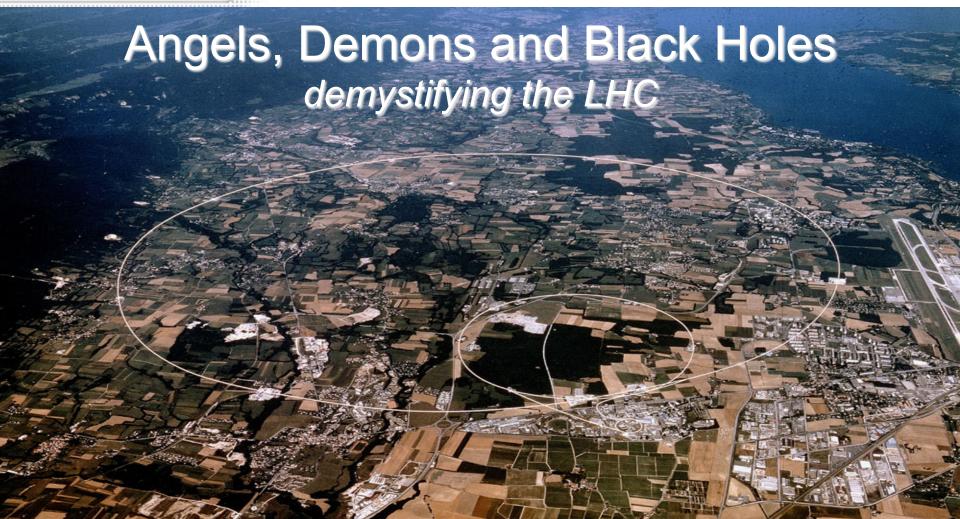
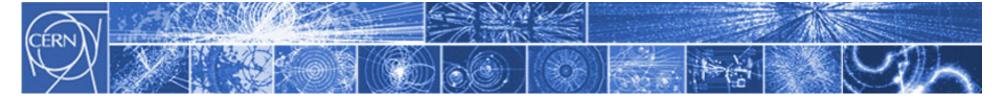


CERN

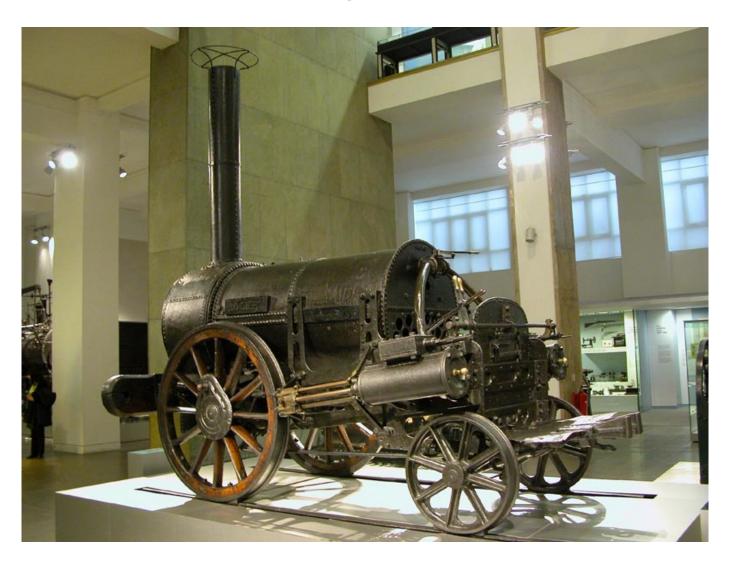
European Organization for Nuclear Research Organisation Européenne pour la Recherche Nucléaire

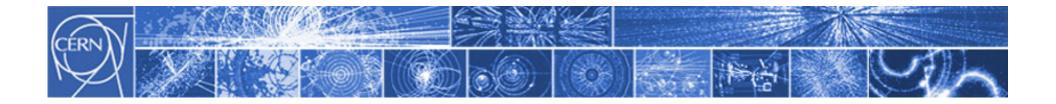


Dr James Gillies, Head of communication, CERN

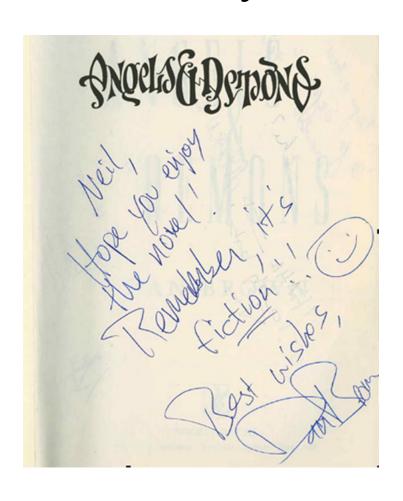


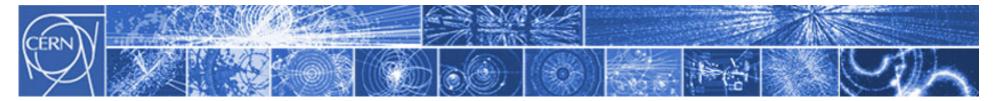
Risk...





