

# Luminosity Measurements with the ATLAS Inner Detector in Run 3 of the LHC

EPS-HEP 2025

Marseille, July 7, 2025

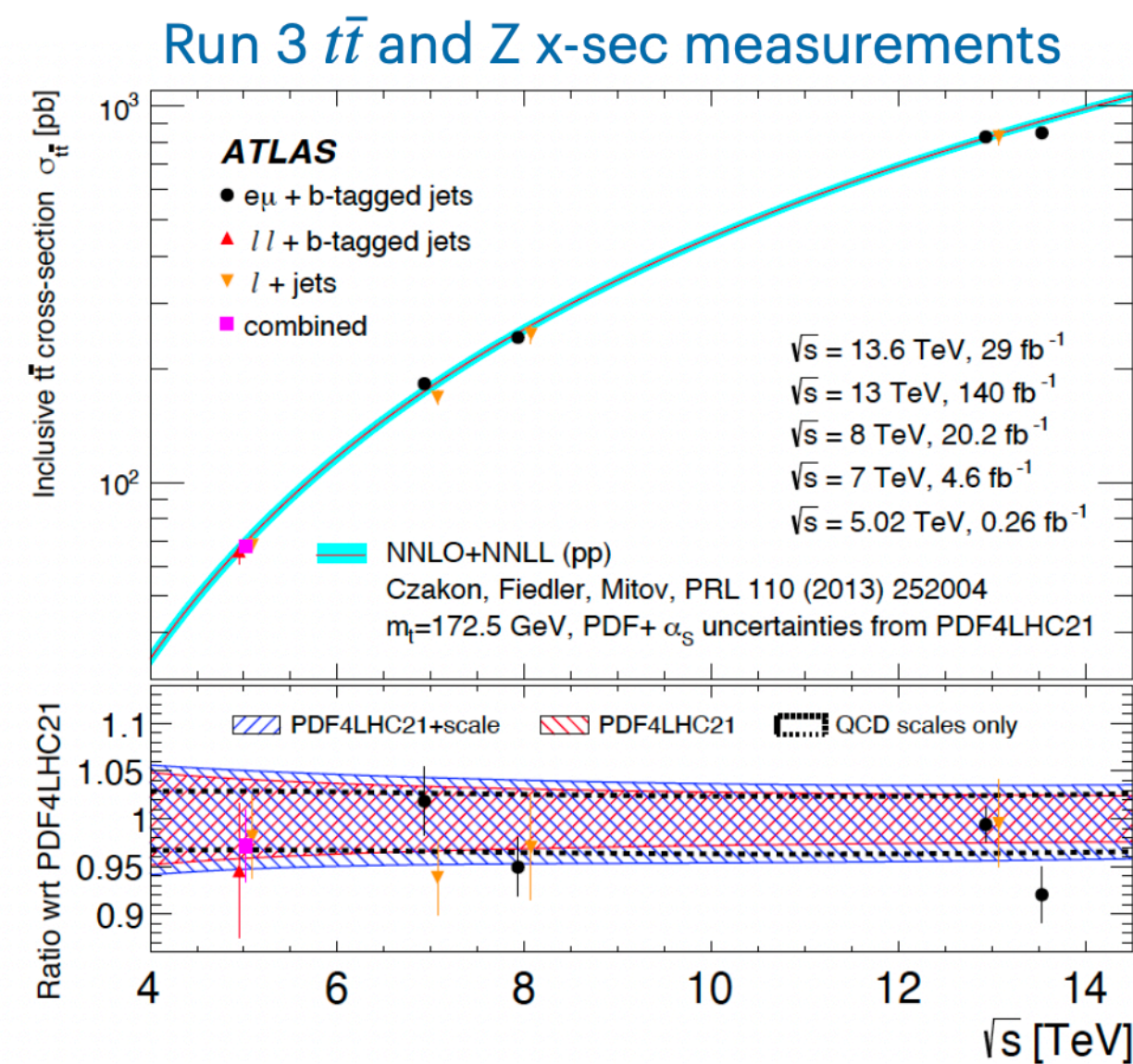
**F. Dattola**, on behalf of the ATLAS Collaboration



# Counting collisions

## Why luminosity matters

- Luminosity **crucial input** for any cross section measurement:  $\sigma(pp \rightarrow X) = N(pp \rightarrow X)/L$
- Precise determination of luminosity is therefore essential for physics analyses
  - Often the **leading systematic uncertainty** for SM precision measurements



$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}} = 859 \pm 4(\text{stat.}) \pm 22(\text{syst.}) \pm 19(\text{lumi.})\text{pb}$$

$$\sigma_{Z \rightarrow \ell\ell}^{\text{fid.}} = 751 \pm 0.3(\text{stat.}) \pm 15(\text{syst.}) \pm 17(\text{lumi.})\text{pb}$$

[Phys. Lett. B 848 (2024) 138376]

- ATLAS achieved a **record 0.83% uncertainty** in the full **Run 2** luminosity measurement  
[Eur.Phys.J.C 83 (2023) 10, 982]
- **Goal for Run 3:** keep final uncertainty **within 1%**

# ATLAS luminosity measurement in a nutshell

## Measurement strategy

### ■ Basic idea:

- Measure luminosity through **visible interaction rate in a luminosity-sensitive detector (luminometer)**

$$\mathcal{L}_b = \frac{f_r n_1 n_2}{2\pi \Sigma_x \Sigma_y} = \frac{\mu \cdot f_r}{\sigma_{\text{inel}}} = \frac{\mu_{\text{vis}} \cdot f_r}{\sigma_{\text{vis}}} \leftarrow$$

- LHC beam parameters

- $\mu$  = number of inelastic collisions per bunch
- $\sigma_{\text{inel}}$  = inelastic cross section
- $\mu_{\text{vis}}$  = visible interaction rate
- $\sigma_{\text{vis}}$  = visible cross section
- $f_r$  = LHC revolution frequency (11.2 kHz)

### ■ vdM calibration

- Specially-tailored LHC conditions:  
 $\mu \sim 0.5$ , no crossing angle, isolated bunches (in  $pp$  running)
- Calibration of luminometer  $\sigma_{\text{vis}}$

### ■ Linearity analysis

- Transfer calibration to physics regime
- **Need detectors linear with luminosity** and/or methods to correct non-linearities

### ■ Stability analysis

- Verify stability of calibration over time
- **Need stable luminosity detectors** and/or methods to correct for variations in response over time

# Luminosity detectors and algorithms

## ATLAS luminometers in Run 3

### ■ LUCID

- **Reference luminometer** usable over full  $\mu$  range

### ■ Z-Counting

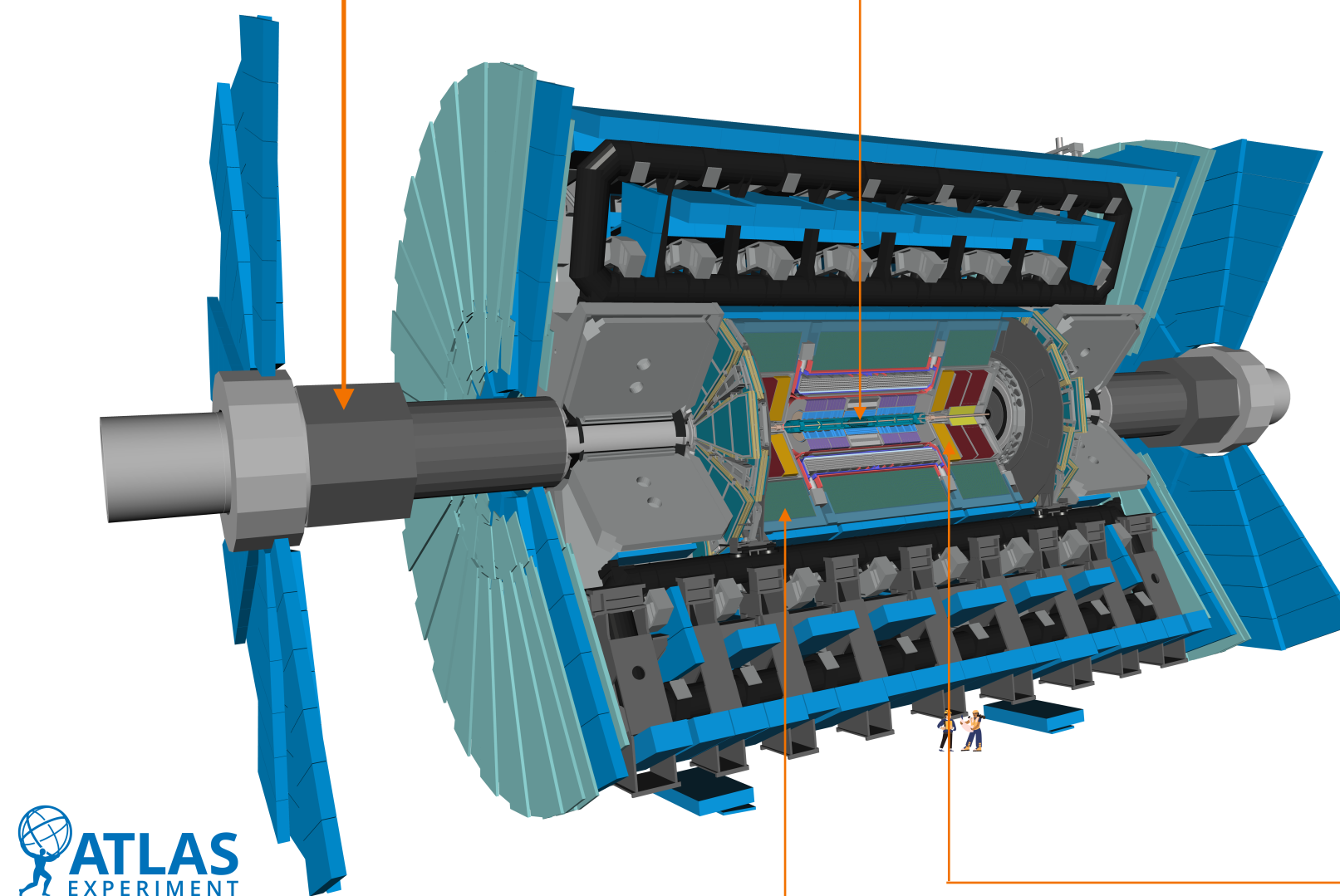
- Used for independent cross checks of baseline luminosity over time and  $\mu$

### ■ Inner Detector

- **Track Counting (TC)** counting reconstructed tracks in randomly triggered events
- **Pixel Cluster Counting (PCC)** counting reconstructed Pixel Clusters in randomly triggered events

### ■ Tile calorimeter

### ■ LAr calorimeters (EMEC and FCal)

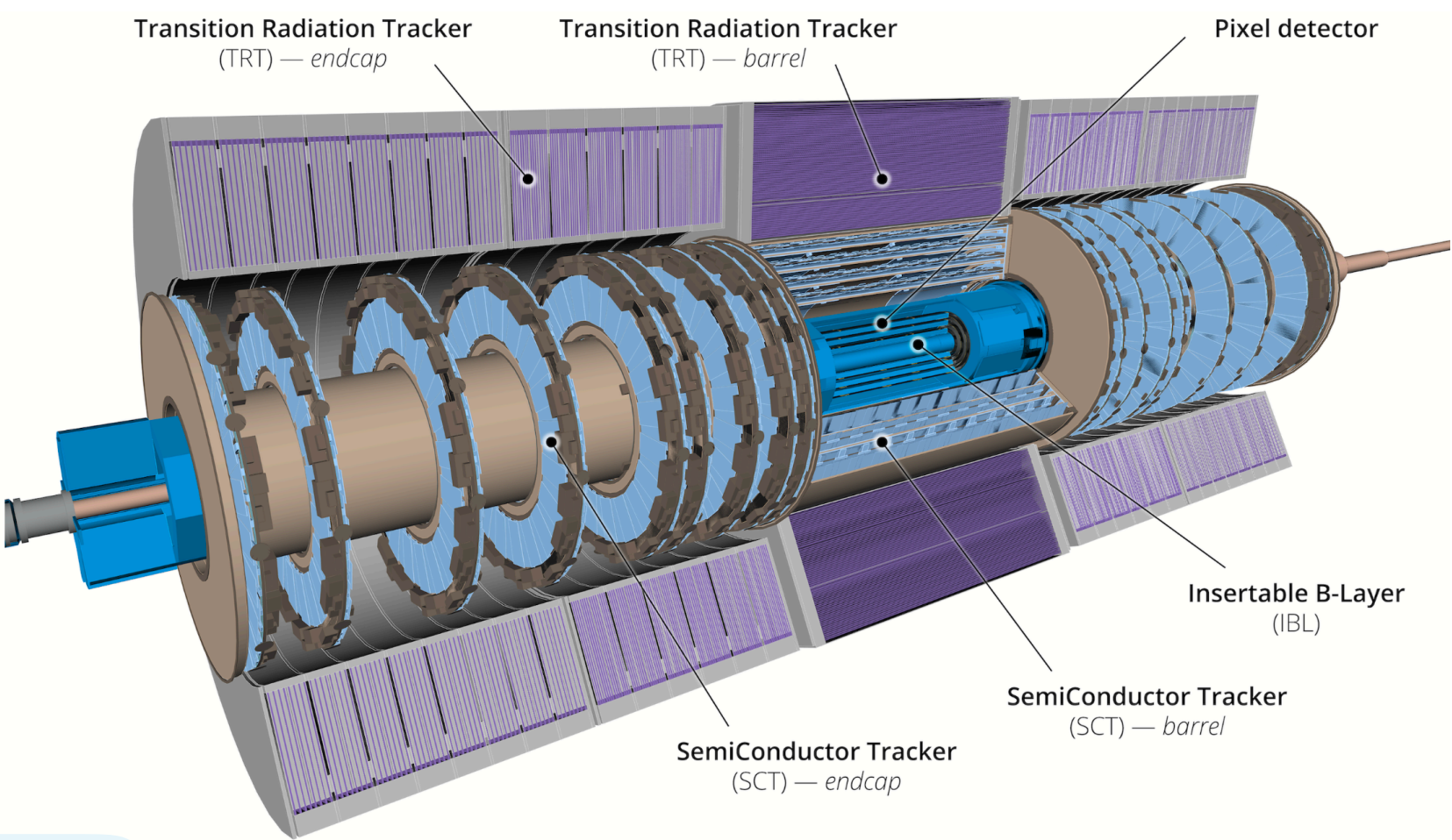




# Luminosity with Track Counting

## Counting tracks with the Inner Detector

- Luminosity determined from **mean number of tracks per bunch-crossing**
- Dedicated readout stream:** only data from silicon tracking detectors, **Pixel + SCT**
- 200 Hz **random trigger** in normal physics, up to ~50 kHz in vdM scans and related runs
- Dedicated reconstruction + several track selections optimised for luminosity monitoring**



Criterion	Track selection working points		
	Selection A	Selection B	Selection C
$p_T$ [GeV]	$> 0.9$	$> 0.9$	$> 0.9$
$ \eta $	$< 1.0$	$< 2.5$	$< 1.0$
$N_{\text{hits}}^{\text{Si}}$	$\geq 9$	$\geq 9$ if $ \eta  < 1.65$ else $\geq 11$	$\geq 10$
$N_{\text{holes}}^{\text{Pix}}$	$\leq 1$	$\leq 1$	$\leq 1$
$ d_0 /\sigma_{d_0}$	$< 7$	$< 7$	$< 7$

Nominal selection in Run 2 and 3

- ~ 1.7 (3.7) tracks/inelastic pp collision in sel. A & C (B)

