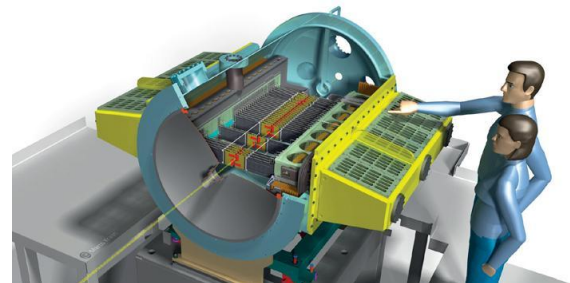


# The Vertex Locator

---

Design, operation and first results





## LHCb in a nutshell:

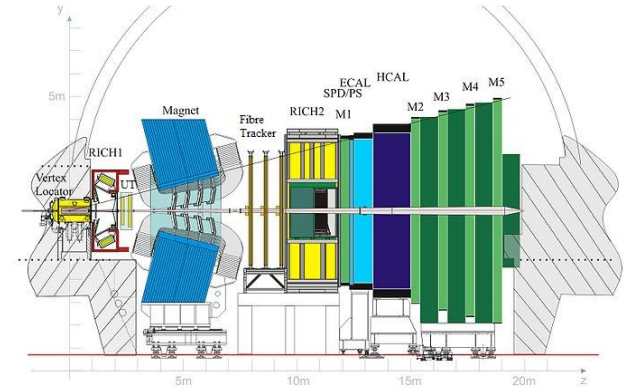
- Study of rare decays of B and D mesons
- Search for New Physics footprints

*JINST 3 (2008) S08005 – The LHCb experiment*

- Now in the middle of Run 3 (2022 - 2026)

*LHCb-DP-2022-02 – The LHCb Upgrade I*

- Three tracking detectors (VELO, UT and SciFi)
- SMOG2 experiment integrated
- Upgrade II in the design phase



LHCb spectrometer  
CERN-LHCC-2014-001



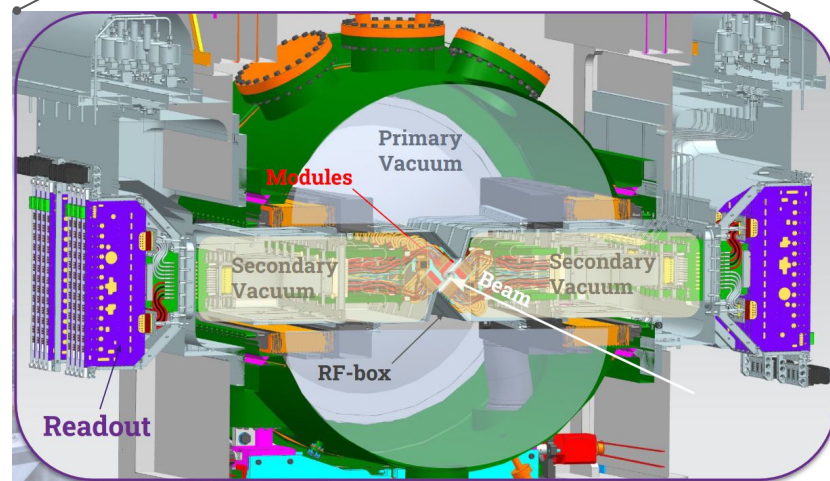
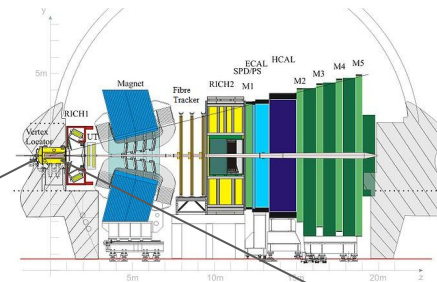
## VELO (Vertex Locator) in a nutshell:

- VELO is a pixel detector (originally strip detector)

*CERN-LHCC-2013-021 – The LHCb VELO TDR*

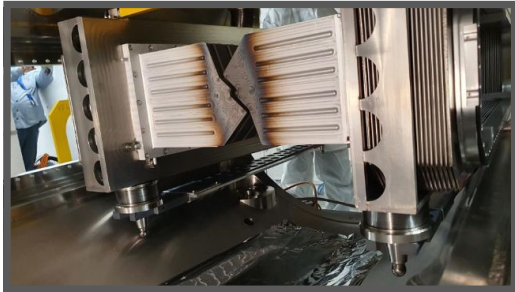
- Vital role in tracking and vertex reconstruction
- Surrounds the beam collision region
- VELO stays open during beam injection
- Sensors in secondary vacuum

- Closest pixels 5.1 mm to the beams
- Readout at 40 MHz
- 256x256 pixels per ASIC
- 52 modules, 12 ASICs each
- Two-phase CO<sub>2</sub> cooling
- RF foil with 250um thickness

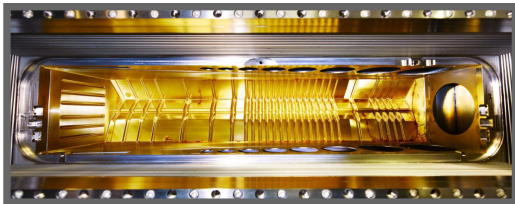




## The RF foil



- Milled from solid aluminium block
- 250  $\mu\text{m}$  thick in the inner region
- Shields module assemblies from beam halo and RF pick-up
- Separates LHC and VELO vacuum
- 3.5 mm from the beam, 0.9 mm from VELO sensors



