

# Triggering at LHC

## The Challenge & the CMS Strategy



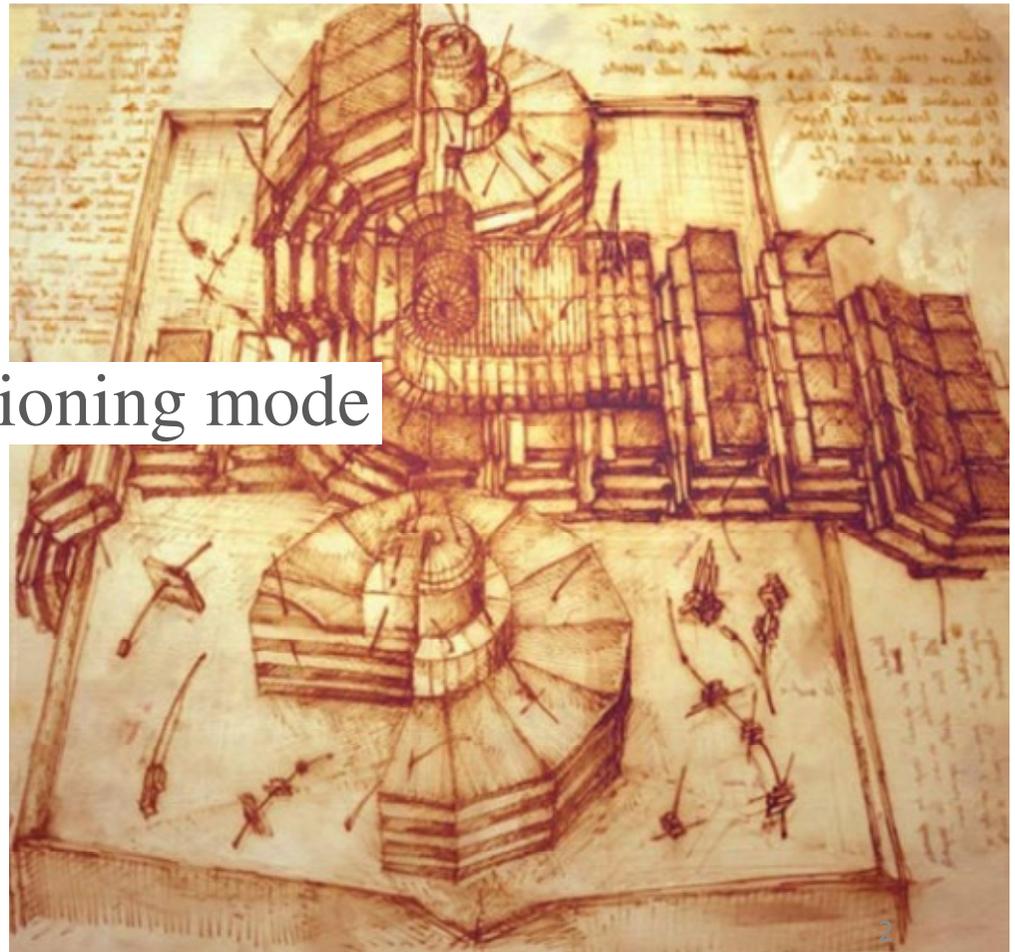
Christos Leonidopoulos  
CERN-PH

**Particle Physics and Photon Science  
Joint Instrumentation Seminar  
7 May 2010  
DESY, Hamburg University, XFEL**

# News from CERN

After 20 years of R&D, Detector Building,  
Commissioning and Preparation

- LHC is up & running
- The Experiments:
  - Are in physics commissioning mode
  - Trigger and detector performance according to design
- First Collision Results



How did it all begin?

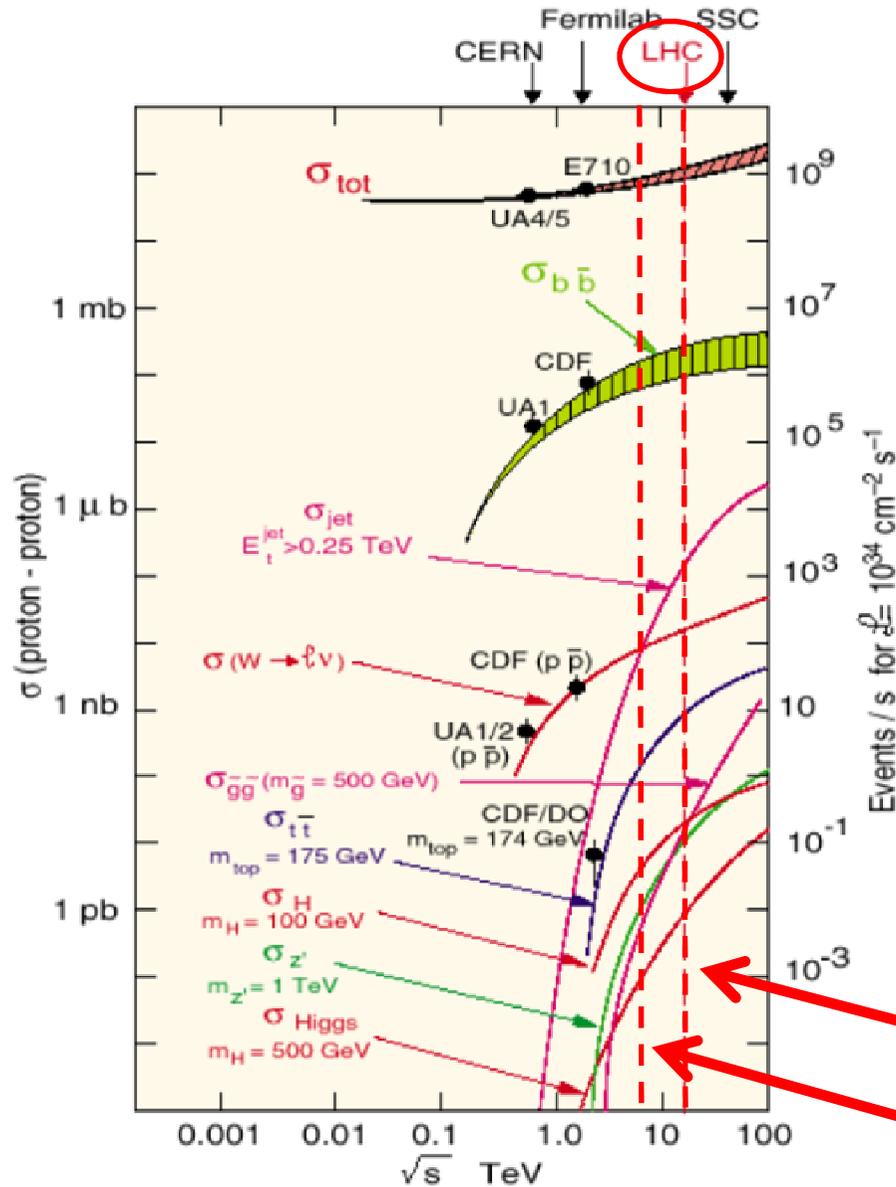
And what is the big deal  
about the trigger?

# What are we trying to do?

- Find the most interesting physics signals at LHC
- Store them for off-line processing

# What do we expect to see?

$$\mathcal{L} = 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$$



Process	$\sigma$ (nb)	Production rates (Hz)
Inelastic	$10^8$	$10^9$
$b\bar{b}$	$5 \times 10^5$	$5 \times 10^6$
$W \rightarrow \ell \nu$	15	100
$Z \rightarrow \ell \ell$	2	20
$t\bar{t}$	1	10
$H(100 \text{ GeV})$	0.05	0.1
$Z'(1 \text{ TeV})$	0.05	0.1
$\tilde{g}\tilde{g}(1 \text{ TeV})$	0.05	0.1
$H(500 \text{ GeV})$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-2}$

You are here

Well, actually at 7 TeV...

# What is the problem?

- 1) We don't keep all these events → **Selection**
- 2) Old Physics happens more often than New Physics
- 3) New Physics buried under a ton of Old Physics

# We don't keep all these events

- How many do we keep? About 150-300 Hz
- Why only so few? Not enough resources!
  - 300 Hz at 1-2 MB/event → Up to 36 GB per minute
  - Up to 6'000'000 GB of storage needed per year
  - Plus: about 30 secs to reconstruct every event off-line
- “Interesting” physics occurs at  $\sim 10$ , 1 or  $< 1$  Hz
  - We are only interested in a (tiny) fraction of all events
  - *We don't* really want to keep all these events

# Old Physics: more likely than New Physics

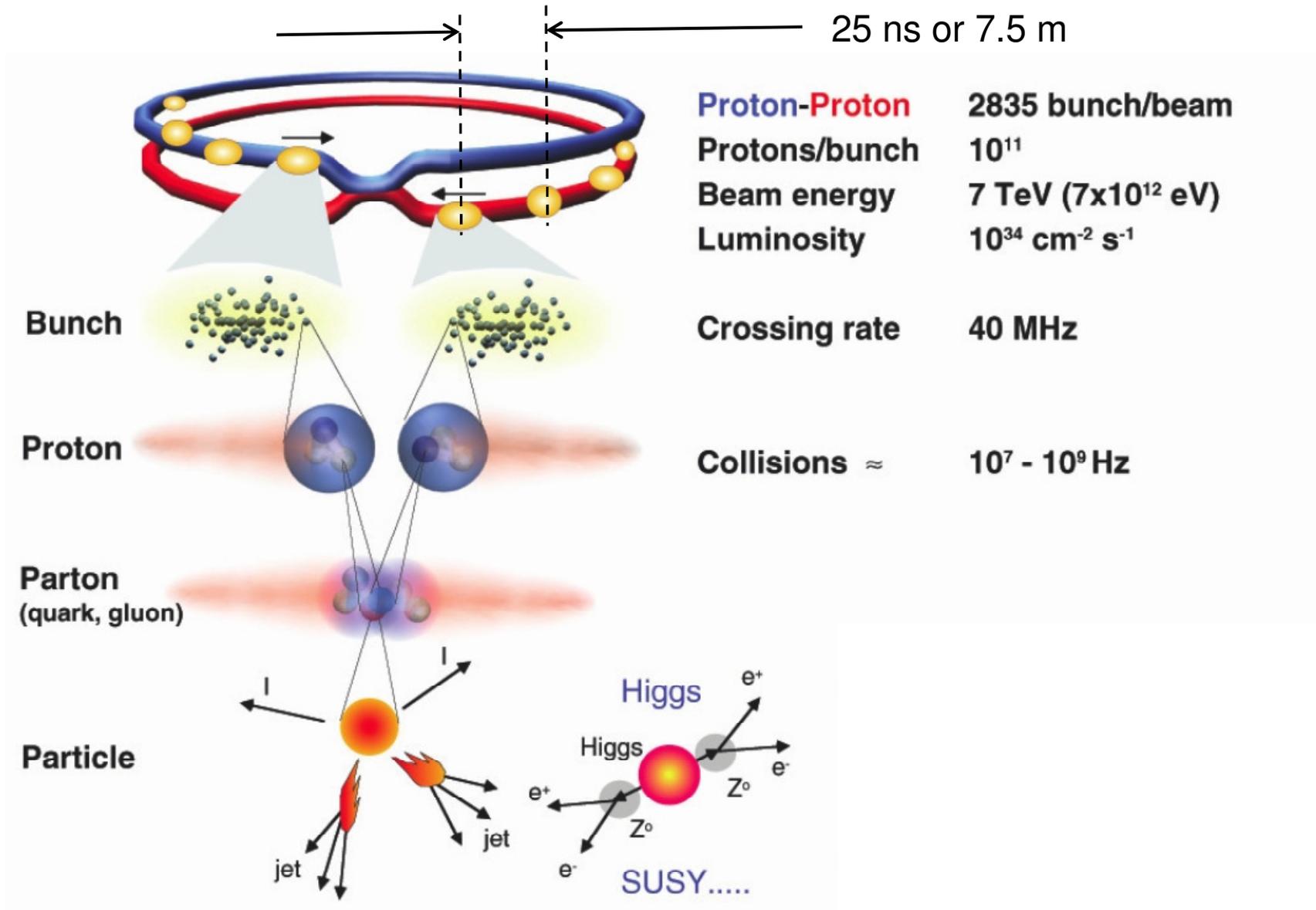
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It is challenging (to say the least)  
to find these rare exciting events

# LHC reference numbers



# New Physics buried under Old Physics

- Interaction rate:

$$R = \mathcal{L} \times \sigma_{\text{tot}} = 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1} \times 80 \text{ mb} \sim 0.8 \text{ GHz} \quad (*)$$

(\*) Total inelastic cross section at 14 TeV ( $\pm 20\%$ )

