

# **Performance of the ATLAS Transition Radiation Tracker Readout with High Energy Collisions at the LHC**

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University of Pennsylvania*

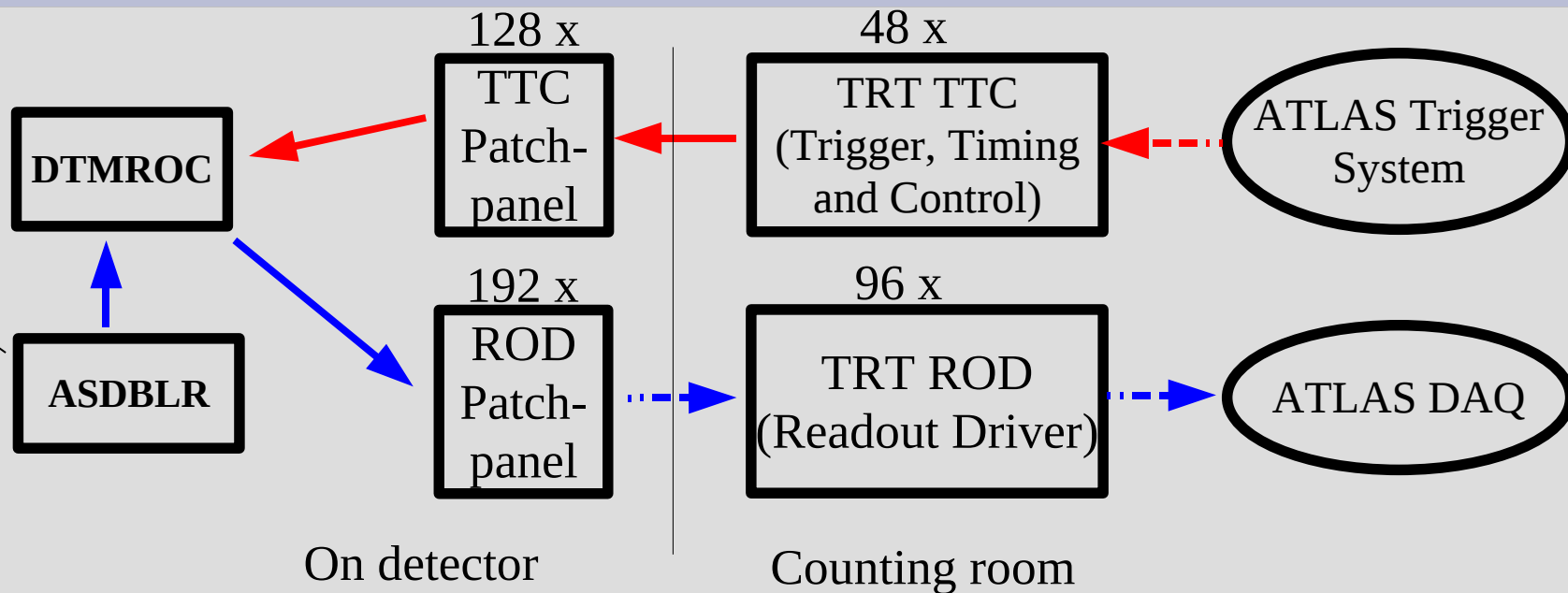
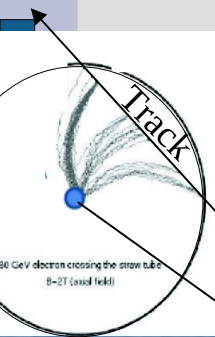
for the TRT Community



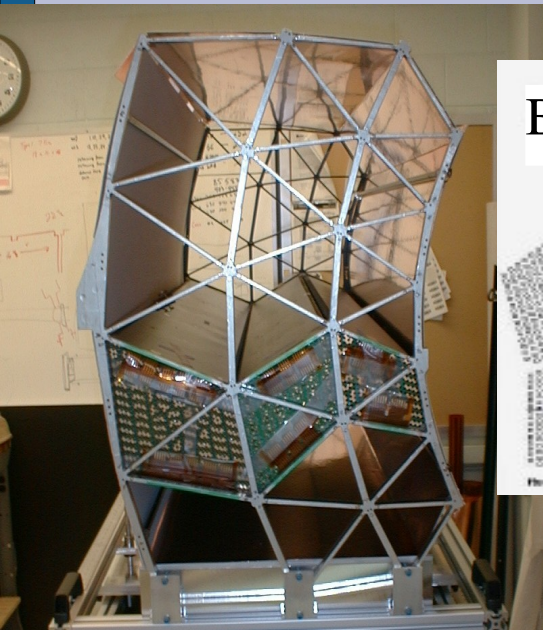
# Outline

- ATLAS Inner Detector and Transition Radiation Tracker (TRT) – will skip this one (see Jahred's talk)
- TRT DAQ and Electronics – Overview
- From straw to recorded signal
- Front End Functionality and Calibrations
- TRT Fast-OR Trigger
- Resynchronization
- Data Compression
- Conclusion

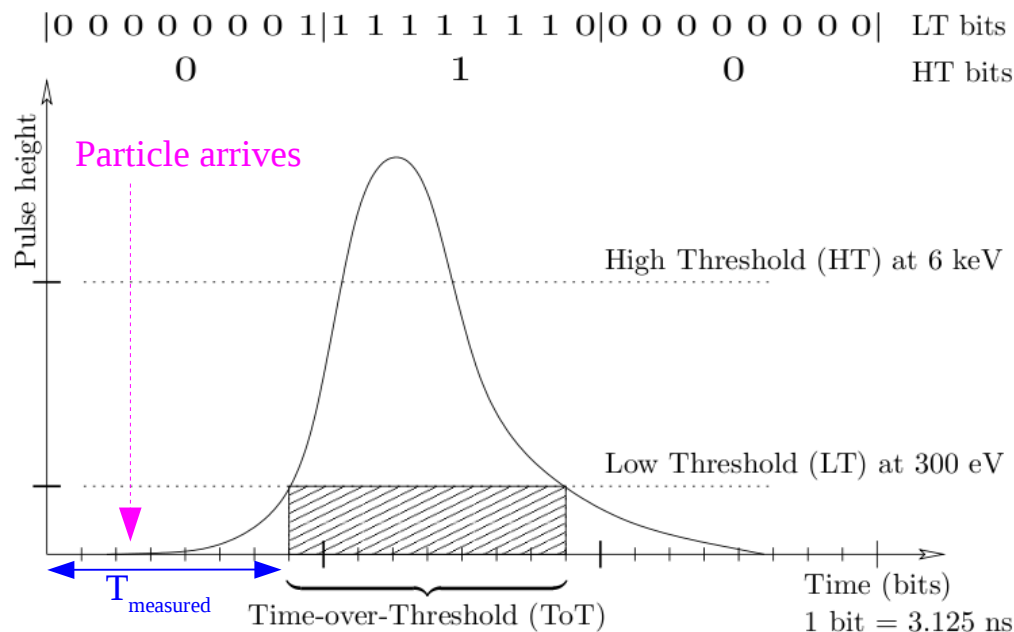
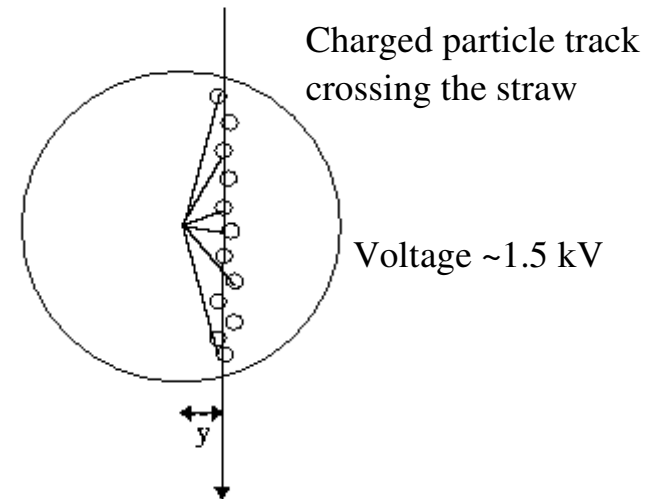
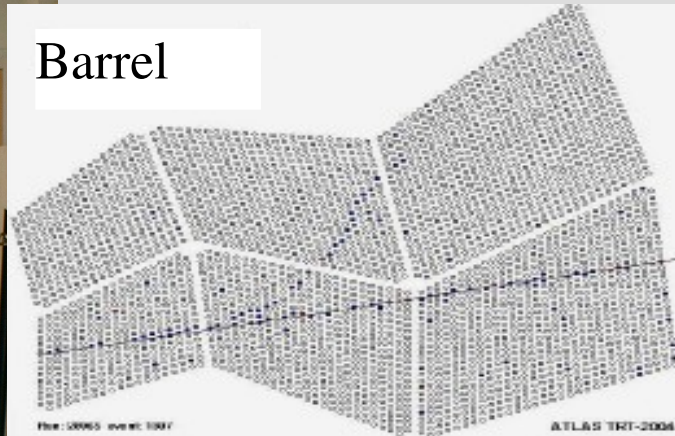
# TRT Electronics – Overview



