

# CMS Detector and its Physics

Disclaimer: “I’m just a Computer Scientist”



**About 10,000 of its inhabitants  
came together to build...**

# The Large Hadron Collider at CERN, Geneva, Switzerland



*And in July 2012...*

# Two of these 10,000 people presented results...



Fabiola Gianotti  
ATLAS Spokesperson 2010-2012

Joe Incandela  
CMS Spokesperson 2012-2013

...that made a lot of  
physicists VERY happy...

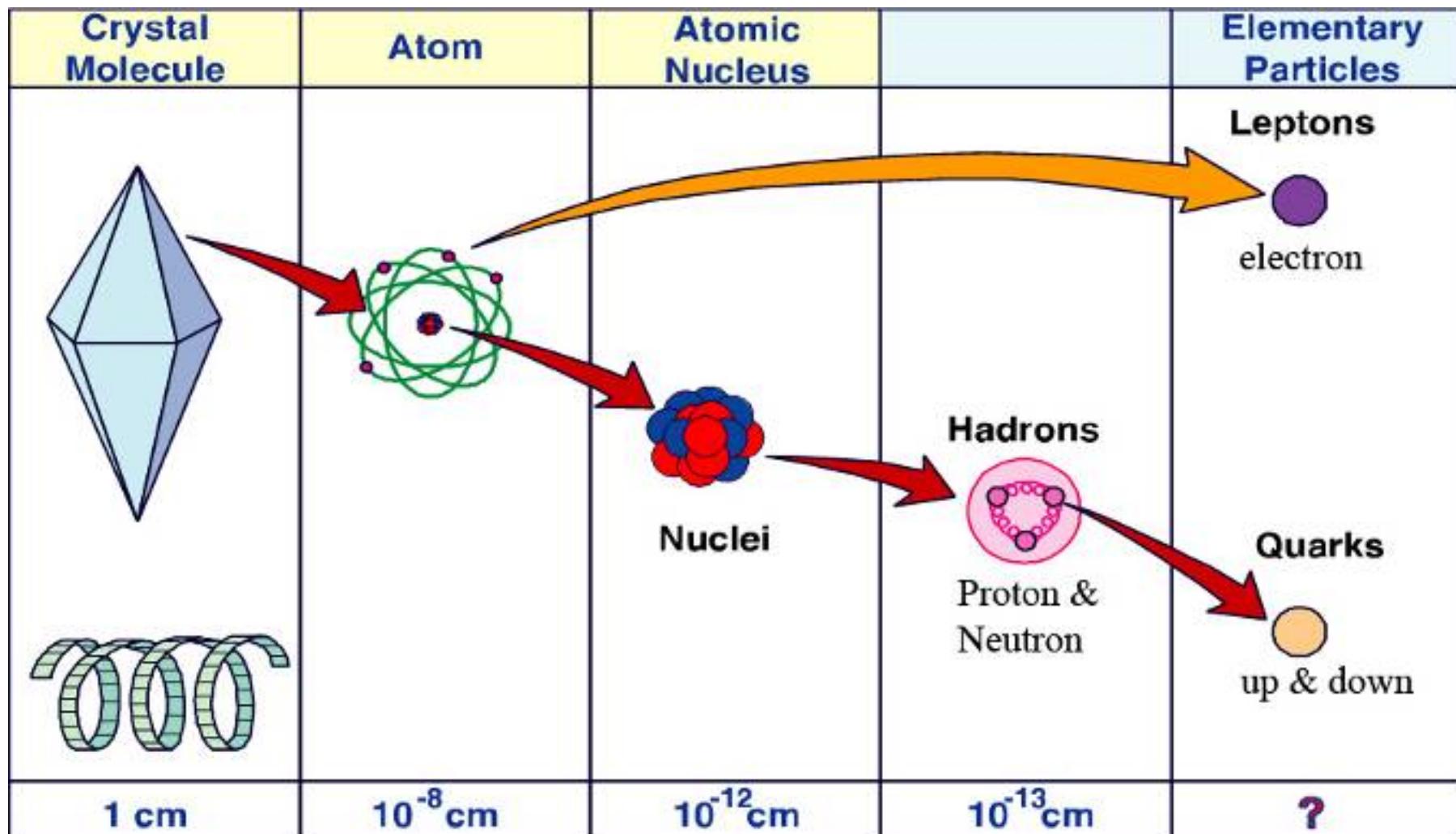


... including these two guys!



