

Computing For LHC Experiments

...with a special focus on ATLAS...

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CERN

Experimental Physics Dept.

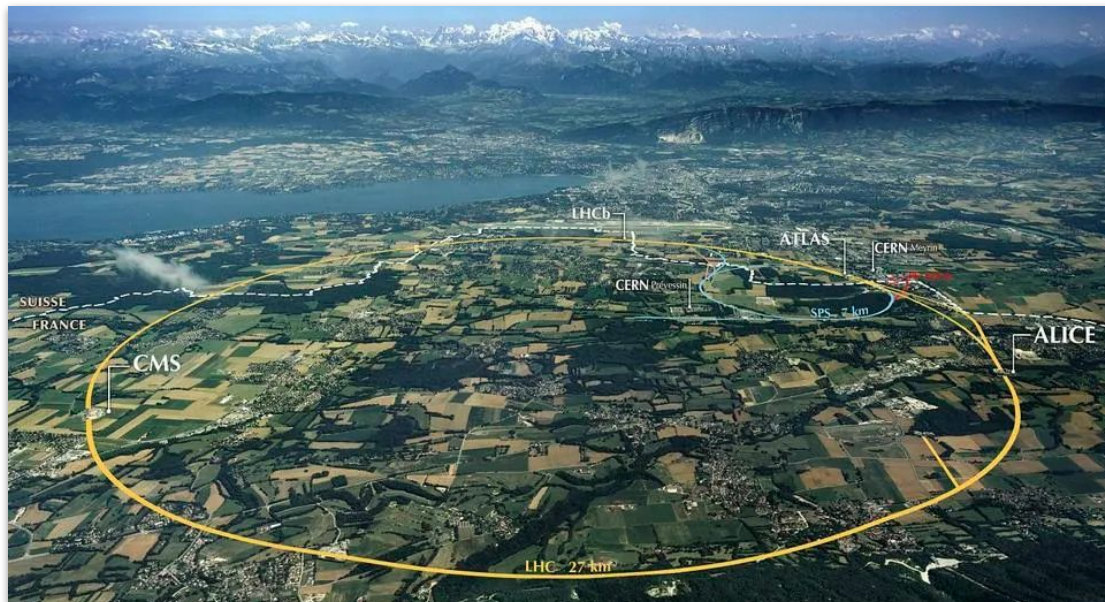
CS3 2024 - Cloud Storage Synchronisation and Sharing

2024-03-12

<https://indico.cern.ch/event/1332413>



The Large Hadron Collider (LHC)



Exploration of the energy frontier in proton and ion collisions

27 km circumference, 50-175 metres below the surface

More than 10'000 superconducting magnets, cooled down close to absolute zero (1.9K)

Also represents a new frontier in physics data volume

Between them, the LHC experiments generate ~ 150 PB of collision data/year

The ATLAS Collaboration



3000

Scientific authors



182

Institutions



42

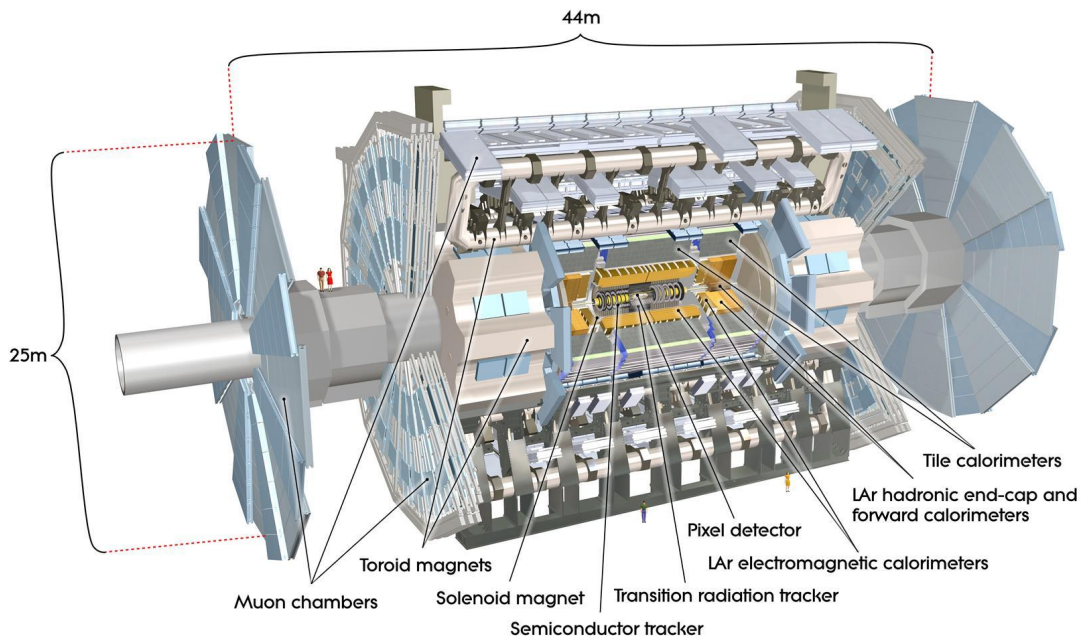
Countries



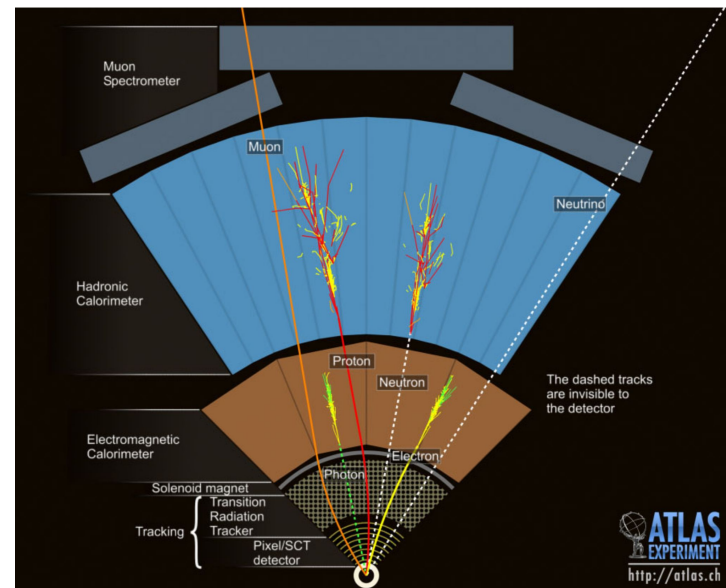
1200

Doctoral students





25 m diameter 44 m length 7000 tons
150 million readout channels
3 kHz event rate after filtering



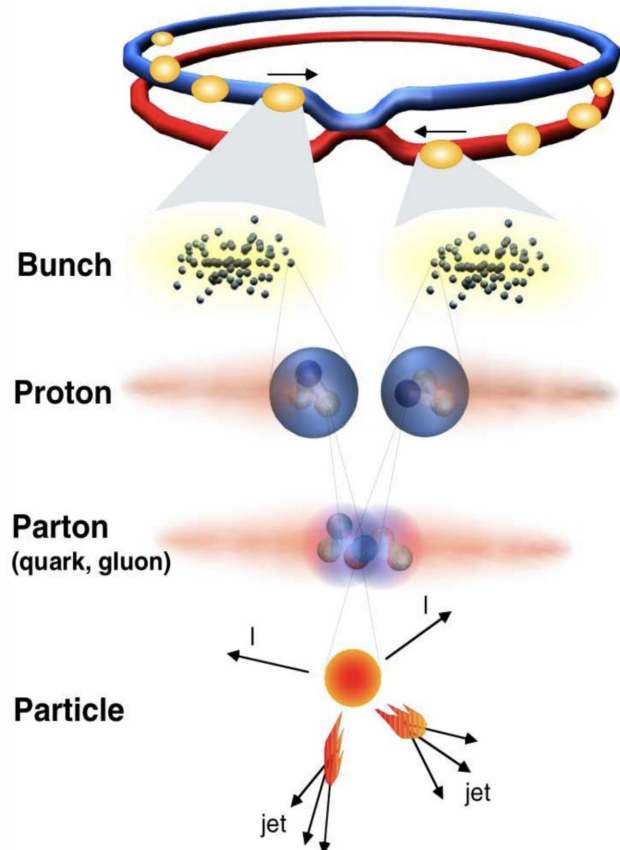
Sophisticated magnet system to constrain and bend the particle tracks

Central Solenoid Magnet, Barrel Toroid, and End-cap Toroids

Specialised sub detectors arranged in layers

Particle tracking (Pixel detector, silicon strip tracker, transition radiation tracker)

Energy/momentum measurements (Liquid argon calorimeter, tile calorimeter, muon spectrometer)



Run 1 data (2011-2013)

Centre of mass energy 7-8 TeV

Run 2 data (2015-2018)

