

ePIC General Meeting  
 Thursday 5 Oct 2023, 19:30 → 21:30 US/Eastern

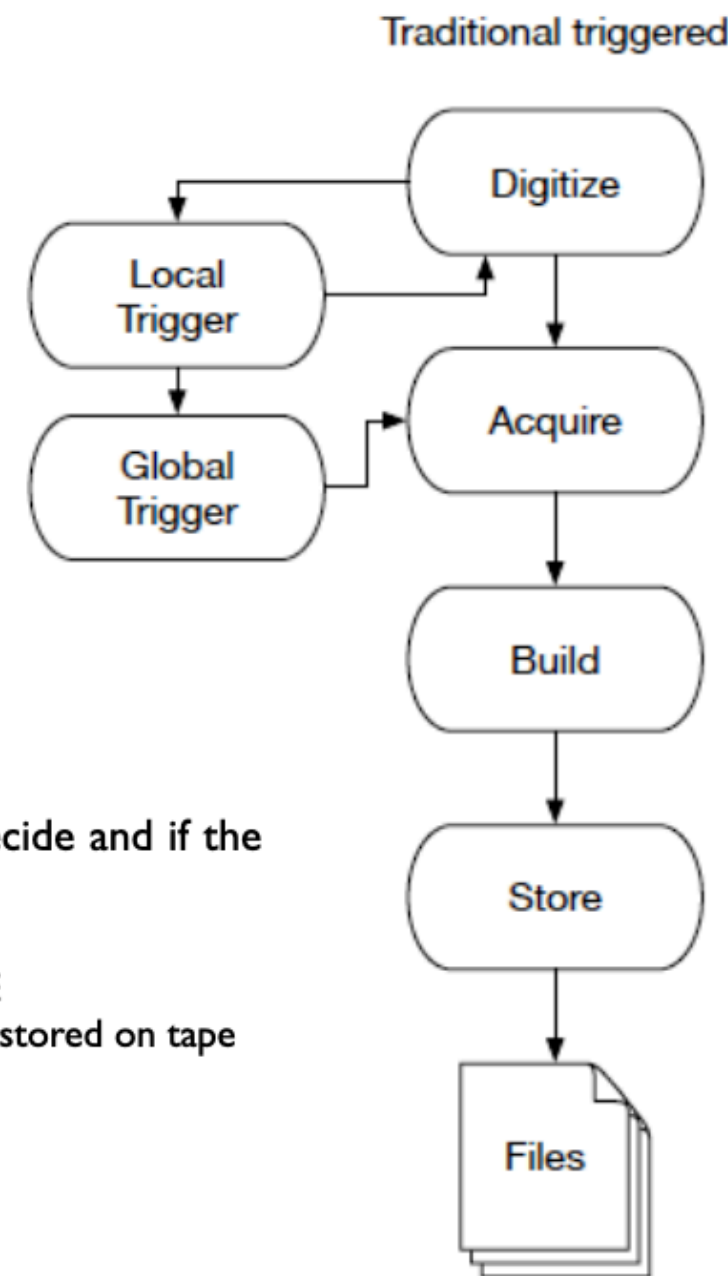
## Report from ePIC Streaming Computing Model WG Meetings

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# Streaming RO

## Traditional (triggered) DAQ



\* (few) trigger Channels participating send (partial) information to trigger logic

