

# Geant4 Digitization Reconstruction

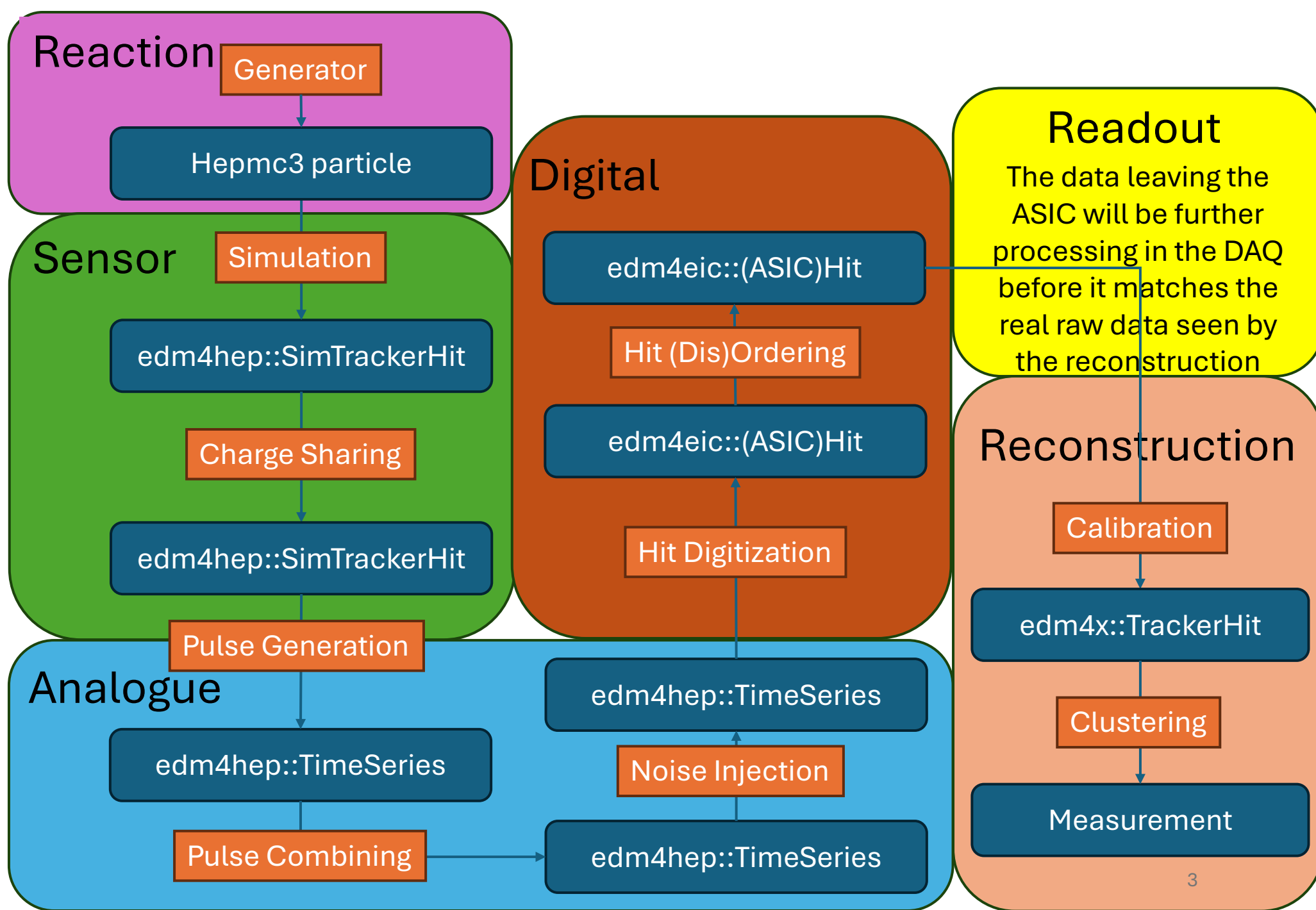
A step by step consideration  
(From a Timepix4/Low- $Q^2$  Tagger perspective)

