

# **CERN, GRID and E-Science**

#### **Contents:**

- Introduction
- Computer intensive science
- Particle physics and the LHC
- The LHC data challenge
- LCG the LHC Computing Grid
- The CERN IT Openlab



## IT at CERN – more than the Grid

- Physics computing Grids (this talk!)
- Administrative information systems
  - Financial and administrative management systems, e-business...
- Desktop and office computing
  - Windows, Linux and Web infrastructure for day to day use
- Engineering applications and databases
  - CAD/CAM/CAE (Autocad, Catia, Cadence, Ansys etc)
  - A number of technical information systems based on Oracle, MySQL
- Controls systems
  - Process control of accellerators, experiments and infrastructure
- Networks and telecom
  - European IP hub, security, voice over IP...

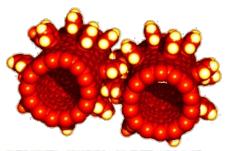
More information: http://cern.ch/it

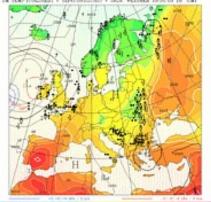


# Computing intensive science

 Science is becoming increasingly digital and needs to deal with increasing amounts of data

- Simulations get ever more detailed
  - Nanotechnology design of new materials from the molecular scale
  - Modelling and predicting complex systems (weather forecasting, river floods, earthquake)
  - Decoding the human genome
- Experimental Science uses ever bigger sensors to make precise measurements
  - → Compute a lot of statistics
  - → Huge amounts of data
  - → Serves user community around the world









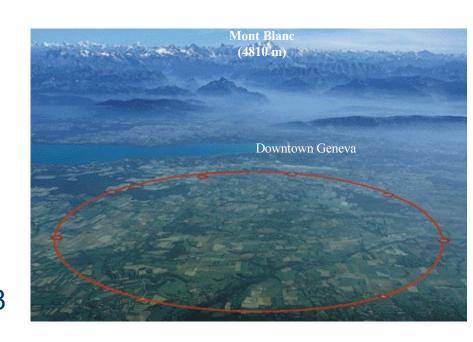
# Particle Physics (I)



- CERN: the world's largest particle physics laboratory
- Particle physics requires special tools to create and study new particles: accelerators and detectors

#### Large Hadron Collider (LHC):

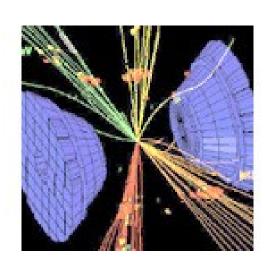
- most powerful instrument ever built to investigate elementary particles
- four experiments:ALICE, ATLAS, CMS, LHCb
- 27 km circumference tunnel
- First beam 10<sup>th</sup> September 2008





# Particle physics (II)

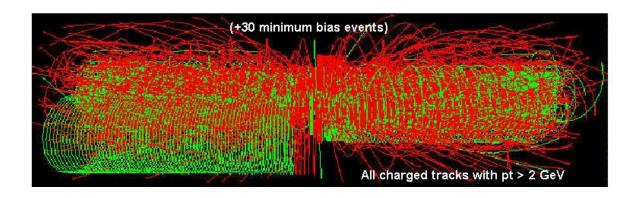
- Physicists smash particles into each other to:
  - identify their components
  - create new particles
  - reveal the nature of the interactions between them
  - create an environment similar to the one present at the origin of our Universe
- A particle collision = an event
  - need to count, trace and characterize all the particles produced and fully reconstruct the process
- Among all tracks, the presence of "special shapes" is the sign for the occurrence of interesting interactions.



