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Towards a Global Effort for Sustainable Data Preservation in High Energy Physics [DPHEP Study Group]

Data from high-energy physics (HEP) experiments are collected with significant financial and human effort and are mostly unique. An inter-experimental study group on HEP data preservation and long-term analysis was convened as a panel of the International Committee for Future Accelerators (ICFA). The group was formed by large collider-based experiments and investigated the technical and organisational aspects of HEP data preservation. An intermediate report was released in November 2009 addressing the general issues of data preservation in HEP. The recent status report, released in May 2012, provides an analysis of the research case for data preservation and a detailed description of the various projects at experiment, laboratory and international levels. In addition, the paper provides a concrete proposal for an international organisation in charge of the data management and policies in high-energy physics. The document submitted to the European Strategy Preparatory Group presents the main conclusions of the ICFA Study Group for Data Preservation in High-Energy Physics [DPHEP].

Primary author: DIACONU, Cristinel (Universite d'Aix - Marseille II (FR))