

Modeling Radiation Damage to Pixel Sensors in the ATLAS Detector



Benjamin Nachman
*Lawrence Berkeley
National Laboratory*



on behalf of the ATLAS Collaboration

bpnachman@lbl.gov cern.ch/bnachman  [@bpnachman](https://twitter.com/bpnachman)  [bnachman](https://github.com/bnachman)

July 30, 2020

International Conference on High Energy Physics

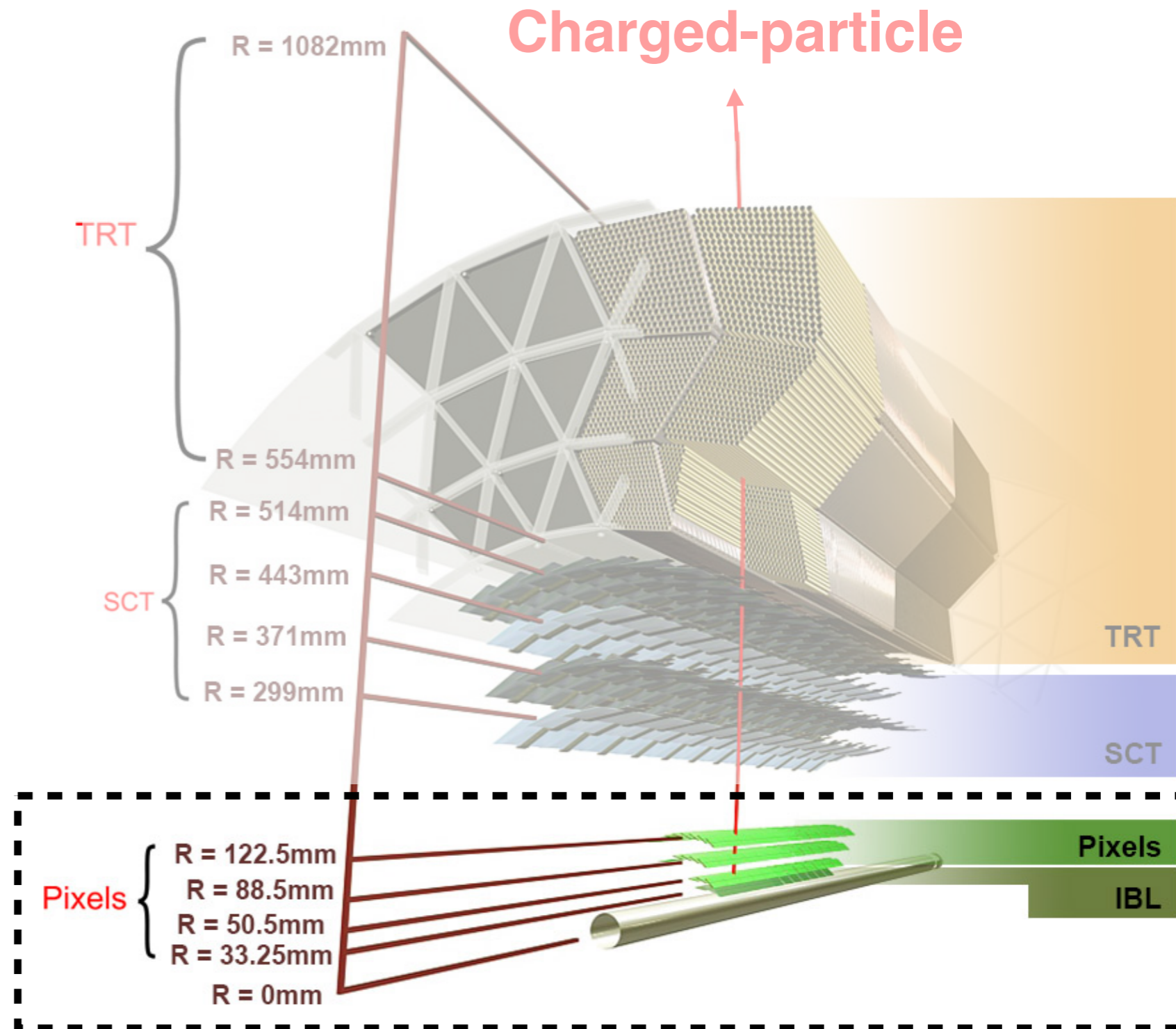
At the heart of ATLAS: Silicon Pixels



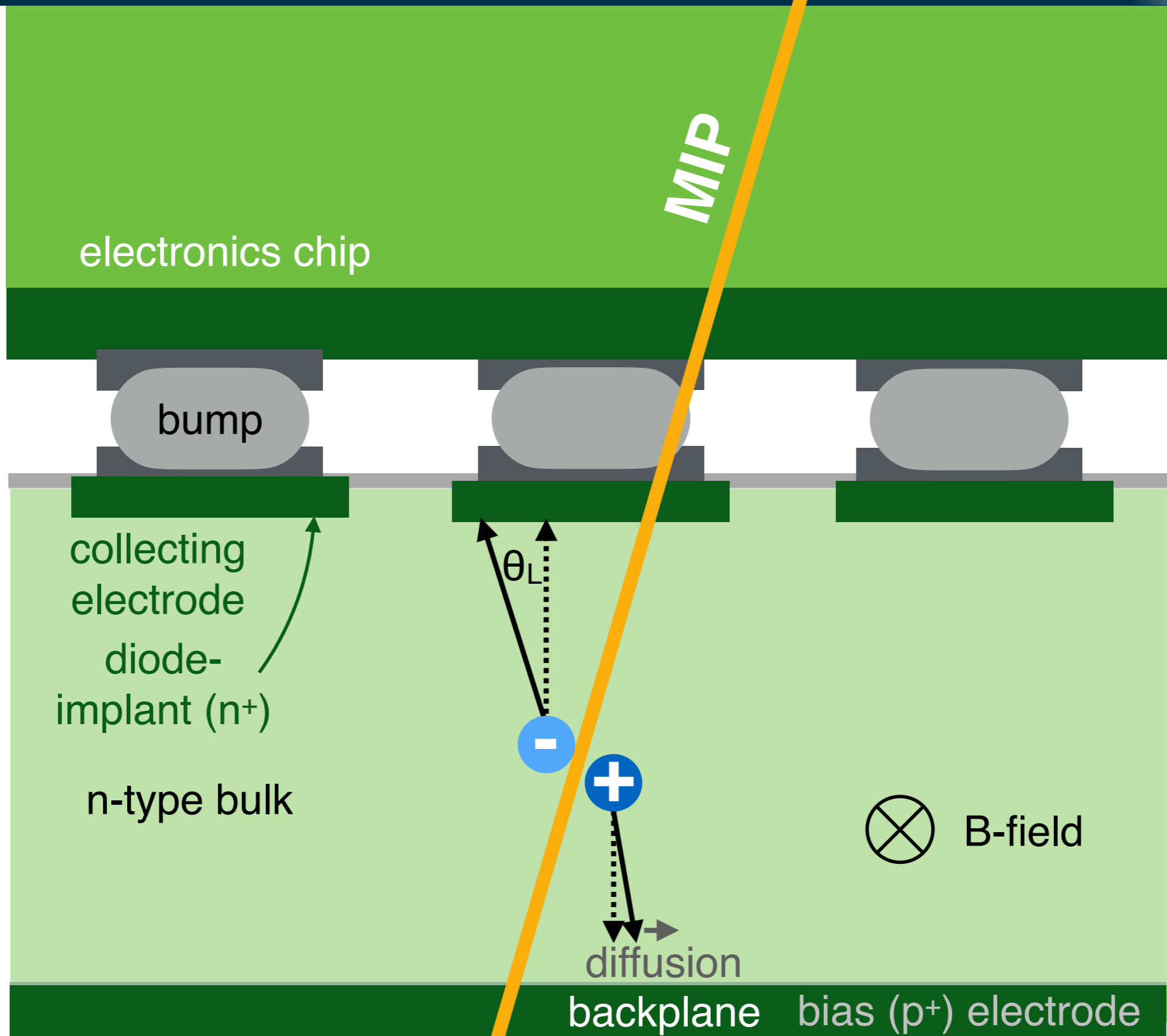
Closest to the interaction are finely segmented silicon pixels

