TIFR-Mumbai September 2024

HEP Computing: successes and future challenges

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High Energy Physics

"The branch of physics dealing with the constitution, properties, and interactions of elementary particles especially as revealed in experiments using particle accelerators" (<u>Webster</u>)

Recreate the conditions of the early universe

– as "early" as possible –

by colliding particles as very high energy





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The Large Hadron Collider @ CERN



27 km ring of superconducting magnets and accelerating cavities



Four large detectors – ALICE, ATLAS, CMS, LHCb

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Computing @ High Energy Physics



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Distributed vs Centralised Computing

Large scale HEP computing embraced a distributed model since early 2000s

Based on network service technologies, federating national and international initiatives

The distributed grid model fits:

- the national strategies of the Funding Agencies: develop the cyberinfrastructure for scientific computing in the country – data centres, networks and the required expertise
- the distributed nature of the HEP community: hundreds of institutes contributing as part of the HEP experiments and international collaborations





The WLCG Collaboration provides the distributed computing infrastructure for the needs of the CERN Large Hadron Collider experiments



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WLCG in Numbers...

65 MoUs, 40+ counties, 159 sites:

Tier-0 (CERN): data recording, reconstruction, distribution, archive. > 99% target availability

14 Tier-1s: archive storage, re-processing, analysis. > 98% target availability

144 Tier-2: Simulation, analysis. > 95% target availability

WLCG Resources 2024					
CPU (kHS23*)	12,315				
Disk (PB)	1,255				
Tape (PB)	2,461				

*1 core ~ 10 - 15 HS23

Hierarchical Structure





India in WLCG

Two Tier-2 sites in Kolkata (ALICE) and Mumbai (CMS). MoU signed by DAE in June 2006

6% of the ALICE T2 resources and 8% of CMS T2 resources



Federation 1	Tier 🎼	vo 🖺	Country 👫	Year \downarrow	Туре \downarrow 🕇	Pledge
IN-DAE-KOLKATA-TIER2	2	ALICE	India	2024	CPU	60000 HEPscore23
IN-DAE-KOLKATA-TIER2	2	ALICE	India	2024	Disk	3000 TBytes
IN-INDIACMS-TIFR	2	CMS	India	2024	CPU	140000 HEPscore23
IN-INDIACMS-TIFR	2	CMS	India	2024	Disk	11000 TBytes



Tier-0 workflow in 2024



- Receive the RAW data from the experimental areas and archive them for long term preservation
- Perform data quality assessment and reconstruct the events into formats suitable for analysis.
- Export RAW and reconstructed data data to
 WLCG centers. RAW data
 is archive at Tier-1s.
 Reconstructed data is
 further distributed for analysis.

The LHC RAW data archive

The LHC physics program is organized in "runs" interleaved by "Long -Shutdown periods





The initial Computing Model



This was the initial computing model (1999)

Uncertainty over network performance, reliability

Focus on distributing data *globally* to compute resources in a hierarchical structure

Every center runs a compute and a storage service

No concept of data remote from compute

Predefined roles of Tiers: T2s for simulation and analysis, T1s for reconstruction and archive

Quickly evolved ...

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WLCG networks

WAN connectivity increased x10 in the last 10 years



WLCG networks are an opportunity, not a limitation as initially expected

LHCOPN: Private network connecting Tier0 and Tier1s. Dedicated to LHC data transfers and analysis

LHCONE: Layer3 (routed) Virtual Private Network provided by the R&E network providers Worldwide network backbone connecting Tier1s and Tier2s. Bandwidth dedicated to High Energy Physics



WLCG traffic (GB/s) in the last 10 years



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Data processing, simulation, analysis

CPU use in WLCG continuously increases despite shutdown periods

- Simulations require a lot of CPU
- A full analysis requires many years





WLCG sites provide ~40% additional capacity on top of their commitments

• The grid model favors opportunistic provisioning of resources



WLCG performance and operations

WLCG Operations and Security Coordination teams ensure the functioning of WLCG services leveraging international initiatives



Computer Security

Security Contacts

- WLCG Security Officer: <u>wlcg-security-officer@cern.ch</u>
- WLCG Privacy Notice: <u>wlcg-privacy@cern.ch</u>[™]
- EGI CSIRT: <u>abuse@egi.eu</u>⊠
- OSG Security Team: <u>security@osg-htc.org</u>

Security incidents

When a security incident potentially affecting grid users, services or operations is suspected, please immediately contact your local security team.



