Summary of the Nobel symposium on Large Hadron Collider results

John Ellis

1 Physics Department, King’s College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS, UK
2 Theory Division, CERN, CH-122 Geneva 23, Switzerland

E-mail: John.Ellis@cern.ch

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Abstract
This is a personal summary of points made during, and arising from the symposium, drawing largely from the talks presented there. The standard model is doing fine, including QCD, the electroweak sector and flavour physics. The good news is that a standard model-like Higgs boson has appeared with the predicted mass, but the bad news is that the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) has provided no hint of other new physics. On the other hand, physics beyond the standard model is needed to explain neutrino masses and mixing, and we look forward to experiments revealing their mass hierarchy and CP violation. Cosmology and astrophysics also require new physics to explain the origin of matter, dark matter, dark energy and the CMB fluctuations. I still think that supersymmetry is the best-motivated extension of the standard model, and look forward to the next phases of LHC operation at higher energy and luminosity. In the mean time, ideas abound for a new accelerator to study the Higgs boson in detail and/or whatever else the LHC may reveal in its next run.

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(Some figures may appear in colour only in the online journal)

1. Introduction

The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) experimental programme is aimed primarily at fundamental questions in particle physics beyond the standard model: what is the origin of particle masses, and is the answer manifested in a Higgs boson? How do matter and antimatter differ, and is this related to the reason why there are so many types of matter particles? What is the dark matter in the Universe? How are the fundamental forces unified? What is the underlying quantum theory of gravity?

It is a remarkable success that already, in the first couple of years of operation of the LHC at reduced energies, the answer to the first of these questions has been provided, and there are reasons to think that its answer may be linked to answers to some of the other fundamental questions. Now, during the first long shutdown of the LHC before it restarts at high energy, is a good moment to review what we have learnt so far, and discuss the prospects for further advances in coming LHC runs and at possible future colliders.

In this talk, I start by reviewing the successes of the standard model, in particular the triumph of the discovery of a new particle that resembles closely the Higgs boson of the standard model, before discussing the need for new physics to explain neutrino masses and mixing as well as many cosmological puzzles. I persist in thinking that supersymmetry is the best-motivated extension of the standard model that may be accessible in the future runs of the LHC. In the mean time, one should consider ideas for future accelerators that could measure better than the LHC the properties of the Higgs boson, as well as study whatever other new physics it may reveal.

2. QCD

This is basis for physics at the LHC [1]. In addition to its intrinsic interest and its rôle in generating backgrounds via jets and pile-up, understanding quantum chromodynamics (QCD) is essential for calculating the production of new particles such as the Higgs boson and yields possible signals for new physics such as boosted jets and events with rapidity gaps. Moreover, a better understanding of multiparticle production in QCD would also be helpful to our colleagues studying cosmic-ray physics [2].
Specific instances where understanding the underlying event are important include the accurate measurement of \( m_h \) and \( M_{W} \), where good understanding of the parton distributions in the proton are required, and problems of pile-up and colour reconnection arise. Instances where boosted jets and jet substructure are important include the search for signatures of baryon-number-violating \( R \)-parity violation and hadronic Higgs decays. In addition to being interesting in their own right, events with single and multiple rapidity gaps may also be important for understanding diffraction and hence the total hadronic cross section, and double-diffractive production of the Higgs boson would be an interesting tool for determining the CP properties of the Higgs coupling to gluons. Better understanding of particle production in the forward direction is interesting to those modelling high-energy cosmic-ray collisions [2]. Finally, we also note the appearance in \( pp \) collisions of a mysterious near-side ridge [1] that may cast light on the origin of the similar effect in heavy-ion collisions [3].

The cross sections for the underlying hard-scattering processes are under relatively good control, with many next-to-next-to leading order (NNLO) perturbative QCD calculations now available [4], and new input coming from string methodology [5]. The agreement with measurements of jet production is impressive, extending over many orders of magnitude to jet transverse momenta \( p_T > 2 \text{ TeV} \) [1], and interesting measurements of the running of \( \alpha_s \) at high energies are now possible. Precision is important for both the discovery and interpretation of any new physics. For example, it would be good if the convergence of the perturbative expansion for \( gg \to H \) could be improved, with either higher-order calculations or a more cunning choice of renormalization scheme. Also, more precise understanding of initial-state radiation (ISR) would be invaluable for some new physics searches using monojets, e.g. dark matter and models with compressed spectra.