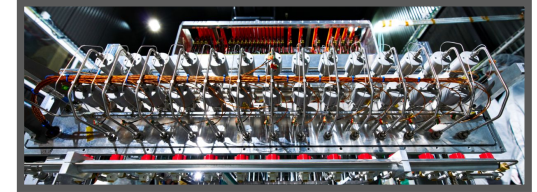
## VELO's one half



## Metrology

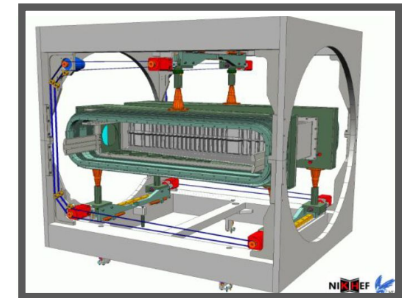


## Two-phase CO<sub>2</sub> cooling

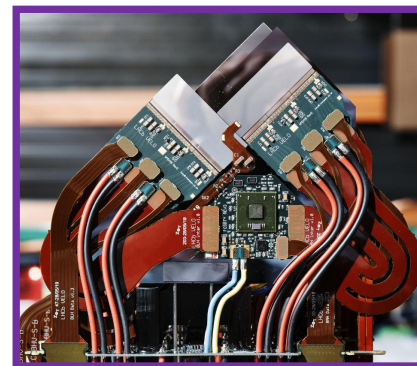
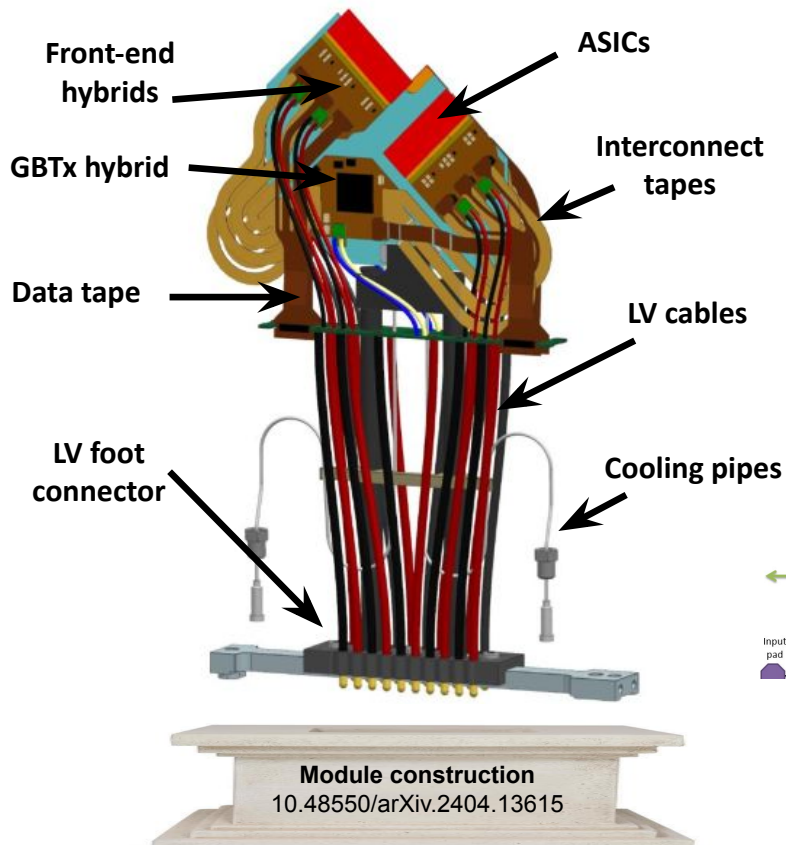


- Cooling system embedded into module substrate
- Two-phase CO<sub>2</sub> in microchannels
- Cooling power of 40 W at -30 °C
- Safety system against leaks

## Motion system

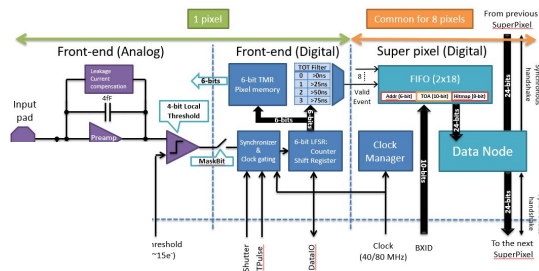


# VELO module construction

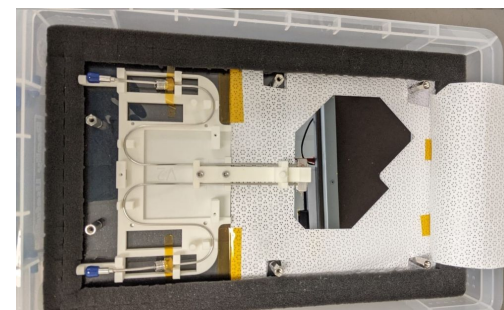


- 256x256 pixels per ASIC
- Pixel pitch of 55  $\mu\text{m}$  (except borders)
- 12 ASICs per module
- Control via GBTx hybrid
- Binary triggerless readout
- Radiation hard up to equivalent of 400 Mrad
- 52 modules (26 for A & C side)

