Analysis of LHC data using globally distributed computing resources

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CERN physicists don't know everything

What are dark matter and dark energy that pervade our Galaxy?

What is gravity, really?

Why is the electrical charge of the proton equal and opposite to that on the electron?

Why are protons stable, or are they, really?

How many space-time dimensions do we live in?

Are elementary particles really elementary, or do they have structure?

Why are there **<u>3</u>** generations of elementary particles? Why not 4 or 5?

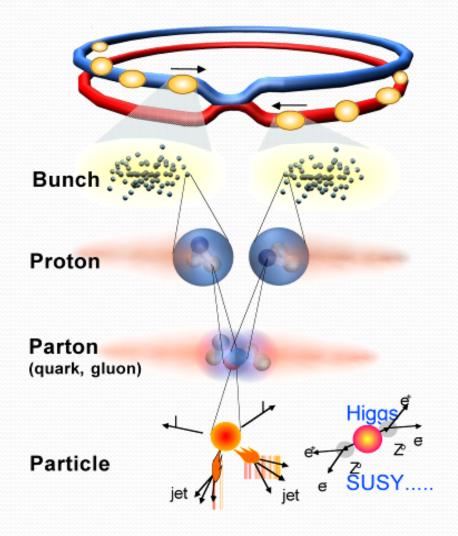
Where did the anti-matter go?

Why are the **neutrinos** so light, and which is the heaviest?

Are there more states of matter beyond solid, liquid, gas and plasma?

LHC holds answers

LHC is the biggest ever machine and data generator



Proton-Proton Protons/bunch Beam energy Luminosity 2835 bunch/beam 10¹¹ 7 TeV (7x10¹² eV) 10³⁴ cm⁻² s⁻¹

Crossing rate 40 MHz

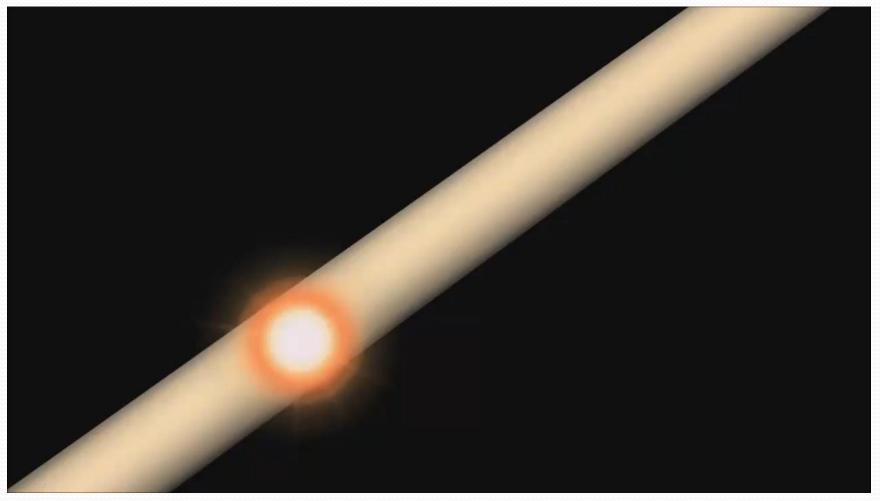
Collisions rate $\approx 10^7 - 10^9 Hz$

