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The Higgs Discovery at CERN - the impact of science without borders

Dreiländertagung der Medizinischen Physik Universität Zürich 7 – 10 September 2014



Felicitas Pauss ETH Zurich

How it all started science without borders

1946: first linear accelerators; today also used for radiotherapy

1946: first electron synchrotron; today used for light sources

1950: first proton synchrotrons; hadron beams for cancer treatment

SLS@PSI

~1960: First storage rings today: LHC (d ~ 10 km)

1931: first cyclotron (d ~ 0.1 m); today to produce radioactive isotopes for medical application

LHC@CERN

Ernest Lawrence

A New Era in Fundamental Science

on ambitious project in science Since March 2010 ation of a new energy frontier ALICE

Challenge: very high-tech detectors, v iced 0 aucture, compu^{†;} ernational very la collaporations



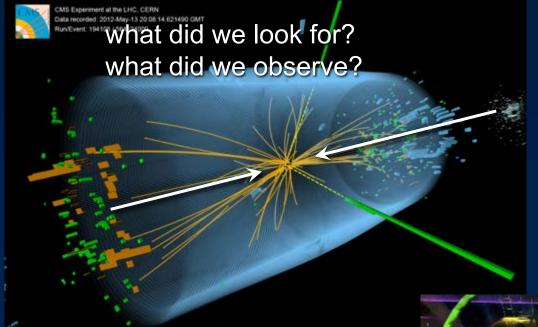
LHC challenge: ~1200 SC magnets of 8.3T (7600km NbTi cables), operated at 1.9K

ALICE

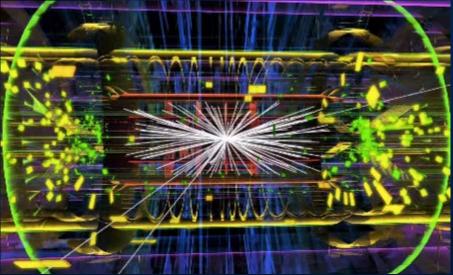


4 July 2012: CERN press conference

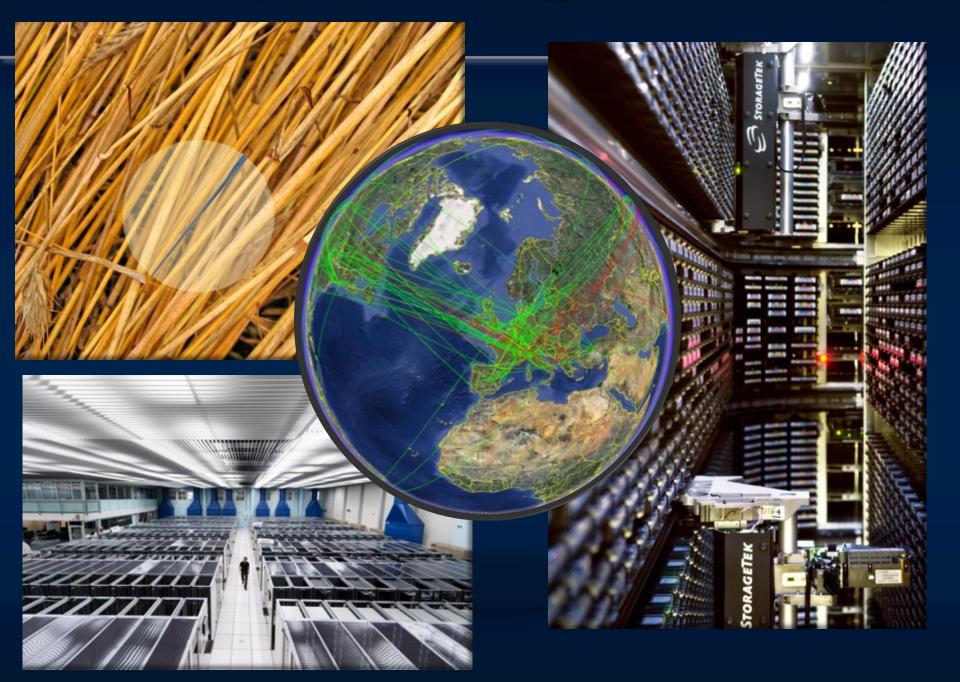
"CERN experiments observe particle consistent with long-sought Higgs boson"







one Higgs → 4e produced in 10¹³ pp collisions ~4 Billion events registered, expected ~ 200 Higgs events (in 130 GeV Mass range)

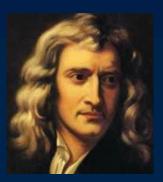




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Why was this discovery important?



