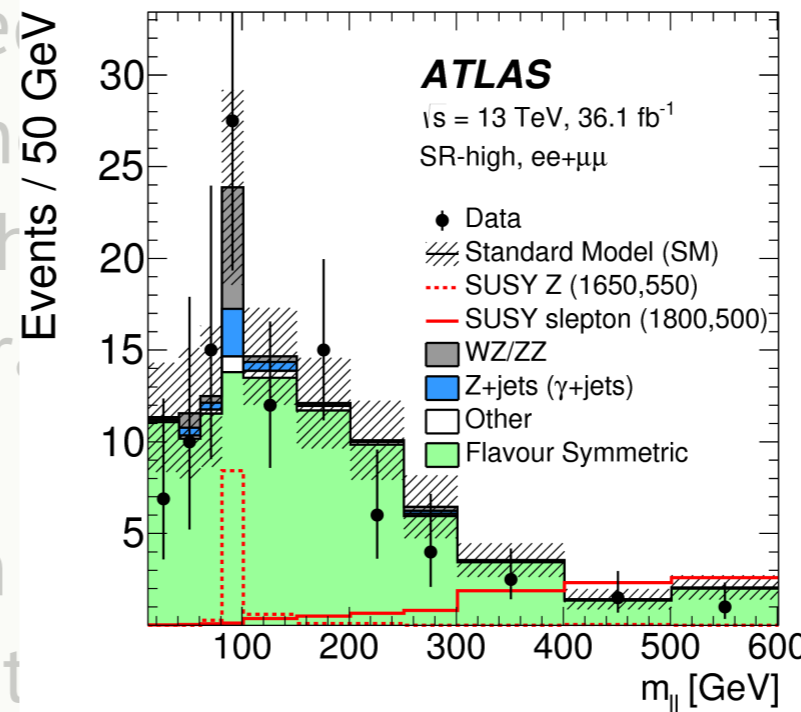
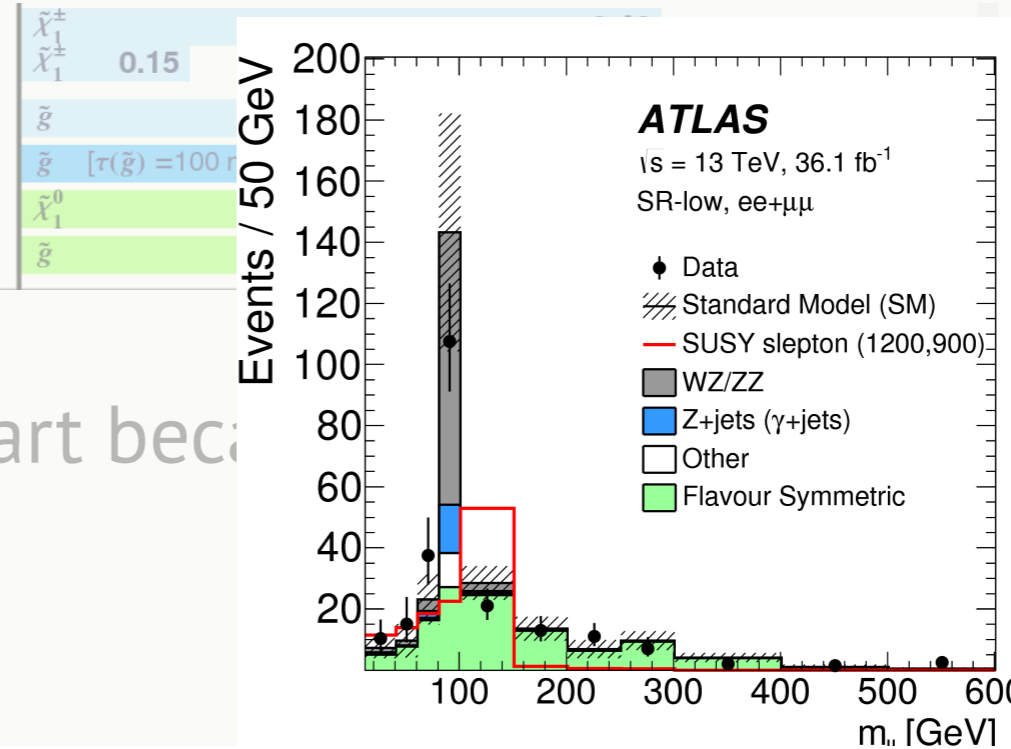
Direct $\tilde{\chi}_1^+ \tilde{\chi}_1^-$ prod., long-lived $\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm$	Disapp. trk	1 jet	Yes	36.1
Stable $\tilde{g}$ R-hadron	SMP	-	-	3.2

All pairs of leptons, jets, missing energy

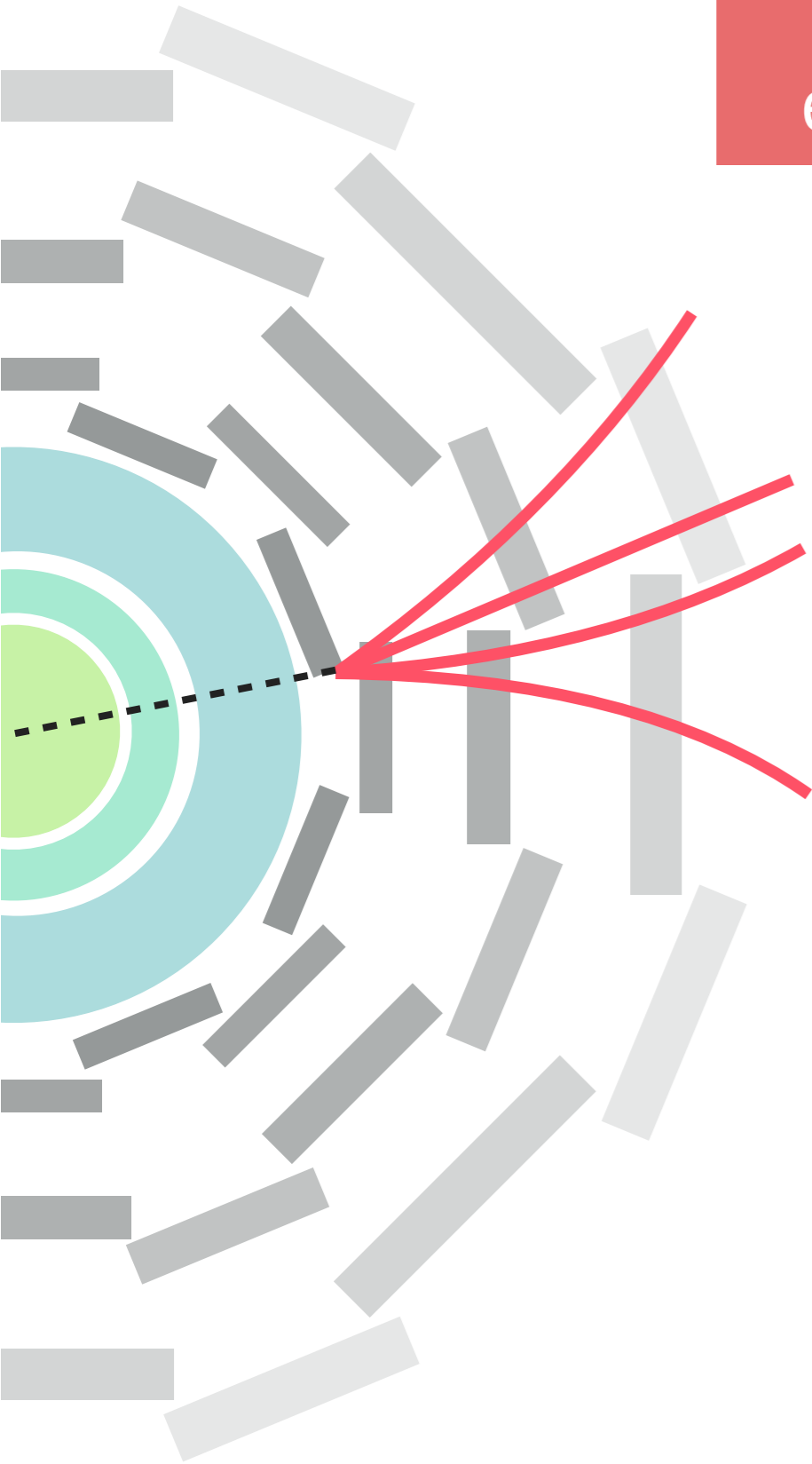
lifetime

Typical analysis workflow:

- ▶ Identify a well motivated
- ▶ Examine the phenomenon and how it changes with
- ▶ Figure out how to separate background
- ▶ Design an analysis with targeting different point

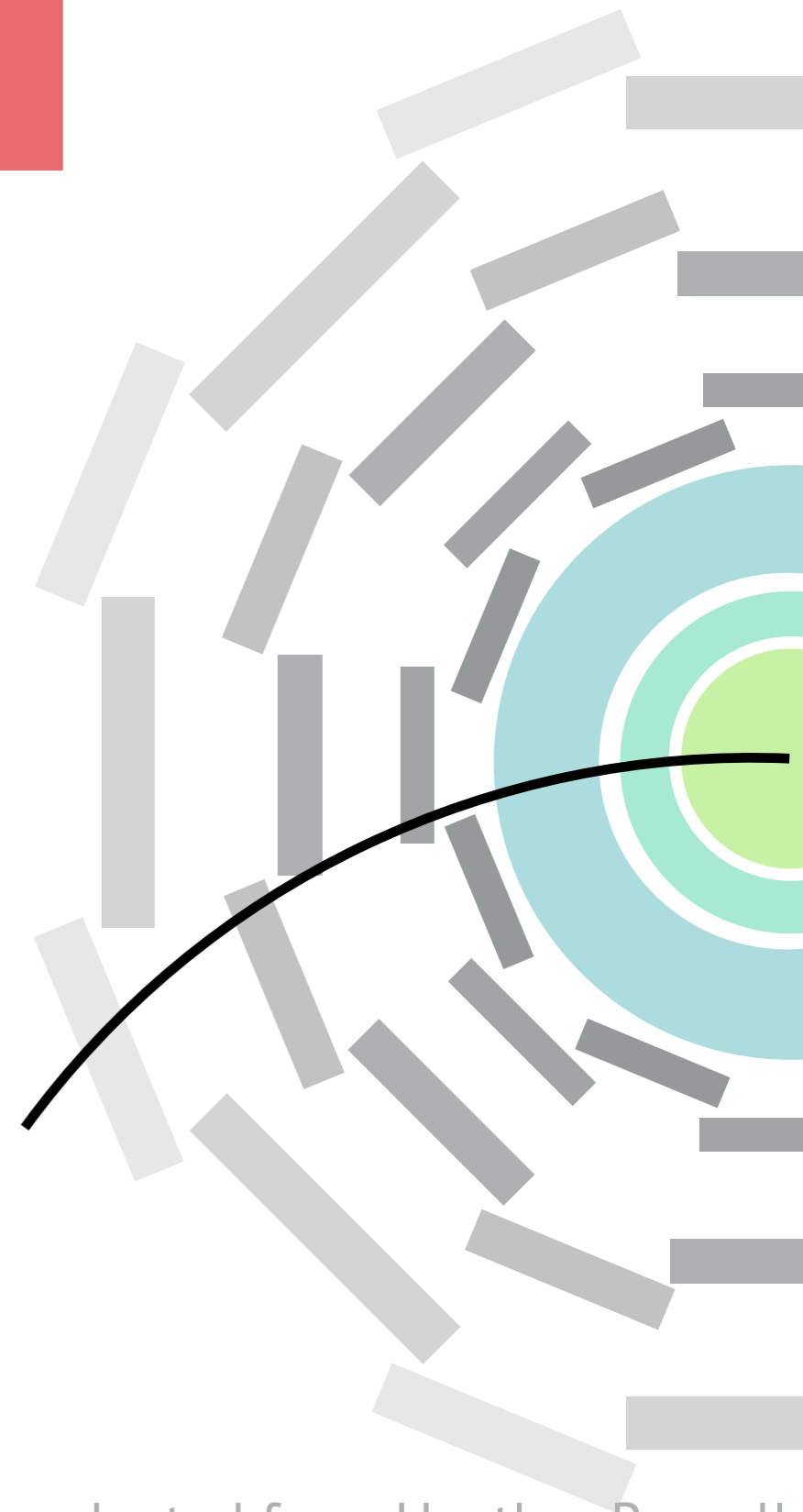


Lifetime changes create fundamentally different experimental signatures



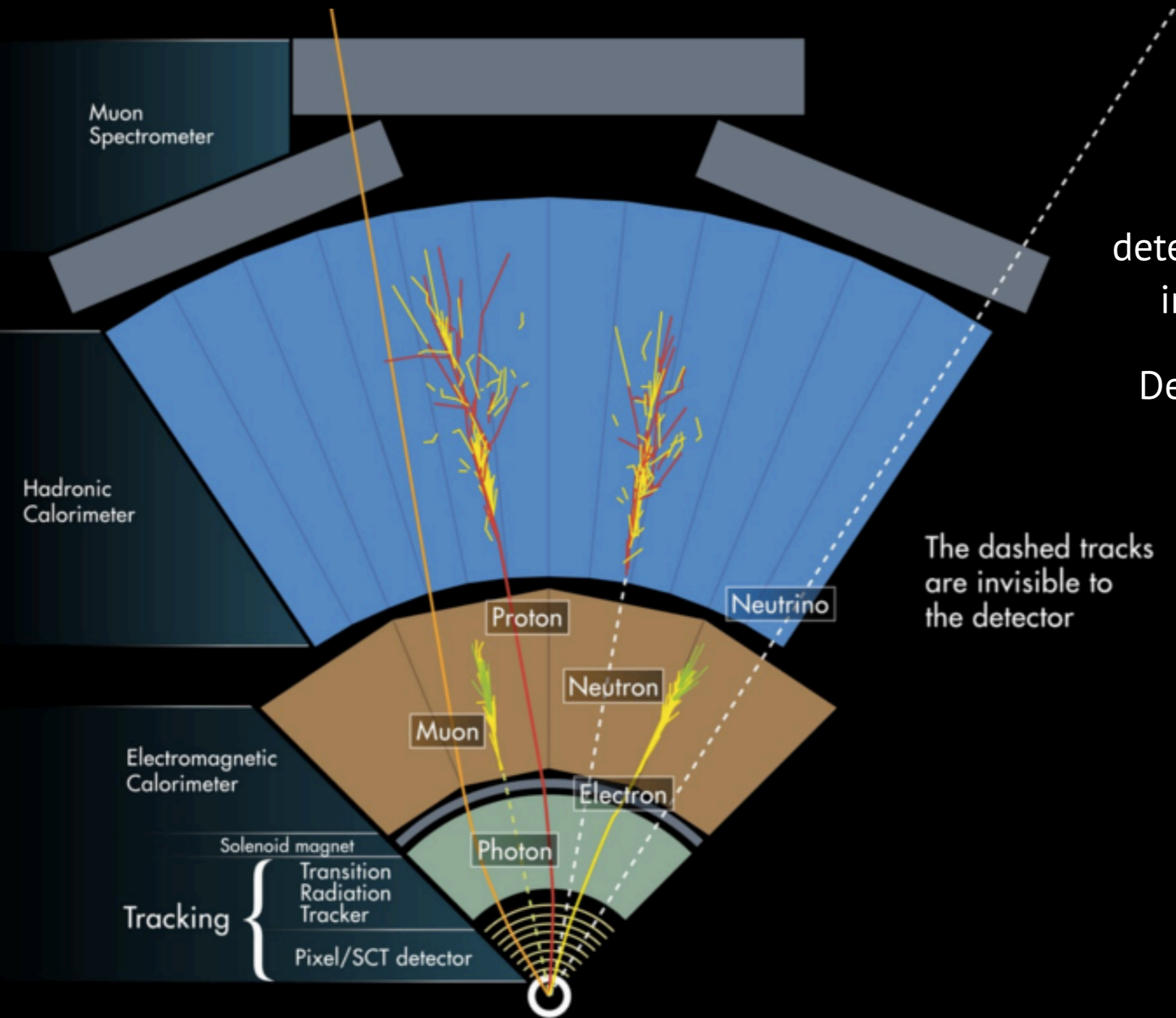
**Metastable:**  
Decays somewhere inside the ATLAS detector

**Stable:**  
Passes through the full detector



LLP signature diagrams adapted from Heather Russell

# What ATLAS is designed to do



Layers of the ATLAS detector provide complimentary information for particle ID

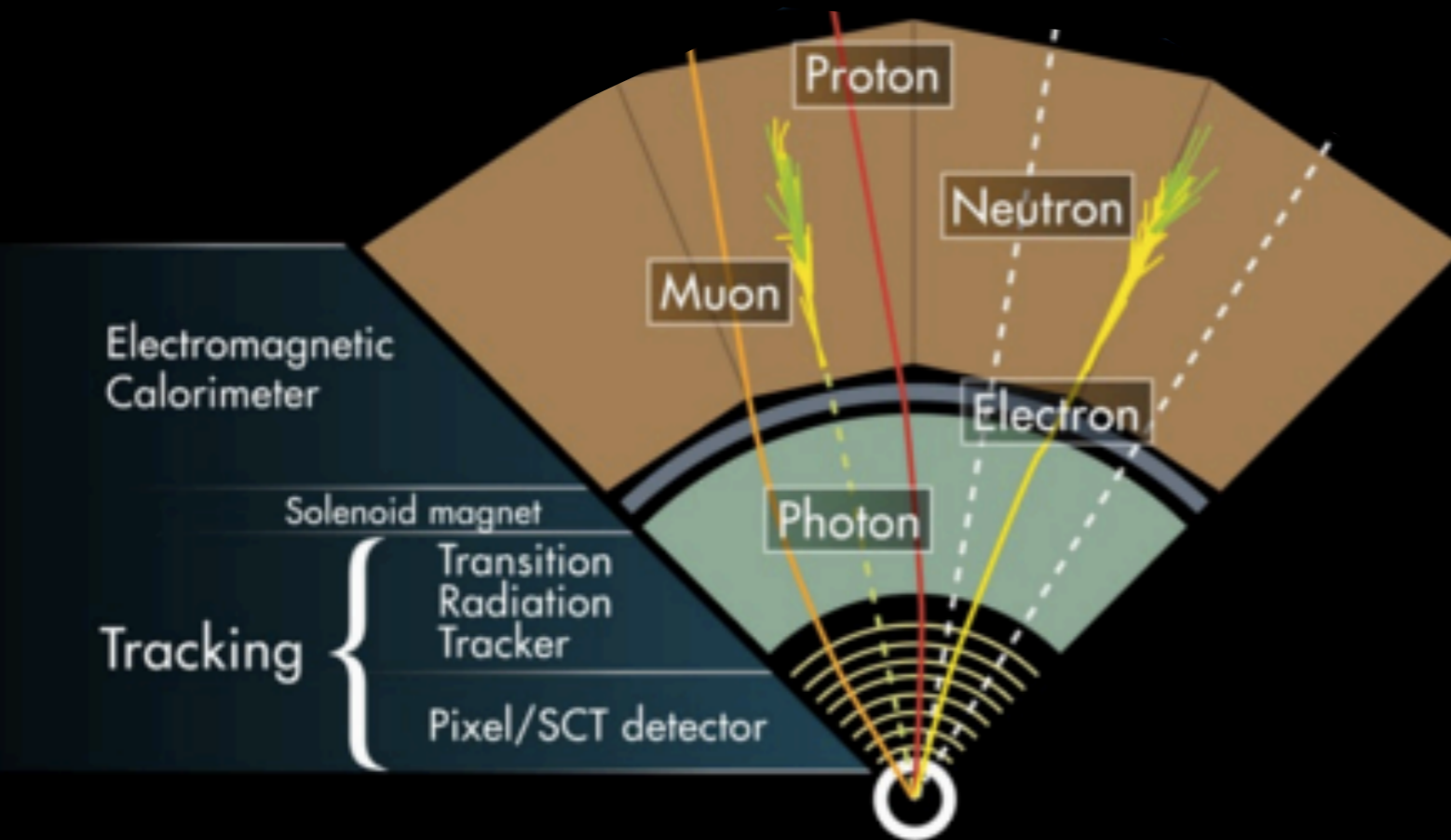
Designed to look at particles coming from the center

Optimized for known particles

The dashed tracks are invisible to the detector



# What ATLAS is designed to do

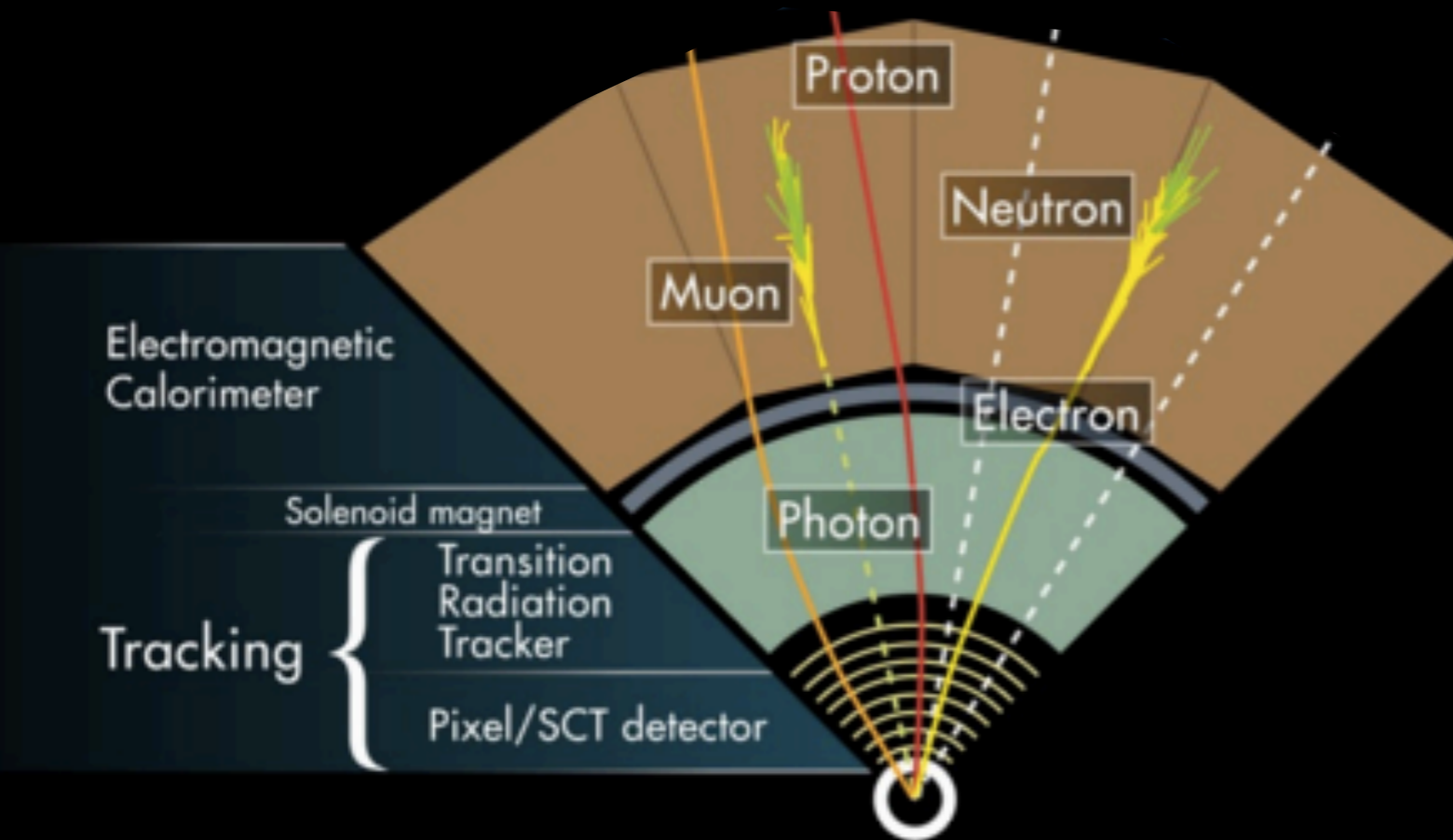


Electron with no prompt track  
→ photon

Electron that appears part  
way through the calorimeter  
→ noise?

BSM particle traveling through  
the detector  
→ ???

# What ATLAS is designed to do



Electron with no prompt track  
→ photon

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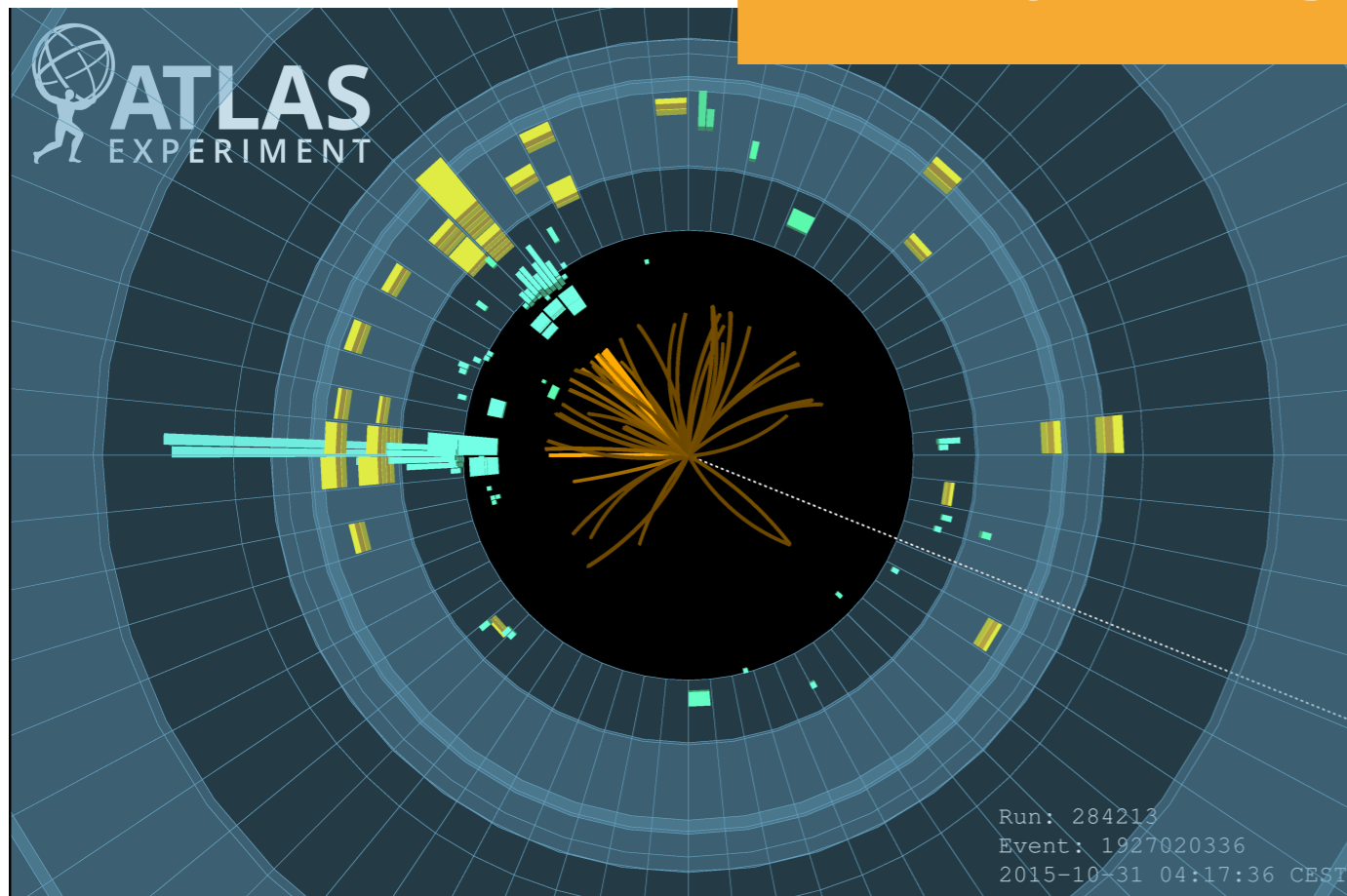
BSM particle traveling through  
the detector  
→ ???

Unusual signatures require dedicated  
(often time consuming) techniques

## Problem:

By the time you can do this special reconstruction, ATLAS has already thrown away more than 99.99% of collisions

## The ATLAS Trigger



ATLAS public event displays

Final decision on what to keep is made in around 250 ms

**How do we decide if this event is worth keeping?**

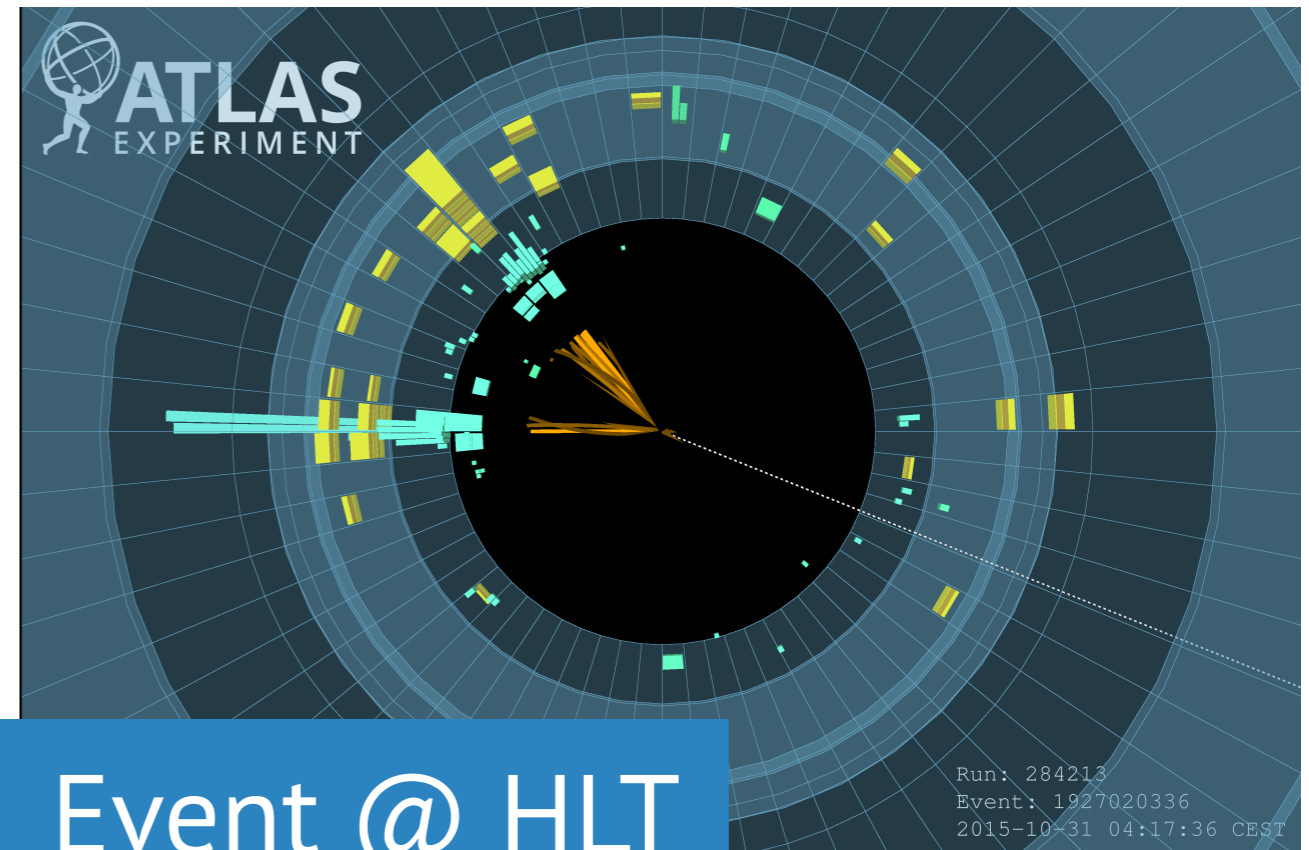
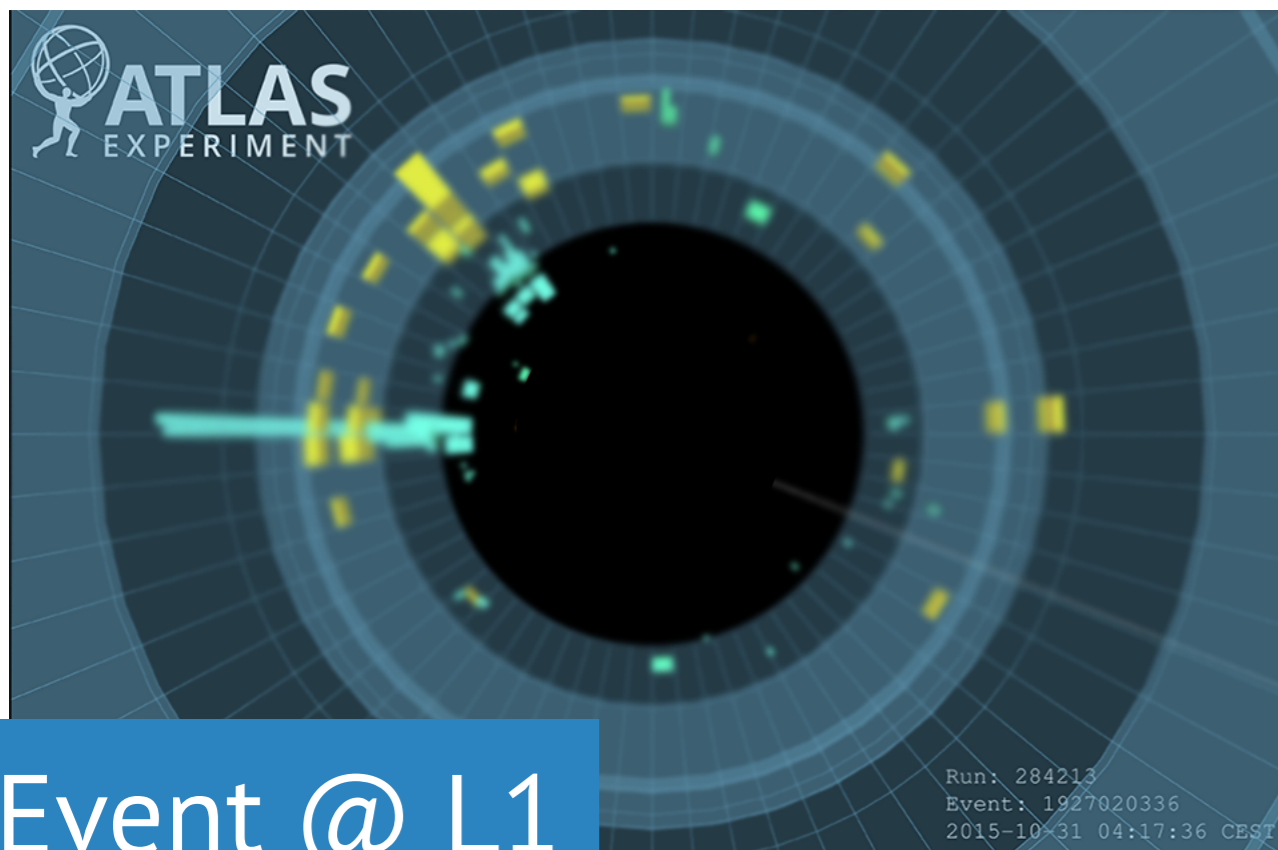
(image of an event with analysis-level “offline” reconstruction)