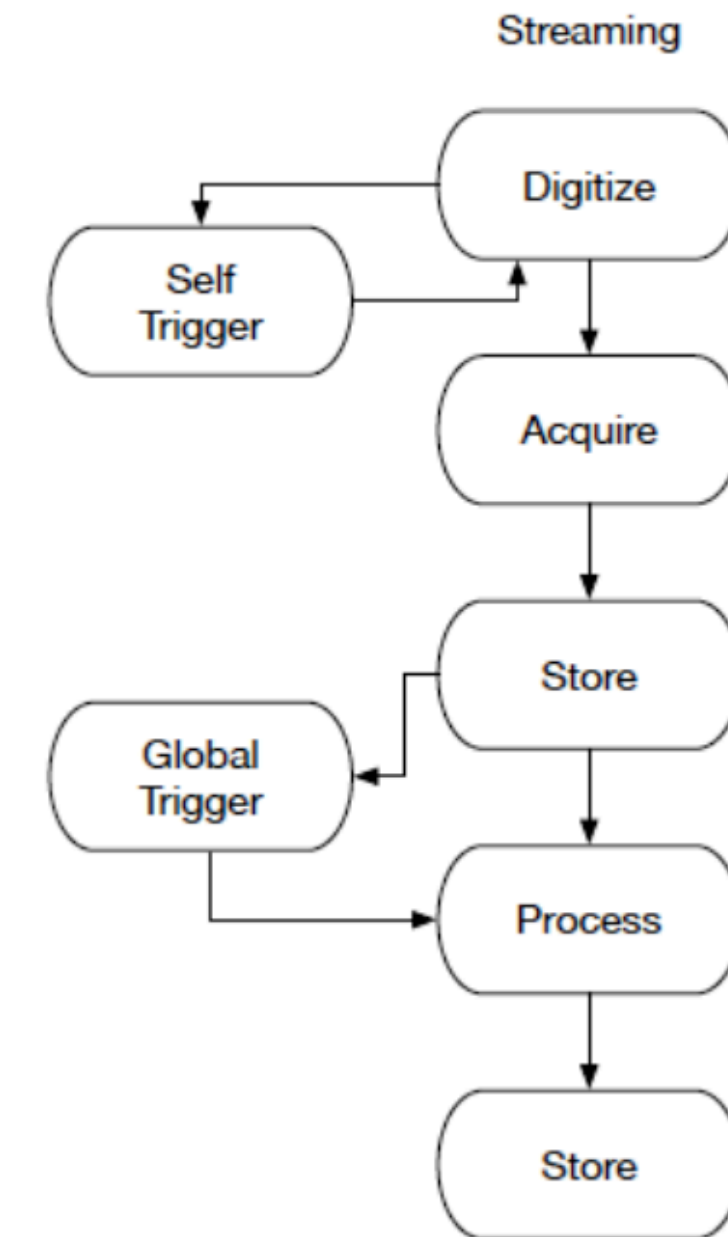
\* All channels continuously measured, hits stored in short term memory

- \* Trigger logic takes time to decide and if the trigger condition is satisfied:
- a new 'event' is defined
  - trigger signal back to the FEE
  - data read from memory and stored on tape

### Traditional triggered DAQ

- ▶ **Pros**
  - we know it works reliably!
- ▶ **Drawbacks:**
  - only few information forms the trigger
  - Trigger logic (FPGA) difficult to implement and debug
  - not easy to change and adapt to different conditions

## Streaming read out (SRO)



\* A HIT MANAGER receives hits from FEE, order them and ship to the software defined trigger

\* All channels continuously measured and hits streamed to a HIT manager (minimal local processing) with a time-stamp

- \* Software defined trigger re-aligns in time the whole detector hits applying a selection algorithm to the time-slice
- the concept of 'event' is lost
  - time-stamp is provided by a synchronous common clock distributed to each FEE

### SRO DAQ

- ▶ **Pros**
  - All channels can be part of the trigger
  - Sophisticated tagging/filtering algorithms
  - high-level programming languages
  - scalability
- ▶ **Drawbacks:**
  - we do not have the same experience as for TRIGGERED DAQ
  - greater susceptibility to noise and background.

## Why SRO is so important?

### \* High luminosity experiments

- Write out the full DAQ bandwidth
- Reduce stored data size in a smart way (reducing time for off-line processing)

### \* Shifting data tagging/filtering from the front-end (hw) to the back-end (sw)

- Optimize real-time rare/exclusive channel selection
- Use of high-level programming languages
- Use of existing/ad-hoc CPU/GPU farms
- Use of available AI/ML tools
- (future) use of quantum-computing

### \* Scaling

- Easier to add new detectors in the DAQ pipeline
- Easier to scale
- Easier to upgrade

## Many NP and HEP experiments adopt a SRO DAQ

- CERN: LHCb, ALICE, AMBER
- FAIR: CBM
- DESY: TPEX
- FRIBS: GRETA
- BNL: sPHENIX
- JLAB: SOLID, BDX, CLAS12, ...