Centre of mass energy 13 TeV

Run 3 data (since 2022)

Centre of mass energy 13.6 TeV

Resolution of 25ns

Nominal 10^{11} protons per bunch

Bunches cross at 40 MHz

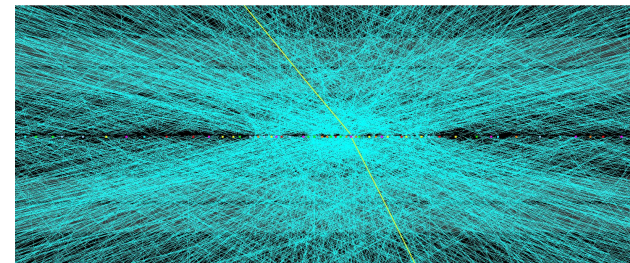
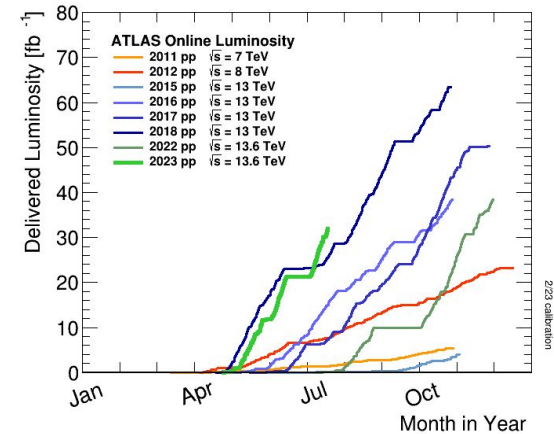
1.5B collisions / second

Pile-up

Nr collisions per bunch-crossing

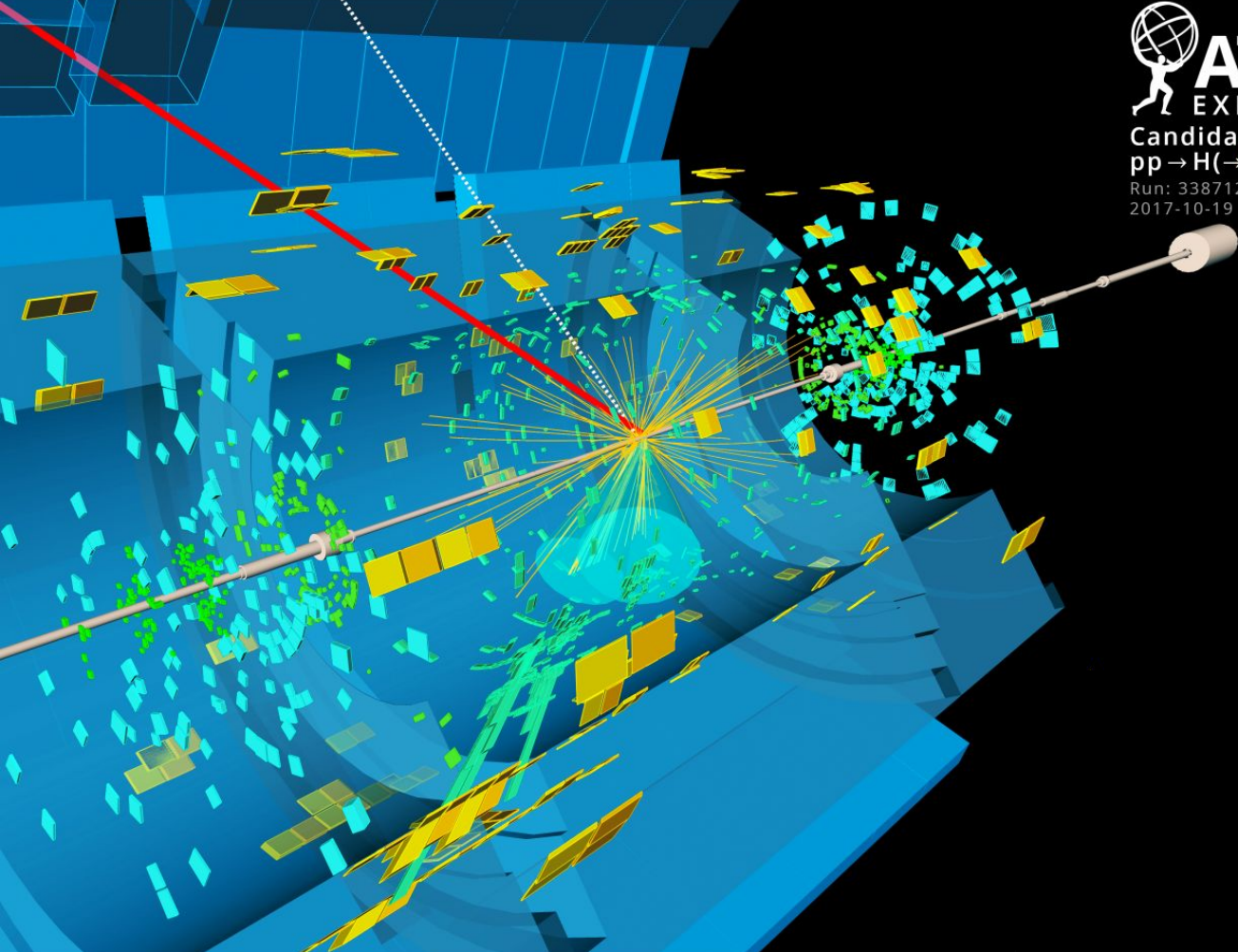
Trigger and event selection

Suppression factor of up to 10^{-10}



Candidate Event:
 $pp \rightarrow H(\rightarrow bb) + W(\rightarrow \mu\nu)$

Run: 338712 Event: 335908183
2017-10-19 23:31:18 CEST



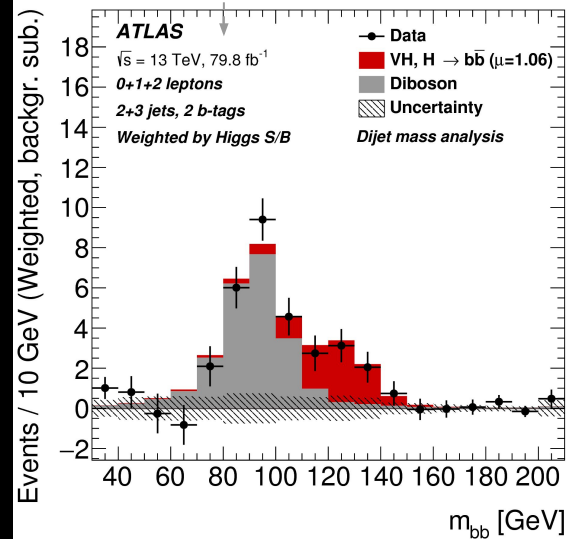
1 Analysis

13 TeV detector data

8 quadrillion collision candidates
92 petabytes
130 million files

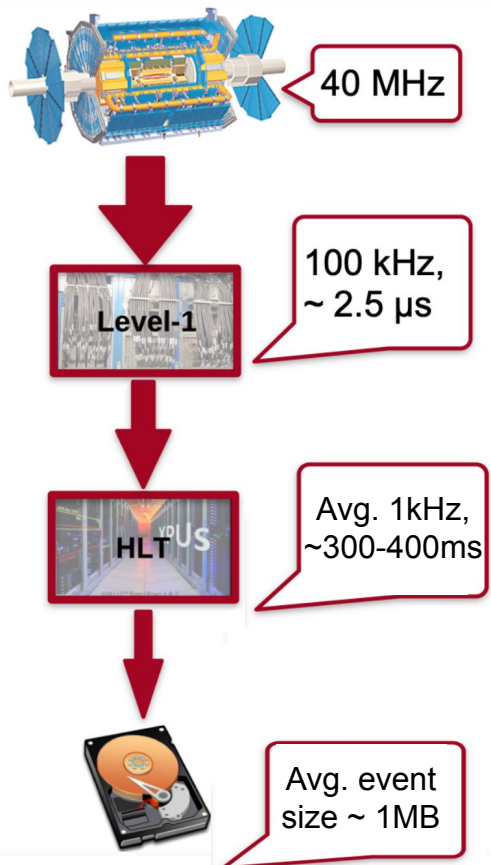
13 TeV simulation data

166 petabytes
544 million files



A candidate event display for the production of a Higgs boson decaying to two b-quarks (blue cones), in association with a W boson decaying to a muon (red) and a neutrino. The neutrino leaves the detector unseen, and is reconstructed through the missing transverse energy (dashed line).

