

**Characterizing a new particle using 4ℓ events from the CMS
experiment**

by

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Abstract

TO DO

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Chapter 1

Introduction

To present the ideas outlined in the abstract FIXME of this thesis it is necessary to start with a collection of definitions. Some will be given here, while others will need to be taken from references or outside sources. The natural starting point of this discussion is to present a useful example of symmetries that are observed in the world and how these are classified in physics. Next, a basic discussion of quantum field theory and scattering amplitudes will be presented. From these examples, the discussion will expand to a categorization of the particles, fields, and symmetries that make up the Standard Model of Particle Physics, including an introduction of Electroweak Symmetry Breaking. Equipped with these ideas an outline of Limitations of the Standard Model are presented using the Higgs boson as a tool for understanding them.

1.1 Symmetries in Physics

Symmetry is one of, if not the, most important features in the physics of the natural world. As we pull together the various pieces needed to present the state of the art in particle physics, we will define multiple symmetries that exist in nature and how we use them to test our current and hypothetical models.

1.1.1 Noether's Theorem

To begin, let us define the *symmetry group* of the system, G , as the local group that transforms solutions into other solutions.¹ If x is a solution and g is a group element, then $g \cdot x$ will also be a solution. In Physics, the solutions that we consider are ones that maximize or minimize the action:

$$\mathcal{S} = \int d^4x \mathcal{L}. \quad (1.1)$$

Where the integrand, \mathcal{L} , is the *Lagrangian* of the system, $\mathcal{L} = T - V$. The symbols T and V are used for the kinetic and potential energy respectively. So a symmetry group of a physical system would be the set of transformations that leave the Lagrangian invariant. This concept became one of most important in physics after Emmy Noether proved that these symmetries of the action correspond to conserved quantities that do not change as the system evolves [5].

¹We have not formally defined a group in this document, for an interested reader see [1–4]

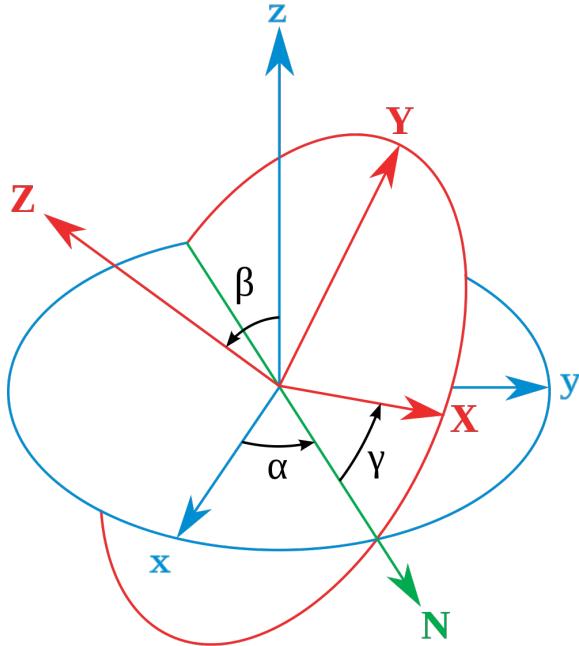


Figure 1.1: Euler angles for three dimensional Cartesian coordinates. [6]

1.1.2 Angular Momentum and the Rotation Group

To demonstrate the importance of Noether's Theorem, let us consider the group of rotations in 3 dimensional space, the special orthogonal group in 3 dimensions, $\text{SO}(3)$. Given any unit vector $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ a rotation about this vector by an angle ψ is denoted by $R_{\hat{\mathbf{n}}}(\psi)$. Here we will use the Euler Angles to parameterize R , where the rotations about the (x, y, z) axis are given by (α, β, γ) respectively. It will also be useful to note that performing a rotation R_1 followed by another rotation R_2 is equivalent to a single rotation R_3 , or that the set of rotations is closed.

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A arbitrary rotation $R(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$ can be decomposed into rotations about the fixed axes, $R(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = R_x(\alpha)R_y(\beta)R_z(\gamma)$. Figure 1.1.2 shows these angles for the transformation of vector N from (x, y, z) to (X, Y, Z) . At this point is is useful to express the rotations $R_{x,y,z}$ in terms of their matrix formulation, equations 1.2,1.3, 1.4. Where the angle of rotation must satisfy $0 \leq \psi \leq 2\pi$.

$$R_z(\psi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \psi & -\sin \psi & 0 \\ \sin \psi & \cos \psi & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.2)$$

$$R_y(\psi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \psi & 0 & \sin \psi \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\sin \psi & 0 & \cos \psi \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.3)$$

$$R_x(\psi) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos \psi & -\sin \psi \\ 0 & \sin \psi & \cos \psi \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.4)$$

The reader should note that a vector along the z -axis direction will be left unchanged due to a R_z rotation. More generally, we can apply Noether's Theorem when the Lagrangian for a physical system does not depend on infinitesimal rotations about the any axis, $\mathcal{L} - \mathcal{L}(\delta\alpha, \delta\beta, \delta\gamma) = 0$. This symmetry corresponds to the classical conservation of angular momentum, J , when the Lagrangian has spherical symmetry.

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This symmetry will become important as we discuss the kinematics of the particles we use to study new discoveries.

1.1.3 Inherent Spin and SU(2)

If one fixes a direction in equations 1.2, 1.3, and 1.4 then the rotations about that direction will form a subgroup of SO(3). This becomes clear when you consider the closure, identity, and inverse group axioms for the subset of rotations R_z . Specifically, the subgroup is isomorphic to the special unitary group of rotations in two dimensions, SU(2). One way to write this new transformation is:

$$R(\phi) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.5)$$

The simplest way to represent a group is to find the elements that all other elements of the group can be made from. To find these elements for SU(2) start with equation 1.5 and consider an infinitesimal rotation $d\phi$. Since $R(\phi)$ is differentiable one can derive an equation to write all possible rotations in terms of the operator matrix J which we will call the *generator* of SU(2). Explicitly, $R(\phi)$ can be written as:

$$R(\phi) = e^{-i\frac{\phi}{2}J}, \quad (1.6)$$

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where $J_i = \tau_i$ and τ_i is one of the Pauli matrices:

$$\tau_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \tau_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \tau_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.7)$$

In this formulation $R(\phi)$ operates on states that are linear combinations of *two-component spinors* given by equation 1.8. These spinor eigenstates have an inherent conserved spin with energy $\hbar/2$.

$$\chi_+ = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \chi_- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.8)$$

These states can be expressed as linear combinations of these two component spinors, but we will find it more useful to transform the basis so that they can be rewritten in terms of the two component spinors ψ_R (right-handed) and ψ_L (left-handed) that are eigenstates of the parity transformation².

$$\psi = \begin{pmatrix} \psi_R \\ \psi_L \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.9)$$

These states, called *fermions*, and the group SU(2) will be two of the major building blocks that are used when we discuss the Standard Model of particle physics. Before we describe this model we will take some time to discuss Scattering Amplitudes.

²As position transforms from $\vec{x} \rightarrow -\vec{x}$ the momentum transforms as $\vec{p} \rightarrow -\vec{p}$

1.2 Scattering Amplitudes

Particle physics at its core is not very different from pre-school; we want to see what is inside of something but can't get our hands in the tiny spaces, so we smash it apart. The complexity that is swept under the rug in this statement is that we can map what is happening in these small spaces to what we observe using scattering amplitudes, which tell us the behavior of particles as they "break away" from the things we are trying to study. More generally, a scattering matrix tells us how a system of particles will evolve over time, either because of collisions between particles or other natural processes.

1.2.1 Scattering Matrix

To explain how particle physics explains the evolution of a system over time, we will follow a procedure outlined in [7]. Let us consider a set of particle fields with certain characteristics denoted $|\psi\rangle(t)$. The system at a time t is given in Dirac notation³. We will denote the initial state of the system as $|\psi_i\rangle = |\psi\rangle(T_i)$, and the final state as $\langle\psi_f| = \langle\phi|(T_f)$. These states can be single or multiple particle states and typically quantities like momentum, spin, or helicity⁴ are used to specify them in this notation.

³For a good explanation of Dirac notation see [8]

⁴Projection of spin onto momentum, $\vec{S} \cdot \hat{p}$

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The evolution of a system from state $|\psi_i\rangle$ to $\langle\psi_f|$ is given by

$$\langle\psi_f| S |\psi_i\rangle. \quad (1.10)$$

Where S is a quantum mechanical operator associated with the scattering matrix.

To give a concrete example you can consider a plane wave evolving over time.

In this case, $S = e^{-iH(t-T_i)}$. For this explanation, we have described the used a Hamiltonian⁵, H , to describe the physical system instead of the Lagrangian. In this case, equation 1.10 becomes

$$\langle\psi_f| e^{-iH(T_f-T_i)} |\psi_i\rangle. \quad (1.11)$$

In the limit that $T_f - T_i \rightarrow \infty$ the operator between the states is the *scattering matrix* and maps some initial state to a final state at some other time.

1.2.2 Amplitudes and Feynman Diagrams

Each of the states outlined in the previous section, $|\psi\rangle(t)$, will have specific properties. For example, the initial state may be in eigenstate a for some commuting operator, while the final state may be in eigenstate b of the same operator. Then the evolution of the system from $|a\rangle$ to $\langle b|$ will be through a specific *matrix element*, \mathcal{M}_{ab} .

⁵A Hamiltonian is simply the Legendre transformation of a Lagrangian.

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$$\mathcal{M}_{ab} = \langle b | S | a \rangle \quad (1.12)$$

These matrix elements can be used to describe the evolution of the system through very specific transitions. The *scattering amplitude*, A , for a specific process can be computed as the modulus squared of the matrix element.

$$A_{ab} = |\mathcal{M}_{ab}|^2 = |\langle b | S | a \rangle|^2 \quad (1.13)$$

These amplitudes can also be expressed in a pictorial form, called *Feynman diagrams*, that we will use extensively in this document. These diagrams are used to do the calculations through rules mapping vertex points, internal, and external lines to terms in the matrix element pieces.

To use a concrete example, we will describe the interaction of electrons through the electromagnetic interaction. The Lagrangian for two fermions⁶ interacting electromagnetically is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{EM} = \bar{\psi} (i\gamma^\mu (\partial_\mu + ieA_\mu) - m) \psi. \quad (1.14)$$

In this equation, the electromagnetic interaction terms are represented by the vector potential, A_μ , with e as the coupling constant of the particle to the electromagnetic field. The 4×4 Dirac matrices γ^μ are defined by the 2×2 Identity matrix

⁶Defined in 1.1.3

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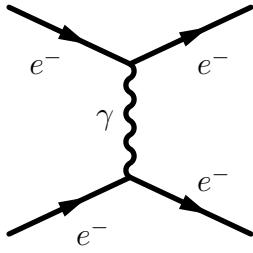


Figure 1.2: Feynman diagram depicting electron-electron scattering via the electro-magnetic interaction.

(1) and the Pauli-matrices⁷ we have already seen

$$\gamma^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \gamma^i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \tau^i \\ -\tau^i & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.15)$$

In the amplitude notation this can be written as

$$A = \left| \langle \psi_1 \psi_2 | e^{\bar{\psi}(i\gamma^\mu(\partial_\mu + ieA_\mu) - m)\psi} | \psi_1 \psi_2 \rangle \right|^2 \quad (1.16)$$

The equivalent representation lowest order terms of equation 1.14 as Feynman diagrams will be figure1.2. These diagrams can be used to quickly and simply represent complex interactions of particles and range from very simple, figure1.2, to extremely complex, as in the comedic example 1.3.

In this example we can see the properties of another group that will be important for the Standard Model. The electromagnetic interaction requires U(1) gauge symmetry. The conserved quantity for this group is the electric charge of the fermion,

⁷Defined in 1.1.3

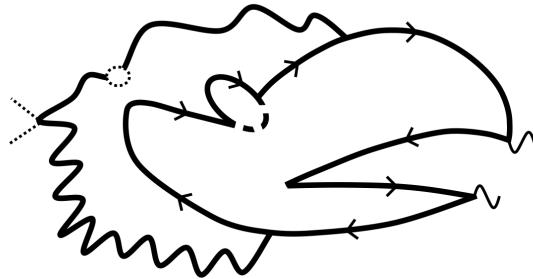


Figure 1.3: A comedic example of a complicated Feynman diagram designed to appear similar to a Jayhawk [9].

given by e in the equations above. Now that we have introduced many of the pieces we need we will discuss the Standard Model of particle physics.

1.3 The Standard Model

So far we have considered very simple Lagrangians that describe very specific processes. These ideas are the basis for the construction of the *Standard Model*(SM) [10–13] of particle physics. This model attempts to describe and categorize the particles and interactions that make up the quantum world. The glaring omission is gravity, which is extremely weak compared to the other processes that are occurring at these distance scales. Before we can discuss how the model describes the fundamental interactions we need to describe and categorize the material that the universe is made from.

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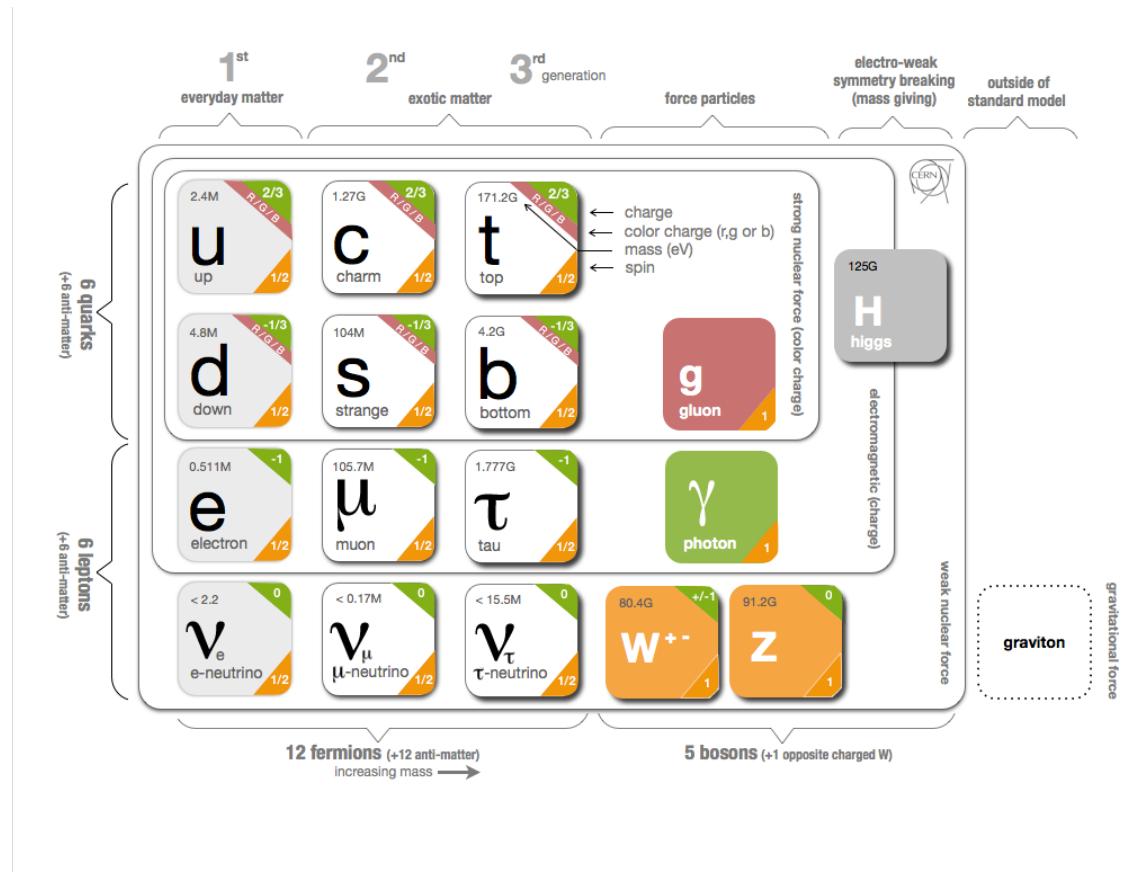


Figure 1.4: A Summary Infographic of The Standard Model. This is a modified version of original found at [14].

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1.3.1 Matter

The SM provides a categorization of all the matter that makes up the universe. This categorization started with the first experiments attempting to describe atoms distinguishing the particles in the nucleus of an atom from the electrons that orbit around them. Today we know of matter in two categories, *quarks* and *leptons*, both of which are fermions with spins of $\hbar/2$, noted $1/2$ from now on⁸. For each of these categories there are three generations of particles, each generation consisting of two quarks (q), two leptons (ℓ) and their antiparticles⁹($\bar{q}, \bar{\ell}$). The heavier second and third generation fermions typically decay quickly into the first generation particles that make up the world we live in.

1.3.1.1 Quarks

Quarks are the fundamental pieces that make up the nucleus of atoms. The protons and neutrons that are used to classify an atom are themselves built form combinations of quarks. The name “quark” was coined by Gell-Mann who credits the term to a passage from *Finnegans Wake* by James Joyce. Quarks come in six *flavors* arranged by mass into three generations of doublets, this flavor is preserved in electromagnetic and strong interactions. The first letter of the quark name is often used to designate them so up (u), down (d), charm (c), strange (s), top (t),

⁸Here we have moved to natural units where $\hbar = c = 1$

⁹The antiparticle of a fermion is the C transform of the particle state. C transforms discussed more in section INSERT SECTION HERE

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and bottom (b). Each flavor has a different mass ranging from $\sim \text{MeV}$ (u and d) to $\sim 170\text{GeV}$ (t), the best knowledge of these masses is outlined in 1.4.