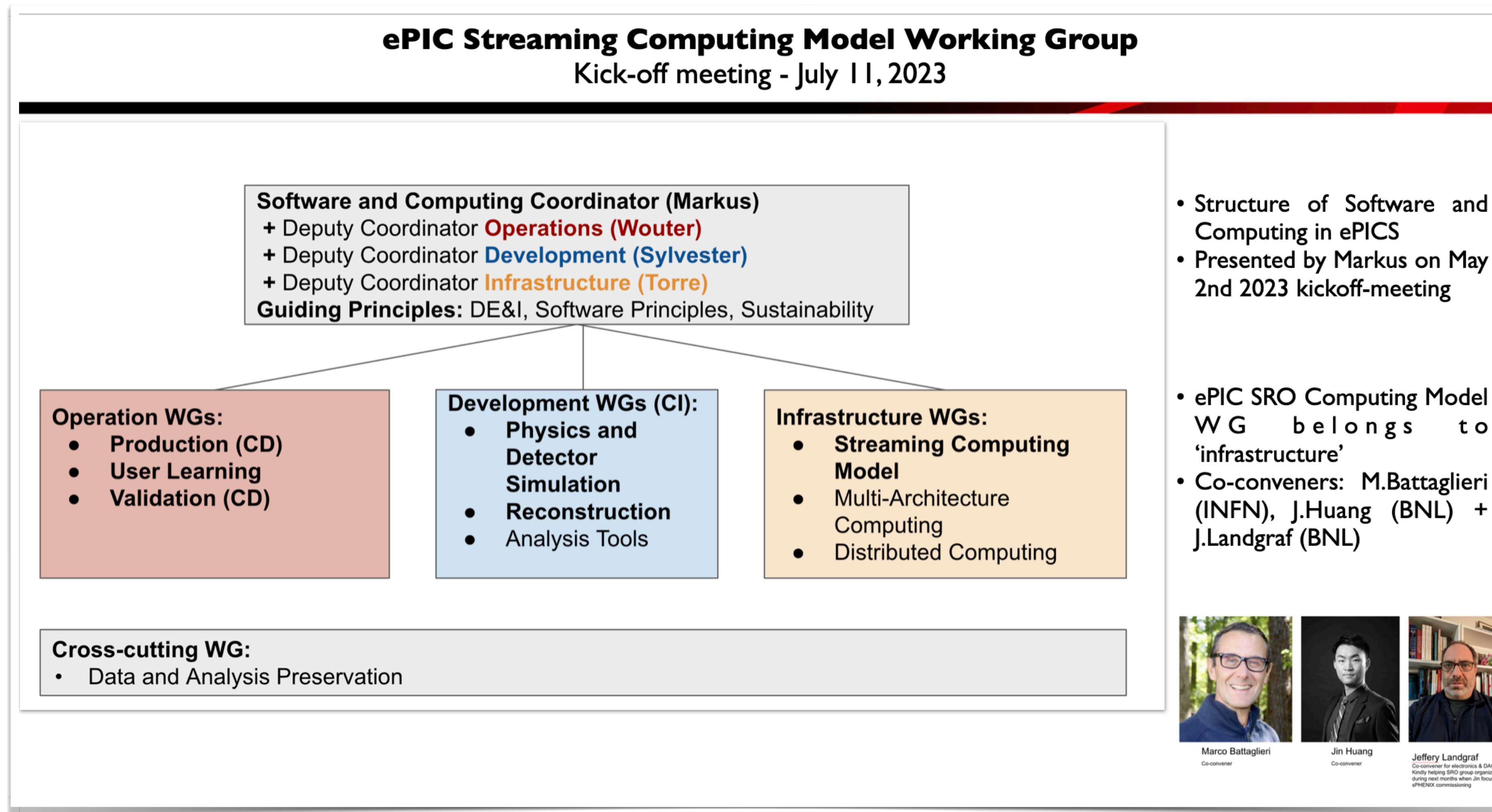
**EIC (from the YR effort to ePIC) chose a SRO DAQ**

## Compute-Detector Integration to Maximize Science

- **Problem** Data for physics analyses and the resulting publications available after O(1year) due to complexity of NP experiments (and their organization).
  - Alignment and calibration of detector as well as reconstruction and validation of events time-consuming.
- **Goal** Rapid turnaround of data for physics analyses.
- **Solution** Compute-detector integration using:
  - AI/ML for autonomous alignment and calibration as well as reconstruction in near real time,
  - Streaming readout for continuous data flow and heterogeneous computing for acceleration.



