

Towards a Lohengrin Tracking ASIC

IHL Kickoff Meeting

Matthias Hamer, for the Lohengrin Study Group
17. Juli 2026

uni-siegen.de

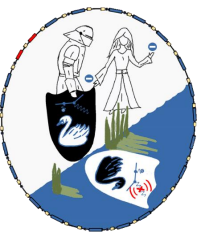


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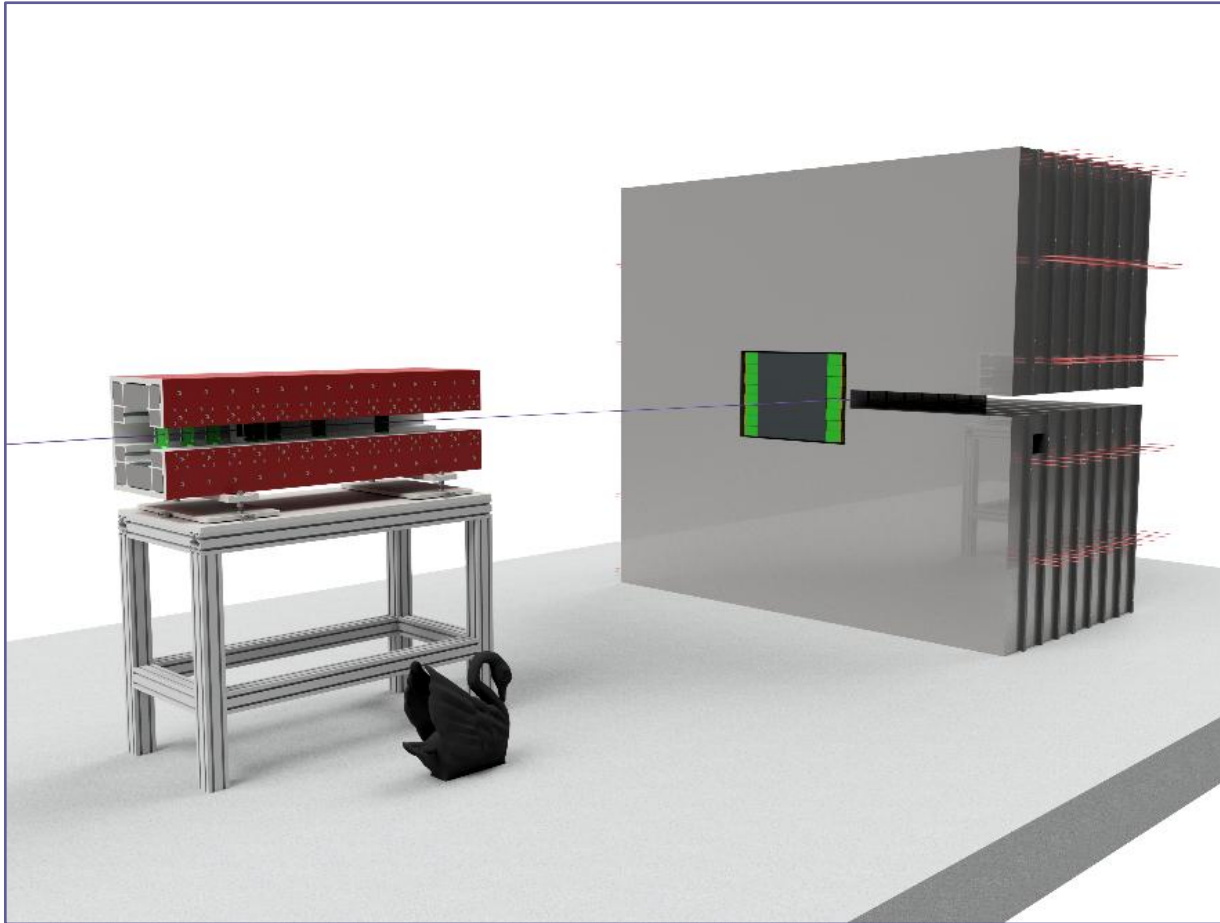
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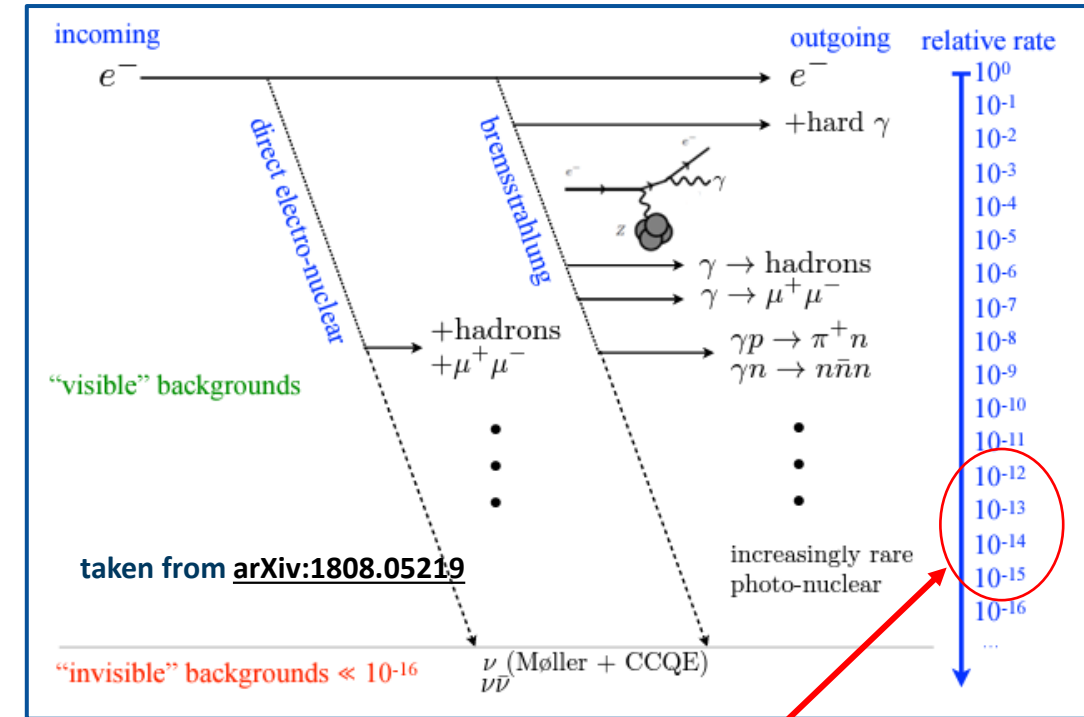
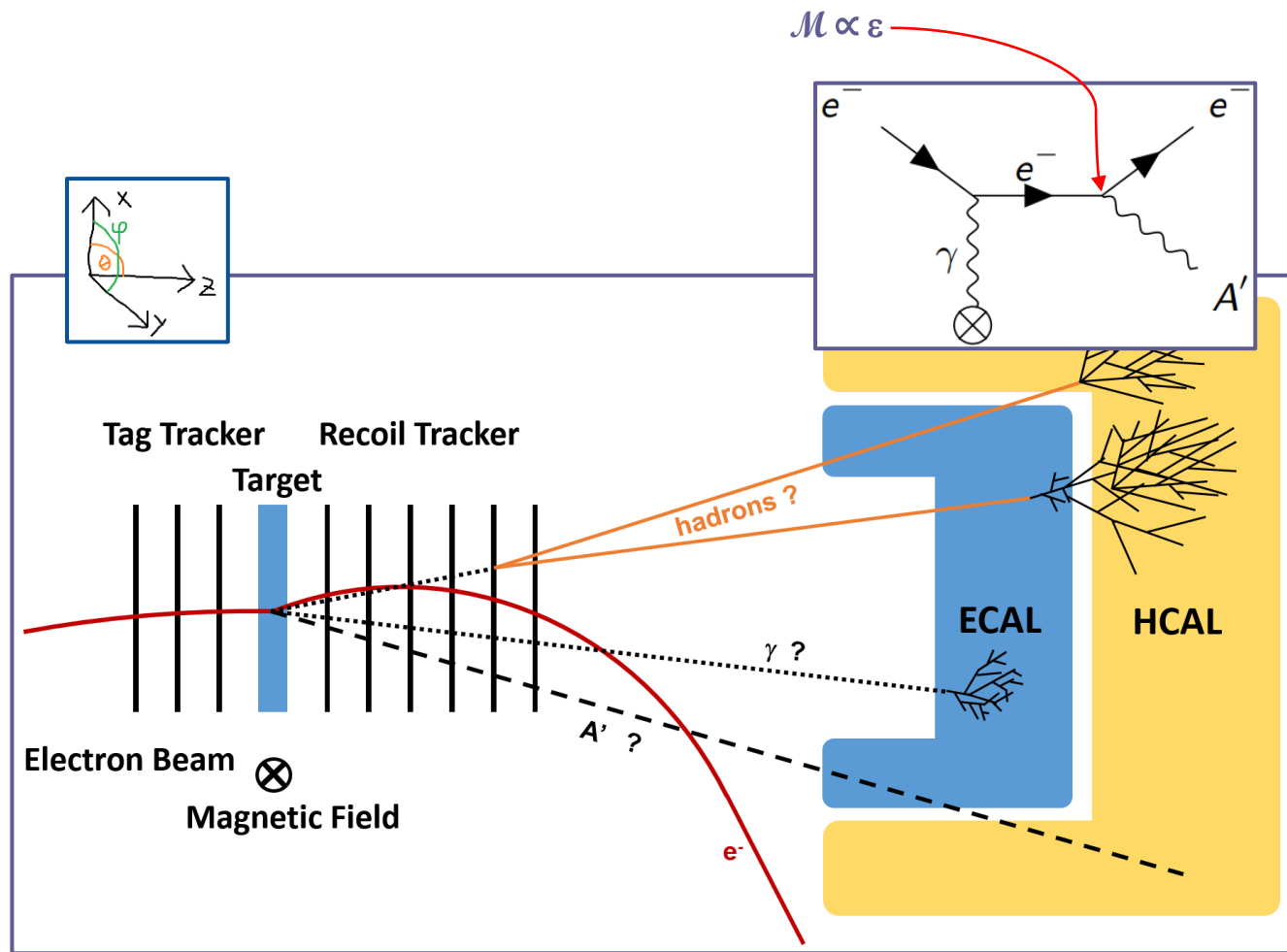
Introduction – the Lohengrin Experiment



