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3 **A Roadmap for HEP Software and Computing**
4 **R&D for the 2020s**

5

High Energy Physics Software Foundation

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1. Introduction

Particle physics has an ambitious programme of experiments for the coming decades. The programme supports the strategic goals of the particle physics community that have been laid out by the European Strategy for Particle Physics [1] and by the Particle Physics Project Prioritization Panel (P5) in the United States [2]. Broadly summarised the scientific goals are:

- exploit the discovery of the Higgs boson in 2012 as a precision tool for investigating Standard Model (SM) and Beyond the Standard Model (BSM) physics,
- study the decays of b- and c-hadrons, and tau leptons, in the search for manifestations of BSM physics, and to investigate matter-antimatter differences,
- search for signatures of dark matter,
- probe neutrino oscillations and masses,
- study the Quark Gluon Plasma state of matter in heavy-ion collisions,
- explore the unknown.

The High-Luminosity Large Hadron Collider (HL-LHC) [3] will be a major upgrade of the current LHC [LHC] supporting the aim of an in-depth investigation of the properties of the Higgs boson and its couplings to other particles (Figure 1). The ATLAS [4] and CMS [5] collaborations will continue to make measurements in the Higgs sector, while searching for new physics Beyond the Standard Model (BSM). Should a BSM discovery be made, a full exploration of that physics will be pursued. Such BSM physics may help shed light on the nature of dark matter, which we know makes up the majority of gravitational matter in the universe, but which does not interact via the electromagnetic or strong nuclear forces [Mangano2016].

The LHCb experiment at the LHC [LHCb] and the Belle II experiment at KEK [6] study various aspects of heavy flavour physics (b- and c-quark, and tau-lepton physics), where quantum influences of very high mass particles manifest themselves in lower energy phenomena. Their primary goal is to look for BSM physics either by studying CP violation (that is, asymmetries in the behaviour of particles and their corresponding antiparticles) or modifications in rate or angular distributions in rare heavy-flavour decays. Current manifestations of such asymmetries do not explain why our universe is so matter dominated. These flavour physics programmes are related to BSM searches through effective field theory and powerful constraints on new physics keep coming from such studies.

The study of neutrinos, their mass and oscillations, can also shed light on matter-antimatter asymmetry. The DUNE experiment will provide a huge improvement in our ability to probe neutrino physics, detecting neutrinos from the Long Baseline Neutrino Facility at Fermilab, as well as linking to astro-particle physics programmes, in particular through the potential detection of supernovas and relic neutrinos. An overview of the experimental programme scheduled at the Fermilab facility is given in Figure 2.

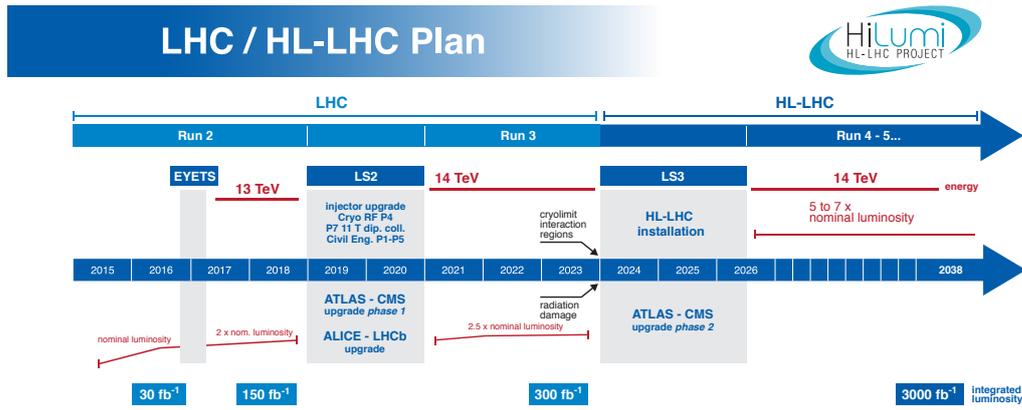


Figure 1: The current schedule for the LHC and HL-LHC upgrade and run [7]. Currently, the start of the HL-LHC run is foreseen for mid 2026. The long shutdowns, LS2 and LS3, will be used to upgrade both the accelerator and the detector hardware.

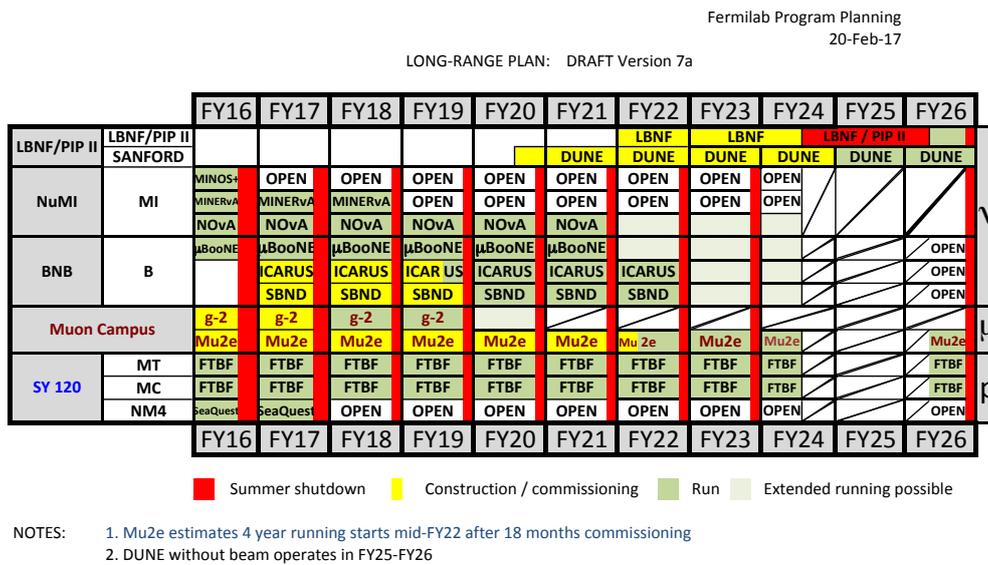


Figure 2: Run schedule for the Fermilab facility until 2026.

69 In the study of the early universe immediately after the Big Bang, it is critical
 70 to understand the phase transition between the highly compressed quark-gluon plasma
 71 and the nuclear matter in the universe today. The ALICE experiment at the LHC [8]
 72 and the CBM and PANDA experiments at the Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research
 73 (FAIR) are specifically designed to probe this aspect of nuclear and particle physics. In
 74 addition ATLAS, CMS and LHCb all contribute to the LHC heavy-ion programme.

75 These experimental programmes require large investments in detector hardware,
 76 either to build new facilities and experiments (e.g., FAIR, DUNE) or to upgrade
 77 existing ones (HL-LHC, Belle II). Similarly, they require commensurate investment in

78 the research and development necessary to deploy software to acquire, manage, process,
79 and analyse the data recorded.

80 For the HL-LHC, which is scheduled to begin taking data in 2026 (Figure LHC-
81 Schedule) and to run into the 2030s, some 30 times more data than the LHC has
82 currently produced will be collected by ATLAS and CMS. As the total amount of
83 LHC data already collected is close to an exabyte, it is clear that the problems to be
84 solved require approaches beyond simply scaling current solutions, assuming Moore's
85 Law and more or less constant operational budgets. The nature of computing hardware
86 (processors, storage, networks) is evolving with radically new paradigms, the quantity
87 of data to be processed is increasing dramatically, its complexity is increasing, and
88 more sophisticated analyses will be required to maximise physics yield. Developing and
89 deploying sustainable software for the future and upgraded experiments, given these
90 constraints, is both a technical and a social challenge, as detailed in this paper. An
91 important message of this report is that a "software upgrade" is needed to run in
92 parallel with the hardware upgrades planned for the HL-LHC.

93 In planning for the HL-LHC in particular, it is critical that all of the collaborating
94 stakeholders agree on the software goals and priorities, and that the efforts complement
95 each other. In this spirit, the HEP Software Foundation (HSF) began a planning
96 exercise in late 2016 to prepare a Community White Paper (CWP) at the behest
97 of the Worldwide LHC Computing Grid (WLCG) [**WLCG2016**]. The role of the
98 HSF is to facilitate coordination and common efforts in HEP software and computing
99 internationally and to provide a structure for the community to set goals and priorities
100 for future work. The objective of the CWP is to provide a roadmap for software R&D
101 in preparation for the HL-LHC and for other HEP experiments on a similar timescale,
102 which would identify and prioritise the software research and development investments
103 required:

- 104 • to achieve improvements in software efficiency, scalability and performance, and to
105 make use of advances in CPU, storage and network technologies in order to cope
106 with the challenges ahead;
- 107 • to enable new approaches to computing and software that can radically extend the
108 physics reach of the detectors;
- 109 • to ensure the long-term sustainability of the software through the lifetime of the
110 HL- LHC;
- 111 • to ensure data and knowledge preservation beyond the lifetime of individual
112 experiments;
- 113 • to attract the required new expertise by offering appropriate career recognition to
114 physicists specialising in software development, and by an effective training effort
115 to target all contributors in the community.

116 The CWP process, organised by the HSF with the participation of the LHC
117 experiments and the wider HEP software and computing community, began with a kick-
118 off workshop at the San Diego Supercomputer Centre (SDSC), USA, in January 2017 and

119 concluded with a final workshop in June 2017 at the Laboratoire d'Annecy de Physique
120 des Particules (LAPP), France, with a large number of intermediate topical workshops
121 and meetings. The entire CWP process involved an estimated 250 participants.

122 To reach more widely than the LHC experiments, specific contact was made with
123 individuals with software and computing responsibilities in the Fermilab muon and
124 neutrino experiments, Belle II, the Linear Collider community as well as various national
125 computing organisations. The CWP process was able to build on all the links established
126 since the inception of the HSF in 2014.

127 Working groups were established on various topics which were expected to
128 be important parts of the HL-LHC roadmap: *Careers, Staffing and Training;*
129 *Conditions Database; Data Organisation, Management and Access; Data Analysis*
130 *and Interpretation; Data and Software Preservation; Detector Simulation; Data-*
131 *Flow Processing Frameworks; Facilities and Distributed Computing; Machine*
132 *Learning; Physics Generators; Security; Software Development, Deployment and*
133 *Validation/Verification; Software Trigger and Event Reconstruction; and Visualisation.*
134 The work of each working group is summarised in this document, with links to the more
135 detailed topical documents when they exist.

136 This document is the result of the CWP process. Investing in the roadmap outlined
137 here will be fruitful for the whole of the HEP programme and may also benefit other
138 projects with similar technical challenges, particularly in astrophysics, *e.g.*, the Square
139 Kilometre Array (SKA), the Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA) and the Large Synoptic
140 Survey Telescope (LSST).

141 2. Software and Computing Challenges

142 Run 2 for the LHC started in 2015 and delivered a proton-proton collision energy of 13
143 TeV. By the end of LHC Run 2 in 2018, it is expected that about 150 fb^{-1} of physics
144 data will have been collected by both ATLAS and CMS. Together with ALICE and
145 LHCb, the total size of LHC data storage pledged by sites for the year 2017 is around
146 1 exabyte, as shown in table 1 from the LHC's Computing Resource Scrutiny Group
147 (CRSG) [9]. The CPU allocation from the CRSG for 2017 to each experiment is also
148 shown.

149 Using an approximate conversion from HS06 [HS06] to CPU cores of 10 means that
150 LHC computing in 2017 is supported by about 500k CPU cores. These resources are
151 deployed ubiquitously, from close to the experiments themselves at CERN to a worldwide
152 distributed computing infrastructure, the WLCG. Each experiment has developed its
153 own workflow management and data management software to manage its share of
154 WLCG resources.

155 In order to process the data, the 4 largest LHC experiments have written more than
156 20 million lines of program code over the last 15 years. This has involved contributions
157 from thousands of physicists and many computing professionals, encompassing a wide
158 range of skills and abilities. The majority of this code was written for a single

Experiment	2017 Pledges (PB)	Disk 2017 Pledges (PB)	Tape 2017 Pledges (PB)	Total & Tape Pledges (PB)	2017 CPU Pledges (kHS06)
ALICE	67	68		138	807
ATLAS	172	251		423	2194
CMS	123	204		327	1729
LHCb	35	67		102	413
Total	400	591		990	5143

Table 1: Resources pledged by WLCG sites to the 4 LHC experiments for the year 2017 as described at the September 2017 session of the Computing Resources Scrutiny Group (CRSG).

159 architecture (x86_64) and with a serial processing model in mind. There is considerable
160 anxiety in the experiments that much of this software is not sustainable, with the original
161 authors no longer in the field and much of the code itself in a poorly maintained
162 state, ill-documented and lacking tests. This code, which is largely experiment-
163 specific, manages the entire experiment data flow, including data acquisition, high-
164 level triggering, calibration and alignment, simulation, reconstruction (of both real and
165 simulated data), visualisation, and final data analysis.

166 HEP experiments are typically served with a large set of integrated and configured
167 common software components, which have been developed either in-house or externally.
168 Well-known examples include ROOT [10], which is a data analysis toolkit that also
169 plays a critical role in the implementation of experiments' data storage systems, and
170 GEANT4 [11], a simulation framework through which most detector simulation is
171 achieved. Other packages provide tools for supporting the development process; they
172 include compilers and scripting languages, as well as tools for integrating, building,
173 testing and generating documentation. Physics simulation is supported by a wide
174 range of event generators provided by the theory community (PYTHIA [PYTHIA],
175 SHERPA [SHERPA], ALPGEN [12], MADGRAPH [MADGRAPH], HERWIG [13],
176 amongst many others). There is also code developed to support the computing
177 infrastructure itself, such as the CVMFS distributed caching filesystem [14], the Frontier
178 database caching mechanism [15], the XRootD file access software [XRootD] and a
179 number of storage systems (dCache, DPM, EOS). This list of packages is by no means
180 exhaustive, but illustrates the range of software employed and its critical role in almost
181 every aspect of the programme.

182 Already in Run 3 LHCb will process more than 40 times the number of collisions
183 that it does today, and ALICE will read out Pb-Pb collisions continuously at 50 kHz.
184 The upgrade to the HL-LHC for Run 4 then produces a step change for ATLAS and
185 CMS. The beam intensity will rise substantially, giving bunch crossings where the
186 number of discrete proton interactions (pileup) will rise to about 200, from about 60

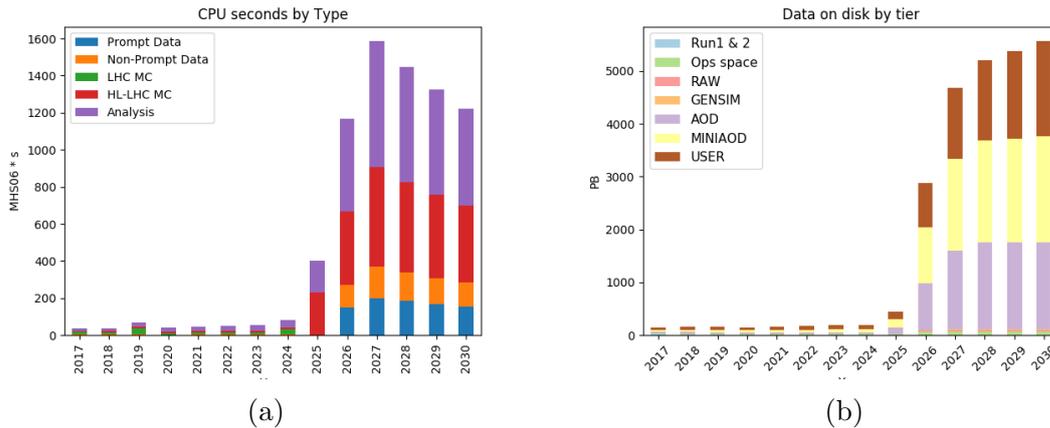


Figure 3: CMS estimated CPU (3a) and disk space (3b) resources required into the HL-LHC era, using the current computing model with parameters projected out for the next 12 years. [liz-csrg]

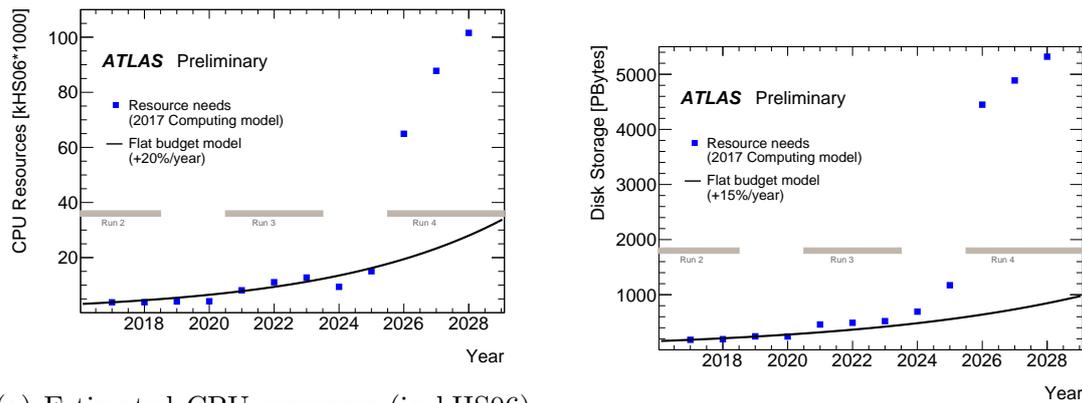
187 today. This has important consequences for the operation of the detectors and for the
 188 performance of the reconstruction software. The two experiments will upgrade their
 189 trigger systems to record 5-10 times as many events as they do today. It is anticipated
 190 that HL-LHC will deliver about 300 fb^{-1} of data each year.

191 The steep rise in resources that are then required to manage this data can be
 192 estimated from an extrapolation of the Run 2 computing model and is shown in Figures
 193 3 and 4.

194 In general, it can be said that the amount of data that experiments can collect and
 195 process in the future will be limited by affordable software and computing, and therefore
 196 the physics reach during HL-LHC will be limited by how efficiently these resources can
 197 be used.

198 The ATLAS numbers, in Figure 2, are particularly interesting as they estimate
 199 the resources that will be available to the experiment if a flat funding profile is
 200 maintained, taking into account the expected technology improvements given current
 201 trends [Panzer2017]. As can be seen, the shortfall between needs and bare technology
 202 gains is considerable: a factor 4 in CPU and a factor 7 in disk in 2027.

203 While the density of transistors on silicon continues to increase following Moore's
 204 Law (albeit more slowly than in the past), power density constraints have limited the
 205 clock speed of processors for more than a decade. This has effectively stalled any
 206 progress in the processing capacity of a single CPU core. Instead, increases in potential
 207 processing capacity come from increases in the core count of CPUs and wide CPU
 208 registers. Alternative processing architectures have become more commonplace. These
 209 range from the many-core architecture based on standard x86_64 cores to numerous
 210 alternatives such as GPGPUs. For the GPGPUs, the processing model is very different,
 211 allowing a much greater fraction of the die to be dedicated to arithmetic calculations,
 212 but at a price in programming difficulty and memory handling for the developer that



(a) Estimated CPU resources (in kHS06) needed for the years 2018 to 2028 for both data and simulation processing. The blue points are estimates based on the current software performance estimates and using the ATLAS computing model parameters from 2017. The solid line shows the amount of resources expected to be available if a flat funding scenario is assumed, which implies an increase of 20% per year, based on the current technology trends.

(b) Estimated total disk resources (in PBytes) needed for the years 2018 to 2028 for both data and simulation processing. The blue points are estimates based on the current event sizes estimates and using the ATLAS computing model parameters from 2017. The solid line shows the amount of resources expected to be available if a flat funding scenario is assumed, which implies an increase of 15% per year, based on the current technology trends.

Figure 4: ATLAS resources required into the HL-LHC era, using the current computing model and software performance. [simone-csrg]

213 tends to be specific to each processor generation. Further developments may even see
 214 the use of FPGAs for more general-purpose tasks. Fully exploiting these evolutions
 215 requires a shift in programming model to one based on *concurrency*.

216 Even with the throttling of clock speed to limit power consumption, power remains
 217 a major issue. Low power architectures are in huge demand. At one level this might
 218 challenge the dominance of x86.64 by simply replacing it with, for example, Aarch64
 219 devices that may lower power costs for computing resources better than Intel has
 220 achieved with its Xeon architecture. More extreme is an architecture that would see
 221 specialised processing units dedicated to particular tasks, but with possibly large parts
 222 of the device switched off most of the time, so-called dark silicon.

223 Limitations in affordable storage also pose a major challenge, as does the I/O
 224 capacity of ever-larger hard disks. In addition, network capacity will probably continue
 225 to increase at the required level, but the ability to use it efficiently will need a closer
 226 integration with applications. This will require developments in the areas of software to
 227 support distributed computing (data and workload management, software distribution
 228 and data access) and an increasing awareness of the extremely hierarchical view of data,
 229 from long latency tape access and medium-latency network access through to the CPU
 230 memory hierarchy.

231 Taking advantage of these new architectures and programming paradigms will be
232 critical for HEP to increase the capacity of our code to deliver physics results efficiently,
233 and to meet the processing challenges of the future. Some of this work will be focused
234 on re-optimised implementations of existing algorithms. This will be complicated by the
235 fact that much of our code is written for the much simpler model of serial processing, and
236 without the software engineering needed for sustainability. Proper support for taking
237 advantage of concurrent programming techniques, such as vectorisation and thread-
238 based programming, through frameworks and libraries, will be essential, as the majority
239 of the code will still be written by physicists. Other approaches should examine new
240 algorithms and techniques, including highly parallelised code that can run on GPGPUs
241 or the use of machine learning techniques to replace computationally expensive pieces of
242 simulation or pattern recognition. The ensemble of computing work that is needed by the
243 experiments must remain sufficiently flexible to take advantage of different architectures
244 that will provide computing to HEP in the future. The use of high performance
245 computing sites and commercial cloud providers will very likely be a requirement for
246 the community and will bring particular constraints and demand flexibility.

247 These technical challenges are accompanied by significant human challenges.
248 Software is written by many people in the collaborations, with varying levels of expertise,
249 from a few experts with precious skills to novice coders. This implies organising training
250 in effective coding techniques and providing excellent documentation, examples and
251 support. Although it is inevitable that some developments will remain within the scope
252 of a single experiment, tackling the software problems coherently as a community will
253 be critical to achieving success in the future. This will range from sharing knowledge
254 of techniques and best practice to establishing common libraries and projects that will
255 provide generic solutions to the community. Writing code that supports a wider subset
256 of the community than just a single experiment will almost certainly be mandated upon
257 HEP and presents a greater challenge, but the potential benefits are huge. Attracting,
258 and retaining, people with the required skills who can provide leadership is another
259 significant challenge, since it impacts on the need to give adequate recognition to
260 physicists who specialise in software development. This is an important issue that
261 is treated in more detail later in the report.

