### Trigger and DAQ at LHC ISOTDAQ 2013 Thessaloniki



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#### • Introduction:

- The context: LHC & experiments

#### • Part 1: Trigger at LHC (hardware trigger)

- Requirements & Concepts
- Muon and Calorimeter triggers (CMS and ATLAS)
- Specific solutions (ALICE. LHCb)
- Ongoing and future upgrades

#### • Part2: Readout Links, Dataflow, and Event Building

- Data Readout (Interface to DAQ)
- Data Flow of the 4 LHC experiments
- Event Building: CMS as an example
- Software: Some techniques used in online systems
- Ongling and future upgrades

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### **Introduction: LHC and the Experiments**

## LHC: a "discovery" machine



### **p-p interactions at LHC**



### **Interesting Physics at LHC**





# Is the Higgs a needle in the hay stack?

### • Hay halm:

- − 500mm length, 2mm Ø → 3000 mm<sup>3</sup>
- Needle
  - 50 mm length, 0.3mm Ø → 50 mm<sup>3</sup>
  - 50 needles are one hay halm
- Putting it all together
  - Assume hay packing density of 10 (...may be optimistic...)
  - $10 \times 1011 \times 3 \times 109 \text{ m}^3 / (6 \times 10) =$

Haystack of 50 m<sup>3</sup>





### **LHC: experimental environment**



L=10<sup>34</sup>cm<sup>-2s-1</sup>

σ<sub>inel</sub>(pp) ≈ 70mb event rate = 7 x 10<sup>8</sup> Hz

∆t = 25ns events / 25ns = 17.5

Not all bunches full (2835/3564) events/crossing = 23

2012 LHC will run at 50ns pile up will be twice as high as for 25 ns (at constant Lumi)

## **The 4 largest LHC experiments**

# CMS : study pp and heavy ion collisions



# Atlas : study pp and heavy ion collisions



## ALICE : study heavy ion collisions



# LHCb : study of B-decays (CP)



# **Timing and Synchronization**

### **Issue: synchronization**



#### Synchronization:

Signals/Data from the same BX need to be processed together

#### But:

Particle TOF >> 25ns (25 ns  $\approx$  7.5m) Cable delay >> 25ns ( $v_{signal} \approx 1/3$  c) Electronic delays

#### Need to:

- Synchronize signals with programmable delays.
- Provide tools to perform synchronization (TDCs, pulsers, LHC beam with few buckets filled...)

# Signal path during trigger



# **Distribution of Trigger signals**

- The L1 trigger decision needs to be distributed to the front end electronics
  - Triggers the readout of pipeline
  - Needs to allow to determine the Bunch Crossing of the interaction
    - Timing needs to be precise (low jitter, much below 1ns)
    - Signal needs to be synchronized to LHC clock

#### • In addition some commands need to be distributed:

- always synchronous to LHC clock; e.g.
  - To do calibration in LHC gap (empty LHC buckets)
  - Broadcast reset and resynchronization commands
- Used by all experiments: TTC (Trigger Timing and Control)

# **TTC encoding: 2 Channels**

### Channel A:

- One bit every 25ns
- constant latency required
  - Used to read out pipelines
- For distribution of LVI1-accept

### Channel B:

- One Bit every 25 ns
- Synchronous commands
  - Arrive in fixed relation to LHC Orbit signal
- Asynchronous commands
  - No guaranteed latency or time relation
- "Short" broadcast-commands (Bunch Counter Reset, LHC-Orbit)
- "Long" commands with addressing scheme
  - Serves special sub-system purposes



# Trigger, Timing, Control at LHC



# **First Level Trigger**

### **Three very different real world examples**

	LEP	DaФne	LHC
physics	e+/e-	e+/e-	р/р
Event size	O(100 kB)	O(5 kB)	O(1MB) (CMS & ATLAS)
1/fBX	22µs (later 11µs)	2.7 ns	25 ns
Lvl1 Trig.	Decision between 2 bunch crossings	Continuously running; trigger readout on activity	Synchronous to 40Mhz base clock; decision with 3us latency; pipeline
trigger rate	O(10Hz)	50kHz	100kHz (1MHz LHCb)



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## "Typical event"

#### **Prepare an "event – TOC"**

- Data must be available fast (I.e. shortly after the interaction)
  - Some sub-detectors are build for triggering purposes
- Prepare data with low resolution and low latency in sub-detectors

### **Therefore for ATLAS and CMS:**

Use only calorimeter and muon data





Track reconstruction for trigger would have been too complex with available technology.

