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Efficiency study of the displaced muon reconstruction for dark photon search with ATLAS detector

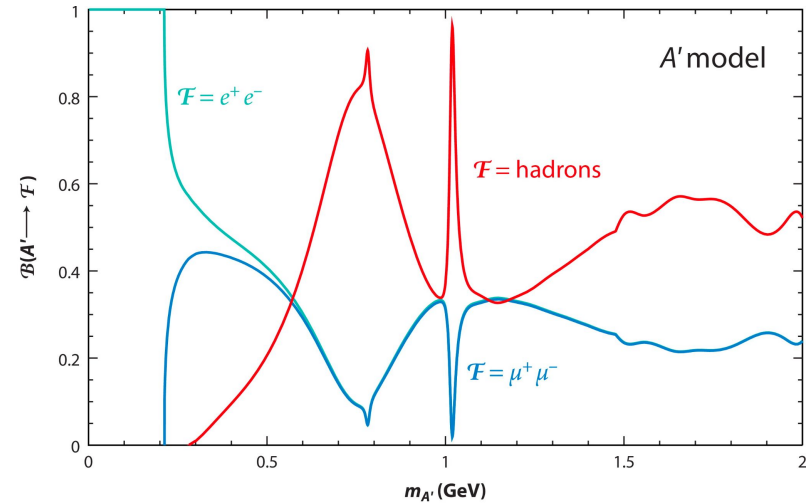
Khurshid Usmanov supervised by Dr. Katherine Pachal and Dr. Colin Gay
Winter Nuclear and Particle Physics Conference (WNPPC) 2025

Dark photon - a mediator to the dark sector

- ❖ One of the simplest mediators in the dark sector
- ❖ Complementary to directly detecting DM particles

Massive visible dark photon models

- Naturally long-lived with small coupling and low mass.
- A generic and versatile dark sector benchmark model.



Retrieved from <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1801.04847>

$$\tau_{A'} \propto \frac{1}{\epsilon^2 m_{A'}}$$

where, A' denotes the dark photon, $m_{A'}$ is the dark photon mass, and ϵ^2 is the kinetic mixing strength

A mediator to the dark sector

Direct production (minimal model)

Production rate is suppressed by kinetic mixing.

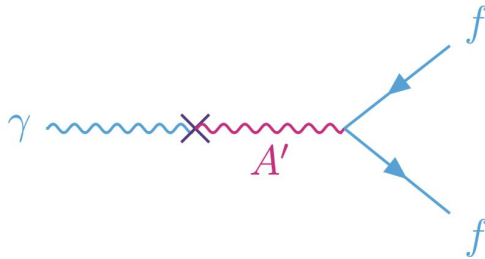


Figure 2: Feynman Diagram created by [Kehang Bai](#)

Exotic Higgs Production (HAHM)

Production rate is protected by Higgs cross section.

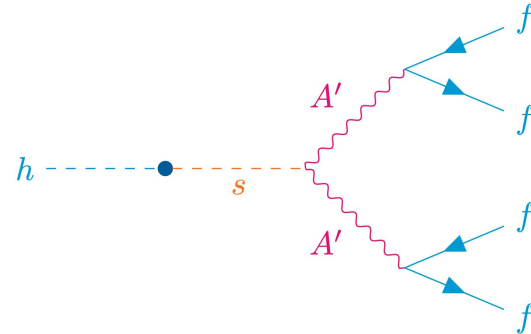


Figure 3: Feynman Diagram created by [Kehang Bai](#)

Definitions

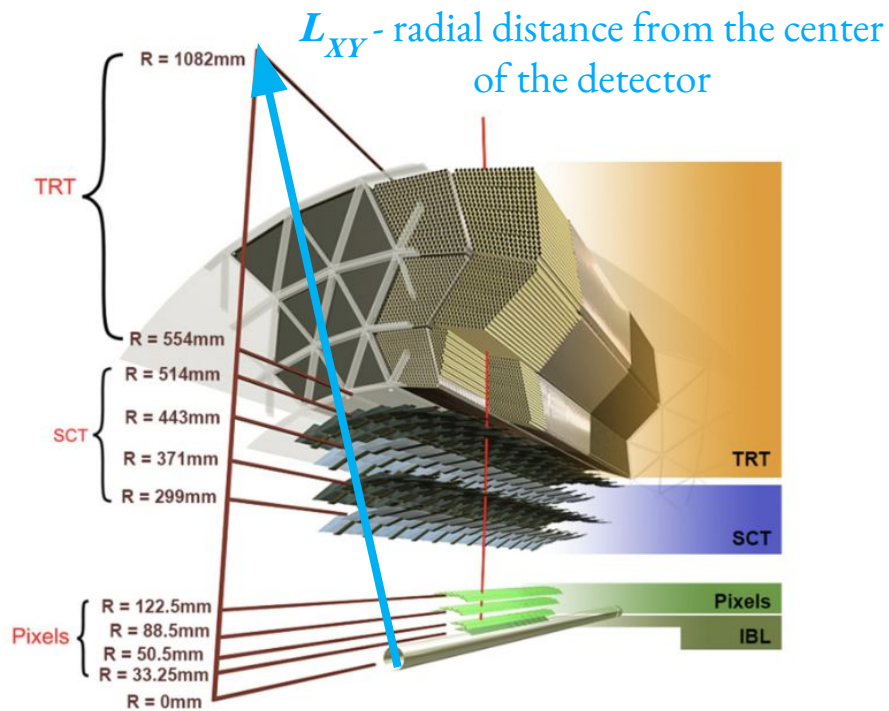


Figure 5: The structure of the ATLAS Inner Detector, [ATLAS Collaboration, 1](#)