Newton: weight proportional to mass



Einstein: Energy related to mass

No explanation of origin of mass

Where does mass come from? Is it related to the Higgs Boson?

The Standard Model of Particle Physics

very successfully describes the interactions between the fundamental building blocks of matter. Predictions have been tested with very high precision over the past ~40 years

Higgs boson

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Quarks

Leptons



4 July 2012: CERN press conference

"CERN experiments observe particle consistent with long-sought Higgs boson"



2013 Nobel Prize in Physics

to François Englert & Peter Higgs



"For the theoretical discovery of a mechanism that contributes to our understanding of the origin of mass of subatomic particles, and which recently was confirmed through the discovery of the predicted fundamental particle, by the ATLAS and CMS experiments at CERN's Large Hadron Collider"

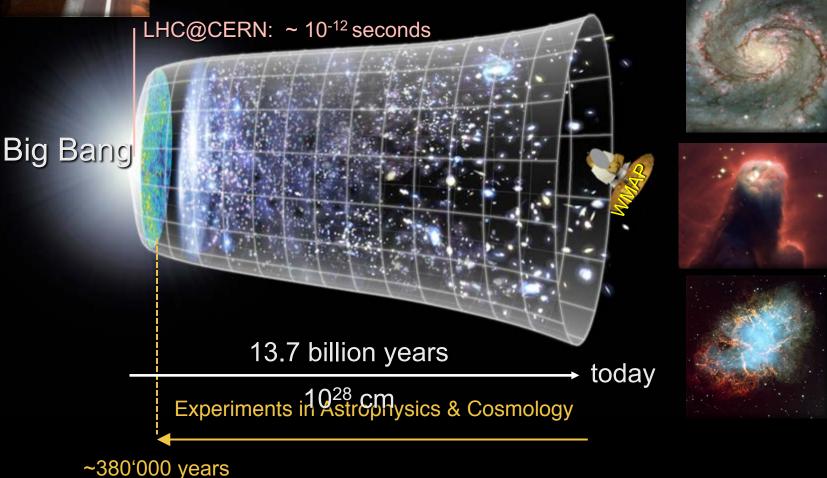


2-(D, +)"D"+-U(+)-4FAVF ~ $F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu} A_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu} A_{\mu}$ $\mathcal{V}(\phi) = \nabla \phi^{\mu} \phi + \beta (\phi^{\mu} \phi)^{2}$ xed, BLO Pater thogs

CERN, July 2012

Next Scientific Challenge: understand the very first moments of our Universe after the Big Bang





Next Scientific Challenge: understand the very first moments of our Universe after the Big Bang



Start data taking in 2015 at close to design energy of 14 TeV

Big Bang

Will we find the reason why antimatter and matter did not completely destroy each other? Will we find the particle(s) that make up the mysterious 'dark matter' in our Universe? Next Scientific Challenge: understand the very first moments of our Universe after the Big Bang



completely destroy each other?



LHC and experiments are masterpieces of technology!



Project started in beginning of 1990's ATLAS Many years of R&D Construction lasted for ~ 8 years

