In Particular

Podcasting the LHC

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ICHEP Education and Outreach Session

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the podcast

a podcast about physics and the process of discovering physics at the high energy frontier

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audience

non-physicists with a solid popular science background

try to keep it still interesting to physicists (i.e. us)

goals

give a ground-level perspective of what it's like to work on the LHC

explore individual experiences of people in the ATLAS collaboration

releases

~~fortnightly, seasons of 6-8 episodes~~

?????

first episode just over a year ago, five total

the podcast

each episode has two hosts, typically me and Laura and is 20-40 minutes long

interview-based — each episode is either a survey of many physicists or a few interviews with experts

listeners hear directly from the people most involved in each topic

original music by Larry made for each episode

they sound like this:

episodes

Hopes and Dreams

released at the start of Run 2, we asked what ATLAS physicists were hoping we'd find in the new data

The Frenzy

we discussed projects that faced a time-crunch leading up to Run 2 data-taking, and what happens when we encounter a serious problem

episodes

Particle Zoo (add links!)

we talk about the concept of a particle and the many different ones in the standard model by asking people which is their favorite

Things That Go Bump in the Light

we demonstrate our incredible puncrafting skill and interview people about their thoughts on the diphoton excess just before its release to the public

episodes

What takes so long?

we talk about the active process of taking ATLAS data, and the quantum mechanical reasons we need so much of it

this is planned as part of a series (future episodes to describe the analysis and approval process)

