



Introduction to (LHC) High Energy Physics

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Nikhef



 UNIVERSITEIT
VAN AMSTERDAM

CERN



Voyage into the world of atoms



Studying nature's building blocks and the forces that govern them

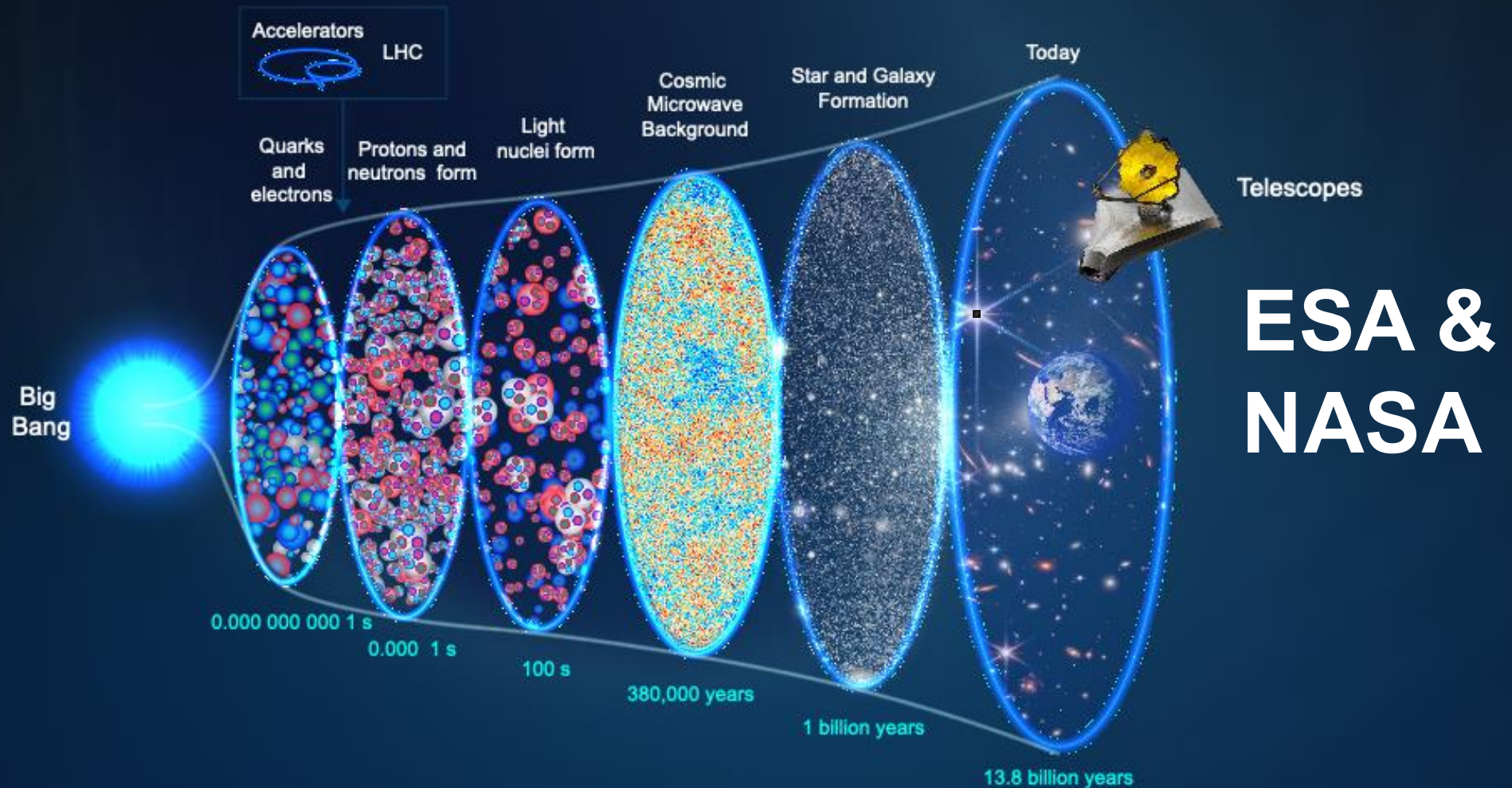


Image: CERN

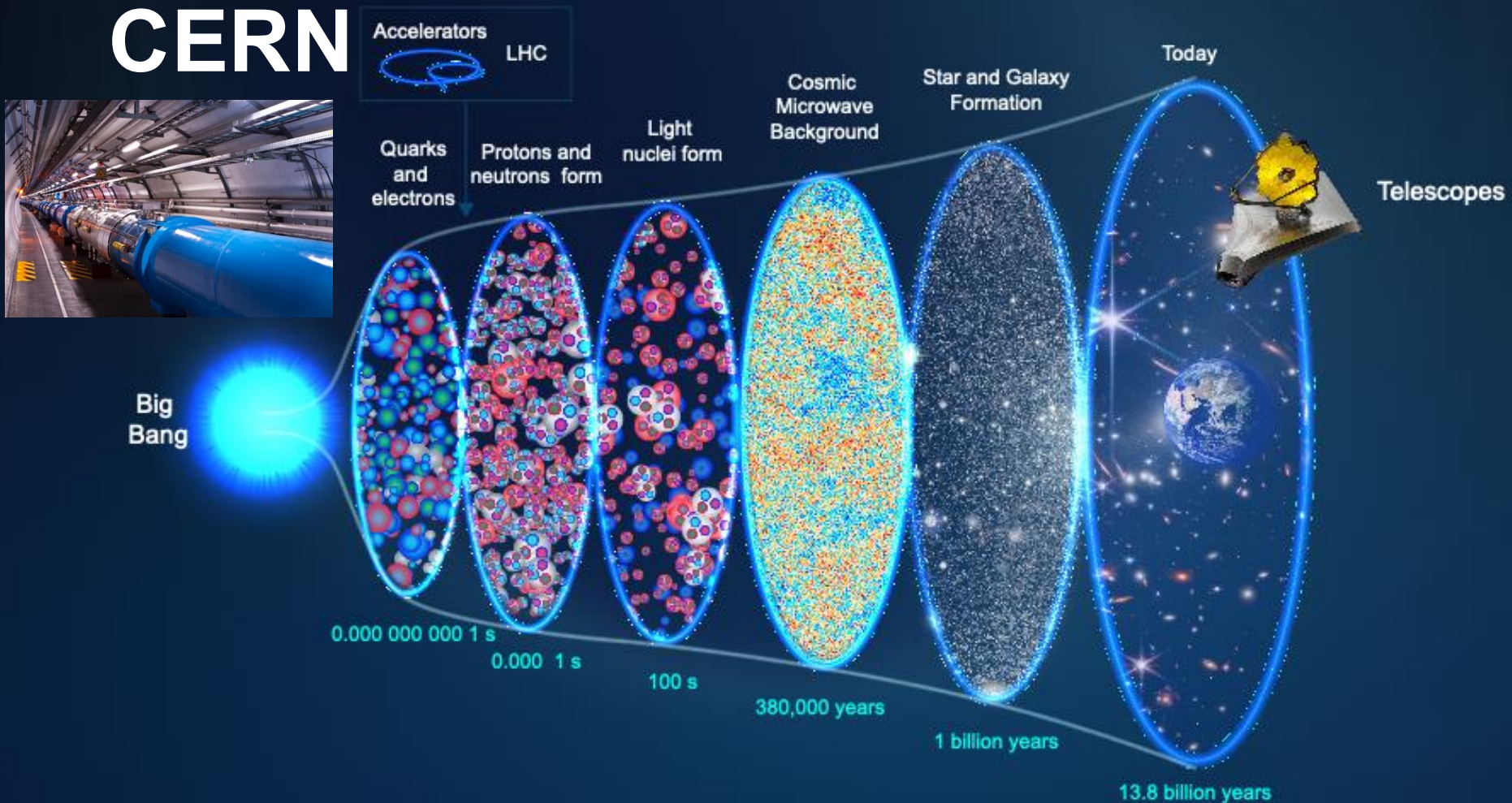


Building blocks govern them



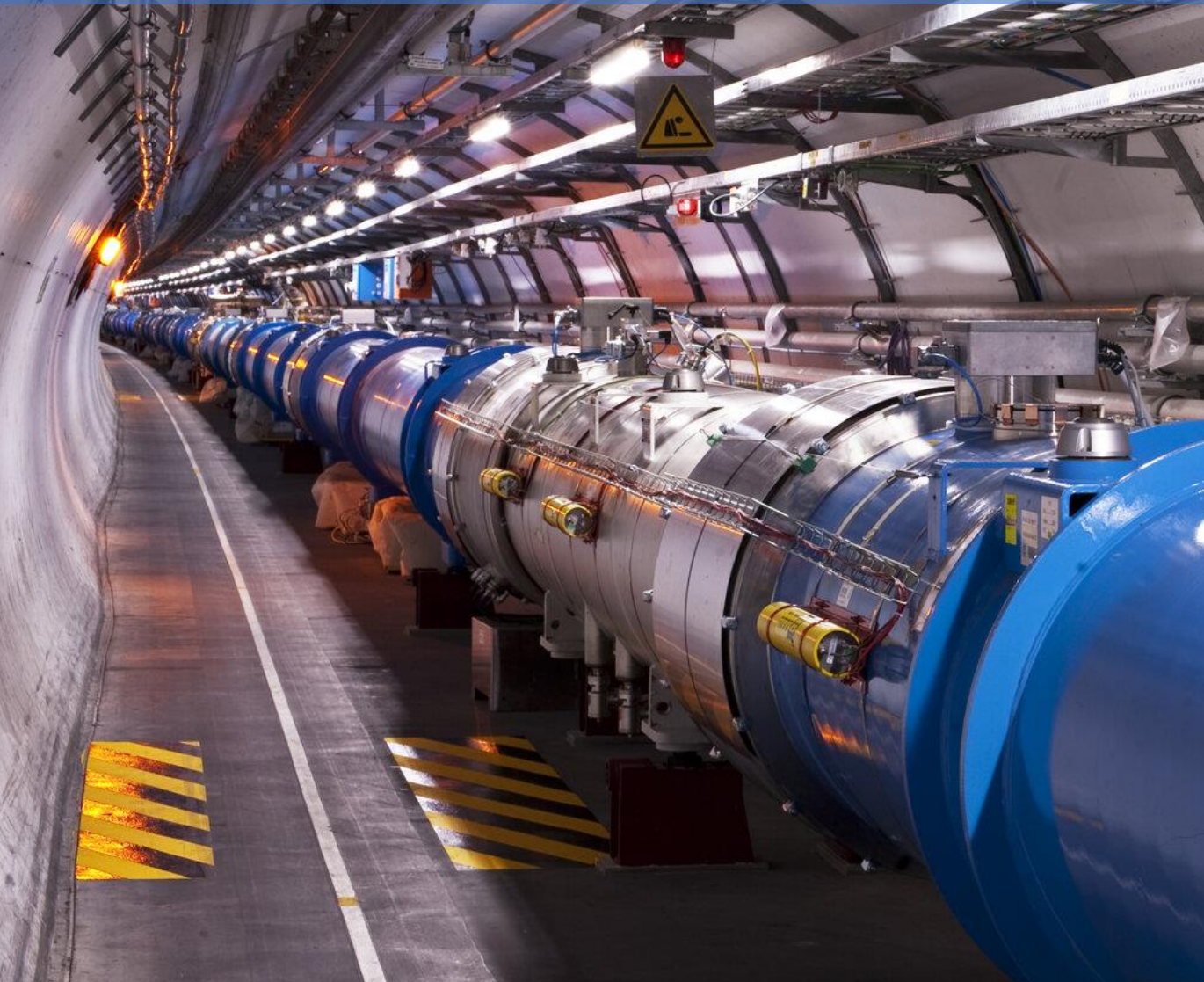
Studying nature's building blocks and the forces that govern them

CERN

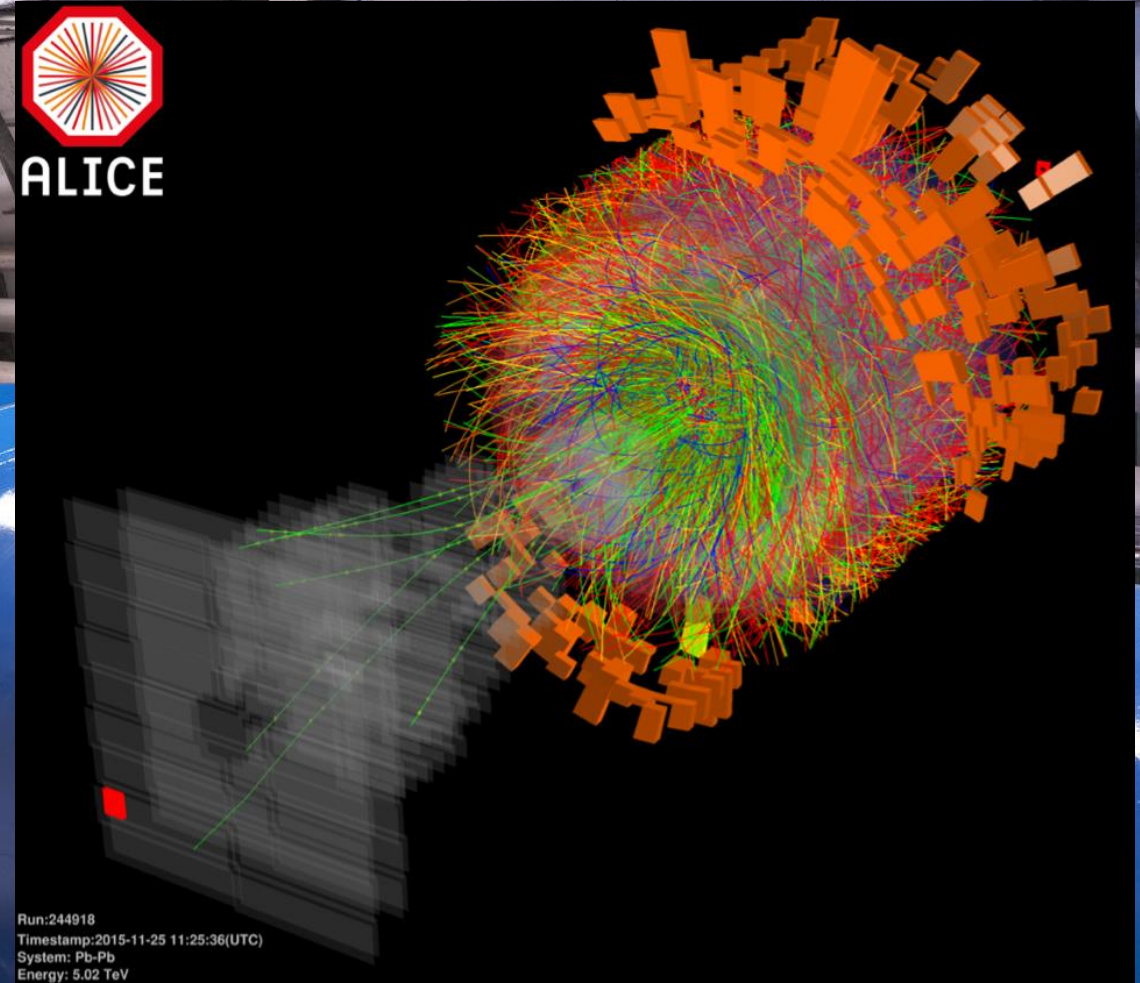


The Large Hadron Collider

Largest experiment on the planet!



Run: 244918
Timestamp: 2015-11-25 11:25:36(UTC)
System: Pb-Pb
Energy: 5.02 TeV





Introduction to me

Particle physicist working on the ATLAS experiment

My job is to smash things for a living!

I studied: Physics, Maths, Chemistry and English Language & Literature (+ Film Studies).

My career path

MANCHESTER
1824

The University of Manchester



Masters on the D0 at Fermilab

PhD in particle physics working on
the ATLAS Experiment at CERN



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT
GÖTTINGEN

Radboud University



Postdoctoral research positions: LAL in France, Göttingen in Germany and
Radboud in the Netherlands



Currently:



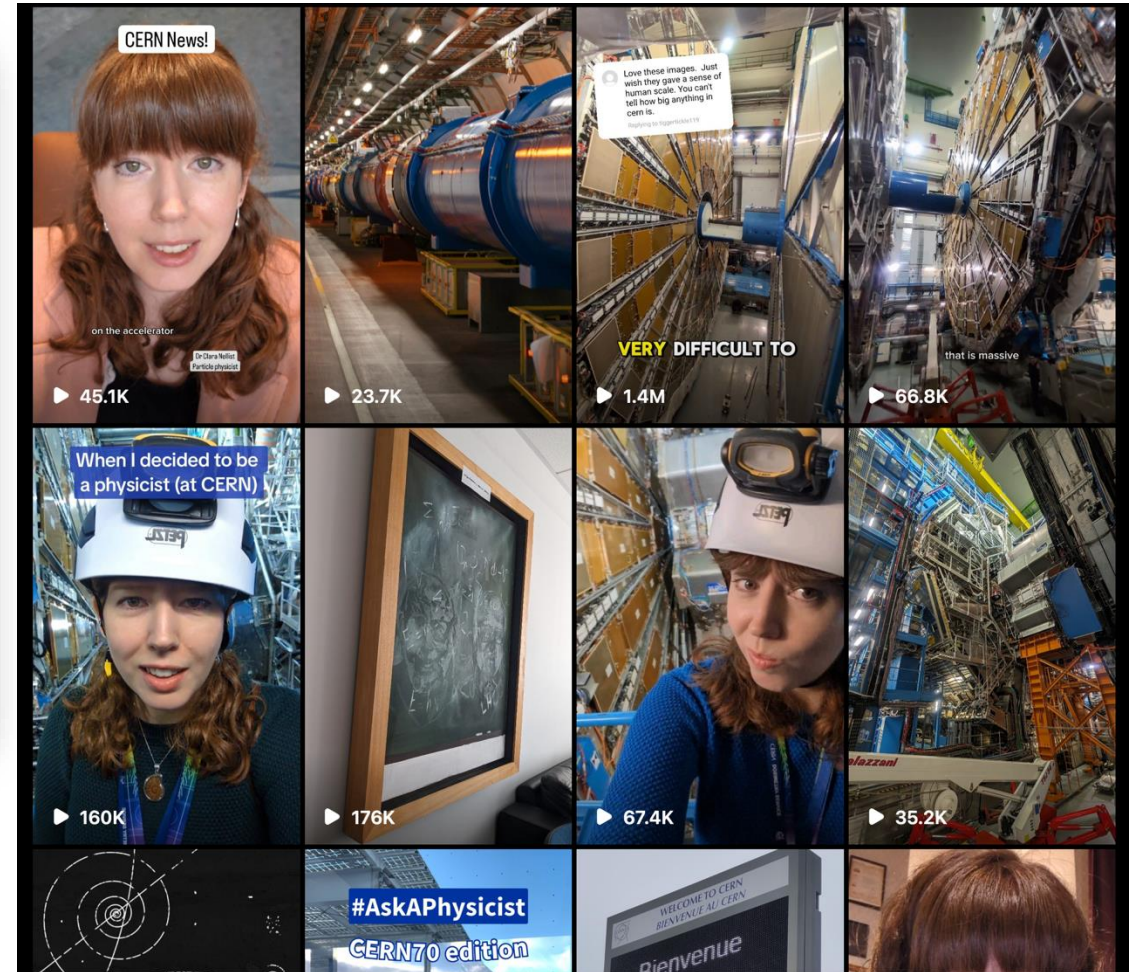
UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM

Assistant Professor, University of Amsterdam & Nikhef

Science Communicator



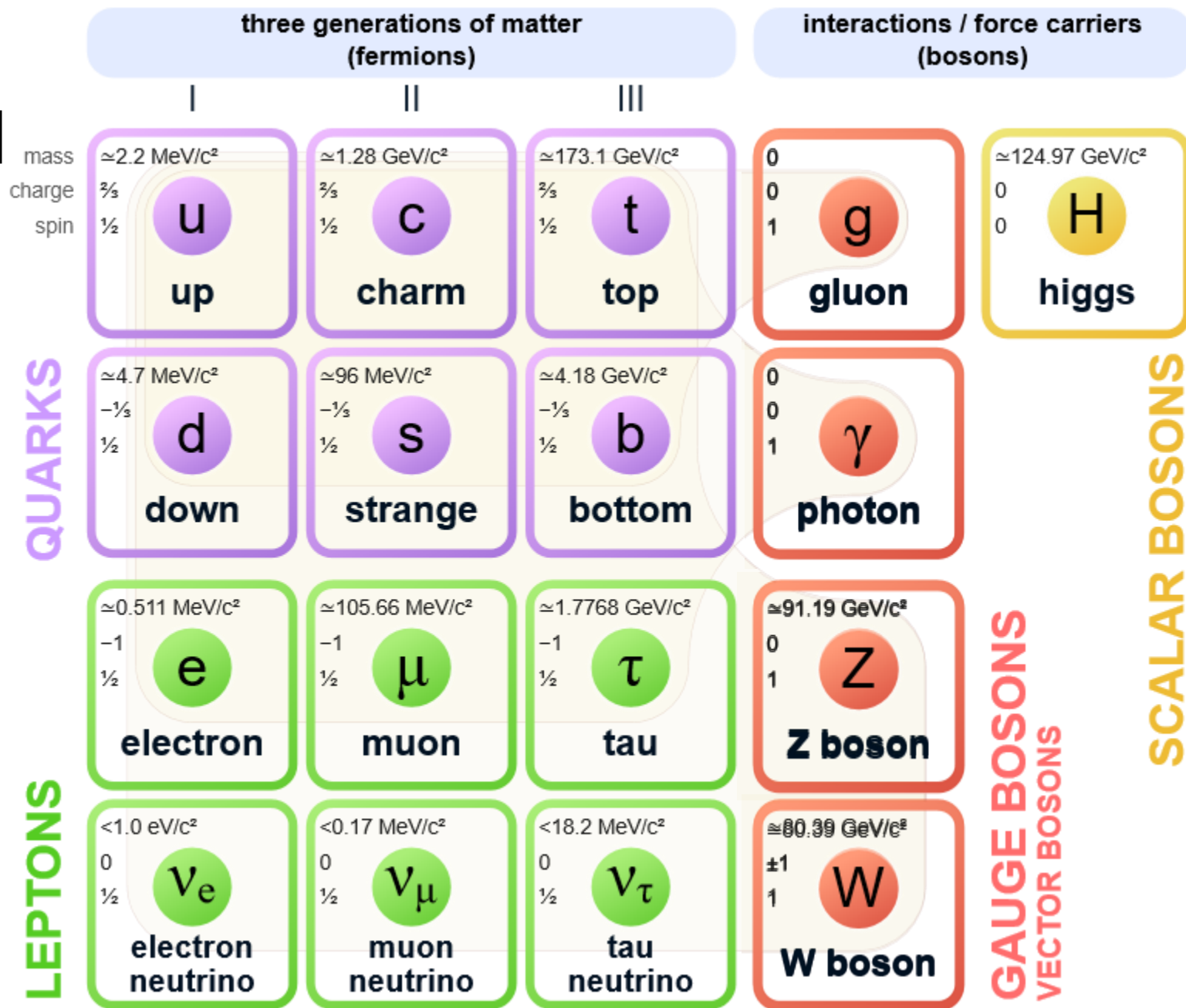
@ParticleClara everywhere

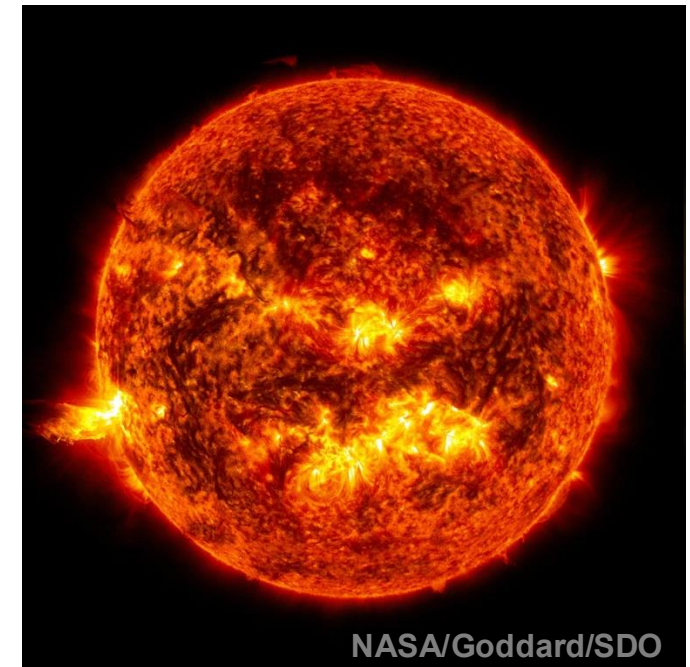
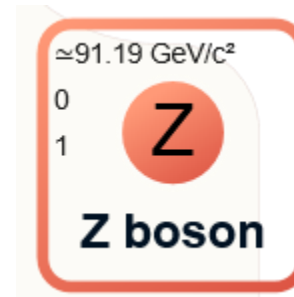
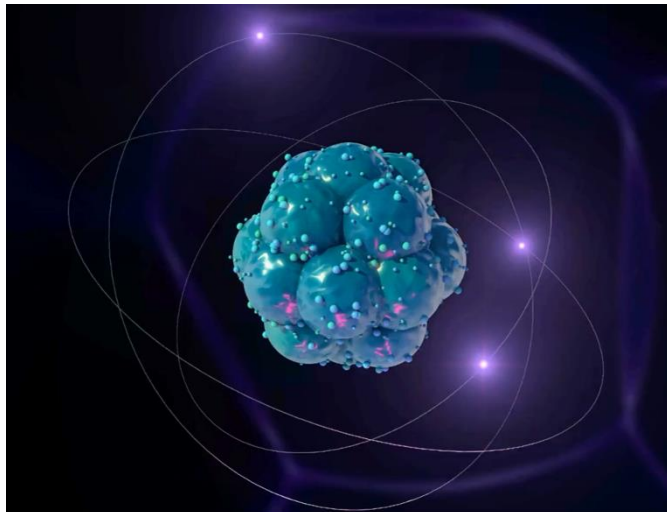
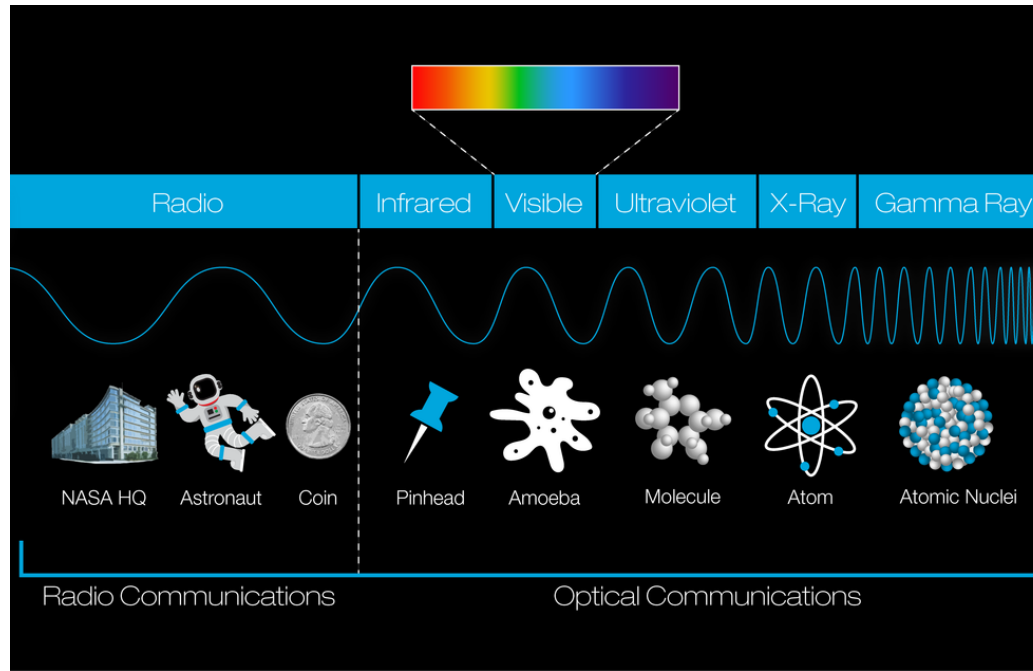
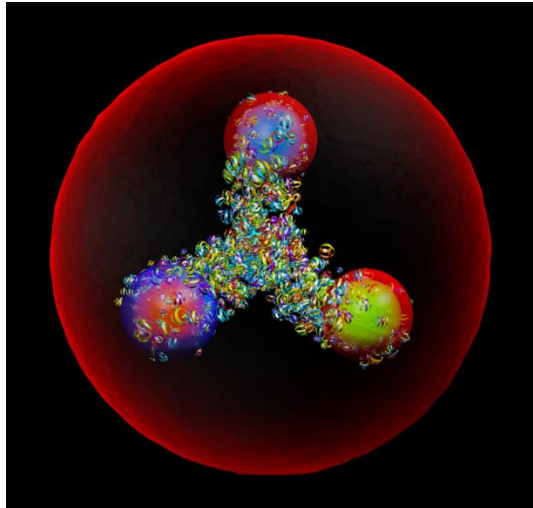


