Introduction to trigger concepts

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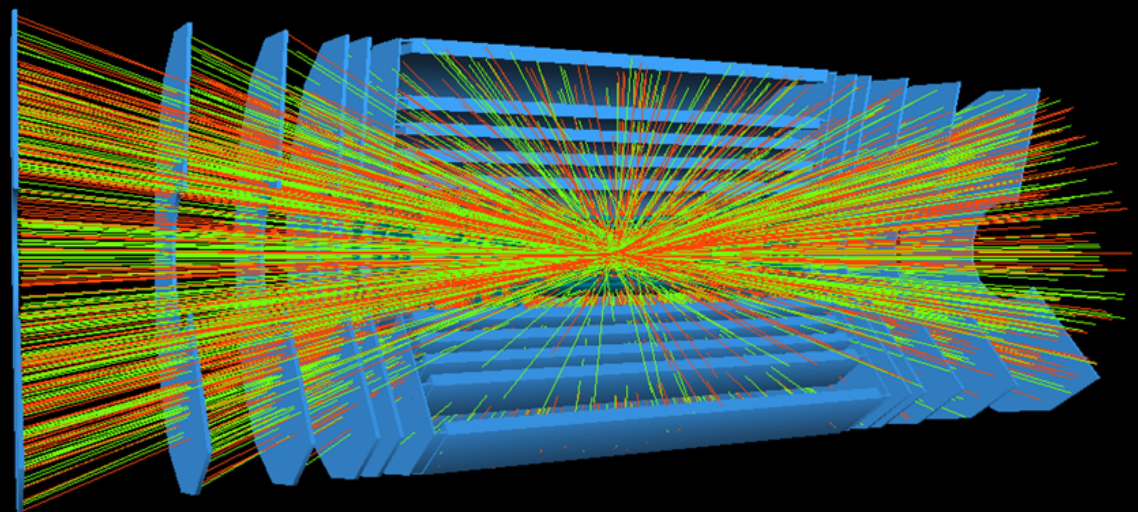
The data deluge



- In many systems, like particle physics or astronomy experiments, to store all the possibly relevant data provided by the sensors is UNREALISTIC and often becomes also UNDESIRABLE
- Three approaches are possible:
  - Reduced amount of data (packing and/or filtering) → ***Trigger!***
  - Faster data transmission and processing
  - Both!

The trigger concept

Digital signal saying YES or NO

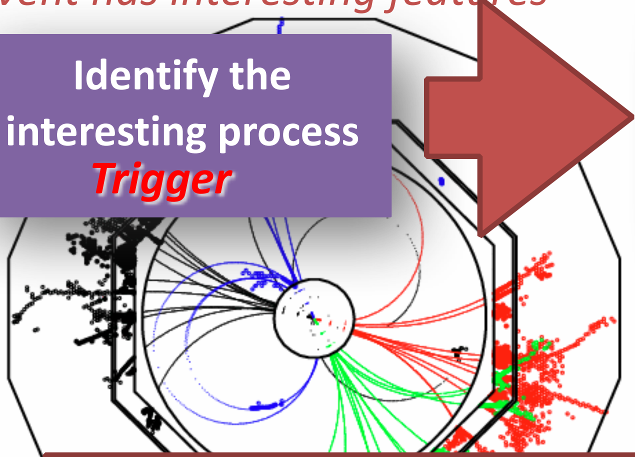
- It's like deciding to take a very good photo during your holidays:
  - **click the button** to open the bolt and let the sensors operate
    - take the photo only when you think the **subjects** are ready → The trigger starts the photo process
    - **focus** the image → First identify the interesting event
    - only if there is enough **light** for your lenses (or add a flash light) → Ensure the sensitivity to parameters
    - only if your hand is not **shaking** → Ensure a good synchronisation

Trigger concept in HEP

with time constraints → *computing resources*

Event has interesting features → *Event is recorded…*

Identify the interesting process ***Trigger*** → **Start data acquisition** ***DAQ*** → **Record and Process data** ***Computing***



The constrain between trigger and DAQ rate is the storage and the offline computing capabilities

- What is “interesting”?
  - Define what is signal and what is background
- Which is the balance between Trigger and DAQ resources?
  - Define the maximum allowed rate
- How fast the selection must be?
  - Define the maximum allowed processing time

Which is the expected trigger rate?

The expected event rate is derived from the physics process (x-section times Luminosity)

$$R = \sigma_{in} \times L$$

LHC: the trigger challenge!

Total non-diffractive p-p cross section is **70 mb**

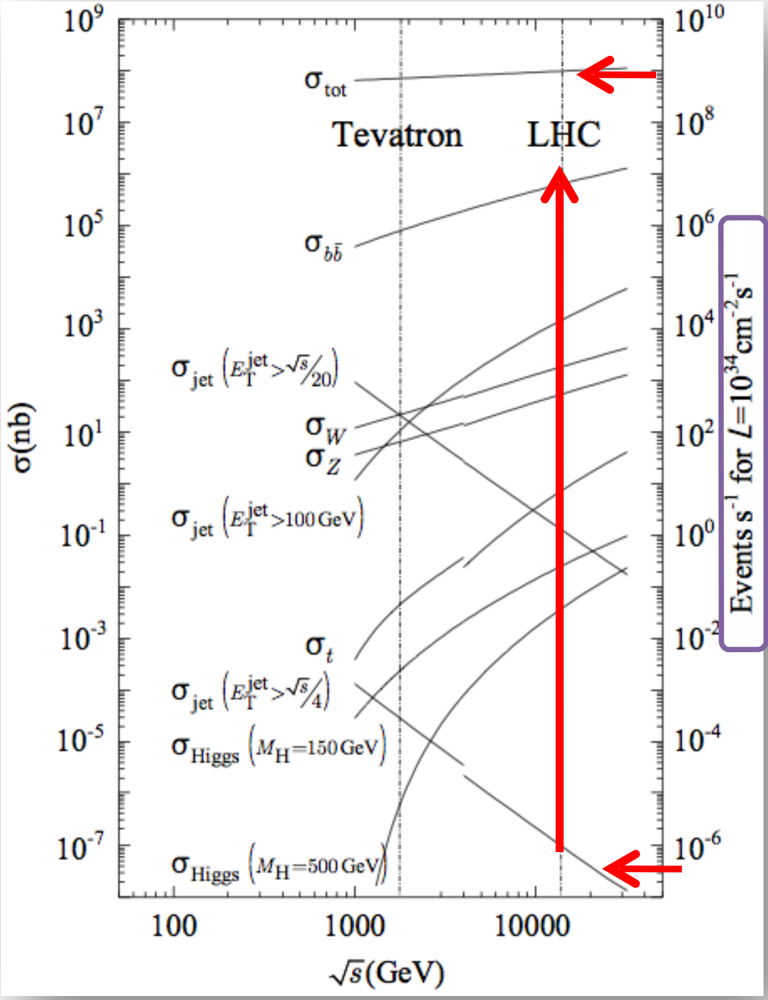
Total trigger rate is ~ GHz!!!

Huge range of cross-sections and production rates at design:

Beauty (0.7 mb)	– 1000 Hz
W/Z (200/60 nb)	– 100 Hz
Top (0.8 nb)	– 10 Hz
Higgs - 125 GeV (30 pb)	– 0.1 Hz

$$\frac{\sigma_{tot}}{\sigma_{H(500\,\mathrm{GeV})}} \approx \frac{100\,mb}{1\,pb} \approx 10^{11}$$

- The final rate is often dominated by not interesting physics
- The trigger accepts events with features similar to the signal



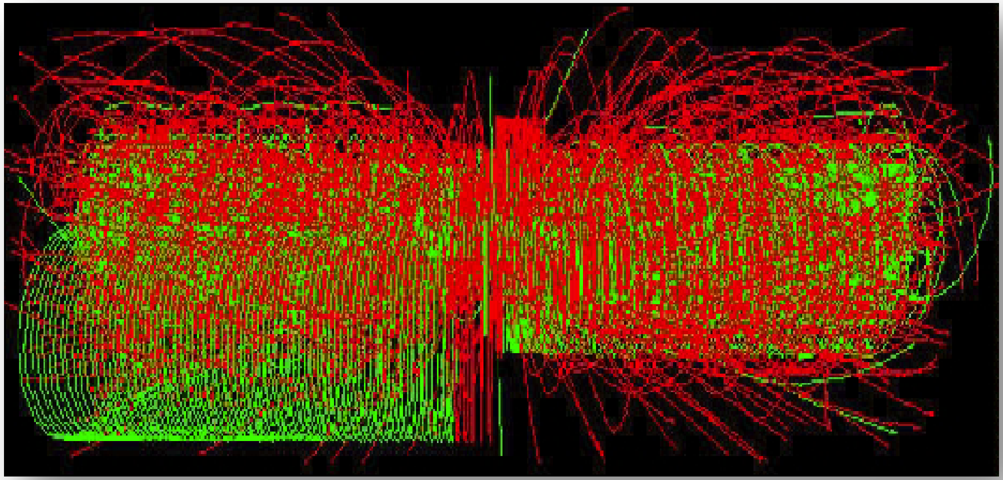
Background discrimination is crucial

As easy as….

- *Crucial for selecting specific features within widely extended systems*
- *With limited amount of time*
- *With limited resources*

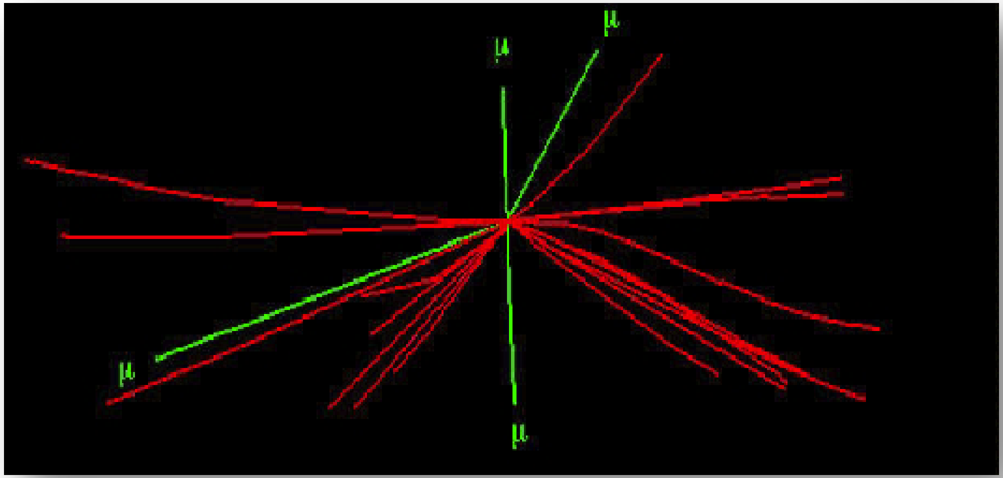
Which is a good trigger for the Higgs Boson?

All tracks



+30 MinBias

Only high-pt tracks

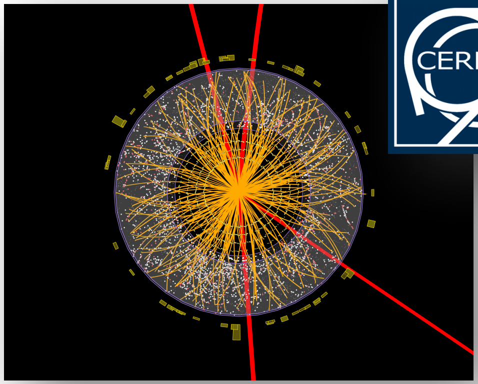


Higgs -> 4μ

Simulate the signal events **Higgs → 4μ** as it appears at the LHC (with soft collisions coming from the p-p interactions)

The trigger signature is given by **high momentum muons** (at least one)

Not always need to reduce the rate



- **LHC – ATLAS**

- Project started in 1996
- Technology chosen in 2000
- Start data-taking 2008

- Full p-p collision rate: 40 MHz
- Average event size: 1.5 MB
- Full data rate: ~60 PB/s

- Defined physics channels
- Complex trigger: reduces 7 orders of magnitudes to 200 Hz

- Affordable DAQ rate: ~300 MB/s -> 200 Hz
- Data distribution (GRID)

- **SKA (Square Km Array)**

- Project started in 2011
- Technologies under evaluation now
- Start operations in 2024

- Photograph the sky continuously
- 1.12 PB/s of photons collected

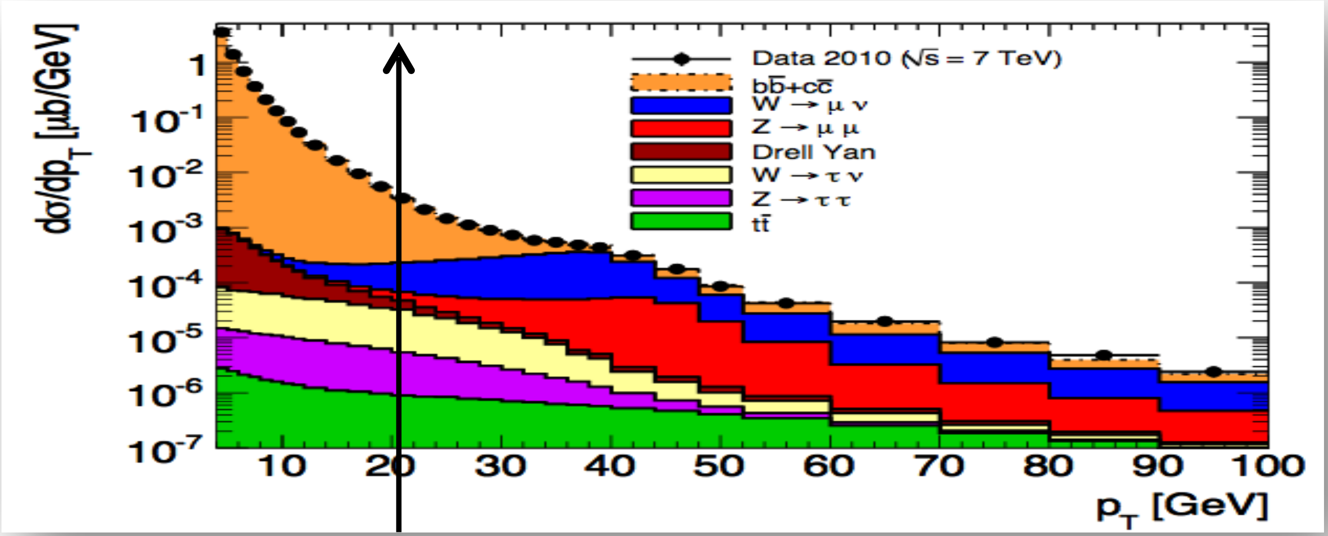
- EXASCALE system 10^{18} operations for correlation and imaging
- **Simple currelator : 10 TB/s**
- **Total Internet Traffic ≈ 8 TB/s in 2010**

- Required large computing power
- Big-data and cloud-computing drive market

Trigger requirements

Requirement 1: *high background rejection*

Inclusive single muon p_T spectrum



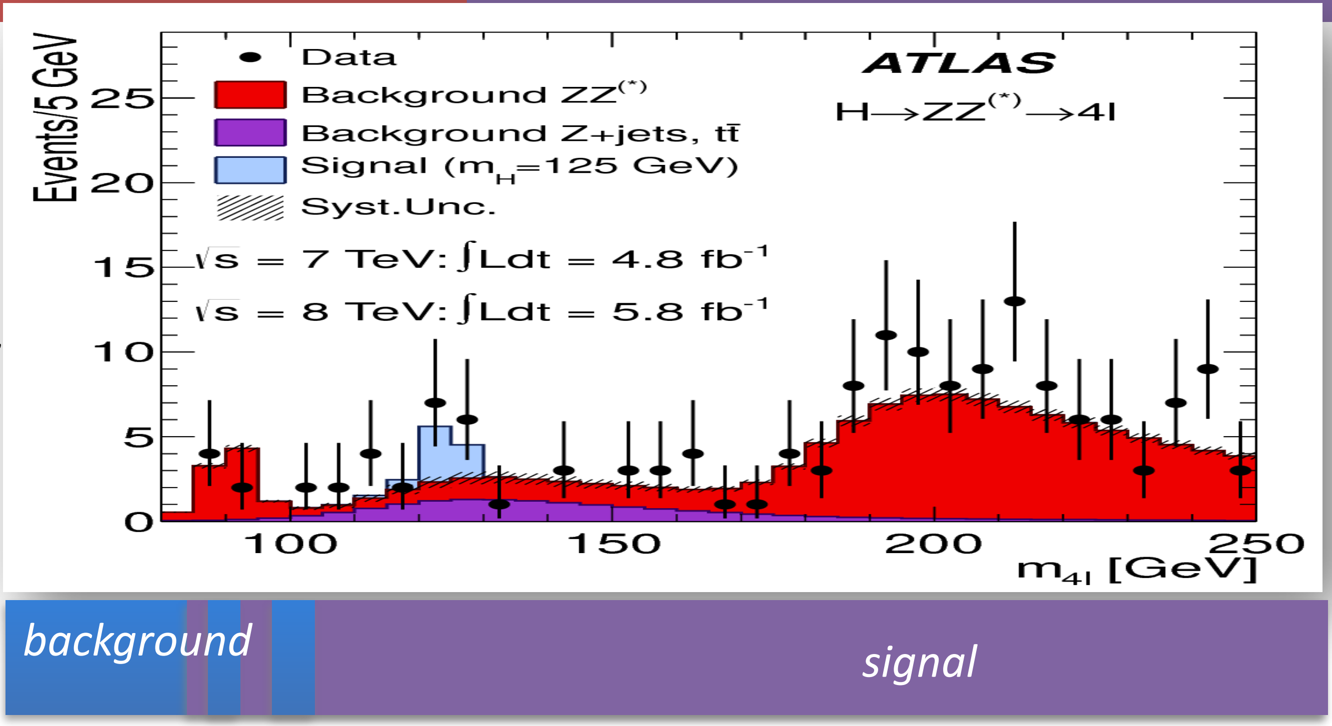
muon p_T

$$\mathbf{Rej_{bkg} = 1 - N_{bad(accepted)}/N_{bad\ (produced/expected)}}$$

- **Rate control capability**
  - Instrumental or physics background
    - Identify **characteristics** that can suppress the background
    - Demonstrate solid **understanding** of background rate and shapes
  - Backgrounds sometimes are known with great uncertainties: make your trigger **flexible and robust**

Requirement 2: *high signal efficiency*

4-leptons invariant mass, selected events for $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$

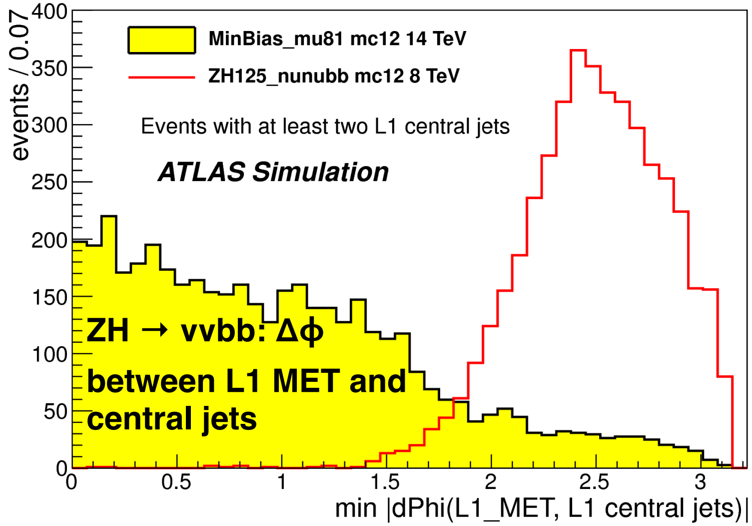


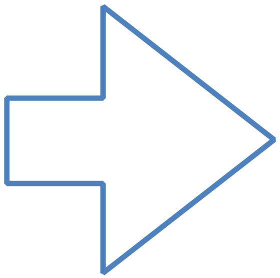
muon p_T

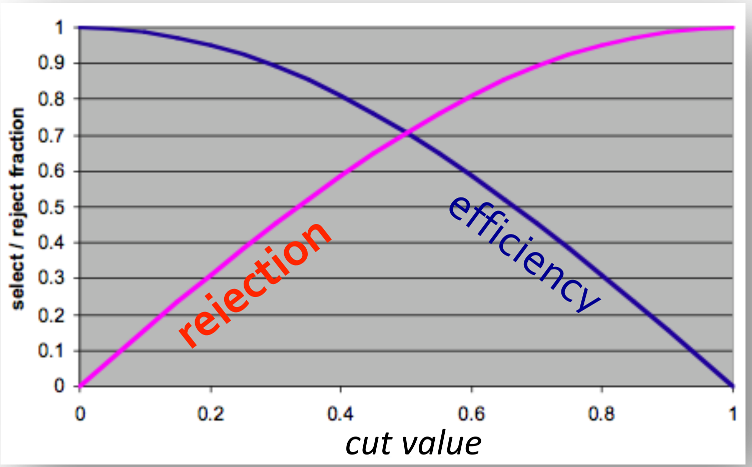
$$\varepsilon_{trigger} = N_{good\ (accepted)} / N_{good\ (produced/expected)}$$

- Maximise the acceptance
  - Good design of the architecture
- Optimise the selection
  - The selection must be optimised on the signal

...with compromises?