**Specific criteria** chosen to provide:

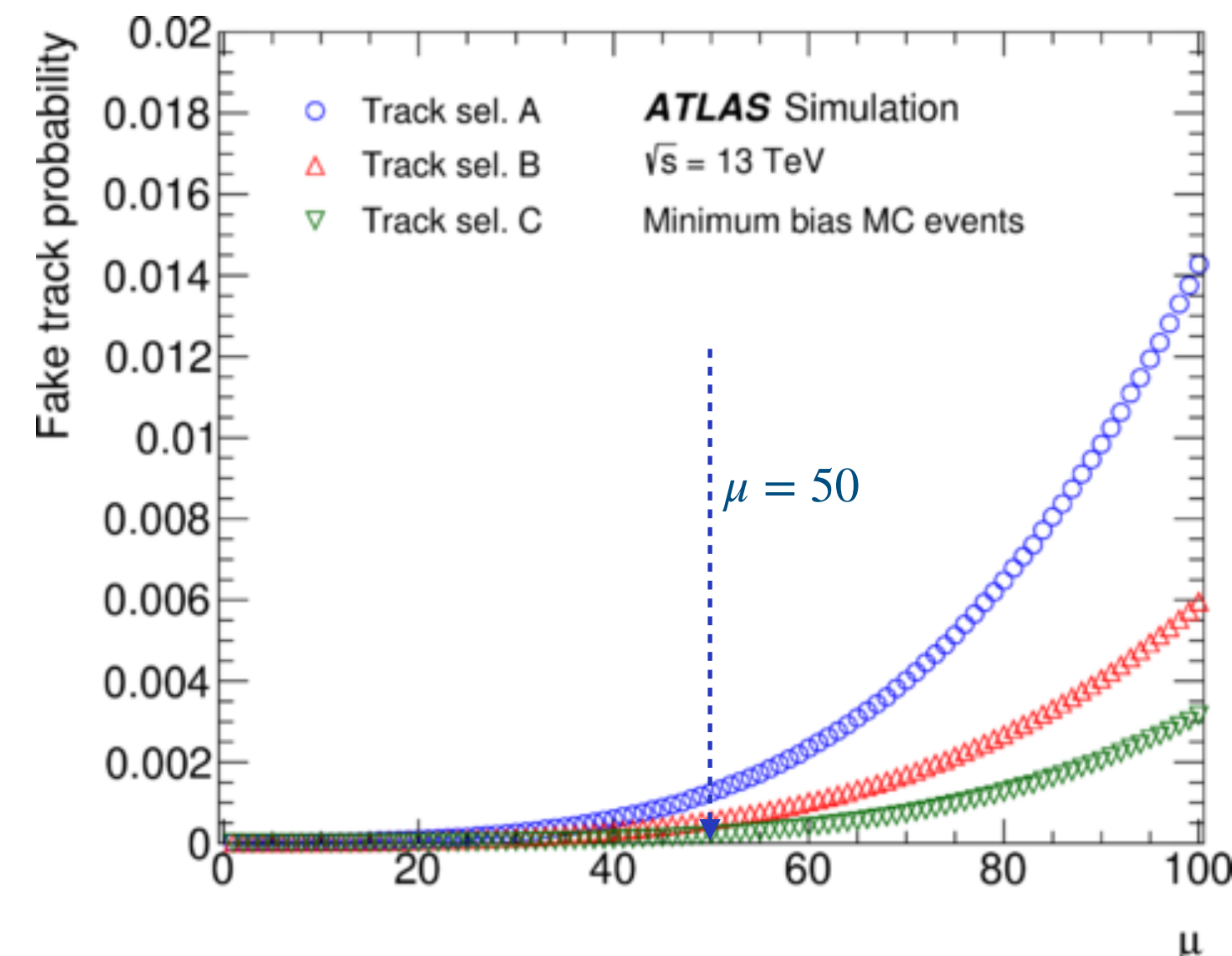
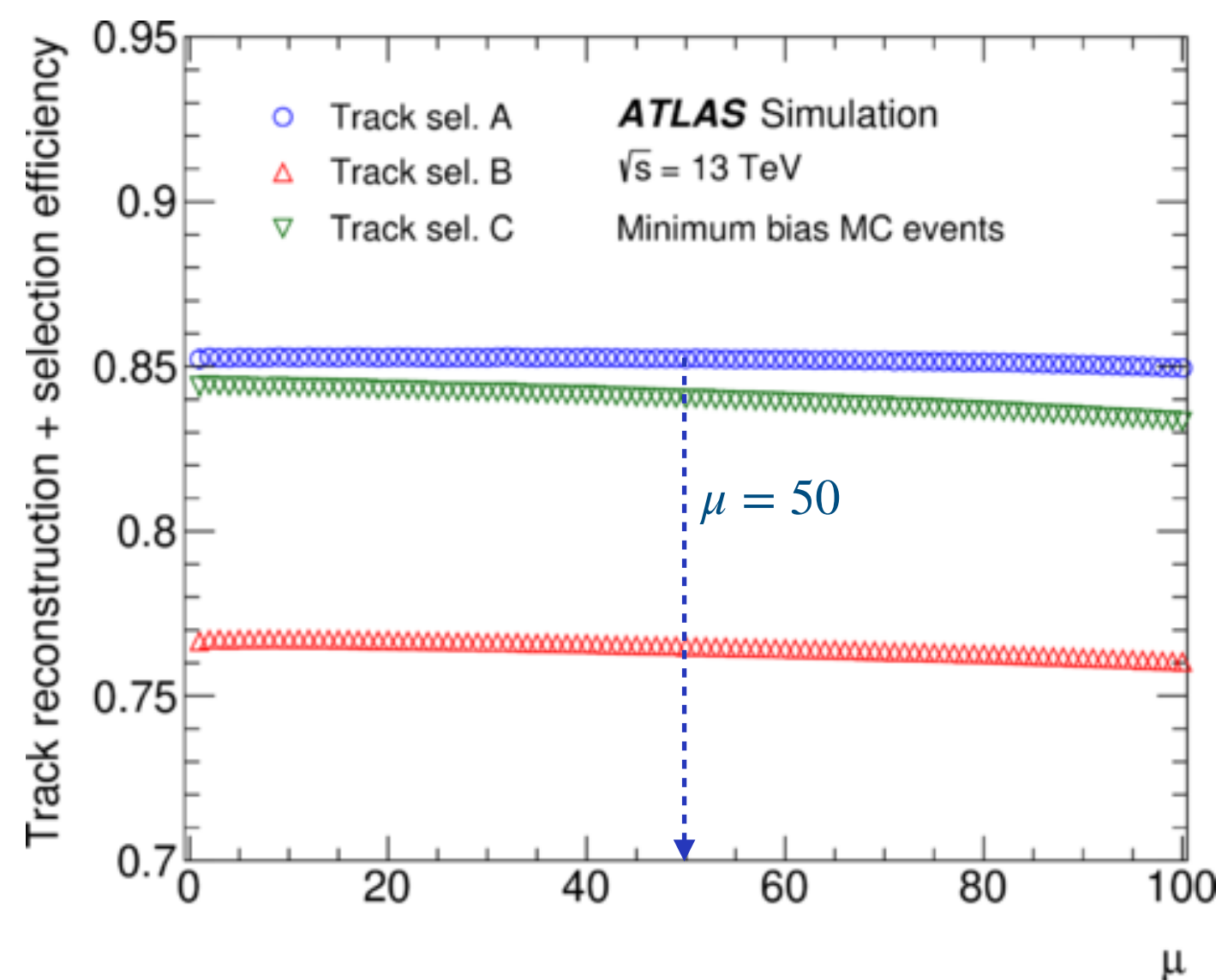
- High quality tracks
- High efficiency
- Low fake rate
- Low  $\mu$  dependence
- Operational stability:**
  - E.g.,  $N_{\text{Holes}}^{\text{Pix}}$  requirement sensitive to Pixel occupancy, data quality, bunch pattern
  - Requires **control down to ~1% level** over long time period

# Track Counting performance

## Efficiency and fake rates of track selections

- **Track Counting linearity with  $\mu$  is crucial:**

- Minimise non-linear effects due to track reconstruction, selection efficiencies, and fake tracks
- Combined track reconstruction + selection efficiency and fake rates studied in Minimum Bias Monte Carlo



- **Sel. A very stable with  $\mu$  :** 0.1% efficiency decrease and 0.1% fake tracks at  $\mu = 50$

- **Sel. B and C:** smaller efficiency but more robust against fake tracks → **alternatives for cross-checks and systematics**



# Track Counting in action

## Correct LUCID linearity

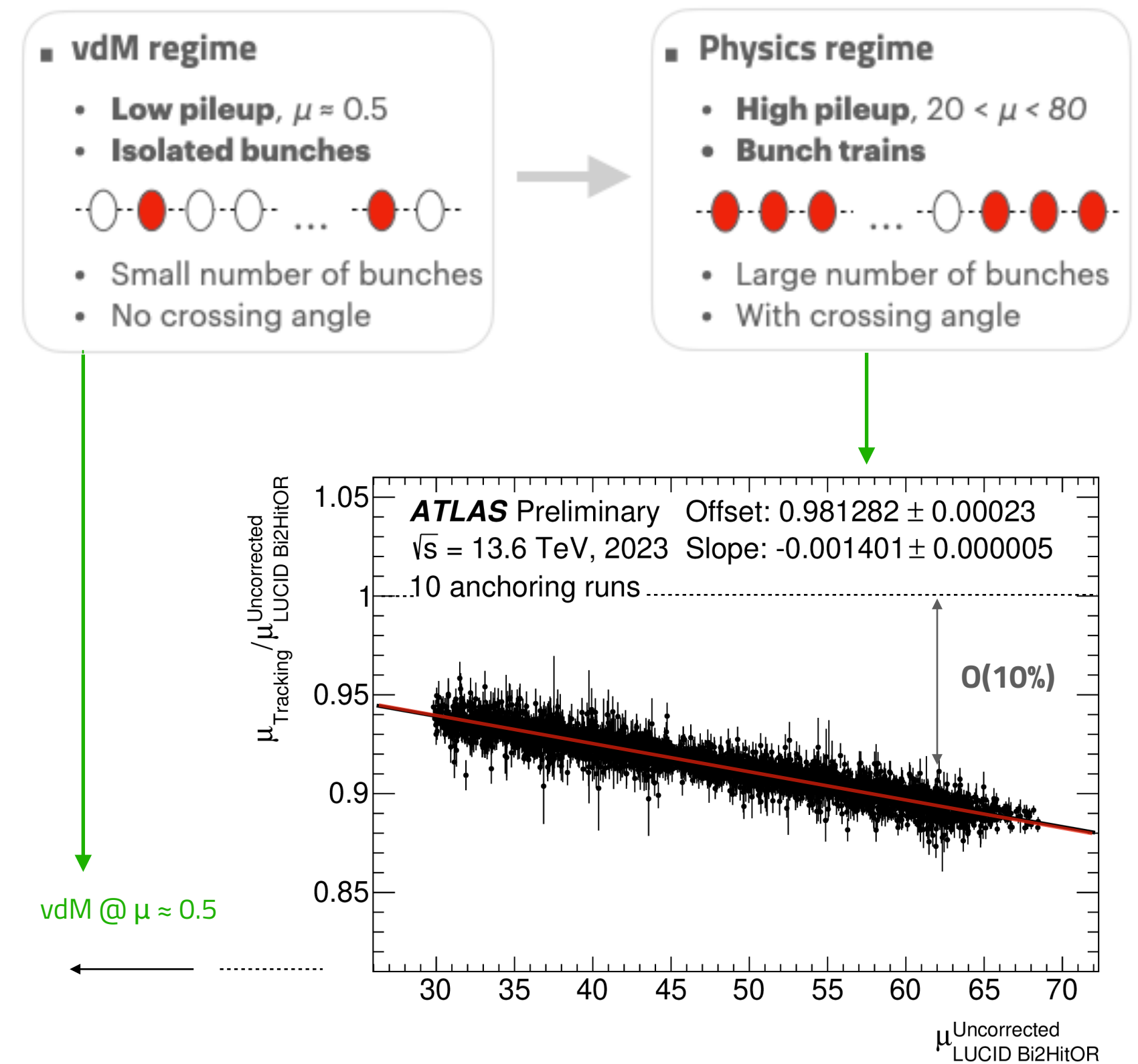
- **Validation of LUCID vdM calibration transfer to physics regime**
  - Normalise (*anchor*) Track Counting to LUCID in head-on parts of vdM fills and compare LUCID vs TC at high-luminosity in physics regime

→ **LUCID response shows strong dependence on  $\mu$ :**

- **up to ~10%** overestimation of luminosity at high- $\mu$

→ **correct using Track Counting**

- Linear fit to ratio of  $\langle\mu\rangle$  from track-counting and LUCID
- $\langle\mu_{\text{corr}}\rangle = p_0 \langle\mu_{\text{uncorr}}\rangle + p_1 (\langle\mu_{\text{uncorr}}\rangle)^2$
- Correction derived in up to 10 runs around the vdM fill



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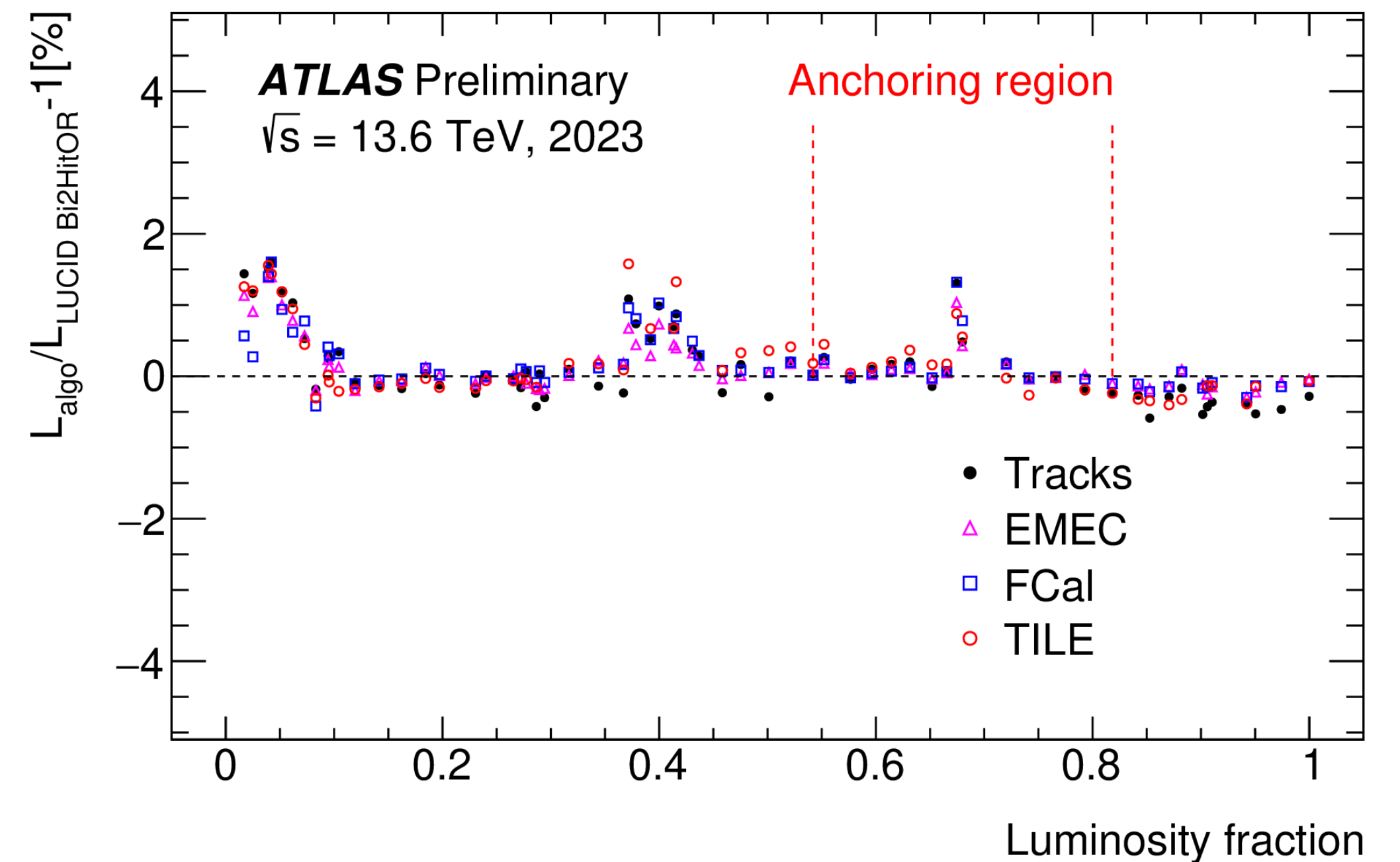
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- $\langle\mu_{\text{corr}}\rangle = p_0 \langle\mu_{\text{uncorr}}\rangle + p_1 (\langle\mu_{\text{uncorr}}\rangle)^2$
- Correction derived in up to 10 runs around the vdM fill

- **Applied to LUCID in all other runs**

→ **TC stability monitored on a ~60 s time basis!**

**After correction:** run-integrated LUCID measurement **typically in agreement** with Track Counting **within  $\pm 0.5\%$**





