



IPPOG International Masterclasses

Katharine Leney 18th April 2017

What is IPPOG?

<u>IPPOG</u>: International Particle Physics Outreach Group

- Network of scientists, educators and communicators.
- Purpose is to raise standards of public outreach and science education efforts.
- Contribute to global efforts in:
 - Strengthening cultural awareness.
 - Understanding and support of particle physics and related sciences.
 - Inspiring the next generation of researchers.

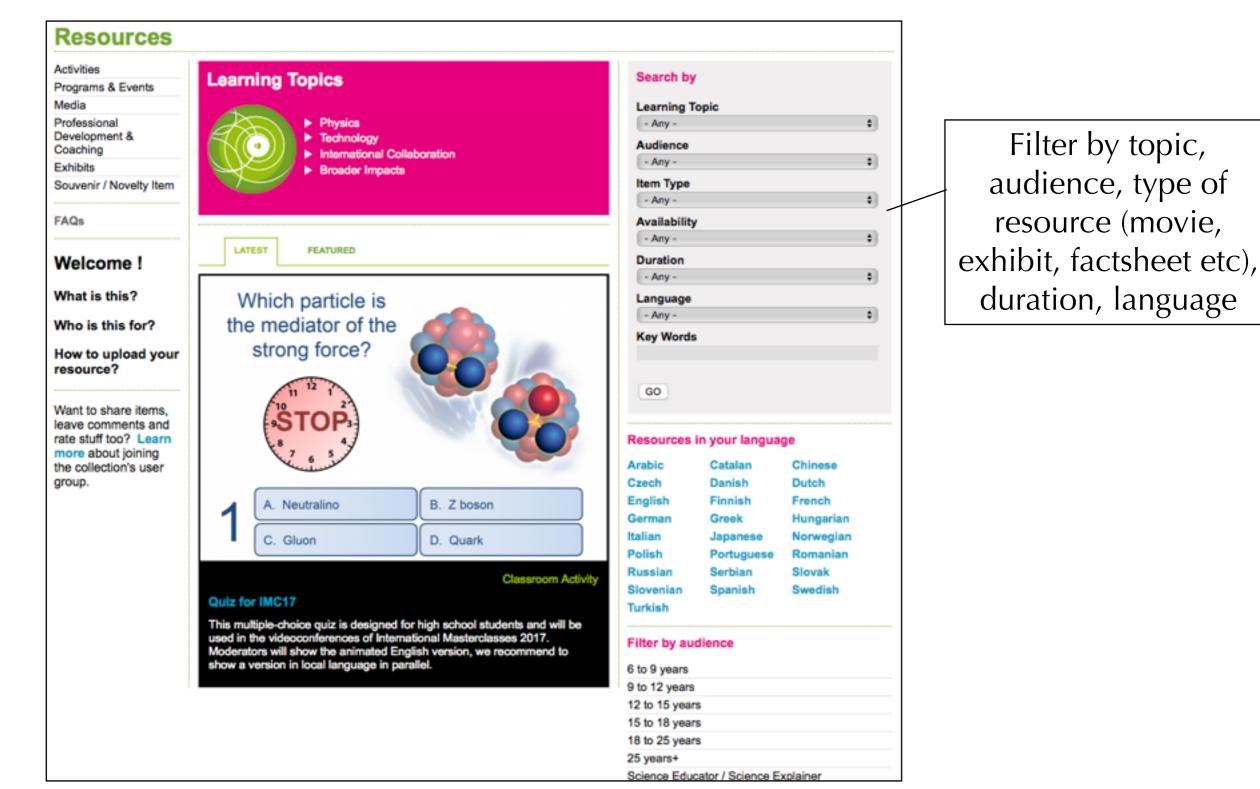




- Organise and support the International Masterclasses programme.
- Are a source of resources for all particle physics outreach.