- Distance between bunch crossings:

$$\Delta t = 25 \text{ ns (or 7.5 m)}$$

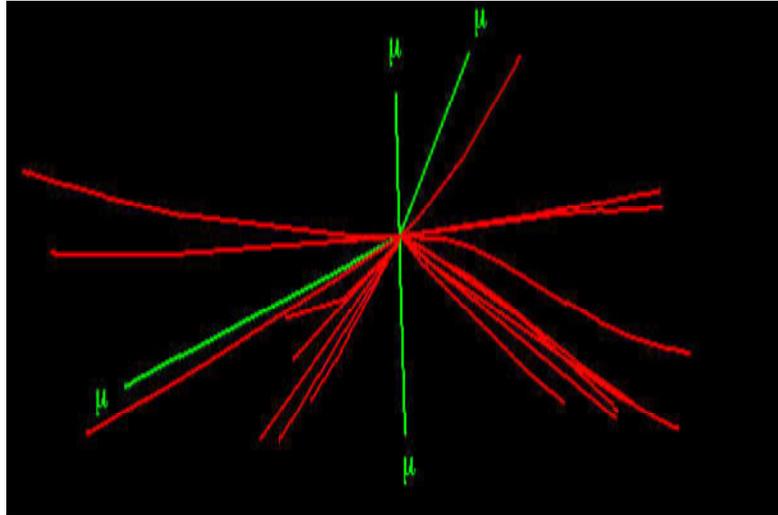
- Non-empty bunch crossings:

$$2835 \text{ out of } 3564 \text{ (or } \epsilon = 79.5\% \text{)}$$

- Average # of interactions per (non-empty) crossing:

$$\bar{n} = R \times \Delta t / \epsilon \sim 25$$

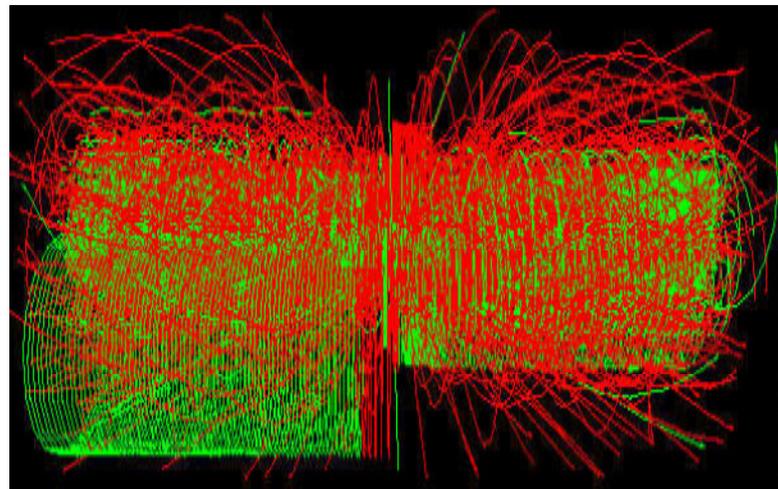
# New Physics buried under Old Physics



For every exciting interaction...

$$H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\mu$$

Reconstructed tracks  
with  $p_T > 25$  GeV



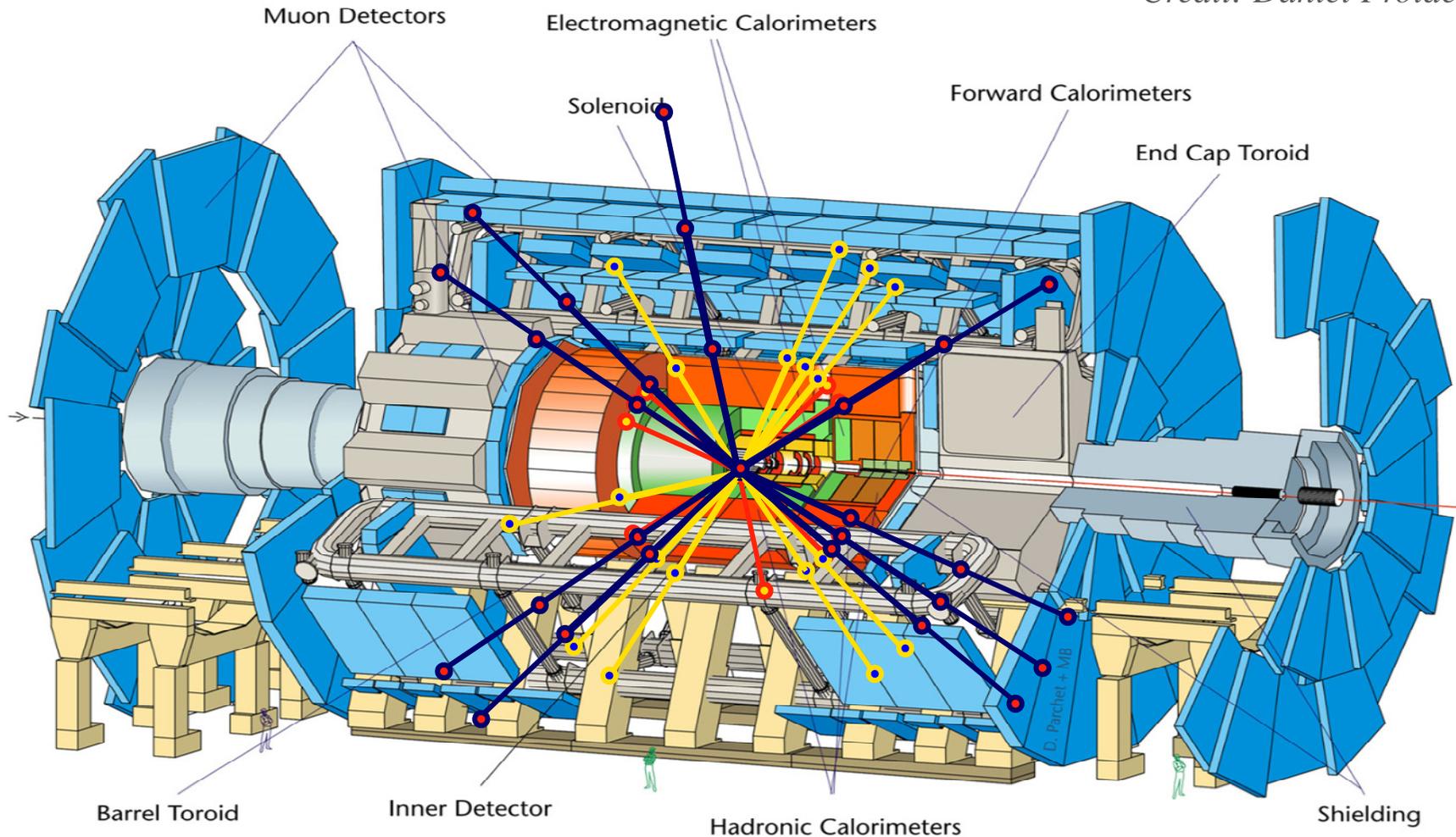
...expect 25 non-exciting  
*overlaid* interactions  
(at  $\sim 1000$  tracks per event)

Reconstructed tracks  
with  $p_T > 2$  GeV

Pileup: serious problem at LHC at high luminosities

# The 25 ns challenge

*Credit: Daniel Froidevaux*



Interactions every **25 ns** ...

➤ In 25 ns particles travel **7.5 m**

Cable length **~100 meters** ...

➤ In 25 ns signals travel **5 m**

# What are we trying to do? (v.2)

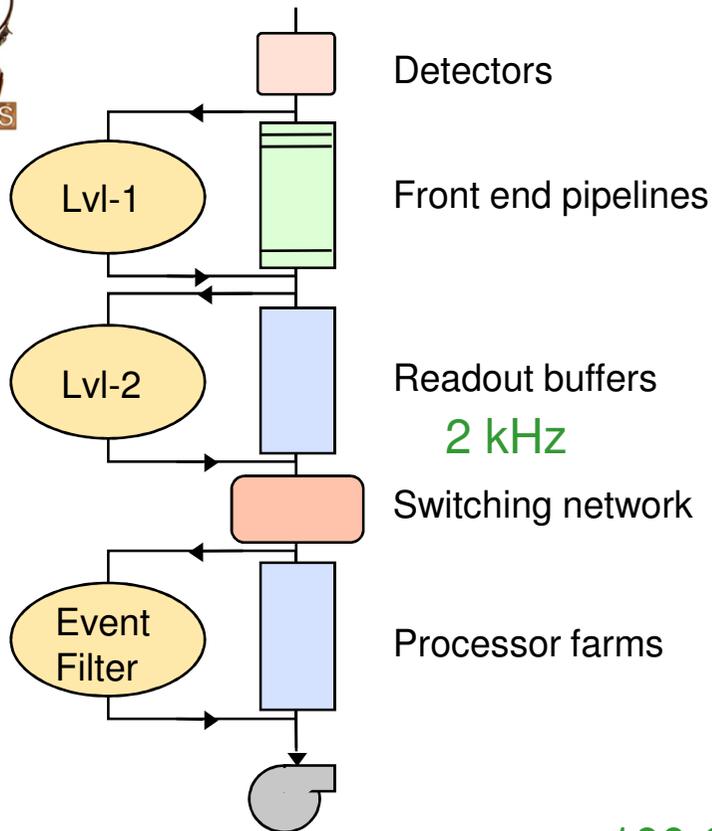
- **Select** the most interesting physics signals at LHC
  - 150-300 Hz out of ~ 1 GHz of “noise” (selection:  $10^{-7}$ )
- **In real time**
- Store them for off-line processing

# Background is a Disease

Meet the Cure

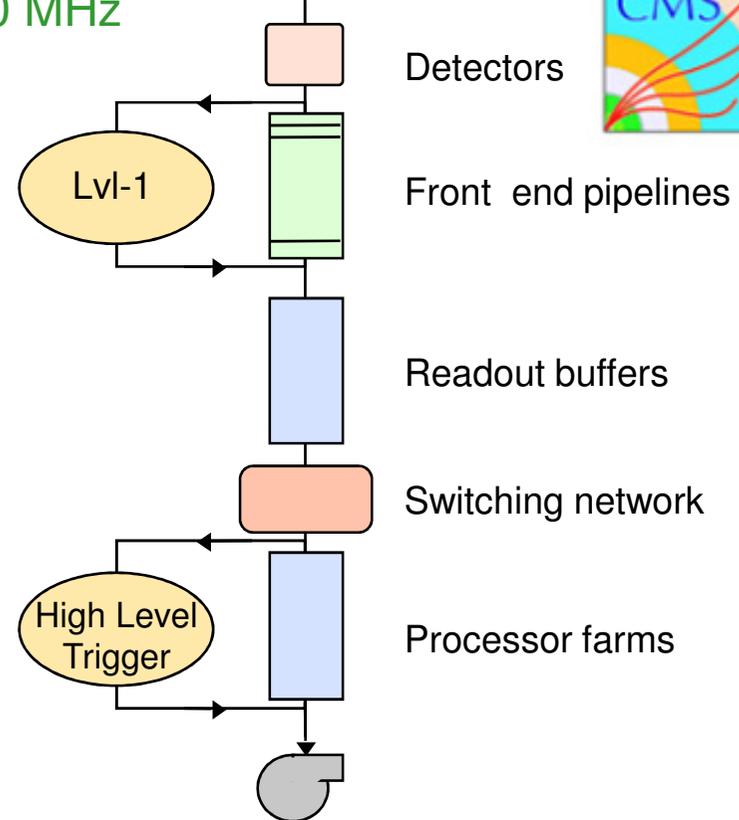
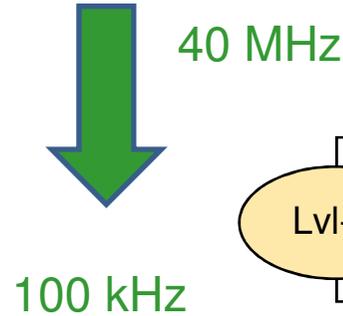


# ATLAS and CMS triggers



## ATLAS

- 3 levels (traditional design)
- L1: hardware, firmware
- L2 + EvF: high-level software