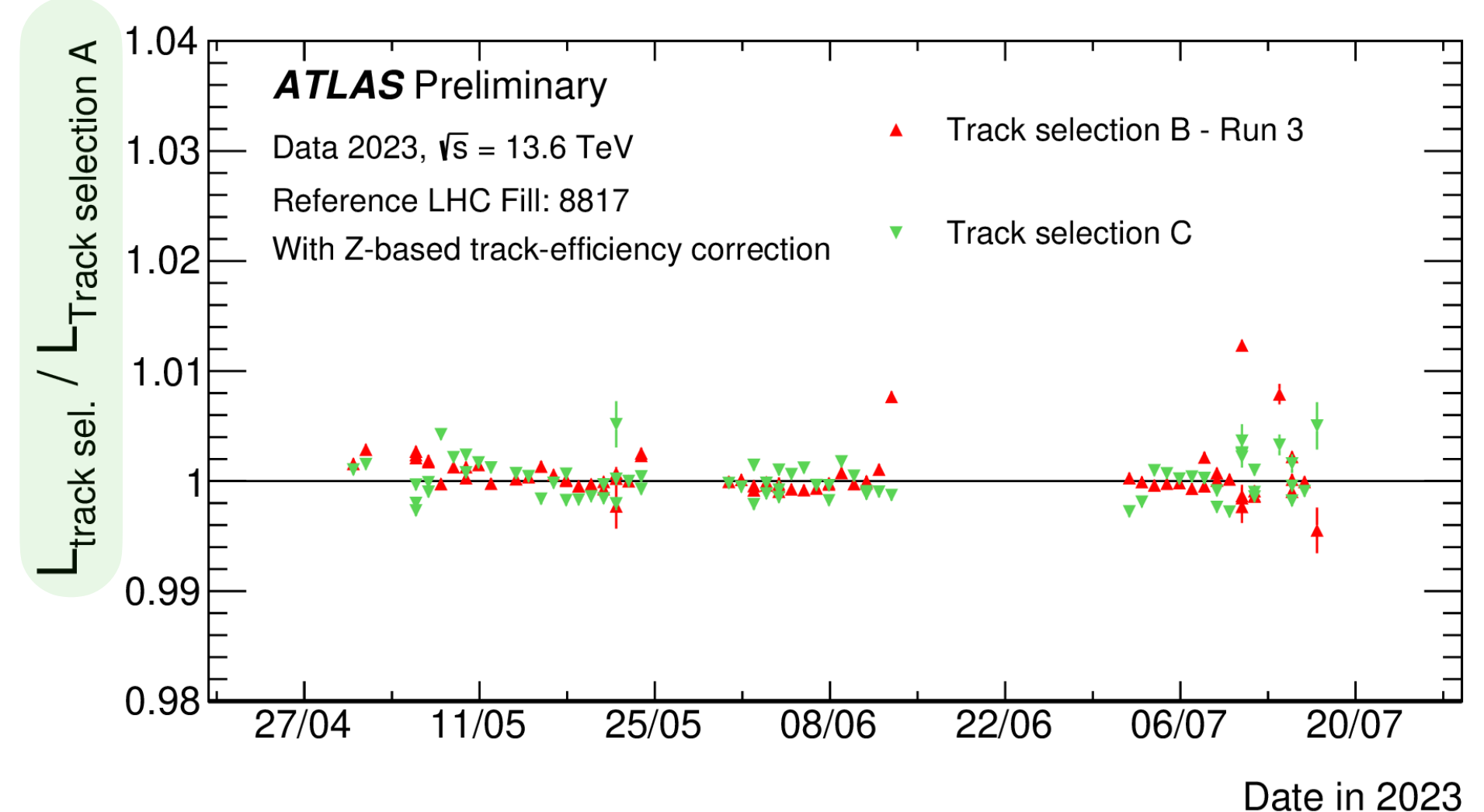
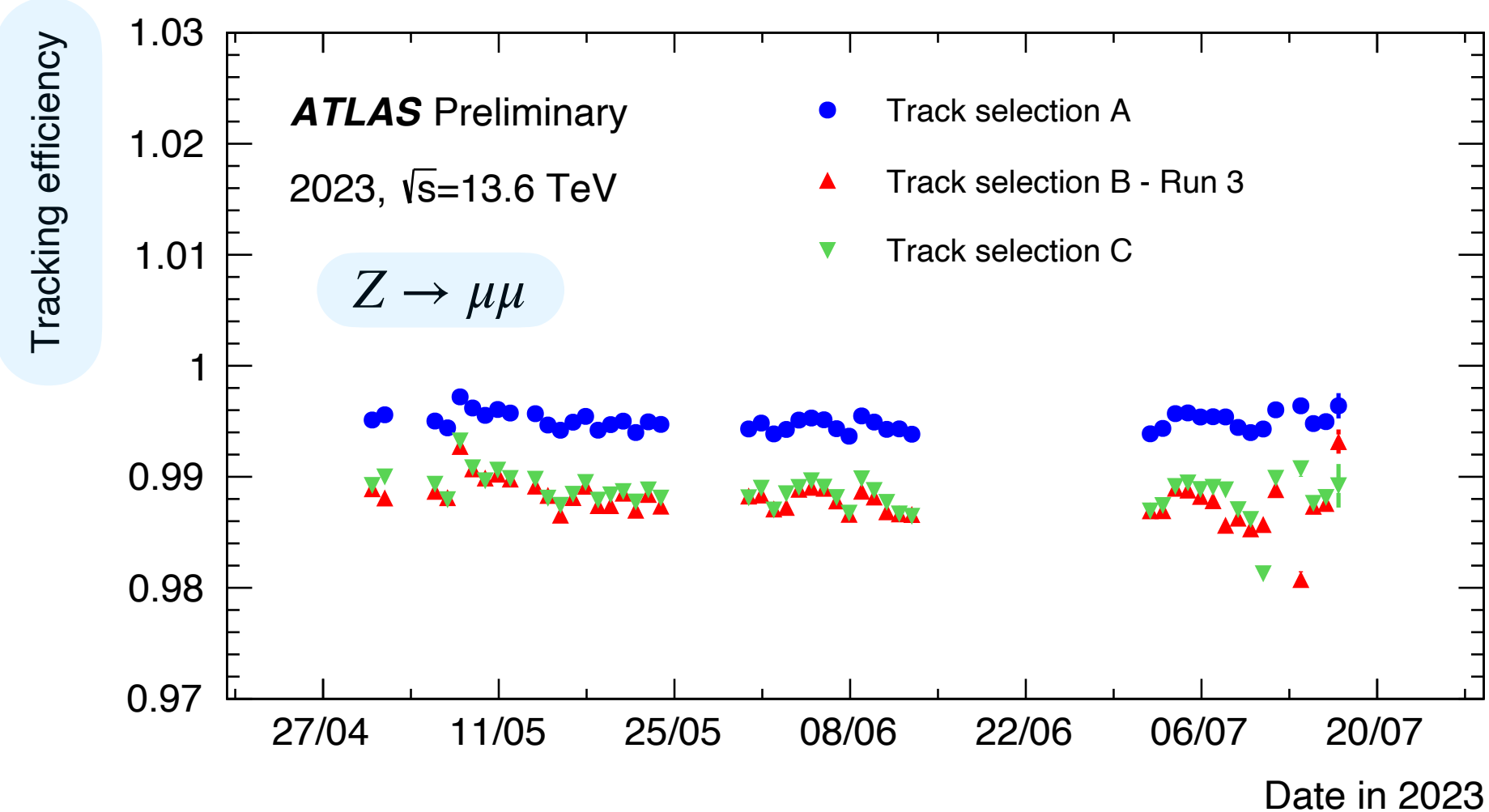
# Track Counting in action

## Track Counting stability: **over time**

- **Stability of selection working points over time monitored by**

- Measuring **efficiencies** relative to loose muon selection in  $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$  events (then applied as run-by-run corrections)

- Comparing **ratios of integrated luminosities** of other selection working points wrt to the nominal selection A



- Provides important information about the detector over changing detector conditions and beam configurations

- **Selections observed to be robust and stable in 2023:** internal agreement within 1%

- Stability in other Run 3 years under study

# Luminosity with Pixel Cluster Counting

## Counting clusters in the Pixel Detector

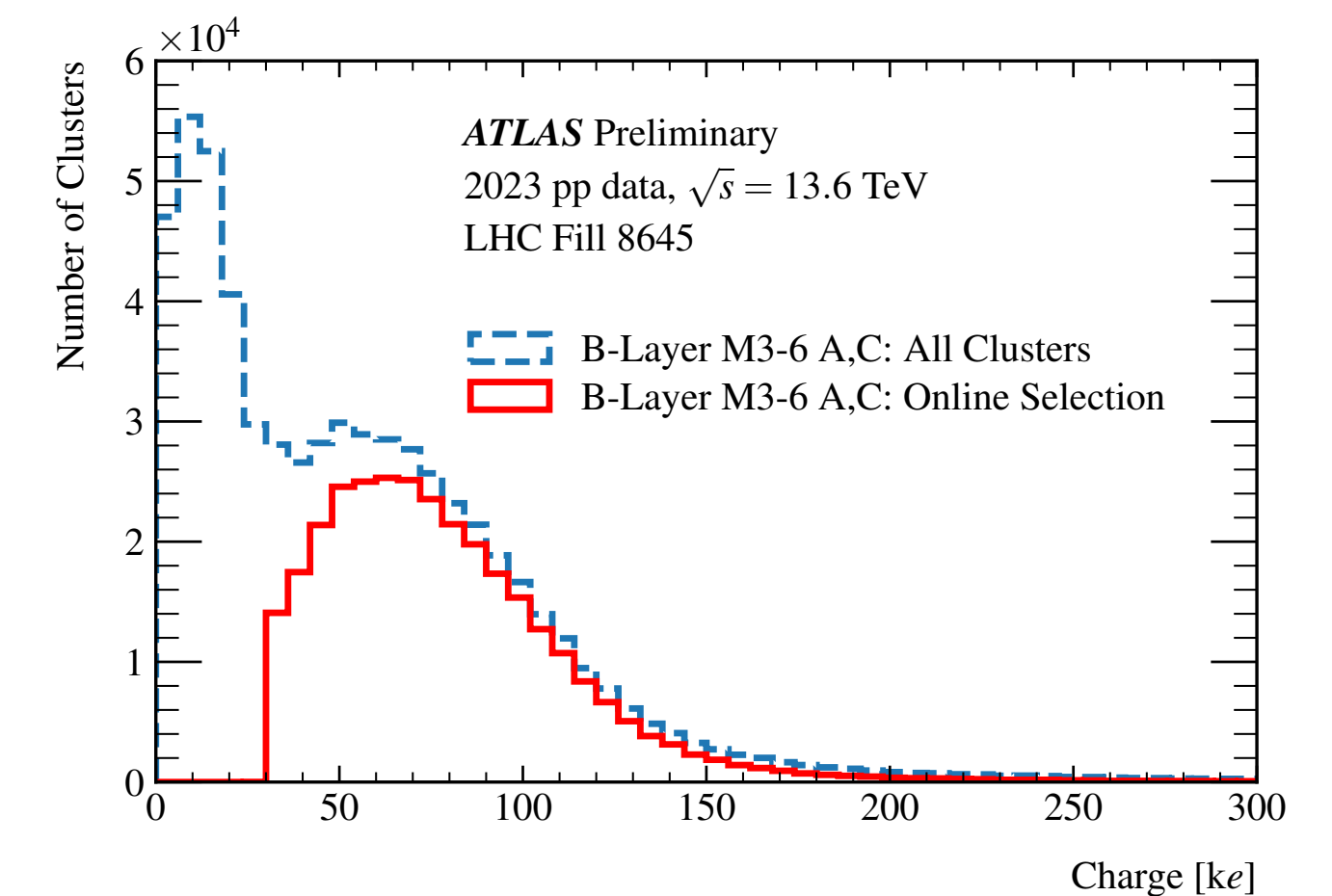
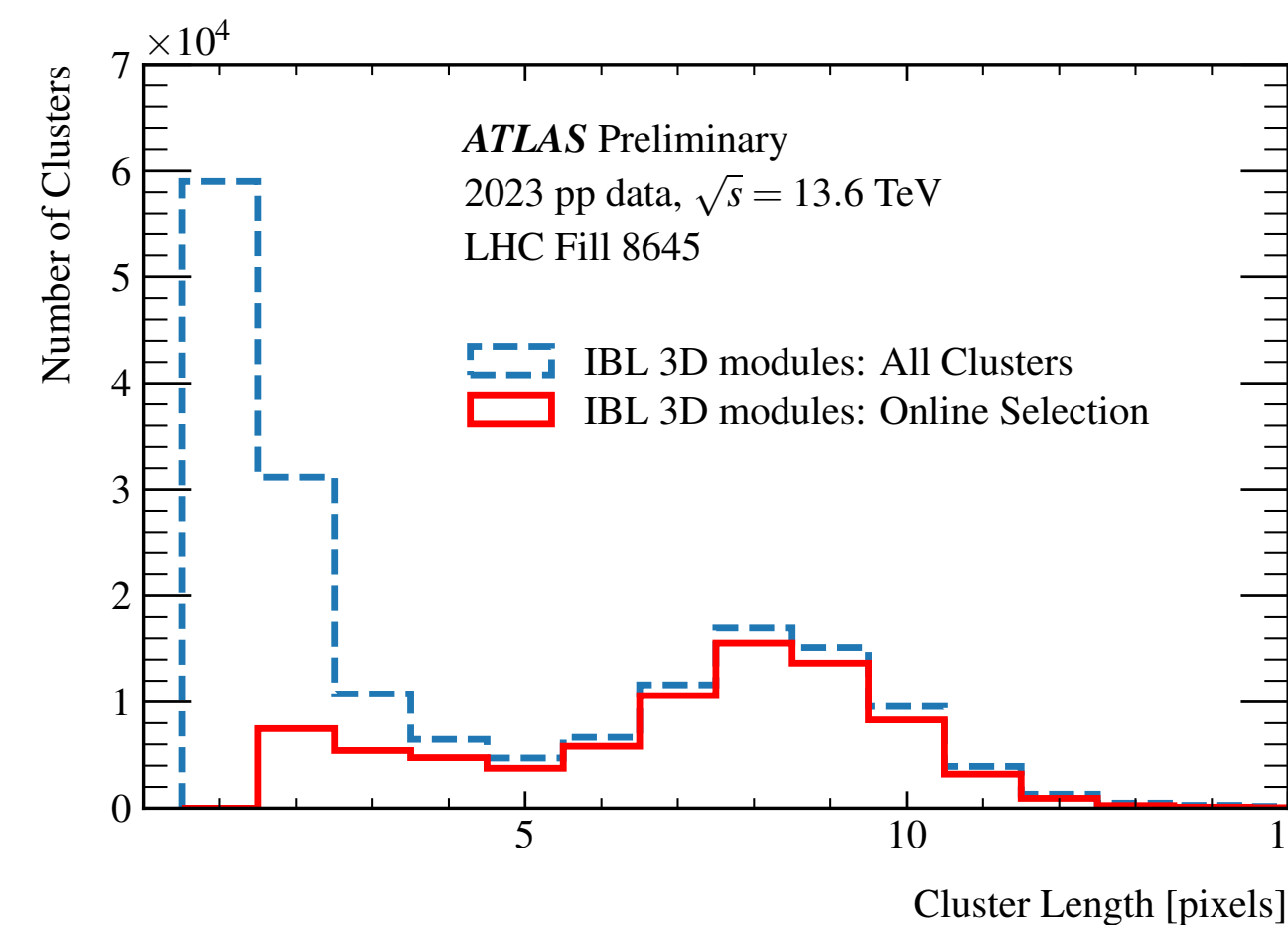
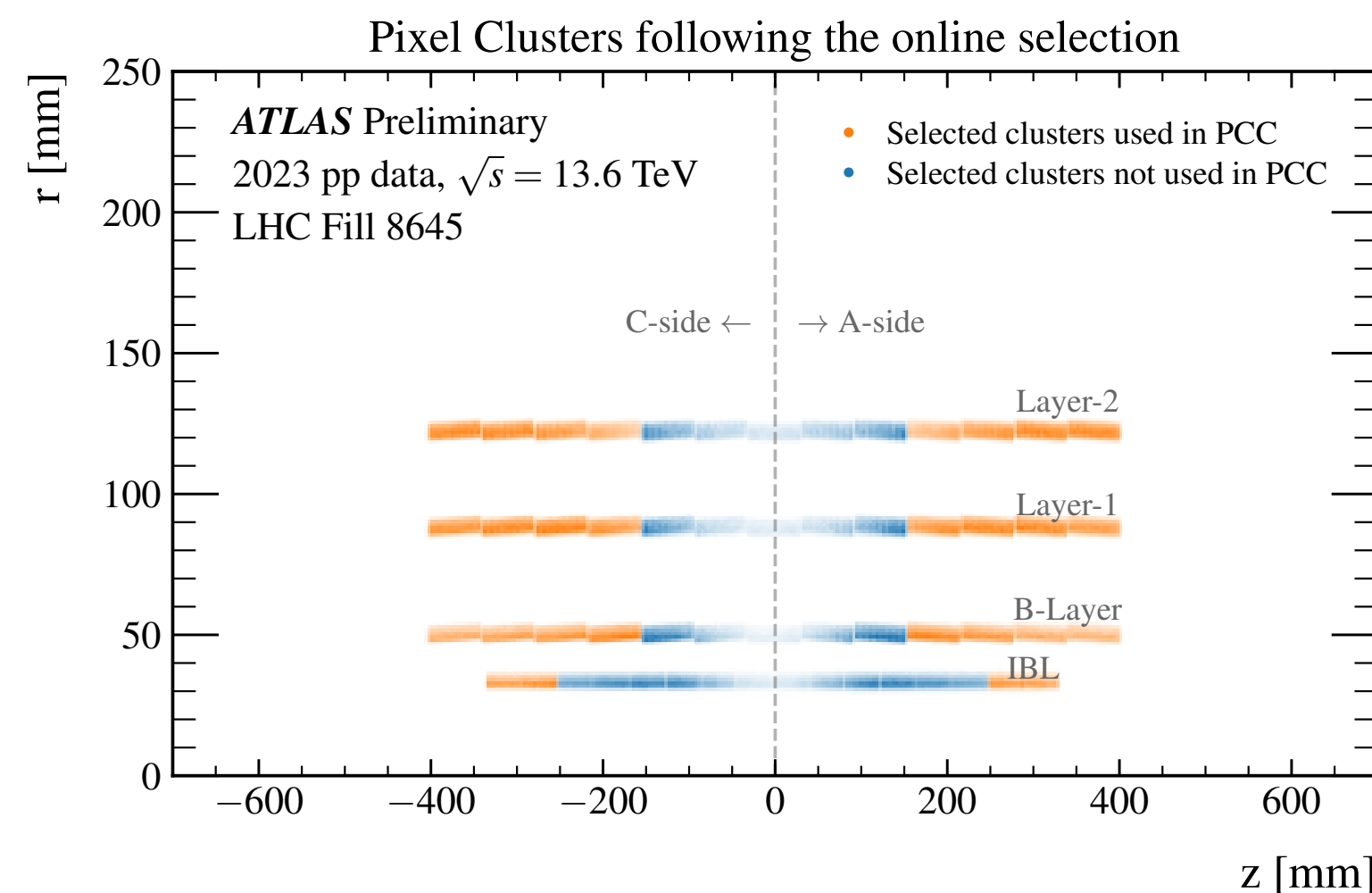
- Luminosity determined from **mean number of Pixel Clusters per bunch-crossing**