# Straw Signal → Recorded Signal

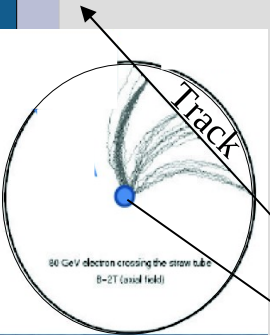


Barrel

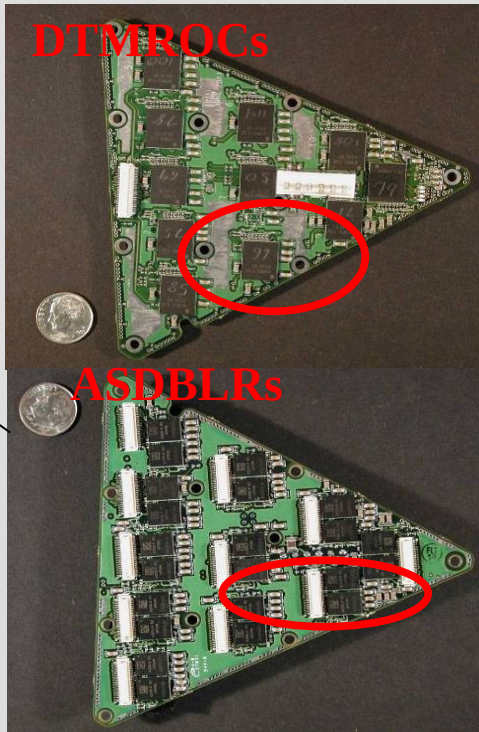


- Avalanche electrons drift to wire, create signal of  $\sim 2$  keV (MIP) with max. drift time  $\sim 50$  ns  $\Rightarrow$ 
  - Apply tracking threshold ( $\sim 300$  eV) to discriminate from noise
  - Noise rate  $\sim 300$  kHz
  - Readout window per trigger: 3 x LHC bunch crossings (25 ns)
- Measurement of straw signal: 3.12 ns time bins  $\Rightarrow$  120  $\mu$ m hit precision achievable
- Separate threshold for transition radiation at  $\sim 6$  keV ( $\Rightarrow$  dual readout scheme  $\rightarrow$  later!)
- Store 1 TR bit per bunch crossing

# TRT Electronics – Front End



8 straw  
channels  
per ASDBLR



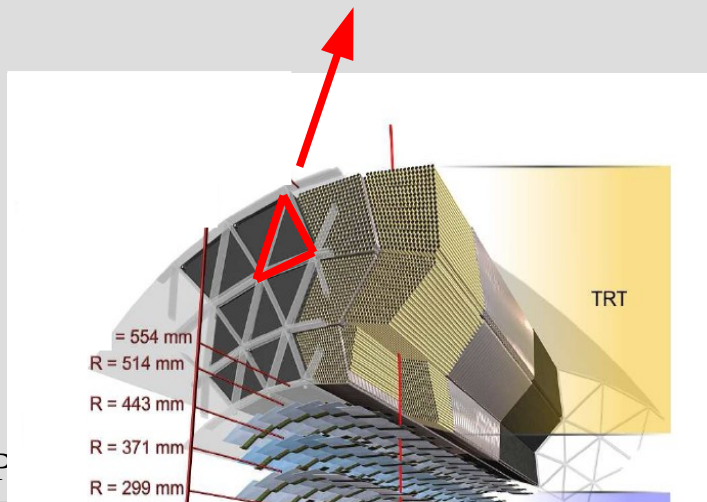
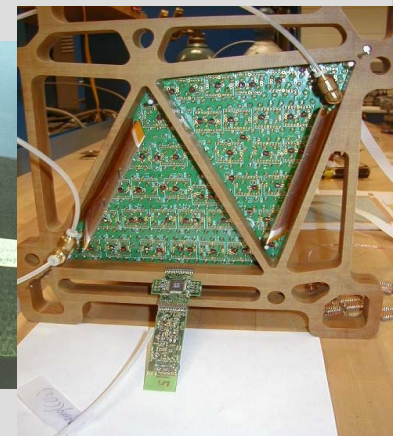
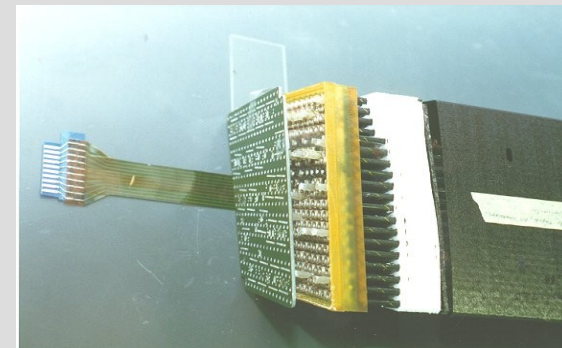
“DTMROC”: “Drift Time  
Measurement Readout Chip”

