





FASER: ForwArd Search ExpeRiment at the LHC

Sebastian Trojanowski University of Sheffield



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arXiv:1708.09389;1710.09387;1801.08947;1806.02348 (PRD,with J.L.Feng,I.Galon,F.Kling) FASER Collaboration: arXiv:1811:10243 Letter of Intent (CERN-LHCC-2018-030) arXiv:1811.12522 Physics case arXiv:1812.09139 Technical Proposal (CERN-LHCC-2018-036) arXiv:1901.04468 Input to the European Particle Physics Strategy

FASER COLLABORATION

(FASER group see https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/viewauth/FASER/WebHome)



OUTLINE

- Motivation behind the intensity frontier searches for light long-lived particles (LLPs)
- FASER: ForwArd Search ExpeRiment at the LHC (idea, detector design)
- Remarks about FASER physics program
 - -- dark photons,
 - -- axion-like particles,
 - -- possible measurements for SM neutrinos
 - -- ... and many other models
- Background: simulations & in-situ measurements
- Concluding remarks

MOTIVATION



<u>heavy</u> and <u>strongly-coupled new physics</u> e.g. SUSY, extra dimensions, ... here also missing energy searches for heavy WIMP DM, magnetic monopoles,...

Light and very weakly coupled new physics: -- requires large "luminosities" (statistics) -- new particles decay back to SM, but with highly displaced vertices -- SM BG needs to be highly suppressed



HIDDEN SECTOR PORTALS

- new "hidden" particles are SM singlets

- interactions between the SM and "hidden" sector arise due to

mixing through some SM portal

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{portal}} = \sum O_{\text{SM}} \times O_{\text{DS}}$$

B. Patt, F. Wilczek, 0605188B. Batell, M. Pospelov, A. Ritz, 0906.5614

Renormalizable portalsPortalCouplingDark Photon, A_{μ} $-\frac{\epsilon}{2\cos\theta_W}F'_{\mu\nu}B^{\mu\nu}$ Dark Higgs, S $(\mu S + \lambda S^2)H^{\dagger}H$ Axion, a $\frac{a}{f_a}F_{\mu\nu}\tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}, \frac{a}{f_a}G_{i,\mu\nu}\tilde{G}_i^{\mu\nu}, \frac{\partial_{\mu}a}{f_a}\overline{\psi}\gamma^{\mu}\gamma^5\psi$ Sterile Neutrino, N $y_N LHN$



FASER

FASER - IDEA

FASER – newly proposed, small (~0.05 m³) and inexpensive (~2M\$) experiment detector to be placed few hundred meters downstream away from the ATLAS IP

to harness large, currently "wasted" forward LHC cross section



FASER LOCATION – TUNNEL TI12



- location in a side tunnel TI12 (former service tunnel connecting SPS to LEP)
- $L \sim 485m$ away from the IP along the beam axis
- space for a 5-meter-long detector
- precise position of the beam axis in the tunnel up to mm precision (CERN Engineering Dep)
- corrections due to beam crossing angle (for ~300 μ rad the displacement is ~7-8 cm) ⁸

TUNNEL TI12



new physics (hidden in the dark)

main LHC tunnel

BASIC DETECTOR LAYOUT



• 2 stages of the project:

FASER 1: L = 1.5 m, R = 10 cm, $V = 0.05 \text{ m}^3$, 150 fb⁻¹ (Run 3) (above layout)

FASER 2: *L* = 5 m, *R* = 1 m, V = 16 m³, 3 ab⁻¹ (HL-LHC)

