Higgs Physics
Introduction

Physics at the LHC – LIP 30 March 2026

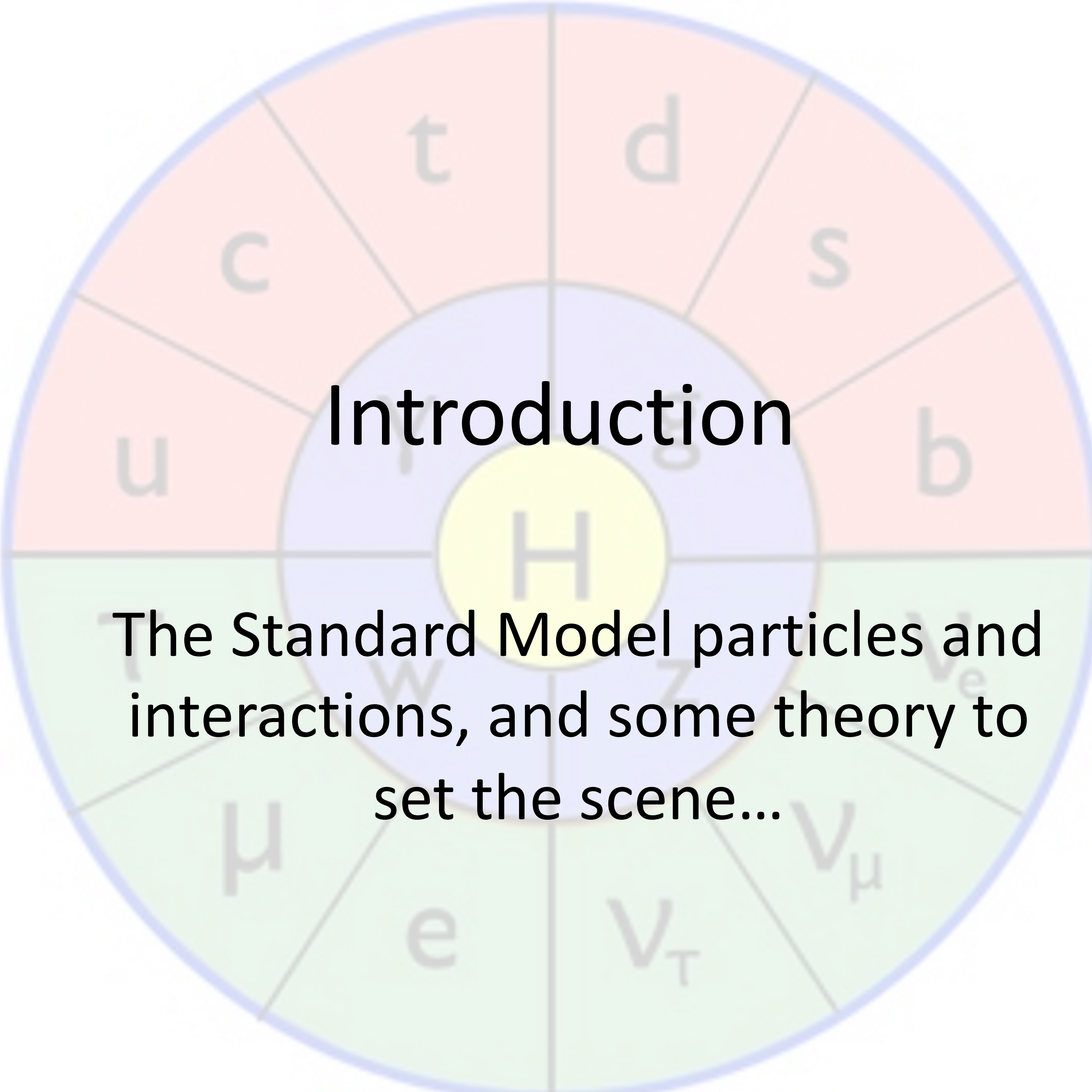
Ricardo Gonçalo – UC/LIP

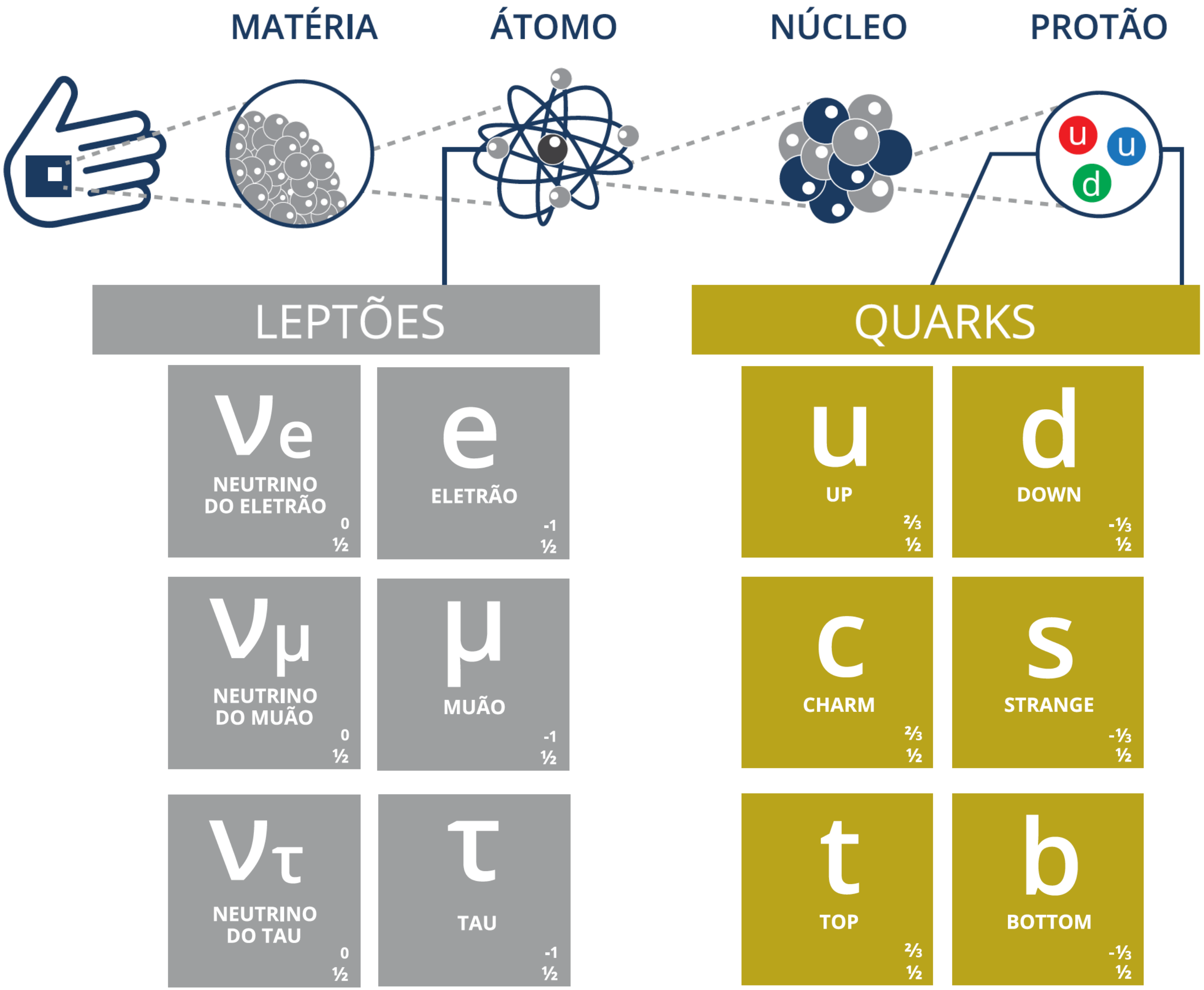
Outlook

- What is the Higgs boson and what does it do?
- How did we find it?
- Why do we care?
- And what comes next?

Introduction

The Standard Model particles and interactions, and some theory to set the scene…

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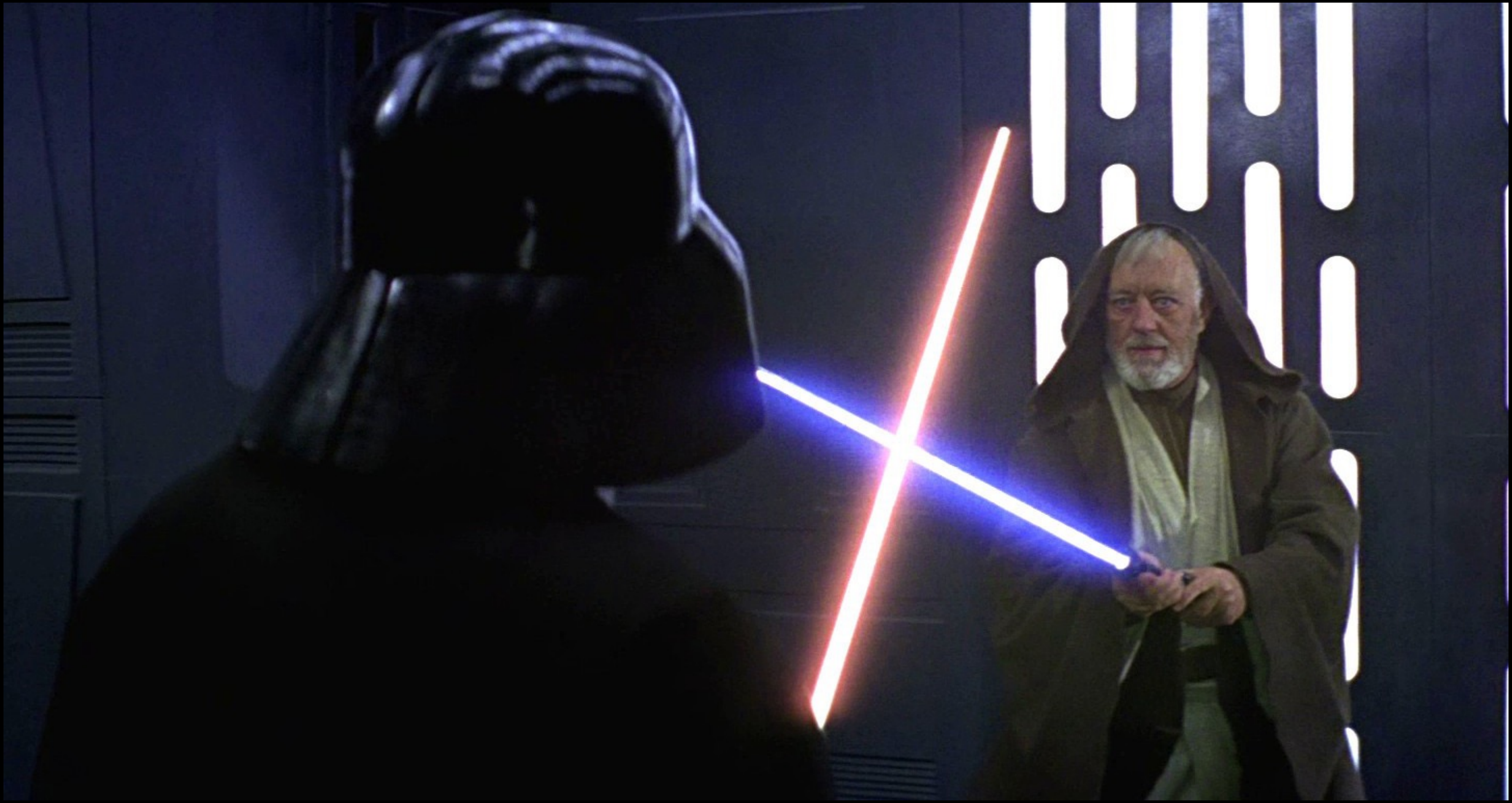
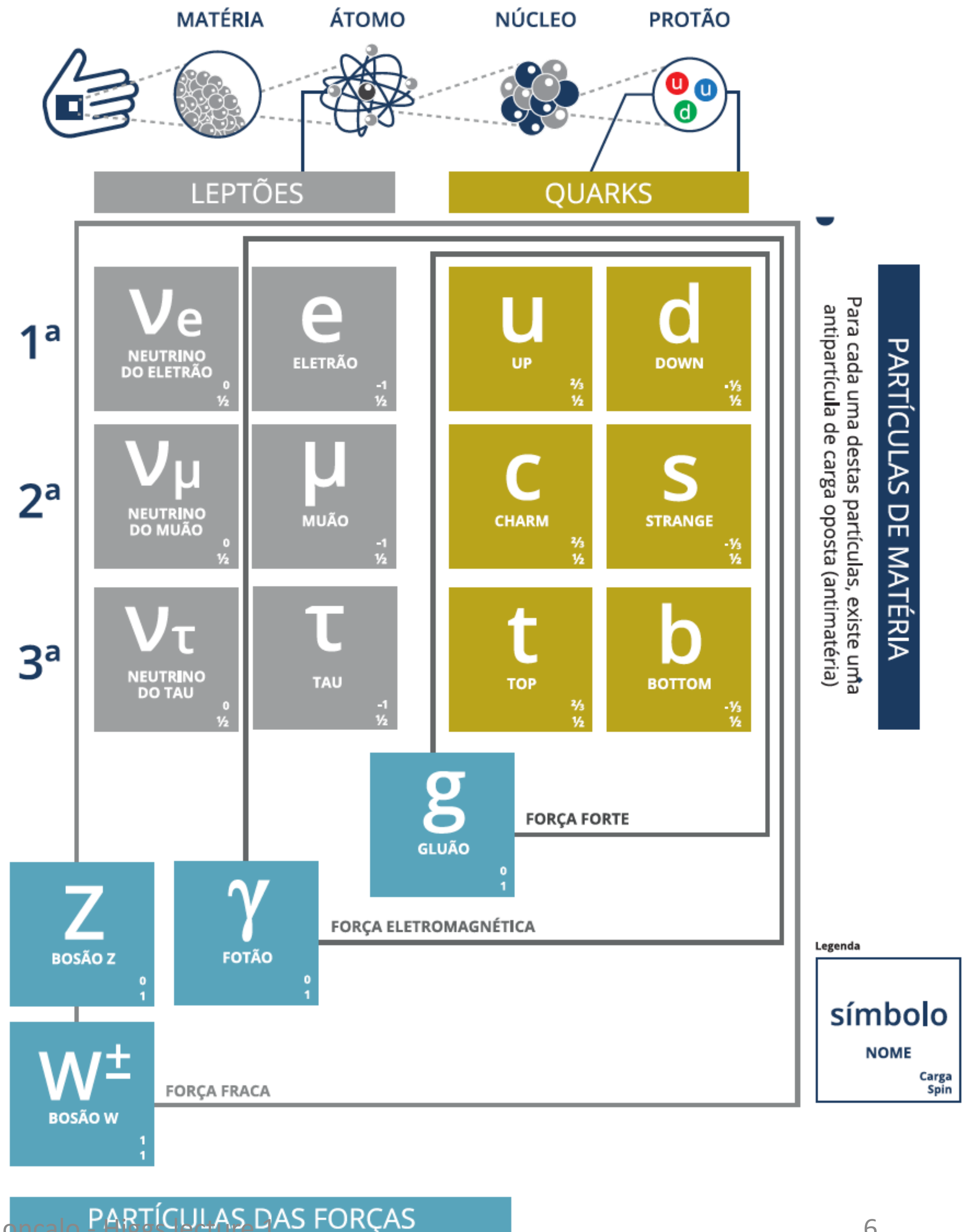
Fundamental Forces

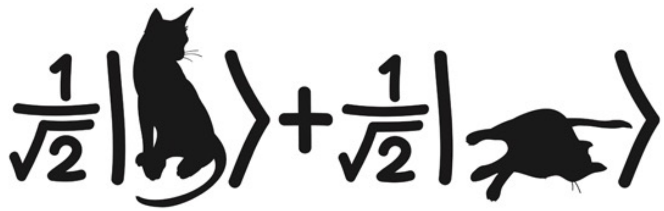


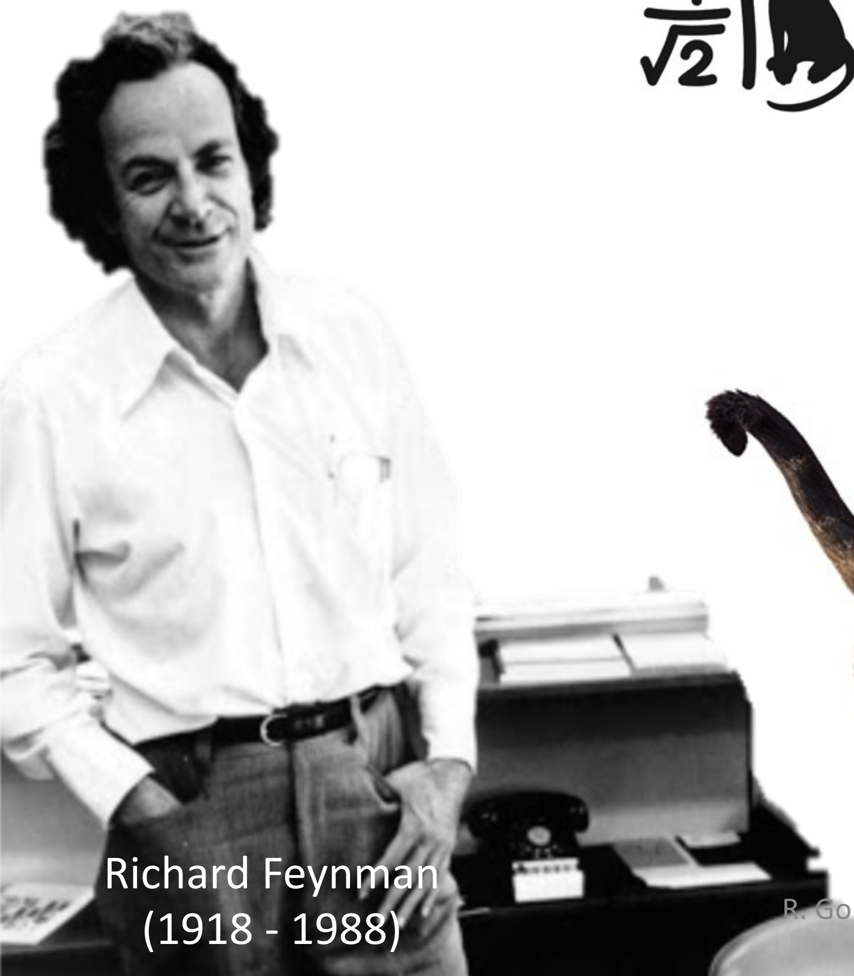
Fundamental forces

- Electromagnetic:
  - Carried by photons
  - Acts on electrical charge
- Weak:
  - Carried by:
    - $W^{\pm}$ (charged current)
    - Z^0 (neutral current)
  - Acts on weak isospin
- Strong:
  - Carried by 8 gluons
  - Acts on colour



Let’s talk about quantum fields...





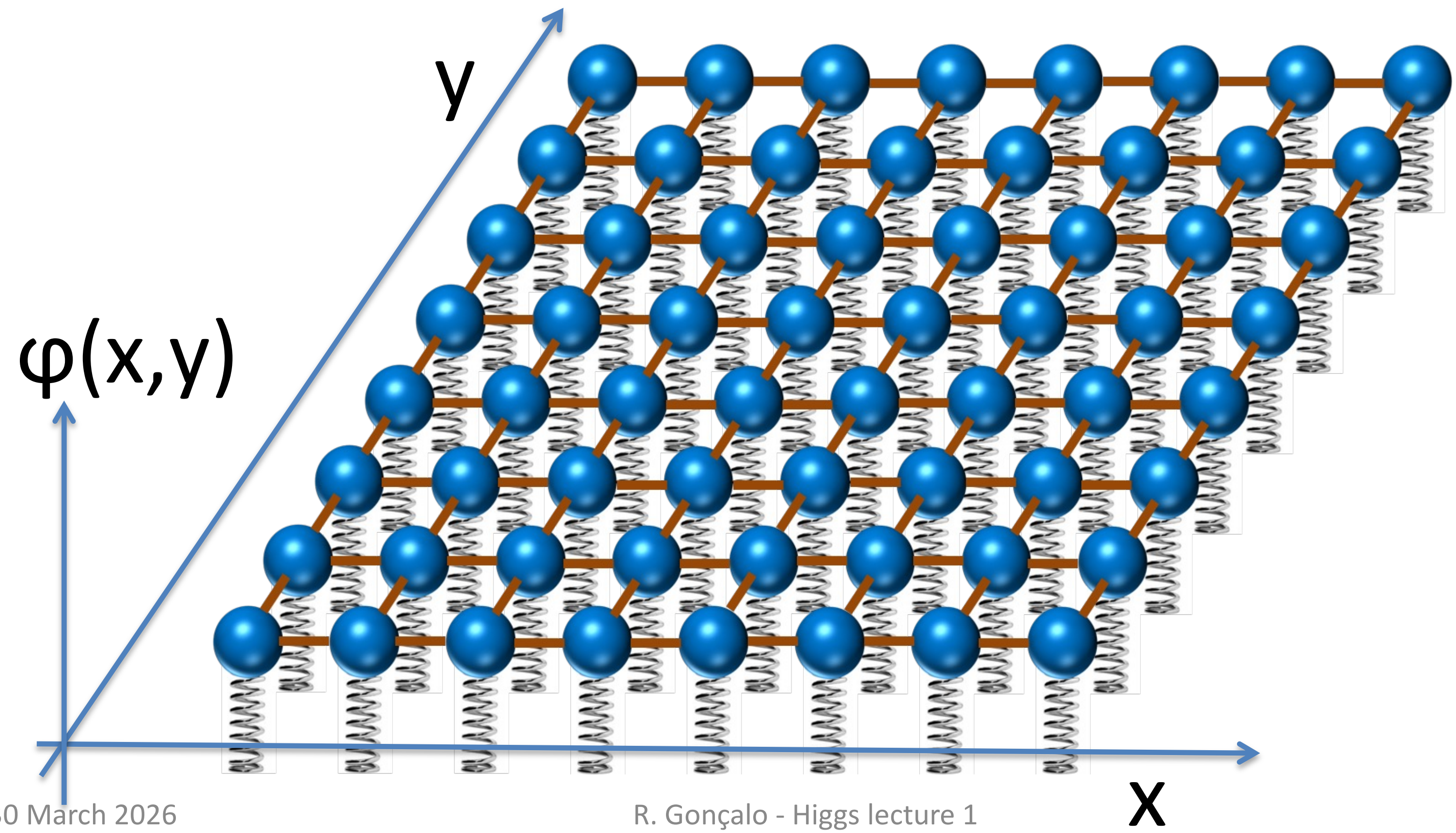
Richard Feynman
(1918 - 1988)

Fluffy (????)

Erwin
Schrödinger
(1887 - 1961)

Quantum field theory…

Imagine space as an infinite continuum of balls and springs, where each ball is connected to its neighbours by elastic bands. **Particles are perturbations of this field**



Generalized coordinates are **fields** (dislocation of each spring)

$$q_i \to \phi_i(x^\mu)$$

In a relativistic theory we must treat space and time coordinates on an equal footing, so the derivatives in the classical equations are now

$$\frac{d}{dt}, \nabla \to \partial_\mu = (\frac{\partial}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial}{\partial z})$$

In place of a Lagrangian we have a **Lagrangian density** (we call it Lagrangian anyway, just to be confusing)

$$L(q_i, \frac{dq_i}{dt}) \to \mathcal{L}(\phi_i, \partial_\mu \phi_i) \quad \text{with: } L = \int \mathcal{L} d^3\boldsymbol{x}$$

Get dynamics from the Euler-Lagrange equation:

$$\partial_\mu(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial(\partial_\mu \phi_i)}) - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \phi_i} = 0$$

- Example Lagrangians and equations of motion:
- Klein-Gordon Lagrangian for spin 0 particles (scalars):

$$\mathcal{L}_{KG} = \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \phi)(\partial^\mu \phi) - \frac{1}{2}m^2\phi^2$$

$$\boxed{\partial_\mu \partial^\mu \phi + m^2 \phi = 0}$$

- Dirac Lagrangian for spin ½ particles (fermions):

$$\mathcal{L}_D = i\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu \psi - m\bar{\psi}\psi$$

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

- Proca Lagrangian for spin 1 (vector) particles:

$$\mathcal{L}_P = \frac{-1}{16\pi}(\partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu)(\partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu) + \frac{1}{8\pi}m^2 A^\nu A_\nu$$

$$\boxed{\partial_\mu(\partial^\mu A^\nu - \partial^\nu A^\mu) + m^2 A^\nu = 0}$$

- Important:

  Mass terms in Lagrangian are quadratic in the fields

Global gauge invariance

Take the Dirac Lagrangian for a spinor field ψ representing a spin-½ particle, for example an electron:

$$\mathcal{L} = i\hbar\bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}\psi - m\bar{\psi}\psi$$

It is invariant under a global U(1) phase transformation like:

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow \psi'(x) = e^{iq\chi}\psi(x)$$

Where χ is a constant

$$\mathcal{L}' = e^{-iq\chi}e^{iq\chi}(i\hbar\bar{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\partial_{\mu}\psi - m\bar{\psi}\psi) = \mathcal{L}$$

Note: gauge invariance of the Dirac equation can be demonstrated to lead to conservation of probability current j^{μ}

$$j^{\mu} = (\rho, \mathbf{J}) = \overline{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\psi$$

Local gauge invariance and interactions

Now, if $\chi = \chi(x)$ then we get extra terms in the Lagrangian:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}' &= ie^{-iq\chi}\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu[e^{iq\chi}\partial_\mu\psi + iq(\partial_\mu\chi)e^{iq\chi}\psi] - me^{-iq\chi}e^{iq\chi}\bar{\psi}\psi \\ &= \mathcal{L} - q\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu(\partial_\mu\chi)\psi\end{aligned}$$

We can still make the Lagrangian invariant by adding an ***interaction term*** with a new **gauge** field A_μ which transforms as:

$$A_\mu \rightarrow A'_\mu = A_\mu - \partial_\mu\chi$$

We get:

$$\mathcal{L} = i\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi - m\bar{\psi}\psi - q\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu A_\mu\psi$$

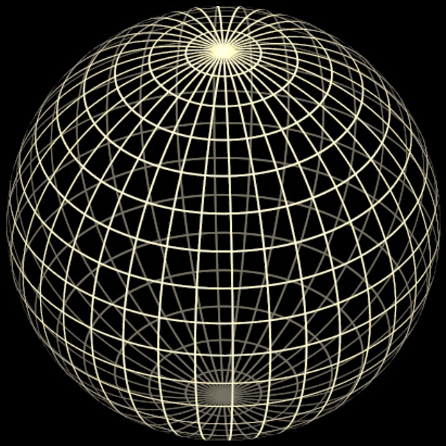
Note:

1. The new gauge field A_μ is the photon in QED
2. The mass of the fermion is the coefficient of the term on $\overline{\psi}\psi$
3. There is no term in $A_\mu A^\mu$ (the photon has zero mass)

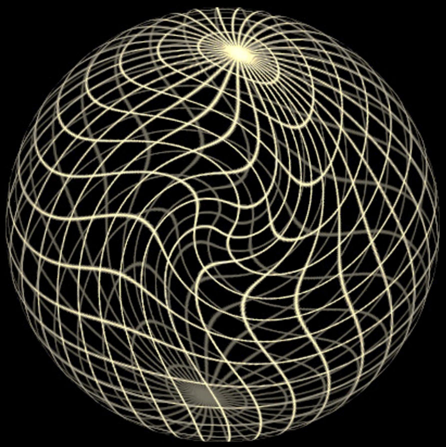
In summary….