$$\begin{aligned}
& -\frac{1}{2}\partial_\nu g_\mu^a \partial_\nu g_\mu^a - g_s f^{abc} \partial_\mu g_\nu^b g_\mu^c - \frac{1}{4}g_s^2 f^{abc} f^{ade} g_\mu^b g_\nu^c g_\mu^d g_\nu^e + \\
& \frac{1}{2}ig_s^2(\bar{q}_i^\sigma \gamma^\mu q_j^\sigma)g_\mu^a + \bar{G}^a \partial^2 G^a + g_s f^{abc} \partial_\mu \bar{G}^a G^b g_\mu^c - \partial_\nu W_\mu^+ \partial_\nu W_\mu^- - \\
2 \quad & M^2 W_\mu^+ W_\mu^- - \frac{1}{2}\partial_\nu Z_\mu^0 \partial_\nu Z_\mu^0 - \frac{1}{2c_w^2} M^2 Z_\mu^0 Z_\mu^0 - \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu A_\nu \partial_\mu A_\nu - \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu H \partial_\mu H - \\
& \frac{1}{2}m_h^2 H^2 - \partial_\mu \phi^+ \partial_\mu \phi^- - M^2 \phi^+ \phi^- - \frac{1}{2}\partial_\mu \phi^0 \partial_\mu \phi^0 - \frac{1}{2c_w^2} M \phi^0 \phi^0 - \beta_h \left[\frac{2M^2}{g^2} + \right. \\
& \left. \frac{2M}{g} H + \frac{1}{2}(H^2 + \phi^0 \phi^0 + 2\phi^+ \phi^-) \right] + \frac{2M^4}{g^2} \alpha_h - igc_w [\partial_\nu Z_\mu^0 (W_\mu^+ W_\nu^- - \\
& W_\nu^+ W_\mu^-) - Z_\nu^0 (W_\mu^+ \partial_\nu W_\mu^- - W_\mu^- \partial_\nu W_\mu^+) + Z_\mu^0 (W_\nu^+ \partial_\nu W_\mu^- - \\
& W_\nu^- \partial_\nu W_\mu^+)] - ig s_w [\partial_\nu A_\mu (W_\mu^+ W_\nu^- - W_\nu^+ W_\mu^-) - A_\nu (W_\mu^+ \partial_\nu W_\mu^- - \\
& W_\mu^- \partial_\nu W_\mu^+) + A_\mu (W_\nu^+ \partial_\nu W_\mu^- - W_\nu^- \partial_\nu W_\mu^+)] - \frac{1}{2}g^2 W_\mu^+ W_\mu^- W_\nu^+ W_\nu^- + \\
& \frac{1}{2}g^2 W_\mu^+ W_\nu^- W_\mu^- W_\nu^+ + g^2 c_w^2 (Z_\mu^0 W_\mu^+ Z_\nu^0 W_\nu^- - Z_\mu^0 Z_\mu^0 W_\nu^+ W_\nu^-) + \\
& g^2 s_w^2 (A_\mu W_\mu^+ A_\nu W_\nu^- - A_\mu A_\mu W_\nu^+ W_\nu^-) + g^2 s_w c_w [A_\mu Z_\nu^0 (W_\mu^+ W_\nu^- - \\
& W_\nu^+ W_\mu^-) - 2A_\mu Z_\mu^0 W_\nu^+ W_\nu^-] - g\alpha [H^3 + H\phi^0 \phi^0 + 2H\phi^+ \phi^-] - \\
& \frac{1}{8}g^2 \alpha_h [H^4 + (\phi^0)^4 + 4(\phi^+ \phi^-)^2 + 4(\phi^0)^2 \phi^+ \phi^- + 4H^2 \phi^+ \phi^- + 2(\phi^0)^2 H^2] - \\
& g M W_\mu^+ W_\mu^- H - \frac{1}{2}g \frac{M}{c_w^2} Z_\mu^0 Z_\mu^0 H - \frac{1}{2}ig [W_\mu^+ (\phi^0 \partial_\mu \phi^- - \phi^- \partial_\mu \phi^0) - \\
& W_\mu^- (\phi^0 \partial_\mu \phi^+ - \phi^+ \partial_\mu \phi^0)] + \frac{1}{2}g [W_\mu^+ (H \partial_\mu \phi^- - \phi^- \partial_\mu H) - W_\mu^- (H \partial_\mu \phi^+ - \\
& \phi^+ \partial_\mu H)] + \frac{1}{2}g \frac{1}{c_w} (Z_\mu^0 (H \partial_\mu \phi^0 - \phi^0 \partial_\mu H) - ig \frac{s_w^2}{c_w} M Z_\mu^0 (W_\mu^+ \phi^- - W_\mu^- \phi^+) + \\
& ig s_w M A_\mu (W_\mu^+ \phi^- - W_\mu^- \phi^+) - ig \frac{1-2c_w^2}{2c_w} Z_\mu^0 (\phi^+ \partial_\mu \phi^- - \phi^- \partial_\mu \phi^+) + \\
& ig s_w A_\mu (\phi^+ \partial_\mu \phi^- - \phi^- \partial_\mu \phi^+) - \frac{1}{4}g^2 W_\mu^+ W_\mu^- [H^2 + (\phi^0)^2 + 2\phi^+ \phi^-] - \\
& \frac{1}{4}g^2 \frac{1}{c_w^2} Z_\mu^0 Z_\mu^0 [H^2 + (\phi^0)^2 + 2(2s_w^2 - 1)^2 \phi^+ \phi^-] - \frac{1}{2}g^2 \frac{s_w^2}{c_w} Z_\mu^0 \phi^0 (W_\mu^+ \phi^- + \\
& W_\mu^- \phi^+) - \frac{1}{2}ig \frac{s_w^2}{c_w} Z_\mu^0 H (W_\mu^+ \phi^- - W_\mu^- \phi^+) + \frac{1}{2}g^2 s_w A_\mu \phi^0 (W_\mu^+ \phi^- + \\
& W_\mu^- \phi^+) + \frac{1}{2}ig^2 s_w A_\mu H (W_\mu^+ \phi^- - W_\mu^- \phi^+) - g^2 \frac{s_w}{c_w} (2c_w^2 - 1) Z_\mu^0 A_\mu \phi^+ \phi^- - \\
& g^1 s_w^2 A_\mu A_\mu \phi^+ \phi^- - \bar{e}^\lambda (\gamma \partial + m_e^\lambda) e^\lambda - \bar{\nu}^\lambda \gamma \partial \nu^\lambda - \bar{u}_j^\lambda (\gamma \partial + m_u^\lambda) u_j^\lambda - \\
3 \quad & \bar{d}_j^\lambda (\gamma \partial + m_d^\lambda) d_j^\lambda + ig s_w A_\mu [-(\bar{e}^\lambda \gamma^\mu e^\lambda) + \frac{2}{3}(\bar{u}_j^\lambda \gamma^\mu u_j^\lambda) - \frac{1}{3}(\bar{d}_j^\lambda \gamma^\mu d_j^\lambda)] + \\
& \frac{ig}{4c_w} Z_\mu^0 [(\bar{\nu}^\lambda \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma^5) \nu^\lambda) + (\bar{e}^\lambda \gamma^\mu (4s_w^2 - 1 - \gamma^5) e^\lambda) + (\bar{u}_j^\lambda \gamma^\mu (\frac{4}{3}s_w^2 - \\
& 1 - \gamma^5) u_j^\lambda) + (\bar{d}_j^\lambda \gamma^\mu (1 - \frac{8}{3}s_w^2 - \gamma^5) d_j^\lambda)] + \frac{ig}{2\sqrt{2}} W_\mu^+ [(\bar{\nu}^\lambda \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma^5) e^\lambda) + \\
& (\bar{u}_j^\lambda \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma^5) C_{\lambda\kappa} d_j^\kappa)] + \frac{ig}{2\sqrt{2}} W_\mu^- [(\bar{e}^\lambda \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma^5) \nu^\lambda) + (\bar{d}_j^\kappa C_{\lambda\kappa}^\dagger \gamma^\mu (1 + \\
& \gamma^5) u_j^\lambda)] + \frac{ig}{2\sqrt{2}} \frac{m_e^\lambda}{M} [-\phi^+ (\bar{\nu}^\lambda (1 - \gamma^5) e^\lambda) + \phi^- (\bar{e}^\lambda (1 + \gamma^5) \nu^\lambda)] - \\
4 \quad & \frac{g}{2} \frac{m_u^\lambda}{M} [H (\bar{e}^\lambda e^\lambda) + i\phi^0 (\bar{e}^\lambda \gamma^5 e^\lambda)] + \frac{ig}{2M\sqrt{2}} \phi^+ [-m_d^\kappa (\bar{u}_j^\lambda C_{\lambda\kappa} (1 - \gamma^5) d_j^\kappa) + \\
& m_u^\lambda (\bar{u}_j^\lambda C_{\lambda\kappa} (1 + \gamma^5) d_j^\kappa) + \frac{ig}{2M\sqrt{2}} \phi^- [m_d^\lambda (\bar{d}_j^\lambda C_{\lambda\kappa}^\dagger (1 + \gamma^5) u_j^\kappa) - m_u^\kappa (\bar{d}_j^\lambda C_{\lambda\kappa}^\dagger (1 - \\
& \gamma^5) u_j^\kappa) - \frac{g}{2} \frac{m_u^\lambda}{M} H (\bar{u}_j^\lambda u_j^\lambda) - \frac{g}{2} \frac{m_d^\lambda}{M} H (\bar{d}_j^\lambda d_j^\lambda) + \frac{ig}{2} \frac{m_u^\lambda}{M} \phi^0 (\bar{u}_j^\lambda \gamma^5 u_j^\lambda) - \\
& \frac{ig}{2} \frac{m_d^\lambda}{M} \phi^0 (\bar{d}_j^\lambda \gamma^5 d_j^\lambda) + \bar{X}^+ (\partial^2 - M^2) X^+ + \bar{X}^- (\partial^2 - M^2) X^- + \bar{X}^0 (\partial^2 - \\
5 \quad & \frac{M^2}{c_w^2}) X^0 + \bar{Y} \partial^2 Y + igc_w W_\mu^+ (\partial_\mu \bar{X}^0 X^- - \partial_\mu \bar{X}^+ X^0) + ig s_w W_\mu^+ (\partial_\mu \bar{Y} X^- - \\
& \partial_\mu \bar{X}^+ Y) + igc_w W_\mu^- (\partial_\mu \bar{X}^- X^0 - \partial_\mu \bar{X}^0 X^+) + ig s_w W_\mu^- (\partial_\mu \bar{X}^- Y - \\
& \partial_\mu \bar{Y} X^+) + igc_w Z_\mu^0 (\partial_\mu \bar{X}^+ X^- - \partial_\mu \bar{X}^- X^+) + ig s_w A_\mu (\partial_\mu \bar{X}^+ X^- - \\
& \partial_\mu \bar{X}^- X^+) - \frac{1}{2}g M [\bar{X}^+ X^+ H + \bar{X}^- X^- H + \frac{1}{c_w^2} \bar{X}^0 X^0 H] + \\
& \frac{1-2c_w^2}{2c_w} ig M [\bar{X}^+ X^0 \phi^+ - \bar{X}^- X^0 \phi^-] + \frac{1}{2c_w} ig M [\bar{X}^0 X^- \phi^+ - \bar{X}^0 X^+ \phi^-] + \\
& ig M s_w [\bar{X}^0 X^- \phi^+ - \bar{X}^0 X^+ \phi^-] + \frac{1}{2}ig M [\bar{X}^+ X^+ \phi^0 - \bar{X}^- X^- \phi^0]
\end{aligned}$$

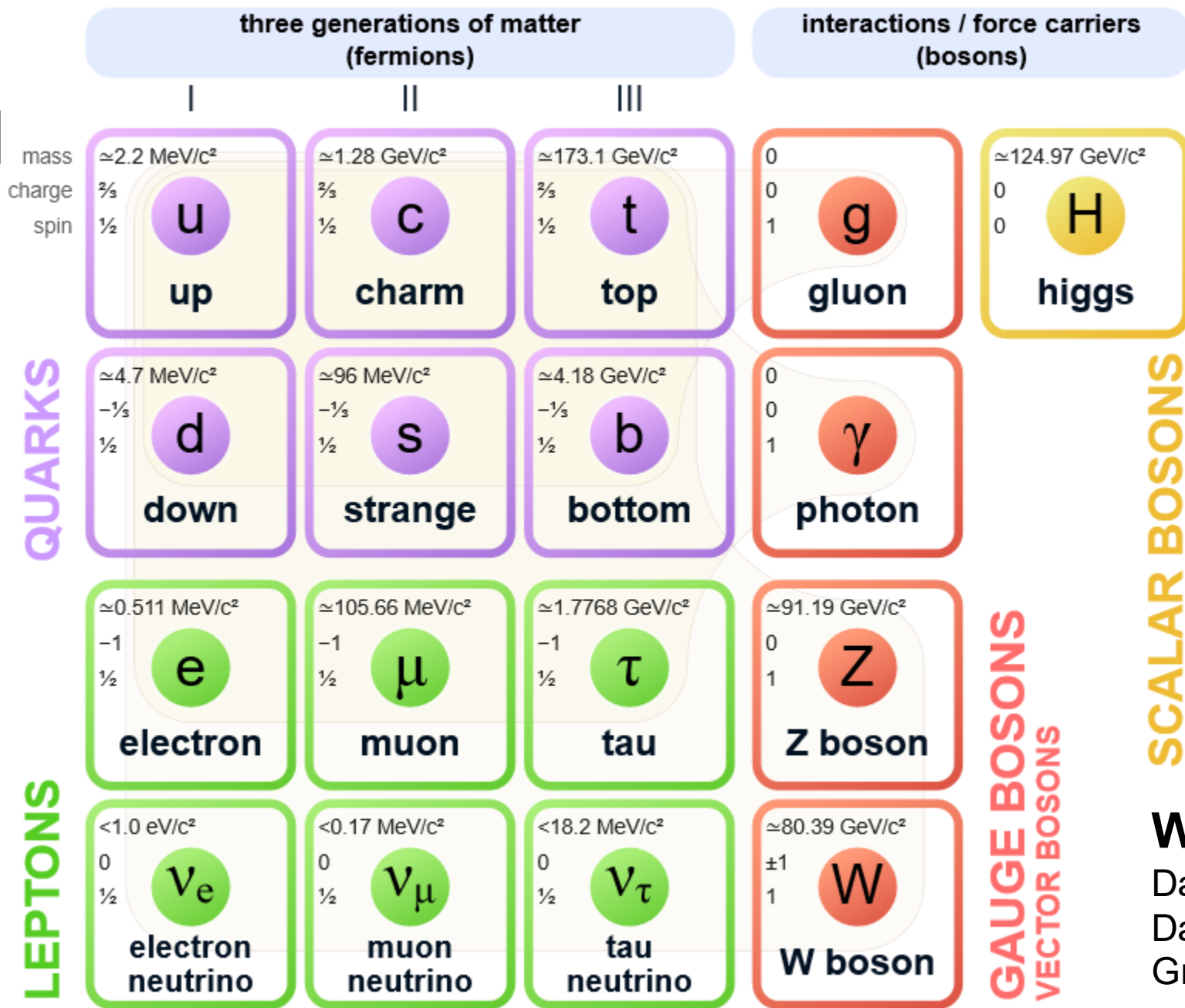
But what are we looking for?

The Standard Model





The Standard Model



What's missing?

Dark matter
Dark energy
Gravity!



The Big Questions in Physics

The search for the Higgs boson

But

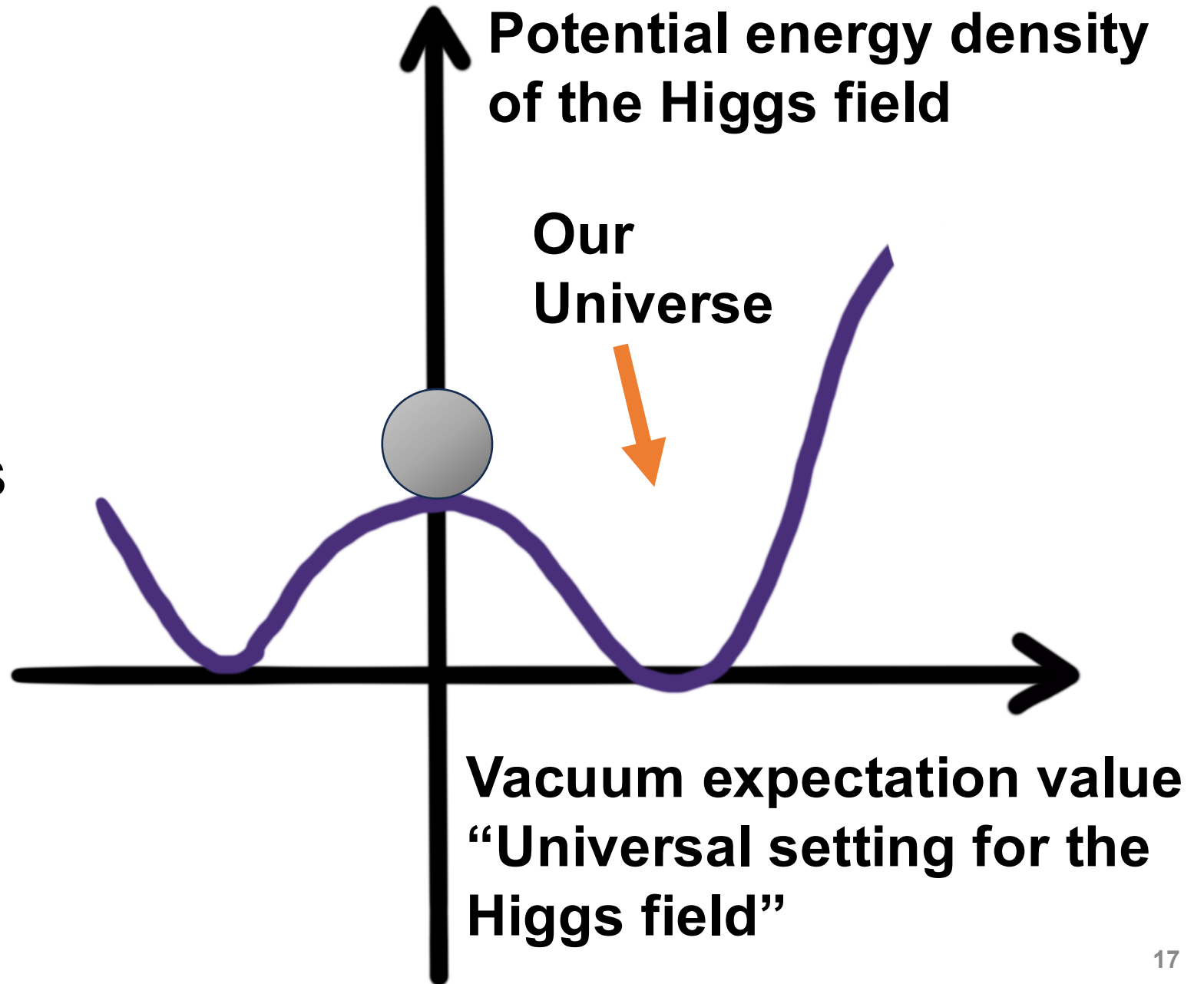
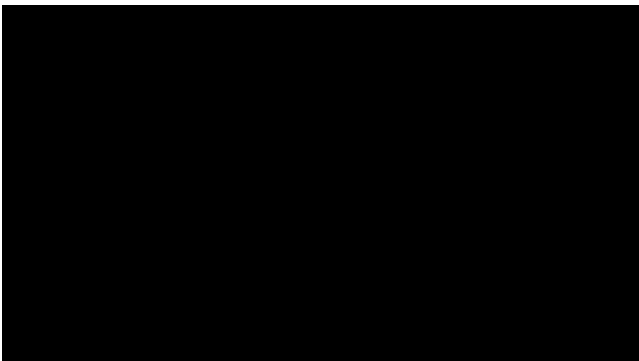
WHY?



The Higgs boson



Aim: to understand the origin of the mass of elementary particles.



The Higgs boson



Image: Jorge Cham / PhD Comics

Low mass particle (electron)



High mass particle (top quark)



The Higgs boson



The Higgs boson

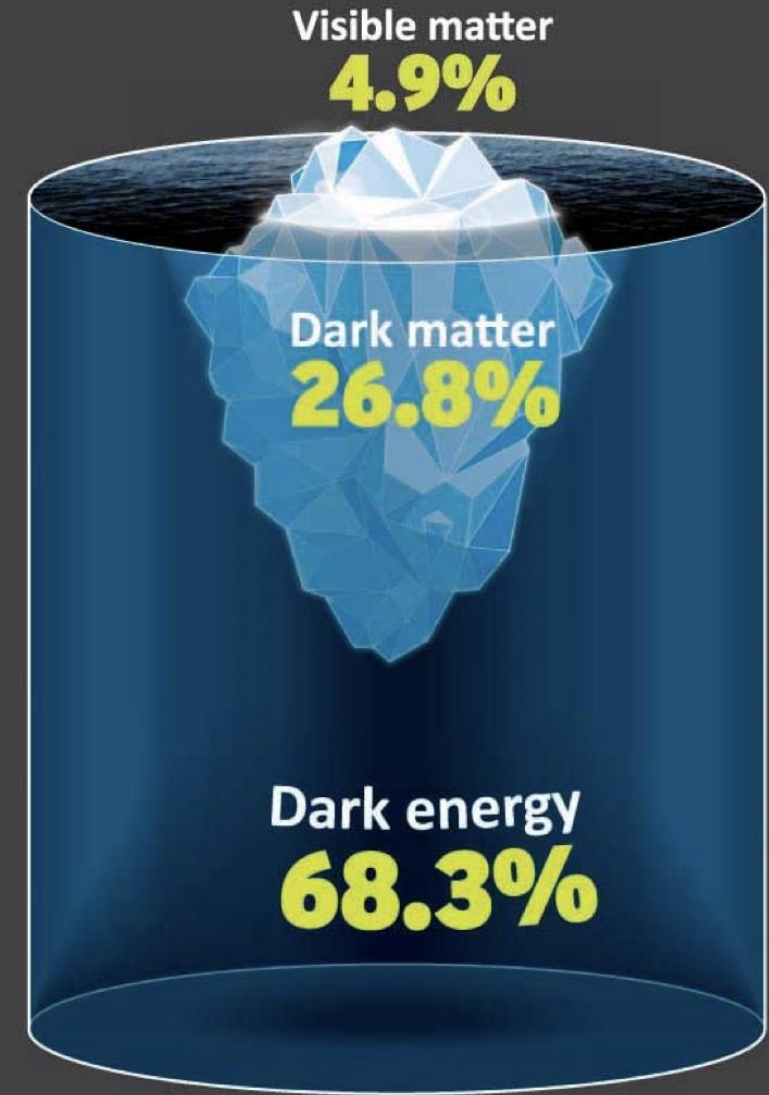
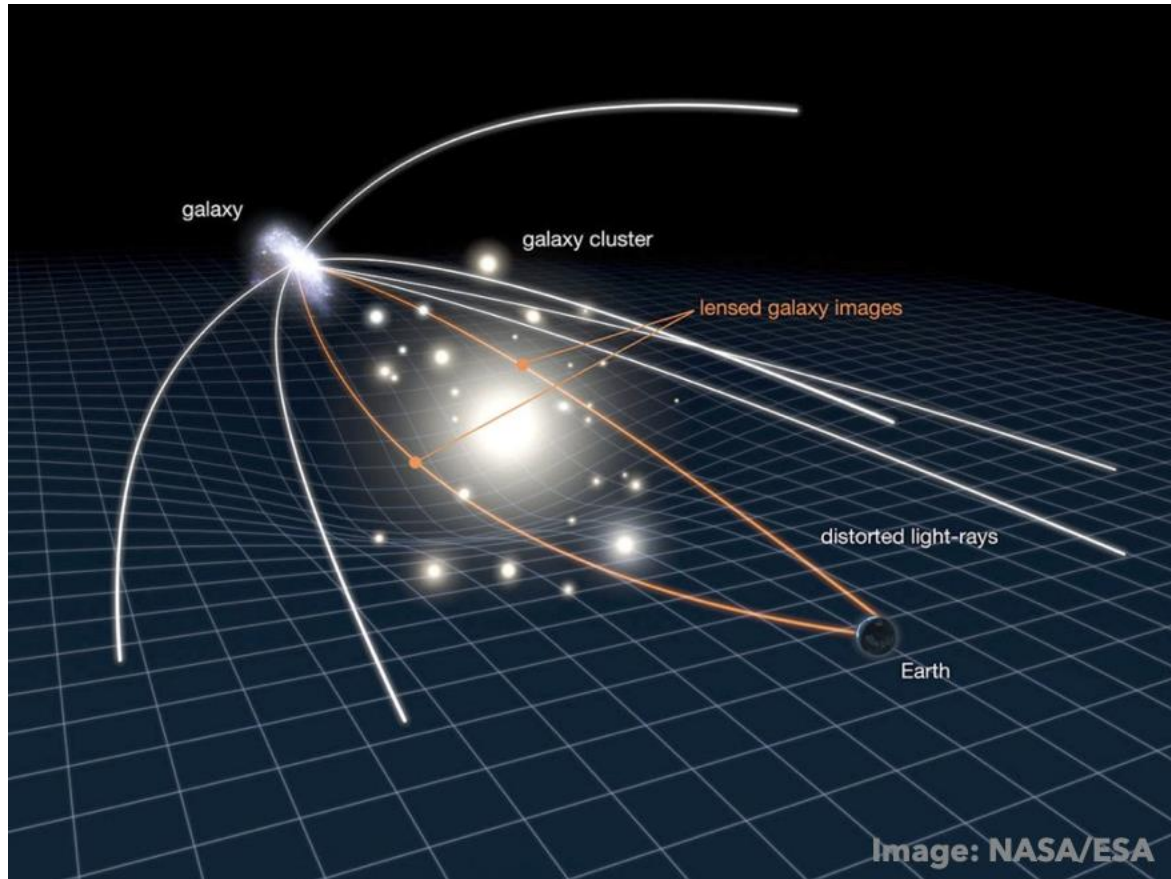