**The VeloPix ASIC**  
10.1088/1748-0221/12/01/C01070



**Module substrate cooling panel**  
10.1016/j.nima.2022.166874.

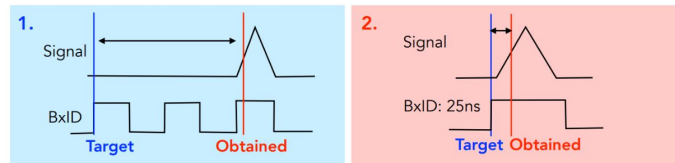


# Time alignment



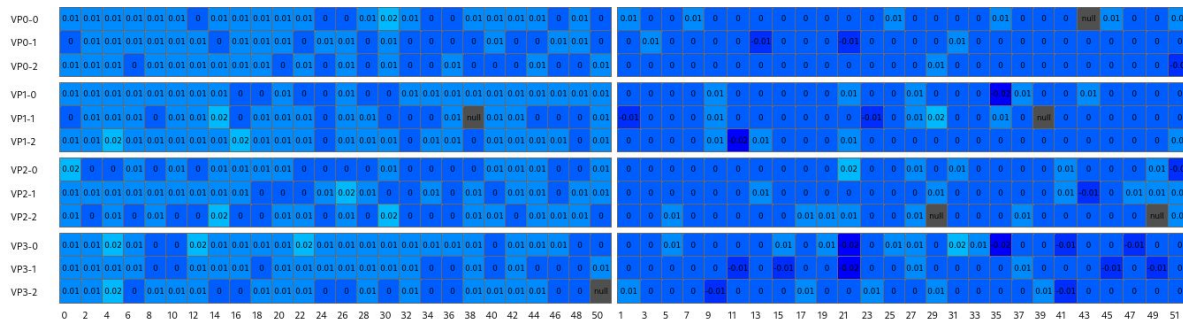
## Assuring each ASIC is aligned in time

- A necessity of having an individual bunch collision
  - Latency (coarse correction) and GBTx phase shifter (fine)
- Time alignment is threshold dependent
  - Unavoidable local BxID spreads
  - Threshold change needs alignment update

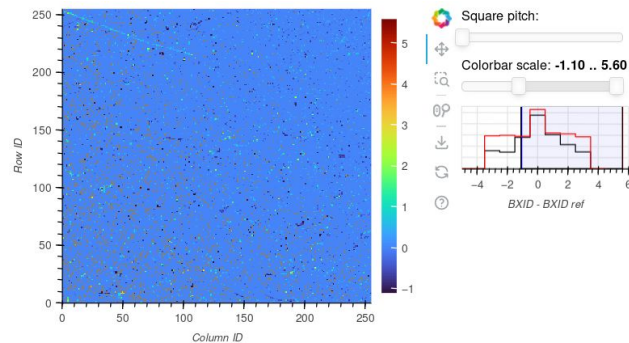


## VELO after time alignment:

Each square is a mean of how every pixel in the ASIC is aligned (with respect to central value)



**Per pixel time alignment:**  
Noise, blank pixels and delta electrons can bias the alignment procedure. Pixels with too high or too low thresholds will usually not be properly aligned (and get masked).

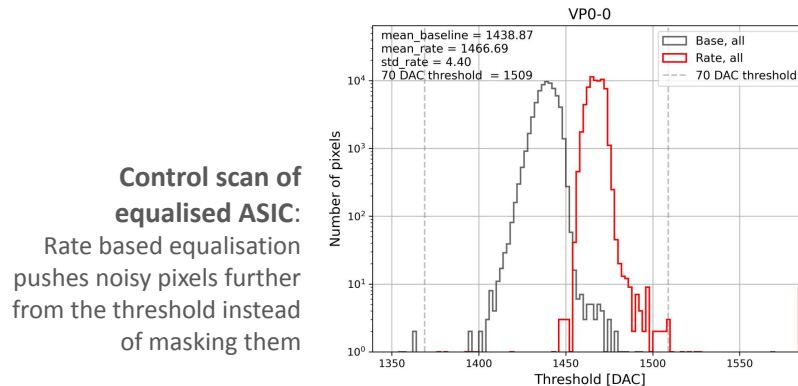
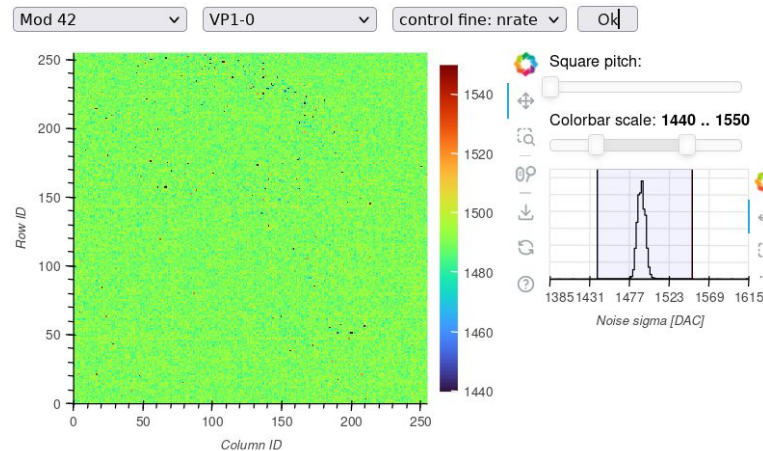
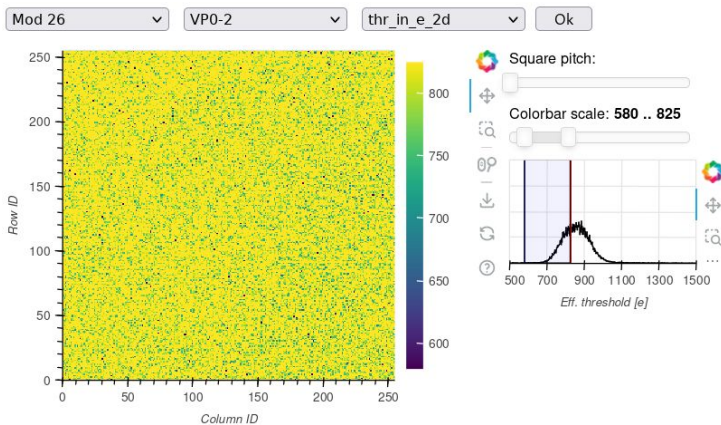




