# A search for new physics at the LHC: Top partners into same-sign leptons.

Matteo Abis matteo.abis@cern.ch

Università di Padova and CERN

June 7, 2012

### Physics beyond the Standard Model

- What is the Standard Model of particle physics?
- Why do physicists like it?
- Why are we not completely satisfied with it?

### Modern physics and the Standard Model

### What was "old" physics like?

- lacktriangle Theory + experiment  $\longrightarrow$  force or potential energy.
- $oldsymbol{0}$  potential o simmetries o simple equations o happy physicists!

### What was "old" physics like?

- **1** Theory + experiment  $\longrightarrow$  force or potential energy.
- $oldsymbol{0}$  potential  $\rightarrow$  simmetries  $\rightarrow$  simple equations  $\rightarrow$  happy physicists!

### Gravity



Depends only on the distance r, simmetry under rotations.

Angular momentum is constant.

Easy equation, the orbits are ellipses.

# Simmetries and modern physics

A first success: the birth of special relativity



Look! Your equations have more simmetries than we expected!



$$abla \cdot \vec{E} = 
ho$$

$$abla imes \vec{B} = \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} + \vec{J}$$
...

# Simmetries and modern physics

A first success: the birth of special relativity



Look! Your equations have more simmetries than we expected!



$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = \rho$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} + \vec{J}$$

#### Lorentz transformations

- space and time translations;
- space rotations;

• Lorentz boosts: 
$$t' = \frac{t - vx/c^2}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}}$$
.

#### Simmetries first!

- Space and time are homogeneous: no privileged points.
- Space is isotropic: no privileged direction.

What is the most general physical theory compatible with these requirements?

### Simmetries first!

- Space and time are homogeneous: no privileged points.
- Space is isotropic: no privileged direction.

What is the most general physical theory compatible with these requirements?

Relativistic mechanics!

$$E = mc^2$$

#### Simmetries first!

- Space and time are homogeneous: no privileged points.
- Space is isotropic: no privileged direction.

What is the most general physical theory compatible with these requirements?

#### Relativistic mechanics!

$$E = mc^2$$

Unification of mechanics and electromagnetism, under the same simmetry principle.

# The Standard Model of particle physics

#### Goal

Unification and full description of electromagnetic, weak nuclear force, and strong nuclear force.

• symmetry principle.  $[SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1) \text{ invariance}];$ 



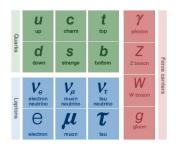


### The Standard Model of particle physics

#### Goal

Unification and full description of electromagnetic, weak nuclear force, and strong nuclear force.

- symmetry principle.  $[SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1) \text{ invariance}];$
- particles: what is the universe made of?



# Why do physicists like the Standard Model

#### Theory

Very few and simple premises, simmetry principles. Unbelievable predicting power for all kind of phenomena.

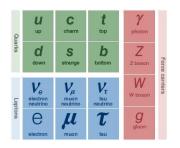
#### Experiment

$$g_{\text{exp}}/2 = 1.001\,159\,652\,180\,85(76)$$
  
 $g_{\text{th}}/2 = 1.001\,159\,652\,177\,60(520)$ 

- Incredible experimental precision: less than one part per trillion.
- Unmatched agreement between theory and experiment.

# Shortcomings of the Standard Model

The hierarchy problem



- Why three generations?
- Why this enormous mass difference?

#### Nature for the physicist

In order for the theory not to lose its beauty, the quark masses, should be similar. They now span five orders of magnitude!

### Top Partners

Extending the Standard Model

Many weird difficult mechanisms, different theories.

#### Common prediction

New, unknown particles giving part of their mass to the heavy quarks.

Large masses for a good reason  $\longrightarrow$  happy physicists!

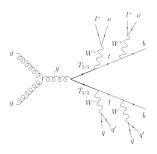
### The hunt for the top partners

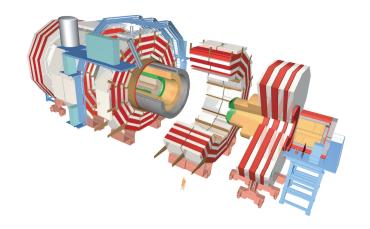
We are looking for their murder scene signature

#### CMS detector at the LHC.

#### Decay products

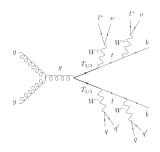
- two same-sign electrons or muons;
- many jets (at least four);
- large mass  $\rightarrow$  large energy.





Tracker silicon detectors for the particle momentum; Calorimeters scintillators for the energy;  $\mu \mbox{ detectors only muons get this far}.$ 

# Signal vs background



True background: similar decays from rare Standard Model processes, e.g.  $t\bar{t}$ .

Fake background: charge misidentification, leptons coming from secondary decays.

### The data analysis

Signal is extremely small! A handful of events out of trillions of collisions.

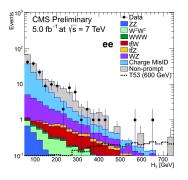
#### Selections

Find the best variables for signal/background discrimination.

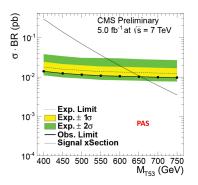
Careful checks with Monte Carlo simulations.

### Example: $H_T$

The momentum of the jets in the event, in a plane perpendicular to the beam line.



# Do the top partners exist?



Excluded at 95% CL for masses below 655 [GeV/ $c^2$ ].