

# Thesis

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## Abstract

This paper reviews

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# 1 Introduction

Elementary particle physics describes our world in terms of its smallest constituents, fundamental particles, and their interactions. Going from larger to smaller scales, substances around us consist of molecules, molecules consist of atoms, in an atom, there is a nucleus made of neutrons and protons and some number of electrons occupying their orbits around the nucleus. Protons and neutrons have a structure while an electron is not known to have any structure, therefore, an electron is an example of a particle which is considered to be fundamental.

Interactions of elementary particles are described by quantum field theories which incorporate principles of the quantum mechanics and the special theory of relativity. The set of such theories, including quantum electrodynamics (QED), quantum chromodynamics (QCD) and the theory of weak interactions is called the Standard Model (SM). It has been proven to be an accurate description of interactions of elementary particles observed by now.

However, there are several experimental observations which are not described by the SM such as gravity, dark matter, dark energy, matter/antimatter asymmetry and others. Therefore, the SM is not the complete theory of particle interactions. There are several SM extensions offered by theorists as well as radically new theories waiting for the experimental confirmation or disproof.

Some SM extensions and new theories predict the existence of heavy particles mass of which possibly lies beyond experimentally reachable energies. The search of these particles is one of the prioritized directions in particle physics. For such searches we need to reach higher energies than those which were probed before. One source of highly energetic elementary particles is cosmic rays. The most energetic particles ever observed came from this source. However, cosmic rays are totally uncontrollable and such highly energetic particles are rare. If we want to produce a large number of particles at certain energies, we need to use a particle accelerator. A large number of events at certain energy allows experimentalists to perform a statistical analysis and increase the probability of finding a new particle if it exists in the given energy range.

Symmetric colliding beams is the most effective way to produce as heavy particles as possible given the energies of the colliding particles. The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is such a collider with the highest energy in the world ever built. It can produce the most massive particles to probe physics beyond the SM. It collides two proton beams with the several TeV of energy each. The design center-of-mass energy of LHC is 14 TeV but it also probes several lower energy points and may go higher.

Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) is one of two general-purpose detectors at the LHC. It is placed at one of six collision points. CMS has a wide physics program including searches for the beyond SM (BSM) physics as well as the precision measurements of the SM parameters themselves.

In this dissertation the analysis of  $pp \rightarrow W\gamma + X$  processes using leptonic decays of  $W \rightarrow \ell\nu$  where  $\ell = e, \mu$  is reported. The  $W\gamma$  productions with leptonic  $W$  decays can go through one of the following three processes: initial state radiation where a photon is produced from one of the incoming partons, final state radiation where a photon is radiated off the charged lepton from the  $W$  boson decay, and finally when a photon is produced via the triple gauge coupling (TGC) where a photon is emitted from the  $W$  boson.

To search for the deviations from the SM, one would search for an anomalous TGC which would be indicated by the enhance of the TGC production over the SM prediction.

The total and the differential cross section with respect to the photon transverse momentum ( $P_T^\gamma$ ) has been measured. The  $P_T^\gamma$  is sensitive to the potential anomalous TGC (aTGC) in the high  $P_T^\gamma$  region. The disagreement between the measured and theoretically predicted differential cross section at the higher  $P_T^\gamma$  end would be an indication of the possible presence of the aTGC.

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90 The rest of this chapter gives general introductory information about the SM while chapter

91 2 concentrates on the theory of the SM and BSM  $W\gamma$  production and also discusses previous

92 measurements of this process. Chapter 3 describes LHC and CMS in more details. Chapter

93 4 explains on specific aspect of the CMS operation which is the tracker alignment. Finally,

94 chapter 5 describes the details of the measurement of this dissertation and reports the results.

## 1.1 Fundamental Particles and Interactions

The SM describes interactions of elementary particles. There are four fundamental interactions: electromagnetic, strong, weak and gravitational. The gravity is not included into the SM but its effect on particles is negligible compared to the other forces which makes it possible to develop a theory of the particle physics and conduct experiments even without having the gravity included into the model.

All fundamental elementary particles in the SM can be split into three categories by their spins. There are fermions which possess spin  $s=1/2$ , there are gauge bosons which are also called force mediators are vector particles ( $s=1$ ) and there is the Higgs boson which is a scalar particle ( $s=0$ ).

The fermions are arranged into three generations, each generation consists of a quark with charge  $Q=+2/3$  (up, charm, and top quarks), a quark with  $Q=-1/3$  (down, strange, and bottom quarks), a charged lepton with  $Q=-1$  (electron, muon, and tau-lepton) and a neutrino (electron, muon, and tau neutrinos) which is electrically neutral. Each quark can carry any of three colors: red, blue, or green. Additionally, each fermion has its antiparticle. Therefore, the total number of fundamental fermions is  $(6(\text{leptons}) + 6(\text{quarks}) \cdot 3(\text{colors})) \cdot 2(\text{to include antiparticles}) = 48$ .

Corresponding particles in different generations have the same charges, spins and interaction properties but masses of particles increase with a generation. These mass differences lead to different decay properties because a particle A can decay to particles B and C only if the mass of A  $m_A > m_B + m_C$ . Thus, an electron is a stable particle, a muon decays as  $\mu^- \rightarrow e^- + \bar{\nu}_e + \nu_\mu$ , a tau-lepton, as the heaviest charged lepton, has the largest number of decay channels:  $\tau^- \rightarrow \mu^- + \bar{\nu}_\mu + \nu_\tau$ ,  $\tau^- \rightarrow e^- + \bar{\nu}_e + \nu_\tau$ ,  $\tau^- \rightarrow \nu_\tau + \text{quarks}$ .

In addition to fermions, the SM includes gauge bosons which are mediators for the SM interactions. A photon is a mediator for the electromagnetic interactions, a gluon is a mediator for the strong interactions, and  $W^\pm$  and  $Z^0$  bosons are mediators for the weak interactions.  $W^\pm$  and  $Z^0$  bosons are massive while a photon and a gluon are massless particles.

The last SM particle is the Higgs boson. The Higgs boson is a scalar neutral particle which is playing a critical role in the electroweak symmetry breaking. The Higgs mechanism describes how  $W$  and  $Z$  bosons become massive particles.

All the particles are summarized in Fig. 1. These and only these fundamental particles and their antiparticles have been discovered by now. However, there are many composite particles which are called hadrons. Hadrons can consist of three quarks (baryons), quark and antiquark (meson), or three antiquarks (antibaryons). Hadrons always possess an integer charge.

Most of the particles are short-lived and decay within microseconds. The only stable particles are protons and antiprotons, electrons and positrons, neutrinos and antineutrinos, photons, and, in some sense, gluons. However, if a particle cannot decay, it does not mean that it would live forever. There are many different kinds of reactions in which particles can disappear. Antiprotons and positrons would immediately annihilate with protons and electrons, photons can be absorbed by charged particles, electrons and protons can scatter to produce neutrons and neutrinos and many other reactions are possible.

In this dissertation a process is studied where quark and antiquark interact to produce a  $W$  boson which then decay as  $W^\pm \rightarrow e^\pm \nu_e(\bar{\nu}_e)$  or  $W^\pm \rightarrow \mu^\pm \nu_\mu(\bar{\nu}_\mu)$ . A photon is radiated off a quark or antiquark, a charged lepton or a  $W$  boson. The most interesting mechanism out of three is a radiation from a  $W$  boson because this is the triple gauge coupling where we potentially can have a new physics. Therefore, the focus of this study is an interaction between a photon and a  $W$  boson however many other SM particles are relevant too. Thus, a charged lepton and a neutrino appear as the final state particles, a quark and an antiquark appear as initial state