# **SO WHAT IS ALL THE FUSS ABOUT?**

# Our current understanding of the constituents of matter

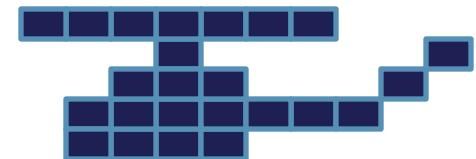
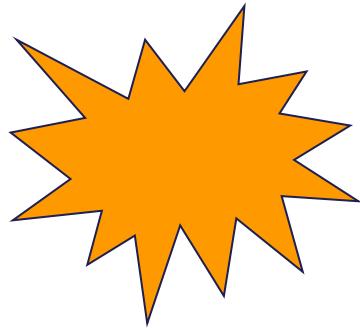
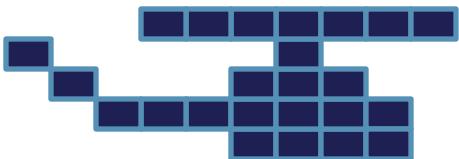


# How do we know this?

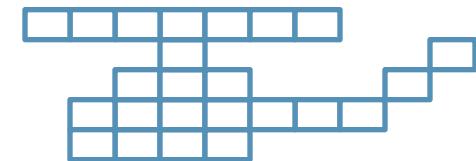
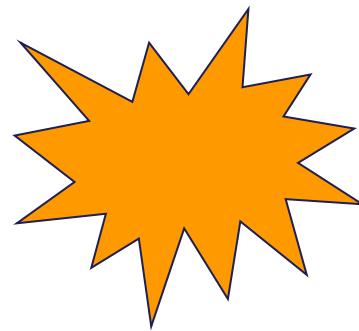
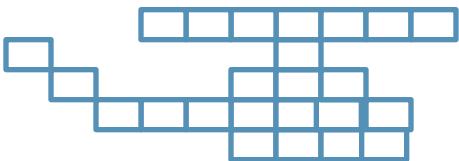


Before the particle accelerator

Smash things together and see what happens!



Accelerator Energy



Accelerator Energy

# Universal building blocks

Quarks



Up (u)



Down (d)

Lepton



electron

Chemistry!

