

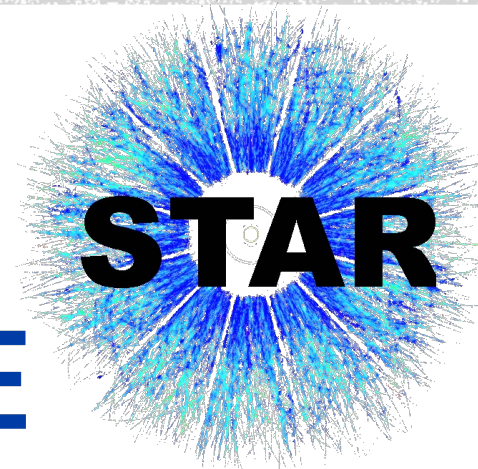
# STAR Forward Upgrade: Design, Measurements, and Future Plans

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for the STAR Collaboration

International Conference on New Frontiers in Physics

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# Outline

- Physics Goals and Interests
  - Physics Requirements
- Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC)
- STAR experiment and Forward Upgrade
  - Tracking Upgrade
  - Calorimetry Upgrade
- Tracking performance
- Calorimeter Performance
  - Transverse Single Spin Asymmetry of  $\pi^0$

# Physics Goals

Forward-Pseudorapidity  $2.5 < \eta < 4$

Beam:

- 200 GeV AuAu (2023, 2024, 2025)

Physics Topics:

- Temperature dependence of viscosity
- Longitudinal decorrelation
- Global Lambda Polarization

Beam:

- 200, 500 GeV polarized pp (2022, 2024)

Physics Topics:

- Sivers Asymmetries for hadrons, jets, di-jets, Drell Yan
  - Transverse Momentum Dependent PDFs (TMD)
- Collins Asymmetry
  - Hadrons in jets

## ▪ Observables

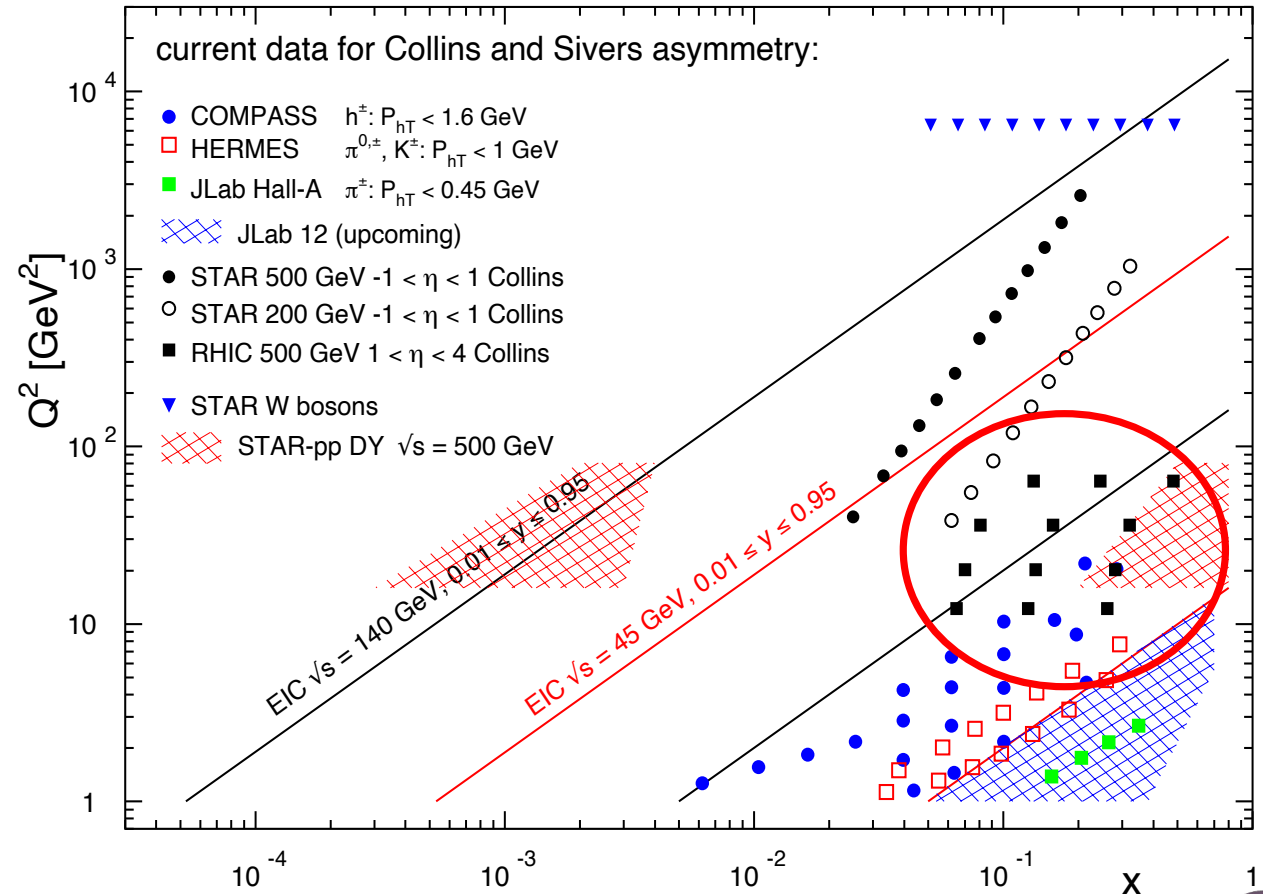
- Charged and neutral hadrons
- Inclusive jets and di-jets
- Hadrons in jets
- Photons
- Drell Yan,  $J/\psi$  (di-electrons)
- Lambda's

## ▪ Detector Requirements for physics

Detector	pp	AuAu
Ecal	$\sim 10\%/\sqrt{E}$	$\sim 20\%/\sqrt{E}$
Hcal	$\sim 60\%/\sqrt{E}$	
Trackers	Charge Separation Photon Suppression	$0.2 < p_T < 2 \text{ GeV}/c$ with 20-30% $1/p_T$

# TMDs at Large Pseudorapidities

- Need high precision data in pp to complement ep data to establish universality of TMDs
- The pp data will complement what can be achieved by the Electron Ion Collider (EIC)
- Upgrade allows access to broad  $x$  ( $0.05 - 0.5$ ) at high  $Q^2$  ( $10 - 100 \text{ GeV}^2$ )



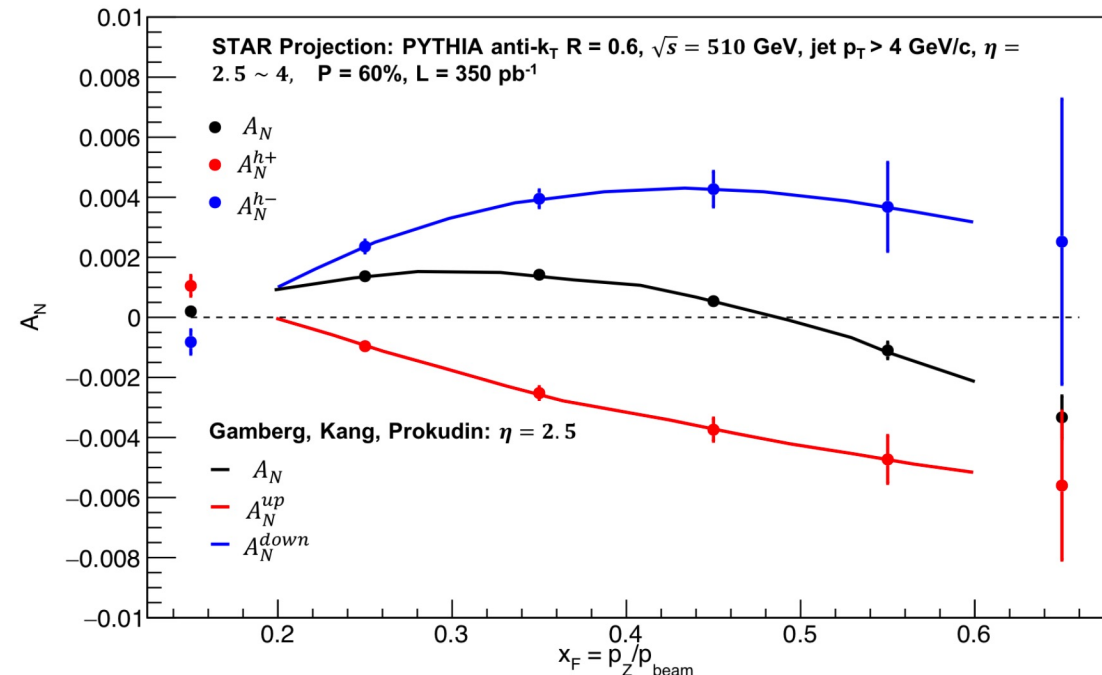
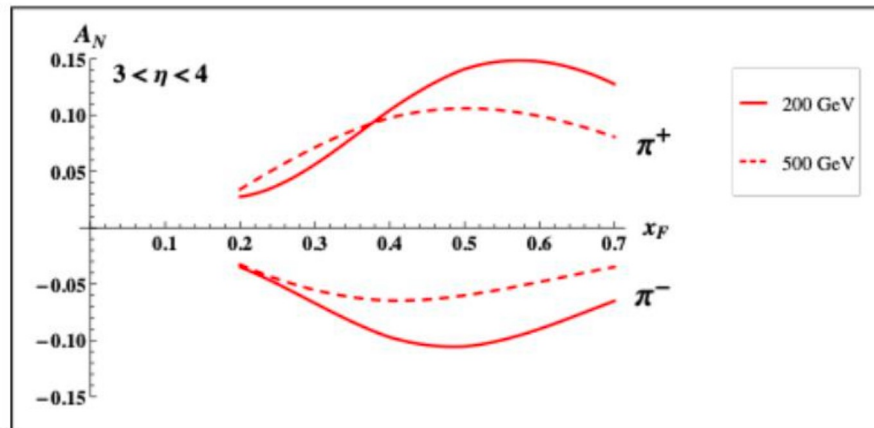


# Hadron Transverse Single Spin Asymmetries

- Transverse Single Spin Asymmetries (TSSA or  $A_N$ ) of charged hadrons will become possible because of newly installed trackers and hadronic calorimeter