## SRO calls for a new computing model ...



... we are working on it!

## WG activity recap

- WG activity started in July 2023, regular Zoom (bi- and) weekly meetings (Tue 9:00 AM EDT) + dedicated 1-2 days workshops)
- Each meeting focused on a specific topic
- Invited talks of world-experts
- ... a lot of discussion

So far:

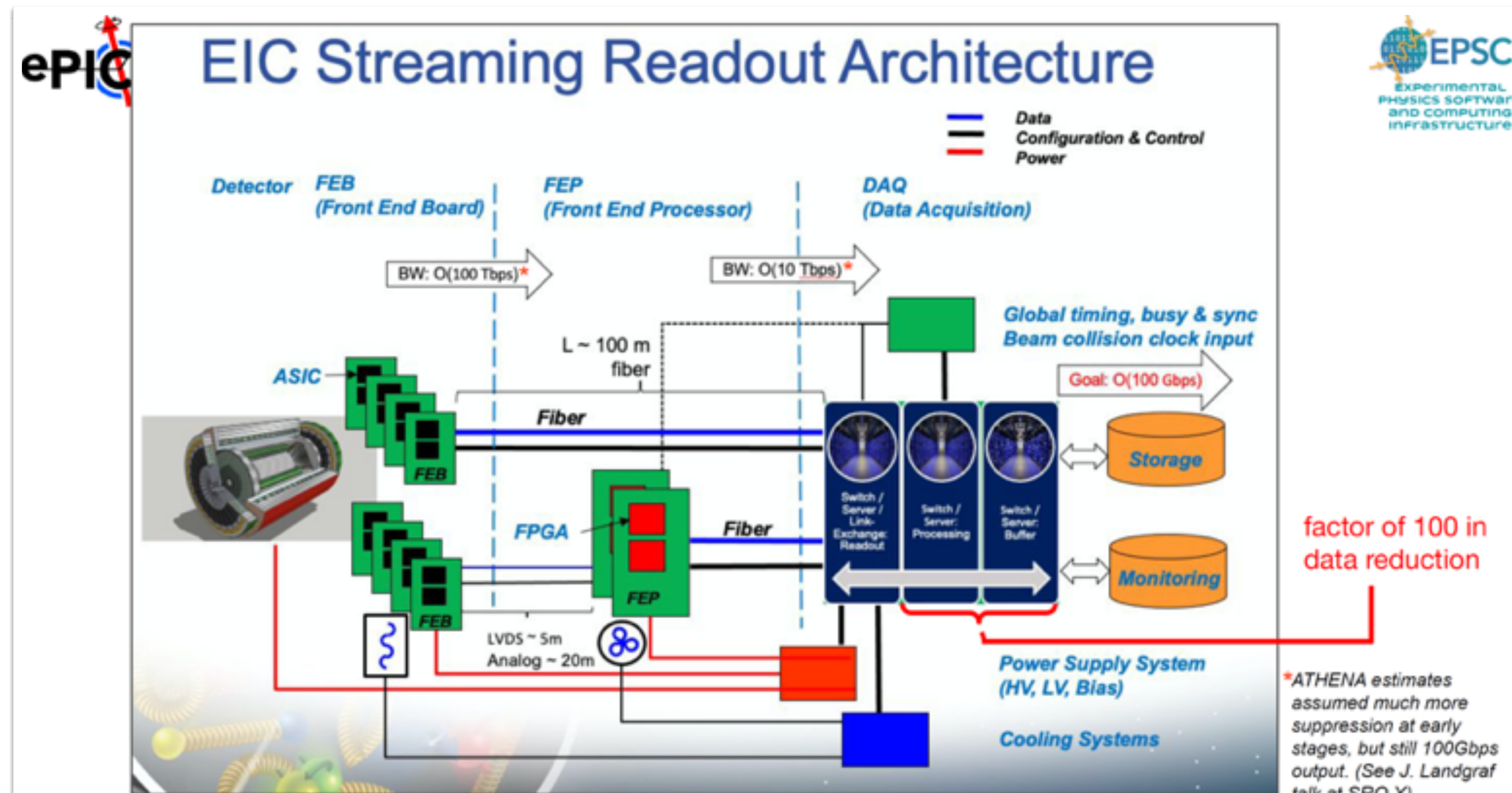
- Streaming RO computing model
- ePIC Data Rates
- The interface between DAQ and computing
- ePIC butterfly computing model (Echelon 0-3)
- Algorithmic workflow data analysis requirements
- Data format, data cooking, ...

