

# PHYSICS AT THE LHC

Karri DiPetrillo  
Fermilab Lecture Series  
30 June, 2022



# About Me

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- High school in Providence, RI
- ScB from Brown in 2013
  - Research & concentration in biological physics
- PhD from Harvard in 2019
  - Searches for long-lived particles
  - ATLAS Muon Spectrometer
- **Now: Lederman Fellow at Fermilab**
  - CMS searches for new physics with unconventional signatures
  - Precision timing with silicon detectors



# About Me

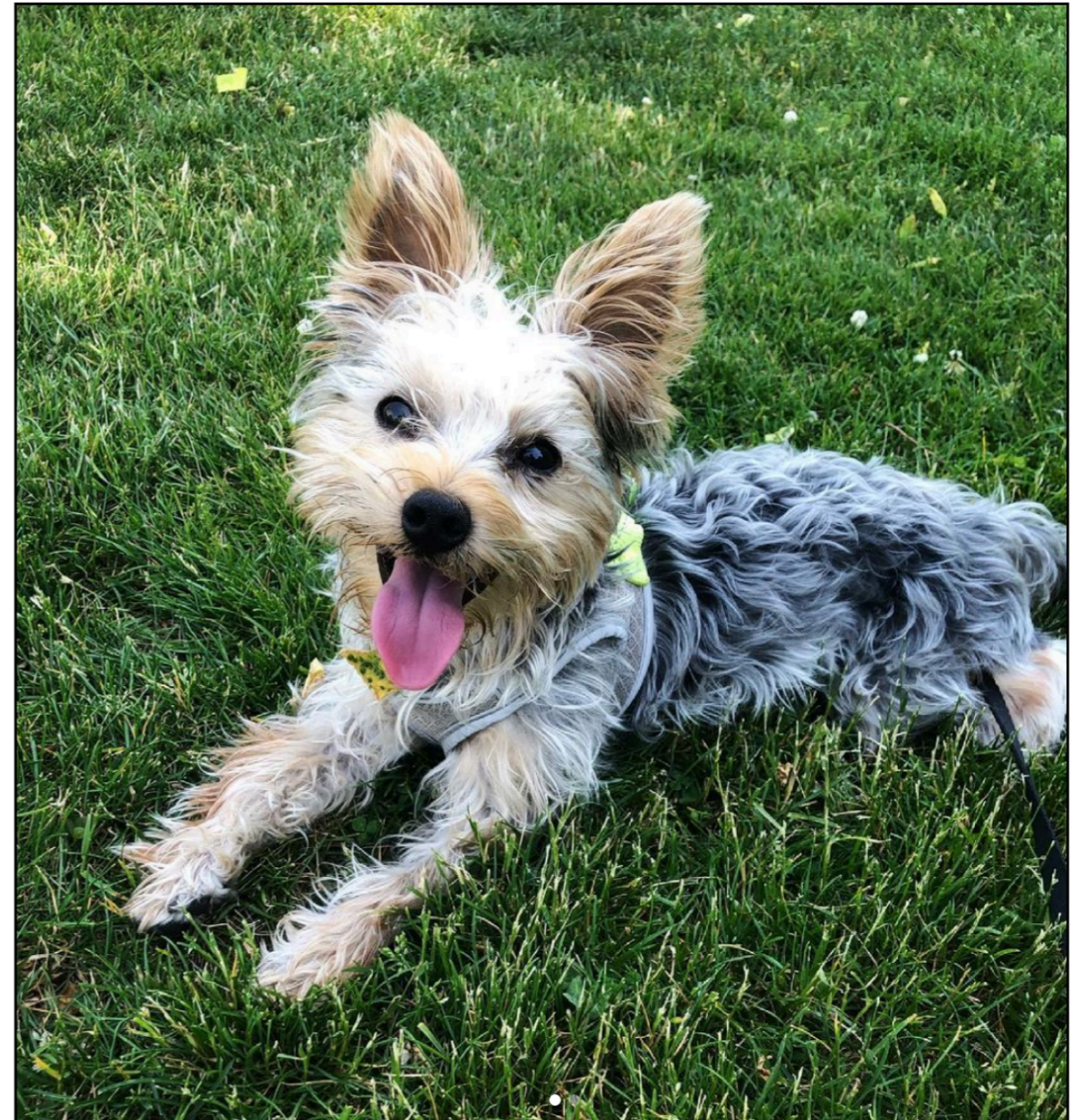
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I enjoy...

trashy tv

bike riding

my dog, Peanut!



email: [kdipetri@fnal.gov](mailto:kdipetri@fnal.gov)



# About this lecture

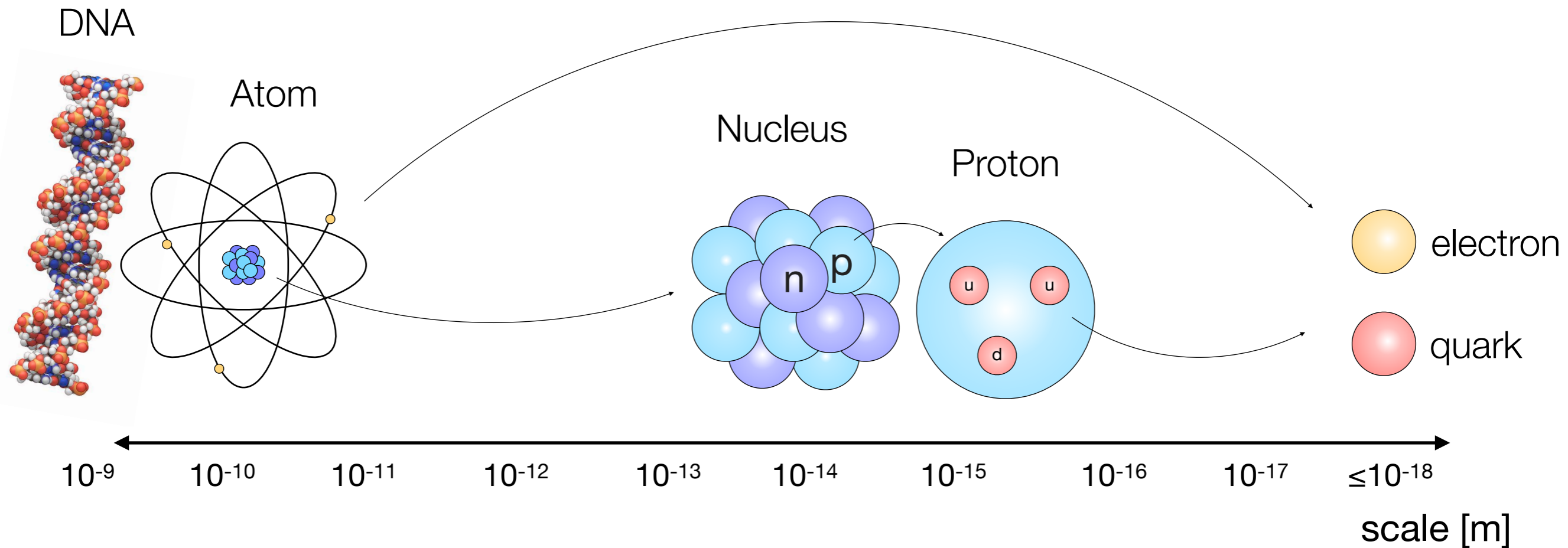
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- Adapted from a Saturday Morning Physics lecture for high school students
  - joint with Christian Herwig and Alexx Perloff
- **We'll talk about**
  - Why particle physicists use colliders
  - What kinds of questions we want to answer at the LHC
  - How the CMS and ATLAS experiments works
  - How to do an example analysis
- **Other great resources**
  - CERN Summer Student Lecture Series [2019]
  - Proceedings of other intros to LHC physics
    - <https://arxiv.org/abs/1004.5564>
    - <https://arxiv.org/abs/1611.07864>
  - Physics motivation for ATLAS/CMS detector design
    - At the Leading Edge: Chapter 1



# Particle physics

Interested in the smallest, irreducible, pieces of matter...  
fundamental particles



And the forces that govern these particles

# How do we access small scales?

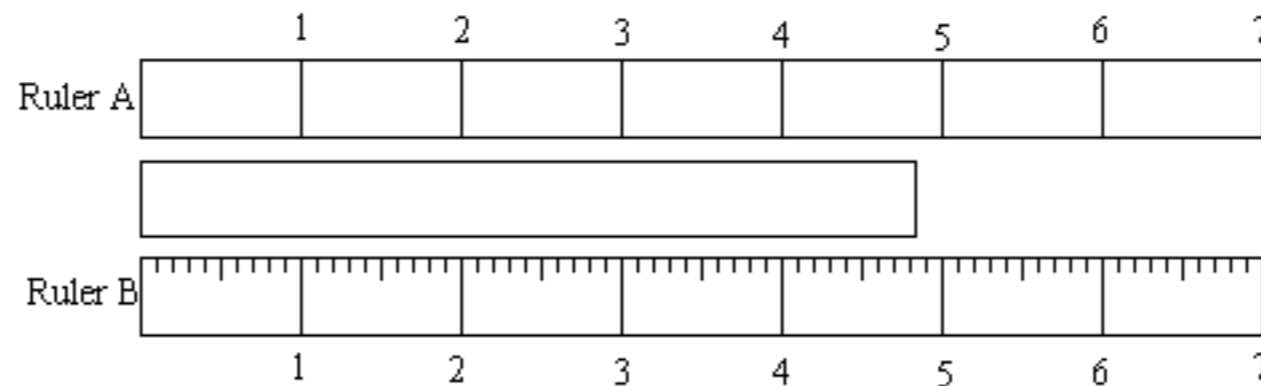
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Quantum Mechanics tells us particles ~ waves

A particle with energy **E** has wavelength  $\lambda = hc/E$

**c** = the speed of light

**h** = Planck intrinsic angular momentum (spin)



Small wavelengths probe small scales

# Colliders as a Microscope

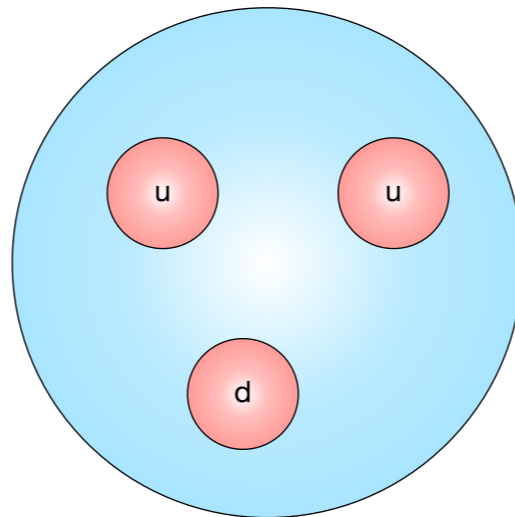
→ High-energy collisions access small scales

Visible light



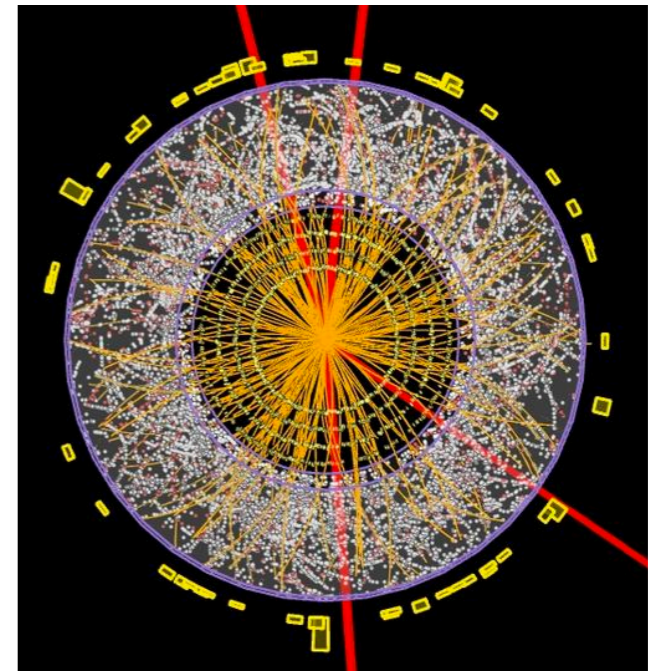
$\sim 2 \text{ eV}$   
 $\sim 5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ m}$

Proton



$\sim 1 \text{ GeV}$   
 $\sim 10^{-15} \text{ m}$

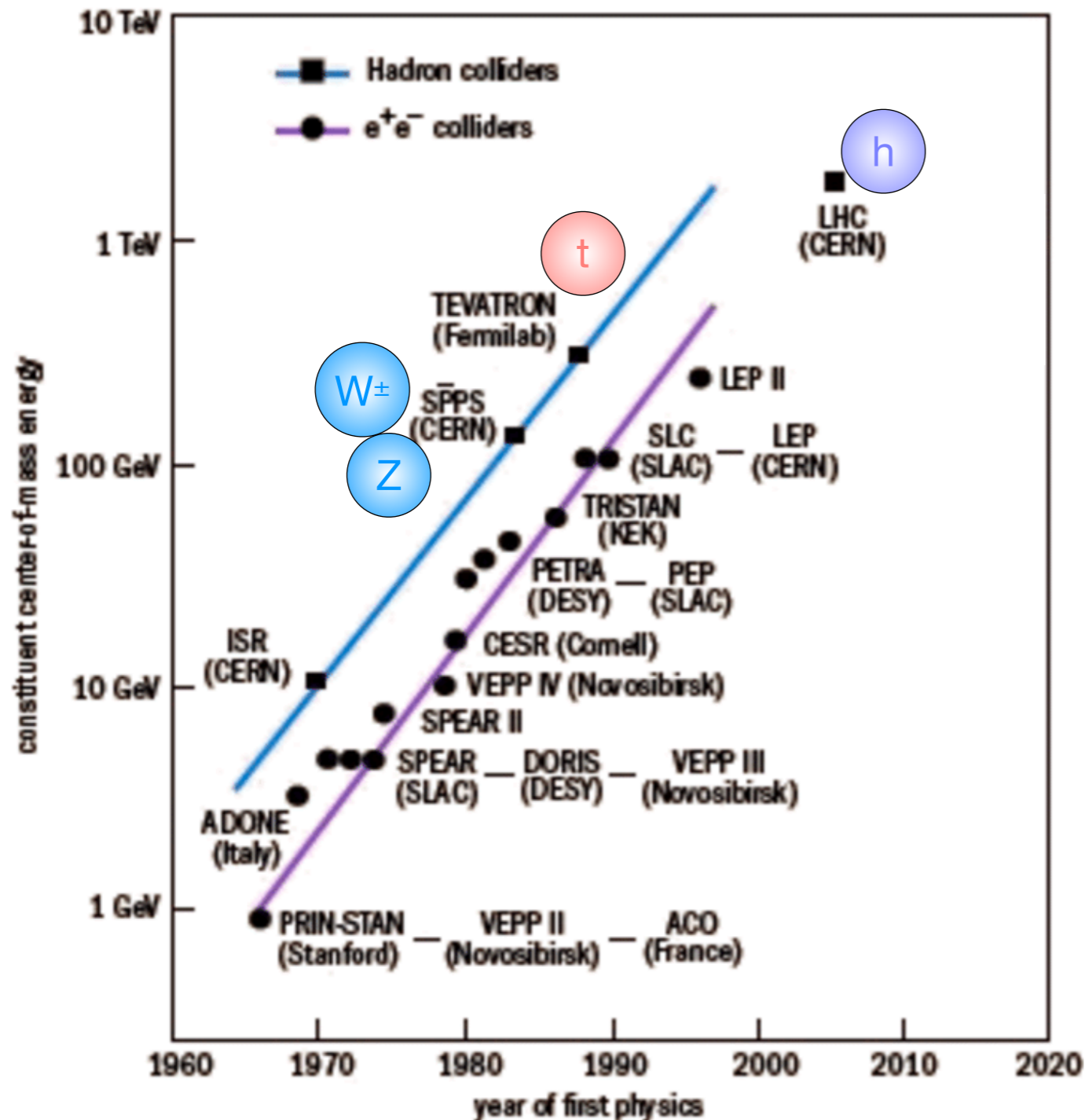
LHC Collision



$13.6 \text{ TeV}$   
 $\sim 10^{-19} \text{ m}$

\*eV = energy an electron gains over 1 volt  
Giga ↔ billion, Tera ↔ trillion

# Long history of success!



Exciting & effective way to discover new fundamental particles

1985: W and Z @SppS

1995: Top Quark @Tevatron

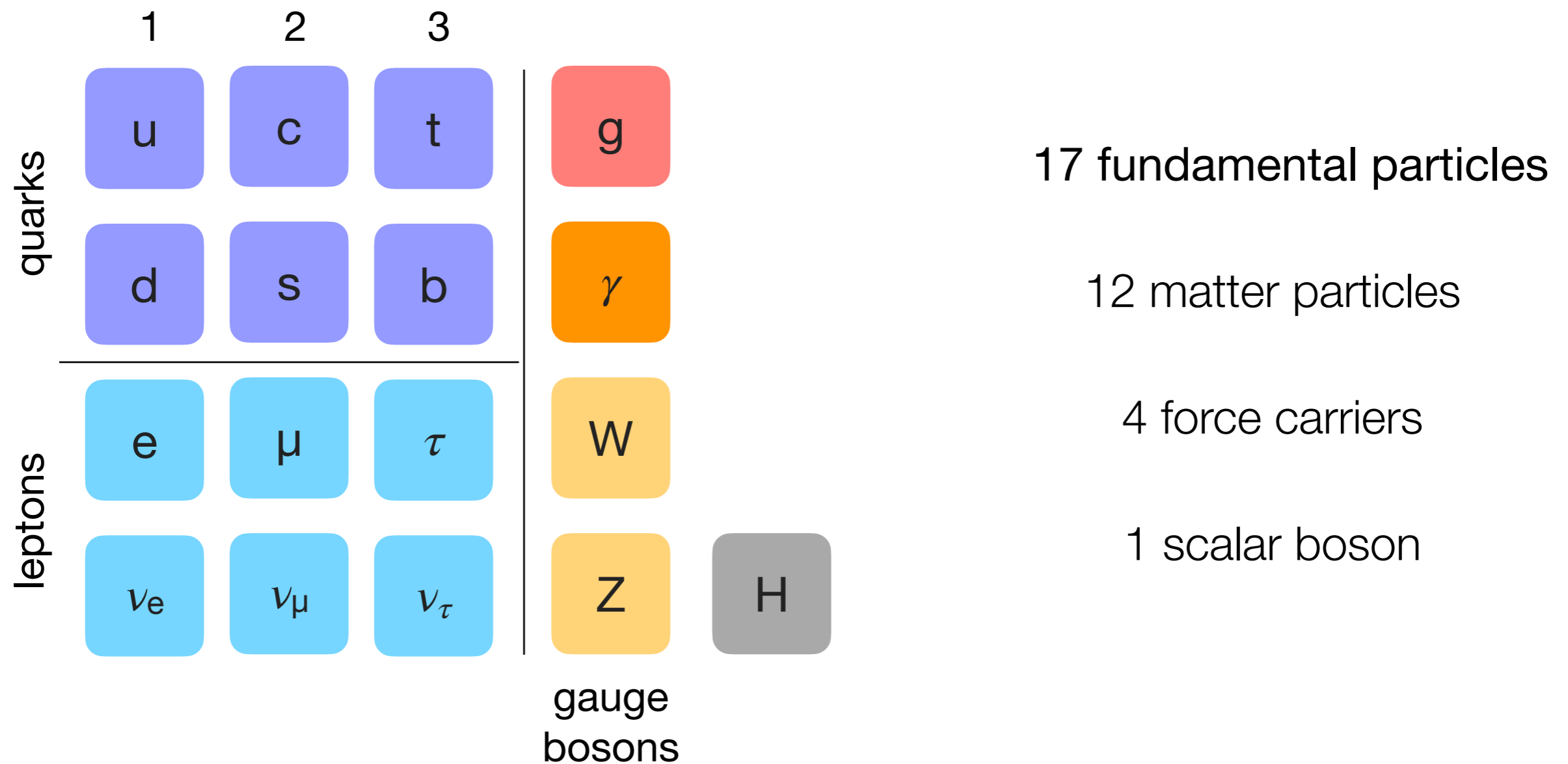
2012: Higgs Boson @LHC

Long tradition of looking to smaller scales to achieve a simpler description of nature



# Best known description

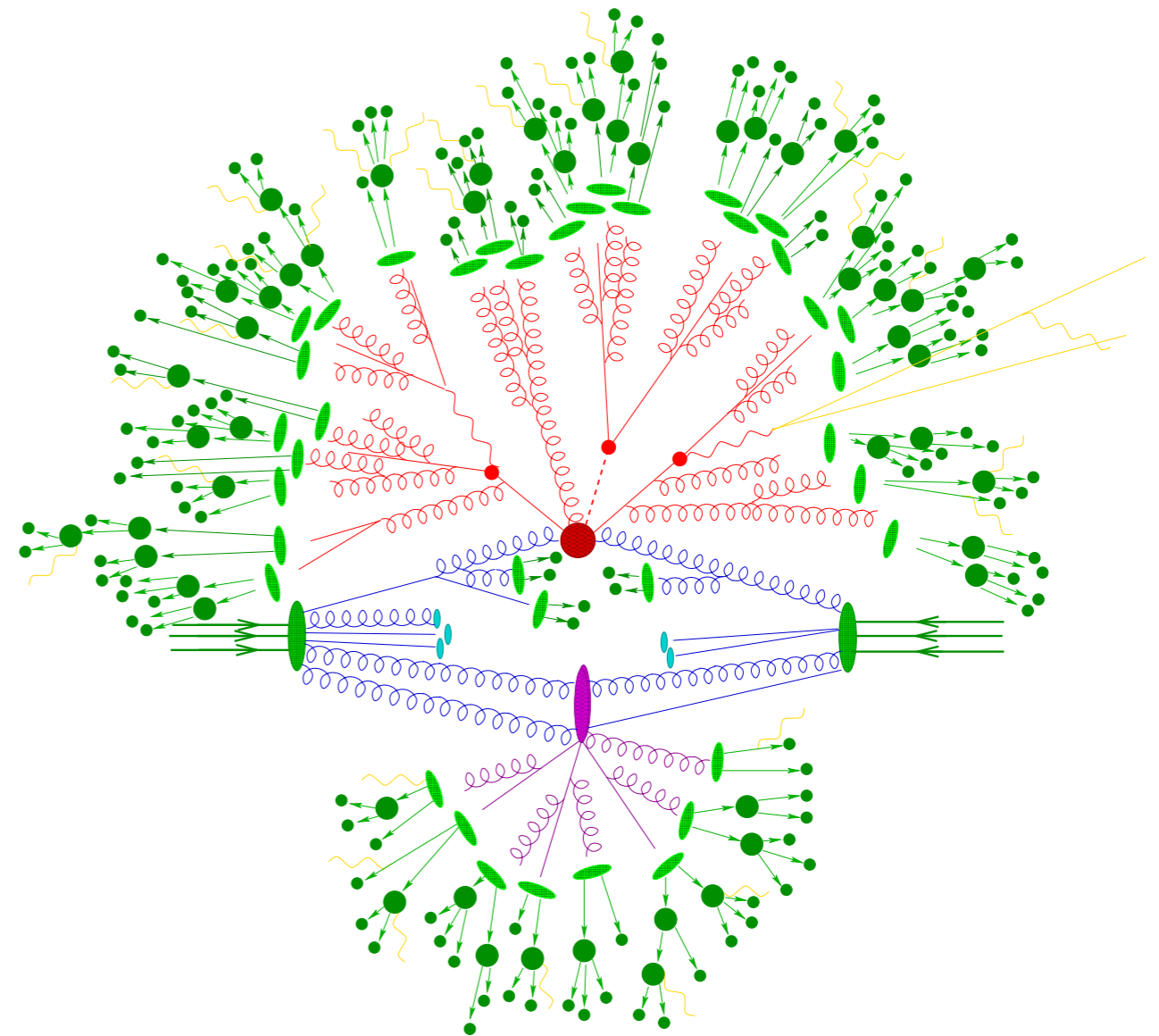
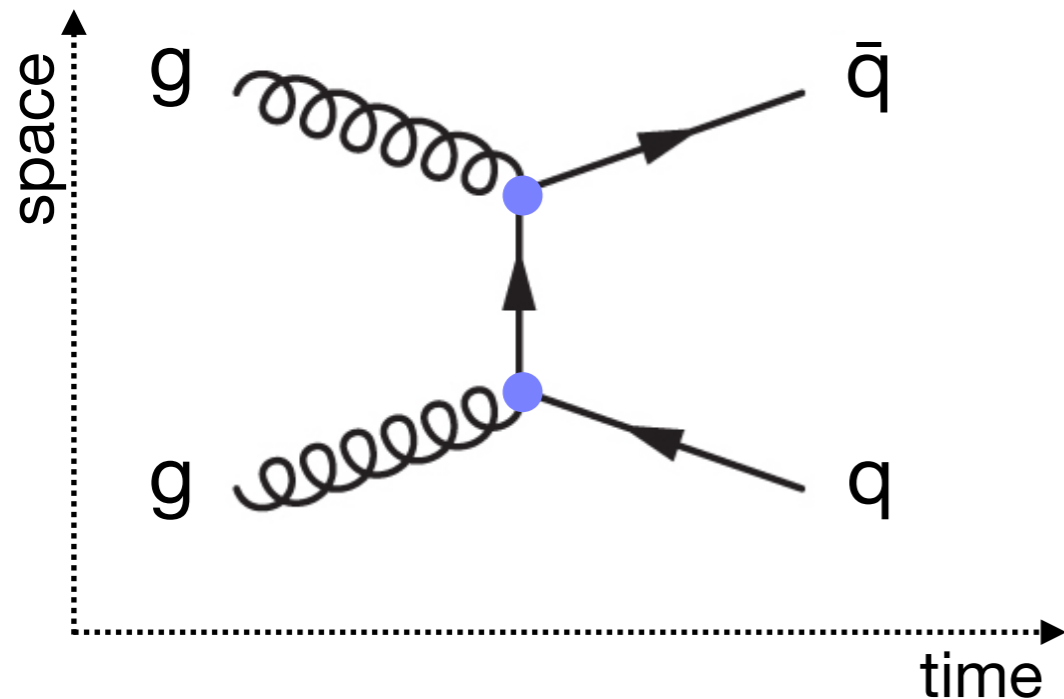
## The Standard Model