150 particles and all fundamental particles except the Higgs boson participate in various background  
 151 processes. Subsections 1.2-1.4, chapter 2 and [1] describe particle interactions in more details.  
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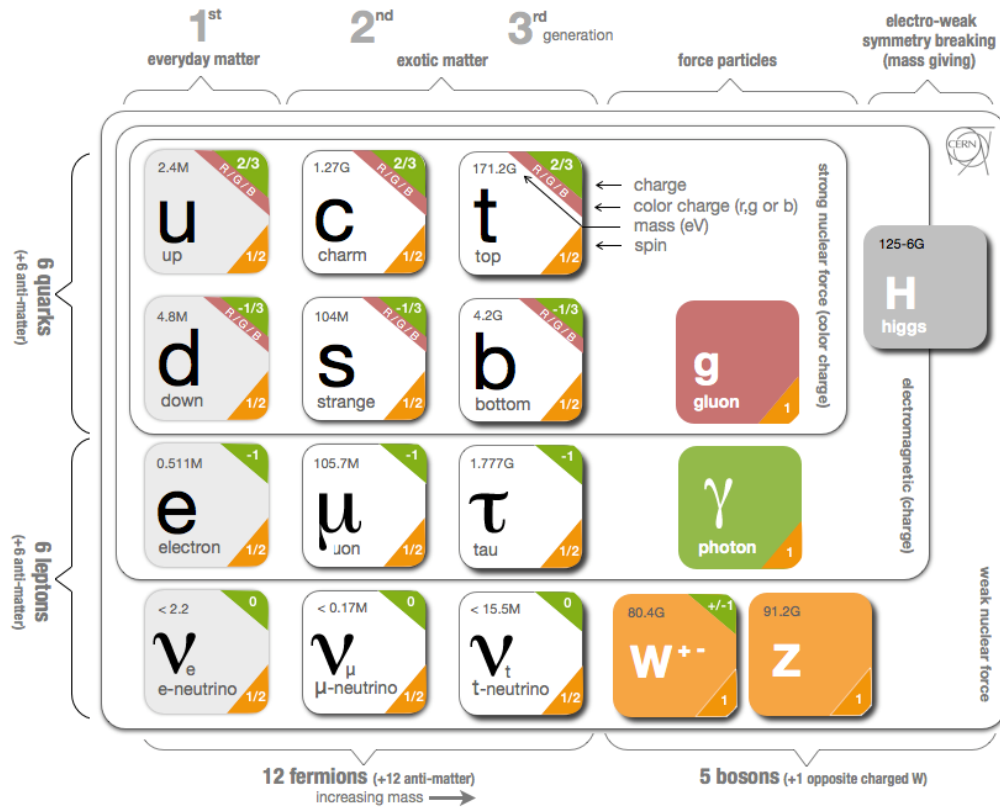


Figure 1: Standard Model Particles and Interactions. Source of the figure: [2].

## 1.2 Electroweak Interactions

All electrically charged particles participate in electromagnetic interactions. All electromagnetic interactions are mediated by a photon, a spin-one electrically neutral massless particle, and can be reduced to one elementary process (Fig. 2, left). This process represents an electron radiating or absorbing a photon. Although an electron is drawn in this figure, it can be any other charged particle as well. Such elementary process itself is forbidden by the energy conservation law but this element is a base of actual process (for example, Fig. 2, middle and right). Such graphical representations of the particle physics processes are called Feynman diagrams.

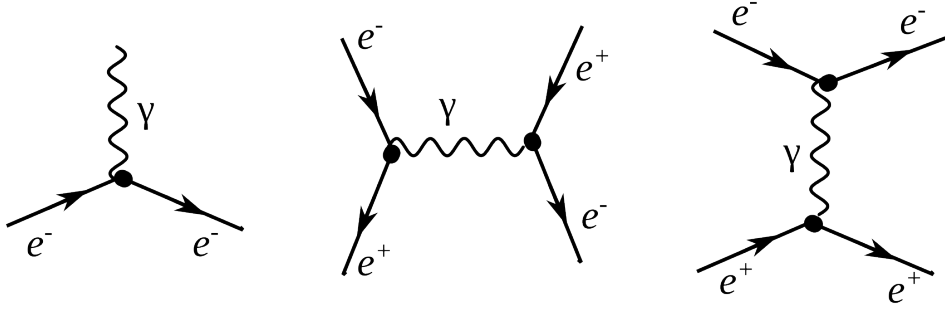


Figure 2: Electromagnetic interactions

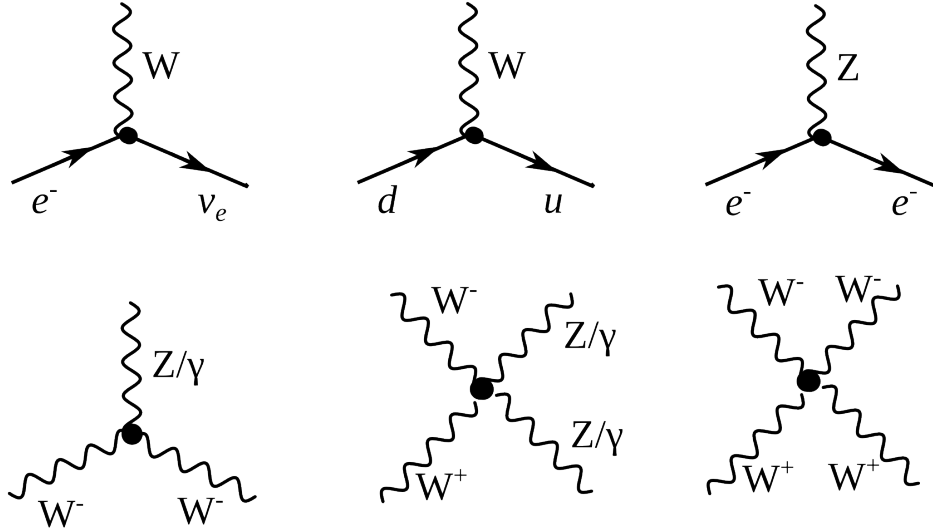


Figure 3: Weak elementary processes and gauge couplings

As for the weak interactions, there are two kinds of them: neutral (mediated by a  $Z$  boson) and charged (mediated by a  $W^\pm$  boson). Elementary processes with  $W$  and  $Z$  bosons are shown in Fig. 3. Because the electric charge must be conserved at any vertex, a particle radiating

or absorbing a  $W$  boson converts to a different particle. Thus, a charged lepton converts to a neutrino (or vice versa) as shown in Fig. 3, top left. Each lepton carries a lepton flavor number (Tab. 1). A lepton flavor number is conserved in any interaction, thus an electron radiating a  $W$  boson always converts to an electron neutrino, a muon converts to a muon neutrino etc.

Table 1: Lepton Flavor Number

particles	$L_e$	$L_\mu$	$L_\tau$
$e^-, \nu_e$	+1	0	0
$e^+, \bar{\nu}_e$	-1	0	0
$\mu^-, \nu_\mu$	0	+1	0
$\mu^+, \bar{\nu}_\mu$	0	-1	0
$\tau^-, \nu_\tau$	0	0	+1
$\tau^+, \bar{\nu}_\tau$	0	0	-1

From top middle diagram in Fig. 3 we see that if a quark with  $Q=-1/3$  enters, then a quark with  $Q=+2/3$  escapes and, therefore, the flavor of the quark is changed. The charged weak interaction is the only interaction which changes a quark flavor. The probability of each of three quarks with  $Q=+2/3$  to be born is determined by the Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa matrix and is the highest for the quark of the same generation as an initial state quark. In this particular case,  $d$  is the initial state quark and  $u$  has the highest probability to be produced after an interaction with a  $W$  boson but  $c$  and  $t$  can also be produced if there is enough energy.

An elementary process of a neutral weak interaction is an emission of a  $Z$  boson off a fermion line (right top diagram in Fig. 3). An electron is shown here as an example however it could also be any lepton, antilepton, quark or antiquark. Diagrams with a  $Z$  boson are very similar to ones with a photon except a photon can only be radiated off a charged particle but a  $Z$  boson can also be radiated off a neutrino or antineutrino.

The bottom diagrams in Fig. 3 are gauge bosons coupling diagrams including self-coupling of a  $W$  boson, its interaction with a  $Z$  boson and its electromagnetic radiation of a photon.  $WWZ$ ,  $WW\gamma$ ,  $WWZZ$ ,  $WWZ\gamma$ ,  $WW\gamma\gamma$  and  $WWWW$  vertices are all possible in the SM.

Electromagnetic and weak interactions are unified by the electroweak Glashow-Weinberg-Salam (GWS) theory which is based on  $SU(2) \times U(1)$  symmetry.  $SU(2)$  is the symmetry of weak isospin which generates three bosons:  $W^1$ ,  $W^2$  and  $W^3$ .  $U(1)$  is the symmetry of the weak hypercharge and generate one neutral boson  $B$ .  $W^1$  and  $W^2$  are mixed to create  $W^+$  and  $W^-$  mediators while  $W^3$  and  $B$  are mixed to create a  $Z$  boson and a photon. Therefore, the GWS theory considers electromagnetic and weak forces as different manifestations of the electroweak force.

However, weak interactions are mediated by heavy bosons ( $M_W = 80$  GeV,  $M_Z = 91$  GeV) while electromagnetic interactions are mediated by a massless photon, thus, the electroweak symmetry is broken. To explain this phenomenon, the Higgs mechanism was introduced. The mechanism predicted an existence of an additional boson: the Higgs boson. The Higgs boson was a missing piece of the SM for many years and was finally discovered in 2012 at LHC by ATLAS and CMS collaborations through the processes shown in Fig.4 [3], [4].

The measurement in this dissertation is an electroweak measurement because the process involves a  $W$  boson. It includes an interaction of a  $W$  boson with leptons and quarks as well as the triple gauge coupling  $WW\gamma$ . Thus, the measurement is a good test of the SM electroweak theory.