**Pixel Cluster** = cluster of  $n$  pixels, close to one another registering a hit

**Hit** = a threshold-crossing in the sensors

- Highly linear**: can constrain non-linearities of other luminometers
- Preliminary Run-3 analysis in progress**
- Use same readout stream and random trigger as Track Counting
- Online selection mitigating noise and background contamination**
  - Pixel Clusters at high  $\eta$  in the Pixel barrel
  - Shape + charge requirements

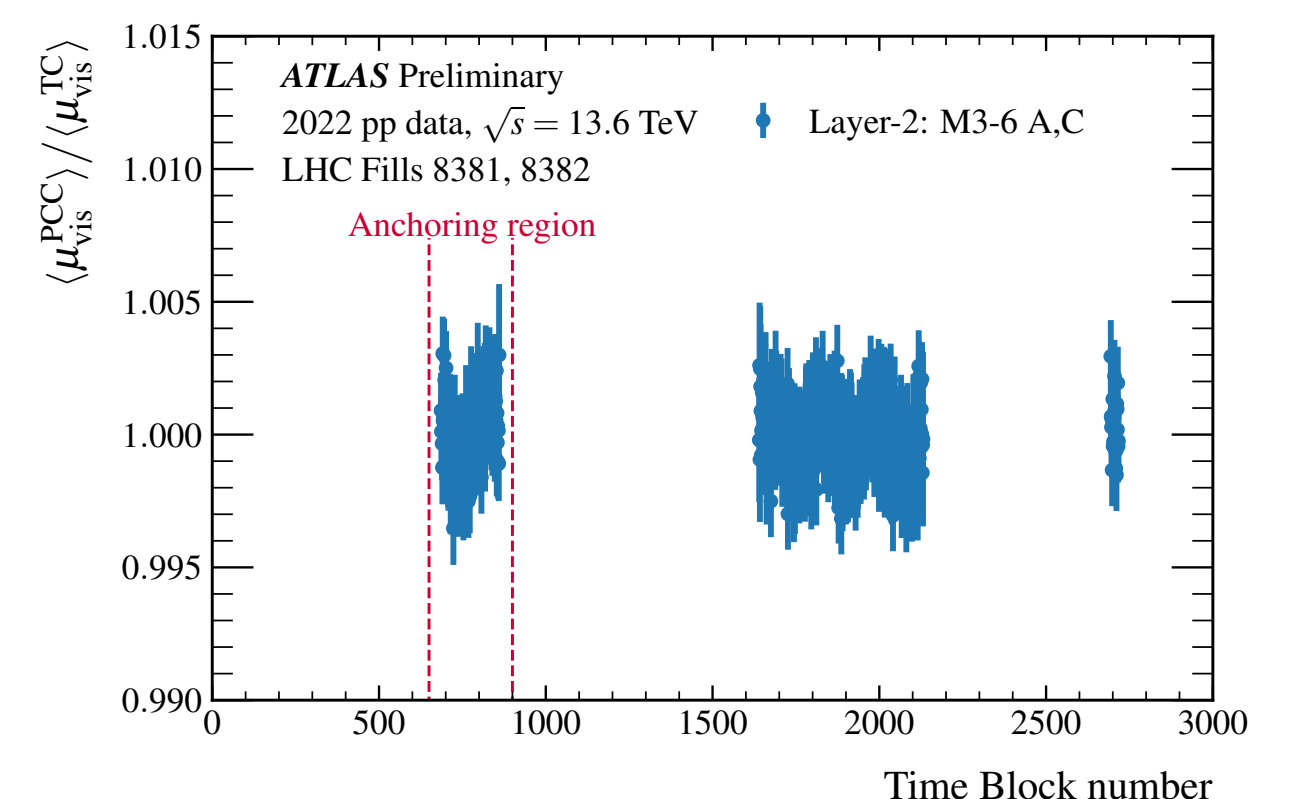
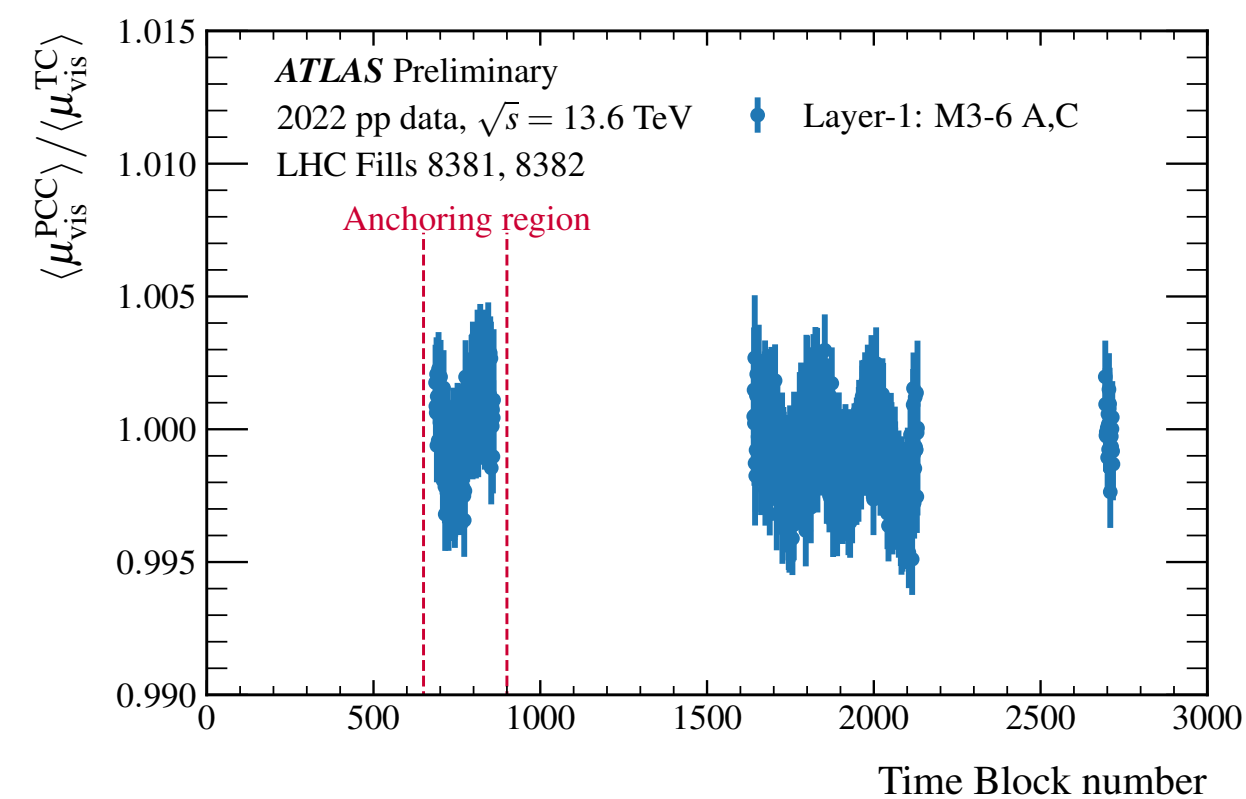
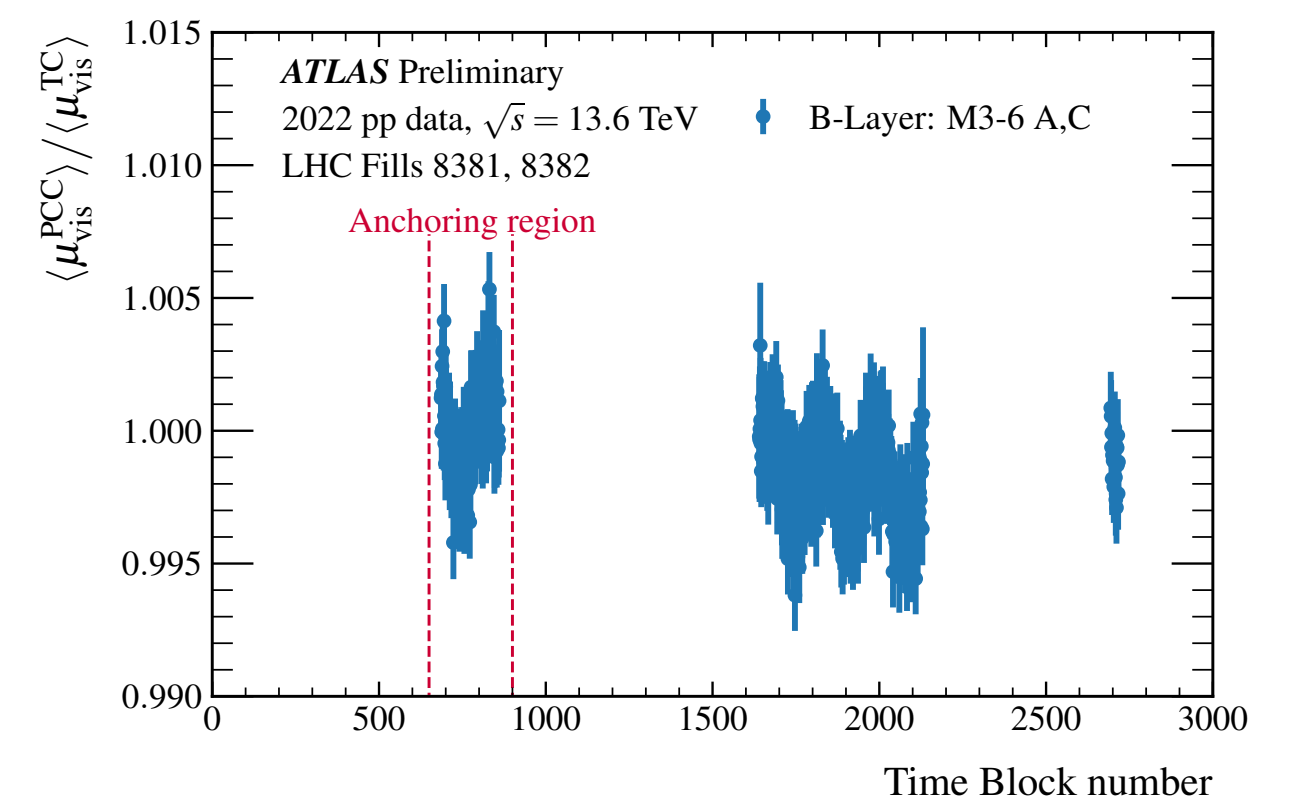
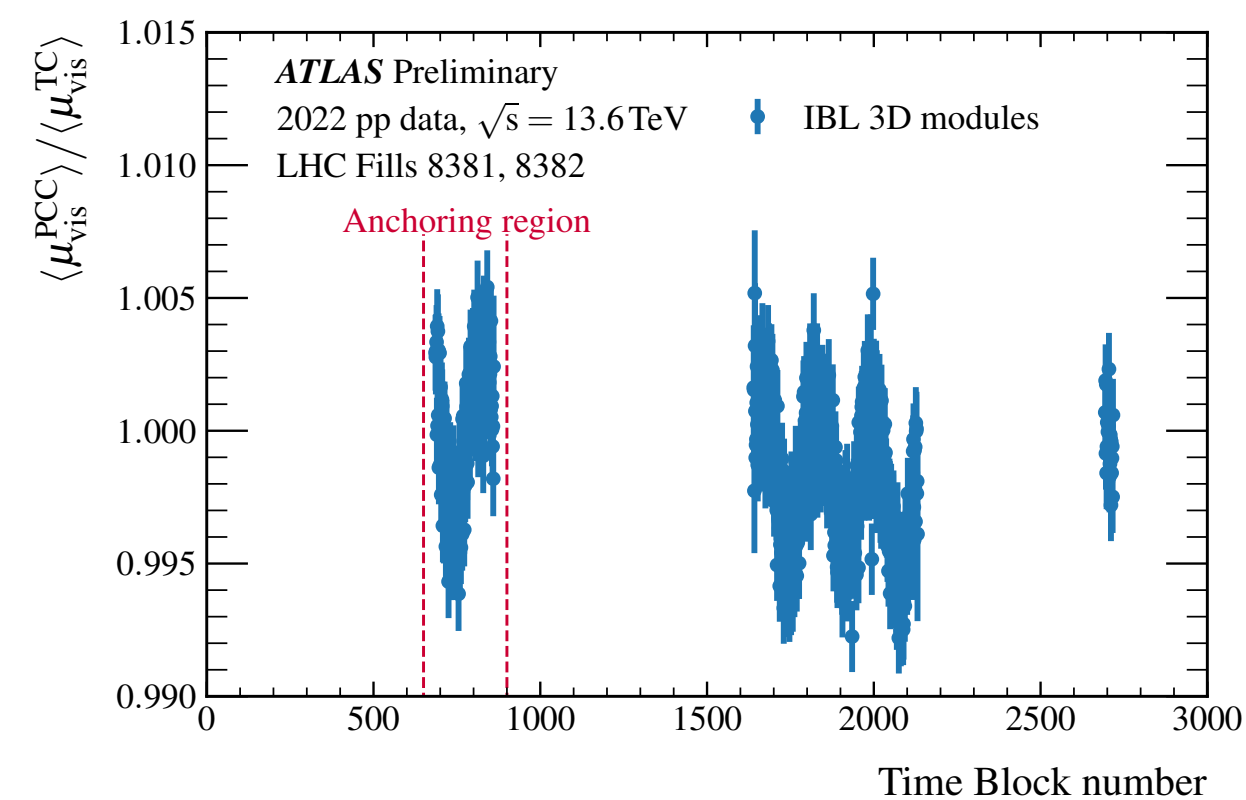
Good separation between luminosity-associated (signal) and background clusters