**Digital**

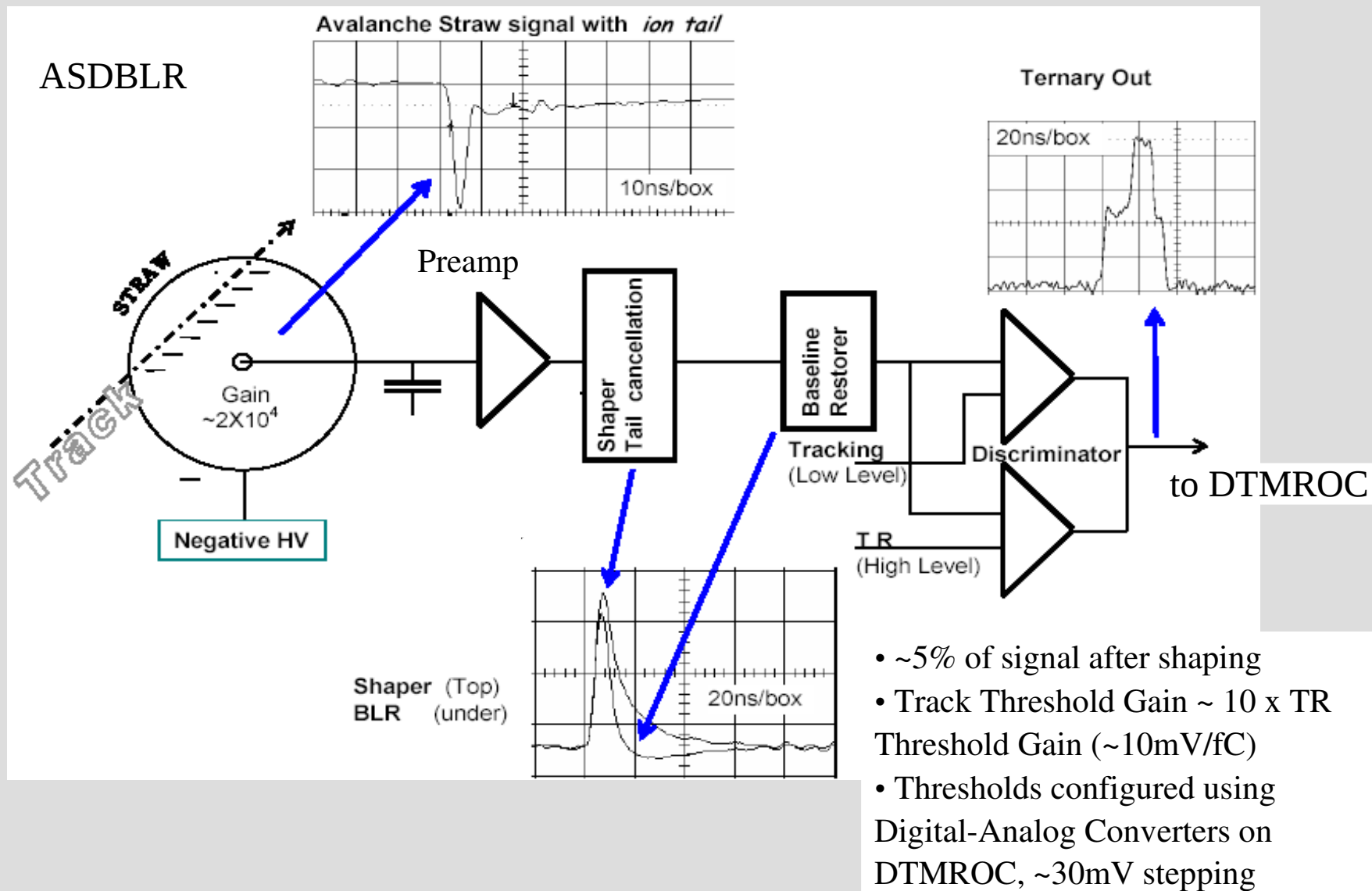
**Analog**

Consists of two parts  
mounted back to back

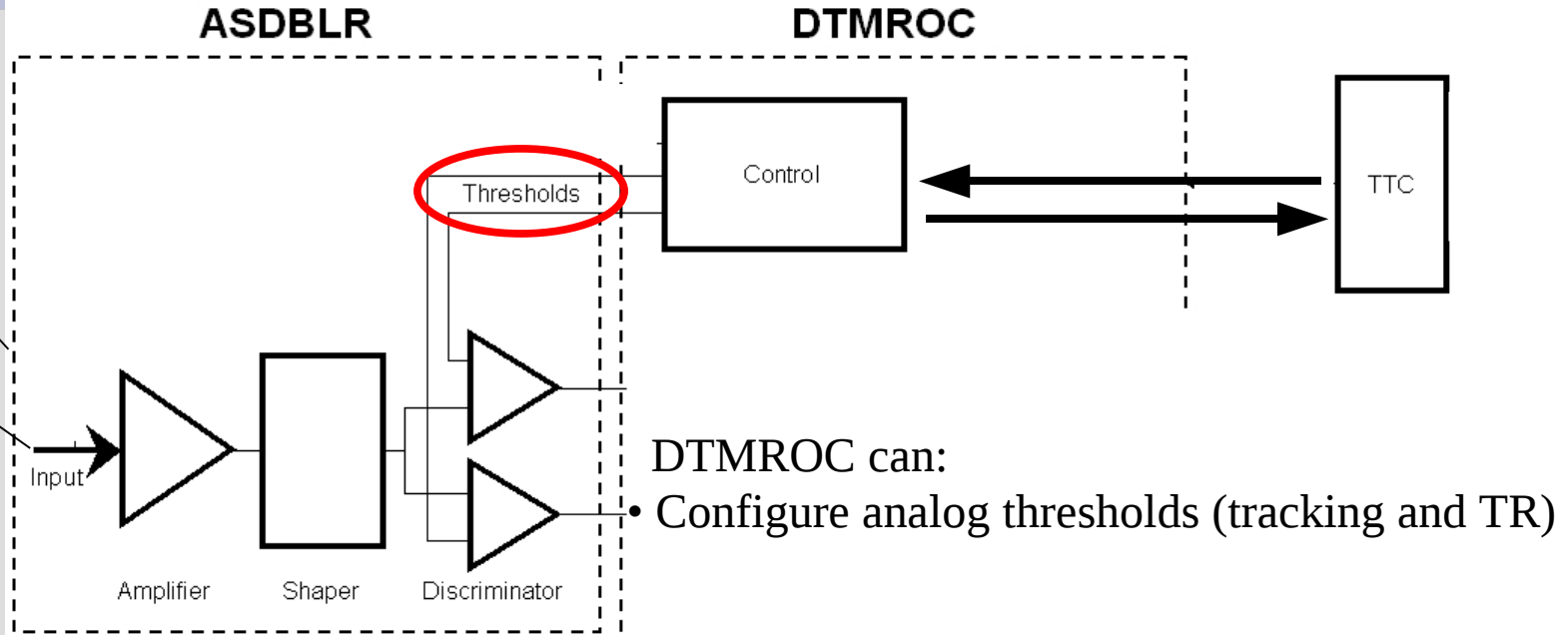
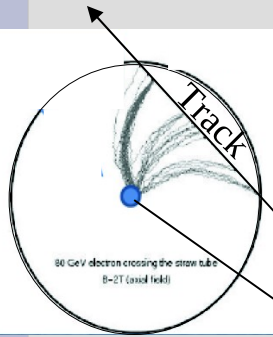
“ASDBLR”:  
“Amplifier Shaper Discriminator  
Baseline Restorer”



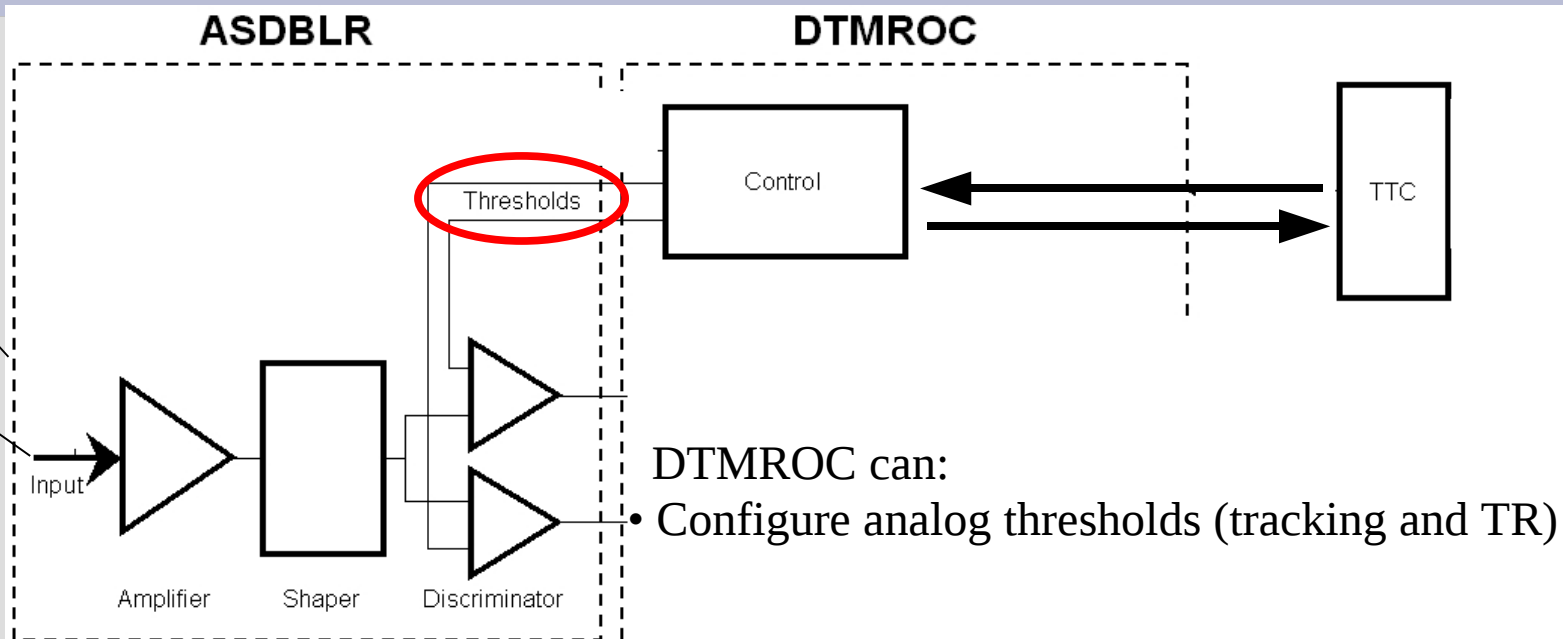
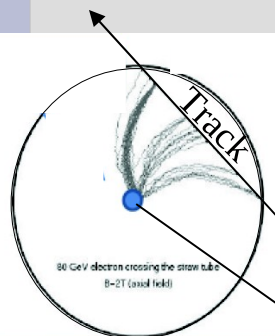
# TRT Front End – Signal shaping



# TRT Electronics – Functionality



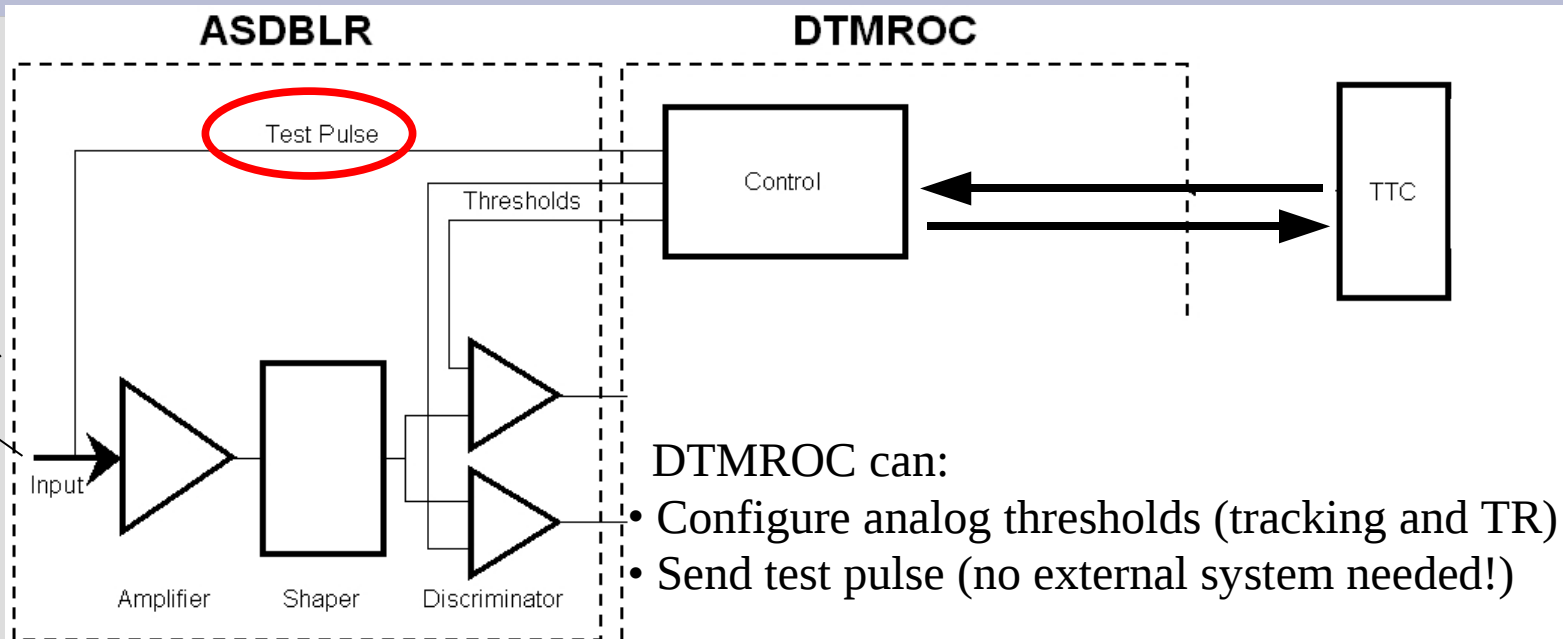
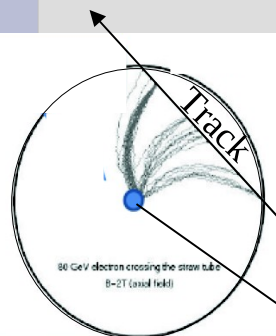
# TRT Electronics – Functionality



