

# Tracking and PID performance with the upgraded LHCb detector

Giovanni Cavallero

INFN Ferrara

On behalf of the LHCb collaboration

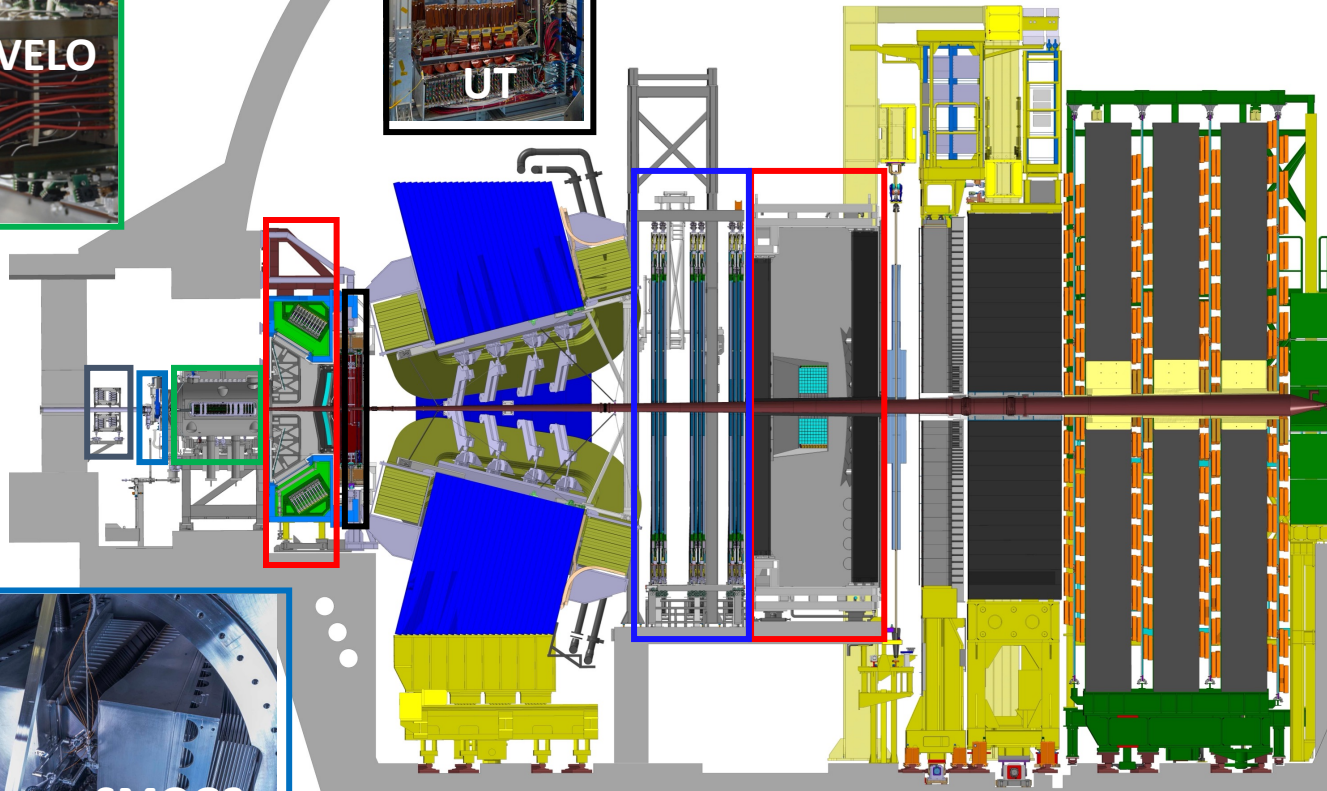
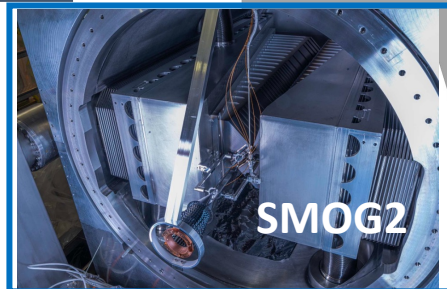
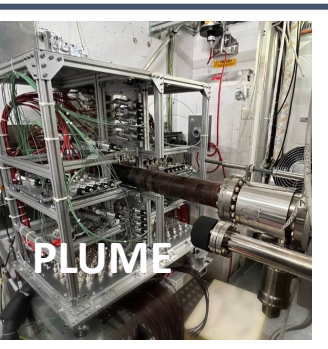
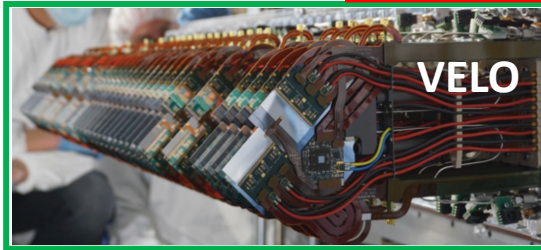
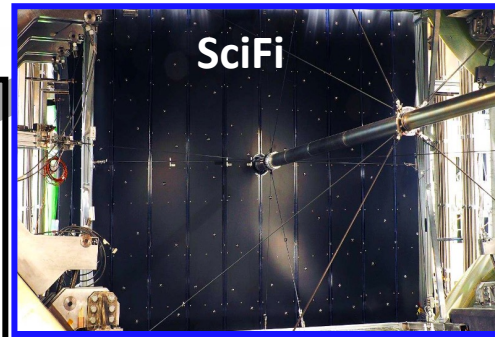
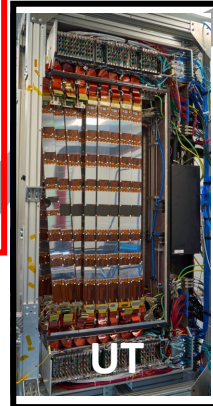
EPS-HEP 2025

6-11 July 2025, Marseille, France

# Outline

- Overview of operations in 2024
- Performance of LHCb subdetectors
  - Several numbers shown in these slides rely on alignment and calibration procedure described in [Miguel's talk](#)
- Tracking, PID and global LHCb performance in 2024
  - Most of the performance figures of merit shown in this talk refer to nominal Run 3 luminosity of  $\mathcal{L} = 2 \cdot 10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  in pp collisions

# The upgraded LHCb detector

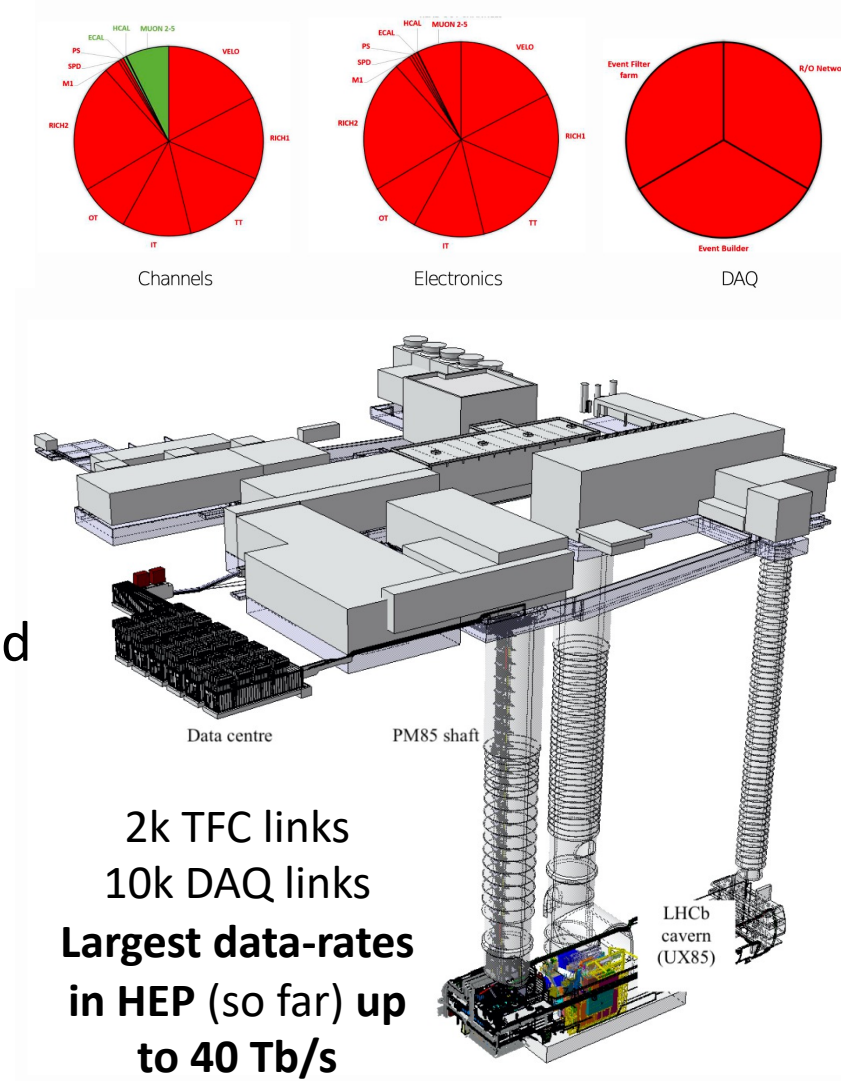


- Tracking system (**VELO**, UT, **SciFi**) newly constructed
- Hadron identification (**RICHes**): new photon-detection chain and RICH1 optics/mechanics
- New luminometer (**PLUME**) and gas injection system (**SMOG2**)
- Frontend and backend electronics upgraded for all systems (including CALO and MUON)

[JINST 19 (2024) 05, P05065]

# The upgraded LHCb experiment

- Make effective the 5x increase in the instantaneous luminosity by removing the hardware level trigger
  - Avoid saturation in fully hadronic channels: expect 2x gain in trigger efficiency
- Key concept: **triggerless readout of all subdetectors at the 40 MHz LHC bunch crossing rate**
  - new subsystem specific ASICs as frontend electronics compliant with GBT architecture
  - new TFC (deterministic and fixed phase clock at  $\sigma \sim 200$  ps) and DAQ systems implemented on FPGAs installed on PCIe40 cards
  - new Event Builder (EB) farm with 163 servers
- Enables the implementation of a full-software trigger in heterogenous architecture: GPU (HLT1) + CPU (HLT2)
  - Initially 2 GPUs/EB server (+1 GPU/EB server during 2024)
  - See [Dorothea's talk](#) for more details on the trigger system



