



Search for $D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-$
rare charm decays and HLT1 tracking
for the LHCb's Run3 trigger

Alessandro Scarabotto

LPNHE (Paris)

Seminar

TU Dortmund

5 April 2023



About myself



**Università
degli Studi
di Ferrara**



Bachelor:

- JLab CLAS12 RICH detector

Master:

- LHCb tracking Upgrade2
- Test of Lepton Flavour
Universality with B_s decays

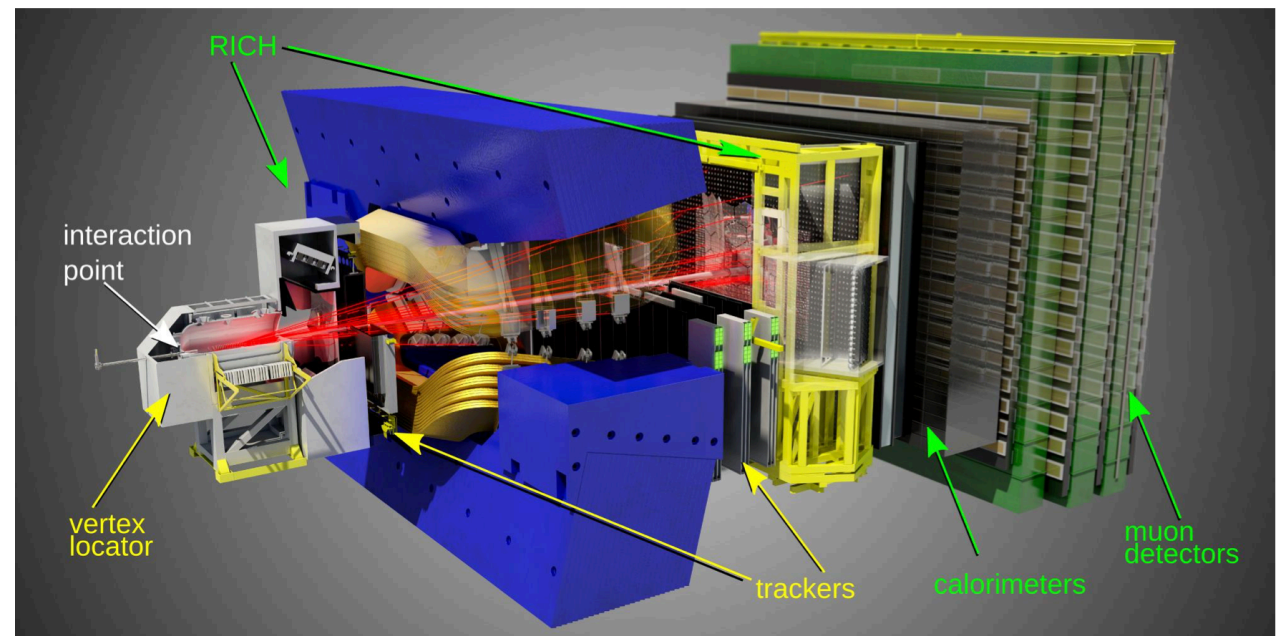


PhD thesis:

Search for $D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-$ rare charm decays and long track reconstruction for the LHCb trigger

Charm at LHCb

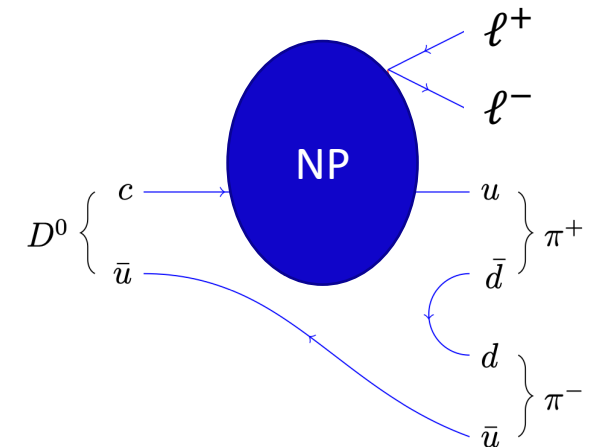
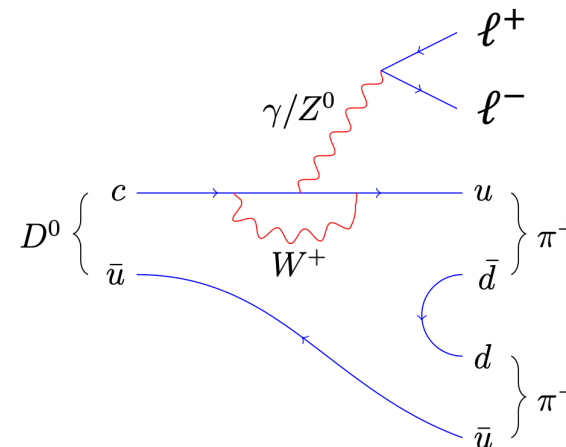
- Charm decays: a unique up-type probe for new flavour physics effects, complimentary to the K and B sectors
- Unique studies for lepton flavor and CP violation
- Large cross-section at LHCb: $\sigma(c\bar{c}, \sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}) = (2940 \pm 240) \mu\text{b}$ [\[J. High Energ. Phys. 2016, 159\]](#)
→ 20 times larger than the $b\bar{b}$ production
- The LHCb detector:
 - Excellent particle identification
 - Momentum and vertex resolution
 - Fast, efficient and flexible trigger system



Why study Rare Charm decays?

- Rare Charm decays receive contributions from flavor-changing neutral-current (FCNC) $c \rightarrow u\ell\ell$ processes
- Decays containing the charm quark are a unique up-type quark probe for these processes (complementary to the down-type quark studies in the K and B sectors)
- The FCNC transitions at tree level are forbidden in the SM, CKM and GIM suppressed (tiny SM prediction of $\mathcal{B} < 10^{-9}$) [[J. High Energ. Phys. 2013, 135 \(2013\)](#)]
- Some New Physics (NP) models predict large enhancement in rates and CP and angular asymmetries
- Lepton Flavour Universality (LFU) in charm decays is still a relatively unexplored area:

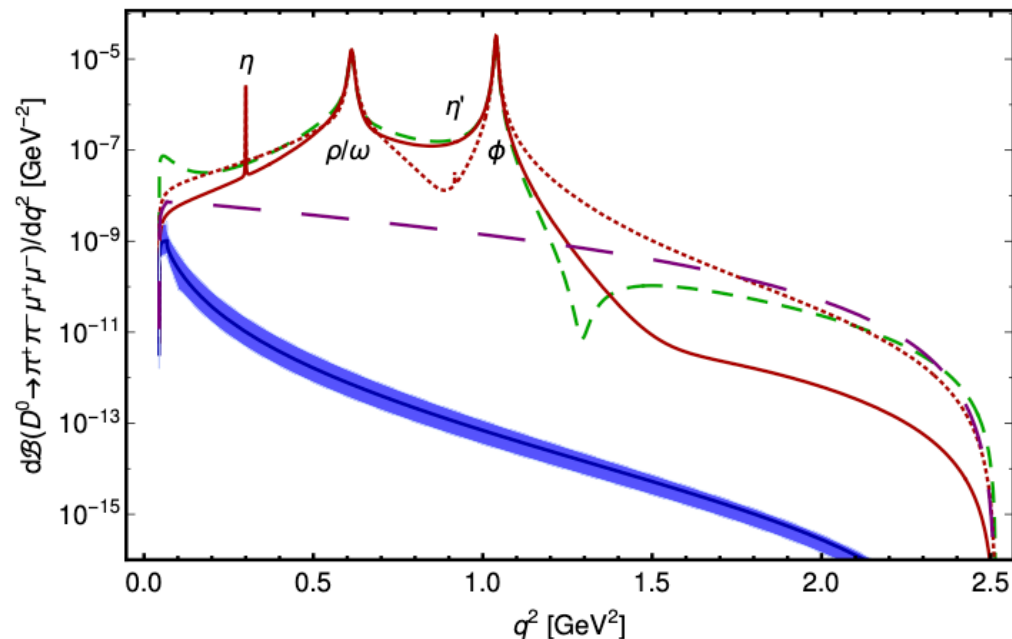
$$R_{P_1 P_2}^D = \frac{\int_{q_{\min}^2}^{q_{\max}^2} d\mathcal{B}/dq^2(D \rightarrow P_1 P_2 \mu^+ \mu^-)}{\int_{q_{\min}^2}^{q_{\max}^2} d\mathcal{B}/dq^2(D \rightarrow P_1 P_2 e^+ e^-)}$$



Challenges

- Rare Charm decays are dominated by Long Distance (LD) interactions (resonant component) with tree-level dynamics
- Precise theoretical predictions are difficult on the branching fractions (the resonances contribution are dominated by QCD effects at very low energy and are evaluated with non-perturbative methods with high uncertainty)

[PRD 98 035041 (2018)]



$D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^-$
non-resonant component
resonant component

LD different model
BSM model (dashed)

Rare Charm decays at LHCb

- Branching fractions:

- Search for $D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$ [[arXiv:2212.11203](#)]
- Search for $\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow p \mu^+ \mu^-$ [[PRD 97 091101 \(2018\)](#)]
- Observation $D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- V(\mu^+ \mu^-)$ [[PRL 119 \(2017\) 181805](#)]

- SM null tests (Lepton Flavor Violation and Asymmetries):

- Search for $D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ e^-$ [[PLB 754 167 \(2016\)](#)]
- Search for $D_{(s)}^+ \rightarrow h^\pm \ell^+ \ell'^\pm$ [[JHEP06\(2021\)044](#)]
- Asymmetries in $D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- \mu^+ \mu^-$ [[PRL 121 \(2018\) 091801](#)]
- Angular analysis and CP violation in $D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- \mu^+ \mu^-$ [[PRL 128 \(2022\) 221801](#)]

$$D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- V(\mu^+ \mu^-)$$

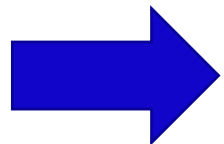
$$D_{(s)}^+ \rightarrow h^+ \ell^+ \ell^-$$

$$\Lambda_c^+ \rightarrow p \mu^+ \mu^-$$

$$D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$$

$$D_{(s)}^+ \rightarrow h^\pm \ell^+ \ell'^\pm$$

$$D^0 \rightarrow \mu^+ e^-$$



My ongoing analysis:

Search for $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ e^-$ and $D^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^- e^+ e^-$

Search for $D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-$ decays

Goal: First observation of $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ e^-$ and $D^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^- e^+ e^-$

Channel	Total BF	BF: $675 < m(ee) < 875 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	BF: $1005 < m(ee) < 1035 \text{ MeV}/c^2$
$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ e^+ e^-$	$< 4.1 \times 10^{-5}$ [1]	$(4.0 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-6}$ [2]	$< 5.0 \times 10^{-7}$ [2]
$D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ e^-$	$< 7 \times 10^{-6}$ [1]	/	/
$D^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^- e^+ e^-$	$< 1.1 \times 10^{-5}$ [1]	/	/

[1] [Phys. Rev. D **97**, 072015, Apr 2018](#) (BESIII)