$$O(100^3) \mu\text{m}^3$$

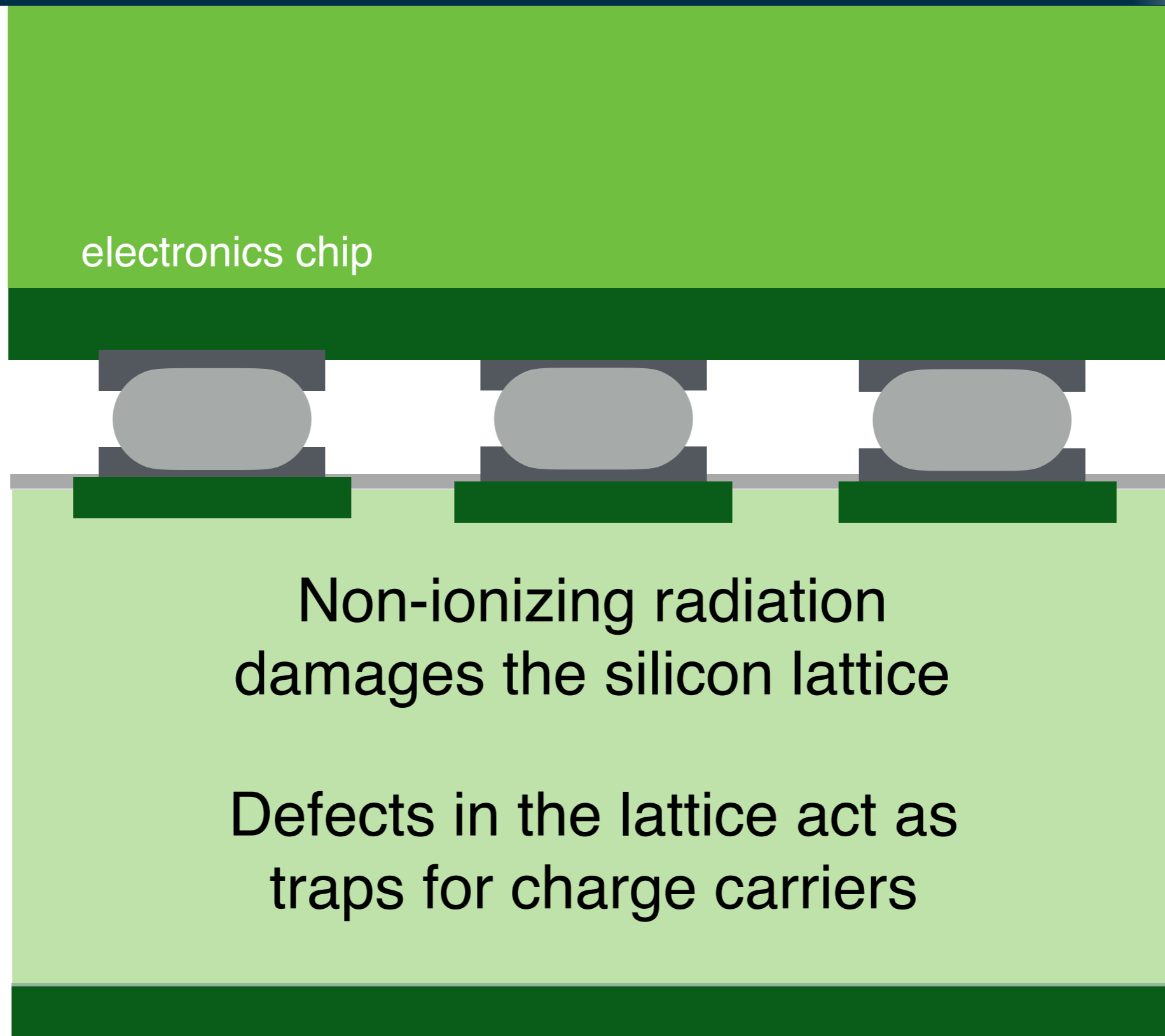
record (a digitized) charge for ionizing particles



Zooming in on one pixel

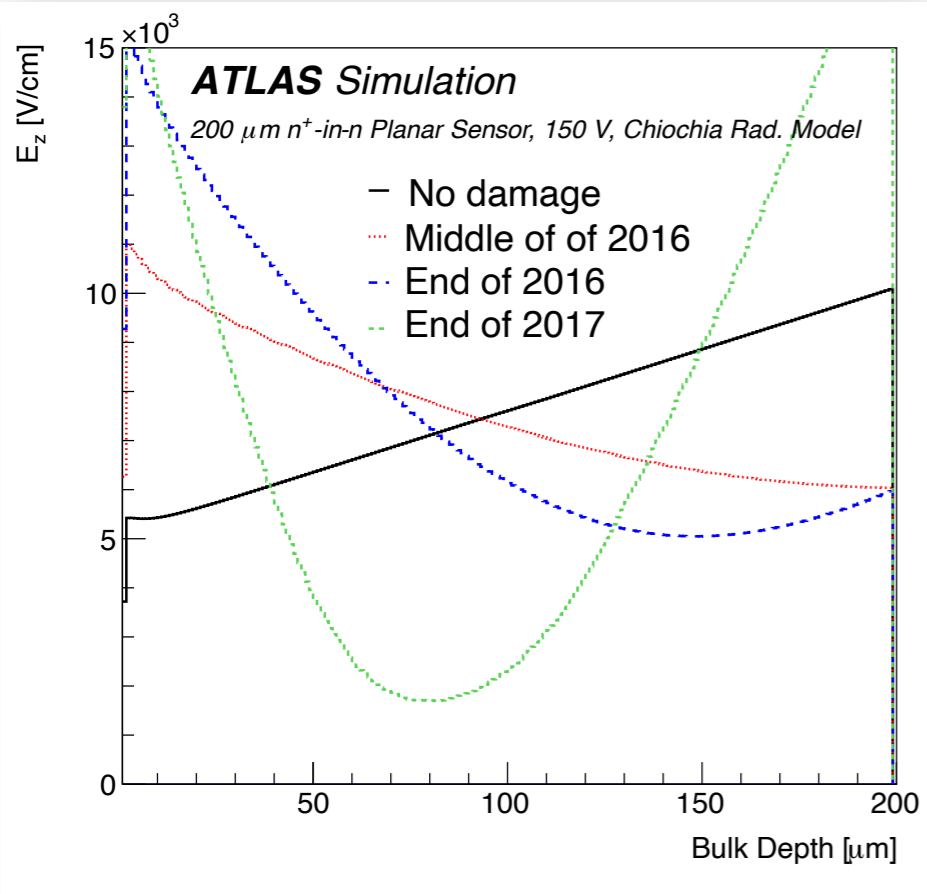


Silicon Radiation Damage



Signals after irradiation

5



chip

bump

Deformations
in the E-field

Increase in sensor
depletion voltage

Increase in sensor
leakage current

depletion
zone

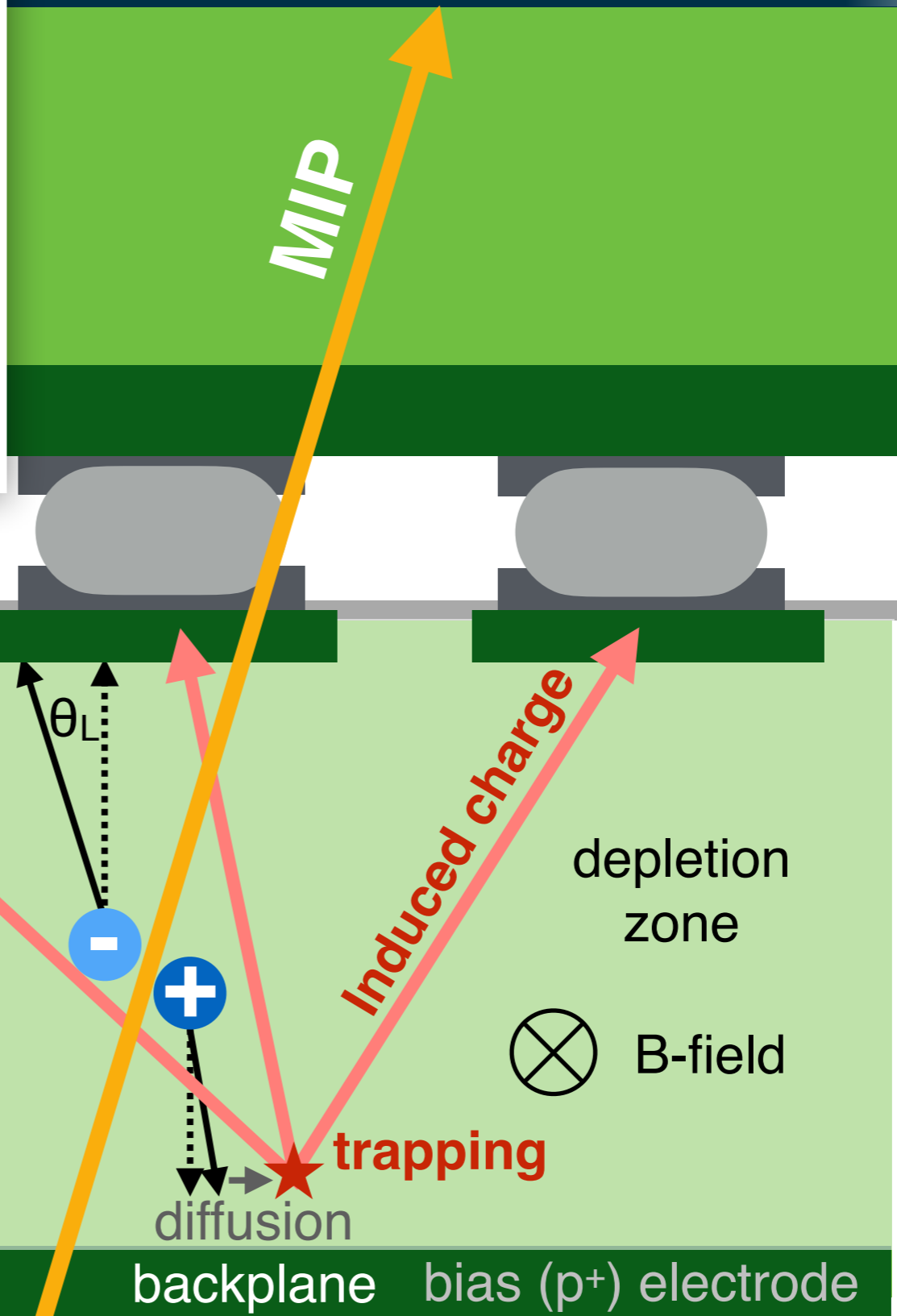
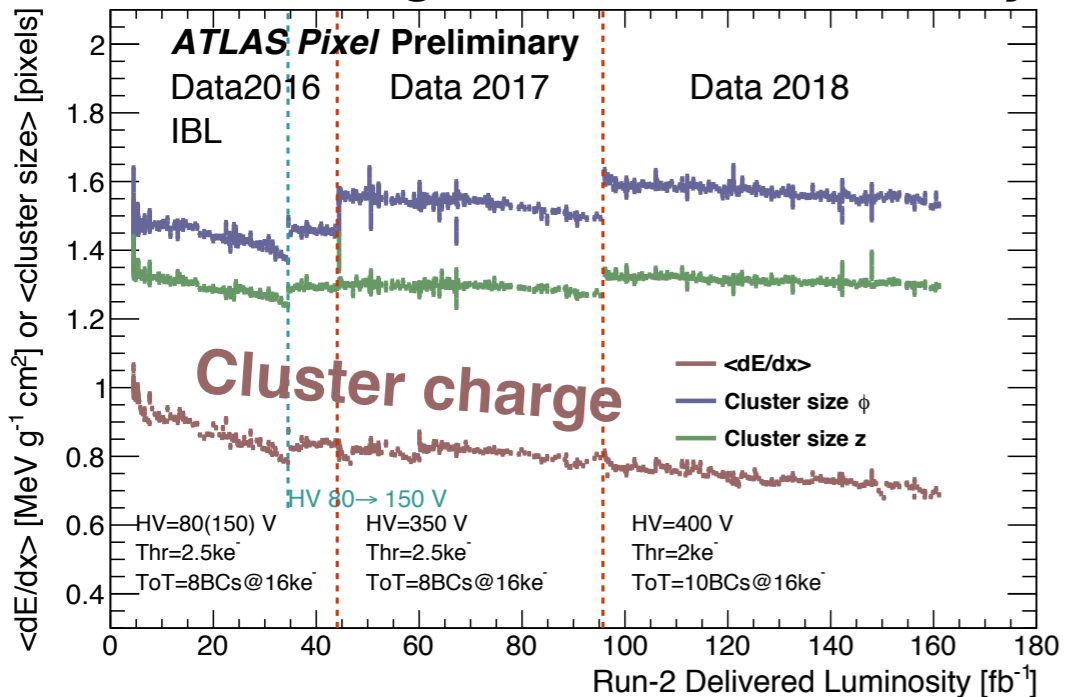
\otimes B-field

