Welcome to CERN

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Based also on material graciously provided by **Prof Dr Freya Blekman** DESY and University of Hamburg

What is CERN about?

- CERN
 - Original meaning: Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire
 - Current meaning: European Organization for Nuclear Research
- Quick summary of its main goals
 - C \rightarrow collaboration
 - $E \rightarrow$ education
 - $R \rightarrow$ research
 - $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow$ new technologies

Important dates

- 1949: first steps towards civilian research in nuclear technology
- 1952: foundation of CERN under auspices of UNESCO
- 1953: Signing of the CERN charter
- 1954: Completion of the ratification by the 12 founding states

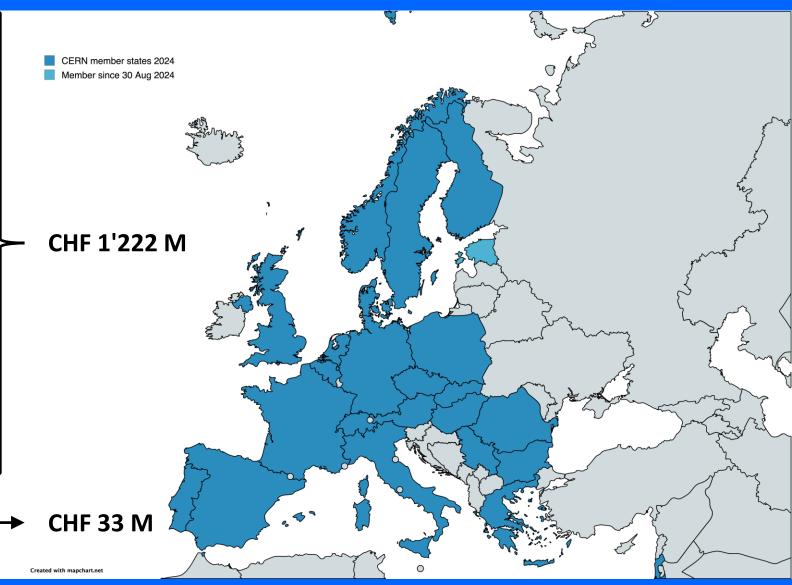


Contributions from member states in 2024

Austria	2.2%	<mark>Italy</mark>	<mark>9.9%</mark>	
Belgium	2.8%	Netherlands	4.7%	
Bulgaria	0.4%	Norway	2.2%	
Czechia	1.2%	Poland	3.1%	
Denmark	1.9%	Portugal	1.1%	
Estonia	(*)	Romania	1.3%	
Finland	1.4%	Serbia	0.3%	
<mark>France</mark>	<mark>13.4%</mark>	Slovakia	0.5%	
<mark>Germany</mark>	<mark>21.1%</mark>	Spain	7.0%	
Greece	1.0%	Sweden	2.7%	
Hungary	0.7%	Switzerland	3.8%	
Israel	2.2%	<mark>UK</mark>	<mark>15.1%</mark>	

Associate members:

- Cyprus, Estonia (*), Slovenia
- Brazil, Croatia, India, Latvia, Lithuania, Pakistan, Türkiye, Ukraine



Observers: EU, Japan, (JINR), UNESCO, USA

Who works at CERN?



~3000 people employed by CERN

- Physicists, engineers, computer scientists, mathematicians, technicians, secretaries, fire brigade, health & safety experts, security, etc
- >10000 physicists associated with CERN
 - From all over the world!

Distribution of All CERN Users by Nationality on 27 January 2020

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Who visits CERN

- CERN is an open laboratory
 - With certain constraints and regulations
- Every year, ~130'000 people have visited CERN since many years
- Open days September 2019: 75'000 people visited in 2 days!!!
- The <u>Science Gateway</u> foresees 300'000 500'000 visitors per year!

Basic vs applied research

- Two types of science research
 - Basic research (how do things work)
 - Applied research (how do I make...)
- Applied research often builds on basic research
- CERN only does basic research
 - But we often need to innovate to build things that do not exist yet...

For example, the World Wide Web!



But also...