# Simplicity = predictive power

Strong force: interaction structure + a **single coupling**

Predicts VAST range of phenomena:  
proton, neutron masses  
'excited' states  
gluon force carrier

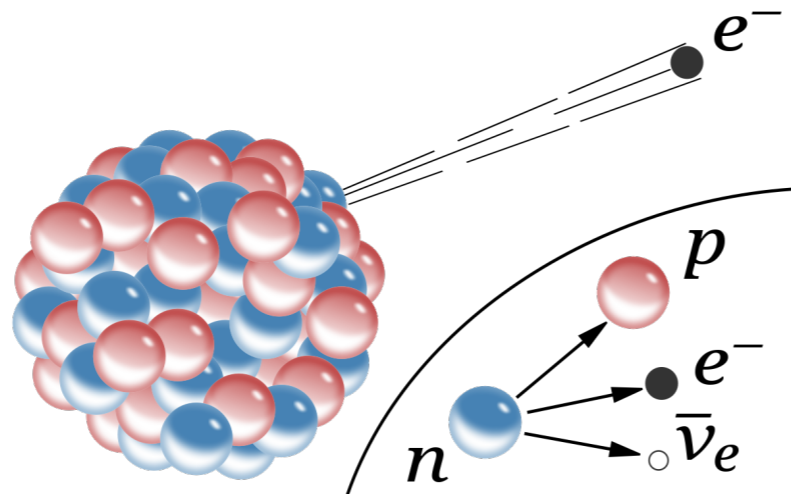


LHC collision

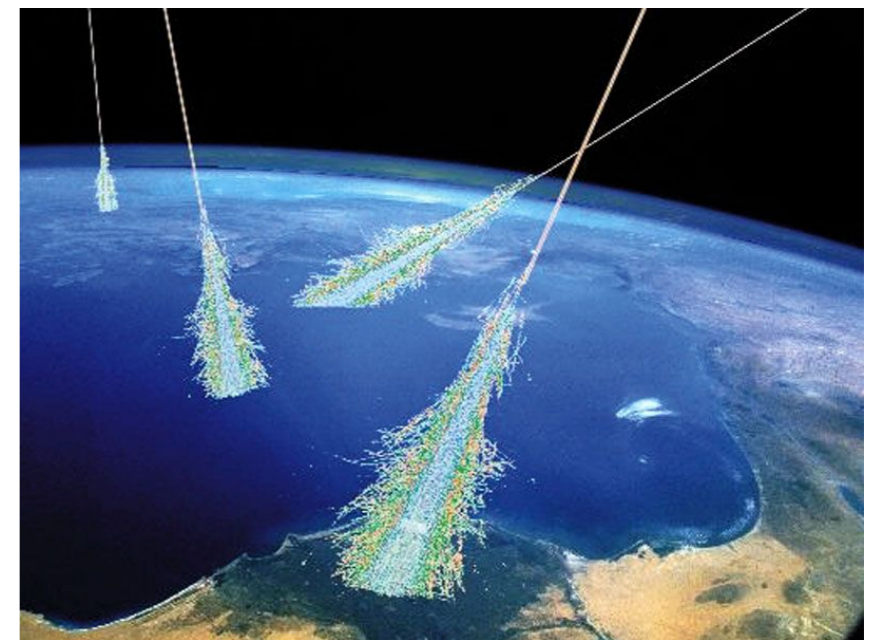
# Simplicity = predictive power

Similarly, weak interactions explained by a **single coupling!**

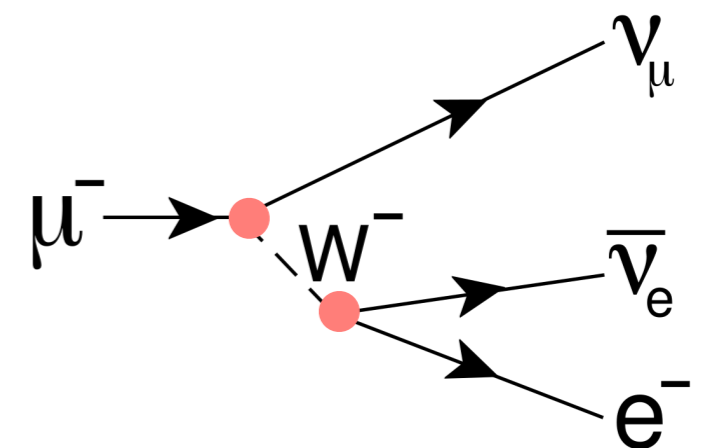
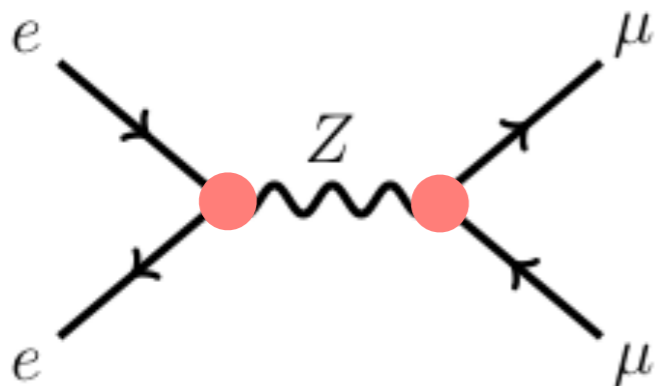
Radioactive decay



Muon decay in cosmic rays

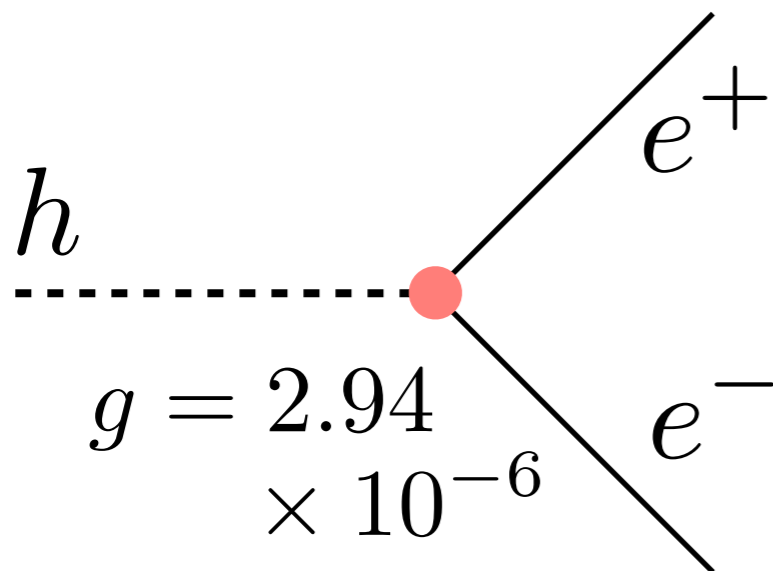


Z boson production at particle colliders

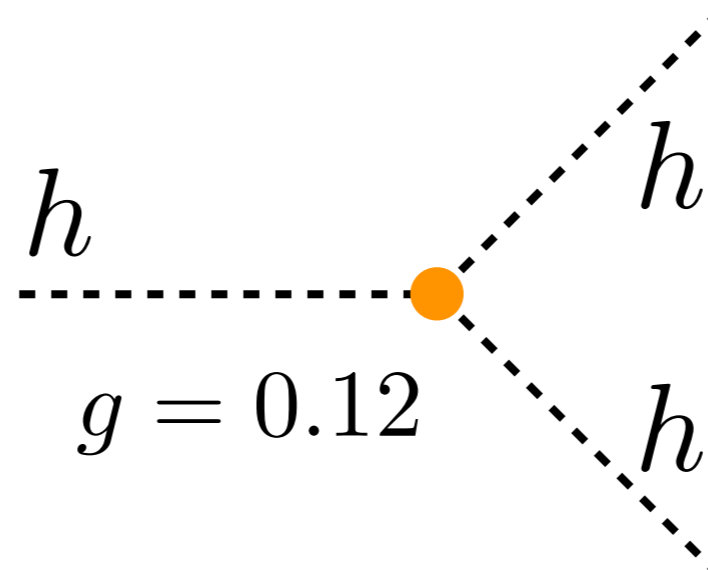
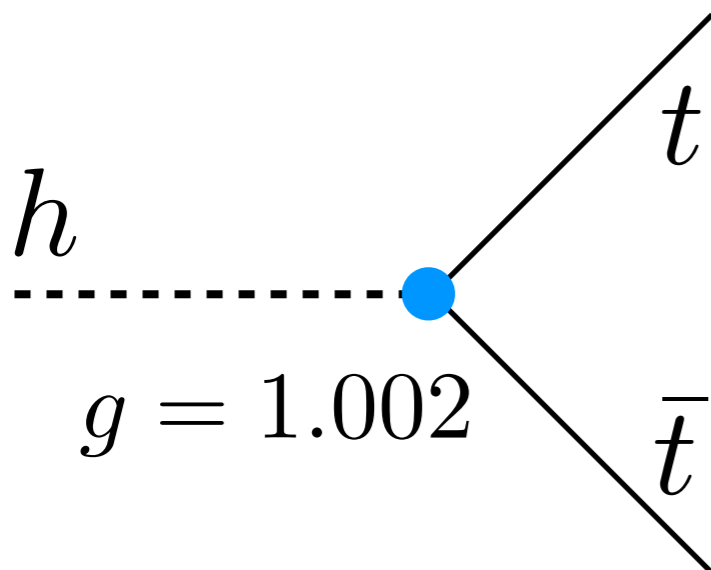


# But the Higgs is different

The Higgs field: couples to ALL massive particles.  
Electron mass originates from a Higgs-electron coupling



Each particle has a different mass, which means a **DIFFERENT** coupling for **EVERY SINGLE PARTICLE!**



Why so many new couplings?

Measure them!

# Beyond the Higgs?

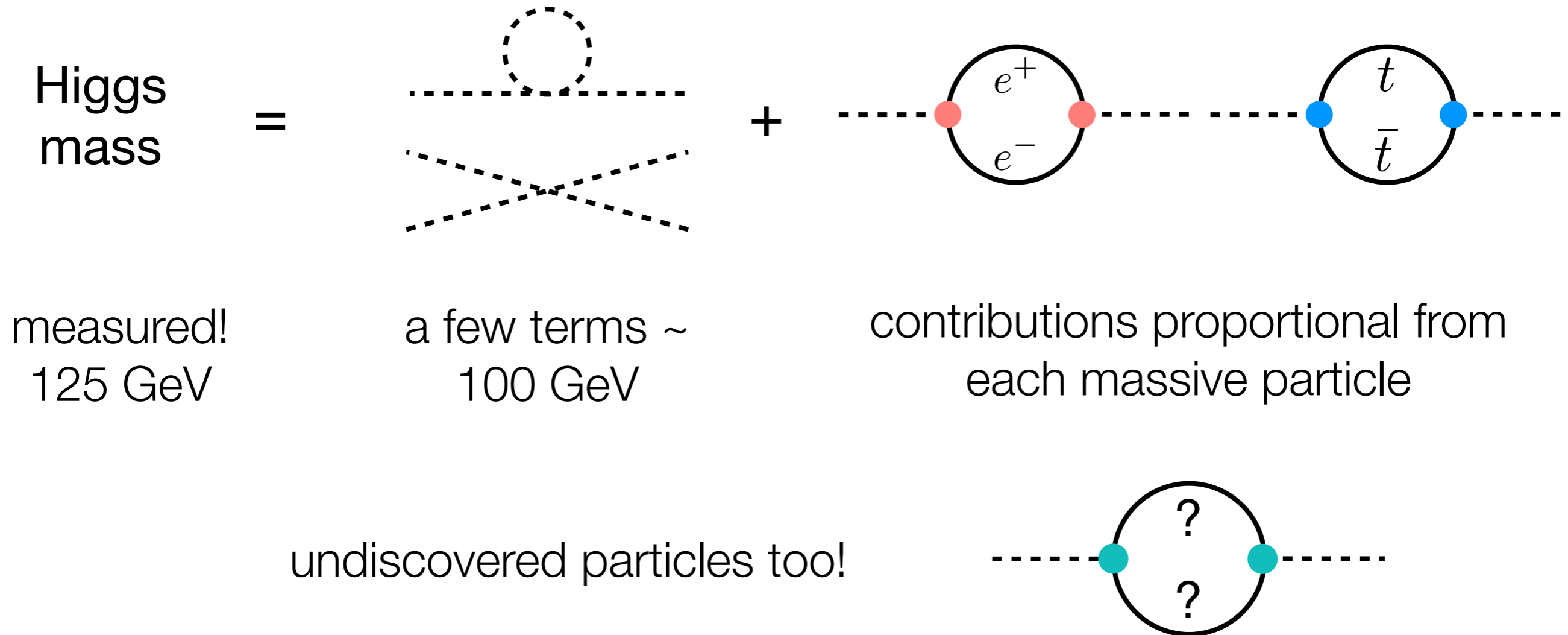
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- Many questions revolve around the Higgs — the newest and **least-understood** component of the Standard Model
  - Why are there so many different masses/couplings, and with such different sizes?
  - Is there only one Higgs boson?
  - Is the Higgs a fundamental particle or a composite, like the proton?
  - Is the Higgs also responsible for neutrino masses?
  - Does the Higgs respect the known symmetries of nature?
  - How does dark matter fit into this picture??
  - **Why is the higgs mass 125 GeV?**



# The hierarchy puzzle

Try to calculate Higgs mass. Find two contributions:



E.g. a  $10^{16}$  GeV graviton wants to "pull up" the Higgs mass to  $10^{16}$  GeV, but we observe it as 125 GeV. Why??

# A new symmetry?

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Suggests a new *mechanism* to keeps Higgs light

**Supersymmetry** is one possible answer

Idea: every SM particle gets a copy, with equal and opposite contribution to Higgs mass



**Experimental question: where are the super-partners?**

Expect their masses to be near the Higgs.

We can look for these new particles at the LHC!

# And there are even more questions

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- **Unexplained by the Standard Model**
  - Why are there three generations of quarks and leptons?
  - Are all leptons the same?
  - Why is there more matter than anti-matter in the universe?
  - What is dark matter? Can we make dark matter particles at high energy colliders?
  - What about gravity?
  - ....
- **A high energy collider is a generic way to probe all of these questions!**

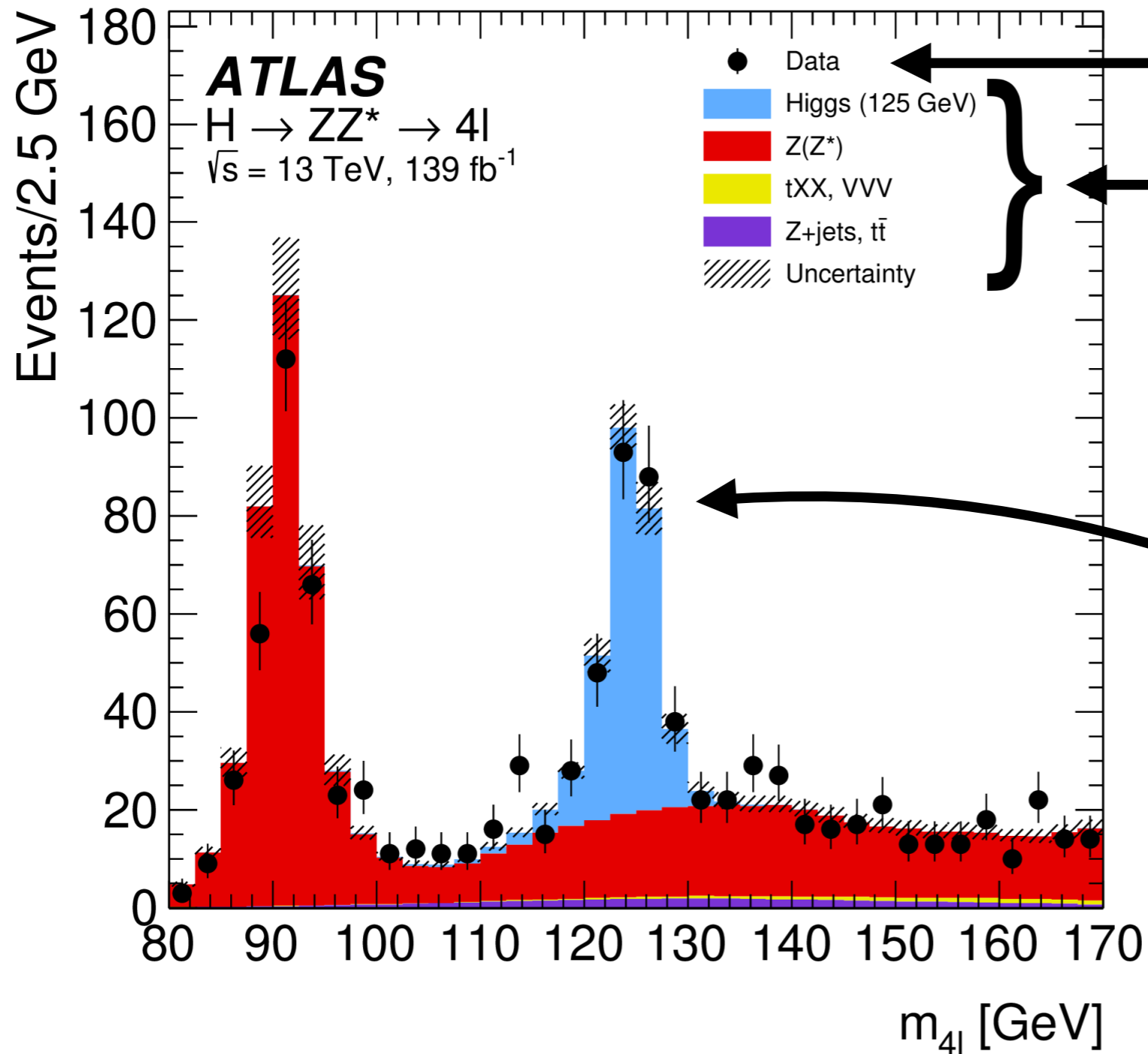




# How to do physics at the LHC

# Example: How to find a Higgs

arXiv:2004.03969



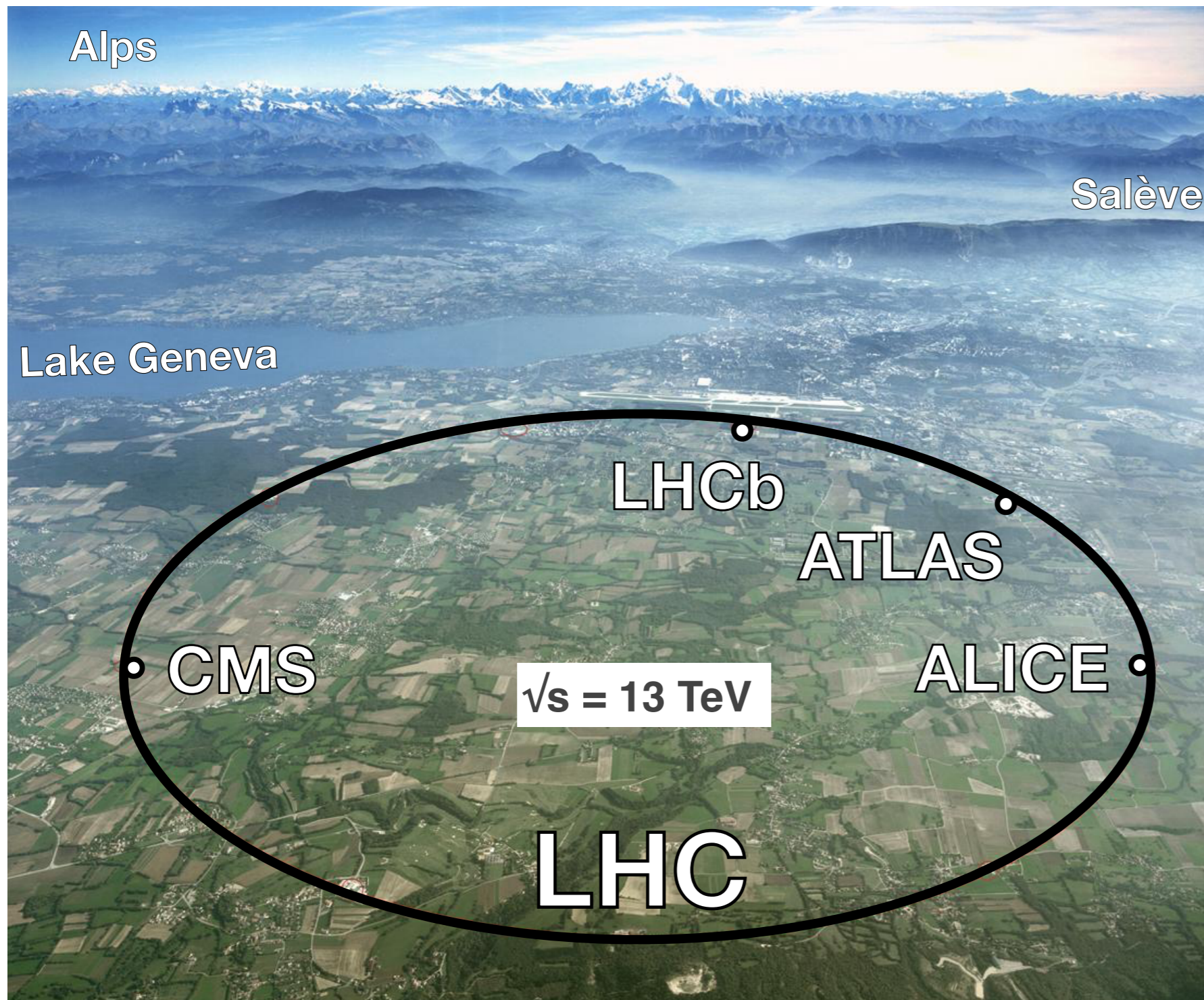
← *Real LHC data*

← *Standard Model Prediction*



The Higgs!

