The Higgs boson and searches for other diphoton resonances at the LHC

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After half a century, the discovery!



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Reactions to the discovery



The top Breakthrough of the Year – the discovery of the Higgs boson – was an unusually easy choice, representing both a triumph of the human intellect and the culmination of decades of work by many thousands of physicists and engineers

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2013 was awarded jointly to François Englert and Peter W. Higgs "for the theoretical discovery of a mechanism that contributes to our understanding of the origin of mass of subatomic particles, and which recently was confirmed through the discovery of the predicted fundamental particle, by the ATLAS and CMS experiments at CERN's Large Hadron Collider"



The Standard Model (SM) of particle physics



- Unifies special relativity, quantum mechanics and field theory
- Describes electroweak and strong interactions between all known particles
- BEH mechanism gives mass to W,Z bosons (+fermion masses and mixing)
- Survived last decades of experimental verification
 - Higgs boson was (?) the only missing piece

The origin of mass ?



Discovering a new particle

http://www.phdcomics.com/higgs/



Discovering a new particle

http://pdg.lbl.gov/2015/reviews/rpp2015-rev-higgs-boson.pdf

http://www.phdcomics.com/higgs/





LHC collision, another one coming in 25 ns...



LHC collisions and pile-up

$Z \rightarrow \mu\mu + \sim 25$ interactions



- Collisions at 40 MHz, events recorded @ up to 500 Hz, ~90% used for analyses
- Multiple collisions per LHC bunch crossing (~20 in 2012)
- Experimental conditions beyond detector design capabilities
- Clean signatures: leptons (e,µ) and photons
- Increasingly difficult: (b-)jets, taus, missing transverse energy

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The SM Higgs boson at the LHC run-1

https://twiki.cem.ch/twiki/bin/view/LHCPhysics/LHCHXSWGCrossSectionsFigures



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Photon identification

thanks to Jamie Saxon



VS



Goal: high γ efficiency, jet ($\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$) rejection factors ~10⁴



$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$: analysis strategy

- Select clean γγ sample (purity ~75%)
- Reconstruct $m_{\gamma\gamma}$: ~ 1% resolution
- Split events in categories
 - Improve sensitivity
 - Resolution and S/B vary with e.g. η
 - Access to production modes
 - Leptons and jets for ttH
 - W/Z $\rightarrow \ell$, v or jets
 - Forward jets to tag VBF



$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$: a look at the data

Enhancing the signal with weights from the categories



Higgs boson results: other decay modes



Higgs physics and experimental results

Results: Higgs boson production and decays

γγ + 4^ℓ: m_H = 125.09 ± 0.24 GeV (0.2% precision!)





Rare decays ($\mu\mu$, $Z\gamma$): 7-10x SM

Results: Higgs boson couplings proportional to mass



The new particle

- A boson since it decays to bosons but is it a Higgs boson?
 - Scalar ($J^{PC} = 0^{++}$)
 - Its vacuum expectation value is responsible for EW symmetry breaking
 - Evidence: couplings proportional to mass
- Is it the SM Higgs boson?
 - Elementary particle, associated to the sole mechanism responsible for the masses of gauge bosons and fermions
 - Couplings, width (lifetime), self-interactions (potential) as predicted by the SM

A program for the next decades

LHC run-2: 13 TeV collisions

The world at 13 TeV so far



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2015 results presented on December



The first Higgs bosons at 13 TeV



CMS analyses still blinded

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Searches for (other) diphoton resonances

- Spin-0: Higgs-like (2HDM, NMSSM, ...), other decays should be favoured
- Spin-2: Randall-Sundrum graviton, same sensitivity in ℓ⁺ℓ⁻ decays



Searches for (other) diphoton resonances

- Pure sample of photons: >90% above 200 GeV
- Selection efficiency increasing with mass
 - Identification and isolation ≥90%
- ATLAS: focus on scalar signal (~30% gain from cuts on $E_T / m_{\gamma\gamma}$)
- CMS: events split between EM barrel (better resolution) and end cap
- Signal + background fit to diphoton invariant mass spectrum
 - Signal from simulation (~1% mass resolution)
 - Background function validated on simulation, fitted on data



High mass diphoton data

CMS-PAS-EXO-15-004



High mass diphoton data

CMS-PAS-EXO-15-004



High mass diphoton results at 8 TeV

- 8 TeV results re-analysed using same method as for 13 TeV data
 - ATLAS: compatibility at 1.4σ (2.2σ) between datasets assuming gg (qq)
 - CMS: 3σ combined significance @ 750 GeV assuming narrow RS signal

Reactions to the diphoton excess @ 750 GeV

http://jsfiddle.net/adavid/

- Ultra-fast reaction from theory community
- Many possibilities, no obvious explanation
 - No other channels (di-jet, tt, WW, ZZ, Zγ) ?
 - Need more data to confirm / study / exclude

The New York Times

Physicists in Europe Find Tantalizing Hints of a Mysterious New Particle

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Summary

[Andreas Hoecker]

Summary

[Andreas Hoecker]

100 years after the discovery of cosmic rays... The discovery of the Higgs boson completes the Standard Model

It is a triumph for the imagination and rigour of the human mind

It is a triumph for the greatest experimental undertaking ever: Frontier of accelerator & detector technologies Global data sharing, analysis & collaboration

- LHC run-2 just started
- Higher energy, expect larger luminosity
- Great opportunity for new discoveries
 - The next one might be just around the corner

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 - Background function validated on simulation, fitted on data
 - No needed for additional degrees of freedom

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