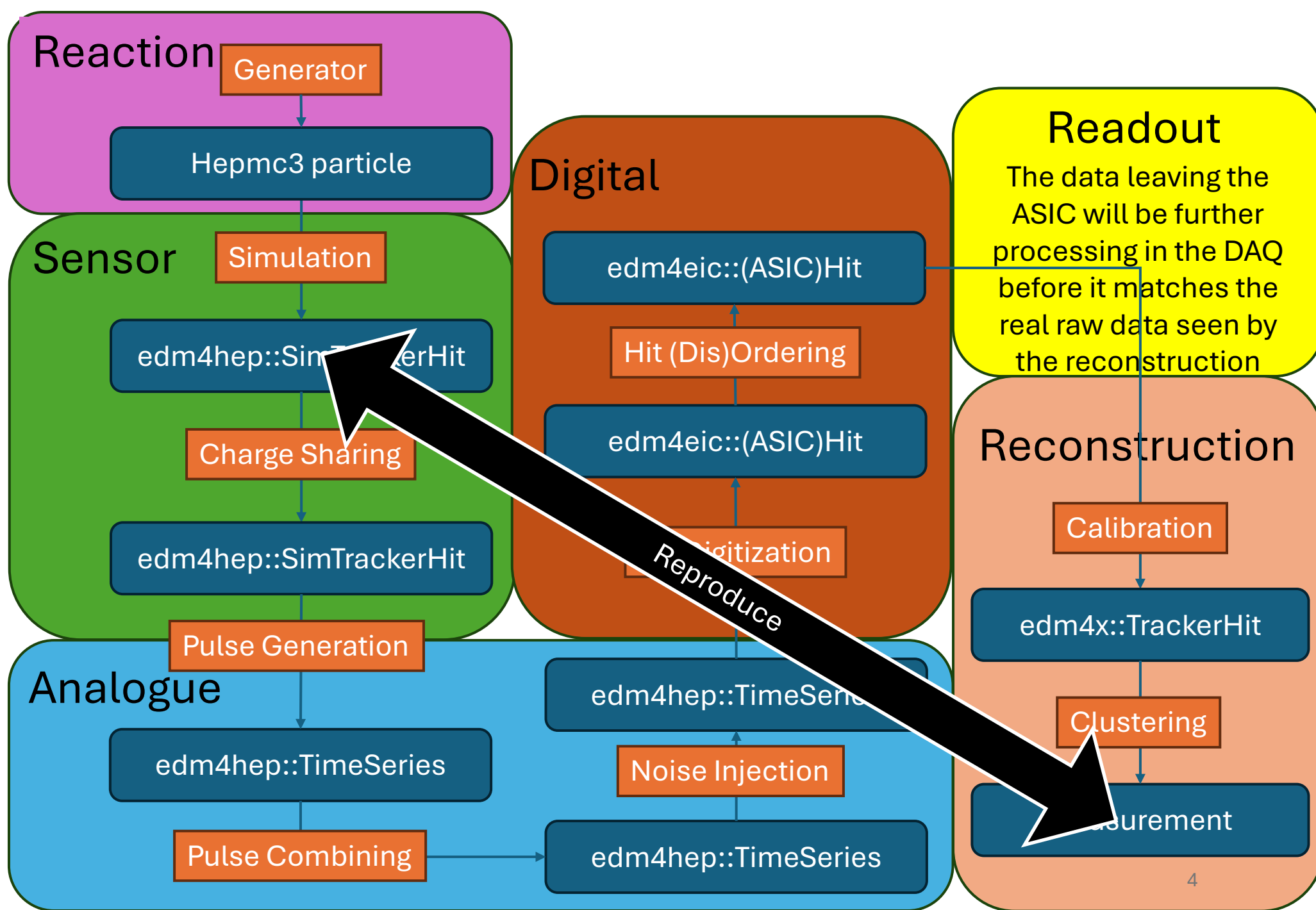
Simon Gardner

19/03/2025

# Low- $Q^2$ Tagger and Timepix4

- A realistic digitization scheme and background model are perhaps more important for the Low- $Q^2$  Tagger than other detectors at this point.
  - Regions of phase space might be impossible to cover at certain beam conditions.
- High Bremsstrahlung rates increasing with  $Z^2$  of ion.
  - Unavoidable overlap with Low- $Q^2$  physics electrons.
- High Synchrotron backgrounds
  - Highly concerning but design of beampipe, magnets and exit window can mitigate the problem.
- **The Timepix4 ASIC already exists and is well understood so is a good example to build from.**
- Related work on MC/ML based digitization using Allpix2 is also being developed.