But there are upgrade plans...

# **First Level Trigger of ATLAS and CMS**

# **Triggering at LHC**

#### • The trigger dilemma:

- Achieve highest efficiency for interesting events
- Keep trigger rate as low as possible (high purity)
  - Most of the interactions (called minimum bias events) are not interesting
  - DAQ system has limited capacity

#### Need to study event properties

- Find differences between minimum bias events and interesting events
- Use these to do the trigger selection

#### **Triggering wrongly is dangerous:**

#### Once you throw away data in the 1st level trigger, it is lost for ever

- Offline you can only study events which the trigger has accepted!
- Important: must determine the trigger efficiency (which enters in the formulas for the physics quantities you want to measure)
- A small rate of events is taken "at random" in order to verify the trigger algorithms ("what would the trigger have done with this event")
- Redundancy in the trigger system is used to measure inefficiencies

## **Boundary conditions for level 1**

### • Max trigger rate

- DAQ systems of CMS/ATLAS designed for approx. 100 kHz
- Assumes average event size of **1-1.5 MB**.
- Trigger rate estimation
- Difficult task since depends on lots of unknown quantities:
  - Physics processes are not known at this energy (extrapolation from lower energy experiments)
  - Beam quality
  - Noise conditions

### • Trigger was designed to fire with ≈ 35 kHz

- Security margin 3 for unforeseen situations like noise, dirty beam conditions, unexpected detector behavior
- Trigger design needs to be flexible
  - need many handles to adjust the rates.

# **Triggering at LHC : example Muons**

- Minimum bias events in pp:
  - Minimum bias: decays of quarks e.g. pions (SM)
- "Interesting" events
  - Often W/Z as decay products



• Interesting events: contains (almost) always 2 objects to trigger on



## How to trigger on Muons

### Example ATLAS muon trigger

- Three muon detectors:
  - Muon Drift Tubes (MDT) : high precision, too slow for level 1 trigger
  - Resistive Plate Chambers (RPC) : 1st level trigger barrel
  - Thin Gap Chambers (TGC) : 1st level trigger endcap



## How to trigger on Muons

#### The CMS muon system



### How good does it work?



## **Performance of CMS muon trigger**

#### • Efficiency turn-on curves



- From Data with events:  $J/\psi \rightarrow \mu\mu$  and  $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$
- "Real" pt vs. efficiency for imposed trigger threshold
- For an imposed threshold x the efficiency for muons with pt = x GeV is larger 90% (...as foreseen).

# **Redundancy in the CMS Muon trigger**

### **Generated Muons versus trigger rate (simulation)**

 $L = 10^{34}$ 

Redundancy allows to impose tight quality cuts (i.e. number of hits required for each muon, ...)

this improves purity

p<sub>t</sub> > 20GeV: ≈ 600 Hz generated, ≈ 8 kHz trigger rate



# **Calorimeter Trigger: example CMS**



# Algorithm to identify $e/\gamma$

### Characteristics of isolated $e/\gamma$ :

- energy is locally concentrated (opposed to jets)
- energy is located in ECAL, not in HCAL


## **Calorimeter Trigger: jets and Taus**

### Algorithms to trigger on jets and tau:

- based on clusters 4x4 towers
- Sliding window of 3x3 clusters



- Jet trigger : work in large 3x3 region:
  - $E_t^{\text{central}} > E_T^{\text{threshold}}$

$$- E_t^{central} > E_T^{neighbours}$$

- Tau trigger: work first in 4x4 regions
  - Find localized small jets:
    If energy not confined in 2x2 tower pattern -> set Tau veto
  - Tau trigger: No Tau veto in all 9 clusters

# **Trigger Architecture: CMS**



## **Global Trigger**

#### • Forms final decision

- Programmable "Trigger Menu"
- Logical "OR" of various trigger conditions
  - In Jargon these trigger conditions are called "triggers" themselves. The individual triggers may be downscaled (only take every 5th) Example:

4		
η îμ	with Et > 20 GeV	or
2 µ	with Et > 6 GeV	or
1 e/γ	with Et > 25 GeV	or
2 ẹ/γ	with Et > 15 GeV	or

"single muon trigger""di - muon trigger""single electron trigger""di - electron trigger"

## Specific solutions for specific needs: ALICE and LHCb

# **ALICE: 3 hardware trigger levels**

- Some sub-detectors e.g. TOF (Time Of Flight) need very early strobe (1.2 µs after interaction)
  - Not all subdetectors can deliver trigger signals so fast
  - Split 1st level trigger into :
  - L0 : latency 1.2 μs
  - L1 : latency 6.5 µs

