

Study of Single and Diboson Z Production at the LHC

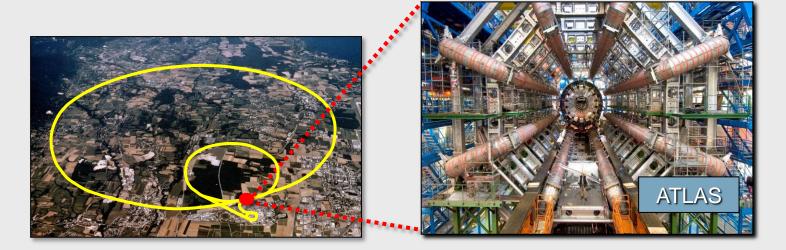
David Sweigart Massimiliano Bellomo, Supervisor

European Organization for Nuclear Research 28 July 2011

2011 Michigan REU Student Presentations – Second Meeting

A Toroidal LHC ApparauS

- General purpose detector
- Designed to identify particles and measure their properties
- Explores the high energy frontier for new physics





2011 Michigan REU Student Presentations - Second Meeting

W/Z Data Analysis Group

- Rigorous data analysis can easily take many months to complete
- Goal: To understand how data analysis is used in high energy physics
 - Same basic techniques apply to most particle searches (e.g., Z' or Higgs)
- First exercise: Coded simple data analysis program to reduce background noise via selection criteria
- Switched over to W/Z CERN group data analysis code



Step 1: Single Z Production

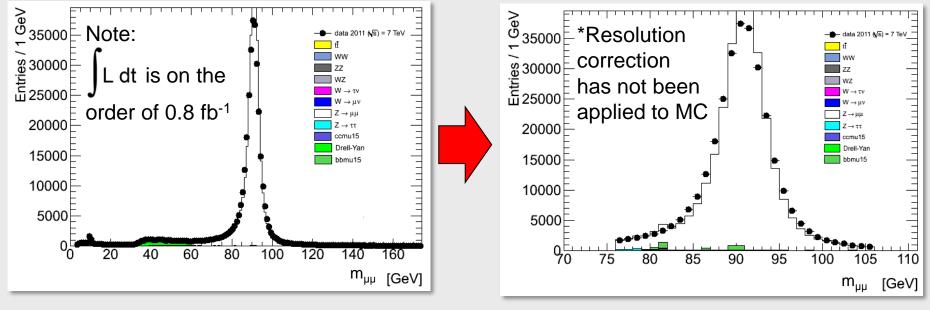
Goal: "Rediscover" single Z-boson production

- Need to always be able to reproduce results to show that we understand our experiment
- Z-boson is an excellent test because we know its mass and width to a very high precision
- Used to study electron and muon reconstruction and derive calibrations
- Used to improve our understanding of PDFs
- Implemented analysis code to run on 2011 data and simulations
 - Large amount of time spent on debugging



Step 1: Single Z Production

■ Applied "cuts" to select events for the Z⁰→µ⁺µ⁻ decay channel



Invariant mass after "base" + opposite charge cuts Invariant mass after "base" + opposite charge + invariant mass cuts



Step 2: Diboson Z Production

- Goal: Study double Z-boson production
- Need to implement a module for the ZZ→ℓℓvv decay channel
 - Requires extra cuts on the relative transverse missing energy
- Important test on the high energy behavior of electroweak interactions
- Deviations from SM indicate new physics
- If none, we set stringent new limits on models beyond SM







2011 Michigan REU Student Presentations - Second Meeting