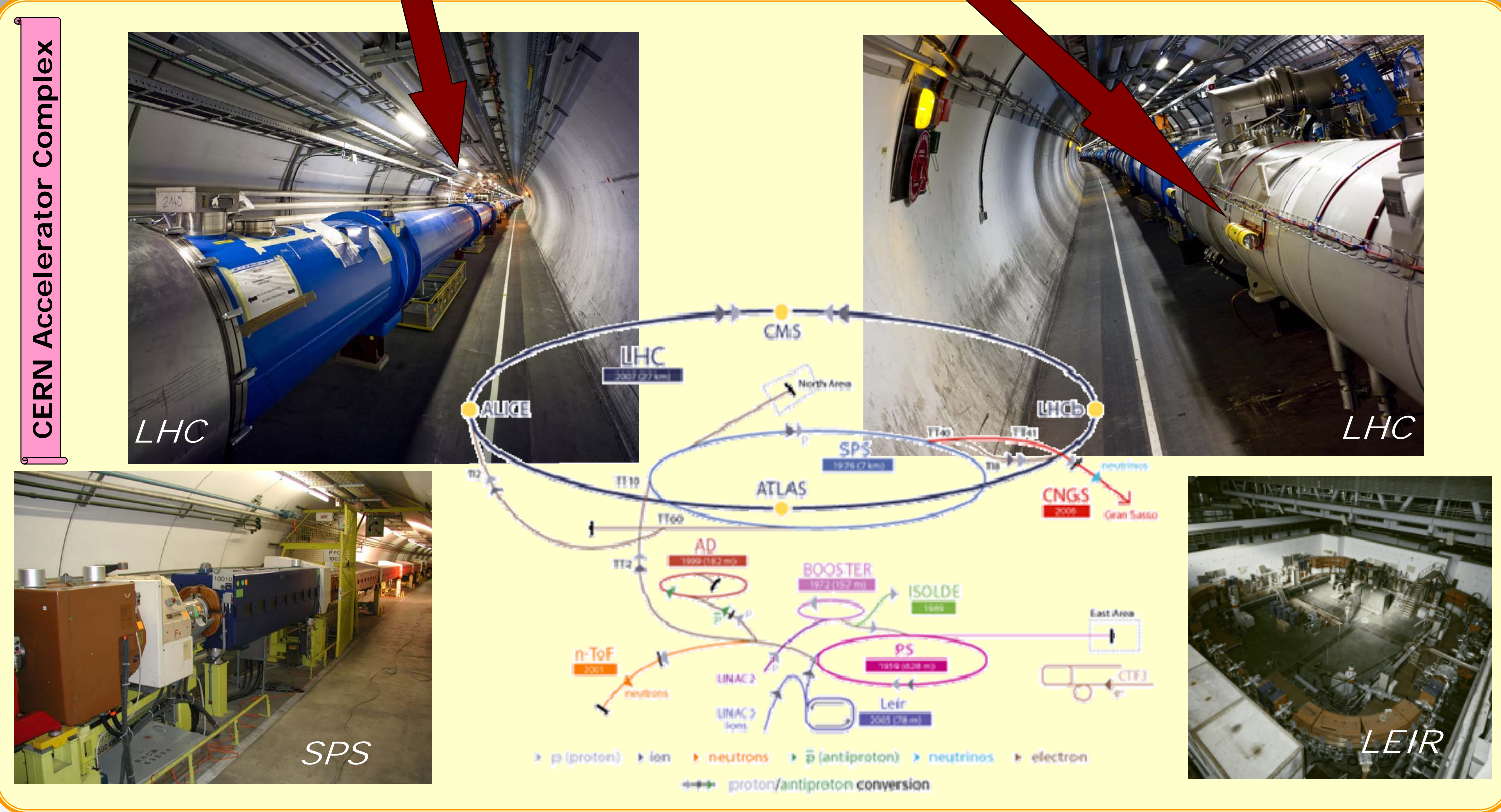