\uparrow
 \downarrow
O(100) μm

backplane bias (p^+) electrode

signals after irradiation

Charge Collection Efficiency

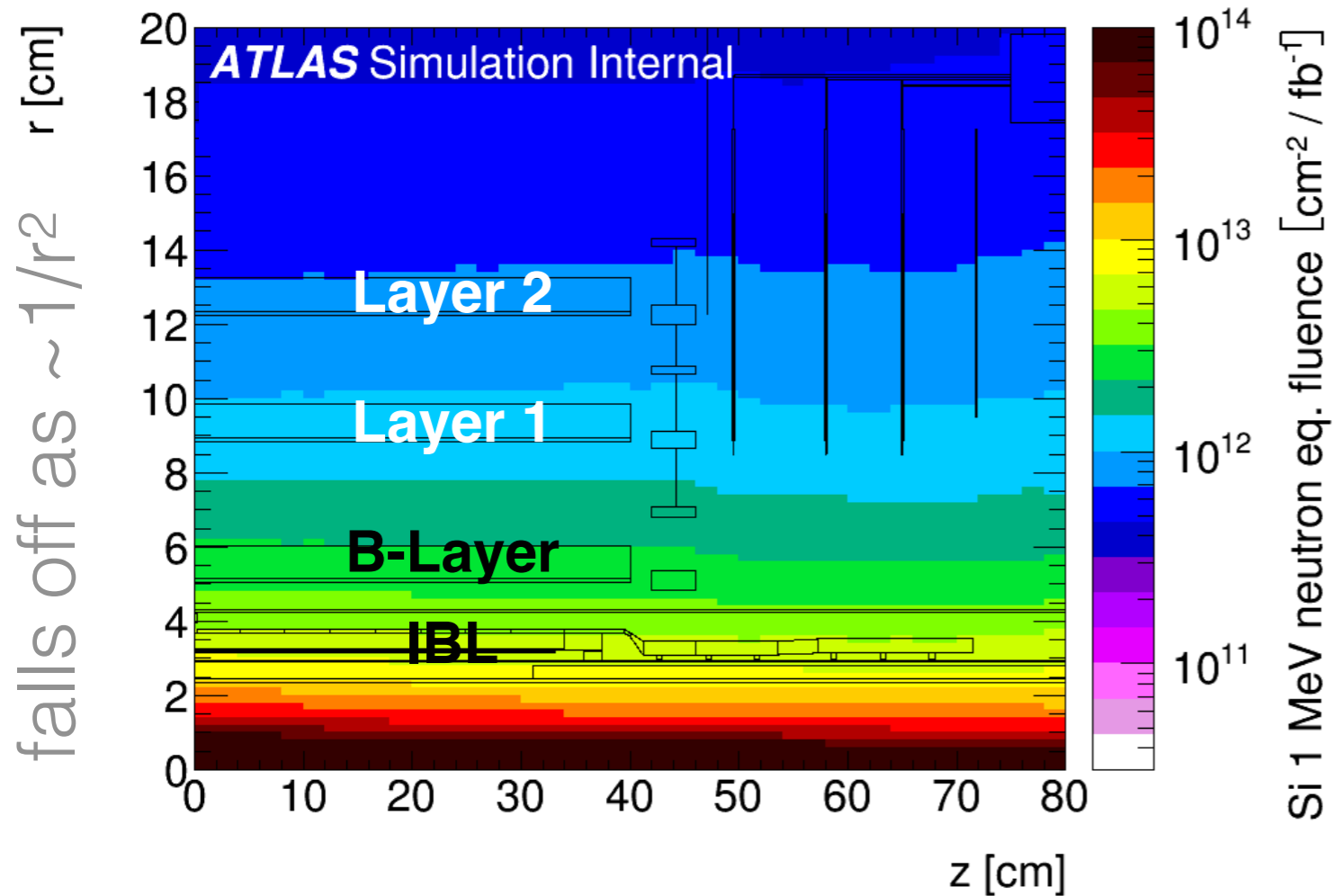


Deformations in the E-field

Increase in sensor depletion voltage

Increase in sensor leakage current

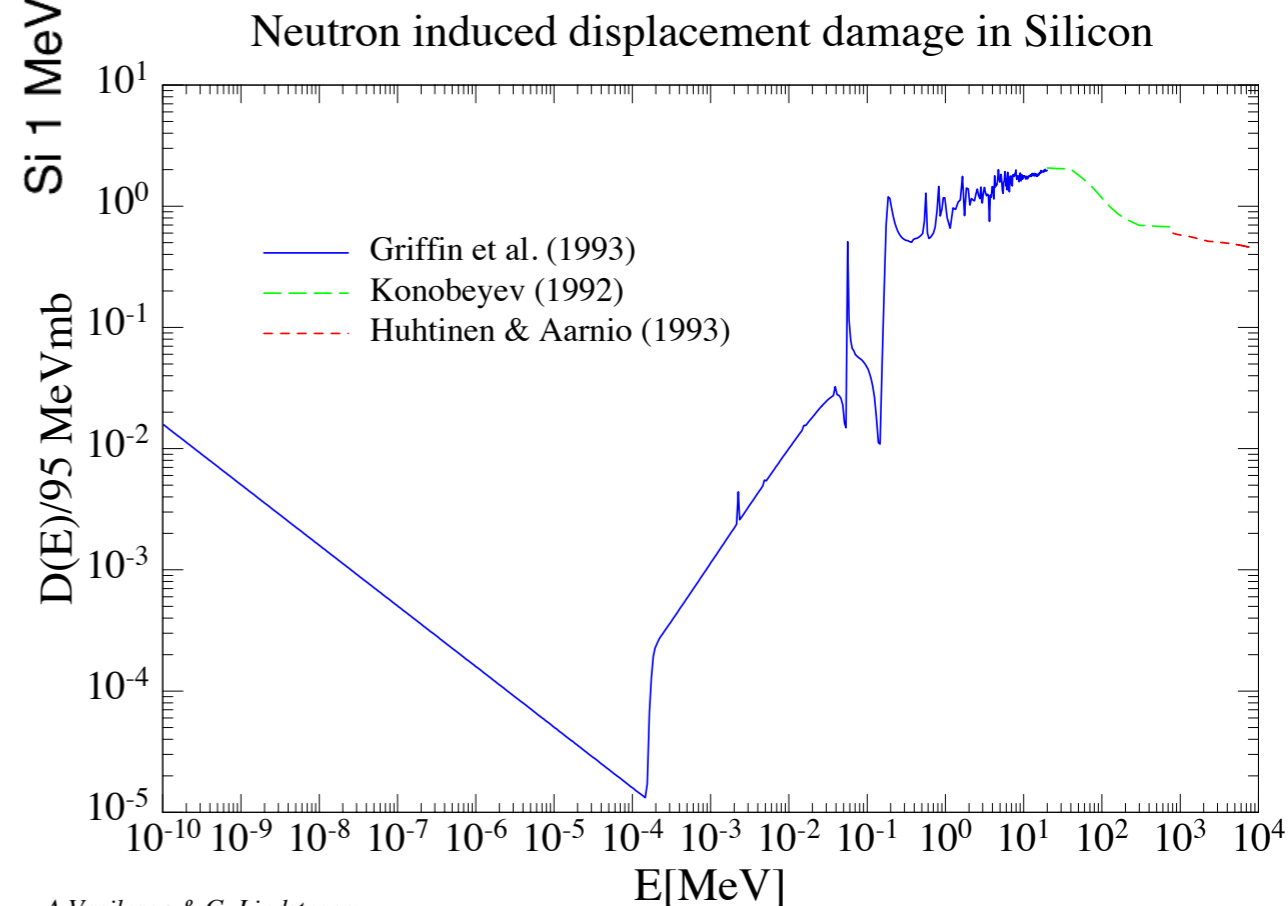
Radiation Environment at the LHC



Units: we normalize damage to that of a 1 MeV neutron and the units are $n_{\text{eq}}/\text{cm}^2$

Fluence symbol: Φ

Most of the damage on the inner layers is from charged hadrons. Neutron damage is larger at higher radii (splash-back from calorimeters).