Level 1 trigger decisions are made with rough **calorimeter** and **muon** information

40 MHz →  
100 kHz

High Level Trigger uses **full precision** information in **small regions**

100 kHz →  
1 kHz

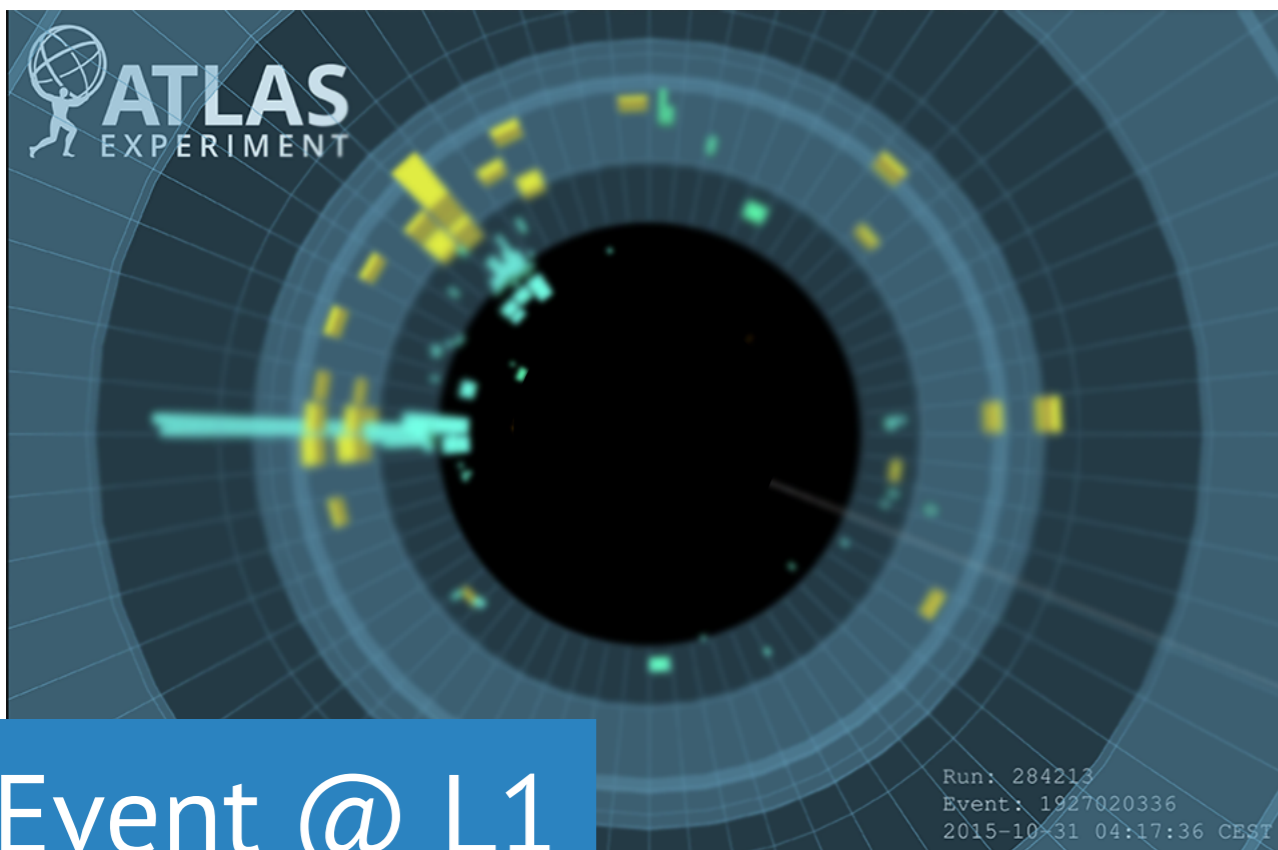


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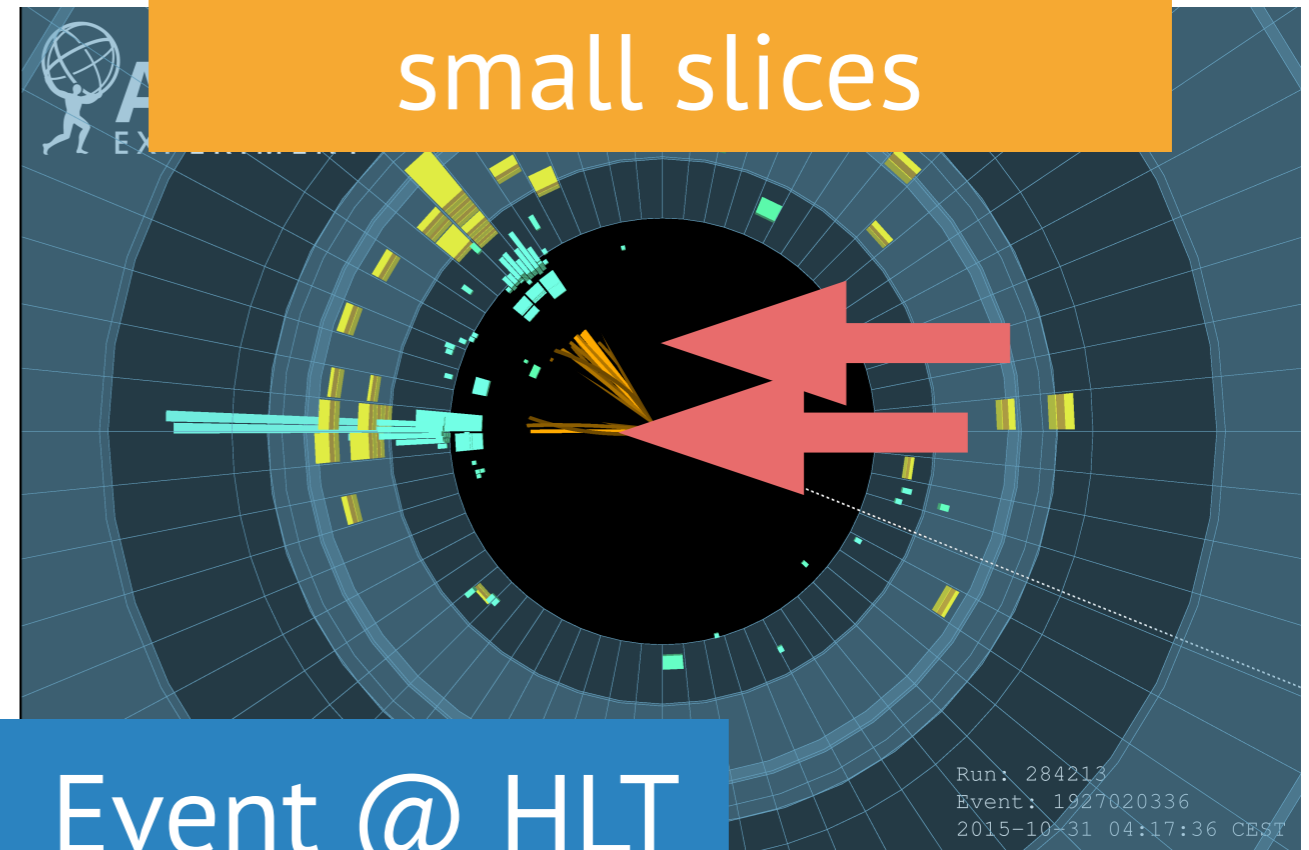
High Level Trigger uses **full** proton  
information in **small regions**

tracking:  
only precise  
measurement of  
particle lifetime

only available in  
small slices



Event @ L1

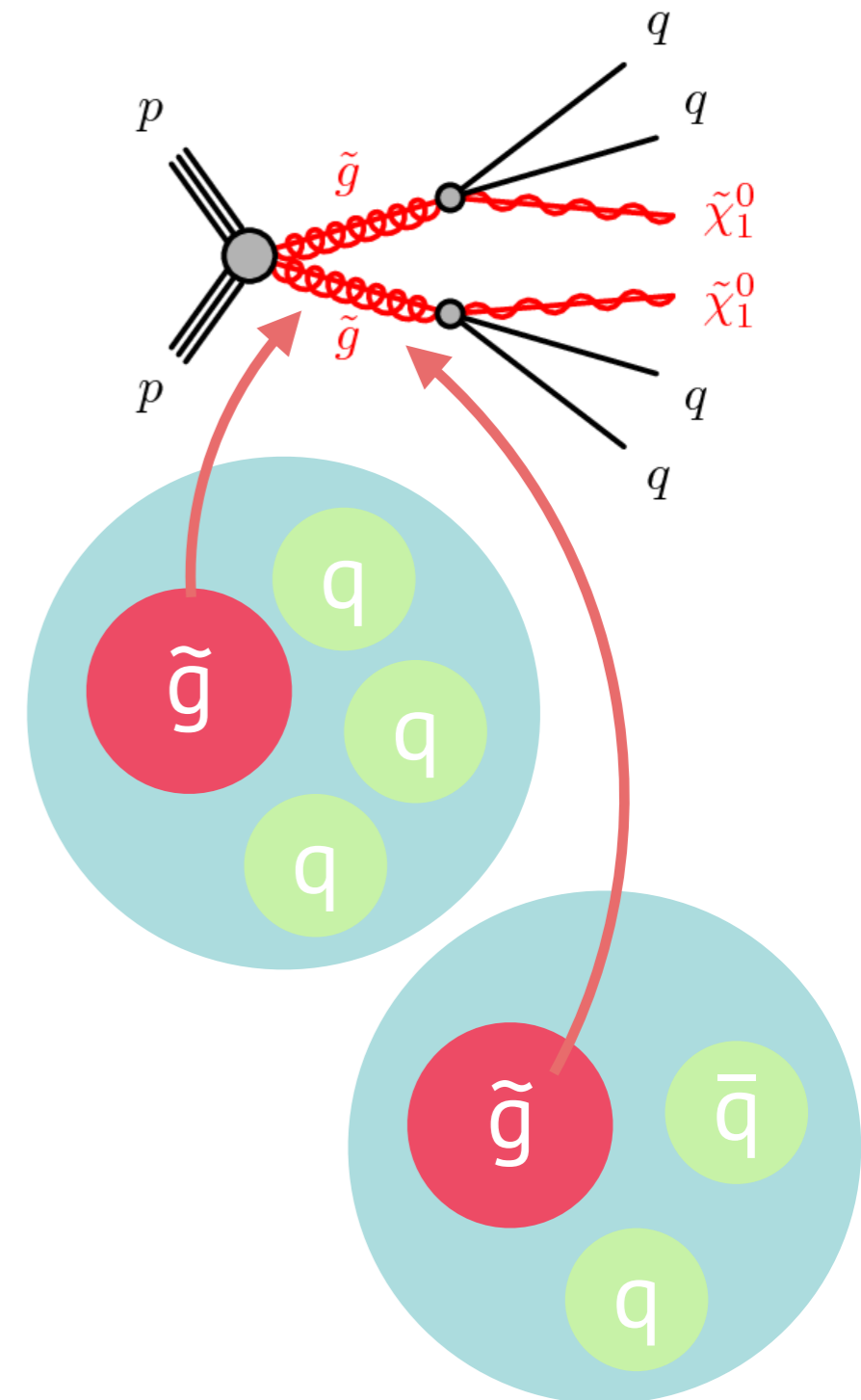
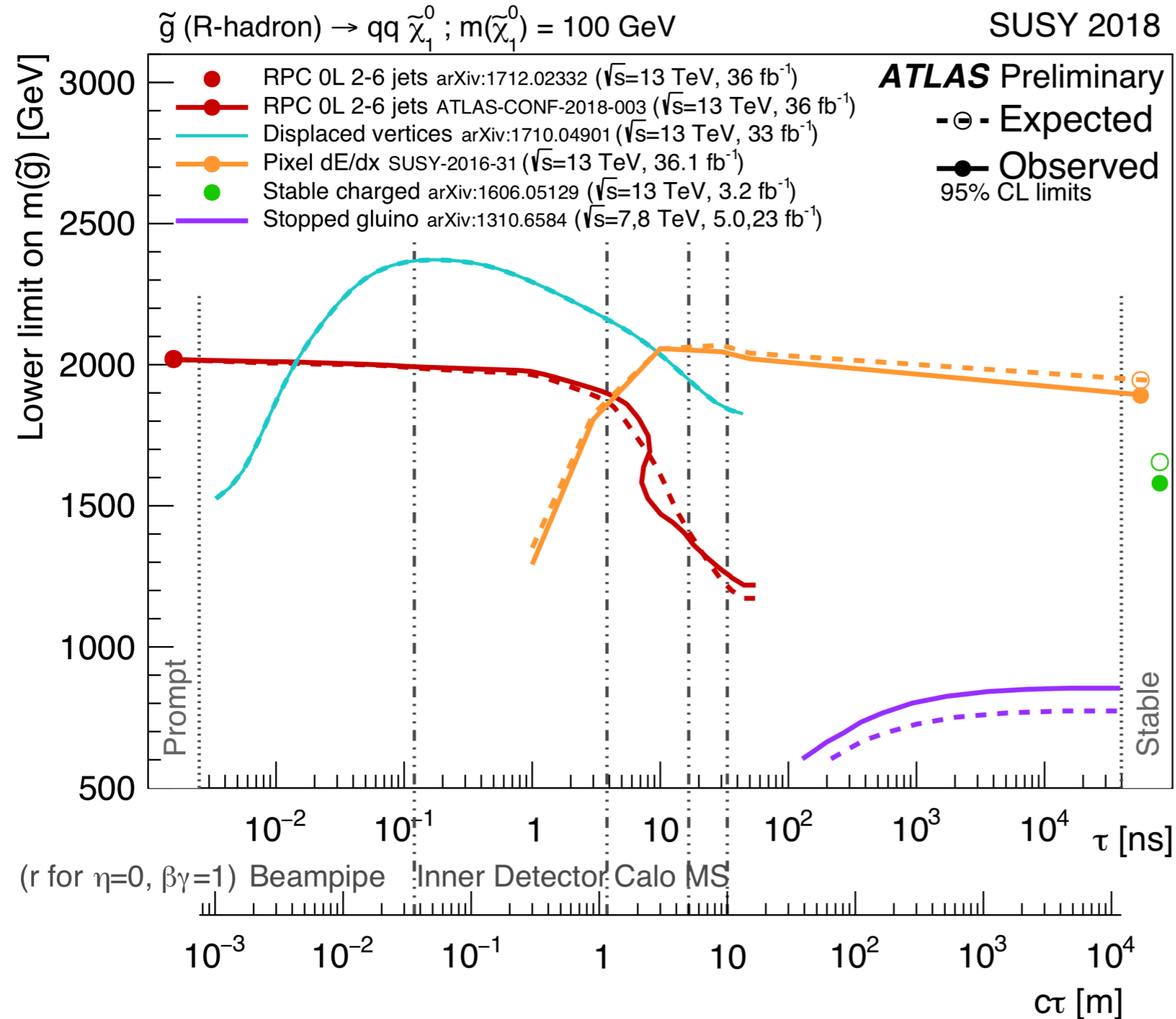


Event @ HLT

# ATLAS searches for long-lived particles

an example of success  
**R-hadrons**

hadron formed with a  
metastable SUSY particle

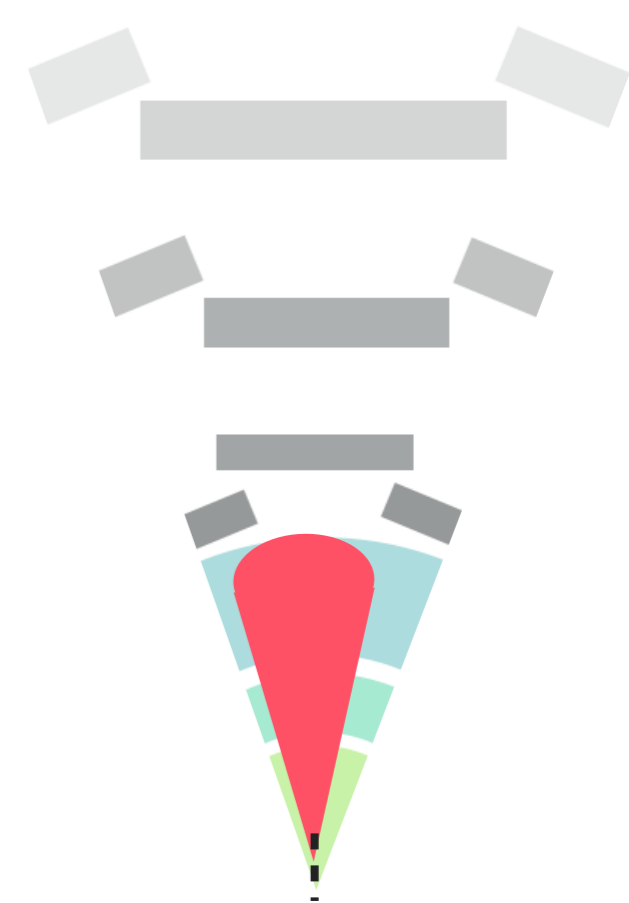
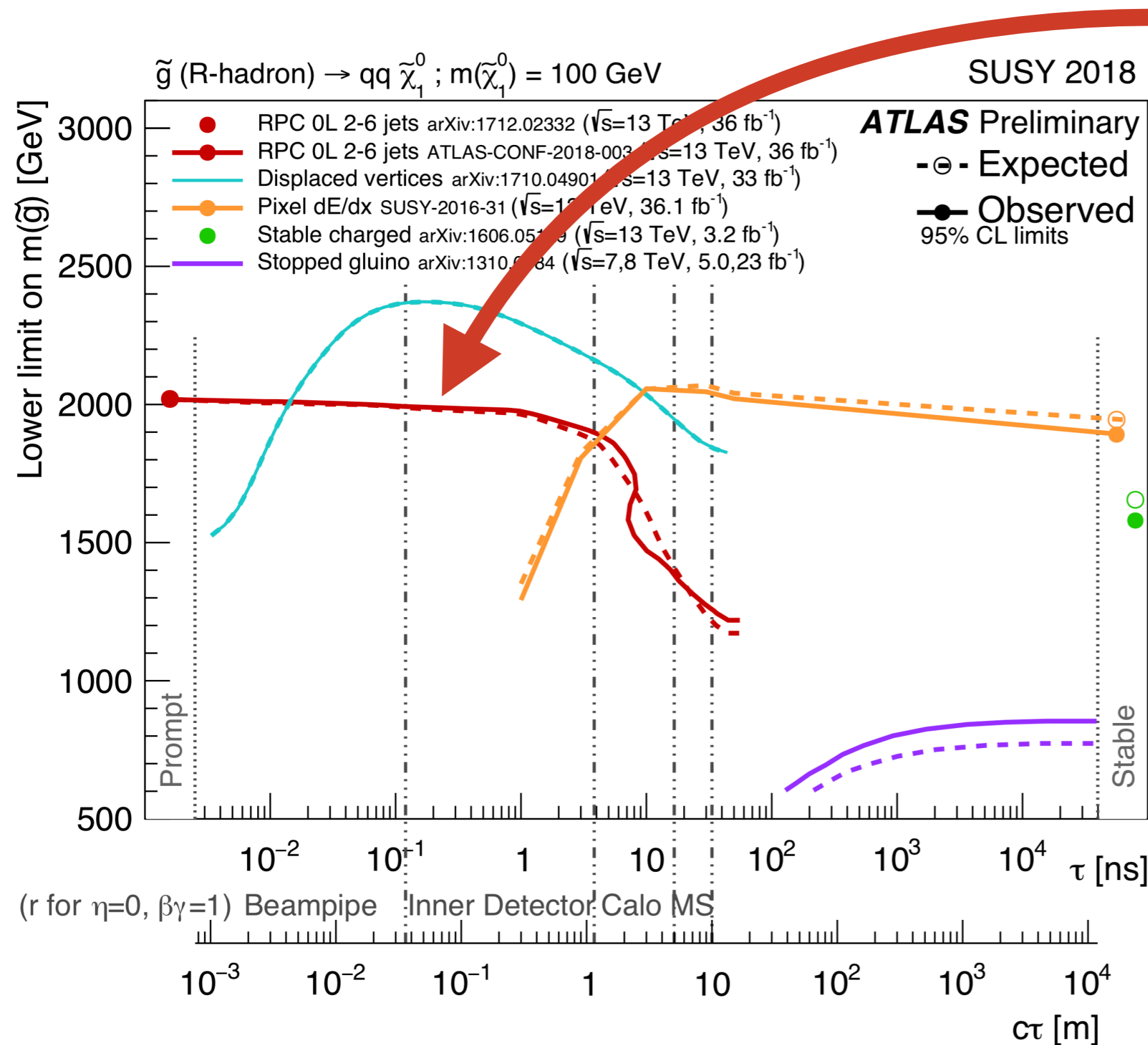


LLP Summary Plots

# ATLAS searches for long-lived particles

an example of success  
**R-hadrons**

## Prompt Search



triggers on missing energy  
from neutralino decay

original search  
required jets to have  
associated tracks

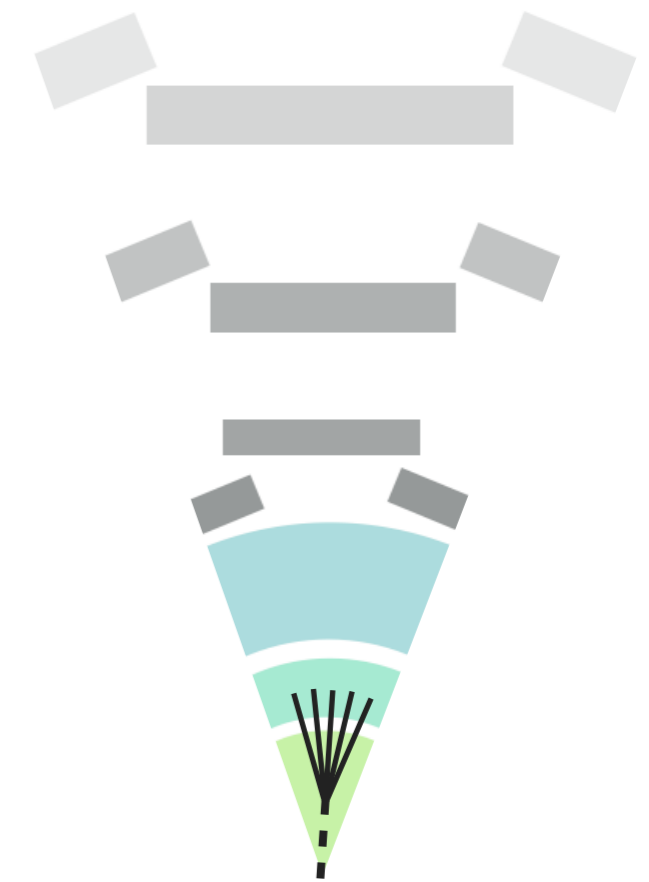
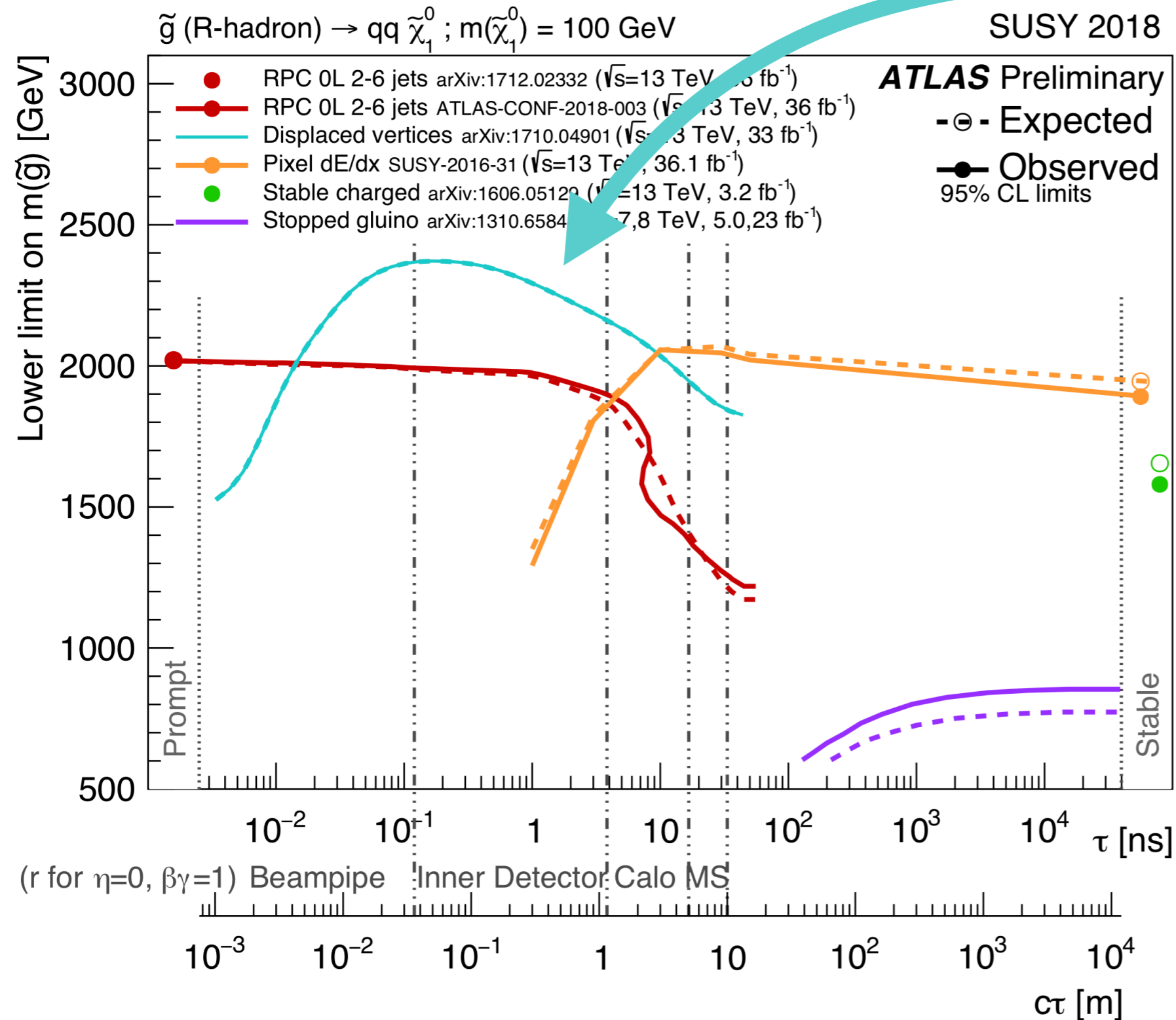
**modified to increase acceptance**

# ATLAS searches for long-lived particles

an example of success

## R-hadrons

## Displaced Vertices



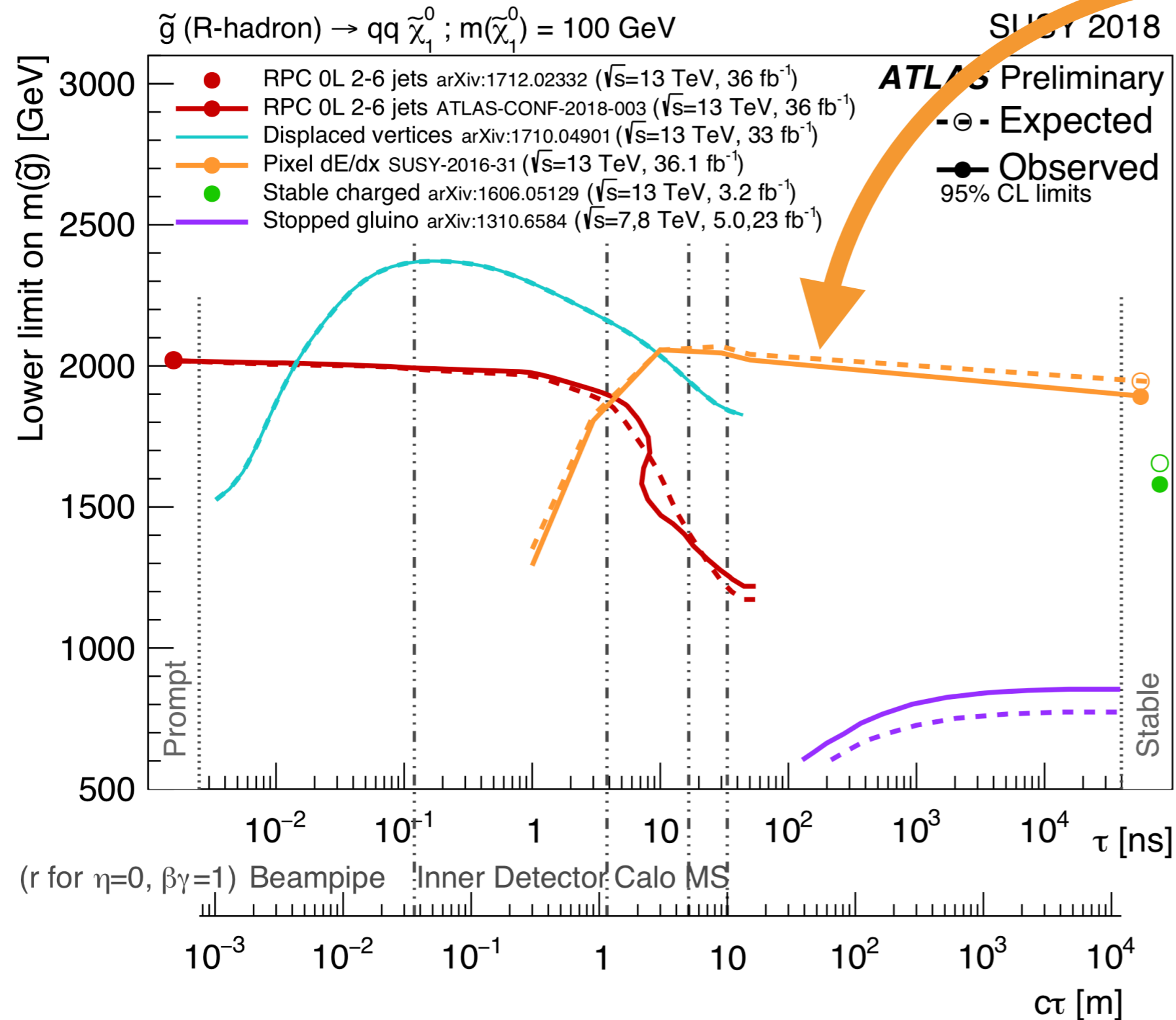
triggers on missing energy  
from neutralino decay

reconstructs displaced  
vertices with dedicated  
tracking algorithms

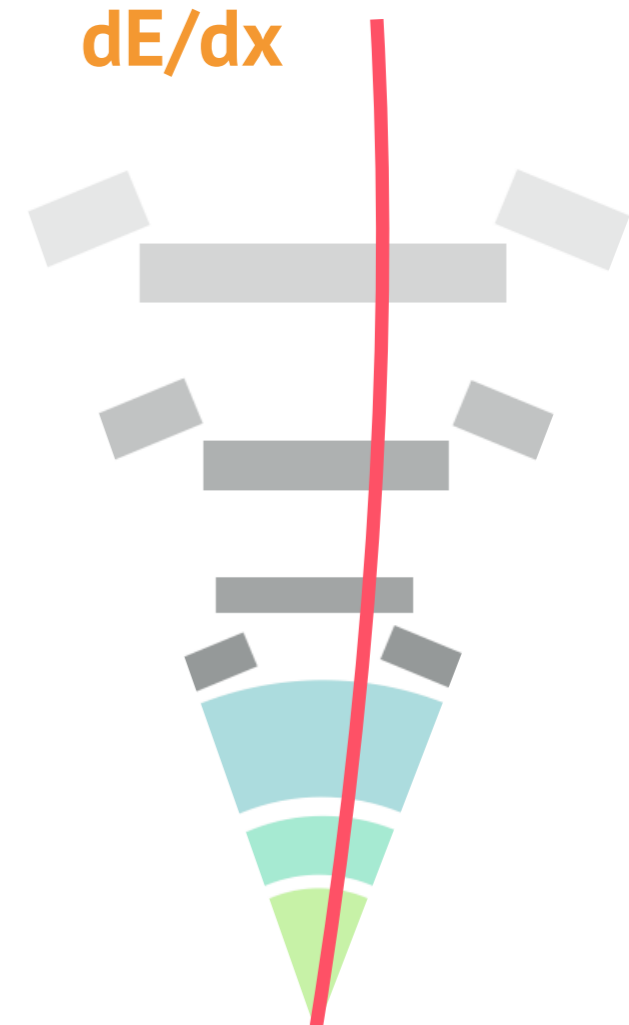


# ATLAS searches for long-lived particles

an example of success  
**R-hadrons**



**dE/dx**



triggers on missing energy  
from neutralino decay  
(works less well when stable)

calculate energy deposition  
in silicon sensors to find  
high-mass particles

# ATLAS Supersymmetry Coverage

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**Many different dedicated searches for R-hadrons**

Together they cover the full lifetime range

Each signature has different strategy, specialized techniques

- ▷ modified jet cleaning
- ▷ specialized track reconstruction
- ▷ dE/dx calculation

None use a trigger related to long lifetimes

# ATLAS Supersymmetry Coverage

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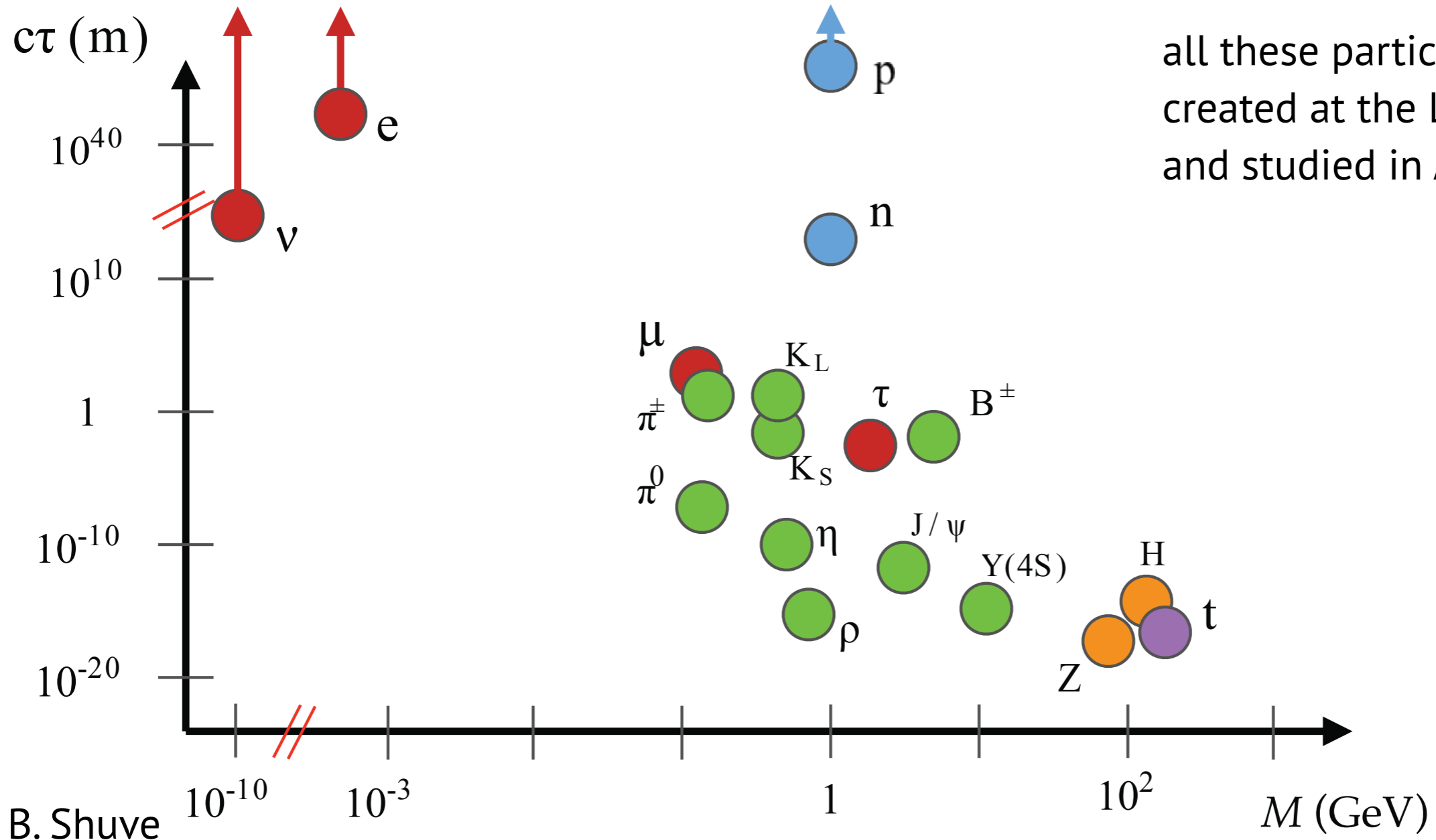
- ▷ modified jet cleaning
- ▷ spe
- ▷ dE/

Is it worth the effort?