Progressing to larger distances, while progress has been made in the matching of matrix-element calculations with parton showers, there are still significant differences between different codes, e.g. in calculations of the Higgs \( p_T \) distribution. Meanwhile, the hadronization process is still problematic: it was said here that there had been ‘no new ideas in 30 years’ in the long-running debate between string and cluster models [4]. Both these need to be understood better if, e.g. the full potential of boosted-jet techniques is to be realized. Which experimental measurements would best help the experts find better, universal tunes of their Monte Carlo generators?

Relativistic heavy-ion collisions at the LHC are revealing interesting new collective phenomena in hot and dense nuclear matter [3]. They offer the possibility of exploring QCD thermodynamics via phenomena such as the Quark–Gluon Plasma (QGP), chiral symmetry breaking and deconfinement. Particle abundances are generally in good agreement with simple thermodynamic models with a freeze-out temperature \( T \sim 164 \text{ MeV} \) similar to that measured in lower-energy collisions and a smaller baryon chemical potential \( \mu_B \sim 1 \text{ MeV} \). The production of strange particles is enhanced as expected, but there are fewer protons than expected in this model. There is evidence also for direct thermal photon production inside the plasma before freeze-out, with a higher effective temperature than at RHIC: \( T_{LHC}/T_{RHIC} \sim 1.37 \). The data also suggest the suppression of \( \Upsilon \) production as expected in the QGP, whereas the production of the \( J/\psi \) provides evidence for \( c\bar{c} \) recombination in the QGP.

Figure 1. The ratio of the shear viscosity divided by the entropy density, \( \eta/s \), of quark–gluon matter, relative to the AdS/CFT bound (denoted by KSS) around the critical temperature, \( T_c \), according to calculations in the hadron gas, on the lattice, in perturbative QCD and in more phenomenological motivated by hydrodynamics. Plot reproduced with permission from [7], where more details can be found.

However, big surprises in relativistic heavy-ion collisions have been provided by bulk measurements such as those of the elliptic flow \( v_2 \) and higher moments \( v_n \) of the hadron azimuthal distribution, which suggest that the QGP has very small shear viscosity \( \eta \), and by measurements of jet quenching [6]. In retrospect, the small value of \( \eta \) in low-temperature quark–gluon matter should have been anticipated. At very low temperatures nuclear matter can be described as a liquid, but at higher temperatures \( \sim 100 \text{ MeV} \) it can be considered as a meson gas. These are weakly interacting at low temperatures, but interact more strongly at higher temperatures because of chiral symmetry, leading to a calculable reduction in \( \eta \) as the quark–hadron transition temperature is approached from below, as seen in [7]. Likewise, at very high temperatures the QGP is expected to behave like an asymptotically free gas that becomes more strongly interacting at lower temperatures close to the quark–hadron transition temperature, again corresponding to a low value of \( \eta \), as also seen in [7]. The surprise was that the viscosity \( \eta \) would be so low in the transition region, close to the lower bound \( \eta \geq 1/(4\pi) \) derived on the basis of the AdS/CFT correspondence [5], corresponding to a liquid that may be more perfect than any other known (figure 1).

One can regard relativistic heavy-ion collisions as a ‘multiverse’ of ‘Little Bangs’ with different initial conditions that are measurable via the azimuthal moments \( v_n \) [3, 6], much as measurements of the cosmic microwave background anisotropies \( C_l \) give us insight into the primordial fluctuations (generated by inflation? [2, 8]). These
measurements tell us that the low-temperature QGP is well
described by the hydrodynamics of an almost-perfect liquid
with \( \eta \sim (2 \text{ to } 3)/4\pi \). The picture of a strongly interacting
liquid is reinforced by measurements of jet quenching and the
dijet energy asymmetry. These tell us that the medium is very
effective at absorbing hadronic energy, but the fragmentation
of the residual jets that punch through the medium resembles
strongly the fragmentation of lower-energy jets that fragment
in vacuo.