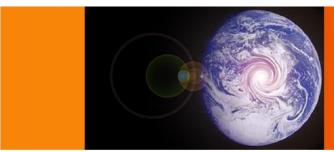
... this arrived on my desk in 2000





... and then came End Day...

FRIDAY



Documentaries & Arts
End Day: End of the Universe

Deep within the bowels of a particle accelerator on the East Coast of the US, an extraordinary experiment is being prepared. Scientists are pursuing their quest to understand the nature of matter itself. On the streets, the public holds a protest to stop their work...

Fact!

Scientists are experimenting with the very nature of reality itself; building ever larger and more powerful particle accelerators in what could turn out to be a game of total annihilation.

In a 600 million dollar laboratory, within a vast ring of magnets miles across, atoms can be made to travel at the speed of light then crashed to create particles that haven't existed since the Big Bang ... and possibly some that have never existed at all.

Scientists accept that black holes can be created but these are small enough to evaporate before they can suck in all surrounding matter. They have also calculated the precise risk of another terrifying possibility: a phase change of space-time leading to the complete breakdown of the universe as we know it.

But most frightening of all is the creation of a group of strange quarks called 'dangerous strangelets'. These are so dense they could burrow to the centre of the Earth, transforming everything they touch into anti-matter, condensing our planet into a tiny lifeless sphere.

They are experimenting right now...

Do you feel safe?



End Day

- Home
- End Day: Mega-Tsunami
- End Day: Comet Attack
- End Day: Killer Virus
- End Day: Supervolcano

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external internet sites

Fiction?

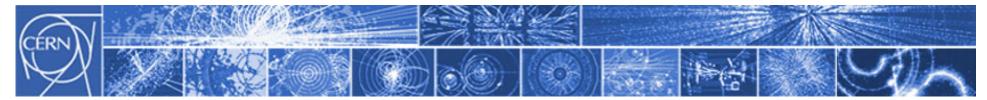
It's End Day and within a deep underground chamber physicists have briefly created exotic particles and space-time warps by violently smashing atoms.

But something unforeseen happens. 'Strangelets' appear. Suddenly, the normal laws of physics cease to apply. Reality warps and alters. Atoms are transformed into totally new forms of matter.

The singularity burrows into the Earth, twisting the atomic structure of the surrounding rooks as it falls into the planet's centre.

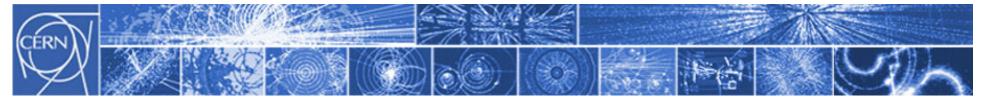
A wave of total destruction expands outwards, consuming everything in its path. Life ends. The Earth vanishes...

The universe as we know it ceases to exist.



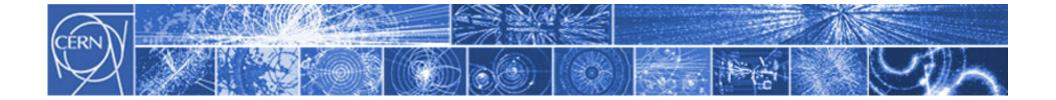
The story of one day...



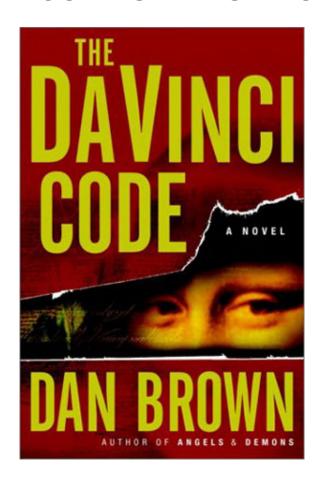


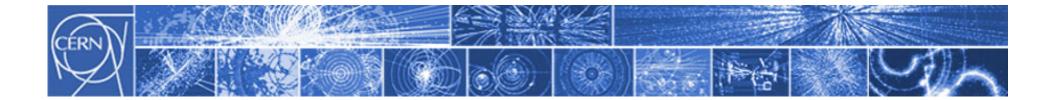
Reassuring physicist...