Do we really think there are LLPs?

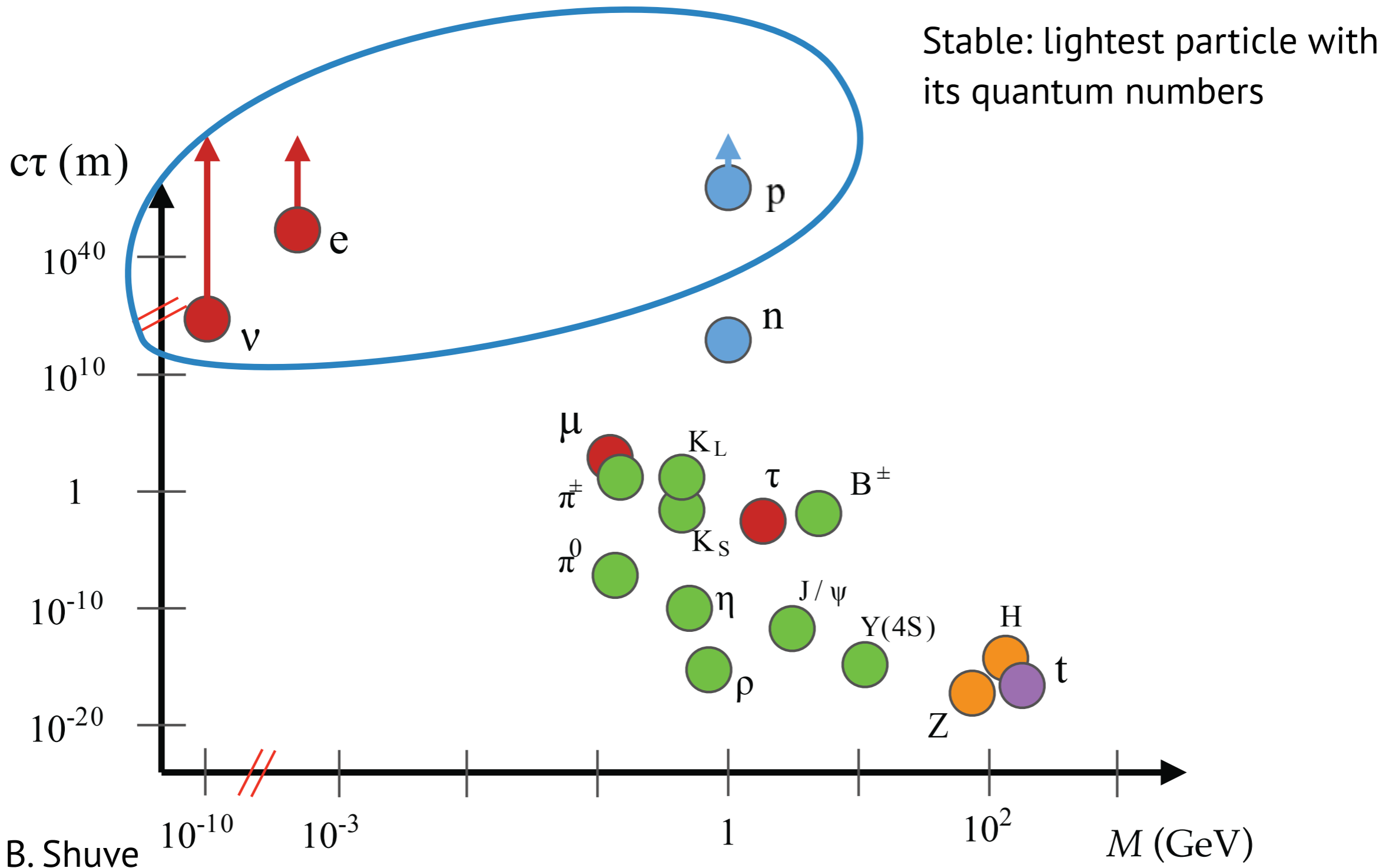
None use a trigger related to long lifetimes

# The standard model is full of “long-lived particles”

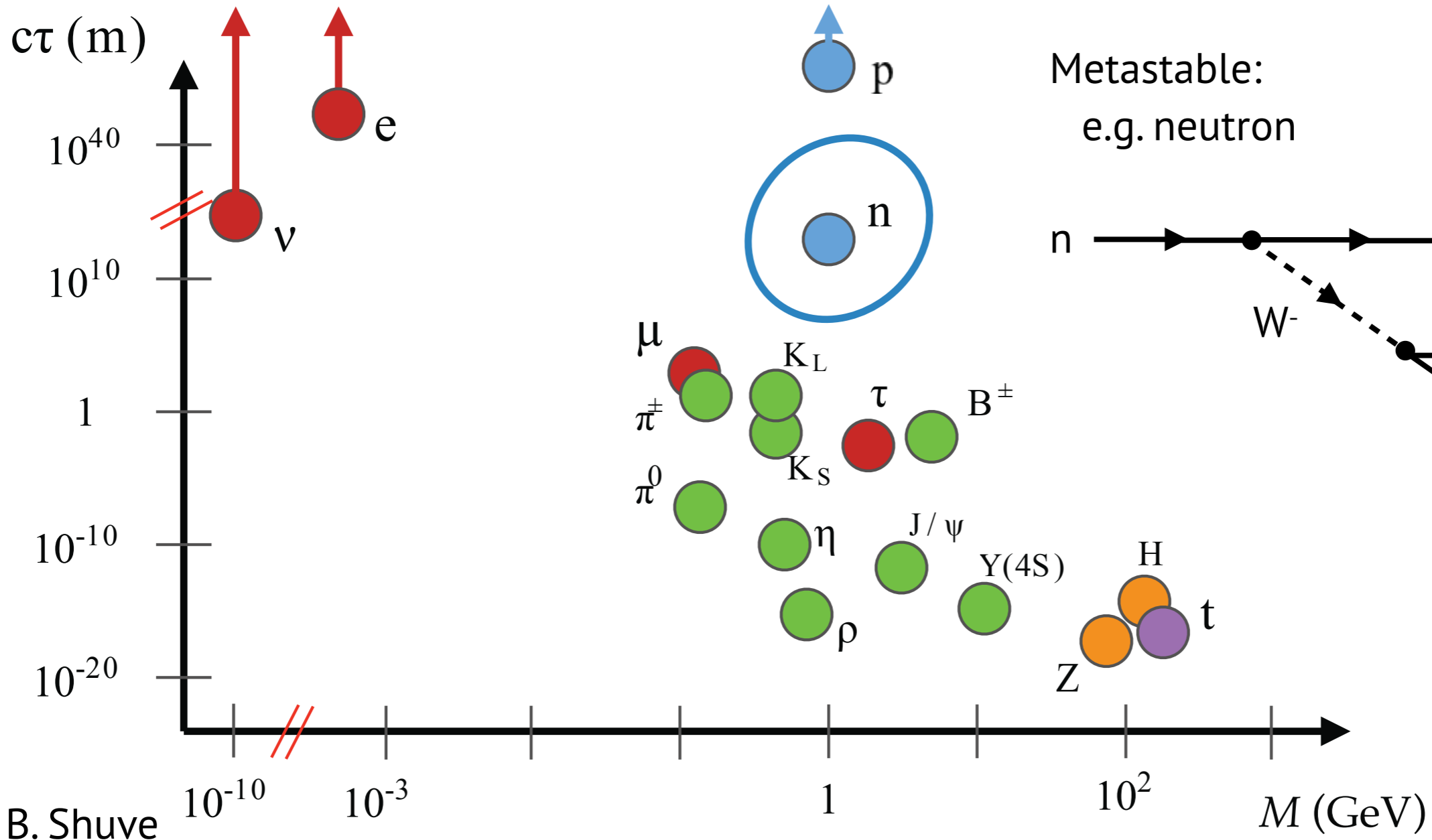


B. Shuve

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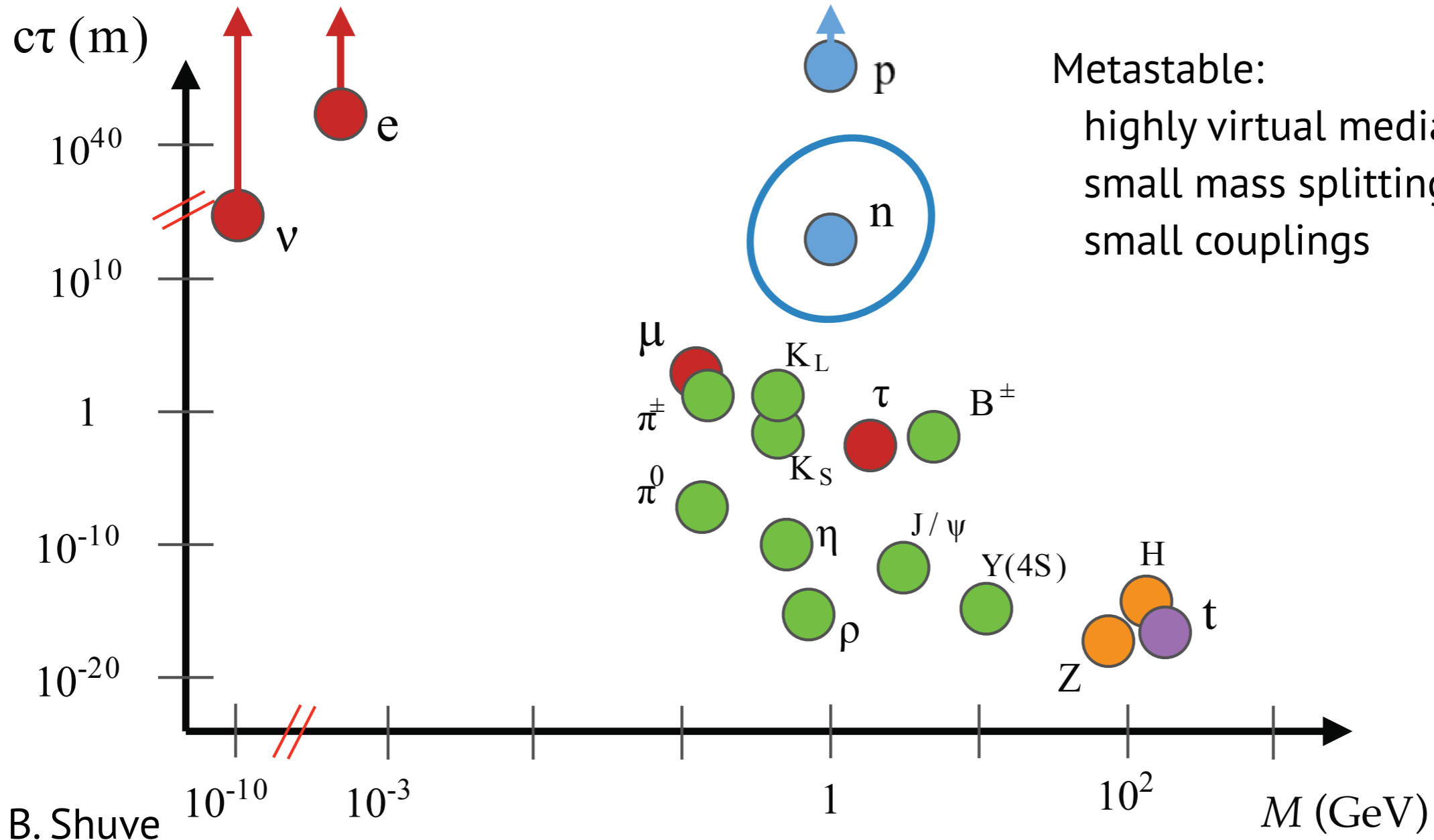


B. Shuve

# The standard model is full of “long-lived particles”

Stable: lightest particle with its quantum numbers

Metastable:  
highly virtual mediators  
small mass splittings  
small couplings



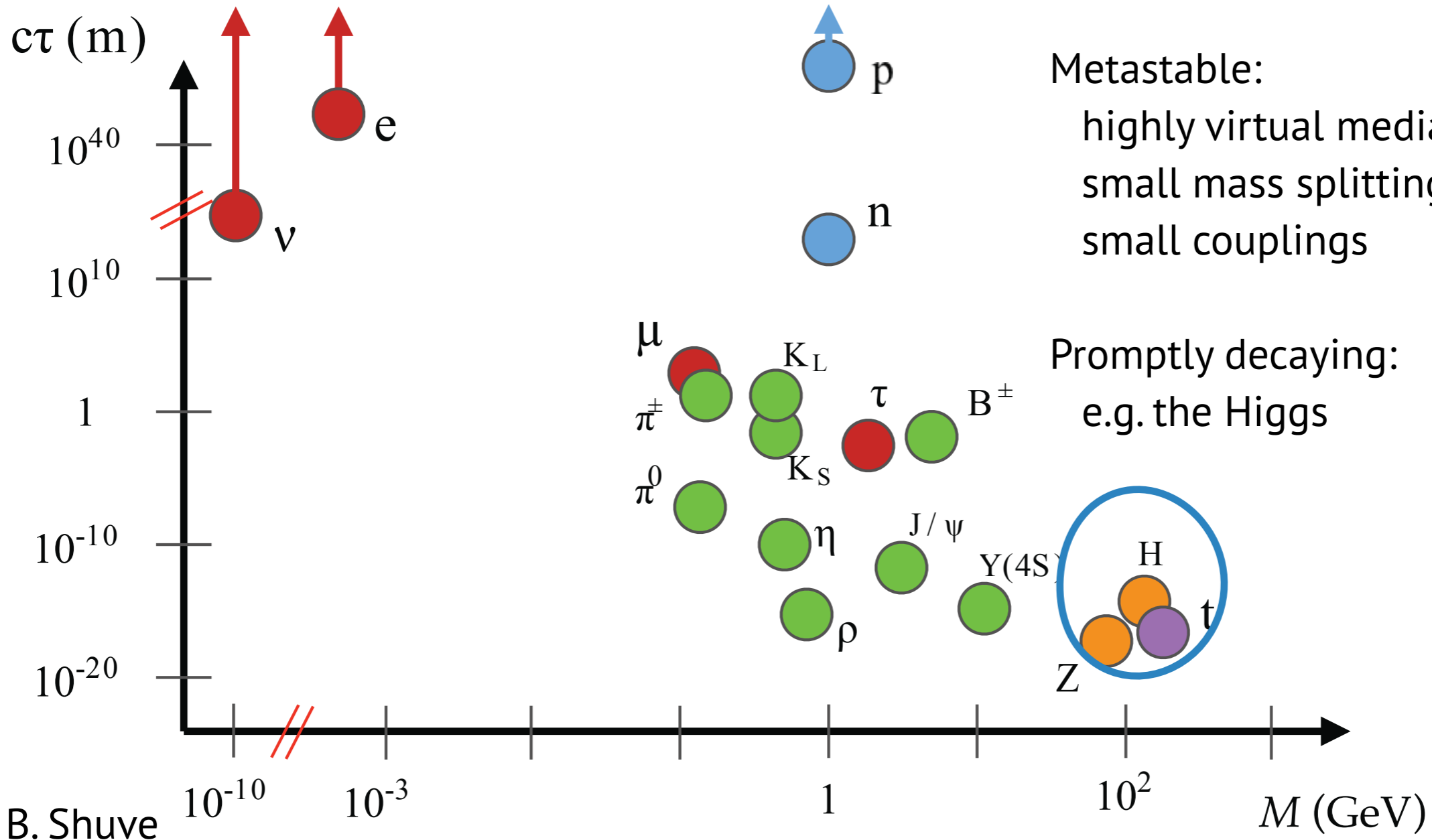
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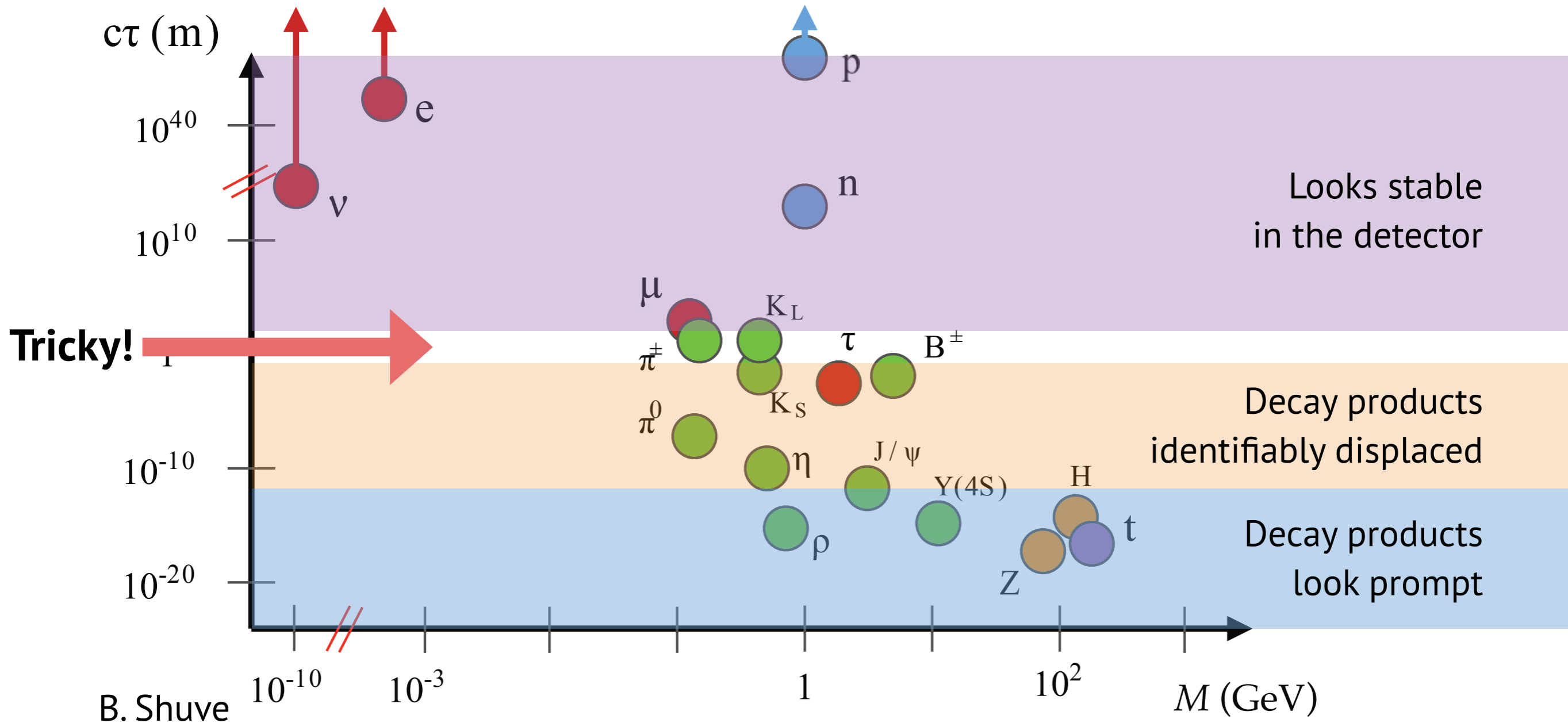
Promptly decaying:  
e.g. the Higgs



B. Shuve



# From the experimental point of view...

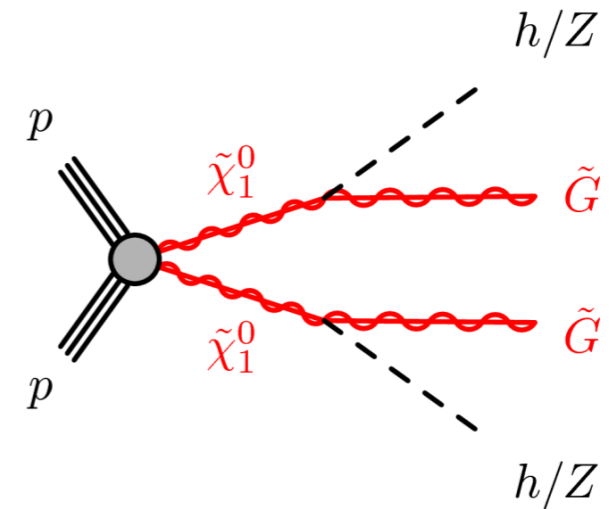


B. Shuve

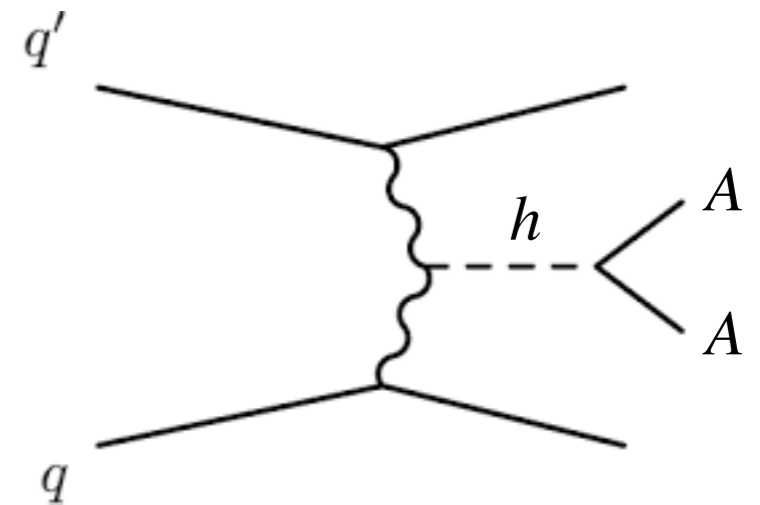
No reason to think there are only Standard Model long-lived particles

Beyond-the-Standard-Model particles can be long-lived for the same reasons (small mass splittings, small couplings, virtual mediators)

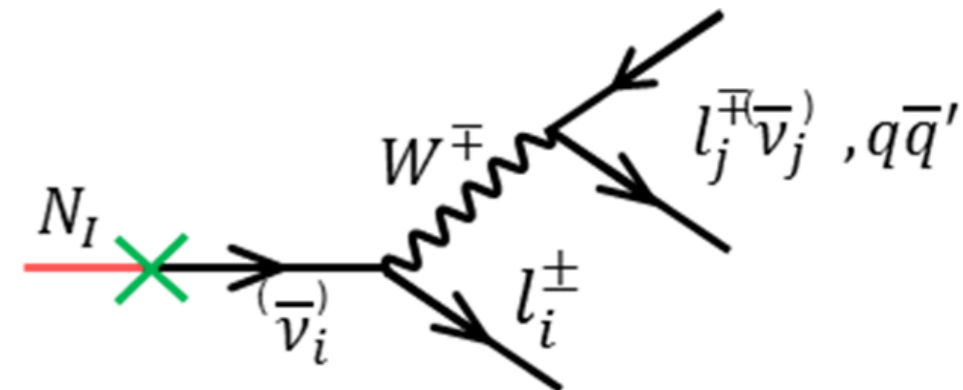
In Supersymmetry...



From hidden sectors...

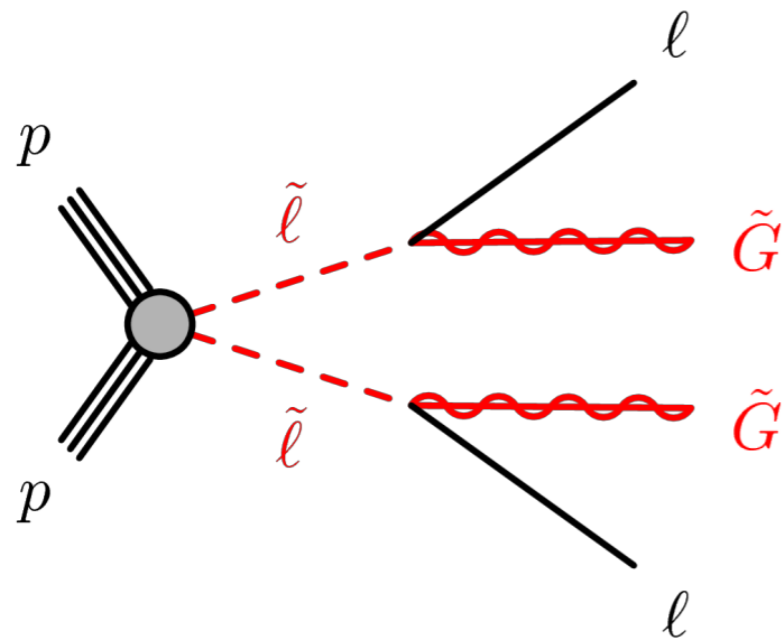


Right-handed neutrinos...



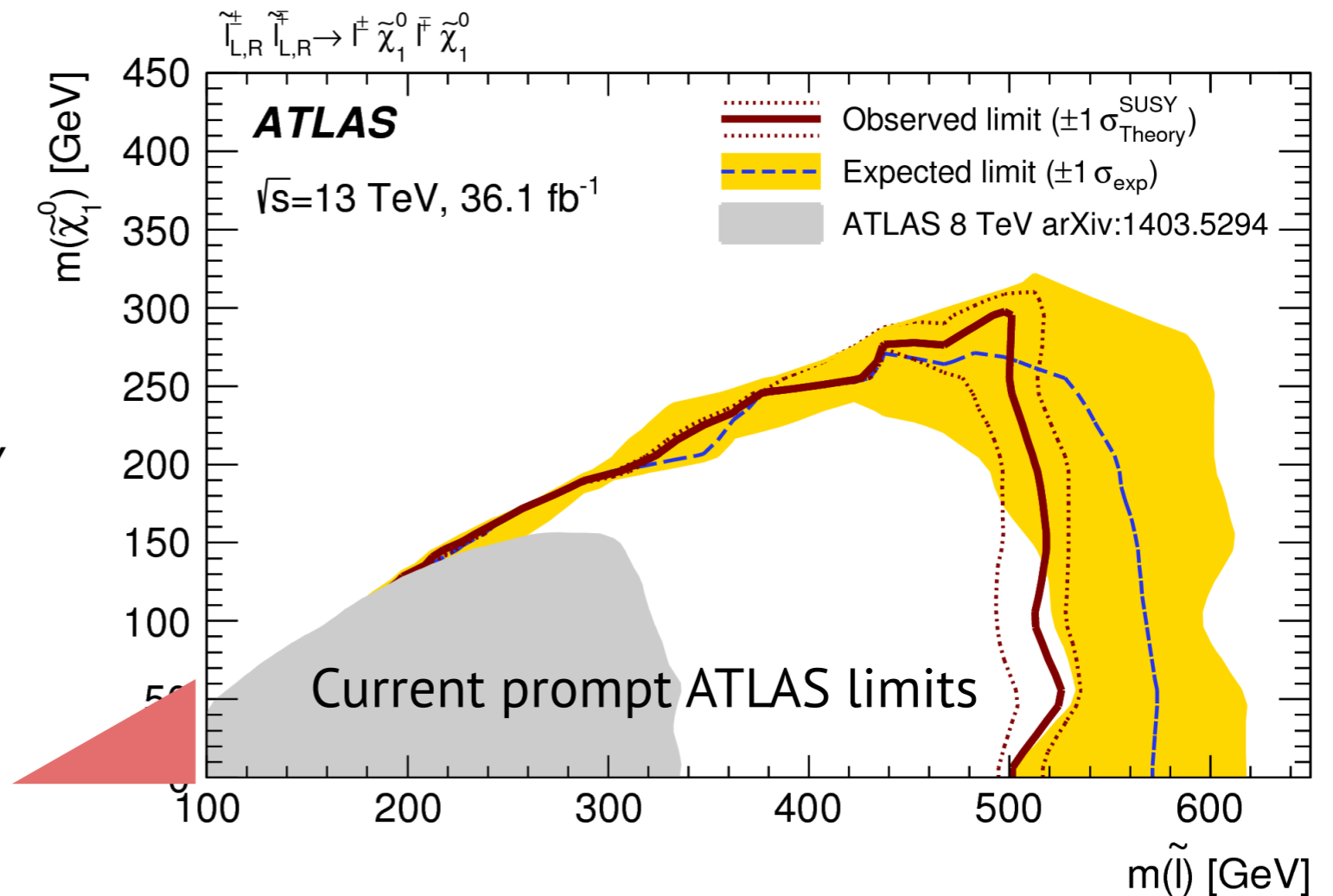
Any **dark matter candidate** has to be metastable or stable!

# Uncovered territory



**Still many models that haven't been looked at**  
 No limit on SUSY decays like this one since OPAL  
 (13 years ago, energies 1/65th of the LHC)

**For long-lived sleptons**  
 the limits are at ~100 GeV  
 plenty of room to find natural SUSY  
 (I'm working on this now)



Always interesting

but particularly interesting now

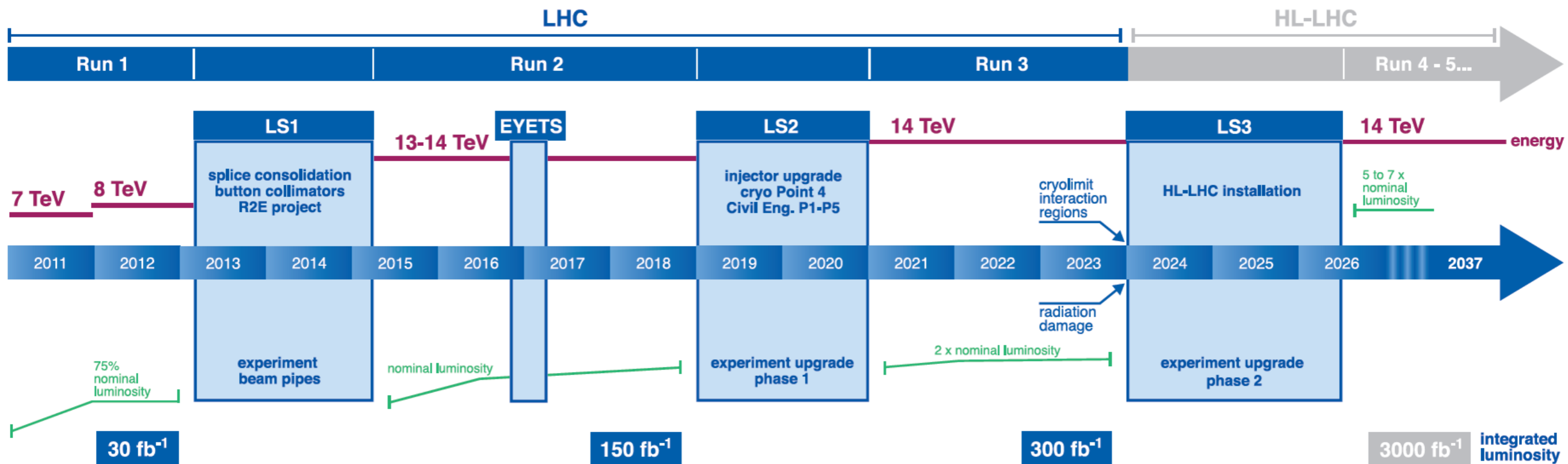
Run 1 → Run 2

Luminosity x5  
Energy +60%

Run 2 → Run 3

Luminosity x1  
Energy +8%

# LHC / HL-LHC Plan



Always interesting

but particularly interesting now

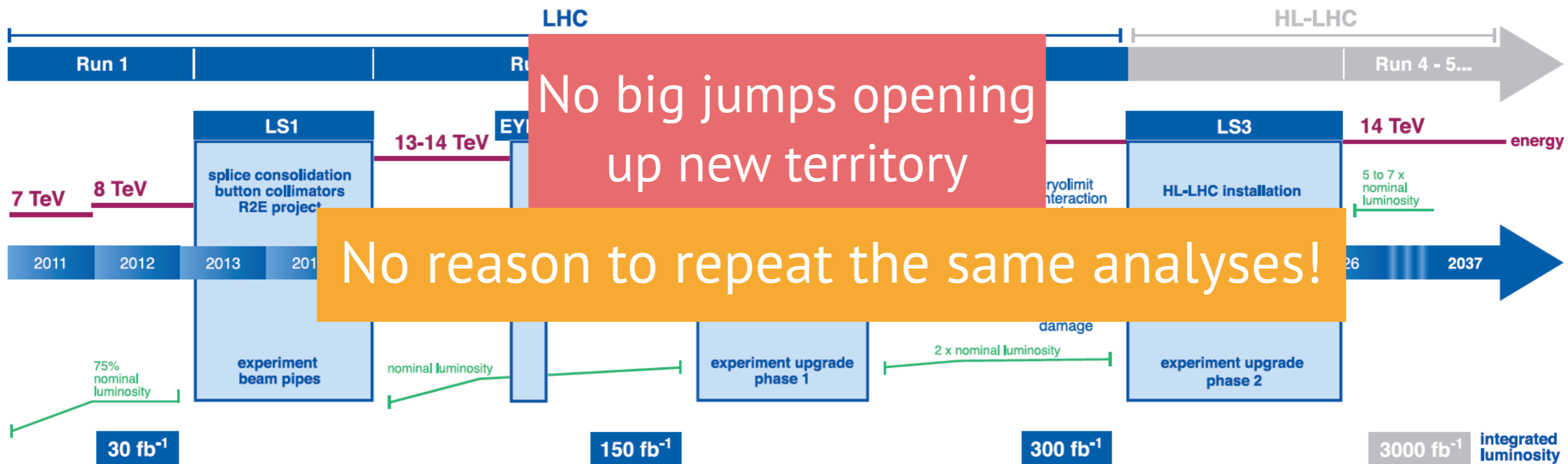
Run 1 → Run 2

Luminosity x5  
Energy +60%

Run 2 → Run 3

Luminosity x1  
Energy +8%

# LHC / HL-LHC Plan



No big jumps opening up new territory

No reason to repeat the same analyses!

