The ATLAS detector (A Toroidal LHC ApparatuS)





LHC facts

7x10¹² eV 10³⁴ cm⁻² s⁻¹ 2835 10¹¹

Beam Energy Luminosity Bunches/Beam Protons/Bunch

7 TeV Proton Proton colliding beams

7.5 m (25 ns)

Bunch Crossing 4 10⁷ Hz

Proton Collisions 10° Hz

Parton Collisions

New Particle Production (Higgs, SUSY,) 10⁻⁵ Hz

Selection of 1 event in 10,000,000,000,000

ATLAS numbers

- 44 m long
- 22 m tall
- 200 institutes
- 2500 scientists
- 40 countries
- Norway: Oslo,
 Bergen
 - 50 people





LHC – a discovery machine

- The high energy collisions allow production of high mass particles
 - Well known heavy particles as W, Z bosons for instance
 - But also anything else!
 - If supersymmetry exists: Supersymmetric particles
 - If other new symmetries exist: W' and Z'
 - If Higgs field exists: Higgs boson(s)!!
 - or extra dimensions, black holes, gravitons , fantasitons ...
- The detectors must be able to register all these particles
 - But the particles are heavy and extremely unstable, decay immediately
 - How then to detect them?

A handfull of particles

 They all end up as a handfull of everyday particles

Electrons - elementary

Muons - elementary

Photons - elementary

Quarks and gluons

• Manifested as jets of hadrons (p, π)

The detector reconstructs what happened in the collision by tracking the charged particles, absorbing particles completely and measuring their deposited energy, and by measuring secondary vertices

ATLAS – a general purpose detector

 Built to detect both new and and well known physics phenomena



Design defined by ability to detect SM Higgs boson

Large range of production- and decay mechanisms
These have dictated the needed performance of its subdetectors

A detector needs to

Measure the directions, momenta, and signs of charged particles

Measure the energy carried by electrons and photons

Measure the energy carried by hadrons (protons, pions, neutrons, etc.)

Identify which charged particles from the collision, if any, are electrons

Identify which charged particles from the collision, if any, are muons

Identify secondary vertices: if some charged particles originate a few millimetres from the collision point

Infer (through momentum conservation) the presence of **undetectable neutral** particles such as neutrinos – weakly interacting

Be able to process the above information fast enough to permit flagging about 10-100 potentially interesting events per second out of the billion collisions per second that occur, and recording the measured information.

Be able to do this reliably year after year in a very hostile radiation environment.



possible (for the detector) stable particles that interact with the material of the detector



The Inner Detector (ID)

detects charged particles as they travel through the detector

e.g electrons, muons, protons, quarks (jets) ... cannot detect neutral particles

e.g. photons, neutrons, neutrinos ...

the whole ID is situated inside a manetic field (The Inner Solenoid)

- Charged particles bend in this magnetic field
 - how much they bend reveals the particle's momenta

the direction of the curve reveals the charge (+/-)
placed a few cm from the beampipe and extends to a radius of 1.2 m

ca 5 meters long



Pixel Detector – innermost

- contains 1744 modules in barrel and end-caps
 - each module is 2x6cm and consists of 47.000pixels each
- do extremly precise tracking very close to the interaction point
- accuracy of about 10 μ m in r- Φ and 115 μ m in z
- the innermost layer of the Pixel is called the b-layer (radius of 5cm from the interaction point)
- uses silicon as the detecting material
- 2D measurements

Main purpose

- provide precise trajectory information
- Measure interaction point and secondary vertices



The SemiConductor Tracker (SCT)

The middle component of the Inner Detector

more or less the same concept as the Pixel

but is made of long, narrow strips and covers a larger area than the Pixel

- consists of 4088 modules in barrel + end-cap
- modules: single-sided micro-strip detectors glued back-to-back with a displacement of 40 mrad with respect to each other -> 2D information for each hit

accuracy of about 16\mum in r-\Phi and 580\mum in z

a cover a range of $|\eta| < 2.5$

Main purpose

- Provide more track measurements
- Extends over a larger spacial area than pixel
- Not as precise as pixels but larger



Transition Radiation Tracker (TRT) -

a combination of a straw tracker and a transition radiation tracker
 contains 351.000 very small straws; 4mm in diameter and 144cm
 long

covers a big volume and has a complemantary design in comparision with the Pixel and SCT

between the straws there is material with varying refractive indices
 ultra-relativistic charged particles produces transistion radiation
 especially efficient for detecting electrons (because low mass)

Main purpose

- Large amount of measurements
- Distinguishes between electrons and other heavier particles, since electrons give off more transition radiation



Electromagnetic calorimeter



detects all particles which interact electromagnetically

e.g. electrons, photons, (muons)

measures their energy and stops electrons and photons

made of alternating layers of lead (to stop and provoke electromagnetic showers) and liquid argon (active material to sample the energy of the shower)

situated outside the solenoidal magnet

when these particles pass through or stop they deposit energy in the calorimeter which we can measure

resolution is very good: 10%/sqrt(E) * 0.7%

Main purpose

Measure energy of EM interacting particles
Identify electrons and photons

Hadronic calorimeter

detects particles which interact strongly

particles consisting of quarks (hadrons)