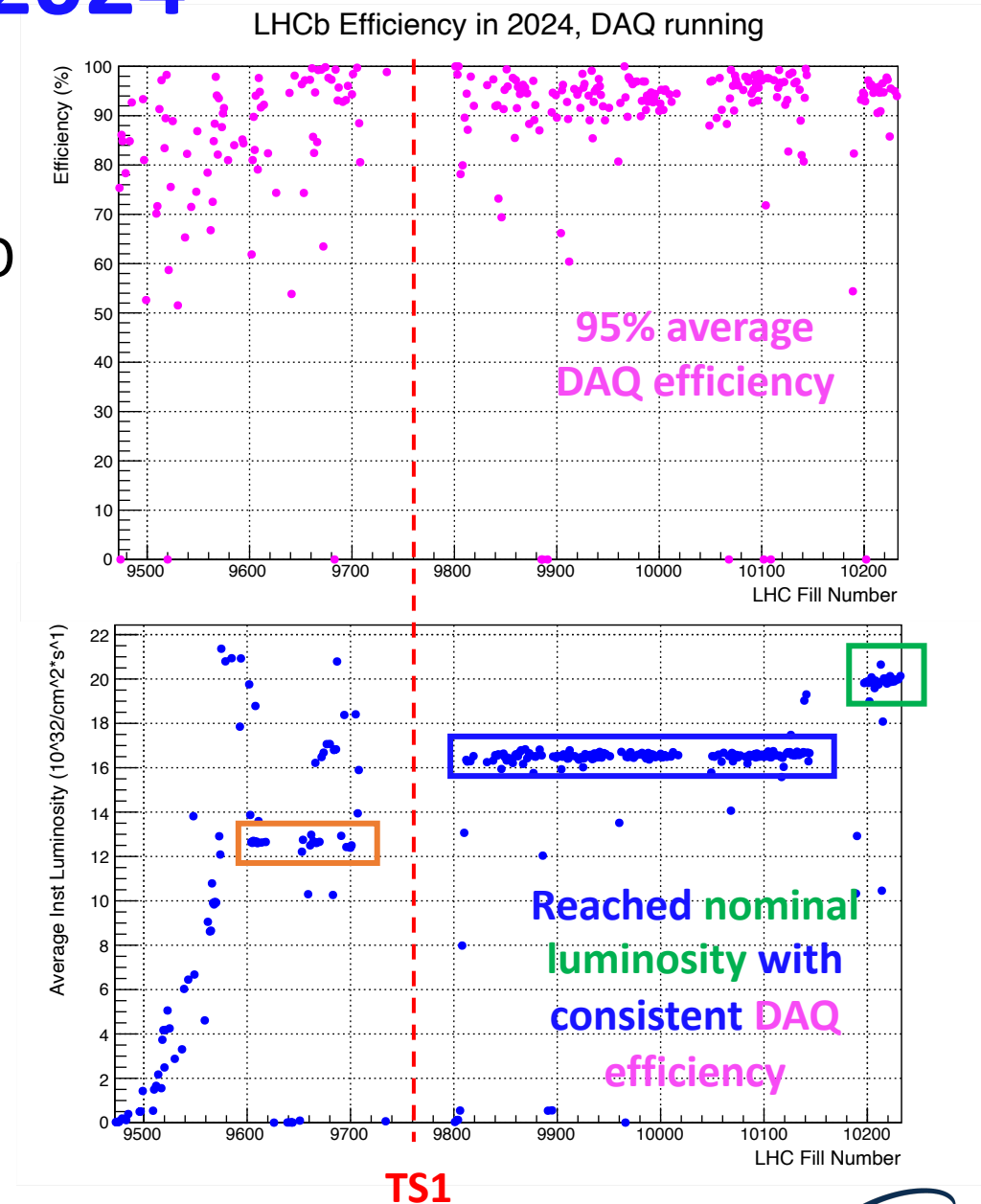
[\[JINST 19 \(2024\) 05, P05065\]](#)



# Overview of 2024 operations

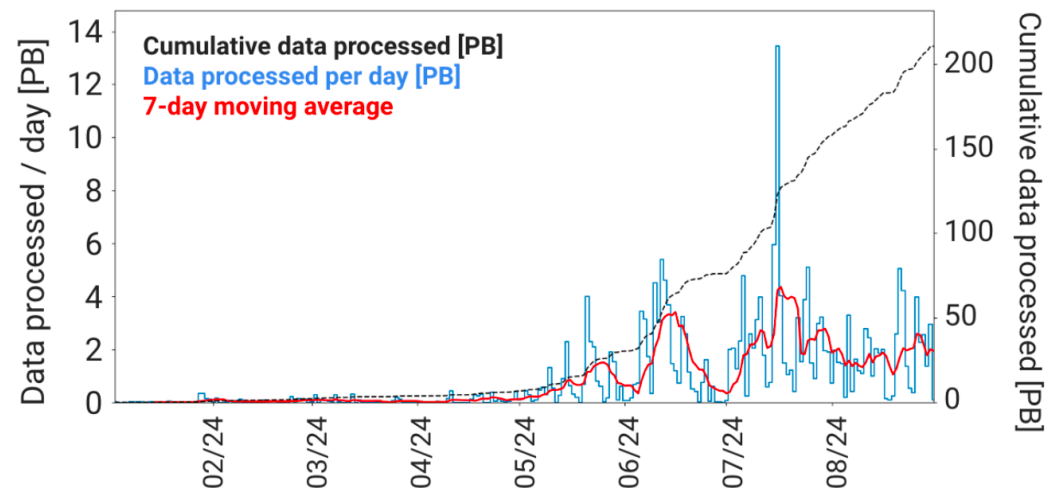
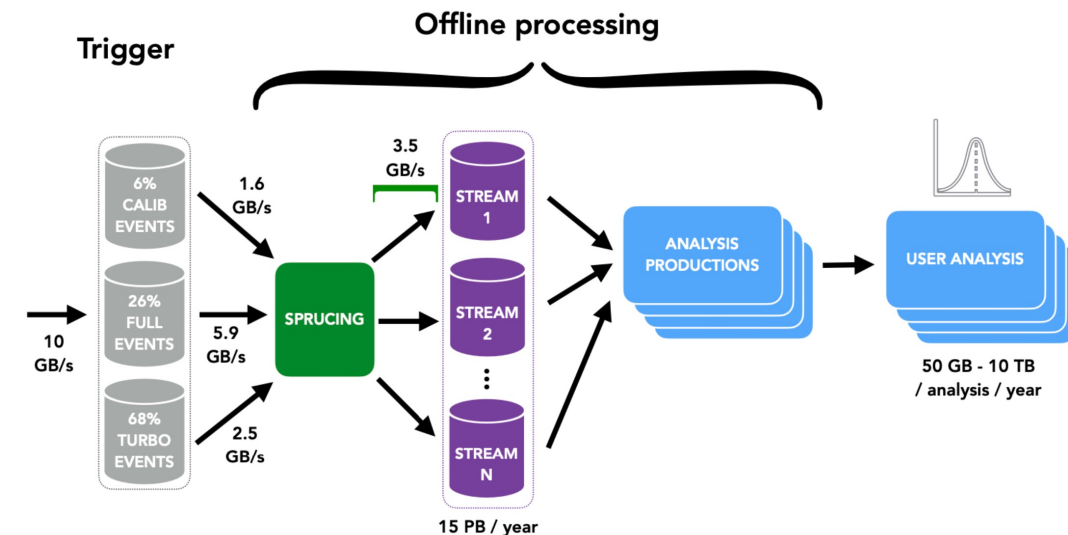
# Data-taking in 2024

- Data-taking before first LHC Technical Stop (TS1) partially dedicated to
  - recover from 2023 LHC vacuum incident in the VELO volume, gradually include the UT in the global data taking and fix residual frontend instabilities
  - commission final HLT1, HLT2, alignment and calibration configurations
  - physics data-taking at  $\mathcal{L} = 1.3 \cdot 10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- Most of post-TS1 luminosity collected at  $\mathcal{L} = 1.7 \cdot 10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ 
  - moved to nominal  $\mathcal{L} = 2.0 \cdot 10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  during the last weeks of pp-physics
- Incremental improvements during the year in track reconstruction and alignment quality



# Dataflow and offline data processing

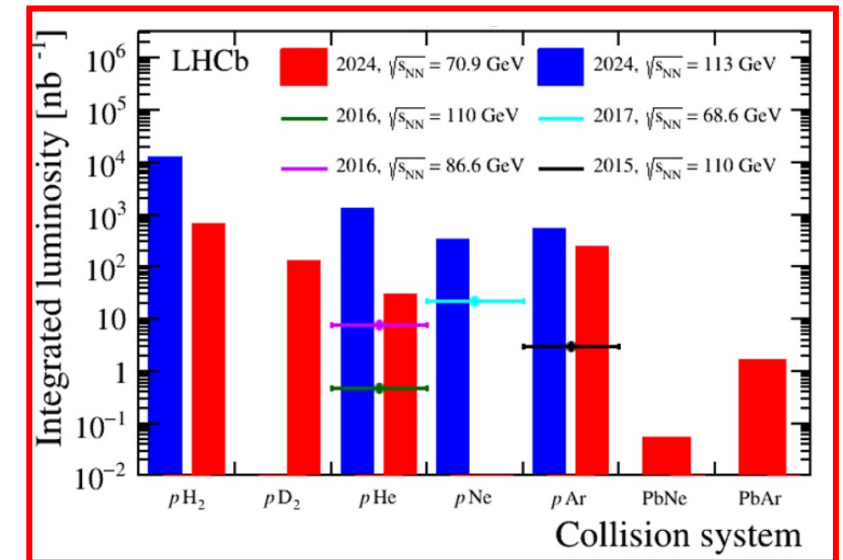
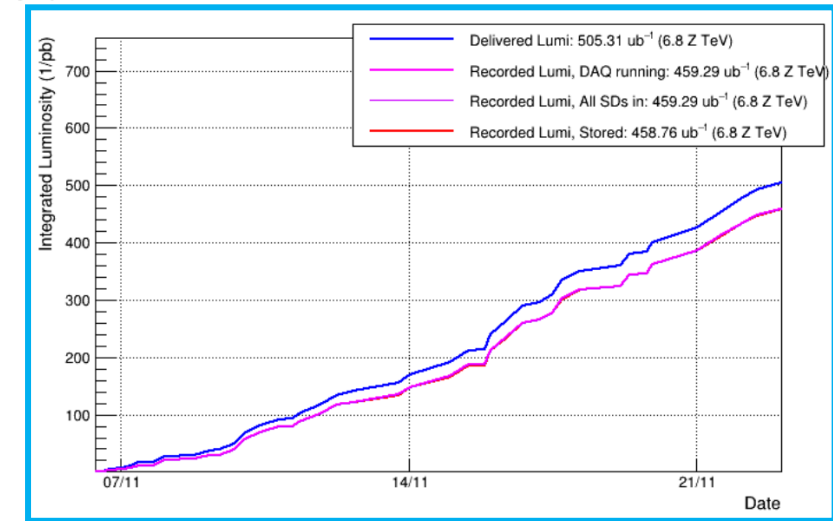
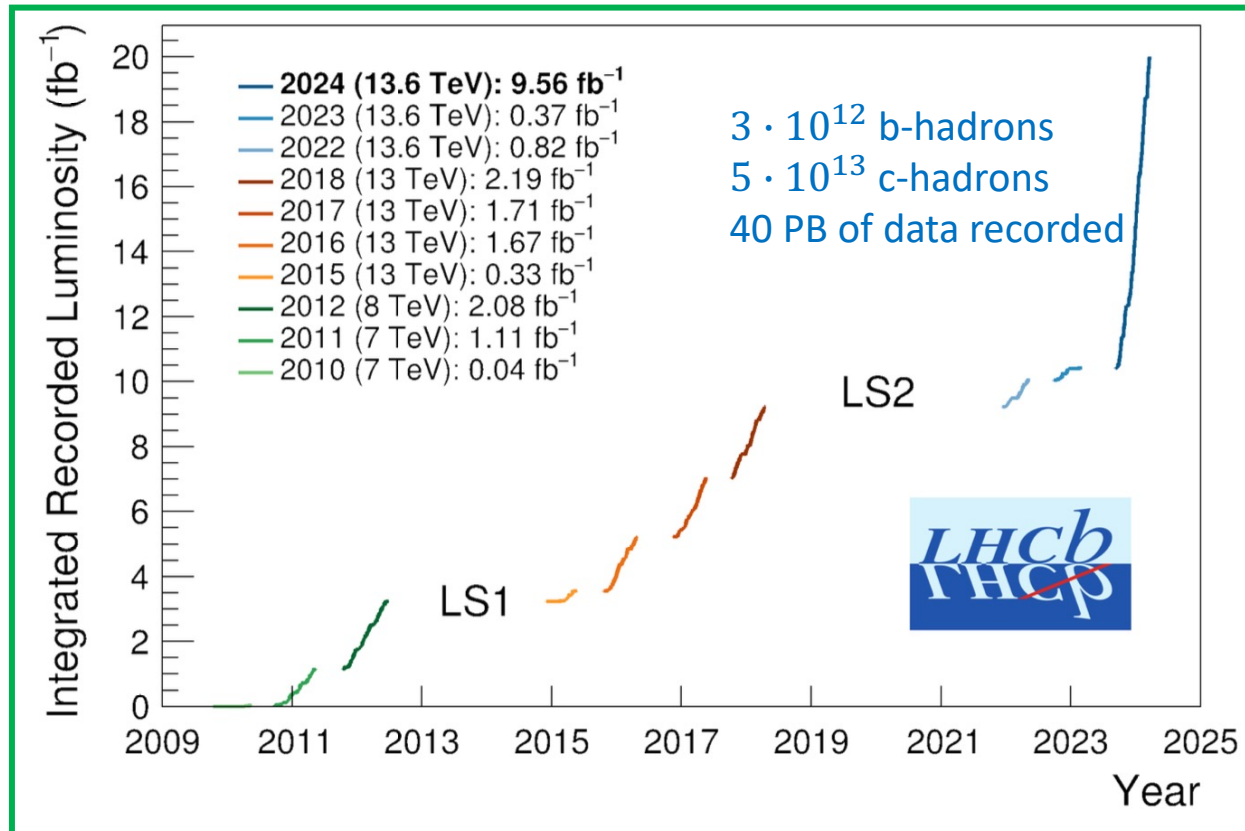
- Factor 30 increase in data rate (5x luminosity, 3x event size, 2x trigger efficiency)
- **Sprucing** performs data skimming, slimming and **streaming** to allow write to disk
- TURCAL stream contains selection lines for physics channels used for detector calibration and to assess performance
  - Factor 8 reduction by Sprucing
  - Line by line customisation of persisted reconstructed objects and detector raw banks
- Concurrent Sprucing and centralised **Analysis Productions** allowing analysts to begin analysing data with only 2-3 days of latency



