Use of the Hadoop structured storage tools for the ATLAS EventIndex event catalogue

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On behalf of the ATLAS Collaboration
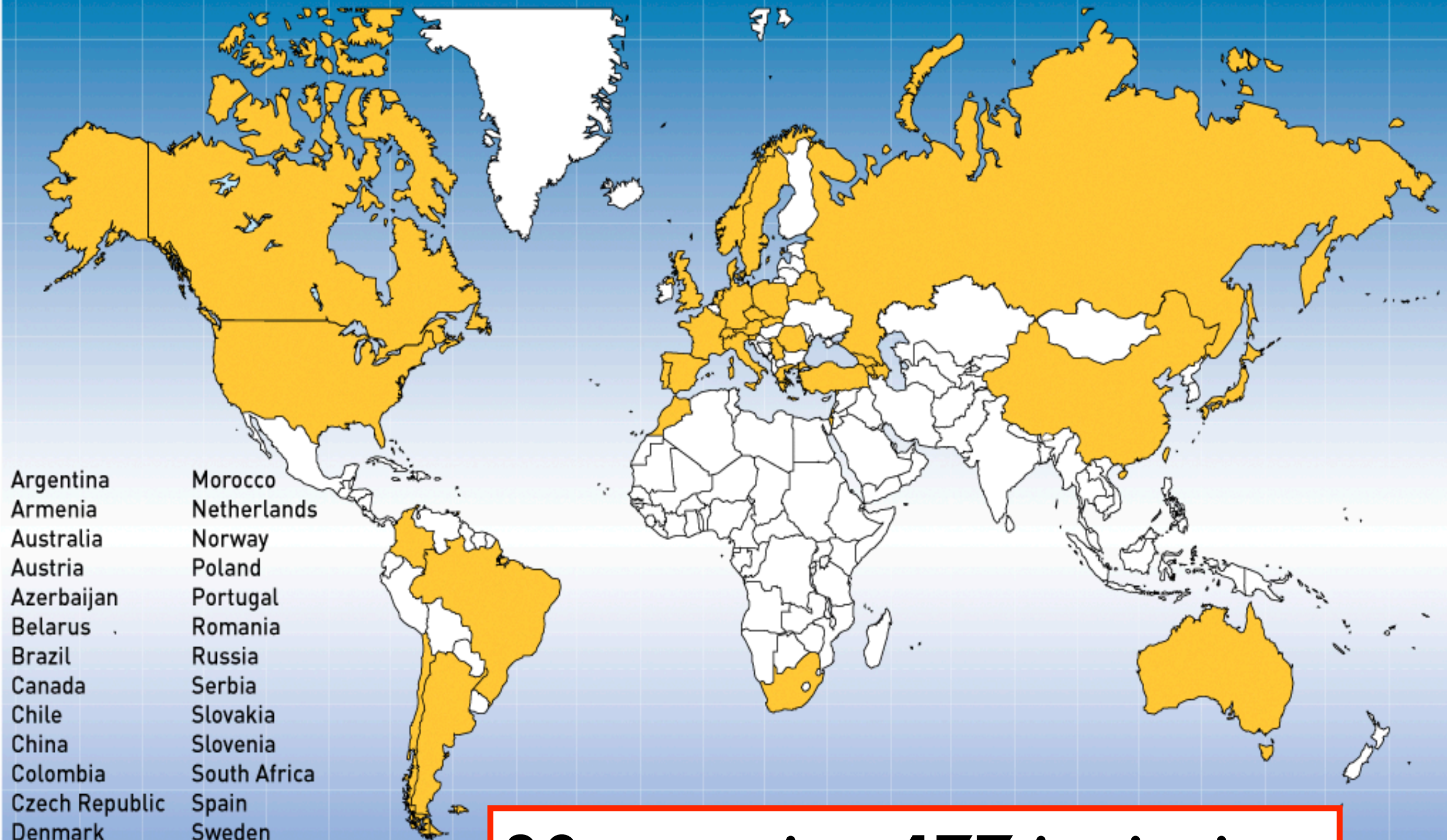
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38 countries, 177 institutions
~2900 scientific authors
~1800 with PhD