Image: Jorge Cham / PhD Comics

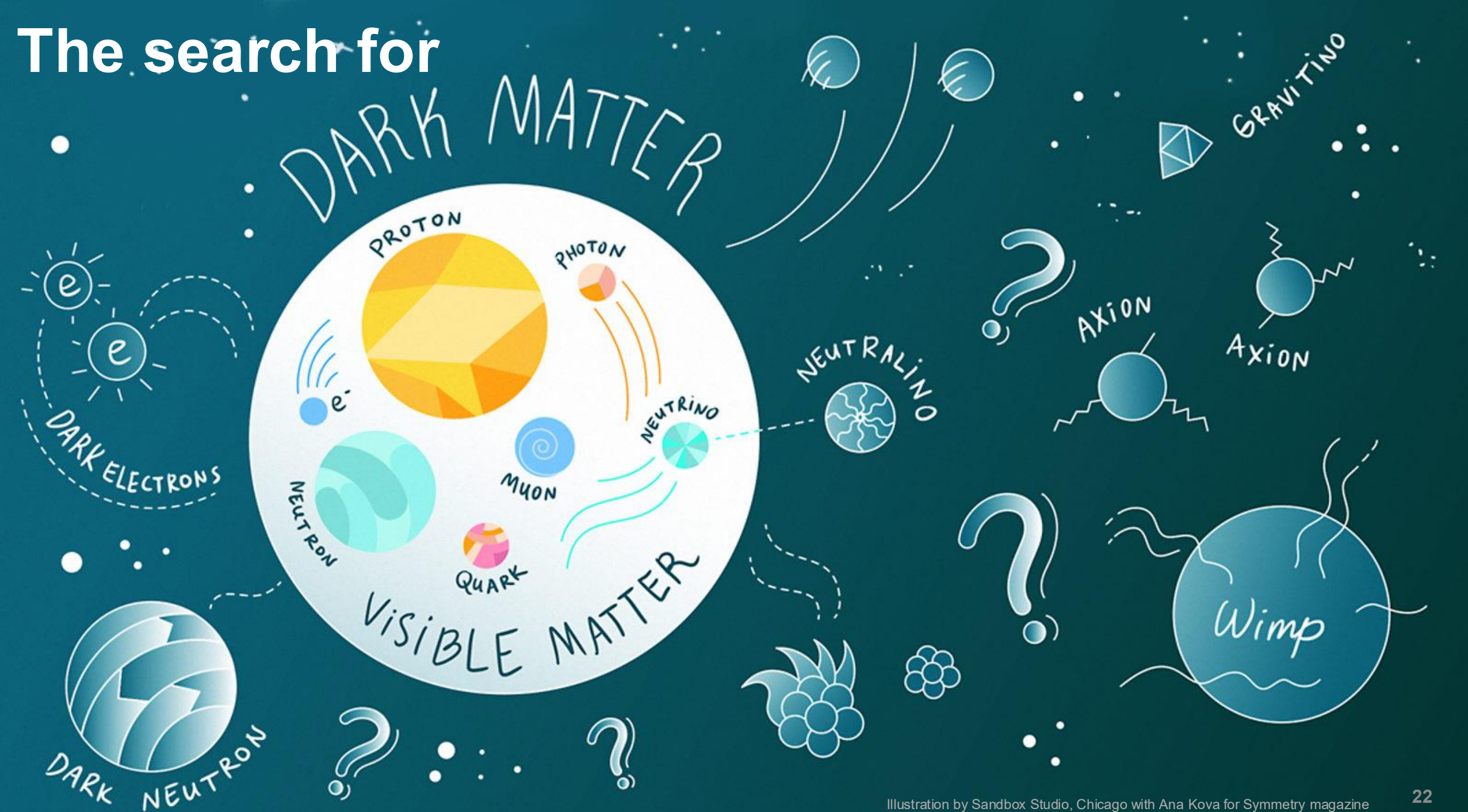
Zero mass particle (photon)



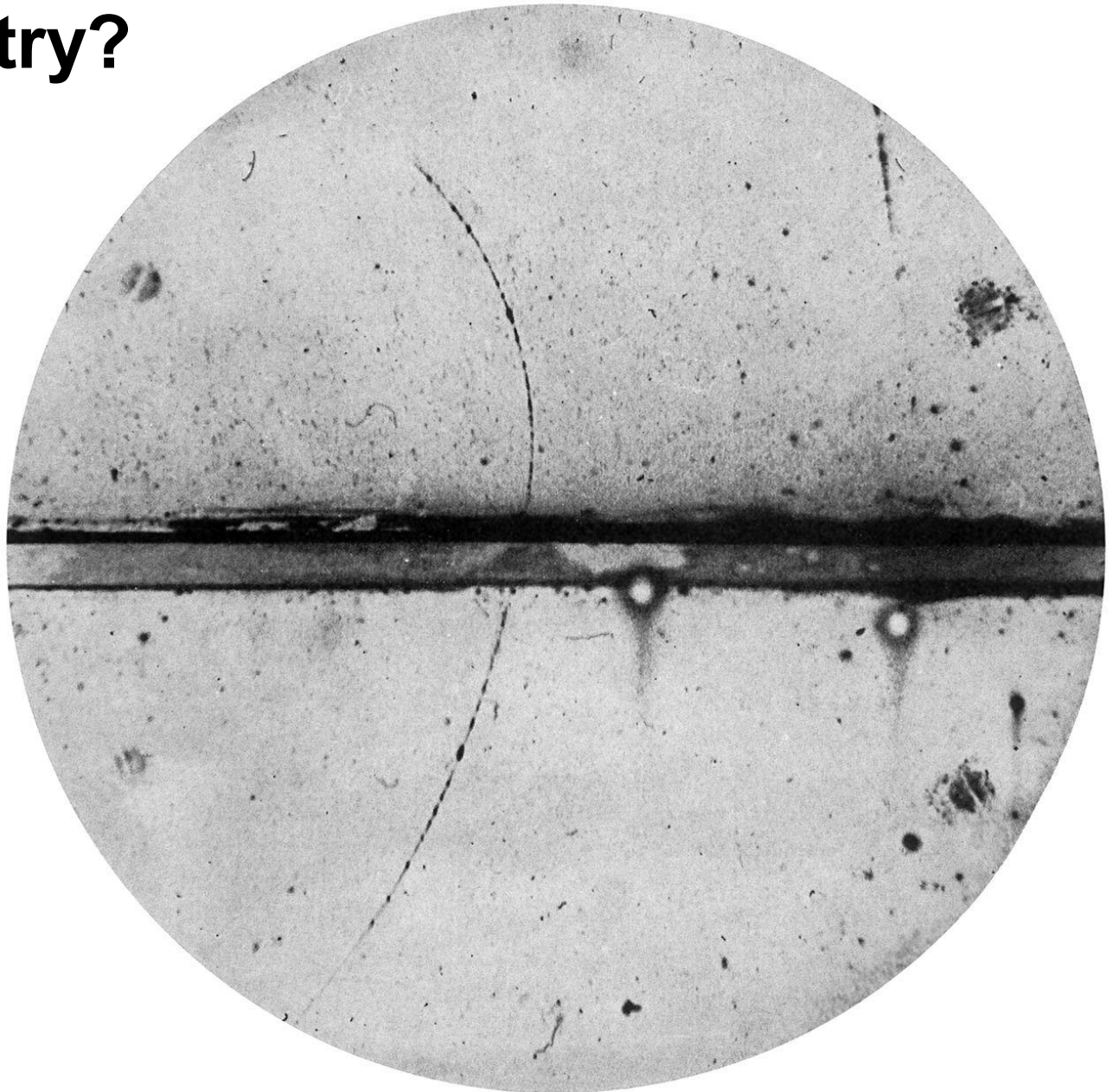
The search for new particles (dark matter?)



The search for



Matter-Antimatter asymmetry?



The Strength of Gravity?

- Is there a graviton?
- Are there extra dimensions that gravity is leaking into?
- What is the strength of gravity for antimatter?



Neutrino note

Not going to talk much about them today because in LHC physics, we mostly just deal with them as missing momentum in our data.

But, there are big questions still:
What are the neutrino masses and where do they get their mass from?

We still don't know.

The international journal of science / 13 February 2025

nature



COSMIC CATCHER

Deep-sea telescope detects
neutrino with highest
energy ever recorded

**So how do we go
about answering
these questions?**

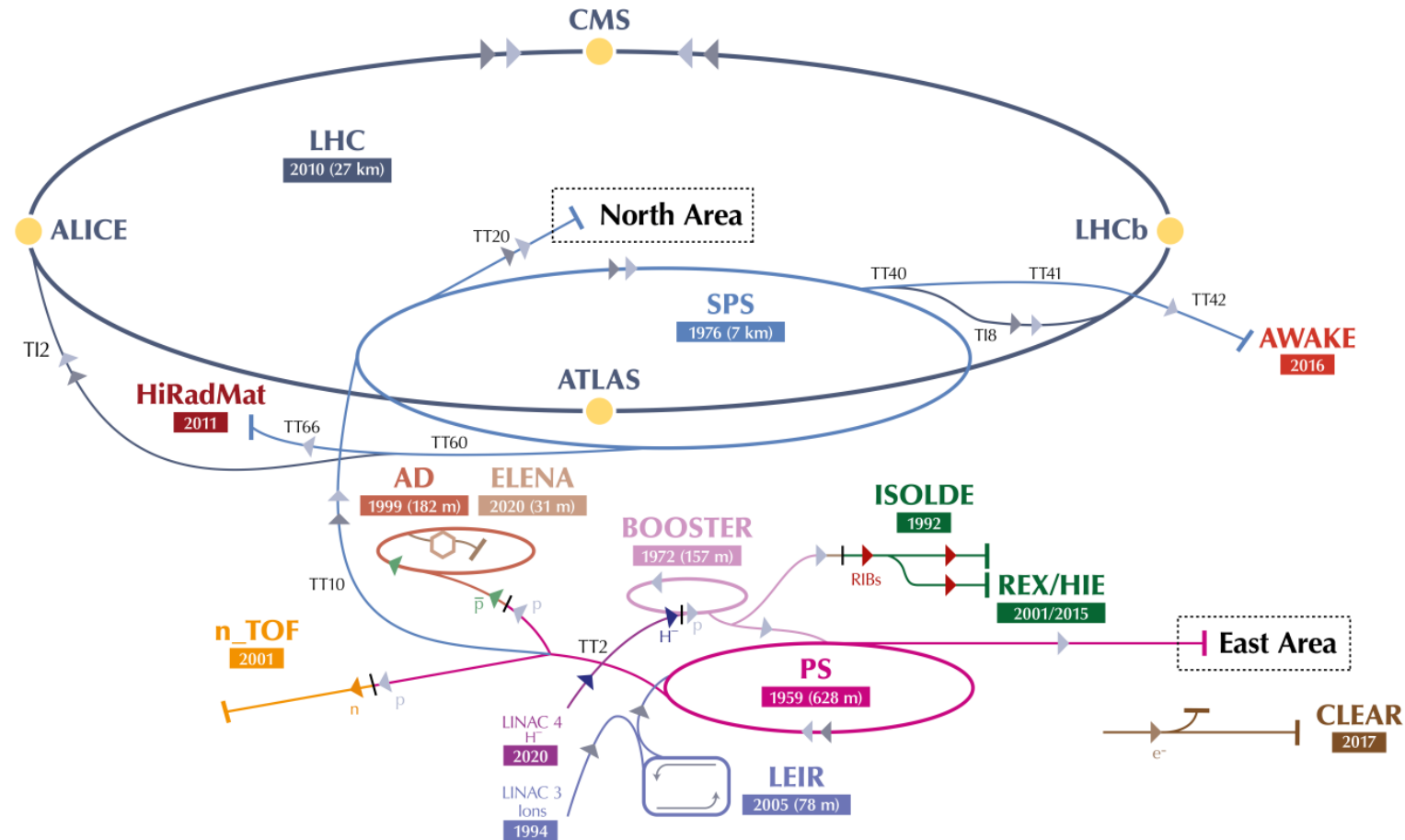




Accelerating Ylirwln

The CERN accelerator complex

Complexe des accélérateurs du CERN



► H⁻ (hydrogen anions) ► p (protons) ► ions ► RIBs (Radioactive Ion Beams) ► n (neutrons) ► \bar{p} (antiprotons) ► e⁻ (electrons)

LHC - Large Hadron Collider // SPS - Super Proton Synchrotron // PS - Proton Synchrotron // AD - Antiproton Decelerator // CLEAR - CERN Linear Electron Accelerator for Research // AWAKE - Advanced WAKEfield Experiment // ISOLDE - Isotope Separator OnLine // REX/HIE - Radioactive Experiment/High Intensity and Energy ISOLDE // LEIR - Low Energy Ion Ring // LINAC - LINEar ACcelerator // n_TOF - Neutrons Time Of Flight //

HiRadMat - High-Radiation to Materials

From hydrogen bottle to the LHC

CERN



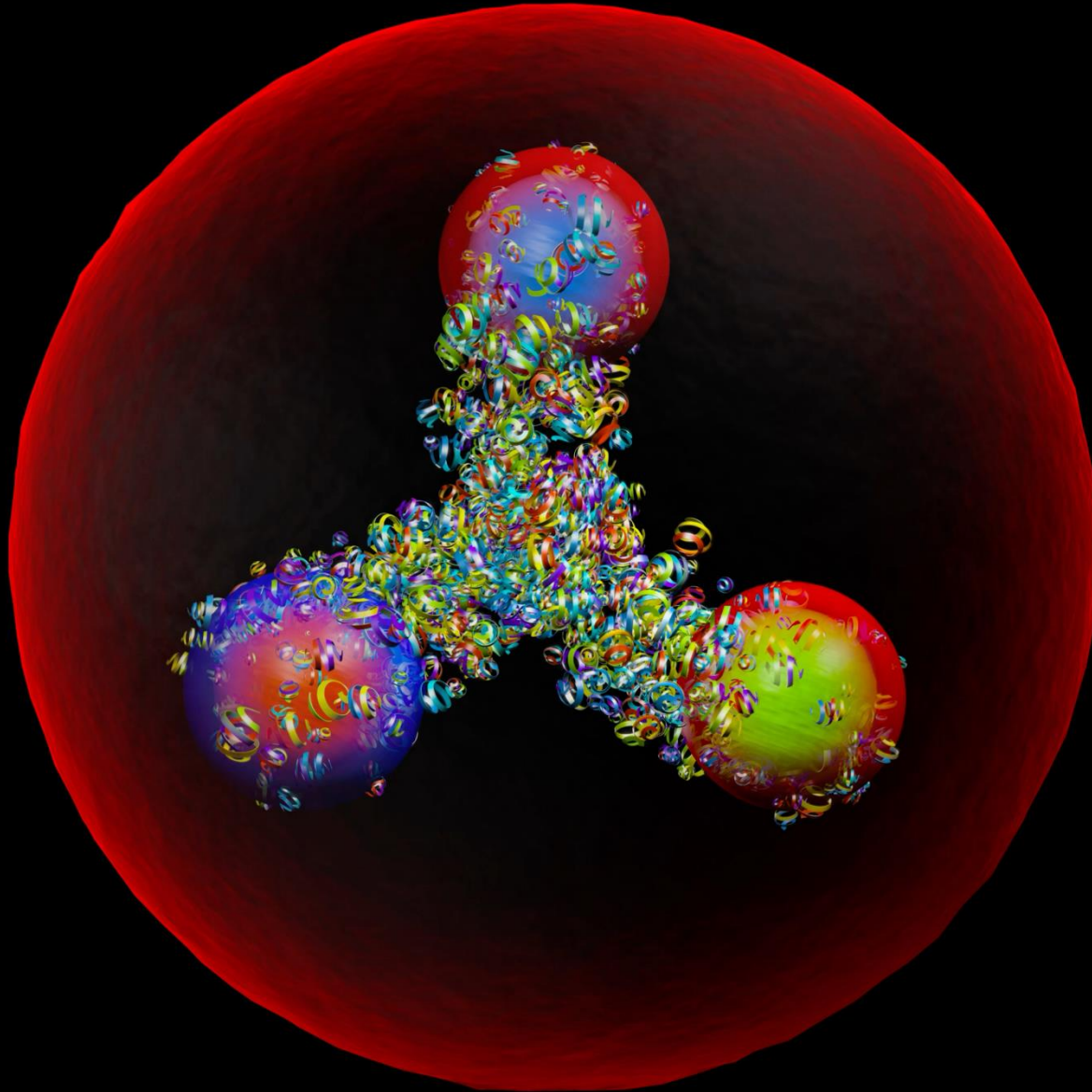
A close-up photograph of a person's face, heavily covered in a thick layer of white frost or snow. The person's eyes and nose are partially obscured by the frost. The background is a blurred indoor setting, possibly a laboratory or office, with various pieces of equipment and structures visible. The overall tone is cold and scientific.

Colder than outer space!