There are also Pb-Pb and p-Pb runs

New physics rate \approx .00001 Hz

Event selection: 1 in 10,000,000,000,000

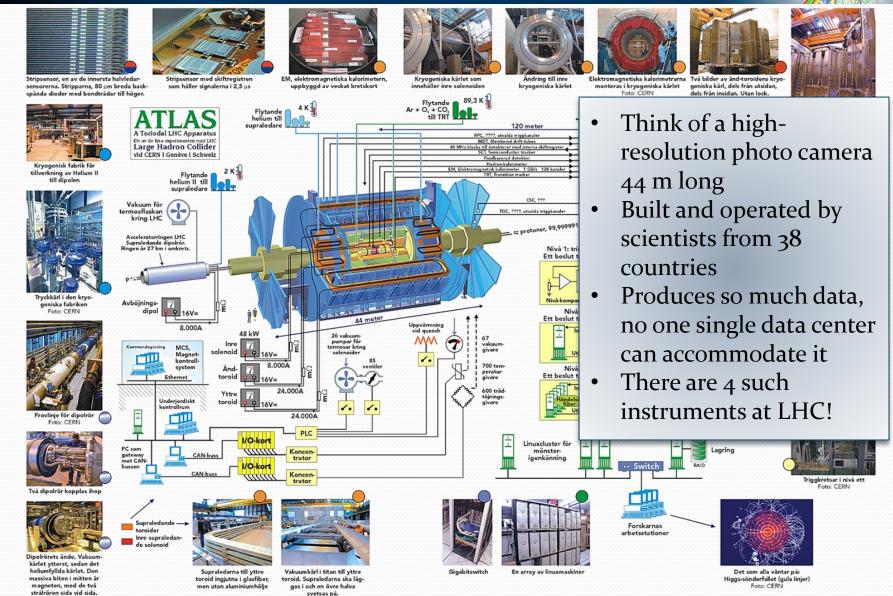
A data sample: collision event at LHC



An instrument at LHC: ATLAS

svetsas på

2017-05-03



Graphics by QED AB

LHC produces Real Big Data

- Number of read-out channels: ~15 million
- Event rate: 40 MHz
- At 1 byte per channel per event, we'd need to write at the speed of ~600 TB/s
 - And process it all...
 - Luckily, not all channels get fired at once
- But most events are "normal" and thus not interesting
 - Much like mowing a field hoping to get an orchid in a haystack of daisies

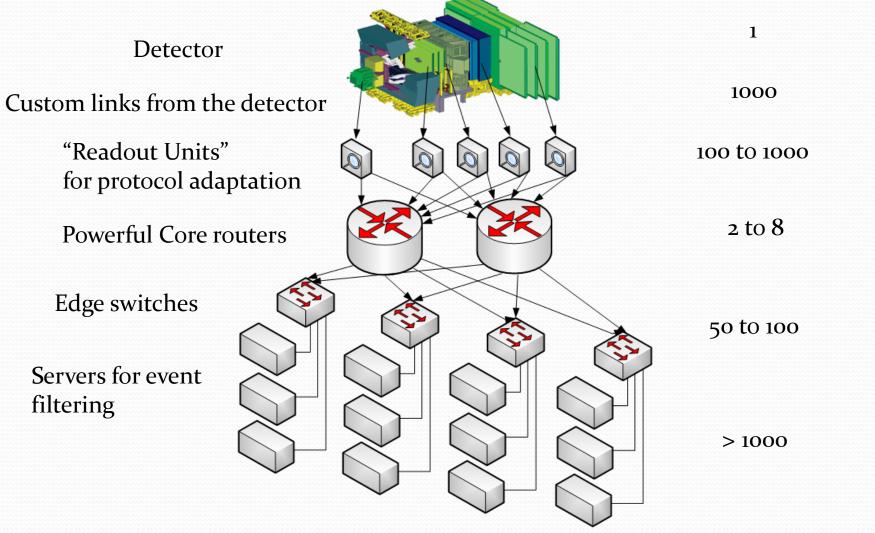


- E.g., the Higgs production rate is only ~0.1Hz, detection rate is even less
- Most of our data is "background noise"!
 - This is true for other sciences, and is characteristic of **Big Data**