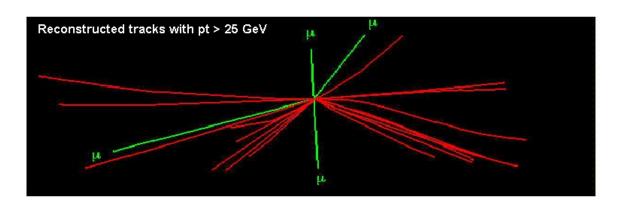


# The LHC Data Challenge

# Starting from this event



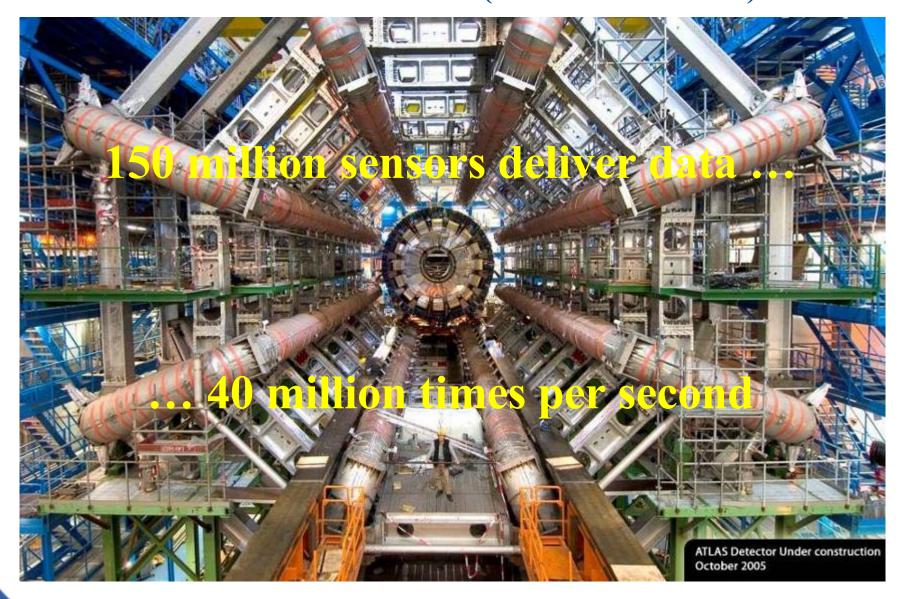
Looking for this "signature"



→ Selectivity: 1 in 10<sup>13</sup>

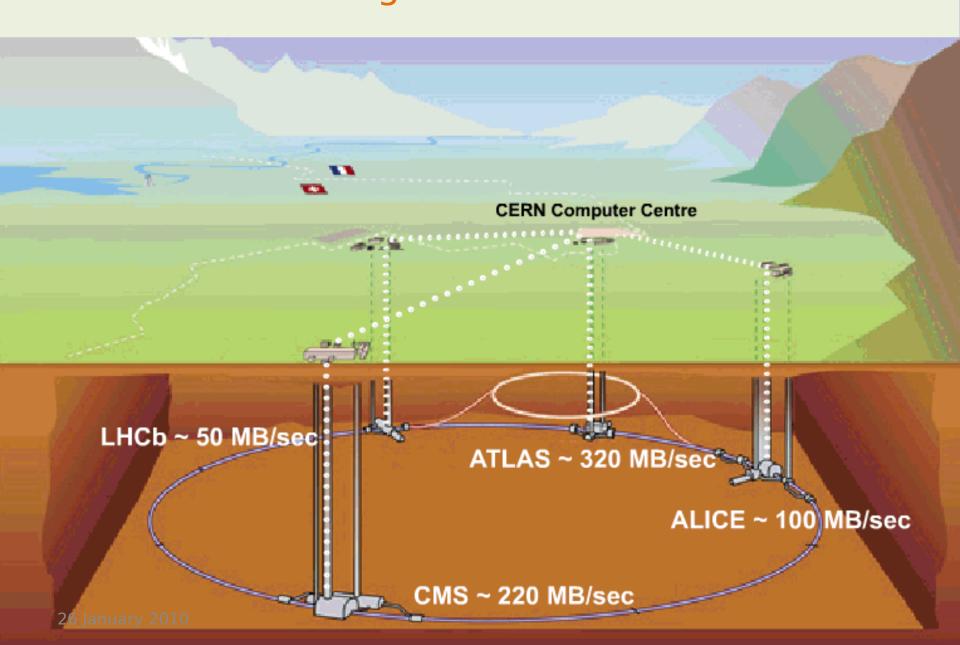
(Like looking for a needle in 20 million haystacks)

#### View of the ATLAS detector (under construction)





# Tier 0 at CERN: Acquisition, First pass processing Storage & Distribution





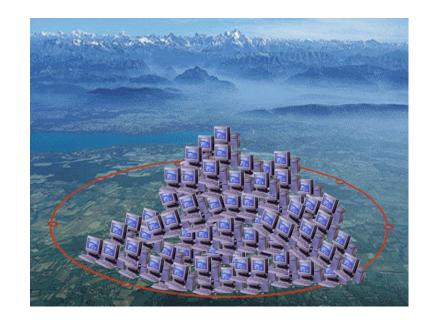
# **LHC Processing**

- Simulation
- compute what the detector should have seen
- Reconstruction
- transform signals from the detector to physical properties

(energies, charge of particles, ...)

