

VRIJE  
UNIVERSITEIT  
BRUSSEL

**1 A search for flavour changing neutral currents  
2 involving a top quark and a Z boson, using the  
3 data collected by the CMS collaboration at a  
4 centre of mass of 13 TeV**

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**6 Proefschrift ingediend met het oog op het behalen van de academische graad  
7 Doctor in de Wetenschappen.**

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# Contents

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11	<b>1 An introduction to the theory</b>	1
12	1.1 Elementary particles and forces . . . . .	1
13	1.2 Standard Model Lagrangian . . . . .	1
14	1.3 Physics beyond the standard model . . . . .	1
15	1.3.1 Effective field theory . . . . .	1
16	1.3.2 Motivations for new physics . . . . .	1
17	1.3.3 Searches beyond the Standard Model . . . . .	1
18	1.3.4 Experimental and theoretical constraints . . . . .	1
19	1.4 Statistics for a high energy particle physicist . . . . .	1
20	1.4.1 Boosted decision trees . . . . .	1
21	1.4.2 Confidence levels . . . . .	1
22	1.4.3 Combine limit setting tool . . . . .	1
23	<b>2 Experimental setup</b>	3
24	2.1 The Large Hadron Collider . . . . .	3
25	2.1.1 LHC design and operation . . . . .	5
26	2.2 The Compact Muon Solenoid . . . . .	7
27	2.2.1 CMS coordinate system . . . . .	8
28	2.2.2 Towards the heart of CMS . . . . .	9
29	2.2.3 Data acquisition . . . . .	18
30	2.2.4 CMS computing model . . . . .	18
31	<b>3 Event generation, simulation and reconstruction</b>	21
32	3.1 Collision event generation . . . . .	21
33	3.1.1 Parton distribution functions and the hard interaction . . . . .	21
34	3.1.2 Parton showering . . . . .	21
35	3.1.3 Hadronization and decay . . . . .	21
36	3.1.4 Underlying event . . . . .	21
37	3.1.5 Event reconstruction and identification . . . . .	21
38	3.2 Detector simulation . . . . .	21
39	3.3 Physics object reconstruction and identification . . . . .	21
40	3.3.1 The particle flow event reconstruction method . . . . .	21
41	3.3.2 Identification of particles . . . . .	21

42	3.3.3 Calibrations and corrections . . . . .	21
43	<b>4 The search for FCNC involving a top quark and a Z boson</b>	<b>23</b>
44	4.1 Model assumptions . . . . .	23
45	4.2 Data and simulation . . . . .	23
46	4.2.1 Standard Model Background simulation . . . . .	23
47	4.2.2 FCNC signal simulation . . . . .	23
48	4.2.3 Trigger requirements . . . . .	23
49	4.3 Baseline event selection . . . . .	23
50	4.4 Data driven background estimation . . . . .	23
51	4.5 Regions and channels . . . . .	23
52	4.6 Construction of template distributions . . . . .	23
53	4.7 Systematic uncertainties . . . . .	23
54	4.8 Limit setting procedure . . . . .	23
55	4.9 Result and discussion . . . . .	23
56	<b>5 Conclusion and outlook</b>	<b>25</b>
57	<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>27</b>

# Theoretical bases

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59 **1.1 Elementary particles and forces**

60 **1.2 Standard Model Lagrangian**

61 **1.3 Physics beyond the standard model**

62 **1.3.1 Effective field theory**

63 **1.3.2 Motivations for new physics**

64 **1.3.3 Searches beyond the Standard Model**

65 **1.3.4 Experimental and theoretical constraints**

66 **1.4 Statistics for a high energy particle physiscist**

67 **1.4.1 Boosted decision trees**

68 **1.4.2 Confidence levels**

69 **1.4.3 Combine limit setting tool**



# Experimental setup

# 2

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71 The main objective of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) was the search for the Brout-Englert-  
 72 Higgs boson (or scalar boson). It was known from the Linear Electron Positron and Tevatron  
 73 experiments that the scalar boson mass had to be larger than 114 GeV[1, 2], and smaller than  
 74 around 1 TeV due to unitarity and perturbativity constraints [3]. On top of this, the search of  
 75 supersymmetry or dark matter were part of the motivation for building the LHC. Since the  
 76 start of its operation, the LHC is pushing the boundaries of the Standard Model, putting the  
 77 best limits on physics beyond the Standard Model as well as precision measurements of the  
 78 parameters of the Standard Model. One such an accomplishment is the discovery the scalar  
 79 boson in 2012 by the two largest experiments at the LHC [4, 5].

80 In the first part of this chapter, the LHC and the acceleration process for protons to reach  
 81 their design energies is discussed. The second part presents the Compact Muon Solenoid.

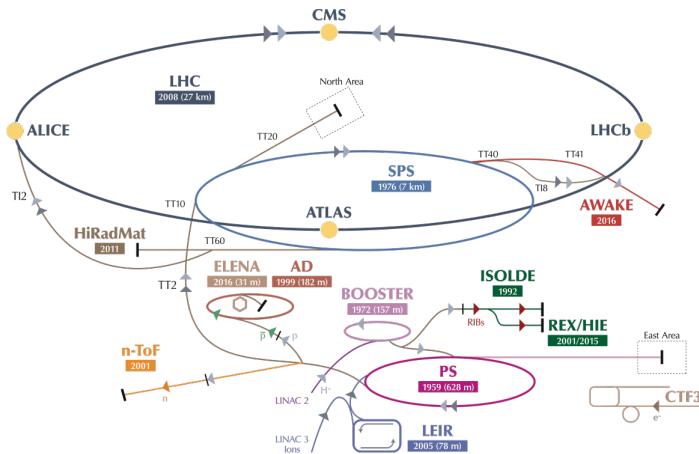
## 82 2.1 The Large Hadron Collider

83 The LHC has started its era of cutting edge science on 10 September 2008 [6] after approval by  
 84 the European Organisation of Nuclear Research (CERN) in 1995 [7]. Installed in the previous  
 85 Large Electron Positron collider (LEP) tunnels, the LHC consists of a 26.7 km ring, that is  
 86 installed between 45 and 170 m under the French-Swiss border between Cessy (France) and  
 87 Meyrin (Switzerland). Built to study rare physics phenomena at high energies, the LHC has the  
 88 possibility to accelerate two type of particles - protons or ions  $Pb^{45+}$  - and provides collisions  
 89 at four points of interaction. At the interaction points, experiments are installed in order to  
 90 study the collisions.

91 As can be seen in [Figure 2.1](#), the LHC is last element in a chain of creation, injection and  
 92 acceleration of protons. Protons are obtained by ionising hydrogen and injected in a linear  
 93 accelerator (LINAC 2), where they obtain an energy of 50 MeV. They continue to the proton  
 94 synchrotron booster (PSB or Booster), where the proton packets are accelerated to 1.4 GeV and  
 95 are split up in twelve. The proton synchrotron (PS) increases their energy to 25 GeV before  
 96 handing the protons to the super proton synchrotron (SPS), where the proton reach an energy  
 97 of 450 GeV. Each accelerator ring increases in radius in order to reduce the energy loss of the  
 98 protons by synchrotron radiation. This energy loss is proportional to the fourth power of the

99 proton energy and inversely proportional to the bending radius. The protons are then injected  
100 into opposite directions into the LHC, where they are accelerated to 3.5 TeV (in 2010 and  
101 2011), 4 TeV (in 2012 and 2013) or 6.5 TeV (in 2015 and 2016) [8]. Before the start up of  
102 the LHC in 2010, the previous energy record was held by the Tevatron collider at Fermilab,  
103 colliding proton with antiprotons at  $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$  TeV.