[2] [Phys. Rev. Lett. **122**, 081802, Feb 2019](#) (BABAR)

Comparing to measured muon modes BFs

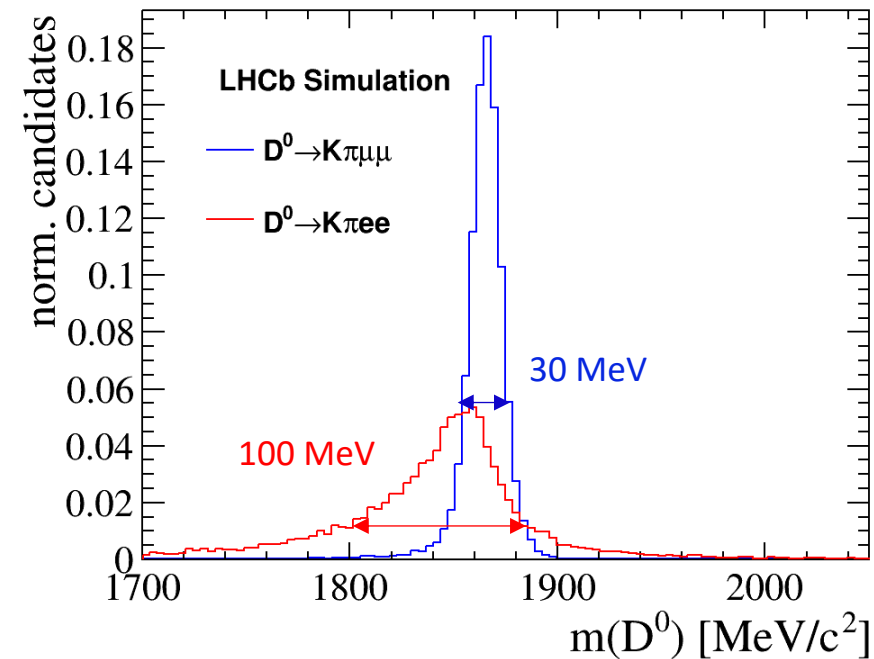
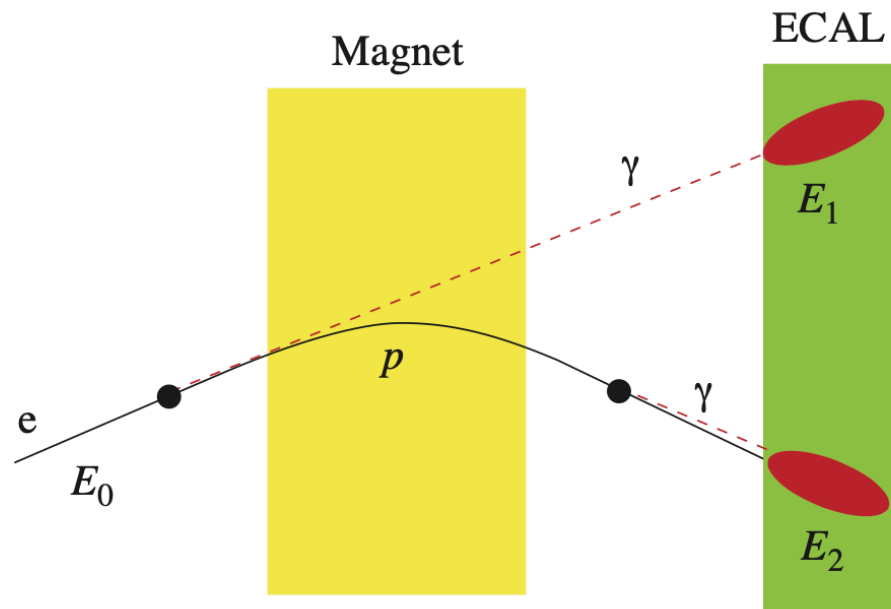
Channel	Branching fraction
$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \mu^+ \mu^-$	$(4.2 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-6}$ in dimuon range $675\text{-}875 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ [3]
$D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \mu^+ \mu^-$	$(9.6 \pm 1.2) \times 10^{-7}$ [4]
$D^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^- \mu^+ \mu^-$	$(1.54 \pm 0.32) \times 10^{-7}$ [4]

[3] [Phys.Lett.B **757** \(2016\), 558-567](#) (LHCb)

[4] [Phys. Rev. Lett. **119**, 181805, Oct 2017](#)(LHCb)

Challenges with electrons

- Bremsstrahlung effects: interactions of the electrons with the detector material
- Degraded mass resolution of decays involving electrons
- Brem recovery procedure with 50% efficiency on photons emitted before the magnet
- Hardware trigger limit, tighter energy/momentum cuts on selection



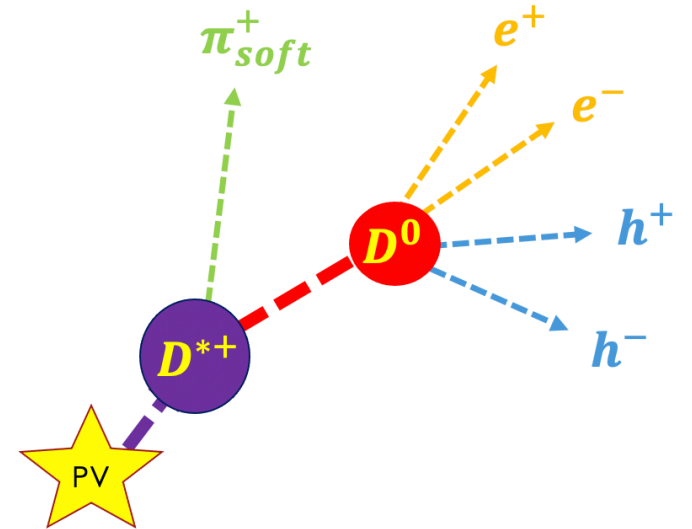
Analysis strategy

- Search for the decays and possible BF measurement relative to the $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ e^+ e^-$ decay:

$$BF(D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-) = \frac{N(D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-)}{N(D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ e^+ e^-)} \frac{\epsilon(D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ e^+ e^-)}{\epsilon(D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-)} \times \boxed{BF(D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ e^+ e^-)}$$

input from BaBar
measurement with 13 %
relative uncertainty

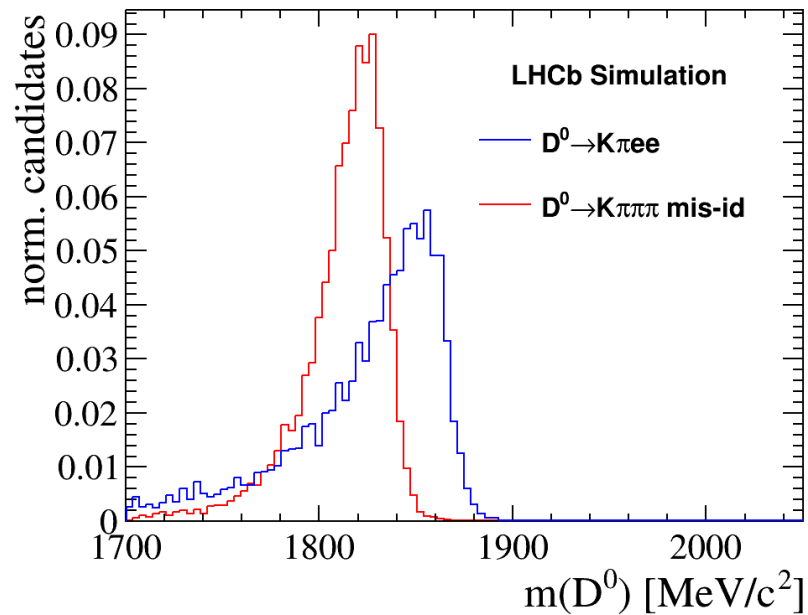
- Data sample: Run2 (2015 to 2018)
- Selecting D^* -tagged decays: $D^{*+} \rightarrow D^0 (\rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-) \pi_{soft}^+$
- Blind analysis: data removed in the signal D^0 mass range [1700-1900] MeV/c²
- Samples split into decays with and without brem photons attached to the electrons (brem categories)



bin	very low (only e^+e^-)	low mass	η	ρ/ω	ϕ	high mass
$m(e^+e^-)$ [MeV/c ²]	< 211.32	211.32 - 525	525 - 565	565 - 950	950 - 1100	> 1100
$D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ e^-$	[✓]	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
$D^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^- e^+ e^-$	[✓]	✓	✓	✓		

Background studies

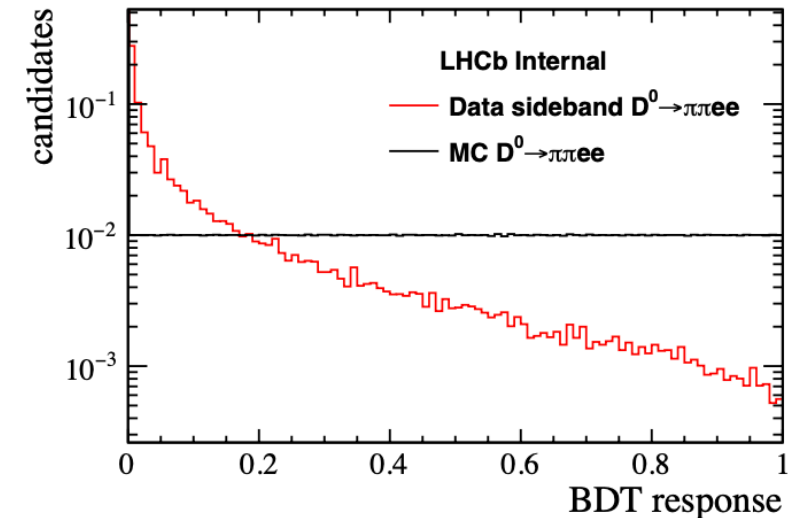
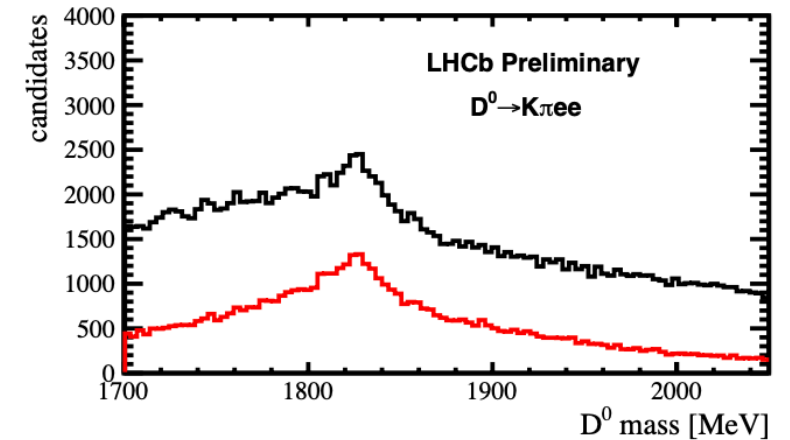
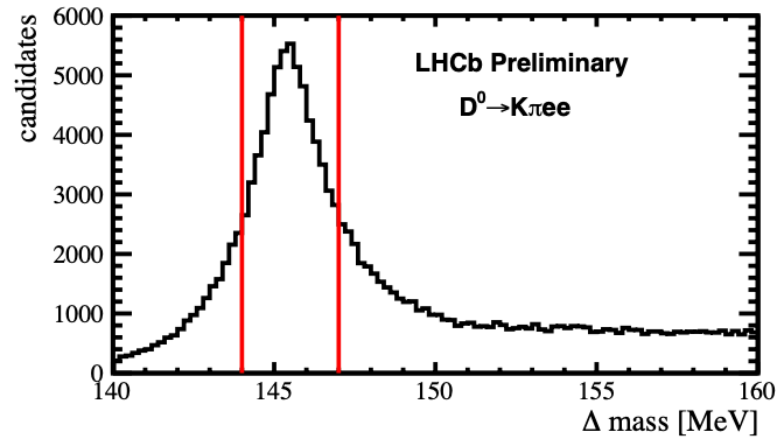
- There are two main backgrounds:
 - Combinatorial background, reduced with a multivariate analysis
 - Mis-identified backgrounds, reduced using particle identification (PID) variables:
 - Probability of mis-id two π as two e is on the order of 10^{-4}



