

# **Experiment Support**



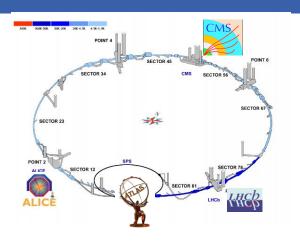
# The Common Solutions Strategy of the Experiment Support group at CERN for the LHC Experiments

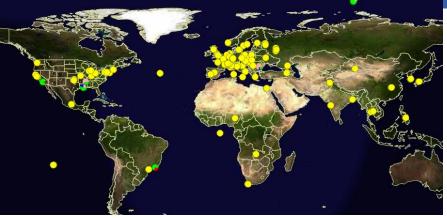
Maria Girone, CERN
On behalf of the CERN IT-ES Group

CHEP, New York City, May 2012

#### Motivation







- Despite their differences as experiments at the LHC, from a **computing perspective** a lot of the workflows are similar and can be done with **common services**
- While the collaborations are huge and highly distributed, effort available in ICT development is limited and decreasing
  - Effort is focused on analysis and physics
- Common solutions are a more efficient use of effort and more sustainable in the long run

# Anatomy of Common Solution



Experiment
Specific
Elements



Higher Level Services that translate between



Common Infrastructure Components and Interfaces

CH-1211 Geneva 23 Switzerland www.cern.ch/it Most common solutions can be diagrammed as the interface layer between common infrastructure elements and the truly experiment specific components

- One of the successes of the grid deployment has been the use of common grid interfaces and local site service interfaces
- The experiments have a environments and techniques that are unique
- In common solutions we target the box in between. A lot of effort is spent in these layers and there are big savings of effort in commonality
  - not necessarily implementation, but approach & architecture
- LHC schedule presents a good opportunity for technology changes



## The Group







- IT-ES is a unique resource in WLCG
  - The group is currently supported with substantial EGI-InSPIRE project effort
  - Careful balance of effort embedded in the experiments & on common solutions
  - Development of expertise in experiment systems & across experiment boundaries
  - People uniquely qualified to identify and implement common solutions
    - Matches well with the EGI-InSPIRE mandate of developing sustainable solutions
    - A strong and enthusiastic team



#### Activities



- Monitoring and Experiment Dashboards
  - Allows experiments and sites to monitor and track their production and analysis activities across the grid
    - Including services for data popularity, data cleaning and data integrity and site test stressing
- Distributed Production and Analysis
  - Design and development for experiment workload management and analysis components
- Data Management support
  - Covers development and integration of the experiment specific and shared grid middleware
- The LCG Persistency Framework
  - Handles the event and detector conditions data from the experiments

# **Examples: Data Popularity**



Experiment
Booking
Systems
Mapping Files
to Datasets

 Experiments want to know which datasets are used, how much, and by whom

Good chance of a common solution

Files accessed, users and CPU used

Data popularity uses the fact that all experiments open files and access storage

The monitoring information can be accessed in a common way using generic and common plug-ins

File Opens and Reads

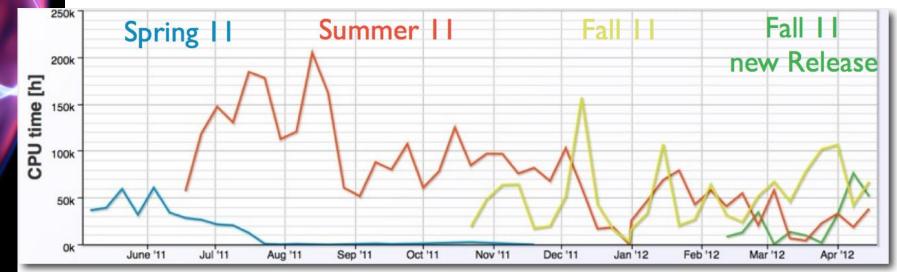
The experiments have systems that identify how those files are mapped onto logical objects like datasets, reprocessing and simulation campaigns



# Popularity Service



 Used by the experiments to assess the importance of computing processing work, and to decide when the number of replicas of a sample needs to be adjusted either up or down



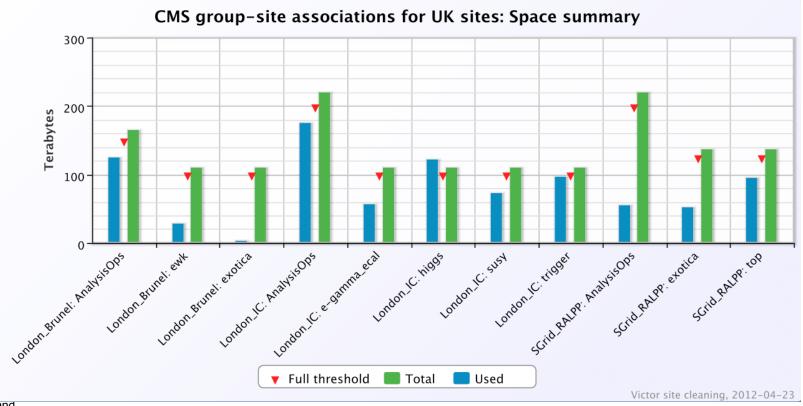
Time evolution of W+jet datasets

See D. Giordano et al., [176] Implementing data placement strategies for the CMS experiment based on a popularity model

# Cleaning Service



- The Site Cleaning Agent is used to suggest obsolete or unused data that can be safely deleted without affecting analysis.
- The information about space usage is taken from the experiment dedicated data management and transfer system