## Run 2 → Run 3

Luminosity x1

Energy +8%

**Run 3** is the perfect time to emphasize long-lived particle searches

- New searches that haven't been done before
- Most searches are low-background → larger sensitivity gains with additional luminosity

To improve long-lived searches

must improve the **Trigger**

**The trigger is a zero sum game.**

- + bandwidth and CPU for long-lived particles
- bandwidth and CPU for already existing searches

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**The trigger is a zero sum game.**

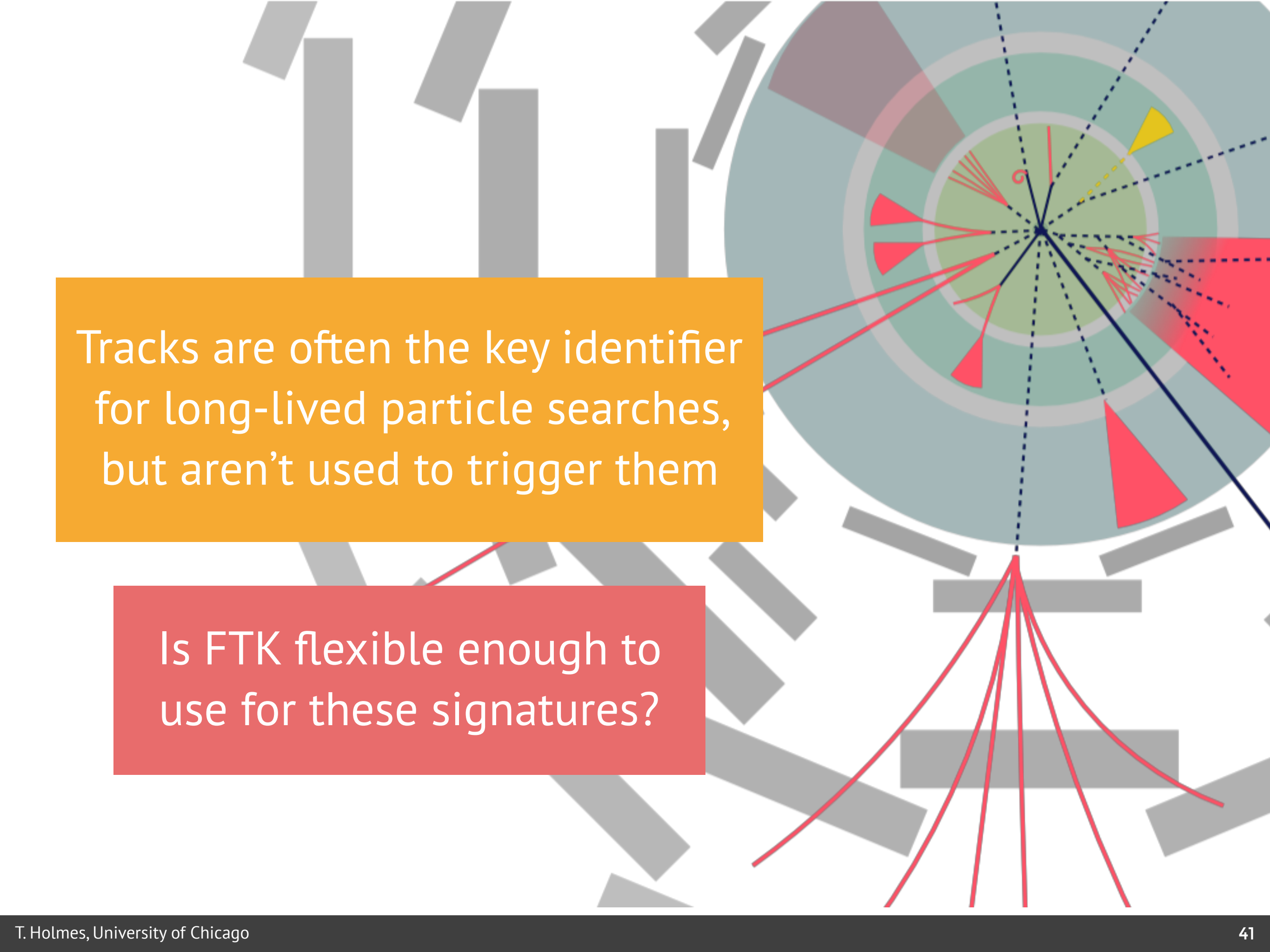
- + bandwidth and CPU for long-lived particles
- bandwidth and CPU for already existing searches

**Or not:** make a better trigger

The one thing that *is* changing in Run 3: the **FastTracker**

- Hardware-based tracker for ATLAS
  - Global tracking: no longer restricted to small regions
  - CPU-based tracking no longer required in many circumstances
- Frees up CPU and rate for new things!



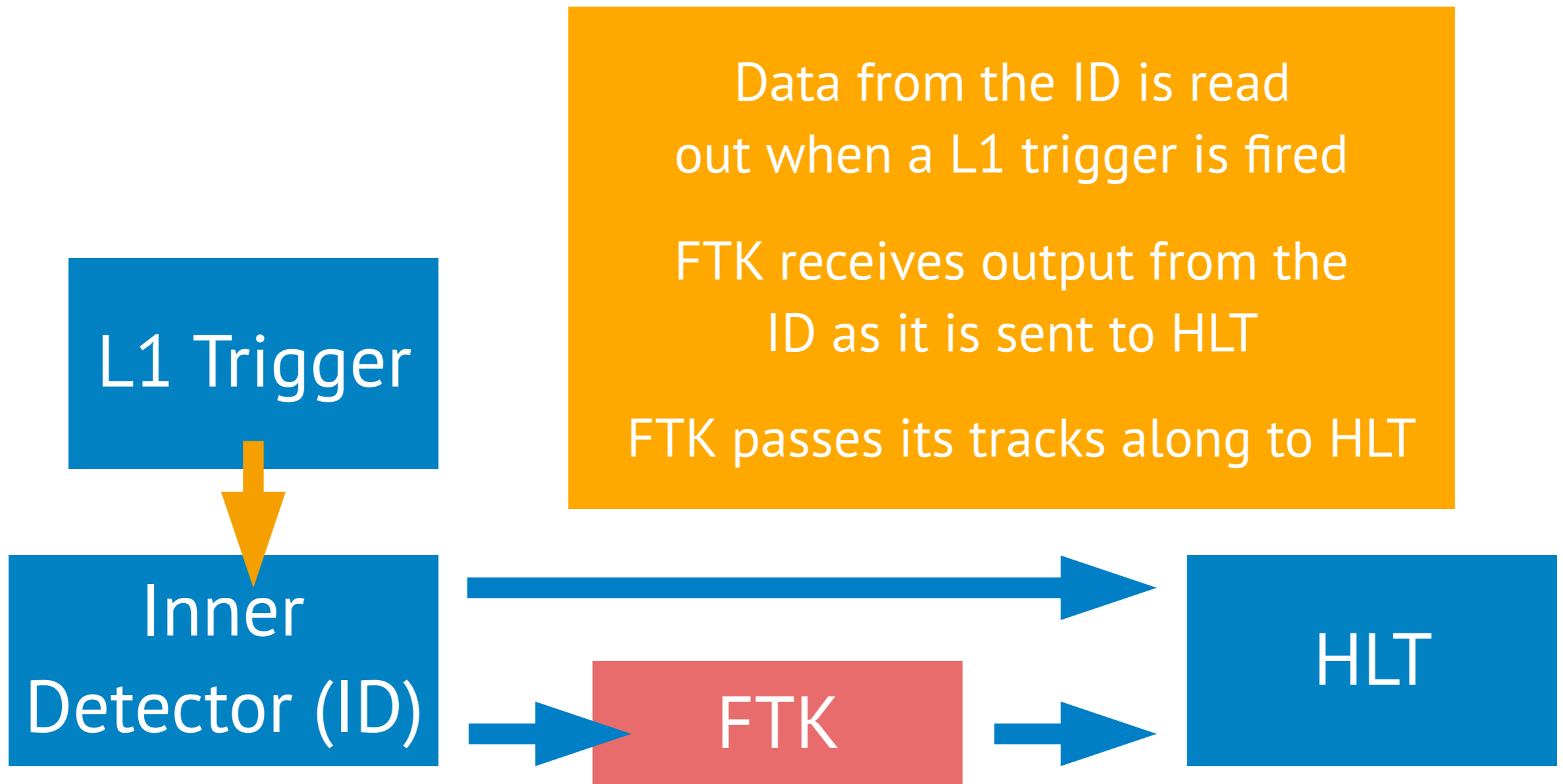


Tracks are often the key identifier for long-lived particle searches, but aren't used to trigger them

Is FTK flexible enough to use for these signatures?

# FTK: A quick explainer

FTK performs **hardware-based** tracking on silicon hits  
provides HLT with  $>1$  GeV tracks in ID acceptance ( $|\eta| < 2.5$ )



## Time constraints

Offline track reconstruction for the full tracking volume requires about 10 s / event

To keep up with L1 rates, FTK must do tracking for the full event in  $\sim 0.1$  ms

Requires time reduction of  $\sim 5$  orders of magnitude

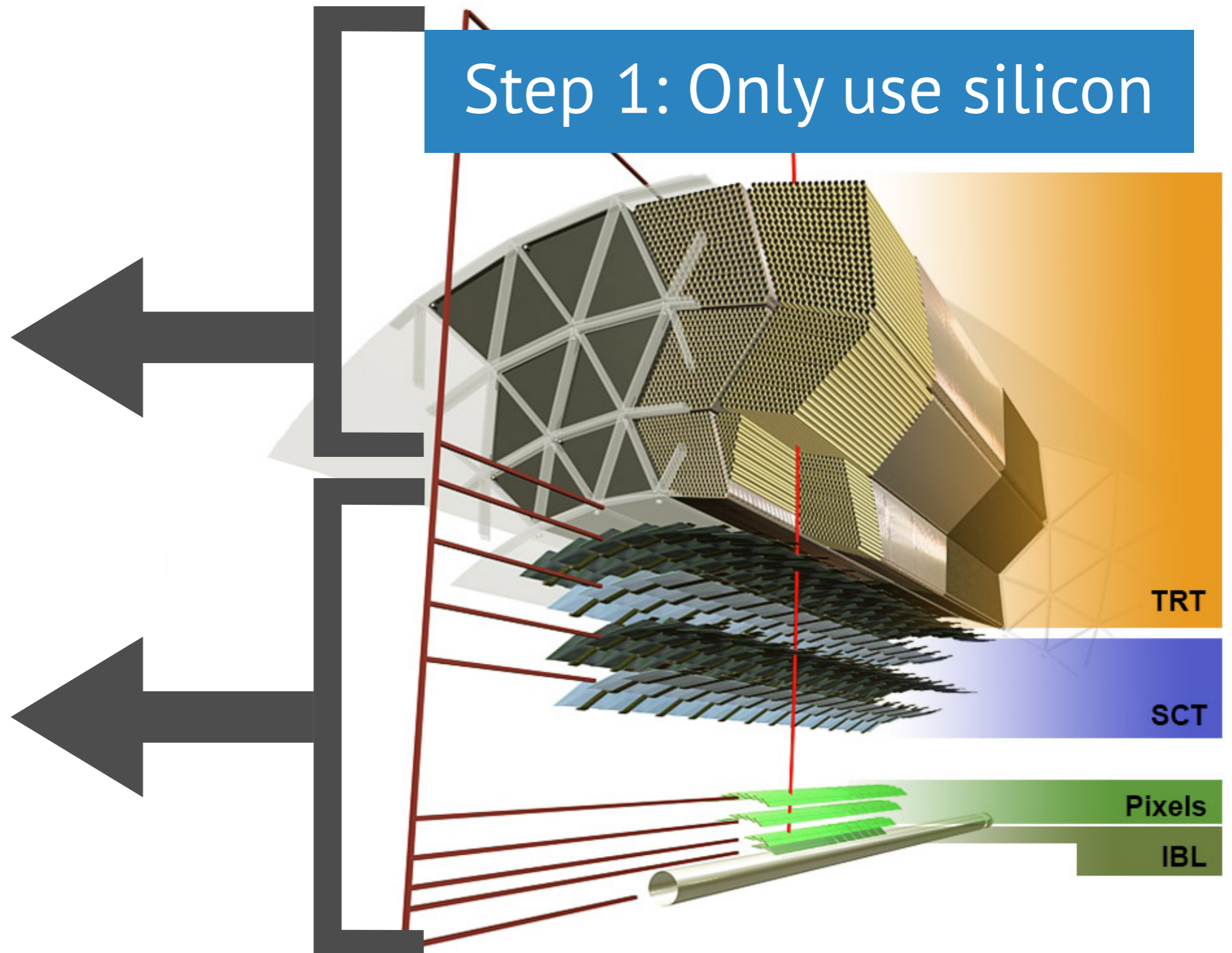
How can we track so fast?

# Making tracking a simpler problem

Step 1: Only use silicon

Straight to  
HLT

Split signals  
go to HLT  
and FTK



# Making tracking a simpler problem

Step 1: Only use silicon

Straight to  
HLT

Split signals  
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and FTK

**SCT:**  
8 layers with  
1 coordinate each

**PIXEL:**  
4 layers with  
2 coordinates each

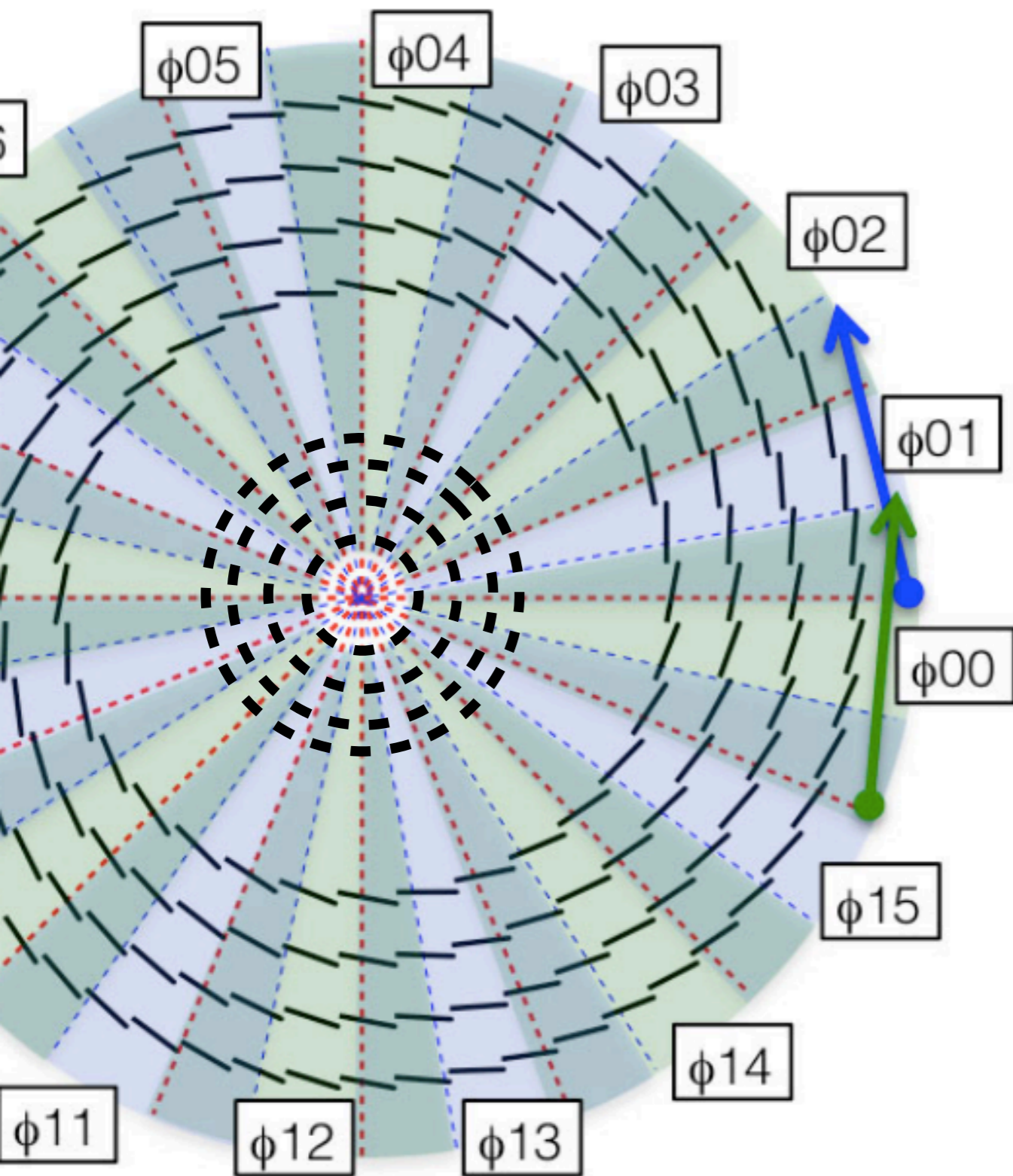
TRT

SCT

Pixels

IBL

# Making tracking a simpler problem



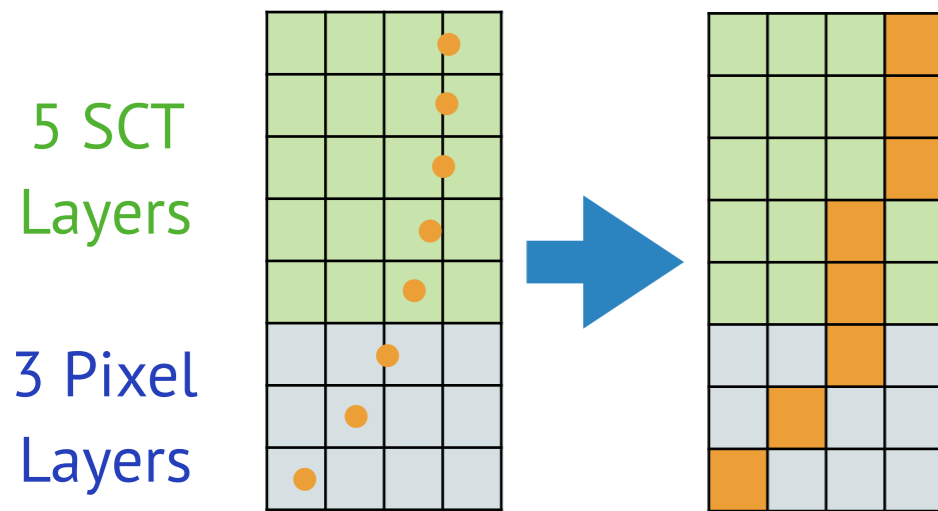
## Step 2: Parallelize

Divide the detector into 64 overlapping towers

Send data from each tower to separate processing units

# Making tracking a simpler problem

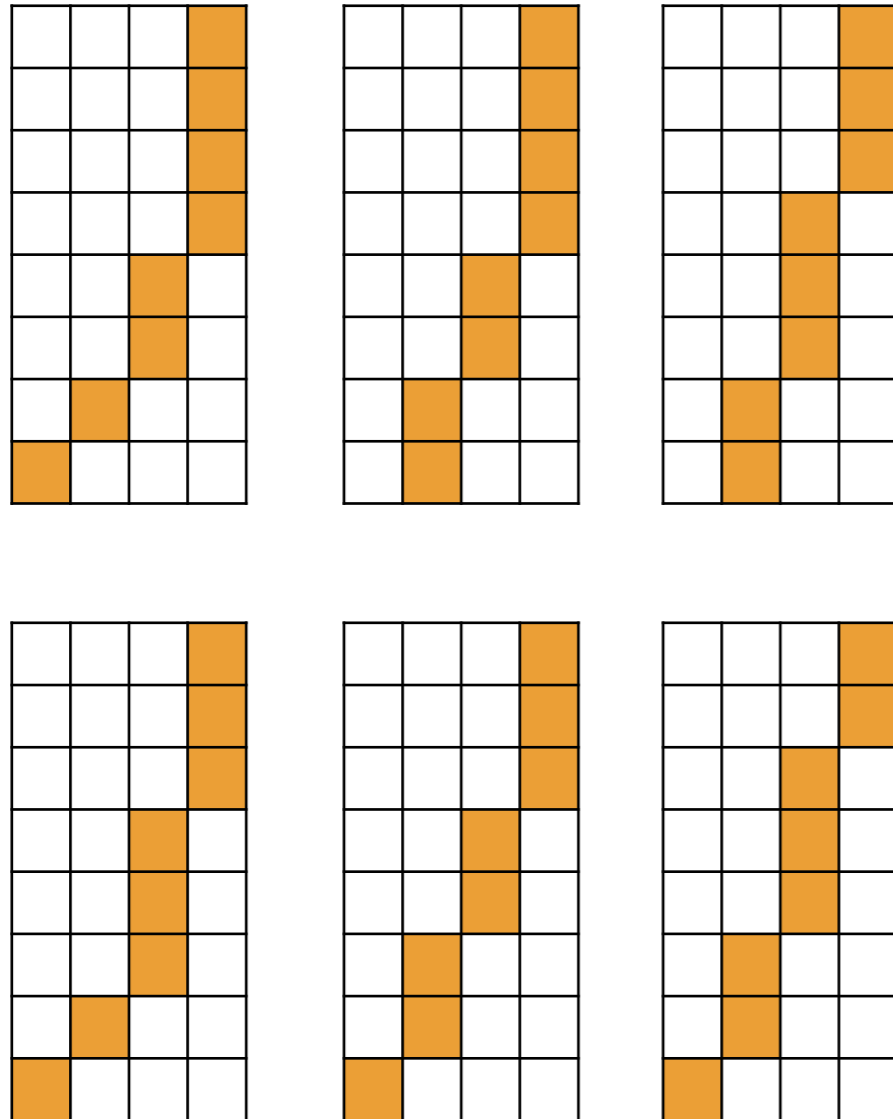
Start with 8/12  
silicon layers of ATLAS



## Step 3: Pattern Match

Divide each layer into  
coarse chunks

## Step 3: Pattern Match

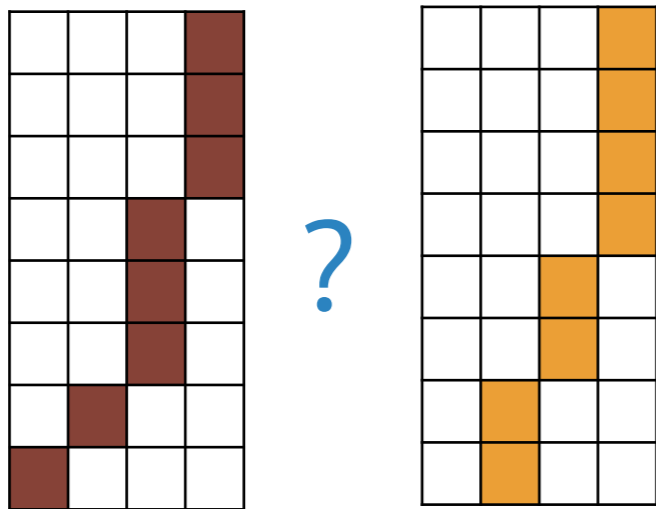


Divide each layer into  
coarse chunks

Define patterns of these  
chunks that correspond  
to tracks



## Step 3: Pattern Match

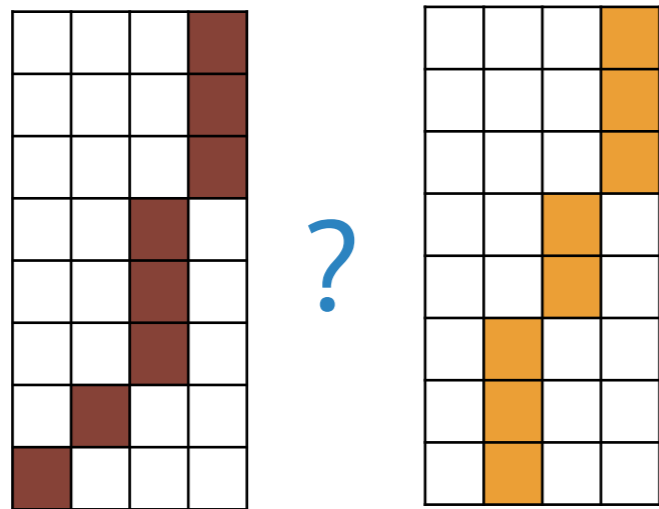


Divide each layer into coarse chunks

Define patterns of these chunks that correspond to tracks

Compare fired patterns to a stored bank of track-like patterns

## Step 3: Pattern Match

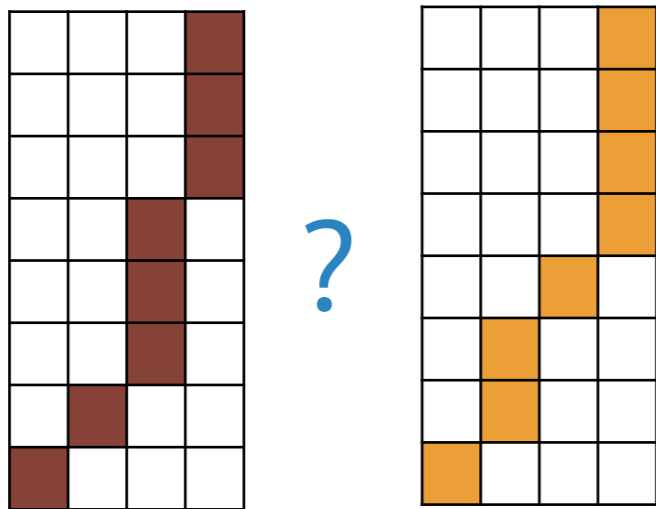


Divide each layer into coarse chunks

Define patterns of these chunks that correspond to tracks

Compare fired patterns to a stored bank of track-like patterns

## Step 3: Pattern Match

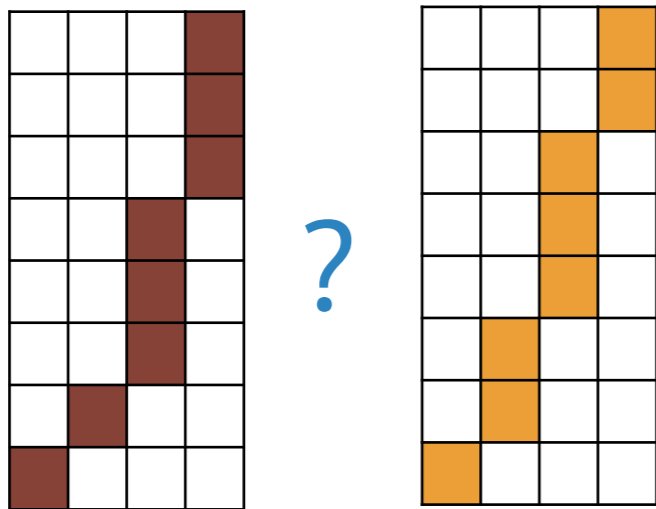


Divide each layer into coarse chunks

Define patterns of these chunks that correspond to tracks

Compare fired patterns to a stored bank of track-like patterns

## Step 3: Pattern Match

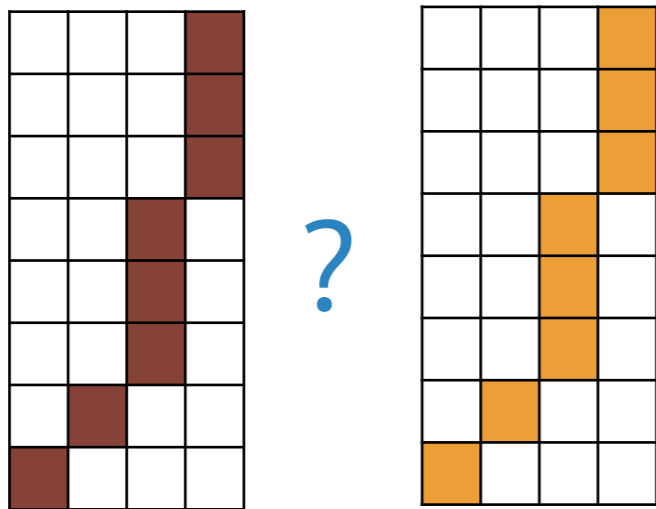


Divide each layer into coarse chunks

Define patterns of these chunks that correspond to tracks

Compare fired patterns to a stored bank of track-like patterns

## Step 3: Pattern Match

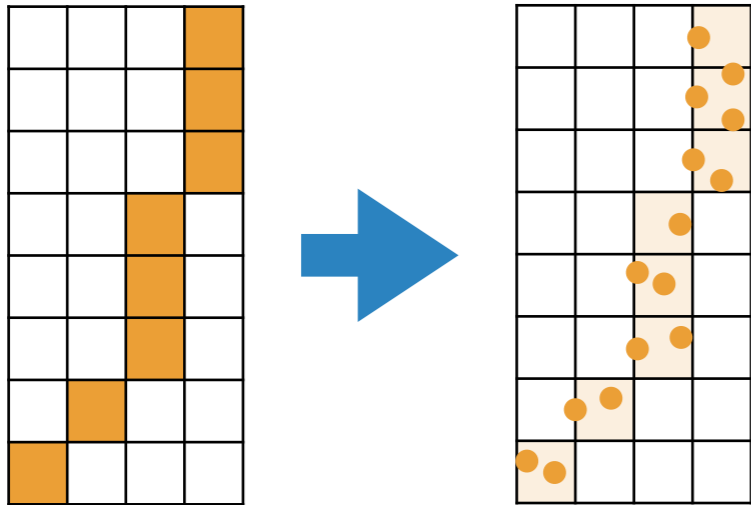


Divide each layer into coarse chunks

Define patterns of these chunks that correspond to tracks

Compare fired patterns to a stored bank of track-like patterns

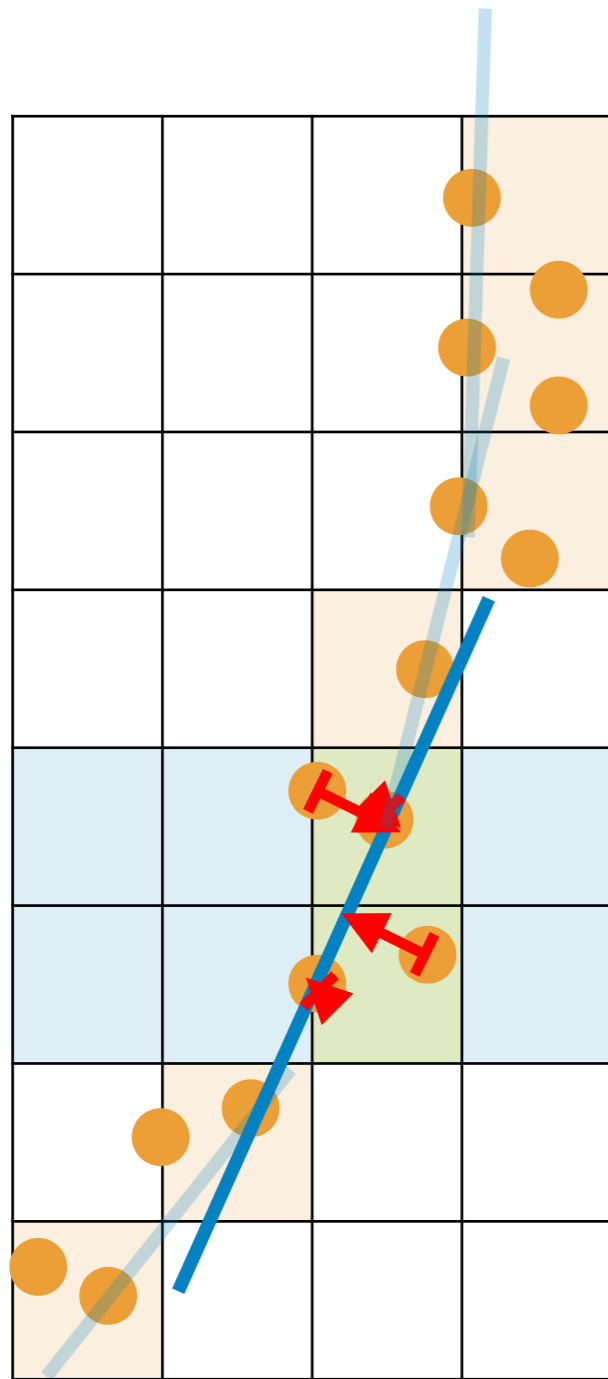
# Making tracking a simpler problem



## Step 4: Fit a Subset

For matched patterns,  
retrieve all full resolution hits

# Making tracking a simpler problem



## Step 4: Fit a Subset

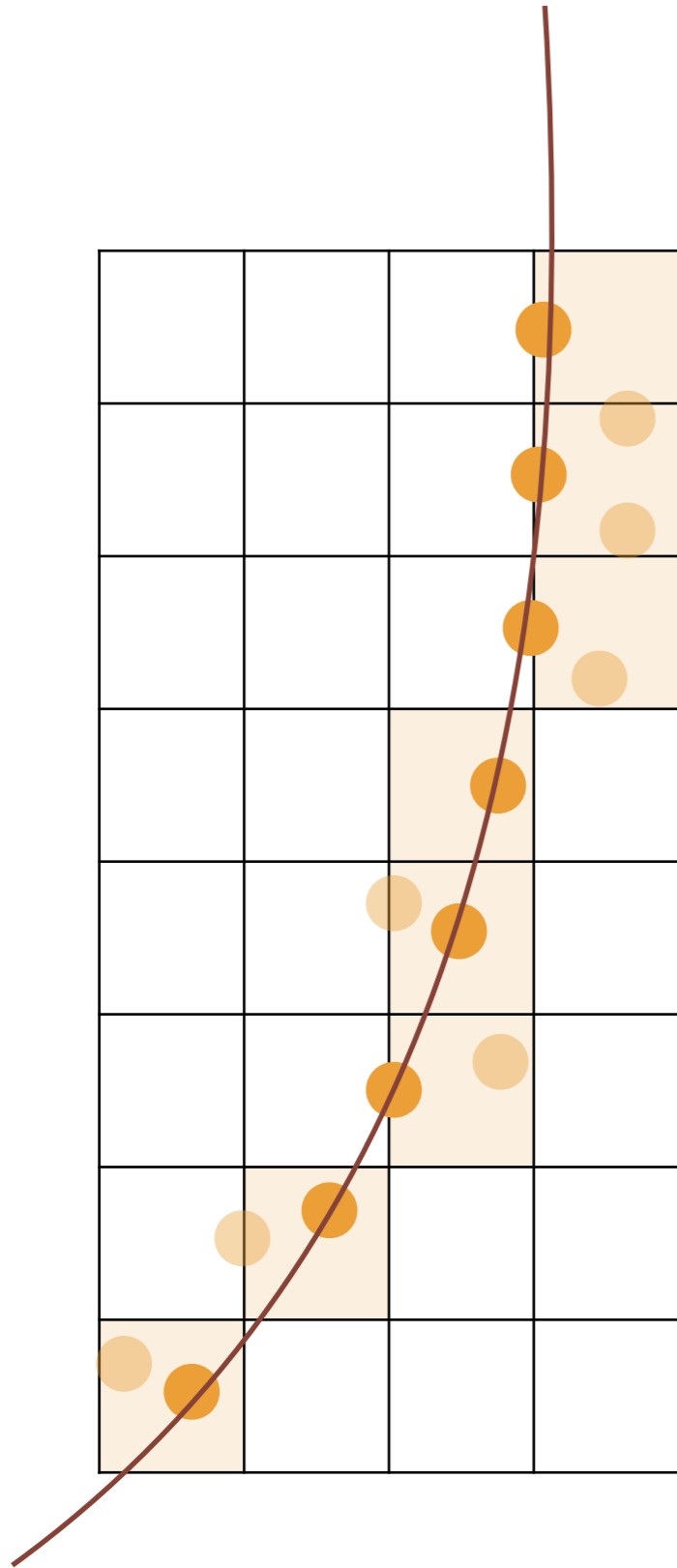
For matched patterns,  
retrieve all full resolution hits