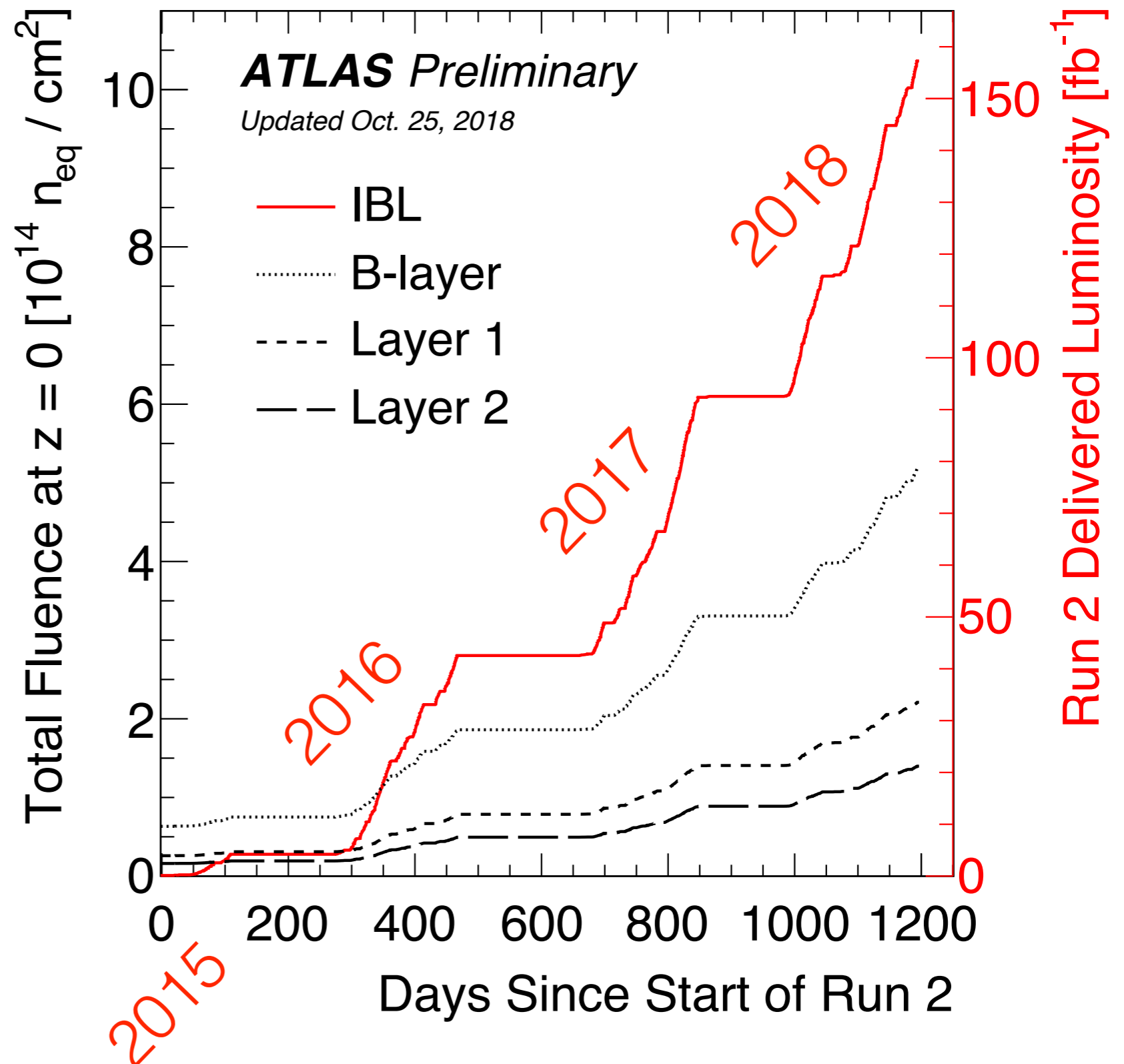
Radiation Environment at the LHC



Innermost layer
= more fluence

Even though the IBL
was installed at the
start of Run 2, it has
surpassed the B-layer
in fluence

It is imperative that
radiation damage
effects be quantified to
inform **operations**,
offline analysis, &
future detector design!



Measuring the fluence



Most common method uses the leakage current, as $I_{\text{leak}} \propto \Phi$

Depleted volume

Caution: Model assumes uniform space-charge and a small number of effective defect states.

$$\Delta I = (\Phi_{\text{eq}}/L_{\text{int}}) \times V \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n L_{\text{int},i} \cdot \left[\alpha_I \exp\left(-\sum_{j=i}^n \frac{t_j}{\tau(T_j)}\right) + \alpha_0^* - \beta \log\left(\sum_{j=i}^n \frac{\Theta(T_j) \cdot t_j}{t_0}\right) \right]$$

Measure this

We want to know this

“The Hamburg Model”

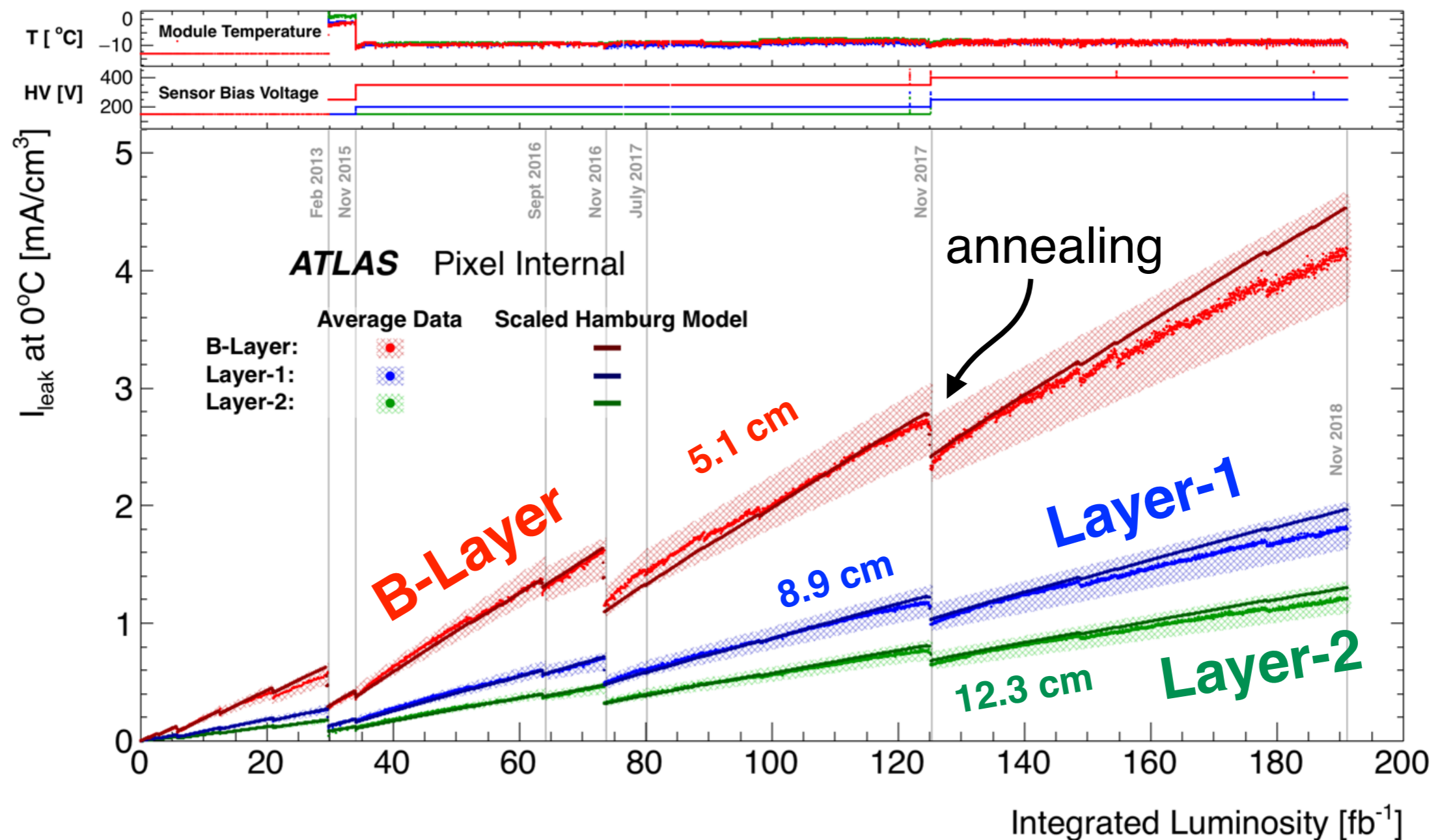
Annealing (depends on time \mathbf{t} and temperature \mathbf{T})