- resolution is 50%/sqrt(E) * 3% (worse than Ecal.)
- detector consist of 3 parts, with different design and material
 - Central barrel part made of steel as absorbing material and scintillators as active material
 - Forward and endcap calorimeter uses liquid argon as active material and copper or tungsten as absorbing material

situated outside the solenoidal magnet

Main purpose

Measure energy of strongly interacting particles
 Identify hadrons



Muon spectrometer

- will only detect muons
- few particles will reach this part of the detector)
- is the outermost part of ATLAS (extending from a radius to 4.25m to 11m)
 - barrel: consists of 3 cylindrical shells
 - end-caps: 4 wheels on each side (7.4 21.5m from the interaction point)
- the outer toroidal magnetic field produces a non uniform field
 - the momenta and charge of the muons can be measured from the curvature
- roughly 1G of readout channels

Main purpose Measure momentum and charge of muons

in a la mine



Last important components:Trigger and distribution on data

- will produce about 25Mb per. event
 - if no suppression of the data that correspond to ~1.6Mb per event
 - 40 million beam crossings per second gives 1petabyte per second of raw data
- trigger system is built to pick out the interesting events
 - three trigger systems (on on the detector, two on clusters close to the detector)
 - 1st trigger picks out ~10.000 events/sec.
 - after 2nd and 3rd trigger only a few hundred events remain
- ATLAS produces ~100Mb of data per sec.
- This data is distributed through the world wide grid so physicists around the world can access it



ATLAS – at Work

Collected millions of cosmic muons

 Collected 900 GeV, 2.36 TeV and 7 TeV collision data

 7 TeV collisions ongoing, collecting data as we speak – first W-boson observed?



Understanding collisions

What is a collision?

 When the two meeting protons interact - scatter against each other

Elastic scattering

Protons continue forward in a small angle

 Can get excited by the interaction and decay to a small shower of particles

Inelastic scattering

Exchange of SM or exotic particles

Energy in collision transforms to completely new particles

Large showers of particles in all directions

Understanding collisions cont.

- To be able to understand a typical collision we can start by
 - Counting number of charged particles in a collision
 - But we cannot really select a typical event we need triggers
 - But we can be MINIMALLY BIASED (as unbiased as possible)
 - Have techniques for categorizing what type of collision we encounter
- We need to understand the basics before proceeding
- We need to know what to expect to be able to expect the unexpected!





How to reconstruct what particles were created in the collision?

Example the Kaon

 K-short will live a short while in the detector before decaying

 It lives sufficiently long to produce a secondary vertice inside the beampipe which the Inner detector can identify

It decays (70 % of times) to a pair of positive and negative pions

These are charged and leave tracks

 By pairing two oppositely charged tracks with a displaced vertex we can search for the K-short



2009-12-06, 08:25 CET Run 141749, Event 133538

J/Psi ??

Collision Event with 2 Muon Candidates

http://atlas.web.cern.ch/Atlas/public/EVTDISPLAY/events.html





Beautiful reconstruction of secondary vertex





Conclusion

Experiments have fully started – First 7 TeV collisions
 Tuesday 30 March 2010

- Collisions as we speak
- LHC will run continuously for about a year or more
- ATLAS is already performing beautifully
- Many interesting collisions to analyse
 - Already indications of first W boson seen
 - When will we see Supersymmetry? I Higgs? I

 LCH built for 14 TeV collisions, this will happen after a shutdown of about a year

THESE ARE REALLY EXITING TIMES!!!

The first collisons in ATLAS ever !





2009-12-06, 10:04 CET Run 141749, Event 406601

Collision Event

http://atlas.web.cern.ch/Atlas/public/EVTDISPLAY/events.html

barrel (central)

end-caps (forward)

we want to capture as many of the particles as possible produced in the collisions. Our detector is therefore as hermetically sealed around the collision point as possible.

Recapitulating: A detector needs to:

1) Measure the directions, momenta, and signs of charged particles. (Inner Detector)

2) Measure the energy carried by electrons and photons in each direction from the collision. (Electromagnetic calorimeter)

3) Measure the energy carried by hadrons (protons, pions, neutrons, etc.) in each direction. (Hadronic calorimeter)

4) Identify which charged particles from the collision, if any, are electrons.

5) Identify which charged particles from the collision, if any, are muons. (Muon spectrometer)

6) Identify whether some of the charged particles originate at points a few millimeters from the collision point rather than at the collision point itself (signaling a particle's decay a few millimeters from the collision point). (B-layer, Pixel)

7) Infer (through momentum conservation) the presence of undetectable neutral particles such as neutrinos. (The whole detector)

8) Have the capability of processing the above information fast enough to permit flagging about 10-100 potentially interesting events per second out of the billion collisions per second that occur, and recording the measured information. (Trigger)

9) The detector must also be capable of long and reliable operation in a very hostile radiation environment. (We will ses if it manages :-))