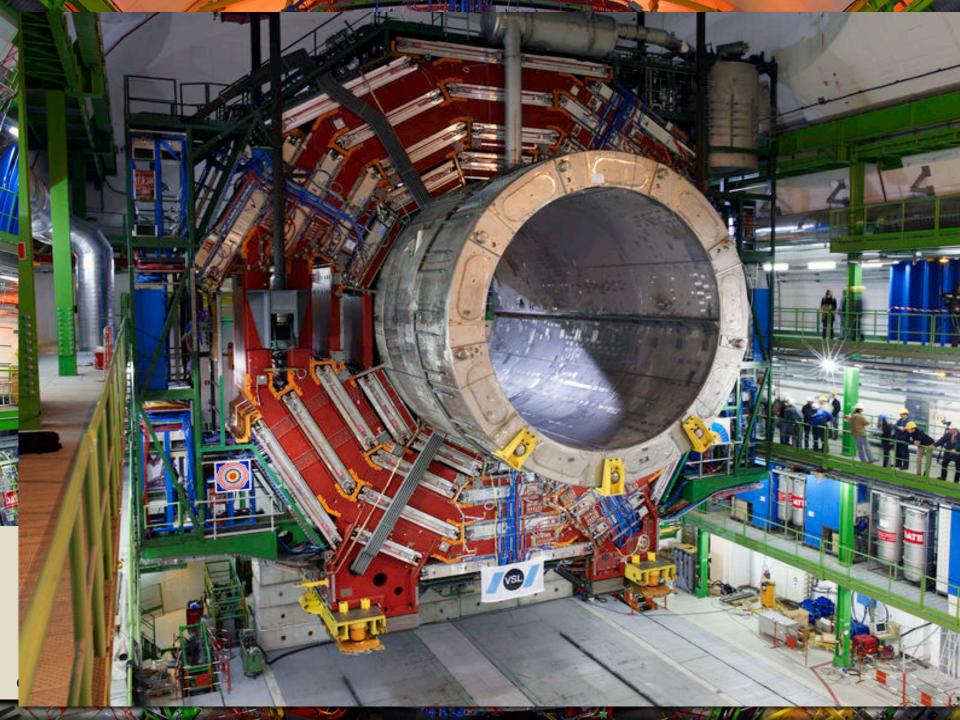
ALICE

ALICE

LHCb

Innovative technologies developed

LHC ring: 27 km circumference

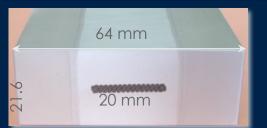


CMS SC Magnet





The challenge: Develop a reliable superconductor which is able to create a 4 T field in a volume of 360m³



current: 19'140 A stored energy: 2.5 GJ



End production: spring 2003



non-stop production time of 32 hours to produce one 2600 m long conductor unit; total 20 + 1 (prototype) conductor units

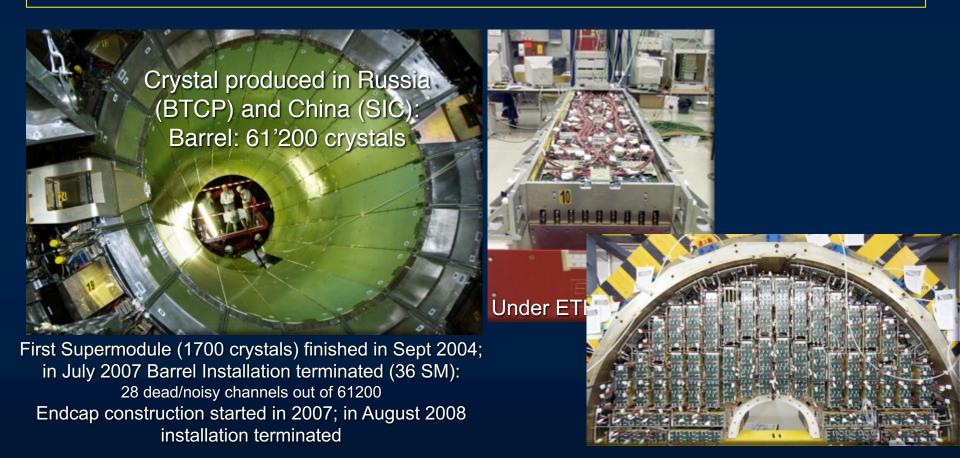
CMS crystal calorimeter





The challenge:

Construct a very high performance calorimeter (~76'000 PbWO₄ crystals of same characteristics) and complex readout electronics which operates under harsh LHC conditions





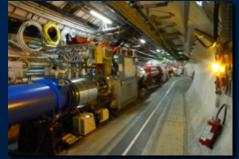
Particle Physics and Innovation

Research

Interfacing between fundamental science and key technological developments



Technologies and Innovation



Accelerating particle beams



Detecting particles



Large-scale computing (Grid)

How it all started science without borders

In 1946 B. Wilson proposes to use protons, helium and carbon ions for medical application 1946: first linear accelerators; today also used for radiotherapy