IPPOG Resources

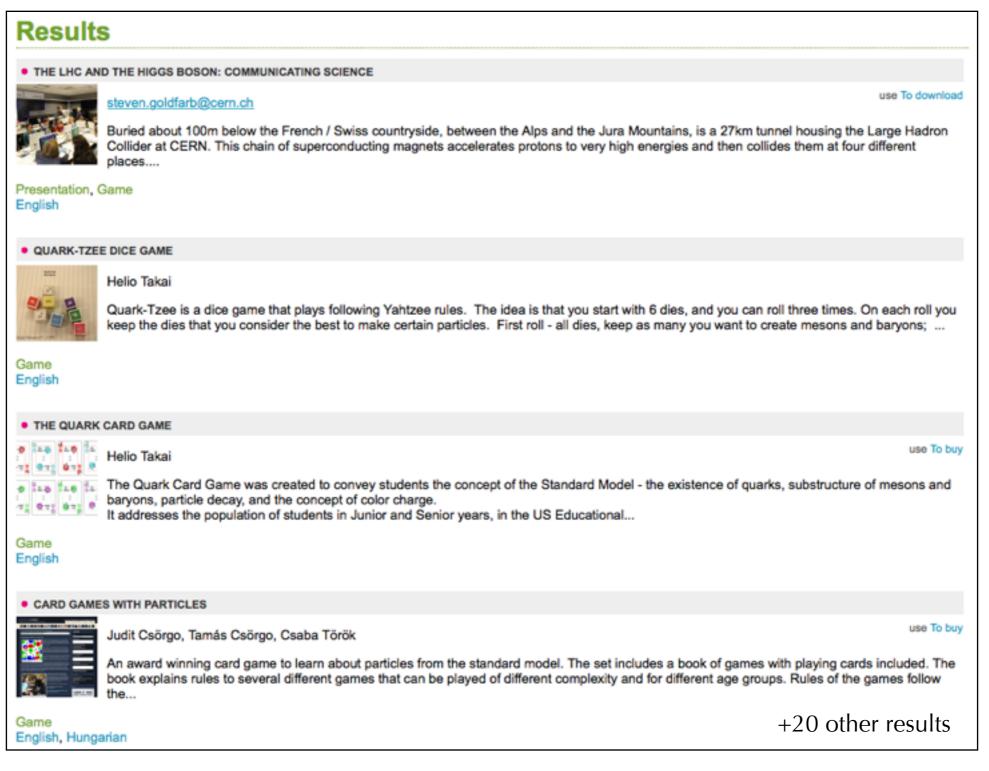
http://ippog.org/resources



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IPPOG Resources

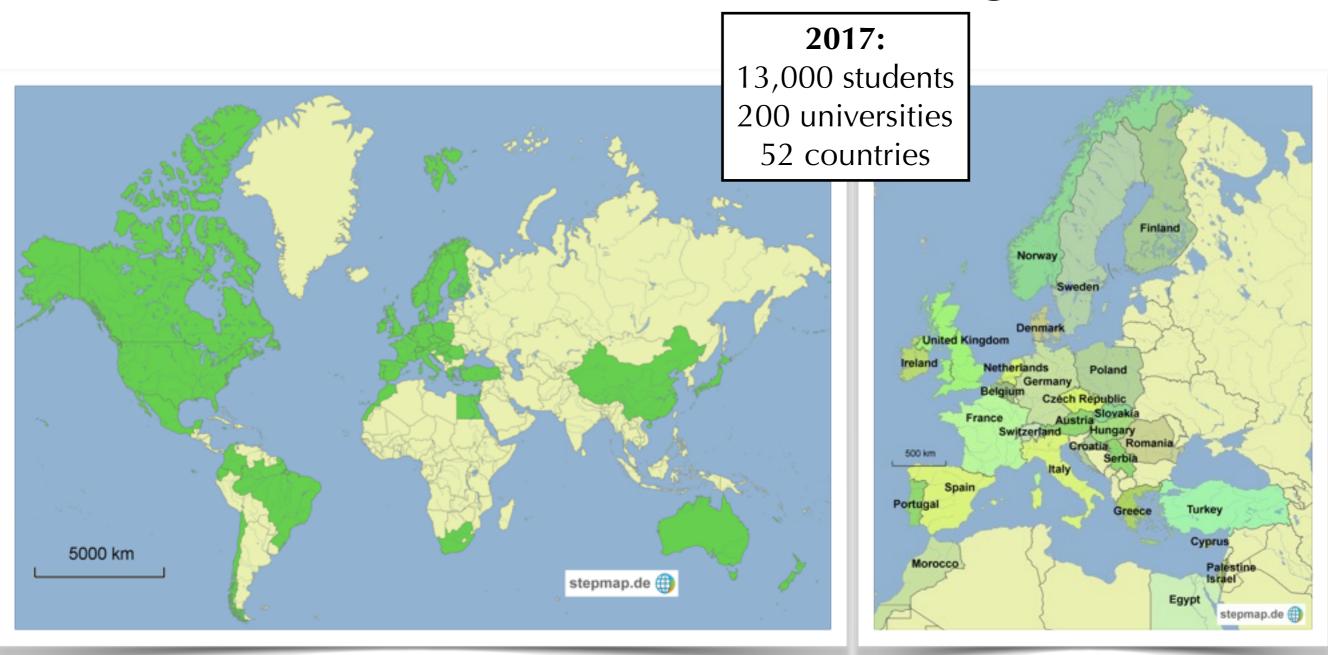
e.g. Show me "games" about "Physics" in "English"



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International Masterclasses Programme



- Organised by IPPOG (International Particle Physics Outreach Group)
- Runs for 6 weeks every year in March/April.
- High school students (15-19) get to be "Researchers for one day" at their local university or research institute.



hands on particle physics

Why Masterclasses?



- Learn about collaboration and teamwork.
- Students get to meet other students from local schools.
- Fosters links between schools and universities

- Hands-on activity using the same tools and data as real scientists.
- Gives students an insight into what research actually involves.
- Teaches students something *beyond* what they would learn in the classroom
- Helps cement their understanding of more basic concepts.



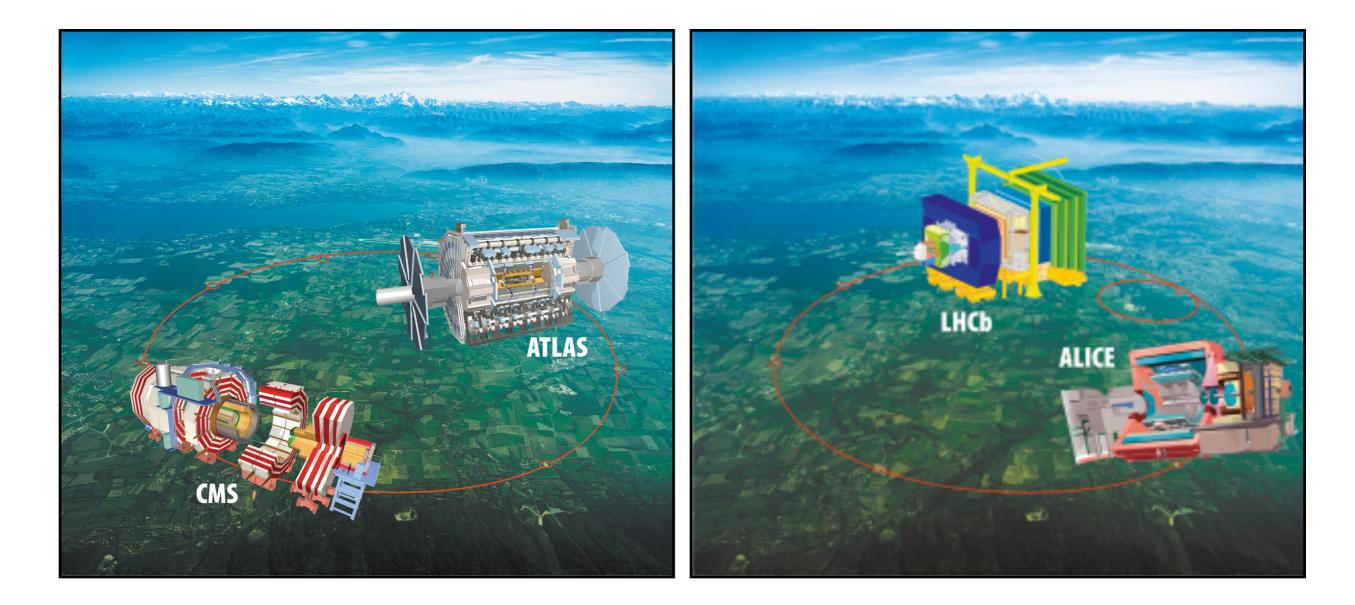
Typical Masterclass Programme

- Lectures to introduce particle physics, experiments and detectors.
- Sometimes includes a guided tour of local labs (if available/time allows).
- Lunch with lecturers, staff, PhD students.