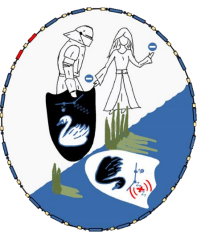
- Planned Fixed-Target, missing momentum based, dark matter experiment at ELSA
 - electrons on tungsten(?) target
 - occasional ($=O(10^{-12})$) production of a dark photon (or any other FIP)
 - high number of eot required for competitive sensitivity

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4}F'^{\mu\nu}F'_{\mu\nu} + \frac{m_{A'}^2}{2}A'_\mu A'^\mu - A'_\mu(\epsilon e J_{\text{EM}}^\mu + g_D J_D^\mu)$$

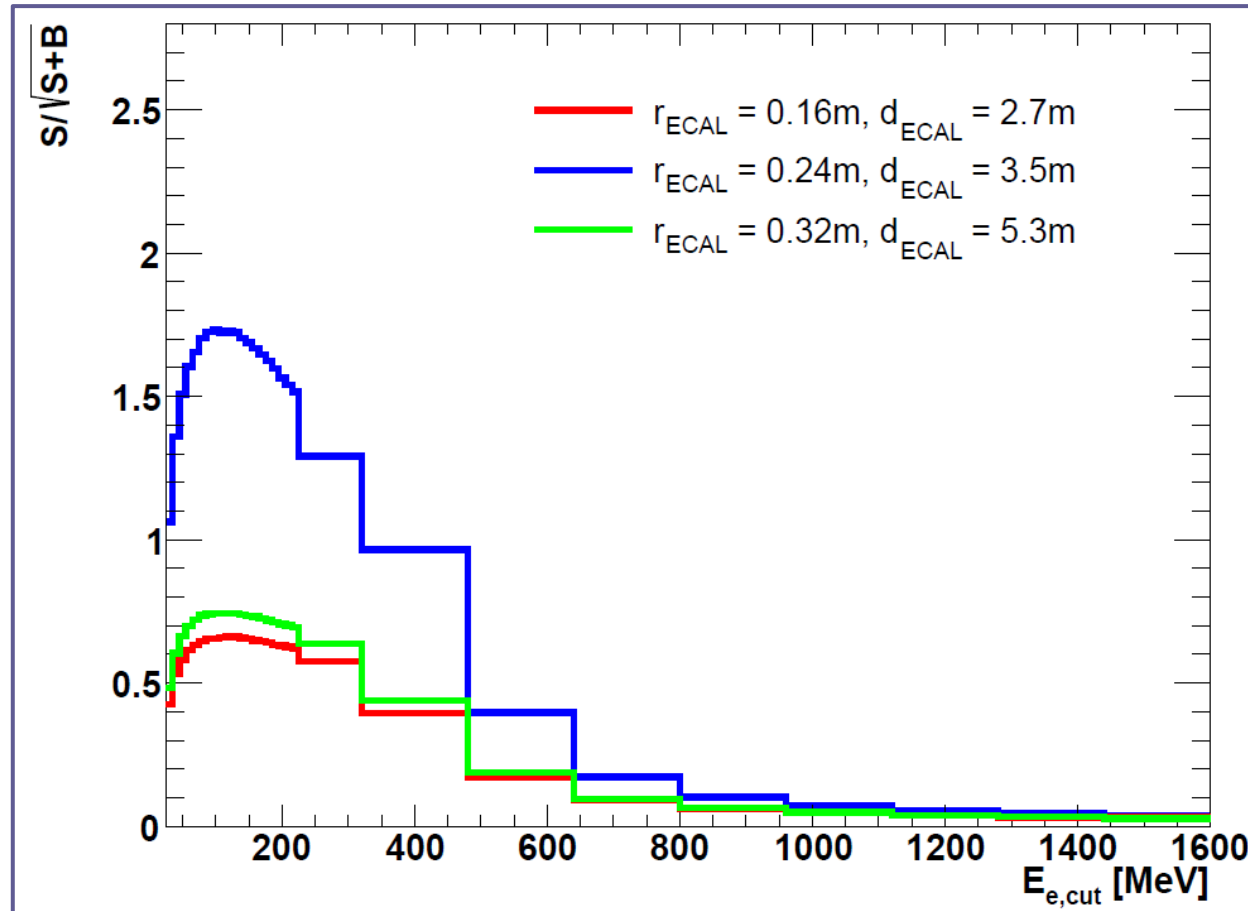
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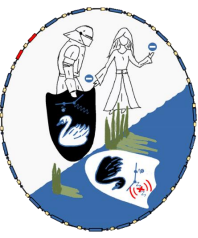
this is where the music plays
 → name of the game is background suppression



Introduction – sensitivity considerations

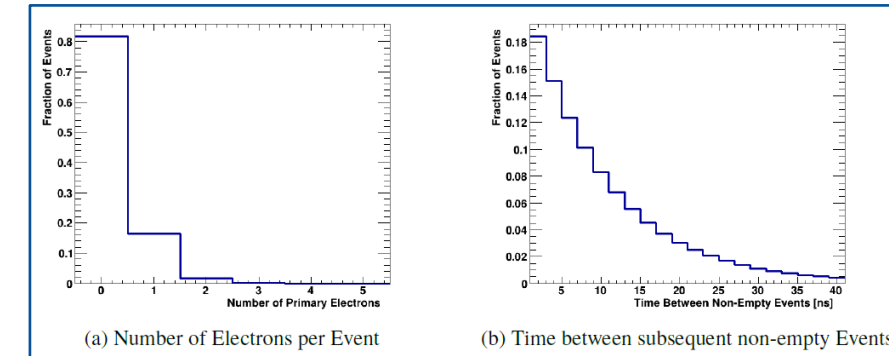


- skipping a lot of steps here, obviously
- we achieve the best sensitivity in a signal region where we require the **recoil electron to have an energy of O(100) MeV or less**
 - we need high tracking efficiency for electrons with as low energies as imaginable
- that cut alone still leaves us with overwhelming amount of SM bremsstrahlung and hadronic activity in the final state
 - rely on calorimeters as veto detectors

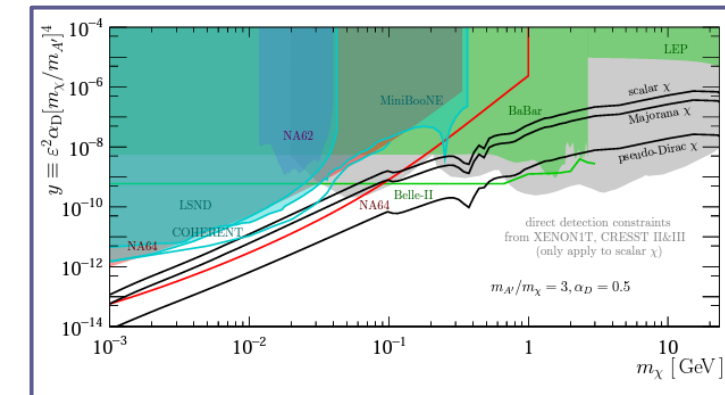


ELSA as the ideal electron source for Lohengrin

- ELSA can produce (on average) single electrons that hit our target
- 1 extraction cycle every 2ns
 - IF we can resolve single events, this experiment provides a unique environment to search for feably interacting particles
 - achieving scientifically valuable sensitivity within a reasonable amount of runtime requires a high extraction rate
 - 100 MHz as preliminary target. can work with $\mu = 0.2$ extracted electrons per cycle to reach an average rate of 100 MHz eot, while keeping the amount of di-eot or tri-eot events at a reasonably low rate

