

Belle II Germany 2025

Upgrade of the Belle II First-Level Neural Track Trigger

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09.09.2025

- ▶ New Track Finding by 3D-Hough Transforms
- ▶ Deep Neural Networks on FPGAs for Track Parameter Estimation

KIT ITIV

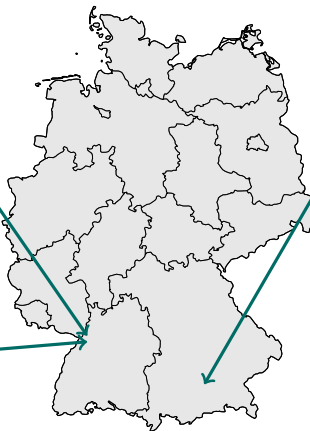


- ▶ **Jürgen Becker**
- ▶ Marc Neu
- ▶ Kai Unger
- ▶ Timo Justinger
- ▶ Valdrin Dajaku
- ▶ Felix Mältzer
- ▶ Till Rädler

KIT ETP



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- ▶ Lea Reuter
- ▶ Greta Heine
- ▶ Isabel Haide



LMU/MPI

- ▶ **Christian Kiesling**
- ▶ Simon Hiesl
- ▶ Timo Forsthofer

AI Trigger Projects:

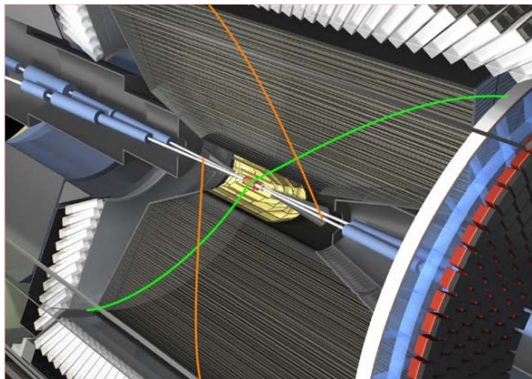
- ▶ Calorimeter Trigger
- ▶ Track Trigger

Munich: Focus on Track Triggers

Physical Motivation: z -Vertex Trigger

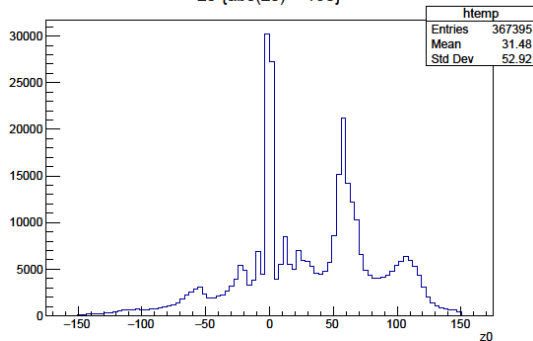


IP (green) and displaced (orange) tracks:



Offline z -vertex reconstruction:

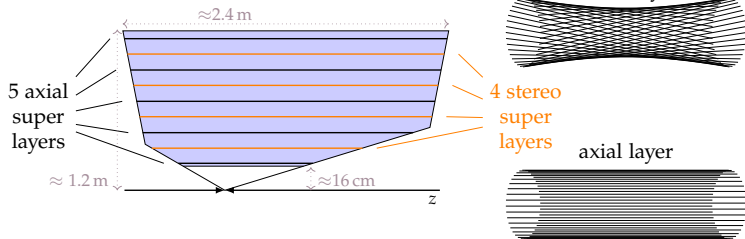
$z_0 \{ \text{abs}(z_0) < 150 \}$



Data from 2019: **Before** z -trigger.

Only around 10-15% IP tracks! $\Rightarrow$ **z -vertex trigger mandatory**

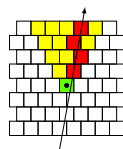
The Central Drift Chamber (CDC) and Track Segment Finder (TSF)



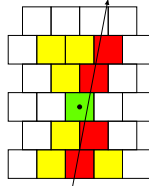
- ▶ 14336 sense wire in 56 layers
- ▶ TS = Wire pattern from track crossing
- ▶ TSF: Finds TS from CDC hits
- ▶ 2336 TS in 9 SL

Crossing Track:

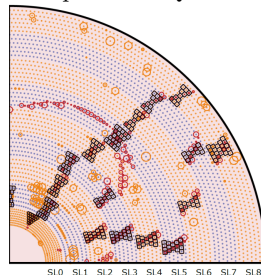
(a) Super Layer 0



(b) Super Layer 1-8



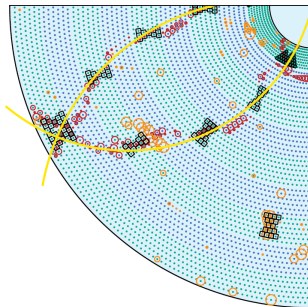
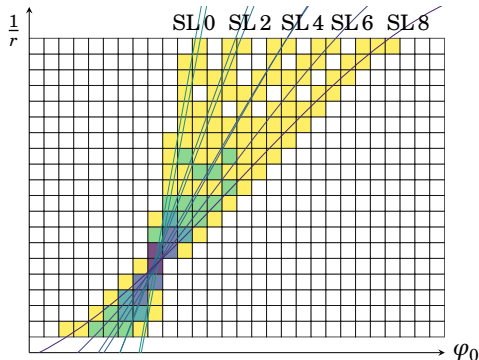
Example CDC Quadrant:



Current Level-1 Track Trigger: Track Finding Method



- ▶ Total latency $\approx 5\mu s \Rightarrow$ 3D Fitting *not possible*, requires:
 - ▶ Current track finding method: **2D Hough Transformation**
 - ▶ Current classification method: **Neural Network**



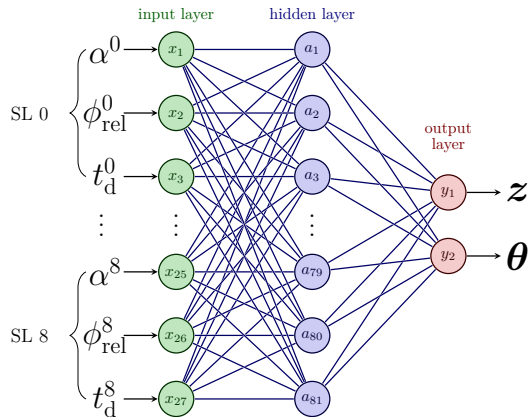
Track parameters:
 ϕ and $q/r = \omega$ from
2DHough track