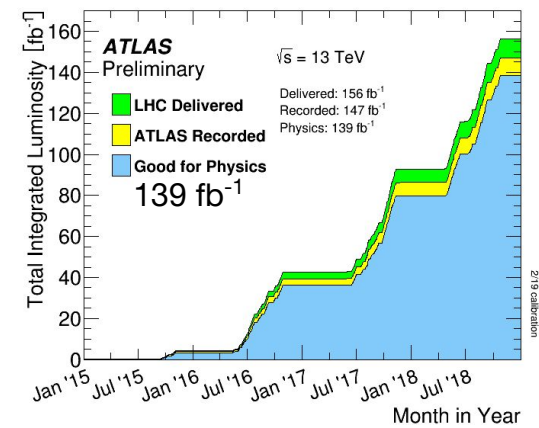
Trigger and data acquisition in LHC Run-2



Level 1 Hardware Trigger 100 kHz
 First selection based on calorimeter and muon systems
 Rate / Latency limit from detector and trigger hardware

High Level Software Trigger 1 kHz
 Processing time of 300-400ms
 Size of HLT farm comprising ~100k cores
 Final output rate ~ 1kHz

In Run-3 this increased substantially
 Acceptance rate at 3 kHz
 Event size increased to 3MB



Main physics stream

| Year | Raw events | SFO total volume | SFO event volume |
|------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| 2015 | 1,694,555,330 | 1.4 PB | 828.2 KB |
| 2016 | 5,387,420,813 | 4.9 PB | 1004.8 KB |
| 2017 | 5,649,311,254 | 5.5 PB | 1 MB |
| 2018 | 6,400,342,575 | 6.2 PB | 1 MB |

19 billion events collected by ATLAS

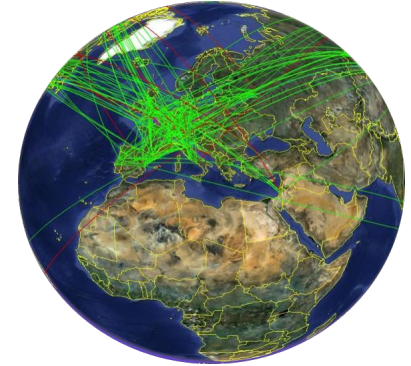
18 PB of raw data

A global shared infrastructure



Worldwide LHC Computing Grid (WLCG)

- Global collaboration** of 170 institutes & laboratories
- Shared** across the experiments
- Provides resources** to store and analyse all experiment data
- Heterogeneous** installations in different administrative domains
- Over 1 Million cores** of computational resources
- 2 Exabyte of data** stored across all experiments
- Long-term and forward looking **sustainable technology R&D programmes**

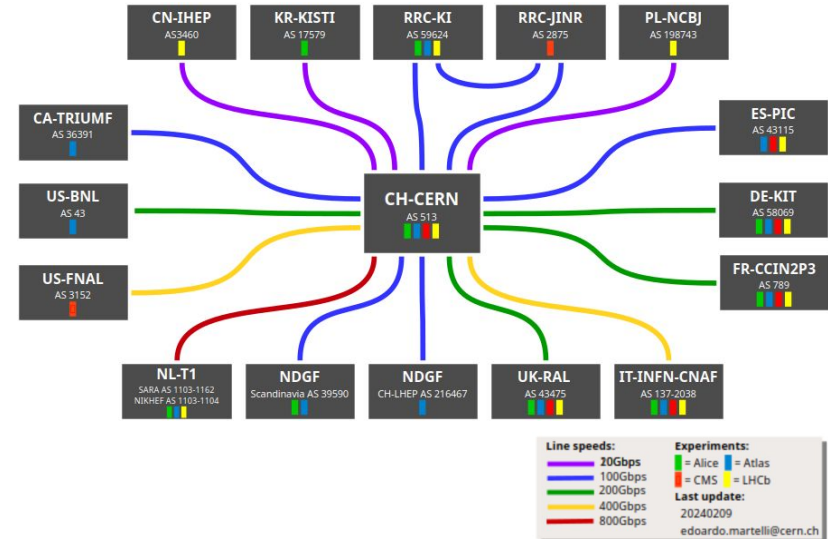


Terabit scale global network connectivity

- Supports the experiments **data needs**
- Archival, transport, and processing**
- Dedicated **optical private networks**
- Peered** with NRENs and commercial clouds
- Overlays** available for all resources

Tuned to support complex data flows

- Long flows shipping multiple **Petabytes per day**
- Latency-aware** remote interactive analysis



Zooming into ATLAS again

ATLAS Distributed Computing (ADC) comprises the hardware, software, and operations to

Support **distributed computing activities** of the experiments

Support the **evolving needs** of the experiment

Running 24 / 7 / 365

Computing never stops

80+ people contributing centrally

50+ people across the WLCG

Four major areas

Physics activities requiring computing

Infrastructure & operations

Data management

Workload & workflow management

| PHYSICS |
|--|
| Production Coordination <i>M. Borodin</i> |
| Analysis Coordination <i>A. Forti</i> |
| Centralised Production Monte Carlo Production Group Production Data Reprocessing Physics Validation HLT Reprocessing |
| Physics Analysis User Analysis Tools Analysis Model Group DAST |

| FABRICS |
|--|
| Coordination <i>V. Garonne</i> |
| Infrastructure Tier-0 Grid HPC Cloud BOINC Analysis Facilities |
| Operations Computing Run Coordination DA Operations DPA Operations Central Services CRIC HammerCloud Monitoring ADCoS |

| DATA MANAGEMENT |
|--|
| Coordination <i>S. McKee, P. Vokac</i> |
| System Rucio |
| Operations System Deployment DDM Central Operations Monitoring |
| Research Networks Caches Storage Cloud |

| WORKFLOW MANAGEMENT |
|---|
| Coordination <i>R. Walker, F. Barreiro Megino</i> |
| System Workflow Definition Workload Management Workload Execution |
| Operations System Deployment Monitoring |
| Research Data Analytics Analysis Facilities Cloud HPC |

Plus many task forces and working groups, e.g., HPC or monitoring

Global high-throughput computing system

Steady 600k to 800k running jobs, with **full spread** of **experiment activities**

Spread across ~250 clusters **worldwide**

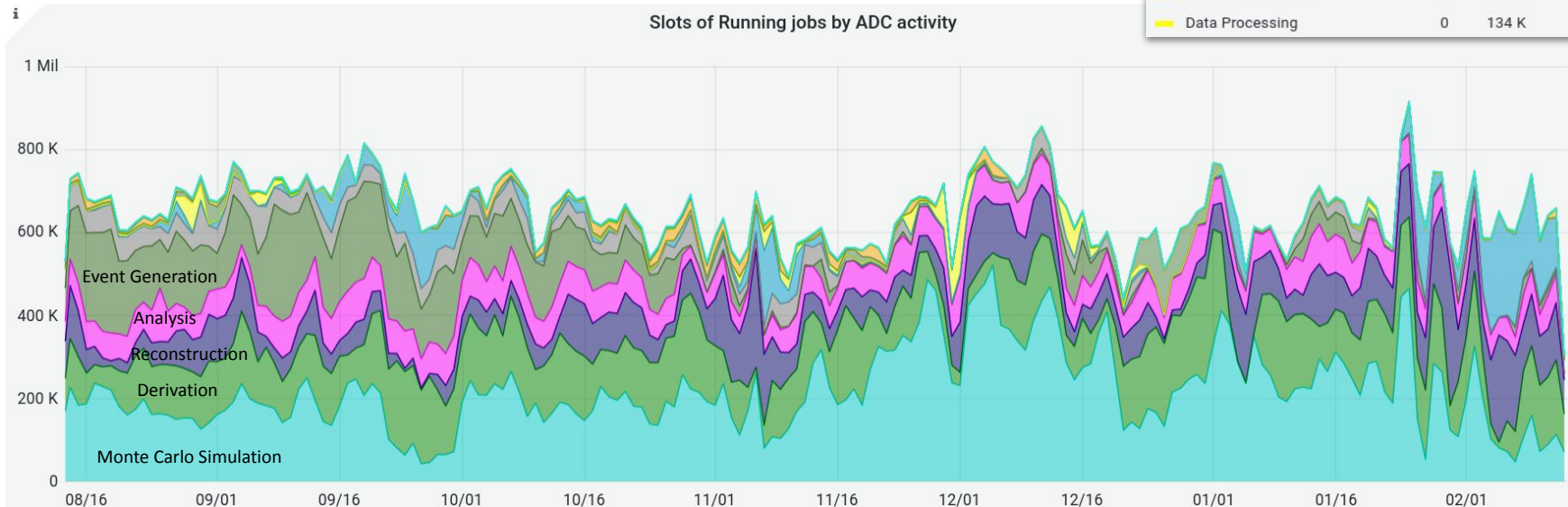
Sophisticated scheduling system

Physics campaigns spread across **processing tasks**

Tasks are **split into jobs** based on available computational resources

| | min | max | avg |
|---------------------|--------|-------|--------|
| MC Simulation Full | 8.34 K | 500 K | 172 K |
| Group Production | 1.40 K | 279 K | 129 K |
| MC Reconstruction | 5.59 K | 338 K | 85.0 K |
| User Analysis | 13.4 K | 129 K | 68.5 K |
| MC Event Generation | 77.8 | 270 K | 68.0 K |
| Group Analysis | 277 | 116 K | 28.7 K |
| MC Simulation Fast | 0 | 251 K | 28.2 K |
| Data Processing | 0 | 134 K | 7.32 K |