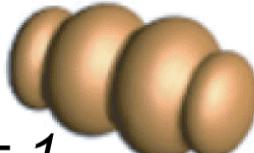
Groups of 3 quarks  
form Nucleons

{  
uud = proton  
udd = neutron

# Universal forces

Strong

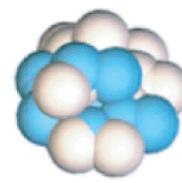
Gluons



Strength = 1



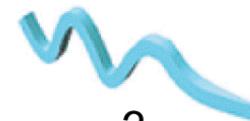
Hadrons



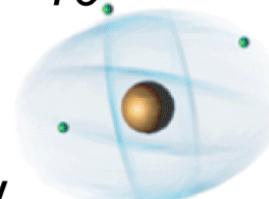
Nuclei

Electromagnetic

Photon



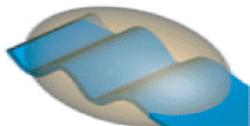
Strength =  $10^{-2}$



Atoms  
Light  
Chemistry  
Electronics

Weak

W & Z



Strength =  $10^{-6}$

Neutron decay  
Beta radioactivity  
Neutrino interactions  
Burning of the sun

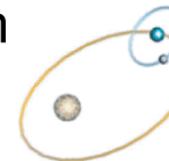
Gravitational

Graviton

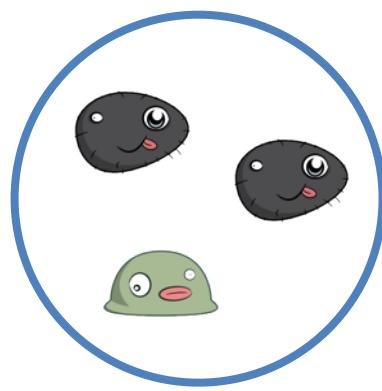


Strength =  $10^{-40}$

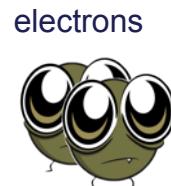
Solar system  
Galaxies  
Black holes



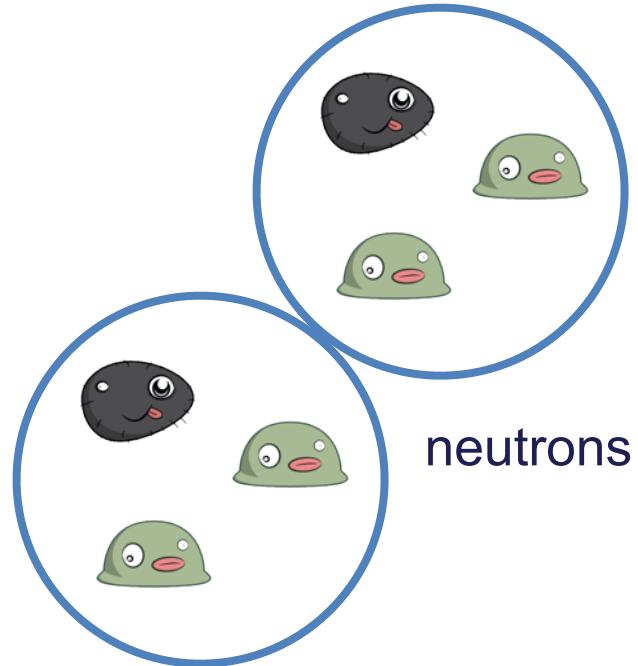
# Building atoms



protons



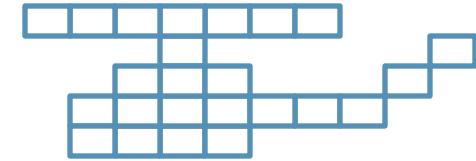
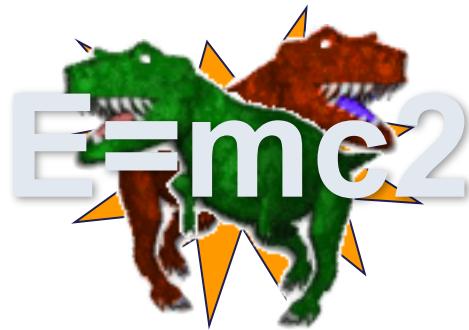
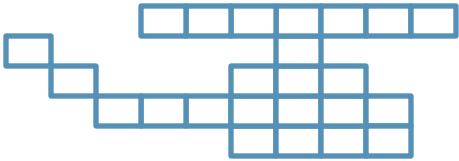
electrons



neutrons

Multiply by billions and billions...

**BUT THAT IS NOT THE END  
OF THE STORY...**



The collision energy was used  
*to create* something new, that  
\*did\* exist but does not any more!



Accelerator Energy

13,700,000,000 years ago there  
were other things in the Universe – that we can “create” in the laboratory



So we have built a Time Machine!

