





Status of Standard Model Higgs searches in ATLAS



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An historical day : 4th July 2012



accelerators – experiments – Grid computing Observation of a new particle consistent with a Higgs Boson (but which one...?)

Historic Milestone but only the beginning

Global Implications for the future











Few milestones of a long path ...

1984 : First studies for a high-energy pp collider in the LEP tunnel 1989 : Start of SLC and LEP e⁺e⁻ colliders 1993 : SSC is cancelled \rightarrow US physicists join the LHC 1994 : LHC approved by the CERN Council 1995 : Top-quark discovered at the Tevatron 1996 : Construction of LHC machine and experiments start 2000 : End of LEP2 2003 : Start of LHC machine and experiments installation 2009 : 23 November: first LHC collisions (Js = 900 GeV) 2010 : 30 March: first collisions at $\int s = 7$ TeV 2012 : 1^{s+} May: first collisions at $\int s = 8$ TeV 2012 : 4th July: discovery of a Higgs-like boson

A ~ 40-year project: >
> 20 years from conception to start of operation ~ 20 ? years of physics exploitation

The LHC has required:

- most innovative technologies (superconducting magnets, cryogenics, electronics, data transfer and storage, etc...)
- new concepts, a lot of ingenuity to address challenges and solve problems
- huge efforts of the worldwide community (ideas, technology, people, money)





15 years of test beams,
20 years of detector and physics simulations,
8 years of world-wide computing data challenges,
17 Technical Design Reports,
Dozens of agreements and MoU ..









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Signing of US-CERN agreement, Dec. 1997

Higgs searches have guided conception, design and technological choices of ATLAS and CMS: one of the primary LHC goals

□ among the most challenging processes \rightarrow have set some of the most stringent performance (hence technical) requirements: lepton identification and energy/momentum resolution, b-tagging, E_T^{miss} measurement, forward-jet tagging, etc.

	ATLAS	CMS	
MAGNET (S)	Air-core toroids + solenoid 4 magnets Calorimeters in field-free region	Solenoid 1 magnet Calorimeters inside field	CMS: excellent µ momentum resolution (H→ 4µ !) but
TRACKER	Si pixels+ strips TRT \rightarrow particle identification B=2T $\sigma/p_T \sim 5x10^{-4} p_T \oplus 0.01$	Si pixels + strips No particle identification B=4T $\sigma/p_T \sim 1.5 \times 10^{-4} p_T \oplus 0.005$	B=4T solenoid constrains HCAL radius
EM CALO	Pb-liquid argon $\sigma/E \sim 10\%/\sqrt{E}$ longitudinal segmentation	PbWO ₄ crystals $\sigma/E \sim 2-5\%/\sqrt{E}$ no longitudinal segmentation	H→ γγ: CMS: E-resolution ATLAS: γ "pointing" and γ/jet separation
HAD CALO	Fe-scint. + Cu-liquid argon (10 λ) $\sigma/E \sim 50\%/\sqrt{E \oplus 0.03}$	Cu-scint. (> 5.8 λ +catcher) $\sigma/E \sim 100\%/\sqrt{E \oplus 0.05}$	ATLAS: excellent
MUON	Air $\rightarrow \sigma/p_T \sim 7$ % at 1 TeVstandalone	Fe $\rightarrow \sigma/p_T \sim 5\%$ at 1 TeV combining with tracker	E_{T}^{miss} (H \rightarrow IvIv)

ATLAS Higgs searches, F. Gianotti, HEPAP meeting, 27/8/2012

Since 4th July

On 31st July ATLAS "Higgs discovery" paper submitted (now accepted) for publication in Physics Letters B (together with CMS, to be published side by side)

EUROPEAN ORGANISATION FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH (CERN)





CERN-PH-EP-2012-218 Submitted to: Physics Letters B

Observation of a New Particle in the Search for the Standard Model Higgs Boson with the ATLAS Detector at the LHC

The ATLAS Collaboration

This paper is dedicated to the memory of our ATLAS colleagues who did not live to see the full impact and significance of their contributions to the experiment.