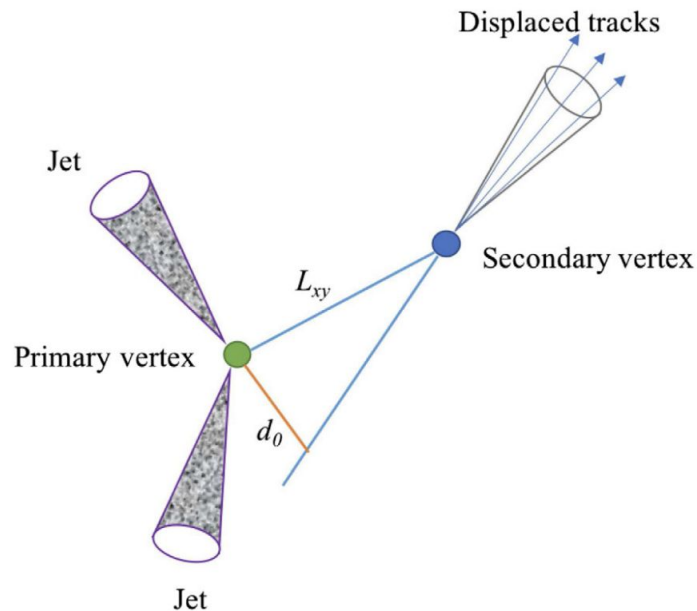
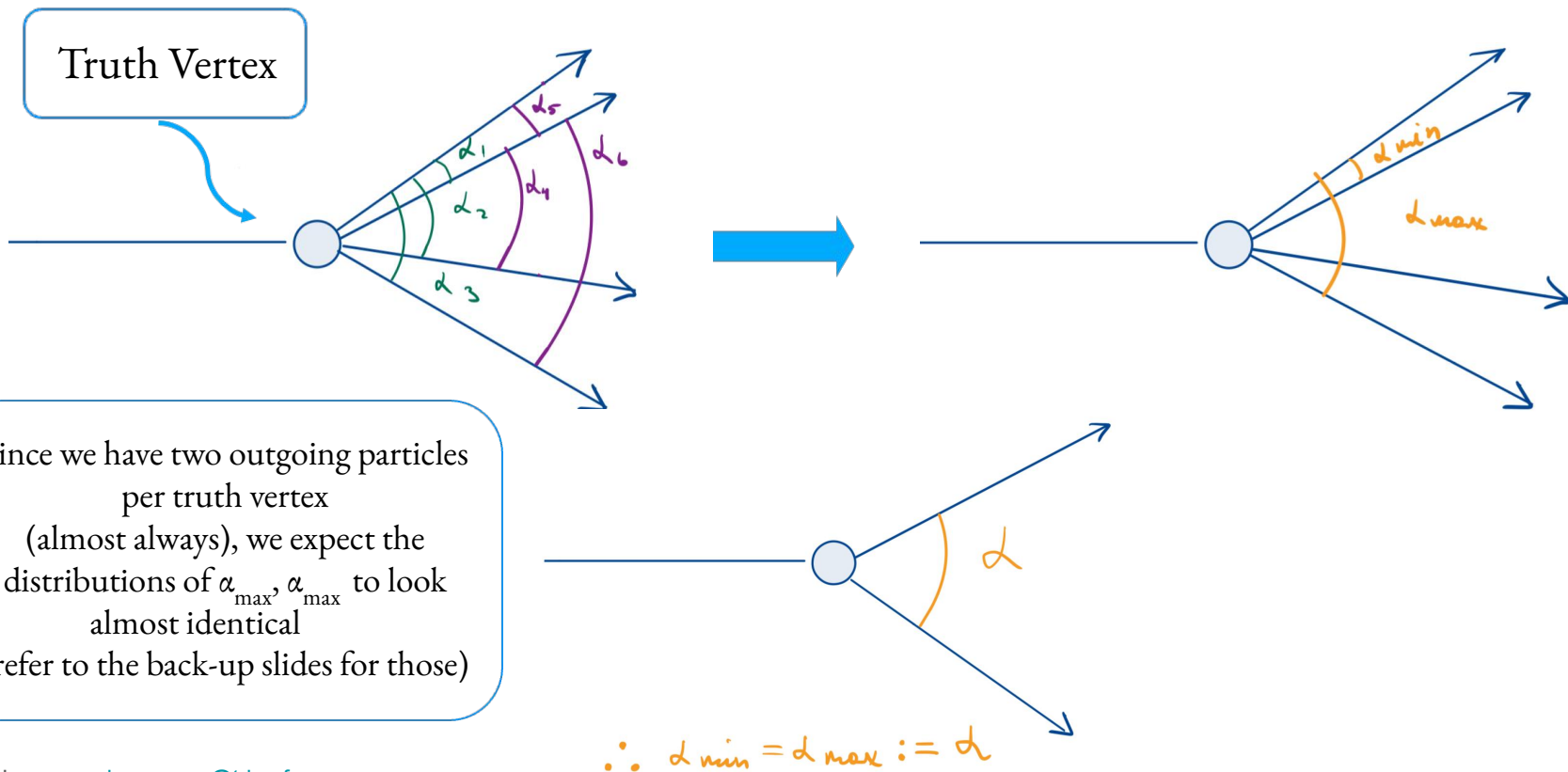
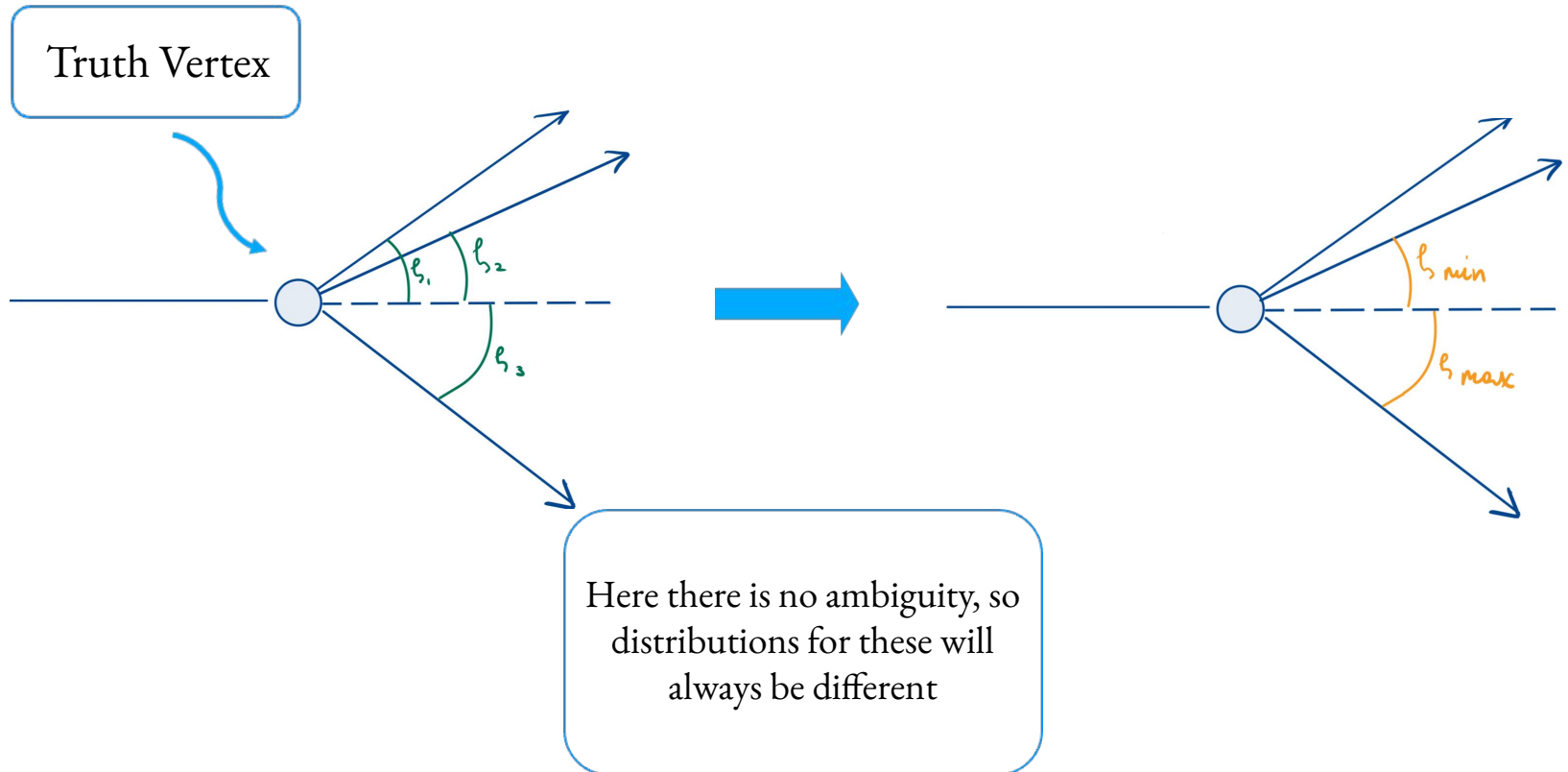