3. Electroweak measurements

Impressive progress has already been made at the LHC [9].
For example, the LHC measurement of \( m_t \) already has an
uncertainty comparable to that at the Tevatron, namely \( \sim 0.5\%
[10] \), and the greater statistics at the LHC offer prospects
for a substantial reduction, if the systematic errors can be
mastered. This greater accuracy is certainly desirable, as we see shortly [11–13]. In addition to the dominant \( t \bar{t} \)
production process, where spin correlation measurements cast
light on the production process, single-top production has been
measured, reassuring us that \( V_{tb} \sim 1 \). We recall that the
forward–backward production asymmetry \( A_{FB} \) measured at
the Tevatron is still problematic, and there are hopes that light
will be cast by measurements of the quantities \( A_t \) and \( A_\phi \) [12].
Meanwhile, searches are on for associated \( t + W \) and \( t + H \)
production.

There are challenges in the measurement of \( m_W \) [9]
associated with pile-up (it was even suggested that a special
low-pile-up run be scheduled), uncertainties in the parton
distribution functions at low \( x \), the effects of material in
the detector, etc. It will be a while before the Tevatron uncertainty in \( m_W \) will be bettered. Meanwhile, the LHC has provided its
first measurement of \( \sin^2 \theta_W = 0.2297 \pm 0.0010 \); a long way
to go before the LEP uncertainty can be matched, but the LHC
is still in its early days.

The LHC has already made several measurements of diboson production [9], and is starting to provide
competitive constraints on multi-boson couplings. However, improvements in the accuracy of theoretical predictions will
be needed before these constraints can be exploited fully.
These measurements can be used to provide constraints on
higher-order terms in the effective electroweak Lagrangian
that may be combined with those provided by measurements of
Higgs production and decays. This is an example how
electroweak and Higgs coupling measurements complement
each other in searches for New Physics. So far there is
limited sensitivity to triboson production and hence quartic
gauge–boson interactions, though an interesting constraint on
the \( g g W^+ W^- \) vertex is provided by the new LHC
measurement of \( g g \rightarrow W^+ W^- \).

4. Electroweak theory

Experiments at LEP already posed a paradox that has been
accentuated by experiments at the LHC [8, 11, 13, 14]: in the
words of Enrico Fermi: ‘where is everybody’? In other words:
‘why is there just a light (and apparently elementary) Higgs
boson and nothing else, specifically none of the plethora of
new particles predicted in popular theoretical extensions of the
standard model’? If there is some other low-mass physics:
why have we seen no indirect evidence of it? Alternatively,
if there is nothing light, is a light, elementary Higgs boson
unnatural?

The discovery of a light, apparently elementary Higgs
boson at the LHC has accentuated the naturalness problem
that has exercised theoretical minds for over 30 years. The full
particle content of the standard model is now established, and
we know that the quadratic divergences in loop diagrams are
not cancelled, signalling in many minds extreme sensitivity
to the parameters of high-scale physics and a need for
unreasonable (?) fine tuning.

That said, the experimental values of \( m_H \) and \( m_t \) have
an intriguing property [11–13]: they lie very close to the
boundary of the region where the effective potential of the
standard model is stable, probably in a region where our
present electroweak vacuum is metastable unless there is
new physics at some scale below about \( 10^{10} \text{GeV} \). Is this a
coincidence, is it telling us something profound?

5. Flavour physics

This is one example of an area where new physics
has failed to manifest itself even indirectly. The
Cabibbo–Kobayashi–Maskawa (CKM) paradigm continues
to work very well [15], and dominates over any new physics
contributions to the 15 non-zero modes of CP violation that
have now been measured [16, 17]. There were hopes for a
while that there might be CP violation beyond the standard
model in the \( D^0 \) system, but this hope was always subject to
theoretical uncertainties, and is not supported by more recent
LHCb results.