104 The beam has a bunch structure obtained by the injection scheme and properties of the  
105 dump system. These bunches are obtained in the PS with 25 ns spacing. The operation of  
106 accelerating and transferring to the LHC is repeated 12 times for each counter-rotating beam.  
107 When completely filled, the LHC nominally contains 2220 bunches in run II, compared to 1380  
108 in run I (design: 2200). At full intensity, it would have nearly 2800 bunches but this is limited  
109 due to SPS.



**Figure 2.1:** Schematic representation of the accelerator complex at CERN [9]. The LHC (dark blue) is the last element in chain of accelerators. Protons are successively accelerated by LINAC 2, the Booster, the Proton Synchrotron (PS) and the Super Proton Synchrotron (SPS) before entering the LHC.

110 The LHC is home to seven experiments that are placed on an interaction point:

- 111 • A Toroidal LHC ApparatuS (ATLAS [10]) and the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS [11])  
112 experiments are the two general purpose detectors at the LHC. They both have a hermetic,  
113 cylindrical structure and were designed to search for new physics phenomena as well as  
114 precision measurements of the Standard Model. The existence of two distinct experiments  
115 allows cross-confirmation for any discovery.
- 116 • A Large Ion Collider Experiment (ALICE [12]) and the LHC Beauty (LHCb [13]) experiments  
117 are focusing on specific phenomena. ALICE studies strongly interacting matter  
118 at extreme energy densities where quark-gluon plasma forms from heavy ions (Pb-Pb or  
119 p-Pb). LHCb searches for differences between matter and anti matter by means of the b  
120 quark, while focussing on CP symmetry violation.
- 121 • The forward LHC (LHCf [14]) and the TOTal cross section, Elastic scattering and diffraction  
122 dissociation Measurement (TOTEM [15]) experiments are two smaller experiments that

123 focus on interactions where protons or heavy ions only meet while head on collisions take  
 124 place. LHCf consists of two parts placed before and after ATLAS and studies particles  
 125 created at very small angles. TOTEM is placed in the same cavern as CMS and performs  
 126 precise measurements of the LHC luminosity.

- 127 • The Monopoles and Exotics Detector At the LHC (MoEDAL [16]) experiment is situated  
 128 near LHCb and tries to find magnetic monopoles.

129 **2.1.1 LHC design and operation**

The most important quantity at the LHC is the luminosity[17]. This is a measurement of the number of collisions that can be produced in a detector per  $\text{m}^2$  and per second. The LHC collisions create a number of events per second given by

$$N_{\text{event}} = L\sigma_{\text{event}}, \quad (2.1)$$

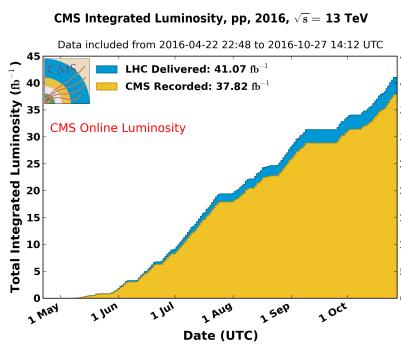
where  $\sigma_{\text{event}}$  is the cross section of the event of interest and  $L$  the machine luminosity. This luminosity depends only on the beam parameters and is for a Gaussian beam expressed as

$$L = \frac{1}{4\pi} \textcolor{blue}{N_b} n_b f_{\text{rev}} \frac{\textcolor{red}{N_b}}{\epsilon_n} \left( 1 + \left( \frac{\theta_c \sigma_z}{2\sigma^*} \right)^2 \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\gamma_r}{\beta^*}. \quad (2.2)$$

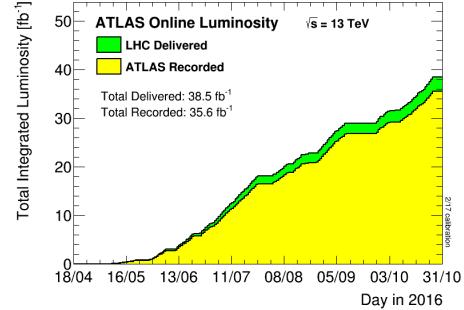
130 The number of particles per bunch is expressed by  $N_b$ , while  $n_b$  is the number of bunches  
 131 per beam,  $f_{\text{rev}}$  the revolution frequency,  $\gamma_r$  the relativistic gamma factor,  $\epsilon_n$  the normalized  
 132 transverse beam emittance - a quality for the confinement of the beam ,  $\beta^*$  the beta function at  
 133 the collision point - a measurement for the width of the beam,  $\theta_c$  the angle between the two  
 134 beams at the interaction point,  $\sigma_z$  the mean lengths of one packet, and  $\sigma^*$  the mean height  
 135 of one packet. In Equation() 2.2, the blue part represents the stream of particles, the red  
 136 represents the brilliance; and the green part represents the geometric reduction factor due to the  
 137 crossing angle at the interaction point. Hence, in order to enhance the chances for exploration  
 138 of rare events and thus enhancing the number of collisions. High beam energies as well as high  
 139 beam intensities are required.

140 The peak design luminosity for the LHC in 2016 was  $10^{34} \text{ 1}/(\text{m}^2 \text{ s})$ , which leads to about 1  
 141 billion proton interactions per second. In 2016, the LHC was around 10% above this design  
 142 luminosity[18]. The luminosity is not a constant in time. It diminishes due to collisions between  
 143 the beams, and the interaction of the protons and the particle gas that is trapped in the centre  
 144 of the vacuum tubes due to the magnetic field. The intern diffusion of the beam degrades the  
 145 emmitance and therefore also the luminosity. For this reason, the mean lifetime of a beam  
 146 inside the LHC is around 15 h. The integrated luminosity - the luminosity provided for a certain  
 147 time range - recorded by CMS and ATLAS over the year 2016 is given in Figure 2.1.1. In Run II,  
 148 the peak luminosity is  $13\text{-}17 \cdot 10^{33} \text{ 1}/(\text{cm}^2 \text{ s})$  compared to  $7.7 \cdot 10^{33} \text{ 1}/(\text{cm}^2 \text{ s})$  in Run I.