- If any of the two requirements cannot be realised, **refine your selection**!
  - Change the parameters, eventually with more complex ones, but still remain **fast**!
  - With additional compromises (number of processors working in parallel and fastness of the algorithms)

- Whatever criteria you choose, discarded events are lost for ever!
- So, check that your trigger system:
  - Is not biasing your measurement
    - Discovery experiments: use inclusive selections
    - Precision experiments: use well known selections
  - Is reliable
    - Do you trust your trigger? If not, add control samples!

Trigger efficiency is a parameter of your measurement

$$BR(\ Signal\ ) = \frac{(N_{candidates} - N_{bg})}{\alpha \cdot \varepsilon_{total} \cdot \sigma_{Bs} \cdot \int L dt}$$

$$\alpha \cdot \varepsilon_{\text{total}} = \alpha \cdot \varepsilon_{\text{Tracking}} \cdot \varepsilon_{\text{Reco}} \cdot \varepsilon_{\text{L1-Trig}} \cdot \varepsilon_{\text{L2-Trig}} \cdot \varepsilon_{\text{L3-Trig}} \cdot \varepsilon_{\text{vertex}} \cdot \varepsilon_{\text{analysis}}$$

Trigger efficiency must be **precisely known**, since it enters in the calculation of the cross-sections

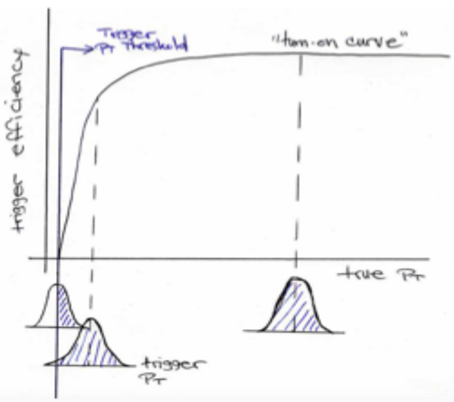
- For some precise measurements, the crucial performance parameter is not the efficiency, but the **systematic** error on determining it

Different **independent** trigger selections allows good cross-calibration of the efficiency

- Besides your "physics" triggers, foresee additional **back-up triggers**

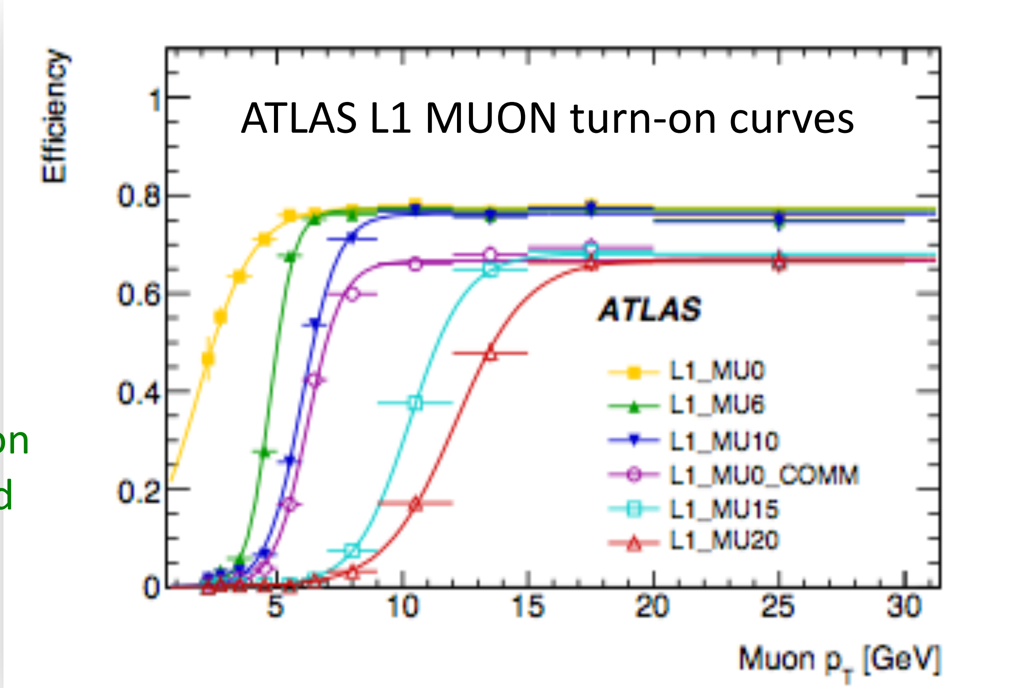
Trigger efficiency measurement

The threshold is not exactly applied as a step function.
Better use the Error function, usually called **trigger turn-on**



- The capability of controlling the rate depends on the **resolution** on the trigger parameter
  - For example some particles can be under threshold, failing the trigger, because their trigger parameter is underestimated

- Crucial is the study of the **step region**, in which efficiency changes very quickly and contamination from background can be important (soft particles are often abundant!)
  - If **quick**, better background suppression
  - If **slow**, can be better extrapolated and systematic error can be reduced

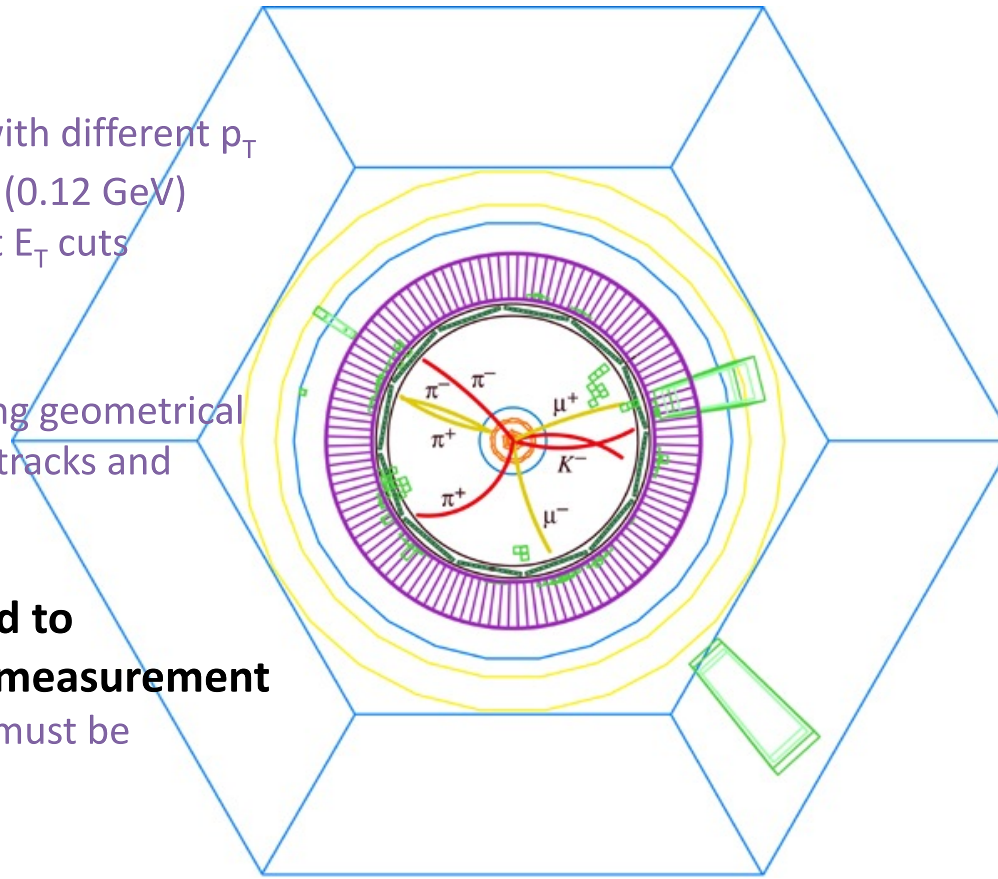


Trigger for precision measurements: BaBar

- Goal: reduce systematic errors on the measurement of CP violating parameters

Golden event in the BaBar Detector
e+e- collision producing a B and an anti-B

Golden B (for CP violation)
Tagging B



- Babar trigger objects:
  - **Charged tracks** in the drift chamber, with different p_T cuts: long track (0.18GeV), short track (0.12 GeV)
  - **EM calorimeter clusters** with different E_T cuts

- Search for topology
  - **Number of objects**, optionally requiring geometrical separation cuts or matching between tracks and clusters

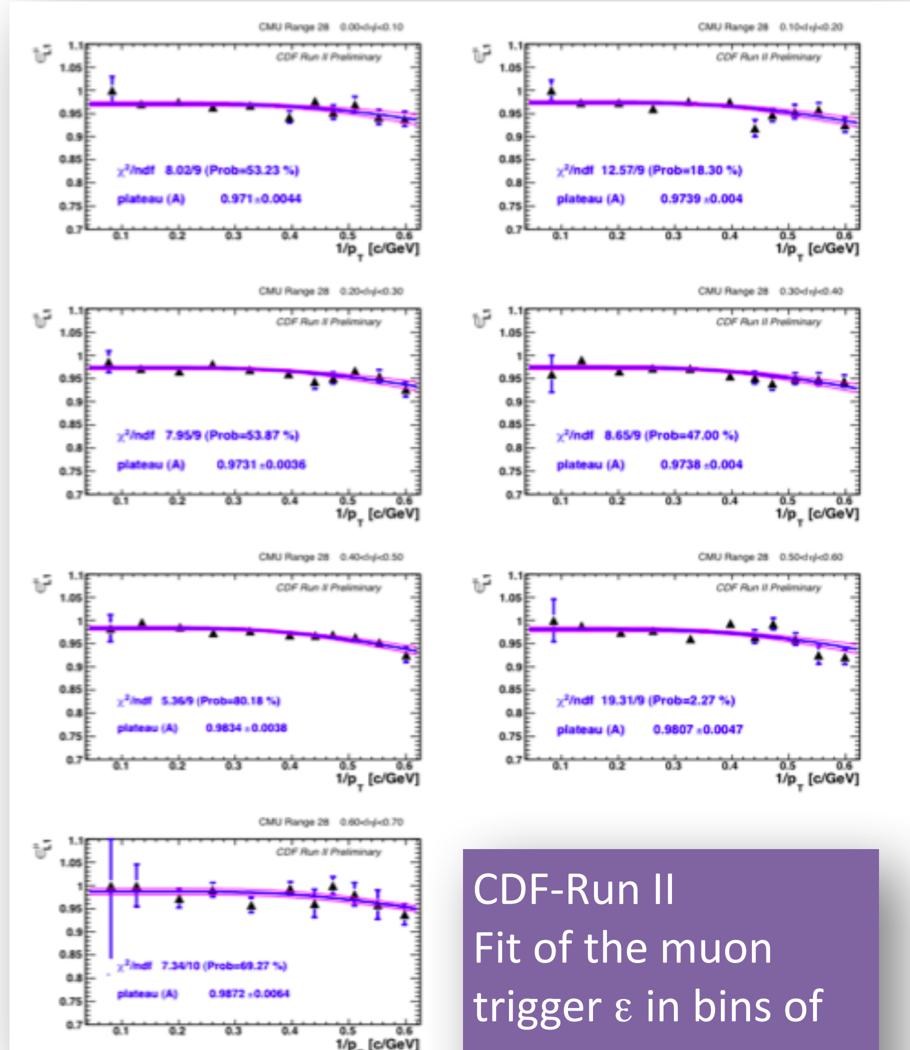
- **Deep studies on signal and background to determine the error on the efficiency measurement**
  - The selection of background samples must be foreseen in the trigger itself

Parametrising the trigger efficiency

- The trigger behaviour, and thus the analysis sample, can change quickly due to important changes in
  - Detector
  - Trigger hardware
  - Trigger algorithms
  - Trigger definition

- **The analysis must keep track of all these changes**

- Multi-dimensional study of the efficiency: $\varepsilon(p_T, \eta, \phi, \text{run\#})$
  - Fit the turn-on curves for different bins of η, ϕ, p_T
  - Actually fit the $1/p_T$ dependency since the resolution is Gaussian in $1/p_T$



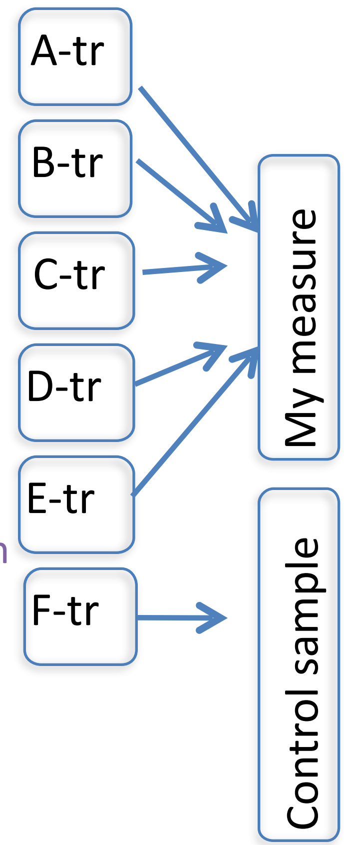
CDF-Run II
Fit of the muon trigger ε in bins of eta

How many trigger selections?

Redundant and flexible trigger menus

- Physics triggers
  - **Discovery experiments**: multiple inclusive selections ensure wide open windows to look at
  - **Precision experiments**: multiple triggers for multiple measurements
- Calibration triggers
  - Detectors calibrations
  - Detectors and trigger efficiency measurements
  - Tagging efficiency
  - Energy scale measurements
- Background triggers
  - Instrumental and physics background
  - Better description of the background can be extrapolated from data than from Monte Carlo
  - Understand resolutions, including the under-threshold population
- Monitor triggers
  - To monitor the trigger itself (remember, lost events are lost for ever!)

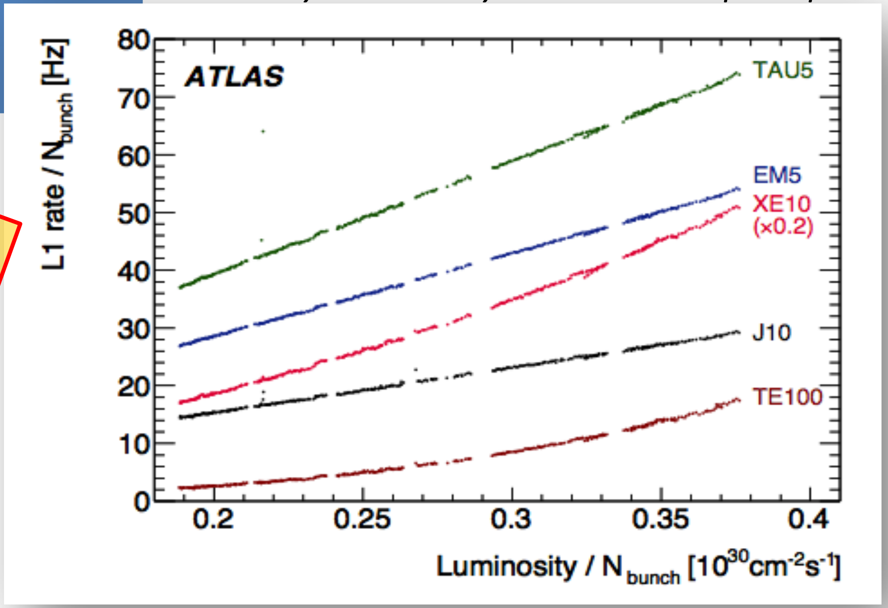
Bulk of the selected events!