### ALICE uses a TPC for tracking

- TPC drift time: 88µs
- In Pb-Pb collisions only one interaction at a time can be tolerated (otherwise: too many tracks in TPC)
- Need **pile-up protection**:
  - Makes sure there is only one event at time in TPC (need to wait for TPC drift time)
- L2 : latency 88µs



## **ALICE: optimizing efficiency**

#### • Specific property of ALICE:

- Some sub-detectors need a long time to be read out after LVL2 trigger (e.g. Si drift detector: 260µs)
- But: Some interesting physics events need only a subset of detectors to be read out.

#### • Concept of Trigger clusters:

- Trigger cluster: group of sub-detectors
  - one sub-detector can be member of several clusters
- Every trigger is associated to one Trigger Clusters
- Even if some sub-detectors are busy due to readout: triggers for not-busy clusters can be accepted.

#### • Triggers with "rare" classification:

- In general at LHC: stop the trigger if readout buffer almost full
- ALICE:
  - "rare" triggers fire rarely and contain potentially interesting events.
  - when buffers get "almost-full" accept only "rare" triggers

# LHCb: VELO (Vertex Locator)



## LHCb: pile-up protection

LHCb needs to identify displaced vertices
 online



- This algorithm only works efficiently if there is no pile-up (only one interaction per BX)
- Pile-up veto implemented with silicon detector: Detect multiple PRIMARY vertices in the opposite hemisphere





# **Trigger implementation**

# **CMS: Regional Calorimeter Trigger**

Receives 64 Trigger primitives from (32 ECAL, 32 HCAL)

Forms two 4x4 Towers for Jet Trigger and 16 ET towers for electron identification card



#### "solder" - side of the same card:



### **Trg. Implementation: Interconnectivity**

You might guess that todays modern technology (serial links, uTCA,...) offers some room for improvement in a future upgrade project...



### **??? What does the future bring us ???**



# **Trigger upgrades: Introduction**

#### • LHC plans to upgrade the accelerater in the next 2 years

- Energy will go from 8 TeV to 14 TeV
- Peak Luminosity from 7x10<sup>33</sup> to approx. 2x10<sup>34</sup>
- Not yet clear if 25ns or 50ns bunch spacing
  - Remember the relation between this and Pileup

#### - Pileup might increase well above 50

• The experiments were constructed for a pileup around 23

BX spacing [ns]	Beam current [x10 <sup>11</sup> e]	Emittance [µm]	Peak Lumi [x 10 <sup>34</sup> cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ]	Pileup
25	1.15	3.5	0.92	21
25	1.15	1.9	1.6	43
50	1.6	2.3	0.9-1.7	40-76
50	1.6	1.6	2.2	108

# **Trigger updates: Introduction**

#### • The high pileup degrades the performance of current trigger algorithms

- If nothing is done the rates exceed by far 100 kHz

#### • The new "Higgs-like" boson is relatively light (125GeV)

- The future physics program foresees to investigate this boson with enhanced precision.
  - This means trigger efficiencies need to stay at least as good as they are.
  - Trigger thresholds cannot be increased without "cutting into the physics"
- The experiments need to find ways to cope with the higher pileup without loosing efficiency for physics

#### General solutions:

- Increase resolution for trigger object: Energy, Momentum, Spacial
  - Finer grain input data to trigger
    - More input data to the trigger
    - Enhance detectors in critical high multiplicity regions (forward region)
- More complex algorithms
  - To be implemented in modern FPGAs
  - e.g. topological triggers, calculation of invariant mass, subtraction of pileup, ...
- Include tracking in Lvl1 Trigger

# **Atlas Trigger Upgrade**

### Keep trigger rates under control by using topology

- Use Trigger primitives of Lvl2: ROIs
- Send them to dedicate topology processor based on powerful FPGAs
- Calculate invariant masses, determine topologies like "back to back", measure rapidity gaps, ...



#### **Need to process topological information at Lvl1**

# **Topological Trigger: Concept**



# **Atlas Topological Trigger**

#### Nothing comes for free...: Latency

- Front-end pipelines are expensive resources: Latency budget is tight.
- The Topology Processor is an additional Processing Step in Front of the Central Trigger Processor: It "eats" from the Latency Budget.