Medical applications

- PET / CT / MRI scan technologies
 - Detectors, superconducting magnets, cryogenics, vacuum
- Radiation therapy: accelerators, detectors

Space applications

- High-radiation environment materials / devices
- Other computing developments
 - Data analysis & simulation frameworks
 - Grid middleware
 - Indico meeting and conference management
 - Invenio, Zenodo digital library management

• And more

CERN against COVID-19

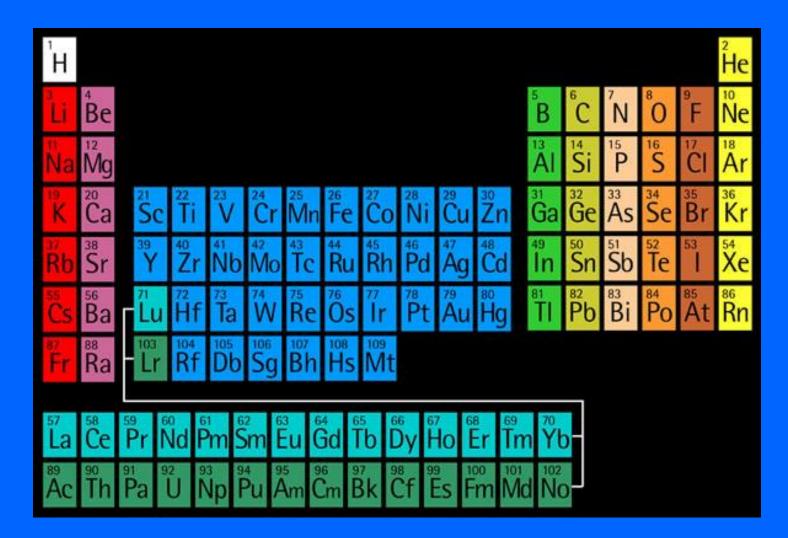
Reuse CERN techniques and technologies to help the global battle against the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Low-cost ventilators for breathing devices
- Zenodo space for fast and easy publication of research data sets and results
- Using part of <u>WLCG</u> for Folding@Home

Basic Questions

- What is everything around us made of?
- How does matter stick together?
- What, really, is mass?
 - And does the Higgs particle indeed play a role in the creation of mass?
- Are there really only 3 spatial dimensions?
- Are the smallest particles we know fundamental?
- Where did the anti-matter go?
- Where's the rest of the matter anyway?

What is everything around us made of?



At different scales...







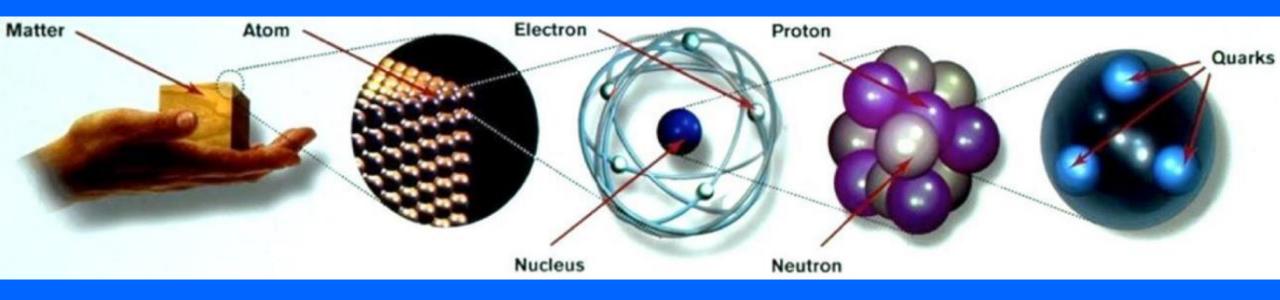
Mainly O, C, H

Mainly Fe, O, Si

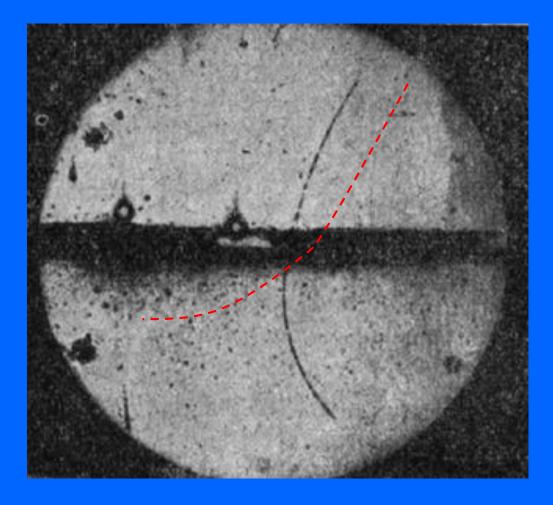
Mainly H and He

96% out there unknown!