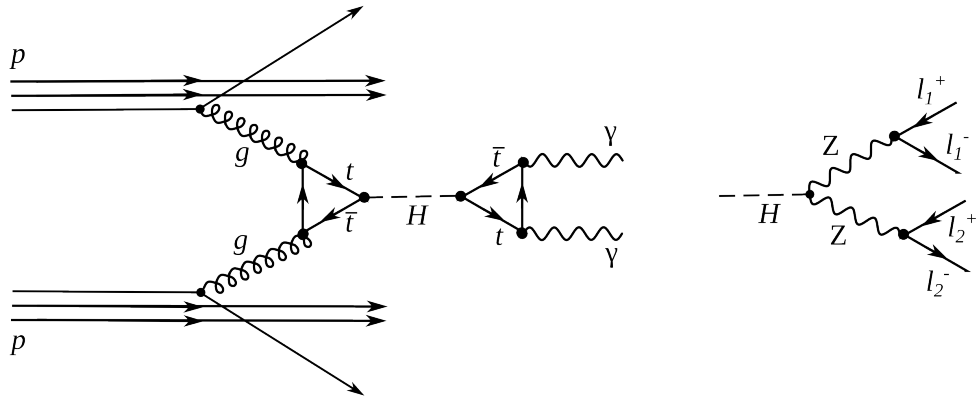


Figure 4: The Higgs boson production and decay



### 1.3 Strong Interactions

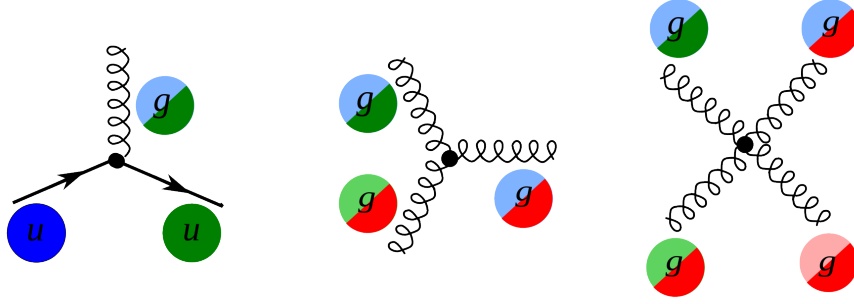


Figure 5: Elementary processes of strong interactions

The third fundamental force after the electromagnetic and weak ones is the strong force. The strong force is responsible for glueing protons and neutrons together in the nuclei as well as for forming protons and neutrons themselves. The strong interactions occur by exchanging gluons which are spin-one massless electrically neutral particles.

The elementary strong processes are shown in Fig. 5. There are three elementary processes:  $qqg$ ,  $ggg$  and  $gggg$ , all are involving particles with color charges. Thus, gluons couple to quarks and self-couple. Color charges must be conserved at each elementary process of the strong interaction. Because quarks can possess three colors, there are eight types of gluons to cover all possible color exchanges.

The coupling constant of the strong interaction depends on a distance between interacting particles: it becomes larger as the distance becomes larger. This property leads to two consequences specific to the strong force: the confinement and the asymptotic freedom.

The asymptotic freedom means that when quarks are very close to each other they almost do not interact with each other and therefore they are free. The confinement is the property of quarks to always stay in the color neutral combinations (hadrons), it forbids the existence of free quarks. A combination becomes color neutral when there is the same amount of color and anticolor or if there is the same amount of each of the three colors. Thus, mesons are comprised of a quark and an antiquark with the opposite color charges, and baryons are comprised of three quarks: red, green and blue one. Examples of baryons include such well-known particles as a proton and a neutron are baryons.

The strong interactions can be described by the QCD which is a quantum field theory invariant under  $SU(3)$  color transformations. When the distance between quarks is small which corresponds to high energy, and thus the coupling constant  $\alpha_s \ll 1$  is small, the perturbative approach can be used to compute observables.

The  $W\gamma$  process being measured in this dissertation is not intended to test QCD, but a good understanding of QCD is essential for performing this measurement because the QCD corrections to the Feynman diagrams of the process are large and has to be taken into account in producing simulation. Possible QCD corrections include quark-gluon loops at any of three quark lines as well as exchanges of gluons between different quark lines. In addition, QCD describes the dynamics of quarks and gluons within colliding protons and predicts probabilities of one or another quark-antiquark pair to interact. Physics of proton-proton collisions is discussed in the subsection 1.4.

## 1.4 Physcis of Proton-Proton Collisions

At LHC two protons are collided. The LHC energy is so high that a proton behaves as a complex structure. A proton is a baryon, it consists of three quarks:  $uud$ . These three quarks are called valence quarks. They interact with each other by exchanging gluons which produce virtual  $q\bar{q}$  pairs (Fig. 6). Such quarks are called sea quarks.

Any parton from one proton can interact with any parton from another proton. Probabilities  $f_i(x, Q^2)$  of any particular constituent  $i$  to interact are described partially by QCD and partially by experimental measurements and depend on the momentum transfer  $Q$  and the momentum fraction of a specific parton  $x$ . These probabilities are called parton distribution functions (PDFs).

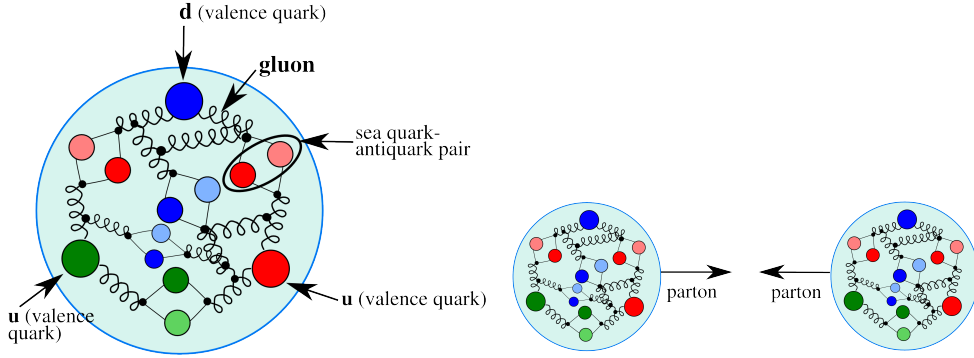


Figure 6: The proton structure (left) and the proton-proton collision (right).

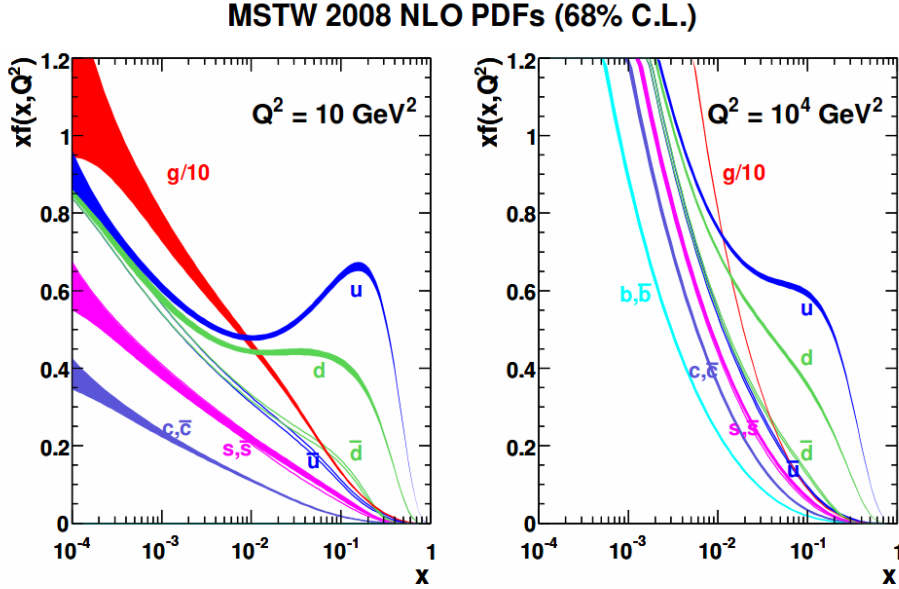


Figure 7: Martin-Stirling-Thorne-Watt parton distribution functions [5].

For large  $Q^2$  and  $x$  gluon-gluon interactions have the largest probabilities to occur (Fig. 7).

258 However, gluons do not couple directly to a  $W$  boson, thus, in the  $W\gamma$  measurement we are  
259 mostly interested in quark-antiquark pairs which would have a total charge corresponding to the  
260 charge of a  $W$  boson ( $\pm 1$ ). Since we have  $u$  and  $d$  as valence quarks and we know that the  
261 probability to couple to the same generation quark in charged weak interactions is the highest,  
262 most of the  $W$  bosons are created by  $u\bar{d}$  and  $d\bar{u}$  pairs however other  $q\bar{q}'$  combinations with the  
263 total charges of  $\pm 1$  are also possible. The antiquarks come from virtual  $q\bar{q}$  pairs inside of each  
264 proton.