Other items to discuss:

- (Autonomous) calibrations;
- (raw) data filtering and storage;

Current activity:

- Preparation of ePIC computing review (Oct 19-20 23)
- Preparation of the paper *The ePIC Streaming Computing Model*



## Streaming RO for ePICS

- Full consensus for SRO within the EIC community (Yellow Paper, DAQ models in ECCE, ATHENA, ...)
- Rates at ePICS are not comparable to LHC HI-LUMI but advantages of SRO remain:
  - multiple channels to trigger on
  - Holy Grail: to manage (storage) an unbiased (un-triggered) data set for further analysis
  - on/off-line event selection with full detector information

\*ATHENA estimates assumed much more suppression at early stages, but still 100Gbps output. (See J. Landgraf talk at SRO X)

EIC Streaming Readout (From Fernando Barbosa's talk at AI4EIC Sep. 9, 2021)

# ePIC Streaming Computing Model Working Group

By Jeff Landgraf, presented on Aug 22 WG meeting [\[link\]](#), Updated Sept 19

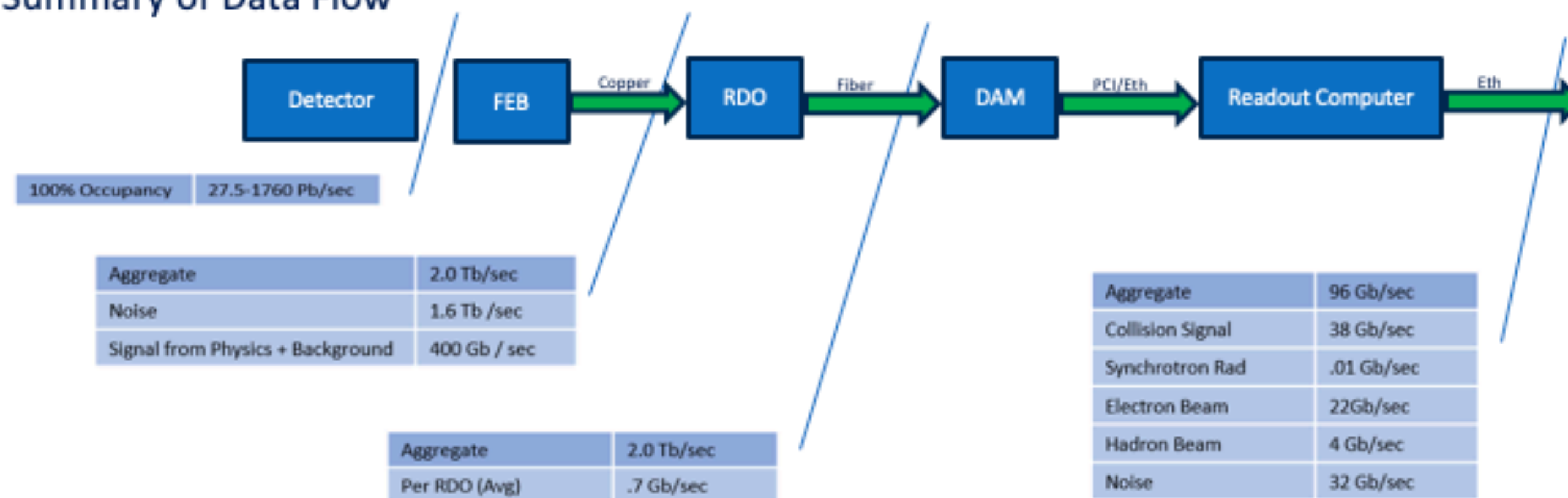
## Summary of Channel Counts

Detector Group	Channels					RDO	Fiber	DAM	Data Volume (RDO) (Gb/s)	Data Volume (To Tape) (Gb/s)
	MAPS	AC-LGAD	SiPM/PMT	MPGD	HRPPD					
Tracking (MAPS)	36B					400	800	17	26	26
Tracking (MPGD)				202k		118	236	5	1	1
Calorimeters	500M		104k			451	1132	19	502	28
Far Forward	300M	2.6M	170k			178	492	8	15	8
Far Backward	82M		2k			50	100	4	150	1
PID (TOF)		7.8M				500	1500	17	31	1
PID Cherenkov			320k		140k	1283	2566	30	1275	32
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36.9B</b>	<b>10.4M</b>	<b>596k</b>	<b>202k</b>	<b>140k</b>	<b>2980</b>	<b>6826</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>96</b>