[\[arXiv:2506.20309\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/2506.20309)

# Operations in 2024

- Collected more than Run 1+2 **pp-physics** in a single year
- Record **PbPb** and **proton-gas** integrated luminosities
- >92% of 2024 data flagged OK for data analysis
  - >99% towards the end of the year



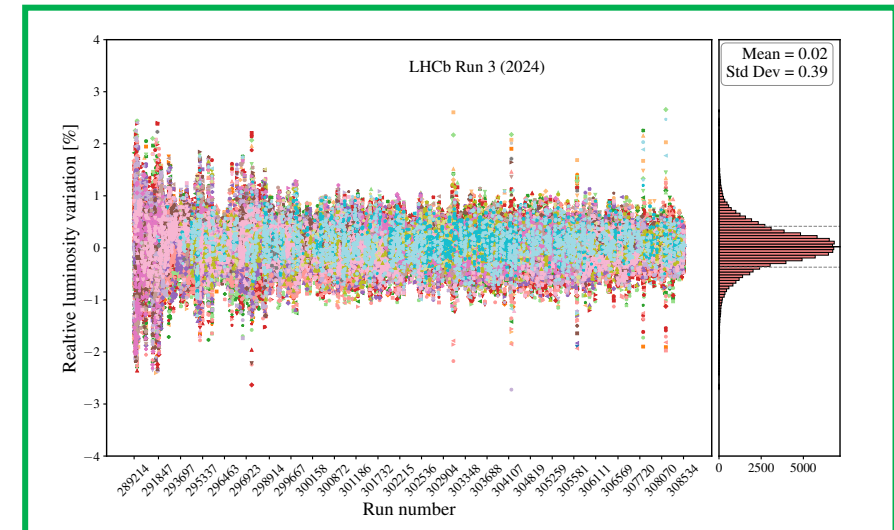
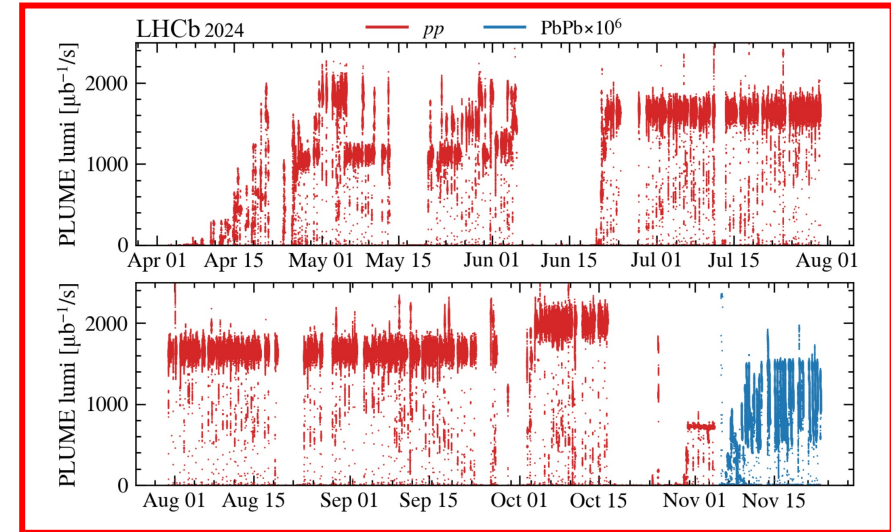


# Performance of subdetectors

# Luminometers

- New dedicated luminometer (PLUME) to provide online feedback to the LHC on LHCb instantaneous luminosity => crucial for **levelling procedure with a tolerance of  $\pm 5\%$**
- Beam-background measurements provided by custom BCM and RMS subsystems
- About 350 luminosity counters to assess the integrated offline luminosity of a dataset
  - Information attached to each stream by the Sprucing
    - **Nice agreement between counters after preliminary van der Meer scan analysis**
- More details in [Fabio's talk](#)

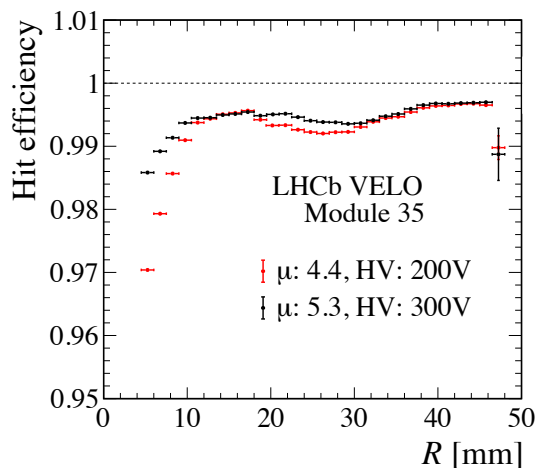
[LHCb-TDR-022]



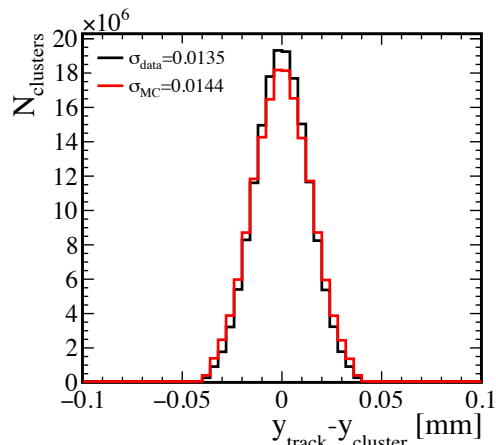
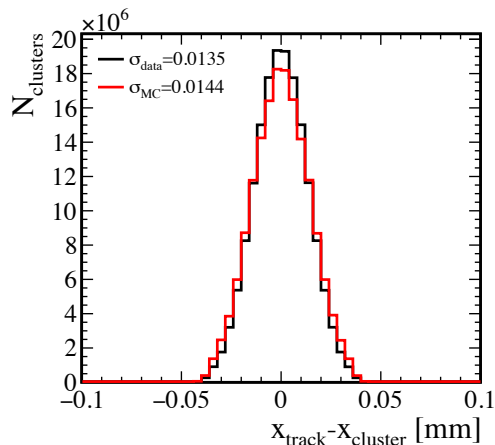
# VELO

- 52 modules for a total of 41M  $55\ \mu\text{m} \times 55\ \mu\text{m}$  silicon pixels whose signal is readout by the custom VeloPix ASIC
  - First sensitive pixel position at 5.1 mm from the beamline
- Combined sensor and ASIC clustering **efficiency above 99% in average**
  - Consistent performance at  $\mu = 4.4$  ( $\mathcal{L} = 1.7 * 10^{33}\ \text{cm}^{-2}\ \text{s}^{-1}$ ) and  $\mu = 5.3$  ( $\mathcal{L} = 2.0 * 10^{33}\ \text{cm}^{-2}\ \text{s}^{-1}$ )
- Average residual between a track intercept and the cluster position consistent with expected **hit resolution of  $\sim 13\ \mu\text{m}$**
- Vertexing capabilities assessed through the **impact parameter (IP)** of Drell-Yan muons

[\[LHCB-TDR-013\]](#)