265  
266 As we look for events containing  $W\gamma$  we also have other events mimicking our process. Such  
267 background events can be produced by any pair of partons.  
268

## 1.5 Open Questions of the Standard Model

While the SM is an accurate description of all particle physics experimental results, there are certain phenomena which are not included into the SM. In this subsection we discuss some of them.

The gravitational interactions do not fit into the SM. It is the open question whether the quantum theory of gravity is possible and whether there is a mediator of the gravitational interactions. Also, it is not known why the gravitational force is so much weaker than any other force. One possible explanation comes from a theory which predicts extra spatial dimensions beyond the three we are dealing with (e.g. the string theory). In this case, it is possible that the gravitational force is shared with other dimensions and that is why the fraction available in our three dimensions is that small.

Another mystery of the Universe is its composition: it is known from the studies of the gravitational effects that our Universe consists of dark energy by 70%, of dark matter by 26% and of baryon matter only by 4%. The dark energy resists the gravitational attraction and accelerates the expansion of the Universe, and is not detectable by any effects except gravitational. The understanding of the dark energy is a question of the general relativity rather than the particle physics. The dark matter however likely consists of particles and therefore is a subject of the particle physics. It does not radiate and that is why it cannot be detected by telescopes. The nature of the dark matter is not known but its constituents must be very stable to remain since the Big Bang. The theory of the supersymmetry which is unifying fundamental particles and mediators predicts many of new heavy particles and the lightest supersymmetric particle, the neutralino, is a good candidate for the dark matter.

One more open question is the reason for the matter/antimatter asymmetry. The matter and antimatter should have been created in the same amount at the moment of the Big Bang. Then most of it has annihilated but because of asymmetry, there was more matter than antimatter which led to the state of the Universe we observe now. There is a phenomenon of the CP-violation in weak interactions observed and described that predicts the asymmetry at a certain level. However, the effect of the CP-violation is not large enough to account for the observed amount of the matter and, therefore, the total matter/antimatter asymmetry remains unexplained.

The measurement of the photon transverse momentum spectrum ( $P_T^\gamma$ ) of the  $W\gamma$  process has a goal to both test the SM and search for the BSM physics. The low  $P_T^\gamma$  region is not expected to be affected by any new physics and must agree well with the SM predictions while the high  $P_T^\gamma$  region may indicate an existence of a new physics if there is an enhance over the SM predictions. The enhance would be an indirect evidence of the BSM particles like supersymmetric particles, additional gauge bosons or higher generation fermions. More theoretical details about the SM description of  $W\gamma$  process as well as the possible BSM physics are given in the chapter 2.

## <sup>311</sup> 2 The $W_\gamma$ Process

## 2.1 Standard Model $W\gamma$ Production

A  $W$  boson in proton-proton collisions can be produced in the processes  $q\bar{q}' \rightarrow W$  where  $q$  and  $\bar{q}'$  are a quark and an antiquark which have a total charge of  $+1$  if producing a  $W^+$  boson or of  $-1$  if producing a  $W^-$  boson. The processes  $u\bar{d} \rightarrow W^+$  and  $d\bar{u} \rightarrow W^-$  are the most likely to occur because  $u$  and  $d$  are valence quarks in a proton. Antiquarks  $\bar{d}$  and  $\bar{u}$  come from sea  $q\bar{q}$  pairs of the other proton.

A  $W$  boson decays immediately after being created, and we do not detect the  $W$  boson itself but its decay products. Decay modes of a  $W$  boson include  $W^\pm \rightarrow l^\pm \nu_l(\bar{\nu}_l)$  where  $l^\pm = e^\pm, \mu^\pm$  or  $\tau^\pm$  with branching fractions of 11% per a leptonic channel [6]. The rest 67% stands for various  $W \rightarrow q\bar{q}'$  decays. In this dissertation we only consider  $W^\pm \rightarrow \mu^\pm \nu_\mu(\bar{\nu}_\mu)$  and  $W^\pm \rightarrow e^\pm \nu_e(\bar{\nu}_e)$  as the cleanest channels.

A photon can be emitted from any charged particle of the process: a quark, an antiquark, a charged lepton or a  $W$  boson (Fig. 8, top). A quark and an antiquark are initial state particles and, therefore, if one of them radiates a photon, we call such process the Initial State Radiation (ISR). A muon or an electron is a final state particle and if it radiates a photon, we call such process the Final State Radiation (FSR). Finally, a  $W$  boson is a gauge boson and if it radiates a photon, the process has a vertex with three gauge bosons:  $WW\gamma$ , and we call such process the Triple Gauge Coupling (TGC).

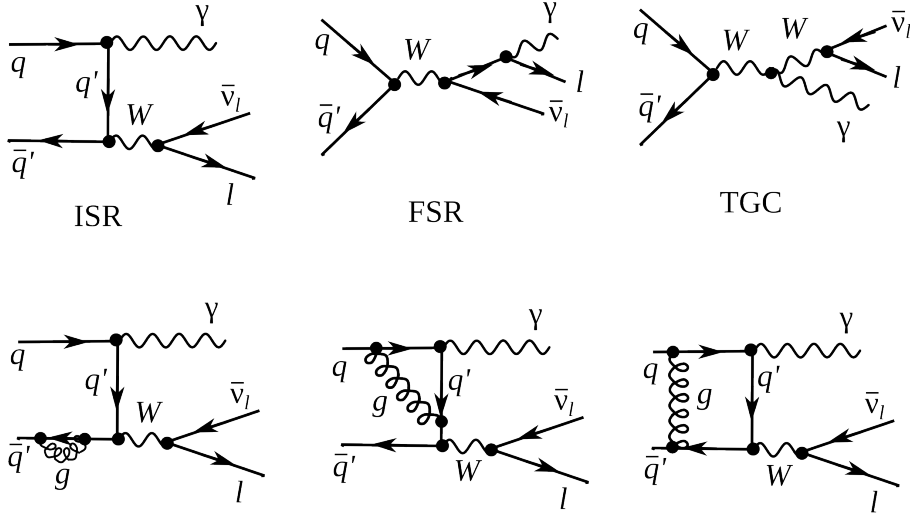


Figure 8: Feynman diagrams of  $W\gamma$  production

In this dissertation we are measuring the total and the differential cross section. Fig. 9 illustrates the concept of the differential cross section in the classical case. An incident particle must appear within area  $d\sigma$  to be scattered off by an angle  $d\theta$  by the scattering center. The relationship between these two quantities would give us the expression for the differential cross section  $d\sigma/d\theta$ . Integrating over  $d\theta$ , one would get the total cross section  $\sigma$ . Differentiating  $\sigma$  by any kinematic parameter  $X$  of the incident particle would give the expression for the differential cross section  $d\sigma/dX$ .

In particle physics the cross section characterizes the probability of two particles to interact or, more specifically, the probability of two particles to interact to produce the specific final

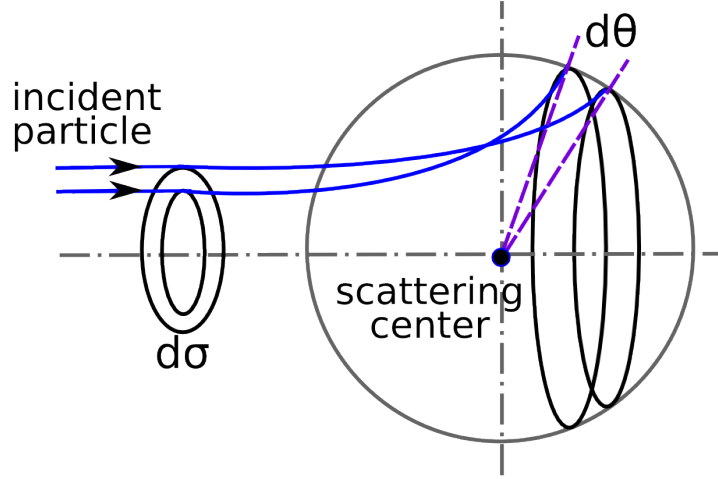


Figure 9: Illustration of the differential cross section concept in the classical case

state. For example, the probability of a quark and an antiquark to interact to produce a charged lepton, a neutrino and a photon like in our measurement.

Referring to the Fig. 9, a number of particles passing through the area  $\sigma$  per unit time is  $N = L \cdot \sigma$ , where  $L$  is the number of particles crossing the unit area per unit time. Therefore, the cross section  $\sigma$  of a specific process  $\sigma = N/L$  where  $N$  is a number of events of the process occurred.  $L$  in this expression refers to the number of the initial state particles and is called the luminosity.