$$\psi(x) \rightarrow \psi'(x) = e^{iq\chi}\psi(x)$$

Original sphere



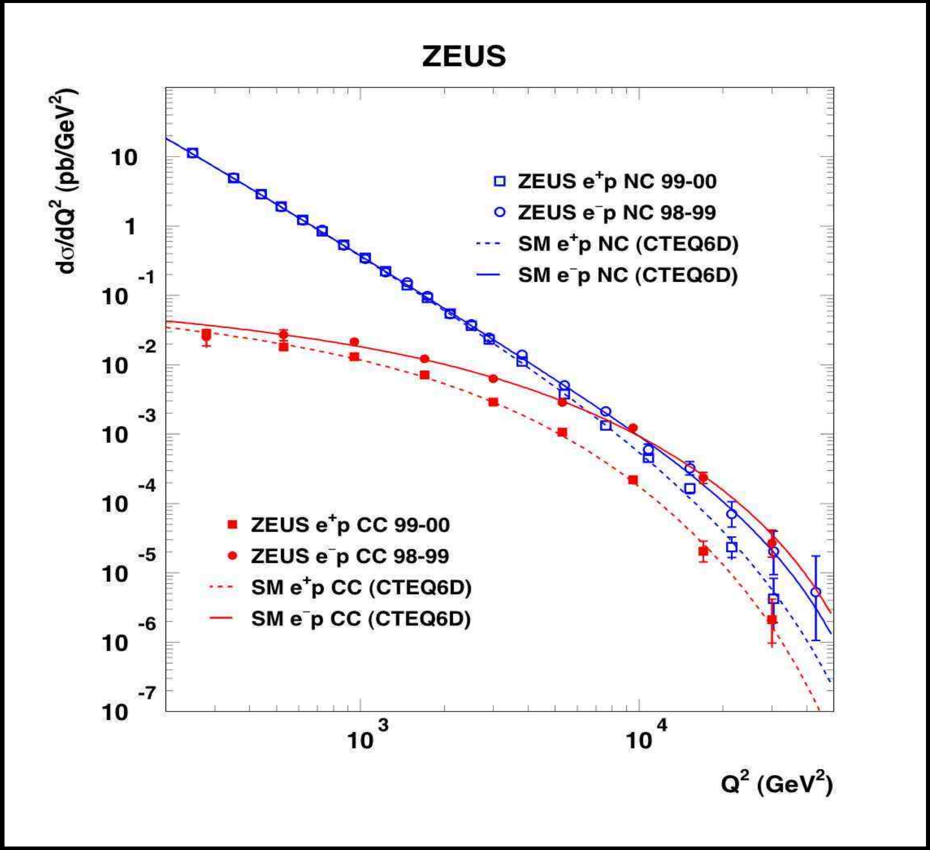
Local transformation



χ = **constant**

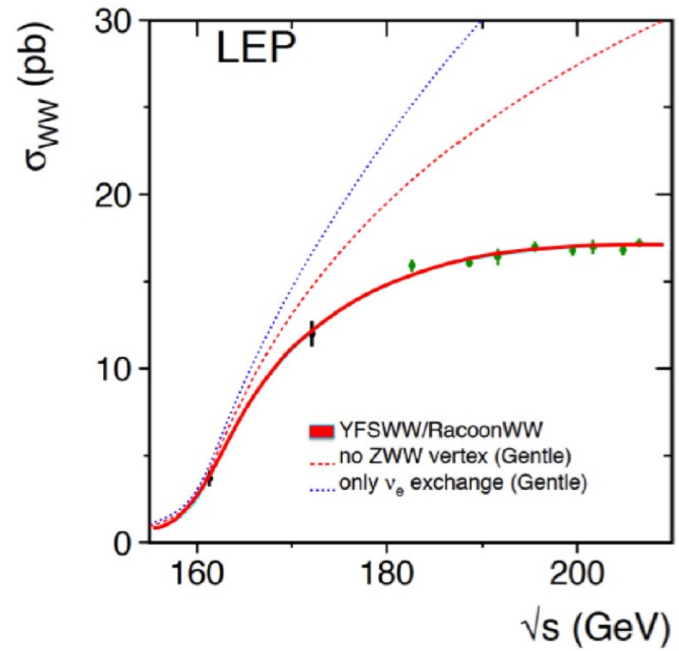
$\chi = \chi\,(x)$

Weak Neutral Currents and Electroweak Unification

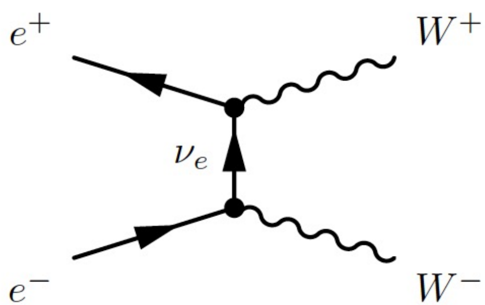


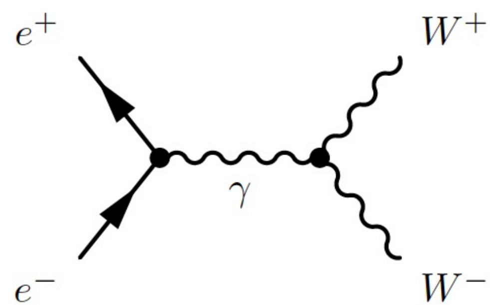
Weak Charged and Neutral Currents

- Weak CC interactions explained by $W^{\pm}$ boson exchange
- $W^{\pm}$ bosons are charged, thus they couple to the γ

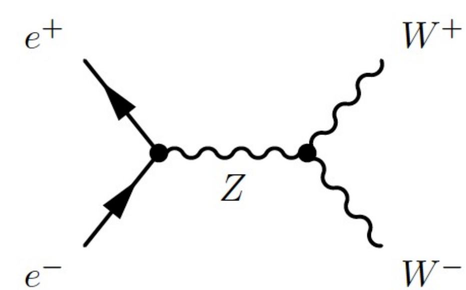


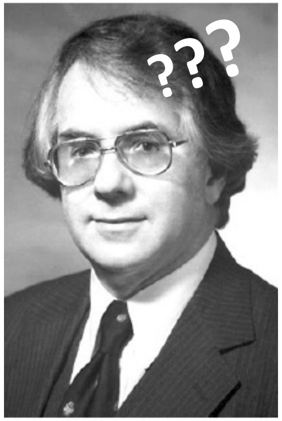
Consider $e^-e^+ \to W^+W^-$: 2 diagrams (+interference)





- Cross-section diverges at high energy
- Divergence cured by introducing Z boson
- Extra diagram for $e^-e^+ \to W^+W^-$
- Idea only works if γ, $W^{\pm}$, Z couplings are related

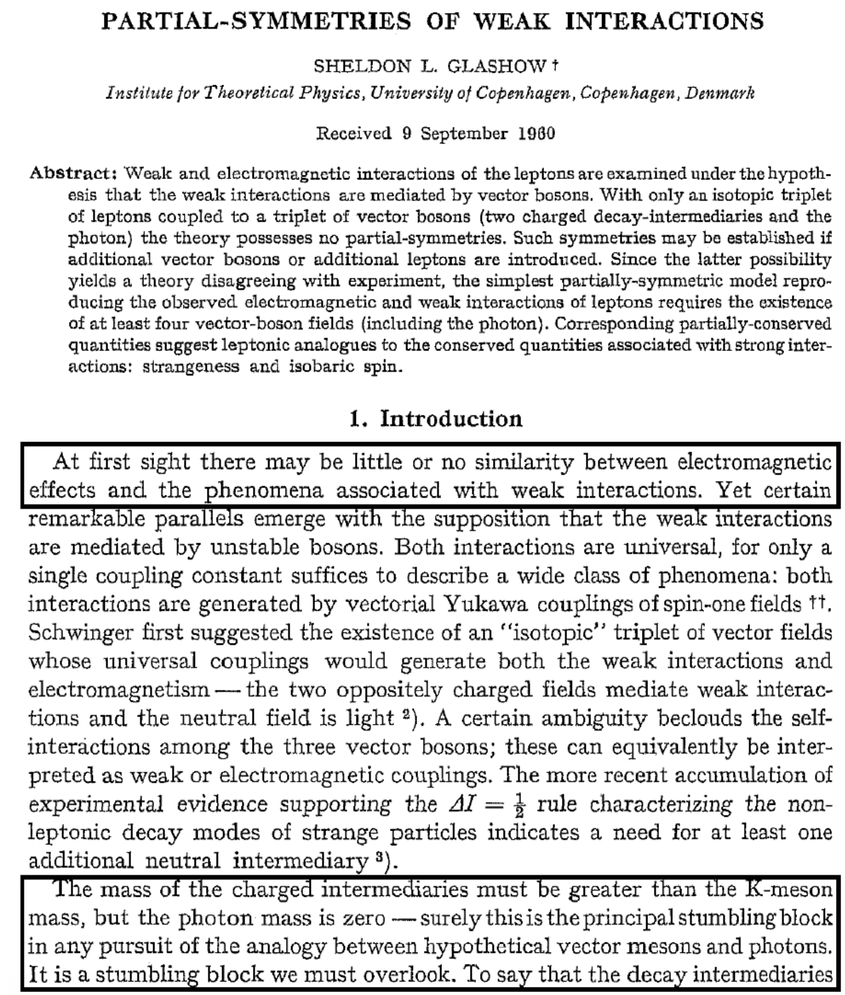




Sheldon Glashow's stumbling block

- Are electromagnetic and weak interactions related?
  - Similar gauge structure
  - $W^{\pm}$ couples to charge

- But there are obvious differences:
  - Different masses of $W^{\pm}$, Z and photon
  - Structure of the vertex (V-A) is different from EM (V)



PARTIAL-SYMMETRIES OF WEAK INTERACTIONS

SHELDON L. GLASHOW †

Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark

Received 9 September 1960

Abstract: Weak and electromagnetic interactions of the leptons are examined under the hypothesis that the weak interactions are mediated by vector bosons. With only an isotopic triplet of leptons coupled to a triplet of vector bosons (two charged decay-intermediaries and the photon) the theory possesses no partial-symmetries. Such symmetries may be established if additional vector bosons or additional leptons are introduced. Since the latter possibility yields a theory disagreeing with experiment, the simplest partially-symmetric model reproducing the observed electromagnetic and weak interactions of leptons requires the existence of at least four vector-boson fields (including the photon). Corresponding partially-conserved quantities suggest leptonic analogues to the conserved quantities associated with strong interactions: strangeness and isobaric spin.

1. Introduction

At first sight there may be little or no similarity between electromagnetic effects and the phenomena associated with weak interactions. Yet certain remarkable parallels emerge with the supposition that the weak interactions are mediated by unstable bosons. Both interactions are universal, for only a single coupling constant suffices to describe a wide class of phenomena: both interactions are generated by vectorial Yukawa couplings of spin-one fields ††. Schwinger first suggested the existence of an "isotopic" triplet of vector fields whose universal couplings would generate both the weak interactions and electromagnetism — the two oppositely charged fields mediate weak interactions and the neutral field is light [2]). A certain ambiguity beclouds the self-interactions among the three vector bosons; these can equivalently be interpreted as weak or electromagnetic couplings. The more recent accumulation of experimental evidence supporting the $\Delta I = \frac{1}{2}$ rule characterizing the non-leptonic decay modes of strange particles indicates a need for at least one additional neutral intermediary [3]).

The mass of the charged intermediaries must be greater than the K-meson mass, but the photon mass is zero — surely this is the principal stumbling block in any pursuit of the analogy between hypothetical vector mesons and photons. It is a stumbling block we must overlook. To say that the decay intermediaries

Weak Gauge Theory

- Postulate invariance under a gauge transformation like:

$$\psi \rightarrow \psi' = e^{ig\vec{\sigma}.\vec{\Lambda}(\vec{r},t)}\psi$$

  an "SU(2)" transformation (σ are 2x2 matrices).
- Operates on the state of "weak isospin" – a "rotation" of the isospin state.
- Invariance under SU(2) transformations $\Rightarrow$ three massless gauge bosons (W_1, W_2, W_3) whose couplings are well specified.
- They also have self-couplings.

But this doesn't quite work...
Predicts W and Z have the same couplings – not seen experimentally!

Electroweak Gauge Theory

The solution...

- Unify QED and the weak force $\Rightarrow$ electroweak model
- "SU(2)xU(1)" transformation
  U(1) operates on the "weak hypercharge" $Y = 2(Q - I_3)$
  SU(2) operates on the state of "weak isospin, I"
- Invariance under SU(2)xU(1) transformations $\Rightarrow$ four massless gauge bosons W^+, W^-, W_3, B
- The two neutral bosons W_3 and B then **mix** to produce the physical bosons Z and γ
- Photon properties must be the same as QED $\Rightarrow$ predictions of the couplings of the Z in terms of those of the W and γ
- Still need to account for the masses of the W and Z. This is the job of the Higgs mechanism (later).

The GWS Model



The Glashow, Weinberg and Salam model treats EM and weak interactions as different manifestations of a single unified electroweak force (Nobel Prize 1979)

Start with 4 massless bosons W^+, W_3, W^- and B. The neutral bosons mix to give physical bosons (the particles we see), i.e. the $W^\pm$, Z, and γ.

$$\begin{pmatrix} W^+ \\ W_3 \\ W^- \end{pmatrix} ; \quad B \quad \rightarrow \quad \begin{pmatrix} W^+ \\ Z \\ W^- \end{pmatrix} ; \quad \gamma$$

Physical fields: W^+, Z, W^- and A (photon).

$$Z = W_3 \cos\theta_W - B \sin\theta_W$$

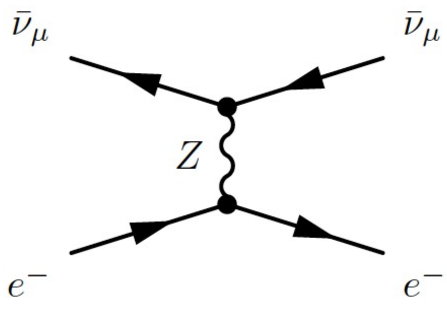
$$A = W_3 \sin\theta_W + B \cos\theta_W$$

θ_W Weak Mixing Angle

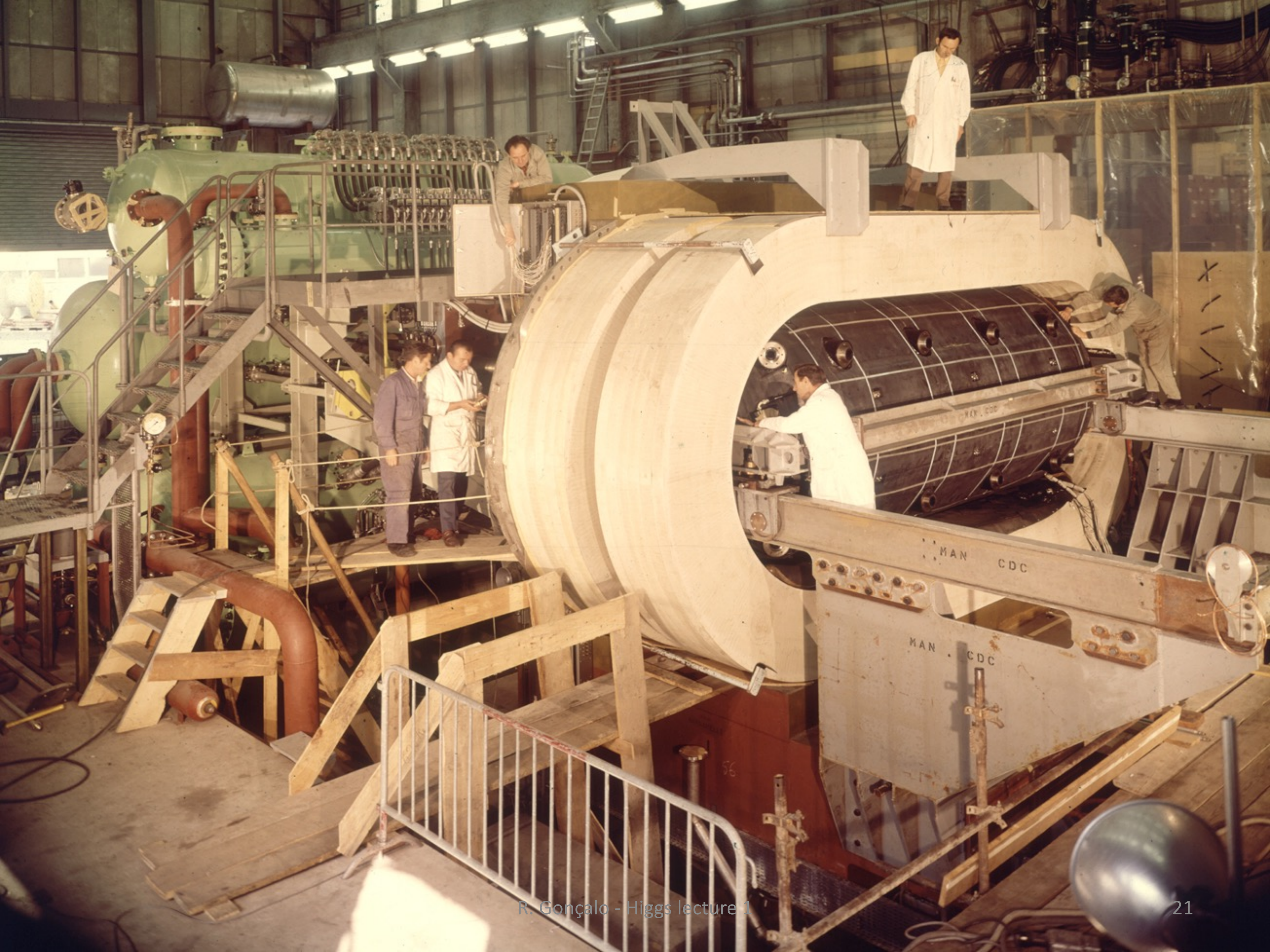
$W^\pm$, Z "acquire" mass via the Higgs mechanism.

Evidence for the GWS model

- **Discovery of Neutral Currents (1973)**
  The process $\bar{\nu}_\mu e^- \to \bar{\nu}_\mu e^-$ was observed.
  Only possible Feynman diagram (no $W^\pm$ diagram).
  Indirect evidence for Z.



Gargamelle Bubble Chamber at CERN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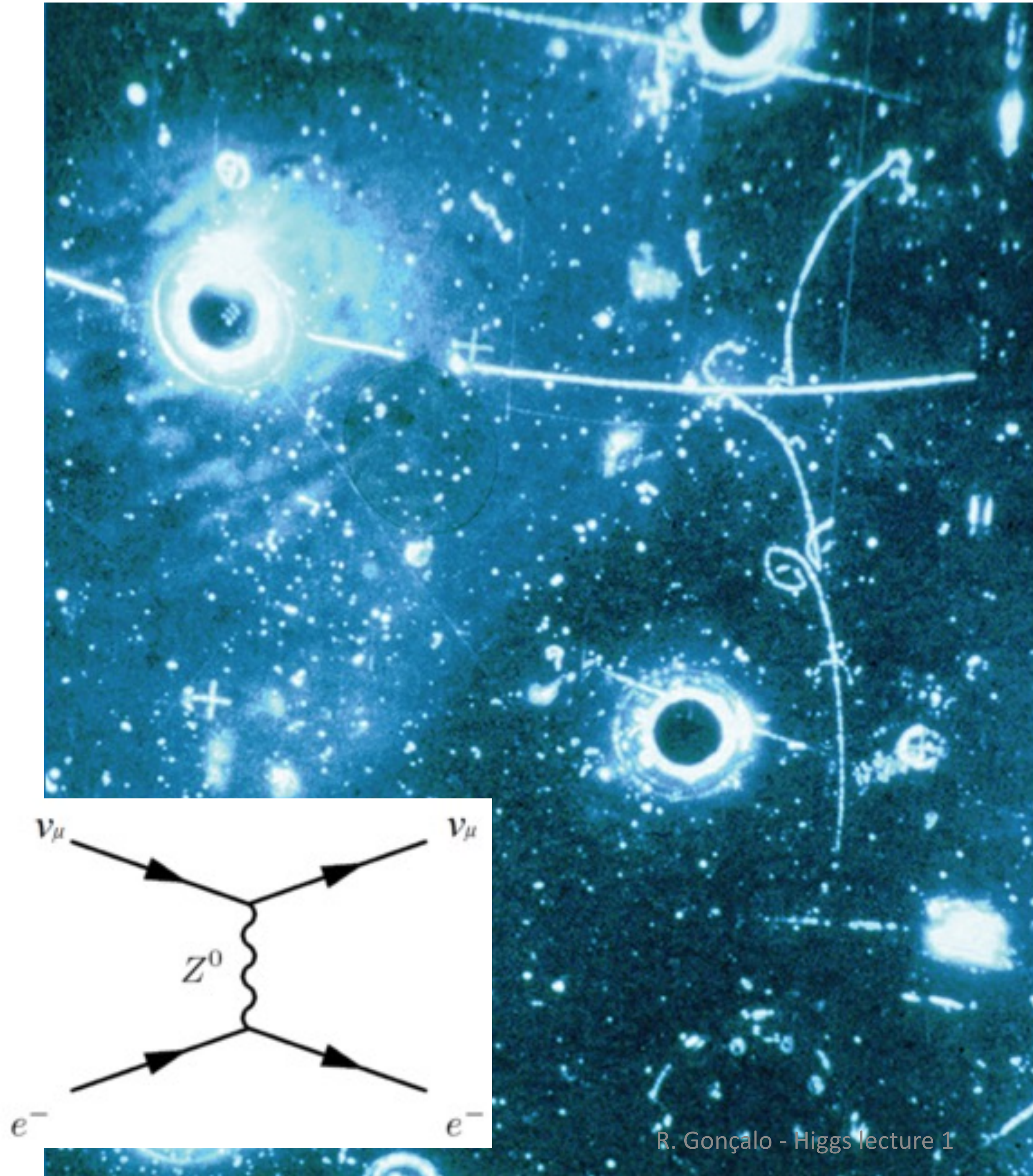
ν_μ
ν_μ
Z^0
e^-
e^-


Outgoing neutrino
e^+
e^+
e^-
e^-
e^-
Shower of particles due to bremstrahlung
e^+
e^-
Collision point
Incoming neutrino

Evidence for the GWS model

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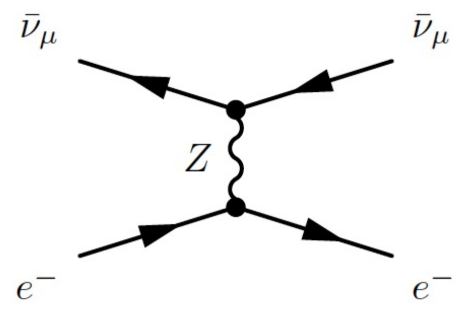
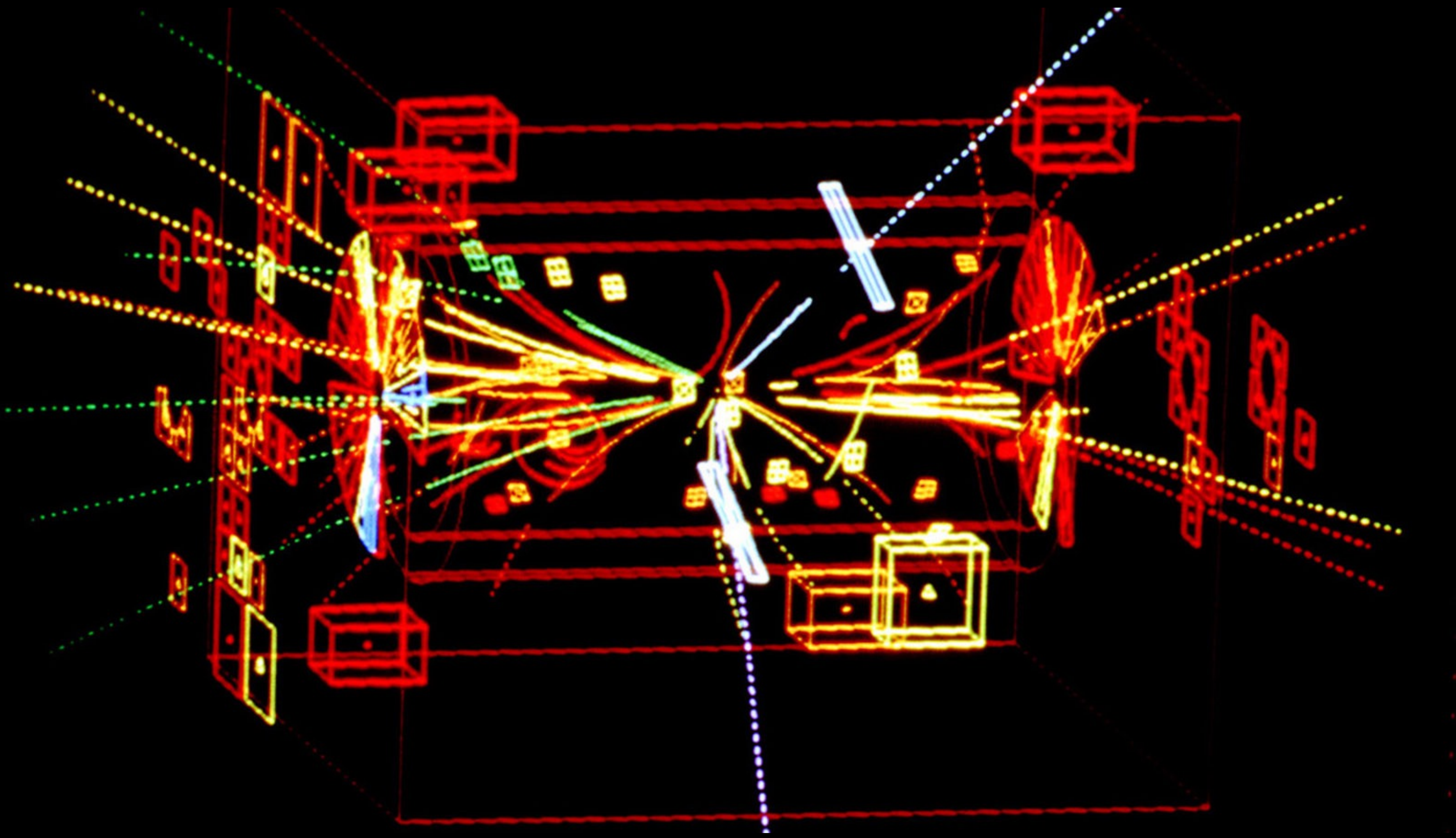


- **Direct Observation of $W^\pm$ and Z (1983)**
  First direct observation in $p\bar{p}$ collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 540\ \mathrm{GeV}$ via decays into leptons

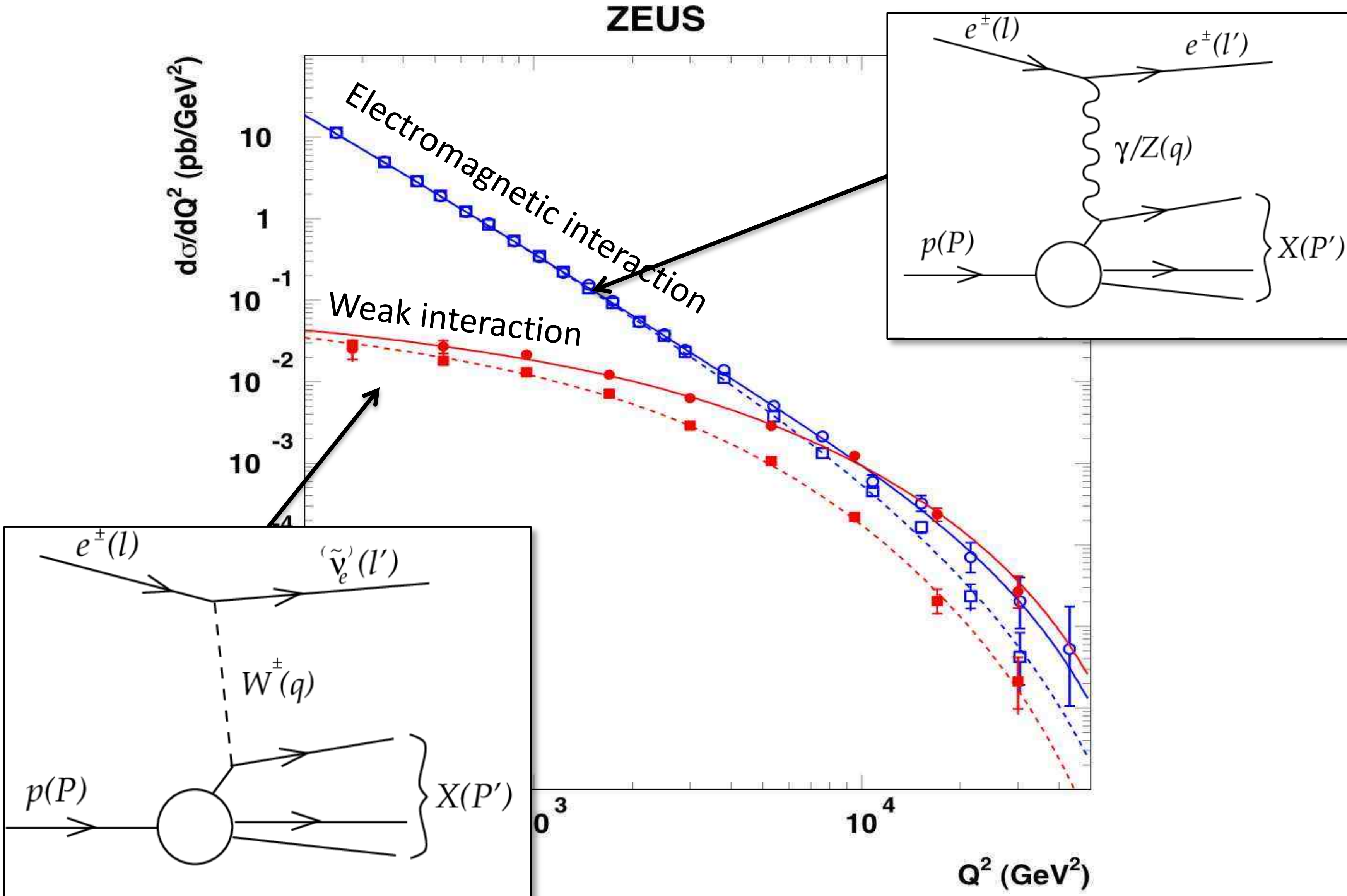
$$p\bar{p} \to W^\pm + X \qquad \hookrightarrow e^\pm\nu_e, \mu^\pm\nu_\mu$$

$$p\bar{p} \to Z + X \qquad \hookrightarrow e^+e^-, \mu^+\mu^-$$

UA1 Experiment at CERN
Used Super Proton Synchrotron
(now part of LHC!)