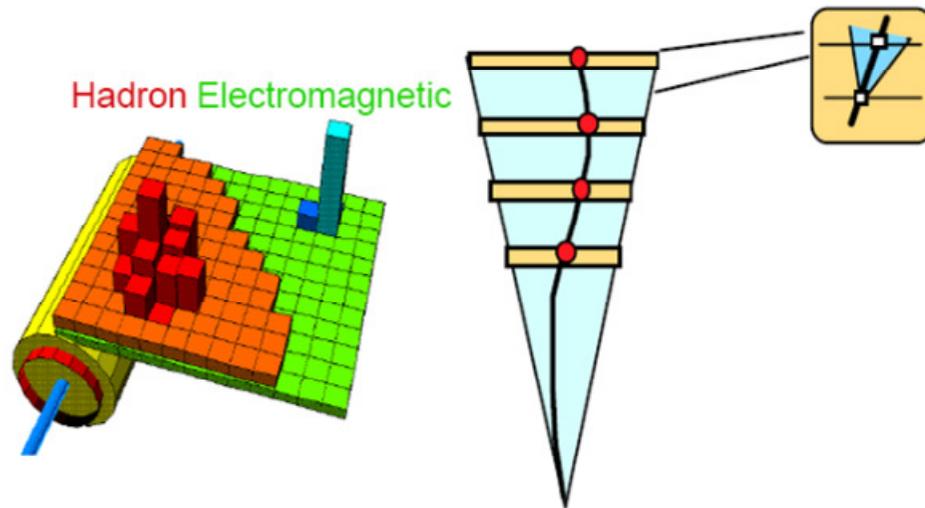
## CMS

- L2, L3: merged into HLT
- L1: hardware, firmware
- HLT: high-level software

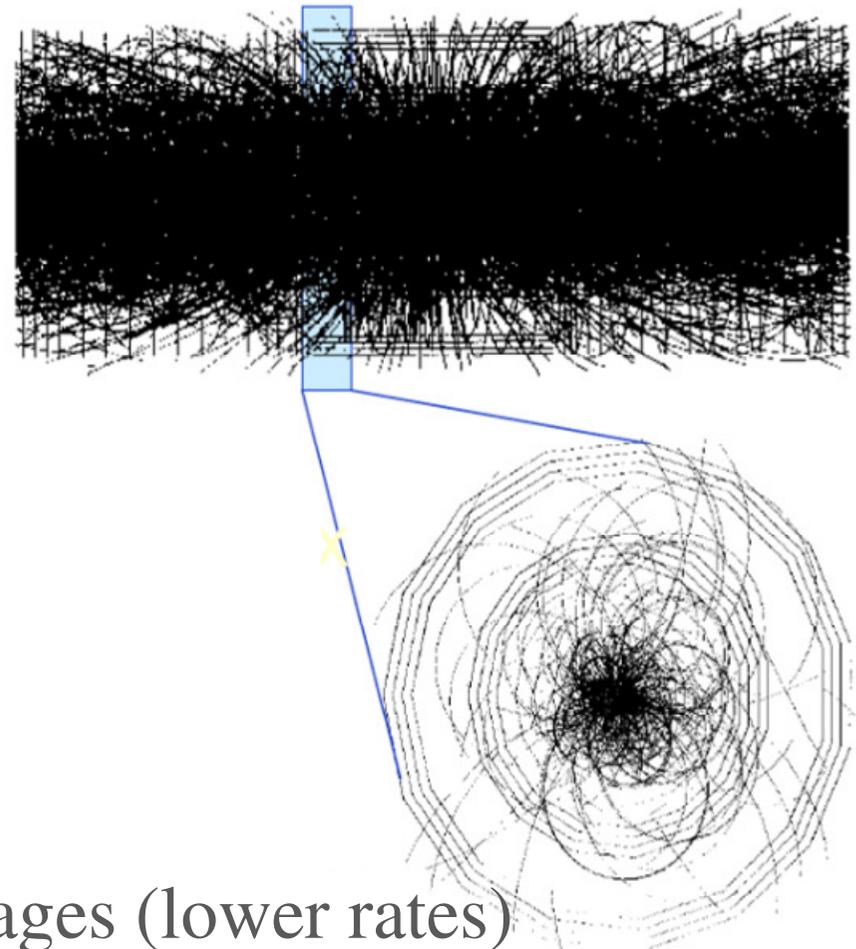
100-200 Hz



# Why not use tracker info at Level-1?



Plans of including  
tracker info at L1 for SLHC



Calorimeter, muon detectors:

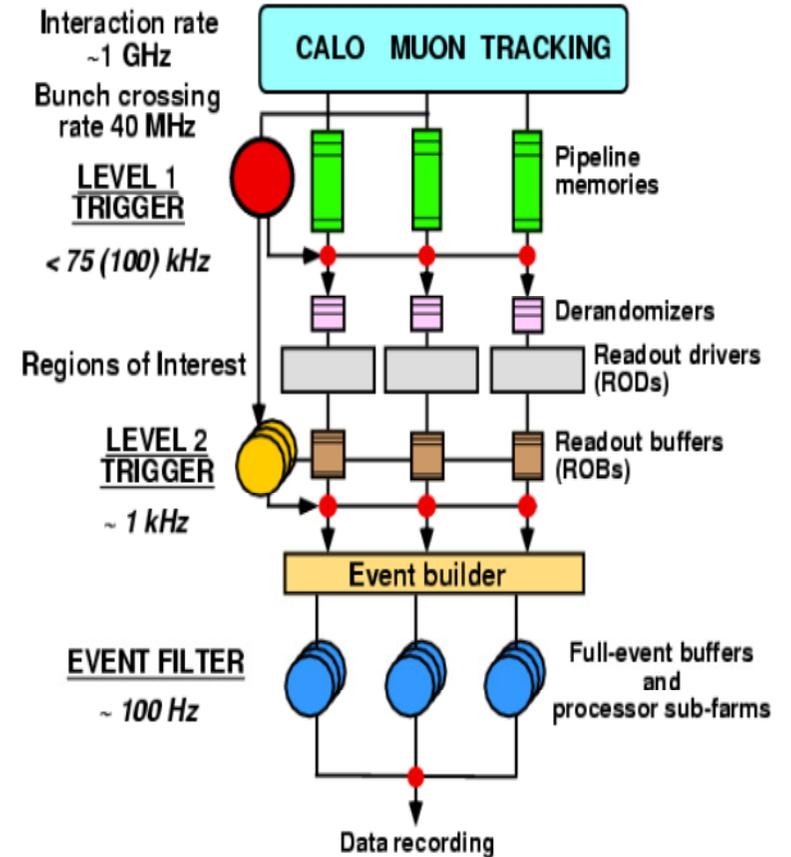
- Thousands of channels
- Patter recognition fast

Tracking, vertexing detectors:

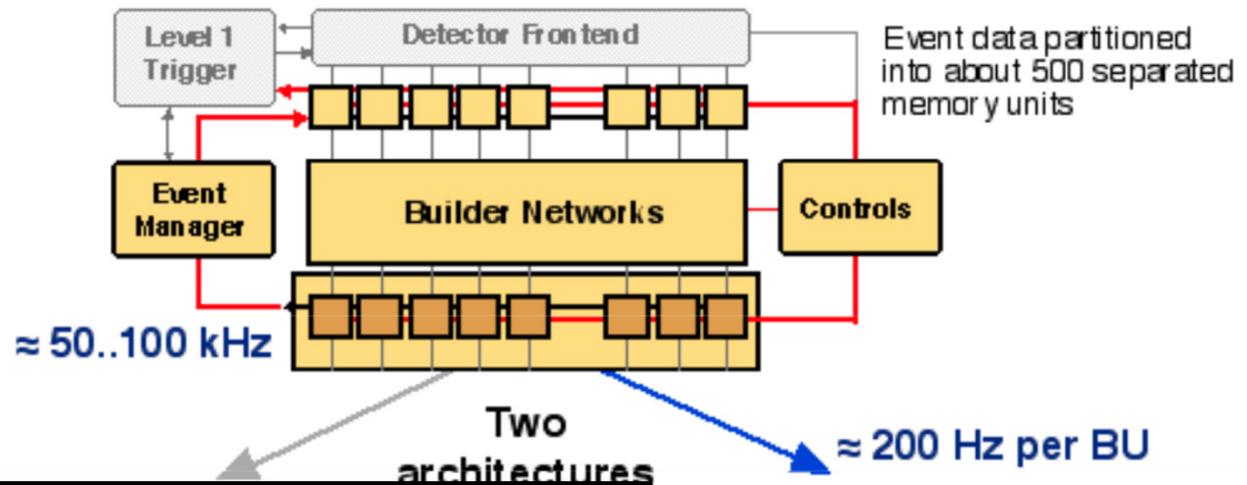
- Millions of channels
- Patter recognition slow
- Reserved for later triggering stages (lower rates)

# ATLAS High Level Trigger

- L2 and L3 (Event Filter) form High Level Trigger (HLT)
- L2 (~500 CPUs) accesses ~10% of event info (full granularity) seeded by L1 objects
- Event Filter (~2000 CPUs) accesses full event using “off-line quality” algorithms
- Custom L2-steering system
- L1: 2.5  $\mu$ s, L2: 40 ms, L3: 4s



# CMS High Level Trigger



- L2 and L3 merged into High Level Trigger (HLT)
- HLT ( $\sim 5000$  CPUs) accesses full event info (full granularity) seeded by L1 objects using “off-line quality” algorithms
- L1:  $3.2 \mu\text{s}$ , HLT:  $40 \text{ ms}$



**Farm of processors**

**ONE event, ONE processor**

- High latency (larger buffers)
- Simpler I/O
- Sequential programming

# ATLAS *vs.* CMS Triggers



- **More traditional, safer design**
  - Concrete steps & requirements for each of Level-2, Level-3 steps of selection
  - Accesses fraction of event at L2 (small throughput)
  - **But:** Custom controls and separate farms for L2, L3
- 
- **More flexibility**
    - Full event info (and offline reconstruction) as early as L2
    - HLT: continuous software environment in single farm
  - **But:**
    - Large data throughput (and switching network) needed
    - Risky design decision (at the time)

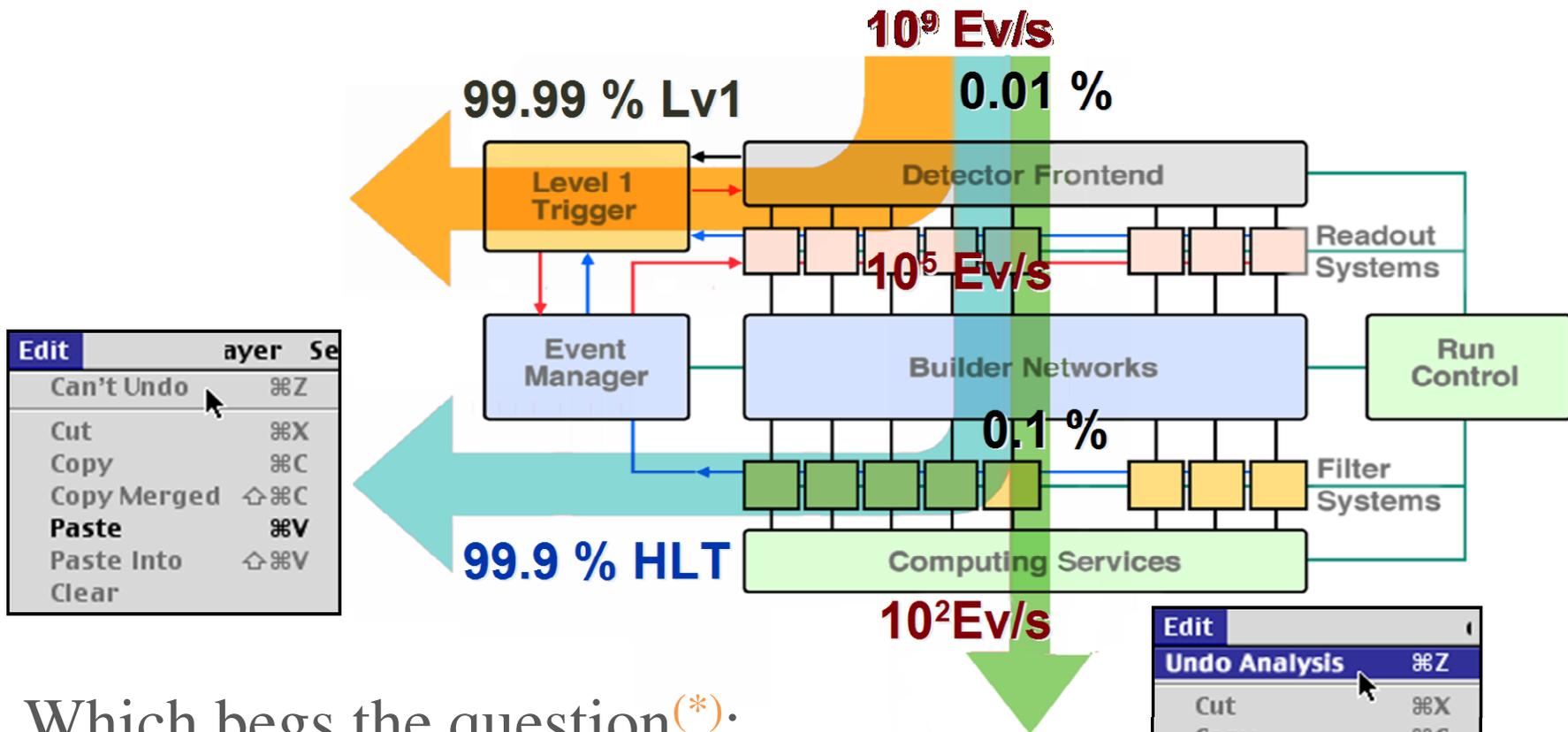


# ATLAS *vs.* CMS Triggers

## Overall:

- Very similar performances
- Trigger bandwidth determined by detectors and physics programs, not trigger design
- Systems still differ (two farms vs. single farm at HLT)  
so: commissioning and debugging also different