- Hands-on session where students work in pairs to make measurements on data.
- Discussion and combination of results, together with other institutes from around the world, via video conference.

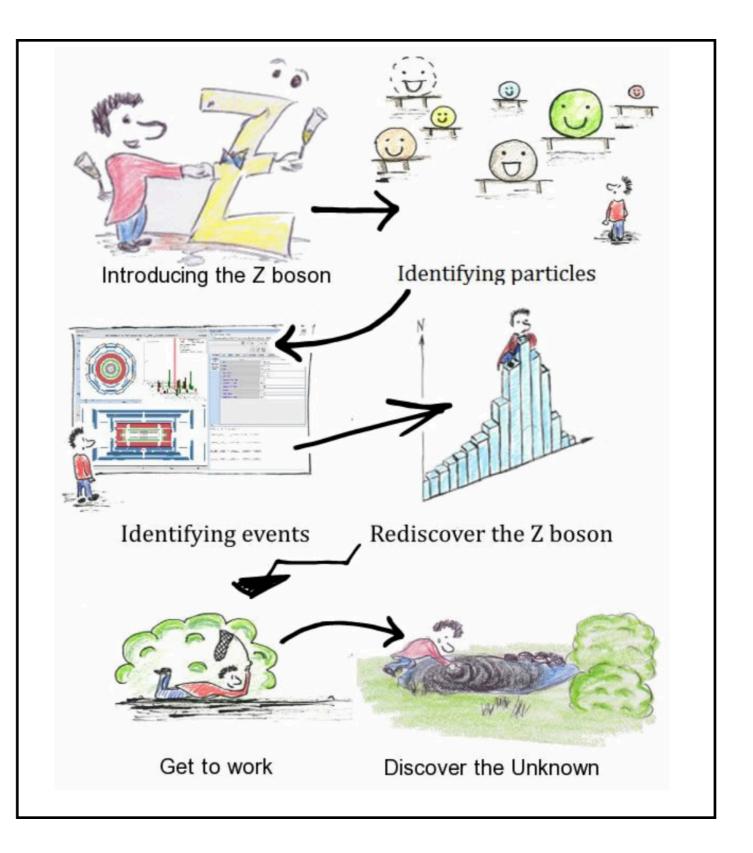
Hands On Session



Students analyse data and do a measurement using real data from one of the four main experiments at the LHC.

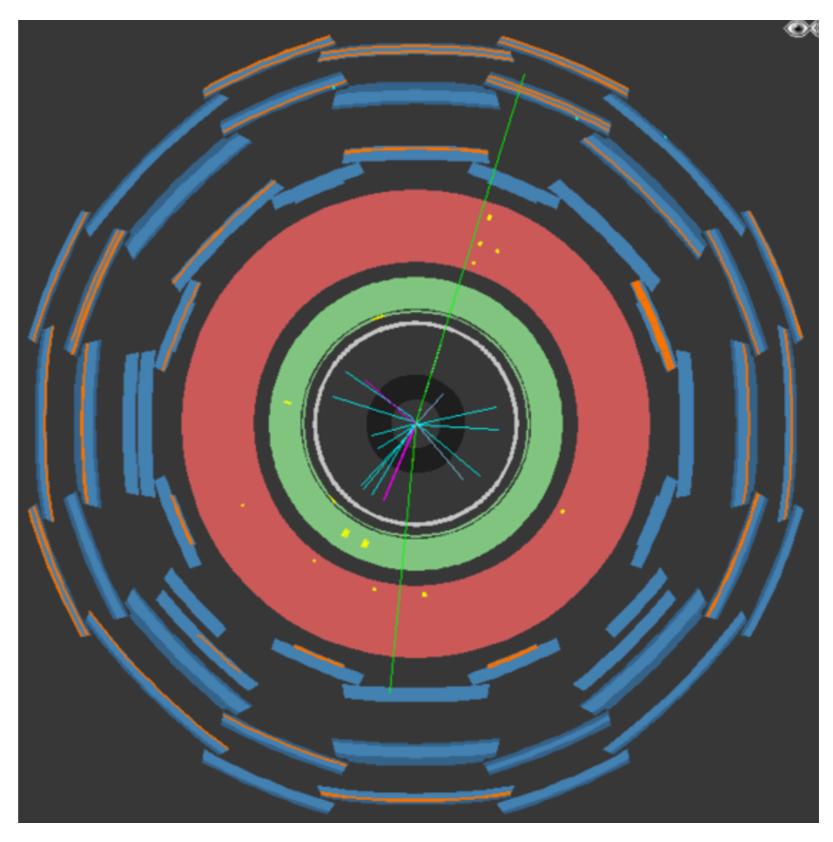
Example: ATLAS Z Boson Measurement

- Search for pairs of leptons (e/μ) or photons, and events with 4 leptons.
- Use di-lepton invariant mass spectrum and identify J/Ψ, Y, Z-boson, and simulated Z' events.
- Search for Higgs bosons in $H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ and $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow \ell \ell \ell \ell$ events.