EW unification



Now for the problems...

Problem 1: Mass of elementary particles and gauge bosons

What if we add a photon mass term to the QED Lagrangian?

$$\mathcal{L}_{QED} = \bar{\psi}(i\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu - m_e)\psi - e\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\psi A_\mu - \frac{1}{4}F_{\mu\nu}F^{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2}m_\gamma A_\mu A^\mu$$

To keep the Lagrangian gauge invariant (against a local $\mathrm{U}(1)$ local phase transformation) the photon field transforms as:

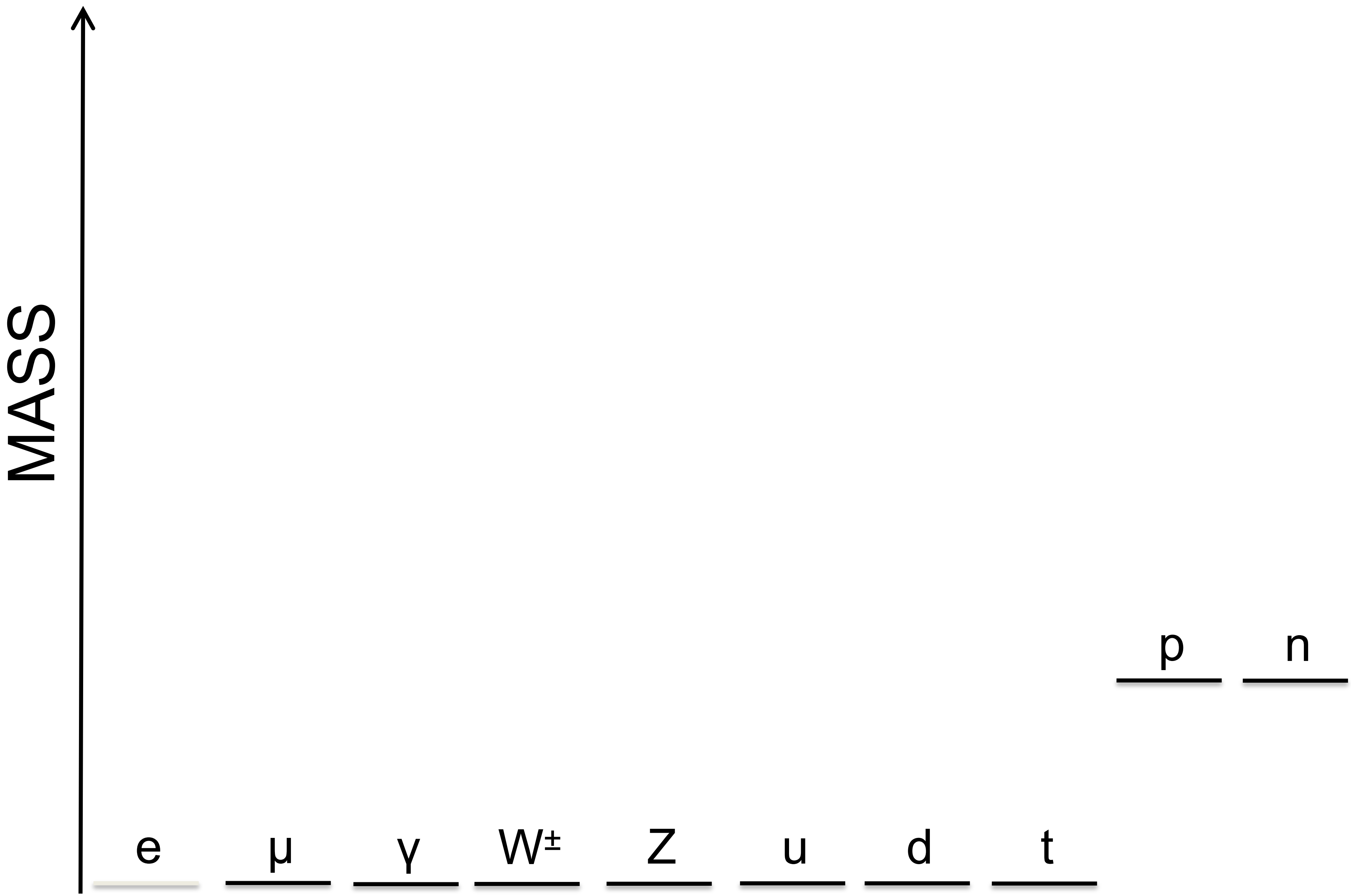
$$A_\mu \to A'_\mu = A_\mu - \partial_\mu\chi$$

But the A^μ mass term breaks the Lagrangian invariance:

$$\frac{1}{2}m_\gamma A_\mu A^\mu \to \frac{1}{2}m_\gamma(A_\mu - \partial_\mu\chi)(A^\mu - \partial^\mu\chi) \neq \frac{1}{2}m_\gamma A_\mu A^\mu$$

For the $\mathrm{SU}(2)_L$ gauge symmetry transformations of the **weak interaction** the fermion mass term $m_e\overline{\psi}\psi$ also breaks invariance!

It should not work…



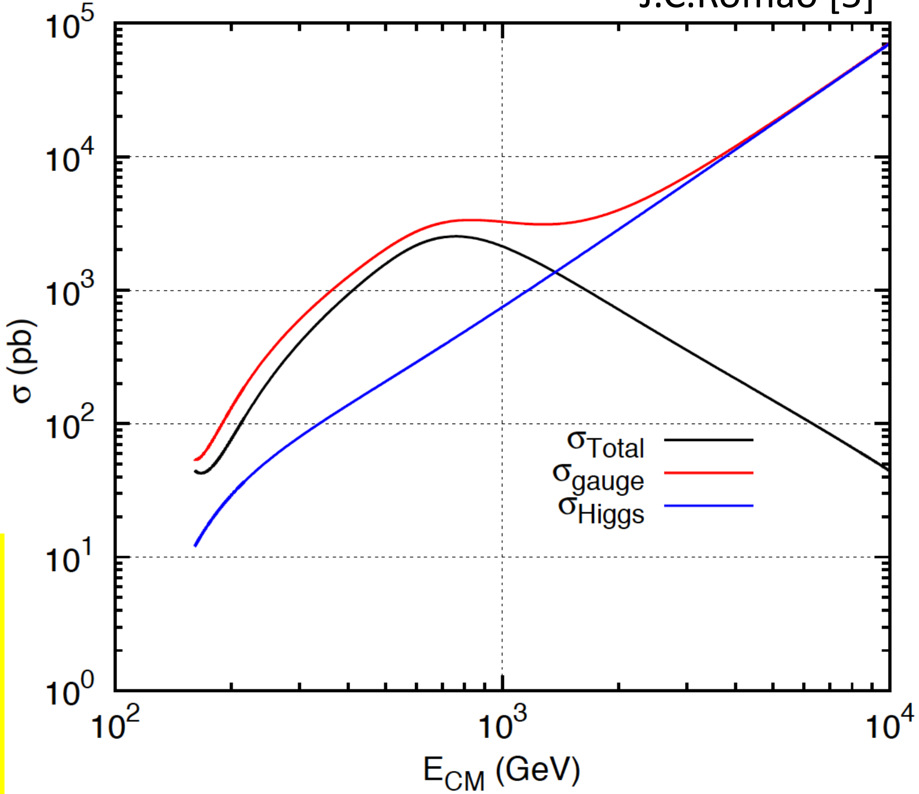
Problem 2:

Longitudinal gauge-boson scattering

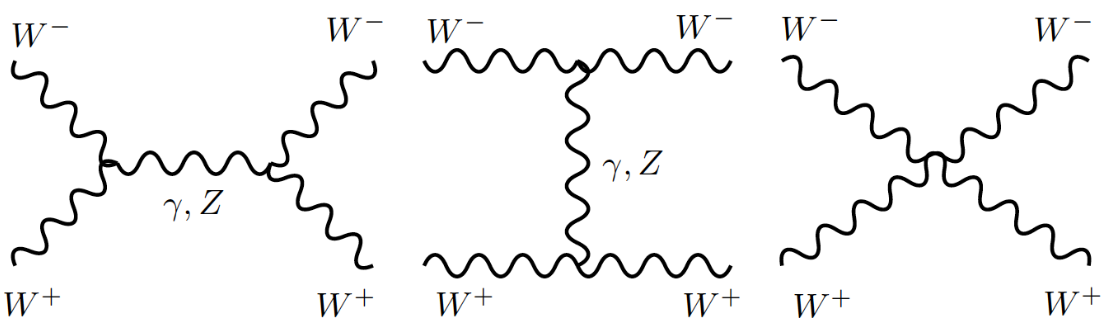
In the absence of the Higgs, some processes have cross sections that grow with the centre of mass energy of the collision… i.e. breaks unitarity!

The Higgs regulates the cross section through negative interference

J.C.Romão [5]



Bottom line: **the SM (without the Higgs mechanism) results in wrong calculations and breaks down for massive particles**



Feynman diagrams contributing to longitudinal WW scattering

The Higgs Mechanism

Robert Brout (1928 – 2011)

Peter Higgs (1929 – 2024)

François Englert
(b. 1932)

- Introduce a SU(2) doublet of spin-0 complex fields

$$\phi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^+ \\ \phi^0 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1 + i\phi_2 \\ \phi_3 + i\phi 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

- New Lagrangian term:

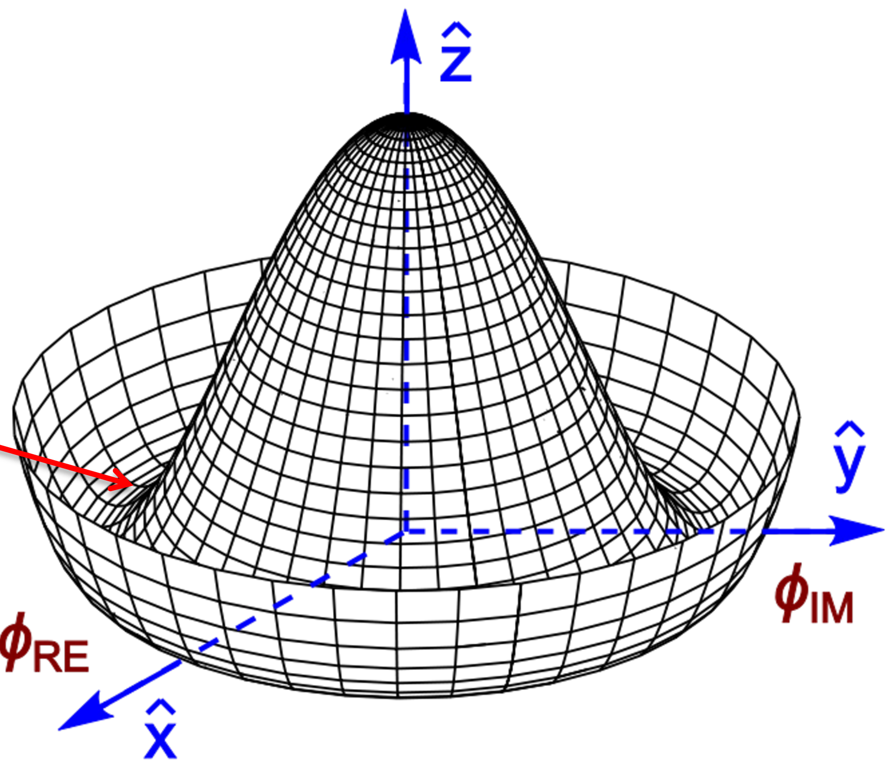
$$\mathcal{L} = (\partial_\mu \phi)^\dagger (\partial^\mu \phi) - V(\phi)$$

- With a potential

$$V(\phi) = \mu^2 \phi^\dagger \phi + \lambda (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2$$

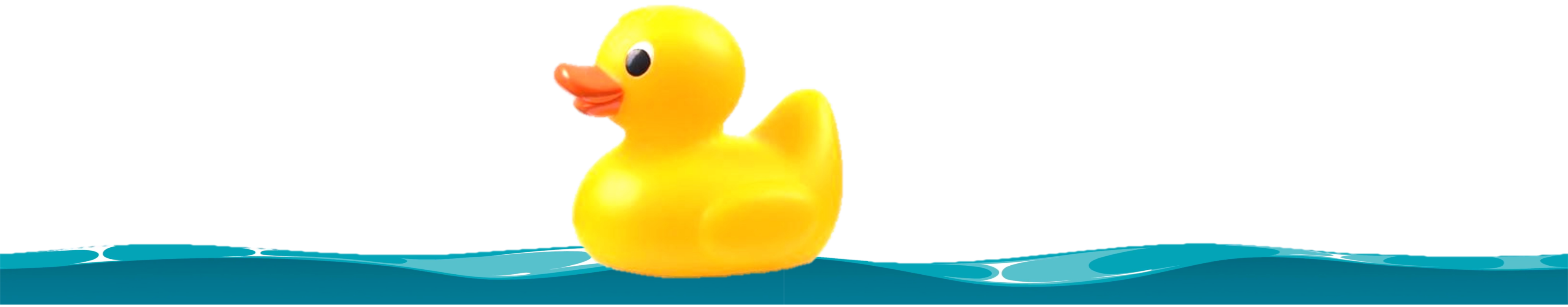
- For $\lambda>0$, $\mu^2>0$ the potential has a minimum at the origin
- For $\lambda>0$, $\mu^2<0$ the potential has an infinite number of minima at:

$$|\phi| = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{-\frac{\mu^2}{2\lambda}}$$

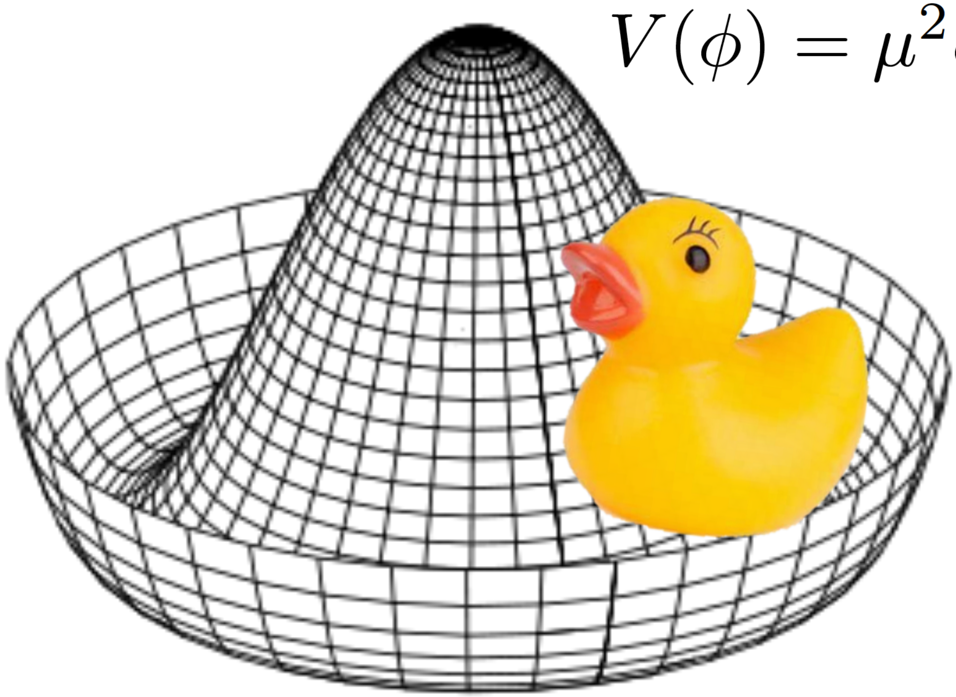


The choice of vacuum (lowest energy state of the field) breaks the symmetry of the Lagrangian

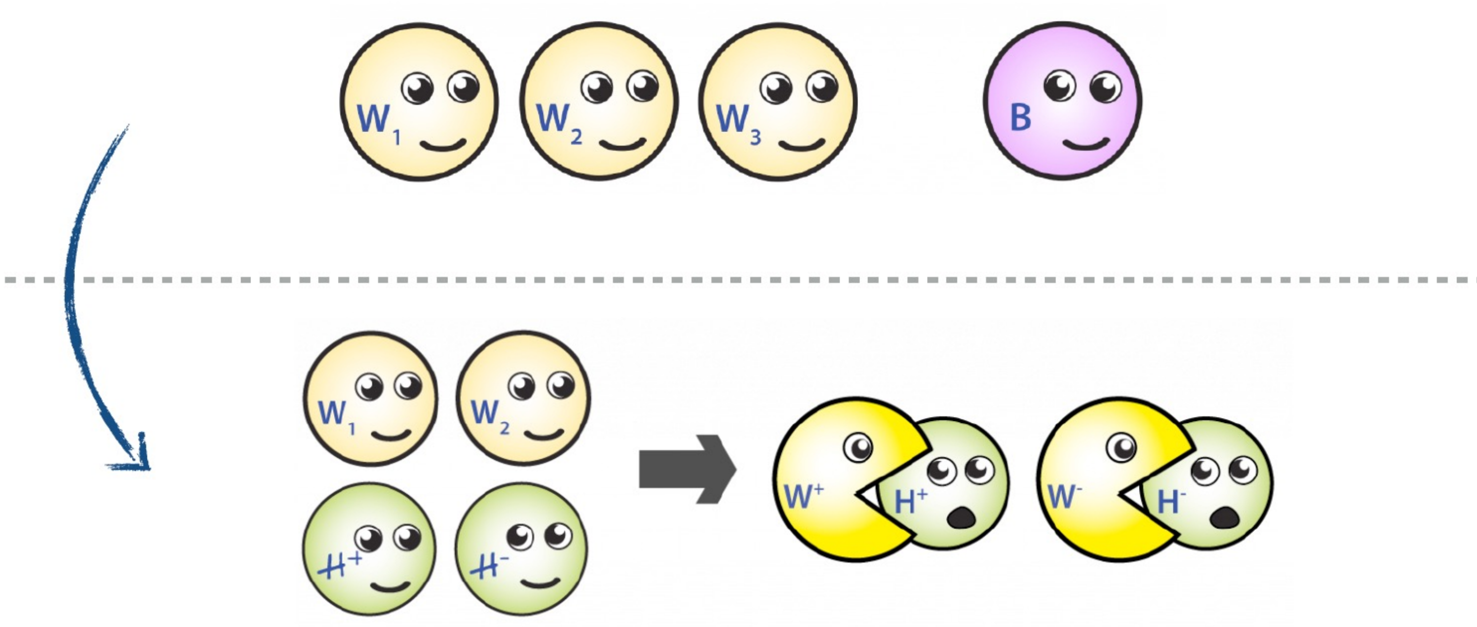
...perhaps “hides” is a better term...

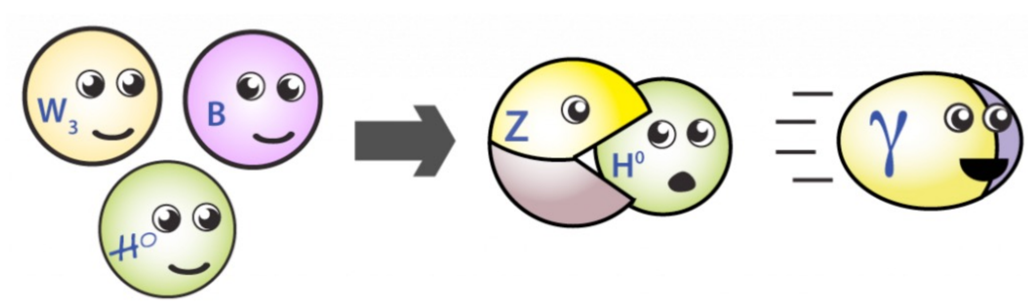


$$V(\phi) = \mu^2\phi^\dagger\phi + \lambda(\phi^\dagger\phi)^2$$

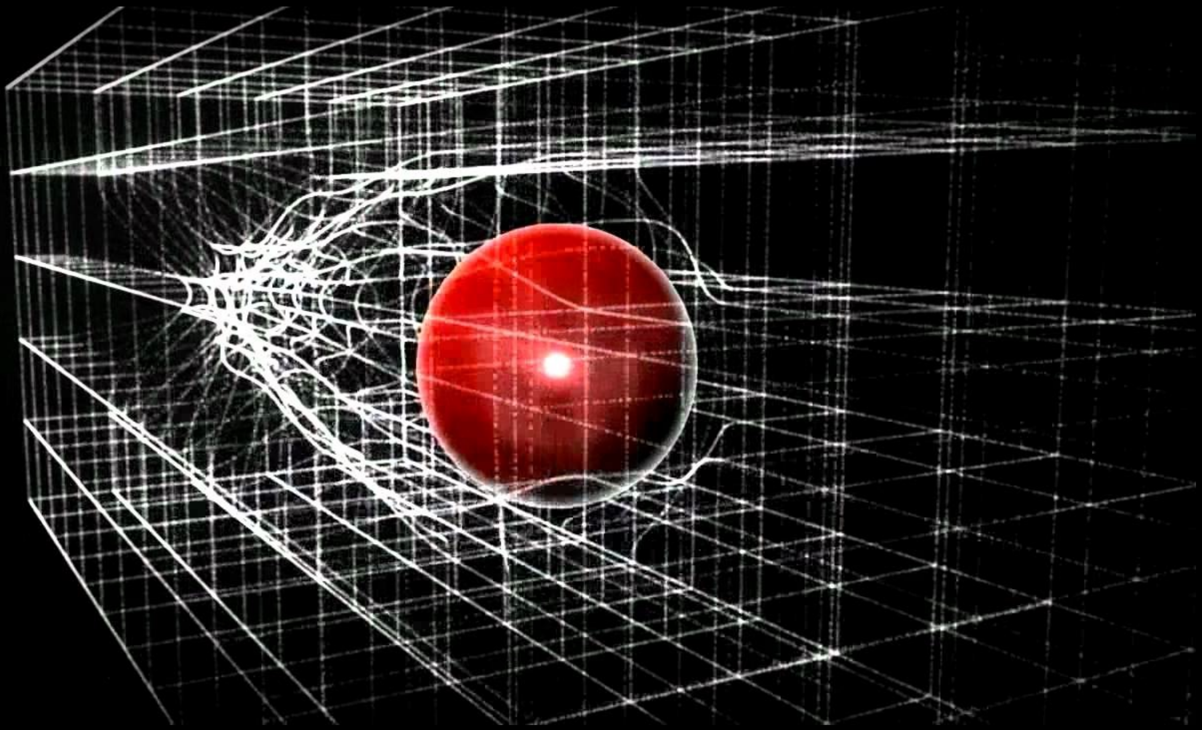


EWK Symmetry Breaking in Pictures





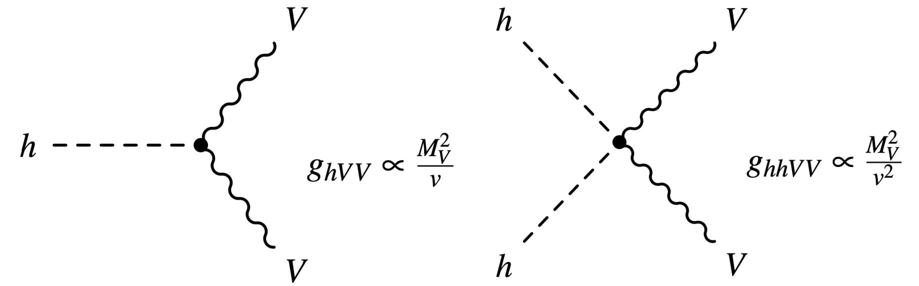
$$m_h = \sqrt{2\lambda}v$$



Higgs Properties

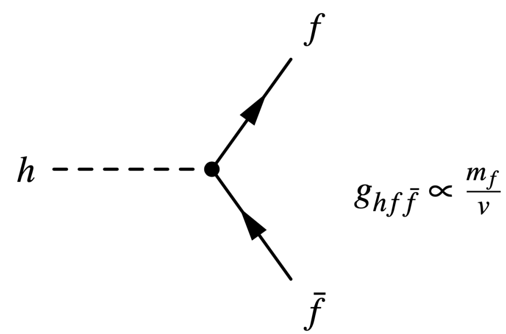
- Mass $m_h = \sqrt{2\lambda} v$
- 1 degree of freedom => Spin 0
- Couplings:
- To gauge bosons