# What is a `edm4hep::SimTrackerHit` from `dd4hep`?

- A sim tracker hit is recorded at a weighted central point of particle steps through the sensitive detector.
- Usually only a single hit will be recorded.
- Multiple hits in the same cell will occur when another particle takes a step in the detector.
  - When secondaries created near/in the element summing of signals to reproduce a realistic size is important
- Some detectors with hot spots might see multiple hits in a time frame from physics or other backgrounds
  - Having a realistic digitization which will demonstrate the detectors' ability to separate the hits is important.

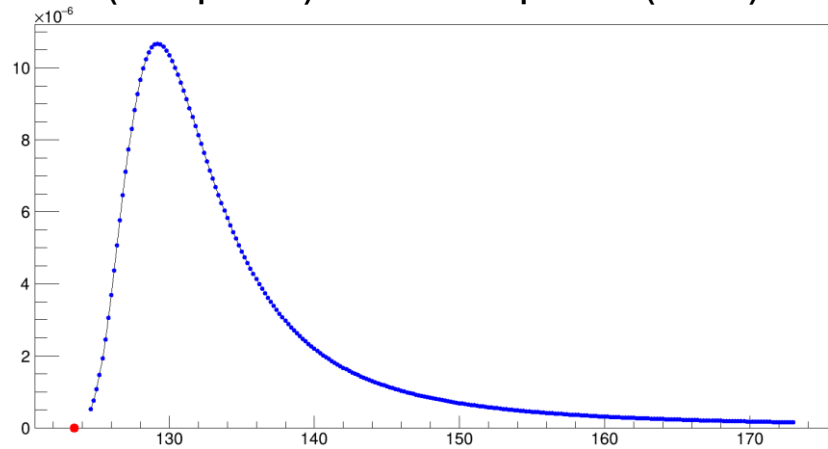
# Generic Pulse Generation

edm4hep::SimTrackerHit



edm4hep::TimeSeries

Hit (red point) time and pulse (blue).