Moreover, rare decays also agree with the standard model
predictions, the most recent being \( B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \), which has
now been observed by both LHCb and CMS [18, 19]. The one
current instance of an apparent discrepancy with the standard
model is in one of the angular distributions in \( B \rightarrow K^*\mu^+\mu^- \)
decay [20], but it is too early to judge whether this will survive
as evidence for new physics.

In the future, we will want to push the experimental error
down to the level of the theoretical error, below 10%, and
we look forward to measurements of \( B_s \rightarrow \mu^+ \mu^- \). Currently
both CMS [19] and LHCb [18] have \( 2\sigma \) hints for this decay,
though at rates higher than expected in the standard model.
It would also be interesting to measure \( B_s \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^- \). LHCb is
planning a major upgrade in 2018, aiming at measurements of
CP violation in \( B \rightarrow \phi \pi \) and \( D \) decays at the standard
model level [16], and CMS and ATLAS will continue their
measurements of rare \( B \) decays, while Belle-II is on the
horizon [17]. This will complement the LHC experiments in
many channels involving photons and/or neutrinos, as well as
in charm and \( \tau \) decays. Thus, probes of the CKM paradigm
will grow ever more precise in the coming years. However, at
the moment it seems that any new physics at the TeV scale
should copy the CKM model via some scenario with minimal
flavour violation [15].

6. The (NGA)EBGHKMP mechanism

Following the introduction into particle physics of sponta-
neous global symmetry breaking into particle physics by
Nambu [21] and the formulation of a simple field-theoretical
model by Goldstone [22], as well as the interpretation by Anderson [23] of superconductivity in terms of a spontaneously broken local $U(1)$ symmetry, in 1964 several papers introduced spontaneously broken local symmetry into particle physics. The initial paper by Englert and Brout [24] was followed a few weeks later by two papers written independently by Higgs: the first pointing out that a technical obstacle to a four-dimensional extension of Anderson’s approach could be circumvented [25], and the second proposing a specific four-dimensional model with a massive scalar boson [26]. The subsequent paper by Guralnik et al [27] referred explicitly to these earlier papers. Also of note is a relatively unknown 1965 paper by Migdal and Polyakov [28], which discusses the partial breaking of a local non-Abelian symmetry, ahead of the influential paper of Kibble [29].

Of all these authors, Higgs was the only one who mentioned explicitly the existence of a massive scalar boson (see equation (2b) of his second paper [26]), and he went on to write a third paper in 1966 [30] that discusses the properties of this ‘Higgs boson’ in surprising detail including, e.g. its decays into massive vector bosons.

For a decade, very few people took seriously Higgs’ prediction of this boson, there being only a handful of papers about before the phenomenological profile that Mary Gaillard, Dimitri Nanopoulos and I wrote in 1975 [31]. Fortunately, the LHC community did not pay attention to the caveat in the last sentence of our paper that ‘we do not want to encourage big experimental searches for the Higgs boson’, and the ATLAS and CMS experiments announced the discovery of a candidate for a (the?) Higgs boson on 4 July 2012 [32, 33].

7. From discovery to measurement

The emphasis has now shifted from the discovery of this new particle to measurements of its properties [34]. Combined, their mass measurements yield $m_H = 125.6 \pm 0.3$ GeV, somewhat below the cosmological stability bound, as already commented. The mass values measured by ATLAS and CMS are quite consistent: there is some difference between the values measured by ATLAS in the two high mass-resolution channels $\gamma \gamma$ and $ZZ^* \rightarrow 4\ell^{\pm}$, but this is not significant.

The signal strengths observed in many channels are compatible with the standard model within the measurement errors, which are currently $\sim 20$ to $30\%$, as seen in figure 2. The mean signal strength, averaged over all the observed channels, is $\mu = 1.02^{+0.11}_{-0.12}$ [35]. Frontiers include production via vector–boson fusion (VBF), which has been observed with significance $\sim 2\sigma$ in several channels, and $\sim 3\sigma$ combined. The decays to $\tau \tau$ and $bb$ are both emerging at the $\sim 3\sigma$ level, and there is indirect evidence that the $Htt$ coupling has approximately the standard model value, from the magnitudes of the $Hgg$ and $Huy\gamma$ couplings. Direct evidence for the $Htt$ coupling will be sought via production of $H$ in association with $tt$, single $t$ or $\bar{t}$.