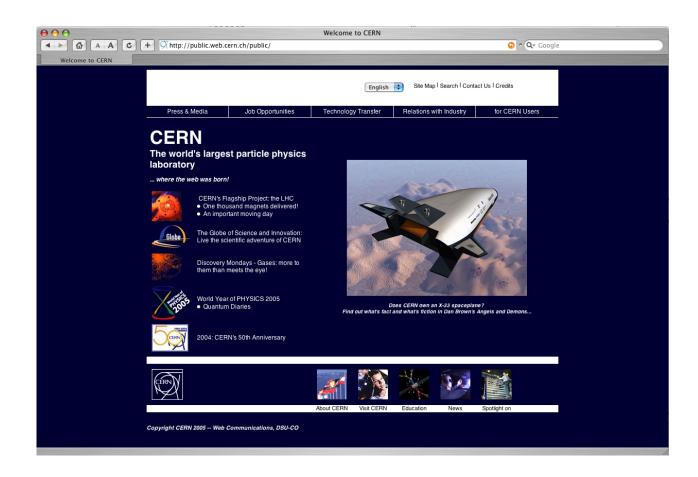


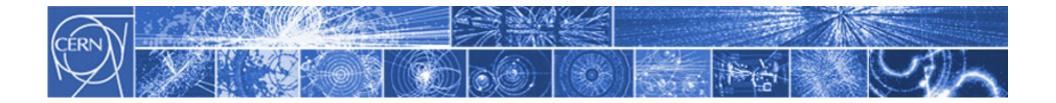
... and then came The Da Vinci Code





It was time for CERN to act!





True or false?

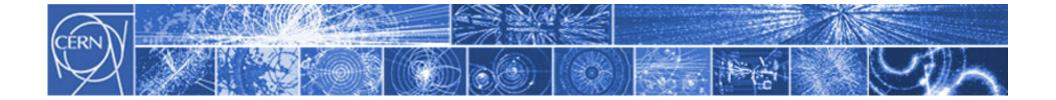
CERN has a space plane.	7
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CERN makes antimatter.

Georges Charpak played frisbee.

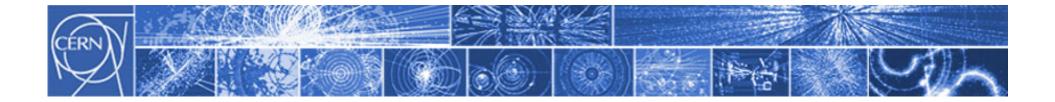
Antimatter could solve the energy crisis. X

PET scanners are developed at CERN.



2007: a visit from Ron Howard...





...led to a contract with Sony...

WORKING DRAFT 24-01-08 - without prejudice

AGREEMENT

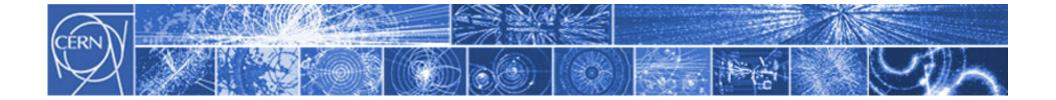
BETWEEN

OBELISK PRODUCTIONS LIMITED (OBELISK)

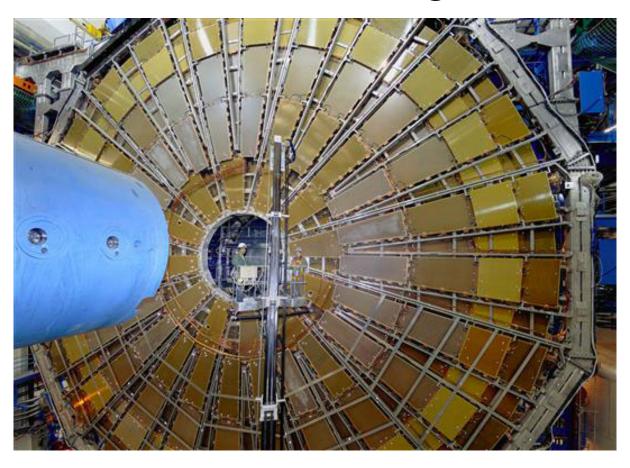
AND

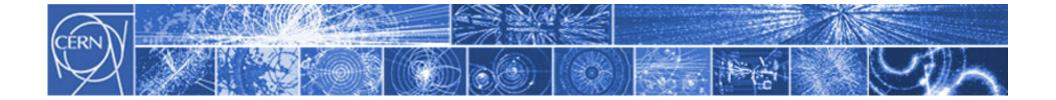
THE EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH (CERN)

2008



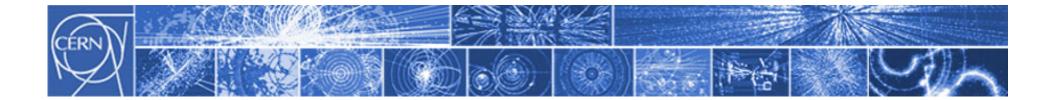
...some filming...