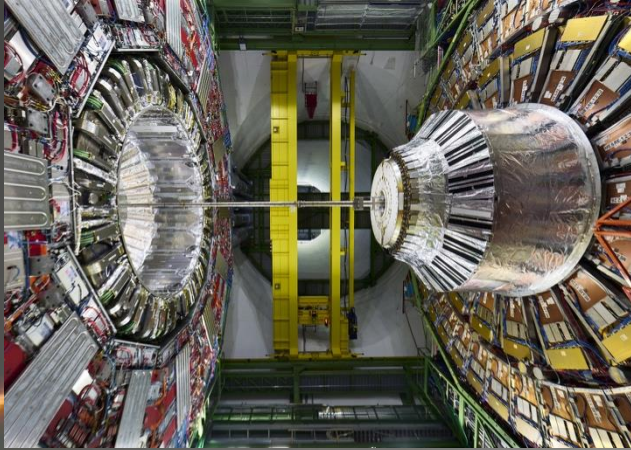
Superconducting magnets



Colliding protons



The LHC detectors

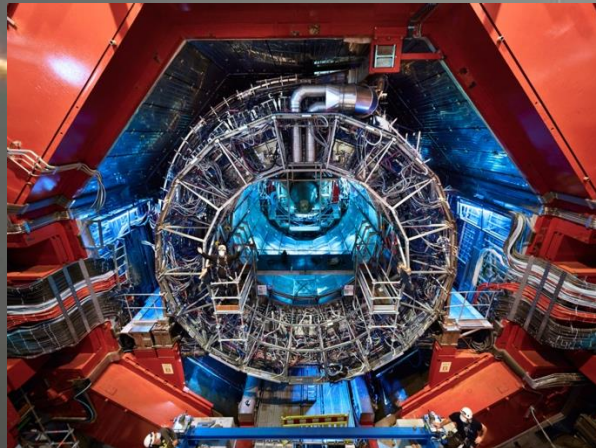


CMS

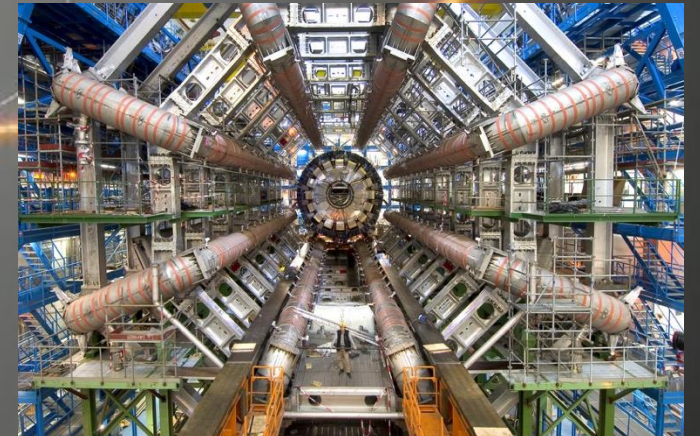


LHCb

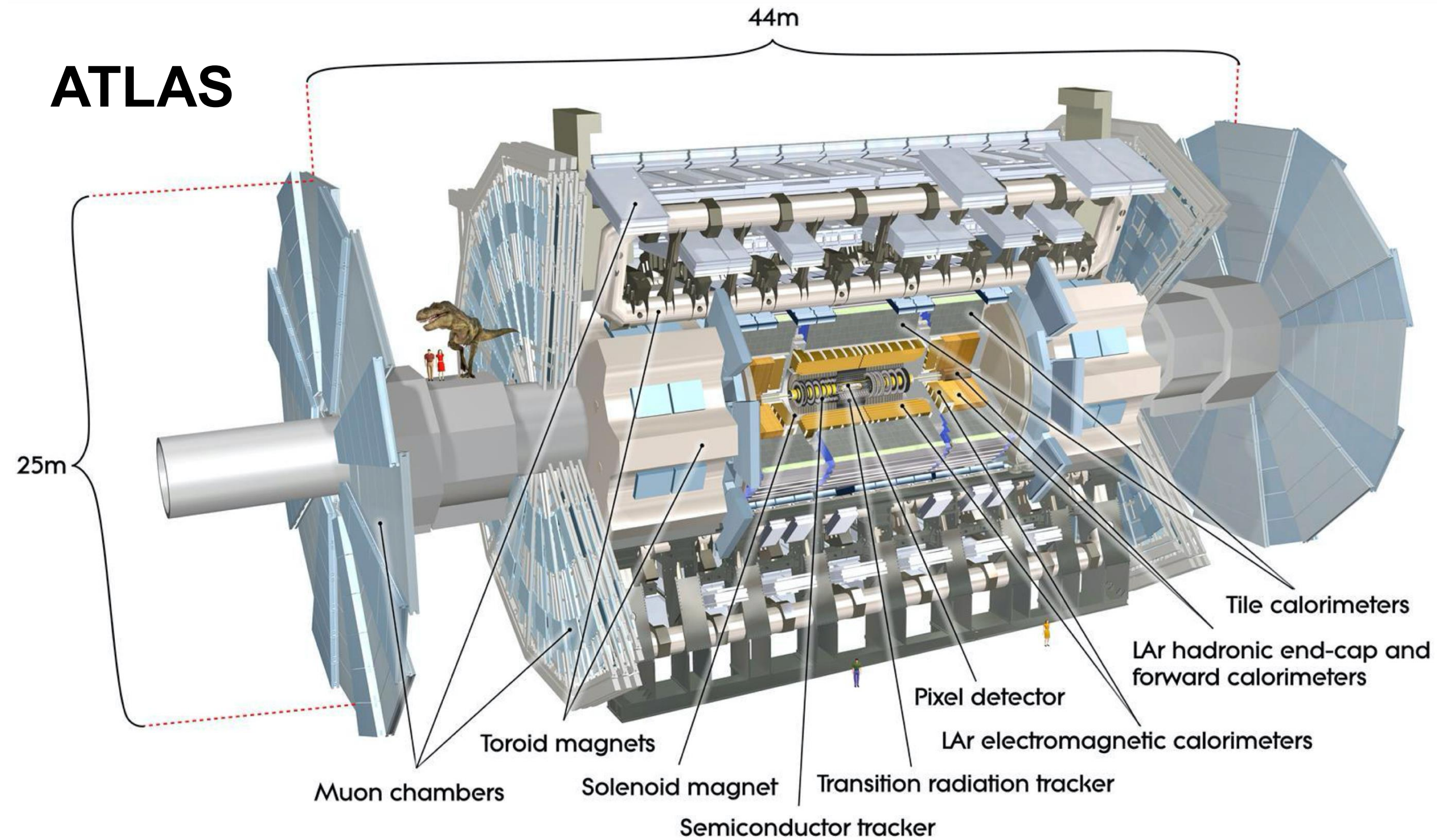
ALICE

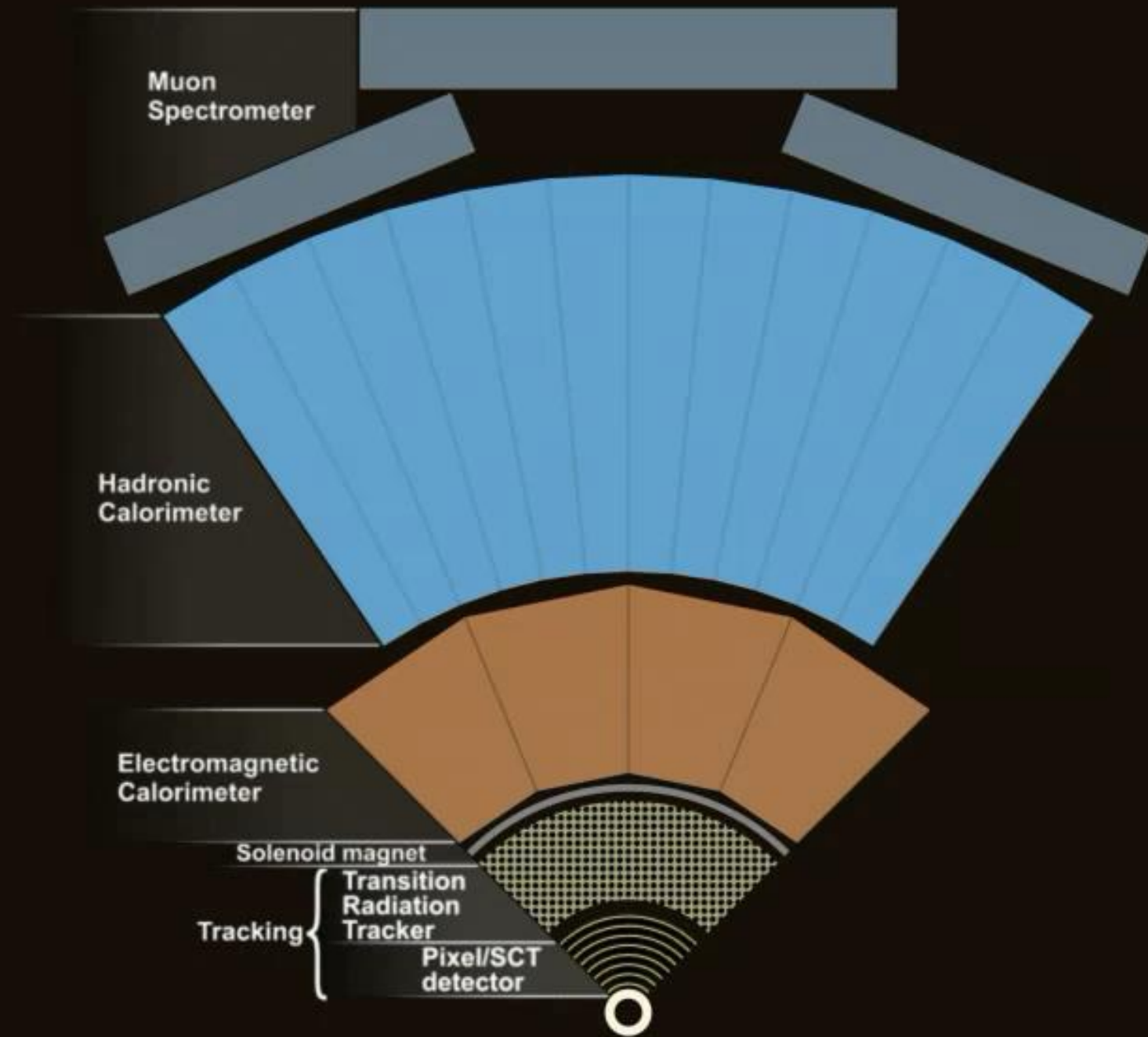


ATLAS



ATLAS





2002

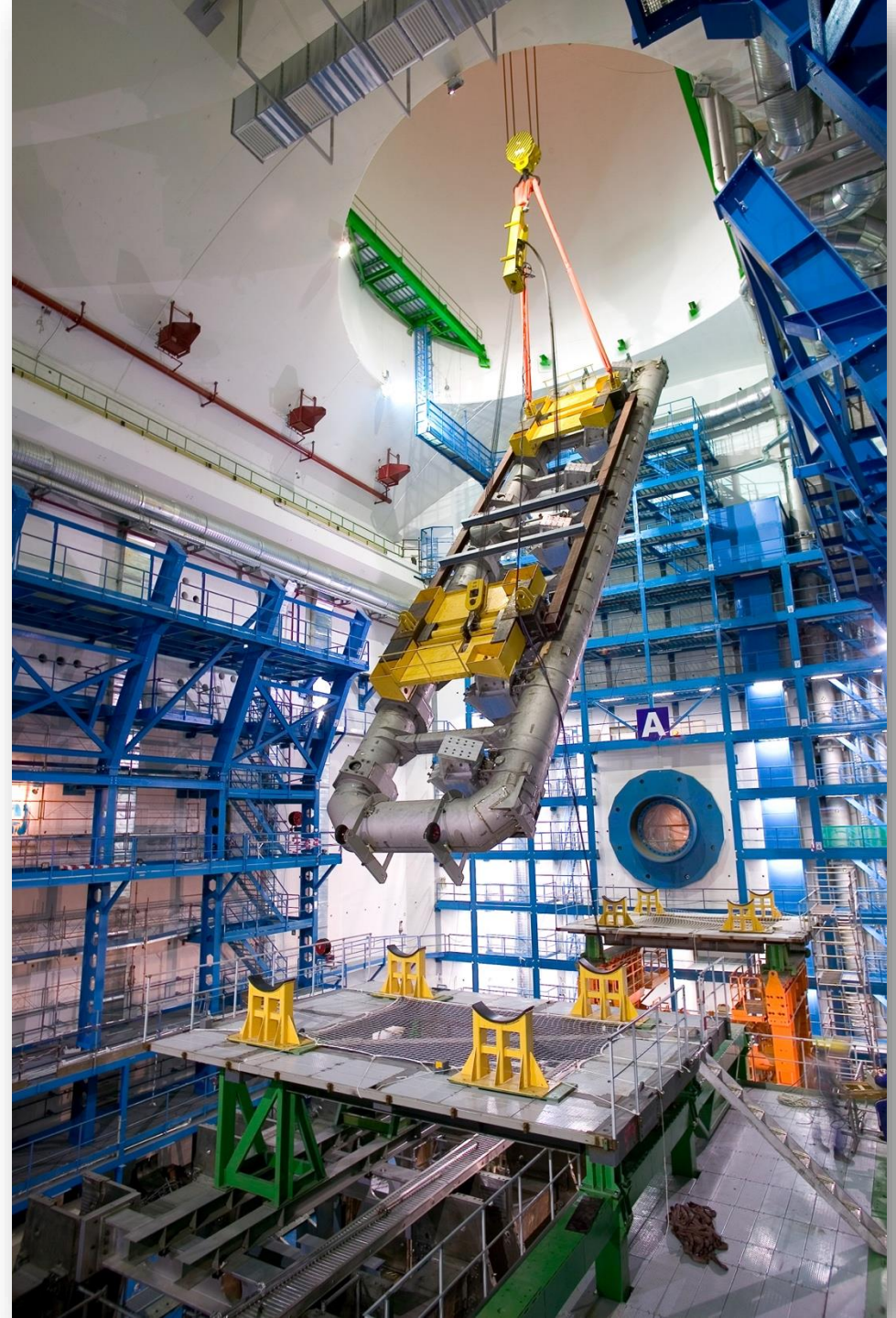
ATLAS

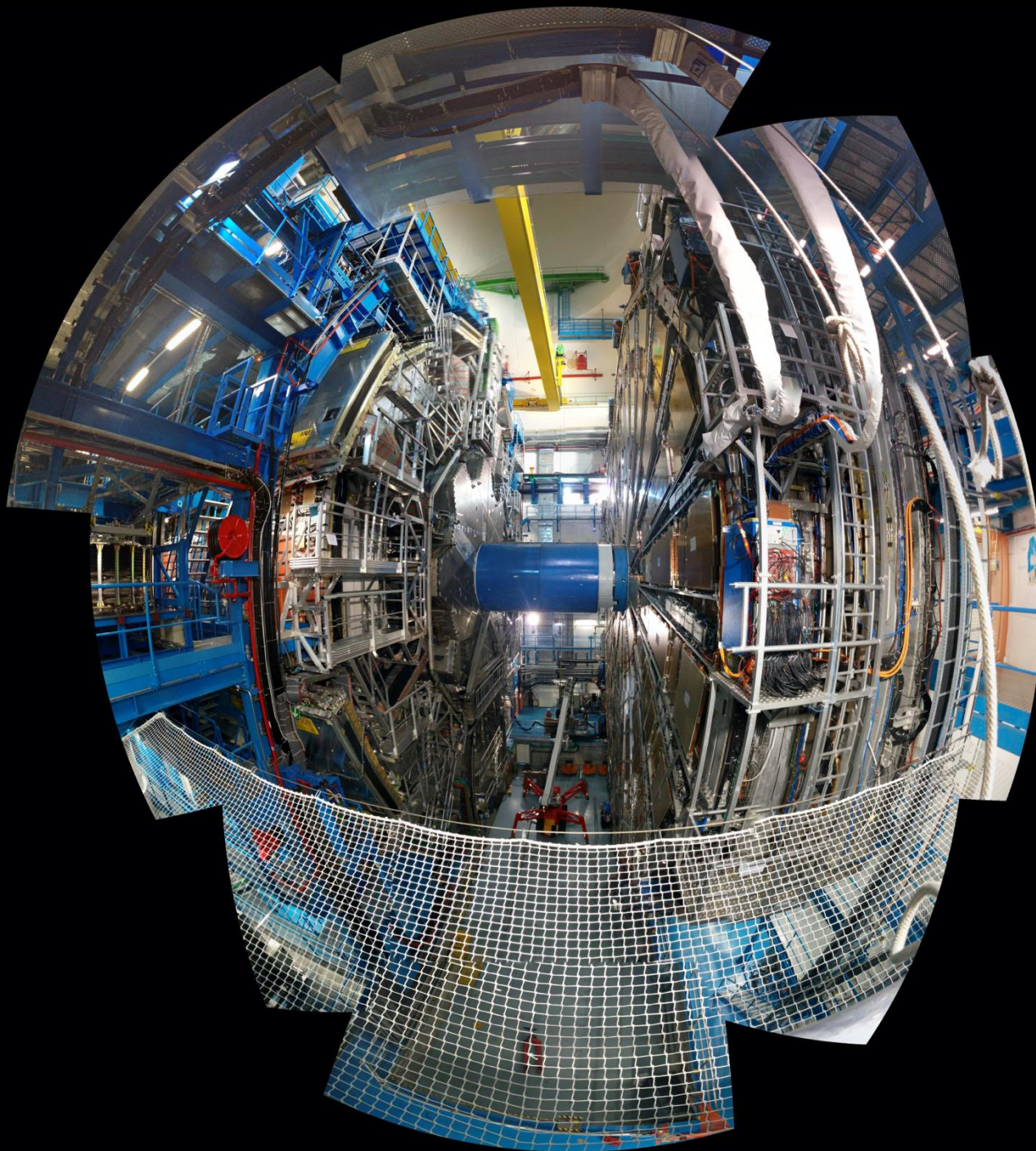
Installation in the cavern

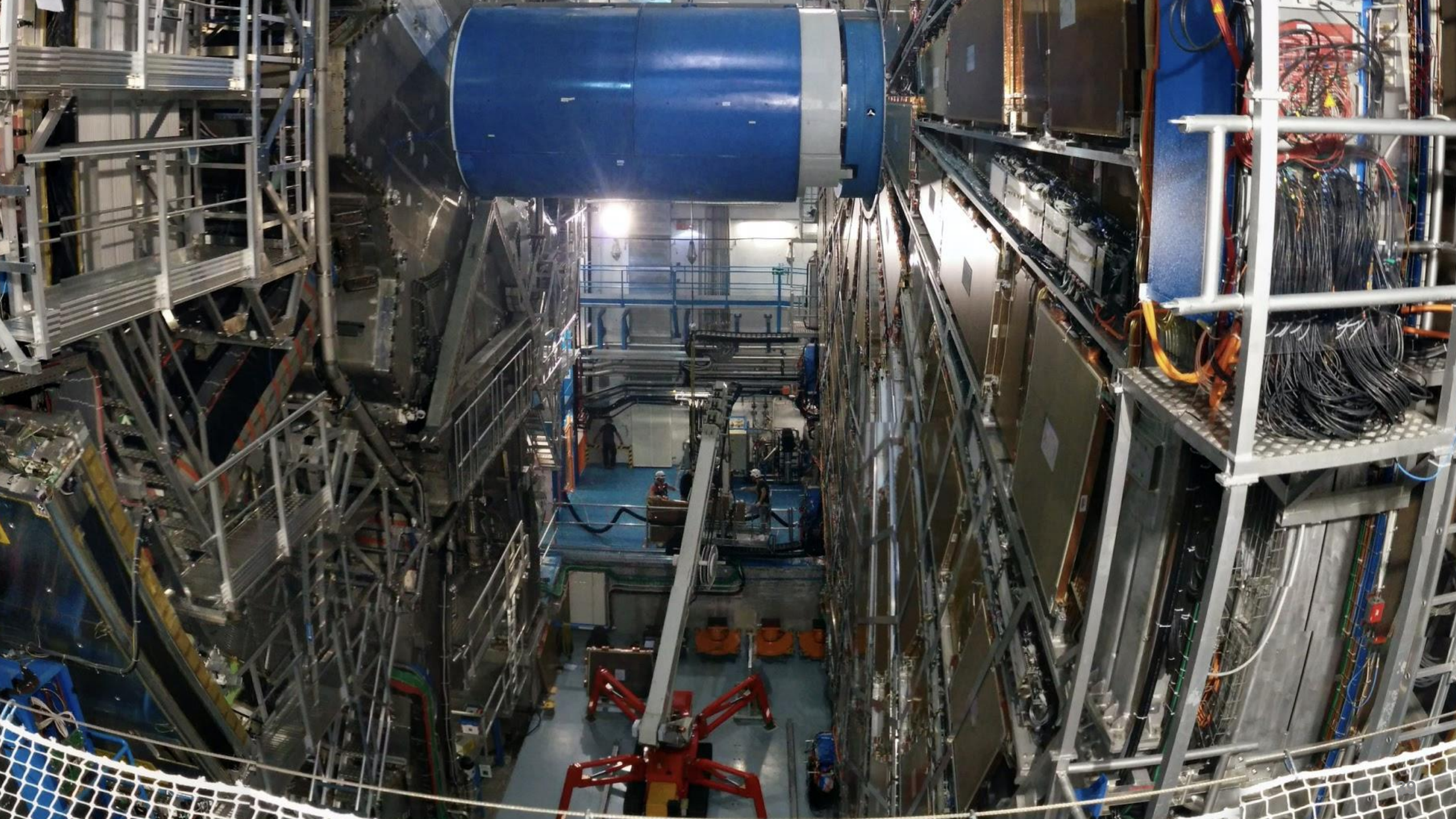


2004

ATLAS Installation in the cavern









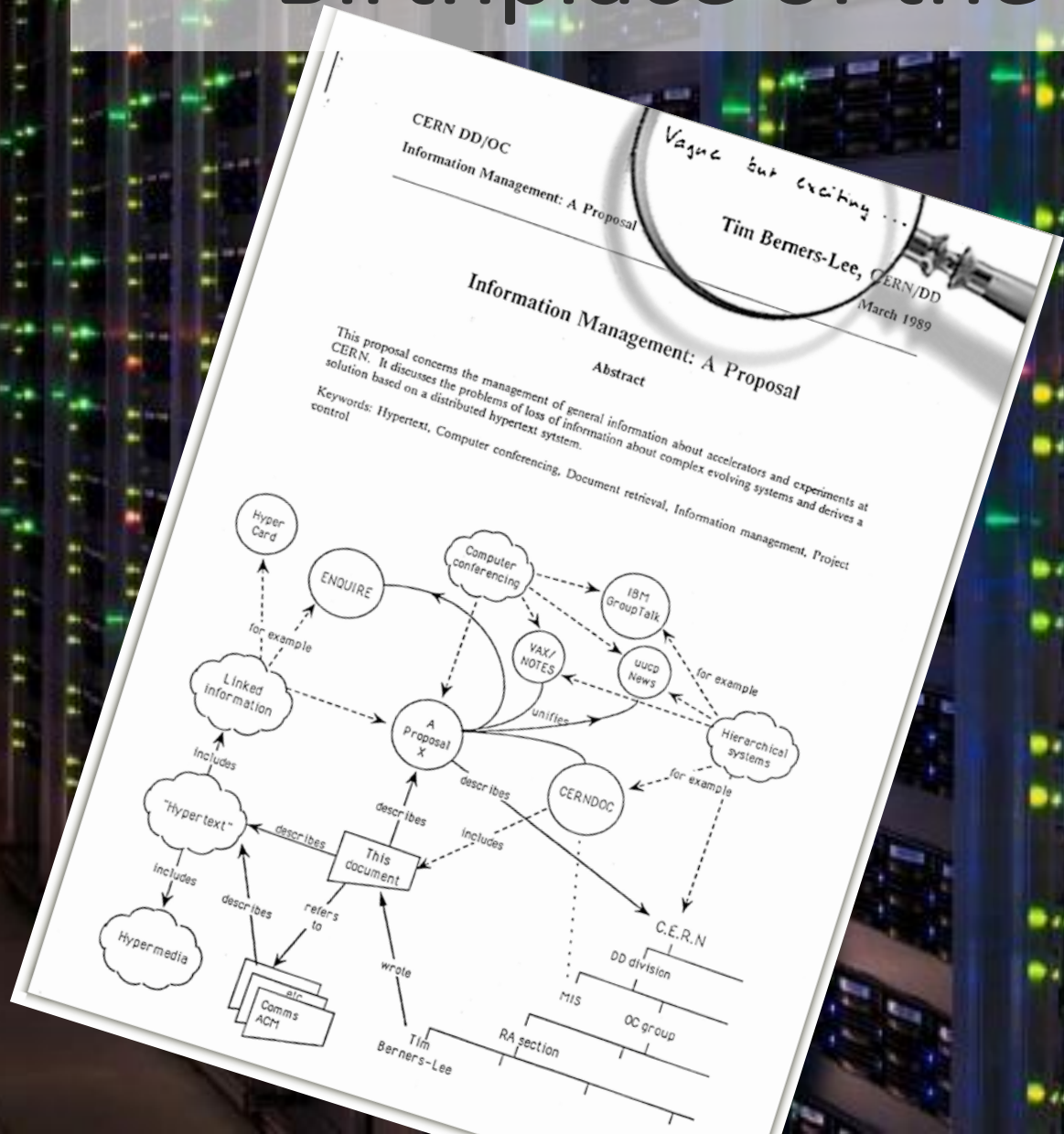
Albania	Hong Kong	Peru
Algeria	Hungary	Philippines
Argentina	Iceland	Poland
Armenia	India	Portugal
Australia	Indonesia	Romania
Austria	Iran	Russia
Azerbaijan	Iraq	Saudi Arabia
Bangladesh	Ireland	Senegal
Belarus	Israel	Serbia
Belgium	Italy	Slovakia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Japan	Slovenia
Botswana	Jordan	South Africa
Brazil	Kazakhstan	South Korea
Bulgaria	Kenya	Spain
Burundi	Kyrgyzstan	Sri Lanka
Canada	Latvia	Sudan
Chile	Lebanon	Swaziland
China	Lithuania	Sweden
Colombia	Luxembourg	Switzerland
Costa Rica	Madagascar	Syria
Croatia	Malaysia	Taiwan
Cuba	Malta	Thailand
Cyprus	Mauritius	Tunisia
Czech Republic	Mexico	Turkey
Denmark	Mongolia	Ukraine
Ecuador	Montenegro	UAE
Egypt	Morocco	UK
Finland	Nepal	USA
France	Netherlands	Uruguay
Georgia	New Zealand	Uzbekistan
Germany	Niger	Venezuela
Ghana	Nigeria	Vietnam
Greece	Norway	Zambia
Honduras	Pakistan	Zimbabwe
	Palestine	

ATLAS Collaboration member nationalities

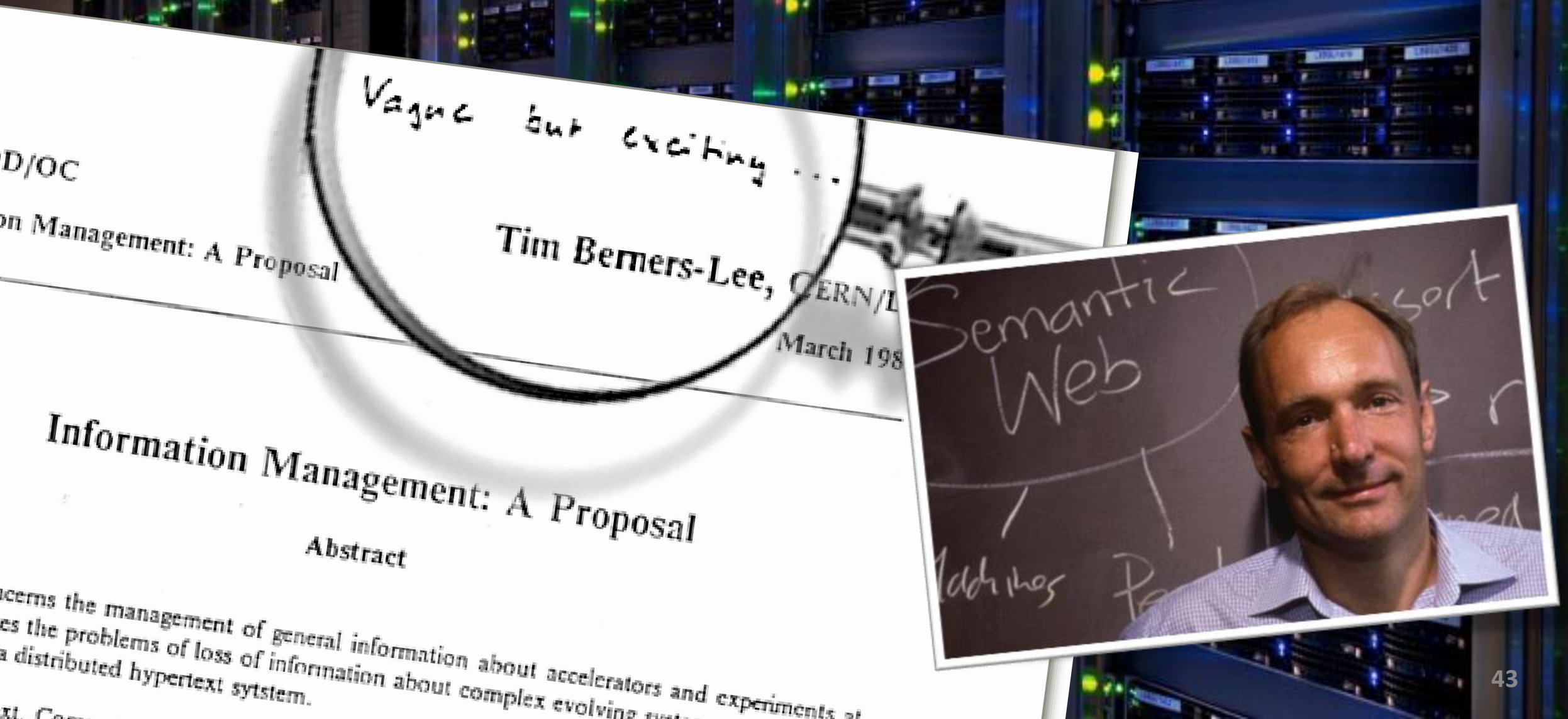
Over 5500 members of 103 nationalities



Birthplace of the World Wide Web



Birthplace of the World Wide Web



The background is a dark blue grid of squares. In the top-left corner, there is a cluster of white squares of various sizes, some of which are blurred, suggesting motion or a high-speed process. The overall aesthetic is technical and digital.

600 million collisions
every second

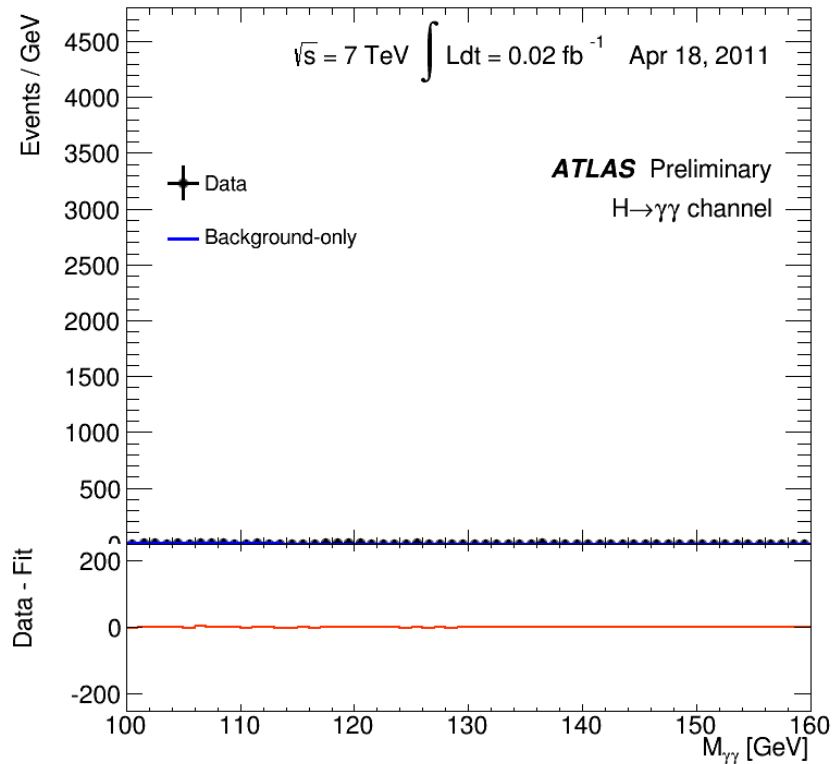
2012

The discovery of a new boson!

The Higgs boson – a major success of the first LHC run.



Image: Jorge Cham / PhD Comics



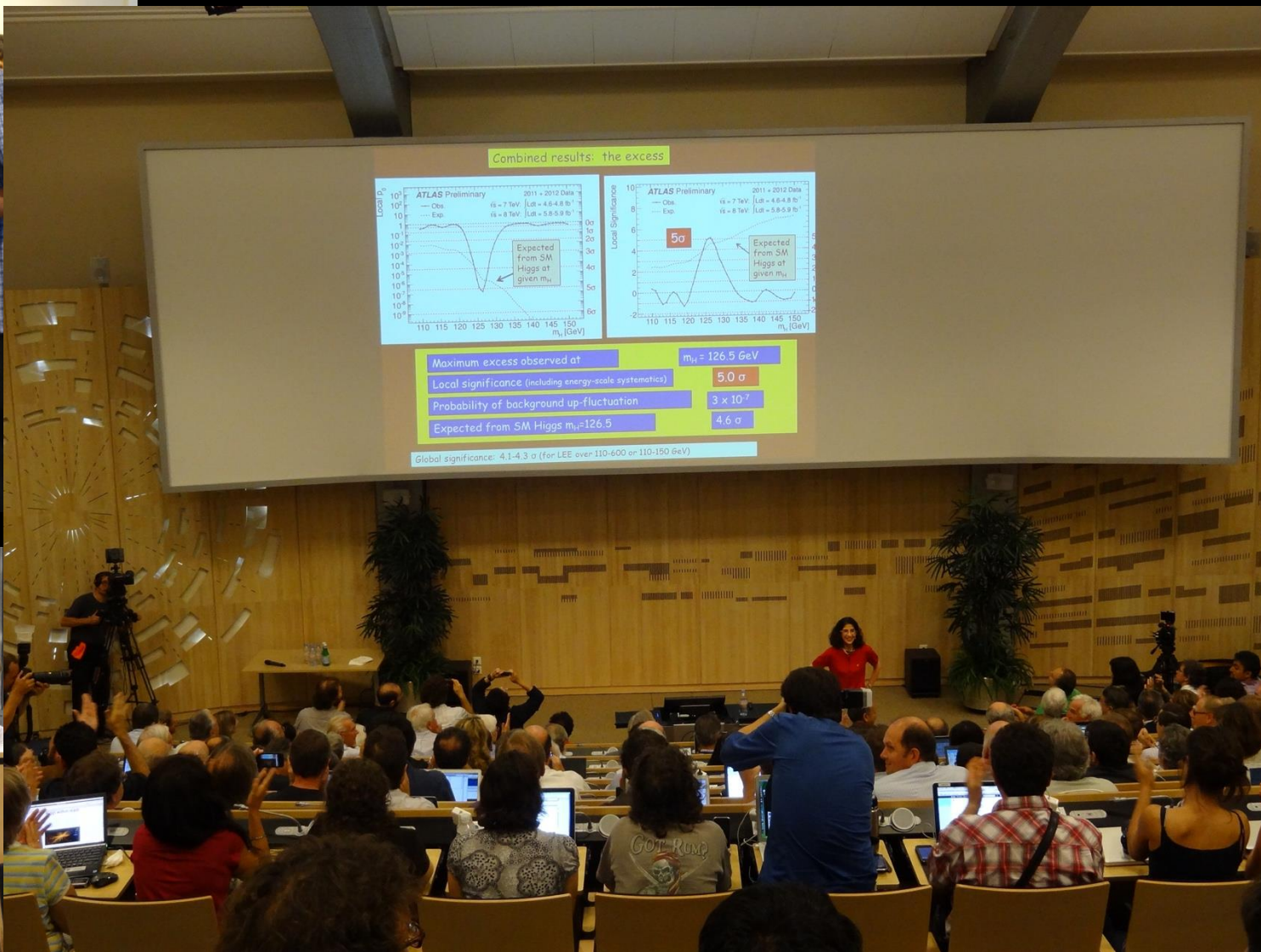
Physicists Find Elusive Particle Seen as Key to Universe

By DENNIS OVERBYE JULY 4, 2012

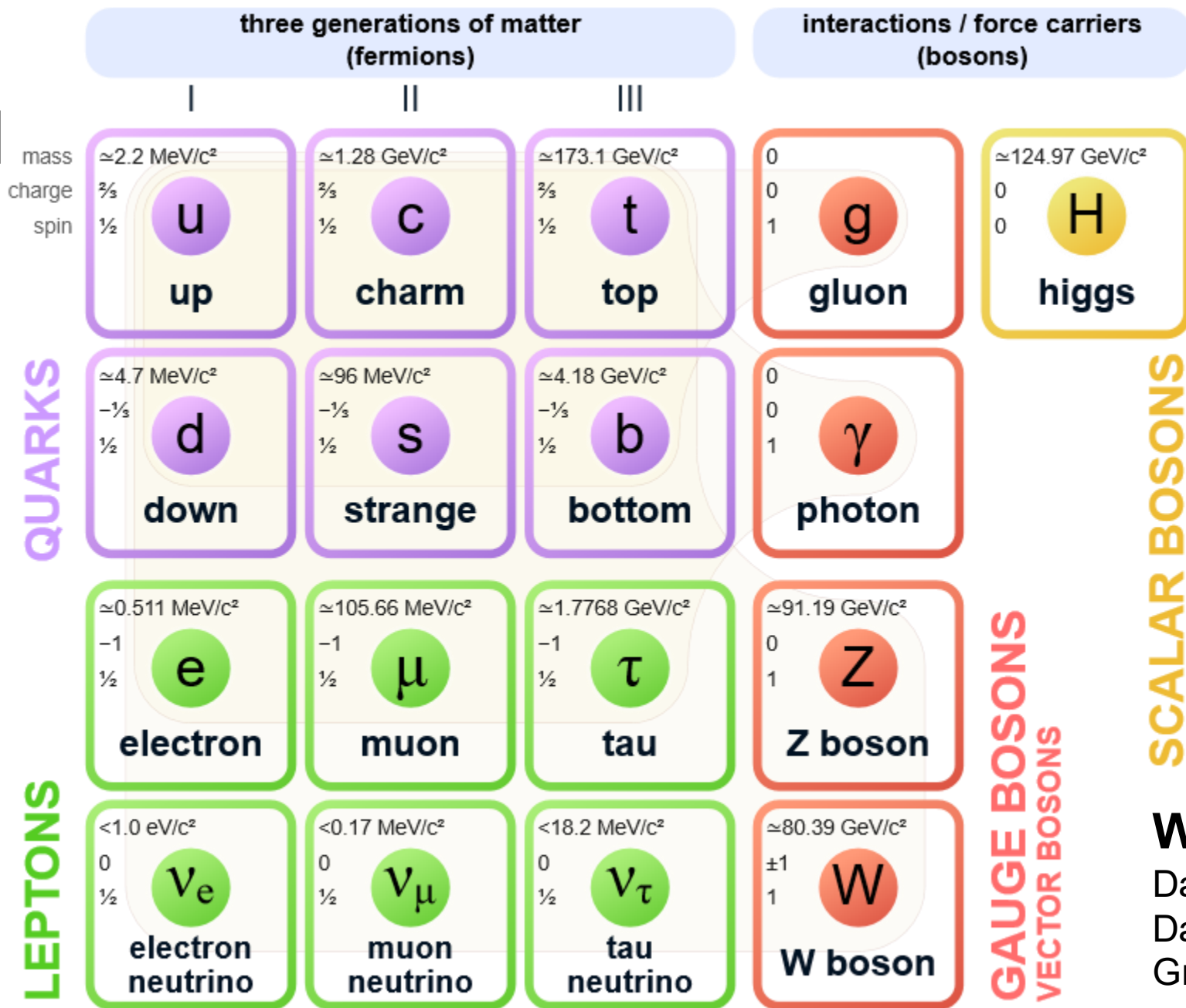


Scientists in Geneva on Wednesday applauded the discovery of a subatomic particle that looks like the Higgs boson. Pool photo by Denis Balibouse





The Standard Model (today)



What's missing?