# Fundamental Particles at the time of the Big Bang

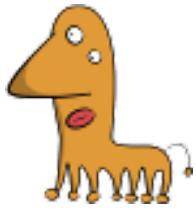
## Quarks



up



charm



top



down



strange



bottom

## Leptons



electron



muon



tau



electron  
neutrino



muon  
neutrino



tau neutrino

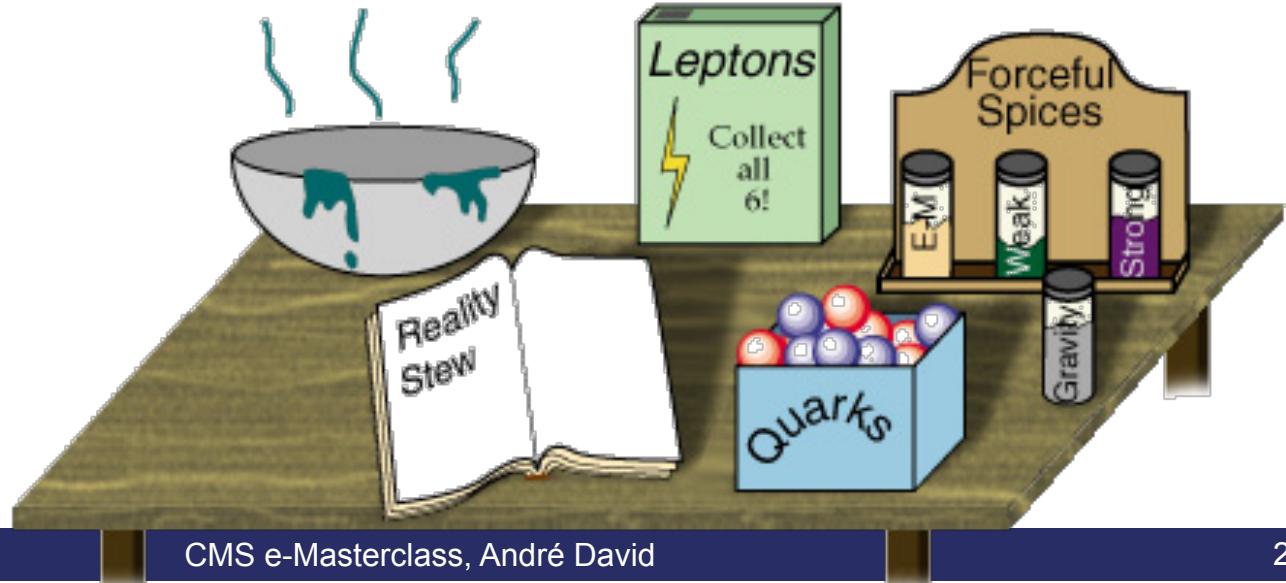
Le Zoo des particules

**It looks like we  
know everything!**

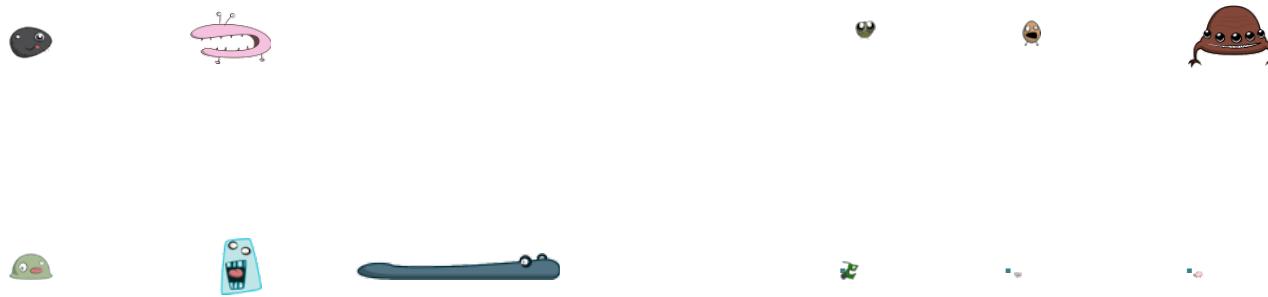
**In fact we know very little!**

# Answers to simple questions

- Since the early 70s, particle physicists have synthesized all their knowledge in a single model: the «Standard Model»
- We know and we understand a lot but we do not know everything ...
- Mysteries remain unexplained
- There are things to discover ...



