

# 25th & 26th International Conference on Computing in High Energy and Nuclear Physics



## vCHEP2021

Chairs: Simone Campana, Graeme Stewart (CERN)

## CHEP2023

Chairs: Amber Boehnlein , Graham Heyes (Jefferson Lab)

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Website: <https://www.jlab.org/conference/CHEP2023>

- The CHEP conference is an ongoing series in a rotation between locations in Europe, North America and other regions
- Normally held roughly every 18 months to two years – local spring
- CHEP provides a unique opportunity for computing experts across Particle and Nuclear Physics to come together to learn from each other. The focus of the conference evolves with time to highlight:
  - Changing technologies
  - Major scientific initiatives.
- The 24th CHEP was CHEP 2019, held in Adelaide, Australia in November 2019
- Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (Jefferson Lab) planned to host the 25th CHEP, in May 2021 in Norfolk, Virginia, USA
  - Jefferson Lab is a nuclear physics laboratory and is working to increase representation at CHEP from the international nuclear physics community

# Scientific quality, international character and diversity

- CHEP is the only conference series that addresses this set of issues in scientific computing for experimental physics and as such draws the experts in the field
  - Normal participation is over 600 from around the world, it is truly international
- Through the plenary program, related scientific and computing topics are presented to ensure a broad and thoughtful program that engages the community
- The nine parallel session tracks often have very animated discussions on technical merits of various approaches
  - BoF sessions promote international communities of common interest
  - The program includes a diversity event
- The International Advisory committee has representatives from across Europe, Asia and North America, the committee membership is posted on the conference web site



	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
09:00							
09:30		Workshop	Plenary	Plenary	Plenary	Plenary	Plenary
10:00							
10:30							
11:00					Plenary		
11:30			Parallel	Parallel		Parallel	Plenary
12:00	Workshop Registration	Workshop			Lunch		
12:30			Lunch	Lunch		Lunch	
13:00							
13:30	Workshop						
14:00			Parallel	Parallel		Parallel	
14:30							
15:00					Excursions		
15:30							
16:00	Workshop			Poster A		Poster B	
16:30			Plenary	Parallel			
17:00						Plenary	
17:30	Workshop Reception						
18:00		Public Event					
18:30			Reception			Dinner	
19:00							
⋮							

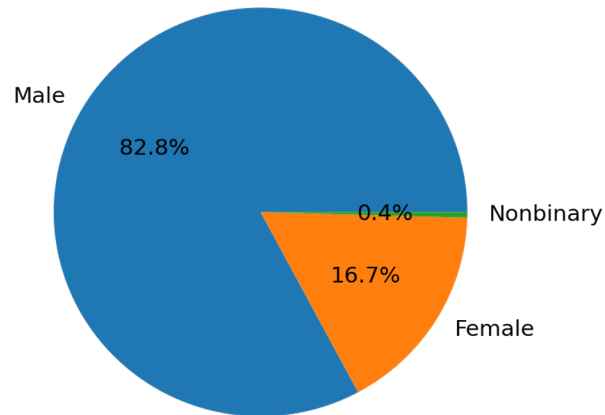
## A change in plan (twice)

- During 2020 it became clear that an in-person conference in May 2021 was impossible
- The hotel contract had a large financial penalty for outright cancellation, but the hotel accepted postponement until May 2022
- The IAC was concerned that 2.5 years between CHEP19 and CHEP22 would cause hardship to researchers who depend on CHEP to publish papers
- CERN offered to host virtual vCHEP 2021, the 25<sup>th</sup> CHEP, in May 2021 to fill the gap and maintain the publication cadence
  - A paper was required before acceptance of a presentation
  - Announced November 2020 with final paper revisions for proceedings June 2021 was a rapid turnaround. Kudos to co-chairs Simone and Graeme for pulling it off!
- The Norfolk CHEP, now the 26<sup>th</sup>, was planned for May 2022.
- During 2021 concerns developed:
  - There were still significant travel restrictions and plenary speakers would not commit
  - After vCHEP there was “CHEP fatigue” and it was hard to get volunteers for the PC etc.
- We decided to postpone by a further year to May 2023 – five years after we started planning for a CHEP in Norfolk – but in keeping with the 18-24 month cadence

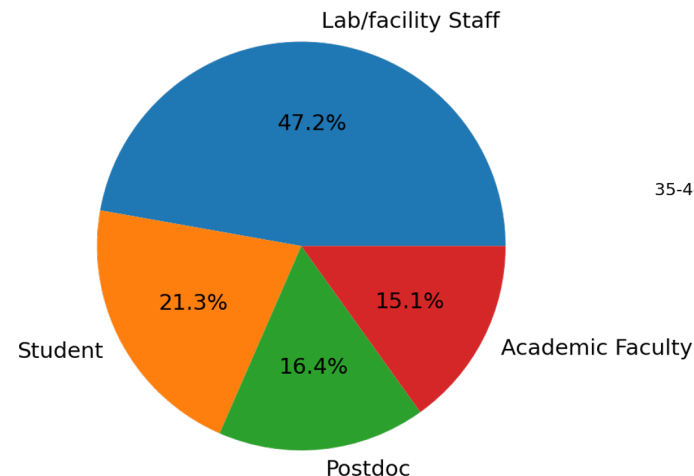
# The 25th CHEP – the vCHEP - demographics