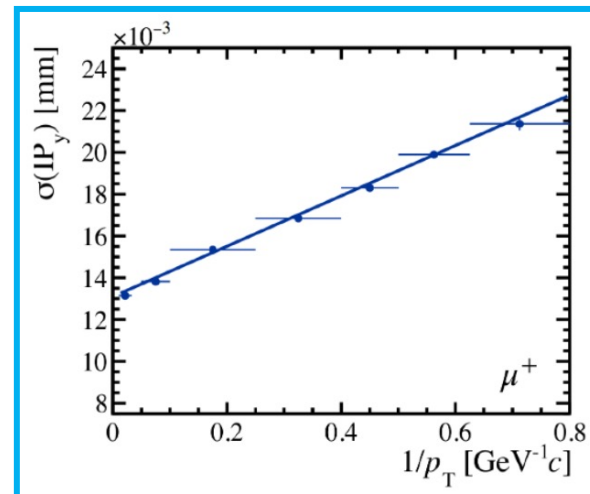


Tracking and PID performance at LHCb UI



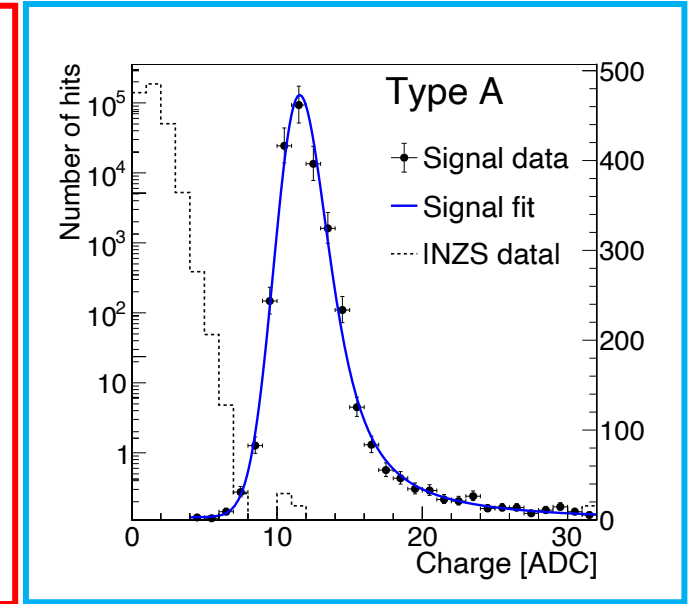
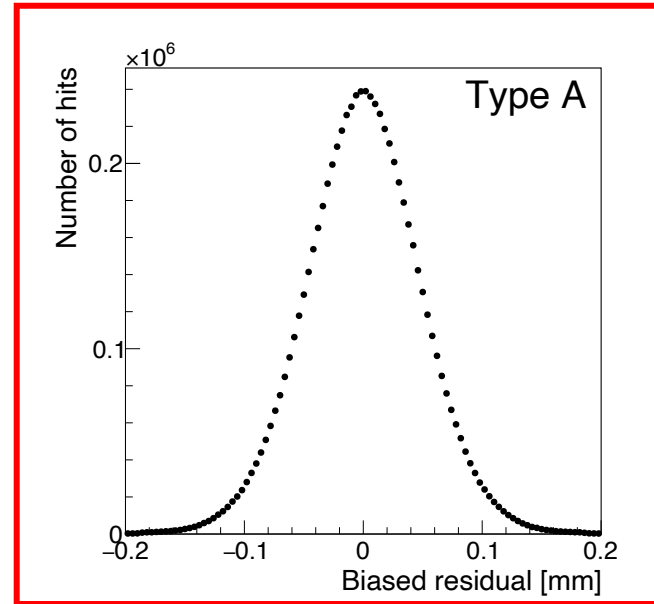
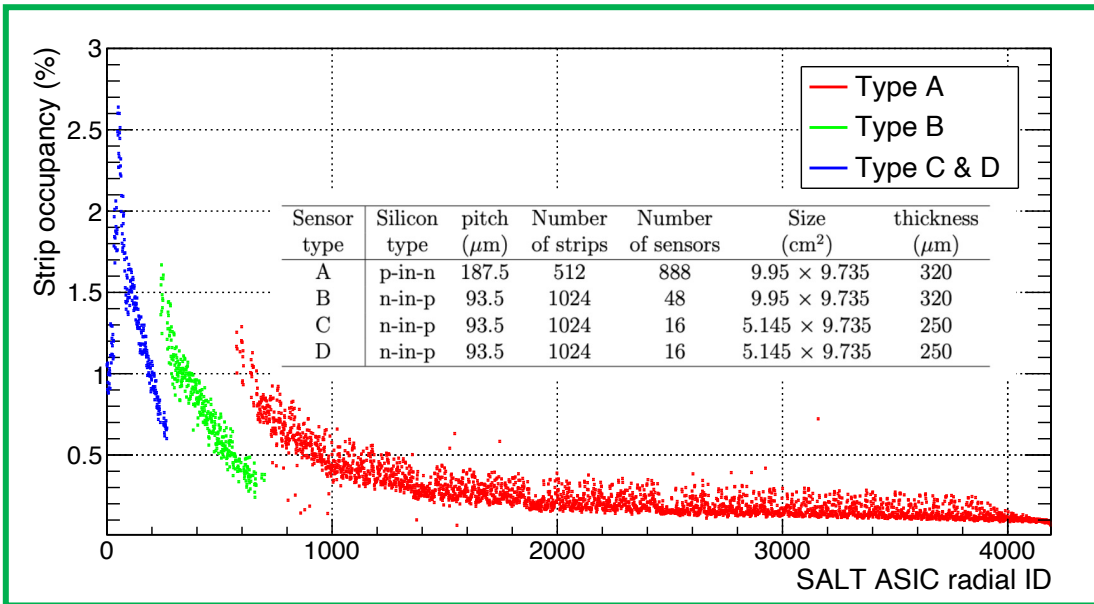
Giovanni Cavallero

July 8, 2025



# UT

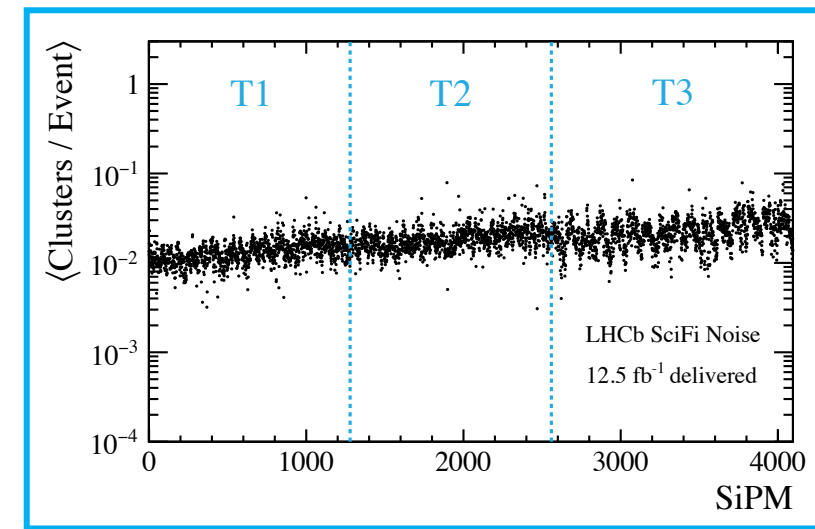
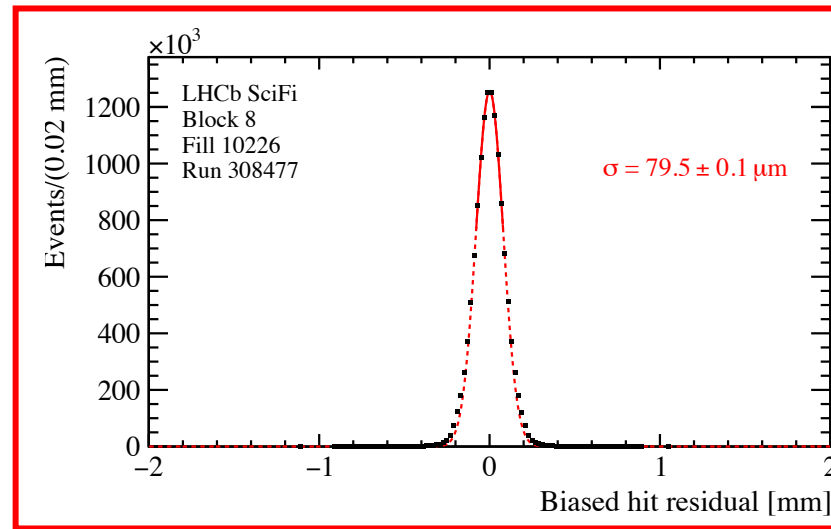
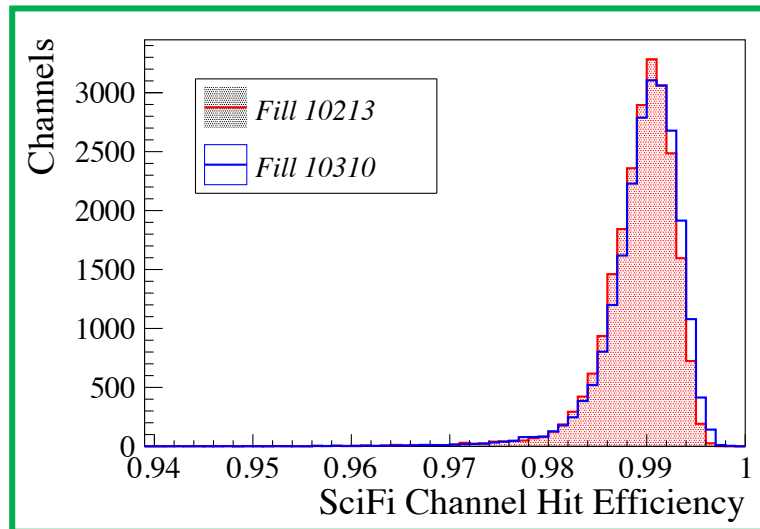
- 4 planes of silicon-strip detectors each containing 4 types of sensors to match **detector occupancy** and readout by the custom SALT ASIC [\[LHCB-TDR-015\]](#)
- Biased residual distribution showing a **hit resolution of  $\sim 50 \mu\text{m}$**
- **Signal well separated from noise**
  - Zero-Suppression (ZS) threshold at  $\geq 4$  ADC counts
- UT helps in reducing “ghost” tracks: more details in [Wojciech’s talk](#)





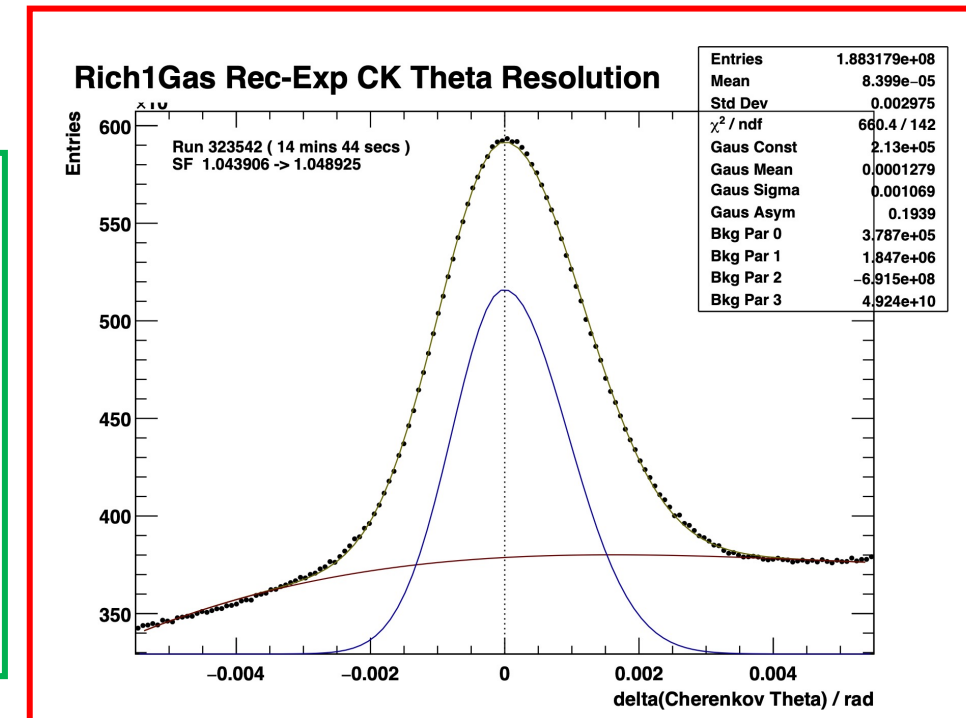
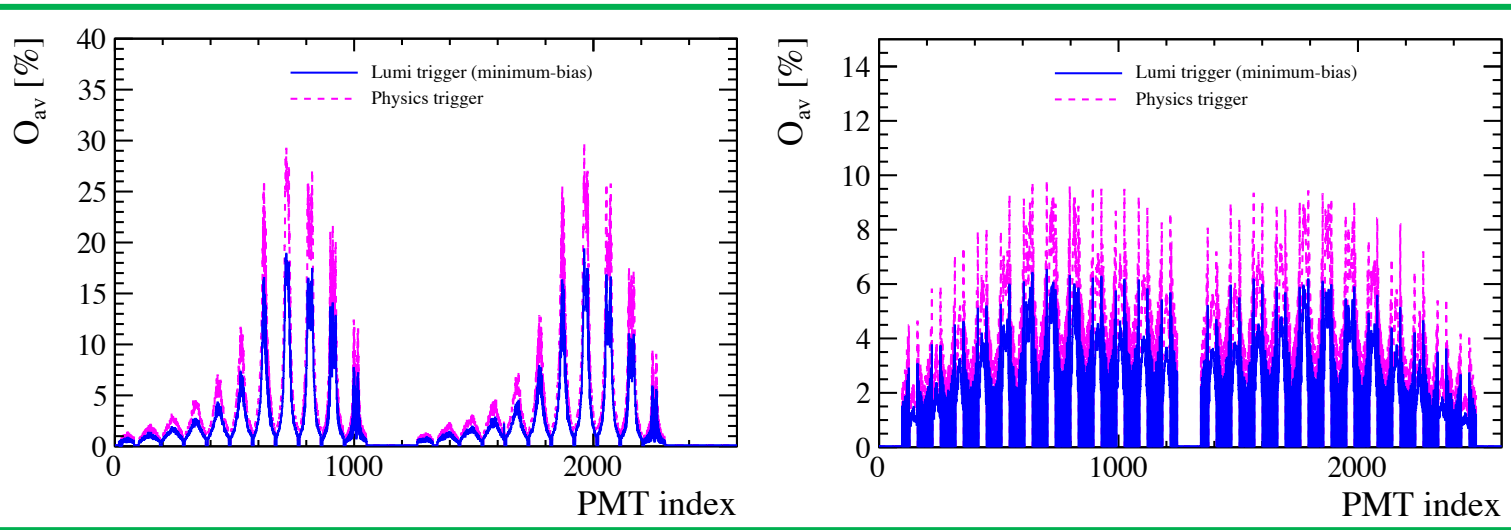
# SciFi