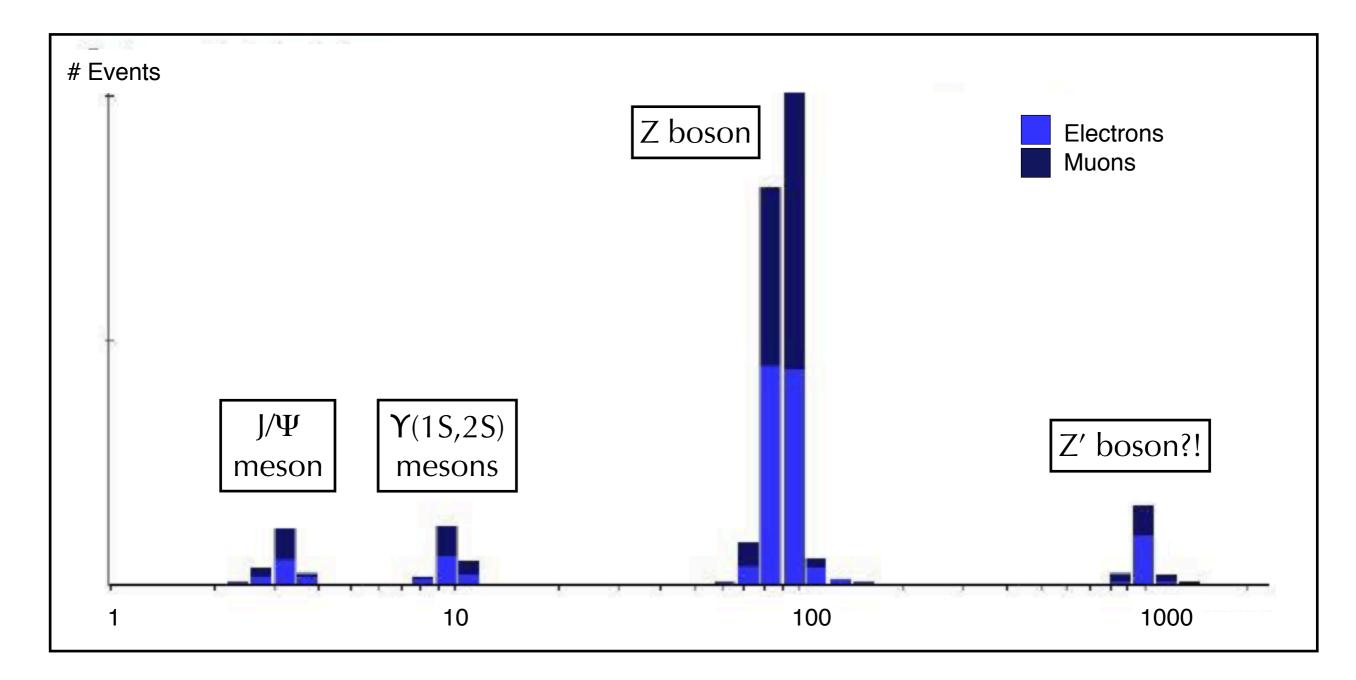
ATLAS Z Boson: Identifying Events

- Learn what signatures different particles leave in the detector.
- Use visualisations of events to identify different processes.
- Calculate the invariant mass of the two "interesting" particles.



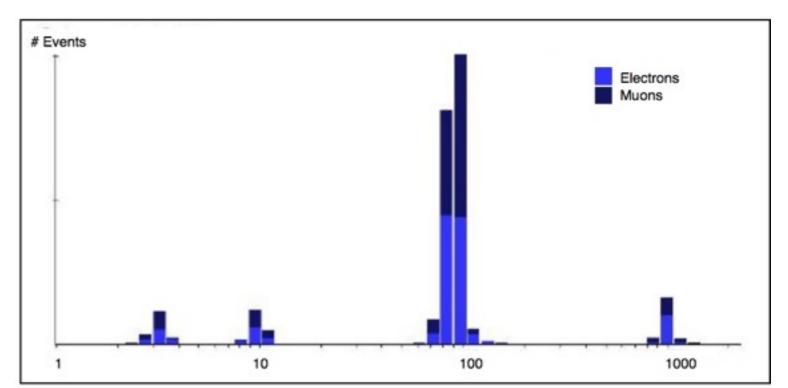
ATLAS Z Boson: Analysing Results

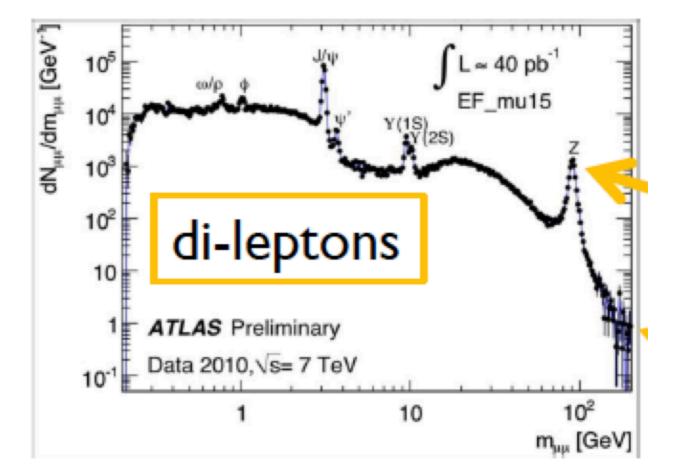
- Create a histogram of invariant masses of all $e^+e^-/\mu^+\mu^-$ pairs.
- Identify the different resonances/particles.



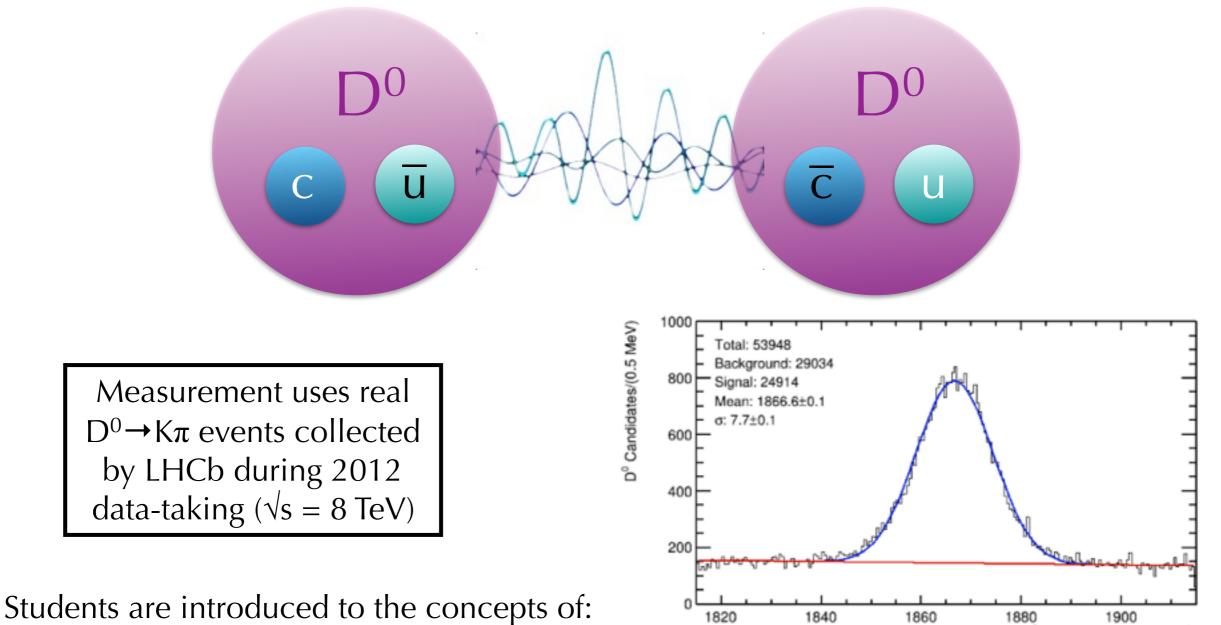
ATLAS Z Boson: Analysing Results

- Compare to ATLAS collaboration results.
- Discuss how with more data (and time and resources!) we can reduce the uncertainties to make more precise measurements.