Everyday matter consists mainly of the first generation quarks and antiquarks, u and d , grouped into the protons and neutrons. Quarks are never observed alone due to a *color charge* that each possesses¹⁰. This will be discussed more in section 1.3.2, but for now we will refer to it as a charge that can be “red” (r), “blue” (b), or “green” (g). To be stable, a particle must be seen as “white” (w) to the outside world. Because matter must appear white, quarks group themselves into sets called *hadrons*. Hadrons come in classifications based on the number of valence quarks they have. Two quark states are quark-antiquark pairs called *mesons*, $\text{r} + \bar{\text{r}} = \text{w}$. Common examples of mesons are pions (π^0, π^\pm) that come from cosmic rays. Three quark states are called *baryons*, $\text{r} + \text{b} + \text{g} = \text{w}$, everyday examples being protons and neutrons. Recent observations also confirm tetraquark states [15] consisting of four quarks.

Each generation doublet has one particle with electromagnetic charge¹¹ of $+2/3e$ and another with charge $-1/3e$. These will be combined so that all observable hadrons will have integer charges. The top-left section of figure 1.4 summarizes the properties and categorization of the quarks.

One additional item that will prove relevant is that quarks can be both right-handed and left-handed eigenstates of the parity transform. This will distinguish

¹⁰The property has nothing to do with physical color, but maps nicely to combining fundamental colors.

¹¹“ e ” is used as the fundamental unit of electromagnetic charge. “ $-e$ ” is defined as the charge of an electron.

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their interactions when we discuss the weak force in section 1.3.2.

1.3.1.2 Leptons

Unlike the quarks, leptons carry no property that stops them from existing by themselves. All leptons are neutral to color charge preventing them from interacting via the strong nuclear force. The most common lepton again belongs to the first generation, the electron. Electrons orbiting the nucleus of an atom are the most common leptons. Similar to the heavier generations of the quarks, the electron also has corresponding heavier generation flavors, the muon (μ) and tau (τ) leptons. All three of these leptons carry an electromagnetic charge of “ $-e$ ”, range in mass from $\sim 0.5\text{MeV}(e)$ to $\sim 1.7\text{GeV}(\tau)$, and can exist both as left or right-handed.

Each of these three leptons has a corresponding doublet partner as well, the neutrinos (ν_e, ν_μ, ν_τ). These particles are neutral in both color and electromagnetic charge, and are almost massless. Further complicating the story, they only exist as left-handed particles. They are extremely hard to interact with and detect since the electromagnetic and strong forces are invisible to them allowing them to only interact via the weak nuclear force. Additionally, unlike the quarks and the other leptons, they oscillate between different flavors without interacting with the environment. In 1.4 the leptons occupy the bottom left portion of the table. A summary of the first generation fermion fields that are given in table 1.1 where the doublets are grouped together and the distinction between left and right-handed particles has been made.

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Fermion Field	EM charge (Q)	Weak Isospin (T_3)	Hypercharge (Y)	Color Charge
$L_L = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_L \\ e_L^- \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} +1/2 \\ -1/2 \end{pmatrix}$	-1	no
e_R^-	-1	0	-2	no
$Q_L = \begin{pmatrix} u_L \\ d_L \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} +2/3 \\ -1/3 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} +1/2 \\ -1/2 \end{pmatrix}$	+1/3	yes
u_R	+2/3	0	+4/3	yes
d_R	-1/3	0	-2/3	yes

Table 1.1: First generation fermions and their different charges, grouped in left(right)-handed doublets(singlets).

While everyday matter is made up of only electrons, muons and neutrinos are also quite common. These particles exist as cosmic rays that are constantly bombarding us from the upper atmosphere and outer space. Muons offer a particularly interesting case because they are moving at relativistic speeds so that in our frame of reference they appear as long lived particles.

1.3.2 Forces

Now that we have introduced the building blocks of matter we can discuss how these particles interact. This description starts with a Lagrangian of terms describing particles and their interactions with each other, however this Lagrangian needs to pre-

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serve specific symmetries that we observe in nature. Specifically the SM Lagrangian should have $U(1) \times SU(2) \times SU(3)$ local symmetry¹². Each of these symmetries correspond to physical interactions between the particles in the theory. Mathematically it is extremely similar to equation 1.14, however the $(\partial_\mu + ieA_\mu)$ is replaced by the much more complicated covariant derivative \mathcal{D}_μ .

$$\mathcal{D}_\mu = \partial_\mu - ig_1 \frac{Y}{2} B_\mu - ig_2 \frac{\tau^i}{2} W_\mu^i - ig_3 \frac{\lambda^a}{2} G_\mu^a \quad (1.17)$$

Each of these additional terms are present to preserve one of the local symmetries that we observe in the world. Each of the g_i variables are coupling constants that come from experimental results. These new fields map to the fundamental forces and in turn *gauge bosons* that mediate each of the forces. They are called bosons because they have an integer unit¹³ of inherent spin, as apposed to the matter particles that all have half-integer spin. Particle physics models fermions interacting with each other as the exchange of these bosons between particles.

A rather glaring omission from both 1.14 and the extension with 1.17 is how these new fields (bosons) interact with themselves and each other. We will not take the time to introduce all of these terms but the relevant pieces will be used in section 1.3.3.

The term associated with g_1 is introduced to preserve local gauge invariance, $U(1)$,

¹²The difference between a local and global symmetry has not been outlined in this document, but the author again refers you to [1–4] and many other places.

¹³Recall that this unit is \hbar .

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

introducing a spin-1 field B_μ . The generator, Y (*hypercharge*), will be a constant for every particle. This term, intertwined with the g_2 term, describes the *electromagnetic force*. The g_2 term, along with the electromagnetic term, describes the *weak nuclear force*. The details of their combination will be described in more detail in section 1.3.3.

The g_2 term preserves rotations in fermion flavor space, $SU(2)$, introducing three new vector fields W_μ^i where $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ and the generators τ^i (the Pauli matrices we have already seen). Similar to the case of angular momentum we have already seen, the $i = 3$ projection, T_3 , is a conserved quantity called *weak isospin* that is useful in computations.

Additionally, the W_μ^i bosons are exclusively left-handed, meaning it can only interact with left-handed particles (right-handed antiparticles). For now, it will be useful to note that both the B_μ and the $\tau^3 W_\mu^3$ terms represent interactions that preserve the original flavor of the fermions they act on. In the framework of equation 1.14 and figure 1.2 this means that the photon field, A_μ , is some linear combination of B_μ and W_μ^3 and the electroweak charge, e , is a linear combination of $g_1 \frac{Y}{2}$ and $g_2 \frac{\tau^3}{2}$.

The final term associated with g_3 represents the *strong nuclear force* and preserves rotations in the color charge space, $SU(3)$. This term introduces eight new vector fields G_μ^a with $a \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$ and eight generators λ^a which are the analog of the Pauli matrices in 3 dimensions. Each of these fields corresponds to a *gluon* that mediates the strong force. These interactions are described by Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD), the quantum field theory for how particles with color

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charge (quarks & gluons) interact with each other. The conserved charge in this theory is the color; “redness”, “blueness”, and “greenness”. Each of the eight gluons in this theory is a superposition of color charge states and “holds” quarks of specific colors together into colorless hadrons¹⁴.

Before going through the details of the electromagnetic and weak forces, a quick note on the relative strength of these interactions. The electromagnetic force is common in every day life because it is a relatively strong interaction and operates over long distances, for example the light from a distant star can be seen at night. The strongest of the forces is the strong nuclear force which keeps the quarks grouped in hadrons and hadrons together in a nucleus is much stronger but only impacts particles that are very close together. The weakest of the forces considered in particle physics is the creatively named weak nuclear force, which governs the decay of higher generation fermions into lower generation fermions. In Table 1.2 you can find a summary of the different forces and their relative strengths and interaction ranges.

¹⁴An explicit listing of the gluon states is not provided here, but a basic introduction can be found in [16].

Force	Bosons	Relative Strength	Range (m)
Strong	gluons (g)	1	10^{-15}
Electromagnetic	photon (γ)	$\frac{1}{137}$	∞
Weak	W^\pm, Z bosons	10^{-6}	10^{-18}
Gravity	graviton (G)	10^{-39}	∞

Table 1.2: List of Fundamental Forces their relative strengths and ranges.

1.3.3 Electroweak Symmetry Breaking

As eluded to above, the weak and electromagnetic forces are deeply connected. In their combined form they are referred to as the *Electroweak force*. In the description we outlined, this means that the SM has $SU(2) \times U(1)$ symmetry, giving rise to four gauge bosons that would mediate these two forces; B_μ , W_μ^1 , W_μ^2 , and W_μ^3 . In the mathematical construction that we have presented all of these W_μ^i bosons would be massless, but this would contradict the observed range of the weak force outlined in Table 1.2. To give these bosons mass, the symmetry of the system must be broken. The *Higgs Mechanism* [17–22] has been proposed as the source of the *Electroweak Symmetry Breaking*¹⁵.

To see how this happens, focus on the kinetic energy terms of the W_μ^i and B_μ fields that we neglected previously. These are given by equation 1.18¹⁶ following the

¹⁵Much of this section uses [23] as a reference.

¹⁶This equation is the first appearance of the Field Tensors, these take the form $B_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\nu B_\mu - \partial_\mu B_\nu$

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Weinberg-Salam Model of electroweak interactions [10–13].

$$\mathcal{L}_{KE} = -\frac{1}{4}W_{\mu\nu}^i W^{\mu\nu i} - \frac{1}{4}B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu} \quad (1.18)$$

When one adds an additional scalar SU(2) doublet, Φ , to this theory we find the key to giving some of these fields mass. We write this new scalar field in terms of its components shown in equation 1.19.

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.19)$$

What makes this new field the key is the special potential energy term that accompanies it. This potential, given in equation 1.20, and its parameters, λ and μ , define how the field interacts with itself and will be vital in our discussion.

$$V(\Phi) = \mu^2 |\Phi^\dagger \Phi| - \lambda (|\Phi^\dagger \Phi|)^2 \quad (1.20)$$

Putting all of the pieces together we can write a toy Lagrangian for the electroweak part of the SM¹⁷ as

$$\mathcal{L}_{EW} = -\frac{1}{4}W_{\mu\nu}^i W^{\mu\nu i} - \frac{1}{4}B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu} + |\mathcal{D}_\mu \Phi|^2 - V(\Phi). \quad (1.21)$$

When one investigates the behavior of this system as the total energy approaches

and $W_{\mu\nu}^i = \partial_\nu W_\mu^i - \partial_\mu W_\nu^i + g\epsilon^{ijk}W_\mu^j W_\nu^k$.

¹⁷In what follows we neglect fermion and QCD terms.

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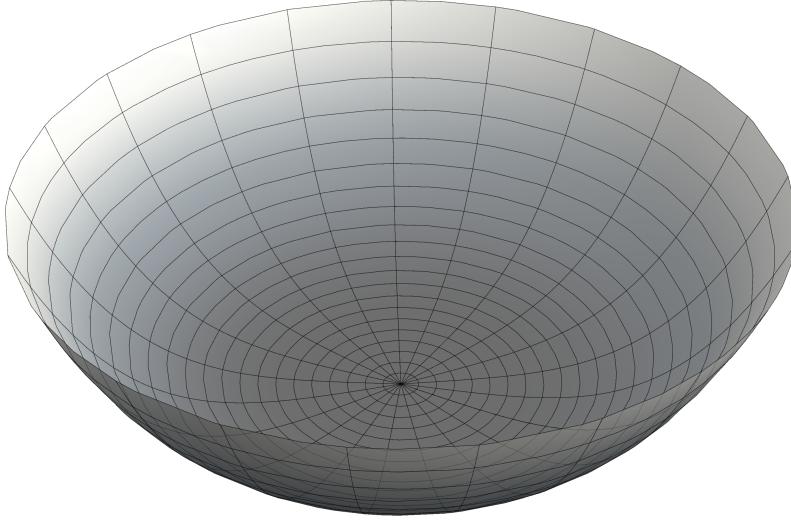


Figure 1.5: A 2D plot of the scalar potential, $V(\Phi)$, when $\mu^2 > 0$. Created with [24].

zero¹⁸ the fields will approach their ground state. Focusing on the scalar potential one can see the behavior depends on the sign of the parameters μ^2 and λ . We assume that $\lambda > 0$ so that a minimum state exists at all. If $\mu^2 > 0$ then the system will have a natural minimum where $\Phi = 0$ that preserves all of the symmetries that we have already outlined. This can be seen in the natural two-dimensional form and in the one-dimensional projection in Figures 1.5 and 1.6 respectively.

The more interesting case is when $\mu^2 < 0$. In this case the potential has a minimum that is not at $\Phi = 0$ but the minimum energy state will occur at what we call the *vacuum expectation value* (VEV) given in equation 1.22. This means that in the ground state, the scalar field will not go to zero but will have some amount of energy defined as $\frac{v}{\sqrt{2}}$ breaking the U(1) symmetry. Figures showing the natural

¹⁸A stable minimum energy state being analogous to the current state of the universe.

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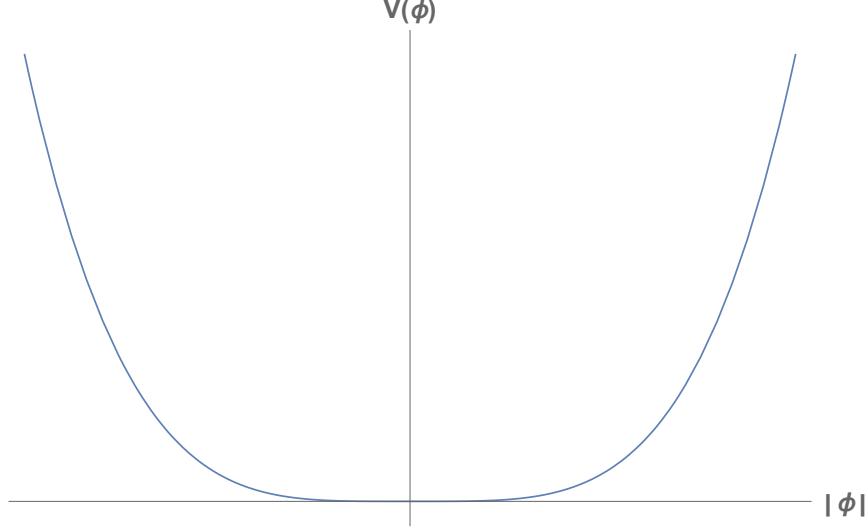


Figure 1.6: A 1D plot of the scalar potential, $V(\Phi)$, when $\mu^2 > 0$. Created with [24].

two-dimensional potential and one-dimensional projection are seen in 1.7 and 1.8 respectively.

$$\langle \Phi \rangle = \sqrt{-\frac{\mu^2}{2\lambda}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.22)$$

The choice of the VEV contribution to the ϕ^+ or ϕ^0 component in SU(2) space is arbitrary but we have chosen the conventional notation here, giving the new doublet a hypercharge of $Y_\Phi = 1$ and a electromagnetic charge $Q_{EM} = \frac{\tau^3 + Y}{2}$. This gives a electromagnetically neutral ground state, even though the field retains its VEV. So, by giving the scalar field a non-zero expectation value in the ground state we have broken the $SU(2) \times U(1)$ symmetry to give a local $U(1)_{EM}$ symmetry of the electromagnetic force¹⁹.

¹⁹As required by the Lorentz invariance of the electromagnetic force

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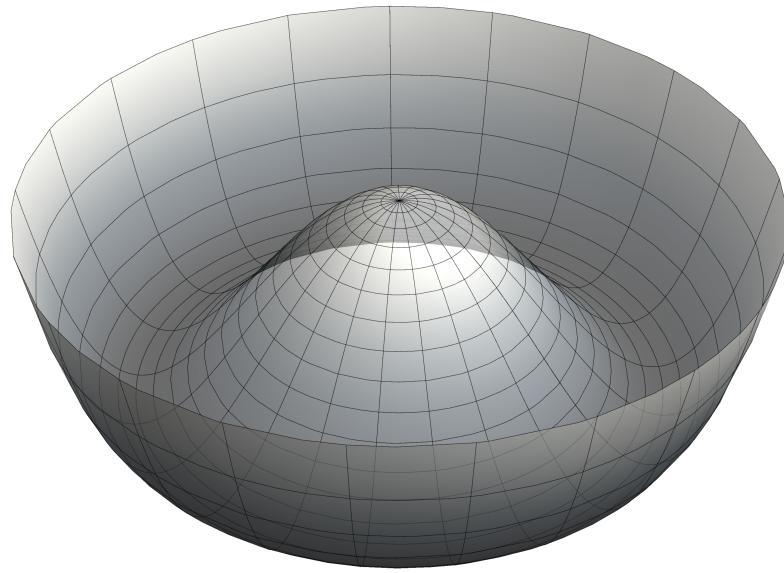


Figure 1.7: A 2D plot of the scalar potential, $V(\Phi)$, when $\mu^2 < 0$. Created with [24].

