Physics at the LHC

Part 3

Search for the Higgs Boson



The Search for the Higgs Boson



- "Revealing the physical mechanism that is responsible for the breaking of electroweak symmetry is one of the key problems in particle physics"
- "A new collider, such as the LHC must have the potential to detect this particle, should it exist."





Why do we need the Higgs Boson?

The Higgs boson enters the Standard Model to solve two fundamental problems:

Masses of the vector bosons W and Z:

Experimental results: $M_W = 80.399 \pm 0.023$ GeV / c² $M_Z = 91.1875 \pm 0.0021$ GeV / c²

A local gauge invariant theory requires massless gauge fields

Divergences in the theory (scattering of W bosons)



$$-iM(W^+W^- \rightarrow W^+W^-) \sim \frac{s}{M_W^2} \quad \text{for} \quad s \rightarrow \infty$$

Solution to both problems:

- create mass via spontaneous breaking of electroweak symmetry
- introduce a scalar particle that regulates the WW scattering amplitude

→ Higgs Mechanism

The structure of the Standard Model

Local gauge invariance

Fundamental principle: Prototype:

Free Dirac equation:

Lagrangian formalism:

 $i\gamma^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}\psi - m\psi = 0$ $L = i\overline{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}\psi - m\overline{\psi}\psi$

Quantum Electrodynamics (QED)

Local gauge transformation:

$$\psi(x) \to e^{i\alpha(x)}\psi(x)$$

(derivative: $\partial_{\mu}\psi \rightarrow e^{i\alpha(x)}\partial_{\mu}\psi + ie^{i\alpha(x)}\psi\partial_{\mu}\alpha$, $\delta_{\mu}\alpha$ term breaks the invariance of L)

Invariance of L under local gauge transformations can be accomplished by introducing a gauge field A_u , which transforms as:

$$A_{\mu} \rightarrow A_{\mu} + \frac{1}{e} \partial_{\mu} \alpha$$
 where $e = g_e/4\pi = \text{coupling strength}$

Can be formally achieved by the construction of a "modified" derivative

 $\partial_{\mu} \rightarrow D_{\mu} = \partial_{\mu} - ieA_{\mu}$ (covariant derivative)

\rightarrow Lagrangian of QED:

$$L = i \overline{\psi} \gamma^{\mu} \partial_{\mu} \psi - m \overline{\psi} \psi + e \overline{\psi} \gamma^{\mu} A_{\mu} \psi - \frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$$

interaction term

where $F_{\mu\nu}$ is the usual field strength tensor:

$$F_{\mu\nu} = \partial_{\mu}A_{\nu} - \partial_{\nu}A_{\mu}$$

Note:

(i) Imposing local gauge invariance leads to the interacting field theory of QED (ii) A mass term ($\frac{1}{2}m^2A_{\mu}A^{\mu}$) for the gauge field A_{μ} would violate gauge invariance

Similar for the Standard Model interactions:

Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD):

SU(3) transformations, 8 gauge fields,
8 massless gluons, gluon self-coupling
- T_a (a = 1,...,8) generators of the SU(3) group (independent traceless 3x3 matrices)

- G_{μ} gluon fields

- g = coupling constant

$$D_{\mu} = \partial_{\mu} + igT_{a}G_{\mu}^{a}$$
$$G_{\mu}^{a} \rightarrow G_{\mu}^{a} - \frac{1}{g}\partial_{\mu}\alpha_{a} - f_{abc}\alpha_{b}G_{\mu}^{c}$$

Electroweak Interaction (Glashow, Salam, Weinberg): SU(2)_L x U(1)_Y transformations, 4 gauge fields, $(W_{\mu}^{1}, W_{\mu}^{2}, W_{\mu}^{3}, B_{\mu})$

Physical states:

$$W_{\mu}^{\pm} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left(W_{\mu}^{1} \mp i W_{\mu}^{2} \right)$$
$$Z_{\mu} = -\sin \theta_{W} B_{\mu} + \cos \theta_{W} W_{\mu}^{3}$$
$$A_{\mu} = \cos \theta_{W} B_{\mu} + \sin \theta_{W} W_{\mu}^{3}$$