Slots of Running jobs by ADC activity



Computing power expressed in terms of HEPSPEC benchmark

1 modern x86_64 core \approx 10 HEPSPEC

ATLAS-available infrastructure is **consistently over WLCG pledge**

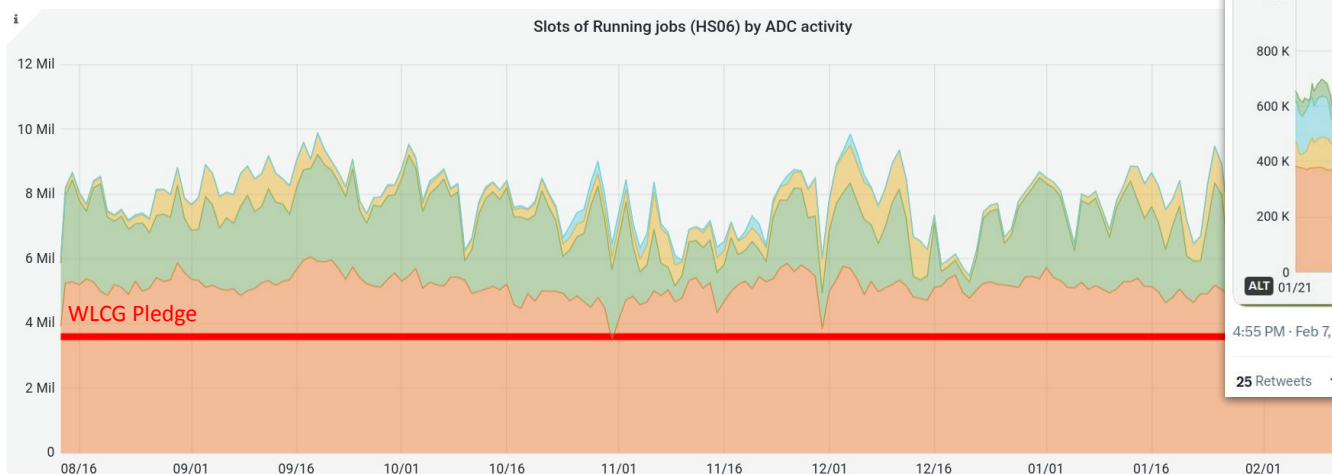
Integration of new and/or opportunistic resources

Integrating **special resources** offered to us, e.g. ARM cores or GPUs

This brings interesting **challenges in resource accounting and scheduling**

Dynamic repurposing of the online hardware during LHC downtimes

Significant contributions from EuroHPC and US HPCs



ATLAS Experiment
@ATLASexperiment

New record! For the first time, over 1 million CPU cores simultaneously contributed to ATLAS computing.

ATLAS uses a global network of data centres to perform data processing and analysis, including HPC (supercomputers) in the US & Europe and the Worldwide LHC Computing Grid.

4:55 PM · Feb 7, 2023 · 5,426 Views

25 Retweets 1 Quote Tweet 67 Likes

Experiment job mix

Globally configured shares are employed to allocate the available resources among the activities

- Done by **agreement** between the various physics groups
- Hierarchical** implementation of the configuration parameters
- Related activities have the opportunity to **inherit idle resources**

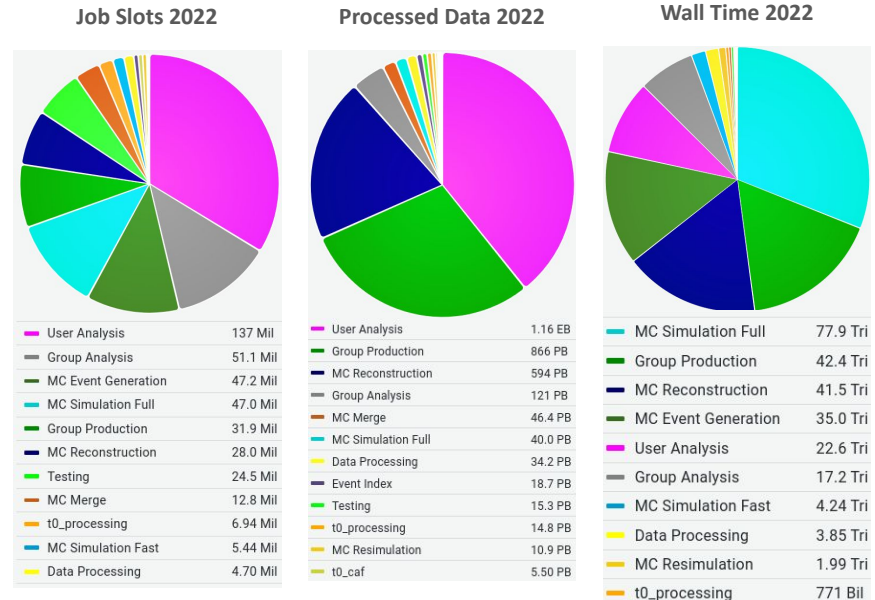
Essentially two major categories of jobs

- Production** Data processing and reprocessing
Event Generation / Simulation / Reconstruction
Derivation
- Analysis** User Analysis
Group Analysis

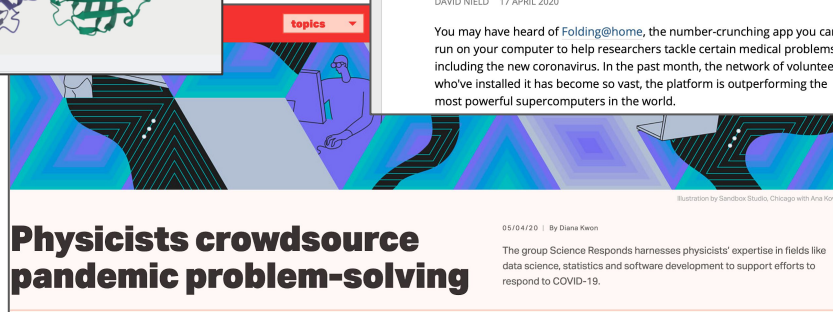
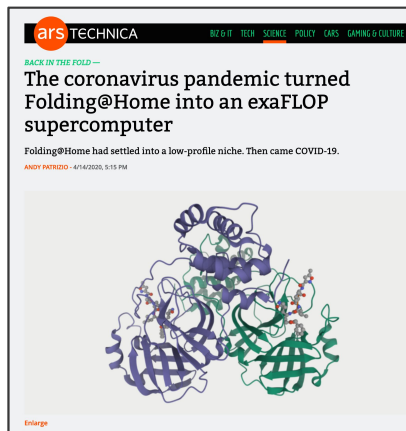
The main activity at a given time can depend on many things

- Data **reprocessing** or Monte Carlo **production** campaigns
- Conference** deadlines, need for an increase for user analysis

and ... global **pandemics** ...



Helping with COVID research



Team: CERN & LHC Computing

Date of last work unit 2020-05-26 07:16:26
 Active CPUs within 50 days 1,228,373
 Team Id 38188
 Grand Score [25,931,972,247](#)
 Work Unit Count [7,067,253](#)
 Team Ranking 25 of 253595
 Homepage <http://public.web.cern.ch/public/>
 Fast Teampage URL <https://apps.foldingathome.org/teamstats/team38188.html>

Team members

| Rank | Name | Credit | WU's |
|--------|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| 38 | CMS-Experiment | 10,290,021,099 | 2,059,008 |
| 56 | ATLAS_CPU | 8,347,461,690 | 2,028,906 |
| 366 | LHCbHLT | 1,825,988,340 | 287,261 |
| 397 | ALICE-FLP | 1,695,094,633 | 149,989 |
| 463 | CERN_Cloud | 1,495,243,514 | 675,048 |
| 1,093 | DESY-ZN_GPU | 699,405,834 | 5,197 |
| 3,119 | UC_ATLAS-ML | 229,128,604 | 115,034 |
| 3,889 | CMSDCS | 178,594,476 | 19,905 |
| 4,540 | BNL_HPC_CPU | 149,043,910 | 8,998 |
| 5,878 | ALICE-CS | 110,367,581 | 19,339 |
| 6,915 | ANALY_MANC_GPU | 92,839,127 | 4,360 |
| 9,999 | Cloverfield | 62,682,810 | 524 |
| 16,767 | Pic | 36,401,454 | 10,031 |
| 19,147 | ALICE-CERN | 32,702,236 | 53,682 |
| 21,035 | ANALY_MWT2_GPU | 29,835,413 | 1,346 |
| 21,243 | TheLaboratoire | 29,493,588 | 479 |
| 22,499 | CERN_openlab | 27,816,689 | 26,637 |
| 12,133 | Alpinewolf | 26,465,743 | 408 |
| 23,717 | ANALY_LRZ_GPU | 26,285,509 | 1,950 |
| 24,352 | ryukisai | 25,219,040 | 157 |