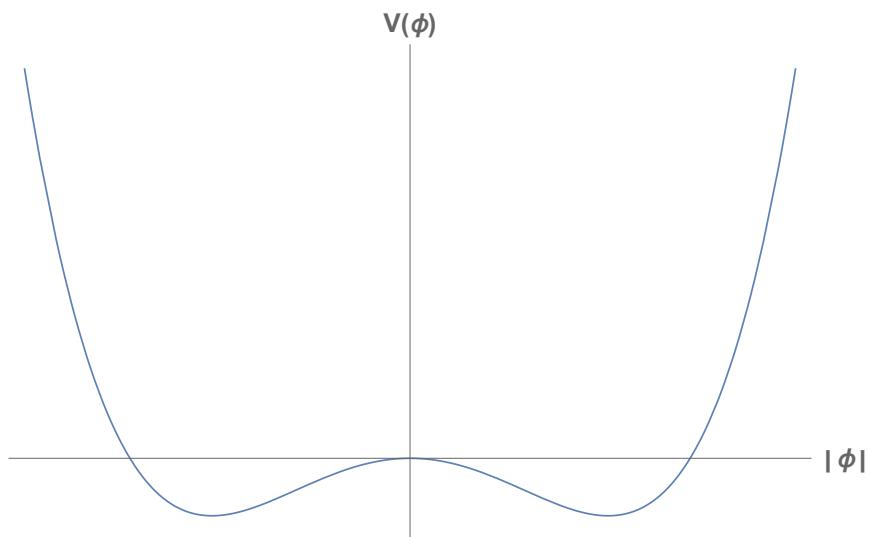


Figure 1.8: A 1D plot of the scalar potential, $V(\Phi)$, when $\mu^2 < 0$. Created with [24].

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We can see the difference between the masses of the original bosons by formulating our original scalar field Φ in terms of the VEV, v , and the remainder of the field, h . Given in equation 1.23.

$$\Phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v + h \end{pmatrix} \quad (1.23)$$

To see how these terms generate mass, it is convenient to perform a change of basis from τ^1, τ^2, τ^3 to the τ^+, τ^-, τ^3 representation given by equation 1.24. This change of basis also will change the $W_\mu^1, W_\mu^2, W_\mu^3$ to $W_\mu^+, W_\mu^-, W_\mu^3$ given by equation 1.25.

$$\tau^\pm = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\tau^1 \pm i\tau^2) \quad (1.24)$$

$$W_\mu^\pm = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (W_\mu^1 \mp iW_\mu^2) \quad (1.25)$$

Looking at the scalar kinetic term of equation 1.21, $|\mathcal{D}_\mu \Phi|^2$, more explicitly we can write things in the form equation 1.26, dropping terms that represent the dynamics and interactions of the h field.

$$\frac{v^2}{4} (g_2 W_\mu^3 - g_1 B_\mu)^2 + \frac{g_2^2 v^2}{2} W_\mu^+ W_\mu^- \quad (1.26)$$

After one final change of basis to recast the first term in equation 1.26 as the physical gauge fields we observe in nature. In equations 1.27 and 1.28, we see the Z

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and γ fields we are looking for and the masses of the bosons respectively.

$$\begin{aligned} Z_\mu &= \frac{g_2 W_\mu^3 - g_1 B_\mu}{\sqrt{g_1^2 + g_2^2}} \\ A_\mu &= \frac{g_2 W_\mu^3 + g_1 B_\mu}{\sqrt{g_1^2 + g_2^2}} \end{aligned} \quad (1.27)$$

$$\begin{aligned} m_W &= \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} g_2 \\ m_Z &= \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{g_2^2 + g_1^2} \\ m_\gamma &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (1.28)$$

Thus we have broken the electroweak symmetry, giving the W^\pm and Z bosons mass while keeping the γ massless. This provides a theory that predicts a new field, h , called the *Higgs field*, and allows us to describe the behavior of the weak and electromagnetic forces to fantastic accuracy. Just like the other fields that we have introduced this new field will be accompanied by a boson that mediates its interactions with other particles. This new boson is called the *Higgs Boson* in common literature. Everything about this new boson can be predicted from the SM, except the two parameters, μ^2 and λ , or equivalently the VEV given in equation 1.29 and the mass of the Higgs Boson in equation 1.30.

$$v^2 = -\frac{\mu^2}{2\lambda} \quad (1.29)$$

$$m_h^2 = 2v^2\lambda \quad (1.30)$$

1.3.3.1 Implications of the Higgs field: Fermion Masses

When we first started our discussion of Fermions we simply wrote the mass of a fermion as $-m\bar{\psi}\psi$. However, this term would explicitly break the electroweak gauge invariance we have just spent so much time constructing. It turns out that this new scalar field could also be responsible for the fermion masses in addition to the W^\pm and Z masses. The term can be created by considering a Yukawa coupling between the scalar field and a fermion field. For the down quark this term follows equations 1.31²⁰.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{d\text{-mass}} &= -\lambda_d \bar{Q}_L \Phi d_R + h.c. \\ &= \frac{-\lambda_d}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{u}_L & \bar{d}_L \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v+h \end{pmatrix} d_R + h.c. \\ &= \frac{-\lambda_d v}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{d}_L d_R + h.c. \end{aligned} \quad (1.31)$$

²⁰In these equations h.c. stands for the hermitian conjugate.

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Where the final equality comes from focusing on the terms that remain in the ground state of the scalar potential. From here its easy to see that the mass of the down quark can be obtained from the vacuum expectation value of the scalar field and the down coupling to the Higgs, λ_d .

$$m_d = \frac{\lambda_d v}{\sqrt{2}} \quad (1.32)$$

Similarly, looking at the terms that are dropped from the last line of equations 1.31 one observes that the Higgs field, h , also interacts with the fermions. This will be the key to generating Higgs bosons at the LHC.

It seems that the Higgs Mechanism and the Higgs boson solve many of the issues that the SM has with describing the world we observe. However, there are many other unexplained phenomena in the universe and detailed study of the Higgs could lead unearth the origin of these discrepancies. The next subsection is an outline some of these discrepancies that will be discussed in this document.

1.4 Limitations of the SM: Higgs as a tool

The SM has been one of the most successful scientific theories ever proposed. The predictive power of the model is unparalleled, yet some questions remain. The first limitation we will discuss in this section will be the matter-antimatter asymmetry seen in the universe around us. Secondly, a discussion of the SM's inability to accurately

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describe gravity is discussed. Finally, generalizations of the SM are discussed. These models that could generate the dark matter seen in astronomical measurements, solve the hierarchy problem, or explain more about fermions. The Higgs field could offer keys to understanding all of these issues and the tests presented in this document are intended to address these questions.

1.4.1 **CP -violation: The Matter-Antimatter Asymmetry**

Outside of specific particle physics experiments, the universe we live in is dominated by matter. It seems that only a very small fraction of antimatter exists in the universe. However, within specific tests of SM²¹ no process is observed to generate this large of a discrepancy between matter and antimatter. After the big bang, matter and antimatter should have existed in relatively equal densities and amounts. As the universe evolved, the SM predicts a small amount of matter(antimatter) would transform to antimatter(matter) under the CP -violating processes that are predicted by the theory. The SM does not predict, nor has any experiment seen, a process that could generate enough CP -violation to create a universe that is so overwhelmingly dominated by matter.

So far we have only eluded to CP transformations when introducing the antipar-

²¹Many performed before the SM was conceived.

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ticles that exist in the SM. In the most basic terms this is the combination of two discrete symmetries *charge conjugation* and *parity symmetry* (spatial inversion). The parity operation, P , is the spatial inversion through the origin. We saw the projections of a fermion onto the eigenstates of this operation at the end of section 1.1.3. If $\psi(x)$ describes a fermion field at point x , then $P\psi(x) \rightarrow \psi(-x)$. This transformation will take $x \rightarrow -x$ and the momentum $p \rightarrow -p$ but leave the inherent spin and other quantum numbers unchanged. The charge conjugation operation, C , is the transformation of a particle to its antiparticle or vice versa. We used this transformation extensively in 1.3 but never wrote out the transformations explicitly. As an example, given an electron, e^- , then $Ce^- \rightarrow e^+$. This transformation will reverse the sign of all quantum numbers associated with the particle (inherent spin, weak isospin, charge, hypercharge, etc...). Particles that are their own antiparticle (π^0 meson, ν 's, ...) remain unchanged under this operator.

Not all interactions allowed by the standard model will preserve these symmetries. The most explicit example is the weak interaction. Given that the weak force only interacts with left-handed particles, it is maximally parity violating²². However, in most cases CP together is a symmetry of the interactions. The notable exceptions to this are the decays of B mesons and Kaon INSERT REFERENCES. These decays highlight the necessity for a CP -violating component in the SM described by the Kobayashi-Moskawa Model INSERT REFERENCE. The specifics of this model are

²²Imagine a stationary pseudoscalar π^+ decaying into back-to-back μ^+ and ν_μ states via the weak interaction. Perform the parity operation on the initial and final states. The result requires a right-handed neutrino, which are unobserved.

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beyond the scope of this document. However, the observed magnitudes of the terms in the KM model cannot account for the large discrepancy that we observe in the universe.

One proposed solution to this asymmetry is the presence of more than one Higgs field, resulting in multiple Higgs bosons. The number of fields and bosons predicted varies depending to the model and any observed boson could have varied spin (J), charge (C), and parity (P) transformation properties. It could be charged, neutral, pure scalar, pure pseudoscalar, vector, pseudovector or a mixed state of these. In this document we outline tests proposed and performed to test the J^{CP} nature of a boson to see if a Higgs boson can offer any insights into the nature of the matter-antimatter asymmetry.

1.4.2 The Graviton: An Unexplained Force

Gravity would be the weakest of all the forces we know of but it is not yet included in the SM. There are many possible theories of gravity at small scales and its corresponding boson, the *graviton*. In Table 1.2 you can find a summary of the different forces and their relative strengths and interaction ranges, including gravity. Since gravity is so intimately connected with the mass of an object in relativistic mechanics it is expected to have similar couplings to the SM particles as the Higgs boson, but to match general relativity most theories claim that it must be a spin-2 scalar particle. Generally, most theories predict that a graviton would be a mass-

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less particle to have an infinite range. There is always the possibility of new physics spoiling our expectations so a detailed study of any new scalar particle found should be performed to determine if the spin is 0 (as predicted by Higgs boson) or 2 (as predicted by graviton). INSERT REFERENCES

1.4.3 Beyond the SM: The Dark Matter, Hierarchy & Fermion Problems

It has not been explicitly expressed in our discussion of SM phenomena but everything that we understand about the universe is really only valid at relatively low energies. Using current models of the early universe, at early times we know that the energies are many orders of magnitude larger than what our SM theory can describe REFERENCE. Many extensions of the SM to these high energies have been proposed and generally we will call them Beyond SM (BSM) theories in this document. These theories predict varied and wide ranging possibilities for new particles and physics and could be tested by examining a Higgs boson. Some BSM theories predict particles that could exist in relative obscurity on Earth but could be the *dark matter* observed in astronomical experiments REFERENCE.

Currently there is no explanation for why gravity is so much weaker, table 1.2, than the other forces. The SM requires a very specific values in order to explain this difference without theoretical motivation. This is called the *hierarchy problem* of the

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SM. BSM theories offer natural solutions to this problem sometimes simultaneously with explanations for the dark matter abundance. Other issues that can be explained through BSM theories include the number of fermion generations and their masses. In principle, there is no preference for only three generations of fermions and not motivation for the specific masses of these particles.

Generally, BSM theories can come in almost any type imaginable. If these new particles interact with the scalar Φ field, then they could be seen as a deviation from the expected couplings (interactions) with SM particles. These deviations could take many forms, but those tested in this document include; Unusual production mechanisms, unexpected spin-parity behavior, and enhanced non-resonant production.

Chapter 2

The Experiment: LHC and CMS

In order to answer these questions about the Standard Model (SM) we need to observe processes that are extremely rare in the universe. Many measurements to test the limits of the SM can be performed by observing nature. However, to test questions about the Higgs boson, waiting for events to happen naturally would take an extremely long time¹. To study these processes, labs around the world create particle colliders to generate more interesting events. The rate that any physics process will occur (at a collider or otherwise) is given by the effective area of the process, *cross section* (σ), and rate those reagents pass through the same area, *luminosity* (\mathcal{L}); equation 2.1.

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = \mathcal{L} \cdot \sigma \quad (2.1)$$

¹In many cases much longer than the age of the universe.

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The cross section for a process is the effective area of the reagents to interact in a specific way. A cross section can describe a particular number of final particles, or a specific boson used for the interaction, etc. Cross sections change depending on the energy of the interacting particles, and are usually given in units of *barns* ($b = 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$). They can be computed using the scattering amplitudes we have already introduced in section 1.2.

The luminosity is a measure characterizing the source of the reagents, with units that are typically $\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$. We will discuss the particulars of this quantity for colliders, but generally luminosity is a measure of the flux of particles at a particular point in space and time.

When a particle physics experiment is designed, two properties define its ability to test the limits of the SM; the luminosity and the center of mass energy. With high center of mass energy we can probe cross sections that are typically small at everyday energies, increasing the rate that these interactions happen. Using a higher luminosity we can increase the rate of rare events by generating interactions more often.

2.1 The Large Hadron Collider (LHC)

The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is the largest and most powerful of these experiments in the world. It is located on the border between France and Switzerland

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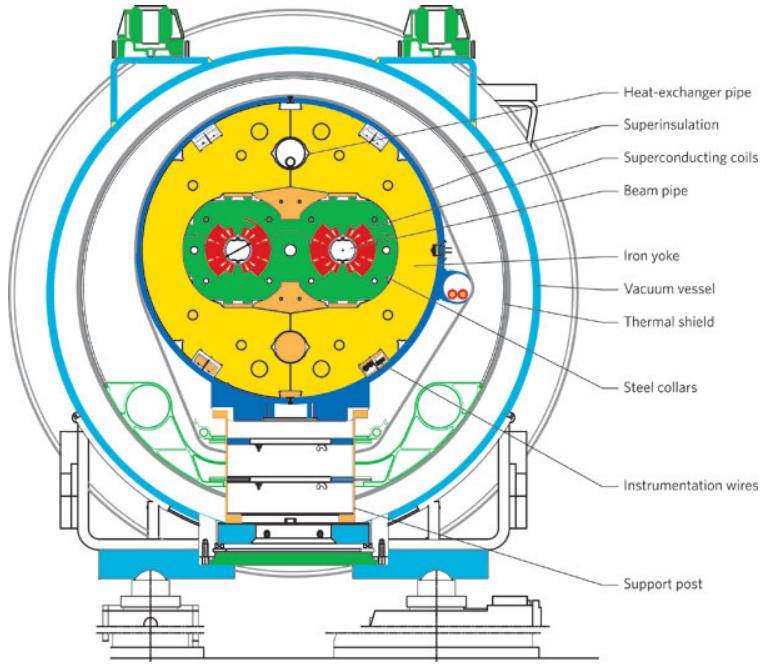


Figure 2.1: A cross section schematic of the LHC Dipole magnet showing the two center beam pipes, superconducting coils (red), and other supporting structures [25].

just outside the city of Genève at CERN². The LHC is a superconducting proton accelerator and collider measuring 27 km in circumference, approximately ~ 100 m underground. It first accelerates, then collides two beams of protons circulating the ring in opposite directions³. These protons are circulated using 1232 dipole ‘bending’ superconducting magnets and a series of other quadrupoles, sextupoles, octupoles, decapoles, etc. used for controlling and focusing the beams. The layout of the dipole magnets is shown in figure 2.1 where the two beam pipes are shown along with the other magnetic, vacuum, and shielding structures.

²European Organization for Nuclear Research or Organisation européenne pour la recherche nucléaire

³The LHC also collides Lead ions with each other and protons, but those studies are beyond the scope of this document.

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The LHC probes small cross sections by smashing two beams of high energy protons into each-other giving large center of mass energies. In the original design, each proton beam would have 7 TeV of energy giving 14 TeV in the center of mass frame. However, these studies will focus on the early years of LHC operation where the center of mass energies were 7 TeV (2011) and 8 TeV (2012).

The luminosity of the LHC depends on the geometrical and electrodynamic parameters of the beam. For a Gaussian beam, the luminosity is given by the product of the beam current ($f_{\text{rev}}n_bN_b$), brightness $\left(\frac{N_b}{\epsilon_N}\right)$, energy $\left(\frac{\gamma}{\beta^*}\right)$ and a geometric reduction factor (F):

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \cdot (f_{\text{rev}}n_bN_b) \cdot \frac{N_b}{\epsilon_N} \cdot \frac{\gamma}{\beta^*} \cdot F. \quad (2.2)$$

In this equation (2.2) the relevant factors that determine the beam current are the revolution frequency, (f_{rev}), the number of proton bunches in each beam, (n_b), and the number of protons in each bunch, (N_b). Generally, the LHC tries to maximize this beam current so that the number of protons in each beam is as large as possible. The brightness of the beam determines how likely two protons are to interact when one bunch crosses another. It is determined by the number of protons in a bunch and the normalized transverse beam emittance, (ϵ_n), which is a measure of the area of the beam in the position-momentum phase space. The energy of the beam is determined by the relativistic γ factor and the value of the beta function at the collision point, (β^*). The beta function describes transverse size of the beam and $*$ denotes that

CHAPTER 2. THE EXPERIMENT: LHC AND CMS

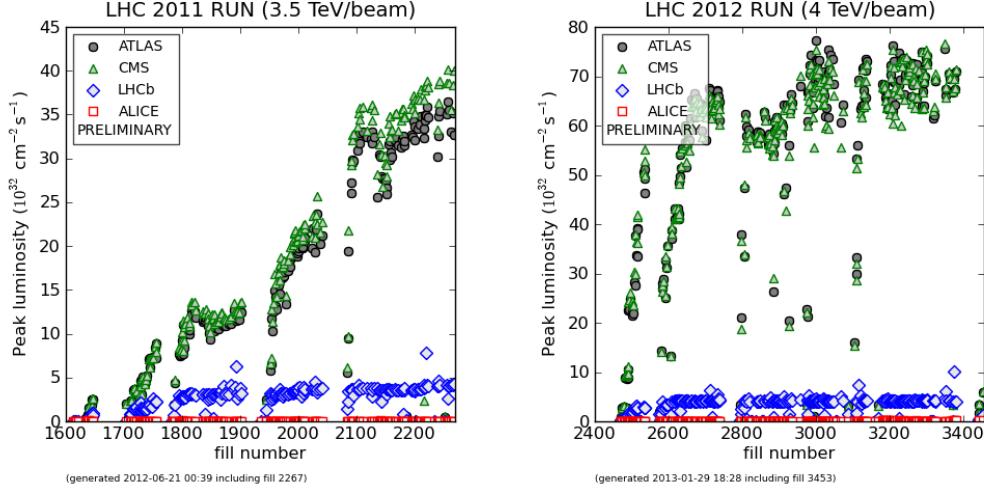


Figure 2.2: The peak luminosity delivered to the four main LHC experiments during the 2011 7 TeV (left) and 2012 8 TeV (right) runs, from [26].

this function should be evaluated at the collision point. The final term, (F), is the geometrical factor that describes the reduction in luminosity because the two beams cross each-other with some non-zero angle between them.