# The Large Hadron Collider



The LHC =  
source of particles

27 km circumference

protons travel at  
99.999 999 99%  
the speed of light

Lives on the border of Geneva, Switzerland & France

# Making heavier particles

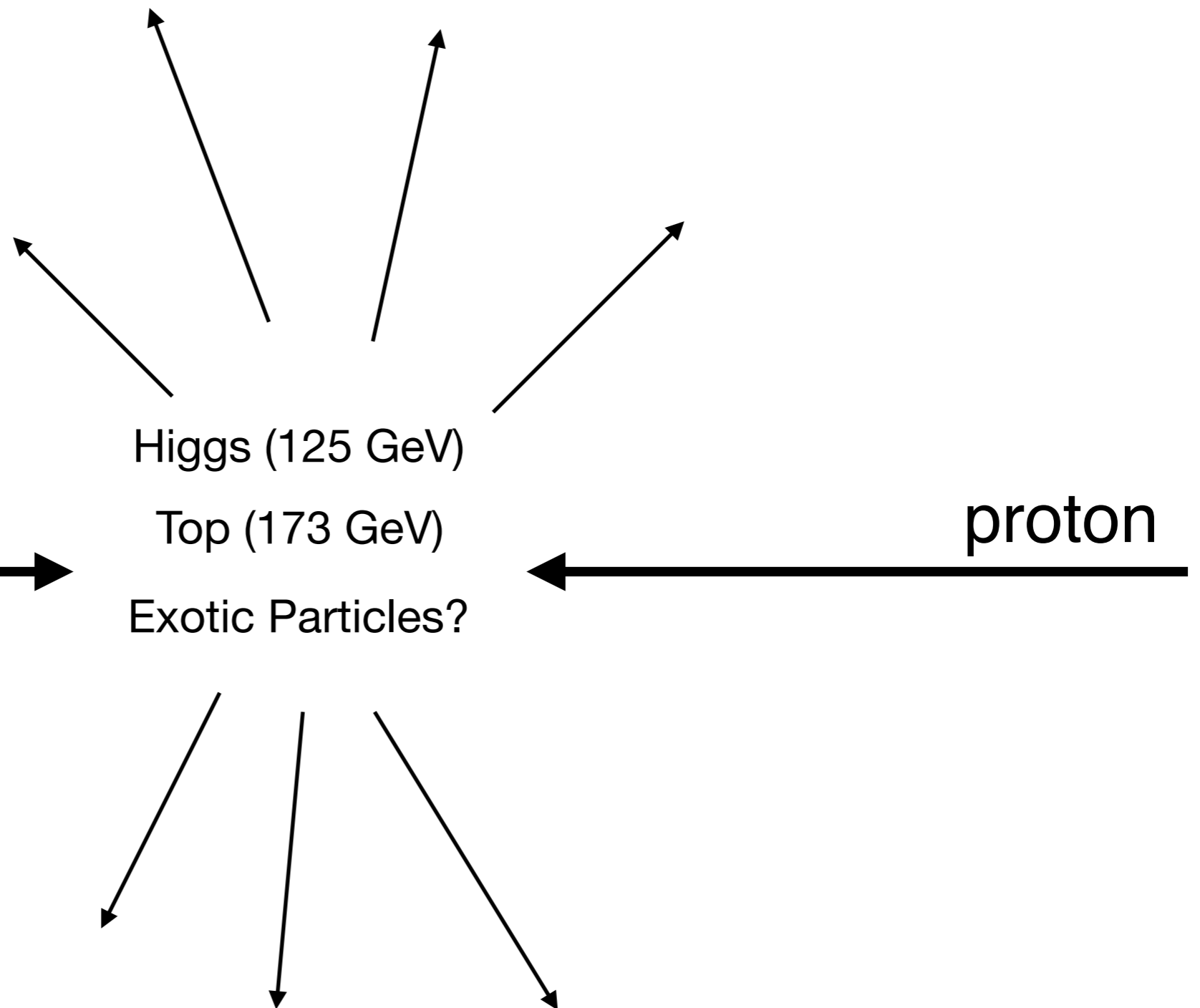
LHC = Highest energy collider in the world

$$E = \sqrt{m^2 + p^2}$$

proton

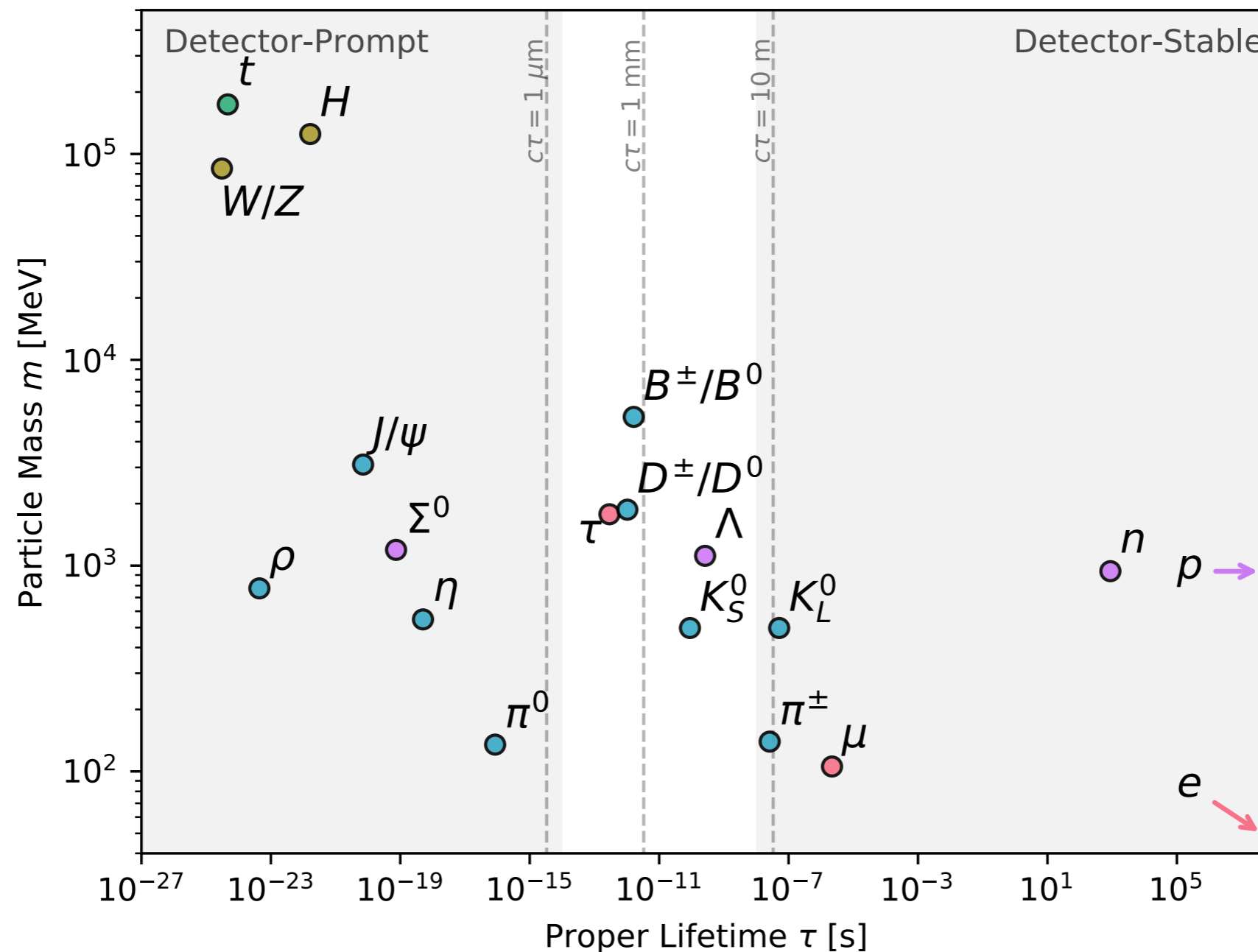
mass = 1 GeV

$E = 6500 \text{ GeV}$

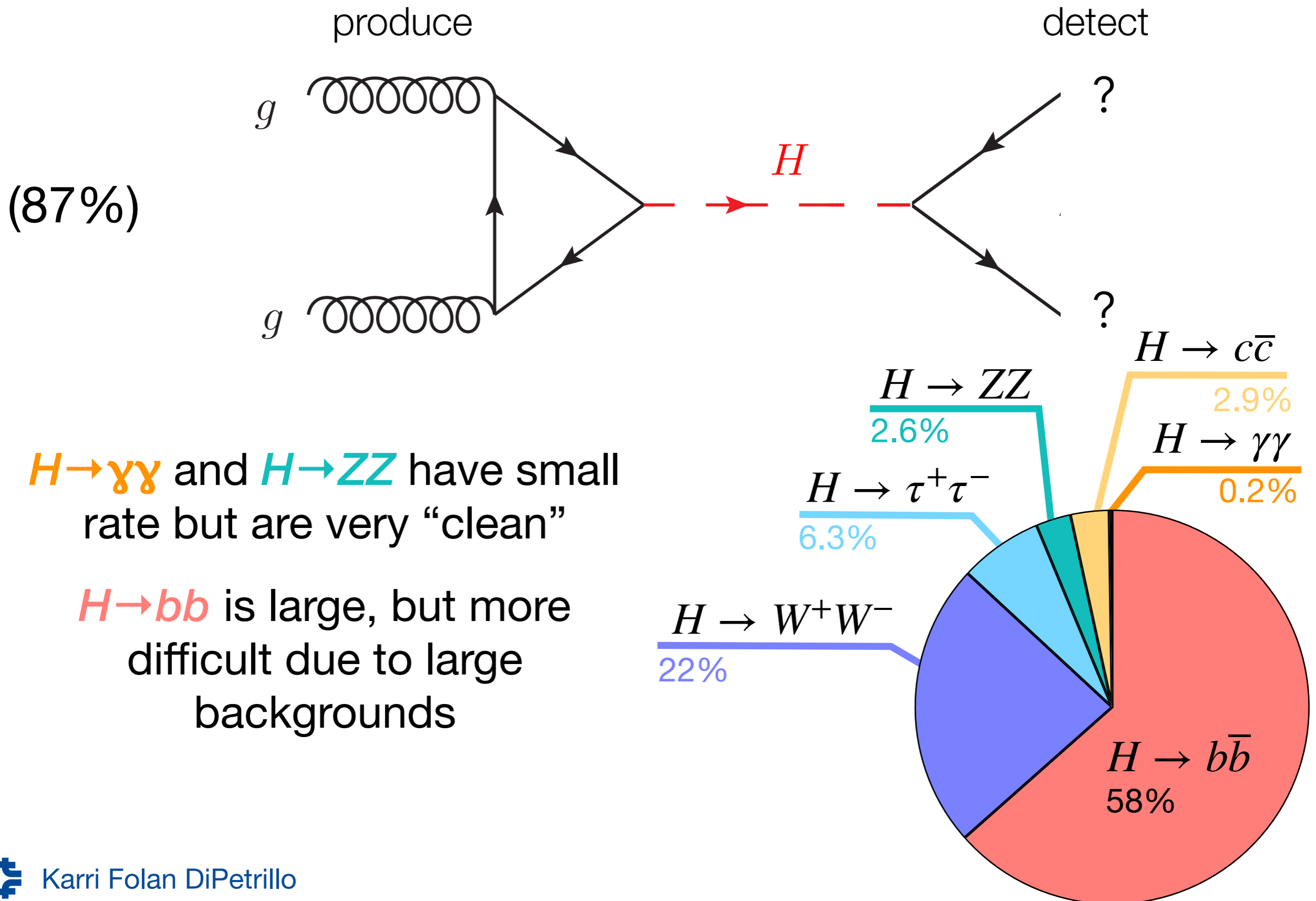


# We don't see the Higgs, it decays...

Three categories of particles, based on **lifetime**

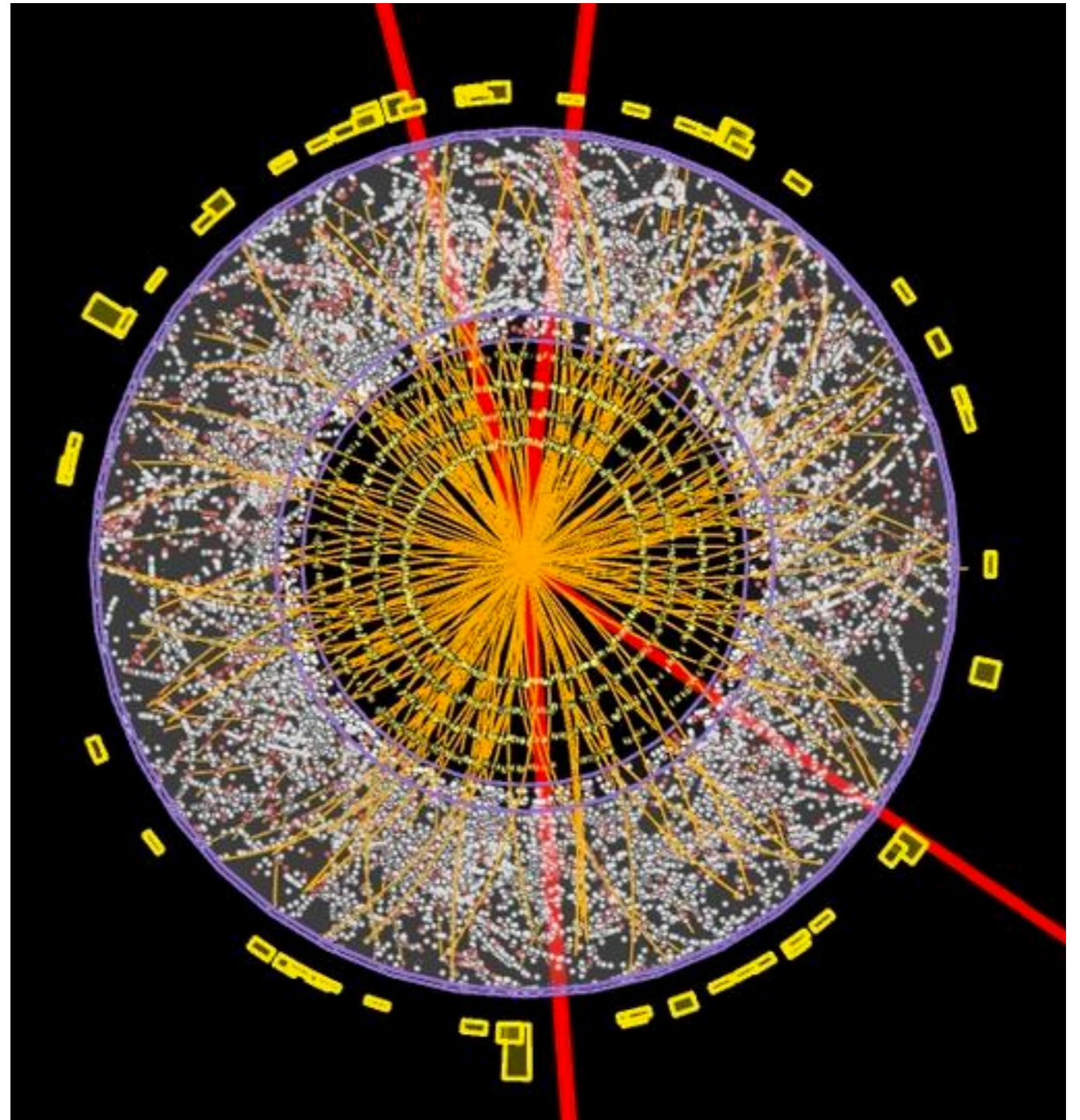
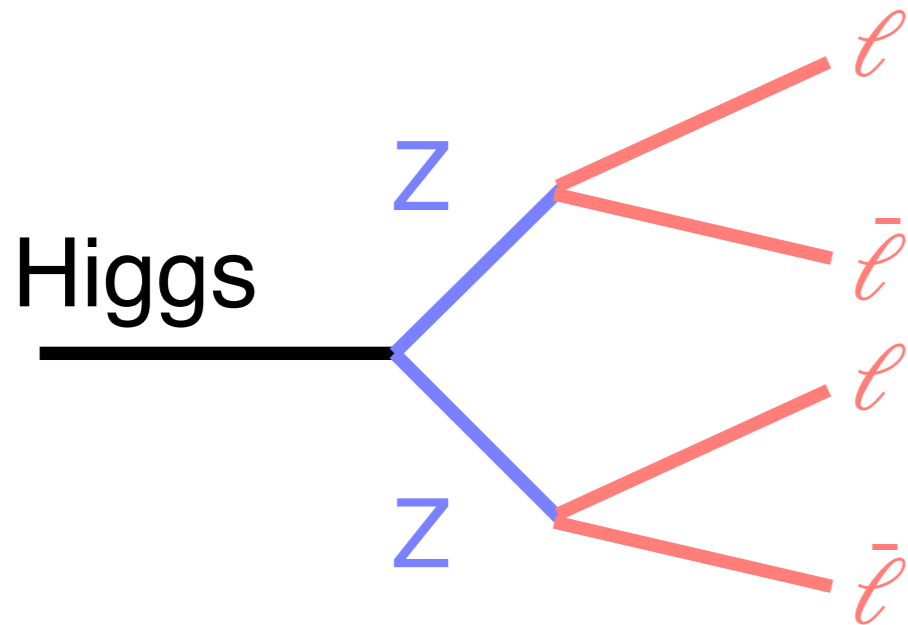


# How does the Higgs decay?



# What we see in the detector

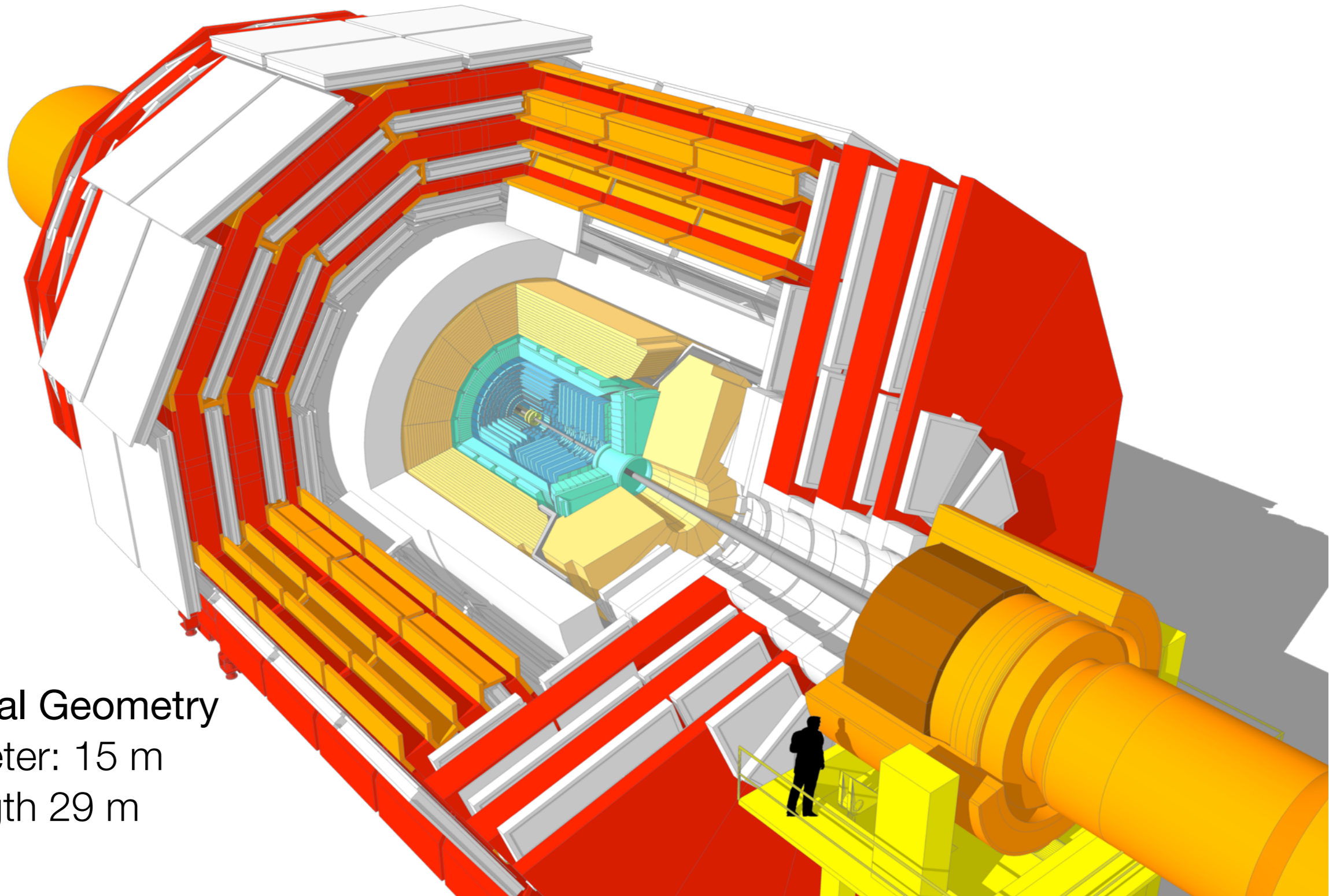
Means we never see the Higgs  
Just it's decay products



# CMS detector design

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Detector goal: detect all stable Standard Model Particles



