

ATLAS Trigger and Data Acquisition in the High Luminosity LHC era

[Riccardo Scaglioni](#) (University and INFN Pavia)

Supervisors:

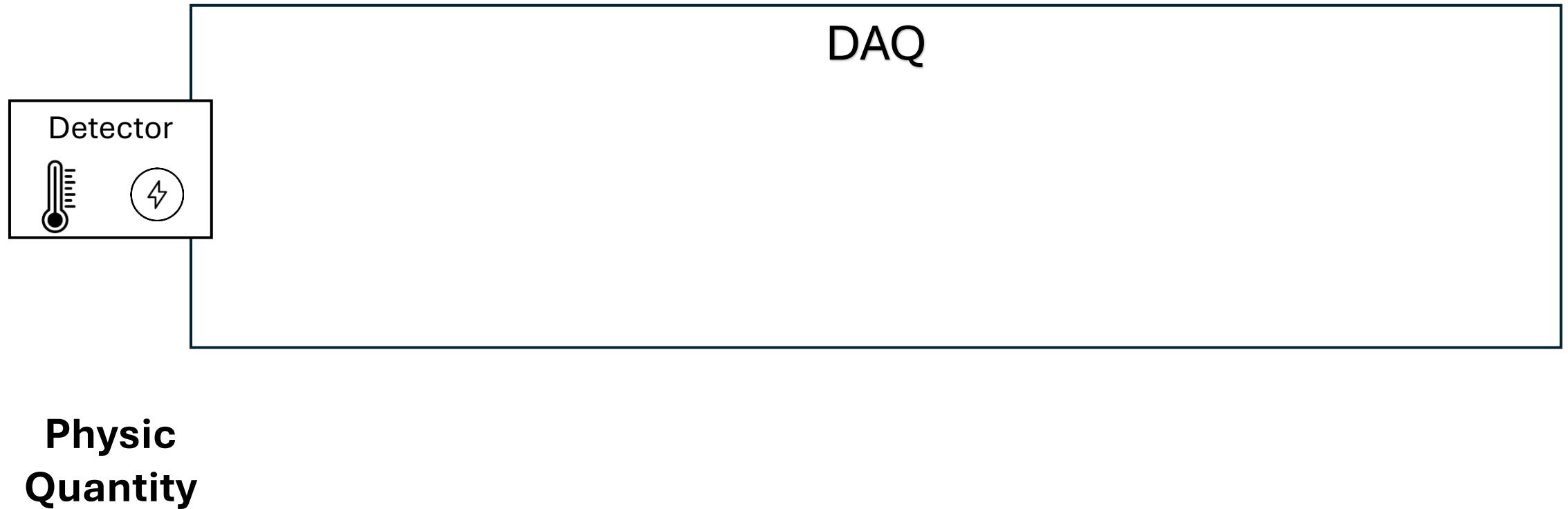
Andrea Negri (University and INFN Pavia)

Gabriella Gaudio (INFN Pavia)



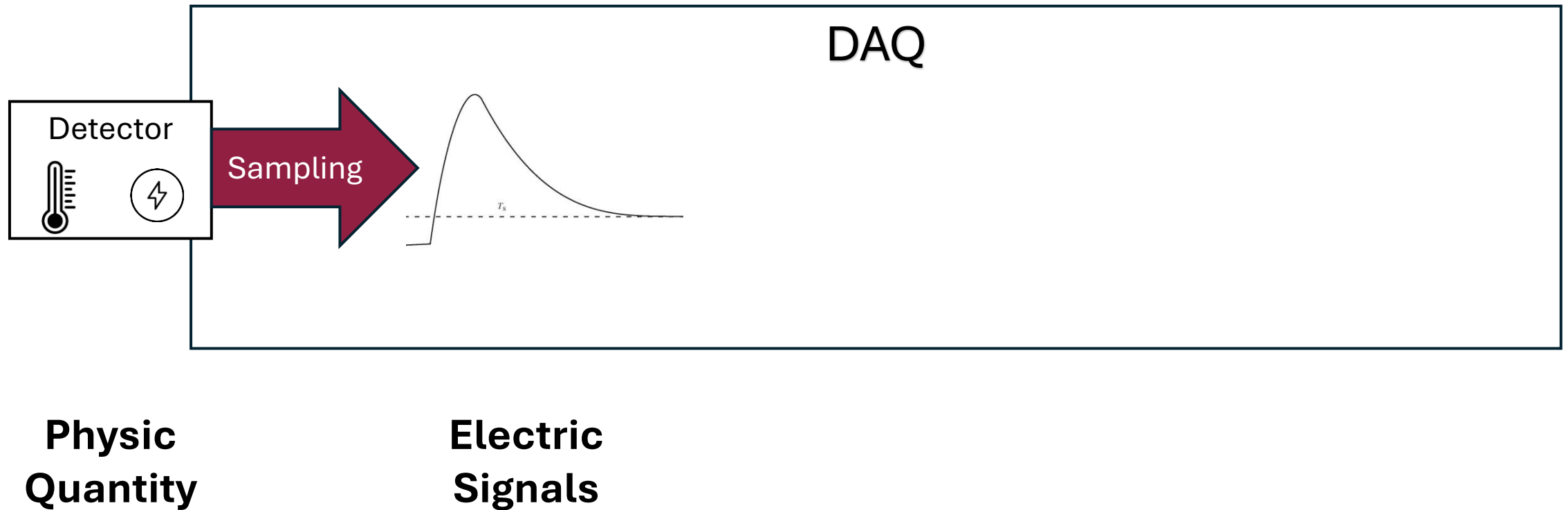
What is Data Acquisition?

Every experiment that uses electronic detectors needs a **Data Acquisition** system (**DAQ**).



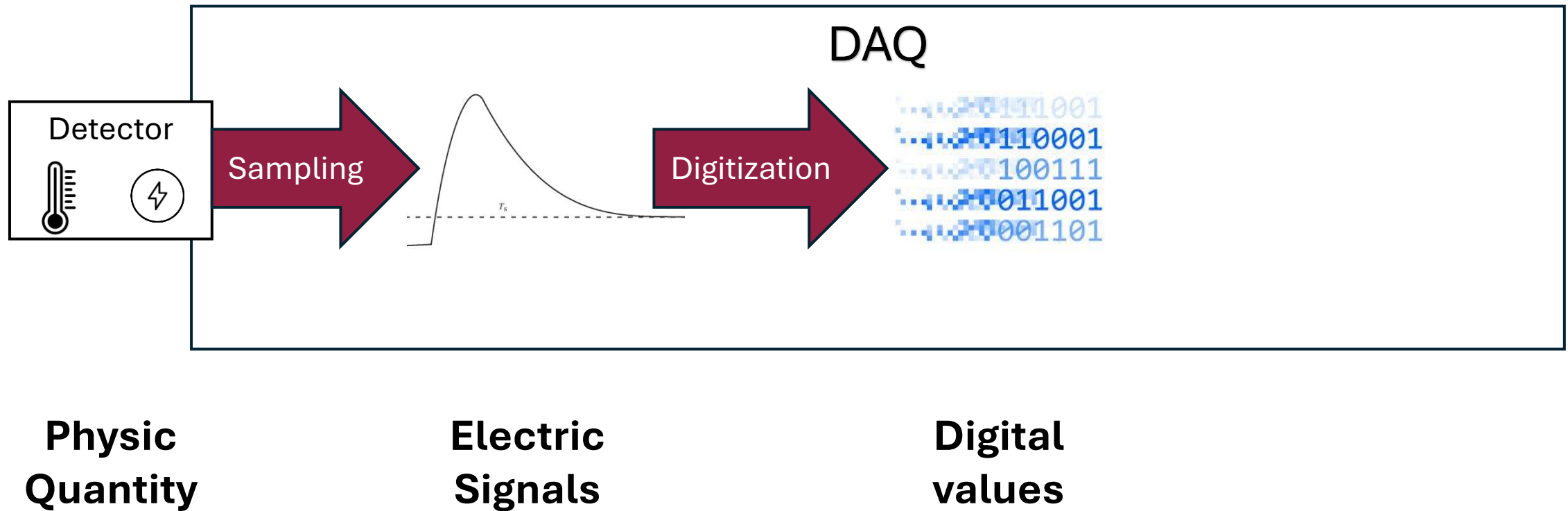
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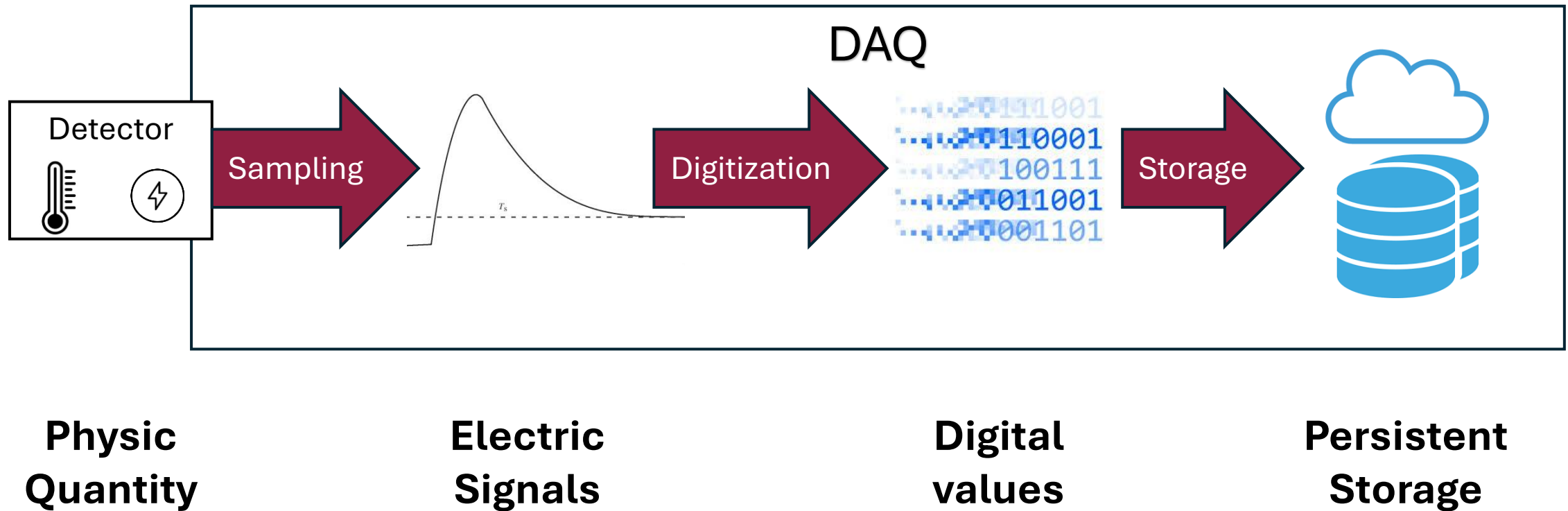
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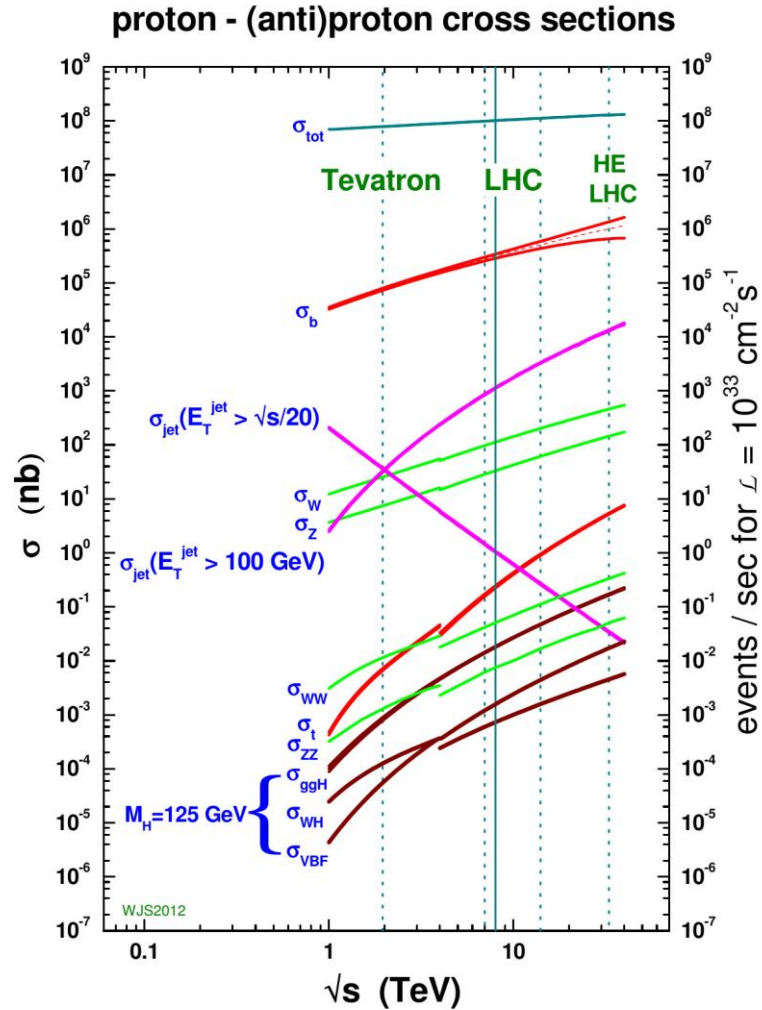


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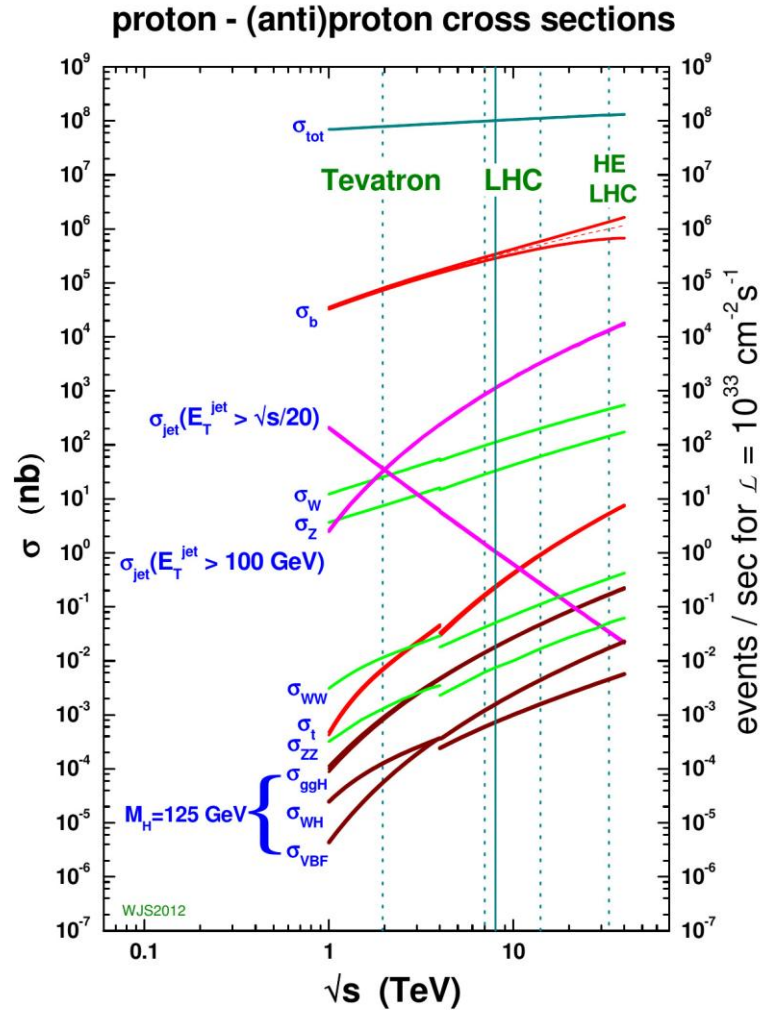


Physics at the Large Hadron Collider



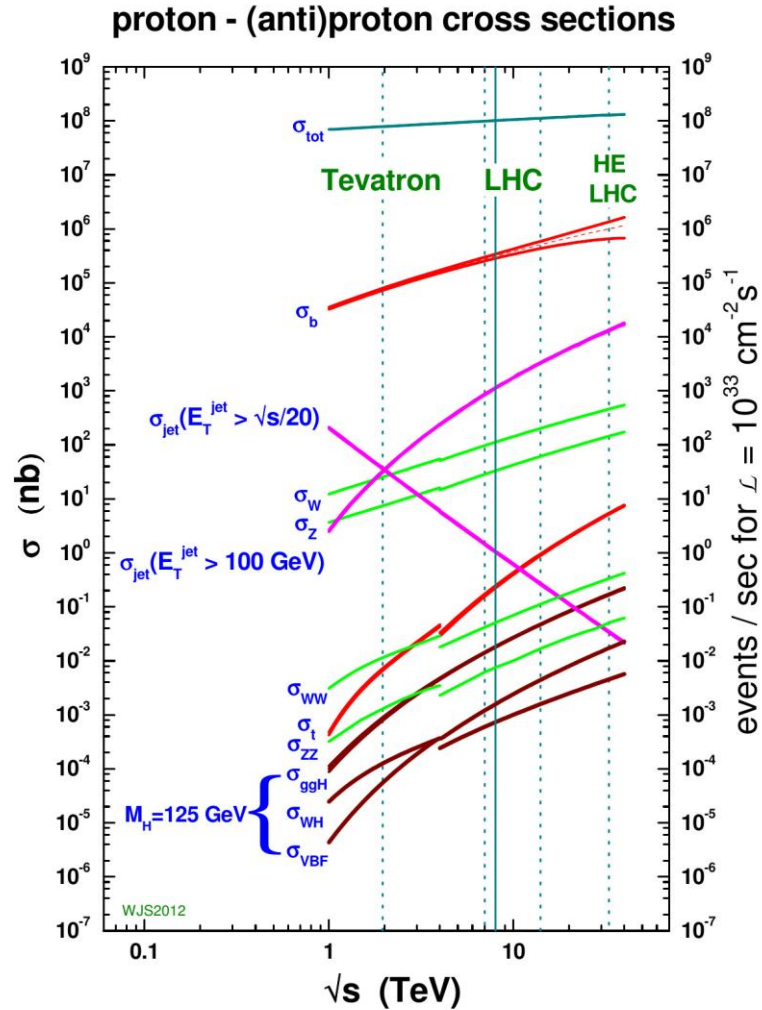
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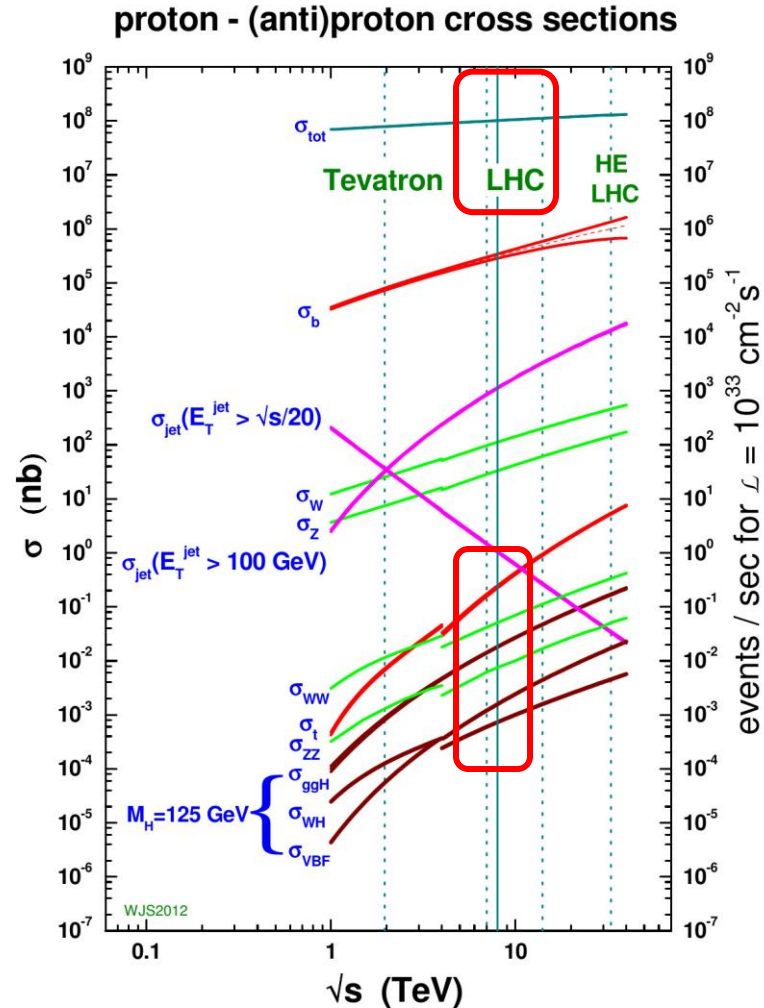
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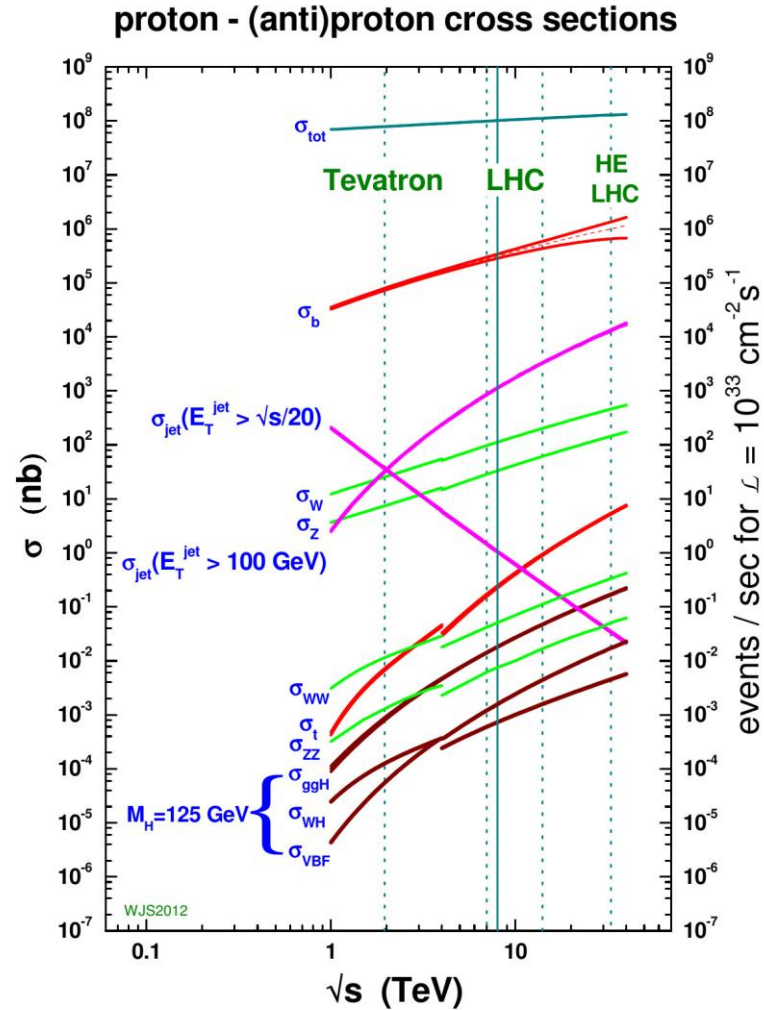
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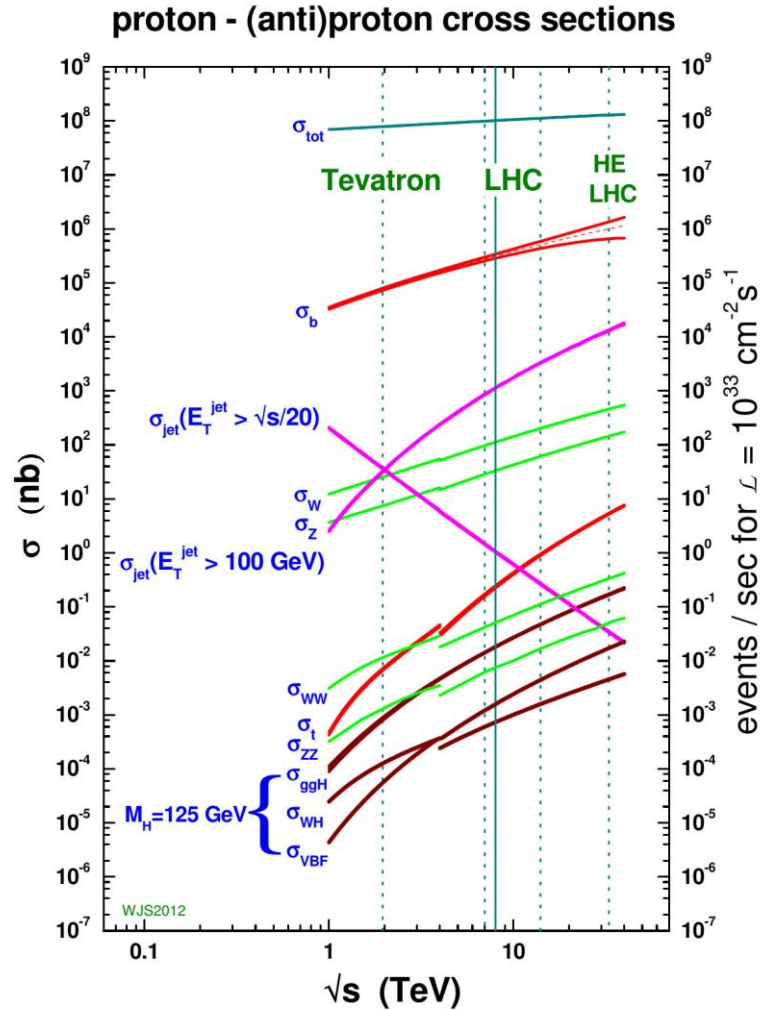
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- **Very rare interesting events (Higgs $\sim 10^{-10} \sigma_{\text{tot}}$)**

Physics at the Large Hadron Collider



What do we with all that data?