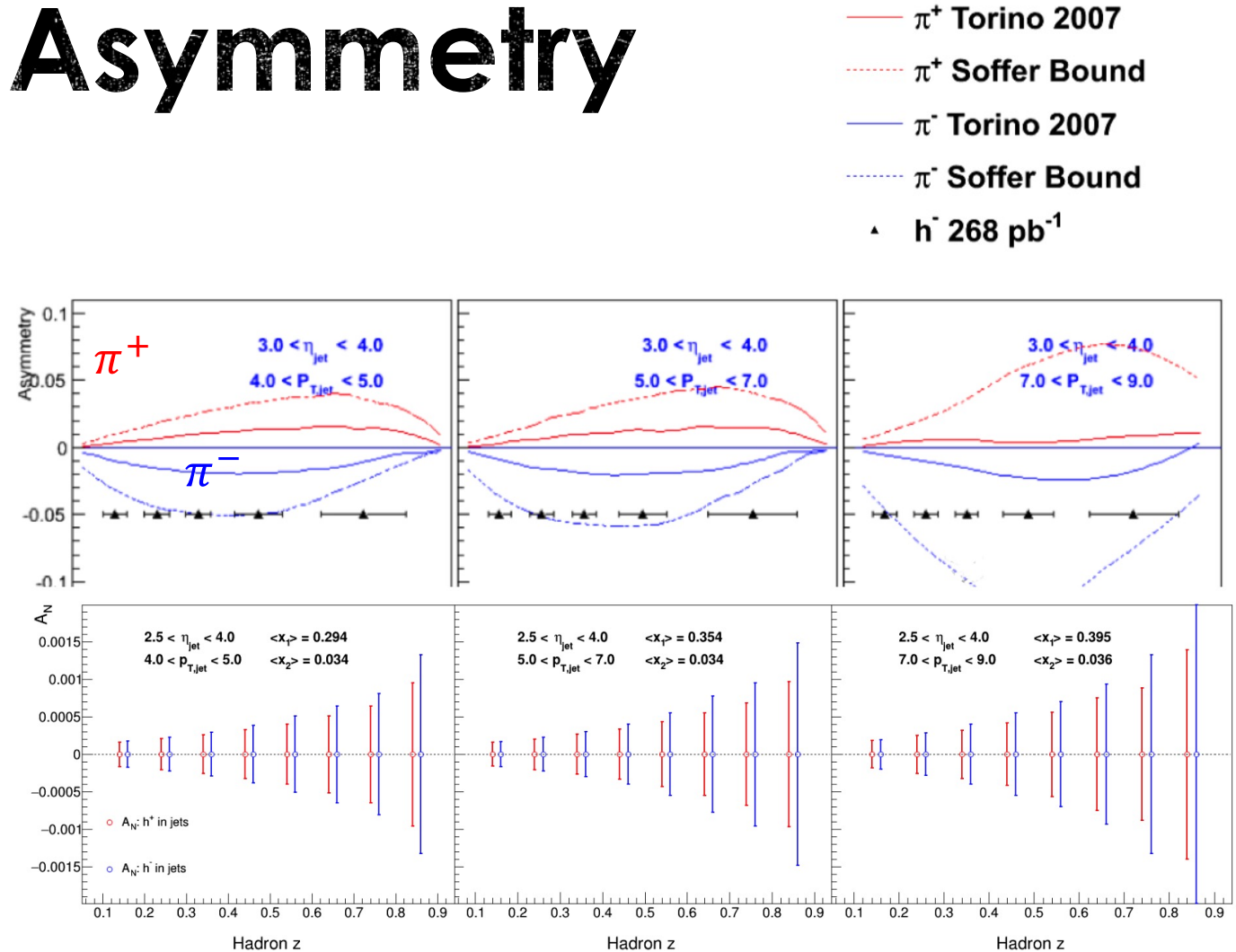
$$A_N = \frac{\sigma^\uparrow - \sigma^\downarrow}{\sigma^\uparrow + \sigma^\downarrow}$$

Predicted asymmetries for  $\pi^{+/-}$  from Kanazawa et al, PRD 89, 111501



# Collins Asymmetry

- Improve Transversity  $\times$  Collins FF through hadrons in jets
  - Access to transversity in region  $0.3 < x < 0.5$
  - Has not been explored in SIDIS
- Projected Collins Asymmetry for  $\pi^+/\pi^-$  with projected asymmetries in black

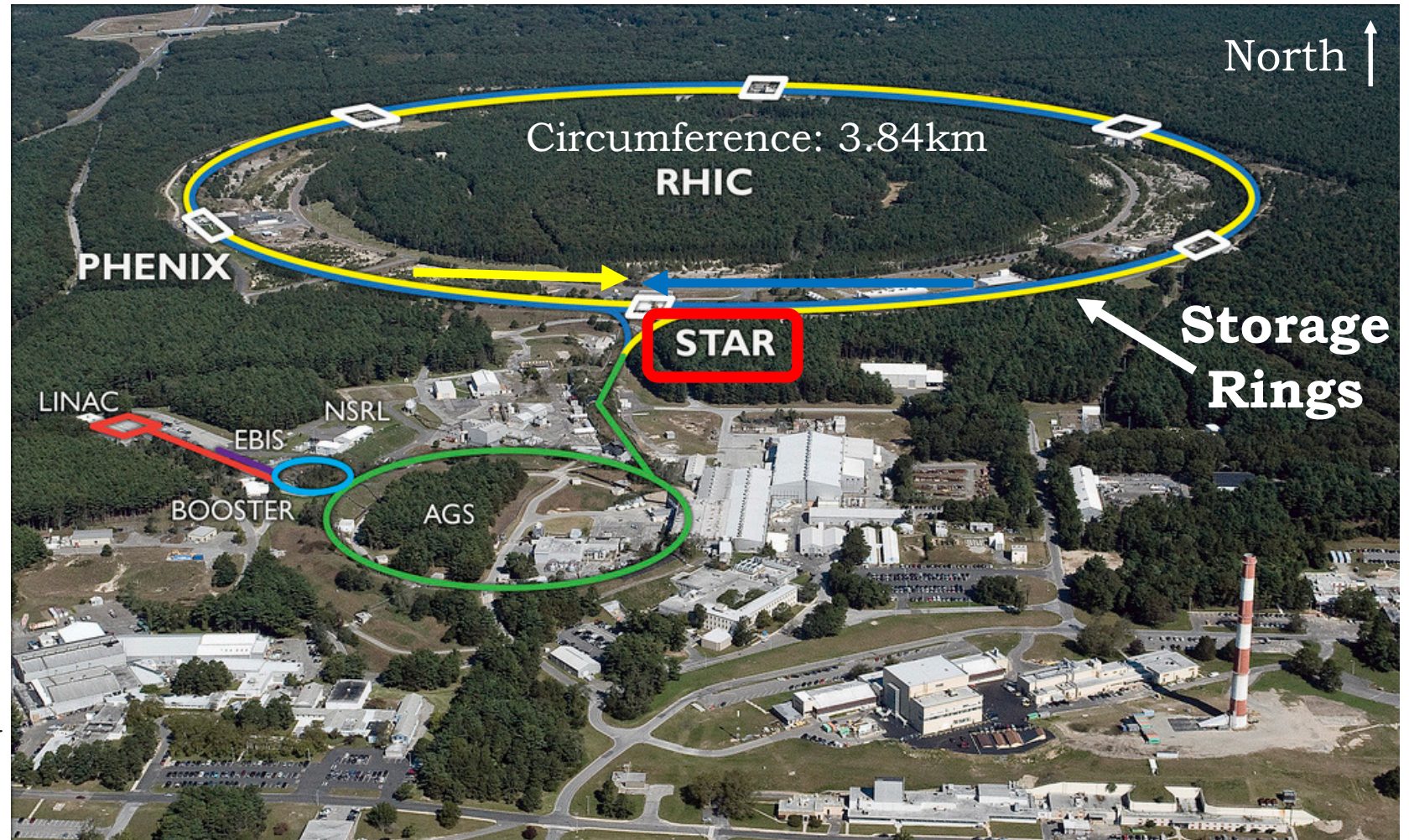


STAR Beam Use Request Run22-25



# Brookhaven National Lab (BNL) and Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC)

- The only polarized pp collider in the world!
- Very versatile Collider
  - p, d, Al, Cu, Zr, Ru, Au, U
  - Polarized pp  $\sqrt{s}$ 
    - 62, 200, 510 GeV
  - Nucleon  $\sqrt{s}$  up to 200 GeV
  - Fixed target with STAR  
Nucleon  $\sqrt{s}$  down to 3 GeV





# STAR Forward Upgrade

- Upgrades STAR capabilities in  $2.5 < \eta < 4$
- Almost full  $2\pi$  coverage in azimuth

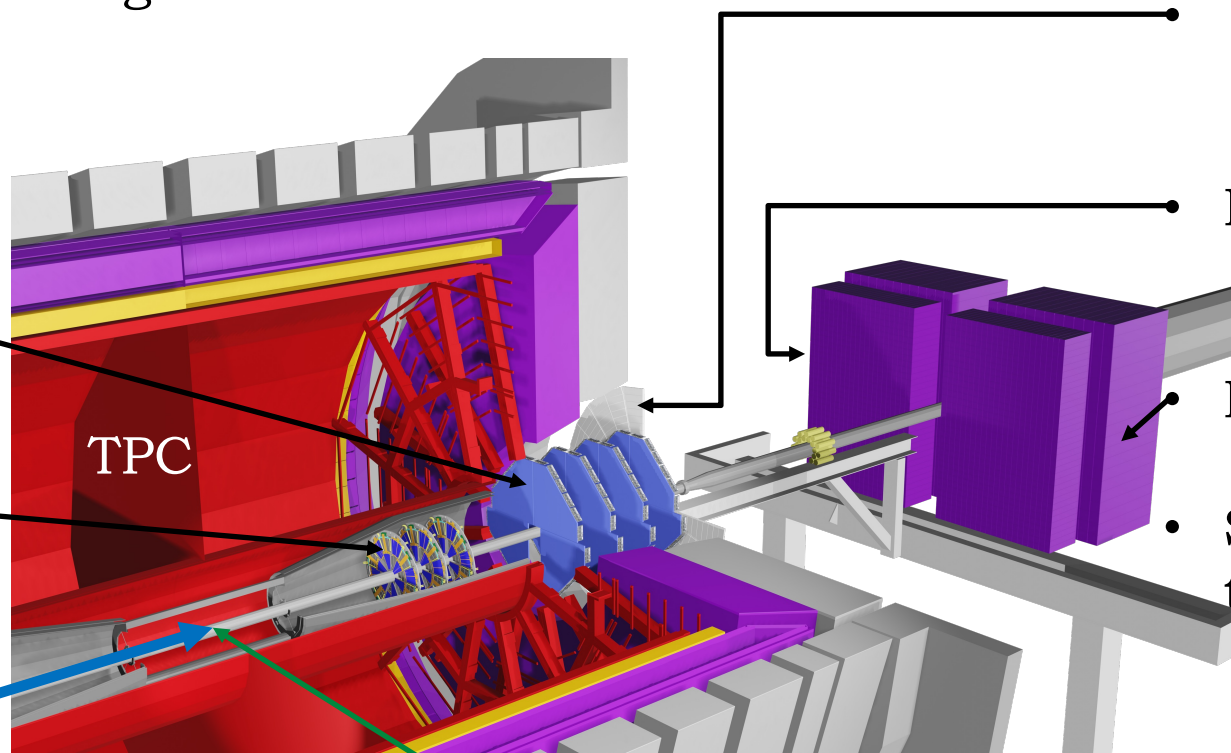
## Forward Calorimeter System (FCS)