Example: LHCb D⁰ Lifetime Measurement



- Particle lifetimes:
 - Ranges, e.g. Z boson has lifetime of 10^{-25} seconds, proton has lifetime > 10^{29} years)
 - How to measure these experimentally (lifetime \Leftrightarrow decay length in the detector)
- Particle oscillations (e.g. D⁰ oscillations between charm/anti-up and anti-charm/up states)
- Anti-matter; why it's important and what we can learn from it

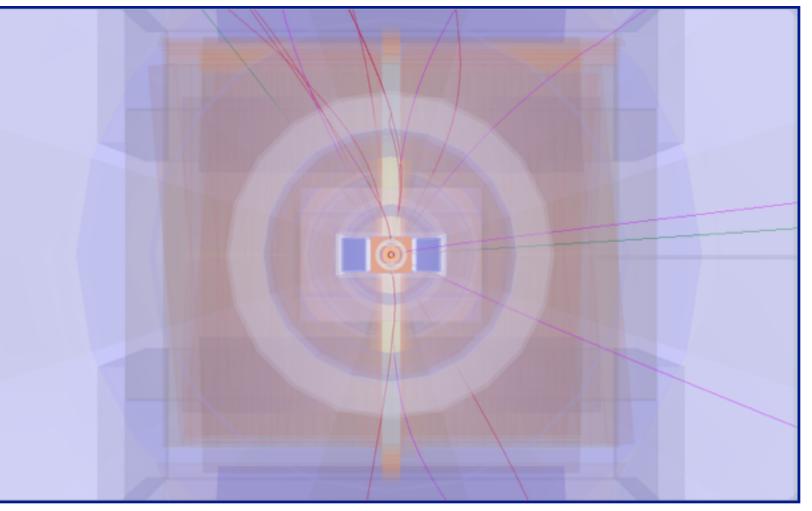
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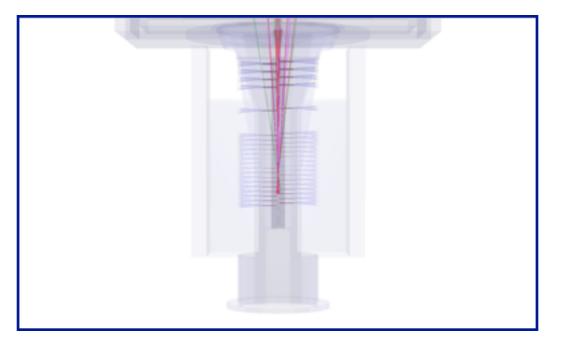
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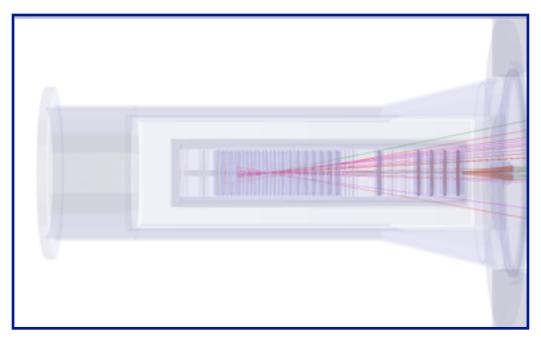
Dº Invariant Mass (MeV/c2)

LHCb D⁰ Lifetime: Identifying Events

- Students use event displays to identify D⁰ decays.
- Tools are provided so that they can zoom in around the interaction region to look for displaced vertices.
- Tracks are colour-coded to aid with identification.