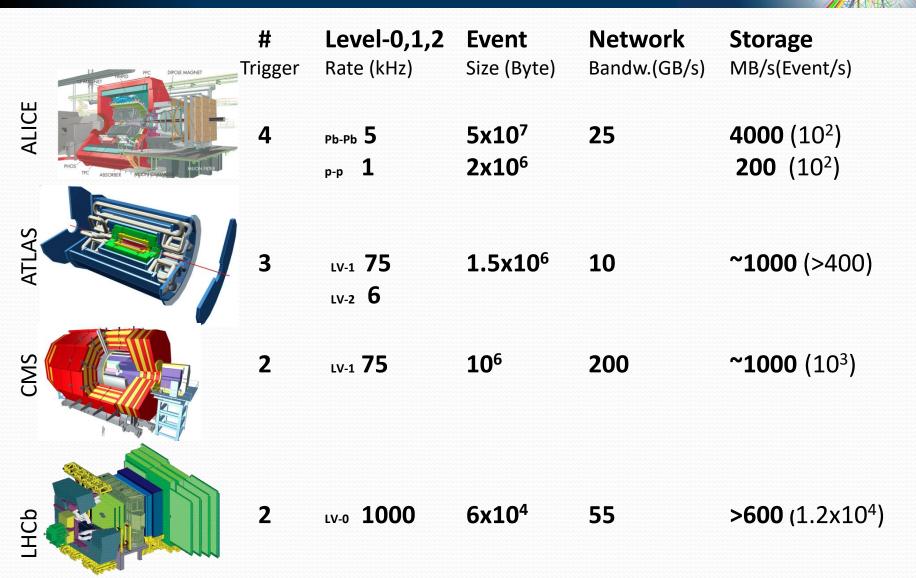
- Luckily, "interesting" events have some obvious signatures
 - For example, particles produced with <u>high energy</u> at <u>large</u> <u>angles</u> w.r.t. the beam direction indicate that something unusual might have happened
- We don't need high granularity to detect such signatures, thus we can quickly distinguish them
 - So we **trigger** data taking only if such signatures occur
 - Trigger involves software making a yes/no decision
 - To do it fast (real fast), serious hardware is needed
 - Mind it, this is needed before even recording data!

