

19th April 2021

Outreach and educational activities forum

Virtual visits to CERN: How to make them look realistic during a pandemic

Chiara De Martin, Valentina Zaccolo
on behalf of the Trieste Group



ALICE



ALICE

Before the pandemic...



In Trieste, we traditionally organise a 2-days trip to CERN for third year students (~30)

9:00 – 11:00 ¹ Visita esperimento ALICE
Visita della ALICE Exhibition e discesa alla caverna sperimentale

11:00 – 11:40 Seminario sui laboratori del CERN

12:10 – 13:00 ² Visita struttura SM18
Visita alla struttura di test dei criomagneti

13:30 Pranzo alla mensa del CERN (a carico dei partecipanti)

14:45 – 15:30 ³ Visita alla mostra “L’Universo di Particelle” (Globo)

16:30 – 17:30 ⁴ Visita esperimento COMPASS



9:00 – 12:00 ⁵ Visita esperimento ATLAS
Visita della stanza di controllo e discesa alla caverna sperimentale

⁶ Visita alla mostra “Microcosmo”





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... during the pandemic



We decided to do a 2-days virtual visit to CERN (not only ALICE)

- organisation through indico (starting from registration to the event)
<https://agenda.infn.it/e/viaggioalcern2021>
- virtual visits organised via Zoom
- usage of [Gather.town](#): 2D virtual platform to encourage interaction among participants

Benvenuti! <i>Virtuale</i>
Seminario sui laboratori del CERN <i>Virtuale</i>
Visita all'esperimento <u>ALICE</u> <i>Virtuale</i>
Pausa caffè <i>Virtuale</i>
Domande e risposte <i>Virtuale</i>
Visita struttura <u>SM18</u> <i>Virtuale</i>

Ritrovo in gather.town <i>Virtuale</i>
Diretta dalla camera pulita di Trieste <i>Virtuale</i>
Seminario sull'esperimento <u>ATLAS</u> <i>Virtuale</i>
Visita esperimento ATLAS <i>Virtuale</i>
Pausa caffè <i>Virtuale</i>
Visita al <u>data centre del CERN</u> <i>Virtuale</i>
Domande e risposte <i>Virtuale</i>



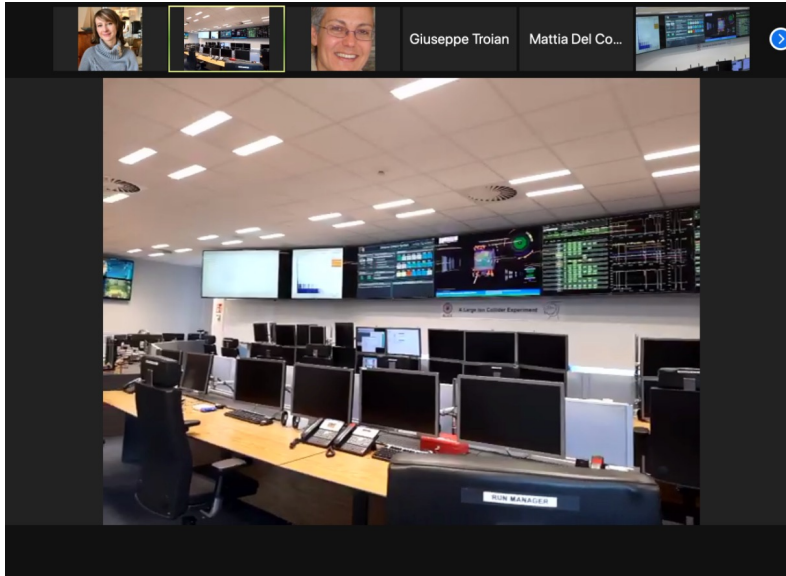
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The “traditional” visit: ALICE



