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Data Acquisition at the LHC experiments

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The CERN Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is one of the most awesome science tool ever built. To fully exploit the potential of this great instrument, a huge design and development effort has been initiated in order to ensure that measurements can optimally flow out from the detectors in terms of quantity, selectivity, and integrity, be accessible for online monitoring and be recorded for analysis and long-term archive.

This effort is now reaching the end of its initial development phase and evolving towards operation. We will give an overview of the resulting Trigger and Data Acquisition (DAQ) systems designed to harvest and store the precious stream of LHC data. We will in particular review some of the technology choices made to address the specific requirements of each experiment, covering both hardware and software aspects.

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