- In total 1144 people registered for vCHEP
  - 185 people registered after the event had started
- Registration optionally asked about age, gender and career stage.
  - About 20% of people declined to answer the questions
  - Student participation in Adelaide was 11.1% and 21.3 at vCHEP
  - Generally younger participation than Adelaide.
  - A similar profile to Sofia.

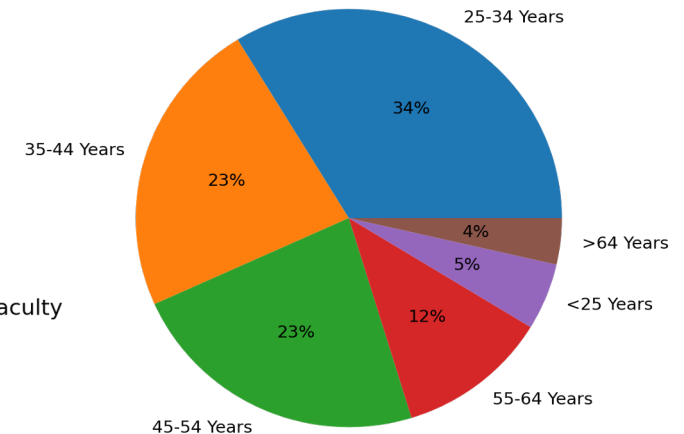
vCHEP2021 Gender (declared)



vCHEP2021 Career (declared)

