End-user data analysis at the LHC

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Introduction

- Large Hadron Collider (LHC), particle ring accelerator (27 km)
- Proton collisions via two particle beams
 - 2808 bunches, 10¹¹ protons each
 - 40 MHz bunch crossing rate
- Collisions recorded by experiments

- Research goals:
 - Understanding subatomic nature
 - Verify current models and predictions
 - Search for unknown phenomena \rightarrow dark matter





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- Infer underlying physics from complete detector information, "going back"

The CMS detector



- Cylindrical general-purpose detector
 - Weight: 14,000 t
 - Dimensions: 15 m (diameter), 28.7 m (length)
 - Magnetic field: 3.8 T



Data acquisition

- 40 MHz rate + multiple collision per crossing $\rightarrow \sim 10^9$ collisions/s (events)
- 55 million readout channels (~1 MB per event) in the CMS detector→ ~1 PB/s

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- Multi-level trigger system: store only interesting events
 - Level 1 (L1) trigger: custom electronics, coarse (sub)detector data, 40 MHz \rightarrow 100 kHz
 - **High-Level trigger (HLT):** software on farm, partial reconstruction, 100 kHz \rightarrow 2 kHz
- Assuming 200 days of data taking per year \rightarrow **~20 PB/year**



Worldwide LHC Computing Grid (WLCG)

- Distributed high-throughput computing infrastructure, store and process data from experiments, tiered structure \rightarrow decentralized and (mostly) homogeneous
 - ~170 sites across ~40 countries \bigcirc
 - ~1M CPU cores, disk and tape storage >1 EB Ο
 - Private and overlay NREN networking, up to 400 Gb/s 0
- Automated workflow management, ~100% utilization
- Only small fraction of custom user jobs





Data analysis

- Final analysis work done on so-called T3 sites \rightarrow local institute clusters
- Broad and varying job requirements: cores, I/O, network

- OBS to integrate heterogeneous local and external resources
- User only interacts with one system, jobs automatically scheduled and distributed
- Never enough resources
 → opportunistic resources



Requirements

• Institute cluster: ~80 researchers, not only CMS, general HEP

- 1k cores and 2 PB storage, all static
- Usually not enough, but sometimes no jobs on the cluster
 - \rightarrow economically not reasonable to extend, efficiency
- Fluctuating demand ideal use case for opportunistic resources



- Jobs: mostly event-based tasks, trivial parallelization (except ML)
 - Environment usually fixed, usage of VMs and containers
 - (Pre-)compiled software and libraries, integrated to sandbox or streamed via CVMFS (cacheable)
 - Data shipped directly or via remote access (additional authentication)



Integration of opportunistic resources



- User submits jobs to local batch system
- Specifies attributes: cores, memory, runtime, data locality



- Allocating matching resources
- Here: input data located at grid site, remote access possible



- Jobs are scheduled to available resources, e.g. local or NEMO
- Input data streamed via network (XRootD)



- More resources allocated for remaining jobs
- Immediate output files stored on WN scratch space



Processing of simulation and experimental data for a physics analysis (10k cores, 10 TB data)

After successful runtime output files are transferred to final storage (e.g. grid site again)



Example usage



- Successful usage of opportunistic resources in physics analyses, multiple different sources over time:
 - Research and education: bwForCluster NEMO (Uni Freiburg), TOpAS (GridKa), GKS (GridKa), ForHLR II (KIT), bwUniCluster 2.0 (KIT)
 - Commercial provider: Open Telekom Cloud, Exoscale, 1&1
- Many published results utilize these resources (>50M CPU hours):
 - August 2023: Measurement of the inclusive cross section of Z boson production in pp collisions at √s = 13.6 TeV, CMS Collaboration, CMS-PAS-SMP-22-017, to be submitted to PLB
 - August 2023: Measurement of the ttH and tH production rates in the $H \rightarrow$ bb decay channel with 138 fb⁻¹ of proton-proton collision data at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV, CMS Collaboration, CMS-PAS-HIG-19-011, to be submitted to JHEP
 - July 2023: Searches for additional Higgs bosons and for vector leptoquarks in $\tau\tau$ final states in proton-proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV, CMS Collaboration, JHEP 07 (2023) 073
 - >20 more journal publications in recent years + many to follow

- Measurement in early data of new LHC data taking run
- "Standard candle" → used to calibrate many other processes





OUARKS LEPTONS OBOSONS HIGGS BOSON

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- Higgs boson couplings to top/bottom quarks + vector bosons
- Precise test of Standard Model
- Complex final state and analysis techniques





- Direct search for physics beyond the Standard Model
- Background estimation via *T*-embedding technique





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Summary

- Experiments in high energy physics typically require a lot of computing power
 - Large (static) resources available for fundamental processing, well-defined workflows
 - Additional resources needed for final analysis work, different requirements

- Opportunistic resources can help to provide short-term resources on demand
 - Integration not straightforward, especially if end-user access should be kept simple
 - Consider resource requirements, software availability, virtualization, containerization, ...

- Successful integrated and used in the past
 - We will continue to explore these possibilities (e.g. GPU workflows on TOPAS)
 - With NEMO being on of the most used sites, we are looking forward to NEMO 2