For the experiments that require the highest luminosities, the LHC was designed to provide $10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$. The machine ran at lower luminosities for the first few years of operation as seen in the figures 2.2 from [26].

To get the protons up to the necessary energies CERN accelerates the protons through a series of smaller accelerators which are pictured in figure 2.3. The process starts with the 50 MeV LINAC2 which shoots the protons into a multi-ring booster synchrotron that accelerates them up to 1.4 GeV. Next the protons are directed to the Proton Synchrotron (PS) machine which accelerates them up to 26 GeV and generates the bunching and spacing that the LHC uses. To accelerate the beam from 26 GeV

CHAPTER 2. THE EXPERIMENT: LHC AND CMS

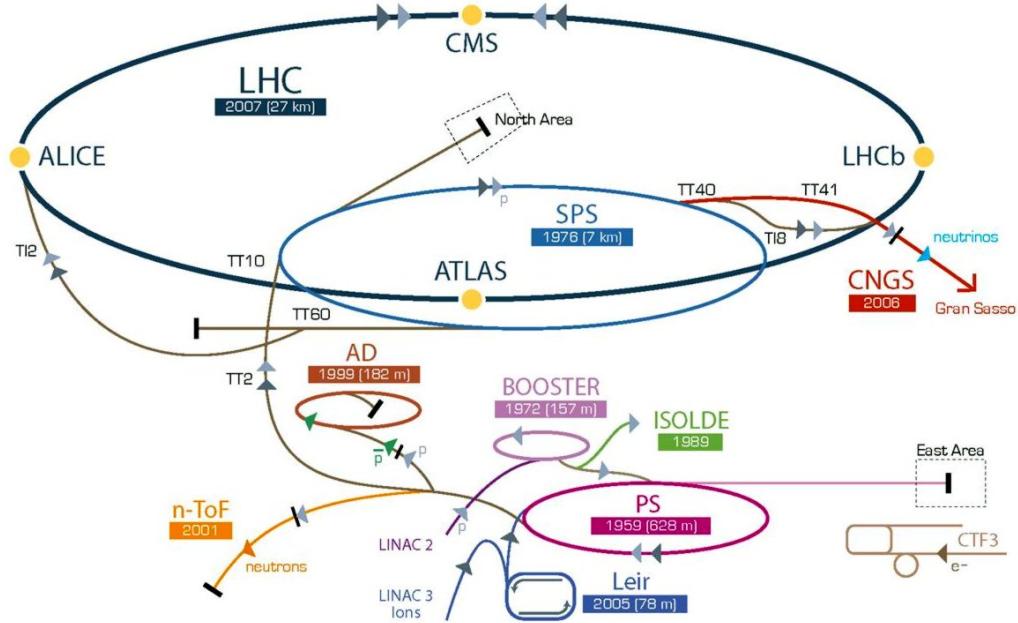


Figure 2.3: This CERN accelerator complex. Showing the full chain of accelerators used for the LHC protons: LINAC2, Booster, PS, SPS, and LHC. Additionally, the four large experiments on the LHC are shown: ALICE, ATLAS, CMS, LHCb. From [27]

up to 450 GeV the beam is fed into the Super Proton Synchrotron (SPS). From the SPS the protons are fed into one of the LHC rings. Before the LHC accelerates these protons up to their final energies, this process is repeated 24 times, 12 to fill each of the two rings. Once the LHC has accelerated these proton bunches to their final energies, the beams are gradually brought together so that they will collide inside the four experiments.

The particle physics community built detectors to observe and categorize the particles that are produced when these protons (ions) are collided with each-other. Currently there are four experiments at the LHC: A Toroidal LHC ApparatuS (ATLAS),

CHAPTER 2. THE EXPERIMENT: LHC AND CMS

the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS), A Large Ion Collider Experiment (ALICE), and Large Hadron Collider beauty (LHCb). The ATLAS and CMS detectors are high luminosity, multi-purpose detectors designed to test many different aspects of the SM, including the Higgs boson. LHCb looks specifically at bottom (beauty) quark interactions, while ALICE is designed for ion collisions. Most of this work took place at the CMS experiment, described in the next sections.

2.2 The Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS)

The Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) experiment is one of the two largest experiments on the LHC. The general goal of the CMS experiment is to collect and study as many interesting events from LHC collisions as possible. To do this, CMS must identify interesting physics events and reconstruct these events as accurately as possible. At the designed energy and luminosity the LHC is expected to create ~ 1 billion collision events per second. It would not be possible to reconstruct all of these events, so CMS has an extensive online event selection process, called the ‘Trigger’, that reduces this to about 100 events per second. Some details of this process are presented in section 2.3, but we will first have a discussion of the different CMS detectors.

To quantify how much data CMS has collected we use *integrated luminosity*, which is the time integral of the luminosity, $\int \mathcal{L} dt$. This value tells experimenters how many events to expect for the specific processes they study, and allows them to test

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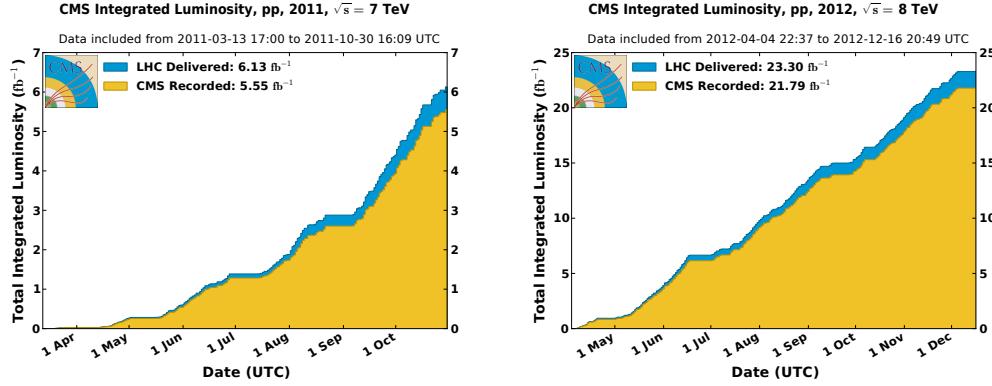


Figure 2.4: The integrated luminosity delivered and collected by the CMS experiment during the 2011 7 TeV (left) and 2012 8 TeV (right) runs, from [28].

smaller and smaller cross sections. Over the 2011 and 2012 runs⁴ of the CMS detector collected 5.1 fb^{-1} and 19.7 fb^{-1} of integrated luminosity respectively, shown in figure 2.4.

To maximize the physics results that can be pulled from this data, CMS was designed with key features that give credence to its name. While it may seem oxymoronic to call a 21.6 m long and 15 m in diameter experiment ‘compact’, the name is fitting because it is designed to put the sub-detectors within CMS close together. This compact design is a result of the 4 T magnetic field that is the heart of the CMS detector. The Magnet, discussed more in section 2.2.1, causes the particles generated in collisions to bend as they flow out from the interaction point so identifying particles and measuring their momentum requires detectors that are close together. Working in concert with this field, the CMS detectors are designed to fit together as a ‘cylindrical onion’. The layers of detectors and sub-detectors radiate outward from the

⁴A run is a period of time denoting specific conditions for the detector or LHC.

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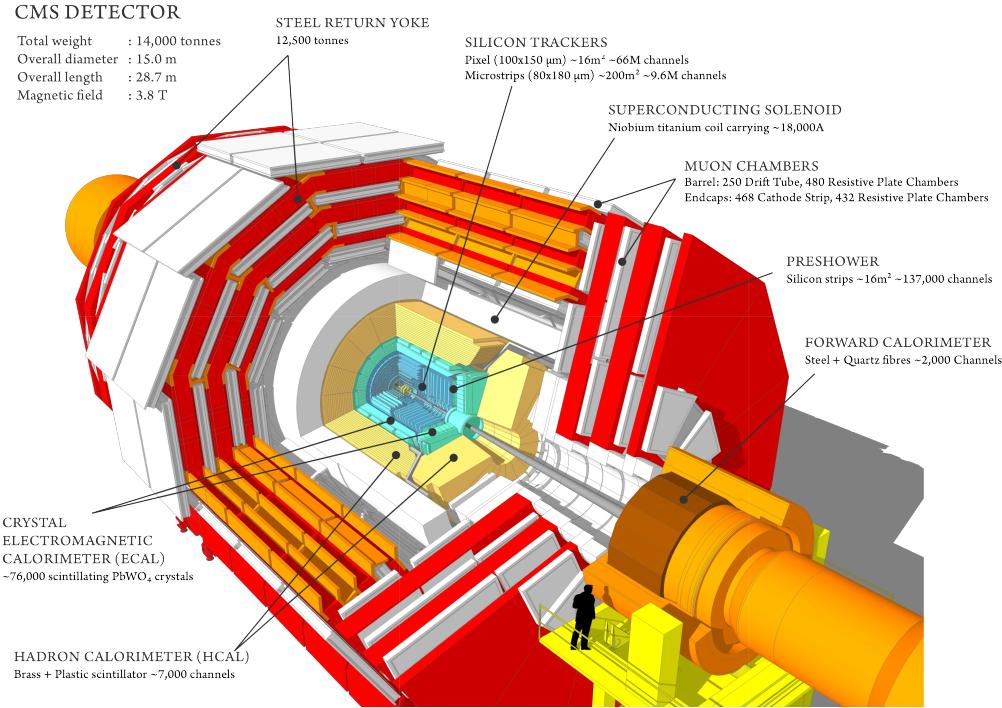


Figure 2.5: Sectional view of the CMS detector. The LHC beams travel in opposite directions along the central axis of the CMS cylinder colliding in the middle of the CMS detector. From [30]

point where the proton collisions take place. Each layer is designed to maximize the physics information that can be obtained at different distances from these collisions. The majority of the information in this section is from [29].

A sectional view of the CMS detectors can be seen in figure 2.5. From this image you can see a summary of the different detectors that we will discuss from inside out. The innermost detector is the Silicon tracker, discussed in section 2.2.2, this detector is designed to give good momentum resolution for charged particles and high reconstruction efficiency requiring precise alignment of the tracking system. Additionally, this tracker needs to be able to efficiently tag τ 's and b's, requiring pixel

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detectors close to the interaction point.

Just outside of the tracking system is the Electromagnetic calorimeter (ECAL), discussed in section 2.2.3, which gives good energy and mass resolution for photons and electrons and wide geometric coverage. Further, the high segmentation of the system allows for great directional discrimination to determine the origin of the particles and to determine how isolated they are from other particles.

The final detector that still lies inside the bore of the solenoid is the Hadronic Calorimeter (HCAL), described in section 2.2.4. This detector allows for accurate measurements of quark-jet mass resolution and the lateral segmentation gives directional information that is key to determine any imbalance in the transverse energy of a collision, E_T^{miss} .

Outside of the solenoid magnet lies the Muon System, section 2.2.5, and the large Iron return yokes. This is the largest and heaviest part of the CMS detector⁵. This system gives good muon identification and high momentum resolution over a wide range of angles and energies.

As we describe the CMS detector we will need to define a set of spacial coordinates so that we can locate ourselves within the detector. The coordinate system is defined to put the origin at the nominal collision point inside the experiment, the y-axis pointing vertically upward, the x-axis pointing along the radius of the LHC, and the z-axis pointing along the beam direction. The geometry of the detector is already

⁵When combined with the magnet and other detectors the full CMS detector weighs $\sim 14,000$ tonnes.

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cylindrical, so a modified form of cylindrical units are used for most studies. The azimuthal angle ϕ , is given by the angle from the x-axis in the x-y plane. The polar angle, θ (from the z-axis), normally used in cylindrical coordinates, is replaced by the pseudorapidity, $\eta = -\ln \tan(\theta/2)$. The z-axis is the same as the cartesian definition. Often, interesting physics events will show distinct features in the momentum or energy transverse to the beam direction, p_T and E_T respectively.

2.2.1 The Magnet

The defining feature of CMS is the superconducting solenoid magnet, the parameters are given in table 2.1. The large bending power that CMS is designed for is obtained from a reasonably-sized superconducting solenoid where the bending starts at the primary vertex. The strong field is needed to give high momentum resolution. It bends muons tightly so that the charge is unambiguous⁶ and giving a momentum resolution of $\Delta p/p \sim 10\%$ at $p = 1 \text{ TeV}/c$. This design also leads to a reasonable field in the forward region where many of the detected particles will be.

The magnet itself is constructed from high-purity aluminum-stabilized conductor and is indirectly cooled using a thermosiphon method. While this type of magnet has been used at other experiments, it was a large step up in many aspects from previous magnets. To create a solenoid with the field and dimensions, a four-layer conductive winding with a large diameter wire was used so it could withstand the

⁶For muons of $p \sim 1 \text{ TeV}/c$.

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Field	4 T
Inner Bore	5.9 m
Length	12.9 m
Number of Turns	2168
Current	19.5 kA
Stored Energy	2.7 GJ
Hoop stress	64 atm

Table 2.1: Parameters of the CMS superconducting solenoid, from [29].

large outward pressure (hoop stress). The conductor carries a 19.5 kA current and is co-extruded with pure and alloy aluminum to stabilize it thermally and mechanically. The conductor was manufactured in twenty continuous lengths, each of 2.65 km. Four of these lengths were used to make each of the five coil modules within the magnet.

Working in concert with the magnet is the iron return yoke of the muon system. As can be seen in figure 2.6, the superconducting magnet generates a large magnetic field inside the solenoid while the return flux of the field concentrates itself in the large iron structures that house the different muon detectors. These predictions were later confirmed by both monitors installed in the detector and with data collected from cosmic rays [31].

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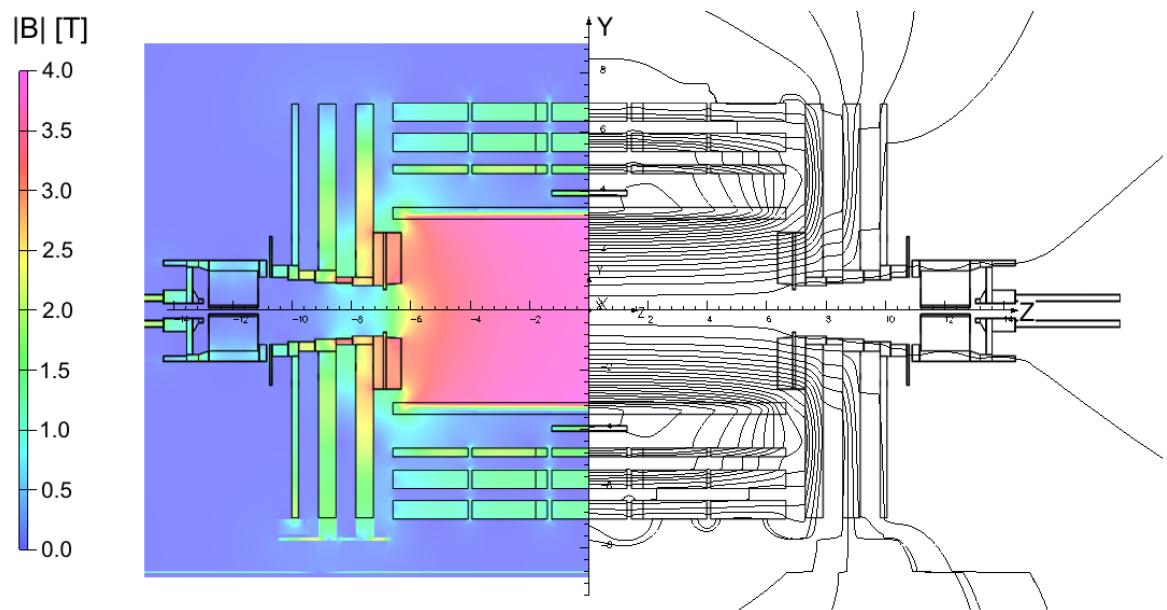


Figure 2.6: Value of $|B|$ (left) and field lines (right) predicted on a longitudinal section of the CMS detector, for the underground model at a central magnetic flux density of 3.8 T. Each field line represents a magnetic flux increment of 6 Wb. This image from [31].