149 Inside the LHC ring [19], the protons are accelerated by the means of radiofrequency cavities,  
 150 while 1232 magnets of approximately 15 m long, weighing 35 t esure the deflection of the beams.  
 151 The cross section view of such a dipole is given in Figure 2.4. The two proton beams circulate in  
 152 opposite direction in separate pipes inside of the magnet. Through the use of a strong electric

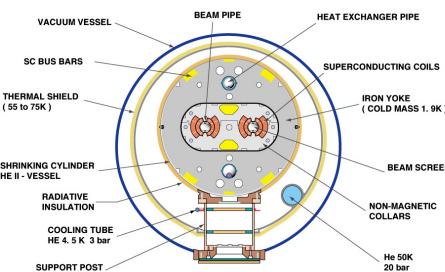


**Figure 2.2:** Cumulative luminosity measured online versus day delivered to (blue), and recorded by CMS (orange) during stable beams and for proton collisions at 13 TeV centre-of-mass energy in 2016. The delivered luminosity accounts for the luminosity delivered from the start of stable beams until the LHC requests CMS to turn off the sensitive detectors to allow a beam dump or beam studies. *FIXME*



**Figure 2.3:** Total Integrated Luminosity in 2016 Cumulative luminosity versus time delivered to (green) and recorded by ATLAS (yellow) during stable beams for proton collisions in 2016. The delivered luminosity accounts for luminosity delivered from the start of stable beams until the LHC requests ATLAS to put the detector in a safe standby mode to allow for a beam dump or beam studies. Shown is the luminosity as determined from counting rates measured by the luminosity detectors. *FIXME*

153 current in the coils around the beam pipe, magnetic fields are generated and cause the protons  
 154 to bend in the required orbits. In order to get the coil to become superconducting and able to  
 155 produce - with the aid of an iron return yoke - a strong magnetic field of 8.3 T, the magnet  
 156 structure is surrounded by a vessel. This vessel is filled with liquid Helium making it possible  
 157 to cool down the magnet to 1.9 K. In order to get more focussed and stabilised proton beam,  
 158 other higher-order multipole and corrector magnets are placed along the LHC tunnel.



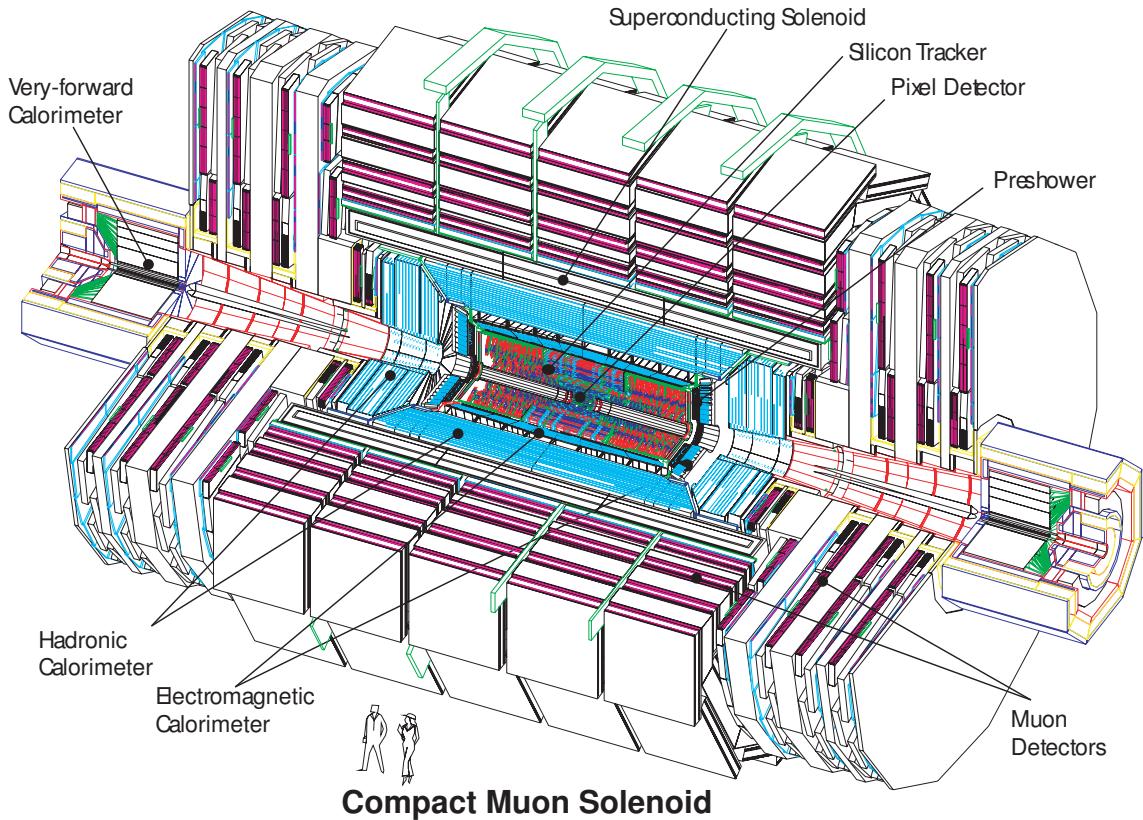
**Figure 2.4:** Schematic representation of the LHC dipole [20]. Two beam pipes where the proton beams circulate around the LHC ring are shown. The superconducting coils generate a magnetic field of 8.3 T that steer the protons in the circular path.

## 159 2.2 The Compact Muon Solenoid

160 At one of the collision points of the LHC, the CMS detector[21–23] is placed (see [Figure 2.5](#)).  
 161 Weighing 14 000 t, This cylindrical detector is about 28.7 m long and 15 m in diameter,  
 162 weighing around 14 000 t. It has an onion like structure of several specialised detectors and  
 163 contains a superconducting solenoid with a magnetic field of 3.8 T. The CMS detector is  
 164 designed in a way that it can address the needs of physics coming from the LHC. Living in  
 165 a hadronic environment, multi-jet processes produced by the strong interaction are a main  
 166 source of background for rare physics processes. Therefore, good identification, momentum  
 167 resolution, and charge determination of muon, electrons and photons is one of the main goals  
 168 of the CMS detector. Further it provides a good charged particle momentum resolution and  
 169 reconstruction efficiency in the inner tracker such that for example jets coming from b quarks  
 170 or tau particles can be identified. Also the electromagnetic resolution for an efficient photon  
 171 and lepton isolation as well as a good hadronic calorimeter for the missing transverse energy  
 172 were kept into account while designing CMS.

173 The LHC provides many collisions in a short amount of time. In order to discriminate between  
 174 consecutive collisions - known as out of time pile up events - , CMS has to complete the full  
 175 data acquisition for one collision event before the next one happen (around 25 ns in Run  
 176 II and around 50 ns in Run I [[24](#)]). Furthermore, since the photons are in packets, around  
 177 21 in Run I and 40 in Run II inelastic collisions happen every beam crossing . This creates a  
 178 great amount of background processes in the detector called in time pile up events. Due to this  
 179 difficult conditions, the detector has a great granularity which on its turn creates a need for  
 180 huge number of synchronized electronic channels. Furthermore, due to to high flux of particles  
 181 in the regions close to the beam, the electronics has to be able to endure high radiation.

182 Before the start of taking collision data for 13 TeV operations on 3 June, CMS had a long  
 183 shutdown (LS1)[[26](#)]. During this shut down several upgrades were performed. The innermost  
 184 part of detection material in CMS (pixel) is currently made of three concentric cylindrical  
 185 layers. At the end of 2016 it is upgraded by adding a fourth layer, enhancing the particle  
 186 tracking capabilities of CMS. In order to be able to incorporate this new layer, the section  
 187 of the beryllium beam pipe within CMS was replaced by a narrower one during LS1. For  
 188 this, the pixel was removed and reinserted into CMS. In order to avoid long damage caused  
 189 by the intense particle flux at the heart of CMS, the tracker is been made ready to operate  
 190 at much lower temperature than before. During Run I, a small problem was detected in the  
 191 electromagnetic calorimeter preshower system. For this, the preshower discs were removed,  
 192 repaired and reinstalled successfully inside CMS in 2014. To help the discrimination between  
 193 interesting low momentum muons coming from collisions and muons caused by backgrounds, a  
 194 fourth triggering and measurement station for muons was added in each of the end caps. CMS  
 195 measures the collision rate within the detector and monitors beam related backgrounds. For  
 196 this, several new detectors were installed into CMS during LS1.



