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The AliRoot framework, status and perspectives

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The ALICE collaboration at the LHC is developing since 1998 an OO offline framework, written entirely in C++.
In 2001 a GRID system (AliEn - ALICE Environment) has been added and successfully integrated with ROOT and the offline. The resulting combination allows ALICE to do most of the design of the detector and test the validity of its computing model by performing large scale Data Challenges, using OO technology in a distributed framework. The early migration of all ALICE users to C++ and the adoption of advanced software development techniques are two of the strong points of the ALICE offline strategy. The offline framework is heavily based on virtual interfaces, which allows the use of different generators and even different Monte-Carlo transport codes with no change in the framework or the scoring, reconstruction and analysis code. This talk presents a review of the development path, current status and future perspectives of the ALICE Offline environment.

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