Challenges of ATLAS distributed computing

- The performance of the Worldwide LHC Computing Grid sites has been outstanding, and is fundamental to ATLAS physics analysis

  ▸ experiments like ATLAS produce large amounts of data

    - 2 billion real and 4 billion simulated events in 2011 and 2012

    - this numbers increase if all reprocessing are taken into account

  ▸ in the current Run2, after the 2013-2014 long shutdown, we are actually facing with:

    - increasing trigger rate to 1kHz (more then twice that for Run1)

    - globally CPU +20%, DISK +15%, TAPE +15% each year

Catalog of events

- A catalog of data is needed to meet multiple use cases and search criteria

- A database that contains the reference to the file that includes every event at every stage of processing is necessary to recall selected events from data storage systems

  ▸ in ATLAS an *EventTag* database already exists

    - designed in late 90'

    - Oracle databases with separate tables for each reprocessing cycle. Implementation in Oracle particularly labor-intensive

    - each event is recorded several times, once for each cycle of reconstruction

  ▸ *EventTag* is potentially very useful but very little used, at least in its DB format

The ATLAS EventIndex

- **GOAL**: design a more agile system, using structured storage technologies (NoSQL databases)

  ▸ appropriate to scale for increased data rates (Commodity HW, Fixed cost/unit), scalable

  ▸ cheaper, easier to use and faster for sparse searches over large amounts of data

- The ATLAS EventIndex is a system designed to be a complete catalogue of ATLAS events

  ▸ all events, real and simulated data

  ▸ all processing stages

- Contents

  ▸ event identifiers (run and event numbers, trigger stream, luminosity block etc.)