Rate allocations of the trigger signatures

- ✓The target is the final allowed DAQ bandwidth
- ✓The rate allocation on each trigger based on
  - ✓Physics goals (plus calibration, monitoring samples)
  - ✓Required efficiency and background rejection
  - ✓Bandwidth consumed

Rates scale linearly with luminosity, but linearity is smoothly broken due to pile-up



$$R_i = \mathrm{L} \int_{p_{T}\_\mathrm{inf}}^{p_{T}\_cutoff} \frac{d\sigma_i}{dp_T} \cdot \varepsilon(p_T)\, dp_T$$

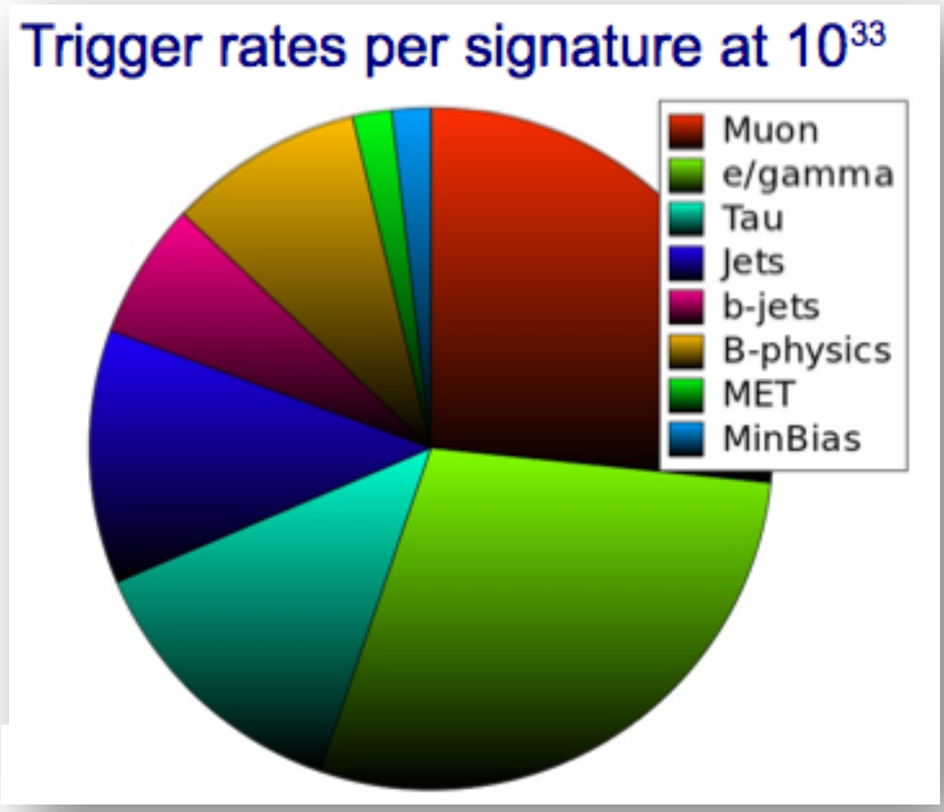
Trigger Efficiency

Extrapolate the expected trigger rates:

- For trigger design and commissioning: large samples of simulated data, including large cross-section backgrounds
  - 7 million of non-diffractive events used in the ATLAS trigger design
  - Large uncertainties due to detector response and background cross-sections: apply **safety factors**, then tuned with data
- During running (at colliders), (some) rates can be extrapolated to higher Luminosity

Trigger strategy @ colliders: ATLAS menu

ATLAS



- Inclusive triggers to collect the **signal samples**
  - Single high-p_T
    - e/μ/γ (p_T>20 GeV)
    - jets (p_T>100 GeV)
  - Multi-object events
    - e-e, e-μ, μ-μ, e-τ, e-γ, μ-γ, etc… to further reduce the rate
- **Back-up triggers** designed to spot problems, provide control samples (often pre-scaled)
  - Jets (p_T>8, 20, 50, 70 GeV)
  - Inclusive leptons (p_T > 4, 8 GeV)
  - Lepton + jet

Priority List for >300 Hz

Chain		Unique rate L1 (Hz)	Unique rate L2 (Hz)	Unique rate EF (Hz)	*Sorted by* Problem level
EF_xe60_verytight_noMu	SUSY/Exotics	0	0	0.5	EF (pileup)
EF_j100_a4tc_EFFS_ht400	SUSY	0	0	2.5	EF
EF_4j45_a4tc_EFFS	SUSY/SM	0	0	2	EF
EF_5j30_a4tc_EFFS		0	5	3	EF
EF_j240_a10tc_EFFS	Exotics/SM	0	0	1	EF
EF_tau29_loose1_xs45_loose_noMu_3L1J10	Higgs	0	40	5	EF
EF_b10_medium_4j30_a4tc_EFFS	Top/Higgs	0	4	10	EF
EF_2mu4_BmumuX		0	7	0.9	EF
EF_2mu4_Jpsimumu	B-physics	0	6	1.7	EF
EF_mu4mu6_DiMu		0	25	6.5	EF
EF_mu4mu6_DiMu_DY20	SM	0	10	5?	EF
EF_2MUL1_l2j30_HV_allMS	Exotics	0	?	?	EF
EF_mu20i_medium	5×10^{33} prep.	0	15	3	EF
EF_mu18_MG_medium	Many	0	0	60	EF
EF_mu18_medium		0	0	60	EF
EF_e60_loose	(Exotics)	0	5	7	EF,client
EF_mu15/18/22_njX?	SUSY/??	100	10	?	EF,non-validated
EF_g22_hiptrt?	Exotics	0	?	< 1?	non-validated
EF_e15_medium_xe40_noMu	SUSY/Exotics	310	70?	1.3	L2 (pileup)
EF_j55_a4tc_EFFS_xe55_medium_noMu_dphi2j30xe10		70	210	1.5	L2
EF_e10_medium_mu6_topo_medium	Higgs	1200	9	1	L1
EF_tau20_medium_e15_medium	Higgs	3700	10	1	L1
EF_xe60_tight_noMu	SUSY	680?	150?	1	L1,L2 (pileup),EF
EF_e10_medium_mu6	Higgs/SUSY	1200	75	10	L1, EF
EF_l2j30_Trackless_HV_L1MU6	Exotics	1500?	0.5	0.5	L1
Total extra rate		6500	600	100	Peak at 3×10^{33}

Build up a trigger system

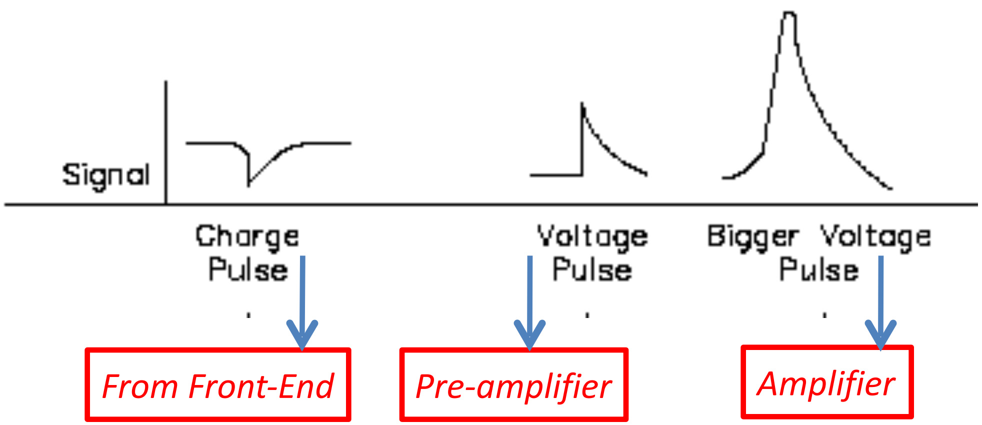
Ensure good efficiency with…

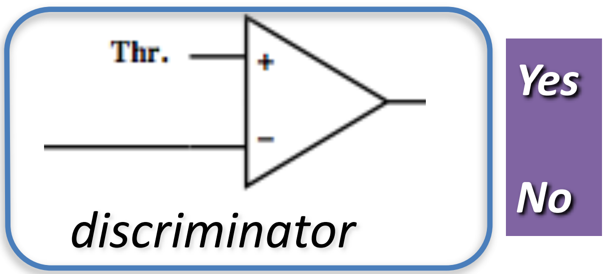
Robustness! Win against the unexpected!

- **Flexibility**
  - Programmable thresholds, high granularity to maintain uniform performance, able to follow changes of luminosity, beam-size and vertex position, able to reach physics results also after 10 years of data taking
- **Redundancy**
  and the collider performance
  - Different backgrounds can change the event shape and dimension, so the result of your trigger selection
- **Selectivity**
  - Good granularity and good resolution of the parameters to ensure good rejection of the unwanted backgroun

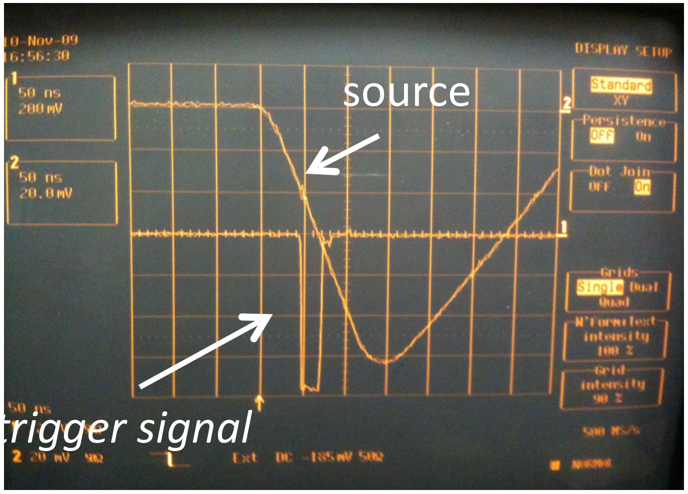
The simplest trigger system

- **Source**: signals from the Front-End of the detectors
  - Binary trackers (pixels, strips)
  - Analog signals from trackers, time of light detectors, calorimeters,….



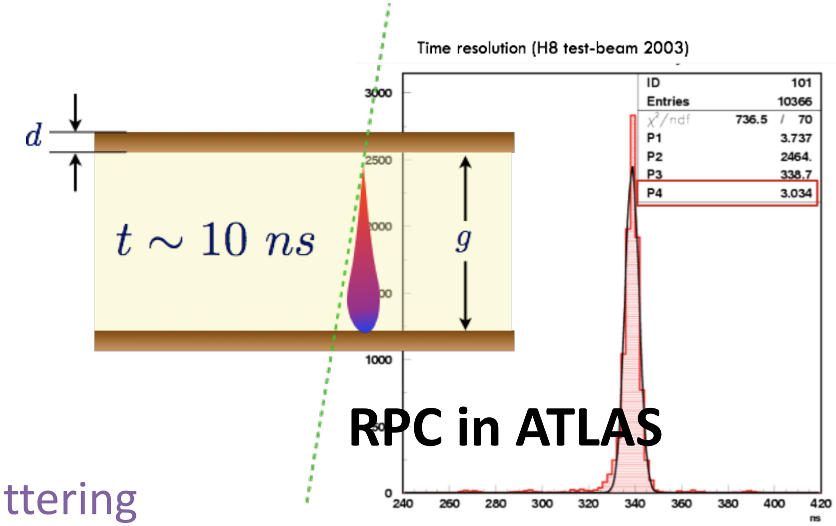


- The simplest trigger is: **apply a threshold**
  - Look at the signal
  - Apply a threshold as low as possible, since signals in HEP detectors have large amplitude variation
  - Compromise between hit efficiency and noise rate



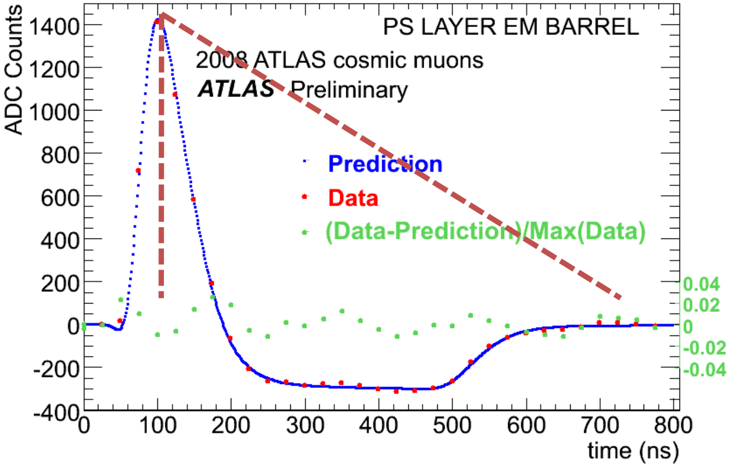
Chose your trigger detector

- Use analogue signals from existing detectors or dedicated “trigger detectors”
  - Organic scintillators
  - Electromagnetic calorimeters
  - Proportional chambers (short drift)
  - Cathode readout detectors (RPC,TGC,CSC)



- With these requirements
  - **Fast signal**: good time resolution and low jittering
    - Signals from slower detectors are shaped and processed to find the unique peak (peak-finder algorithms)
  - **High efficiency**
  - **(often) High rate capability**

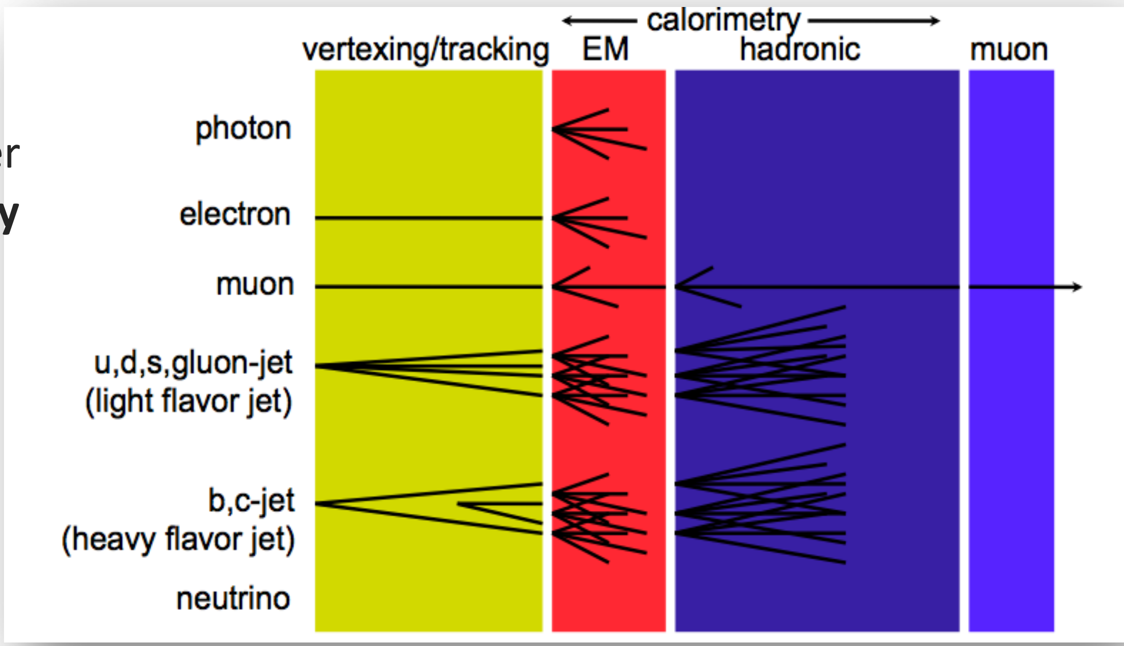
ATLAS Liquid Argon calorimeter



- **Need optimal FE/trigger electronics to process the signal**

Trigger signatures

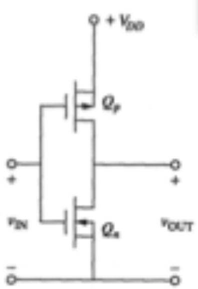
- **Signature** = a collection of parameters used for discrimination
  - Can be the amplitude of a signal passing a given **threshold** or a more complex quantity given by software calculations
- We first use intuitive criteria: **be fast and reliable!**
  - Use clear/simple signatures
    - i.e.: apply thresholds on: muon momenta, energy deposits in the calorimeters, good quality tracks in the tracker detectors….
- Eventually combine more signals together following a certain trigger logic (AND/OR), giving **redundancy**

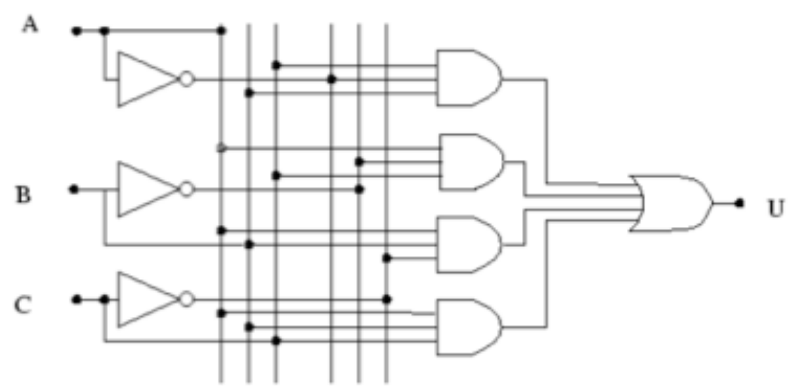


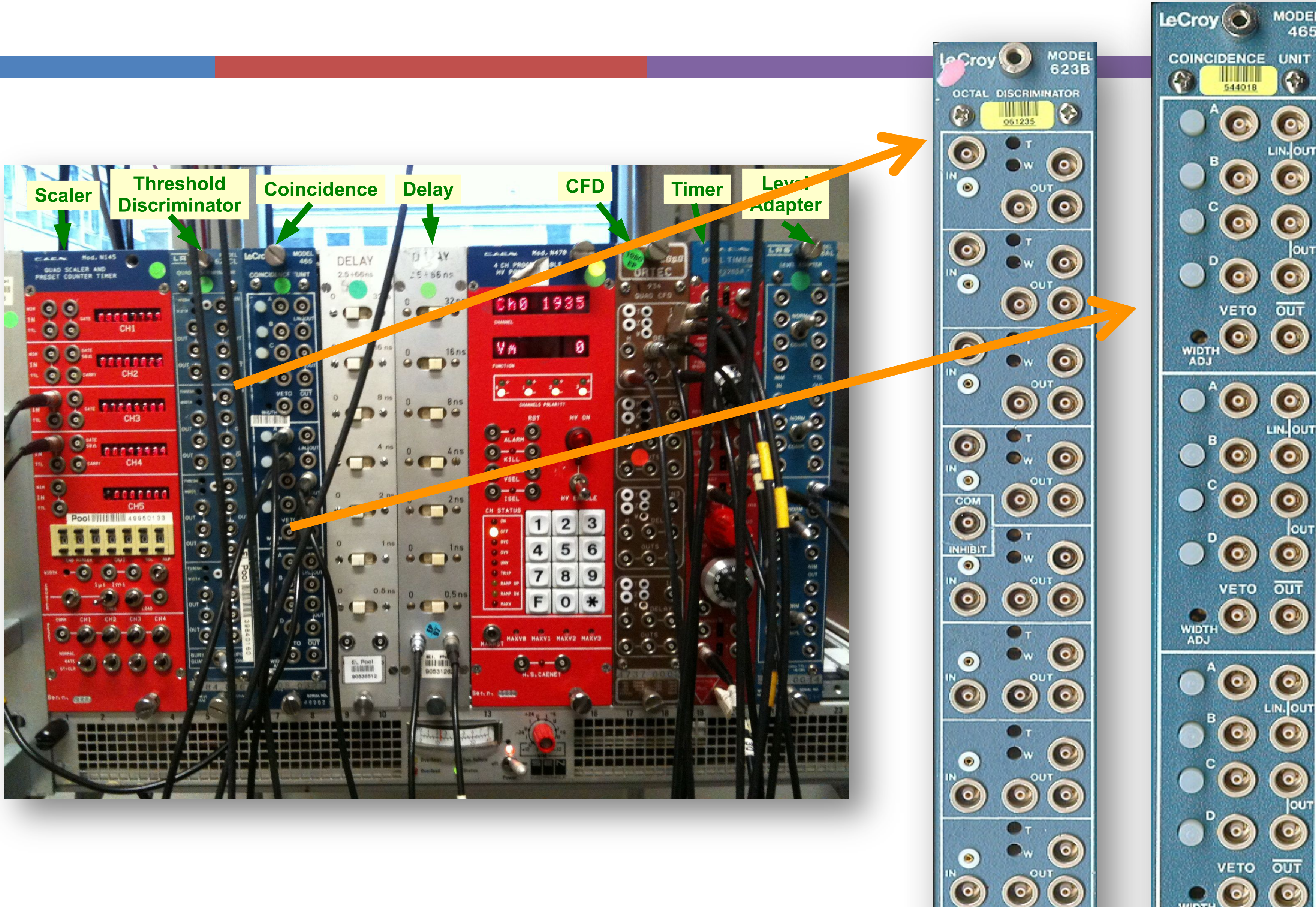
Trigger logic implementation

- Analog systems: amplifiers, filters, comparators, ….
- Digital systems:
  - Combinatorial: sum, decoders, multiplexers,….
  - Sequential: flip-flop, registers, counters,….
- Converters: ADC, TDC, …..