- Three stations (T1, T2 and T3) each containing four layers of scintillating fibres mats: over  $10^4$  km of  $250\ \mu\text{m}$  diameter scintillating fibres whose light is readout by SiPM + custom PACIFIC ASIC [\[LHCB-TDR-015\]](#)
- Hit efficiency for non-edge channels of the innermost modules is  $\sim 99\%$
- Biased residual distribution showing a hit resolution of  $\sim 80\ \mu\text{m}$
- SiPM dark count rate kept under control by cooling at  $-50\ ^\circ\text{C}$



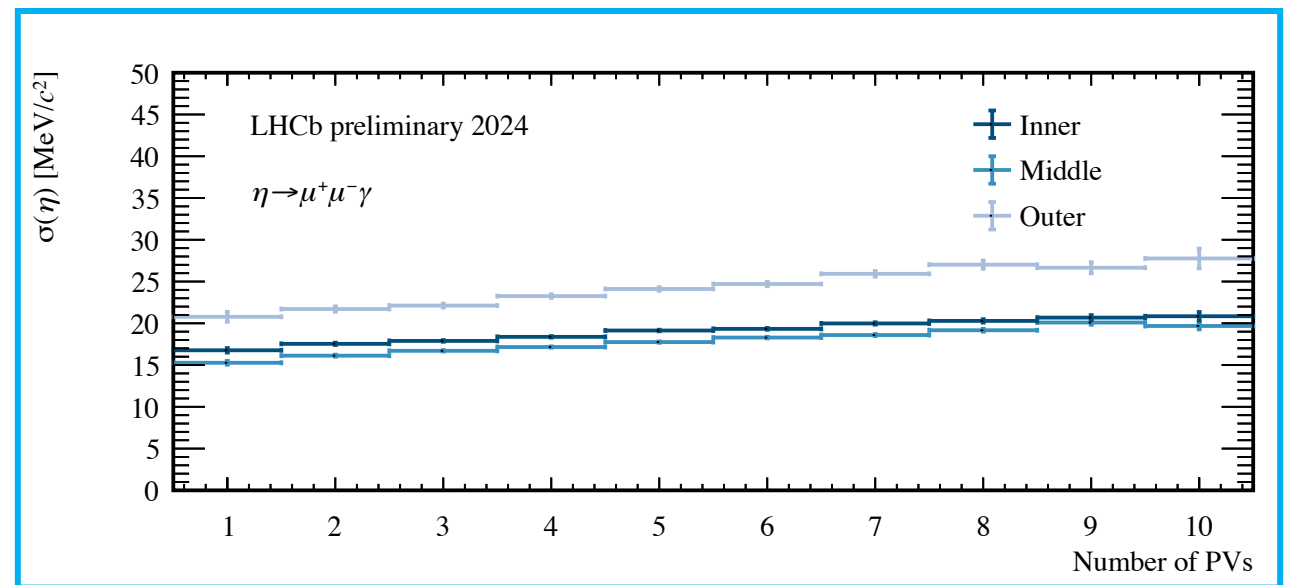
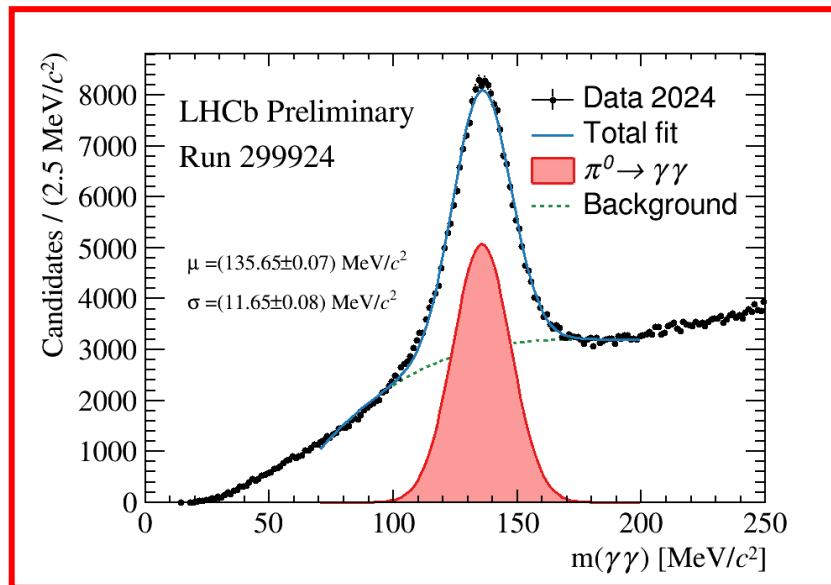
# RICHes

- Two Ring Imaging Cherenkov detectors equipped with 64 channels Multi-Anode Photo-Multiplier Tubes readout by the CLARO ASIC [\[LHCB-TDR-014\]](#)
- Unbiased detected peak occupancy of 20% at the 30 MHz colliding bunch rate
- Single photon resolution of  $\sim 1.1 \text{ mrad}$  (RICH1) and  $\sim 0.6 \text{ mrad}$  (RICH2)
- More details in [Federica's talk](#)



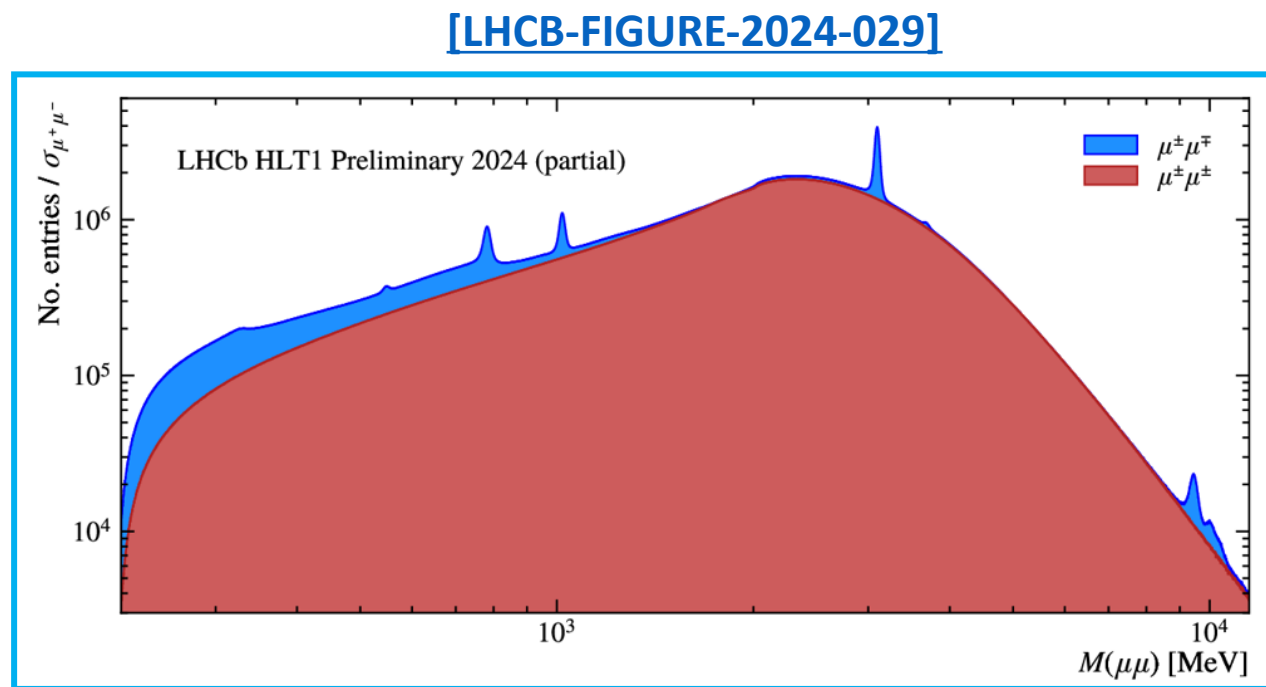
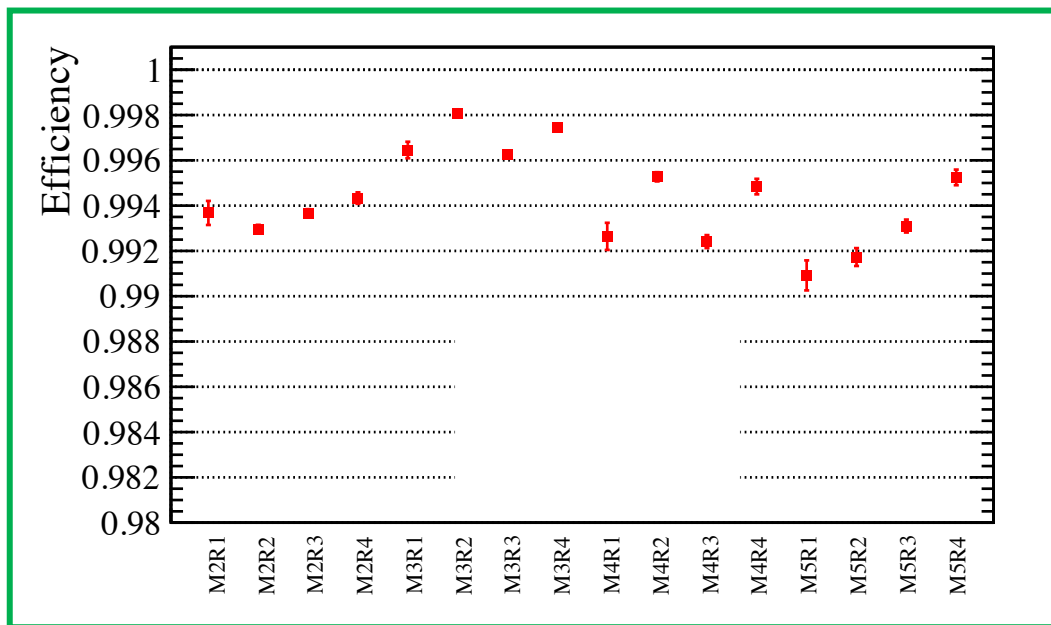
# CALO