Results presented here are those in the paper:

- □ H→ yy, 41: full Js=7 TeV dataset (~4.9 fb⁻¹) and Js = 8 TeV dataset up to CERN seminar/ICHEP (~5.9 fb⁻¹) → total: ~10.7 fb⁻¹
- NEW compared to CERN seminar and ICHEP: H→ WW→ evµv updated with 8 TeV data (~5.9 fb⁻¹)
- New overall combination (H→ TT and W/ZH→ W/Zbb based on 7 TeV data)



Superb performance of the LHC

Excellent ATLAS detector performance in terms of data-taking efficiency and data quality

Experience gained with the 2011 data propagated to reconstruction and simulation (improved detector understanding, alignment and calibration, pile-up, ...)

Huge amount of work to understand and mitigate the impact of pile-up on the reconstruction and identification of physics objects \rightarrow sizeable gain in efficiency for $e/\gamma/\mu$, pile-up dependence minimized, smaller systematic uncertainties

Detailed studies of Standard Model processes and control of the (numerous) backgrounds

Sensitivity of $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, $H \rightarrow 4I$, $H \rightarrow IvIv$ analyses improved using the following procedure: \Box optimization only done on MC simulation

- □ then looked at 2012 data in signal sidebands and background control regions (note: large and sometimes not well-known backgrounds estimated mostly with data-driven techniques using background-enriched-signal-depleted control regions)
 → validate MC simulation
- □ signal region inspected only after above steps satisfactory Improved analyses applied also to 2011 data \rightarrow updated H \rightarrow yy, 4l, lvlv results at 7 TeV

\rightarrow Huge amount of painstaking foundation work !

ATLAS Higgs searches, F. Gianotti, HEPAP meeting, 27/8/2012

Luminosity <u>delivered</u> to ATLAS since the beginning



BIG THANKS to the LHC team

Detector operation, data-taking efficiency, data quality















Huge efforts since Fall 2011 to prepare for 2012 conditions and mitigate impact of pile-up on trigger, reconstruction of physics objects (in particular E_T^{miss}, soft jets, ..), computing resources (CPU, event size)

Pile-up robust, fast trigger and offline algorithms developed

- □ Reconstruction and identification of physics objects (e, γ , μ , τ , jet, E_{τ}^{miss}) optimised to be ~independent of pile-up → similar (better in some cases!) performance as with 2011 data
- Precise modeling of in-time and out-of-time pile-up in simulation
- Flexible computing model to accommodate x2 higher trigger rates and event size as well as physics and analysis demands

Efficiency of inclusive electron trigger $(E_T \text{ thresholds as low as 24 GeV})$ as a function of "pile-up"

Note: number of reconstructed primary vertices is ~ 60% number of interactions per crossings



Results from 2012 operation show trigger is coping very well (in terms of rates, efficiencies, robustness, ..) with harsh conditions while meeting physics requirements



Optimization of selections (e.g. object isolation) to maintain low un-prescaled thresholds (e.g. for inclusive leptons) in spite of projected x2 higher L and pile-up than in 2011
 Pile-up robust algorithms developed (minimize CPU usage, ...)



The LHC performance and high pile-up conditions also stressed the Computing It would have been impossible to release physics results so quickly without the outstanding performance of the Grid (including the CERN Tier-O)



Includes MC production, user and group analysis at CERN, 10 Tier1-s, ~ 70 Tier-2 federations → > 80 sites

> 1500 distinct ATLAS users do analysis on the GRID

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- Massive production of 8 TeV Monte Carlo samples
- Available resources fully used (beyond pledges in some cases)

□ Very effective and flexible Computing Model and Operation team → accommodate high trigger rates and pile-up, intense MC simulation, analysis demands from worldwide users (through e.g. dynamic data placement)

Most recent electroweak and top cross-section measurements



Inner error: statistical Outer error: total

- □ Important on their own and as foundation for Higgs searches
- □ Most of these processes are reducible or irreducible backgrounds to Higgs
- Reconstruction and measurement of challenging processes (e.g. fully hadronic tt, single top, ...) are good training for some complex Higgs final states

ATLAS Higgs searches, F. Gianotti, HEPAP meeting, 27/8/2012

SM Higgs production cross-section and decay modes



$\int s=7 \rightarrow 8$ TeV:

- \square Higgs cross-section increases by ~ 1.3 for $m_{\rm H}$ ~ 125 GeV
- **Δ** Similar increase for several irreducible backgrounds: e.g. 1.2-1.25 for γγ, di-bosons
- □ Reducible backgrounds increase more: e.g. 1.3-1.4 for tt, Zbb
- \rightarrow Expected increase in Higgs sensitivity: 10-15%

Note: huge efforts and progress from theory community to compute NLO/NNLO cross-sections for Higgs production and for (often complex !) backgrounds

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Results on the full 7 TeV dataset Phys. Rev. D86 (2012) 032003





σ x BR ~ 50 fb m_H ~ 126 GeV

 Simple topology: two high-p_T isolated photons E_T (γ₁, γ₂) > 40, 30 GeV
 Main background: γγ continuum (irreducible, smooth, ..)

To increase sensitivity, events divided in 10 categories based on γ rapidity, converted/unconverted γ ; $p_{T^{\dagger}}$ ($p_{T^{\gamma\gamma}}$ perpendicular to $\gamma\gamma$ thrust axis); 2 jets

Main improvements in new analysis:

- \Box 2jet category introduced \rightarrow targeting VBF process
- **γ** identification (NN used for 2011 data) and isolation
- → Expected gain in sensitivity: + 15% Background fit procedure also improved

After all selections, expect (10.7 fb⁻¹, $m_{H} \sim 126 \text{ GeV}$) w 170 signal events (tatal signal officiance 40%)

- ~ 170 signal events (total signal efficiency ~ 40%)
- ~ 6340 background events in mass window
- \rightarrow S/B ~ 3% inclusive (~ 20% 2jet category)



α excellent γγ mass resolution to observe narrow signal peak above irreducible background

□ powerful γ identification to suppress γ j and jj background with jet $\rightarrow \pi^0 \rightarrow$ fake γ (cross sections are 10⁴-10⁷ larger than $\gamma\gamma$ background)





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 $\alpha \text{-opening}$ angle of the two photons

High pile-up: many vertices distributed over σ_Z (LHC beam spot) ~ 5-6 cm \rightarrow difficult to know which one has produced the yy pair

Primary vertex from:
EM calorimeter longitudinal (and lateral) segmentation
tracks from converted photons



Measure γ direction with calo \rightarrow get Z of primary vertex



Note:

 □ Calorimeter pointing alone reduces vertex uncertainty from beam spot spread of ~ 5-6 cm to ~ 1.5 cm and is robust against pile-up
 → good enough to make contribution to mass resolution from angular term negligible
 □ Addition of track information (less pile-up robust) needed to reject fake

jets from pile-up in 2j/VBF category

γ /jet separation

Determined choice of fine lateral segmentation (4mm η -strips) of the first compartment of ATLAS EM calorimeter





Data-driven decomposition of selected $\gamma\gamma$ sample

High yy purity thanks to:

R_j ~10⁴ ε (γ) ~ 90%





Total after selections: 59059 events

m_{γγ} spectrum fit, <u>for each category</u>, with Crystal Ball + Gaussian for signal plus background model optimized (with MC) to minimize biases Max deviation of background model from expected background distribution taken as systematic uncertainty

	Main systematic uncertainties		
Signal yield			
Theory		~ 20%	
Photon efficiency		~ 10%	
Background model		~ 10%	
Categories migration			
Higgs p _T modeling		up to ~ 10%	
Conv/unconv y		up to ~ 6%	
Jet E-scale		up to 20% (2j/VBF)	
Underlying event		up to 30% (2j/\	/BF)
$H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$ mass resolution		~ 14%	
Photon E-scale		~ 0.6%	





2011+2012 data

Excluded (95% CL): 112-122.5 GeV, 132-143 GeV Expected: 110-139.5 GeV

P-value: consistency of data with background-only expectation



Data sample	m _H of max deviation	local significance obs. (exp. SM H)
2011	126 GeV	3.4 σ (1.6)
2012	<mark>127 GeV</mark>	3.2 σ (1.9)
2011+2012	126.5 GeV	4.5 σ (2.5)

Global 2011+2012 (including LEE): 3.6 σ



 $H \rightarrow ZZ^{(*)} \rightarrow 4I$ (4e, 4µ, 2e2µ)