The Higgs mechanism

Spontaneous breaking of the SU(2) x U(1) gauge symmetry

Scalar fields are introduced

$$\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 + i\phi_2 \\ \phi_3 + i\phi_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix}$$
$$V(\phi) = \mu^2(\phi^*\phi) + \lambda(\phi^*\phi)^2$$



Lagrangian for the scalar fields:
 g, g' = SU(2), U(1) gauge couplings

Potential:

$$L_2 = \left| \left(i \partial_{\mu} - g \mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{W}_{\mu} - g' \frac{Y}{2} B_{\mu} \right) \phi \right|^2 - V(\phi)$$

• For $\mu^2 < 0$, $\lambda > 0$, minimum of potential:

$$\phi_1^2 + \phi_2^2 + \phi_3^2 + \phi_4^2 = v^2$$
 $v^2 = -\mu^2 / \lambda$

• Perturbation theory around ground state:

$$\phi_0(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v + h(x) \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$$

Masses of the gauge bosons:

$$\begin{split} & \left| \left(-ig\frac{\tau}{2} \cdot \mathbf{w}_{\mu} - i\frac{g'}{2}B \right) \phi \right|^{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \left| \left(\begin{array}{c} gW_{\mu}^{3} + g'B_{\mu} & g(W_{\mu}^{1} - iW_{\mu}^{2}) \\ g(W_{\mu}^{1} + iW_{\mu}^{2}) & -gW_{\mu}^{3} + g'B_{\mu} \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ v \end{array} \right) \right|^{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{8} v^{2}g^{2} \left[(W_{\mu}^{1})^{2} + (W_{\mu}^{2})^{2} \right] + \frac{1}{8} v^{2} (g'B_{\mu} - gW_{\mu}^{3}) (g'B^{\mu} - gW^{3\mu}) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2} vg \right)^{2} W_{\mu}^{+} W^{-\mu} + \frac{1}{8} v^{2} (W_{\mu}^{3}, B_{\mu}) \left(\begin{array}{c} g^{2} & -gg' \\ -gg' & g'^{2} \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c} W^{3\mu} \\ B^{\mu} \end{array} \right) \end{split}$$

Particle content and masses

- Mass terms for the W[±] bosons:

$$M_{W^{\pm}} = \frac{1}{2}vg$$

- Remaining terms off-diagonal in W_{μ}^{3} and B_{μ} :

$$\frac{1}{8}v^{2}(W_{\mu}^{3}, B_{\mu})\begin{pmatrix}g^{2} & -gg'\\-gg' & g'^{2}\end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix}W^{3\mu}\\B^{\mu}\end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{8}v^{2}\left[gW_{\mu}^{3} - g'B_{\mu}\right]^{2} + 0\left[g'W_{\mu}^{3} + gB_{\mu}\right]^{2}$$

- Massless photon: $A_{\mu} = \frac{g' W_{\mu}^3 + g B_{\mu}}{\sqrt{g^2 + {g'}^2}} \quad with \quad M_A = 0$

- Massive neutral vector boson:
$$Z_{\mu} = \frac{gW_{\mu}^3 - g'B_{\mu}}{\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}}$$
 with $M_Z = \frac{1}{2}v\sqrt{g^2 + g'^2}$

Important relations in the Glashow-Salam-Weinberg model:

• Relation between the gauge couplings:

 \rightarrow Important prediction of the GSW with a Higgs doublet:

or expressed in terms of the ρ parameter:

$$\frac{1}{2v^2} = \frac{g^2}{8M_W^2} = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \qquad \Rightarrow \quad v = 246 \; GeV$$

where G_F = Fermi constant, know from low energy experiments (muon decay)

$$\frac{g'}{g} = \tan \theta_W$$

 $\frac{M_W}{M_Z} = \cos\theta_W$

 $\rho \equiv \frac{M_W^2}{M_Z^2 \cos^2 \theta_W} = 1$

Masses of the Fermions:

 The same Higgs doublet which generates W[±] and Z masses is sufficient to give masses to the fermions (leptons and quarks):
 e.g. for electrons: use an arbitrary coupling G_e

$$L_{3} = -G_{e}\left[(\overline{\nu}_{e}, \overline{e})_{L} \begin{pmatrix} \phi^{+} \\ \phi^{0} \end{pmatrix} e_{R} + \overline{e}_{R}(\phi^{-}, \overline{\phi}^{0}) \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{e} \\ e \end{pmatrix}_{L} \right]$$