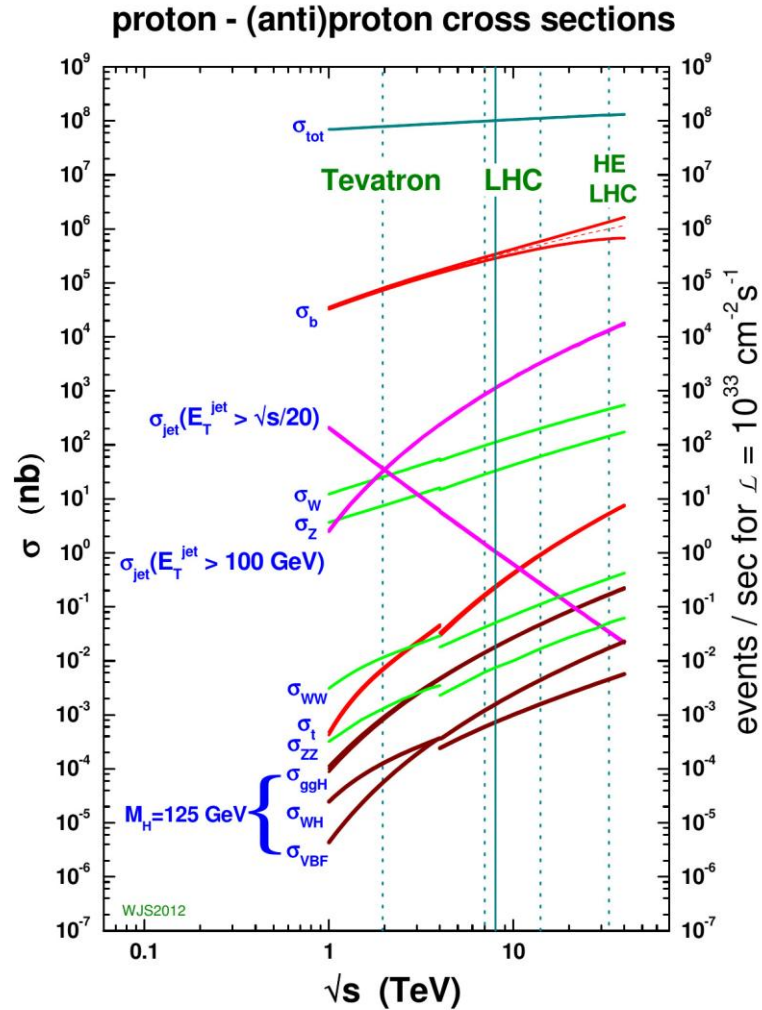
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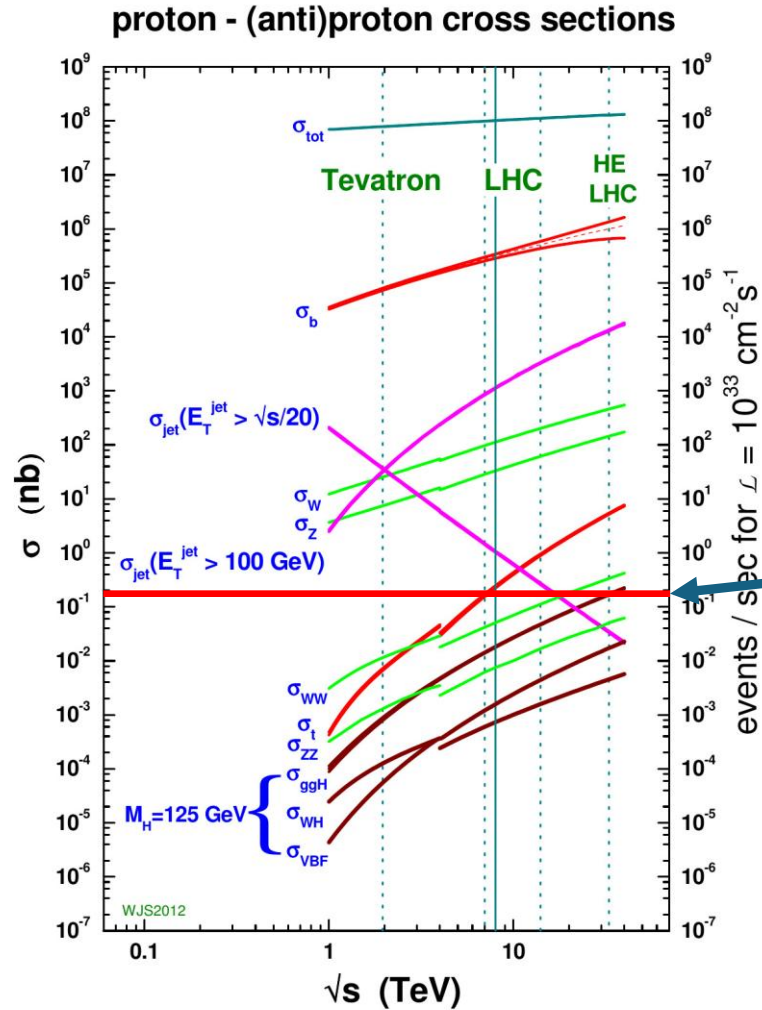


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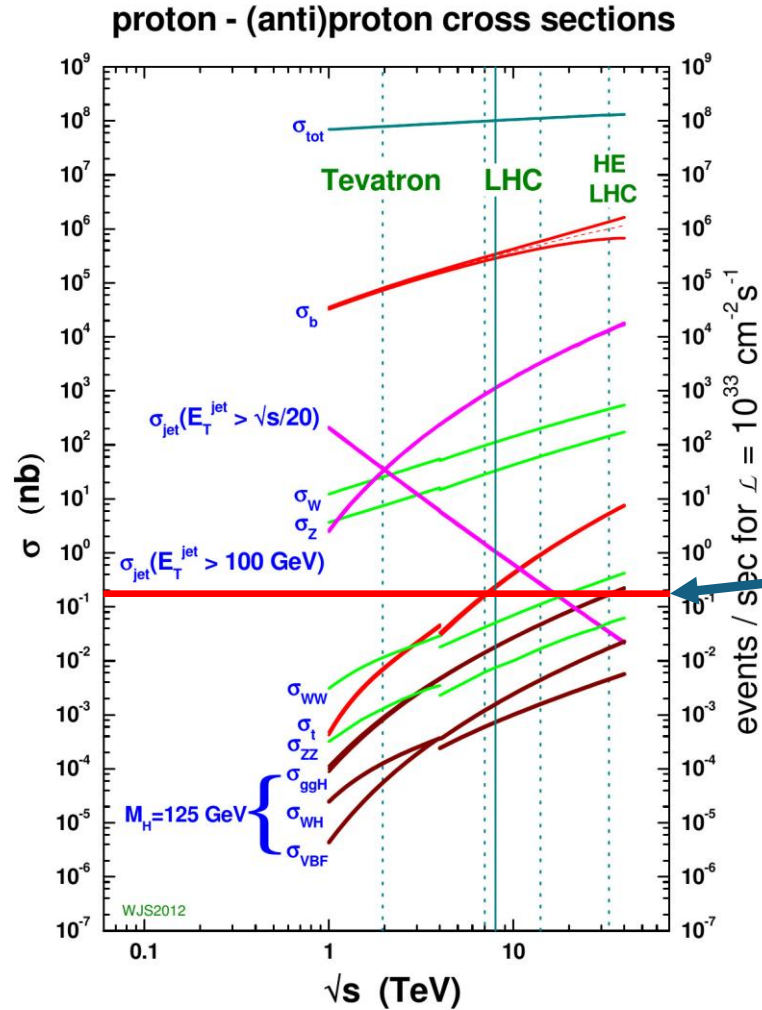
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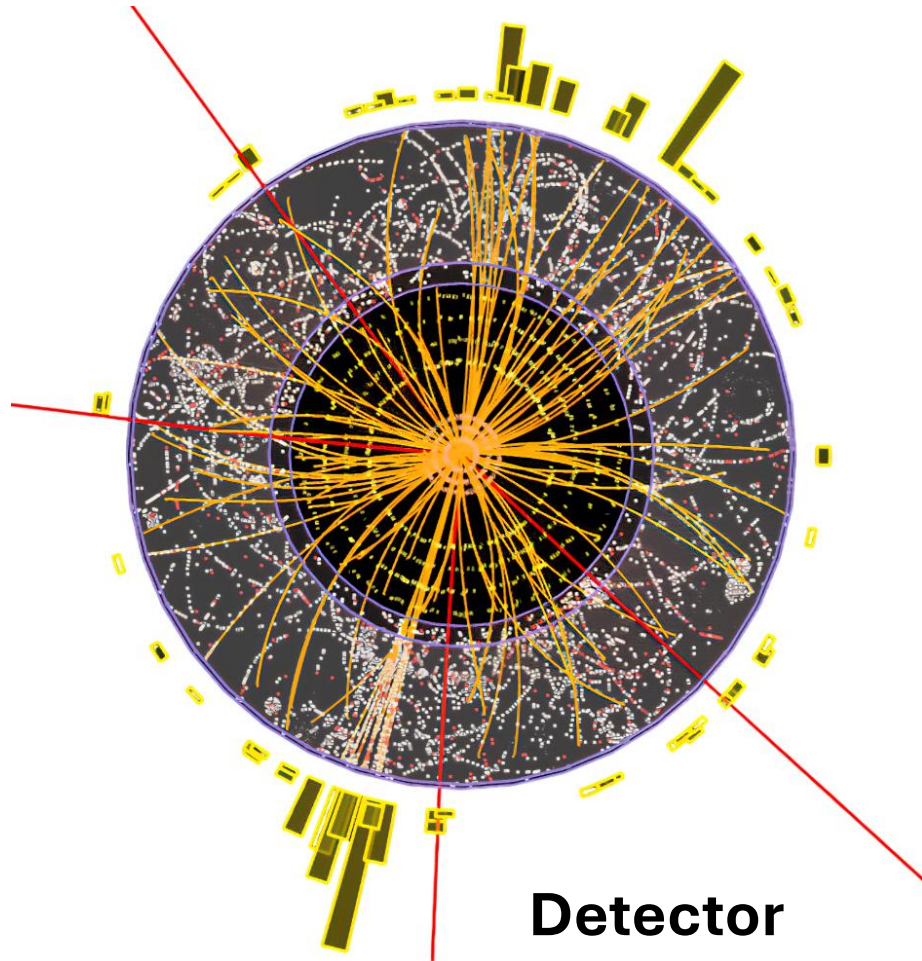


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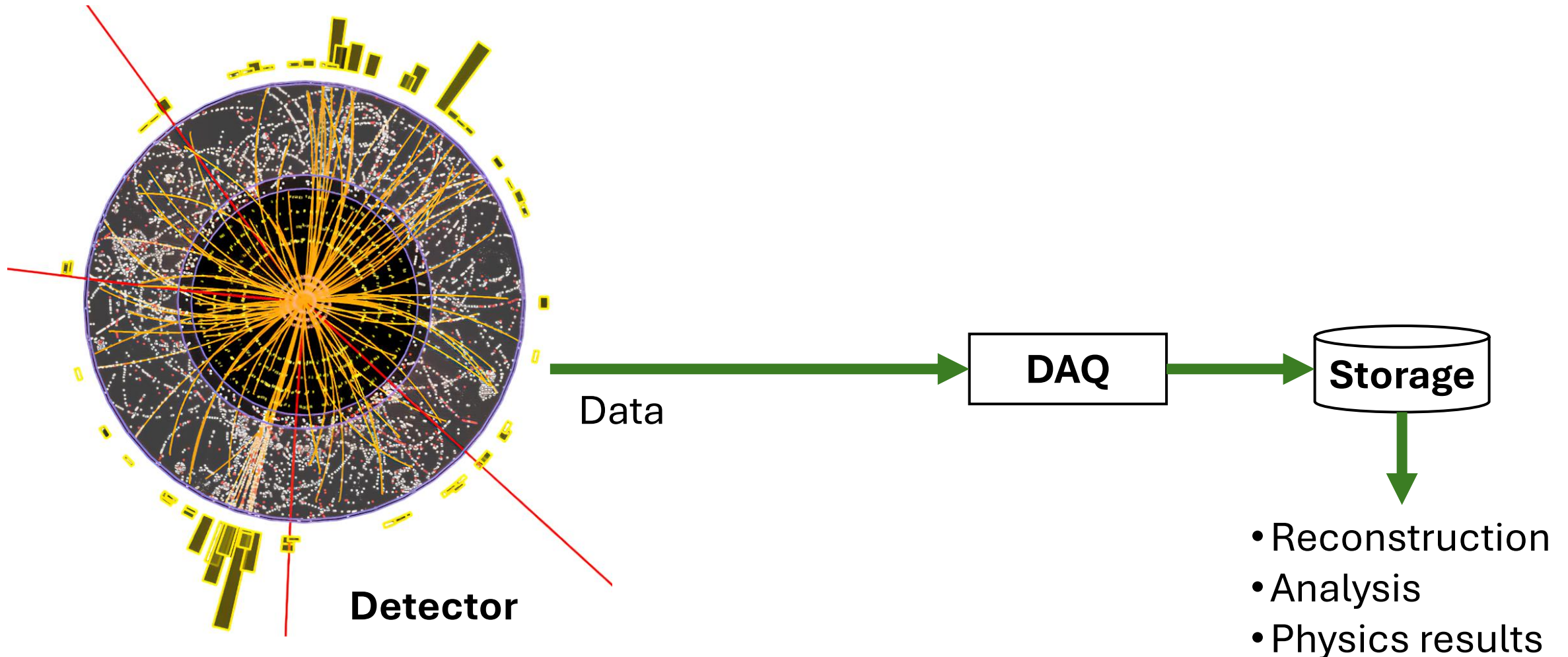
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- Filling one **smartphone** every two minutes



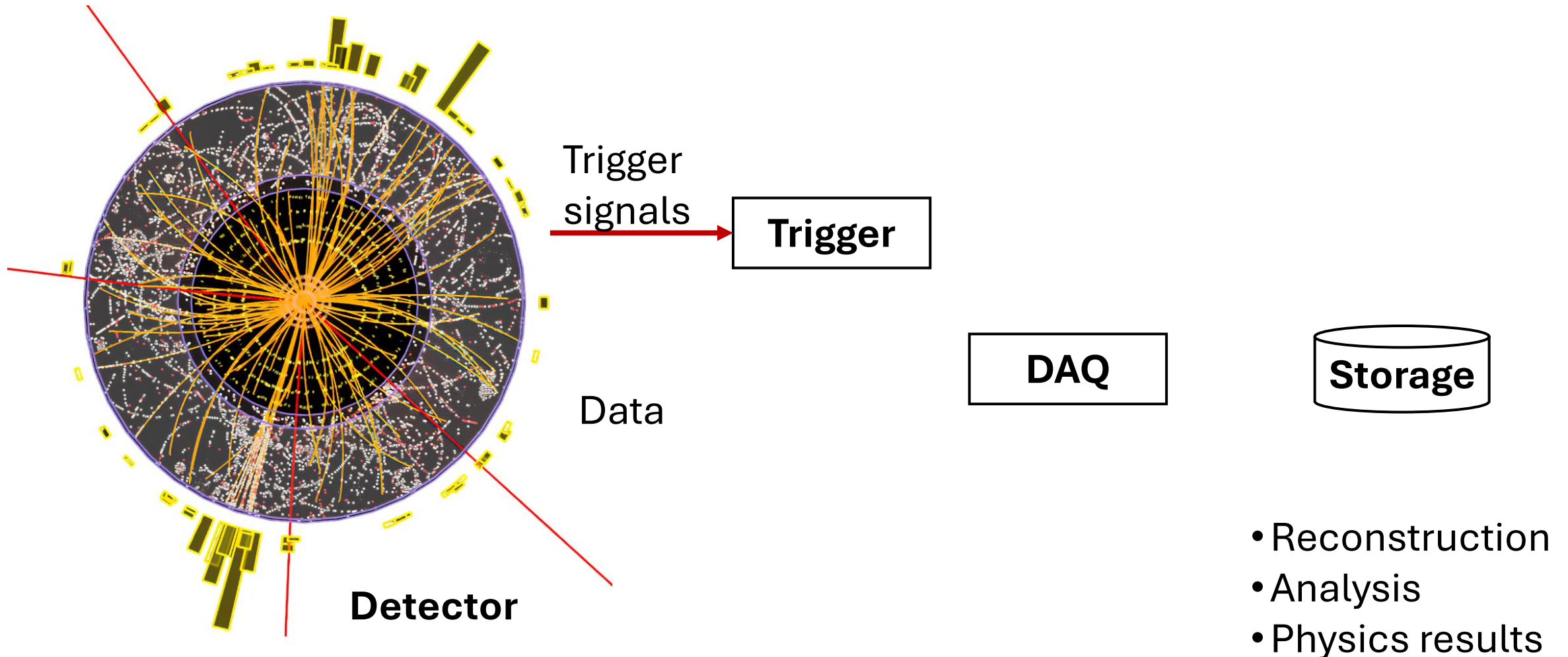
DAQ at the Large Hadron Collider



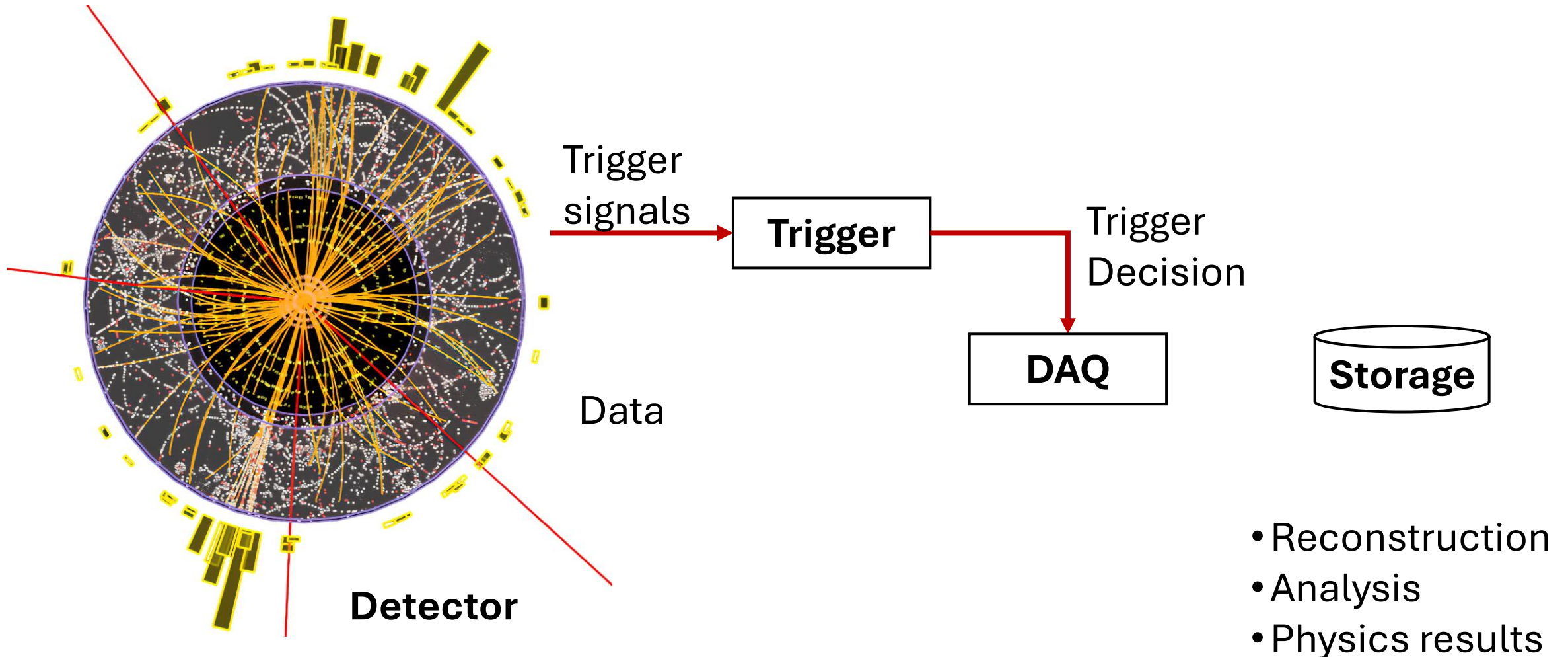
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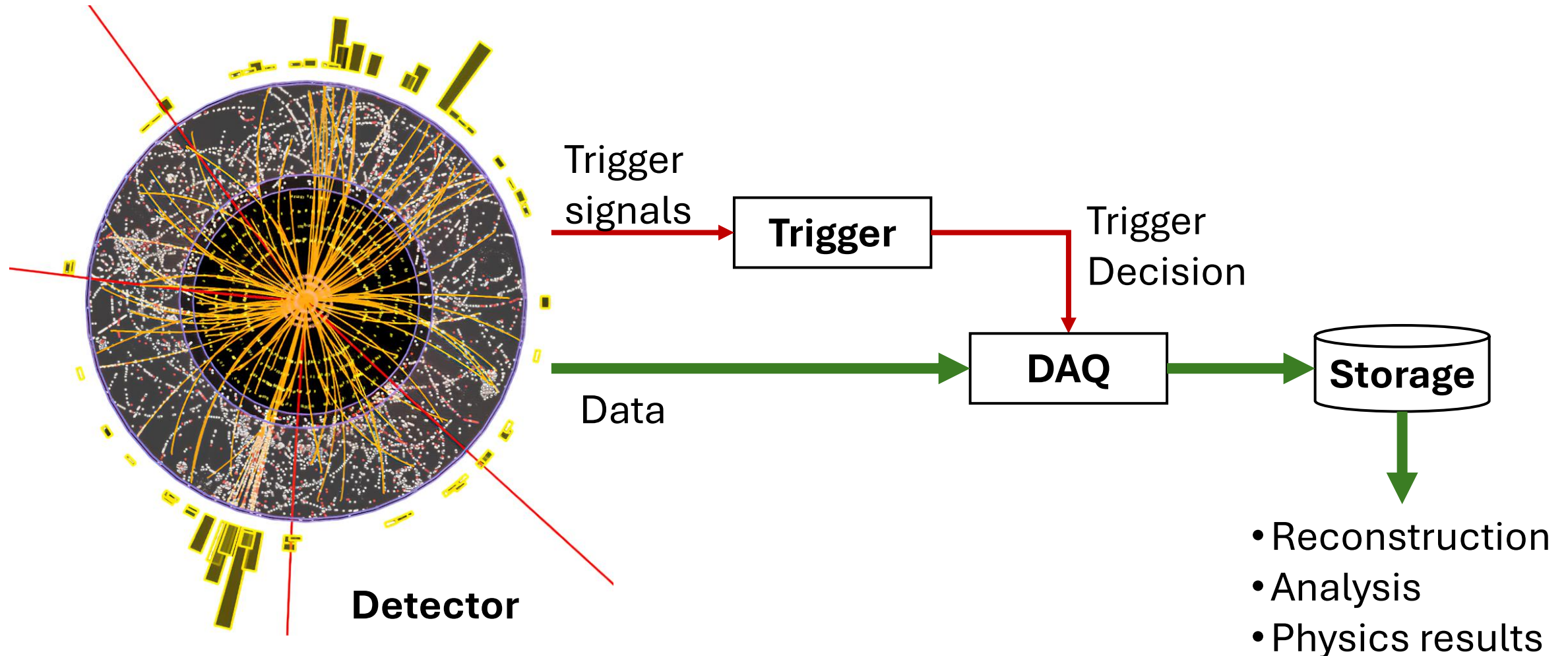
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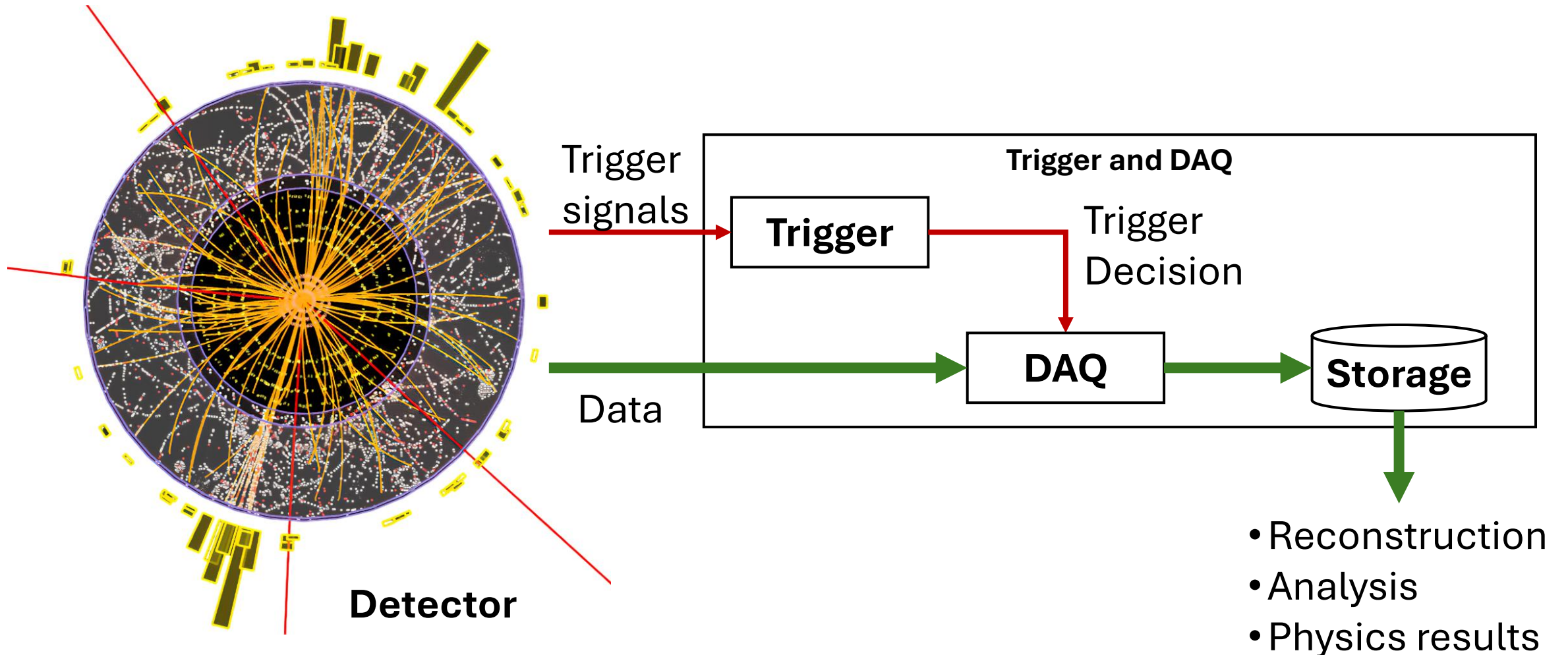
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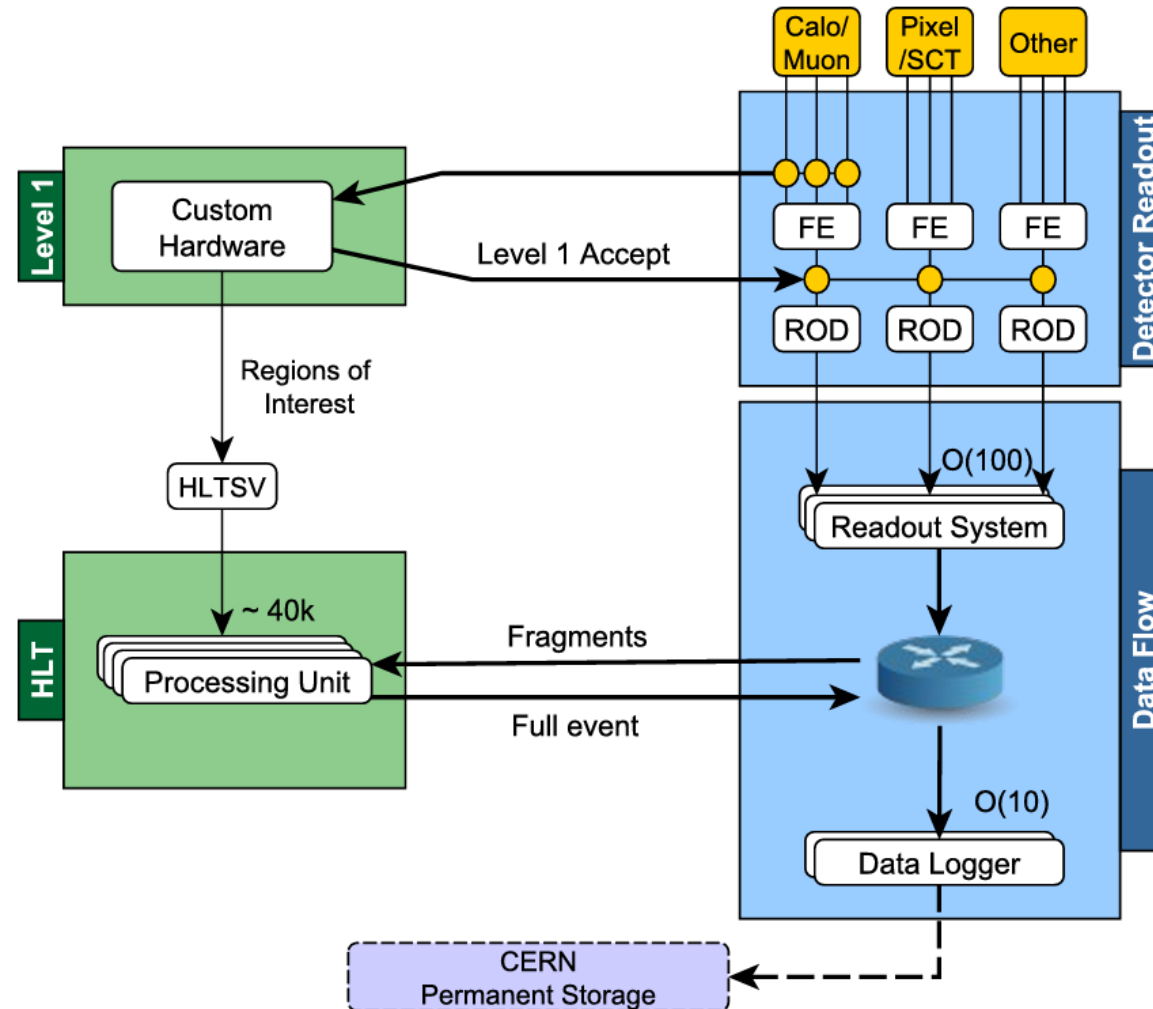
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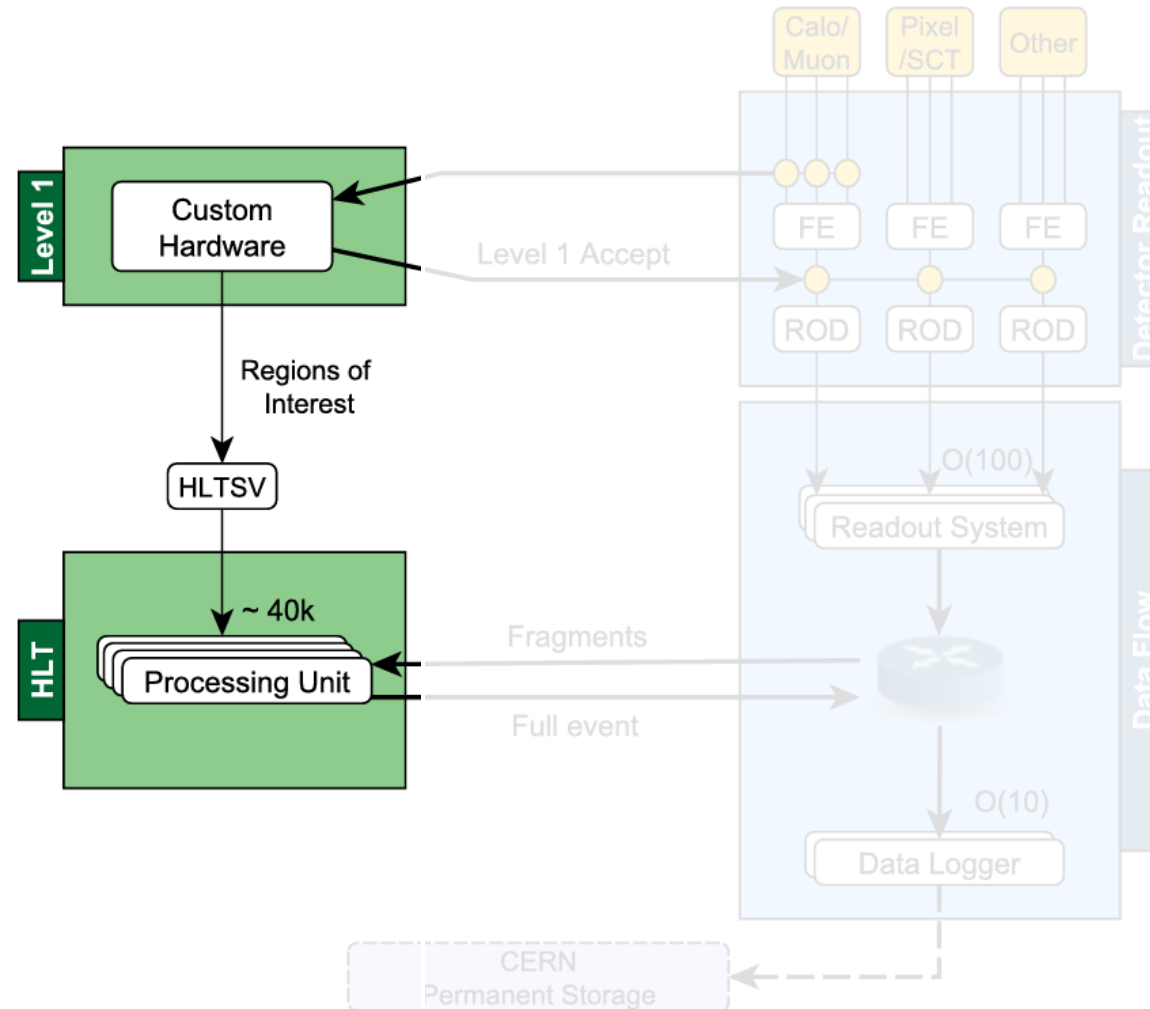