- Preshower
  - Reuse STAR Event Plane Detector (EPD)
- Electromagnetic (Ecal)
  - PbSc Re-purposed from PHENIX
- Hadronic (Hcal)
  - FeSc, built in 2021
  - Sit on movable platforms to allow access to back

## Tracking

- small-strip Thin Gap Chambers (sTGC or FTT)
  - 4 layers
- Silicon Disks (FST)
  - 3 layers

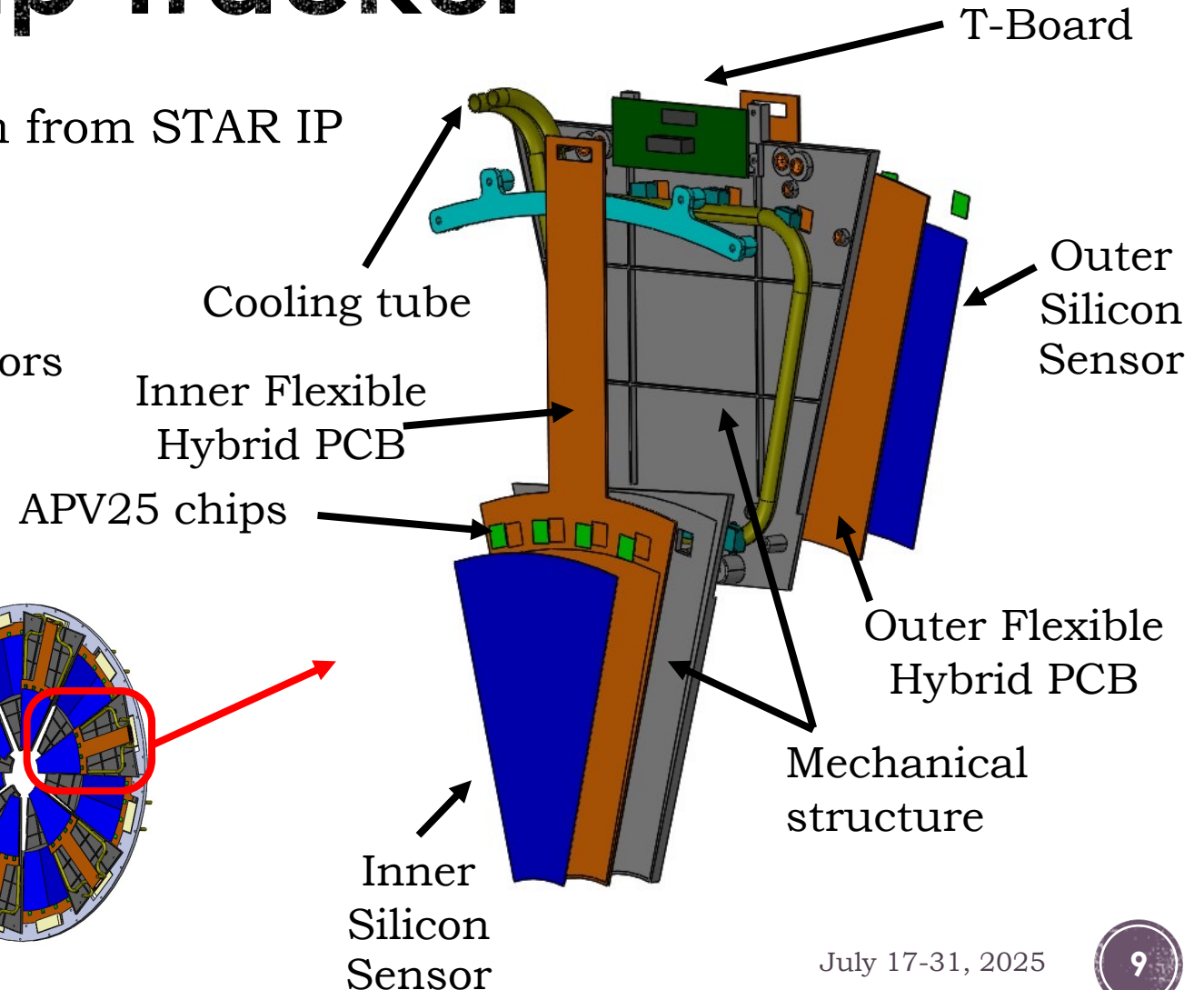
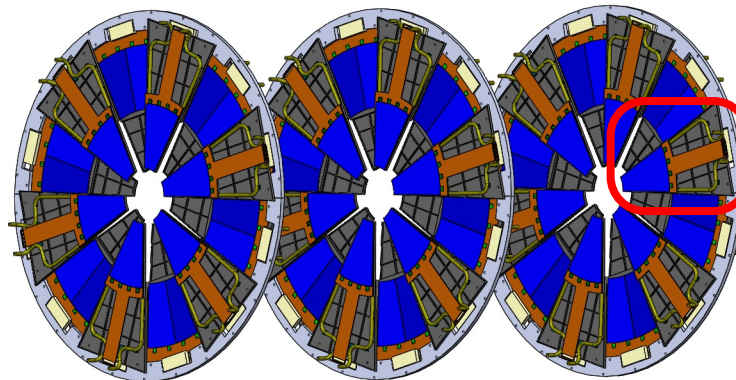
Blue Beam



STAR Interaction  
Point (IP)

# Silicon Microstrip Tracker

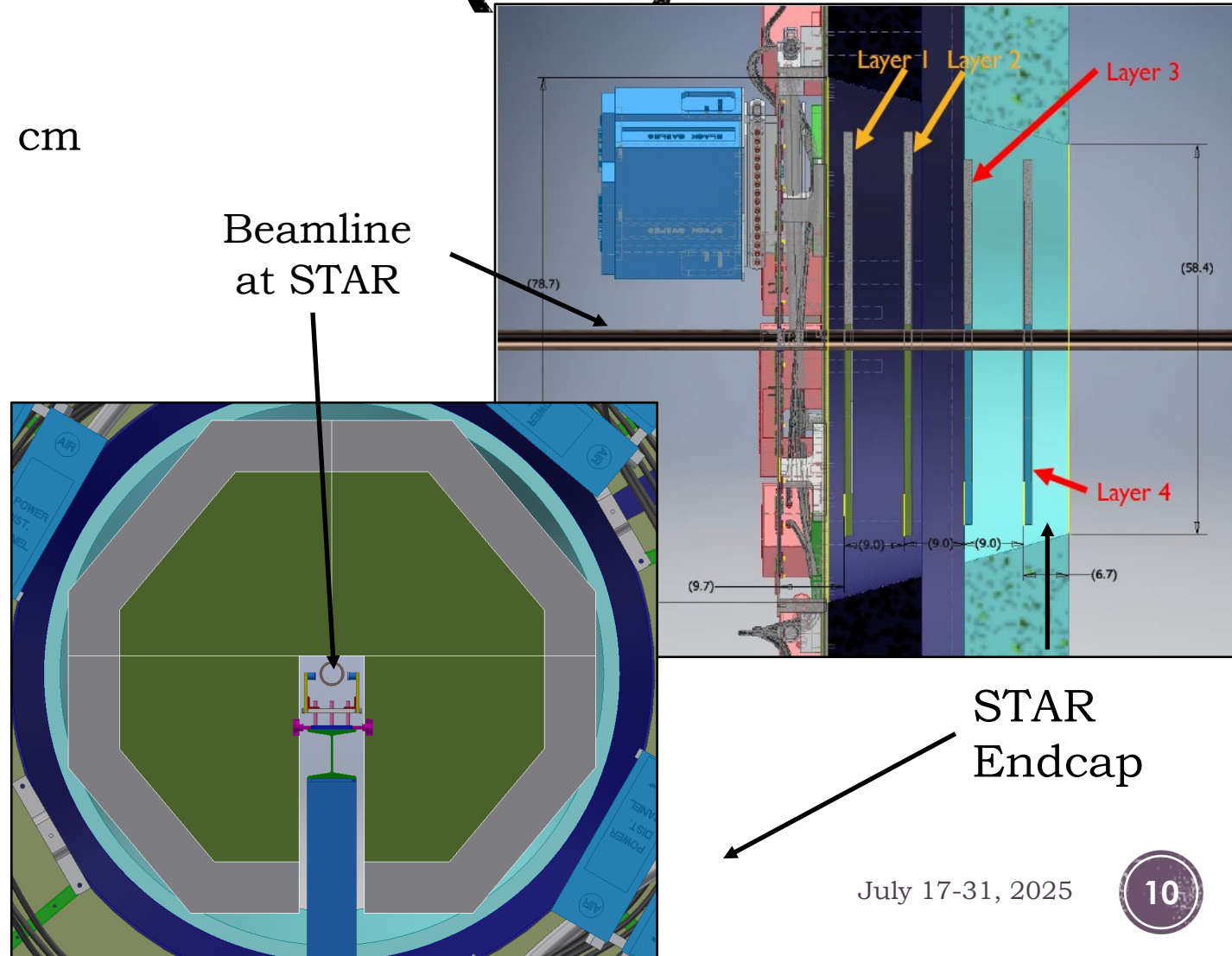
- 3 disks located at 152, 165, and 179 cm from STAR IP
  - Each disk has 12 Single Modules
    - Inner region:  $5 < R < 16.5$  cm
    - Outer region:  $16.5 < R < 28$  cm
  - Single-sided double-metal mini-strip sensors
  - 128x4 ( $\phi \times R$ ) strip sensors
    - Inner: 1 Si Sensor
    - Outer: 2 Si Sensor
  - $\sim 1\% X_0$  per disk
- Full  $2\pi$  azimuthal





# Forward sTGC Tracker (FTT)

- Inspired by ATLAS sTGCs
- 4 layers located 307, 325, 343 and 361 cm from STAR IP
  - Inhomogeneous magnetic field
  - Each layer made up of four quadrants
    - Each quadrant is double sided to break ambiguities in hit location
- Position resolution  $\sim 100 \mu\text{m}$
- Roughly full  $2\pi$  coverage
  - Need room for beam pipe support
- $\sim 0.5\%$   $X_0$  per layer material budget
- Readout: VMM-chips
- Gas Mixture:  $\text{CO}_2$  and n-pentane
- Operating voltage: 3000 V