Any behaviour of our system can be described logically with a sequence of mathematical operators



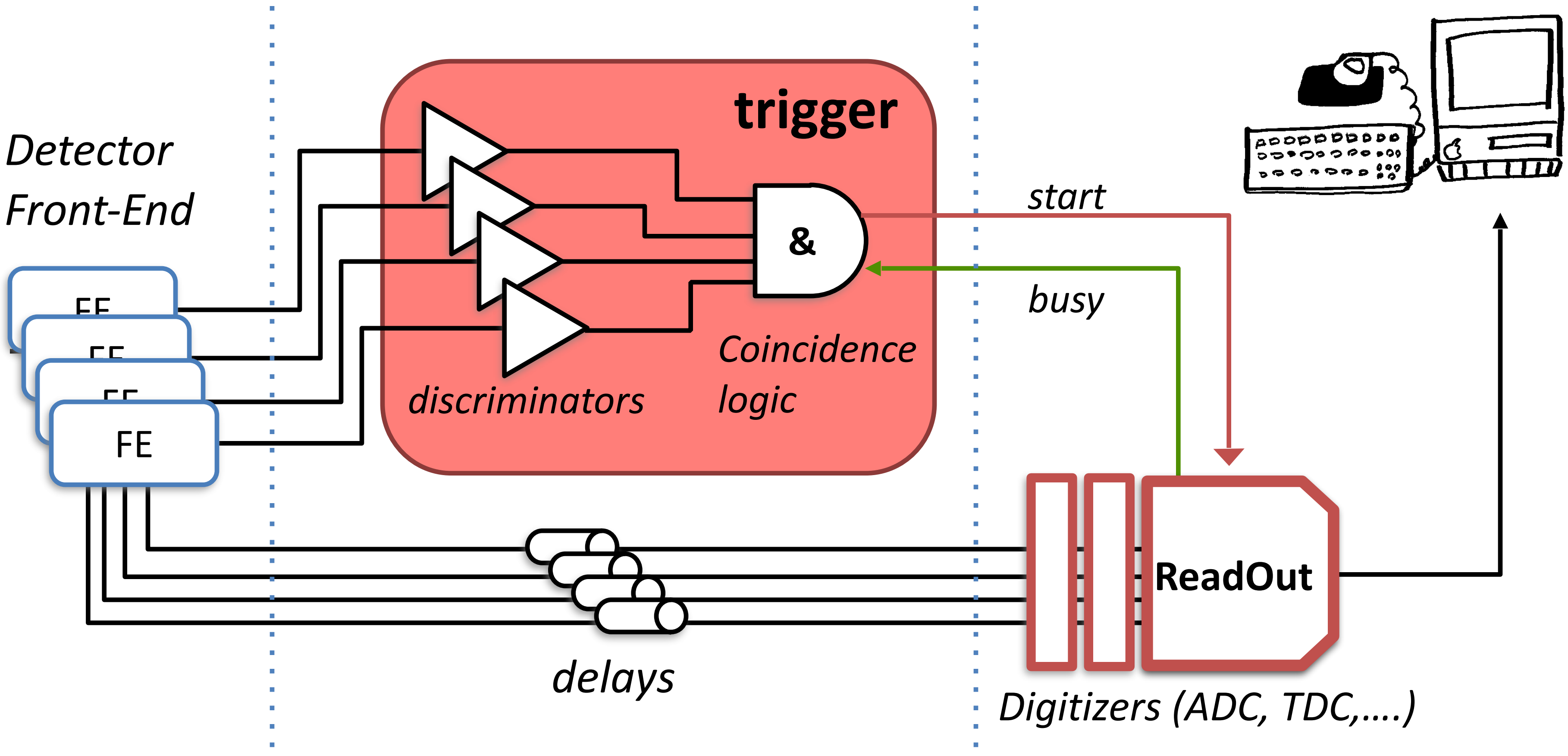




Threshold Discriminator

Coincidence Unit

A simple trigger system

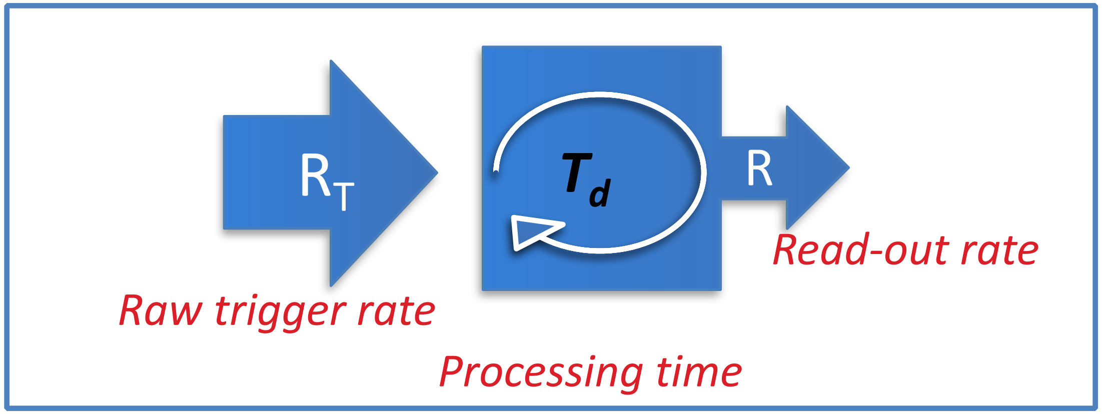


- Due to **fluctuations**, the incoming rate can be higher than processing one
- Valid interactions can be rejected due to system **busy**

Dead-time

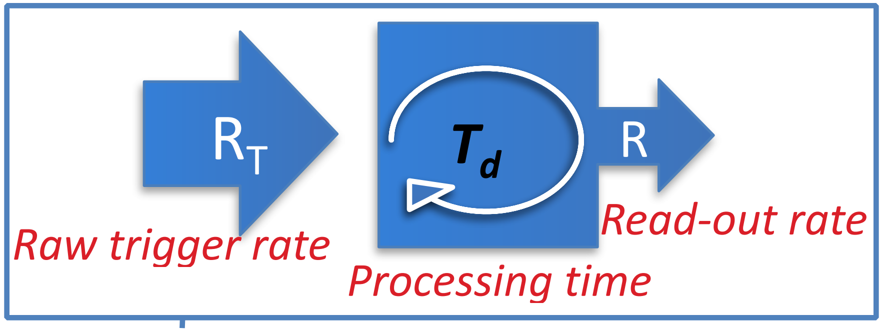
- The most important parameter in designing high speed **T/DAQ systems**
  - The fraction of the acquisition time in which no events can be recorded. It can be typically of the order of **few %**
- Occurs when a given step in the processing takes a **finite amount of time**
  - Readout dead-time
  - Trigger dead-time
  - Operational dead-time
- **Fluctuations produce dead-time!**

Affects efficiency!



Maximise recording rate

R_T = Trigger rate (average)
R = Readout rate
T_d = processing time of one event

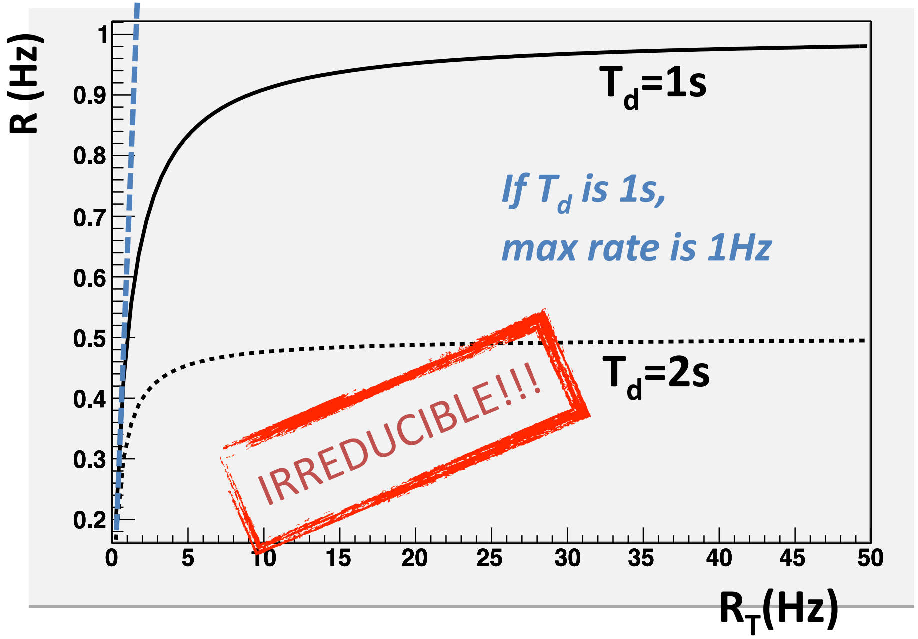


fraction of lost events = $R \times T_d$

number of events read: $R = (1 - R \times T_d) \times R_T$

$$\frac{R}{R_T} = \frac{1}{1 + R_T T_d}$$

Fraction of surviving events!

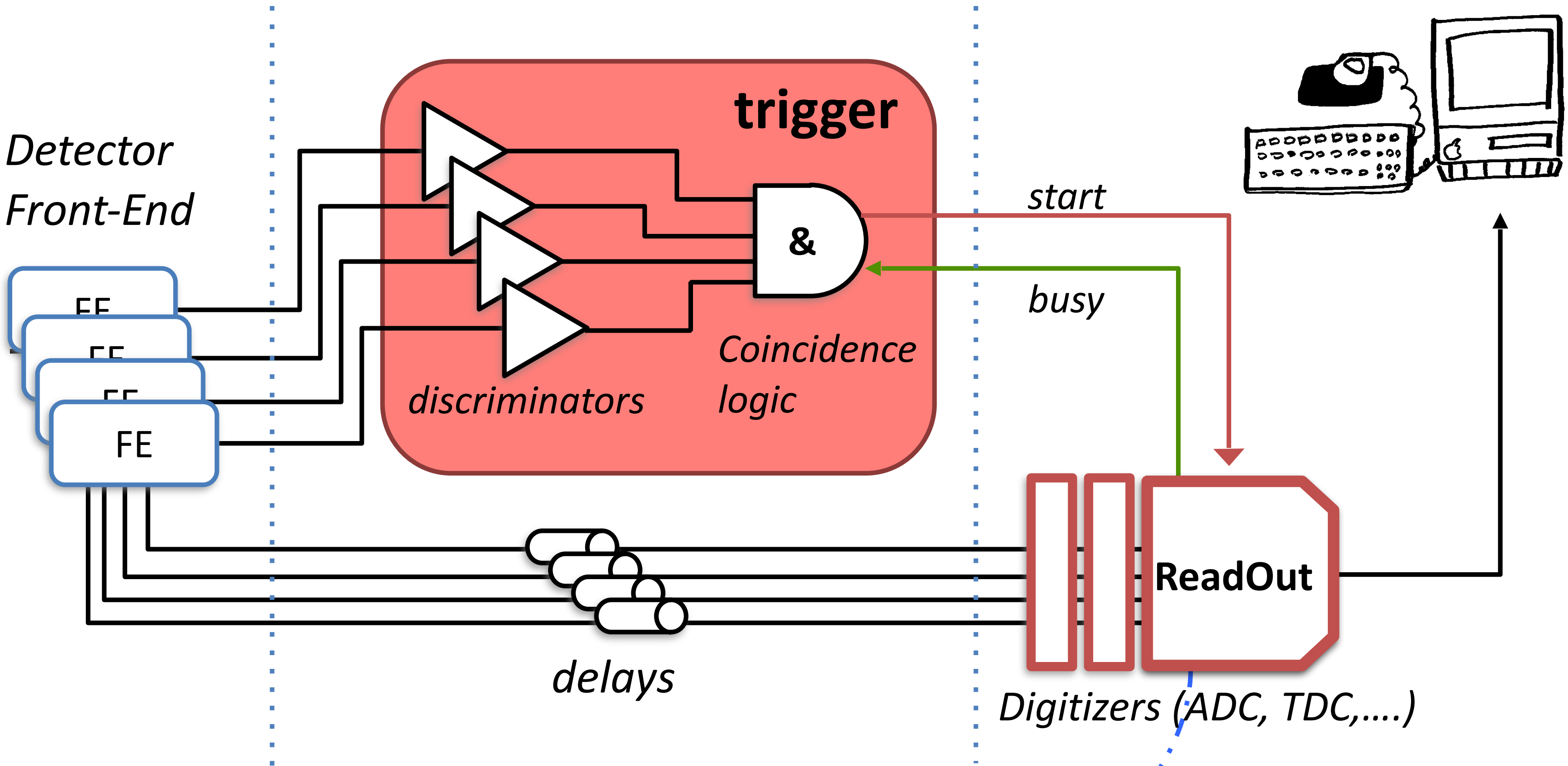


- We always lose events if $R_T > 1/T_d$
- If exactly $R_T = 1/T_d$ -> dead-time is 50%

The trick is to make both R_T and T_d as small as possible ($R \sim R_T$)

FAST TRIGGER!
LOW INPUT RATE!

A simple trigger system



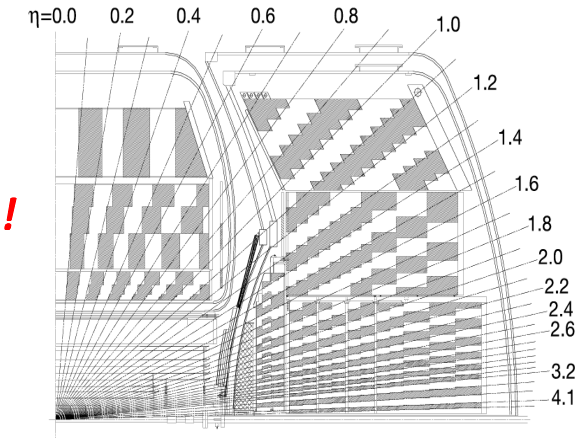
$$D_t = R \cdot T_{RO}$$

Fraction of lost events due to finite readout

To minimise dead-time….

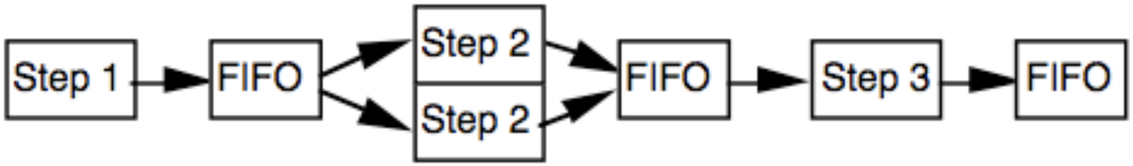
- **1: Parallelism**
  - Independent readout and trigger processing paths, one for each sensor element
  - Digitisation and DAQ processed in parallel (as many as affordable!)

Segment as much as you can!



DZero calorimeters showing the transverse and longitudinal segmentation pattern

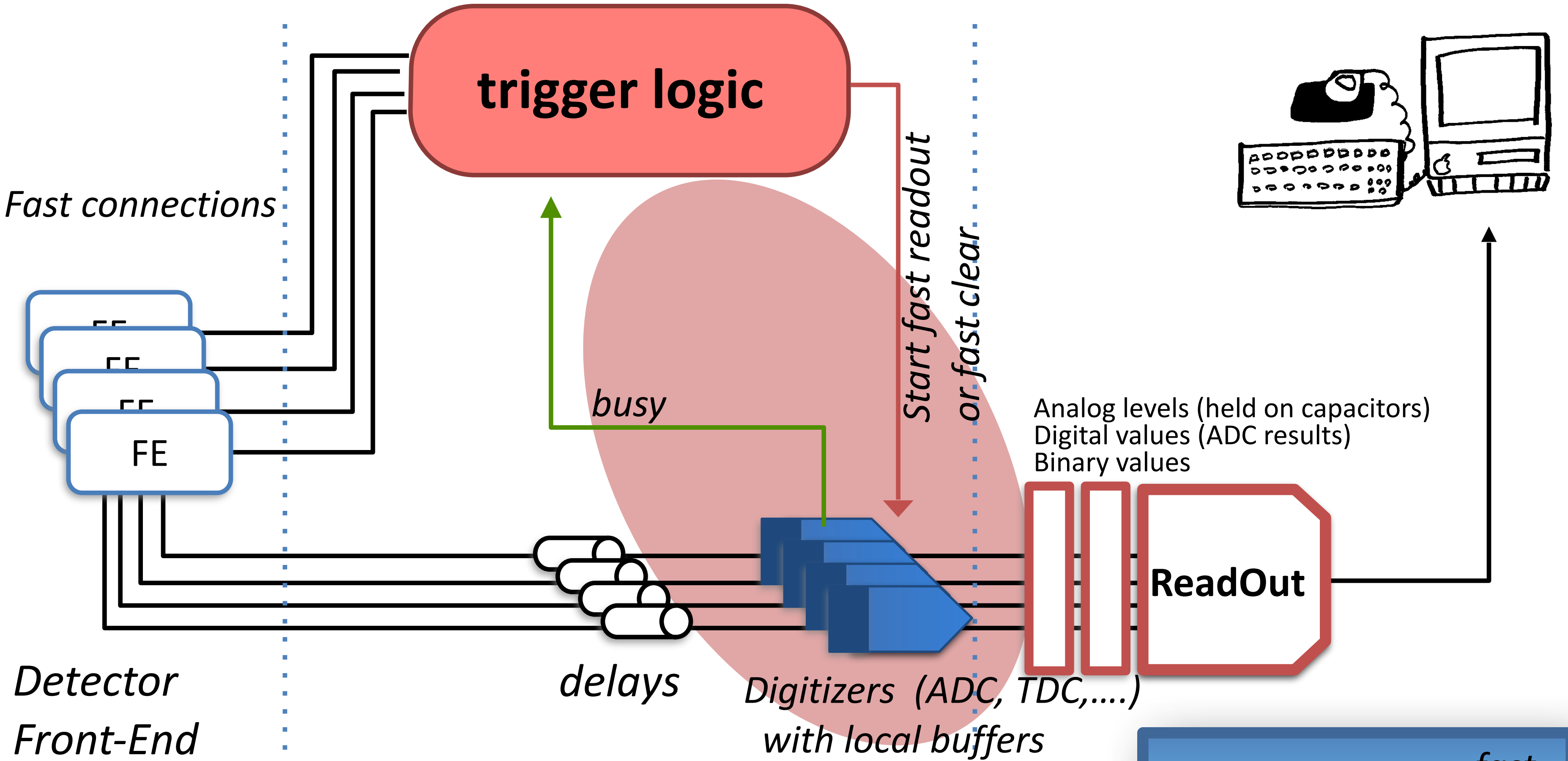
- **2: Pipeline processing with intermediate buffers,** to absorb fluctuations
  - Organise the process in different steps
  - Use local **buffers** between steps with different timing



$$\frac{R}{R_T} = \frac{1}{1 + R_T T_d}$$

Try to absorb in capable buffers

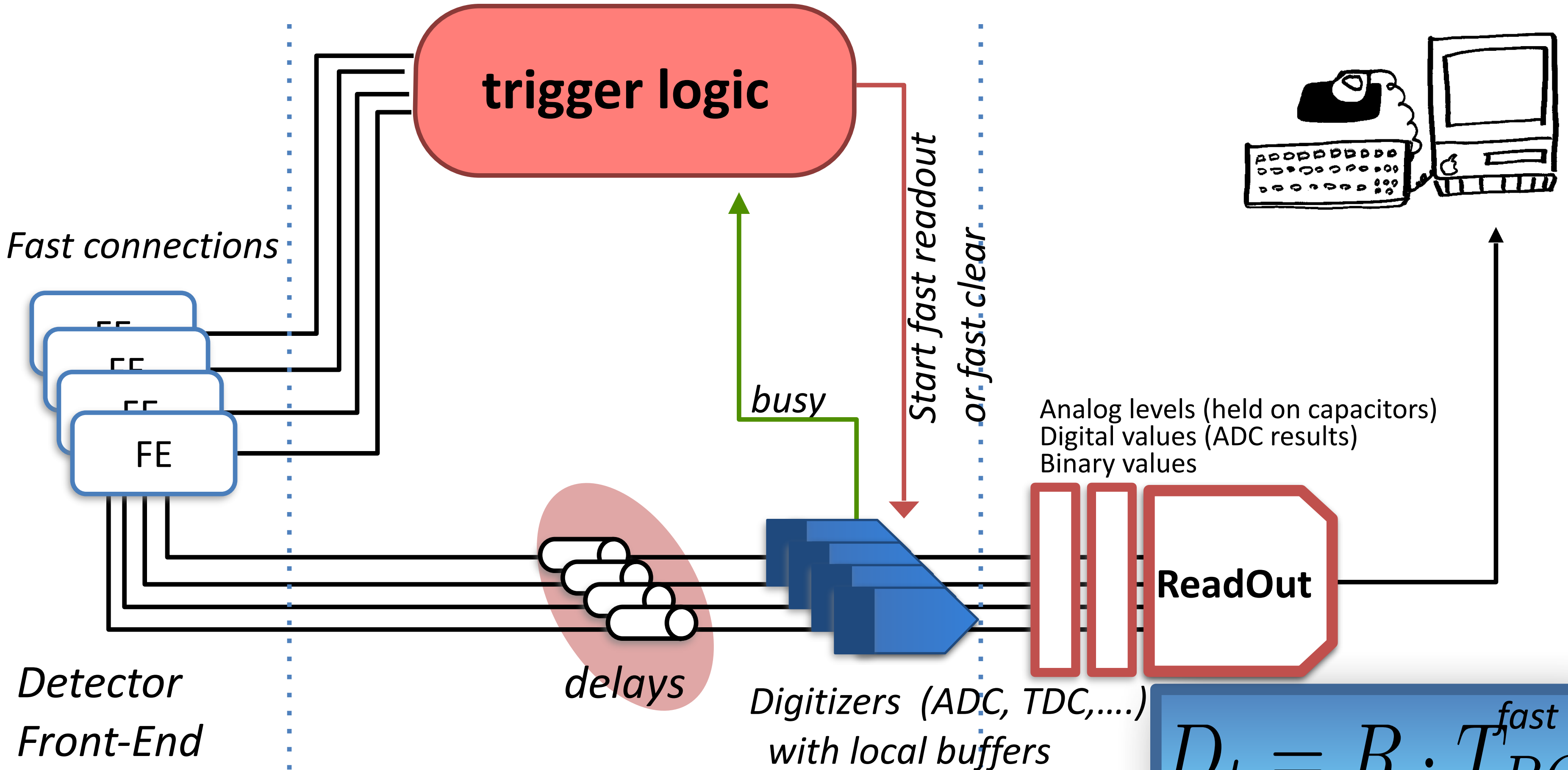
Minimizing readout dead-time…



$$D_t = R \cdot T_{RO}^{fast}$$

- **Parallelism**: Use multiple digitizers
- **Pipelining**: Different stages of readout: fast local readout + global event readout (slow)