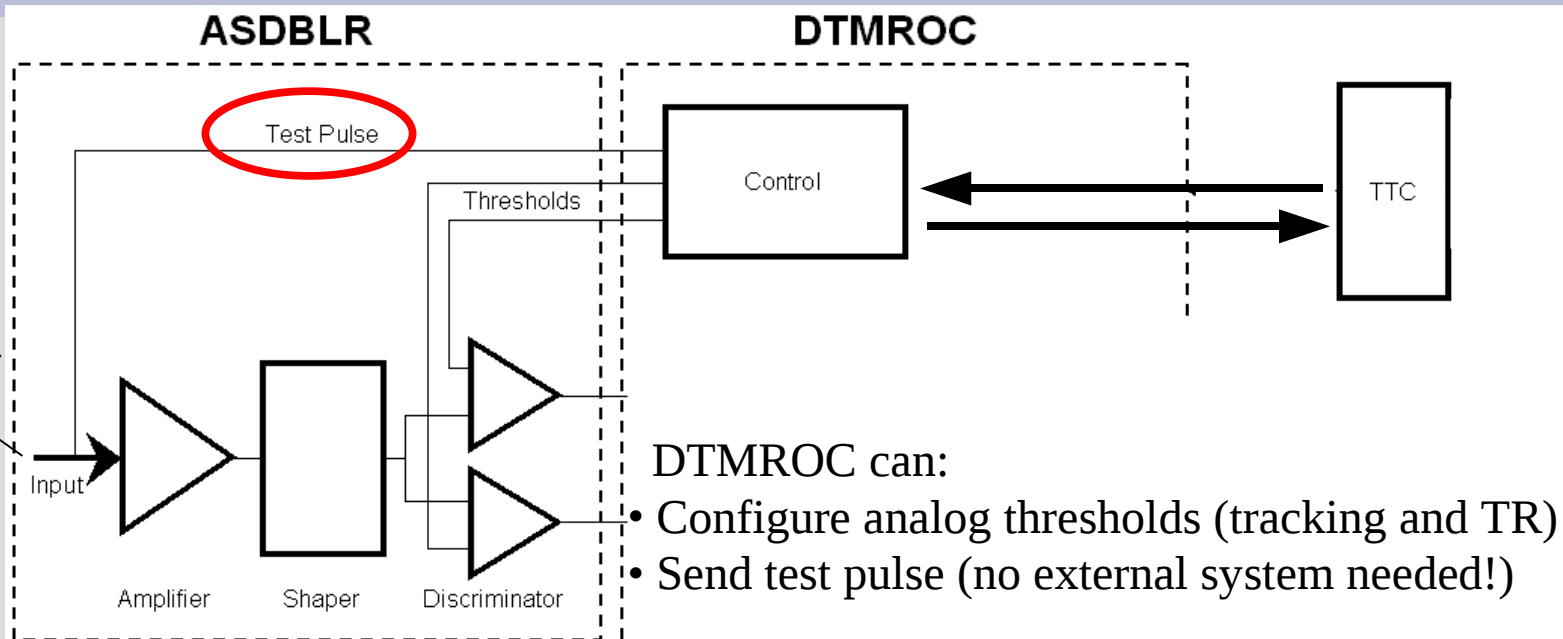
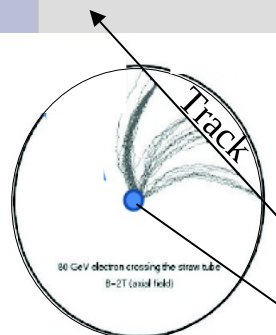
## In practice:

- Ensure uniform tracking hit efficiency by calibrating tracking thresholds to constant noise occupancy (300 kHz)
- Method:
  - Take noise data, measure occupancy
  - Correct deviations from 300kHz using fits to occupancy vs. threshold curves
  - Iterate...
- Duration ~ 10 minutes. Done after any system intervention as final check.

# TRT Electronics – Functionality



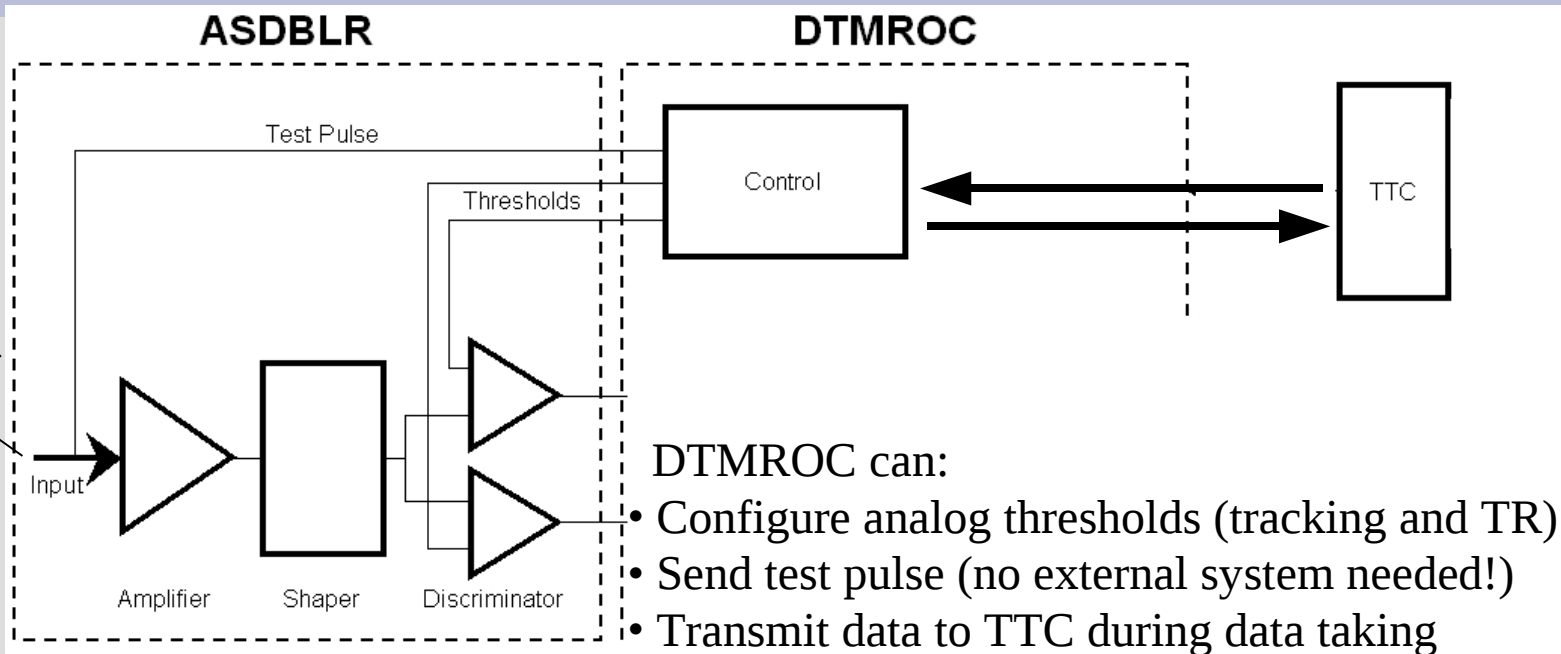
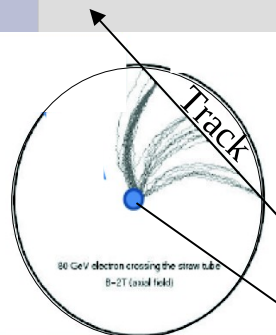
# TRT Electronics – Functionality