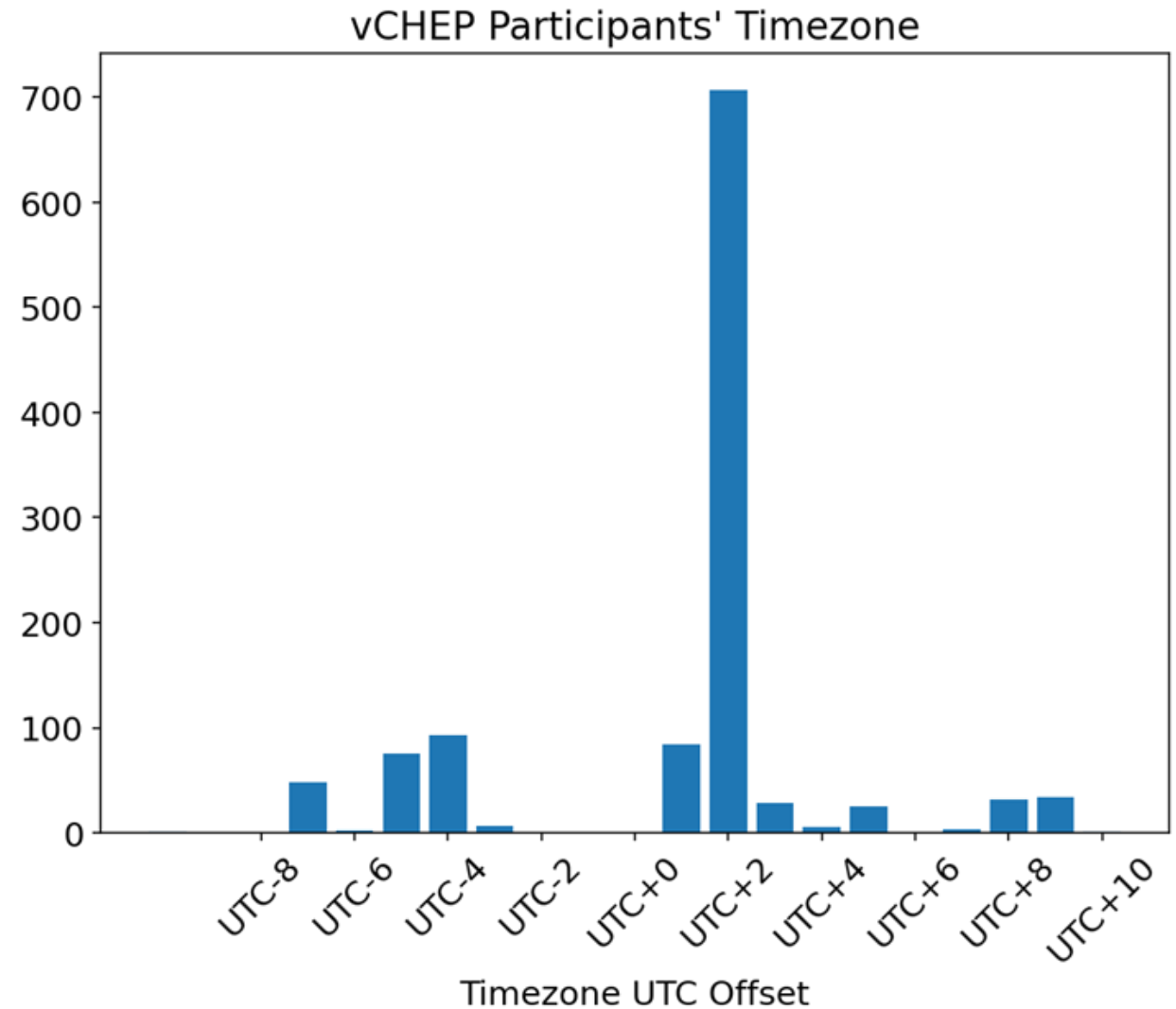
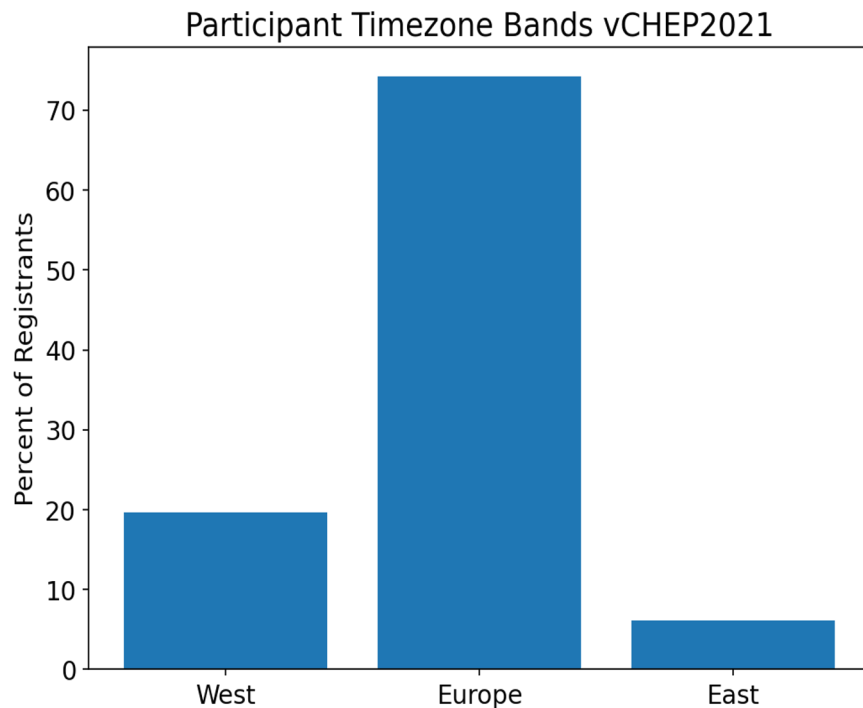


Age Group



# Participant Timezone

- vCHEP was dominated by participation from Europe
- This fed into the session organization, which may have amplified the effect



# Key lessons from vCHEP experience

- Registration was larger than usual (as most online conferences)
  - Attendance was also very good (500 people peak, comparable to a in-person CHEP)
- Participation was worldwide, with peaks from Europe, also linked to the time zone
- Gender diversity is still very skewed toward male attendance (in line with other CHEPs), while there is more balance if looking at early career participants
- We got very good feedback in the survey about the scientific program
  - People eventually appreciated the idea of papers in advance to ensure more quality and a way to speed up the publication of the proceedings afterwards
- The proceedings process was finished for EPJ only 2-3 months after the conference.
  - Extremely fast compared for other CHEPs
- People appreciated the idea of publishing the best papers (11 in total) in CSBS, a peer-reviewed journal
- A virtual conference on this scale stretched the resources even of CERN



# CHEP 2023 – the 26<sup>th</sup> CHEP

- The planned venue for CHEP2023 is the Marriott Waterside Hotel in downtown Norfolk, Virginia, unchanged from 2021
- Since the infrastructure for registration and abstract submission was already set up last year we are in good shape!
  - (we opened for abstract submission but had to shut down again a week later)
- We are reviewing costs in view of inflation and changes since 2021
- The cost of a hybrid event hosted from the hotel would lead to an unacceptably high fee
  - Some IAC members disagree with charging a fee for virtual attendance
  - We are considering lower cost options, for example making only the plenary hybrid
- Our goal is that there will be a conference in Norfolk next May
  - Abstract submission and registration are scheduled to open in August

