

The experimental challenge for flavour physics at the FCC-ee

Flavour for New Physics at Present and Future Colliders, MITP

Armin Ilg¹

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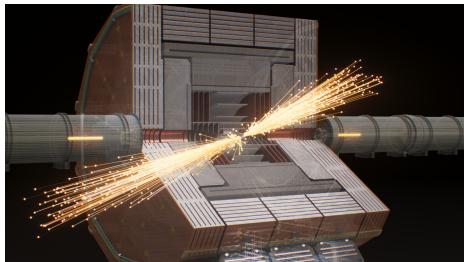
17.06.2025



University of
Zurich^{UZH}



FUTURE
CIRCULAR
COLLIDER



Let's look closer at most prominent* experiments dedicated to flavour physics

Belle II

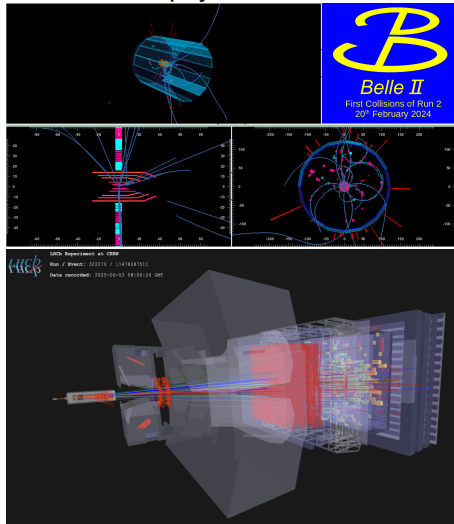
- Asymmetric e^+e^- collisions (Lorentz boost of 0.28), at $\Upsilon(4S)$ resonance ($\sqrt{s} = 10.58$ GeV)
- High inst. luminosity of $> 5 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$, target $6 \times 10^{35} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ in the future [1]
- Target final luminosity of 50 ab^{-1}

LHCb

- At the LHC, precisely measure forward physics
- Up to $1.5 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- Target final luminosity of $> 300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

How to get the best of both worlds?

*Don't forget CMS/ATLAS and Co.!



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Collider mode	$\Upsilon(4S)$	pp
All hadron species		✓
High boost		✓
Enormous production cross section		✓
Negligible trigger losses	✓	
Low backgrounds	✓	
Initial energy constraint	✓	
Flavour-tagging power	✓	(✓)
4π acceptance	✓	

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Circular collider with 90.7 km circumference machine to serve HEP for the rest of the century



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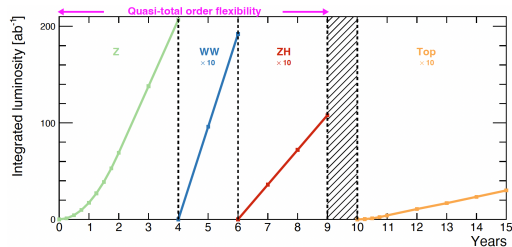
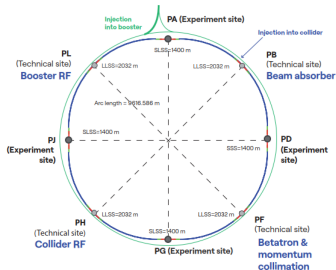
FCC-hh: hh collisions at $\sqrt{s} \geq 84 \text{ TeV} \rightarrow$ *energy frontier*

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FCC-ee: e^+e^- collisions at highest luminosities \rightarrow *intensity frontier* \leftarrow **Focus on this!**



Baseline operation model for FCC-ee [2]

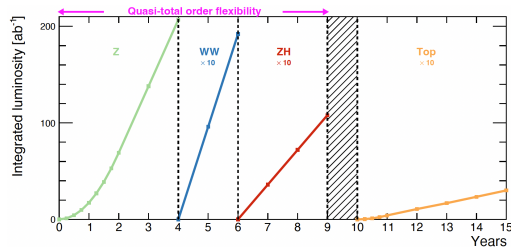
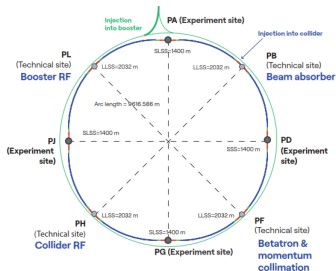
EW: $2.4 \cdot 10^8$ WW, $6 \cdot 10^{12}$ Z
H: $1.78 \cdot 10^6$ HZ, 125k WW \rightarrow H
Top: $1.9 \cdot 10^6$ $t\bar{t}$

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EW: $2.4 \cdot 10^8 \text{ WW}$, $6 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ Z}$

H: $1.78 \cdot 10^6 \text{ HZ}$, $125\text{k WW} \rightarrow \text{H}$

Top: $1.9 \cdot 10^6 \text{ } t\bar{t}$

Flavour: $O(10^{12}) \text{ } b\bar{b}$, $c\bar{c}$, etc., $O(10^{11}) \text{ } \tau\bar{\tau}$!