2D Track candidate: Axials only $\Rightarrow$ **Only 5 SLs** for track finding, no z -information

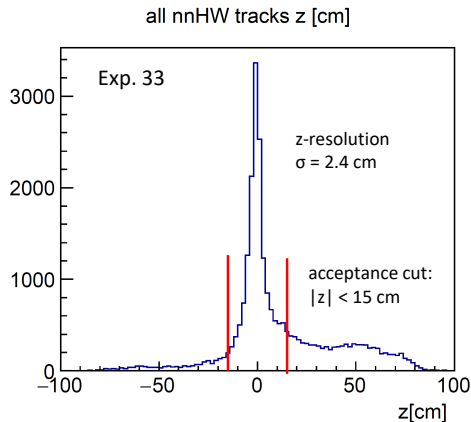
- ▶ Requires **4 out of 5** axial track segments (ATS)
- ▶ Requires **3 out of 4** stereo track segments (STS), have to be found **separately** (by statistical method through ϕ and drift time)

Current Level-1 Track Trigger: The Neural Network

- ▶ **z-Vertex and polar emission angle prediction with a neural network**
- ▶ 2D track + Stereo TS $\Rightarrow$ z and theta estimation
- ▶ Current Network: One hidden layer, 81 nodes

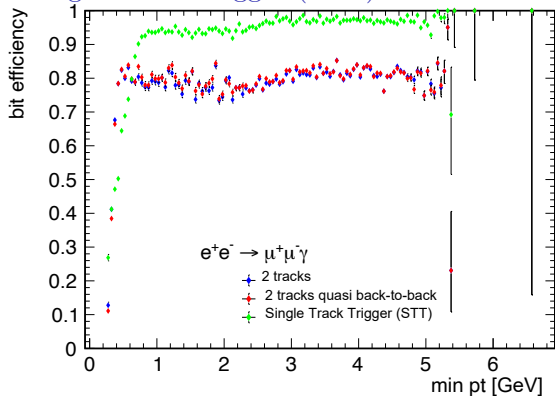


$\Rightarrow$ z -cut of ± 15 cm used



(Data from 2024)

The Single-Track-Trigger (STT)

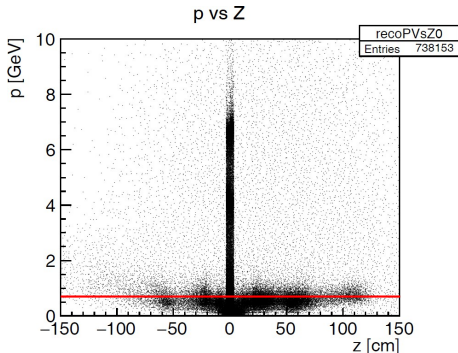


- ▶ The STT clearly outperforms the ≥ 2 track trigger
- ▶ Two trigger bits provided:
 - ▶ At least one track within z -cut
 - ▶ At least one track within z -cut and $p \geq 0.7$ GeV
 - ▶ (Published in “Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research A 1073 (2025) 170279”, arXiv:2402.14962)



Single-Track-Trigger:
Activated if the track momentum
is above 0.7 GeV

$$p[\text{GeV}] = \frac{1}{\omega[1/\text{m}] \sin(\theta) 0.3 B[\text{T}]} \geq 0.7 \text{ GeV}$$

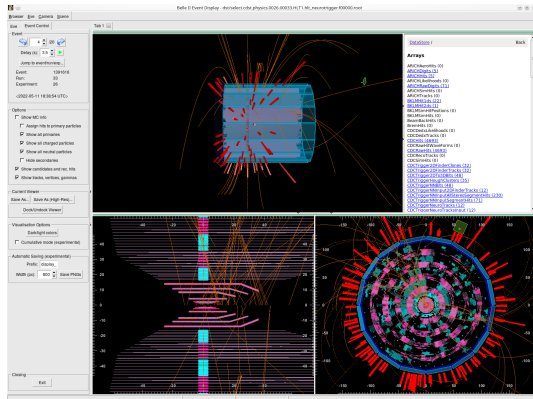
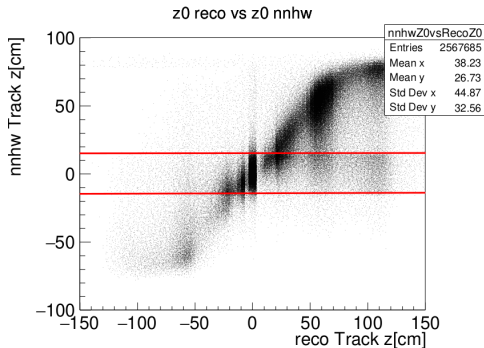


$\Rightarrow$ Irreducible background from IP:
 $e^+e^- \rightarrow e^+e^-e^+e^-$

Problems with the L1 Neural Network Trigger under High Backgrounds



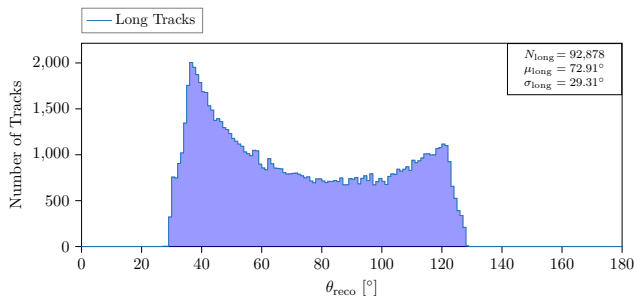
- ▶ “Feed-Down” effect: Background tracks $\rightarrow$ Vertex tracks
- ▶ High number of 2D track candidates from the 2DTracker when the background is high $\Rightarrow$ Many Fake-Tracks using stereo background hits