Signal and mis-id bkg	BF
$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ e^+ e^-$	4×10^{-6}
$D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ e^-$	$\sim 10^{-6}$
$D^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^- e^+ e^-$	$\sim 10^{-7}$
$D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$	8×10^{-2}
$D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- \pi^+ \pi^-$	8×10^{-3}
$D^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^- \pi^+ \pi^-$	2×10^{-3}

Combinatorial background

- Preselection cut on $\Delta m = m(D^{*+} - D^0)$
- 3σ cut around Δm peak removes 80% of combinatorial background
- BDT trained separately for signal channels :
 - Signal proxy: MC signal samples
 - Background proxy: data samples in higher $m(D)$ region ($>1900 \text{ MeV}/c^2$)
 - Using topological and kinematical variables



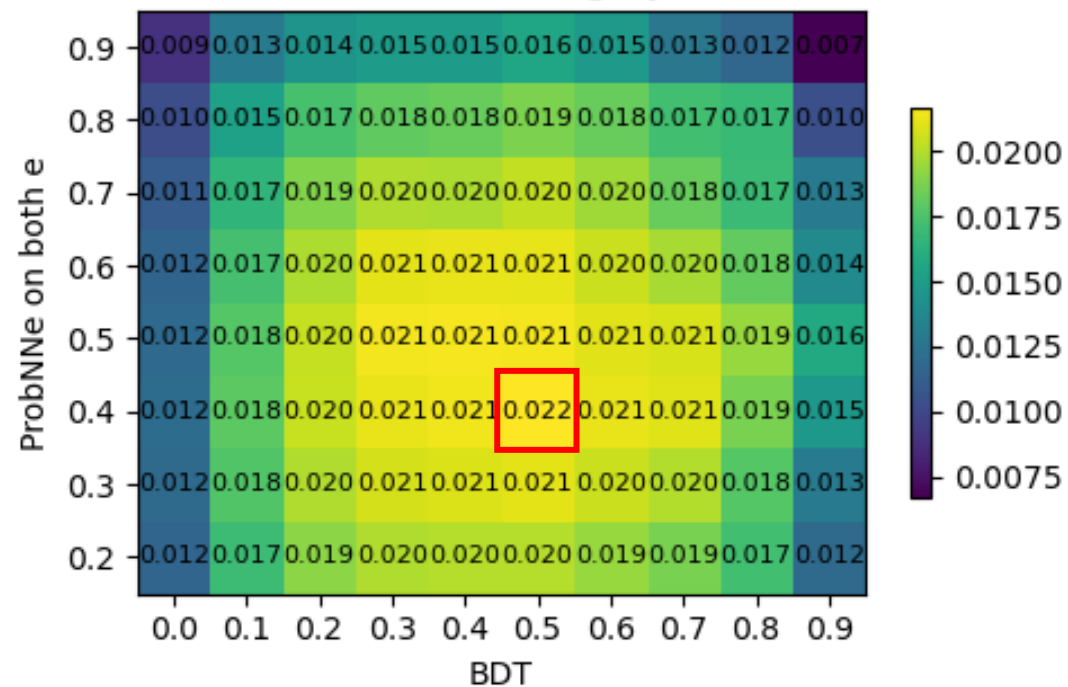
Selection optimization

- The PID and BDT selection can be optimized maximizing the Punzi figure of merit:

$$FoM = \frac{\epsilon_{signal}}{\frac{5}{2} + \sqrt{N_{bkg}}}$$

[eConf C030908 (2003), MODT002]

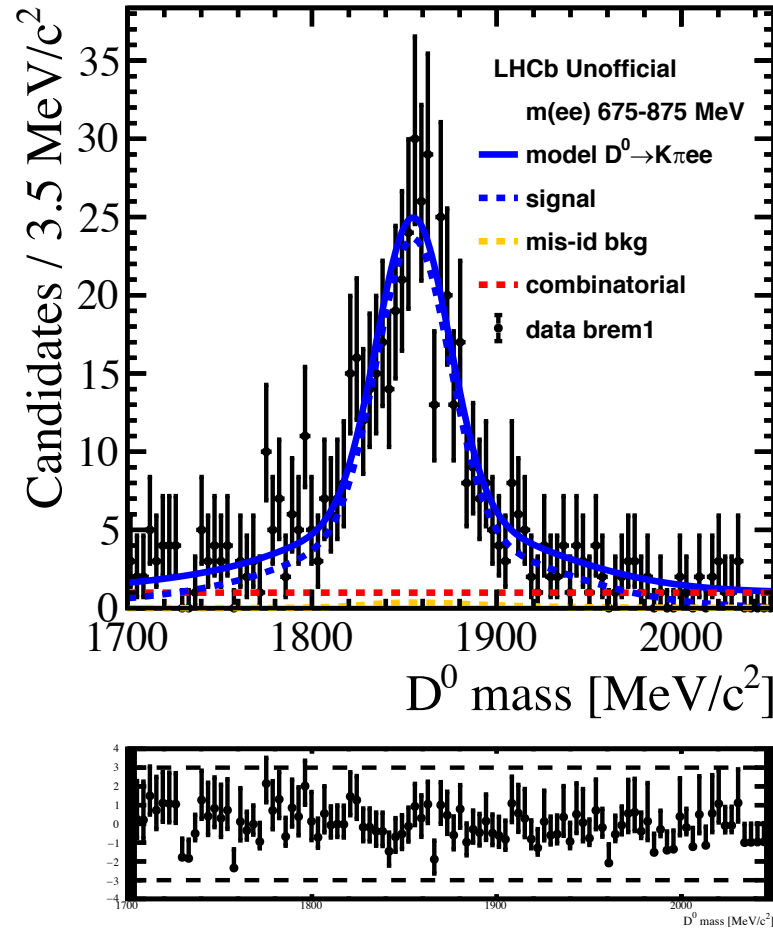
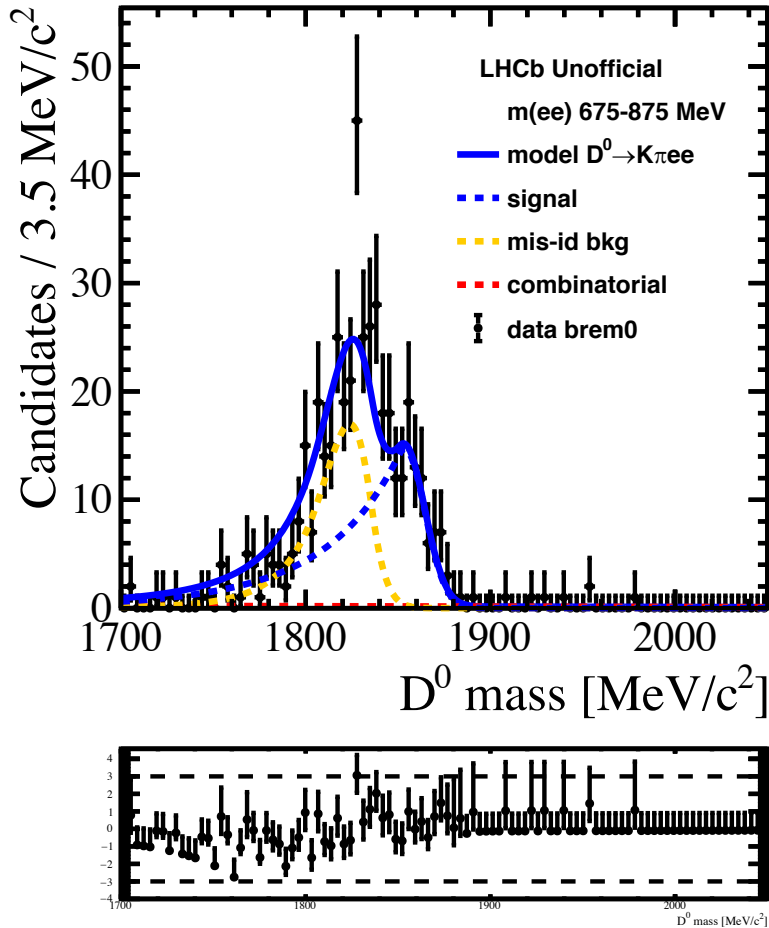
- ϵ_{signal} : selection signal efficiency from simulation
 - N_{bkg} : background yield in the signal region
- Background yield composed of:
 - Combinatorial: extrapolated from the D^0 high-mass region
 - Mis-id: estimated from normalization channel



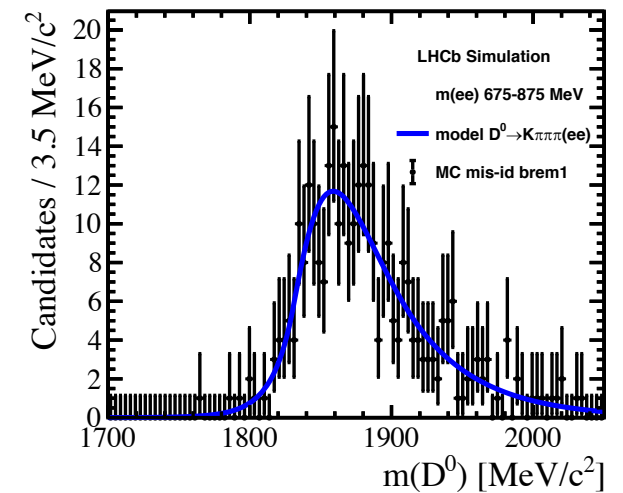
BDT vs PID FoM optimization

Fit on the normalization decay

Fit on $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ e^+ e^-$ after selection optimized on the signal