Figure 6: Schematic diagram for the LLP displaced vertex, retrieved from [Abdallah et al. \(2018\), 2](#)

Schematic Definitions of Observables α_{\max} , α_{\min}

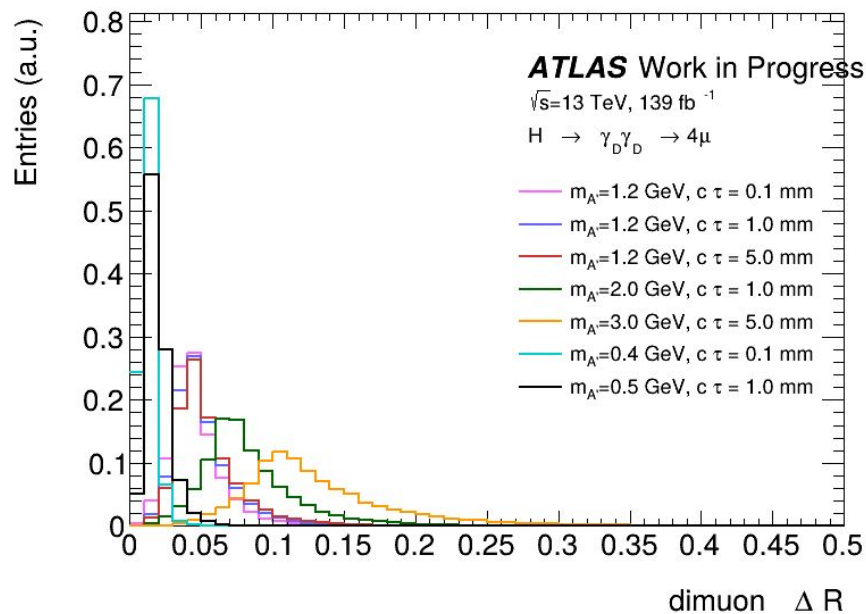
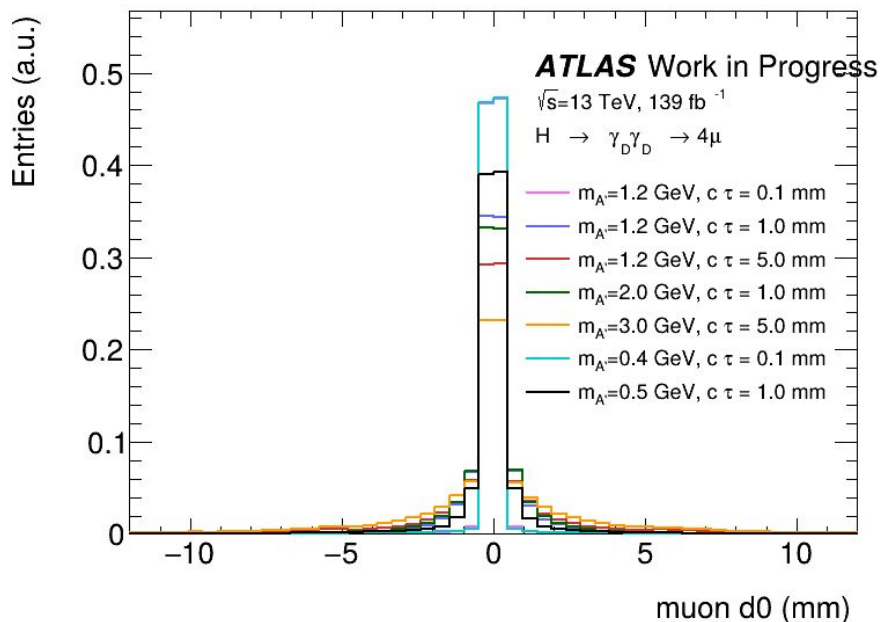


Schematic Definitions of Observables ζ_{\max} , ζ_{\min}



Our signature

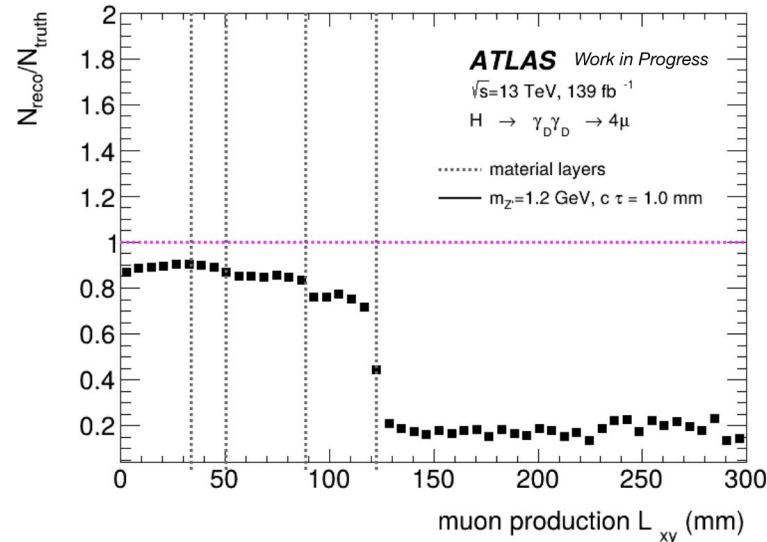
- Muons are boosted and collimated, with small d_0 .
- Vertex displacement within $L_{xy} \in [1, 300]$ mm.
- Use prompt + LRT single-muon OR di-muon triggers.



Muon Reconstruction Challenge 1

Low muon reco efficiency past the last pixel layer

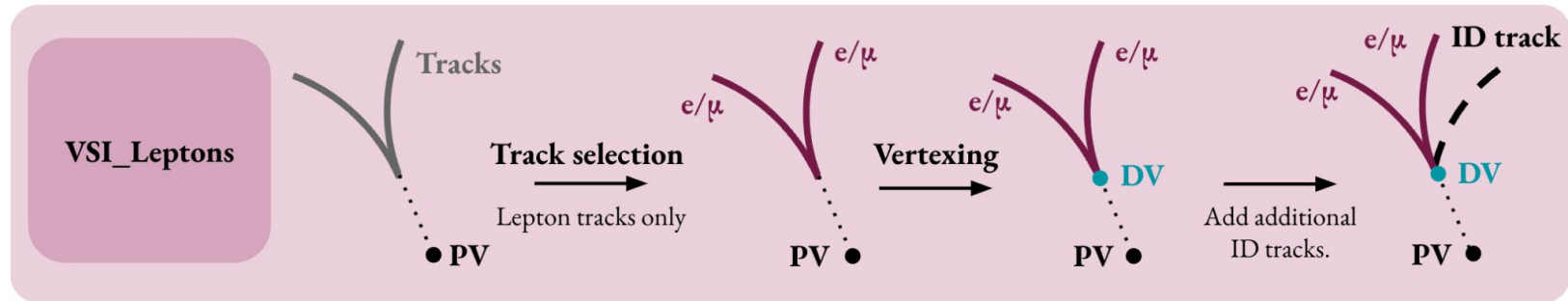
- Standard combined muon reconstruction requires at least 1 pixel hit.
- Muons with small d_0 are not reconstructed as Large Radius Tracking (LRT) muons.
 - Hence, we get hit by this efficiency problem.