### • ATLAS has some latency contingency

- Around 12 BC contingency in the L1 latency budget can be used for the topology processor
  - This limits the complexity and number of calculations which can be done

# **Does it make sense to upgrade LHCb ?**

### • LHCb is a high statistics experiment

- LHCb is doing high precision measurements which are limited by statistics
- To significantly improve the physics results of LHCb one should increase the statistics by a factor of 10
- Where can LHCb gain a factor of 10 in statistics
  - Currently LHCb takes data with 4x10<sup>32</sup>
    - Beams are on purpose separated a bit in LHCb to achieve reduce the Luminosity to this value
  - Upgraded Lumi by factor of 5 to approx. 10<sup>33</sup>

## **Does it make sense to upgrade LHCb ?**

#### - Gain another factor of 2 in $B \to \pi \, \pi$

- Currently the efficiency of this channel is about 50% due to inefficiency in the first level trigger.
- To gain back the 50% lost efficiency: **plan to run without Hardware Trigger**.
  - This means to construct a DAQ system with effectively 30MHz event rate.
  - Events at the luminosity of 10<sup>33</sup> are expected to have 100kB
  - This results in a 30 Tb/s Event Builder!



As an emergency brake the LvI0 Trigger will be kept and can be switched on.



Therefore...

# Yes, it DOES make sense to upgrade LHCb

# **Calorimeter Trigger of CMS**

Upgrade of the Calorimeter Trigger electronics will bring improvements in various area

- Make use of full granularity of trigger primitives available.
  - (The current trigger is not able to exploit this)
- The resulting better spacial resolution will allow to improve significantly the τ-trigger.
  - T-triggers are based on finding small jets requiring good resolution

# **Calorimeter Trigger of CMS**

- More Complex Trigger Algos: Event by Event Pileup subtraction
  - HTT : trigger on total transverse Jet Energy: At high pileup the rate of this trigger grows exponentially in the current system
  - With Pileup subtraction the trigger rate increases linearly with moderate slope



# **Upgrade of CMS Calorimeter Trigger: Variant 1**

#### **Incoming Calorimeter Data**



# **CMS Calorimeter Trigger: Time Sliced**

#### **Incoming Calorimeter Data**



## Atlas: First step to a Hw-Track Trigger

- Track-finding is CPU intensive
  - Especially in high pileup events the events the resources needed to do trackfinding increase exponentially
- Idea: Special highly parallel hardware processors should find tracks
  - The output of the processor will be available at Lvl2 / Filter
  - The CPU time saved by not having to do tracking can be used for other trigger algorithms.



## How to build a Hardware Tracker

- Compare the Event Hit Pattern with many Stored patterns
  - The comparision with all patterns has to be done in parallel!



# **Implementation of Hardware Track Trigger**

### **Principle of a CAM: Content Addressable Memory**



## Conclusion

- The concepts and techniques you learned in this school are widely applied in the LHC experiments.
- The design for the trigger of the LHC experiments is driven by
  - Physics needs
  - Conditions of the accelerator
  - Compromises wrt budget
- An exciting upgrade program has started in order to meet the experimental challenges after upgrade of the accelerator

## Extra slides: Lvl1 trigger

## **CMS Muon Trigger: Efficiency**





### Selection of 1 event in 10,000,000,000,000

# Level-1 trigger "cocktail" (low/high lumi)

Low Luminosity Total Rate: 50 kHz Factor 3 safety, allocate 16 kHz

High Luminosity Total Rate: 100 kHz Factor 3 safety, allocate 33.5 kHz

Trigger	-Threshold - (e=90-95%) (GeV)	-Indiv. -Rate (kHz)	-Cumul rate(kHz)
-1e/g, 2e/g	-29, 17	-4.3	-4.3
-1m, 2m	-14, 3	-3.6	-7.9
-1t, 2t	-86, 59	-3.2	-10.9
-1-jet	-177	-1.0	-11.4
-3-jets, 4-jets	-86, 70	-2.0	-12.5
-Jet & Miss-ET	-88 & 46	-2.3	-14.3
e & jet	-21 & 45	-0.8	-15.1
-Min-bias		-0.9	-16.0
-Trigger	-Threshold (e=90-95%) (GeV)	-Indiv. Rate (kHz)	-Cumul rate (kHz)
-1e/g, 2e/ g	-34, 19	-9.4	-9.4
-1m, 2m	20, 5	-7.9	-17.3
-1t, 2t	-101, 67	-8.9	-25.0
-1-jet	-250	-1.0	-25.6
-3-jets, 4-jets	-110, 95	-2.0	-26.7
Jet & Miss-ET	113 & 70	-4.5	-30.4
⊢e & jet	-25 & 52	-1.3	-31.7
-m & jet	15 & 40	-0.8	-32.5
-Min-bias		-1.0	-33.5