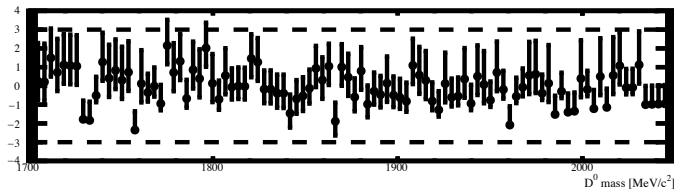
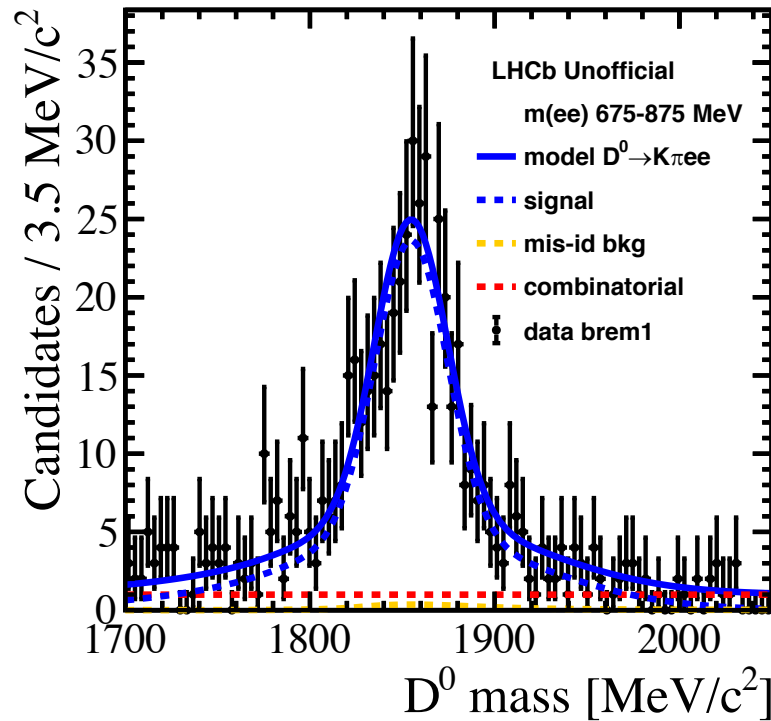
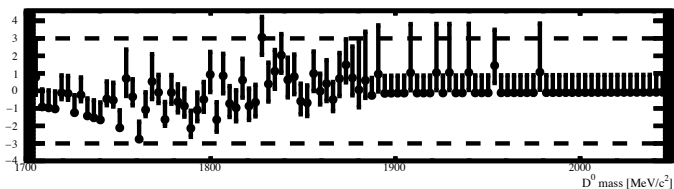
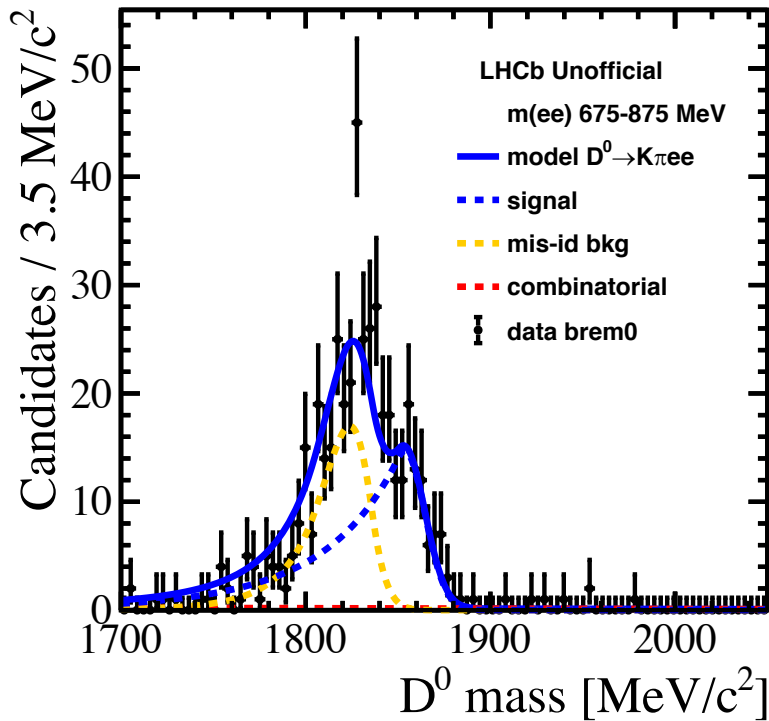


- The fit model:
 - **Signal** model from MC
 - **Mis-id** model from MC
 $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$
 - **Combinatorial** from Data dM sideband
- Mis-id brem1 peaking under signal



Fit on the normalization decay

Fit on $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ e^+ e^-$ after selection optimized on the signal



- The fit model:
 - **Signal** model from MC
 - **Mis-id** model from MC
 $D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ \pi^+ \pi^-$
 - **Combinatorial** from Data dM sideband
- Fixing all parameters apart from yields
- Mis-id yield in brem1 fixed at 5% of mis-id yield in brem0 from MC
- Norm. yields at q^2 range 675-875 MeV/c^2 : ~ 750 events

Efficiencies evaluation

- Evaluating the efficiency ratio for the BF measurement:

$$BF(D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-) = \frac{N(D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-)}{N(D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ e^+ e^-)} \frac{\epsilon(D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ e^+ e^-)}{\epsilon(D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-)} \times BF(D^0 \rightarrow K^- \pi^+ e^+ e^-)$$

- Evaluated from MC and corrected for data/simulation differences:
 - Tracking: TrackCalib tool for hadrons and electrons
 - PID: PIDGen tool resampling PID based on calibration samples
 - Trigger: TISTOS method for L0 and HLT1
 - $m(ee)$ resolution: from data in different brem categories
 - Resonant model: estimated from $D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- \mu^+ \mu^-$ data analysis

Systematics

- List of systematics:

- Normalization channel BF
- Normalization yields
- Fit model:
 - Signal PDF
 - Mis-id model and brem0-brem1 fraction
 - Combinatorial shape
- Efficiency ratio:
 - Tracking, PID and trigger
 - M(ee) resolution
 - Signal resonances MC model
 - Kinematics reweighting



13.7 %

+

Systematic
relative uncertainty



< 7 %

(few % lower than statistical
uncertainty from preliminary
studies)

Blind signal fit

- The fit model composed of signal, hadronic mis-id and combinatorial with all fixed parameters
- Simultaneous fit of brem0 and brem1 categories with signal BF as common fitting parameter:

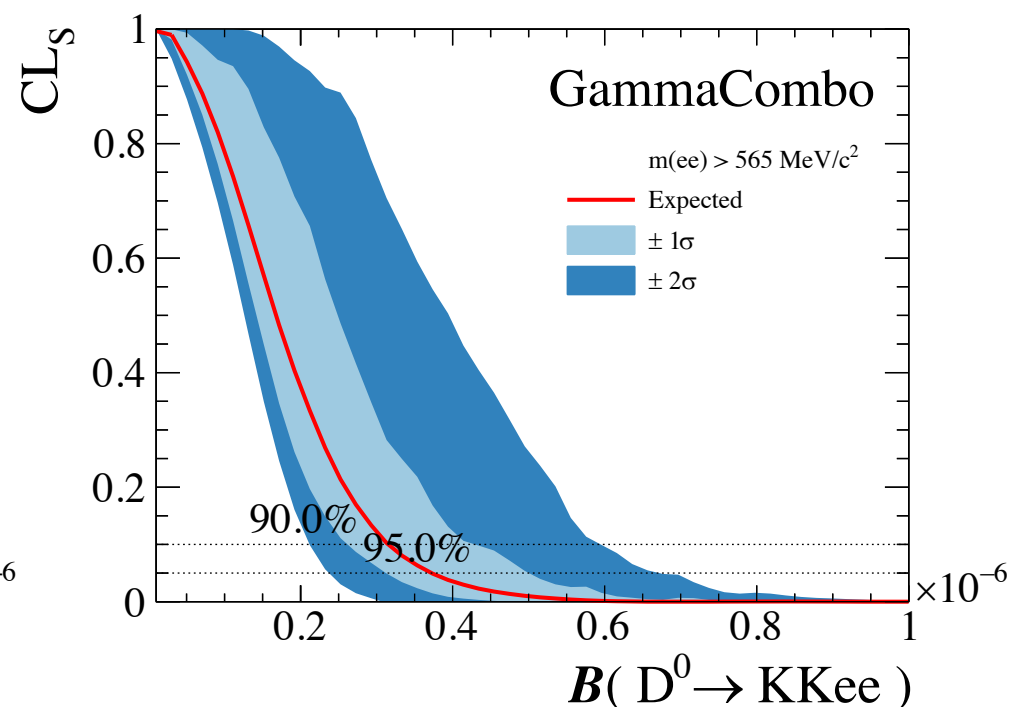
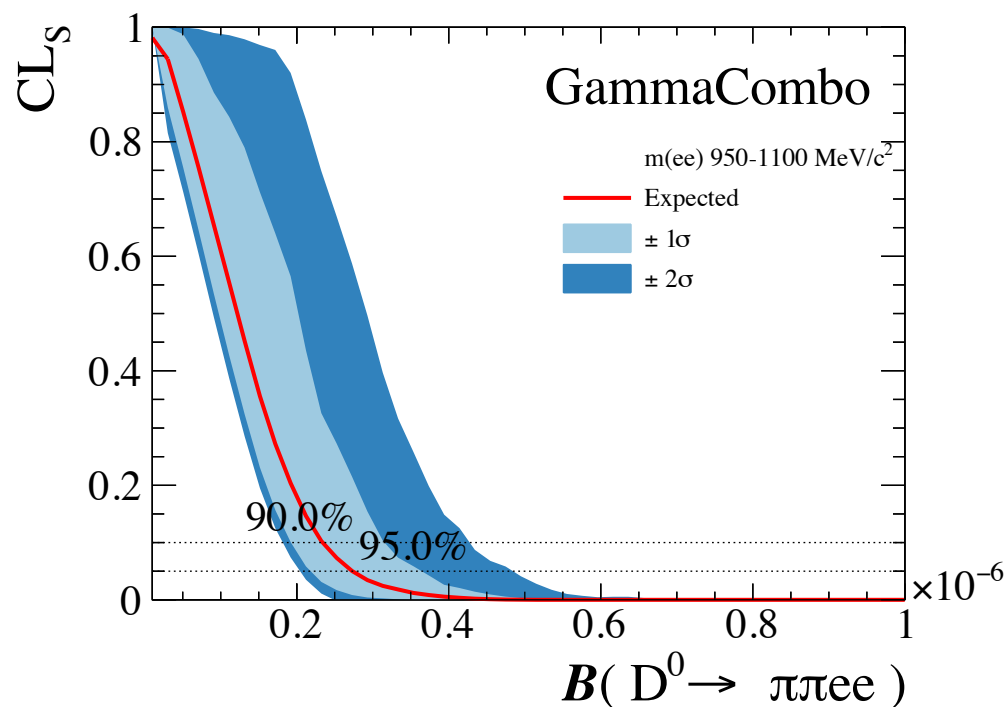
$$N_{sig,brem0} = N_{norm,brem0} \cdot \frac{\epsilon_{sig,brem0}}{\epsilon_{norm,brem0}} \cdot \frac{BF_{sig}}{BF_{norm}}$$

$$N_{sig,brem1} = N_{norm,brem1} \cdot \frac{\epsilon_{sig,brem1}}{\epsilon_{norm,brem1}} \cdot \frac{BF_{sig}}{BF_{norm}}$$

- Results blinded by hiding the data in the signal window and shifting the BF value by a random value

