

ARDA experience in collaborating with the LHC experiments

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The ARDA project focuses in delivering analysis prototypes together with the LHC experiments. Each experiment prototype is in principle independent but commonalities have been observed. The first level of commonality is represented by mature projects which can be effectively shared across different users. The best example is GANGA, providing a toolkit to organize users' activity, shielding users from execution back end details (like JDL preparation) and optionally supporting the execution of user application derived from the experiment framework (Athena and DaVinci for ATLAS and LHCb). The second level derives from the observation of commonality among different usage of the Grid: efficient access to resources from individual users, interactivity, robustness and transparent error recovery. High-level services built on top of a baseline layer are frequently needed to fully support specific activities like production and users' analysis: these high-level services can be regarded as prototypes of future generic services. The observed commonality and concrete examples of convergence in the HEP community and outside are shown and discussed.

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