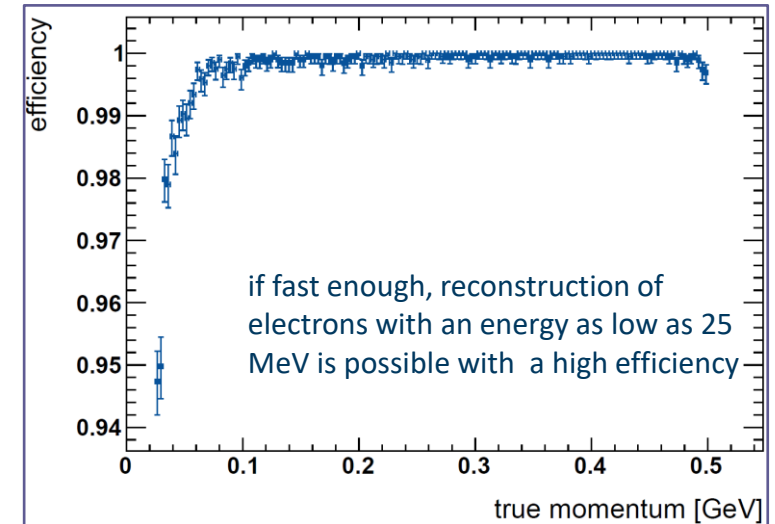
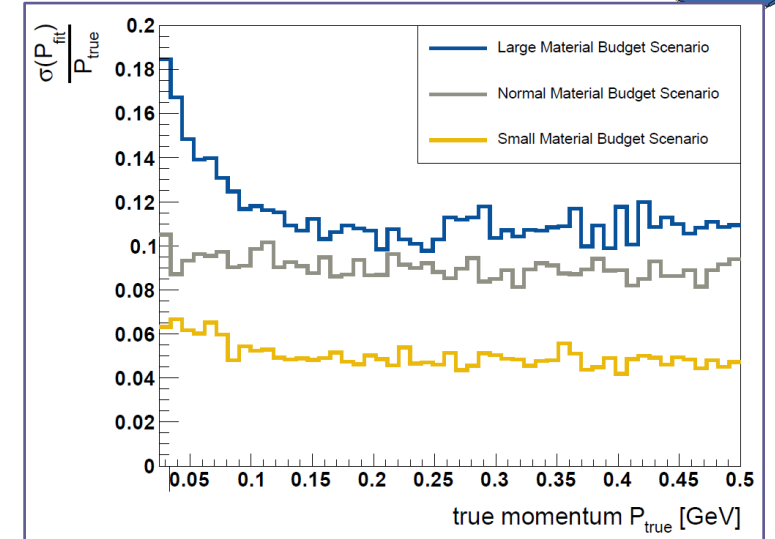
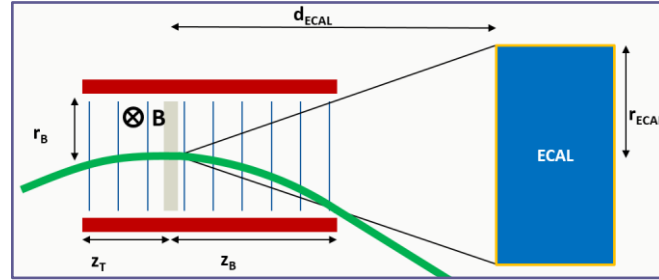


	Scalar			Majorana			Pseudo-Dirac		
mA [Mev]	ε^2	EoT ₁	t ₁₀₀₂ [days]	ε^2	EoT ₁	t ₁₀₀₂ [days]	ε^2	EoT ₁	t ₁₀₀₂ [days]
4.5	4.3E-11	4.9E+12	112	2.2E-11	9.6E+12	221	2.9E-12	7.4E+13	1709
10	2.0E-10	4.7E+12	110	9.8E-11	9.7E+12	225	1.3E-11	7.5E+13	1729
100	2.6E-08	1.0E+13	238	1.2E-08	2.1E+13	495	1.2E-09	2.2E+14	5205
1000	5.4E-07	1.0E+19	238388060	2.7E-07	2.0E+19	472519191	2.5E-08	2.2E+20	5188446020



The Lohengrin Tracker

- tracker will play a crucial rule for Lohengrin
- idea is to make use of $O(10)$ tracking planes in a $O(1)$ T magnetic field
 - tag tracker: 3 layers in front of target in order to estimate the number of electrons in the initial state
 - recoil tracker: 6 layers behind the target in order to
 - measure the momentum of recoil electron
 - identify additional tracks in the final state
 - use recoil tracker as key detector for 2-level trigger system
 - candidate design based on $100\mu\text{m}$ thick TJ Monopix2 like ASICs
 - $33.04\mu\text{m} \times 33.04\mu\text{m}$ pixels
 - 2x2 ASICs per layer



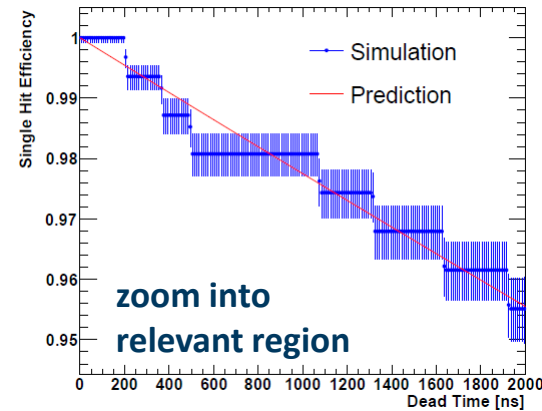
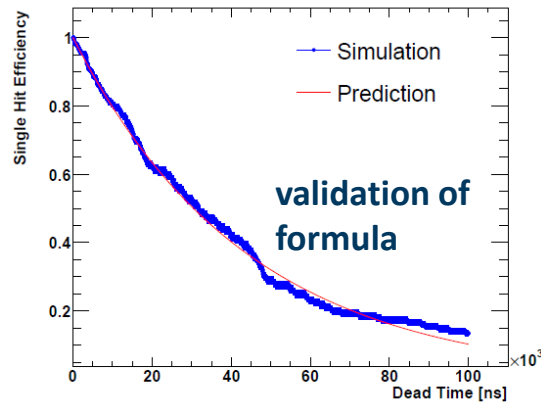
Layer	Target	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
z Position [mm]	2000	1810	1840	1900	2010	2030	2045	2070	2100	2130

tentative distribution of tracker planes

The Lohengrin Tracker



- some basic requirements:
 - as thin as possible (see previous slide)
 - pixel pitch of modern detectors is adequate
 - with “baseline” beam parameters: expect maximum single pixel hitrate of approximately 25kHz to 50 kHz