Perform a linearized fit  
on the hits in 8 layers

line:  $y = mx + b$  constants pre-defined  
per detector region

each hit has a distance from the line:  $\Delta x, \Delta y$

$$\chi^2 \text{ of fit: } \chi^2 = \sum_i^8 \sqrt{\Delta x_i^2 + \Delta y_i^2}$$



## Step 4: Fit a Subset

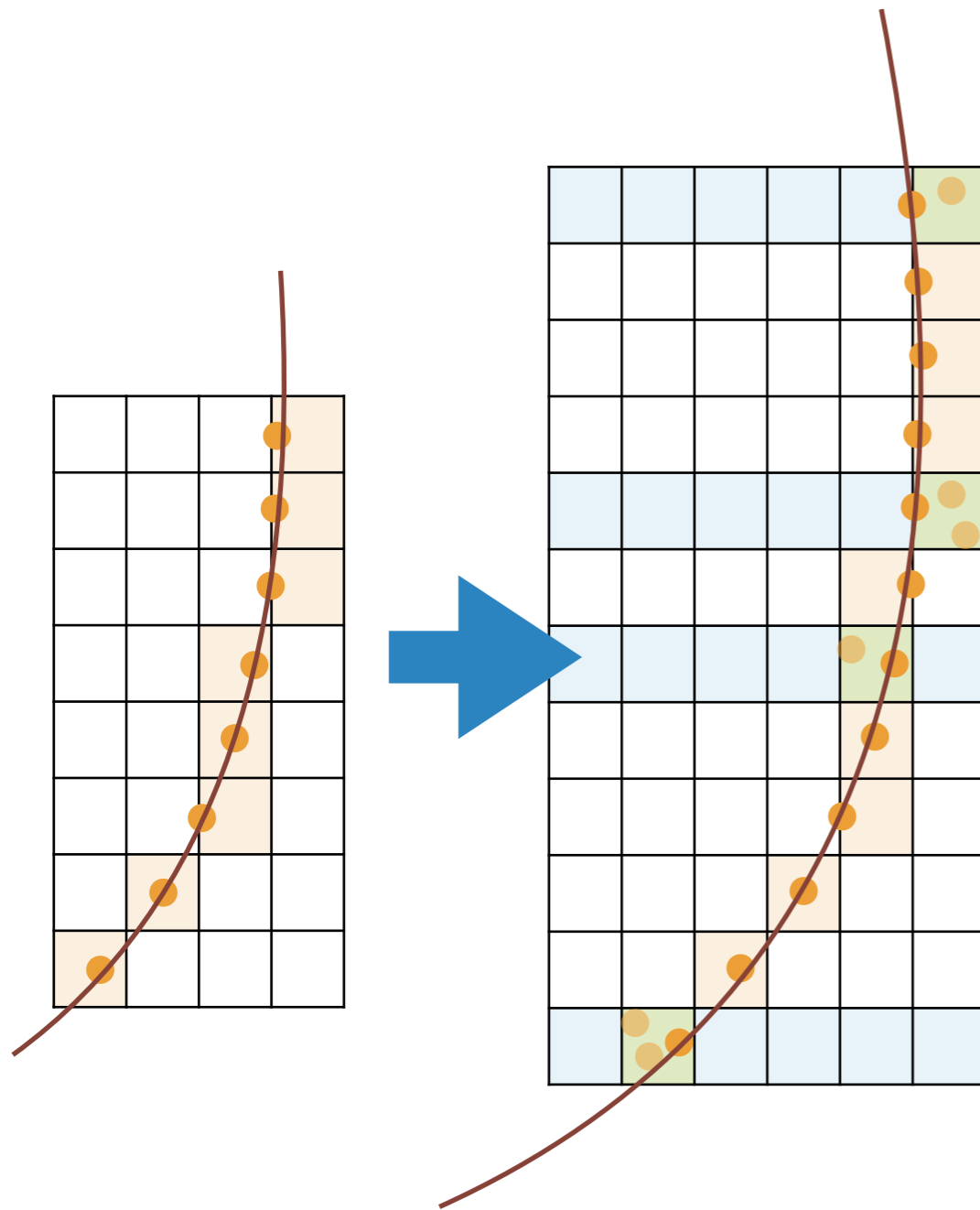
For matched patterns,  
retrieve all full resolution hits

Perform a linearized fit  
on the hits in 8 layers

Keep tracks passing a  $\chi^2$  cut



# Making tracking a simpler problem



## Step 4: Final Fit

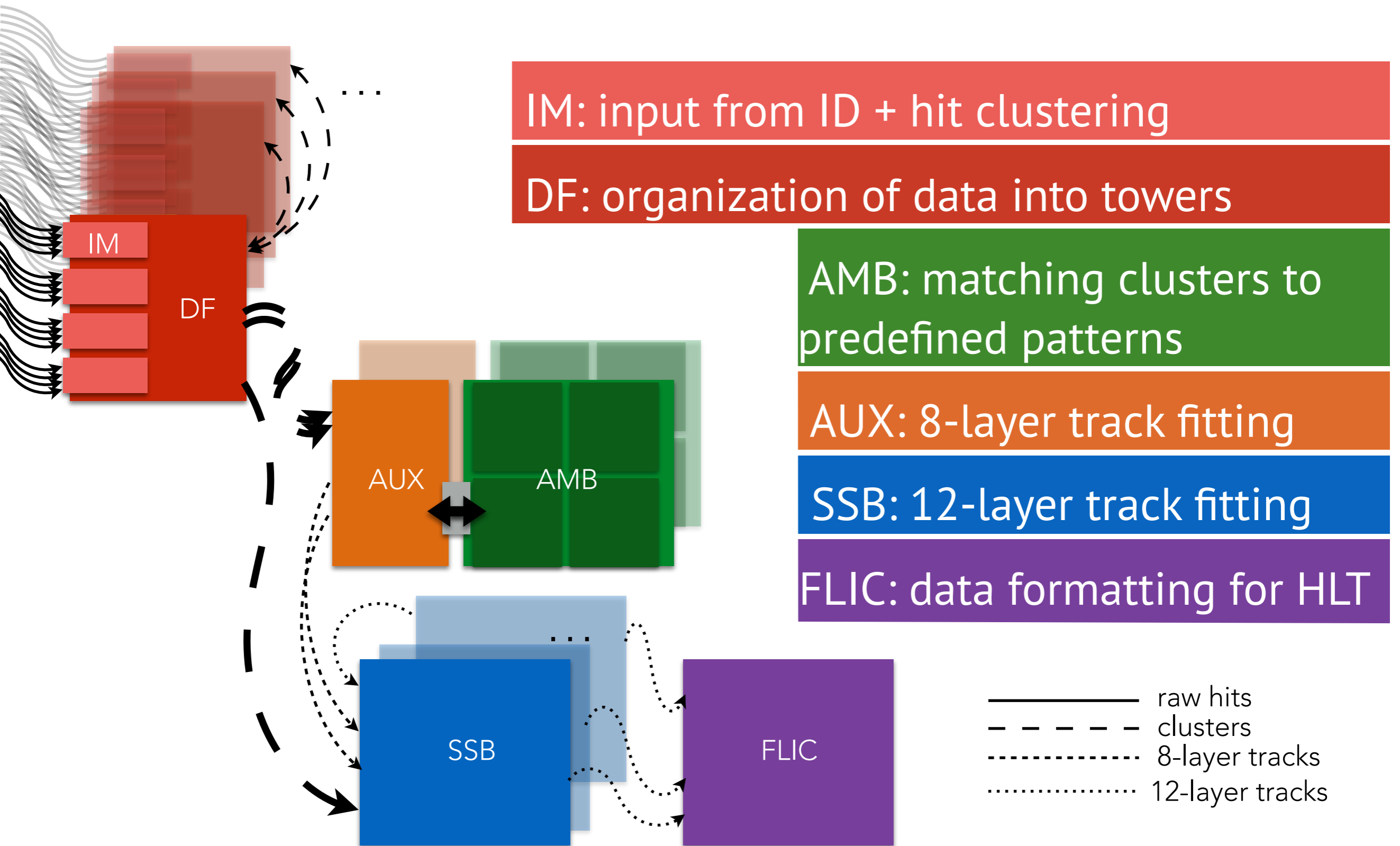
Look for nearby hits in remaining 4 silicon layers

Refit in all 12 layers

Send tracks\* passing a  $\chi^2$  cut to HLT

\*fit parameters also calculated linearly

# FTK Boards

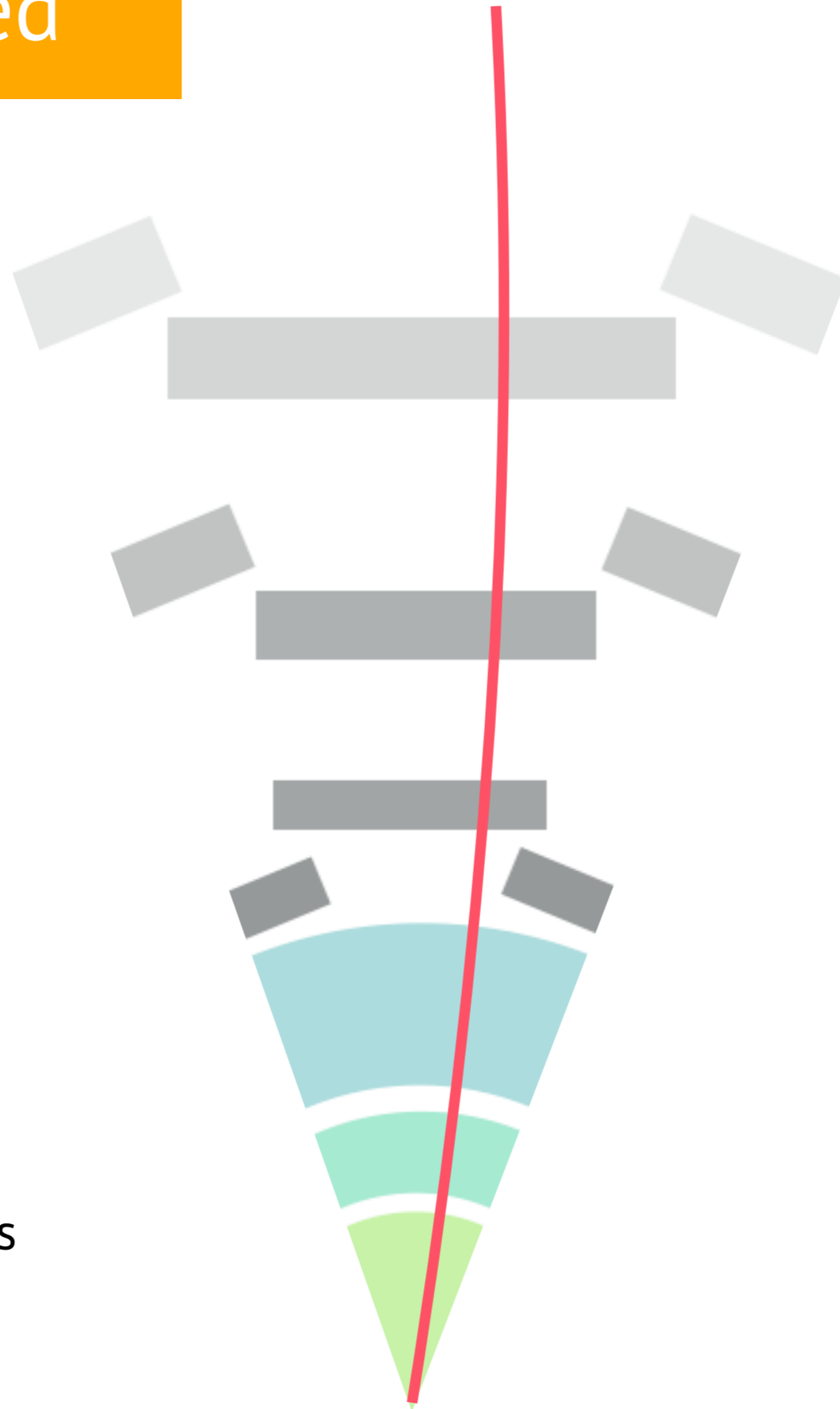


# FTK as designed

FTK is designed for **near-prompt** tracks  
(e.g. *b*-jets)

Easiest application is for  
stable, charged particles  
(e.g. R-hadrons)

Find isolated, high- $p_T$   
tracks, without requiring  
calorimeter or muon signals

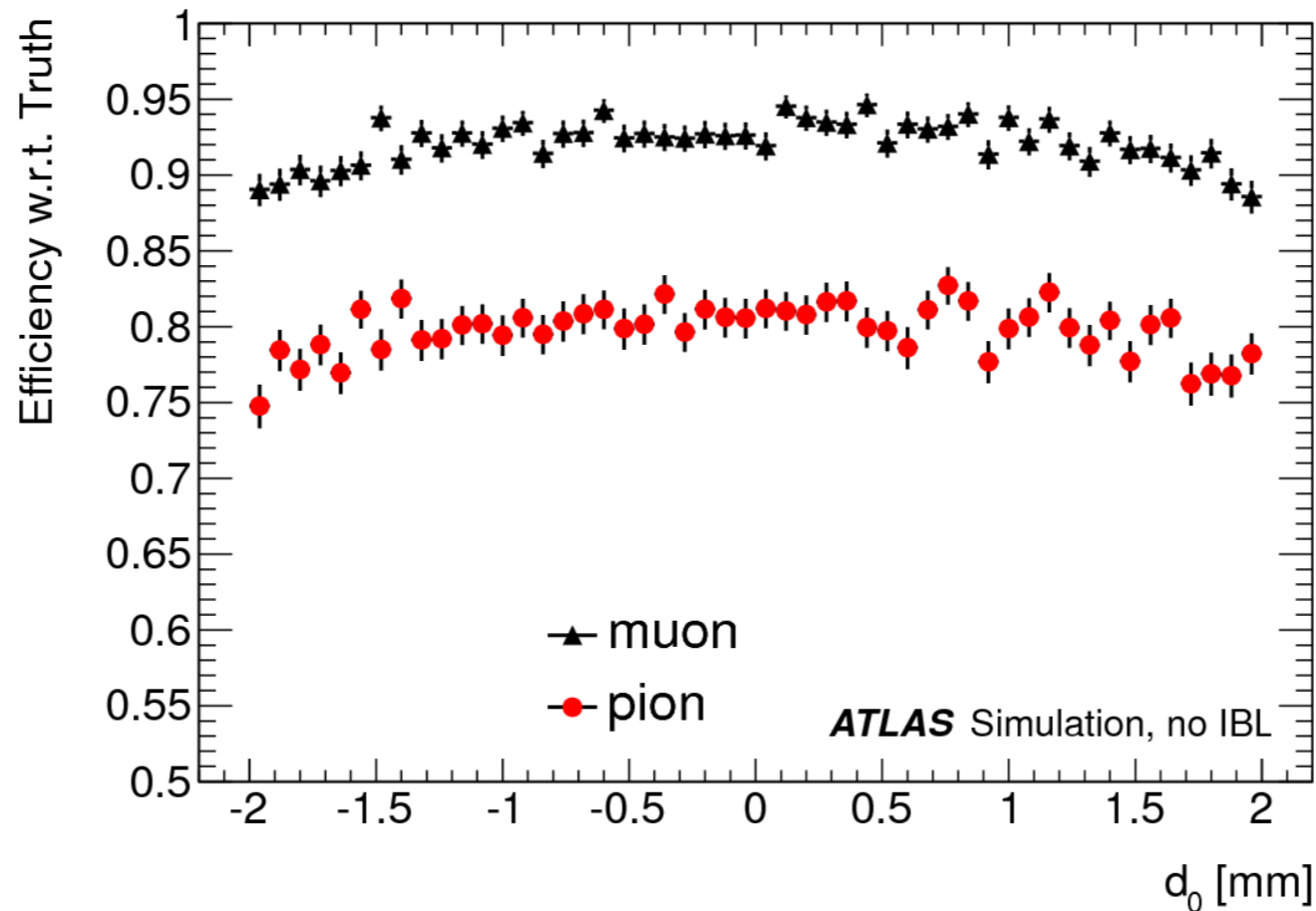


# FTK as designed



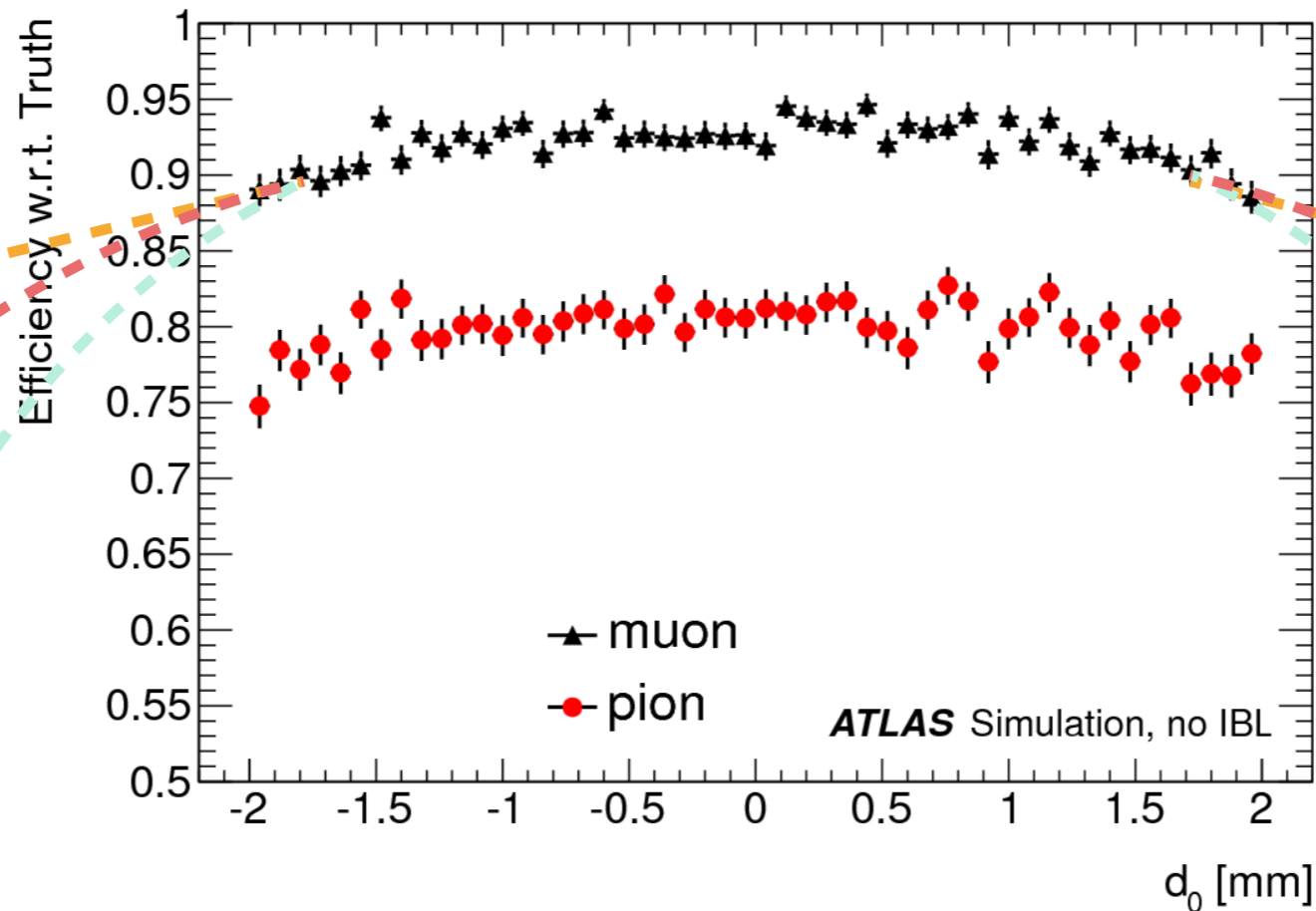
Alternatively:  
Use **FTK as a veto**  
and find calorimeter  
or muon signals that  
don't correspond to  
prompt tracks

# Moving outside the beamspot...



FTK performance is both optimized and studied for **small displacement**

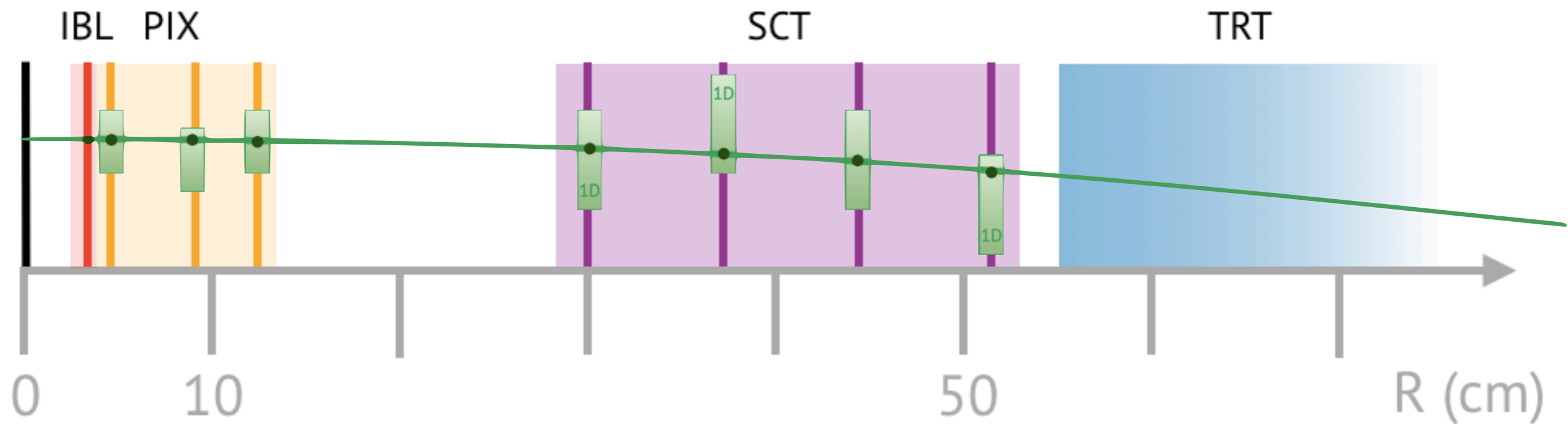
# Moving outside the beamspot...



Performance for displaced tracks depends on many factors

- ▷ Hit requirements
- ▷ Linearized fit performance
- ▷ Pattern bank
- ▷ Dataflow constraints of FTK

# Hit Requirements



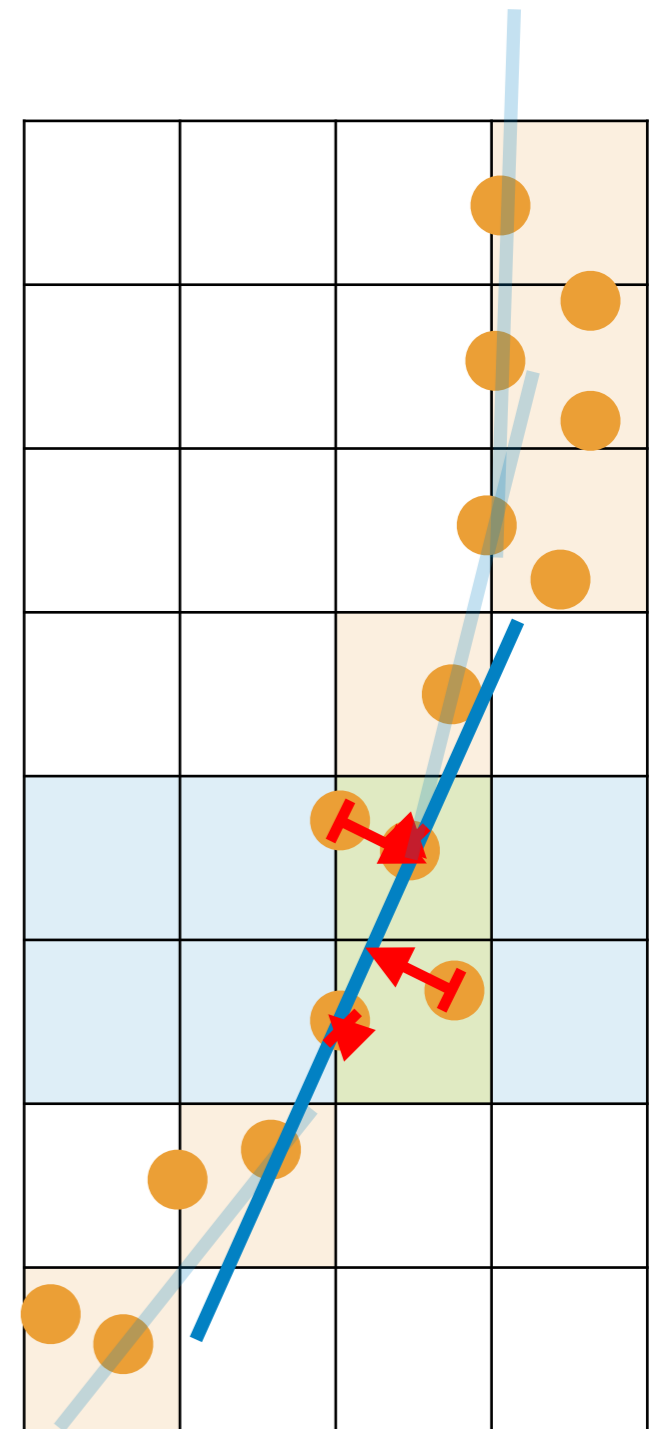
FTK uses silicon layers from  $\sim 3 - 50$  cm

- Up to two layers can be dropped
- LLPs traveling  $> 9$  cm before decaying can't be identified

# Linearized fit constraints

Linear constants determined in *sectors*

- ▶ Stored in board memory → finite space available
- ▶ To add displaced pattern sectors, need to reduce standard sectors





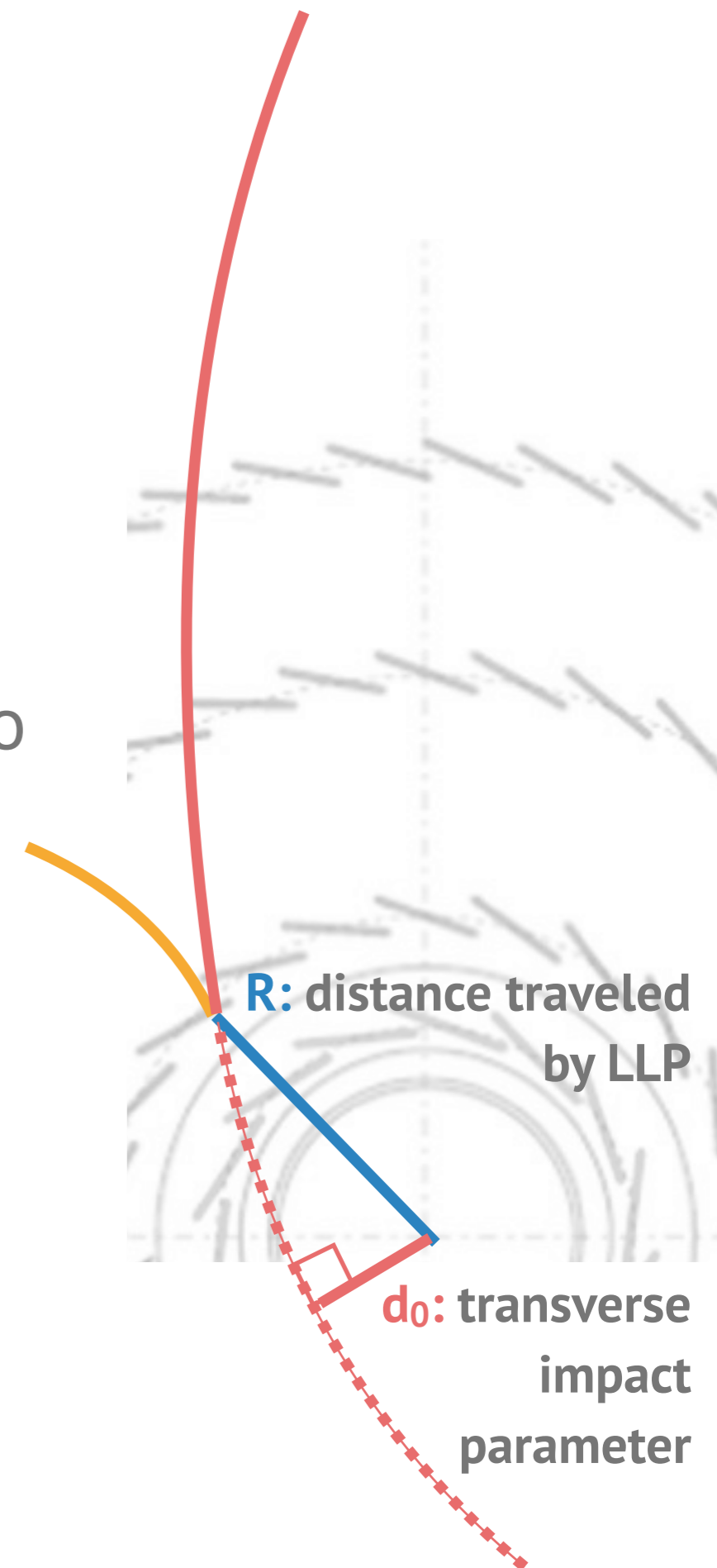
## Linearized fit constraints

Linear constants determined in *sectors*

- ▶ Stored in board memory → finite space available
- ▶ To add displaced track sectors, need to reduce standard sectors

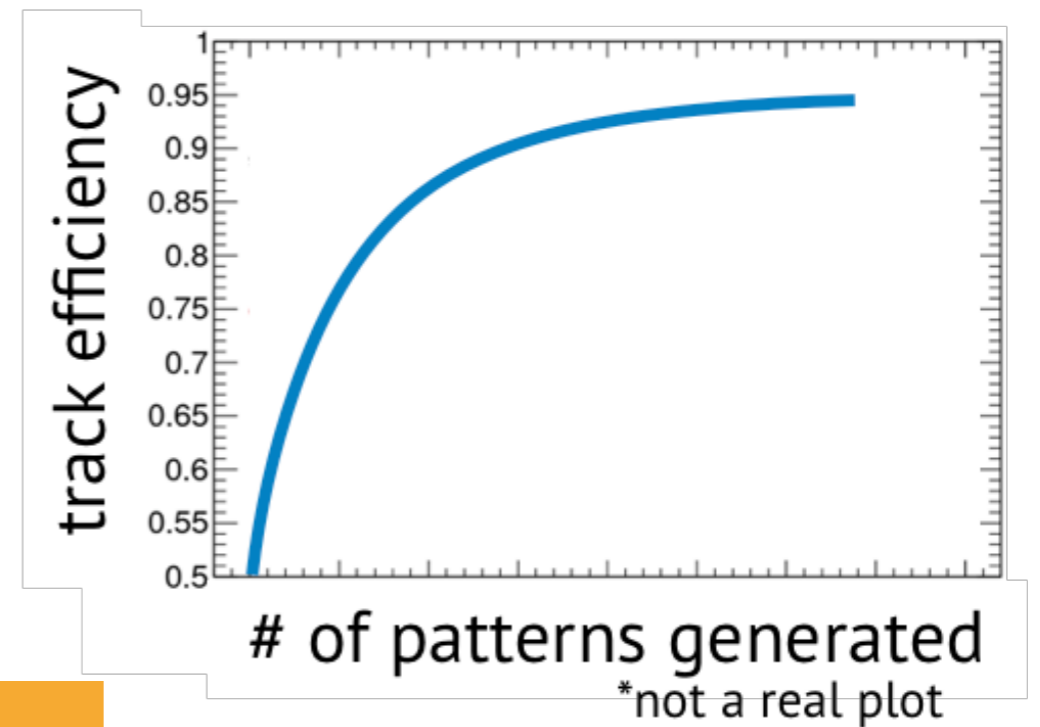
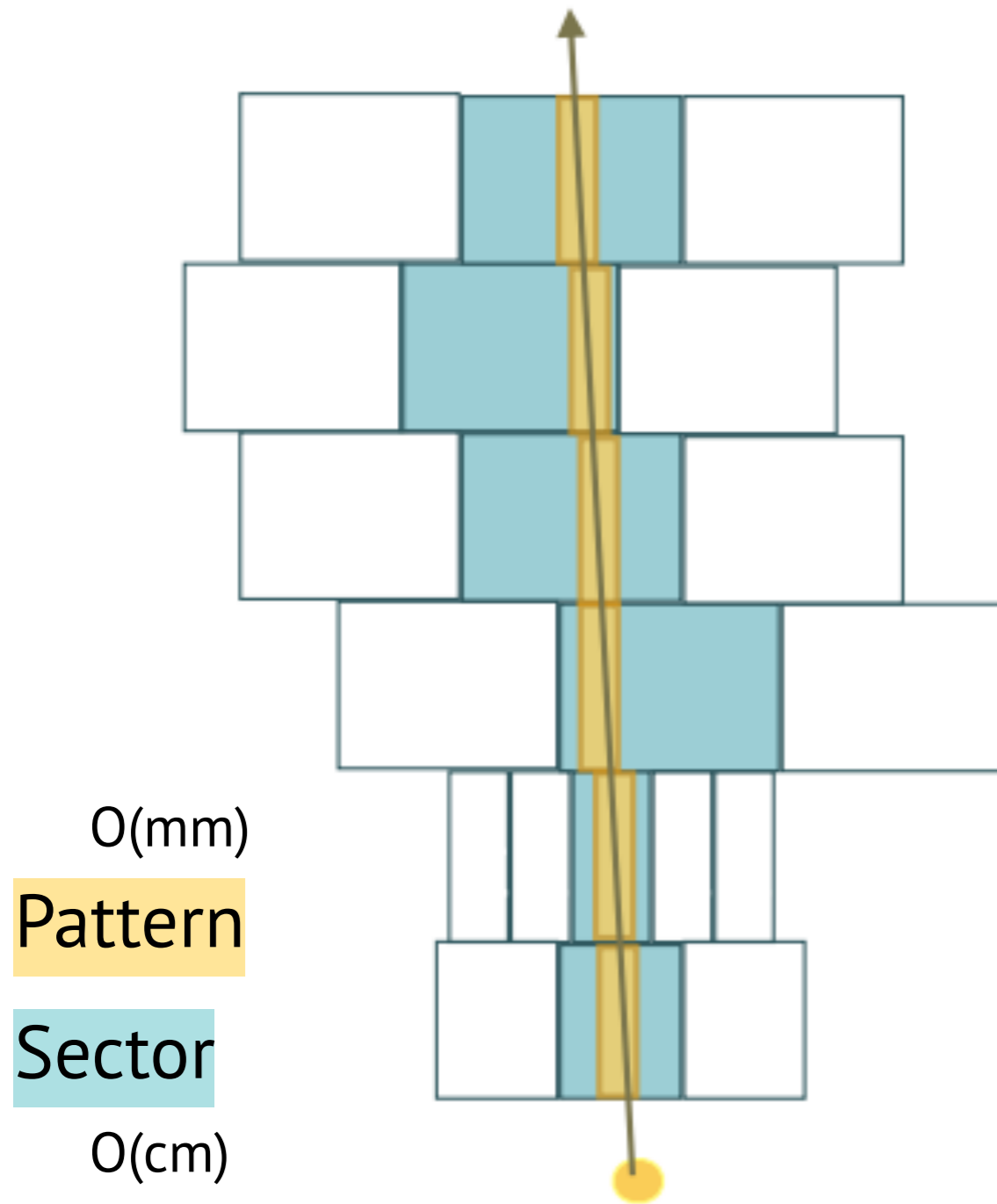
Without changing sectors, looks like we can have some coverage for  $d_0 < 20$  mm