The situation now is reminiscent of a jigsaw puzzle that you have been working on for almost 50 years. In your search for the last piece, you have found ‘behind the sofa’ a crumpled piece of cardboard: does it have the right shape and size to be the missing piece of the puzzle, or is it something different (which would be even more exciting)? If it is the Higgs boson, how best to measure its properties with what sort of Higgs factory, and is it accompanied by other (Higgs) particles [36]?

8. What is it?

In our attempts to characterize the newly discovered $H$ particle, we ask the following questions. Does it have spin 0 or 2? Is it scalar or pseudoscalar? Is it elementary or composite? Does it couple to other particles proportionally to their masses? Are quantum (loop) corrections to its couplings in agreement with the standard model? What are its self-couplings?

Various ways of distinguishing different spin hypotheses have been proposed, including angular and kinematic distributions in $H \rightarrow \gamma \gamma, ZZ^*$ and $WW^*$ final states [34], the invariant mass distribution and energy dependence in associated $V + H$ production. Simple graviton-like spin-2 couplings of the $H$ particle have been excluded in many ways. Some of the same measurements also exclude the possibility that the $H$ particle has predominantly pseudoscalar couplings, e.g. to $ZZ^*$. However, this possibility should be checked in each channel, as models of CP violation may not yield universal combinations of scalar and pseudoscalar couplings.

Many theoretical groups as well as the experimental collaborations have confronted the data to models in which the $H$ couplings to bosons and fermions are rescaled by factors $(a, c)$ relative to the Higgs couplings in the standard model [13]. Figure 3 shows the result of one such global fit to all the available data on $H$ production and decays [35]. We see that there is no evidence for any significant deviation from the standard model, and that alternative composite models (represented by the yellow lines) are either excluded or constrained to resemble strongly the prediction $(a, c) = (1, 1)$ of the standard model.

![Figure 2](https://example.com/figure2.png)
the combination of all the available Higgs coupling measurements in the $bb$, $\tau^+\tau^-$, $\gamma\gamma$, $WW^*$ and $ZZ^*$ final states [35].

Figure 3. The constraints in the $(a, c)$ plane imposed by a global combination of all the available Higgs coupling measurements in the $bb$, $\tau^+\tau^-$, $\gamma\gamma$, $WW^*$ and $ZZ^*$ final states [35].

An alternative way to parameterize the $H$ couplings to other particles is

$$
\lambda_f = \sqrt{2} \left( \frac{m_f}{M} \right)^{1+\epsilon}, \quad g_V = 2 \left( \frac{m_V}{M} \right)^{2+2\epsilon},
$$

(1)

where in the standard model $\epsilon = 0$, $M = v = 246$ GeV. The result of a global fit using the parameterization (1) is shown in figure 4 [35]. The standard model prediction that the couplings should depend linearly on the particle masses is very compatible with the data: the global fit yields

$$
\epsilon = -0.022^{+0.042}_{-0.021}, \quad M = 244^{+20}_{-10} \text{ GeV}.
$$

(2)

As we wrote in [37], the $H$ particle walks and quacks like a Higgs boson.

At one stage there was some excitement that the loop couplings of $H$ to $gg$ and (particularly) $\gamma\gamma$ might differ significantly from the standard model predictions. However, a global fit currently finds consistency with the standard model at the 68% CL, though there is still some scope for the $H\gamma\gamma$ vertex to be larger than in the standard model and for the $Hgg$ coupling to be somewhat smaller.