Particle species	B^0	B^+	B_s^0	λ_b	B_c^+	$c\bar{c}$	$\tau^-\tau^+$
Yield at Belle II ($\times 10^9$ [3])	27.5	27.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	65	45
Yield at FCC-ee ($\times 10^9$, FCC FS [2])	370	370	90	80	2	720	200

- ≥ 10 more $b\bar{b}$ and $c\bar{c}$ pairs than Belle II, B_s^0 , B_c , and Λ_b accessible
- Boosted b 's and τ 's → Higher reconstruction efficiencies for modes with missing energy

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The Z pole is not all!

- Access to flavour parameters from W decays
- Flavour-violating decays of Z and H (rare!)
- V_{ts} from $t \rightarrow Ws$

In the early days of LEP3 and FCC, flavour physics was mostly an afterthought. This has changed. Flavour as key component of FCC(-ee) physics case

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I'll discuss the experimental challenges (and opportunities) of flavour physics at the FCC-ee!

Focus on what the experiments need to deliver for you guys to enjoy

FCC-ee to make precise measurements of rare and elusive flavour processes

Precision, precision, precision

- Precise measurement of particle properties
 - Vertices and decay history
 - Momentum
 - Identity
 - Energy
- All the time
 - Alignment, stability, redundancy, efficiency
- Everywhere
 - Hermeticity

FCC-ee to make precise measurements of rare and elusive flavour processes

Precision, precision, precision

- Precise measurement of particle properties
 - Vertices and decay history → Vertex detector
 - Momentum → Tracker
 - Identity → Particle identification
 - Energy → Calorimeter
- All the time
 - Alignment, stability, redundancy, efficiency
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For anything that has secondary and tertiary vertices!

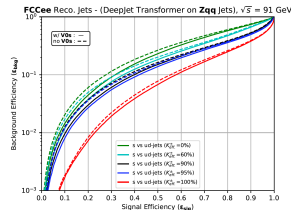
- b and c hadrons, taus, V0s, ...
- Reconstruct complex decay chains
- Particle lifetime measurements (τ , oscillations)
- Efficient flavour tagging (b/c/g/s)

Stringent requirements on vertex detector to limit syst. uncertainties:

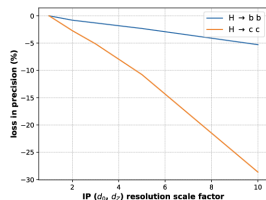
→ Coverage down to $|\cos(\theta)| \lesssim 0.99$ and high reco. efficiency

→ $\sigma_{d_0} = a \oplus \frac{b}{p \sin^{3/2} \theta}$ with $a \approx 3 \mu\text{m}$, $b \approx 15 \mu\text{mGeV}$

- a given by sensor resolution → Small single-hit resolution, pixels
- b given by *multiple scattering* → Minimise material budget (number of radiation lengths X_0) in vertex and beam pipe



Secondary vertices for
s-tagging [4]



Impact of IP resolution on
Yukawa coupling
measurement (L. Gouskous)

Reconstruction of the charged particle trajectories

- Large radius due to lower momenta and B field limited to 2 T (up to 3 T may be possible except for Z pole run)
- Precise angle determination in di-muons, $< 100 \mu\text{rad}$
- Need for exquisite momentum resolution of $\sigma(1/p_T) \approx a \oplus b/p_T$, with $a \approx 3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}^{-1}$, $b \approx 0.6 \cdot 10^{-3}$
 - Again minimise the material budget
- Either some precise hits (silicon tracking) or many less precise hits (gaseous tracking)
 - Gaseous tracking beneficial for continuous tracking (e.g. for long-lived particle searches)
- Precise tracks are crucial ingredient to *particle flow reconstruction* and thus jet energy resolution



Visualisation of tracking [5].

- Kaon ID for flavour tagging (s jets contain more kaons) and flavour physics
- γ /neutral hadron separation for particle flow reconstruction
- Background suppression in flavour physics (e.g. $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s K$ from $B_s^0 \rightarrow D_s \pi$)

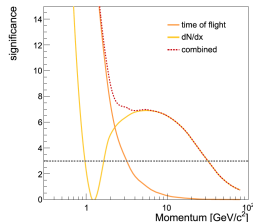
Drift chamber as tracker

- dE/dx and/or cluster counting (dN/dx)

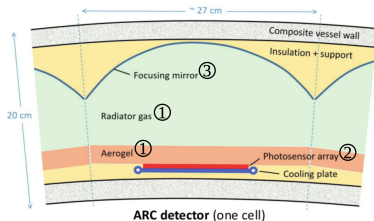
Timing measurement for time-of-flight

- $O(30)$ ps to get PID at low momenta (LGADs, MAPS, etc.). $O(100)\text{m}^2$ of sensors needed

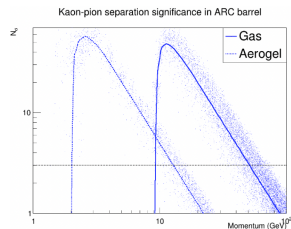
Ring imaging Cherenkov (RICH) detectors



Kaon-pion separation using drift chamber and TOF (F. Bedeschi [6])



Cell of ARC detector for FCC-ee (R. Forty)



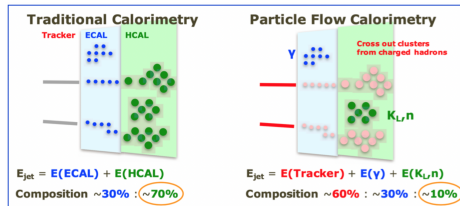
Kaon-pion separation in ARC (M. Tat)