N.B. the coefficients are dimensionfull

Measuring the fluence



Most common method uses the leakage current, as $I_{\text{leak}} \propto \Phi$



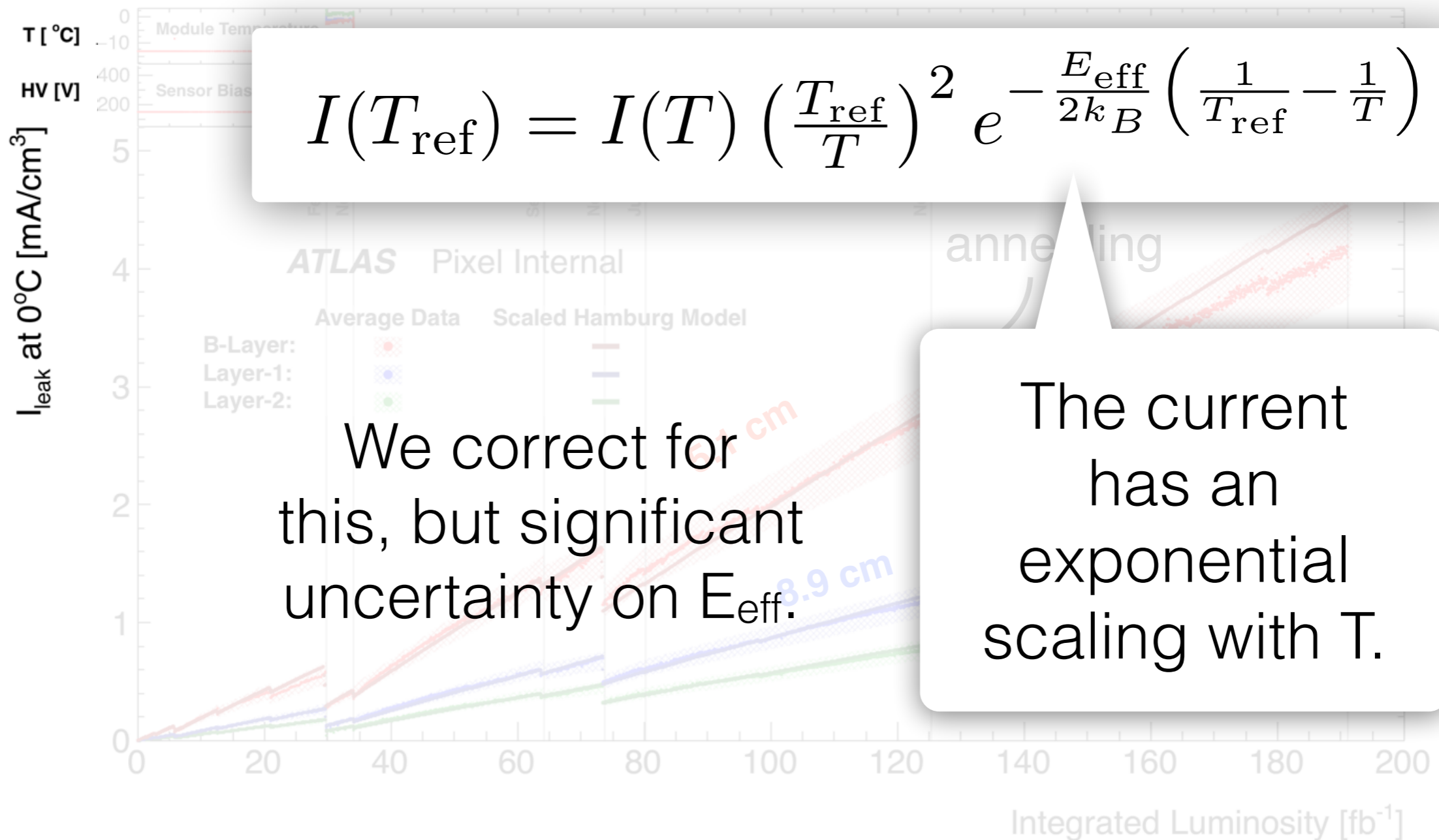
Measuring the fluence

Most common method uses the leakage current, as $I_{\text{leak}} \propto \Phi$

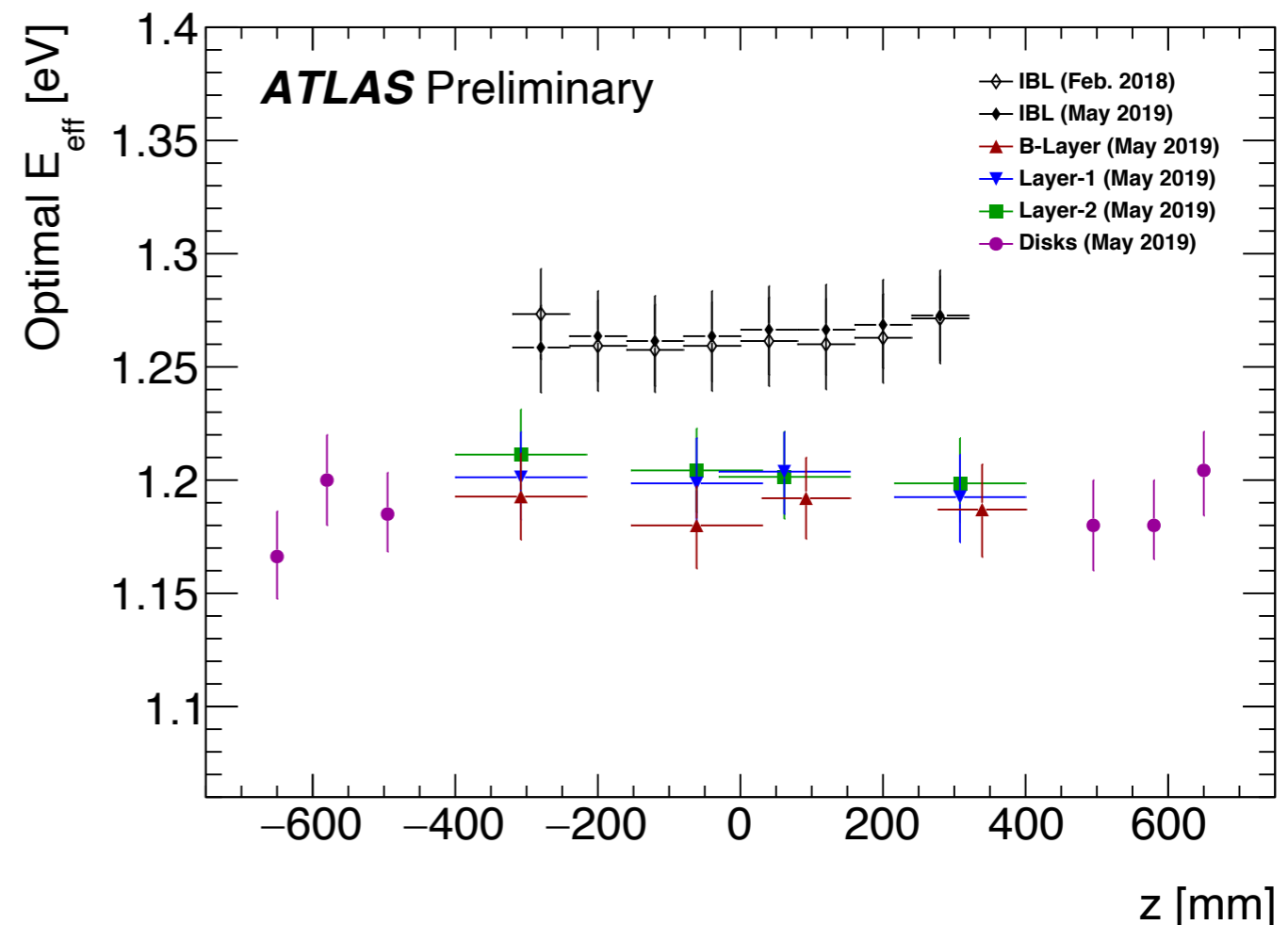
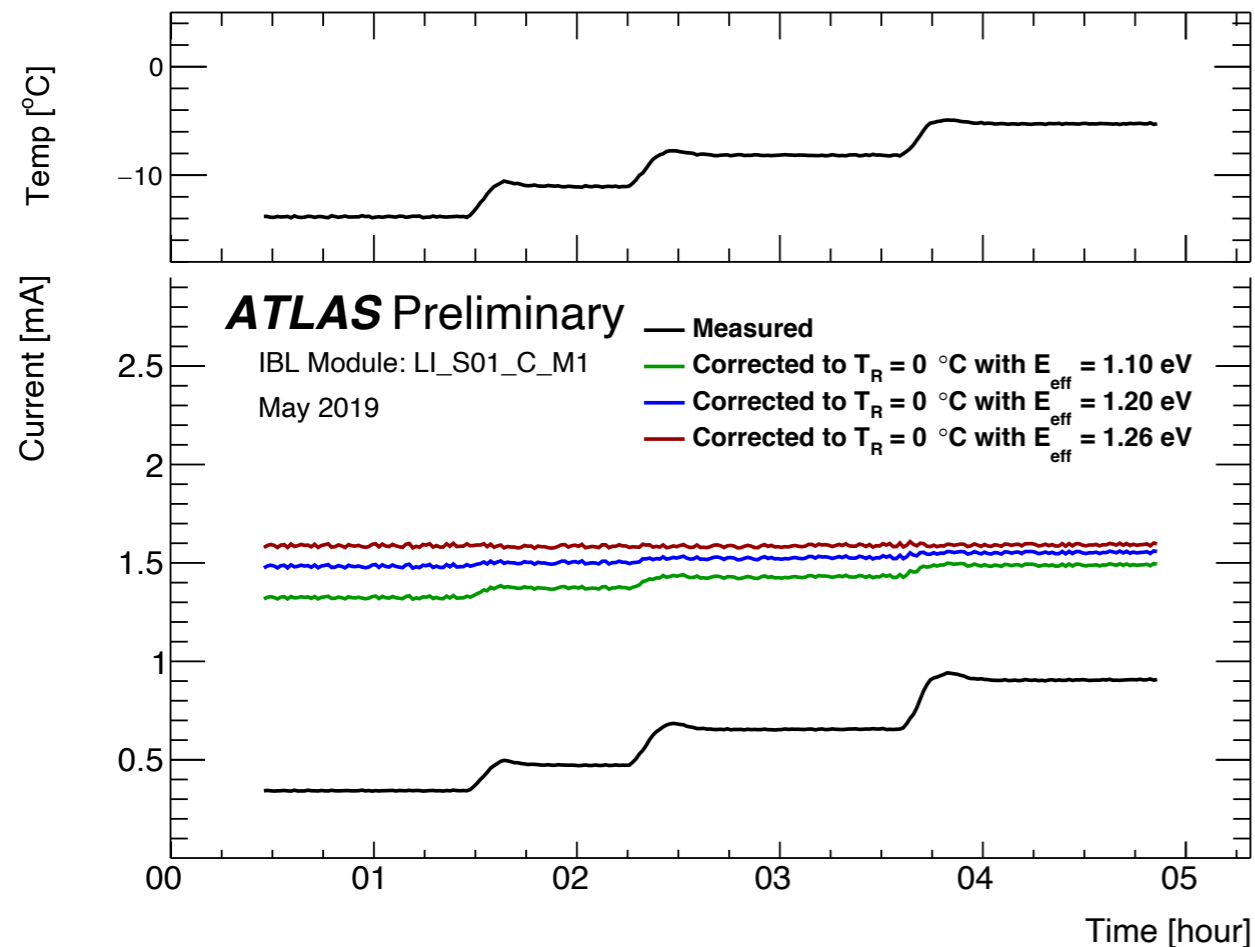
$$I(T_{\text{ref}}) = I(T) \left(\frac{T_{\text{ref}}}{T}\right)^2 e^{-\frac{E_{\text{eff}}}{2k_B} \left(\frac{1}{T_{\text{ref}}} - \frac{1}{T}\right)}$$