Muon Reconstruction Challenge 2

Existing Vertex Secondary Inclusive (VSI) Algorithm configurations are not applicable for low-d0 tracks

- Our signal requires a relaxed 2-track-forming d0 cut (now set to 0).
- Need other additional selections on muons and Displaced Vertices (DV) to reject prompt vertices.
- Potentially recover zero-pixel-hit muons, and add other features.



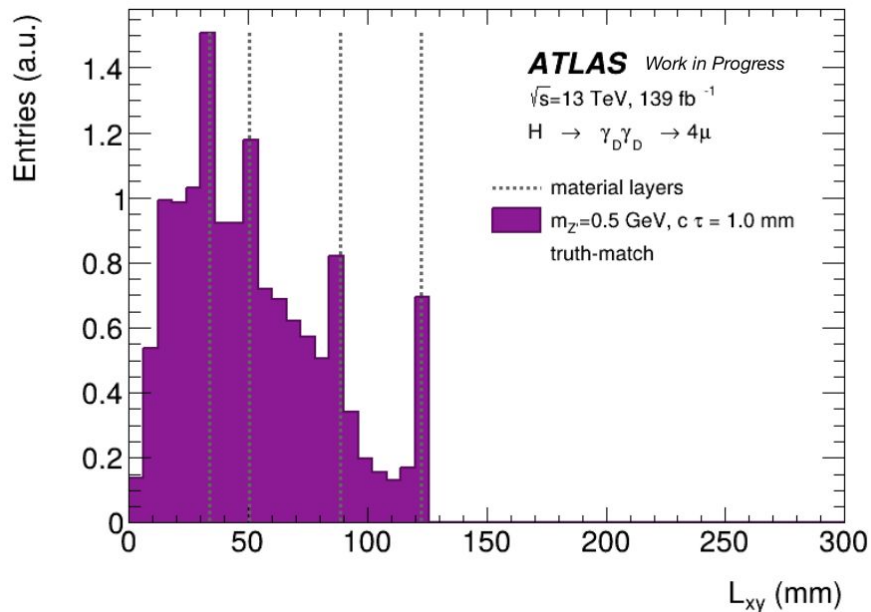
VrtSecInclusive_SecondaryVertices_Leptons

Figure 4: VSI_Lepton Flow Diagram by [Kehang Bai](#)

Muon Reconstruction Challenge 3

Vertex position uncertainty is larger in the direction of the track trajectory.

- Collimated tracks will have shared hits when their vertex forms right before a pixel layer
→ has a tendency to pull the DV towards that layer.
- Large signal loss if naively apply material veto.
Need a customized configuration based on VSI_Leptons.



Plot by [Kehang Bai](#)

Efficiency Studies

To study efficiency of muon reconstruction, we proceeded by

- Defining the types of truth reconstructed muons we store
- Identifying relevant kinematic distributions of the truth muons
- Defining total tracking and vertex efficiencies as the following ratios

$$\epsilon_{\text{tracking}} = \frac{O_{\text{Reconstructed}}}{O_{\text{Reconstructable}}},$$

$$\epsilon_{\text{vertexing}} = \frac{O_{\text{Reconstructed}}}{O_{\text{Accepted}}}$$