EM calorimeter

- Supreme energy resolution for
 - some flavour physics processes (more soon)
 - Resolution on Higgs mass in $e^+e^- \rightarrow Z(\rightarrow e^+e^-)H$ almost as good as in $\mu^+\mu^-$ with $3\%/\sqrt{E}$ (M.T. Lucchino et al. [7])
 - $Z\nu_e\bar{\nu}_e$ coupling

Particle-flow reconstruction

- Optimise jet energy resolution by individually reconstructing each particle and using the best measurement for each (tracker, ECAL, HCAL)
- Needs transverse and longitudinal granularity

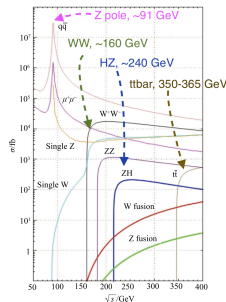


Particle flow calorimetry (M. Dam)

Hadronic calorimeter

- Sensitivity down to few 100 MeV
- Single hadron resolution of $25\text{--}50\%/\sqrt{E}$
- Particle Flow \rightarrow Enough for jet resolution of $\sim 3\text{--}4\%$

- ☺: e^+e^- collisions are *clean* - there's no QCD in the initial state
- ☹: Very high inst. luminosity of $140 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ thanks to 50 MHz bunch collision rate ($t_{\text{BC}} = 20 \text{ ns}$ currently)
- Very high rate of interesting events (100 kHz of Z, 30 kHz of $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow$ hadrons, 50 kHz of bhabha pairs) that need to be read out and saved (and simulated!)

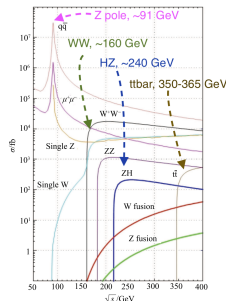


e^+e^- annihilation
cross section [8]

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 - Integrate over of a couple of bunch crossings?
 - But need to check impact on uncertainties
 - Timing of $\mathcal{O}(\text{few ns} - 1 \mu\text{s})$ in vertex detector



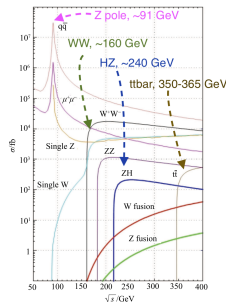
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Experimental environment at the FCC-ee (Z pole)

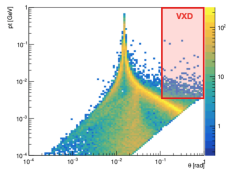
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- Considerable beam backgrounds, mainly from incoherent pairs
 - High hit rate innermost vertex layers, occupancy challenges in gaseous tracker and ECAL
 - Challenge also for readout
 - $\mathcal{O}(1 \times 10^{13} \text{ 1 MeV n}_{\text{eq}} \text{ cm}^{-2})$ and few tens of kGy per year



e^+e^- annihilation
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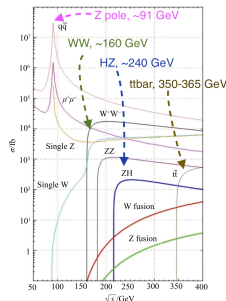
Incoherent pairs at Z
pole [9]

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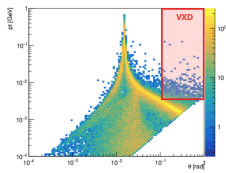
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 - $\mathcal{O}(1 \times 10^{13} \text{ 1 MeV n}_{\text{eq}} \text{ cm}^{-2})$ and few tens of kGy per year
- Unclear if hardware trigger is needed or not

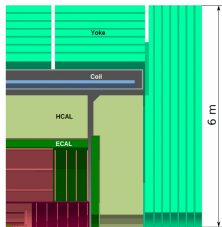


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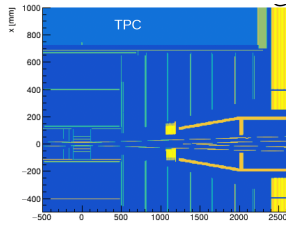


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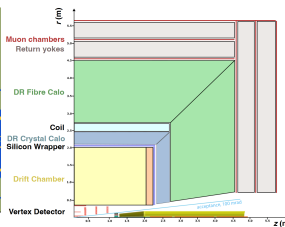
FCC-ee detector *concepts* (modulo some variations)



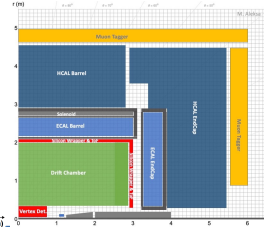
CLD [10, 11]



ILD [12, 13]



IDEA [14]

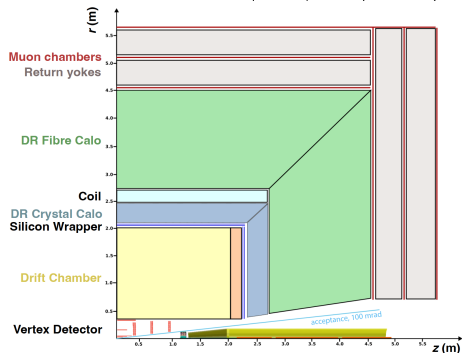
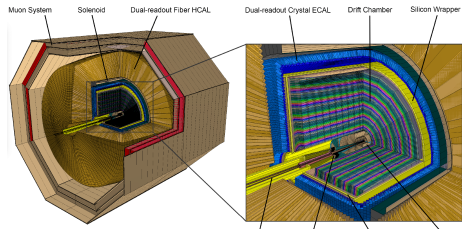