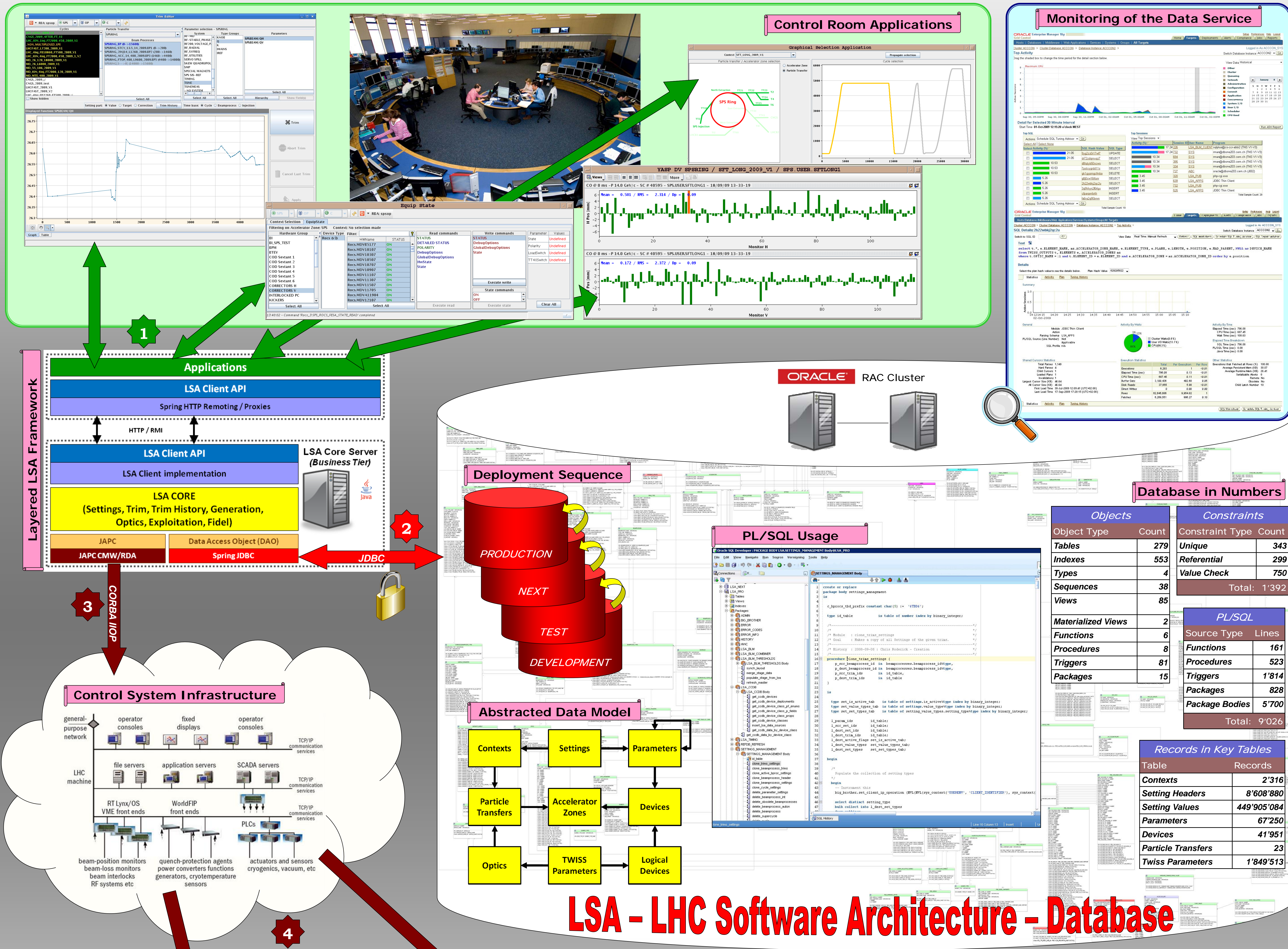