  ▸ trigger patterns

  ▸ References (pointers) to the events at each processing stage in all permanent files on storage generated by the ATLAS Production System (central productions)
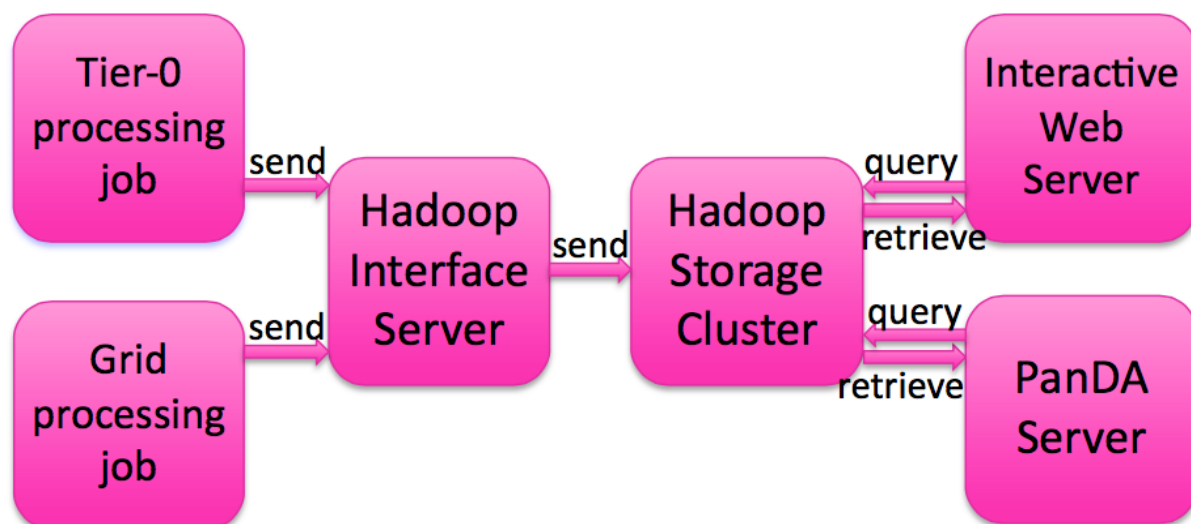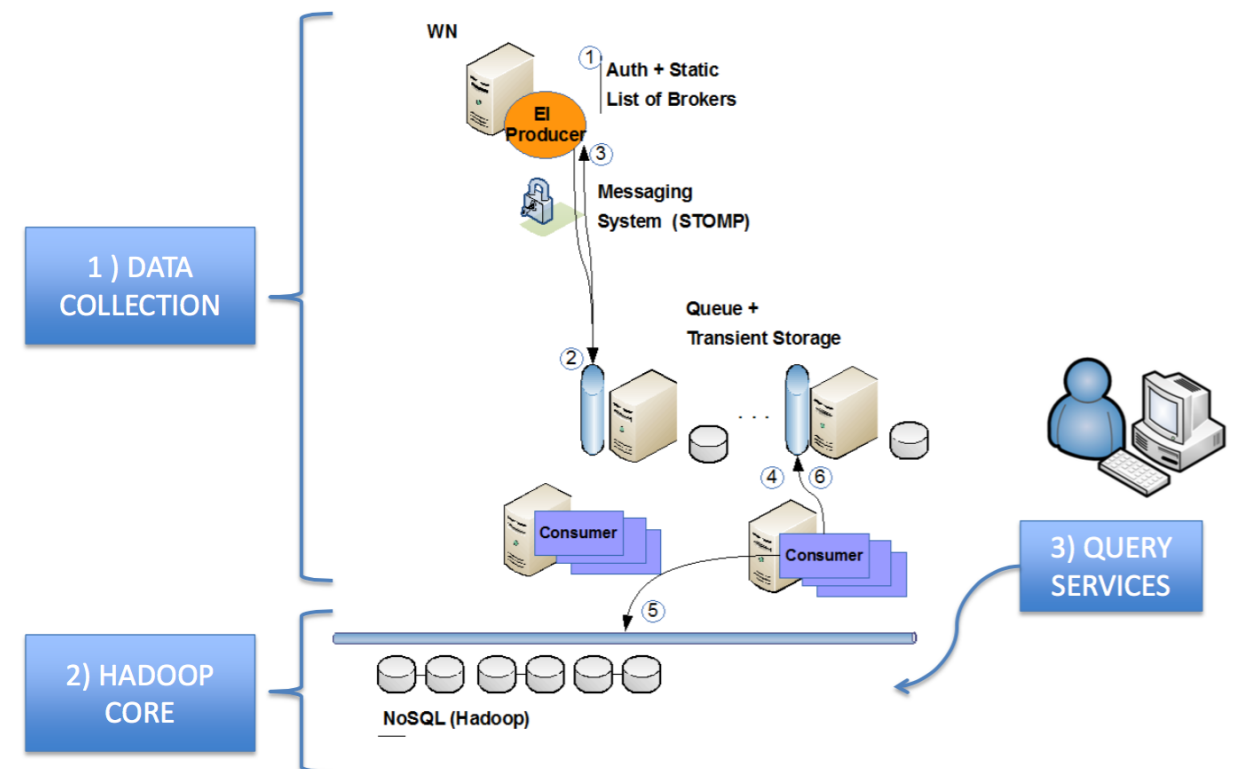
Use cases

- **Event picking**
  - ‣ give me the reference (pointer) to "this" event (or list of events) in "that" format for a giving processing cycle

- **Trigger checks and event skimming**
  - ‣ count, or give me the list of, events passing "this" selection and their references

- **Production consistency checks**
  - ‣ technical checks that processing cycle are complete

Project breakdown and data flow

- We defined 4 major work areas (or tasks)

  1. data collection

  2. Hadoop core architecture

  3. query services

  4. functional testing and operation; system monitoring

- Information for the EventIndex is collected from all production jobs running at CERN and on the Grid and transferred to CERN using a messaging system

- This info is reformatted, inserted into the Hadoop storage system and internally catalogued and indexed

- Query services (CLI and GUI) implemented as web services query the EventIndex and retrieve the information

Data collection

- EventIndex Producer: event processing task which can run at Tier-0 (initial reconstruction at CERN) or on Grid sites (downstream processing)