**Figure 2.5:** Mechanical layout of the CMS detector[25].

### 197 2.2.1 CMS coordinate system

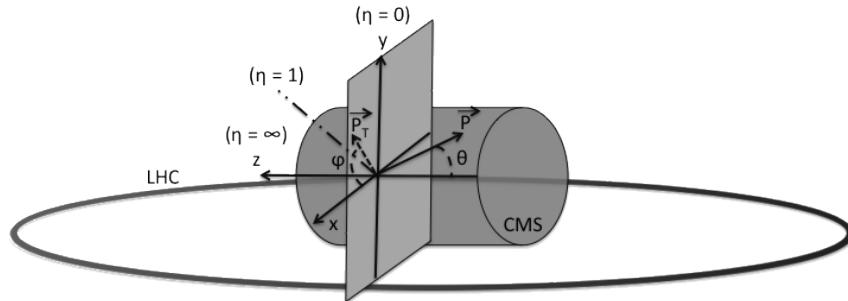
The coordinate system used by CMS can be found in [Figure 2.6](#). The origin of the right handed orthogonal coordinate system is chosen to be the point of collisions. The x-axis points towards the centre of the LHC ring such that the y-axis points towards the sky, and the z-axis lies tangent to the beam axis. Since the experiment has a cylindrical shape, customary coordinates are used to describe the momentum  $\vec{p}$  : the distance  $\rho$ , the azimuthal angle  $\phi \in [-\pi, \pi]$  - the angle between the x-axis and the projection in the transverse plane of  $\vec{p}$  ( $p_T$ ) - , the pseudo-rapidity  $\eta$  - expressed by the polar angle  $\theta$  between the direction of  $\vec{p}$  and the beam - :

$$\eta = -\ln\left(\tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)\right). \quad (2.3)$$

For the energies considered at the LHC, where  $E \gg m$ , the pseudo-rapidity is a good approximation of the rapidity  $y$

$$y = \frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{E + p_z}{E - p_z}\right), \quad (2.4)$$

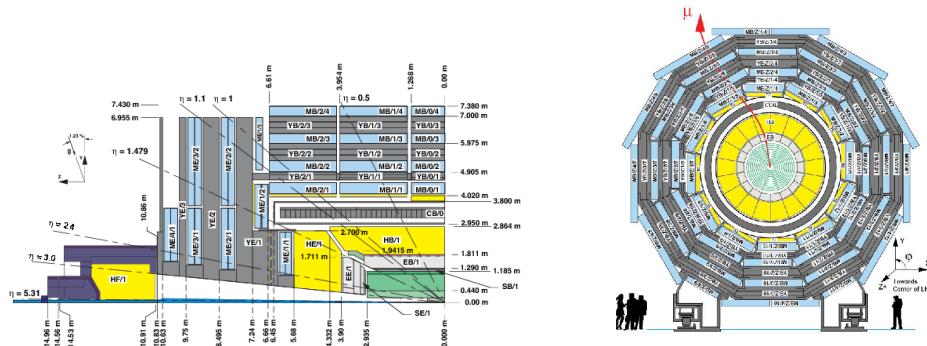
<sup>198</sup> where the difference of rapidities of two particles is invariant under a Lorentz boost in the  
<sup>199</sup> z-direction.



**Figure 2.6:** Representation of the coordinate system used by CMS. The point of origin is put at the collision point. The x-axis points towards the centre of the LHC ring such that the z-axis lies tangent to the beam axis.

### 2.2.2 Towards the heart of CMS

The CMS detector consists of two parts; a central barrel around the beam pipe ( $|\eta| < 1.4$ ) and two plugs to ensure the hermeticity of the detector. In Figure 2.5 and Figure ?? the onion like structure of the CMS detector is visible. The choice of a solenoid of 12.9 m long and 5.9 m diameter gives the advantage of bending the particle trajectories in the transverse plane. The hadronic calorimeter, the electromagnetic calorimeter and the tracker are within the solenoid, while the muon chambers are placed outside the solenoid.



**Figure 2.7:** Schematic view of the CMS detector in the Run I configuration. (LEFT) Longitudinal view of one quarter of the detector. (RIGHT) Transversal view of one quarter of the detector. The muon system barrel elements are denoted as  $MBZ/N/S$ , where  $z = -2 \dots +2$  is the barrel wheel number,  $n = 1 \dots 4$  the station number and  $S = 1 \dots 12$  the sector number. Similarly, the steel return yokes are denoted as  $YBZ/N/S$ . The solenoid is denoted as  $CB0$ , while the hadronic calorimeter is denoted as  $HE$  (end cap)/ $HB$  (barrel)/ $HF$  (forward) and the electromagnetic calorimeter as  $EE$  (end cap)/ $EB$  (barrel). The green part represents the tracking system[27]

#### 2.2.2.1 Muon system

The outermost part of CMS consists of the muon system. The magnet return yoke is interleaved with gaseous detector chambers for muon identification and momentum measurement. The barrel contains muon stations arranged in five separate iron wheels, while in the end cap four

211 muon stations are mounted onto three independent iron discs in on each side. Each barrel  
212 wheel as 12 sectors in the azimuthal angle.

213 The muon system is divided into three parts[27], shown in Figure 2.8. The muon rate and  
214 neutron induced backgrounds are small and the magnetic field is very low for the barrel and  
215 CMS can use drift tube (DT) chambers. For the end caps however, the muon and background  
216 flux is much higher and there is a need to use cathode strip chambers (CSC) which are able to  
217 provide a faster response, higher granularity and a better resistance against radiation. In order  
218 to form a redundant trigger system, resistive plate chambers (RPC) are added. This makes a  
219 total of 250 DT chambers, 540 CSC and 610 RPC. In Figure 2.7 the arrangement is shown.

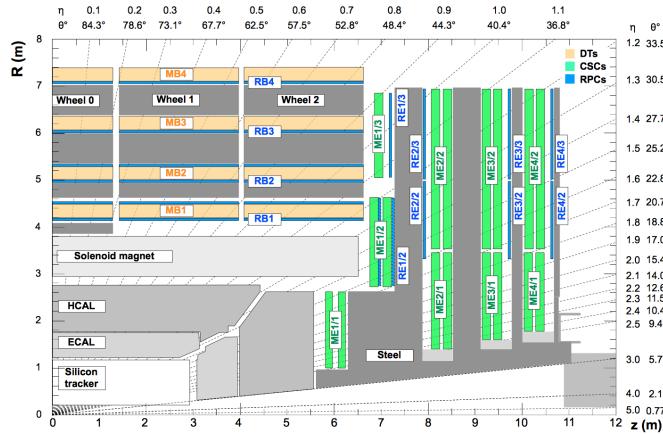


Figure 2.8: Schematic view of one quarter of the CMS muon system in the Run I configuration. [27]