The ATLAS experiment TDAQ

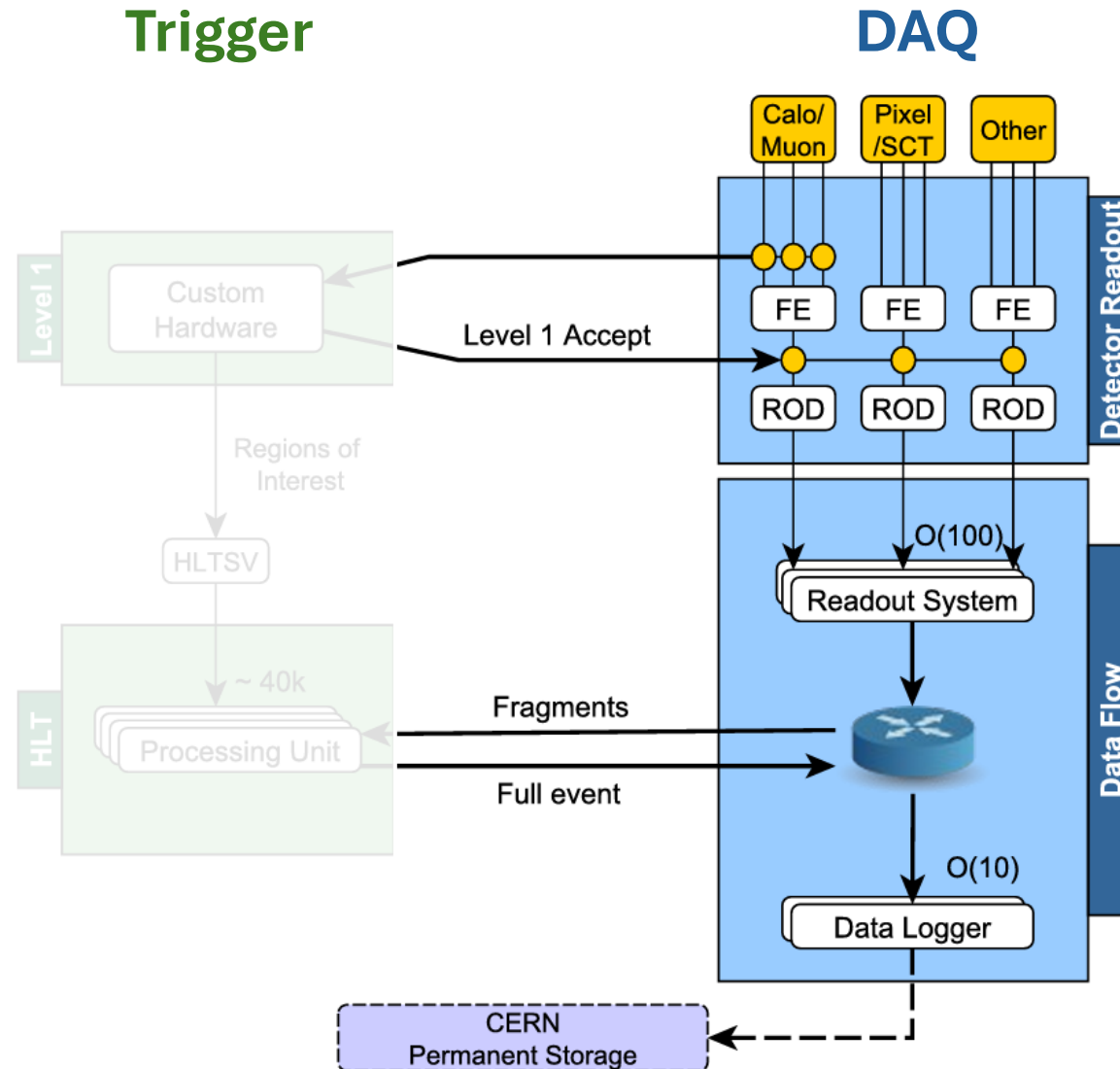


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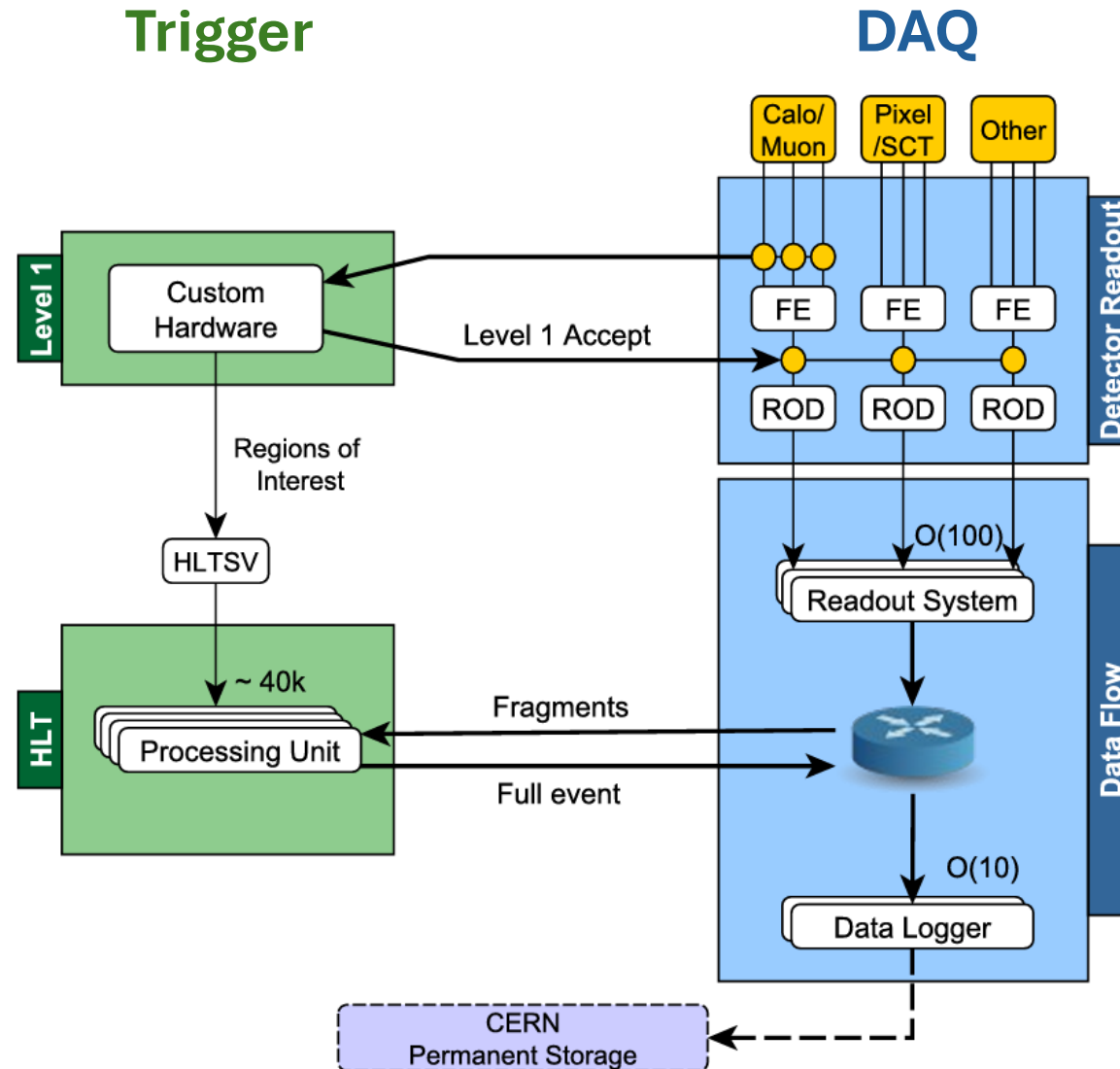
Trigger



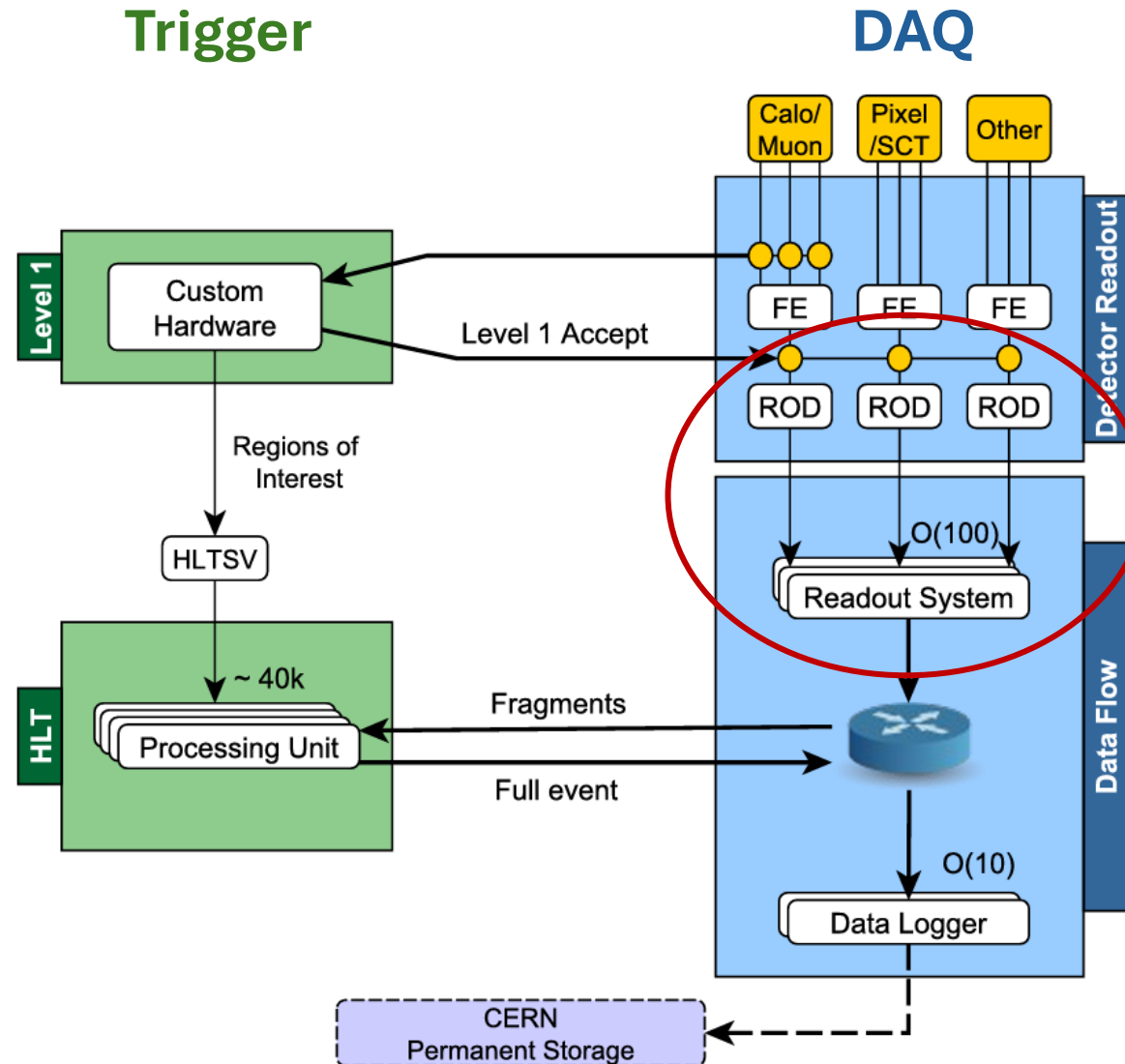
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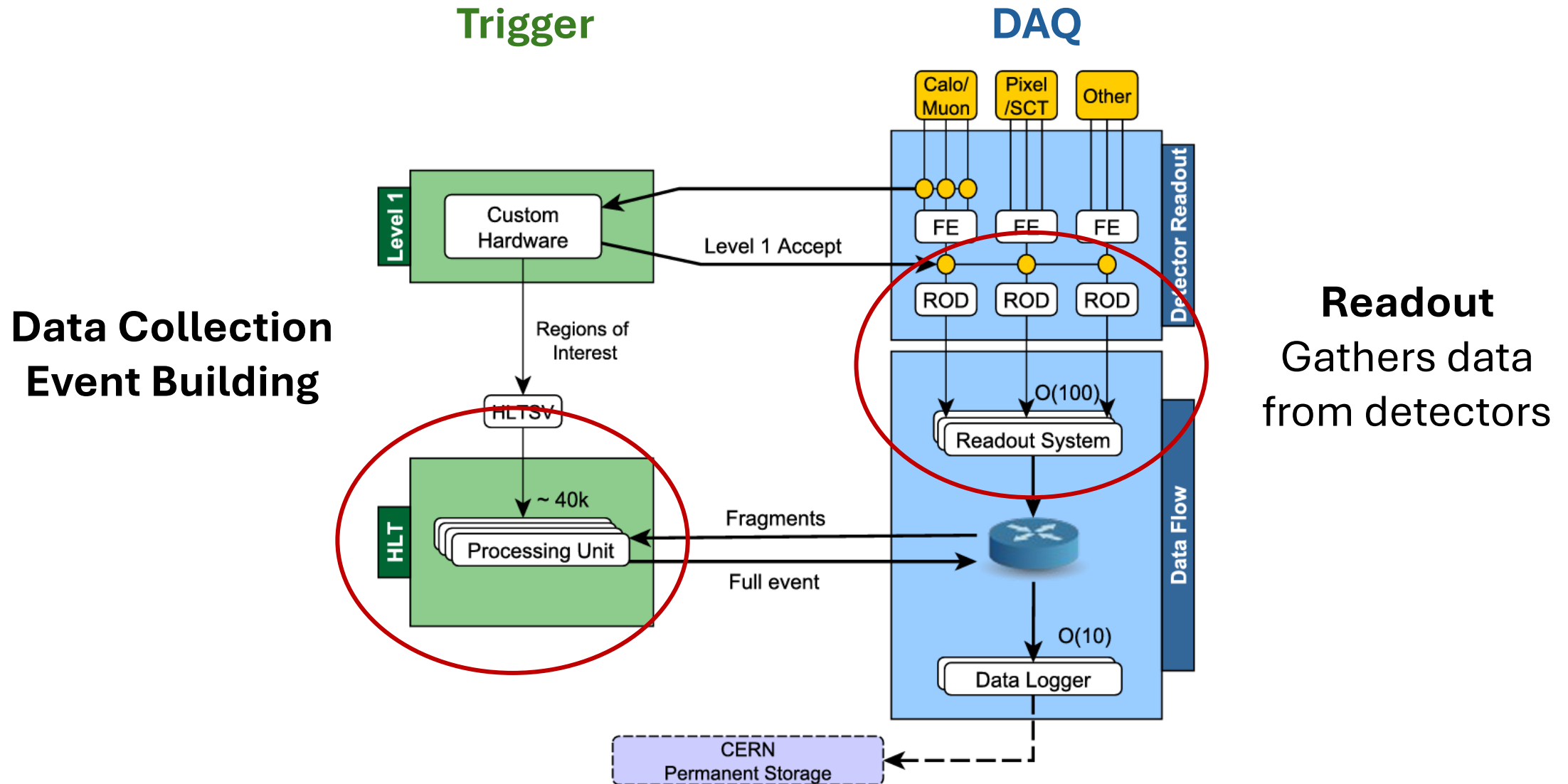


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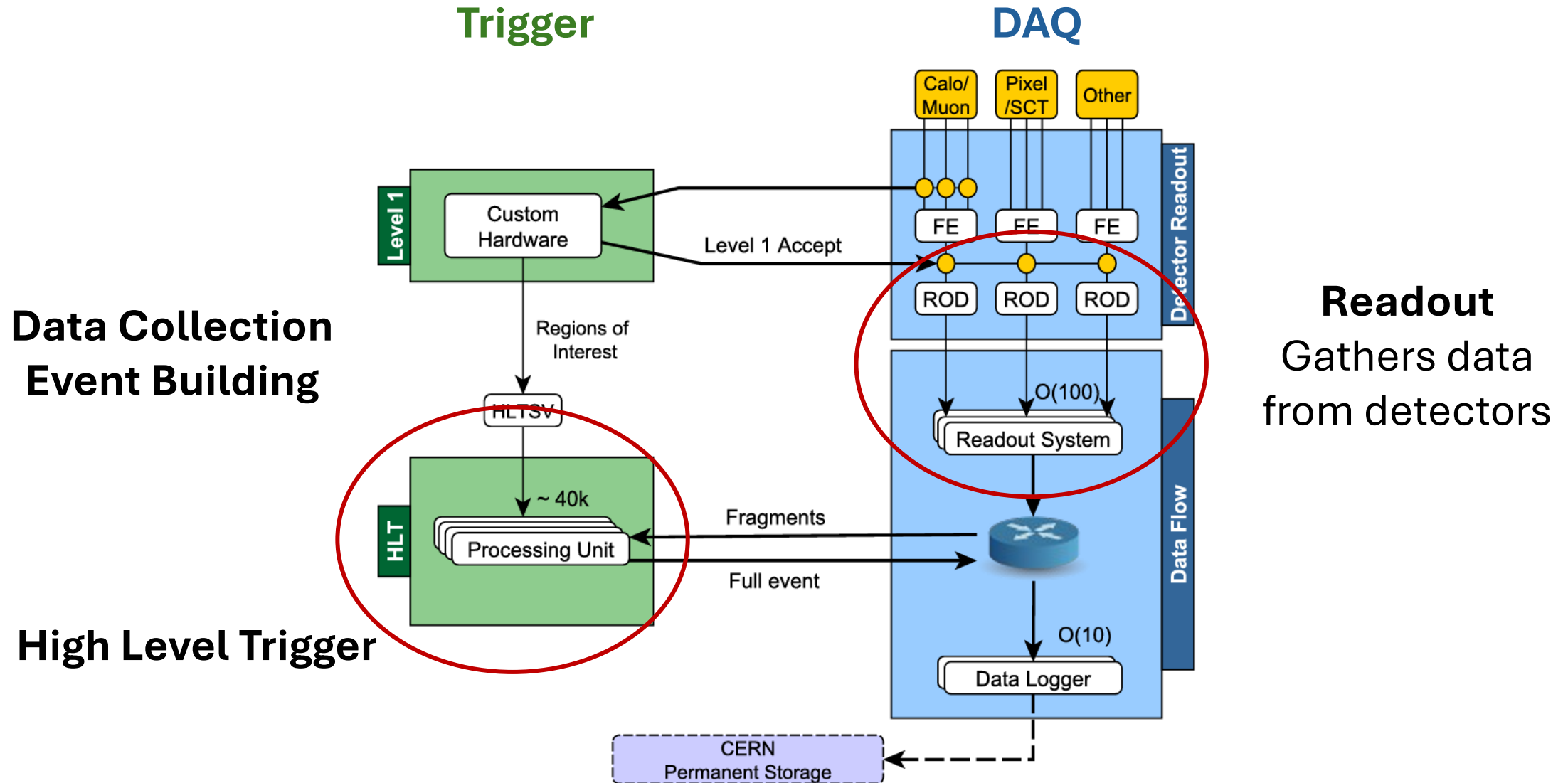