  ‣ send event metadata via ActiveMQ message broker to the Hadoop storage at CERN

- EventIndex Consumer: reads the messages from the message broker

  ‣ organises data into Hadoop MapFile objects

  ‣ does validation task assessing, e.g. dataset completeness

  ‣ flags aborted, obsoleted, invalid data for further action

Hadoop core architecture

- **Hadoop** was chosen as the storage technology

  ‣ platform is provided and supported by CERN-IT

  ‣ DDM (Distributed Data Management) project also uses Hadoop

  ‣ plenty of tools to organise the data, index them internally and search them

  ‣ showed satisfactory performance in prototype populated with a year of ATLAS data (1TB of data from EventTag DB in oracle corresponding to full 2011 Tier-0 processing)

Hadoop core architecture

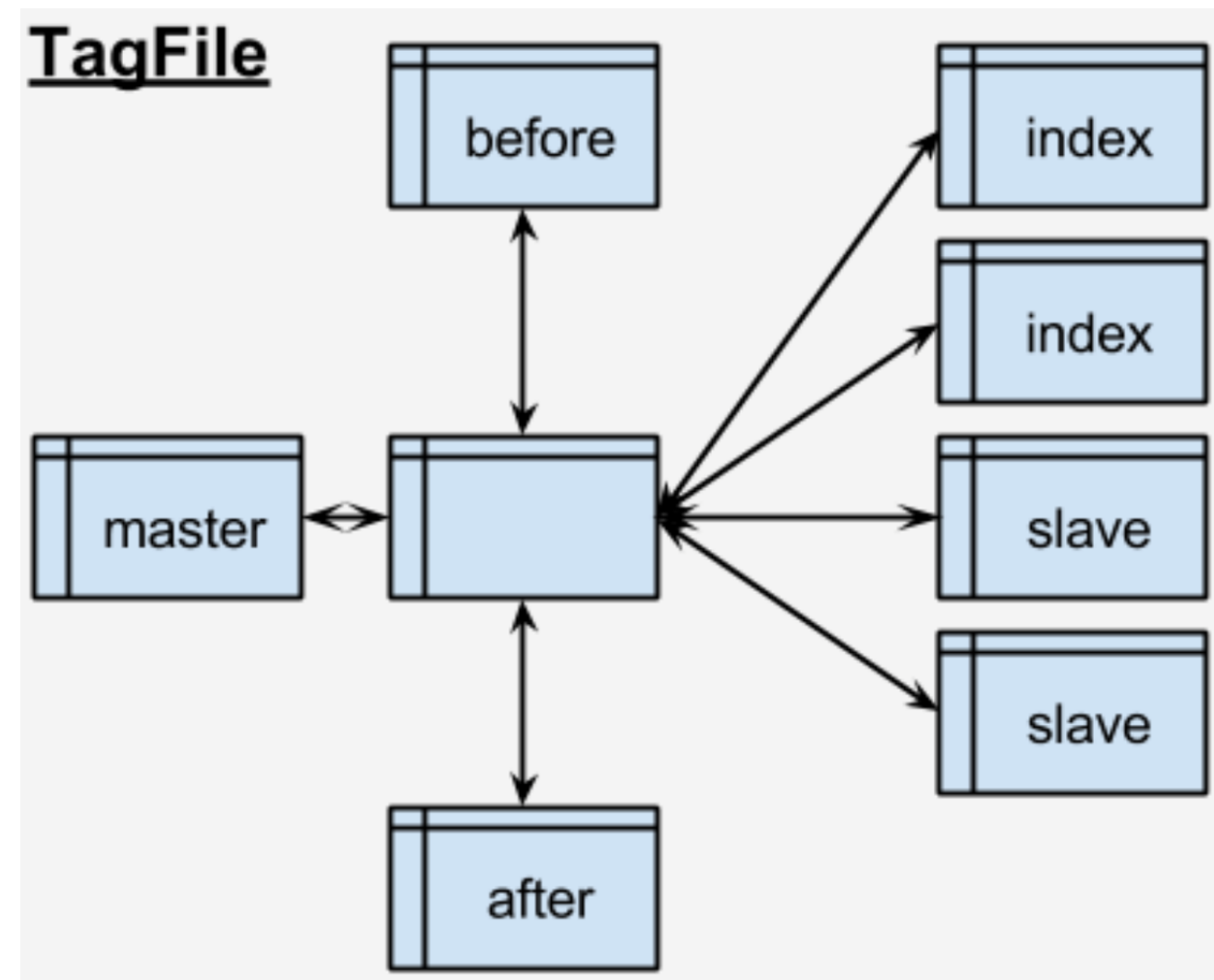- Data uploaded from Consumers are stored in mapfiles in HDFS (Hadoop File System). Catalog is stored in Hadoop HBase (metadata about HDFS files)