220 Providing a measurement for  $|\eta| < 1.2$ . The DT chambers in the barrel are on average  $2 \times 2.5$  m in size and consist of 12 layers of DT cells - 4 cm wide gas tubes with positively  
221 charged stretched wire inside - arranged in three groups of four. The  $r\phi$  coordinate is provided  
222 by the two outside groups, while the middle group measures the  $z$  coordinate. For each  $\phi$   
223 sector, the DT chamber is mixed with the flux return yoke. For the outer muon station, the DT  
224 chamber contains only 8 layers of DT cells, providing a muon position in the  $r\phi$  plane. There are  
225 four CSC stations in each end cap, providing muon measurements for  $0.9 < |\eta| < 2.4$  (Run I  
226 configuration). These CSC are multi-wired proportional chambers that consist of 6 anode wire  
227 planes crossed by 7 copper strips cathode panels in a gas volume. The  $r$  coordinate is provided  
228 by the copper strips, while  $\phi$  coordinate comes from the anode wires, giving a two dimensional  
229 position measurement. There are six layers of RPC in the barrel muon system and one layer into  
230 each of the first three stations of the end cap. They are made from two high resistive plastic  
231 plates with an applied voltage and separated by a gas volume. Read out strips mounted on  
232 top of on of the plastic plates detects the signal generated by a muon passing through the gas  
233 volume. The RPC provides a fast response with a time resolution of 1 ns and cover a range of  
234  $|\eta| < 1.8$  (Run I configuration).

236 During the long shutdown, the muon system underwent major upgrades [28, 29]. In the  
237 fourth station of each end cap, the outermost rings of CSC and RPC chambers were completed,  
238 providing an angular region of  $1.2 < |\eta| < 1.8$  for Run II, increasing the system redundancy,

and allowing tighter cuts on the trigger quality. In order to reduce the environmental noise, outer yoke discs have been placed on both sides for the end caps. At the innermost rings of the first station, the CSC has been upgraded by refurbishing the readout electronics to make use of the full detector granularity instead of groups of three (Run I).

The muon system provides triggering on muons, identifying muons and improves the momentum measurement and charge determination of high  $p_T$  muons. On top of the muon system, the muon energy is deposited in the electromagnetic calorimeter, the hadronic calorimeter, and outer calorimeter. (FIXME not tracker?) The high magnetic field enable an efficient first level trigger and allows a good momentum resolution of  $\Delta p/p \approx 1\%$  for a  $p_T$  of 100 GeV and  $\approx 10\%$  for a  $p_T$  of 1 TeV (FIXME). There is an efficient muon measurement up to  $|\eta| < 2.4$ .

#### 249 Muon reconstruction

The muon reconstruction[30] has three subdivision: local reconstruction, regional reconstruction and global reconstruction. The local reconstruction is performed on individual detector elements such as strip and pixel hits in the inner tracking system, and muon hits and/or segments on the muon chambers. Independent tracks are reconstructed in the inner tracker - called tracker track - and in the muon system, called standalone tracks. Based on these tracks, two reconstructions are considered. The outside-in approach is referred to as Global Muon reconstruction. For each standalone track, a tracker track is found by comparing the parameters of the two tracks propagated onto a common surface. Combining the hits from the tracker track and the standalone track, gives a fit via the Kalman filter technique [31, 32] for a global muon track. The second approach is an inside-out reconstruction, creating tracker muons. All candidate tracker tracks are extrapolated to the muon system taking into account the magnetic field, the average expected energy losses, and multiple Coulomb scattering in the detector material. When at least one muon segment - DT or CSC hits - matches the extrapolated track, the corresponding tracker track is indicated as a tracker muon.

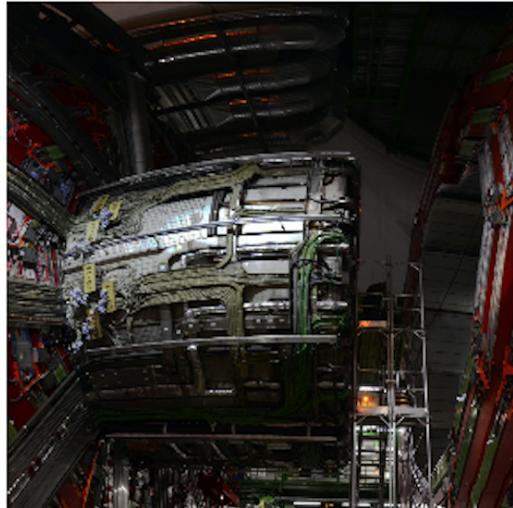
For low transverse momenta ( $p_T \lesssim 5$  GeV), the tracker muon reconstruction is more efficient than the global muon approach. This is due to the fact that tracker muons only require a single muon segment in muon system, while the global muon approach requires typically segments in at least two muon stations. Therefore, the global muon approach typically improves the tracker reconstruction for  $p_T \gtrsim 200$  GeV. The timing

#### 269 2.2.2.2 Solenoid

Making use of the knowledge of previous experiments of ALEPH and DELPHI at LEP and H1 at HERA, CMS choose for a large super conducting solenoid with a length of 12.9 m and a inner bore of 5.9 m[23]. With 2 168 turns, a current of 19.5 kA and a total energy of 2.7 GJ, a large bending power can be obtained for a modestly-sized solenoid. In order to ensure a good momentum resolution in the forward regions, a favourable length/radius was necessary. In Figure 2.9, a photo of the CMS solenoid is given.

The solenoid uses a high-purity aluminium stabilised conductor with indirect cooling from liquid helium, together with fully epoxy impregnation. A four-layer winding is implemented that can withstand an outward pressure of 64 atm. The NbTi cable is co-extruded by pure aluminium

279 that acts as a thermal stabilizer and has an aluminium alloy for mechanical reinforcement. The  
 280 return of the magnetic field is done by five wheels, noted by YB in [Figure 2.7](#).

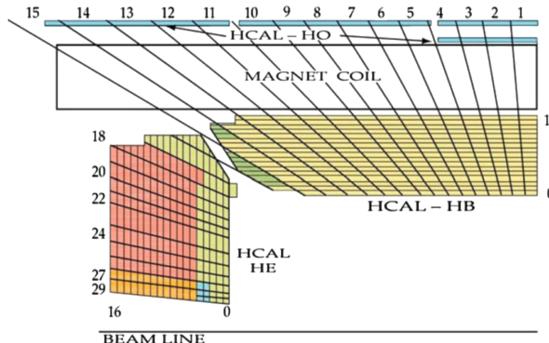


**Figure 2.9:** CMS solenoid during the long shutdown in 2013.

#### 281 2.2.2.3 Hadronic calorimeter

282 The hadronic calorimeter (HCAL) is dedicated to precisely measure the energy of charged and  
 283 neutral hadrons via a succession of absorbers and scintillators. This makes it crucial for physics  
 284 analyses with hadronic jets or missing transverse energy. The HCAL extends between 1.77  
 285  $< r < 2.95$  m where  $r$  is the radius in the transverse plane with respect to the beam. Due  
 286 to space limitations, the HCAL needs to be as small as possible and is made from materials  
 287 with short interaction lengths - the length needed for absorbing 36.7% of the hadrons. The  
 288 quality of the energy measurements is dependant on the fraction of the hadronic shower that  
 289 can be detected. Therefore, the HCAL barrel (HB) inside the solenoid is reinforced by an outer  
 290 hadronic calorimeter between the solenoid and muon detectors (HO, see [Figure 2.10](#)), using the  
 291 solenoid as extra absorber. This increases the thickness to 12 interaction lengths. Furthermore,  
 292 it should be as hermetic as possible and extend to large pseudo rapidity values. The HB and HO  
 293 provide measurements for  $|\eta| < 1.3$ , while an end cap on each side (HE,  $1.3 < |\eta| < 3$ ) and a  
 294 forward calorimeter (HF,  $|\eta| < 5.2$ ) extend the pseudo rapidity range.