Physical Motivation for New Trigger: Use all 9 Super Layers for Track Model



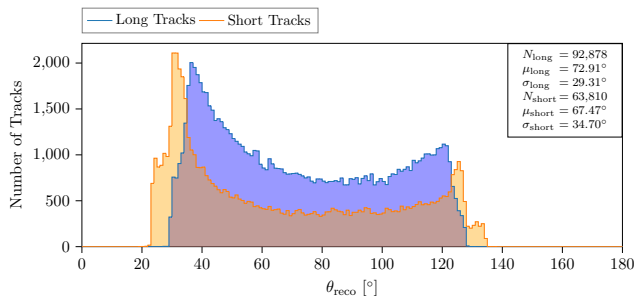
- ▶ Track Model: Axials **and** Stereos $\implies$ 9 SL instead of 5
- ▶ Hence, more fake and background resistant
- ▶ Requires 3-dimensional Hough space, restricts vertex to $(0, 0, 0)$



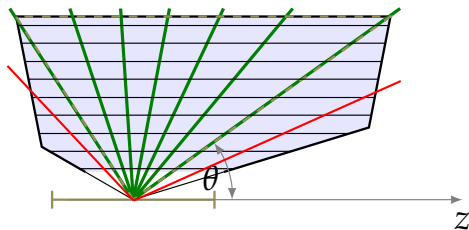
(Found single IP reconstructed tracks)

- ▶ Current polar acceptance:
 - ▶ At least **4/5** axial SLs
 - ▶ At least **3/4** stereo SLs
- $\implies$ Minimum 7/9 SLs

- ▶ **Extended (short track)** super layer topology → Minimum 5/9 SLs
 - ▶ At least **3/5** axial SLs
 - ▶ At least **2/4** stereo SLs

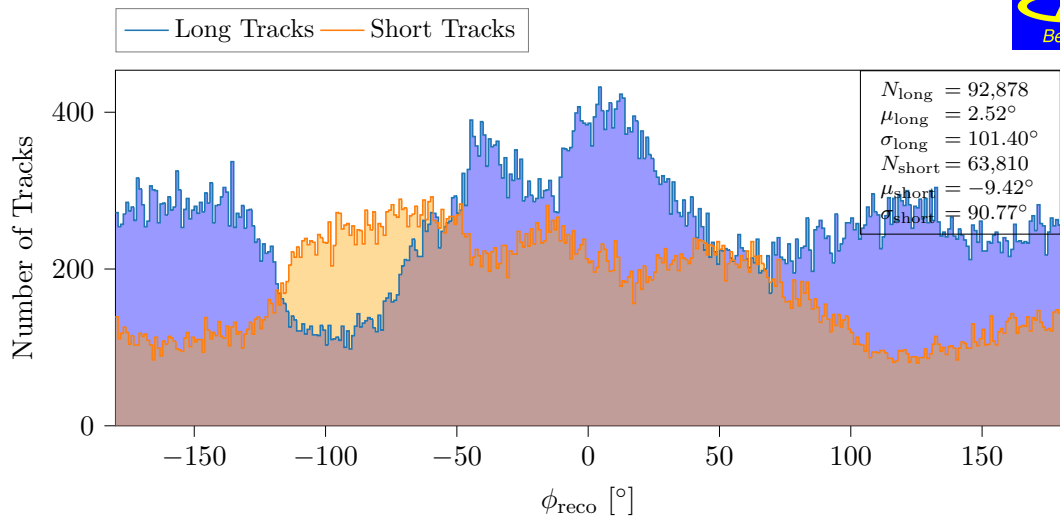


Full CDC polar acceptance:



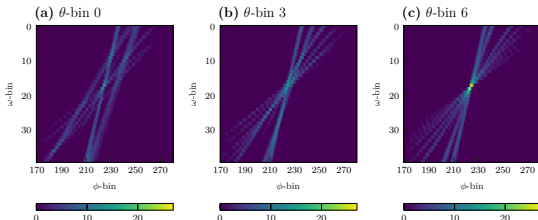
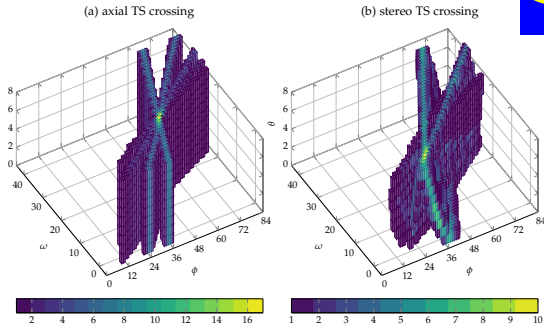
SL number *decreases* with shallower θ

⇒ **Substantial gain in efficiency, especially for shallow tracks**



- Inefficient CDC region (around $\phi \approx -100^\circ$) overrepresented in the short tracks

- ▶ **Third** track parameter: Polar scattering angle θ
- ▶ In addition to: $\omega = \frac{q}{r} \propto \frac{1}{p_T}$ and ϕ
- ▶ Track vertex **constraint**:
 $(x, y, z) = (0, 0, 0)$
- ▶ One TS $\hat{=}$ 3D plane
- ▶ Selection of the stereo track segments from (helix) track model
- ▶ For geometrical reasons: $\cot(\theta)$ instead of θ dimension
- ▶ Dimensions:
 - ▶ 9 bins in $\cot(\theta)$
 - ▶ 384 bins in ϕ
 - ▶ 40 bins in ω

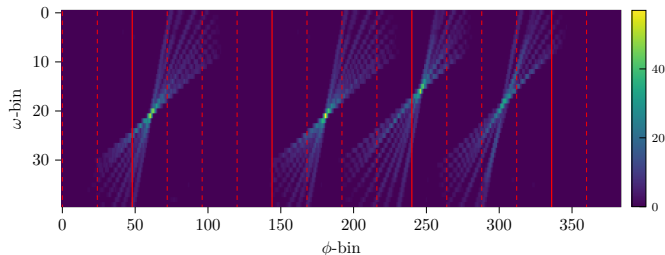


The 3DHough Finder Algorithm

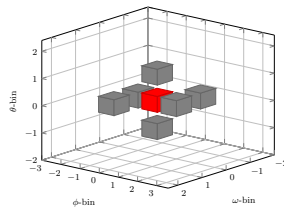


1. Get TSs from TSF
2. Load the hit representations into the Hough space (**numeric** representations)
3. Scan the Hough space for maxima (global sector maximum)
4. Put an optimized fixed cluster shape around each maximum
5. Process each cluster: Center of Gravity (ω , ϕ , θ) and TS extraction
6. Apply only two cuts (on SLs): $\min(\text{Number ATS})$ and $\min(\text{Number STS})$