- Analysis
- use complex algorithms to extract physics

→LHC data analysis requires a computing power equivalent to ~ 100,000 of today's fastest PC processors!





# CERN Computing – Tier 0 in numbers

Computing – CPU:

 8000 systems / 60k cores
 Used for CPU servers, disk servers, general services

 Computing – disk:

- 14 PB on 42.5k disk drives (+ planned 19 PB on 20k drives)

Computing – tape:
– 34 PB on 45k tape cartridges
– 56k tape slots in robots, 160 tape drives

Computer centre:

- 2.9 MW usable power, +  $\sim$  1.5 MW for cooling

Current status and numbers

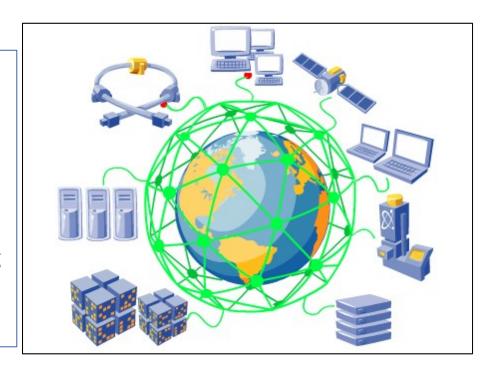


#### **Solution: the Grid**

• Use the Grid to unite computing resources of particle physics institutes around the world

The World Wide Web provides seamless access to information that is stored in many millions of different geographical locations

The **Grid** is an infrastructure that provides seamless access to computing power and data storage capacity distributed over the globe



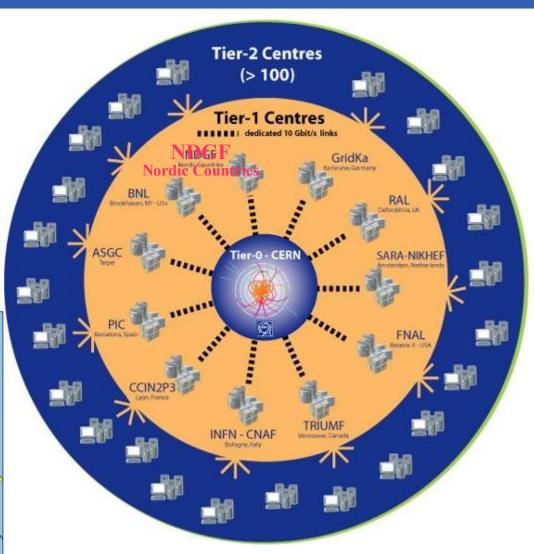


# LHC Computing Grid project (LCG)

- More than 200 computing centres
- 12 large centres for primary data management: CERN (Tier-0) and eleven Tier-1s

38 federations of smaller



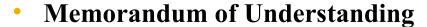




#### **WLCG Collaboration**

#### The Collaboration

- 4 LHC experiments
- ~200 computing centres
- 12 large centres (Tier-0, Tier-1)
- 38 federations of smaller
   "Tier-2" centres
- ~35 countries