## Assuring homogeneous threshold

- Equalising rate of the noise
- Threshold set at 1000e above the noise baseline
- Requires time alignment adjustment
- Adjusting currents in pixel's analog front-end

**A map of actual threshold per-pixel:**  
Due to hardware limited resolution the actual threshold is a gaussian distribution.



**Control scan of equalised ASIC:**  
Rate based equalisation pushes noisy pixels further from the threshold instead of masking them



## Assuring best performance for daily operation

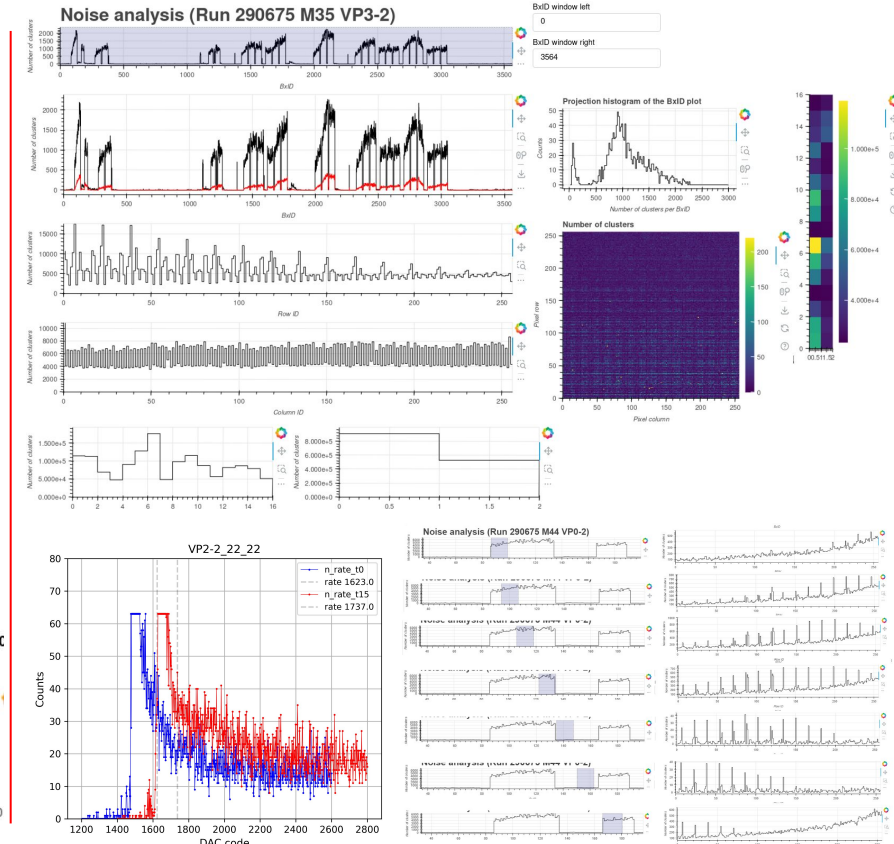
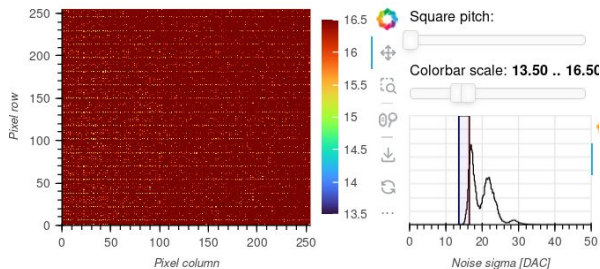
- Each of 41M pixels contribute to success
- Studies on noise and patterns
- Studies on spikes after particles splash
- Improving front-end and TFC stability

It is not easy to understand every pixel

- However we try!
- ...