$$g_{hVV} \propto \frac{M_V^2}{v} \quad g_{hhVV} \propto \frac{M_V^2}{v^2}$$



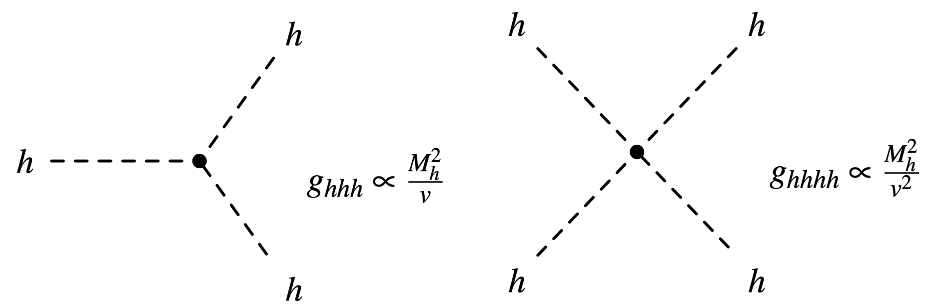
- Yukawa couplings to fermions

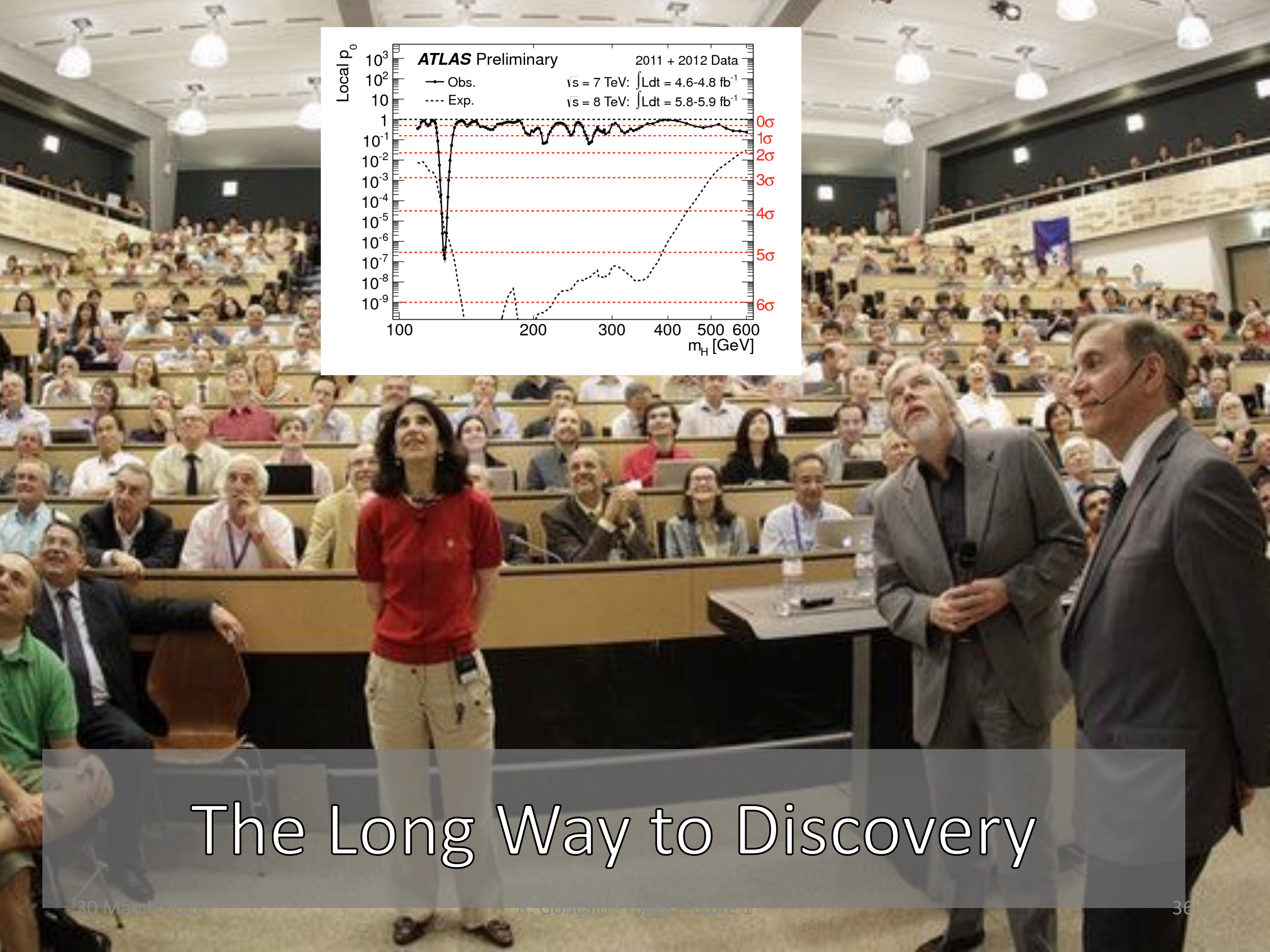
$$g_{hf\bar{f}} \propto \frac{m_f}{v}$$



- Self-couplings

$$g_{hhh} \propto \frac{M_h^2}{v} \quad g_{hhhh} \propto \frac{M_h^2}{v^2}$$





The Long Way to Discovery

A PHENOMENOLOGICAL PROFILE OF THE HIGGS BOSON

John ELLIS, Mary K. GAILLARD * and D.V. NANOPOULOS **
CERN, Geneva

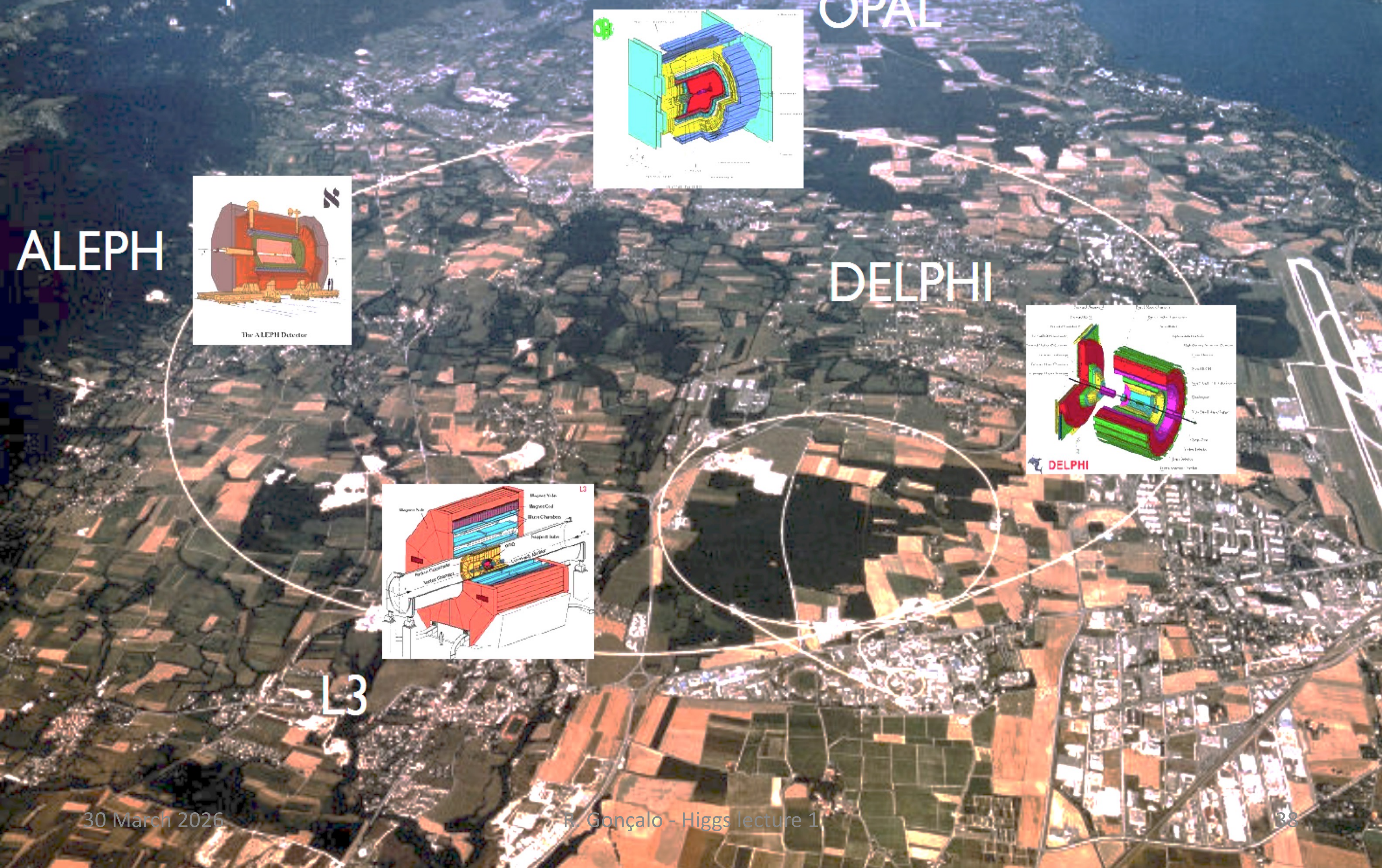
Received 7 November 1975

We should perhaps finish with an apology and a caution. We apologize to experimentalists for having no idea what is the mass of the Higgs boson, unlike the case with charm [3),4)] and for not being sure of its couplings to other particles, except that they are probably all very small. For these reasons we do not want to encourage big experimental searches for the Higgs boson, but we do feel that people performing experiments vulnerable to the Higgs boson should know how it may turn up.

Searches at LEP

Electron-positron collider up to $s^{1/2}$= 209 GeV
Integrated luminosity: ~700 pb^{-1}

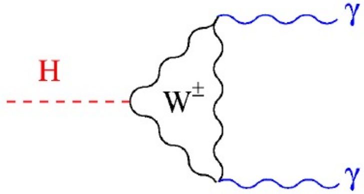
Shutdown: September 2000



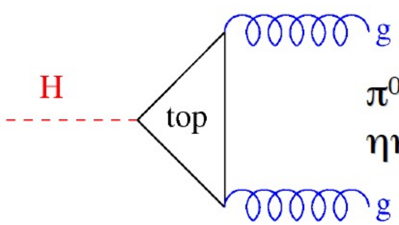
Low-mass searches at LEP

The decay branching ratios depend only on m_H:

- $m_H < 2m_e$: $H \to \gamma\gamma$ + large lifetime;



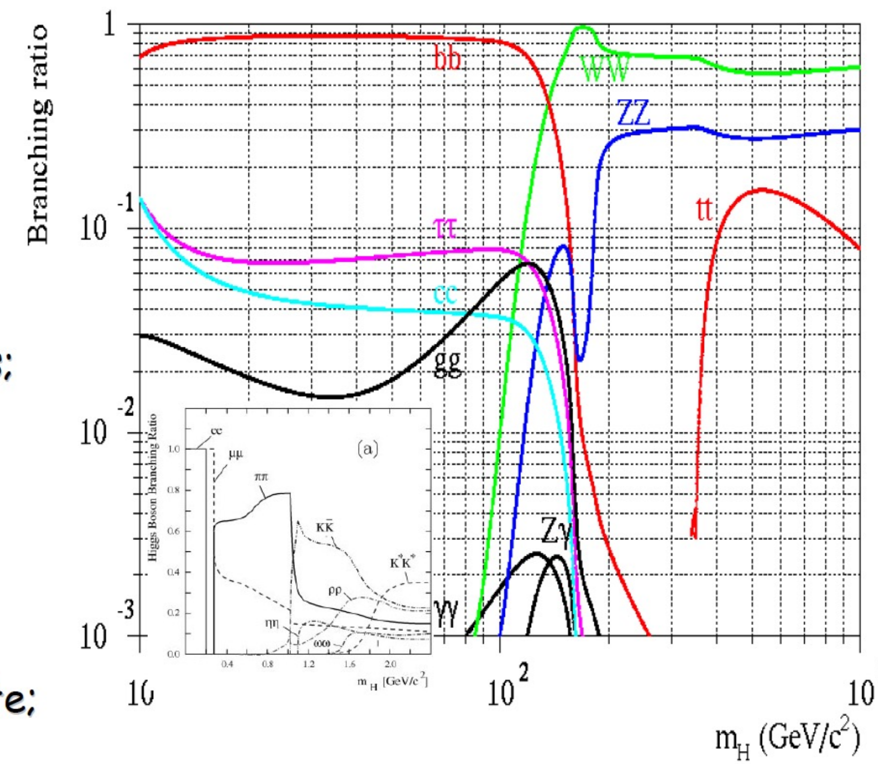
- $m_H < 2m_\mu$: $H \to e^+e^-$ dominates;
- $m_H < 2m_\pi$: $H \to \mu^+\mu^-$ dominates;
- $m_H < 3$ - 4 GeV: $H \to gg$ dominates;



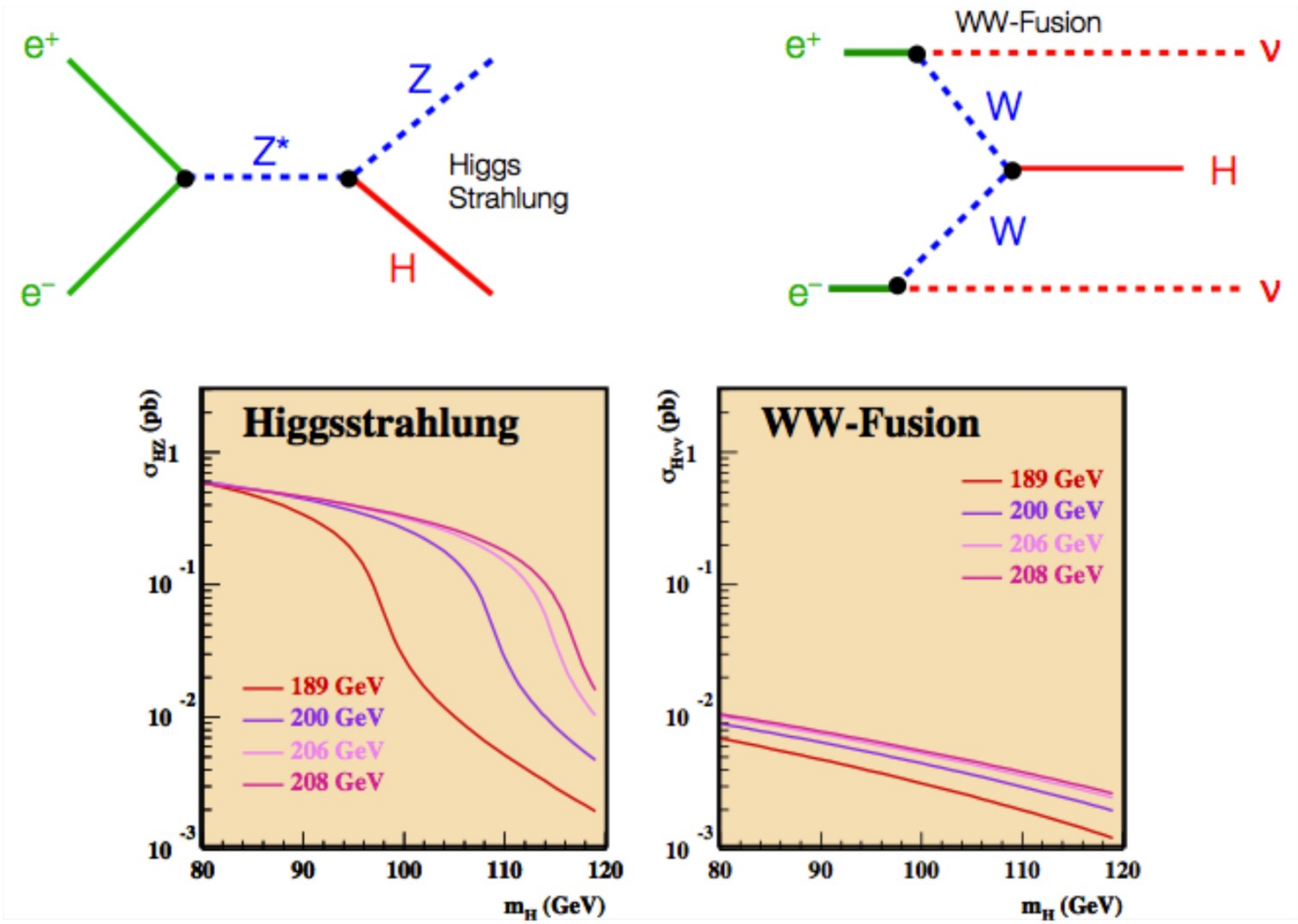
$\pi^0\pi^0$, $\pi^+\pi^-$, KK, $\eta\eta$, ... etc

- $m_H < 2m_b$: $H \to \tau^+\tau^-$ and $c\bar{c}$ dominate;

- $m_H > 2m_b$ up to 1000 GeV/c^2:



Higher-mass Higgs production at LEP



Summary of all Higgs candidates found at LEP

Invariant mass of all candidates

In total 17 candidates selected

- 15.8 background events expected

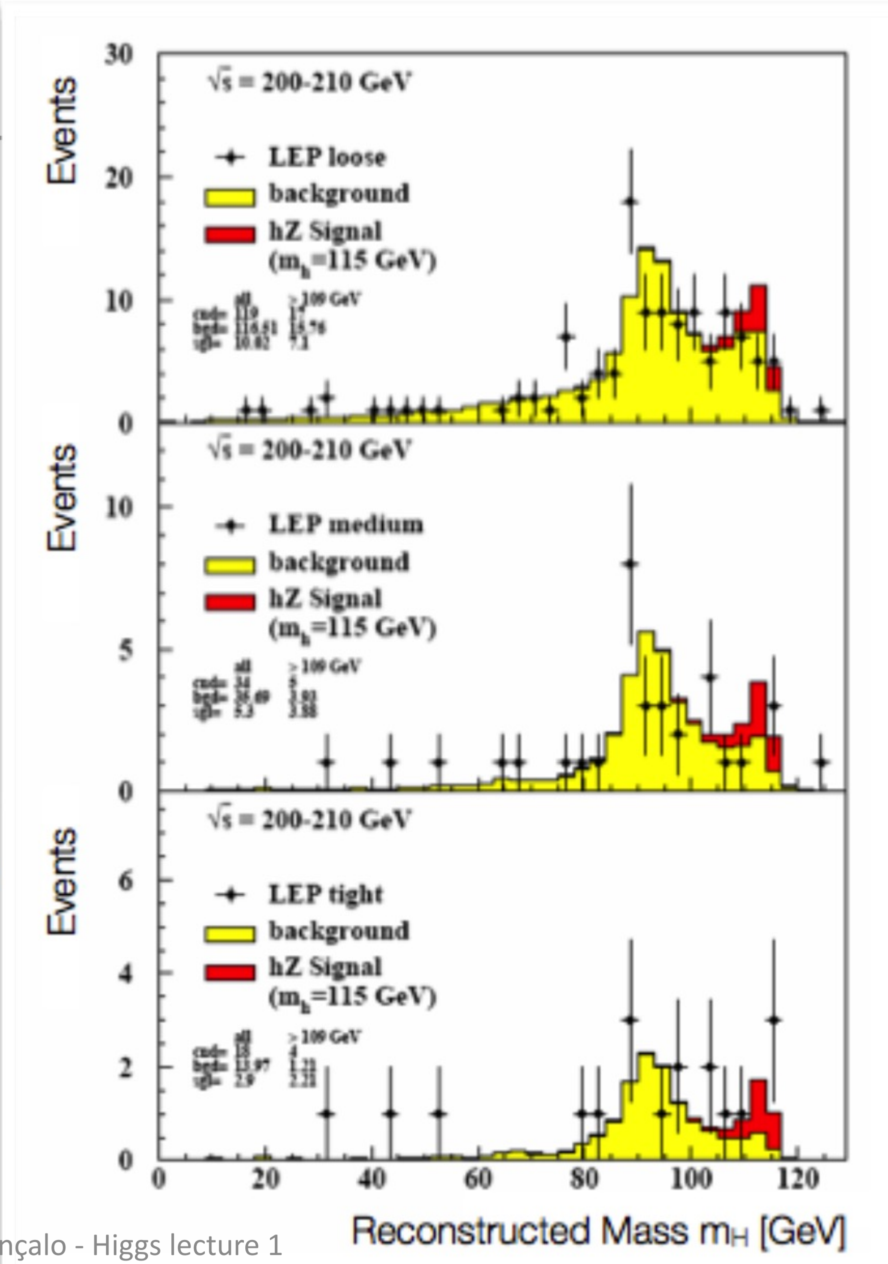
Expectation for m_H=115 GeV

- 8.4 events

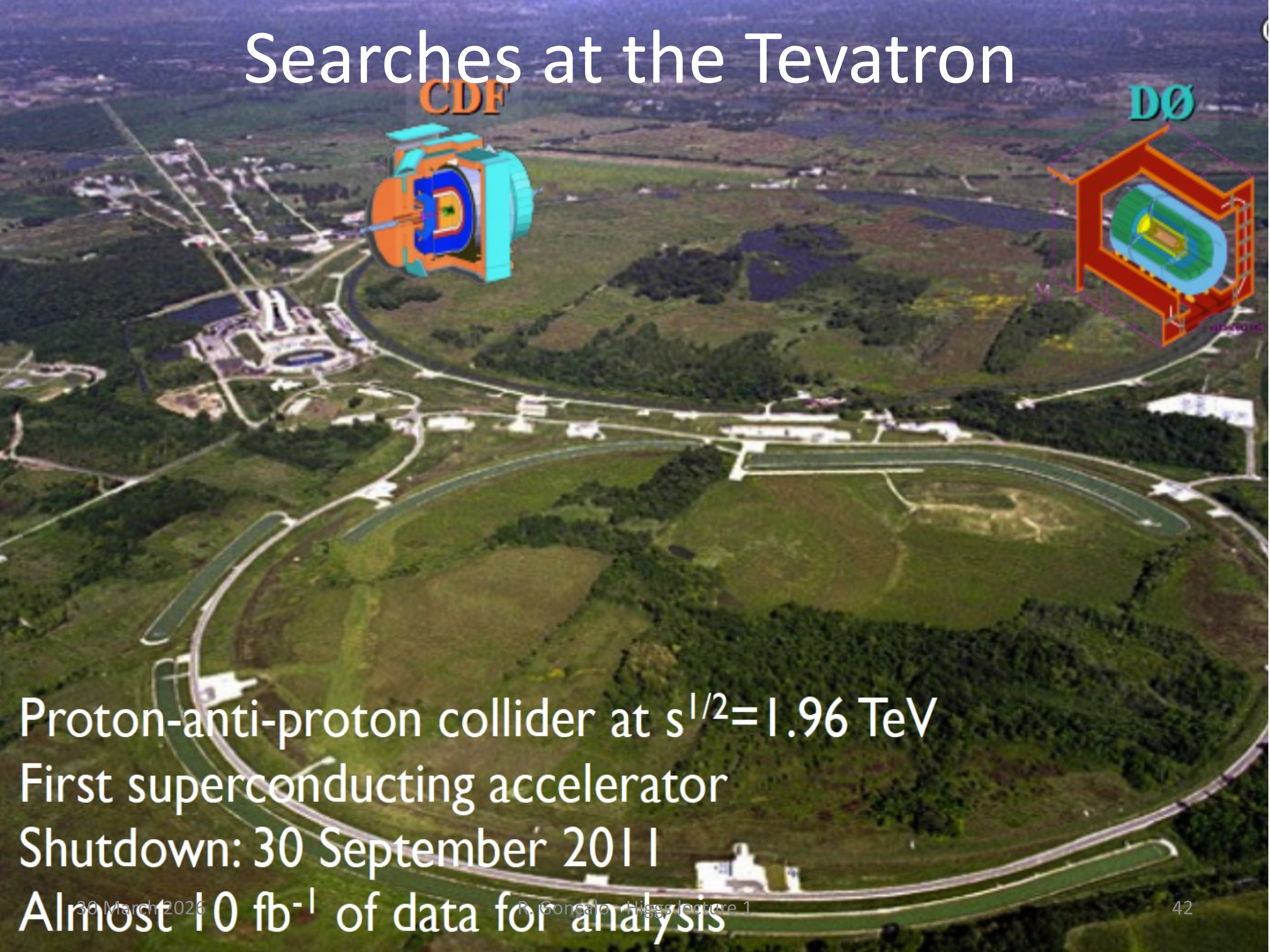
Corresponding excess was not observed

Final verdict from LEP

m_H>114.4 GeV @ 95% CL

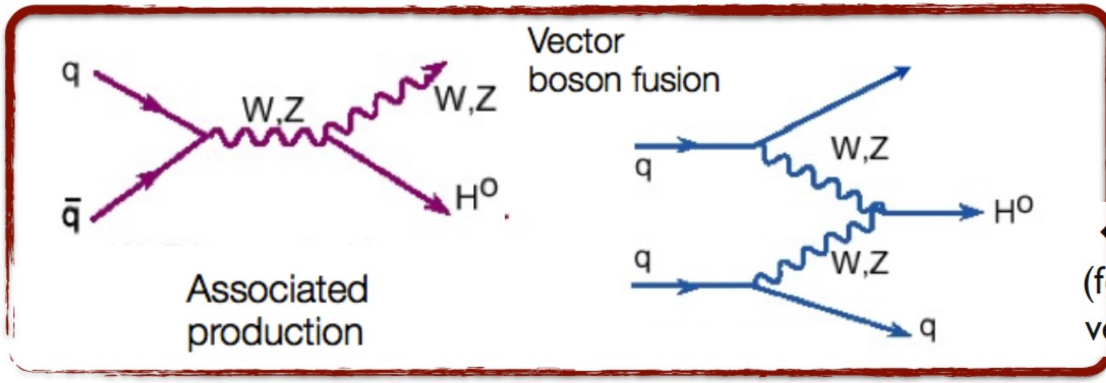


Searches at the Tevatron

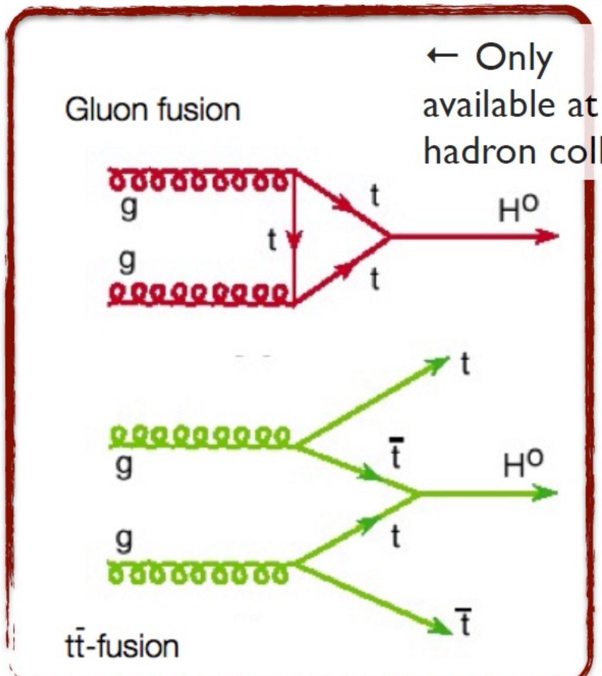


Proton-anti-proton collider at $s^{1/2}$=1.96 TeV
First superconducting accelerator
Shutdown: 30 September 2011
Almost 10 fb^{-1} of data for analysis