What is everything around us made of?

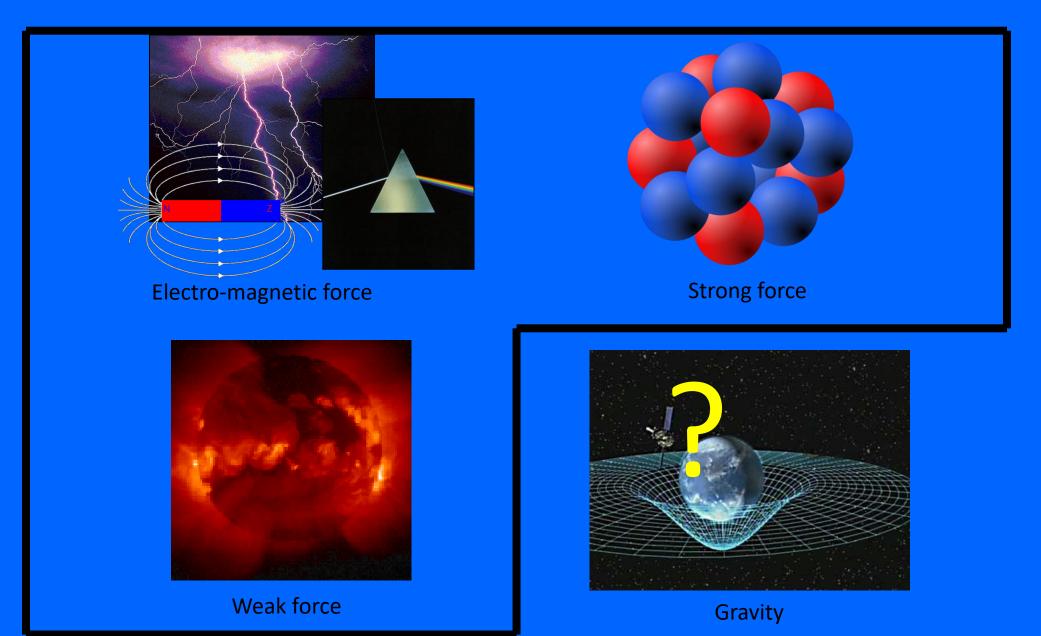


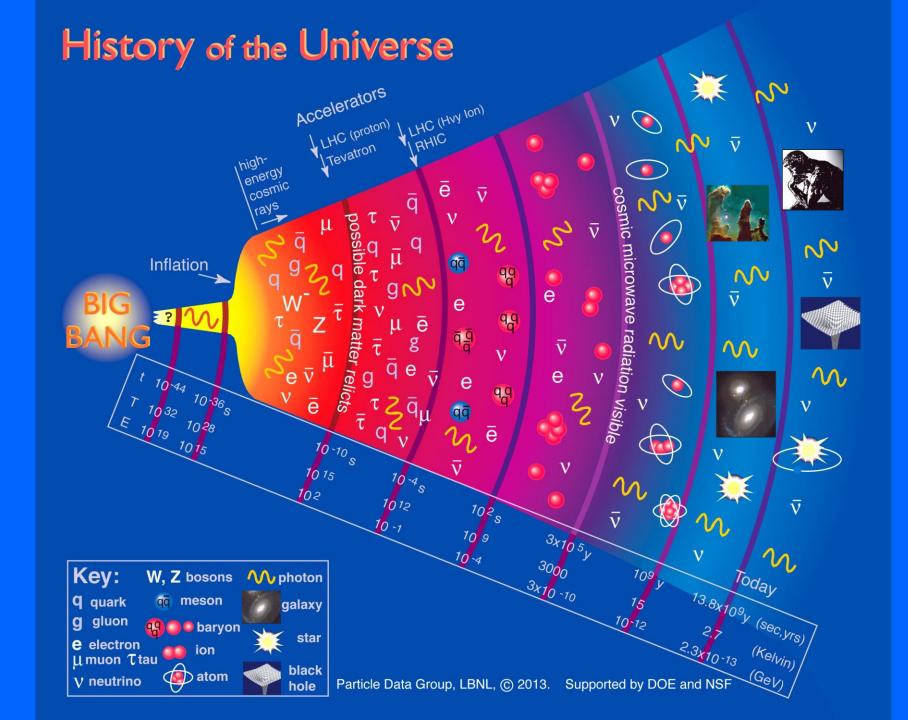
Anti-matter

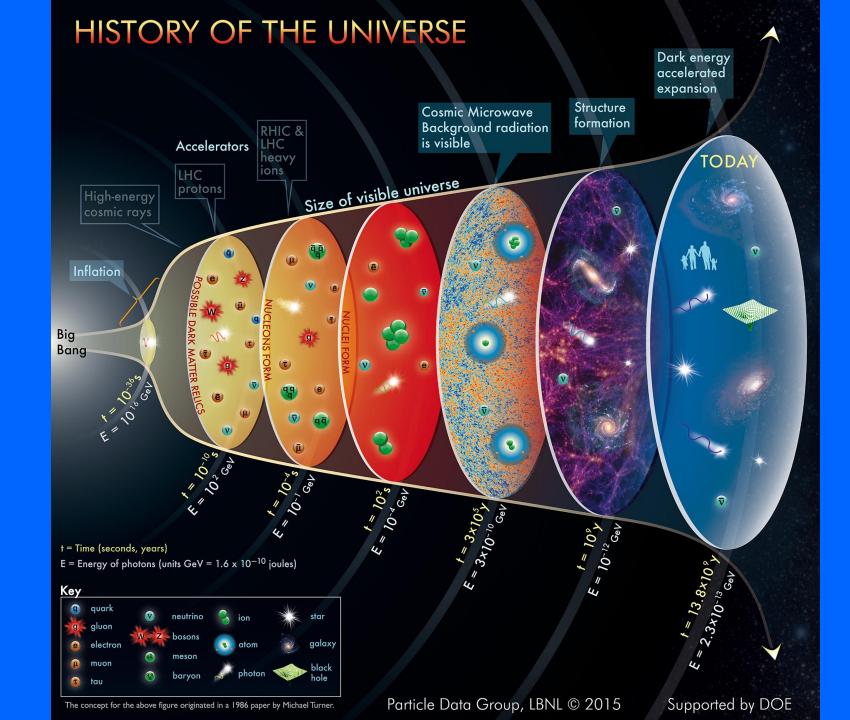


- Anti-matter: discovered in 1923
 Predicted by theory
- Almost the same as matter...
 But oppositely charged + some subtle effects...
- Problem: at the Big Bang there would have been just as much antimatter as matter... Where did all that anti-matter go?