• Spontaneous symmetry breaking:

$$L_3 = -\frac{G_e v}{\sqrt{2}} (\overline{e}_L e_R + \overline{e}_R e_L) - \frac{G_e}{\sqrt{2}} (\overline{e}_L e_R + \overline{e}_R e_L)h$$

mass term

interaction term with the Higgs field

• Important relation: coupling of the Higgs boson to fermions is proportional to their mass





$$\phi = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0\\ v+h(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

and finally..... a massive scalar with self-coupling, the **Higgs boson**:

• Mass:
$$m_h^2 = 2v^2 \lambda$$

(since λ is not predicted by theory, the mass of the Higgs boson is unknown)

• Self-coupling:
$$-\lambda vh^3 - \frac{1}{4}\lambda h^4$$

..... and:

• The additional diagram, with Higgs boson exchange, regulates the divergences in the longitudinal WW scattering



The Higgs boson as a UV regulator

Scattering of longitudinally polarized W bosons



$$-iM(W^+W^- \rightarrow W^+W^-) \sim \frac{s}{m_W^2} \quad \text{for} \quad s \rightarrow \infty$$

Higgs boson guarantees unitarity (if its mass is < ~1 TeV)



 $-iM(W^+W^- \rightarrow W^+W^-) \sim m_H^2$ for $s \rightarrow \infty$

8.2 Higgs boson properties



Properties of the Higgs Boson

The decay properties of the Higgs boson are fixed, if the mass is known:

$$H \qquad \qquad W^{+}, Z, t, b, c, \tau^{+}, \dots, g, \gamma$$

$$W^{-}, Z, t, b, c, \tau^{-}, \dots, g, \gamma$$



$$\Gamma(H \to f\bar{f}) = N_C \frac{G_F}{4\sqrt{2\pi}} m_f^2 (M_H^2) M_H$$

$$\Gamma(H \to VV) = \delta_V \frac{G_F}{16\sqrt{2\pi}} M_H^3 (1 - 4x + 12x^2) \beta_V$$

where: $\delta = 1 \delta_V - 2 x M_H^2 / M_H^2$ we have

where: $\delta_Z = 1$, $\delta_W = 2$, $x = M_V^2 / M_V^2$, β = velocity

$$\Gamma(H \to gg) = \frac{G_F \alpha_a^2 (M_H^2)}{36\sqrt{2\pi^3}} M_H^3 \left[1 + \left(\frac{95}{4} - \frac{7N_f}{6}\right) \frac{\alpha_a}{\pi} \right]$$
$$\Gamma(H \to \gamma\gamma) = \frac{G_F \alpha_a^2}{128\sqrt{2\pi^3}} M_H^3 \left[\frac{4}{3} N_C e_t^2 - 7 \right]^2$$

The Higgs boson couples to particles proportional to their mass

→ decays preferentially in the heaviest particles kinematically allowed What do we know about the Higgs Boson today?

- Mass not predicted by theory, except that $m_H < \sim 1000 \text{ GeV}$
- $m_H > 114.4 \text{ GeV}$ from direct searches at LEP $m_H < 158 \text{ GeV}$.or. $m_H > 173 \text{ GeV}$ from direct searches at the Tevatron



What do we know about the Higgs Boson today? (cont.)

 Indirect limits from electroweak precision measurements (LEP, Tevatron and other experiments....)





→ Higgs boson could be around the corner !

Addendum:

to convince you that quantum corrections exist and are measurable in the experiments

(ii) Indirekte Grenzen (aus Präzisionsmessungen):

Example I el.weak corr.

- Im Standardmodell sind alle Wechselwirkungen der Teilchen untereinander (Kopplungsstärken) exakt festgelegt
- In der Quantenfeldtheorie müssen auch Quantenkorrekturen in der Berechnung von Streuprozessen, Massen, etc. berücksichtigt werden. Hierbei treten Beiträge von sog. virtuellen Teilchen auf, d.h. Teilchen machen sich bereits weit unterhalb ihrer Energie/Massenskala bemerkbar.