### **Calorimeter trigger: rates**



• Simulation

# **Calorimeter trigger: rates (Simulation)**



## **Potentially interesting event categories**

### Standard Model Higgs

- If Higgs is light (< 160GeV) : H -> <sub>=^ =^</sub> H -> ZZ\* -> 4I
- Trigger on electromagnetic clusters, lepton-pairs
- If Higgs is heavier other channels will be used to detect it
- H -> ZZ -> || = =
- H -> WW -> I⊏ jj
- H -> ZZ -> IIjj
- Need to trigger on lepton pairs, jets and missing energies

### Supersymmetry

- Neutralinos and Gravitinos generate events with missing Etmiss
- Squarks decay into multiple jets
- Higgs might decay into 2 taus (which decay into narrow jets)

## Trigger at LHC startup: L=1033cm-2s-1

### •LHC startup

- Factor 10 less pile up O(2) interactions per bunch crossing
- · Much less particles in detector
- Possible to run with lower trigger thresholds

### B-physics

- Trigger on leptons
- In particular: muons (trigger thresholds can be lower than for electrons)

### •t-quark physics

• Trigger on pairs of leptons.

# LHCb

### •Operate at L = 2 x 1032 cm-2s-1: 10 MHz event rate

### •LvI0: 2-4 us latency, 1MHz output

• Pile-up veto, calorimeter, muon

#### •Pile up veto

 Can only tolerate one interaction per bunch crossing since otherwise always a displaced vertex would be found by trigger
# LHCb : study of B-decays (CP)



### CMS isolated e/y performance



# The 1st level trigger at LHC experiments

#### **Requirement:**

#### Do not introduce (a lot of) dead-time

- O(1%) is tolerated
- Introduced by trigger rules : not more than n triggers in m BX
- Needed by FE electronics

#### **Need to implement pipelines**

- Need to store data of all BX for latency of 1st level trigger
- Typical : 107 channels / detector some GB pipeline memory
  - and derandomizer buffers
- Also the trigger itself is "pipelined"

#### Trigger must have low latency (2-3 -#s)

Otherwise pipelines would have to be very long



# LHC Detector: main principle



# Each layer identifies and enables the measurement of the momentum or energy of the particles produced in a collision

### **Redundancy in the CMS Muon trigger**

#### Generated Muons versus trigger rate (simulation)



CERN / CMS / CMD

# Triggering at LHC : what info can be used

#### •Measurements with Calorimeters and Muon chamber system

### Transverse Momentum of muons

- Measurement of muon p, in magnetic field
- p<sub>t</sub> is the interesting quantity:
  - Total p, is 0 before parton collision (pt conservation)
  - High p, is indication of hard scattering process (i.e. decay of heavy particle)
  - Detectors can measure precisely p<sub>t</sub>

### •Energy

- Electromagnetic energy for electrons and photons
- Hadronic energy for jet measurements, jet counting, tau identification
- Like for momentum measurement: E<sub>1</sub> is the interesting quantity
- Missing E<sub>t</sub> can be determined (important for new physics)

# Muon Track Finding Efficiency (CMS DT)

#### Technique tag & probe

- J/Ψ -> μμ,
- one µ satisfied trigger, the other used to measure efficiency
- Inefficiency understood hardware problem



### •ASIC (Application Specific Integrated Circuit)

- Can be produced radiation tolerant (for "on detector" electronics)
- Can contain "mixed" design: analog and digital electronics
- Various design methods: from transistor level to high level libraries
- In some cases more economic (large numbers, or specific functionality)
- Disadvantages:
- Higher development "risk" (a development cycle is expensive)
- Long development cycles than FPGAs
  - No bugs tolerable -> extensive simulation necessary

#### •Example :

- ASIC to determine ET and to identify the Bunch Crossing (BX) from the ATLAS calorimeter signals
- Coincidence matrix in Muon Trigger of ATLAS

### **Trigger implementation (III)**

### •Key characteristics of Trigger Electronic boards

- Large cards because of large number of IO channels
- Many identical channels processing data in parallel
- This keeps latency low
- Pipelined architecture
- New data arrives every 25ns
- Custom high speed links
- Backplane parallel busses for in-crate connections
- LVDS links for short (O(10m)) inter-crate connections (LVDS: Low Voltage Differential Signaling)