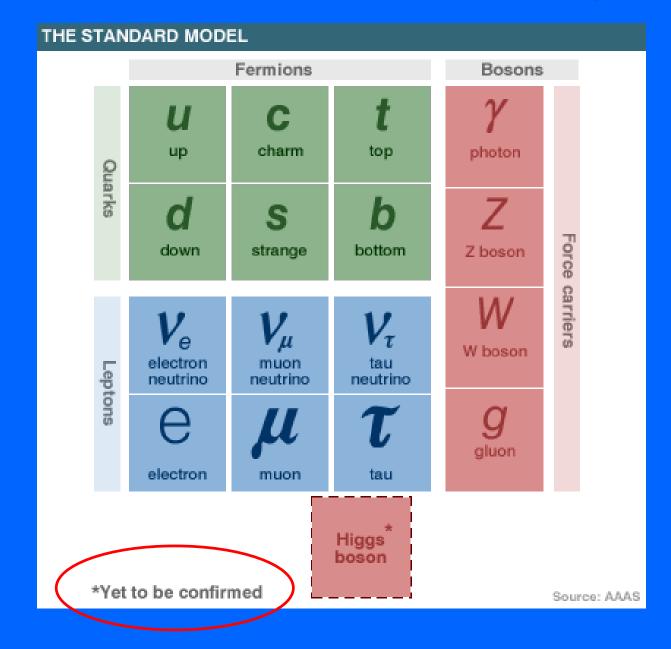
The four fundamental forces





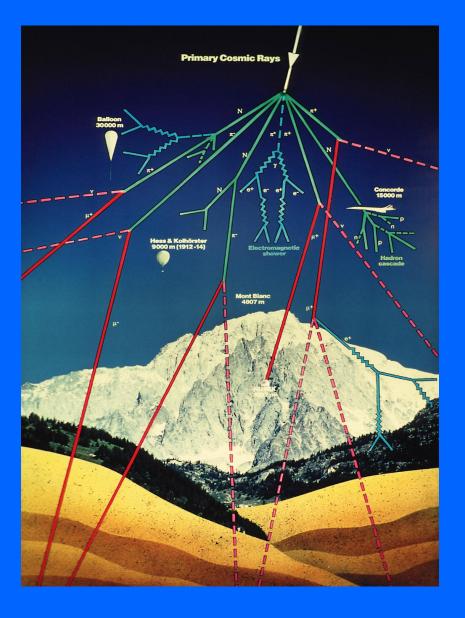


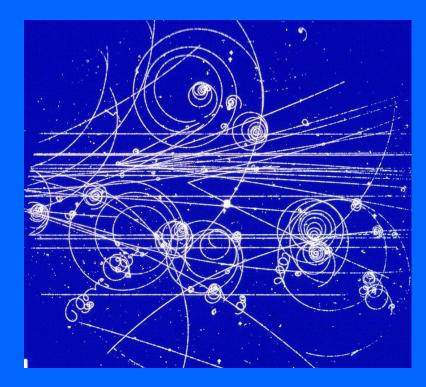
The standard model before July 4, 2012



How do we know all this?





