The TORCH Detector at the LHCb experiment

EPP Seminar, University of Warwick

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Luis Miguel Garcia Martin



















Outline

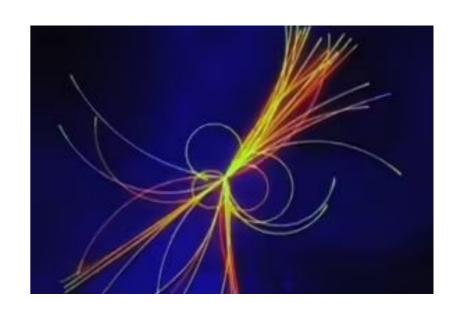
Introduction

- Importance of Particle Identification
- Particle Identification at LHCb

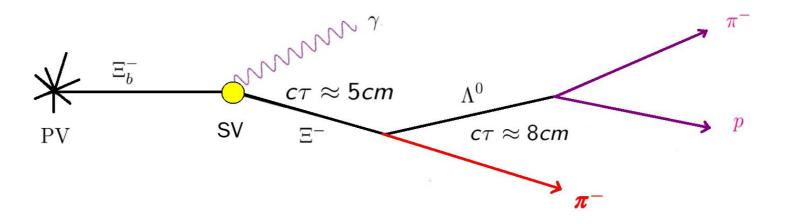
Torch detector

- Principle and design
- Pattern reconstruction
- Performance and timing
- Test beam





- Searches for New Physics via the precision study of
 - CP violation
 - Rare decays of heavy quarks
 - 0 ...
- Particle detectors aim to measure properties of particles
 - Long-lived particles can be measured directly
 - Short-lived particles are "reconstructed" through their decay products
- Require accurate information about momentum, charge and mass

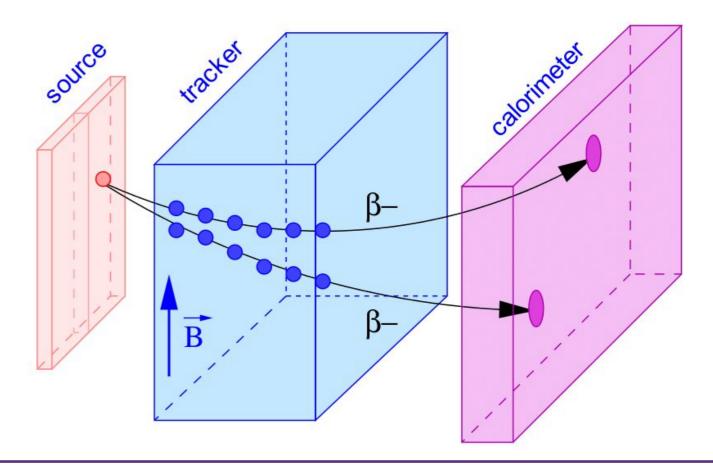


Tracking devices:

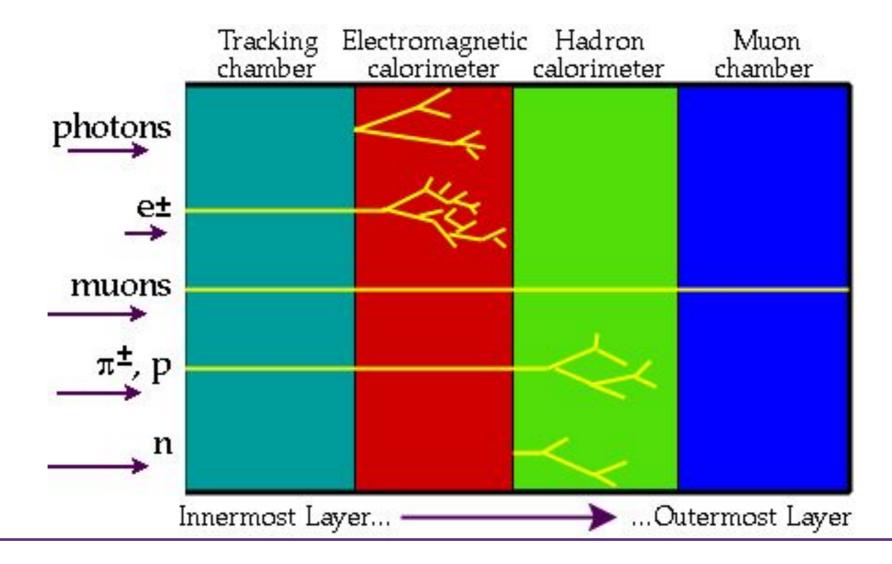
- Reveal the paths of charged particles as they pass through
- Low interaction with the particles (conservative measurement)
- Allow to measure the momentum if used with a magnetic field

Calorimeters:

- Measure the energy a particle loses as it passes through
- Usually completely stop the (destructive measurement)



- Elementary particles give different characteristic signatures in detectors
- Tracking and calorimeter information provide some level of particle identification
- Allow to combine particles to "recover" their "origin" (vertexing)



 Different charged hadrons (p, π, K) has similar signal

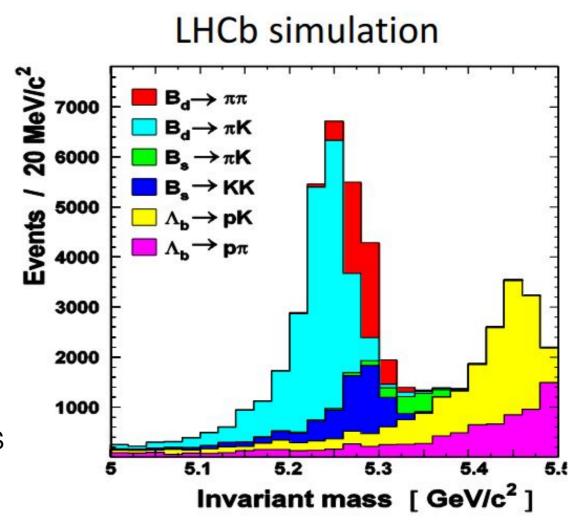
track + hadronic shower

- This makes difficult distinguishing between final states with the same topology
- Making all two-track combinations in an event and calculating their invariant mass is expensive

huge combinatoric background

Hadron identification is a key ingredient in b-physics & hadron spectroscopy

many different modes overlap



 Different charged hadrons (p, π, K) has similar signal

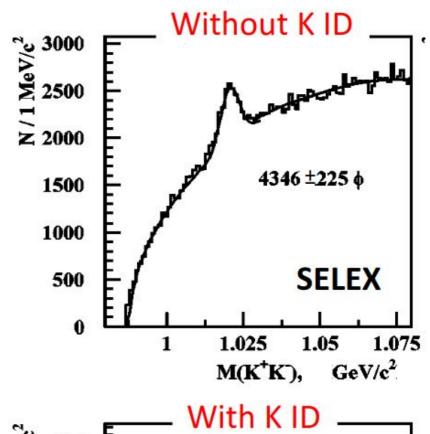
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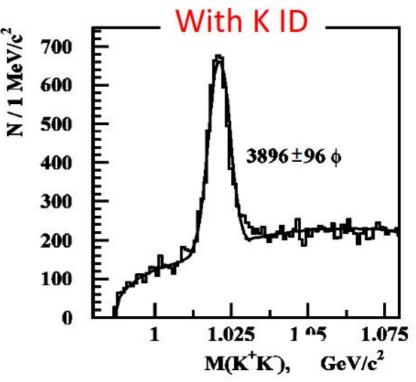
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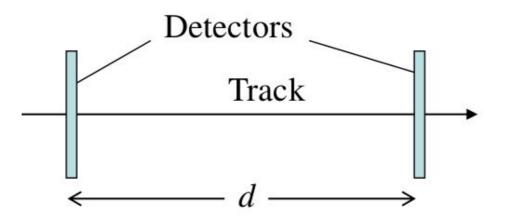
 Hadron identification is a key ingredient in b-physics & hadron spectroscopy

mainly pions from other sources

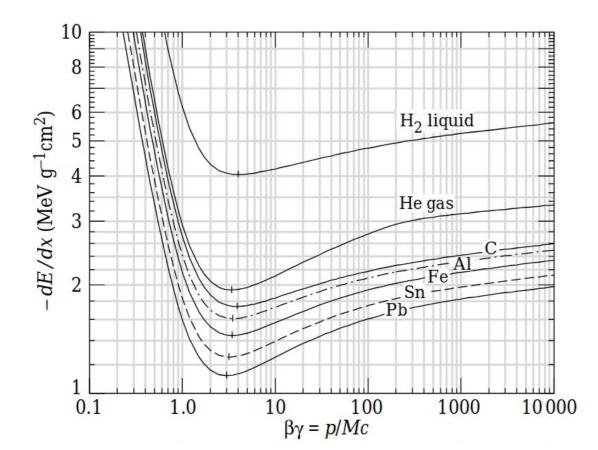


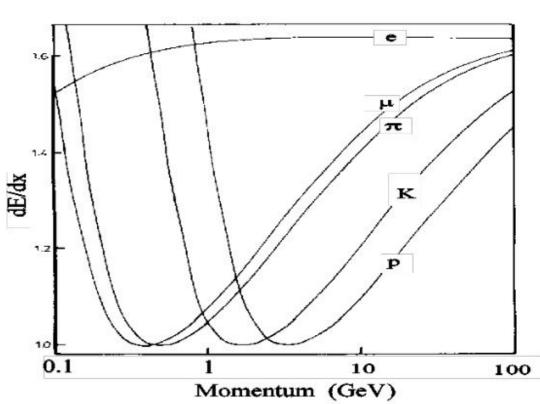


- Exploiting charge hadron rest mass for particle identification
 - Momentum (p) provided by the tracking system
 - Mass (m) can be **determined from their velocity** ($p = \gamma m v$)
- Processes that depend on the particle velocity:
 - Time Of Flight (TOF) of the particles over a fixed distance

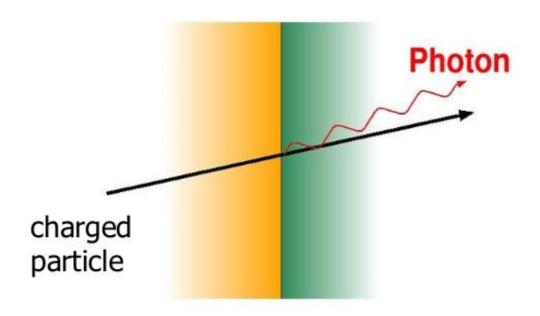


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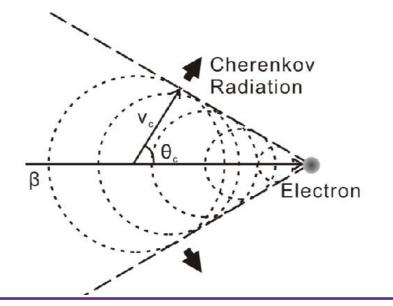




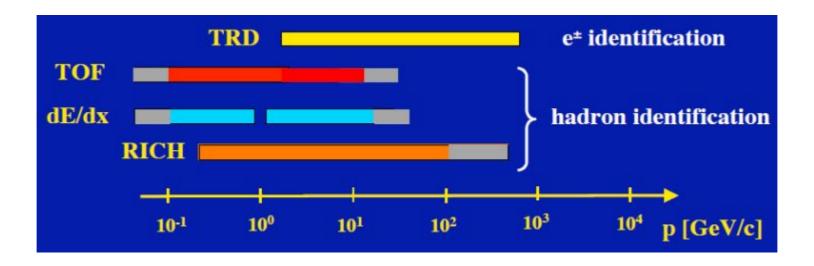
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 - Transition Radiation: relativistic charged particle change of medium



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- Processes that depend on the particle velocity:
 - Time Of Flight (TOF) of the particles over a fixed distance
 - Interaction with matter: energy loss via Ionization (dE/dx)
 - Transition Radiation: relativistic charged particle change of medium
 - Cherenkov Radiation: particle travels faster than the local speed of light