- Shashlik calorimeters with PMT readout kept from Run 1 and 2 [\[LHCB-TDR-014\]](#)
- **Calibration** performed using dedicated LED and low-multiplicity data-taking to scale the energy calibration on the known  $\pi^0$  mass by adjusting high-voltage settings
- **Performance (resolution)** affected by pile-up interactions according to expectations



# MUON

- Four stations (M2,M3,M4,M5) each segmented in four regions (R1,R2,R3,R4) of decreasing readout granularity from the beam-pipe [\[LHCB-TDR-014\]](#)
  - Four-gap MWPC with Ar:  $CO_2$ :  $CF_4$  mixture (38:57:5) kept from Run 1 and 2 but from increased readout granularity of the inner region
- $\geq 99\%$  hit efficiency achieved allowing efficient muon identification based on coincidence requirement



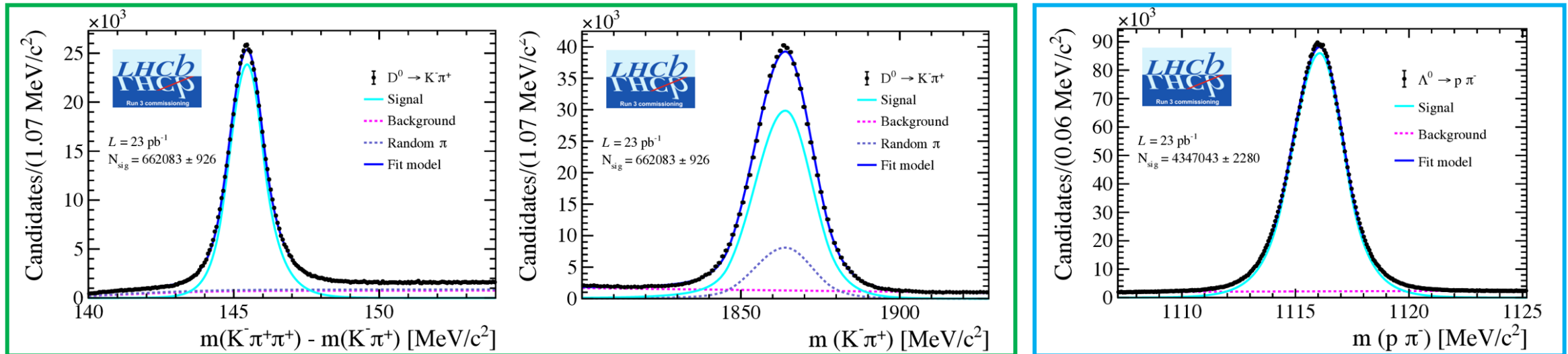


# Global performance

# Global performance assessment

- Global performance figures of merit are determined through data-driven methods using the dataset available in the TURCAL stream
  - tag-and-probe method employing  $J/\psi \rightarrow l^+ l^-$  detached (from-b) decays used to determine tracking efficiency, momentum resolution for long tracks and lepton identification performance
  - charged hadron performance assessed by using decays that can be selected by purely kinematic means, e.g.  $D^{*+} \rightarrow D^0(\rightarrow K^- \pi^+) \pi^+$  and  $\Lambda \rightarrow p \pi^-$

[LHCB-FIGURE-2023-019]

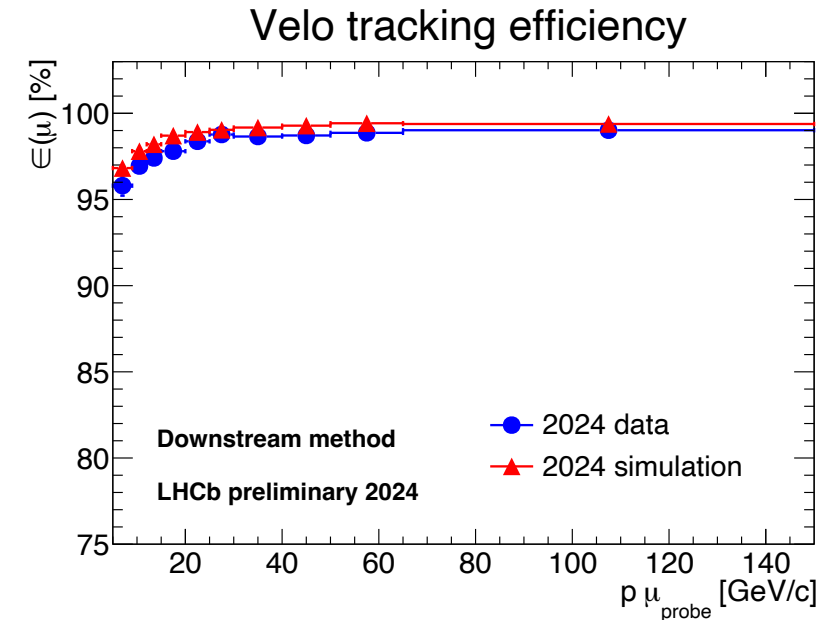
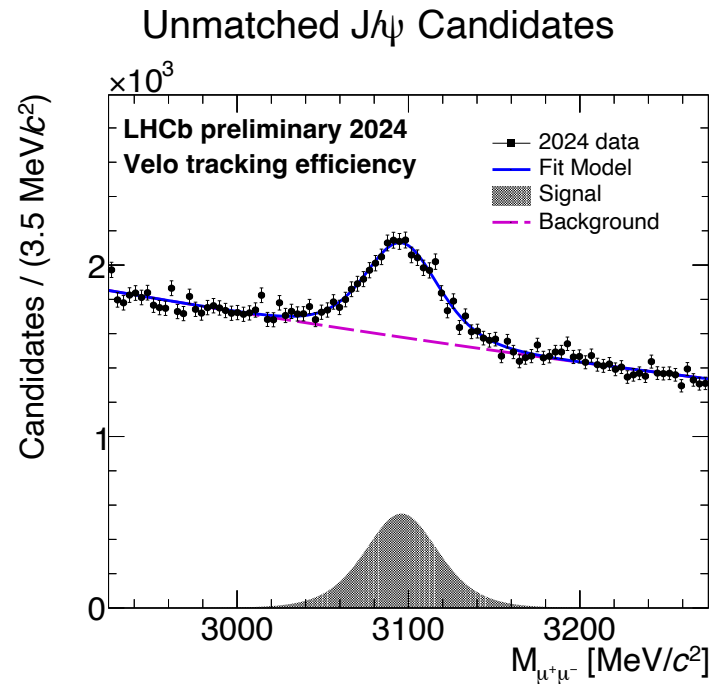
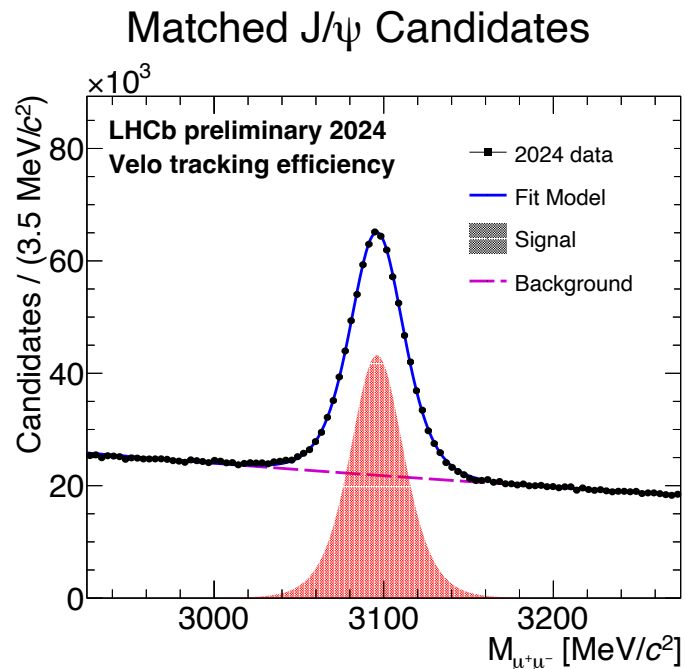


# Tracking performance: efficiency

- **VELO tracking efficiency:** use the information from the UT, SciFi and MUON stations (probe) and match to a fully reconstructed long track (tag)

$$\epsilon_{track} = \frac{N_{matched}}{N_{matched} + N_{unmatched}}$$

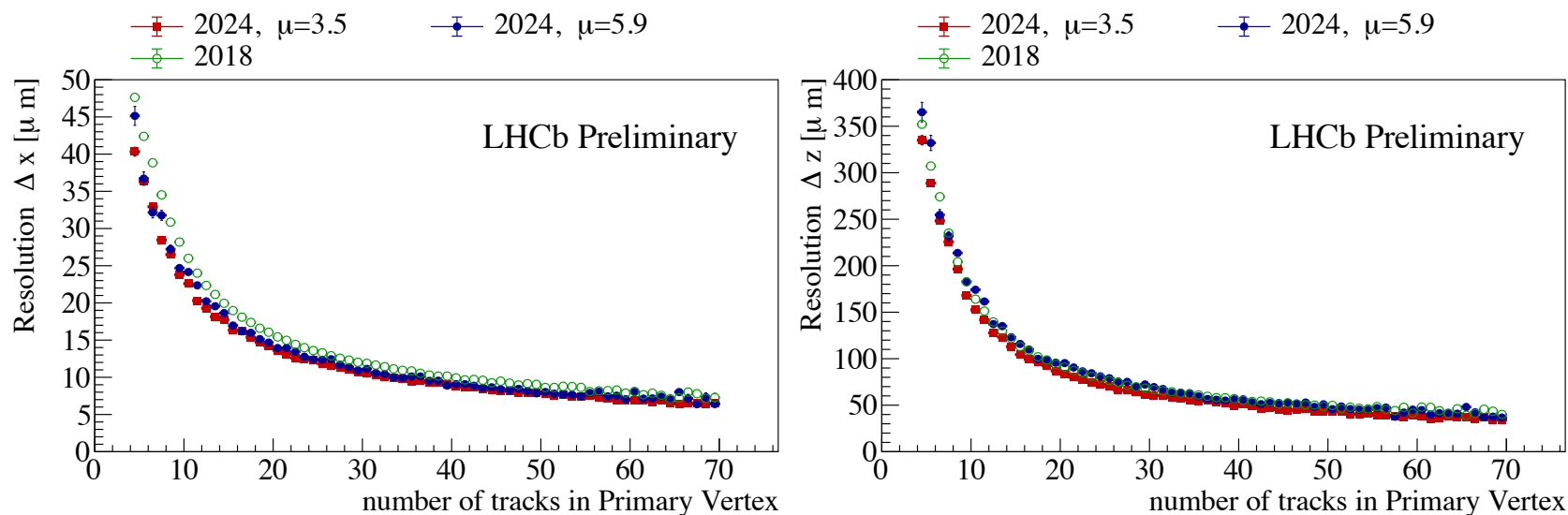
[LHCb-FIGURE-2024-032]