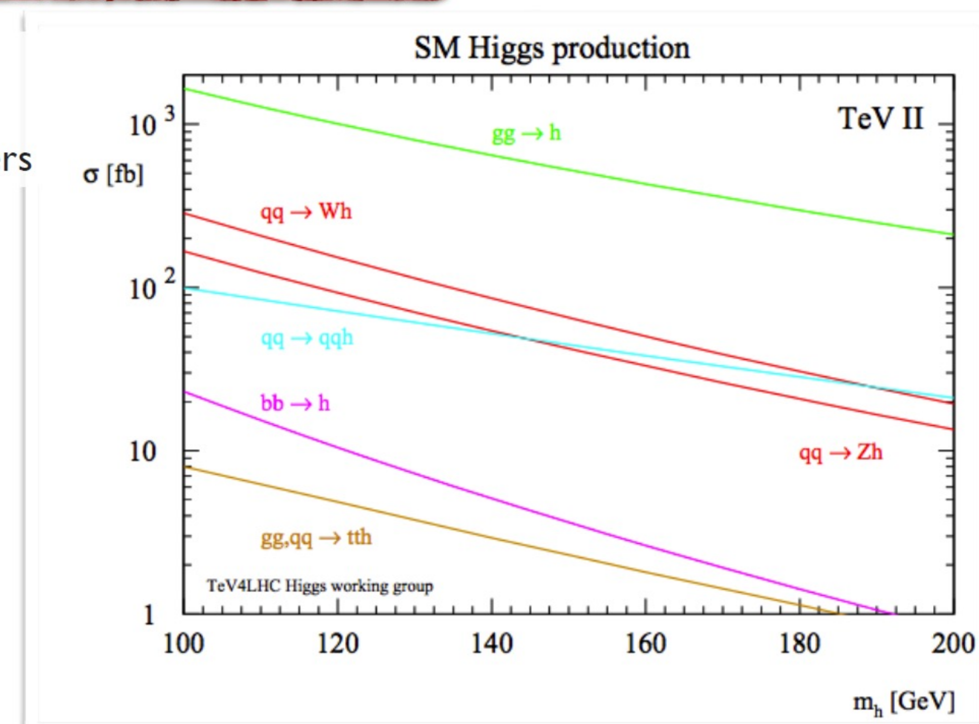
Higgs production at the Tevatron



← (fermion annihilation and vector boson scattering)

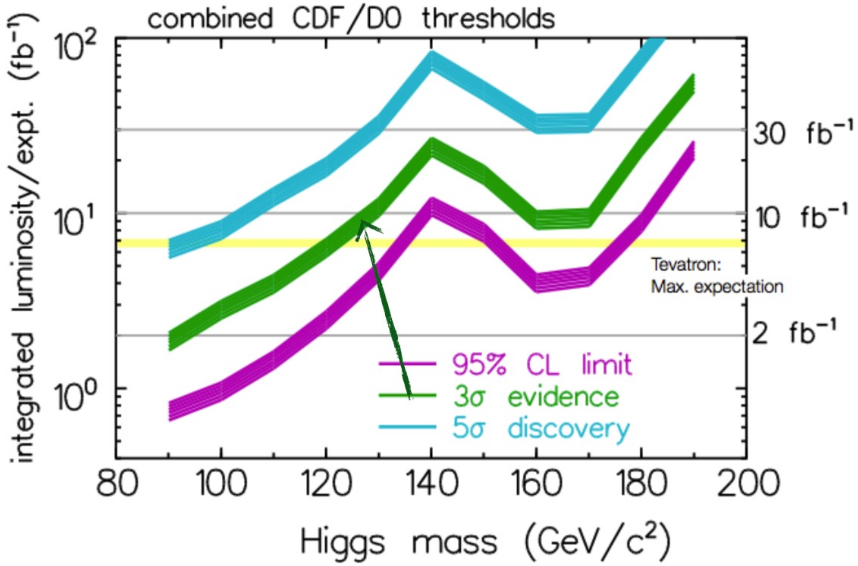


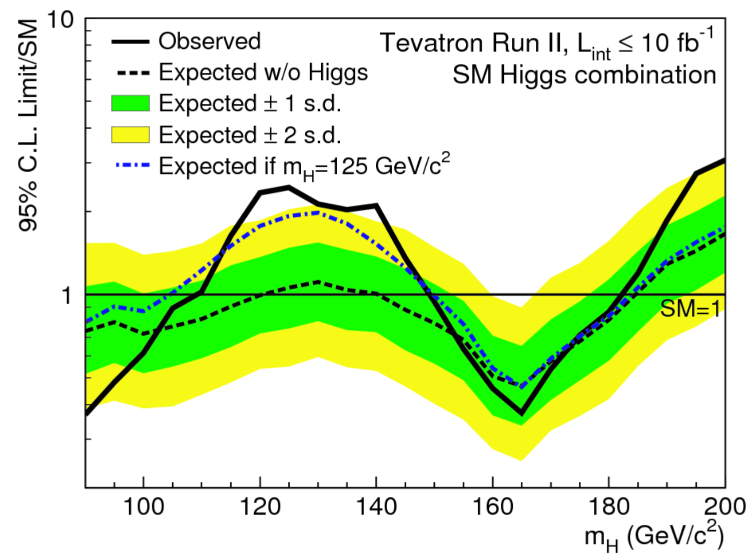
← Only available at hadron colliders



The final stand of the Tevatron

- By the end of its lifetime, the Tevatron had very sophisticated analyses of a huge number of channels
- By that time the LHC was collecting data and analysing it very fast
- The CDF and D0 experiments obtained an excess of around 3 standard deviations in the mass range $115<M_H<140$ GeV
- Not enough to claim discovery, but consistent with the LHC results

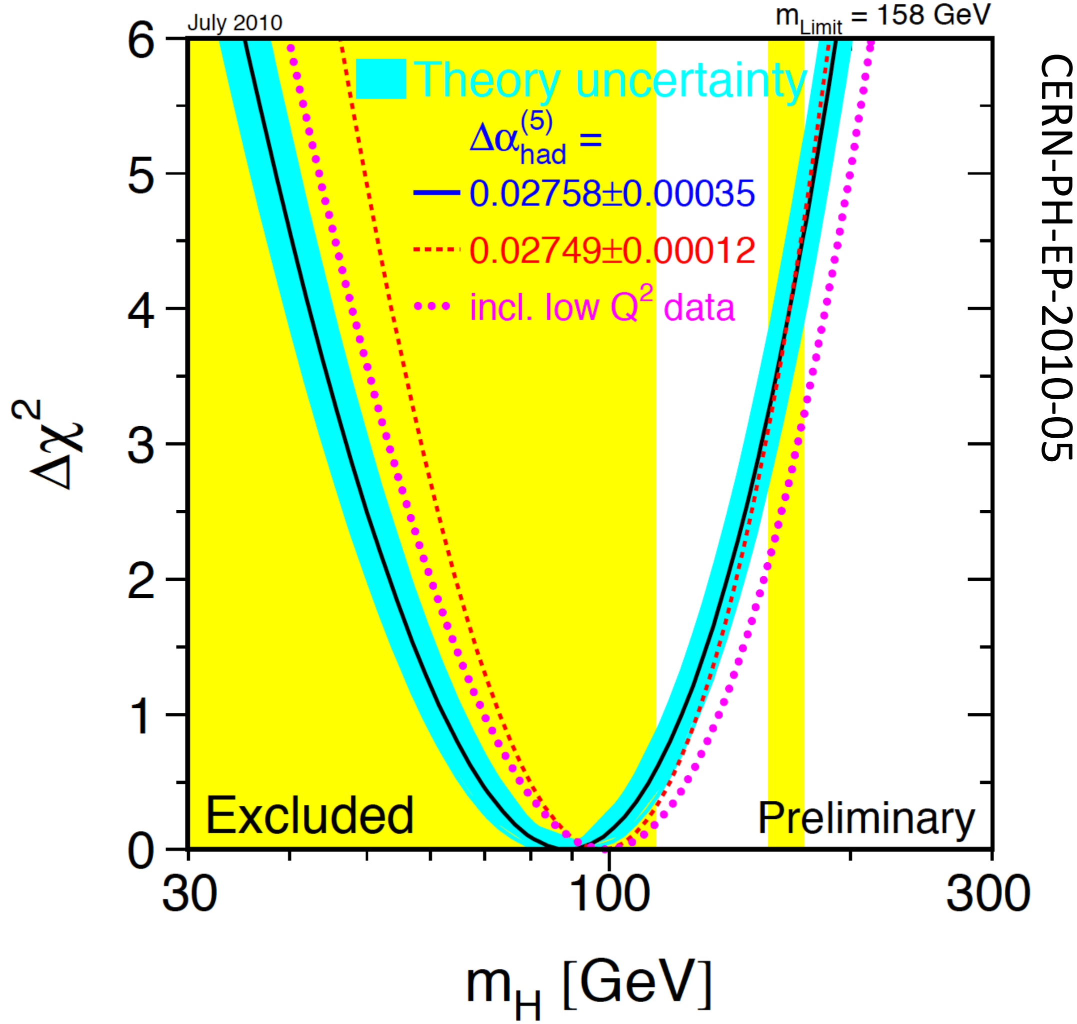




LEP and Tevatron: the Blue Band Plot

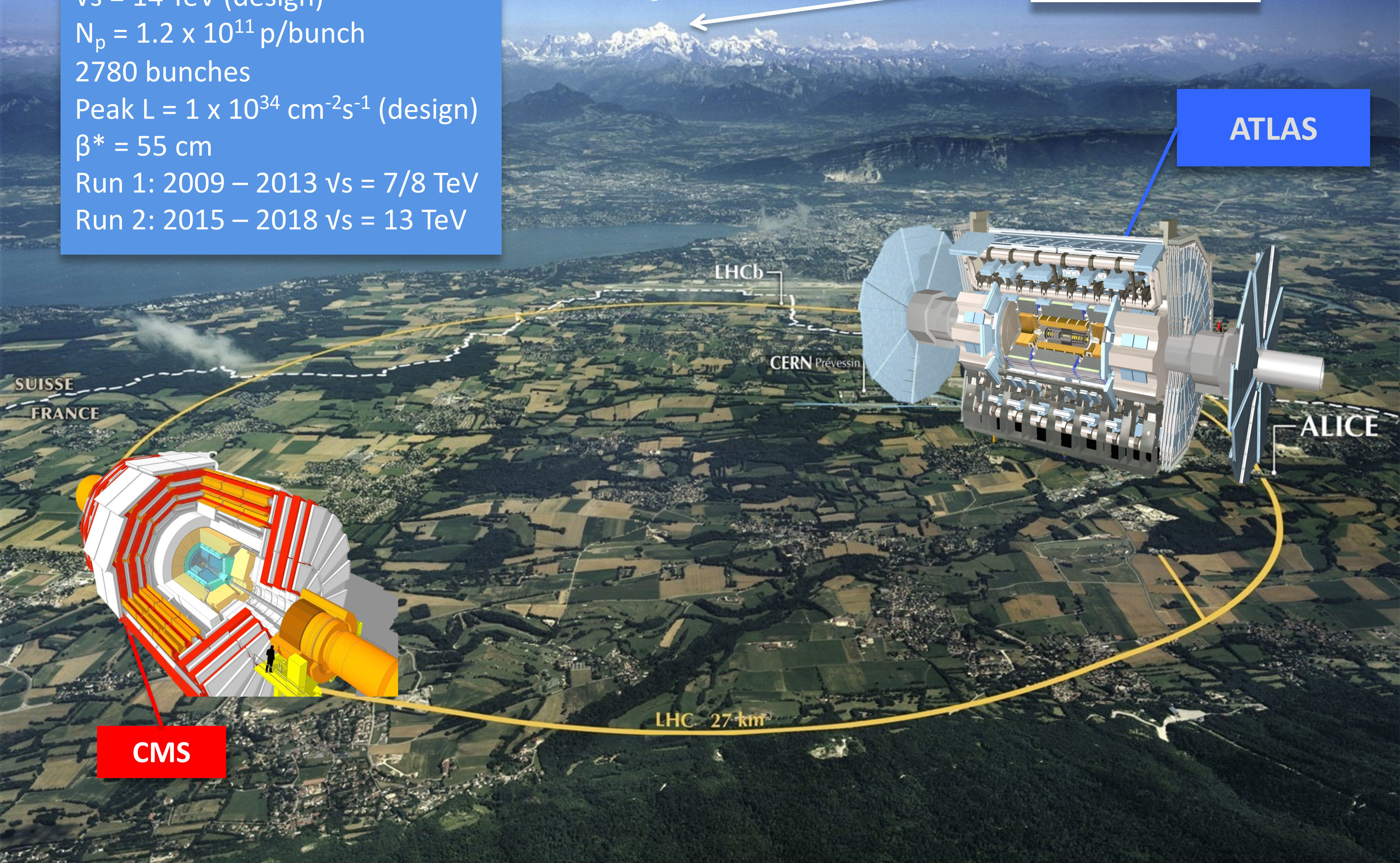
- Decades of searches in several experiments...

- By July 2010:
  - LEP+Tevatron+SLD limits
  - Higgs excluded for m_h<114.4 GeV at 95% CL
  - Plus between 158 and 175 GeV

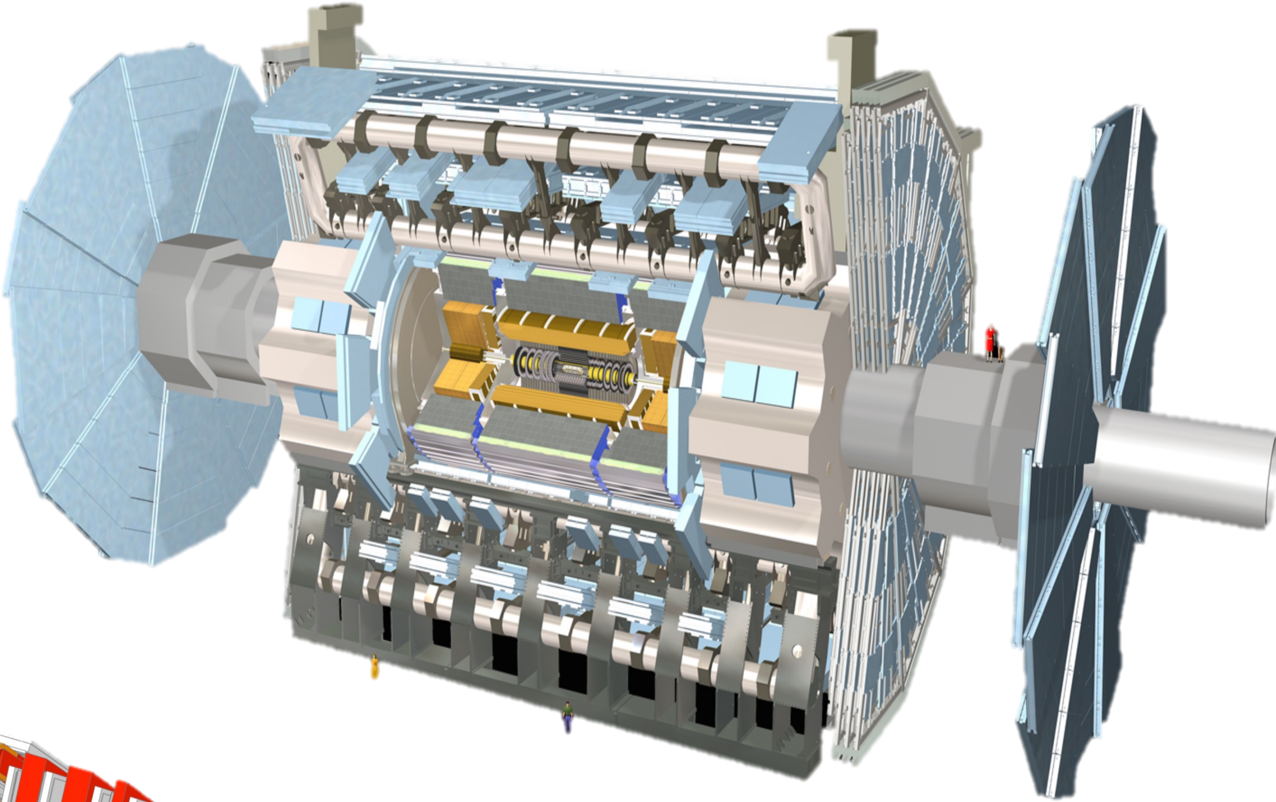


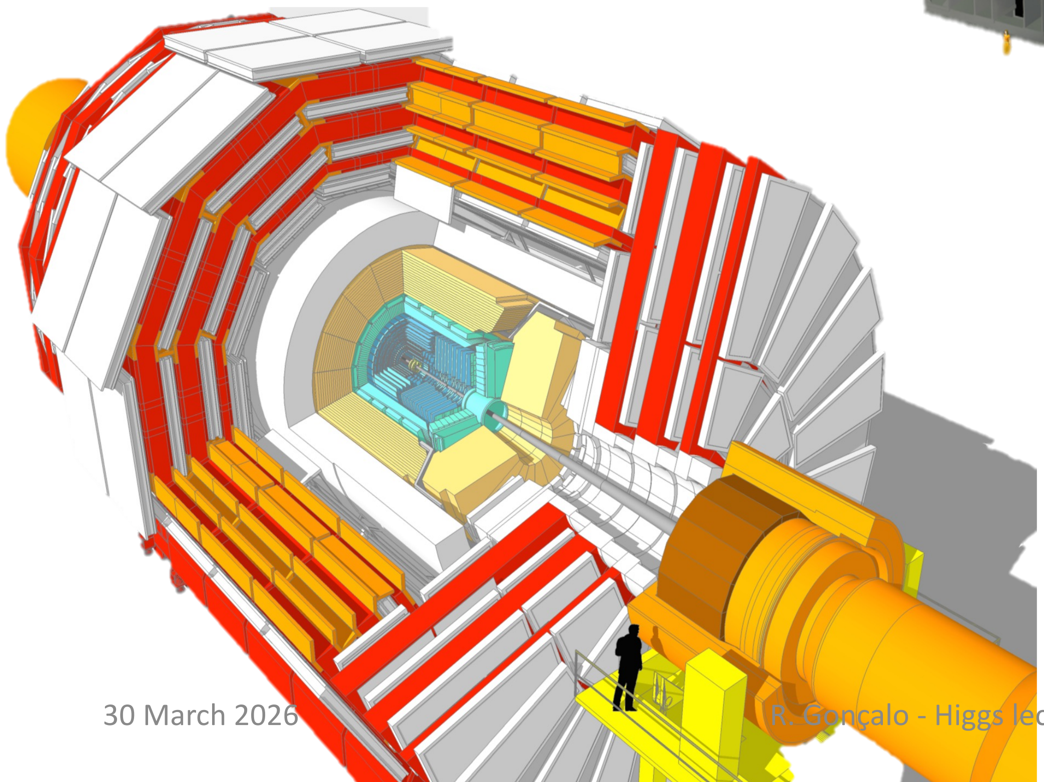
Discovery at the LHC

Design (p-p run):
$\sqrt{s}$ = 14 TeV (design)
$N_p = 1.2 \times 10^{11}$ p/bunch
2780 bunches
Peak $L = 1 \times 10^{34}$ $cm^{-2}s^{-1}$ (design)
β^* = 55 cm
Run 1: 2009 – 2013 $\sqrt{s}$ = 7/8 TeV
Run 2: 2015 – 2018 $\sqrt{s}$ = 13 TeV



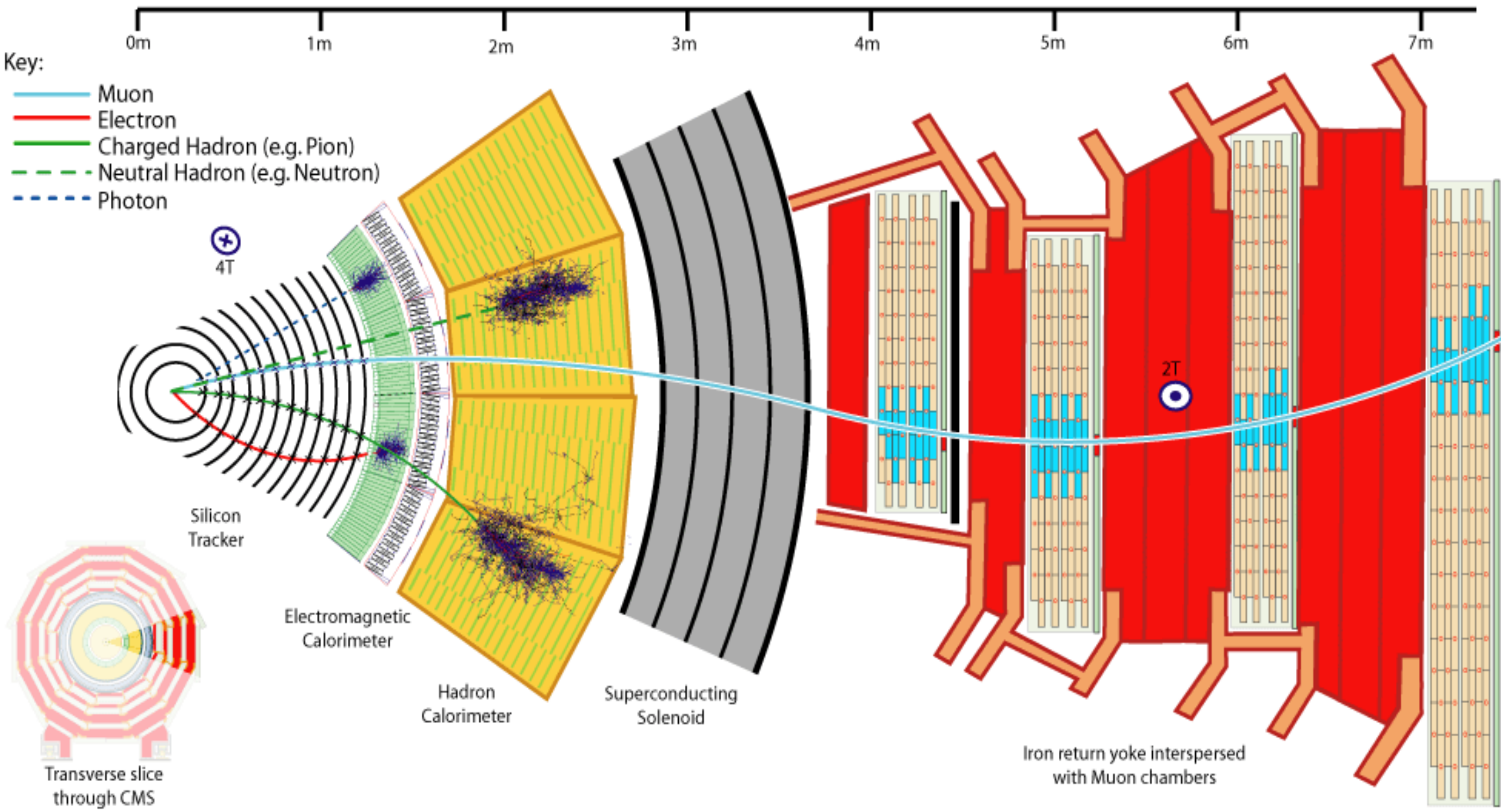
ATLAS
5000 colaboradores
175 institutos de 38 países
L = 44 m, ∅ ≈ 25 m, 7 000 t

