

# Data Preservation in HEP

*Use Cases, Business Cases, Costs & Cost Models*

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Grid Deployment Board



International Collaboration for Data Preservation and  
Long Term Analysis in High Energy Physics

# DPHEP-fest



- Today: DPHEP@GDB
- Monday Oct 14: DPHEP@CHEP
  - Update on progress since CHEP 2013
- Wednesday Oct 16: DPHEP WS @ CHEP
  - DPHEP “Common Projects”;
  - Moving from a “Problem Statement” (Blueprint) to Services, Solutions and Projects

# DPHEP Implementation Board

- Equivalent to GDB / MB for DPHEP
  - Indico: <https://indico.cern.ch/categoryDisplay.py?categId=4458>
  - Twitter: <https://twitter.com/search?q=%23DPHEP>
  - Mail archives: <https://groups.cern.ch/group/DPHEP-IB/default.aspx>

# DP in the Wider Context

- **Many** projects / disciplines active
- At least some “mature” in many aspects
  - **We can profit a lot by collaboration (bi-directional)**
- International / inter-disciplinary coordination:
  - Alliance for Permanent Access (APA) [ **executive board candidate** ]
  - RDA Preservation e-Infrastructure Interest Group [ **vice-chair** ]
- Several relevant conferences / workshops:
  - APA
  - iDCC
  - iPRES
  - PV
  - (RDA)



# High Level Strategy wrt Others

- Make “them” **aware** of us
  - “Them” = other projects, funding agencies, ...
- Clarify what we can **offer**
  - e.g. “bit preservation” at 100PB -> 1EB scale

➤ **This seems to be working**

# The remainder of this talk will concentrate on:

- Use Cases;
  - Associated Business Cases;
  - Costs & Cost Models.
- **Why is this relevant for the GDB?**
    - Because there are messages and implications for the funders
    - As they may well be service and other implications (“best practices”)
    - Because members of the GDB can provide input to the elaboration of the costs & cost models
  - **Once we have these we can prepare a “roadmap” for handling the key Use Cases**
  - **An analysis of the costs is essential for future work...**