Site ↑	Availability
CCIN2P3	
CNAF	
FZK	
KISTI_GSDC	
NDGF-T1	

We monitor continuously and review regularly

the performance of the sites against MoU targets





Evolution to a more flexible Computing Model



- MC Simulation
- Data Processing
- Analysis
- Group Production
- MC Reconstruction

T1s and T2s run flexibly a mixture of workloads depending on their capabilities and the needs of the experiments Data is transferred in a full mesh rather than hierarchically



Worldwide data processing and data transfers 24/7/365, since 2006, increasing over time. Very high availability and reliability. Solid funding model.



Never a showstopper to physics. Fast turnaround.

It simply works ... so what?

The HL-LHC challenge – data volume and complexity





--LHC

CMS: a very large event from 2017 with 78 reconstructed vertices

ATLAS simulation for HL-LHC with 200 reconstructed vertices



The HL-LHC challenge –Hardware Trends

- Cost of hardware decreasing vs time
 ... but not as steeply as before
- In general, trends driven by market (revenues) rather than technology



Less benefits from technology improvements + general loss of long-term predictability

ATLAS and CMS computing needs for HL-LHC



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The projected CPU needs of <u>ATLAS</u> and <u>CMS</u> at HL-LHC. Estimates produced for the 2021 HL-LHC computing review and updated in 2022 to reflect the changes in the LHC schedule

ALICE and LHCb computing needs for HL-LHC

ALICE and LHCb will require considerably less in Run-4, while no firm estimates are available for Run-5. For LHCb, some early thinking shows a challenging scenario in Run-5

Naive extrapolation of the computing model parameters of the current upgrade to the conditions foreseen for Run-5

Today: 10GB/s from online to offline Run-5: 75GB/s from online to offline

The needs are many factors off the budget for offline





HL-LHC computing needs evolution



2015 projections: resource needs = 10x more than budget allows

2022 projections: resource needs compatible with budget (optimistic scenario)

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Not just LHC .. more HEP experiments in the 2020s





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And more sciences ...

Other sciences will have data needs like LHC in the same time horizon.

SKA is the main example

SKAO Science Timeline







The future HEP computing challenge in 6 points

- 1) 10x more data/year and 5x more complex. HL-LHC computing is the main driver
- 2) No considerable increase in funding for HEP computing expected in the coming years
- 3) Trends in hardware technology and costs not favorable to HEP
- 4) Geopolitical situation very unstable, impacting a distributed infrastructure and collaboration

5) Many HEP computing services were conceived in a different millennium and the Information and Communication Technology landscape changed considerably

6) The Funding Agencies want to see their investments to benefit multiple sciences



WLCG strategic vision: Innovation and Collaboration

WLCG presented:

- its vision about a common scientific computing infrastructure at the European Strategy for Particle Physics in 2019
- a joint paper with DUNE and Belle-2 to the Snowmass 2021 process, which detailed the strategic directions to address the computing challenges of the experiments over the next decade

The <u>WLCG strategy for 2024-2027</u> has a strong focus on innovation and collaboration

- Innovation: modernise software and services to leverage the most modern technologies and architectures
- Collaboration: leverage synergies between HEP experiments and other sciences

Strike the right balance between common/custom, standard/specific









Leveraging Heterogeneous Facilities - HPCs

HPCs have been integrated as WLCG resources since ~ 20 years

Some HPC are very challenging to use: limited connectivity, special harware (GPUs, non-X86 CPUs) and configs (RAM, local disk), different AAI. The benefits are considerable in many cases.

The benefits are considerable in many cases. Attempts to move the collaboration with HPC centers into consolidated partnerships





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Leveraging Heterogeneous Facilities - Clouds

Cloud technologies were integrated in WLCG in ~2012. Academic clouds in use since then

Many initiatives integrating commercial clouds. Large variation in cost depending on choices being made

Commercial cloud TCO vs on premise at WLCG facilities is not obvious: see a <u>recent</u> and some <u>previous</u> studies

Not generally financially advantageous for large scale productions. Many benefits in flexibility (capacity, resource type).