Cylindrical Geometry

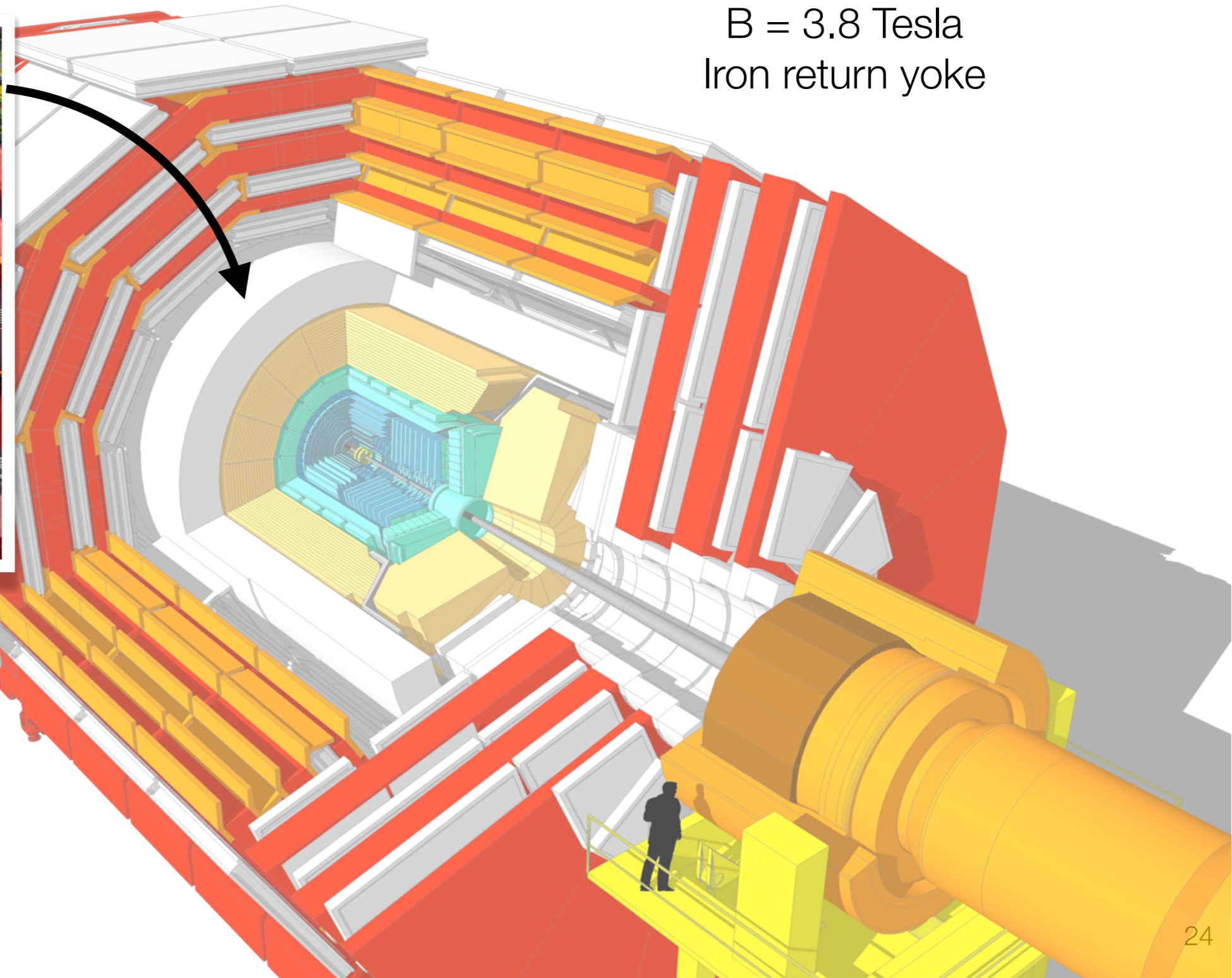
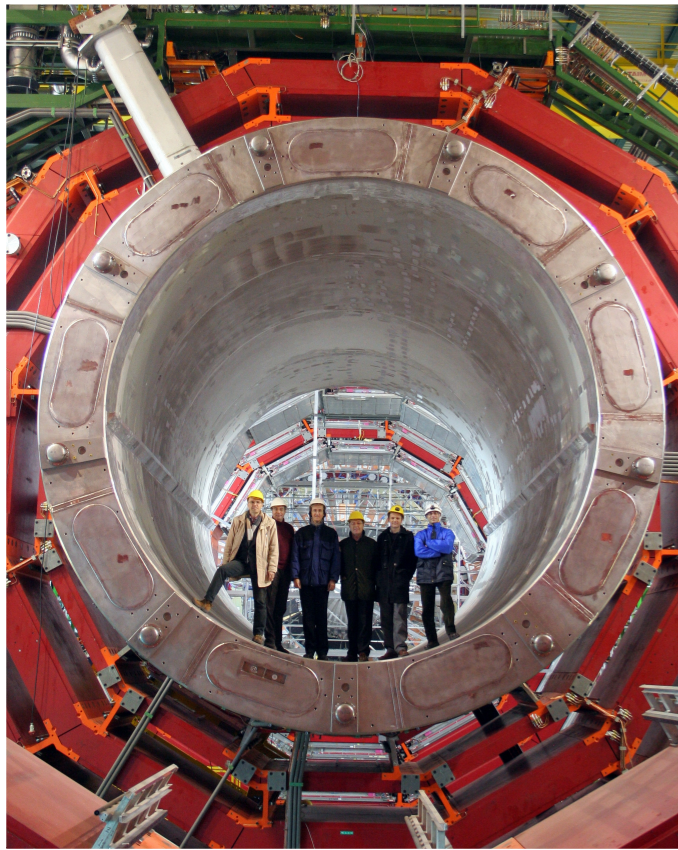
Diameter: 15 m

Length 29 m



# CMS detector design

Superconducting Solenoid  
Largest in the world  
 $B = 3.8$  Tesla  
Iron return yoke



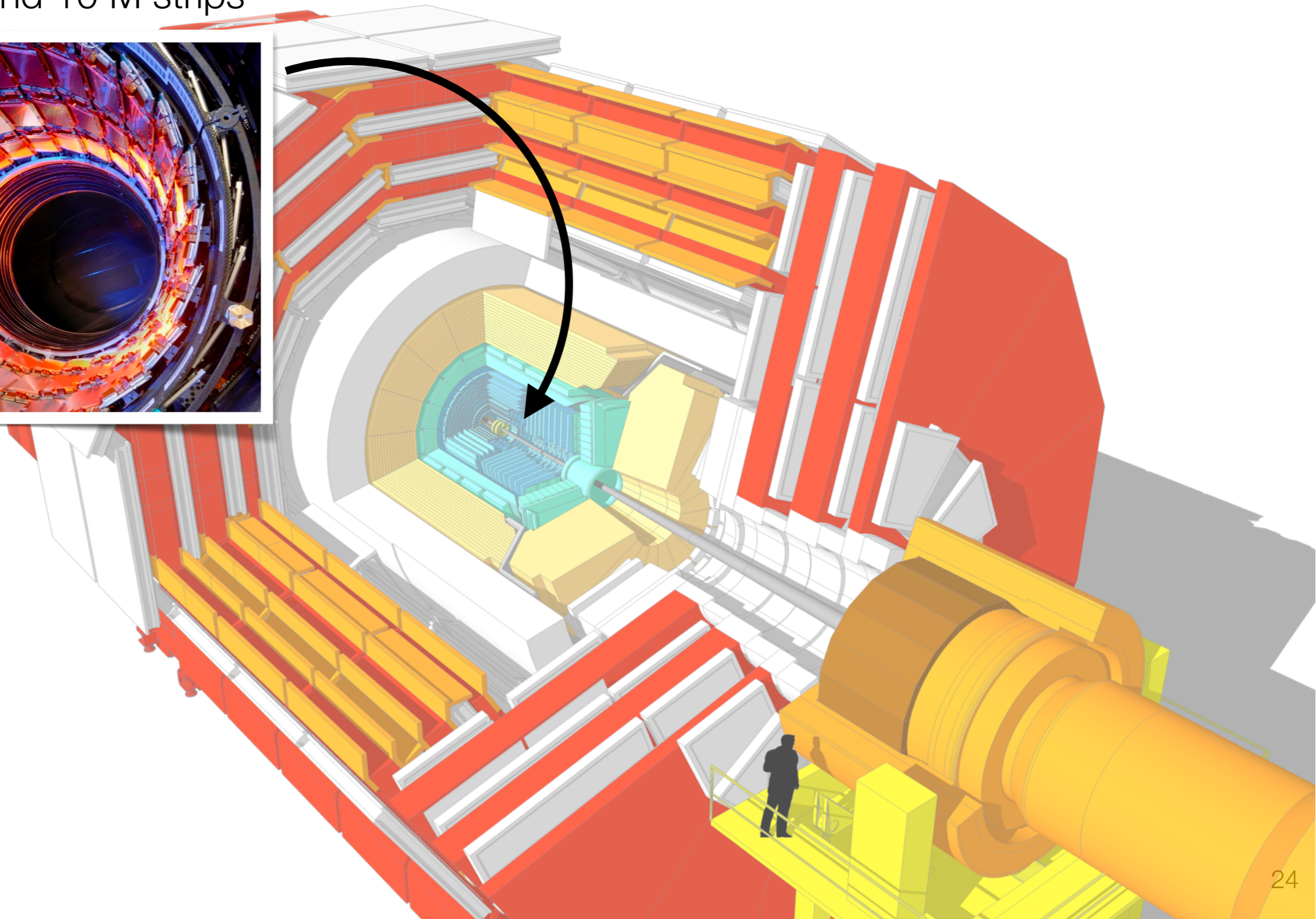
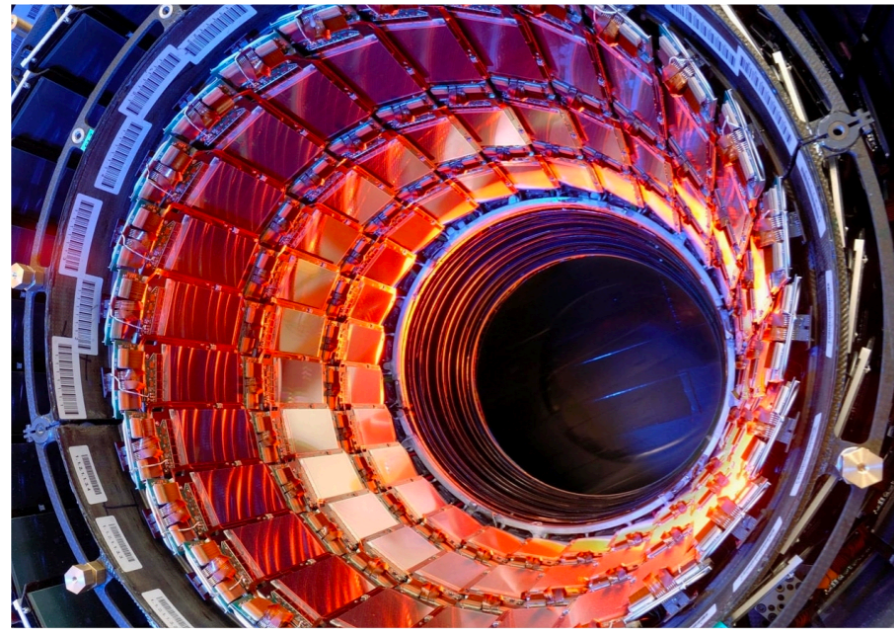
Bends charged particles

$$R = \frac{p}{q \cdot B}$$

# CMS detector design

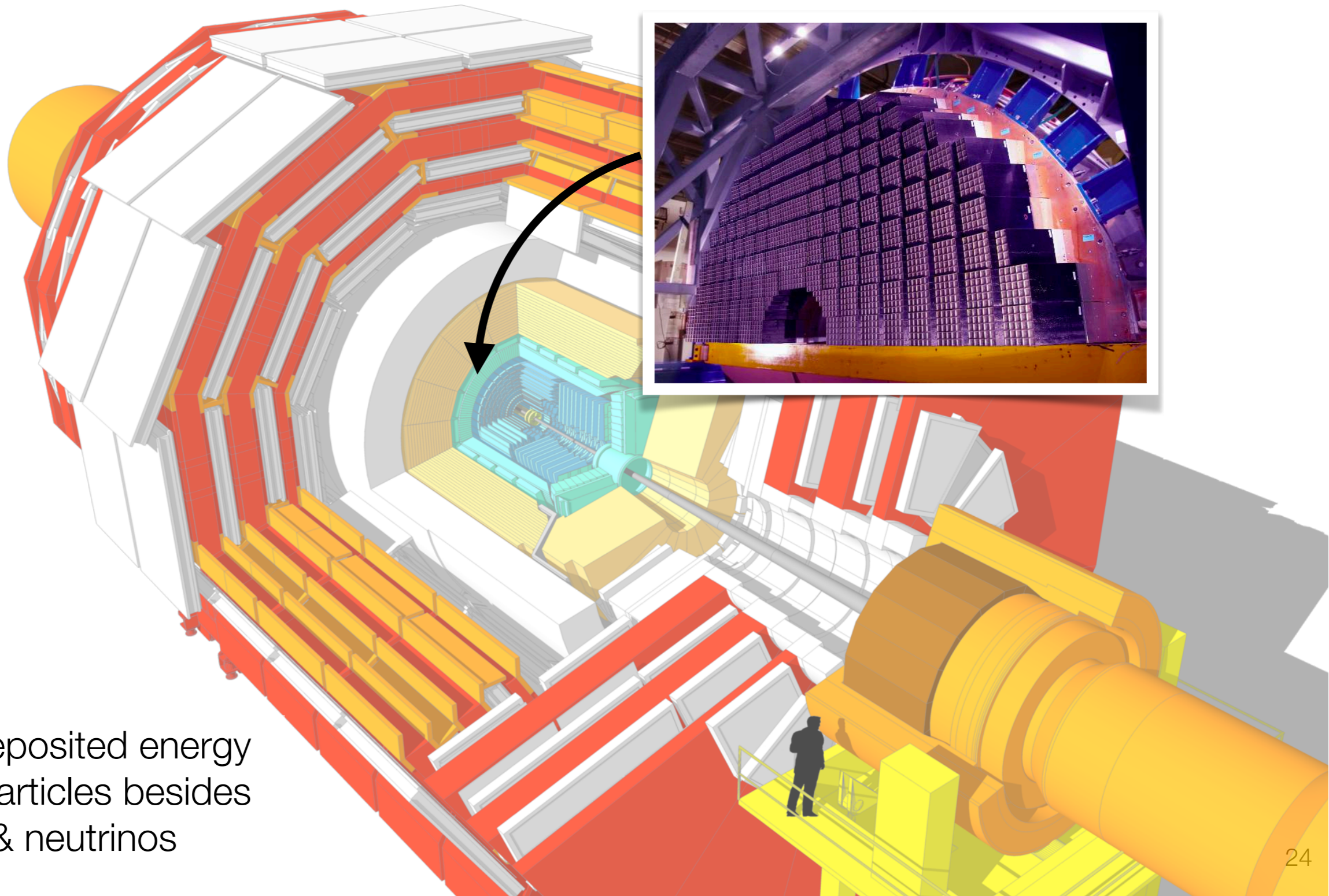
## Silicon Tracker

Trajectories of charged particles  
124 M pixels and 10 M strips



# CMS detector design

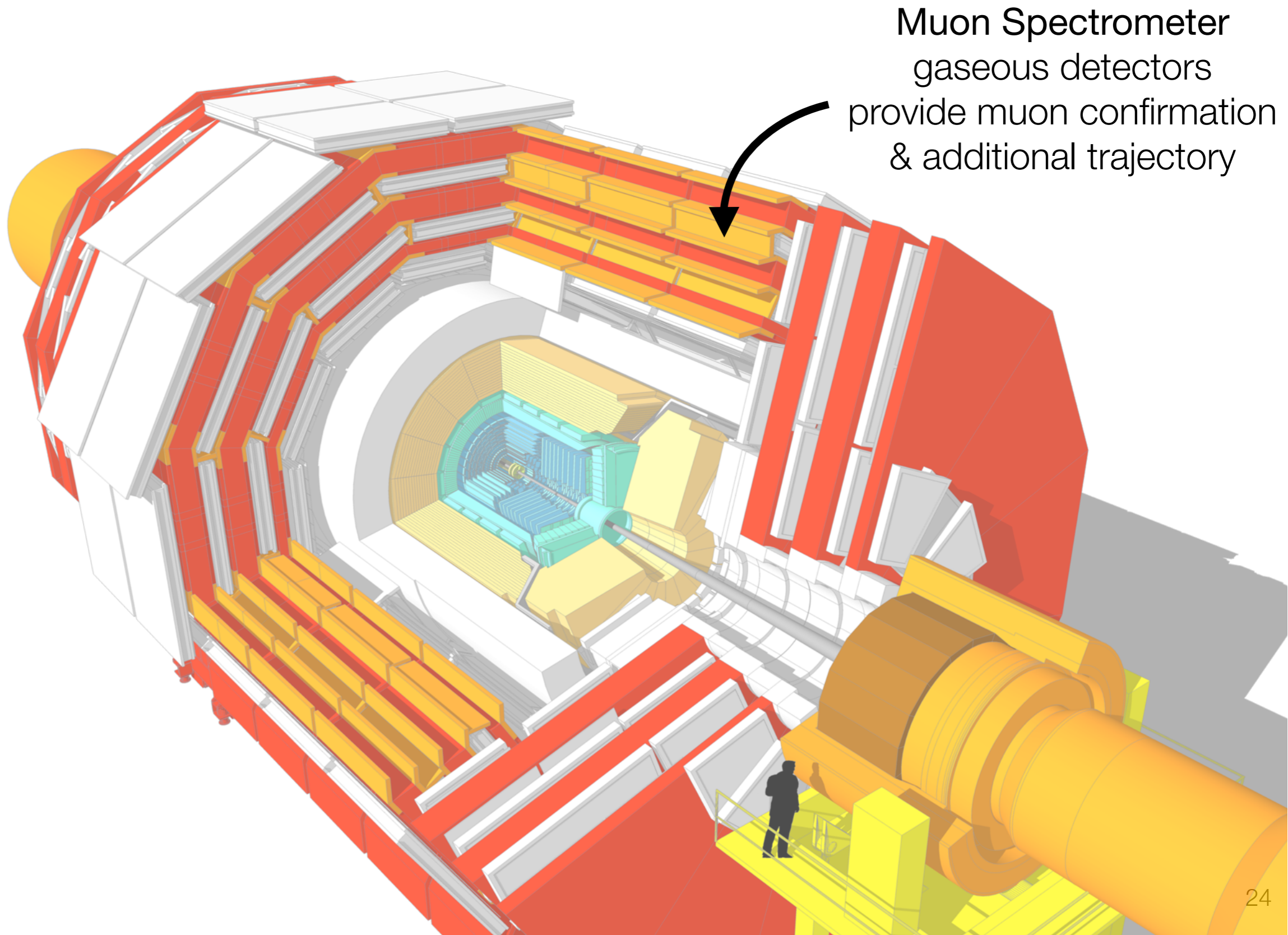
## Electromagnetic and Hadronic Calorimeters



Measures deposited energy  
& stops all particles besides  
muons & neutrinos

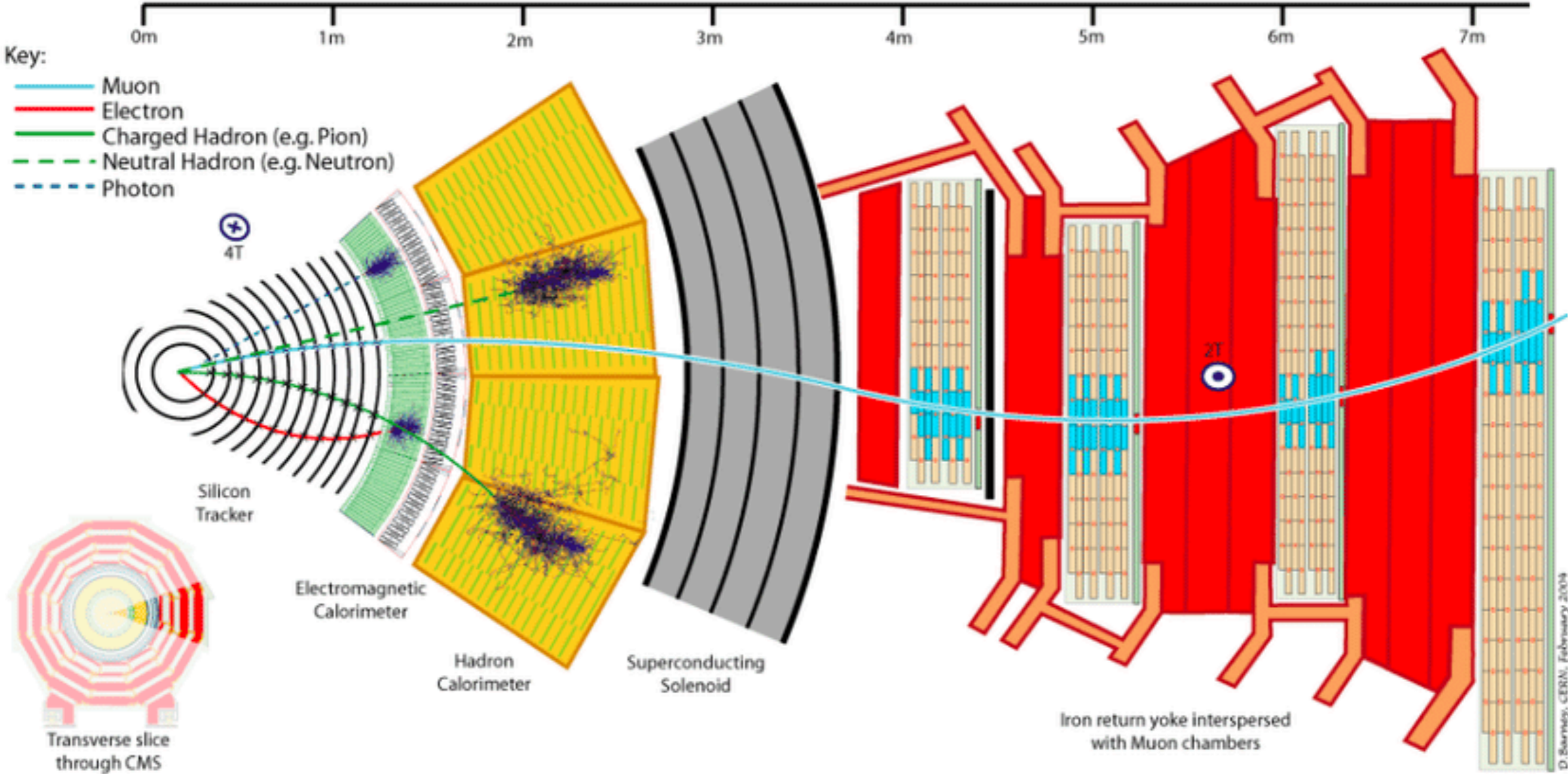
# CMS detector design

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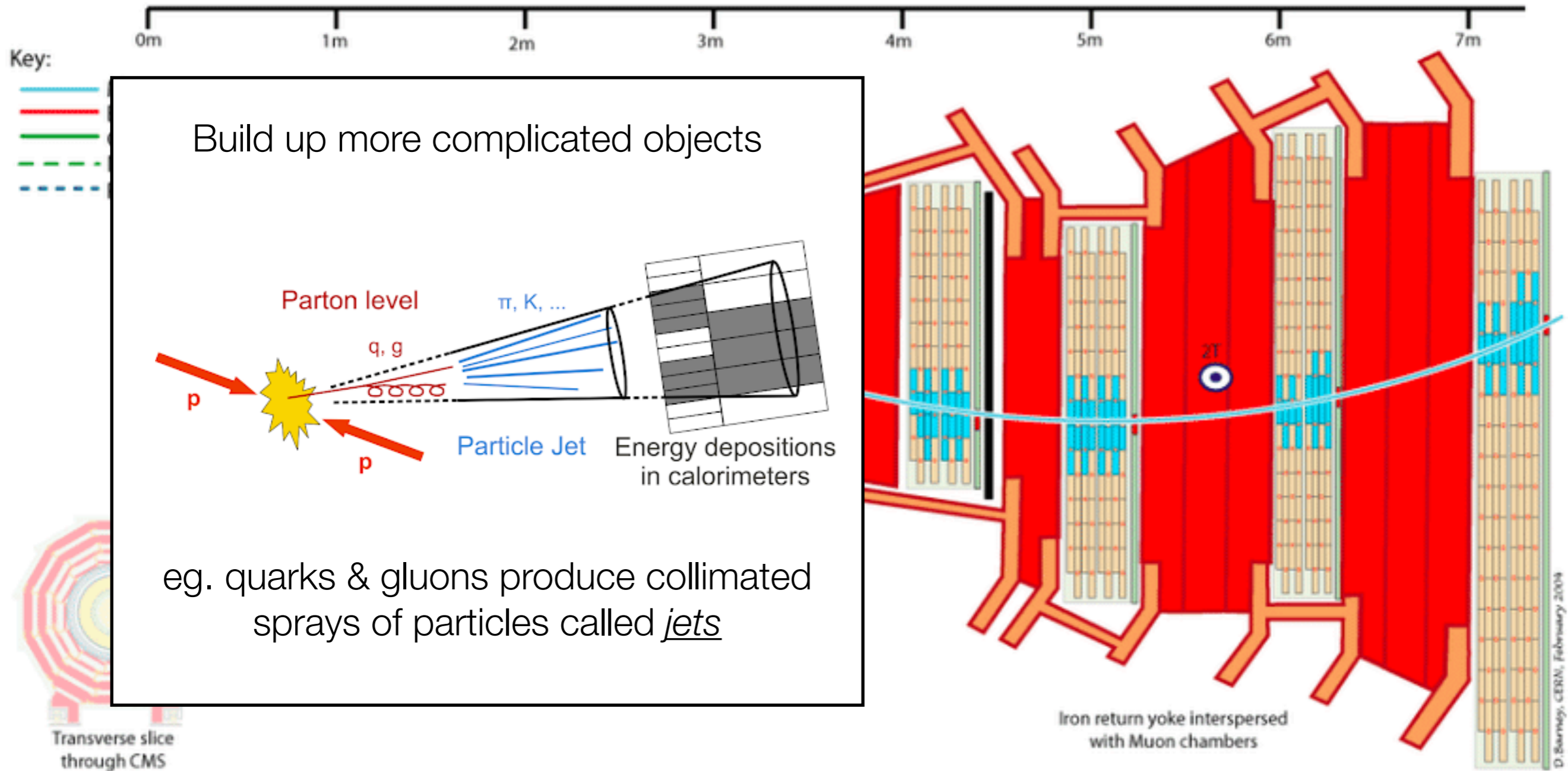