Trigger is a powerful system itself

Typical number of pieces

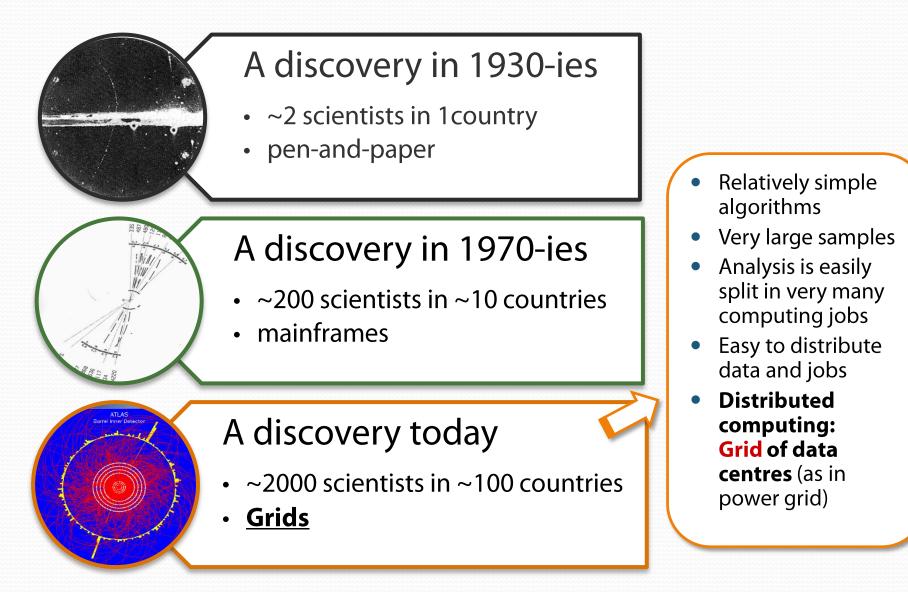


LHC experiments and their triggers



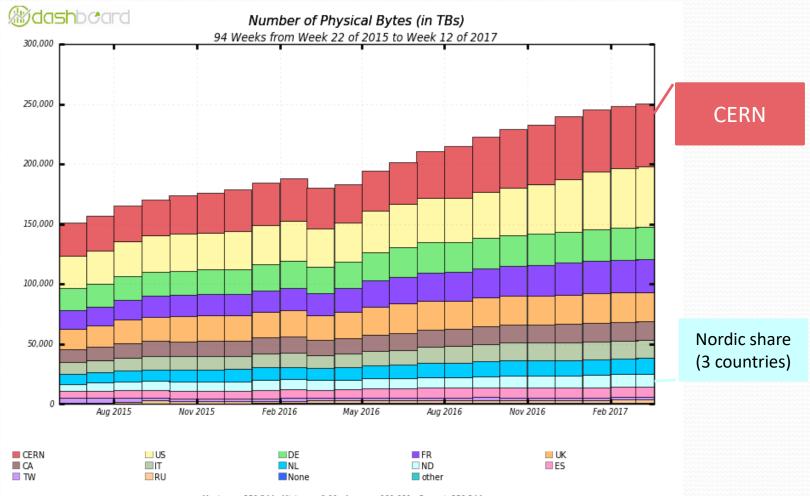
Slide from ISOTDAQ16 TDAQ for LHC - Niko Neufeld, CERN

We still have a lot of data to analyse



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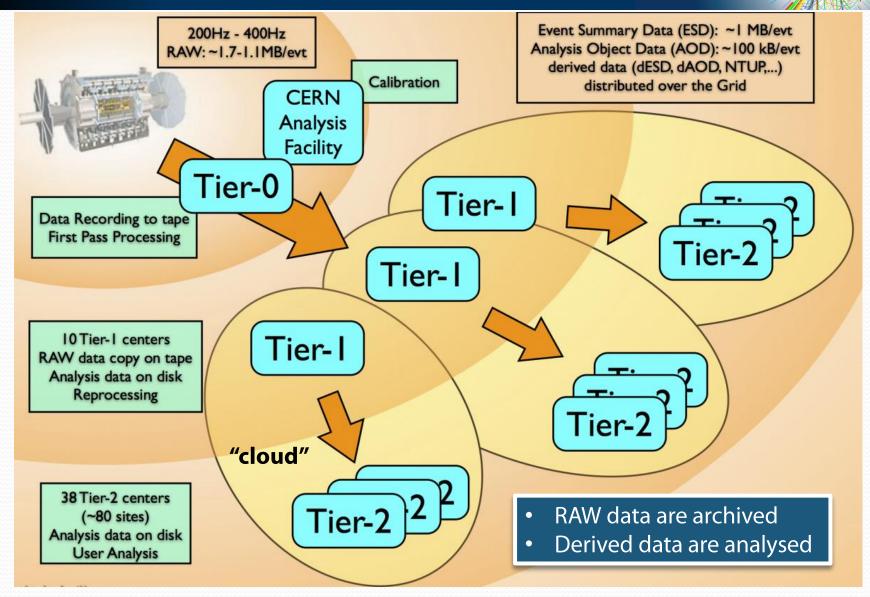
Some real data volumes



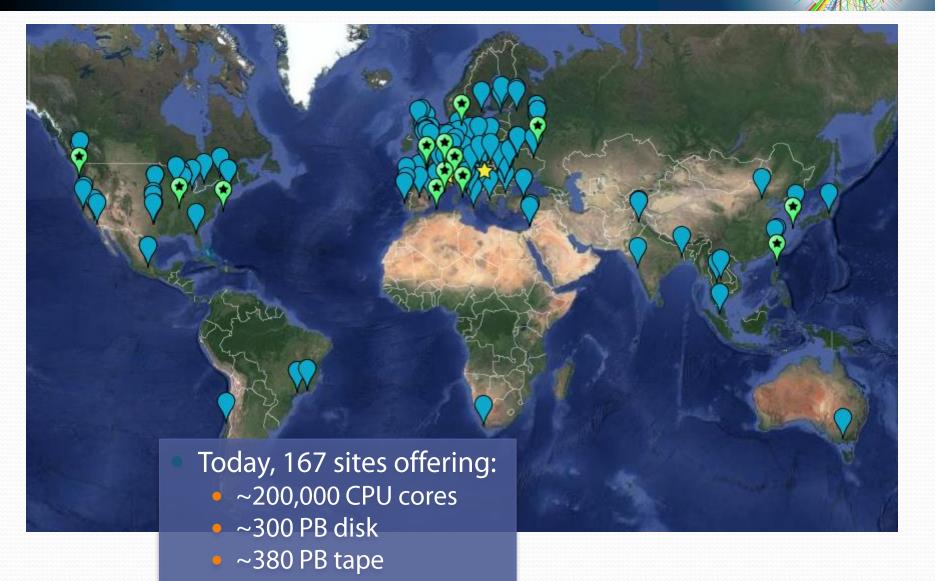
Maximum: 250,244 , Minimum: 0.00 , Average: 191,091 , Current: 250,244