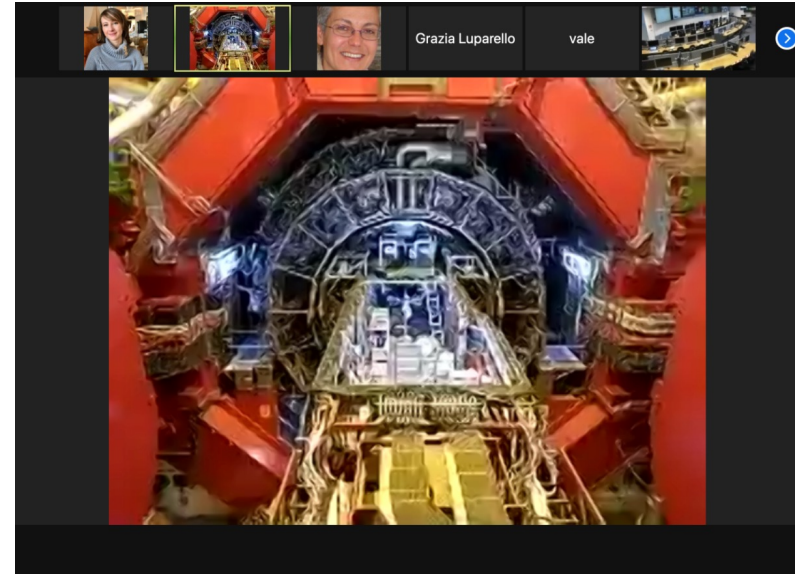
1. Visit to the ALICE Run Control Centre
2. Visit to the cavern

Thanks to Despina
and Stefano Panebianco!



Overall, very nice!