**A variety of noise patterns:**  
Some of them only appearing with LHC beams







A number of high-level quantities are constantly monitored

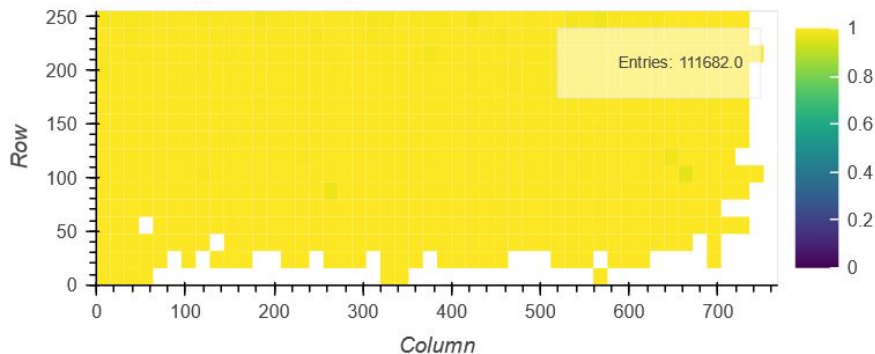
- Tracking (and reconstruction) efficiency 24/7 by Data Managers
- Plenty of expert graphs and trend plots by VELO Piquets
- Common goal is to spot, understand and fix potential issue as soon as possible (pixel SEU, module inefficient, etc.)

### Pseudo hit efficiency:

A quantity monitored by Data Managers (on the plot a view for 1 sensor)

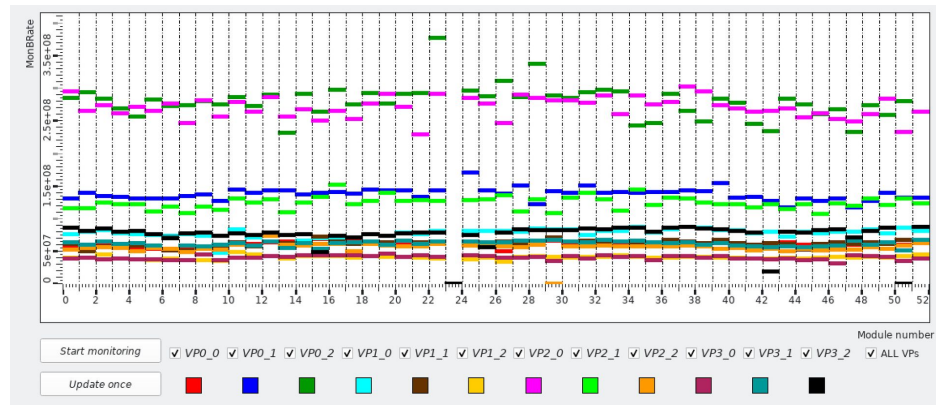
Sensor 1 (Run = 301654)

sensor)



### Super-Pixel packets per second:

A quantity monitored by VELO piquets (note sensors closer to the beam having much higher rate)



- Run database
- VELO
- LHCb
- UT
- Run monitor
- VPClusters (noise)
- VPClusters (beam)
- Pseudo hit eff.
- Bunch monitor
- FE Calibration
- Equalisation**
- Time alignment
- CDL scan
- DAC scan
- IV scan
- Recipe
- Chip
- Matrix
- OPB
- Commissioning
- PRBS
- Trend
- Trend: equalisation
- Trend: recipe

ID	Name/Run	Date	Uploaded by	Uploaded from	Comment
29	Control adjust	12:15:12 03-05-2024	velo_user	plusrh9-09	ensuring at least 70 DAC threshold for every pixel
28	Apr24 std study	19:47:59 30-04-2024	velo_user	plusrh9-01	for hits >5
27	Summer23 adjust nohv	17:23:44 30-04-2024	velo_user	crve02	testing hv relation
26	Summer23 adjust	14:32:08 29-04-2024	velo_user	ivelo01	Rounding trim in baseline distrib.
25	Apr24	12:18:03 17-04-2024	velo_user	crve03	Reequalising few modules
24	Summer23 v3	16:26:49 15-03-2024	velo_user	crve02	added filepaths + fixed analysis
23	Mar24 v2	10:59:07 11-03-2024	velo_user	crsf01	added filepaths to models
22	Summer23 v2	18:19:10 10-03-2024	velo_user	crve02	added filepaths to models