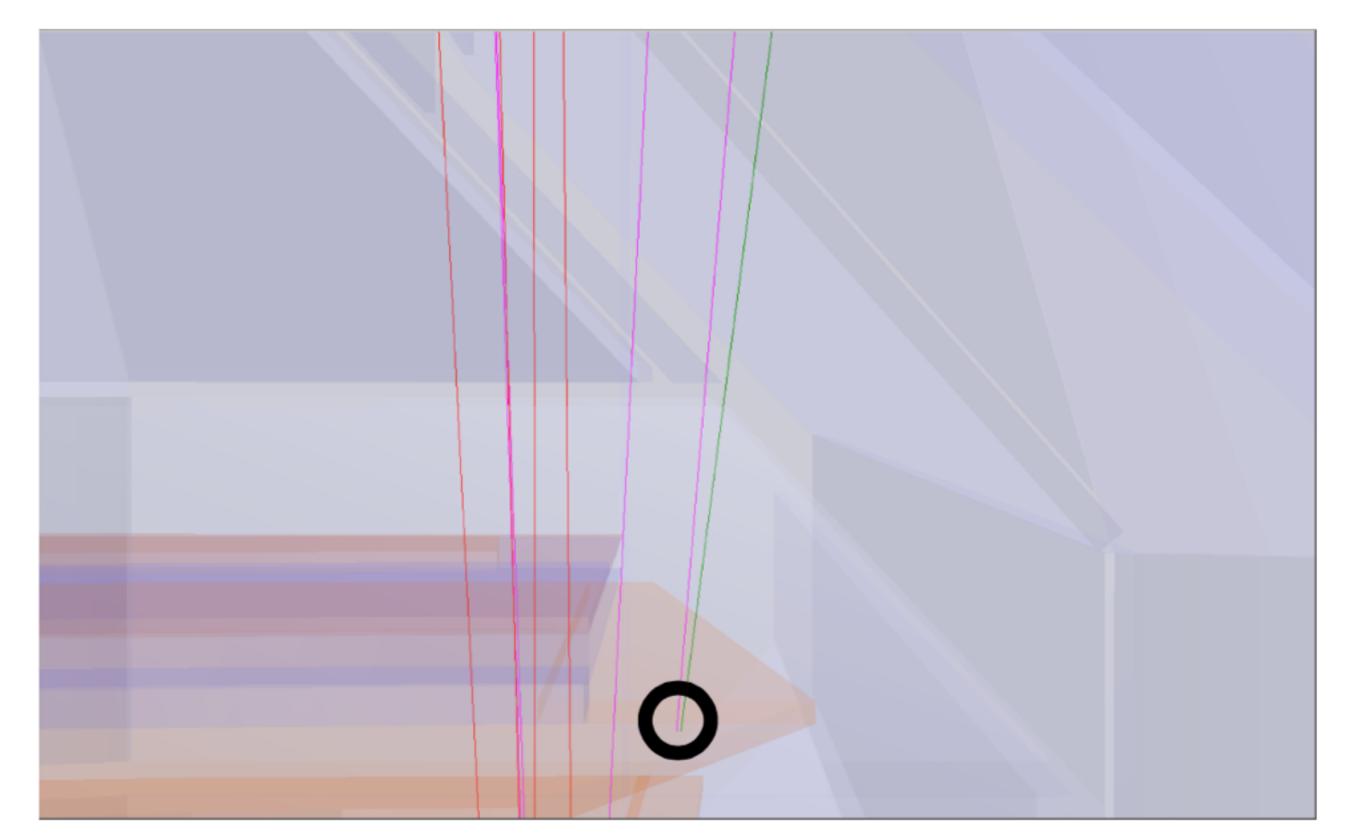




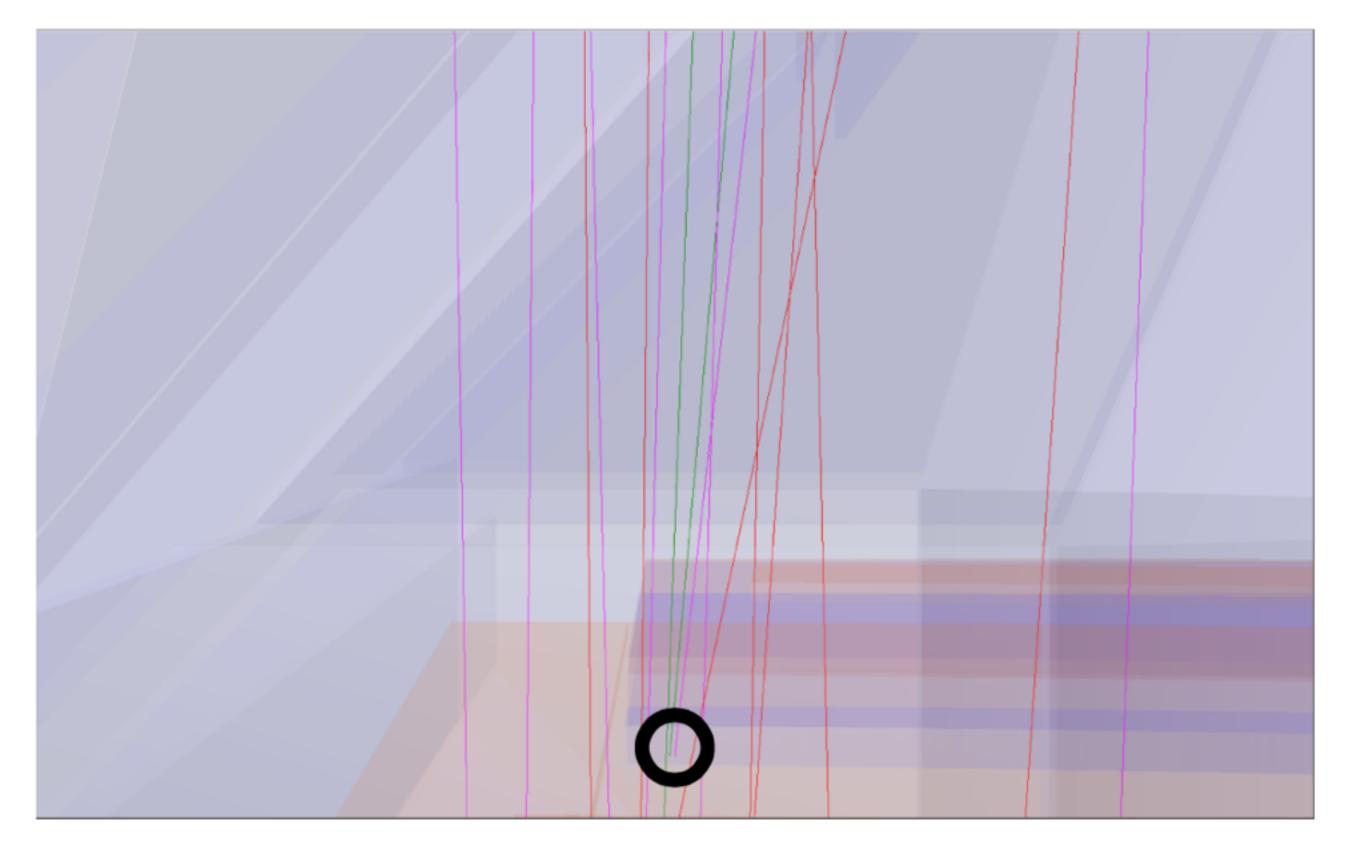


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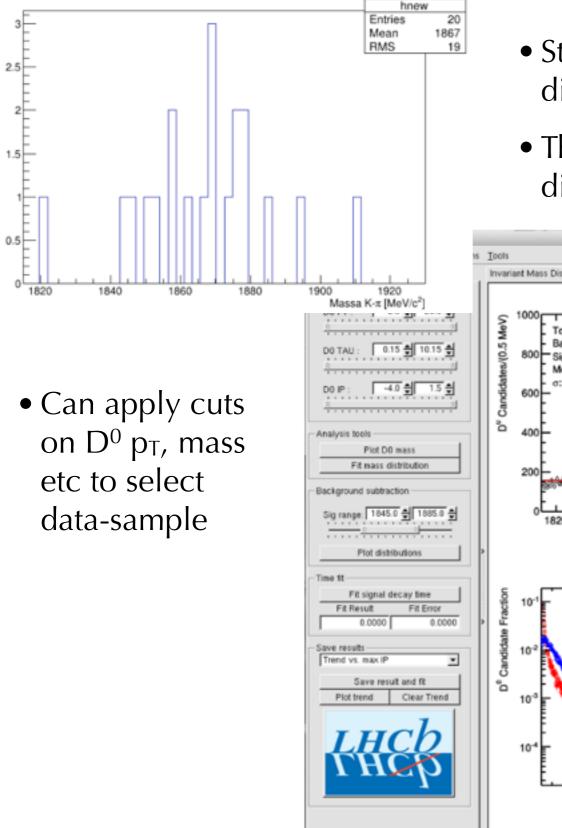
LHCb D⁰ Lifetime: `Easy' Event