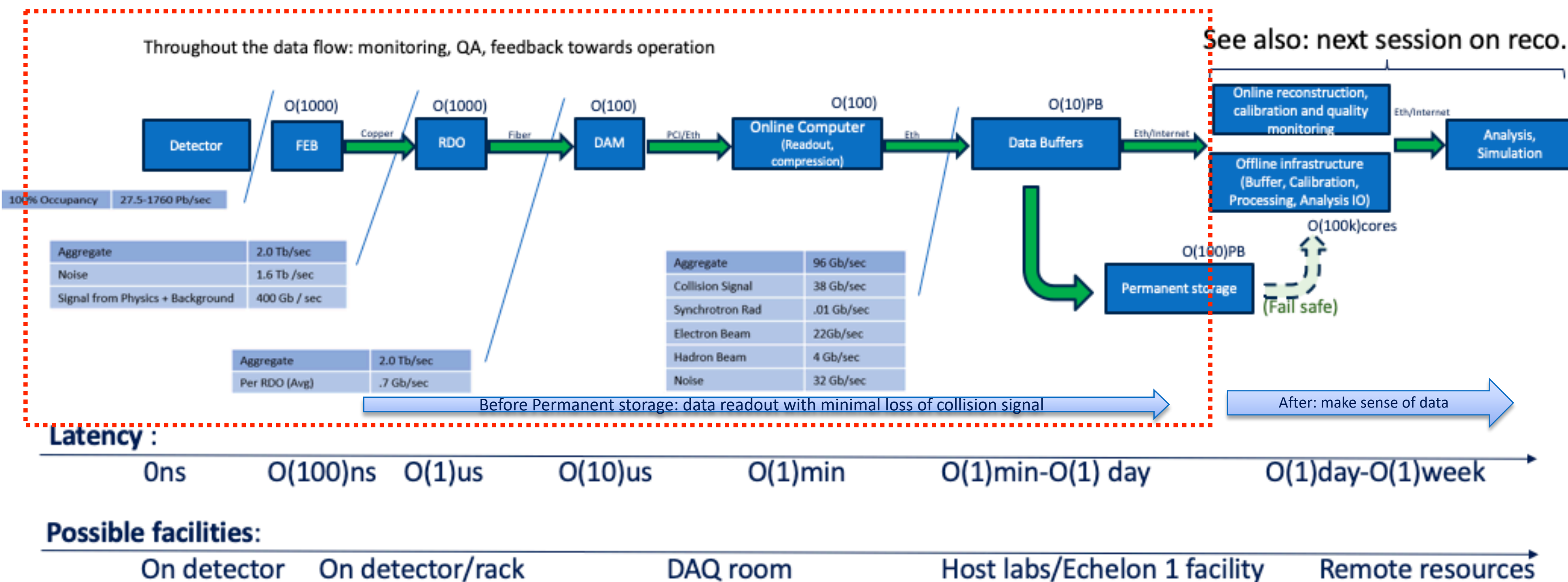
## ePICS rates (first evaluation)

- Established a strong link with DAQ WG
- Define an envelope for the workflow (<100/400Gb/s)
- First estimate of ePICS data rate/volume
- It will be updated based on new information
- Provide feedback to sub-systems groups to reduce the data stream to a compatible level

## Summary of Data Flow



## ePIC streaming computing: follow the data & zoom out



### Interfaces

- Each step in the workflow has a different latency
- Identify interfaces for a 'service-oriented' approach

Within the 'control room' (part of the project)

- Each stage in data flow will require IO specs (based on CPU, GPU, FPGA reduction)
- 'control room' boundary based on permanent data storage

Outside the control room (driven by the collaboration)

- Networking?
- CPU/GPU farm?
- Local/remote resources?
- on/off-line analysis?