## In practice:

- Radiation damage affects gain of ASDBLR
- Use test pulse with known amplitude to measure amount of radiation damage over time

# TRT Electronics – Functionality



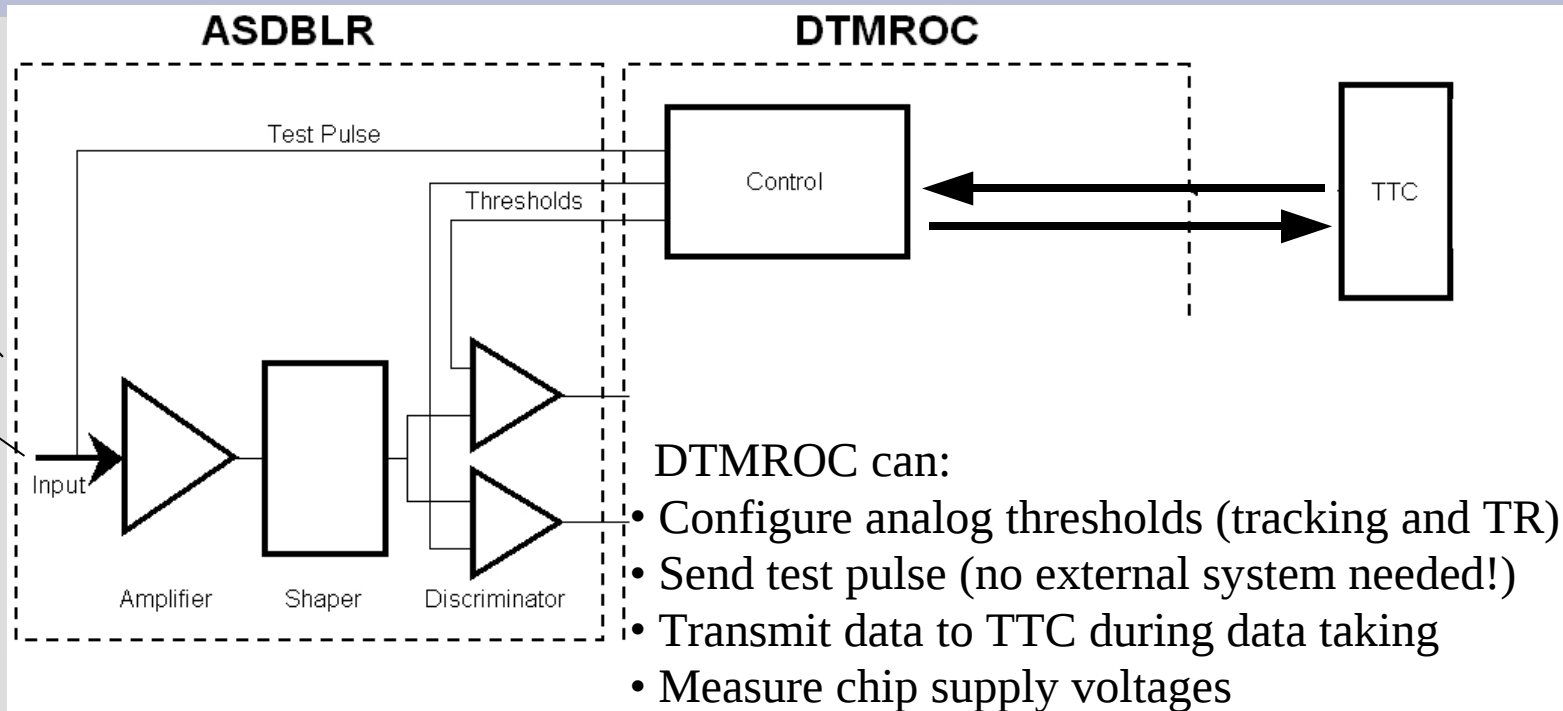
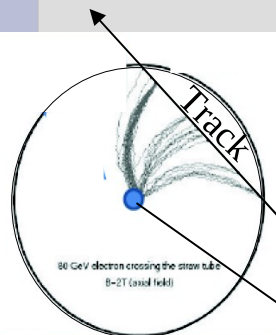
Minimize impact from radiation damage (“Single Event Upsets”):

- Expected SEU rate in full system ~Hz at design luminosity
- Key DTMROC registers triplicated

→ During data taking:

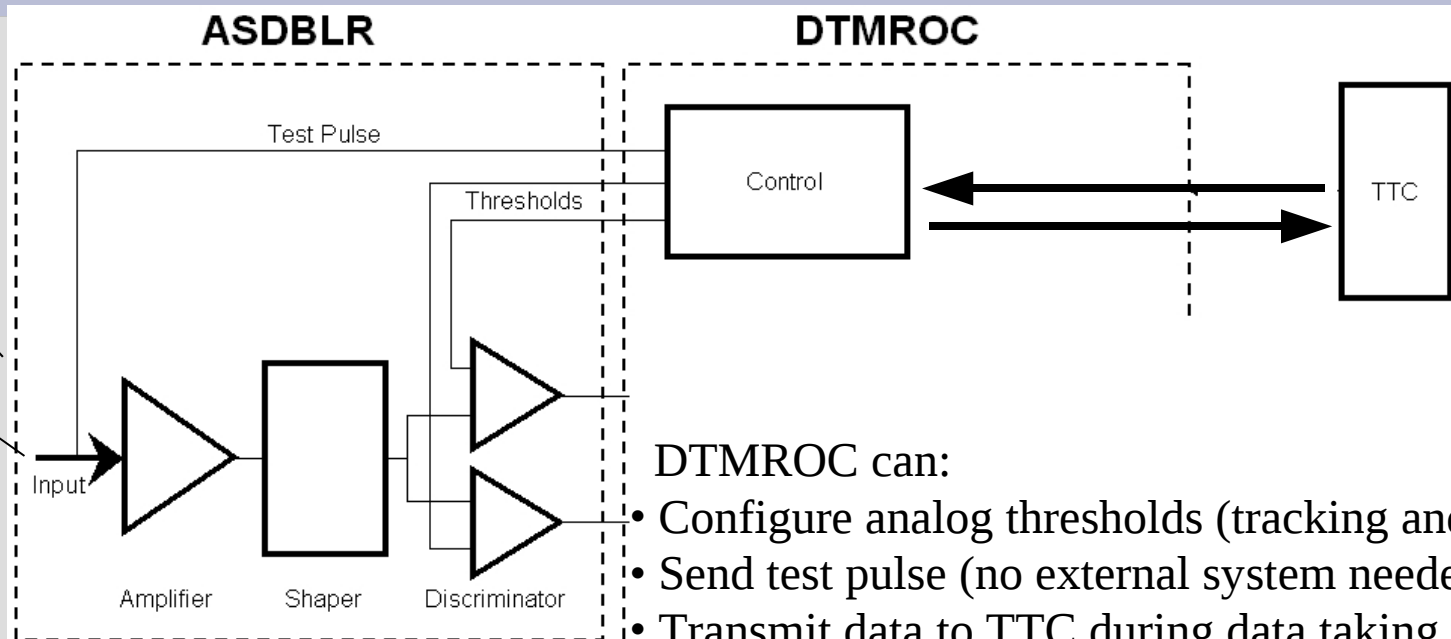
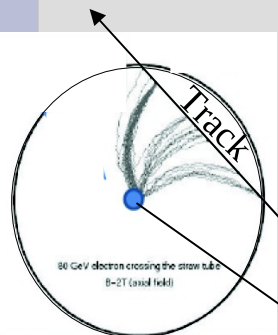
- All registers monitored during and rewritten in case of change
- stored in database for further evaluation

# TRT Electronics – Functionality



- Analog and digital boards powered separately
  - Grounded differently
- => Tracking and TR thresholds sensitive to low voltage setting!
- Voltages continuously monitored
  - Developed tools to investigate possible problems
  - can easily modify voltage settings if necessary

# TRT Electronics – Functionality

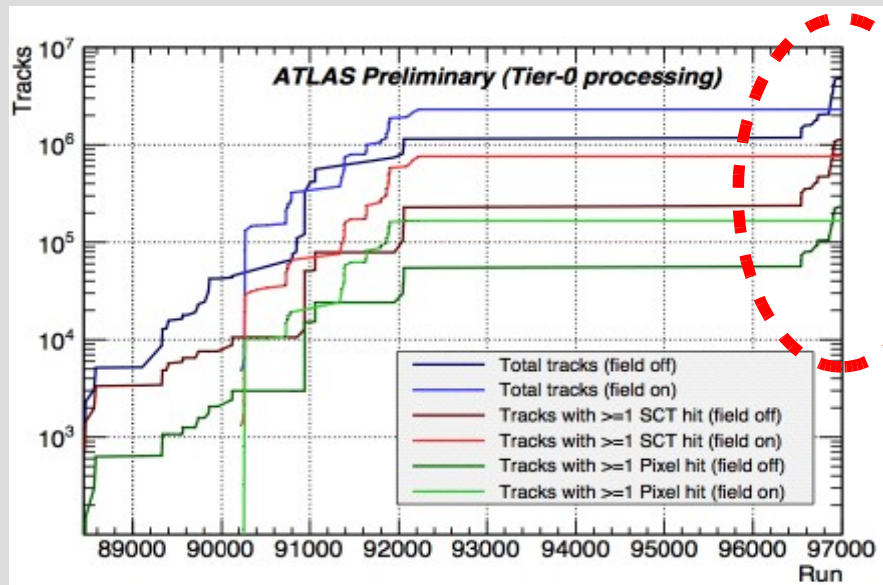


DTMROC can:

- Configure analog thresholds (tracking and TR)
- Send test pulse (no external system needed!)
- Transmit data to TTC during data taking
- Measure chip supply voltages
- Send trigger signal ("Fast-OR") to TTC  
→ next slide!