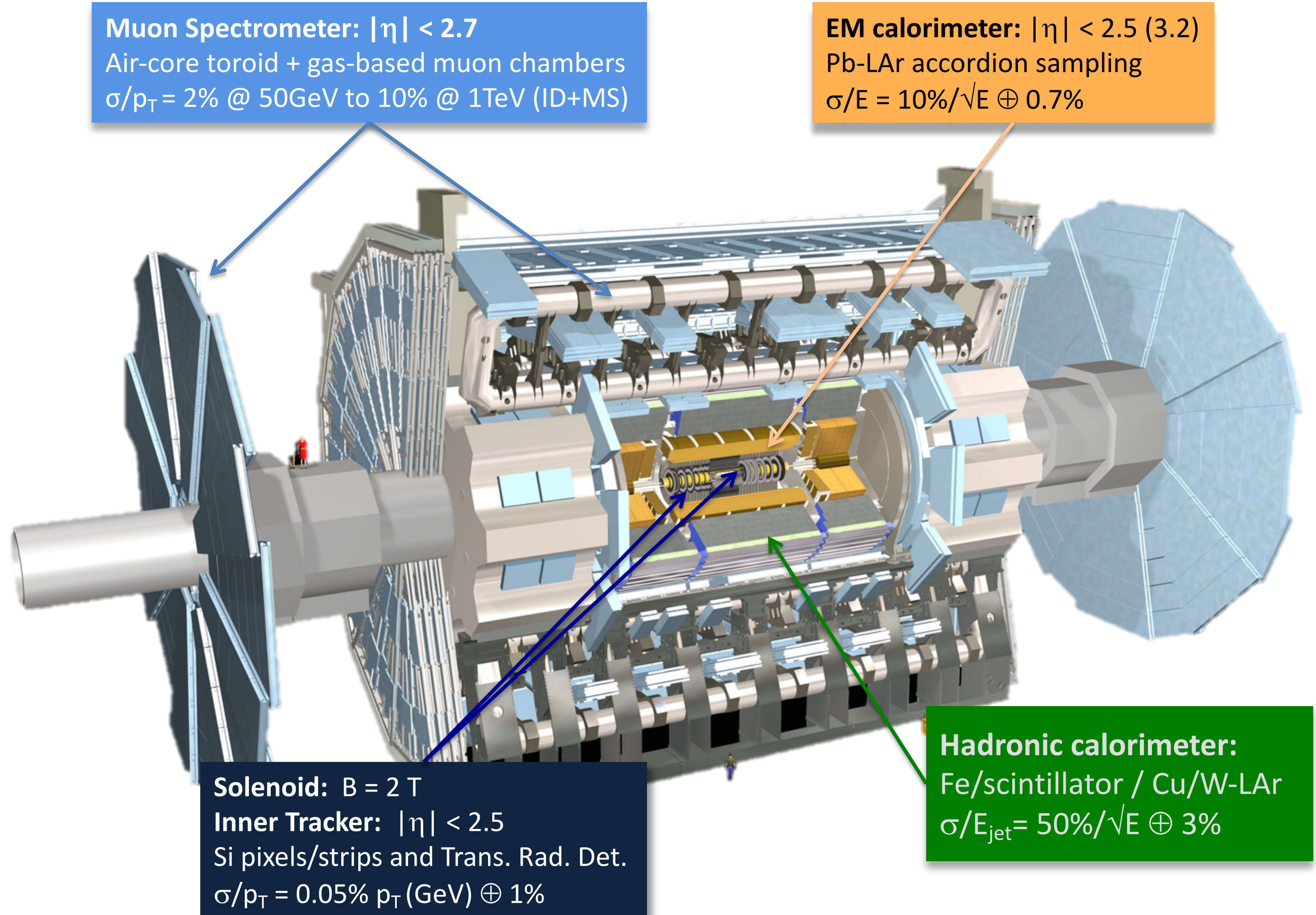


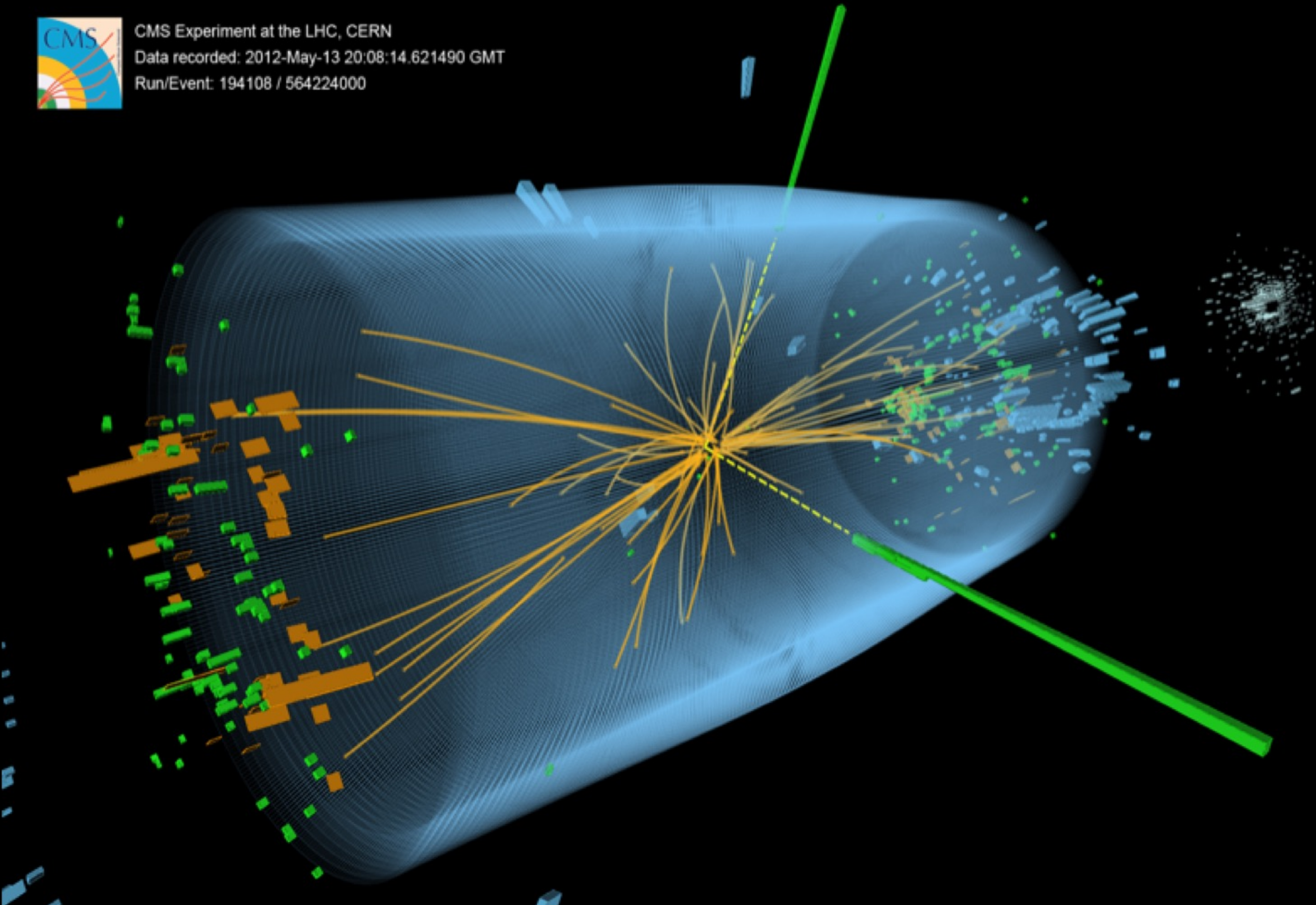


CMS
3800 colaboradores
199 institutos de 43 países
L = 22 m, ∅ ≈ 15 m, 14 000 t

47

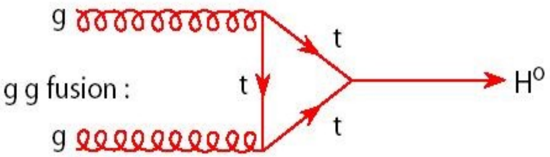

0m
1m
2m
3m
4m
5m
6m
7m
Key:
Muon
Electron
Charged Hadron (e.g. Pion)
Neutral Hadron (e.g. Neutron)
Photon
4T
2T
Silicon Tracker
Electromagnetic Calorimeter
Hadron Calorimeter
Superconducting Solenoid
Iron return yoke interspersed with Muon chambers
Transverse slice through CMS
D.Barney, CERN, February 2004

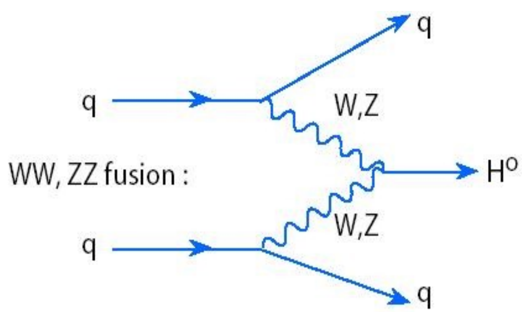

Muon Spectrometer: $|\eta| < 2.7$
Air-core toroid + gas-based muon chambers
$\sigma/p_T = 2\%$ @ 50GeV to 10% @ 1TeV (ID+MS)
EM calorimeter: $|\eta| < 2.5$ (3.2)
Pb-LAr accordion sampling
$\sigma/E = 10\%/\sqrt{E} \oplus 0.7\%$
Hadronic calorimeter:
Fe/scintillator / Cu/W-LAr
$\sigma/E_{jet} = 50\%/\sqrt{E} \oplus 3\%$
Solenoid: B = 2 T
Inner Tracker: $|\eta| < 2.5$
Si pixels/strips and Trans. Rad. Det.
$\sigma/p_T = 0.05\%\ p_T\,(\mathrm{GeV}) \oplus 1\%$

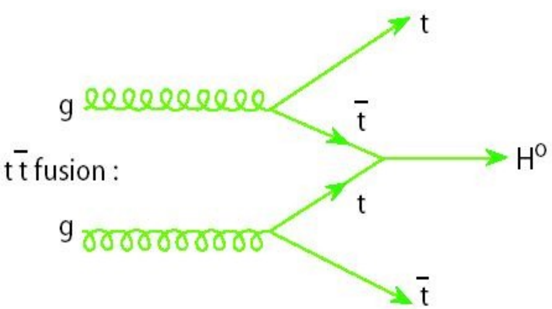

CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN
Data recorded: 2012-May-13 20:08:14.621490 GMT
Run/Event: 194108 / 564224000

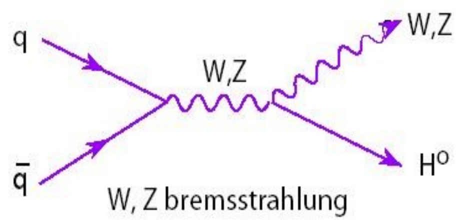
Higgs @ the LHC

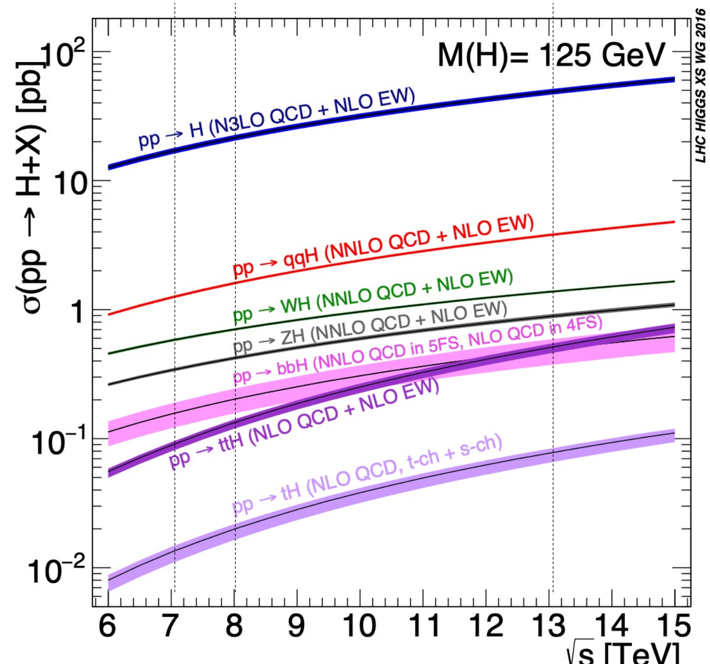
- Many different production and decay mechanisms
  - Span 3 orders of magnitude in cross section and branching ratio
  - Some very clean decays with low BR (γγ, 4l)
  - Other very difficult with higher rates (bb, WW, ττ,...)
- Access Higgs properties through combination of different channels











Higgs @ the LHC

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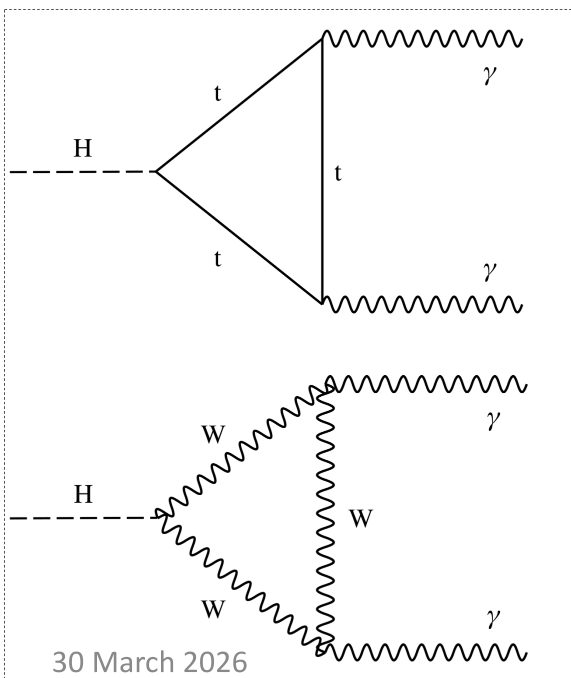
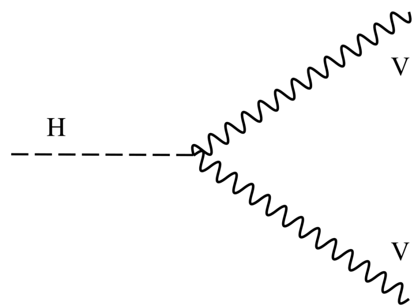
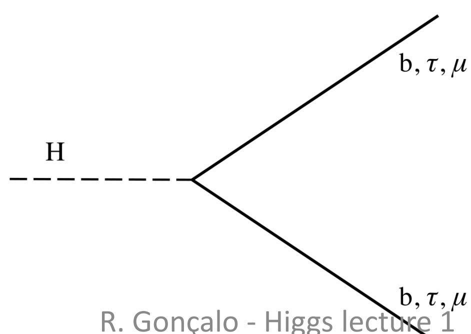
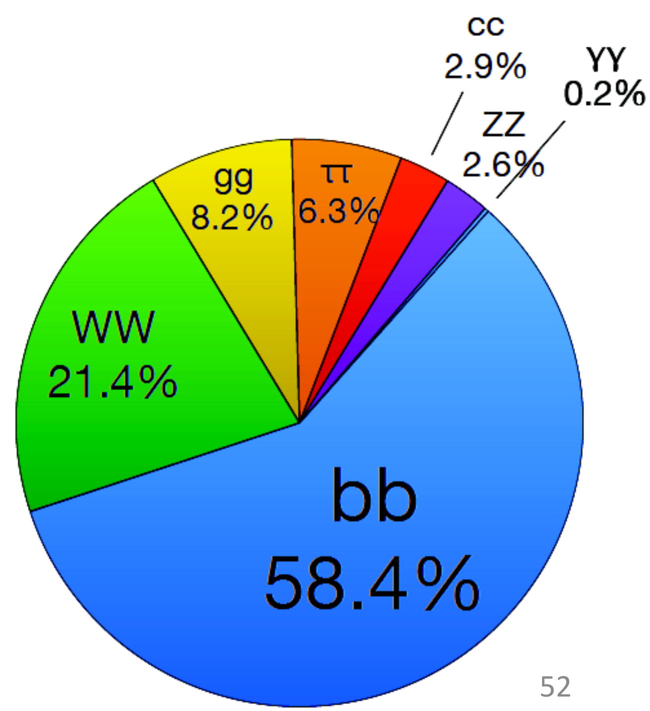


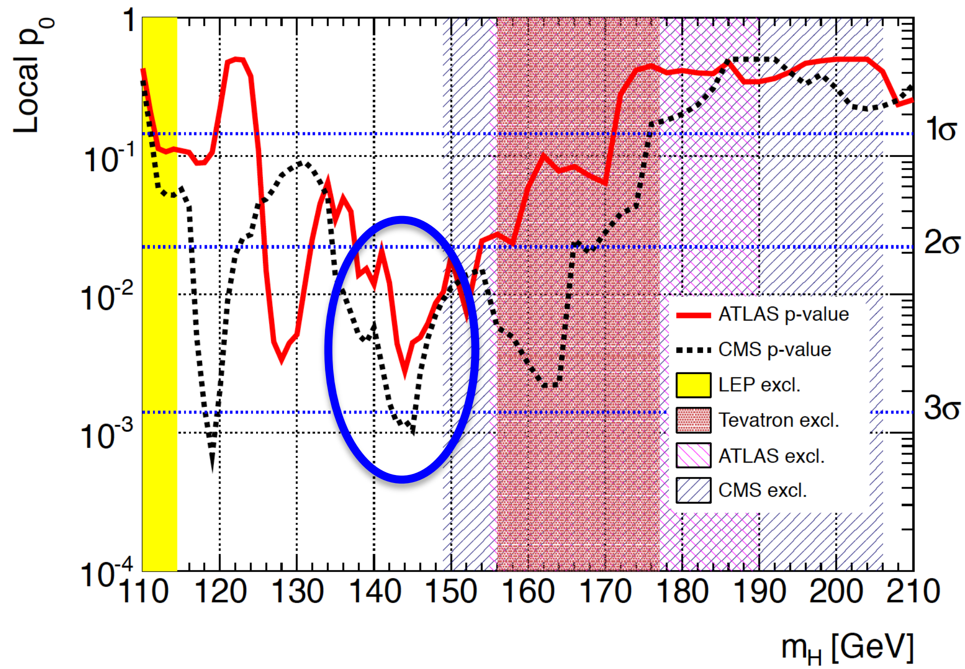




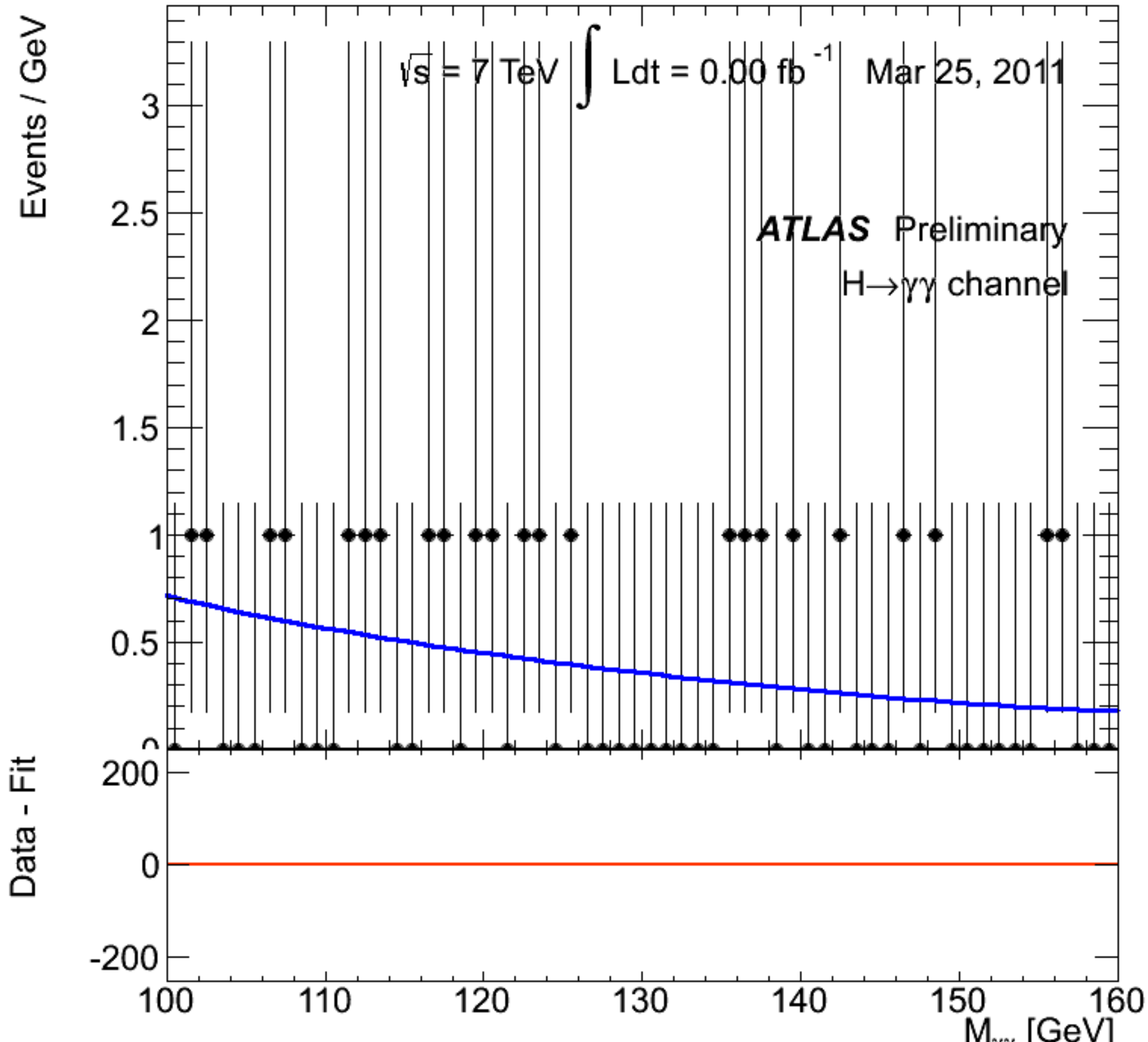


It takes time to get it right

EPS-HEP 2011 conference [6]



2012: Descoberta do bosão de Higgs: H->$\gamma\gamma$

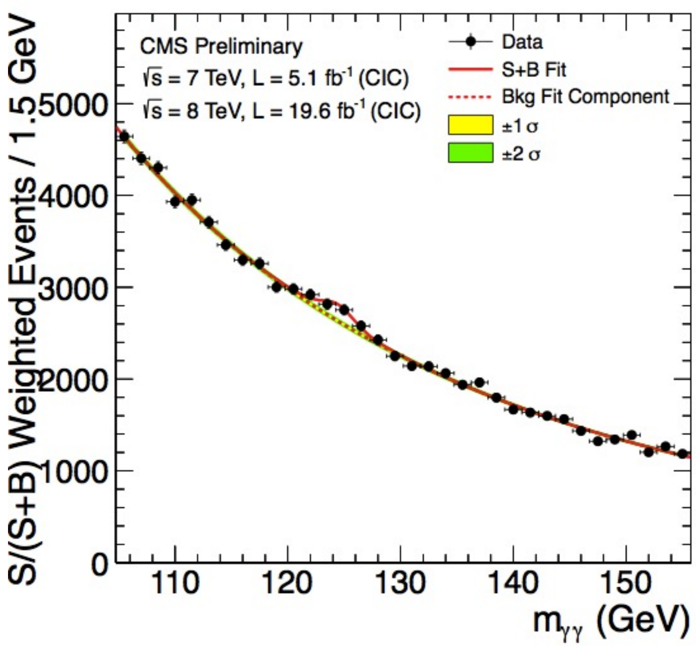


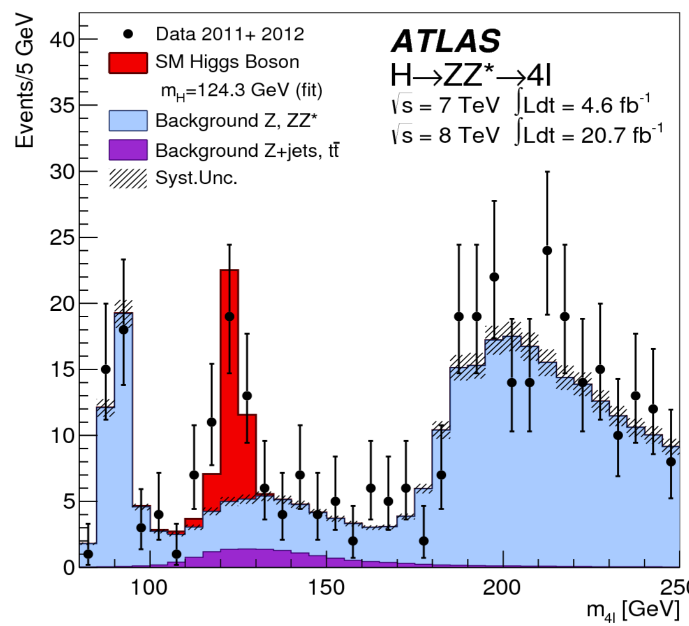
Discovery channels

- Discovery was made in ATLAS and CMS with about 5 fb^{-1} of 7 TeV data and 20 fb^{-1} of 8 TeV data per experiment; several channels combined

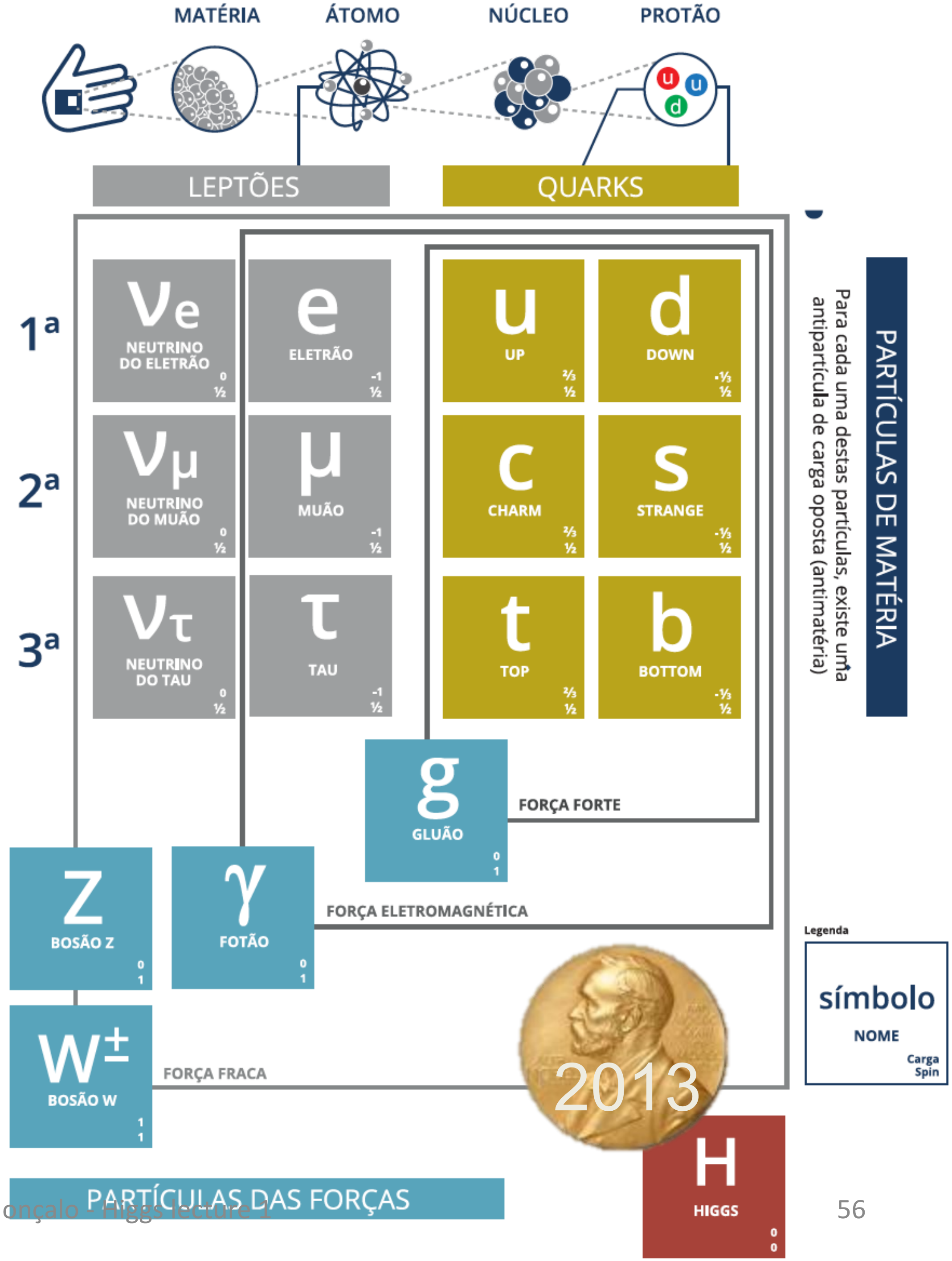
$$h \to \gamma\gamma; h \to ZZ^* \to 4\ell; h \to WW^*; h \to \tau^+\tau^-; h \to b\bar{b}$$

- This means about 400 000 Higgs bosons produced in about 8 000 000 000 000 000 ($8x10^{15}$) proton collisions
  - Only about 4000 events with Higgs bosons contributed to the discovery