Integrated CERN and WLCG resources with Folding@Home project

First with our **Tier-0** resources, then including the **trigger farm**

Then included **CPU and GPU** resources from the WLCG

Analysis share backfill pushed us beyond 60k concurrent jobs

ATLAS relies on CVMFS (CERN VM FileSystem)

Network file system based on HTTP

Optimized to deliver experiment software

New SW pushed into the system at CERN Stratum-0

Replicated to the Stratum-1 public mirrors

Massive replication through set of Squids hosted at the sites

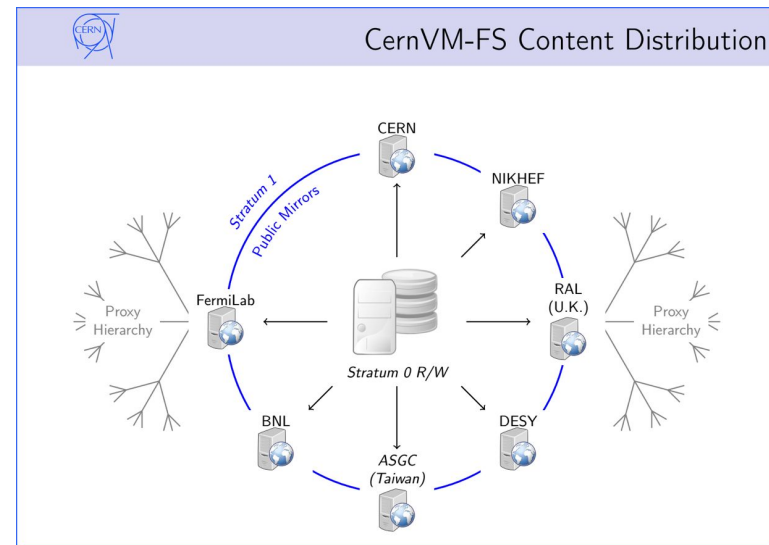
WN at sites accessing the site's squids

Resilient in case of Squid failures, retries going one level up

All standard ATLAS sites use CVMFS

Requires connection to the outside world

Not suitable for most HPC due to connectivity



Carbon efficient computing

Significant enthusiasm in the community for addressing sustainability

Efficiency and reliability of software and data centres

Bugs and failures correspond directly to **wasted CO2**

Dedicated R&D on improving site failures and user failures, retrial strategies, etc ...

Electricity mix and flexible demand

e.g., ARM using 40% less power per HEPSPREC overall than Intel

Flexible computing demand

Price and gCO2/kWh vary

Cheaper with renewables available

It matters WHEN the electricity is consumed!

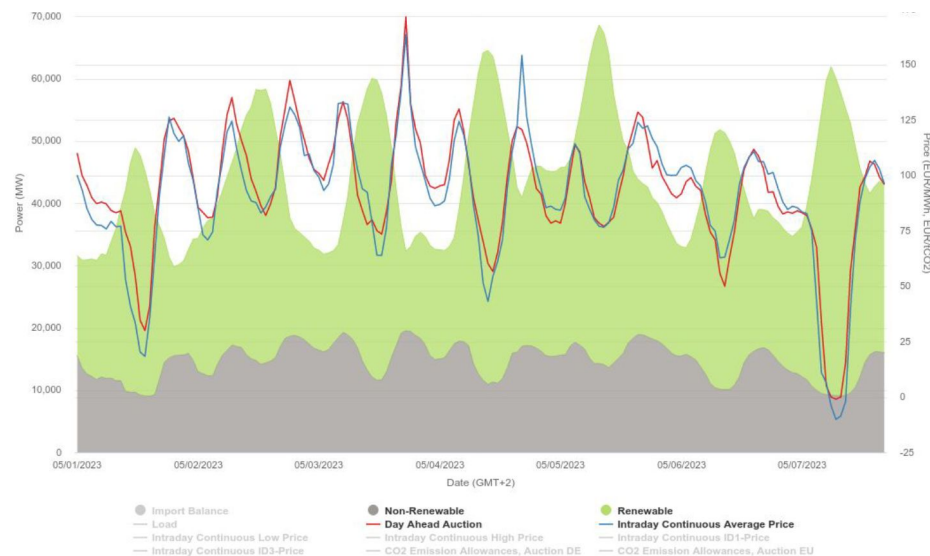
Data centre modulate power consumption?

Freeze processes to let CPU sleep

Reduce CPU frequency to minimum

Switch to battery if available

Lots of R&D ongoing now!



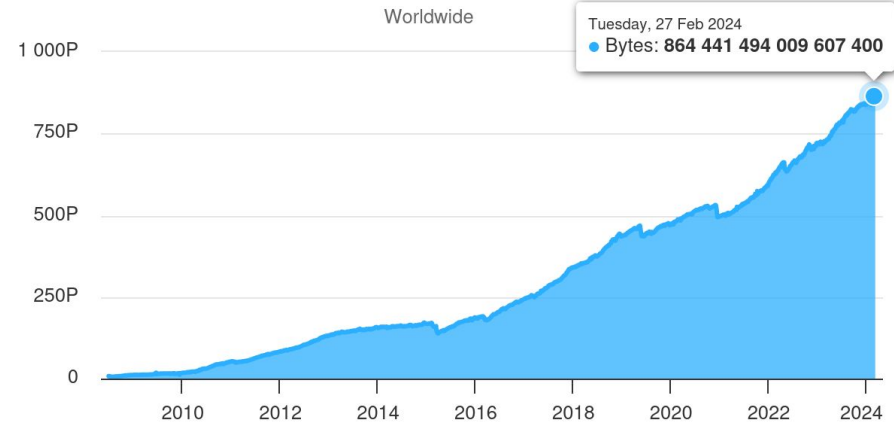
From computing to data

A few numbers about the ATLAS scale

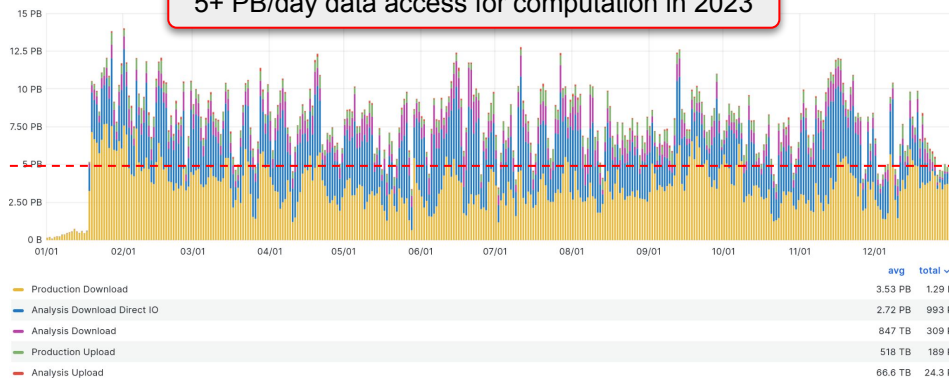
1B+ files, 850+ PB of data, 400+ Hz interaction rate
 120 data centres, 5 HPCs, 3 clouds, 1000+ users
 1.5 Exabytes/year transferred
 3 Exabytes/year uploaded & downloaded

Efficient data management is the key

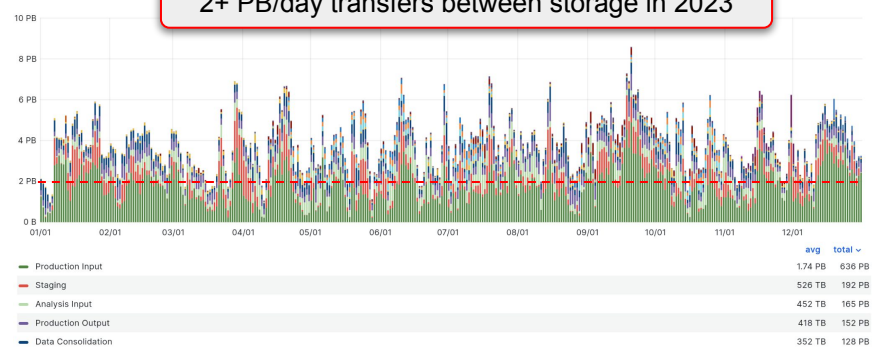
We have developed a system to do that, called **Rucio**