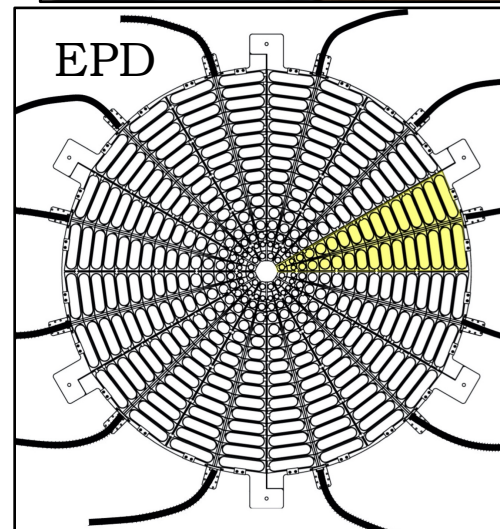
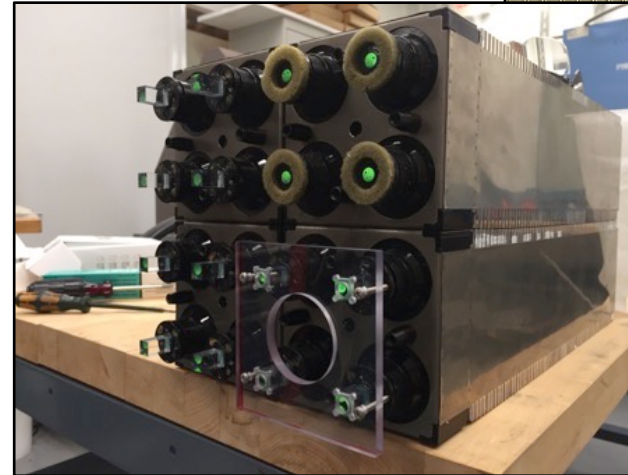


# Ecal and Preshower

- Ecal Split into two halves
  - Misses above and below beam pipe
  - Projective geometry
  - ~7m from STAR IP
  - Pb/Sc sandwich Ecal
    - Repurposed from PHENIX
    - 66 sampling cells with 1.5 mm Pb/4 mm Sc
  - 1496 towers, 5.52 cm x 5.52 cm x 33 cm
    - $18 X_0$ ,  $0.85 \lambda$
  - Utilize LED system to monitor gains
- Preshower: Existing STAR detector, EPD
  - Scintillator (Sc) Hodoscope Preshower
  - Split signals to utilize new electronics
- Both utilize SiPM readout
  - Build on successful use of SiPMs at STAR
  - New electronics to capture signal better

Kapukchyan D. STAR Forward Upgrade - ICNFP 2025

Ecal towers



Ecal installed at STAR (Oct 2019)

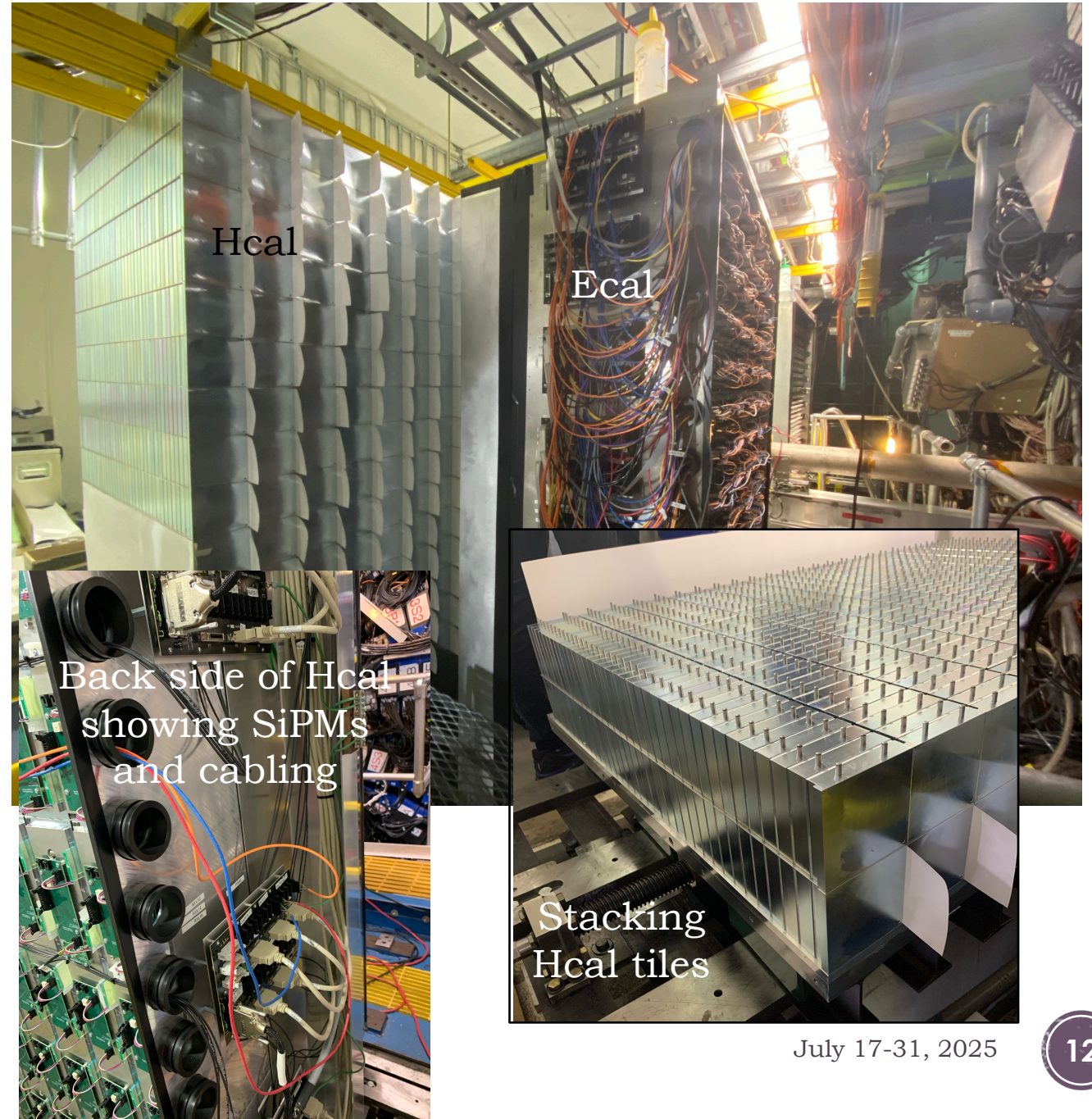


July 17-31, 2025



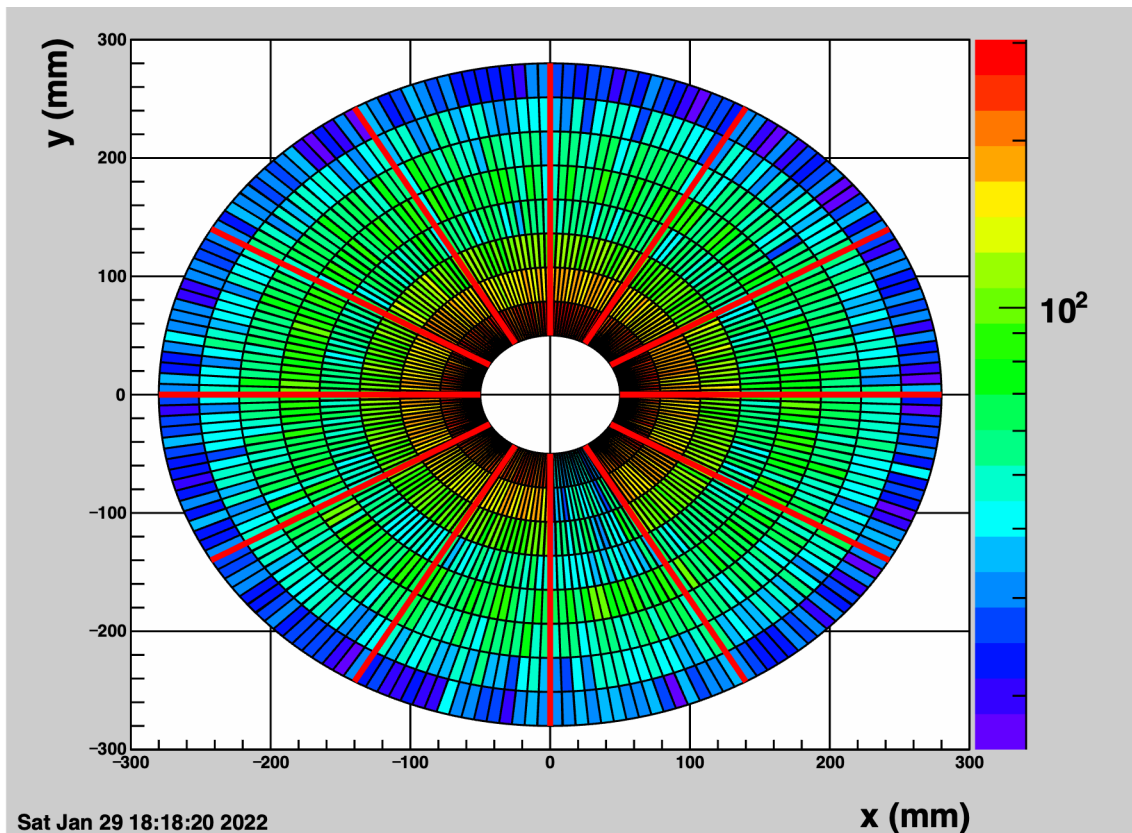
# Hcal

- First hadronic calorimeter at STAR
- Fe/Sc sandwich
  - Lego style construction to speed up assembly
  - 36 sampling cells with 20 mm Fe / 3 mm Sc
  - Use SiPM readout and LED system for monitoring gain
  - Utilize same electronics as Ecal
  - Directly behind ECal (projective)
- Consists of 520 towers
  - 10 cm x 10 cm x 84 cm
    - $\sim 4.5 \lambda$
    - Covers 2x2 towers of Ecal