ALLEGRO [15]

- Light silicon vertex detector using monolithic active pixel sensors (MAPS)

- Si tracker
- dE/dx + ARC (?)
- CALICE-like highly-granular ECAL/HCAL
- Solenoid coil outside calorimeter system
- Si tracker + time projection chamber
- Si or ECAL with T.O.F
- CALICE-like highly-granular ECAL/HCAL
- Solenoid coil outside calorimeter system
- Ultra-light drift chamber with $dN_{ion.}/dx$
- Si layer with T.O.F
- Dual-readout crystal ECAL
- Light solenoid up to 3 T
- DR fibre HCAL
- DC/SciFi/Straw tubes
- Si layer with T.O.F
- Noble liquid ECAL, Pb/W+LAr or W+LKr
- Solenoid in same cryostat as ECAL
- TileCal HCAL
- Muon system in return yoke, pretty much det. concept independent (e.g. μ -RWELL in IDEA)

- **Vertex detector** with light layers of monolithic active pixel sensors (MAPS)
 - Integrated into MDI, together with two luminals in the forward region
- Ultra-light **drift chamber** providing up to 112 hits per track ($\sigma_{xy} \approx 100 \mu\text{m}$) and $dN_{\text{ion.}}/dx$ for PID
- Silicon wrapper for momentum resolution and time-of-flight ($\mathcal{O}(100 \text{ ps})$) for PID
- Dual readout crystal ECAL for energy resolution
 - *Dual readout*: Measure both relativistic ($\approx \text{EM}$) and non-relativistic shower ($\approx \text{hadr.}$) components
 - Inside a high-temperature superconducting solenoid with up to 3 T
- Dual readout fibre HCAL complementing ECAL
- ≥ 3 layers of μ -RWELL muon detectors



2502.21223

A lot of work done for the feasibility study, but many points still under investigation

- Requirements to the accelerator? (backgrounds, space constraints, etc.)
- Expected performance? What can we do with the particles we get?
- Can novel detector technologies can benefit the physics program? New detector concepts?

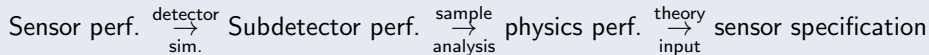
Fast simulation (DELPHES), parametrised simulation of detector response

- Idealised, fast, simple
 - **Explore** how detectors could look like and what measurements can be done
- Over the years with more R&D we can mostly achieve or even surpass these estimates

Full simulation:

- Realistic, detailed, complex
 - Needed to guide **development** of detector layouts, actual sensor prototypes
- A bit pessimistic in hindsight

Feedback-loop



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- Idealised, fast, simple
- **Exp** Most studies presented in the following were done using fast simulation.

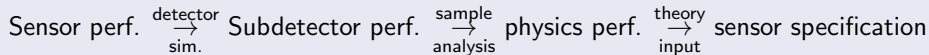
→ Over ~~Expected sensitivity and limits~~ → Required exp./theo. developments nates

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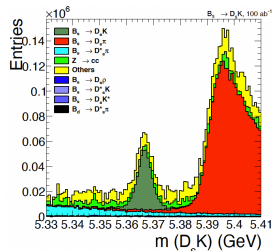


Measurement of time-dependent CP asymmetry $\rightarrow \gamma$ angle of V_{CKM}

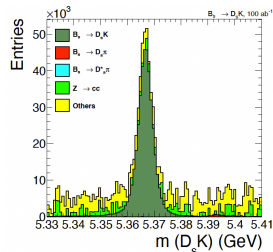
- Use $D_s \rightarrow \phi(KK)\pi$ channel
- ϕ resonance, no neutral particles in final state \rightarrow Easy to reconstruct
- Many backgrounds considered (inclusive $Z \rightarrow b\bar{b}/c\bar{c}$ added for FS report)
- Reconstruct ϕ candidates then D_s candidate without PID, build B_s candidates by fitting D_s with another track
- PID (dN/dx and 30 ps TOF) on last track to reject $Z \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ backgrounds
- ECAL performance of $5\%/\sqrt{E}$ necessary to distinguish peaks

FCC-ee able to measure γ down to few tens of a degree (LHCb 300 fb^{-1} similar, $\pm 4\text{ deg}$ currently, LHCb)

\rightarrow Can be further improved by adding other decay modes



Before PID [2]



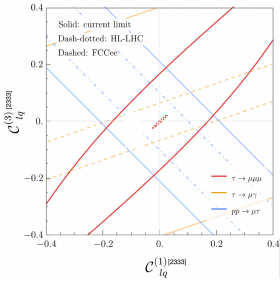
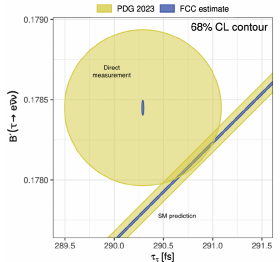
After PID [2]