# DPHEP – 1<sup>st</sup> Workshop

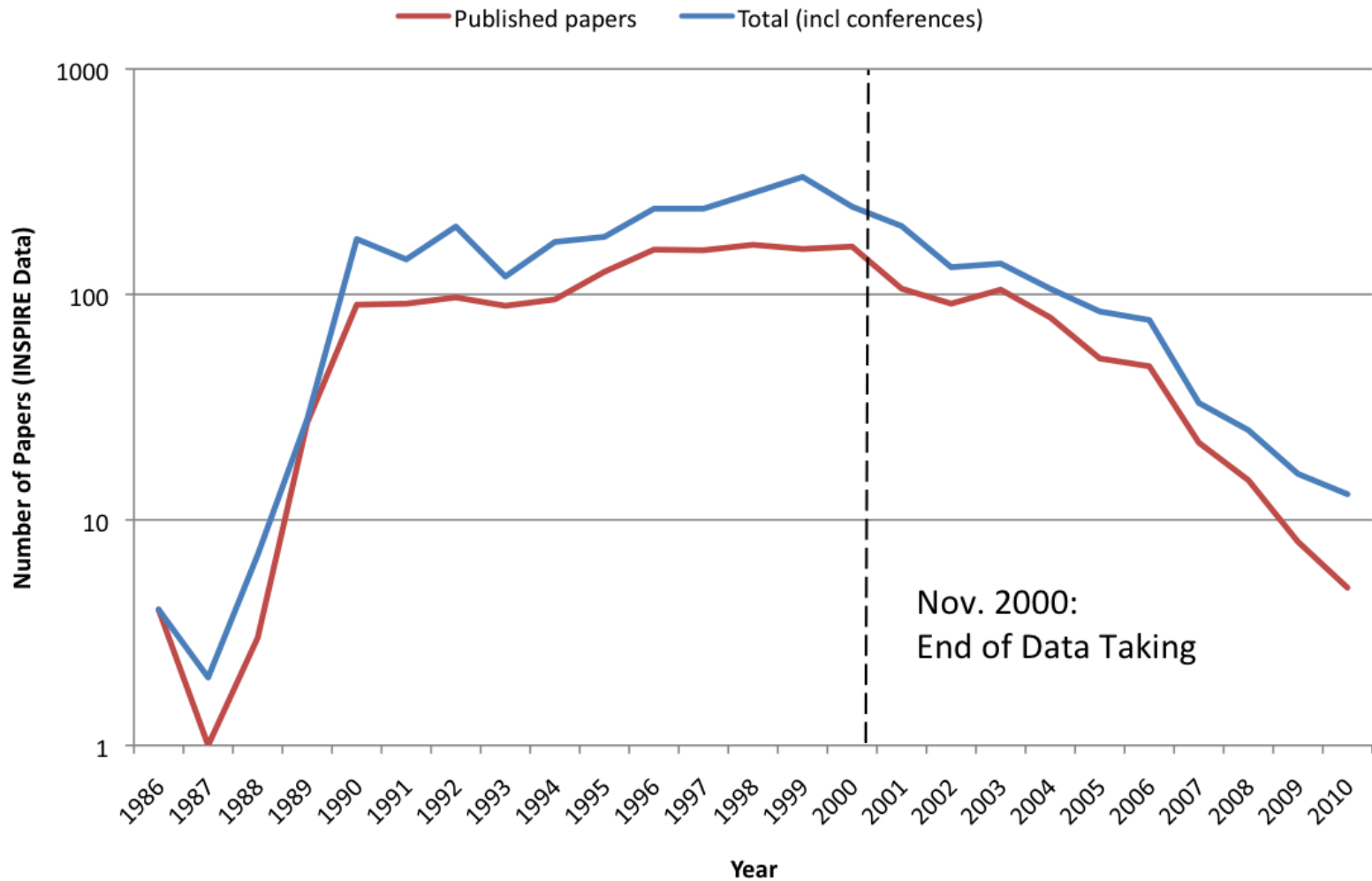
- *“The problem is substantial and past experience shows that early preparation is needed and sufficient resources should be allocated.”*
- *“The “raison d’être” of data preservation should be clearly and convincingly formulated, including a viable economic model.”*