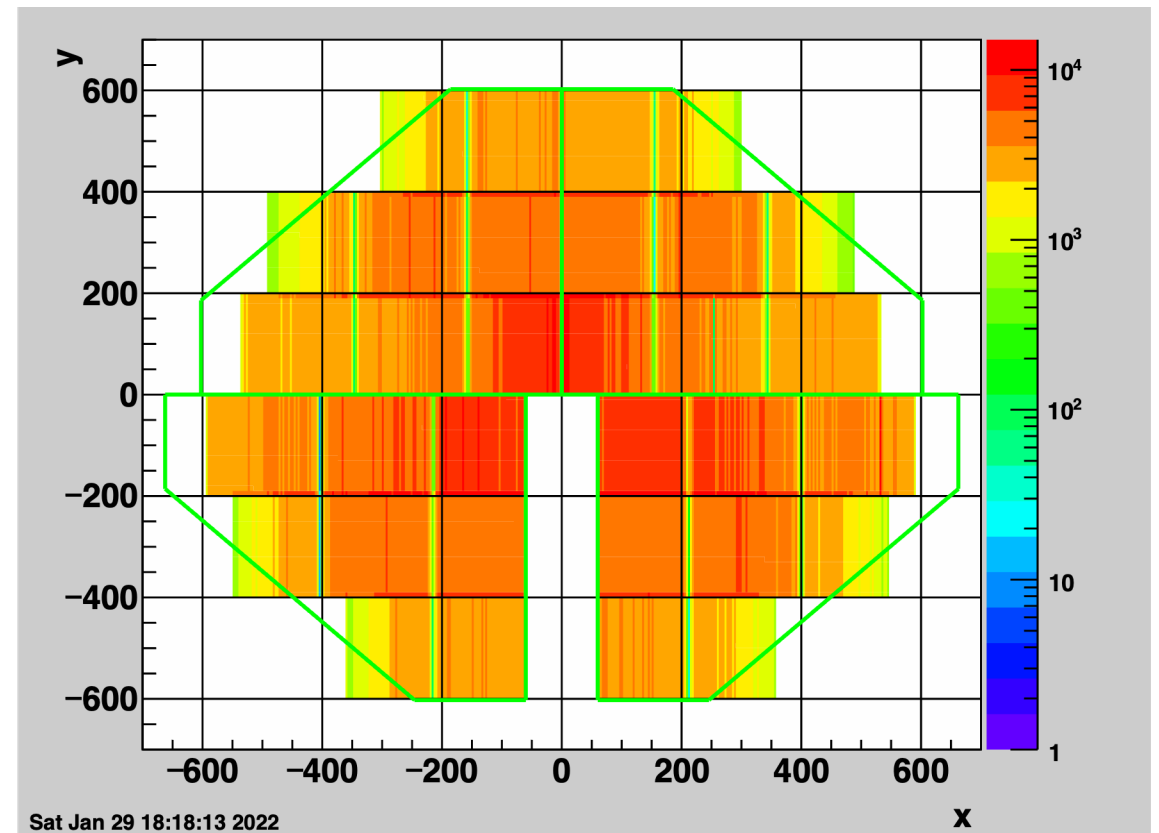


# FST and FTT Monitoring

FST Hit Map Run 22



FTT Hit Map Run 22

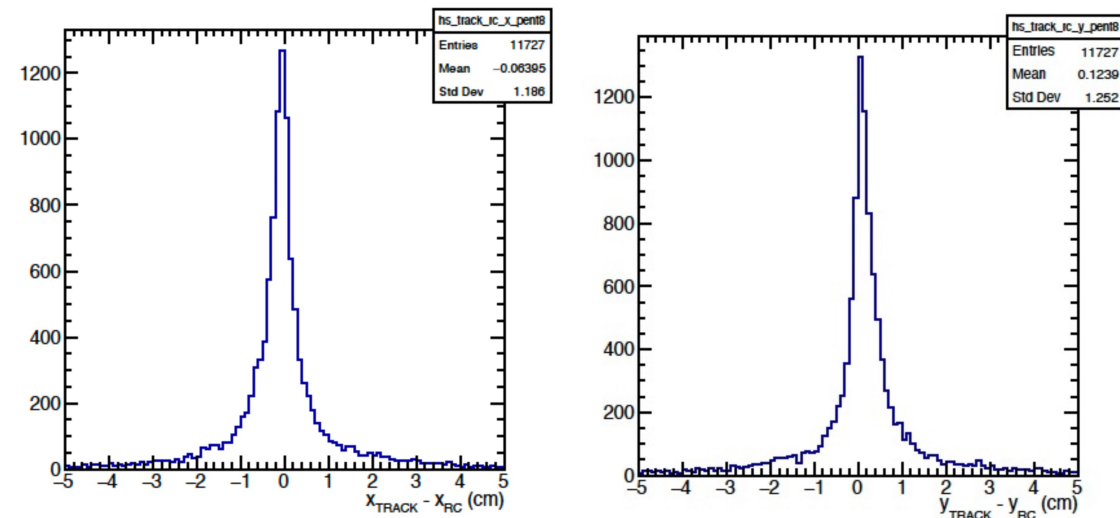




# Tracking: Data Driven Alignment

- Do a data driven alignment using zero field data from Run 22 and 23
- Tracking software utilizes GenFit2 using the Kalman Filter method to fit tracks
- Alignment is preformed by taking the reconstructed tracks and refit using a General Broken Lines (GBL) track fit
  - The GBL method allows a description of the track trajectory using a singular set of parameters
  - Utilize Millipede II minimization of the parameters from the GBL
- Study is ongoing but shows promise

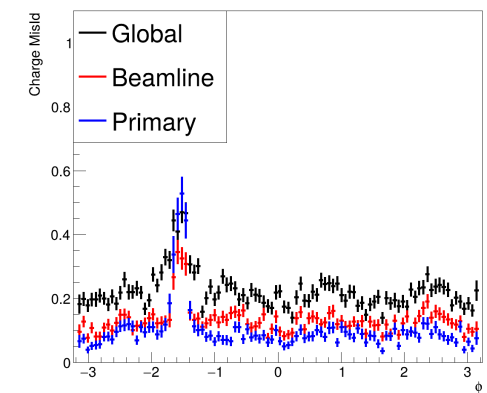
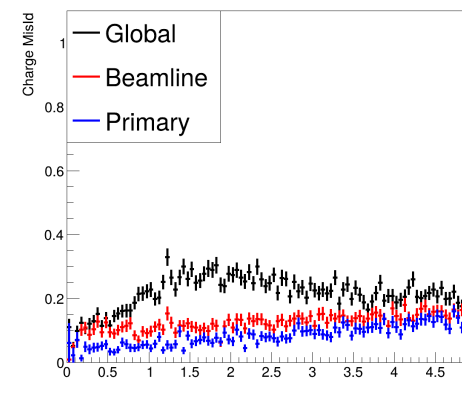
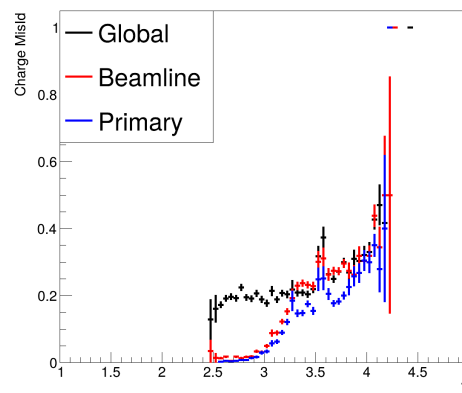
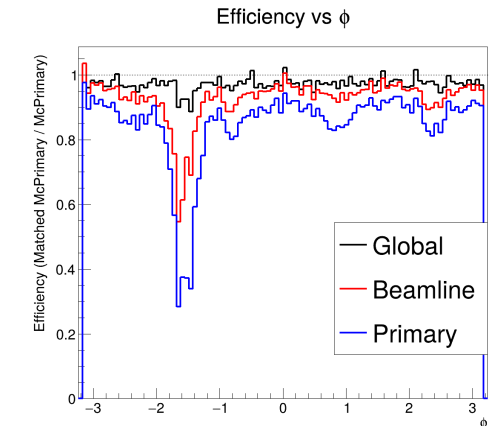
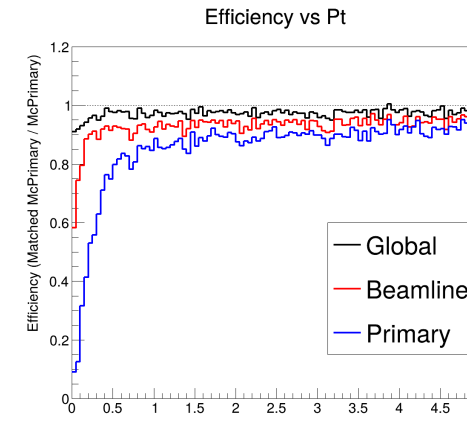
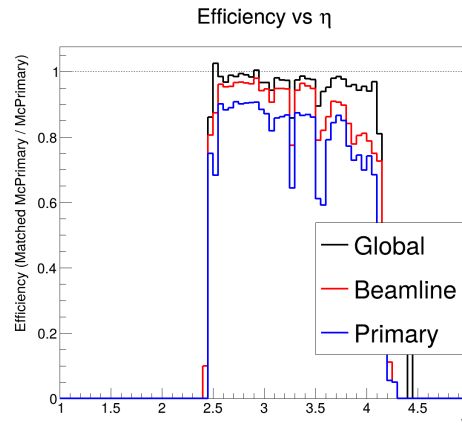
## sTGC Pentagon Residuals