# Pixel Cluster Counting in action

## Pixel Cluster Counting stability

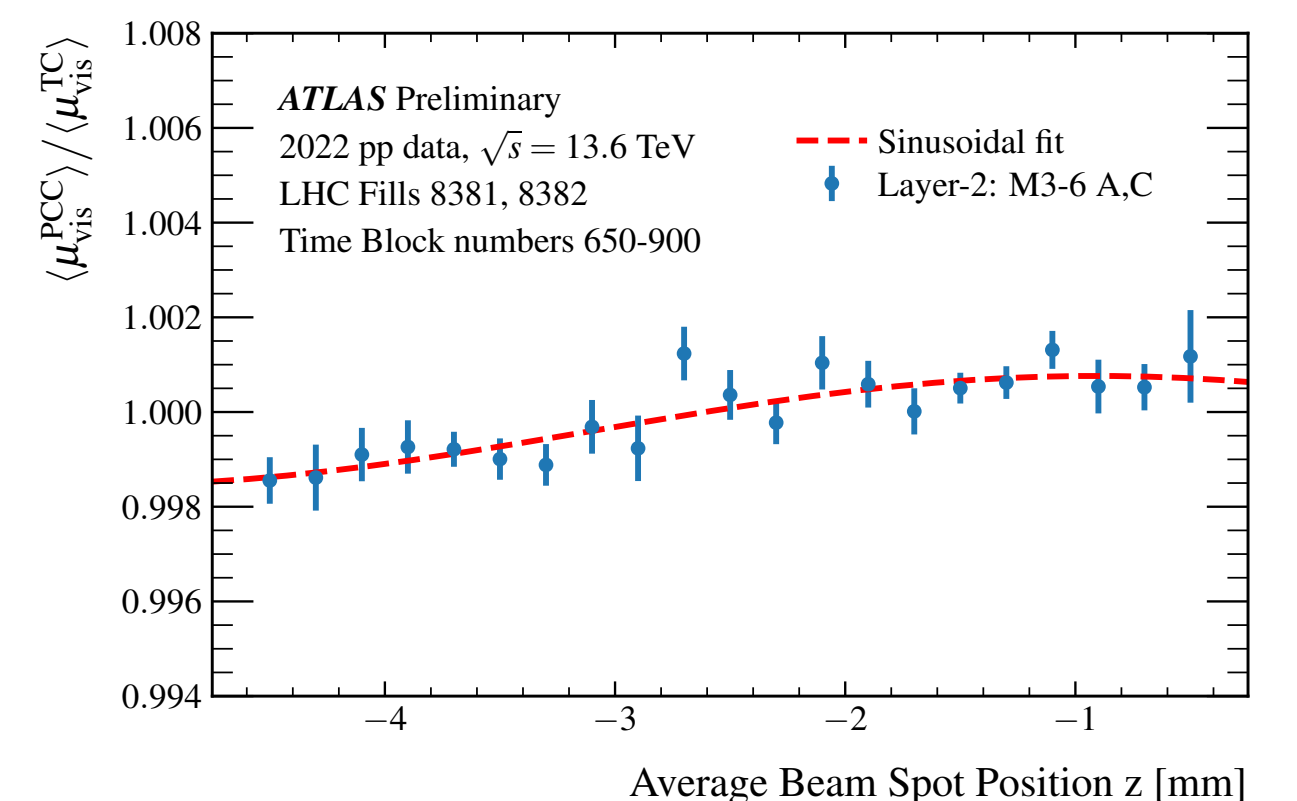
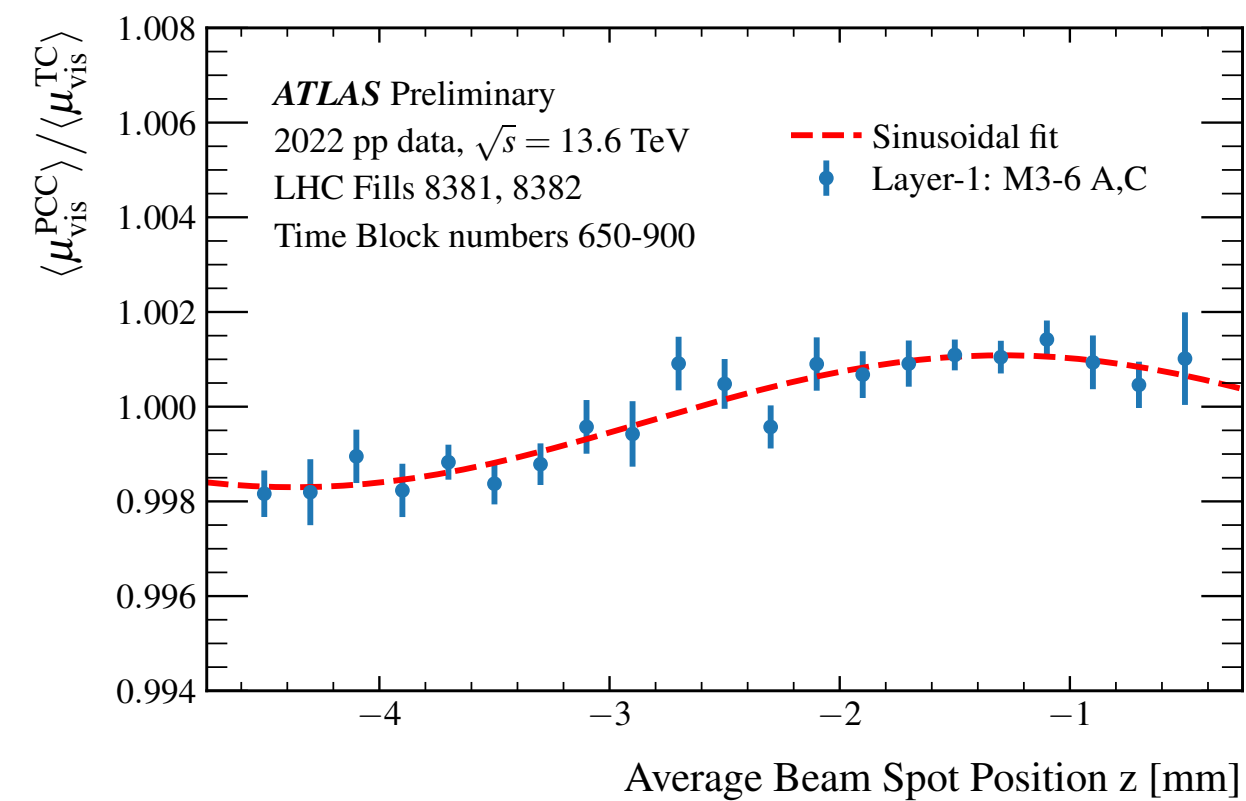
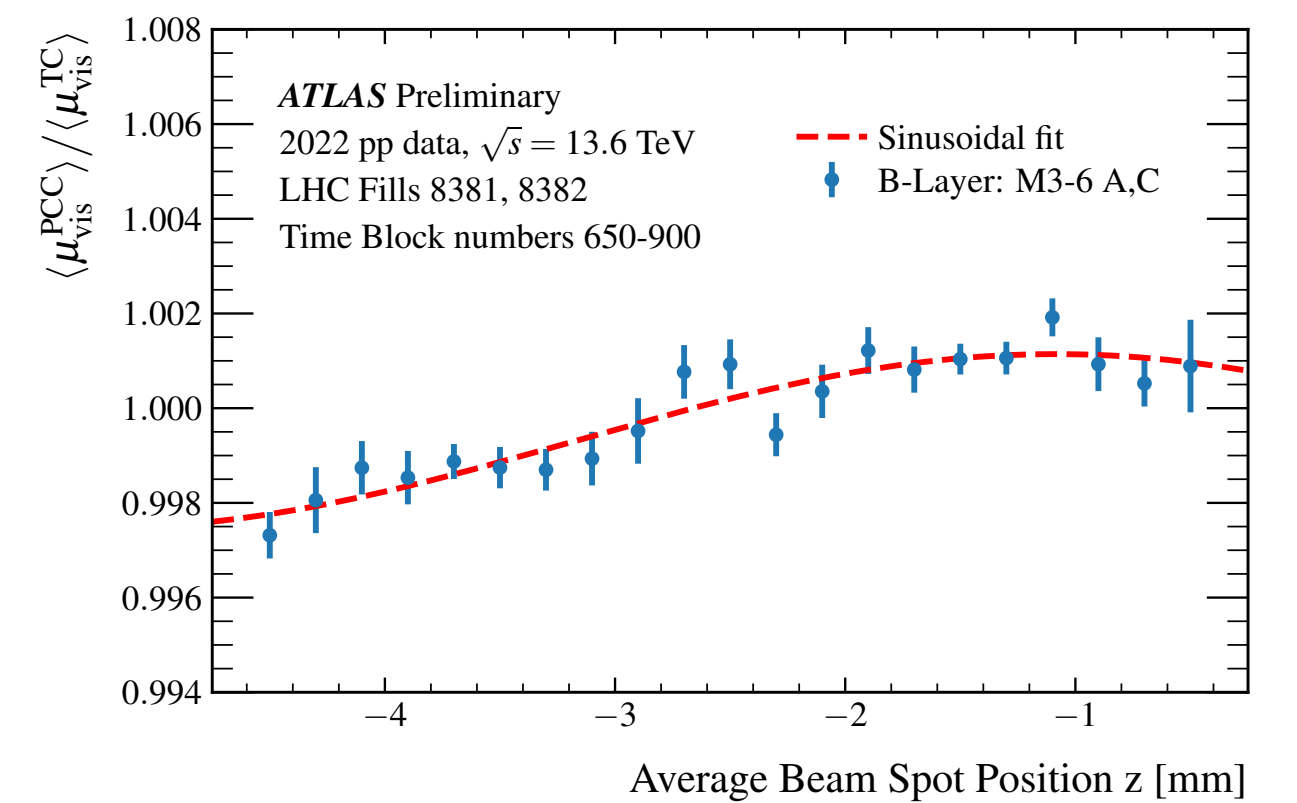
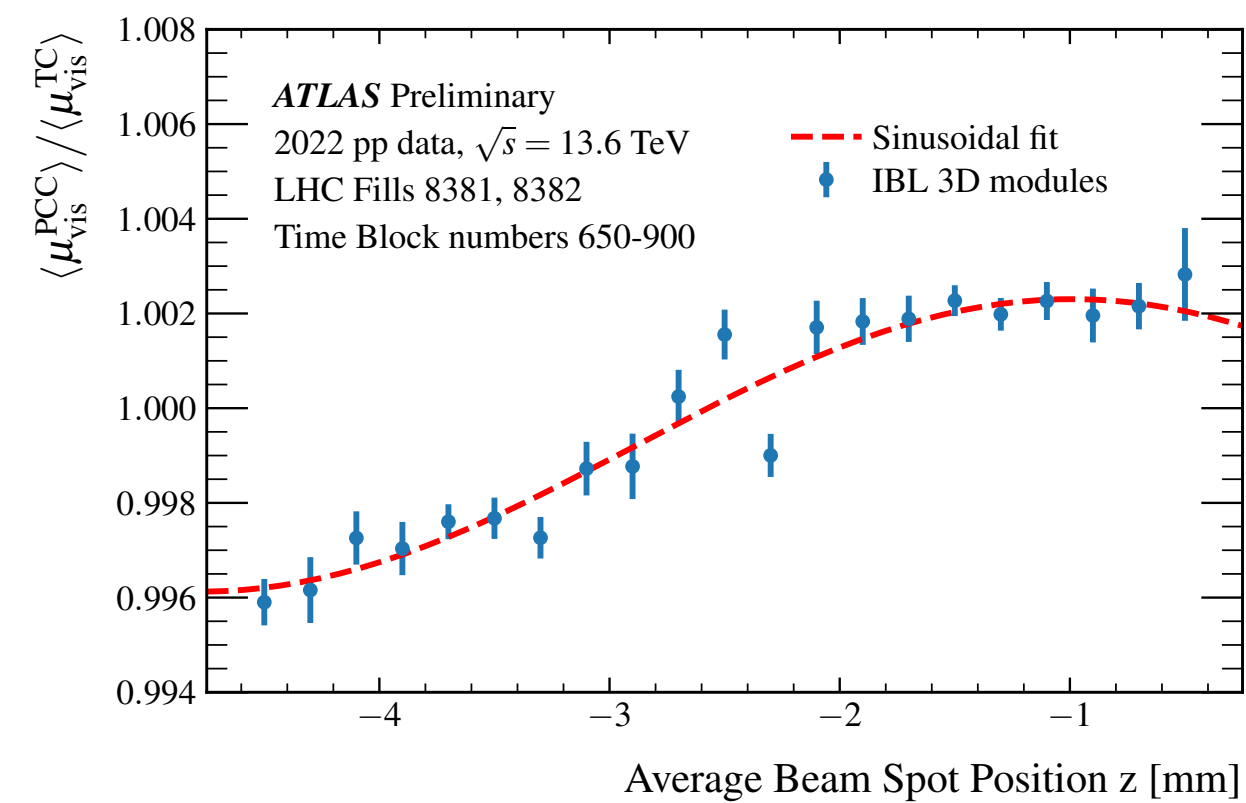
- Preliminary study of **PCC stability over time for all Pixel layers** in periods of stable head-on collisions in vdM fills
- Normalise TC to PCC (*anchoring*) in the initial period and check stability of PCC/TC ratio vs Time Block number (1 Time Block ~ 60 s)
- Sensitive to variations of average **longitudinal Beam Spot position** over considered Time Block numbers



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- Derive acceptance correction in anchoring period: fit PCC/TC ratio as a function of the average longitudinal Beam Spot position