Maximum finding (for hardware): 4 CDC Quadrants with 4 Sectors



Fixed Cluster Shape

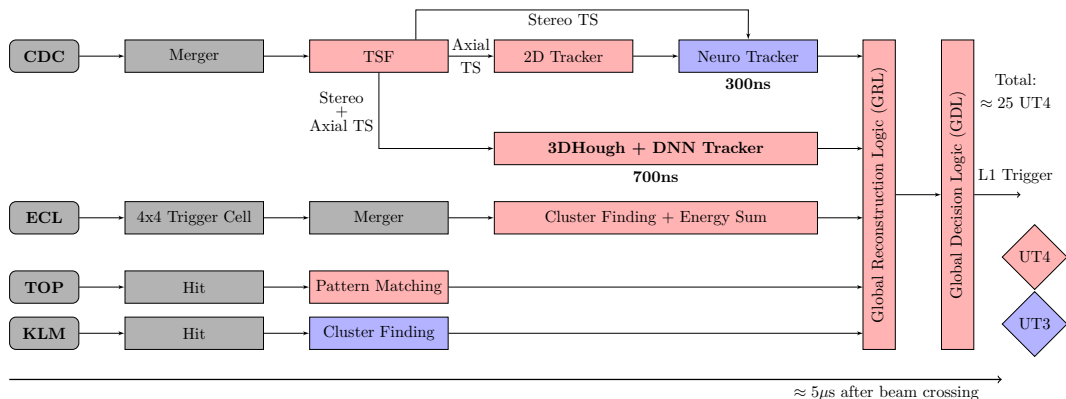


Red lines = 4 CDC quadrants with 4 sectors each: **Simultaneous** track finding on FPGA.

The L1 Trigger Pipeline



- ▶ New implementation → 3DFinder and Neuro Trigger on the **same** FPGA board (UT4)
- ▶ The available latency for the Neuro Tracker is increased from **300ns** to **700ns** (no in-between transmission)
- ▶ Deep neural networks with four hidden layers are possible



Deep Neural Network Architecture



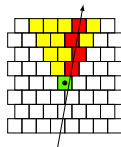
→ Possible because of new trigger boards with Virtex Ultrascale 160/190 FPGAs

1. DNN: 4 hidden layers, 60 nodes each
2. Extended input (27 → 126)
3. Classification: IP/Non-IP
4. $1/p$ output node for STT
5. Trained on 3DFinder Tracks

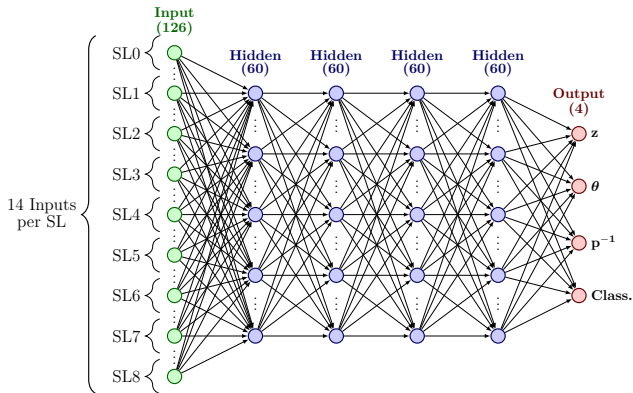
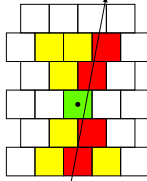
Extended input:

Every wire passing ADC cut in TS
(1 hit, 0 no-hit)

(a) Super Layer 0

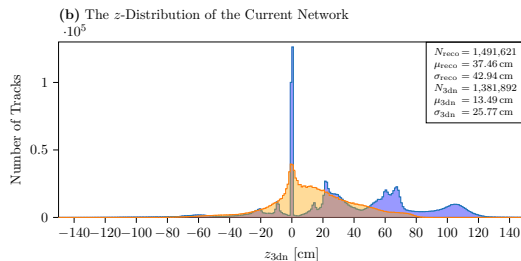
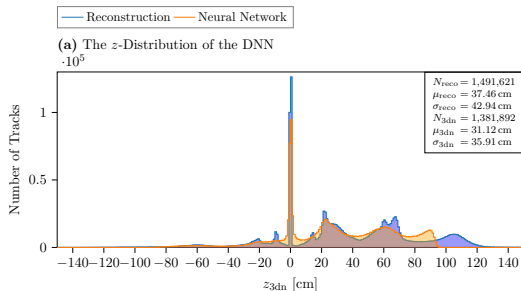


(b) Super Layer 1-8



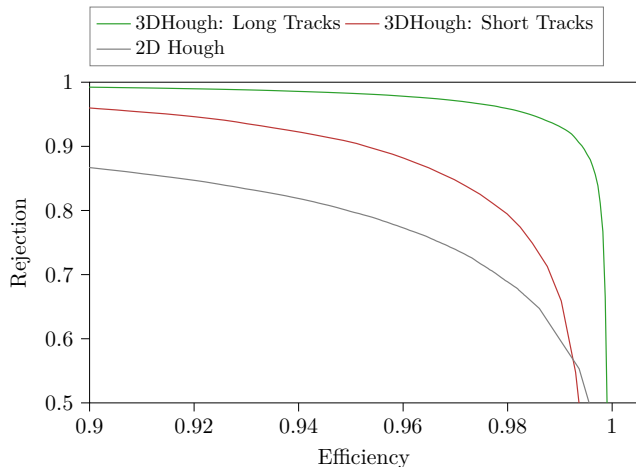
- ▶ 4 output nodes: z , θ , $1/p$, and classification
- ▶ Classification $\in [-1, 1]$, $+1 \equiv \text{IP}$, $-1 \equiv \text{Background}$

- ▶ Left: DNN (orange) and Reconstruction (blue)
- ▶ Right: Current Network (orange) and Reconstruction (blue)



- ▶ 3DHough + DNN: 96.7% efficiency (cut at 0.5 classification $\rightarrow$ 19.2% incorrect)
- ▶ 3DHough + Current Network: 89.0% efficiency (cut at ± 15 cm $\rightarrow$ 69.8% incorrect)

