ATLAS through "first light"





Few milestones of a spectacular project ...

1984 : First studies for a high-energy pp collider in the LEP tunnel I meet Chris for the first time on ... paper (EHLQ, i.e. the `Bible' !)
1989 : Start of SLC and LEP e⁺e⁻ colliders
1993 : SSC is cancelled
1994 : LHC approved by the CERN Council
1995 : Top-quark discovery at the Tevatron
1996 : Construction of LHC machine and experiments start
1999 : I meet Chris by E-mail
2000 : End of LEP2 I meet Chris in person for the first time at the APS
2003 : Start of LHC machine and experiments installation
2009 : First LHC collisions

... and of a great friendship that honours me Date: Thu, 09 Sep 1999 11:45:30 -0600 (CST) From: Chris Quigg <quigg@fnal.gov> To: gianotti@mail.cern.ch Subject: Re: LEP2 young physicists

Many thanks. I had the pleasure of watching your first summer student lecture on the web last week (and I will look at the others when I have a moment to breathe). I was very pleased with the motivation you presented to them--the big picture, and not just the shorthand of finding the Higgs boson. It is very important that we share the excitement and importance of the LHC experiments with the next generation and with the world, and I thought you did it beautifully. It made me very happy. Best wishes, Chris

Since 20 November: a fantastic crescendo of events





1st Beam Splash from Beam-2

✓ Friday 20 November: first circulating beams →ATLAS collects ~ 100 splash events

Collimators z=±140 m

Avalanche of scattered particles from beam on collimators

Detectors fully lit, typically

- •300,000 SCT hits
- •350,000 TRT hits
- •3000 TeV calo energy sum
- •490,000 MDT hits
- •320,000 RPC hits
- •65,000 TGC hits



Run 140370, Event 2666

F. Gianotti, FNAL, 14/12/2009







2009-11-23, 14:22 CET Run 140541, Event 171897

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

Sunday 6 December: machine protection commissioning concluded \rightarrow stable beams for the first time \rightarrow Pixels and SCT detector at full voltage









2009-12-06, 10:03 CET Run 14174<u>9, Event 405315</u>

Collision Event

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







- Pixels and SCT at nominal voltage only with stable beams
- Solenoid and/or toroids off in some periods
- Muon CSC chambers running in separate partition for rate tests



Subdetector	Number of Channels	Approximate Operational Fraction		
Pixels	80 M	97.9%		
SCT Silicon Strips	6.3 M	99.3%		
TRT Transition Radiation Tracker	350 k	98.2%		
LAr EM Calorimeter	170 k	98.8%		
Tile calorimeter	9800	99.2%		
Hadronic endcap LAr calorimeter	5600	99.9%		
Forward LAr calorimeter	3500	100%		
MDT Muon Drift Tubes	350 k	99.7%		
CSC Cathode Strip Chambers	31 k	98.4%		
RPC Barrel Muon Trigger	370 k	98.5%		
TGC Endcap Muon Trigger	320 k	99.4%		
LVL1 Calo trigger	7160	99.8%		

RACKS UX R OK A TDQ TRIGGER L1 R OK A CSC

CSC SIDE C R OK A 00 12-12-2009 16:45:17

- Pixels and SCT at nominal voltage only with stable beams
- Solenoid and/or toroids off in some periods
- Muon forward chambers (CSC) running in separate partition for rate tests





How do we select collision events (rejecting beam-halo, beam-gas, cosmics)?

Level-1 trigger based on:

Minimum-bias scintillator counters" (MBTS) located at both sides (A and C side) of the collision (Z=± 3.5 m, in front of the end-cap calorimeters)

in coincidence with beam pickups located at Z= ± 175 m

Level-1 interaction rate: up to ~ 20 Hz



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Examples of early optimization work ... and "handshake" between ATLAS and LHC operation team

First collision events on 23 November: ATLAS beam pickups showed phase shift of 900 ps, causing the primary vertex to be shifted by -13.5 cm in $Z \rightarrow$ based on this information, the machine team corrected the RF cogging





Track Z distribution of collision candidate events as obtained before and after RF cogging. Observed shift: ~ +12 cm