- Pulse shape parameterized by hit time and energy
- Pulse step needs to be equal to or smaller than fastest clock.
- Minimum pulse Threshold needs to be below any digitization threshold.
- More complex pulse functions could use position in cell and vector.
- [EICrecon/src/algorithms/digi/SiliconPulseGeneration.cc](#) at [Pulse-Noise · eic/EICrecon](#)

```
void SiliconPulseGeneration::process(const SiliconPulseGeneration::Input& input,
                                     const SiliconPulseGeneration::Output& output) const {
    const auto [simHits] = input;
    auto [rawPulses] = output;

    for (const auto& hit : *simHits) {
        auto cellID = hit.getCellID();
        double time = hit.getTime();
        double charge = hit.getEDep();

        // Calculate nearest timestep to the hit time rounded down (assume clocks aligned with time 0)
        double signal_time = m_timestep*std::floor(time / m_timestep);

        auto time_series = rawPulses->create();
        time_series.setCellID(cellID);
        time_series.setInterval(m_timestep);

        m_pulse->setHitCharge(charge);
        m_pulse->setHitTime(time);

        float maxSignalTime = m_pulse->getMaximumTime();

        for(int i = 0; i < m_max_time_bins; i++) {
            double t = signal_time + i*m_timestep;
            auto signal = (*m_pulse)(t);
            if (signal < m_ignore_thres) {
                if (t > maxSignalTime) {
                    break;
                } else {
                    signal_time = t;
                    continue;
                }
            }
            time_series.addToAmplitude(signal);
        }

        time_series.setTime(signal_time);
    }

    // -----
    // Landau Pulse Shape Functor
    // -----
    class LandauPulse: public SignalPulse {
    public:

        LandauPulse(double gain, double sigma_analog) : m_gain(gain), m_sigma_analog(sigma_analog) {};

        double operator()(double time) const {
            return m_charge * m_gain * TMath::Landau(time, m_hit_time+3.5*m_sigma_analog, m_sigma_analog, kTRUE);
        }

        float getMaximumTime() const {
            return m_hit_time+3.5*m_sigma_analog;
        }

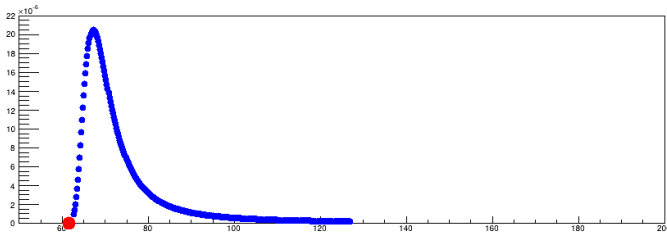
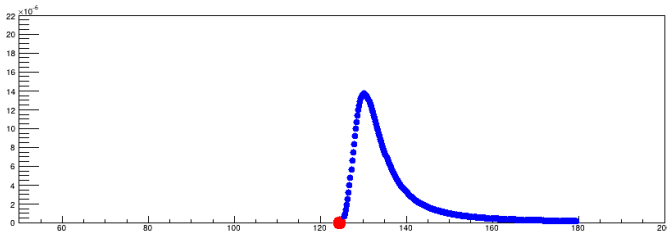
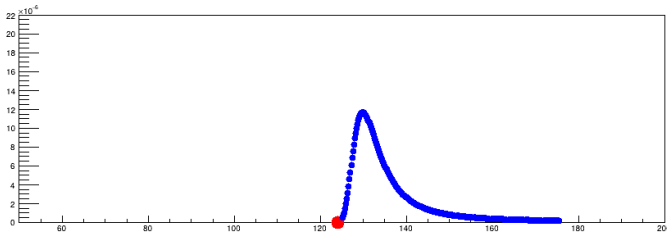
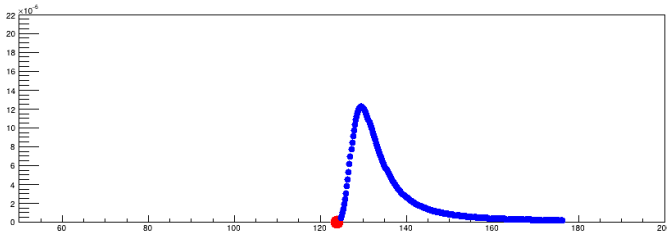
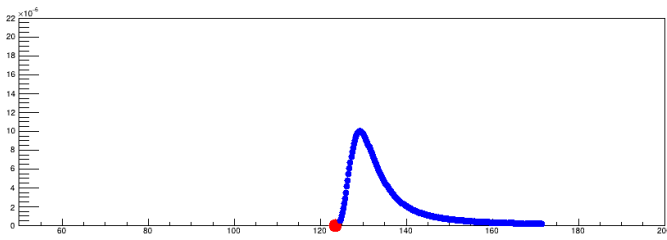
    private:
        const double m_gain;
        const double m_sigma_analog;
    };
};
```