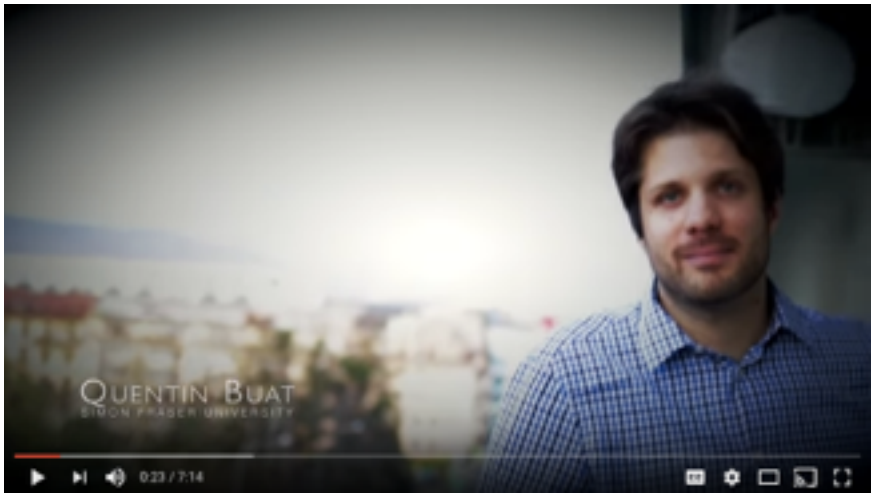
video shorts

we've produced two video shorts: *Graviton* and *Dark Matter*

we talk to one physicist about a phenomenon that they search for

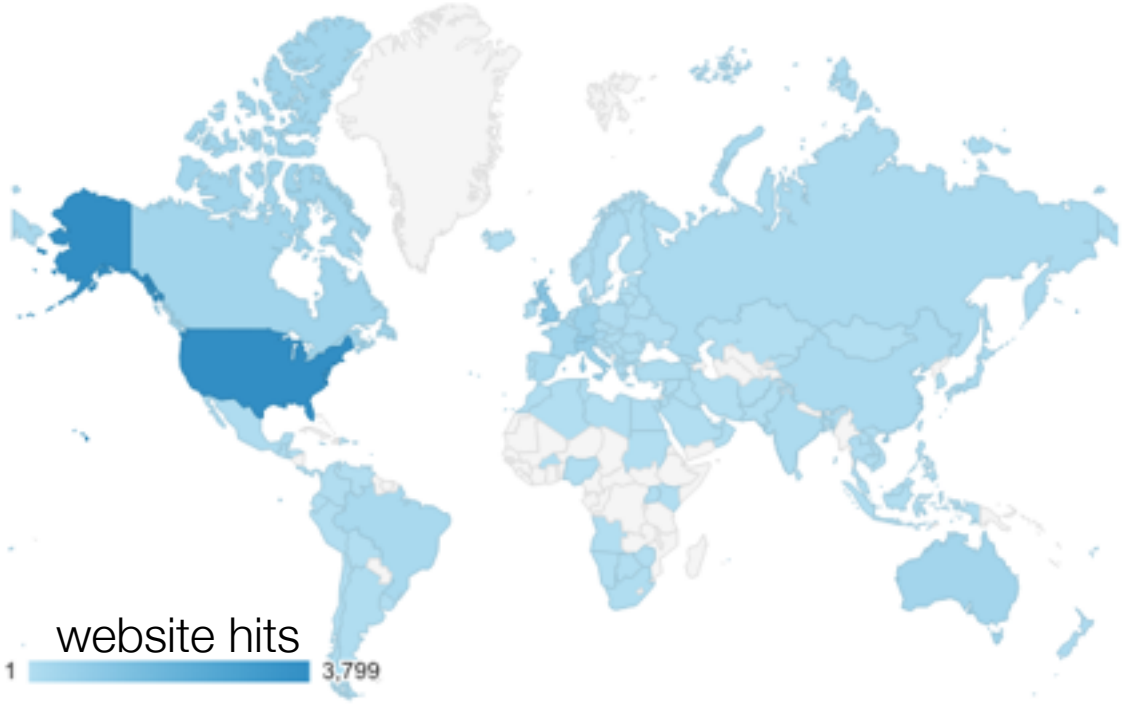
more physics-focused than the podcast, but we like to emphasize aspects of the physics that get the analyzers excited

we've made companion worksheets that can be used in school classes — trying to make these videos assume a little bit less physics knowledge



