

Looking for strange particles in the ALICE experiment

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What is ALICE?

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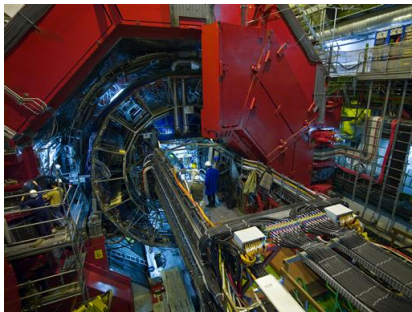


Figure: The ALICE Cavern



Our task

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- Analysis of datasets of events of Monte-Carlo simulations;
 - Datasets contain 15 events;
 - Identification of strange particles by their decay topology.
 - V_s^0
 - *Cascades*

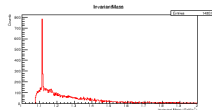
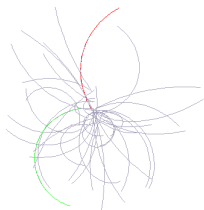


Figure: A proton-proton collision and data from a Pb-Pb collision.

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- Analysis of datasets of events of Monte-Carlo simulations;
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 - V_s^0
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- Statistical analysis of the mass distribution of particles detected by ALICE.

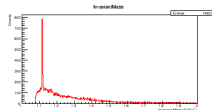
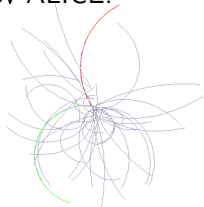
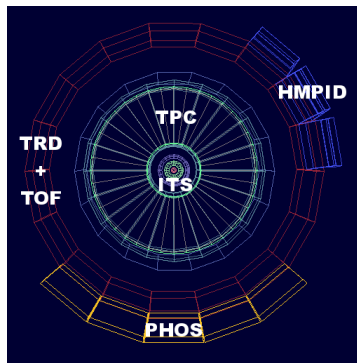


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Detection of particles in ALICE

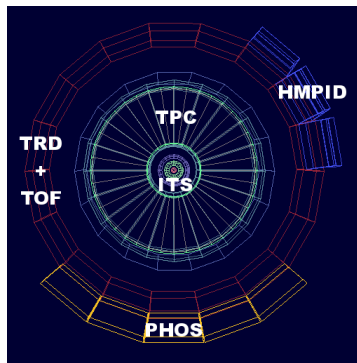
Detection of particles in ALICE

- Inner Tracking System - particle generates electricity;



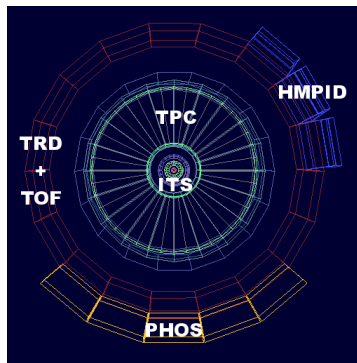
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Detection of particles in ALICE

- Inner Tracking System - particle generates electricity;
- Time Projection Chamber - pushed off orbit electrons generates electricity;
- Time of flight - measures the time the particles needs to get from the primary pt the detector.



Decay of particles

- Characteristics of the **daughter particles** we can obtain through the detectors:

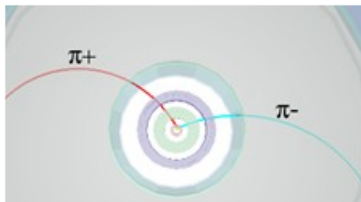


Figure: Decay of a kaon

Decay of particles

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 - Charge;

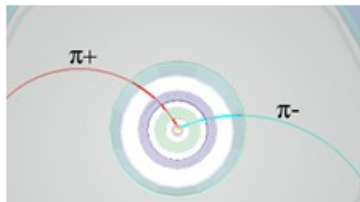


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- Characteristics of the **daughter particles** we can obtain through the detectors:
 - Charge;
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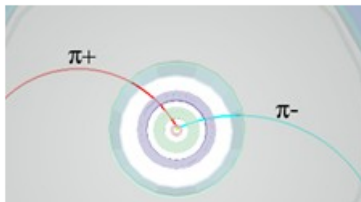


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Decay of particles

- Characteristics of the **daughter particles** we can obtain through the detectors:
 - Charge;
 - Momentum: $p_T = 0.3qBR$; $p = p_T / \cos(\lambda)$;
 - Mass: $m = \frac{p}{v\gamma}$.