We correct for this, but significant uncertainty on E_{eff} .

The current has an exponential scaling with T.



Temperature corrections



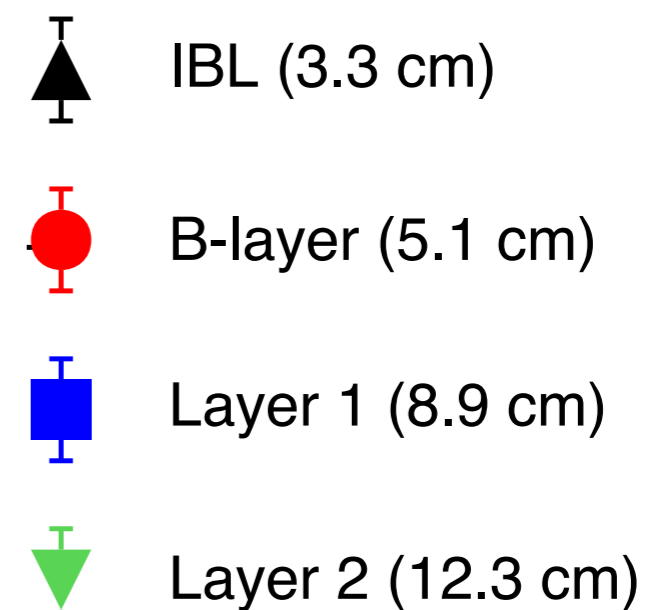
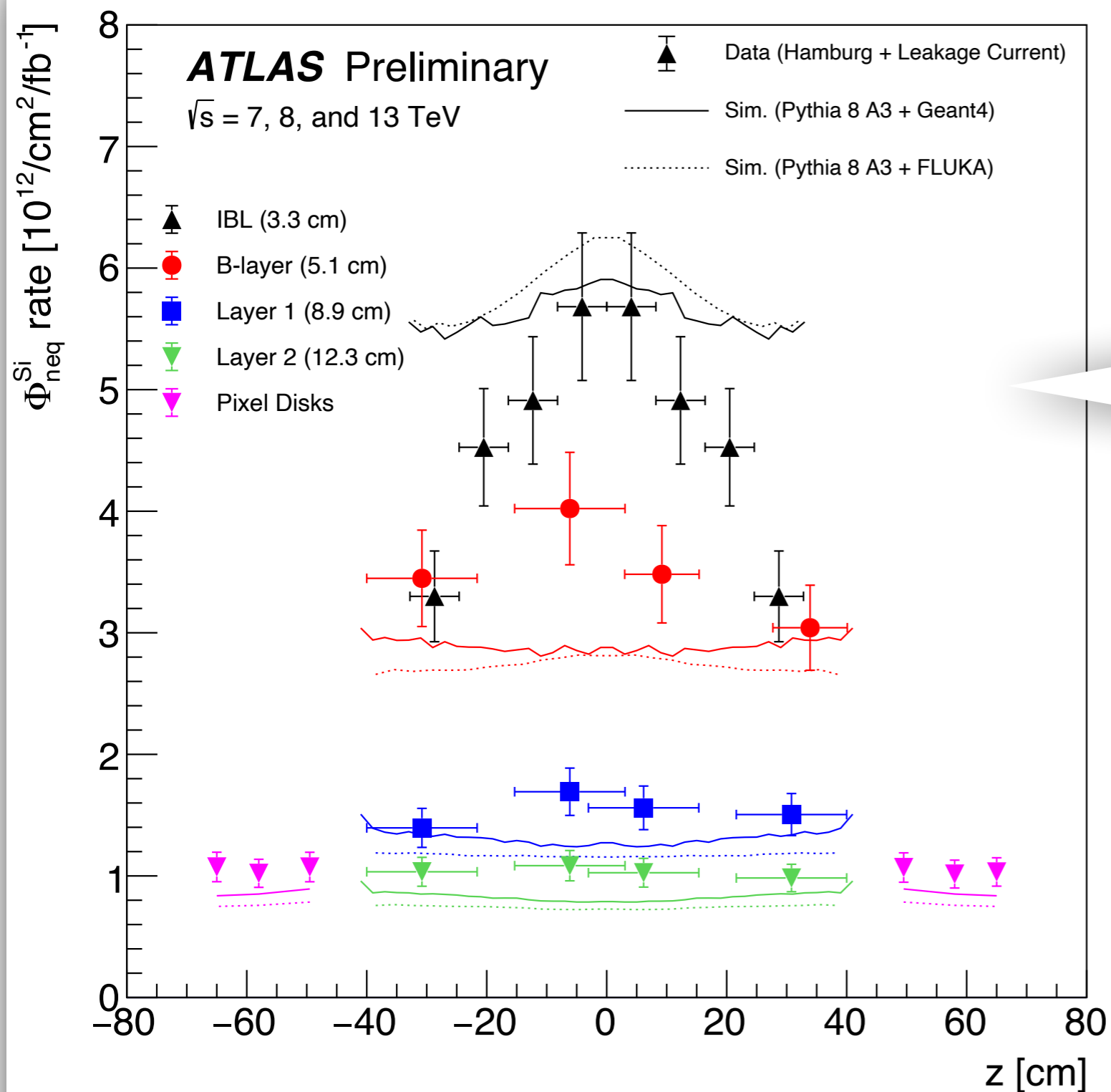
We have **measured E_{eff}** using **dedicated temperature scans!**

Biggest source of uncertainty is the absolute temperature of our sensors.

See [this talk](#) for more details.