$110 < m_{\rm H} < 600 ~GeV$

 $\sigma \times BR \sim 2.5 \text{ fb} \text{ m}_{H} \sim 126 \text{ GeV}$

- □ Tiny rate, BUT:
 - -- mass can be fully reconstructed \rightarrow events should cluster in a (narrow) peak
 - -- pure: S/B ~ 1
- □ 4 leptons: $p_T^{1,2,3,4} > 20,15,10,7-6$ (e-µ) GeV; 50 < m_{12} < 106 GeV; $m_{34} > 17.5-50$ GeV (vs m_H)
- Main backgrounds:
 - -- ZZ^(*) : irreducible
 - -- low-mass region $m_H < 2m_Z$: Zbb, Z+jets, tt with two leptons from b-jets or q-jets \rightarrow lep
- \rightarrow Suppressed with isolation and impact parameter cuts on two softest leptons

Crucial experimental aspects:

- \Box High lepton acceptance, reconstruction & identification efficiency down to lowest p_T
- Good lepton energy/momentum resolution
- Good control of reducible backgrounds (Zbb, Z+jets, tt) in low-mass region:
 - \rightarrow cannot rely on MC alone (theoretical uncertainties, b/q-jet \rightarrow lep modeling, ...)
 - \rightarrow need to validate MC with data in background-enriched control regions

Main improvements in new analysis:

- □ kinematic cuts (e.g. on m₁₂) optimized/relaxed to increase signal sensitivity at low mass
- □ increased e^{\pm} reconstruction and identification efficiency at low p_{T} and pile-up robustness (with negligible increase in the reducible backgrounds)
- \rightarrow Gain 20% (4µ) to 30% (4e) in sensitivity compared to previous analysis

High efficiency for low- p_T electrons (affected by material) crucial for $H \rightarrow 4e$, $2\mu 2e$

Improved track reconstruction and fitting to recover e[±] undergoing hard Brem \rightarrow achieved ~ 98% reconstruction efficiency, flatter vs η and E_{τ}



Number of reconstructed primary vertice **98**

Muons reconstructed down to $p_T = 6 \text{ GeV}$ over $|\eta| < 2.7$

Reconstruction efficiency ~ 97% ~ flat over full range

Total acceptance x efficiency for $H \rightarrow 4\mu$: ~ 40% (+45% gain)







$H \rightarrow 4I$ mass spectrum after all selections



 4μ candidate with $m_{4\mu}$ = 125.1 GeV

 p_{T} (muons)= 36.1, 47.5, 26.4, 71.7GeV m_{12} = 86.3 GeV, m_{34} = 31.6 GeV 15 reconstructed vertices



4e candidate with m_{4e} = 124.6 GeV

 p_{T} (electrons)= 24.9, 53.9, 61.9, 17.8 GeV m_{12} = 70.6 GeV, m_{34} = 44.7 GeV 12 reconstructed vertices



 $2e2\mu$ candidate with $m_{2e2\mu}$ = 123.9 GeV

 p_{T} (e,e, μ , μ)= 18.7, 76, 19.6, 7.9 GeV, m (e⁺e⁻)= 87.9 GeV, m($\mu^{+}\mu^{-}$) = 19.6 GeV 12 reconstructed vertices





2011 data

2011+2012 data

Excluded (95% CL): 131-162, 170-460 GeV Expected: 124-1164, 176-500 GeV



Data sample	m _H of max deviation	local significance obs. (exp. SM H)
2011	125 GeV	2.5 σ (1.6)
2012	<mark>125.5 GeV</mark>	<mark>2.6 σ (2.1)</mark>
2011+2012	125 GeV	3.6 σ (2.7)

Global 2011+2012 (including LEE over 110-141 GeV): 2.5 σ







σ x BR ~ 200 fb $\,$ for $m_{H} \sim 125~GeV$

- Large cross section
- □ However: 2v in final state \rightarrow mass peak cannot be reconstructed \rightarrow "counting channel"
- \Box H \rightarrow evµv studied with 2012 data: ~ 85% of sensitivity, less Drell-Yan background
- \square 2 isolated opposite-sign leptons, p_T > 25, 15 GeV
- □ Main backgrounds: WW, top, Z+jets, W+jets
 - → large E_T^{miss} , $m_{||} \neq m_Z$, b-jet veto ..+ topological cuts: $p_{T||}$, $m_{||}$, $\Delta \phi_{||}$ (smaller for scalar Higgs)