Setting upper limit

- If no significant signal is observed, we will set an upper limit using the CLs method
- Producing only bkg toys and evaluating the ratio of likelihoods of s+b and only bkg hypothesis
- Preliminary expected upper limits: $\sim 10^{-7}$

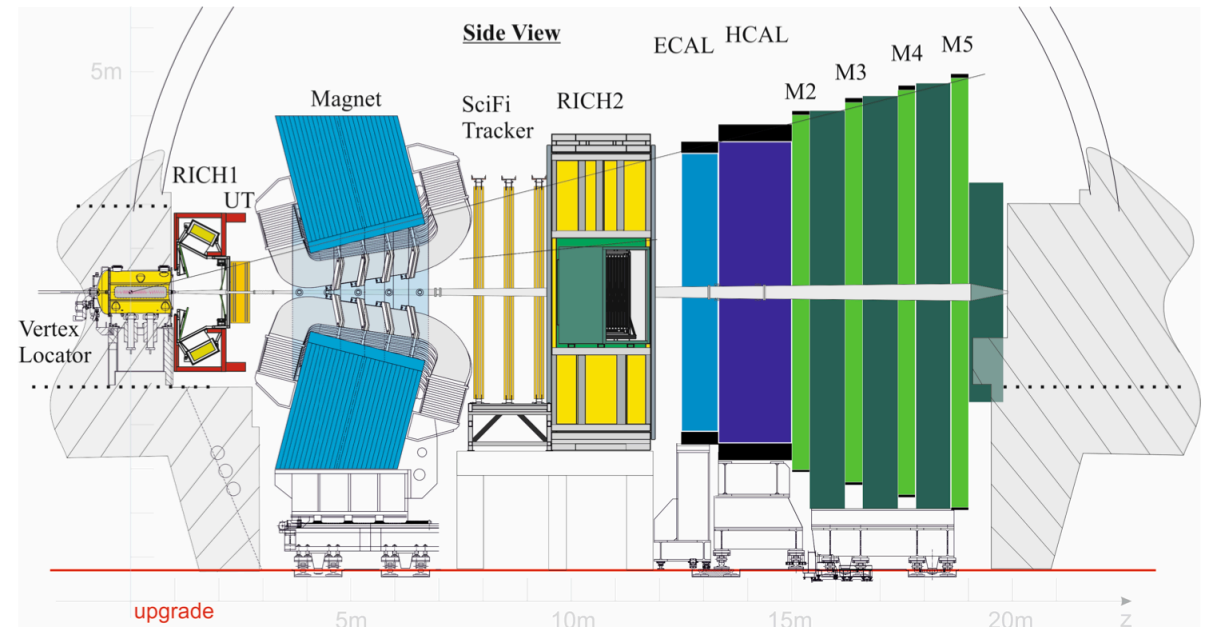


$D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-$ and ... beyond

- First LHCb study on the $D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-$ decays: sensitivity: $\sim 10^{-7}$
- Expecting to observe $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ e^-$ and observe/set limit for $D^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^- e^+ e^-$
- Started internal LHCb WG review

For the future:

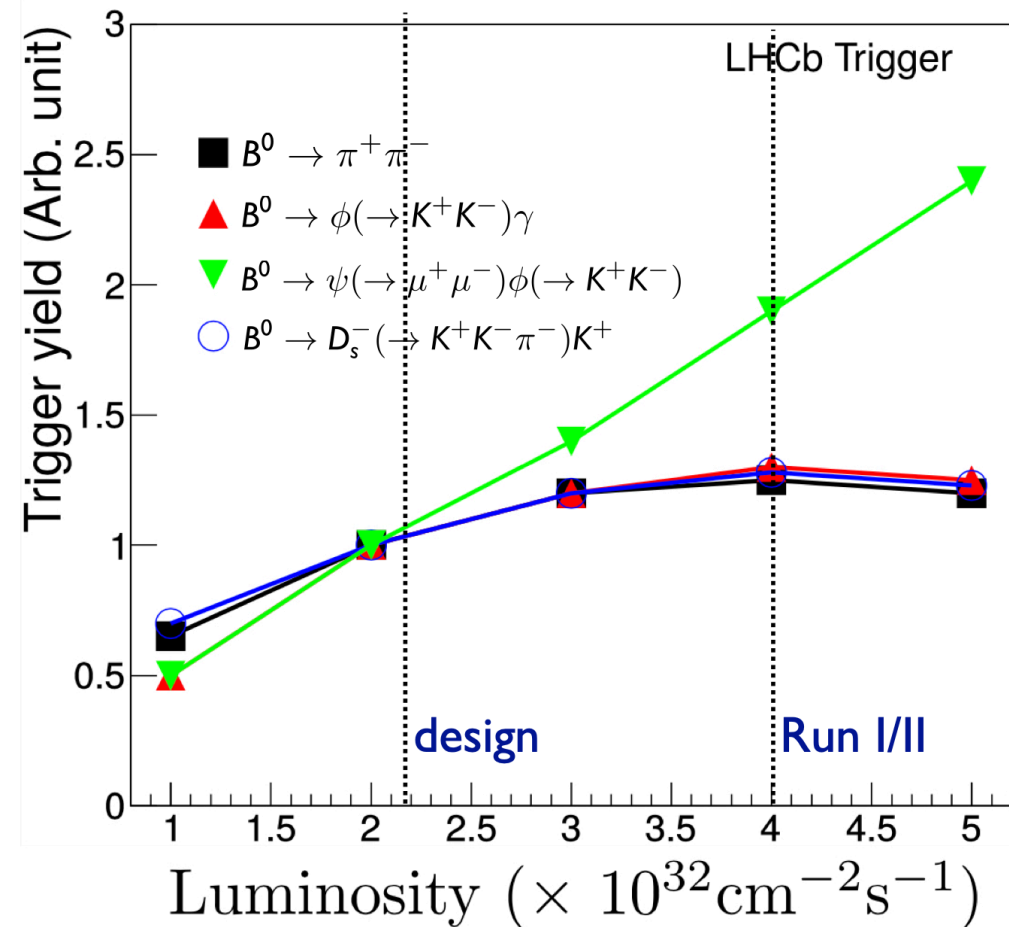
- Study of LFU ratio with muon modes
- CP and angular asymmetries
- Upgraded detector:
 - Luminosity increased by a factor 5:
 $\mathcal{L} = 2 \cdot 10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
 - Run3 and Run4: 30 fb^{-1} of data
 - Replacement of subdetectors and readout system



[LHCb-TDR-12](#)

Full software trigger

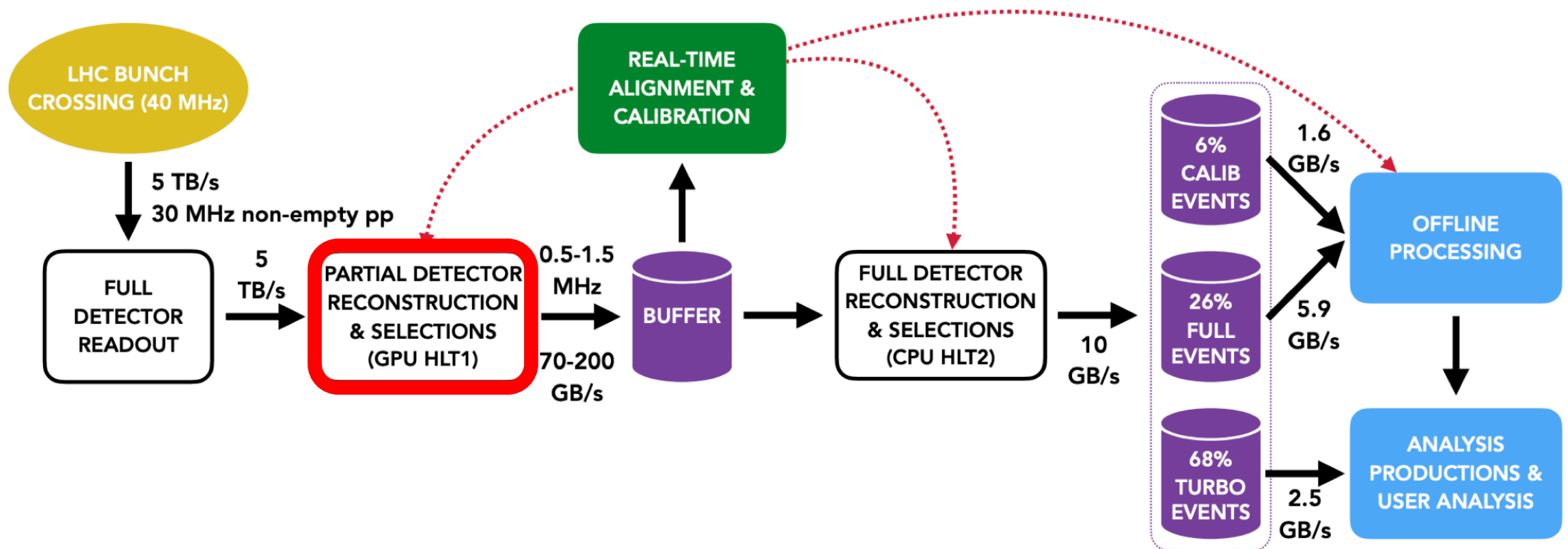
- Saturation of many hadronic channels already at Run2 luminosity
- Removing hardware trigger
- Full reconstruction of events at LHC rate of 30 MHz by a software-based trigger
- Increase of hadronic channels' triggering efficiency by a factor 2 to 4 wrt Run2
- Expected similar increase for electron modes



[J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 878 012012](#)