Downside: connection in the cavern
quite unstable

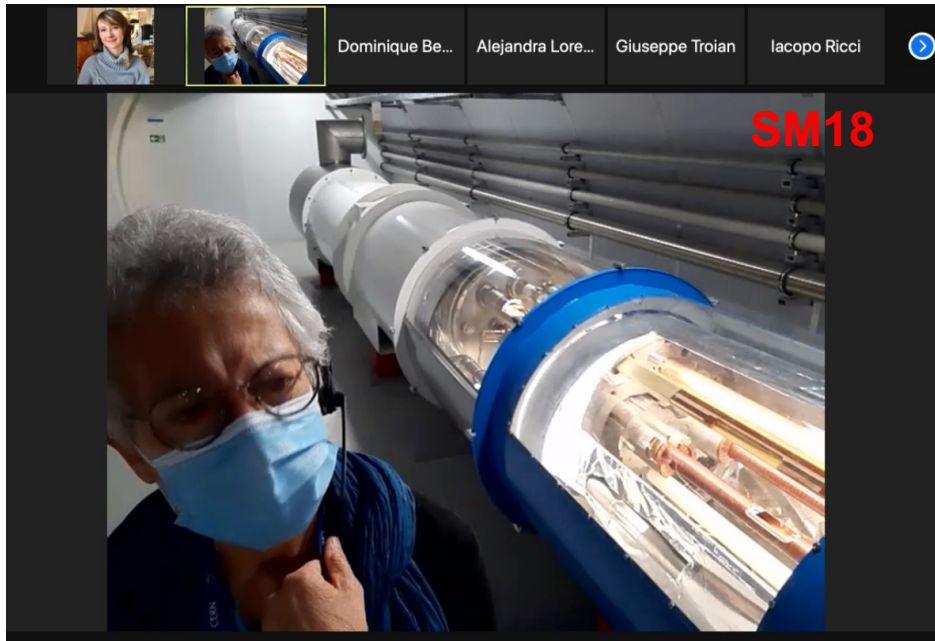




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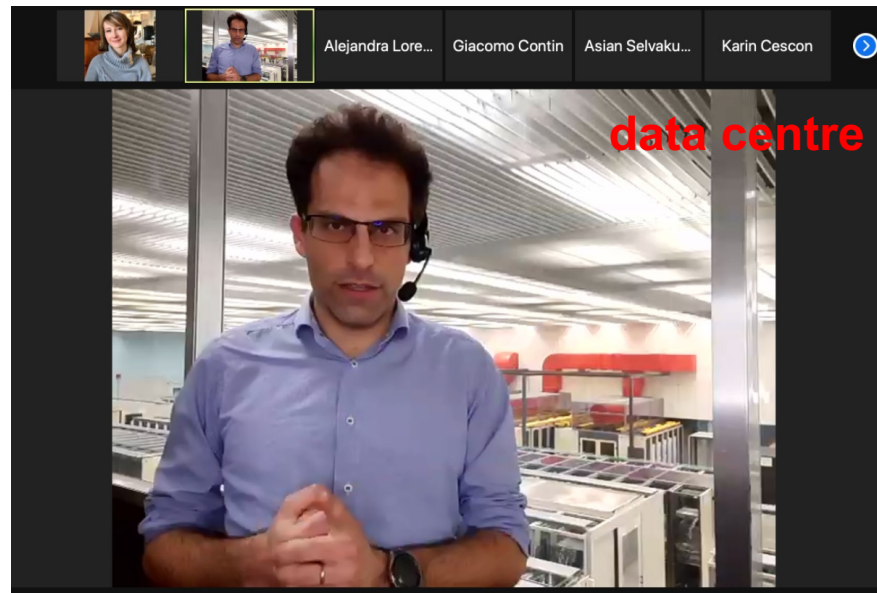


The “traditional” visit: SM18 and data centre



Students appreciated these two visits a lot: general-interest topics

Thanks to Despina and Giuseppe Lo Presti!