The luminosity  $L$  is determined based on the collider characteristics.  $L$  may not be uniform in time however we are usually interested in measuring the total or differential cross section as a function of a certain kinematic parameter of a final state particle or of a system of final state particles rather than the differential cross section as a function of time and therefore integrate the luminosity over the period of time.

To compute a cross section theoretically, one has to use Fermi's Golden rule. In case of the scattering of two particles to three final state particles  $1+2 \rightarrow 3+4+5$ , it takes the following form:

$$\sigma = \frac{\hbar^2}{4\sqrt{(p_1 p_2)^2 - (m_1 m_2 c^2)^2}} \int |M|^2 (2\pi)^4 \delta^4(p_1 + p_2 - p_3 - p_4 - p_5) \prod_{j=3}^5 \frac{1}{2\sqrt{p_j^2 + m_j^2 c^2}} \frac{d^3 \vec{p}_j}{(2\pi)^3}$$

where  $\hbar$  is the Planck constant,  $c$  is the speed of light,  $p_i$  are 4-momenta and  $\vec{p}_i$  are three momenta of the initial state and the final state particles,  $m_i$  are masses of particles,  $M$  is the process amplitude.

The calculation of the process amplitude starts with writing the relevant Lagrangian similarly to how it is done in the classical mechanics but in particle physics instead of coordinates we have quantum fields. The Lagrangian allows us to derive the equations of motion however they cannot be solved exactly and, therefore, the perturbative approach is used if coupling constants are  $g \ll 1$ .

The Lagrangian term responsible for the triple gauge coupling is the following [9]:

$$iL_{eff}^{WW\gamma} = e[A^\mu (W_{\mu\nu}^- W^{+\nu} - W_{\mu\nu}^+ W^{-\nu}) + W_\mu^+ W_\nu^- A^{\mu\nu}]$$

where  $e$  is the absolute value of the electron charge,  $A^\mu$  is the photon field,  $W^{\pm\mu}$  are fields of  $W^\pm$  bosons,  $W_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu W_\nu - \partial_\nu W_\mu$ , and  $A_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$ .

To represent the process graphically Feynman diagrams were invented. Also the diagrams can be used to calculate the process amplitude. There is infinite number of Feynman diagrams corresponding to any specific process and the total amplitude of the process is a sum of individual amplitudes of each diagram and it is not technically possible to take into account all of them. The perturbative approach arranges all the diagrams by orders of contribution because each vertex is assigned a coupling constant and, therefore, the Feynman diagrams with fewer vertices would give a significantly larger contribution to the amplitude. In Fig. 8 we have examples of the Leading Order (LO) and the Next-to-Leading Order (NLO) Feynman diagrams (top and bottom diagrams respectively).

The NLO corrections shown in Fig. 8 are QCD corrections only which include gluon loops at the same quark line and exchange of a gluon between two different quark lines however QED and weak NLO diagrams are also possible. QED corrections mean radiations of extra photons by charged particles, exchange of photons between different charged particles or a photon can be radiated and absorbed by the same charged particle forming a loop. Similarly, weak corrections mean extra virtual  $W$  or  $Z$  bosons. But the QCD corrections are the largest.

The theoretical cross section in particle physics is important not only for analysing the measurement result but also for producing the simulation which is then actively used while performing the measurement. The simulation consists of two parts: the generation of the process and the simulation of the particles paths through the detector. While the second one depends on the well-known properties of the particles and the detector configurations, the first part relies on the theory.

The most precise theoretical  $W\gamma$  cross section available is the Next-to-Next-to-Leading Order (NNLO) cross section in QCD [7]. The effect of the NNLO correction ranges from 19% to 26% compared to the NLO cross section depending on the selection conditions. The contributions from the higher order corrections is estimated to be  $\pm 4\%$ . However, the NNLO theoretical result was published in 2015 only and there is still no simulation available based on that result. The simulation used in this analysis is LO + up to two hadronic jets simulation which found to give the same predictions as the NLO result [REFERENCE to APPENDIX?].

In addition to the SM predictions, there are certain BSM theories which predict an enhancement of the contribution from the TGC diagram. The discussion of these BSM effects on the  $W\gamma$  process takes place in chapter 2.2.



## 2.2 Anomalous $W\gamma$ Production

Most BSM physics theories predict the existence of particles which are heavier than the discovered energy range. If their masses are not accessible even by the most energetic machines, the direct detection of such particles is not possible. However, they can contribute to the productions of lower energetic particles producing loops where such heavy particles would be off-shell. This effects can be probed by precision measurements of the SM processes. In the electroweak sector processes of such interest include diboson and triboson productions which can occur through triple gauge couplings and quartic gauge couplings.

aTGC in MSSM and  $Z'$  from aTGC paper...

Constructing effective Lagrangians..

Triple and quartic gauge couplings (QGC) are represented by vertices with three and four bosons (Fig. 10). TGC and QGC can be charged or neutral. There are variety of the SM processes where charged TGC and QGC are possible. Such processes can occur through a Feynman diagram with a vertex involving a  $W$  boson and conserving charge. Corresponding vertices are  $WW\gamma$ ,  $WWZ$ ,  $WWWW$ ,  $WW\gamma\gamma$ ,  $WWZ\gamma$ , and  $WWZZ$  (Fig. 10, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> diagrams). To search for the new physics, all these vertices are described by extended Lagrangian term than the SM description, involving several constants which have known values in the SM. A significant deviation of one of these constants from the known values would be an indication of a new physics.

As for neutral TGC and QGC, they are forbidden in the SM at the tree level but extended Lagrangian contains terms which describes neutral TGC and QGC vertices:  $Z\gamma\gamma$ ,  $ZZ\gamma$ ,  $ZZZ$ ,  $Z\gamma\gamma\gamma$ ,  $ZZ\gamma\gamma$ ,  $ZZZ\gamma$ , and  $ZZZZ$ . Similarly to charge TGC and QGC cases, neutral TGC and QGC Lagrangian terms involve constants which are zero in the SM.

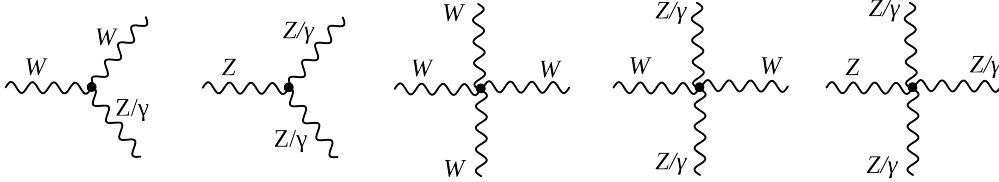


Figure 10: TGC and QGC vertices

In  $W\gamma$  measurement we can probe  $WW\gamma$  vertex only. The most general Lorentz invariant Lagrangian of this vertex takes the following form [9]:

$$iL_{eff}^{WW\gamma} = e[g_1^\gamma A^\mu (W_{\mu\nu}^- W^{+\nu} - W_{\mu\nu}^+ W^{-\nu}) + \kappa_\gamma W_\mu^+ W_\nu^- A^{\mu\nu} + \frac{\lambda_\gamma}{m_W^2} A^{\mu\nu} W_\nu^{+\rho} W_{\rho\mu}^- + ig_5^\gamma \epsilon_{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} ((\partial^\rho W^{-\mu}) W^{+\nu} - W^{-\mu} (\partial^\rho W^{+\nu})) V^\sigma + ig_4^\gamma W_\mu^- W_\nu^+ (\partial^\mu A^\nu + \partial^\nu A^\mu) - \frac{\tilde{\kappa}_\gamma}{2} W_\mu^- W_\nu^+ \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} A_{\rho\sigma} - \frac{\tilde{\lambda}_\gamma}{2m_W^2} W_{\rho\mu}^- W_\nu^{+\mu} \epsilon^{\nu\rho\alpha\beta} A_{\alpha\beta}]$$

where  $e$  is the absolute value of the electron charge,  $A^\mu$  is the photon field,  $W^{\pm\mu}$  are fields of  $W^\pm$  bosons,  $W_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu W_\nu - \partial_\nu W_\mu$ ,  $A_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu$ ,  $m_W$  is the mass of a  $W$  boson,  $g_1^\gamma$ ,  $\kappa_\gamma$ ,  $\lambda_\gamma$ ,  $g_5^\gamma$ ,  $g_4^\gamma$ ,  $\tilde{\kappa}_\gamma$ , and  $\tilde{\lambda}_\gamma$  are constants.

Despite there are 7 constants in the extended Lagrangian, only  $\lambda_\gamma$  and  $\kappa_\gamma$  are considered in the BSM searches. The rest of the constants are fixed to their SM values based on various considerations. Thus,  $g_1^\gamma = 1$  and  $g_5^\gamma = 0$  are fixed to obey the electromagnetic gauge invariance for the on-shell photons. The non-zero value of  $g_5^\gamma$  also violates C and P conservations, and non-zero values of  $g_4^\gamma$ ,  $\tilde{\kappa}_\gamma$ ,  $\tilde{\lambda}_\gamma$  violate the CP conservation law. Such violation parametrizations

are not considered in charged TGC measurements now but might get considered in the future.