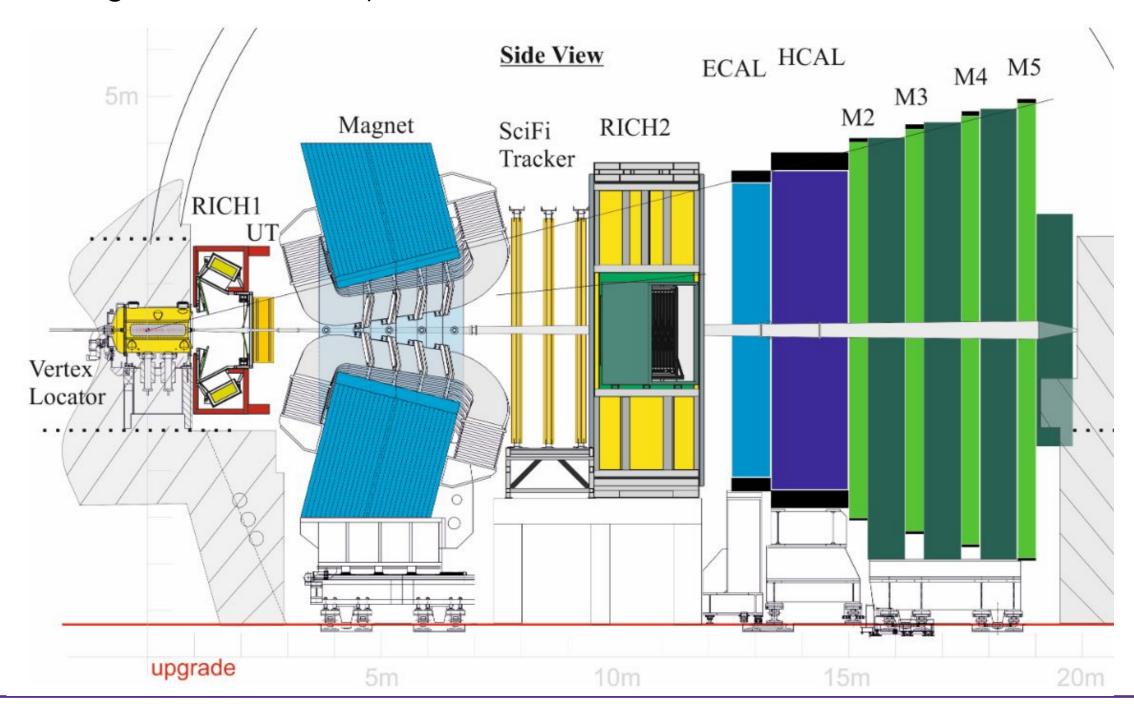


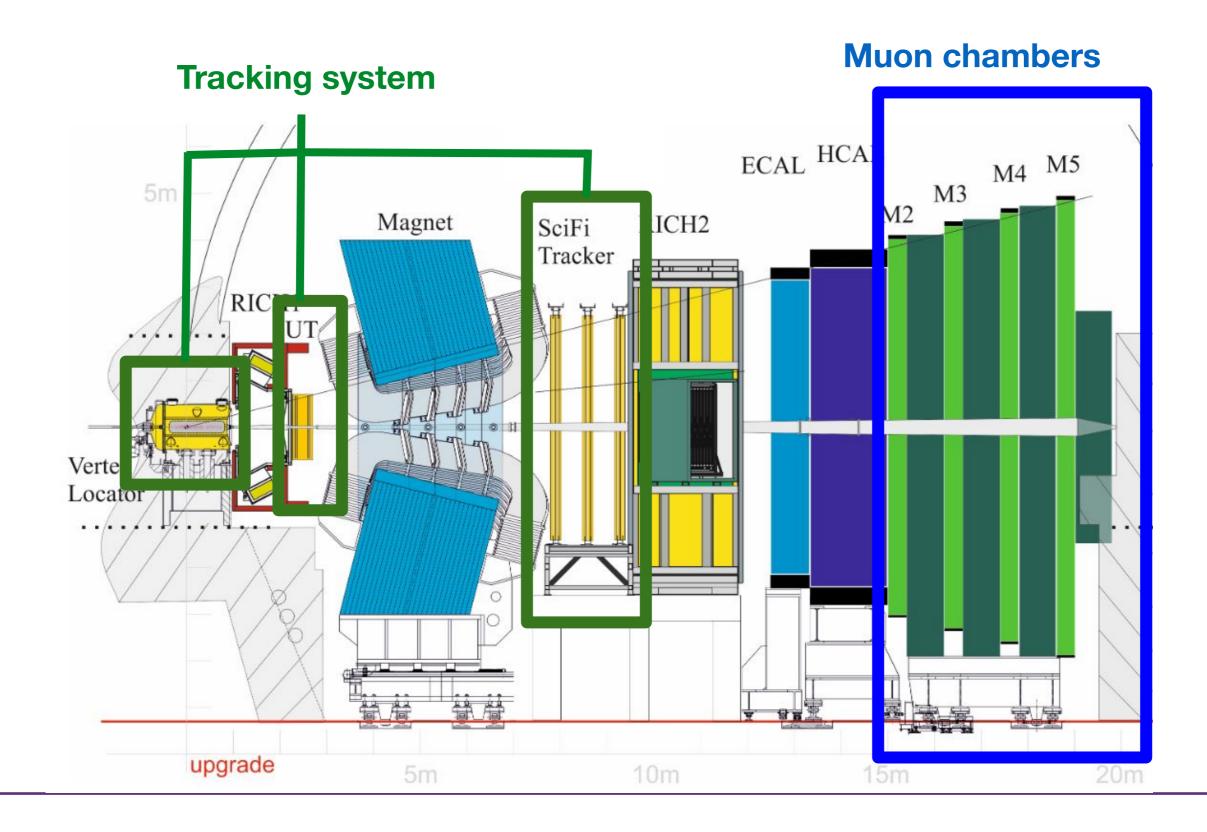
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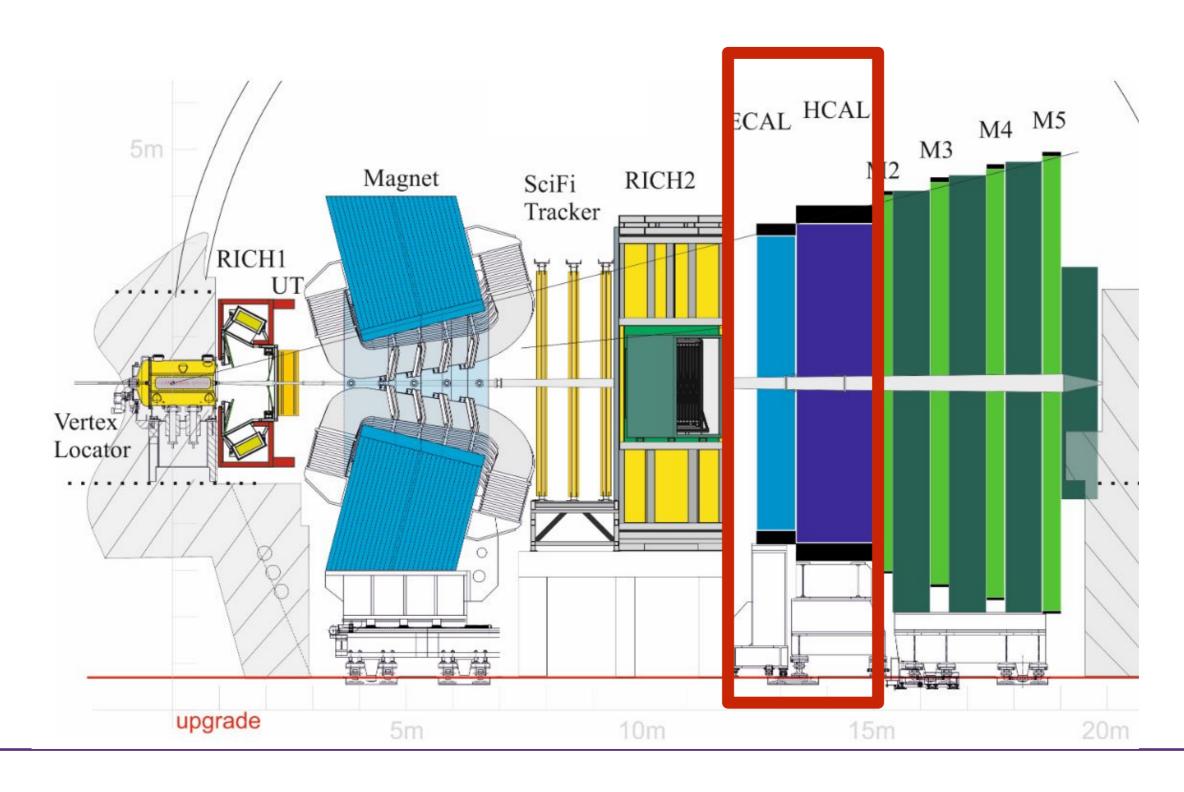
- RICH well established for hadron identification
- TRD useful for e[±] identification at higher momentum
- dE/dx & TOF work mainly in low momentum region
 - TOF extending upwards due to novel techniques

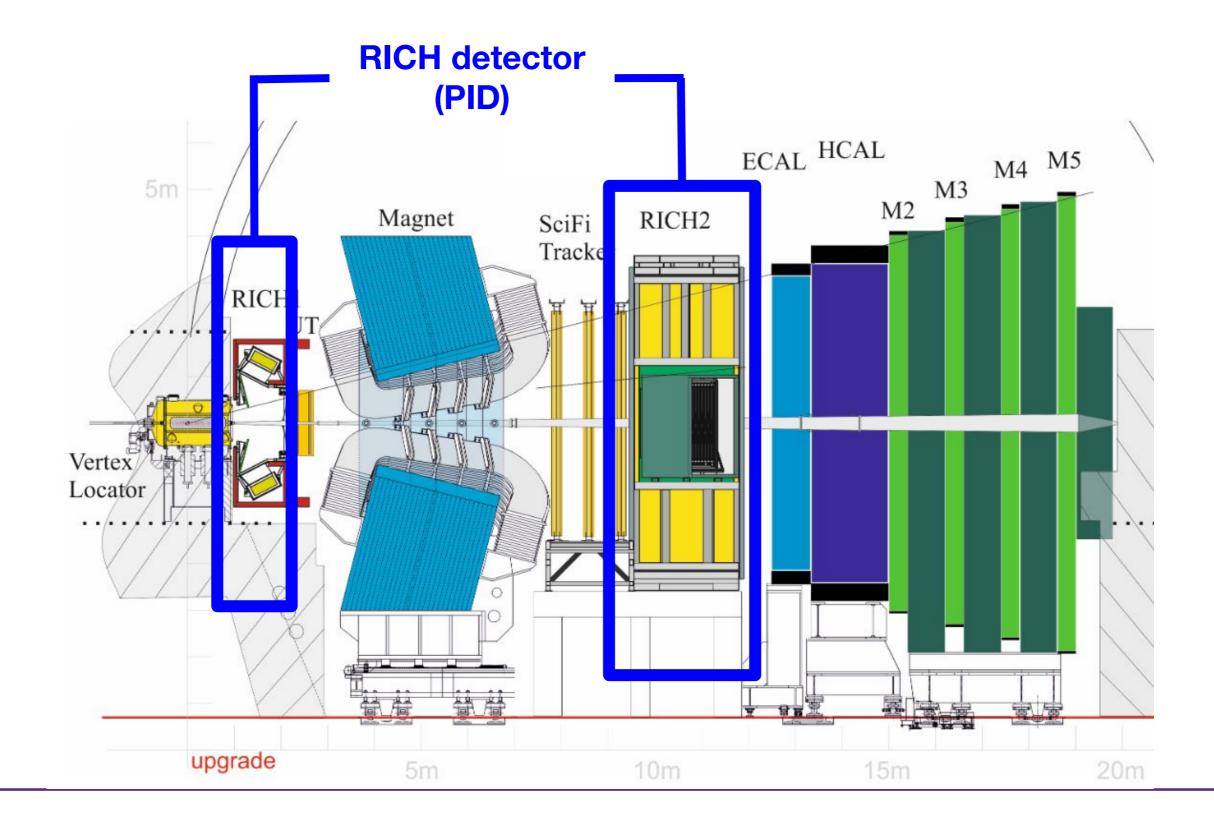
- Dedicated study to b- and c-hadrons (produced in the forward direction)
- Single arm forward spectrometer





Calorimeters





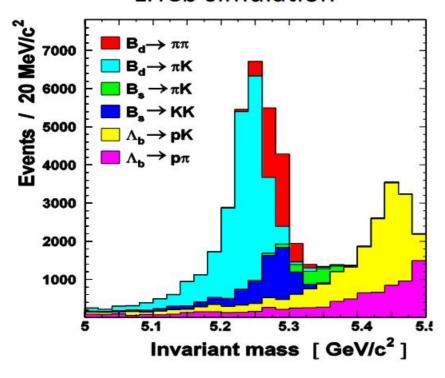
Distinguishing between final states with the same topology

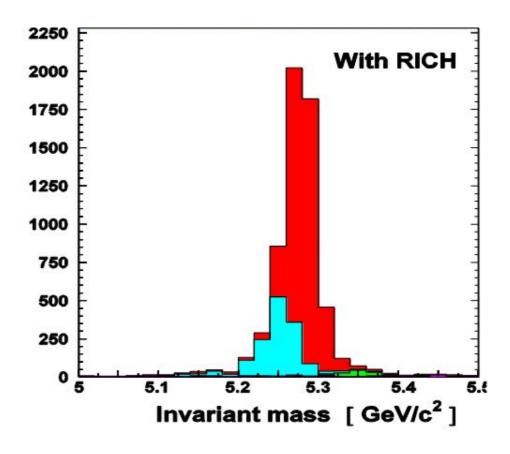
b-hadrons two-body decays into charmless charged hadrons at LHCb

 \rightarrow with PID

↓ without PID

LHCb simulation



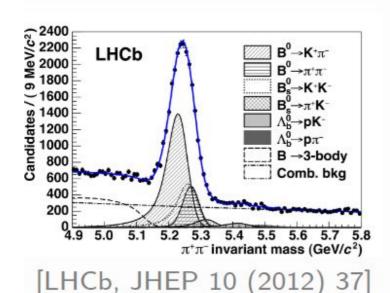


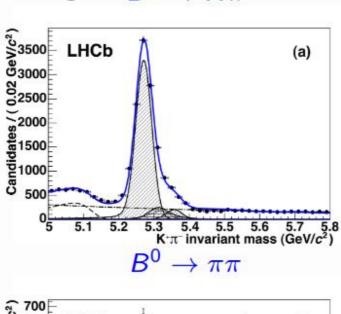
LHCb Detector_{B⁰ → Kπ}

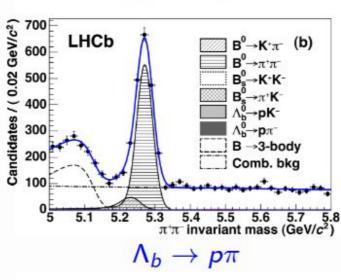
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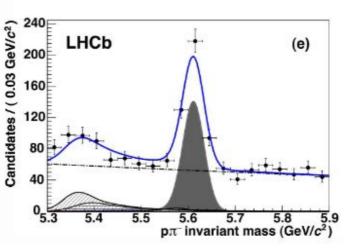
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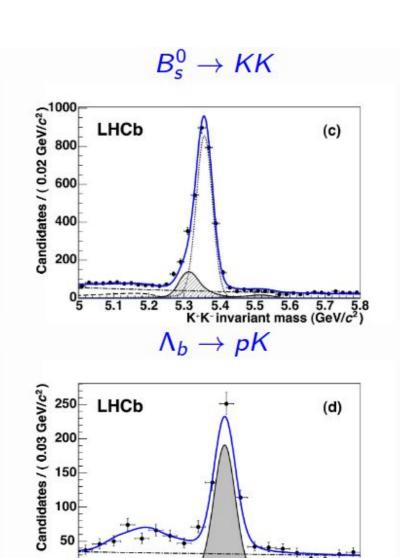
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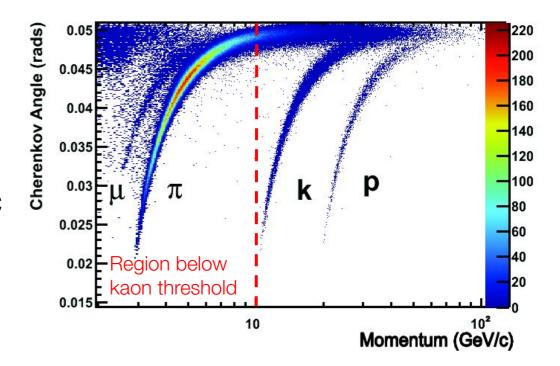