2.2.2 The Inner Tracker System

The inner tracker system is the first detector that a particle generated from an LHC collision will encounter. Because of the small gaps between proton bunches at the LHC determining the origin of these particles is key. The spatial resolution of the silicon tracker detector allows a particle to be mapped to the primary collision vertex (*primary vertex*), secondary vertices, or identify them as *pileup events*. At the designed luminosity, the LHC is expected to generate about 20 collisions that will all be superimposed on an event of interest. This means that ~ 1000 charged particles will appear in the detector for every interesting event. The job of the inner tracker is to determine which of these originate from what vertex, measure the charge and momentum of these particles. To do this, the tracker has two distinct types of detectors; the 66 million *silicon pixels* and 9.6 million *silicon strips*. It is also vital that the positions of these detectors are accurately known at all times so that the system can operate at its ideal level. The process of determining the positions of these detectors is called *Tracker Alignment* and an overview of work performed for this task is presented.

2.2.2.1 Pixel Tracker

Close to the interaction vertex the tracker consists of three layers of silicon pixel detectors in the barrel region and two layers of silicon pixel detectors in each forward region. The layout of the pixel detector is shown in figure 2.8. Each of the three barrel

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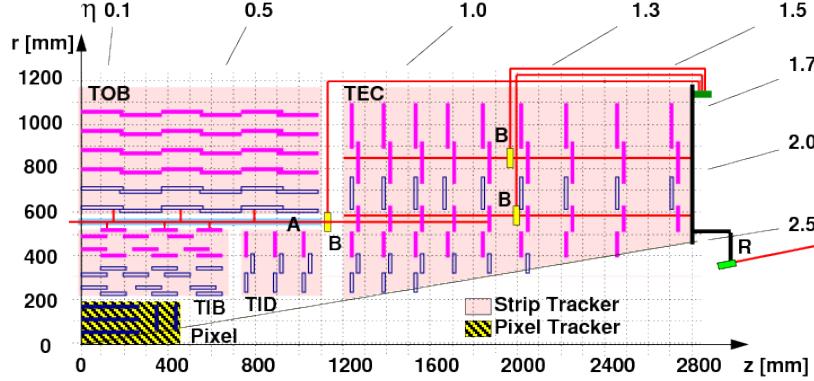


Figure 2.7: Schematic view of one quarter of the silicon tracker in the r - z plane. The positions of the pixel modules are indicated within the hatched area. At larger radii within the lightly shaded areas, solid rectangles represent single strip modules, while hollow rectangles indicate pairs of strip modules mounted back-to-back with a relative stereo angle. From [32]

layers are located at radii 4.4 cm, 7.3 cm, and 10.2 cm from the nominal interaction point and each is 53 cm long. On either side of the three barrel layers are two end disks placed at $|z| = 34.5$ cm and 46.5 cm.

All of the pixel detectors start from the same base array (52 column \times 80 row) of pixels (size: 100 $\mu\text{m} \times$ 150 μm) bump-bonded to a readout chip (ROC). Each pixel is connected to its own amplifier, shaper, and comparator (including an individual 3-bit DAC threshold) which is connected to a ‘double-column’ group shown in figure 2.9. The periphery of each double-column contains a data buffer, timestamp, and corresponding control and readout electronics. ROC’s are grouped into modules. Each module has a different number of ROCs depending on the geometry of the region where the detectors are placed.

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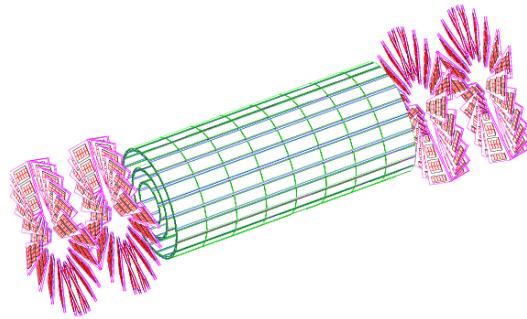


Figure 2.8: Layout of the pixel detectors in the CMS tracker. From [29].

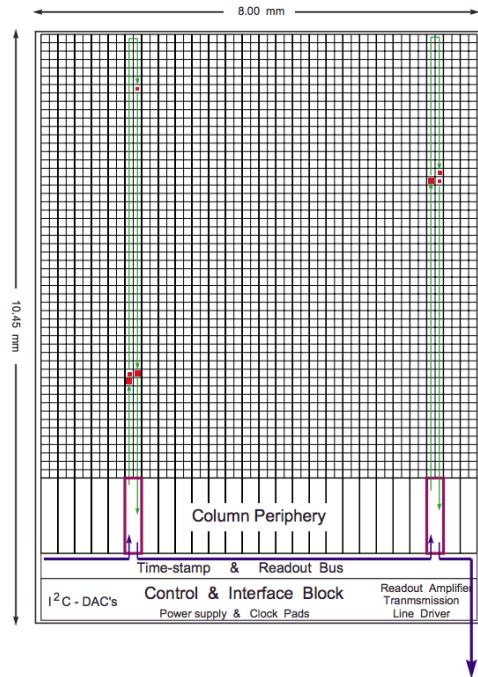


Figure 2.9: Layout of the pixel detectors in the CMS tracker. From [33].

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The pixel barrel (BPIX) contains 768 modules grouped into three layers⁷ and two *half-barrels*⁸. While the forward pixel detectors (FPIX) are made from 672 modules grouped into two layers of turbine-like blades. The forward and backward structures are also grouped into *half-blades* similar to the barrel region⁹. Both the barrel layers and the blades are oriented to benefit from the large Lorentz effect that increases the resolution through charge sharing between the pixels.

In the end, the inner tracker comprises 66 million individual pixel channels readout using approximately 16000 ROCs, giving a spatial resolution of about $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ in $r-\phi$ and $20 \mu\text{m}$ in z . This high resolution is key to determining the origin of the particles that CMS measures. Additionally, it allows for precise momentum determination for particles as they curl in the high magnetic field. The $\sim 1 \text{ m}^2$ silicon pixel detector provides coverage up to $|\eta| < 2.4$.

2.2.2.2 Strip Tracker

Much larger than the pixel tracker is the $\sim 200 \text{ m}^2$ silicon strip tracker. The strip tracker is divided into four parts: TIB (tracker inner barrel), TID (tracker inner disks), TOB (tracker outer barrel), and TEC (tracker end cap). The CMS tracker is the largest silicon detector ever built. Different regions of the strip tracking system have different module types summarized in table 2.2.

⁷There are smaller substructures within each layer.

⁸All three layers together make one half-barrel.

⁹Again, the two layers together make the half-blades.

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part	No. detectors	thickness (μm)	mean pitch (μm)
TIB	2724	320	81/118
TOB	5208	500	81/183
TID	816	320	97/128/143
TEC(inner)	2512	320	96/126/128/143
TEC(outer)	3888	500	143/158/183

Table 2.2: Detector types in the silicon strip tracker, from [29].

In the barrel region the coverage for the TIB and TOB is very different. The TIB has four layers and covers $|z| < 65 \text{ cm}$ with silicon sensor of a thickness of $320 \mu\text{m}$. The first two layers are made with “stereo” modules in order to provide both r - ϕ and r - z measurements. These stereo modules are made with a stereo angle of 100 mrad giving the TIB single-point resolution of $23\text{-}34 \mu\text{m}$ in r - ϕ and $23 \mu\text{m}$ in z . The TOB has six layers covering $|z| < 110 \text{ cm}$ with silicon sensor of a thickness of $500 \mu\text{m}$. The first two layers of the TOB are also stereo modules¹⁰ giving the whole TOB a resolution of $35\text{-}52 \mu\text{m}$ in r - ϕ and $52 \mu\text{m}$ in z .

The each of the two TECs comprises nine disks that cover the $120 \text{ cm} < |z| < 280 \text{ cm}$ forward region. While the TID covers the gap between the TIB and the TEC. Both the TID and TEC modules are arranged in rings centered at the beam line. The strips in these sensors radiate outward from the center¹¹ so the pitch is different for each strip. The first two rings of the TID and the first, second, and fifth rings of the TEC are stereo modules as well allowing for more precise resolution. The TID

¹⁰With a stereo angle of 100 mrad.

¹¹beam line

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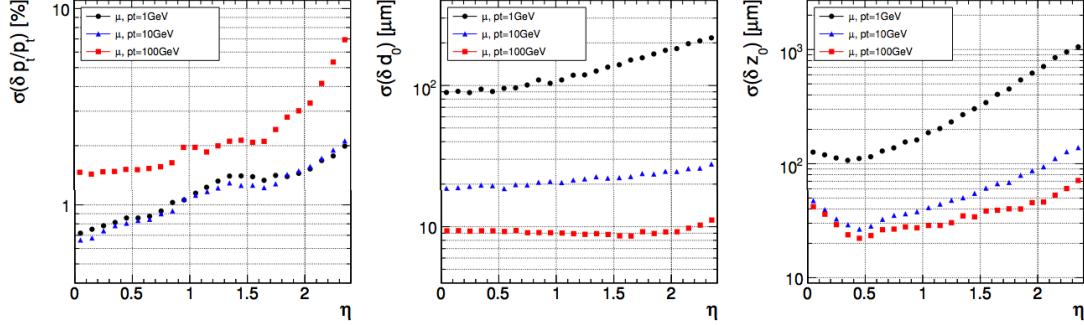


Figure 2.10: Predicted resolution of several track parameters for single muons with 1, 10, and 100 GeV: transverse momentum (left), transverse impact parameter (center), and longitudinal impact parameter (right). From [34].

and first three rings for the TEC have 320 μm sensors while the rest of the TEC has 500 μm sensors.

All of these structures (BPIX, FPIX, TIB, TOB, TID, TEC) are mounted in carbon-fiber structures and are cooled to ensure they do not overheat¹². Using the precise position information that the tracker provides CMS is able to determine with very high confidence the momentum and impact parameter¹³ of particles, see figure 2.10. Careful consideration is taken when these detectors are moved and installed but precise determination of the exact location of all components is key to keep the optimal resolution of these detectors. This process is not only vital during the LHC startup but care needs to be taken as the detector takes data to ensure no loss in performance.

¹²Because of design flaws the detectors were not kept as cold as originally designed.

¹³How close a particle's path is to the origin.

2.2.3 Electromagnetic Calorimeter

The CMS Electromagnetic Calorimeter (ECAL) is composed of 61200 lead tungstate (PbWO_4) crystals mounted in the barrel part of the detector and 7324 crystals in each of the two end caps. Together the barrel and end caps make a homogeneous and hermetic scintillating layer surrounding the Inner Tracker. The crystals were chosen to have short radiation and Moliere lengths while being fast radiation hard scintillators. Due to the low light yield of the crystal, silicon avalanche photo diodes (barrel) or vacuum phototriodes (end cap) are used because they can operate in the magnetic field. Additionally, to stabilize the response of the crystals and photo diodes a cooling system is used to maintain temperature stability. Thus, the ECAL is a compact calorimeter that is fast, has fine granularity, and is radiation resistant.

The ECAL barrel section (EB) has an inner radius of 129 cm and constructed as 36 identical “supermodules” each covering half the barrel length and covering a range of $0 < |\eta| < 1.479$. The crystals are installed to be quasi-projective (axis tilted 3°) to the nominal vertex arranged in an $\eta\text{-}\phi$ grid. They have a front face cross-section of $22 \times 22 \text{ m}^2$ and a length of 230 mm.

The ECAL end caps (EE) lie at a distance of 314 cm from the vertex and cover a range of $1.479 < |\eta| < 3.0$. The end cap crystals, like the barrel, are off-point from the nominal vertex but are arranged in an $x\text{-}y$ grid. They have a larger face size than the barrel crystals, $28.6 \times 28.6 \text{ m}^2$ and a length of 220 mm. Additionally, a preshower detector is placed in front of the EE consisting of two planes of silicon strip detectors

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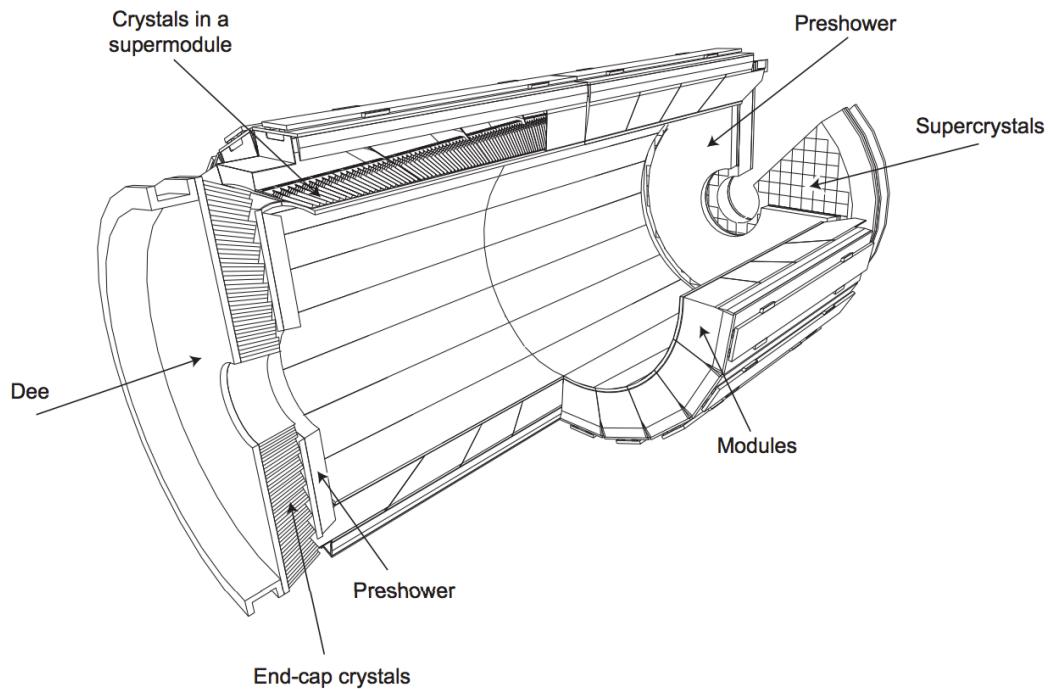


Figure 2.11: Layout of the CMS electromagnetic calorimeter showing the arrangement of crystal modules, supermodules and end caps, with the preshower in front. From [34].

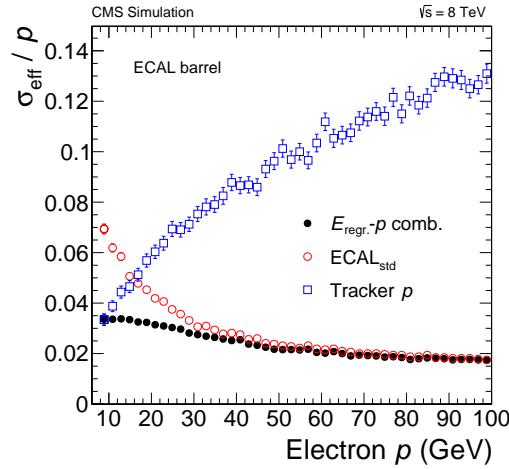


Figure 2.12: Effective momentum resolution σ_{eff}/p for electrons in the EB as a function of the momentum for the ECAL-only, the tracker-only, and the combined estimates. From [35].

each placed behind a layer of lead absorber disks.

While the specifics of particle reconstruction are discussed in section 2.3, figure 2.12 shows the electron resolution of the EB system compared to and then combined with the inner tracker system.

2.2.4 Hadronic Calorimeter

The design of the hadron calorimeter (HCAL) is strongly influenced by the choice of magnet parameters because most of the system is located inside the magnet coil and surrounds the ECAL system [29]. The HCAL system consists of a set of sampling calorimeters. The barrel (HB) and endcap (HE) calorimeters utilize alternating layers of brass as absorber and plastic scintillator as active material. The scintillation light

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is converted by wavelength-shifting fibers embedded in the scintillator and channeled to hybrid photodiode detectors via clear fibers. The outer calorimeter (HO) uses the CMS magnet and return yoke as the absorber while using the same active material and readout system as HB and HE. The HO system serve as a “tail-catcher” after the magnet oil, thus reducing the tails in the energy resolution function.

The HCAL is segmented into individual calorimeter cells along three coordinates, η , ϕ , and depth. the depth is an integer coordinate that enumerates the segmentation longitudinally, along the direction from the venter of the nominal interaction region. The layout of the system can be seen in figure 2.13. The HB system covers the region $-1.4 < \eta < 1.4$ constructed in 2 half barrels. The HE covers the region $1.3 < |\eta| < 3.0$, the segmentation is not uniform in order to maintain coverage and resolution.

Coverage between $3.0 < |\eta| < 5.0$ is provided by the steel/quartz fibre hadron forward (HF) calorimeter. HF is unique in that it preferentially samples the neutral component of the hadron shower. This design leads to narrower showers and hence is ideally suited for the congested environment of the forward region. The HF detector is located outside of the muon system, 11.2 m from the interaction point. Unlike the scintillator that is used in the other HCAL systems, HF uses Cerenkov light emitted in the quartz fibers lay parallel to the beam and are placed in a square grid inside steel plates.