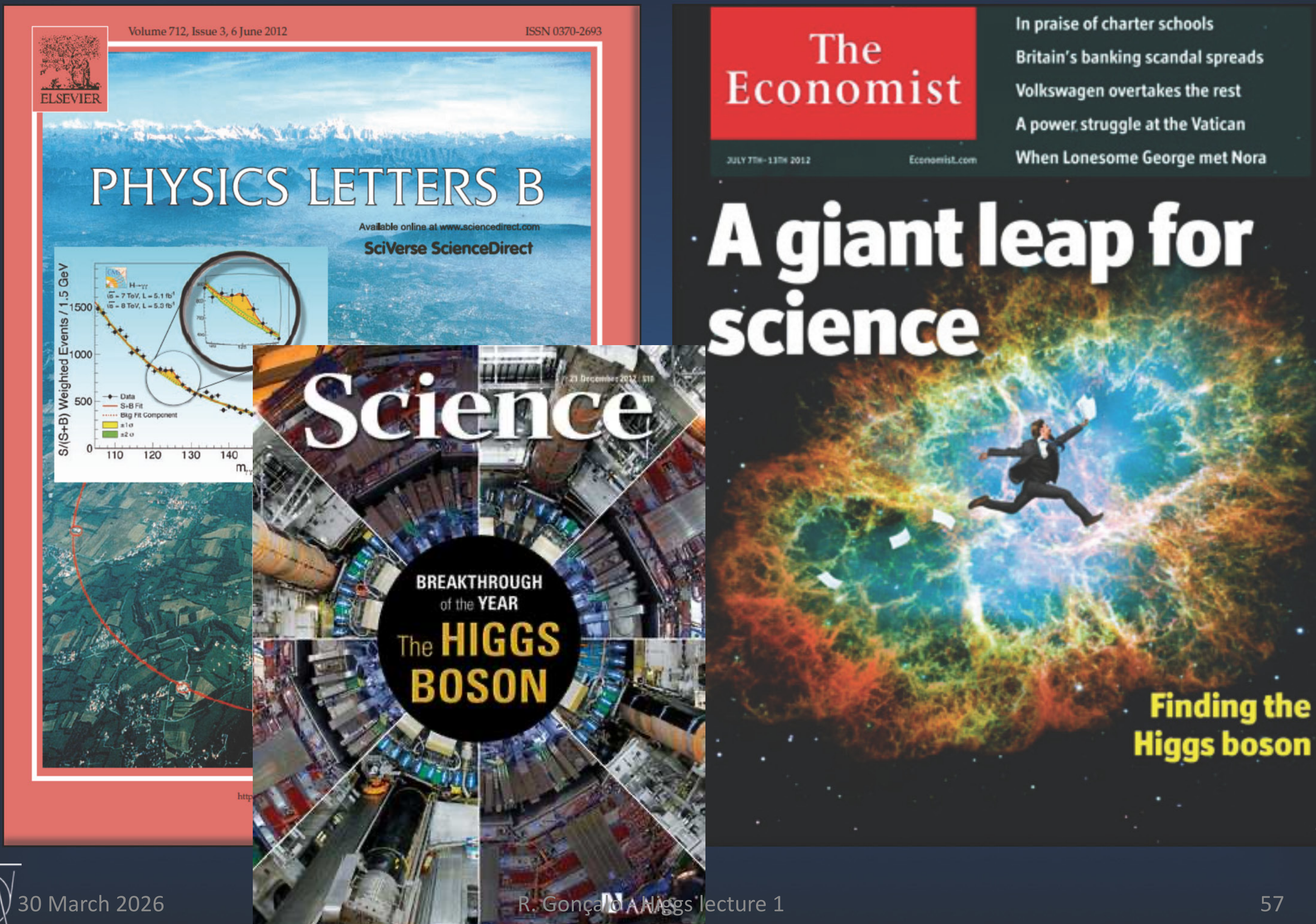


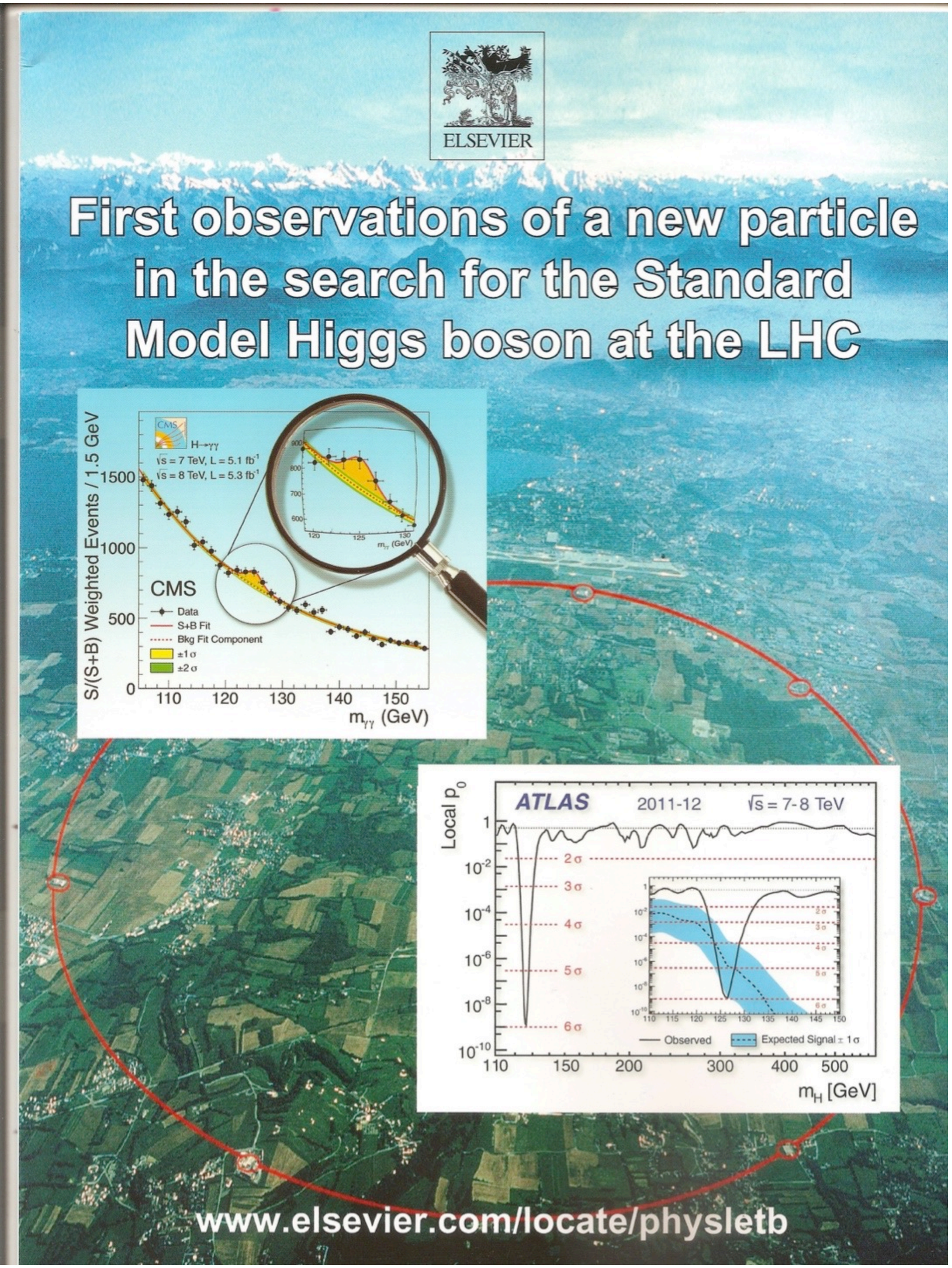


The Standard Model of particle physics completed



A Descoberta do bosão de Higgs





Two quotations from the experimental papers presented in this publication:

"... The search for the Higgs boson, the only elementary particle in the Standard Model that has not yet been observed, is one of the highlights of the Large Hadron Collider physics program."

\- ATLAS Collaboration

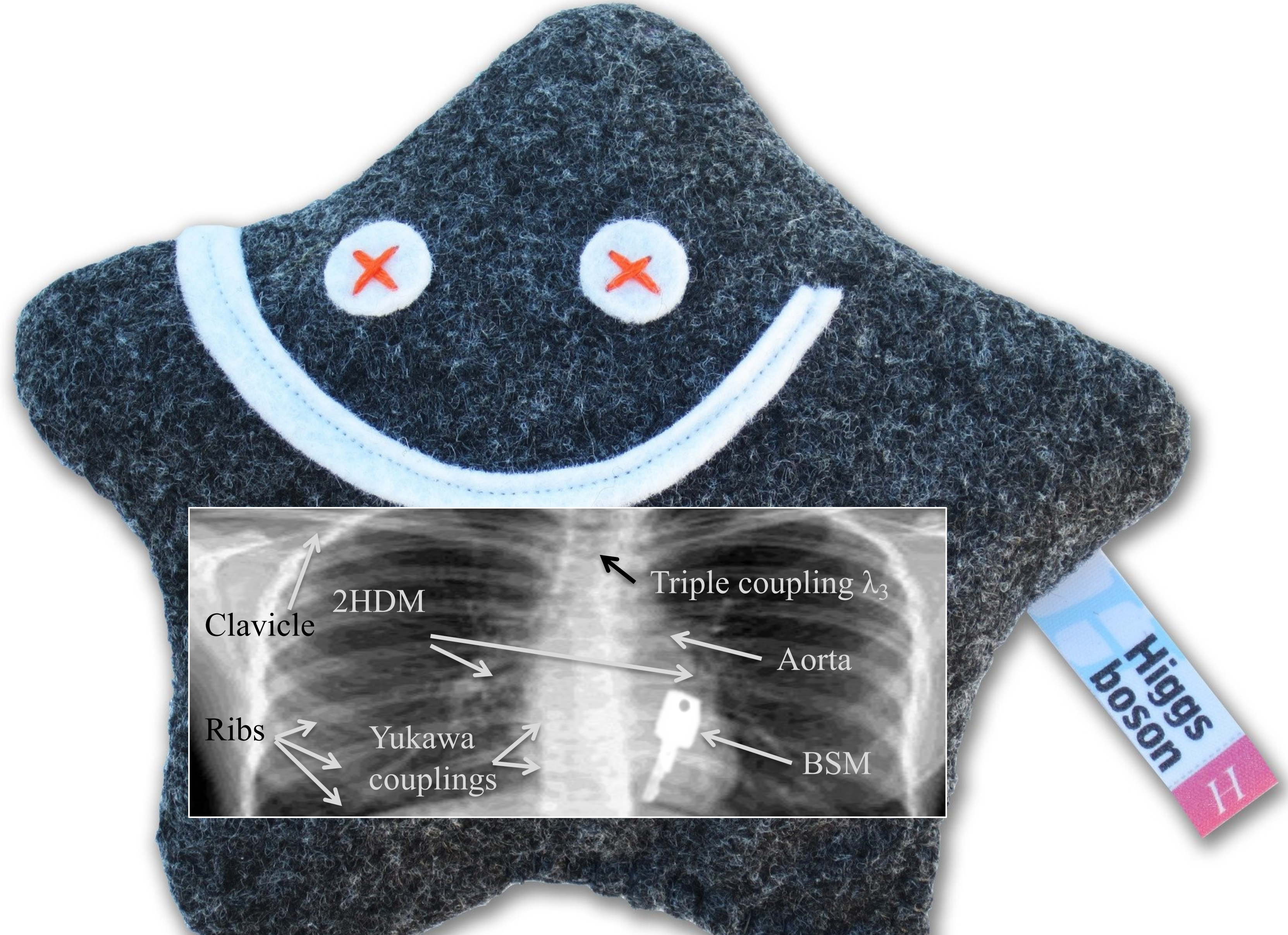
"... The decay to two photons indicates that the new particle is a boson with spin different from one. The results presented here are consistent, ... with expectations for a standard model Higgs boson."

\- CMS Collaboration

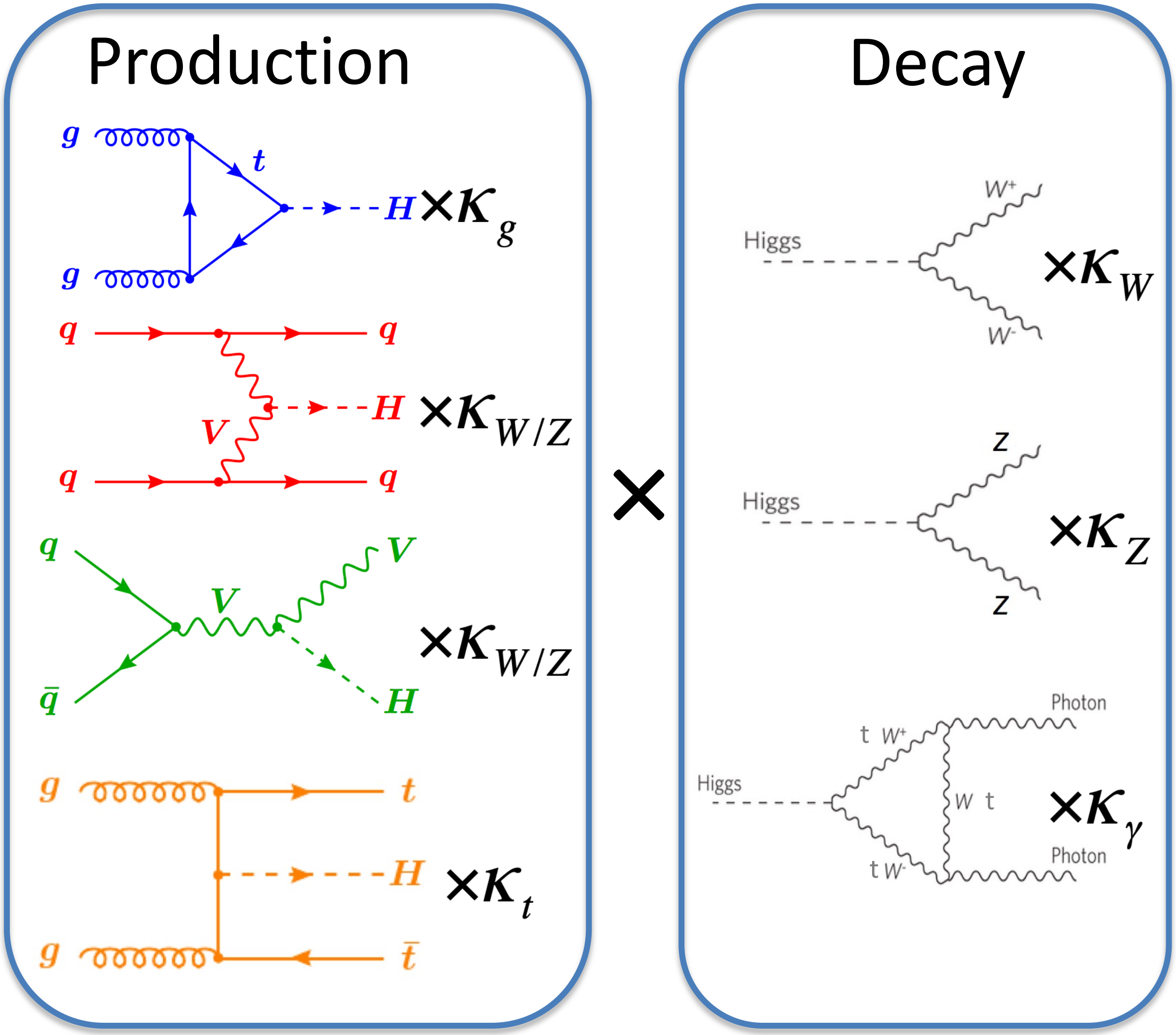
Best wishes!
Peter Higgs

What now?!

Probing the 125 GeV Higgs

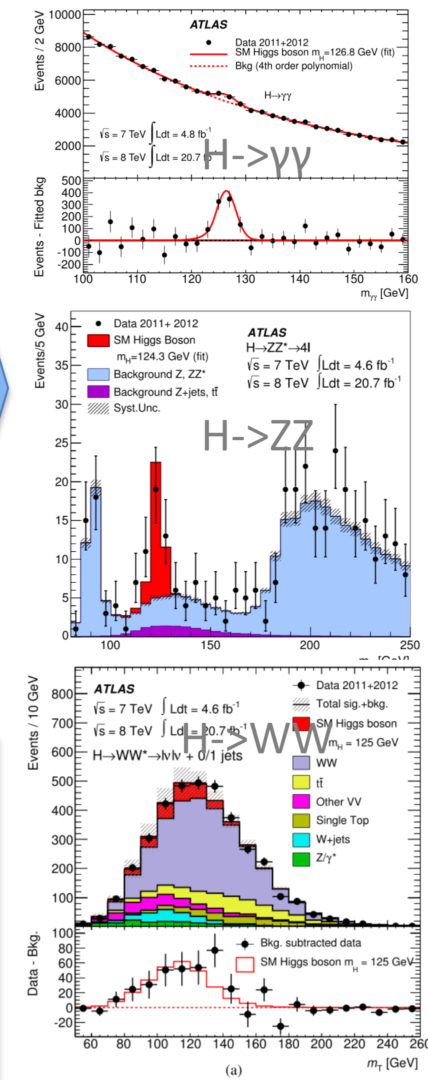


$$\kappa_i^2 = \sigma_i / \sigma_i^{SM} \qquad \kappa_f^2 = \Gamma_f / \Gamma_f^{SM} \qquad \mu = \frac{(\sigma \cdot BR)^{Obs.}}{(\sigma \cdot BR)^{SM}} = \kappa_i^2 \cdot \kappa_f^2$$

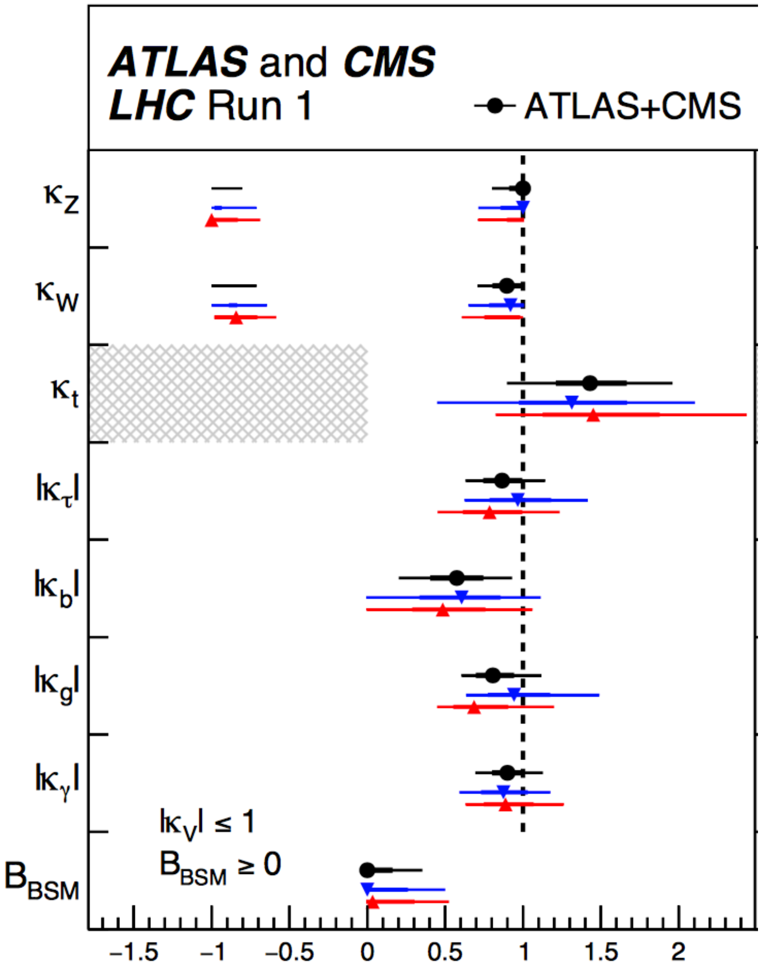


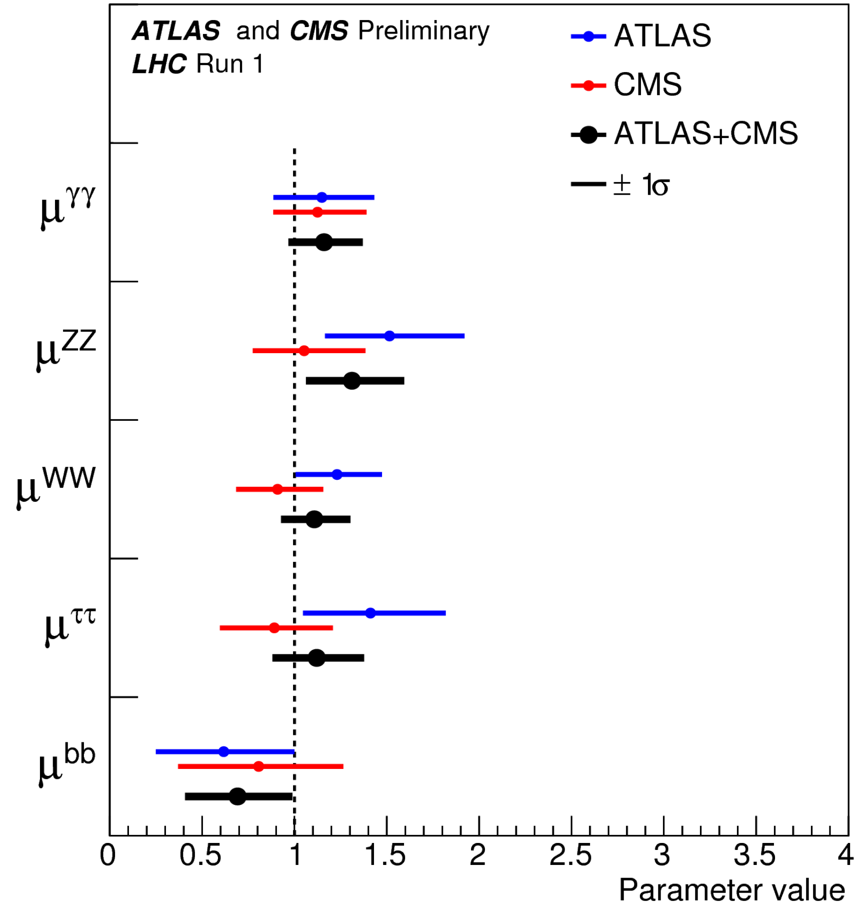
FIT

Backgrounds +



Signal strength measurements

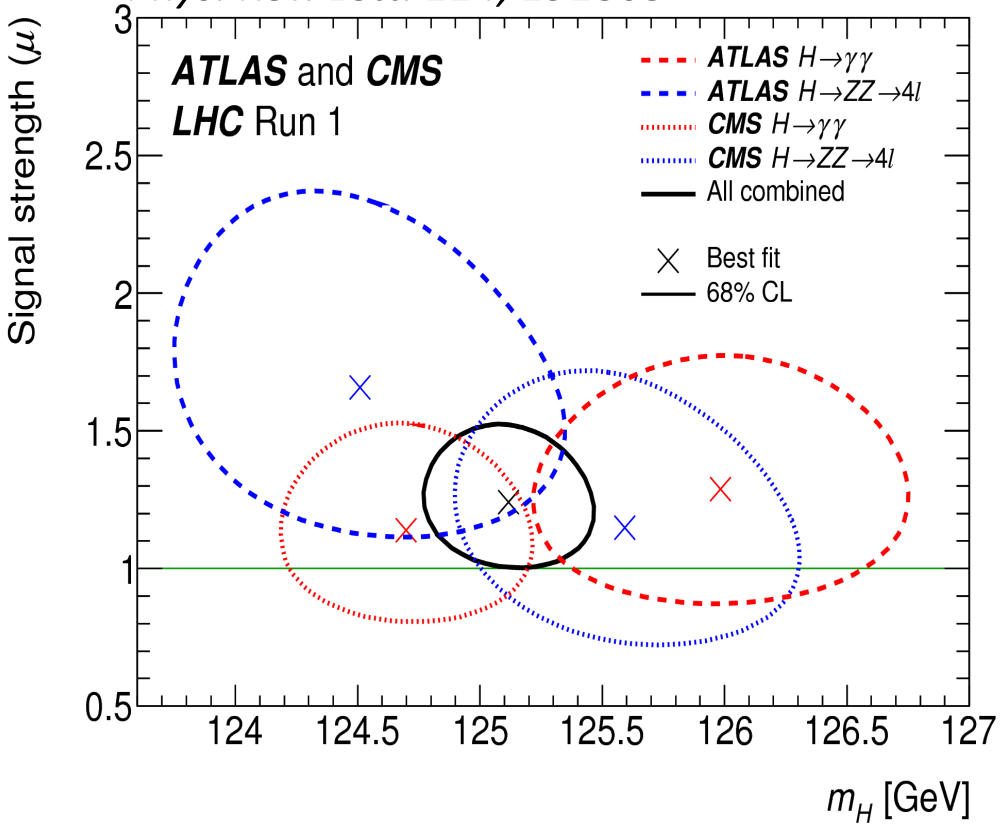




Higgs boson mass

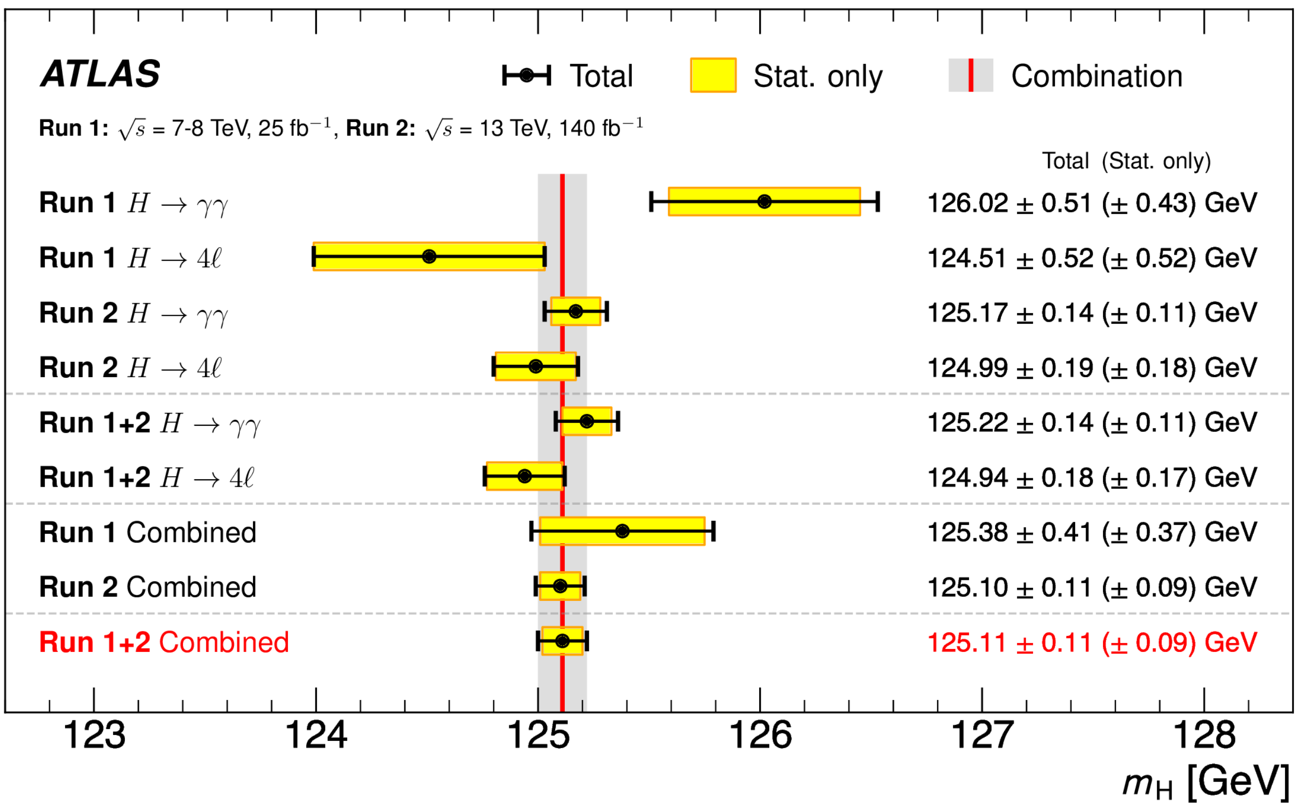
- Mass: around 125GeV
  Was the only unknown SM parameter ☺
- For a while, different mass values were being measured in ATLAS and CMS, and in different channels
- Numbers evolved with accumulated statistics