where O is a kinematic observable

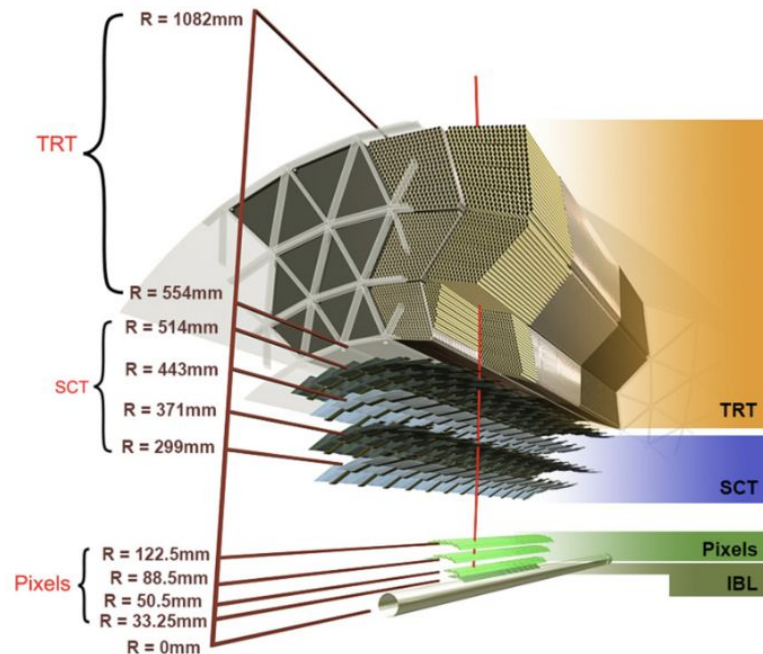


Figure 5: The structure of the ATLAS Inner Detector,

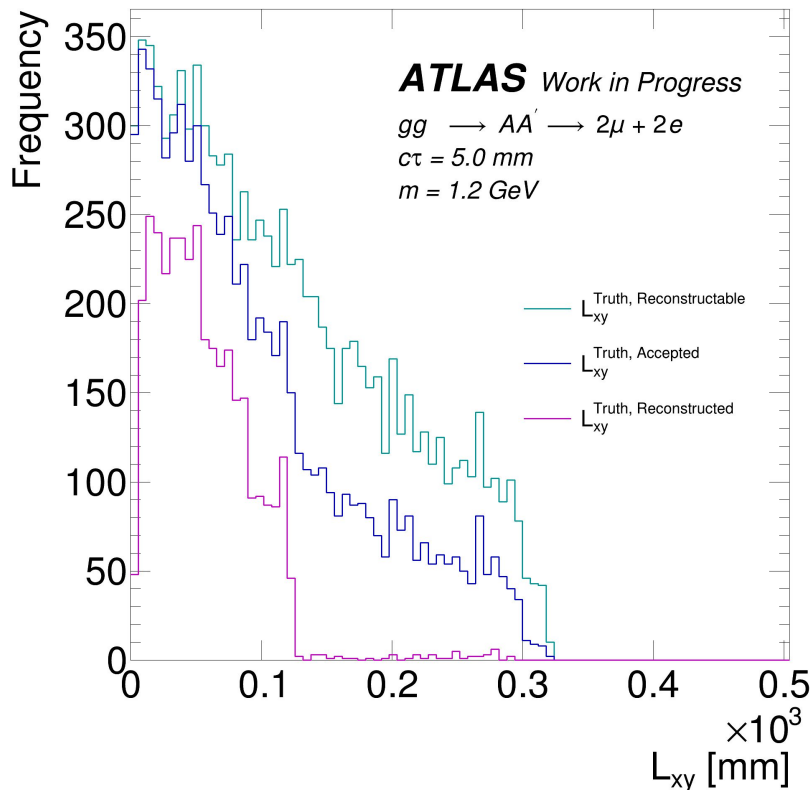
Vertex Definitions

Vertex Definition	Requirements
Inclusive	All vertices
Reconstructible	Fiducial cuts, ≥ 2 charged daughters
Accepted	Reconstructible and ≥ 2 reconstructed tracks
Reconstructed	Reconstructed and matching to the reconstructed vertex

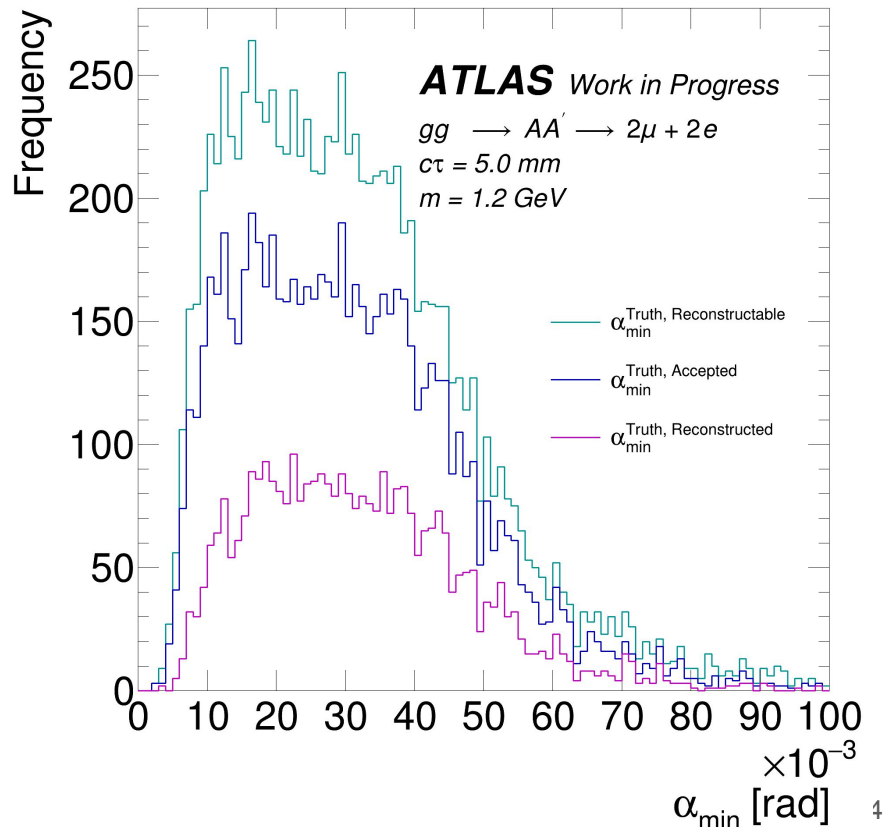
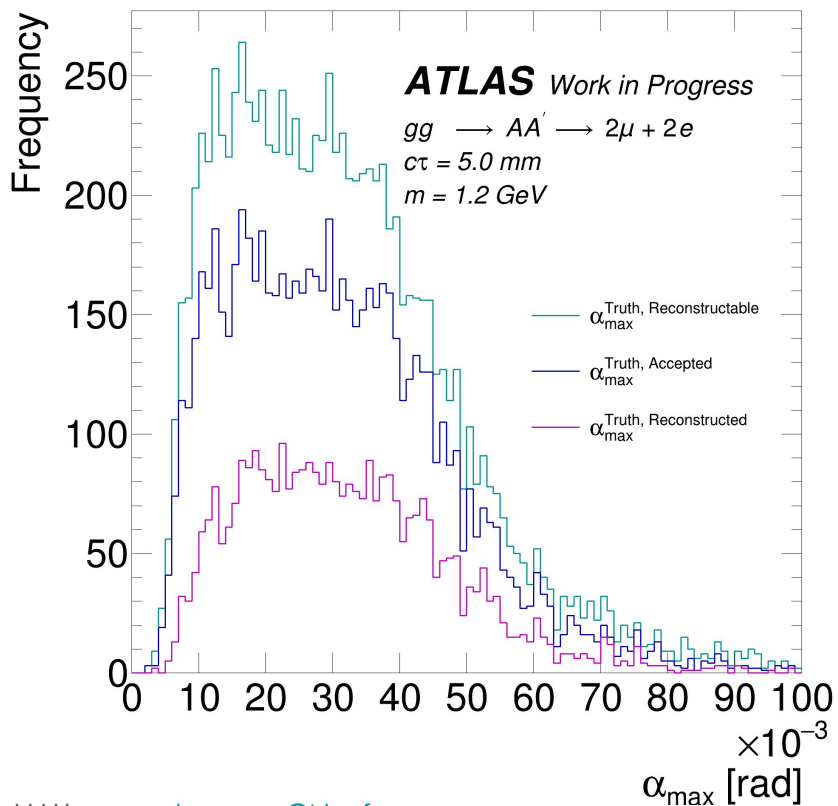
Distributions for L_{XY}

Plotting distributions of types of truth reconstructed muons as a function of L_{XY} , we can confirm once again:

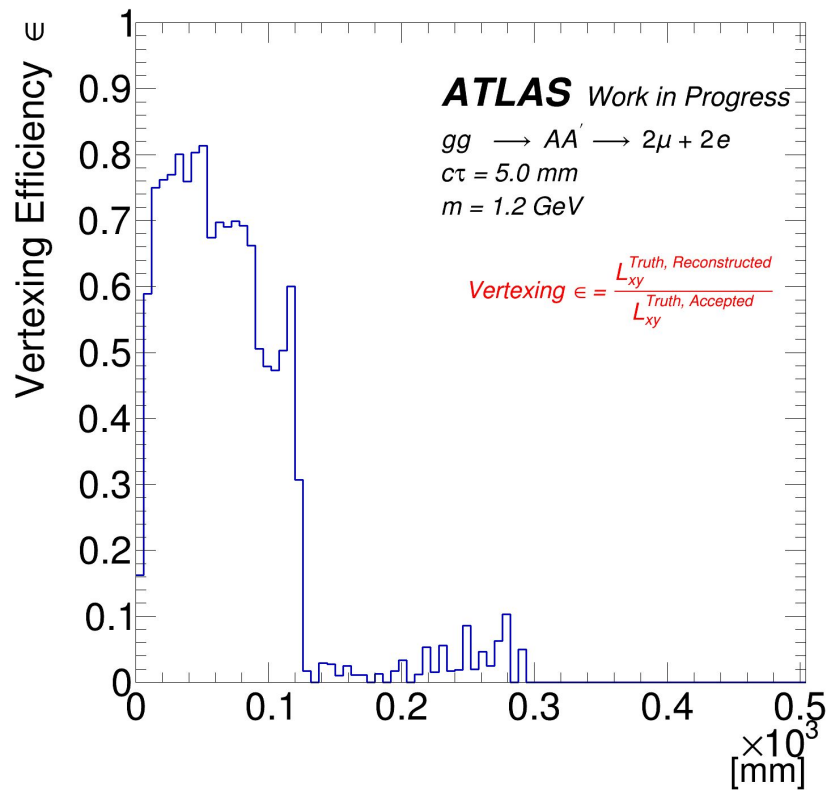
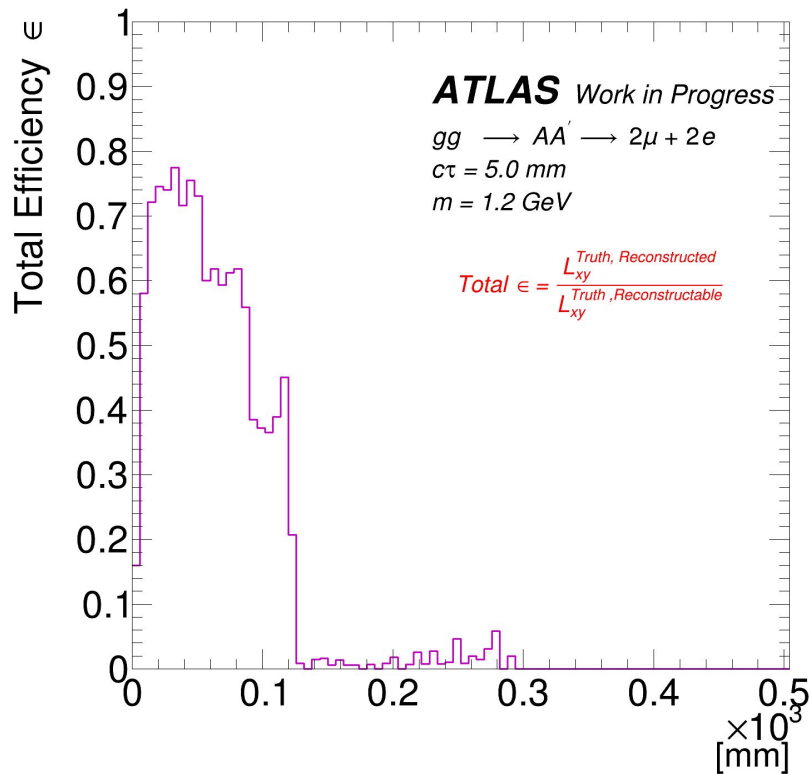
- The distribution truth reconstructed muons falls off at 122.5 mm (the last pixel layer)
- While truth reconstructible and truth accepted distributions fall around 322 mm (the SCT)



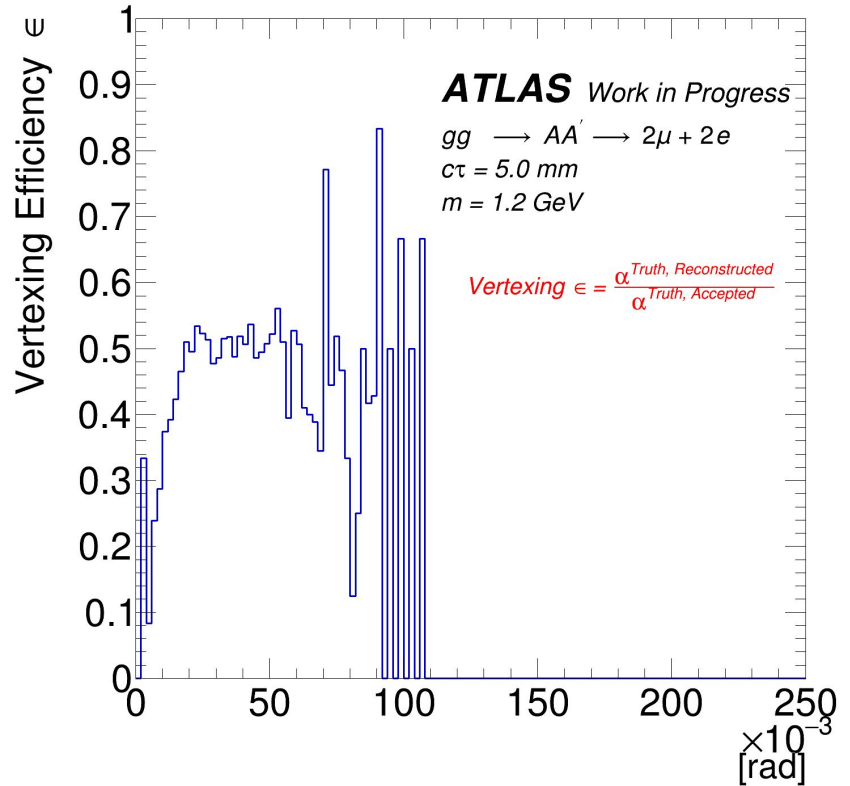
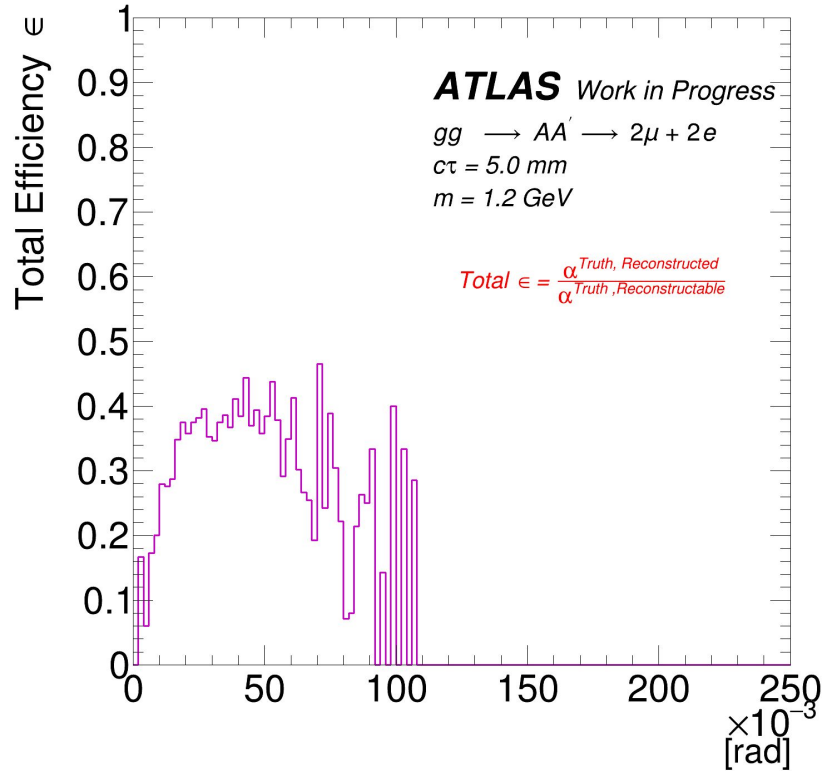
Distributions for α