1 2 3 4

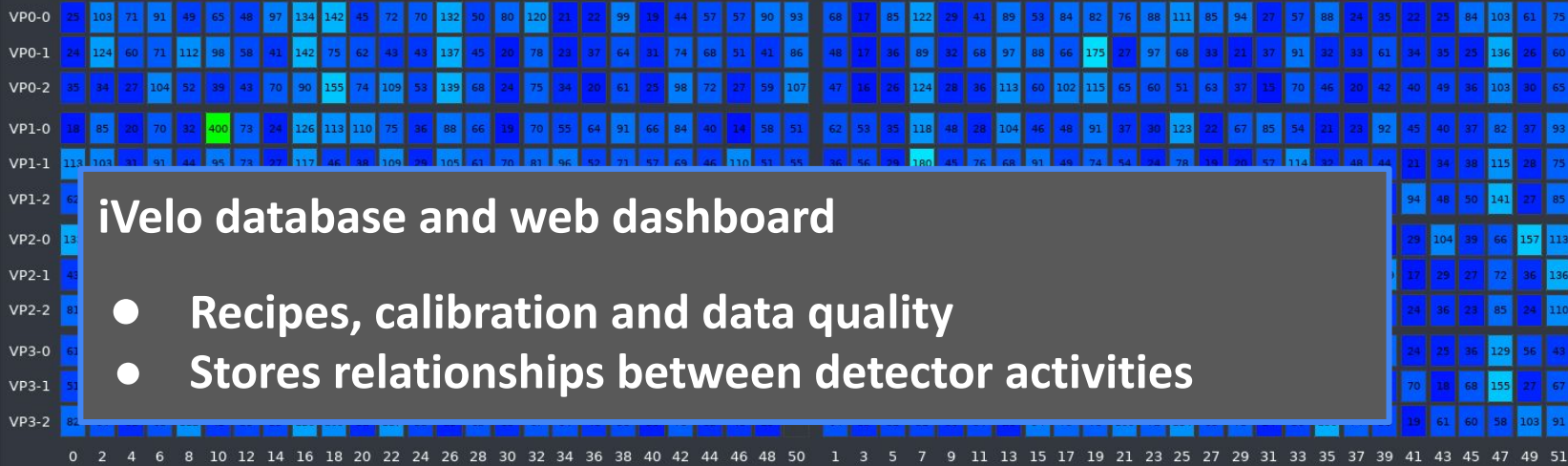
Select view options

Select view:  from:

Reserved (dashboard manage)

Color scale options

Color scale:  Min:  Max:



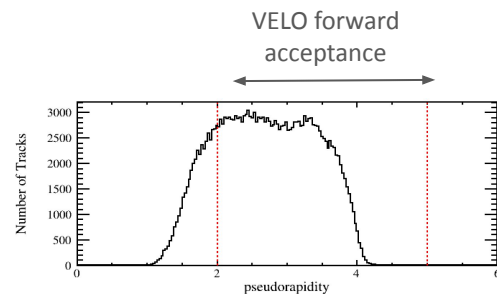
# VELO reinstatement in YETS 23/24



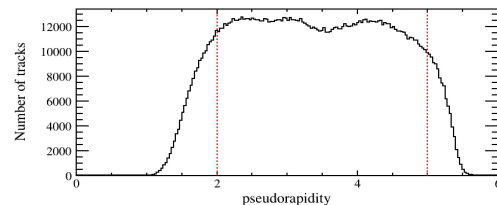
VELO operated successfully in 2022

After the vacuum incident in Jan 2023 that left the RF box deformed, used YETS to replace it

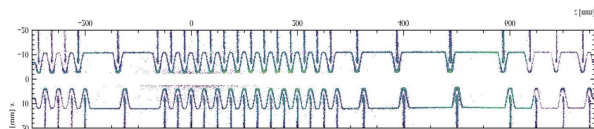
- Intense program over 16 weeks
- Extract the detector, replace RF box, bake-out beam pipe
- Reinstallation and recommissioning
- Tomography to image the box in situ
- In 2023 VELO functioned in half closed position
- In 2024 VELO was back to nominal work!



**VELO acceptance coverage:**  
With half open (top) and closed (bottom) position

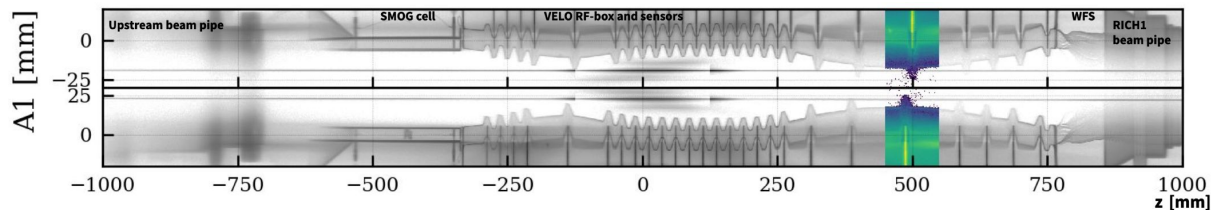


Tomography with reinstalled RF box:



**VELO tomography:**

High energy particles interact with VELO material



# Summary of 2024 operation

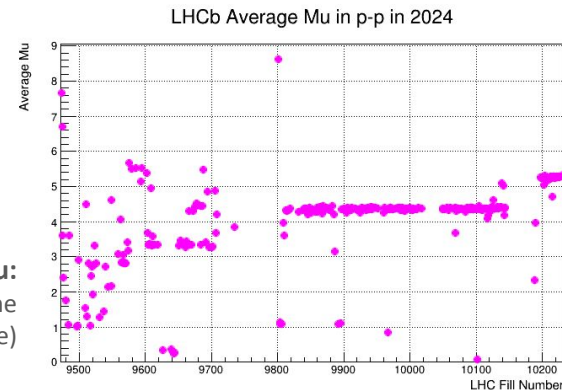


LHCb (and VELO) did great this year!