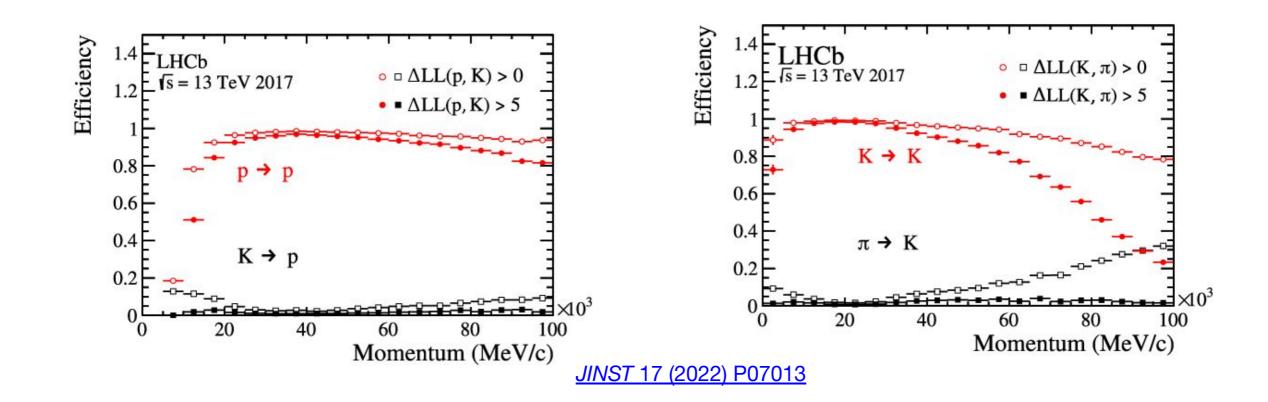


5.6 5.7 5.8 5.9 pK⁻ invariant mass (GeV/c²)

PID at LHCb

- PID at LHCb currently provided by 2 RICH detectors
- No positive kaon identification below 10 GeV/c
- No positive proton identification below 20 GeV/c

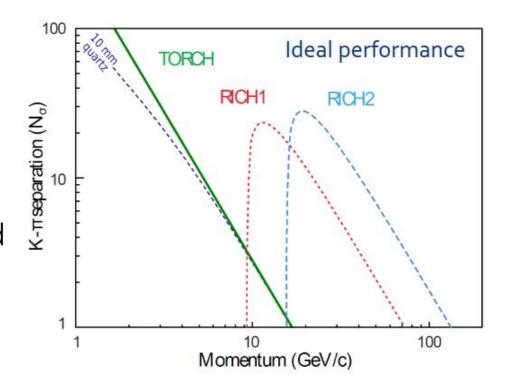




TORCH

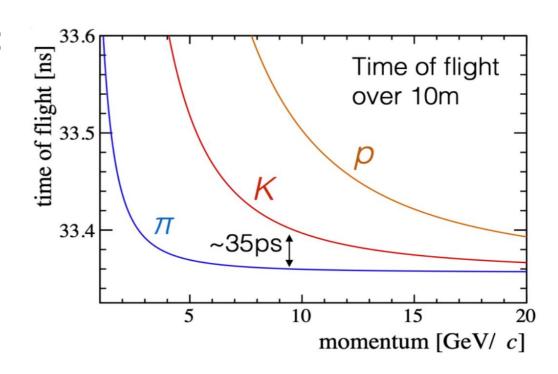
TORCH: Time **O**f internally **R**eflected **CH**erenkov light

- Proposed solution to enhance low momentum (2-20 GeV/c) particle identification at LHCb:
 - Covers region where kaons are below threshold in the LHCb RICH detectors
 - Cover a large area



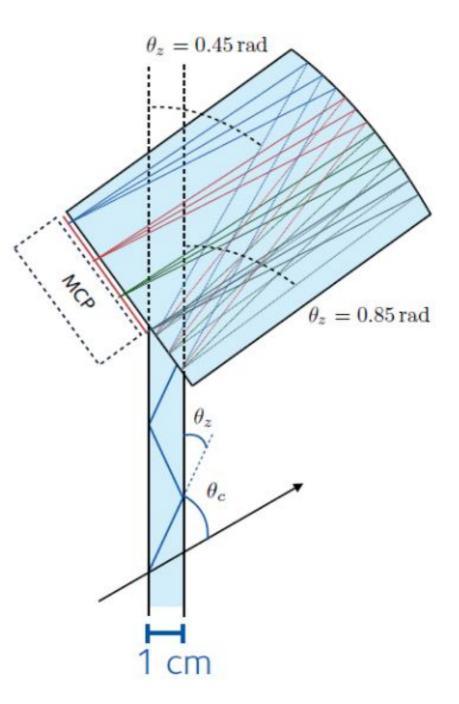
Exploit time-of-flight (ToF) for particle ID:

- \circ Δ ToF(K- π) ~ 35ps for a 10m flight path
- Aim for ~10-15ps per track for 3σ K/π separation
- Expect ~30 detected photons per track
- Need σ_t =70ps per photon



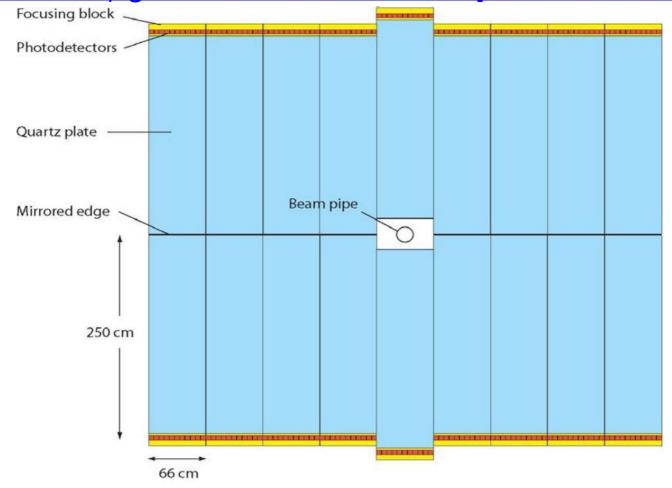
The TORCH principle

- Charged particles passing through a quartz plate generate prompt Cherenkov photons
- Photons are propagated via total internal reflection to the periphery of the detector
- A cylindrical focusing block focuses the photons onto an array of photon detectors
 - \circ MCP position maps to θ_z
- Photon arrival time and position is measured to derive:
 - Cherenkov angle and path length
 - Photon propagation time
- Method is related to that used by the BaBar DIRC and Belle II TOP



TORCH design

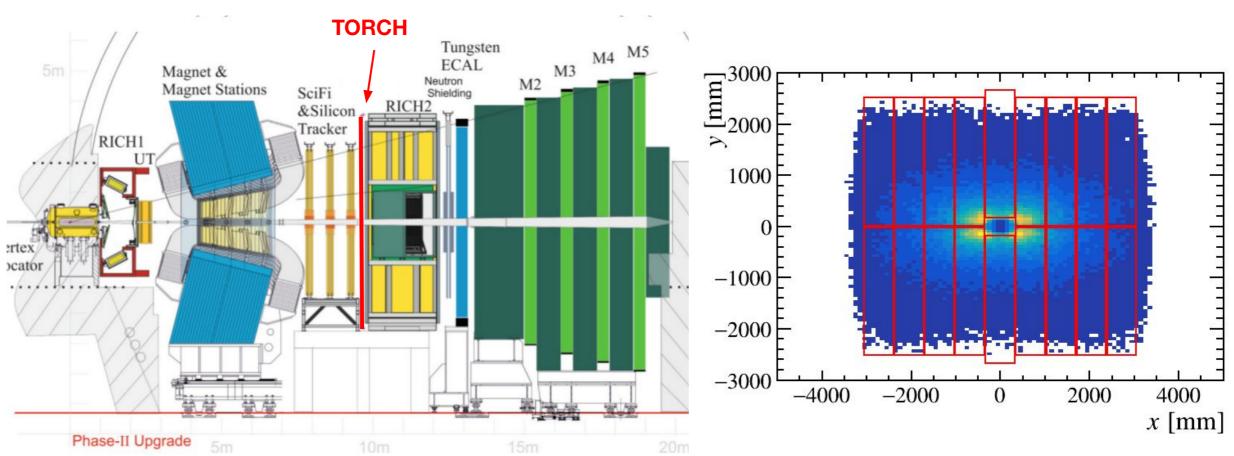
- 18 identical modules 250 x 66 x 1 cm³ (covering and area of ~ 5x6 m²)
- 11 photon detectors per module (18 x 11 = 198 photon detectors)
- Reflective lower edge (photon detector required only at top edge)
- Full TORCH implementation now planned for future LHCb upgrade at the HL-LHC (<u>LHCb upgrade II framework TDR [LHCB-TDR-023]</u>)



TORCH design

- Proposal to install TORCH in front of RICH2, in LS4 (for ~2033)
- TORCH will be located at 9.5m of the interaction point
- Need to cover a wide area

Extrapolated reconstructed track position of 2-20 GeV/c tracks to TORCH



The TORCH principle

Time-of-flight derived from:

Photon arrival time (measured)
$$t_{
m arrival} = t_0 + rac{d_{
m track}}{eta c} + rac{d_{
m prop}}{v_{
m group}}$$

- Production time: Derived from TORCH
 - Expected to have timing from VELO: Fast timing in a small region around the vertex (LHCb Upgrade II)
- \circ **Time-of-flight:** Test different mass hypotheses (β)
 - Determine the path length of the track by spline interpolation between track measurements
 - Extrapolate tracks to TORCH radiator (equation of motion considering mult. scat.)
- \circ **Photon propagation:** Affected by chromatic dispersion, $n_{group}(E_{\gamma})$
 - d_{prop} is the photon path length
 - lacksquare v_{group} is derived from θ_c

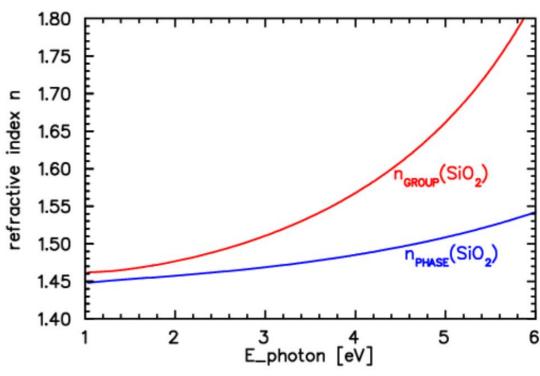
The TORCH principle

Cherenkov angle used to correct for chromatic dispersion

Time of propagation (ToP) in quartz depends on the photon energy:

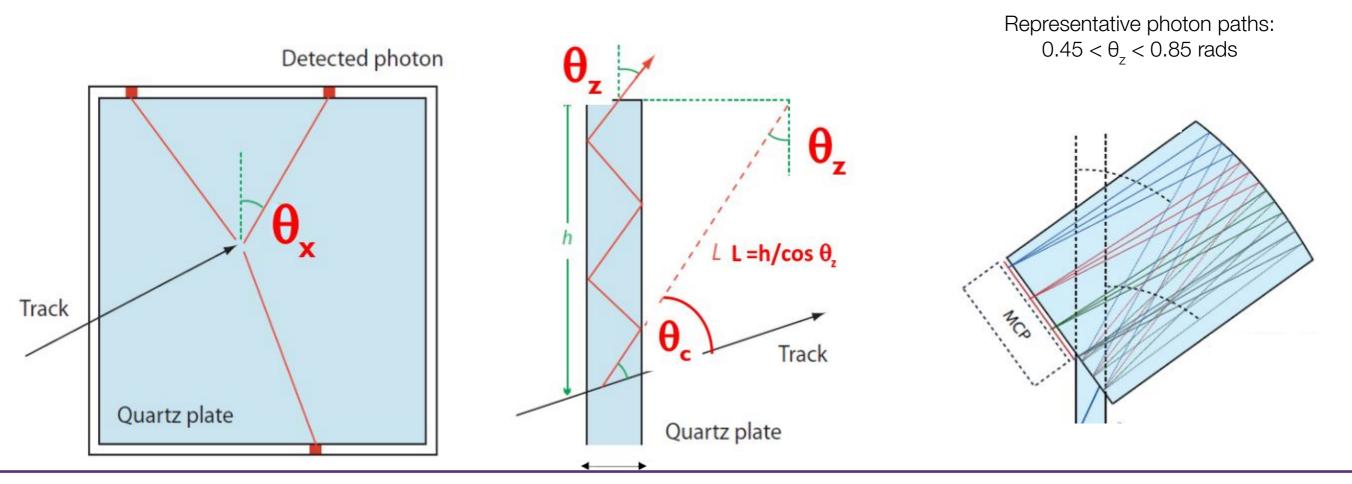
$$t = d_{prop}/v_{group} = d_{prop}n_{group}/c$$

- Cherenkov angle (θ_c) and arrival time ($t_{arrival}$) measured at the top of a bar radiator
- Derive n_{phase} from θ_c for K, π , p hypotheses $\cos \theta_c = (\beta n_{phase})^{-1}$
- Use dispersion relation for to get n_{group}
- Determine the ToP from the reconstructed photon pathlength (d_{prop}) and n_{group}



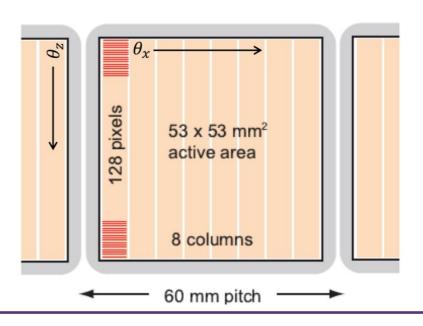
TORCH angular measurements

- Need accurate measurements of the photon to compute photon path-length (~ 1mrad to have a 50ps time resolution)
- θ_x typical lever arm ~ 2 m (Need 6mm pixels)
- θ_{z} (focusing direction): Cherenkov angular range = 0.4 rad (need 128 pixels)