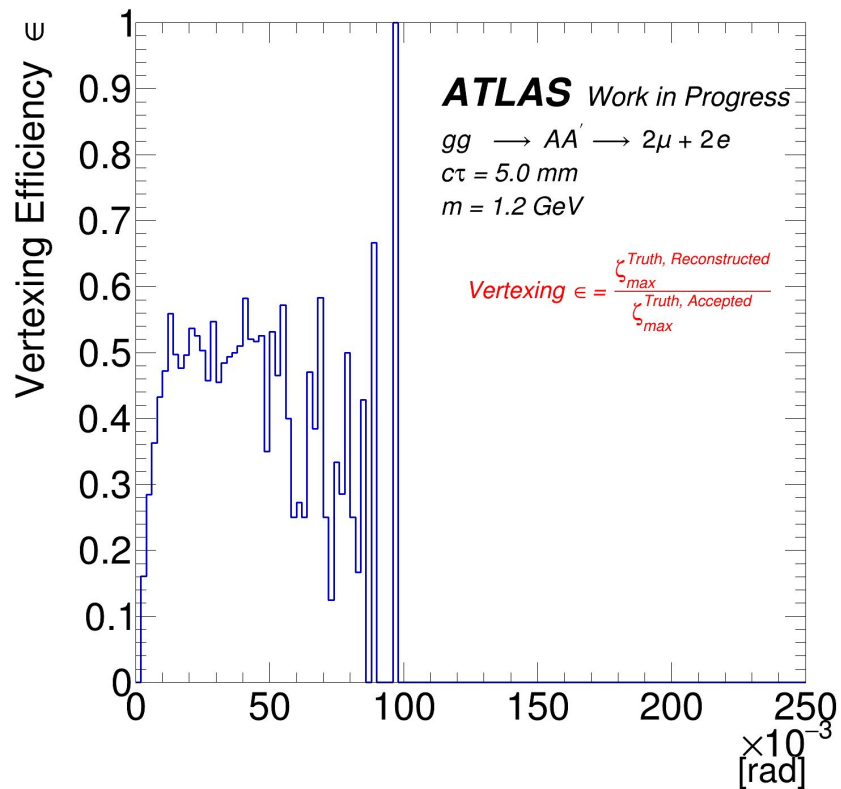
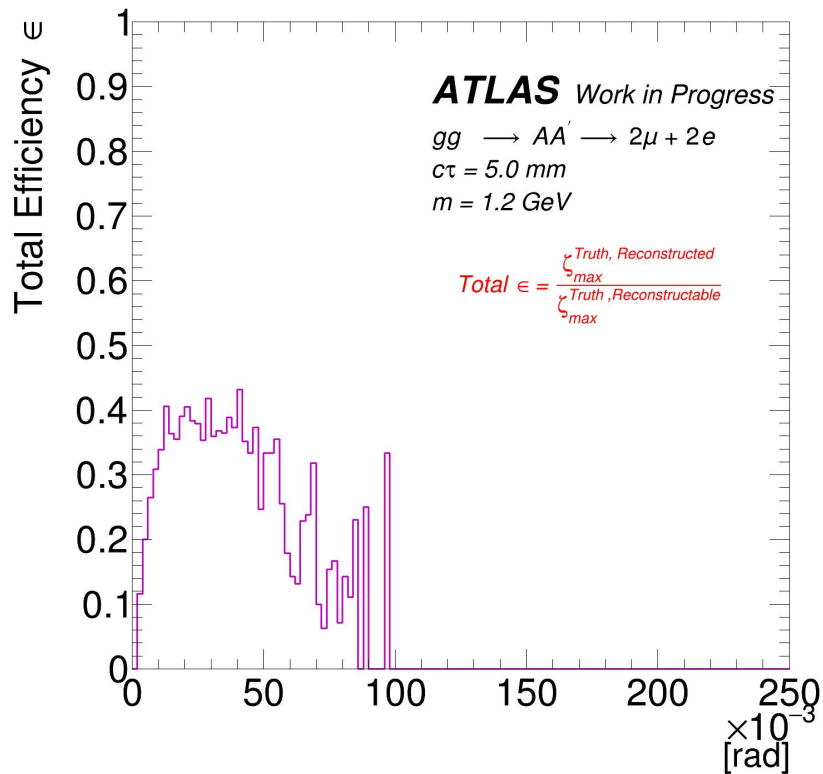
Efficiency Plots for L_{xy}



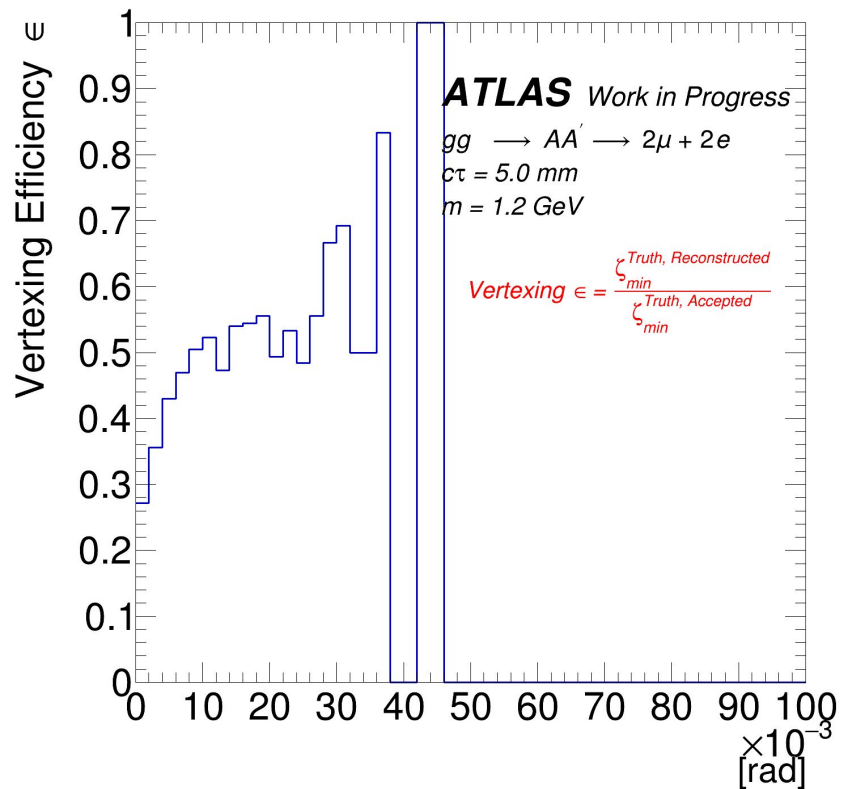
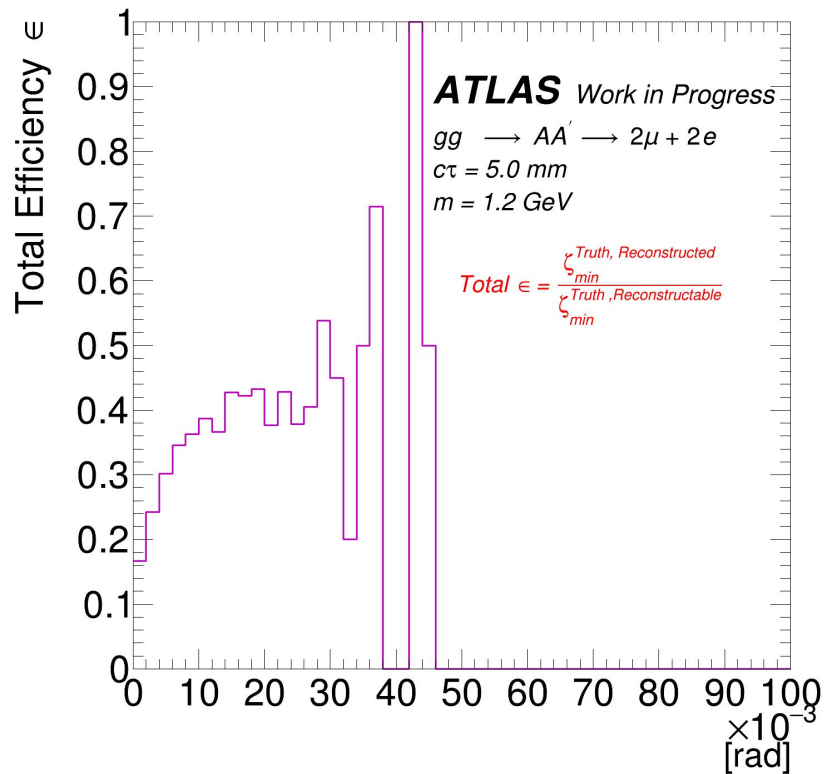
Efficiency Plots for α (opening angle)