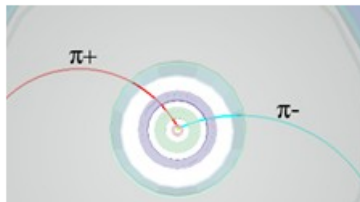


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Invariant mass

By using

- Law of conservation of **energy**;
- Law of conservation of **momentum**;
- Special theory of relativity: $E^2 = m^2 + p^2$ for $c = 1$.

one could deduce that

$$m = \sqrt{m_1^2 + m_2^2 + 2E_1E_2 - 2\vec{p}_1\vec{p}_2}$$

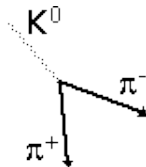
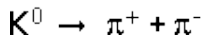


Figure: Decay of a kaon

Results

Calculator ALICE MasterClass - STUDENT MODE

Calculator Instructions

Instructions

Particle Table

Particle type	Mass [GeV/c ²]
Electron	0.000511
Pion	0.139
Neutral Kaon	0.497
Proton	0.938
Lambda	1.115
Charged Xi	1.321

Calculator

	(-)	(+)	Bachelor
px	-0.239061	-0.717914	0
py	0.243982	0.097666	0
pz	0.258764	0.227068	0
mass	0.13957	0.13957	0

Invariant Mass

Strange Particle Statistics

Strange Particle Statistics	Real Data
Particle	
Kaons	12
Lambdas	1
antiLambdas	2
Xis	0

Viewer 1 Multi View Invariant Mass

Student Instructions

Instructions

Analysis Instructions

Event Navigation

Previous Current Next

1 / 2

Event analysed!

Events done: 15

Strange Particles

V0s

Cascades

Calculator

Calculator

Table of Results

Display

Clusters

Back To Demo

Exit

Statistical analysis of data obtained at ALICE

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Question

How does one estimate the mass of a particle, though?

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- *Look for particles satisfying certain selection requirements;*

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Statistical analysis of data obtained at ALICE

Question

How does one estimate the mass of a particle, though?

Answer

- *Look for particles satisfying certain selection requirements;*
- *Find **pairs of candidates** for daughter particles;*
- *Calculate the **invariant mass**;*
- *Fill a histogram representing the data for the estimated masses.*

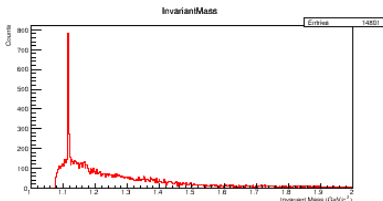
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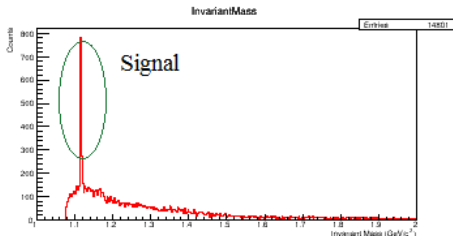
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- Find *pairs of candidates* for daughter particles;
- Calculate the *invariant mass*;
- Fill a histogram representing the data for the estimated masses.



How to "see" a histogram?

Two types of data:

- Signal - What we are searching for!
- Background - What we want to get rid of!



Fitting functions

Fitting functions

- Background is described by a smooth function;

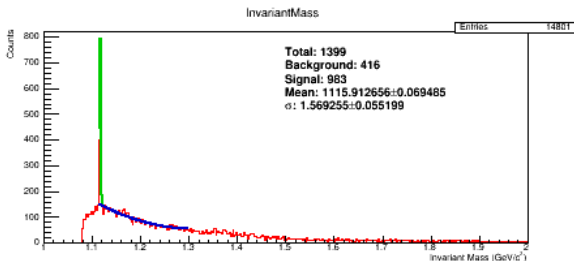


Figure: Lambdas in Pb-Pb collisions data.

Fitting functions

- Background is described by a smooth function;
- **Signal is determined by Gaussian distribution.** The signal is located at **the mass** of the studied particles and its integral is proportional to their number.

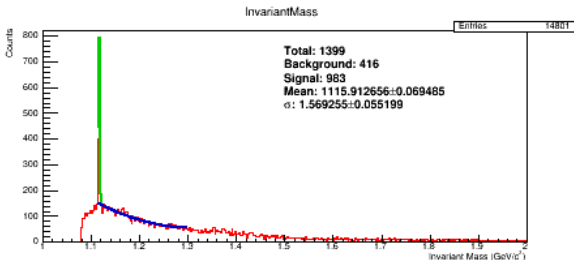
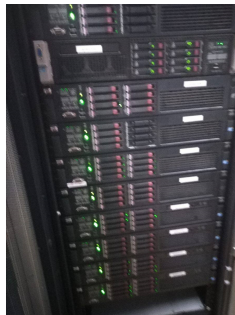
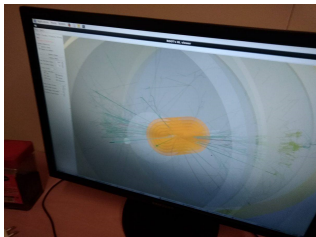


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Other projects

- Computer simulations;
- Grid technologies



Our CERN





Acknowledgements

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