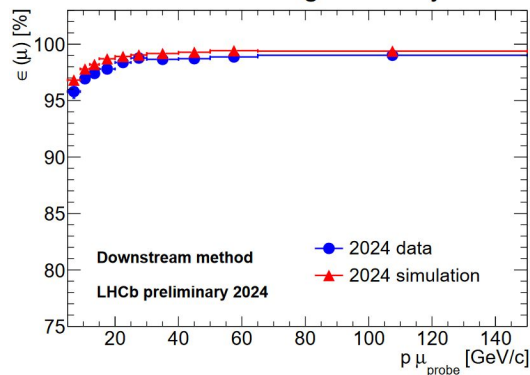
- VELO fully operational for the entire year
- VELO has a DAQ inefficiency below 1%
- VELO has 2.5% ASICs disabled (at least 1.9% recoverable during incoming YETs)
- Expected integrated luminosity for proton-proton recorded by LHCb was achieved!
- Now ongoing LHC PbPb collisions

## LHCb average mu:

How LHCb increased mu during the year (LHC's fill 9800 is 19 of June)

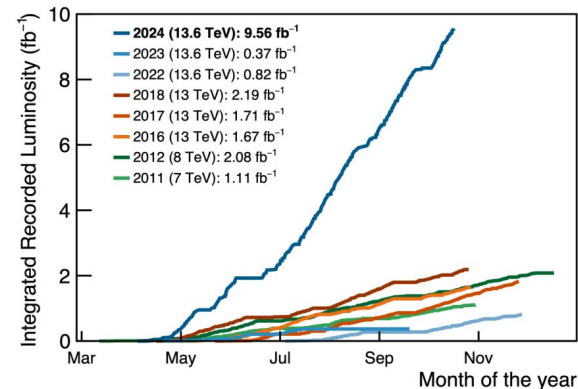


## Velo tracking efficiency



### VELO tracking efficiency:

A downstream method using muonic tracks of J/Psi is used to evaluate the efficiency LHCb-FIGURE-2024-032

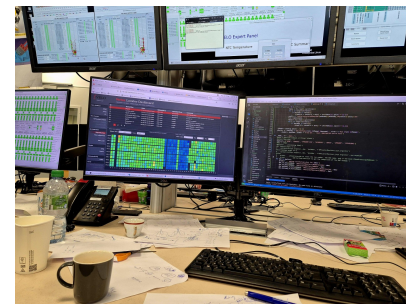




# Thanks for attention!

---

The VELO detector group

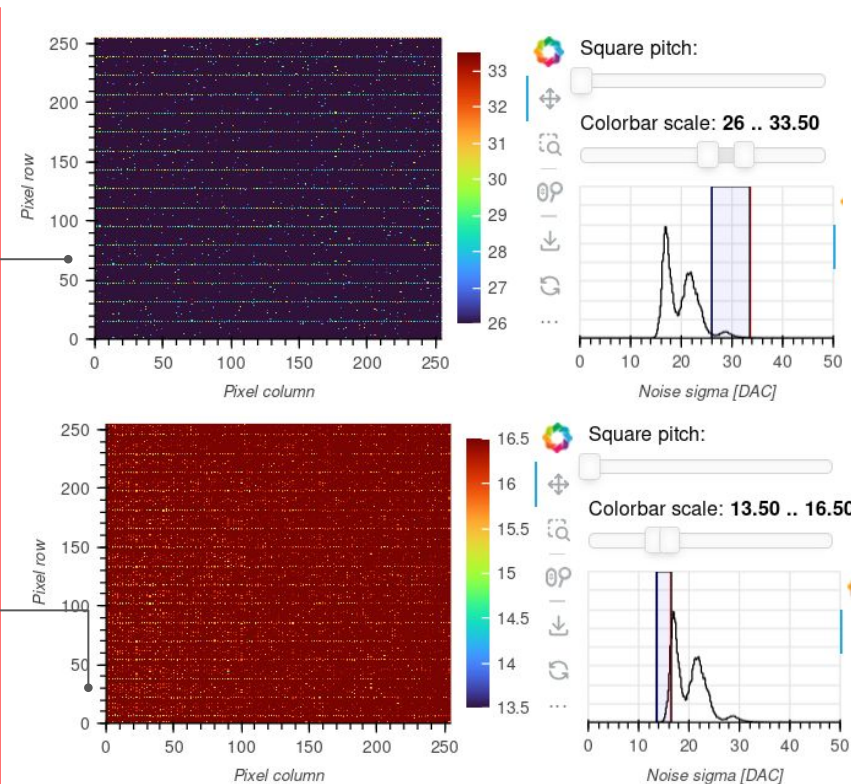


# Noise in equalisation



When taking 2023 equalisation we noticed some groups of pixels feature different level of the noise. Our equalisation approach is rate-based (it is a descending slope of the noise which is equalised), therefore all the following effects are compensated in the equalisation, i.e. a pixel with extremely high noise can get a lower trim such that its descending slope is possibly the closest to the others.

- In some ASICs odd columns get higher noise than even columns
- Despite we equalised taking scans on full matrix (1 per 1x1), we did a study showing that scans with masking give similar results (1 per 4x4 with others masked), validated by a threshold scan of beam (next slide)
- Pattern of rows 15-31-47-... has an increased noise
- **Pattern of rows 6-22-38-... has a bit lower noise** than average but this difference is marginal and is not likely to a difference in the outcoming trim recipe
- The extreme case of even/odd difference was M29 VP2-2, which is now permanently disabled because of issues with its configuring with the HV
- **Odd and even column noise difference forms a very specific block pattern in the detector** (next slide)