Fluence measurement overview

13



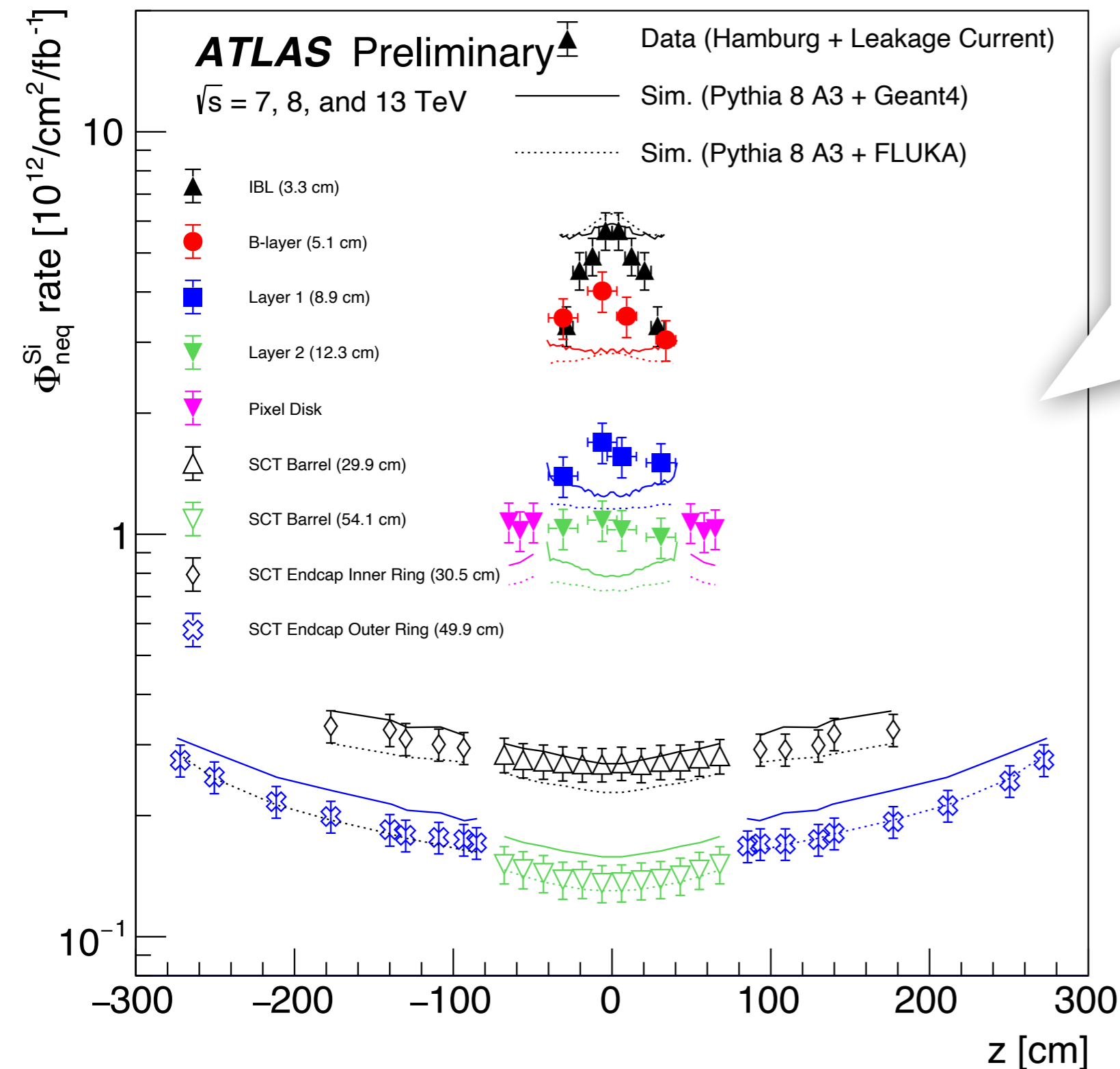
**(1) $|z|$ -dependence
much stronger in data**

**(2) data $>$ simulation
past innermost layer**

← Beam direction

A global picture: pixels and strips

14



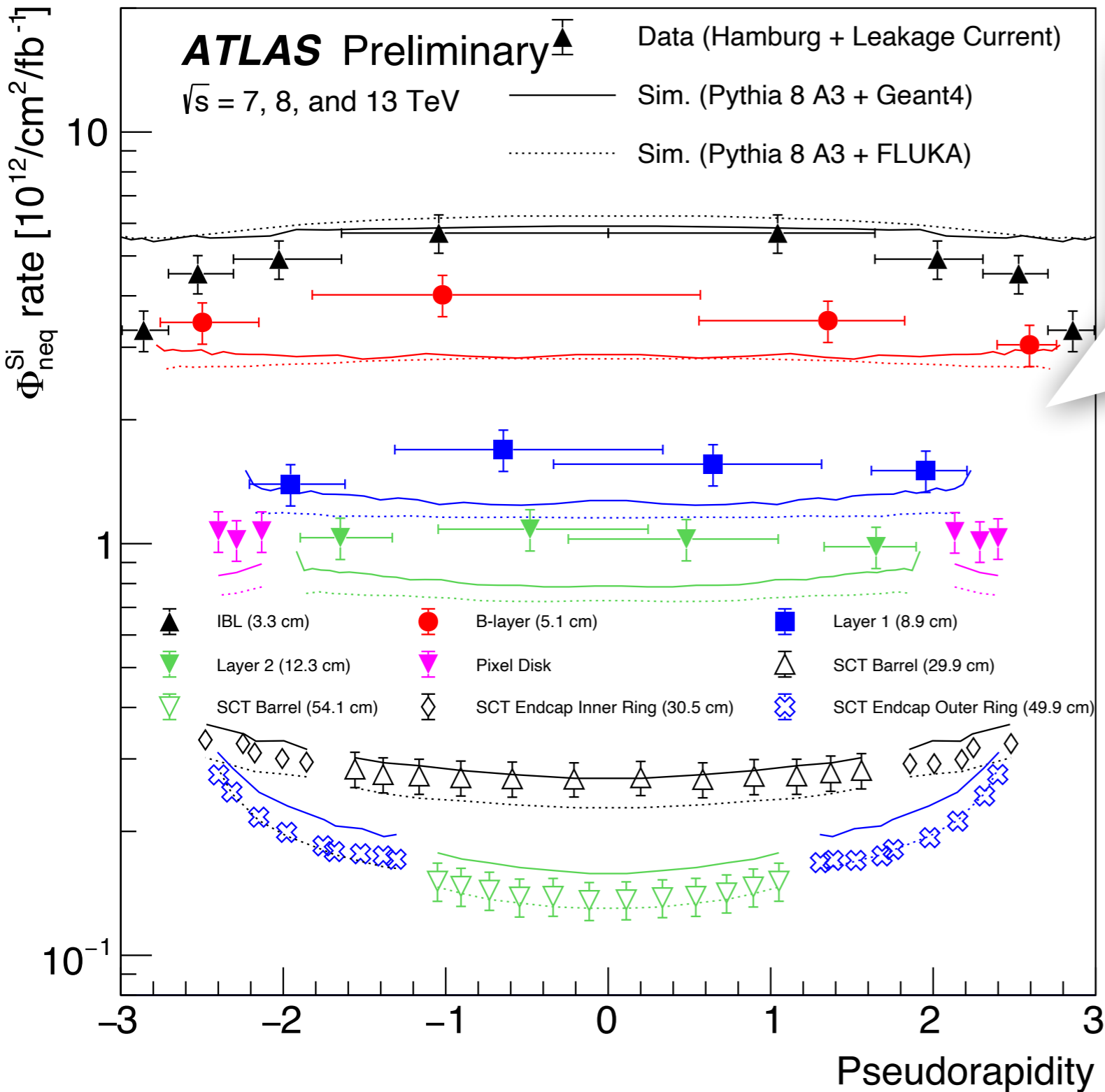
*data ~ sim. for innermost
data ~ 1.5 x sim. for other pixels*

data ~ sim. for strips

*Stronger $|z|$ dependence in
data on inner layers - present
with Geant4 and FLUKA*

*(and for various tunes of
Pythia, not shown)*

A global picture: pixels and strips

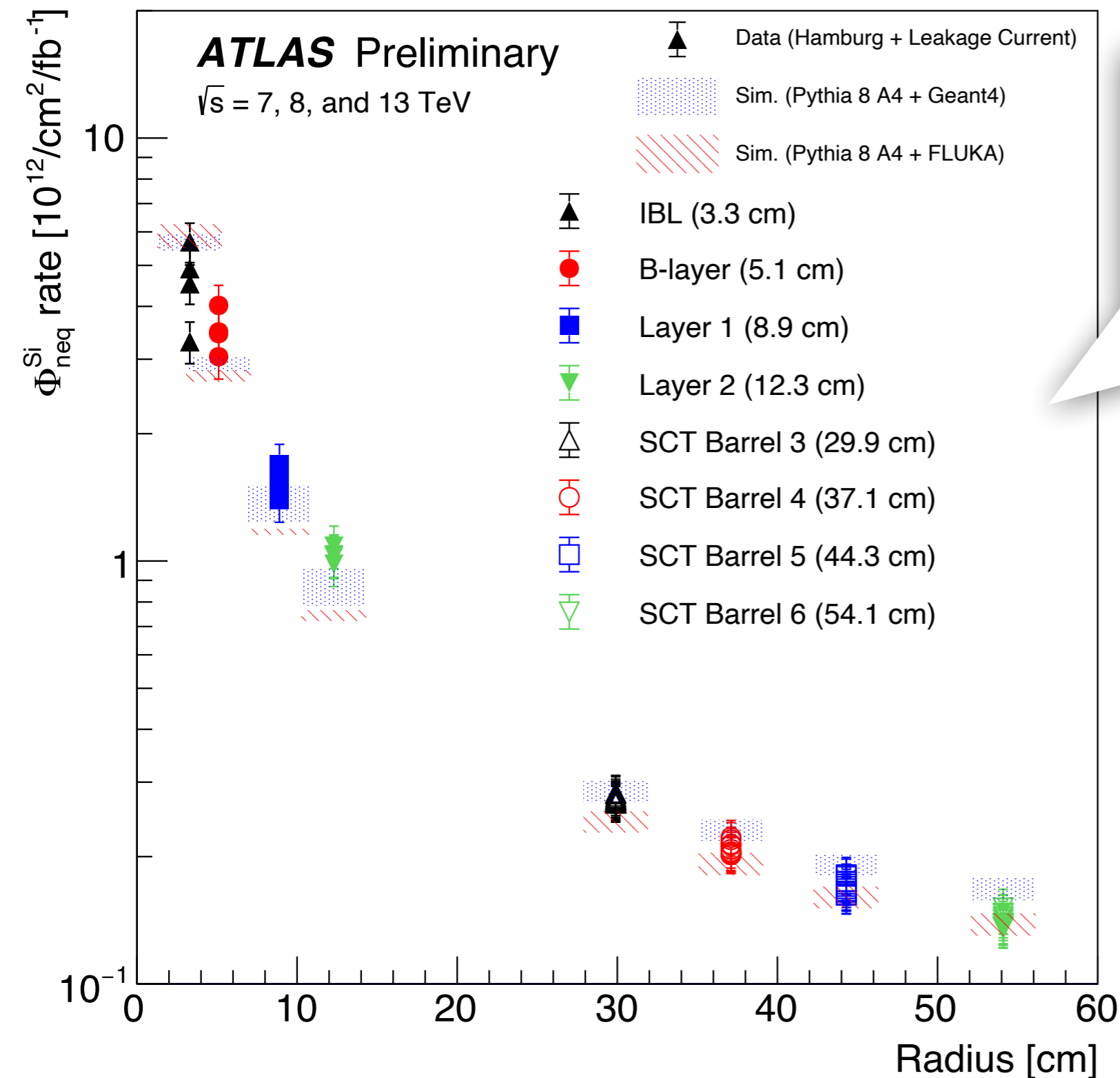


data ~ sim. for innermost
data ~ 1.5 x sim. for other pixels
data ~ sim. for strips

