The ATLAS Experiment at CERN LHC

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AAAS09 Collider Symposium Marzio Nessi Chicago, 15th February 2009



Our Mission

LHC will deliver proton-proton collisions at 14 (7 + 7) TeV. This will allow us to explore a new energy domain were the matter constituents (partons) will collide with an unprecedented centre-ofmass energy up to 14 TeV

.... with expected peak collision rates ~ 30 MHz for a beam Luminosity= 10^{34} cm² s⁻¹



Over several decades, the study of elementary particles and fields and of their interactions has consolidated the present Standard Model



Proton Veutron Nucleus Electron Atom Molecule Matter

02/15/2009

Today the Standard Model (SM) legacy is :

The Higgs particle is not yet discovered ! What is the origin of the huge mass hierarchy between particles?

and we are left with a big puzzle

- Dark matter (and, perhaps, "darl
- Baryogenesis and Leptogenes
- Grand Unification of the gauge e couplings
- The gauge hierarch
- The strong CP Problem (why is () 1(日)= の中中 + 停(中中), べくの房
- Neutrino m
- Gravitation

All SM extensions have in common that they solve these problems by introducing new particles at the TeV scale.

Cross Sections and Production Rates at 14 TeV (LHC)



Rates for $L = 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$: (LHC)

✓ Inelastic proton-proton reactions: 10⁹ / s

✓ bb pairs	5x10 ⁶ / s
✓ tt pairs	8 / s
\checkmark W \rightarrow eV	150 / s
\checkmark 7 \rightarrow e.e.	15 / s
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✓ Higgs (150 GeV)	0.2 / s
✓ Gluino, Squarks (1 TeV)	0.03/ s

(The challenge: we have to detect them !)

But it will not be so easy



100 M open channels/ detector

MB of data collected every 25 ns

30 MHz of bunch collisions \rightarrow ~ PB/sec

Unfold energy from other collisions

Big reduction factor necessary ~10⁶

Survive severe radiation environment (MRAD)

300-600 MB/s can be stored on disk

7-8 months of data storage/year \rightarrow few PB/year

to be distributed everywhere for offline analysis

So what we need is

✓ A solid experimental program, strongly supported by the scientific community

Complex detectors around the interaction point:

 capable of facing such an environment (high energy, large backgrounds, fast timing, huge amount of data)

capable of exploring the variety of signals and energy deposition pattern
 capable of facing new physics, ready for surprises





The Underground Cavern at Point-1 for the ATLAS Detector

Albany, Alberta, NIKHEF Amsterdam, Ankara, LAPP Annecy, Argon e NL, Arizona, UT Arlington, Athens, NTU Athens, Baku, IFAE Barcelona, Belgrade, Bergen, Berkewy LFL and UC, HU Berlin, Bern, Birmingham, UAN Bogota, Bologna, Bonn, Boston, Brandeis, Bratislava/SAS Kosice, Brookhaven NL, Buenos Aires, Bucharest, Cambridge, Carleton, CERN, Chinese Slover, Chicago, Chile, Clermont-Ferrand, Columbia, NBI Copenhagen, Cosenza, AGH UST Cracov, FJ PAN Cracow, UT Dallas, DESY, Dortmund, TU Dresden, JINR Dubna, Duke, Frascati, Freiburg, Geneva, Genoa, Giessen, Glasgow, Göttingen, LPSC Grenoble, Technion Haifa, Hampton, Narrard, Heidelberg, Hiroshima, Hiroshima IT, Indiana, Innsbruck, Iowa SU, Irvine UC, Istanbul Bogazci, KEK, Kobe, Kyoto, Kyoto UE, Lancaster, UN La Plata, Lecce, Lisbon LIP, Liverpool, Ljubljana, QMW ondon, RHBNC London, UC London, Lund, UA Madrid, Mainz, Manchester, CPPM Marseille, Massachusetts, MIT, Melbourne, Michigan, Michigan SU, Milano, Minsk NAS, Minsk NCPHEP, Montreat McCil Montreal, RUPHE Morocco, FIAN Moscow, ITEP Moscow, MEPhI Moscow, MSU Moscow, Municipal Munich, Nagasaki IAS, Nagoya, Naples, New Mexico, New York, Nijmegen, BINP Nevosipirsk, Ohio SU, Okayama, Oklahoma, Oklahoma SU, Olomouc, Oregon, LAL Orsay, Osaka, Oso, Oxford, Paris VI and VII, Pavia, Pennsylvania, Pisa, Pittsburgh, CAS Prague, CU Prague, TU Prague, IHEP Protvino, Regina, Ritsumeikan, UFRJ Rio de Janeiro, Rome I, Rome II, Rome IN, Retherford Appleton Laboratory, DAPNIA Saclay, Santa Cruz UC, Sheffield, Shinshu, Siegen, Simon Naser Burnaby, SLAC, Southern Methodist Dallas, NPI Petersburg, Stockholm, KTH Stockholm, Story Brook, Sydney, AS Taipei, Tbilisi, Tel Aviv, Thessaloniki, Tokyo ICEPP, Tokyo MU, Toronto, TRIUMF, Tsukuba, Tufts, Udine/ICTP, Uppsala, Urbana UI, Valencia, UBC Vancouver, Victoria, Washington, Weizmann Rehovot, FH Wiener Neustadt, Wisconsin, Wuppertal, Würzburg, Yale, Yerevan