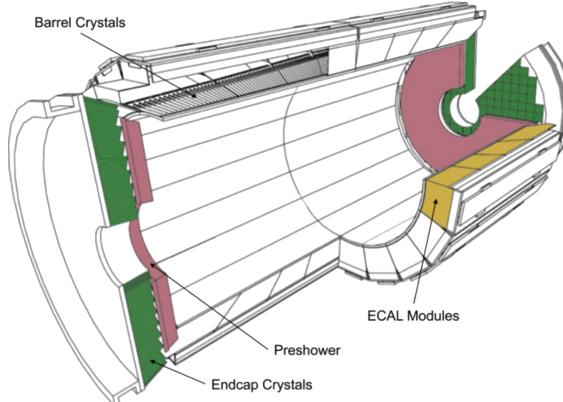
295 The HB is made of 16 absorber plates where most of them are built from brass and others  
 296 are made from stainless steel and is about five to ten interaction lengths thick. The HE is also  
 297 composed of brass absorber plates and has a thickness corresponding to approximately ten  
 298 interaction lengths. The HF experiences intense particle fluxes with an energy of 760 GeV  
 299 deposited on average in a proton interaction at a center of mass of 14 TeV, compared to 100  
 300 GeV in the rest of the detector. Therefore, these are Cherenkov light detectors made of radiation  
 301 hard quartz fibers. The main causes of such large energy events is high energy muons, cosmic  
 302 particles and charged particles from late showering hadrons. During Run I, it became clear that  
 303 the glass windows of the PMTs had to be replaced which was done during the long shut down  
 304 [\[33\]](#)



**Figure 2.10:** Tower segmentation for one quarter of the HCAL displayed in the  $r z$  plane[11].

#### 305 2.2.2.4 Electromagnetic calorimeter

306 The electromagnetic calorimeter (ECAL) is designed to measure the energy of photons and  
 307 electrons and covers  $|\eta| < 3$ . It is an hermetic, homogeneous detector and consists of 75 848  
 308 lead tungstate ( $\text{PbWO}_4$ ) crystals. These crystals have a fast response time - 80% of the light  
 309 is emitted within 25 ns - and are radiation hard. The electromagnetic showers produced by  
 310 passing electrons or photons ionize the crystal atoms which emit a blue-green scintillation light,  
 311 that is collected by silicon avalanche photodiodes (APDs) in the barrel and vacuum phototriodes  
 312 (VPTs) in the end caps. The crystals and the APD response is sensitive to temperature changes  
 313 and require a stable temperature.



**Figure 2.11:** Schematic cross section of the electromagnetic calorimeter[11].

314 There are three regions: a central barrel (EB), a endcap region (EE) and a preshower (ES)  
 315 (Figure 2.11). The EB has an inner radius of 129 cm and corresponds to a pseudo rapidity  
 316 of  $0 < |\eta| < 1.479$ . At a distance of 314 cm from the vertex and covering a pseudo rapidity  
 317 of  $1.479 < |\eta| < 3.0$ , are the EE. They consist of semi-circular aluminium plates from which  
 318 structural units of  $5 \times 5$  crystals (super crystals) are supported. The ES is placed in front of  
 319 the crystal calorimeter over the end cap pseudo rapidity range with two planes of silicon strip  
 320 detectors as active elements.

The electromagnetic shower will typically involve more than one channel. More than 90% of

the energy of a 35 GeV electron or photon is contained in a  $5 \times 5$  matrix of crystals. Therefore, a clustering algorithm is performed in order to associate the energy deposits to the particles impinging the calorimeter. The achieved precision[34] for the barrel is  $2.10^{-3}$  rad in  $\phi$  and  $10^{-3}$  in  $\eta$ . For the end caps this is  $5.10^{-3}$  rad in  $\phi$  and  $2.10^{-3}$  in  $\eta$ . The energy is reconstructed by a super cluster algorithm, taking into account energy radiated via bremsstrahlung or conversion:

$$E_{e/\gamma} = GF_{e/\gamma} \sum_{i \in \text{cluster}} S_i(t) V C_i A_i, \quad (2.5)$$

where  $G$  is the absolute energy scale in GeV/ADC,  $F$  the energy containment corrections (depends on type of particle, its energy and pseudo rapidity, eg shower leakage and bremsstrahlung losses for electrons),  $S(t)$  the relative channel variation with time,  $C$  the relative channel response and  $A$  the amplitude in ADC counts. The energy resolution is given by

$$\frac{\sigma(E)}{E} = \frac{2.8\%}{\sqrt{E}} \oplus \frac{0.128}{E(\text{GeV})} \oplus 0.3\%, \quad (2.6)$$

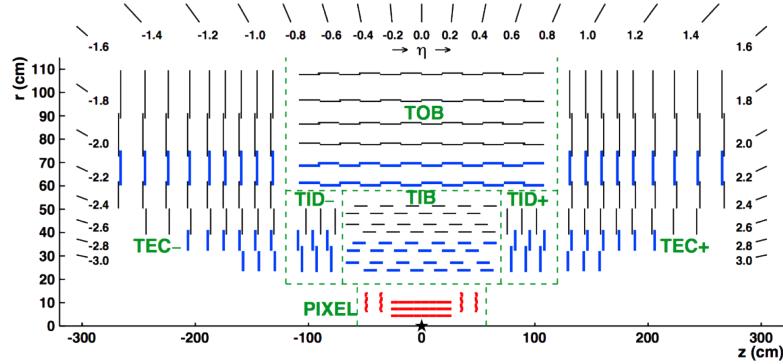
321 in the absence of a magnetic field, where the contributions come from the stochastic, noise and  
 322 constant terms respectively. The dominating term is the constant term ( $E_{\text{shower}} \approx 100\text{GeV}$ ) and  
 323 thus the performance is highly dependent on the quality of calibration and monitoring .

324 In Run I, the energy reconstruction happened via a weighted sum of the digitized samples[35].  
 325 For Run II however, the reconstruction had to be made more resistant for out of time pile up  
 326 and a multi-fit approach has been set in to place. In this approach, the pulse shape is modelled  
 327 as a sum of one in-time pulse plus the out of time pulses [34]. The energy resolution is less  
 328 than 2% in the central barrel region and 2-5 % elsewhere.

### 329 2.2.2.5 Inner tracking system and operations

330 The tracking system (tracker) [36] is the detecting unit closest to the point of interaction.  
 331 Responsible for the reconstruction of trajectories from charged particles with  $|\eta| < 2.5$ , being  
 332 bend by the magnetic field, it provides a measurement of the momentum. The tracker is also  
 333 responsible for the determination of the interaction point or vertex. It should be able to provide  
 334 high granularity as well as speed, and be able to endure high radiation. For this reason, the  
 335 CMS collaboration choose silicon detector technology.