# The TRT Fast-OR Cosmics Trigger

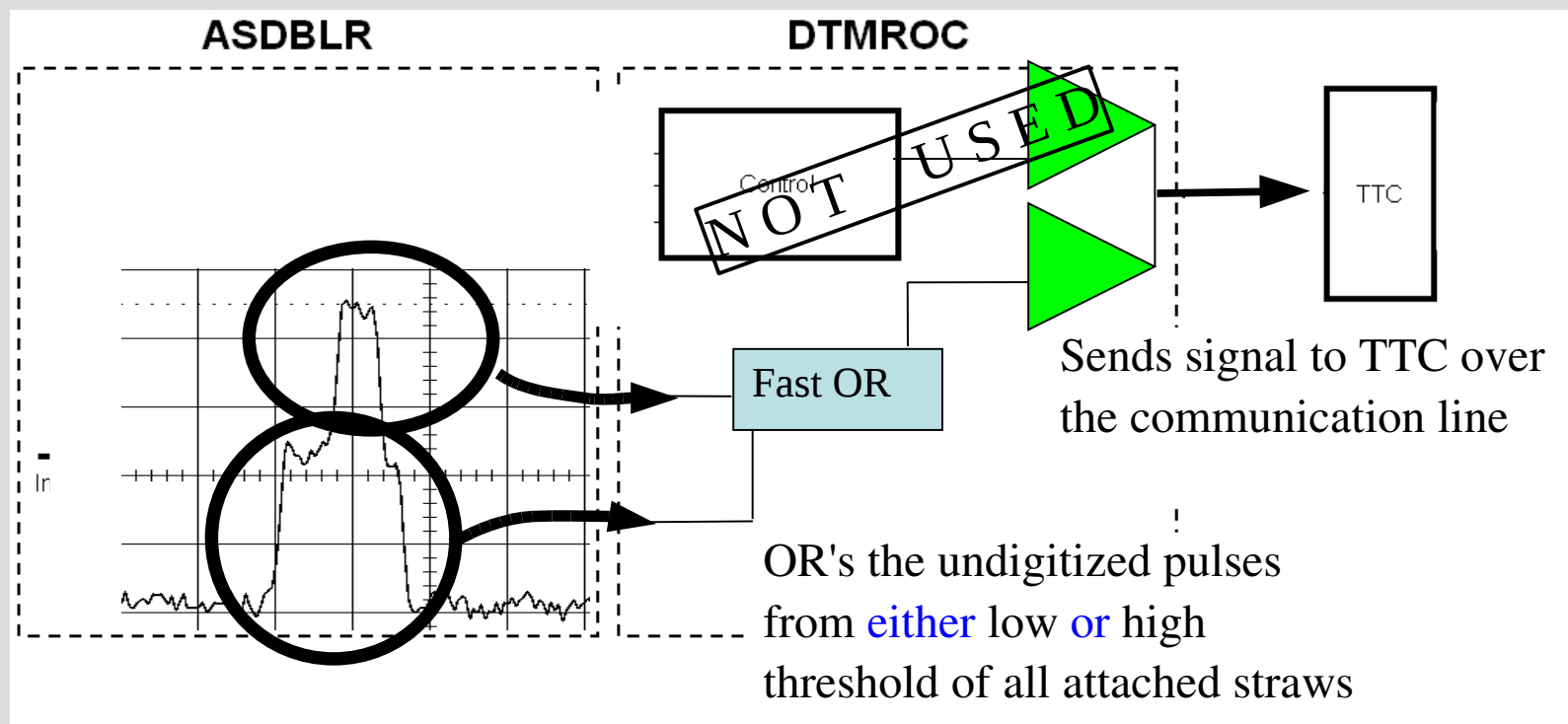
- After Sept. 2008 LHC incident → decision to finalize the trigger for cosmics data
- Motivation:
  - High good-track rate
  - High track rate in the end-cap region
  - Independence from other subsystems



Statistics doubled  
within a week!

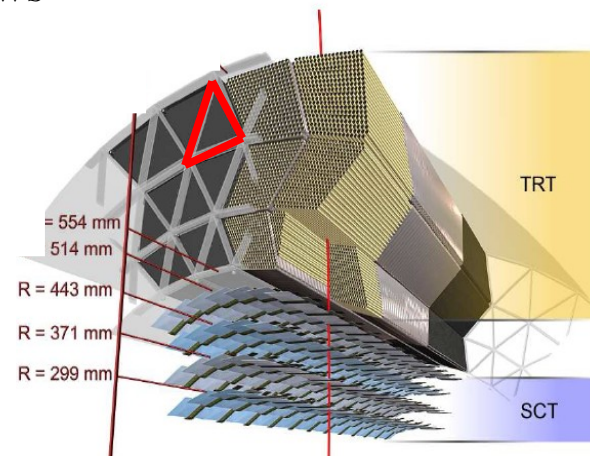
- Implementation was quick:
  - First tracks Oct 29<sup>th</sup> 2008
  - Timing-in completed May 2009

# TRT Electronics – Fast-OR Trigger



Pulse at TTC board: "OR" of ~240 attached straws

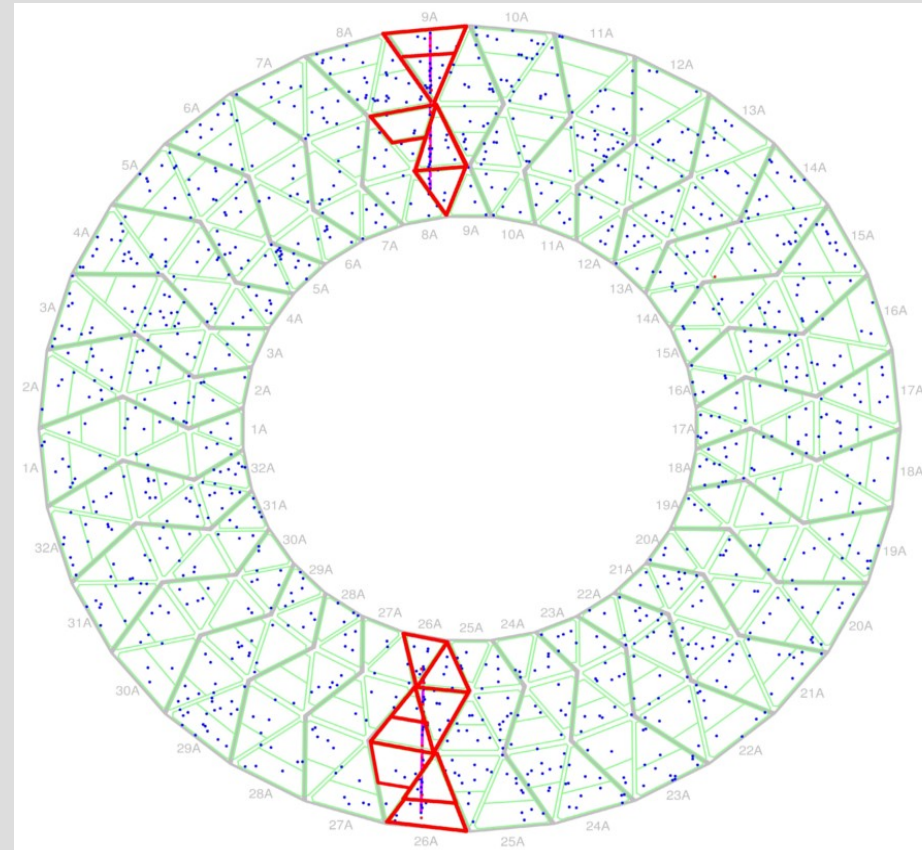
- OK for cosmics but too coarse for collisions
- see J. Penwell's talk