FASER PHYSICS

EXAMPLE OF LHC/FASER KINEMATICS LLP FROM PION PRODUCTION AT THE IP



1708.09389, PRD 97 (2018) no.3, 035001

DARK PHOTONS AT FASER – KINEMATICS



mostly within r<20cm

13

FASER

1708.09389, PRD 97 (2018) no.3, 035001

DARK PHOTON

- (broken) dark U(1) gauge group,
- kinetic mixing with the SM photon: $\pmb{\epsilon}\,F^{\mu\nu}\,F'_{\mu\nu}$,
- after field redefinition:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -\frac{1}{4} F^{\mu\nu} F_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{4} F'^{\mu\nu} F'_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} m_{A'}^2 A'_{\mu} A'^{\mu} + \sum \bar{f}(i \not \!\!\!/ = \epsilon \, eq_f A') f$$
- production: π^0 and η decays, bremsstrahlung,
direct production in $q\bar{q}$ scatterings
- decays: dominantly into e^+e^- and $\mu^+\mu^-$ up to ~ 500 MeV,
then various hadronic decay modes
 $\bar{d} = c \frac{1}{\Gamma_{A'}} \gamma_{A'} \beta_{A'} \approx (80 \text{ m}) B_e \left[\frac{10^{-5}}{\epsilon}\right]^2 \left[\frac{E_{A'}}{TeV}\right] \left[\frac{100 \text{ MeV}}{m_{A'}}\right]^2$
A' as a DM-SM mediator
FASER 2 comparable to proposed large SHiP detector
 $N_{\text{sig}} \propto \mathcal{L}^{\text{int}} \epsilon^2 e^{-L_{\text{min}}/\bar{d}}$ for $\bar{d} \ll L_{\text{min}}$
 $\bar{d} \sim \epsilon^2$
no of events grows exponentially with a small shift in ϵ
10⁻⁷
 $M_{A'} [GeV]$



Almost impreceptible differences in reach for various MC tools $\overline{d} \sim \varepsilon^{-2}$

$$N_{\rm sig} \propto \mathcal{L}^{\rm int} \, \epsilon^2 \, e^{-L_{\rm min}/\bar{d}} \quad \text{for} \ \bar{d} \ll L_{\rm min}$$

no of events grows exponentially with a small shift in $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$



FASER reach unaffected by a small offset as long as the beam collision axis goes through the detector

FASER

1806.02348, PRD 98 (2018) no.5, 055021

ALPS AT FASER -

LHC AS A PHOTON BEAM DUMP

 similarly to the QCD axion, they can appear as pseudo-Nambu-Goldstone bosons in theories with broken global symmetries

- suppressed dim-5 couplings to gauge bosons $(1/\Lambda) a V^{\mu
 u} \tilde{V}_{\mu
 u}$,
- dim-5 couplings to fermions also allowed $(\partial_{\mu}a/\Lambda)\bar{f}\gamma_{\mu}\gamma_{5}f$,
- interesting pheno scenario dominant $a\gamma\gamma$ coupling

B. Döbrich et al, JHEP 1602 (2016) 018

Photon beam dump (also "light shining through a wall")





FASER

Ф

 V_{ts}

1710.09387, PRD 97 (2018) no.5, 055034

 V_{tb}

DARK HIGGS BOSONS

- Dark Higgs boson: additional hidden real scalar field ϕ ,
- often adopted phenomenological parametrization:

$$\mathcal{L} \supset - m_{\phi}^2 \, \phi^2 - \sin heta rac{m_f}{v} \, \phi ar{f} f - oldsymbol{\lambda} v h \phi \phi$$

- Higgs-like couplings suppressed by $heta^2$,
- production: B and K decays, $h
 ightarrow \phi \phi$,
- decays: into the heaviest kinematically allowed states: $\mu^+\mu^-$, $\pi\pi$, KK , \ldots
- at FASER energies: $N_B/N_{\pi} \sim 10^{-2}$ (10⁻⁷ for typical beam+dumps)



PROBING INVISIBLE DECAYS OF THE SM HIGGS

 $\mathcal{L} \supset - \lambda v h \phi \phi$

- trilinear coupling invisible Higgs decays $h \rightarrow \phi \phi$
- far-forward region: efficient production via off-shell Higgs, $B \rightarrow X_s h^*(\rightarrow \phi \phi)$
- can extend the reach in θ up to $10^{\text{-}6}$ for B(h $\rightarrow \phi \phi$)~0.1
- up to ~100s of events



1801.08947, PRD 97 (2018) no.9, 095016

HEAVY NEUTRAL LEPTONS

• seesaw mechanism, e.g., for type-I seesaw

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\rm SM} + i\,\bar{\widetilde{N}}_I \partial \widetilde{N}_I - F_{\alpha I}\bar{L}_{\alpha}\,\widetilde{N}_I\,\tilde{\Phi} - \frac{1}{2}\bar{\widetilde{N}}_I^c\,M_I\,\widetilde{N}_I + \text{h.c.}$$

• once Higgs gets vev, they mix with active (SM) neutrinos Mixing angles: U_{eI} , $U_{\mu I}$, $U_{\tau I}$