Almost all the items on the checklist in the first paragraph of this section have now been verified, the only outstanding item on the checklist being the triple-boson coupling. In view of the successful checks discussed in the previous paragraphs, beyond any reasonable doubt the $H$ particle is a Higgs boson. This is a big deal, and a tipping-point in particle physics. In order for a particle theory to be calculable over many decades in energy or distance, it must be renormalizable. We have known for over four decades that the most general renormalizable theory includes scalar bosons as well as gauge vector bosons and fermions. Given the absence of a scalar boson and the technical issues of naturalness that it raises, many theorists have doubted whether such a third element of the renormalizable Holy Trinity actually exists. The discovery of a Higgs boson has caused considerable mortality among theories, if not among theorists. Now we know that a/the Higgs boson does exist, we can focus on the next set of phenomenological issues to be addressed by the LHC and possible future accelerators.

How closely does it resemble the Higgs boson of the standard model? Are there other Higgs bosons [36]? What are the upper limits on the couplings of any more massive Higgs bosons? If this Higgs boson is not alone, is there an extra singlet boson beyond the standard model? Or is there a second Higgs doublet? Perhaps there is a fermiophobic Higgs doublet? Perhaps a second Higgs doublet appears as in the minimal supersymmetric extension of the standard model (MSSM)? Does this Higgs boson have non-standard decays? Are there invisible decays? Does it decay into $bb$, $\tau^+\tau^-$ and $\mu^+\mu^-$ as predicted in the standard model? Does it have flavour-changing decays, e.g. into $\tau^\pm\mu^\mp$ [38]? Is there any sign of an anomaly in $VV$ scattering?

Is the fact that $m_t$ and $m_H$ are measured to be very close to the stability bound some sort of hint? (One might add that also the present value of the dark energy, a.k.a., the cosmological constant, is very close to Weinberg’s anthropic upper bound [39].) Supersymmetry is one example of new physics that could stabilize the electroweak vacuum (and would also remove the most divergent contribution to the dark energy), in addition to its other well-advertized benefits. But is the supersymmetric spectrum strongly split? Or is it broken completely at a high scale? Should we modify or abandon the naturalness criterion? Does nature care about naturalness? But should we really be content if there is any one of the myriads of vacua in the string landscape that describes our universe, and accept it on anthropic grounds, abandoning many of our scientific aspirations for deeper understanding?

9. Neutrino physics

This is another area where new theoretical ideas would be welcome. There are plenty of models for neutrino masses and mixing [40], but none are particularly convincing (not even mine). Dispiritingly, anarchy works just fine [8]! As in the
case of the quark flavour problem, maybe we need yet more experimental clues.

For example, we do not yet know the answers to such basic questions as whether neutrinos have Majorana or Dirac masses, nor whether they have a normal or inverted mass hierarchy. The most tantalizing question is whether there is CP violation in the neutrino sector. Both Majorana masses and CP violation are important in principle for leptogenesis [8], although their discoveries would not be sufficient to calculate it without additional input, either theoretical or experimental.

The good news is that neutrino experiments have prospects for answering many of these neutrino questions in the near future, as well as the possible existence of sterile neutrinos and the reactor anomaly [41]. Several experiments are ready to determine the hierarchy of neutrino masses, and the relatively large value of $\theta_{13}$ measured by the Daya Bay [42] and RENO [43] experiments raises hope that the ‘Holy Grail’ of CP violation may be within reach. As we heard here, an interesting local possibility could be to exploit an intense 400 MeV neutrino beam from the European Spallation Source in conjunction a large water Čerenkov detector located near here.

Another frontier in neutrino physics is in astrophysics. IceCube has recently reported the observation of very-high-energy neutrinos that cannot have just an atmospheric origin [44]. Are these finally the harbingers of GZK physics, or do they have some other source?