5+ PB/day data access for computation in 2023



2+ PB/day transfers between storage in 2023



Rucio provides a mature and modular scientific **data management federation**

Seamless integration of **scientific and commercial** storage and their network systems

Data is stored in a **global unified namespace** and can contain **any potential payload**

Facilities can be **distributed at geographically independent locations** belonging to **different administrative domains**

Designed with **more than a decade of operational experience** in very large-scale data management

Rucio is location-aware and manages data in a heterogeneous distributed environment

Creation, location, transfer, deletion, annotation, and access

Orchestration of dataflows with both low-level and high-level policies

Principally developed by and for the ATLAS Experiment, now with many more communities

Rucio is **free and open-source software** licenced under *Apache v2.0*

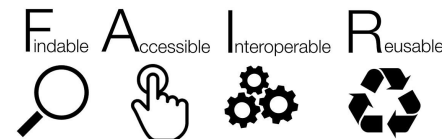
Open **community-driven** development process



Provides many features that can be enabled selectively

More advanced features

- Horizontally scalable catalog** for files, collections, and metadata
- Transfers between facilities including **disk, tapes, clouds, HPCs**
- Authentication and authorisation** for users and groups
- Many interfaces** available, including CLI, web, FUSE, and REST API
- Extensive monitoring** for all dataflows
- Expressive **policy engine** with rules, subscriptions, and quotas
- Automated **corruption identification and recovery**
- Transparent support for **multihop, caches, and CDN dataflows**
- Data-analytics based flow control**



Rucio is not a distributed file system, it **connects existing storage infrastructure** over the network

No Rucio software needs to run at the data centres (!)

Data centres are free to choose which storage system suits them best - **No Vendor Lock-In (!)**

Objective is to minimise human interaction as much as possible

Express what you want, not how you want it

e.g., *"Three copies of this dataset, distributed across MULTIPLE CONTINENTS, with at least one copy on TAPE"*

e.g., *"One copy of this file ANYWHERE, as long as it is a very fast DISK"*

Replication rules

Rules can be **dynamically added and removed** by all users, some pending **authorisation**

Evaluation **engine resolves all rules** and tries to satisfy them by requesting transfers and deletions

Lock data against deletion in particular places for a given lifetime

Cached replicas are **dynamically created replicas** based on traced usage over time

Workflow system can drive rules automatically, e.g., **job to data flows** or vice-versa

Subscriptions

Automatically generate rules for newly registered data matching a **set of filters or metadata**

e.g., *"All derived products from this physics channel must have a copy on TAPE"*

Full and generic metadata support

Allow Rucio to be connected to **different metadata backends** (JSON columns, MongoDB, external systems, ...)

Our disks are constantly full, and that is good thing!

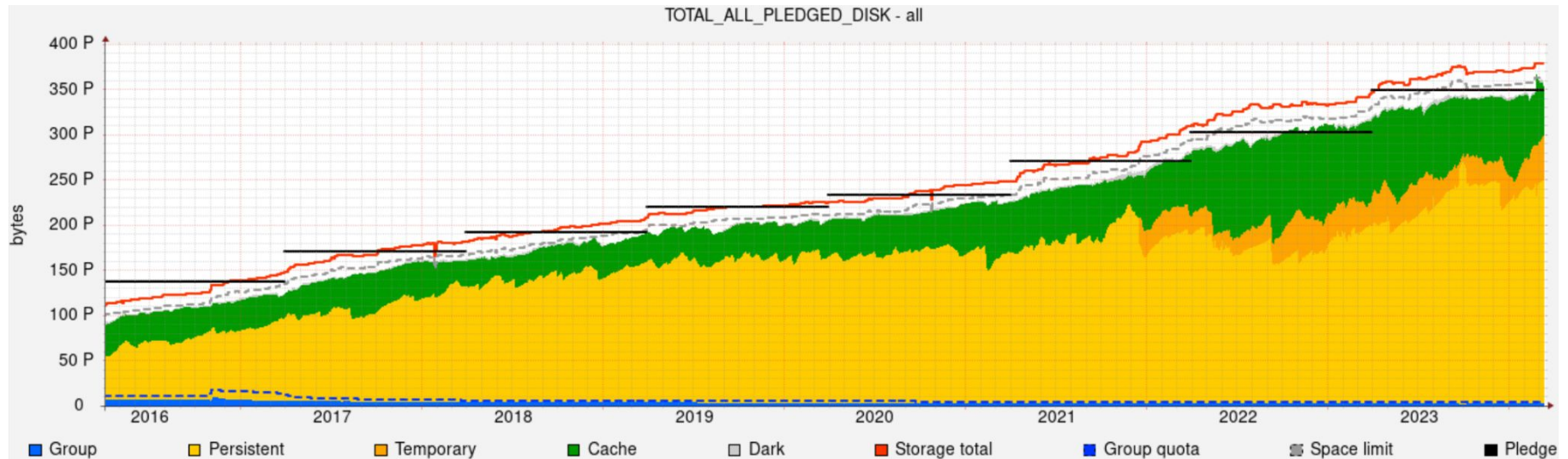
Strive for a healthy **cached-to-persistent** ratio

AOD and HITS volume is stable, DAOD grows from constant production and new physics requests

We are automating our data lifecycle as much as possible

Migrate data to tape, recycle disk resident copies as cache for faster processing, ...

Lifetime exceptions from physics groups for special analyses, ...



Speaking of analyses... CS3 & Rucio?

A great idea (or so I thought), and a bad photoshop

Rucio namespace integration

playground > sandbox
Last Checkpoint: 20 minutes ago (unsaved changes)

FILE EDIT VIEW INSERT CELL KERNEL WIDGETS HELP

mc15_13TeV:HITS.068280...

```
In [1]: TFile *tmp1 = TFile::Open("mc15_13TeV/HITS.06828093._000096.pool.root.1");
        tmp2->ls();
```

| | | |
|------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| TFile** | mc15_13TeV | /HITS.06828093._000096.pool.root.1 |
| TFile* | mc15_13TeV | /HITS.06828093._000096.pool.root.1 |
| KEY: TTree | ##Shapes;1 | ##Shapes |
| KEY: TTree | ##Links;1 | ##Links |
| KEY: TTree | ##Shapes;1 | ##Shapes |

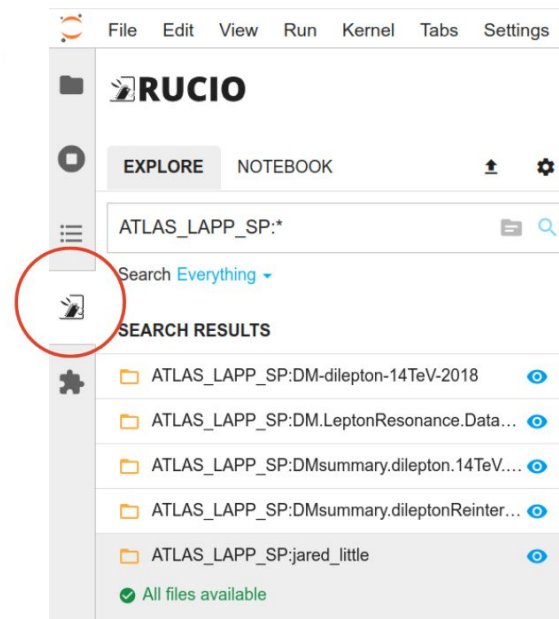
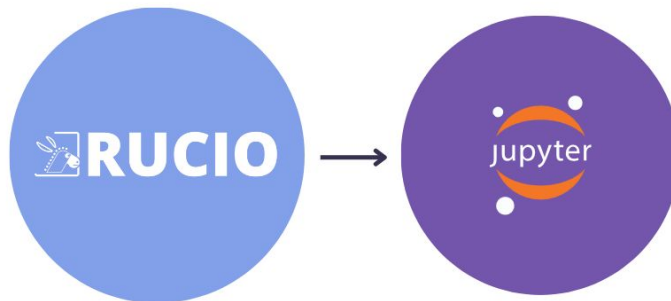
2020-01-28 Mario Lassnig :: Rucio :: CS3 21

Led to an incredible development with the **Virtual Research Environment**

Data into the notebook

The **Jupyterhub Rucio extension** hides the complexity of the Data Lake and allows users to

- browse experiments' data catalogue
- authenticate with OIDC tokens to the Rucio infrastructure
- replicate data into the notebook
- import the data into the notebook by assigning a parameter to it
- run preliminary analysis to prototype code



Rucio has become the **de-facto standard** for **open scientific data management**

Used by CERN-based experiments
And non-CERN experiments

ATLAS, CMS, AMS
XENON, Belle II, LBNF/DUNE, SBN/ICARUS,
KIS Solar, LIGO/VIRGO/KAGRA,
CTAO, Vera Rubin Observatory, ...
Copernicus, SKA, EIC/ePIC, ...