LHCb data flow

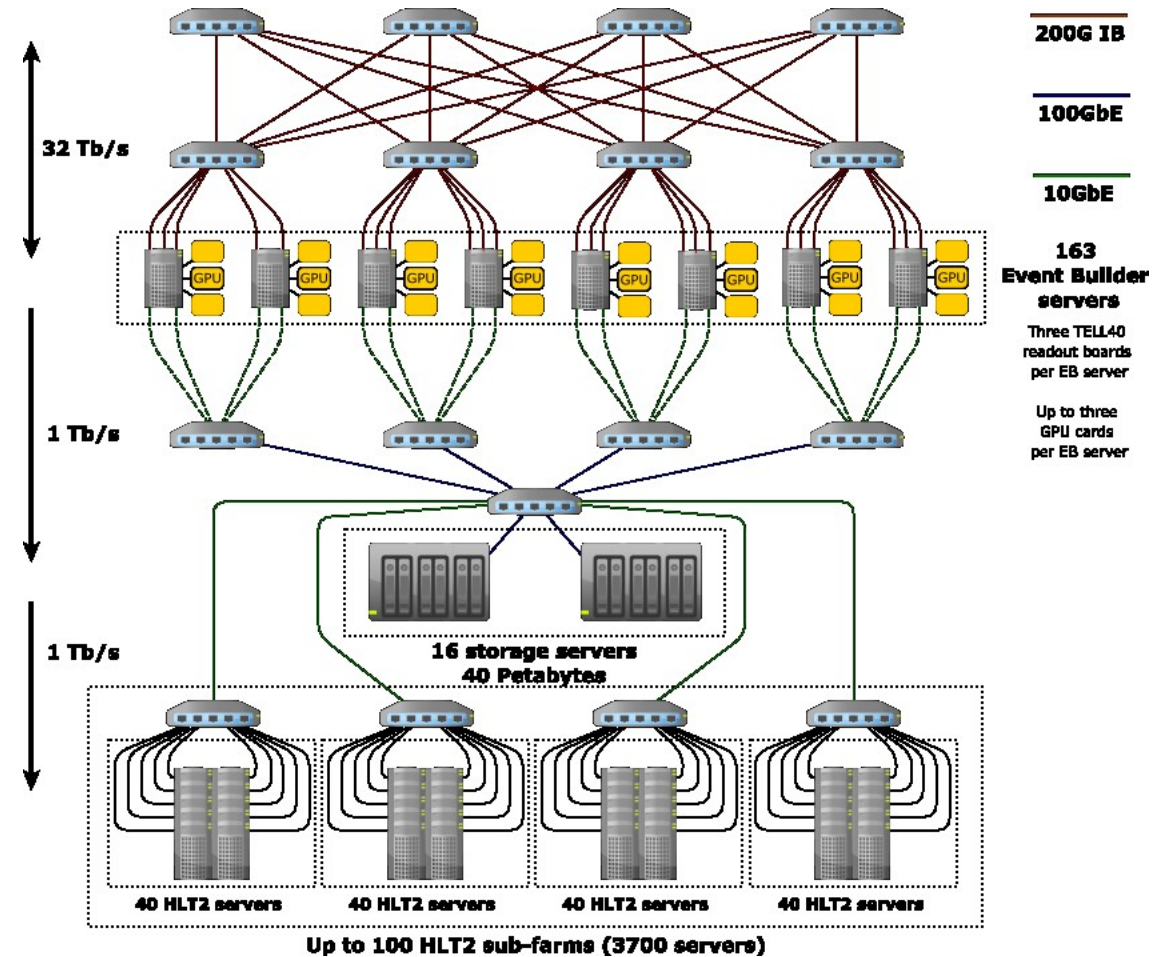
- HLT1 software reconstruction fully on Graphics Processing Units (GPUs) at non-empty pp collisions of 30 MHz rate



LHCB-FIGURE-2020-016

Why using GPUs?

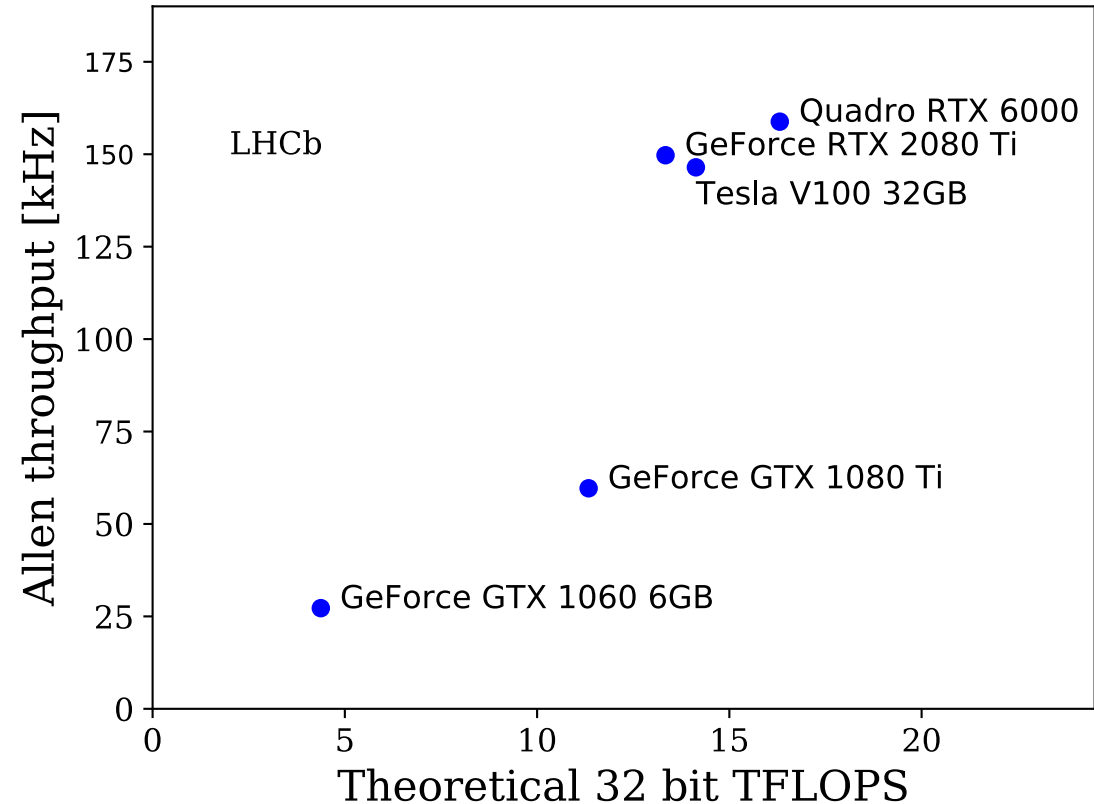
- Raw detectors info sent to a custom data processing centre
- FPGA cards receive data at average 32 Tb/s
- Event Builder (EB) CPU servers produce events packets
- EB servers contain slots to be used for up to 3 GPUs (zero overhead costs)
- Most of the HLT1 tasks naturally lend themselves to a very high degree of parallelism



[Comput.Softw.Big Sci. 6 (2022) 1, 1]

Why using GPUs?

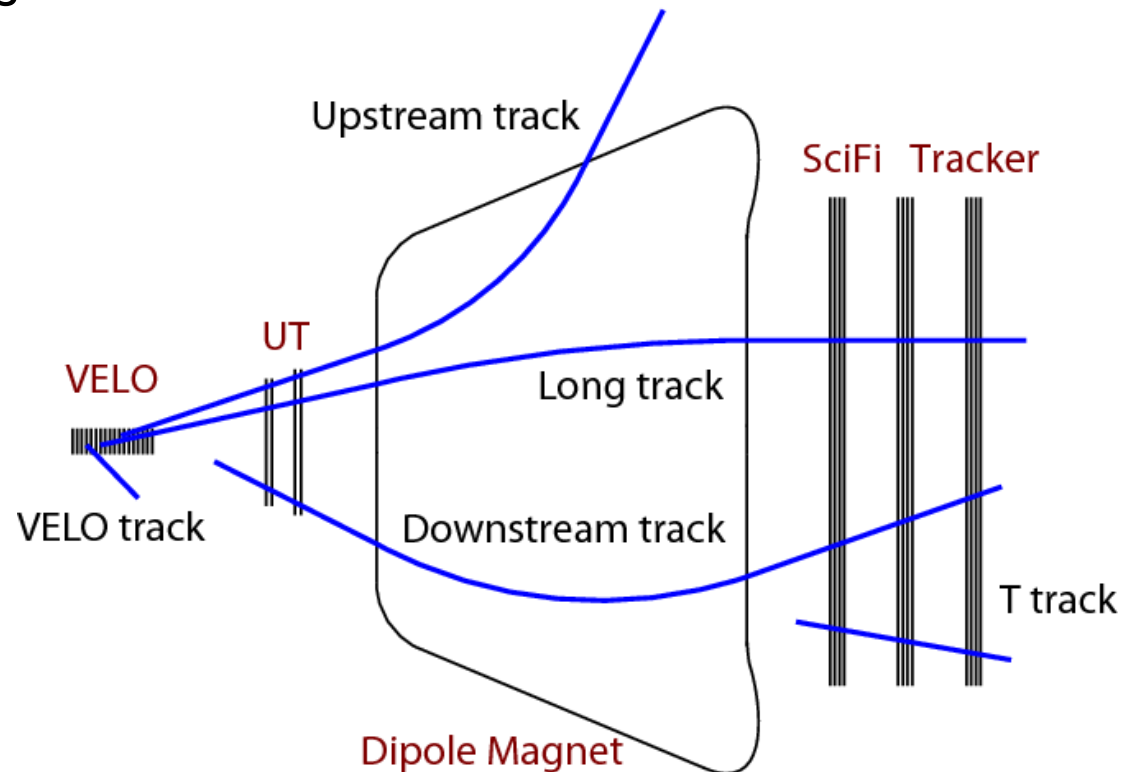
- [Allen project](#)
- Promising for the future:
 - Throughput scales linearly as a function of the theoretical peak 32-bit FLOPS performance
 - Higher luminosity can be handled by improved GPU technology (no saturation expected)



[LHCb-FIGURE-2020-014](#)

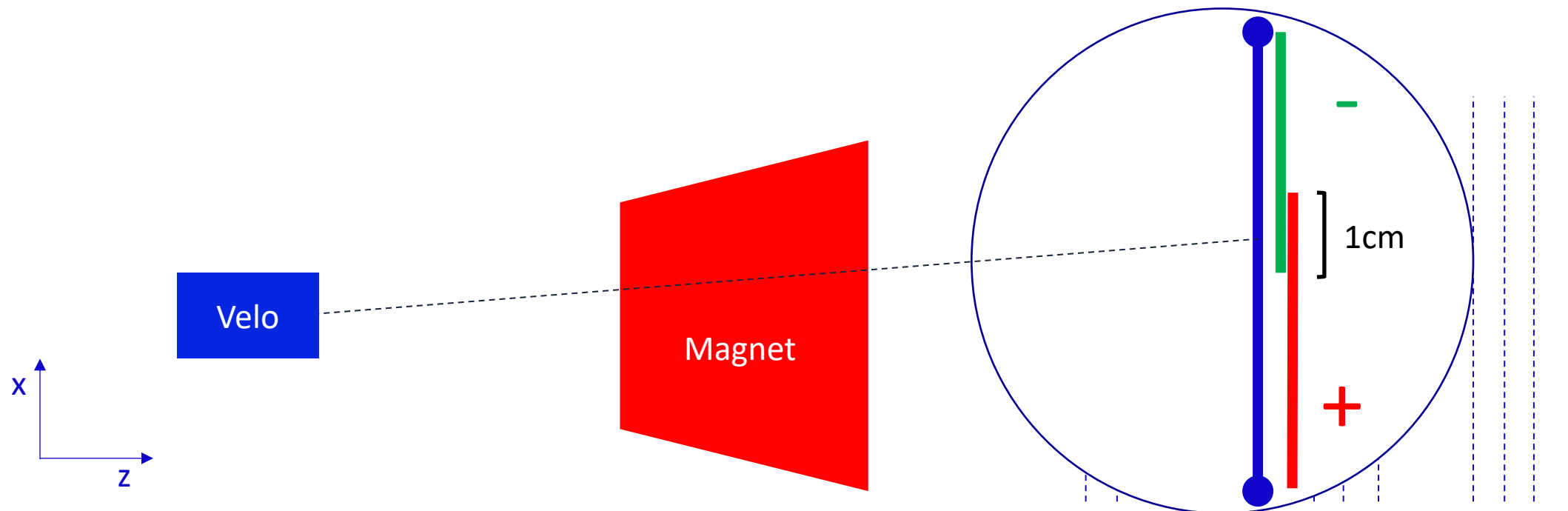
HLT1 heavily based on tracking

- HLT1 performs full upfront charged particle reconstruction
- For LHCb's physics purposes, different types of tracks must be reconstructed
- Most of the trigger selections rely on long tracks looking high momentum and displaced signatures