WLCG needs to continue being prepared using commercial cloud resources from different vendors







Software Performance and Portability

Software performance, modernization, innovation and portability is one of the key areas to address the future HEP computing challenge. It allows to:

- access available resources otherwise not useful (e.g GPUs, non-X86 CPUs)
- optimize procurement and deployment to guarantee the best value for money
- support different experiments and sciences on the same resources
- leverage the most modern hardware features (e.g vectorization)
- reduce the resource needs/event (compute and storage)

It needs upfront large investments and forward-looking solutions

• E.g. LHC experiments have a 20+ years codebase and rewriting from scratch is not an option

Table 6. SLOCCount measured lines of source code for ATLAS and CMS.						
Experiment	Source Lines of code	Development effort	Total estimated cost to			
Туре	(SLOC)	(person-years)	develop			
ATLAS	5.5M	1630	220 M\$			
CMS	4.8M	1490	200 M\$			

Linux Kernel is: 15M sloc, 4800 FTEy, 650M\$ (3x CMS);

Geant4 is: 1.2M sloc, 330 FTEy, 45 M\$ (1/4x CMS)



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Non-X86 CPUs



All experiments ported main workflows to ARM

- ATLAS, ALICE: physics validation successful
- CMS, LHCb: in progress

ARM resources available at various WLCG sites

ARM CPUs process more events/Watt wrt X86

- This is the case for the HW in Glasgow Tier-2
- Differences between workflows
- Modern AMDs perform similarly to ARM again based on the HW in Glasgow Tier-2

See this presentation for details



Heterogeneous architectures in reconstruction

Heterogeneous architectures: complementing CPU capacity with accelerators (e.g. GPUs)

Playing a fundamental role in Run-3 already, in most online systems.

LHCb: exploitation of heterogeneous architectures in online system, thanks to Allen framework

Ongoing work in all experiments to leverage heterogeneous architectures in offline computing



Alice O2: Speed up from GPU usage + from algorithmic improvements + tuning on CPUs



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The utilization of AI is not new in HEP. What is game changing is:

- the availability of modern models (Transformers, LLMs, Normalizing Flows, ...)
- the availability of large (optimized) processing systems

AI expected to become a major tool by HL-LHC







Software-related activities and project

Software performance, modernization, innovation and portability is one of the key areas in order to address the HL-LHC challenge. It needs upfront large investments



The HEP Software Foundation: facilitates the cooperation and common efforts in HEP software and computing



The Institute for Research and Innovation in Software for High Energy Physics (IRIS-HEP): R&D for the software for acquiring, managing, processing and analyzing HL-LHC data.



CERN Openlab: a public-private partnership that works to accelerate the development of cutting-edge ICT solutions for the worldwide LHC community



Custom or common or ... ?

We want to use as much commodity software products as possible, to minimize cost and manpower:

In some cases, using commercial libraries, e.g. for state-of-theart Machine Learning (pyTorch, TensorFlow etc.) is a straightforward choice for using ML tools in HEP.

...but there is lot still specific to HEP (and/or science):

- specific tools for simulation (Geant4), data persistency and analysis (ROOT),
- Experiment and WLCG services for distributed computing

... and these all need long-term continuity of support ! To share the load and optimize resources, a lot of effort has been made (e.g. HSF)











User Analysis

What should also not be neglected are the ways 'users' want to use the computing resources and software environment:

- Yesterday: program via ROOT/C++macros
- Today: jupyter notebooks/browser frontend is a desired and even an expected approach

Analysis Facilities: infrastructures tailored to provide an analysis ecosystem - tools and services

Possibly also centers for large scale AI training





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WLCG partners and collaborators

Many communities collaborate with WLCG, share some of the same technologies, services and resources

DUNE, Belle-2, JUNO and VIRGO are now WLCG **partners**

Collaboration with Astronomy in the context of the <u>ESCAPE Open Collaboration</u>









Fostering this collaboration is essential for the sustainability of the WLCG infrastructure: optimise investments and effort

Collaboration across sciences





https://zenodo.org/record/4889503

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CERN

Scientific Data Management

Scientific Data Management is a clear example of successful collaboration in HEP and beyond

Belle II, SKA, CTAO, LBNF/DUNE, SBN/ICARUS,

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KIS Solar, LIGO/VIRGO/KAGRA,

Community experiences

- Rucio has become the de-facto standard for open scientific data management
 - \circ ~ Used by CERN-based experiments ~ AMS, ATLAS, CMS ~
 - And non-CERN experiments
 - Vera Rubin Observatory, XENON, ... Under evaluation by many others EIC/ePIC, KM3NeT, ...
 - Long tail of science Fermilab, RAL, CERN run Rucio as a service for small experiments
 - Used by several EU projects
 ESCAPE, InterTwin, DaFab





Rucio: initially developed for/by the LHC ATLAS experiment

Now a standard de-facto in HEP and beyond



Scientific Data Management evolution

The WLCG DOMA - Data Organization, Management, Access - initiative drives the evolution of Data Management tools, services and infrastructure for the needs of the experiments at HL-LHC

- Modernize the data management services to leverage modern, non-HEP-specific technologies
- Commission the WLCG data management infrastructure for the HL-LHC scale



WLCG Data Challenges program

The WLCG Data Challenges program was initiated to

- Increasingly commission the WLCG data management infrastructure to the HL-LHC scale
- Progressively evolve the service technology and introduce innovative solutions

Started in 2021, run every 2 to 3 years. DC21 (10% of HL-LHC) lessons documented here.