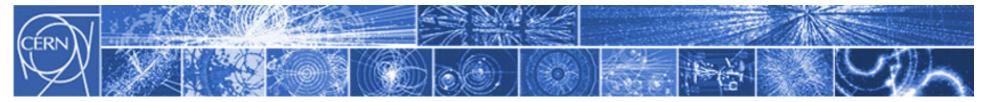
...and a big media junket at CERN



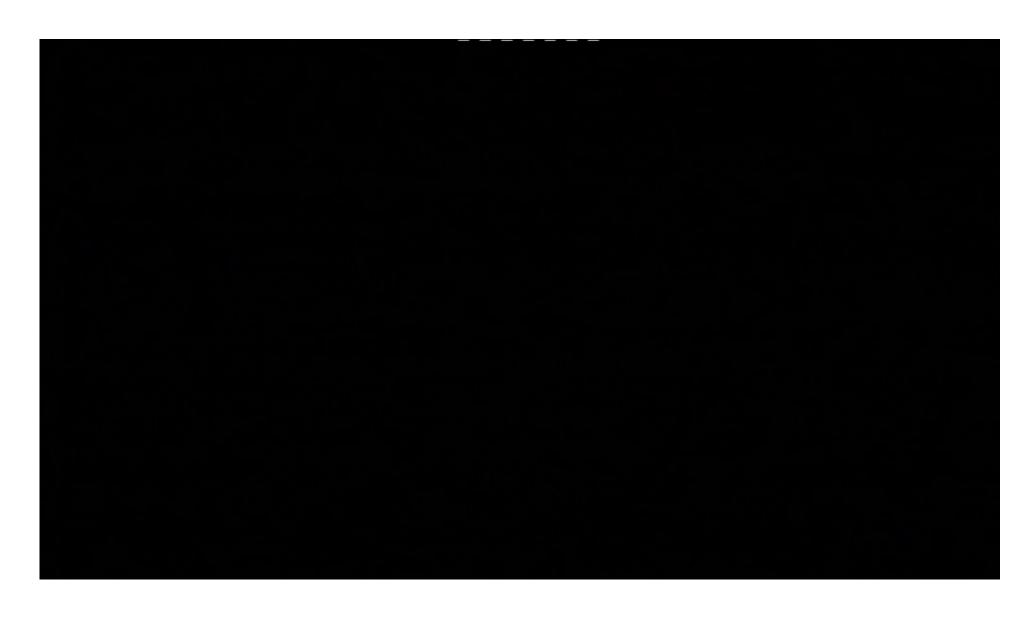


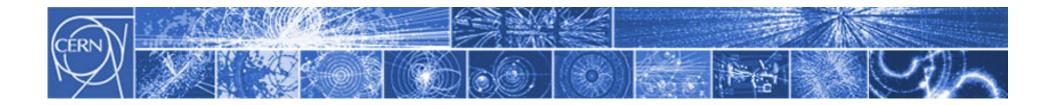
We did tie-ins with the launch, and we're on the BluRay disk





Antimatter – according to Hollywood





What's wrong with that clip*?

Particles leave visible tracks in air.

Antimatter is produced in the LHC.

How much do we produce per year?

1 nanogramme

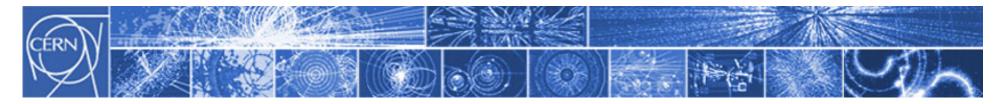
How long would it take to produce the quantity held in a canister in the film?