# The *massive* mystery



***Why do some fundamental particles have mass while others don't?***

# Do you remember these guys?



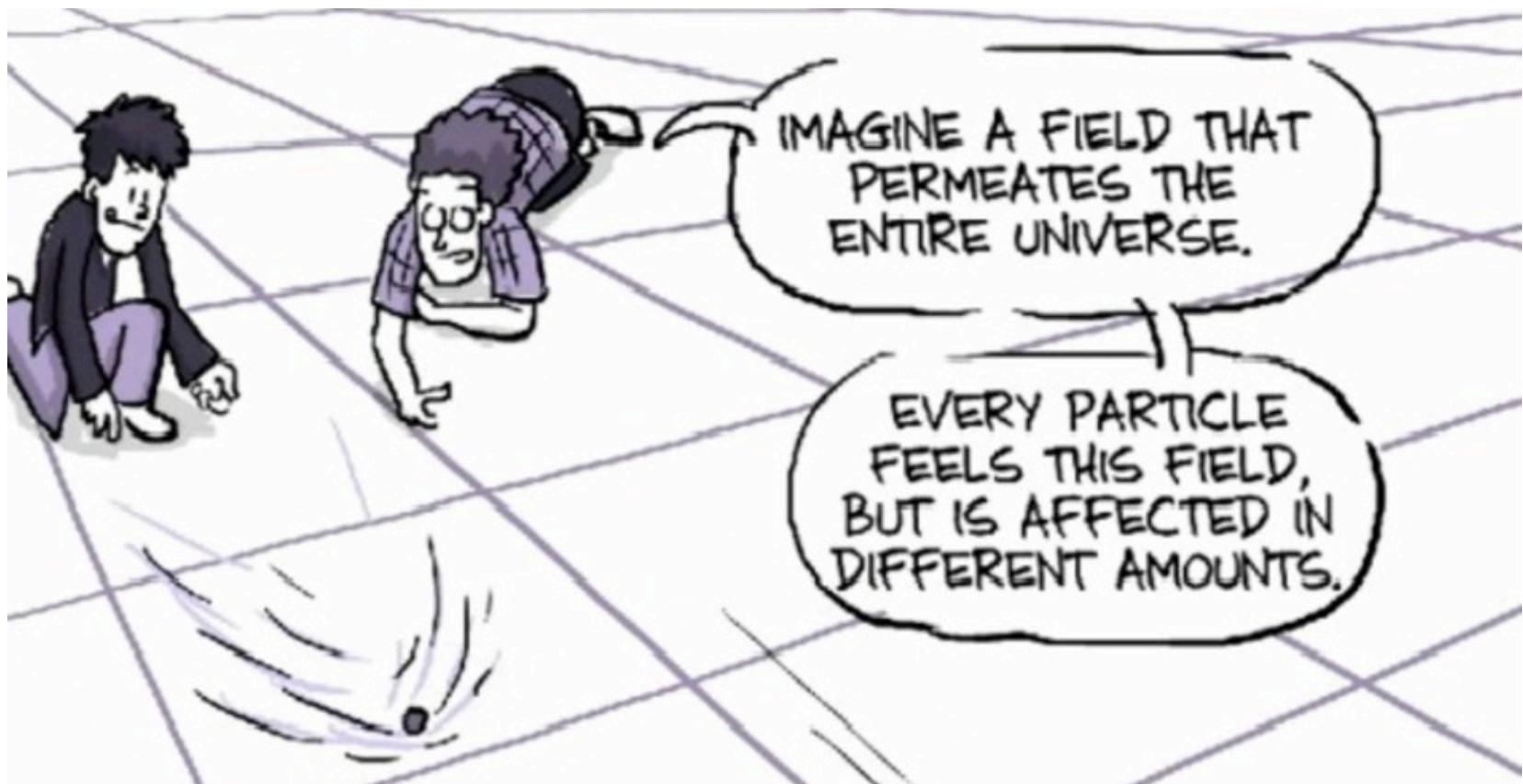
Nearly 50 years ago six physicists proposed an explanation of how particles get mass...