Trigger latency

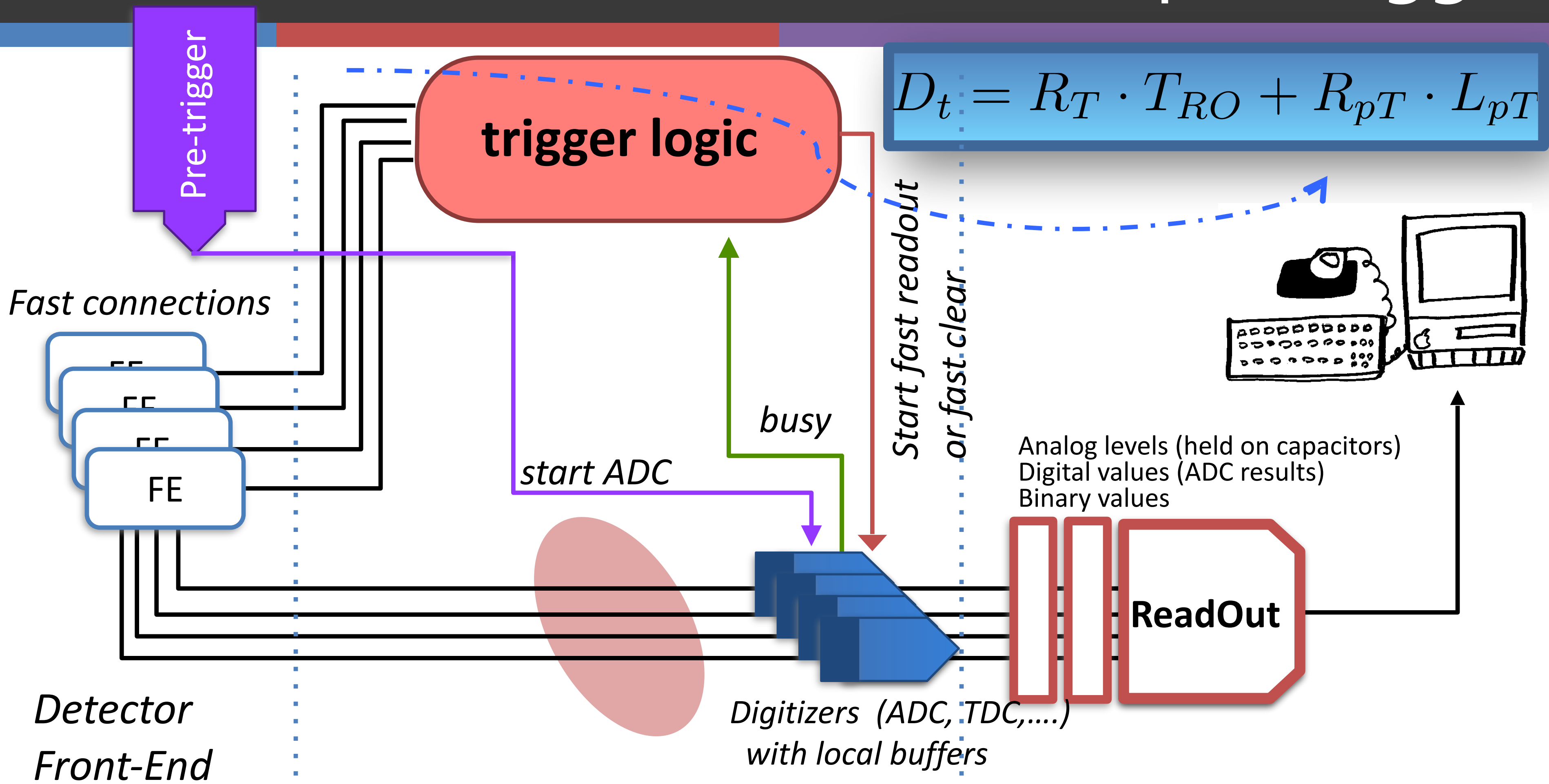


$$D_t = R \cdot T_{RO}^{fast}$$

- **Time to form the trigger decision and distribute to the digitizers**
- Signals are delayed until the trigger decision is available at the digitizers
  - But more complex is the selection, longer is the latency

Add a pre-trigger

$$D_t = R_T \cdot T_{RO} + R_{pT} \cdot L_{pT}$$



- Add **a very fast** first stage of the trigger, signalling the presence of minimal activity in the detector
  - **START the digitizers**, when signals arrive
  - The main trigger decision come later (after the digitization) -> can be more complex

Coupling rates and latencies

- Extend the idea… more levels of trigger, each one reducing the rate, even with longer latency
- Dead-time is the sum of the trigger dead-time, summed over the trigger levels, and the readout dead-time

$$\left(\sum_{i=2}^{N} R_{i-1} \times L_i\right) + R_N \times T_{\mathrm{LRO}}$$

i=1 is the pre-trigger

Readout dead-time is minimum if its input rate R_N is low!

R_i = Rate after the i-th level

L_i = Latency for the i-th level

T_{LRO} = Local readout time

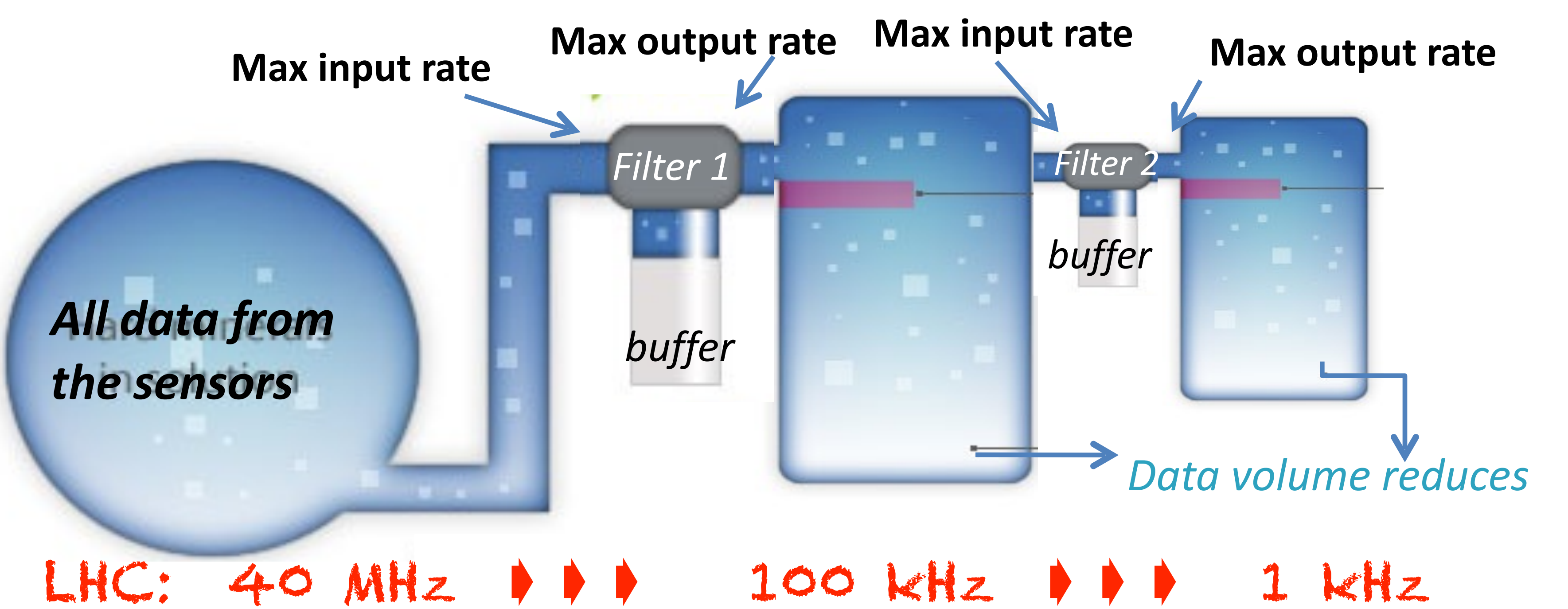
Try to minimise each factor!

Buffering and filtering

- **At each step**, data volume is reduced, more refined filtering to the next step
  - The input rate defines the filter **processing time** and its **buffer size**
  - The output rate limits the maximum latency allowed in the **next step**
  - Filter power is limited by the capacity of the next step

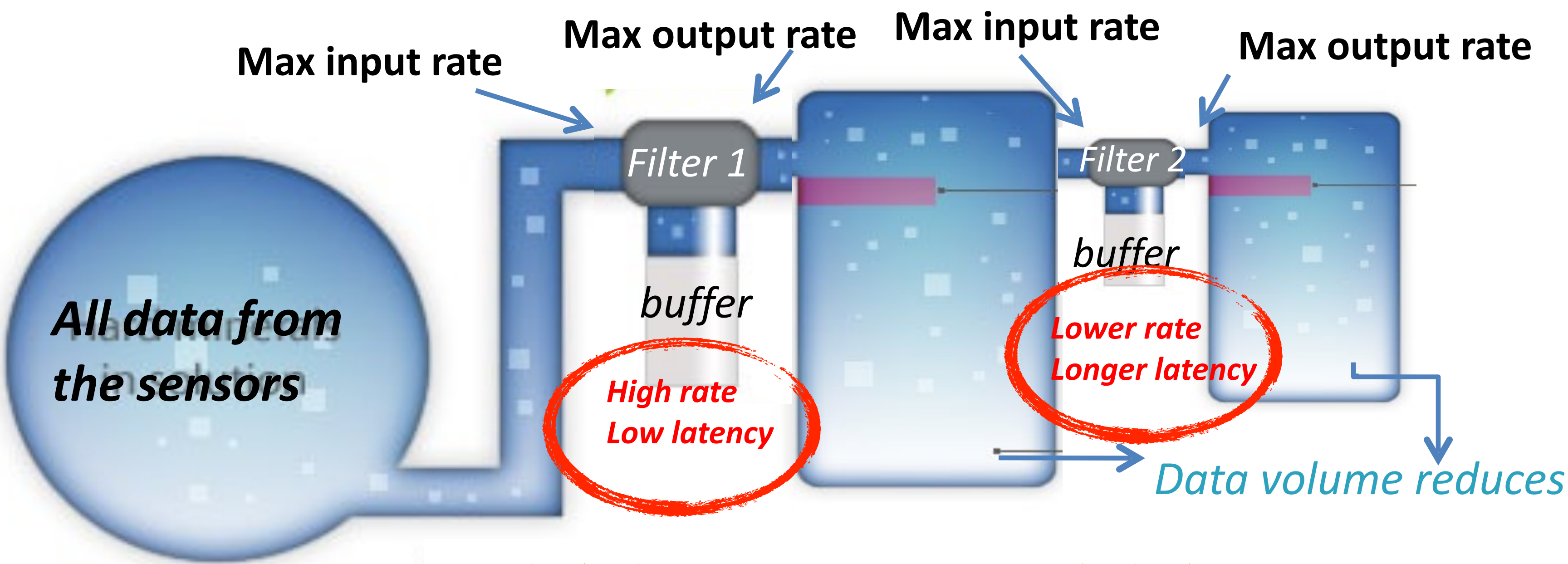
As long as the buffers do not fill up (overflow), no additional dead-time is introduced!

BUSY signal is still needed



Rates and latencies are strongly connected

- If the rate after filtering is higher than the capacity of the next step
  - Add filters (tighten the selection)
  - Add better filters (more complex selections)
  - Discard randomly (pre-scales)
- Latest filter can have longer latency (more selective)

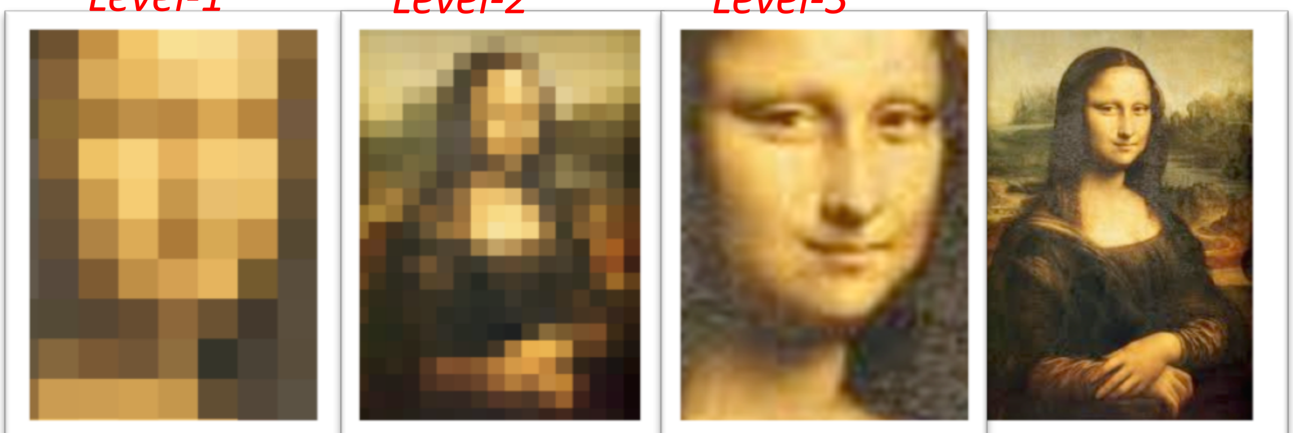


LHC: 40 MHz ▶▶▶ 100 kHz ▶▶▶ 1 kHz

Multi-level triggers

- Adopted in large experiments
- Successively more complex decisions are made on successively lower data rates
  - First level with short latency, working at higher rates
  - Higher levels apply further rejection, with longer latency (more complex algorithms)

Level-1 *Level-2* *Level-3*



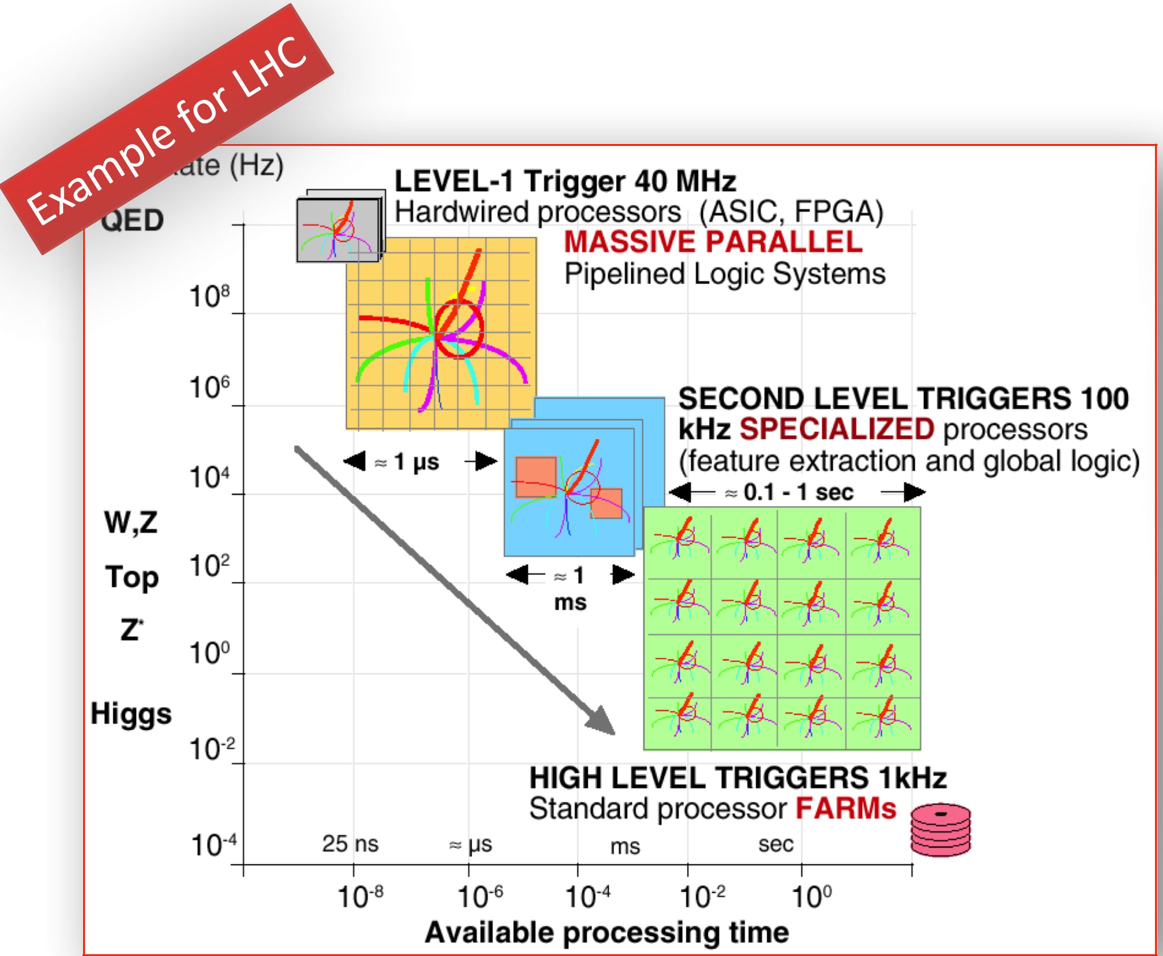
LHC experiments @ Run1

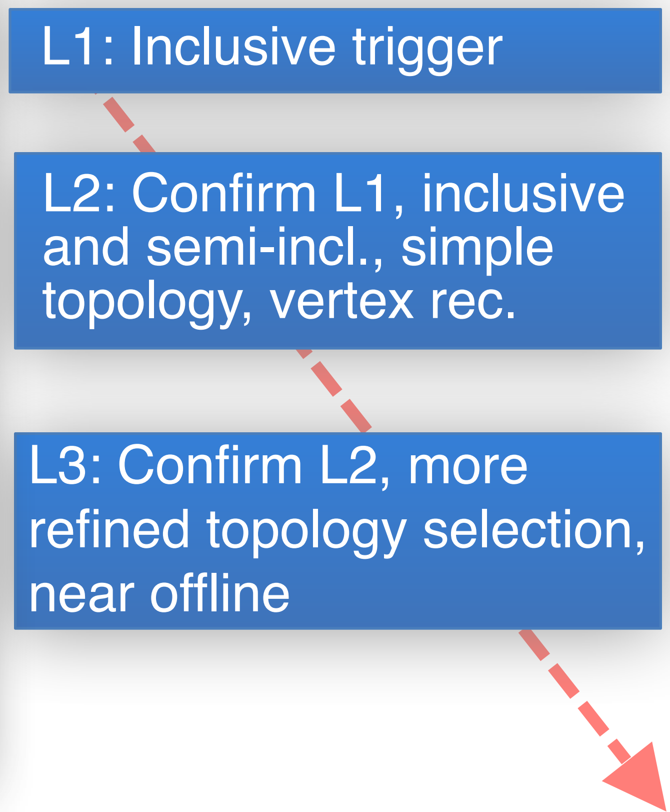
Exp.	N.of Levels
ATLAS	3
CMS	2
LHCb	3
ALICE	4

