



Contribution ID: 695

Type: **Oral Presentation**

HEP data for everyone: CERN open data and the ATLAS and CMS experiments

Saturday 6 August 2016 14:30 (15 minutes)

A cornerstone of good scientific practice is to make results available to the public. This is especially true for experiments at the LHC at CERN where public investment in fundamental research is significant and long-standing. As part of their commitment to open access and public engagement the ATLAS and CMS collaborations have made several large datasets available to the public.

There are many challenges posed in presenting complex and high-level data to the public in an accessible and meaningful way. We describe the solutions to these challenges, part of which is the creation and use of the CERN Open Data Portal and the content found therein. Furthermore we describe the impact and future plans of the ATLAS and CMS open access efforts including future releases of data and accompanying educational material.

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Session Classification: Education and Outreach

Track Classification: Education and Outreach