262 Particle physics is no longer alone in facing these massive data challenges.
263 Experiments in other fields, from astronomy to genomics, will produce huge amounts
264 of data in the future, and will need to overcome the same challenges that we face i.e.
265 massive data handling and efficient scientific programming. Establishing links with these
266 fields has already started. Additionally, interest from the computing science community
267 in solving these data challenges exists, and mutually beneficial relationships would be
268 possible where there are genuine research problems that are of academic interest to that
269 community and provide practical solutions to ours. The efficient processing of massive
270 data volumes is also a challenge faced by industry, in particular the internet economy,
271 which developed novel and major new technologies under the banner of *Big Data* that
272 may be applicable to our use cases.

273 Establishing a programme of investment in software for the HEP community, with
274 a view to ensuring effective and sustainable software for the coming decades, will be
275 essential to allow us to reap the physics benefits of multi-exabyte data to come. It was
276 in recognition of this fact that the HSF itself was set up and already works to promote
277 these common projects and community developments [HSF2015].

278 3. Programme of Work

279 In the following we describe the programme of work being proposed for the range of
280 topics covered by the CWP working groups. We summarise the main specific challenges
281 each topic will face, describe current practices, and propose a number of R&D tasks
282 that should be undertaken in order to meet the challenges. R&D tasks are grouped in
283 two different timescales: short term (by 2020, in time for HL-LHC Computing TDRs
284 of ATLAS and CMS) and longer-term actions (by 2022, to be ready for testing or
285 deployment during LHC Run 3).

286 3.1. Physics Generators

287 *Scope and Challenges* Monte-Carlo event generators are a vital part of modern
288 particle physics, providing a key component of the understanding and interpretation
289 of experiment data. Collider experiments have a need for theoretical QCD predictions
290 at very high precision. Already in LHC Run 2, experimental uncertainties for many
291 analyses are at the same level, or lower, as those from theory. Many analyses have
292 irreducible QCD-induced backgrounds where statistical extrapolation into the signal
293 region can only come from theory calculations. With future experiment and machine
294 upgrades, as well as reanalysis of current data, measured uncertainties will shrink even
295 further, and this will increase the need to reduce the corresponding errors from theory.

296 Increasing accuracy will compel the use of higher-order perturbation theory
297 generators with challenging computational demands. Generating Monte Carlo events
298 using leading order (LO) generators is only a small part of the overall computing
299 requirements for HEP experiments. Next-to-leading order (NLO) event generation, used
300 more during LHC Run 2, is already using significant resources. Even higher accuracy
301 theoretical cross sections calculated at next-to-next-to-leading (NNLO) are already
302 important in some Run 2 analyses, but are not widely used because of computational
303 cost. By HL-LHC the use of NNLO event generation will be more widely required so
304 these challenges must be met. Increasing the order of the generators increases greatly
305 the complexity of the phase space integration required to calculate the appropriate QCD
306 matrix elements. The difficulty of this integration arises from the need to have sufficient
307 coverage in a high-dimensional space (10-15 dimensions, with numerous peaks); the
308 appearance of negative event weights; and the fact that many terms in the integration
309 cancel, so that a very high degree of accuracy of each term is required. Memory demands
310 for generators have generally been low and initialisation times have been fast, but an

311 increase in order means that memory consumption becomes important and initialisation
312 times can become very long.

313 For HEP experiments, in many cases, meaningful predictions can only be obtained
314 by combining higher-order perturbative calculations with parton showers. This
315 procedure is also needed as high-multiplicity final states become more interesting at
316 higher luminosities and event rates. Matching (N)NLO fixed-order calculations to
317 parton shower algorithms can have a very low efficiency, and increases further the
318 computational load needed to generate the necessary number of particle-level events.
319 In addition, many of the current models for the combination of parton-level event
320 generators and parton shower codes are incompatible with requirements for concurrency
321 on modern architectures. It is a major challenge to ensure that much of this software
322 can run efficiently on next generation hardware and software systems.

323 Developments in generator software are mainly done by the HEP theory community.
324 Theorists derive career recognition and advancement from making contributions to
325 theory itself, but not for making improvements to the computational efficiency of
326 generators *per se*. So, improving the computational efficiency of event generators,
327 and allowing them to run effectively on resources such as high performance computing
328 facilities (HPCs), will mean engaging with experts in computational optimisation who
329 can work with the theorists who develop generators.

330 The challenge in the next decade is to advance the theory and practical
331 implementation of event generators to support the needs of future experiments, reaching
332 a new level of theory precision and recognising the demands for computation and
333 computational efficiency that this will bring.

334 *Current Practice* Extensive use of LO generators and parton shower algorithms are
335 still made by most HEP experiments. Each experiment has its own simulation needs,
336 but for the LHC experiments tens of billions of generated events are now used for each
337 Monte-Carlo campaign. During LHC Run 2 more and more NLO generators were used,
338 because of their increased theoretical precision and stability. The raw computational
339 complexity of NLO amplitudes, combined with many-body phase-space evaluations and
340 the inefficiencies of the matching process, led to a much-increased CPU budget for
341 physics event simulation, in particular for ATLAS and CMS.

342 The use of NLO generators by the experiments today is limited because of the
343 way the generators are implemented, producing significant numbers of negative event
344 weights. This means that the total number of events the experiments need to generate,
345 simulate, and reconstruct can be up to 25 times larger for NLO than for LO samples. At
346 the same time, the experiments budget only 2 to 3 times more events from simulation
347 than from the real data. Having large NLO samples is thus not consistent with existing
348 computing budgets until a different scheme is developed that does not depend on
349 negative event weights or produces them only at a significantly reduced rate.

350 While most event generation is run on “standard” grid resources, effort is ongoing
351 to run more demanding tasks on HPC resources, *e.g.*, W-boson + 5-jet events at the

352 Argonne Mira HPC). However, scaling for efficient running on some of the existing HPC
353 resources is not trivial and requires effort.

354 Standard HEP libraries such as LHAPDF [LHAPDF], HepMC[16], and
355 Rivet [Rivet] are used by the generators for integration into the experiments' event
356 generation workflows. These require extensions and sustained maintenance that should
357 be considered a shared responsibility of the theoretical and experimental communities
358 in the context of large-scale experiments. In practice, however, it has been difficult to
359 achieve the level of support that is really needed as there has been a lack of recognition
360 for this work. To help improve the capabilities and performance of generators as
361 used by the experimental HEP programme, and to foster interaction between the
362 communities, the MCnet [MCnet] short-term studentship programme has been very
363 useful. Interested experimental PhD students can join a generator group for several
364 months to work on improving a physics aspect of the simulation that is relevant to their
365 work, or to improve the integration of the generator into an experimental framework.

366 *Research and Development Programme* As the Monte Carlo projects are funded mainly
367 to develop theoretical improvements, and not mainly as “suppliers” to the experimental
368 HEP programme, any strong requests towards efficiency improvements from the
369 experimental community would need to be backed up by plausible avenues of support
370 that can fund contributions from software engineers with the correct technical skills in
371 software optimisation to work within the generator author teams.

372 In a similar way to the MCnet studentships, a matchmaking scheme could focus
373 on the software engineering side, and transfer some of the expertise available in the
374 experiments and facilities teams to the generator projects. Sustainable improvements are
375 unlikely to be delivered by graduate students “learning on the job” and then leaving after
376 a few months, so meeting the requirement of transferring technical expertise and effort
377 will likely require placements for experienced optimisation specialists and a medium- to
378 long-term connection to the generator project.

379 HEP experiments, which are now very large collaborations including many technical
380 experts, can also play a key role in sustaining a healthy relationship between theory
381 and experiment software. Effort to work on common tools that benefit both the
382 experiment itself and the wider community would provide shared value that justifies
383 direct investment from the stakeholders in the community. This model would also
384 be beneficial for core HEP tools like LHAPDF, HepMC and Rivet, where future
385 improvements have no theoretical physics interest anymore, putting them in a similar
386 situation to generator performance improvements. One structural issue blocking such a
387 mode of operation is that some experiments do not currently recognise contributions to
388 external projects as experiment service work — a situation deserving of review in areas
389 where external software tools are critical to experiment success.

390 Specific areas of R&D for event generation up to 2022 and beyond are:

- 391 • The development of new and improved theoretical algorithms provides
392 the largest potential for improving event generators. While it is not

- 393 guaranteed that simply increasing the effort dedicated to this task will
394 bring about the desired result, the long-term support of event generator
395 development, and the creation of career opportunities in this research area,
396 are critical given the commitment to experiments on multi-decade scales.
- 397 • Expand development in reweighting event samples, where new physics
398 signatures can be explored by updating the partonic weights according
399 to new matrix elements. It is necessary that the phase space for the
400 updated model be a subset of the original one, which is an important
401 limitation. The procedure is more complex at NLO and can require
402 additional information to be stored in the event files to properly reweight
403 in different cases. Overcoming the technical issues from utilising negative
404 event weights is crucial. Nevertheless, the method can be powerful in
405 many cases, and would hugely reduce the time needed for the generation
406 of BSM samples.
 - 407 • At a more technical level, concurrency is an avenue that has yet to be
408 explored in depth for event generation. As the calculation of matrix
409 elements requires VEGAS-style integration, this work would be helped
410 by the development of a new Monte-Carlo integrator. For multi-
411 particle interactions, factorising the full phase space integration into lower
412 dimensional integrals would be a powerful method of parallelising, while
413 the interference between different Feynman graphs can be handled with
414 known techniques.
 - 415 • For many widely used generators, basic problems of concurrency and
416 thread hostility need to be tackled, to make these packages suitable for
417 efficient large scale use on modern processors and within modern HEP
418 software frameworks. Providing appropriate common tools for interfacing,
419 benchmarking and optimising multithreaded code would allow expertise
420 to be shared effectively [**HSF-CWP-2016-14**].
 - 421 • In most generators, parallelism was added post-facto which leads to
422 scaling problems when the level of parallelism becomes very large, *e.g.*,
423 on HPC machines. These HPC machines will be part of the computing
424 resource pool used by HEP, so solving scaling issues on these resources for
425 event generation is important, particularly as the smaller generator code
426 bases can make porting to non-x86_64 architectures more tractable. The
427 problem of long and inefficient initialisation when a job utilises hundreds
428 or thousands of cores on an HPC needs to be tackled. While the memory
429 consumption of event generators is generally modest, the generation of
430 tree level contributions to high multiplicity final states can use significant
431 memory, and gains would be expected from optimising here.
 - 432 • Another underexplored avenue is the efficiency of event generation as
433 used by the experiments. An increasingly common usage is to generate

434 very large inclusive event samples, which are filtered on event final-state
435 criteria to decide which events are to be retained and passed onto detector
436 simulation and reconstruction. This naturally introduces a large waste
437 of very CPU-expensive event generation, which could be reduced by
438 developing filtering tools within the generators themselves, designed for
439 compatibility with the experiment requirements. A particularly wasteful
440 example is where events are separated into orthogonal subsamples by
441 filtering, in which case the same large inclusive sample is generated many
442 times, with each stream filtering the events into a different group: allowing
443 a single inclusive event generation to be filtered into several orthogonal
444 output streams would improve efficiency.

445 3.2. Detector Simulation

446 *Scope and Challenges* For all its success so far, the challenges faced by the HEP field
447 in the simulation domain are daunting. During the first two runs, the LHC experiments
448 produced, reconstructed, stored, transferred, and analysed tens of billions of simulated
449 events. This effort required more than half of the total computing resources allocated to
450 the experiments. As part of the high-luminosity LHC physics program (HL-LHC), the
451 upgraded experiments expect to collect 150 times more data than in Run 1; demand for
452 larger simulation samples to satisfy analysis needs will grow accordingly. In addition,
453 simulation tools have to serve diverse communities, including accelerator-based particle
454 physics research utilising proton-proton colliders, neutrino, dark matter, and muon
455 experiments, as well as the cosmic frontier. The complex detectors of the future,
456 with different module- or cell-level shapes, finer segmentation, and novel materials
457 and detection techniques, require additional features in geometry tools and bring new
458 demands on physics coverage and accuracy within the constraints of the available
459 computing budget. The diversification of the physics programmes also requires new
460 and improved physics models. More extensive use of fast simulation is a potential
461 solution, under the assumption that it is possible to improve time performance without
462 an unacceptable loss of physics accuracy.

463 The gains that can be made by speeding up critical elements of the Geant4
464 simulation toolkit can be leveraged for all applications that use it, and, therefore, it
465 is well worth the investment in effort needed to achieve it. The main challenges to be
466 addressed if the required physics and software performance goals are to be achieved are:

- 467 • reviewing the physics models' assumptions, approximations, and
468 limitations in order to achieve higher precision, and to extend the validity
469 of models up to energies of the order of 100 TeV foreseen with the Future
470 Circular Collider (FCC) project [17];
- 471 • redesigning, developing, and commissioning detector simulation toolkits
472 to be more efficient when executed on current vector CPUs and emerging
473 new architectures, including GPGPUs, where use of SIMD vectorisation

- 474 is vital; this includes porting and optimising the experiments' simulation
 475 applications to allow exploitation of large HPC facilities;
- 476 ● exploring different Fast Simulation options, where the full detector
 477 simulation is replaced, in whole or in part, by computationally efficient
 478 techniques; an area of investigation is common frameworks for fast tuning
 479 and validation;
 - 480 ● developing, improving and optimising geometry tools that can be
 481 shared among experiments to make the modeling of complex detectors
 482 computationally more efficient, modular, and transparent;
 - 483 ● developing techniques for background modeling, including contributions
 484 of multiple hard interactions overlapping the event of interest in collider
 485 experiments (pileup);
 - 486 ● revisiting digitisation algorithms to improve performance and exploring
 487 opportunities for code sharing among experiments;
 - 488 ● recruiting, training, retaining human resources in all areas of expertise
 489 pertaining to the simulation domain, including software and physics.

490 It is obviously of critical importance that the whole community of scientists working
 491 in the simulation domain continue to work together in as efficient a way possible in
 492 order to deliver the required improvements. Very specific expertise is required across
 493 all simulation domains, such as physics modeling, tracking through complex geometries
 494 and magnetic fields, and building realistic applications that accurately simulate highly
 495 complex detectors. Continuous support is needed to recruit, train, and retain people
 496 with a unique set of skills needed to guarantee the development, maintenance, and
 497 support of simulation codes over the long timeframes foreseen in the HEP experimental
 498 programme.

499 *Current Practices* The Geant4 detector simulation toolkit is at the core of simulation in
 500 almost every HEP experiment. Its continuous development, maintenance, and support
 501 for the experiments is of vital importance. New or refined functionality in physics
 502 coverage and accuracy continues to be delivered in the ongoing development programme
 503 whilst introducing software performance improvements whenever possible.

504 Physics models are a critical part of the detector simulation, and are continuously
 505 being reviewed, and in some cases reimplemented, in order to improve accuracy and
 506 software performance. Electromagnetic (EM) transport simulation is challenging as
 507 it occupies a large part of the computing resources used in full detector simulation.
 508 Significant efforts have been made in the recent past to better describe the simulation of
 509 electromagnetic shower shapes, in particular to model the $H \rightarrow$ signal and background
 510 accurately at the LHC. This effort is being continued with an emphasis on reviewing the
 511 models' assumptions, approximations, and limitations, especially at very high energy,
 512 with a view to improving their respective software implementations. In addition, a new
 513 "theory-based" model (Goudsmit-Saunderson), for describing the *multiple scattering* of

514 electrons and positrons, has been developed that has been demonstrated to outperform,
515 in terms of physics accuracy and speed, the current models in Geant4. The models
516 used to describe the *bremsstrahlung* process have also been reviewed, and recently
517 an improved theoretical description of the Landau-Pomeranchuk-Migdal (LPM) effect
518 was introduced that plays a significant role at high energies. Theoretical review of all
519 electromagnetic models, including those of hadrons and ions is therefore of high priority
520 both for HL-LHC and for FCC studies.

521 Hadronic physics simulation covers purely hadronic interactions. It is not possible
522 for a single model to describe all the physics encountered in a simulation due to the large
523 energy range that needs to be covered and the simplified approximations that are used
524 to overcome the difficulty of solving the full theory (QCD). Currently the most-used
525 reference physics list for high energy and space applications is FTFP_BERT. It uses
526 the Geant4 Bertini cascade for hadron–nucleus interactions from 0 to 12 GeV incident
527 hadron energy and the FTF parton string model for hadron–nucleus interactions from
528 3 GeV upwards. QGSP_BERT is a popular alternative which replaces the FTF model
529 with the QGS model over the high energy range. The existence of more than one model
530 (for each energy range) is very valuable in order to be able to determine the systematics
531 effects related to the approximations used. The use of highly granular calorimeters
532 such as the ones being designed by the CALICE collaboration for future linear colliders,
533 allows a detailed validation of the development of hadronic showers with test-beam
534 data. Preliminary results suggest that the lateral profiles of Geant4 hadronic showers
535 are too narrow. Comparisons with LHC test-beam data have shown that a fundamental
536 ingredient for improving the description of the lateral development of showers is the use
537 of intermediate and low energy models that can describe the cascading of hadrons in
538 nuclear matter. Additional work is currently being invested in the further improvement
539 of the QGS model, which is a more theory-based approach than the phenomenological
540 FTF model, and therefore offers better confidence at high energies, up to a few TeV.
541 This again is a large endeavour and requires continuous effort over a long time.

542 The Geant4 collaboration is working closely with user communities to enrich the
543 physics models' validation system with data acquired during physics runs and test beam
544 campaigns. In producing new models of physics interactions and improving the fidelity
545 of the models that exist, it is absolutely imperative that high-quality data are available.
546 Simulation model tuning often relies on test beam data, and a program to improve the
547 library of available data could be invaluable to the community. Such data would ideally
548 include both thin-target test beams for improving interaction models and calorimeter
549 targets for improving shower models. This data could potentially be used for directly
550 tuning Fast Simulation models, as well.

551 There are specific challenges associated with the Intensity Frontier experimental
552 programme, in particular simulation of the beamline and the neutrino flux. Neutrino
553 experiments rely heavily on detector simulations to reconstruct neutrino energy, which
554 requires accurate modelling of energy deposition by a variety of particles across a range
555 of energies. Muon experiments such as Muon g-2 and Mu2e also face large simulation

556 challenges; since they are searching for extremely rare effects, they must grapple with
557 very low signal to background ratios and the modeling of low cross-section background
558 processes. Additionally, the size of the computational problem is a serious challenge, as
559 large simulation runs are required to adequately sample all relevant areas of experimental
560 phase space, even when techniques to minimise the required computations are used.
561 There is also a need to simulate the effects of low energy neutrons, which requires
562 large computational resources. Geant4 is the primary simulation toolkit for all of these
563 experiments.

564 Simulation toolkits do not include effects like charge drift in an electric field or
565 models of the readout electronics of the experiments. Instead, these effects are normally
566 taken into account in a separate step called digitisation. Digitisation is inherently local
567 to a given sub-detector and often even to a given readout element, so that there are
568 many opportunities for parallelism in terms of vectorisation and multiprocessing or
569 multithreading, if the code and the data objects are designed optimally. Recently, both
570 hardware and software projects have benefitted from an increased level of sharing among
571 experiments. The LArSoft Collaboration develops and supports a shared base of physics
572 software across Liquid Argon (LAr) Time Projection Chamber (TPC) experiments,
573 which includes providing common digitisation code. Similarly, an effort exists among
574 the LHC experiments to share code for modeling of radiation damage effects in silicon.
575 As ATLAS and CMS expect to use similar readout chips in their future trackers, further
576 code sharing might be possible.

577 The Geant4 simulation toolkit will also evolve over the next decade to include
578 contributions from various R&D projects, as described in the following section. This is
579 required to ensure the support of experiments through continuous maintenance and
580 improvement of the Geant4 simulation toolkit. This is necessary until production
581 versions of potentially alternative engines, such as those resulting from ongoing R&D
582 work, become available, integrated, and validated by experiments. The agreed ongoing
583 strategy to make this adoption possible is to ensure that new developments resulting
584 from the R&D programme can be tested with realistic prototypes and then be integrated,
585 validated, and deployed in a timely fashion in Geant4.

586 *Research and Development Programme* To meet the challenge of improving the
587 performance by a large factor, an ambitious R&D programme is underway to investigate
588 each component of the simulation software for the long term. In the following we describe
589 in detail some of the studies to be performed in the next 3-5 years:

- 590 • Particle Transport and Vectorisation: the study of an efficient transport
591 of particles (tracks) in groups so as to maximise the benefit of using SIMD
592 operations
- 593 • Modularisation: improvement of Geant4 design to allow for a tighter and
594 easier integration of single sub-packages of the code into experimental
595 frameworks

- 596 • Physics Models: extensions and refinements of the physics algorithms to
597 provide new and more performant physics capabilities
- 598 • Other activities: integration of multi-threading capabilities in experiment
599 applications; experiment-agnostic software products to cope with
600 increased pileup, fast simulation, digitisation, and efficient production of
601 high-quality random numbers

602 ***Particle Transport and Vectorisation:*** One of the most ambitious elements
603 of the simulation R&D programme is a new approach to managing particle transport,
604 which has been introduced by the GeantV project. The aim is to deliver a multithreaded
605 vectorised transport engine that has the potential to deliver large performance benefits.
606 Its main feature is track-level parallelisation, bundling particles with similar properties
607 from different events to process them in a single thread. This approach, combined
608 with SIMD vectorisation coding techniques and improved data locality, is expected
609 to yield significant speed-ups, which are to be measured in a realistic prototype
610 currently under development. For the GeantV transport engine to display its best
611 computing performance, it is necessary to vectorise and optimise the accompanying
612 modules, including geometry, navigation, and the physics models. These are developed
613 as independent libraries so that they can also be used together with the current
614 Geant4 transport engine. Of course, when used with the current Geant4 they will
615 not expose their full performance potential, since transport in Geant4 is currently
616 sequential, but this allows for a preliminary validation and comparison with the existing
617 implementations. The benefit of this approach is that new developments can be delivered
618 as soon as they are available. The new vectorised geometry package (VecGeom),
619 developed as part of GeantV R&D and successfully integrated into Geant4, is an example
620 that demonstrated the benefit of this approach. By the end of 2018 it is intended to
621 have a proof-of-concept for the new particle transport engine that includes vectorised
622 EM physics, vectorised magnetic field propagation and that uses the new vectorised
623 geometry package. This will form a sound basis for making performance comparisons
624 for simulating EM showers in a realistic detector.