Readout
Gathers data
from detectors

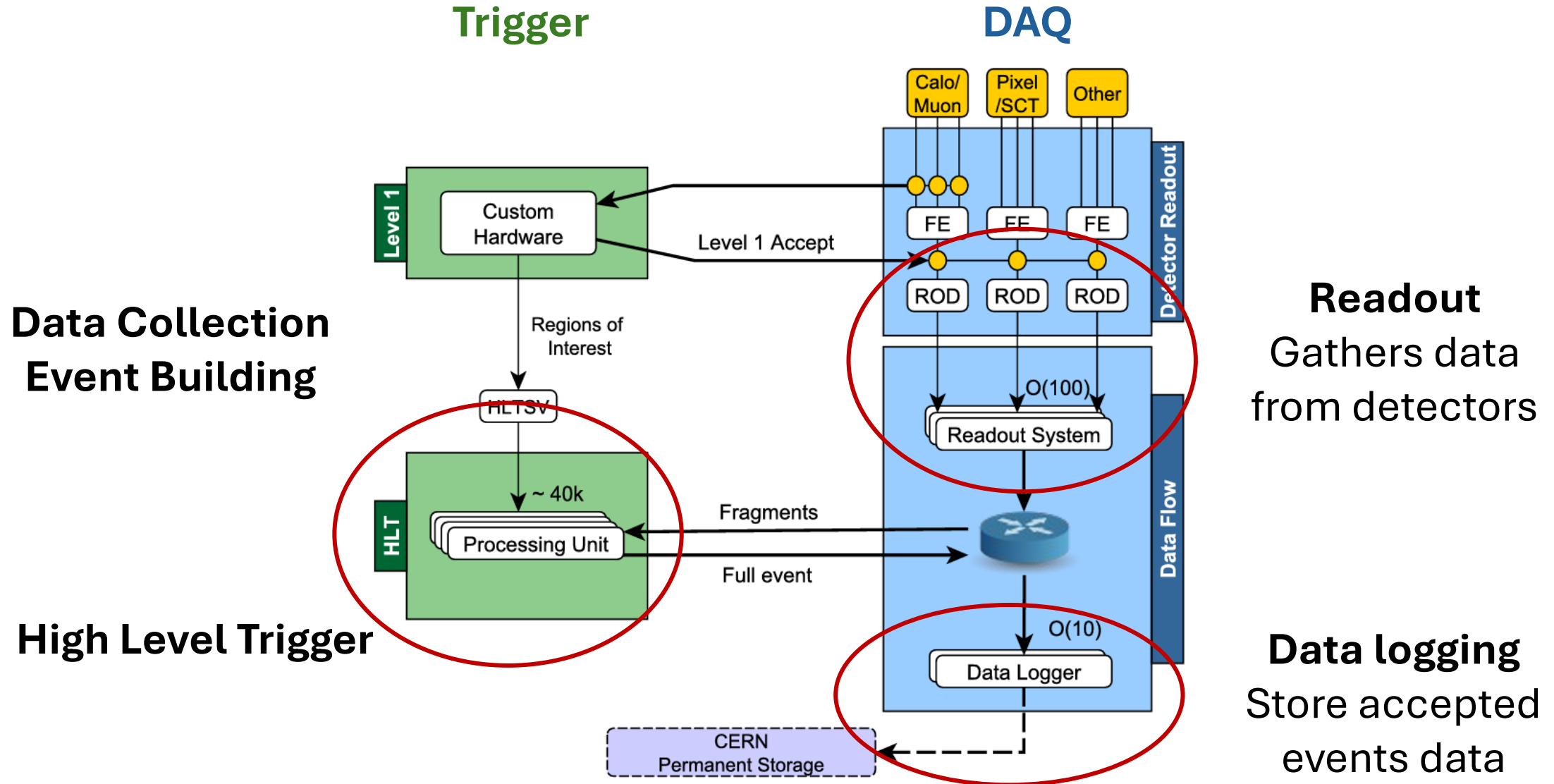
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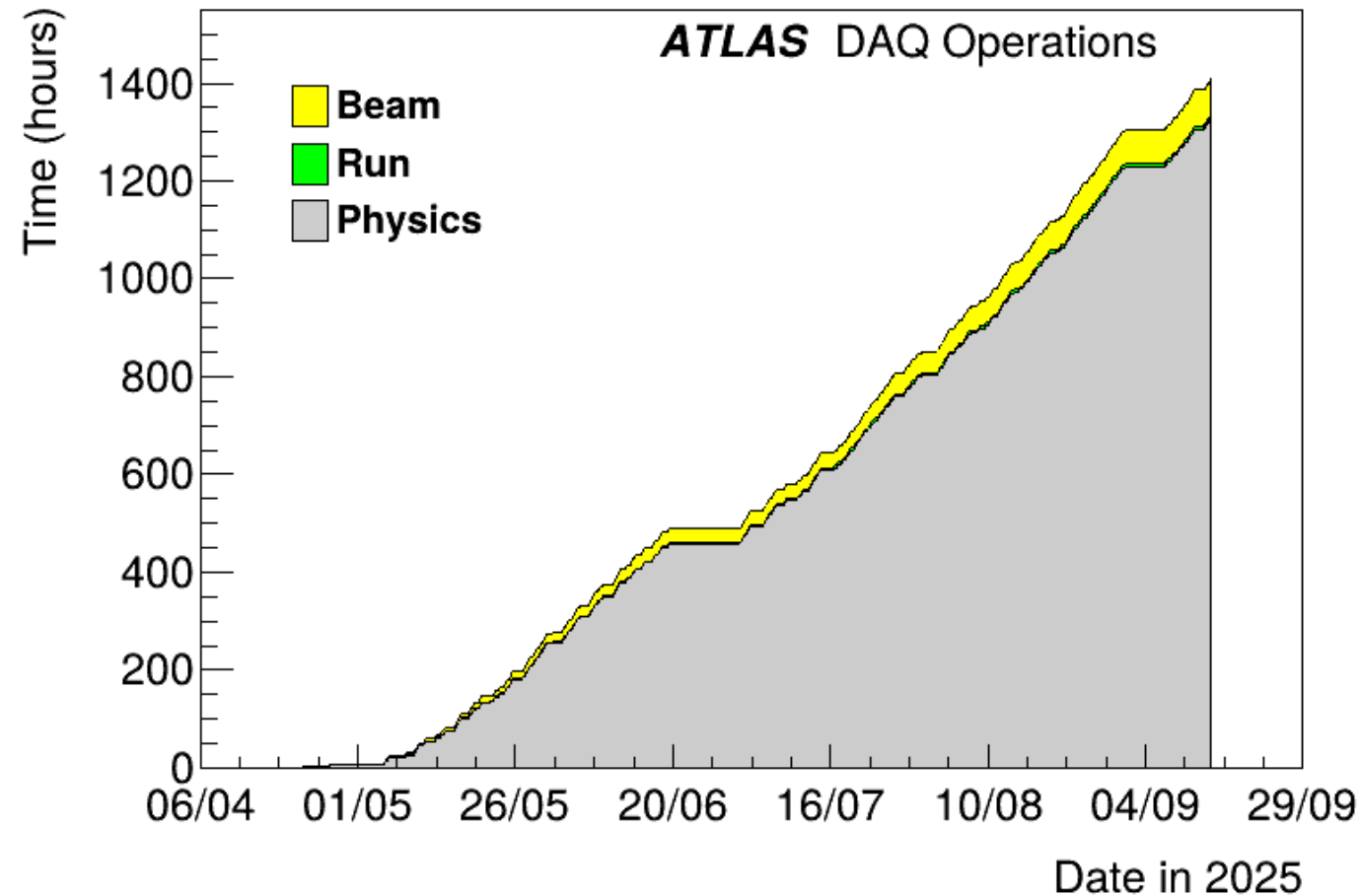
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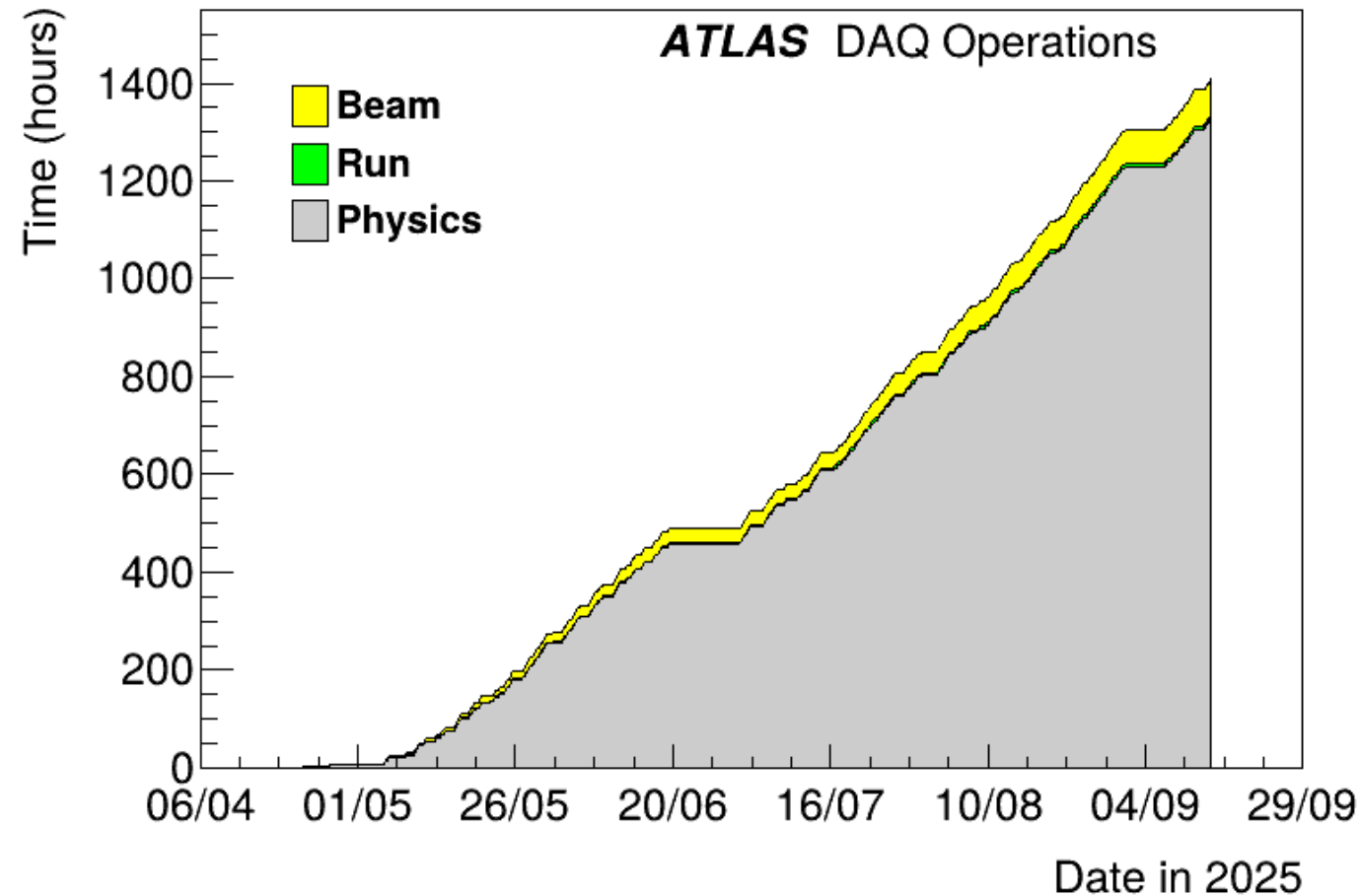


The ATLAS experiment TDAQ



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The ATLAS experiment TDAQ

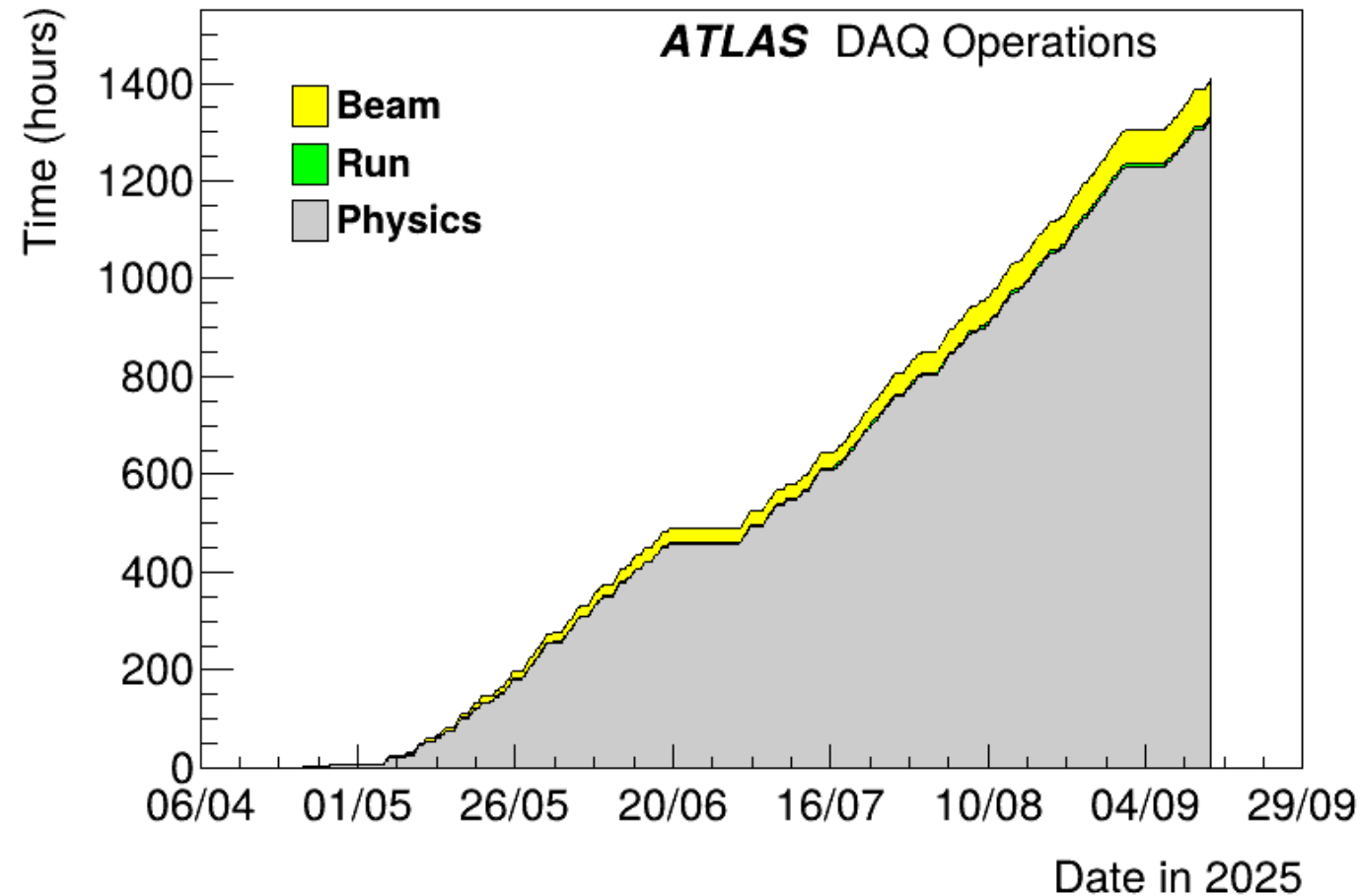


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In previous Runs:

- Very small data loss from DAQ:
93% all time avg efficiency
- Dataflow efficiency: **100%**

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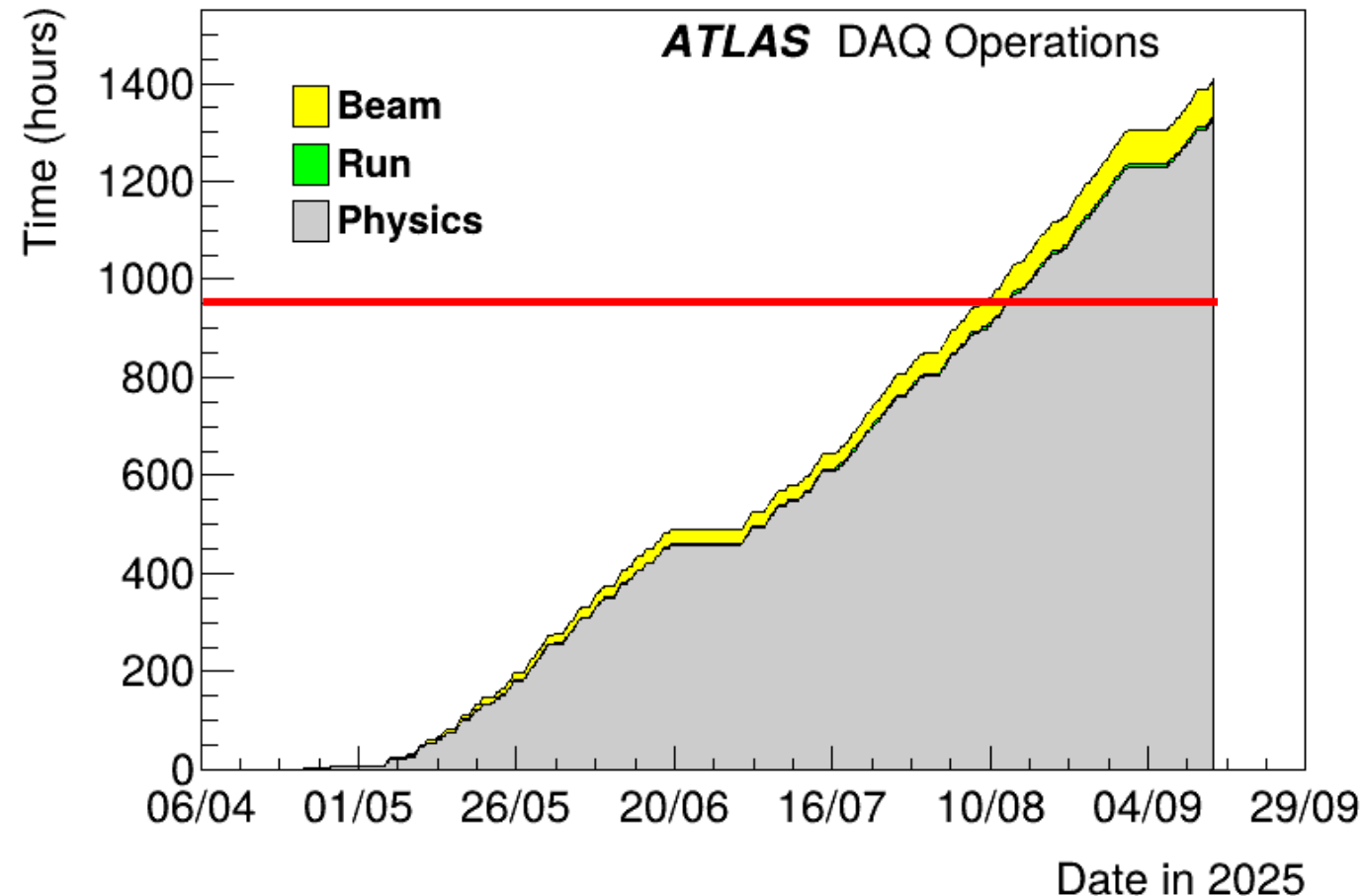
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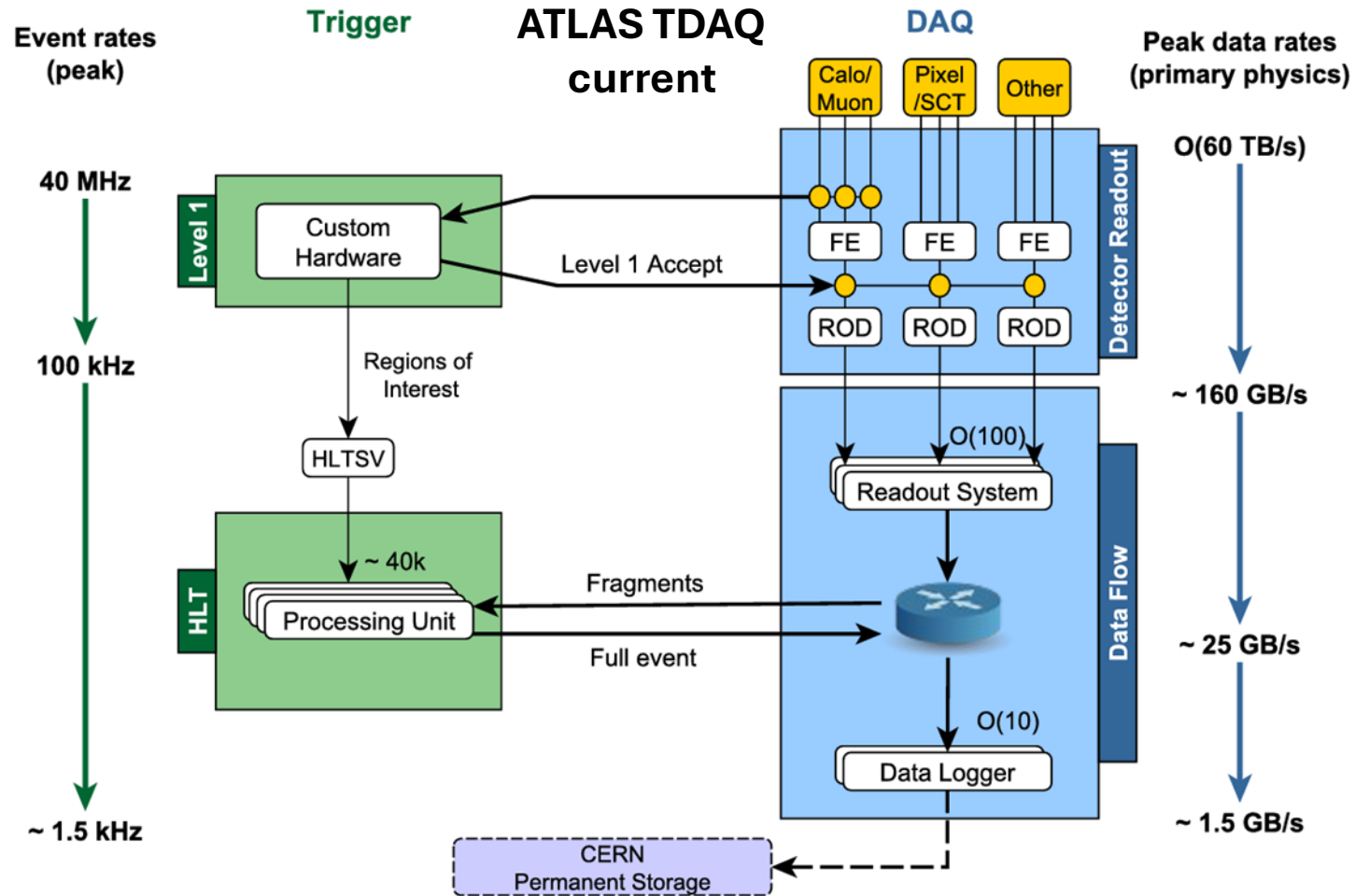
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With 80% efficiency:

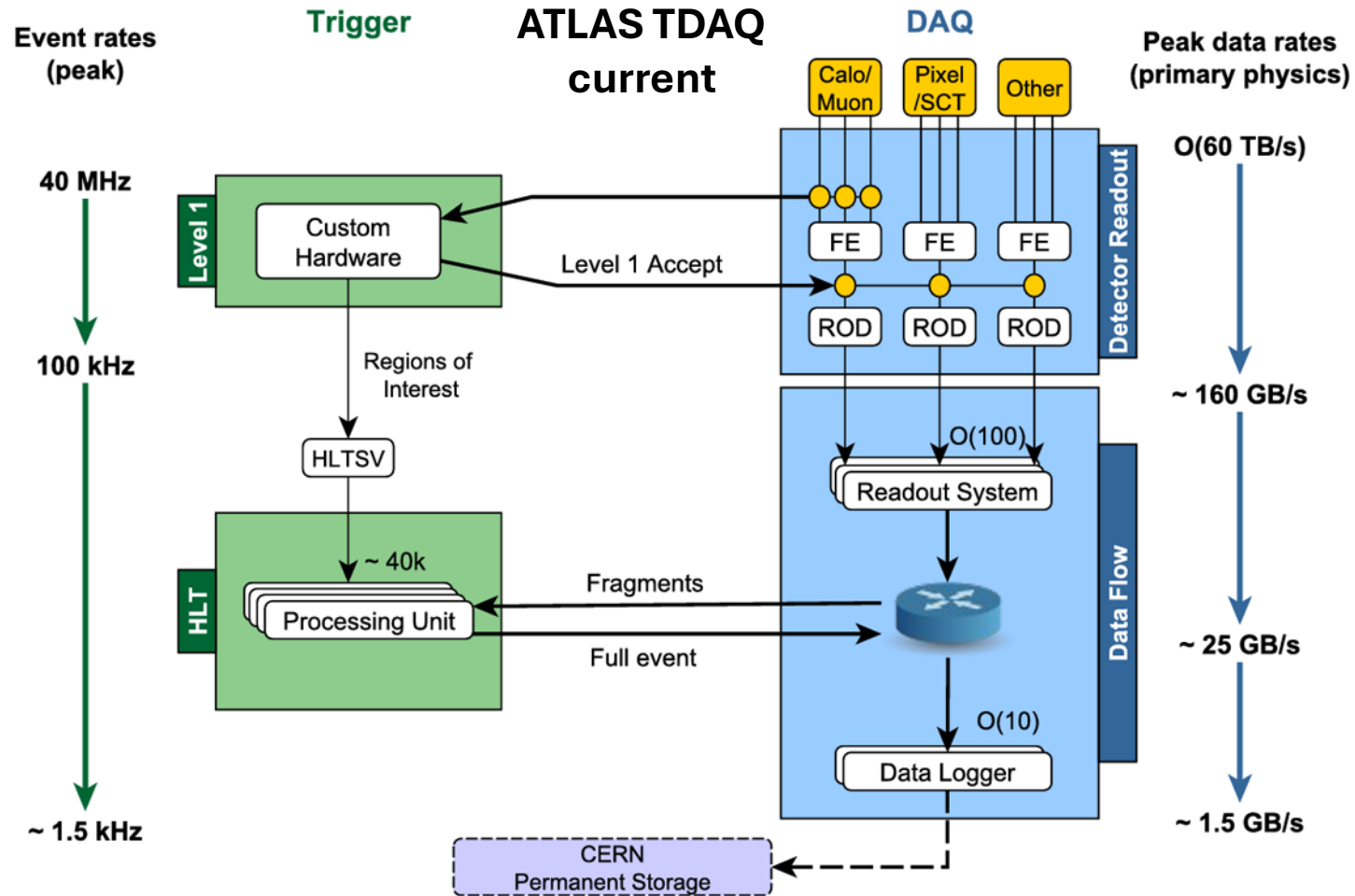
- DAQ efficiency would drop to **74,4%**
- **Severe impact** on rare event detection and measurement

The ATLAS experiment TDAQ



Dataflow is the backbone of DAQ:

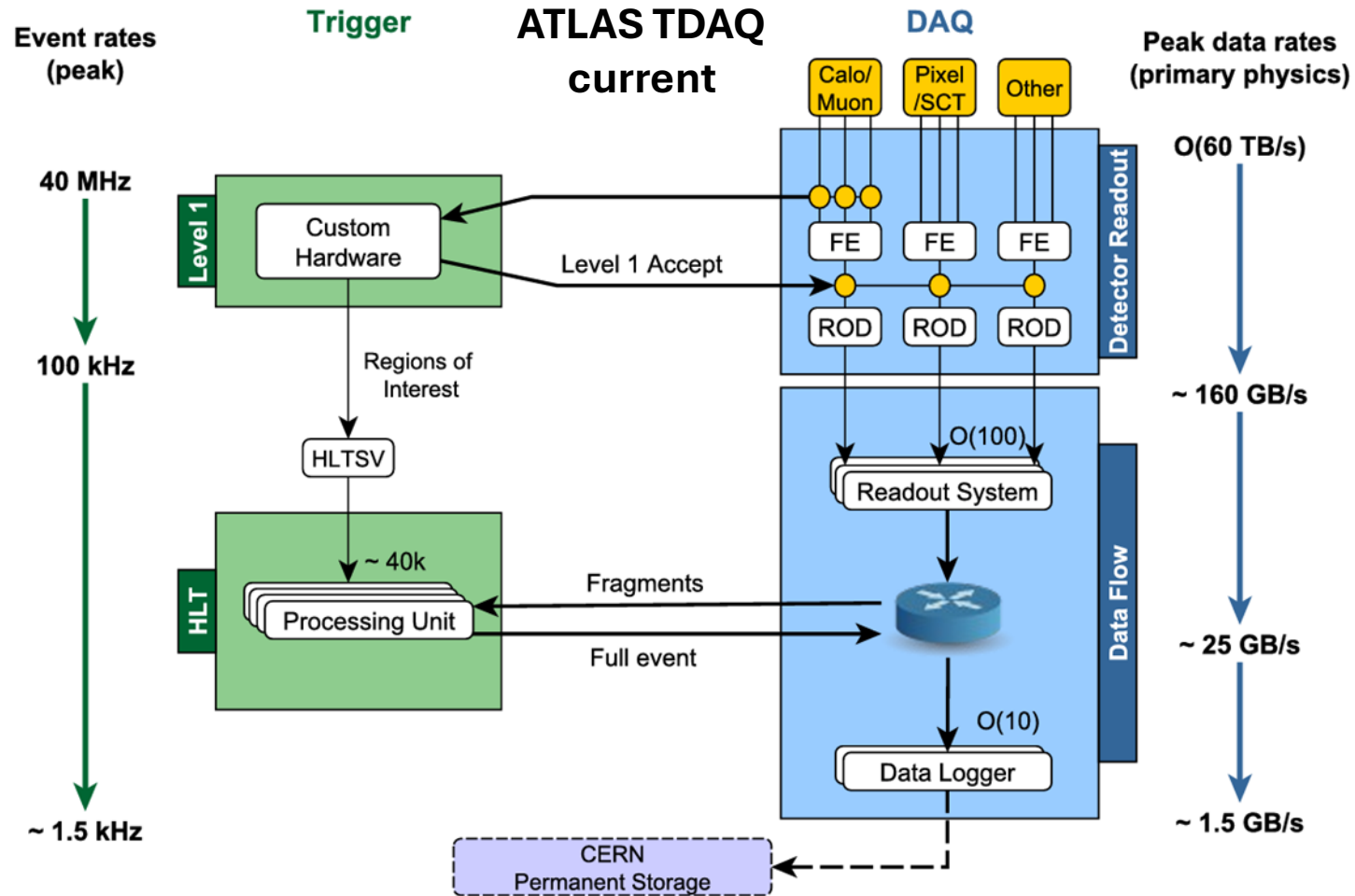
The ATLAS experiment TDAQ



Dataflow is the backbone of DAQ:

- Receives events data at **100 kHz** and 160 GB/s from detectors **Readout**
- **Builds events** for reconstruction and filtering at **25 GB/s**
- **Stores** 1,5 kHz of selected events with 1.5 GB/s data rate