Extrapolation from DELPHI 2004 τ_τ using three-prong tau pair decays

- Benefit from tiny statistical uncertainty
- Need to keep luminosity systematic under control
- Mind vertex detector alignment and length scale

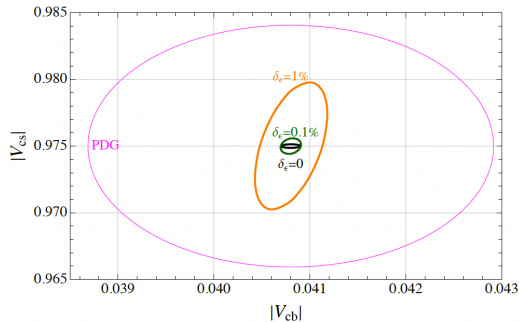
Comparison to Belle II: Benefit from better momentum, vertex resolution, and PID at Z pole than Belle II thanks to larger momenta and light detectors

	DELPHI 2004 [fs]	DELPHI 2004 [ppm]	FCC-ee(Z) 6·10 ¹² Z [ppm]
statistical uncertainty	5.2	18000	15.0
luminosity-dependent systematics	1.3	4500	3.9
- background	0.2		
- reconstruction bias	0.8		
- vertex detector alignment	1.0		
luminosity-independent systematics			
- detector length scale	-	100	5.0
- average tau energy	-	-	1.0
- radiative energy loss	0.1	350	11.5
- tau mass	-	68	10.0
total systematics			15.9
total uncertainty			22.3



Example for flavour at FCC-ee beyond Z pole: World-best limits of $|V_{cs}|$ and $|V_{cb}|$!

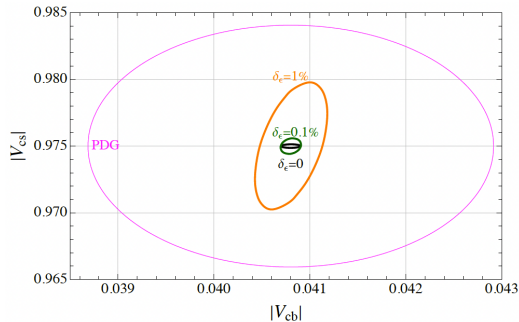
- V_{cb} is normally measured in tree-level semi-leptonic B decays, tensions in inclusive vs. exclusive decays
- At FCC-ee can instead directly look at 2.4×10^8 on-shell WW pair decays
 - Independent measurement, independent from lattice QCD
- Focused on V_{cb} and $V_{cs} \rightarrow$ Good tagging and large statistics
- $|V_{cb}|$ statistically limited for reasonable systematic uncertainties
 - \rightarrow Need good light jet rejection
- $|V_{cs}|$ limited by systematic uncertainty on tagging efficiency
 - \rightarrow Need good s-tagger performance (= good Kaon/Pion discrimination and vertexing)



68% CL contours in $(|V_{cb}|, |V_{cs}|)$ plane for different syst. uncertainties on tagging efficiencies [16]

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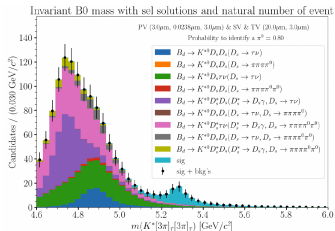
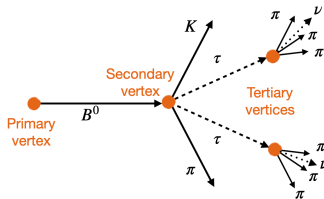
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Importance of **jet flavour tagging**

- $B^0 \rightarrow K^{*0} + \tau^+ + \tau^-$ not observed yet, limit of $\text{BR} < \mathcal{O}(10^{-3}-10^{-4})$
 → but SM value at 10^{-7} , strongly enhanced in many beyond SM theories!
- Three-prong τ decays allow reconstruction of event kinematics and B^0 mass
- Precise vertex reconstruction crucial!

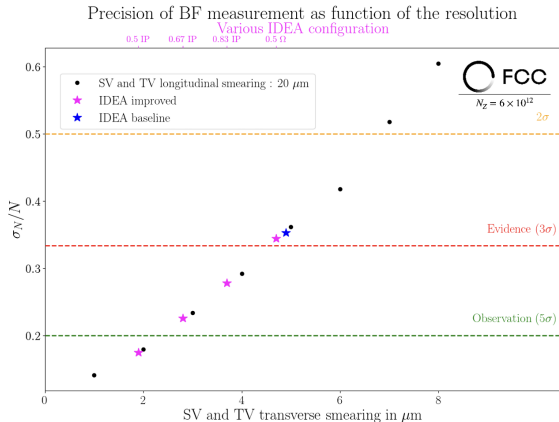
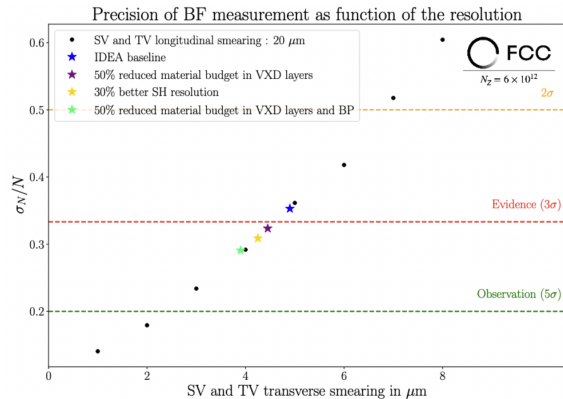