Same data as previous slide, but ID acceptance to $|\eta|=2.5$ is clear

A global picture: pixels and strips

16

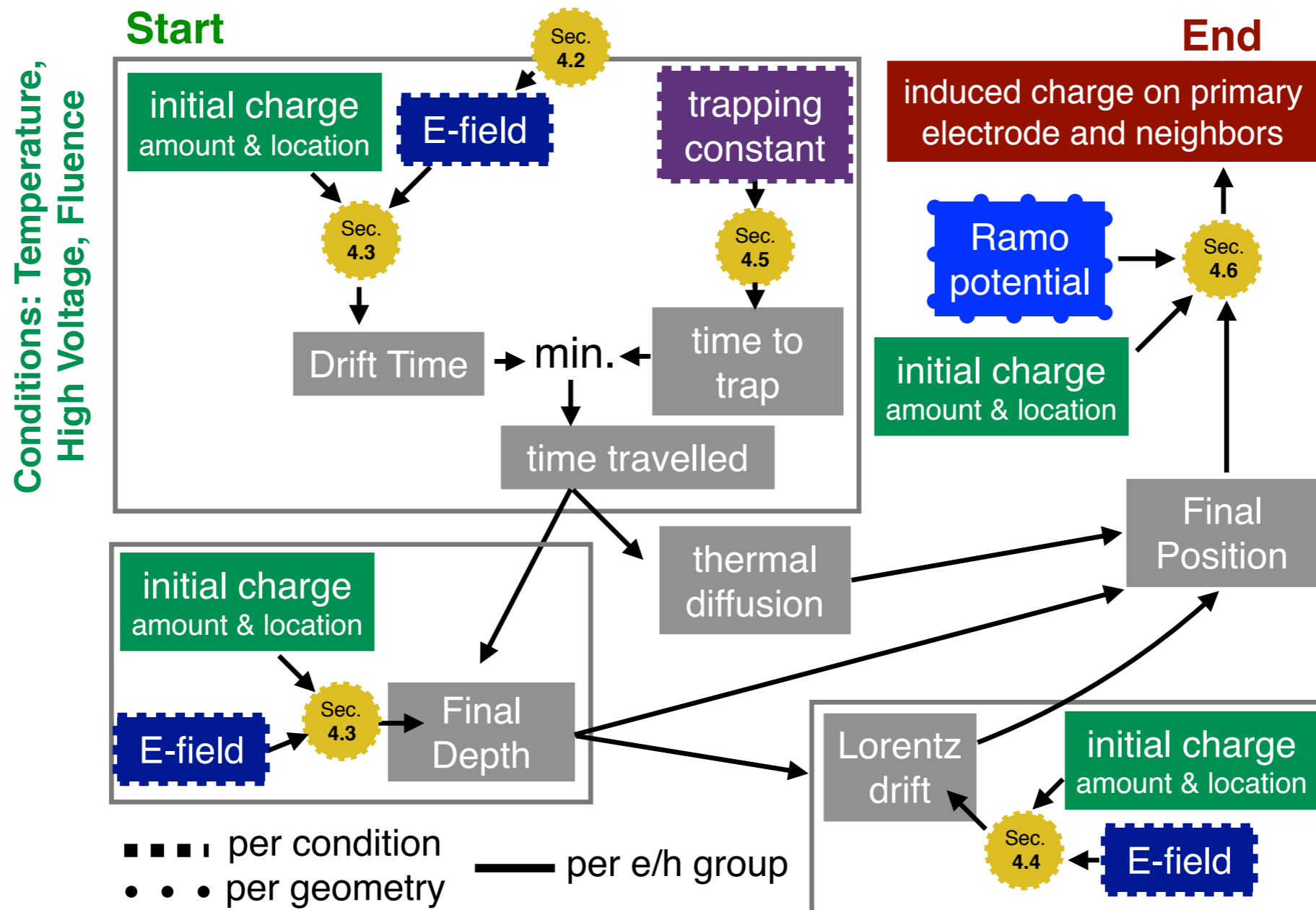


data ~ sim. for innermost
data ~ 1.5 x sim. for other pixels
data ~ sim. for strips

The fluence falls off roughly as $1/r^2$

Integrating fluence into digitization

In parallel, we have integrated the fluence modeling into ATLAS simulation - default for Run 3.



Conclusions and outlook

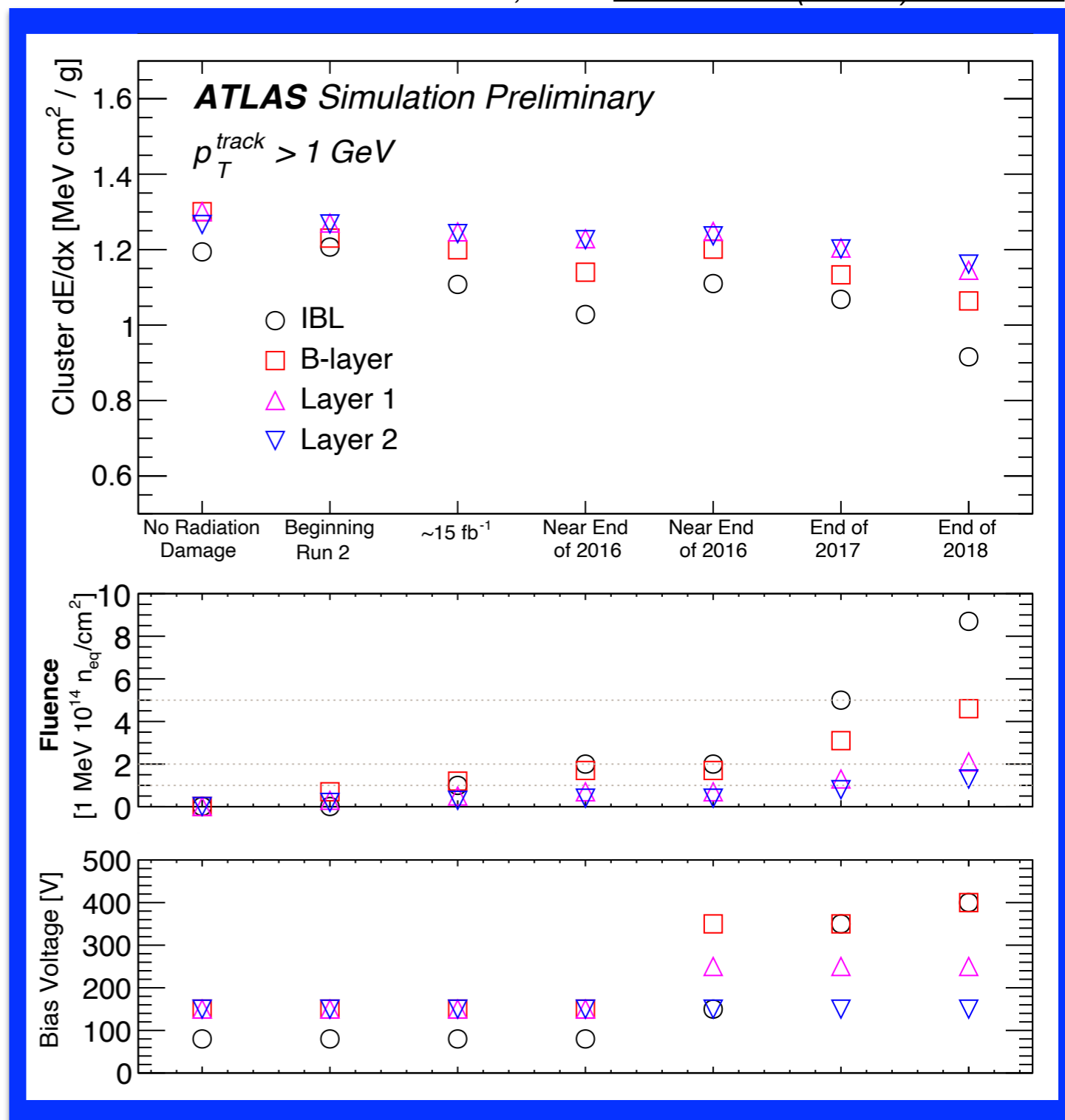
18

The fluence is the key ingredient to radiation damage modeling.

We have performed a detailed measurement using leakage currents. In parallel, we **have integrated radiation damage into the ATLAS simulation.**

This is allowing us to improve our data analysis and plan for Run 3 and the HL-LHC!

For details, see *JINST 14 (2019) P06012*



Backup