Note: beams were not yet stable \rightarrow Pixels off and SCT at reduced voltage

In the following: few examples from large amount of detector performance results obtained in just a few days



Online determination of the primary vertex and beam spot using the Level-2 trigger algorithms

High-Level Trigger running with > 150 chains



F. Gianotti, FNAL, 14/12/2009





2 opposite-sign tracks:

- p_T >500 MeV
- originating from common vertex
- impact parameter d₀ > 4 mm
- momentum sum along flight direction

Data and MC normalized to the same area









EM calorimeter

$\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-$ conversions

 $p_T(e^+) = 1.75 \text{ GeV}$, 11 TRT high-threshold hits $p_T(e^-) = 0.79 \text{ GeV}$, 3 TRT high-threshold hits Conversion R ~ 31 cm (1st SCT layer)



Electron candidates

EM clusters E_T > 2.5 GeV matched to a track \rightarrow 47 candidates in 20000 minimum-bias events Data and MC normalised to the same area



Muon candidates

2009-12-06, 08:25 CET Run 141749, Event 133538

Collision Event with 2 Muon Candidates

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

Missing transverse energy resolution

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They even gave us first SUSY signals ...

FINALLY

ATLAS has successfully collected first LHC collision data

The experiment operated very well, efficiently and fast, from data taking at the pit, to data transfer worldwide, to the production of first results (on a very short time scale ... few hours in some cases).

First sanity checks and performance studies indicate that

- -- detector works very well
- -- simulation (material description, modeling of low-energy particles, ..) is mature; reconstruction runs "out of the box"
- -- timely world-wide data distribution successful (but small amount of data so far ...) Note: we are operating in a (soft) regime which ATLAS was not optimized for ...

The enthusiasm and the team spirit in the Collaboration are extraordinary.

This is a major achievement of the worldwide ATLAS Collaboration after > 20 years of efforts to build a detector of unprecedented technology, complexity and performance.

What's next ?

In a decade or two, we can hope to ...

Chris Quigg

Understand electroweak symmetry breaking Observe the Higgs boson Measure neutrino masses and mixings Establish Majorana neutrinos ($\beta\beta_{0\nu}$) Thoroughly explore CP violation in B decays Exploit rare decays (K, D, \ldots) Observe neutron EDM, pursue electron EDM Use top as a tool Observe new phases of matter Understand hadron structure quantitatively Uncover the full implications of QCD Observe proton decay Understand the baryon excess Catalogue matter and energy of the universe Measure dark energy equation of state Search for new macroscopic forces Determine GUT symmetry

Detect neutrinos from the universe Learn how to quantize gravity Learn why empty space is nearly weightless Test the inflation hypothesis Understand discrete symmetry violation Resolve the hierarchy problem Discover new gauge forces Directly detect dark-matter particles Explore extra spatial dimensions Understand the origin of large-scale structure Observe gravitational radiation Solve the strong CP problem Learn whether supersymmetry is TeV-scale Seek TeV-scale dynamical symmetry breaking Search for new strong dynamics Explain the highest-energy cosmic rays Formulate the problem of identity

... learn the right questions to ask and rewrite the textbooks!

Thanks, Chris, for being a continuous source of inspiration for generations of experimentalists, and such a wonderful scientist and exquisite friend

Forward detectors

ALFA at 240 m

ZDC at 140 m

Zero Degree Calorimeter (Data taking in 2009)

LUCID at 17 m

Luminosity Cerenkov Integrating Detector (Phase 1 operational since 2008)

ALFA: Absolute Luminosity for ATLAS (Installation in 2010)

Lol for Forward Proton detectors at 220 and 420 m (AFP): ongoing ATLAS review

Energy flow in calorimeters ...

Uncalibrated clusters (topological clusters with noise suppression)

 $\frac{E(\text{calorimeter})}{p(\text{tracker})}$

for isolated tracks with $|\eta|<0.8$ and 0.5 < p_{T} < 10 GeV (average ~ 0.8 GeV) Cluster energy at EM scale

Excellent agreement data-MC at such low energies indicates very good description of material in simulation and G4 shower modeling