# Pixel Cluster Counting in action

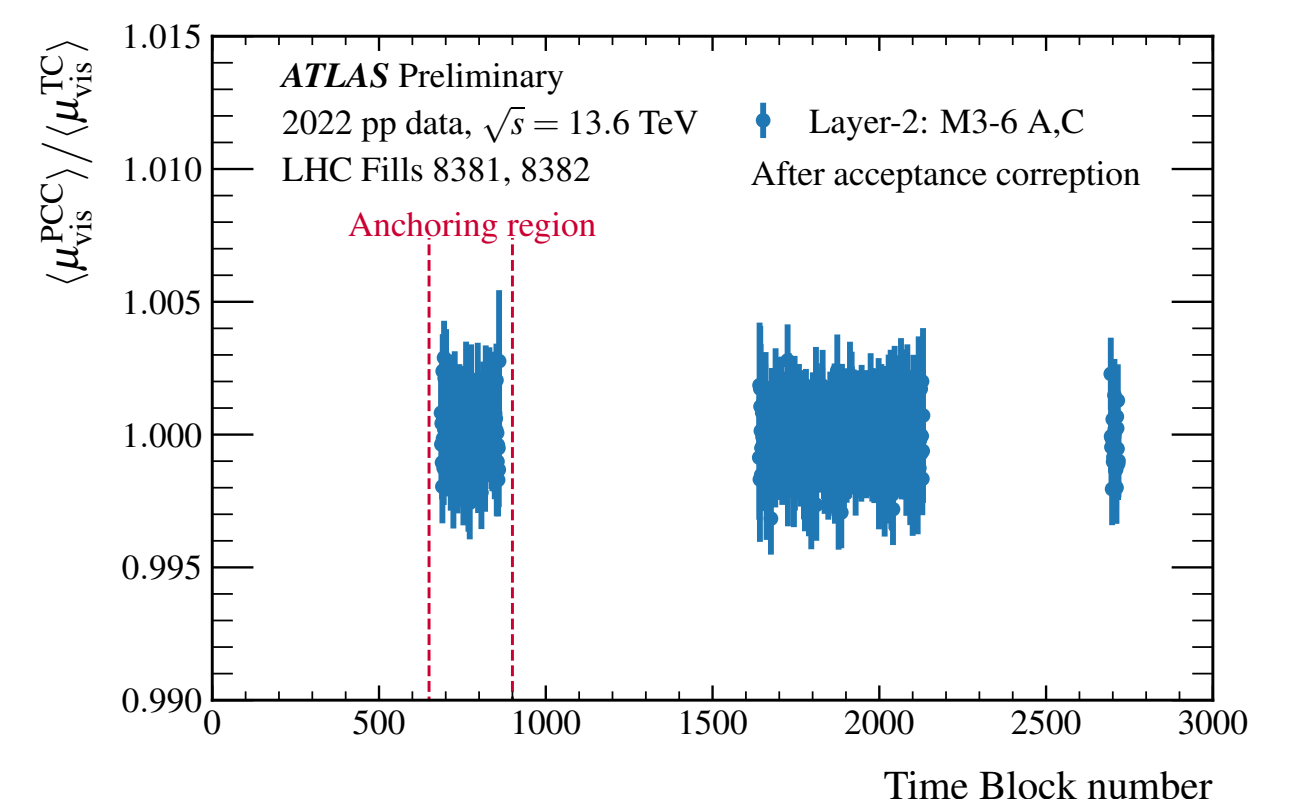
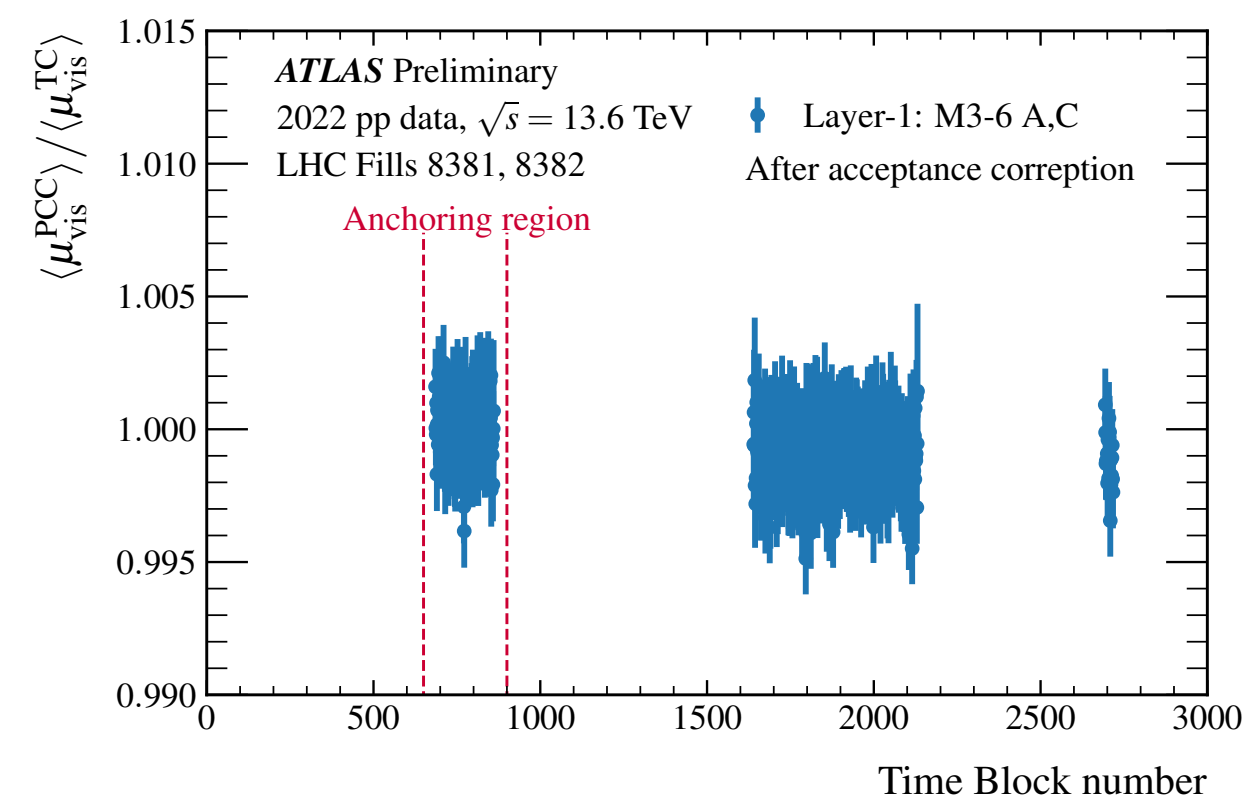
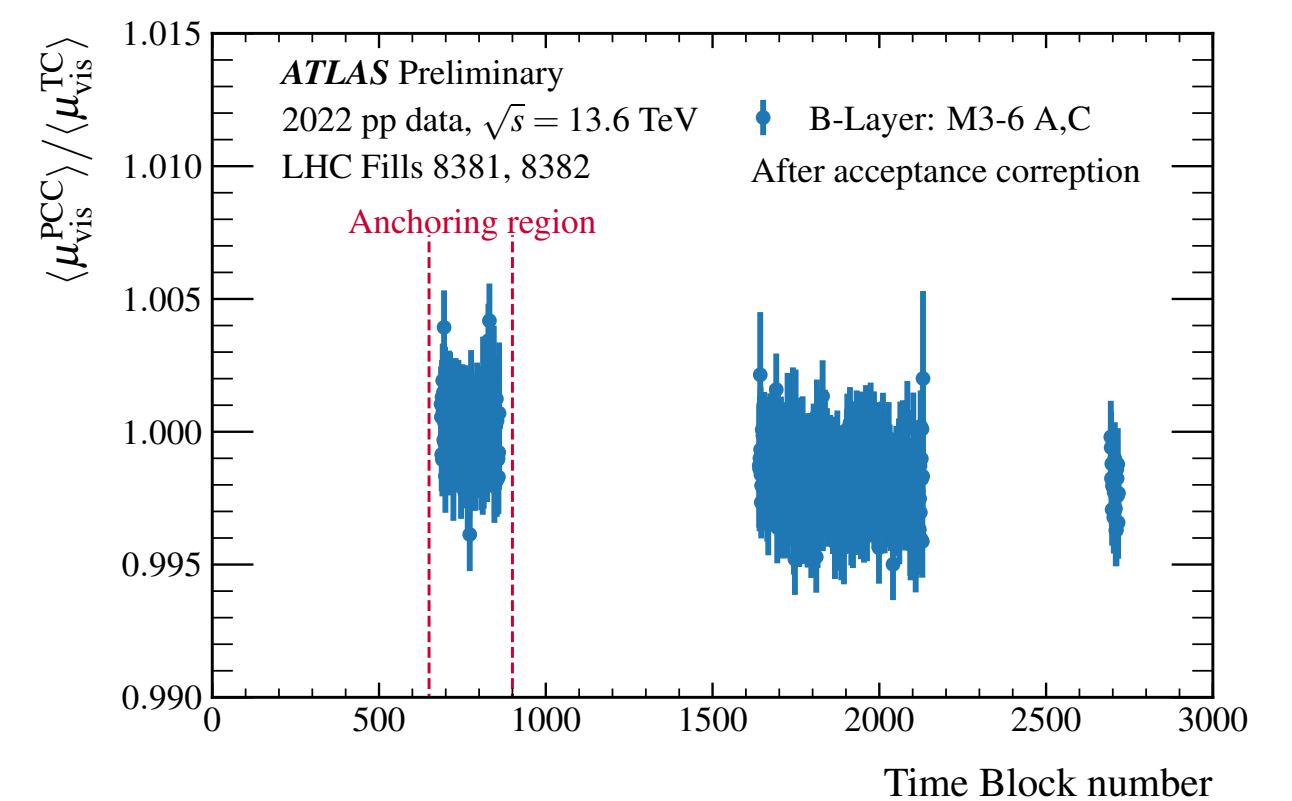
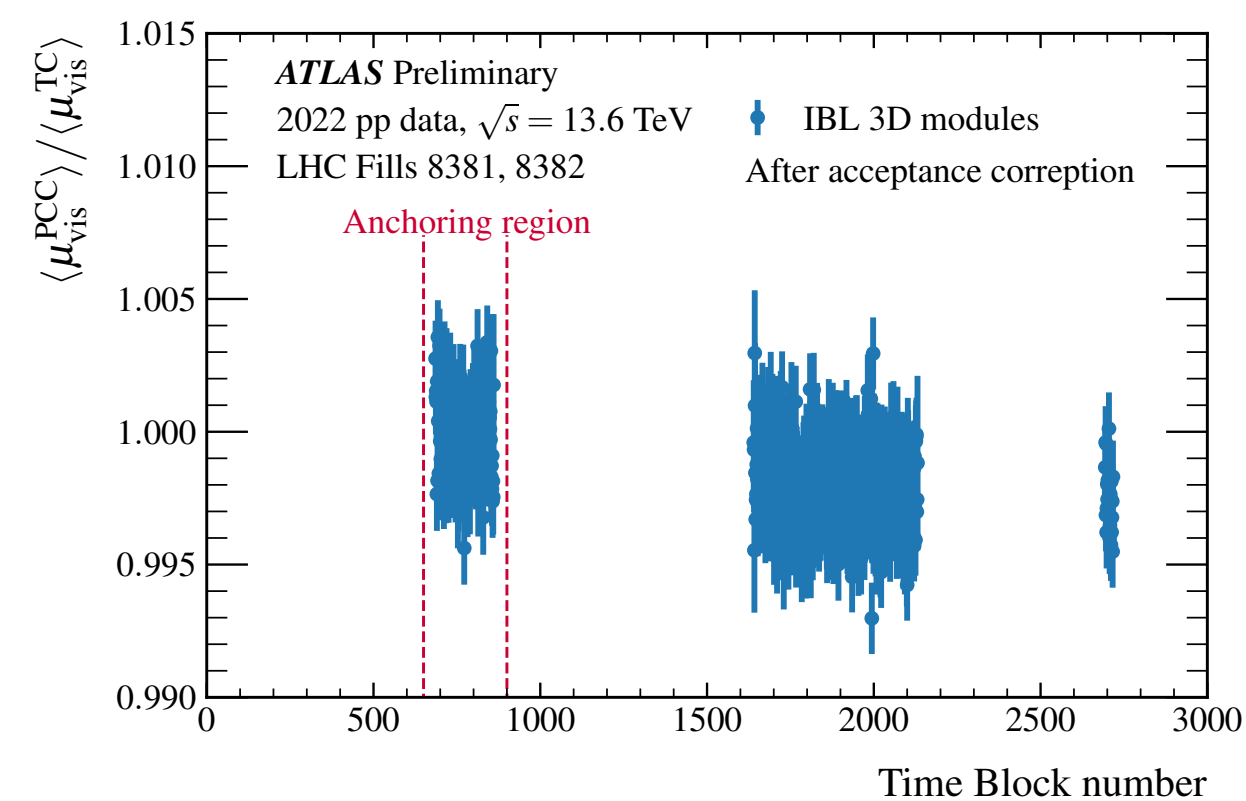
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- Derive acceptance correction in anchoring period: fit PCC/TC ratio as a function of the average longitudinal Beam Spot position

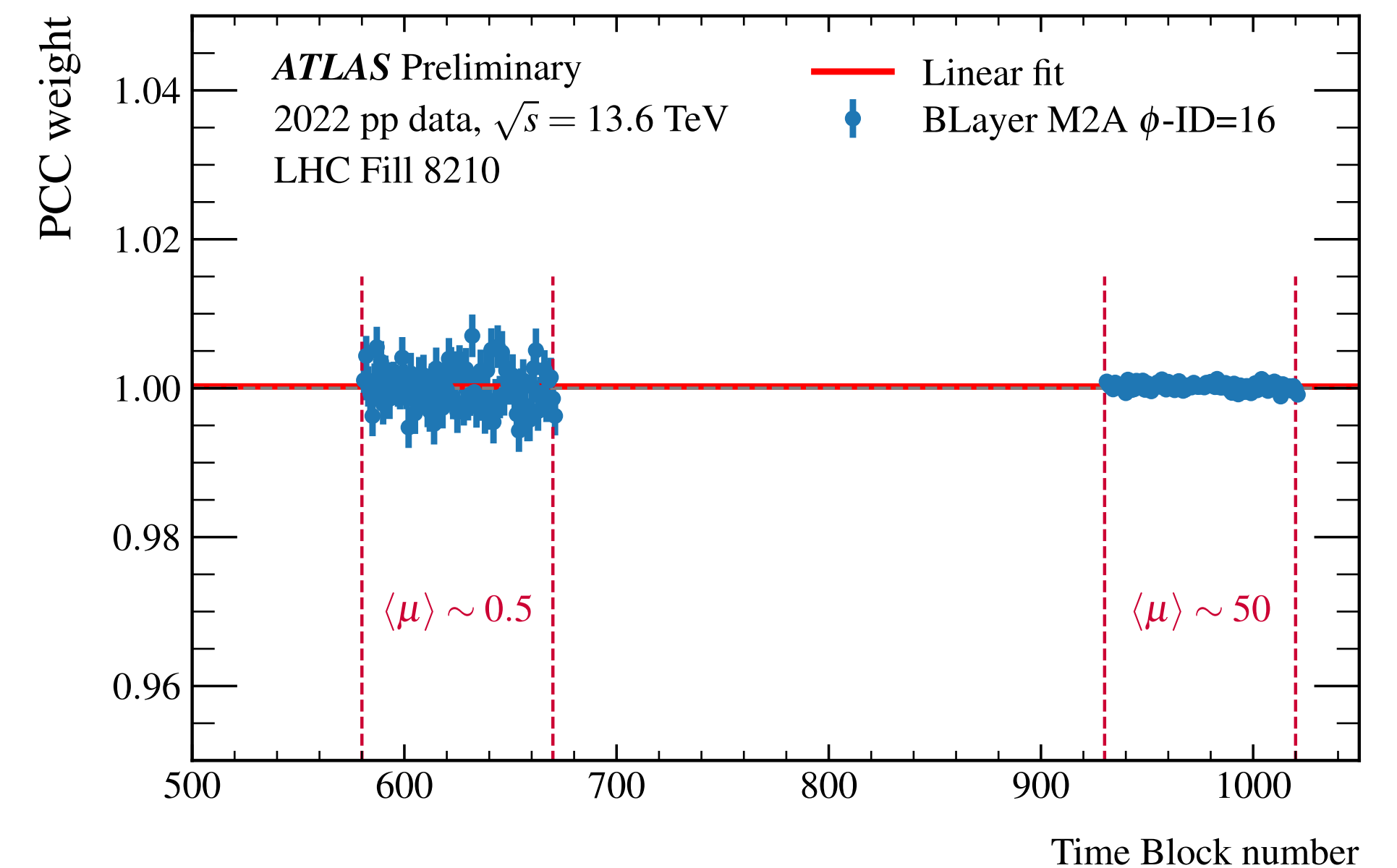
- Correction fixes acceptance effects: **good stability observed after correction**