What is actually measured by the HCAL system are particle jets. This is a result

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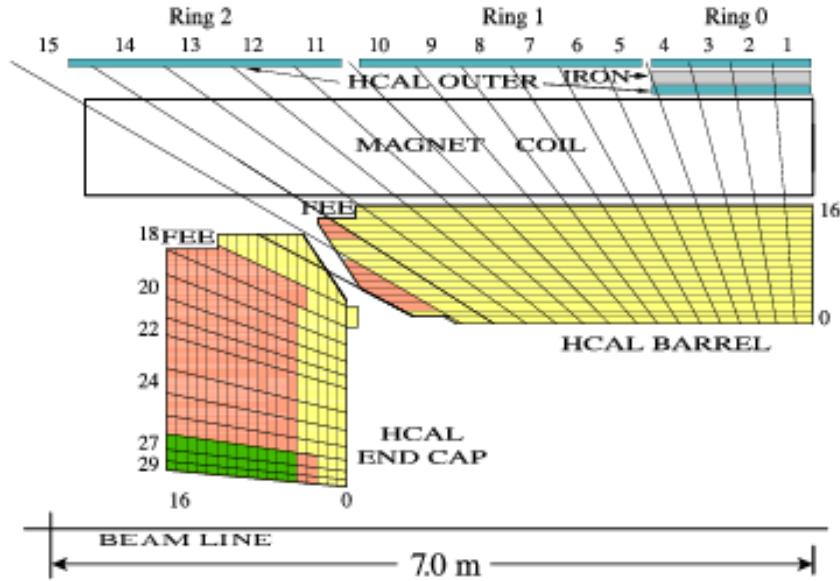


Figure 2.13: A quarter slice of the CMS HCAL detectors. The right end of the beam line is the interaction point. In the diagram, the numbers on the top and left refer to segments in η , and the numbers on the right and the bottom refer to depth. Colors/shades indicate the combinations of layers that form the different depth segments, which are numbered sequentially starting at 1, moving outward from the interaction point. The outer calorimeter is assigned depth 4. Segmentation along ϕ is not shown [36].

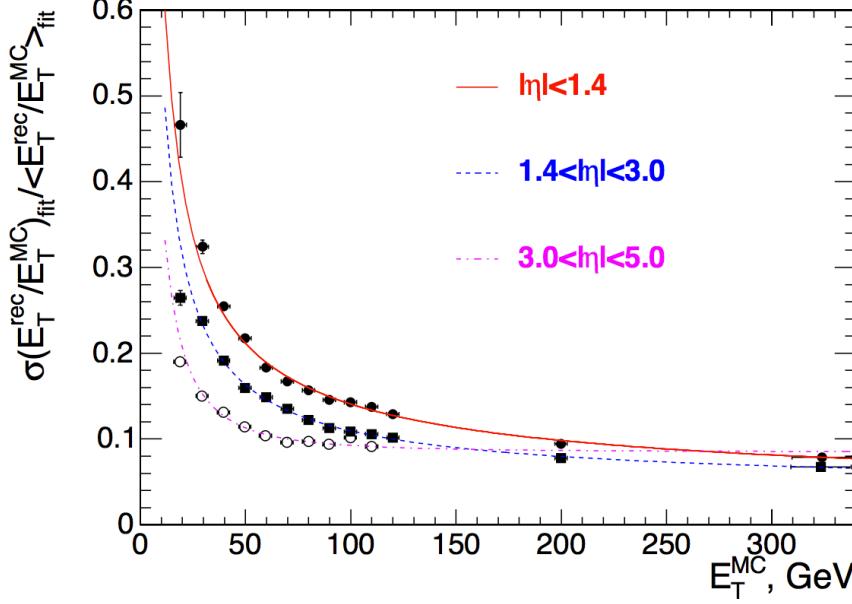


Figure 2.14: The jet transverse energy resolution as a function of the simulated jet transverse energy for barrel jets ($|\eta| < 1.4$), endcap jets ($1.4 < |\eta| < 3.0$) and very forward jets ($3.0 < |\eta| < 5.0$) [29].

of the QCD that was discussed in previous sections and is outlined a bit more in 2.3.

The granularity and sampling of the different components of the HCAL system have been chosen so that the jet energy resolution is similar in all three regions (HB, HE, HF). This is illustrated in figure 2.14 where the jet energy resolution is plotted as a function of the transverse energy. More details on this plot can be found in [29].

2.2.5 Muon System

Muons at CMS are measured 3 times: in the inner tracker, after the magnet coil, and in the return flux. The muon system is designed to measure the path of the muons once they exit the magnet coil and as they traverse the return yoke. The momentum

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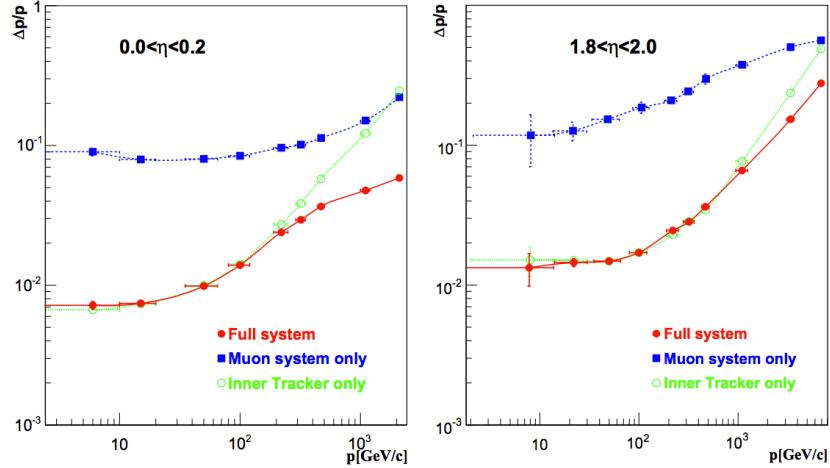


Figure 2.15: The muon momentum resolution verses p using the muon system only, the inner tracker only, or both (“full system”). (left) Barrel $|\eta| < 0.2$ and (right) endcap $1.8 < |\eta| < 2.0$ [29].

of the muons is measured by the bending angle of the muon’s path as they exit the (4)T coil taking the interaction point as the origin of the muon. The resolution of this measurement (hereafter referred to as “muon system only”) is dominated by multiple scatter in the material before the first muon station. This applies up to $p_T \sim 200$ GeV/ c , at which point the spatial resolution of the chamber states to dominate. For low-momentum muons, the best momentum resolution is determined by the silicon tracker (“inner tracker only”). However both systems contain information about the momentum and origin of muons, so CMS uses both of them (“full system”) in concert to determine the momentum of muons produced in collisions. The momentum resolution can be seen in figure 2.15.

The muon system contains three types of gaseous detectors designed to cover the very large surface and the different radiation environments. The barrel region

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($|\eta| < 1.2$) is characterized by low neutron induced background, low muon rate, and low residual magnetic field in the chambers. For these reasons, drift tube (DT) chambers are used. In contrast the endcap region has high muon rates, neutron induced backgrounds, and residual magnetic field. So in the endcaps cathode strip chambers (CSC) are used to cover the region up to $|\eta| < 2.4$. Both the endcap and barrel regions also use resistive plate chambers (RPC) which provide a fast response with good time resolution but lower position resolution than the DT and CSC systems. Taking the time information from the RPCs in concert with the position information from the CSCs and DTs provide necessary and complementary measurements. The whole system provides a precise and flexible detector that can be used for triggering and measurements.

The layout of one quarter of the CMS muon system is shown in figure 2.16. In the barrel region, four stations of detectors are arranged in cylinders interlayered with the iron return yoke. The segmentation follows the five wheels of the yoke. In each of the endcaps, the CSC and RPC detectors are arranged with four disks perpendicular to the beam in concentric rings. In total, the muon system contains $\sim 25000 \text{ m}^2$ of active detection planes with ~ 1 million electronic channels.

The barrel detectors consist of 250 chambers organized in four layers inside the magnet return yoke, at radii of approximately 4.0, 4.9, 5.9, 7.0 m from the beam axis. Each DT chamber in the three innermost stations consists of 12 layers of drift tubes divided into three groups of four consecutive layers, hereafter called SuperLayers (SL).

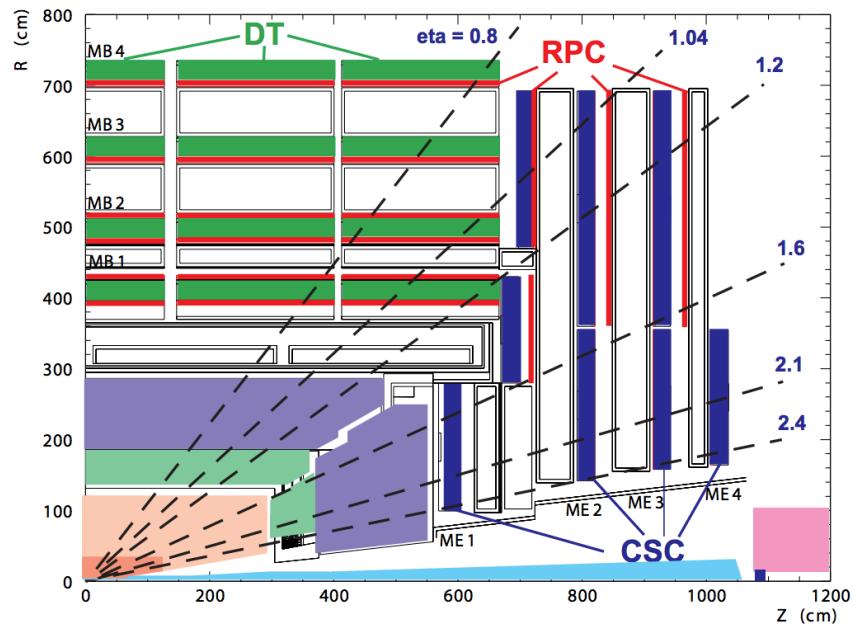


Figure 2.16: Layout of one quarter of the CMS muon system for initial low luminosity running. The RPC system is limited to $|\eta| < 1.6$ in the endcap, and for the CSC system only the inner ring of the ME4 chambers have been deployed [29].

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The tubes inside each SL are staggered by half a tube. Two SLs measure the $r - \phi$ coordinate in the bending plane (they have wires parallel to the beam line), and the third SL measures the z -coordinate running parallel to the beam. In the outermost station each DT chamber has only the two SLs that measure the $r - \phi$ coordinate. The two innermost stations consist of sandwiches made of a DT chamber placed between 2 RPCs. The two outermost stations consist of packages of a DT chamber coupled to a layer made of 1, 2, or 4 RPCs, depending on the sector and station, placed on the innermost side of the station. The maximum drift length in the barrel is 2.0 cm and the single-point resolution is $\sim 200 \mu\text{m}$, giving a ϕ precision better than 100 μm in position and approximately 1 mrad in direction.

In the two endcaps, 468 CSCs arranged in four stations of chambers which are mounted in discs enclosing the CMS magnet, perpendicular to the beam direction. Each CSC is a trapezoidal in shape and consists of six gas gaps, each gap having a plane of radial cathode strips and plane of anode wires running almost perpendicularly to the strips. Most CSCs are overlapped in ϕ to avoid gaps in the muon acceptance¹⁴. Each ring station consists of 36 chambers, except for the innermost ring of the second, third, and fourth disks which have 18 chambers. A precise position measurement is made by determining the center-of-gravity of the charge distribution induced on the cathode strips with a spatial resolution $\sim 200 \mu\text{m}$ and angular resolution in $\phi \sim 10$ mrad. Like in the Barrel, there are layers of double-gap RPCs in the endcaps,

¹⁴The exception being the third ring of the first endcap disk.

however, for the initial low-luminosity run there are RPCs only in the outer rings of each station, while they are staged in the internal rings. The RPC endcap system is thus limited to $\eta < 1.6$ for the first period of data taking.

2.3 Triggering and Particle Reconstruction

At the designed specifications the LHC would lead to $\sim 10^9$ interactions/sec. Data from only about 10^2 crossings/sec can be written to archival media; hence, the trigger system has to achieve a rejection factor 10^6 . This is performed by the CMS trigger and data acquisition system which consists of four parts: the detector electronics, the Level-1 trigger, the readout network, and an online event filter system (processor farm) that executes the software for the High-Level Triggers (HLT).

Once the data is archived, CMS must analyze this data and reconstruct the individual particles that make up the event. A particle flow event-reconstruction algorithm (PF) has been successfully deployed in the CMS experiment and is nowadays used by most of the analyses. It aims at identifying and reconstructing individually each particle arising from the LHC proton-proton collision, by combining the information from all the subdetectors. Using this algorithm individual particles can be identified as photons, electrons, muons, or charged/neutral hadrons.

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2.3.1 CMS Trigger

The size of the LHC detectors and the underground caverns that they reside in imposes a minimum transit time for the signals from the front-end electronics to reach the services cavern which houses the Level-1 trigger logic. A signal must pass from the various subdetectors we have discussed to this Level-1 system and back again to signal a readout of the full detector. The total time allocated for the transit and for reaching a decision to keep or discard data from a particular beam crossing is 3.2 μ sec. During this time, the detector data is held in buffers while trigger data is collected from the front-end electronics and decisions reached that discard a large fraction of events while regaining the small fraction of interactions of interest (approx. 1 in 1000). Of the total latency, the time allocated to the Level-1 trigger calculations is less than 1 μ s.

Custom hardware processors form the Level-1 decision. The Level-1 triggers involve the calorimetry and muons systems, as well as some correlation of the information between these systems. These Level-1 decisions are based on the presence of “trigger primitive” objects such as photons, electrons, muons, and jets above a set of E_T and p_T thresholds that have reduced granularity and resolution. It also employs global sums of E_T and E_T^{miss} . The designed Level-1 pass rate is 100 kHz, but was limited to 50 kHz at startup.

Upon receipt of a Level-1 trigger, the data from the pipelines are transferred to front-end readout buffers. After further signal processing, zero-suppression and/or

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data-compression each event will have a size of about 1.5 MB for proton-proton interactions. Data from a given event are then transferred to a processor that runs the high-level trigger (HLT) software to reduce the Level-1 output rate of 100 kHz down to 100 Hz for mass storage. Rather than reconstruct all possible objects in an event for HLT, whenever possible only those objects and regions of the detector that are actually needed for the decision are reconstructed. In that way events are discarded as soon as possible, events that still pass are then stored across the “LHC Computing Grid”¹⁵ for later software analysis by individuals searching for specific physics phenomenon.

2.3.2 Particle Flow

The particle-flow event reconstruction aims at reconstructing and identifying all stable particles in the event, i.e., electrons, muons, photons, charged hadrons and neutral hadrons, with a thorough combination of all CMS sub-detectors towards an optimal determination of their direction, energy and type. This list of individual particles is then used to build jets (from which the quark and gluon energies and directions are inferred), to determine the missing transverse energy E_T^{miss} (which gives an estimate of the direction and energy of the neutrinos and other invisible particles), to reconstruct and identify taus from their decay products, to quantify charged lepton isolation with respect to other particles, to tag b jets, etc [37].

¹⁵Specifics of this vast and GRID complex computing network are not discussed here.

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While this algorithm is extremely versatile we will focus our discussion on the pieces that are relevant for this analysis: electrons, muons, and jets. A small discussion will also be made of photons which are used in this analysis as well.

2.3.3 Electrons

The electron reconstruction combines ECAL and tracker information. Electron candidates are reconstructed from clusters of energy deposits in the ECAL, which are then matched to hits in the silicon tracker and silicon tracker seeds that are mapped to ECAL clusters. This dual approach improves the reconstruction efficiency for the very low p_T electrons. The CMS electron reconstruction algorithm is described in [35, 38].

For this physics analysis, the electron candidates are required to have transverse momentum $p_T^e > 7 \text{ GeV}/c$ and a reconstructed $|\eta| < 2.5$. The reconstruction efficiency for isolated electron is expected to be above 90% over the full ECAL acceptance, apart from some narrow “crack” regions.

The identification of electrons relies on a Boosted Decision Tree (BDT) multivariate technique that combines observables sensitive to the amount of bremsstrahlung along the electron trajectory, the geometrical and momentum matching between the electron trajectory and associated clusters, as well as shower-shape observables. The distribution of expected and observed electron BDT output is shown in figure 2.17. The selection is optimized in six regions of the electron p_T^e and $|\eta^e|$ to maximize the

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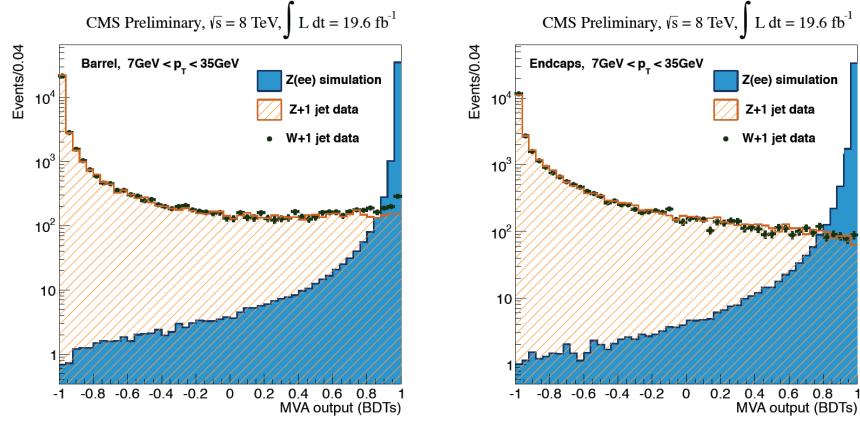


Figure 2.17: Distribution of electron BDT output for training sample $W+\text{jets}$, test sample $Z+\text{jets}$ on 2012 data (fakes) and prompt electrons ($Z \rightarrow ee$ simulation) in the barrel (left) and endcap(right) [39].

expected sensitivity for a low-mass Higgs boson. These regions correspond to two p_T^e ranges, 7–10 GeV and > 10 GeV, and three pseudorapidity regions, corresponding to two regions in the barrel with different material in front of the ECAL, the central barrel ($|\eta^e| < 0.8$) and the outer barrel ($0.800 < |\eta^e| < 1.479$), in addition to the endcap, $1.479 < |\eta^e| < 2.500$.