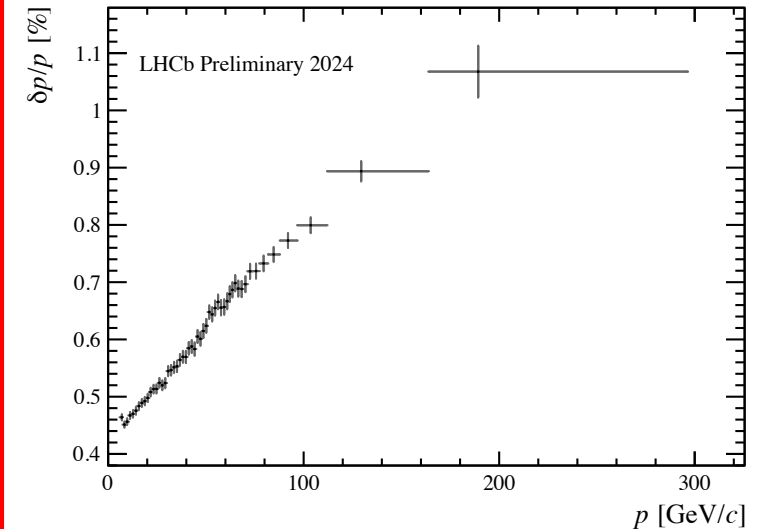
# Tracking performance: resolutions

- PV resolution better than Run 2
- **Momentum resolution** determined fitting the  $J/\psi \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$  invariant mass in bins of momentum: **between 0.4% and 1.1%**

[LHCb-FIGURE-2024-011]

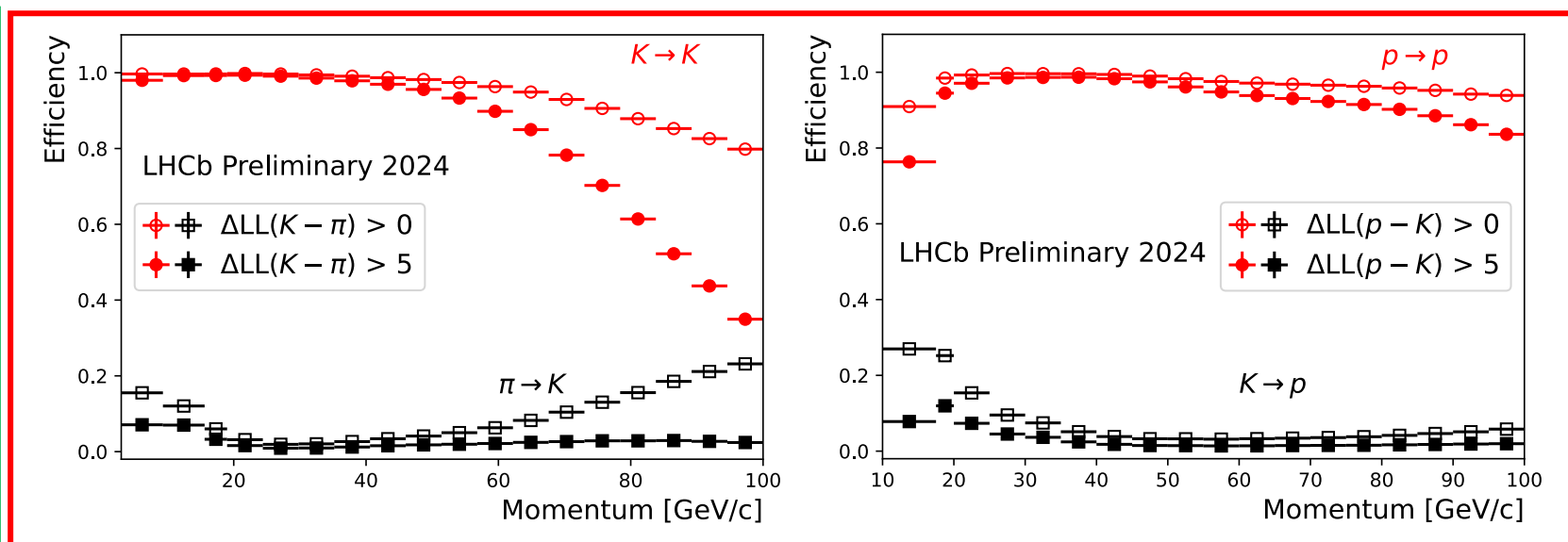
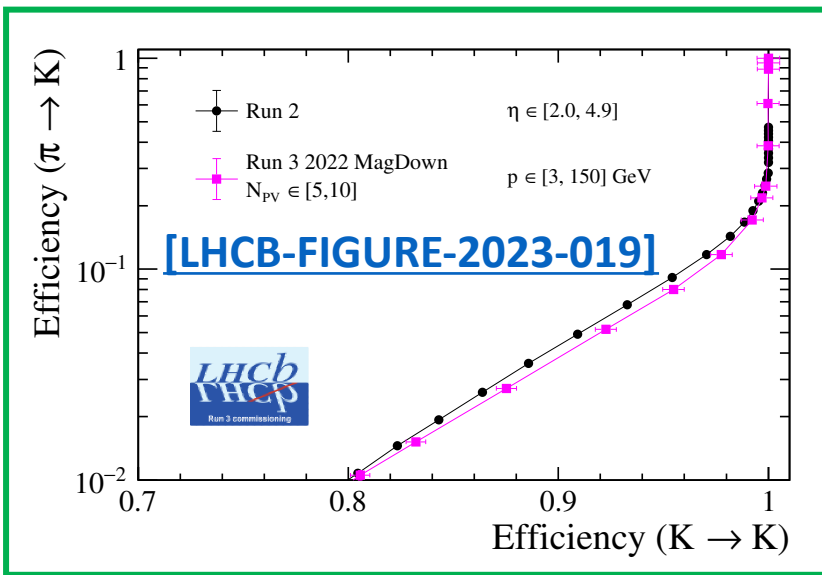


[LHCb-FIGURE-2024-040]



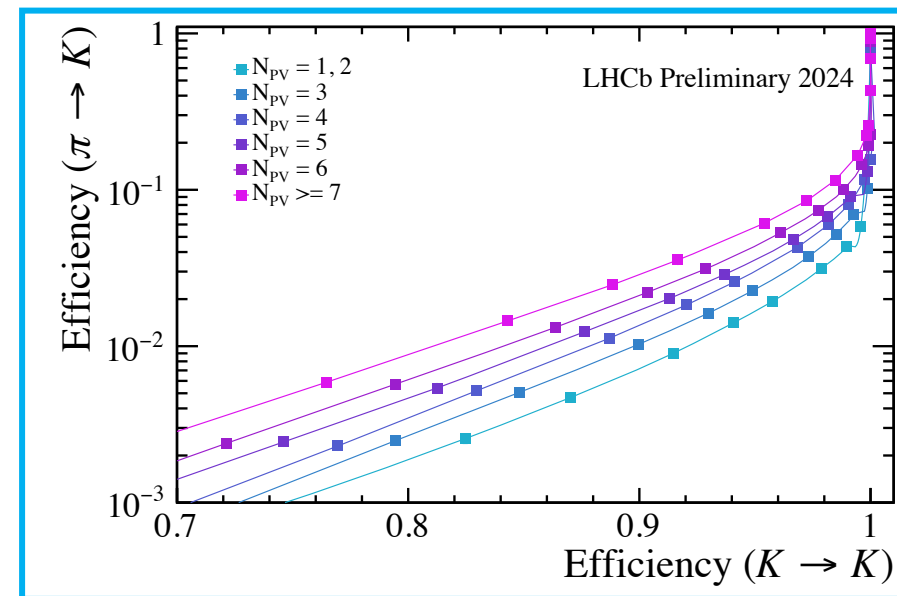


# Hadron identification performance



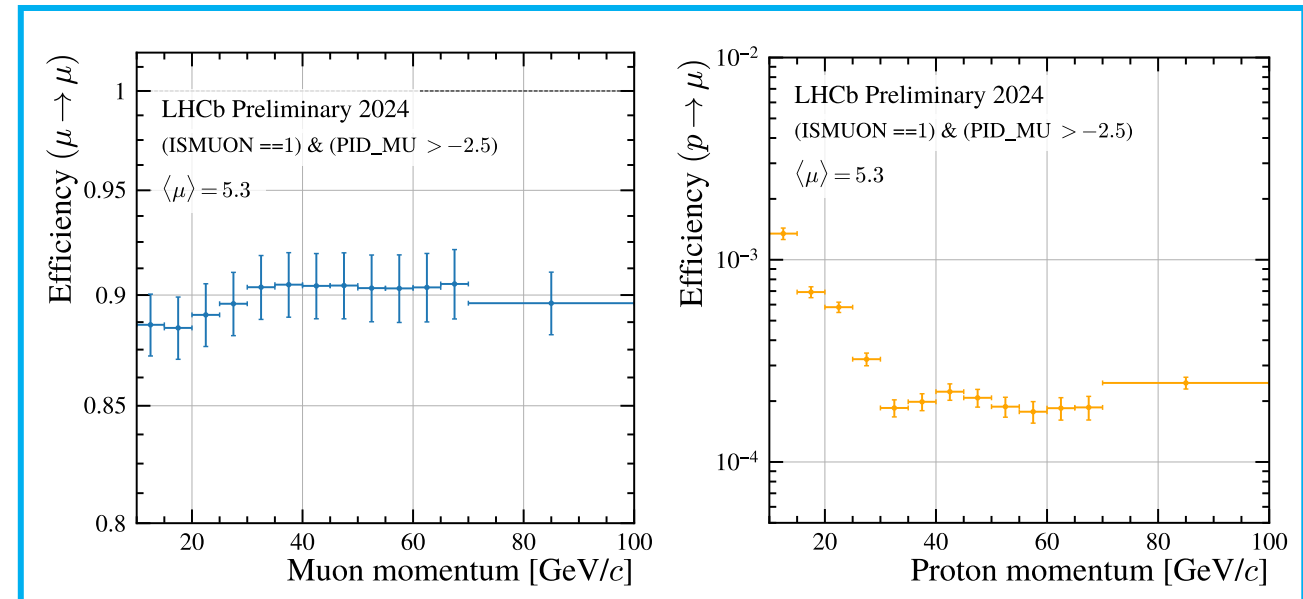
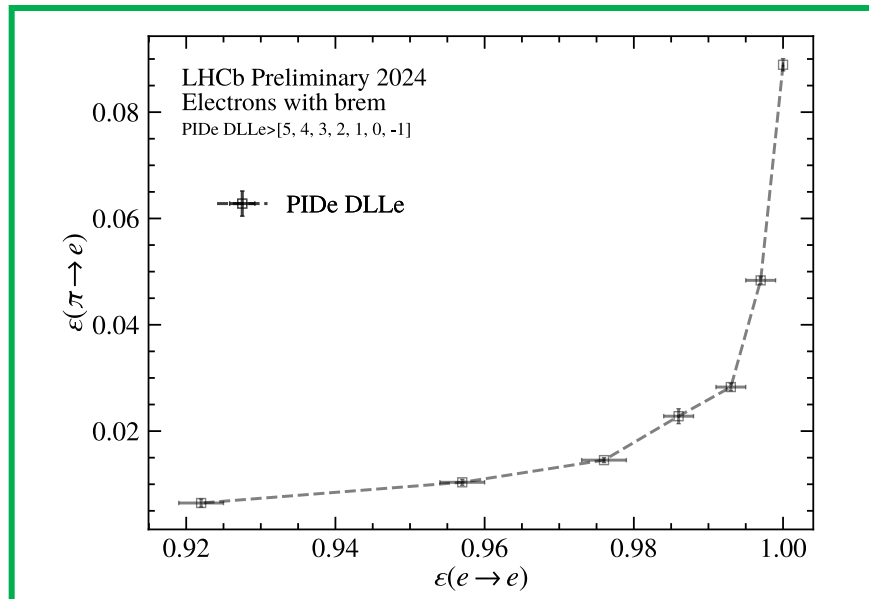
- Better RICH performance at typical Run 3 event multiplicity than in Run 2 already obtained in 2022
- Excellent hadron identification in the full range of momentum
- Expected degradation with increased event multiplicity kept under control