# Trigger: A tricky business



Edit	ayer	Se
Can't Undo		⌘Z
Cut		⌘X
Copy		⌘C
Copy Merged	⇧	⌘C
Paste		⌘V
Paste Into	⇧	⌘V
Clear		

Edit		
Undo Analysis		⌘Z
Cut		⌘X
Copy		⌘C
Copy Merged	⇧	⌘C
Paste		⌘V
Paste Into	⇧	⌘V
Clear		

Which begs the question<sup>(\*)</sup>:

Will your favorite new physics signal be included in the small fraction of selected events? (unexpected signatures always a worry)

<sup>(\*)</sup> LHC upgrade: 1B CHF, CMS+ATLAS detectors: 1.2B CHF

# What are we trying to do? (v.3)

- **Select** the most interesting physics signals at LHC
  - 150-300 Hz out of ~ 1 GHz of “noise” (selection:  $10^{-7}$ )
- **In real time**
- Store them for off-line processing
- **Don't screw up**

# What to avoid

- **Killing** the interesting physics altogether
- **Biasing** the selected event samples:
  - Uncertainties in topologies of rejected events
  - Introduction of large systematic errors

arXiv:hep-ex/0502042v3 9 Feb 2007

## Reduction of the Statistical Power Per Event Due Measurements

### Abstract

A cut on the maximum number of events per event decreases the statistical power of the parameter cut in the

The small loss of events due to a moderate upper lifetime cut is accompanied by a large loss of information, because not only a few events outside the allowed time window are lost, but also the information that there were only a few. This can have dramatic effects on the precision of the measurement. As shown

to technical limitations, has the same effect. In this note we describe and quantify the consequences of such a cut on lifetime measurements. We

# How to build good triggers

Ask old people



Learn from previous experiments

# How to build good triggers

- No single silver bullet
- Using common sense (and trigger studies)

## General strategies

- As simple as possible
- As inclusive as possible
- Robustness
- Redundancy

# Simplicity

- Construct triggers with simple conditions
- Simple triggers easier to
  - commission
  - debug
  - understand

## General strategies

- As simple as possible
- As inclusive as possible
- Robustness
- Redundancy

# Be inclusive

- Better to have one trigger covering similar analyses
- Even better: covering other, unrelated analyses
- Should be able to discover the unexpected as well

## Strong social aspects, often ignored

- Competition inside experiment
  - One (wo)man's signal is another (wo)man's background
  - It's best for your analysis to rely on a popular trigger
- Inertia: people get used to “old” triggers
- Safety: people tend to ignore “new” triggers

### General strategies

- As simple as possible
- As inclusive as possible
- Robustness
- Redundancy

Your favorite trigger should be  
deployed online as early as possible

# Robustness

- Make sure your trigger can run for *many* events
  - Including pathological events
  - Including events with x10 more hits than MC predicts
- Make sure your trigger is immune
  - To beam conditions, detector problems

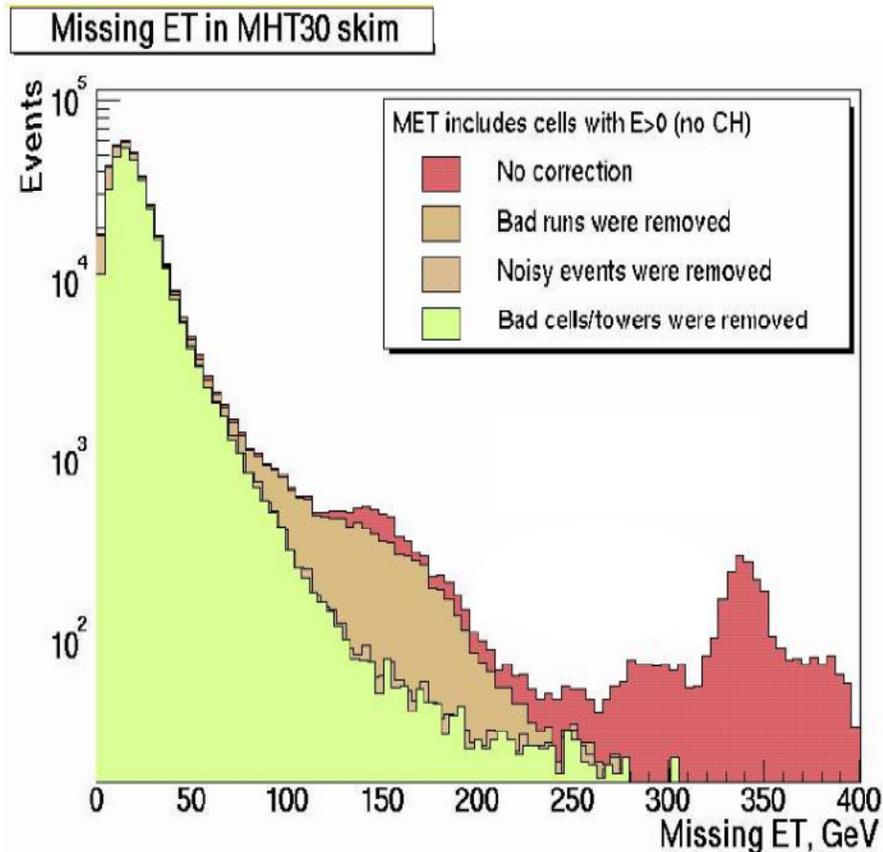
## Missing $E_T$ : the popular trigger for

- SUSY particles
- Dark matter candidates
- But also: neutrinos (so:  $W$ s, Higgs, etc)

### General strategies

- As simple as possible
- As inclusive as possible
- Robustness
- Redundancy

# Missing $E_T$ at DØ



It takes a *long* time to

- Commission the detector for data-taking
- Remove all problematic runs
- Understand noisy environment
- Discover (and remove) problematic channels

Missing  $E_T$  :

- Not ideal for startup
- Typically the last trigger to be commissioned

# Redundancy

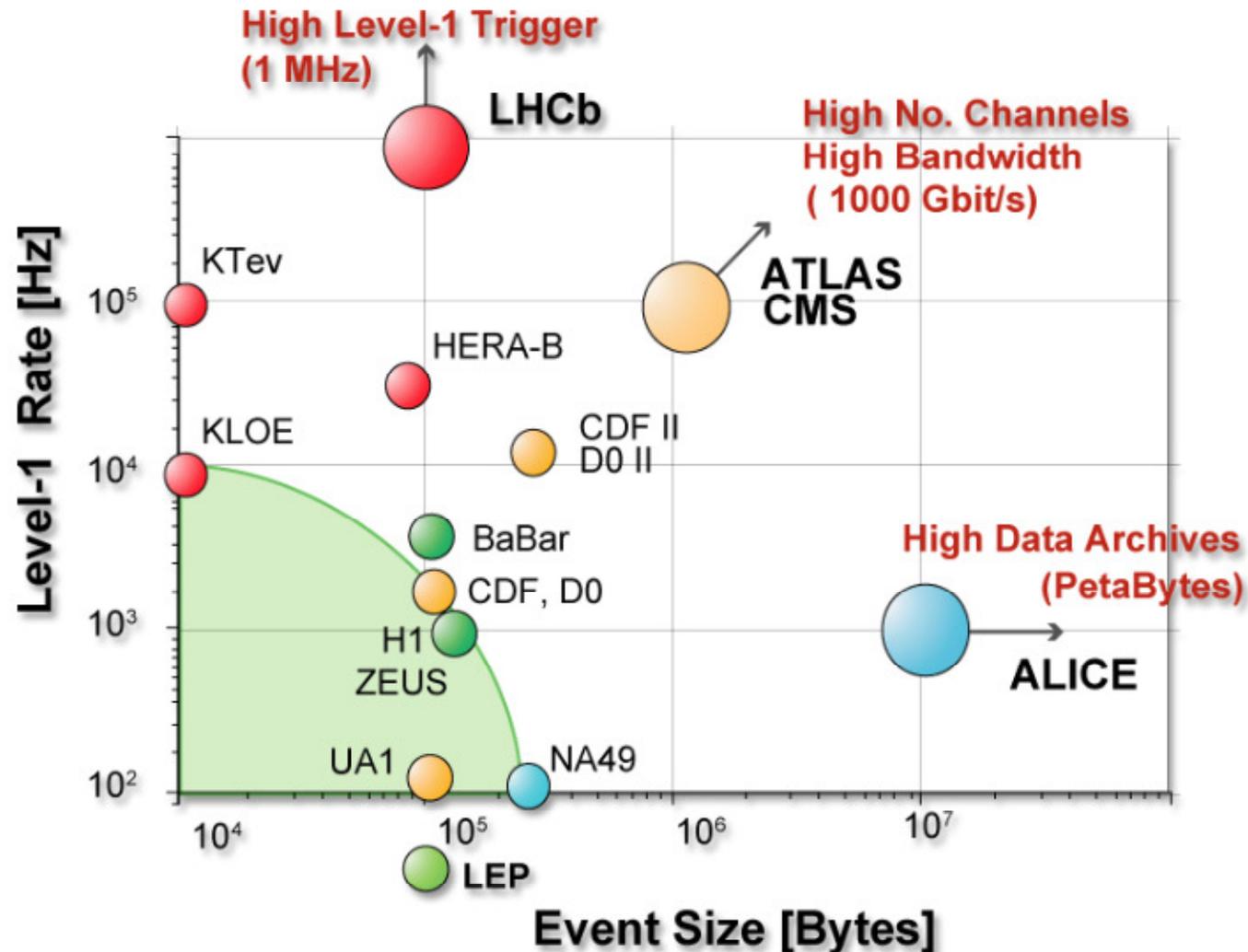
- Make sure your signal can be selected by more than one triggers
  - Helps to understand biases
  - Ensures that if a trigger has problems (rates too high or instability) you still get your events

## General strategies

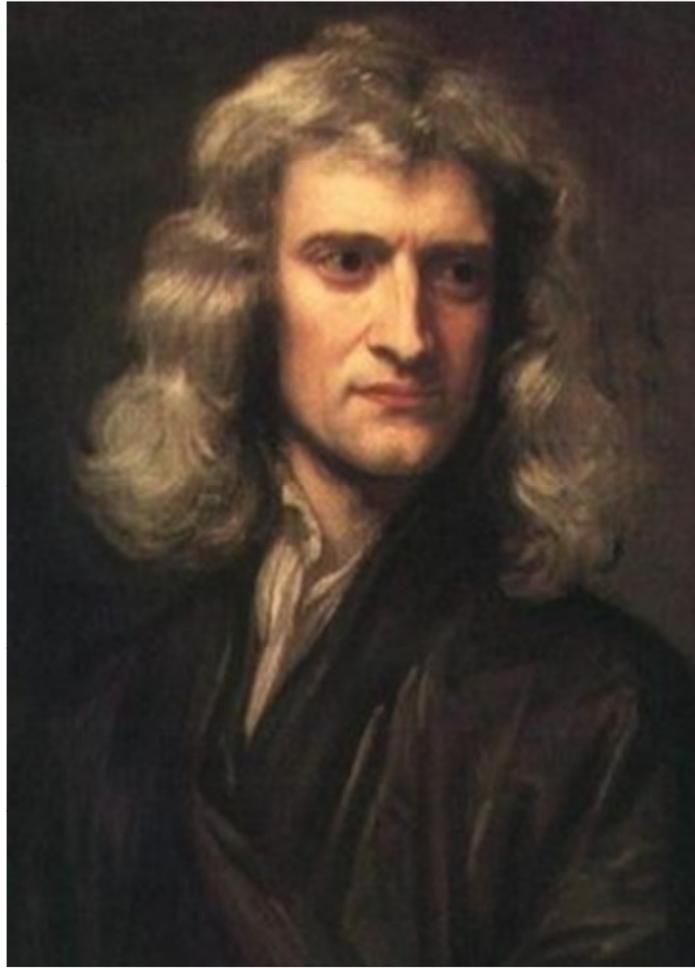
- As simple as possible
- As inclusive as possible
- Robustness
- Redundancy

How is the trigger different at LHC?