The quality of the momentum measurement for electrons can substantially vary depending on the electron characteristics. The resolution is mainly dominated by the fluctuations of the measured energy due to bremsstrahlung in the tracker material. This entails that the 4ℓ mass resolution varies broadly, by as much as a factor of 2-3. Therefore, mixing together events with well and poorly measured 4ℓ masses dilutes the Higgs search sensitivity. The analysis uses the propagation of the lepton uncertainty to estimate the 4ℓ mass to proper accounting for the signal mass resolutions for

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individual events. In order to have a good determination of this uncertainty, but above all to have a description of the resolution of the signal model which corresponds to the data, we need to measure it on high statistics control samples, depending on the electron kinematics and quality, which is done with $Z \rightarrow ee$ sample. The absolute scale has also to be calibrated on data, because the measurement of the Higgs mass depends crucially on the uncertainty that we can assign to the leptons in the full phase space of the analysis for a 125 GeV Higgs, so covering from 7–100 GeV, which can be covered with $Z \rightarrow ee$ and low mass resonances.

For electrons, the calibration procedure consists of three steps. First, a set of corrections for the momentum scale is obtained by comparing the displacement of the peak position in the distributions of the Z-boson mass in the data and in the simulation in different η regions and in two categories depending on the amount of bremsstrahlung. The corrections are derived as a function of time in order to account for the time-dependent crystal transparency loss. Second, a linearity correction to the momentum scale is applied to account for the p_T -dependent differences between data and simulation by comparing the dielectron mass distributions, binned in p_T^e of one of the two electrons, in data and in simulated $Z \rightarrow ee$ events. The $J/\psi \rightarrow ee$ and $\Upsilon(1S) \rightarrow ee$ events are used as validation for electron $p_T^e < 20$ GeV. All the corrections on the electron momentum scale from the first two steps are applied to data. The left of figure 2.18 shows the residual momentum scale difference before the linearity correction but after the time dependent corrections. Third, the energies

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of single electrons in the simulation are smeared by applying a random Gaussian multiplicative factor of mean 1 and width $\Delta\sigma$, in order to achieve the resolution observed in the data Z-boson sample. The result of this resolution correction on the right of figure 2.18.

After the electron calibration, the relative momentum scale between data and simulation is consistent within 0.6% in the central barrel and up to $\sim 1.5\%$ in the forward part of the ECAL end caps. The residual dependence at low momentum is due to the use of wide bins in measured electron p_T^e in evaluating the Z-peak mass shift. The resulting shift of 0.3% (0.1%) for the $4e$ ($2e2\mu$) channel is assigned as a systematic uncertainty in the signal mass scale.

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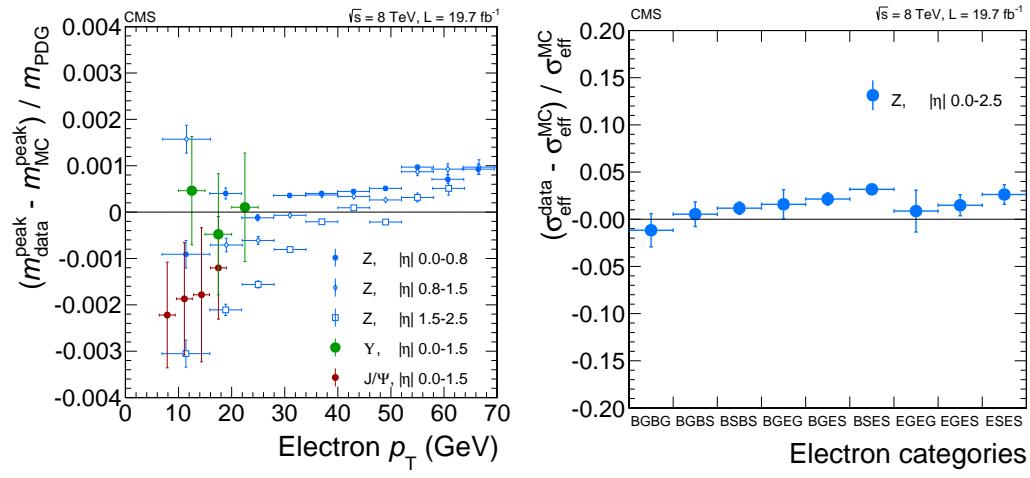


Figure 2.18: (left) Relative difference between the dilepton mass peak positions in data and simulation as obtained from Z , J/ψ and $\Upsilon(nS)$ resonances as a function of the transverse momentum of one of the electrons regardless of the second for dielectron events before p_T dependent correction. (right) Relative difference between the dilepton mass peak positions in data and simulation as obtained from Z , J/ψ and $\Upsilon(nS)$ resonances as a function of the transverse momentum of one of the electrons regardless of the second for dielectron events [35].

2.3.4 Muons

Muon candidates are required to have a transverse momentum $p_T^\mu > 5 \text{ GeV}$ and be within the geometrical acceptance, defined by $|\eta^\mu| < 2.4$. The reconstruction combines information from both the silicon tracker and the muon system. The matching between track segments is done either outside-in, starting from a track in the muon system, or inside-out, starting from a track in the silicon tracker. The muons are selected among the reconstructed muon track candidates by applying minimal requirements on the track segments in both the muon system and inner tracker system and taking into account compatibility with small energy deposits in the calorimeters [35].

For muons, an absolute measurement of momentum scale and resolution is performed by using a reference model of the Z line shape convolved with a Gaussian function. The bias in the reconstructed muon p_T is determined from the position of the Z mass peak as a function of muon kinematic variables, and a correction is derived for the data. A correction for the resolution is also derived for the simulation from a fit to the $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ mass spectrum. The large event sample based on low-mass dimuon resonances provides an additional calibration source for the momentum resolution in a similar manner. For muons, the agreement between the observed and simulated mass scales is within 0.1% in the entire pseudorapidity range of interest and assigned as a systematic.

A Z-boson decay into a lepton pair can be accompanied by final-state radiation,

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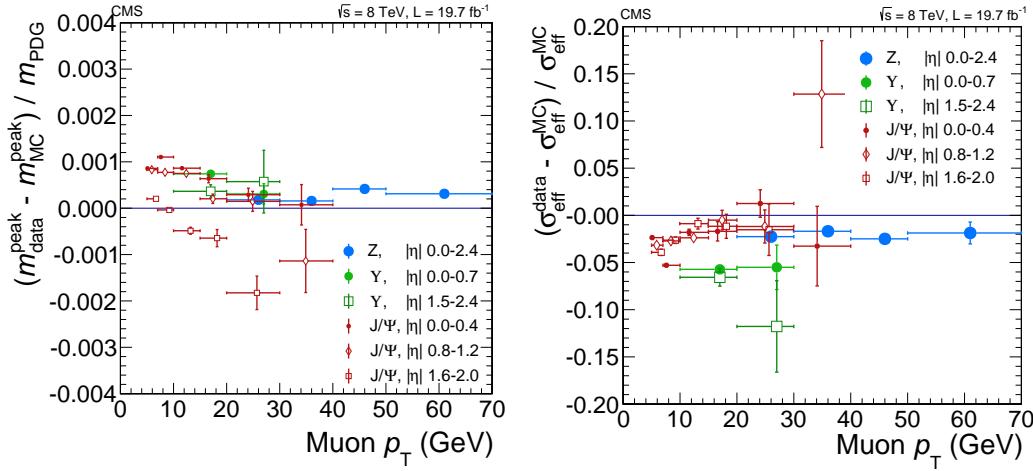


Figure 2.19: (left) Relative difference between the dilepton mass peak positions in data and simulation as obtained from Z , J/ψ and $\Upsilon(nS)$ resonances as a function of the average muon p_T^μ for dimuon events. (right) Relative difference between the dimuon mass resolutions in data and simulation as measured from Z , J/ψ and $\Upsilon(nS)$ decays as functions of the average muon p_T^μ [35].

in which case it is desirable to identify and associate the radiated photon to the corresponding lepton to form the Z -boson candidate. Low-energy photons are identified and reconstructed with the PF reconstruction with a dedicated clustering algorithm designed to identify ECAL energy deposits near global muon tracks. Final-state radiated photons are mostly produced with a direction nearly collinear with the parent lepton and have a harder spectrum than background photons from initial-state radiation or pileup interactions. Therefore, to be identified as FSR, a reconstructed photon must be close to the muon they would be associated with and must make the lepton-pair mass closer to the nominal Z -boson mass. This FSR procedure is applied to muons but not to electrons because the measured electron energies, by

CHAPTER 2. THE EXPERIMENT: LHC AND CMS

construction, already include a large fraction of these photons.

2.3.5 Jets

A jet is a narrow cone of hadrons, mesons, and other particles produced by a quark or gluon as it emanates from a collision. Since quarks and gluons carry color charge the vacuum will generate particles and antiparticles to attempt to balance the colors generating many particles that may leave tracks or energy deposits in the CMS detector. In the analysis the presence of jets is used as an indication of vector-boson fusion (VBF) or associated production with a weak boson, VH , with $V = W$ or Z , where the V decays hadronically.

In this analysis, jets are reconstructed using the anti- k_T clustering algorithm. The inputs to this algorithm are charged hadrons identified by the PF algorithm by matching calorimeter energy clusters to tracks and PF neutral hadrons identified by calorimeter clusters without tracks¹⁶.

The anti- k_T algorithm takes these particle tracks and evaluates the distances between particles and combines them into jets by merging together the objects with smallest separation distances. Once a merging has been applied the distances are recalculated and the procedure repeats. The unique part of the anti- k_T algorithm is that the distances are inversely weighted by the momentum (k_T) of the particles. This results in low momentum particles clustering with large momentum ones before

¹⁶The PF algorithm also has muon and electron pre-identification to omit them from hadron track construction.

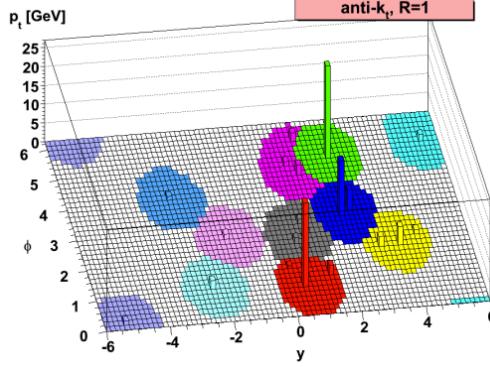


Figure 2.20: An example event of jets formed with the anti- k_T clustering algorithm [40].

many low momentum particles cluster with themselves. Figure 2.20 shows the jets that result from an example event.

In this analysis jets are only considered if they have $p_T^{\text{jet}} > 30 \text{ GeV}$ and $|\eta^{\text{jet}}| < 4.7$. Corrections and calibrations to the individual components of a jet according to the p_T^{jet} and η^{jet} following [41].

2.4 CMS Tracker Alignment

The precise alignment of the silicon sensors in the CMS Tracker is a necessary and challenging task. While external measurements of the positions of sub-detectors¹⁷ can be a good start, they are woefully inadequate in determining the exact position, tilt angle, and deformation of an individual module. In order to maximize the performance in the complex hardware that is used in the tracker the position of each module

¹⁷Using laser rays for example.

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must be known to extreme precision.

The goal of track-based alignment procedures is to determine the module positions from a large sample of reconstructed charge particle trajectories. Each trajectory is built from charge depositions on individual detectors. Using this method, the residual resolution is now below 10 μm [29]. This optimization problem can be formulated in the context of linear least squares. Module position corrections \mathbf{p} are determined by minimizing an objective function

$$\chi^2(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \sum_j^{\text{tracks}} \sum_i^{\text{hits}} \mathbf{r}_{ij}^T(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}_j) \mathbf{V}_{ij}^{-1} \mathbf{r}_{ij}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}_j), \quad (2.3)$$

which can be expressed as a sum over all hits i on all tracks j and track parameters \mathbf{q}_j , assuming negligible correlations between hits. Track residuals $\mathbf{r}_{ij} = \mathbf{m}_{ij} - \mathbf{f}_{ij}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}_j)$ are defined as the difference between the measured hit position and the trajectory impact point. These residuals are given as either one- or two-dimensional vectors, and \mathbf{V}_{ij} is either the squared error or the covariance matrix respectively [42].

In order to determine the 200000 different parameters, *alignment parameters*, that describe the locations of the 1440 silicon pixel and 15148 silicon microstrip modules two methods of minimizing track residuals are used, **MILLEPEDE II** and **HIP**. A *track* is a fit to the series of consecutive signals that a charged particle will leave in each layer of silicon as it passes through the CMS tracker. Each of the two algorithms minimizes the residual difference between the hits that make up a track and the position of the track created without that hit.

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The main difference between the two algorithms lies in how this minimization is done. **MILLEPEDE II** simultaneously determines the solutions of a complete matrix equation for global and local parameters using all tracks [43]. **HIP**, Hit and Impact Point, determines these parameters iteratively, repeatedly fitting a track and then changing a parameter, eventually minimizing the χ^2 for the fit [44].

Vital to the work done as part of this thesis is the connection between the global and local parameters. The tracks and hits are defined on the module level. However these modules are connected to each other and to other subdetectors through mechanical structures that can be used to constrain the system for minimization. In figures 2.21 and 2.22 we map the different structures that can be used to define the locations and constraints that should be used for a given track.

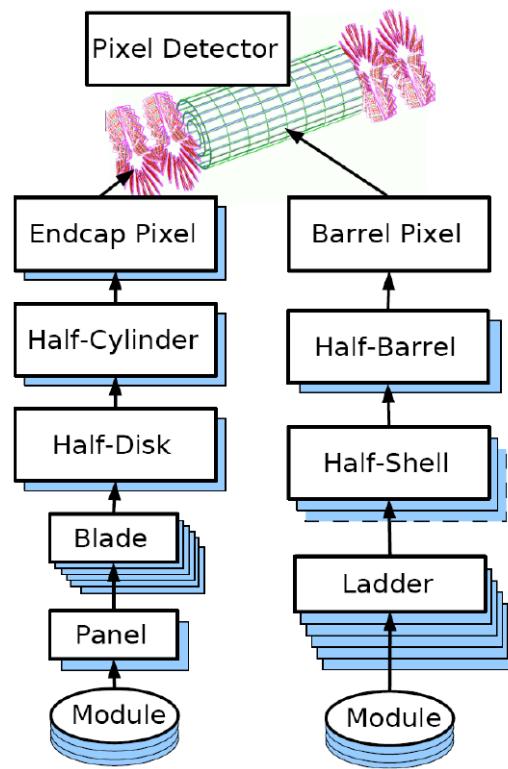


Figure 2.21: Hierarchy of the CMS silicon pixel detector structures [45].

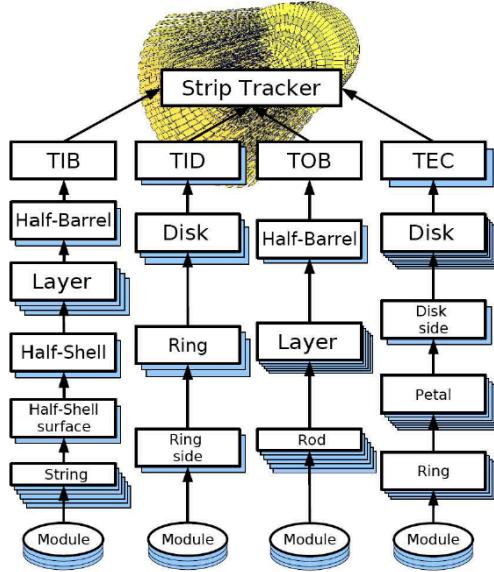


Figure 2.22: Hierarchy of the CMS silicon strip detector structures [46].

2.4.1 Silicon Pixel Alignment in Prompt Calibration Loop

Once a set of alignment parameters is determined, it is not valid forever. As the detector operates the different components may shift. A prime example of this is the pixel barrel, which is not in a fixed position. This is problematic because the CMS magnet may turn on and off to protect the expensive detector from damage, resulting in natural shifts in the positions of different detectors. Part of this thesis work was to develop and implement an active alignment algorithm that would detect and automatically update the detector positions as the CMS experiment takes data.

This active alignment algorithm was implemented in the CMS tracker Prompt

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Calibration Loop for the start of the 2015 run of the LHC. The Prompt Calibration Loop is a collection of routines that are designed to monitor and automatically adjust parameters to optimize the performance of the the CMS tracking system. The alignment routine developed during this thesis work monitors and adjusts the 36 alignment parameters that describe the pixel detector global parameters. The monitored parameters are the positions (x, y, z) and rotations ($\theta_x, \theta_y, \theta_z$) of the two BPIX half-barrels and the four half-disks of the FPIX system¹⁸. If a sufficient shift in one of these parameters is seen¹⁹ then the database of tracker conditions is updated. These consistent updates allow CMS to continue operating at peak performance and avoids rerunning computationally expensive data processing routines to correct the data after the fact.

The effectiveness of this project is seen from similar algorithm was used at the end of the 2012 run after a large shift was seen, figure 2.23. The previous monitoring procedure was implemented farther ‘downstream’ in the computing chain than the current implementation.

¹⁸Two half-disks each for FPIX+ and FPIX-.

¹⁹In this case, “sufficient” implies the parameter shifts between a pre-set minimum and maximum window and the significance of that shift is larger than a pre-set amount.

