Realtime Anomaly Detection with the CMS Level-1 Global Trigger Test Crate

Sioni Summers (CERN)
for the CMS Collaboration

EuCAIFCon 2024

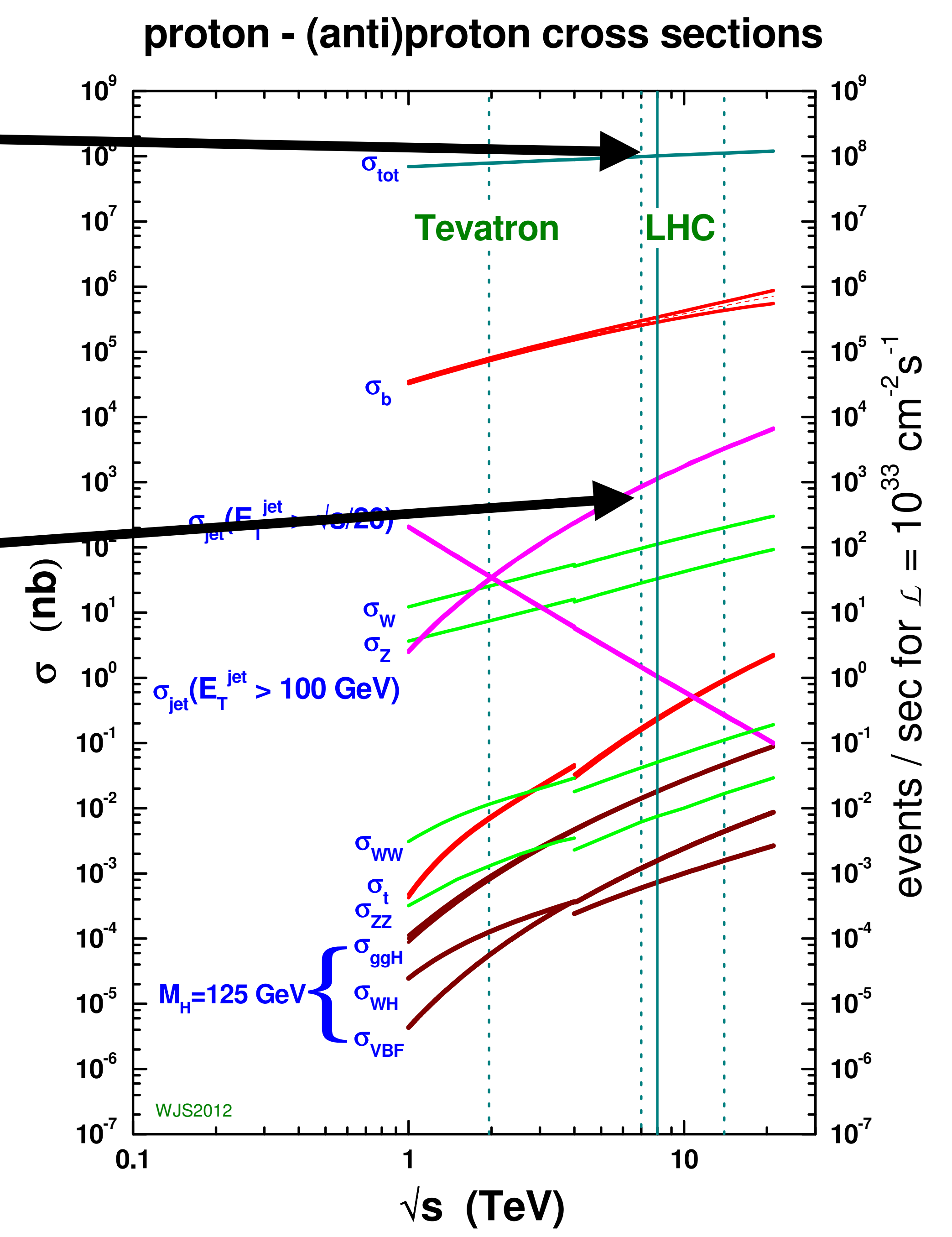
Trigger

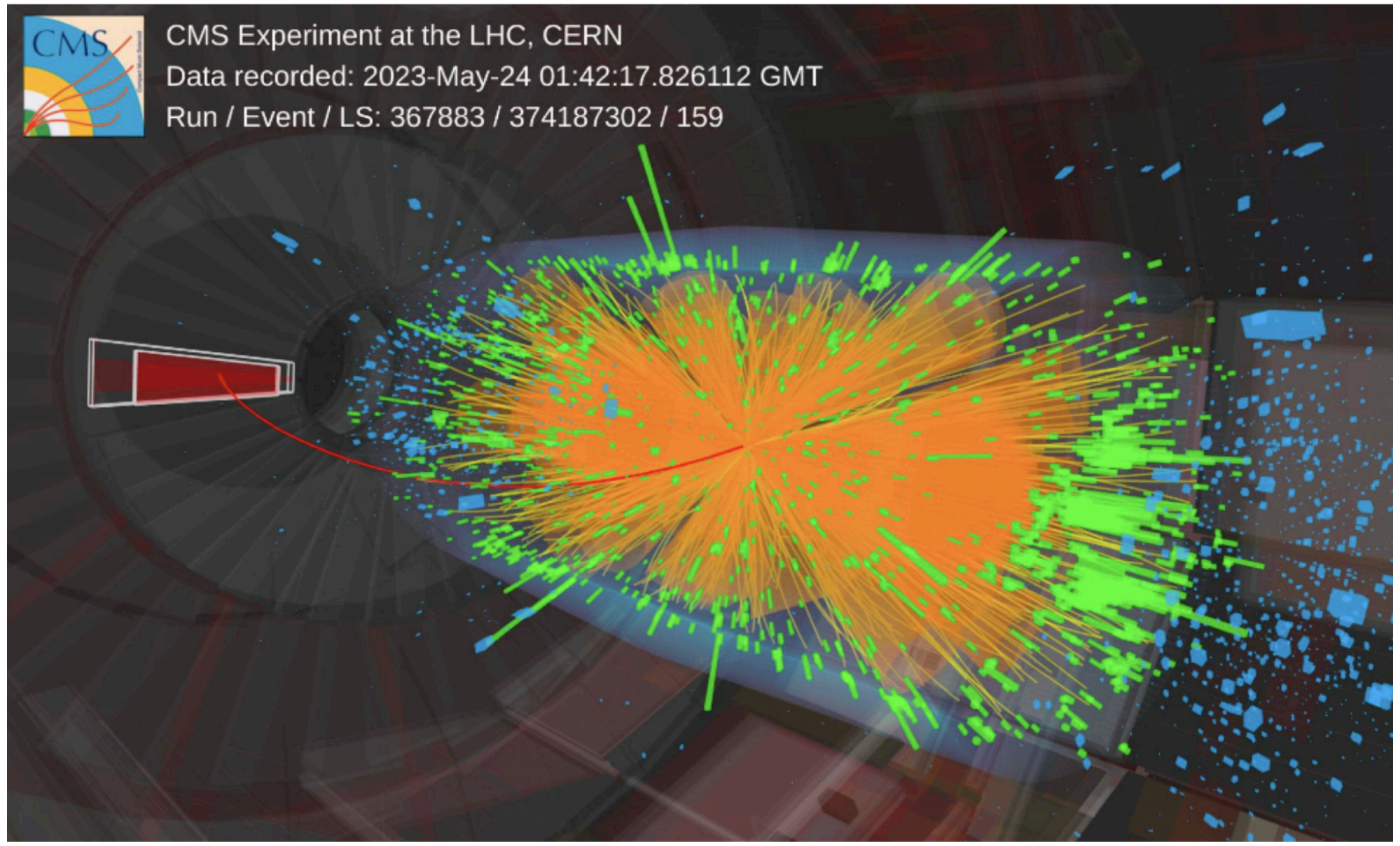
- At the CMS experiment at the CERN Large Hadron Collider
- Searching for rare phenomena → large number of collision events
- Granular detector for detailed analysis → high data rates
- Trigger is realtime data reduction, with 5 μs latency, in FPGA processors
  - Fast processing, decide which events to keep or discard