1946: first electron synchrotron; today used for light sources

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SLS@PSI

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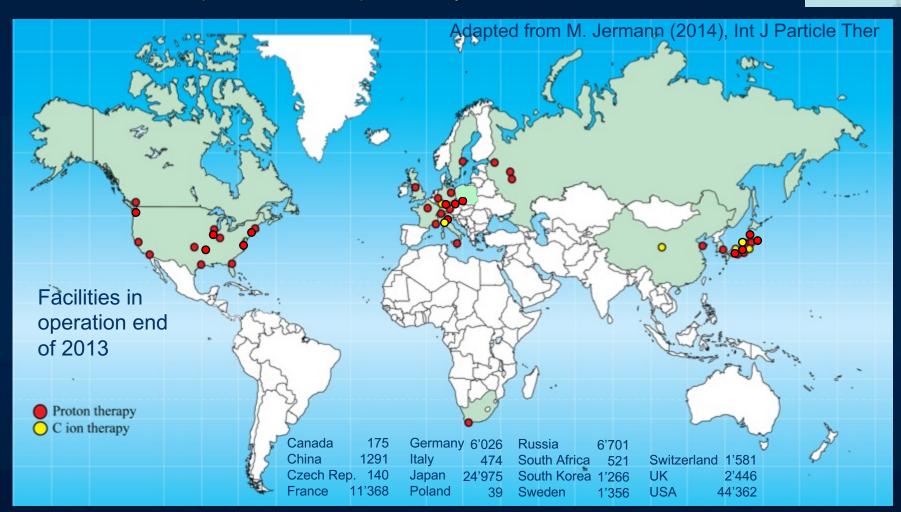
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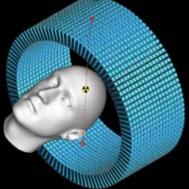
Hadron Therapy Patients Statistics Facilities in operation end of 2013

1954 – Dec 2013: > 120'000 patients (~80%protons, ~11% Carbon Ions) 10 new facilities expected to be in operation by end of 2014 International Journal of Particle Therapy



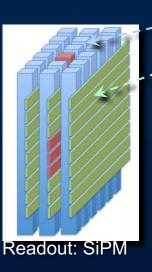
From CMS Crystal Calorimeter to new PET project (AXPET)

Radial geometry



Axial geometry

High resolution \rightarrow short Xtals High sensitivity \rightarrow long Xtals

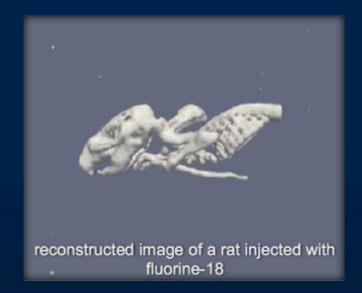


- LYSO Xtals (3x3x100 mm³ each)
- WLS strips behind each Xtal layer
 - Spatial resolution:
 - < 2mm FWHM (all 3 dimensions)
 - Energy resolution:
 - ~ 12% FWHM (at 511 keV)

https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/AXIALPET/WebHome

Motivation: decouple spatial resolution and sensitivity \rightarrow optimize both together

- \rightarrow Axial geometry:
- ✤ High resolution → small Xtal cross-section
- ✤ High sensitivity → several Xtal layers



reconstructed image of a rat injected with fluorine-18

Unite people from different countries and cultures

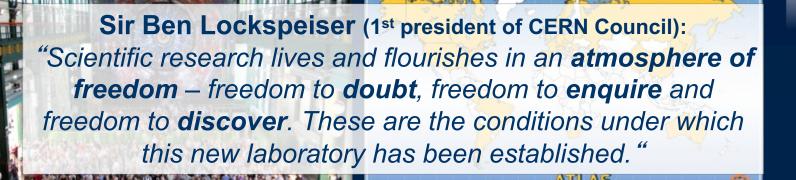
Collaboration

age (year)

uniting people Research

Higgs discovery: success of a truly global scientific project

Each collaboration: ~3000 scientists, ~40 countries, ~200 institutes



Louis De Broglie:



3000

"A laboratory where it would be possible to carry out scientific work above and beyond the framework of the various nations taking part an engine for peaceful collaboration across borders"

Male
Female

Higgs Paper 2012

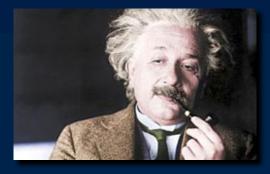


CERN: today world's largest Particle Physics Laboratory



Uniting people from different countries and cultures

"Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited to all we now know and understand, while imagination embraces the entire world."



.10:

Imagination

There are more atoms in your fingertip than stars in the whole Universe

Atoms are almost empty space – without that empty space you would compress into a tiny volume (cube with length ~0.02 mm)

The components of your body are truly ancient: Protons we are made of were formed about 3 minutes after the Big Bang i.e. we all are about "13.7 billion years old"

The heaviest element (e.g. iron), which exists in our body, was formed via fusion in dying stars i.e. we all are made of stardust