Higgs

Kibble Guralnik Hagen Englert Brout

# THEORY: The Brout-Englert-Higgs Field



The more a particle interacts with this *invisible* field, the more mass it gets.

But if this field is **invisible**, how  
can we **PROVE** it exists?

The theory predicts that the field  
has an associated particle:



**The Higgs Boson!**

**We can try to create the Higgs  
boson in our experiment!**

# It is predicted to be VERY rare



Assume ~7'000 grains of rice in a serving of Kheer...

...then the chances of creating and finding a Higgs boson is...

Like finding 1 grain if everyone in Geneva eats Kheer once a day for a whole month!!

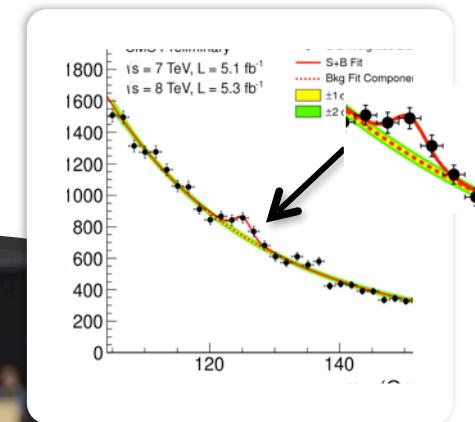
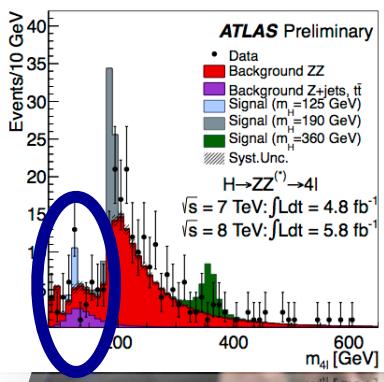
~1 in 1,000,000,000,000  
(yes, that's a million million)