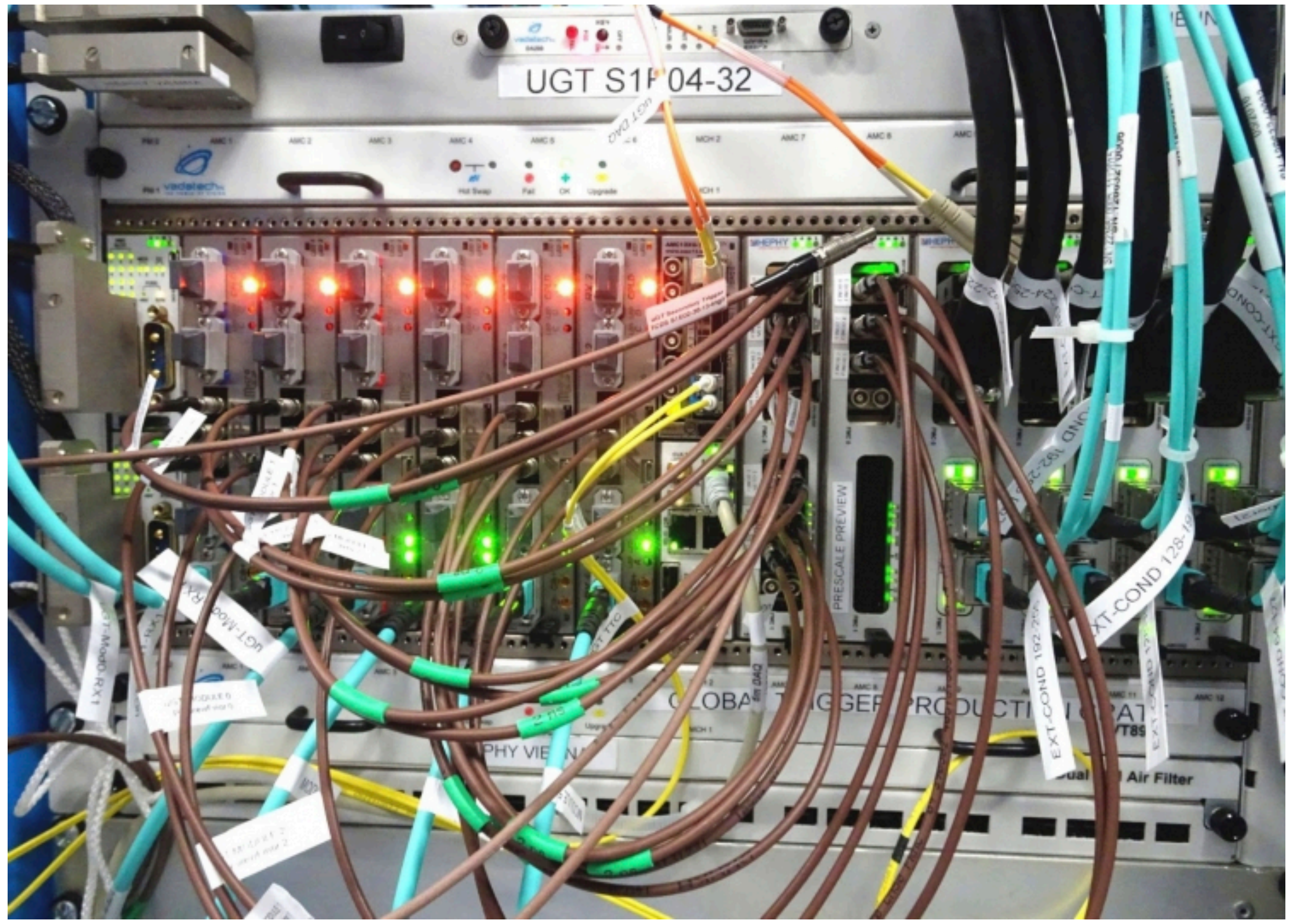
Total

Discard > 99%

To keep



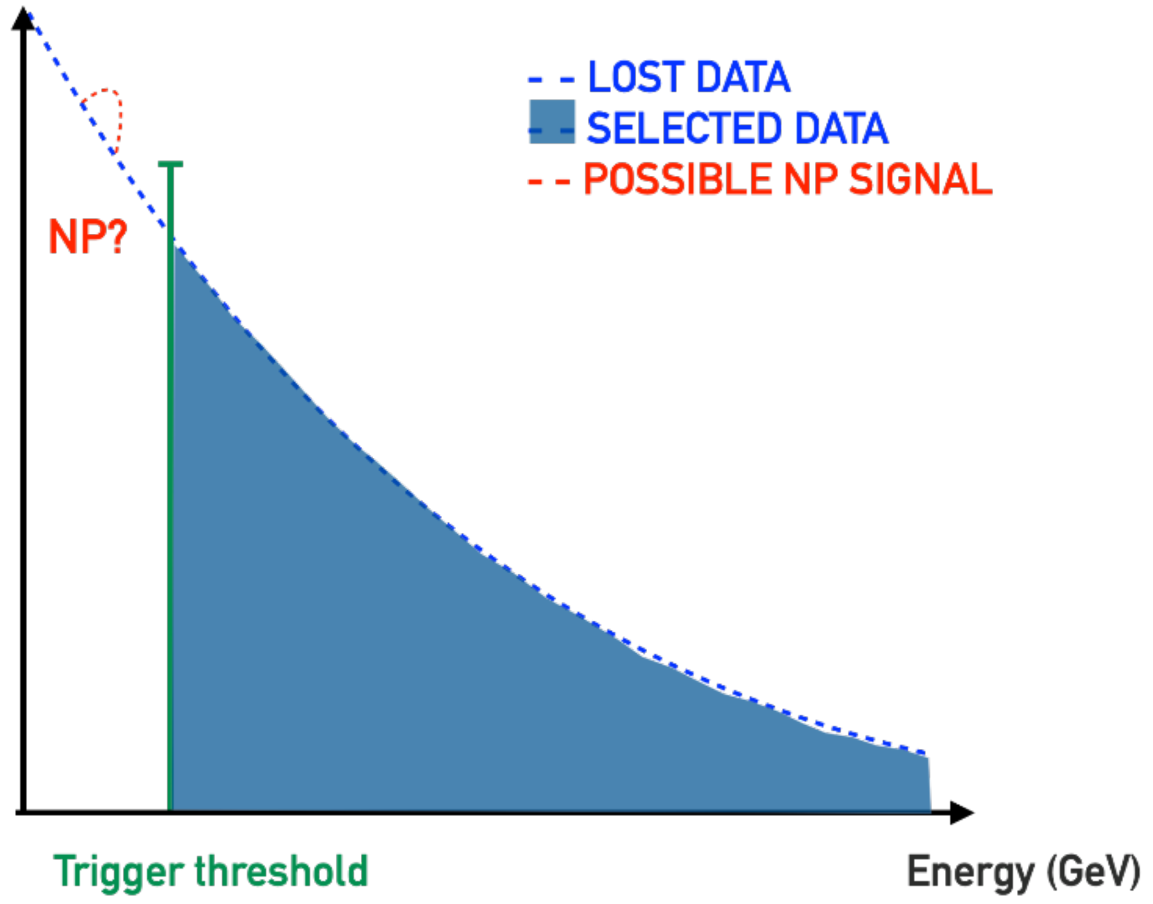


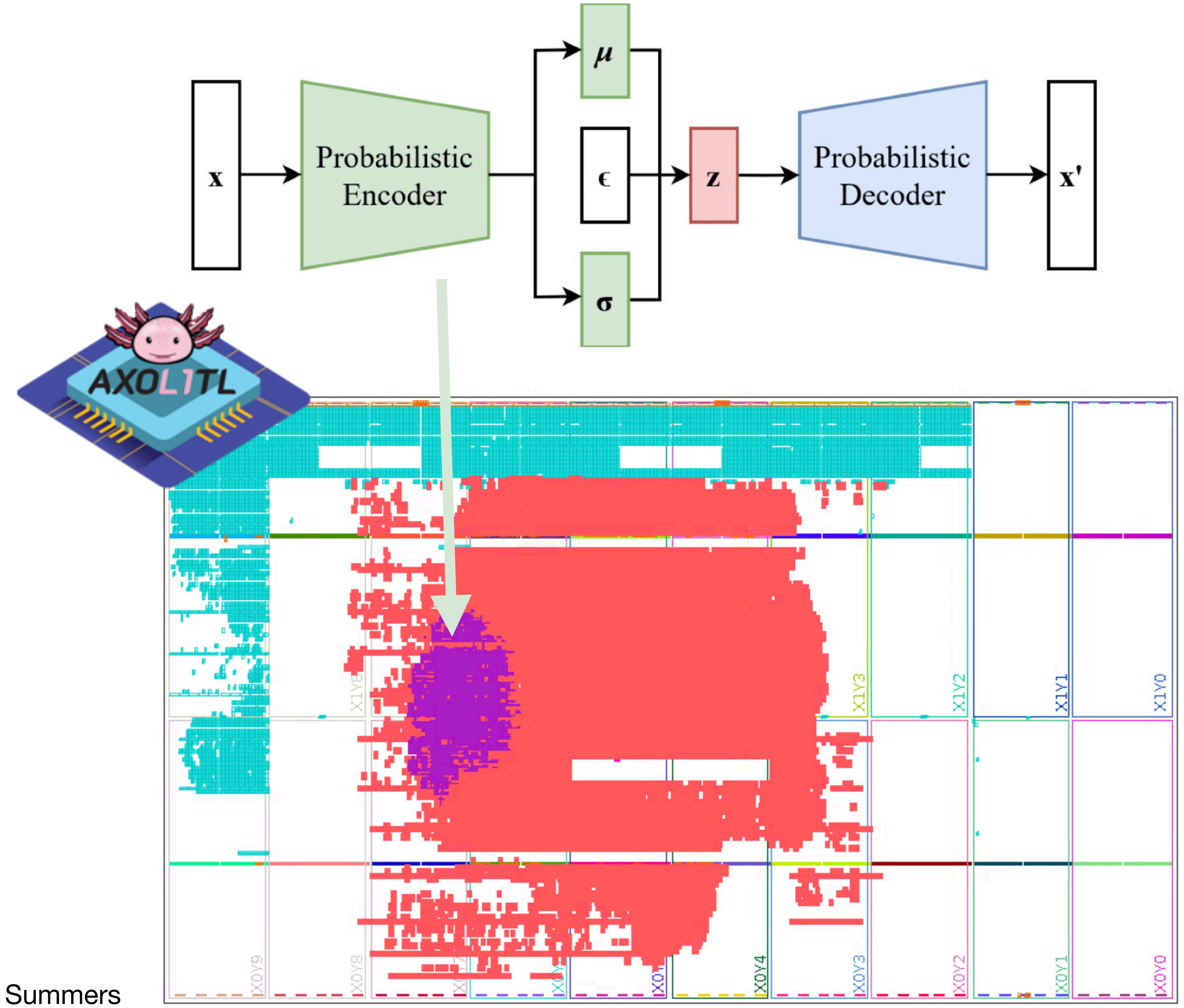


Keep / Discard

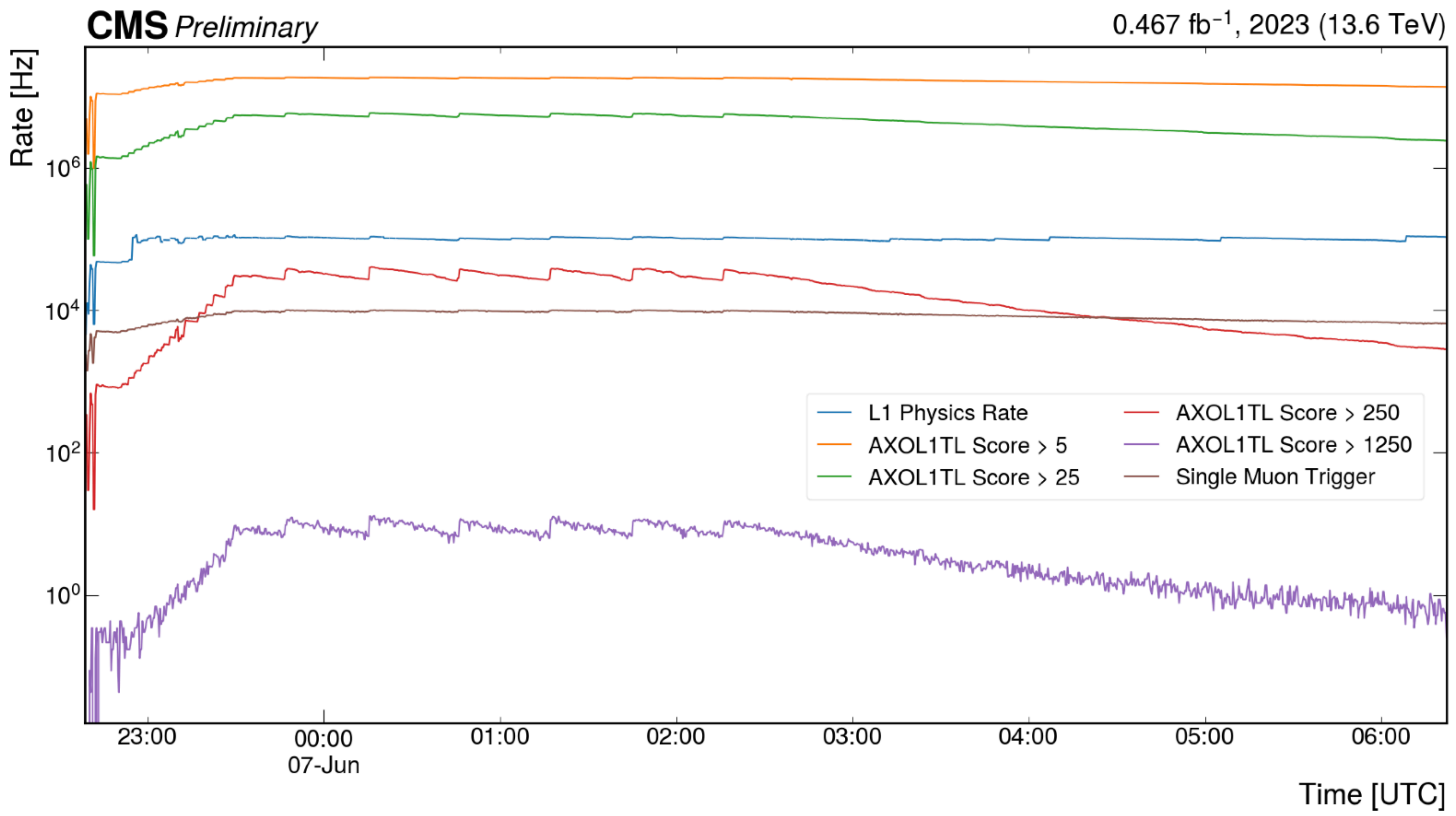
Anomaly Detection

- Normal trigger selections compare the event particles to a table of rules
  - e.g. “is there a muon with transverse momentum above 22 GeV?”
- Could these selections reject the New Physics we’d like to see?
  - Especially low mass new particles
- AXOL1TL is an ML approach to Anomaly Detection searching generically for New Physics
- Tiny Variational AutoEncoder trained on unbiased data with Quantization Aware Training
- **hls4ml** converts the Neural Network to FPGA logic with 50 ns prediction latency
- To learn what this all means, visit the poster!