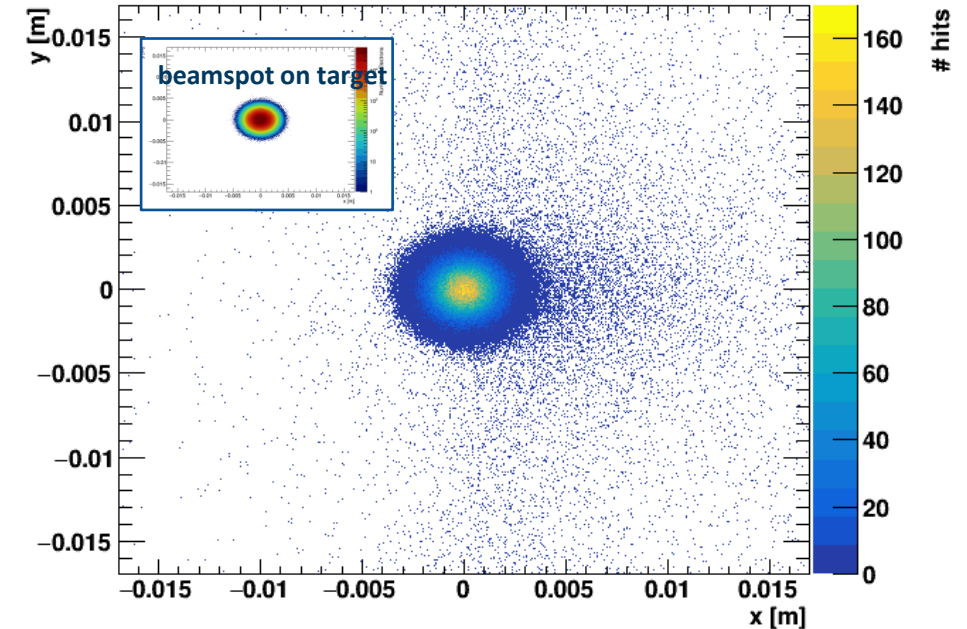
$$P(\Delta t = m \cdot t_{\text{cycle}}) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_{\lambda}(n) \cdot (1 - P_{\text{no hit}}^n) \cdot \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_{\lambda}(n) \cdot P_{\text{no hit}}^n \right)^{m-1}$$

probability that in the m^{th} cycle at least one electron hits the pixel

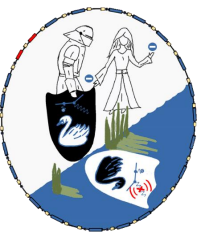
probability that in the $m-1$ cycles before that no electron hits that pixel

$$\varepsilon(t_{\text{dead}}) = 1 - \sum_{m=1}^M P(\Delta t = m \cdot t_{\text{cycle}}).$$

hitmap of 2nd plane of recoil tracker for 800.000 electrons on target, O(6) ms

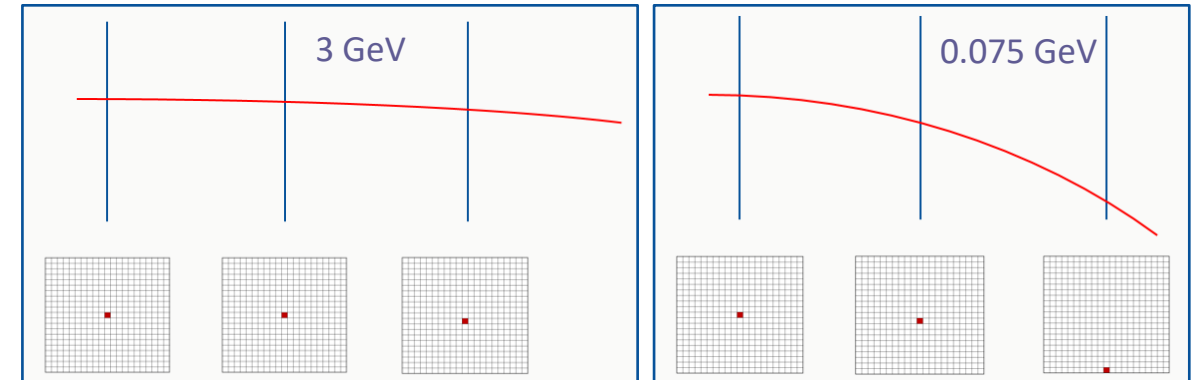
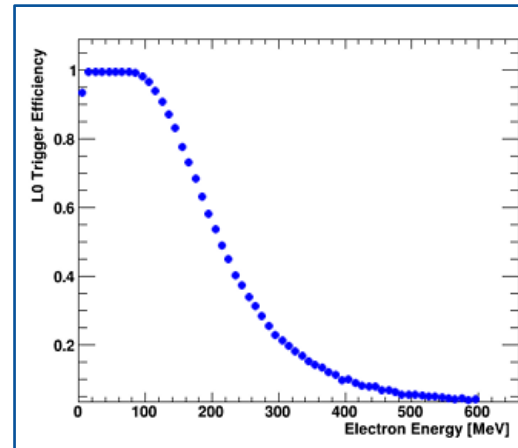
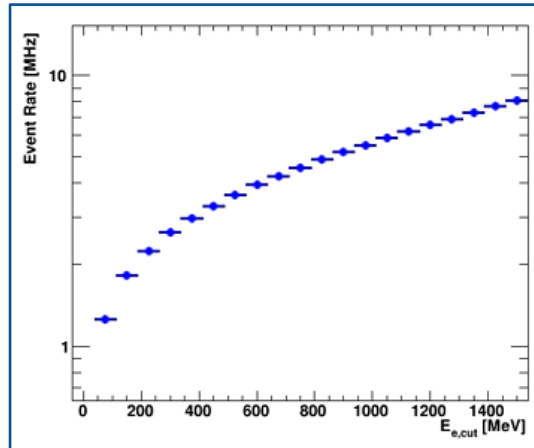


in order to get a 99% single hit efficiency from timing in the busiest pixels, should have a deadtime of less than ~400ns – that doesn’t seem to be completely out of the world...



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 - usage of tracker for triggering purposes
 - first stage: hit-or to tag events with low energy electrons, 100 MHz $\rightarrow$ 1MHz to 10 MHz



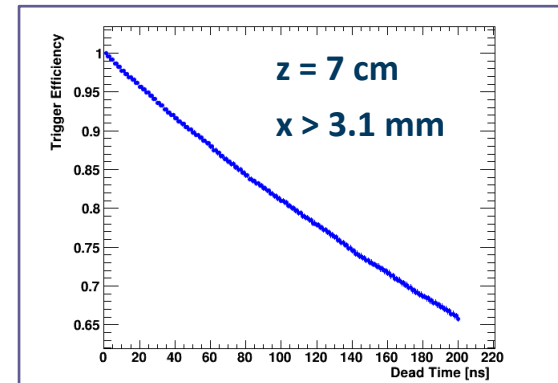
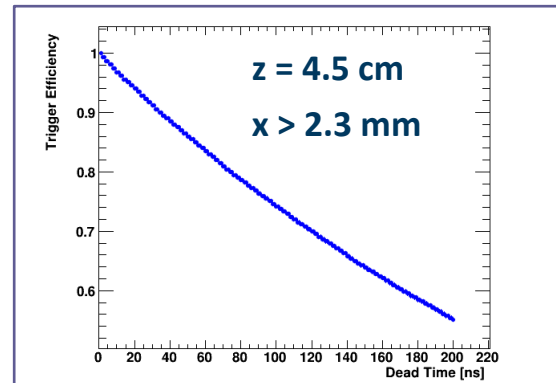
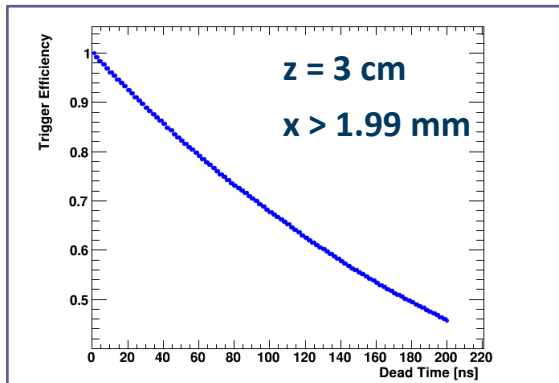
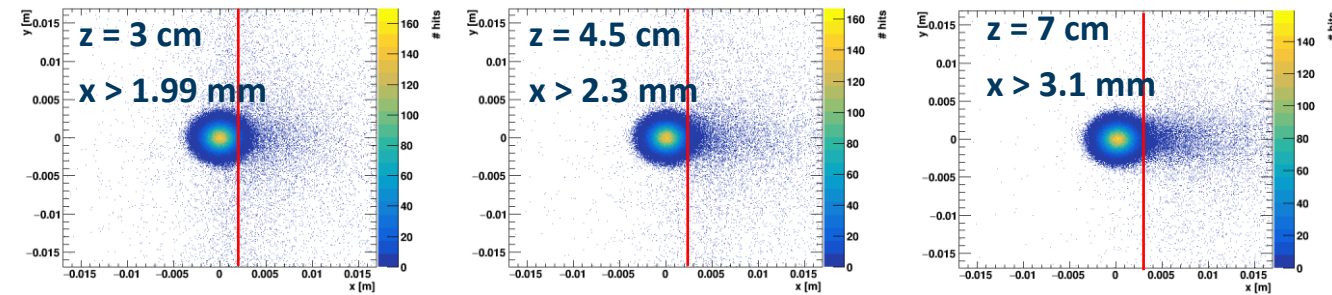
- hit in plane at z=1cm
AND
 - hit in plane at z=7cm with $x > 3.1\text{mm}$
OR
 - hit in plane at z=4.5cm with $x > 2.3\text{mm}$
OR
 - hit in plane at z=3cm with $x > 1.99\text{ mm}$
- Total Rate: 1.7 MHz

need to correlate these signals in time



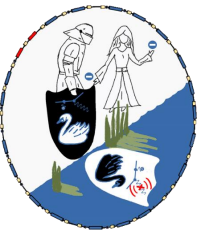
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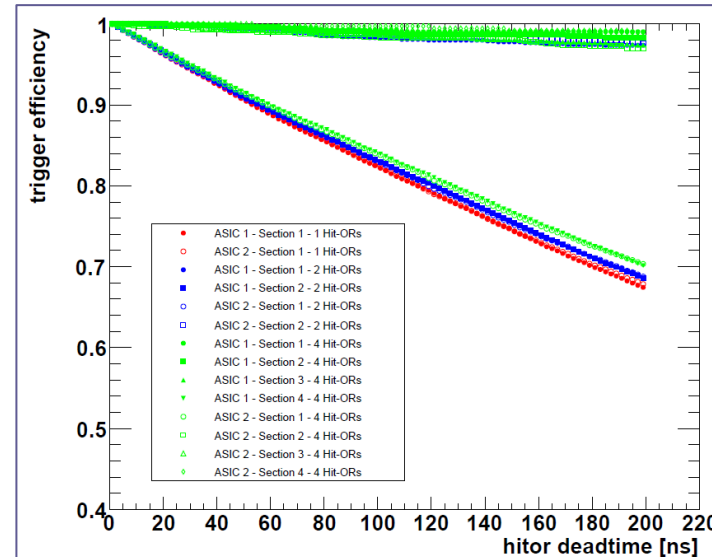
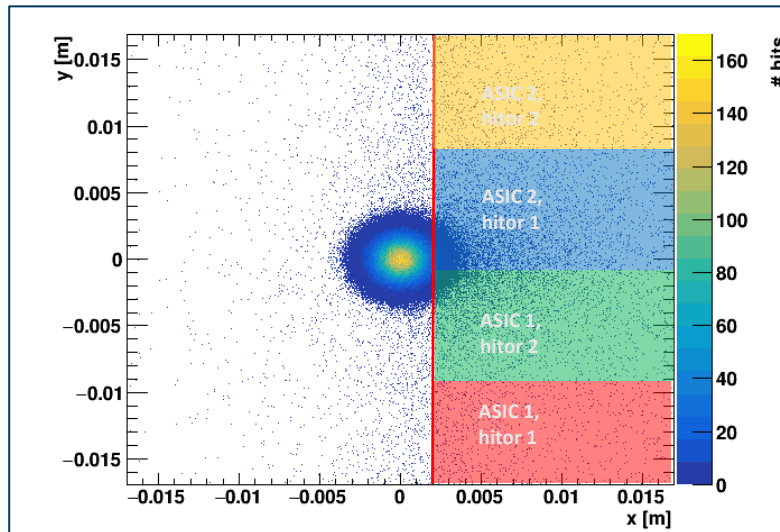
the hit-or signal would have to return to baseline within a few ns in order to achieve reasonable trigger efficiencies . . .

single pixel deadtime is not so relevant here $\rightarrow$ entire regions that can make our trigger fire

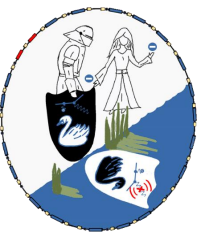


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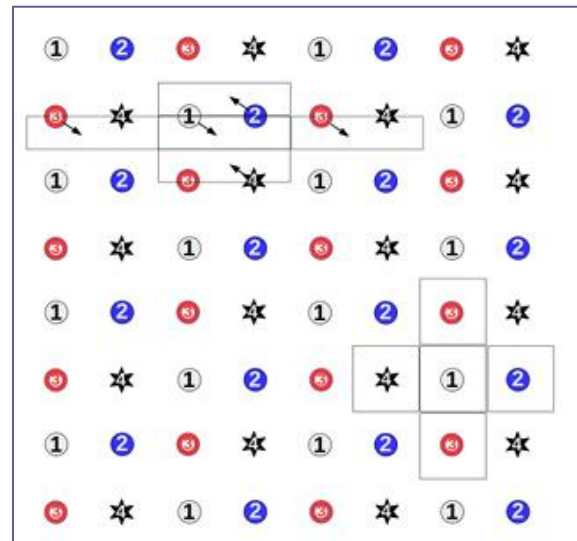
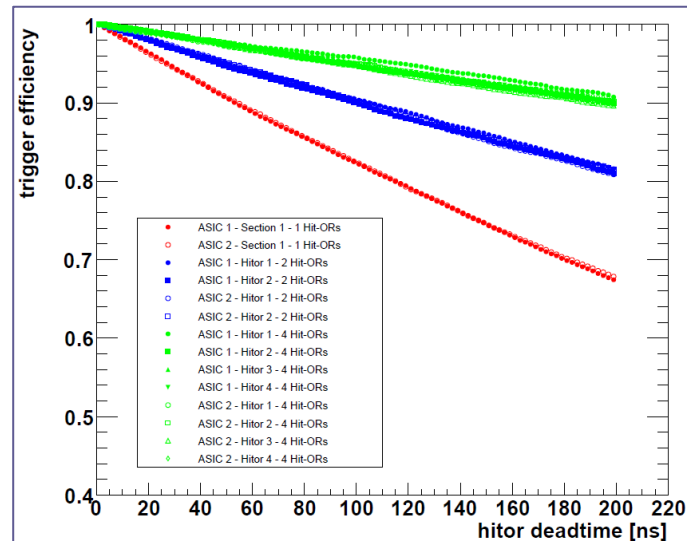


implementation of
“regional” hit-or on ASICs
does not help much

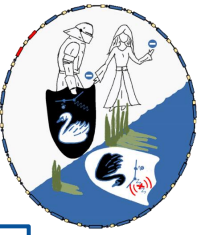


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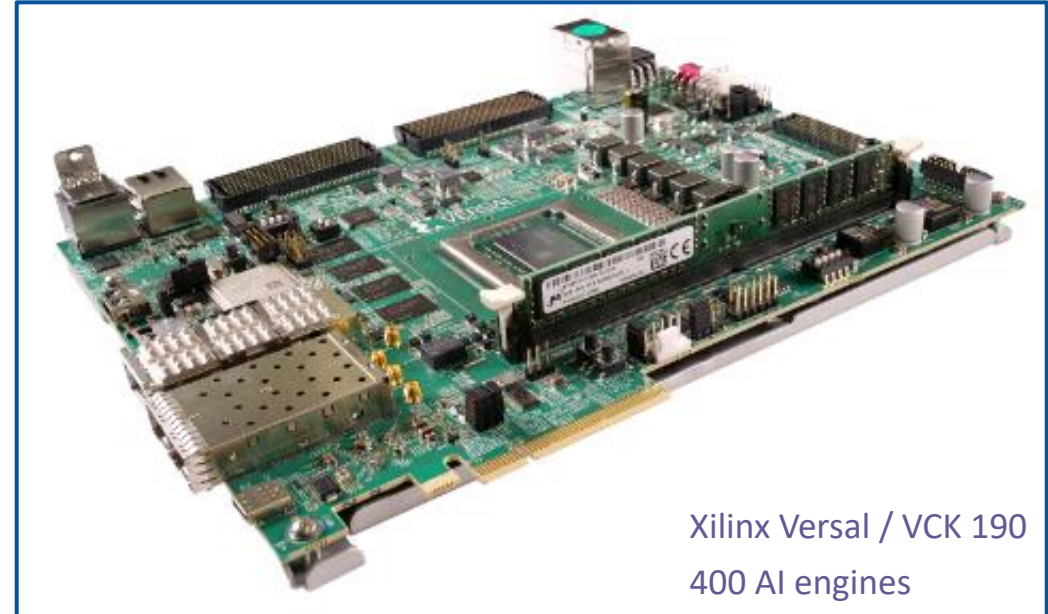


an RD53-like distribution of hit-or busses would help substantially!

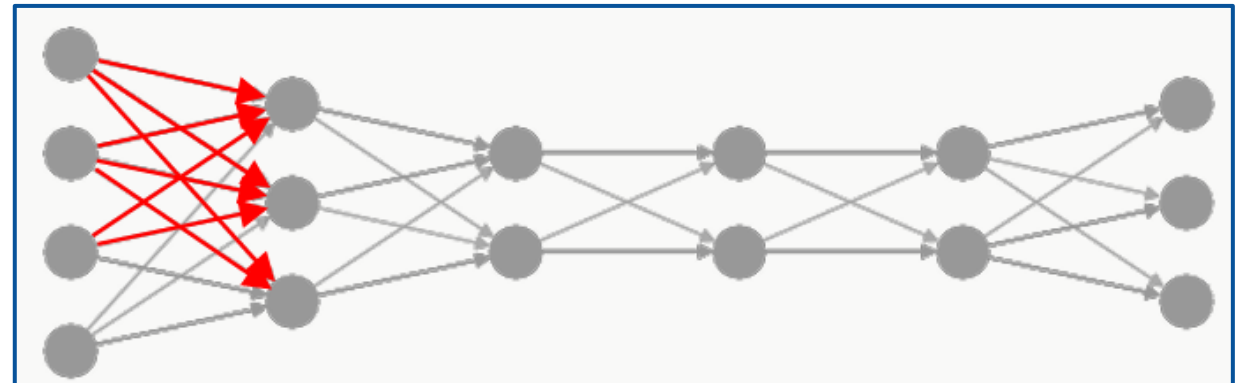
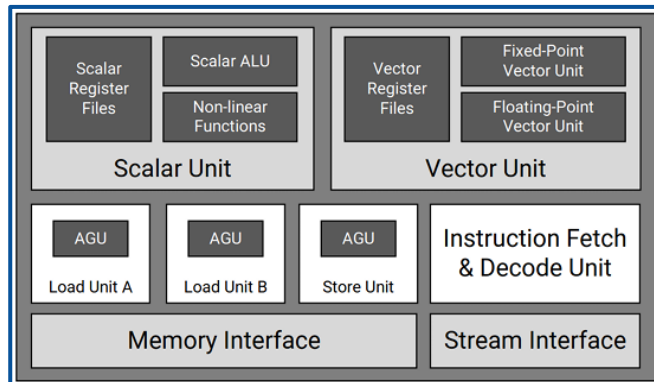