  ‣ event attributes stored in several groups (constants, variables, references,…)

  ‣ data can be indexed. Index files just have key + references to data files. Some index files created at upload, others added later. Results of queries can be cached to be used

Hadoop core architecture

- Files in HDFS are logically grouped in collections of filesets, representing event collections

- TagFiles can be files or directory of files

- A collection of TagFiles make a TagSet which contains:

  ‣ master record

  ‣ pointers to before/after fillets (vertical partition)

  ‣ slave TagFiles (horizontal partitions)

  ‣ index TagFiles

- Each TagFile is represented by one entry in the HBase table

- The catalog checks the presence and consistency of all components

Query services

- Each search task creates a new TagFile (in the cache)

  ‣ either as a full-content file or as an index

  ‣ this TagFile is registered in the Catalog and can be reused as a basis for future searches

- Access to the data is achieved by a single and simple interface for:

  ‣ upload: copy file into HDFS

  ‣ read: get and search

  ‣ update: add new (vertical) data

  ‣ index: create new indices

Query services

- Search performance enhanced using keyed indexes based on use cases

  ▶ searches based on a key give immediate results (seconds)

  ▶ complex searches use MapReduce and require 1-2 minutes for typical event collections

- Search results can also represent several operations

  ▶ subset selection

  ▶ merge

  ▶ content modification: any data field can be changed/added/removed

  ▶ re-arrangement: in most cases a creation of new index to allow fast key-based search
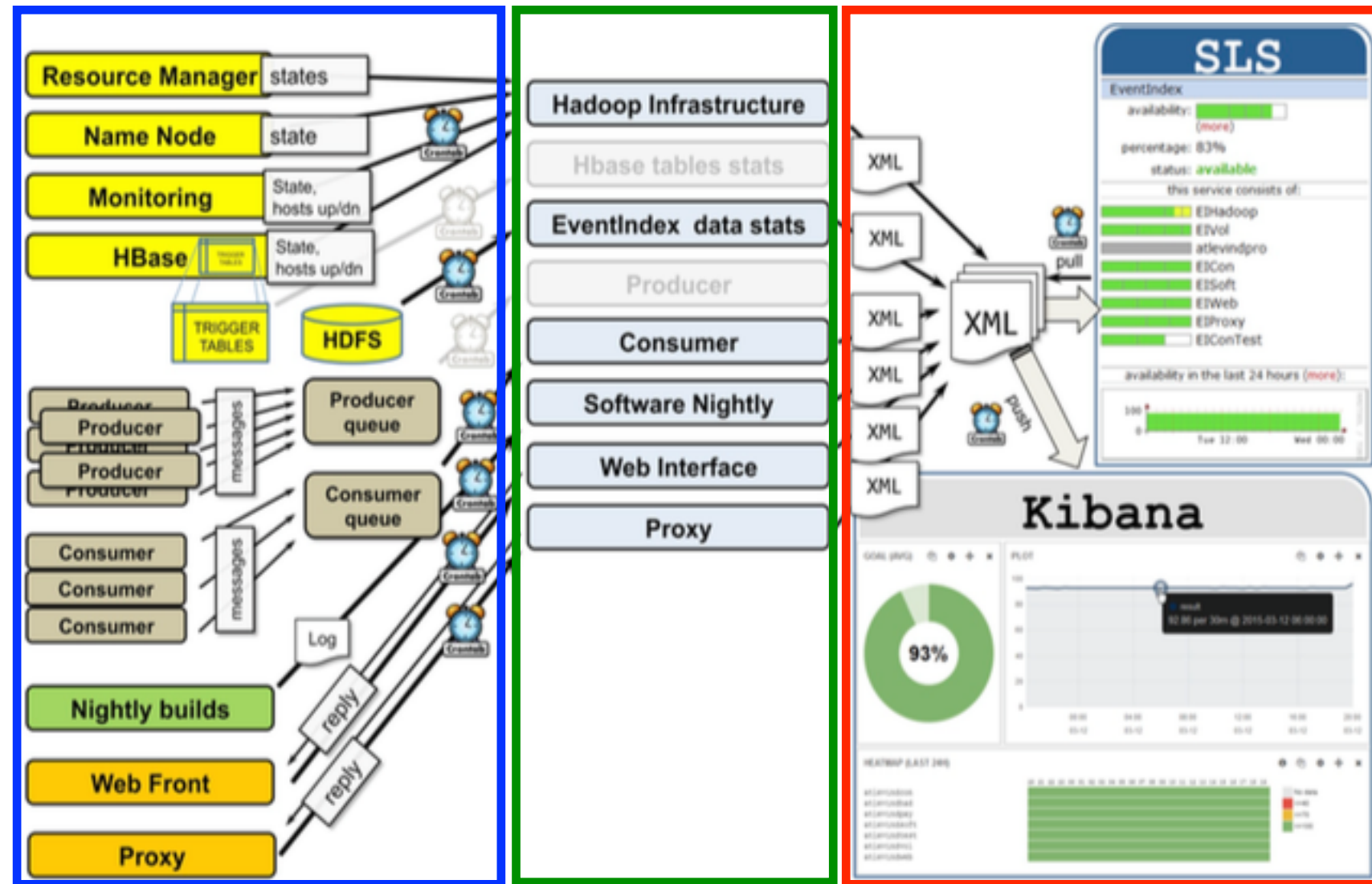
- Search services via CLI and Web Service GUI