[LHCb-FIGURE-2024-031]



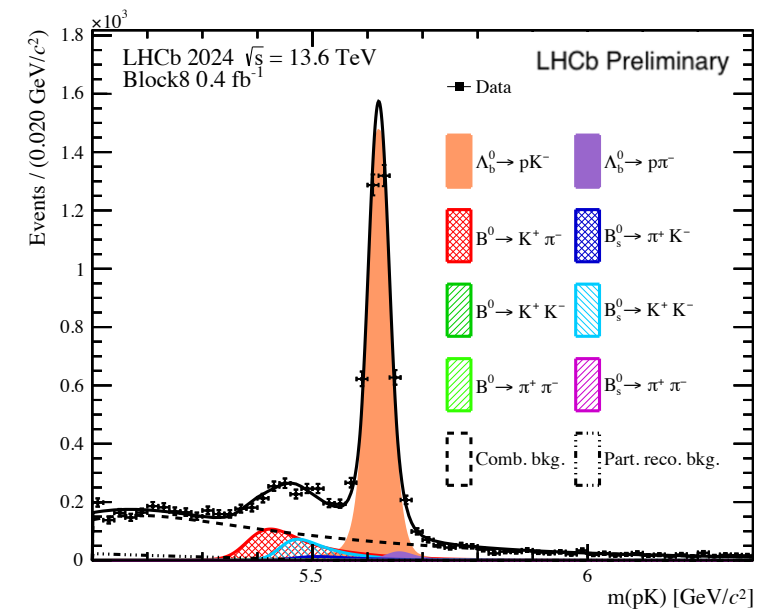
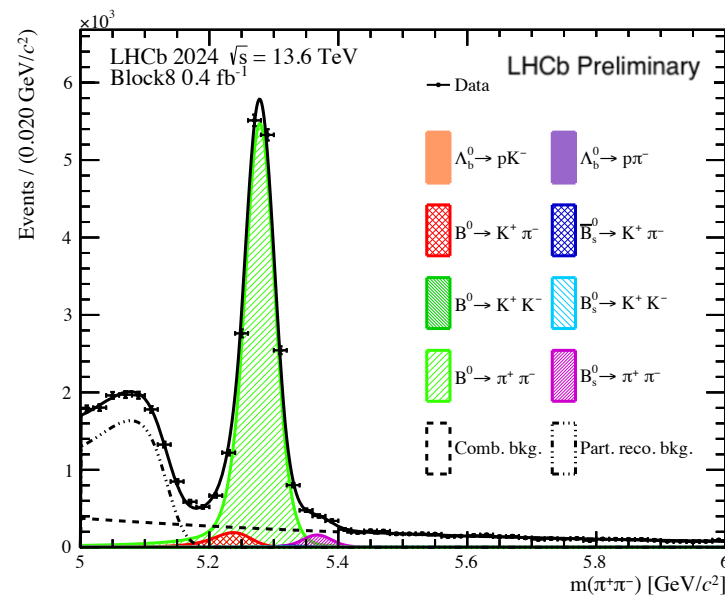
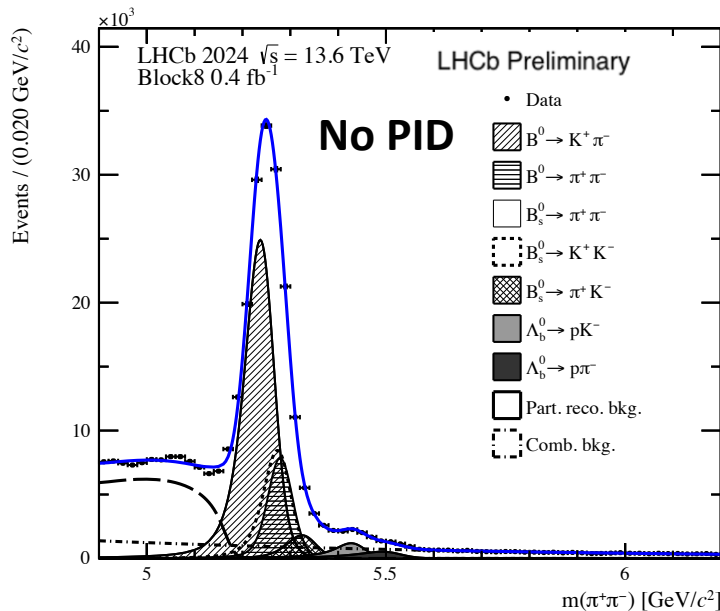
# Charged lepton identification performance

- Global electron identification efficiency as a function of the pion-electron mis-identification probability depends on the electron energy correction for bremsstrahlung losses
- Muon identification: at efficiencies  $> 90\%$  the proton-muon mis-identification rate is below one per mille
  - Similar mis-identification rates for decays in flight of pions and kaons to muons



# Global performance

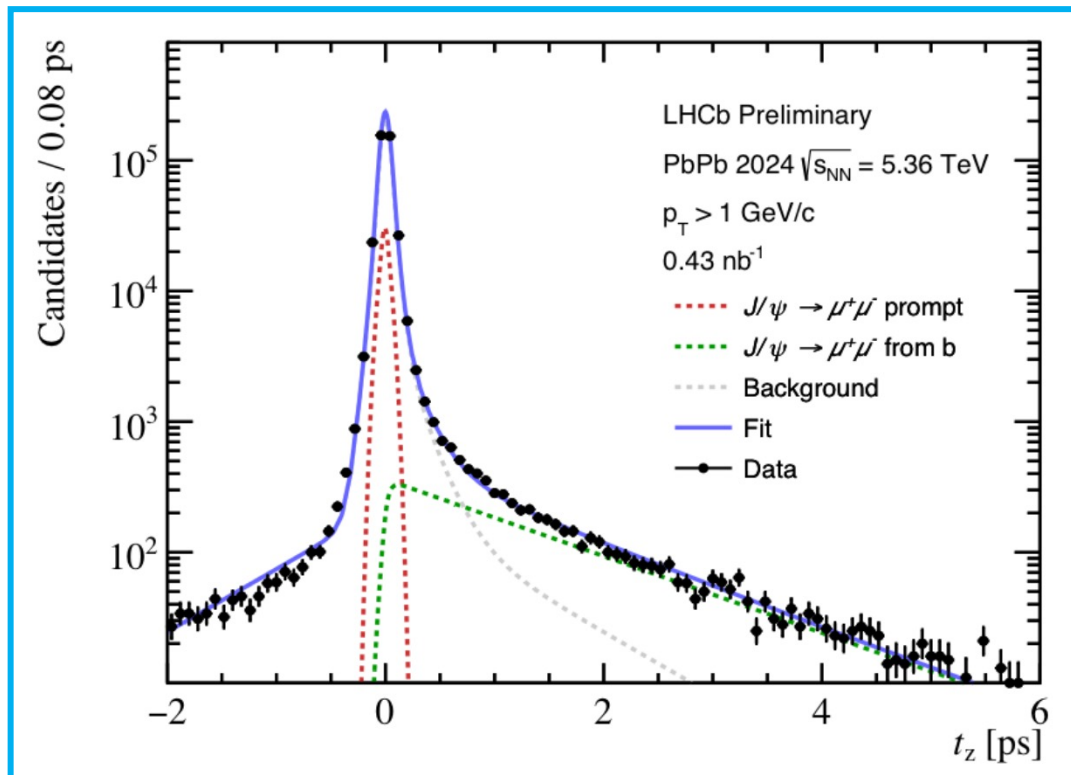
- Illustrated by  $b \rightarrow h^+ h^-$  decays, where the parent particle is  $B^0$ ,  $B_s^0$  or  $\Lambda_b^0$  and  $h = \pi, K, p$
- Invariant mass of the decays, depending on the mass hypothesis for the final state hadron, shows excellent resolution and particle identification



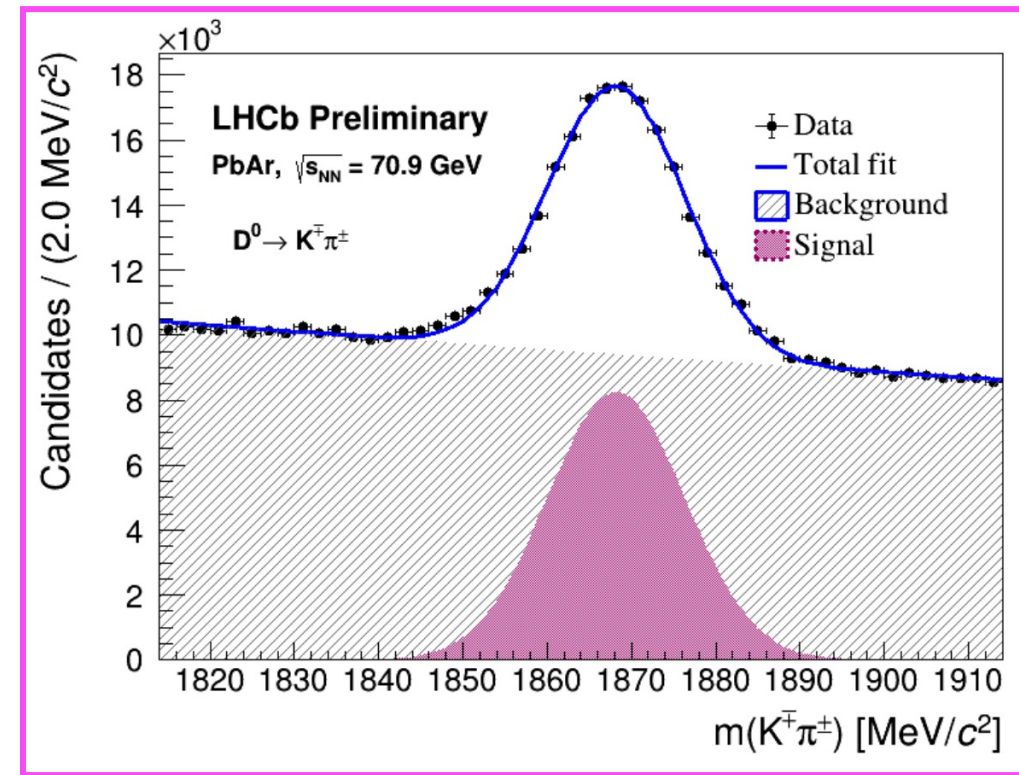
# Highlights of performance in other collision systems

- Larger gas pressure thanks to the new SMOG2 cell
  - In 2024 injected hydrogen, deuterium, helium, neon and argon simultaneously to pp data-taking
- Also took **PbPb**, PbNe and **PbAr** collisions

[LHCb-FIGURE-2025-012]



[LHCb-FIGURE-2025-014]



# Conclusions

- LHCb experiment brought to nominal luminosity operations in 2024
- Thanks to the huge commitment of the whole LHCb community, advanced automation of operations and the excellent LHC performance in 2024, LHCb collected and processed about 10/fb in a single year
- All subdetectors reaching or surpassing the performances of their Run 1 and 2 predecessors in a harsher environment
- Ambitious and challenging triggerless readout at 40 MHz, enabling an innovative fully-software trigger system, together with online alignment and calibration procedures, working in full steam
- **LHCb upgrade concepts fully demonstrated => ready to unleash state-of-the-art flavour physics measurements (and beyond) at the LHC**