# Use Cases

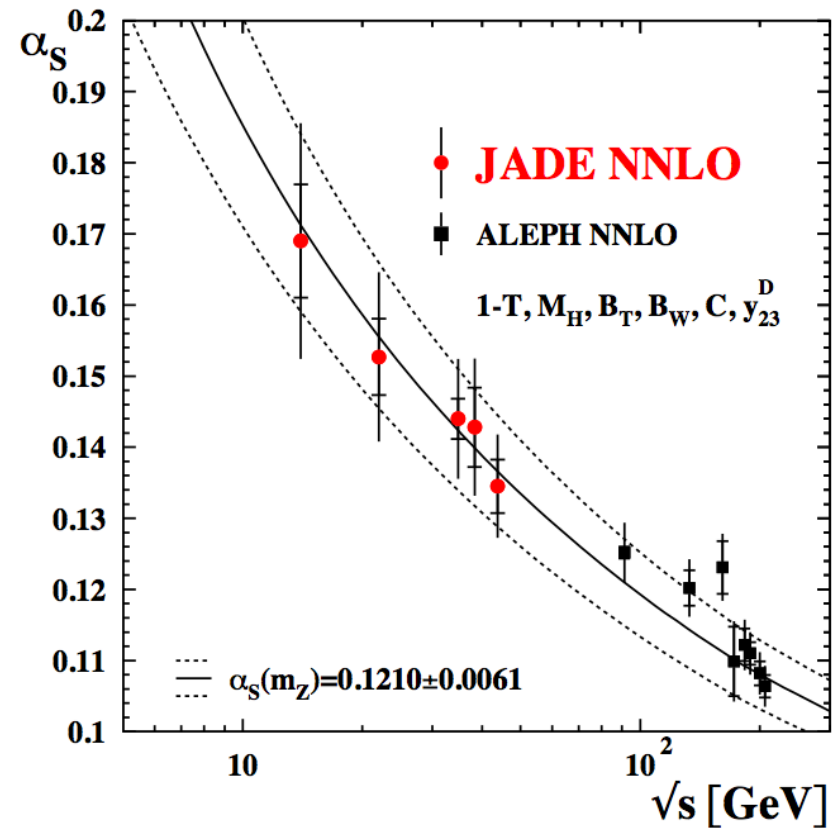
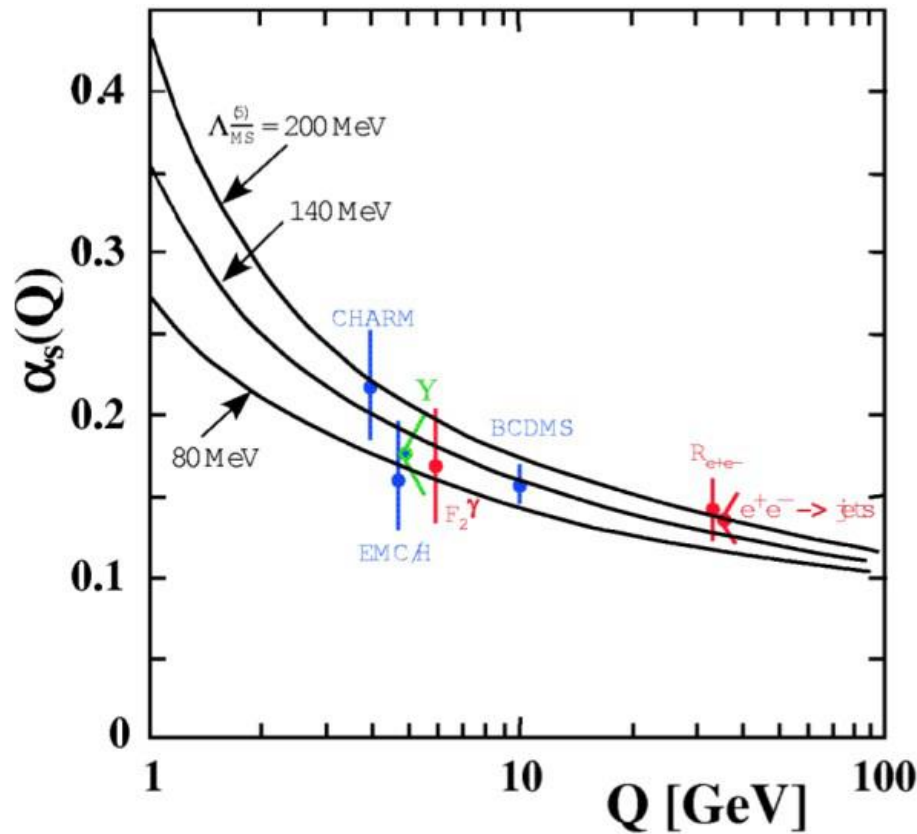
- Three Use Cases have been identified, based on the “Problem Statement(s)” in the DPHEP Blueprint
- They are simple enough for discussions with non-experts
- They may be over-simplified but IMHO this does not dramatically alter the bottom line



