The DELPHI experiment at the LEP accelerator at the CERN laboratory

Part 1. The LEP accelerator

Part 2. The DELPHI experiment

Part 3. Particle physics research at LEP

The LEP accelerator

The study of collisions between electrons and positrons.

LEP 1 : The collision energy = 91 GeV = Z LEP 2: The collision energy = 209 GeV > 2W

The largest accelerators in the world

















LEP 1 _____ LEP 2

In order to increase the collision energy one had to build 240 superconducting radio-frequency cavities.



SUPERCONDUCTING CAVITY WITH ITS CRYOSTAT

The energy lost due to synchrotron radiation is 2.3 GeV / turn

Radio-frequency accelerating voltage has to be 2.3 GV / turn

Year:	1989-94	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Collision energy (GeV)	y: 91	136	174	184	189	204	209



The collision energy

At LEP the collision energy could be determined with a very high accuracy:

91.187 GeV with an error of 0.002 GeV

Things which affected the energy of LEP:

- 1. The level of the water in the lake !
- 2. The moon !
- 3. The trains to Paris !

Geological shifts



Days

During 1993 the LEP energy was observed to change with time.

Part of the change was due to the water level in lake Geneva which caused small geological shifts of the accelerator.

Rainfalls and the water table in the Jura mountains also affected the LEP energy.

Tides



Earth tides caused by the moon will produce small distortions of the earth's crust.

This can affect the accelerator so that the electrons orbit change.

An orbit change of 1 mm will change the energy with about 10 MeV.

Beampipe current

The trains from Geneva to France caused parasitic currents on the LEP beampipe.

These currents (1 A) affected the magnetic field in the LEP magnets and this changed the energy.





The DELPHI experiment





























What does a particle physicist do ?

• The building of detectors

Examples:

- The TPC (Time Projection Chamber)
- The STIC (Electromagnetic calorimeter)
- Analysis of the data from the experiment

Examples at LEP 1:

- Luminosity
- Studies of the Z-boson

Examples at LEP 2:

- Studies of the W-boson
- Search for new particles

The Time Projection Chamber



A charged particle ionize the gas in the cylinder and the electrons drift in an electrical field to the detectors at the ends of the cylinder.

Three-dimensional tracks can be reconstructed from the signals from the detectors.



The calorimetric processes

An electromagnetic shower



A hadronic shower





STIC was two electromagnetic calorimeters built by Lund in collaboration with physicists from 12 other institutes in 6 countries.

Luminosity

What is luminosity ?

The number of events per s = cross section x Luminosity

How is the luminosity measured ? By counting the number of events from a process for which the cross section can be calculated.

Which process was used at LEP ?

The hadronic lineshape of the Z-boson

The width of the Z-boson peak depends on the number of light neutrino species (N).

The W-cross section

The search for new particles

Extra dimensions

Basic idea: Unification of gravity with other interactions by introducing new compact dimensions of space in which only gravity propagates.

Cross sec.: $\sigma(e^+e^- \rightarrow Grav. + \gamma)$ depends on : n - the number of extra dimensions M_D - the fundamental mass scale in the theory

The search for Higgs events

The mass spectrum of Higgs candidates

Summary

The LEP accelerator was the largest accelerator the world has ever seen.

DELPHI was one of the huge experiments that studied the collisions between electrons and positrons.

DELPHI has contributed much to our present understanding of the standard model.

The accelerator and the experiments have been dismantled but the physicists continue to analyze the data that was collected.