- 625 • 2019: the *beta* release of the GeantV transport engine will contain
626 enough functionality to build the first real applications. This will allow
627 performance to be measured and give sufficient time to prepare for HL-
628 LHC running. It should include the use of vectorisation in most of
629 the components, including physics modelling for electrons, gammas and
630 positrons, whilst still maintaining simulation reproducibility, and I/O in
631 a concurrent environment and multi-event user data management.

632 **Modularisation:** Starting from the next release, a modularisation of Geant4 is
633 being pursued that will allow an easier integration in experimental frameworks, with the
634 possibility to include only the Geant4 modules that are actually used. A further use case
635 is the possibility to use one of the Geant4 components in isolation, *e.g.*, to use hadronic

636 interaction modeling without kernel components from a fast simulation framework. As
 637 a first step a preliminary review of libraries granularity is being pursued, which will be
 638 followed by a review of intra-library dependencies with the final goal of reducing their
 639 dependencies.

- 640 • 2019: Redesign of some Geant4 kernel components to improve the
 641 efficiency of the simulation on HPC systems, starting from improved
 642 handling of Geant4 *databases* on large core-count systems. A review
 643 will be made of the multithreading design to be closer to the task-based
 644 frameworks, such as TBB.

645 **Physics Models:** Developing new and extended physics models to cover extended
 646 energy and physics processing of present and future colliders, Intensity Frontier
 647 experiments, and direct dark matter search experiments. The goal is to extend the
 648 missing models (*e.g.*, neutrino interactions), improve models' physics accuracy and,
 649 at the same time, improve CPU and memory efficiency. The deliverables of these
 650 R&D efforts include physics modules that produce equivalent quality physics, and will
 651 therefore require extensive validation in realistic applications.

- 652 • 2020: Improved implementation of hadronic cascade models for LHC and
 653 in particular for Liquid Argon detectors. Improved accuracy models of
 654 EM interactions of photons and electrons. To address the needs of cosmic
 655 frontier experiments, optical photon transport must be improved and
 656 made faster.
- 657 • 2022: Implementation of EPOS string model for multi-GeV to multi-TeV
 658 interactions, for FCC detector simulation and systematic studies of HL-
 659 LHC detectors..

660 **Experiment Applications:** The experiment applications are essential for
 661 validating the software and physics performance of new versions of the simulation toolkit.
 662 ATLAS and CMS have already started to integrate Geant4 multithreading capability in
 663 their simulation applications; in the case of CMS the first Full Simulation production in
 664 multithreaded mode was delivered in the fall of 2017. Specific milestones are as follows:

- 665 • 2020: LHC, Neutrino, Dark Matter, and Muon experiments to
 666 demonstrate the ability to run their detector simulation in multithreaded
 667 mode, using the improved navigation and electromagnetic physics
 668 packages. This should bring experiments more accurate physics and
 669 improved performance.
- 670 • 2020: Early integration of the beta release of the GeantV transport engine
 671 in the experiments' simulation, including the implementation of the new
 672 user interfaces, which will allow the first performance measurements and
 673 physics validation to be made.

- 674 • 2022: The availability of a production version of the new track-level
675 parallelisation and fully vectorised geometry, navigation, and physics
676 libraries will offer the experiments the option to finalise integration into
677 their frameworks; intensive work will be needed in physics validation and
678 computing performance tests. If successful, the new engine could be in
679 production on the timescale of the start of the HL-LHC run in 2026.

680 **Pileup:** Backgrounds to hard-scatter events have many components including in-
681 time pileup, out-of-time pileup, cavern background and beam-gas collisions. All of these
682 components can be simulated, but they present storage and I/O challenges related to
683 the handling of the large simulated minimum bias samples used to model the extra
684 interactions. An R&D programme is needed to study different approaches to managing
685 these backgrounds within the next 3 years:

- 686 • Real zero-bias events can be collected, bypassing any zero suppression,
687 and overlaid on the fully simulated hard scatters. This approach faces
688 challenges related to the collection of non-zero-suppressed samples or
689 the use of suppressed events, non-linear effects when adding electronic
690 signals from different samples, and sub-detector misalignment consistency
691 between the simulation and the real experiment. Collecting calibration
692 and alignment data at the start of a new Run would necessarily incur
693 delays such that this approach is mainly of use in the final analyses. The
694 experiments are expected to invest in the development of the zero-bias
695 overlay approach by 2020.
- 696 • The baseline option is to “pre-mix” together the minimum bias collisions
697 into individual events that have the full background expected for a single
698 collision of interest. Experiments will invest effort on improving their
699 pre-mixing techniques, which allow the mixing to be performed at the
700 digitisation level reducing the disk and network usage for a single event.

701 **Fast Simulation:** The work on Fast Simulation is also accelerating with the
702 objective of producing a flexible framework that permits Full and Fast simulation to
703 be combined for different particles in the same event. Various approaches to Fast
704 Simulation are being tried all with the same goal of saving computing time, under the
705 assumption that it is possible to improve time performance without an unacceptable
706 loss of physics accuracy. There has recently been a great deal of interest in the use of
707 Machine Learning in Fast Simulation, most of which has focused on the use of multi-
708 objective regression and generative adversarial networks (GANs). Since use of GANs
709 allows for non-parametric learning in cases such as calorimetric shower fluctuations, it is
710 a promising avenue for generating non-Gaussian and highly correlated physical effects.
711 This is an obvious area for future expansion and development, as it is currently in its
712 infancy.

- 713 • 2018: Assessment of the benefit of machine learning approach for Fast
714 Simulation.

- 715 • 2019: ML-based Fast Simulation for some physics observables.
- 716 • 2022: Demonstrate the potential of a common Fast Simulation
- 717 infrastructure applicable to the variety of detector configurations.

718 ***Digitisation:*** It is expected that, within the next 3 years, common digitisation
 719 efforts are well-established among experiments, and advanced high-performance generic
 720 digitisation examples, which experiments could use as a basis to develop their own code,
 721 become available. For example, the development of next generation silicon detectors
 722 requires realistic simulation of the charge collection and digitisation processes. Owing
 723 to the large variety of technologies, common software frameworks need to be flexible
 724 and modular to cater for the different needs.

- 725 • 2020: Deliver advanced high-performance, SIMD-friendly generic
- 726 digitisation examples that experiments can use as a basis to develop their
- 727 own code.
- 728 • 2022: Fully tested and validated optimised digitisation code that can be
- 729 used by the HL-LHC and DUNE experiments.

730 ***Pseudorandom Number Generation:*** The selection of pseudorandom number
 731 generators (PRNGs) presents challenges when running on infrastructures with a large
 732 degree of parallelism, as reproducibility is a key requirement. HEP will collaborate with
 733 researchers in the development of PRNGs, seeking to obtain generators that address
 734 better our challenging requirements. Specific milestones are:

- 735 • 2020: Develop a single library containing sequential and vectorised
- 736 implementations of the set of state-of-the-art PRNGs, to replace the
- 737 existing ROOT and CLHEP implementations. Potential use of C++11
- 738 PRNG interfaces and implementations, and their extension for our
- 739 further requirements (output of multiple values, vectorisation) will be
- 740 investigated.
- 741 • 2022: Promote a transition to the use of this library to replace existing
- 742 implementations in ROOT and Geant4.

743 *3.3. Software Trigger and Event Reconstruction*

744 ***Scope and Challenges*** The reconstruction of raw detector data and simulated data,
 745 and its processing in real time, represent a major component of today's computing
 746 requirements in HEP. Advances in facilities and future experiments bring the potential
 747 for a dramatic increase in physics reach, at the price of increased event complexities
 748 and rates. While much of this increase is driven by the planned upgrades to the
 749 four major LHC detectors, new experiments such as DUNE will also make significant
 750 demands on the HEP data processing infrastructure. It is therefore essential that event
 751 reconstruction algorithms and software triggers continue to evolve so that they are
 752 able to efficiently exploit future computing architectures, and deal with the increase in

753 data rates without loss of physics capability. Projections to future needs, such as for
754 the HL-LHC, show the need for a substantial increase of resources, without significant
755 changes in approach or algorithms, up to a scale not compatible with the foreseen budget
756 constraints.

757 At the HL-LHC, the central challenge for object reconstruction is to maintain
758 excellent efficiency and resolution in the face of high pileup values, especially at
759 low transverse momentum (p_T). Detector upgrades, such as increases in channel
760 density, high-precision timing, and improved detector geometric layouts, are essential
761 to overcome these problems. In many cases these new technologies bring novel
762 requirements to software trigger and/or event reconstruction algorithms, or require new
763 algorithms to be developed. Ones of particular importance at the HL-LHC include
764 high-granularity calorimetry, precision timing detectors, and hardware triggers based
765 on tracking information, which may seed later software trigger and reconstruction
766 algorithms.

767 At the same time, trigger systems for next-generation experiments are evolving to
768 be more capable, both in their ability to select a wider range of events of interest for
769 the physics programme, and their ability to stream a larger rate of events for further
770 processing. ATLAS and CMS both target systems where the output of the hardware
771 trigger system is increased by an order of magnitude over the current capability, up to
772 1 MHz [CMSCollaboration:2015zni, 18]. In LHCb [LHCb2014] and ALICE [19],
773 the full collision rate (between 30 to 40 MHz for typical LHC proton-proton operations)
774 will be streamed to real-time or quasi-real-time software trigger systems. The increase
775 in event complexity also brings a “problem” of an overabundance of signals to the
776 experiments, and specifically to the software trigger algorithms. The evolution towards
777 a genuine real-time analysis of data has been driven by the need to analyse more signal
778 than what can be written out for traditional processing, and technological developments
779 that enable this without reducing the analysis sensitivity or introducing biases.

780 Evolutions in computing technologies are both an opportunity to move beyond
781 commodity x86_64 technologies, which HEP has used very effectively over the past 20
782 years, and a significant challenge to derive sufficient event processing throughput per cost
783 to reasonably enable our physics programmes [20]. Among these challenges, important
784 items identified include the increase of SIMD capabilities, the evolution towards multi-
785 or many-core architectures, the slow increase in memory bandwidth relative to CPU
786 capabilities, the rise of heterogeneous hardware, and the possible evolution in facilities
787 available to HEP production systems.

788 The move towards open source software development and continuous integration
789 systems brings opportunities to assist developers of software trigger and event
790 reconstruction algorithms. Continuous integration systems based on standard open-
791 source tools have already allowed automated code quality and performance checks, both
792 for algorithm developers and code integration teams. Scaling these up to allow for
793 sufficiently high-statistics checks is among the still outstanding challenges. Also, code
794 quality demands increase as traditional offline analysis components migrate into trigger

795 systems, where algorithms can only be run once, and any problem means losing data
796 permanently.

797 *Current Practices* Substantial computing facilities are in use for both online and offline
798 event processing across all experiments surveyed. In most experiments, online facilities
799 are dedicated to the operation of the software trigger, but a recent evolution has been to
800 use them opportunistically for offline processing too, when the software trigger does not
801 make them 100% busy. On the other hand, offline facilities are shared for operational
802 needs including event reconstruction, simulation (the dominant component in several
803 experiments), and analysis. CPU in use by experiments is typically measured at the
804 scale of tens or hundreds of thousands of x86_64 processing cores.

805 The CPU needed for event reconstruction tends to be dominated by charged particle
806 reconstruction (tracking), especially as the number of collisions per bunch crossing
807 and the need for efficiently reconstructing low p_T particles is considered. Calorimetric
808 reconstruction, particle flow reconstruction, and particle identification algorithms also
809 make up significant parts of the CPU budget in some experiments. Disk storage is
810 typically 10s to 100s of PB per experiment. It is dominantly used to make the output
811 of the event reconstruction, both for real data and simulation, available for analysis.

812 Current generation experiments have moved towards smaller, but still flexible,
813 tiered data formats. These tiers are typically based on the ROOT [10] file format
814 and constructed to facilitate both skimming of interesting events and the selection of
815 interesting pieces of events by individual analysis groups or through centralised analysis
816 processing systems. Initial implementations of real-time analysis systems are in use
817 within several experiments. These approaches remove the detector data that typically
818 makes up the raw data tier kept for offline reconstruction, and keep only final analysis
819 objects [21], [22], [23].

820 Systems critical for reconstruction, calibration, and alignment generally implement
821 a high level of automation in all experiments, both for very frequently updated
822 measurements and more rarely updated measurements. Automated procedures are often
823 integrated as part of the data taking and data reconstruction processing chain. Some
824 longer-term measurements, requiring significant data samples to be analysed together,
825 remain as critical pieces of calibration and alignment work.

826 *Research and Development Programme* Seven key areas, itemised below, have been
827 identified where research and development is necessary to enable the community to
828 exploit the full power of the enormous datasets that we will be collecting. Three of
829 these areas concern the increasingly parallel and heterogeneous computing architectures
830 that we will have to write our code for. In addition to a general effort to vectorise our
831 codebases, we must understand what kinds of algorithms are best suited to what kinds
832 of hardware architectures, develop benchmarks that allow us to compare the physics-
833 per-dollar-per-watt performance of different algorithms across a range of potential
834 architectures, and find ways to optimally utilise heterogeneous processing centres. The

835 consequent increase in the complexity and diversity of our codebase will necessitate both
836 a determined push to educate tomorrow's physicists in modern coding practices, and
837 a development of more sophisticated and automated quality assurance and control for
838 our codebases. The increasing granularity of our detectors, and the addition of timing
839 information, which seems mandatory to cope with the extreme pileup conditions at the
840 HL-LHC, will require us to both develop new kinds of reconstruction algorithms and
841 to make them fast enough for use in real-time. Finally, the increased signal rates will
842 mandate a push towards real-time analysis in many areas of HEP, in particular those
843 with low- p_T signatures.

844 The proposed R&D programme focuses on the following:

- 845 • HEP developed toolkits and algorithms typically make poor use of
846 vector units on commodity computing systems. Improving this will
847 bring speedups to applications running on both current computing
848 systems and most future architectures. The goal for work in this area
849 is to evolve current toolkit and algorithm implementations, and best
850 programming techniques, to better use SIMD capabilities of current and
851 future computing architectures.
- 852 • Computing platforms are generally evolving towards having more cores
853 in order to increase processing capability. This evolution has resulted
854 in multithreaded frameworks in use, or in development, across HEP.
855 Algorithm developers can improve throughput by being thread-safe and
856 enabling the use of fine-grained parallelism. The goal is to evolve
857 current event models, toolkits and algorithm implementations, and best
858 programming techniques, to improve the throughput of multithreaded
859 software trigger and event reconstruction applications.
- 860 • Computing architectures using technologies beyond CPUs offer an
861 interesting alternative for increasing throughput of the most time-
862 consuming trigger or reconstruction algorithms. Such architectures
863 (*e.g.*, GPGPUs, FPGAs) could be integrated into dedicated trigger or
864 specialised reconstruction processing facilities (*e.g.*, online computing
865 farms). The goal is to demonstrate how the throughput of toolkits
866 or algorithms can be improved through the use of new computing
867 architectures in a production environment and to understand how much
868 these new architectures require to rethink the algorithms used today. In
869 addition, it is necessary to assess and minimise possible additional costs
870 coming from the maintenance of multiple implementations of the same
871 algorithm on different architectures.
- 872 • HEP experiments have extensive continuous integration systems, including
873 varying code regression checks that have enhanced the quality assurance
874 (QA) and quality control (QC) procedures for software development in
875 recent years. These are typically maintained by individual experiments

- 876 and have not yet reached the scale where statistical regression, technical,
877 and physics performance checks can be performed for each proposed
878 software change. The goal is to enable the development, automation,
879 and deployment of extended QA and QC tools and facilities for software
880 trigger and event reconstruction algorithms.
- 881 • Real-time analysis techniques are being adopted to enable a wider range
882 of physics signals to be saved by the trigger for final analysis. As rates
883 increase, these techniques can become more important and widespread by
884 enabling only the parts of an event associated with the signal candidates
885 to be saved, reducing the required disk space. The goal is to evaluate and
886 demonstrate the tools needed to facilitate real-time analysis techniques.
887 Research topics include compression and custom data formats, toolkits
888 for real-time detector calibration and validation that enable full offline
889 analysis chains to be ported into real-time, and frameworks that allow
890 non-expert offline analysts to design and deploy real-time analyses without
891 compromising data taking quality.
 - 892 • The central challenge for object reconstruction at the HL-LHC is to
893 maintain excellent efficiency and resolution in the face of high pileup
894 values, especially at low object p_T . Both trigger and reconstruction
895 approaches need to exploit new techniques and higher granularity
896 detectors to maintain or even improve physics measurements in the
897 future. It is also becoming increasingly clear that reconstruction in very
898 high pileup environments, such as the HL-LHC or FCC-hh, will not be
899 possible without adding some timing information to our detectors, in
900 order to exploit the finite time during which the beams cross and the
901 interactions are produced. The goal is to develop and demonstrate efficient
902 techniques for physics object reconstruction and identification in complex
903 environments.
 - 904 • Future experimental facilities will bring a large increase in event
905 complexity. The scaling of current-generation algorithms with this
906 complexity must be improved to avoid a large increase in resource needs.
907 In addition, it may be desirable or indeed necessary to deploy new
908 algorithms in order to solve these problems, including advanced machine
909 learning techniques. The goal is to evolve or rewrite existing toolkits and
910 algorithms focused on their physics and technical performance at high
911 event complexity (*e.g.*, high pileup at HL-LHC). Most important targets
912 are those which limit expected throughput performance at future facilities
913 (*e.g.*, charged-particle tracking). A number of such efforts are already in
914 progress across the community.

915 *3.4. Data Analysis and Interpretation*

916 *Scope and Challenges* Scientific questions are answered by analysing the data obtained
917 from suitably designed experiments and by comparing measurements with predictions
918 from models and theories. Such comparisons are typically performed long after data
919 taking, but can sometimes also be executed in quasi-real time on selected samples of
920 reduced size.

921 The final stages of analysis are undertaken by small groups, or individual
922 researchers. The baseline analysis model utilises successive stages of data reduction,
923 finally reaching a compact dataset for quick real-time iterations. This approach aims at
924 exploiting the maximum possible scientific potential of the data, whilst minimising the
925 “time to insight” for a large number of different analyses performed in parallel. It is a
926 complicated combination of diverse criteria, ranging from the need to make efficient use
927 of computing resources to the management styles of the experiment collaborations. Any
928 analysis system has to be flexible enough to cope with deadlines imposed by conference
929 schedules. Future analysis models must adapt to the massive increases in data taken by
930 the experiments, while retaining this essential “time to insight” optimisation.

931 Over the past 20 years the HEP community has developed and gravitated around
932 a single analysis ecosystem based on ROOT [10]. ROOT is a general-purpose object
933 oriented framework that addresses the selection, integration, development, and support
934 of a number of foundation and utility class libraries that can be used as a basis for
935 developing HEP application codes. The added value to the HEP community is that
936 it provides an integrated and validated toolkit, and its use encompasses the full event
937 processing chain; it has a major impact on the way HEP analysis is performed. This
938 lowers the hurdle to start an analysis, enabling the community to communicate using
939 a common analysis language, as well as making common improvements as additions to
940 the toolkit quickly become available. The ongoing ROOT programme of work addresses
941 important new requirements, in both functionality and performance, and this is given
942 high priority by the HEP community.

943 An important new development in the analysis domain has been the emergence of
944 new analysis tools coming from industry and open source projects, and this presents new
945 opportunities for improving the HEP analysis software ecosystem. The HEP community
946 is very interested in using these software tools, together with established components,
947 in an interchangeable way. The main challenge will be to enable new open-source tools
948 to be plugged in dynamically to the existing ecosystem and to provide mechanisms to
949 allow the existing and new components to interact and exchange data efficiently. To
950 improve our ability to analyse much larger datasets, R&D will be needed to investigate
951 file formats, compression algorithms, and new ways of storing and accessing data for
952 analysis and to adapt workflows to run on future computing infrastructures.

953 Reproducibility is the cornerstone of scientific results. It is currently difficult to
954 repeat most HEP analyses in exactly the manner they were originally performed. This
955 difficulty mainly arises due to the number of scientists involved, the large number of

956 steps in a typical HEP analysis workflow, and the complexity of the analyses themselves.
957 A challenge specific to data analysis and interpretation is tracking the evolution of
958 relationships between all the different components of an analysis.

959 Robust methods for data reinterpretation are also critical. Collaborations typically
960 interpret results in the context of specific models for new physics searches and sometimes
961 reinterpret those same searches in the context of alternative theories. However,
962 understanding the full implications of these searches requires the interpretation of the
963 experimental results in the context of many more theoretical models than are currently
964 explored at the time of publication. Analysis reproducibility and reinterpretation
965 strategies need to be considered in all new approaches under investigation, so that
966 they become a fundamental component of the system as a whole.

967 Adapting to the rapidly evolving landscape of software tools, as well as to
968 methodological approaches to data analysis, requires effort in continuous training, both
969 for novices as well as for experienced researchers, as detailed in the Careers and Training
970 section. The maintenance and sustainability of the current analysis ecosystem also
971 present a major challenge, as currently this effort is provided by just a few institutions.
972 Legacy and less-used parts of the ecosystem need to be managed appropriately. New
973 policies are needed to retire little used or obsolete components and free up effort for the
974 development of new components. These new tools should be made attractive and useful
975 to a significant part of the community to attract new contributors.

976 *Current Practices* Methods for analysing HEP data have been developed over many
977 years and successfully applied to produce physics results, including more than 1000
978 publications, during LHC Runs 1 and 2. Analysis at the LHC experiments typically
979 starts with users running code over centrally managed data that is of $O(100\text{kB}/\text{event})$
980 and contains all of the information required to perform a typical analysis leading to
981 publication. The most common approach is through a campaign of *data reduction*
982 and *refinement*, ultimately producing simplified data structures of arrays of simple data
983 types (“flat ntuples”) and histograms used to make plots and tables, from which physics
984 results can be derived.