Dark matter
Dark energy
Gravity!

**So, we keep
searching**

Searches

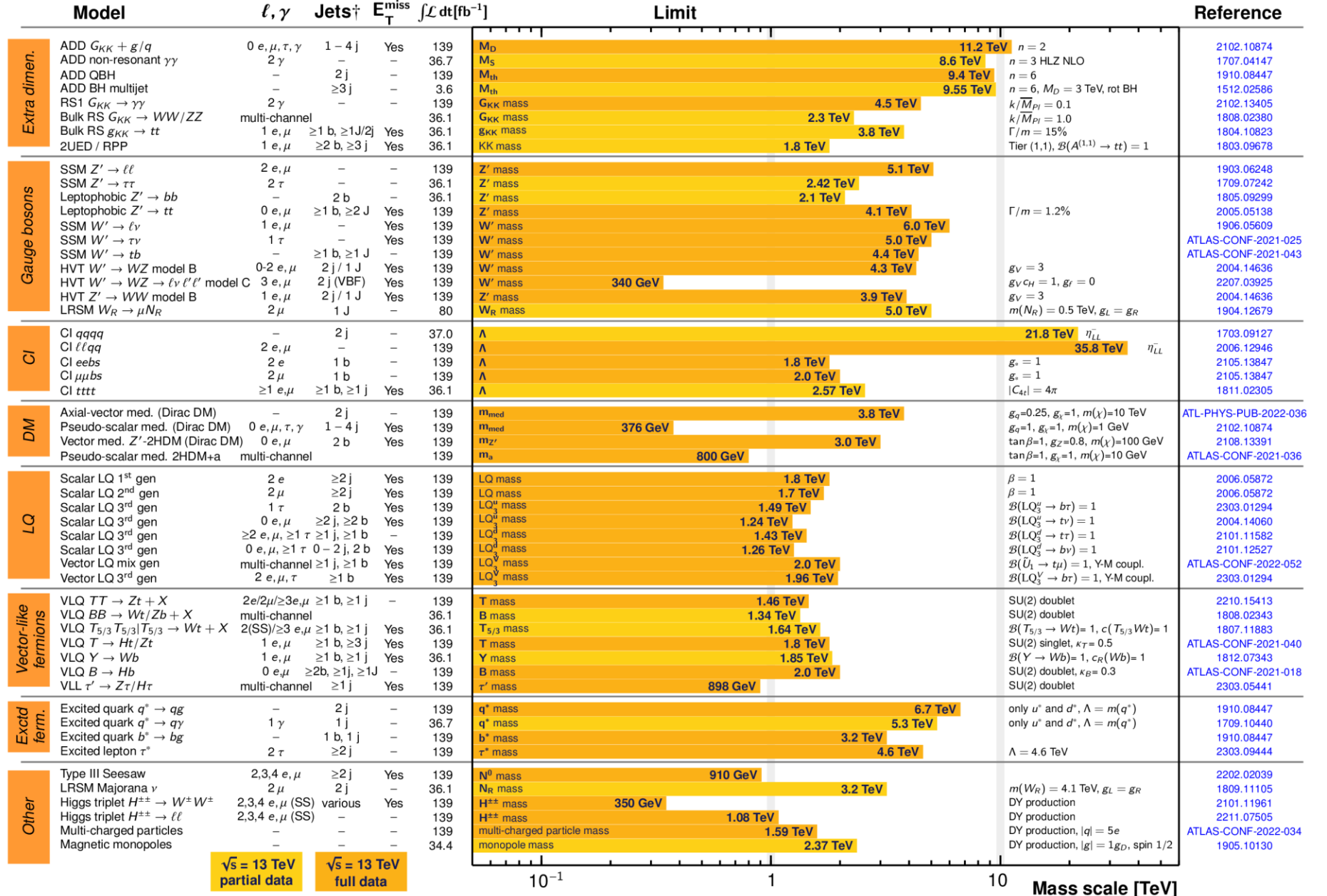
ATLAS Heavy Particle Searches* - 95% CL Upper Exclusion Limits

Status: March 2023

ATLAS Preliminary

$$\int \mathcal{L} dt = (3.6 - 139) \text{ fb}^{-1}$$

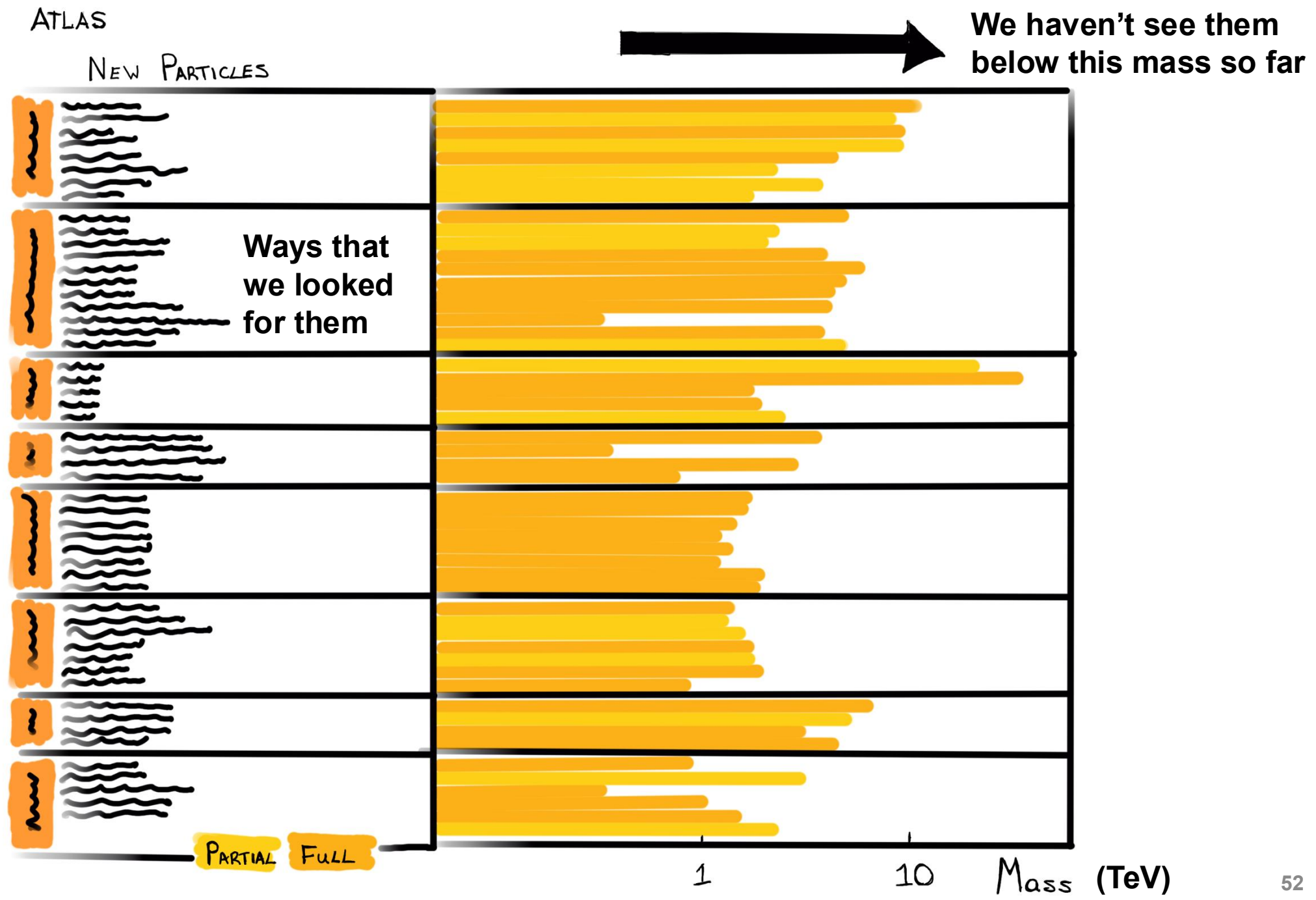
$$\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$$



*Only a selection of the available mass limits on new states or phenomena is shown.

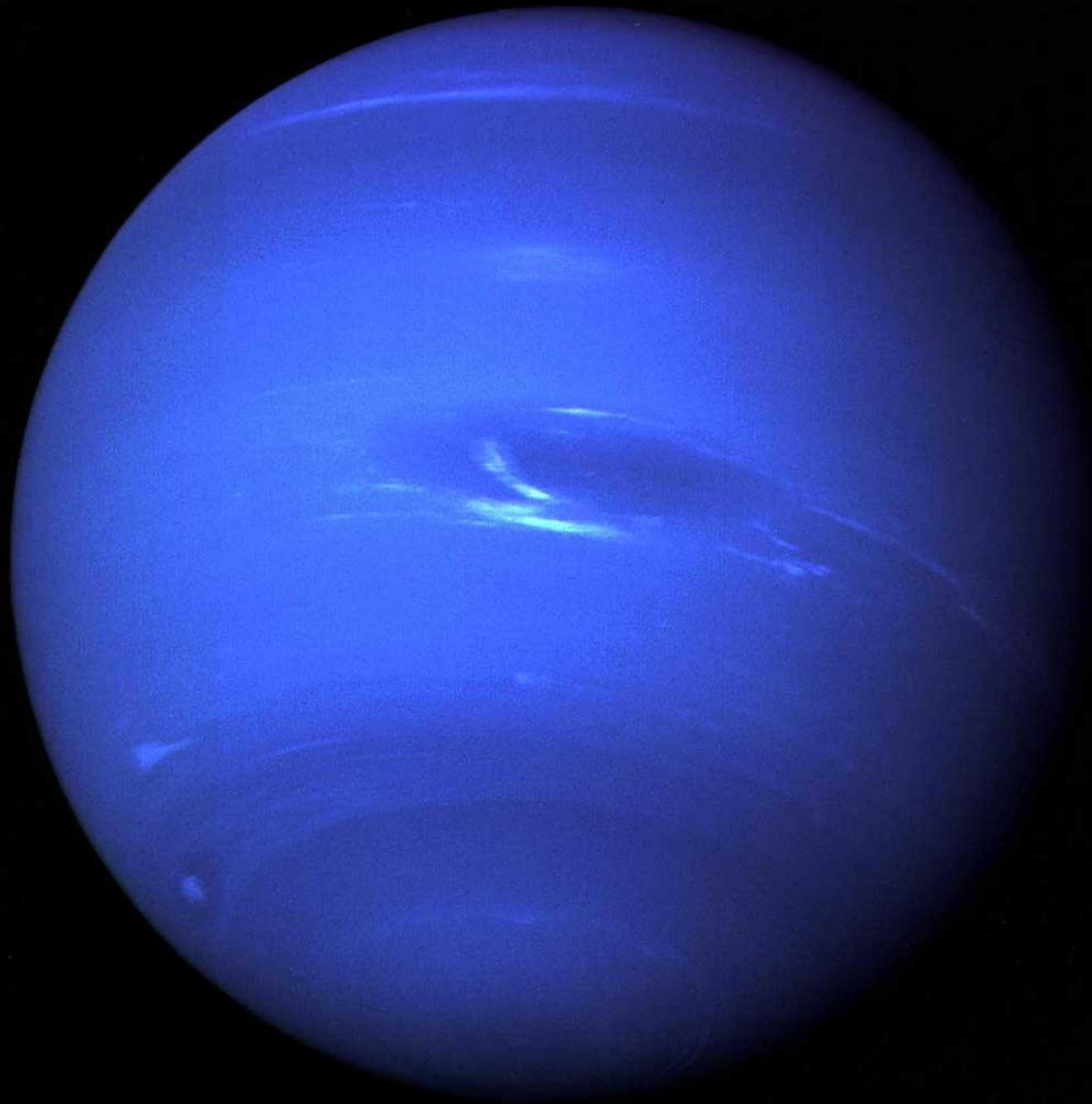
[†]Small-radius (large-radius) jets are denoted by the letter j (J).

Searches



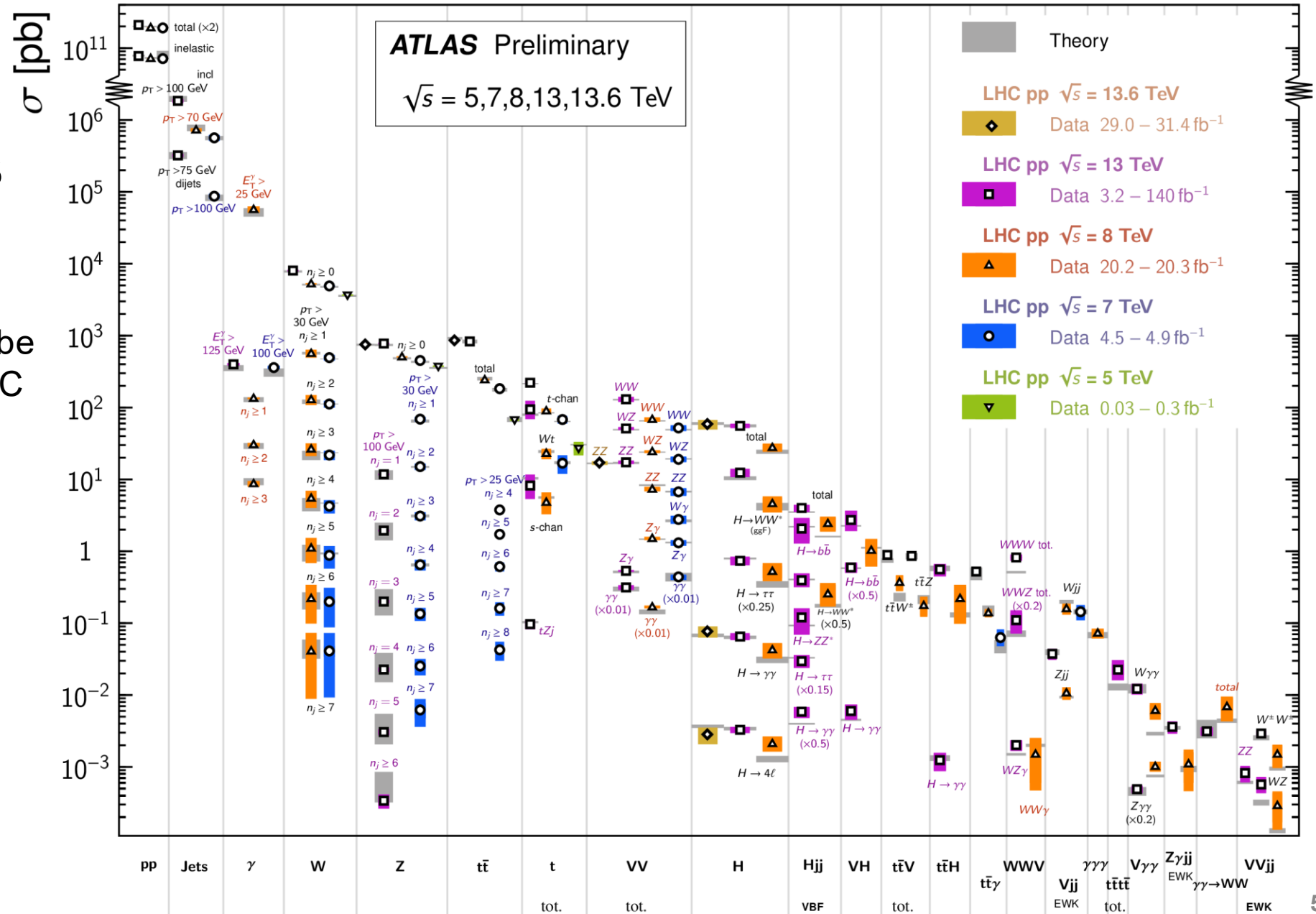
A detailed architectural drawing on a light blue background, featuring various geometric shapes, lines, and dimensions. A silver drafting compass is positioned in the upper left, and a blue pen lies horizontally across the middle. A ruler is visible in the lower left corner. The drawing includes numerous numerical values and technical notations such as 'PAR 90'.

**It's not just about
discovery, it's also about
precision**



How likely a process is to be created in LHC collisions

A rarer process



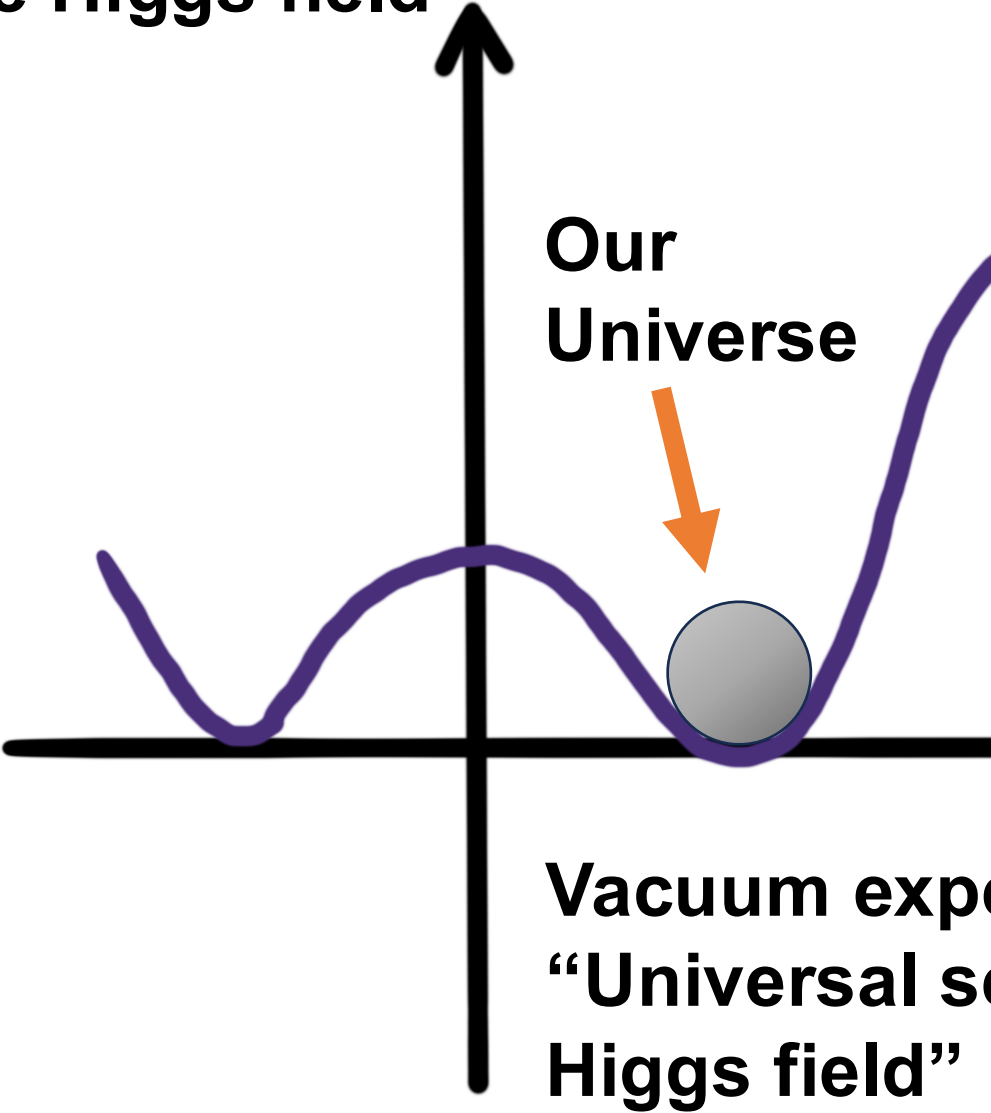


The stability of the universe depends on it!

Please note:

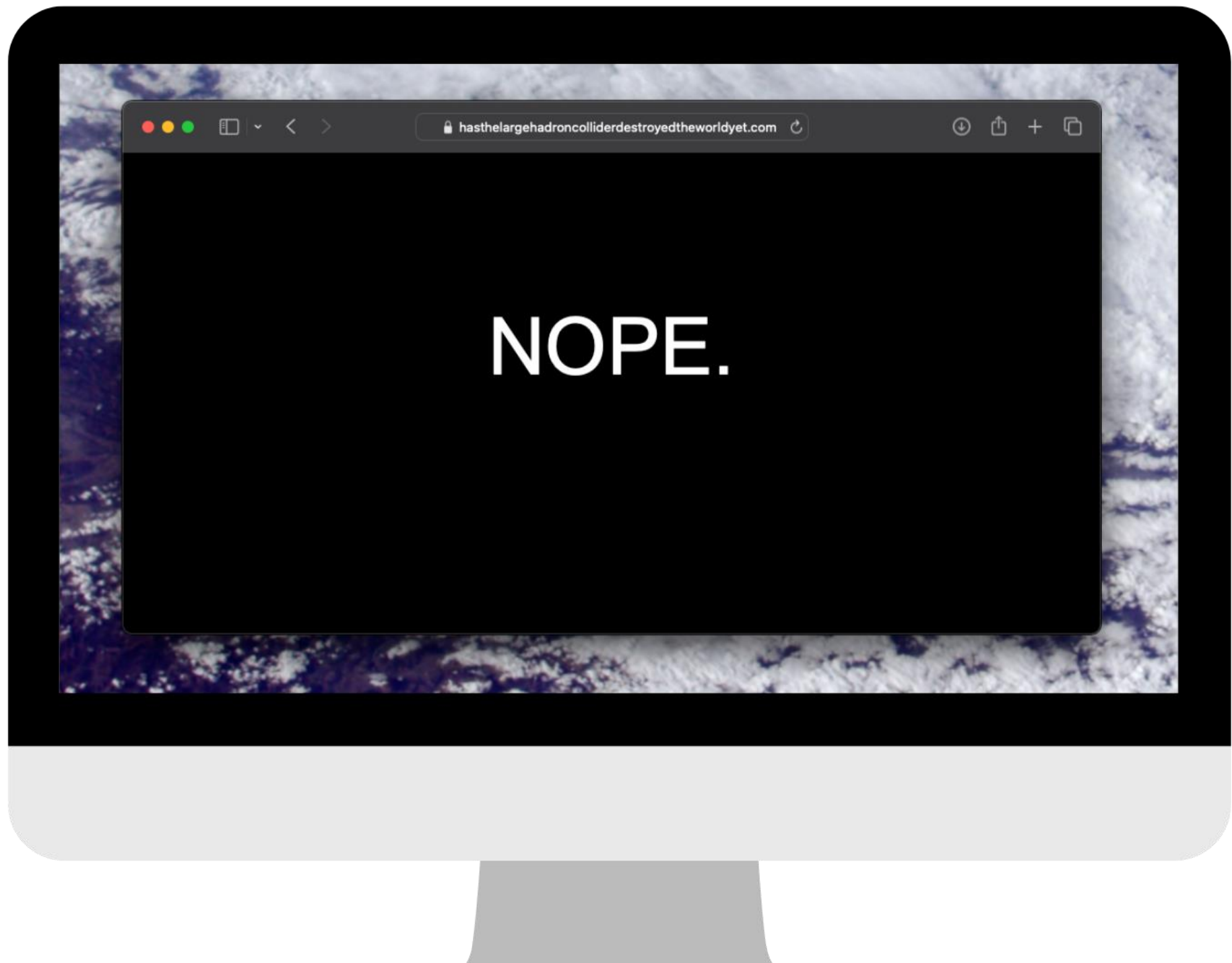
measuring this at CERN doesn't affect the stability.
We're a passive observer :)

**Potential energy density
of the Higgs field**



**Our
Universe**

**Vacuum expectation value
“Universal setting for the
Higgs field”**





Side note:

29th April 2016

The LHC experiences a power cut due to a short-circuit.

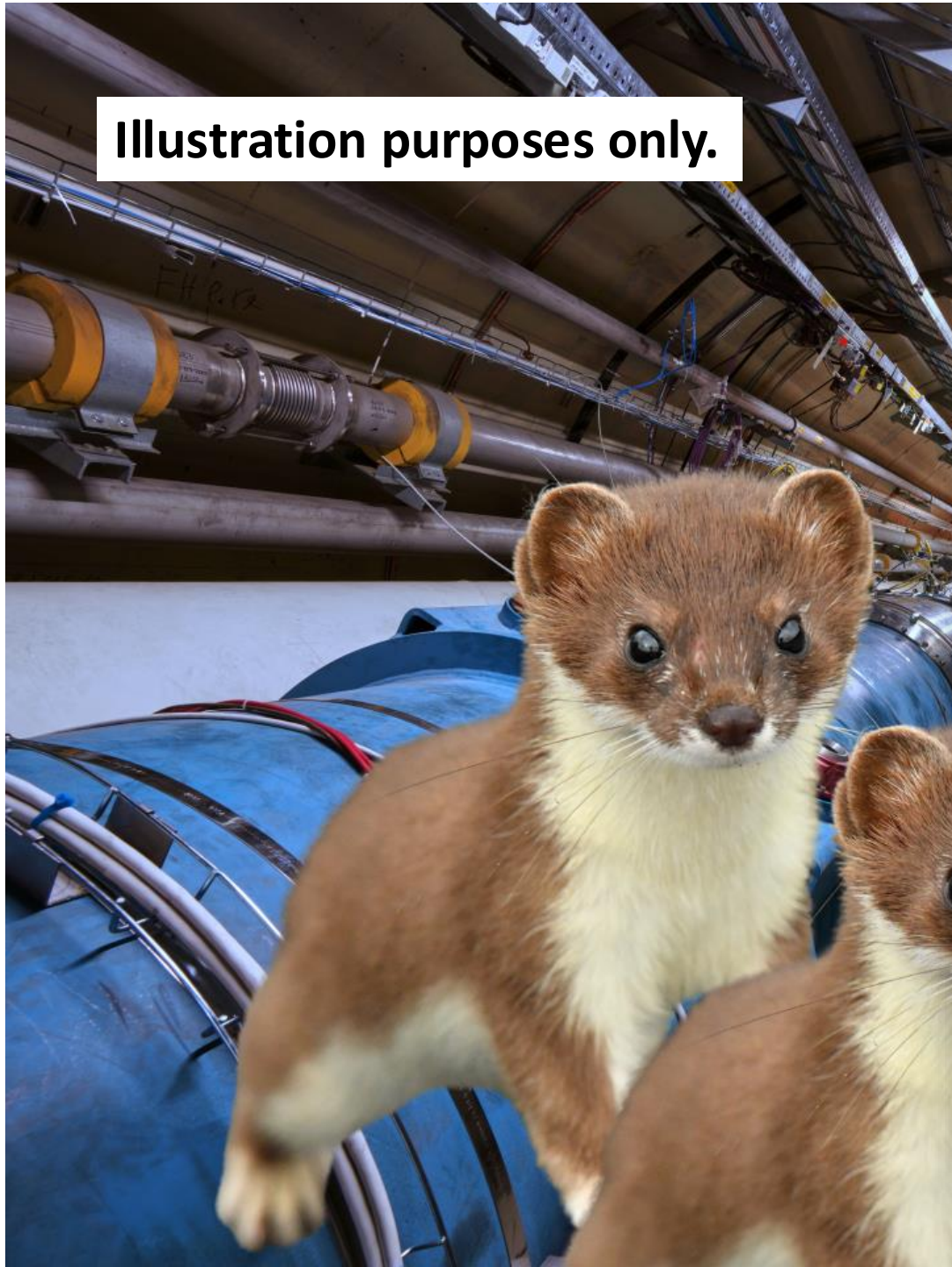
The cause...?