Beispiel: Einfluss des Top-Quarks auf die Z⁰-Masse (LEP, 1990er Jahre)



Electroweak radiative corrections



Standard Model relations (lowest order)

$$\rho = \frac{m_{\rm W}^2}{m_{\rm Z}^2 \cos^2 \theta_{\rm W}} = 1$$

$$\sin^2 \theta_{\rm W} = 1 - \frac{m_{\rm W}^2}{m^2 Z}$$

 $m_{\rm W}^2 = \frac{\pi \alpha}{\sqrt{2} \sin^2 \theta_{\rm W} G_{\rm F}}$

 $\alpha(0)$

Relations including radiative corrections

 $\vec{\rho} = 1 + \Delta \rho$

$$\sin^2\theta_{\rm eff} = (1 + \Delta\kappa)\sin^2\theta_{\rm W}$$

$$m_{\rm W}^2 = \frac{\pi\alpha}{\sqrt{2}\sin^2\theta_{\rm W}G_{\rm F}} \cdot \frac{1}{(1-\Delta r)}$$

$$\alpha(m_{\rm Z}^2) = \frac{\alpha(0)}{1 - \Delta \alpha}$$

 $\Delta \alpha = \Delta \alpha_{\text{lepl}} + \Delta \alpha_{\text{top}} + \Delta \alpha_{\text{had}}^{(5)}$ $\Delta \rho, \Delta \kappa, \Delta r = f(m_t^2, \log(m_{\text{H}}), \ldots)$

Forward-backward asymmetries and fermion couplings



Example III -QCD corrections-



Predictions for the W and Z boson total cross sections at the Tevatron, using the MRST2004 and CTEQ pdfs, compared with measurements from the CDF and D0 collaborations. The predictions are shown at LO, NLO, and NNLO. For the NLO prediction the accompanying pdf uncertainties are shown as band.

Are you convinced now ?

Higgs boson production at the LHC



Higher order corrections:





- Spira, Djouadi, Graudenz, Zerwas (1991) - Dawson (1991)
- Harlander, Kilgore (2002)
- Anastasiou, Melnikov (2002)
- Ravindran, Smith, van Neerven (2003)

Independent variation of renormalization and factorization scales (with 0.5 m_H < $\mu_F,~\mu_R$ < 2 m_H)

Useful Higgs Boson Decays at Hadron Colliders



 $\label{eq:Lepton} \begin{array}{l} \underline{\text{at high mass:}} \\ \text{Lepton final states} \\ (\text{via H} \rightarrow \text{WW} \ , \text{ZZ}) \end{array}$

at low mass: Lepton and Photon final states (via $H \rightarrow WW^*$, ZZ*)

Tau final states

The dominant **bb decay mode** is only useable in the associated production mode (ttH, W/Z H)

(due to the huge QCD jet background, leptons from W/Z or tt decays)

$H \rightarrow ZZ^{(*)} \rightarrow \ell \ell \ell \ell$



50

100

200

4 lepton invariant mass (GeV)

150

250

 \rightarrow do not originate from primary vertex (B-meson lifetime: ~ 1.5 ps)

Dominant background after isolation cuts: ZZ continuum

Discovery potential in mass range from ~130 to ~600 GeV/c²

Decay modes at low mass: $H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$



- Main exp. tools for background suppression:
 - photon identification
 - γ / jet separation (calorimeter + tracker)

Sensitivity in the low mass region, however, higher integrated luminosities required



Signal expectation for 10 fb⁻¹



First look at the data: no evidence for an excess, also not yet expected

$H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow \ell \nu \ \ell \nu$

- Large H \rightarrow WW BR for m_H ~ 160 GeV/c²
- Neutrinos → no mass peak,
 → use transverse mass
- Large backgrounds: WW, Wt, tt
- <u>Two main discriminants</u>:
 - (i) Lepton angular correlation



(ii) Jet veto: no jet activity in central detector region



Channel with highest sensitivity ! Sensitive to a Standard Model Higgs boson already now, with 1 fb⁻¹, First sensitive results expected at Summer Conferences 2011 !