- Anomaly Detection has been deployed in the Global Trigger Test Crate in 2023
  - Run in "safe mode" alongside normal trigger
- Used to test performance and validate integration
- Check rate stability of selections and look at offline data



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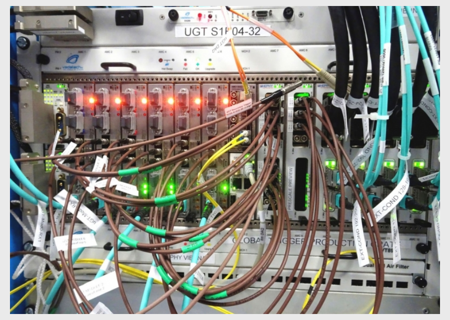
CMS Trigger

The CMS experiment at the LHC deploys a **trigger** system [1] of around 100 **FPGA** processors to **filter** the 40 MHz proton-proton collisions down to 100 kHz.

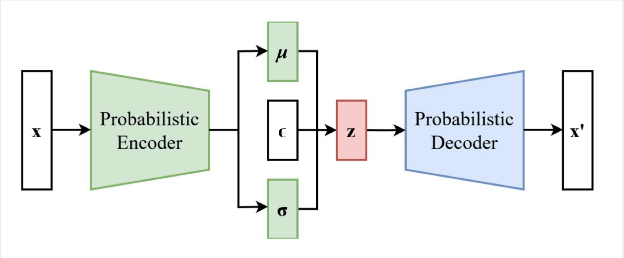


Reconstruction of detector signals provides a description of the particles and properties of each event. A **menu** of conditions on these properties is used to select events to **keep or reject**. Trigger selections are chosen balancing the needs of physics analysers with the event rate of each condition.

The menu is deployed into 6 MP7 cards [2] in the **Global Trigger** system, that each host a Xilinx Virtex 7 FPGA. The **Test Crate** is a parallel copy, whose decision is not used to trigger CMS, that is used to **test** new algorithms.

Anomaly Detection

AXOL1TL is a trigger algorithm designed to detect **new physics** without bias to the type of physics signature [3]. It's a **Variational AutoEncoder** trained **unsupervised**, on **unbiased data** comprised mostly of background events.



The model is **trained** with a loss function including terms for the reconstruction and latent distribution.

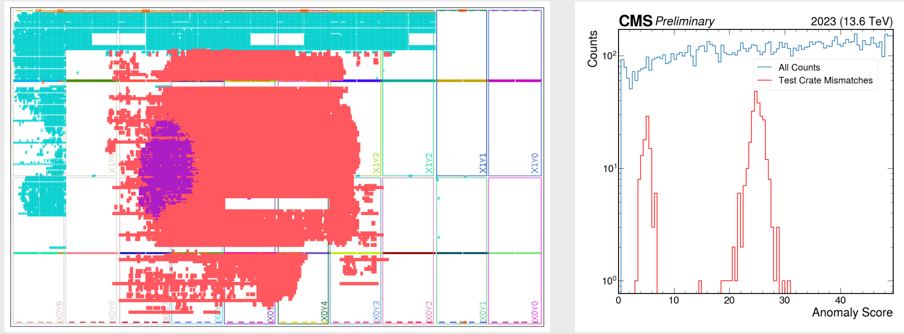
$$\mathscr{L} = (1-\beta)||x-\hat{x}||^2 + \beta\frac{1}{2}(\mu^2 + \sigma^2 - 1 - \log\sigma^2)$$

Quantization Aware Training [4] is used to produce a model that is efficient for inference in hardware. Only the μ^2 term is evaluated for anomaly detection at inference time, avoiding the need to compute the full decoder. Anomalous events are selected by applying a **cut** on this **anomaly score**.