Muon Spectrometer  
gaseous detectors  
provide muon confirmation  
& additional trajectory

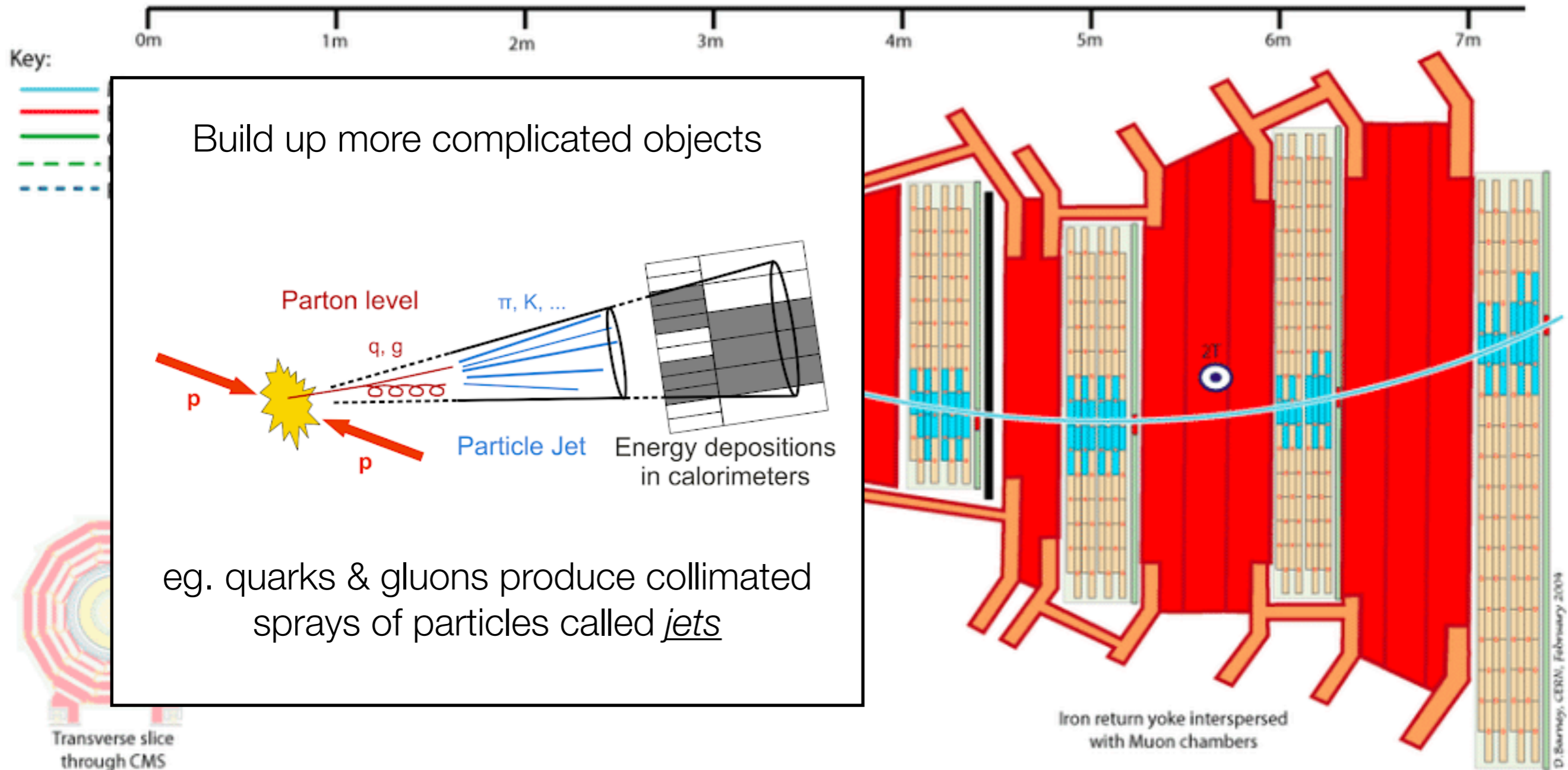
# How we identify particles



# How we identify particles

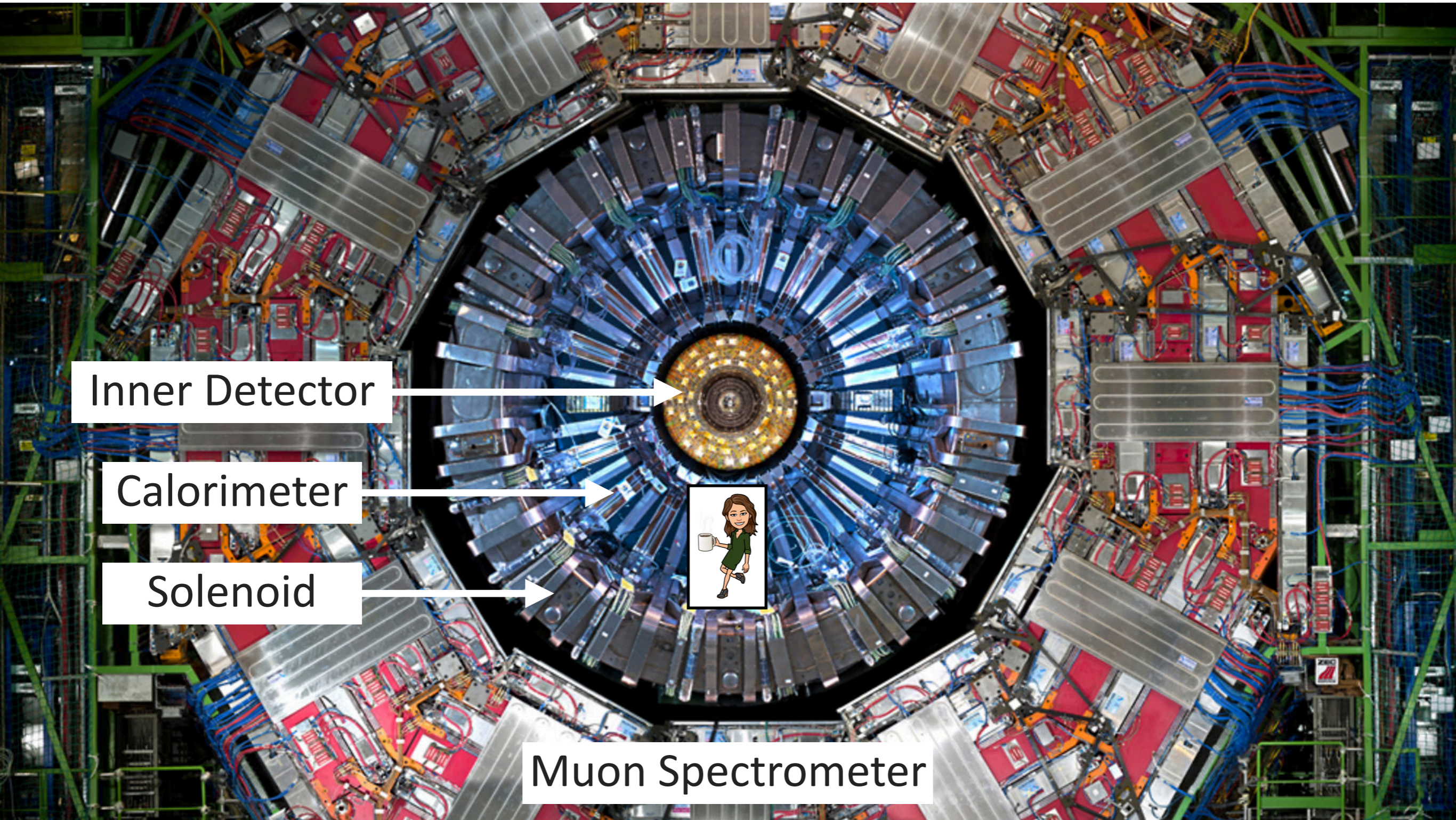


# How we identify particles



And infer the presence of non-interacting particles (neutrinos/dark matter) as missing transverse momentum,  $p_T^{\text{miss}}$

# The real detector!





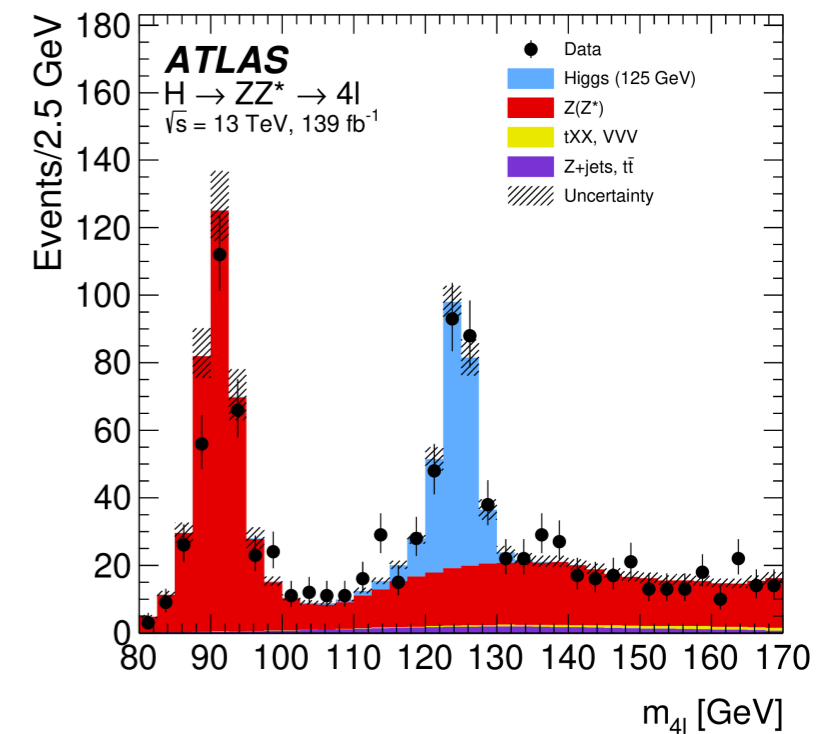
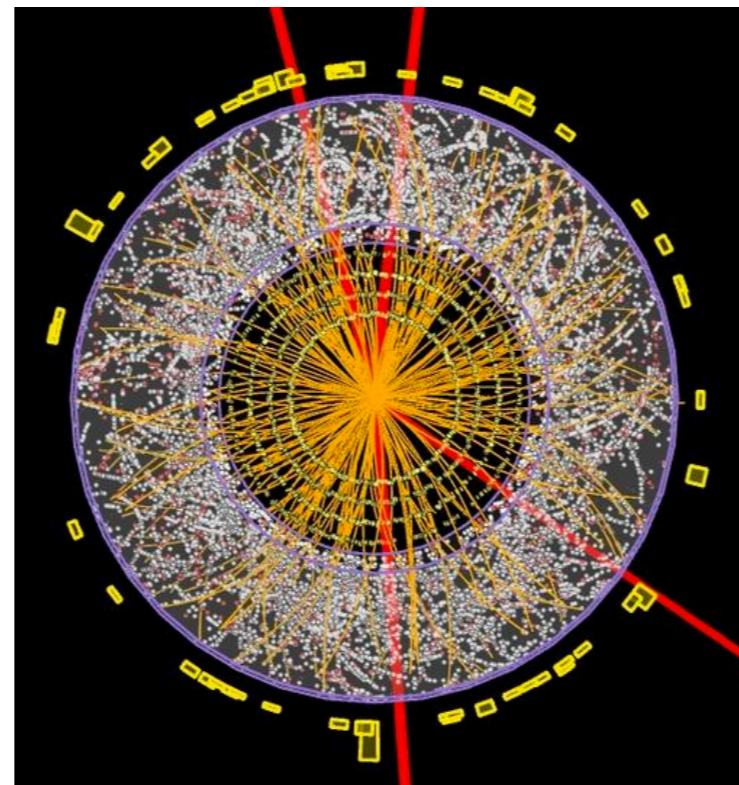
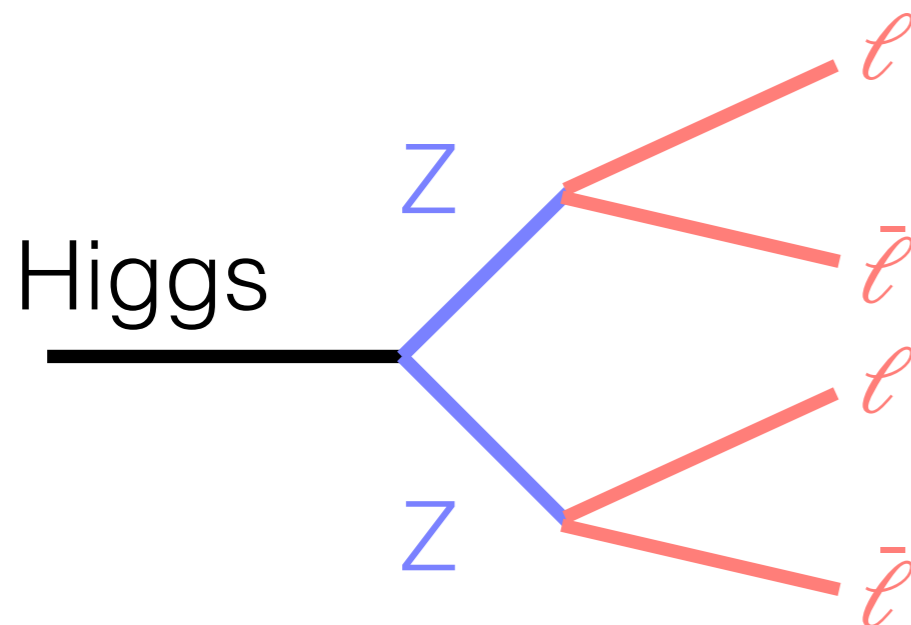
# How we find a Higgs

Select events with 4 leptons (e or  $\mu$ )

Identify pairs of leptons from Z bosons

Compute the Higgs mass

Fill histogram  $\rightarrow$  see a bump!

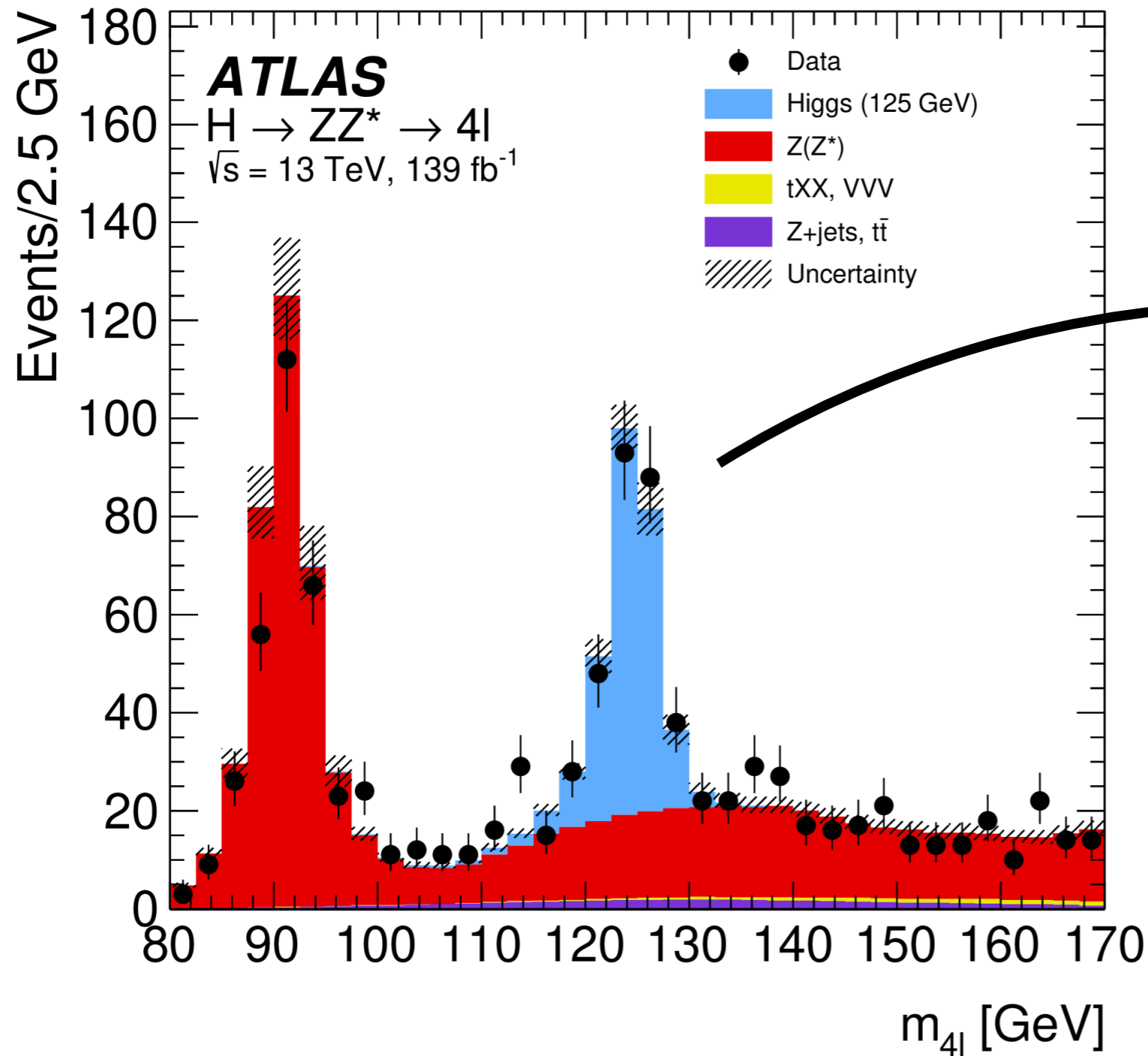


# Challenge #1

The Detector

# Example: How to find a Higgs

arXiv:2004.03969



● Data

What does it take  
to collect this dataset?

What does it take to  
make this plot?