( $d_0$  of 20 mm often means much larger  $R$ )

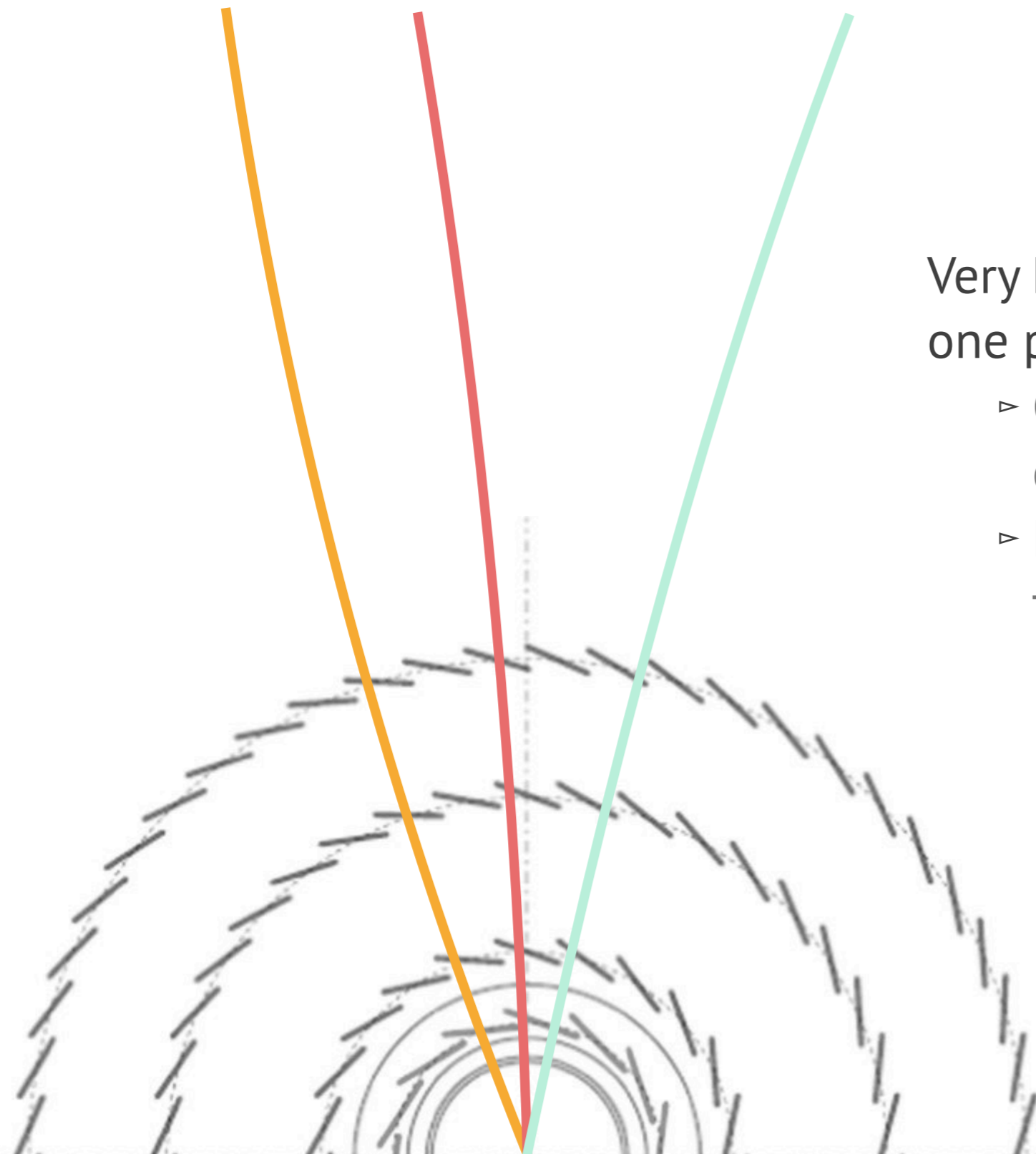


FTK **patterns** are much smaller than sectors, and need to be trained to include displaced tracks

- ▷ Dedicate a portion of the pattern bank to these tracks
- ▷ Luckily, most track coverage is due to a small portion of the pattern bank  
→ can reduce prompt tracks with small impact on prompt efficiency



## Pattern bank constraints

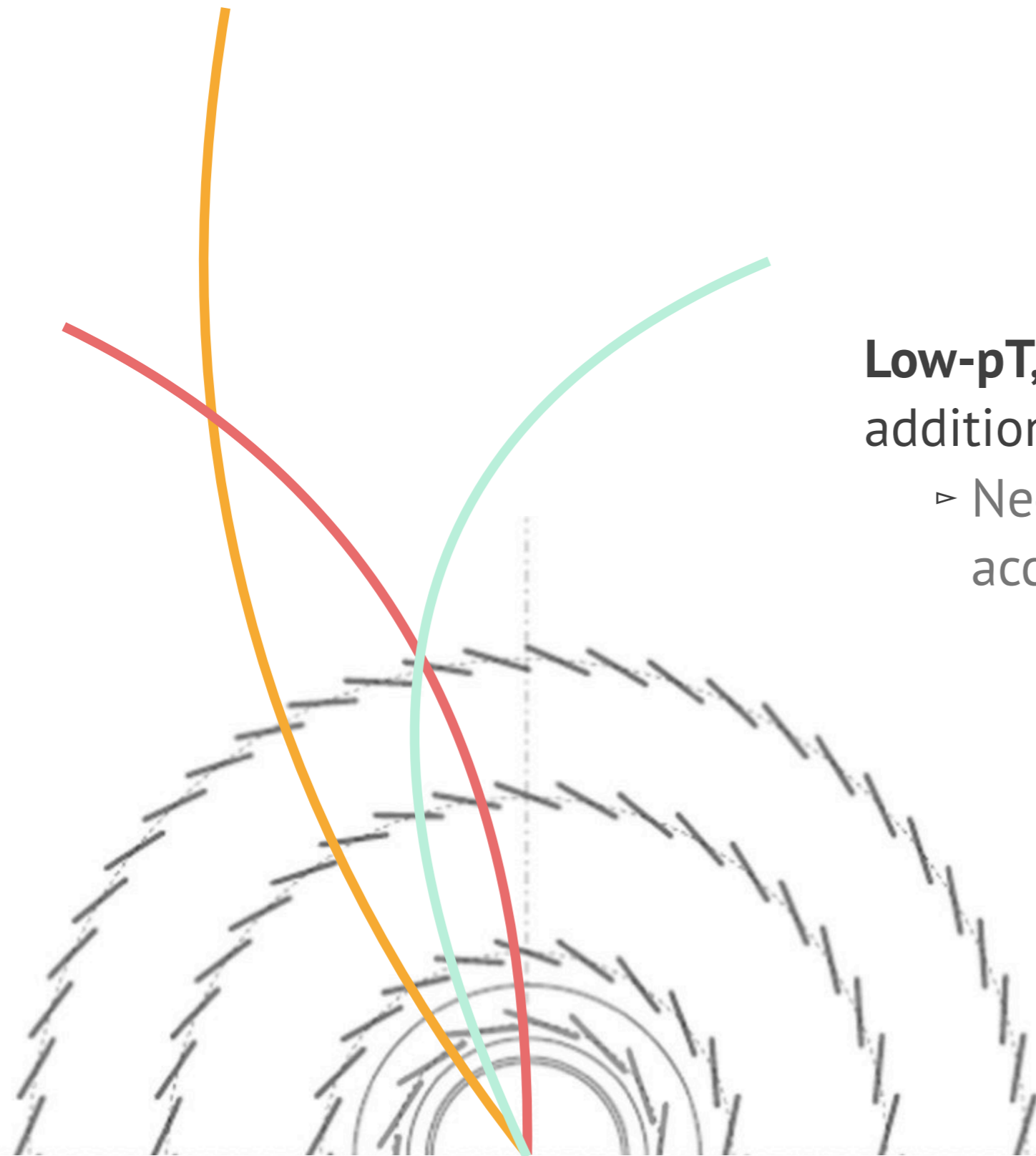


Very **high-pT, prompt tracks** have only one parameter: **angle**

- Generate enough patterns to cover all angles
- Have complete coverage of these tracks

Pattern bank constraints

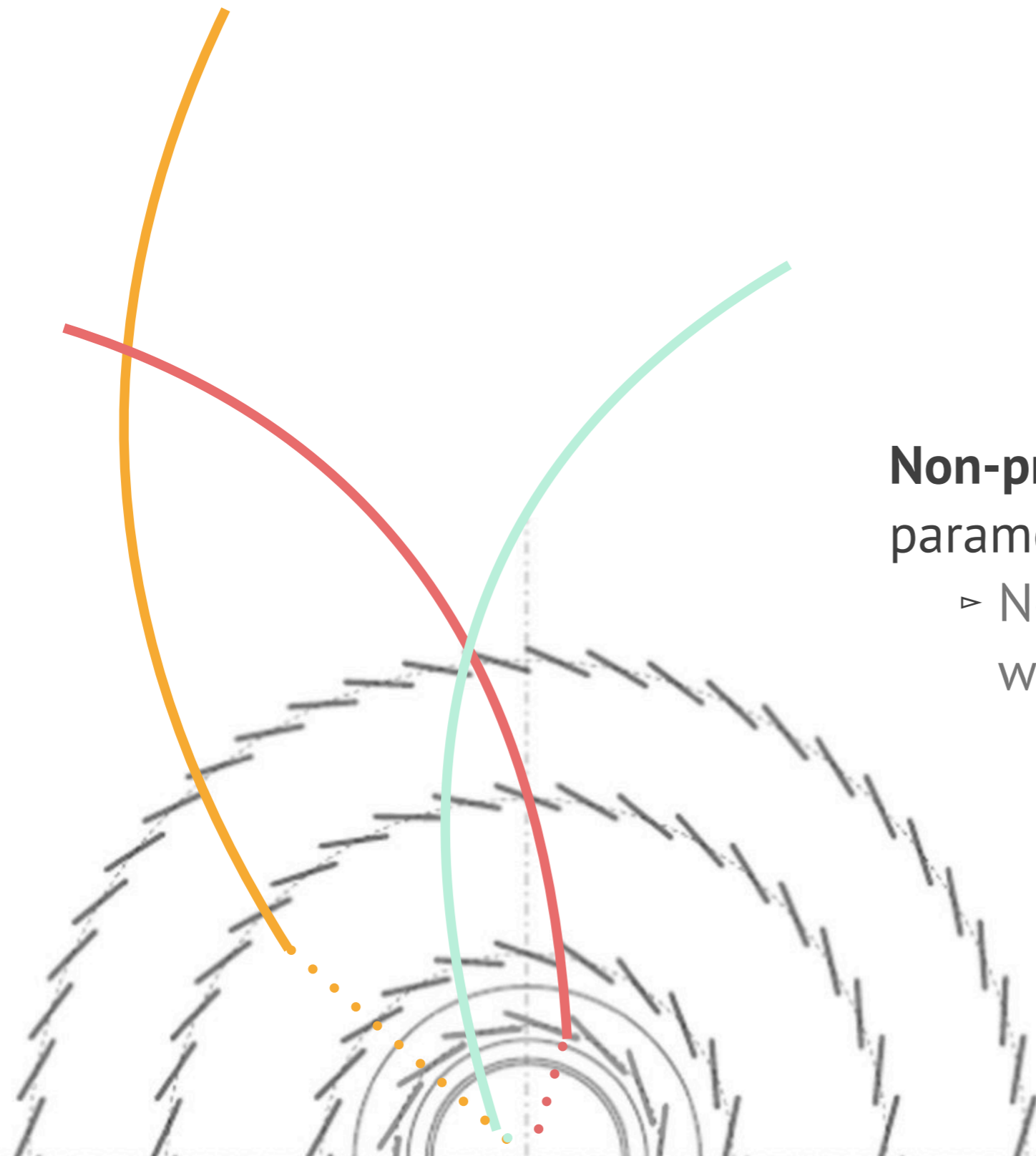
Pixel detector image



**Low-pT, prompt tracks** have an additional parameter: **curvature**

- Need patterns (and sectors!) that accommodate curved trajectory

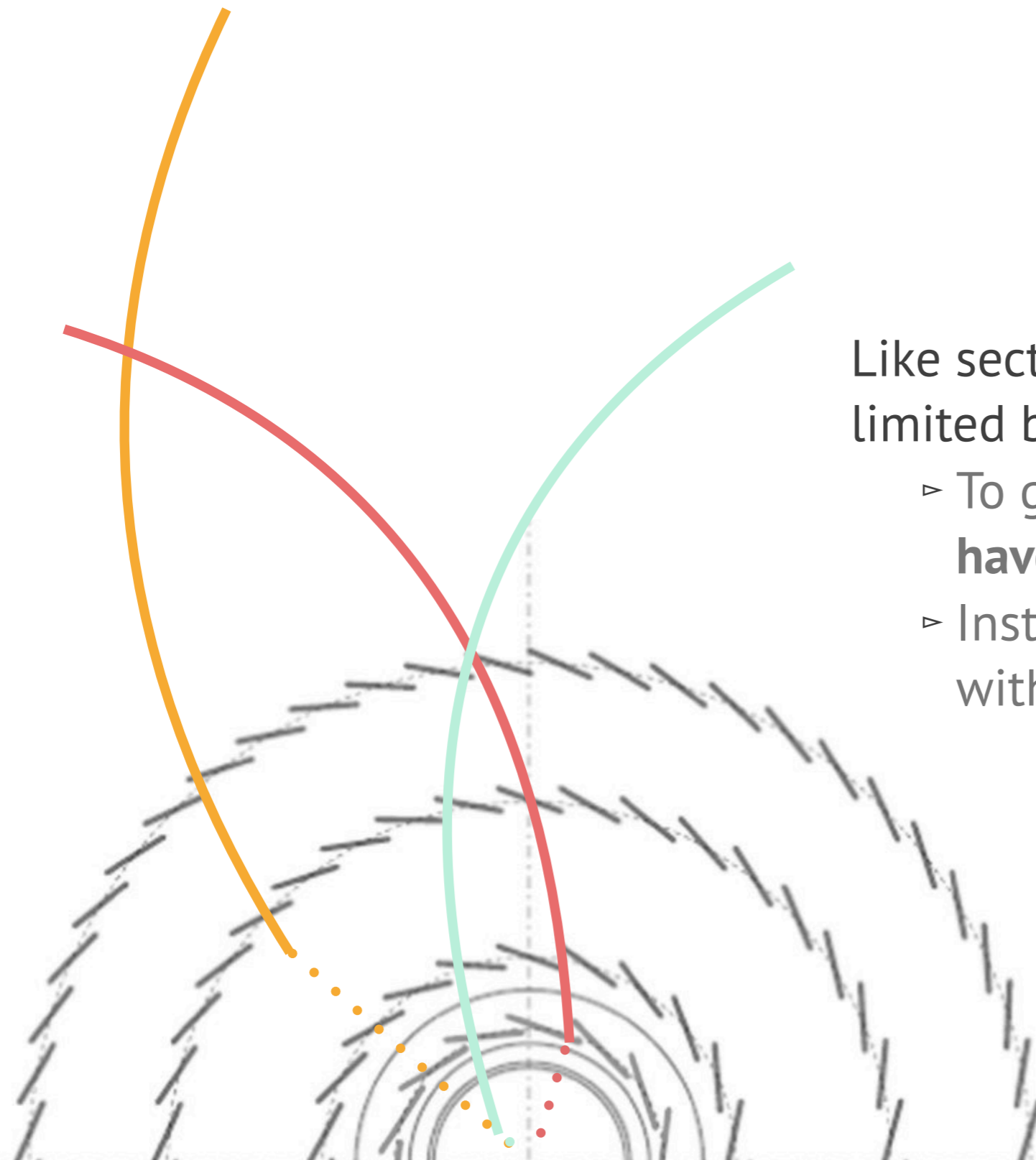
Pattern bank constraints



**Non-prompt tracks** have one more parameter: **displacement**

- ▷ New set of paths not consistent with the center of detector

Pattern bank constraints



Like sectors, number of patterns also limited by board memory

- To get good coverage of displacement, **have to limit  $p_T$  range** to compensate
- Instead of  $p_T > 1$  GeV, could get tracks with  **$p_T > 10$  or  $20$  GeV**

Patterns required goes as  $1/p_T$

20 GeV cut  $\rightarrow$  Need  $\sim 5\%$   
as many patterns as 1 GeV

## Pattern bank constraints

# Dataflow constraints

FTK has to keep up with the L1 rate

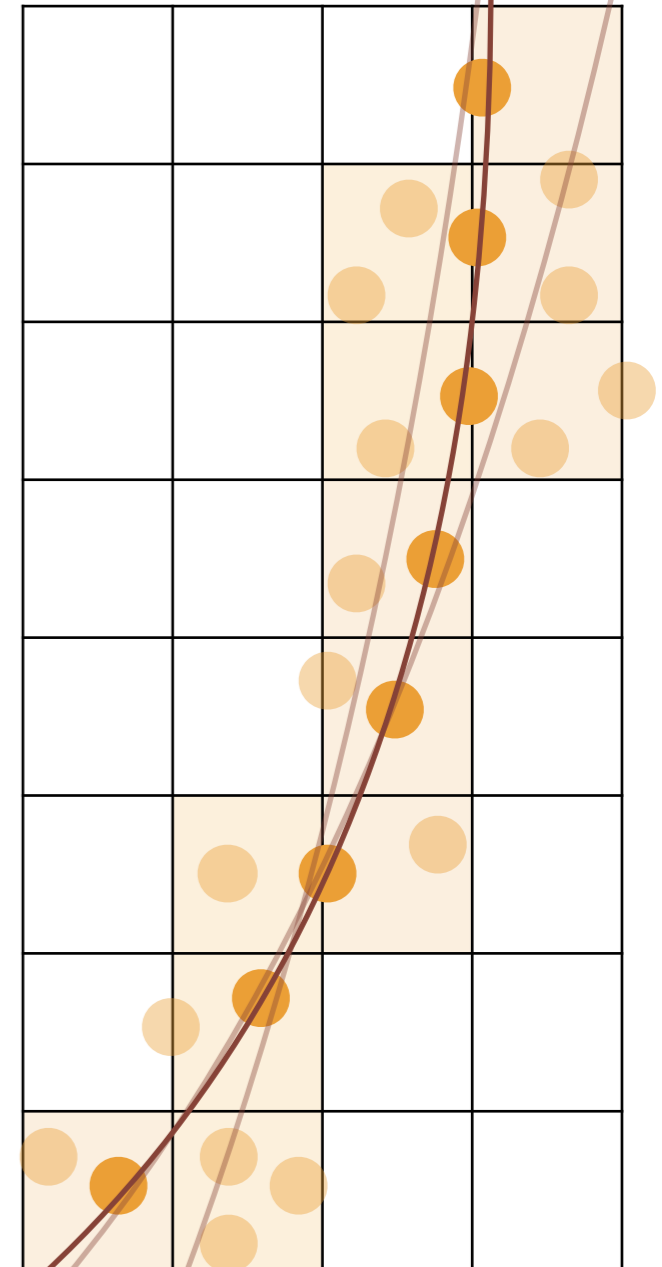
- Increase **number of patterns** → more strain on pattern matching board
- Increase **width of patterns** → more strain on fitting board (more combinations of hits in each pattern)

Freebie: FTK will soon **double** its processing units, so there's room to increase both fits and patterns

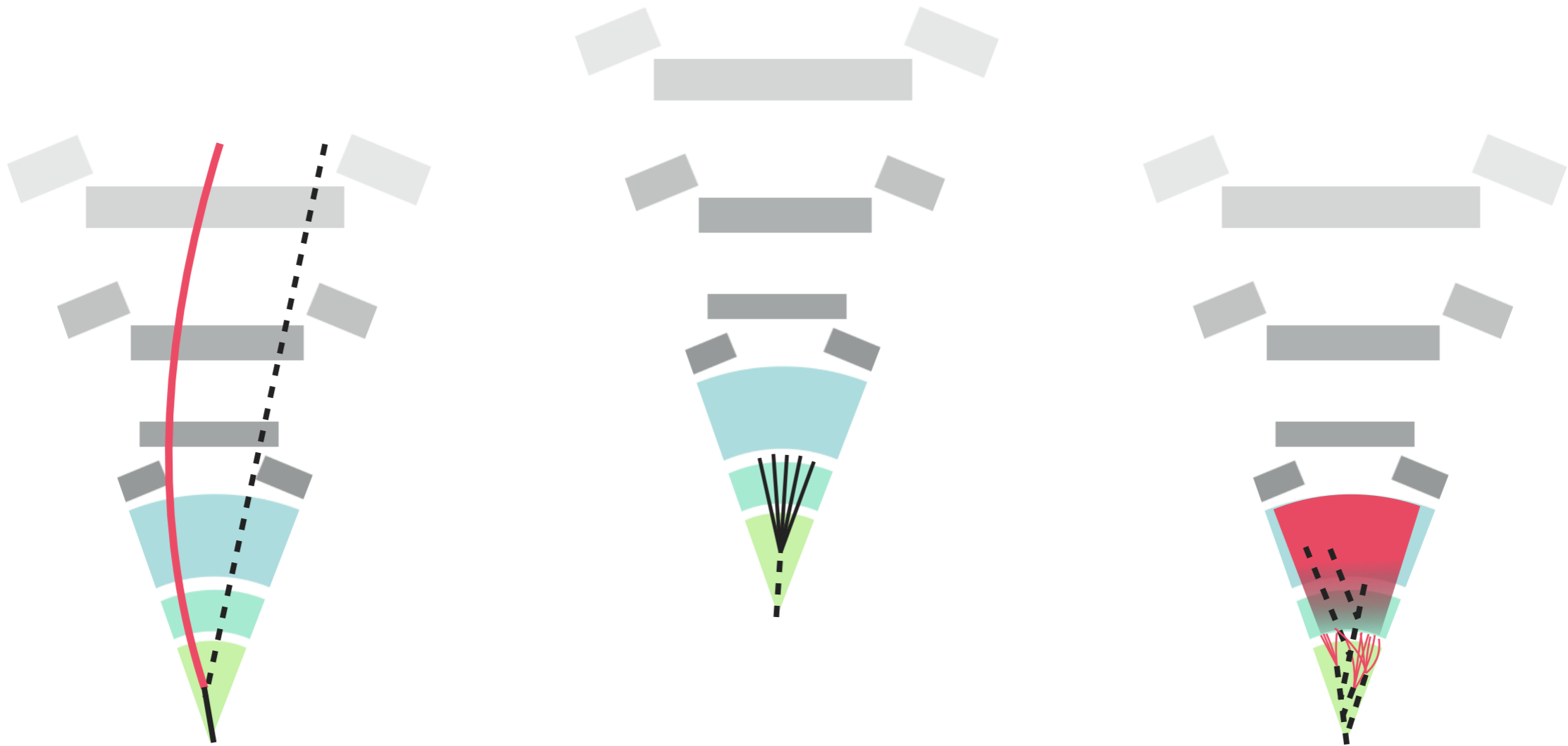
Plus: **displaced patterns have fewer fits** (less activity at high displacement)

- Displaced patterns can be wider (need fewer)
- Fewer prompt (high dataflow) patterns means that each can be wider → minimal efficiency impact

$$n_{fits} = \prod_{i=1}^{n_{layers}} n_{hits}^i$$



# What to use it for?

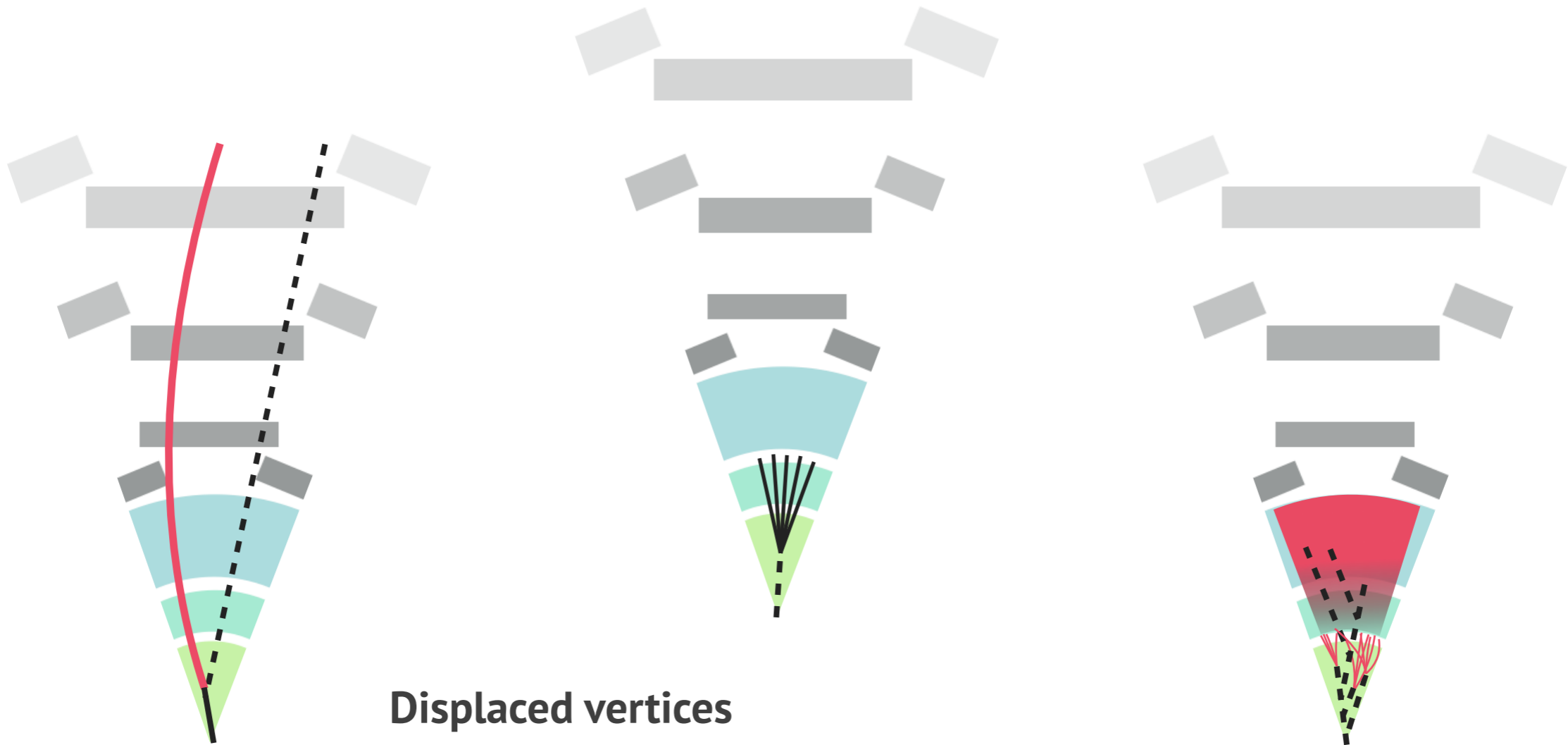


## Displaced leptons

- ▷ Triggers for leptons without track requirements have high  $p_T$  thresholds / angular constraints
- ▷ Use displaced track to lower rate and bring down threshold



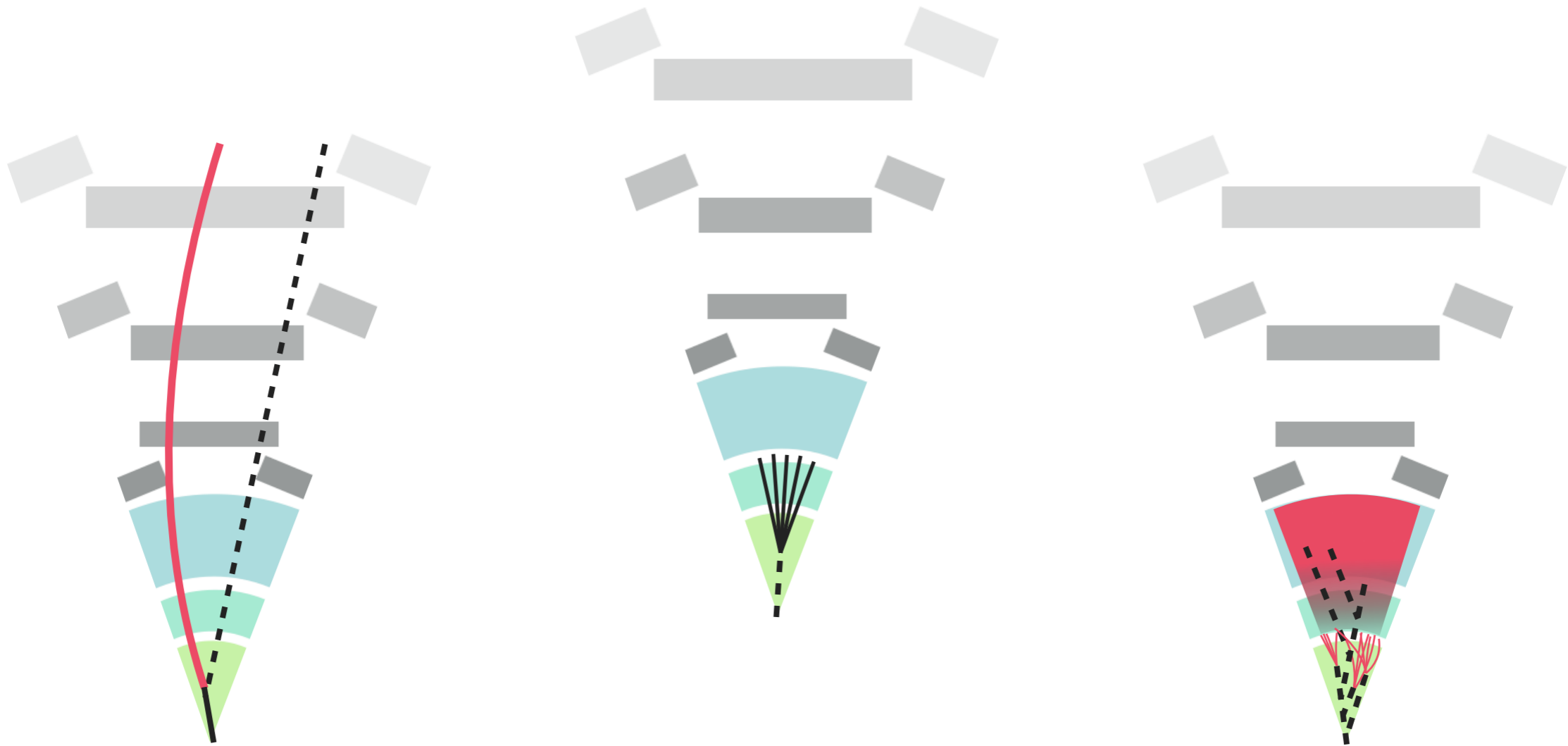
# What to use it for?



## Displaced vertices

- ▷ Currently need another feature in the event to trigger on
- ▷ Find multiple high- $d_0$  tracks consistent with a single vertex
- ▷ Doesn't need high efficiency for single track

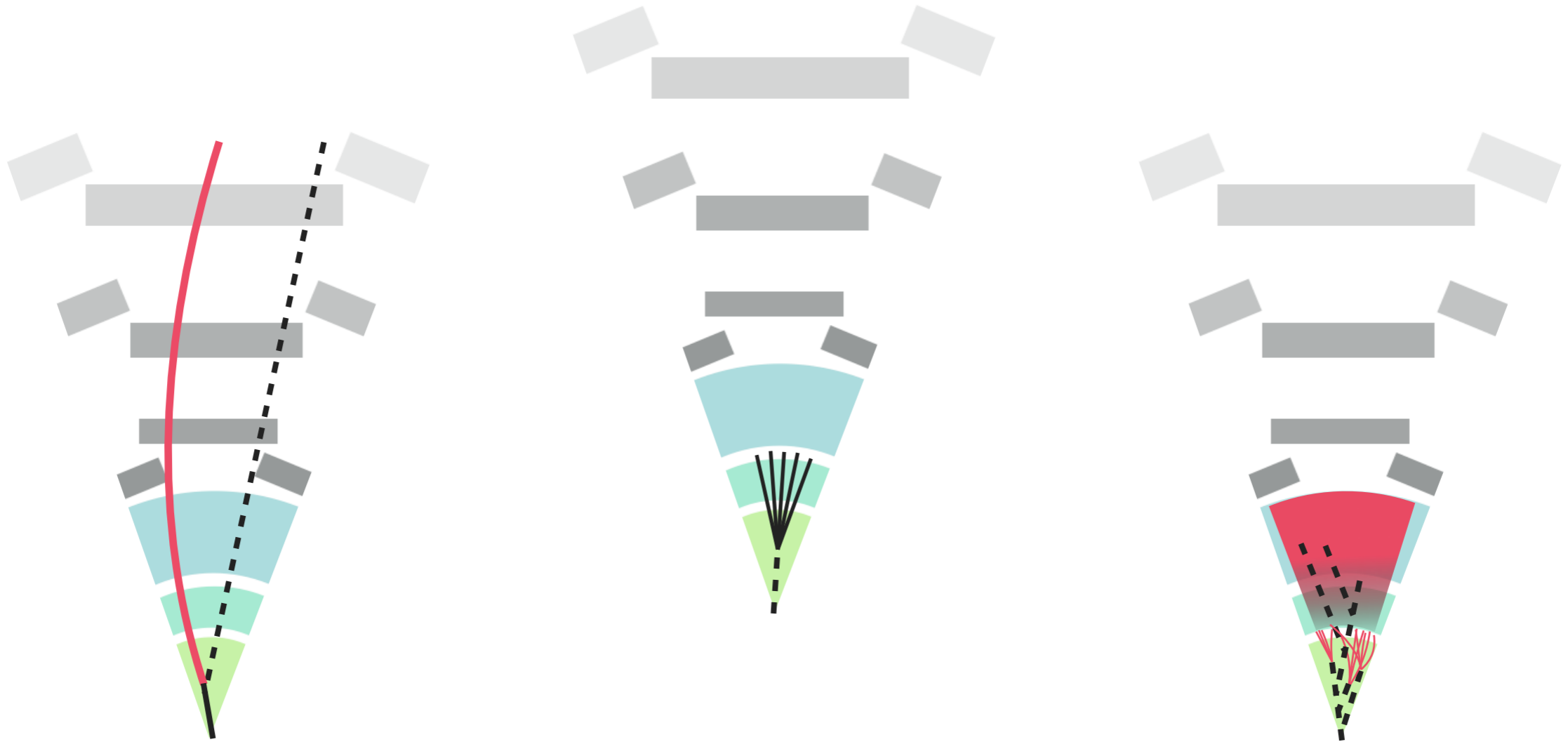
# What to use it for?