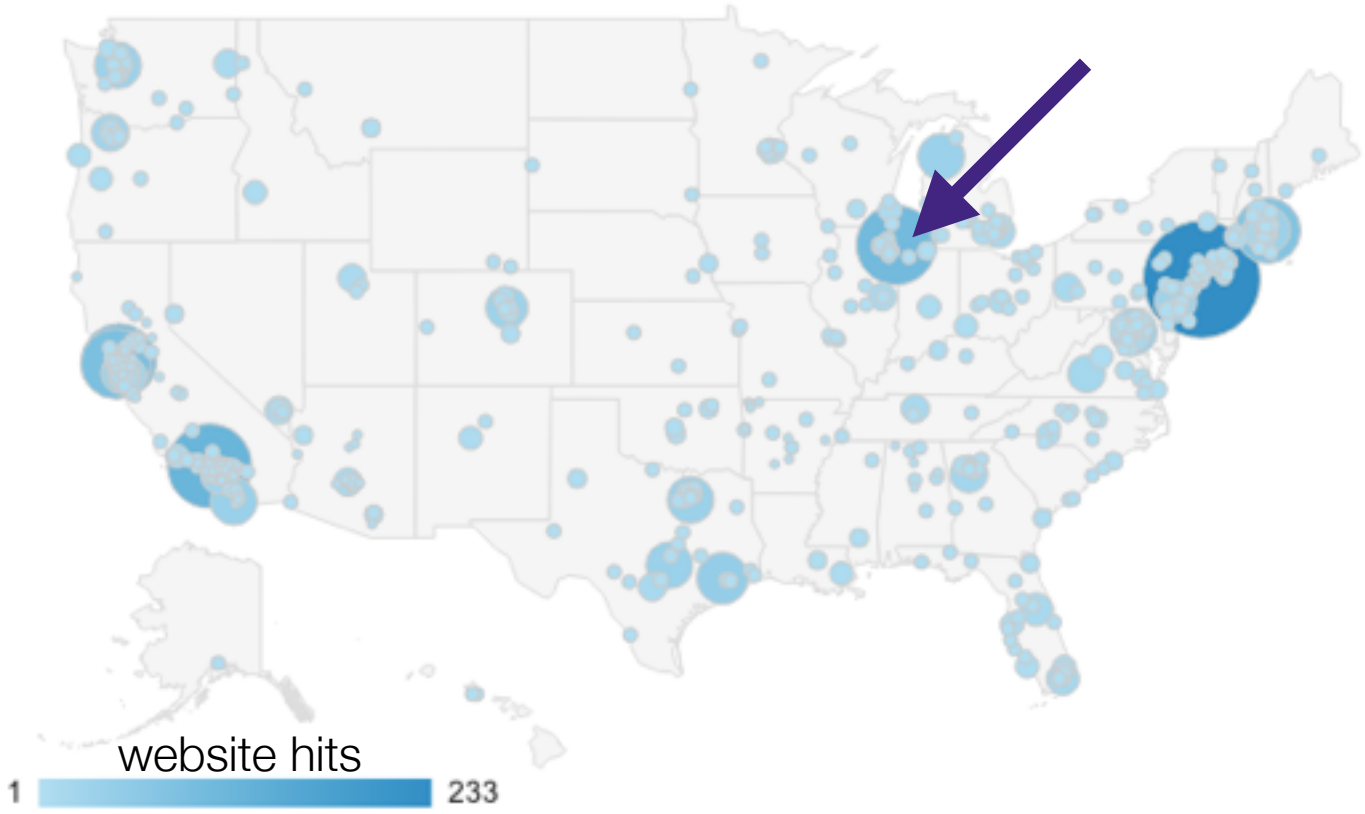
reception

listened to over 90K times, with hits from all over the world (but especially the US)



reception

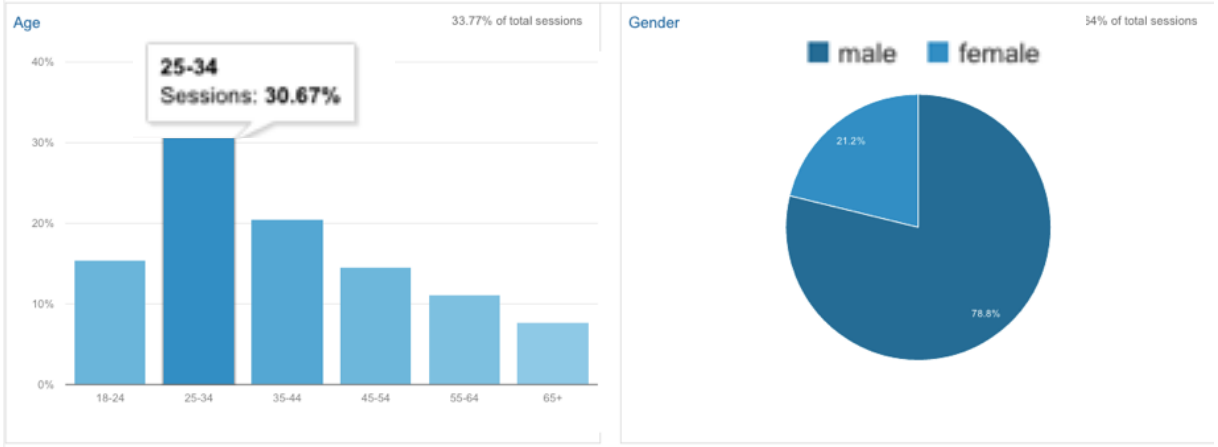
even lots of hits here!



reception

it's mostly 30-year old men who like science

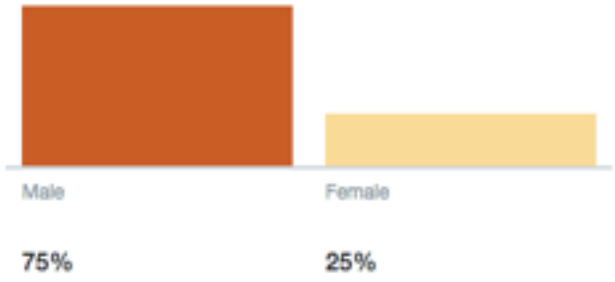
website stats



twitter stats

Interests

Interest name	% of audience
Science news	95%
Physics	89%
Tech news	87%
Space and astrono	84%
Technology	77%



i.e. android users

Device type	% of audience
iOS devices	28%
Android devices	41%

the future

many more episodes planned — but the limiting factor is time!

- each episode takes about 60 person hours (recording interviews, episode planning, voice-over recording, editing, music production)

hoping to expand our video shorts and test them out in more classrooms

- already tested in a middle school classroom with very positive feedback! working on making them consistently accessible

for the time being, Laura and I are based in Berkeley, so if you're going to be there and want to be interviewed, let us know!

- email us at inparticular@cern.ch or speak to me after the session

where to find us

our website: cern.ch/inparticular

iTunes: itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/in-particular/id1001131655

Stitcher: stitcher.com/podcast/in-particular?refid=asa

YouTube: youtube.com/channel/UCK8wnhcDAe6Ra4Vy_9lyPbQ

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