10. Cosmological inflation in light of Planck

The cosmic microwave background (CMB) is another window on ultra-high-energy physics [2, 8]. Its perturbations are thought to have originated in quantum fluctuations during an early inflationary epoch driven by some scalar inflaton field $\phi$. The recent CMB observations with the Planck satellite [45] are consistent with inflation, in particular because they confirm the tilt in the scalar perturbation spectrum:

$$n_s = 0.9603 \pm 0.073$$  \hspace{1cm} (3)

that is expected as the inflaton field $\phi$ rolls down its effective potential. On the other hand, Planck strengthened the upper limit on the ratio tensor to scalar perturbations: $r < 0.10$, which restricts the energy density during inflation and poses a challenge for simple inflationary models with potentials that are monomial powers of $\phi$. As can be seen in figure 5, one model that does survive Planck is the original Starobinsky model with a non-minimal $R^2$ term [46] (orange line). Another model that makes very similar predictions is Higgs inflation [47], but this would require the Higgs mass to lie in the region of electroweak vacuum stability, which is now disfavoured, as discussed above.

An attractive alternative possibility is provided (yet again) by supersymmetry. Any successful inflationary model requires either an inflaton mass that is $\ll M_P$ and/or an inflaton self-coupling that is $\ll$ unity, either of which would be technically natural in a supersymmetric model. Remarkably, the simplest single-field, globally supersymmetric Wess–Zumino model has an effective potential that can inflate successfully in agreement with Planck data [48], as seen in figure 5. Even more remarkably, a locally supersymmetric version in the framework of no-scale supergravity yields the same effective potential as the Starobinsky model [49, 50]. Maybe, as we wrote a while back, inflation cries out for supersymmetry [51]!

11. Dark matter

It does not need repeating here that supersymmetry provides a very natural candidate for cold dark matter, and that experiments are hot on its trail [2]. Many experiments are searching directly for dark matter scattering via either spin-independent and/or dependent interactions. XENON100 is currently the market leader in direct searches for spin-independent dark matter interactions over a large range of masses. There is some confusion at low masses, with positive claims from DAMA/LIBRA, CoGENT, CRESST and now CDMS that are difficult to reconcile with the limit from XENON100. The low-mass region can be explored in searches for mono-photon, -Z and -W events at the LHC, but the interpretations of these searches are somewhat model-dependent, since they are sensitive to possible form factors in the interactions between dark matter and quarks or gluons [52]. Future direct dark matter search experiments such as XENON1T, DARWIN and EURECA will reach deeply into the parameter spaces of simple supersymmetric models.

Indirect searches for astrophysical dark matter particles via their annihilation products have generated some excitement recently [2]. For example, the AMS-02 experiment has recently confirmed [53] the rising positron fraction observed by previous experiments. However, explaining this via dark matter annihilations would require a very large boost factor, and is subject to important restrictions from the absence of signals in $\gamma$-rays and antiprotons [54]. More excitement was generated by the report of a possible $\gamma$-ray line at $\sim 130$ GeV in the FERMI satellite data [54].
Figure 6. The $\chi^2$ likelihood in the (oversimplified) constrained minimal supersymmetric extension of the standard model (CMSSM) as a function of the gluino mass, based on a global fit to the LHC with 5 fb$^{-1}$ at 8 TeV and XENON100 data set (solid lines), compared to a fit to the LHC data from 1 fb$^{-1}$ at 7 TeV (dashed lines) [56].

However, this would also require a very large annihilation cross section, and any fundamental explanation must deal with the fact that the line is also observed in $\gamma$-rays from the earth’s limb! This line sounds to me like a systematic effect.

12. Supersymmetry

In addition to all the traditional arguments for supersymmetry based on naturalness, unification, string, dark matter, etc, the LHC discovery of a Higgs boson has provided more. Not only could supersymmetry stabilize the electroweak vacuum but also it predicted successfully that the Higgs mass should be $<130$ GeV in simple models [55], and it also predicted successfully that its couplings should be within a few % of the standard model values [56].

Global fits to supersymmetric model parameters incorporate inputs from precision electroweak observables, flavour physics, the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon ($g_\mu - 2$), the Higgs mass, the dark matter density and searches for astrophysical dark matter and LHC constraints from searches for missing-energy (MET) events [57] and heavy Higgs bosons [36]. The Higgs mass and MET searches push strongly interacting sparticle masses above 1 TeV, which makes $g_\mu - 2$ difficult to explain within simple models. Figure 6 displays the $\chi^2$ function for the gluino mass found in the simplest supersymmetric model with universal soft supersymmetry breaking [56]. Gluino masses below about 3 TeV should be accessible to the high-luminosity upgrade of the LHC (HL-LHC), but gluino masses above that would probably be accessible only to a higher-energy collider.