## Emerging jets

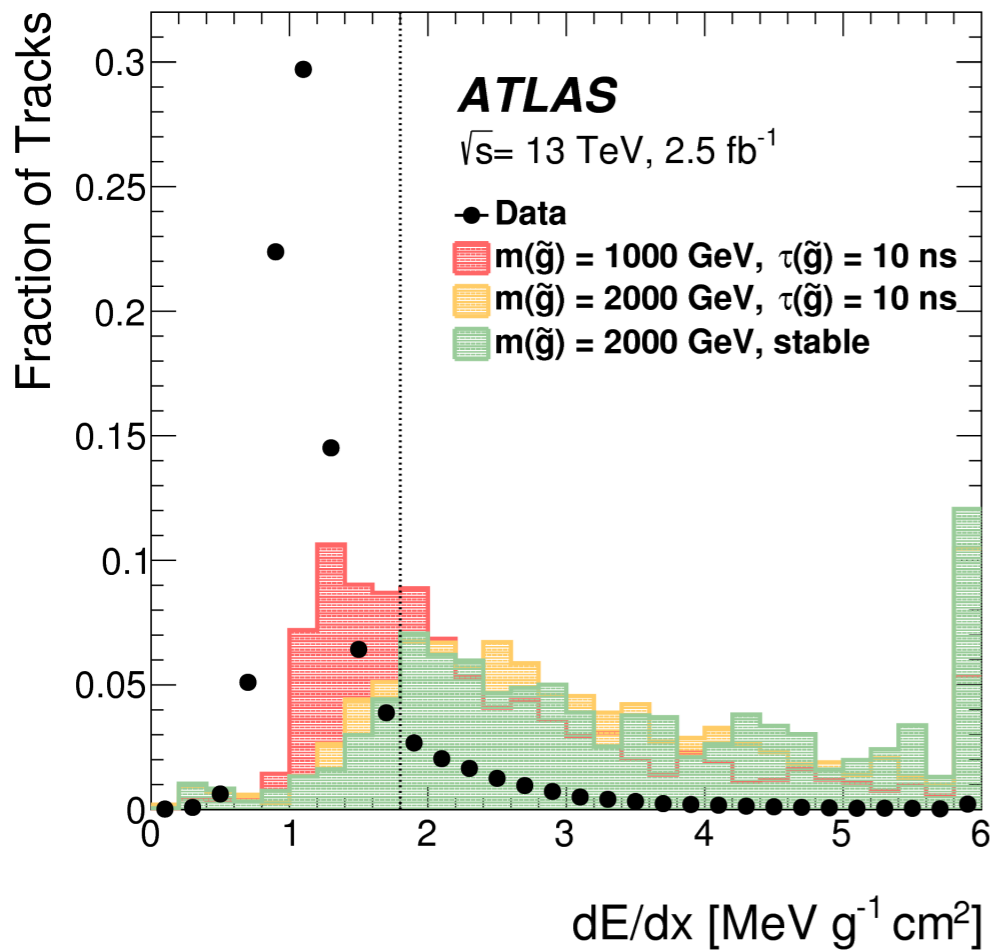
- Jet of dark hadrons decays to visible particles
- Find many high  $d_0$  tracks, not necessarily consistent with one vertex

# What to use it for?



Or any other displaced track signature you can think of!

# Clusters in FTK



FTK outputs **cluster sizes** for tracks

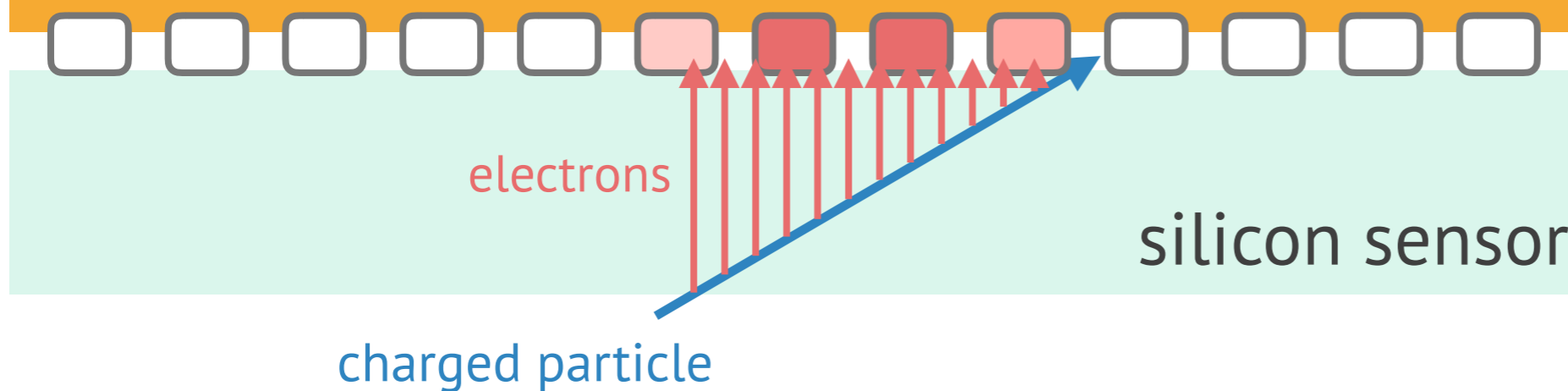
- Typically use dE/dx to identify stable high-mass LLPs
- Do dE/dx and cluster size correlate?

**Yes!**

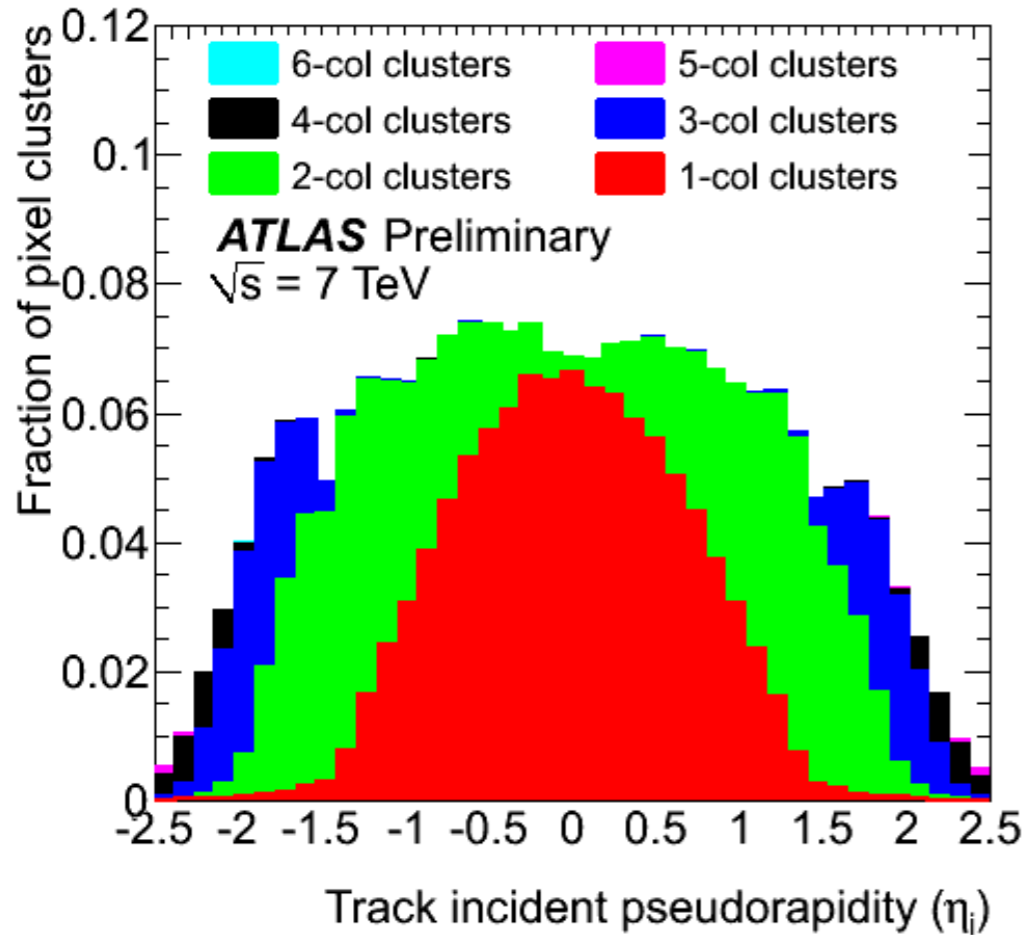
Each **pixel** has a charge threshold

Depending on dE/dx, **cluster** could be 2, 3, 4 pixels wide

readout electronics



# Clusters in FTK



Cluster size is also dependent on **incident angle**

- ▶ Can correct for this with the track parameters provided by FTK

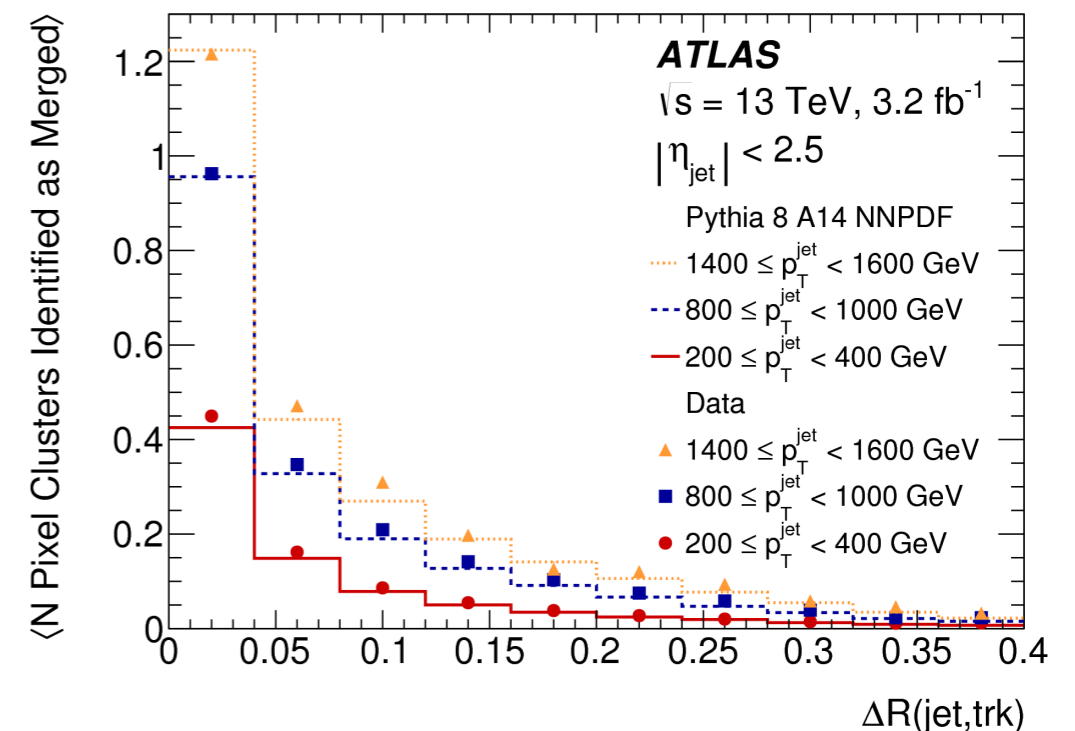
Some **SM backgrounds** remain

- ▶ Dense environments with multiple particles contributing to the same cluster
- ▶ Can reduce this with isolation cuts

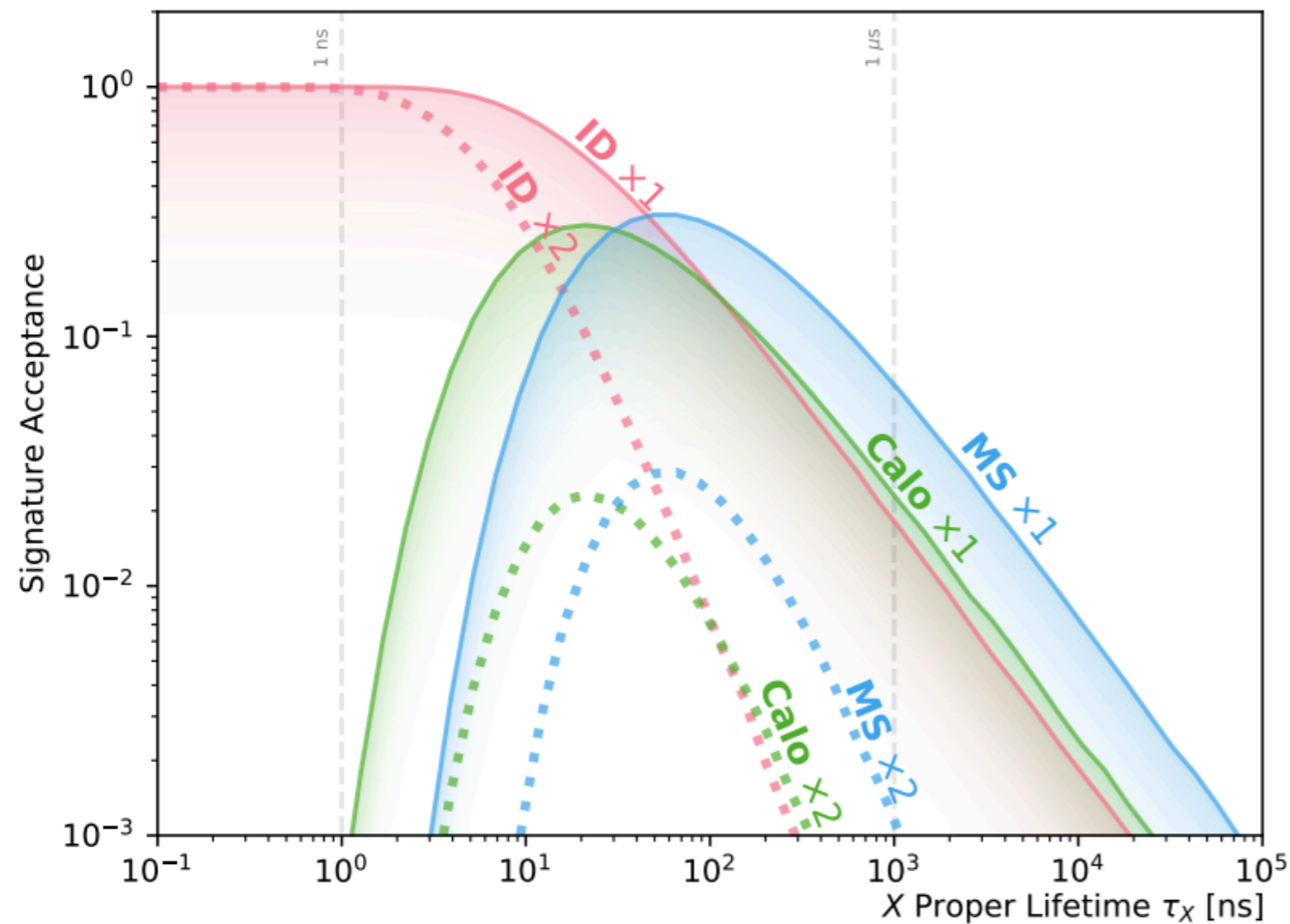
Could do even better **if FTK had charge** information

- ▶ Would require a modification of FTK data format

Clusters produced by multiple particles



# What about when we can't track?

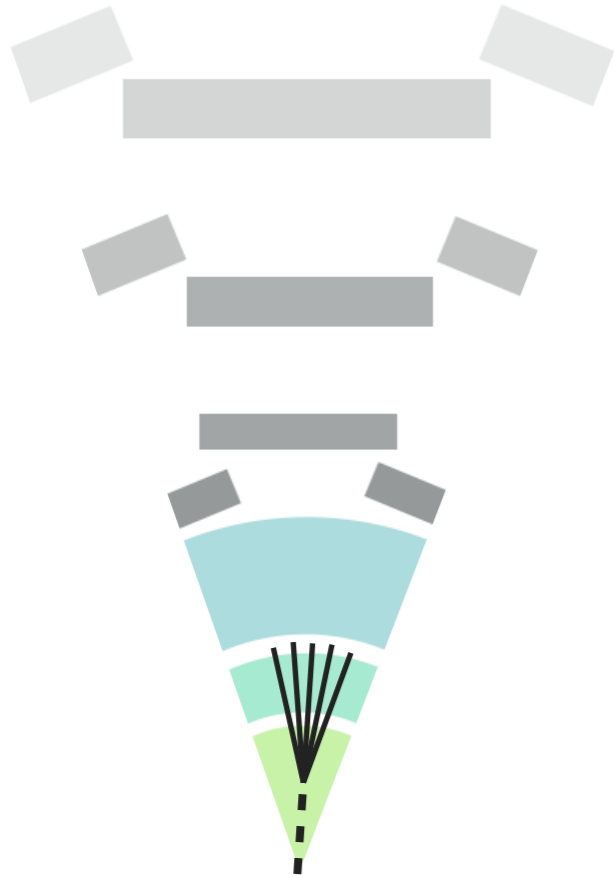


Detector acceptance for  
pair-produced 2 TeV gluinos

**Inner detector** is the most interesting place to look for LLP decays for a large range of lifetimes

- But we can only track particles that decay at  $< \sim 1/10$  its radius
- Are there other ways to use FTK when we can't track?

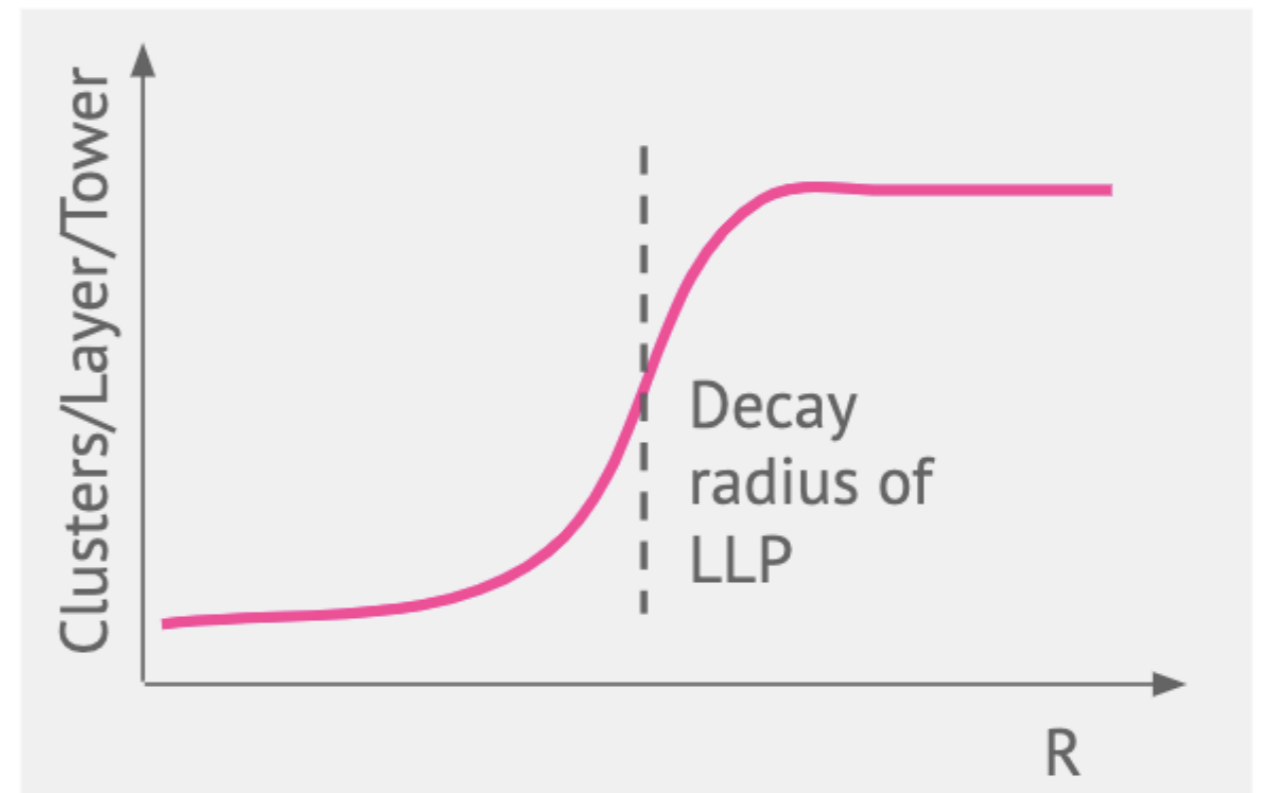
# Trackless Clusters




- FTK accesses **all hits** in the Inner Detector silicon
- Clusters them and organizes them into towers in  $\eta/\varphi$
  - For displaced jets, should see a **jump** in number of clusters at decay R

Even better background discrimination by comparing unassociated clusters to number of tracks

- FTK doesn't currently output total number of clusters for each event
  - Could be added to firmware with minimal impact on dataflow





There's a lot that can be done  
... but not much time to do it in

FTK is behind schedule:  
slice functionality  
demonstrated at the  
last minute in Run 2,  
during Heavy Ion run

Uses requiring FW  
changes can be a hard  
sell

but there's always Run 4!

Run 4 is interesting for LLP for the same reason as Run 3:

- No more energy jumps, just lots of luminosity → big gains for low background searches
- No more FTK in Run 4: we move on to **HTT**

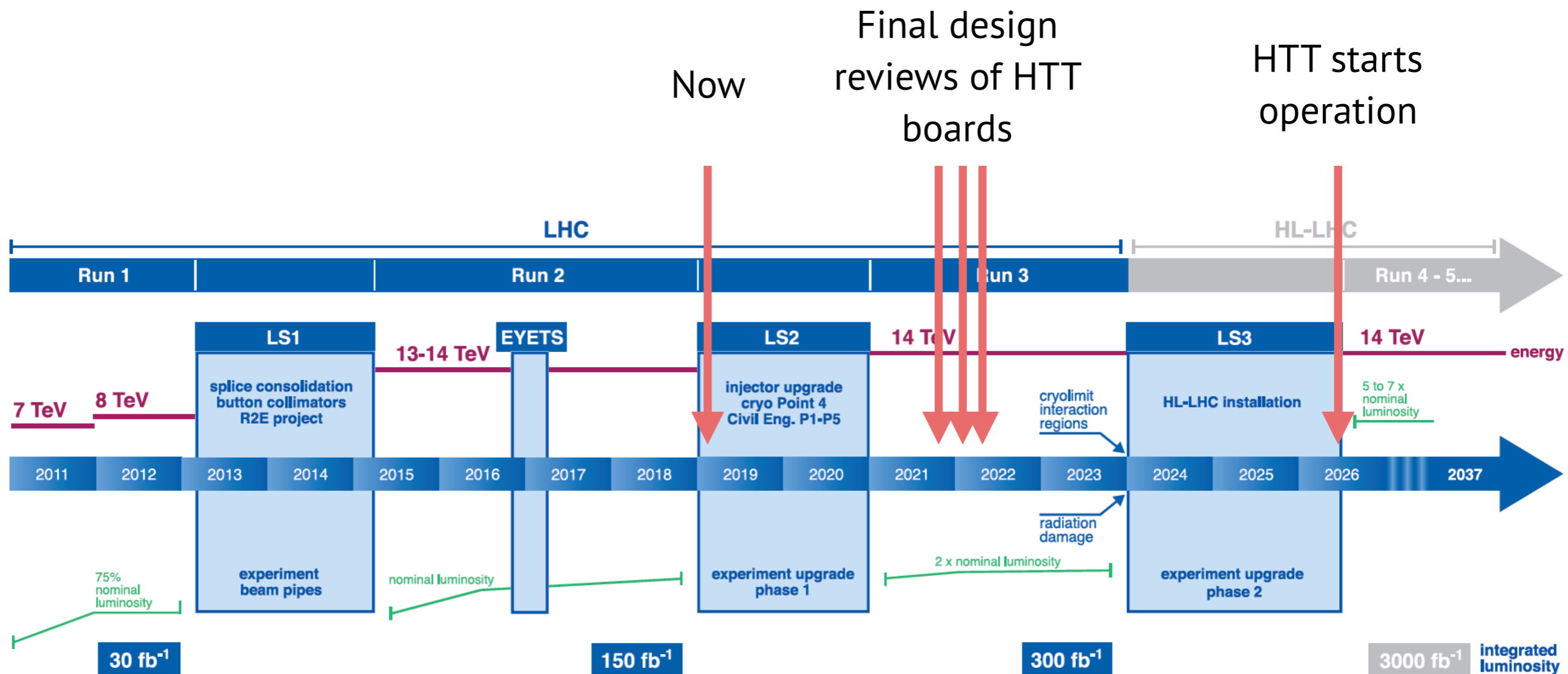


# Hardware Tracker for the Trigger

Currently ID is only read out when L1 trigger is fired

**HTT** plans currently much more flexible than FTK

- ▶ Upgraded, but generally the same principles as FTK
- ▶ One big improvement: HTT can do **regional tracking at L1**
- ▶ Now is the time to start thinking about utilizing HTT for LLPs



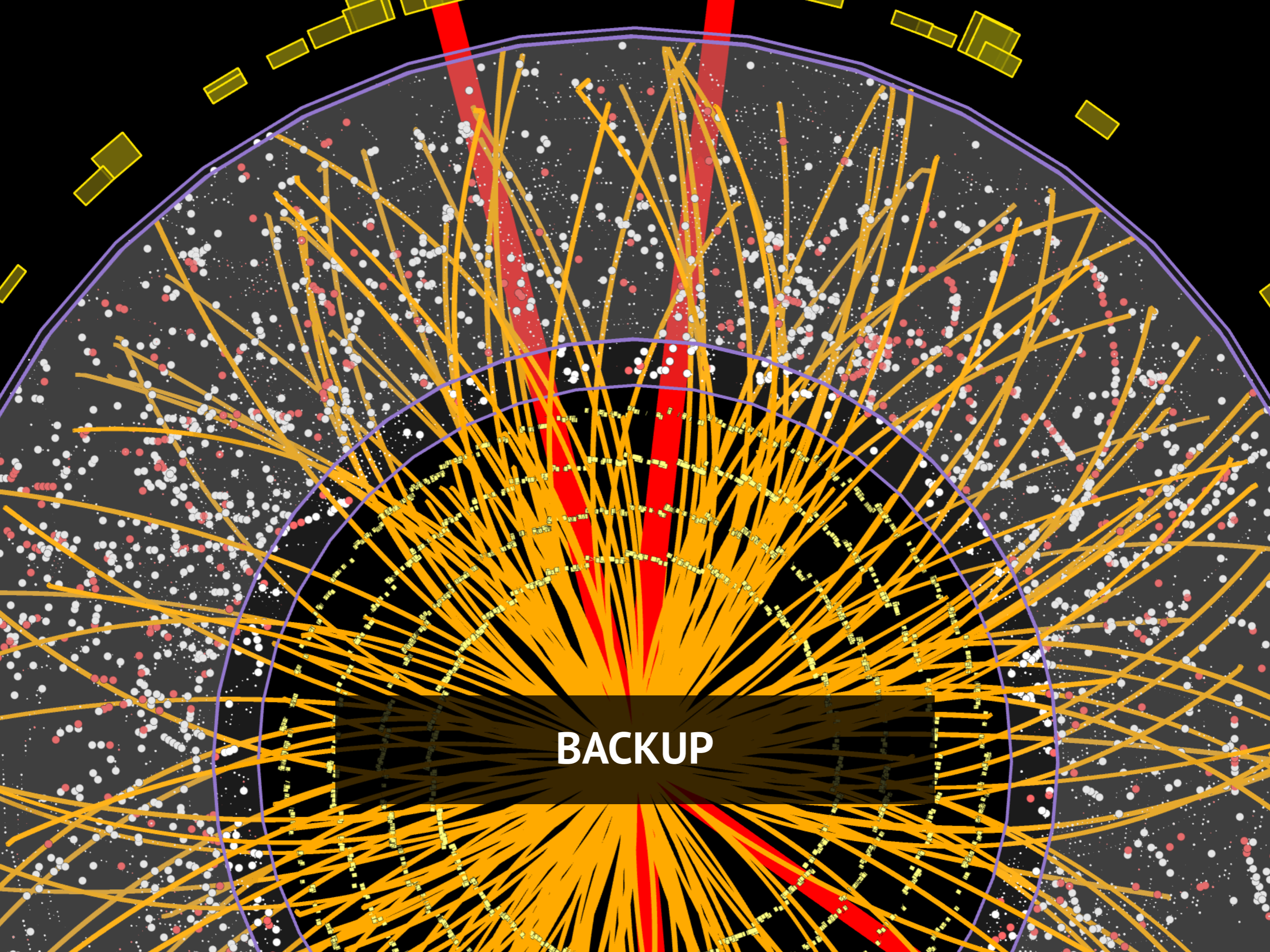
The background of the slide is a complex visualization of a particle detector event. It features a central point from which numerous thin, yellowish-orange lines radiate outwards, representing particle tracks. These tracks are overlaid on a dark, semi-circular detector geometry. There are also several red vertical bands and purple curved lines. Small white and red dots are scattered throughout the detector area, likely representing interaction points or specific particles. The overall appearance is that of a high-energy physics event reconstruction.

In conclusion...

**Long-lived particles** are an exciting place to look for new physics especially in Run 3 (and 4)

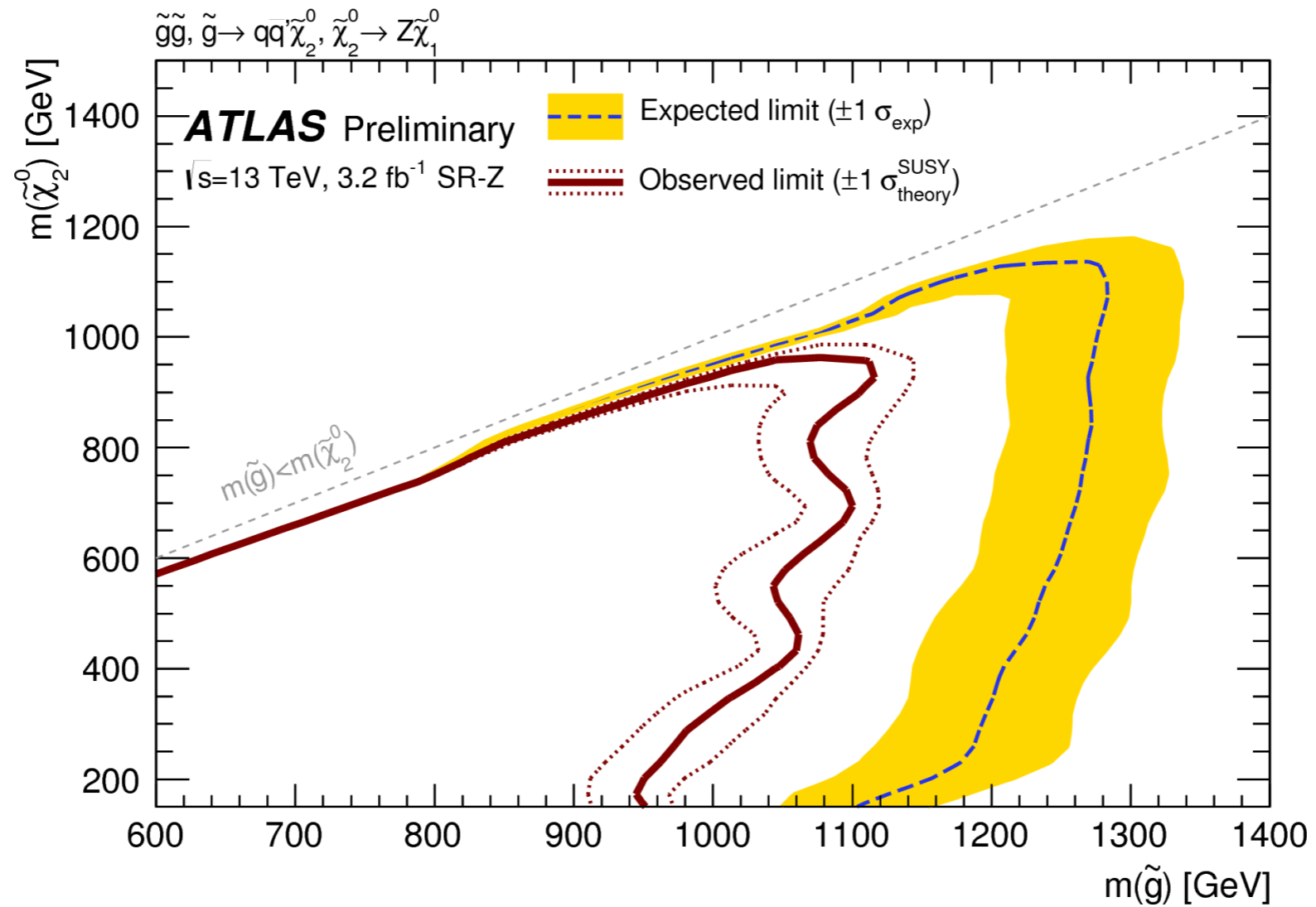
Triggers are often the limiting factors of these searches but **FTK** can help (if we act now)

For ideas too ambitious to make it into FTK, there's always **HTT!**



**BACKUP**

# Z+MET 3.2/fb limit, 36/fb uncertainties



	SR-low	SR-medium	SR-high
Observed events	134	40	72
Total expected background events	$144 \pm 22$	$40 \pm 10$	$83 \pm 9$
Flavour-symmetric ( $t\bar{t}$ , $Wt$ , $WW$ and $Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ ) events	$86 \pm 12$	$29 \pm 9$	$75 \pm 8$
$Z/\gamma^* + \text{jets}$ events	$9_{-9}^{+13}$	$0.2_{-0.2}^{+0.8}$	$2.0 \pm 1.2$
$WZ/ZZ$ events	$43 \pm 12$	$9.8 \pm 3.2$	$4.1 \pm 1.2$
Rare top events	$6.7 \pm 1.8$	$1.20 \pm 0.35$	$1.8 \pm 0.5$