~250,000,000 years

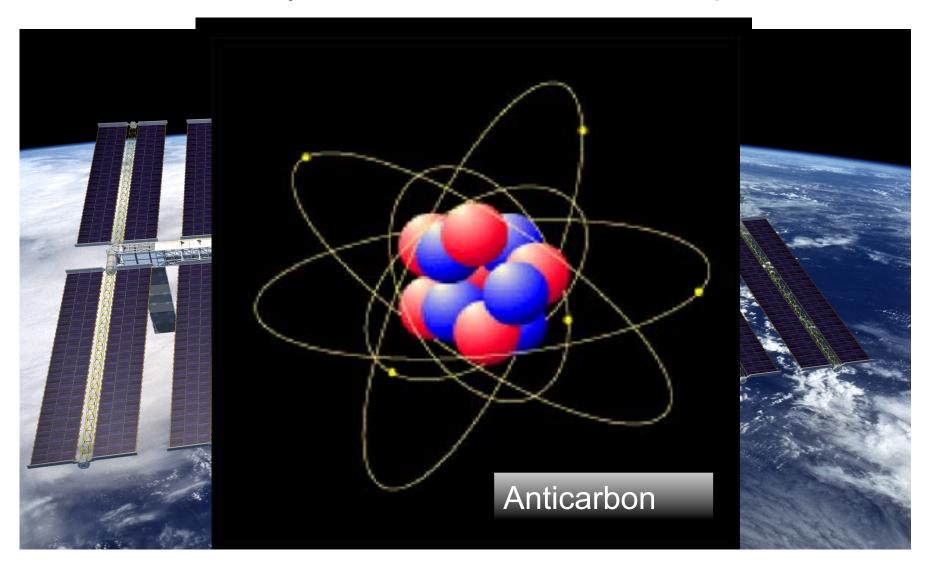
The control room overlooks the experiment. X

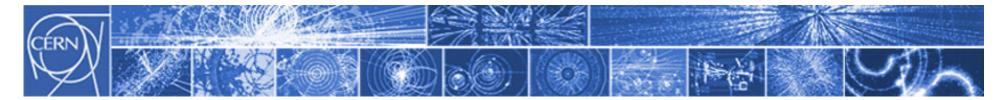
Physicists really say such things. ~✓

^{*}There's a prize for the best answers to these questions!

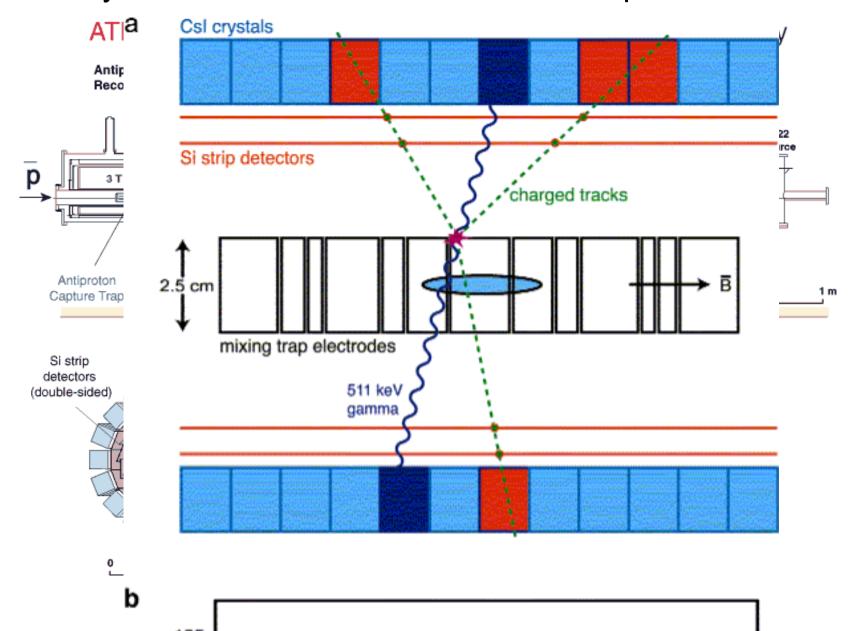


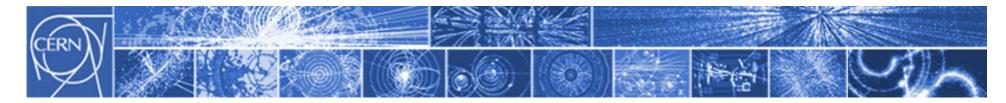
The reality of antimatter research... in space