985 The current centrally-managed data typically used by a Run 2 data analysis at the
986 LHC (hundreds of TB) is far too large to be delivered locally to the user. An often-stated
987 requirement of the data reduction steps is to arrive at a dataset that “can fit on a laptop”,
988 in order to facilitate low-latency, high-rate access to a manageable amount of data during
989 the final stages of an analysis. Creating and retaining intermediate datasets produced
990 by data reduction campaigns, bringing and keeping them “close” to the analysers, is
991 designed to minimise latency and the risks related to resource contention. At the same
992 time, disk space requirements are usually a key constraint of the experiment computing
993 models, as disk is the most expensive hardware component. The LHC experiments
994 have made a continuous effort to produce optimised analysis-oriented data formats with
995 enough information to avoid the need to use intermediate formats. Another effective
996 strategy has been to combine analyses from different users and execute them within the

997 same batch jobs (so-called “analysis trains”), thereby reducing the number of times data
998 must be read from the storage systems. This has improved performance and usability,
999 and simplified the task of the bookkeeping.

1000 There has been a huge investment in using C++ for performance-critical code,
1001 in particular in event reconstruction and simulation, and this will continue in the
1002 future. However, for analysis applications, Python has emerged as the language of
1003 choice in the data science community, and its use continues to grow within the HEP
1004 community. Python is highly appreciated for its ability to support fast development
1005 cycles, for its ease-of-use, and it offers an abundance of well-maintained and advanced
1006 open source software packages. Experience shows that the simpler interfaces and
1007 code constructs of Python could reduce the complexity of analysis code, and therefore
1008 contribute to decreasing the “time to insight” for HEP analyses, as well as increasing
1009 their sustainability. Increased HEP investment is needed to allow Python to become a
1010 first class supported language.

1011 One new model of data analysis, developed outside of HEP, maintains the concept
1012 of sequential tuple reduction, but mixes interactivity with batch processing. These
1013 exploit new cluster management systems, most notably Apache Spark, which uses
1014 open-source tools contributed both by industry and the data-science community. Other
1015 products implementing the same analysis concepts and workflows are emerging, such as
1016 TensorFlow, Dask, Pachyderm, Blaze, Parsl, and Thrill. This approach can complement
1017 the present and widely adopted Grid processing of datasets. It may potentially simplify
1018 the access to data and the expression of parallelism, thereby improving the exploitation
1019 of cluster resources.

1020 An alternative approach, which was pioneered in Astronomy but has become more
1021 widespread throughout the Big Data world, is to perform *fast querying* of centrally
1022 managed data and compute remotely on the queried data to produce the analysis
1023 products of interest. The analysis workflow is accomplished without focus on persistence
1024 of data traditionally associated with data reduction, although transient data may be
1025 generated in order to efficiently accomplish this workflow and optionally can be retained
1026 to facilitate an analysis “checkpoint” for subsequent execution. In this approach, the
1027 focus is on obtaining the analysis end-products in a way that does not necessitate a
1028 data reduction campaign. It is of interest for the HEP community to understand the
1029 role that such an approach could have in the global analysis infrastructure, and if it can
1030 bring an optimisation of the global storage and computing resources required for the
1031 processing of raw data to analysis.

1032 Another active area regarding analysis in the world outside HEP is the switch to a
1033 functional or declarative programming model, as for example provided by Scala in the
1034 Spark environment. This allows scientists to express the intended data transformation
1035 as a query on data. Instead of having to define and control the “how”, the analyst
1036 declares the “what” of their analysis, essentially removing the need to define the event
1037 loop in an analysis, and leave it to underlying services and systems to optimally iterate
1038 over events. It appears that these high-level approaches will allow abstraction from

1039 the underlying implementations, allowing the computing systems more freedom in
1040 optimising the utilisation of diverse forms of computing resources. R&D is already under
1041 way (*e.g.*, TDataFrame [24] in ROOT) and this needs to be continued with the ultimate
1042 goal of establishing a prototype functional or declarative programming paradigm.

1043 *Research and Development Programme* Towards HL-LHC, we envisage dedicated data
1044 analysis facilities for experimenters, offering an extendable environment that can provide
1045 fully functional analysis capabilities, integrating all these technologies relevant for HEP.
1046 Initial prototypes of such analysis facilities are currently under development. On the
1047 time scale of HL-LHC, such dedicated Analysis Facilities would provide a complete
1048 system engineered for latency optimisation and stability.

1049 The following R&D programme lists the tasks that need to be accomplished.

1050 By 2020:

- 1051 • Enable new open-source software tools to be plugged in dynamically to
1052 the existing ecosystem, and provide mechanisms to dynamically exchange
1053 parts of the ecosystem with new components.
- 1054 • Complete an advanced prototype of a low-latency response, high-capacity
1055 analysis facility incorporating fast caching technologies to explore a query-
1056 based analysis approach and open-source cluster-management tools. It
1057 should in particular include an evaluation of additional storage layers,
1058 such as SSD storage and NVRAM-like storage, and cloud and big data
1059 orchestration systems.
- 1060 • Expand support of Python in our ecosystem with a strategy for ensuring
1061 long-term maintenance and sustainability. In particular in ROOT, the
1062 current C++ and Python bindings should evolve to reach the ease of use
1063 of native Python modules.
- 1064 • Prototype a comprehensive set of mechanisms for interacting and
1065 exchanging data between new open-source tools and the existing analysis
1066 ecosystem.
- 1067 • Develop a prototype based on a functional or declarative programming
1068 model for data analysis.
- 1069 • Conceptualise and prototype an analysis “Interpretation Gateway”,
1070 including data repositories (*e.g.*, HEPData [25]), and analysis preservation
1071 and reinterpretation tools.

1072 By 2022:

- 1073 • Evaluate chosen architectures for analysis facilities, verify their design and
1074 provide input for corrective actions to test them on a larger scale during
1075 Run 3.
- 1076 • Develop a blueprint for remaining analysis facility developments, system
1077 design and support model.

1078 *3.5. Machine Learning*

1079 Machine Learning (ML) is a rapidly evolving approach to characterising and describing
1080 data with the potential to radically change how data is reduced and analysed. Some
1081 applications will qualitatively improve the physics reach of datasets. Others will allow
1082 much more efficient use of processing and storage resources, effectively extending the
1083 physics reach of experiments. Many of the activities in this area will explicitly overlap
1084 with those in the other focus areas, whereas others will be more generic. As a first
1085 approximation, the HEP community will build domain-specific applications on top of
1086 existing toolkits and ML algorithms developed by computer scientists, data scientists,
1087 and scientific software developers from outside the HEP world. Work will also be done
1088 to understand where problems do not map well onto existing paradigms and how these
1089 problems can be recast into abstract formulations of more general interest.

1090 *Scope and Challenges* The Machine Learning, Statistics, and Data Science communities
1091 have developed a variety of powerful ML approaches for classification (using pre-
1092 defined categories), clustering (where categories are discovered), regression (to produce
1093 continuous outputs), density estimation, dimensionality reduction, etc. Some of these
1094 have been used productively in HEP for more than 20 years, others have been introduced
1095 relatively recently. The portfolio of ML techniques and tools is in constant evolution,
1096 and a benefit is that many have well-documented open source software implementations.
1097 ML has already become ubiquitous in some types of HEP applications, most notably
1098 in classifiers used to discriminate between signals and backgrounds in the final offline
1099 analyses. It is also increasingly used in both online and offline reconstruction and particle
1100 identification algorithms, as well as the classification of reconstruction-level objects such
1101 as jets.

1102 The abundance of, and advancements in, ML algorithms and implementations
1103 present both opportunities and challenges for HEP. Which are most appropriate for
1104 our use? Which allow us to best exploit our limited computing resources? What are
1105 the trade-offs of using ML algorithms, as compared to each other or compared to using
1106 more traditional approaches? These issues are not necessarily “factorisable”, and a key
1107 goal will be to ensure that as HEP research teams investigate the numerous approaches
1108 at hand, the expertise acquired and lessons learned, get adequately disseminated to the
1109 wider community. In general, each *team* - typically a small group of scientists from a
1110 collaboration - will serve as a repository of expertise, helping others develop and deploy
1111 experiment-specific ML-based algorithms in their software stacks. It should provide
1112 training to those developing new ML-based algorithms as well as those planning to use
1113 established ML tools.

1114 With the advent of more powerful hardware and more performant ML algorithms,
1115 the ML toolset will be used to develop application software that could potentially,
1116 amongst other things:

- 1117 • Replace the most computationally expensive parts of pattern recognition

1118 algorithms and algorithms that extract parameters characterising
 1119 reconstructed objects; for example, investigating how ML algorithms could
 1120 improve the physics performance or execution speed of charged track and
 1121 vertex reconstruction, one of the most CPU intensive elements of our
 1122 current software.

- 1123 • Extend the use of ML algorithms for real-time event classification and
 1124 analysis, as discussed in more detail in Section 3.3.
- 1125 • Extend the physics reach of experiments by extending the role of ML at
 1126 analysis stage : handling data/MC or control/signal region differences,
 1127 interpolating between mass points, training in a systematics-aware way,
 1128 etc.
- 1129 • Compress data significantly with negligible loss of fidelity in terms of
 1130 physics utility.

1131 As already discussed, many particle physics detectors produce much more data
 1132 than can be moved to permanent storage. The process of reducing the size of the
 1133 datasets is managed by the trigger system. ML algorithms have already been used very
 1134 successfully for triggering, to rapidly characterise which events should be selected for
 1135 additional consideration and eventually persisted to long-term storage. In the era of the
 1136 HL-LHC the challenges will increase both quantitatively and qualitatively as the number
 1137 of proton-proton collisions per bunch crossing increases. The scope of ML applications
 1138 in the trigger will need to be expanded in order to tackle the challenges to come.

1139 *Current Practices* The use of ML in HEP analyses has become commonplace over
 1140 the past two decades, and the most common use case has been in signal/background
 1141 classification. The vast majority of HEP analyses published in recent years have used
 1142 the HEP-specific software package TMVA [26] included in ROOT. Recently, however,
 1143 many HEP analysts have begun migrating to non-HEP ML packages such as scikit-
 1144 learn [**scikit-learn**] and Keras [27], although these efforts have yet to materialise into
 1145 physics publications from major collaborations. Data scientists at Yandex created a
 1146 Python package that provides a consistent API to most ML packages used in HEP [28].
 1147 Packages like SpearMint [**SpearMint**] and scikit-optimize [**scikit-optimize**] perform
 1148 Bayesian optimisation and can improve HEP Monte Carlo work.

1149 This shift in the set of ML techniques and packages utilised is especially strong
 1150 in the neutrino physics community, where new experiments such as DUNE place
 1151 ML at the very heart of their reconstruction algorithms and event selection. The
 1152 shift is also occurring among LHC collaborations, where ML is becoming more and
 1153 more commonplace in reconstruction and real-time applications. Examples where
 1154 ML has already been deployed in a limited way include charged and neutral particle
 1155 reconstruction and identification, jet reconstruction and identification, and determining
 1156 a particle's production properties (flavour tagging) based on information from the rest
 1157 of the event. In addition, HEP experiments have developed ML algorithms which are

1158 insensitive to changing detector performance, for use in real-time applications, and
1159 algorithms which are minimally biased with respect to the physical observables of
1160 interest.

1161 At present, much of this development has happened in individual collaborations.
1162 While each experiment has, or is likely to have, different specific use cases, we expect
1163 that many of these will be sufficiently similar to each other that R&D can be done
1164 in common. Even when this is not possible, experience with one type of problem will
1165 provide insights into how to approach other types of problem. This is why the Inter-
1166 experiment Machine Learning forum (IML [29]) was created at CERN in 2016, as well
1167 as experiment specific ML R&D groups. It already demonstrated the benefits of the
1168 collaboration between (LHC and non-LHC) experiments around Machine Learning.

1169 *Research and Development Roadmap and Goals* The R&D roadmap presented here is
1170 based on the preliminary work done in recent years, coordinated by the HSF IML,
1171 which will remain the main forum to coordinate actions about ML in HEP and ensure
1172 the proper links with the data science communities. The following programme of work
1173 is foreseen.

1174 By 2020:

- 1175 • Particle identification and particle properties: in calorimeters or time
1176 projection chambers (TPCs), where the data can be represented as a 2D
1177 or 3D image (or even in 4D, including timing information), the problems
1178 can be cast as a computer vision task. Deep Learning (DL), one class of
1179 ML algorithm, in which neural networks are used to reconstruct images
1180 from pixel intensities, is a good candidate to identify particles and extract
1181 many parameters. Promising DL architectures for these tasks include
1182 convolutional, recurrent, and adversarial neural networks. A particularly
1183 important application is to Liquid Argon TPCs (LArTPCs), which is
1184 the chosen detection technology for DUNE, the new agship neutrino
1185 programme . A proof of concept and comparison of DL architectures
1186 should be finalised by 2020. Particle identification can also be explored to
1187 tag the flavour of jets in collider experiments (*e.g.*, so-called b-tagging).
1188 The investigation of these concepts, which connect to Natural Language
1189 Processing, has started at the LHC and is to be pursued on the same
1190 timescale.
- 1191 • ML middleware and data formats for offline usage: HEP is currently
1192 mainly relying on the ROOT format for its data when the ML community
1193 has developed several other formats, often associated with some ML
1194 tools. A desirable data format for ML applications should have the
1195 following attributes: high read-write speed for efficient training, sparse
1196 readability without loading the entire dataset into RAM, compression, and
1197 widespread adoption by the ML community. The thorough evaluation of

- 1198 the different data formats and their impact on ML performances in the
 1199 HEP context must be continued, and it is necessary to define a strategy
 1200 for bridging or migrating HEP formats to the chosen ML format(s) or
 1201 vice-versa.
- 1202 • Computing resource optimisations: data volume in data transfers is one of
 1203 the challenges facing the current computing systems. Resource utilisation
 1204 optimisation based on the enormous amount of data collected can improve
 1205 overall operations. Networks in particular are going to play a crucial role
 1206 in data exchange in HL-LHC era. A network-aware application layer may
 1207 significantly improve experiment operations. ML is a promising technology
 1208 to identify anomalies in network traffic, to predict and prevent network
 1209 congestion, to detect bugs via analysis of self-learning networks, and for
 1210 WAN path optimisation based on user access patterns.
 - 1211 • ML as a Service (MLaaS): current cloud providers rely on a MLaaS
 1212 model allowing for efficient use of common resources and use of interactive
 1213 machine learning tools. MLaaS is not yet widely used in HEP. HEP
 1214 services for interactive analysis, such as CERN's Service for Web-based
 1215 Analysis [SWAN], may play an important role in adoption of machine
 1216 learning tools in HEP workows. In order to use these tools more efficiently,
 1217 sufficient and appropriately tailored hardware and instances other than
 1218 CERN's SWAN will be identified.
- 1219 By 2022:
- 1220 • Detector anomaly detection: data taking in complex HEP experiments
 1221 is continuously monitored by physicists taking shifts to monitor and
 1222 assess the quality of the incoming data, largely using reference histograms
 1223 produced by experts. This makes it difficult to anticipate new problems.
 1224 A whole class of ML algorithms called anomaly detection can be useful for
 1225 such problems. Such unsupervised algorithms are able to learn from data
 1226 and produce an alert when deviations are observed. By monitoring many
 1227 variables at the same time such algorithms are sensitive to subtle signs
 1228 forewarning of imminent failure, so that pre-emptive maintenance can be
 1229 scheduled. These techniques are already used in the industry.
 - 1230 • Simulation: recent progress in high delity fast generative models, such as
 1231 Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) and Variational Autoencoders
 1232 (VAEs), which are able to sample high dimensional feature distributions by
 1233 learning from existing data samples, offer a promising alternative for fast
 1234 simulation. A simplified rst attempt at using such techniques in simulation
 1235 saw orders of magnitude increase in speed over existing fast simulation
 1236 techniques, but has not yet reached the required accuracy [30].
 - 1237 • Triggering and real-time analysis: one of the challenges is the trade-
 1238 off in algorithm complexity and performance under strict inference time

- 1239 constraints. To deal with the increasing event complexity at HL-LHC, we
 1240 will explore the use of sophisticated ML algorithms at all trigger levels,
 1241 building on the pioneering work by the LHC collaborations. A critical
 1242 part of this work will be to understand which ML techniques allow us to
 1243 maximally exploit tomorrow’s computing architectures.
- 1244 • Sustainable Matrix Element Methods (MEM): The MEM is a powerful
 1245 technique that can be utilised for measurements of physical model
 1246 parameters and direct searches for new phenomena. The fact of being
 1247 very computationally intensive has limited its applicability in HEP so far.
 1248 Using neural networks for numerical integration is not new. The technical
 1249 challenge lies in the design of a network sufficiently rich to encode the
 1250 complexity of the ME calculation for a given process over the phase space
 1251 relevant to the signal process. Deep Neural Networks (DNNs) are good
 1252 candidates [31] and [32].
 - 1253 • Tracking: pattern recognition is always a computationally challenging
 1254 step. It becomes an overwhelming challenge in the HL-LHC environment.
 1255 Adequate ML techniques may provide a solution that scales linearly with
 1256 LHC intensity. Several efforts in the HEP community have started to
 1257 investigate ML algorithms for track pattern recognition on many-core
 1258 processors.

1259 3.6. Data Organisation, Management and Access

1260 The scientific reach of data-intensive experiments is limited by how fast data can be
 1261 accessed and digested by computational resources. Both computing technology and
 1262 large increases in data volume require new computational models [33], compatible with
 1263 budget constraints (typically a flat budget scenario), which need to be proactively
 1264 investigated. The integration of newly emerging data analysis paradigms into a new
 1265 computational model has the potential to enable new analysis methods and increase
 1266 scientific output. The field, as a whole, has a window in which to adapt our data access
 1267 and data management schemes to ones that are more suited and optimally matched to
 1268 a wide range of advanced computing models and analysis applications.

1269 *Scope and Challenges* The LHC experiments currently provision and manage about an
 1270 exabyte of storage, approximately half of which is archival, and half is traditional disk
 1271 storage. Other experiments close to data taking have similar needs, *e.g.*, Belle II has the
 1272 same data volumes as ATLAS. The HL-LHC storage requirements per year are expected
 1273 to jump by a factor close to 10. This growth rate is faster than projected technology
 1274 gains and will present major challenges. Storage will remain one of the major cost drivers
 1275 for HEP computing, at a level roughly similar to the cost of the computational resources.
 1276 The combination of storage and analysis computing costs may restrict scientific output

1277 and the potential physics reach of the experiments, so new techniques and algorithms
1278 are likely to be required.

1279 In devising experiment computing models for this era many factors have to be taken
1280 into account. In particular, the increasing availability of very high-speed networks,
1281 which may reduce the need for CPU and data co-location, provide new possibilities. Such
1282 networks may allow for more extensive use of data access over the wide-area network
1283 (WAN), which may provide failover capabilities, global and federated data namespaces,
1284 and will have an impact on data caching. Shifts in data presentation and analysis
1285 models, such as the use of event-based data streaming along with more traditional
1286 dataset-based or file-based data access, will be particularly important for optimising
1287 the utilisation of opportunistic computing cycles on HPC facilities, commercial cloud
1288 resources, and campus clusters, and can potentially resolve currently limiting factors
1289 such as job eviction.

1290 The three main challenges for data in the HL-LHC era can be summarised as follows:

- 1291 • The HEP experiments of the HL-LHC era will significantly increase both
1292 the data rate and the data volume. The computing systems will need to
1293 handle this with as small a cost increase as possible and within evolving
1294 storage technology limitations.
- 1295 • The significantly increased computational requirements for the HL-
1296 LHC era will also place new requirements on data. Specifically, the
1297 use of new types of computing resources (cloud, HPC) with different
1298 dynamic availability and characteristics will require more dynamic data
1299 management and access systems.
- 1300 • Applications employing new techniques, such as machine learning training
1301 or high rate data query systems, will likely be employed to meet the
1302 computational constraints and to extend the physics reach of future
1303 experiments. These new applications will place new requirements on how
1304 and where data is accessed and produced. Specific applications, such as
1305 training for machine learning, may require use of specialised processor
1306 resources such as GPUs, placing further requirements on data.

1307 In particular, the projected event complexity of data from future HL-LHC runs
1308 with high pileup and from high resolution Liquid Argon detectors at DUNE will require
1309 advanced reconstruction algorithms and analysis tools to understand the data. The
1310 precursors of these tools, in the form of new pattern recognition and tracking algorithms
1311 based on machine-learning techniques, are already proving to be drivers for the compute
1312 needs of the HEP community. The storage systems that are developed, and the data
1313 management techniques that are employed, will need to directly support this wide
1314 range of computational facilities, and will need to be matched to the changes in the
1315 computational work, so as not to impede the improvements that they are bringing.

1316 As with computing resources, the landscape of storage solutions accessible to us
1317 is trending towards heterogeneity. The ability to leverage new storage technologies as

1318 they become available into existing data delivery models is a challenge that we must be
 1319 prepared for. This also implies that HEP experiments should be prepared to leverage
 1320 “tactical storage”, i.e. storage that becomes more cost-effective as it becomes available
 1321 (*e.g.*, from a cloud provider), and have a data management and provisioning system that
 1322 can exploit such resources at short notice. Volatile data sources would impact many
 1323 aspects of the system: catalogues, job brokering, monitoring and alerting, accounting,
 1324 the applications themselves.

1325 On the hardware side, R&D is needed in alternative approaches to data archiving
 1326 to determine the possible cost/performance tradeoffs. Currently, tape is extensively
 1327 used to hold data that cannot be economically made available online. While the data is
 1328 still accessible, it comes with a high latency penalty, limiting effective data access. We
 1329 suggest investigating either separate direct access-based archives (*e.g.*, disk or optical) or
 1330 new models that hierarchically overlay online direct access volumes with archive space.
 1331 This is especially relevant when access latency is proportional to storage density. Either
 1332 approach would need to also evaluate reliability risks and the effort needed to provide
 1333 data stability. For this work, we should exchange experiences with communities which
 1334 rely on large tape archives as their primary storage.

1335 Cost reductions in the maintenance and operation of storage infrastructure can
 1336 be realised through convergence of the major experiments and resource providers on
 1337 shared solutions. This does not necessarily mean promoting a monoculture, as different
 1338 solutions will be adapted to certain major classes of use cases, type of site, or funding
 1339 environment. There will always be a judgement to make on the desirability of using
 1340 a variety of specialised systems, or of abstracting the commonalities through a more
 1341 limited, but common, interface. Reduced costs and improved sustainability will be
 1342 further promoted by extending these concepts of convergence beyond HEP and into the
 1343 other large-scale scientific endeavours that will share the infrastructure in the coming
 1344 decade (*e.g.*, the SKA and CTA experiments). Efforts must be made as early as possible,
 1345 during the formative design phases of such projects, to create the necessary links.