Lower event rate
Bigger event fragment size
More granularity information
More complexity
Longer latency
Bigger buffers

Efficiency for the desired physics must be kept high at all levels, since rejected events are lost for ever

Use of multi-level trigger

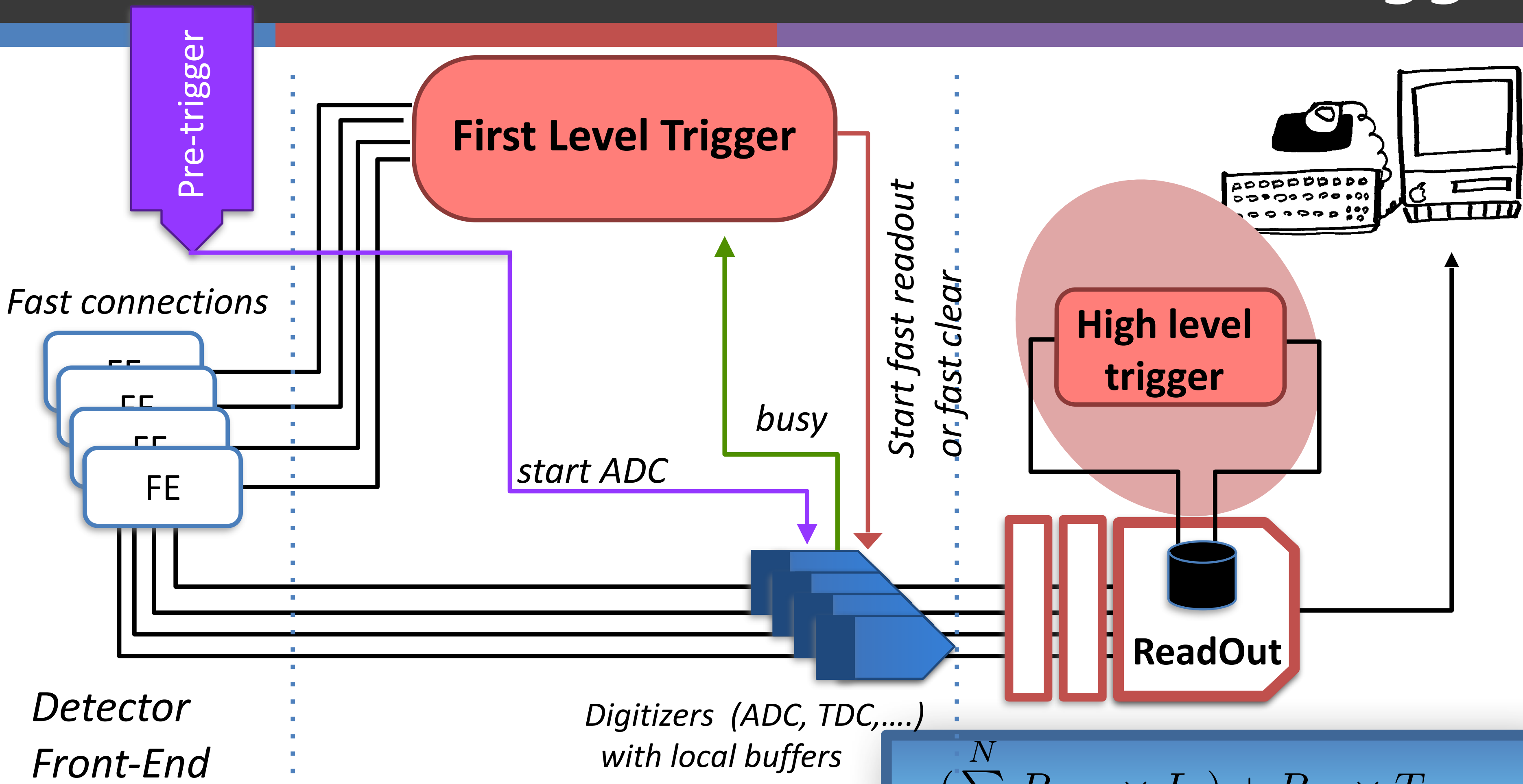




Architectural view

Logical view

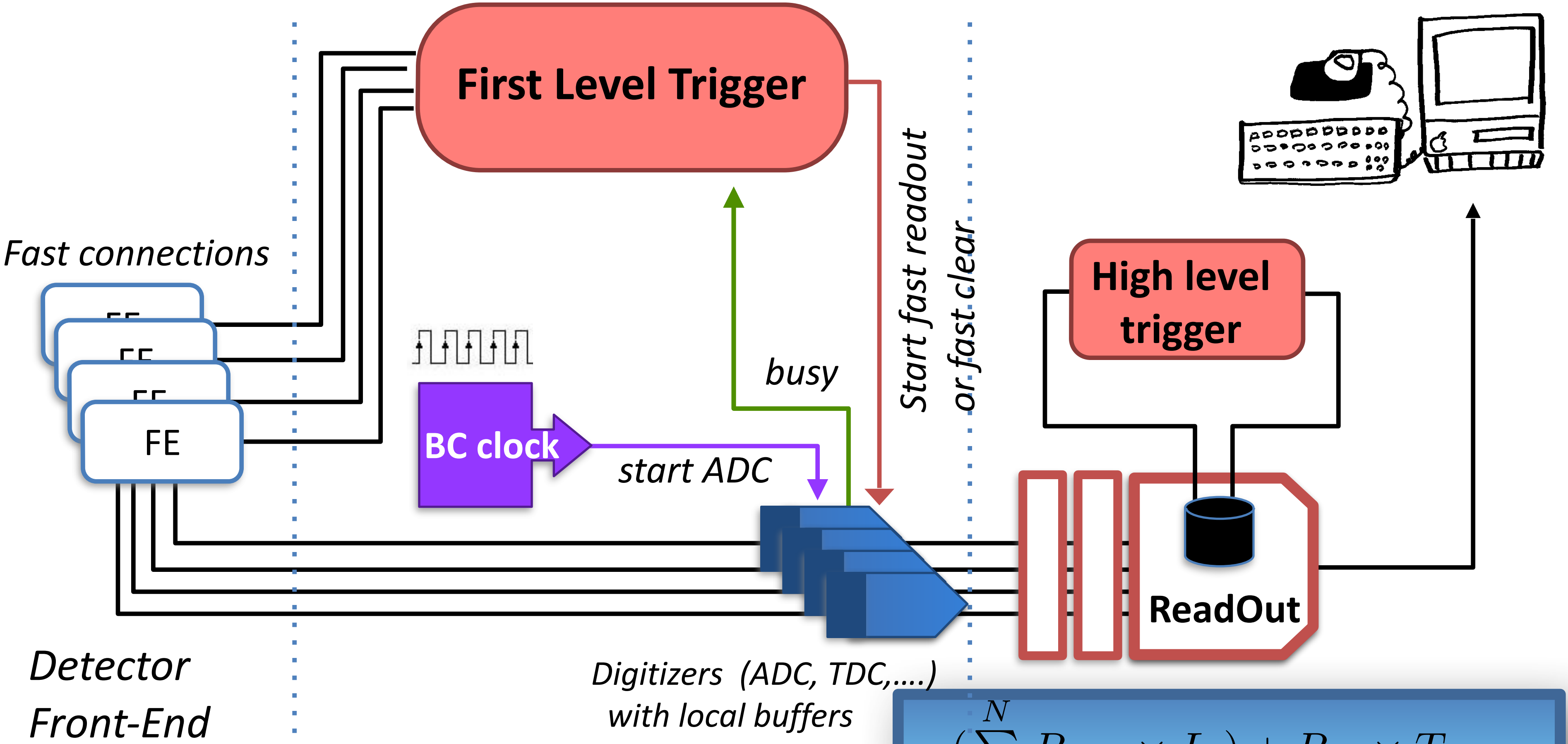
Schema of a multi-level trigger



$$(\sum_{i=2}^{N} R_{i-1} \times L_i) + R_N \times T_{LRO}$$

- Different levels of trigger, accessing different buffers
- The pre-trigger starts the digitisation

Schema of a multi-level trigger @ colliders

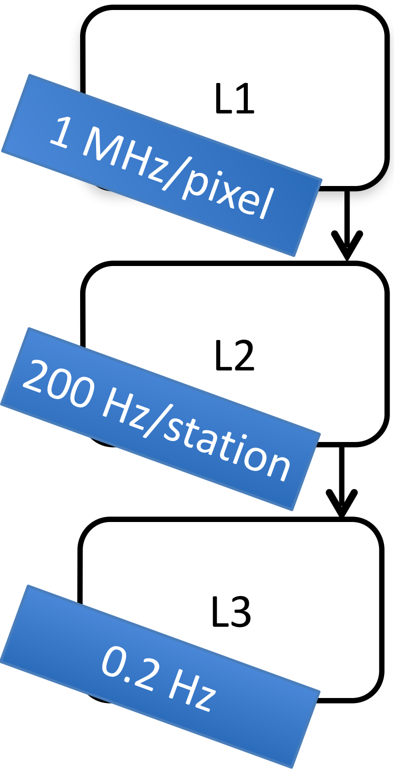


$$\left(\sum_{i=2}^{N} R_{i-1} \times L_i\right) + R_N \times T_{LRO}$$

- The BC clock can be used as a pre-trigger
  - First-level trigger is **synchronous** to the collision clock: can use the time between two BCs to make its decision, without dead-time, if it’s long enough

Simple signatures: Auger observatory

- **Detect air showers generated by cosmic rays above 10^{17} eV**
  - Expected rate $< 1/km^2$/century. Two large area detectors
- On each detector, a 3-level trigger operates at a wide range of primary energies, for both vertical and very inclined showers



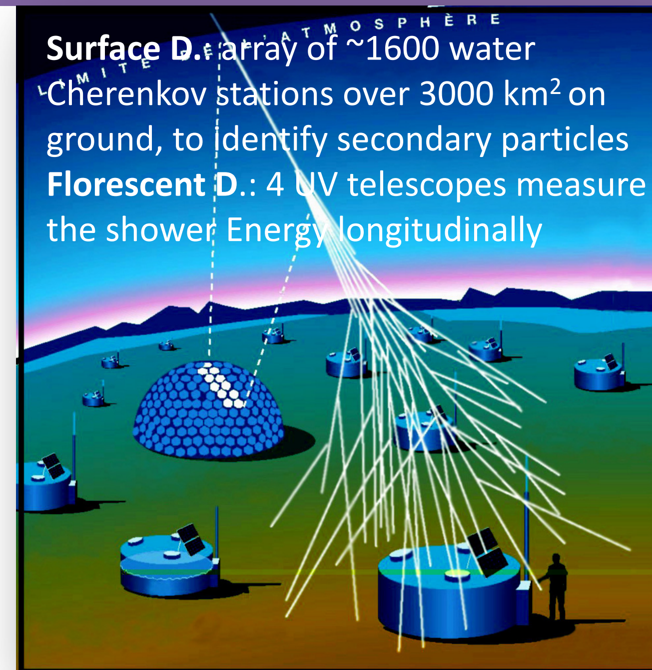
L1: (local) decides the pixel status (on/off)

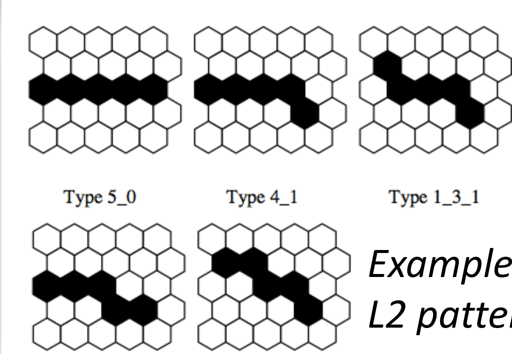
- ADC counts > **threshold**
- ADC with 100 ns (**time** resolution)
- ADC values stored for **100 μs in buffers**
- **Synchronised** with a signal from a GPS clock

L2: (local) identifies track segments

- Geometrical criteria with recognition algorithms on programmable patterns

L3: (central) makes spatial and temporal correlation between L2 triggers

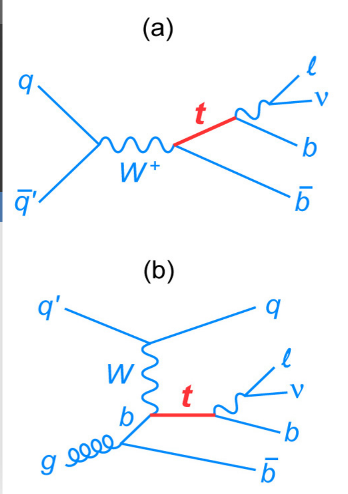




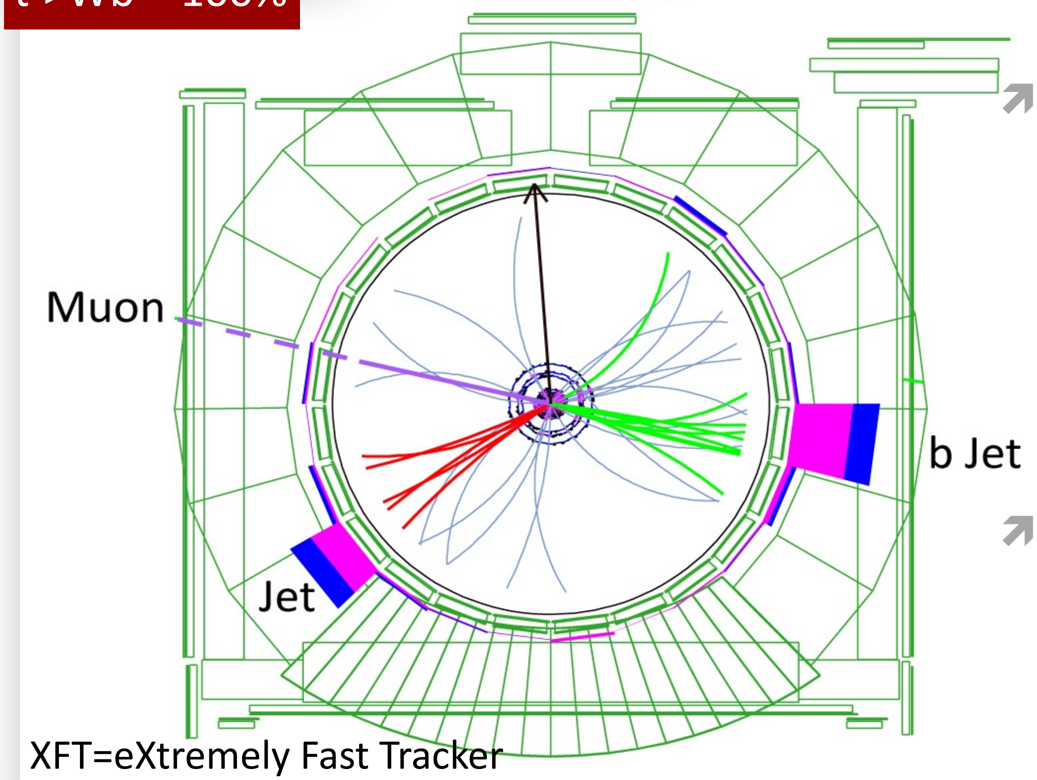
Example of L2 patterns

One event ~ 1MB → 0.2 MB/s bandwidth for the DAQ system

Multi objects trigger: CDF



t->Wb ~ 100%

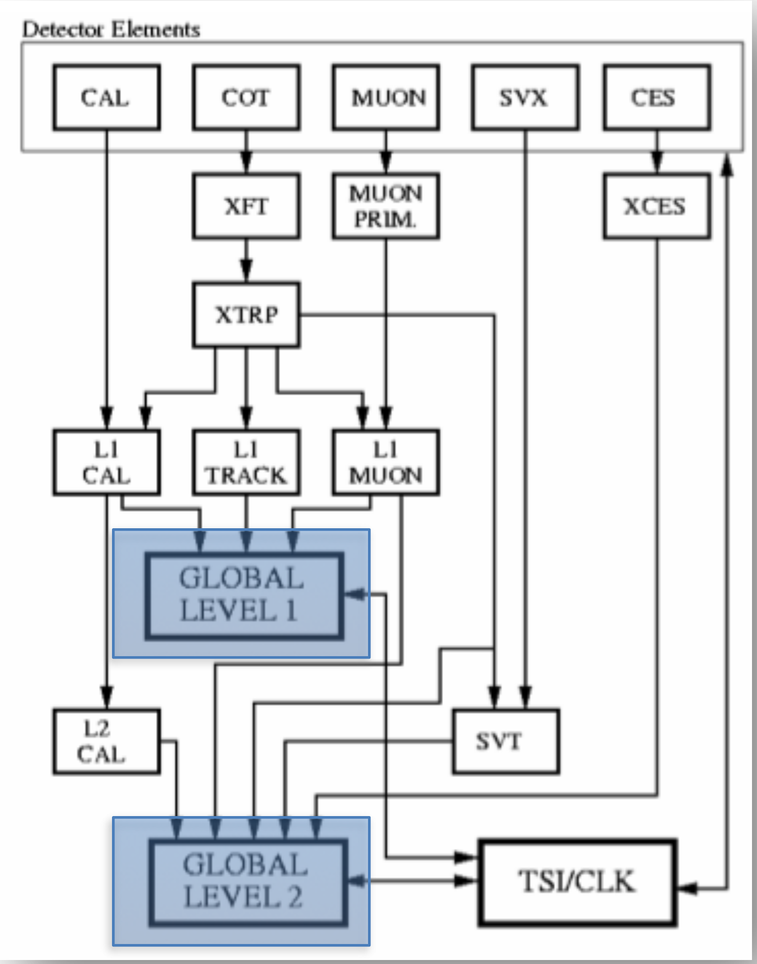


XFT=eXtremely Fast Tracker

CDF single top event

- Signal characterization:
  - 1 high p_T lepton, in general isolated
  - Large MET from high energy neutrino
  - 2 jets, 1 of which is a b-jets
- Trigger objects at L1
  - Central tracking (XFT p_T>1.5GeV)
  - Calorimeter
    - Electron (Cal +XFT)
    - Photon (Cal)
    - Jet (Cal EM+HAD)
  - Missing E_T, SumE_T
  - Muon (Muon + XFT)
- Trigger objects at L2:
  - L1 information
  - SVT (displaced track, impact parameter)
  - Jet cluster
  - Isolated cluster
  - Calorimeter ShowerMax (CES)