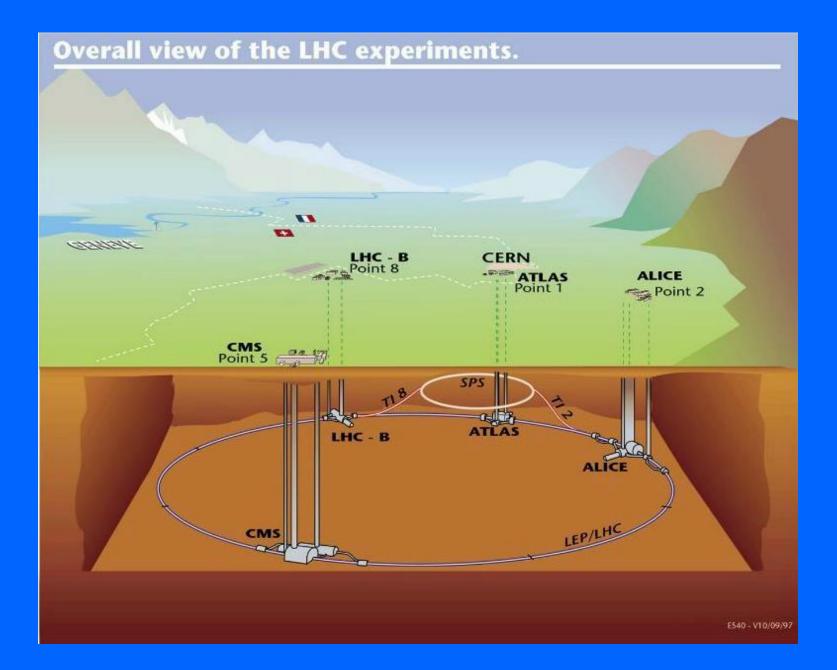


- <u>Accelerator</u> experiments
- Radioactivity experiments

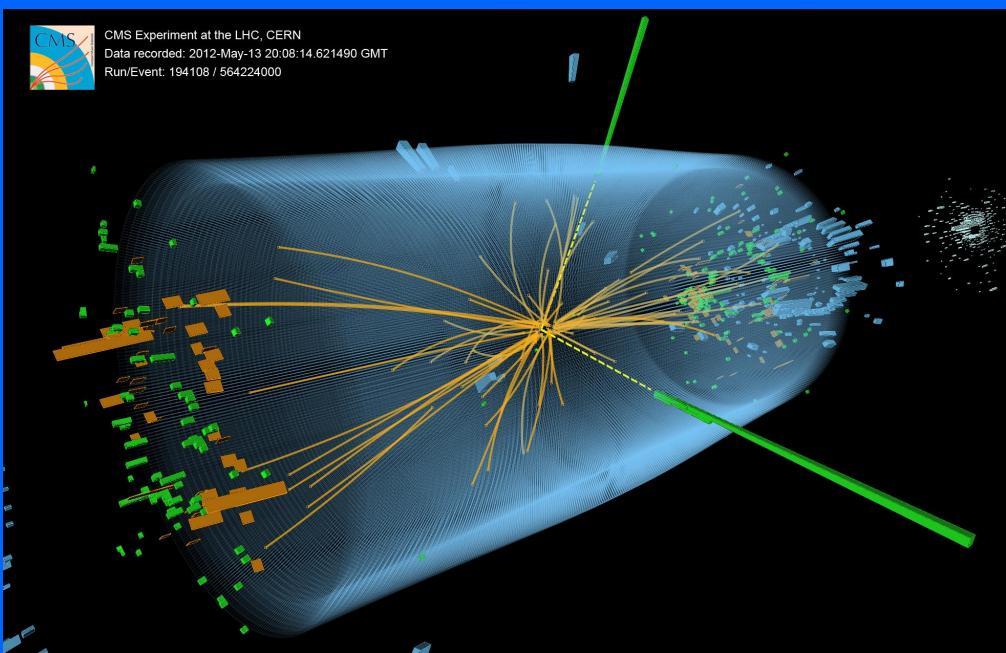
And about 100 years of hard work by many people...