A strong link with the Simulation and Reconstruction WGs is needed!

Reference: • ePIC DAQ wiki: <https://wiki.bnl.gov/EPIC/index.php?title=DAQ>  
• ECCE computing plan, [Nucl.Instrum.Meth.A 1047 \(2023\) 167859](#)



## Streaming Computing Model

Echelon 0	ePIC experiment
Echelon 1	Host labs
Echelon 2	Global processing and data facilities
Echelon 3	Home Institute Computing

Use Case	Echelon			
	0	1	2	3
Streaming DAQ	✓			
+ Streaming Computing				
Monitoring I + II	✓	✓	✓*	✓* <input type="checkbox"/>
Data Reduction	✓	✓		
Alignment / Calibration		✓	✓	
Prompt Reconstruction		✓	✓	
Modeling		✓	✓	
Experimental Control	✓	✓		
Reprocessing		✓	✓	
Raw Data Storage		✓		
Computing				
Storage		✓	✓	
Simulation		✓	✓	
Physics Analysis		✓	✓	✓

\* Offline only

## Streaming Computing

- **Monitoring I:**
  - Data quality monitoring of the streaming data.
  - Alert about changes.
  - Identify data taking periods that require new alignment or calibration.
  - Online monitoring of the experiment.
- **Data Reduction I:**
  - Data reduction of streaming data, e.g., noise reduction
- **Alignment and Calibration:**
  - Autonomous alignment of the integrated detector.
  - Autonomous calibration of the detector subsystem.
- **Reconstruction:**
  - Processing from the detector readout to the reconstructed physics events.
- **Monitoring II:**
  - Data quality monitoring of the reconstructed physics events.
  - Alert about changes.
  - Identify data taking periods that require new alignment or calibration.
  - Online monitoring of the experiment.
- **Data Reduction II:**
  - Filtering out reconstructed physics events according to data quality criteria.
- **Modeling:**
  - Modeling of the experiment and its conditions, e.g., background modeling or digital twin.
- **Experimental Control:**
  - Offline monitoring of the experiment.
  - Optimization of the experiment and its running conditions

## Computing

- **Re-processing / Re-reconstruction**
- **Storage:**
  - Storage of the streaming data (raw data), reconstructed data, and simulations.
  - Distribution of the storage among data centers.
- **Simulation:**
  - Physics and detector simulations.
  - Reconstruction of the simulated events.
- **Physics Analysis:**
  - Analysis of the reconstructed physics events and interpretation.

## Use case to Echelon mapping

- Work in progress
- Definition of different tiers
- Splitting between computing and data storage
- Enhance and go beyond the original 'butterfly model'
- Special attention to international partners' contributions
- Towards a definition and design of computing/networking infrastructures

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## WG current activity

Preparation of Oct 19-20 Computing review

### Charge

- Long-term plan for ePIC software and computing
- Integration of international partners in the project
- Integration into HEP/NP community development
- Resources
- ePIC SRO integration into the computing model

Preparation of the paper *The ePIC Streaming Computing Model*

- Architecture
- Streaming
- Use cases
- Resources

Keep discussing to cover missing items

# Summary

- SRO is expected to shorten the time between data taking and physics output
- ePIC DAQ will be streaming
- SRO provides new opportunities but poses challenges
- To take full advantage of the SRO, the workflow needs to include both hardware and software
- The time distance from ePIC ops requires a careful scheme that could be updated to include tech progress (on DAQ side) and a better definition of sub-detectors requirements and performance
- The SCM WG is working to define a suitable computing model for SRO
- Possible solutions need to satisfy the specific requirements of ePIC collaboration
- Strong link with DAQ, SW, and Physic WGs to design a sound framework (+ algorithms)
- Interaction with ePICS sub-detector groups will be the next step for an optimized design
- The WG is currently auditing experiments that have adopted different computing models
- The WG is working to define as soon and as precise as possible the necessary resources for an optimal implementation
- Meetings, discussions, and written reports will help define a clear path and incorporate (internal and external) suggestions and feedback
- This is only the first step because on-field validation needs to be pursued in parallel
- It is a long way to go but we are progressing!