# Trigger trends



Luminosity, rates, event sizes:  
all increased by ~an order of magnitude



***“If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of Giants”***

# Evolution in computing



Advances in

- Networking (Ethernet, Terabit/s networks)
  - PC industry (computing power and memory abundance)
  - Software standards (Linux, http, XML, C++, Java)
- offer affordable, modular, scalable, upgradable solutions

# CMS trigger: scalable

The trigger at CMS evolves with luminosity

Adjusts to increases in:

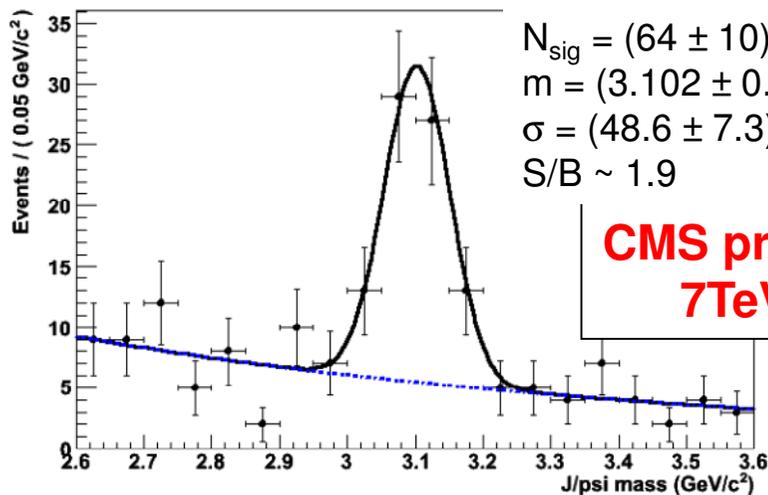
- DAQ capacity (L1 rate)
- CPU-power needed at HLT
  - By adding/upgrading PCs as necessary

# CMS trigger at low luminosities

## Lower luminosities allow us to trigger

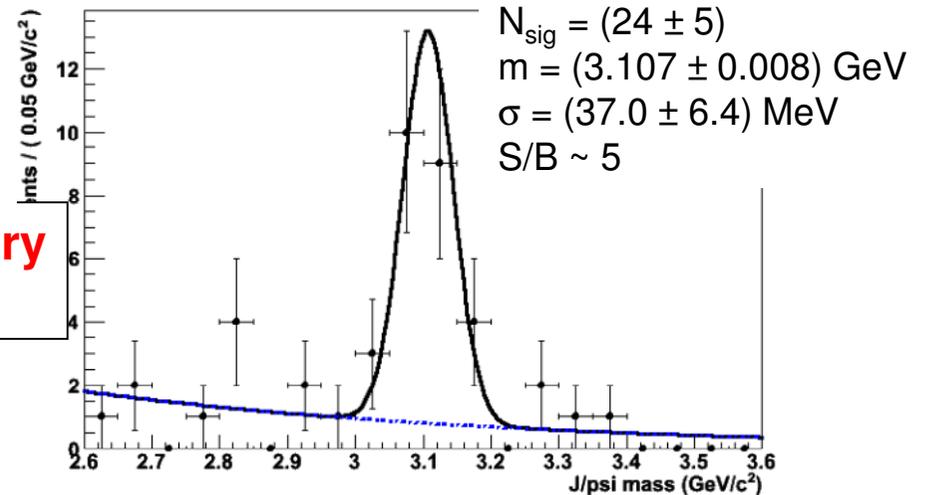
- with lower thresholds, looser requirements
  - e.g. no isolation on leptons
- on physics that we cannot trigger on later
  - e.g.  $B$  physics, quarkonia or other low- $p_T$  physics

Mass fit for all muon types



All di-muons

Mass fit for glb-glb muons



Only global-global muons

The  
20 November – 16 December 2009  
Revolution

# The 2009 CMS Trigger Strategy

- Remove most requirements,  
put thresholds at lowest possible value
  - Calorimeter: low  $E_T$  electron ( $\geq 5$  GeV) or Jet ( $\geq 10$  GeV)
  - Muons without any threshold  
(effective kinematic limit: 3 GeV  $p_T$  cut)
  - Other candidate triggers for later running are active for diagnostic and study purposes (trigger efficiencies)

# The 2009 CMS Trigger Strategy #2

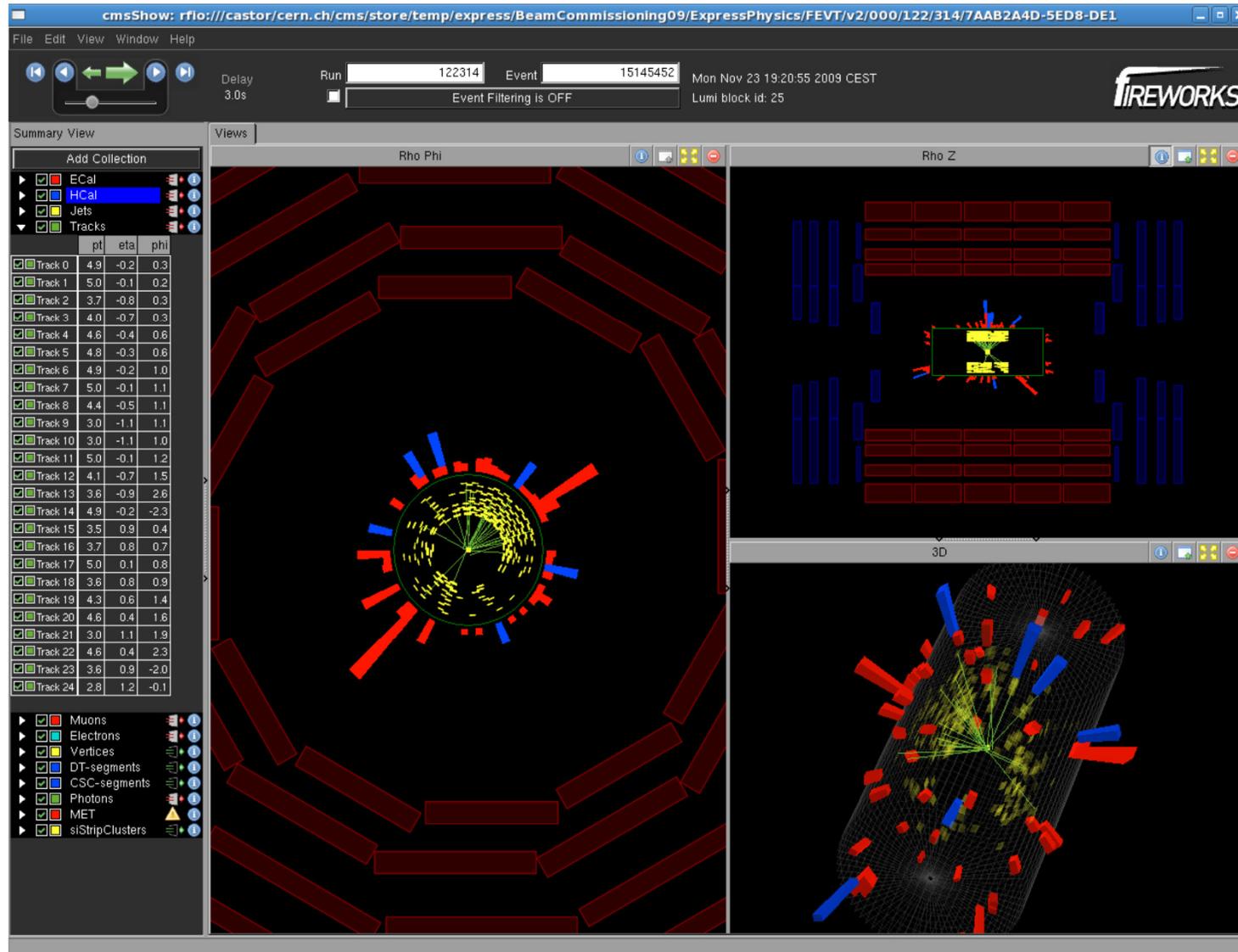
- Bandwidth investment in “technical” triggers
  - Zero-bias triggers (using LHC machine clock information)
    - Filled-bunch coincidence
  - Beam-gas triggers
    - Unpaired filled-bunch + detector activity
  - Calibration, alignment, monitoring
  - Save small fraction of L1-accepted events irrespective of HLT decision (“Auto-accept” for CDF or “mark-n-pass” for DØ)
  - Suite of minimum bias triggers (any detector activity)

# Trigger Commissioning at CMS

# On the road to First Collisions

- **Adapt to *rapidly* changing conditions**
  - Beam “splashes” & circulating beam
  - Two (unstable) beams with magnetic field off
  - Two (stable) beams with magnetic field (and tracker) on
- **Write out as many events as possible**
  - Thou Shalt Not Unnecessarily Reject Events
  - Thou Shalt Capture **as many bunches with protons as possible** (“zero-bias” rate: **from 11 to 88 kHz**)
  - Thou Shalt Capture **All Events with Any Detector Activity** (“min.bias” rate: **up to 600 Hz**)

# First collisions in CMS – Monday, 23 November 2009



# By the end of 2009

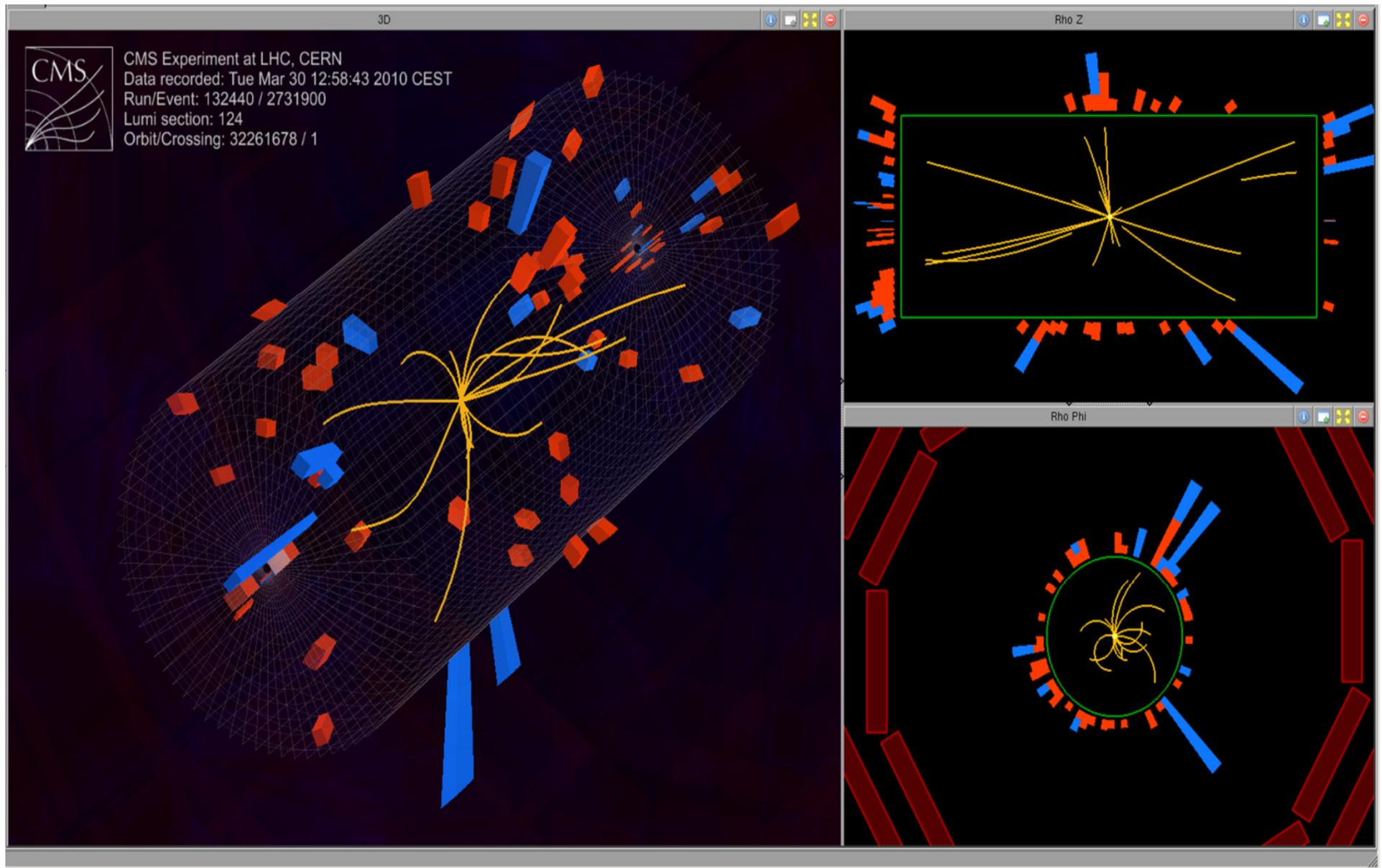
- Collision data taken at
  - 900 GeV (350 k min. bias events or  $10 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$ ), and
  - 2.36 TeV ( 20k min. bias events or  $< 1 \mu\text{b}^{-1}$ )
    - Collider energy world record
- CMS took good quality data
  - $> 99\%$  of detector channels operational
  - High data-taking efficiency ( $> 80\%$ )
  - Data can be analyzed very quickly