Illustration purposes only.

A pine marten!



Illustration purposes only.



Large Hadron Collider on paws after creature chews through wiring

**The
Guardian**

LHC to be out of action for a week while connections to transformer are replaced following visit from hungry fouine



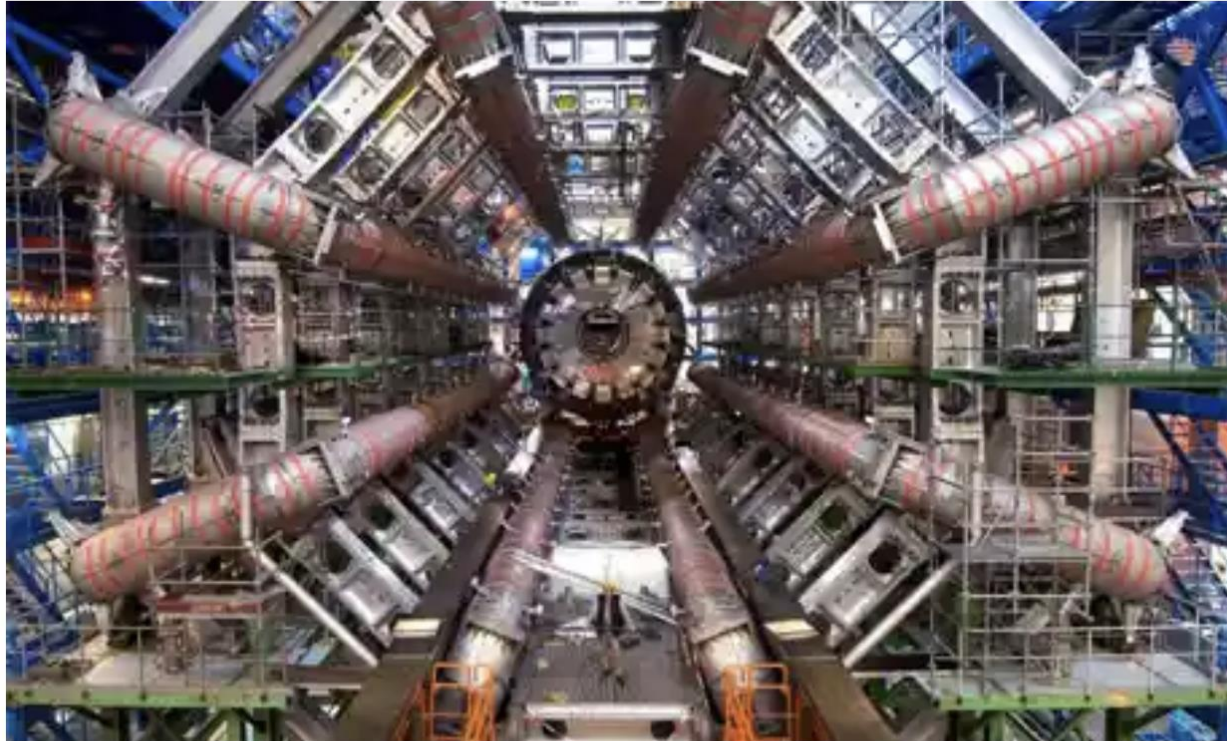
📷 A young beech marten, or fouine. Photograph: Alamy

The world's largest and most powerful particle accelerator has been brought to its knees by a beech marten, a member of the weasel family, that chewed through wiring connected to a 66,000-volt transformer.

Big bang goes phut as bird drops baguette into Cern machinery

The
Guardian

- Hadron collider halted again by power cut
- Scientists stop testing for relaunch after fowl play



📷 Cern: View from the central axis of the LHC (Large Hadron Collider) tunnel of the ATLAS underground facility with the eight toroids surrounding the calorimeter

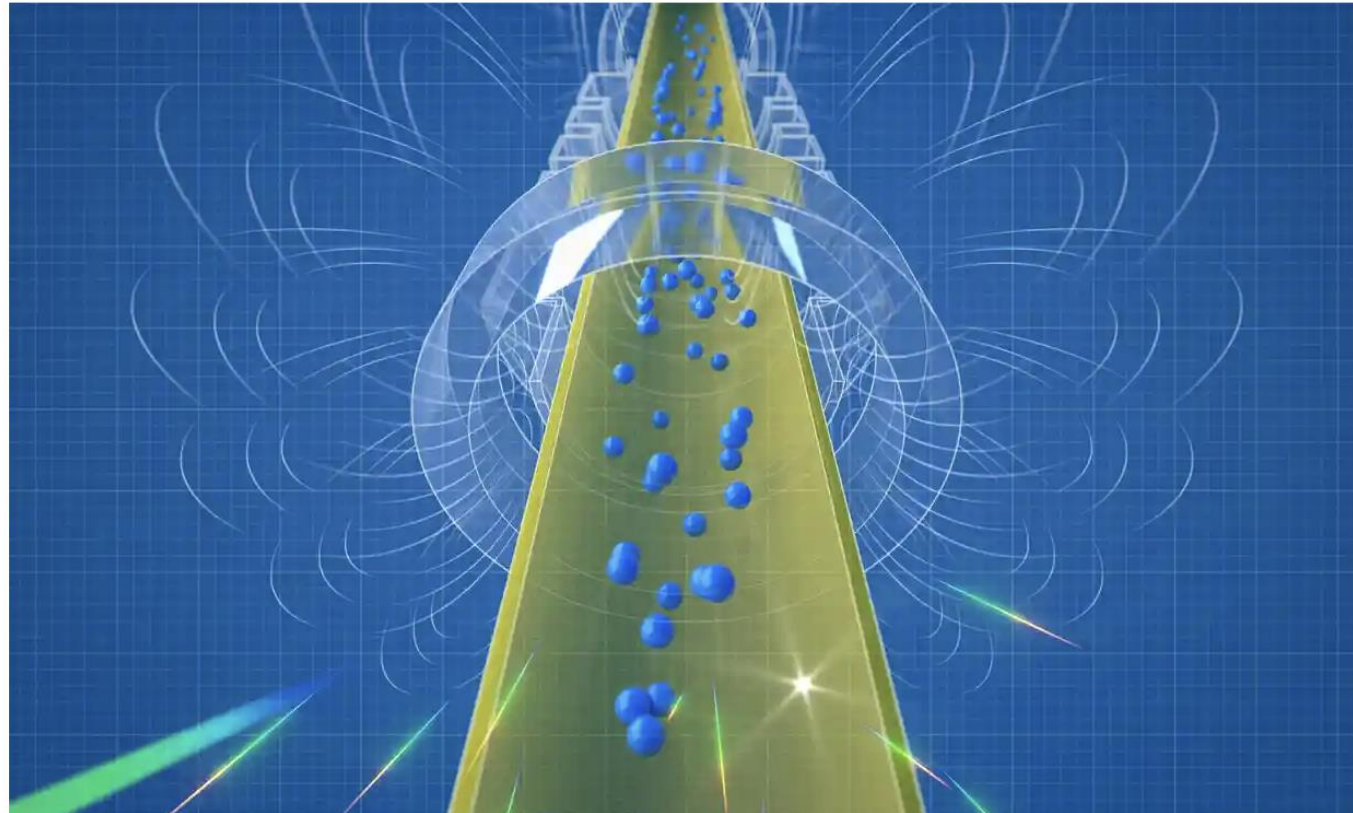
It is the machine that scientists hope will recreate the conditions present at the beginning of time. But scientists at the £3.6bn [Large Hadron Collider](#) (LHC) found their plans to emulate the big bang postponed this week when a passing bird dropped a "bit of baguette" into the machine, causing it to overheat.

2023

The Antimatter

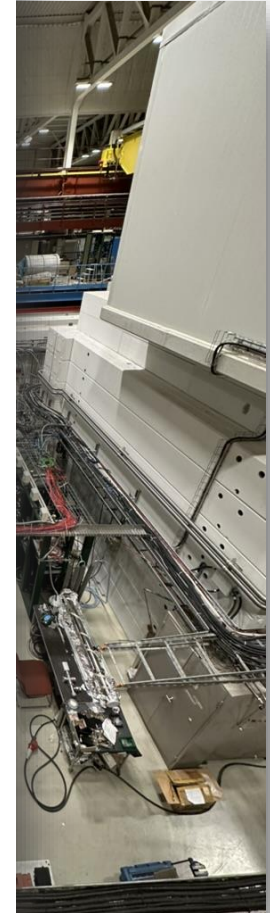
Scientists find antimatter is subject to gravity

Tests at Cern refute suggestion that antigravity might apply to antimatter, showing instead it also falls downwards



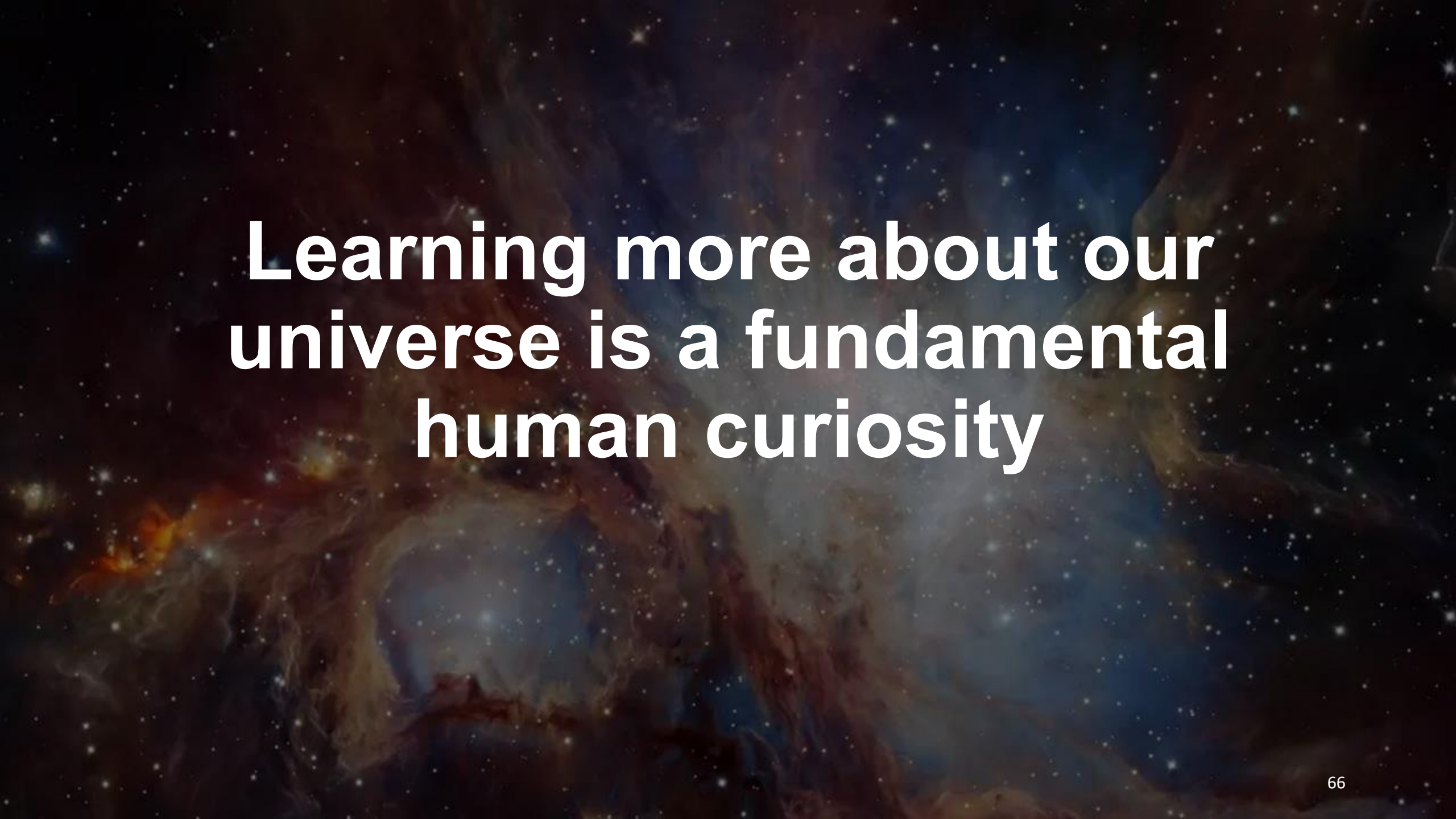
📷 Scientists have struggled to preserve antimatter long enough to carry out experiments on it. Illustration: US National Science Foundation/AFP/Getty Images

More antimatter properties



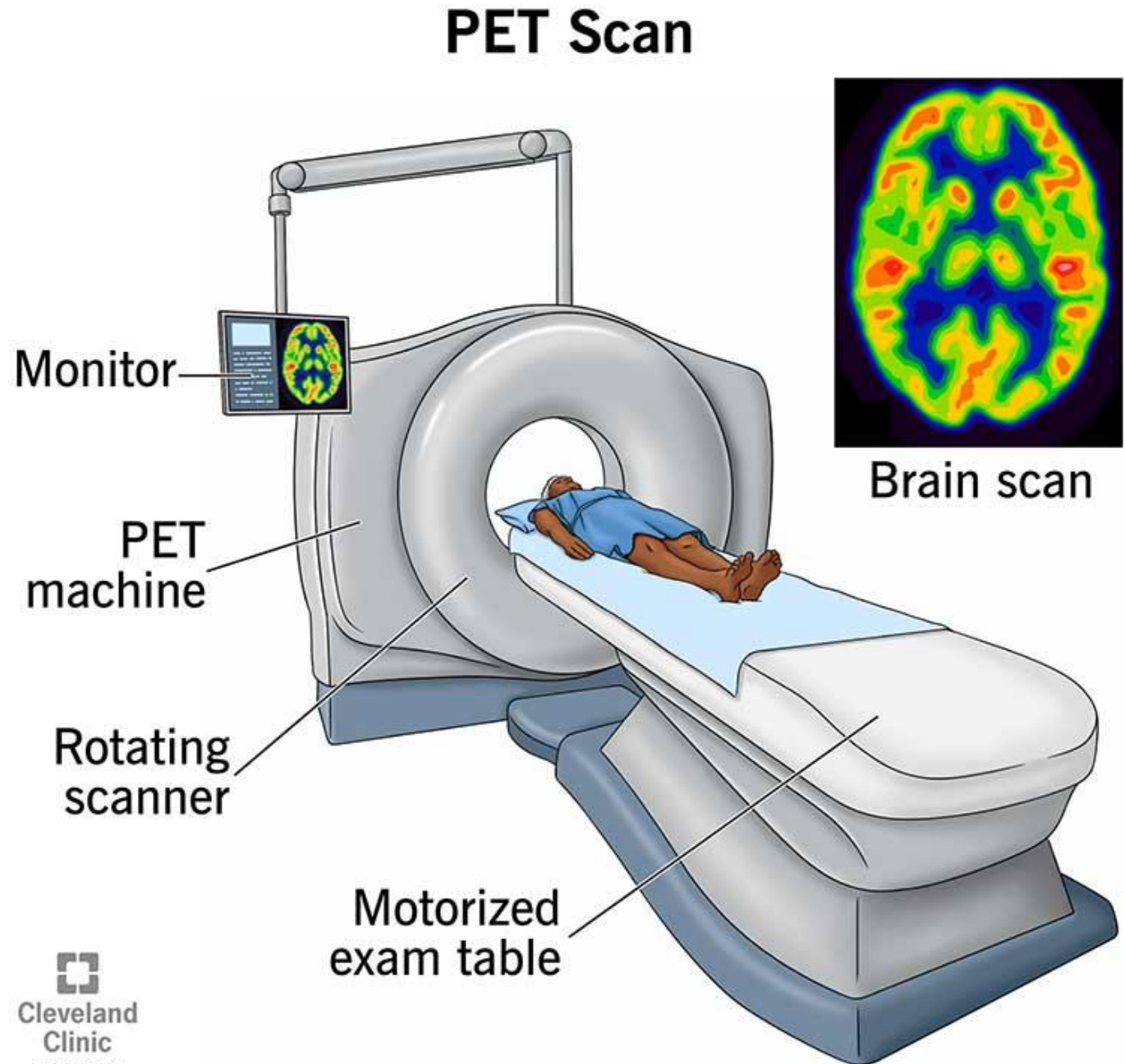
**How
does
this
affect
you?**



The background of the slide is a deep space image featuring a complex nebula with swirling clouds of gas in shades of blue, purple, and orange. Numerous bright stars of varying sizes are scattered across the dark cosmic landscape.

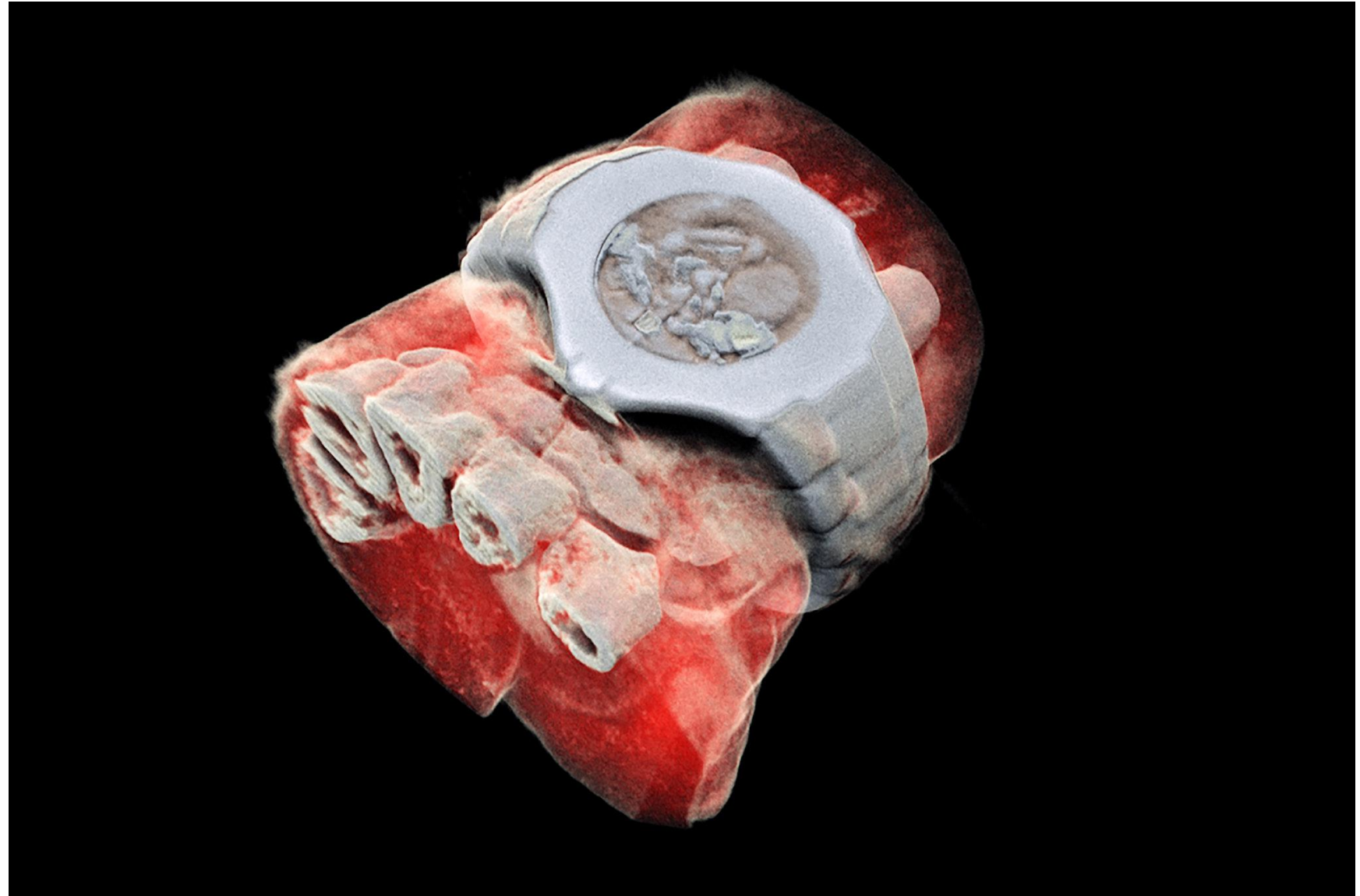
**Learning more about our
universe is a fundamental
human curiosity**

Doing difficult things gives us better technology that improves our lives and tells us interesting things right now!



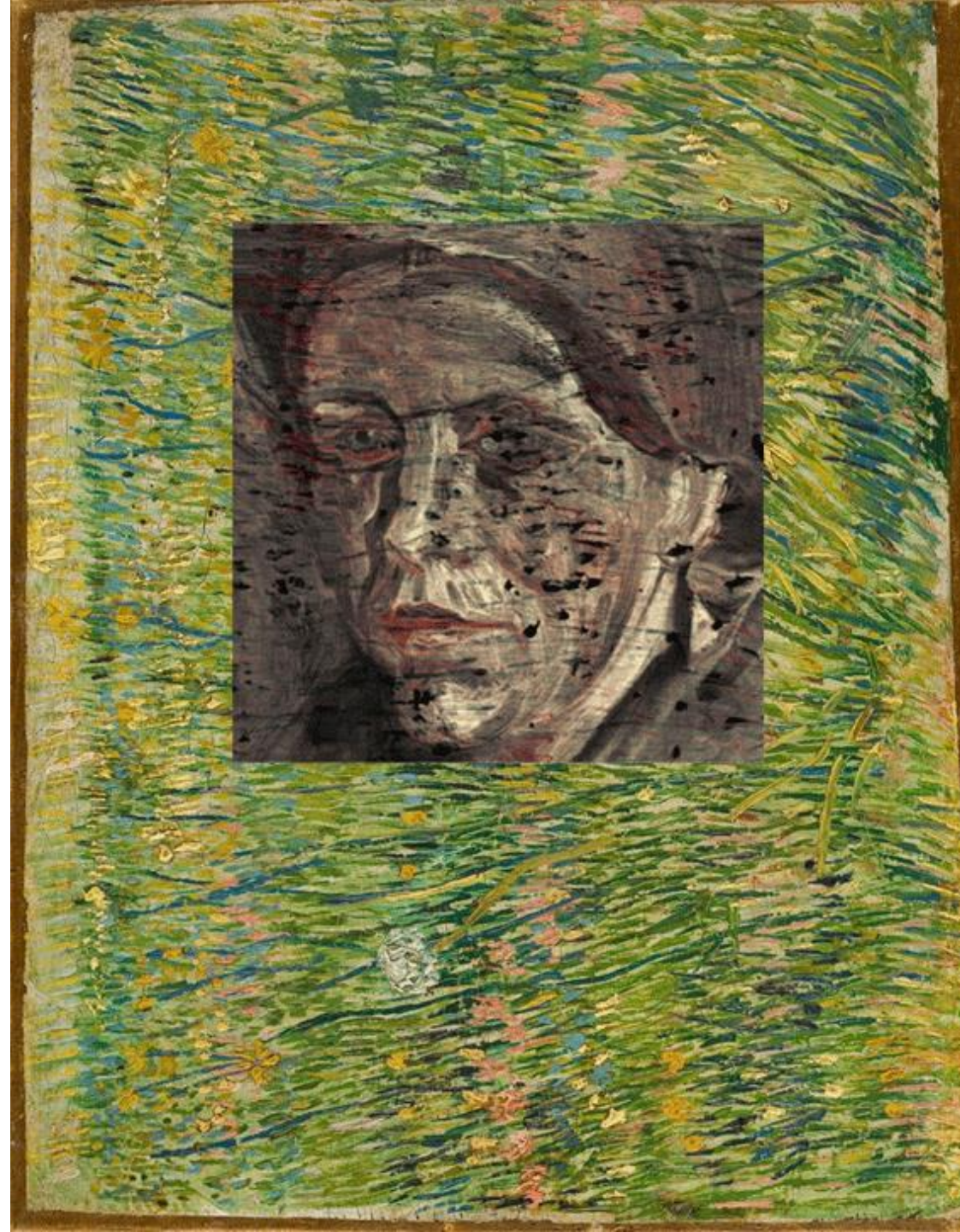
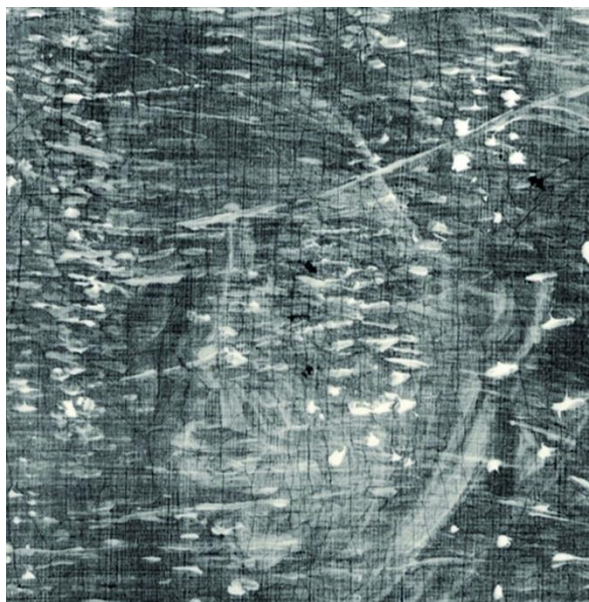
Even 3D colour x-rays using CERN technology!