Under evaluation by many others

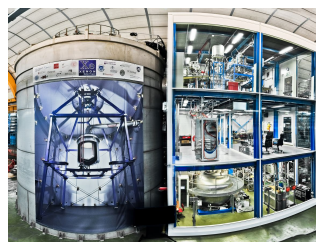
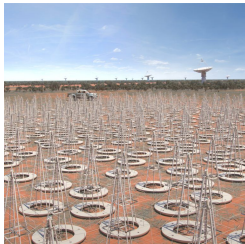
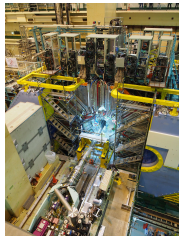
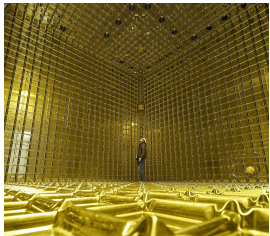
Free and **open-source software** with an **open community-driven** development process

Find it here

<https://rucio.cern.ch/>

Read about it here

<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s41781-019-0026-3>



Our data challenges and opportunities



The High Luminosity upgrade to the LHC

- 10 times increase in **accelerator performance**
- Leads to more and bigger, complex events
- 10 times increase in **data volume/usage**
- In a very tight computing capacity envelope

We cannot compromise physics performance

Long-term R&D programme to address the gap

To support the **European Strategy for Particle Physics**

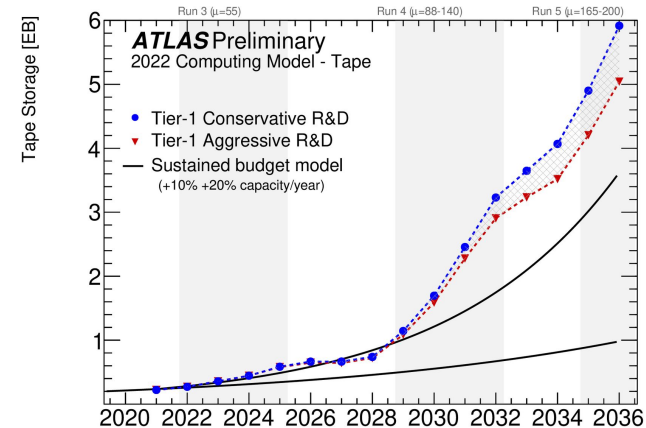
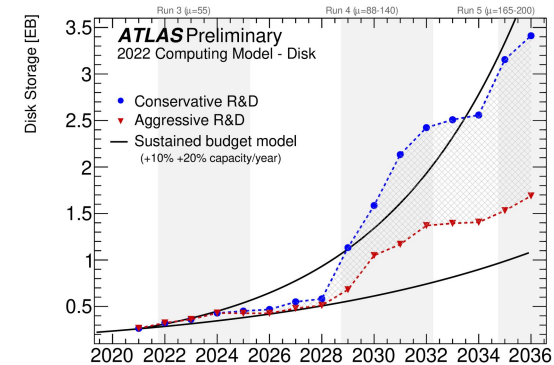
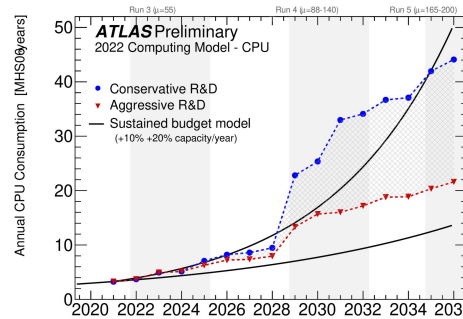
Community-driven computing R&Ds

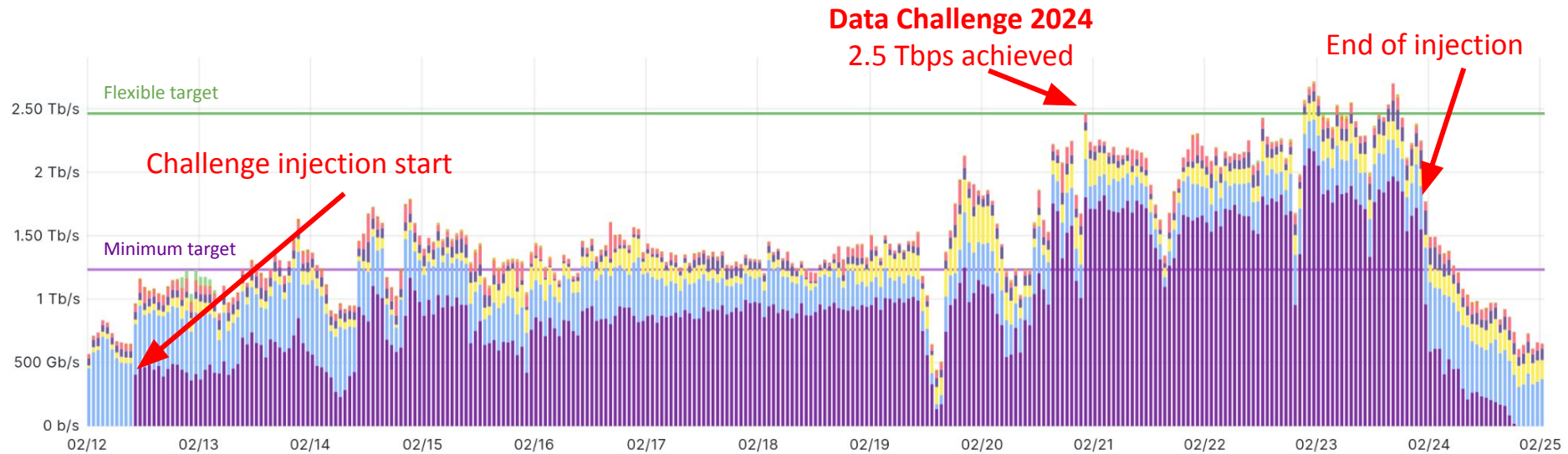
- Advanced **software-defined networks (SDNs)**
- Smart content delivery** and caches
- New analysis **data formats** and models
- Integration of new **external developments**
- Industry collaborations** for new technologies

Collaborations with other sciences

- Shared infrastructure with other big communities
- Prototype of a common European Data Infrastructure

MSc and PhD studies to train our future computing engineers





2020 estimation of HL-LHC needs

4.8 Tbps of total network capacity for the Run-2 computing model

9.6 Tbps for the Run-3 (and beyond) computing model

Data Challenges until HL-LHC startup

Bi-annual steps of 25% expected capacity

With an **accompanying R&D** programme for software and hardware

| | max | avg |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Data Challenge | 2.19 Tb/s | 987 Gb/s |
| atlas | 706 Gb/s | 316 Gb/s |
| alice xrootd | 349 Gb/s | 114 Gb/s |
| cms | 271 Gb/s | 56.8 Gb/s |
| cms xrootd | 191 Gb/s | 67.7 Gb/s |
| lhcb | 83.1 Gb/s | 2.35 Gb/s |
| belle | 38.9 Gb/s | 9.33 Gb/s |
| dune | 28.6 Gb/s | 5.47 Gb/s |

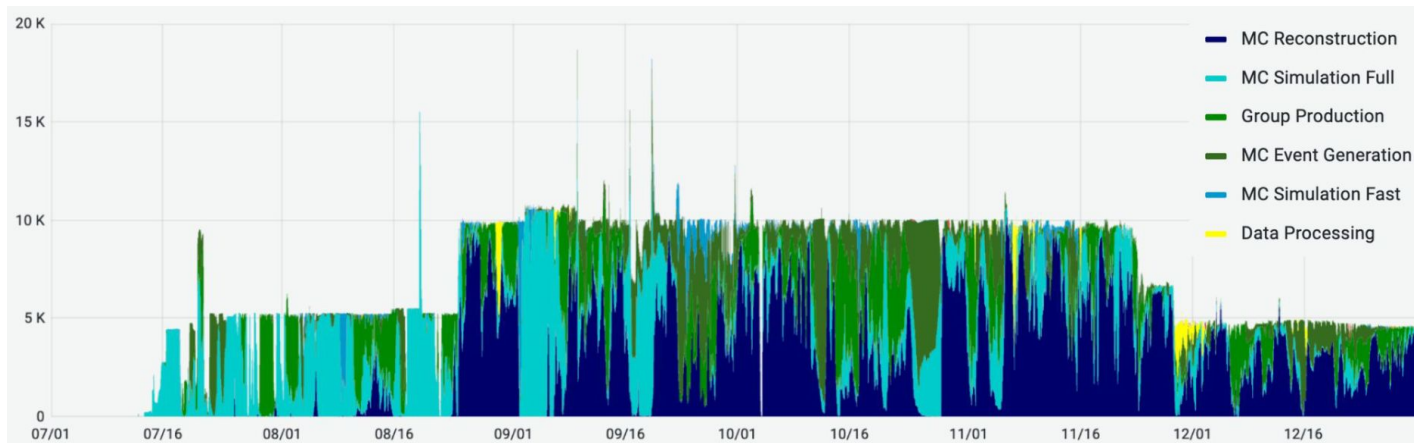
ATLAS Google Project

Long-standing R&D cooperation with Google, in multiple phases

- Phase 0** Demonstrate integration with ADC systems (2019-2022)
- Phase 1** Investigate Google Cloud Platform as an ATLAS analysis facility (2021-2022)