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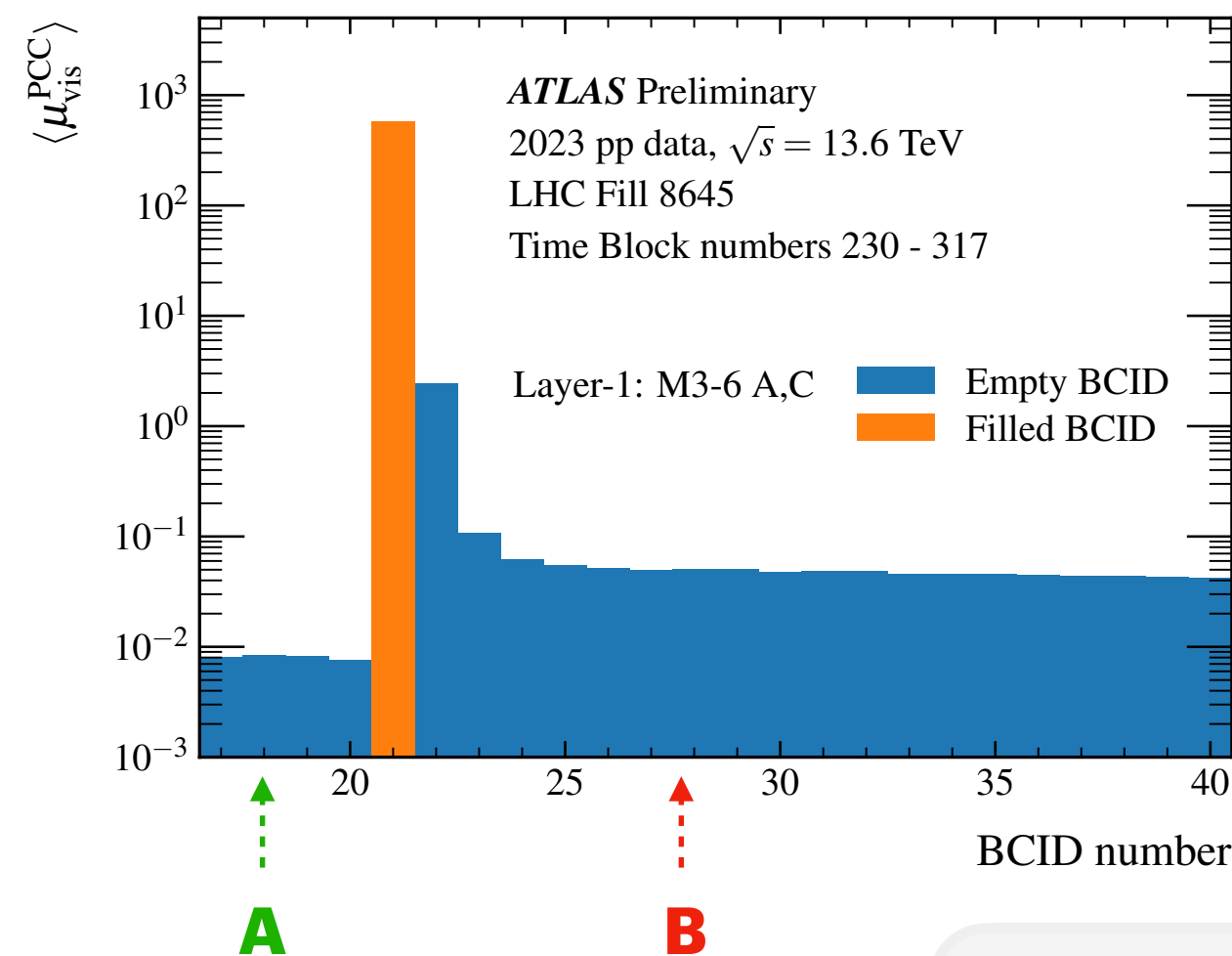
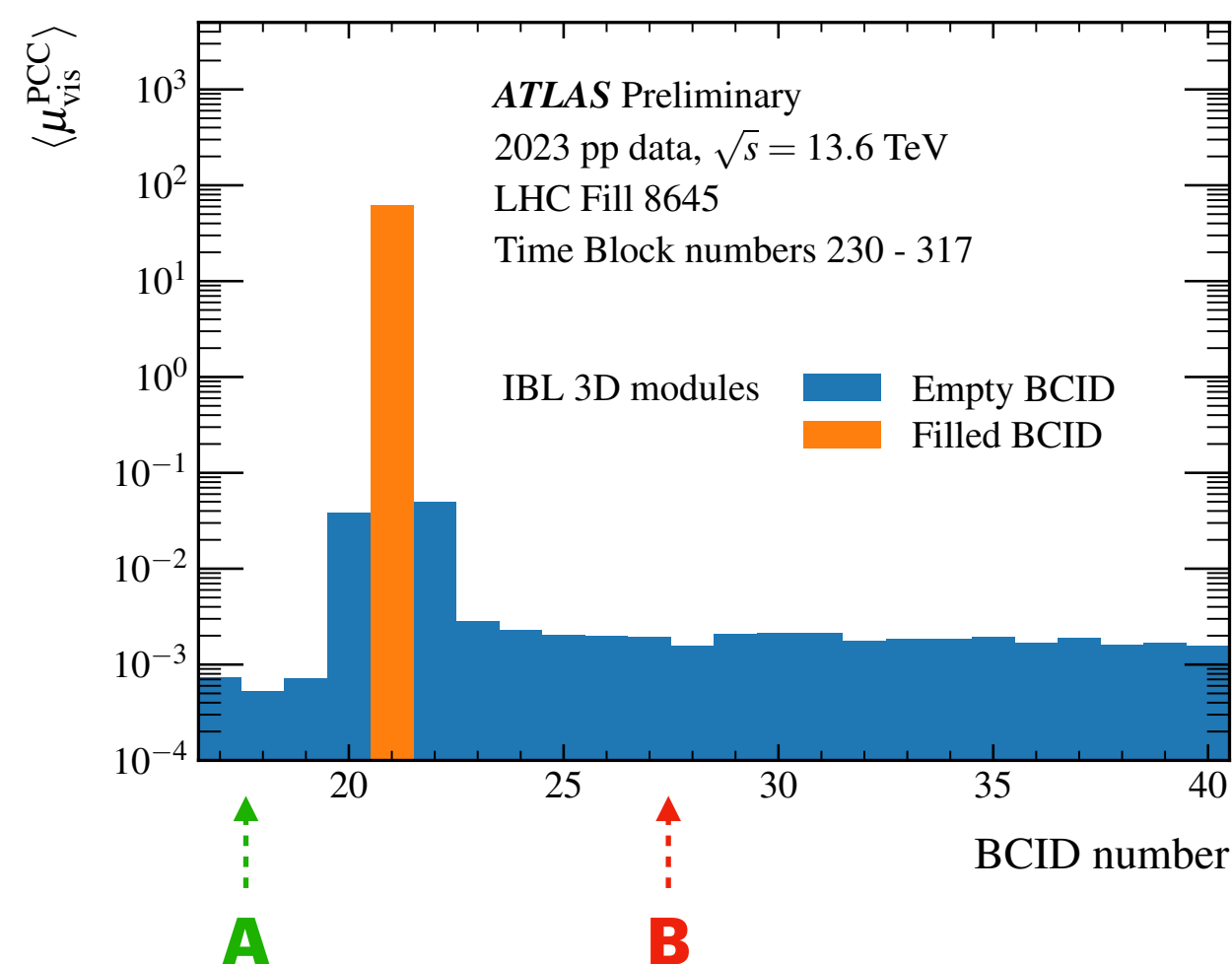
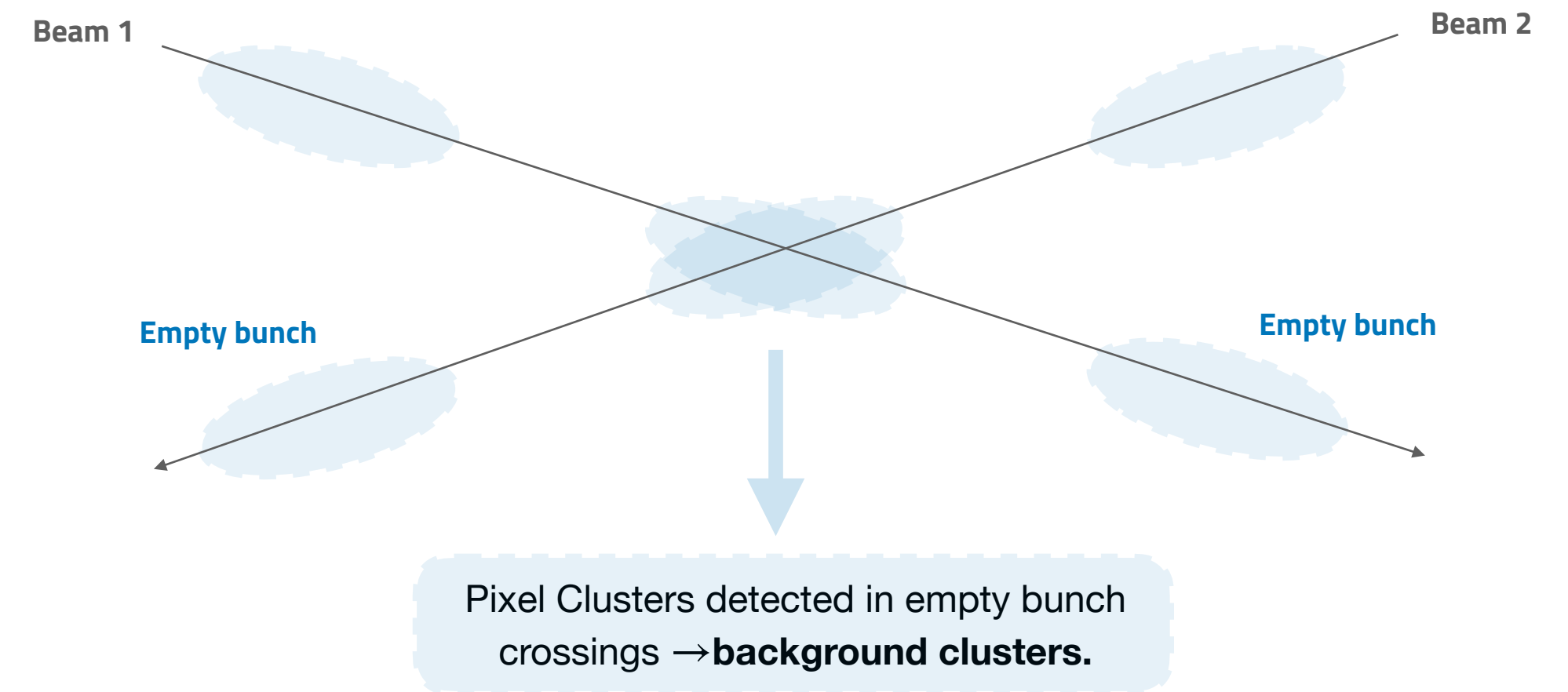
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  - Derive acceptance correction in anchoring period: fit PCC/TC ratio as a function of the average longitudinal Beam Spot position
- Correction fixes acceptance effects: **good stability observed after correction**
- Procedure to validate **single module stability based on PCC weight**
  - **PCC weight**  $\equiv$  normalised ratio of the number of Pixel Clusters in single azimuthal module to total number of Pixel Clusters in the corresponding ring
  - tested in LHC fills with changing pileup conditions: low- $\mu$  and a high- $\mu$  periods



# Background contamination in Pixel Cluster Counting

## Characterisation of background

- Background contamination in PCC studied in tailored conditions
  - Exploit LHC ramp-up fills: few and isolated filled and colliding bunches
  - 1 kHz **random trigger**: **samples also crossings of empty bunches**
- Main background is *afterglow***: out-of-time clusters induced by previous collisions due to long lived tails of particle cascades and material activation
- Background studied in **empty bunches** around **isolated filled** bunch



BCID number  $\equiv$  bunch crossing identifier

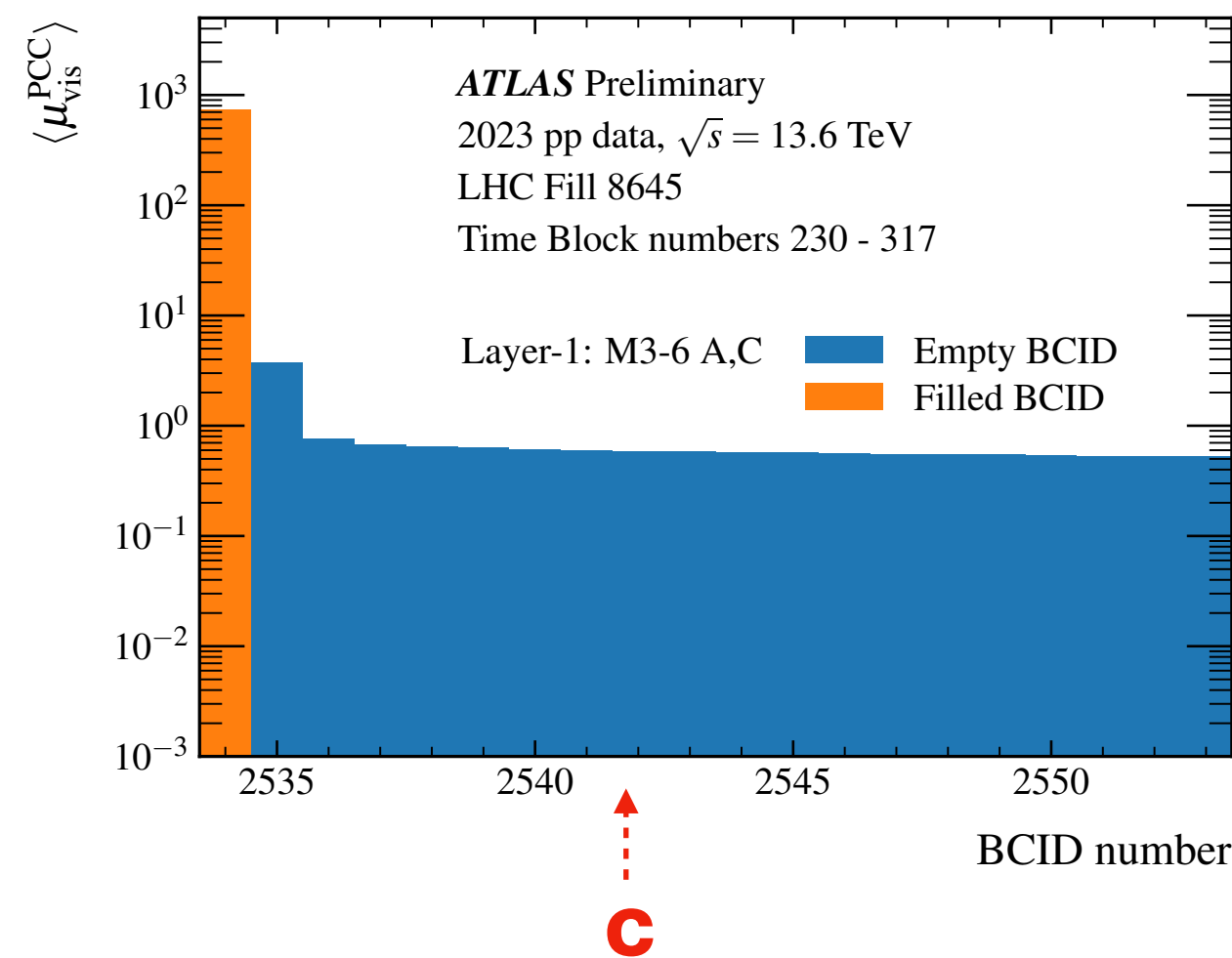
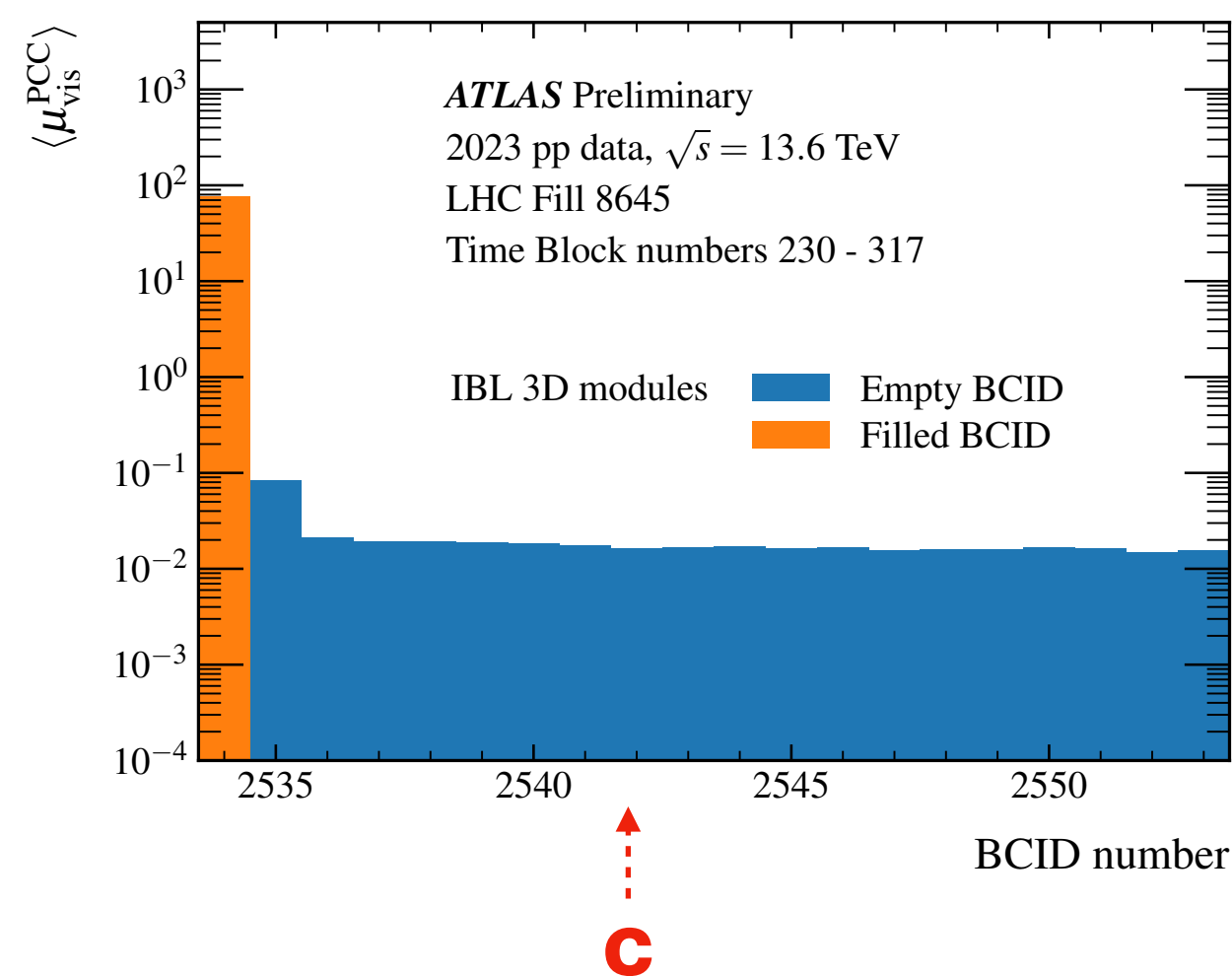
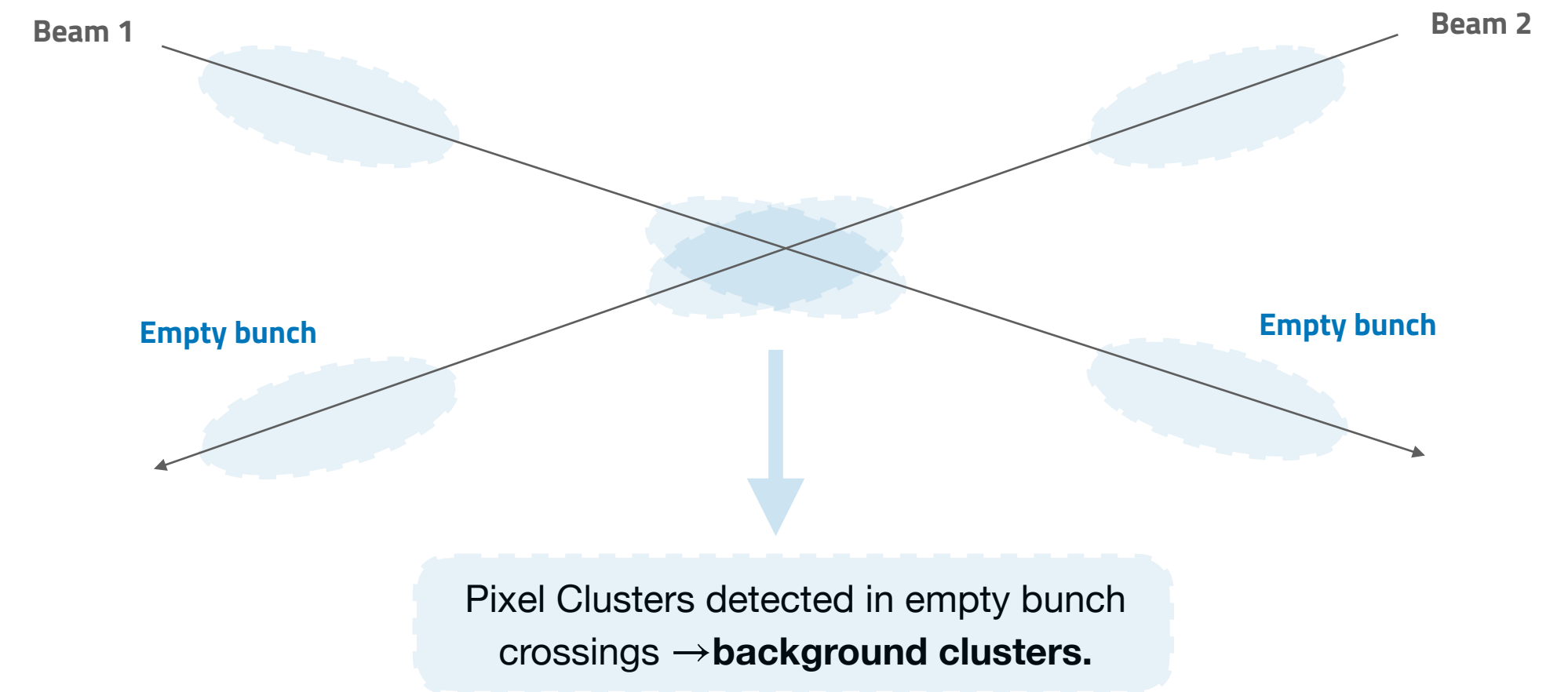
A. Pure *intrinsic* background, e.g. noise