# Time Series Merging

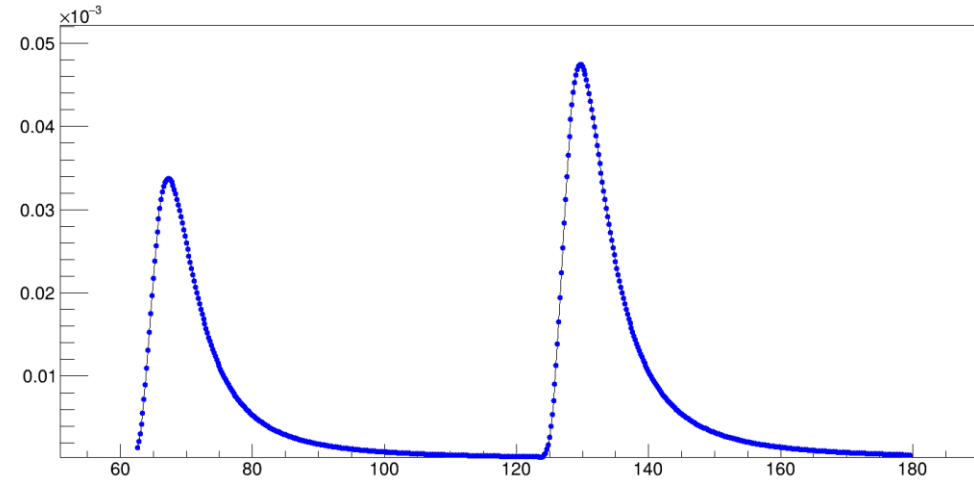
edm4hep::TimeSeries



edm4hep::TimeSeries



Pulse



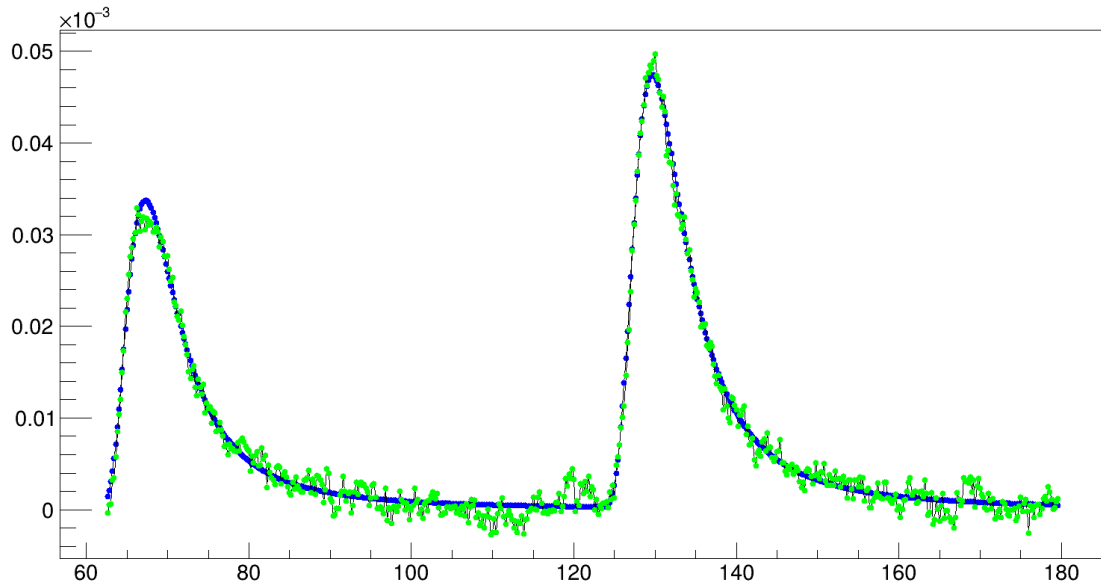
- Time series summed together when the end of one pulse is within  $x$  time of the start of the next.
- $x$  needs to be the maximum time a signal can influence another
  - This is guided by the slower clocks responsible for readout of the data.
- Linear summing of pulses - could extend to include non-linear responses.
- [ElCrecon/src/algorithms/digi/PulseCombiner.cc](#) at [Combine-pulses · eic/ElCrecon](#)
- Branch ready for PR...

# Noise Injection

edm4hep::TimeSeries



edm4hep::TimeSeries



- Noise injection into the pulse across frequencies, provided by DDDigi:  
[DD4hep/DD4hep/src/noise/FalphaNoise.cpp](https://github.com/AIDASoft/DD4hep/blob/master/DD4hep/src/noise/FalphaNoise.cpp) at master · AIDASoft/DD4hep
- Will not add independent noise hits.

```
void PulseNoise::process(const PulseNoise::Input& input,
                        const PulseNoise::Output& output) {
    const auto [inPulses] = input;
    auto [outPulses] = output;

    for (const auto& pulse : *inPulses) {
        //Clone input pulse to a mutable output pulse
        auto out_pulse = outPulses->create();
        out_pulse.setCellID (pulse.getCellID());
        out_pulse.setInterval(pulse.getInterval());
        out_pulse.setTime (pulse.getTime());

        //Add noise to the pulse
        for (int i = 0; i < pulse.getAmplitude().size(); i++) {
            double noise = m_noise(generator)*m_scale;
            out_pulse.addToAmplitude(pulse.getAmplitude()[i] + noise);
        }
    }
}
```