1346 Finally, all changes undertaken must not make the ease of access to data any worse
 1347 than it is under current computing models. We must also be prepared to accept the
 1348 fact that the best possible solution may require significant changes in the way data is
 1349 handled and analysed. What is clear is that current practices will not scale to the needs
 1350 of HL-LHC and other major HEP experiments of the HL-LHC era.

1351 *Current Practices* The original LHC computing models were based on simpler models
 1352 used before distributed computing was a central part of HEP computing. This allowed
 1353 for a reasonably clean separation between four different aspects of interacting with data,
 1354 namely data organisation, data management, data access, and data granularity.

- 1355 • *Data organisation* is essentially how data is structured as it is written.
 1356 Most data is written in files, in ROOT format, typically with a column-
 1357 wise organisation of the data. The records corresponding to these columns

- 1358 are compressed. The internal details of this organisation are visible only
 1359 to individual software applications.
- 1360 • The key challenge for *data management* was the transition to the use of
 1361 distributed computing in the form of the grid. The experiments developed
 1362 dedicated data transfer and placement systems, along with catalogues, to
 1363 move data between computing centres. Originally, computing models were
 1364 rather static: data was placed at sites, and the relevant compute jobs were
 1365 sent to the right locations. Since LHC startup, this model has been made
 1366 more flexible to limit non-optimal pre-placement and to take into account
 1367 data popularity. In addition, applications might interact with catalogues
 1368 or, at times, the workflow management system does this on behalf of the
 1369 applications.
 - 1370 • *Data access*: historically, various protocols have been used for direct reads
 1371 (rftio, dcap, xrootd, etc.) where jobs are reading data explicitly staged-
 1372 in or cached by the compute resource used or the site it belongs to. A
 1373 recent move has been the convergence towards xrootd as the main protocol
 1374 for direct access. With direct access, applications may use different
 1375 protocols than those used by data transfers between sites. In addition,
 1376 LHC experiments have been increasingly using remote access to the data,
 1377 without any stage-in operations, using the possibilities offered by protocols
 1378 like xrootd or http.
 - 1379 • *Data granularity*: the data is split into datasets, as defined by physics
 1380 selections and use cases, consisting of a set of individual files. While
 1381 individual files in datasets can be processed in parallel, the files themselves
 1382 are usually processed as a whole.

1383 Before the LHC turn-on, and in the first years of the LHC, these four areas
 1384 were to first order optimised independently. As LHC computing matured, interest has
 1385 turned to optimisations spanning multiple areas. For example, the recent use of “Data
 1386 Federations” mixes up Data Management and Access. As we will see below, some of
 1387 the foreseen opportunities towards HL-LHC may require global optimisations.

1388 Thus, in this section we take a broader view than traditional data management and
 1389 consider the combination of “Data Organisation, Management and Access” (DOMA)
 1390 together. We believe that this full picture of data needs in HEP will provide important
 1391 opportunities for efficiency and scalability as we enter the many-exabyte era.

1392 *Research and Development Programme* In the following, we describe tasks that will
 1393 need to be carried out in order to demonstrate that the increased volume and complexity
 1394 of data expected over the coming decade can be stored, accessed, and analysed at an
 1395 affordable cost.

- 1396 • Sub-file granularity, *e.g.*, event-based, will be studied to see whether it
 1397 can be implemented efficiently, and in a scalable, cost-effective manner,

1398 for all applications making use of event selection, to see whether it offers an
 1399 advantage over current file-based granularity. The following tasks should
 1400 be completed by 2020:

- 1401 a. Quantify the impact on performance and resource utilisation
 1402 (storage, network) for the main type of access patterns (simulation,
 1403 reconstruction, analysis).
- 1404 b. Assess the impact on catalogues and data distribution.
- 1405 c. Assess whether event-granularity makes sense in object stores that
 1406 tend to require large chunks of data for efficiency.
- 1407 d. Test for improvement in recoverability from preemption, in particular
 1408 when using cloud spot resources and/or dynamic HPC resources.

- 1409 ● We will seek to derive benefits from data organisation and analysis
 1410 technologies adopted by other big data users. A proof-of-concept that
 1411 involves the following tasks needs to be established by 2020 to allow full
 1412 implementations to be made in the years that follow.

- 1413 a. Study the impact of column-wise, versus row-wise, organisation of data
 1414 on the performance of each kind of access.
- 1415 b. Investigate efficient data storage and access solutions that support the
 1416 use of map-reduce or Spark-like analysis services .
- 1417 c. Evaluate just-in-time decompression schemes and mappings onto
 1418 hardware architectures considering the flow of data, from spinning
 1419 disk to memory and application.

- 1420 ● Investigate the role data placement optimisations can play, such as
 1421 caching, in order to use computing resources effectively, and the
 1422 technologies that can be used for this. The following tasks should be
 1423 completed by 2020:

- 1424 a. Quantify the benefit of placement optimisation for the main use cases,
 1425 i.e., reconstruction, analysis, and simulation.
- 1426 b. Assess the benefit of caching for Machine Learning-based applications,
 1427 in particular for the learning phase, and follow-up the evolution of
 1428 technology outside HEP itself.

1429 In the longer term the benefits that can be derived from using different
 1430 approaches to the way HEP is currently managing its data delivery systems
 1431 should be studied. Two different content delivery methods will be looked
 1432 at, namely Content Delivery Networks (CDN) and Named Data Networking
 1433 (NDN).

- 1434 ● Study how to minimise HEP infrastructure costs by exploiting varied
 1435 quality of service from different storage technologies. In particular, study
 1436 the role that opportunistic/tactical storage can play, as well as different

1437 archival storage solutions. A proof-of-concept should be made by 2020,
1438 with a full implementation to follow in the following years.

- 1439 • Establish how to globally optimise data access latency, with respect to
1440 the efficiency of using CPU, at a sustainable cost. This involves studying
1441 the impact of concentrating data in fewer, larger locations (“data-lake”
1442 approach), and making increased use of opportunistic compute resources
1443 located further from the data. Again, a proof-of-concept should be made
1444 by 2020, with a full implementation in the following years, if successful.
1445 This R&D will be done in common with the related actions planned as
1446 part of Facilities and Distributed Computing.

1447 *3.7. Facilities and Distributed Computing*

1448 *Scope and Challenges* As outlined in section 2, huge resource requirements are
1449 anticipated for HL-LHC running. These need to be deployed and managed across
1450 the WLCG infrastructure, which has evolved from the original ideas on deployment
1451 before LHC data-taking started [34], to be a mature and effective infrastructure that is
1452 now exploited by LHC experiments. Currently, hardware costs are dominated by disk
1453 storage, closely followed by CPU, followed by tape and networking. Naive estimates
1454 of scaling to meet HL-LHC needs indicate that the current system would need almost
1455 an order of magnitude more resources than will be available from technology evolution
1456 alone. In addition, other initiatives such as Belle II and DUNE in particle physics, but
1457 also other science projects such as SKA, will require a comparable amount of resources
1458 on the same infrastructure. Even anticipating substantial software improvements, the
1459 major challenge in this area is to find the best configuration for facilities and computing
1460 sites that make HL-LHC computing feasible. This challenge is further complicated by
1461 substantial regional differences in funding models, meaning that any solution must be
1462 sensitive to these local considerations to be effective.

1463 There are a number of changes that can be anticipated in the timescale of
1464 the next decade that must be taken into account. There is an increasing need to
1465 use highly heterogenous resources. These include the use of HPC infrastructures,
1466 which can often have very particular setups and policies that make their exploitation
1467 challenging; volunteer computing, which is restricted in scope and unreliable, but can
1468 be a significant resource, in particular for simulation; and cloud computing, both
1469 commercial and research, which offer different resource provisioning interfaces and can
1470 be significantly more dynamic than directly funded HEP computing sites. In addition,
1471 diversity of computing architectures is expected to become the norm, with different
1472 CPU architectures, as well as more specialised GPUs and FPGAs.

1473 This increasingly dynamic environment for resources, particularly CPU, must
1474 be coupled with a highly reliable system for data storage and a suitable network
1475 infrastructure for delivering this data to where it will be processed. While CPU and
1476 disk capacity is expected to increase by respectively 20% and 15% per year for the same

1477 cost, the trends of research network capacity increases show a much steeper growth,
1478 such as two orders of magnitude from now to HL-LHC times. Therefore, the evolution
1479 of the computing models would need to be more network centric.

1480 In the network domain, there are new technology developments, such as Software
1481 Defined Networks (SDNs), which enable user-defined high capacity network paths to
1482 be controlled via experiment software, and which could help manage these data flows.
1483 These new technologies require considerable R&D to prove their utility and practicality.
1484 In addition, the networks used by HEP are likely to see large increases in traffic from
1485 other science domains.

1486 Underlying storage system technology will continue to evolve, for example towards
1487 object stores, and, as proposed in the DOMA section, R&D is also necessary to
1488 understand their usability and their role in the HEP infrastructures. There is
1489 also the continual challenge of assembling inhomogeneous systems and sites into an
1490 effective widely distributed worldwide data management infrastructure that is usable
1491 by experiments. This is particularly compounded by the scale increases for HL-LHC
1492 where multiple replicas of data (for redundancy and availability) will become extremely
1493 expensive.

1494 Evolutionary change towards HL-LHC is required, as the experiments will
1495 continually use the current system. Mapping out a path for migration then requires
1496 a fuller understanding of the costs and benefits of the proposed changes. A model
1497 is needed in which the benefits of such changes can be evaluated, taking into account
1498 hardware and human costs, as well as the impact on software and workload performance
1499 that in turn leads to physics impact. Even if HL-LHC is the use case used to build this
1500 cost and performance model, because the ten years of experience running large-scale
1501 experiments helped to define the needs, it is believed that this work, and the resulting
1502 model, will be valuable for other upcoming data intensive scientific initiatives. This
1503 includes future HEP projects, such as Belle II, DUNE and possibly ILC experiments,
1504 but also non-HEP projects, such as SKA.

1505 *Current Practices* While there are many particular exceptions, most resources
1506 incorporated into the current WLCG are done so in independently managed sites,
1507 usually with some regional organisation structure, and mostly offering both CPU and
1508 storage. The sites are usually funded directly to provide computing to WLCG, and
1509 are in some sense then “owned” by HEP, albeit often shared with others. Frequently
1510 substantial cost contributions are made indirectly, for example through funding of energy
1511 costs or additional staff effort, particularly at smaller centres. Tape is found only at
1512 CERN and at large national facilities, the WLCG Tier-1s [20].

1513 Interfaces to these computing resources are defined by technical operations in
1514 WLCG. Frequently there are choices that sites can make among some limited set of
1515 approved options for interfaces. These can overlap in functionality. Some are very
1516 HEP specific and recognised as over-complex: work is in progress to get rid of them.
1517 The acceptable architectures and operating systems are also defined at the WLCG level

1518 (currently x86_64, running Scientific Linux 6 and compatible), and sites can deploy
1519 these either directly onto “bare metal” or can use an abstraction layer, such as virtual
1520 machines or containers.

1521 There are different logical networks being used to connect sites: LHCOPN connects
1522 CERN with the Tier-1 centres and a mixture of LHCONE and generic academic networks
1523 connect other sites.

1524 Almost every experiment layers its own customised workload and data management
1525 system on top of the base WLCG provision, with several concepts, and a few lower-level
1526 components, in common. The pilot job model for workloads is ubiquitous, where a
1527 real workload is dispatched only once a job slot is secured. Data management layers
1528 aggregate files in the storage systems into datasets and manage experiment-specific
1529 metadata. In contrast to the MONARC model, sites are generally used more flexibly
1530 and homogeneously by experiments, both in workloads and in data stored.

1531 In total, WLCG currently provides experiments with resources distributed at about
1532 170 sites, in 42 countries, which pledge every year the amount of CPU and disk resources
1533 they are committed to delivering. The pledge process is overseen by the Resource
1534 Scrutiny Group (CRSG), mandated by the funding agencies to validate the experiment
1535 requests, and to identify mismatches with site pledges. These sites are connected by
1536 10-100 Gb links, and deliver approximately 750k CPU cores and 1 EB of storage, of
1537 which 450 PB is disk. More than 200M jobs are executed each day [35].

1538 *Research and Development programme* The following areas of study are ongoing, and
1539 will involve technology evaluations, prototyping, and scale tests. Several of the items
1540 below require some coordination with other topical areas discussed in this document,
1541 and some work is still needed to finalise the detailed action plan. These actions will need
1542 to be structured to meet the common milestones of informing the HL-LHC Computing
1543 TDRs, and deploying advanced prototypes during LHC Run 3.

- 1544 • Understand better the relationship between the performance and costs
1545 of the WLCG system, and how it delivers the necessary functionality to
1546 support LHC physics. This will be an ongoing process, started by the
1547 recently formed System Performance and Cost Modeling Working Group,
1548 and aims to provide a quantitative assessment for any proposed changes.
- 1549 • Define the functionality needed to implement a federated data centre
1550 concept (“data lake”) that aims to reduce the operational cost of storage
1551 for HL-LHC, and at the same time better manage network capacity, whilst
1552 maintaining the overall CPU efficiency. This would include the necessary
1553 qualities of service, and options for regionally distributed implementations,
1554 including the ability to flexibly respond to model changes in the balance
1555 between disk and tape. This work should be done in conjunction with the
1556 existing Data Organisation, Management and Access Working Group to
1557 evaluate the impact of the different access patterns and data organisations

- 1558 envisaged.
- 1559 • Establish an agreement on the common data management functionality
 1560 that is required by experiments, targeting a consolidation and a lower
 1561 maintenance burden. The intimate relationship between the management
 1562 of elements in storage systems and metadata must be recognised. This
 1563 work requires coordination with the Data Processing Frameworks WG. It
 1564 needs to address at least the following use cases:
- 1565 – processing sites that may have some small disk cache, but do not
 1566 manage primary data;
 - 1567 – fine grained processing strategies that may enable processing of small
 1568 chunks of data, with appropriate bookkeeping support;
 - 1569 – integration of heterogeneous processing resources, such as HPCs and
 1570 clouds.
- 1571 • Explore scalable and uniform means of workload scheduling, which
 1572 incorporate dynamic heterogenous resources, and the capabilities of finer
 1573 grained processing that increases overall efficiency. The optimal scheduling
 1574 of special workloads that require particular resources is clearly required.
- 1575 • Contribute to the prototyping and evaluation of a quasi-interactive
 1576 analysis facility that would offer a different model for physics analysis, but
 1577 would also need to be integrated into the data and workload management
 1578 of the experiments. This is work to be done in collaboration with the Data
 1579 Analysis and Interpretation WG.

1580 *3.8. Data-Flow Processing Framework*

1581 *Scope and Challenges* Frameworks in High Energy Physics are used for the
 1582 collaboration-wide data processing tasks of triggering, reconstruction, and simulation,
 1583 as well as other tasks that subgroups of the collaboration are responsible for, such as
 1584 detector alignment and calibration. Providing framework services and libraries that will
 1585 satisfy the computing and data needs for future HEP experiments in the next decade,
 1586 while maintaining our efficient exploitation of increasingly heterogeneous resources, is a
 1587 huge challenge.

1588 To fully exploit the potential of modern processors, HEP data processing
 1589 frameworks need to allow for the parallel execution of reconstruction or simulation
 1590 algorithms on multiple events simultaneously. Frameworks face the challenge of handling
 1591 the massive parallelism and heterogeneity that will be present in future computing
 1592 facilities, including multi-core and many-core systems, GPGPUs, Tensor Processing
 1593 Units (TPUs), and tiered memory systems, each integrated with storage and high-speed
 1594 network interconnections. Efficient running on heterogeneous resources will require a
 1595 tighter integration with the computing models' higher-level systems of workflow and data
 1596 management. Experiment frameworks must also successfully integrate and marshall

1597 other HEP software that may have its own parallelisation model, such as physics
1598 generators and detector simulation.

1599 Common developments across experiments are desirable in this area, but are
1600 hampered by many decades of legacy work. Evolving our frameworks also has to be
1601 done recognising the needs of the different stakeholders in the system. This includes
1602 physicists, who are writing processing algorithms for triggering, reconstruction or
1603 analysis; production managers, who need to define processing workflows over massive
1604 datasets; and facility managers, who require their infrastructures to be used effectively.
1605 These frameworks can also be constrained by security requirements, mandated by the
1606 groups and agencies in charge of it.

1607 *Current Practices* Although most frameworks used in HEP share common concepts,
1608 there are, for mainly historical reasons, a number of different implementations; some of
1609 these are shared between experiments. The Gaudi framework was originally developed
1610 by LHCb, but is also used by ATLAS and various non-LHC experiments. CMS uses its
1611 own CMSSW framework, which was forked to provide the art framework for the Intensity
1612 Frontier experiments. Belle II uses basf2. The linear collider community developed
1613 and uses Marlin. The FAIR experiments use FairROOT, closely related to ALICE's
1614 AliROOT. The FAIR experiments and ALICE are now developing a new framework,
1615 which is called O2 [O2]. At the time of writing, most major frameworks support basic
1616 parallelisation, both within and across events, based on a task-based model.

1617 Each framework has a processing model, which provides the means to execute and
1618 apportion work. Mechanisms for this are threads, tasks, processes, and interprocess
1619 communication. The different strategies used reflect different trade-offs between
1620 constraints in the programming model, efficiency of execution, and ease of adapting to
1621 inhomogeneous resources. These concerns also reflect two different behaviours: firstly,
1622 maximising throughput, where it is most important to maximise the number of events
1623 that are processed by a given resource; secondly, minimising latency, where the primary
1624 constraint is on how long it takes to calculate an answer for a particular datum.

1625 Current practice for throughput-maximising system architectures have constrained
1626 the scope of framework designs. Framework applications have largely been viewed by
1627 the system as a batch job with complex configuration, consuming resources according
1628 to rules dictated by the computing model: one process using one core on one
1629 node, operating independently with a fixed size memory space on a fixed set of files
1630 (streamed or read directly). Only recently has CMS broken this tradition starting
1631 at the beginning of Run 2, by utilising all cores on one virtual node in one process
1632 space using threading. ATLAS is currently using a multi-process fork-and-copy-on-
1633 write solution to remove the constraint of one core/process. Both experiments were
1634 driven to solve this problem by the ever-growing need for more memory per process
1635 brought on by the increasing complexity of LHC events. Current practice manages
1636 systemwide (or facility-wide) scaling by dividing up datasets, generating a framework
1637 application configuration, and scheduling jobs on nodes/cores to consume all available

resources. Given anticipated changes in hardware (heterogeneity, connectivity, memory, storage) available at computing facilities, the interplay between workflow/workload management systems and framework applications need to be carefully examined. It may be advantageous to permit framework applications (or systems) to span multi-node resources, permitting them to be first-class participants in the business of scaling within a facility. In our community some aspects of this approach, which maps features with microservices or function as a service, is being pioneered by the O2 framework.

Research and Development programme By the end of 2018: review the existing technologies that are the important building blocks for data processing frameworks and reach agreement on the main architectural concepts for the next generation of frameworks. Community meetings and workshops, along the lines of the original Concurrency Forum, are envisaged helping foster collaboration in this work [36]. This includes in particular:

- Libraries used for concurrency, their likely evolution and the issues in integrating the models used by detector simulation and physics generators into the frameworks.
- Functional programming, as well as domain specific languages, as a way to describe the physics data processing that has to be undertaken rather than how it has to be implemented. This approach is based on the same concepts as the idea for functional approaches for (statistical) analysis as described in section 3.4.
- Analysis of the functional differences between the existing frameworks and the different experiment use cases.

By 2020: prototype and demonstrator projects for the agreed architectural concepts and baseline to inform the HL-LHC Computing TDRs and to demonstrate advances over what is currently deployed. The following specific items will have to be taken into account:

- These prototypes should be as common as possible between existing frameworks, or at least several of them, as a proof-of-concept of effort and component sharing between frameworks for their future evolution. Possible migration paths to more common implementations will be part of this activity.
- In addition to covering the items mentioned for the review phase, they should particularly demonstrate possible approaches for scheduling the work across heterogeneous resources and using them efficiently, with a particular focus on the efficient use of co-processors, *e.g.*, GPGPUs.
- They need to identify data model changes that are required for an efficient use of new processor architectures (*e.g.*, vectorisation), and for scaling I/O performance in the context of concurrency.

- 1677 • Prototypes of a more advanced integration with workload management,
1678 taking advantage in particular of the advanced features available at
1679 facilities for a finer control of the interactions with storage and network,
1680 and dealing efficiently with the specificities of HPC resources.

1681 By 2022: production-quality framework libraries usable by several experiment
1682 frameworks, covering the main areas successfully demonstrated in the previous phase.
1683 During these activities we expect at least one major paradigm shift to take place on
1684 this 5-year time scale. It will be important to continue discussing their impact within
1685 the community, which will be ensured through appropriate cross-experiment workshops
1686 dedicated to data processing frameworks.

1687 *3.9. Conditions Data*

1688 *Scope and Challenges* Conditions data is defined as the non-event data required
1689 by data-processing software to correctly simulate, digitise or reconstruct the raw
1690 detector event data. The non-event data discussed here consists mainly of detector
1691 calibration and alignment information, with some additional data describing the detector
1692 configuration, the machine parameters, as well as information from the detector control
1693 system.

1694 Conditions data is different from event data in many respects, but one of the
1695 important differences is that its volume scales with time rather than with the luminosity.
1696 As a consequence, its growth is limited, as compared to event data: conditions data
1697 volume is expected to be at the terabyte scale and the update rate is modest (typically
1698 $O(1)\text{Hz}$). However, conditions data are used by event processing applications running
1699 on a very large distributed computing infrastructure, resulting in tens of thousands of
1700 jobs that may try to access the conditions data at the same time, and leading to a very
1701 significant rate of reading (typically $O(10)\text{kHz}$).

1702 To successfully serve such rates, some form of caching is needed, either by using
1703 services such as web proxies (CMS and ATLAS use Frontier) or by delivering the
1704 conditions data as files distributed to the jobs. For the latter approach, CVMFS is
1705 an attractive solution due to its embedded caching, and its advanced snapshotting and
1706 branching features. ALICE have made some promising tests, and started to use this
1707 approach in Run 2; Belle II already took the same approach [**WoodACAT2017**], and
1708 NA62 has also decided to adopt this solution. However, one particular challenge to be
1709 overcome with the filesystem approach is to design an efficient mapping of conditions
1710 data and metadata to files in order to use the CVMFS caching layers efficiently.