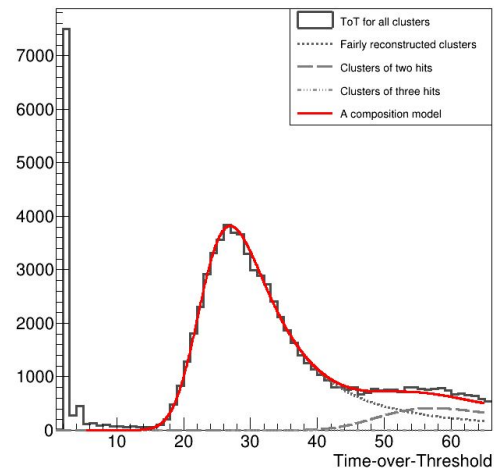




Detector is relatively new and the studies are preliminary

- We have metrics to understand radiation damage
- CCE scans, IV scans, clusters vs HV

ToT distribution for  $I_{krum}=32$



**Optimizing leakage current compensation:**  
By measuring MPV of Gauss-Landau using Time over Threshold

# Backup - VELO Closing



**Reference Values**  
 BPM: last update on 14-Nov-2024 at 06:06:27  
 BPV: waiting for Velo fully closed...

**Plots and Trends**  
 SELECTION

#	Quantity	ActualValue	Criterion	Status
1	BCM: S0.R502	0.031 %	< 5.000 %	OK
2	BCM: S0.R532	0.039 %	< 5.000 %	OK
3	BCM: S1.R502	0.275 %	< 5.000 %	OK
4	BCM: S1.R532	0.408 %	< 5.000 %	OK
5	BPM: D(B1L8H)	3.357 mm	< 0.200 mm	NOT OK
6	BPM: D(B1L8V)	1.032 mm	< 0.200 mm	NOT OK
7	BPM: D(B2L8H)	6.132 mm	< 0.200 mm	NOT OK
8	BPM: D(B2L8V)	1.226 mm	< 0.200 mm	NOT OK
9	BPM: D(B1R8H)	5.049 mm	< 0.200 mm	NOT OK
10	BPM: D(B1R8V)	3.604 mm	< 0.200 mm	NOT OK
11	BPM: D(B2R8H)	4.138 mm	< 0.200 mm	NOT OK
12	BPM: D(B2R8V)	3.398 mm	< 0.200 mm	NOT OK
13	BPM:  B1 Xav	0.000 mm	< 4.000 mm	OK
14	BPM:  B1 Yav	0.000 mm	< 4.000 mm	OK
15	BPM:  B2 Xav	0.000 mm	< 4.000 mm	OK
16	BPM:  B2 Yav	0.000 mm	< 4.000 mm	OK
17	BPM:  B1 Xdr	0.000 mm/s	< 0.100 mm/s	OK
18	BPM:  B1 Ydr	0.000 mm/s	< 0.100 mm/s	OK
19	BPM:  B2 Xdr	0.000 mm/s	< 0.100 mm/s	OK
20	BPM:  B2 Ydr	0.000 mm/s	< 0.100 mm/s	OK
21	BPM: D( B1 Xav )	0.846 mm	< 0.200 mm	NOT OK
22	BPM: D( B1 Yav )	2.318 mm	< 0.200 mm	NOT OK
23	BPM: D( B2 Xav )	0.997 mm	< 0.200 mm	NOT OK
24	BPM: D( B2 Yav )	2.312 mm	< 0.200 mm	NOT OK
25	VTX:  XVA + XVC	0.125 mm	< 0.300 mm	OK
26	VTX:  XA+XVA-XC-XVC  - opening	0.121 mm	< 0.300 mm	OK
27	VTX: SXVA	0.039 mm	< 1.000 mm	OK
28	VTX: SYVA	0.042 mm	< 1.000 mm	OK
29	VTX: SXVC	0.038 mm	< 1.000 mm	OK
30	VTX: SYVC	0.041 mm	< 1.000 mm	OK
31	VTX: D(XVA)	0.001 mm	< 0.100 mm	OK
32	VTX: D(YVA)	0.001 mm	< 0.100 mm	OK
33	VTX: D(XVC)	0.005 mm	< 0.500 mm	OK
34	VTX: D(YVC)	0.003 mm	< 0.500 mm	OK
35	HV: bias current (A-side)	9734.904 uA	< 350000.000	OK
36	HV: bias current (C-side)	10420.164 uA	< 350000.000	OK

**BCM (%)**

S0.R52	S0.R532	S1.R52	S1.R532	State
0.031	0.039	0.275	0.408	OK

**BPM (mm)**

B1L8(her)	B1L8(ver)	B2L8(her)	B2L8(ver)
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
B1R8(her)	B1R8(ver)	B2R8(her)	B2R8(ver)
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
B1 Xav	B1 Yav	B2 Xav	B2 Yav
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
B1 Xdr	B1 Ydr	B2 Xdr	B2 Ydr
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

**Velo Resolvers (mm)**

XA	XC	YAC
27.200	-26.800	0.210

**VeloHalves distance (mm)**

A X	A Y
0.000	0.000

**Beam Position A-side (mm)**

XVA	YVA	ZVA	time elapsed
-1000.000	-1000.000	-1000.000	3843
SXA	SYA	SZA	
-1000.000	-1000.000	-1000.000	

**Beam Position C-side (mm)**

XVC	YVC	ZVC	time elapsed
-1000.000	-1000.000	-1000.000	3843
SXC	SYC	SZC	
-1000.000	-1000.000	-1000.000	

Close

