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CernVM: Overview and Future Plans

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CernVM is a virtual software appliance designed to support the development cycle and provide a runtime environment for the LHC experiments. It consists of three key components that differentiate it from more traditional virtual machines: a minimal Linux Operating System, the CernVM File System to deliver application software on demand, and contextualization tools that provide a means to easily customize and configure CernVM instances. The presentation covers the status and use cases of CernVM. The presentation also discusses future directions of CernVM. In particular, it will discuss SL6 support and the μ CernVM prototype. The μ CernVM prototype leverages CernVM-FS for the distribution of core operating system files. This approach speeds up the initial boot time and reduces virtual machine image sizes by an order of magnitude to only a few megabytes.

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