1711 Efficient caching is especially important in order to support the high-reading rates
1712 that will be necessary for ATLAS and CMS experiments starting with Run 3. For these
1713 experiments, a subset of the conditions data is linked to the luminosity, leading to an
1714 interval granularity down to the order of a minute. Insufficient or inefficient caching
1715 may impact the efficiency of the reconstruction processing.

1716 Another important challenge is ensuring the long-term maintainability of the
1717 conditions data storage infrastructure. Shortcomings in the initial approach used in
1718 LHC Run 1 and Run 2, leading to complex implementations, helped to identify the
1719 key requirements for an efficient and sustainable condition data handling infrastructure.
1720 There is now a consensus among experiments on these requirements [Laycock2017]:
1721 ATLAS and CMS are working on a common next-generation conditions database and
1722 Belle II, about to start its data-taking, has developed a solution based on the same
1723 concepts and architecture. One key point in this new design is to have a server mostly
1724 agnostic to the data content with most of the intelligence on the client side. This
1725 new approach should make it easier to rely on well-established open-source products
1726 (*e.g.*, Boost) or software components developed for the processing of event data (*e.g.*,
1727 CVMFS). With such an approach, it should be possible to leverage technologies such as
1728 REST interfaces to simplify insertion and read operations, and make them very efficient
1729 to reach the rate levels foreseen. Also, to provide a resilient service to jobs that depend
1730 on it, the client will be able to use multiple proxies or servers to access the data.

1731 One conditions data challenge may be linked to the use of an event service, as
1732 ATLAS is doing currently, to use efficiently HPC facilities for event simulation or
1733 processing. The event service allows better use of resources that may be volatile
1734 by allocating and bookkeeping the work done, not at the job granularity, but at the
1735 event granularity. This reduces the possibility for optimising access to the conditions
1736 data at the job level, and may lead to an increased pressure on the conditions data
1737 infrastructure. This approach is still at an early stage, and more experience is needed
1738 to better appreciate the exact impact on the conditions data.

1739 *Current Practices* The data model for conditions data management is an area where
1740 the experiments have converged on something like a best common practice. The time
1741 information for the validity of the Payloads is specified with a parameter called an
1742 *Interval Of Validity (IOV)*, which can be represented by a Run number, the ID of a
1743 luminosity section or a universal timestamp. A fully qualified set of conditions data
1744 consists of a set of payloads and their associate IOVs covering the time span required by
1745 the workload. A label called a *Tag* identifies the version of the set and the global tag is
1746 the top-level configuration of all conditions data. For a given detector subsystem and a
1747 given IOV, a global tag will resolve to one, and only one, conditions data payload. The
1748 global tag resolves to a particular system tag via the global tag map table. A system
1749 tag consists of many intervals of validity or entries in the IOV table. Finally, each entry
1750 in the IOV table maps to a payload via its unique hash key.

1751 A relational database is a good choice for implementing this design. One advantage
1752 of this approach is that a payload has a unique identifier, its hash key, and this identifier
1753 is the only way to access it. All other information, such as tags and IOV, is metadata
1754 used to select a particular payload. This allows a clear separation of the payload data
1755 from the metadata, and may allow use of a different backend technology to store the
1756 data and the metadata. This has potentially several advantages:

- 1757 • Payload objects can be cached independently of their metadata, using
1758 the appropriate technology, without the constraints linked to metadata
1759 queries.
- 1760 • Conditions data metadata are typically small compared to the conditions
1761 data themselves, which makes it easy to export them as a single file
1762 using technologies such as SQLite. This may help for long-term data
1763 preservation.
- 1764 • IOVs, being independent of the payload, can also be cached on their own.

1765 A recent trend is the move to full reconstruction online, where the calibrations and
1766 alignment are computed and applied in the High Level Trigger (HLT). This is currently
1767 being tested by ALICE and LHCb, who will adopt it for use in Run 3. This will offer
1768 an opportunity to separate the distribution of conditions data to reconstruction jobs
1769 and analysis jobs, as they will not run on the same infrastructure. However, running
1770 reconstruction in the context of the HLT will put an increased pressure on the access
1771 efficiency to the conditions data, due to the HLT time budget constraints.

1772 *Research and Development Programme* R&D actions related to Conditions databases
1773 are already in progress, and all the activities described below should be completed
1774 by 2020. This will provide valuable input for the future HL-LHC TDRs, and allow
1775 these services to be deployed during Run 3 to overcome the limitations seen in today's
1776 solutions.

- 1777 • File-system view of conditions data for analysis jobs: study how to leverage
1778 advanced snapshotting/branching features of CVMFS for efficiently
1779 distributing conditions data as well as ways to optimise data/metadata
1780 layout in order to benefit from CVMFS caching. Prototype production of
1781 the file-system view from the conditions database.
- 1782 • Identify and evaluate industry technologies that could replace HEP-
1783 specific components.
- 1784 • ATLAS: migrate current implementations based on COOL to the proposed
1785 REST-based approach; study how to avoid moving too much complexity
1786 on the client side, in particular for easier adoption by subsystems, *e.g.*,
1787 possibility of common modules/libraries. ALICE is also planning to
1788 explore this approach for the future, as an alternative or to complement
1789 the current CVMFS-based implementation.

1790 3.10. Visualisation

1791 *Scope and Challenges* In modern High Energy Physics (HEP) experiments, visualisa-
1792 tion of data has a key role in many activities and tasks across the whole data processing
1793 chain: detector development, monitoring, event generation, reconstruction, detector
1794 simulation, data analysis, as well as outreach and education.

1795 *Event displays* are the main tool to explore experimental data at the event level and
 1796 to visualise the detector itself. There are two main types of applications: firstly, those
 1797 integrated in the experiments' frameworks, which are able to access and visualise all
 1798 the experiments' data, but at a cost in terms of complexity and portability; secondly,
 1799 those designed as cross-platform applications, lightweight and fast, delivering only a
 1800 simplified version or a subset of the event data. In the first case, access to data is tied
 1801 intimately to an experiment's data model (for both event and geometry data) and this
 1802 inhibits portability; in the second, processing the experiment data into a generic format
 1803 usually loses some detail and is an extra processing step. In addition, there are various
 1804 graphical backends that can be used to visualise the final product, either standalone
 1805 or within a browser, and these can have a substantial impact on the types of devices
 1806 supported.

1807 Beyond event displays, HEP also uses *visualisation of statistical information*,
 1808 typically histograms, which allow the analyst to quickly characterise the data. Unlike
 1809 event displays, these visualisations are not strongly linked to the detector geometry,
 1810 and often aggregate data from multiple events. Other types of visualisations are
 1811 used to *display non-spatial data*, such as graphs for describing the logical structure
 1812 of the detector or for illustrating dependencies between the data products of different
 1813 reconstruction algorithms.

1814 The main challenges in this domain are in the sustainability of the many
 1815 experiment-specific visualisation tools when common projects could reduce duplication
 1816 and increase quality and long-term maintenance. The ingestion of events and other
 1817 data could be eased by common formats, which would need to be defined and satisfy all
 1818 users. Changes to support a client-server architecture would help broaden the ability
 1819 to support new devices, such as mobile phones. Making a good choice for the libraries
 1820 used to render 3D shapes is also key, impacting on the range of output devices that can
 1821 be supported and the level of interaction with the user. Reacting to a fast-changing
 1822 technology landscape is very important - HEP's effort is limited and generic solutions
 1823 can often be used with modest effort. This applies strongly to non-event visualisation,
 1824 where many open source and industry standard tools can be exploited.

1825 *Current Practices* Three key features characterise almost all HEP event displays:

- 1826 • **Event-based workflow:** applications access experimental data on an
 1827 event-by-event basis, visualising the data collections belonging to a
 1828 particular event. Data can be related to the actual physics events (*e.g.*,
 1829 physics objects such as jets or tracks) or to the experimental conditions
 1830 (*e.g.*, detector descriptions, calibrations).
- 1831 • **Geometry visualisation:** The application can display the geometry of
 1832 the detector, as retrieved from the experiments' software frameworks, or
 1833 a simplified description, usually for the sake of speed or portability.
- 1834 • **Interactivity:** applications offer different interfaces and tools to users,

1835 in order to interact with the visualisation itself, select event data, and set
1836 cuts on objects' properties.

1837 Experiments have often developed multiple event displays that either take the
1838 full integration approach explained above or are standalone and rely on extracted and
1839 simplified data.

1840 The visualisation of data can be achieved through the low level OpenGL API, by
1841 the use of higher-level OpenGL-based libraries, or within a web browser using WebGL.

1842 Using OpenGL directly is robust and avoids other dependencies, but implies a
1843 significant effort. Instead of using the API directly, a library layer on top of OpenGL
1844 (*e.g.*, Coin3D) can more closely match the underlying data, such as geometry, and offers
1845 a higher level API that simplifies development. However, this carries the risk that if
1846 the library itself becomes deprecated, as has happened with Coin3D, the experiment
1847 needs to migrate to a different solution or to take on the maintenance burden itself.
1848 Standalone applications often use WebGL technology to render 3D objects inside a
1849 web browser. This is a very convenient way of rendering 3D graphics, due to the cross-
1850 platform nature of web technologies, and offers many portability advantages (*e.g.*, easier
1851 support for mobile or virtual reality devices), but at some cost of not supporting the
1852 most complex visualisations requiring heavy interaction with the experiments' data.

1853 In recent years, video game engines, such as Unity or the Unreal Engine, have
1854 become particularly popular in the game and architectural visualisation industry. They
1855 provide very sophisticated graphics engines and offer a lot of tools for user interaction,
1856 such as menu systems or native handling of VR devices. They are well- supported by
1857 industry and tend to have a long lifespan; for example, the 20-year-old Unreal Engine
1858 is still very popular. However, such engines are meant to be used as development
1859 frameworks and their usage in HEP code is not always evident. Code should be
1860 developed within them, while in HEP framework-based applications we often want
1861 to use graphics libraries that can be integrated in existing code. A number of HEP
1862 collaborations have started experimenting in building event display tools with such
1863 engines, among them Belle II and ATLAS, but their use is currently limited to the
1864 display of simplified data only.

1865 The new client-server architecture proposed as one of the visualisation R&D
1866 activities will ease the usage of WebGL technologies and game engines in HEP.

1867 For statistical data, ROOT has been the tool of choice in HEP for many years
1868 and satisfies most use cases. However, increasing use of generic tools and data formats
1869 means Matplotlib (Python) or JavaScript based solutions (used for example in Jupyter
1870 notebooks) have made the landscape more diverse. For visualising trees or graphs
1871 interactively, there are many generic offerings (*e.g.*, Neo4j), and experiments have
1872 started to take advantage of them.

1873 *Research and Development Roadmap* The main goal of R&D projects in this area will
1874 be to develop techniques and tools that let visualisation applications and event displays

1875 be less dependent on specific experiments' software frameworks, leveraging common
1876 packages and common data formats. Exporters and interface packages will be designed
1877 as bridges between the experiments' frameworks, needed to access data at a high level
1878 of detail, and the common packages based on the community standards that this group
1879 will develop.

1880 As part of this development work, demonstrators will be designed to show the
1881 usability of our community solutions and tools. The goal will be to get a final design of
1882 those tools so that the experiments can depend on them in their future developments.

1883 The WG will also work towards a more convenient access to geometry and event
1884 data, through a client-server interface. In collaboration with the Data Access and
1885 Management WG, an API or a service to deliver streamed event data would be designed.

1886 The work above should be completed by 2020.

1887 Beyond that point, the focus will be on developing the actual community-driven
1888 tools, to be used by the experiments for their visualisation needs in production,
1889 potentially taking advantage of new data access services.

1890 The workshop that was held as part of the CWP process was felt to be extremely
1891 useful for exchanging knowledge between developers in different experiments, fostering
1892 collaboration and in bringing in ideas from outside the community. This will now be
1893 held as an annual event and will facilitate work on the common R&D plan.

1894 *3.11. Software Development, Deployment, Validation and Verification*

1895 *Scope and Challenges* Modern HEP experiments are often large distributed collabora-
1896 tions comprising up to a few hundred people actively writing software. It is therefore
1897 vital that the processes and tools used for development are streamlined to ease the
1898 process of contributing code and to facilitate collaboration between geographically sep-
1899 arated peers. At the same time, we must properly manage the whole project, ensuring
1900 code quality, reproducibility, and maintainability with the least effort possible. Making
1901 sure this happens is largely a continuous process and shares a lot with non-HEP specific
1902 software industries.

1903 Work is ongoing to track and promote solutions in the following areas:

- 1904 ● Distributed development of software components, including the tools and
1905 processes required to do so (code organisation, documentation, issue
1906 tracking, artefact building), and the best practices in terms of code and
1907 people management.
- 1908 ● Software quality, including aspects such as modularity and reusability of
1909 the developed components, architectural and performance best practices.
- 1910 ● Software sustainability, including both development and maintenance
1911 efforts, as well as best practices given long timescales of HEP experiments.
- 1912 ● Deployment of software and interaction with operations teams.

- 1913 • Validation of the software both at small scales (*e.g.*, best practices on
1914 how to write a unit test) and larger ones (large scale validation of data
1915 produced by an experiment).
- 1916 • Software licensing and distribution, including their impact on software
1917 interoperability.
- 1918 • Recognition of the significant contribution that software makes to HEP as
1919 a field (also see Section 4).

1920 HEP-specific challenges derive from the fact that HEP is a large, inhomogeneous
1921 community with multiple sources of funding, mostly formed of people belonging to
1922 university groups and HEP-focused laboratories. Software development effort within an
1923 experiment usually encompasses a huge range of experience and skills, from a few more or
1924 less full-time experts to many physicist programmers with little formal software training.
1925 In addition, the community is split between different experiments that often diverge in
1926 timescales, size, and resources. Experiment software is usually divided in two separate
1927 use cases: production (being it data acquisition, data reconstruction or simulation) and
1928 user analysis, whose requirements and lifecycles are completely different. The former is
1929 very carefully managed in a centralised and slow-moving manner, following the schedule
1930 of the experiment itself. The latter is much more dynamic and strongly coupled with
1931 conferences or article publication timelines. Finding solutions that adapt well to both
1932 cases is not always obvious or even possible.

1933 *Current Practices* Due to significant variations between experiments at various stages
1934 of their lifecycles, there is a huge variation in practice across the community. Thus, here
1935 we describe *best practice*, with the understanding that this ideal may be far from the
1936 reality for some developers.

1937 It is important that developers can focus on the design and implementation of the
1938 code and do not have to spend a lot of time on technical issues. Clear procedures and
1939 policies must exist to perform administrative tasks in an easy and quick way. This
1940 starts with the setup of the development environment. Supporting different platforms
1941 not only allows developers to use their machines directly for the development, it also
1942 provides a check of code portability. Clear guidance and support for good design must
1943 be available in advance of actual coding.

1944 To maximise productivity, it is very beneficial to use development tools that are
1945 not HEP-specific. There are many open source projects that are of similar scale to
1946 large experiment software stacks and standard tools are usually well documented. For
1947 source control HEP has generally chosen to move to *git*, which is very welcome, as it
1948 also brings an alignment with many open source projects and commercial organisations.
1949 Likewise, *CMake* is widely used for the builds of software packages, both within HEP
1950 and outside. Packaging many build products together into a software stack is an area
1951 that still requires close attention with respect to active developments (the HSF has an
1952 active working group here).

1953 Proper testing of changes to code should always be done in advance of a change
1954 request to be accepted. Continuous integration, where merge or pull requests are built
1955 and tested in advance, is now standard practice in the open source community and
1956 in industry. Continuous integration can run unit and integration tests, and can also
1957 incorporate code quality checks and policy checks that help improve the consistency
1958 and quality of the code at low human cost. Further validation on different platforms
1959 and at large scales must be as automated as possible, including the deployment of build
1960 artefacts for production.

1961 Training (see also Section 4) and documentation are key to efficient use of developer
1962 effort. Documentation must cover best practices and conventions as well as technical
1963 issues. For documentation that has to be specific, the best solutions have a low
1964 barrier of entry for new contributors but also allow and encourage review of material.
1965 Consequently, it is very useful to host documentation sources in a repository with a
1966 similar workflow to code, and to use an engine that translates the sources into modern
1967 web pages.

1968 Recognition of software work as a key part of science has resulted in a number of
1969 journals where developers can publish their work [SSI2017]. Journal publication also
1970 disseminates information to the wider community in a permanent way and is the most
1971 established mechanism for academic recognition. Publication in such journals provides
1972 proper peer review, beyond that provided in conference papers, so it is valuable for
1973 recognition as well as dissemination. However, this practice is not widespread enough
1974 in the community and needs further encouragement.

1975 *Research and Development Programme* HEP must endeavour to be as responsive as
1976 possible to developments outside of our field. In terms of hardware and software tools,
1977 there remains great uncertainty as to what the platforms offering the best value for
1978 money will be on the timescale of a decade. It therefore behoves us to be as generic
1979 as possible in our technology choices, retaining the necessary agility to adapt to this
1980 uncertain future.

1981 Our vision is characterised by HEP being current with technologies and paradigms
1982 that are dominant in the wider software development community, especially for open-
1983 source software, which we believe to be the right model for our community. In order to
1984 achieve that aim, we propose that the community establishes a development forum that
1985 allows for technology tracking and discussion of new opportunities. The HSF can play a
1986 key role in marshalling this group and in ensuring its findings are widely disseminated.
1987 In addition, having wider and more accessible training for developers in the field, that
1988 will teach the core skills needed for effective software development, would be of great
1989 benefit.

1990 Given our agile focus, it is better to propose here projects and objectives to
1991 be investigated in the short to medium term, alongside establishing the means to
1992 continually review and refocus the community on the most promising areas. The main
1993 idea is to investigate new tools as demonstrator projects where clear metrics for success

1994 in a reasonable time should be established to avoid wasting community effort on initially
 1995 promising products that fail to live up to expectations.

1996 Ongoing activities and short-term projects, include the following:

- 1997 ● Establish a common forum for the discussion of HEP software problems.
 1998 This should be modeled along the lines of the Concurrency Forum [36],
 1999 which was very successful in establishing demonstrators and prototypes
 2000 that were used as experiments started to develop parallel data processing
 2001 frameworks.
- 2002 ● Continue the HSF working group on *Packaging*, with more prototype
 2003 implementations based on the strongest candidates identified so far.
- 2004 ● Provide practical advice on how to best set up new software packages,
 2005 developing on the current project template work, and working to advertise
 2006 this within the community.
- 2007 ● Work with HEP experiments and other training projects to provide
 2008 accessible core skills training to the community (see Section 4).
 2009 This training should be experiment-neutral, but could be usefully
 2010 combined with the current experiment specific training. Specifically,
 2011 this work can build on, and collaborate with, recent highly successful
 2012 initiatives such as the LHCb *Starterkit* [**LHCbStarterkit**] and
 2013 ALICE *Juniors* [**ALICEJuniors**], and with established generic training
 2014 initiatives such as *Software Carpentry* [**SoftwareCarpentry**].
- 2015 ● Strengthen links with software communities and conferences outside
 2016 of the HEP domain, presenting papers on the HEP experience and
 2017 problem domain. The Scientific Computing with Python (*SciPy*), the
 2018 *Supercomputing Conferences (SCxx)*, the *Conference of Research Software*
 2019 *Engineers (RSE)*, and the *Workshops on Sustainable Software for Science:*
 2020 *Practice and Experiences (WSSSPE)* would all be useful meetings to
 2021 consider.
- 2022 ● Write a paper that looks at case studies of successful and unsuccessful HEP
 2023 software developments and that draws specific conclusions and advice for
 2024 future projects.
- 2025 ● Strengthen the publication record for important HEP software packages.
 2026 Both peer-reviewed journals [**SSI2017**] and citable software version
 2027 records (such as DOIs obtained via Zenodo [37]).

2028 Medium term projects include the following:

- 2029 ● Prototype C++ refactoring tools, with specific use cases in migrating HEP
 2030 code.
- 2031 ● Prototyping of portable solutions for exploiting modern vector hardware
 2032 on heterogenous platforms.

- 2033 • Support the adoption of industry standards and solutions over HEP-
2034 specific implementations whenever possible.
- 2035 • Develop tooling and instrumentation to measure software performance
2036 where tools with sufficient capabilities are not available from industry,
2037 especially in the domain of concurrency. This should primarily aim to
2038 further developments of existing tools, such as *igprof*, rather than to
2039 develop new ones.
- 2040 • Develop a common infrastructure to gather and analyse data about
2041 experiments' software, including profiling information and code metrics,
2042 and to ease sharing across different user communities.
- 2043 • Undertake a feasibility study of a common toolkit for statistical analysis
2044 that would be of use in regression testing for experiment's simulation and
2045 reconstruction software.

2046 *3.12. Data and Software Preservation*

2047 *Scope and Challenges* Given the very large investment in particle physics experiments,
2048 it is incumbent upon physicists to preserve the data and the knowledge that leads to
2049 scientific results in a manner such that this investment is not lost to future generations of
2050 scientists. For preserving “data”, at whatever stage of production, many of the aspects
2051 of the low level bit-wise preservation have been covered by the Data Preservation for
2052 HEP group [38]. “Knowledge” preservation encompasses the more challenging aspects
2053 of retaining processing and analysis software, documentation, and other components
2054 necessary for reusing a given dataset. Preservation of this type can enable new analyses
2055 on older data, as well as a way to revisit the details of a result after publication.
2056 The latter can be especially important in resolving conflicts between published results,
2057 applying new theoretical assumptions, evaluating different theoretical models, or tuning
2058 new modeling techniques.

2059 Preservation enabling reuse can offer tangible benefits within a given experiment.
2060 The preservation of software and workflows such that they can be shared enhances
2061 collaborative work between analysts and analysis groups, provides a way of capturing
2062 the knowledge behind a given analysis during the review process, enables easy transfer
2063 of knowledge to new students or analysis teams, and could establish a manner by which
2064 results can be generated automatically for submission to central repositories, such as
2065 HEPData. Preservation within an experiment can provide ways of reprocessing and
2066 reanalysing data that could have been collected more than a decade earlier. Benefits
2067 from preservation are derived internally whether or not analysis work is approved
2068 through the publication approval process for an experiment. Providing such immediate
2069 benefits makes the adoption of data preservation in experiment workflows particularly
2070 desirable.