typical performance for count/retrieve operations on Run1 data

Query	Search Base	Retrieved	Time (s)
Get Run/ Event	123492895	1	30
Retrieve all	123492895	123492895	3400
Count all	123492895	0	290
Retrieve with trigger stream & sw version	123492895	939220	142
Count with trigger stream & sw version	123492895	0	130
Retrieve with GUID	123492895	41284	204
Count with GUID	123492895	0	192

- measurements on CERN Hadoop cluster with 18 nodes

- total time depends mainly on the amount of retrieved informations

  ▶ "count" is always much faster than "retrieve" (no output to be written)

System monitoring

- Monitors the health of all servers and processes involved in the chain

  ‣ ActiveMQ brokers and Consumers

  ‣ Hadoop cluster and Web servers

- Contents monitoring under development

servers and processes to be monitored

statistics gatherers

statistics displays

Development status, deployment and operation

- All major components exist and work satisfactorily

  ▸ data collection: Producer transform runs at Tier-0 and on the Grid. Consumer reads data from the ActiveMQ servers, validates them and stores to HDFS

  ▸ Storage system: data organisation in Hadoop and indexing in catalogue; trigger decoding interface

  ▸ Query system: CLI and web interfaces. Also EventLookup for event picking

  ▸ Monitoring: System level monitoring in the new CERN Kibana environment

- Run1 data processed since 1st February. Loaded all first-pass Tier-0 production (5.5 billion events). Latest version of reprocessed data loading almost finished

  ▸ EventIndex data size in Hadoop: ~350 B/event in the EventIndex only for LHC Run1. 2TB of RAW informations (6TB after internal replication in Hadoop)

- Message broker data occupancy kept under control using multiple consumers

- Automatic data reformatting and cataloguing in Hadoop

- Run2 data now flowing automatically and continuously from Tier-0/Grid and available in real time

  ▸ still working on improve system interconnections and monitoring

  ▸ automatic checks of production completeness

Summary and outlook

- The ATLAS experiment needs an EventIndex to catalogue billions of events taken every year

  ‣ TBs are needed to index PBs of event data

- The EventIndex infrastructure is now in operation

  ‣ designed, developed and deployed in 2012-2015

  ‣ Run1 Tier-0 processing data fully indexed, reprocessed data indexing almost finished

  ‣ Run2 new data indexing in real time

- All initial use cases are satisfied with good performance

- Still much work ongoing and to do

  ‣ data validation still semi-automatic

  ‣ robustness w.r.t. network/hardware problems

  ‣ additional internal monitoring

  ‣ performance improvements for common queries