- ▶ Simulation of the new algorithms on real data from 2024 (high background)
- ▶ Long vs. short track efficiency of the 3DHough approach



- ▶ Long Track:
 $n(\text{ATS}) \geq 4$ and $n(\text{STS}) \geq 3$
- ▶ Short Track:
 $n(\text{ATS}) \geq 3$ and $n(\text{STS}) \geq 2$
(but not long)
- ▶ Classification of 3DNeuro tracks:
Cut on classification output node
- ▶ Classification of 2DNeuro tracks:
Cut on z with ± 15 cm

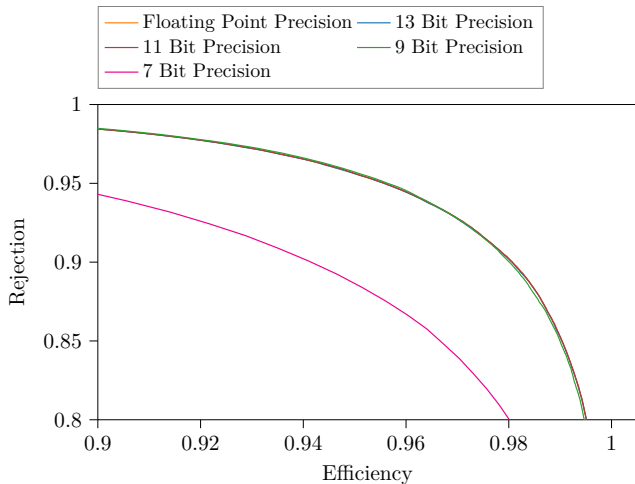
- ▶ Select real data events with only a single reconstructed track (exp. 35 **neuroskim**)
- ▶ Differentiate the events in short and long track events
- ▶ Select background (all reconstructed $|z| > 1$ cm) and fake track events (no reconstructed track in event)

Data Subset	Total Events	2DN-Track	3DN-Track	2D-Class.	3D-Class.
Long Single Track Events	92 878	94.11%	99.63%	93.19%	98.23%
Short Single Track Events	63 810	36.81%	96.34%	35.97%	92.05%
Background/Fake Events	3 959 983	42.86%	69.62%	12.01%	1.82%

Considerably better track finding performance on short tracks for the 3DHough Neuro Trigger

- ▶ Classification 2DN: $|z| < 15$ cut
- ▶ Classification 3DN: Classification cut 0.0

- ▶ For FPGA implementation:
No floating point arithmetic, only integers
- ▶ Includes all calculations and inputs, weights, and tanh LUT.
- ▶ No difference for 13 and 11 bit.
- ▶ Only considerably worse performance at 7 bit.



New 3DHough method for track finding:

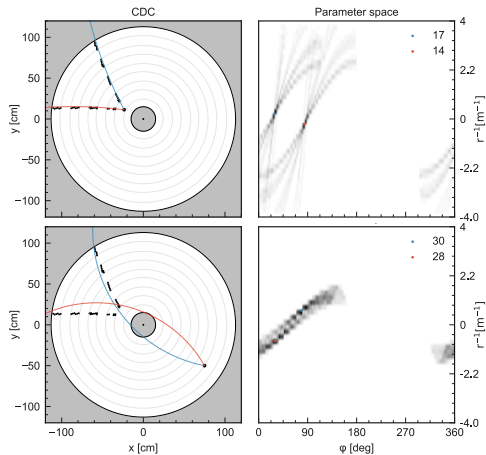
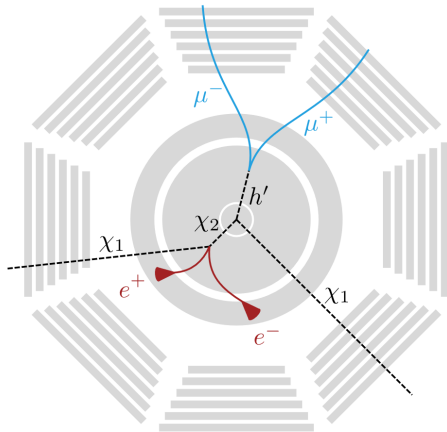
- ▶ More robust against fake tracks (9/9 TS used compared to 5/9 in 2D method)
- ▶ Increase of polar acceptance possible (3 axial + 2 stereo TS)
- ▶ DNN + additional output node shows superior performance

Currently:

- ▶ Implementation of the 3DHough + DNN algorithm onto FPGAs (KIT)
- ▶ New displaced vertex trigger (DVT) for displaced tracks in development

Outlook: Displaced Vertex Trigger (DVT)

- ▶ Current L1 Trigger: Only capturing IP tracks
- ▶ New physics: Displaced vertices?



Hough track finding

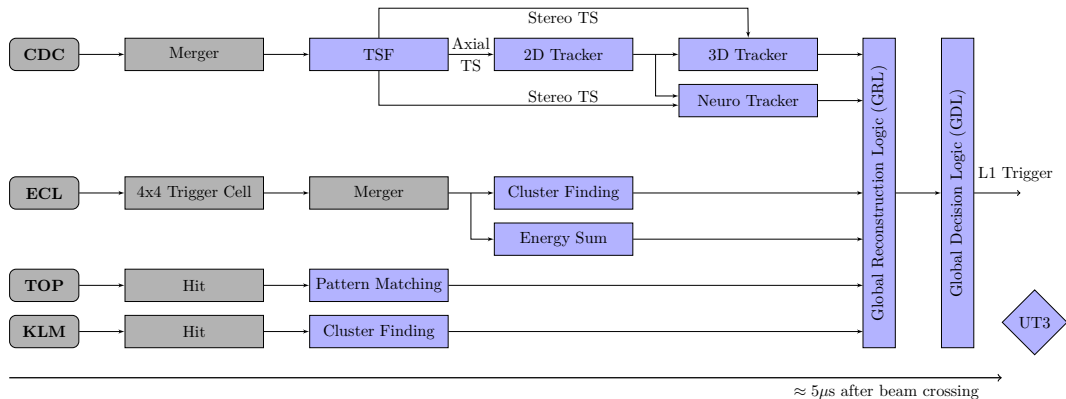
“Hot” physics from feebly interacting particles