The Large Hadron Collider

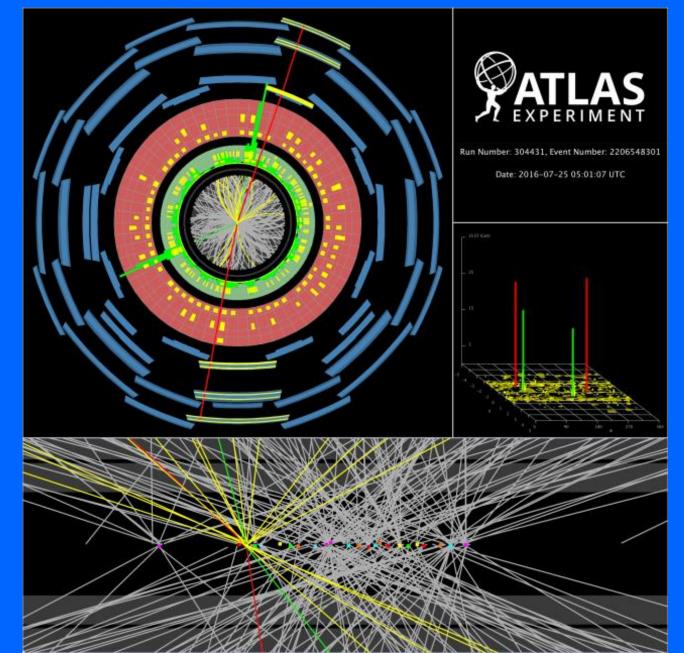




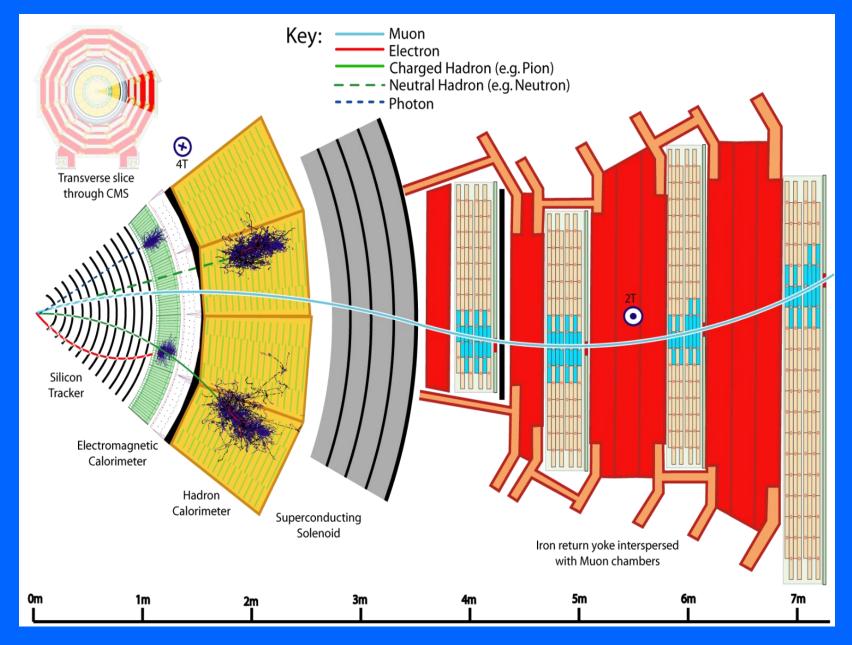
Huge experiments can investigate extremely small scales ...