The presence of aTGC would have larger effects at high energy scales. Fig. 11 shows the examples of these effects in  $m_{ll}$  spectrum in 8 TeV  $WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$  measurement (left) and  $P_T^\gamma$  spectrum in 7 TeV  $Z\gamma \rightarrow \nu\nu\gamma$  measurement (right). It is seen on the plots that aTGC spectrum at low  $m_{ll}$  or low  $P_T^\gamma$  coincides with the SM prediction but for higher  $m_{ll}$  or  $P_T^\gamma$  the disagreement becomes more significant.

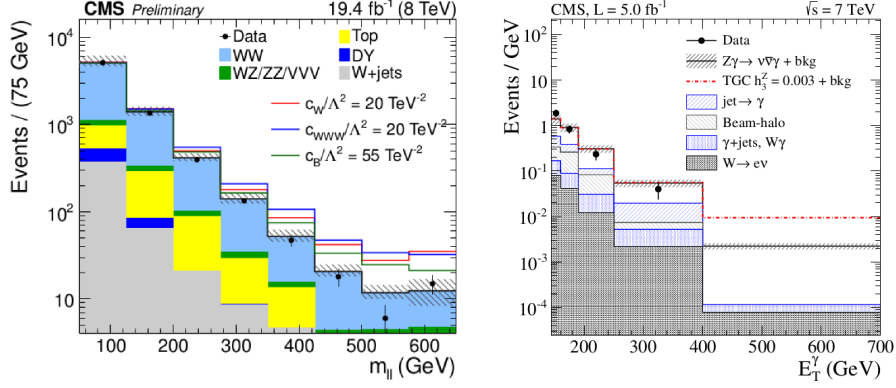


Figure 11: Examples of the potential effects of non-zero TGC constants in  $m_{ll}$  spectrum in 8 TeV  $WW \rightarrow l\nu l\nu$  measurement (left) [10] and  $P_T^\gamma$  spectrum in 7 TeV  $Z\gamma \rightarrow \nu\nu\gamma$  measurement (right) [11].

## 2.3 Measurements in the Past

The most recent measurements of  $W\gamma$  production were performed by CMS [12] and ATLAS [13] collaborations with  $pp$  collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  collected in 2011. The measurements are based on 5 fb<sup>-1</sup> and 4.6 fb<sup>-1</sup> of integrated luminosity with CMS and ATLAS respectively. Both collaborations considered two channels:  $W\gamma \rightarrow \mu\nu\gamma$  and  $W\gamma \rightarrow e\nu\gamma$ .

CMS detector is described in Section 3.2 of this dissertation.

The process signature of  $W\gamma$  is a prompt, isolated photon, a prompt isolated energetic lepton ( $\mu$  or  $e$ ) and a significant missing transverse energy due to the neutrino.

To determine a kinematics of a particle in CMS or ATLAS, three variables are used: a transverse momentum component  $P_T$ , an azimuthal angle in the  $r - \phi$  plane of a detector (perpendicular to the beam direction)  $\phi$  and a pseudorapidity  $\eta = -\ln[\tan(\theta/2)]$ . For photon sometimes notation  $E_T^\gamma$  (transverse energy) is used instead of  $P_T^\gamma$ . Since photon is massless, transverse energy of a photon equals to its transverse momentum.

Defining a kinematics of a potential neutrino, we use a missing transverse energy  $MET$  and corresponding to it azimuthal angle  $\phi$ . Missing longitudinal component is not reconstructed because total longitudinal momentum of initial state quarks in a  $pp$  collision is not known, and, therefore, it is not possible to compute how much of the longitudinal momentum is missing.

In CMS measurement, for the  $W\gamma \rightarrow \mu\nu\gamma$  events the isolated single muon trigger was used, it includes requirements of  $p_T^\mu > 30$  GeV and  $|\eta^\mu| < 2.4$  (2.1) for Run 2011A(2011B). For the electron channel, the isolated single electron trigger was used. The trigger requirements were  $p_T^e > 32$  GeV except a small fraction of data where it was  $p_T^e > 27$  GeV,  $|\eta_3| > 3$ ,  $M_T^W > 50$  GeV, where  $M_T^W = \sqrt{2 \cdot p_T^e \cdot MET \cdot (1 - \cos\Delta\phi(e, MET))}$  is a transverse mass of a  $W$  boson.

In the ATLAS measurement, the single electron, single muon and single photon triggers were used with  $P_T$  thresholds of  $P_T^e > 20$  (22) GeV depending on a run range,  $P_T^\mu > 18$  GeV,  $P_T^\gamma > 80$  GeV.

### 2.3.1 Measurement of $W\gamma$ production in $pp$ collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV with CMS

The most recent measurement of the  $W\gamma$  cross section by the CMS is performed based on 5 fb<sup>-1</sup> of data collected in 2011 at  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  TeV of LHC. The measurement was performed in the  $e\nu\gamma$  and  $\mu\nu\gamma$  final states. Only photons with the transverse momenta of  $p_T^\gamma > 15$  GeV were considered.

For the  $W\gamma \rightarrow \mu\nu\gamma$  events the isolated single muon trigger is used, it includes requirements of  $p_T^\mu > 30$  GeV and  $|\eta^\mu| < 2.4$  (2.1) for Run 2011A(2011B).

For the electron channel, the isolated single electron trigger was used. The trigger requirements were  $p_T^e > 32$  GeV except a small fraction of data where it was  $p_T^e > 27$  GeV,  $|\eta_3| > 3$ ,  $M_T^W > 50$  GeV, where  $M_T^W = \sqrt{2 \cdot p_T^e \cdot MET \cdot (1 - \cos\Delta\phi(e, MET))}$  is a transverse mass of a  $W$  boson.

The  $W\gamma$  process signature is a prompt, isolated photon, a prompt isolated energetic lepton ( $\mu$  or  $e$ ) and a significant missing transverse energy due to the neutrino. Therefore, the event-level selection requirements included one well-identified lepton with kinematic requirements  $p_T^l > 35$  GeV,  $|\eta^\mu| < 2.1$ ,  $\eta^e < 2.5$ , one well-identified photon with  $p_T^\gamma > 15$  GeV,  $|\eta^\gamma| < 2.5$ , and  $M_W^T > 70$  GeV. To reject events from  $Z\gamma \rightarrow l\bar{l}\gamma$  process, events with the second reconstructed lepton of the same flavor were vetoed. The second muon veto requirements included  $p_T^\mu > 10$  GeV,  $|\eta^\mu| < 2.4$ . The second electron veto requirements included  $p_T^e > 20$  GeV,  $|\eta^e| < 2.5$ , and weak electron identification criteria. The separation between a photon and a lepton were required to

be  $\Delta R(l, \gamma) = \sqrt{\Delta\eta(l, \gamma)^2 + \Delta\phi(l, \gamma)^2} > 0.7$ .

The  $p_T^\gamma > 15 \text{ GeV}$  and  $\Delta R(l, \gamma) > 0.7$  are also phase space requirements. They are necessary to avoid the divergence of the total cross section and also to suppress the contribution from the FSR diagram and, therefore, make the TGC contribution more significant.

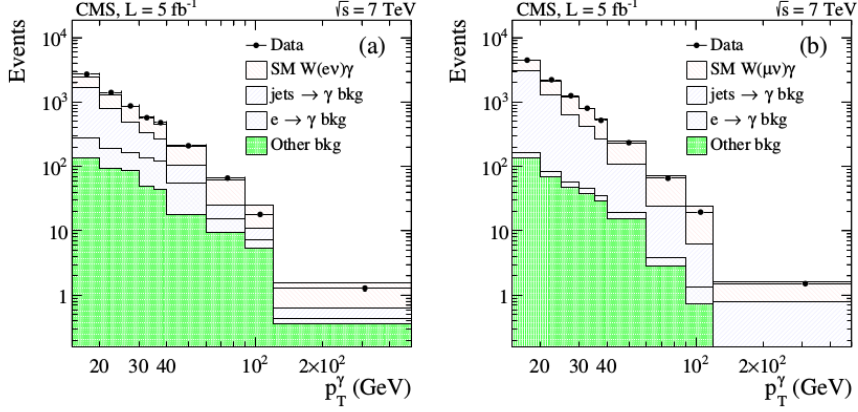


Figure 12: The distribution for the  $p_T^\gamma$  of  $W\gamma$  candidates in the analysis of 7 TeV CMS data. Data vs signal MC + background estimates. Left:  $W\gamma \rightarrow e\nu\gamma$ , right:  $W\gamma \rightarrow \mu\nu\gamma$ . Figure from [REFERENCE]

Events selected according with the described criteria represent a mixture of the signal and background events. The major source of the background is the fake photon background where hadronic jets are misidentified as photons. Such events originate from  $W$ +jets process mostly but  $Z$ +jets and  $t\bar{t}$ +jets events contribute to this source of the background as well. The template method was used as a major method to estimate this background. The shower-shape variable  $\sigma_{i\eta i\eta}^\gamma$  was used as a discrimination variable. The ratio method was used as a cross check by measuring and comparing the probabilities for jets to pass photon or jets selection criteria.