# ASIC specific digitization (Timepix4)

edm4hep::TimeSeries

edm4eic::RawTimepixData

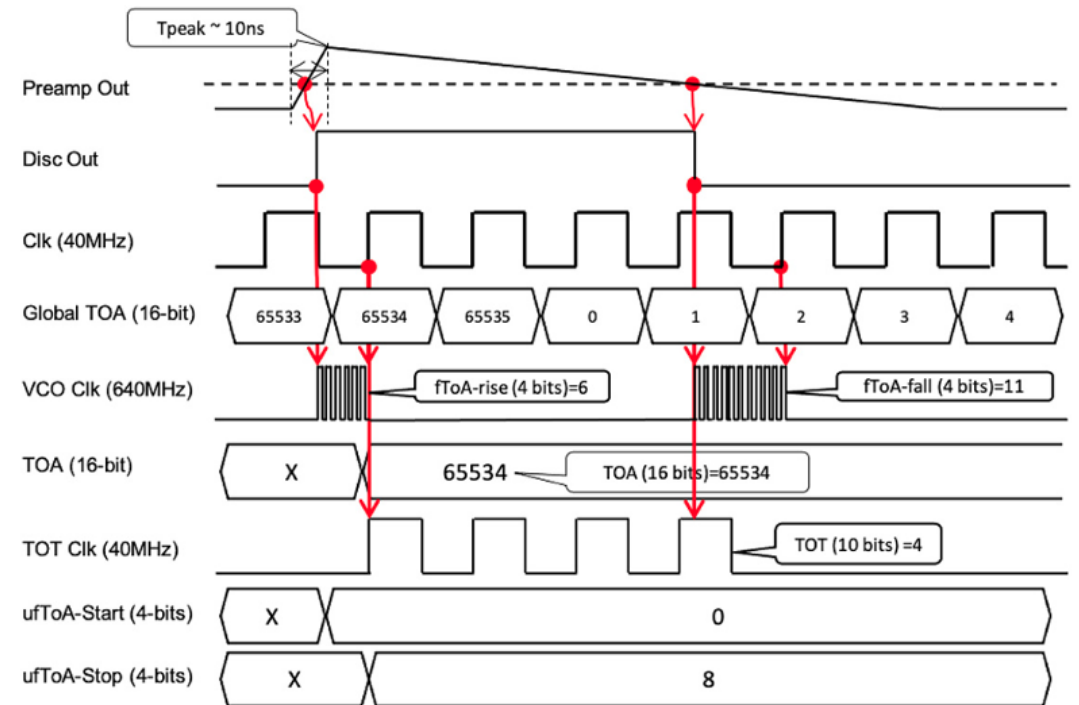
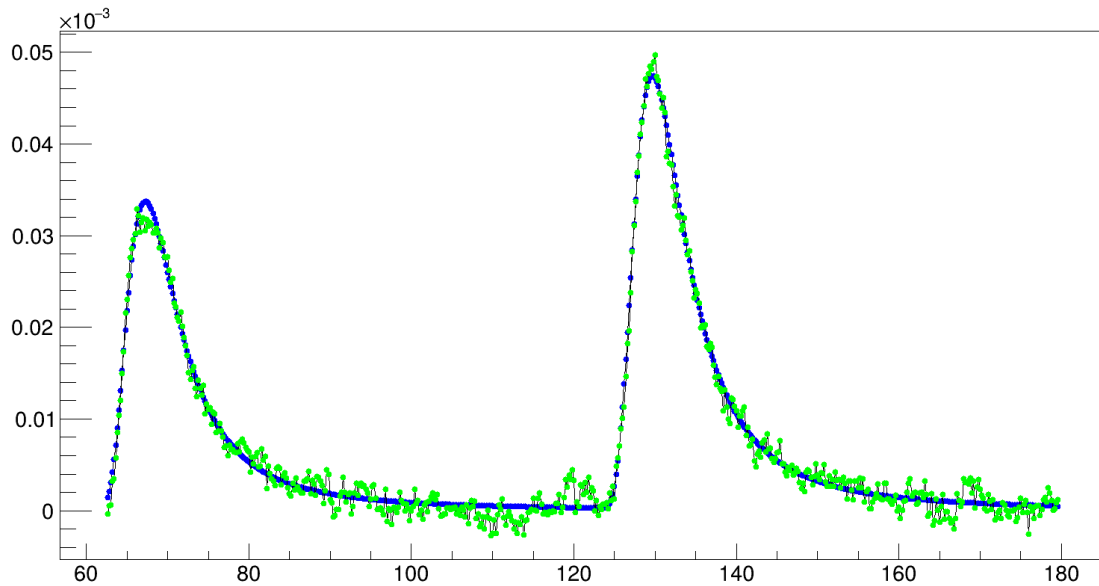