among them, 38 US institutions, counting ~ 590 scientific authors

Detector concept

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ATLAS has a complex magnet system (4 independent magnets)

- 2 T central solenoid, around the inner detector with return flux via the hadron tile calorimeter

20.1 m diameter x 25.3 m length
-12000 m³ volume
118 t superconductor
370 t cold mass
830 t total weight
56 km superconductor
20.5 kA at 4.6 T
1.05 GJ stored Energy

Inner Detector Barrel

Inner Detector Barrel

Inner Detector Barrel

Liquid Argon Calorimeters

- a very stable and radiation-hard detector
- easy to calibrate
- a lot of freedom in spacial resolution
- difficult to construct ... because of cryogenics •

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Muon Spectrometer

Muon Spectrometer (with stand-alone capability)

Muon momentum resolution

Underground installation

A gigantic 3D puzzle of 20'000 m³ 5 years of great fun !

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..... but does it really work ?

Over the years we have exposed some % of it to particle beams (SPS, reactors,..)

During assembly we collected millions of cosmics events

10-11 September 2008 first LHC beams

10 September: first beam

We had no chance to have some beam in advance to test our readout synchronization, all was extrapolated from cosmics runs

Active detectors near to the beam pipe (inner tracker, forward calorimeters,....) were set at reduced HV Pixel detector off

..... and it worked ... first shots, first detector pictures ... a lot of energy released in the detector

..... once beam RF captured, we started looking for beam halo

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- Each LHC experiment will produce ~10 000 TB of data each year
- Data analysis requires 100 000 of the fastest PC processors

- ATLAS collaboration spread all over the world \rightarrow need distributed computing
- Transfer of data from CERN at **10 Gbits/s** rate to 11 world-wide computing centres
- These centres send and receive data to 200 smaller centres within "clouds"
- User analysis philosophy: "Avoid copying data: run the program where the data is"

What is next (experiments desiderata) ?

✓ ~200 pb⁻¹ to open discovery windows

Early Physics Roadmap

Three Generations of Matter

Three Generations of Matter

What about new physics ~ 200 pb⁻¹?

mid-end 2010 ?

Easiest Heavy di-Lepton Resonances

 $Z' \rightarrow I^+I^-$ with SM-like couplings (Z_{SSM})

Discovery (10 events $\mu^+\mu^-$, 1TeV, >5 σ) with 100 pb⁻¹, possible at E_{cm}=10 TeV

Simulation of a Supersymmetry event in ATLAS

→ spectacular signatures (many jets, missing transverse energy, leptons)

For $m(\tilde{q},\tilde{g}) \sim 1 \text{ TeV}$ expect 10 evts/day at L=10³²

What about SUSY discovery in 2010?

Finding the signal already at 100-200 pb⁻¹ should not be a problem \rightarrow the problem is to be sure it is real

Higgs discovery will need time

Inclusive SM Higgs production cross section and branching fractions

Higgs discovery will need time (few years)

The "golden" channel $H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 4l$

2011-2012 ?

Most difficult region: very low mass region of 120 GeV need to combine many channels

(e.g. $H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$, $H \rightarrow ZZ^* \rightarrow 41$)

•Higgs discovery channel in the mass range from 130-500 GeV with 30fb⁻¹ (except ~ 160 GeV WW turn on)

•A 160-170 GeV Higgs (to WW ->II) could be discovered with 1 fb⁻¹:

We have never been so ready for big discoveries !!!!