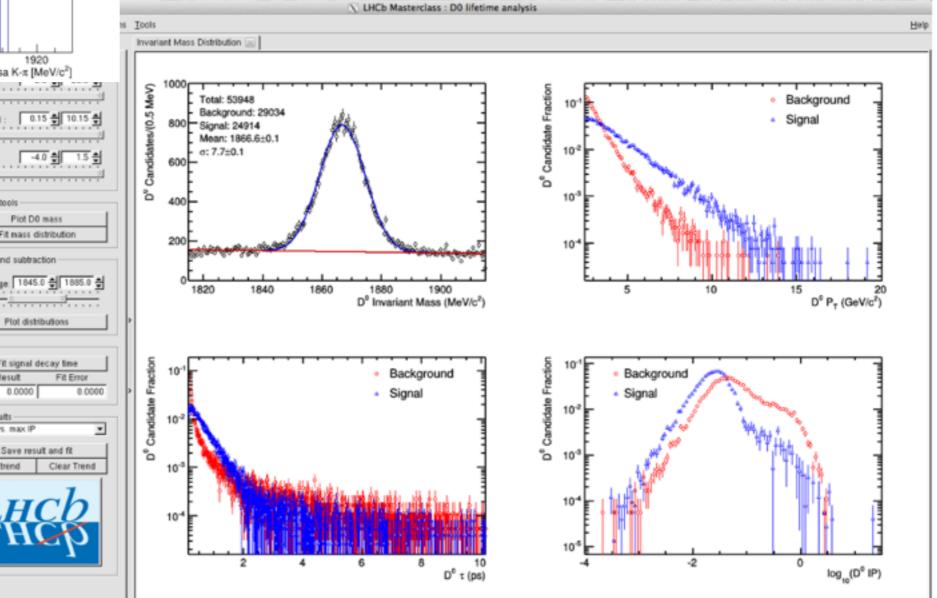
LHCb D⁰ Lifetime: `Hard' Event



LHCb D⁰ Lifetime: Fitting



- Students create their own plot of the D⁰ mass distribution.
- Then given more data to do fits to mass, and lifetime distributions.



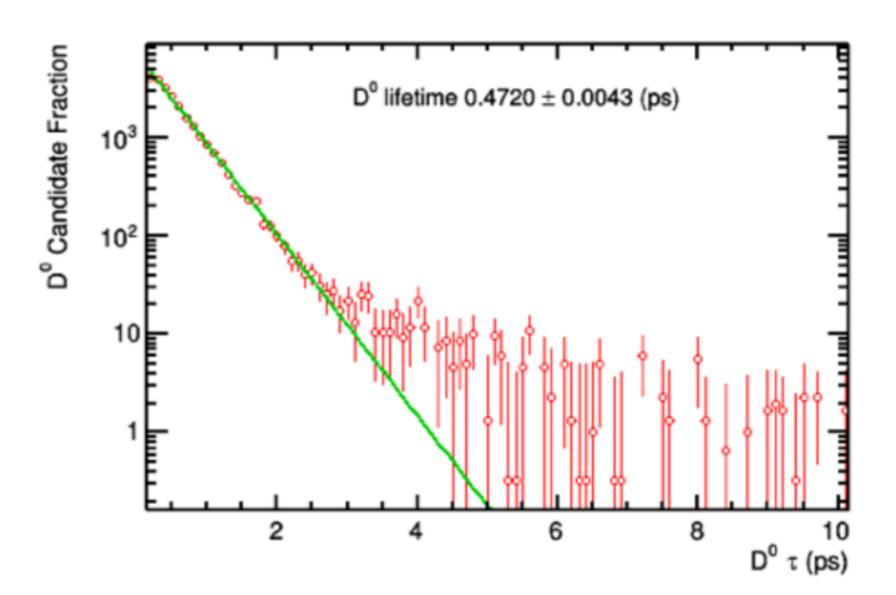
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LHCb D⁰ Lifetime: Results

- Students

 compare their
 lifetime
 measurement
 with those
 measured by
 LHCb, and the
 world average.
- Discussions about systematic uncertainties, and changing signal selection criteria.



Other Masterclass Measurements

CMS: W and Z boson measurements

- Distinguish W from Z boson candidates from event displays.
- Look at ratio of number of W⁺ and W⁻ events
- Make invariant mass plot and identify J/Ψ, Υ, and Z-boson.
- Find Higgs candidates from 4-lepton and diphoton events.

ALICE: Strange particle

- Identify strange particles (K_s, Λ, anti-Λ) from their decay patterns and calculation of invariant mass.
- Count numbers of strange particles in different centrality regions (Pb-Pb data).
- Calculate strangeness enhancement factors by comparing to p-p data.