- Close to evidence (3σ) using current IDEA baseline in Delphes fast simulation study (T. Miralles et al. at FCC Physics Workshop 2024, [17])

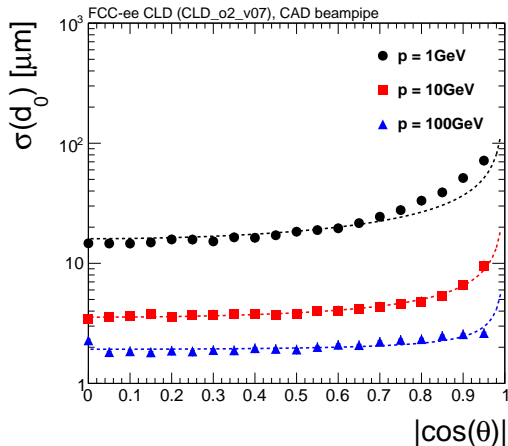
Assumptions:

- 80% vertexing efficiency
- 80% π^0 detection rate to reduce this background

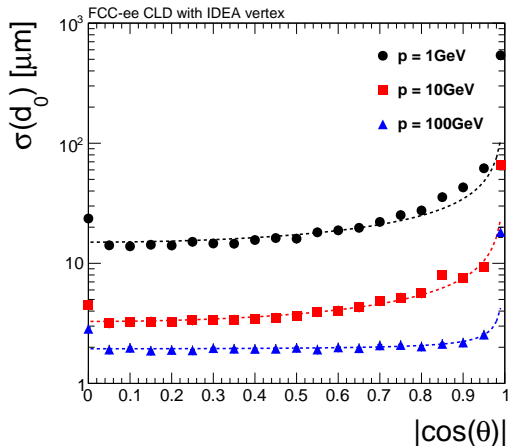
Again importance of Kaon-Pion distinction



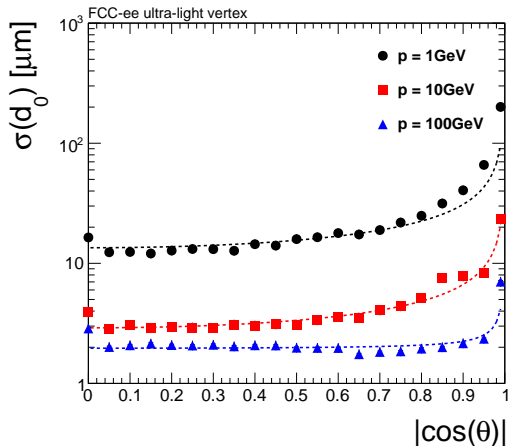
Need to improve impact parameter resolutions by $\approx 40\%$ to have chance at discovery (down to the SM expected value) \rightarrow Improve single-hit resolution and **material budget!**



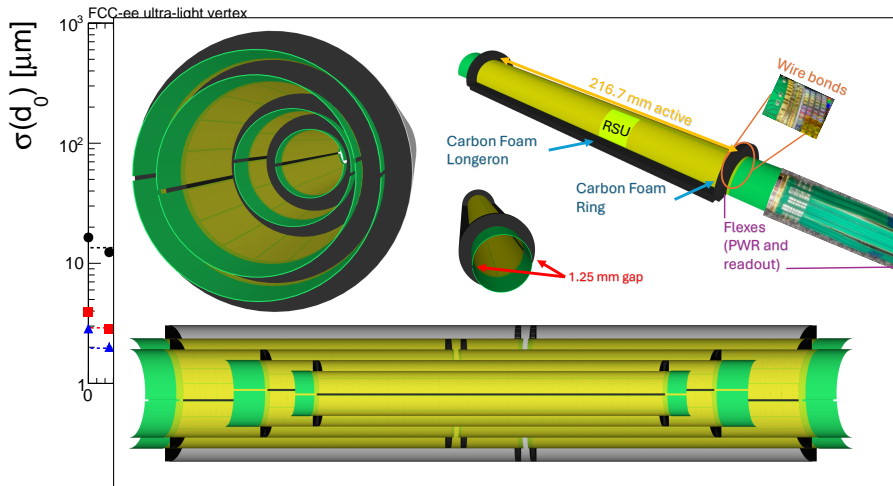
- CLD vertex detector already gives decent impact parameter resolution



- CLD vertex detector already gives decent impact parameter resolution
- IDEA vertex has lighter, single-hit layers
 - No hit in first layer at $\cos\theta = 0$