Efficiency Plots for ζ_{\max}



Efficiency Plots for ζ_{\min}



Conclusion

We have unique challenges that affect the muon reconstruction past the last pixel layer which demonstrate a falling efficiency. Hence the next steps in our study are:

- Expand vertex definitions (slide 11) and as a result store larger collection of truth muons
- Come up with more kinematic variables as a function of the efficiency



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Thank you!

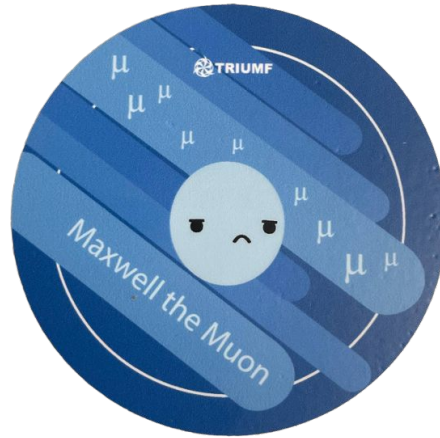
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References

1. *ATLAS schematics Structure of the ATLAS Inner Detector*. (n.d.). ATLAS Experiment at CERN.
<https://atlas.cern/Resources/Schematics>
2. Abdallah, W., Hammad, A., Kasem, A., & Khalil, S. (2018). Long-lived B–L symmetric SSM particles at the LHC. *Physical Review. D/Physical Review. D.*, 98(9). <https://doi.org/10.1103/physrevd.98.095019>
3. *ATLAS schematics Structure of the ATLAS Detector*. (n.d.). ATLAS Experiment at CERN.
<https://atlas.cern/Resources/Schematics>

Questions?



This Muon looks happy...

Backup Slides

ATLAS Detector

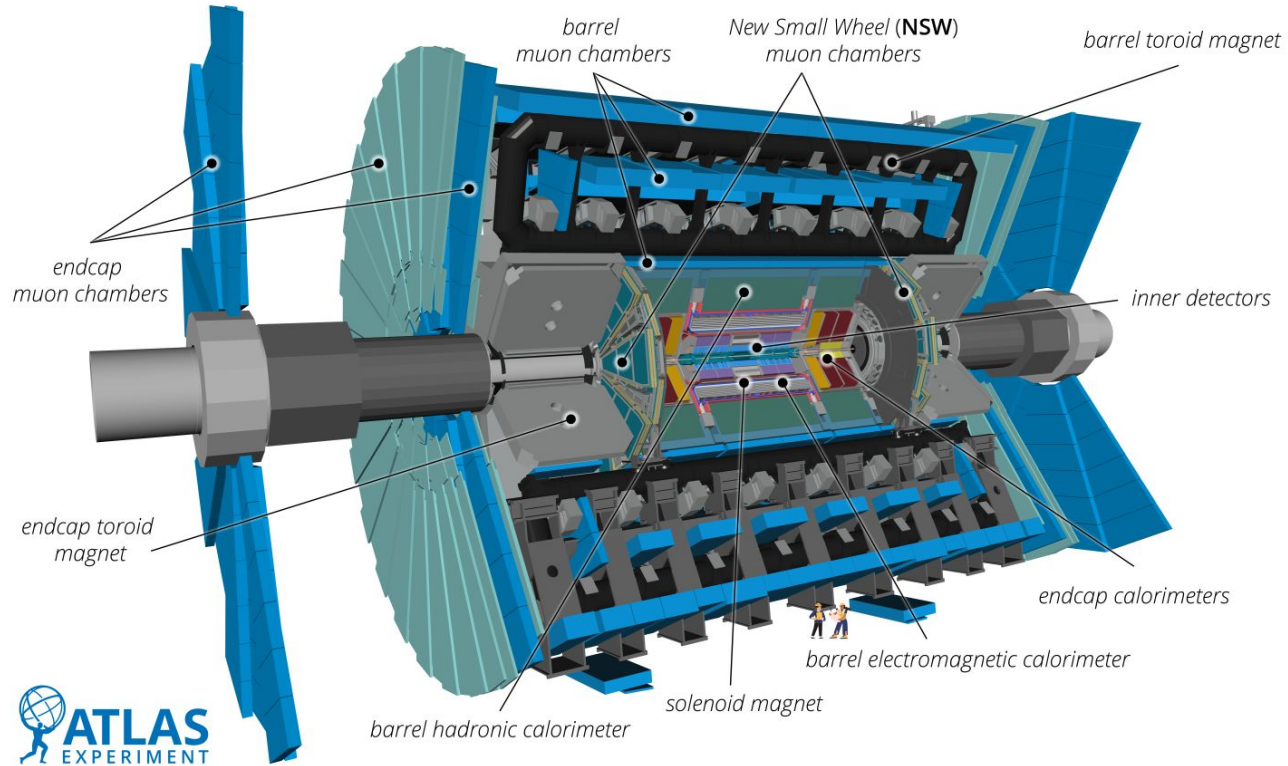


Figure 6: The structure of the ATLAS Detector,

Distributions for ζ_{\max} , ζ_{\min}