2071 A final series of motivations comes from the potential re-use by others outside of
2072 the HEP experimental community. Significant outreach efforts to bring the excitement

2073 of analysis and discovery to younger students have been enabled by the preservation
2074 of experimental data and software in an accessible format. Many examples also exist
2075 of phenomenology papers reinterpreting the results of a particular analysis in a new
2076 context. This has been extended further with published results based on the reanalysis
2077 of processed data by scientists outside of the collaborations. Engagement of external
2078 communities, such as machine learning specialists, can be enhanced by providing the
2079 capability to process and understand low-level HEP data in portable and relatively
2080 platform-independent packages, as happened with the Kaggle ML challenges. This
2081 allows external users direct access to the same tools and data as the experimentalists
2082 working in the collaborations. Connections with industrial partners, such as those
2083 fostered by CERN OpenLab, can be facilitated in a similar manner.

2084 Preserving the knowledge of analysis, given the extremely wide scope of how
2085 analysts do their work and experiments manage their workflows, is far from easy. The
2086 level of reuse that is applicable needs to be identified, and so a variety of preservation
2087 systems will probably be appropriate given the different preservation needs between
2088 large central experiment workflows and the work of an individual analyst. The larger
2089 question is to what extent common low-level tools can be provided that address similar
2090 needs across a wide scale of preservation problems. These would range from capture
2091 tools, that preserve the details of an analysis and its requirements, to ensuring that
2092 software and services needed for a workflow would continue to function as required.

2093 The above-mentioned steps can be considered to be consistent with the FAIR data
2094 principles that are increasingly being mandated by funding agencies [39].

2095 *Current Practices* Each of the LHC experiments has adopted a data access and/or data
2096 preservation policy, all of which can be found on the CERN Open Data Portal [ODP].
2097 All of the LHC experiments support public access to some subset of the data in a
2098 highly reduced data format for the purposes of outreach and education. CMS has
2099 gone one step further, releasing substantial datasets in an Analysis Object Data (AOD)
2100 format that can be used for new analyses. The current data release includes simulated
2101 data, virtual machines that can instantiate the added analysis examples, and extensive
2102 documentation [40]. ALICE has promised to release 10% of their processed data after a
2103 five-year embargo and has released 2010 data at this time [41]. LHCb is willing to make
2104 access to reconstructed data available but is unable to commit to a specific timescale
2105 due to resource limitations. A release of ntuple-level data for one high profile analysis,
2106 aimed primarily at educational activities, is currently in preparation. ATLAS has chosen
2107 a different direction for data release: data associated with journal publications is made
2108 available, and ATLAS also strives to make available additional material that allows reuse
2109 and reinterpretations of the data in the context of new theoretical models [42]. ATLAS is
2110 also exploring how to provide the capability for reinterpretation of searches in the future
2111 via a service such as RECAST, in which the original internal analysis code (including
2112 full detector simulation and reconstruction) is preserved, as opposed to the re-coding
2113 approach with object-efficiency calibrations used by external reinterpretation toolkits.

2114 All experiments frequently provide detailed supplemental data along with publications
 2115 to allow for more detailed comparisons between results, or even reinterpretation.

2116 The LHC experiments have not yet set a formal policy addressing the new
 2117 capabilities of the CERN Analysis Preservation Portal (CAP) [43] and whether or
 2118 not some use of it will be required or merely encouraged. All of them support
 2119 some mechanisms for internal preservation of the knowledge surrounding a physics
 2120 publication [Shiers2017].

2121 *Research and Development Programme* There is a significant programme of work
 2122 already happening in the data preservation area. The feasibility and cost of common
 2123 base services have been studied for the bit preservation, the preservation of executable
 2124 software environments, and the structured capturing of analysis metadata [44].

2125 The goals presented here should be orchestrated in conjunction with projects
 2126 conducted by the R&D programmes of other working groups, since the questions
 2127 addressed are common. Goals to address on the timescale of 2020 are:

- 2128 • Include embedded elements for the capture of preservation information
 2129 and metadata and tools for the archiving of this information in developing
 2130 a prototype analysis ecosystem(s). This should include an early
 2131 demonstration of the CAP analysis preservation portal with a working
 2132 UI.
- 2133 • Demonstrate the capability to provision and execute production workflows
 2134 for experiments that are composed of multiple independent containers.
- 2135 • Collection of analysis use cases and elements that are necessary to preserve
 2136 in order to enable re-use and to ensure these analyses can be captured in
 2137 developing systems. This should track analysis evolution towards possible
 2138 “big data” environments and determine any elements that are difficult to
 2139 capture, spawning further R&D.
- 2140 • Evaluate, in the preservation area, the full potential and limitations of
 2141 sandbox and “freezing” technologies, possibly coupled with version and
 2142 history control software distribution systems.
- 2143 • Develop prototypes for the preservation and validation of large-scale
 2144 production executables and workflows.
- 2145 • Integrate preservation capabilities into newly developed computing tools
 2146 and workflows.
- 2147 • Extension and standardisation of the “final data & analysis” preservation
 2148 scheme via HEPData, Rivet and/or other reinterpretation tools, in time
 2149 to preserve a re-usable and sufficiently detailed record of all LHC Run
 2150 2 research outputs. Of particular importance are the standard and
 2151 semantic preservation of correlation data necessary for statistically correct
 2152 model fitting, the standardisation of analysis preservation in non-unfolded

2153 analyses, and mechanisms for heavy ion analysis preservation (where ratios
2154 between different beam combinations are standard).

2155 This would then lead naturally to deployed solutions that support data preservation
2156 in the 2020-2022 time frame for the HEP experimental programmes, in particular an
2157 analysis ecosystem that enables reuse for any analysis that can be conducted in the
2158 ecosystem, and a system for the preservation and validation of large-scale production
2159 workflows.

2160 *3.13. 3.13 Security*

2161 *Scope and Challenges* Security is a cross-cutting area that impacts our projects,
2162 collaborative work, users, and software infrastructure fundamentally. It crucially
2163 shapes our reputation, our collaboration, the trust between participants, and the users'
2164 perception of the quality and ease of use of our services.

2165 There are three key areas:

- 2166 • Trust & policies; this includes trust models, policies, compliance, data
2167 protection issues.
- 2168 • Operational security; this includes threat intelligence, security operations,
2169 incident response.
- 2170 • Authentication & Authorisation; this includes identity management,
2171 identity federation, access control.

2172 *Trust and Policies*

2173 Data Protection defines the boundaries that enable HEP work to be conducted,
2174 in particular regarding data sharing aspects, for example between the EU and the US.
2175 It is essential to establish a trusted personal data exchange framework, minimising the
2176 amount of personal data to be processed and ensuring legal compliance.

2177 Beyond legal compliance and best practice, offering open access to scientific
2178 resources and achieving shared goals requires prioritising the protection of people and
2179 science, including the mitigation of the effects of surveillance programs on scientific
2180 collaborations.

2181 On the technical side, it is necessary to adapt the current, aging trust model and
2182 security architecture relying solely on X.509 (which is not the direction the industry
2183 is taking), in order to include modern data exchange design, for example involving
2184 commercial providers or hybrid clouds. The future of our infrastructure involves
2185 increasingly diverse resource providers connected through cloud gateways. For example,
2186 HEPCloud [45] at the FNAL laboratory aims to connect Amazon, Google Clouds, and
2187 HPC centres with our traditional grid computing resources. The HNSciCloud European
2188 Project [**HNSciCloud**] aims to support the enhancement of commercial cloud providers
2189 in order to be leveraged by the scientific community. These are just two out of a number
2190 of endeavours. As part of this modernisation, a transition is needed from a model in

2191 which all participating organisations are bound by custom HEP security policies to a
2192 more flexible approach where some partners are not in a position to adopt such policies.

2193 *Operational Security and Threat Intelligence*

2194 As attacks have become extremely sophisticated and costly to defend against, the
2195 only cost-effective strategy is to address security threats together, as a community.
2196 This involves constantly striving to liaise with external organisations, including security
2197 vendors and law enforcement entities, to enable the sharing of indicators of compromise
2198 and threat intelligence between all actors. For organisations from all sectors, including
2199 private companies, governments, and academia, threat intelligence has become the main
2200 means by which to detect and manage security breaches.

2201 In addition, a global forum for HEP and the larger Research & Education (R&E)
2202 community needs to be built, where security experts feel confident enough to share threat
2203 intelligence and security expertise. A key to success is to ensure a closer collaboration
2204 between HEP security contacts and campus security. The current gap at many HEP
2205 organisations is both undermining the community's security posture and reducing the
2206 effectiveness of the HEP security strategy.

2207 There are several very active trust groups in the HEP community where HEP
2208 participants share threat intelligence and organise coordinated incident response,
2209 including but not limited to:

- 2210 ● Chinese Security Federation.
- 2211 ● The European Grid Infrastructure Computer Security Incident Response
2212 Team (EGI-CSIRT) [46].
- 2213 ● Research & Education Networking Information Sharing & Analysis
2214 Center: REN-ISAC [**REN-ISAC**].
- 2215 ● The National Science Foundation's eXtreme Digital (XD) program:
2216 XSEDE Security Team [**XSEDE**].

2217 There is unfortunately still no global Research and Education forum for incident
2218 response, operational security, and threat intelligence sharing. With its mature security
2219 operations and dense, global network of HEP organisations, both of which are quite
2220 unique in the research sector, the HEP community is ideally positioned to contribute to
2221 such a forum and to benefit from the resulting threat intelligence, as it has exposure,
2222 sufficient expertise, and connections to lead such an initiative. It may play a key role
2223 in protecting multiple scientific domains at a very limited cost.

2224 There will be many technology evolutions as we start to take a serious look at the
2225 next generation internet. For example, IPv6 is one upcoming change that has yet to be
2226 fully understood from the security perspective. Another high impact area is the internet
2227 of things (IoT), connected devices on our networks that create new vectors of attack.

2228 It will become necessary to evaluate and maintain operational security in connected
2229 environments spanning public, private, and hybrid clouds. The trust relationship
2230 between our community and such providers has yet to be determined, including the

2231 allocation of responsibility for coordinating and performing vulnerability management
2232 and incident response. Incompatibilities between the e-Infrastructure approach to
2233 community-based incident response and the “pay-for-what-you-break” model of certain
2234 commercial companies may come to light and must be resolved.

2235 *Authentication & Authorisation Infrastructure*

2236 It is now largely acknowledged that end-user certificates are challenging to manage
2237 and create a certain entrance barrier to our infrastructure for early career researchers.
2238 Integrating our access control management system with new, user-friendly technologies
2239 and removing our dependency on X.509 certificates is a key area of interest for the HEP
2240 Community.

2241 An initial step is to identify other technologies that can satisfy traceability, isolation,
2242 privilege management and other requirements necessary for HEP workflows. The chosen
2243 solution should prioritise limiting the amount of change required to our services and
2244 follow accepted standards to ease integration with external entities, such as commercial
2245 clouds and HPC centres.

2246 Trust federations and inter-federations, such as the R&E standard eduGAIN [47],
2247 provide a needed functionality for Authentication. They can remove the burden of
2248 identity provisioning from our community and allow users to leverage their home
2249 organisation credentials to access distributed computing resources. Although certain
2250 web-based services have enabled authentication via such federations, uptake is not yet
2251 widespread. The challenge remains to have the necessary attributes published by each
2252 federation to provide robust authentication.

2253 The existing technologies leveraged by identity federations, *e.g.*, the Security
2254 Assertion Markup Language (SAML), have not supported non-web applications
2255 historically. There is momentum within the wider community to develop next-generation
2256 identity federations that natively support a wider range of clients. In the meantime
2257 there are several viable interim solutions that are able to provision users with the token
2258 required to access a service (such as X.509) transparently, translated from their home
2259 organisation identity.

2260 Although federated identity provides a potential solution for our challenges in
2261 Authentication, Authorisation should continue to be tightly controlled by the HEP
2262 community. Enabling Virtual Organisation (VO) membership for federated credentials
2263 and integrating such a workflow with existing identity vetting processes is a major topic
2264 currently being worked on, in particular within the WLCG community. Commercial
2265 clouds and HPC centres have fundamentally different access control models and
2266 technologies from our grid environment. We shall need to enhance our access control
2267 model to ensure compatibility and translate our grid-based identity attributes into those
2268 consumable by such services.

2269 *Current Activities* Multiple groups are working on policies and establishing a common
2270 trust framework, including the EGI Security Policy Group [48] and the Security for
2271 Collaboration among Infrastructures working group [SCI*WG].

Operational security for the HEP community is being followed up in the WLCG working group on Security Operations Centres [**WLCG-SOC-WG**]. The HEP Community is actively involved in multiple operational security groups and trust groups, facilitating the exchange of threat intelligence and incident response communication. WISE [**WISE**] provides a forum for e-Infrastructures to share and develop security best practices and offers the opportunity to build relationships between security representatives at multiple e-infrastructures of interest to the HEP community.

The evolution of Authentication and Authorisation is being evaluated in the recently created WLCG Working Group on Authorisation [**WLCG-AUTH-WG**]. In parallel, HEP is contributing to a wider effort to document requirements for multiple Research Communities through the work of FIM4R [49]. CERN's participation in the European Authentication and Authorisation for Research and Collaboration (AARC) project [50] provides the opportunity to ensure that any directions chosen are consistent with those taken by the great community of research collaborations. The flow of attributes between federated entities continues to be problematic, disrupting the authentication flow. Trust between service providers and identity providers is still evolving, and efforts within the R&E Federations Group (REFEDS) [**REFEDS**] and the AARC project aim to address the visibility of both the level of assurance of identities and the security capability of federation participants (through Sirtfi [**Sirtfi**]).

Research and Development Programme Over the next decade, it is expected that considerable changes will be made to address security in the domains highlighted above. The individual groups, in particular those mentioned above, working in the areas of trust and policies, operational security, authentication and authorisation, and technology evolutions, are driving the R&D activities. The list below summarises the most important actions:

Trust and Policies

By 2020:

- Define and adopt policies in line with new EU Data Protection requirements.
- Develop frameworks to ensure trustworthy interoperability of infrastructures and communities.

By 2022:

- Create and promote community driven incident response policies and procedures.

Operational Security and threat intelligence

By 2020:

- Offer a reference implementation, or at least specific guidance, for a Security Operation Centre deployment at HEP sites, enabling them to take action based on threat intelligence shared within the HEP community.

2311 By 2022:

- 2312 ● Participate in the founding of a global Research and Education Forum
2313 for incident response, as responding as a global community is the only
2314 effective solution against global security threats.
- 2315 ● Build the capabilities to accommodate more participating organisations
2316 and streamline communication workflows, within and outside HEP,
2317 including maintaining list of security contacts, secure communications
2318 channels, and security incident response mechanisms.
- 2319 ● Reinforce the integration of HEP security capabilities with their respective
2320 home organisation, to ensure adequate integration of HEP security teams
2321 and site security teams.

2322 By 2025:

- 2323 ● Prepare adequately as a community, in order to enable HEP organisations
2324 to operate defensible services against more sophisticated threats,
2325 stemming both from global cyber-criminal gangs targeting HEP resources
2326 (finance systems, intellectual property, ransomware), as well as from state
2327 actors targeting the energy and research sectors with advanced malware.

2328 *Authentication and Authorisation*

2329 By 2020:

- 2330 ● Ensure that ongoing efforts in trust frameworks are sufficient to raise the
2331 level of confidence in federated identities to the equivalent of X.509, at
2332 which stage they could be a viable alternative to both grid certificates
2333 and CERN accounts.
- 2334 ● Participate in setting directions for the future of identity federations,
2335 through the FIM4R [49] community.

2336 By 2022:

- 2337 ● Overhaul the current Authentication and Authorisation infrastructure,
2338 including Token Translation, integration with Community IdP-SP Proxies,
2339 and Membership Management tools. Enhancements in this area are
2340 needed to support a wider range of user identities for WLCG services.

2341 **4. Training and Careers**

2342 For HEP computing to be as successful as possible, the careers and skills of the
2343 individuals who participate must be considered. Ensuring that software developers
2344 can acquire the necessary skills and obtain successful careers is considered an essential
2345 goal of the HSF, which has the following specific objectives in its mission:

- 2346 • to provide training opportunities for developers; this should include
- 2347 the support to the software schools for young scientists and computer
- 2348 engineers, and of a permanent training infrastructure for accomplished
- 2349 developers;
- 2350 • to provide career support for developers, for instance by listing job
- 2351 opportunities and by helping to shape well-defined career paths that
- 2352 provide advancement opportunities on par with those in, for example,
- 2353 detector construction;
- 2354 • to increase the visibility of the value of software developers in HEP,
- 2355 recognising that it has scientific research value on an equal footing to
- 2356 other activities and acknowledging and promoting specific “champions”
- 2357 in the field.

2358 *4.1. Training Challenges*

2359 HEP is facing major challenges with its software and computing that require innovative
 2360 solutions based on the proper adoption of new technologies. More and more technologies
 2361 are emerging as scientific communities and industry face similar challenges and produce
 2362 solutions relevant to us. Integrating such technologies in our software and computing
 2363 infrastructure requires skilled people with expertise in the various aspects of software and
 2364 computing, and it is important that a large fraction of the community is able to use these
 2365 new tools and paradigms. Specific solutions and optimisations must be implemented by
 2366 the HEP community itself, since many advanced requirements are unique to our field.

2367 Instead of the situation that is traditional in some other fields, in which users
 2368 express their requirements and computer specialists implement solutions, there is a
 2369 close collaboration in HEP between both groups that is essential for success. Many
 2370 details of experiment data cannot be known before data taking has started, and each
 2371 change in detector technology or machine performance improvement can have important
 2372 consequences for the software and computing infrastructure. In the case of detectors,
 2373 engineers and physicists are required to have a good understanding of each other’s
 2374 field of expertise. In the same way, it is necessary that physicists understand some of
 2375 the complexities of writing software, and that software experts are able to fathom the
 2376 requirements of physics problems.

2377 Training must address an audience with very diverse computing skills, ranging
 2378 from novice programmers to more advanced developers and users. It must be used
 2379 to spread best software engineering practices and software technologies to a very large
 2380 number of people, including the physicists involved across the whole spectrum of data
 2381 processing tasks, from triggering to analysis. It must be done by people who have a
 2382 sound knowledge of the scientific and technical details, who prepare training material
 2383 despite the many calls on their time. Training thus needs proper recognition to ensure
 2384 that it happens and is carried out well.

2385 HEP is seen as an interesting, innovative, and challenging field. It has the potential

2386 to attract skilled young people who are looking for experience in diverse, demanding
2387 contexts, in part because the skills acquired from HEP can also be very relevant for work
2388 in other fields. Promoting the use of state-of-the-art and widely available technologies
2389 generally improves people’s career prospects and makes the field more attractive to
2390 newcomers. For these reasons, the training provided in the community must not be
2391 too specific to HEP use cases, or to one experiment, and should promote practices that
2392 can be used outside HEP. At the same time, experiments have a scientific programme
2393 to accomplish and there is a tendency to focus on the specific training required to
2394 accomplish short-term goals. The right balance must be found between these two
2395 requirements. It is necessary to find the right incentives to favour training activities that
2396 bring more benefits in the medium to long term, for the experiment, the community,
2397 and the careers of the trainees, whose future may lie outside of academic research.

2398 *4.2. Possible Directions for Training*

2399 To increase training activities in the community, whilst taking into account the
2400 constraints of both the attendees and the trainers, it is necessary to explore new
2401 approaches to training. The current “school” model is well established, as exemplified
2402 by three well-known successful schools, the CERN School of Computing, the Bertinoro
2403 school of computing and the GridKa school of computing. They require a significant
2404 amount of dedicated time of all the participants, at the same time and location, and
2405 therefore are difficult to scale to meet the needs of a large number of students. In view of
2406 this, we should identify opportunities to work with HEP experiments and other training
2407 projects to provide accessible core skills training to the community by basing them at
2408 laboratories where students can easily travel. A number of highly successful experiment-
2409 specific examples exist, such as the LHCb StarterKit [**LHCbStarterkit**] and ALICE
2410 Juniors [**ALICEJuniors**], as well as established generic training initiatives, such as
2411 Software Carpentry [**SoftwareCarpentry**]. As with hands-on tutorials organised
2412 during conferences and workshops, the resulting networking is an important and
2413 distinctive benefit of these events, where people build relationships with other colleagues
2414 and experts.

2415 In recent years, several R&D projects, such as DIANA-HEP and MVA4NewPhysics,
2416 have had training as one of their core activities. This has provided an incentive to
2417 organise training events and has resulted in the spread of expertise on advanced topics.
2418 We believe that training should become an integral part of future major R&D projects.

2419 New pedagogical methods, such as active training and peer training, that are
2420 complementary to schools or topical tutorials, also deserve more attention. Online
2421 material can be shared by a student and a teacher to provide the exchange of real
2422 examples and practical exercises. For example, notebook technologies, such as Jupyter,
2423 support embedding of runnable code and comments into the same document. The initial
2424 material can be easily enriched by allowing other students and experts to add comments
2425 and more examples in a collaborative way. The HSF started to experiment with this

2426 approach with WikiToLearn [**WikiToLearn**], a platform developed in Italy outside
2427 HEP that promotes this kind of training and collaborative enrichment of the training
2428 material. Projects such as ROOT have also started to provide some training material
2429 based on notebooks.

2430 A lot of initiatives have been undertaken by the software community that HEP can
2431 benefit from, and materials have been made available in the form of online tutorials,
2432 active training, and Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). Some effort needs to
2433 be invested to evaluate existing courses and build a repository of selected ones that
2434 are appropriate to HEP needs. This is not a negligible task and would require some
2435 dedicated effort to reach the appropriate level of support. It should help to increase
2436 training efficiency by making it easier to identify appropriate courses or initiatives.

2437 A model that emerged in recent years as a very valuable means of sharing expertise
2438 is to use Question and Answer (Q&A) systems, such as Stack Overflow. A few such
2439 systems are run by experiments for their own needs, but this is not necessarily optimal,
2440 as the value of these services is increased by a large number of contributors with diverse
2441 backgrounds. Running a cross-experiment Q&A system has been discussed, but it has
2442 not yet been possible to converge on a viable approach, both technically and because of
2443 the effort required to run and support such a service.