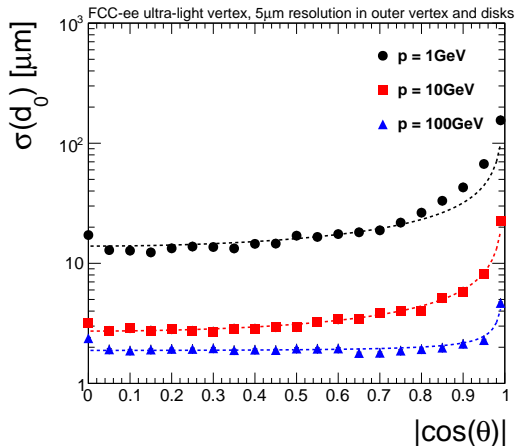
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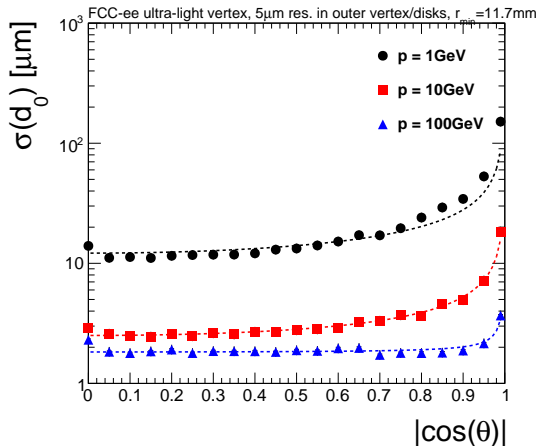
Recent

layers

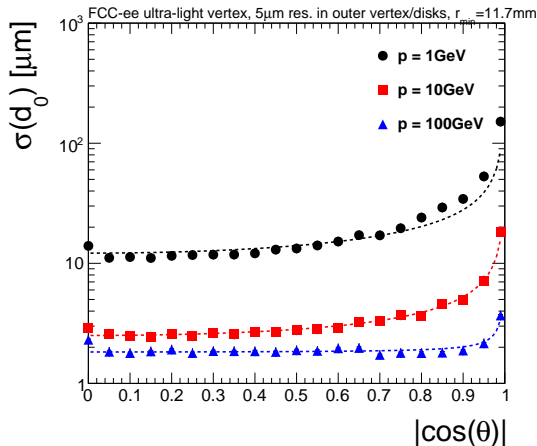
similar to
of



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- Impact parameter resolution in transverse direction of $\sigma_{d_0} \approx 1.8 \oplus \frac{12\mu\text{m GeV}}{p \sin^{3/2}\theta}$ reachable
 - Similar numbers in σ_{z_0}

Probably not quite enough yet. Will do a full simulation study and see what is actually needed

Currently there are four detector concepts for FCC-ee

- Detector concepts \neq experimental collaborations
- Currently, all detector concepts aim to run at all \sqrt{s} stages (ILD@FCC TPC yet to demonstrate Z pole capabilities)
 - First discussions on potential upgrades/differences between \sqrt{s} stages
 - Experimentally, the Z pole run is the most challenging
 - n.b: Flexibility to change between Z/WW/HZ run very quickly thanks to shared RF system

How would the perfect detector concept focusing on flavour physics look like?

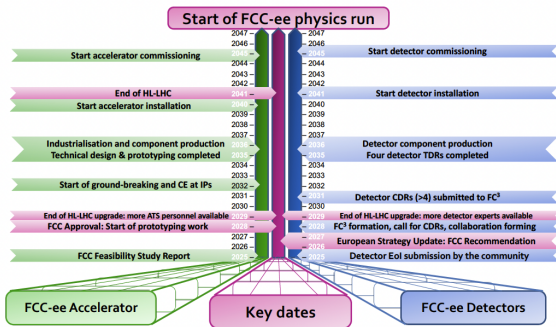
- Amazing vertex detector
 - Ultra-light, spatial resolution $\leq 3 \mu\text{m}$
 - Inside beam pipe ?? Different machine-detector interface design?
 - Efficient, prudent particle identification
 - More than two PID systems (ARC, T.O.F, dN/dx , ...) for redundancy and performance?
 - High-resolution ECAL
- Where would a flavour-focused experiment be willing to compromise?
- HCAL? Muon system?

pre-TDR phase until end of 2027

- Further develop FCC-ee (flavour) physics case
- Defines detector requirements
- Towards experimental collaboration formation

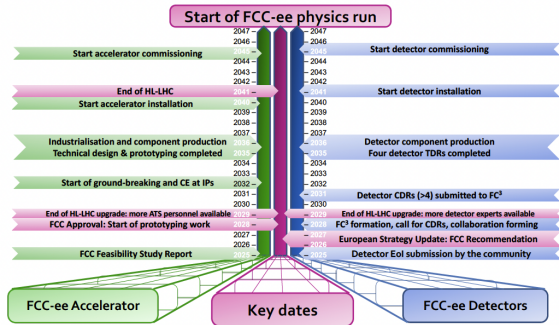
FCC community building

- It's the early career experimentalists/theorists/phenomenologists/engineers/accelerator physicists of today that will lead the field of tomorrow



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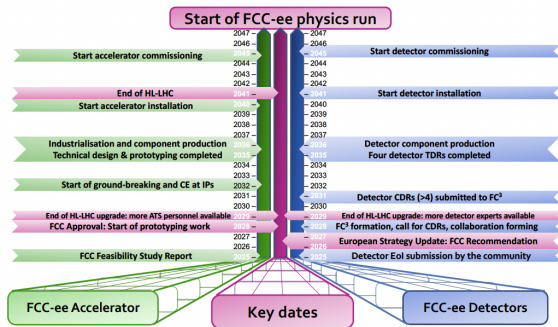


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- Exchange among all crucial to realise the Future Circular Collider
- FCC: Friends, Co-workers, Colleagues (EP-FCC's idea 😊)

Thanks!

