You know what I did this summer...

The Higgs Boson, Revealed!

Victoria Martin, ATLAS Edinburgh

In Memorium: Thomas Binoth

Dr Thomas Binoth died in an avalanche on Sunday 3rd January 2010, while skiing in the Diemtigtal Valley, 25 miles south of Bern, Switzerland.

Thomas was a Reader in Theoretical Particle Physics at the University of Edinburgh. His death comes at a critical moment in the history of our understanding of physics at the smallest scales, the world of elementary particles and their interactions. We have a theory, the Standard Model, established forty years ago, which describes in fantastic detail the wealth of experimental data from high energy particle colliders. However, a key ingredient of this theory, the Higgs boson, has so far remained elusive. The Large Hadron Collider (LHC), constructed over the last decade at CERN in Geneva, is the highest energy collider ever built, and is expected to discover the Higgs boson and the physics that underlies it. The first high energy collisions were seen in December 2009. This experiment was the focus of Thomas' theoretical work.



Contents

- What is this thing called Higgs?
- The Large Hadron Collider at CERN
- The ATLAS experiment
- How to find a Higgs
- The 4th July 2012 and Higgsteria!





• What's next

What is this thing called Higgs?

Energy and Mass Units

- Particle Physicists use units of electron-Volts, eV.
 - 1 eV is the energy gained by a particle with the charge e, when accelerated through 1 V.
 - 1 eV = 1.60×10^{-19} J
 - We often use $MeV \equiv 1.60 \times 10^{-13} \ J$ or $GeV \equiv 1.60 \times 10^{-10} \ J$
- Mass units: MeV/c^2 or GeV/c^2 .
 - 1 GeV/ $c^2 = 1.79 \ge 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
 - The mass of the proton, $m_p = 0.982 \text{ GeV}/c^2$.
 - Occasionally we drop the c² from the notation (equivalent to setting c=1).

The World of Particle Physics

• Particle physics aims to understand the universe on the smallest length scales.



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Forces and Interactions

- We need to understand the **interactions** of the quarks and leptons.
- Four forces are observed in nature:



- Gravity
- Short distances: use quantum physics to describe interactions.
- Each individual interaction is caused the the exchange of a force carrying particle.
- We think of each of the force carriers as causing a *field* where the interaction can take place.



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Z

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All the force carriers are observed to be *bosons* with **S=1**.

9

Z

The "Standard Model" of Particle Physics

- The Standard Model of Particle Physics describes the quarks, leptons and the strong, weak and electromagnetic interactions between using gauge theory.
- Gauge theory marries:
 - Einstein's theory of special relativity (physics of the very fast)
 - Quantum physics (physics of the very small)
 - Symmetries (observed in many areas of physics)
- The Standard Model was developed by Glashow, Weinburg, Salam. Essential contributions from Higgs, 't Hooft & Veltman, Yang & Mills.
- Possibly the best tested theory in physics!



Three Generations of Matter

Each of the forces is described by a gauge group

- Electromagnetism: U(1)
- Strong: SU(3)
- •Weak: SU(2)

The bosons are the generators of the groups

Particle Masses

• The quark, lepton and boson masses are measured experimentally.



Gordon Kane, The Dawn of Physics beyond the Standard Model; Scientific American, May 2003.



- W and Z bosons decay almost instantaneously.
- Never directly observed: we observe their consequences e.g. the decay products.
- W and Z bosons are massive: $m_W = 80.385 \pm 0.015 \text{ GeV}/c^2$, $m_Z = 91.188 \pm 0.002 \text{ GeV}/c^2$.

W and Z bosons



Z-boson interaction from Gargamelle experiment at CERN, 1973

W-boson discovery from UA1 experiment at CERN, 1983

W and Z bosons



The crux of the Higgs problem: there is no way to satisfactorily include the mass of the W and Z bosons in the Standard Model without the Higgs mechanism!

 Proposed The Higgs Mechanism was proposed in 1964 separately by Higgs; Brout & Englert; Guralnik, Hagen & Kibble.



• Proposes an extra field, ϕ , with potential:

 $V(\phi) = -\mu^2 \phi^{\dagger} \phi + \lambda (\phi^{\dagger} \phi)^2 \quad \text{with } \mu^2 > 0, \lambda > 0$



• The minimum of the potential is a circle with

$$|\phi_0| \equiv -v = -\frac{\mu}{\sqrt{2\lambda}}$$



 \bullet Consider fluctuations of the ϕ field around the minimum:

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

$$V(v+h) = V(v) + \lambda v^2 h^2 + 4\lambda v h^3 + \lambda h^4$$



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Peter was the only one to observe this in 1964!



The Higgs boson has **S=0**

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The excitations have a mass!