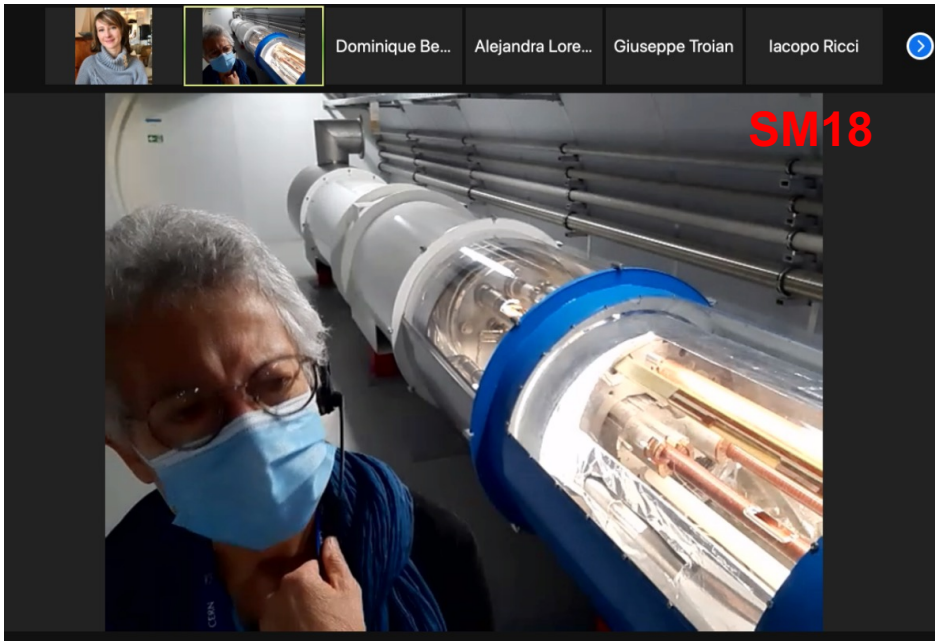




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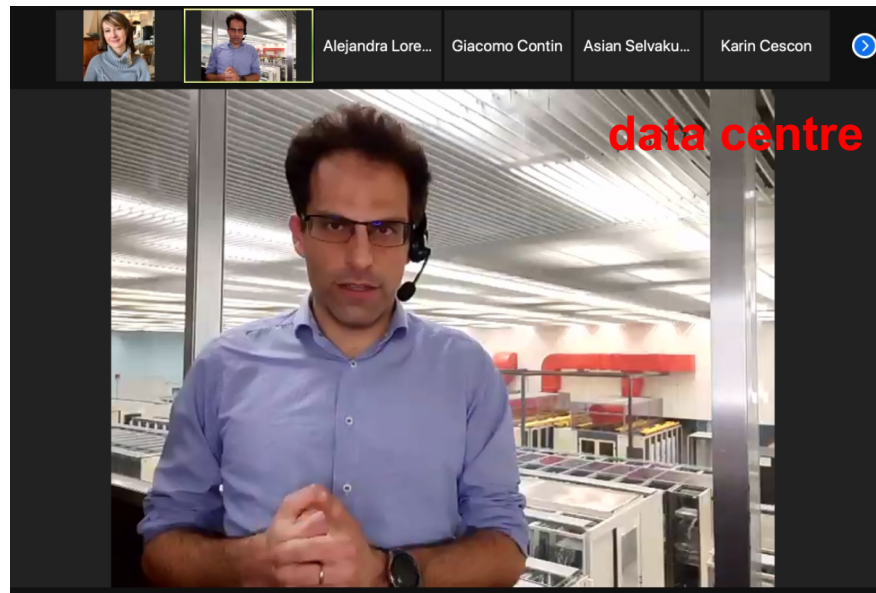


The “traditional” visit: SM18 and data centre



Students appreciated these two visits a lot: general-interest topics + ATLAS → organised by colleagues

Thanks to Despina and Giuseppe Lo Presti!





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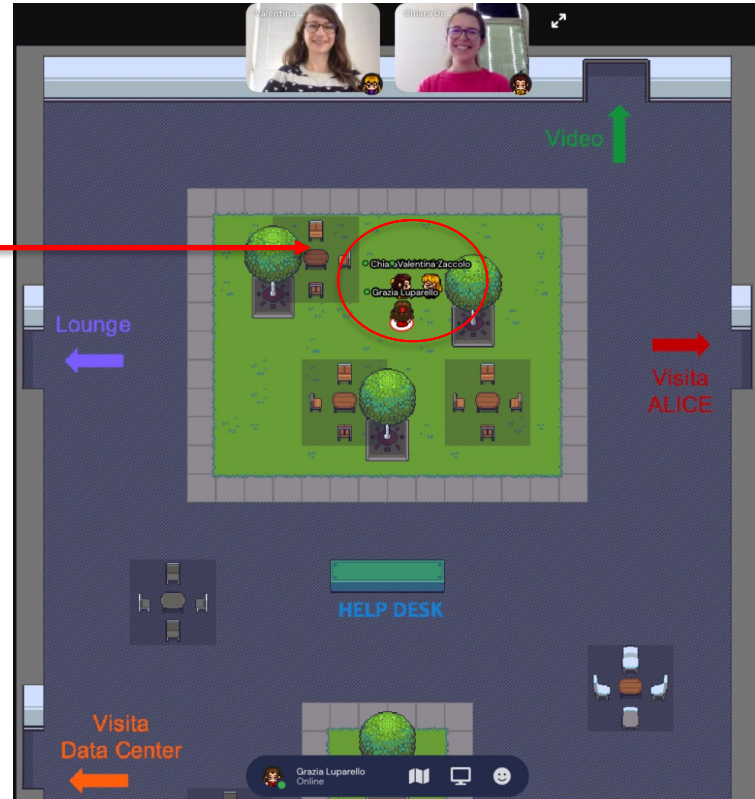
Interaction platform: how to make it real?



The purpose of the trip is to trigger the interest of our students on particle physics → promote interactions with us!

Gather.town is a 2D virtual environment where you can move with your avatar and **interact with your neighbors**

- free below 25 participants
- environment created to meet our needs from an existing template