Agreed in October 2005

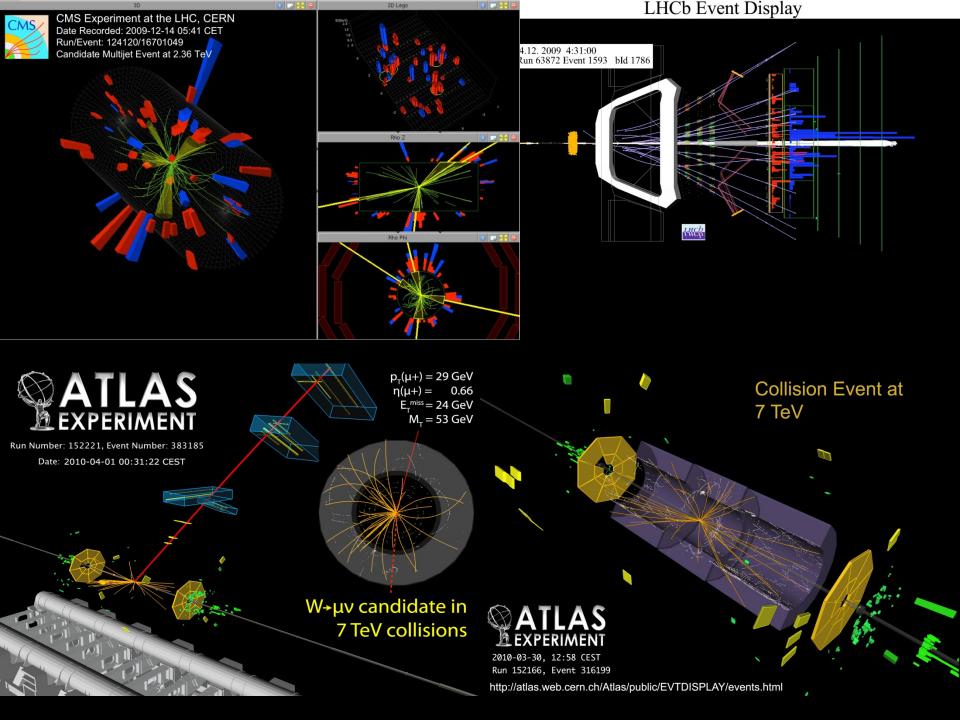
#### Resources

- Focuses on the needs of the four LHC experiments
- Commits resources
  - each October for the coming year
  - 5-year forward look
- Agrees on standards and procedures
- Relies on EGEE and OSG (and other regional efforts)

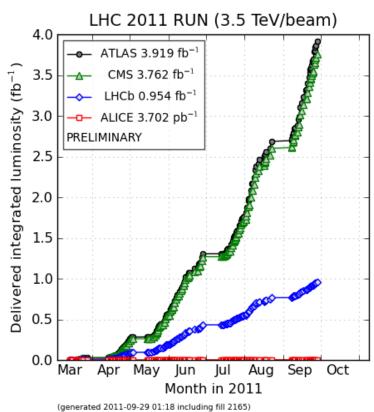


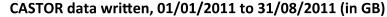


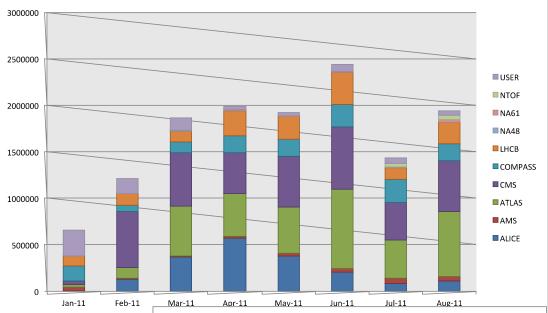




# Data in 2011







NTOF, 89037.26078

NA48, 2161.50686

NA61, 56010.8314

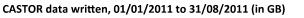
LHCB, 1559904.73

CMS, 3822085.689

COMPASS, 1373432.745 USER, 863778.6556

Total data written Jan-Aug: 13.48 PB ... heading for 25 PB?