Backup

The Old L1 Trigger Pipeline



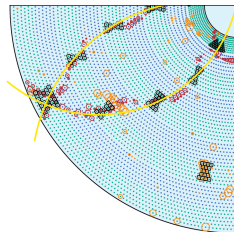
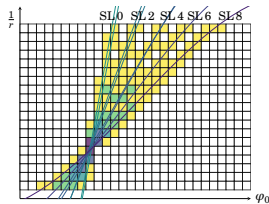
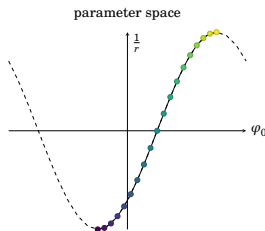
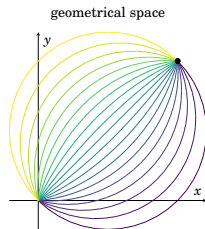
- Present implementation → 2DFinder and Neuro Tracker on separate FPGA boards
- The available latency for the Neuro Tracker is just **300ns**



Which TS belong to a real track?

TS selection using a two-dimensional Hough transformation:

- ▶ Axial hit in CDC (TS) gets transformed to a curve in parameter (Hough) space
- ▶ Intersection point yields the track parameters ϕ and $r_{2d} \propto p_T$



⇒ 2D track candidate

The Neuro Trigger has been running since January 2021 years with remarkable success.

From the track finding (Hough transformation) we get: $\omega = \pm 1/r_{2d}$ and ϕ_0

With the TS information

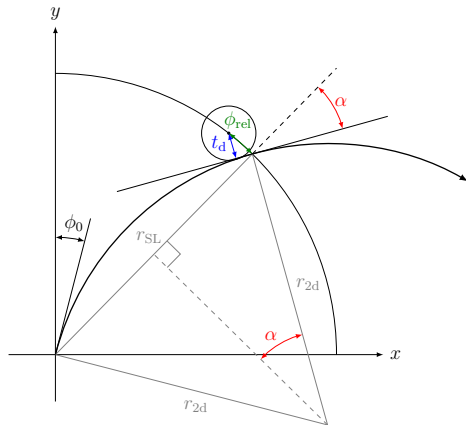
$$\phi_{\text{wire}}, n_{\text{wire}}, r_{\text{SL}}, \sigma_{\text{LR}}, t_{\text{d,wire}}$$

we can calculate:

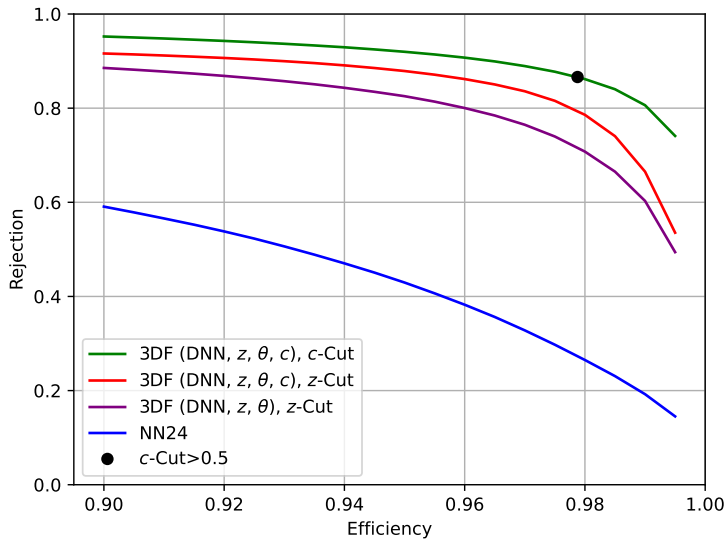
$$\alpha = \arcsin\left(\frac{1}{2} \frac{r_{\text{SL}}}{r_{2d}}\right)$$

$$\phi_{\text{rel}} = \phi_{\text{wire}} - n_{\text{wire}} \cdot \left(\frac{\phi_0 - \alpha}{2\pi}\right)$$

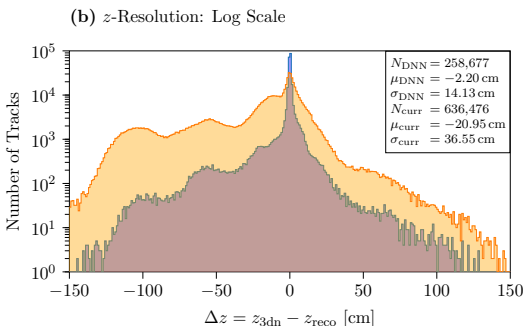
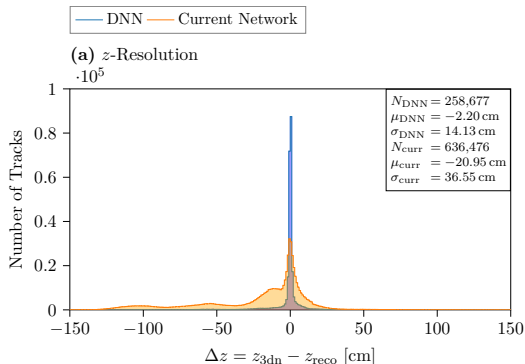
$$t_{\text{d}} = \sigma_{\text{LR}} \cdot (t_{\text{d,wire}} - t_{\text{d,min}})$$



Performance Gain Through Classification

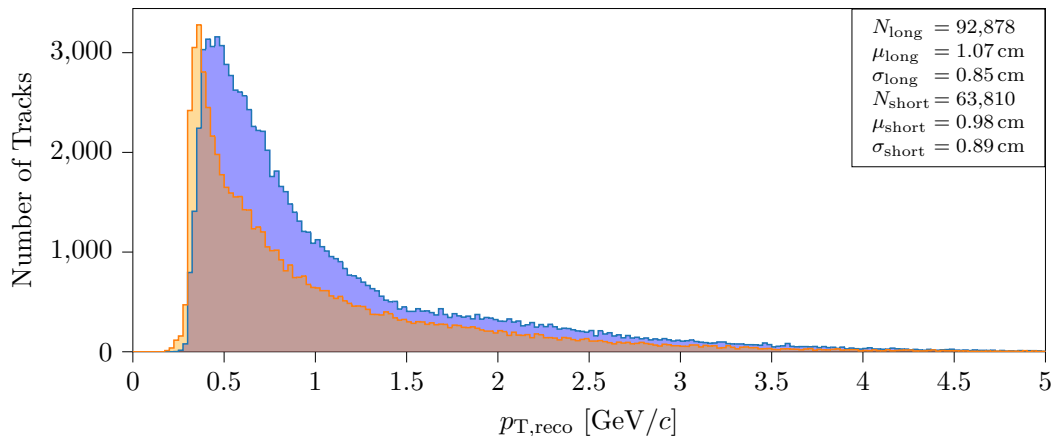


The z -Resolution after Classification



- ▶ DNN: 96.7% efficiency (cut at 0.5 classification $\rightarrow$ 19.2% incorrect)
- ▶ Current Network: 89.0% efficiency (cut at $\pm 15 \text{ cm} \rightarrow$ 69.8% incorrect)