DC24 had 3 goals:

- Measure the end-to-end data transfer capabilities at WLCG sites (target is 25% of HL-LHC needs)
- Assess the progress integrating new technologies (e.g. tokens and monitoring)
- Assess the status of different R&D initiatives

DC24: from Feb 12 to Feb 23 in 2024





Data Challenge 2024 - Highlights

DC24 WLCG data transfers (Gbps) - 15 days: all targets achieved



New technologies (e.g. authentication tokens) introduced and validated



WLCG services successfully supports DUNE and Belle-2 computing models

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Evolve towards a network-centric model

Fewer and larger facilities operating storage services

CPUs and storage not necessarily co-located: to deliver the content over the WAN and/or cache it





A model being pursued in different countries. Allows optimizing the operational costs and leveraging the existing expertise in challenging and impactful tasks

From Data Management to a Research Environment

ESCAPE prototyped a distributed data infrastructure across Europe for HEP, Astronomy and Astroparticle physics. Based on many of the WLCG building blocks and on top of many WLCG facilities







Open Science in a common Research Environment

SKA: data delivery from Perth and Cape Town to Europe and access through the data lake services

LOFAR: observations stored in the datalake, accessed and analyzed in a notebook service. Results and artifacts are all preserved.

I am told this is a Quasar ...





...and their evolutions: DarkSide-20k / Argo, ATLAS @ HL-LHC, CTA Some of the analysis & ML tools necessary for these evolutions are also part of this Science Project







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Energy efficiency

The electricity costs have been an unexpected development in the last couple of years. Environmental impact needs proper addressing!

What to do:

- Improve software performance
- Leverage modern architectures
- Invest in the facilities

There is no magic wand, however.

In a pessimistic scenario – little progress on all the above – the energy need is x2 than in an optimistic one

WLCG: the peak of energy need at the start of Run-5)







Energy Needs per unit of "science"

In WLCG GWh/fb⁻¹ represent the energy needed to **analyse** the data - energy per unit of science

The scale on the right (RED) shows the energy and the scale on the left (BLUE) shows GWh/fb⁻¹ (log!)

Energy needs in Run-4 and Run-5: +100% compared to Run-2 in the **pessimistic** scenario, only +10% in the **optimistic** scenario







Conclusions

The WLCG organization is providing a shared distributed infrastructure for the LHC experiments since 15 years.

The computing models together with the infrastructure and services changed with time adapting to the evolving landscape (experience and funding)

The HL-LHC will be an unprecedented challenge for us both in terms of scale and sustainability

Other very data intensive science projects will co-exist with LHC, with very similar use cases, on the same timescale and for a great majority on the same physical resources

There is an opportunity to share policies, tools, expertise, services and, when plausible, resources for the benefit of all our sciences



Backup



Event Generators on GPUs

A very good candidate for GPU acceleration with benefits for many experiments



Sherpa gg->tt+ng

Matrix Element event throughput: up to x10 gain when using GPUs

Available for production



Madgraph gg->tt+ng (n=2)

GPU-enabled Leading Order: being released to production. By-product: enabling of CPU vectorisation: up to x8 gain in ME event throughput (x6 global). Note: all CPUs in WLCG provide vectorisation

GPU-related work brings immediate benefits also on CPUs

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Geant4 simulation for HL-LHC

Geant4 is the common workhorse of detector simulation. Its evolution follows a three-prong strategy, as recommended during the 2021 LHCC common software review

- Improvements in the physics description. A continuous process, based on the dialog with the communities
- Speed up of Full Simulation: same accuracy in the physics description, but faster. Again a continuous process, bringing still very considerable benefits e.g. a recent 20% improvement for ATLAS simulation
- R&D
 - Integration of Fast Simulation techniques in G4 including ML
 - GPU prototypes: AdePT and Celeritas



ROOT foundation layer for HL-LHC





ROOT provides the common I/O layer for the LHC experiments.

The re-design of the internal ROOT data format (TTree to RNTuple) is a major upgrade in view of HL-LHC

- 10-20% smaller files, x3 to x5 better single core performance
- enables fast adaptation to modern technologies, like object stores

RNTuple speed-up improvements measured in a real environment at CERN using a community standard analysis benchmark

RNTuple progress well on schedule for HL-LHC

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