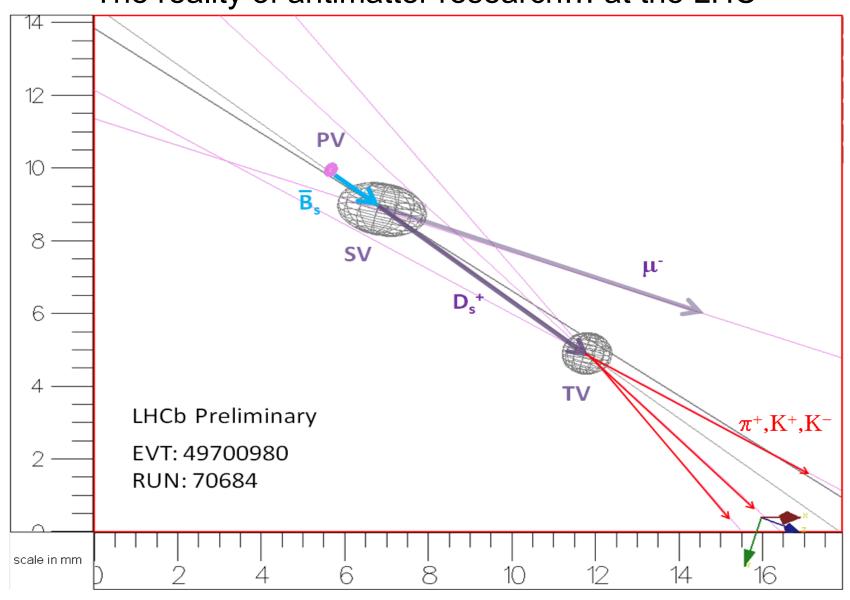


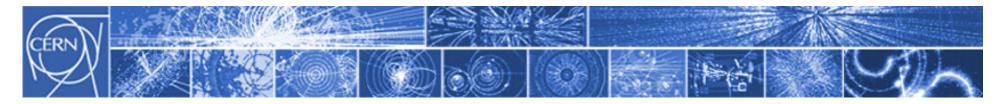
The reality of antimatter research... at the Antiproton Decelerator



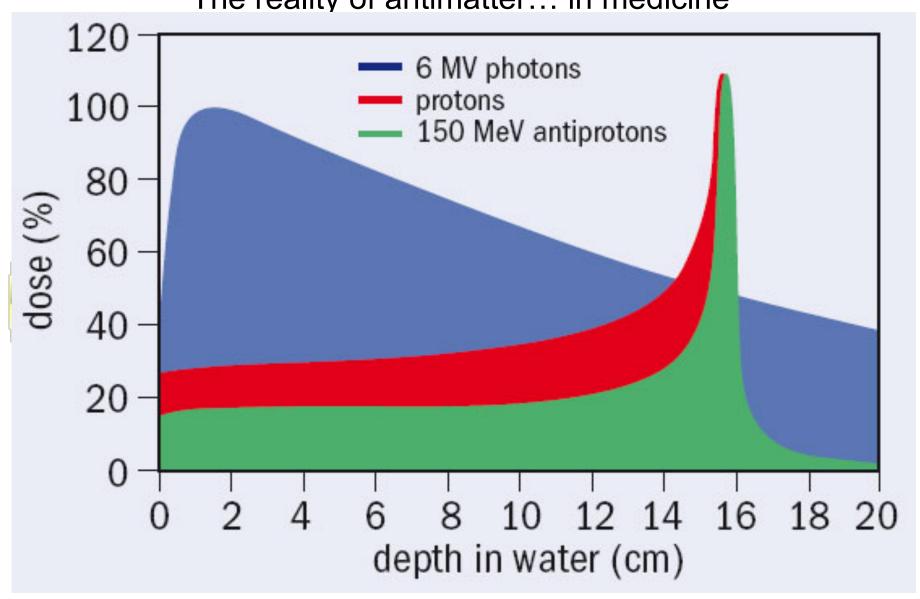


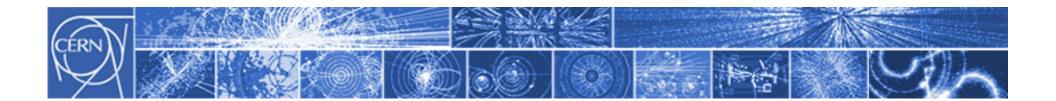
The reality of antimatter research... at the LHC



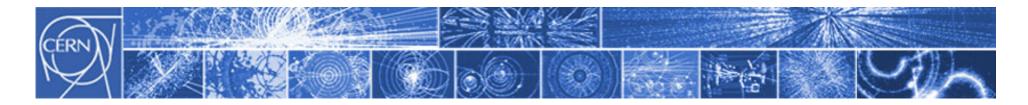


The reality of antimatter... in medicine



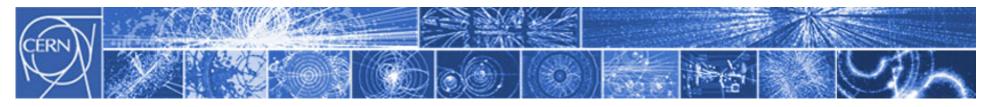


What about Black Holes?