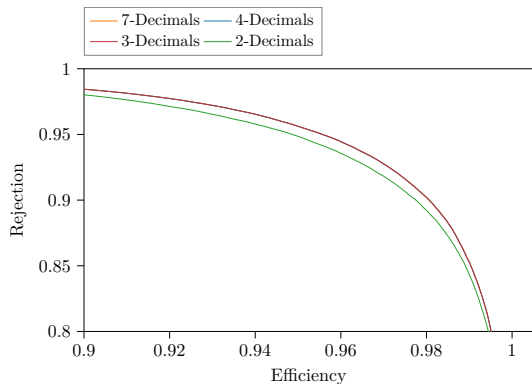
(c) The p_T -Distribution of the Reconstruction



- Low momentum tracks overrepresented in the short tracks

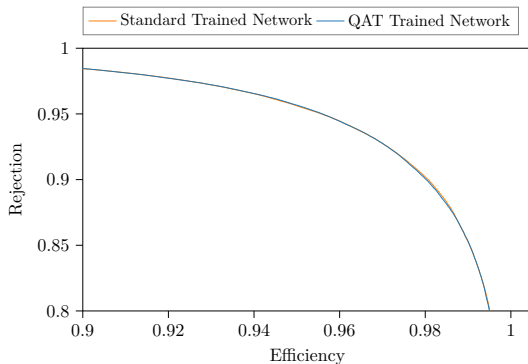
Parameter	Value
Epochs	1000
Patience	45
Batch Size	2048
Optimizer	Adam
Loss	MSE (target normalized to $[-1, 1]$)
Learning rate	10^{-3}
LR Scheduling Factor	0.5
LR Scheduling Patience	20
Weight decay	10^{-6}
Activation Function	$\tanh()$
Number of Training Tracks	$\approx 10 \cdot 10^6$
Number of Validation Tracks	$\approx 1.5 \cdot 10^6$
Input Nodes	126
Hidden Layers	4 (60 nodes each)
Output Nodes	4 (z , θ , $1/p$, class.)

Comparison To Rounded Weights

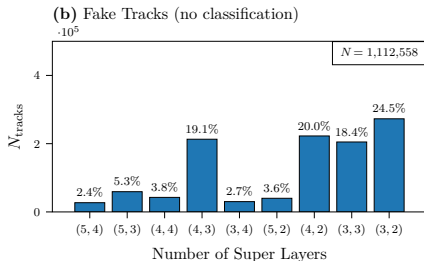
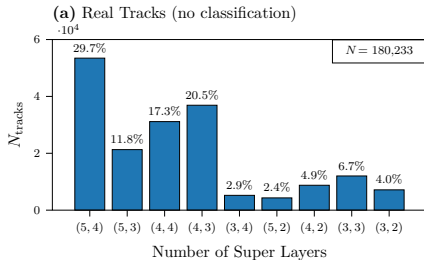


Weights and biases rounded to 3 decimals still as good as 32-bit float representation:

Quantization Aware Training



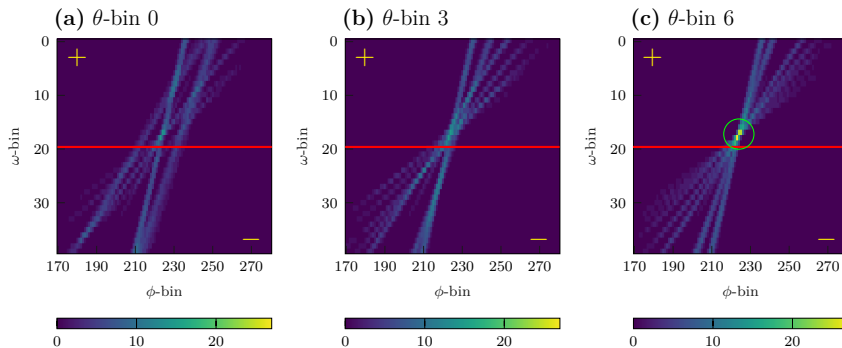
For floating point precision no improvement:
Only necessary when forced to use a precision below 9 bits!



Example cut array:

- ▶ (5, 4): 0.33
 - ▶ (5, 3): 0.38
 - ▶ (4, 4): 0.33
 - ▶ (4, 3): 0.48
 - ▶ (3, 4): 0.62
 - ▶ (5, 2): 0.47
 - ▶ (4, 2): 0.66
 - ▶ (3, 3): 0.71
 - ▶ (3, 2): 0.80
-
- ▶ Instead of a single across the board cut
 - ▶ Optimization possible by weighting efficiency or rejection

Simulated Single Track:



Positive (negative) tracks in upper (lower) ω half plane
 $\Rightarrow$ Intersection point yields ω , ϕ and $\cot(\theta)$

What is a Hit Representation?



Given any (priority) wire

$$\vec{s}(\lambda) = \begin{pmatrix} w_x \\ w_y \\ w_z \end{pmatrix} + \lambda \begin{pmatrix} d_x \\ d_y \\ d_z \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda \in [0, 1]$$

a hit representations describes **all** possible tracks (helices) in the Hough space that **could activate** the wire.

As the Hough space is binned, this corresponds to a **non-zero integer weight** in the bin that describes one of these helices.