Multi objects trigger: CDF



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- Trigger objects at L2:
  - L1 information
  - SVT (displaced track, impact parameter)
  - Jet cluster
  - Isolated cluster
  - Calorimeter ShowerMax (CES)

Level-1: reduce the latency

- Pipelined trigger
- Fast processors
- Fast data movement

Synch level-1 trigger @ colliders

$$R = \mu \cdot f_{BC} = \sigma_{in} \cdot L$$

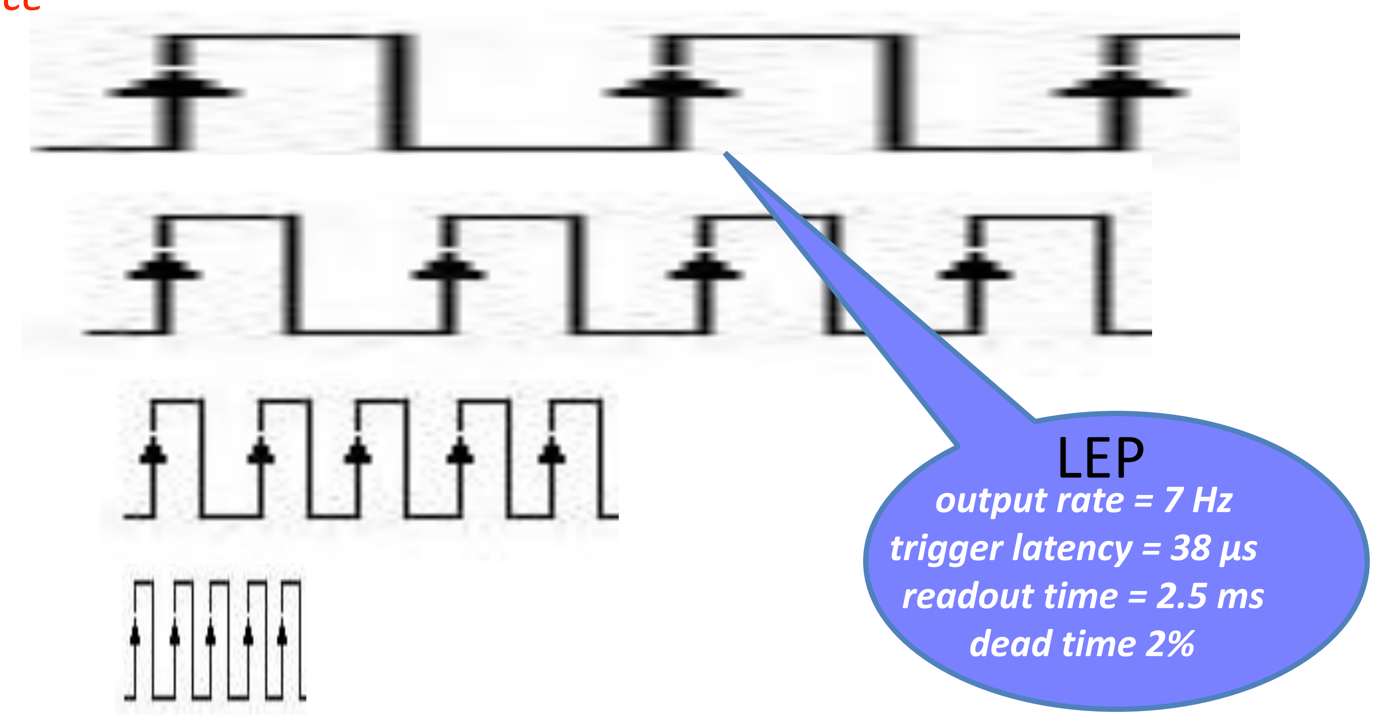
bunch-crossing distance

LEP: 22 μs

Tevatron: 396 ns

HERA: 96 ns

LHC: 25 ns

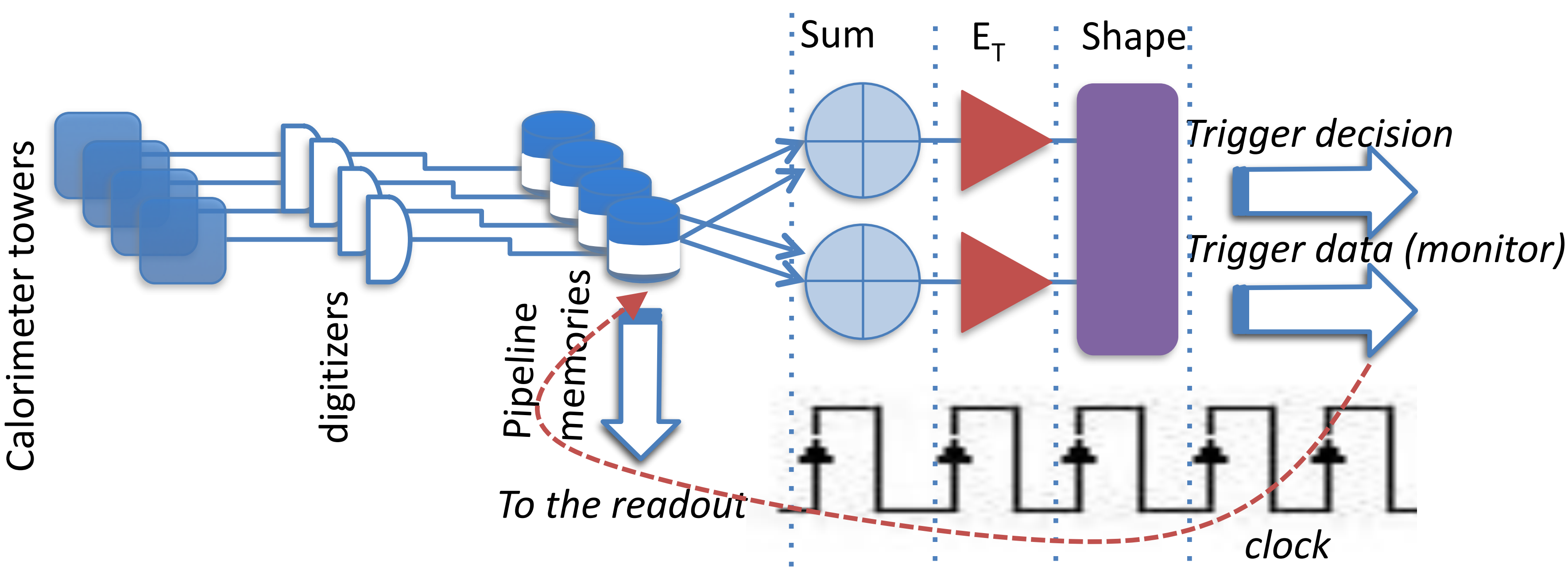


- @LEP, BC interval **22 μs**: complicated trigger processing was allowed
- In modern colliders: required high luminosity is driven by high rate of BC
  - **It's not possible to make a trigger decision within this short time!**

Level-1 pipeline trigger

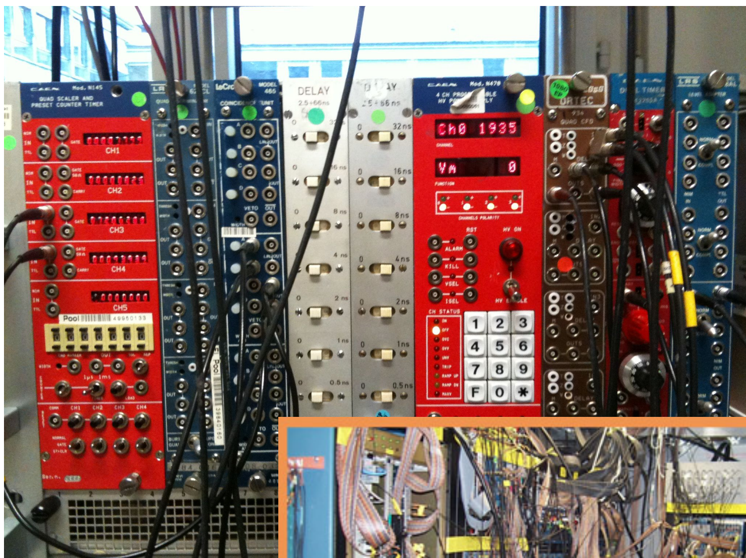
- With a synchronous system and large buffer pipelines we can allow long **fixed trigger latency (order of μs)**
  - Latency is the sum of each step processing and data transmission time

- Each trigger processor **concurrently** processes many events
  - Divide the processing in steps, each performed within one BC

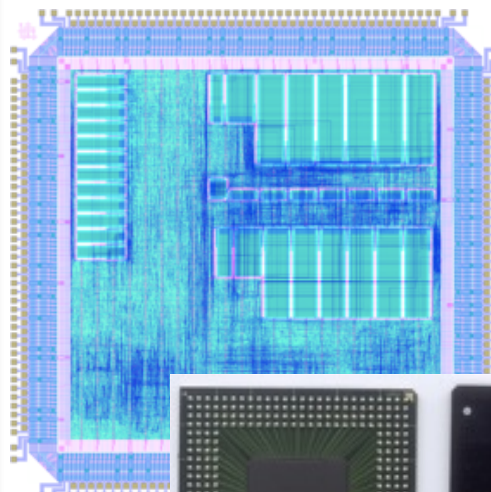


Choose your L1 trigger system

- Modular electronics
  - Simple algorithms
  - Low-cost
  - Intuitive and fast use

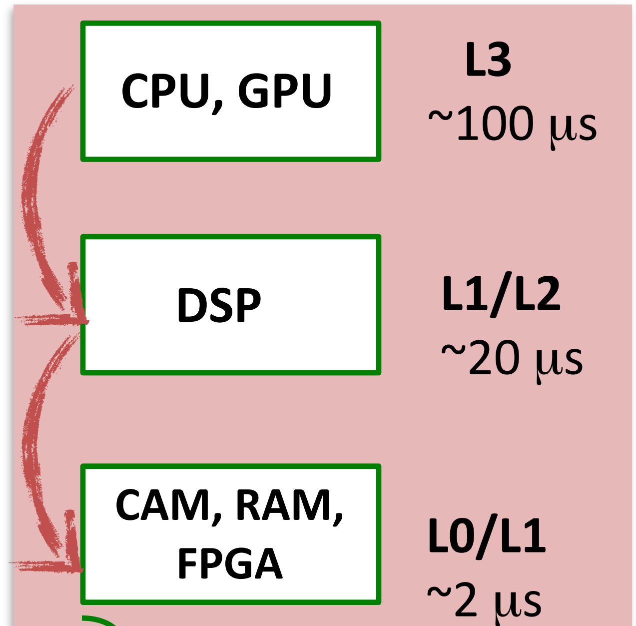


- Digital integrated systems
  - Highly complex algorithms
  - Fast signals processing
  - Specific knowledge of digital systems



Level-1 trigger processors

- Requirements at high trigger rates
  - Fast processing
  - Flexible/programmable algorithms
  - Data compression and formatting
  - Monitor and automatic fault detection



- Digital integrated circuits (IC)
  - Reliability, reduced power usage, reduced board size and better performance
- Different families on the market:
  - Microprocessors (CPUs, GPGPUs, ARMs, DSP=digital signal processors..)
    - Available on the market or specific, programmed only once
  - Programmable logic devices (FPGAs, CAMs,…)
    - More operations/clock cycle, but costly and difficult software developing
  - New trend is the integration of both:
    - Using standard interface (ethernet), can profit of standard software tools (like for Linux or real-time) and development time is reduced

need instructions

already learned the task

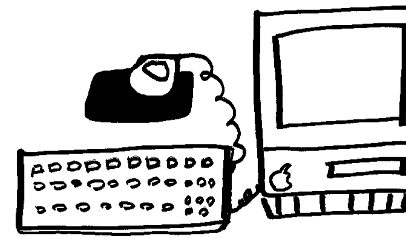
Data movement technologies

- Faster data processing are placed on-detector (close or joined to the FE)
- **Intermediate crates are good separation between FE (long duration) and PCs**

On-detector

- ✓ *radiation tolerance*
- ✓ *cooling*
- ✓ *grounding*
- ✓ *operation in magnetic field*
- ✓ *very restricted access*

Off-detector

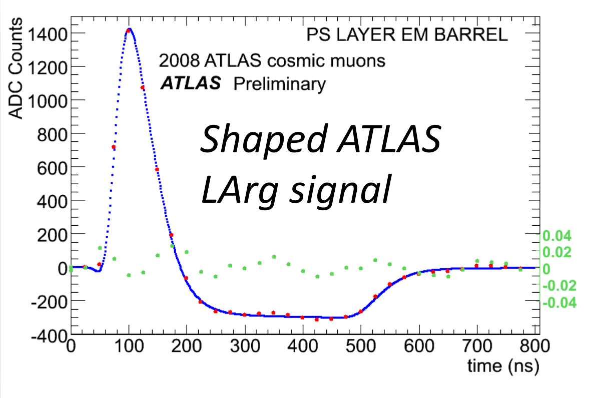


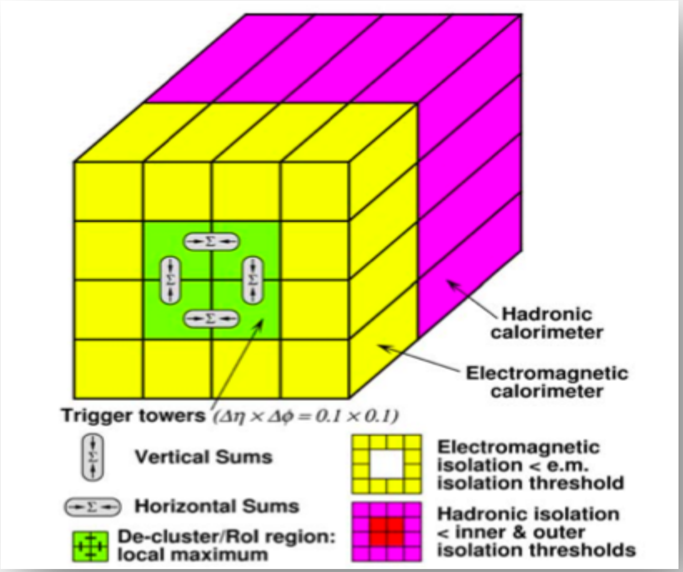
- **High-speed** serial links, electrical and optical, over a variety of distances
  - Low cost and low-power LVDS links, @400 Mbit/s (up to 10 m)
  - Optical GHz-links for longer distances (up to 100 m)

- **High density** backplanes for data exchanges within crates
  - High pin count, with point-to-point connections up to 160 Mbit/s
  - Large boards preferred

Multiple signatures: the ATLAS calorimeter trigger

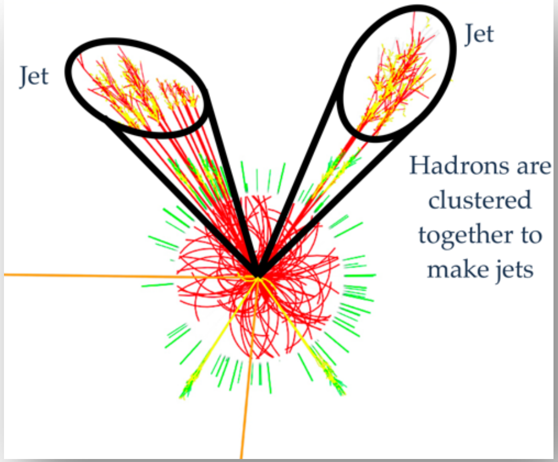
- **Identify high energy e, γ, τ, jets, missing E_T, ΣE_T**
  - 1: Dedicated Front-End electronics
    - Front-End of cells sends shaped analog signals





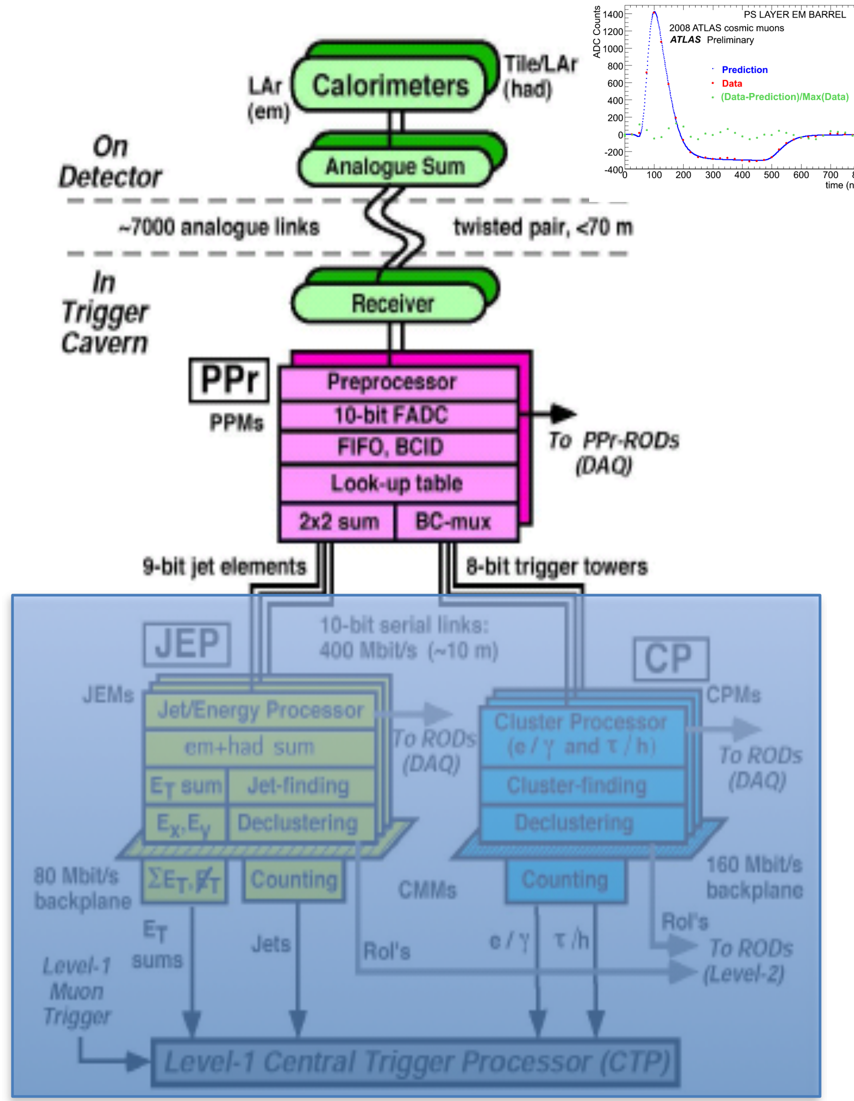
- 2: Level-1 trigger
  - Dedicated **processors** apply simple cluster algorithms over cells and programmable E_T thresholds