# It's hard work to make a detector

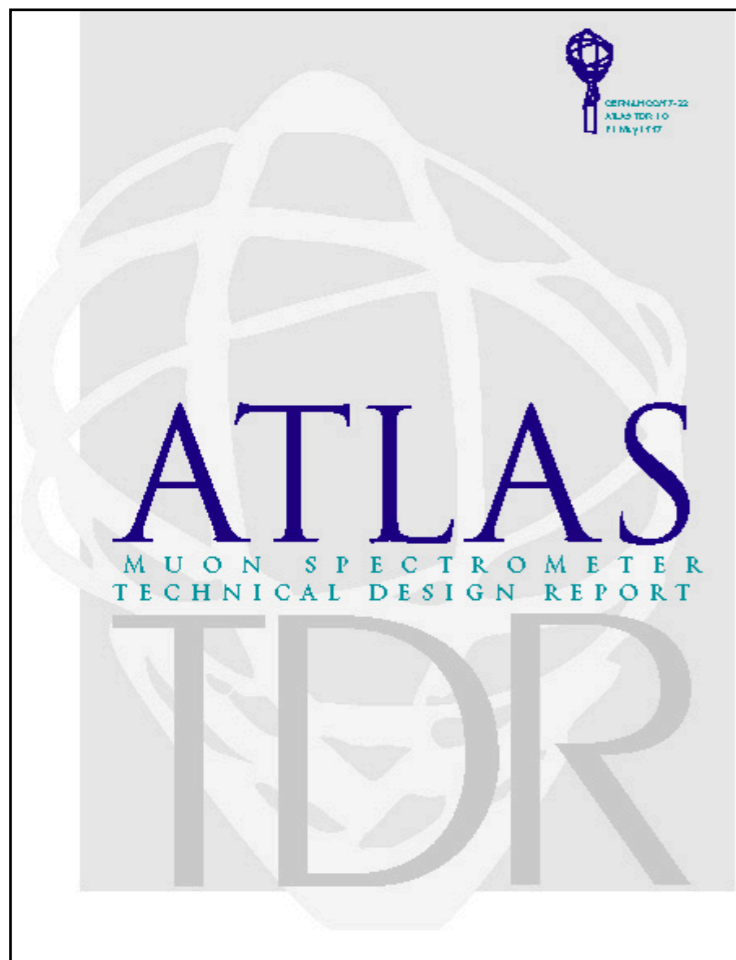
~complete design

1997

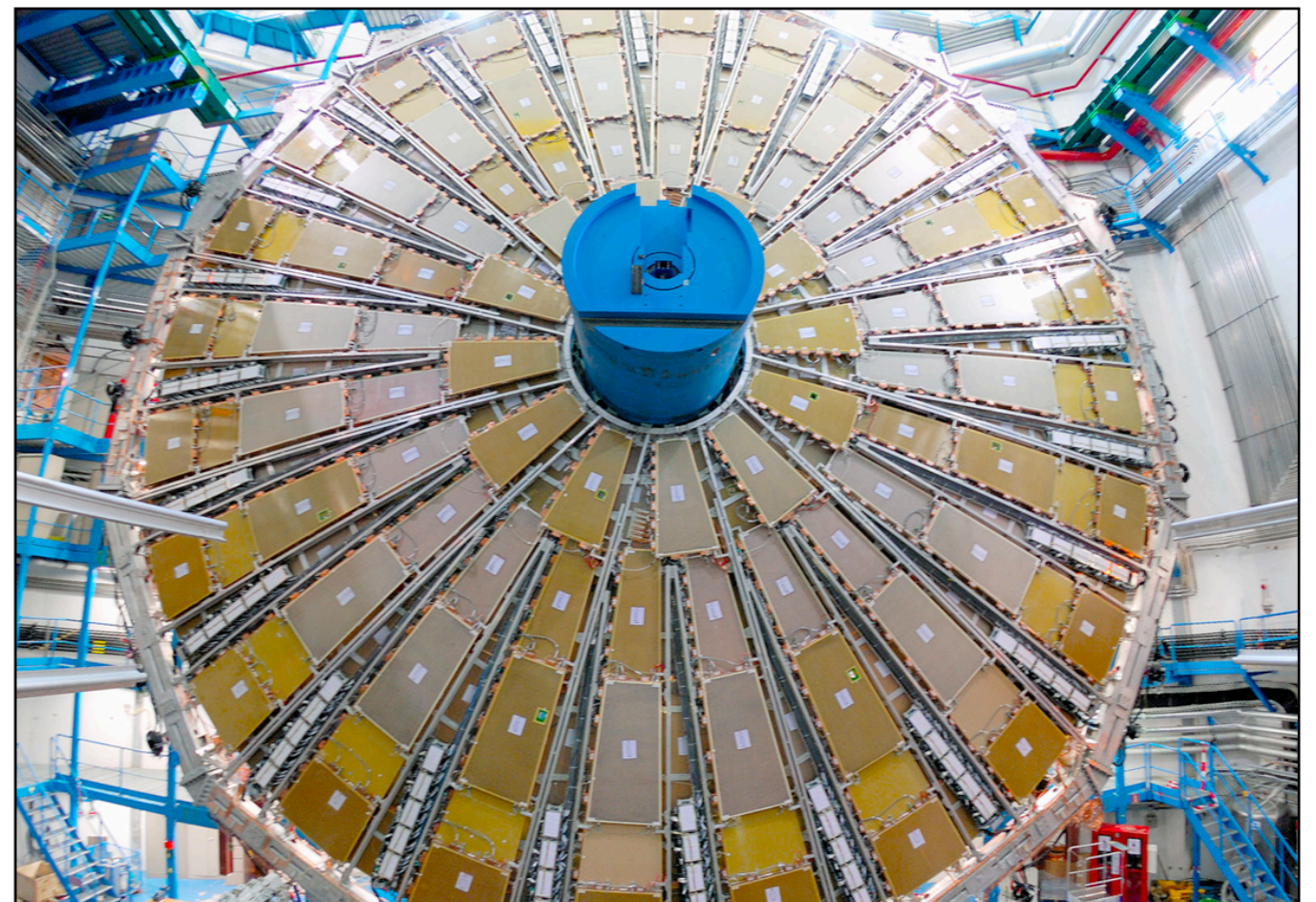
installation

2008

hundreds? of people to build ATLAS Muon Spectrometer



20 m

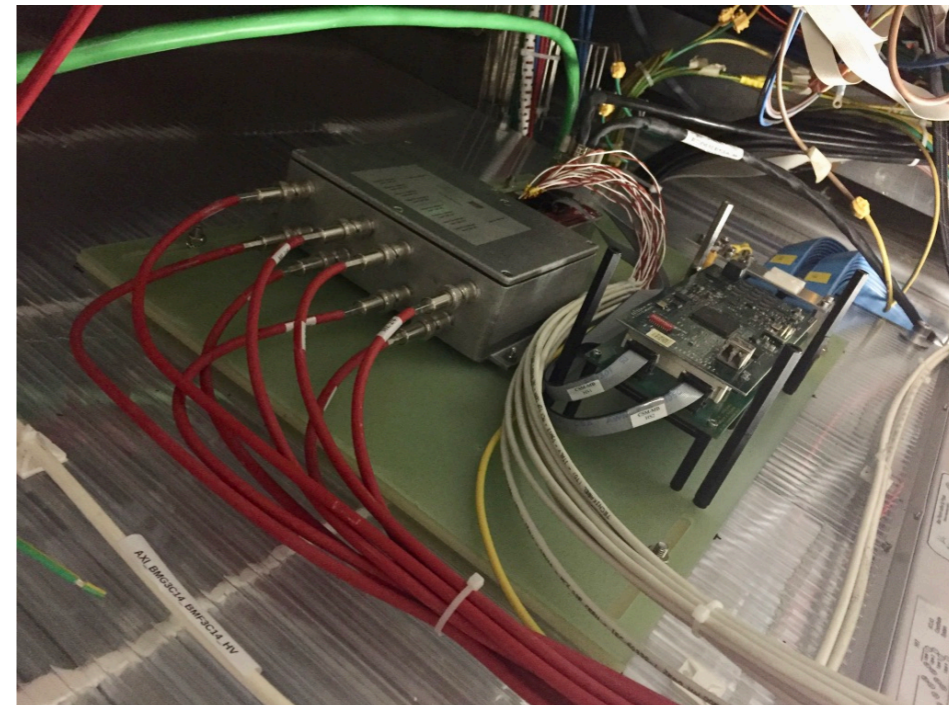
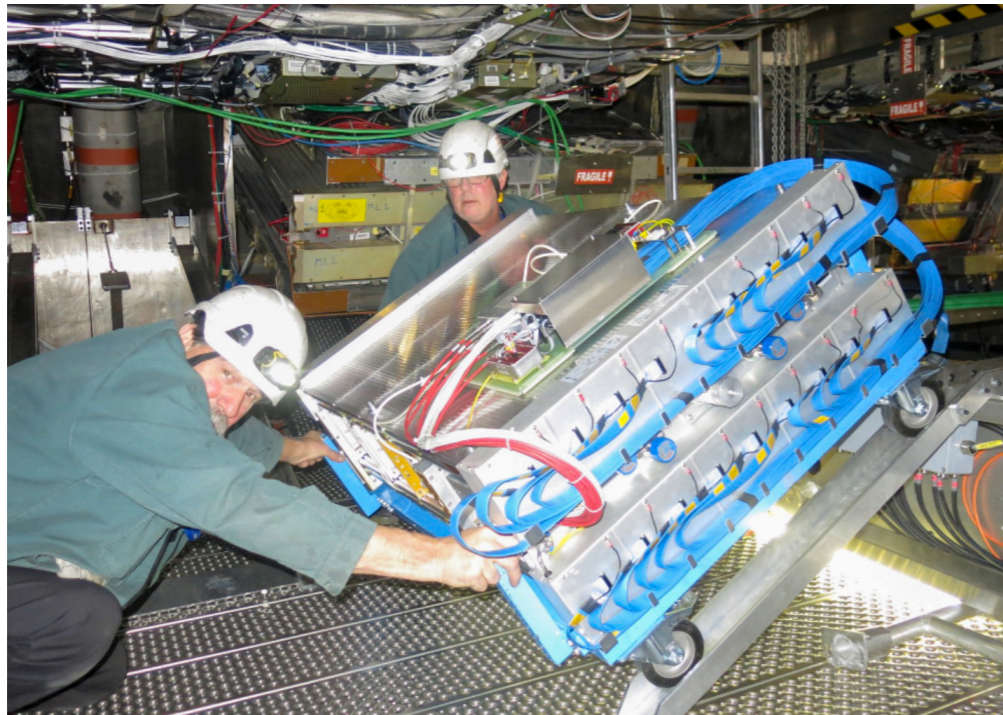


# Even installing one chamber is hard



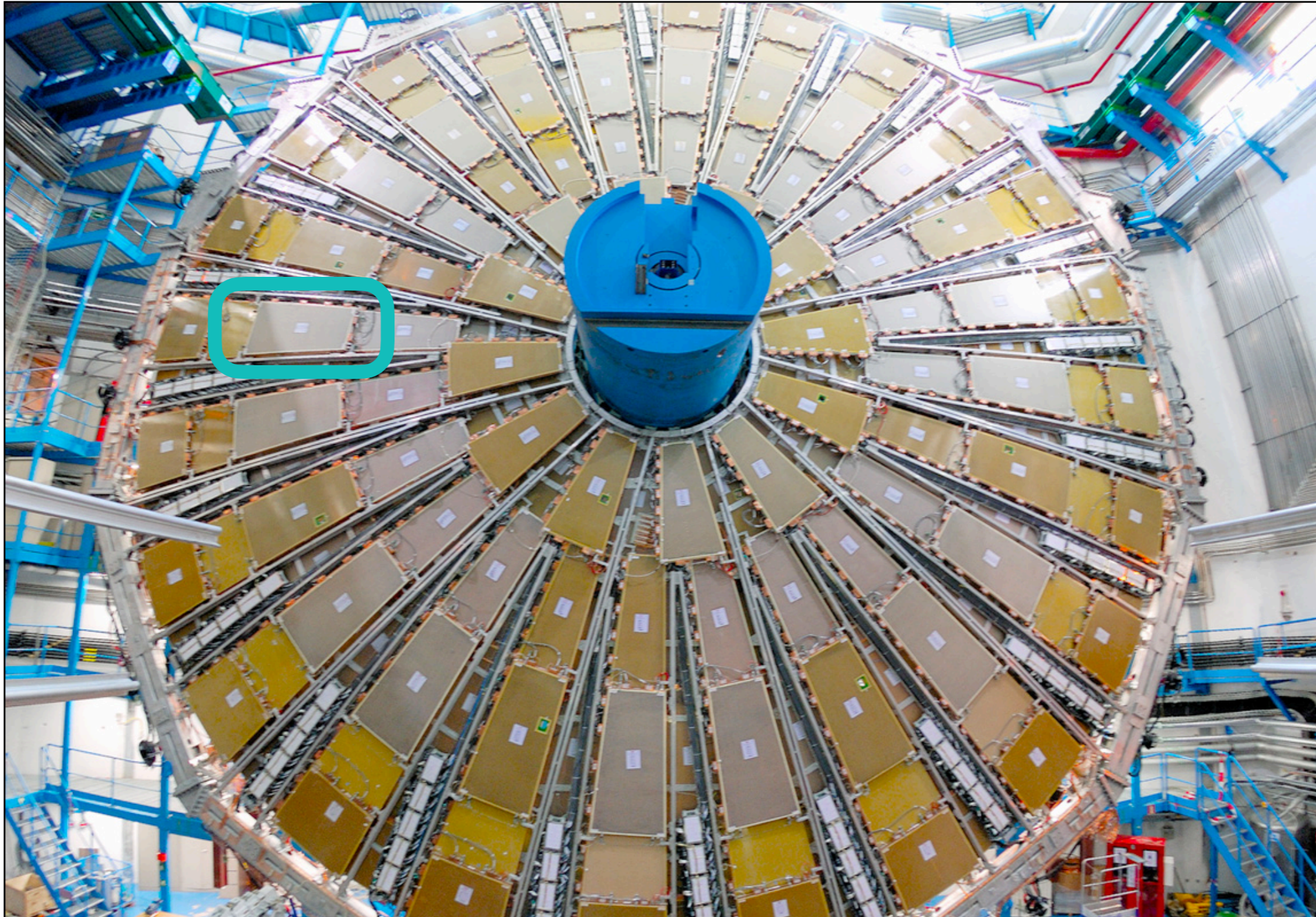
It probably takes 2 weeks per chamber to go from the surface inside ATLAS/CMS to be fully connected and turned ON

if nothing breaks...



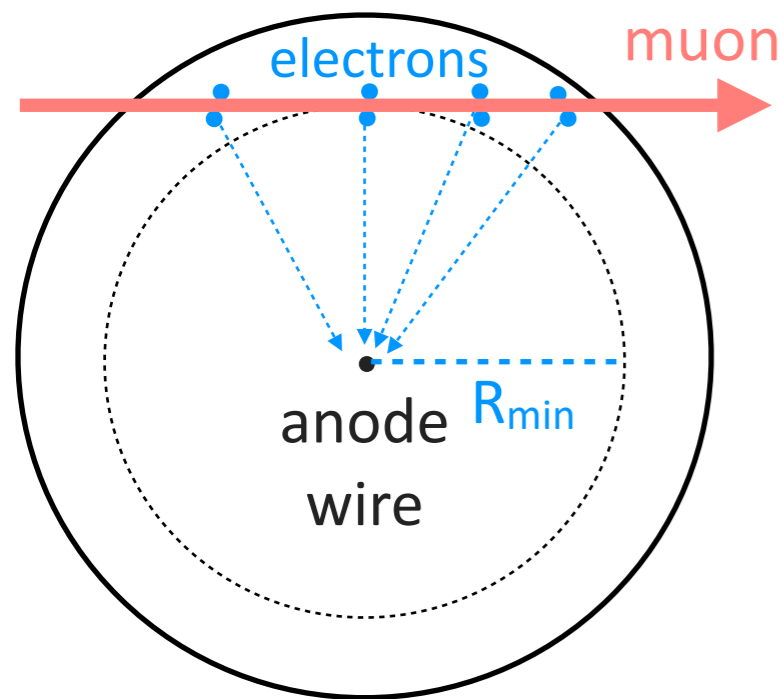
# There are thousands of chambers

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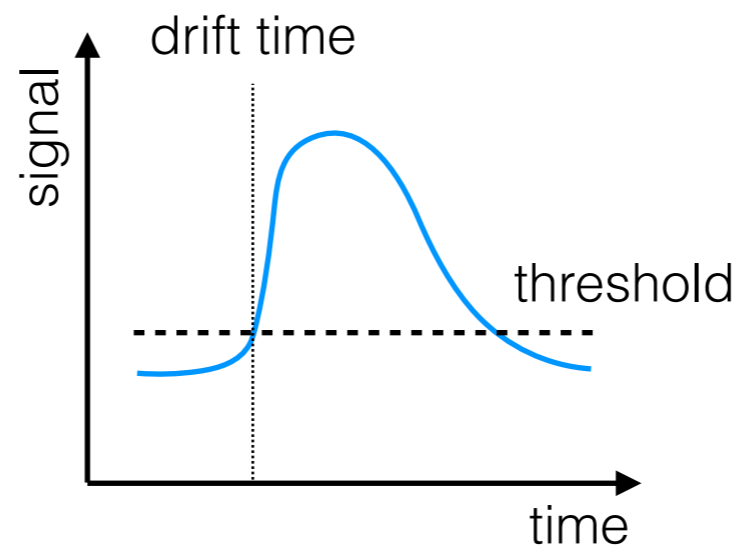


# How a detector works

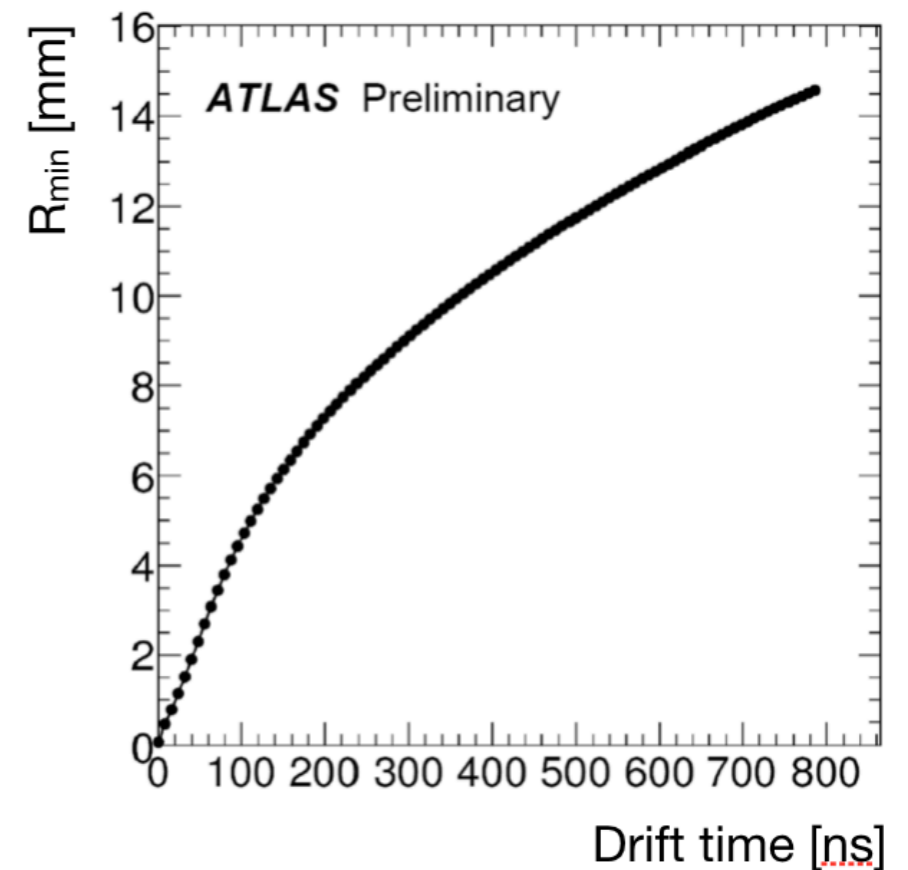
Muon chambers are made up of drift tubes  
a single drift tube → position measurement



cathode tube  
3 cm diameter



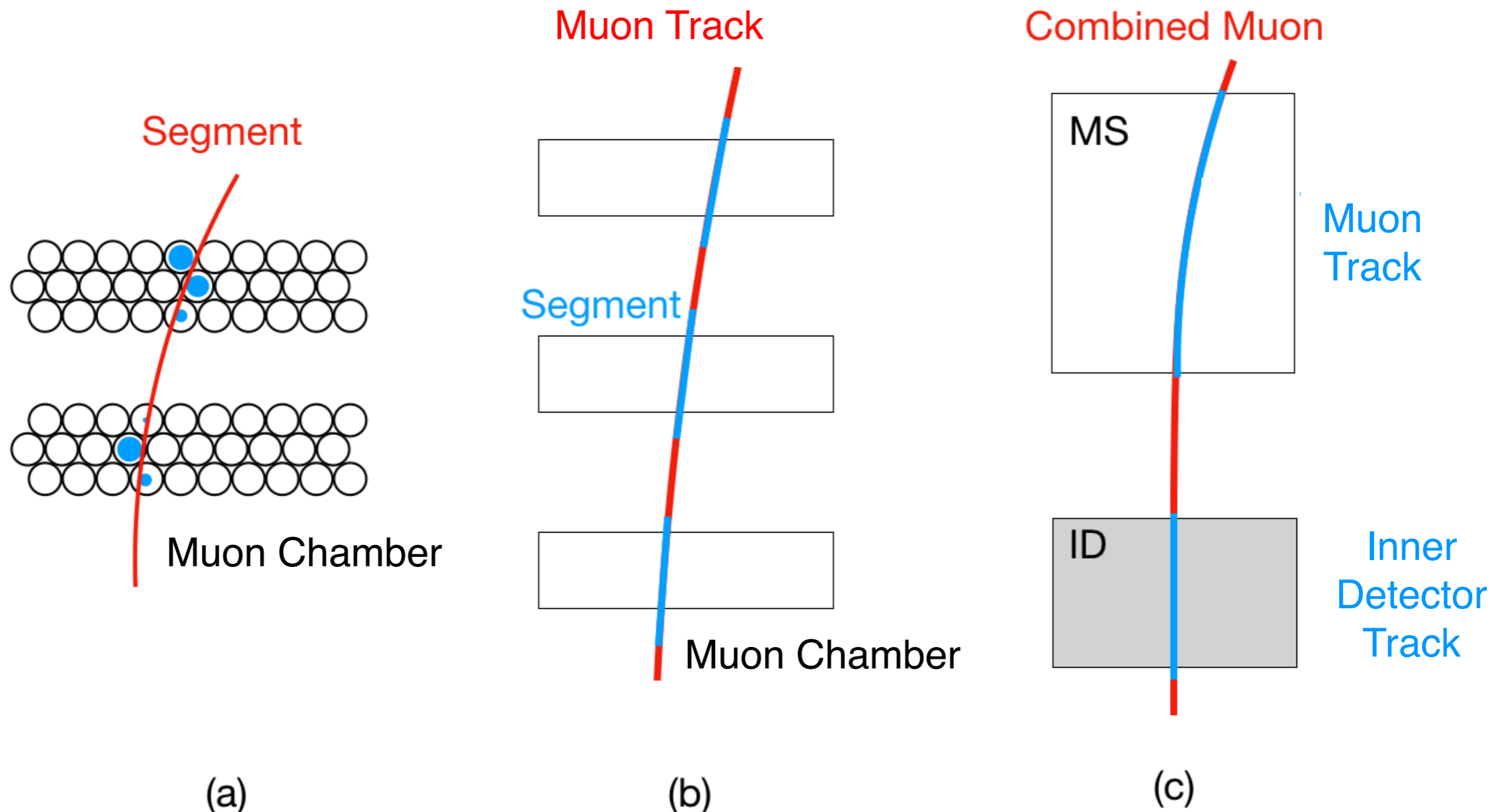
after some electronics  
signal shaping



ATLAS has 300,000 muon drift tubes  
The entire ATLAS detector has 100 million electronic channels!