Higgs boson can interact with itself

This is the Higgs boson! it has mass $m_H = \sqrt{2\lambda}v$

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Particle Masses

- The Higgs mechanism explains the masses of the W and Z bosons.
- In terms of the minimum of the potential (v) and the strength of the weak force (g_W, g'_W) :

$$v = \frac{1}{2} \frac{m_W}{g_W}$$
 $m_Z = m_W \frac{g_W}{\sqrt{g_W'^2 + g_W^2}}$

- The Higgs mechanism also describe the masses of the quarks and leptons.
- The mass of each quark and lepton is proportional to how strongly the Higgs boson interacts with it.
- The mass of the Higgs boson is not predicted, λ is a free parameter:
- We must measure it! $m_H = \sqrt{2\lambda}v$

1. Physicists at a conference reception; all free to move around the room.



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2. In comes a noble prize winner; everyone wants to speak to him.

The physicists crowd around him. The noble laureate is not free to move around; he has gained inertia by interacting with the crowd.



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This is analogous to how the particles acquire mass: by interacting with the Higgs field. Laureates of different popularity gain different masses.

3. The next evening; physicists enjoying another drink.

A rumour enters the room: the keynote speaker tomorrow will announce the discovery of a new particle!



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The clustering of the field of physicists is as if a new massive particle has formed. This is the Higgs boson.

For completeness...

 $(D_{\mu}\phi)^{*}D^{*}\phi - U(\phi) - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu}$ $D_{\mu}\phi = \partial_{\mu}\phi - ieA_{\mu}\phi$ $\sum_{k=0}^{n} A_{k} - \sum_{k=0}^{n} A_{k}$ $= \sum_{k=0}^{n} A_{k} - \sum_{k=0}^{n} A_{k}$ $= \sum_{k=0}^{n} A_{k} - \sum_{k=0}^{n} A_{k}$ $= \sum_{k=0}^{n} A_{k} - \sum_{k=0}^{n} A_{k}$



Searching for the Higgs Boson

My Collider

CERN uses a chain of accelerators, developed over decades, to accelerate protons from KE = 0 to 4000 GeV in stages...



- Linear accelerator: up to 50 MeV
- Proton Synchroton Booster: 50 MeV \rightarrow 1.4 GeV
- Proton Synchroton: 1.4 GeV \rightarrow 26 GeV
- Super Proton Synchroton: 26 GeV \rightarrow 450 GeV
- Large Hadron Collider: 450 GeV \rightarrow 4 TeV

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The Large Hadron Collider



- 27km circumference
- 50 to 175 m underground
- 9300 magnets used to keep the beam in orbit
- 1232 dipole magnets
- Ultra-high vacuum of 10⁻¹⁰ Torr, equivalent to 1,000 km above earth
- Each dipole magnet: 14.3 m long, runs at 1.9 K, provides 8.3 Tesla, cost 500 kCHF
- four 400 MHz power supplies accelerate the beams from 450 GeV to collision energy
- Design energy: 7 TeV per beam
- Currently running at 4 TeV per beam
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Proton-proton collisions

• It looks something like....

Proton-proton collisions

• It looks something like....



Proton-proton collisions

• It looks something like....



- A few challenges:
 - protons are composite objects (made of three quarks)
 - at LHC energies protons are even more complex: contain many interacting gluons



Making a Higgs boson at the LHC

- Most collisions don't make anything interesting
- Only one in 10⁹ collisions creates a Higgs boson.
 - Higgs bosons are rare!

Another story altogether: what happens to all that data?



Identifying Higgs Bosons

1 🖃 bb WW ΖZ • Higgs bosons decay almost instantaneously, into pairs of 10⁻² particles. • Pairs of what ... depends on 10^{-3} 200 300 400 500 1000 M_H [GeV] 100 Higgs boson mass, m_H . Higgs BR + Total Uncert 01 1 bb WW • e.g. for $m_H = 125 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ • pairs of *b*-quarks: $H \rightarrow b\overline{b}$ 57.7% 77 • \geq pairs of Z-bosons: $H \rightarrow ZZ$ 2.6% • pairs of photons: $H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ 0.2% 10⁻² 10⁻³

100

120

140

160

180 200 M_H [GeV]

Before the 4th of July

- Before the LHC, earlier experiments ruled out:
- $m_H < 114.4 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- $147 < m_H < 180 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- Standard Model measurements are also sensitive to m_H
- "Best fit" value for the mass of the Higgs boson is $m_H =$ $94^{+29}-24$ GeV/ c^2
- LHC looks in the range $100 < m_H < 600 \text{ GeV}/c^2$



Detecting the Higgs boson...

