

# Measurement of Z boson's Mass And Optimization of Isolation Thresholds for Muon Pairs

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# What is the Z boson?

- Discovered in 1984 at the Large Hadron Collider
- Z boson mass:  $M \approx 91.1876 \pm 0.0021 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- Mass of nearly 100 times of a proton
- Only 10% of Z bosons decay into a lepton anti-lepton pair (Weinberg, 1993)

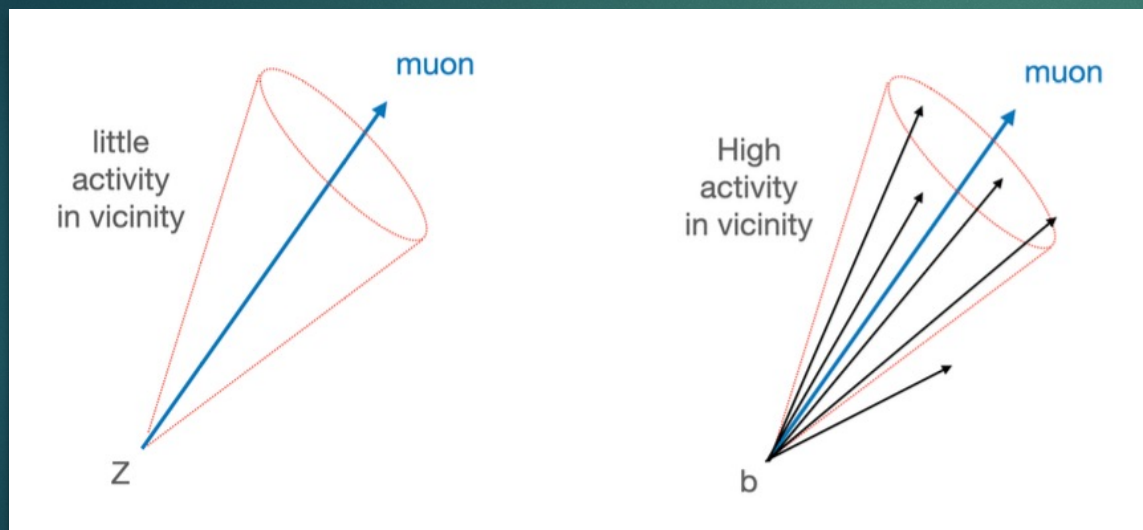


# Motivation & Goal

- ▶ Motivation: To test the **likelihood** of seeing a Z boson from a pair of muons to the **greatest precision** possible
- ▶ Goal: to measure the mass and signal fraction of the Z boson and to optimize the **statistical uncertainty** of the signal fraction by searching for the threshold on the isolation that gives the smallest uncertainty.



# Additional Information to Know

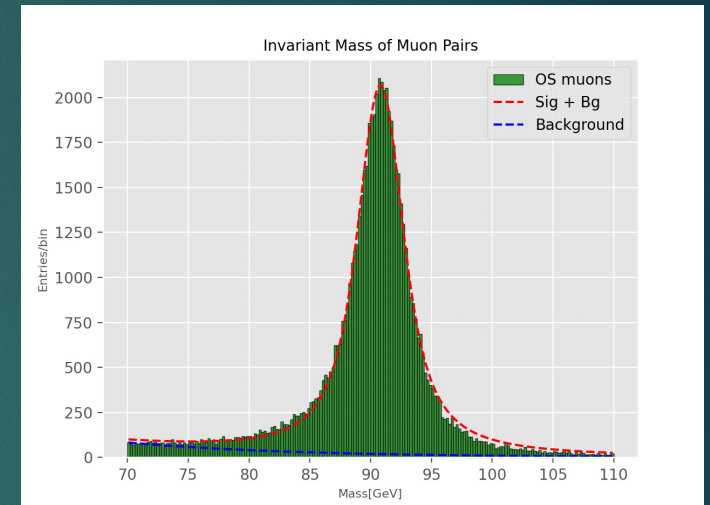


- ▶  $pp \rightarrow Z \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-$
- ▶ Isolation to distinguish muons
- ▶ Constructing the mass
  - ▶  $M^2 = (E_1 + E_2)^2 - \|p\|^2$
  - ▶  $p$  is the 3-momentum vector



# Methods

- ▶ 1. Filter muon data to only muon pairs with the opposite charge
- ▶ 2. Calculate invariant mass & make histogram
- ▶ 3. Curve fit() from SciPy
- ▶ 4. Use  $F(x) = A[(1-s)fb(x) + s*fs]$  centered at  $x_0$
- ▶ 5. Obtain signal fraction and its uncertainty
- ▶ 6. Scan isolation thresholds to find minimum uncertainty





# Results

Isolation Threshold: 5.0

Optimal Parameters:

$A = 1.36784109e+04$

$s = 9.94234317e-01 \pm 0.002156$

$\tau = 1.40290825e+01$

$X_0 = 9.08103412e+01$

$\Sigma = 9.08803422e-01$

$\alpha = 1.76746375e+00$

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# Results After Optimization

Isolation Threshold: **0.157**

Optimal Parameters:

$A = 6.96547340e+03$

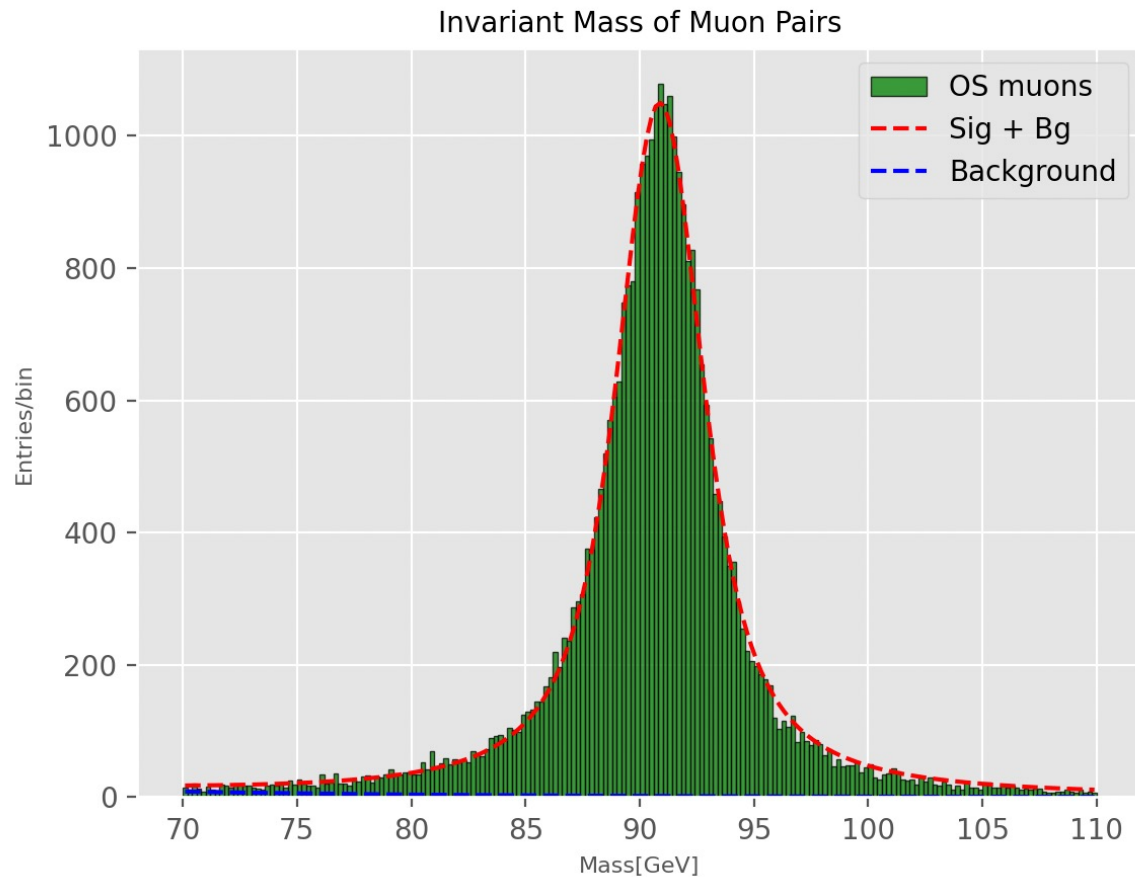
$s = 9.99046981e-01 \pm 0.00182$

$\tau = 1.24758570e+01$

$X0 = 9.08816207e+01$

$\text{Sigma} = 9.06484438e-01$

$\text{Alpha} = 1.77000598e+00$





# Analysis/Implications of Results

- ▶ By decreasing the isolation, less b quark background are likely to be in the data.
- ▶ Higher signal fraction -> higher likelihood of finding a Z boson within the isolation range
- ▶ 15.5% decrease in uncertainty
- ▶ Including more data -> higher uncertainty -> more fake muons
- ▶ At isolation = 0.157, mass is  $90.8816 \pm 0.00994789 \text{ GeV}$
- ▶ Better way to improve by varying threshold for each muon



# Conclusion

- ▶ Isolation Threshold = 0.157
- ▶ Within this range, probability of muons being from a Z boson is ~99%
- ▶ Signal fraction can tell us the likelihood of seeing a particle



# References

- ▶ Whiteson, D. (2022). *Physics 121W Advanced Laboratory*. ts, Irvine.
- ▶ Weinberg, S. (1993, January 1). *Dreams of a final theory : Weinberg, Steven, 1933- : Free download, Borrow, and streaming*. Internet Archive.  
<https://archive.org/details/dreamsoffinalthe00wein>



Thank you!!