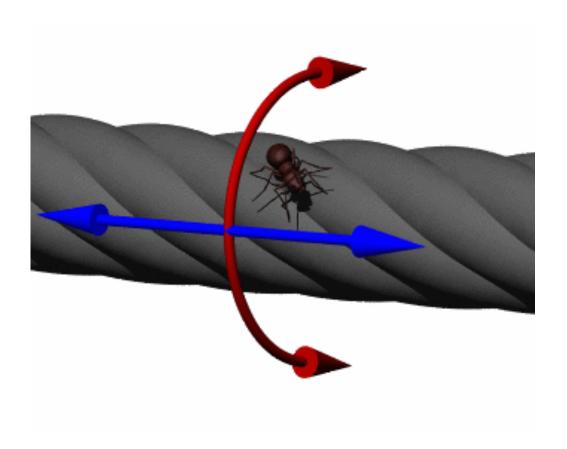


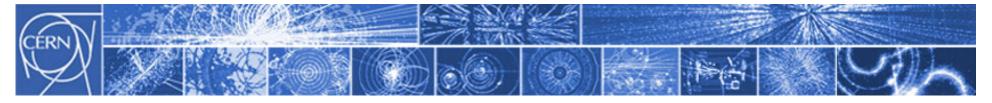
Defying gravity

Interation	Relative strength
Strong	1
Electromagnetic	1/137
Weak	10 ⁻⁶
Gravity	10 ⁻³⁹

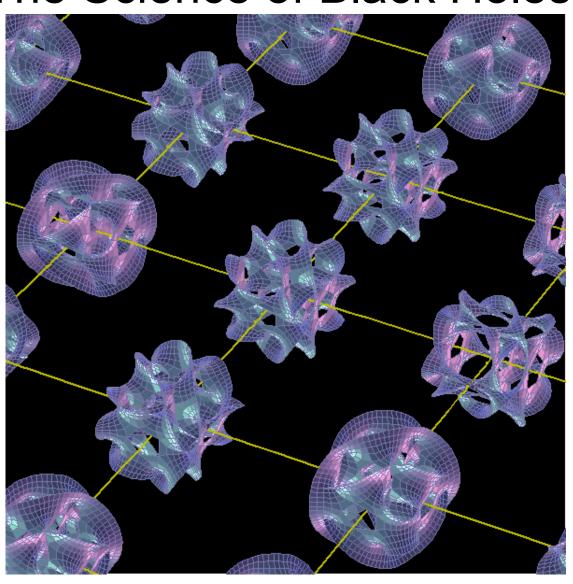


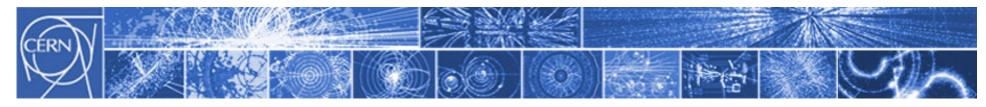
The Science of Black Holes





The Science of Black Holes



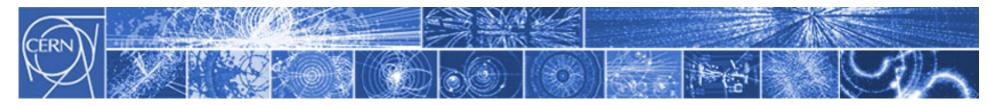


The Lion, the Witch and the Black Hole

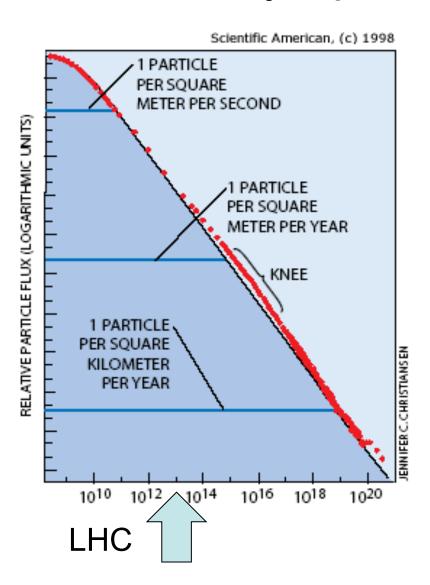


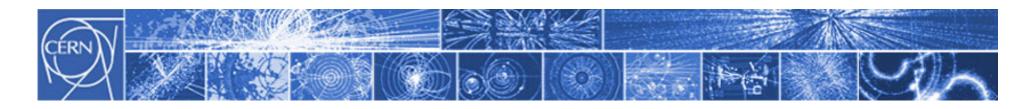
"Once we Once we stop these guys at CERN then we have to ban wardrobes. We shouldn't be taking the chance of people ending up in Narnia!"

Blog posting, 30 March 2008



The Cosmic Ray Spectrum





They've always been there...

Year Machine

Web

Hype

1989

LEP

None

None



1999

RHIC

Web 1.0

Little

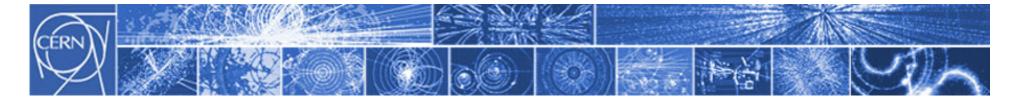


2008

LHC

Web 2.0

Lots



50/50

Daily Show Does CERN



Stumble! Like?