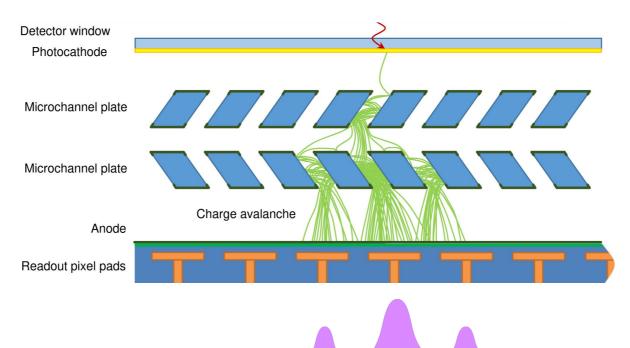
Photon detectors

- Pads with 64x64 pixels in active area of 53x53 mm²
 - Ganged in group of 8 for θ_x : 8 pixels of 6.4 mm
 - $_{\circ}$ Exploiting charge sharing for $\theta_{_{7}}$: 128 effective pixels of 0.4 mm
 - Achieved effective granularity of 128x8 via charge-sharing
 [JINST 10 (2015) C05003]
- 70ps Per-photon time resolution
 - Arrival time resolution: ~ 50ps (Electronics)
 - Propagation time precision ~ 50ps (photon detector granularity)



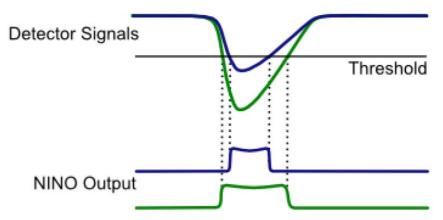
Micro-channel plate

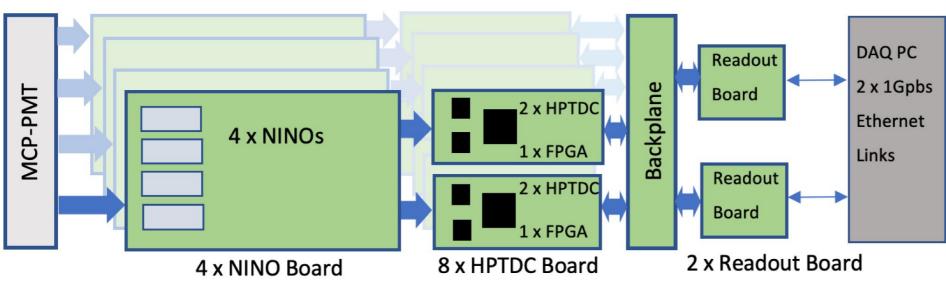
- Micro-channel plate (MCP) photon detectors used for fast timing of single photons in TORCH
- R&D program with a commercial partner (PHOTI, UK) to develop tubes with a long lifetime and high granularity
- Charge spread over multiple pixels:
 - Can achieve finer effective granularity (clusters)



Read-out electronics

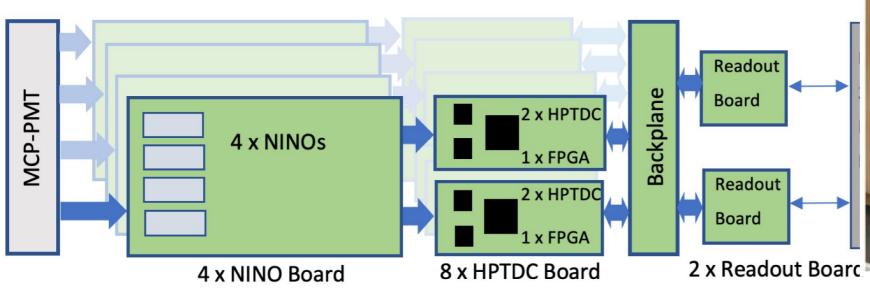
- Readout electronics are crucial to achieve desired resolution
- Suitable front-end chip has been developed for the ALICE TOF:
 - o NINO:
 - Provides time-over-threshold (correct time walk)
 - Amplify the signal
 - HPTDC: time-tag leading edge
- Future versions based on picoTDC and fastIC





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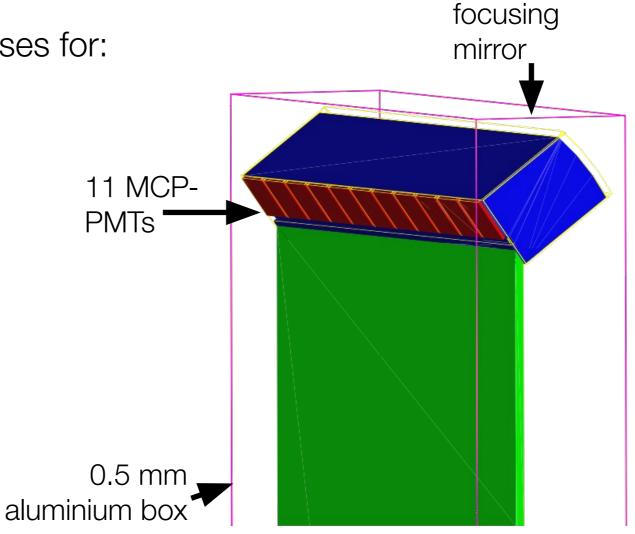


Detect

NIN

Simulation

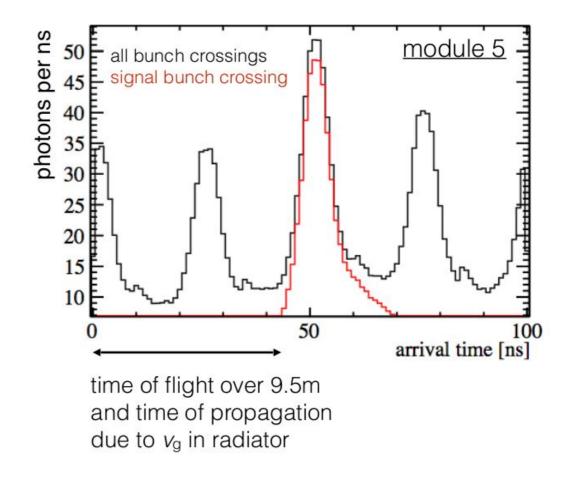
- TORCH detector simulated using GEANT4 in the LHCb framework
- Simple simulation of the quartz radiator and focussing block:
 - Free-standing (no support structure)
- Simulation includes processes for:
 - Cherenkov emission
 - Reflection and refraction
 - Rayleigh scattering
 - Surface roughness



Cylindrical

Simulation

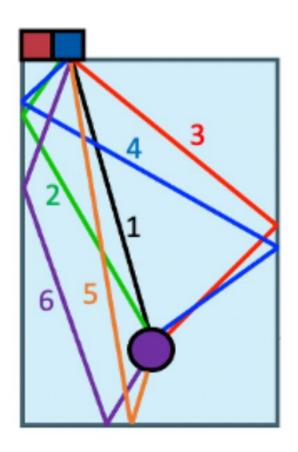
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- Simulation includes processes for:
 - Cherenkov emission
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 - Rayleigh scattering
 - Surface roughness
- 25ns time window (some photons will arrive out of time)



Simplified model of the digitisation with charge-spread and deadtime

Reconstruction

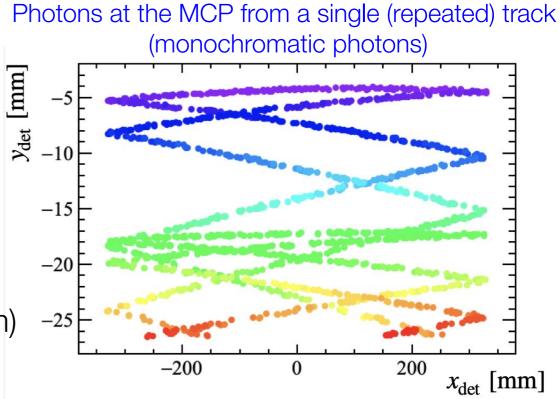
- Each hit (photon in the MCP) is back-propagated and associated to a track
 - Analytical photon back-propagation
 - Considering several reflections (sides/bottom)
 - → ambiguity
 - Most combinations (order reflections)
 discarded do not give a valid solution
 (hit position not compatible with measured time)



front-back reflections not visible here (no ambiguity for them)

Reconstruction

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- Cherenkov cone results in hyperbola-like patterns (folded by reflections) in x-y plane



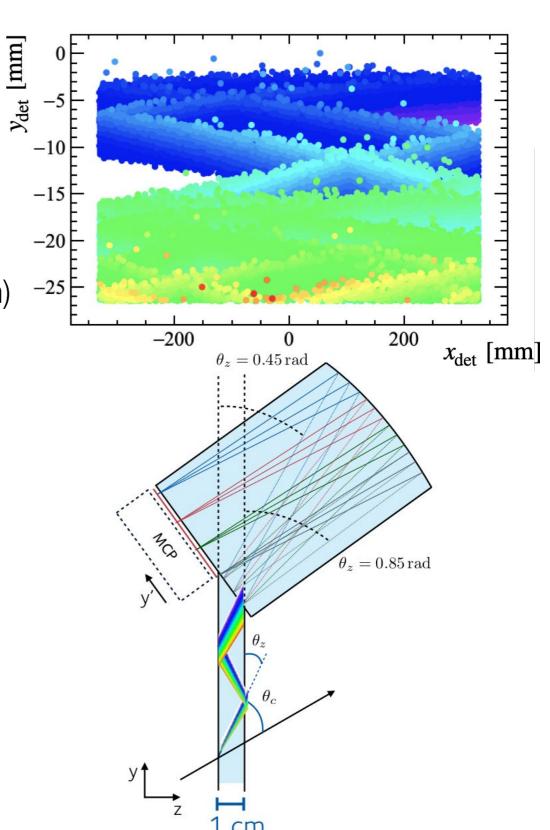
Color codes the time or arrival of the photon:

- Early arriving (~15ns)
- Late arriving (~25ns)

Reconstruction

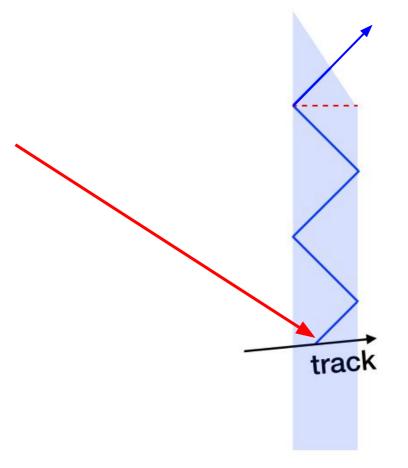
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 (hit position not compatible with measured time)
- Cherenkov cone results in hyperbola-like patterns (folded by reflections) in x-y plane
- Chromatic dispersion spreads line into band

Photons at the MCP from a single (repeated) track



Reconstruction: Assumptions

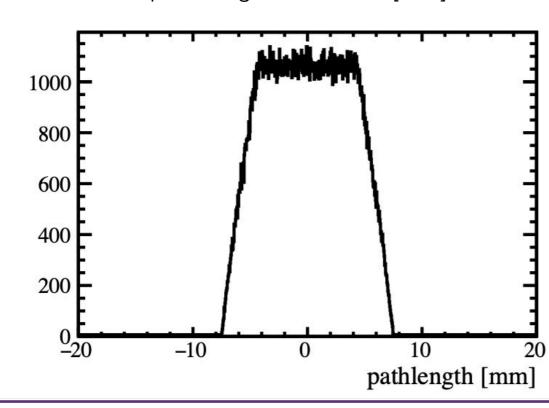
- Assume each photon:
 - Emitted in the centre of the radiator

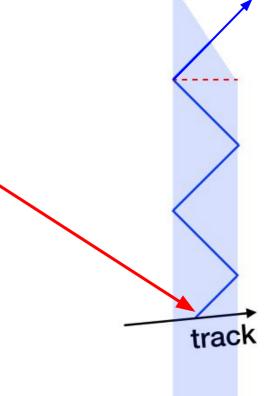


Reconstruction: Assumptions

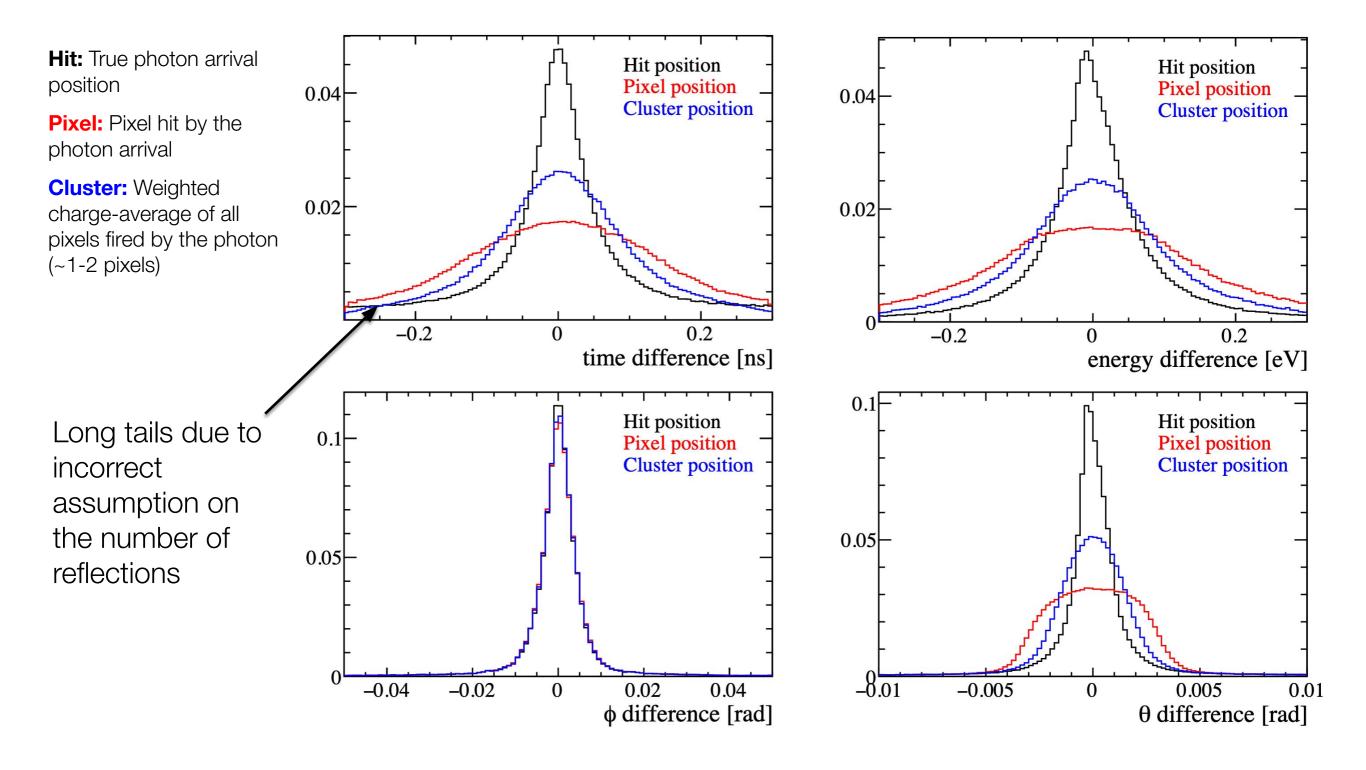
- Assume each photon:
 - Emitted in the centre of the radiator
- Results in a smearing in time due to the incorrect path length assumptions of O(20ps)

path length difference [mm]