# 1 – Long Tail of Papers



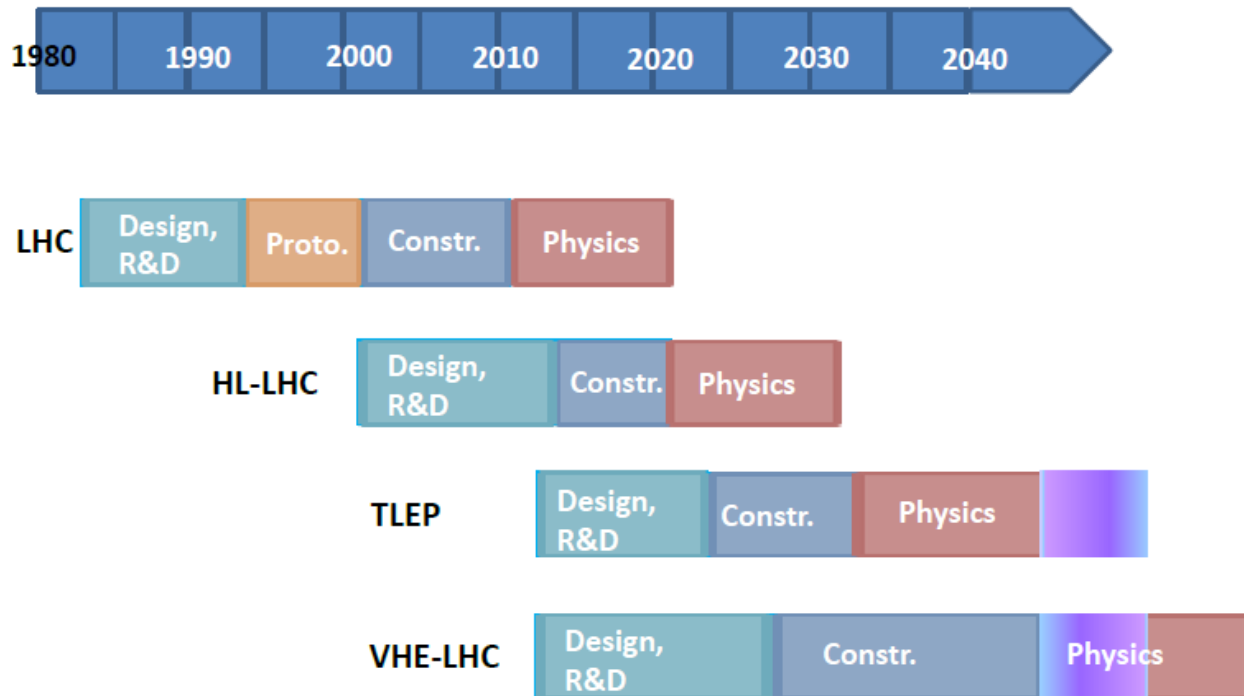
# 2 – New Theoretical Insights



# 3 – “Discovery” to “Precision”



## possible long-term time line



# 4 – (whatever)

- There is a general feeling that “we” should preserve data “forever” “just in case”
- No clear business case
- An understanding of the costs can help clarify the strategy (e.g. “best effort” – bit preservation + ?)
- Preservation of data + software + knowledge beyond human lifetimes not obvious...
- (Cost benefit analysis)

# Use Case Summary

1. Keep data usable for ~1 decade
  2. Keep data usable for ~2 decades
  3. Keep data usable for ~3 decades
- Re-visit after we have understood costs & cost models, plus potential “solutions”

# **COSTS AND COST MODELS**

# Costs – Introduction

- We do not know *exactly* what the costs will be in the future
- But, we can make estimates, based on our “knowledge” and experience
- In some areas these estimates will be relatively accurate
- In others, much less so
- “Acceptable” costs compared to what?
  - Cost of LHC? WLCG? A specific service, **such as DB**?

# A DB Service

- Costs include:
  - Hardware;
  - Licenses & maintenance;
  - People.
- There is also value = business case
- **10 FTEs @EUR100K/year = EUR1M/year**



# Costs of Curation Workshop

- Within DPHEP, and in collaboration with external projects (e.g. 4C), we are planning a “no stone left un-turned” [workshop](#)
- Look at the **many migrations** we have performed in the (recent) past – plus those foreseen
- **Estimate / calculate costs**
- Come up with scenarios for the future:
  - **10 year preservation = 3 media migrations + n build systems + p s/w repositories + q O/S versions + ...**
  - **20 year preservation: more disruptive changes**
  - **30 year preservation: more still**
- **Manpower almost certainly the dominant cost**
- What can we do to optimize it?
  - Coordinate validation activities -> service
  - Streamline emulation activities -> tool-kit(s)
  - Best practices & support for migration activities -> support activity
- Can we do things in a way that costs less in the future – and make our data more “preservational”?

# Summary

- Your input and experience is needed to make the workshop successful
  - Jan 13/14 (or Jan 27/28)
- We will start to build agenda now – output will be a report with costs & cost models
- This should help guide our work – and IMHO is a pre-requisite for obtaining funding / resources

# Conclusions

- Unless there are real surprises (IMHO not consistent with “experiment”), the real and necessary costs of curation are **affordable**
  - **Affordable** means business case is valid / strong
- **Knowing the numbers can only help**

Entity	Description	Input and Positioning	Output
DPHEP Project Manager	Project management, administrative, technical, funding	Main operational coordinator, maintain contacts, organises meetings, lead proposals for funding	Reports to the steering committee