Phys. Rev. Lett. 114, 191803



Higgs boson mass

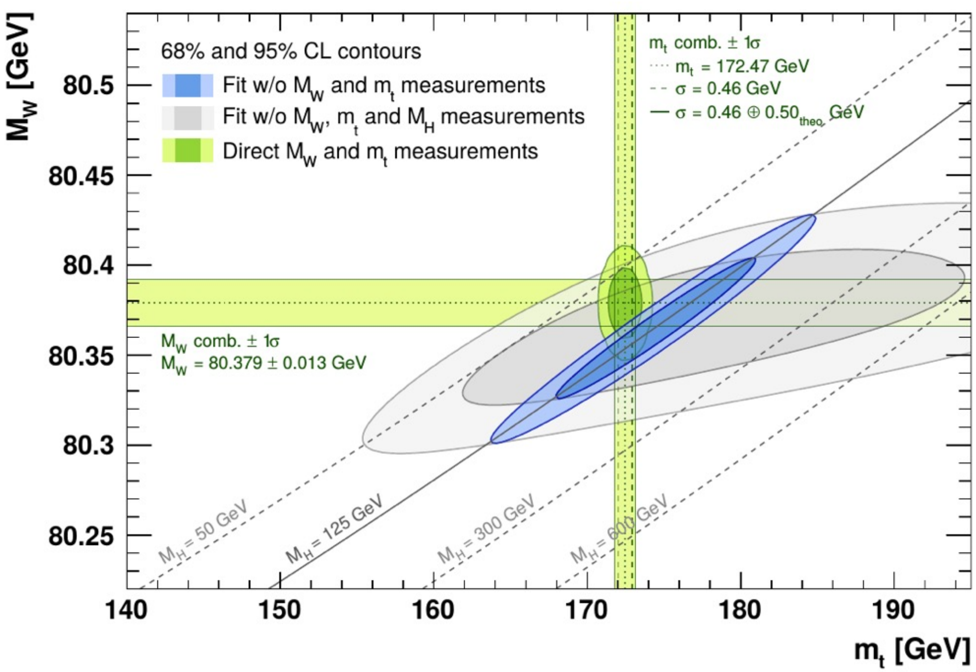
- Mass measurement from
  - H→ZZ*→4l
  - H→ γγ
- Precision at the permille level achieved

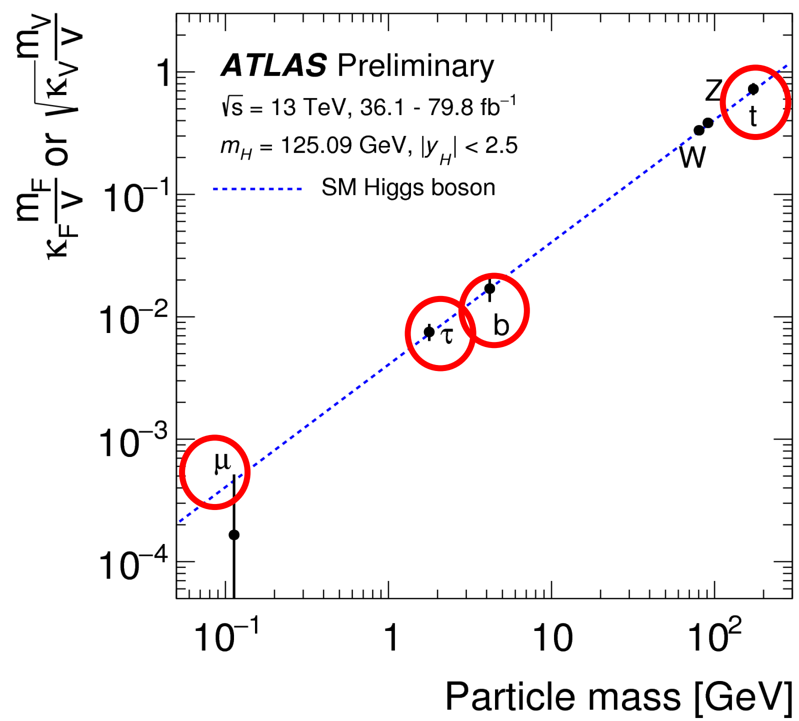


Exploring the electroweak scale

- Precision measurements of m_W, m_t, m_H are stringent tests of the SM at the EW scale
  - E.g. excluding measured m_H, global EW fit gives m_H = 90 ± 21 GeV (1.7 σ tension) driven in part by m_{top}

arXiv:1803.01853



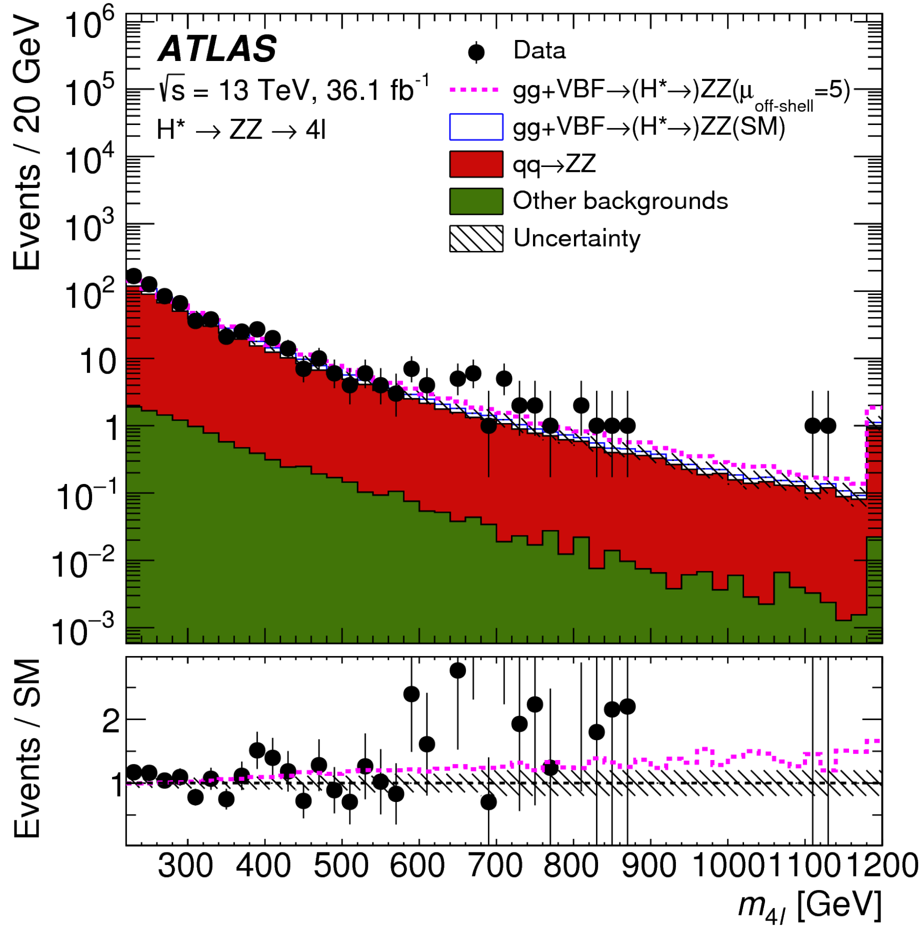


Higgs boson width

- SM Higgs width Γ_H~4.1 MeV
  - Too small to be measured directly
  - Best direct limit from CMS:
    - Γ_H < 1.1GeV @ 95% CL
- Off-shell Higgs production sensitive(*) to Γ_H

$$\frac{\mu_{\mathrm{off-shell}}}{\mu_{\mathrm{on-shell}}} = \frac{\kappa^2_{\mathrm{g,off-shell}} \cdot \kappa^2_{\mathrm{Z,off-shell}}}{\kappa^2_{\mathrm{g,on-shell}} \cdot \kappa^2_{\mathrm{Z,on-shell}}} \frac{\Gamma_H}{\Gamma_H^{SM}}$$

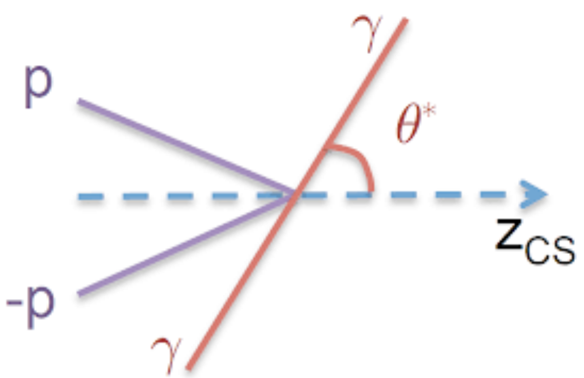
- ATLAS measurement:
  - **pp→H→ZZ→4l** and ZZ→2l2ν
  - **m(H) > 2 m(Z)**
  - 36.1 fb^{-1} of 13 TeV data
  - Observed (expected) limit:
    - Γ_H < 14.4 (15.2) MeV



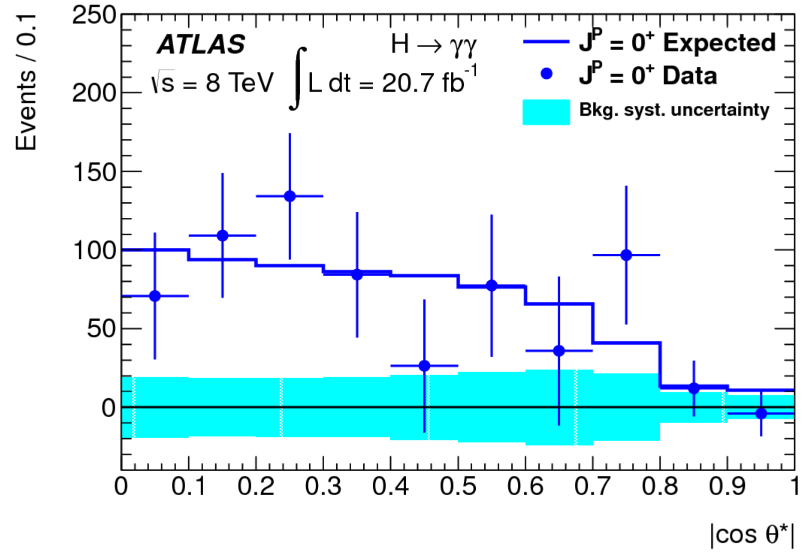
(*) Assume interference term with $gg \rightarrow ZZ$ proportional to $\kappa_{g,\text{off-shell}} \cdot \kappa_{Z,\text{off-shell}}$

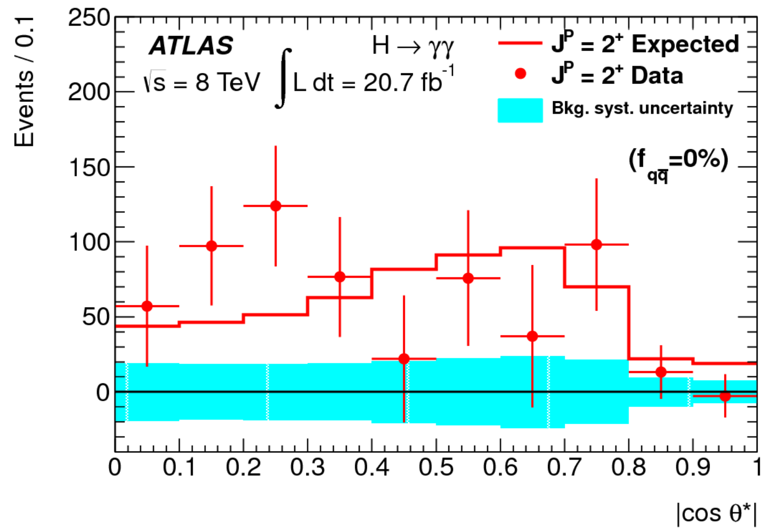
Measuring the Higgs Spin

- Polar angle θ in the rest fram of the diphoton system (Collins-Soper frame)



$$|\cos\Theta^*| = \frac{|\sinh(\Delta\eta^{\gamma\gamma})|}{\sqrt{1+\frac{p^2_{T,\gamma\gamma}}{m^2_{\gamma\gamma}}}}\frac{2p_T^{\gamma_1}p_T^{\gamma_2}}{m^2_{\gamma\gamma}}$$





Higgs @ LIP ATLAS Group

- Exploring Higgs couplings to heavy quarks
- Less well known... Much more space for surprises!
- New physics effects may show up already at leading order

P2 ÍPSILON CULTO FUGAS P3 CINECARTAZ Entrar Assine já

CIÊNCIA › ESPAÇO MEDICINA ECOSFERA

FÍSICA DE PARTÍCULAS

Bosão de Higgs revela que relação mantém com o quark *top*

Investigadores portugueses participaram na descoberta.

PÚBLICO • 4 de Junho de 2018, 19:42 — 418 PARTILHAS

FÍSICA DE PARTÍCULAS

Bosão de Higgs visto (finalmente) a desintegrar-se em quarks *bottom*

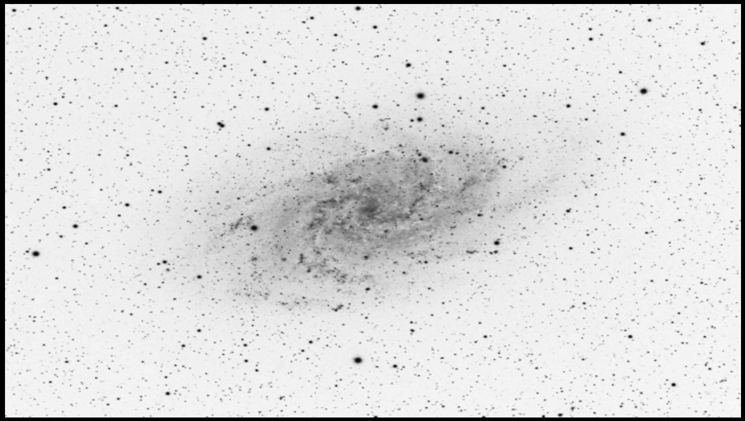
Descoberta anunciada no Laboratório Europeu de Física de Partículas (CERN) é um passo fundamental para perceber como o bosão de Higgs faz com que as partículas fundamentais adquiram massa.

PÚBLICO • 28 de Agosto de 2018, 17:47

2018: Hbb and Htt couplings demonstrated
2020: CP of ttH coupling in ttH, H->γγ
2022: ttH, H->bb fiducial cross section
2022: Preliminary results for CP of ttH coupling studied in ttH, H->bb
2024: Published paper on CP of ttH

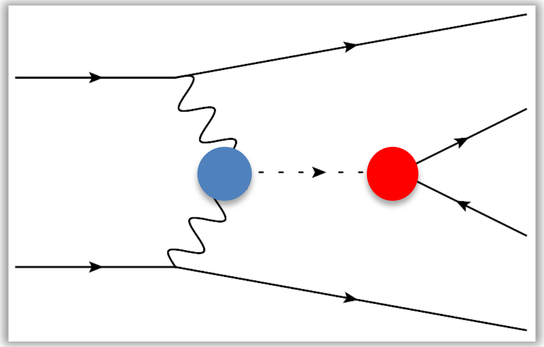
ttH CP measurement

- Sakharov conditions for a matter-dominated universe require CP violation
- Known CP-violating processes:
  – From complex phases in CKM-matrix - quark mixing
  – Maybe in PNMS-matrix as well - neutrino mixing
- BUT: insufficient, by factor of millions!
- CP violation in Higgs sector?
  - Possible in some models with extended Higgs sector (e.g. some 2HDMs)
  - Need **mixing** of scalar (CP-even) and pseudo-scalar (CP-odd) Higgs states
- What do we know about Higgs CP properties?
  – In the SM, Higgs scalar is a CP eigenstate with $J^{CP} = 0^{++}$
  – Pure $J^P = 0^-$ hypothesis for observed Higgs boson was ruled out in Run 1
  – But a **large** CP-odd admixture is not ruled out



How to search for a CP-odd admixture?

- Effect of CP-odd components on **bosonic couplings** parametrized as expansion with higher order terms suppressed by powers of scale of new physics Λ
- Could explain why a CP-odd admixture has not been seen



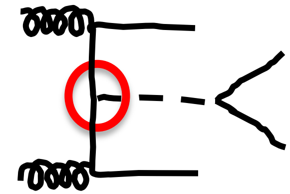
- **Fermionic couplings** are affected at tree level
- Mixing angle α between CP-even and CP-odd coupling components
- More notable for heavier fermions due to enhanced coupling

$$\mathcal{L}_{VVH} = \mathcal{L}_{VVH,SM} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} c\,\phi \widetilde{V}_{\mu\nu} V^{\mu\nu} + \ldots$$

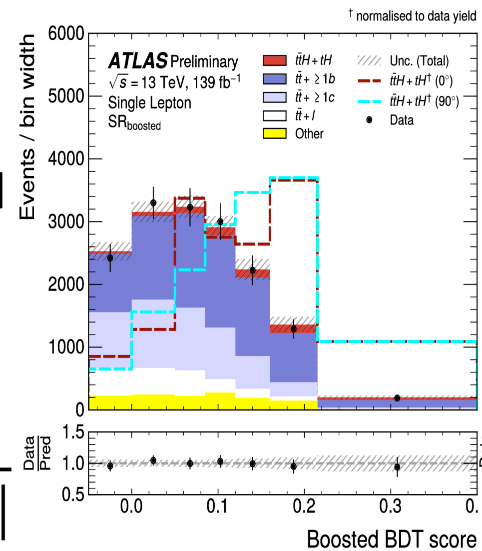
$$\mathcal{L}_{ffH} = \kappa'_f y_f \phi \bar{\psi}_f (\cos\alpha + i\gamma_5 \sin\alpha)\psi_f$$

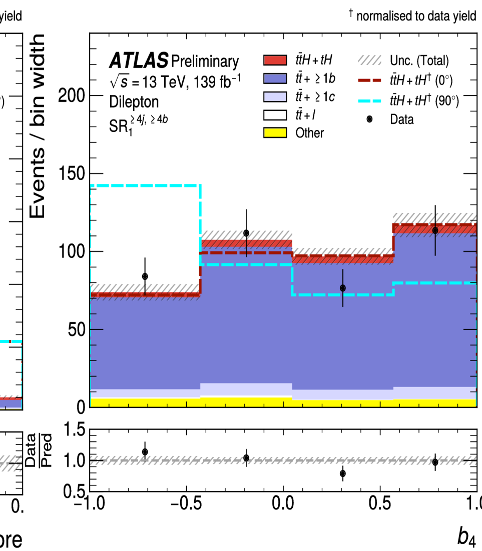
ATLAS-CONF-2022-016 (16 March 2022)

H-top Coupling in ttH/tH production



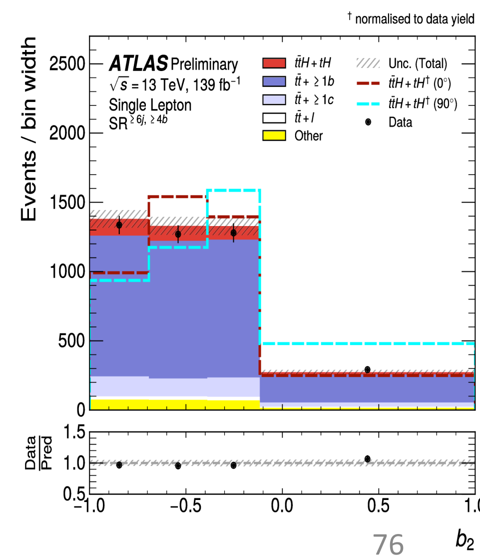
- Calculate CP-sensitive observables $\boldsymbol{b_2}$ and $\boldsymbol{b_4}$ from top-quark 3-momenta
- Use different observables in combined fit depending on region





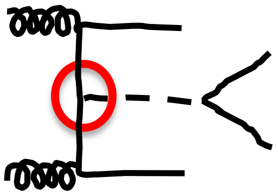
$$b_2 = \frac{(\vec{p}_1 \times \hat{n}) \cdot (\vec{p}_2 \times \hat{n})}{|\vec{p}_1||\vec{p}_2|} \qquad b_4 = \frac{p_1^z p_2^z}{|\vec{p}_1||\vec{p}_2|}$$

Channel (PSR)	Final SRs and CRs	Classification BDT selection	Fitted observable
Dilepton (PSR$^{\geq 4j, \geq 4b}$)	CR$^{\geq 4j, \geq 4b}_{\text{no-reco}}$	–	$\Delta\eta_{\ell\ell}$
	CR$^{\geq 4j, \geq 4b}$	BDT∈ [−1, −0.086)	b_4
	SR$_1^{\geq 4j, \geq 4b}$	BDT∈ [−0.086, 0.186)	b_4
	SR$_2^{\geq 4j, \geq 4b}$	BDT∈ [0.186, 1]	b_4
ℓ+jets (PSR$^{\geq 6j, \geq 4b}$)	CR$_1^{\geq 6j, \geq 4b}$	BDT∈ [−1, −0.128)	b_2
	CR$_2^{\geq 6j, \geq 4b}$	BDT∈ [−0.128, 0.249)	b_2
	SR$^{\geq 6j, \geq 4b}$	BDT∈ [0.249, 1]	b_2
ℓ+jets (PSR$_{\text{boosted}}$)	SR$_{\text{boosted}}$	BDT∈ [−0.05, 1]	Classification BDT score



[Phys.Lett.B 849 (2024) 138469](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.physletb.2024.138469)

H-top Coupling in ttH/tH production



Simultaneous fit in all regions

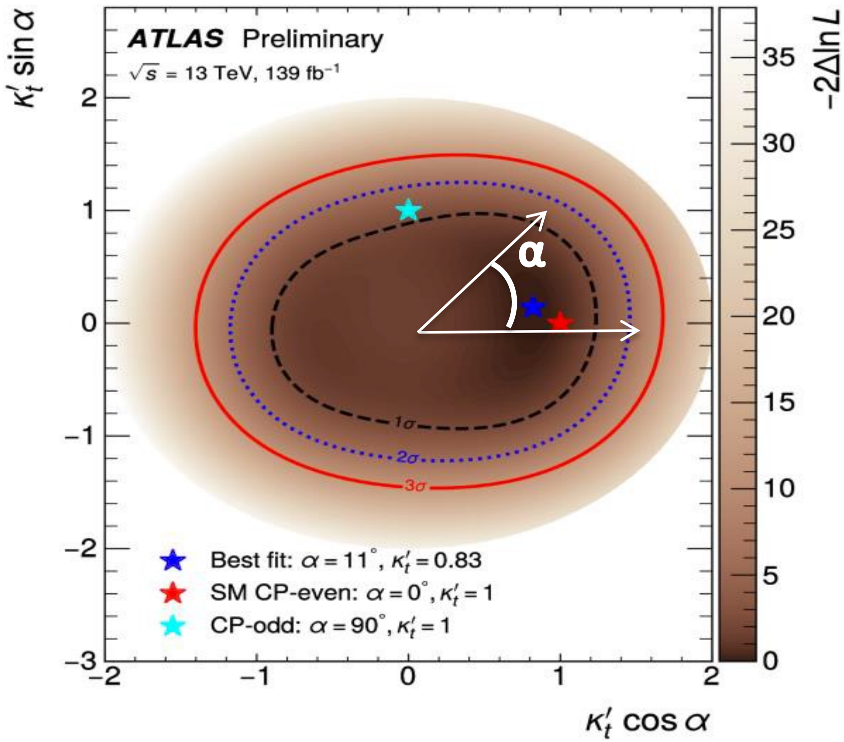
- $\boldsymbol{\mu = 0.83^{+0.30}_{-0.46}}$
- $\boldsymbol{\alpha = 11^{\circ}\,{}^{+55}_{-77}}$

Expected:

- $\mu = 1.0^{+0.25}_{-0.27}$
- $\alpha = 0^{\circ}\,{}^{+49}_{-50}$
- Pure CP-odd (α = 90°) disfavoured at **1.2 σ**

Complementary to previous ttH(H→γγ) analysis:

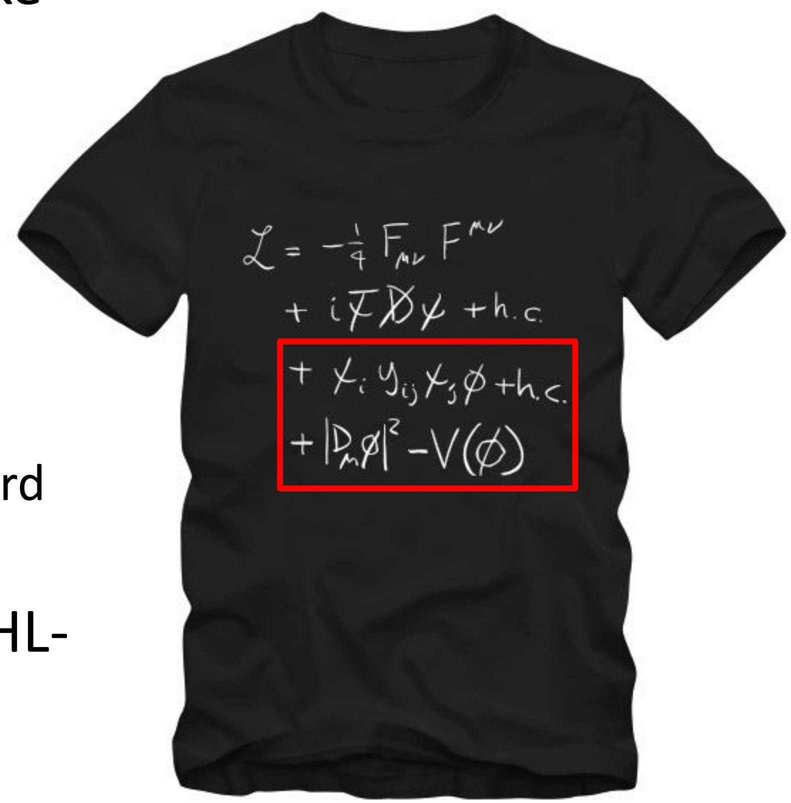
- [Phys. Rev. Lett. 125 (2020) 061802](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.125.061802)
- Pure CP-odd (α = 90°) excluded at **3.9 σ**
- Limit on **|α| < 43°** at 95% C.L.



$$\mathcal{L}_{t\bar{t}H} = -\kappa_t' y_t \phi \bar{\psi}_t (\cos\alpha + i\gamma_5 \sin\alpha)\psi_t$$

Summary

- Higgs sector measurements look SM-like so far
- **But there is new physics out there!**
- The Higgs is:
  - The only fundamental scalar
  - Connected to EW symmetry breaking
  - A great window to look beyond the Standard Model
- And we have only collected ≈5% of all HL-LHC data!



Watch this space!


TRUST NO ONE
STAY TUNED!
THE TRUTH IS OUT THERE.

Questions?

Thank you for your interest!

jgoncalo@lip.pt

LIP

1290 FACULDADE DE CIÊNCIAS E TECNOLOGIA UNIVERSIDADE D COIMBRA

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