# 2010: Collisions at 7 TeV

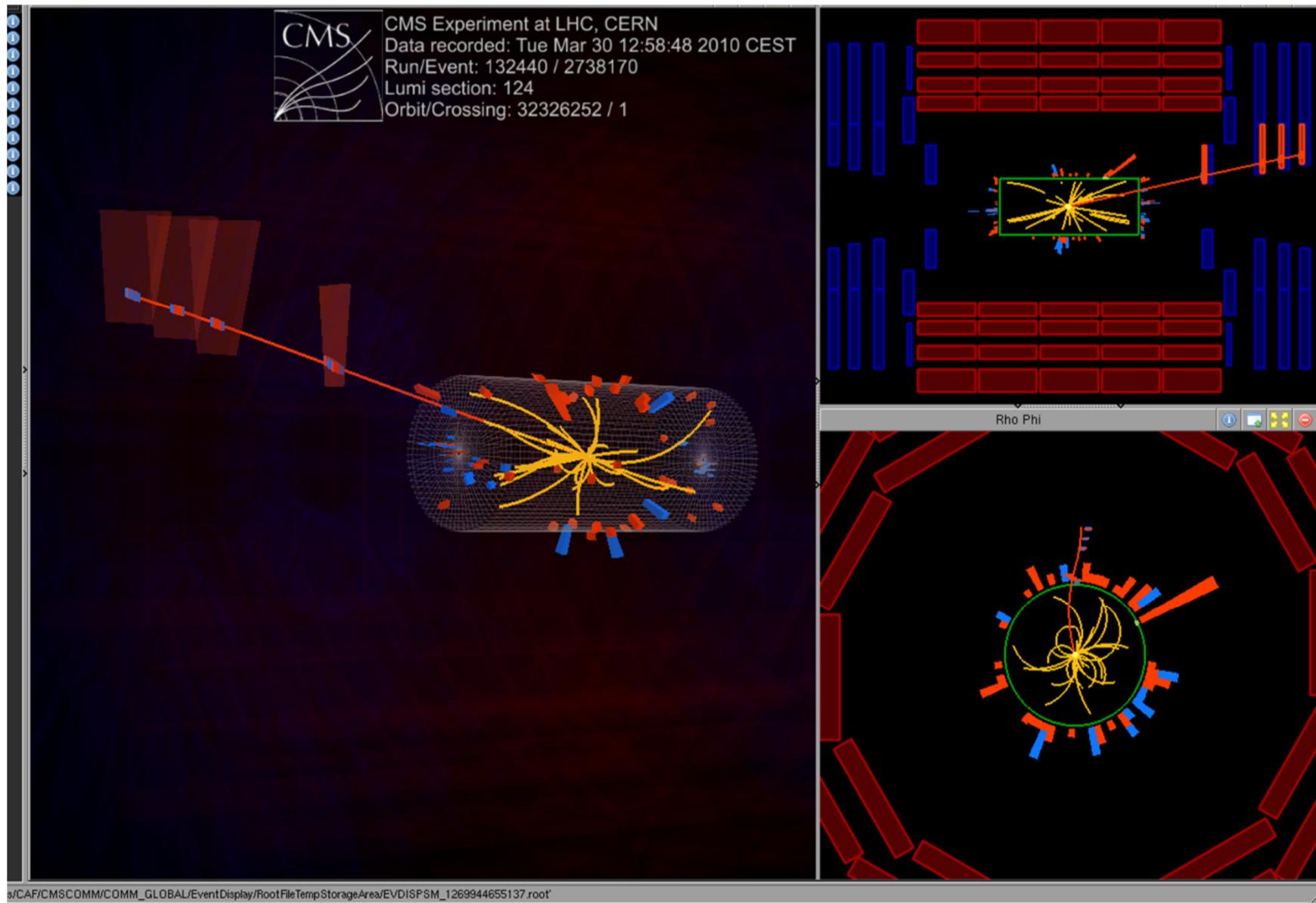


The image shows a screenshot of a CERN website page. At the top left, the text 'Press Release' is displayed in a large, dark blue font. To the right of this, there is a search bar with a 'Search' button and two radio buttons: 'this site' (which is selected) and 'All CERN'. Below the search bar, there is a horizontal navigation menu with three items: 'Releases' (highlighted with a grey background), 'For Journalists', and 'For CERN People'. The main content area features a large blue headline: 'LHC research programme gets underway'. To the right of the headline, the text 'PR07.10' and '30.03.2010' is displayed. Below the headline, there is a paragraph of text: 'Geneva, 30 March 2010. Beams collided at 7 TeV in the LHC at 13:06 CEST, marking the start of the LHC research programme. Particle physicists around the world are looking forward to a potentially rich harvest of new physics as the LHC begins its first long run at an energy three and a half times higher than previously achieved at a particle accelerator.' Below this paragraph, there is a quote: '"It's a great day to be a particle physicist," said CERN<sup>1</sup> Director General Rolf Heuer. "A lot of people have waited a long time for this moment, but their patience and dedication is starting to pay dividends."'

# *First 7 TeV collisions in CMS – Tuesday, 30 March 2010*



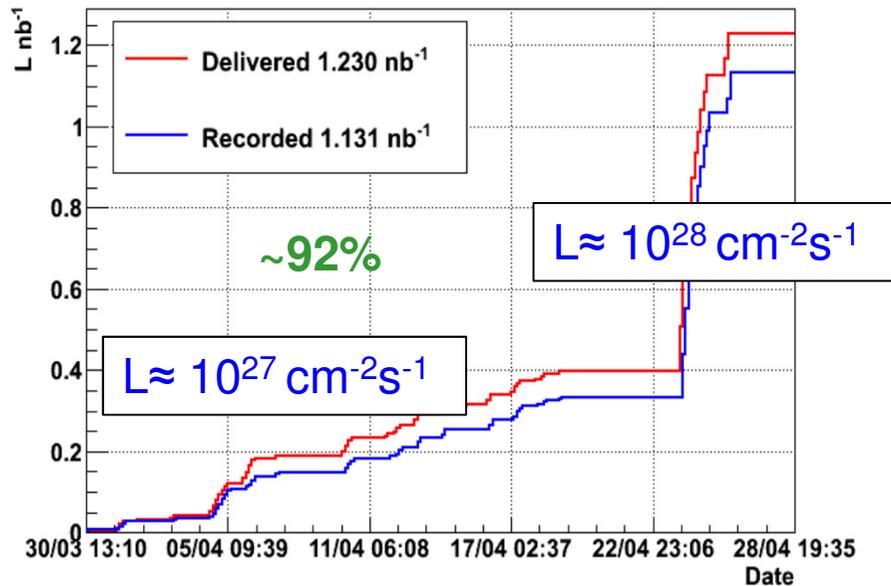
# First 7 TeV collisions in CMS – Tuesday, 30 March 2010



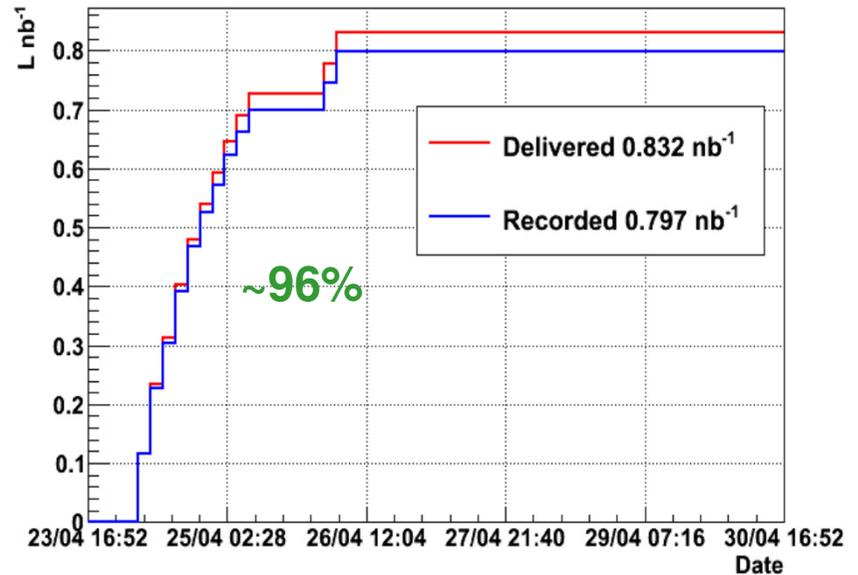
# What is happening now

- LHC running at 7 TeV since March 30<sup>th</sup>
  - Have passed 1 nb<sup>-1</sup> benchmark a month later
  - $L > 10^{28} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , total inelastic (min.bias) rate: ~ 1 kHz
  - Data-taking efficiency > 92% (96% in last two weeks)

CMS: Integrated Luminosity 2010

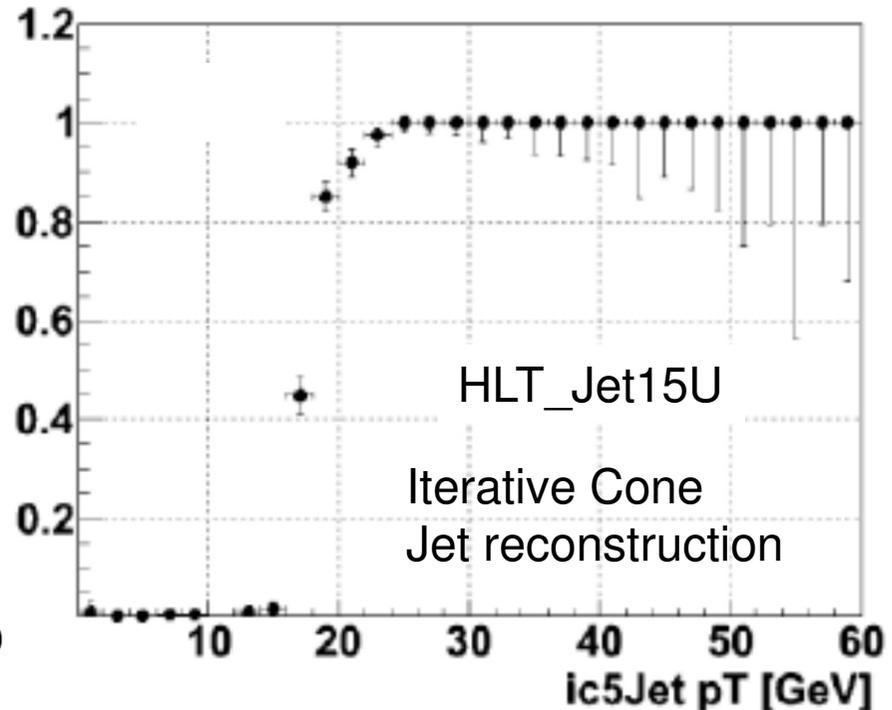
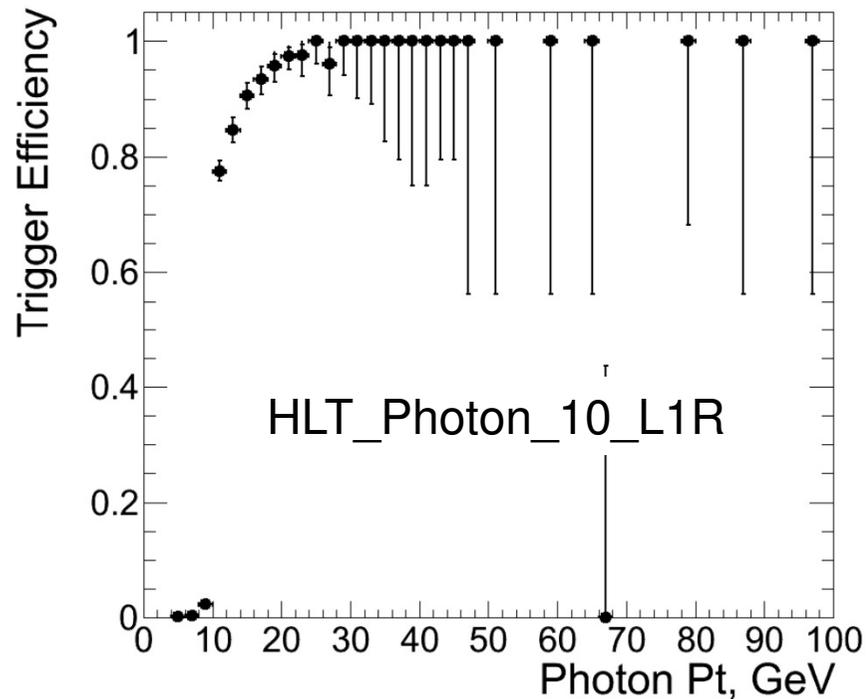