First results from the CMS collaboration on the H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow $\ell_V \ell_V$ search:



- No evidence for a "Higgs-like" resonance in the first CMS data;
- Contributions form quarks of a possible 4th generation to the Higgs production can be excluded in the mass range around 150 GeV

Vector Boson Fusion qq H

Motivation: Increase discovery potential at low mass Improve and extend measurement of Higgs boson parameters (couplings to bosons, fermions)

> Established (low mass region) by D. Zeppenfeld et al. (1997/98) Earlier studies: R.Kleiss W.J.Stirling, Phys. Lett. 200 (1988) 193; Dokshitzer, Khoze, Troyan, Sov.J. Nucl. Phys. 46 (1987) 712; Dokshitzer, Khoze, Sjöstrand, Phys.Lett., B274 (1992) 116.

Distinctive Signature of:

- two high p_T forward jets (tag jets)
- little jet activity in the central region (no colour flow)
 ⇒ central jet Veto





 $H \rightarrow \tau \tau$ decay modes visible for a SM Higgs boson in vector boson fusion





Experimental challenge:

- Identification of hadronic taus
- Good E_T^{miss} resolution
 (ττ mass reconstruction in collinear approximation,
 i.e. assume that the neutrinos go in the direction of the visible decay products,
 good approximation for highly boosted taus)
 - \rightarrow Higgs mass can be reconstructed
- Dominant background: $Z \rightarrow \tau \tau$

the shape of this background must be controlled in the high mass region \rightarrow use data (Z \rightarrow µµ) to constrain it

LHC Higgs boson discovery potential for $\sqrt{s} = 14 \text{ TeV}$



- Comparable performance in the two experiments [at high mass: more channels (in WW and ZZ decay modes) available than shown here]
- Several channels and production processes available over most of the mass range
 → calls for a separation of the information + global fit (see below)

Current status of the Higgs boson search at the LHC

(i) ATLAS exclusion limits based on 2010 data (35 pb⁻¹) Combination of six different channels



- Combination of all search channels has been performed
- No evidence (yet) for any signal contribution (also no sensitivity yet)
- Highest sensitivity in the mass range around 165 GeV Excluded cross section is ~2.3 $\sigma_{\rm SM}$

Sensitivity reached for production via 4th generation:

(ii) ATLAS exclusion limits based on 2010 data (35 pb⁻¹) Combination of 7 different channels



Similar regions excluded by the Tevatron and CMS experiments

LHC Higgs boson discovery prospects for $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV



The multiple of the cross section of the Standard Model Higgs boson which can be excluded using 1 fb⁻¹ of data at 7 TeV. The results for the different channels are plotted in the mass range where they are used in the combination. The plot on the right displays the results in the low mass region, below 200 GeV. The green and yellow bands indicate the 1- and 2- σ ranges in which the limit is expected to lie.

Expect interesting results (exclusion or first evidence) very soon !



Is it a Higgs Boson? -can the LHC measure its parameters?-



- Mass
- Couplings to bosons and fermions
- Spin and CP
- Higgs self coupling

Motivation:

- After a discovery of a "Higgs-like" resonance at the LHC one has to measure its parameters and consolidate the evidence for a Higgs boson
- As many parameters as possible have to be measured in as many different production and decay channels as possible ! (global fit, see later)
- Discriminate between: SM Higgs boson, MSSM like Higgs boson, Composite Higgs boson,



Summary: Is it a Higgs Boson ?



1. Mass

Higgs boson mass can be measured with high precision < 1% over a large mass range (130 - ~450 GeV) using $\gamma\gamma$ and ZZ \rightarrow 4 ℓ resonances

2. Couplings to bosons and fermions

- Ratios of major couplings can be measured with reasonable (~20-30%) precision;
- Absolute coupling measurements need further theory assumptions (Methods established, exp. updates are needed, in particular for VBF channels at high luminosity)

3. Spin and CP

Angular correlations in $H \rightarrow ZZ(^*) \rightarrow 4\ell$ and $\Delta \phi_{jj}$ in VBF events are sensitive to spin and CP (achievable precision is statistics limited, requires high luminosity)

4. Higgs self coupling

No measurement possible at the LHC;

Very difficult at the sLHC, there might be sensitivity in HH \rightarrow WW WW for m_H ~ 160 GeV Situation needs to be re-assessed with more realistic simulations