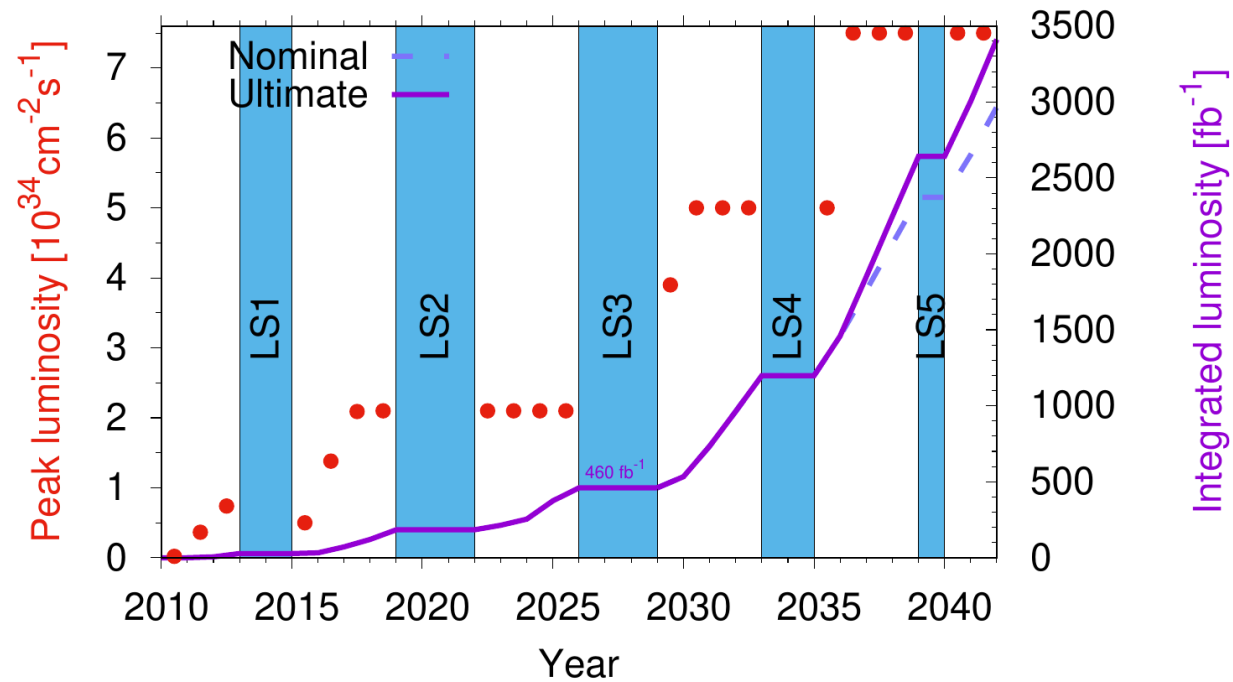
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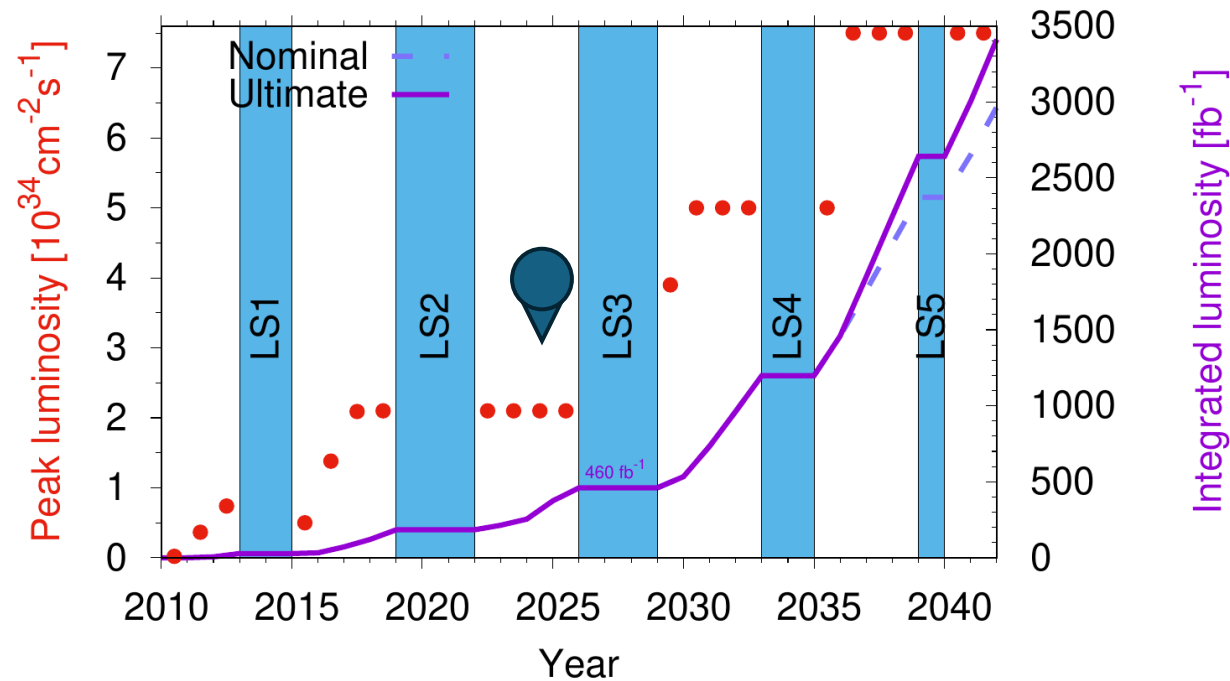
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- Always maintains maximum efficiency.
If it stops, **everything** stops

The High Luminosity Upgrade



The High Luminosity Upgrade

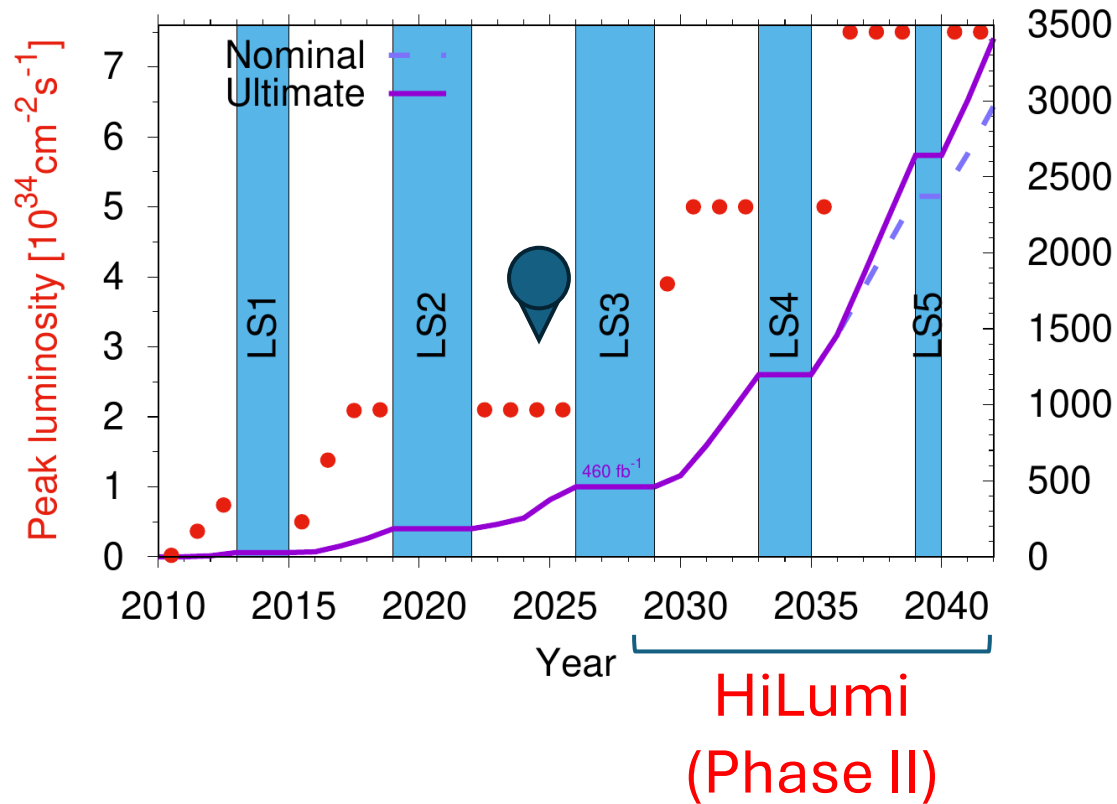
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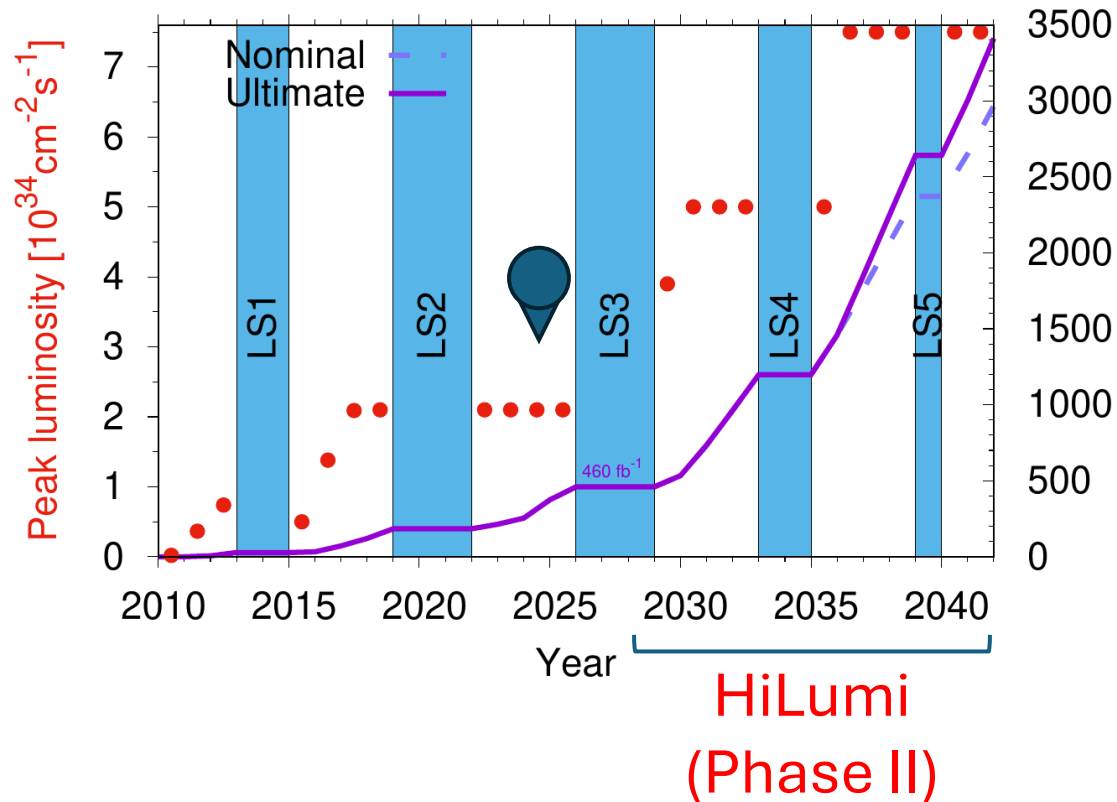
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Major LHC upgrade starting from late 2026: **High Luminosity Upgrade**

The High Luminosity Upgrade

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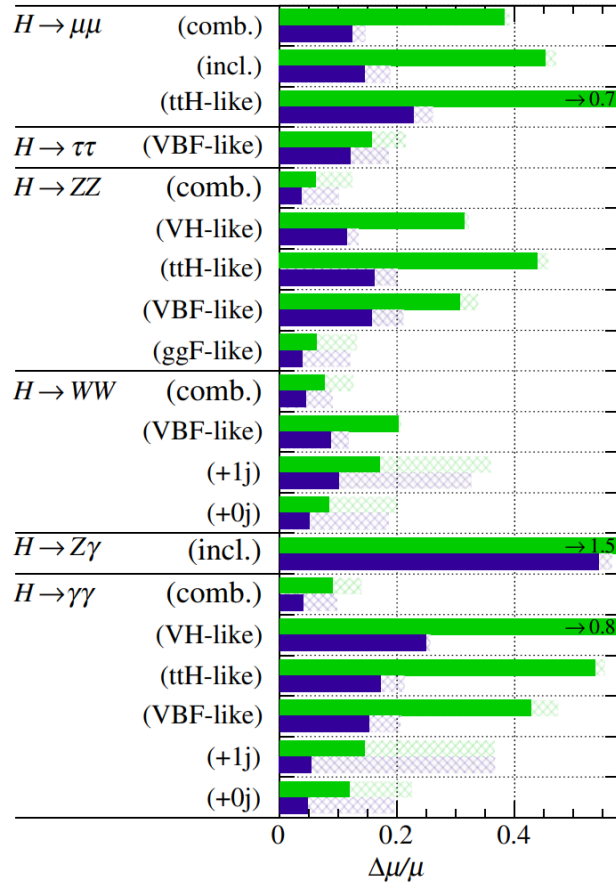
Major LHC upgrade starting from late 2026: **High Luminosity Upgrade**

- Top priority of the *European Strategy for Particle Physics*
- **4x** Peak luminosity increase
- Total integrated luminosity: **10x** LHC design value

The High Luminosity Upgrade

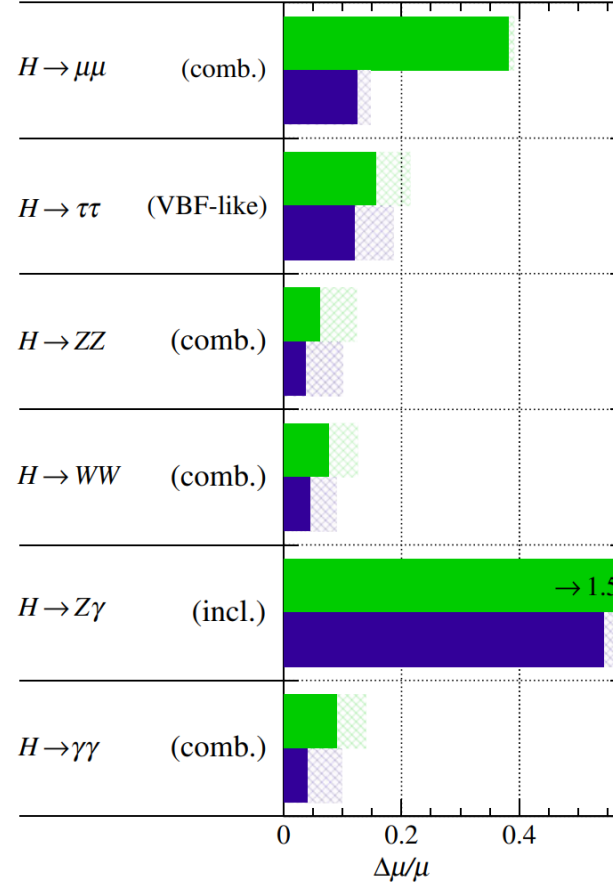
ATLAS simulation preliminary

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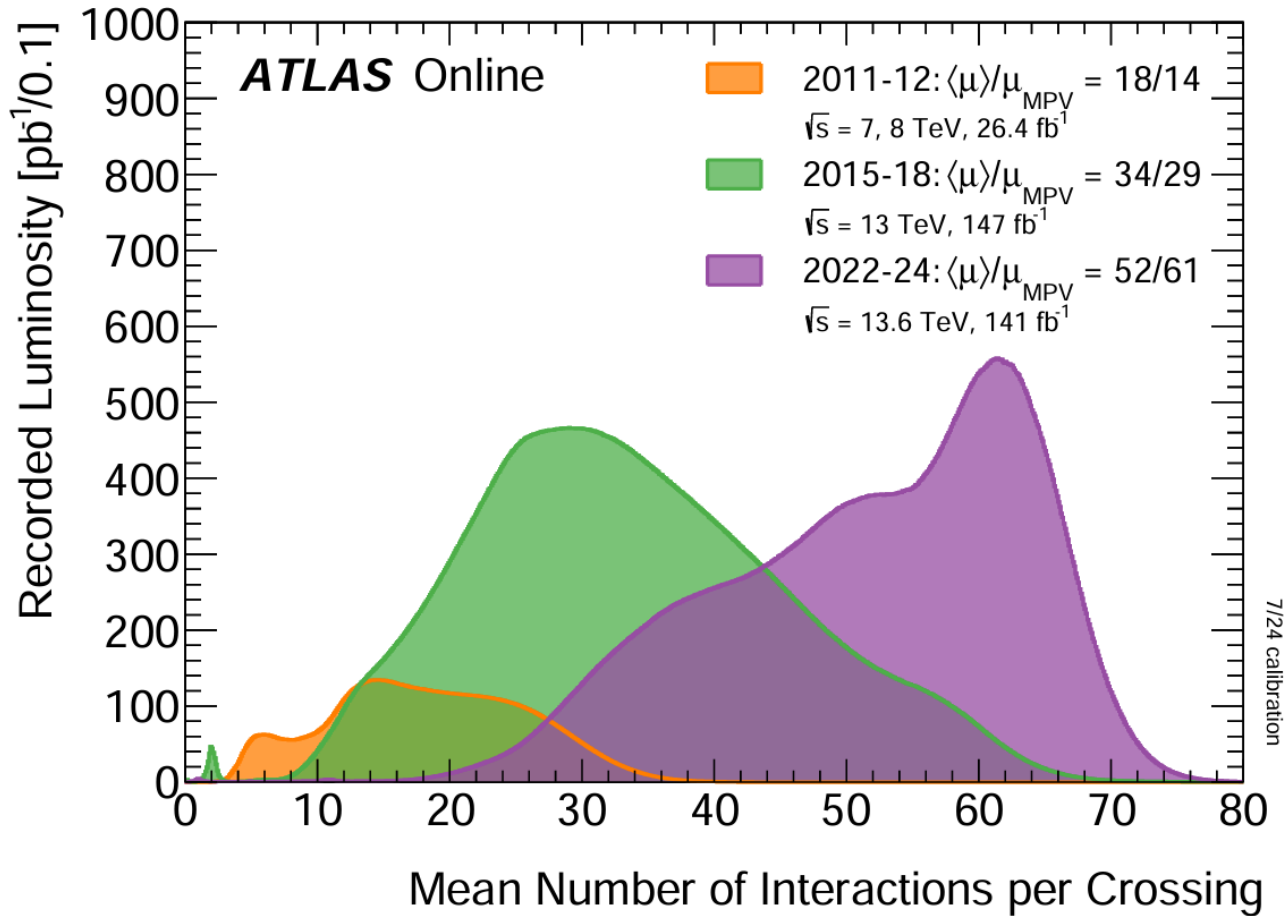
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The **High Luminosity Upgrade** aim is:

- Switch from discovery to **precision measurements**
- **Extend** the accelerator **lifetime** collecting as much data as possible
- Significantly **improve precision** for the Higgs sector
- Observe **very rare** new phenomena

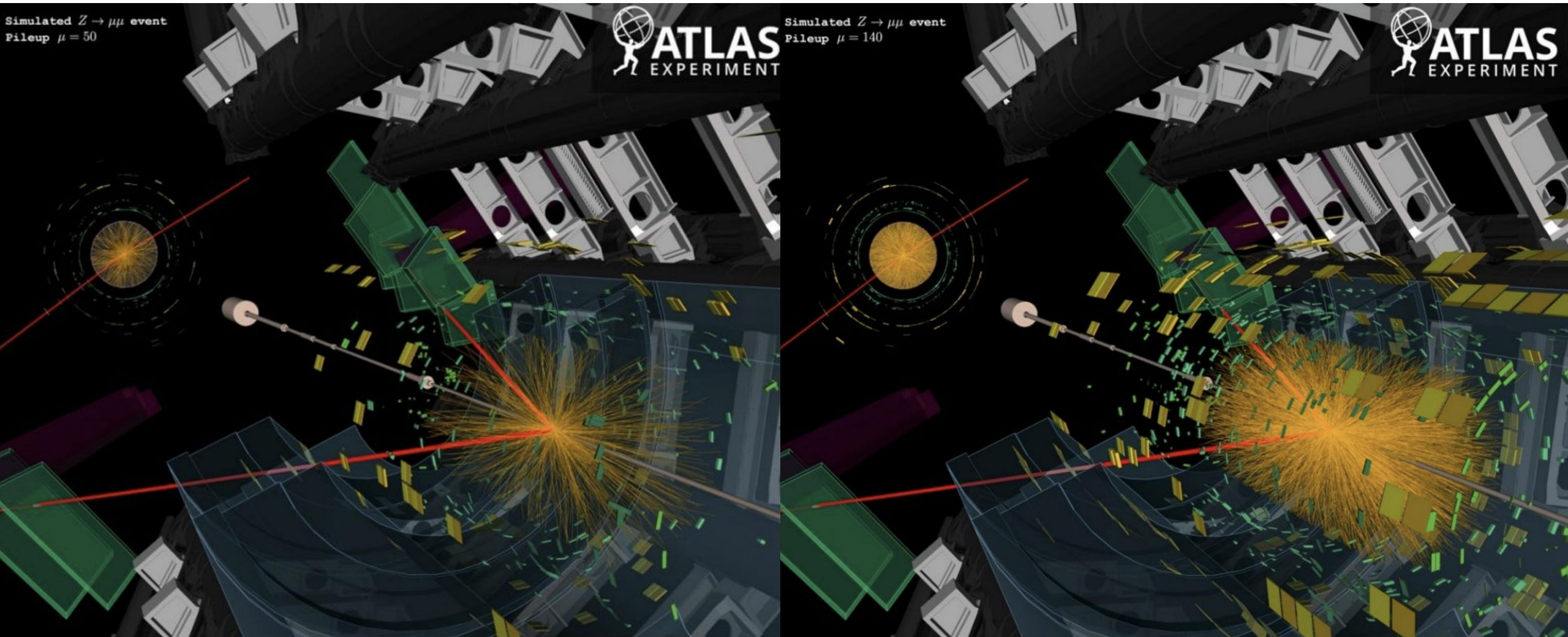
The High Luminosity Upgrade



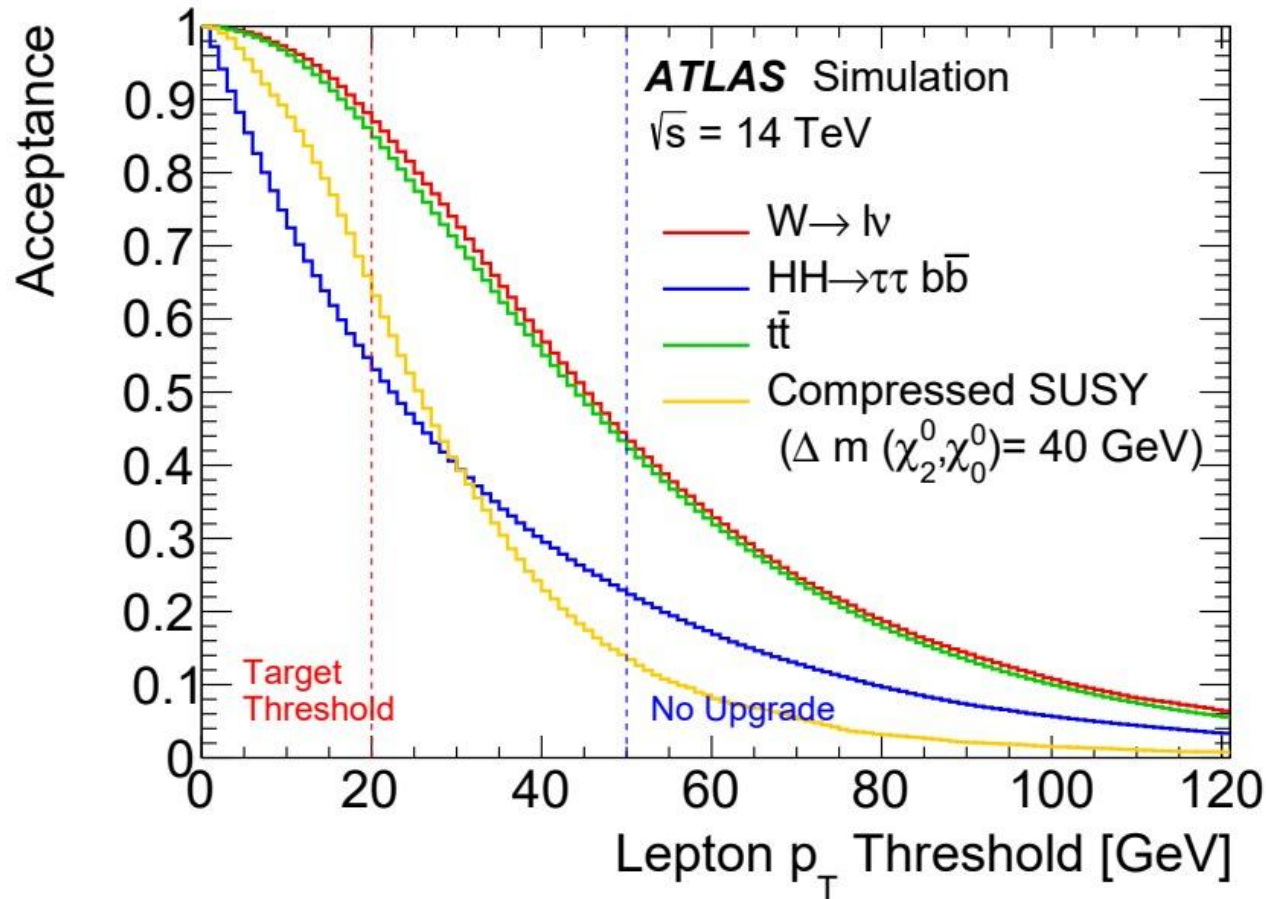
The upgrade will bring new technical **challenges**:

- Higher **Pile-up** is necessary to increase the luminosity
- Average of 60 during current Run
- Will reach up to **200** in Phase II