Phase 2 Full integration and production usage (2022-2023)

- Evaluation **all ATLAS workflows**, including data reprocessing, and user analysis
- Demonstrate rapid and **efficient bursting** to additional, large scale resources
- Validation of ATLAS **software on ARM** resources
- Data analysis using **parallel workflows on GPUs**
- Evaluate **Total Cost of Ownership** of employing a commercial cloud site at scale



Cloud amusements

Commercial clouds need "creative care"

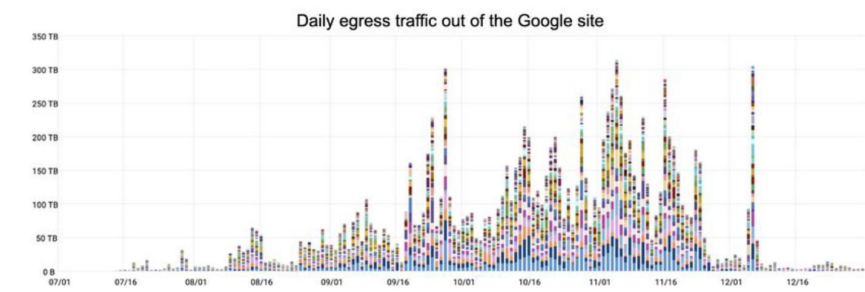
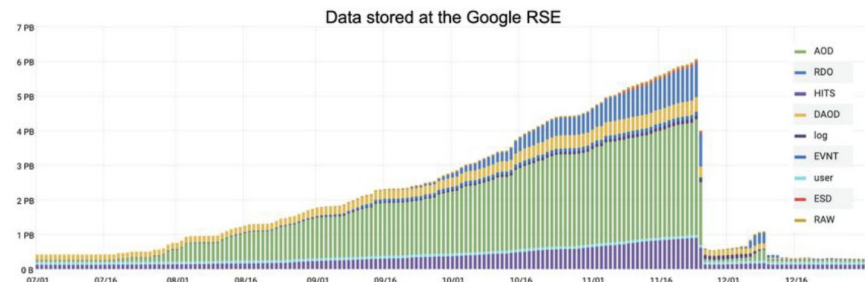
On WLCG sites we leave data as cache
 But Google has infinite capacity?
 The more cache you have the more it's used...

Peering with LHCOPN is crucial

Incurs extra charges for WLCG sites

Cloud bursting can be fast

MC Full Simulation of 50M event sample in 24h
 Control sample took 8 days
 Interesting walltime issues observed
 Software deployment via CVMFS couldn't keep up
 Node preemption in Google Belgium data centre



Open data at CERN is an organisational mission

Ecosystem of policies, initiatives, services, and technologies
Maximize the potential of **global impact** of CERN research

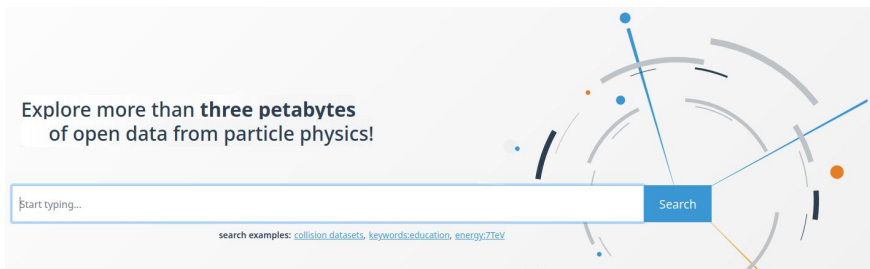
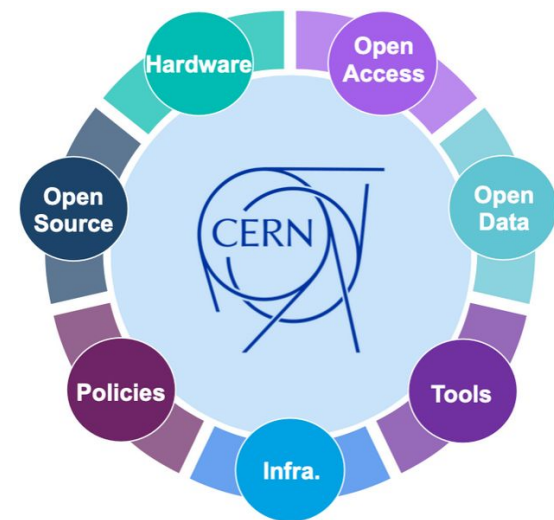
Our pillars of open data

Open access to publications and their data

Preservation through reusable and reproducible analyses

Open software and hardware

Training, outreach, and education



Conclusions — From data to knowledge

LHC Experiments are working 24/7

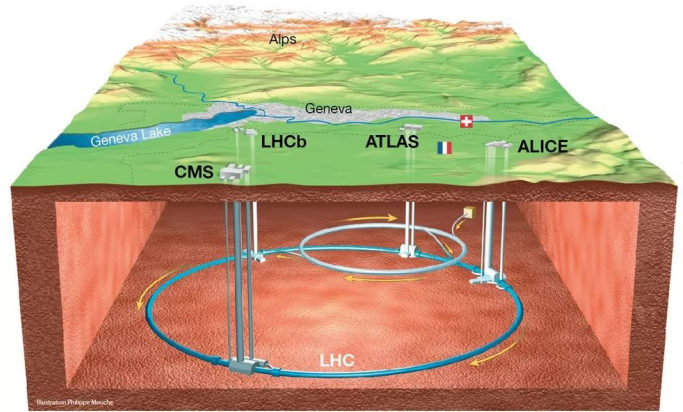
Petabytes per second of electronics readout

Triggers select the interesting physics

Physics data is written to the CERN data centre

And then exported to our collaborating institutes

Where it's processed and analysed



Data is our most precious resource

Large variety of analyses

Focused searches

Precision measurements

Exotic particles

The Unexpected

Technology R&D

A huge team effort!

Observation of a new particle in the search for the Standard Model Higgs boson with the ATLAS detector at the LHC¹

Observation of a new boson at a mass of 125 GeV with the CMS experiment at the LHC²

CMS Collaboration³

CERN Document Server
This paper is dedicated to the memory of our colleague who worked on CMS but has since passed away in recognition of their many contributions to the achievement of the observation.

ARTICLE INFO

Abstract
Results are presented from searches for the standard model Higgs boson in proton-proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ and 8 TeV in the Compact Muon Solenoid experiment at the LHC, using data samples corresponding to integrated luminosities of up to 35.1 fb⁻¹ at 7 TeV and 36.1 fb⁻¹ at 8 TeV. The searches are performed in the decay channels $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$, $h \rightarrow \tau\tau$, and $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$. The results of these searches above the expected background, with a local significance of 5.0 standard deviations, at a mass near 125 GeV, indicate the observation of a new particle. The expected significance for a standard model Higgs boson at that mass is 3.8 standard deviations. The spin is most significant in the two decay modes with the best mass resolution, $\gamma\gamma$ and $Z\gamma$, as in these decay modes a mass of 125.4 ± 0.4 GeV and 125.0 ± 0.4 GeV, respectively, is observed. The decay to two photons indicates that the new particle is a boson with spin different from zero.

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1. Introduction
The standard model (SM) of elementary particles provides a remarkably accurate description of results from many accelerator and non-accelerator based experiments. The SM comprises quantum chromodynamics (QCD) and the electroweak theory, which describes the interactions through the exchange of gauge bosons: the photon for electromagnetism, the gluons for the strong interaction, and the W and Z bosons for weak interactions. The discovery of the Higgs boson is essential for the completion of the SM. The Higgs boson is a scalar particle, and the Higgs mechanism is the process by which the gauge bosons acquire mass within the electroweak theory. The Higgs boson is a scalar particle, and the Higgs mechanism is the process by which the gauge bosons acquire mass within the electroweak theory. The Higgs boson is a scalar particle, and the Higgs mechanism is the process by which the gauge bosons acquire mass within the electroweak theory.