# Many more interesting signatures!

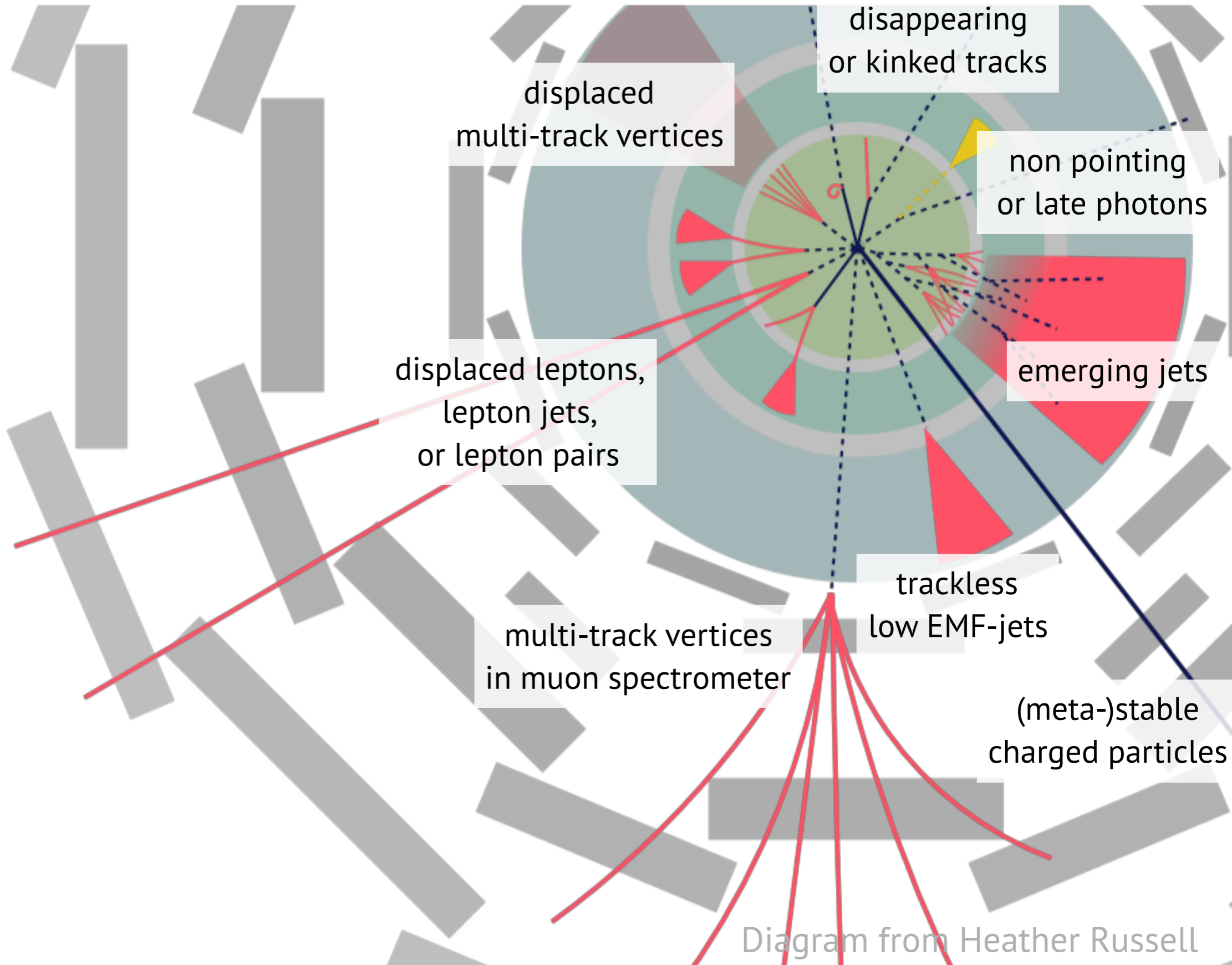
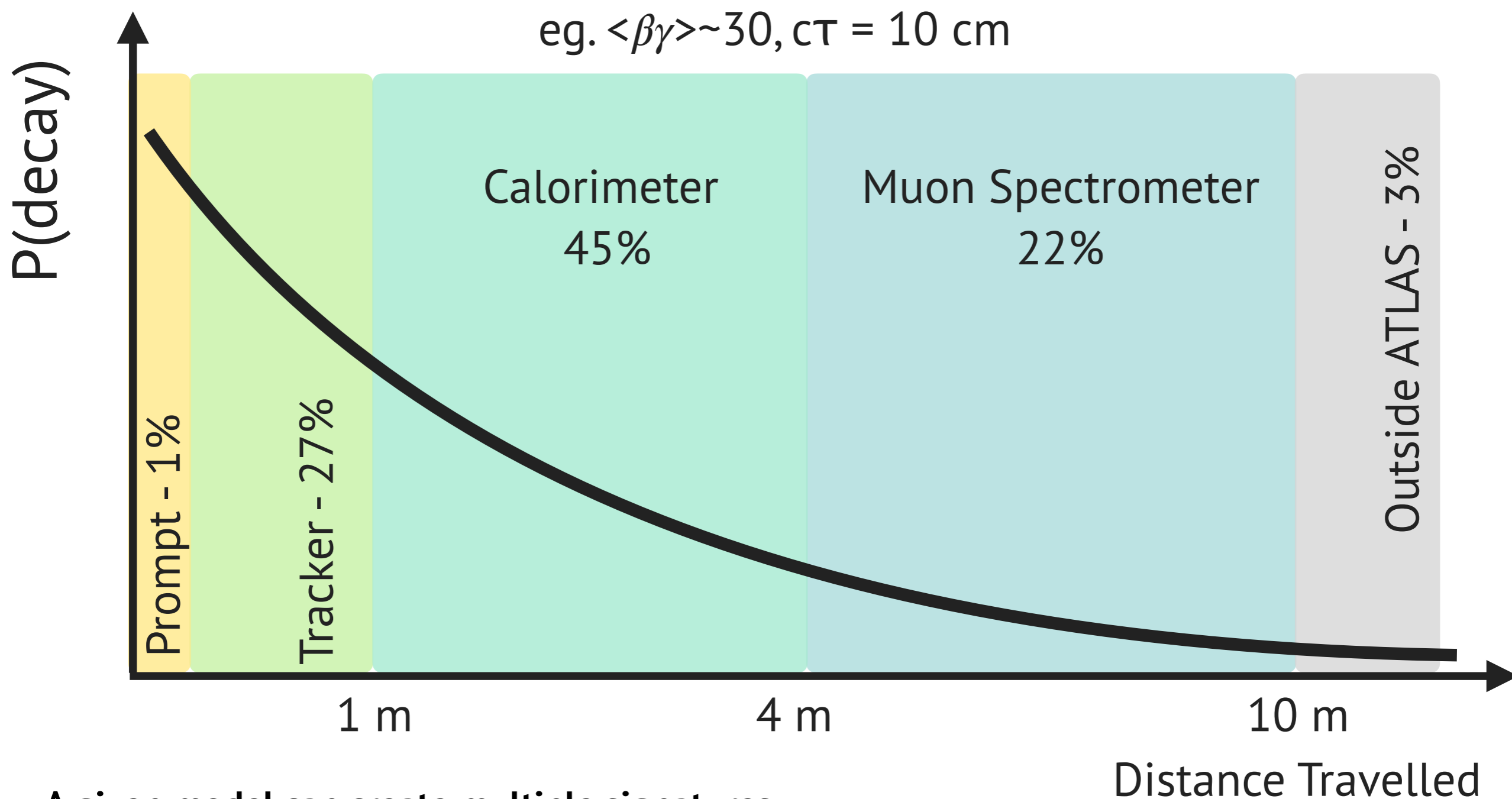


Diagram from Heather Russell

# What do these particles look like in ATLAS?



**A given model can create multiple signatures**

Lifetime gives an exponential

For intermediate lifetimes, particles decay throughout the ATLAS detector

Diagrams from Heather Russell



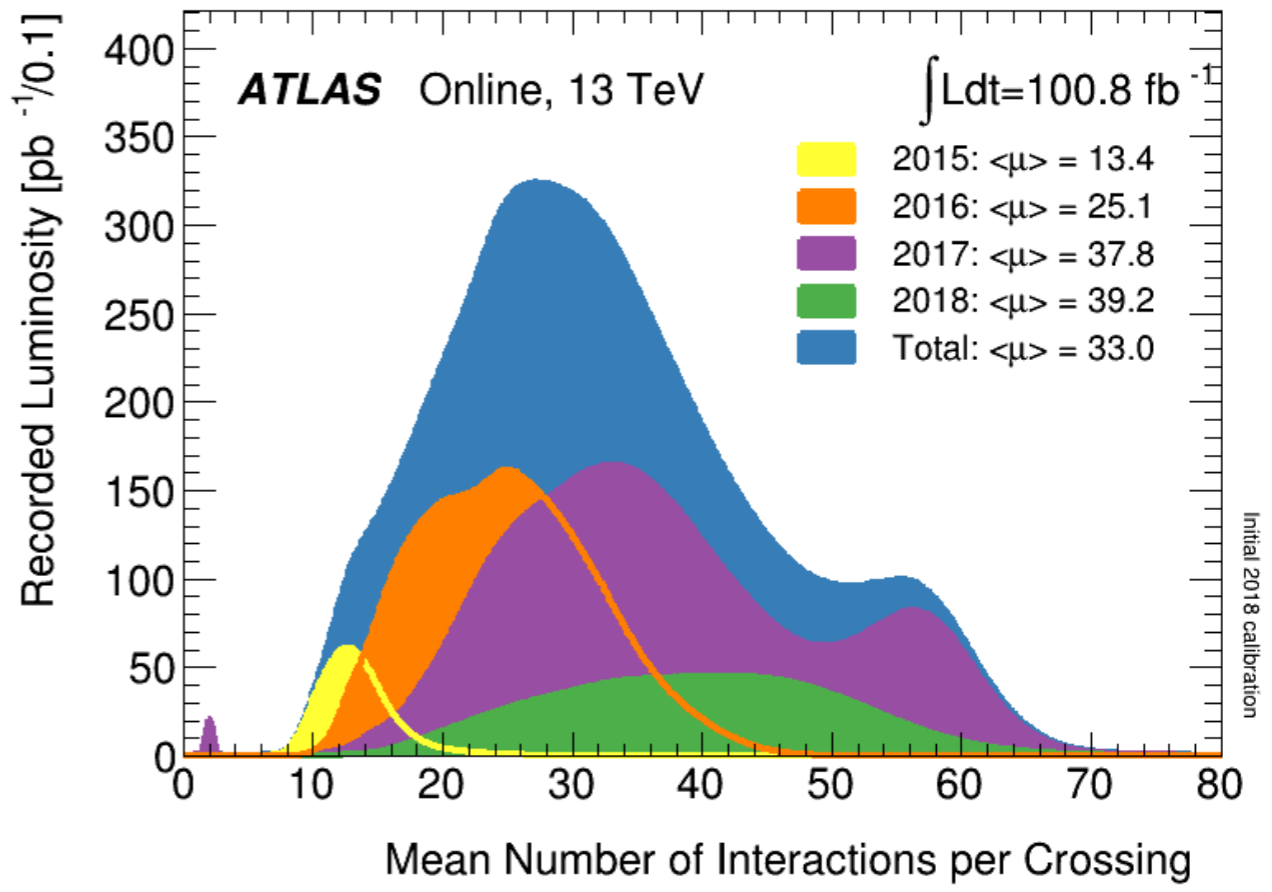
# Pileup @ the LHC

~40 simultaneous  $pp$  interactions per event in 2018

tracks let us identify objects from the primary vertex

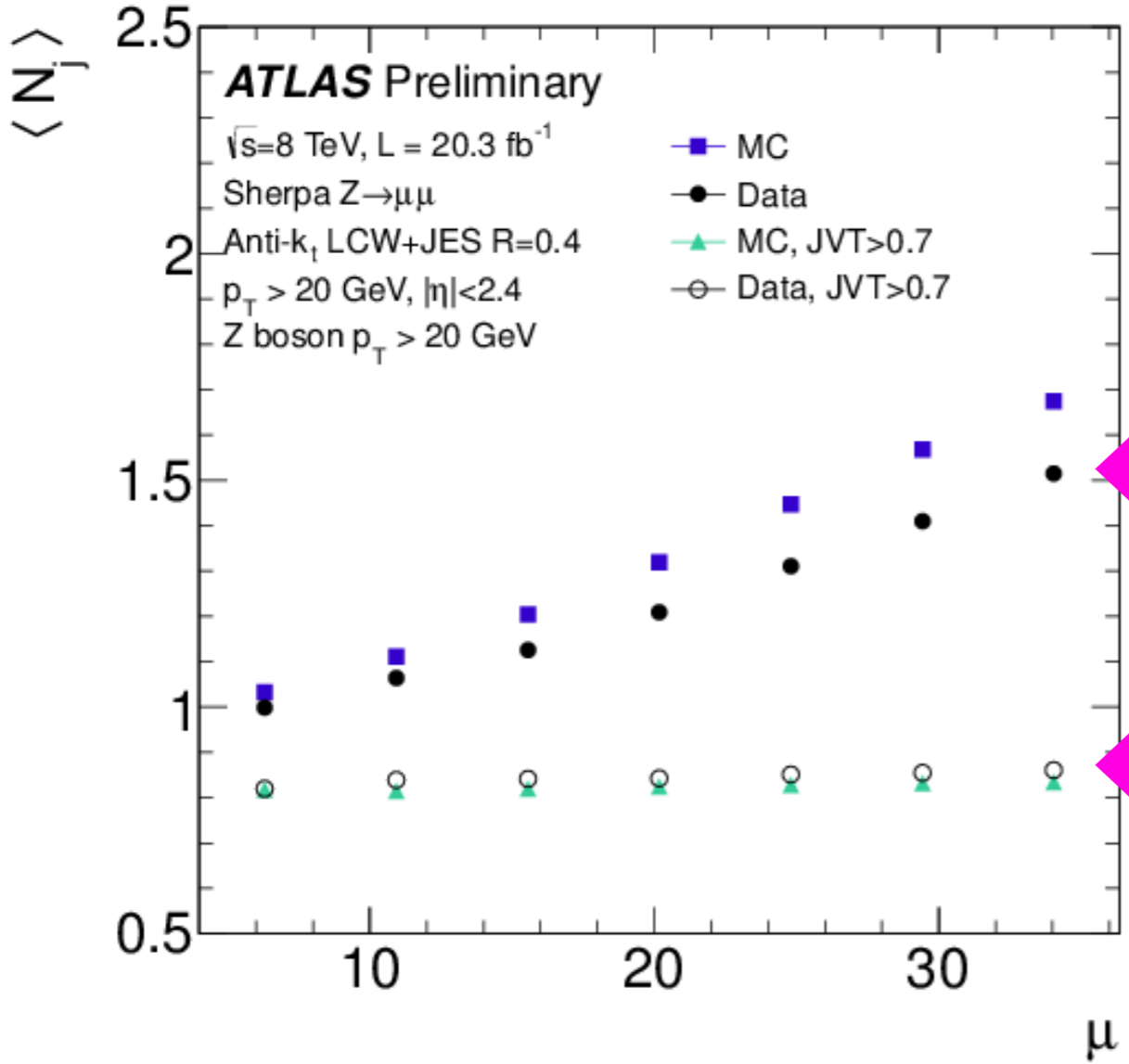
(and ignore everything else)

need global tracking to do this for the full event!





# Pileup @ the LHC



Tracking at the trigger level is essential to maintaining low trigger thresholds

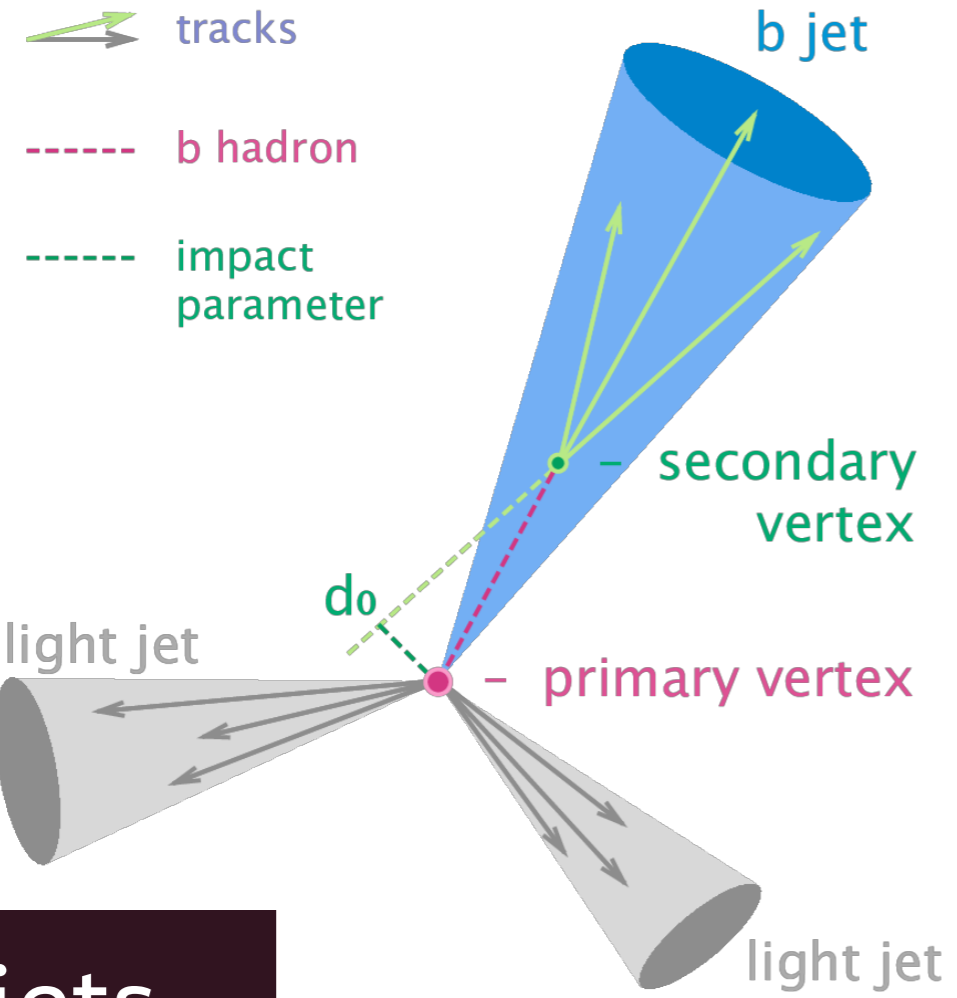
njets selected without tracking

njets selected with tracking

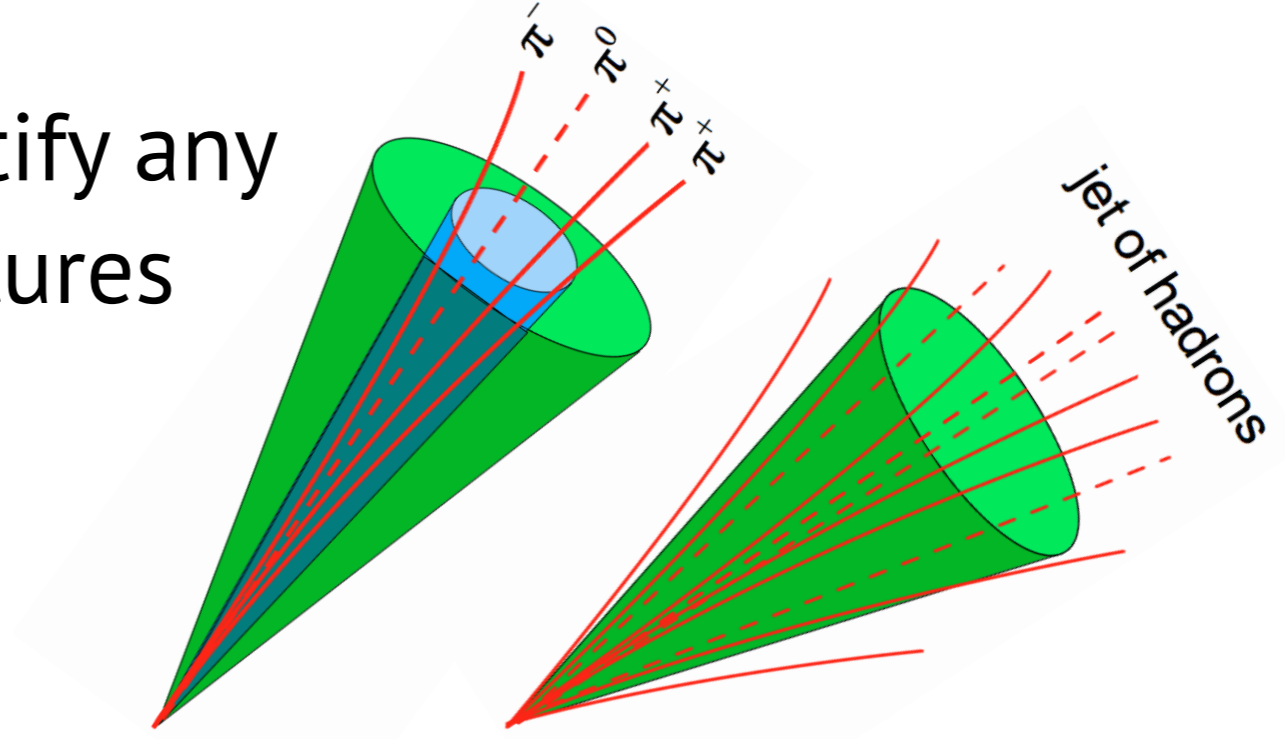


# More uses for tracking

Full-scan tracking can help identify any object with track-based signatures



**b-jets**



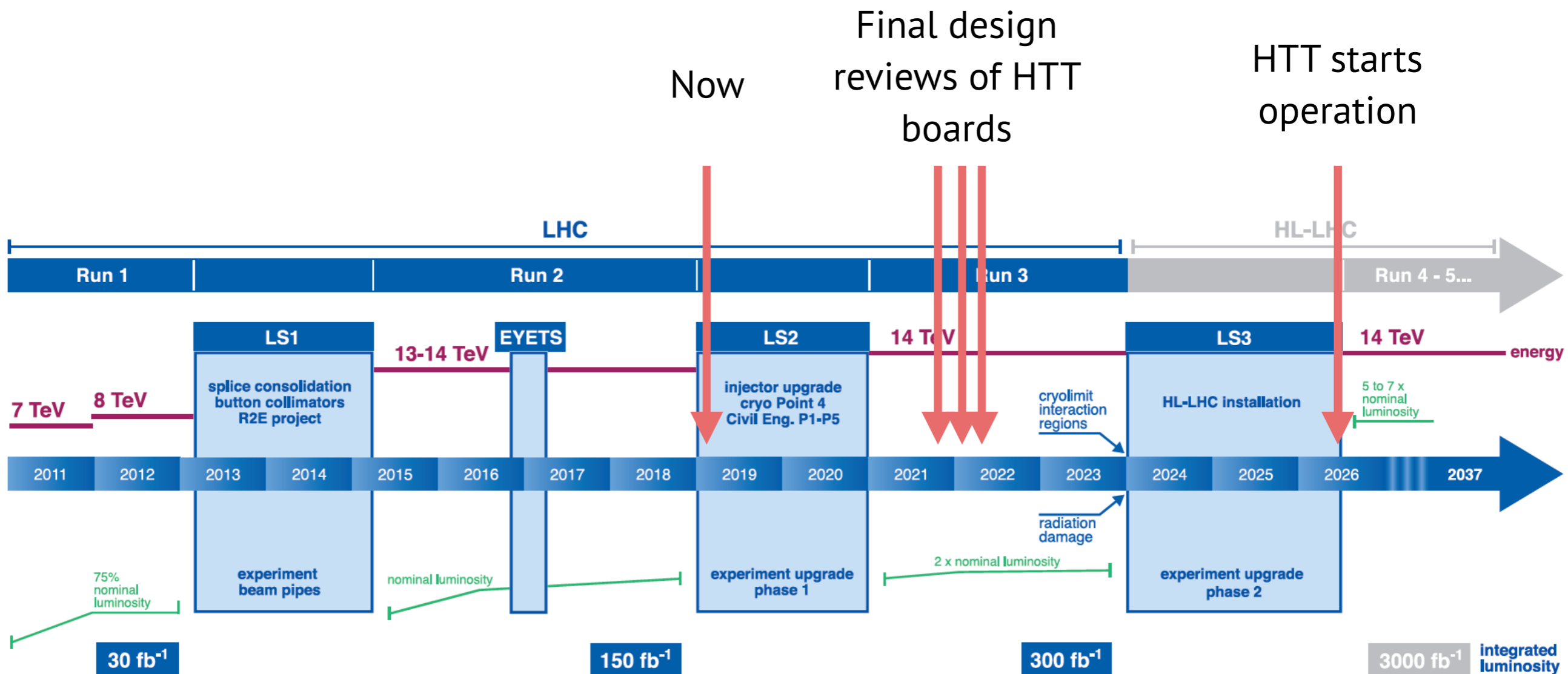
**hadronic  $\tau$ s**

If tracking is already available, frees up CPU at HLT for other tasks

# Hardware Tracker for the Trigger

**HTT** plans currently much more flexible than FTK

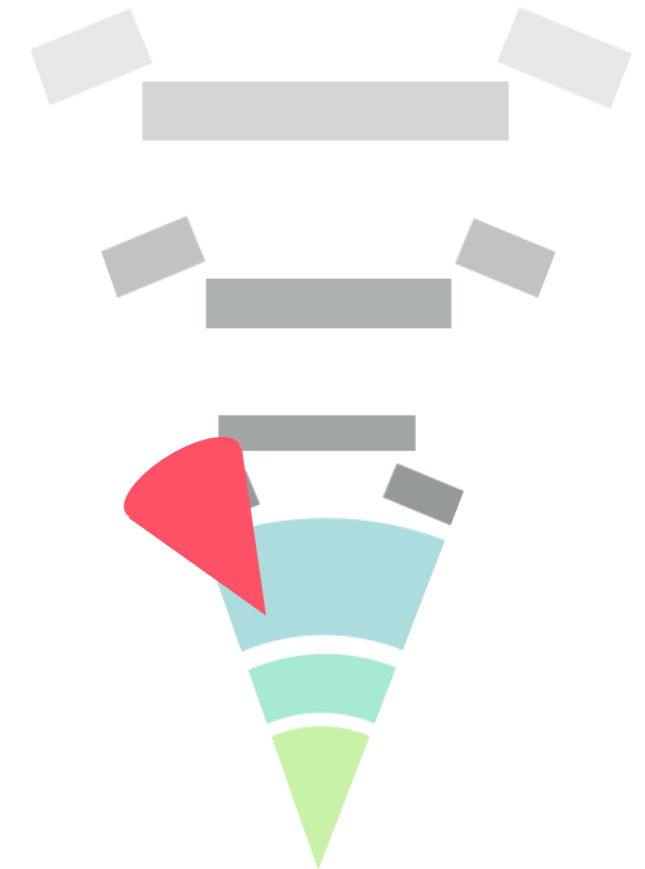
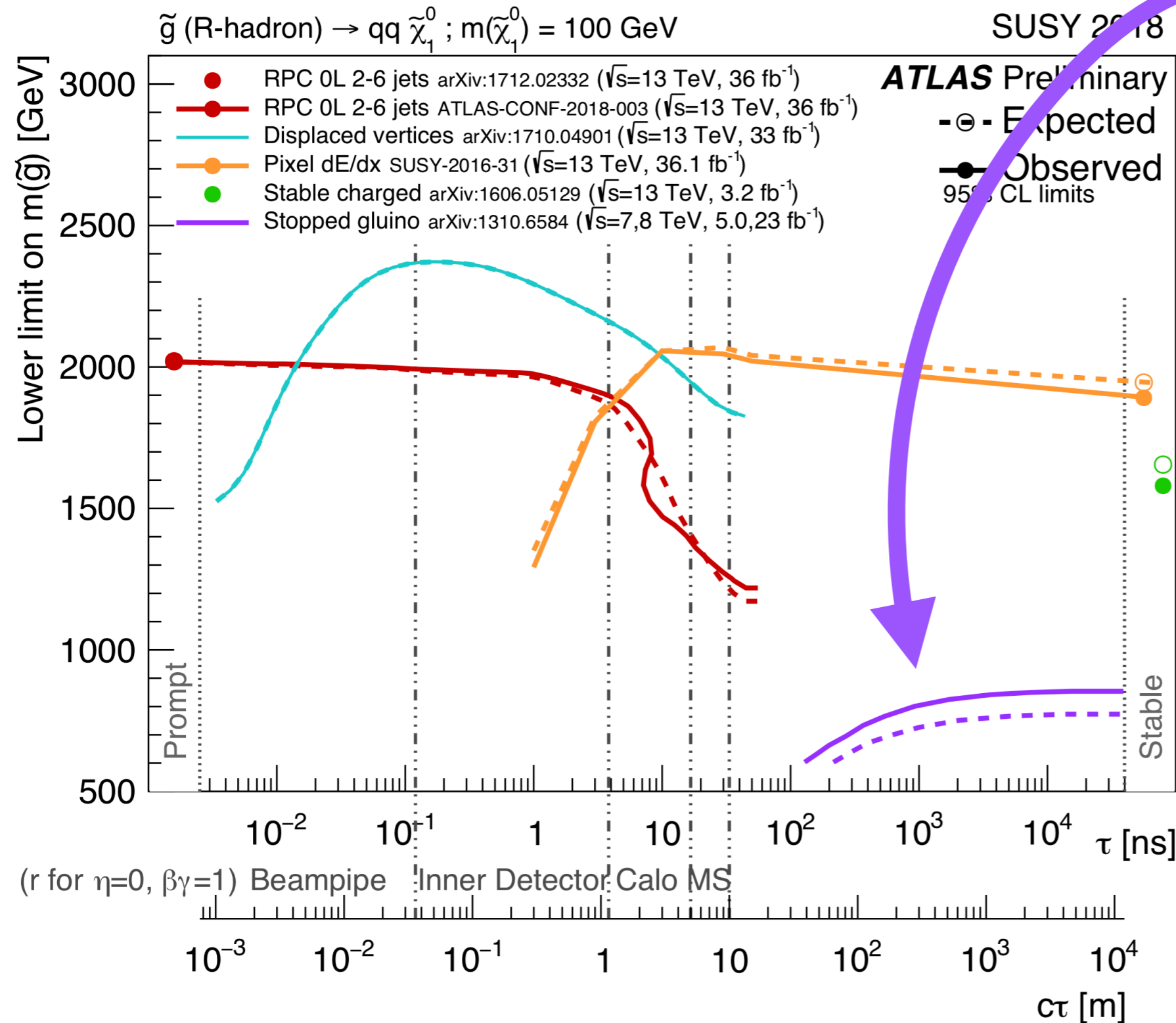
- Upgraded, but generally the same principles as FTK
- One big change: HTT can do **regional tracking at L1**
- Now is the time to start thinking about utilizing HTT for LLPs



# ATLAS searches for long-lived particles

an example of success  
**R-hadrons**

**Stopped gluino**



# Ideas to improve clustering trigger

---

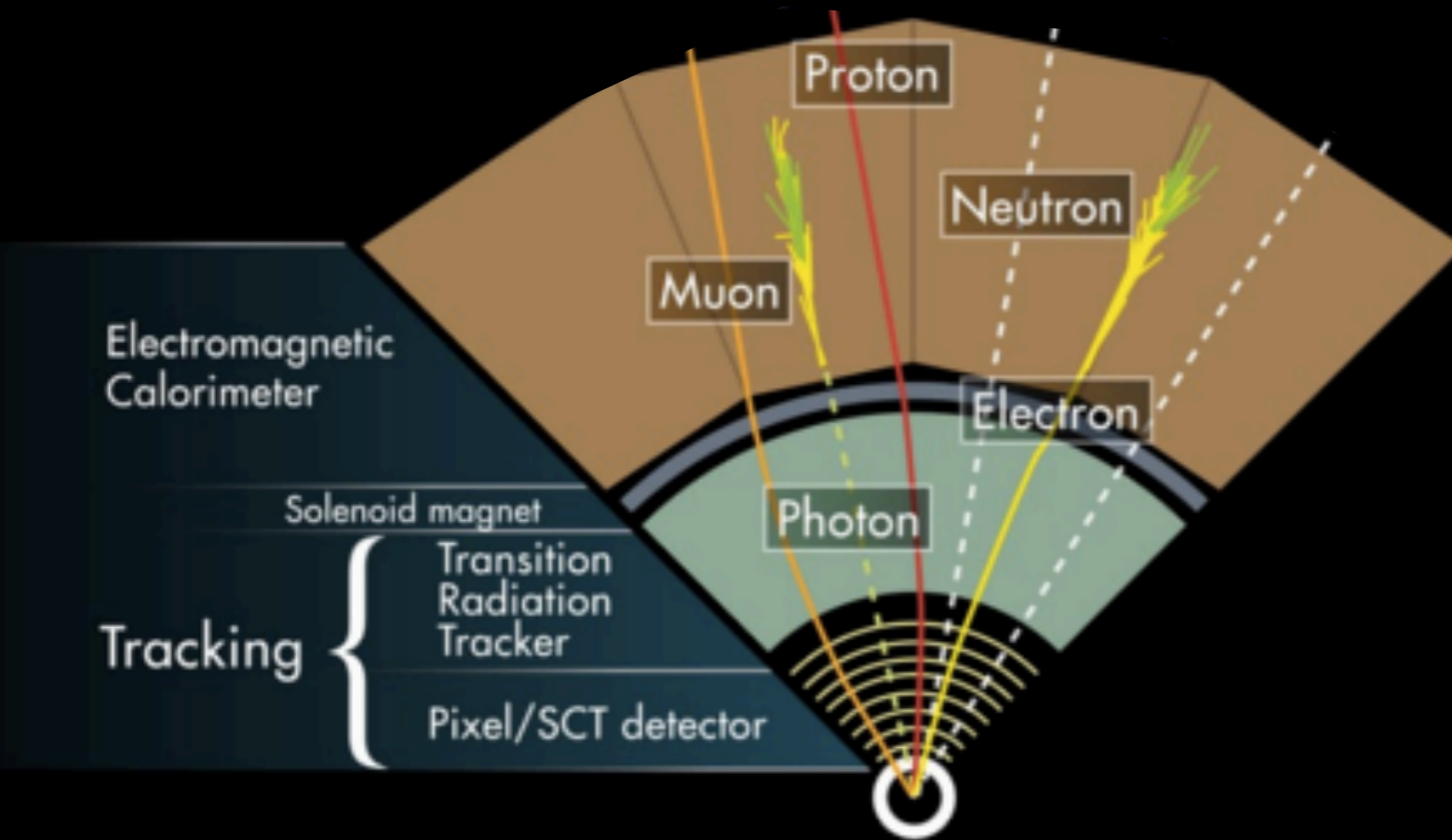
- ▶ Look for some kind of consistency between clusters on track
  - ▶ Delta rays / merged clusters tend to affect the size and ToT of some but not all of the cluster on track
  - ▶ For high  $dE/dx$  particles, the deposits should be consistently large in all clusters
- ▶ Add isolation
  - ▶ Most signals are quite isolated and adding isolation will massively cut down on merged cluster backgrounds

# Reminders

---

- ▷ FTK provides input to HLT – need an L1 trigger to use it!
- ▷ Most interesting for cases where there's currently a large gap between L1 and HLT
  - ▷ MET (because L1 and HLT are so uncorrelated)
  - ▷ Photons (because electrons share the same L1)
- ▷ Bonus fact:
  - ▷ Displaced patterns help with beamspot shifts

# What ATLAS is designed to do



Electron with no prompt track  
→ photon

Electron that appears part  
way through the calorimeter  
→ noise?

BSM particle traveling through  
the detector  
→ ???

Luckily, lifetimes represent an exponential  
So even for large lifetimes, a big fraction decay early

It's often *possible* to reconstruct them

