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SEARCH FOR THE STANDARD MODEL HIGGS BOSON AT CMS IN THE 4-LEPTON CHANNEL

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One of the main targets of the CMS experiment is to search for the Standard Model Higgs boson. The 4-lepton channel (from the Higgs decay $h \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4l$, $l = e, \mu$) is one of the most promising. The analysis is based on the identification of two opposite-sign, same-flavor lepton pairs: leptons are required to be isolated and to come from the same primary vertex. The Higgs would be statistically revealed by the presence of a resonance peak in the 4-lepton invariant mass distribution.

The Higgs mass is a free parameter of the Standard Model, and the 4-lepton channel search is sensitive almost in all mass range. With data collected in 2010 and 2011 (4.7 fb^{-1} at $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$) the Higgs has been excluded in a wide region of mass at 95% of confidence level.

The 4-lepton analysis will be presented, spanning on its most important aspects: lepton identification, variables of isolation, impact parameter, kinematics, event selection, background control and statistical analysis with data-MC comparison.

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