Many such analyses have been made under simplifying assumptions, and one might wonder how general their conclusions may be. A full exploration of the multi-dimensional supersymmetric parameter space is beyond our computational reach. However, one promising approach may be to reduce its effective dimensionality by demonstrating that the limits from some combination of LHC searches is independent of many aspects of the sparticle spectrum [58]. A suitable extension of this approach might offer some reassurance that we have missed some low-mass scenario between the supersymmetric lamp-posts where we have searched.

My point of view is that supersymmetry anywhere below the grand unification or Planck scale is better than nowhere, and so should be part of the big picture. Moreover, we have always understood that supersymmetry could not explain the hierarchy, merely help stabilize it, so the need for new ideas is not new!

13. Future accelerators

In view of the Higgs boson discovery, it is natural to consider building a ’Higgs Factory’, capable of producing many Higgs bosons and measuring its properties in great detail [59]. The good news is that we already have a Higgs Factory—it is called the LHC, which has already produced millions of Higgs bosons, though only a fraction have been observed. However, the HL-LHC would have impressive capabilities for Higgs measurements [8]. Fewer Higgs bosons but much cleaner experimental conditions would be provided by an $e^+e^-$ collider, which might be either linear (ILC [60], CLIC [61]) or circular (LEP3, TLEP [62]). Other possibilities include a photon–photon or muon collider. An ICFA workshop at Fermilab in November 2012 considered these various possibilities, and concluded that circular $e^+e^-$ colliders offered prospects for the highest precision in Higgs studies [63].

In considering options for the future, we should be mindful that the HL-LHC is by no means a ’done deal’: it needs global collaborative R&D on a number of high-tech items such as high-field dipoles and quadrupoles, long high-temperature superconducting links, crab cavities, etc, as well as substantial detector upgrades [64]. Subsequent priorities, whether an $e^+e^-$ collider, a higher-energy hadron collider in the LHC tunnel, or a large circular tunnel capable of housing an $e^+e^-$ collider or a very-high-energy hadron collider, will depend on what the LHC experiments find when its energy is increased in 2015 to 13 or 14 TeV, and no decision should be made before its results are available.

In this context, it is worth recalling some key phrases from the recently agreed European Strategy for Particle Physics [65], which states that ’Europe’s top priority should be the exploitation of the full potential of the LHC, including the high-luminosity upgrade’. It goes on to say that ’CERN should undertake design studies for accelerator projects in a global context, with emphasis on proton–proton and electron–positron high-energy frontier machines’. Then it says that ’The initiative from the Japanese particle physics community to host the ILC in Japan [8] is most welcome, and … Europe looks forward to a proposal from Japan to discuss a possible participation’.

We have been reminded here that big accelerator laboratories have important rôles in innovation, training and outreach as well as research [66]. They push forward the frontiers of technology as well as science, they can stimulate young people to study STEM subjects, and help society to appreciate science. A successful accelerator project requires a sustained commitment and global collaboration among many
partners, in pursuit of common goals. The health of the field requires major accelerator projects in all regions of the world, but it is important not to underestimate the complex scientific, technical, administrative and political challenges involved. It is important to learn the lessons from the last major ‘green-field’ project in particle physics, and propose and discuss any major future project in an international context from the beginning.

Paraphrasing a conversation I had with Mrs Thatcher when we were introduced to CERN in 1982, I said that ‘My job as a theorist is to think of things for the experiments to look for, but then we hope they find something different’. Mrs Thatcher liked things to be the way she wanted them to be, so she asked ‘Wouldn’t it be better if they found what you predicted’. I responded along the lines that ‘If they just find exactly what we predict, we would have no clues how to progress’. In this spirit, let us all hope that the Higgs boson is not exactly that of the standard model, and that higher-energy LHC running will reveal other new physics beyond the standard model.

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