# Fast-OR Trigger – Implementation

Implementation: Use DTMROC high thresholds lowered to ~MIP levels in TRT barrel

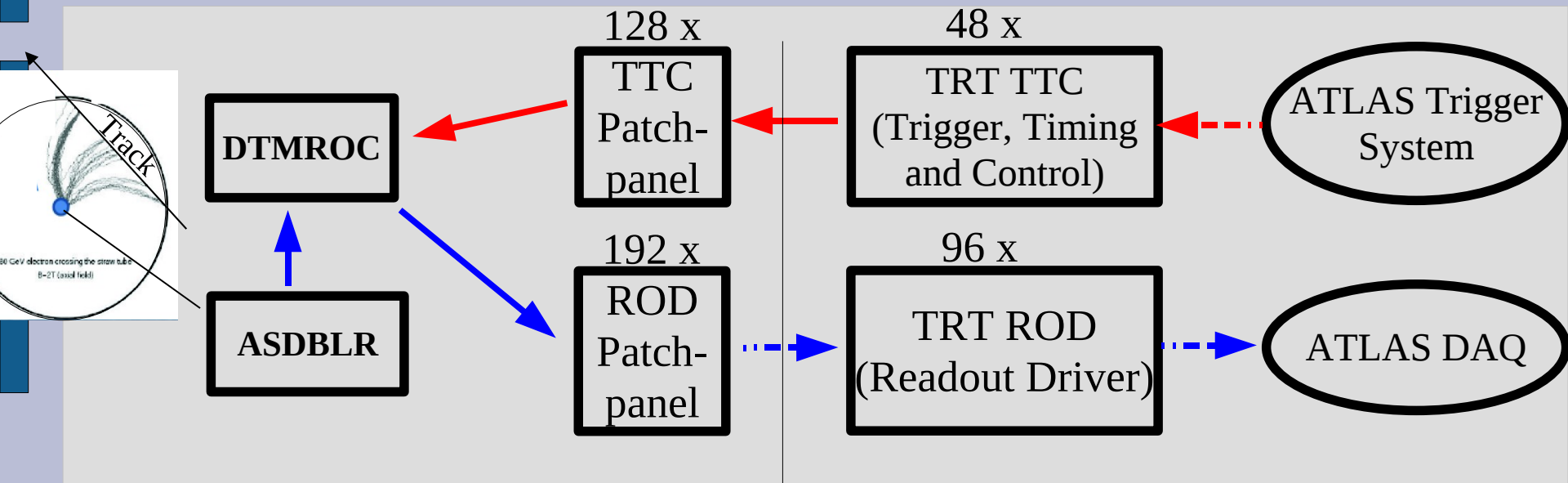
- ~a third of all straws that the track crosses have hits
- Advantage: very low noise
- Minor disadvantages:
  - makes high threshold calibration difficult due to thresholds at MIP level
  - no configuration data transmission from front end possible (no SEU monitoring)







# Fast-OR Trigger – Results

- Very **good trigger timing jitter** of  $> 90\%$  of triggers within 1 clock cycle
- Trigger rate  $\sim 10\text{Hz}$  with a **high purity** of  $\sim 98\%$  events with tracks
- A **major player in ATLAS commissioning!**
  - Reference trigger for timing-in of other ATLAS triggers
  - Helped improve RPC timing jitter
  - Helped SCT and Pixel readout timing
  - Used for TRT first pass TR threshold calibration

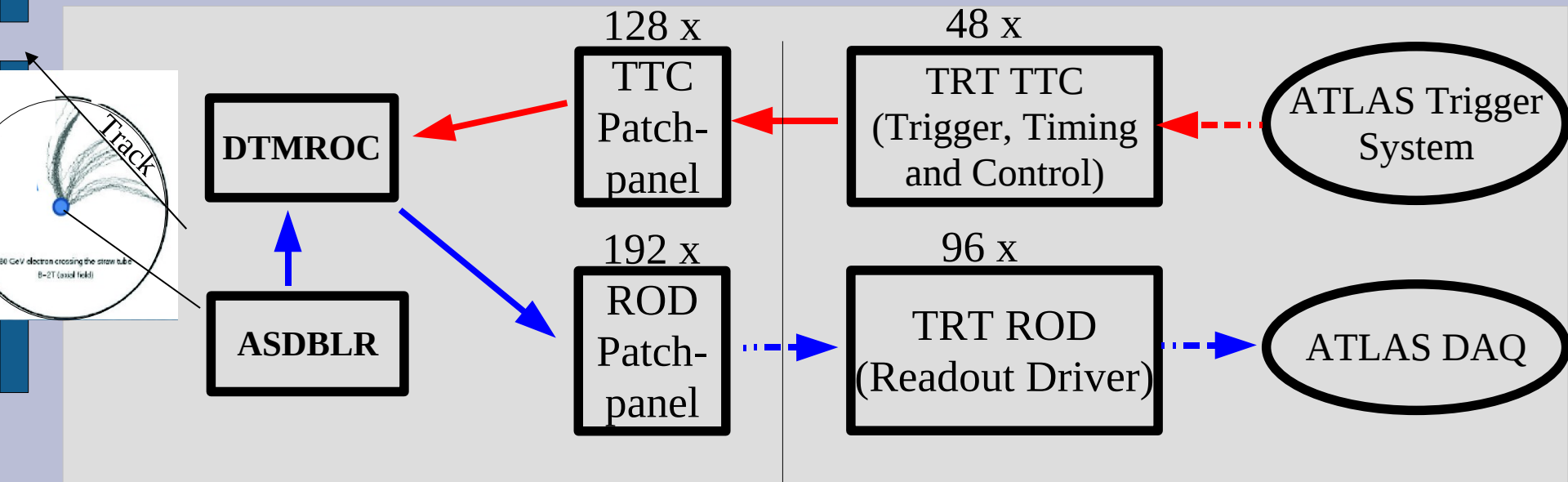
# TRT Electronics – Resynchronization







- Lots of “QPLL”s (Quartz PLLs – clock stabilizer) in the system  
=> sensitive to changes in the LHC clock, e.g. during injection ramping
- If any unlocked then data loss  
=> implemented QPLL monitoring and **automatic resynchronization** (= force QPLL re-lock) during data-taking
- Time needed: ~10 sec (during the injection ramp)

 Triggers, clock  
 Data  
 Electrical  
 Optical

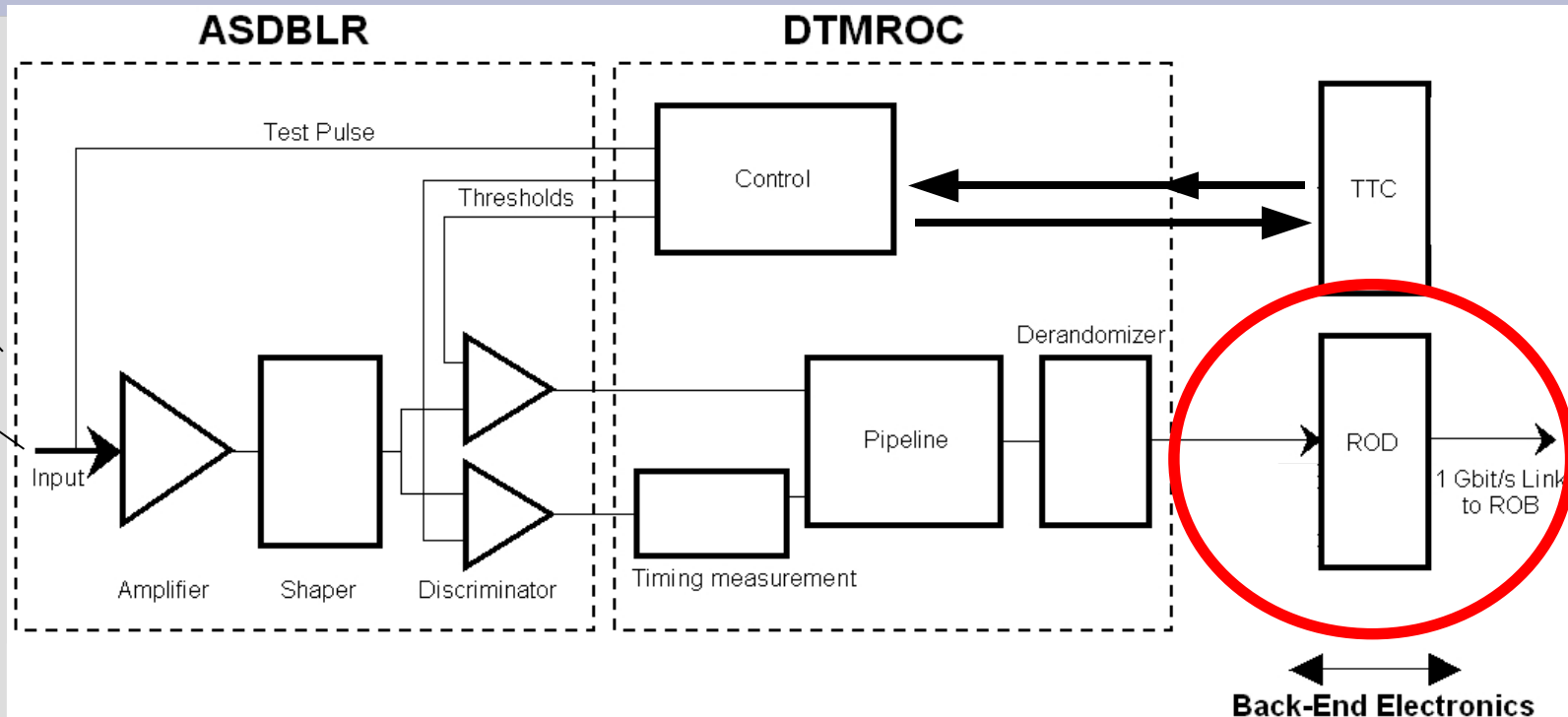
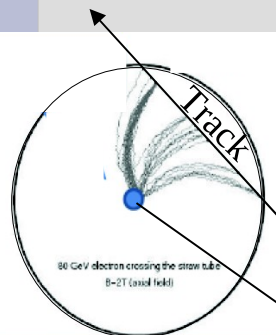
# TRT Electronics – Resynchronization