 $l_i^{\pm} l_i^{\mp}$, $v_j \overline{v}_j$, $q \overline{q}$

2 charged tracks

• production in B and D meson decays

$$\begin{split} D^{0,\pm} &\to N \: e^{\pm} \: K^{\mp,0,(*)}, \: D_s^{\pm} \to N \: e^{\pm}, \dots \\ B^{0,\pm} &\to N \: e^{\pm} \: D^{\mp,0,(*)}, \: B^{\pm} \to N \: e^{\pm}, \\ & B_c^{\pm} \to N \: e^{\pm}, \dots \end{split}$$

• decay back into lighter SM particles (visible BR often 80-90%)



MORE MODELS OF NEW PHYSICS

(table refers to the benchmark scenarios of the Physics Beyond Colliders CERN study group)

Benchmark Model	Label	Section	PBC	Refs	FASER	FASER 2
Dark Photons	V1	IV A	BC1	[7]		\checkmark
B - L Gauge Bosons	V2	IV B		[30]	\checkmark	\checkmark
$L_i - L_j$ Gauge Bosons	V3	IVC		[30]		
Dark Higgs Bosons	S1	VA	BC4	[26, 27]		\checkmark
Dark Higgs Bosons with hSS	S2	VВ	BC5	[26]		\checkmark
HNLs with e	F1	VI	BC6	[28, 29]		\checkmark
HNLs with μ	F2	VI	BC7	[28, 29]		\checkmark
HNLs with τ	F3	VI	BC8	[28, 29]	\checkmark	\checkmark
ALPs with Photon	A1	VII A	BC9	[32]	\checkmark	\checkmark
ALPs with Fermion	A2	VIIB	BC10		\checkmark	\checkmark
ALPs with Gluon	A3	VII C	BC11		\checkmark	\checkmark

Other models & FASER sensitivity studies e.g.:

- RPV SUSY (D. Drecks, J. de Vries, H.K. Dreiner, Z.S. Wang, 1810.03617)
- Inelastic dark matter (A. Berlin, F. Kling, 1810.01879)

1711.11043

T. Ariga, J. Feng, F. Kling, H. Otono, B. Petersen,

O. Sato, J. Smolinsky, C. Wilkinson

SM NEUTRINOS IN FASER

General idea: Few cm thick lead plate will be put between several front veto layers (in front of FASER)

Incoming neutrinos can CC interact inside the lead plate producing muon with no counterpart in layers in front of the plate

Potentially hundreds of events in FASER



Further ideas are also explored e.g. measurements of v_{τ} employing emulsion detectors



SM BACKGROUNDS

BACKGROUNDS – SIMULATIONS (FLUKA)

Spectacular signal:

- -- two opposite-sign, high energy (few hundred GeV) charged tracks,
- -- that originate from a common vertex inside the decay volume,
- -- and point back to the IP (+no associated signal in a veto layer in front of FASER),
- -- and are consistent with bunch crossing timing.
- Neutrino-induced events: low rate
- The radiation level in TI18 is low (<10⁻² Gy/year), encouraging for detector electronics
- Proton showers in a nearby
 Disperssion Suppresor lead to negligible BG
 after ~90m of rocks in front of FASER
- Muons coming from the IP front veto layers

Expected trigger rate ~650 Hz

Other particles: detailed simulations, highly reduced rate (shielding + LHC magnets)

study by the members of the CERN FLUKA team:

e⁻

	Cut	1 > 100 GeV	Cut 1 > 500 GeV		Cut	1 > 1 leV
Part. type	fluence rate (cm ⁻² s ⁻¹)	fluence per bunch crossing per cm ²	fluence rate (cm ⁻² s ⁻¹)	fluence per bunch crossing per cm ²	fluence rate (cm ⁻² s ⁻¹)	fluence per bunch crossing per cm ²
μ+	0.18	6.1·10 ⁻⁹	0.02	5.8.10-10	0.002	6.8.10-11
μ-	0.40	1.3.10.8	0.22	7.4.10.9	0.14	4.6.10.9
n _o	~ 10-7	~ 10 ⁻¹⁴	0	0	0	0
γ	~ 10-4	~ 10 ⁻¹²	~ 10 ⁻⁶	~ 10'13	~ 10 ⁻⁶	~ 10 ⁻¹³
π	~ 10 ⁻⁵	~ 10 ⁻¹²	~ 10 ⁻⁷	~ 10 ⁻¹⁴	0	0

Process	Expected Number of Events
μ	$540\mathrm{M}$
$\mu + \gamma_{\rm brem}$	41K
$[\mu + (\gamma_{\rm brem} \to e^+ e^-)]$	[7.4K]
$\mu + EM$ shower	22K
μ + hadronic shower	21K

