Introduzione alle misure di fisica delle alte energie:

La ricerca del bosone Z e del bosone di Higgs

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Outline

- What is an "event"?
- Z boson: production and decays
- How one can identify the particles produced?
 ... in ATLAS
- The "Particle Physics Giant": the ATLAS detector
- Example of a real analysis: signal and backgrounds
- Hands-on session

The event

Every time two beams (10¹¹ protons in each beam) collide in the Interaction Point (every 25 ns), on average we have about 40-50 primary vertexes

The rest of these collisions are not very interesting (pp \rightarrow pp)



Protons collide with protons at high speed:

lots of energy ($E_1+E_2 = mc^2$) which can be used to create **new particles**

Sometimes a **Z boson** (m = 91.2 GeV/c²) or a Higgs boson (m = 125.1 GeV/ c²) is created



The Z boson

- Responsible for mediating the weak interaction (with the W boson)
- Z bosons decay into a pair of fermion and anti-fermion



The Z boson

- The possible decays are:
 - 5 types of quark pairs (the top is too heavy to be produced)
 - A pair of taus
 - A pair of muons
 - An electon-positron pair
 - 3 types of neutrinos
- Quarks are not observed free in nature, they hadronise which means they produce a collimated "jet" of particles
- Leptons have unique signature which we will explore
 - Taus are more complex, so we only look at muons and electrons
- Neutrino do not interact* with matter, so they escape the detector
 - * they do interact, but the probability is so low we assume it is zero in ATLAS

ATLAS

We <u>surround</u> the place where particles collide with a set of detectors.

Different types of particles leave different signals in the various detectors



How particles interact with detectors



The Inner Detector (tracking detector)

detects electrically charged particles traversing the detector

electrons, muons, protons, quarks (jets) ...

it is not sensitive to electrically neutral particles
 photons, neutrons, neutrinos...



"Hands on Particle Physics" International Masterclasses the whole detector "swims" in a magnetic field, that deflects charged particles' trajectories

> Amount of deflection depends on mass and speed

9

Electromagnetic calorimeter (ECAL)



detects all particles interacting electromagnetically

such as electron, positron, photon, …

these particles deposit energy in the ECAL and this energy is measured



Hadronic calorimeter (HCAL)



mainly particles made of various flavours of quarks





Muon spectrometer (MS)

is the outermost part of the detector

detects muons

a strong magnetic field deflects the muon's trajectory allowing a measure of the momentum

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	b	arrel
1	end-caps	

In order to detect as many particles as possible after each collision, the detector is built such that it covers nearly the full solid angle



You will:

- 1. Get to know the ATLANTIS event display: a visualisation program for particle collisions in ATLAS
 - Identify particles in a detector
 - Identify a decay process
 - Find as many correct answers as possible? *

2. Work with real data from LHC

• Identify decays of the Z boson from background

*: Can we answer this? What about for real data?

How it looks like...

Canvas Window







Electron



Electron clusters in the EM calorimeter look like yellow "towers" over a green background



Muon



Muon chambers that are hit are colored orange

Some of the hits in the outer muon chambers are due to particles in the cavern



Photon



Electromagnetic calorimeter cells fired are marked in yellow

in: 186156 Event: 3333537



A bundle of several particles flying in one direction. It is the result of quark or gluons being ejected.

Jets of hadrons

Muon chamber

→ …Outermost Layer



Neutrino



Neutrinos are not directly detected, but inferred from energy imbalance

Indicated by a dashed line, thicker line corresponds to larger missing energy

Signal: Z->µ⁺µ⁻





The Higgs Boson

- Responsible for the mass of all particles

-H bosons decay either into:

- a pair of fermion and anti-fermion
- a pair of gauge bosons (W⁺W⁻, ZZ, gg, γγ)



Today we are interested only in two decays: ZZ (and γγ, if you want) Why these two decays and not the most probable one in bb?

Signals summary

Z boson – electrically neutral mediator of the weak force



H boson – electrically neutral responsible of the mass of all elementary particles



Background (fondo) events

- In any pp collision, a lot of particles are produced! Not only Z and H...
- But we reconstruct Z and H (signals) based on their decay products: muons, electrons and photons
- All other physics processes producing muons, electrons and photons are called background events





- How can we distinguish background events from signal events?
- By looking at ALL particles we want in the final state!



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Are they the same??



And now

Hands-on!



Reminder: the Standard Model



Which of these is stable (i.e. can travel for ~100m)?