CMS: Integrated Luminosity Week Ending 30/04



# Trigger Performance

- Data collected from “express stream” are skimmed & provide a reference sample for fast-feedback trigger performance studies
- Monitoring is based on run-by-run & weekly basis
- Triggers demonstrate expected performance



# What is happening next

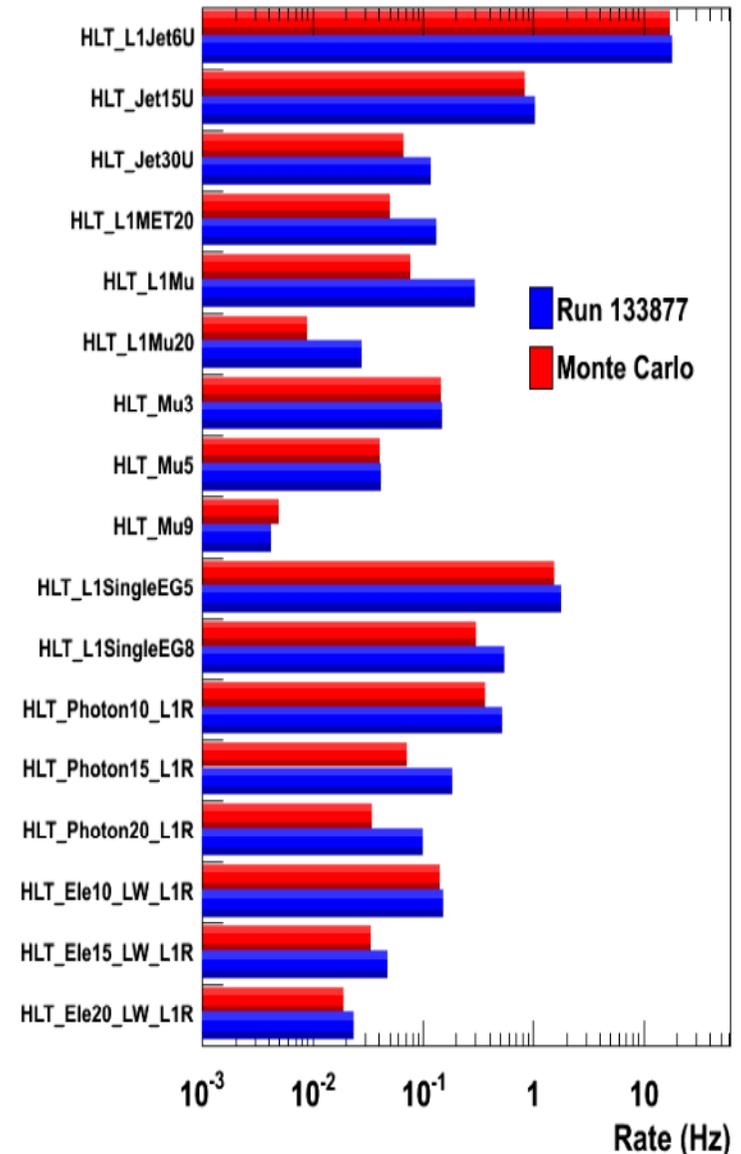
- Experiments preparing for ICHEP
  - Expecting 2 pb<sup>-1</sup> by July
  - Expecting 100 pb<sup>-1</sup> (?) by end of 2010
- Will skip 2010-11 Winter shutdown
  - Run “continuously” for ~1.5 years
  - Expecting > 1 fb<sup>-1</sup> (?) by end of 2011
- Long shutdown afterwards to prepare for 14 TeV run

# Trigger Menu Factory

- Running with “1E28” menu
- Have prepared the next series of menus
  - 1E29, 2E29, 4E29, 8E29...
- Re-optimization of (MC-tuned) 1E31 menu underway
- Start planning the 1E32 step (and beyond?)

# Trigger Menu Factory #2

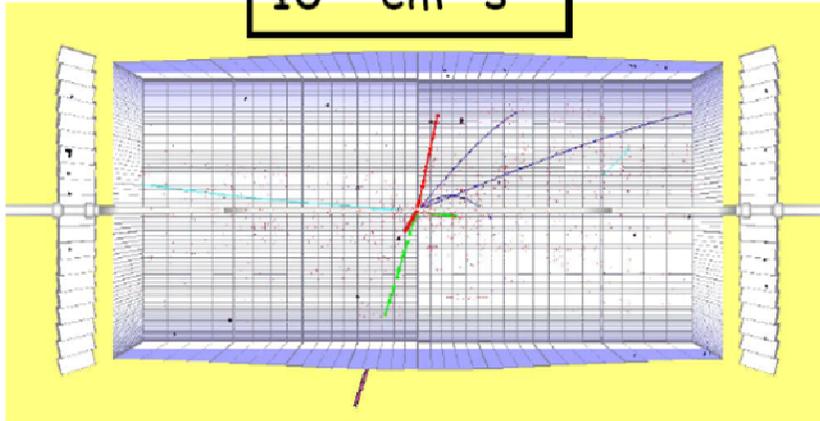
- Rate predictions based on MC & data
- Evolution strategy for higher luminosities
- Studying impact of pile-up on CPU-performance & rates
  - Dedicated “multiple vertex” trigger to capture pile-up events



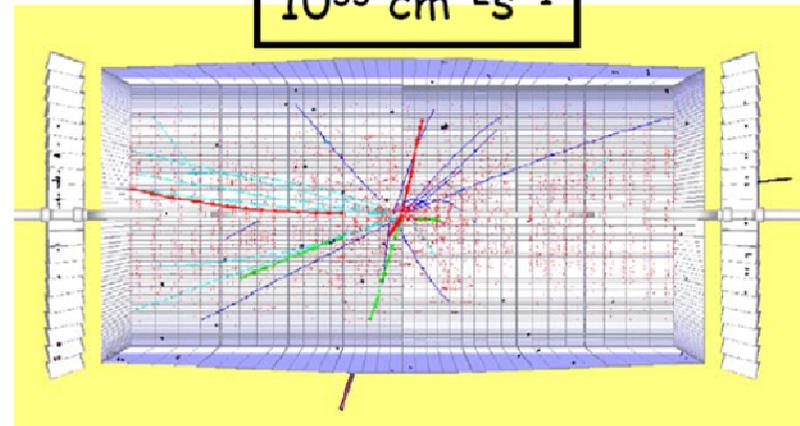
# Luminosity effects

$H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow \mu\mu ee$  event with  $M_H = 300$  GeV for different luminosities

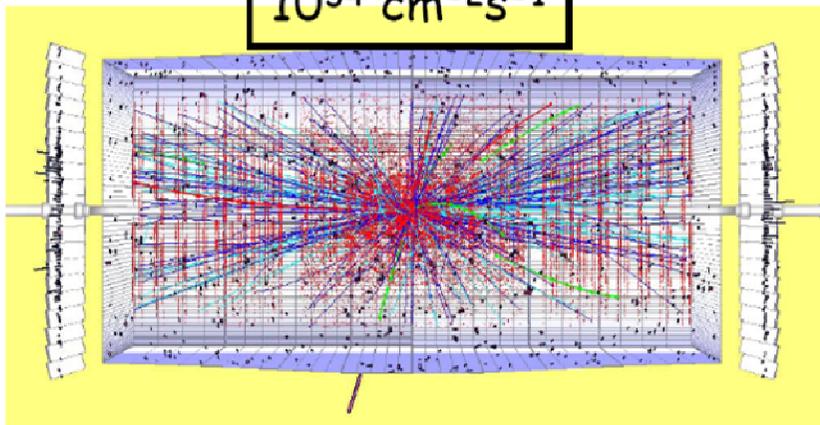
$10^{32} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$



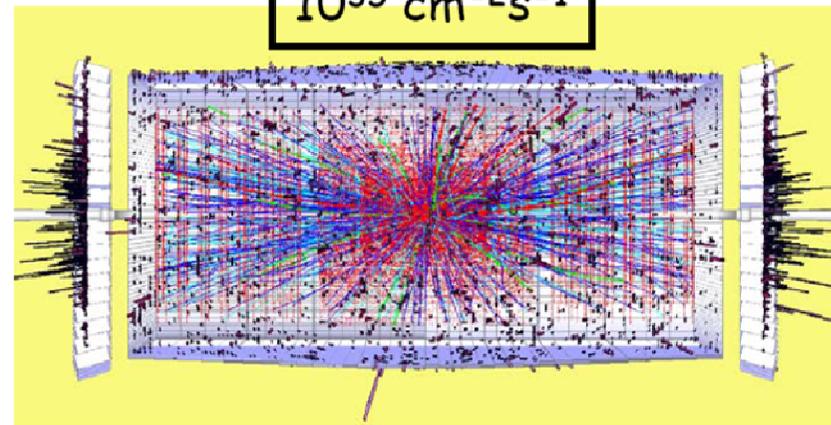
$10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$



$10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$



$10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$



# The Bottom Line

# Fit everything into $O(100)$ Hz

- How should the bandwidth be shared among the large number of available triggers?

A difficult question – many things to consider:

- Are triggers inclusive enough?
- Which triggers are used by what physics analyses?
- What are the experiment's priorities?

Example #1:

“Experiment X has a stronger chance of discovering the Higgs first”

Example #2:

“Rumors are that experiment Y is seeing a bump on channel Z.  
We must increase bandwidth of corresponding trigger”

# Epilogue

- The trigger is a dynamic creature, made by human beings
  - Bound to imperfections, common sense, inertia and strong personalities
  - Must evolve with time, luminosity increases and better detector understanding
  - It requires dedicated studies by analysis users
- But it remains the single most important item in hadron experiments: what makes the difference between discovering New Physics at LHC or not