Figure 4. Timing diagram for the Timepix4 pixel cell in data driven mode.

[Timepix4 - X. Llopart et al 2022](#)

- Implementation not ready but relatively simple
- Basically overlays clocks onto the pulse to determine ToA, ToT, fToA, ufToA.
- Should encode into Timepix4 64bit readout

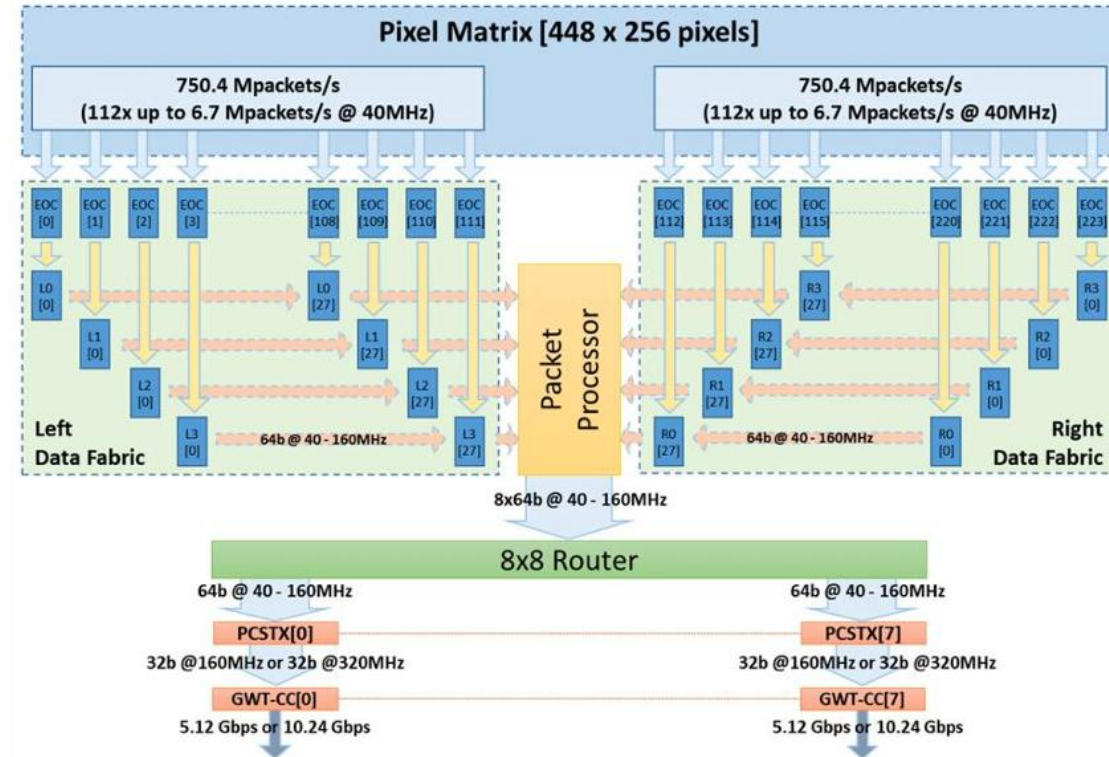
# ASIC specific Hit ordering

edm4eic::RawTimepixData



edm4eic::RawTimepixData

- The order of the hits in the datastream will not be ordered by ToA
  - E.g. Hits with a longer ToT will take longer to be processed
  - Hits in different areas of the ASIC take preference.
  - Sorting has to be done to some degree at some point in the DAQ so understanding how the events are disordered is important.,



Timepix4 - X. Llopart et al 2022