# And just to make things even more complicated...



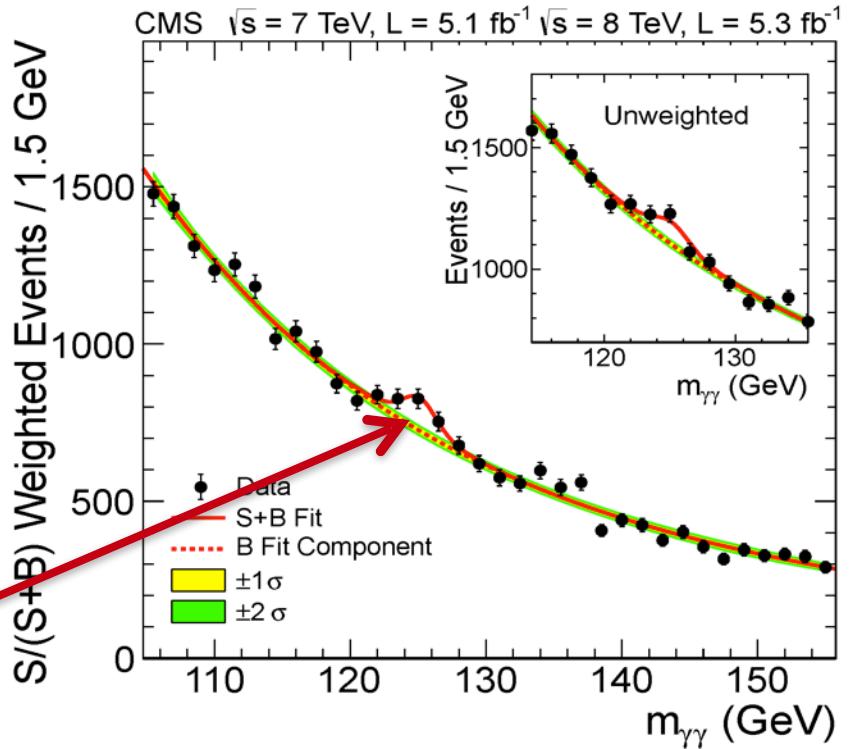
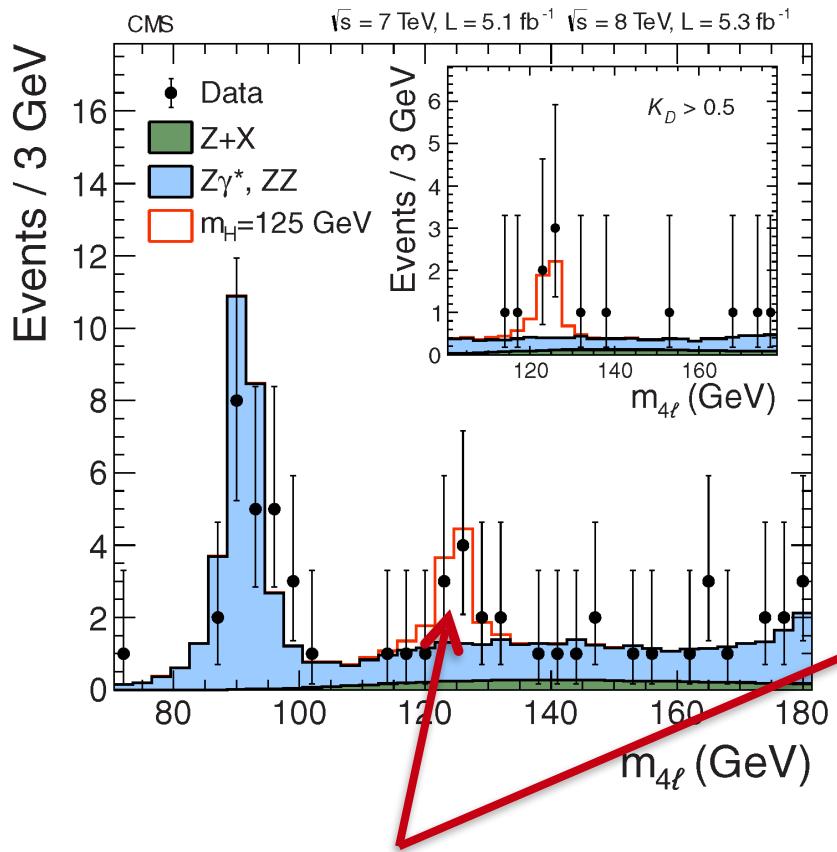
The Higgs boson would “decay” instantly to lighter particles. We only detect these resulting particles – so we have to be like detectives – look at the evidence to see what happened!

# But despite all these difficulties



We found it!

# We Found Some Higgs Bosons!!



These bumps in the data signify a new particle, found in two different ways, at the same mass – about  $125 \text{ GeV}/c^2$

But we have only just started to understand the Higgs boson...