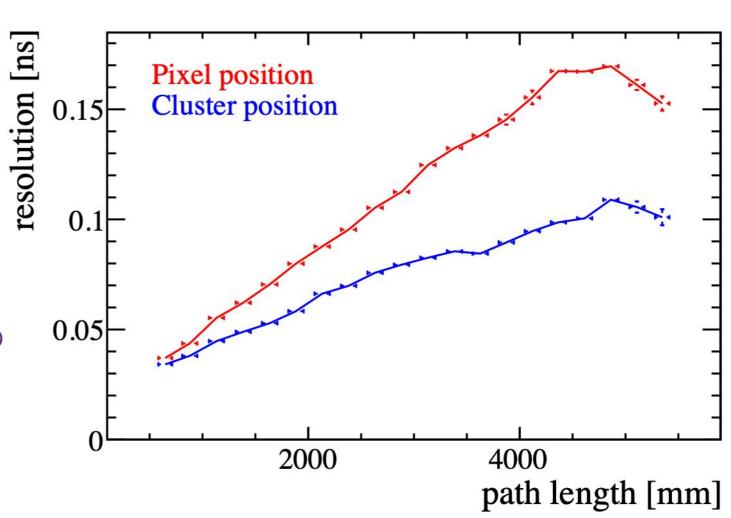


Reconstruction: Photon resolution



Reconstruction: resolution

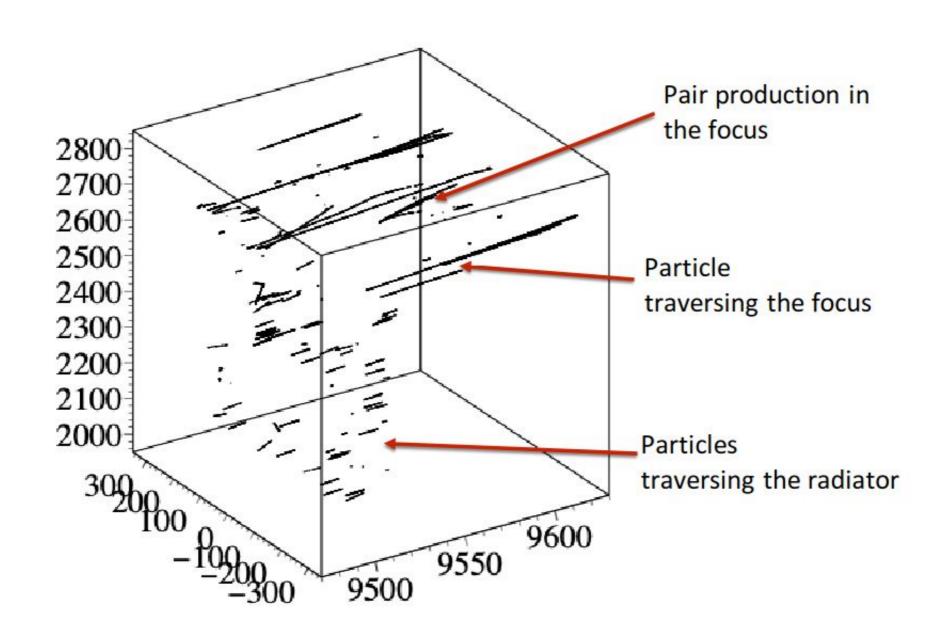
- See (expected) linear dependence on path length due to chromatic dispersion and finite pixel size.
- Limited resolution is due to:
 - The unknown emission point and entrance point to the focusing block.
 - Resolution on the track slope and multiple scattering in the radiator.



Resolution from the MCP and readout electronics is not included here

Background

Significant fraction of photons are not associated to reconstructible particles



The log-likelihood for a given track/hypothesis combination is given by:

$$\log L = \sum_{\text{pixel } i} \log \left(\sum_{\substack{\text{track } j \\ j \neq t}} \frac{N_j}{N_{\text{tot}}} P_j(\overrightarrow{x}_i'' | h_j^{\text{best}}) + \frac{N_t}{N_{\text{tot}}} P_t(\overrightarrow{x}_i'' | h_t) + \frac{N_{\text{bkg}}}{N_{\text{tot}}} P_{\text{bkg}}(\overrightarrow{x}_i'') \right)$$

PDF for "best" hypothesis assignment for other tracks

PDF for considered track

Background contribution (assumed flat)

Reconstruction: Unbinned

The log-likelihood for a given track/hypothesis combination is given by:

$$\log L = \sum_{\text{pixel } i} \log \left(\sum_{\substack{\text{track } j \\ j \neq t}} \frac{N_j}{N_{\text{tot}}} P_j(\overrightarrow{x}_i'' | \boldsymbol{h}_j^{\text{best}}) + \frac{N_t}{N_{\text{tot}}} P_t(\overrightarrow{x}_i'' | \boldsymbol{h}_t) + \frac{N_{\text{bkg}}}{N_{\text{tot}}} P_{\text{bkg}}(\overrightarrow{x}_i'') \right)$$

- Best hypothesis determined by iteration
 - Initially assigned the pion hypothesis
 - In n-iteration, assigned best hypothesis from (n-1)-iteration
- Converges after 3-4 iterations

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Component fractions are fixed

- Estimate N_i by forward propagating 1000 photons through the optics
 - Position computed analytically (no need to ray-trace)
- Can't afford to find the yields in a fit (fractions fixed)

$$_{\circ}$$
 Need to assume $N_{\mathrm{bkg}} = N_{\mathrm{tot}} - \sum_{j} N_{j}$

The log-likelihood for a given track/hypothesis combination is given by:

$$\log L = \sum_{\text{pixel } i} \log \left(\sum_{\substack{\text{track } j \\ j \neq t}} \frac{N_j}{N_{\text{tot}}} P_j(\overrightarrow{x}_i'' | h_j^{\text{best}}) + \frac{N_t}{N_{\text{tot}}} P_t(\overrightarrow{x}_i'' | h_t) + \frac{N_{\text{bkg}}}{N_{\text{tot}}} P_{\text{bkg}}(\overrightarrow{x}_i'') \right)$$

Determine the PDF for a given track/hypothesis combination from:

$$P(\overrightarrow{x}''|h) = |J|P(E_{\gamma}, \phi_c, t_0)$$

$$P(E_{\gamma}, \phi_c, t_0) = P(E_{\gamma}) P(\phi) P(t_0)$$

Frank-Tamm + efficiency

Normal distribution with experimental time resolution

The log-likelihood for a given track/hypothesis combination is given by:

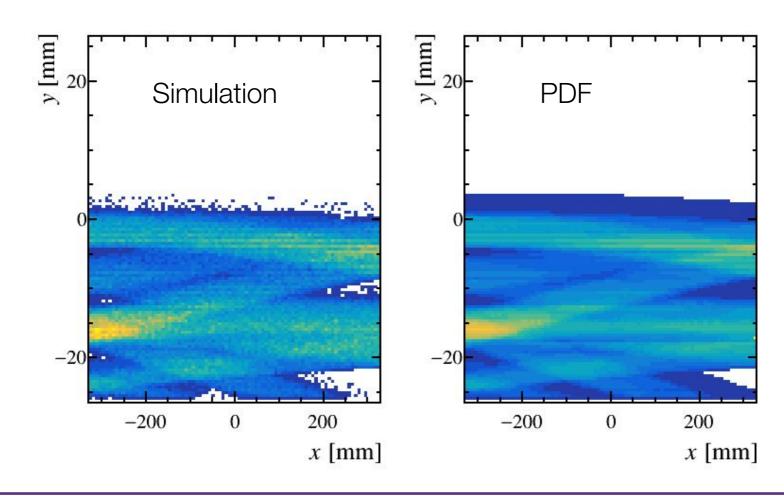
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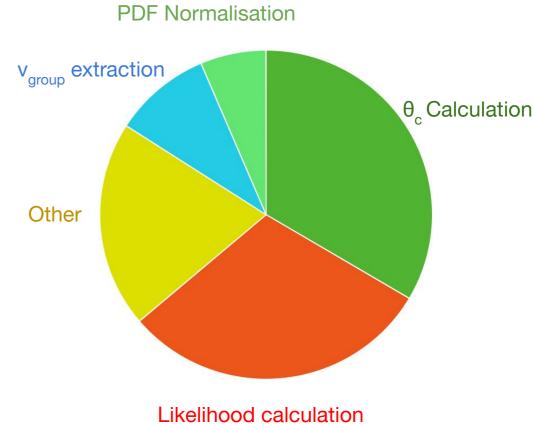
with
$$J = \left| \frac{\partial y_{\rm d}''}{\partial E_{\gamma}} \frac{\partial x_{\rm d}''}{\partial \phi c} - \frac{\partial x_{\rm d}''}{\partial E_{\gamma}} \frac{\partial y_{\rm d}''}{\partial \phi c} \right|$$

- It is possible to check the correctness of the reconstructed PDF:
 - Propagate (simulate) a large number of photons (~10⁶) for each track
 - Compare simulation and analytical PDF
- Good agreement (even able to replicate complex structures)



CPU timing

- Current reconstruction takes ~1 second per event (Intel Core i5-10500 3.10GHz)
- Effort to optimise the algorithm:
 - Compiler optimisation options (-O).
 - Vectorisation
 - Change storage to avoid cache misses.
 - Look-up tables instead of expensive calculations
- Further optimisation can be possible
 - Using explicit SIMD data types
 - Use const functions and avoid control-flow (allow compiler optimisation)
 - Remove redundant calculations
 - "local" likelihood



CPU timing

- The "local" approach of the likelihood:
 - Consider each track in isolation

$$\log L = \sum_{\text{pixel } i} \log \left(\frac{N_t}{N_{\text{tot}}} P_t(\overrightarrow{x}_i'' | h_t) + \frac{N_{\text{bkg}}}{N_{\text{tot}}} P_{\text{bkg}}(\overrightarrow{x}_i'') \right)$$

- no need to iterate in the likelihood calculation
- less optimal treatment of the background
 - However, performance is not significantly worse than in the global approach because there are backgrounds from e.g. γ conversions that do not have associated tracks
- Better suited to running on hardware accelerators than the nominal approach

Developments for IPUs/GPUs

- Significant speed-up could be possible using hardware accelerators (IPUs and GPUs)
- TORCH likelihood calculation is well suited to parallelisation:
 - Modules are independent
 - Probabilities for given hit/track/hypothesis combinations could be determined independently
- Memory access could be a bottleneck
- Development of TORCH photon mapping as proof-of-principle



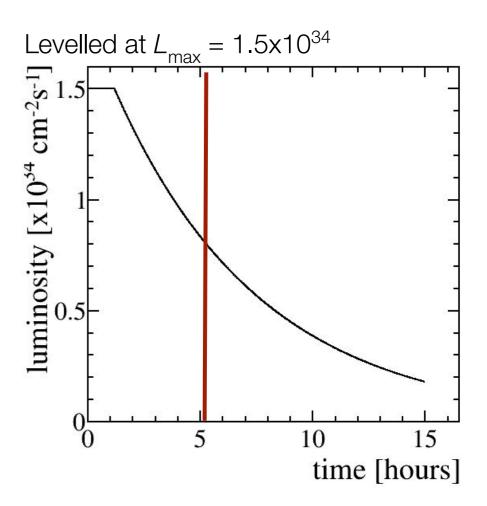
IPU: Graphcore m2000



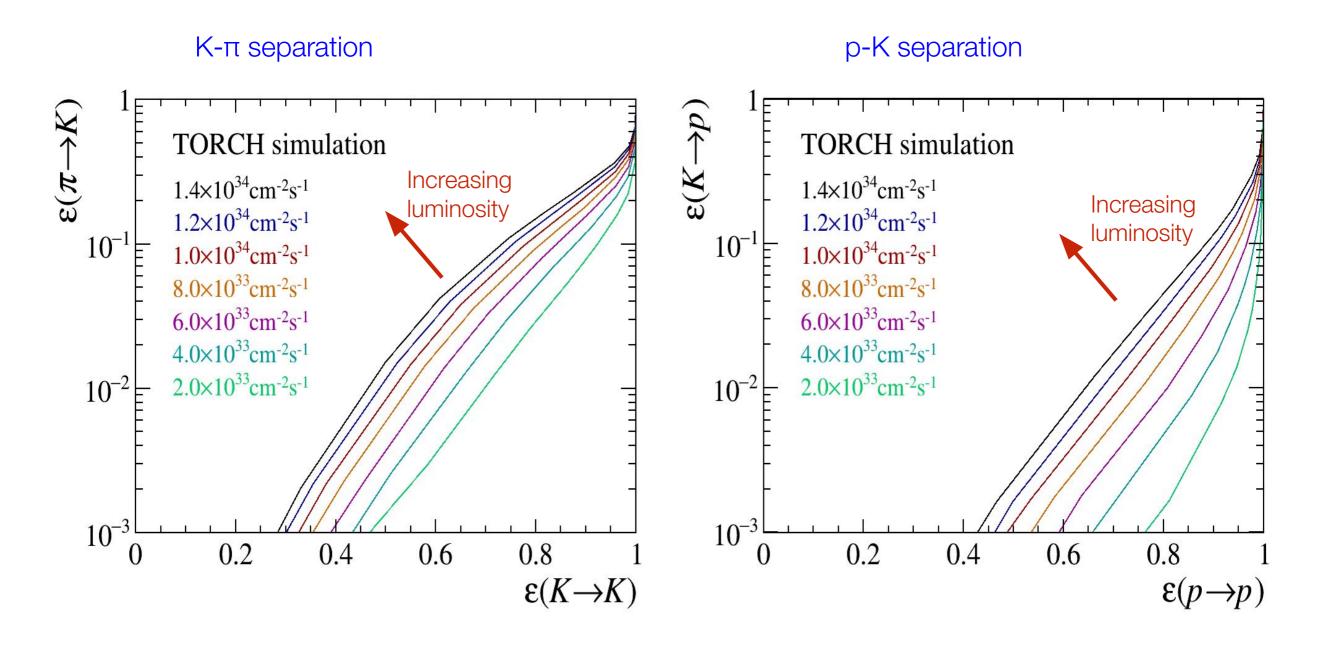
GPU: NVIDIA RTX A5000

Instantaneous luminosity in Upgrade II

- Approximate the luminosity profile with an exponential function.
 - Luminosity decays quickly with time
- Virtual peak luminosity: 1.8x10³⁴
 cm⁻²s⁻¹(FTDR)
- Fill duration: 8 hours (FTDR)
- Average luminosity is 1.01x10³⁴ cm⁻²s⁻¹
- We can only produce sample in multiples of 2.0x10³³ cm²s⁻¹
- Approximate a fill using 2.6 hours at 1.4x10³⁴,
 1.6 hours at 1.0x10³⁴, 1.8 hours at 8.0x10³³ and
 1.8 hours at 6.0x10³³ cm²s⁻¹