X-rays have
wavelengths just
like visible light
does





**Synchrotron
Radiation Based
X-ray
Fluorescence
Elemental
Mapping**



Muon tomography for pyramids



FUTURE

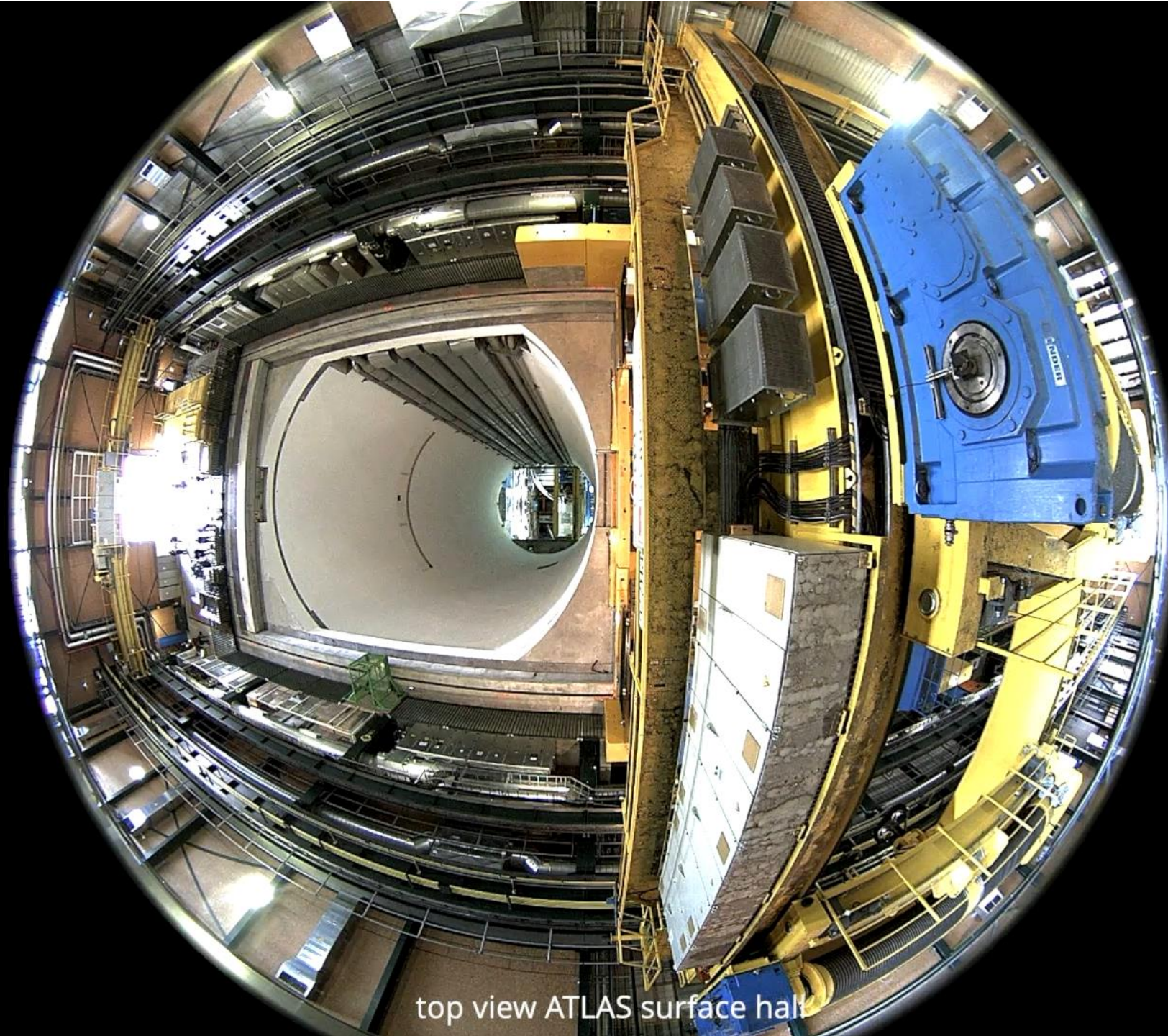




top view ATLAS cavern



level 6 ATLAS cavern



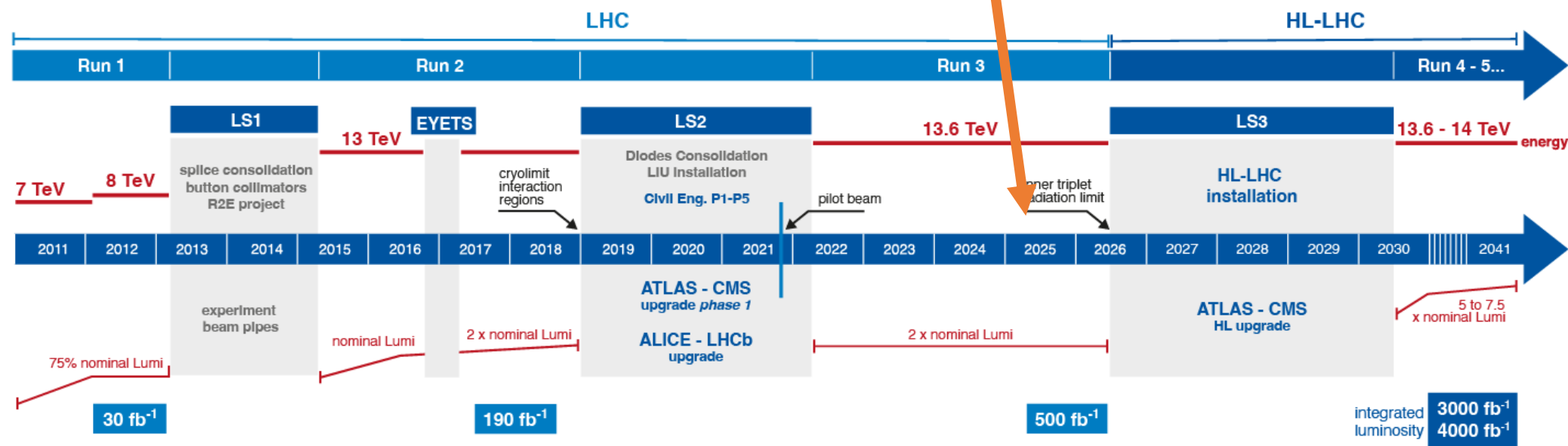
top view ATLAS surface hall



LHC / HL-LHC Plan



We are here



Have only taken ~ 10% of planned data so far

HL-LHC TECHNICAL EQUIPMENT:

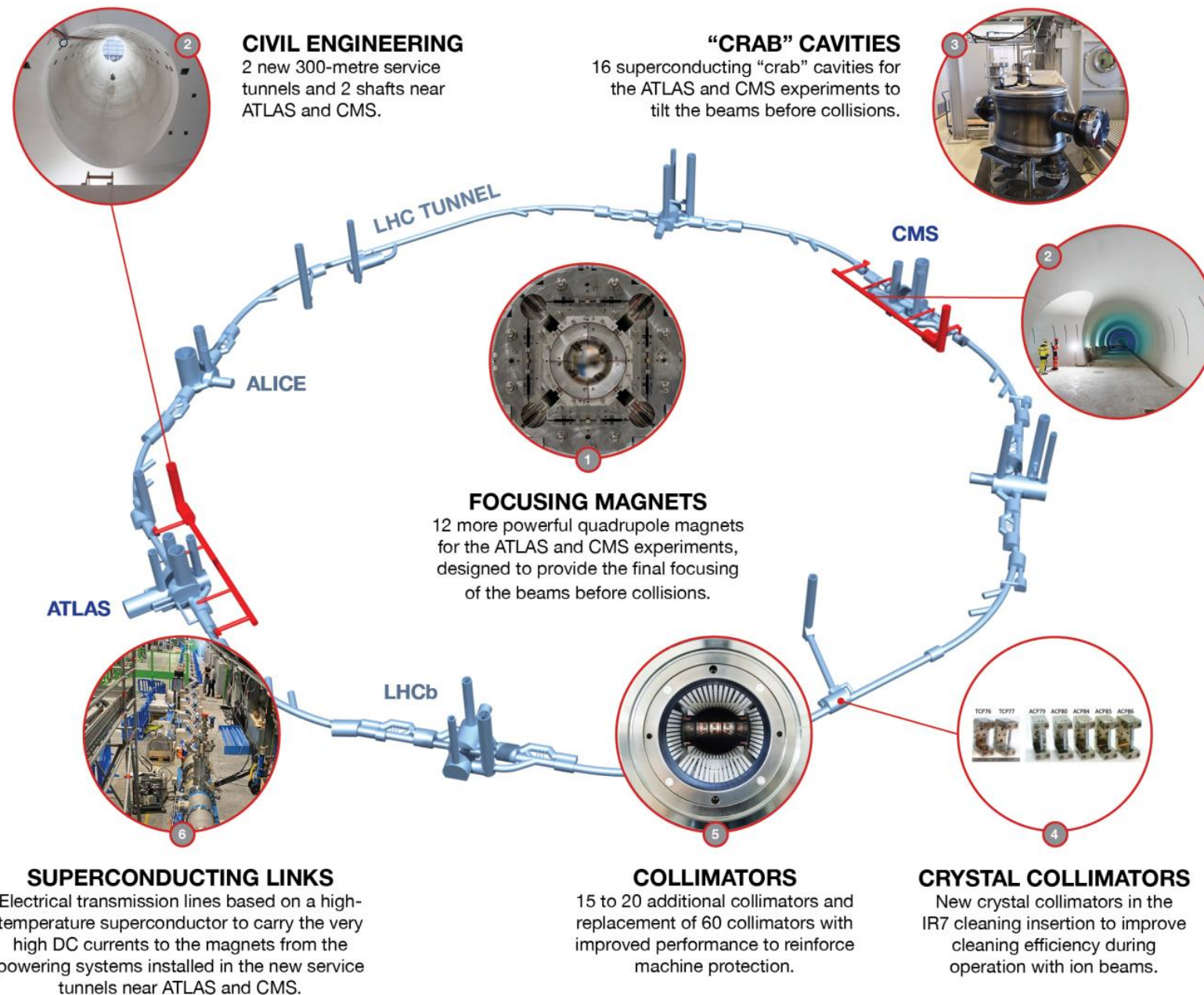


HL-LHC CIVIL ENGINEERING:



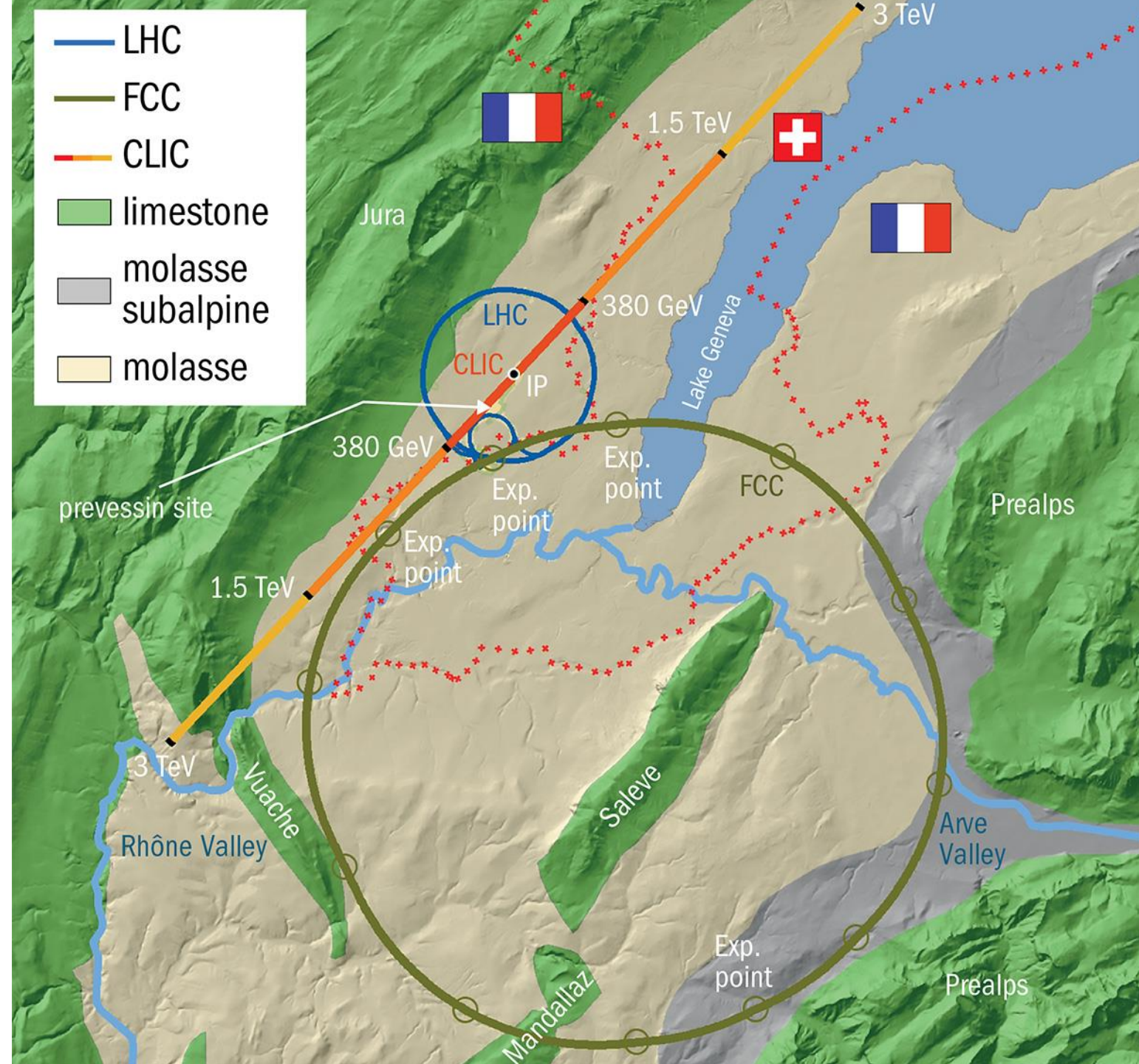
A new LHC Towards high luminosity

NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE HIGH-LUMINOSITY LHC



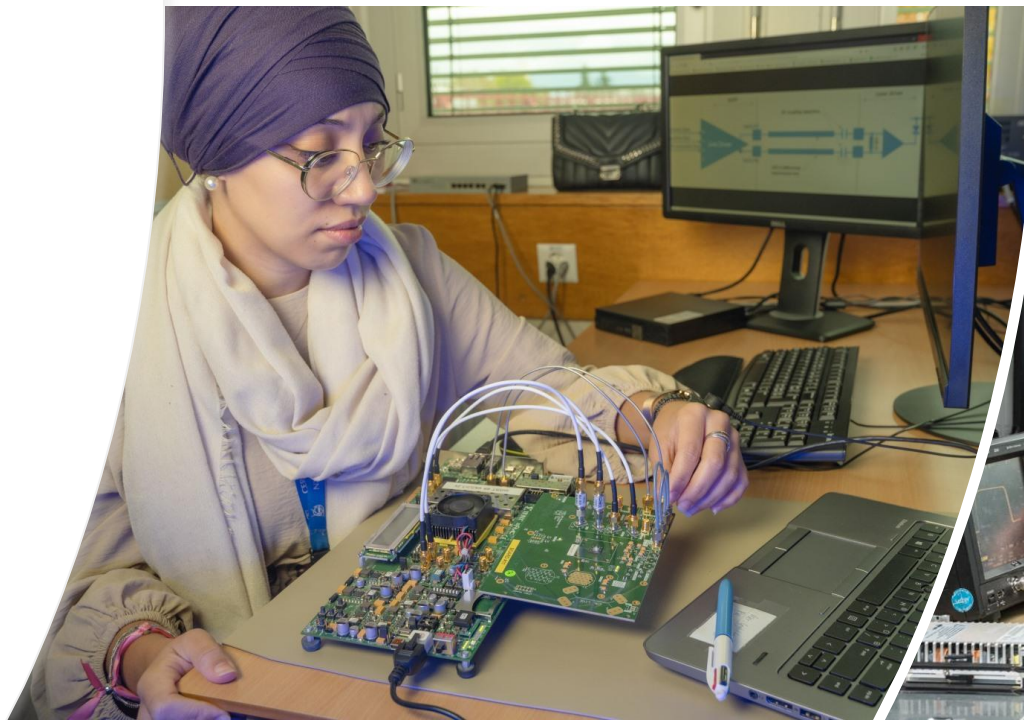
The Future

2040 and after



Challenges at CERN

- Huge data processing challenge
 - Programming skills are very important to being a particle physicist.
- Or you can be more hands on in the laboratory, building new detector components.
- Or you can be more theoretical and work on the calculations.



So much more than physics...

ROBOTICS



COMPUTING



COMMUNICATION



RADIO FREQUENCY



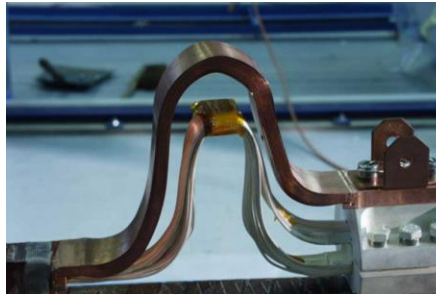
ELECTRONICS



**VACUUM AND
CRYOGENICS**



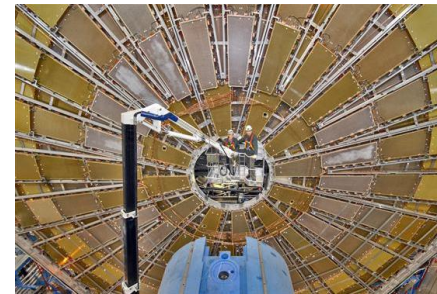
**ELECTRICAL
ENGINEERING**



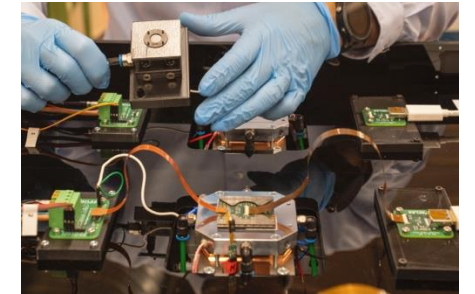
**CIVIL
ENGINEERING**



**MECHANICAL
ENGINEERING**



**MATERIALS
SCIENCE**







For years 10, 11, 12, 13

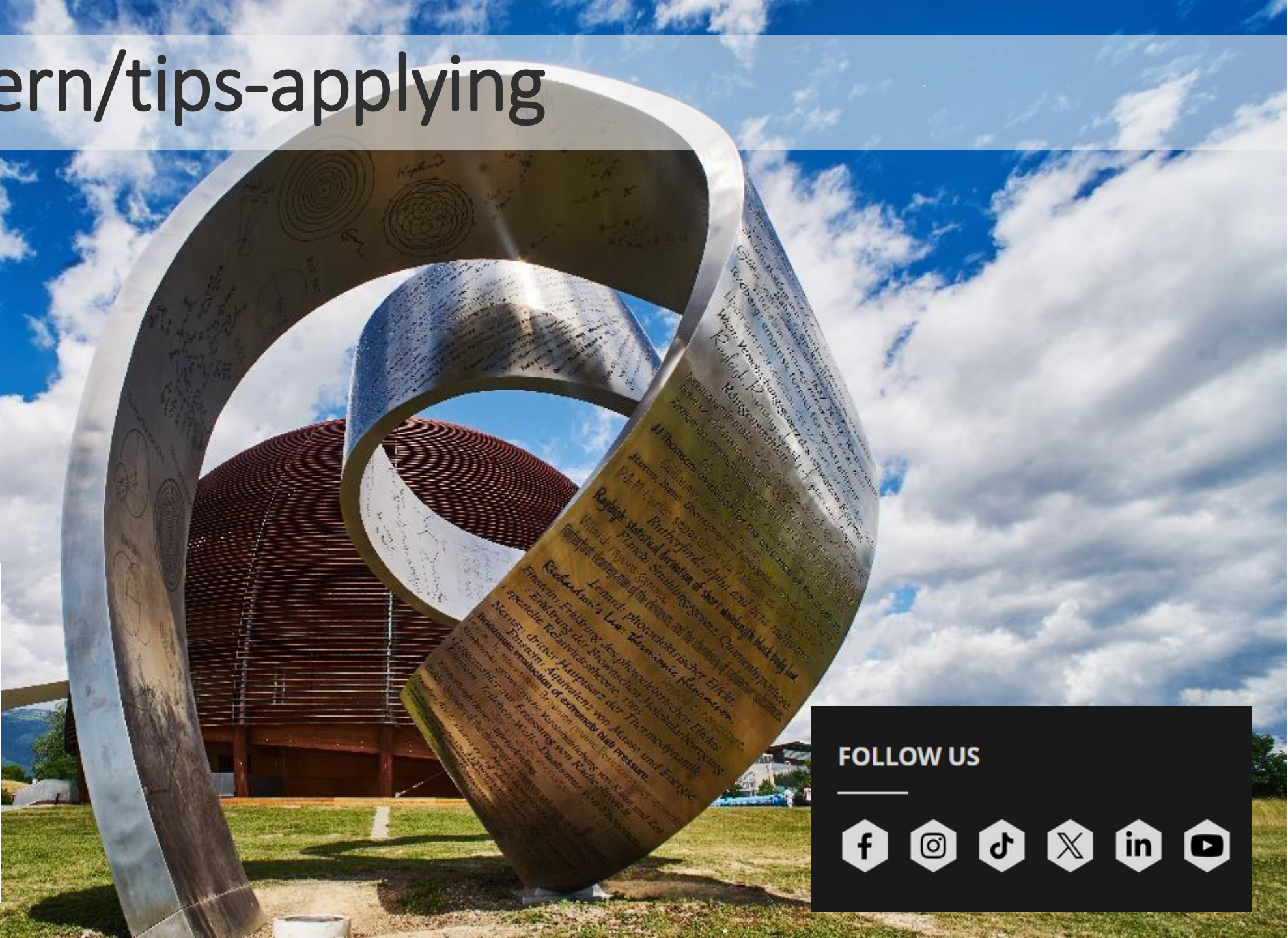
**Possible placements in Cheshire,
Oxfordshire or Edinburgh**

Work Experience

Science and Technology Facilities Council

[about the programme →](#)

careers.cern/tips-applying

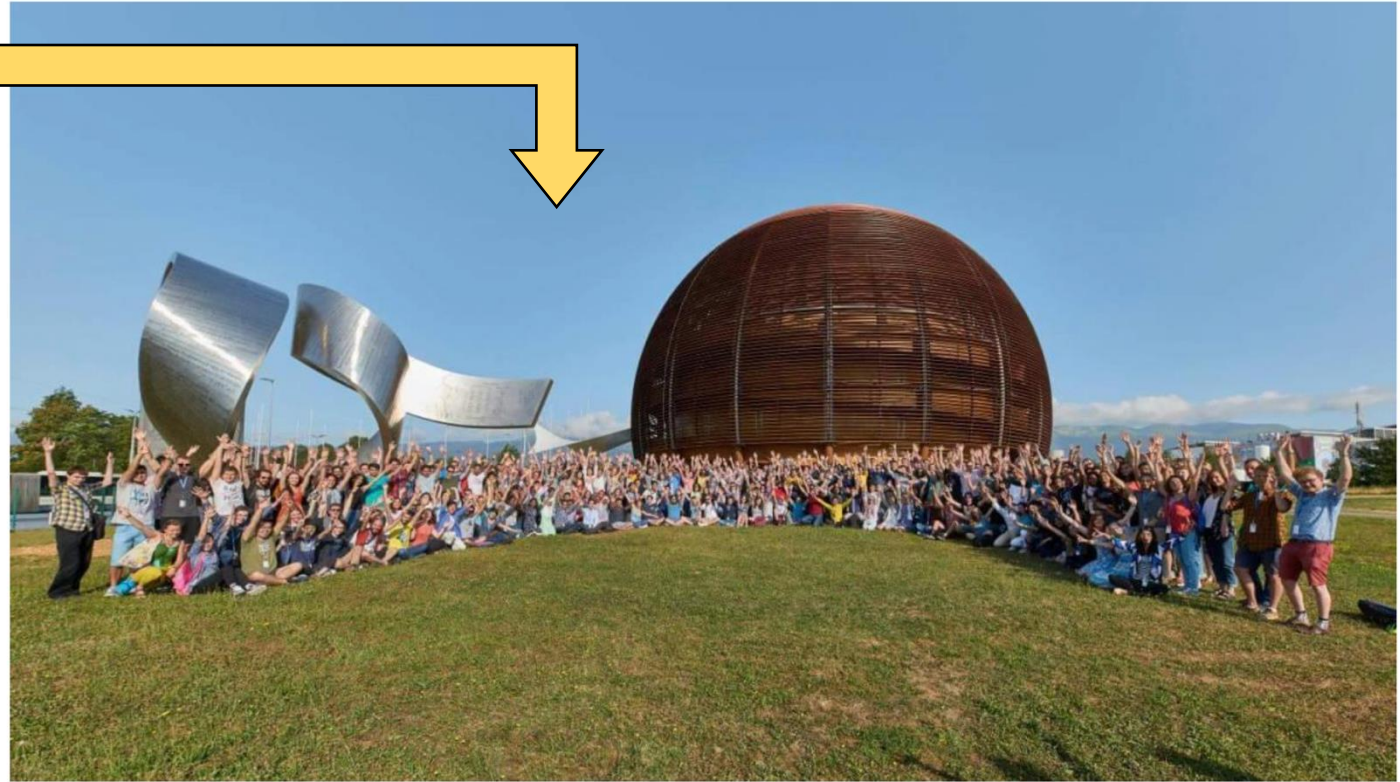


FOLLOW US



The future

There are a number of summer programmes and internships students can apply to throughout their undergraduate programme.



"I don't know if we were particularly lucky, but I really enjoyed every aspect of the summer student program: work, lectures and social life (a lot!)."

Summer programmes:

CERN Summer Student Programme
DESY Summer Student Programme
HASCO Summer School

Internships:

CERN Technical Student programme
ESA Student Internships



Thank
you!

Backup

Here's one I prepared earlier

How can I apply?



Technical Studentship - General / Civil Engineering 2025-1

Meyrin, Switzerland
Full-time

Company Description

At CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, physicists and engineers are probing the fundamental structure of the universe. Using the world's largest and most complex scientific instruments, they study the basic constituents of matter - fundamental particles that are made to collide together at close to the speed of light. The process gives physicists clues about how particles interact, and provides insights into the fundamental laws of nature. Find out more on home.cern.

Diversity has been an integral part of CERN's mission since its foundation and is an established value of the Organization.

Job Description

Take part in CERN's Technical Student Programme!

If your university or institute requires or encourages you to acquire work experience through an internship, imagine doing this at CERN in Geneva. It's more than work experience. In fact, it's a student programme like nowhere else on Earth and an impressive addition to your CV!

If you are a student looking to complete practical training in domains related to general or civil engineering, surveying or safety, you will have the opportunity to work at the cutting edge of technology, contribute and broaden your knowledge in areas as varied as industrial and tertiary building structures, design and drafting, underground structures, roads, drainage, geotechnical engineering, safety risk management to name a few.

Please note that students specialising in theoretical or experimental particle physics are not eligible to apply for this programme.

A panel of CERN experts meets three times a year in February, June and October, to review all applications, and on each occasion, typically 80 students are selected to join the programme.