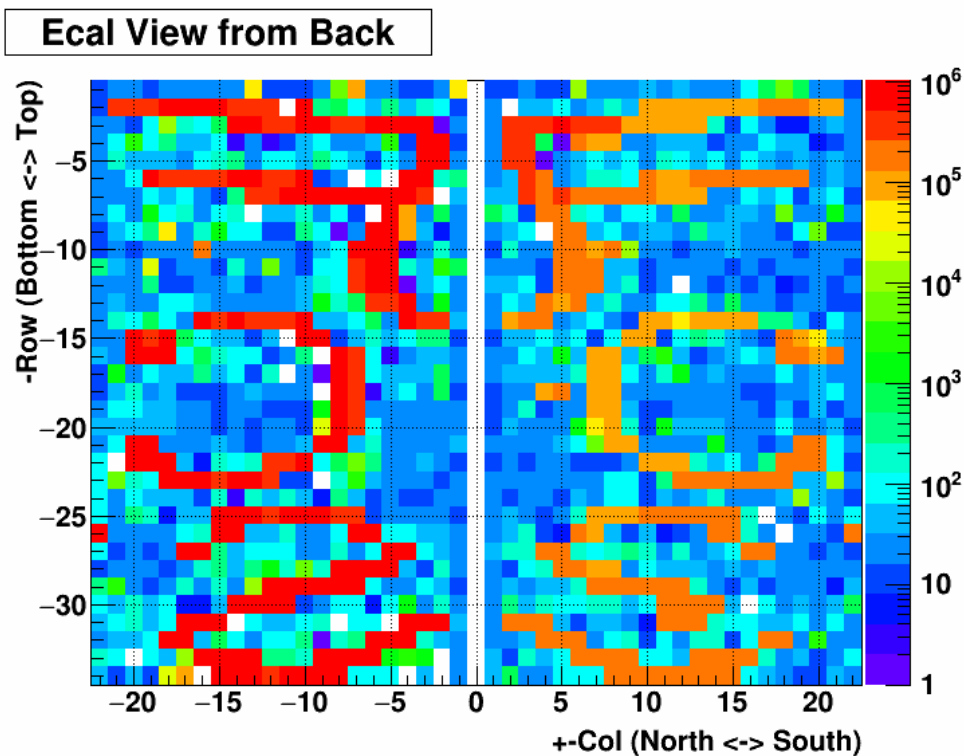
# Tracking: Single Particle Studies

- Tracking software is mostly ready
- Single Particle studies show positive results
  - Global tracks don't use a fixed vertex
  - Beamline tracks are global tracks that have their vertex constrained in the fits
  - Primary tracks use the collision vertex as an additional parameter
- PYTHIA studies ongoing