The second major background for the electron channel is the fake photon background where electron can be misidentified as a photon. Such events are coming from  $Z$ +jets events. Diboson processes contribute to this background for both channels. The fake rates are estimated from the  $Z \rightarrow ee$  sample, by checking how often one of the electrons would pass photon selection criteria given the other one passed stringent electron selection criteria.

The  $p_T^\gamma$  spectra of the selected events in data superimposed with selected events in the simulation of the signal and estimated background contribution for the muon and electron channels are shown in Fig. 12. The figure shows a good agreement within the estimated uncertainties.

The estimated cross sections are:

$$\sigma(pp \rightarrow W\gamma \rightarrow e\nu\gamma) = 36.6 \pm 1.2(\text{stat.}) \pm 4.3(\text{syst.}) \pm 0.8(\text{lumi}) \text{ pb}$$

$$\sigma(pp \rightarrow W\gamma \rightarrow \mu\nu\gamma) = 37.5 \pm 0.9(\text{stat.}) \pm 4.4(\text{syst.}) \pm 0.8(\text{lumi}) \text{ pb}$$

And the combination result:

$$\sigma(pp \rightarrow W\gamma \rightarrow l\nu\gamma) = 37.0 \pm 0.8(\text{stat.}) \pm 4.0(\text{syst.}) \pm 0.8(\text{lumi}) \text{ pb}$$

The paper also provides the cross section measurements for  $p_T^\gamma > 60 \text{ GeV}$  and for  $p_T^\gamma > 90 \text{ GeV}$ . The combination of two channels for  $p_T^\gamma > 60 \text{ GeV}$  is  $\sigma = 0.76 \pm 0.05(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.08(\text{syst.}) \pm 0.02(\text{lumi}) \text{ pb}$  while the theoretical NLO prediction is  $\sigma = 0.58 \pm 0.08 \text{ pb}$ . The result for  $p_T^\gamma > 90 \text{ GeV}$  is  $\sigma = 0.200 \pm 0.025(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.038(\text{syst.}) \pm 0.004(\text{lumi}) \text{ pb}$  while the theoretical NLO prediction is

552  $\sigma = 0.173 \pm 0.026$  pb.

553

### 554 2.3.2 Measurement of $W\gamma$ production in $pp$ collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV with ATLAS

555 ATLAS collaboration also required each candidate event to have an exactly one lepton, at least  
 556 one isolated photon and a significant missing transverse energy. The phase space requirements  
 557 are the same as those for CMS:  $p_T^\gamma > 15$  GeV and  $\Delta R(l, \gamma) > 0.7$  however other selection criteria  
 558 are slightly different:  $p_T^l > 25$  GeV,  $E_T^{miss} > 35$  GeV,  $M_T^W > 40$  GeV. In the electron channel Z  
 559 mass window cut was applied to reduce the contribution from  $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$  events.

560

561 The sideband method was used to estimate the major background (jets  $\rightarrow$   $\gamma$ ).

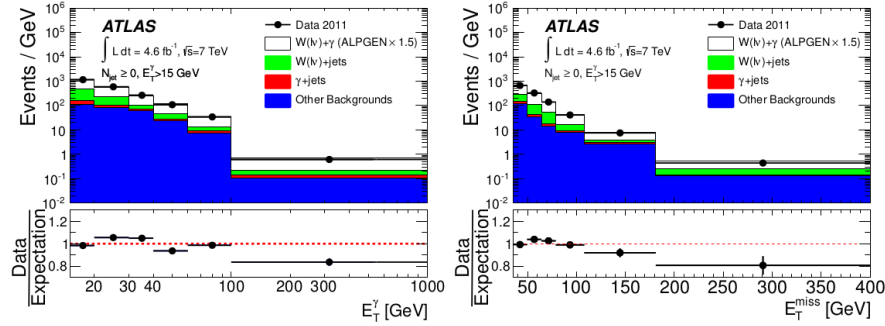


Figure 13: The distribution for the  $p_T^\gamma$  (left) and  $E_T^\gamma$  (right) of  $W\gamma$  candidates in the analysis of 7 TeV ATLAS data. Data vs signal MC + background estimates. Figure from [REFERENCE]

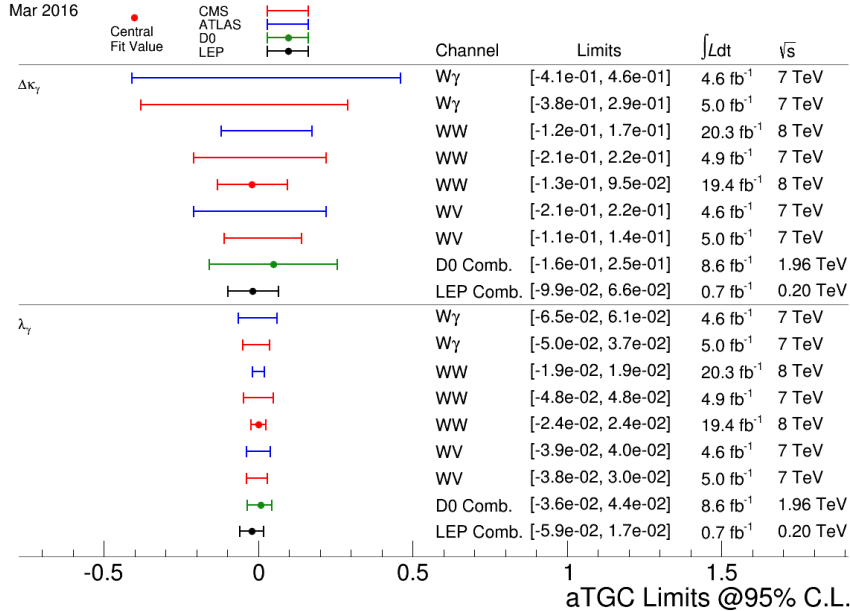


Figure 14: Summary of limits on the  $WW\gamma$  aTGC coupling constants. Figure from [14]

## 562 **3 Experimental Setup**

### 3.1 Large Hadron Collider

Large Hadron Collider (LHC) [15], [16], [17] is the last element of the chain of the CERN's accelerator complex (Fig. 15). Before entering LHC, particle beams are going through several stages of the acceleration. Thus, protons are extracted from hydrogen atoms, are accelerated by Linac2 to energies of 5 MeV, then injected into the Proton Synchrotron Booster (PSB) where they reach energies of 1.4 GeV. After that protons are to PS and Super PS (SPS) where they are accelerated to 25 GeV and 450 GeV respectively. Finally, protons enter LHC and are accelerated for 20 minutes to reach their design energies of 7 TeV per beam.

Besides protons, the complex also works with lead ions however in this dissertation we analyze data from proton-proton collisions only and, therefore, are not discussion lead ion collisions in more details.

LHC is the largest particle accelerator ever built: it is about 27 km in circumference. Also LHC re-uses the tunnel built for Large Electron-Positron (LEP) Collider which determines the size of the machine. The large size is necessary to reach design high energies.

Main goals of LHC were to detect the Higgs boson if it existed and to search for evidences of BSM physics which may give a clue on understanding the phenomena which are not described by the SM including dark matter, matter-antimatter asymmetry, gravitational force and others. Six detectors are installed at the LHC to detect particles and perform the relevant measurements. There are general purpose detectors ATLAS and CMS, there is LHCb which specializes of the physics of B-mesons, ALICE which is designed to detect products of heavy ion collisions. In addition, there are two small detectros with very specific tasks: LHCf and TOTEM which are installed close to the ATLAS and CMS interaction points respectively.

No deviations from the SM were found by any of the experiments. The main achivement of the LHC to date is the discovery of the Higgs boson in 2012 by CMS [3] and ATLAS [4] collaborations.

LHC is constructed of eight arcs, each arc corresponds to a sector as shown in Fig. 16. In between there are eight insertions where beams are either collided or injected or dumped or cleaned.

From the other hand, LHC is split on eight octants, each starting from the middle of one sector and ending at the middle of the next one. Thus, each octant includes one full insertion.

Main parameters are summarized in Tab. 2.

