(experimental) physics



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(experimental) LHC physics

Interesting processes are rare!



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There is no Higgs-boson detector!



this is what we are looking for...

Step I: find events with the right ingredients



Step I: find events with the right ingredients



Step I: find events with the right ingredients



Signal and background



Irreducible background

The final state is exactly the same, but it does not come from the particle you are looking for



The final state looks like the same, but some f the particle fakes what you are looking for





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Loose some signal, suppress backgrounds...

- Selections based on particle properties to reduce reducible background
 - Shower shapes, track properties, ...
- Selections based on event properties to distinguish signal from background
 - Particle kinematics, decay kinematics event shape, ...
- Try to keep signal while reducing background!
 - ✓ Increase S/B...



Step 2: reconstruct properties of initial particle

• We have 4 particles...

with their energy (calorimeters), charge and momentum (tracker)

• Use pairs of opposite sign e^+e^- and $\mu^{+\mu^-}$

• Reconstruct invariant mass from the 4 particles $M = \sqrt{\left(-\frac{1}{2} \right)^2}$

$$M = \sqrt{\left(\sum E_i\right)^2 - \left(\sum \vec{p_i}\right)^2}$$





$$M = \sqrt{\left(\sum E_i\right)^2 - \left(\sum \vec{p_i}\right)^2}$$





Events in real life do not come with a label! No way to distinguish signal from background on an event-by-event base...



- Background gets estimated...
 - \checkmark ... from simulation (normalized to data)
 - directly from data ("control regions", enriched in background events)



How significant is an excess?

- **p0**: probability that the excess is due to a fluctuation of background
- Significance: $p_0 = 1 - \operatorname{Erf}\left(\frac{Z}{\sqrt{2}}\right)$ $Z \sim \frac{\sim}{\sqrt{R}}$ Convention:
 - 3σ is an evidence (p₀ = 0.27%) •
 - 5σ is a discovery (p₀ = 5.7.10⁻⁷) •



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How significant is an excess?



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CERN Auditorium, July 4th 2012



110 115 120 125 130 135 140 145 1

Maximum excess observed at

Expected from SM Higgs my=126.5

Global significance: 4.1-4.3 a (for LEE a

ATLAS

104

10.8



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III



Standard Model Higgs decays



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Run Number: 204769, Event Number: 24947130

Date: 2012-06-10 08:17:12 UTC

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Higgs signals on July 4th 2012



Higgs signals with the *latest* 13 TeV data...



is it the Higgs boson?





What's a particle spin?

"An amount of rotation that is somehow quantized"

An electron has always an angular momentum of $\frac{1}{2}\hbar$ either in its direction of travel (+ $\frac{1}{2}\hbar$) or opposite to it (- $\frac{1}{2}\hbar$)

 $\hbar = 1.0545 \times 10^{-34} \text{ m}^2 \text{ kg} / \text{ s}$

What spin do particles have?



What can a spin 0 particle decay to?



What can a spin I particle decay to?



What can a spin 2 particle decay to?



So, what spin has our Higgs-like particle?



How can we recognize spin?



spin 0

spin I

spin 2

Spin-0 decays in all directions with equal probability; spin-1 prefers decaying toward or away from the direction of spin; spin-2 prefers the poles and the equator to the region in between. These pictures exaggerate the real distributions for clarity.

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The Higgs boson or a Higgs boson?



New results indicate that particle discovered at CERN is a Higgs boson

14 Mar 2013

Geneva, 14 March 2013. At the Moriond Conference today, the ATLAS and CMS collaborations at CERN¹'s Large Hadron Collider (LHC) presented preliminary new results that further elucidate the particle discovered last year. Having analysed two and a half times more data than was available for the discovery announcement in July, they find that the new particle is looking more and more like a Higgs boson, the particle linked to the mechanism that gives mass to elementary particles. It remains an open question, however, whether this is the Higgs boson of the Standard Model of particle physics, or possibly the lightest of several bosons predicted in some theories that go beyond the Standard Model. Finding the answer to this question will take time.

is it responsible for fermion masses?



The Higgs boson definitively couples to fermions!









Many unanswered questions...

Why there are 3 families of particles? Are there more?

Why there's more matter then antimatter?

How do neutrinos get mass?



What keeps the Higgs mass so small?

How do we incorporate gravity?

What is Dark Matter?

Why is the top quark so heavy?

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... as many possible answers to probe!

Super-symmetry?

Standard particles
SUSY particles

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New heavy bosons?

Dark Matter

particles?



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Any new theory

need to agree

with the SM!

S

d



Composite quark and leptons?

Large extradimensions? Black holes? Gravitons?

Example: Dark Matter searches at LHC



- Use MET shape to extract signal contribution
 - Similar shape for signal and background
 - Background modeling very important
- Main contributions (monojet example)
 - ✓ Z(vv)+jet
 - W(lv)+jet, where charged lepton is not reconstructed



The LHC will run for a long time...



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Additional information

(I find you lack of faith disturbing)

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Probing Higgs couplings at the LHC



Spin with $H \rightarrow 41$ (& combination)

- Sensitive variables combined in BDT score
 - ✓ Intermediate boson masses: m_{Z1}, m_{Z2}
 - \checkmark Z₁ production angle: θ^*
 - \checkmark Z₁ decay plane angle: Φ_1
 - ✓ Angle between the Z_1 and Z_2 decay planes: Φ
 - ✓ Decay angles of negative leptons: θ_1 , θ_2