... by identifying what is produced in collisions!



Different detector layers help distinguish particle types



Computing challenges

- The LHC experiments generate
 > 200 Petabytes per year
- To store and process such huge quantities of data, the experiments make use of a worldwide collaboration of partner universities and laboratories: the Worldwide LHC Computing Grid

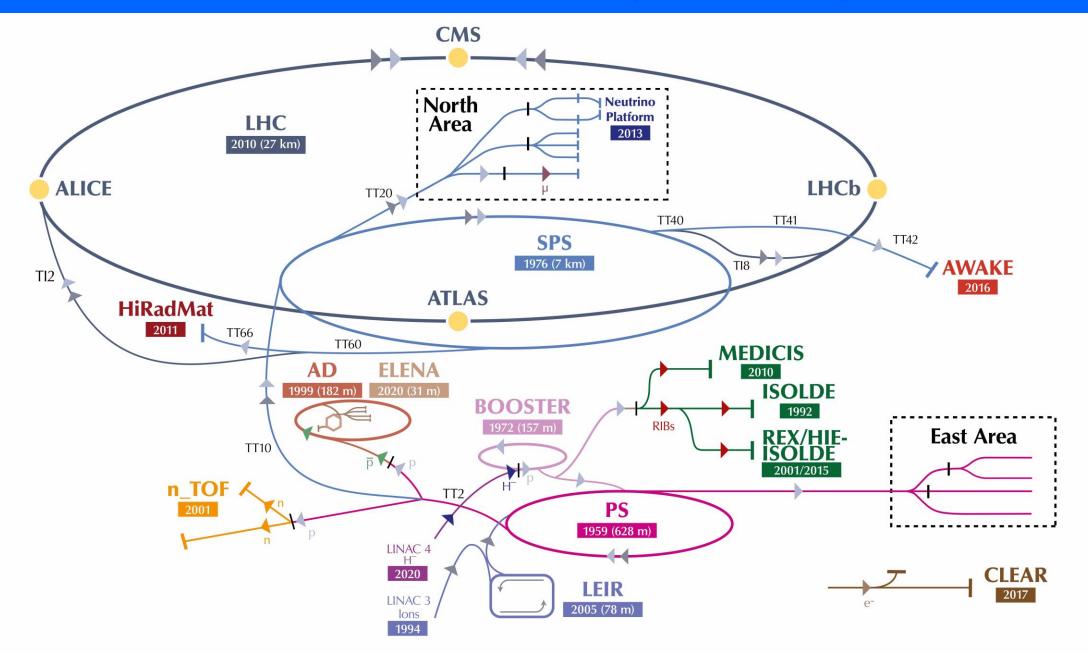


More open questions

- Are the quarks and leptons elementary particles?
- Are there other particles we have not seen yet?
- Why are the masses different?
- Matter/Antimatter asymmetry in universe?
- What about gravity? Or superstrings? Or extra dimensions?
- Properties of the neutrino?

Solving any of these puzzles is worth a Nobel Prize!

Other accelerators and many more experiments



Even in space!



Summary

- CERN is about:
 - International collaboration
 - Fundamental research
 - Technology innovation
 - Knowledge sharing

• CERN has particle accelerators and many experiments to discover and study the building blocks of the universe

Enjoy your stay at CERN !