336 The tracking system consists of a cylinder of 5.8 m long and 2.5 m in diameter. It is immersed  
 337 in a co-axial magnetic field of 3.8 T due to the solenoid. As shown Figure 2.12, the tracker  
 338 is built up from a large silicon strip tracker with a small silicon pixel inside. The inner region,  
 339 pixel ( $4.4 < r < 10.2$  cm), gets the highest flux of particles. Therefore, pixel silicon sensors of  
 340  $100 \times 150$   $\mu\text{m}$  is used. It consists of three cylindrical barrels that are complemented by two  
 341 discs of pixel modules at each side. The silicon strip tracker ( $20 < r < 116$  cm ) has three  
 342 subdivisions. The Tracker Inner Barrel and Discs (TIB, TID) are composed of four barrel layers  
 343 accompanied by three discs at each end. The outer part of the tracker - Tracker Outer Barrel  
 344 (TOB) - consists of 6 barrel layers. In the outer discs, there are nine discs of silicon sensors,  
 345 referred to as Tracker End Caps (TEC).



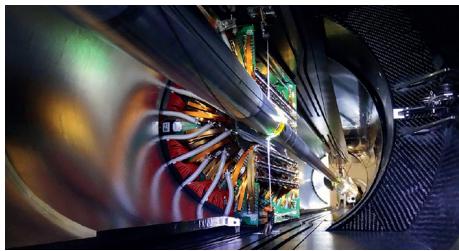
**Figure 2.12:** Schematic cross section of the top half of the CMS tracking system in the  $r z$  plane. The centre of tracker is shown with a star and corresponds to the approximate position of the proton collision point. The green dashed lines are an indication for each named tracker subsystem. The strip tracker modules that provide two-dimensional hits are shown by thin, black lines, while those able to reconstruct three-dimensional hit positions are shown by thick, blue lines. The pixel modules, shown in red, also provide three-dimensional hits. [22]

346 The pixel, shown in Figure 2.13 has 1440 modules that cover an area of about 1 m and have  
 347 66 million pixels. It provides a three-dimensional position measurement of the hits arising from  
 348 the interaction from charged particles with the sensors. In transverse coordinate ( $r\phi$ ), the hit  
 349 position resolution is about 10  $\mu\text{m}$ , while 20-40  $\mu\text{m}$  is obtained in the longitudinal coordinate  
 350 ( $z$ ). The sensor plane position provides the third coordinate. The silicon strip trackers consists  
 351 of 15 148 single sided modules placed in the TIB, TID and the first four rings of the TEC.  
 352 They provide 9.3 million readout channels. In the TOB and the outer three rings of the TEC,  
 353 double sided modules are used. These modules are constructed from two back-to-back single  
 354 sided modules, where one module is rotated through a stereo angle. This covers an active area  
 355 of about 198 m. The TIB and TID provide position measurements in  $r\phi$  with a resolution  
 356 of approximately 13-38  $\mu\text{m}$ , while the TOB provides a resolution of about 18-47  $\mu\text{m}$ . The  
 357 resolution in the  $z$  direction is approximately 230  $\mu\text{m}$  in the TIB/TID and 530  $\mu\text{m}$  in the TOB.  
 358 To allow overlay and avoid gaps in acceptance, each module is shifted slightly in  $r$  or  $z$  with  
 359 respect to its neighbouring modules within a layer. With this detector lay out, at least nine  
 360 points per charged particle trajectory can be measured in an  $|\eta|$  range up to 2.4.

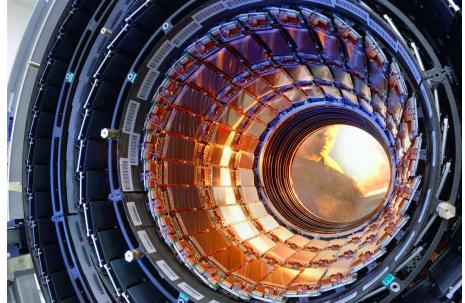
During the first data taking period of the LHC (2010 to 2013), the tracker operated at +4°C. With the higher LHC beam intensities from 2015 onwards, the tracker needs to be operated at much lower temperatures. This is due to the fact with intense irradiation, the doping concentration changes, the leakage current increases proportional to the fluence and the charge collection efficiency decreases due to charge trapping. Mostly the leakage current ( $I$ ) is affected by the temperature change:

$$I \propto T^2 e^{-\frac{E_g}{2kT}}, \quad (2.7)$$

361 where  $T$  is the operating temperature,  $E_g$  the band gap and  $k$  the Boltzmann constant. There is  
 362 approximately a factor 15 between the leakage currents at room temperatures and at -10 °C.

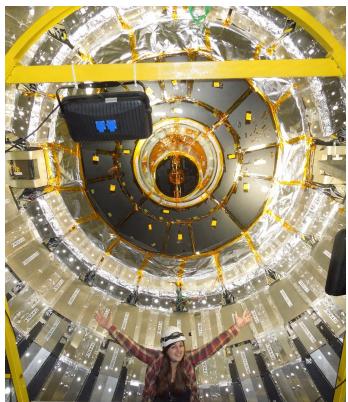


**Figure 2.13:** The pixel barrel being re-installed after the Long Shutdown in 2015, around the beam pipe at CMS[37]



**Figure 2.14:** First half of the inner tracker barrel, consisting of three layers of silicon modules.[38]

363 During the first long shutdown (LS1), the CMS cooling plant was refurbished[39] and the  
 364 fluorocarbon cooling system overhauled. To help to suppress the humidity inside the tracker,  
 365 new methods for vapour sealing and insulation were applied. Furthermore, several hundred  
 366 high-precision sensors are used to monitor the humidity and temperature. In order to get as  
 367 dry air as possible, a new dry-gas plant provides eight times more dry gas (air or nitrogen)  
 368 than during the first run, and allows regulation if the flow. As final addition, the cooling  
 369 bundles outside the tracker are equipped with heater wires and temperature sensors in order to  
 370 maintain safe operations above the cavern dew point For the data taking in 2015-2016, the  
 371 tracker operated at  $-15^{\circ}\text{C}$ .



**Figure 2.15:** Tracker bulkhead being put into closed state with insulation pieces installed during an early trial in fall 2013



**Figure 2.16:** New Tracker high-capacity dry-gas plant with membrane separation system[26]

## 372 Track reconstruction

373 An iterative tracking algorithm is responsible for the reconstruction of the tracks made by  
 374 charged particles in the inner tracking system. Each iteration consists of four steps[23]: the  
 375 track-seed generation, the pattern recognition algorithm, removal of track-hit ambiguities and  
 376 a final track fit.

377 The seed generation is the first step. It consists of finding reconstructed hits that are usable  
 378 for seeding the subsequent track-finding algorithm. They are identified from a group of at  
 379 least three reconstructed hits in the tracker, or from a pair of hits while requiring the origin  
 380 of the track segment to be compatible with the nominal beam-collision point. Since the pixel  
 381 has a higher granularity compared to the strip tracker, its seed generation efficiency is higher.  
 382 The overall efficiency exceeds 99%. The second step of each iteration, the pattern recognition  
 383 algorithm, uses the seeds as a starting point for a Kalman filter method [31, 32]. This algorithm  
 384 extrapolates the seed trajectory towards the next tracker layer taking into account the magnetic  
 385 field and multiple scattering effects. The track parameters are updated when a compatible hit  
 386 in the next layer is found. This procedure continues until the outermost layer is reached. Since  
 387 the Kalman filter method can result in multiple tracks associated to the same seed, or different  
 388 tracks sharing the same hits, a removal of ambiguities is necessary. This ambiguity resolving is  
 389 done by removing tracks that are sharing too many hits from the list of track candidates. The  
 390 tracks with highest number of hits or with the lowest  $\chi^2$  if the track fit is kept. The updated  
 391 track parameters are then refitted using the Kalman filter method, where all hits found in the  
 392 pattern recognition step are taken into account. The fit is done twice - once outwards from the  
 393 beam line towards the calorimeters, and inwards from the outermost track hit to the beam line  
 394 -, improving the estimation of the track parameters.