The LSA Database to Drive the Accelerator Settings

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Abstract

The LHC-era Software Architecture (LSA) used to operate the particle accelerators at CERN is dependent on an on-line database to manage both high and low level parameter settings, including their evolution over time. Accelerator optics models, control sequences, reference values, are amongst the other entities being managed within the database. The LSA database can be considered as being located between the operators and the accelerators; therefore performance, availability, and security of the service as well as data integrity are paramount. To meet these requirements the LSA database model has been carefully developed, all database access is tightly controlled and instrumented, business logic is implemented within the database, and there is a semi-automatic integration with other key accelerator databases. Currently 8.6 million settings for some 40 thousand devices of the LEIR, SPS, and LHC accelerators are being effectively managed.

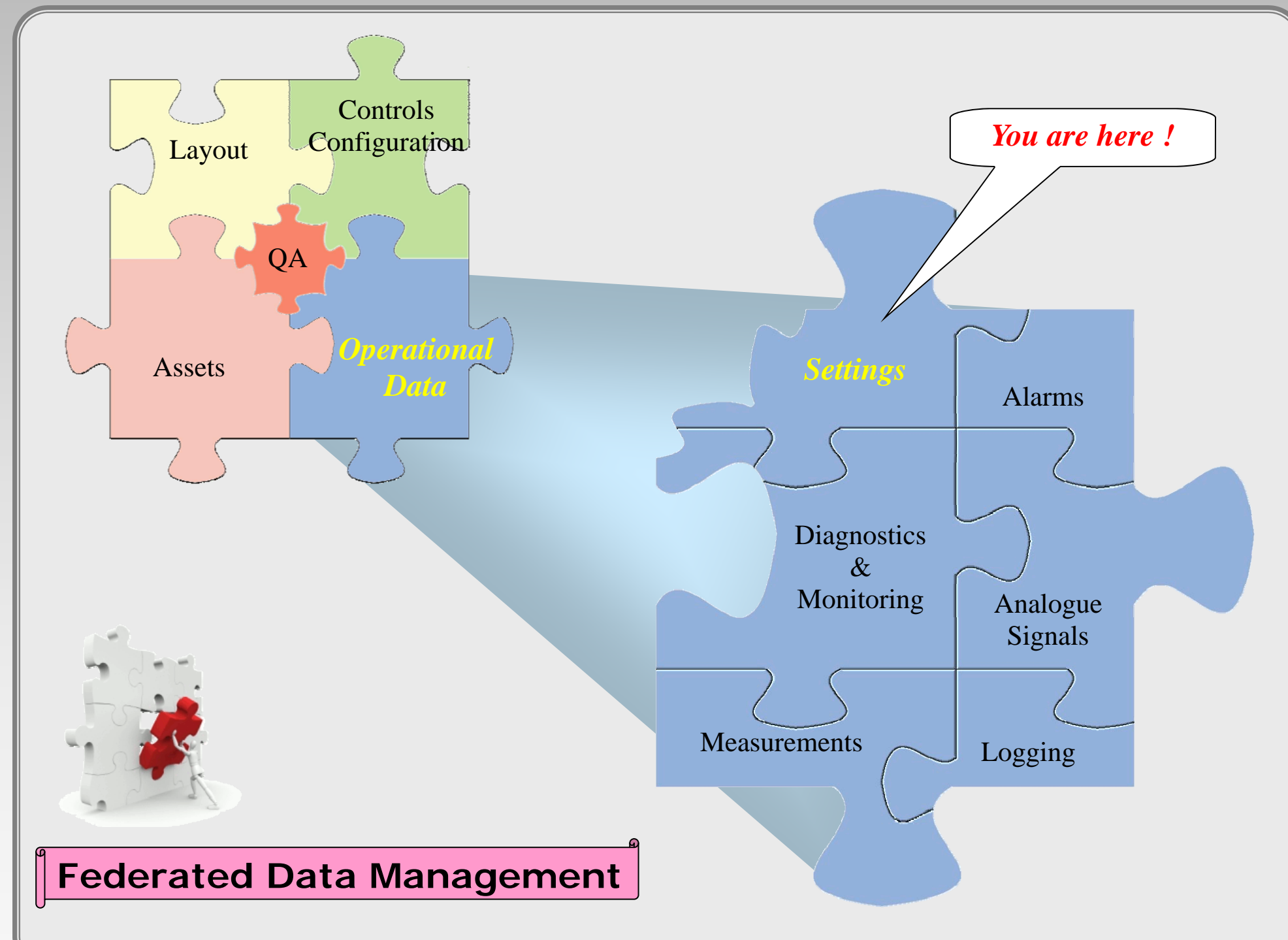


A bit of history:

The Oracle® database management system was already used for LEP at the end of the 1980s.

Only during the last years of LEP operation, databases were used in an on-line mode.

The ultimate efficiency, with which LEP could be operated, was in large part due to the integration of a well designed control system using a commercial database.



Conclusion

The LSA database is an example of a relational database used to effectively manage a vast and complex dataset for high-level accelerator control. The on-line usage does not hinder the real-time requirements of accelerator operations. The exact match between the actual accelerator settings and the image in the database model is guaranteed. The powers of the DBMS have been acknowledged and utilized to the full potential to form a core component of the LHC-era control system.

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