2444 *4.3. Career Support and Recognition*

2445 Computer specialists in HEP are often physicists who have chosen to specialise in
2446 computing. This has always been the case and needs to continue. Nevertheless, for
2447 young people in particular, this leads to a career recognition problem, as software
2448 and computing activities are not well-recognised roles in various institutions supporting
2449 HEP research and recruiting people working in the field. The exact situation is highly
2450 dependent on policies and boundary conditions of the organisation or country, but
2451 recognition of physicists tends to be based generally on participation in data analysis
2452 or hardware developments. This is even a bigger problem if the person is spending time
2453 contributing to training efforts. This negatively impacts the future of these people and
2454 reduces the possibility of HEP engaging them in the training effort of the community
2455 when the community needs to involve more people to participate in this activity.
2456 Recognition of training efforts, either by direct participation in training activities or by
2457 providing materials, is an important issue to address, complementary to the incentives
2458 mentioned above.

2459 There is no easy solution to this problem. Part of the difficulty is that organisations,
2460 and in particular the people inside them in charge of the candidate selections for new
2461 positions and promotions, need to adapt their expectations to these needs and to the
2462 importance of having computing experts with a strong physics background as permanent
2463 members of the community. Experts writing properly engineered and optimised software
2464 can significantly reduce resource consumption and increase physics reach, which provides
2465 huge financial value to modern HEP experiments. The actual path for improvements

2466 in career recognition, as the possible incentives for participating in the training efforts,
2467 depends on the local conditions.

2468 5. Conclusions

2469 Future challenges for High Energy Physics in the domain of software and computing
2470 are not simply an extrapolation of the challenges faced today. The needs the HEP
2471 programme in the high luminosity era far exceed those that can be met by simply
2472 making incremental changes to today's code and scaling up computing facilities within
2473 the anticipated budget. At the same time, the limitation in single core CPU performance
2474 is making the landscape of computing hardware far more diverse and challenging to
2475 exploit, whilst offering huge performance boosts for suitable code. Exploiting parallelism
2476 and other new techniques, such as modern machine learning, offer great promise, but will
2477 require substantial work from the community to adapt to our problems. If there were
2478 any lingering notion that software or computing could be done cheaply by a few junior
2479 people for modern experimental programmes, it should now be thoroughly dispelled.

2480 We believe HEP Software and Computing requires a step change in its profile
2481 and effort to match the challenges ahead. We need investment in people who can
2482 understand the problems we face, the solutions employed today, and have the correct
2483 skills to provide innovative solutions for the future. There needs to be recognition from
2484 the whole community for the work done in this area, with a recognised career path
2485 for these experts. In addition, we will need to invest heavily in training for the whole
2486 software community as the contributions of the bulk of non-expert physicists are also
2487 vital for our success.

2488 We know that in any future scenario development effort will be constrained, so it is
2489 vital that successful R&D projects provide sustainable software for the future. There are
2490 still many instances where different experiments could have adopted common solutions,
2491 reducing overall development effort and increasing robustness and functionality. This
2492 development model is not sustainable. We must endeavor to achieve better coherence
2493 within HEP for future developments to build advanced, open-source projects that can
2494 be shared and supported in common. The HSF has already established itself as a forum
2495 that can facilitate this. Establishing links outside of HEP, to other academic disciplines,
2496 to industry, and to the computer science community, can strengthen both the research
2497 and production phases of new solutions. We should ensure that the best products are
2498 chosen, from inside and outside HEP, and that they receive support from all parties,
2499 aiming at technical excellence and economy of scale.

2500 We have presented programmes of work that the community has identified as being
2501 part of the roadmap for the future. While there is always some scope to reorient current
2502 effort in the field, we would highlight the following work programmes as being of the
2503 highest priority for investment to address the goals that were set in the introduction.

2504 *Improvements in software efficiency, scalability and performance*

2505 The bulk of CPU cycles consumed by experiments relate to the fundamental

2506 challenges of simulation and reconstruction. Thus, the work programmes
2507 in these areas, together with the frameworks that support them, are of
2508 critical importance. The sheer volumes of data involved make research into
2509 appropriate data formats and event content to reduce storage requirements
2510 vital. Optimisation of our distributed computing systems, including data and
2511 workload management, is paramount.

2512 *Enable new approaches that can radically extend physics reach*

2513 New techniques in simulation and reconstruction will be vital here. Physics
2514 analysis is an area where new ideas can be particularly fruitful. Exploring the
2515 full potential of machine learning is one common theme that underpins many
2516 new approaches and the community should endeavour to share knowledge
2517 widely across subdomains. New data analysis paradigms coming from the
2518 Big Data industry, based on innovative parallelised data processing on large
2519 computing farms, could transform data analysis.

2520 *Ensure the long-term sustainability of the software*

2521 Applying modern software development techniques to our codes has increased,
2522 and will continue to increase, developer productivity and code quality. There
2523 is ample scope for more common tools and common training to equip the
2524 community with the correct skills. Data Preservation makes sustainability an
2525 immediate goal of development and analysis and helps to reap the benefits
2526 of our experiments for decades to come. Support for common software used
2527 across the community needs to be recognised and accepted as a common task,
2528 borne by labs, institutes, experiments, and funding agencies.

2529 The R&D actions proposed in this Roadmap have taken into account the charges
2530 that were laid down. When considering a specific project proposal addressing our
2531 computing challenges, its impact, measured against these criteria, should be evaluated.
2532 Over the next decade, there will almost certainly be disruptive changes that cannot be
2533 planned for, and we must remain agile enough to adapt to these.

2534 The HEP community has many natural subdivisions, between different regional
2535 funding agencies, between universities and laboratories, and between different
2536 experiments. It was in an attempt to overcome these obstacles, and to encourage the
2537 community to work together in an efficient and effective way, that the HEP Software
2538 Foundation was established in 2014. This Community White Paper process has been
2539 possible only because of the success of that effort in bringing the community together.
2540 The need for more common developments in the future, as underlined here, reinforces the
2541 importance of the HSF as a common point of contact between all the parties involved,
2542 strengthening our community spirit and continuing to help share expertise and identify
2543 priorities. Even though this evolution will also require projects and experiments to
2544 define clear priorities about these common developments, we believe that the HSF, as
2545 a community effort, must be strongly supported as part of our roadmap to success.

2546 **6. List of Workshops**2547 **HEP Software Foundation Workshop**2548 *Date:* 23-26 Jan, 20172549 *Location:* UCSD/SDSC (La Jolla, CA, USA)2550 *URL:* <http://indico.cern.ch/event/570249/>

2551 *Description:* This HSF workshop at SDSC/UCSD was the first workshop
2552 supporting the CWP process. There were plenary sessions covering topics of general
2553 interest as well as parallel sessions for the many topical working groups in progress for
2554 the CWP.

2555 **Software Triggers and Event Reconstruction WG meeting**2556 *Date:* 9 Mar, 20172557 *Location:* LAL-Orsay (Orsay, France)2558 *URL:* <https://indico.cern.ch/event/614111/>

2559 *Description:* This was a meeting of the Software Triggers and Event Reconstruction
2560 CWP working group. It was held as a parallel session at the “Connecting the Dots”
2561 workshop, which focuses on forward-looking pattern recognition and machine learning
2562 algorithms for use in HEP.

2563 **IML Topical Machine Learning Workshop**2564 *Date:* 20-22 Mar, 20172565 *Location:* CERN (Geneva, Switzerland)2566 *URL:* https://indico.cern.ch/event/595059

2567 *Description:* This was a meeting of the Machine Learning CWP working group. It was
2568 held as a parallel session at the “Inter-experimental Machine Learning (IML)” work-
2569 shop, an organisation formed in 2016 to facilitate communication regarding R&D on
2570 ML applications in the LHC experiments.

2571

2572

2573 **Community White Paper Follow-up at FNAL**2574 *Date:* 23 Mar, 20172575 *Location:* FNAL (Batavia, IL, USA)2576 *URL:* <https://indico.fnal.gov/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=14032>

2577 *Description:* This one-day workshop was organised to engage with the experimental
2578 HEP community involved in computing and software for Intensity Frontier experiments
2579 at FNAL. Plans for the CWP were described, with discussion about commonalities
2580 between the HL-LHC challenges and the challenges of the FNAL neutrino and muon
2581 experiments

2582

2583

2584 **CWP Visualisation Workshop**2585 *Date:* 28-30 Mar, 20172586 *Location:* CERN (Geneva, Switzerland)

2587 *URL:* <https://indico.cern.ch/event/617054/>

2588 *Description:* This workshop was organised by the Visualisation CWP working group.
 2589 It explored the current landscape of HEP visualisation tools as well as visions for how
 2590 these could evolve. There was participation both from HEP developers and industry.

2591 **DS@HEP 2017 (Data Science in High Energy Physics)**

2592 *Date:* 8-12 May, 2017

2593 *Location:* FNAL (Batavia, IL, USA)

2594 *URL:* <https://indico.fnal.gov/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=13497>

2595 *Description:* This was a meeting of the Machine Learning CWP working group. It was
 2596 held as a parallel session at the “Data Science in High Energy Physics (DS@HEP)”
 2597 workshop, a workshop series begun in 2015 to facilitate communication regarding R&D
 2598 on ML applications in HEP.

2599 **HEP Analysis Ecosystem Retreat**

2600 *Date:* 22-24 May, 2017

2601 *Location:* Amsterdam, the Netherlands

2602 *URL:* <http://indico.cern.ch/event/613842/>

2603 *Summary report:* <http://hepsoftwarefoundation.org/assets/AnalysisEcosystemReport20170804.pdf>

2604 *Description:* This was a general workshop, organised about the HSF, about the
 2605 ecosystem of analysis tools used in HEP and the ROOT software framework. The
 2606 workshop focused both on the current status and the 5-10 year time scale covered by
 2607 the CWP.

2608 **CWP Event Processing Frameworks Workshop**

2609 *Date:* 5-6 Jun, 2017

2610 *Location:* FNAL (Batavia, IL, USA)

2611 *URL:* <https://indico.fnal.gov/conferenceDisplay.py?confId=14186>

2612 *Description:* This was a workshop held by the Event Processing Frameworks
 2613 CWP working group focused on writing an initial draft of the framework white paper.
 2614 Representatives from most of the current practice frameworks participated.

2615 **HEP Software Foundation Workshop**

2616 *Date:* 26-30 Jun, 2017

2617 *Location:* LAPP (Annecy, France)

2618 *URL:* <https://indico.cern.ch/event/613093/>

2619 *Description:* This was the final general workshop for the CWP process. The CWP
 2620 working groups came together to present their status and plans, and develop consensus
 2621 on the organisation and context for the community roadmap. Plans were also made for
 2622 the CWP writing phase that followed in the few months following this last workshop.

2623 **7. Glossary**

2624 AOD: Analysis Object Data is a summary of the reconstructed event and contains
 2625 sufficient information for common physics analyses.

2626 ALPGEN: An event generator designed for the generation of Standard Model
2627 processes in hadronic collisions, with emphasis on final states with large jet multiplicities.
2628 It is based on the exact LO evaluation of partonic matrix elements, as well as top quark
2629 and gauge boson decays with helicity correlations.

2630 BSM: Physics beyond the Standard Model (BSM) refers to the theoretical
2631 developments needed to explain the deficiencies of the Standard Model (SM), such as
2632 the [origin of mass](#), the [strong CP problem](#), [neutrino oscillations](#), [matter–antimatter](#)
2633 [asymmetry](#), and the nature of [dark matter](#) and [dark energy](#).

2634 Coin3D: Coin3D is a C++ object oriented retained mode 3D graphics API used to
2635 provide a higher layer of programming for OpenGL.

2636 COOL: LHC Conditions Database Project, a subproject of the POOL persistency
2637 framework.

2638 Concurrency Forum: Software engineering is moving towards a paradigm shift in
2639 order to accommodate new CPU architectures with many cores, in which concurrency
2640 will play a more fundamental role in programming languages and libraries. The forum
2641 on concurrent programming models and frameworks aims to share knowledge among
2642 interested parties that work together to develop 'demonstrators' and agree on technology
2643 so that they can share code and compare results.

2644 CRSG: Computing Resources Scrutiny Group, a WLCG committee in charge of
2645 scrutinizing and assessing LHC experiment yearly resource requests to prepare funding
2646 agency decisions.

2647 CSIRT: Computer Security Incident Response Team. A CSIRT provides a reliable
2648 and trusted single point of contact for reporting computer security incidents and taking
2649 the appropriate measures in response to them.

2650 CVMFS: The CERN Virtual Machine File System is a network file system based
2651 on HTTP and optimised to deliver experiment software in a fast, scalable, and reliable
2652 way through sophisticated caching strategies.

2653 CWP: The Community White Paper (this document) is the result of an organised
2654 effort to describe the community strategy and a roadmap for software and computing
2655 R&D in HEP for the 2020s. This activity is organised under the umbrella of the HSF.

2656 Deep Learning (DL): one class of Machine Learning algorithms, based on a high
2657 number of neural network layers.

2658 DNN: Deep Neural Network, class of neural networks with typically a large number
2659 of hidden layers through which data is processed.

2660 DPHEP: The Data Preservation in HEP project is a collaboration for data
2661 preservation and long term analysis.

2662 EGI: European Grid Initiative. A European organisation in charge of delivering
2663 advanced computing services to support scientists, multinational projects and research
2664 infrastructures, partially funded by the European Union. It is operating both a grid
2665 infrastructure (many WLCG sites in Europe are also EGI sites) and a federated
2666 cloud infrastructure. It is also responsible for security incident response for these
2667 infrastructures (CSIRT).

2668 FAIR: The Facility for Antiproton and Ion Research (FAIR) is located at GSI
2669 Darmstadt. It is an international accelerator facility for research with antiprotons and
2670 ions.

2671 FAIR: An abbreviation for a set of desirable data properties: Findable, Accessible,
2672 Interoperable, and Re-usable.

2673 FCC: Future Circular Collider, a proposed new accelerator complex for CERN,
2674 presently under study.

2675 FCC-hh: A 100 TeV proton-proton collider version of the FCC (the “h” stands for
2676 “hadron”).

2677 GAN: Generative Adversarial Networks are a class of [artificial intelligence](#)
2678 algorithms used in [unsupervised machine learning](#), implemented by a system of two
2679 [neural networks](#) contesting with each other in a [zero-sum game](#) framework.

2680 GEANT4 : This is a toolkit for the simulation of the passage of particles through
2681 matter.

2682 GeantV: This is an R&D project that aims to fully exploit the parallelism, which is
2683 increasingly offered by the new generations of CPUs, in the field of detector simulation.

2684 GPGPU: General-Purpose computing on Graphics Processing Units is the use
2685 of a Graphics Processing Unit (GPU), which typically handles computation only for
2686 computer graphics, to perform computation in applications traditionally handled by
2687 the Central Processing Unit (CPU). Programming for GPGPUs is typically more
2688 challenging, but can offer significant gains in arithmetic throughput.

2689 HEPData: The Durham High Energy Physics Database is an open-access repository
2690 for scattering data from experimental particle physics.

2691 HERWIG: This is an event generator containing a wide range of Standard Model,
2692 Higgs and supersymmetric processes. It uses the parton-shower approach for initial- and
2693 final-state QCD radiation, including colour coherence effects and azimuthal correlations
2694 both within and between jets.

2695 HL-LHC: The High Luminosity Large Hadron Collider is a proposed upgrade to
2696 the Large Hadron Collider to be made in 2026. The upgrade aims at increasing the
2697 luminosity of the machine by a factor of 10, up to 10^{35} cm²s⁻¹, providing a better chance
2698 to see rare processes and improving statistically marginal measurements.

2699 HLT: High Level Trigger. The computing resources, generally a large farm, close to
2700 the detector which process the events in real-time and select those who must be stored
2701 for further analysis.

2702 HPC: High Performance Computing.

2703 HS06: HEP-wide benchmark for measuring CPU performance based on the
2704 SPEC2006 benchmark (<https://www.spec.org>).

2705 HSF: The HEP Software Foundation facilitates coordination and common efforts
2706 in high energy physics (HEP) software and computing internationally.

2707 IML: The Inter-experimental LHC Machine Learning (IML) Working Group is
2708 focused on the development of modern state-of-the art machine learning methods,
2709 techniques and practices for high-energy physics problems.

2710 IOV: Interval Of Validity, the period of time for which a specific piece of conditions
2711 data is valid.

2712 JavaScript: This is a high-level, dynamic, weakly typed, prototype-based, multi-
2713 paradigm, and interpreted programming language. Alongside HTML and CSS,
2714 JavaScript is one of the three core technologies of World Wide Web content production.

2715 Jupyter Notebook: This is a server-client application that allows editing and
2716 running notebook documents via a web browser. Notebooks are documents produced
2717 by the Jupyter Notebook App, which contain both computer code (*e.g.*, python) and
2718 rich text elements (paragraph, equations, figures, links, etc...). Notebook documents
2719 are both human-readable documents containing the analysis description and the results
2720 (figures, tables, etc..) as well as executable documents which can be run to perform
2721 data analysis.

2722 LHC: Large Hadron Collider, the main particle accelerator at CERN.

2723 LHCONe: A set of network circuits, managed worldwide by the National Research
2724 and Education Networks, to provide dedicated transfer paths for LHC T1/T2/T3 sites
2725 on the standard academic and research physical network infrastructure.

2726 LHCOPN: LHC Optical Private Network. It is the private physical and IP network
2727 that connects the Tier0 and the Tier1 sites of the WLCG.

2728 MADEVENT: This is a multi-purpose tree-level event generator. It is powered by
2729 the matrix element event generator MADGRAPH, which generates the amplitudes for
2730 all relevant sub-processes and produces the mappings for the integration over the phase
2731 space.

2732 Matplotlib: This is a Python 2D plotting library that provides publication quality
2733 figures in a variety of hardcopy formats and interactive environments across platforms.

2734 ML: Machine learning is a field of computer science that gives computers the ability
2735 to learn without being explicitly programmed. It focuses on prediction making through
2736 the use of computers and encompasses a lot of algorithm classes (boosted decision trees,
2737 neural networks. . .).

2738 MONARC: A model of large scale distributed computing based on many regional
2739 centers, with a focus on LHC experiments at CERN. As part of the MONARC project, a
2740 simulation framework was developed that provides a design and optimisation tool. The
2741 MONARC model has been the initial reference for building the WLCG infrastructure
2742 and to organise the data transfers around it.

2743 OpenGL: Open Graphics Library is a cross-language, cross-platform application
2744 programming interface(API) for rendering 2D and 3D vector graphics. The API is
2745 typically used to interact with a graphics processing unit(GPU), to achieve hardware-
2746 accelerated rendering.

2747 Openlab: CERN openlab is a public-private partnership that accelerates the
2748 development of cutting-edge solutions for the worldwide LHC community and wider
2749 scientific research.

2750 P5: The Particle Physics Project Prioritization Panel is a scientific advisory panel
2751 tasked with recommending plans for U.S. investment in particle physics research over

2752 the next ten years.

2753 PRNG: A PseudoRandom Number Generator is an algorithm for generating a
2754 sequence of numbers whose properties approximate the properties of sequences of
2755 random numbers.

2756 PyROOT: A [Python](#) extension module that allows the user to interact with any
2757 ROOT class from the Python interpreter.

2758 PYTHIA: A program for the generation of high-energy physics events, i.e. for the
2759 description of collisions at high energies between elementary particles such as e^+ , e^- ,
2760 p and $pbar$ in various combinations. It contains theory and models for a number of
2761 physics aspects, including hard and soft interactions, parton distributions, initial- and
2762 final-state parton showers, multiparton interactions, fragmentation and decay.

2763 QCD: Quantum Chromodynamics, the theory describing the strong interaction
2764 between quarks and gluons.

2765 REST: Representational State Transfer [web services](#) are a way of providing
2766 interoperability between computer systems on the Internet. One of its main features
2767 is stateless interactions between clients and servers (every interaction is totally
2768 independent of the others), allowing for very efficient caching.

2769 ROOT: A modular scientific software framework widely used in HEP data
2770 processing applications.

2771 SAML: Security Assertion Markup Language. It is an open, XML-based, standard
2772 for exchanging authentication and authorisation data between parties, in particular,
2773 between an identity provider and a service provider.

2774 SDN: Software-defined networking is an umbrella term encompassing several kinds
2775 of network technology aimed at making the network as agile and flexible as the
2776 virtualised server and storage infrastructure of the modern data center.

2777 SHERPA: Sherpa is a Monte Carlo event generator for the Simulation of High-
2778 Energy Reactions of PArticles in lepton-lepton, lepton-photon, photon-photon, lepton-
2779 hadron and hadron-hadron collisions.

2780 SIMD: Single instruction, multiple data (**SIMD**), describes computers with
2781 multiple processing elements that perform the same operation on multiple data points
2782 simultaneously.

2783 SM: The Standard Model is the name given in the 1970s to a theory of fundamental
2784 particles and how they interact. It is the currently dominant theory explaining the
2785 elementary particles and their dynamics.

2786 SWAN: Service for Web based ANalysis is a platform for interactive data mining
2787 in the CERN cloud using the Jupyter notebook interface.

2788 TBB: Intel Threading Building Blocks is a widely used C++ template library for
2789 task parallelism. It lets you easily write parallel C++ programs that take full advantage
2790 of multicore performance.

2791 TMVA: The Toolkit for Multivariate Data Analysis with ROOT is a standalone
2792 project that provides a ROOT-integrated machine learning environment for the
2793 processing and parallel evaluation of sophisticated multivariate classification techniques.

- 2794 VecGeom: This is the vectorised geometry library for particle-detector simulation.
- 2795 VO: Virtual Organisation. A group of users sharing a common interest (for example,
- 2796 each LHC experiment is a VO), centrally managed, and used in particular as the basis
- 2797 for authorisations in the WLCG infrastructure.
- 2798 WebGL: The Web Graphics Library is a JavaScript API for rendering interactive
- 2799 2D and 3D graphics within any compatible web browser without the use of plug-ins.
- 2800 WLCG: The Worldwide LHC Computing Grid project is a global collaboration of
- 2801 more than 170 computing centres in 42 countries, linking up national and international
- 2802 grid infrastructures. The mission of the WLCG project is to provide global computing
- 2803 resources to store, distribute and analyse data generated by the Large Hadron Collider
- 2804 (LHC) at CERN.
- 2805 X.509: A cryptographic standard which defines how to implement service security
- 2806 using electronic certificates, based on the use of a private and public key combination.
- 2807 It is widely used on web servers accessed using the https protocol and is the main
- 2808 authentication mechanism on the WLCG infrastructure.
- 2809 x86_64: 64-bit version of the x86 instruction set.
- 2810 XRootD: Software framework that is a fully generic suite for fast, low latency and
- 2811 scalable data access.

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