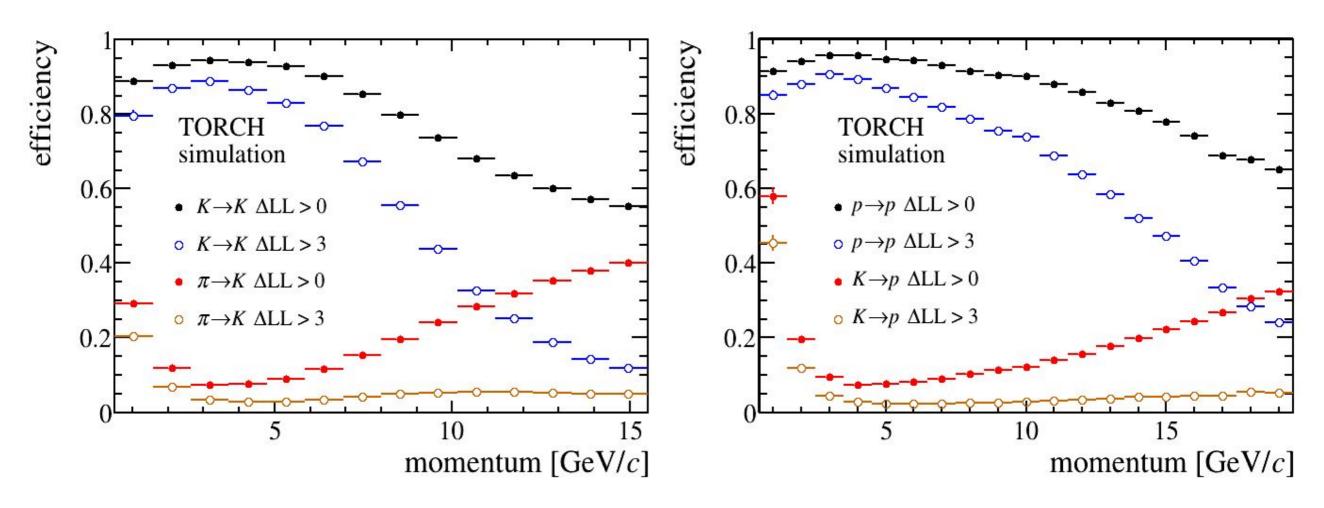


Performance versus luminosity



Performance with weighting

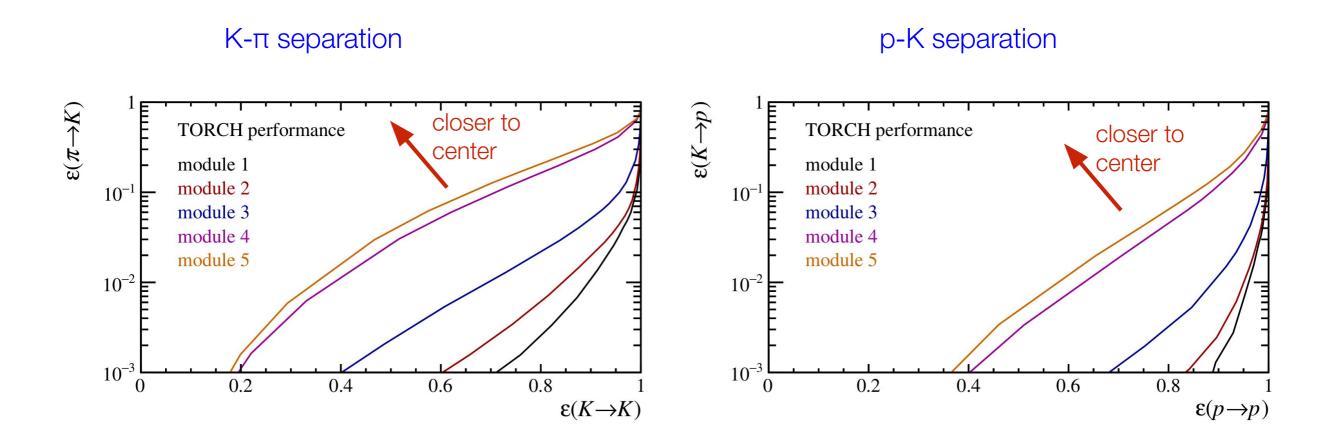
LHCb Upgrade II luminosity



Combining samples to realistic LHCb Upgrade II instantaneous luminosity profile

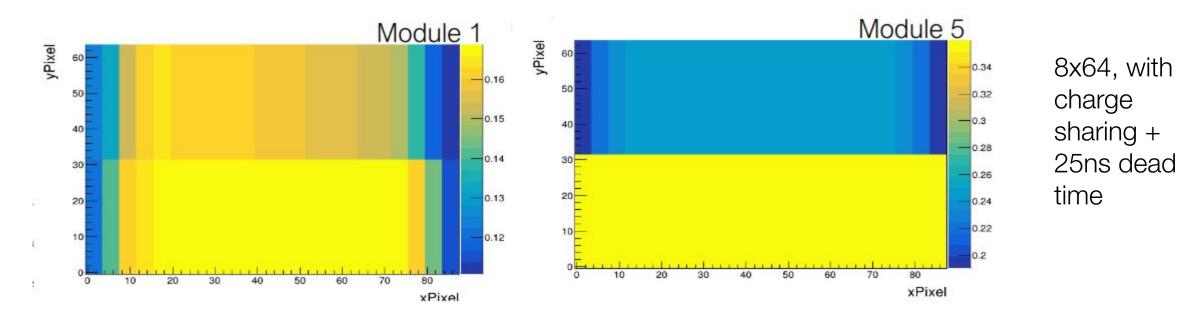
Performance versus module

- The performance is worst in module 5 (central, highest occupancy)
- Rapidly improves towards the periphery of the detector (module 1)

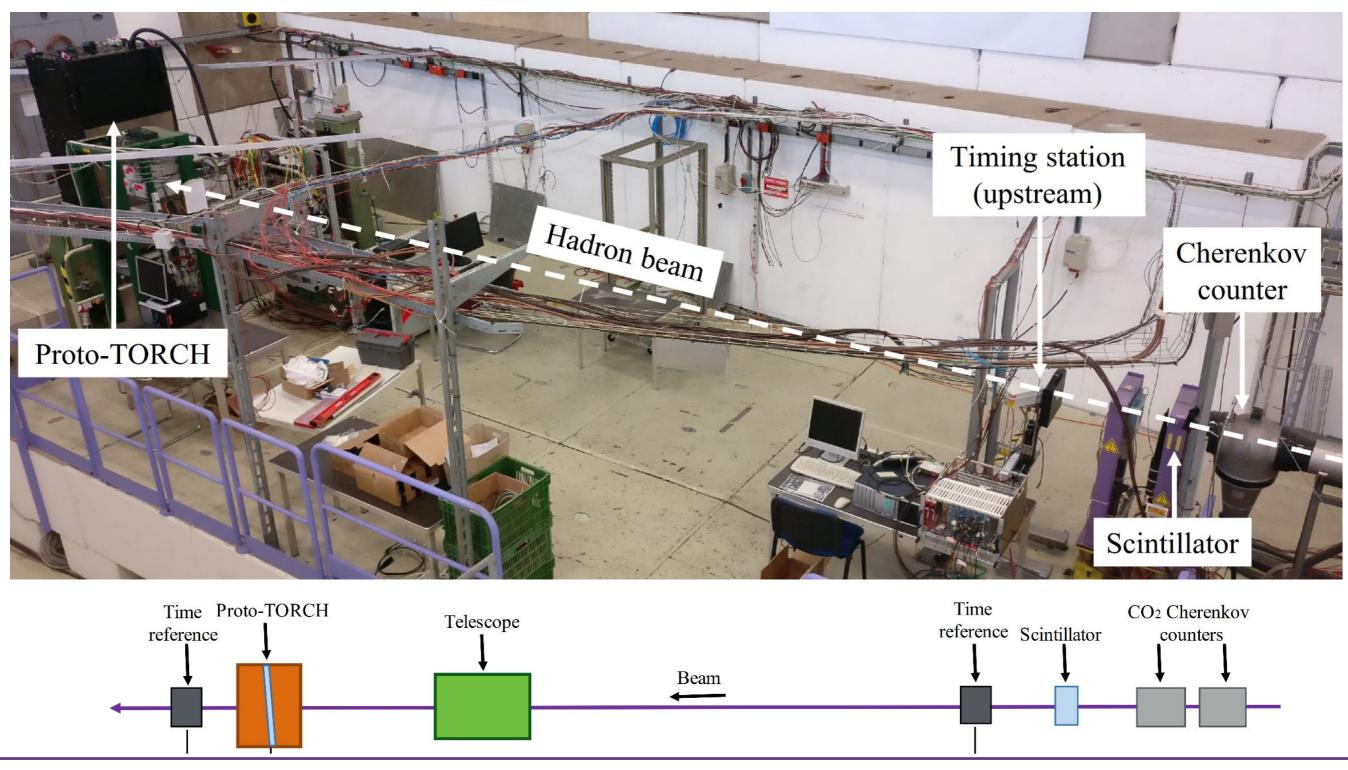


Performance versus module

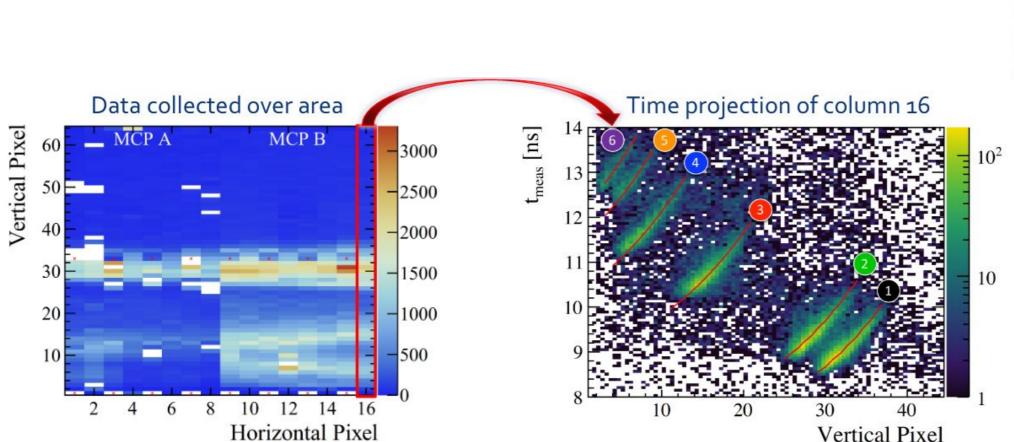
- Reduced performance due to high occupancy in:
 - central modules
 - bottom region of the MCP-PMTs



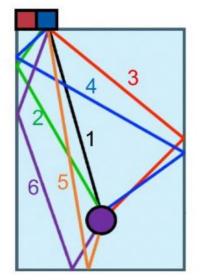
- We are trying to optimize the optical layout to reduce occupancy
 - Changing focusing block's radius of curvature
 - Increasing granularity
 - Other options to be studied



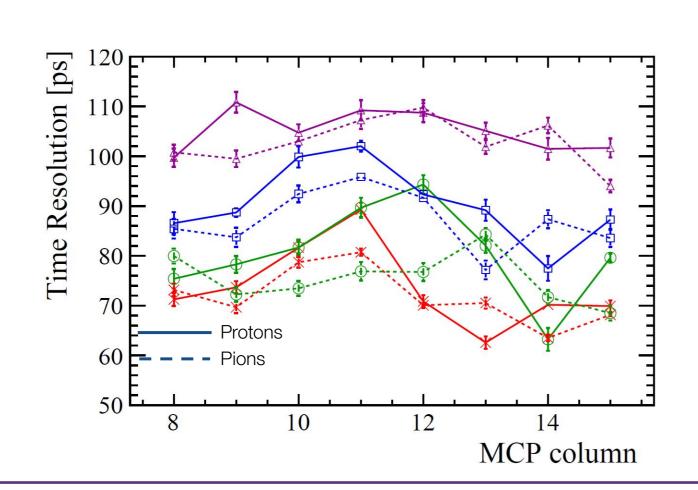
- Developed a TORCH prototype (proto-TORCH):
 - Full width, half height radiators
 - Full size focusing optics
 - Equipped with two MCP-PMTs