The High Luminosity Upgrade



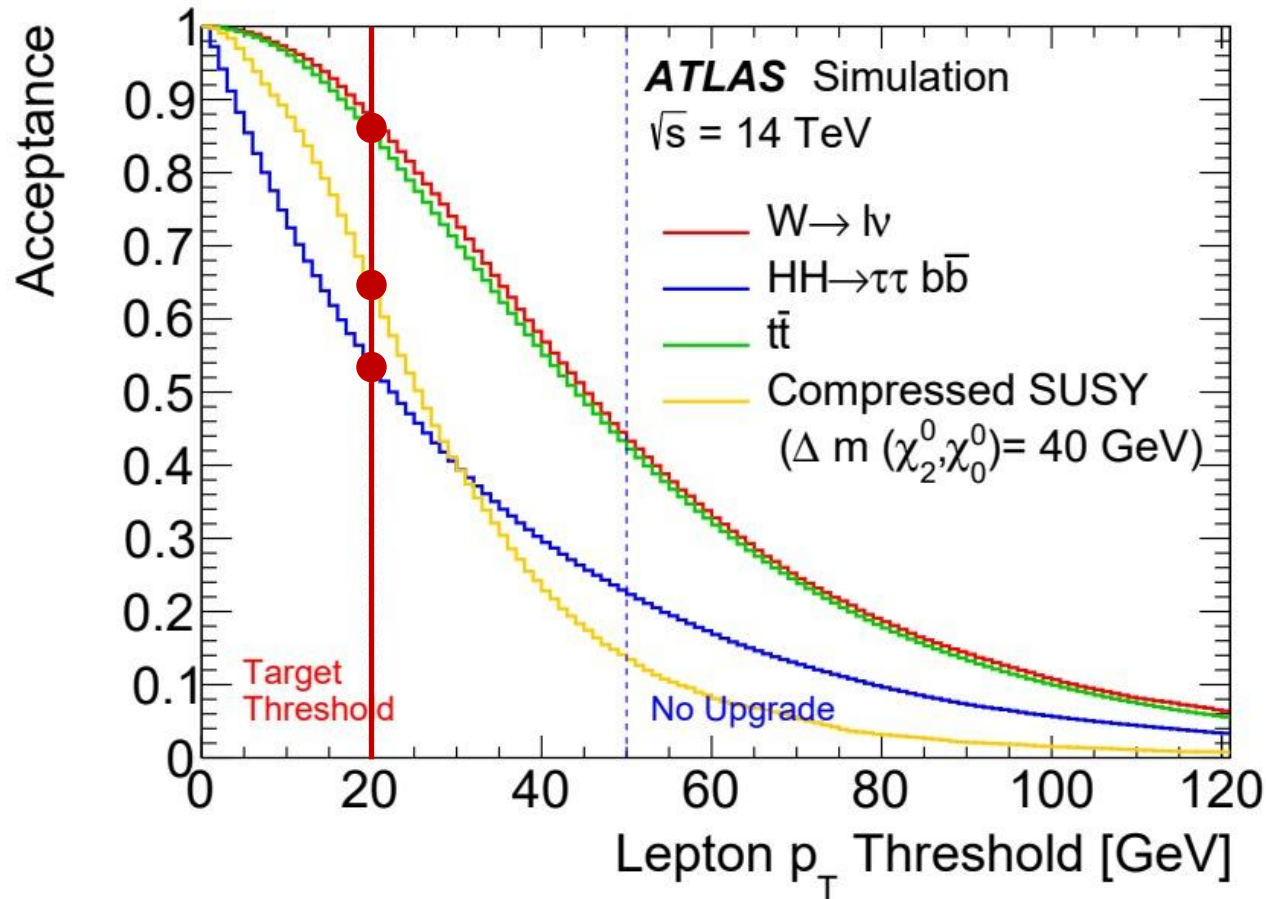
The High Luminosity Upgrade



To solve the issue, one can raise the **thresholds, but**

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The High Luminosity Upgrade

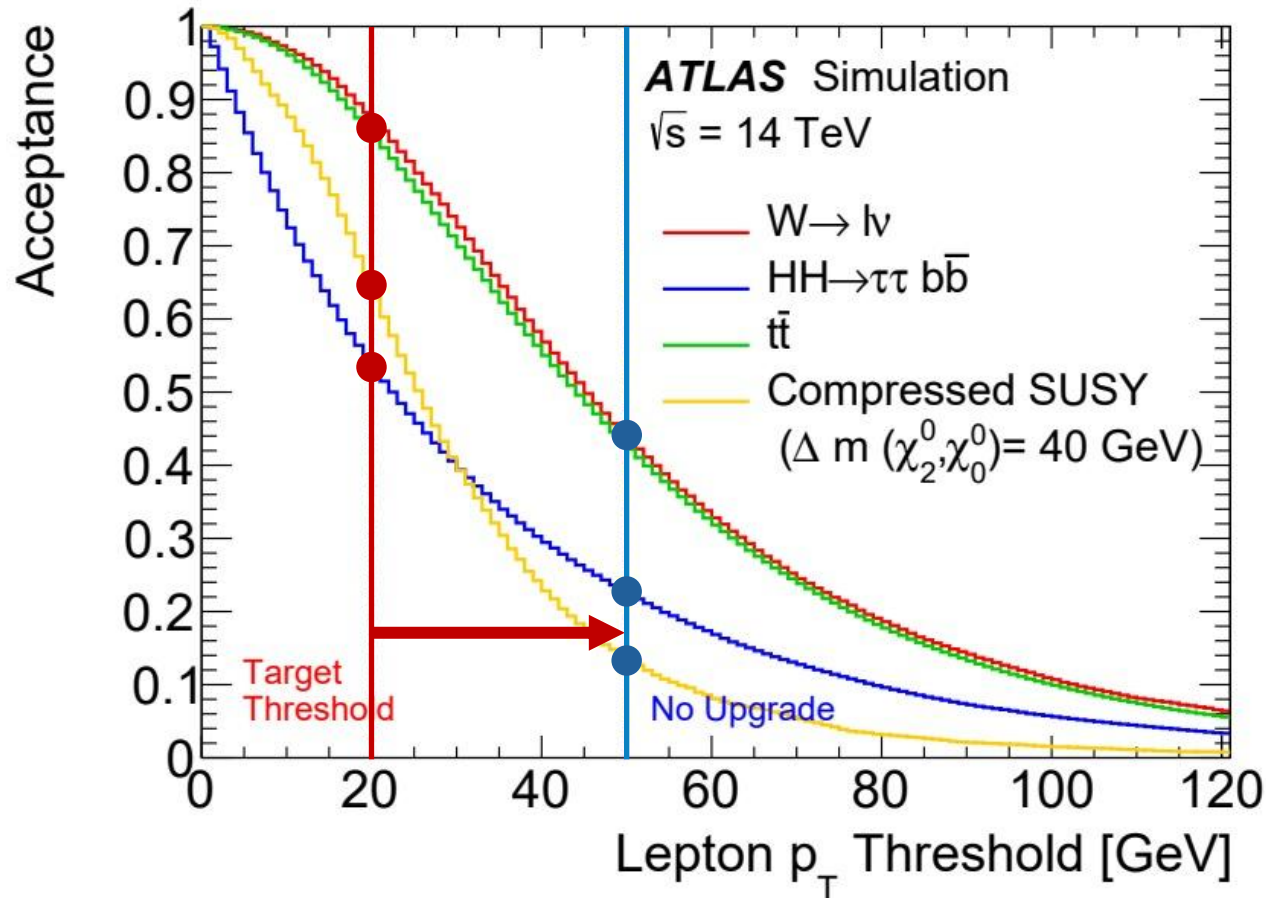


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The High Luminosity Upgrade



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With the current detector this means

- Raising single μ, e^- thresholds from 20 GeV to 50 GeV
- Efficiency dropping by almost 50%

Trigger rate must be increased

ATLAS Phase-II Upgrade Requirements

Luminosity and pile-up increase will provide a significant challenge for the ATLAS TDAQ.

Both data rate and throughput will increase significantly.



ATLAS Phase-II Upgrade Requirements

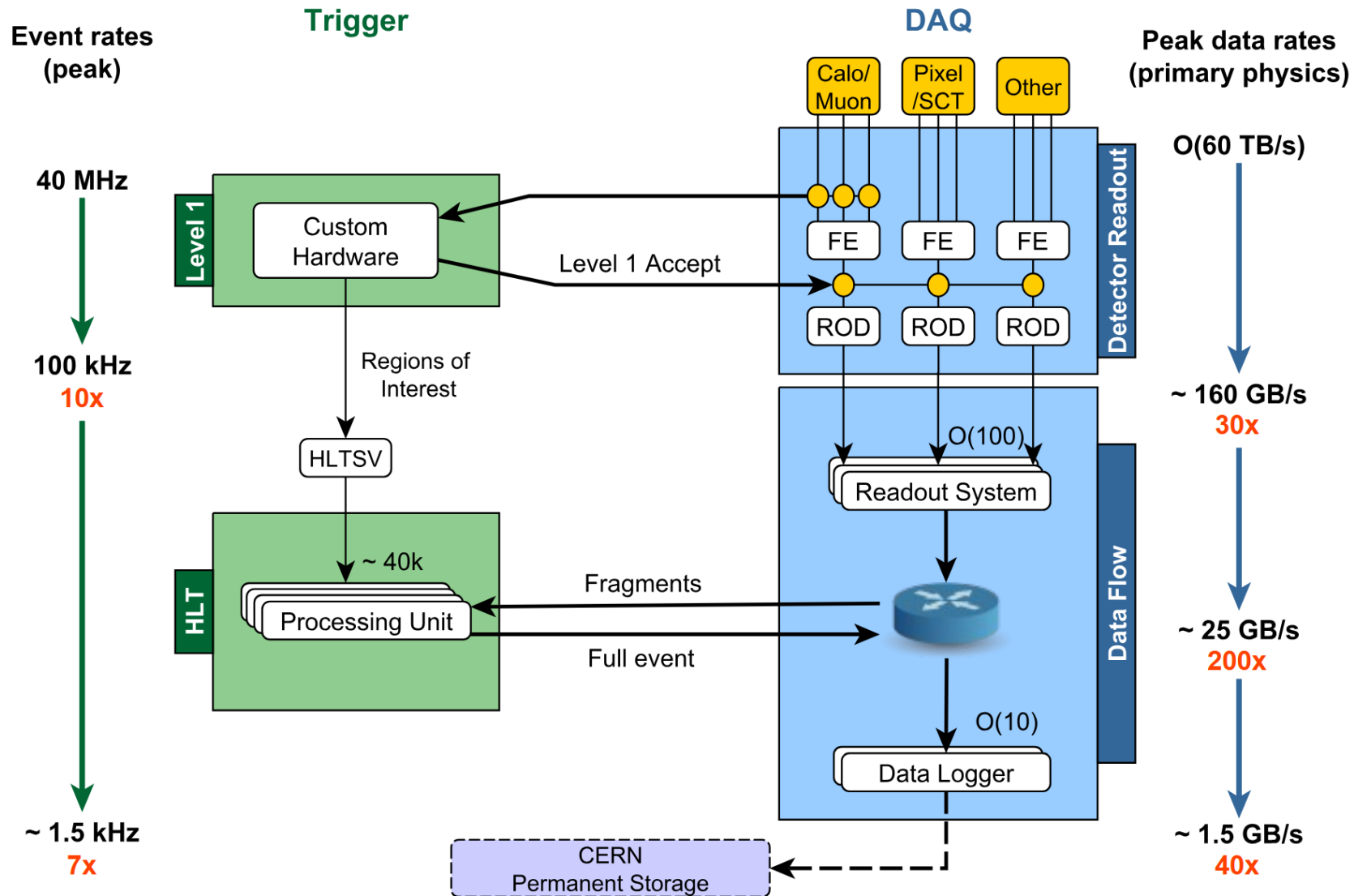
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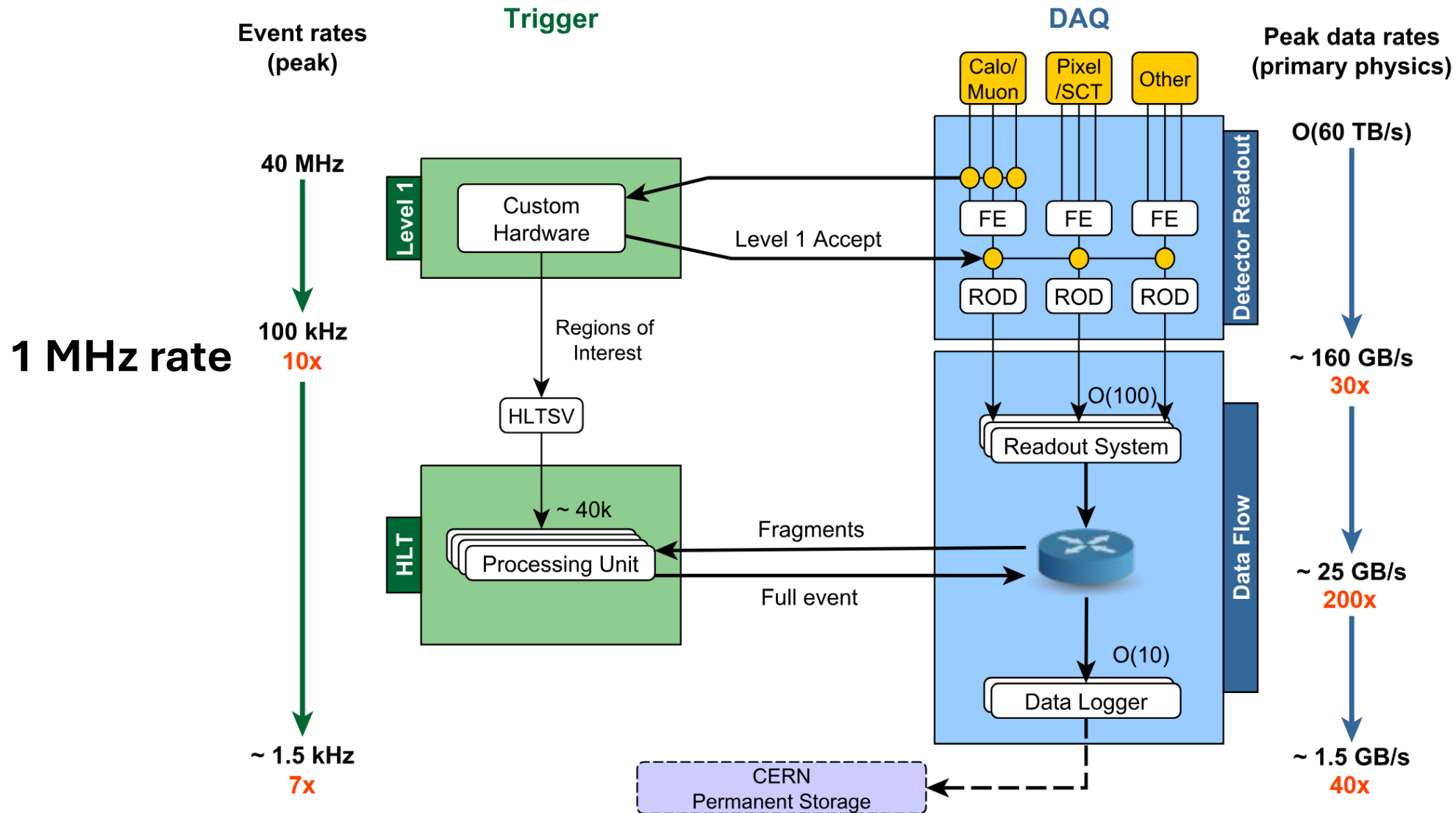


- ~ 10x increase in input event rate
- ~ 25x increase in data throughput

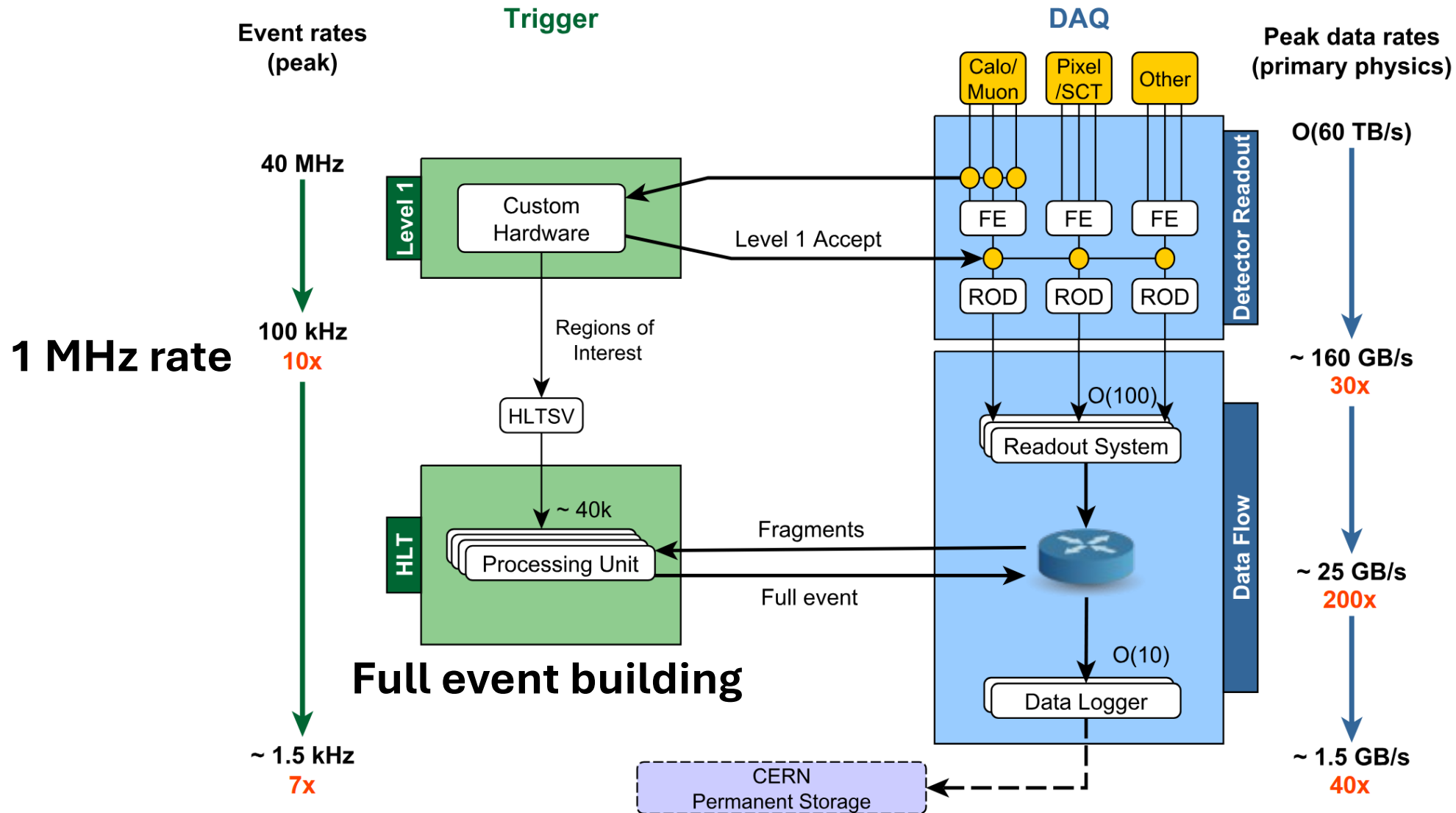
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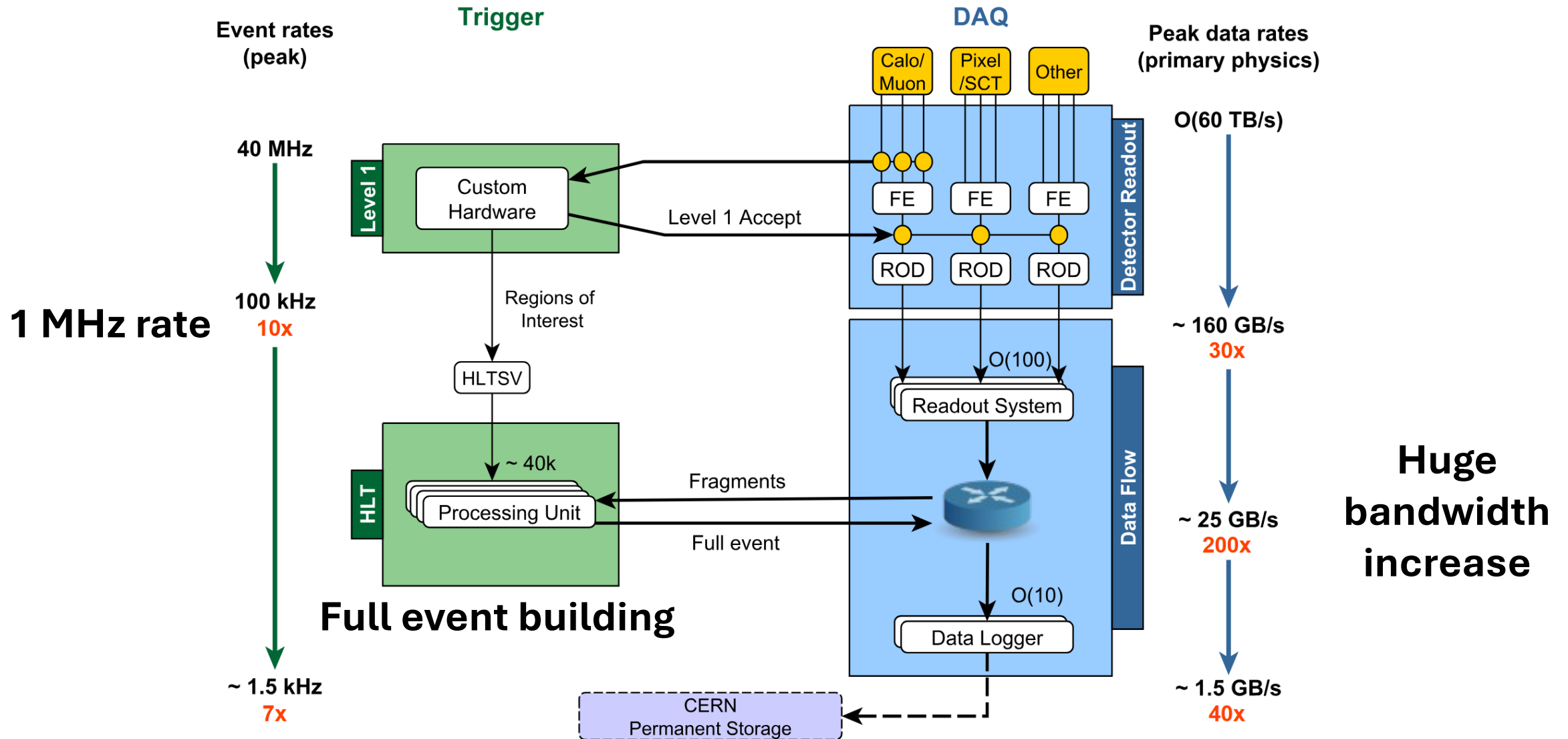
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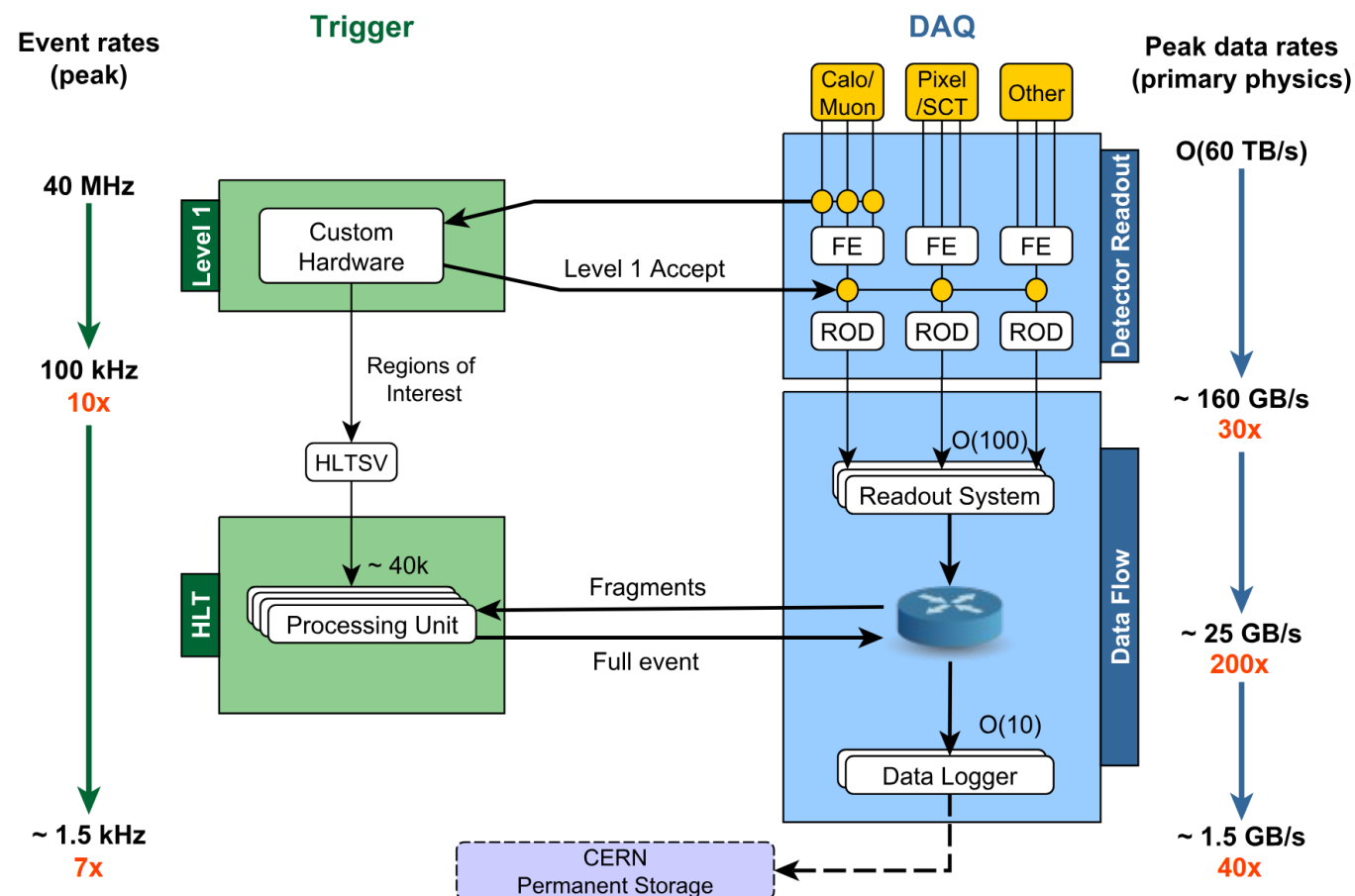
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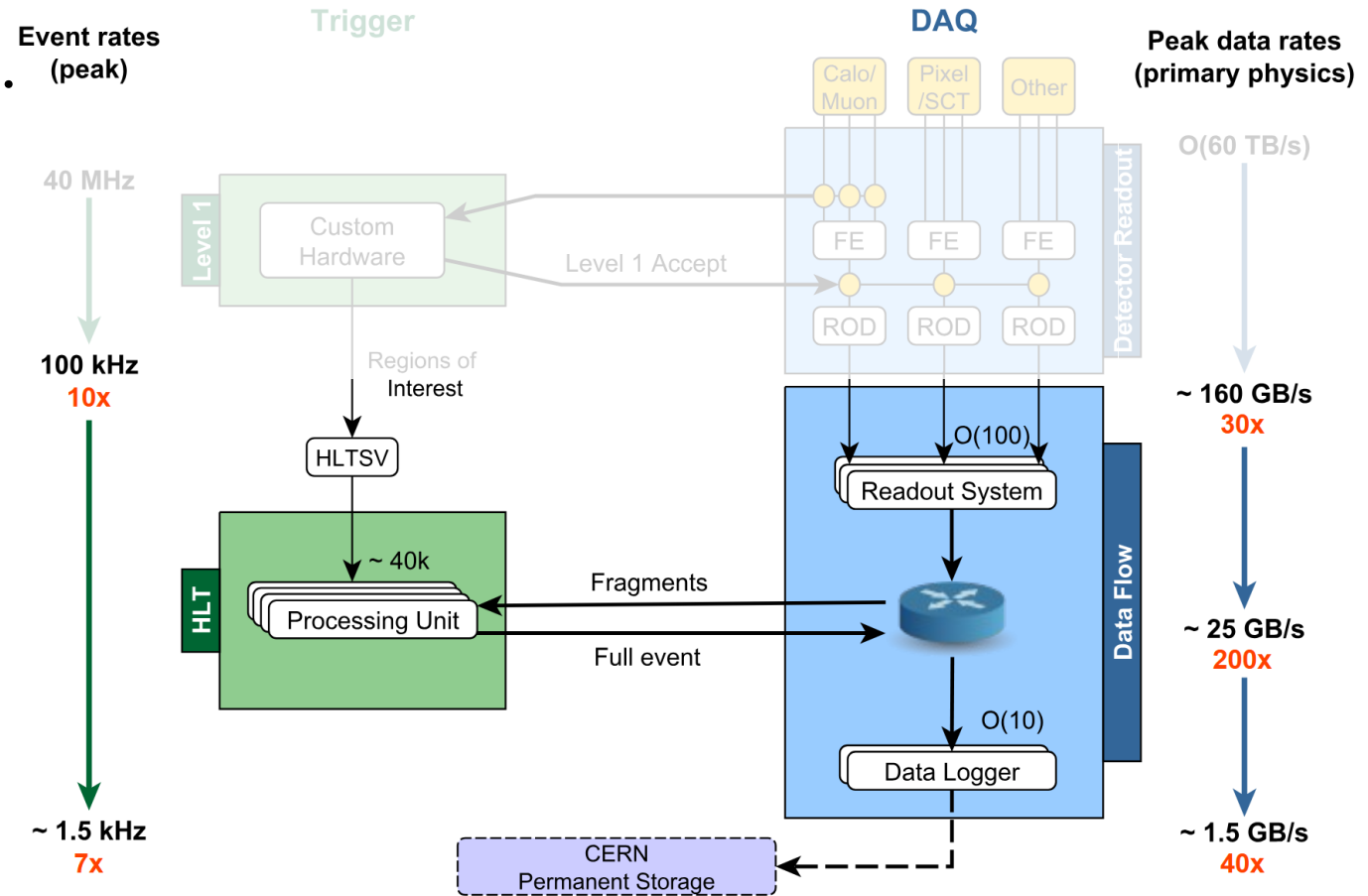