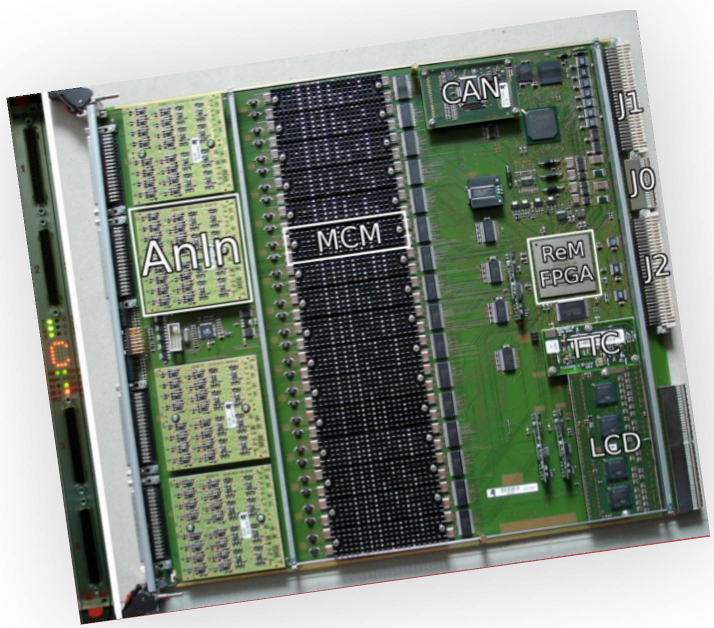
- 3: High-Level triggers
- electron/jet separation using
  - Cluster shapes
  - **Topological** variables and **tracking** information
  - **Isolation** criteria



Example : ATLAS calorimeter trigger

- L1 trigger and digitisation is off-detector
- Pre-processor board
  - ASICs to perform the trigger algorithm
    - Assign energy (ET) via Look-Up tables
    - Apply threshold on ET
    - Peak-finder algorithm to assign the BC



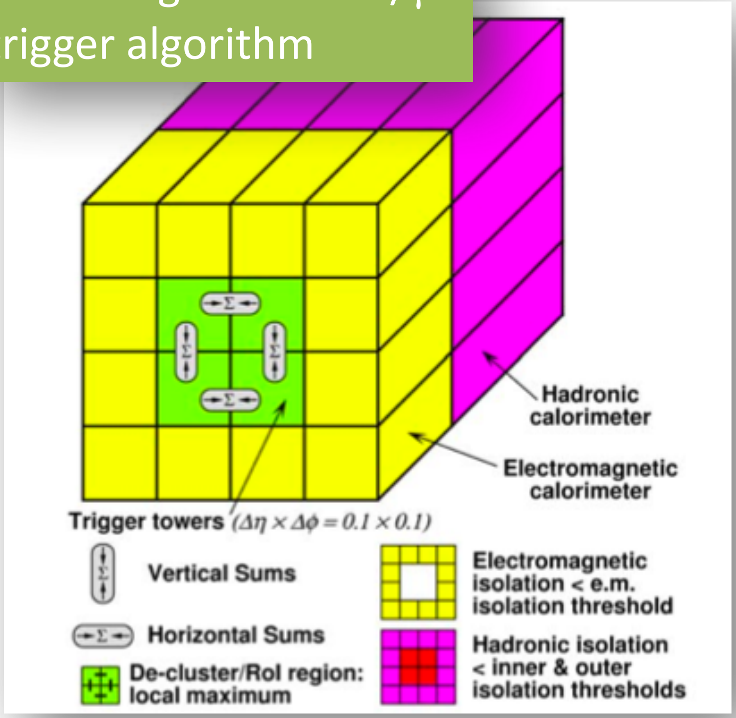


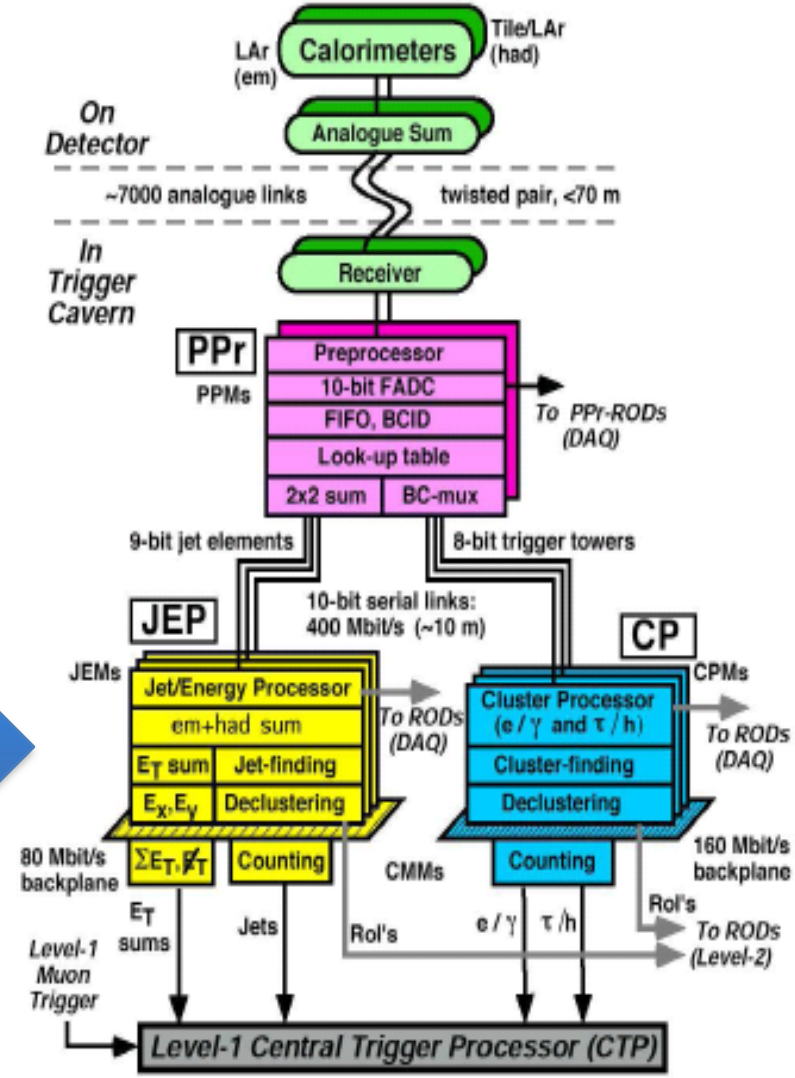
Example: ATLAS calorimeter trigger

- Cluster Processor (CP)
- Jet/Energy Processor (JEP)

- Implemented in programmable FPGAs
- Total of 5000 digital links connect PPr to JEP and CP, 400 Mb/s

Clustering in ATLAS e/γ trigger algorithm





High level triggers

High Level Trigger Architecture

- After the L1 selection, data rates are reduced, but can be still massive

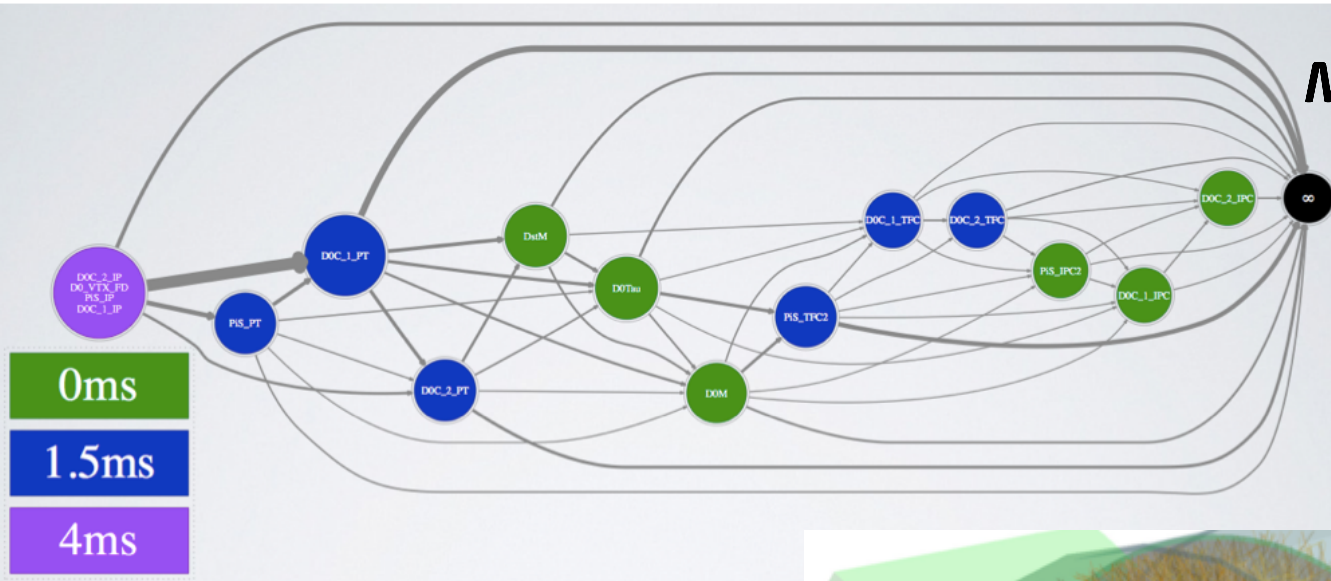
	Levels	L1 rate (Hz)	Event size	Readout bandw.	Data filter out
LEP	2/3	1 kHz	100 kB	few 100 kB/s	~5 Hz
ATLAS	3	100 kHz (L2: 10 kHz)	1.5 MB	10 GB/s	~200 Hz
CMS	2	100 kHz	1.5 MB	100 GB/s	~200 Hz

- LEP: 40 MB/s VME bus was able to support the bandwidth
- LHC: use **latest technologies** in processing power, high-speed network interfaces, optical data transmission

- High data rates are held with different approaches
  - Network-based event building (LHC example: CMS)
  - Seeded reconstruction of partial data (LHC example: ATLAS)

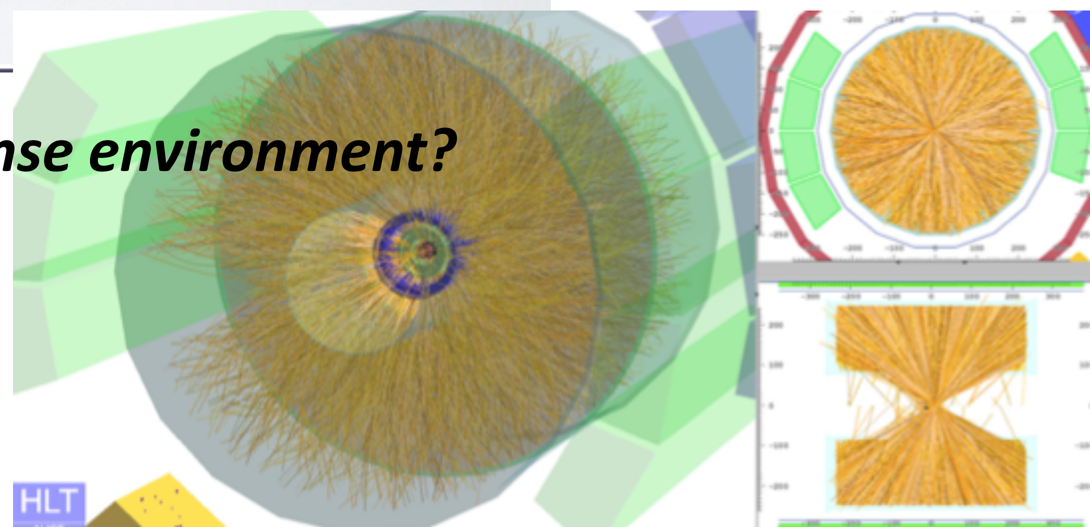
Can we use the offline algorithms online?

MDDAG, Benbouzid, Kegl et al.



Multivariate analysis?

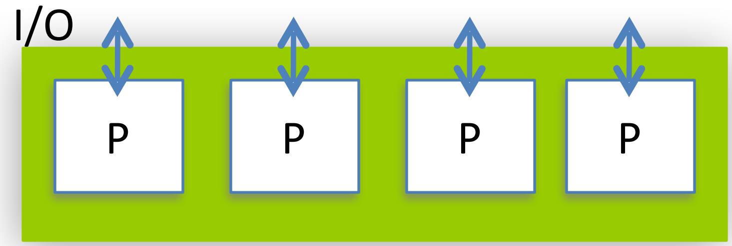
Pattern recognition in dense environment?



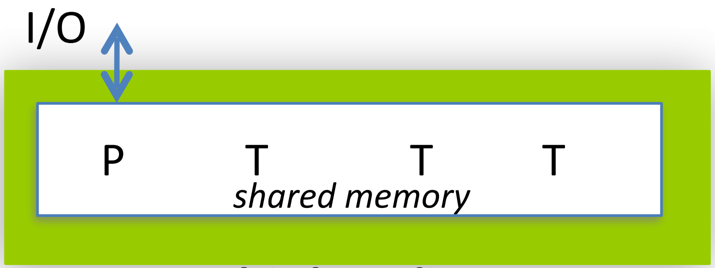
Latency is the constraint!

HLT design principles

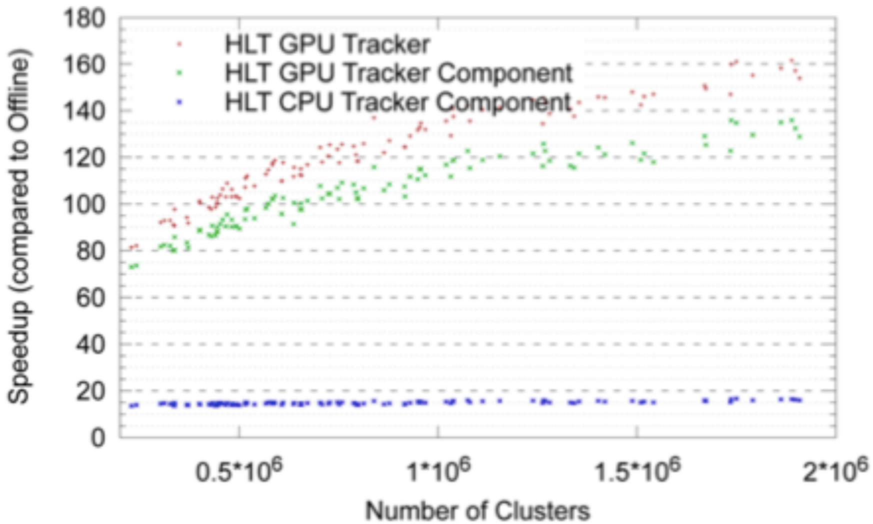
- **Early rejection: alternate steps of feature extraction with hypothesis testing**
  - Reduce data and resources (CPU, memory….)
- **Event-level parallelism**
  - Process more events in parallel, with multiple processors
  - Multi-processing or/and multi-threading
- **Algorithm-level parallelism**
  - Need to change paradigms for software developments
  - **GPUs** can help in cases where large amount of data can be processed concurrently



Multi-processing



Multi-threading



Algorithms are developed and optimized offline

Try to have common software with offline reconstruction, for easy maintenance and higher efficiency

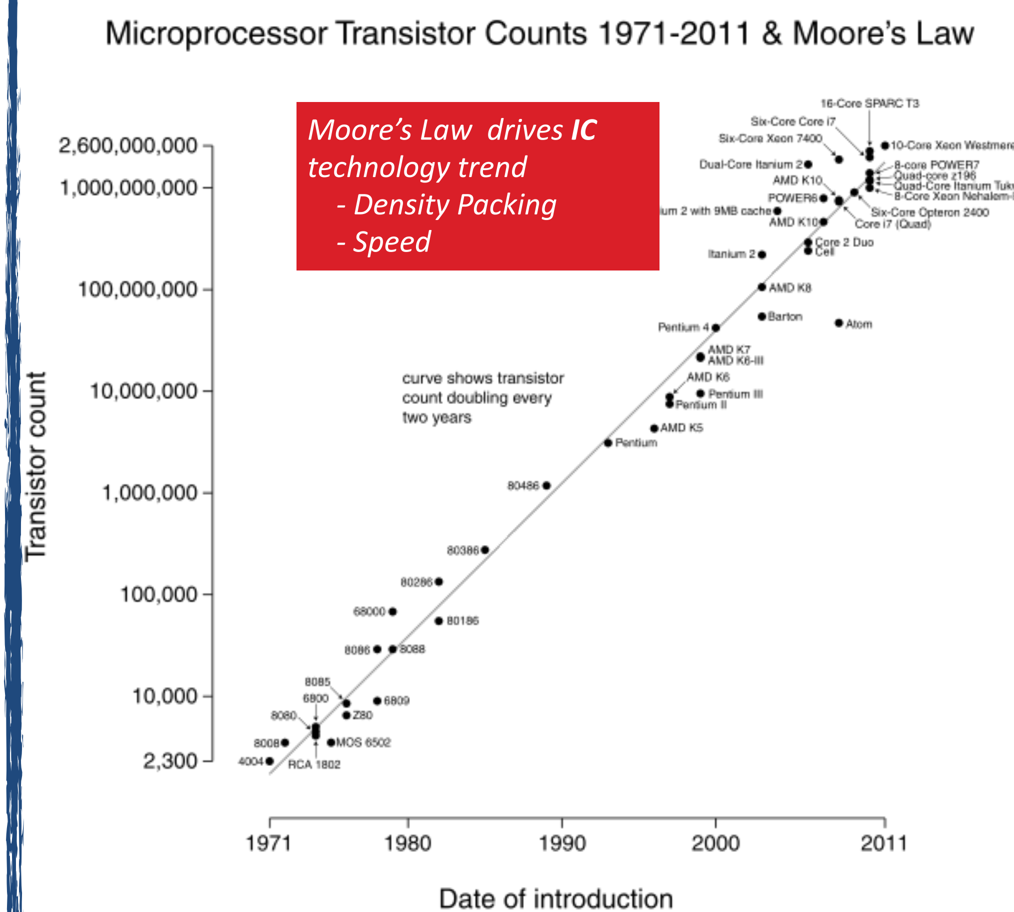
Concluding remarks

- The trigger strategy is a trade-off between physics requirements and affordable systems and technologies
  - A good design is crucial – then the work to maintain optimal performance is easy
- Here we just reviewed the main trigger requirements coming from physics
  - High efficiency – rate control
  - Perfect knowledge of the trigger selection on signal and background
  - Flexibility and redundancy
- Microelectronics, networking, computing expertise are required to build an efficient trigger system
  - But being always in close contact with the physics measurements we want to study

Back-up slides

Trends in processing technology

- Request of higher complexity → higher chip density → **smaller structure size** (for transistors and memory size): **32 nm → 10 nm**
  - Nvidia GPUs: 3.5 B transistors
  - Virtex-7 FPGA: 6.8 B transistors
  - 14 nm CPUs/FPGAs in 2014
- For FPGAs, smaller feature size means higher-speed and/or less power consumption
- Multi-core evolution
  - Accelerated processing GPU+CPU
  - Needs increased I/O capability
- Moore's law will hold at least until 2020, for FPGAs and co-processors as well
- Market driven by cost effective components for Smartphones, Phablets, Tablets, Ultrabooks, Notebooks ….
- Read also: http://cern.ch/go/DFG7



Moore's Law: the number of transistors that can be placed inexpensively on an integrated circuit doubles approximately every two years (Wikipedia)