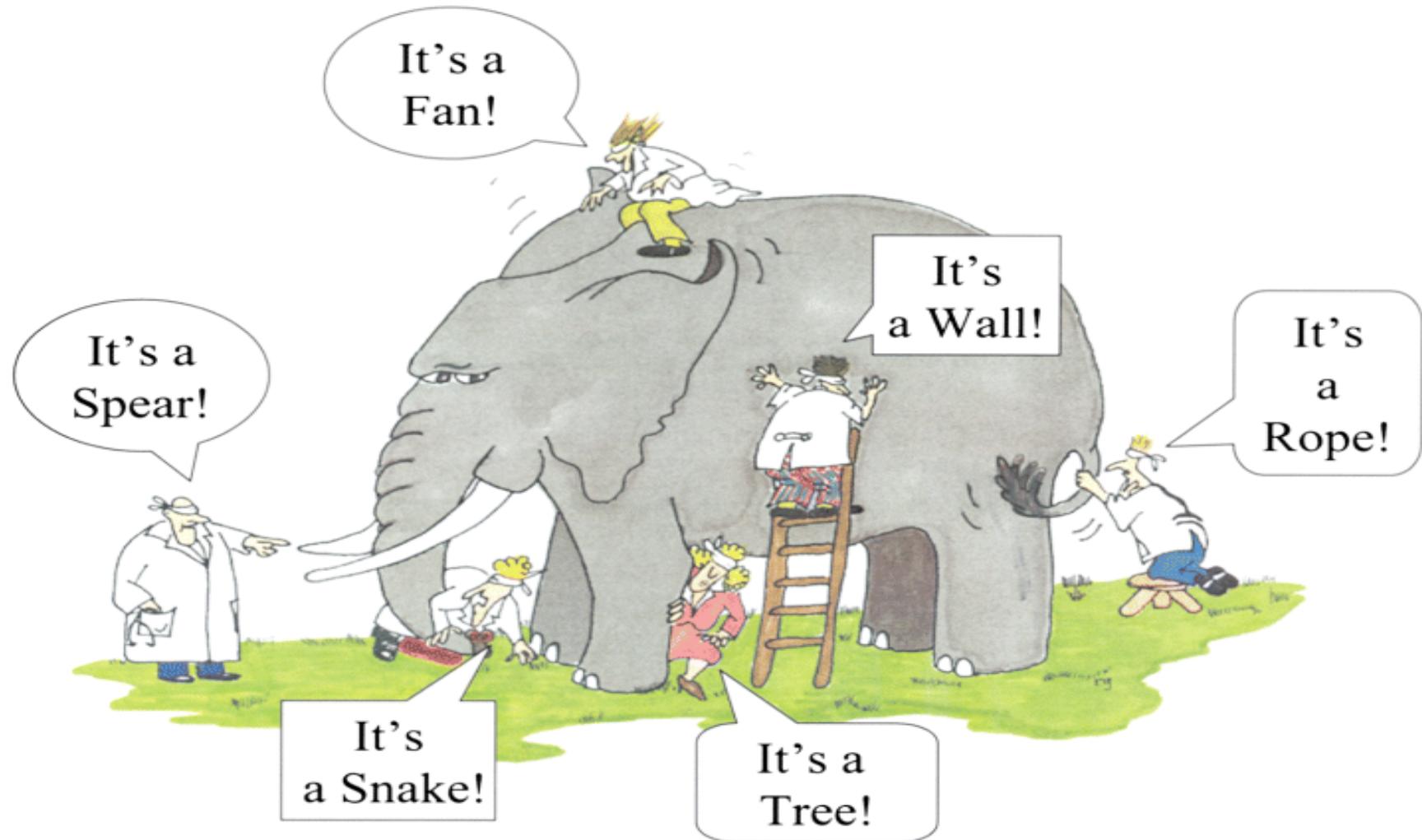


It's a  
Spear!



It's  
a Wall!

But we have only just started to understand the Higgs boson...and we need to look from every angle



**SO HOW DO WE “CREATE” PARTICLES IN  
REALITY?**

# One of the fastest racetracks on earth: **The Large Hadron Collider**

Several thousand billion protons travelling at 99.9999991% of the speed of light travel round the **27km ring, 100m underground, over 11000 times a second!**



# And then what?

- After the collisions, we have detectors that “reveal” the presence of different particles.