# Reconstructing particles

Then we take our signals and reconstruct them into muons

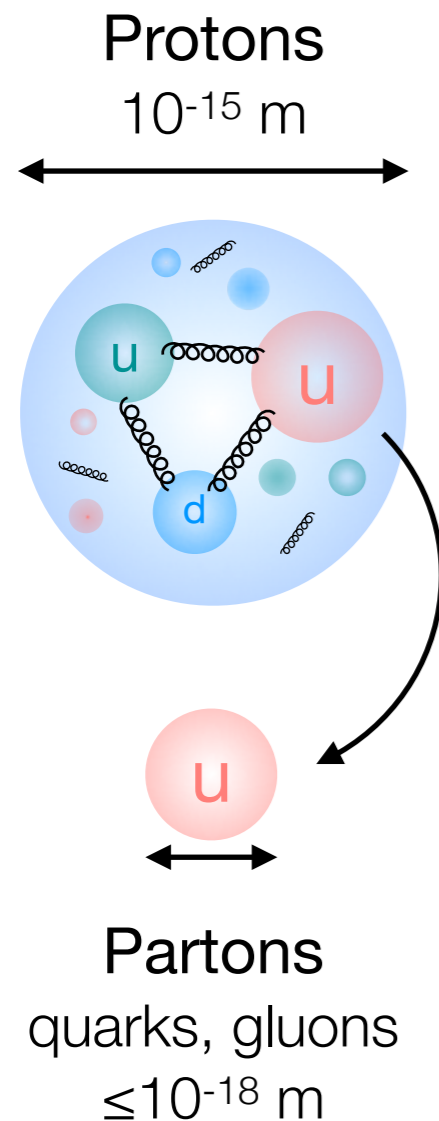




# Challenge #2

The Event Rate

# Protons = composite particles



LHC actually collides quarks/gluons  
*carry a fraction of proton's momentum*

Most collisions are low momentum  
not so interesting

Every so often we have a "hard" collision

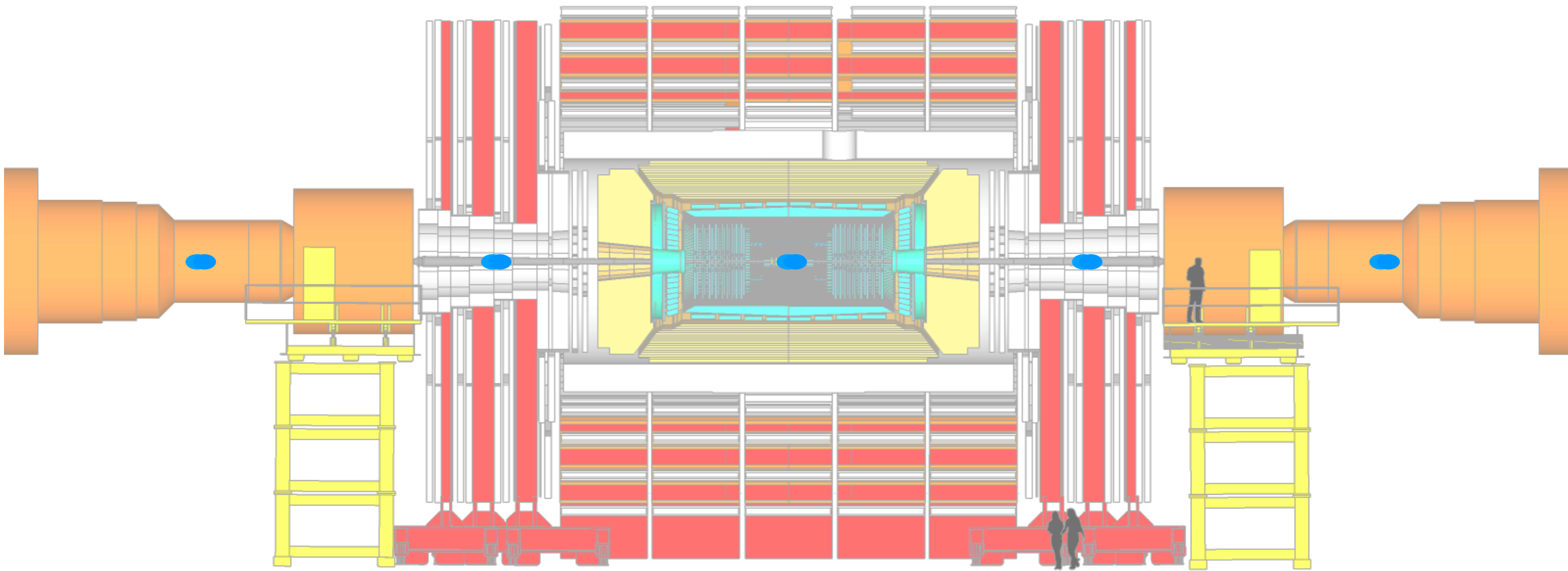
Top pair: ~1 out of 75,000,000

Higgs boson: ~1 out of 1,200,000,000

3.5 TeV Z prime: ~1 out of 120,000,000,000,000

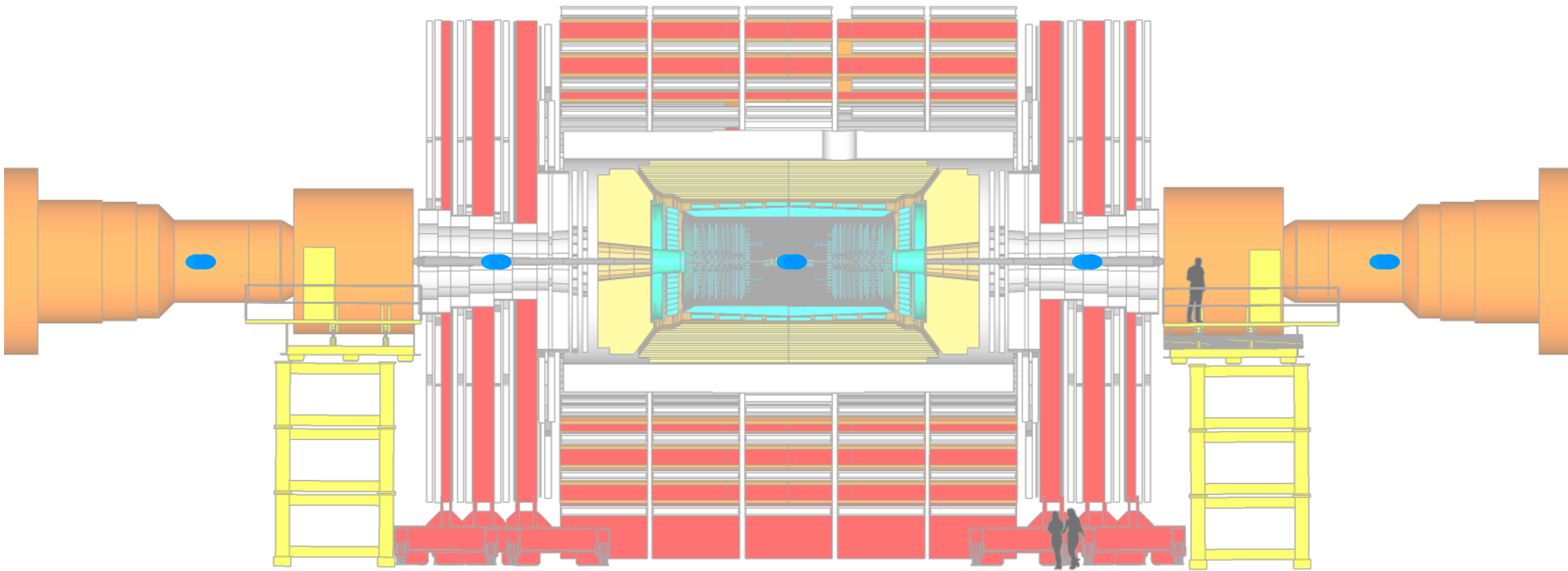
# Collision rates

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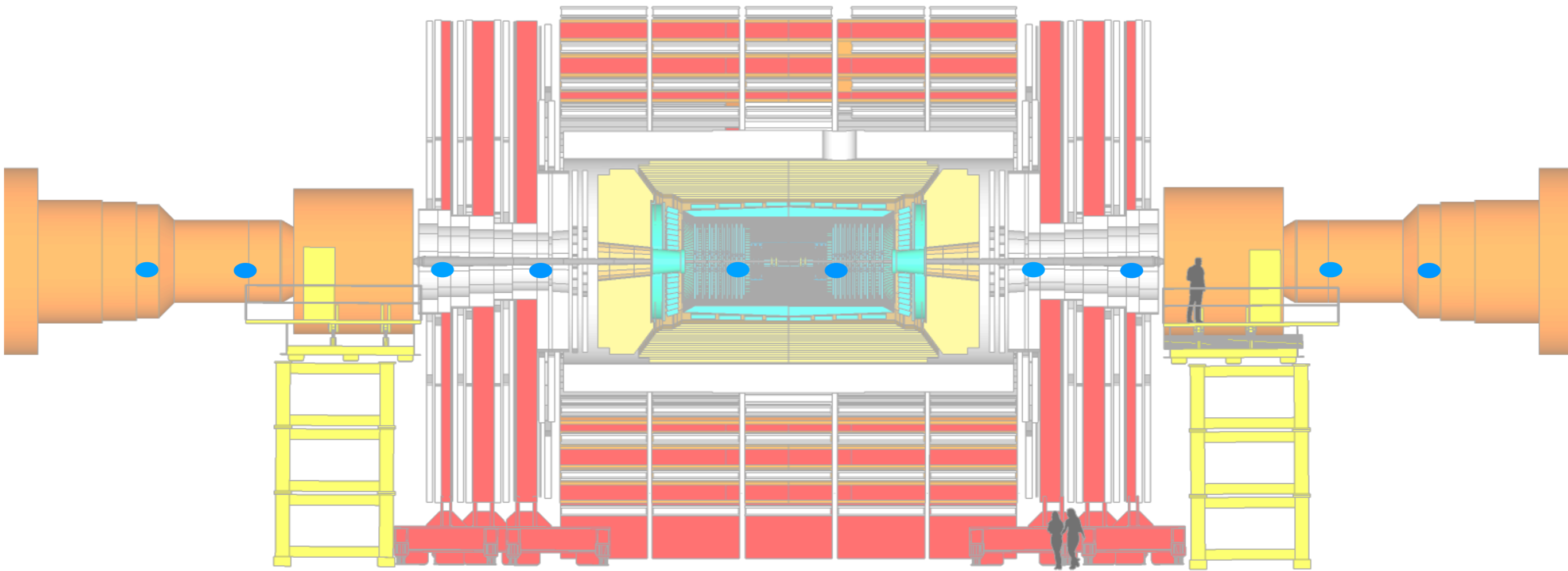
# Collision rates

LHC circulates “bunches” of protons, which collide every 25 ns  
~50 overlapping collisions per event



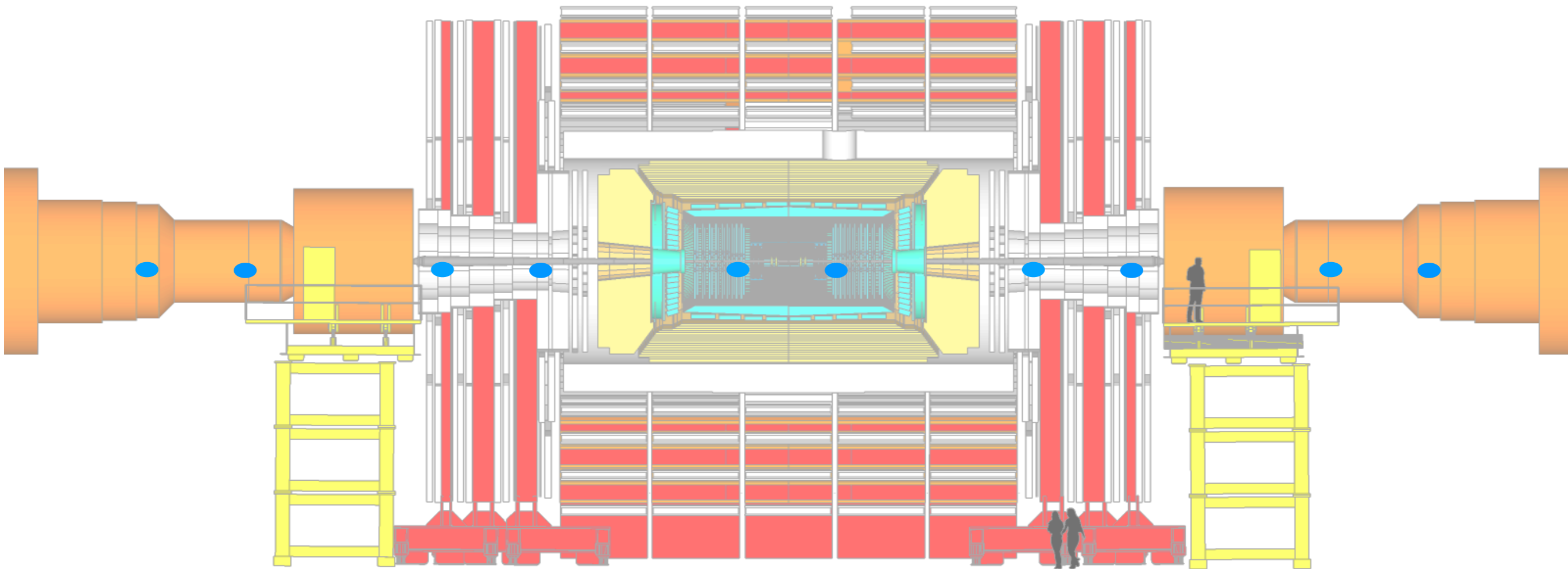
# Collision rates

LHC circulates “bunches” of protons, which collide every 25 ns  
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# Collision rates

LHC circulates “bunches” of protons, which collide every 25 ns  
~50 overlapping collisions per event



Imagine speeding that up (2 billion collisions/s)  
and trying to pick out the ~one higgs event!

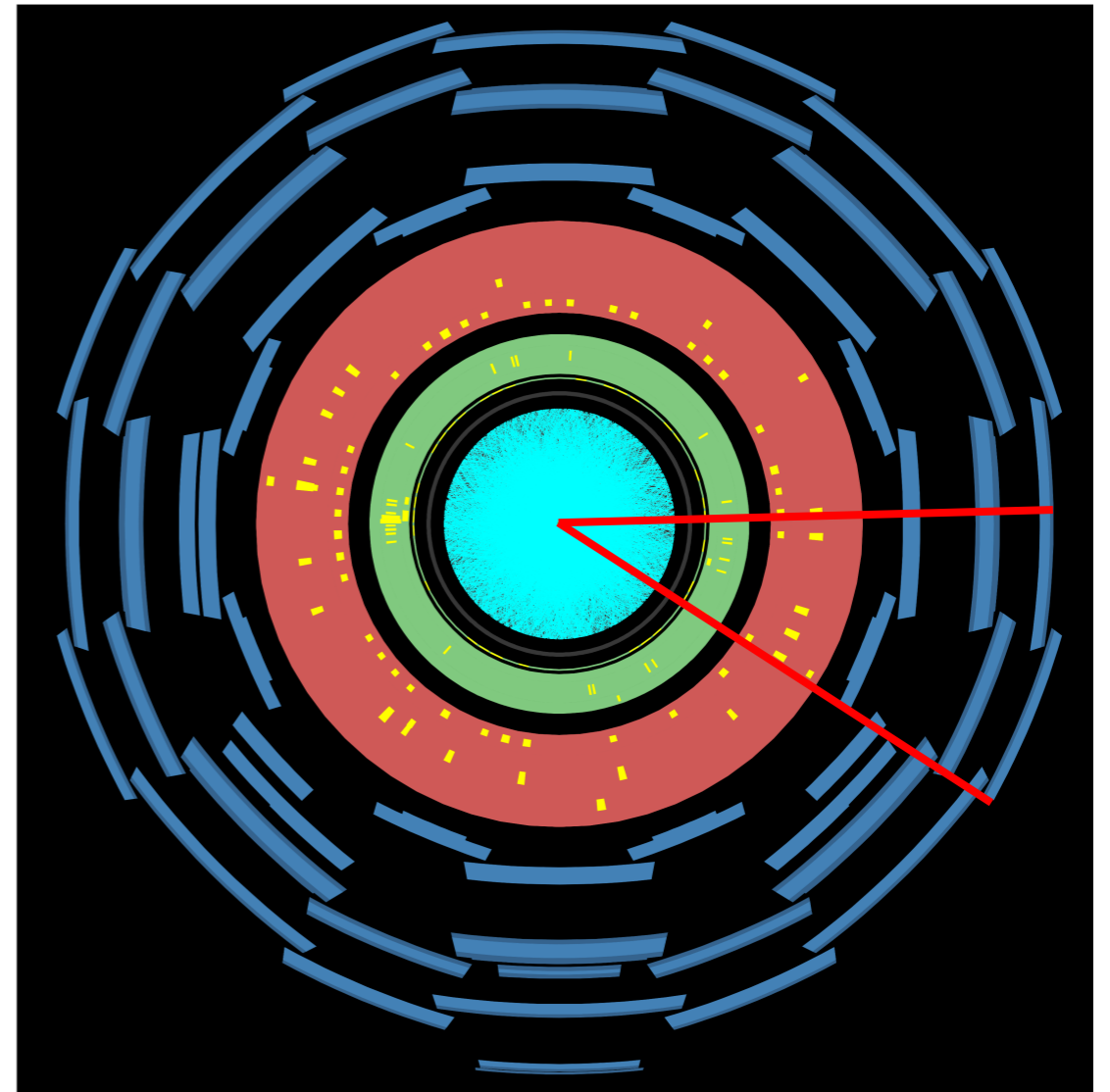
# The trigger challenge

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If we saved every LHC event  
in an hour we'd accumulate  
as much data as as one year of Facebook  
uploads

We can only save one thousand  
events (or crossings) per second

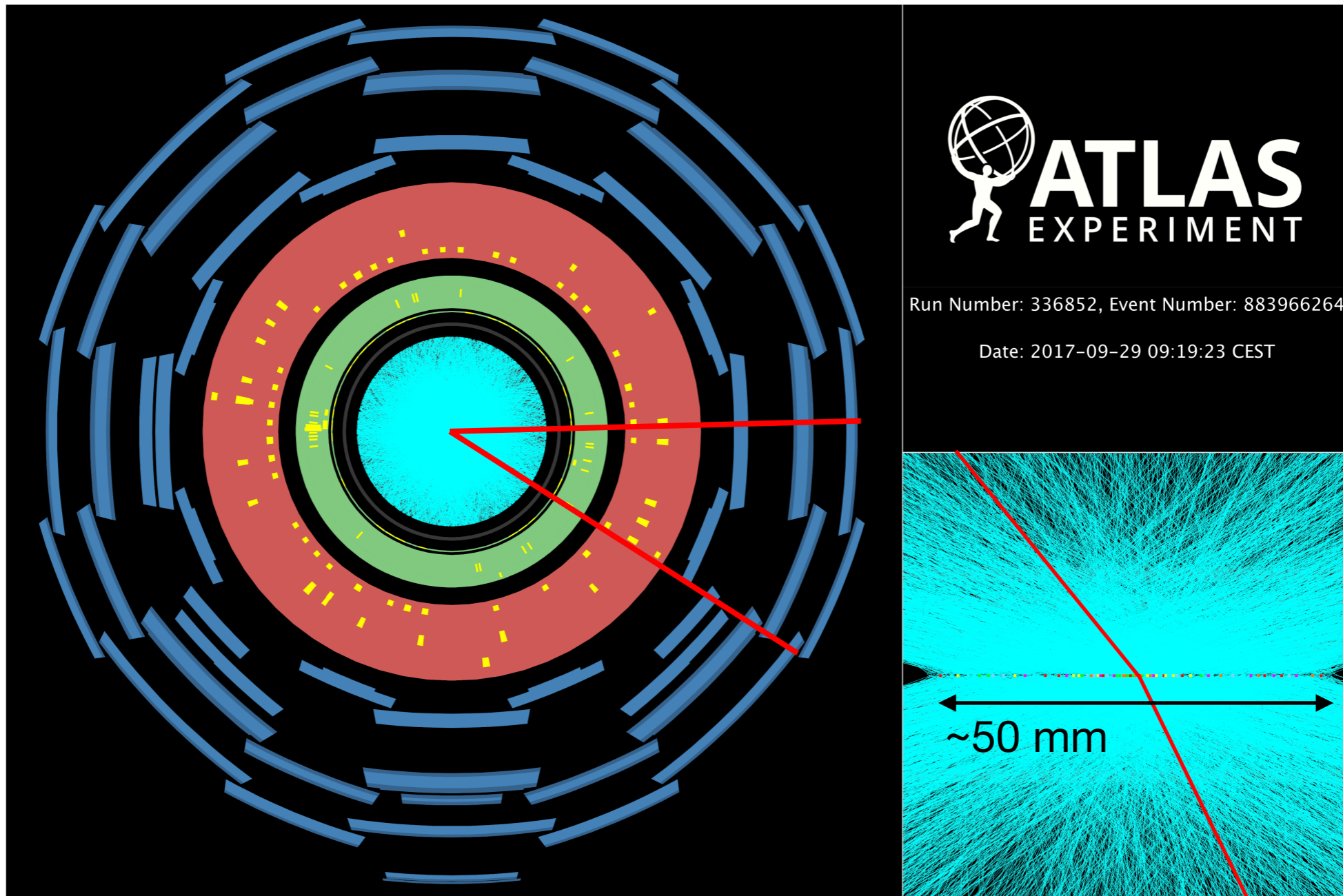
Can only select  $\sim 1$  in a million collisions  
And we need to do it quickly!



How can we pick out the interesting events?

# The pile-up challenge

LHC events are busy!



A 2017  $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$  candidate,  
with 65 additional “pile-up” vertices



# Trigger = two step process

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Step 1.

coarse muon and calorimeter  
information

decision time:  $3.2 \mu\text{s}$

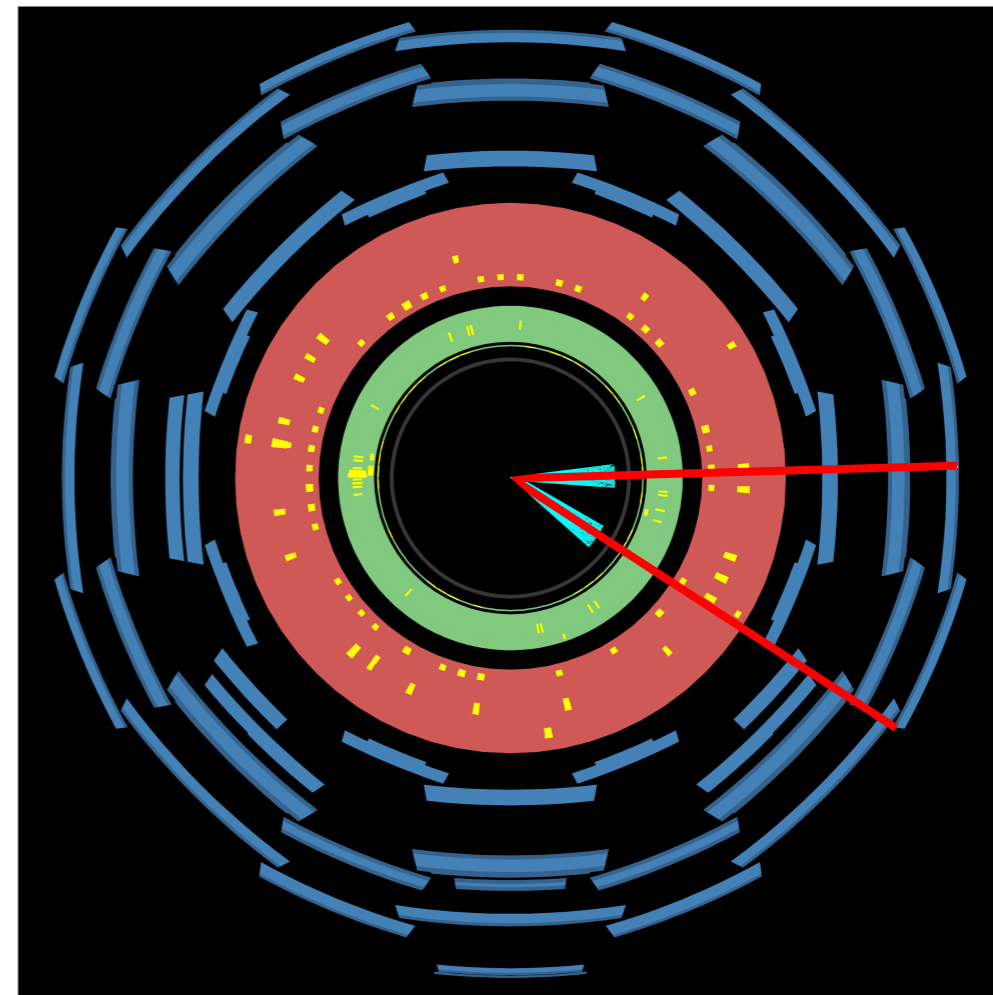
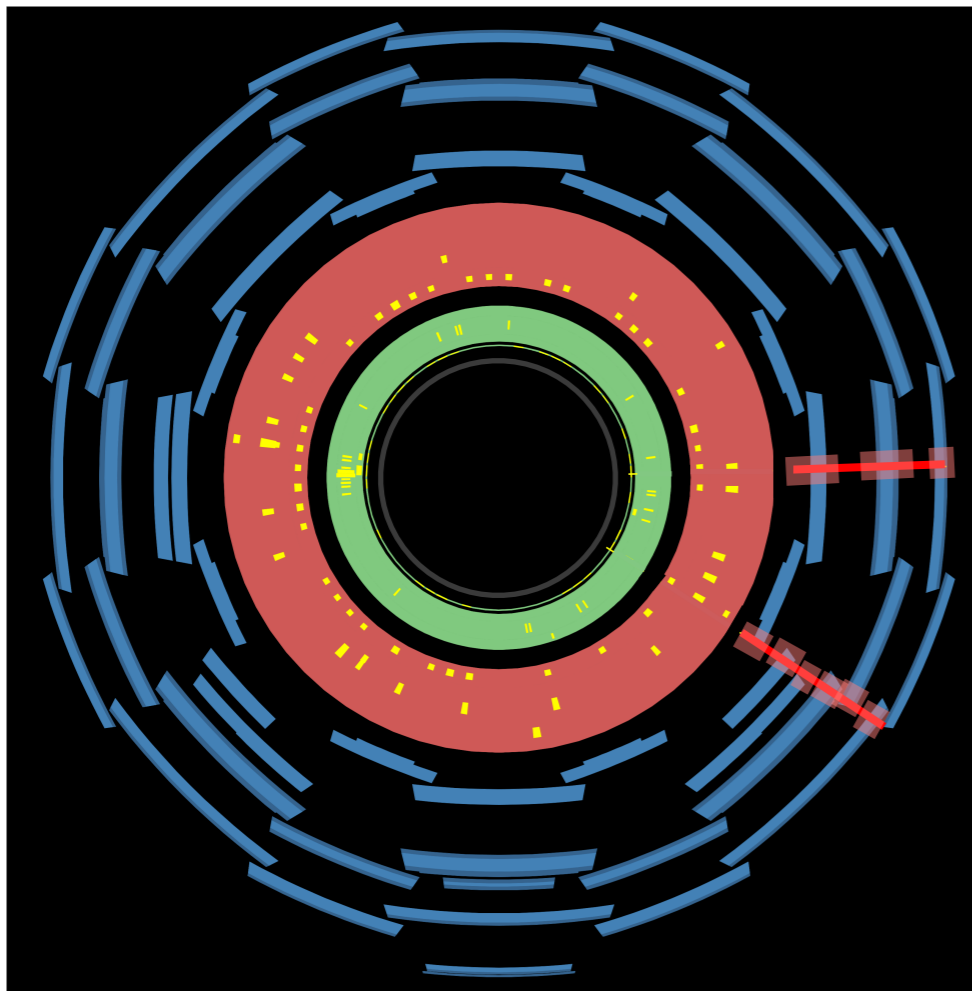
keeps 1/400 crossings

Step 2.

nearly full detector in  
region of interest

decision time: 200 ms

keeps 1/100 crossings



# No room for error!

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**Data taking is a high stakes environment**