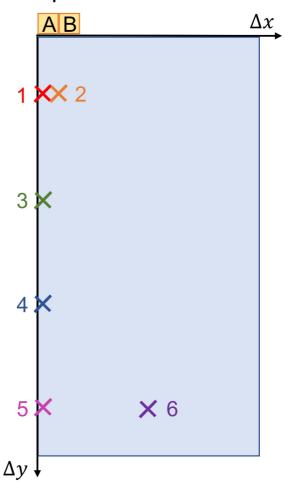


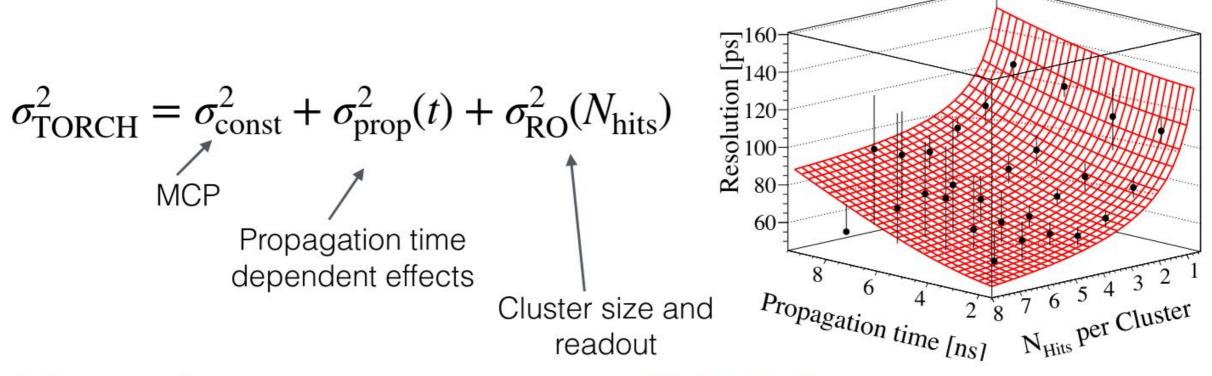




- Exposed to beam at six positions
- Reached 70ps time resolution goal for beam position close to MCP
- Time resolution degrades with distance from MCP
- Reconstruction strongly impacted by small readout effects
- Improving calibrations further should significantly improve this issue







Measured

$$\sigma_{\text{const}} = 33.0 \pm 7.1 \text{ ps}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{prop}}(t) = (7.8 \pm 0.7) \times t \text{[ns] ps}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{RO}}(N_{\text{hits}}) = \frac{100.5 \pm 5.7}{\sqrt{N_{\text{hits}}}} \text{ ps}$$

Expected

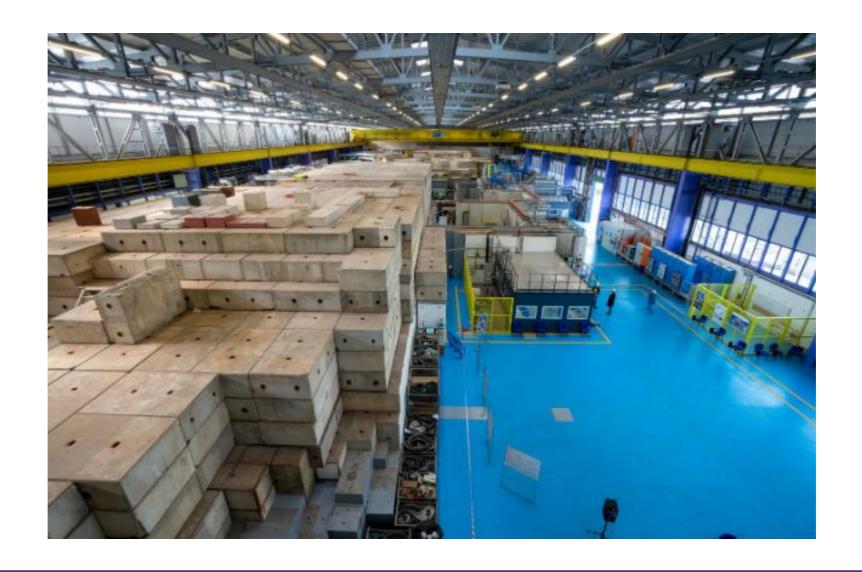
$$\sigma_{\rm const} \approx 33 \text{ ps}$$

$$\sigma_{\rm prop}(t) \approx (3.75 \pm 0.8) \times t \text{[ns] ps}$$

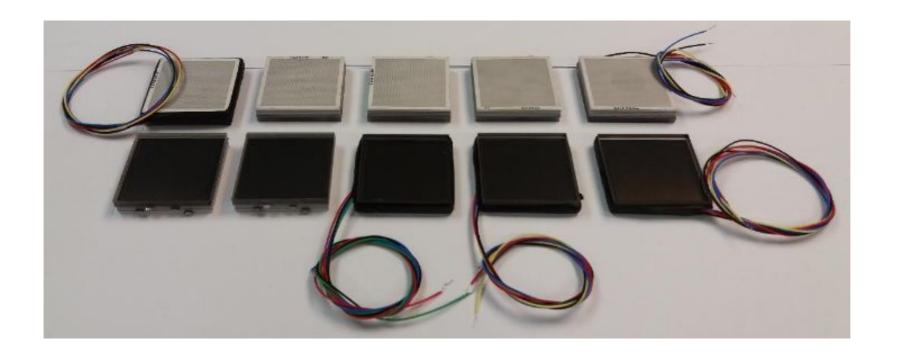
$$\sigma_{\rm RO}(N_{\rm hits}) \approx \frac{60}{\sqrt{N_{\rm hits}}} \text{ ps}$$

Resolution expected to improve with better electronics calibration

• Testbeam planned on 31 October – 28 November



- Testbeam planned on 31 October 28 November
- Fully instrumented detector
 - 10 MCP-PMTs with 8x64 channels
 - Fully equipped with NINO + HPTDC
- Calibration of boards ongoing in dedicated test setup
- New DAQ for streamlined data taking



Outlook

- TORCH is a novel concept for a DIRC-type detector to achieve high-precision time-of-flight over large areas.
- The TORCH detector provides particle identification in the 2-20 GeV/c momentum range
- Good performance is seen for LHCb Upgrade II conditions [CERN-LHCb-PUB-2022-006]
- Reconstruction algorithms developed and tested
 [CERN-LHCb-PUB-2022-004] [CERN-LHCb-PUB-2022-007]
- Testbeam results very promising (~100ps time resolution)
- New Testbeam planned this November

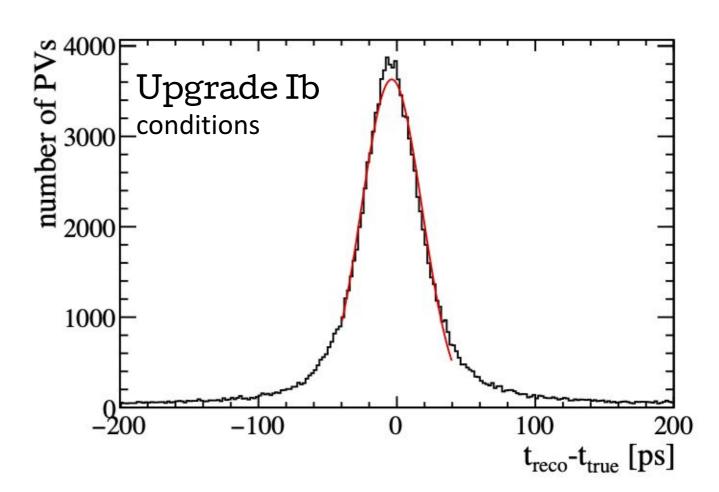


Thanks for your attention



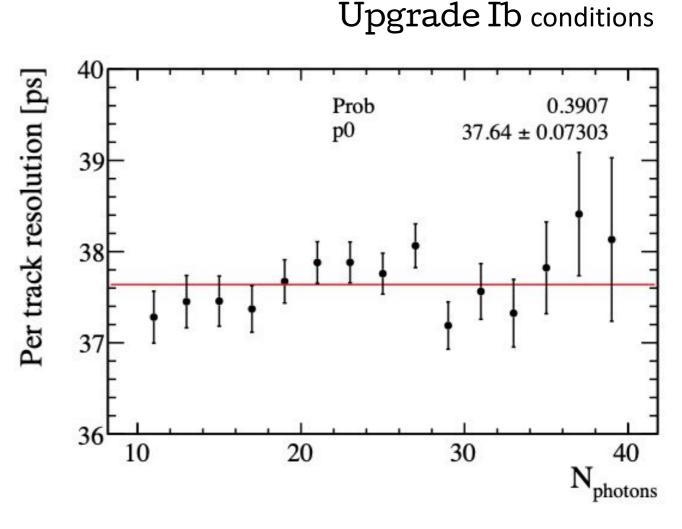
t_0 reconstruction

- Obtain likelihood profile for each track (under different PID hypothesis) as a function of t_0 .
- Combine likelihoods for all tracks assigned to vertex.
 - Choose the hypothesis for each track which fits best with the other tracks.
- Core of the distribution has width of about 22 ps.
- Time resolution of 70 ps per photon should translate to 10-15 ps per track with 20-30 photons.



Per track t_0 resolution

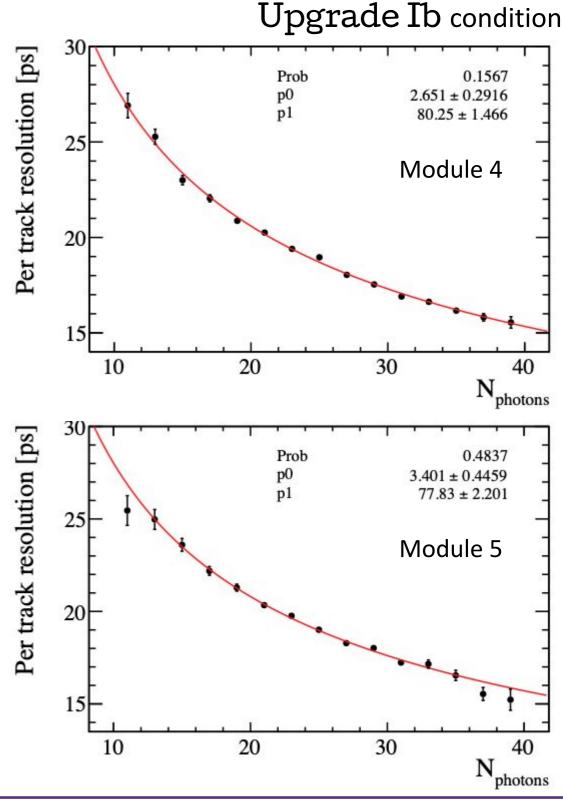
- Determine track level t_0 using true PID hypothesis.
- Resolution of 37.6 ps with little dependence on N_{photons}.
- Significant variation seen across modules. Suggests that:
 - → Likelihood is dominated by background hits.
 - \rightarrow Occupancy is driving t_0 resolution.



Per track t_0 resolution Upgrade Ib conditions

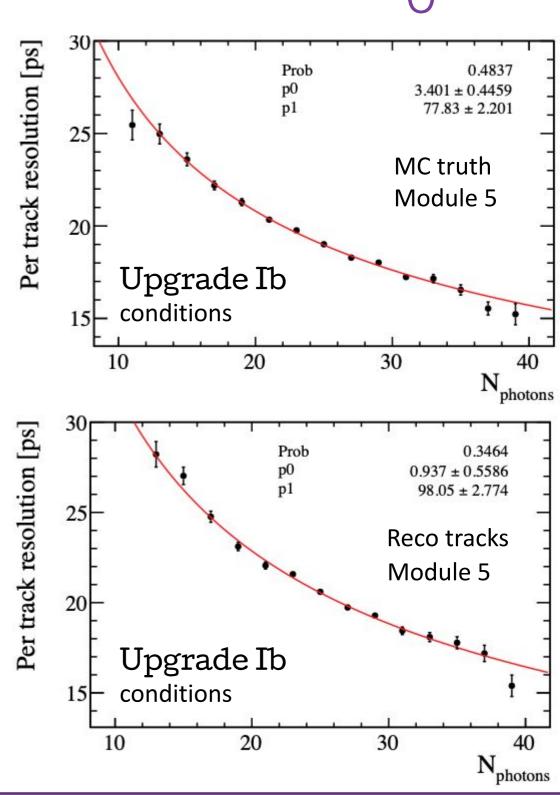
- Test occupancy issue by reconstructing t₀ when removing all photons except those from given track.
- Use true track entry position/angle.
- Use correct PID hypothesis.
- Fit with Gaussian in ±3*expected resolution.
- Dependence of per-track resolution described by:

$$p_0 + p_1/\sqrt{N_{\mathrm{photons}}}$$

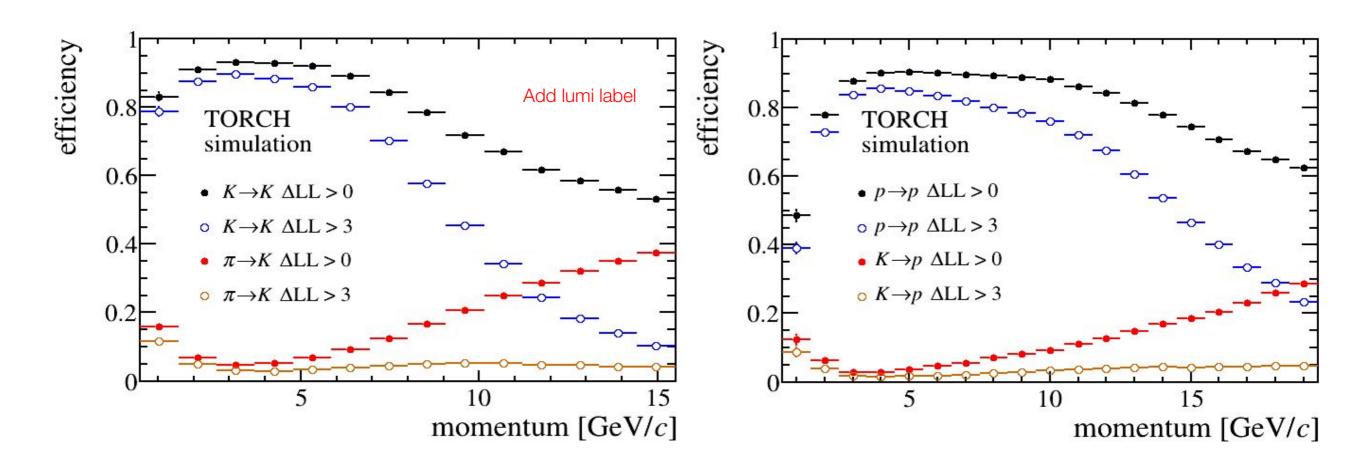


Track reconstruction effect on t_0

- When using the reconstructed track entry position and angle, the resolution gets worse:
 - Precision on the track parameters decreases the resolution by about 20 ps per photon.
- The MC true tracking is still affected by:
 - Multiple scattering in the radiator bar.
 - → Surface scattering due to surface roughness.
 - Photon pathlength dependence/pixel size.