The PhD project



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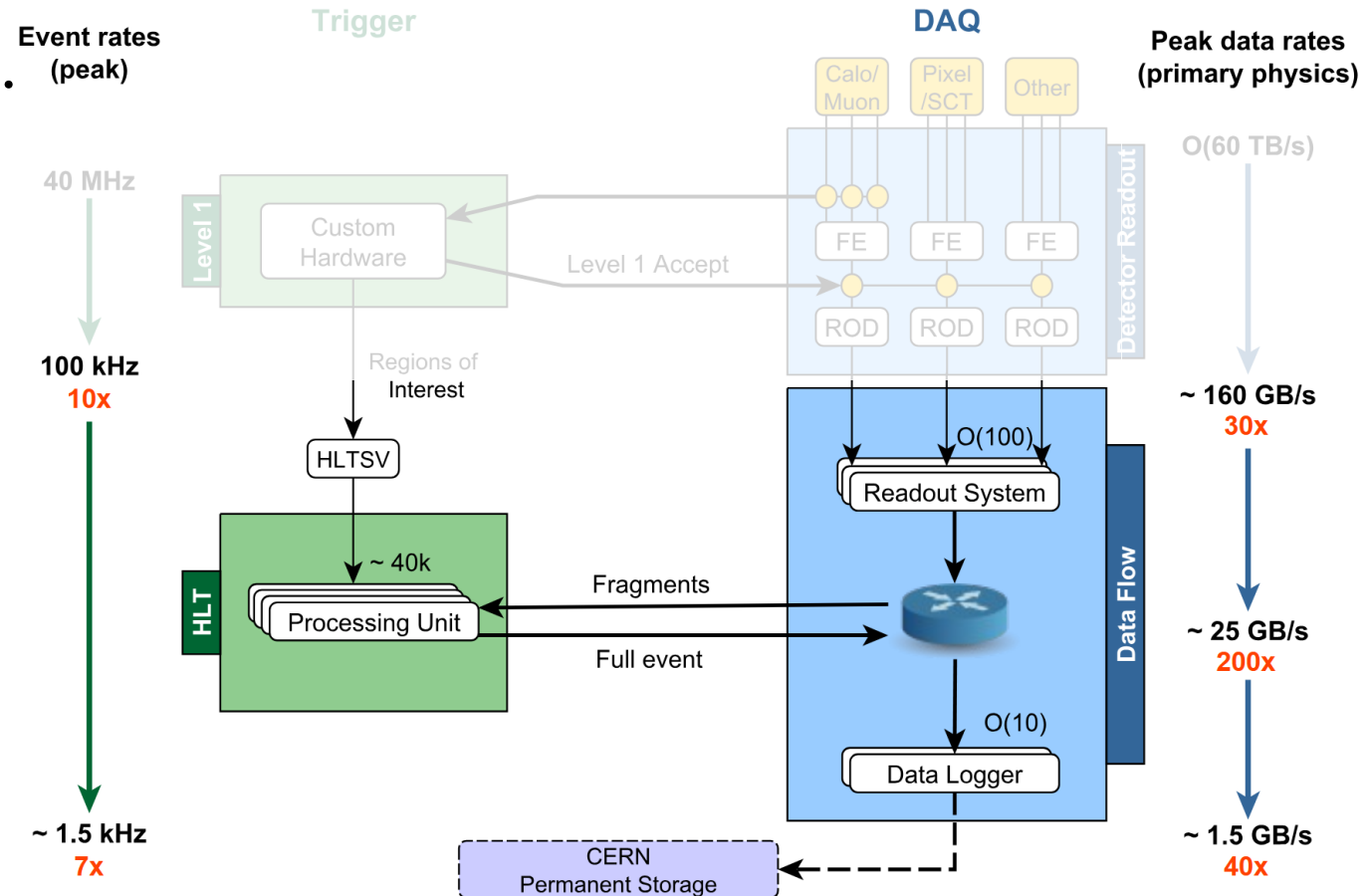


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The aim of the project is:

- **Assessment** of the current system capabilities
- **Design and development** of the Dataflow application for Phase II
- **Testing and integration** with the rest of TDAQ



The PhD project: performance assessment

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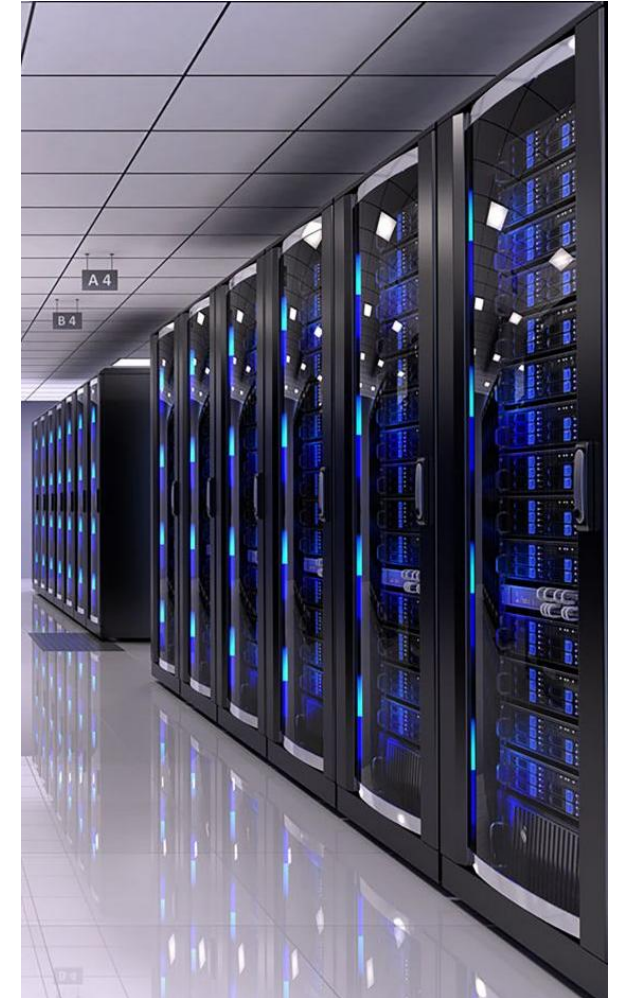


*Do you know what asynchronous programming is?

The PhD project: performance assessment

The current Dataflow system uses asynchronous programming* to manage data transfer.

- To **optimize** resources usage
- Chosen solution by big tech and social network companies in **datacenters**
- Can **maximize** event **processing rate** while using the least amount of processing power
- **Baseline** for the Phase II upgrade

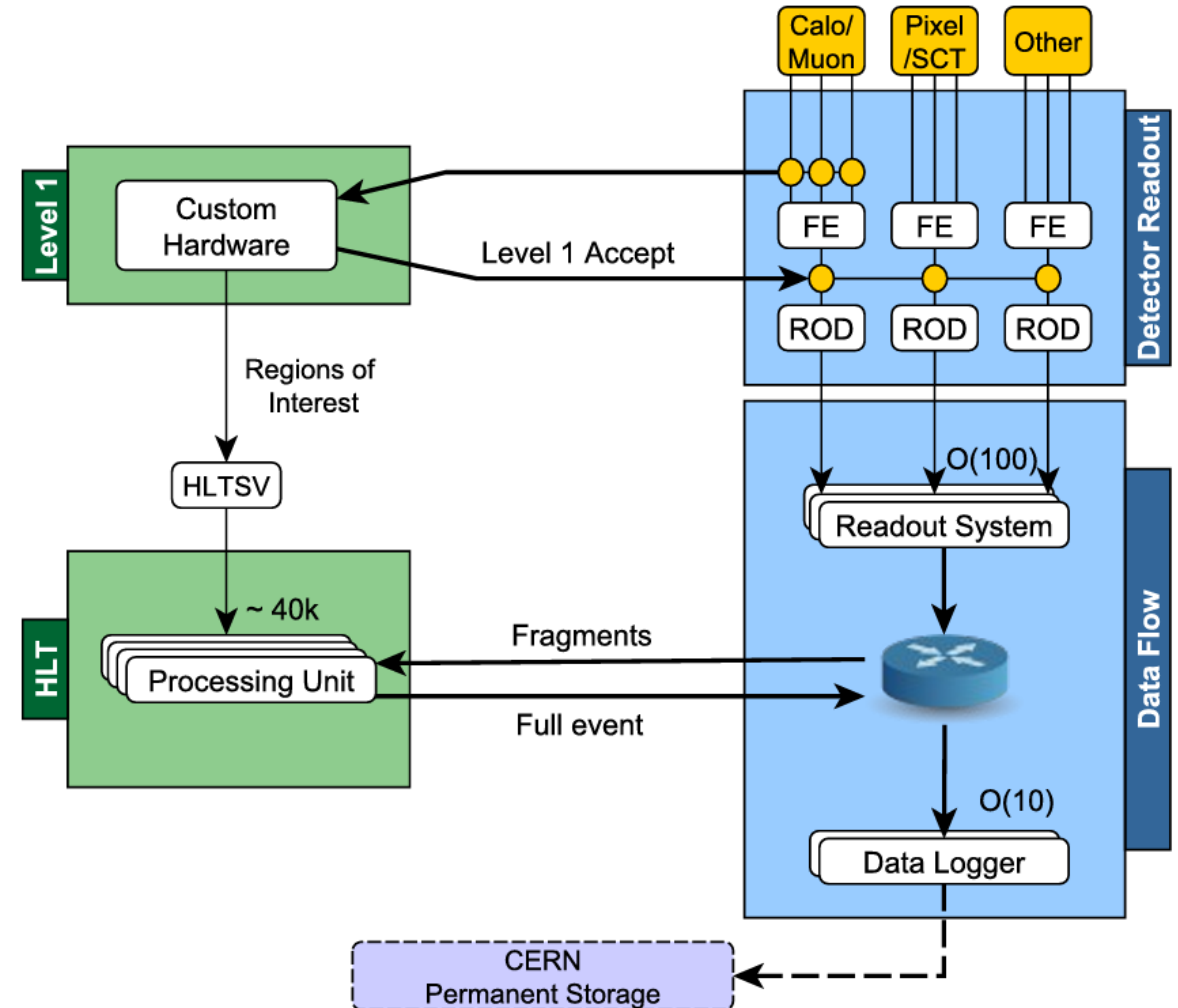


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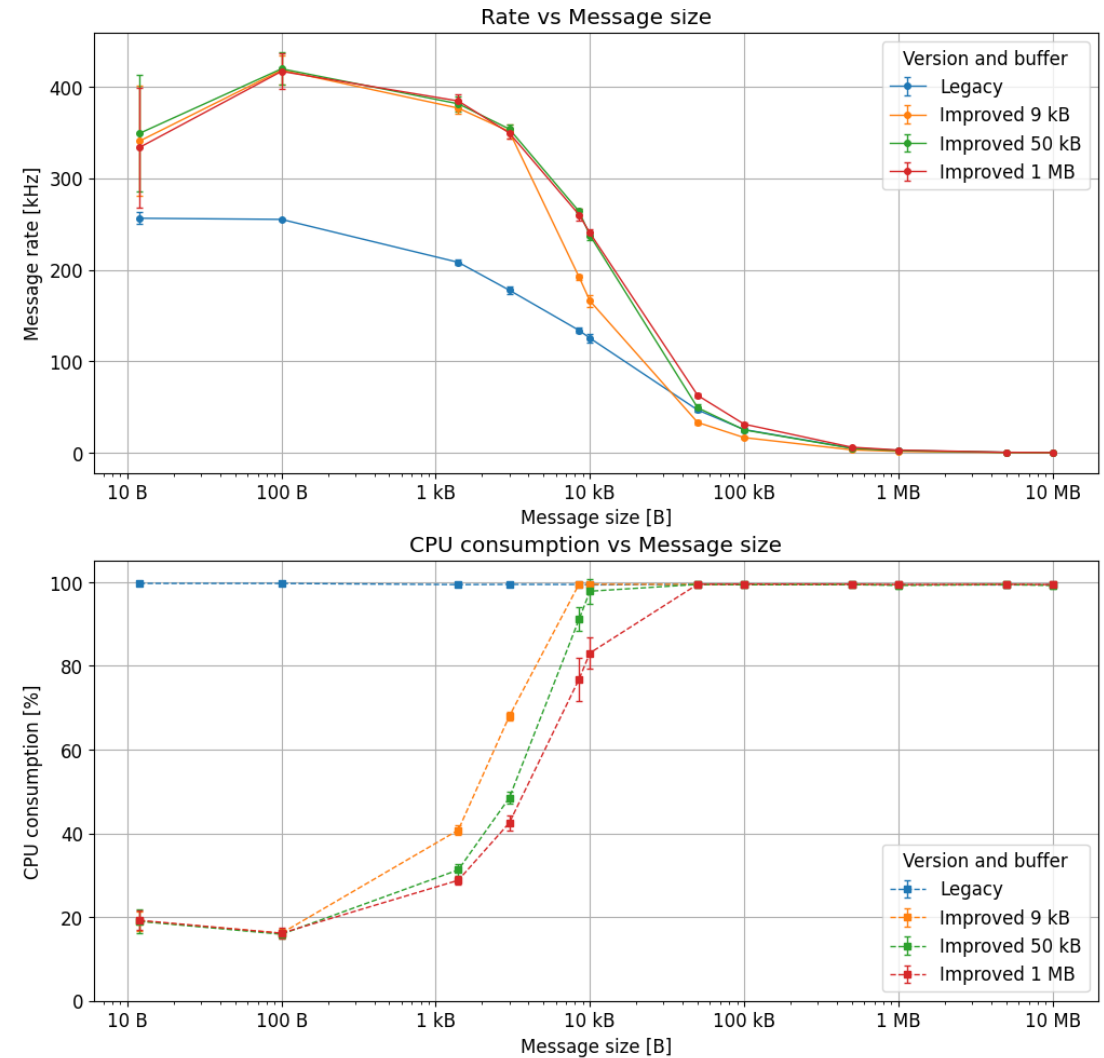
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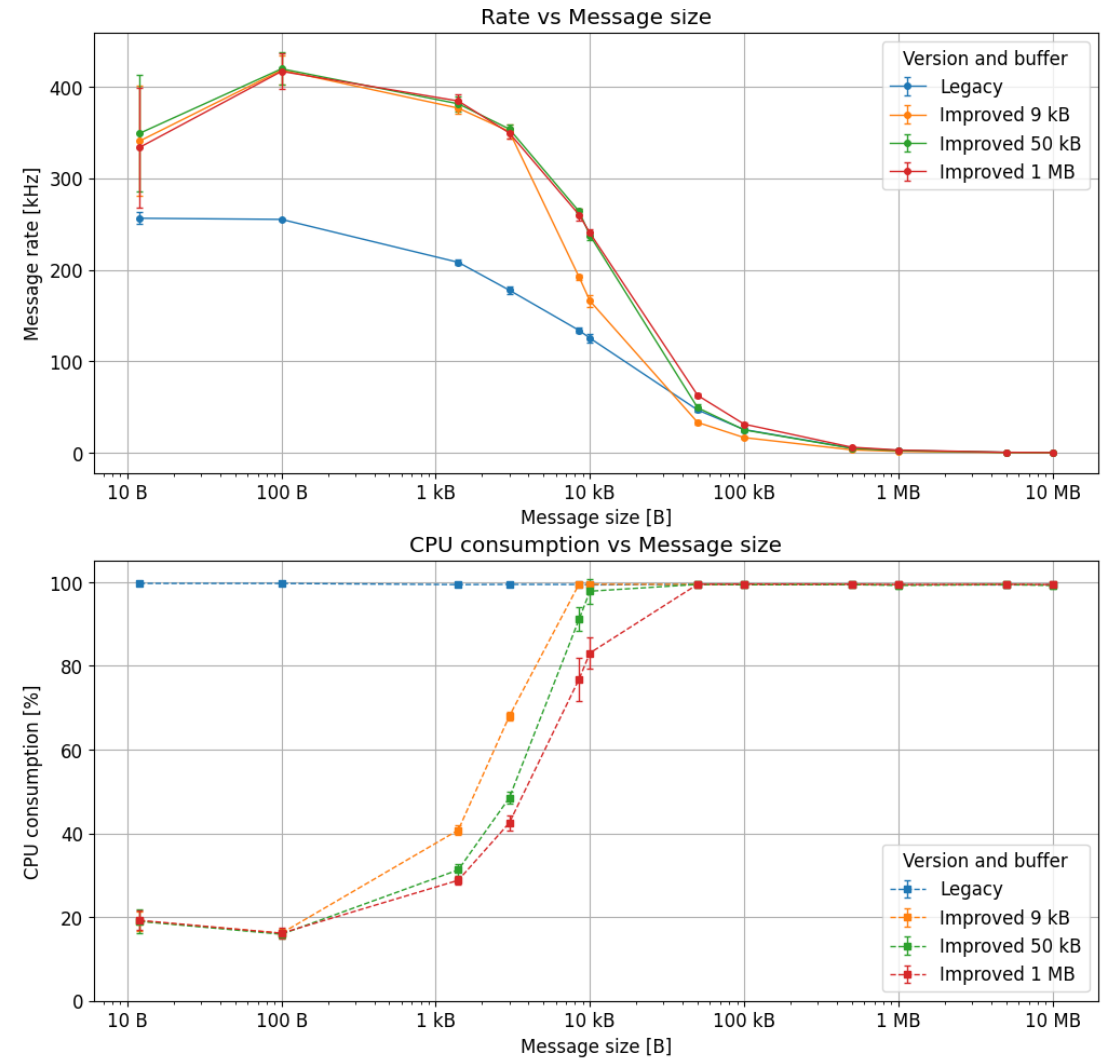
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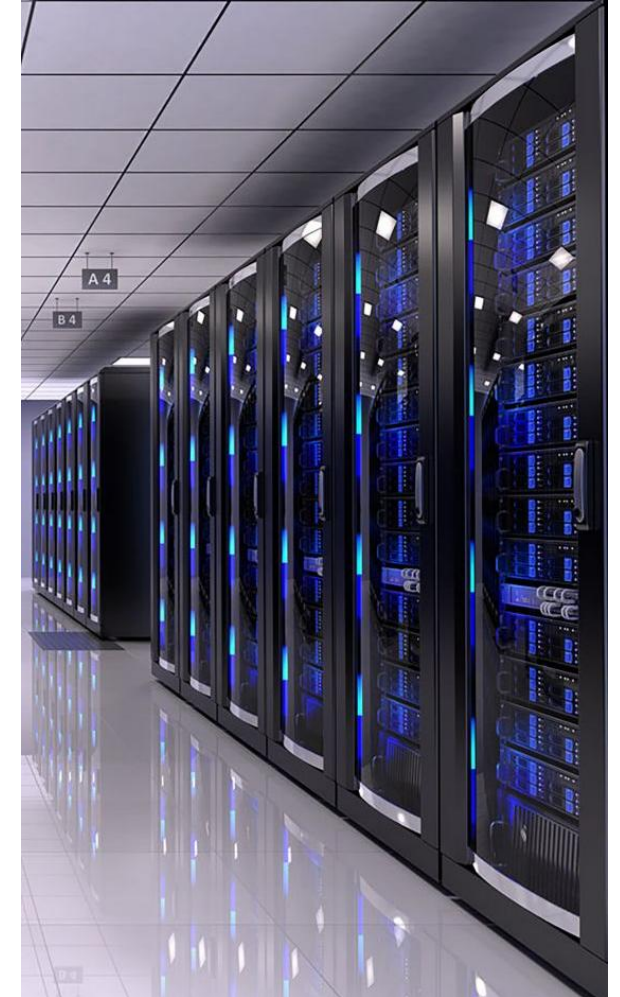
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- **New applications needed** to get the performance boost



The PhD project: system development

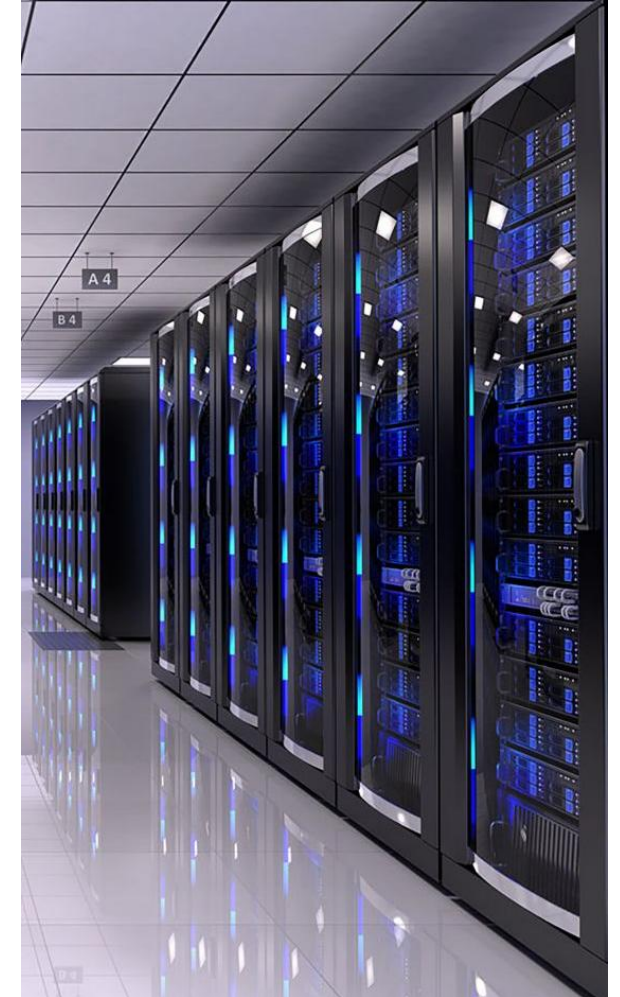
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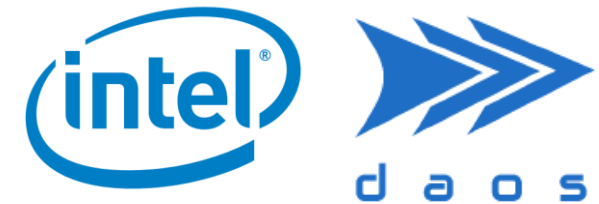
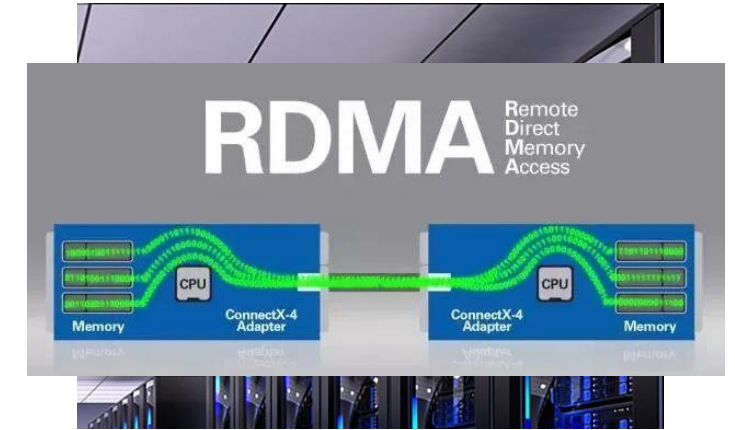
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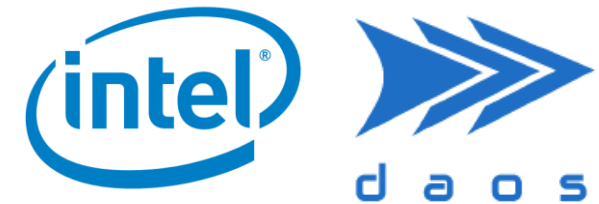
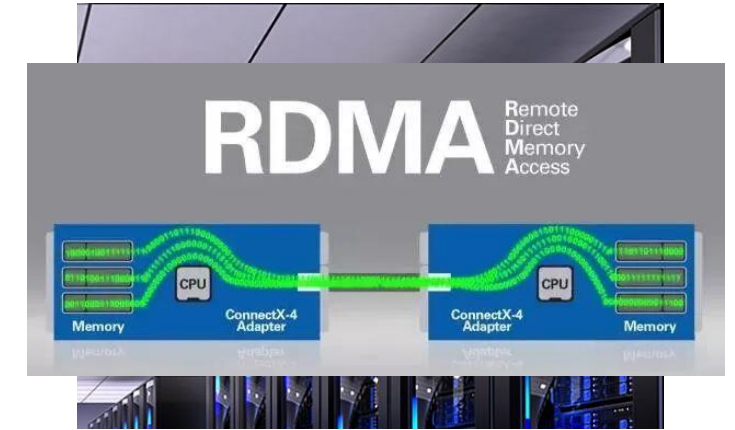
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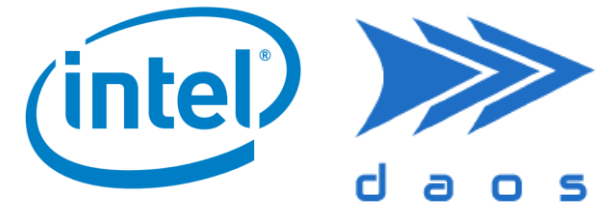
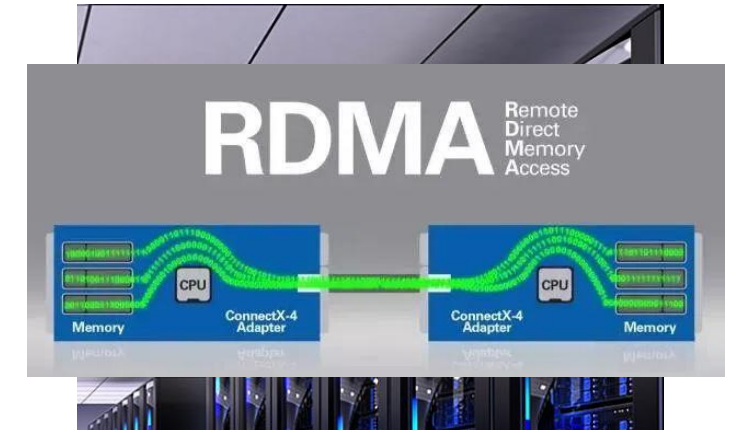
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- Research on cutting edge technologies used in industry: **Remote Direct Memory Access**, distributed file system
- Development of **ad-hoc solutions** to tailor functionalities on the available hardware and network
- Testing during the **Technical Stop** at the end of 2025 on the entire farm



The PhD project: testing and integration

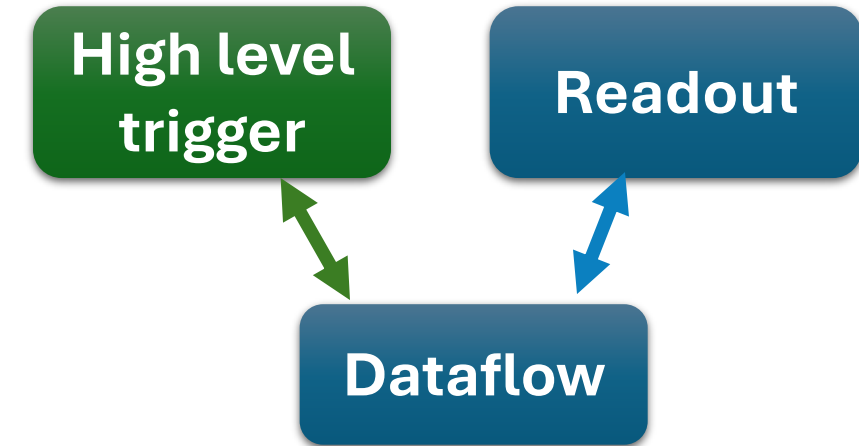
The last step is the system integration.