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# Dashboard Framework and Applications



Sites and activities

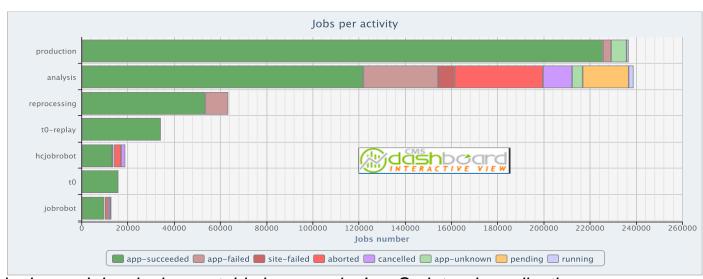
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Framework & visualization

Job submission & data transfers

Dashboard is one of the original common services

- All experiments execute jobs and transfer data
- Dashboard services rely on experiment specific information for site names, activity mapping, error codes
- The job monitoring system collects centrally information from workflows about the job status and success
  - Database, framework and visualization are common



within the Experiment Dashboard framework



#### Site Status Board





**Mdäshbo**ard

Index =

Expanded Table III

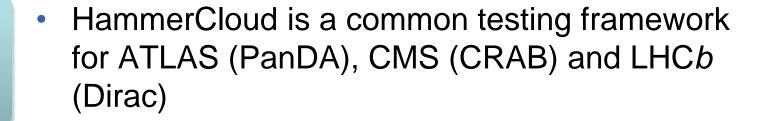
- Another example of a good common service
  - Takes specific lower level checks on the health of common services
  - Combines with some experiment specific workflow probes
  - Includes links into the ticketing system
  - Combines to a common view

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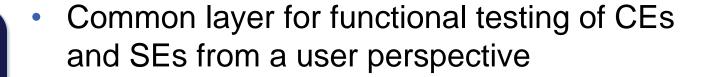
#### HammerCloud



Distributed analysis Frameworks



Testing and Monitoring Framework





 Continuous testing and monitoring of site status and readiness. Automatic Site exclusion based on defined policies

Computing & Storage Elements

 Same development, same interface, same infrastructure → less workforce



#### HammerCloud





D. van der Ster et al. [283], Experience in Grid Site Testing for ATLAS, CMS and LHCb with HammerCloud

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# New Activities – Analysis Workflow Depart

Data discovery environment configuration, and job splitting



Job Tracking, Resubmission, and scheduling



Job submission and Pilots

- Up to now services have generally focused on monitoring activities
  - All of these are important and commonality saves effort
  - Not normally in the core workflows of the experiment
- Success with the self contained services has provided confidence moving into a core functionality
  - Looking at the Analysis Workflow
    - Feasibility Study for a Common Analysis Framework between ATLAS and CMS

# **Analysis Workflow Progress**



Data discovery, job splitting and packaging of user environment



Job Tracking, Resubmission, and scheduling



Job submission and Pilots

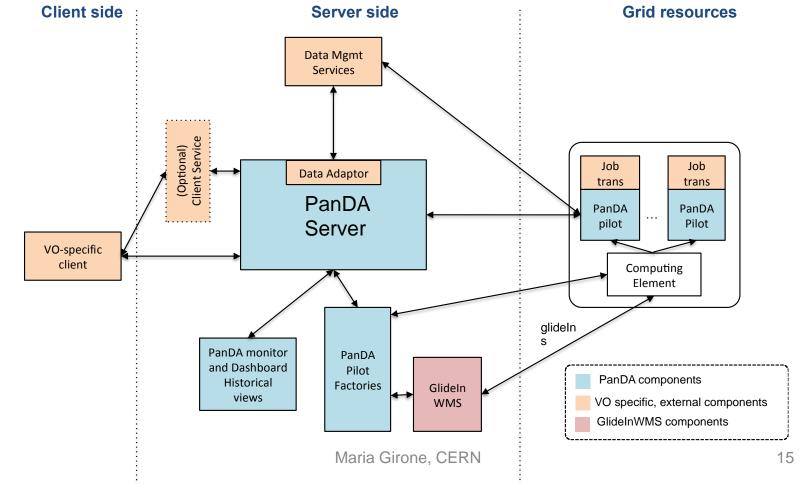
- Looking at ways to make the workflow engine common between the two experiments
  - Improving the sustainability of the central components that interface to low-level services
    - A thick layer that handles prioritization, job tracking and resubmission
  - Maintaining experiment specific interfaces
    - Job splitting, environment, and data discovery would continue to be experiment specific



# Proof of Concept Diagram



- Feasibility Study proved that there are no showstoppers to design a common analysis framework
- Next step is a proof of concept



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#### **Even Further Ahead**



Datasets to file mapping



File locations and files in transfer



File Transfer Service (FTS)

- As we move forward, we would also like to assess and document the process
  - This should not be the only common project
- The diagram for data management would look similar
  - A thick layer between the experiment logical definitions of datasets and the service that moves files
    - Deals with persistent location information and tracks files in progress and validates file consistency
- Currently no plans for common services, but has the right properties



### Outlook



- IT-ES has a good record of identifying and developing common solutions between the LHC experiments
  - Setup and expertise of the group have helped
- Several services focused primarily on monitoring have been developed and are in production use
- ✓ As a result, more ambitious services that would be closer to the experiment core workflows are under investigation
  - ✓ The first is a feasibility study and proof of concept of a common analysis framework between ATLAS and CMS
- ✓ Both better and more sustainable solutions could result – with lower operational and maintenance costs