A helix can be described as:

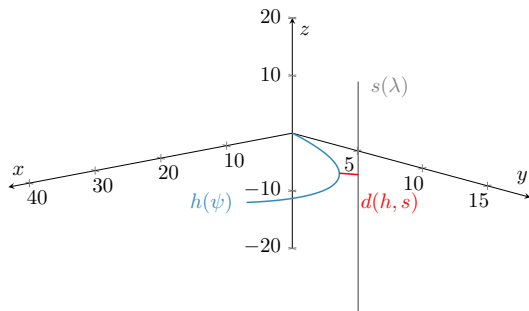
$$\vec{h}(\psi) = \omega^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \sin(\psi - \phi) + \sin(\phi) \\ \cos(\psi - \phi) - \cos(\phi) \\ \psi \cot(\theta) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \psi \in [0, 2\pi]$$

The Numeric Hit Representations

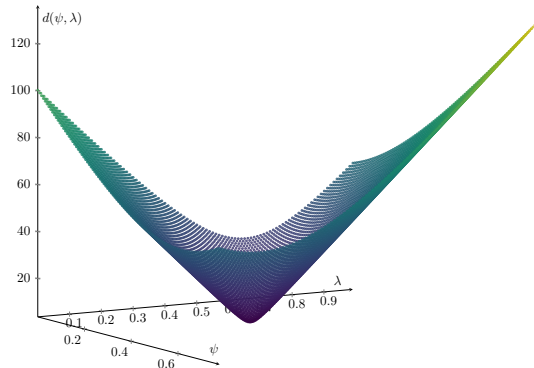


Numeric optimization of wire and helix distance:

$$d(\vec{h}(\psi), \vec{s}(\lambda)) = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^3 (h_i(\psi) - s_i(\lambda))^2} \quad \text{for} \quad \lambda \in [0, 1], \psi \in [0, 2\pi]$$

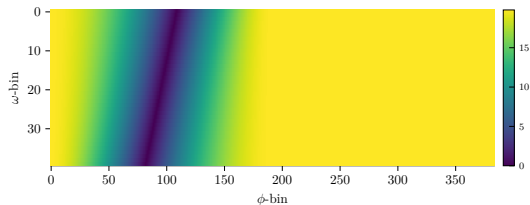


Euclidean distance between wire and helix

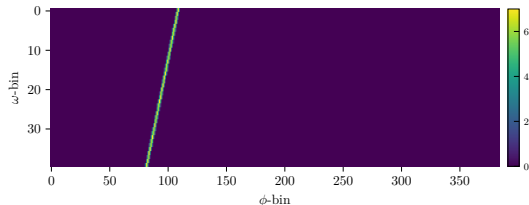


Distance minimization $\rightarrow$ Hyperplane

1. Take one (priority) wire
2. Consider **each** Hough space bin **individually**
3. Double Optimization (nested):
 - ▶ Optimize over all possible track parameters (helices) within this bin
 - ▶ Optimize for the minimum distance between the helix and the wire
4. Save the minimum distance and track parameter point of each bin
5. Weight each bin according to the distance to wire **and** distance to bin center

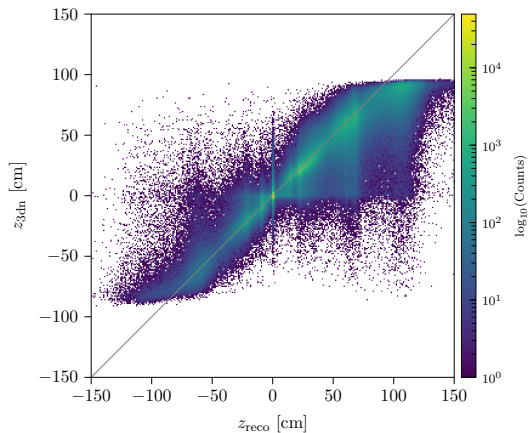


Distance Hough space [cm]

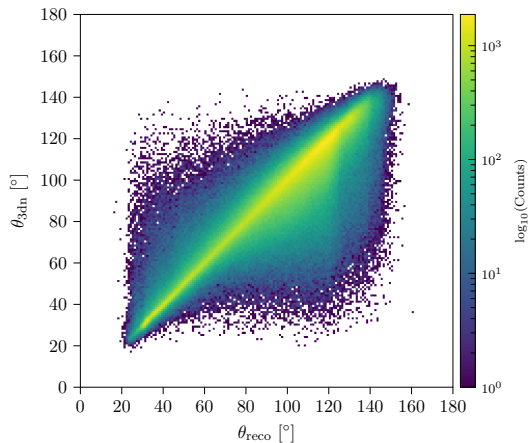


Weight Hough space [int]

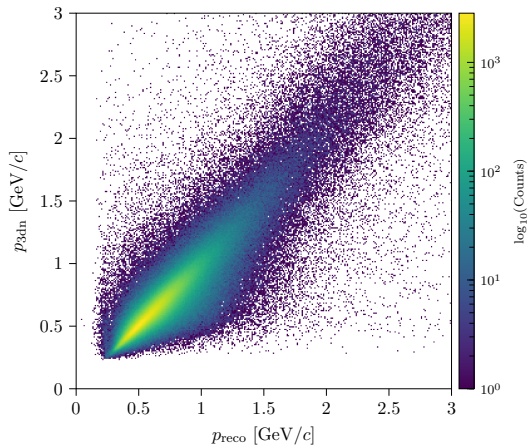
z -correlation



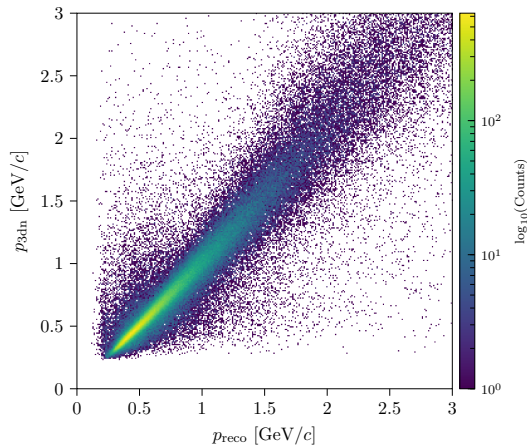
θ -correlation



p -correlation without classification cut



p -correlation with classification cut



Some Perspective: Fake Track Segments in One Event



Real single track event from high background run:

