

Celeritas: EM physics on GPUs

and a path to full-featured accelerated detector simulation

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Celeritas code lead



CELERITAS

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Celeritas SciDAC PI:

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

CHEP
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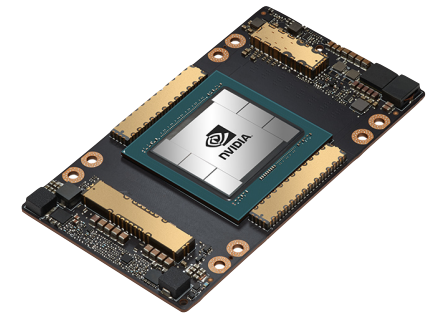
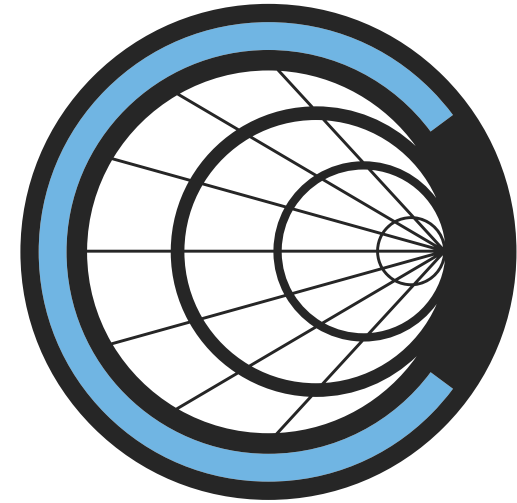
How we got here

Where we are

Where we're going

Project overview

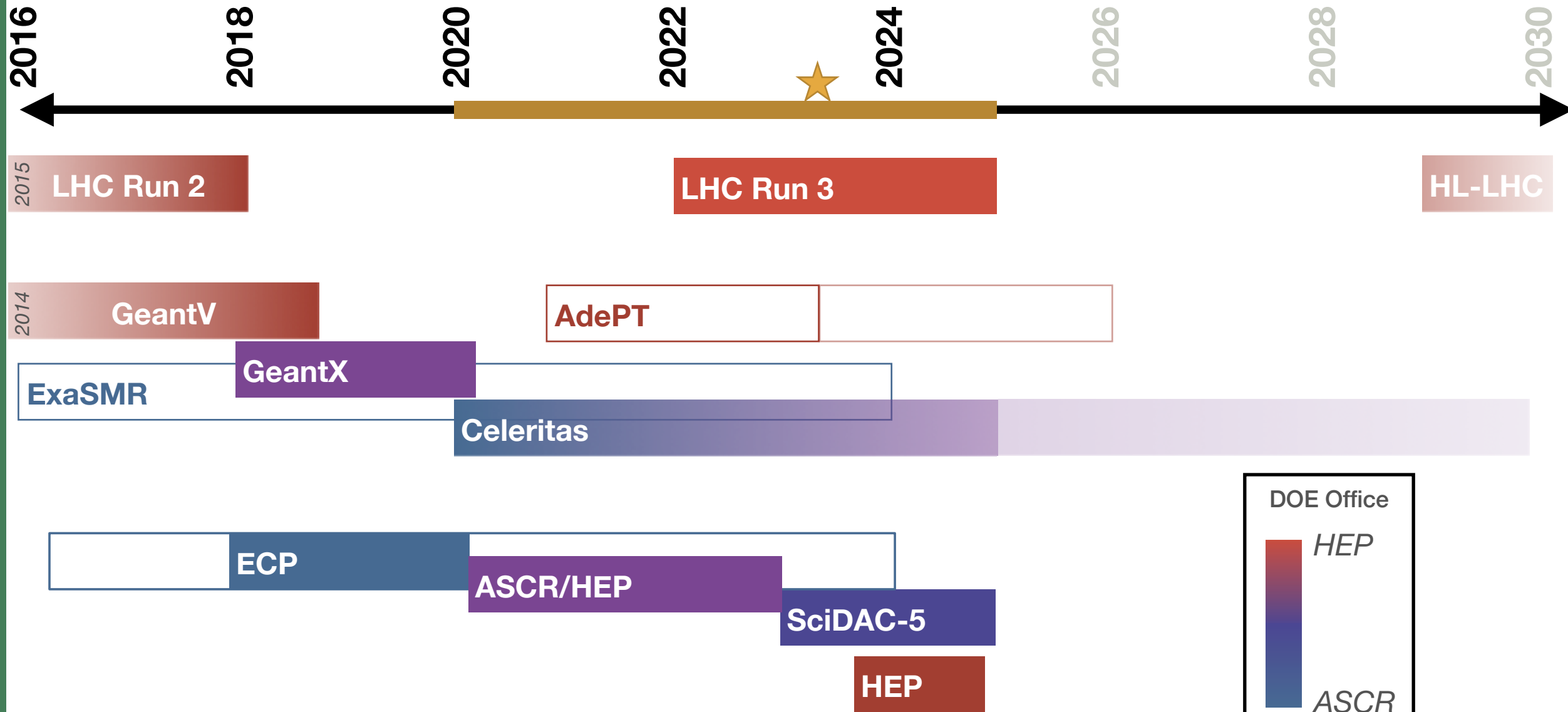
- **GPU**-focused implementation of experiment-agnostic **HEP** Monte Carlo detector simulation
- Motivated by HL-LHC computational challenges *and* by recent success in GPU MC (*ECP ExaSMR*)
- **Goal: accelerate production use for LHC Run 4**



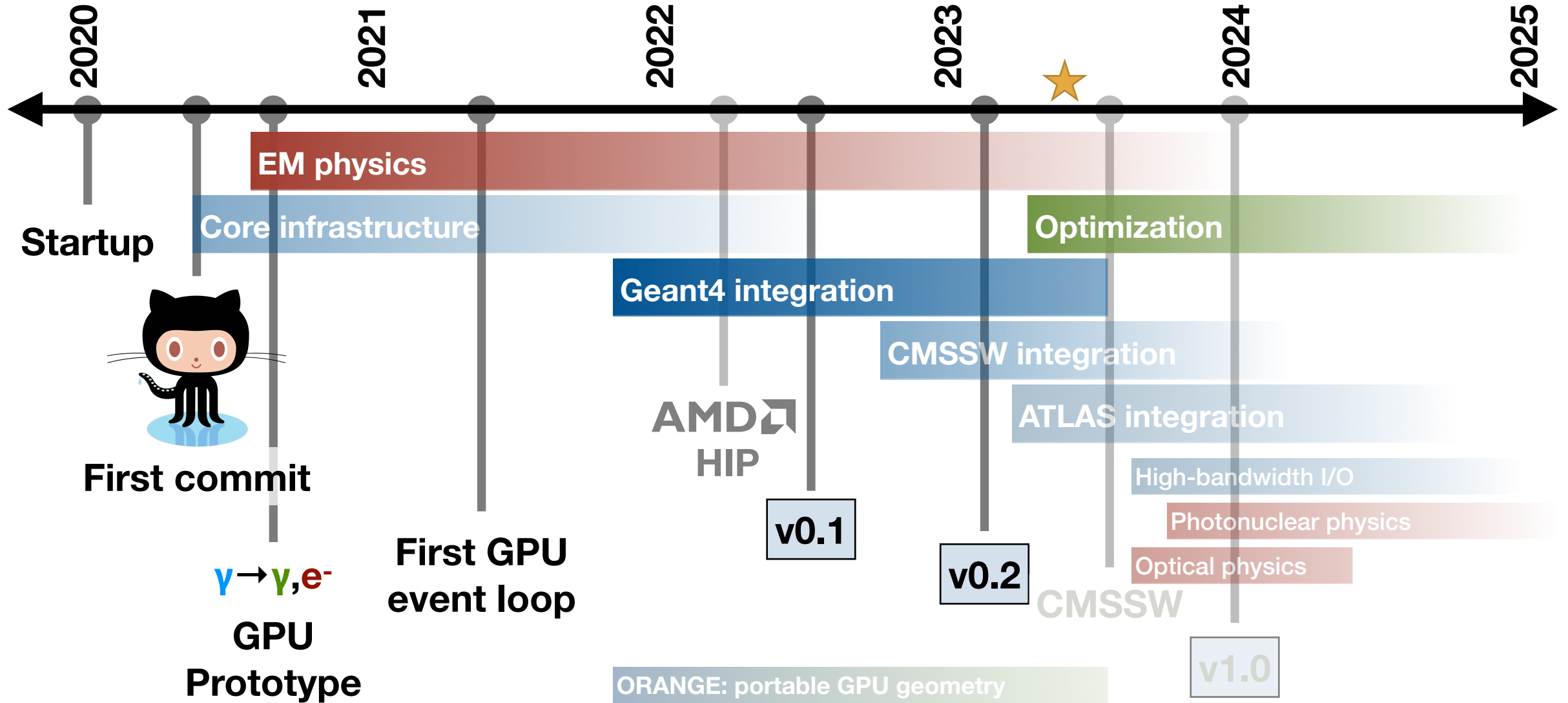
Nvidia A100 GPU (Nvidia)



Historical context



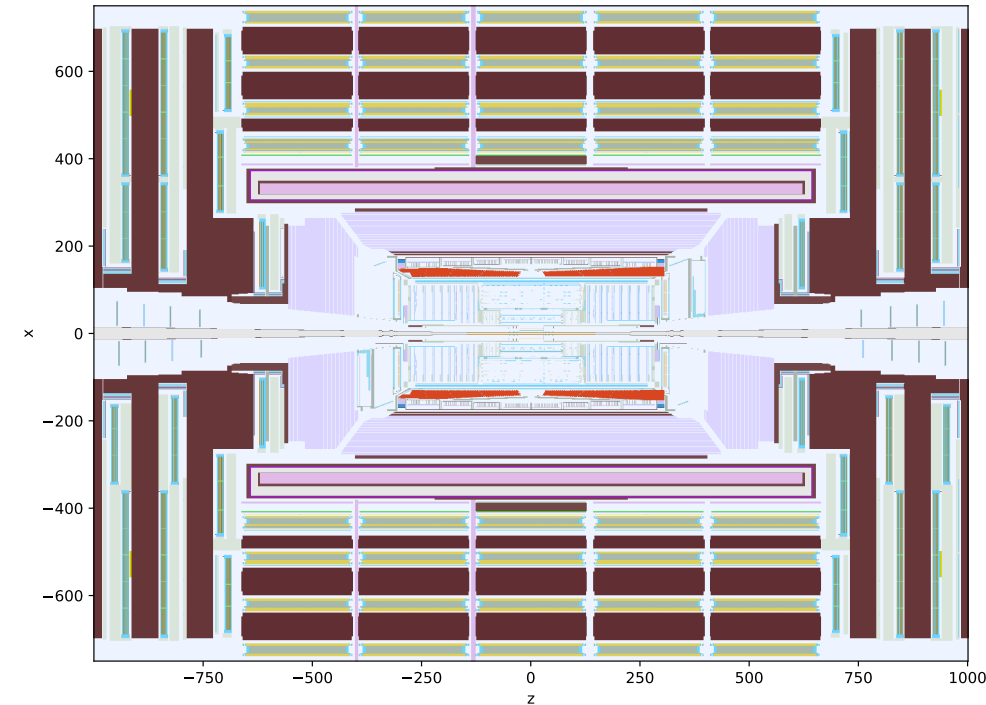
Present-day timeline



How we got here
Where we are
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High-level capabilities

- Equivalent to `G4EmStandardPhysics`
...using Urban MSC for high-E MSC; only γ , e^\pm
- Full-featured Geant4 detector geometries using VecGeom
- Runtime selectable processes, physics options, field definition
- Execution on CUDA (Nvidia), HIP* (AMD), *and CPU* devices

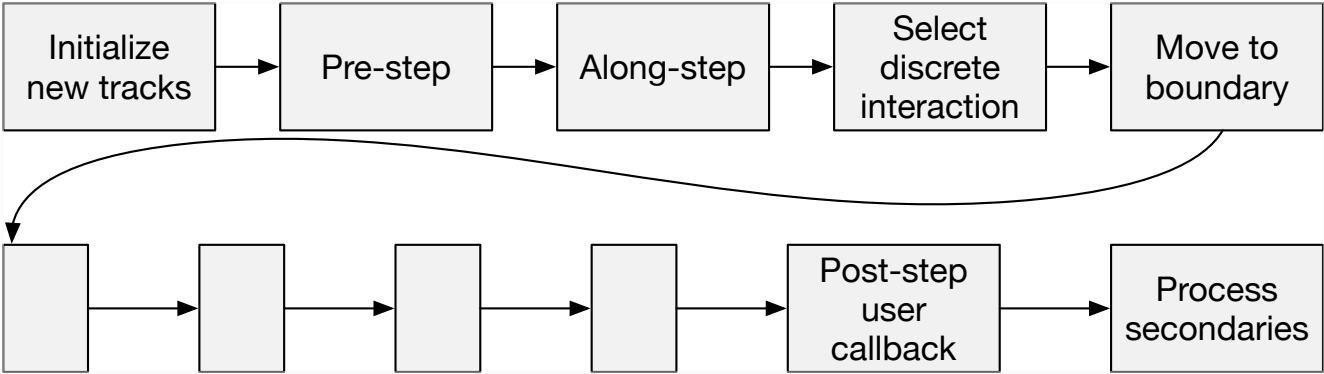
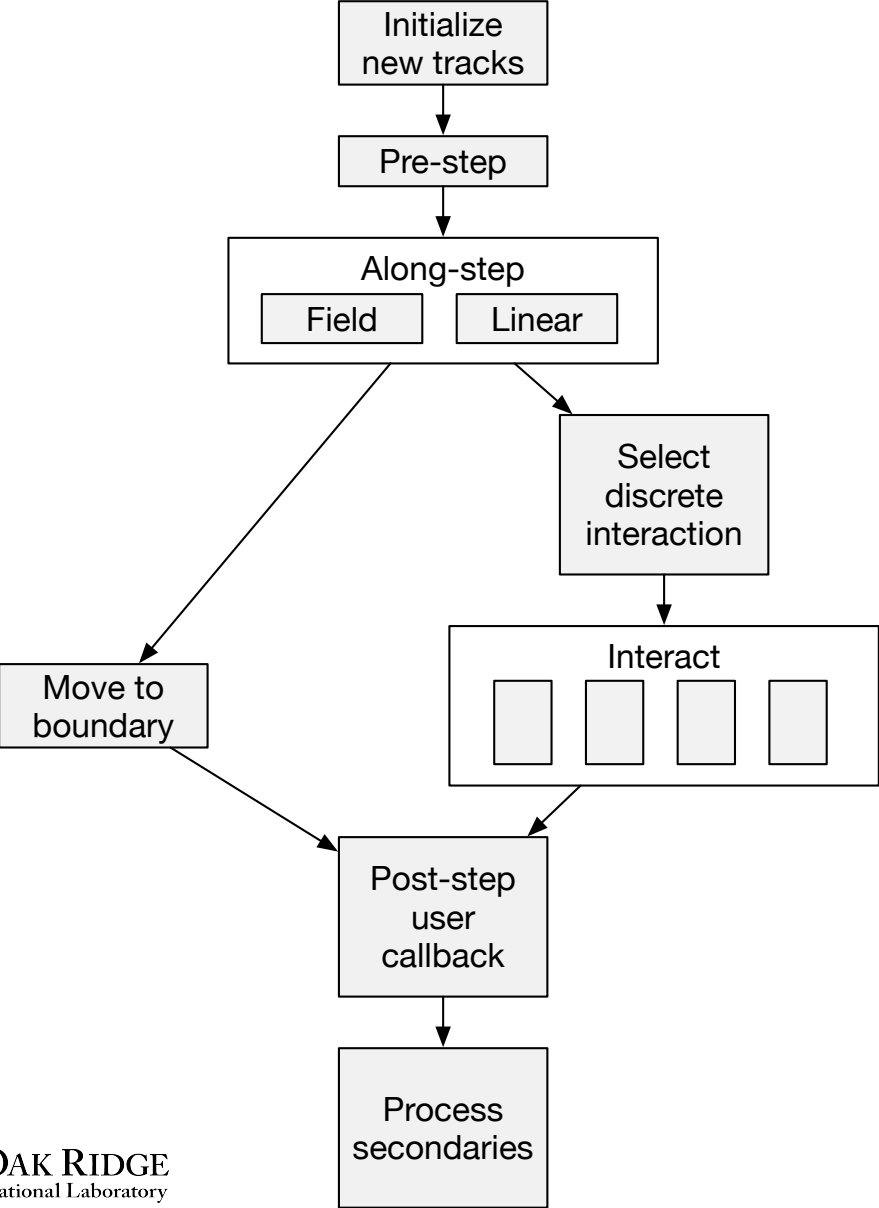


GPU-traced rasterization of CMS 2018

**VecGeom is incompatible with HIP:
ORANGE GPU prototype used instead*

Verification & Validation still in progress

Stepping loop on a GPU



Topological sort: a loop over kernels

Process ~1M track batches

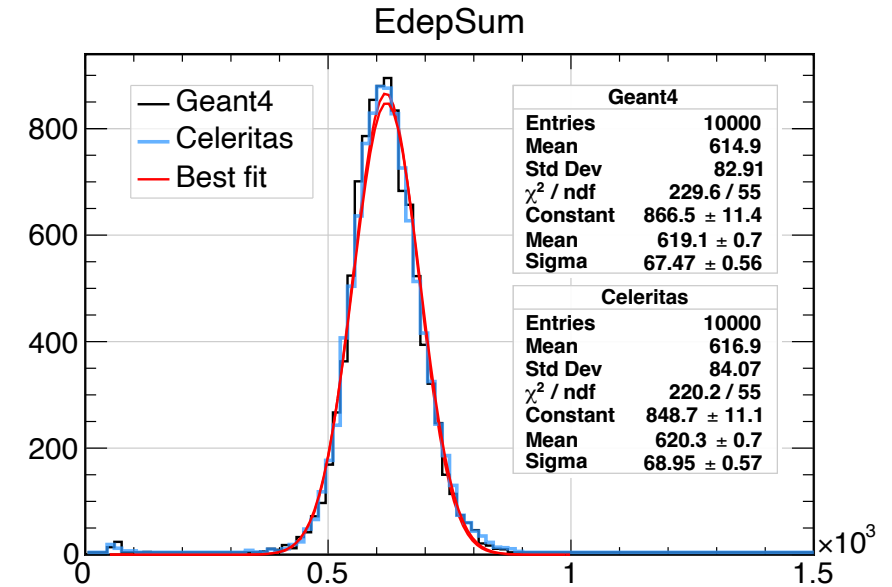
Celeritas version 0.3-dev: Geant4 integration status

- **Imports** EM physics selection, cross sections, parameters
- **Converts** geometry to VecGeom model
- **Offloads** EM tracks from Geant4
- **Scores** hits to user “sensitive detectors”
- **Includes** GPU-optimized simple calorimeter
- **Integrates** with Geant4 10.6–11.0
- **Supports** physics/geometry/setup changes at link/run time

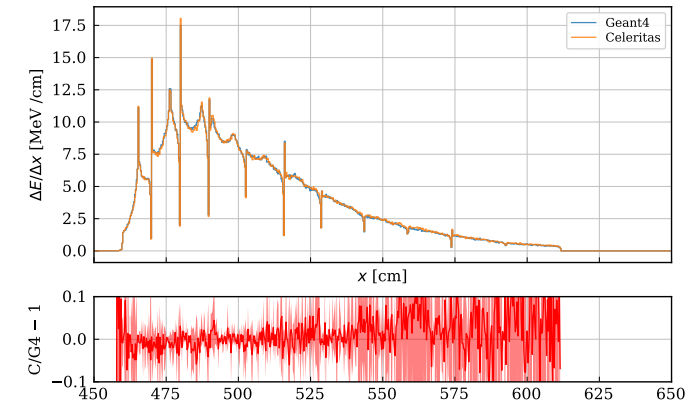
Celeritas is not designed to be a prototype code

Tilecal: ATLAS tile calorimeter test beam

- Standalone subdetector test
 - Forked from Pezzotti&Lachnit (CERN)'s work
 - 18 GeV π^+ beam, no field
 - FTFP_BERT physics
 - Primary output: energy deposition integrated over sensitive regions
- Offload e^- , e^+ , γ to Celeritas
- Celeritas returns hits to user-defined G4VSensitiveDetector
- ~100 lines of code to integrate
- Excellent agreement



Average energy deposition with π^+ test beam

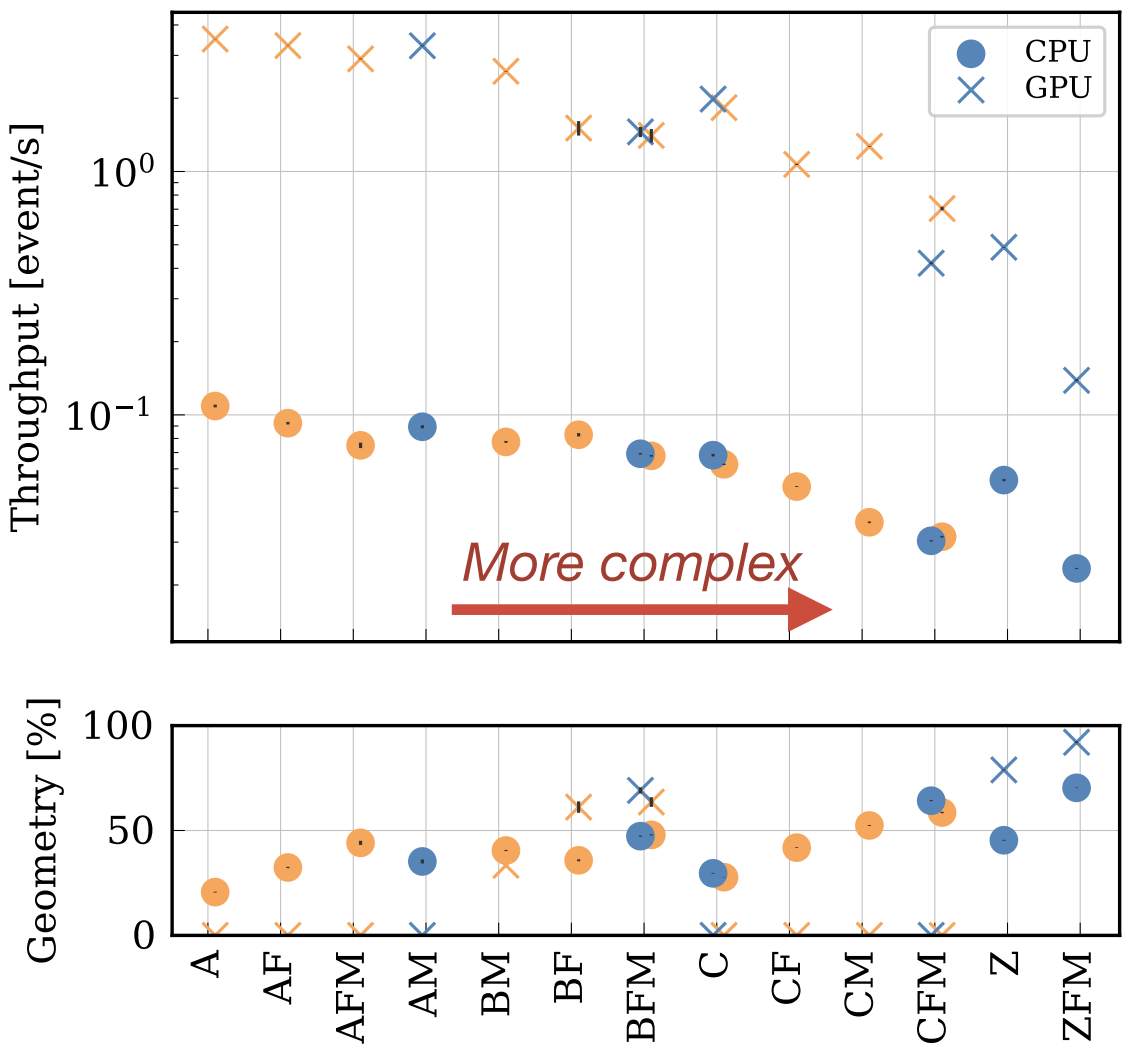


Slab-integrated energy deposition

Framework integration status

- CMS (CMSSW): offload interface implemented and running
- ATLAS (Athena): framework integration started
 - Infrastructure update for CMake compatibility: [atlasexternals!1001](#)
 - Non-custom “accordion” shape needed for VecGeom/GPU
- LHCb: **seeking collaborators!**
- LZ (BACCARAT): **awaiting optical physics**

Summit GPU performance

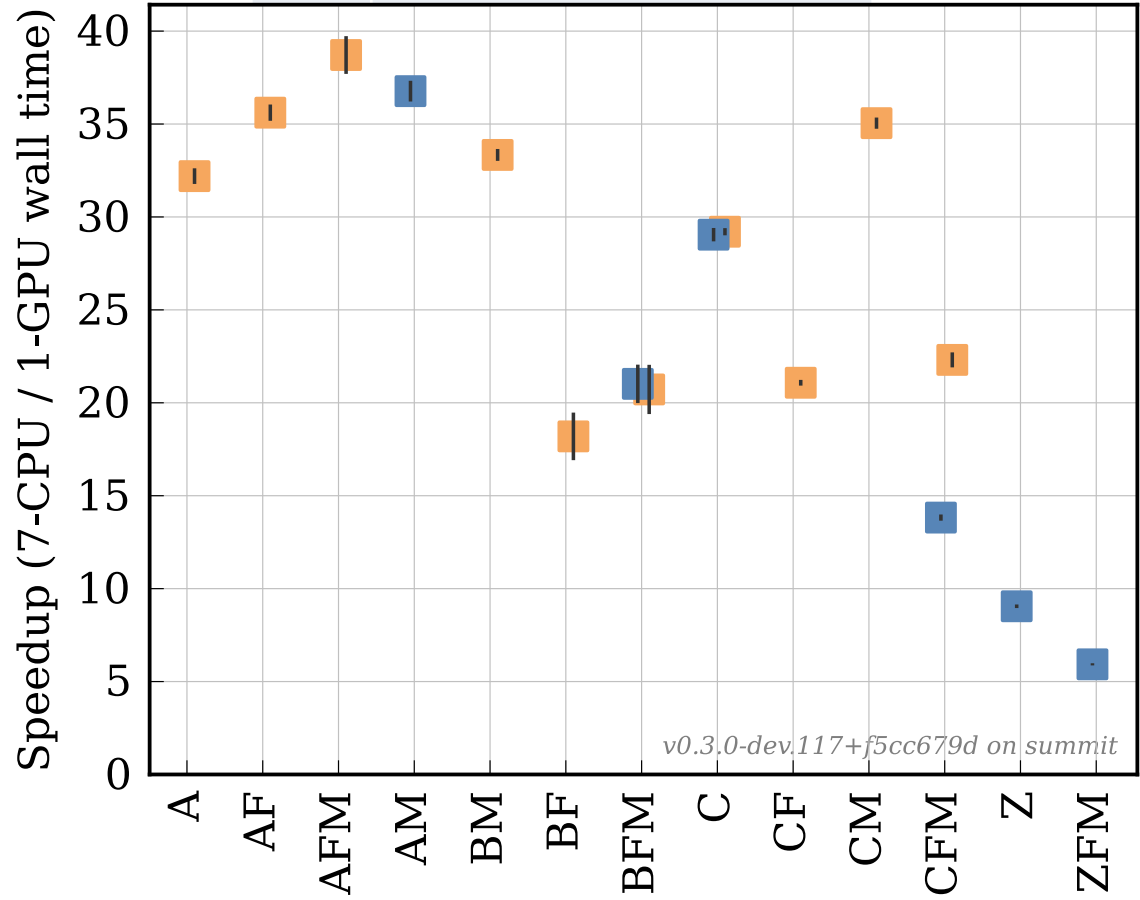


Faster

ORANGE
VecGeom

Problem definition	
A	testem15
B	simple-cms
C	testem3
Z	cms2018

Modifier	
F	+field
M	+msc



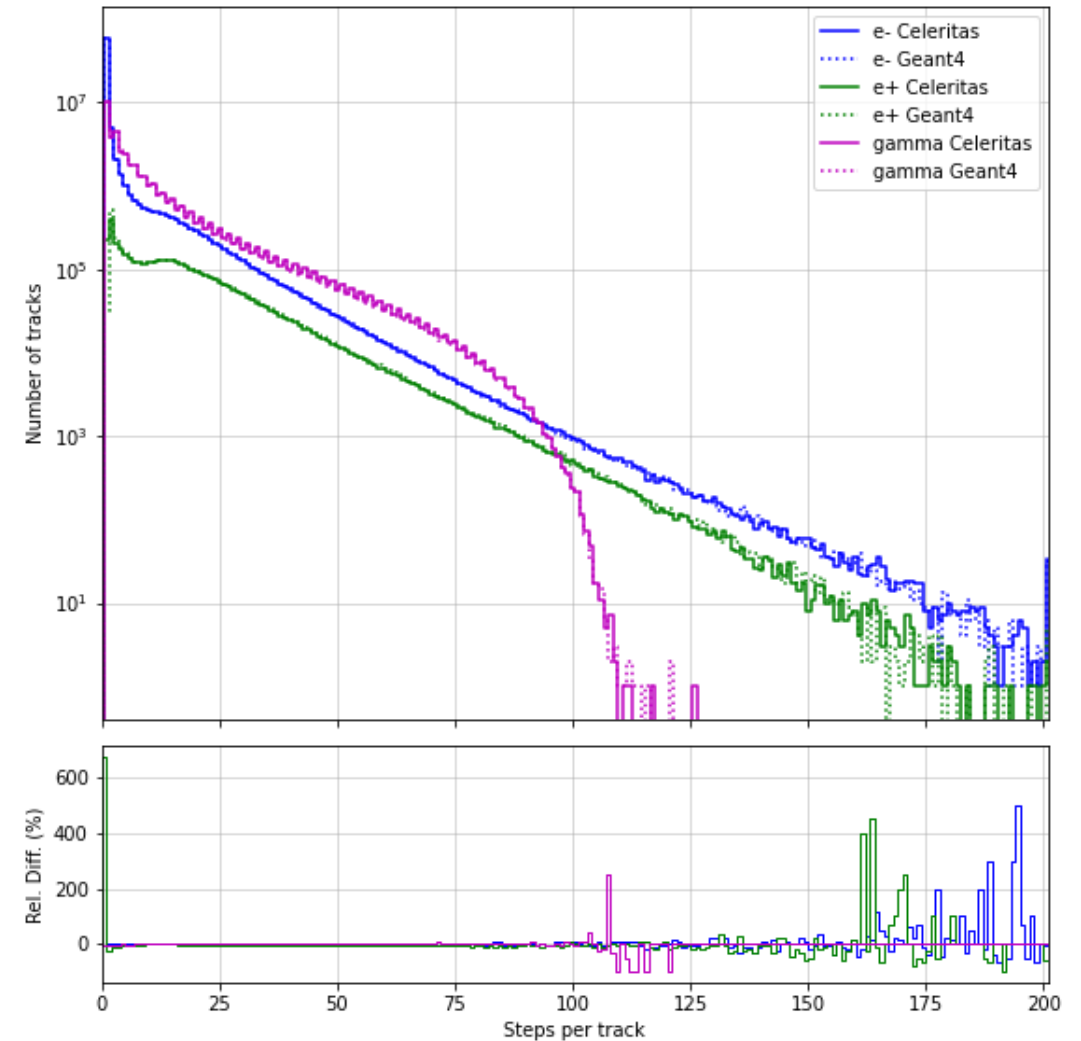
Multiply speedup by 7x for CPU:GPU equivalence



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Validation

- Geant4 interface allows rapid comparisons
- Independent granular physics verification
- Benchmark progression problems being developed with CERN SFT (AdePT) group



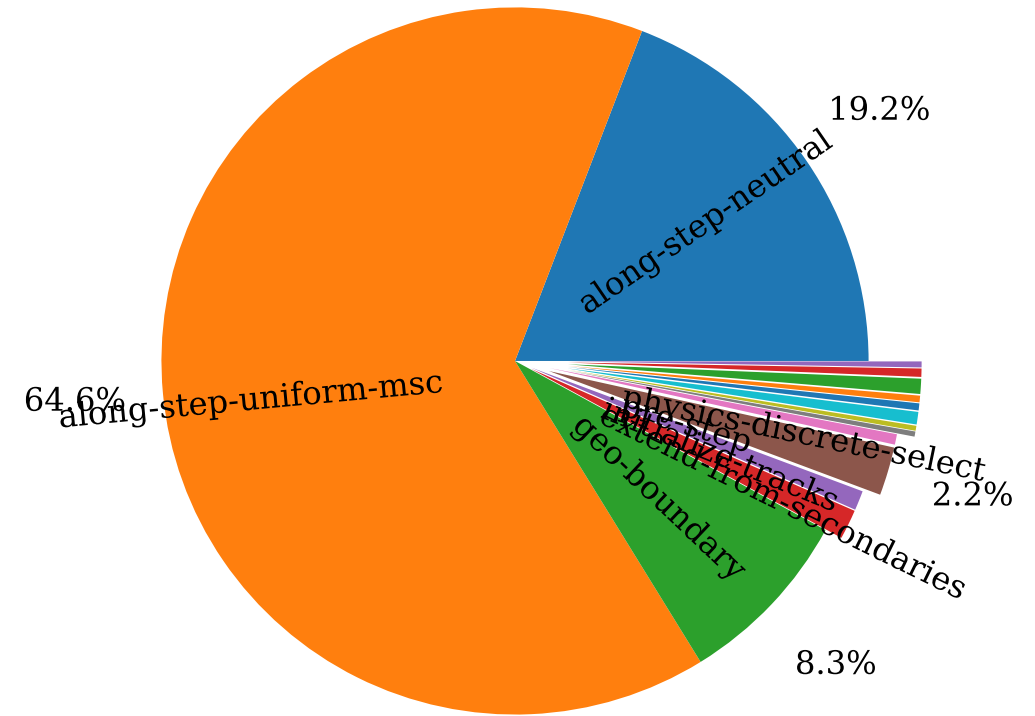
TestEM3 MSC step count verification (Amanda Lund)

Integration

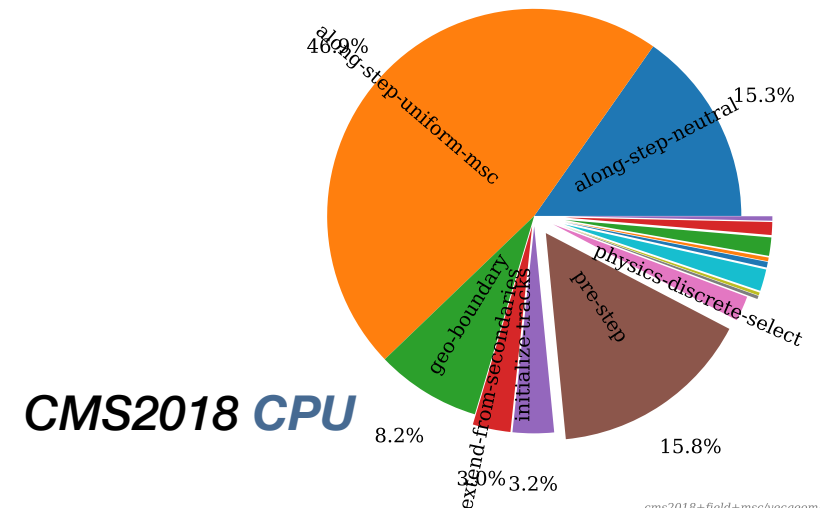
- Theoretical maximum performance gain offloading EM tracks: **~3.3x**
(with 1000 $t\bar{t}$ events and CMS Run3 geometry)
- CMSSW offloading with RZ mapped field: **June 2023**
- ATLAS integration will require low-fidelity “accordion” for now
- Platform-agnostic optical photon acceleration in the works

Optimization

- **92%** of standalone runtime in CMS2018 is in geometry routines
- GPU native sensitive detectors
- Performance on non-HPC graphics cards still unexplored
- Goal for GPU performance for HL-LHC electron shower:
 - **2x** per watt vs CPU (*efficiency*)
 - **160x** CPU:GPU (*capacity*)



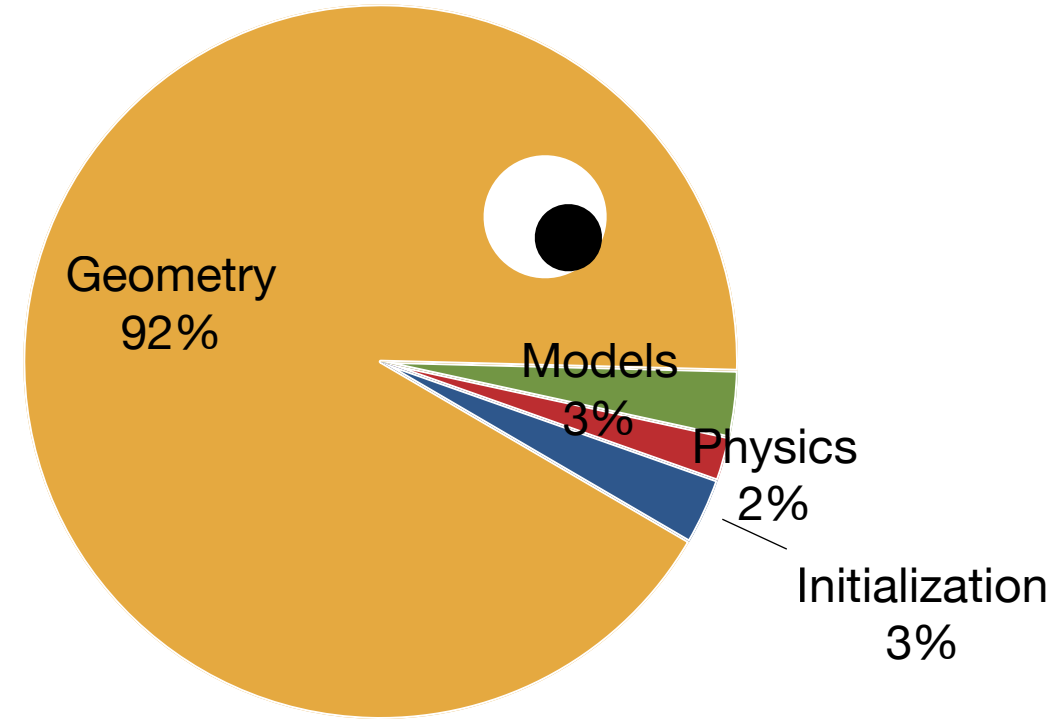
CMS2018 GPU



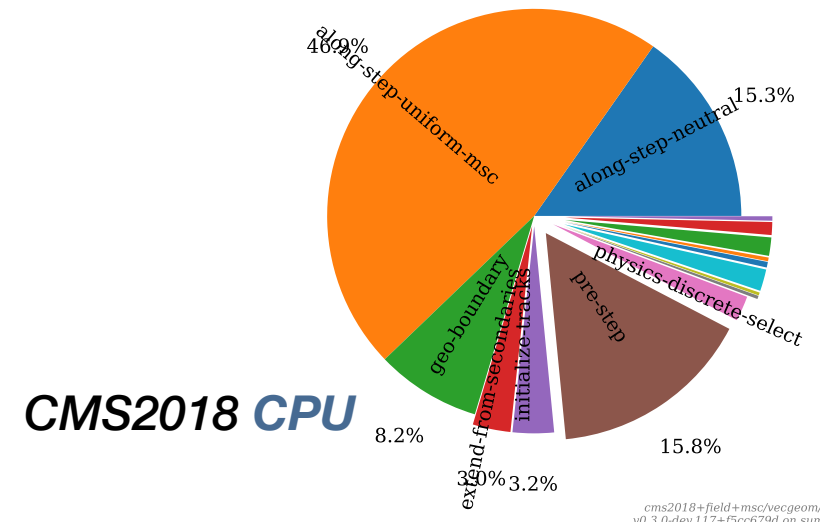
CMS2018 CPU

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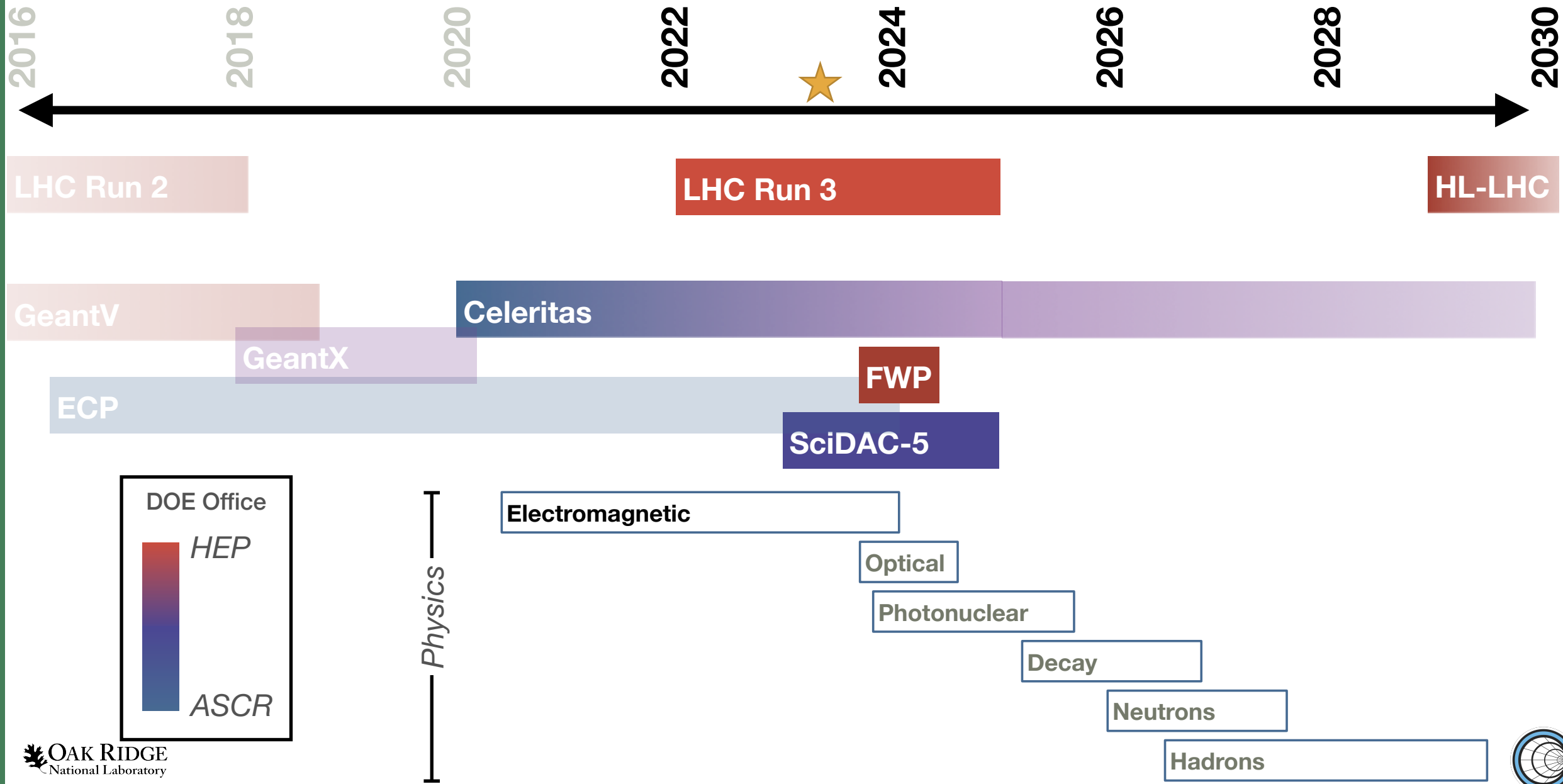


CMS2018 GPU



CMS2018 CPU

Celeritas future timeline



Summary

- Many steps toward polished GPU detector simulation framework
- Current test problems show **~6–39× performance boost** for Celeritas detector simulation using GPUs on Summit
(42–256× GPU/CPU core equivalence)
- The future is highly luminous!

<https://github.com/celeritas-project/celeritas>



Acknowledgments

Celeritas v0.2 code contributors:

- Elliott Biondo (@elliottbiondo)
- Philippe Canal (@pcanal)
- Seth R Johnson (@sethrij)
- Soon Yung Jun (@whokion)
- Guilherme Lima (@mrguilima)
- Amanda Lund (@amandalund)
- Ben Morgan (@drbenmorgan)
- Paul Romano (@paulromano)
- Stefano C Tognini (@stognini)

Past code contributors:

- Doaa Deeb (@DoaaDeeb)
- Tom Evans (@tmdelellis)
- Vincent R Pascuzzi (@vrpascuzzi)

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Backup slides

Execution plan: EM physics and integration

- 1: Implement minimal feature set to offload EM particles
(importing Geant4 physics data, recreating G4Hit structure, implementing EM models)
- 2: Establish baseline performance with minimum, verified features
Standalone CMS2018 with magnetic field and full EM physics is our key problem
- 3: Optimize performance
 - Standalone GPU performance
 - Multitask/thread+GPU performance
 - GPU-based sensitive detectors (calorimeters, etc)

Modular software design and robust testing is key

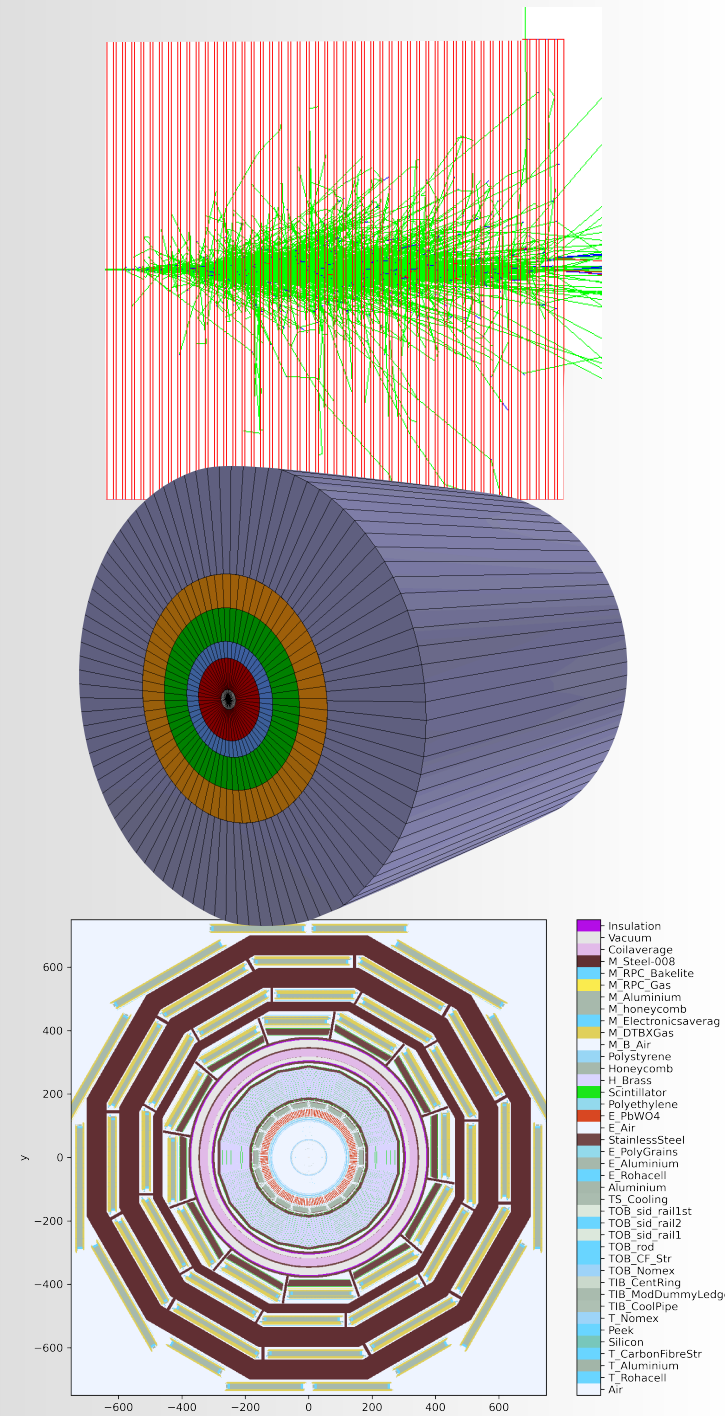
Extensibility

- New models and detector integrations can be added **at link time**
(maybe even dlopen in the future)
- Robust integration pathways for frameworks and applications
- Code is amenable to major refactoring with minor changes
 - Modular structure
 - Composition-based classes
 - Data-oriented design

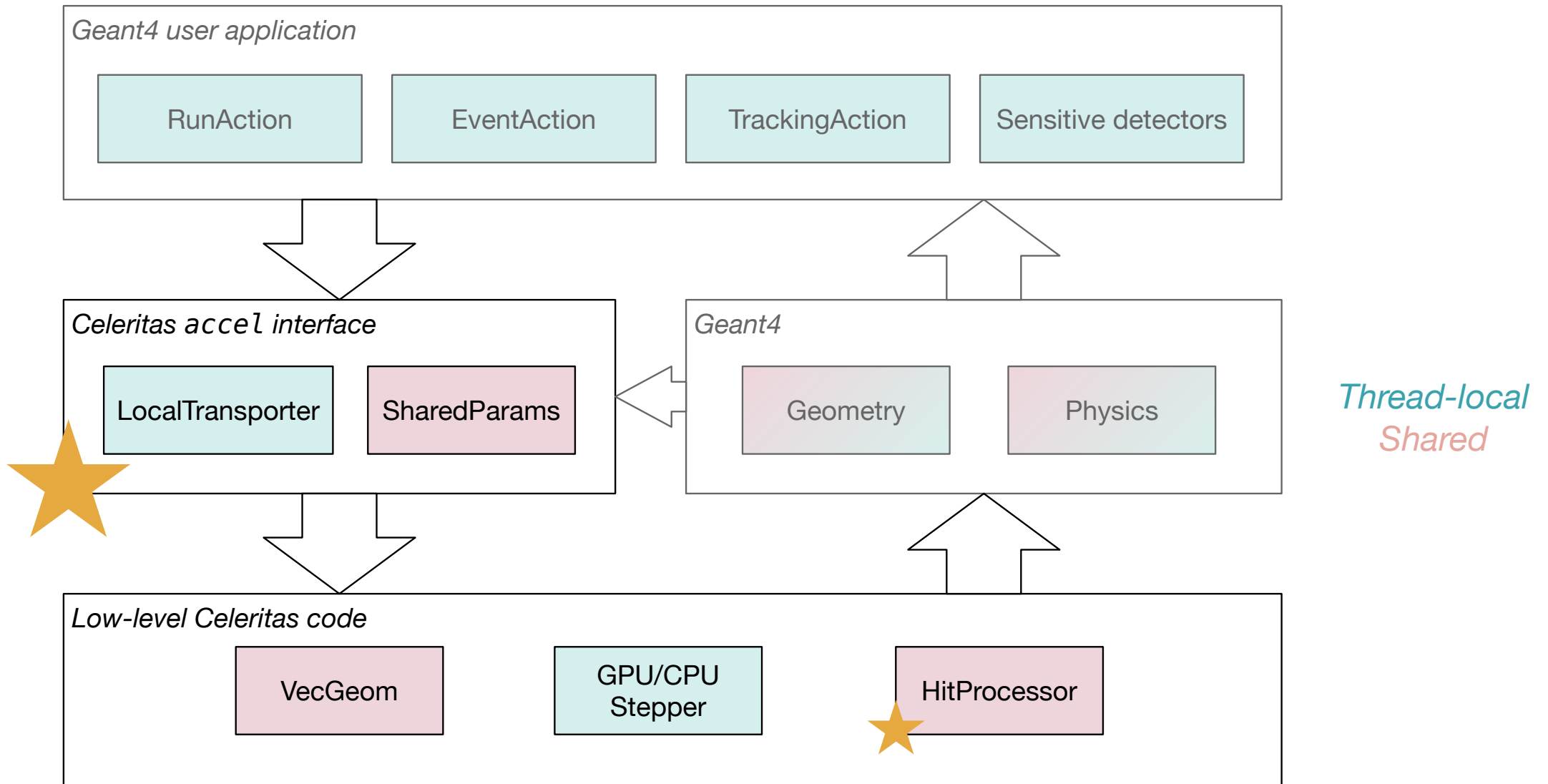
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Regression/timing suite

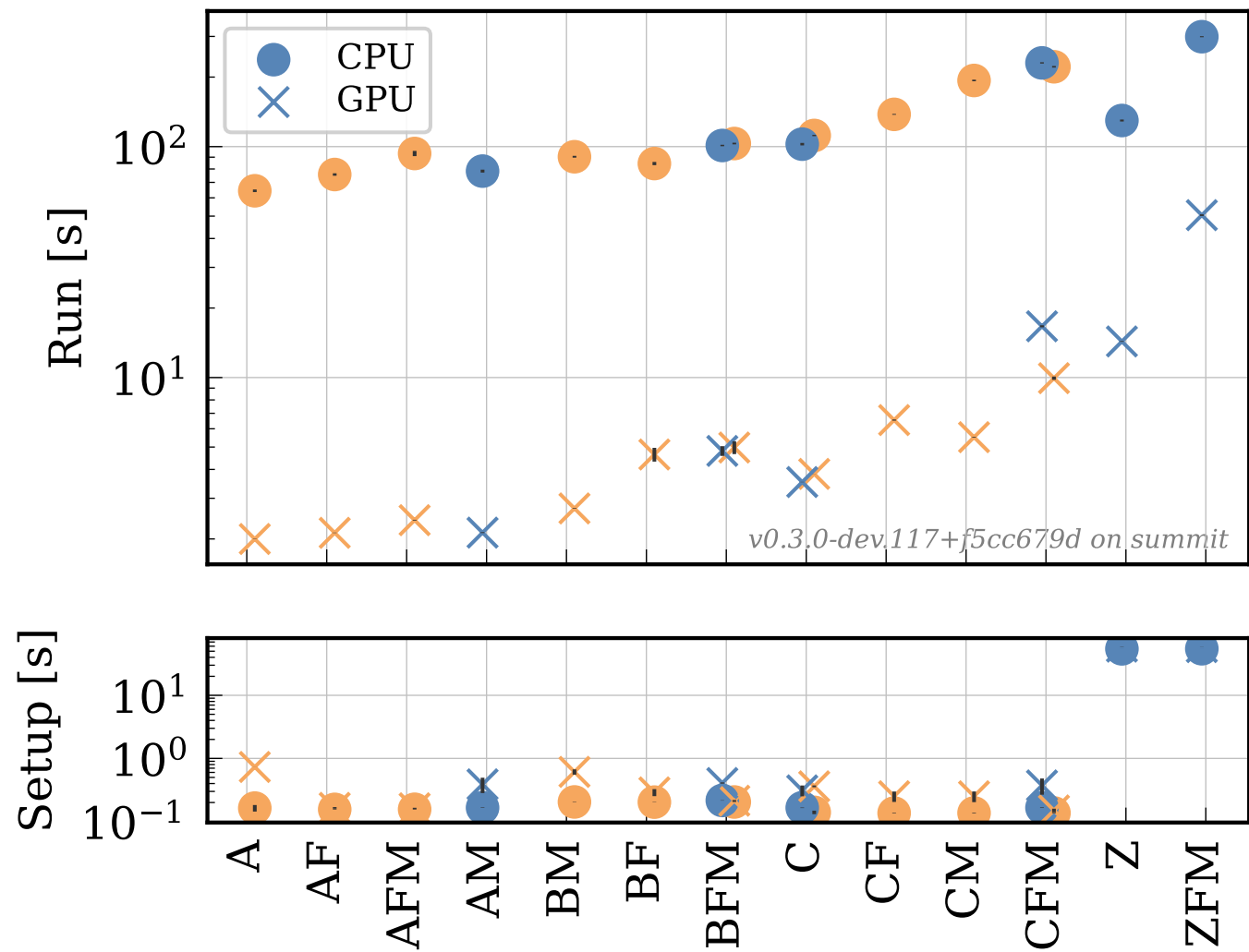
- Run on single node of Summit at full capacity
 - 6 separate runs simultaneously (different seed for each)
 - Each run: 7 CPU (OpenMP) vs. 1 GPU (+1 CPU)
 - Demonstrate performance “loss” by neglecting GPU resources
- 1300 10 GeV e⁻ per event, 7 events per run
- Preliminary set of problem definitions
(working with AdePT team to develop)
- Initial optimizations
- Initial results are apples-to-apples



Geant4 interface library



Regression problem run time



ORANGE
VecGeom

Problem definition	
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CMS2018 performance