Crucial experimental aspects:

- \Box understanding of E_T^{miss} (genuine and fake)
- □ very good modeling of background in signal region \rightarrow usignal-free control regions in data to constrain MC \rightarrow use MC to extrapolate to signal region










Combining all channels together:
□ H→ yy, 4I, IvIv: full 2011 and July 2012 data (~ 10.7 fb⁻¹); improved analyses
□ all other channels (H→ TT, WH→ Ivbb, ZH→ Ilbb, ZH→ vvbb, ZZ → Ilvv, H→ ZZ → Ilqq; H→ WW→Ivqq): full 2011 dataset (up to 4.9 fb⁻¹)







Characterizing the new particle: signal strength

Best-fit signal strength normalized to the SM Higgs expectation at given m_H (μ)





Best-fit value at 126 GeV: µ = 1.4 ± 0.3

 \rightarrow good agreement with the expectation for a SM Higgs within the present statistical uncertainty

Characterizing the new particle: mass and couplings



Evolution of the excess with time



ATLAS Higgs searches, F. Gianotti, HEPAP meeting, 27/8/2012

Are we sure we carefully looked at all backgrounds?

<u>http://www.wordle.net/</u>





Further ahead: present LHC upgrade plans





√s ~ 14 TeV

Spin/CP can be determined at > 5σ with 300 fb⁻¹ (Phase-1 upgrade)



Higgs self-couplings: ~ 3σ per experiment expected from HH \rightarrow bbyy channel with 3000 fb⁻¹ (Phase-2 upgrade); HH \rightarrow bbtt also promising



Note: physics potential of LHC upgrade is much more than just Higgs

Conclusions

Physics Letters B cover



http://www.elsevier.com/locate/physletb

ATLAS recorded ~5.2 fb⁻¹ of pp data at $\int s = 7$ TeV in 2011 and ~12 fb⁻¹ in 2012 at $\int s = 8$ TeV

The whole experiment works very well in all its components, from smooth and efficient operation of the detector, trigger and computing to the fast delivery of physics results: first results for ICHEP with full 2012 dataset were available less than one week from data-taking, with a fraction of good-quality data used for physics of ~ 90% of the delivered luminosity.

ATLAS huge physics output covered in 185 papers published/submitted (not only Higgs !)

In July 2012 ATLAS has reported the discovery of a new Higgs-like boson: \Box with significance ~6 σ , driven by H \rightarrow $\gamma\gamma$, 41, with contributions also from H \rightarrow lvlv \Box signal strength: 1.4± 0.3 of the Standard Model Higgs expectation \Box mass: 126 ± 0.4 (stat) ± 0.4 (syst) GeV

If it is a SM Higgs boson, it's very kind of Nature to have chosen this mass \rightarrow accessible at LHC in $\gamma\gamma$, ZZ^{*} \rightarrow 41, WW^{*} \rightarrow lvlv, bb, $\tau\tau$, and (with upgrades) $\mu\mu$

The era of precise "Higgs measurements" (and more ..) has started \rightarrow this is just the BEGINNING !





Consistency of data with background-only expectation



Points indicate impact of 0.6% uncertainty on photon energy scale: ~ 0.1 sigma

Data sample	m_H of max deviation	local p-value	local significance	expected from SM Higgs
2011	126 GeV	3×10 ⁻⁴	3.5 σ	1.6 σ
2012	<mark>127 GeV</mark>	3×10 ⁻⁴	<mark>3.4 σ</mark>	1.9 σ
2011+2012	126.5 GeV	2×10 ⁻⁶	4.5 σ	2.4 σ

Global 2011+2012 (including LEE over 110-150 GeV range): 3.6 σ



Normalized to SM Higgs expectation at given $m_H(\mu)$

Best-fit value at 126.5 GeV: μ =1.9 ± 0.5





Consistent results from various categories within uncertainties (most sensitive ones indicated)



-2.5 σ downward fluctuation at m_{γγ}~ 119 GeV
□ probability 15% (~1 σ)
□ does not affect significance of fitted signal
□ unlike "signal" excess does not appear in most significant categories