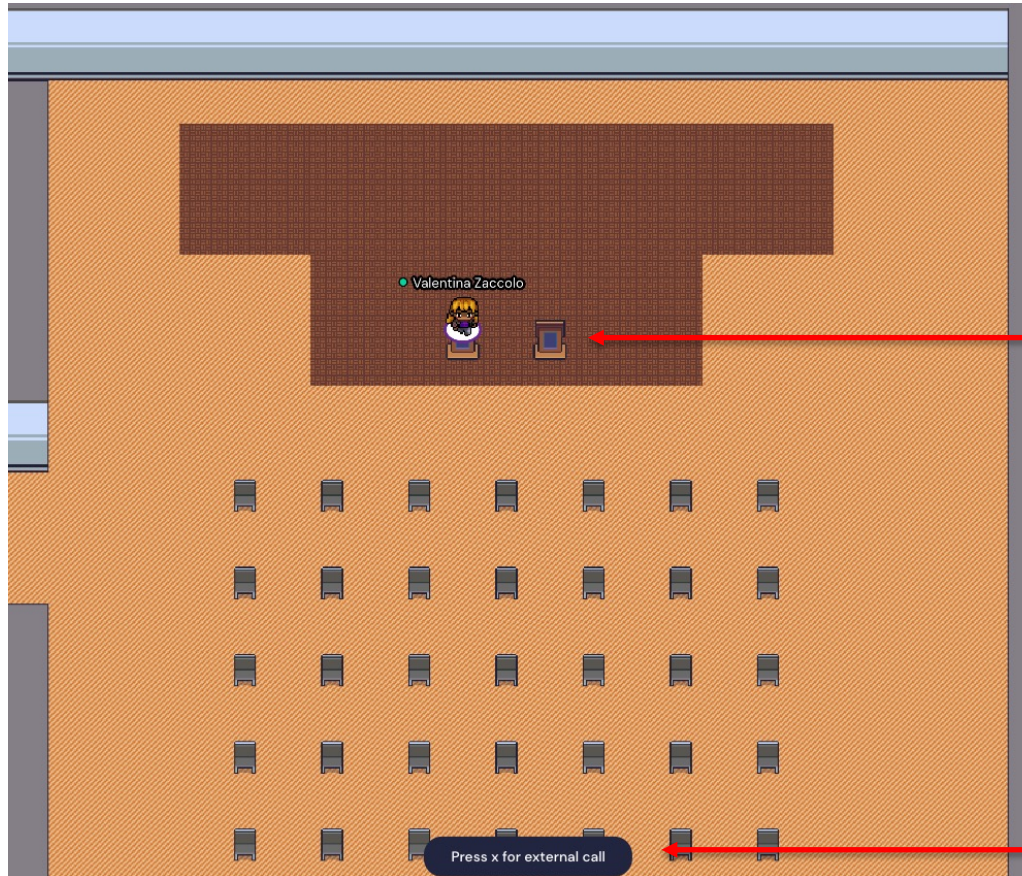


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Interaction platform: how to make it real?