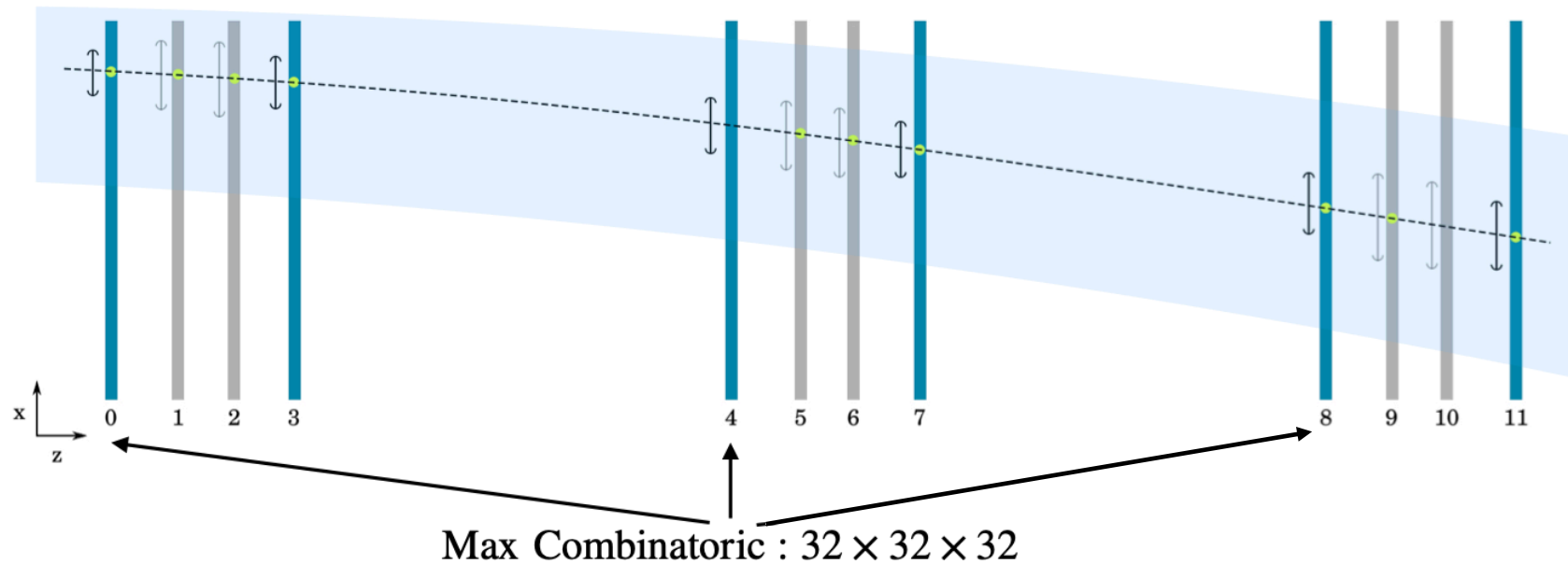
Forward tracking with no UT

- Reconstructing tracks without info from UT
- No momentum and particle charge information
- Double sided search window strategy for high momentum tracks ($p > 5 \text{ GeV}$ and $p_T > 1 \text{ GeV}$)



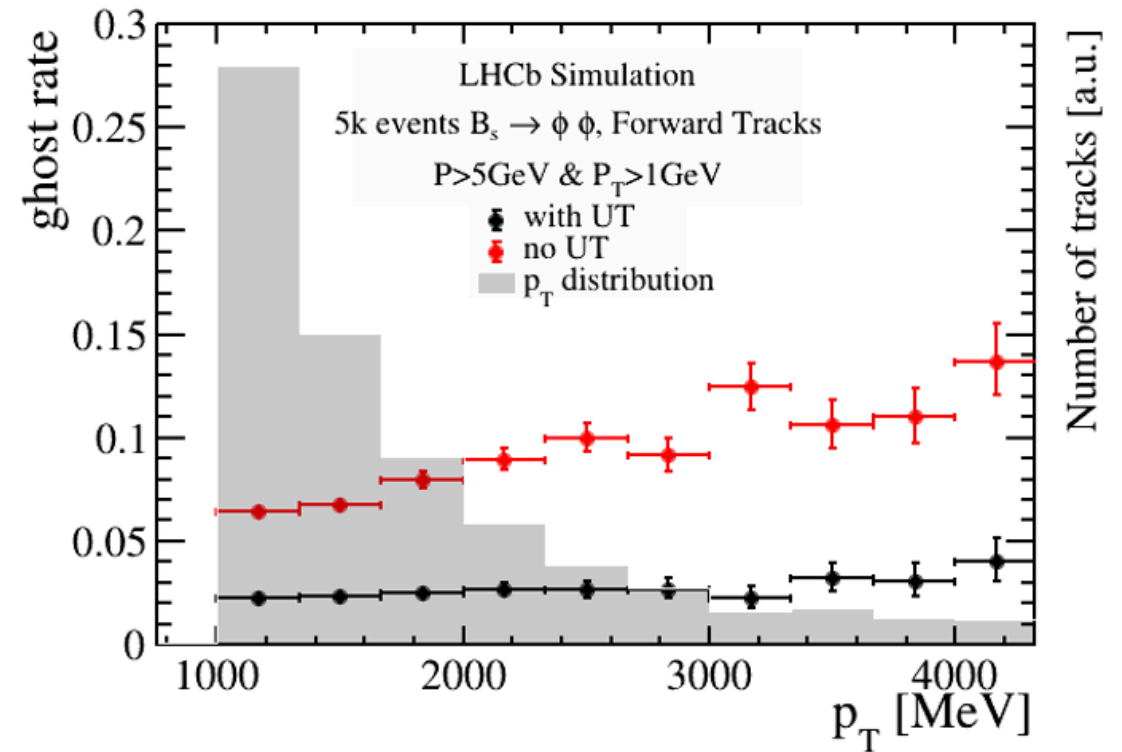
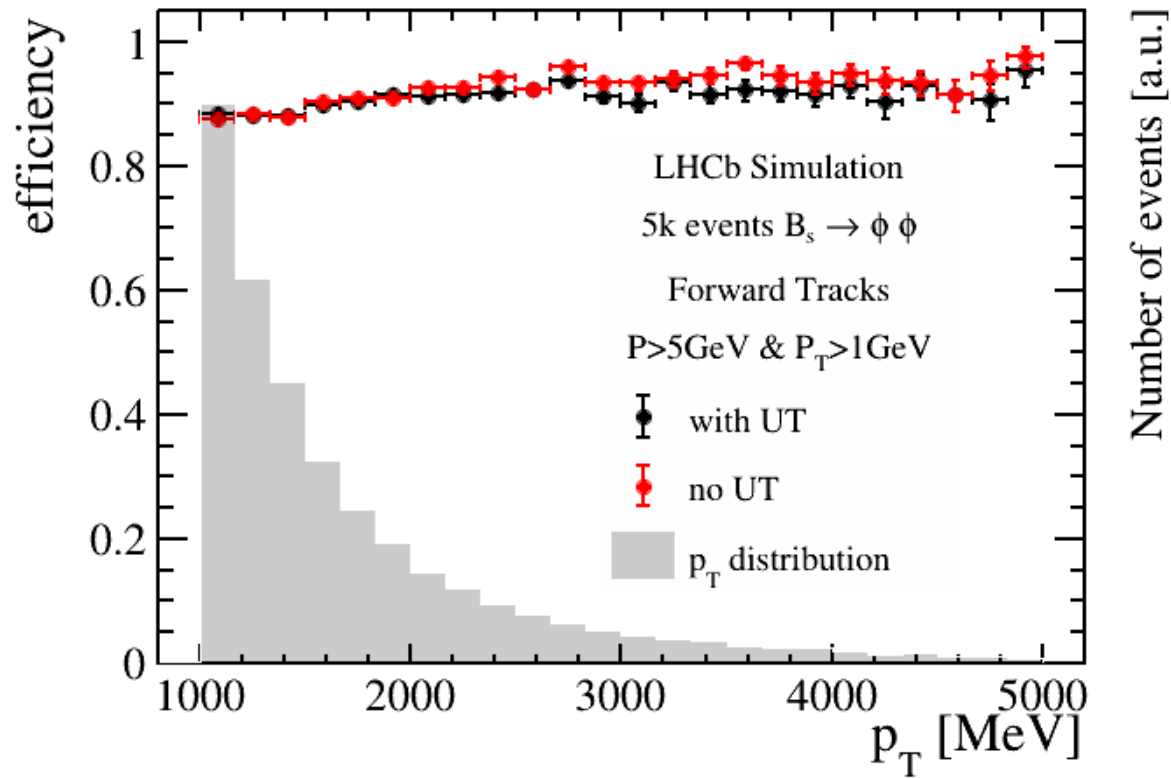
The HLT1 forward tracking algorithm

1. Opening search windows in all SciFi layers
2. Build triplets from first (or last) x layers in each T station (64 hits per layer)
3. Try to add to each triplet the other 3 x hits and 6 uv hits
4. Build χ^2 quality factor for each candidate (min 9 hits required)