Dataflow

The PhD project: testing and integration

The last step is the system integration.

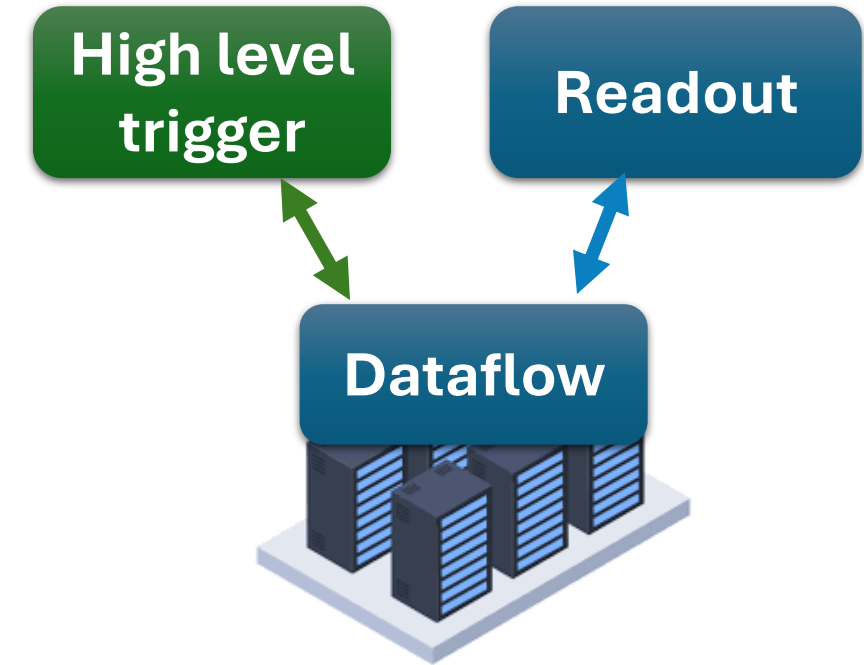
- Applications prototype needs to be **tested** in the upgraded TDAQ system, starting from **2027**



The PhD project: testing and integration

The last step is the system integration.

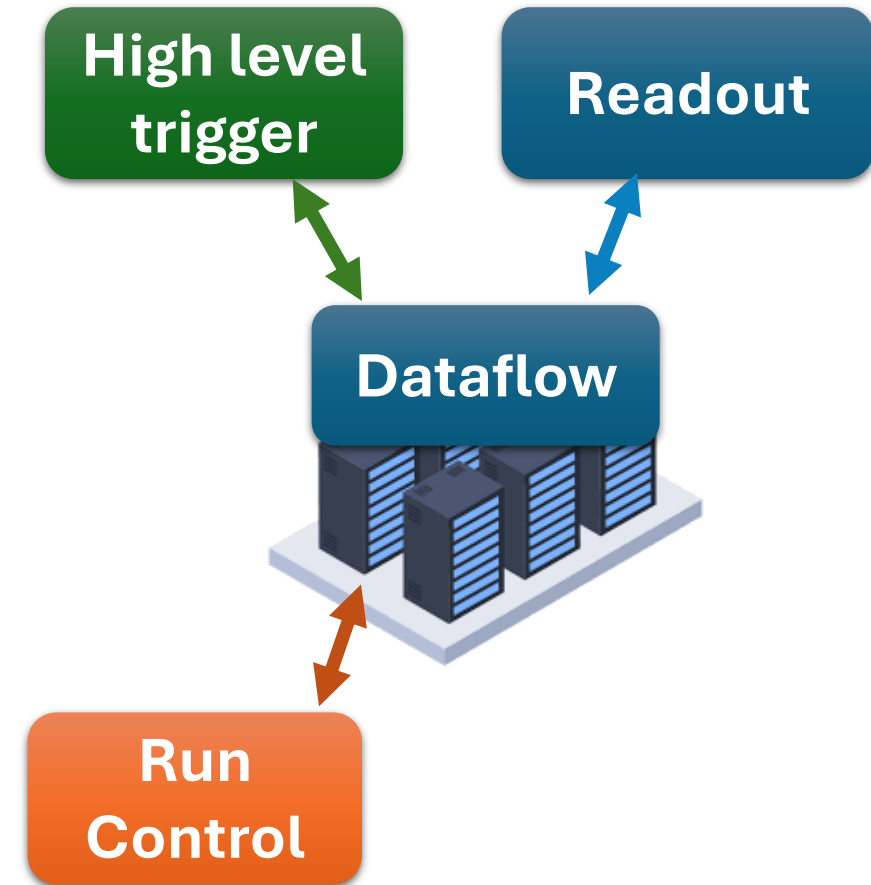
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The PhD project: testing and integration

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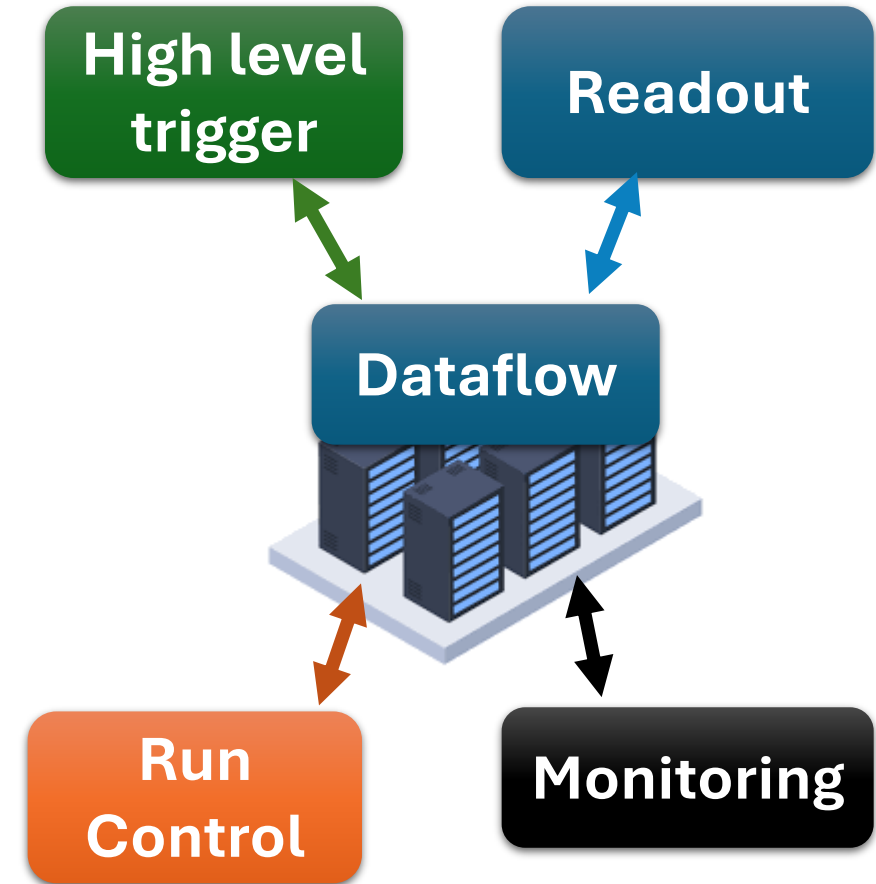
- Applications prototype needs to be **tested** in the upgraded TDAQ system, starting from **2027**
- Software **optimization** in the new farm, to reduce **resource usage**
- Extensive test for **reliability** and **robustness** to ensure maximum **efficiency**



The PhD project: testing and integration

The last step is the system integration.

- Applications prototype needs to be **tested** in the upgraded TDAQ system, starting from **2027**
- Software **optimization** in the new farm, to reduce **resource usage**
- Extensive test for **reliability** and **robustness** to ensure maximum **efficiency**
- Integration with **monitoring** tools to provide early **problems detection**



Conclusions

LHC will start its new **High Luminosity Phase**, for high precision physics measurement.

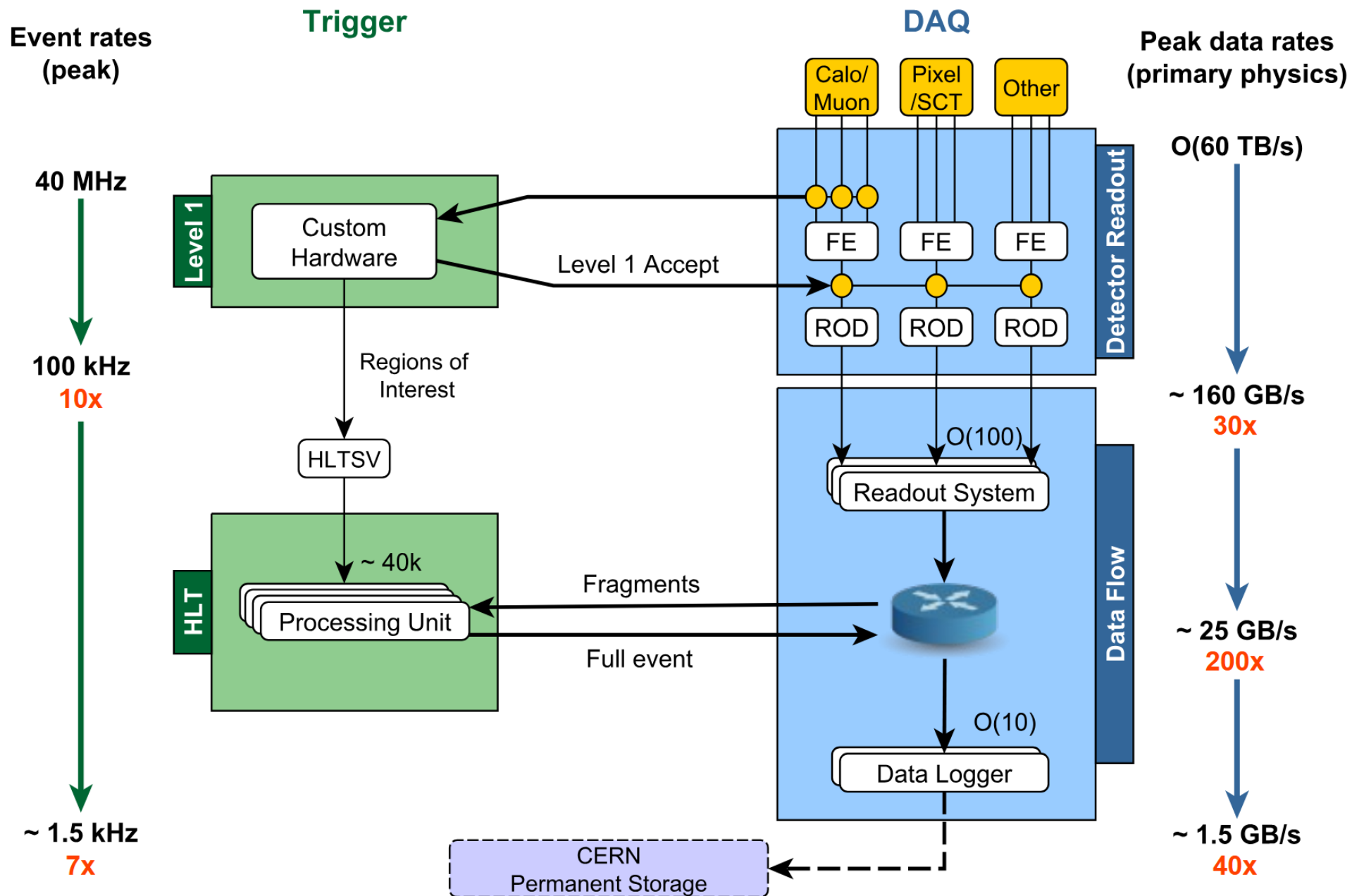
- **4x** peak luminosity, **3x** pile-up
- ATLAS experiment TDAQ needs a significant **upgrade**

The PhD project main focus is the new **Dataflow system**:

- Research **new solution** to meet the performance requirements
- Design the new system to ensure **performance, efficiency** and **reliability**

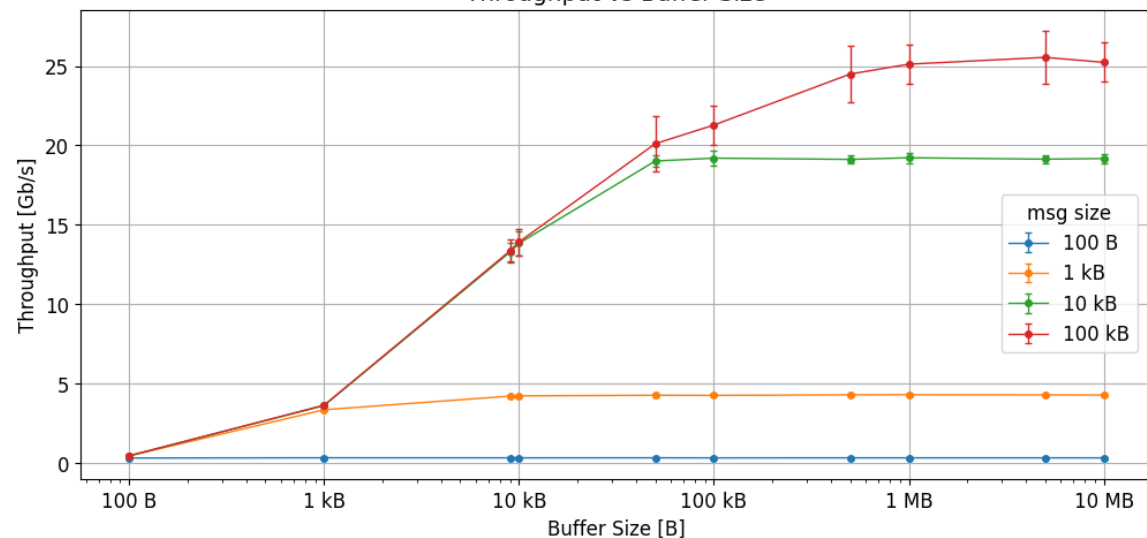
The other PhD focus will be in the **muon data quality** to support the online **operations** for this Run and beyond

Backup slides

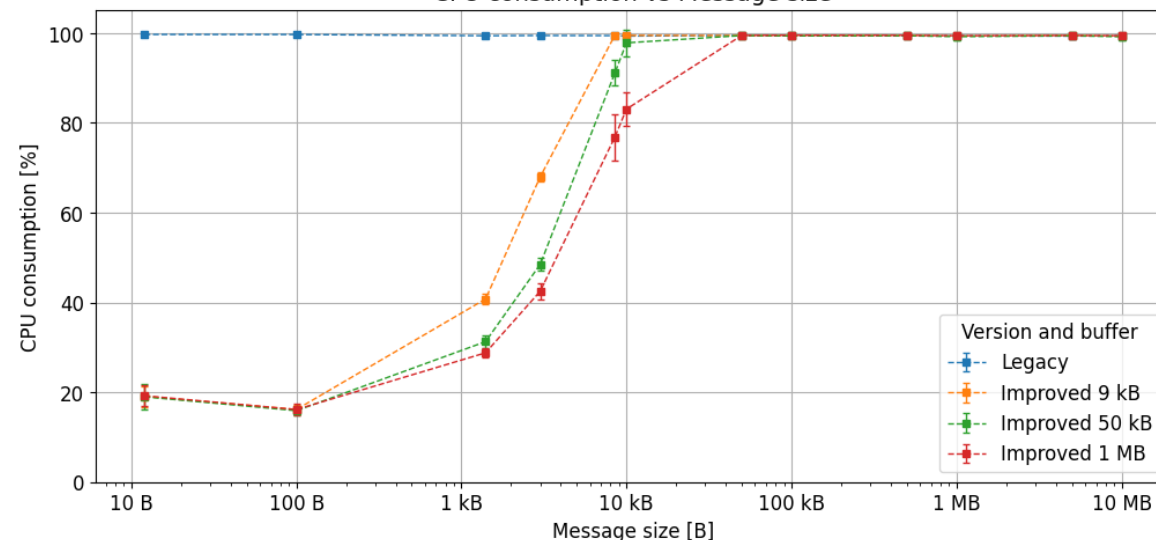


Buffer size evaluation

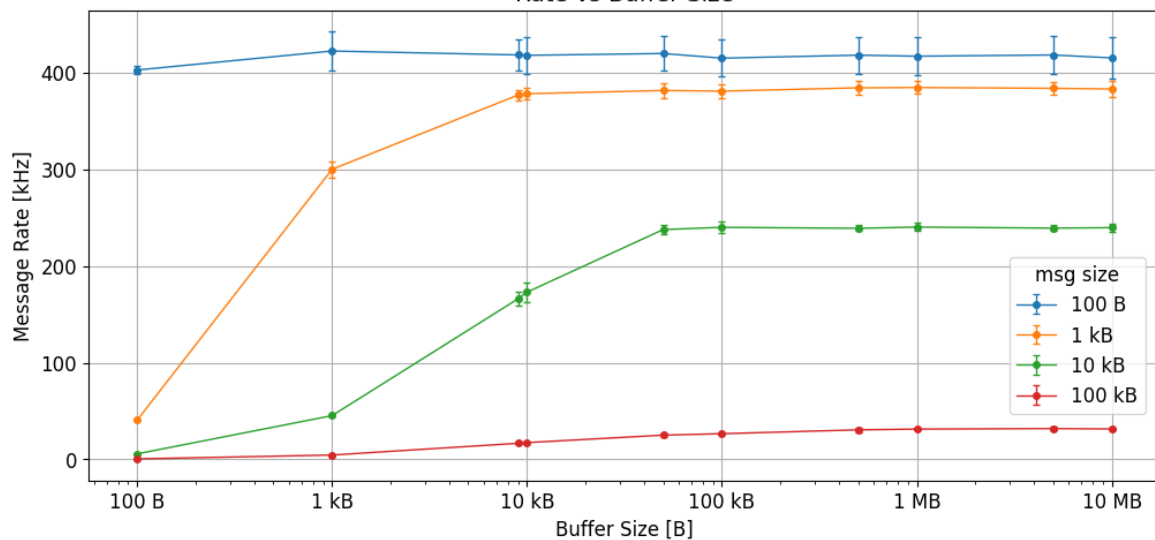
Throughput vs Buffer Size



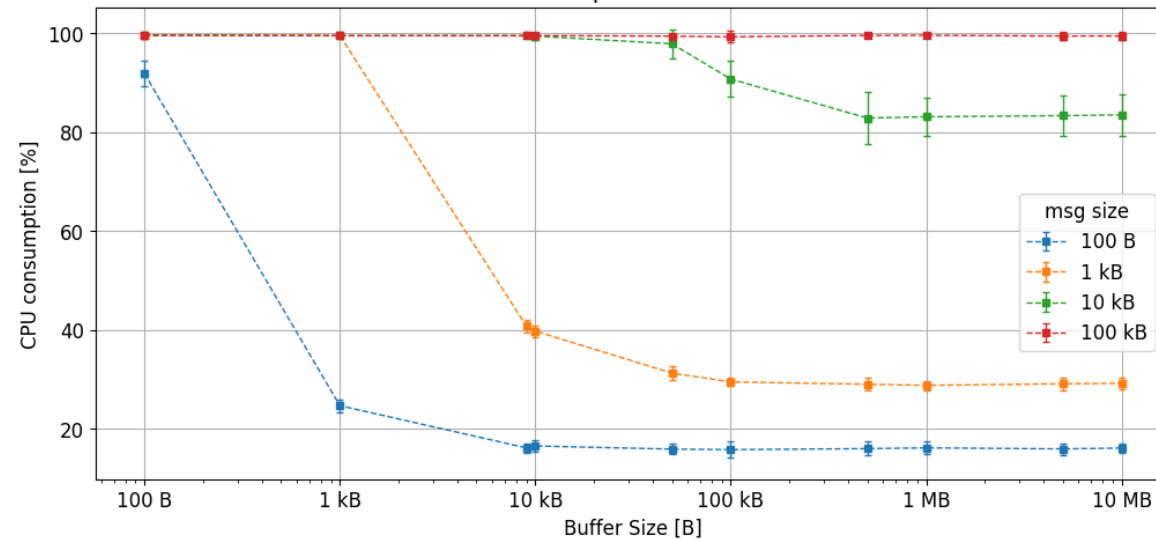
CPU consumption vs Message size



Rate vs Buffer Size



CPU consumption vs Buffer Size



One-to-one performance tests spec

Test conditions:

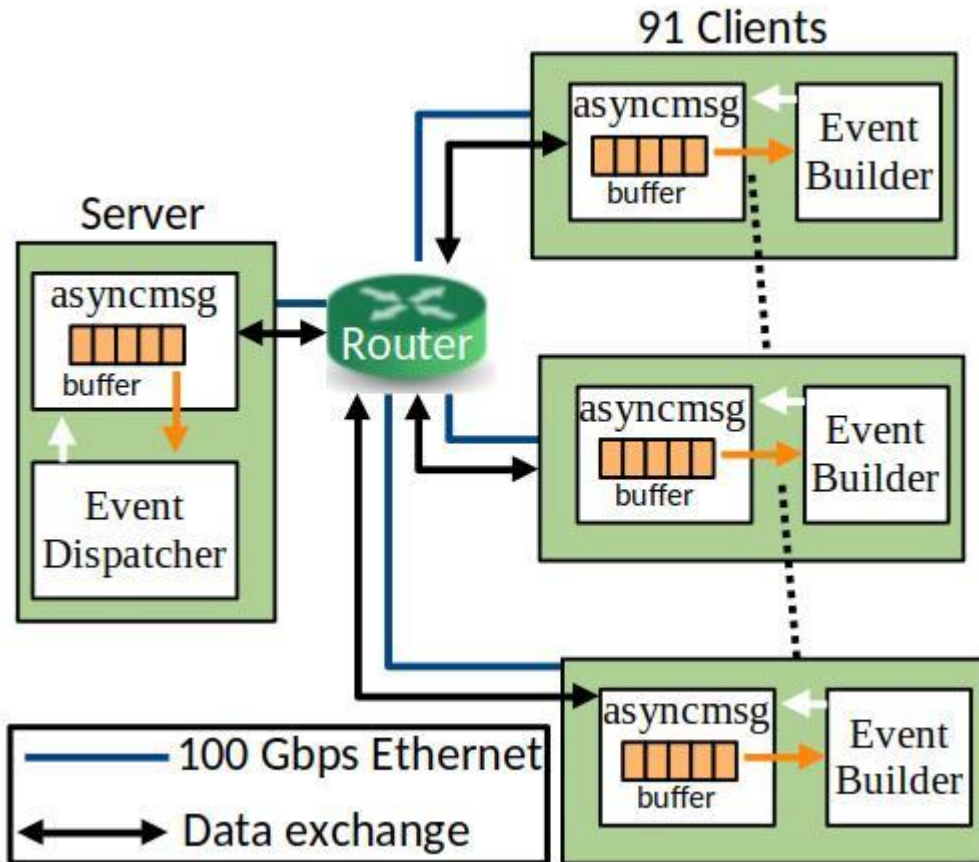
- 1 connection, 1 thread
- Single test duration: 30 s
- ~ 30 tests per configuration
- Sender/receiver specification:
AMD EPYC 7302P 16-Core
Processor @ 3.1 GHz,
32 GB RAM(send),
128 GB RAM (recv),
Single port Nvidia ConnectX-5
100 Gb/s NIC

Test results includes:

- Message rate
- Data bandwidth
- Total CPU usage (usr + sys)
- Computed average and deviation

Event Dispatcher / Event Builder tests

Bidirectional multiclient test



Event Dispatcher test

- Single Event Dispatcher sending
- 91 Event Builder receiving

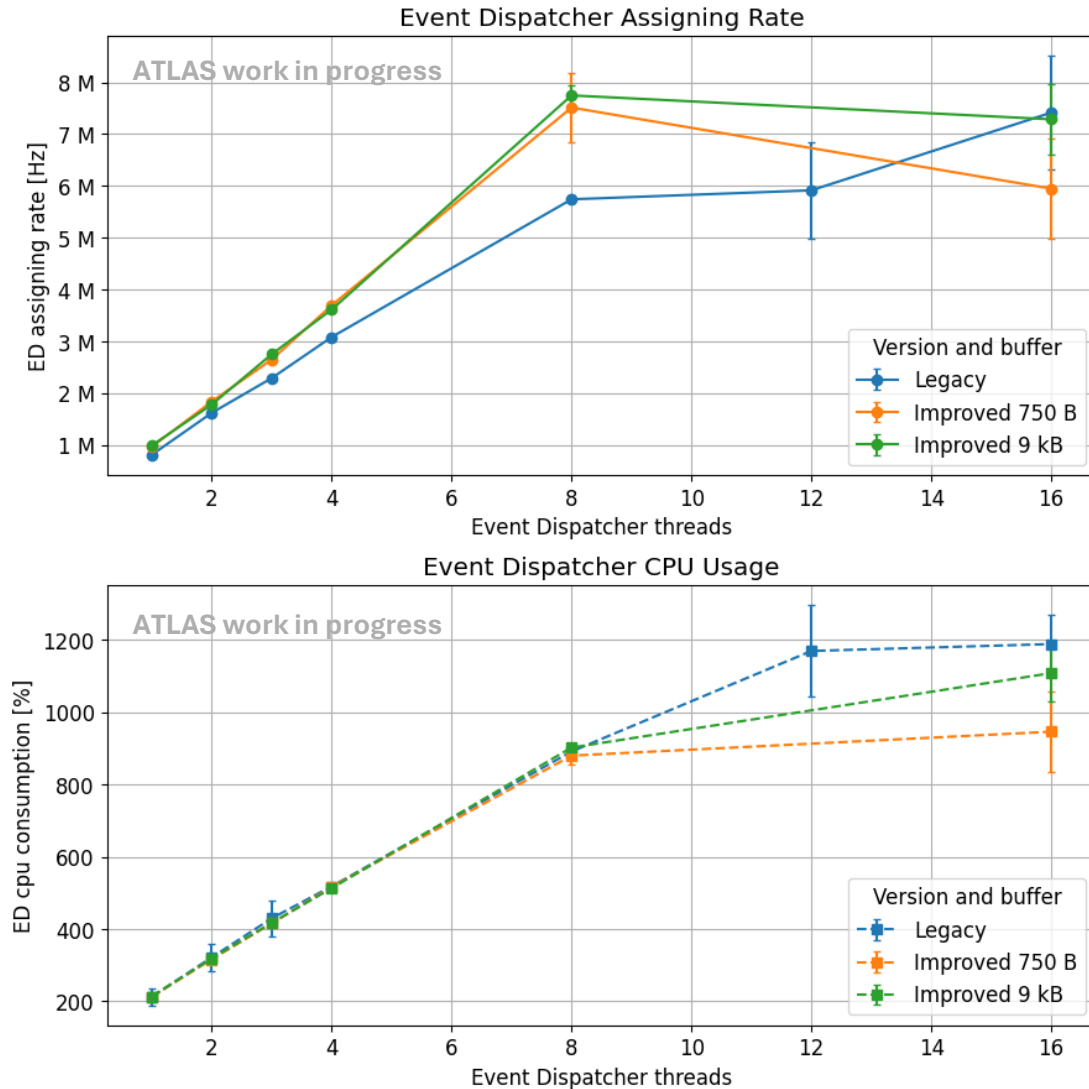
Test metrics:

- Event Dispatcher Assignment rate
- Event Dispatcher CPU usage

Test parameters:

- Event Dispatcher threads
- **Buffer size (new version)**

Event Dispatcher / Event Builder tests



Assignment Rate

- New version always performed better
- Legacy version 810 kHz with 1 thread, 1.6 MHz with 2
- New version 970 kHz with 1, 1.83 MHz with 2

ED CPU Consumption

- Same until 8 threads, linear scaling
- With more threads, new version shows CPU reduction