Detecting the Higgs boson...

Remember we have to detect the decay products, not the boson itself

To detect the Higgs boson decays...

simply assembly the ATLAS detector at the proton collision point



To detect the Higgs boson decays...



To detect the Higgs boson decays...



ATLAS detector

ATLAS is essentially the largest and most sophisticated digital camera ever built

- •45 meters long
- 25 meters diameter
- •7,000 tonnes

Observes and identifies all final state particles:

those which live long enough to travel from the interaction point to the detector



ATLAS Collaboration

- 3,000 physicists at 175 institutions in 37 countries
- 20 from the University of Edinburgh









Analysing the Data



Analysing the Data

- ATLAS and CMS have collected and analysed data in 2011 and 2012.
 - 2011: proton collisions at 7 TeV, 4.8 fb⁻¹
 - 2012: proton collisions at 8 TeV, 5.8 fb⁻¹



Analysing the Data

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 - 2011: proton collisions at 7 TeV, 4.8 fb⁻¹
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- We look for the pair of particles the Higgs boson is predicted to:
 - pairs of Z-bosons: $H \rightarrow ZZ$
 - pairs of *W*-bosons: $H \rightarrow WW$
 - pairs of photons: $H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$
 - pairs of *b*-quarks: $H \rightarrow b\overline{b}$
 - pairs of τ -leptons: $H \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$



Looking for the Higgs

- Search in the data for collisions where the relevant pairs of particles are produced.
 - e.g. look for two photons.
- Calculate the mass of the particle of the producing the pair of particles.
- Many other processes, nothing to do with the Higgs boson, can also produce two photons: known as **background processes**.
- Higgs boson decay will produce coherent pairs of photons with $m(\gamma\gamma)$ close to the mass of the Higgs, m_H .
- For discovery, we want to differentiate between the Higgs boson processes and the background processes at **5 standard deviations**.

$\frac{H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma}{Candidate}$





$H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ Candidate

$H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ Results

- Most photon pairs detected are due to background processes.
- Small excess of events at $m_{\gamma\gamma} \sim 125 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
- Just as we'd expect if there's a Higgs boson which can decay into two photons.



From Thomas' Door



Looking for $H \rightarrow ZZ$

- Z-bosons themselves decay
- Easiest to look for decays of Z-bosons into electrons or muons (leptons) $Z \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^-, Z \rightarrow e^+ e^- (H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow eeee, H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow ee\mu\mu, H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow \mu\mu\mu\mu)$
- Mass of two of the leptons should be close to m_Z
- Other collision events will also produce four leptons: challenge is to separate background and Higgs signal



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$H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \mu^+ \mu^-$ (maybe!)







Compatible with a peak at $m_{\ell\ell\ell\ell} \sim 125 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ in addition to background processes.

$H \rightarrow W^+ W^-$

- *W*-bosons decay very quickly: easiest to look $W \rightarrow ev$, $W \rightarrow \mu v$
- Neutrinos (v) don't appear in directly in ATLAS, but we can infer their presence.
- Data is compatible $m_{\rm H} \sim 125~GeV/c^2$ Higgs boson being produced in addition to backgrounds.



ATLAS $H \rightarrow W W \rightarrow e \mu v v$ candidate event

 $H \rightarrow b\overline{b}$



 $H \rightarrow b\overline{b}$

• Looking for pairs of *b*-quarks in the detector is very hard as *b*-quarks are ubiquitous.



 $H \rightarrow bb$

- Looking for pairs of *b*-quarks in the detector is very hard as *b*-quarks are ubiquitous.
- Instead search for Higgs bosons produced along with a *W* or *Z* boson or top quarks:
 - $WH \rightarrow ev \ b\overline{b}, \ \mu v \ b\overline{b}$
 - $ZH \rightarrow ee \ b\overline{b}, \ \mu\mu \ b\overline{b}, \ vv \ b\overline{b}$
 - $ttH \rightarrow t \overline{t} \ b \overline{b} \rightarrow e \ v \ q \overline{q} \ b \overline{b}$




• No evidence for $H \rightarrow b\overline{b}$ in ATLAS, but we didn't yet expect to see any.

• Combining the analyses we've $H \rightarrow ZZ$, $H \rightarrow WW$, $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma H \rightarrow b\overline{b}$, $H \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$



- This plot shows for what masses the Higgs boson can be excluded.
- ATLAS cannot exclude a Higgs between 122 and 131 GeV/ c^2 at 95% confidence level.



- μ compatible with 1 means the data is compatible with the hypotheses a Higgs boson is being created.
- Largest significance is at $m_H = 126.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$



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- Largest significance is at $m_H = 126.5 \text{ GeV}/c^2$



- The significance of the signal at $126.0 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ is 5.9 standard deviations!
- We have discovered something new!