If the trigger throws your event away, it's lost forever

If something goes wrong with your detector  
can't use that data for physics



**ATLAS and CMS take  
data 24/7**

8 shifters in the Control Room  
~30 people reachable by phone

Teams of experts who  
work to maintain detectors

Teams of experts who  
work to maintain computers

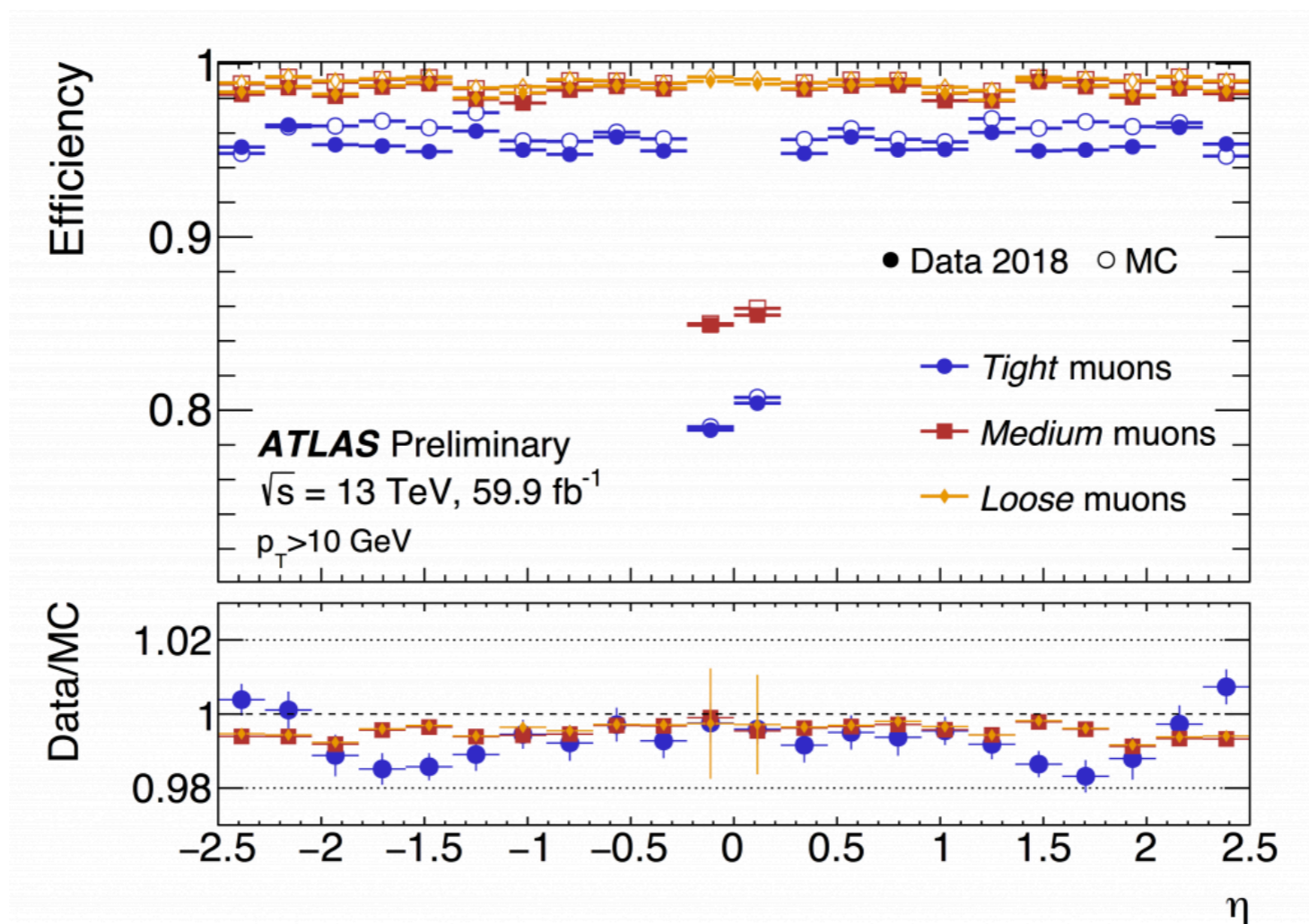
# The work doesn't stop there

## After data taking

Quantify detector performance

Make projections to ensure detectors will keep working

Ensure good agreement between predictions & data



# Requires many people!

## The CMS collaboration

2700 physicists  
900 are students!



## Fermilab's LHC Physics Center

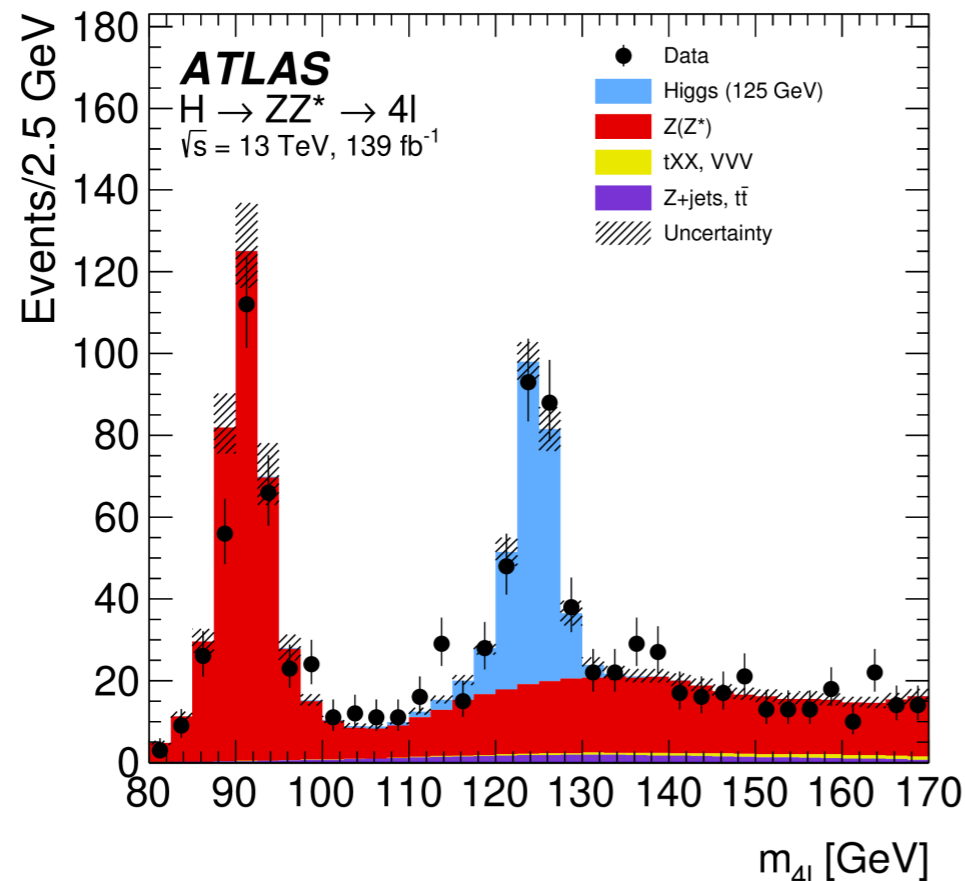
350 users & 100 residents  
from 50 universities



# Finally our data is ready for physics

And it's not just used for one Higgs measurement  
measure top quark mass  
study properties of W/Z bosons  
look for new exotic particles!

Every analysis we do is incredibly rewarding  
and tells us something new about particle physics



=



!

# What's next?

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- **Run 3 + High Luminosity LHC**
  - we've only collected 5% of the LHC's data so far
  - improvements to the ATLAS and CMS detectors
  - could we discover a new rare process or a particles with challenging signatures?
- **Next machine is likely to be a lepton collider**
  - Future Circular Collider
  - Compact Linear Collider
  - International Linear collider
  - Muon Collider???
- **We should know more soon!**
  - European Strategy Report in favor of future lepton collider
  - US Snowmass process is ongoing



# Conclusions

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- Standard Model isn't complete picture of the universe
- High energy particle colliders are
  - one of the most effective ways to look for new particles
  - and to do measurements which try to “break” the Standard Model
- Being a scientist at the Large Hadron Collider means
  - you have MANY wonderful collaborators
  - working together on fun detector, trigger, and analysis challenges
- The future is bright: new physics could be lurking just around the corner!





# BACKUP

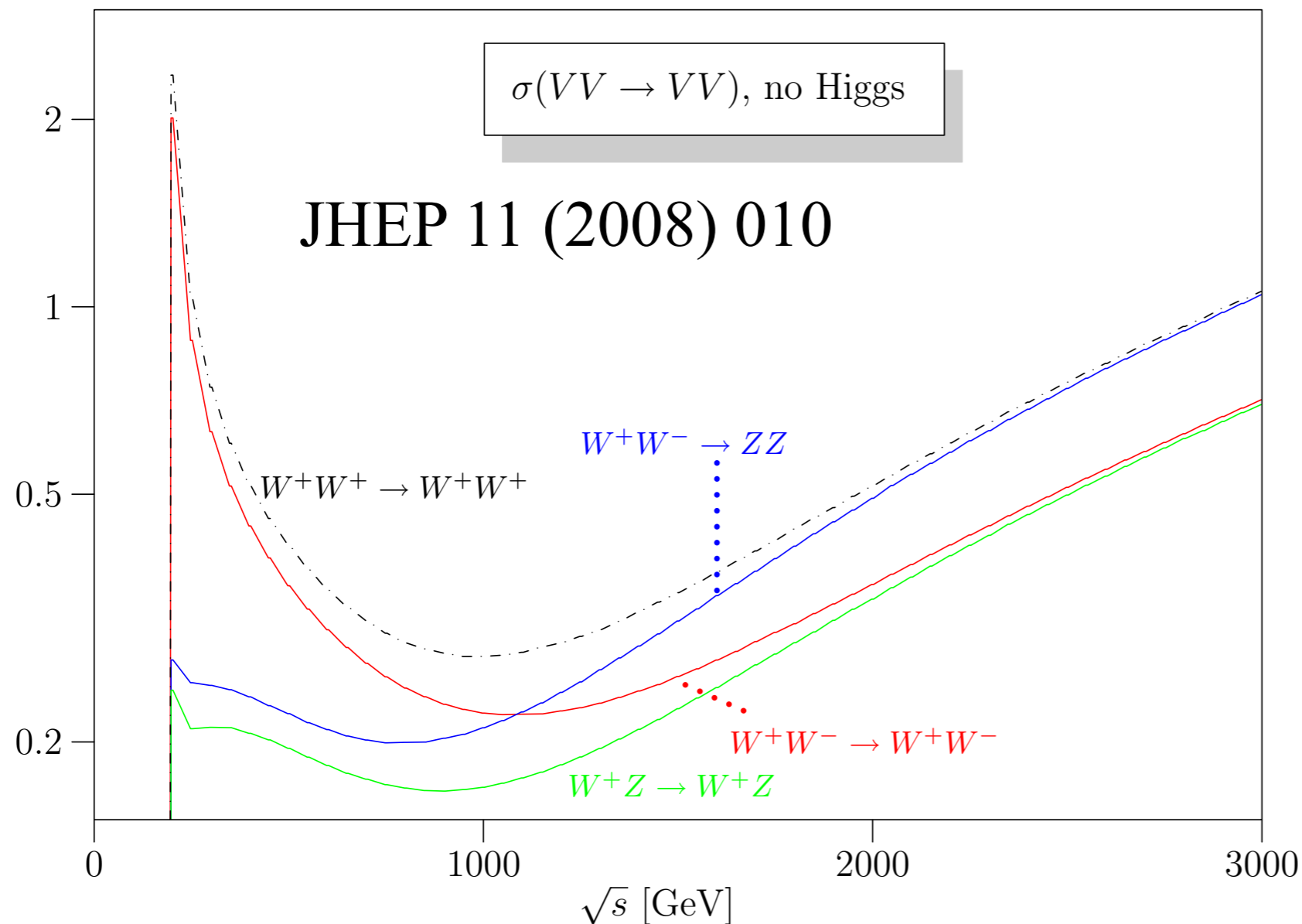
Karri DiPetrillo  
Fermilab Lecture Series  
30 June, 2022





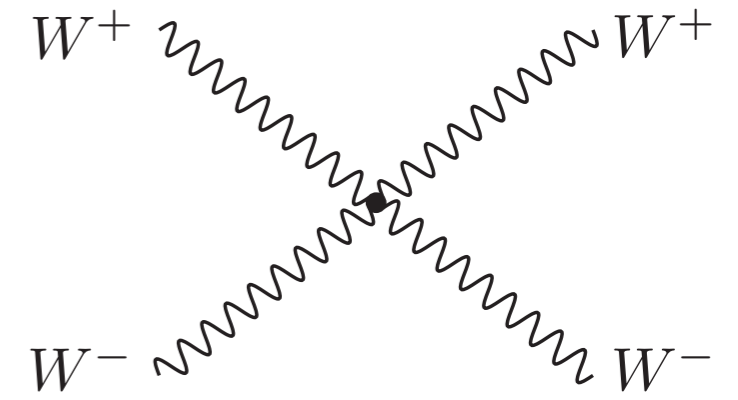
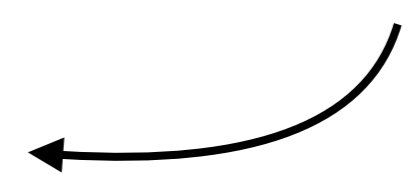
# But something is missing

Big hole: particle masses not included in theory so far  
AND if we go to even smaller distances the theory breaks



At high energies  
Predict probabilities

$> 1$  !!!



# An example

## Start with the periodic table

A set of fundamental (chemical) elements and prescriptions for how they may combine with each other.

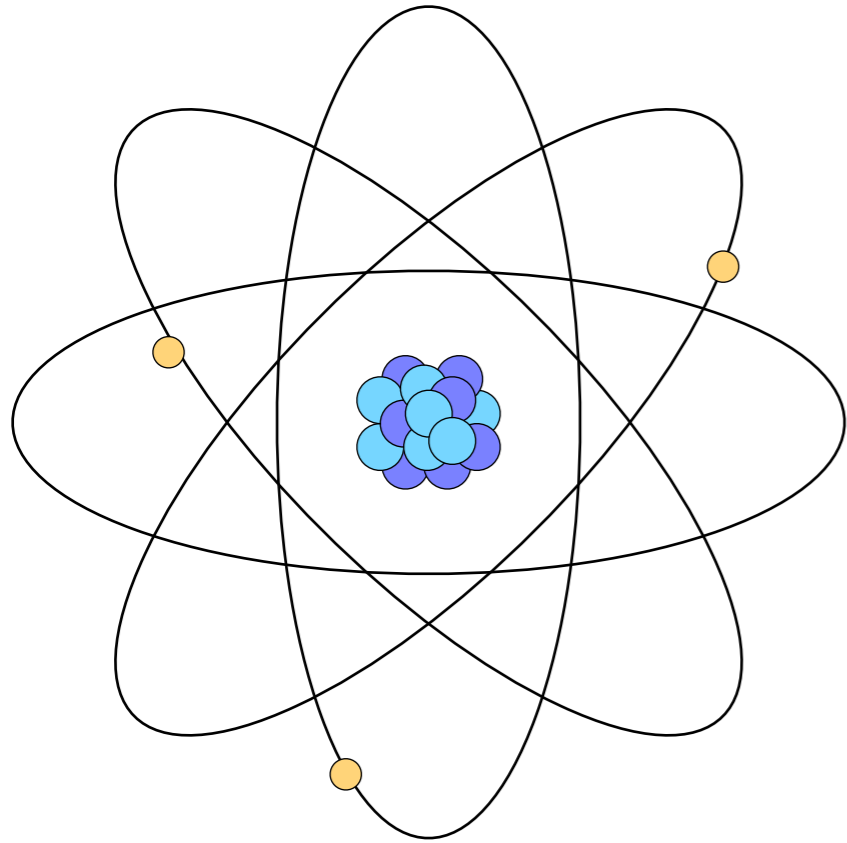
1 H Hydrogen																	2 He Helium	
3 Li Lithium	4 Be Beryllium											5 B Boron	6 C Carbon	7 N Nitrogen	8 O Oxygen	9 F Fluorine	10 Ne Neon	
11 Na Sodium	12 Mg Magnesi...											13 Al Aluminium	14 Si Silicon	15 P Phosph...	16 S Sulfur	17 Cl Chlorine	18 Ar Argon	
19 K Potassium	20 Ca Calcium	21 Sc Scandium	22 Ti Titanium	23 V Vanadium	24 Cr Chromium	25 Mn Mangan...	26 Fe Iron	27 Co Cobalt	28 Ni Nickel	29 Cu Copper	30 Zn Zinc	31 Ga Gallium	32 Ge Germani...	33 As Arsenic	34 Se Selenium	35 Br Bromine	36 Kr Krypton	
37 Rb Rubidium	38 Sr Strontium	39 Y Yttrium	40 Zr Zirconium	41 Nb Niobium	42 Mo Molybde...	43 Tc Techneti...	44 Ru Ruthenium	45 Rh Rhodium	46 Pd Palladium	47 Ag Silver	48 Cd Cadmium	49 In Indium	50 Sn Tin	51 Sb Antimony	52 Te Tellurium	53 I Iodine	54 Xe Xenon	
55 Cs Caesium	56 Ba Barium	57 La Lanthan...	72 Hf Hafnium	73 Ta Tantalum	74 W Tungsten	75 Re Rhenium	76 Os Osmium	77 Ir Iridium	78 Pt Platinum	79 Au Gold	80 Hg Mercury	81 Tl Thallium	82 Pb Lead	83 Bi Bismuth	84 Po Polonium	85 At Astatine	86 Rn Radon	
87 Fr Francium	88 Ra Radium	89 Ac Actinium	104 Rf Rutherfo...	105 Db Dubnium	106 Sg Seaborg...	107 Bh Bohrium	108 Hs Hassium	109 Mt Meitneri...	110 Ds Darmsta...	111 Rg Roentge...	112 Cn Coperni...	113 Nh Nihonium	114 Fl Flerovium	115 Mc Moscovi...	116 Lv Livermor...	117 Ts Tennes...	118 Og Oganes...	
			58 Ce Cerium	59 Pr Praseod...	60 Nd Neodym...	61 Pm Prometh...	62 Sm Samarium	63 Eu Europium	64 Gd Gadolini...	65 Tb Terbium	66 Dy Dysprosi...	67 Ho Holmium	68 Er Erbium	69 Tm Thulium	70 Yb Ytterbium	71 Lu Lutetium		
			90 Th Thorium	91 Pa Protacti...	92 U Uranium	93 Np Neptunium	94 Pu Plutonium	95 Am Americium	96 Cm Curium	97 Bk Berkelium	98 Cf Californi...	99 Es Einsteini...	100 Fm Fermium	101 Md Mendele...	102 No Nobelium	103 Lr Lawrenc...		

Why so many columns and rows? Does it go on forever?

Hints at a deeper structure



# Atomic Nuclei



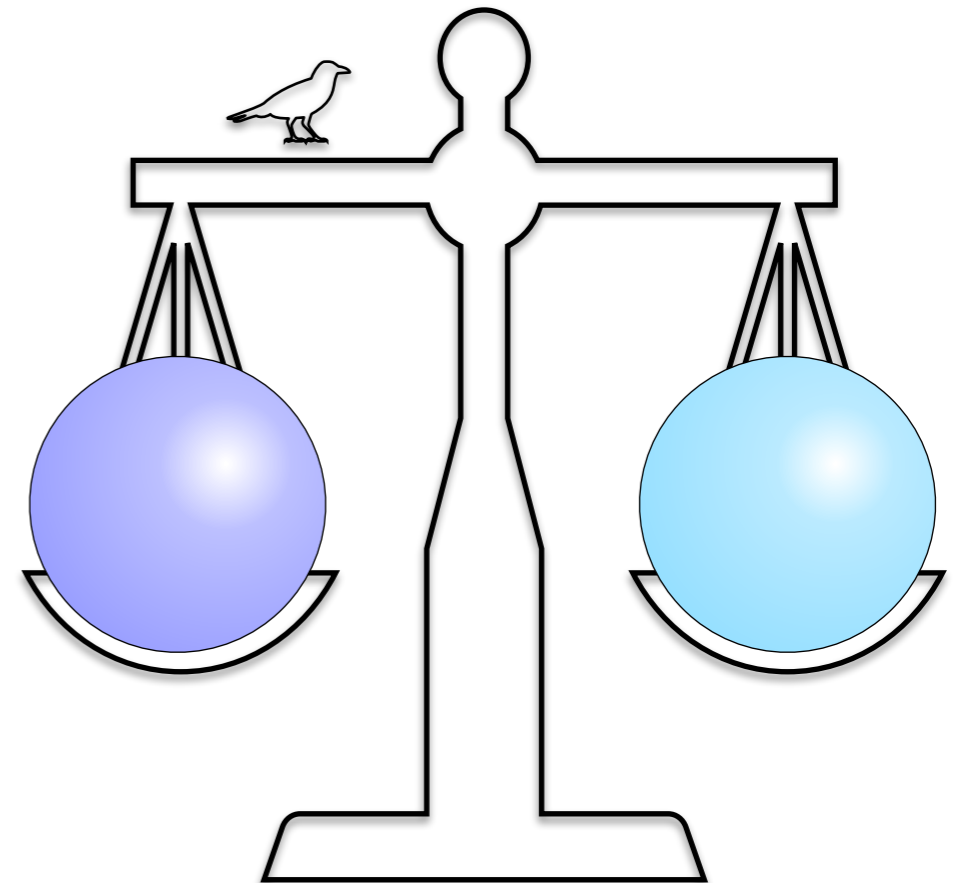
Nuclei are just collections of  
**protons** and **neutrons**  
With electrons, only need 3 ingredients  
for ordinary matter!

Interesting coincidence?

$$m_{\text{proton}} = 0.9383 \text{ GeV}$$

$$m_{\text{neutron}} = 0.9396 \text{ GeV}$$

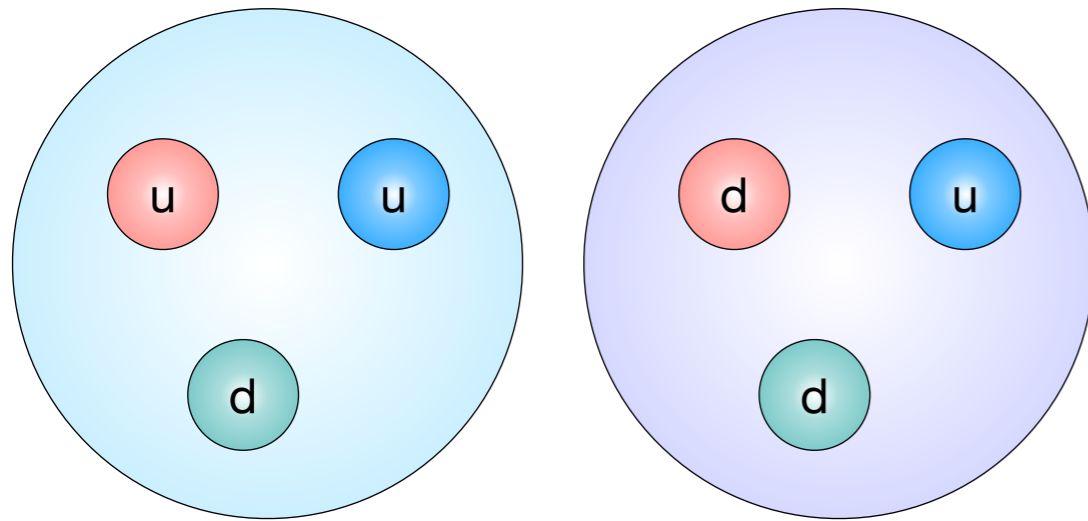
Hint of even deeper structure!



# Not a coincidence!

Proton

Neutron



## First level of understanding

Protons and Neutrons consist of quarks

up quarks =  $+2/3 e$

down quarks =  $-1/3 e$

gluons hold everything together

## If we look deeper

in addition to the three “valence” quarks

there’s a “sea” of quarks and gluons

q and  $\bar{q}$  pairs popping in and out of existence