Deployment

The AXOL1TL algorithm is converted to FPGA firmware with **High Level Synthesis** (HLS): C++ for FPGAs. hls4ml [5] is used for the efficient implementation of Neural Network **inference**. The rest of the HLS framework implements the **interface** to the particle and event property data formats from the Global Trigger, and the loss computation.

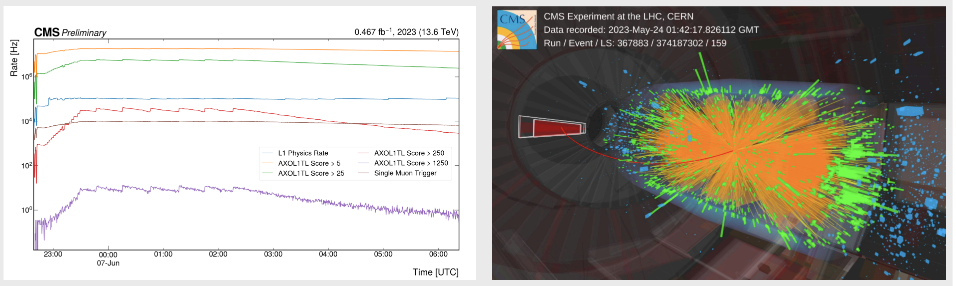
The algorithm is synthesized using Xilinx's Vitis HLS and Vivado tool suite. The **floorplan** (left plot) shows one Global Trigger FPGA module with **AXOL1TL** highlighted in purple. AXOL1TL consumes around **2%** of the FPGA Look Up Table (LUT) **resources** of one FPGA. The inference **latency** (the time delay after which a prediction is made from new inputs) is **50 ns**, meeting the requirement from the Global Trigger system for deployment in a full menu.



AXOL1TL was **deployed** into the Test Crate during CMS data taking in 2023. Binary keep/reject trigger decisions with different anomaly score thresholds were **recorded** for every event. Validation of the deployment was performed with offline recomputation of the anomaly score by emulation of the HLS firmware. **Agreement** of **99%** was observed between the two, with differences centred around the thresholds (right plot).

Monitoring

The Test Crate FPGAs count how many events would pass each trigger selection, which is read out by the **Data Acquisition** system. A **Prometheus monitoring** tool stores count and rate metrics, and answers queries to access them. The plot shows the event selection rate over time for 4 different AXOL1TL thresholds during one CMS data taking run of around 8 hours. The data rate shows **stability**, with variations following LHC **luminosity**.



In the unbiased dataset collected, some events would have been selected by AXOL1TL, but not any other trigger. The **event display** shows the offline reconstruction of the event with the highest anomaly score. It contains **7 jets** (orange cones), **1 muon** (red curve), and an unusually high **75 vertices** (intersections of several particle trajectories).

References

[1] CMS Collaboration, "CMS Technical Design Report for the Level-1 Trigger Upgrade," CERN-LHCC-2013-011, CMS-TDR-12, 2013
[2] K. Compton *et al.*, "The MP7 and CTP-6: multi-hundred Gbps processing boards for calorimeter trigger upgrades at CMS," JINST, vol. 7, no. 12, 2012
[3] Govorkova *et al.* "Autoencoders on field-programmable gate arrays for real-time, unsupervised new physics detection at 40 MHz at the Large Hadron Collider.", Nat Mach Intell 4, 154–161, 2022
[4] Coelho, C.N. *et al.*, "Automatic heterogeneous quantization of deep neural networks for low-latency inference on the edge for particle detectors." Nat Mach Intell 3, 675–686, 2021
[5] J. Duarte *et al.*, "Fast inference of deep neural networks in FPGAs for particle physics," JINST, vol. 13, no. 07, 2018