Virtual visit rooms



when spotlighted
you broadcast
to entire room

pressing x you enter
the specific Zoom room
for the visit

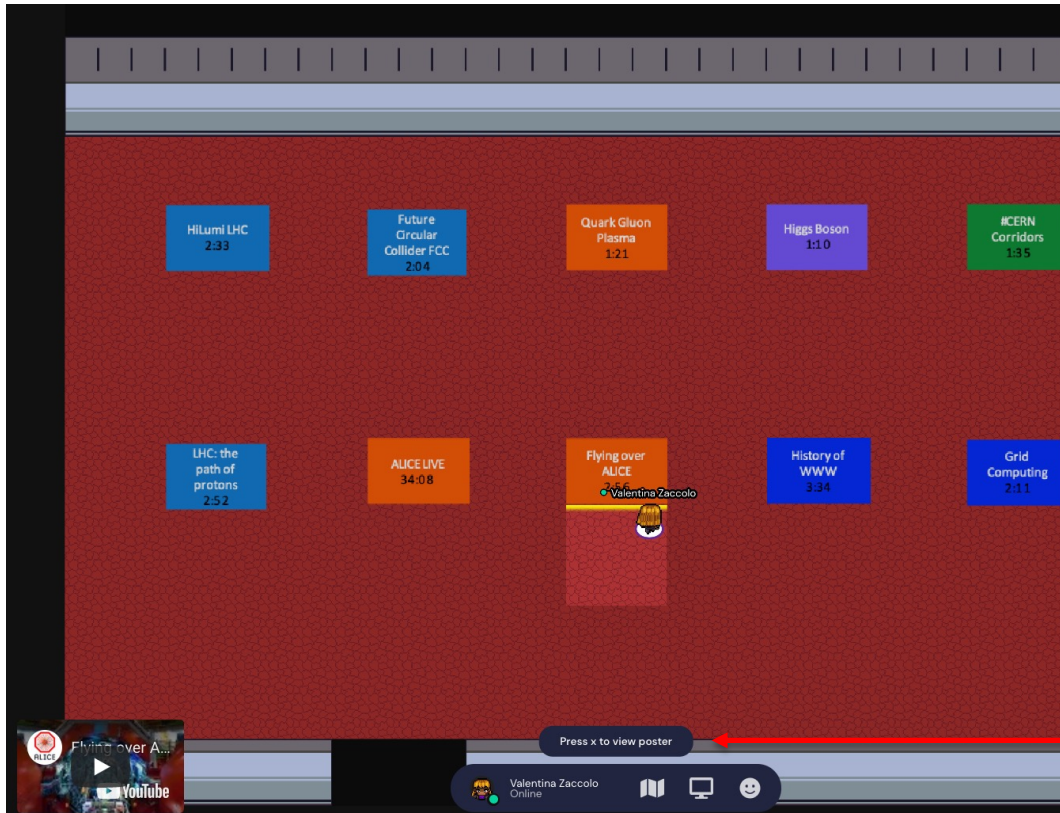


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Interaction platform: how to make it real?



Room with videos content: students can browse during coffee breaks



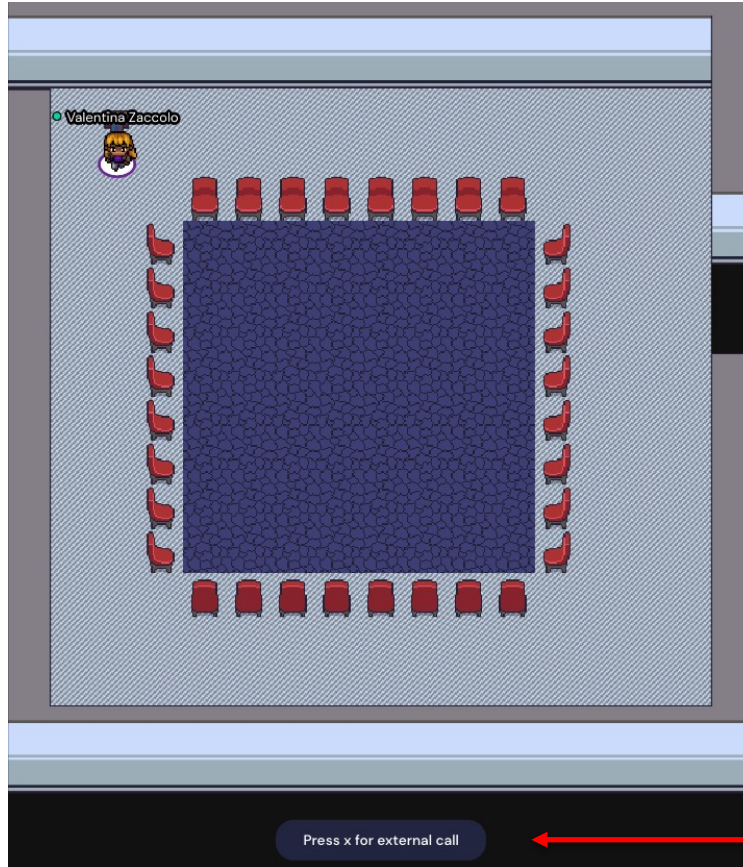


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Interaction platform: how to make it real?



Room for seminars
mimicking
a traditional
meeting's room



pressing x you enter Zoom



Interaction platform: how to make it real?



Lounge room

- Q&A sessions
- tables are private spaces: students can “sit” with one of us and ask questions

much appreciated!





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Conclusions and outlook



We hope to have back the real visits next year... despite that:

- students interacted a lot with us (and among themselves) during pandemic and lockdown times
- managed to make it less boring

*Many thanks to Despina
for organizing all the visits*