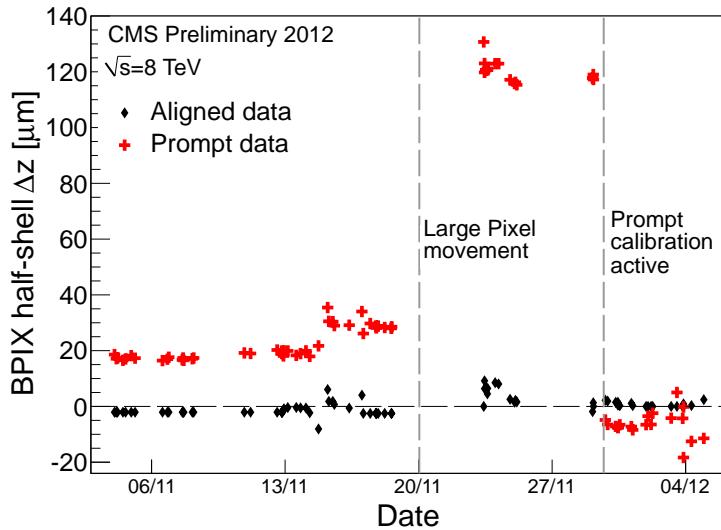


Figure 2.23: Day-by-day value of the relative longitudinal shift between the two half-shells of the BPIX as measured with the primary vertex residuals, for the last month of pp data taking in 2012. Red crosses show the shift observed using the data coming from the prompt reconstruction. The same events, re-reconstructed after the 2012 alignment campaign, which accounts for the major changes in the positions of the half-shells, are represented by black lozenges. A major displacement of the half-shells O(100) μm , occurred during the technical stop in the week of 20th of November, is recovered by the prompt alignment of the BPIX large structures that became active on the 30th November. From [47].

Chapter 3

Higgs boson at the LHC:

Phenomenology

In this section we discuss specific phenomenological details that are studied for this thesis. First, we discuss the different modes of producing a Higgs boson at the LHC, and different features of these different production modes. Next, we will present the decay of a Higgs boson decay to two Z bosons and subsequently four leptons. Using this information we will present the implications of off resonance production and decay on the Higgs lifetime. Finally, we will discuss the spin and parity of a single-produced resonance and how we can use these relations to characterize a new particle found at the LHC.

3.1 Higgs boson production at LHC

In proton-proton collisions a SM Higgs boson can be produced through the coupling of a Higgs boson to either bosons or fermions. Each of these two categories of Higgs production will be dominated by specific production modes. Fermionic production of a Higgs boson can happen either through *gluon-gluon fusion* $gg \rightarrow H$ (ggH) and much less frequently through production in *association with two top quarks* $gg \rightarrow H + t\bar{t}$ ($t\bar{t}H$). Bosonic production of a Higgs boson can occur through *vector boson fusion* (VBF), where two quarks radiate vector bosons which produce the boson in association with two quark jets $qq \rightarrow H + 2\text{jets}$ or through production *associated with a vector boson* $qq \rightarrow H + W/Z$ (VH).

The cross sections of these different production mechanisms as a function of the Higgs boson mass at the LHC are shown in figure 3.1 for the two center of mass energies used in this thesis; $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV and $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV [48,49]. Notable features of these cross sections are the order of magnitude difference between gluon-gluon fusion and the bosonic production modes which are all much larger than the $gg \rightarrow H + t\bar{t}$ production. Additionally, one can see the boost in the gluon-gluon fusion production at $2m_t$, which corresponds to the top quark in the production loop going becoming on shell (explained in more detail below).

The main production mechanism at the LHC is gluon-gluon fusion. The Feynman diagram for this process is shown in figure 3.2. While the Higgs boson does not couple directly to gluons (because they are massless) this mode of production relies on the

CHAPTER 3. HIGGS BOSON AT THE LHC: PHENOMENOLOGY

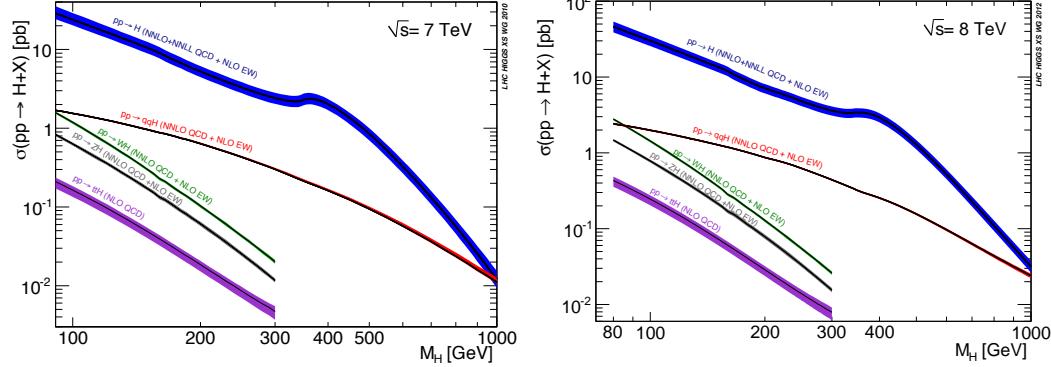


Figure 3.1: Standard Model Higgs boson production cross sections and relative uncertainties at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV and $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV. From top to bottom these are $pp \rightarrow H$, blue, $pp \rightarrow H + 2\text{jets}$, red, $pp \rightarrow H + W$, green, $pp \rightarrow H + Z$, grey, $pp \rightarrow H + t\bar{t}$, purple [48, 49].

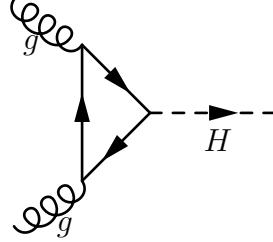


Figure 3.2: Feynman diagram depicting Higgs boson production through gluon-gluon fusion $gg \rightarrow H$. The fermion loop is dominated by top quarks, however all quarks contribute according to their masses.

Higgs coupling to fermions generated by the incoming gluons. Because the coupling of the Higgs is proportional to the mass of the fermion the dominant contribution is the Higgs – top coupling. This leads to a boost in the cross section when the mass of the Higgs is twice the top mass because the top’s in the loop are no longer virtual. For the entire mass range that is considered in this analysis this is the most common way to produce a Higgs boson at the LHC.

The second most likely way to produce a Higgs at the LHC is through vector

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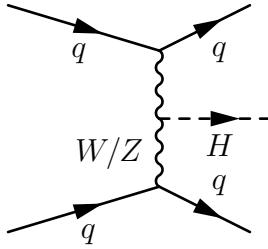


Figure 3.3: Feynman diagram depicting Higgs boson production through vector boson fusion $qq \rightarrow H + 2\text{jets}$.

boson fusion. To produce a Higgs this way two quarks exchange a W or Z boson which radiates the Higgs boson. This production mode relies on the Higgs boson coupling to the vector bosons, making it distinct compared to gluon-gluon fusion. the distinguishing feature of this production mode is the presence of two quark jets in the final state in addition to the Higgs boson. These jets contain information about the Higgs and can be exploited to refine searches and study the properties of a new particle. The Feynman diagram for this process is shown in figure 3.3.

Sub-dominant to these two production modes are processes that produce a Higgs boson in association with vector bosons or top quarks. Because the rates of these interactions are relatively small compared to the two dominant production modes, this thesis does not tune the analysis to separate these modes from the dominant ones. Instead they are grouped with the dominant modes by how the Higgs couples to the other standard model particles. VBF is grouped with VH because the Higgs boson is produced through a coupling to vector bosons while ttH is grouped with ggH because it relies on the Higgs boson coupling to fermions.

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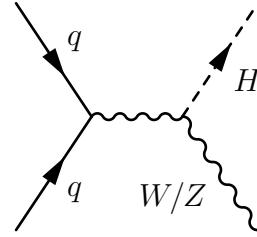


Figure 3.4: Feynman diagram depicting Higgs boson production associated with a vector boson $qq \rightarrow H + W/Z$.

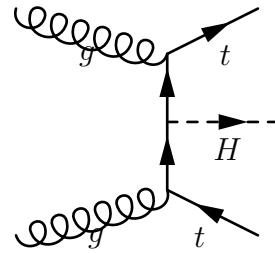


Figure 3.5: Feynman diagram depicting Higgs boson production in association with two top quarks $gg \rightarrow H + t\bar{t}$.

Producing the Higgs in association with a W or Z boson is conceptually similar to VBF production. Two quarks interact, producing a vector boson which radiates away a Higgs boson, shown in figure 3.4. Unique to this final state is that in addition to the Higgs you will also have the particles associated with the subsequent decay of a W or Z boson. The $t\bar{t}H$ production mode is the smallest of those considered here and is similar to ggH in that it relies on the Higgs coupling to top quarks. While the rates of $t\bar{t}H$ are very low, Higgs bosons produced in this way can be distinguished by the presence of two top quarks in addition to the decay product of the Higgs boson, as shown in figure 3.5.

Presented in more detail in section ??, this thesis uses the different properties of

CHAPTER 3. HIGGS BOSON AT THE LHC: PHENOMENOLOGY

ggH and VBF production modes to measure how often a Higgs boson is produced in each mode at the LHC. This work resulted in the first measurement of the production mechanism of Higgs bosons in the 4ℓ final state.

3.2 Higgs boson decay to $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$

The SM Higgs boson is an unstable particle that will decay before it can be detected with the CMS detector. However, we can search for this particle by looking at its decay products. To determine which decay products will be the most fruitful to use for a search, we look at the *branching ratio* $BR_X = \frac{N_X}{N_{tot}}$ of the Higgs boson decay for a specific final state in relation to the total number of Higgs bosons we expect. Thus, a high branching ratio will result in a larger number of signal events. In figure 3.6 we plot some of the interesting branching ratios as a function of the Higgs boson mass. To decide if a search is valuable we compare the number of events we expect from a specific decay mode (given by the branching ratio times the cross section $BR_X \cdot \sigma_{tot}$) to the number of background events we expect in the search range.

Of specific interest for this thesis is the Higgs boson decay to the $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$ final state, shown in figure 3.7. Where we consider $\ell = e, \mu$ because these leptons will be long lived enough to be detected directly by CMS. Making them distinct from tau leptons which often decay because of their high mass. The ZZ branching ratio is one of the highest across a wide rage of possible Higgs boson masses, making it

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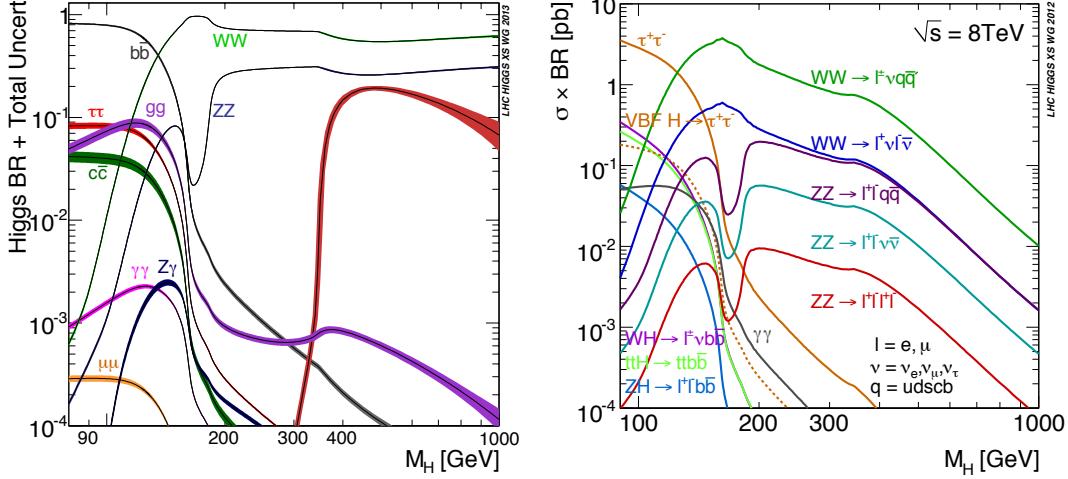


Figure 3.6: (left) Standard Model Higgs boson decay branching ratios for selected decay modes, of specific interest for this thesis is the ZZ branching ratio. (right) Branching ratio times cross section for selected final states, of specific interest for this thesis is the $ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell (\ell^+\ell^-\ell^+\ell^-)$ [49, 50].

advantageous for search and characterization studies. The 4ℓ final state is used not because it has a particularly high cross section times branching ratio (seen in figure 3.6 right), but because there are low SM background contributions and because all of the final particles are directly detected by the CMS detector.

This thesis considers all of the data collected by CMS during run 1 of the LHC proton-proton collisions. This corresponds to an integrated luminosity of 5.1 fb^{-1} collected at a center of mass energy of $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$ and 19.7 fb^{-1} collected at $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$. The search for and later characterization of a Higgs boson requires that there be two pairs of same-flavor, opposite-charge, well-identified isolated leptons ($e^+e^-e^+e^-$, $\mu^+\mu^-\mu^+\mu^-$, or $e^+e^-\mu^+\mu^-$) compatible with an intermediate state of ZZ . Computability with ZZ is defined such that one or both of the Z 's is can be off the

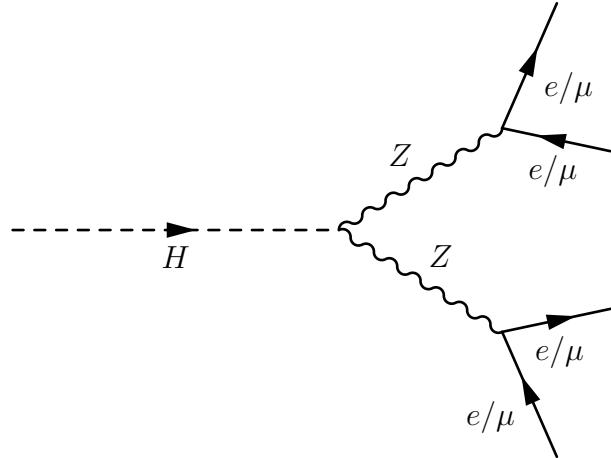


Figure 3.7: Feynman diagram depicting Higgs boson decay into two Z bosons and subsequently into four leptons $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$.

mass resonance.

In this case, a Higgs boson signal will appear as a narrow mass peak on top of a smooth background when observing the four lepton mass distribution. The search is conducted in a mass range of $m_{4\ell} \in 110 - 1000$ GeV. For low-mass Higgs bosons ($m_H < 400$ GeV), the width of the resonance in $m_{4\ell}$ will be very well peaked and is described with a Breit-Wigner distribution. For higher mass Higgs bosons ($m_H > 400$ GeV), the width of the $m_{4\ell}$ mass peak will be much broader and described in the complex pole scheme [48–50]. Detailed analysis of the width of the Higgs will be discussed in section 3.3.

3.3 Higgs off resonance production and decay

3.4 Spin and Parity of a Single-Produced Resonance

Chapter 4

Conclusions

This is a reference to a previous section: 1

CHAPTER 4. CONCLUSIONS

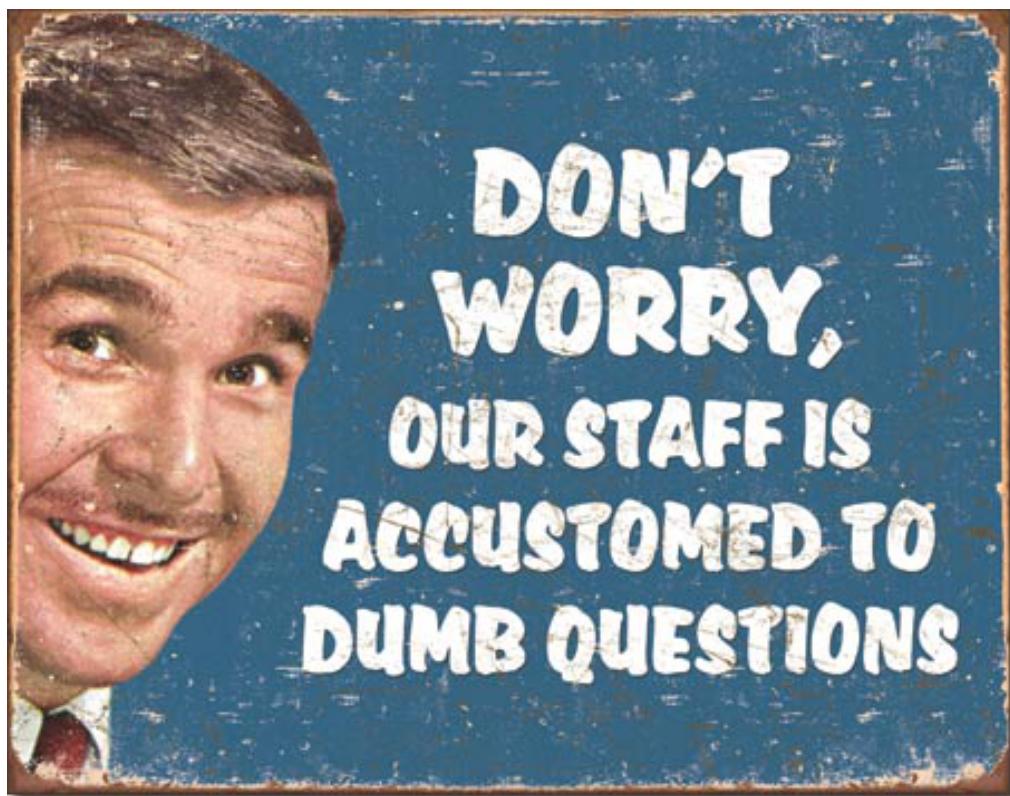


Figure 4.1: This is a sample figure

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