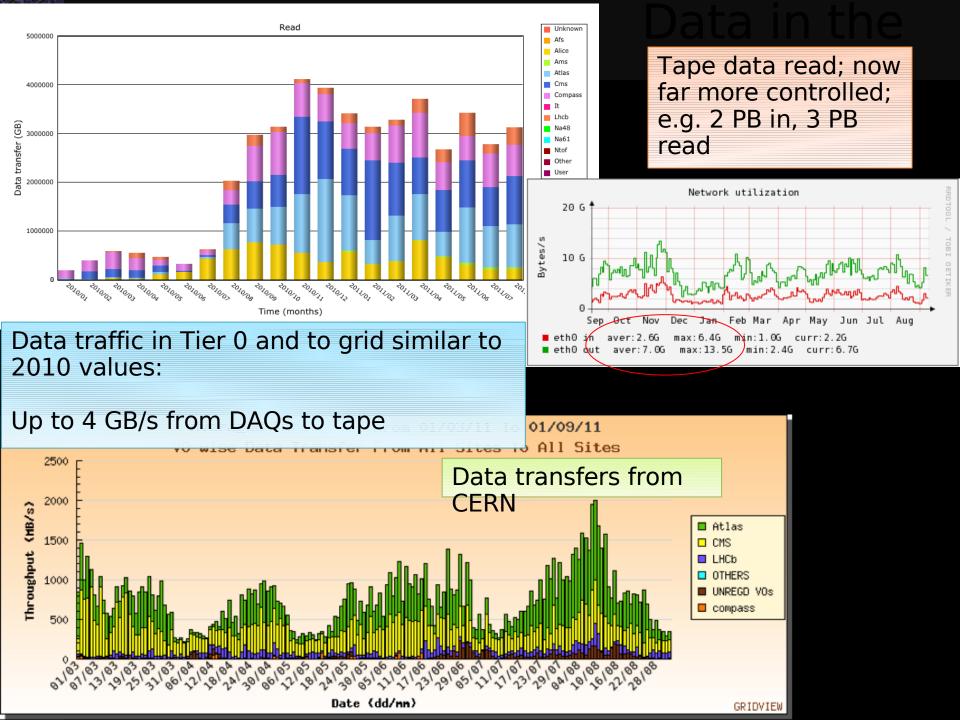


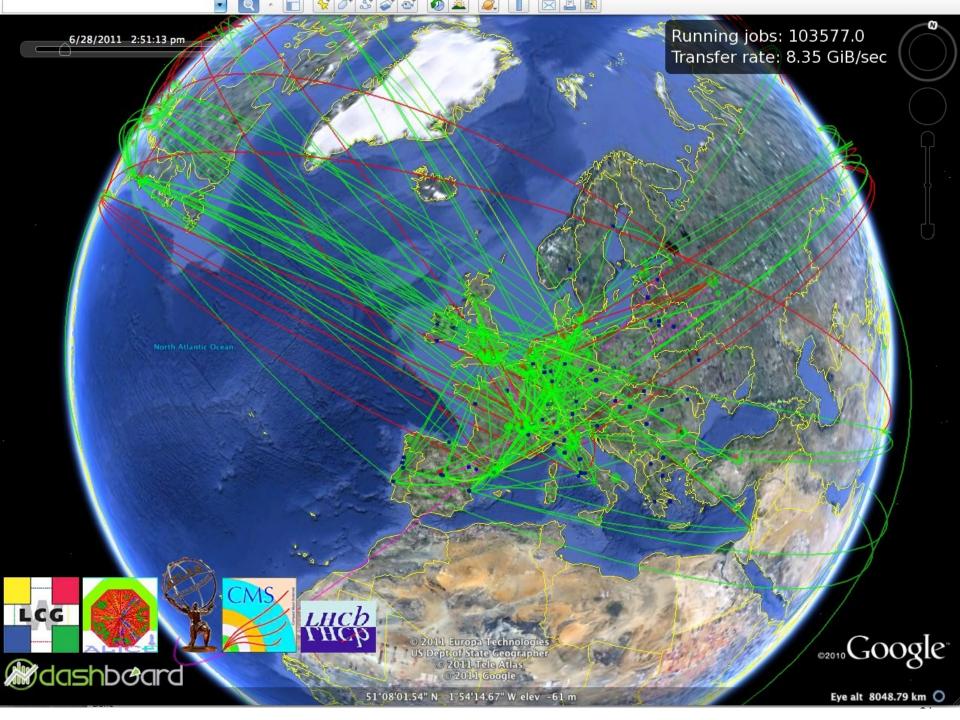


ALICE, 1871916,284

ATLAS, 3611865.04

AMS, 236083.1811







# Impact of the LHC Computing Grid in Europe





## **GRID** vs Cloud

- "Cloud computing" is gaining importance
  - Web based solutions (http/https and RES)
  - Virtualization, upload machine images to remote sites
- GRID has mainly a scientific user base
  - Complex applications running across multiple sites, but works like a cluster batch system for the end user
  - Mainly suitable for parallel computing and massive data processing
- Expect convergence in the future
  - "Internal Cloud" at CERN Ixcloud
  - CernVM virtual machine running e.g. at Amazon
  - "Volunteer Cloud" LHC@home 2.0



# CERN openlab in brief

- A science industry partnership to drive R&D and innovation
- Started in 2002, now in phase 3

#### Motto: "you make it - we break it"

- Evaluates state-of-the-art technologies in a very complex environment and improves them
- Test in a research environment today what will be used in industry tomorrow
- Training:
  - openlab student programme
  - Topical seminars
  - CERN School of Computing



# openlab phase III

- Covers 2009-2011
- Status
  - Partners: HP, Intel, Oracle and Siemens
- New topics
  - Global wireless coverage for CERN (HP)
  - Power-efficient solutions (Intel)
  - Performance Tuning (Oracle)
  - Control systems and PLC security (Siemens)
  - Advanced storage systems and/or global file system
  - 100Gb/s networking



## **More information**









www.cern.ch/lcg