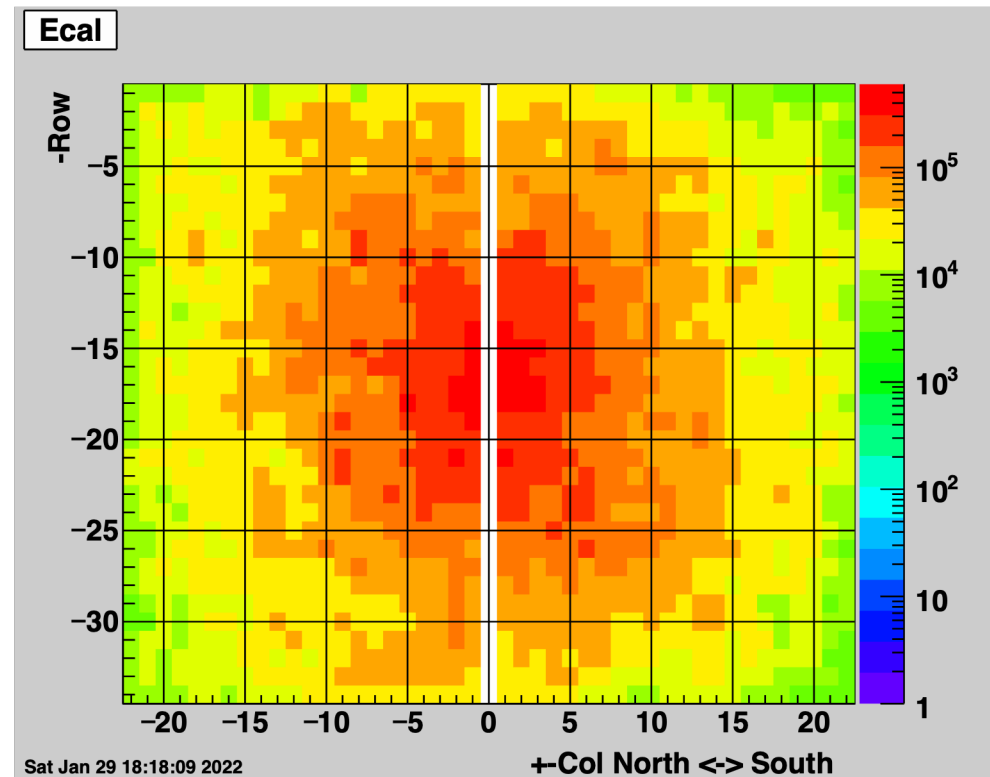


# FCS Ecal Monitoring

Ecal LED Test

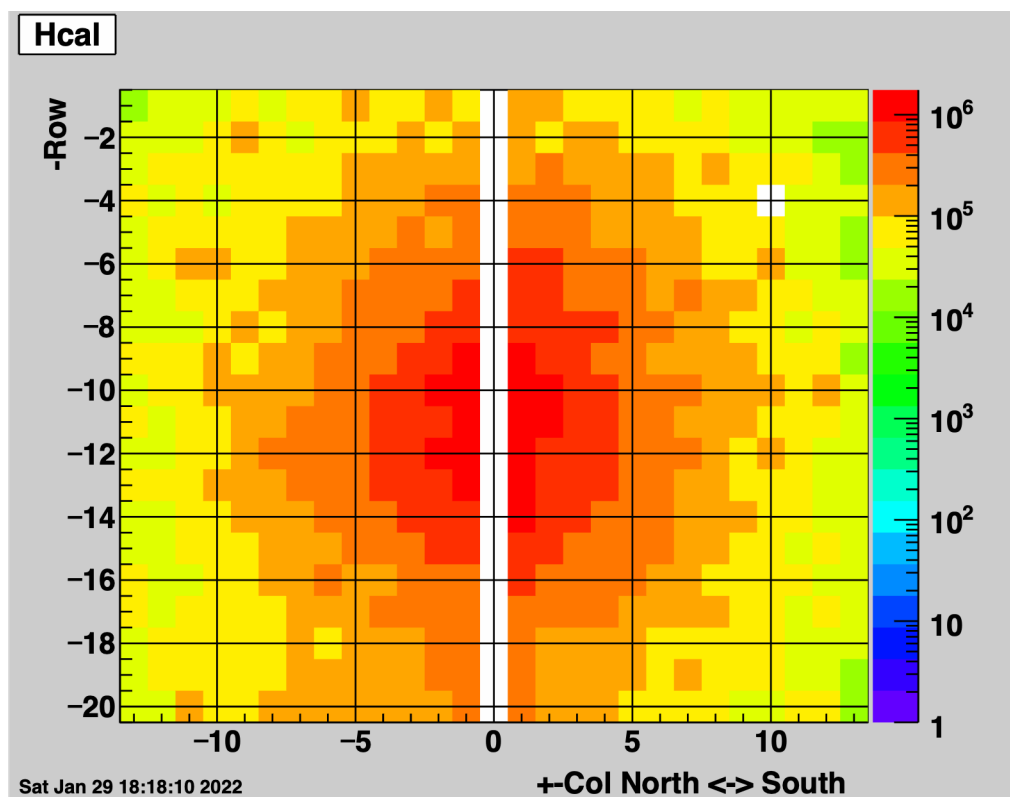


Ecal Hit Map Run 22

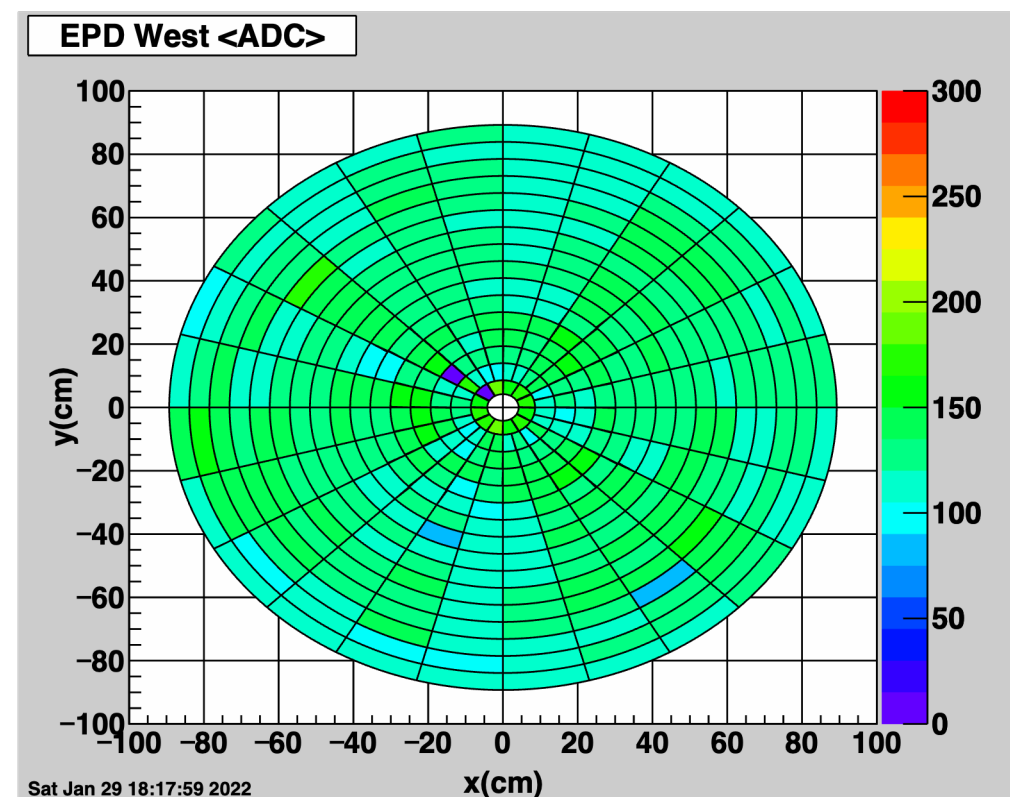


# FCS Hcal and Preshower Monitoring

Hcal Hit Map Run 22

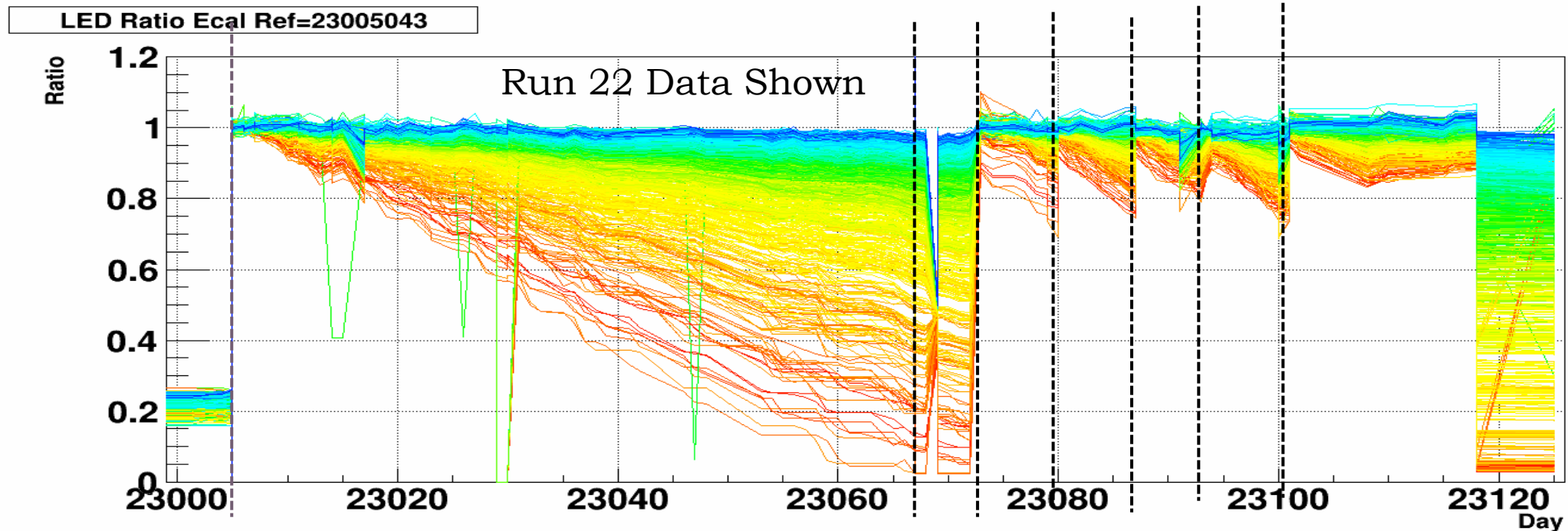


Preshower (EPD) Hit Map Run 22



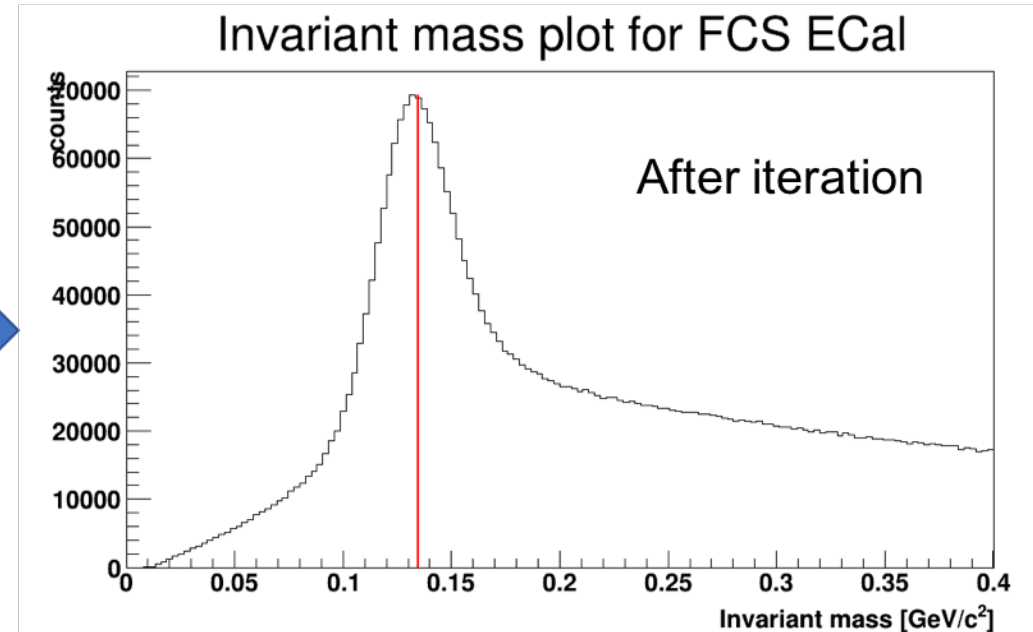
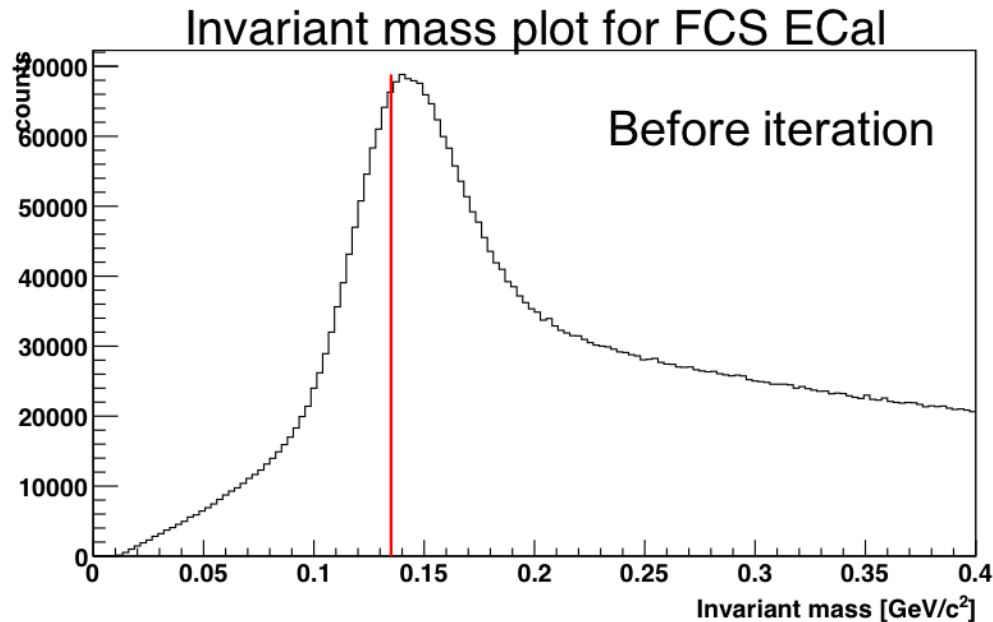
# FCS LED Gain Correction

- LEDs were used to track radiation damage over time
- Periodically adjusting gains allowed us to compensate for radiation damage



# Calibration of FCS using $\pi^0$

- Modify gains over many iterations over the same data until the invariant mass peak of di-photon candidates is at the right  $\pi^0$  invariant mass



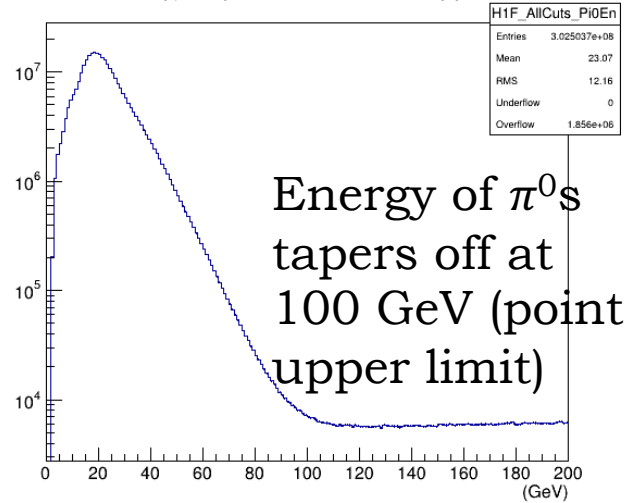


# Run 22 TSSA of $\pi^0$

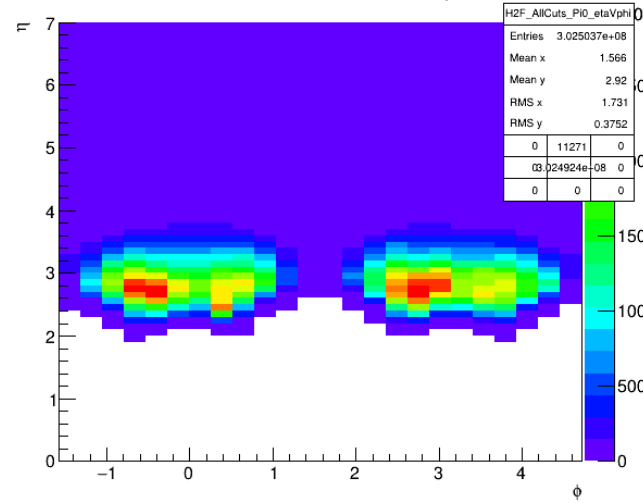
- The  $A_N$  of  $\pi^0$  is undergoing analysis using Ecal and preshower information
- Form photon candidates (points) in Ecal using shower shape reconstruction
  - Form  $\pi^0$ 's from pairs of points
  - Cut on energy asymmetry of two points,  $Z_{\gamma\gamma} = \frac{|E_1 - E_2|}{E_1 + E_2} < 0.7$
  - Use preshower to veto points that are charged particles
    - Project point to preshower and check that value falls below the MIP energy

# QA Plots Relevant to analysis

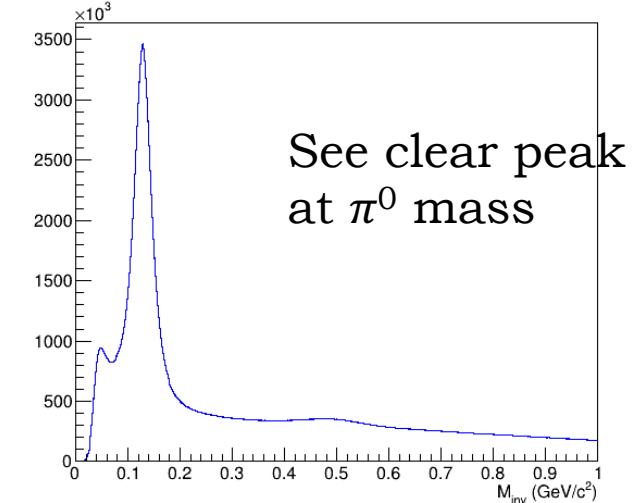
Energy of pi0s after all cuts applied



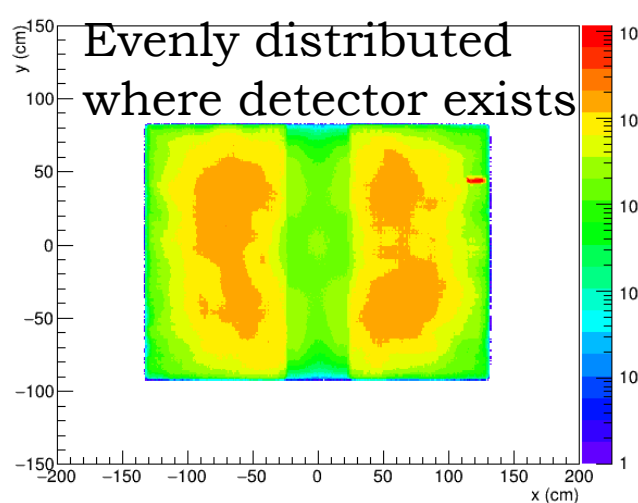
Eta vs. Phi distribution of pi0s



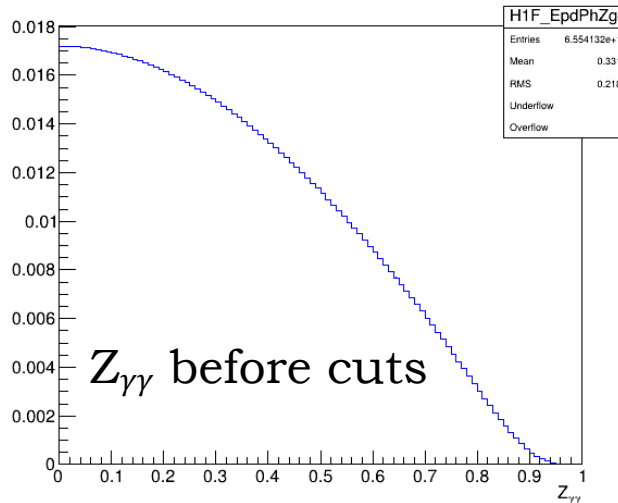
Invariant Mass of two photons after all cuts applied