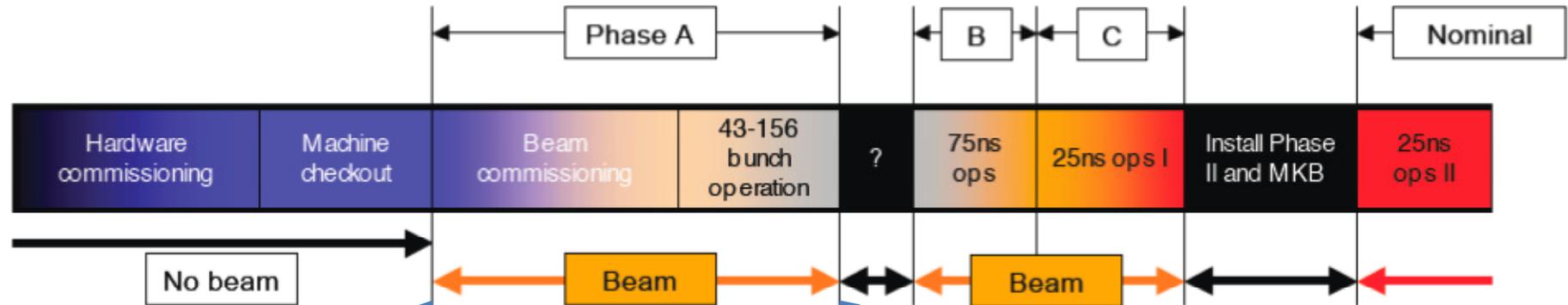
# The Beginning of The Journey



*Credit for "Da Vinci" drawings: Sergio Cittolin*

Backup

# LHC Startup



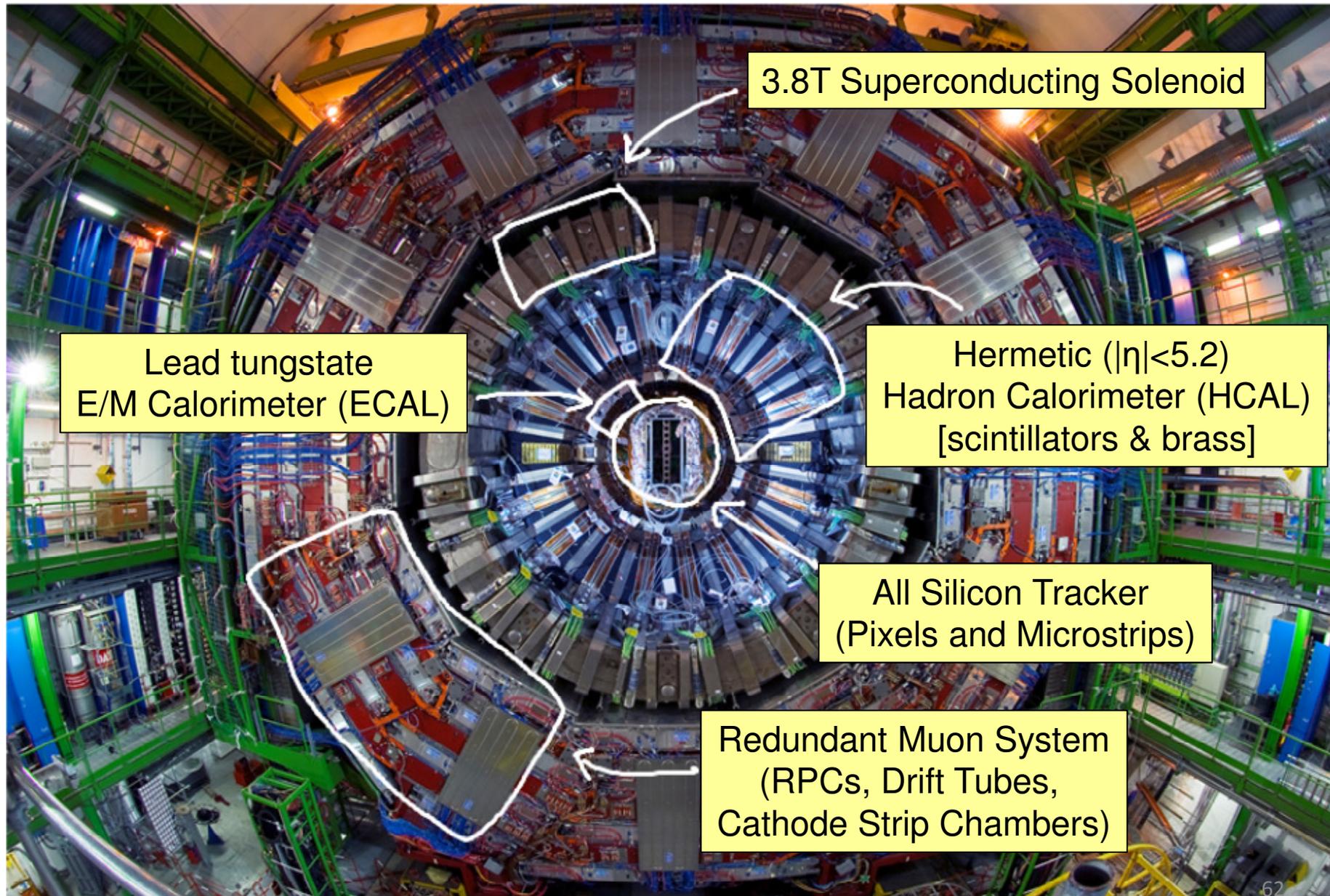
Bunches	$\beta^*$	$I_b$	Luminosity	Event rate
1 x 1	18	$10^{10}$	$10^{27}$	Low
43 x 43	18	$3 \times 10^{10}$	$3.8 \times 10^{29}$	0.05
43 x 43	4	$3 \times 10^{10}$	$1.7 \times 10^{30}$	0.21
43 x 43	2	$4 \times 10^{10}$	$6.1 \times 10^{30}$	0.76
156 x 156	4	$4 \times 10^{10}$	$1.1 \times 10^{31}$	0.38
156 x 156	4	$9 \times 10^{10}$	$5.6 \times 10^{31}$	1.9
156 x 156	2	$9 \times 10^{10}$	$1.1 \times 10^{32}$	3.9

Maximum luminosity expected in 2010:  $10^{32} \text{ cms}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

# Contingency & Early Menu Designs

- Safety factor of 3 in allocation of L1 bandwidth; only 17 kHz allocated to simulated channels – to account for:
  - Uncertainty in maximum DAQ bandwidth (especially at startup)
  - Input cross sections (especially QCD; Tevatron shows factors of ~2)
  - All that we have not simulated:
    - beam conditions, noise spikes, other electronics correlations...
- Safety factor of 2 in HLT accept rate; only 150 Hz allocated to simulated channels – to account for
  - Uncertainties in cross sections (e.g. heavy-flavor cross section)
  - Uncertainties in simulation (e.g. rate for a jet faking an electron: experience from Tevatron experiments shows Monte Carlo reliable to within a factor 2)

# The CMS Detector



# CMS

Total weight 12500 t  
Overall diameter 15 m  
Overall length 21.6 m

76k scintillating  
PbWO<sub>4</sub> crystals

**ECAL**

**HCAL** Plastic scintillator/  
Brass sandwich

**4T Solenoid**

**IRON YOKE**

**Muon  
End-Caps**

Cathode Strip Ch. (CSC)  
Resistive Plate Ch. (RPC)

YBO

YB1-2

YE1-4

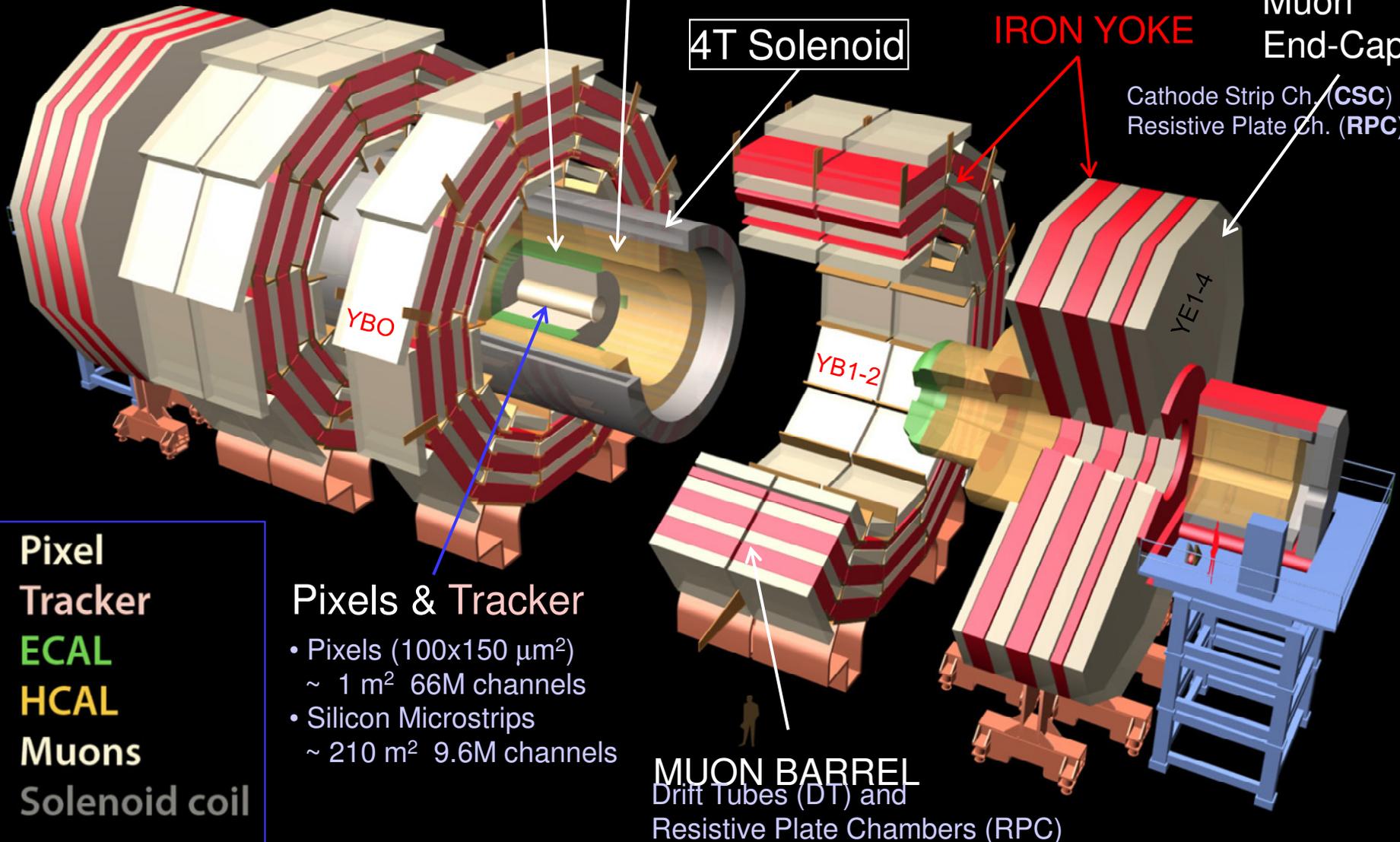
Pixel  
Tracker  
**ECAL**  
**HCAL**  
Muons  
Solenoid coil

**Pixels & Tracker**

- Pixels (100x150  $\mu\text{m}^2$ )  
~ 1 m<sup>2</sup> 66M channels
- Silicon Microstrips  
~ 210 m<sup>2</sup> 9.6M channels

**MUON BARREL**

Drift Tubes (DT) and  
Resistive Plate Chambers (RPC)



# Di-muon resonances: $J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$

Pairs of global-global, global-tracker or tracker/tracker muons.

All muon tracks:

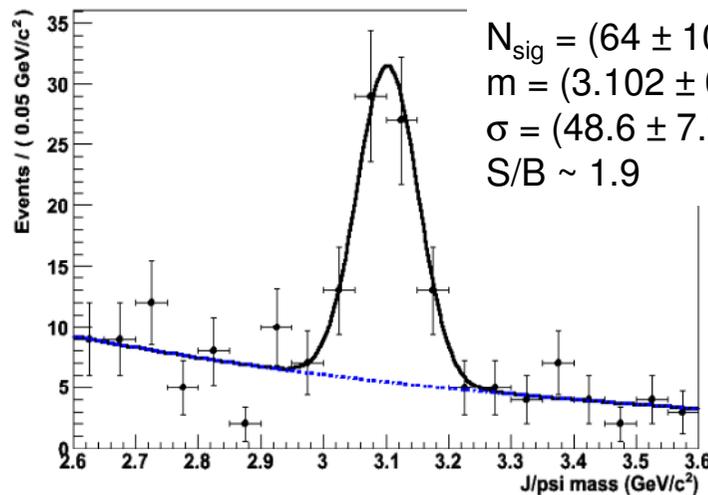
- Pixel layers with hits  $> 1$
- Number of pixel+strip hits  $> 11$
- $|\text{do}| < 5 \text{ cm}$ ,  $\text{dz} < 20 \text{ cm}$

Global muons:  
global  $\chi^2 < 20$

Tracker muons:  
track  $\chi^2 < 5$

TMLastStationAngTight bit on  
Vertex probability  $> 0.1\%$

Mass fit for all muon types

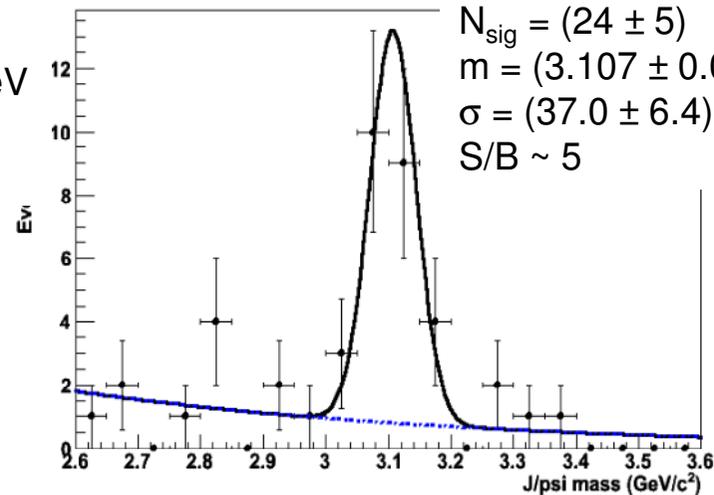


7TeV data

$N_{\text{sig}} = (64 \pm 10)$   
 $m = (3.102 \pm 0.008) \text{ GeV}$   
 $\sigma = (48.6 \pm 7.3) \text{ MeV}$   
 $S/B \sim 1.9$

All di-muons

Mass fit for glb-glb muons



$N_{\text{sig}} = (24 \pm 5)$   
 $m = (3.107 \pm 0.008) \text{ GeV}$   
 $\sigma = (37.0 \pm 6.4) \text{ MeV}$   
 $S/B \sim 5$

Only global-global muons