ATLAS: W boson measurements

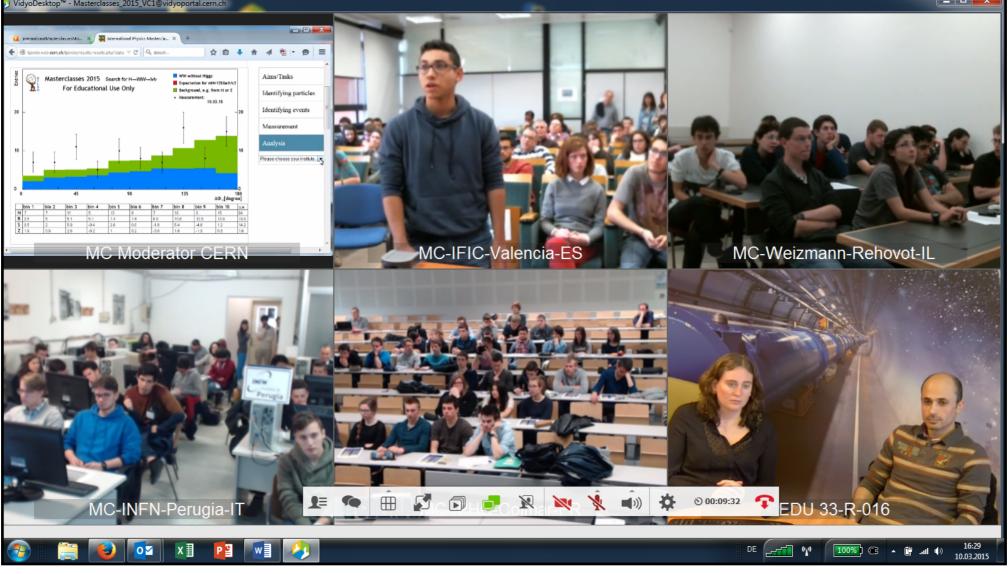
- Look at ratio of number of W⁺ and W⁻ events to explore the structure of the proton.
- Search for Higgs events in H→WW→ℓvℓv decay channel by measuring the opening angle (φ) between the charged leptons.

Video Conference with CERN

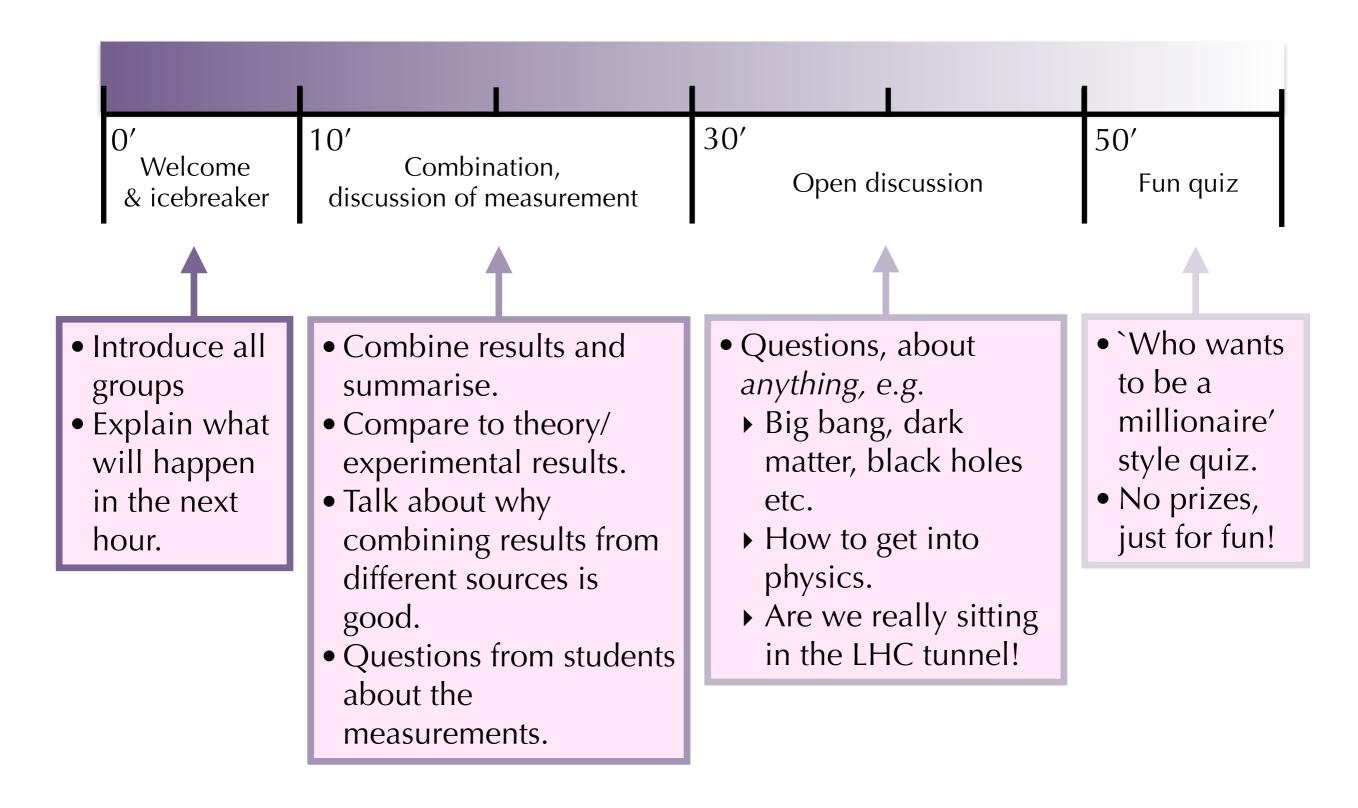
Aims of the video conference:

- Convey the internationality of the event.
- Demonstrate how particle physicists work together internationally.
- Encourage students to share their experiences with each other
- Demonstrate how combining datasets improves accuracy.
- Be a fun end to a long day!

4-6 institutes participating in each session



Video Conference with CERN/Fermilab



Masterclasses in Lebanon

- NEW for Lebanon!!
- <u>Lebanese University</u> have recently joined CMS and we hope will join the International Masterclasses programme for the Spring 2018 round.
 - From our side we will be doing everything we can to help set this up.
 - Feel free to get in contact yourselves to express enthusiasm for participating in the programme!



Address book:

- National contacts:
 - Ahmad Zein-Assi (<u>ahmad.zein-assi@cern.ch</u>)
 - Kate Shaw (<u>kate.shaw@cern.ch</u>)
 - Haitham Zaraket (<u>haitham.zaraket@cern.ch</u>)
- International Masterclasses Programme Coordinator:
 - Uta Bilow (<u>uta.bilow@tu-dresden.de</u>)



Summary

- Masterclasses are an excellent way to engage students and inspire them to study Physics at a higher level.
- Very rewarding experience, both for students and teachers.
- Evaluations show that events have a relatively strong influence on the students' long-term interest development in particle physics.
 - Independent of gender and level of education.