Performance in the FTDR

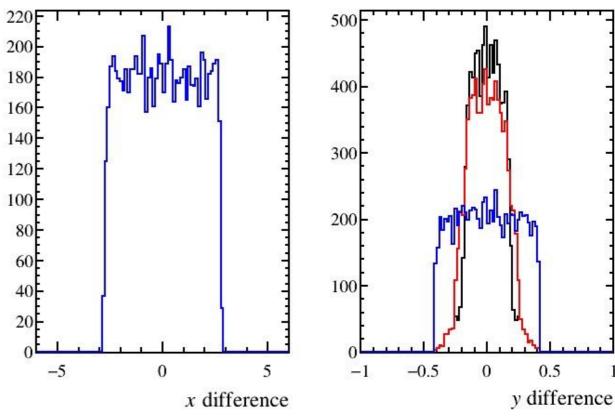


- Uses an 8-by-128 effective pixelation in outer modules and 16-by-128 effective pixelation in the central region.
- No charge-sharing or deadtime is used.

Pixelisation

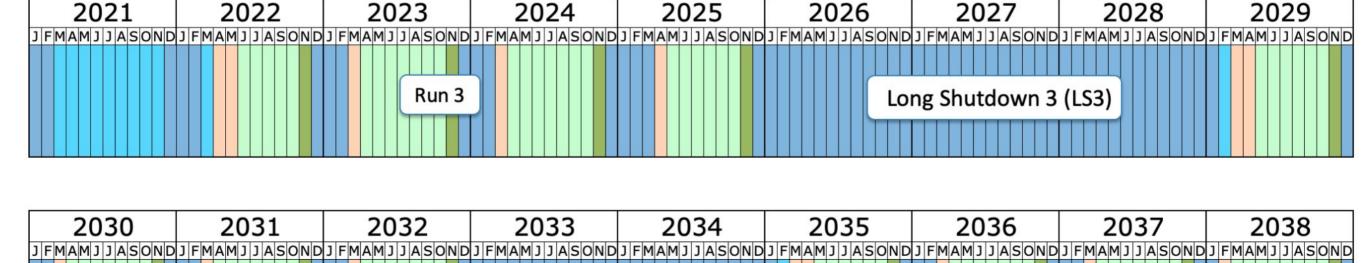
- Also checked to see if we can go beyond the 8-by-128 by using charge weighting.
- The conclusion strongly depends on the gain-to-threshold ratio and the point spread.

Using standard 650k gain, 30fC threshold and 0.8mm point spread.



8-by-64 pixel
Naive cluster centre
Charge weighted cluster centre

LHC Schedule



LS4

Last updated: January 2022

Run 5

Shutdown/Technical stop
Protons physics
Ions
Commissioning with beam
Hardware commissioning/magnet training

Run 4

Test beam results

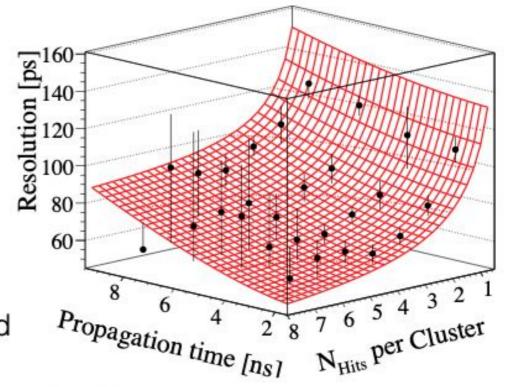
Can parametrise resolution in 2D

$$\sigma_{\text{TORCH}}^2 = \sigma_{\text{const}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{prop}}^2(t) + \sigma_{\text{RO}}^2(N_{\text{hits}})$$

$$\text{MCP}$$

$$\text{Propagation time dependent effects}$$

$$\text{Cluster size and readout}$$



Measured

$$\sigma_{\text{const}} = 33.0 \pm 7.1 \text{ ps}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{prop}}(t) = (7.8 \pm 0.7) \times t \text{[ns] ps}$$

$$\sigma_{\text{RO}}(N_{\text{hits}}) = \frac{100.5 \pm 5.7}{\sqrt{N_{\text{hits}}}} \text{ ps}$$

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$$\sigma_{\rm RO}(N_{\rm hits}) \approx \frac{60}{\sqrt{N_{\rm hits}}} \text{ ps}$$

Resolution expected to improve with better electronics calibration

Comparison with RICH

Similarities:

- Reconstruction uses a similar approach to the RICH detectors
 - Optimisation from RICH reconstruction can be imported to TORCH
- A 3D image (x,y,t) image is measured
 - Ring (RICH) and Hyperbola (TORCH)

Differences:

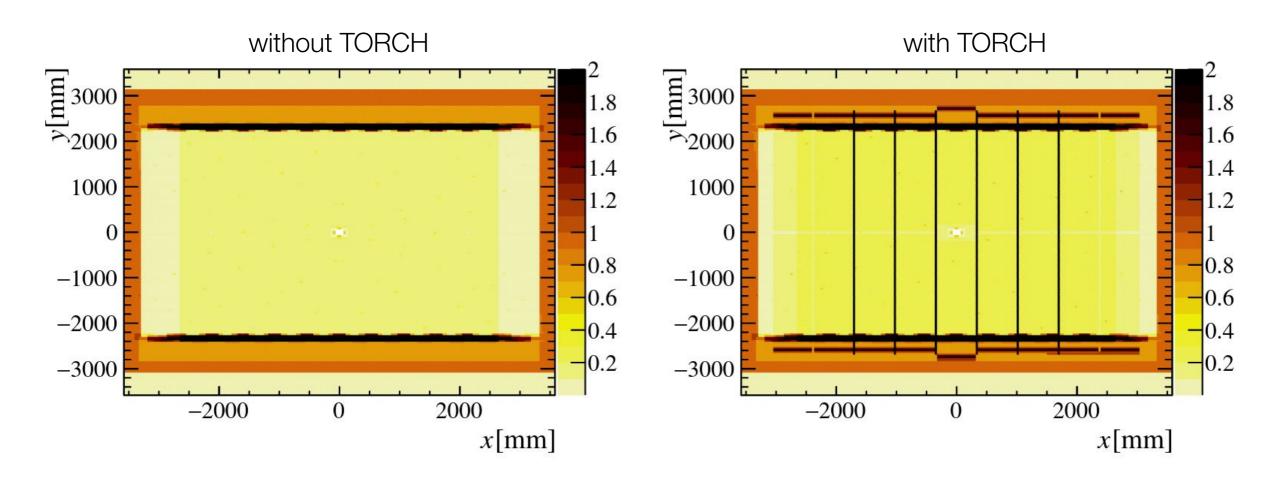
- Photons from a track spread over 25ns window in TORCH
 - Narrow time window for RICH

- Use two different algorithms to compute hit/track/hypothesis probabilities:
 - Binned: Based on simulating large numbers of photons (ray-tracing)
 - Unbinned: Semi-analytic approach based on back-propagation
- The semi-analytic approach is faster and works with either pixel hits (integrating over the pixel size) or clusters.
- Two different approaches to consider the likelihood:
 - Local: Consider each track in isolation
 - Global: Consider all track hypothesis together

Impact of TORCH material

Placing TORCH in front of RICH 2 slightly increases the material budget

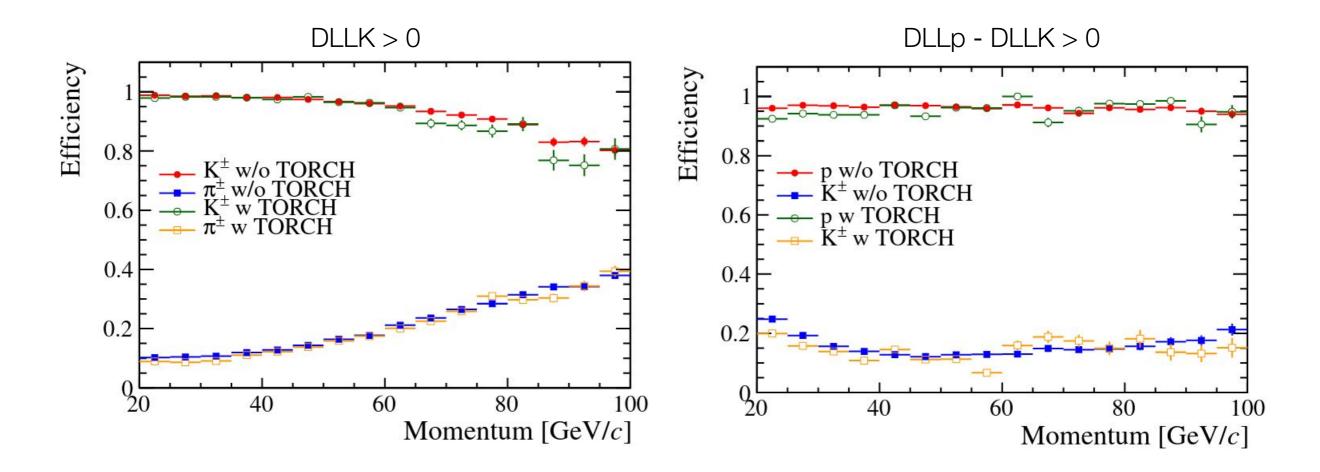
Material in terms of radiation length from start of FT to entry to RICH2 volume:



Impact of TORCH material

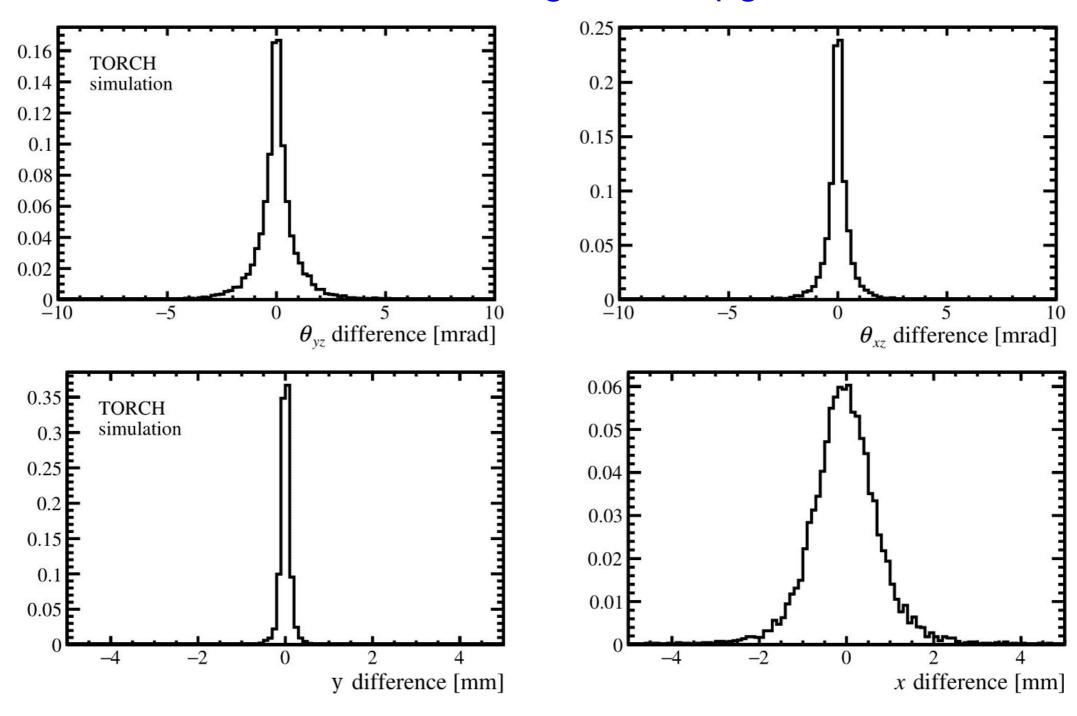
- Placing TORCH in front of RICH 2 slightly increases the material budget
- Effect on RICH2 PID performance is negligible

RICH2 PID performance with and without TORCH



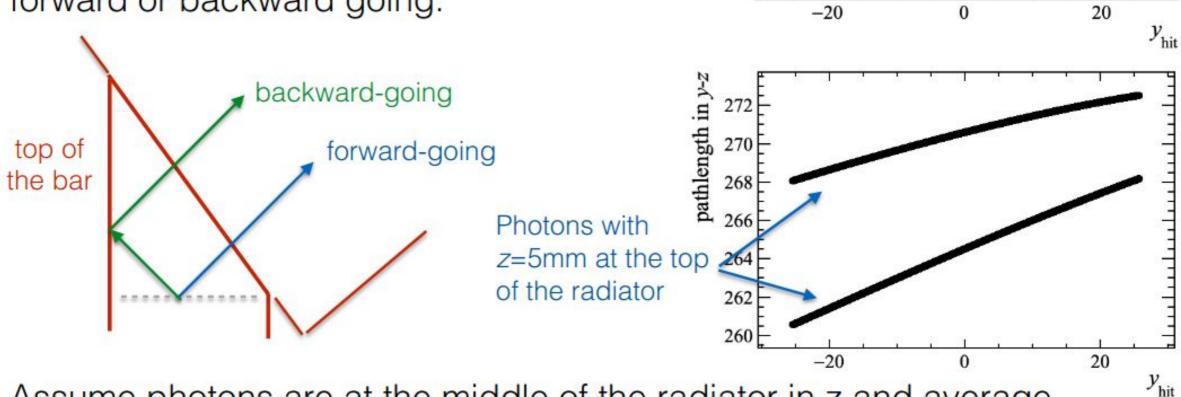
Track resolution

Track resolution using LHCb Upgrade I



Effect of the focussing block

- However, the path length in the focus is not unique for a given hit position.
- The path length depends on the photon position in z at the top of the bar and whether or not the photon is forward or backward going.



pathlength in y-z

272

262 260

258 E

 Assume photons are at the middle of the radiator in z and average the forward- and backward-going path lengths.