395 All hits that are unambiguously associated to the final track are removed from the list of  
 396 available hits. In order to associate the remaining hits, the procedure is repeated with looser  
 397 track reconstruction criteria. The use of the iterative track reconstruction procedure has a  
 398 high track finding efficiency, where the fake track reconstruction rate is negligible. For muons,  
 399 this results in a global track reconstruction efficiency exceeding 98%, and 75-98% for charged  
 400 hadrons. Due to the lack of coverage of the two pixel discs in high  $|\eta|$  range, the efficiency  
 401 drops.

#### 402 Primary vertex reconstruction

403 The primary vertex reconstruction should be able to measure the location of all proton interaction  
 404 vertices in each event: the signal vertex and all vertices from pile up events. It consists of a vertex  
 405 finding and a vertex fitting algorithm and happens in three steps. Tracks are selected to be  
 406 consistent with being produced promptly in the primary interaction by imposing requirements  
 407 on track parameters[36] By grouping reconstructed tracks according to the  $z$  coordinate of  
 408 their closest approach to the beam line, vertices for all interaction in the same beam crossing  
 409 are found, at CMS this is done by a deterministic annealing algorithm [40] . On top of this,  
 410 a vertex fitting algorithm like the Adaptive Vertex fitter [41], is performed. This creates the  
 411 three-dimensional primary-vertex position. With this fit, the contribution from long-lived hadron  
 412 decays is reduced by down weighting the tracks with a larger distance to the vertex. The primary  
 413 vertex corresponding to the highest sum of squared track transverse momenta is noted as the  
 414 point of the main interaction. The resolution on the primary vertex is about 14  $\mu\text{m}$  in  $r\phi$  and  
 415 about 19  $\mu\text{m}$  in the  $z$  direction for primary vertices with the sum of the track  $p_T > 100$  GeV  
 416 for 2016 data taking.

417 **2.2.3 Data acquisition**

418 At a design luminosity of  $10^{34} \text{ 1/(m}^2 \text{ s)}$ , the proton interaction rate exceeds 1 GHz. This makes  
 419 it impossible for the CMS experiment to store all the data generated. For this, a two level trigger  
 420 system has been put in place. The first level (Level-1) is a custom hardware system, while a  
 421 second level (HLT) is software based running on a large farm of computers. In run II, with the  
 422 increase in centre of mass energy and a higher luminosity a larger number of simultaneous  
 423 inelastic collisions per crossing is expected with respect to run I. For this, the CMS Level-1 has  
 424 been upgraded [42].

425 **CMS Level-1 trigger**

426 The Level-1 trigger has to be a flexible, maintainable system, capable of adapting to the evolving  
 427 physics programme of CMS [43]. Its output rate is restricted to 100 kHz imposed by the CMS  
 428 readout electronics. It is implemented by custom hardware and selects events containing candi-  
 429 date objects - eg ionization deposits consistent with a muon, or energy clusters corresponding  
 430 to an electron / photon / tau lepton / missing transverse energy / jet. Collisions with large  
 431 momenta can be selected by using scalar sum of the transverse momenta of the jets.

432 By buffering the raw data from the CMS subdetectors in front-end drivers, the level-1 trigger  
 433 has a pipeline memory of 3.2  $\mu\text{s}$  to decide whether to keep an event or reject it. The trigger  
 434 primitives (TP) from the calorimeters and muon detectors are processed in several steps and  
 435 combined into a global trigger. This information is then combined with the input from the other  
 436 subsystems. The separate inputs are synchronized to each other and the LHC orbit clock and  
 437 sent to the global trigger module. Here, level-1 trigger algorithms are performed within 1  $\mu\text{s}$  to  
 438 decide whether to keep the event.

439 For run II, all hardware, software, databases and the timing control system have been replaced.  
 440 The main changes are that the muon system now uses the redundancy of three muon detector  
 441 system earlier to make a high resolution muon trigger. The calorimeter system isn't bound any  
 442 more for streaming data the data and the global trigger has more level-1 trigger algorithms.

443 **CMS HLT trigger**

444 The HLT is an array of commercially available computers with programmable menu that has  
 445 output rate of on average 400 Hz for off-line event storage. The data processing is based on a  
 446 HLT path. This is a set of algorithmic steps to reconstruct objects and make selections on them.  
 447 Here, the information of all sub detectors can be used to perform algorithms on higher level  
 448 reconstructed objects. (FIXME: tracker in hlt or already in L1? )

449 **2.2.4 CMS computing model**

450 The selected data is stored, processed and dispersed via the Worldwide Large Hadron Collider  
 451 GRID (WLCG)[44, 45]. This has a tiered structure that function as a single, coherent system.:

452 At CERN, a single Tier-0 is located. The raw data collected by CMS is archived here, and a first  
 453 reconstruction of the data is done. This data is then in a file format usable for physics analysis.  
 454 Furthermore, it is able to reprocess data when new calibrations are made available. The Tier-0

455 site distributes this data to a total of seven Tier-1 centres. They carry out data reprocessing  
456 and store real data as well as simulated data. The Tier-1 further distribute the data to over 50  
457 Tier-2 centres. These make the data accessible for physics analysis and are also being used for  
458 the production of simulated data. This data is accessible for physicists around the world.



# Event generation, simulation and reconstruction

459

3

## 460 3.1 Collision event generation

461 3.1.1 Parton distribution functions and the hard interaction

462 3.1.2 Parton showering

463 3.1.3 Hadronization and decay

464 3.1.4 Underlying event

465 3.1.5 Event reconstruction and identification

## 466 3.2 Detector simulation

## 467 3.3 Physics object reconstruction and identification

468 3.3.1 The particle flow event reconstruction method

469 3.3.2 Identification of particles

470 3.3.2.1 Muon reco and ID

471 3.3.2.2 Electron reco and ID

472 3.3.2.3 Jet reco and ID of b quarks

473 3.3.2.4 Missing transverse energy reconstruction

474 3.3.3 Calibrations and corrections



# The search for FCNC involving 475 a top quark and a Z boson

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4

- 476 **4.1 Model assumptions**
- 477 **4.2 Data and simulation**
  - 478 **4.2.1 Standard Model Background simulation**
  - 479 **4.2.2 FCNC signal simulation**
  - 480 **4.2.3 Trigger requirements**
- 481 **4.3 Baseline event selection**
- 482 **4.4 Data driven background estimation**
- 483 **4.5 Regions and channels**
- 484 **4.6 Construction of template distributions**
- 485 **4.7 Systematic uncertainties**
- 486 **4.8 Limit setting procedure**
- 487 **4.9 Result and discussion**



## Conclusion and outlook

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