If you watch the Daily Show, you know the inane humor of John Oliver, one of the regular "corespondents" on the show. My colleagues at CERN tell me that he's visiting CERN now, filming one of his inimitable segments on the LHC and the experiments, to be aired "some time after April 21". Personally, I can't wait to see it - he is always funny and usually pretty sharply barbed. He apparently rode an LHC dipole

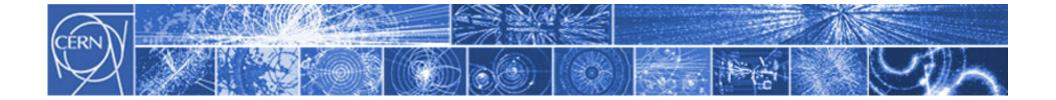


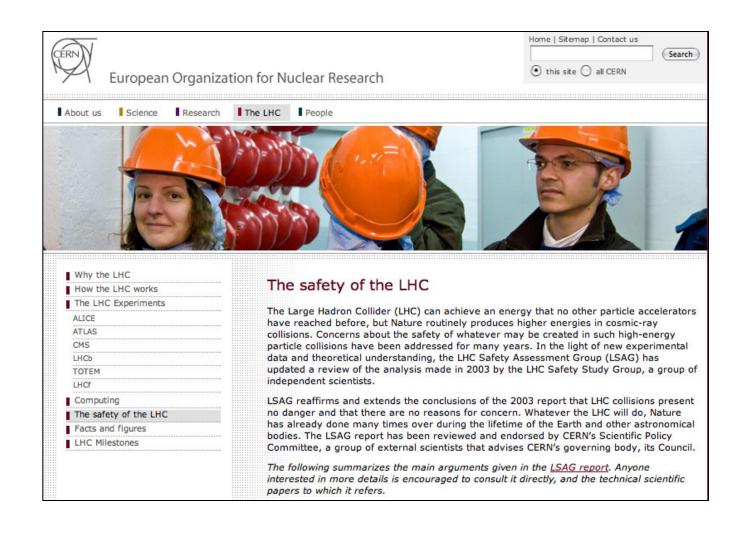
magnet like Slim Pickens rode the bomb in Dr. Strangelove, and asked one of our guys "is there anything you do here that's not boring?" His video spots are always edited tightly to get the maximum laugh quotient. Anyway, here he is in the CMS cavern, earlier today (thanks to my student Matt Searle for the photo!)

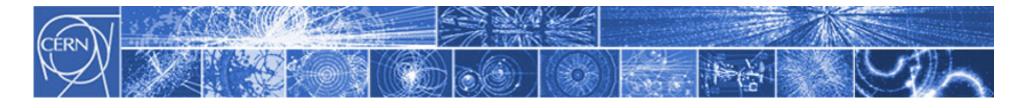


ShareThis

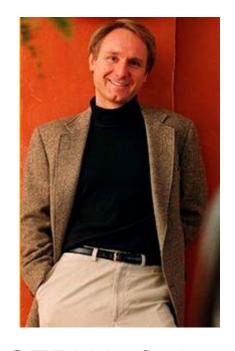
April 8th, 2009 by John in Miscellany, Science and the Media | 14 comments | RSS feed | Trackback >



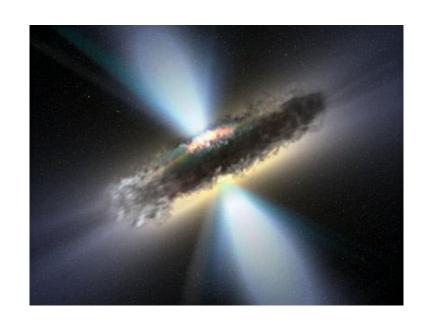




Would we do the same again?

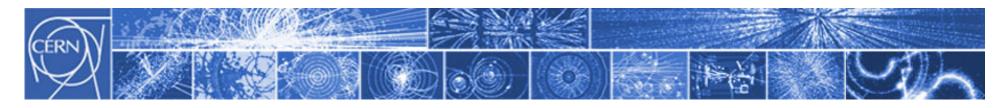


CERN in fiction...



CERN in fiction dressed up as fact...

Both helped us tell our story.
With hindsight, we'd have treated them in the same way.



The new NASA?

Global language monitor...

Word of the year: twitter, but hadron came in at number 8 Phrase of the year: king of pop, but god particle came in at 10 Name of the Year: Barak Obama, but LHC was number 4

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