Data stored by the ATLAS experiment alone so far, by region (comparable with annual Facebook uploads)

Stored and analysed around the World



LHC Computing Grid sites



For comparison: Hazel Hen

Europe's fastest supercomputer

- Cray XC40
- 7.42 Petaflops
- 185 088 Intel Haswell E5-2680 v3 compute cores, 128 GB memory/node
- **10 PB** disk capacity
- 3.2 MW power consumption



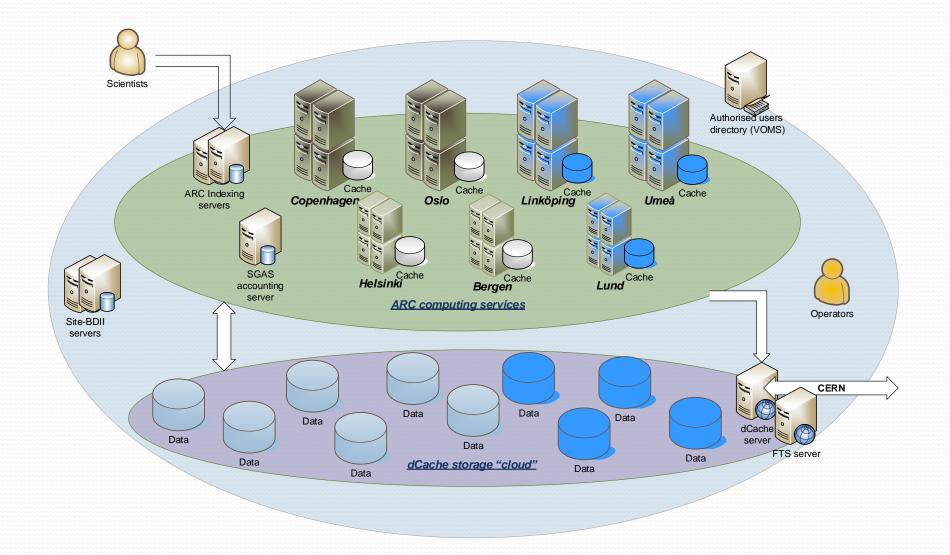
Supercomputers: focus on data <u>generation</u>, less on data processing

We develop Grid solutions ourselves

2	AF	RC CE	A-REX
client jobs	GFS job interface OGSA-BES	pre-WS WS	LRMS job mgmt scripts
info	LDAP OASIS-WSRF	pre-WS WS	infoprovider scripts
files	GridFTP HTTPS	pre-WS WS	downloader uploader

- Big businesses are all doing Clouds, so we do things ourselves
- ARC- the key component of the Nordic Grid infrastructure
 - File handling on behalf of the user
 - Universal front-end for different batch systems
 - Status information publishing
 - Standard and custom interfaces
 - Developed in Nordic countries (in Lund, too), used by ~20% of LHC Grid
 - Is used by many other scientists (not just LHC)

Nordic Grid infrastructure: NDGF-T1



How is Grid different from Clouds?

- Technical view:
 - In Clouds, environment is tailored for your tasks
 - In Grids, your tasks have to be tweaked for different environments
- The economy, stupid:
 - Clouds are capitalism
 - Grids are communism
- The reality:
 - We plug Cloud resources into our Grid



Summary

- All sciences face rapid increase in digital data volumes
- LHC developed a working solution for very large volumes of data
 - Do not try to store and process data in one place: share and distribute instead
 - Use own open source software
 - This allows LHC to achieve scientific results almost instantaneously, despite huge data sets
- LHC solutions can be generalized to other data-intensive sciences and even industry