- Further: Use same software framework to **monitor for hardware failures and synchronization** with rest of ATLAS during regular data-taking
  - Offending electronics part (TTC/ROD/...) is disabled without stopping data-taking run
  - Failures corrected “on the fly” by reconfiguring offending part
  - Total turnaround time  $\sim 10\text{-}30\text{s}$
- Maximizes data taking efficiency
- Used **very** rarely

 Triggers, clock  
 Data  
 Electrical  
 Optical

# TRT Electronics – Data Compression



- Nominal TRT event size too big for ROD (at trigger rates  $> 20$  kHz)
- Use Huffman encoding algorithm on ROD for lossless data compression
  - Basically: convert the most frequent bit patterns in straw data (simplest example: series of 0s) to short patterns using a lookup table
  - Compression factor  $\sim 10$  (very approximate)
- Can deal with high occupancy events as we had in heavy ion running

# Conclusion

- Very successful commissioning phase
- Fast-OR trigger played major role in ATLAS commissioning
- Automated procedures to maximize data taking efficiency
- Good quality data for 100% of LHC stable beam periods 2009-2011: highest in ATLAS

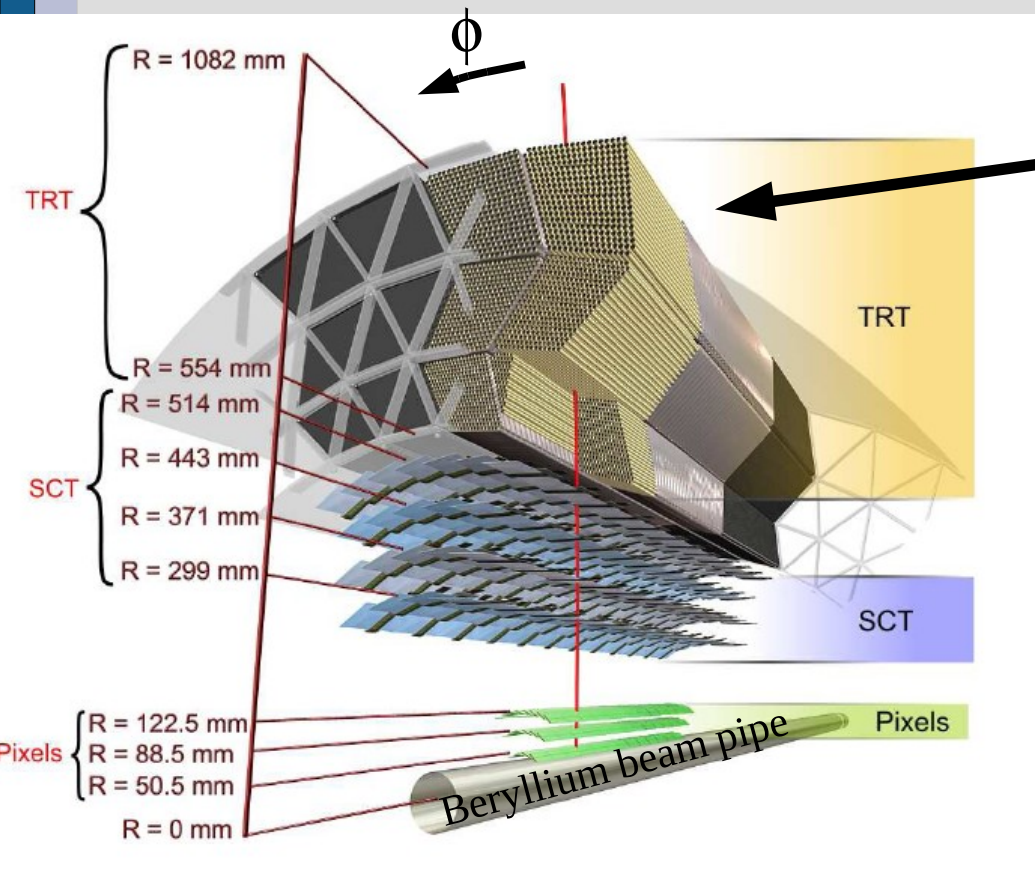
Inner Tracking Detectors			Calorimeters				Muon Detectors			
Pixel	SCT	TRT	LAr EM	LAr HAD	LAr FWD	Tile	MDT	RPC	TGC	CSC
97.7	96.4	100	94.4	98.7	99.3	99.2	98.5	98.3	98.6	98.3

Luminosity weighted relative detector uptime and good quality data delivery during 2010 stable beams at  $\sqrt{s}=7$  TeV between March 30<sup>th</sup> and August 14<sup>th</sup> (in %)

Thanks to all the TRT community for their hard work!!

# Backup

# The ATLAS Transition Radiation Tracker



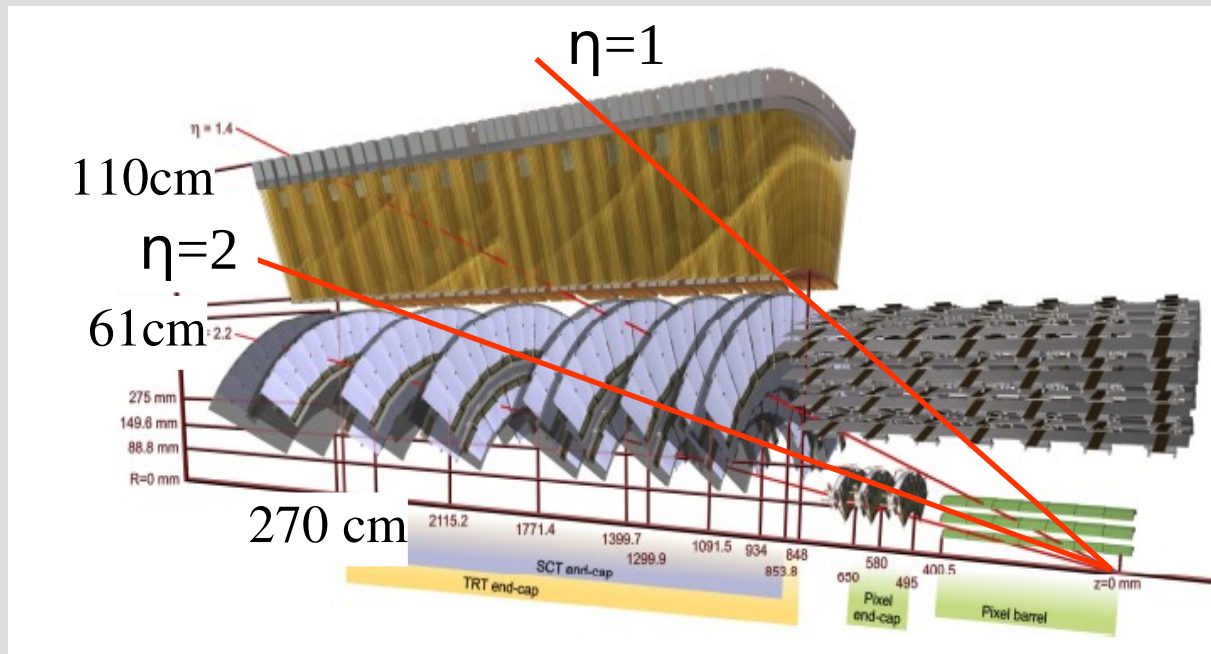
## TRT barrel

- 3 \* 32 modules
- 1.44 m straws parallel to beam axis
- wires electrically split in the middle to reduce occupancy (~1.5cm dead region)
- each end read out separately
- 105088 readout channels total
- 2 triangular front end boards per module

# The ATLAS Transition Radiation Tracker

## 2 TRT end-caps, each with

- 20 “wheels” with 8 layers of straws each
- 39cm long radial straws
- 122880 readout channels



# Occupancy and Rate

- Optimal tracking threshold configuration at  $\sim 2\%$  noise occupancy
- Track occupancy per straw:  $\sim 3\%$  at instant. pp luminosity  $10^{31} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
- Expect occupancy of  $\sim 30\text{-}40\%$  at LHC pp design lumi  $10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
- (Max. track rate per straw:  $\sim 20\text{MHz}$  – due to  $\sim 50\text{ns}$  drift time)
- TRT performed well in occupancies of up to  $\sim 90\%$  at moderate trigger rate ( $\sim \text{few } 100 \text{ Hz}$ ) during heavy ion running due to lossless data compression