I'm interested

Refer a friend

SHARE THIS JOB



OTHER JOBS AT CERN

Doctoral Student Programme
Meyrin, Switzerland

Administrative Student Programme 2025-1
Meyrin, Switzerland

Technical Studentship - Applied Physics 2025-1
Meyrin, Switzerland

[Show all jobs](#)



Direct link to application

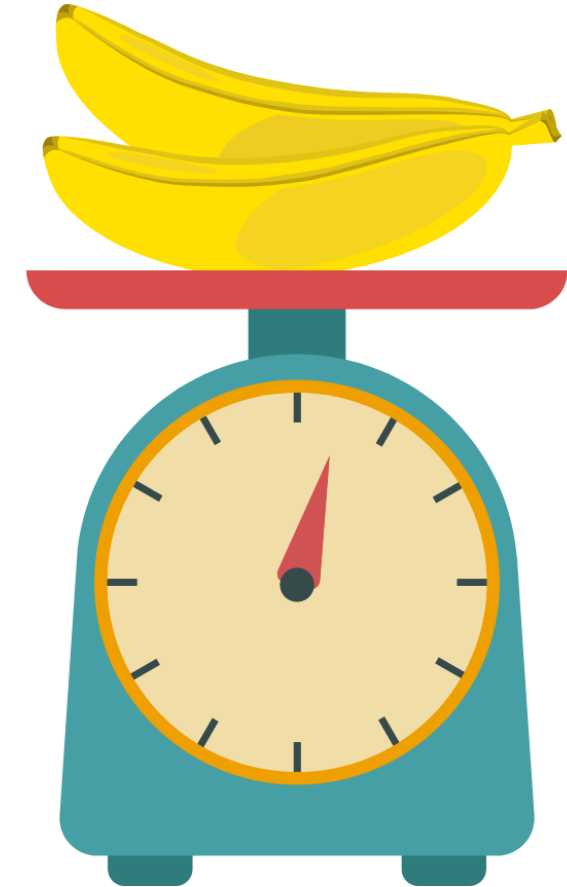
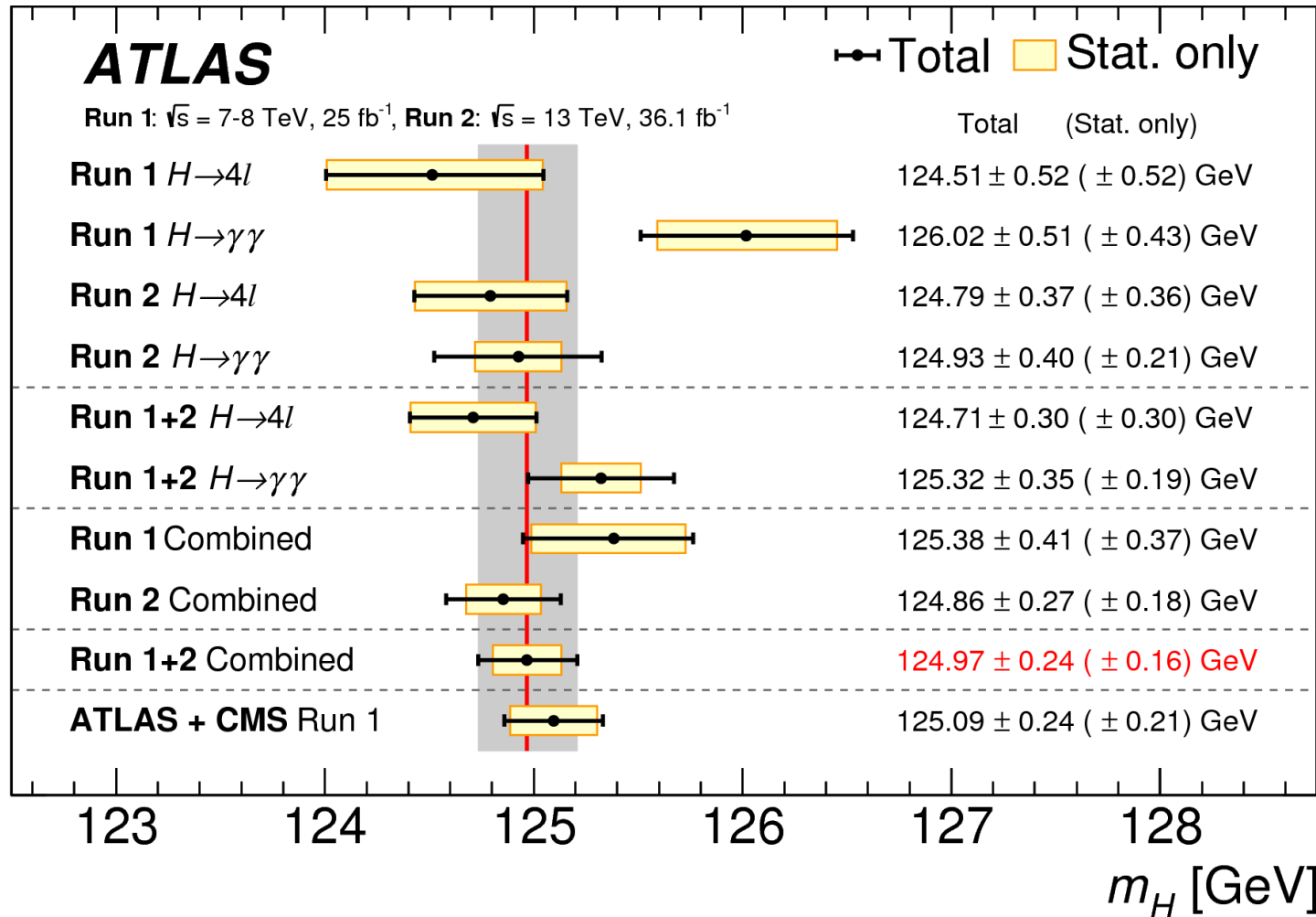
Direct links to apply:

- [Electrical/Electronics Engineering](#)
- [Mechanical Engineering](#)
- [IT, Mathematics & Robotics](#)
- [Material & Surface Science](#)
- [Applied Physics](#)
- [General/Civil Engineering](#)

**Highest energy
observation of
quantum
entanglement,
looking at top
quarks in the
ATLAS Experiment**



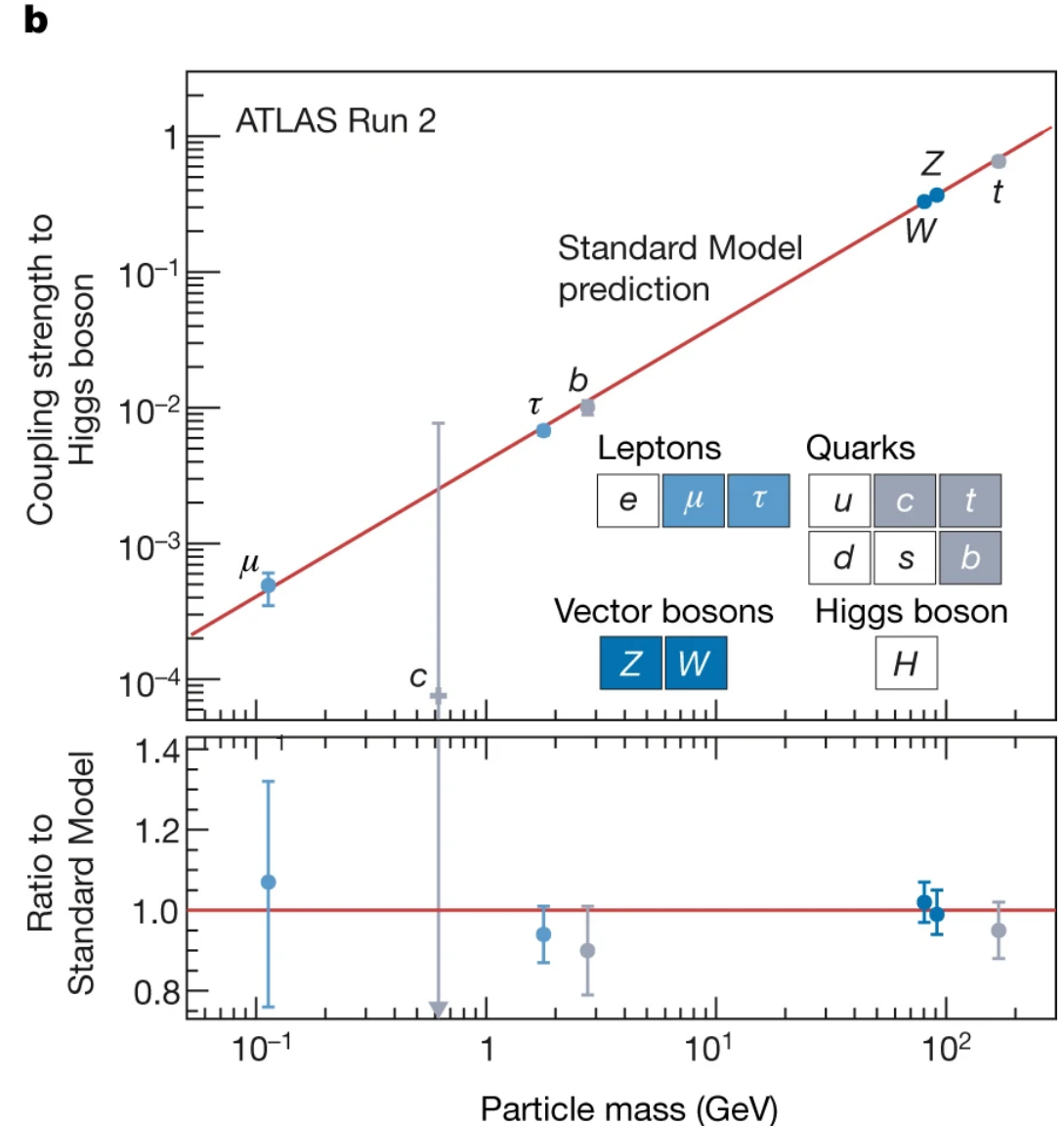
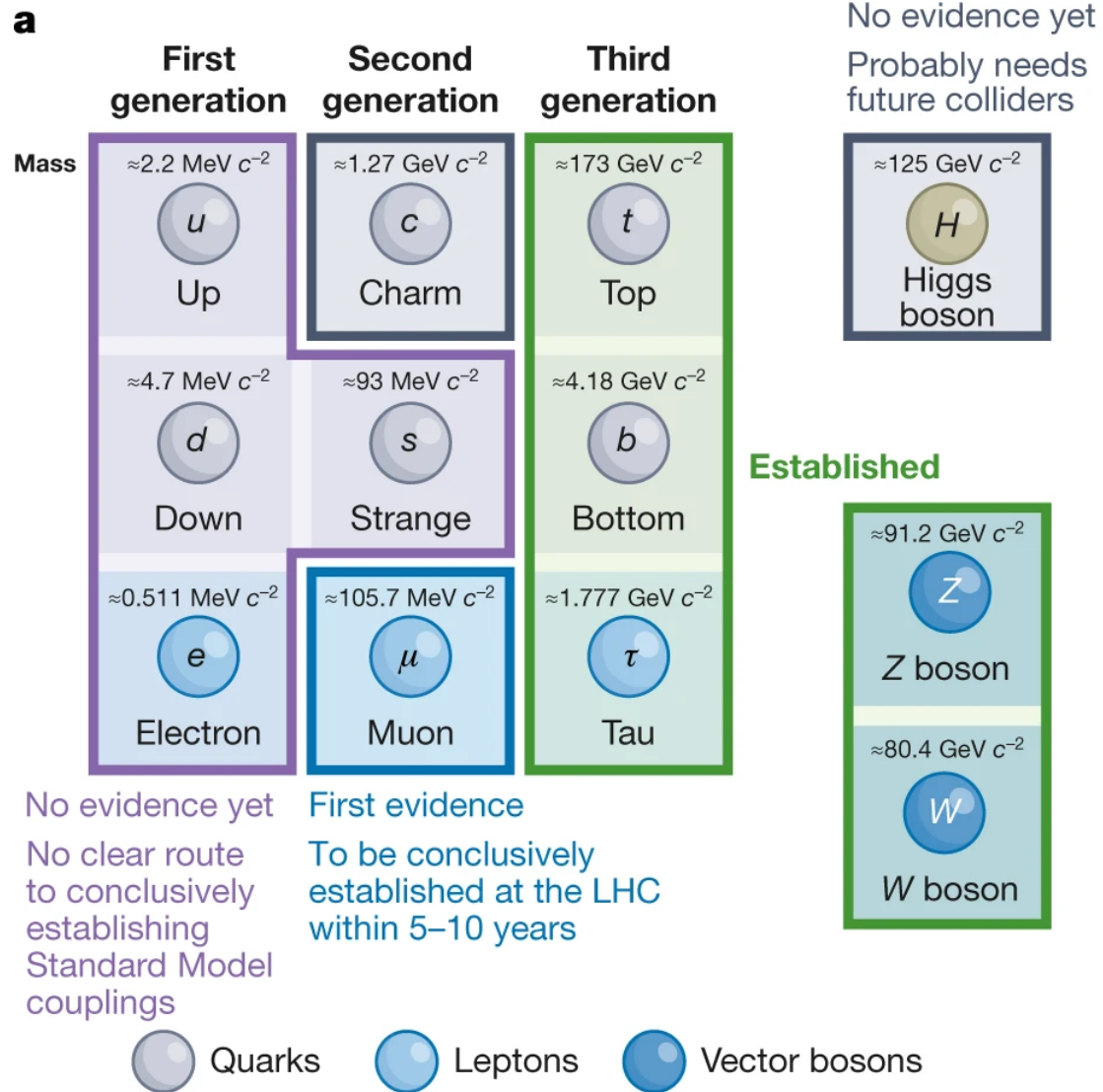
Precision Higgs measurements



Mass measurements

Precision Higgs measurements

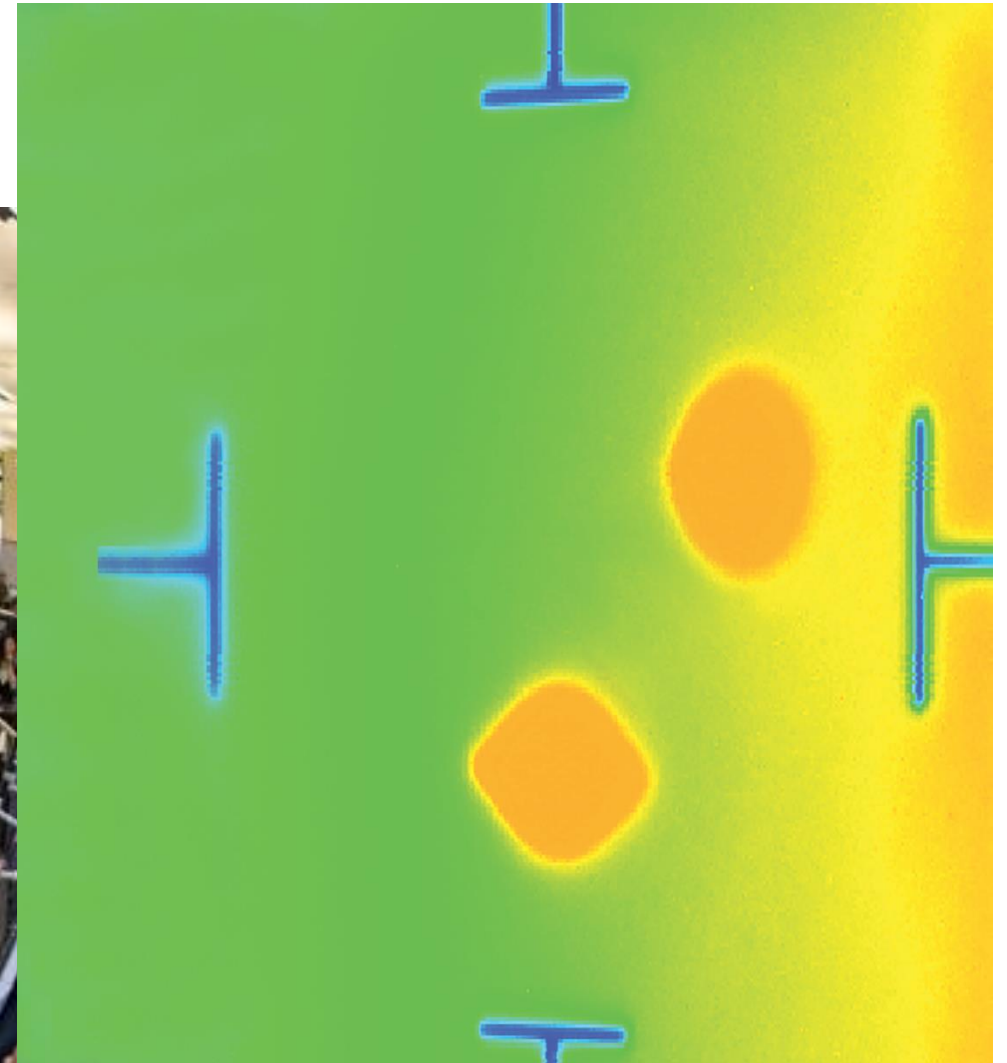
Nature 607, p41-47 (2022), G. Salam et al.



Dark ?
matter

2008 First beams in the LHC

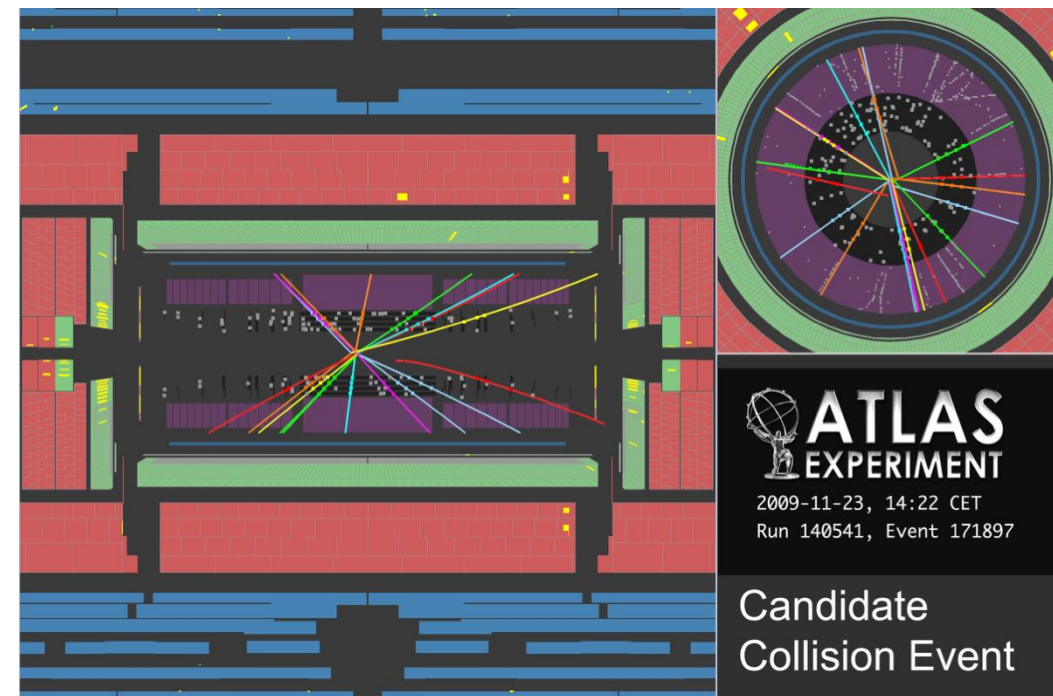
10th September



Images: CERN



2009 First collisions in the LHC!



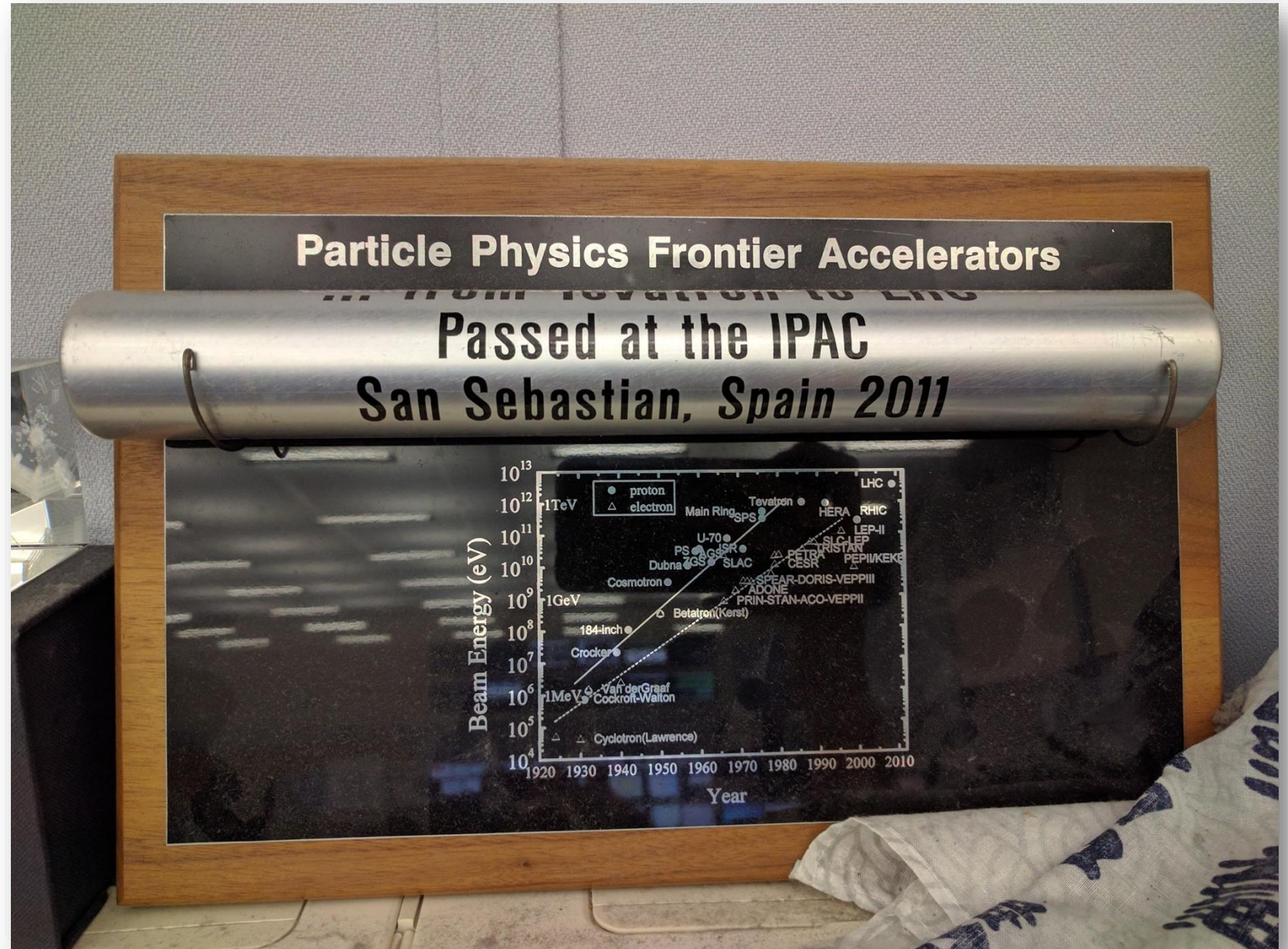
<http://atlas.web.cern.ch/Atlas/public/EVTDISPLAY/events.html>

2009 Highest energy particle collider in the world!

First collisions at 900 GeV.
Then to 2.36 TeV - a new
record!

Continued ramping up through
to 2010 to reach 7 TeV centre of
mass.

From Fermilab to CERN

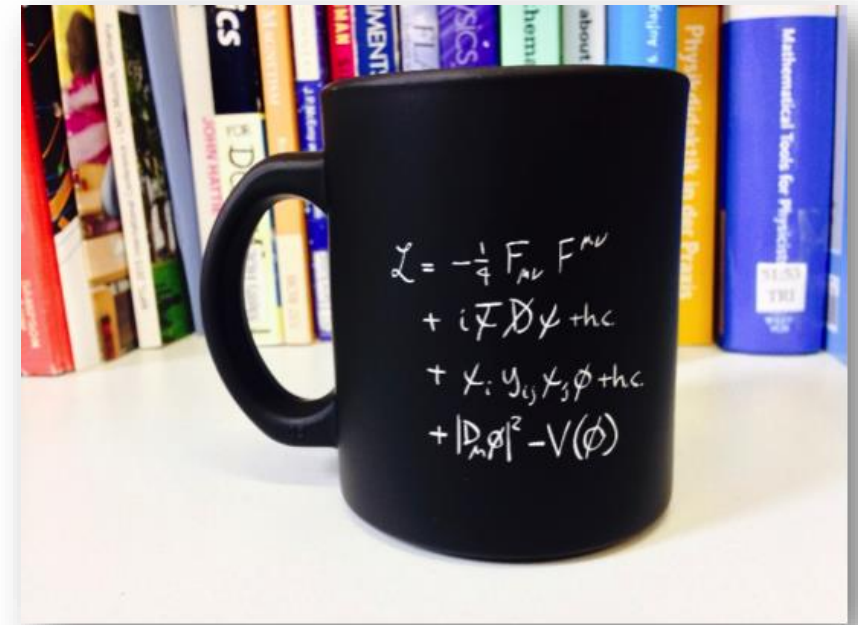


Coffee

**~10 million
cups of coffee**

The restaurants at CERN go through about 30 kilograms of coffee a day. Considering every kilogram of coffee generally makes between 120 and 140 cups, that's roughly 4,000 cups a day!

- Symmetry Magazine

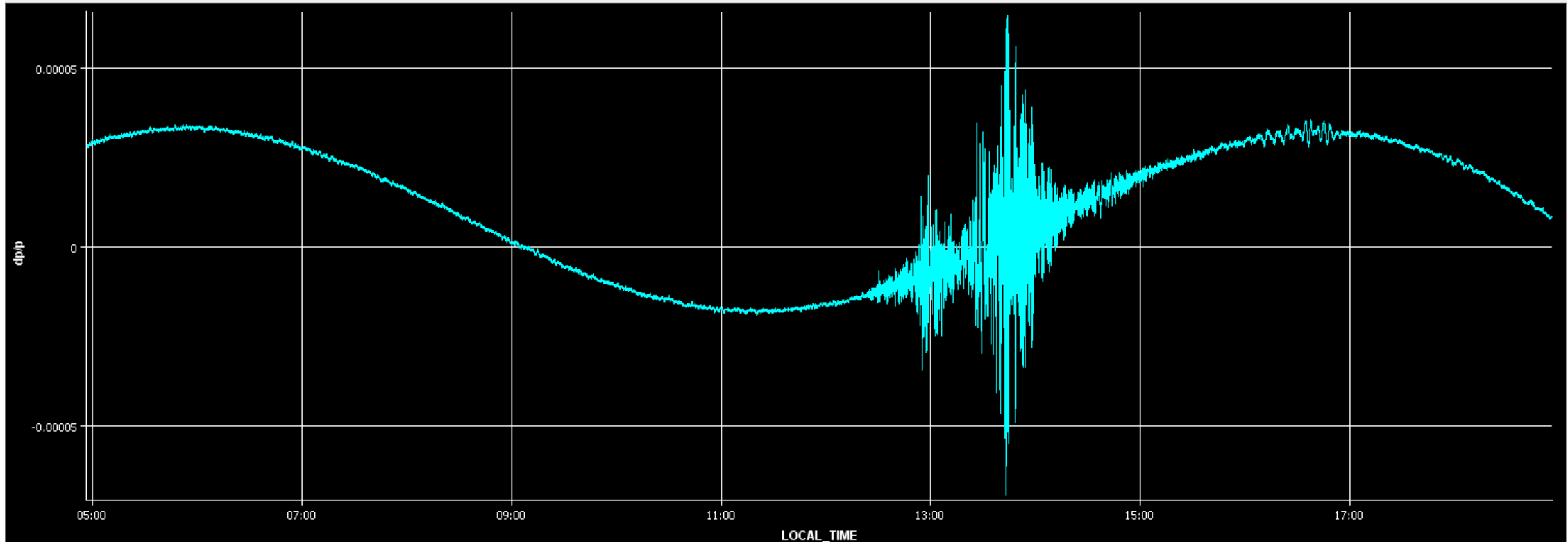


2016

The LHC as an earth-quake detector

Timeseries Chart between 2016-11-13 04:55:51.338 and 2016-11-13 18:55:51.338 (LOCAL_TIME)

LHC.BOFSU:RADIAL_LOOP_ERROR_B1



The top quark

- The **heaviest fundamental particle**.
 - **~170 GeV** (but we don't know why it's so heavy).
 - **Very short lifetime**.
- Expected to **couple strongly to the Higgs boson** (~1).
 - A possible connection to new physics!
 - Need to measure its properties and interactions with other particles in further detail to find out!

