### Towards a CERN-inspired

## Collaboration Infrastructure for Contemplative Studies

Wolfgang Lukas, University of Innsbruck – wolfgang.lukas@gmail.com

#### Problem

In scientific research, individuals often face impediments such as highly competitive environments limited by the apparent scarcity of resources, visibility, expertise, and manpower. As a consequence, much time and energy is being invested on the systemic overhead; under publication pressure this can result in limited statistics, reduced significance of results, publication biases, and replicability issues.

### Objective

The given limitations can be overcome within a well-coordinated, inclusive, collaborative environment that maximises efficient use of resources through a shared infrastructure. In the case of Contemplative Studies (CS), such a culture of collaboration can be worked towards by scientists, educators, clinicians and other groups of professionals, as well as contemplative practitioners themselves.

### Robust Research

Enough time for rigorous research, deliberate focus on slow science and due diligence

# Shared Resources

Coordinated sharing of data,
manpower, expertise, best practices,
... bundling efforts for fundraising,
applications, grants, submissions,
presentations, publications,
documentation, internal
peer-review, ...

### Slow Science

Deliberate focus on looking deeply, research becomes genuine contemplative practice in itself

# Collaborative Co-Authorship

Large collaborations publish results together, and can thus afford lower output rates, with better quality of each publication thanks to highly intricate internal peer-review processes and quality standards

# inspired Collaboration

### Consensual Languages

Interdisciplinary challenge: develop languages & communicative practices that facilitate mutual understanding and consensus, equivalent to the role of mathematics in physics and other natural sciences

### Flagship Projects

Identification of long-term research projects, enabled by collaborative culture; shared strategic vision

## Multi-disciplinary natuces

Multi-disciplinary nature of contemplative science and practice can uniquely help reconnect fragmented domains

Unique

Contribution

### Compassionate Governance

Compassionate leadership facilitates impartial coordination of team efforts; consensus-driven decision-making, circular organizational structures, communal orientation towards well-being of individuals and groups

### Mutual Support

Scientists, practitioners, educators, therapists, and supporters are connected by shared intentions and goals

## Underlying Narratives

Elucidate the dominant cultural narratives, including myths of scarcity, separation, hierarchy, ... and systemic rarity of contemplative practices; contribute to a gradual transformation towards a collaborative and contemplative culture

### Conclusions

A highly successful implementation of the proposed collaborative framework has been demonstrated over recent decades by research communities [1] around the Large Hadron Collider at CERN. Several of the listed key factors are implemented in the CERN model of collaboration, including consensual languages, shared data and expertise, *slow science* and detailed internal peer-review processes, which are necessitated by the complex experimental conditions to enable precision studies.

The highly interdisciplinary domain of CS faces challenges beyond those found in physics, but also allows to include additional resources rooted in contemplative practice itself. We are beginning to explore the feasibility of establishing a more inclusive collaborative framework for CS over the coming decades, starting with dialogues among CS, physics and other communities. These explorations might also inspire other fields of inquiry, while helping gradually transform the prevailing cultural and societal narratives from separation/scarcity to interbeing/compassion.