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Categories provide ~ 30% gain in sensitivity compared to inclusive analysis. However, excess remains also with simpler inclusive analysis: ~ 3.5 σ

2jet/VBF category brings ~ 3% gain in expected sensitivity; observed gains in data are 10-15% (both years) Caveat: 2jet category affected by largest systematics (~ 20% on signal yield) Photon isolation requirement: $E_T < 4$ GeV inside cone $\Delta R < 0.4$ around γ direction. Pile-up contribution subtracted using an "ambient energy density" event-by-event

If subtraction is not perfect, residual dependence of the isolation energy on the bunch position in the train observed, due to impact of out-of-time pile-up from neighbouring bunches convolved with EM calorimeter pulse shape.





Effect well described by (detailed !) ATLAS simulation

$H \rightarrow$ 41 mass spectrum after all selections: 2011+2012 data



$H \rightarrow$ 41 mass spectrum after all selections: 2011+2012 data





Reducible backgrounds from Z+jets, Zbb, tt giving 2 genuine + 2 fake leptons measured using background-enriched, signal-depleted control regions in data

Typical control regions:

 \Box leading lepton pair $(I_1 I_2)$ satisfies all selections

 \Box sub-leading pair (I_3I_4): no isolation nor impact parameter requirements applied





Data well described by MC within uncertainties (ZZ excess at high mass ...)
 Samples of Z+"µ" and Z+"e" used to compare efficiencies of isolation and impact parameter cuts between data and MC → good agreement → MC used to estimate background contamination in signal region
 Several cross-checks made with different control regions → consistent results

Table 3: The numbers of expected signal ($m_H = 125$ GeV) and background events, together with the numbers of observed events in the data, in a window of size ± 5 GeV around 125 GeV, for the combined $\sqrt{s} = 7$ TeV and $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV data.

	Signal	ZZ ^(*)	Z + jets, tt	Observed
4μ	2.09 ± 0.30	1.12 ± 0.05	0.13±0.04	6
2e2µ/2µ2e	2.29 ± 0.33	0.80 ± 0.05	1.27 ± 0.19	5
4 <i>e</i>	0.90 ± 0.14	0.44 ± 0.04	1.09 ± 0.20	2

Main systematic uncert	ainties
Higgs cross-section	: ~ 20%
Electron efficiency	: ~8% (4e)
ZZ* background	: ~ 15%
Reducible backgrounds	: ~ 40%







 To increase sensitivity, events divided in 3 categories: 0-jet, 1-jet, 2-jet
 2-jet: VBF-like cuts: [Δη|_{ii} > 3.8. M_{ii} > 500 GeV, central-jet veto







Table 4: Main relative systematic uncertainties on the predicted numbers of signal ($m_H = 125$ GeV) and background events for the H+0-jet and H+1-jet analyses. The same m_T criteria as in Table 3 are imposed. All numbers are summed over lepton flavours. The effect of the quoted inclusive signal cross section renormalisation and factorisation scale uncertainties on exclusive jet multiplicities is explained in Section 5. Sources of uncertainty that are negligible or not applicable in a particular column are marked with a '-'.

Source (0-jet)	Signal (%)	Bkg. (%)
Inclusive ggF signal ren./fact. scale	13	-
1-jet incl. ggF signal ren./fact. scale	10	-
Parton distribution functions	8	2
Jet energy scale	7	4
WW modelling and shape	-	5
QCD scale acceptance	4	2
WW normalisation	-	4
W+jets fake factor	-	4
Lepton isolation	3	3
Source (1-jet)	Signal (%)	Bkg. (%)
1-jet incl. ggF signal ren./fact. scale	28	-
2-jet incl. ggF signal ren./fact. scale	16	-
WW normalisation	0	14
b-tagging efficiency	-	8
Top normalisation	-	6
Pile-up	5	5



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	In the region $125 \pm 5 \text{ GeV}$					
Observed13 eventsExpected from background only4.9 ± 1Expected from Higgs signal5.3 ± .8						
		4μ	2e2µ		4	e
Data Expec Reduc	ted S/B ible/total B	6 1.6 10%	5 1.1 60%		2 0.6 % 70%	

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