B. Afterglow induced by single bunch crossing  
+ intrinsic background

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  - Exploit LHC ramp-up fills: few and isolated filled and colliding bunches
  - 1 kHz **random trigger**: **samples also crossings of empty bunches**
- **Main background is *afterglow***: out-of-time clusters induced by previous collisions due to long lived tails of particle cascades and material activation
- Background studied in **empty bunches** after the **last bunch in a train of 12 filled bunches**



- Relative afterglow activity at **~ permille level**
- **Fast afterglow decay**: within few bunch crossings

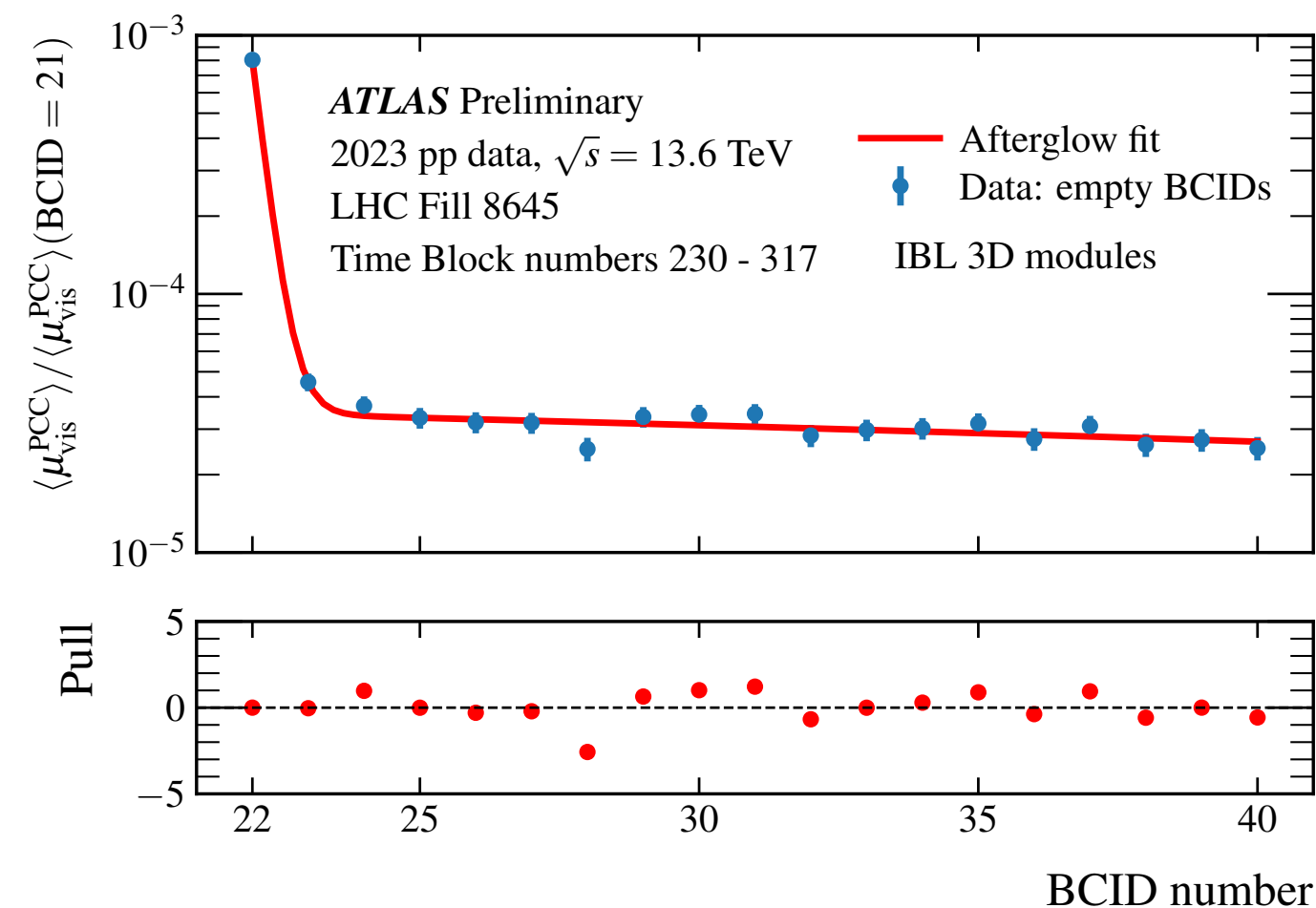
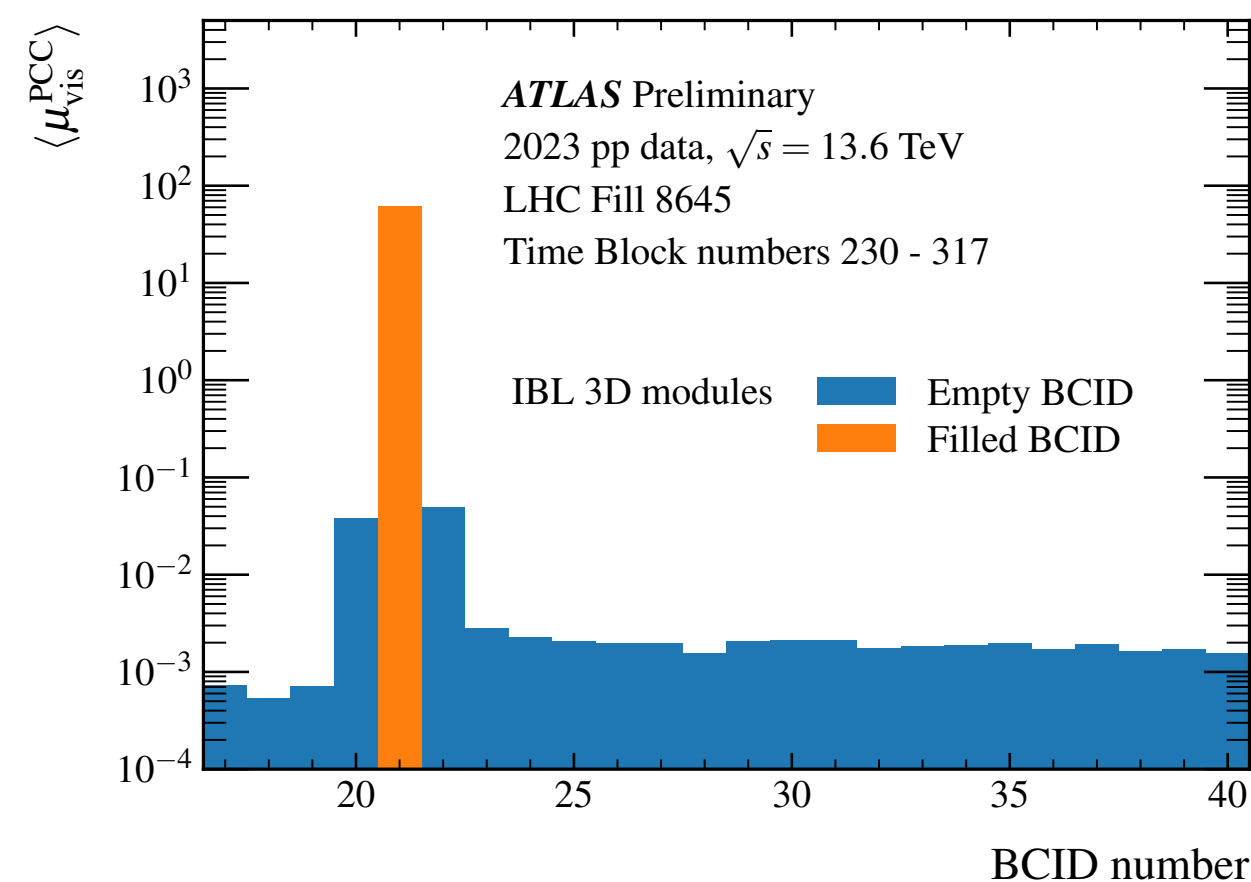
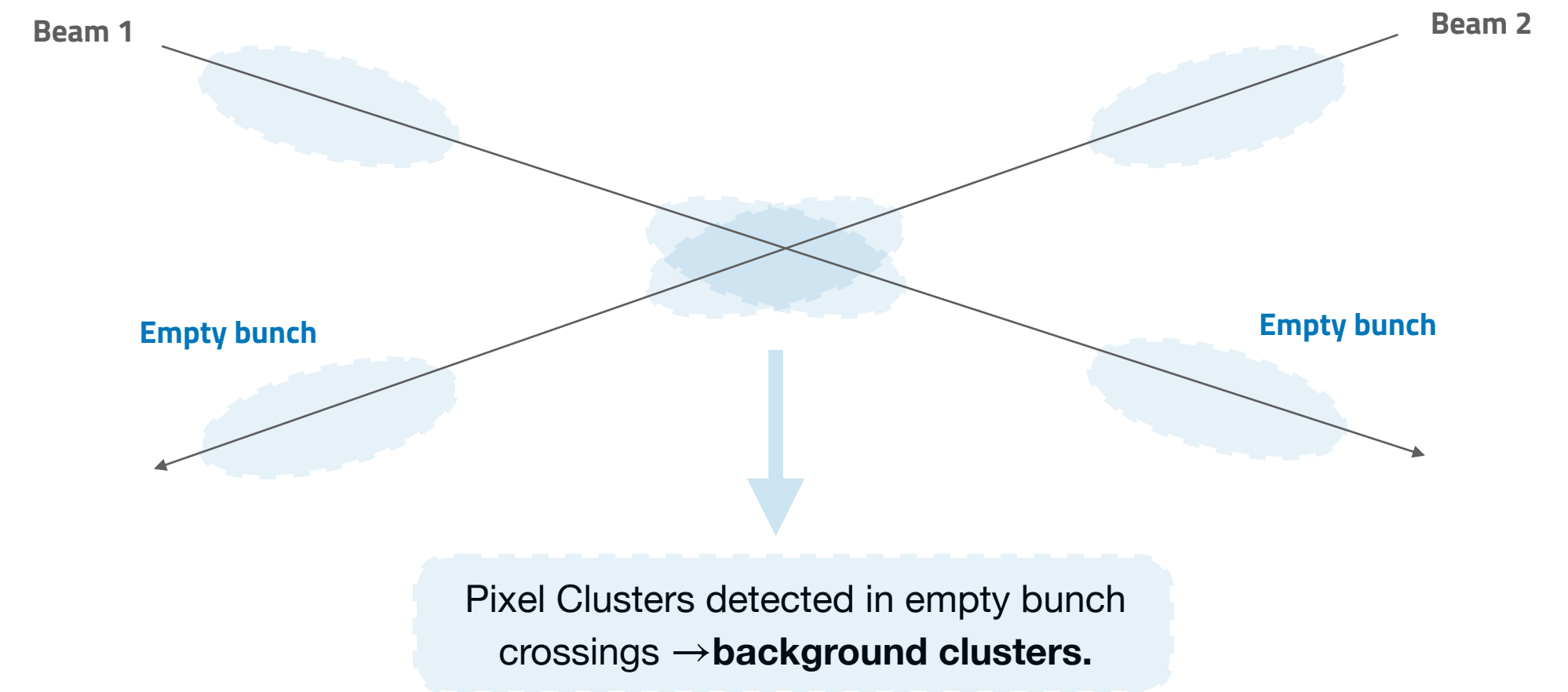
C. Afterglow induced by 12-bunch train  
+ intrinsic background



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  - Exploit LHC ramp-up fills: few and isolated filled and colliding bunches
  - 1 kHz **random trigger**: **samples also crossings of empty bunches**
- Main background is *afterglow***: out-of-time clusters induced by previous collisions due to long lived tails of particle cascades and material activation
- Afterglow induced by isolated filled bunch **well modelled by exponential (pure afterglow) plus linear function (intrinsic background + longer lived residual activity)**



- First step towards the implementation of a **complete afterglow correction procedure** for PCC in normal physics conditions

# Putting it all together

## Summary and outlook

- The accurate measurement of luminosity is a key component of the ATLAS physics programme [\[Eur. Phys. J. C 83 \(2023\) 982\]](#)

- ATLAS luminosity measurement relies on multiple independent luminometers
  - **Inner Detector → Track Counting and Pixel Cluster Counting**
- **Track Counting established algorithm**  
providing crucial input in to the ATLAS luminosity measurement
  - **Good and stable performance in Run 3**
- First implementation of **Pixel Cluster Counting in development in Run 3**
  - Main ingredients for a Pixel Cluster Counting analysis in place
  - **Promising preliminary studies:** good performance with Run 3 data

Preliminary 2022+2023 estimate

Data sample	2022	2023	Comb.
Integrated luminosity [ $\text{fb}^{-1}$ ]	31.40	27.58	58.98
Total uncertainty [ $\text{fb}^{-1}$ ]	0.69	0.56	1.16
Subtotal vdM calibration	1.44	1.71	1.49
Calibration transfer <sup>†</sup>	1.50	1.10	1.23
Calibration anchoring	0.53	0.16	0.29
Long-term stability	0.41	0.10	0.22
Total uncertainty [%]	2.19	2.04	1.97

[\[ATL-DAPR-PUB-2024-001\]](#)

- Redundancy of stable and linear luminometers crucial for an ultra-precise final luminosity measurement in Run 3



# Backup



# Preliminary Run 3 results

Combination of 2022 and 2023 luminosity uncertainties [ATL-DAPR-PUB-2024-001]

Data sample	2022	2023	Comb.
Integrated luminosity [ $\text{fb}^{-1}$ ]	31.40	27.58	58.98
Total uncertainty [ $\text{fb}^{-1}$ ]	0.69	0.56	1.16
Uncertainty contributions [%]:			
Statistical uncertainty	0.01	0.01	0.01
Fit model*	0.24	0.15	0.20
Background subtraction*	0.06	0.30	0.17
FBCT bunch-by-bunch fractions*	0.01	0.01	0.01
Ghost-charge and satellite bunches <sup>†</sup>	0.17	0.04	0.11
DCCT calibration*	0.20	0.20	0.20
Orbit-drift correction	0.06	0.34	0.16
$\mu$ -dependence	0.00	0.30	0.14
Beam position jitter	0.00	0.01	0.01
Non-factorisation effects*	1.07	1.39	1.22
Beam-beam effects*	0.35	0.32	0.34
Emittance damping correction*	0.21	0.06	0.14
Length scale calibration	0.03	0.02	0.02
Inner detector length scale*	0.12	0.12	0.12
Magnetic non-linearity*	0.32	0.28	0.30
Bunch-by-bunch $\sigma_{\text{vis}}$ consistency	0.50	0.36	0.31
Scan-to-scan reproducibility	0.27	0.35	0.22
Reference specific luminosity*	0.43	0.44	0.43
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# Track Counting in action

## Track Counting stability: against changing running conditions

- **Stability of Track Counting tested against varying number of colliding bunches and crossing angle**
  - **Bunch-number dependence** evaluated by **stability of slope** in linear fits of Track Counting/LUCID ratios measured over wide range of pileup variation in beam-separation scans
  - Variations of **Track Counting/LUCID ratios** studied over time periods **with changing crossing angle ( $\theta_c/2$ ) configurations**