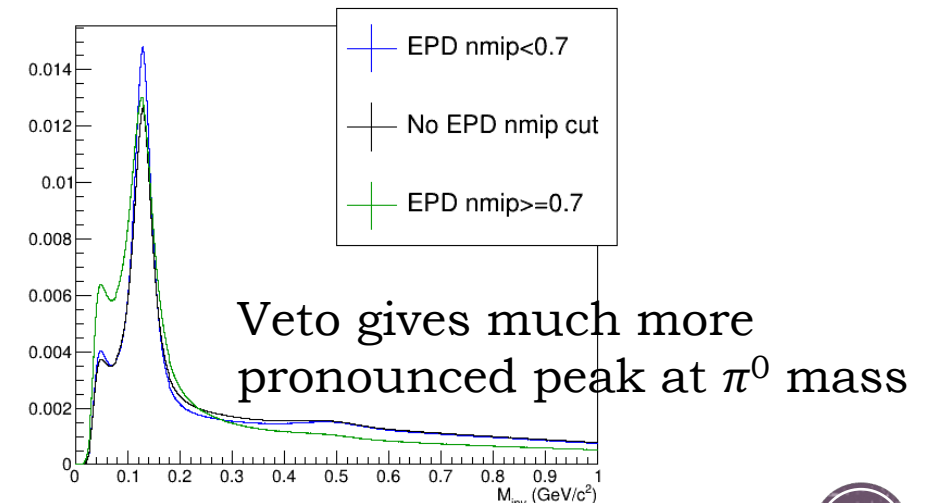
$\pi^0$  distribution projected to FCS y vs. x after all cuts



Z<sub>γγ</sub> of Pi0s using highest energy pairs and Epd Cut Photons

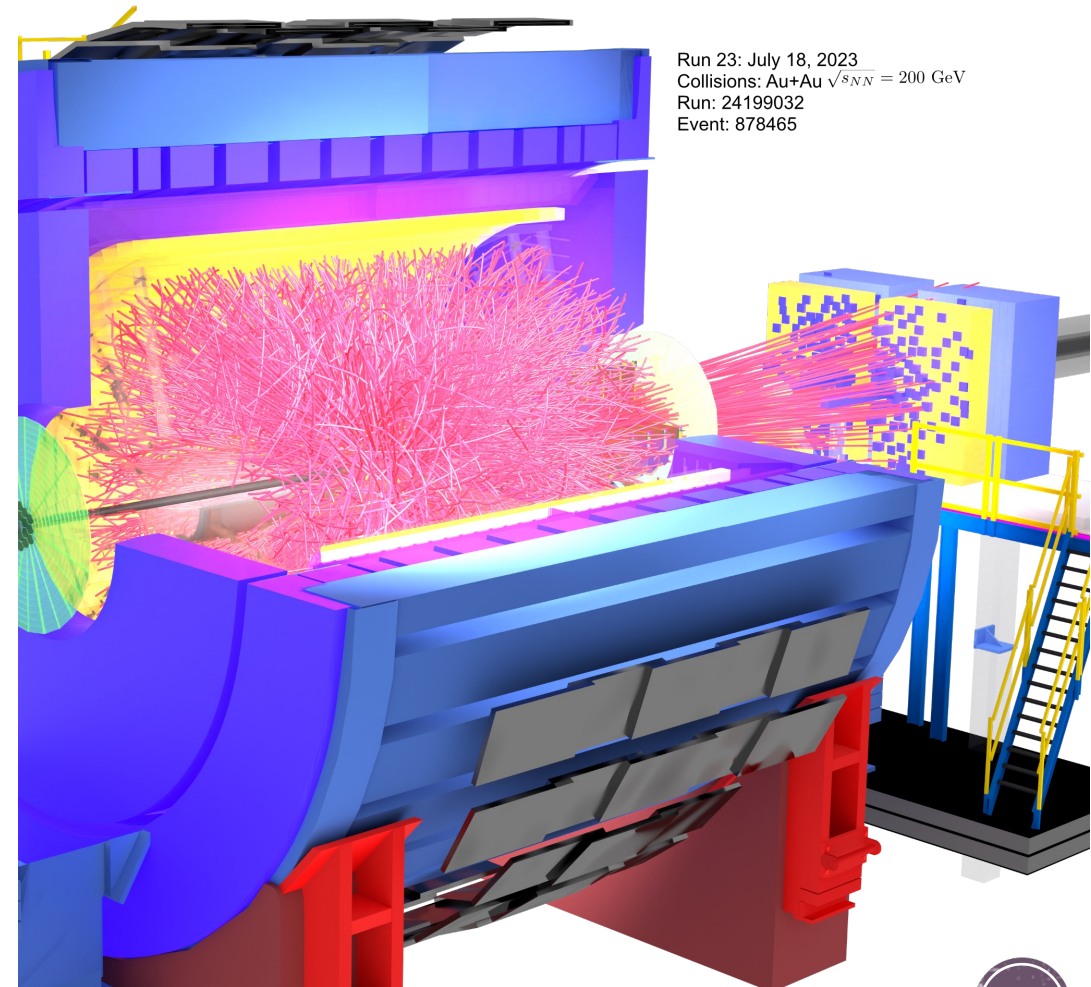


Normalized Invariant Mass distributions after most cuts



# Looking Ahead

- Lots of interesting physics observables
  - $A_N$  of hadrons, jets, dijets
  - Drell-Yan,  $J/\psi$
  - Global Lambda Polarization
- Successful installation in 2021 and smooth data taking in RHIC runs 2022-2025
  - Alignment of trackers ongoing
  - Tracking software mostly ready
  - Calibration of Ecal finished
  - Calibration of Hcal ongoing
- First physics results to come out soon
  - $A_N$  of  $\pi^0$



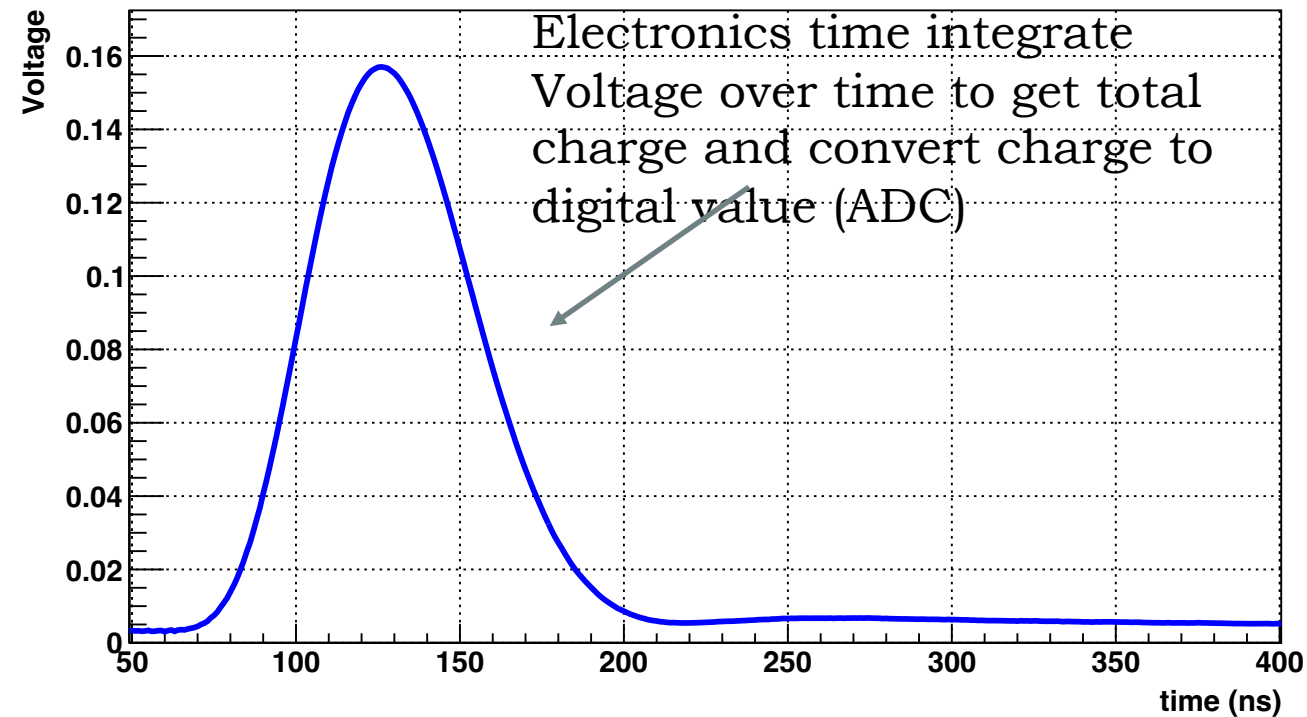


# Backup

# Getting the energy

- Signals from a detector are digitized by time integrating the voltage (ADC) of the signal over the whole time of a trigger window
- STAR trigger windows are defined by the time between RHIC bunches (bunch crossing)
- The energy deposited in the detector  $(E) = \text{ADC} \times \text{Gain}$ 
  - Gain needs to be calibrated

Sample LED pulse from FCS SiPM





# Digitization of Signal

- DEP boards digitize signal every  $\sim 13.5$  ns
- This comprises 1 timebin (Tb)
- There are 8 Tb in 1 RHIC bunch crossing
- There is up to 100 Tb of data for every channel in every event
- Energy = (Fitted signal integral)\*Gain
  - Each signal/peak is fitted to a Gaussian
  - Fitted signal to all peaks shown in black
  - Amplitude of Gaussian is proportional to integral
- Peaks found using discrete second derivative test

Sample Signal from DEP showing multiple RHIC bunch crossings