Forward tracking no UT performance

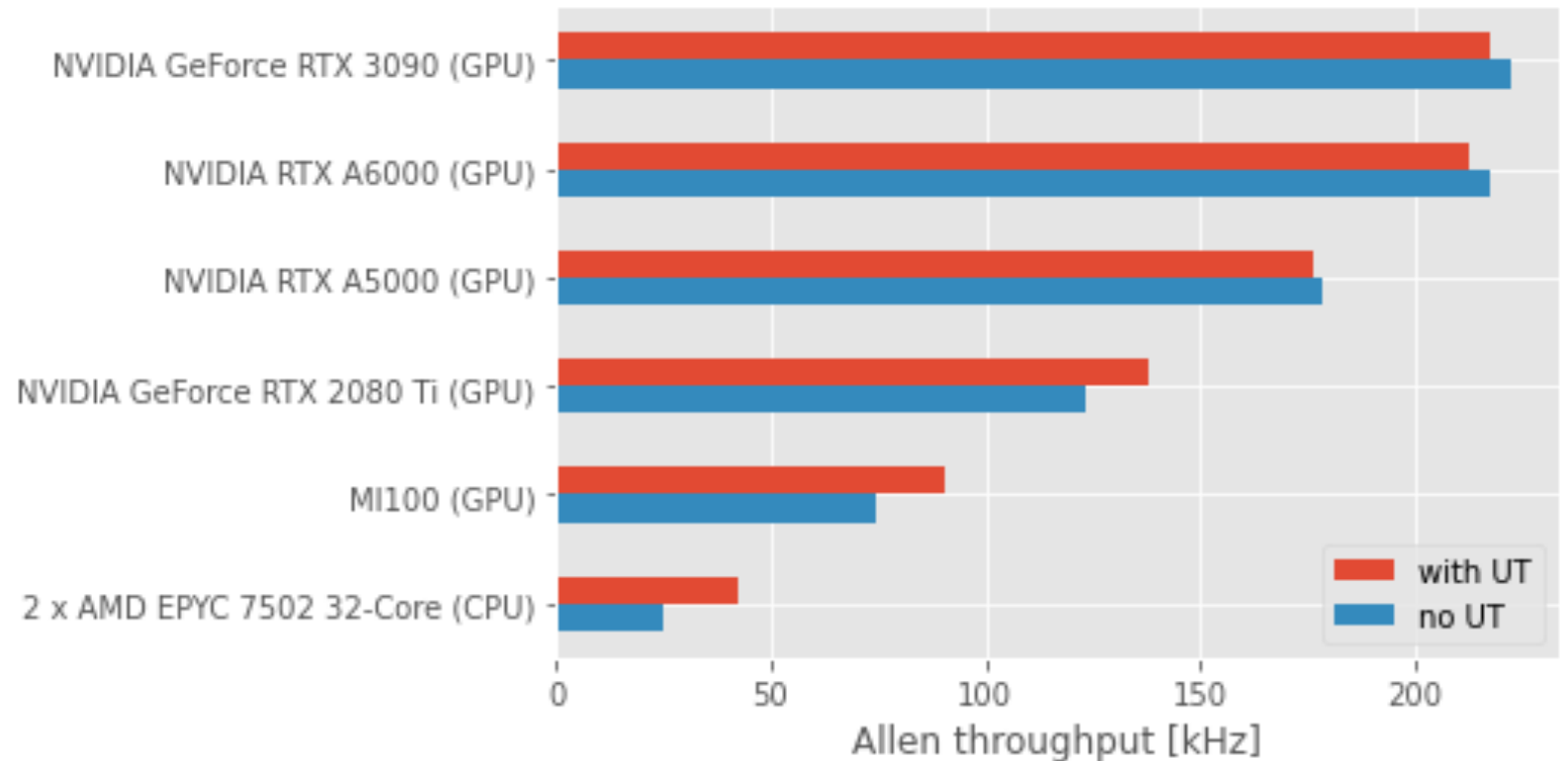
- Obtaining same physics efficiency as reconstruction with UT for high momentum tracks (with an increase in ghost rate)
- Keeping the throughput comparable



[LHCb-FIGURE-2022-007](#)

Throughput

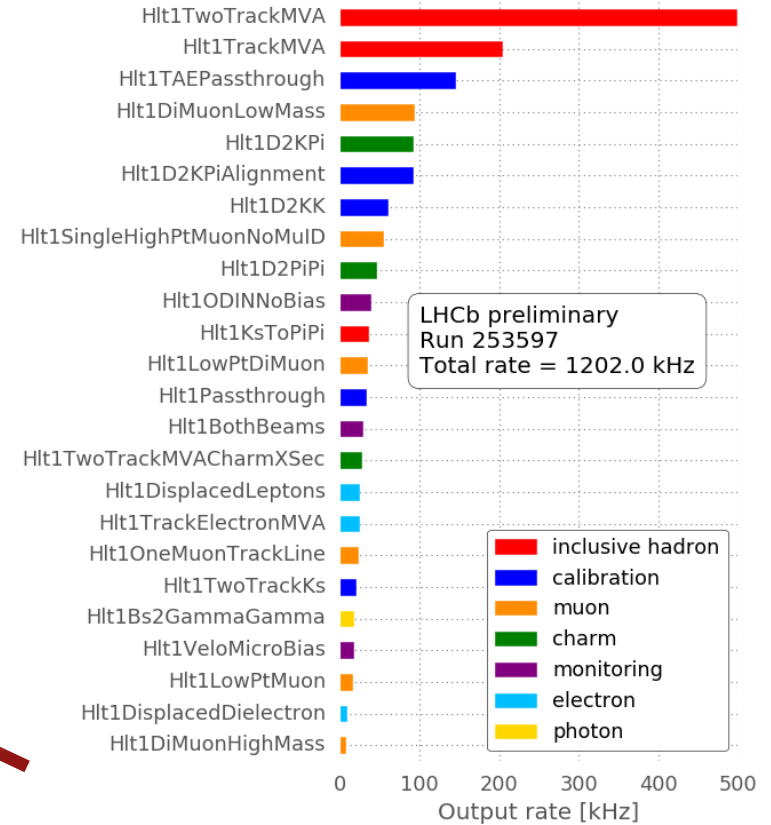
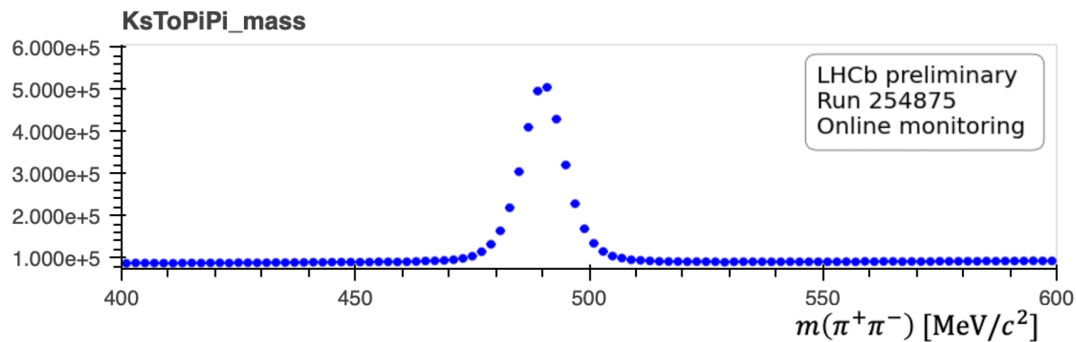
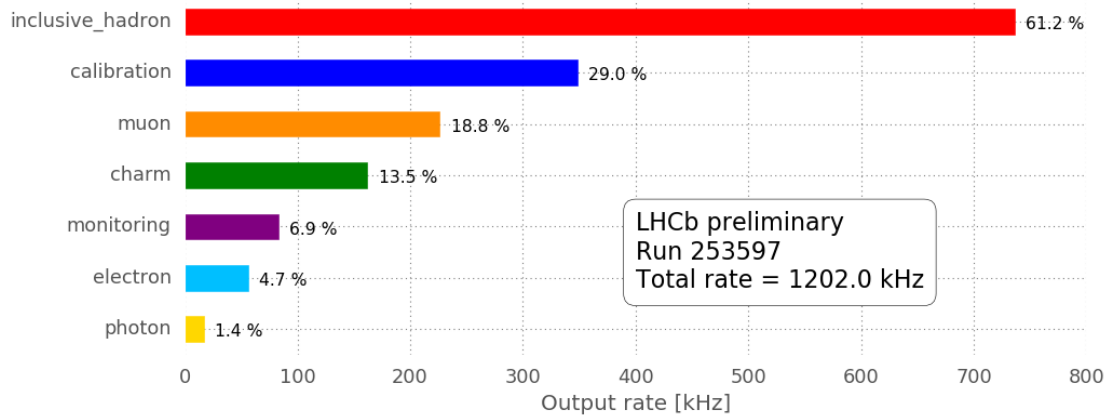
- HLT1 throughput measurement on different GPU cards
- RTX A5000 as default
- Full input rate can be processed with ~150-200 GPUs out of 500 available slots:
 - Very promising for the future!



[LHCb-FIGURE-2022-007](#)

2022 data taking

- HLT1 selections with 2022 data
- One of the first Run3 mass peaks in the monitoring of HLT1



First 2022 mass peak!

Conclusions

- Rare Charm decays: first LHCb study on the $D^0 \rightarrow h^+ h^- e^+ e^-$ decays
 - Analysis sensitivity: $\sim 10^{-7}$
 - Expecting to observe $D^0 \rightarrow \pi^+ \pi^- e^+ e^-$ and observe/set limit for $D^0 \rightarrow K^+ K^- e^+ e^-$
 - Future: LFU tests with muons, CP and angular asymmetries, ...
 - Upgrade needed, main limitation hardware trigger
- Fully software trigger in Run3:
 - HLT1 reconstruction at 30 MHz
 - Demanding task handled by GPUs
 - New tracking algorithm for long tracks with no UT information
 - Used for real data taking in 2022

Backup

Preselection

particle	Variable	$D^0 \rightarrow h^+h^-e^+e^-$
K, π	TRACKGhostProb	< 0.3
π_s	TRACKGhostProb	< 0.3
e	TRACKGhostProb	< 0.3
π	ProbNNpi	> 0.7
K	ProbNNK	> 0.7
D^0	IP χ^2	< 9
D^{*+}	CONE PT Asymmetry	> -0.4
D^{*+}	DTF χ^2	> 0
D^{*+}	DTF Δm	$> 144 \text{ MeV}/c^2$ $< 147 \text{ MeV}/c^2$

Table 7: Preselection requirements.

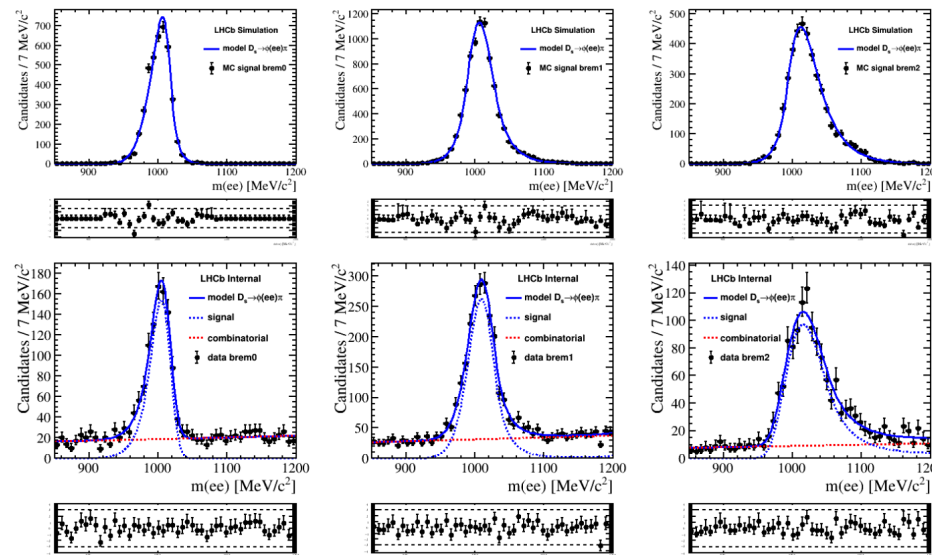
$m(ee)$ resolution correction

- Standard procedure in the rare B decays analysis, fitting data and MC $J/\psi \rightarrow ee$ resonance from $B \rightarrow J/\psi K$ decays in different brem categories:

$$m_{smearred} = m_{true} + s_{\sigma} \cdot (m_{reco} - m_{true}) + (\mu_{data}^{fit} - \mu_{MC}^{fit}) + (1 - s_{\sigma}) \cdot (\mu_{MC}^{fit} - m(J/\psi)_{PDG})$$

With $s_{\sigma} = \sigma_{MC} / \sigma_{data}$ and $\mu_{MC-data}^{fit}$ respectively the mean from fit on MC and data

- The method on B decays is validated on charm decays using $D_s \rightarrow \varphi\pi$ and fitting the $\varphi \rightarrow ee$ resonance in MC and data



Resonance correction