How we found out...

The 4th of July at CERN





The 4th of July at CERN



Fabiola's Talk



Global significance: 4.1-4.3 (for LEE over 110-600 or 110-150 GeV)

The 4th of July...



The 4th of July...



The 4th of July...



What happened next... Higgsteria!

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Le boson de Higgs découvert avec 99,9999 % de certitude

Boson de Higge : la fin de la traque - La boson de Higge : les naisons d'une quite













-64

Me on the telly!



Some letters...

Some emails...

```
Dear Sirs,
We are a craft beer micro company (Ca
l'Arenys- GUINEU BEER), and we would like
to make a Brewing Special Edition (10hl)
as an Homage to Mr. Higgs
First of all we would like to know if
there is any concern about it.
The idea is absolutely NON lucrative
-We would like to know, if possible, if
Mr. Higgs likes beer and what styles does
he prefer in order to adapt our receipt.
Best Regards
Xavier Serra
info@calarenys.com
Ca l'Arenys brewing Manager
Valls de Torruella ( Barcelona )
Spain
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Ca l'Arenys brewing Manager Valls de Torruella (Barcelona) Spain << The theories and science are for me a source of inspiration and to thank Peter Higgs with this portrait.>>

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> How to find a fitting name, was rather a challenge. Until my husband suggested your's : this boat was our divine particle, the missing part in our life.

<< The theories and science are for me a source of inspiration and to thank Peter Higgs with this portrait.>>

ATLAS Collaborators celebrate at CERN

Published!

Observation of a New Particle in the Search for the Standard Model Higgs Boson with the ATLAS Detector at the LHC Phys. Lett. B 716 (2012) 1-29

15 pages plus 14 page author list!

"Clear evidence for the production of a neutral boson with a measured mass of $126.0 \pm 0.4(stat) \pm 0.4(sys)$ GeV is presented."

Observation of a new boson at a mass of 125 GeV with the CMS experiment at the LHC Phys. Lett. B 716 (2012) 30–61

15 pages plus 16 page author list!

"An excess of events is observed [...] signalling the production of a new particle. [... with] a mass of 125.3 ± 0.4 (stat.) ± 0.5 (syst.) GeV."

So is it the Higgs boson!?

- Recall, the Higgs boson is predicted to decay differently depending on m_H .
- \bullet Do our observations agree with the predictions? Look for μ or $\sigma/\sigma_{\rm SM}$ compatible with 1

• So far, so good...

But is it the Higgs boson!?

- We don't know.
- So far, it certainly looks like the Higgs boson.
- The predictions for how the Higgs boson is produced and decays and interacts are very detailed.
- ATLAS and CMS need to take lots more data and analyse it carefully.
- Look for very rare decays, look for self-interactions of the Higgs.

- e.g. for $m_H = 125 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
 - pairs of *b*-quarks: $H \rightarrow b\overline{b}$ 57.7%
 - pairs of Z-bosons: $H \rightarrow ZZ$ 2.6%
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What else could it be?

- It could be one of many Higgs bosons.
 - Some theories include e.g.
 supersymmetry include more Higgs bosons: h⁰, H⁰, A⁰, H⁺, H⁻
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 - **Technicolor** theory the Higgs boson could be a bound state of "techniquarks"
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technicolor

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- It could be a composite object.
 - **Technicolor** theory the Higgs boson could be a bound state of "techniquarks"
 - Other bound states would exist and appear as new, massive, particles.
- ATLAS and CMS can (and have) look(ed) for new particles associated with Supersymmetry and Technicolor

The Future

- The LHC is currently running at 8 TeV. More data on tape is already being analysed.
- In spring 2013 the LHC will shutdown for 18 month to upgrade accelerator
- 2015-2019 running at 13 or 14 TeV

- Post 2020, plans to keep running with higher intensity protons beams
- The ATLAS and CMS detectors will need to upgraded to fully exploit this extra data
- Lots more Higgs bosons physics, and maybe some further discoveries, to come from the LHC!

Economist, http://www.economist.com/blogs/graphicdetail/2012/07/daily-chart-1

Conclusions

• The Higgs mechanism is required to explain why the *W* and *Z* bosons that transmit the weak force are massive.

• The Higgs mechanism predicts a new particle with an unknown mass: the Higgs boson, the missing particle in the Standard Model of particle physics.

• The ATLAS and CMS collaborations at CERN have discovered a new particle, compatible with the Higgs boson, with a mass of $m_H \sim 125$ GeV/ c^2 .

• We still don't know if it is *the* Higgs boson... lots more protons need to be collided, data collected and analysed.