Besides a beam energy, the most important quality of the accelerator is ability to produce a large number of interesting collisions which is determined by luminosity. The instantaneous luminosity is determined by the following expression [6]:

$$L = f \frac{n_1 n_2}{4\pi\sigma_x\sigma_y}$$

where  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are numbers of particles in colliding bunches,  $f$  is a frequency of collisions,  $\sigma_x$  and  $\sigma_y$  are beam sizes in horizontal and vertical directions.

To determine the integrated luminosity, one has to integrate the instantaneous luminosity over time:

$$L_{int} = \int L dt$$

Run periods of LHC in 2010-2012 refer to Run I of the LHC operation. While working on energy of  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  TeV (3.5 TeV pae beam), LHC delivered 44.96 pb<sup>-1</sup> and 6.1 fb<sup>-1</sup> of data in 2010 and 2011 year respectively. In 2012 the working energy of LHC was  $\sqrt{s} = 8$  TeV, and the integrated luminosity was  $L_{int} = 23.3$  fb<sup>-1</sup>. After a long shutdown, LHC was upgraded for Run II, to operate on  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV in 2015 and delivered 4.22 fb<sup>-1</sup> of data by the end of 2015. In 2016 LHC continues operation on  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV and by the end of September the integrated

luminosity already exceeded a value of  $30 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  [21].

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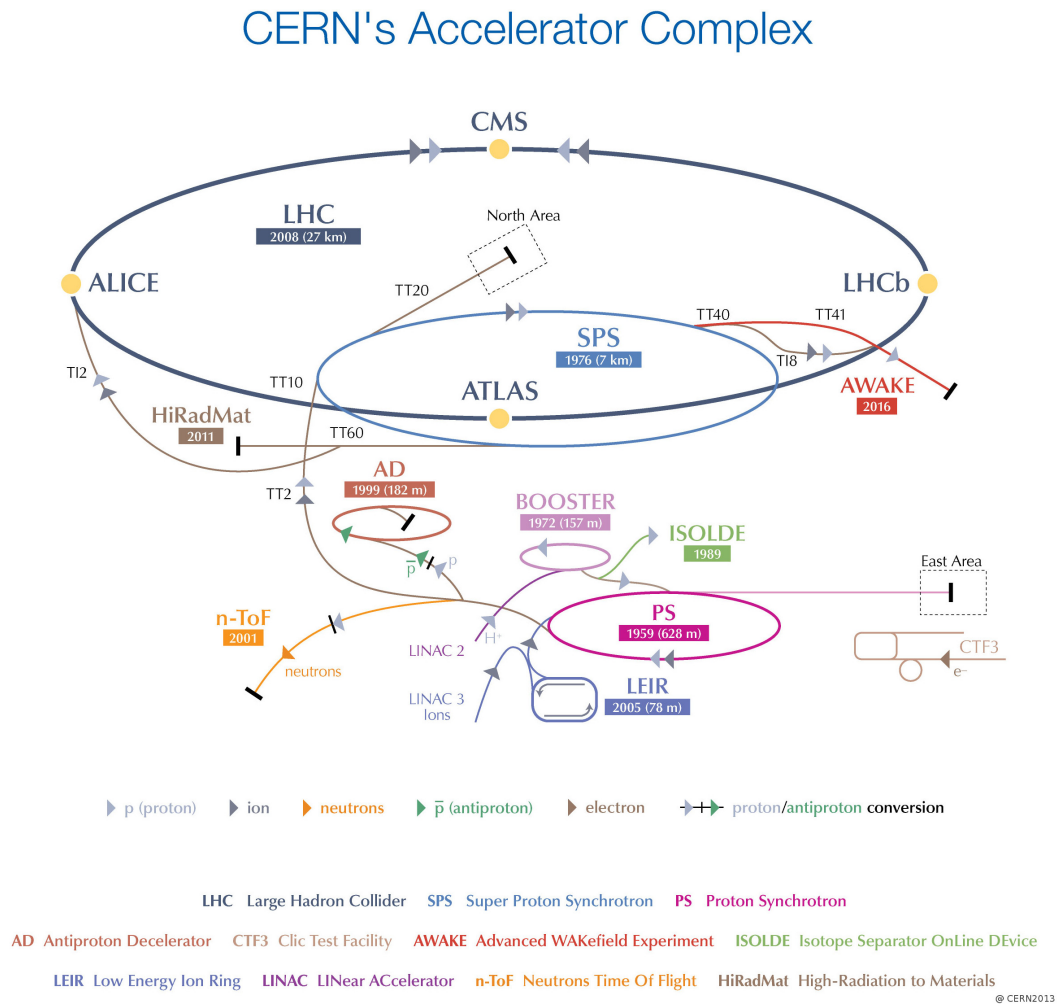


Figure 15: CERN's accelerator complex. Source of the figure: [18].



Table 2: Main parameters of LHC [15]

Circumference	27 km
Dipole operating temperature	1.9 K
Number of magnets	9593
Number of main dipoles	1232
Number of main quadrupoles	392
Number of RF cavities	8 per beam
Nominal energy, protons	7 TeV
Nominal energy, lead ions	2.76 TeV per nucleon
Peak magnetic dipole field	8.33 T
Min. distance between bunches	7 m
Design luminosity	$10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
No. of bunches per proton beam	2808
No. of protons per bunch (at start)	$1.1 \times 10^{11}$
No. of collisions per second	600 millions

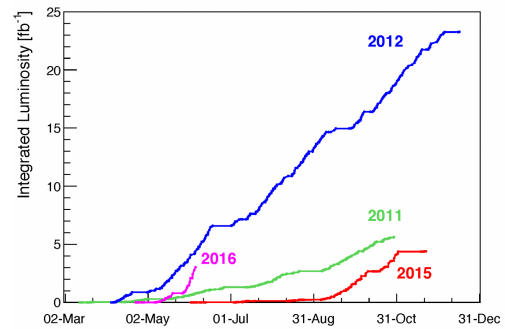
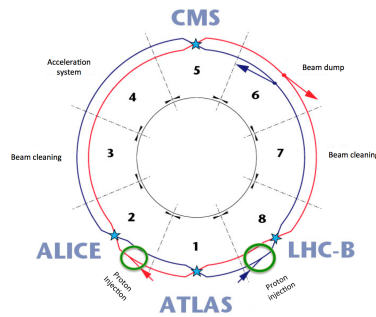


Figure 16: Schematic view of LHC sectors. Figure 17: LHC integrated luminosity by year.

Source of the figure: [20].

Source of the figure: [19].

## 3.2 Compact Muon Solenoid

### 3.2.1 Introduction

CMS detector configuration r-phi plane, r-z plane slice in r-phi plane subsystems a particle traveling through the detector: ele, pho, muon, hadron, neutrino Where to place particle reconstruction, particle flow algorithm and MET? Check other theses Acceptance: particles which are too collinear and go to pipe; particles which get curved too strongly

### 3.2.2 CMS Magnet

4T inside, 2T outside, needed for track curvatures to measure the momenta need stronger field inside to distinguish tracks better, the track density in the tracker is much higher than in the muon system explain how the magnetic field outside the detector is created the size, what's inside, what's outside material

### 3.2.3 CMS Tracking System

measures track geometry and momentum of charged particle needs to disturb particles as little as possible: just a few measurement points to reconstruct the track electric charge and amplification silicon pixels, barrel and forward silicon strips, barrel and forward tracker alignment (here ?) limitations

### 3.2.4 CMS ECal

measures energy of electrons and photons also determines the track, especially for photons match to tracker: if track, it's ele/pos, if not - it's a photon (Why muons and hadrons don't release their energy here?) electromagnetic shower lead tungstate crystals how scintillator works, what the scintillation light is photodetectors (photomultipliers?) ECAL preshower: to distinguish between two photons coming from pi0 decay limitations

### 3.2.5 CMS HCal

measures energy of charged and neutral hadrons also determines the track, especially for neutral hadrons match to tracker: if track, it's charged, if not - it's neutral (Why muons don't release their energy here? Would photons and electrons release the energy here?) hadronic shower HCal Sampling calorimeter (?) Layers: absorber+scintillator Hybrid Photodiodes

### 3.2.6 CMS Muon System

four layers of muon detectors (stations) iron return yoke between them (how it works? why do we need it?)

⌋⌋ (from cms.web.cern.ch) In total there are 1400 muon chambers: 250 drift tubes (DTs) and 540 cathode strip chambers (CSCs) track the particles positions and provide a trigger, while 610 resistive plate chambers (RPCs) form a redundant trigger system, which quickly decides to keep the acquired muon data or not.

drift tubes cathode strip chambers resistive plate chambers

### 3.2.7 Triggering and Data Acquisition

Level-I trigger High Level Trigger

### 3.2.8 Event Reconstruction

## 658 4 CMS Tracker Alignment

## 5 $W\gamma$ Cross Section Measurement

Place analysis outline here

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