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Co-project Manager: Magnus Mager, magnus.mager@cern.ch.

Physics challenges

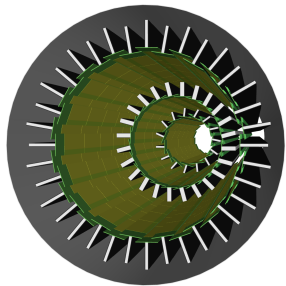
Physics challenges	Requirement
Coverage down to $ \cos(\theta) \lesssim 0.99$	Long barrel, forward disks
High reconstruction efficiency	Hermetic layers, small peripheries, $> 99\%$ hit eff., more layers?
Asymptotic resolution of $a \approx 3 \mu\text{m}$	$3 \mu\text{m}$ single-hit resolution, small r_{\min}
Multiple scattering: $b \approx 15 \mu\text{m GeV}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • light beam pipe • $\leq 0.3\% X_0/\text{layer} \rightarrow$ thin sensors, air-cooling, light support

Collision environment challenges

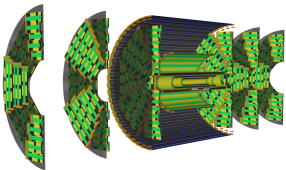
Collision environment challenges	Requirement
High luminosity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Save events at $\gtrsim 200\text{kHz}$ • With trigger or without
Avoid pile-up of Z's	Integration time $\lesssim 1 \mu\text{s}$
Beam backgrounds	Hit rate capability up to $\mathcal{O}(100 \text{ MHz/cm}^2)$
Radiation environment	Few $1 \times 10^{13} \text{ 1 MeV } n_{\text{eq}}\text{cm}^{-2}$ and $\mathcal{O}(\text{few tens of } 10 \text{ kGy})$ per year

Advanced challenges

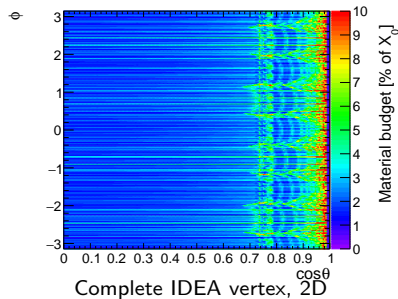
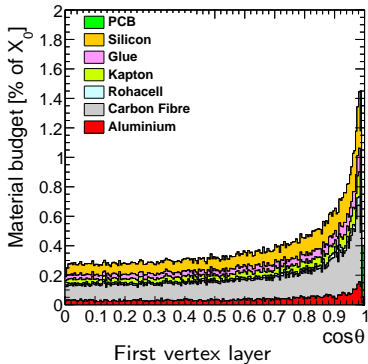
Advanced challenges	Requirement
≈ 2 reduction of σ_{d_0}	Smaller spatial resolution and r_{\min} , lighter vertex and beam pipe
Bunch tagging/inner T.O.F reference	$\mathcal{O}(20 \text{ ns})$ time resolution/ $\mathcal{O}(10\text{'s of ps})$



Inner vertex barrel in DD4hep

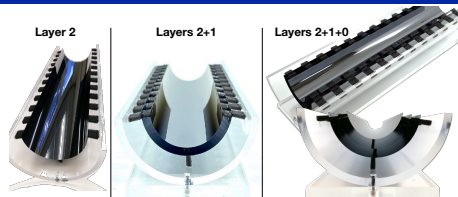


Complete vertex in DD4hep



DMAPS in 65 nm TPSCo process

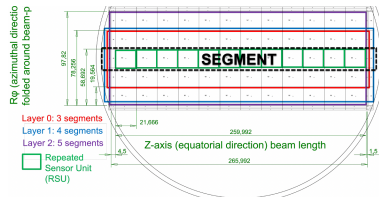
- More logic per $\text{cm}^2 \rightarrow$ More functionality/smaller pixels
- Low power consumption \rightarrow Helps air cooling
- Enables 12" wafers \rightarrow Large, bent sensors!



Layer assembly concept for ALICE ITS3 [18]

	ALICE ITS3	FCC-ee
r_{\min} [mm]	19	~ 13.7
$ \cos(\theta) $ coverage until	0.97–0.99	0.99
Single-hit resolution [μm]	5	3
Part. hit density at r_{\min} [MHz/cm^2]	8.5	?

- First layer at smaller radius \rightarrow Use just two segments
- Forward-backward asymmetries measurements \rightarrow Read and power from both sides
- Forward coverage \rightarrow Multiple sensors in a row at larger r
- Tight hermiticity requirement at FCC-ee, but have $\sim 5\%$ insensitive periphery in sensor
 \rightarrow Four layers ensures ≥ 3 hits in vertex, minimise periphery



MOSAIX wafer layout [19]

Key4hep is a huge ecosystem of software packages adopted by all future collider projects, complete workflow from generator to analysis

- Event data model: **EDM4hep** for exchange among framework components
 - **Podio** as underlying tool, for different collision environments
 - Including truth information
- Data processing framework: **Gaudi**
- Geometry description: **DD4hep**, ability to include CAD files
- Package manager: **Spack**: `source /cvmfs/sw.hsf.org/Key4hep/setup.sh`