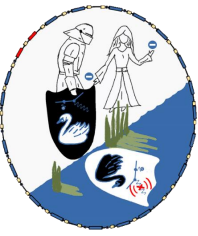
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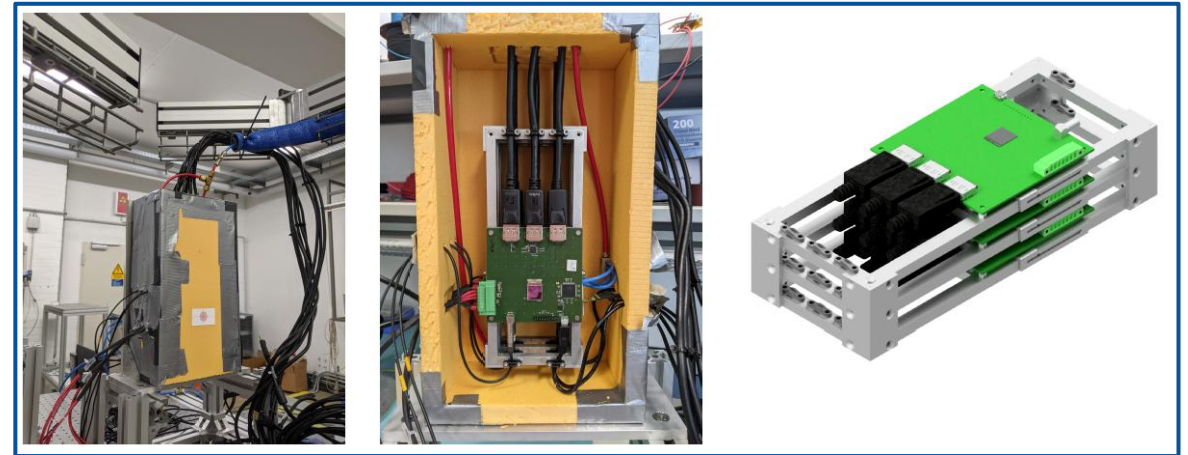
Xilinx Versal / VCK 190
400 AI engines





The Lohengrin Tracker

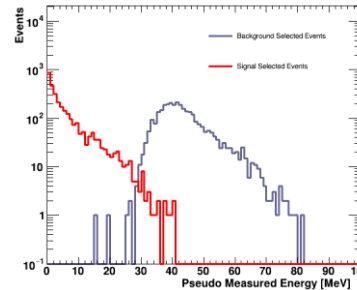
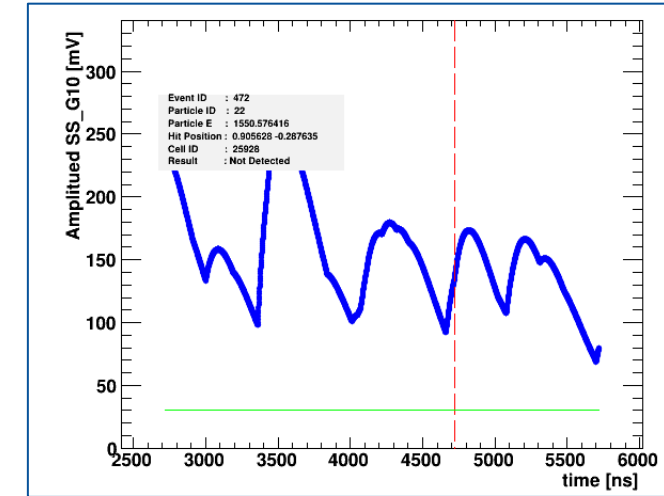
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 - telescope-like detector: ideally no cooling material around/in the active area
 - expect relatively low radiation levels
- timing resolution: not perfectly clear yet
 - ideally, 2ns...
 - we can probably live with less
 - implementation of timing layers?
 - synchronisation, pattern recognition, etc. has not been evaluated yet



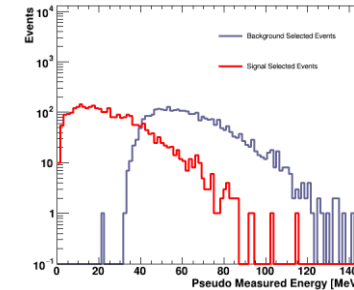
readout ASICs for a SiW ECAL



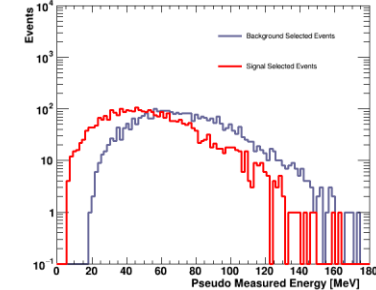
- as a side note here
 - require ASICs with fast shaping times for the readout of our calorimeter
 - we did look into using SiW ECAL with a cell size of $O(5\text{mm} \times 5\text{mm})$
 - example for readout architecture: SKIROC2a ASIC with CRRC shaper
 - assuming infinitely fast discharge of pre-amplifier
 - purpose of the calorimeter is to detect photons
 - act as veto in events with high energy QED bremsstrahlung
- electronics afterglow from previous events should not veto our dark matter signal events!
- need very fast shaping time in order to achieve that



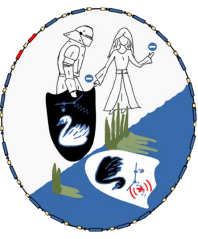
- $\tau = 10 \text{ ns}$
- $th = 18 \text{ MeV}$
- $\varepsilon = 81\%$



- $\tau = 30 \text{ ns}$
- $th = 18 \text{ MeV}$
- $\varepsilon = 68\%$



- $\tau = 60 \text{ ns}$
- $th = 18 \text{ MeV}$
- $\varepsilon = 5\%$



summary

- Lohengrin tracker ASIC:
 - electron rate at the order of 100 MHz
 - efficient reconstruction of electrons down to <25 MeV
 - single pixel deadtime should be $O(400$ ns) or lower
 - for implementation of first trigger stage: hit-or deadtime $O(10$ ns) required
 - we are studying a scintillator based trigger that could take the hit-or based trigger's place
 - monolithic ASICs with reasonably small pixel pitch
- Lohengrin ECAL:
 - if SiW ECAL is used, require fast shaping in readout ASICs