BACKGROUNDS – SIMULATIONS (2)

Cross section of the tunnel containing FASER



At FASER location:

muon flux reduced along the beam collision axis (helpful role of the LHC magnets)

FASER

BACKGROUNDS – IN-SITU MEASUREMENTS

Line of sight

- Emulsion detectors focusing on a small region around the beam axis (FASER location)
- TimePix Beam Lumi Monitors
- BatMons (battery-operated radiation monitors)
- Analyses show that results are consistent with FLUKA simulations
- More work ongoing to refine simulations and analyse in-situ measurements





SUMMARY

FASER – GROWING COLLABORATION

Sep 2017: First paper, J. Feng, I. Galon, F. Kling, ST, PRD 97 035001 (2018)

...within ~1.5 year FASER grew to an international collaboration recognized at CERN

Currently: ~30 active members from ~15 institutions in ~8 countries (growing), Spokespersons: Jamie Boyd (CERN), Jonathan L. Feng (UC Irvine)

During LHC Run 2 (2018): detailed BG simulations (CERN Eng Dep) + in-situ measurements

Sep 2018: FASER Letter of Intent – accepted by the LHC Committee

Dec 2018: Technical Proposal recommended by the LHC Committee for a full approval

Dec 2018/Jan 2019: fundings granted for the detector (Heisig-Simons and Simons foundations)

Mar 2019: possible full approval by the CERN Research Board

PLANS:

-- Final detector design, manufacture, installation and commisioning during Long Shutdown 2 (ongoing work)

- -- Data taking during LHC Run 3 (2021-23)
- FASER 2 (major upgrade for HL-LHC)

FASER IN POPULAR CULTURE







related article



FASER

Sebastian Trojanowski (University of Sheffield) New physics reach even after first 10fb⁻¹ (end of 2021?)

CONCLUSIONS

• Light Long-lived Particles (LLPs) – exciting new physics !!!

• FASER is a newly proposed, <u>small and inexpensive</u> experiment to be placed at the LHC to search for light long-lived particles to complement the existing experimental programs at the LHC, as well as other proposed experiments,

• FASER & LHC Committee: Letter of Intent accepted, 10⁻² Technical Proposal recommended for a full approval by the CERN Res Board

• FASER would not affect any of the existing LHC programs and do not have to compete with them for the beam time etc.

- Rich physics prospects:
- popular LLP models (dark photon, dark Higgs boson, GeV-scale HNLs, ALPs...),
- Many connections to DM and cosmology
- Invisible decays of the SM Higgs,
- Measurments of SM neutrinos
- Possible timeline:

Install FASER 1 in LS2 (2019-20) for Run 3 (150 fb⁻¹)

- R = 10 cm, L = 1.5 m, Target dark photons, B-L gauge bosons, ALPs...

Install FASER 2 in LS3 (2023-25) for HL-LHC (3 ab⁻¹)

- R = 1 m, L = 5 m, Full physics program: dark vectors, ALPs, dark Higgs, HNLs...





INELASTIC P-P COLLISIONS



COMPARISON – VARIOUS MC TOOLS

CRUCIAL CONTRIBUTION FROM LHC FORWARD PHYSICS AND DIFFRACTION WG



HEAVY NEUTRAL LEPTONS AT FASER 1801.08947

Typical simplified approach:

- we focus on only one HNL leaving a signature in FASER
- we vary as free parameters

 m_N , U_{eN} , $U_{\mu N}$, $U_{\tau N}$, where only one $U_{\ell N} \neq 0$ at a time.

B and D meson decays – we consider about ~ 20 production channels, dominant ones dictated by the CKM suppression, kinematics and fragmentation fractions

 $\begin{array}{l} D^{0,\pm} \rightarrow N \ e^{\pm} \ K^{\mp,0,(*)}, \ D_s^{\pm} \rightarrow N \ e^{\pm}, \dots \\ B^{0,\pm} \rightarrow N \ e^{\pm} \ D^{\mp,0,(*)}, \ B^{\pm} \rightarrow N \ e^{\pm}, \\ B^{\pm} \rightarrow N \ e^{\pm}, \dots \end{array}$ Decay modes: $\begin{array}{l} B^{\pm} \rightarrow N \ e^{\pm}, \dots \\ B^{\pm} \rightarrow N \ e^{\pm}, \dots \end{array}$ BR($N \rightarrow 3\nu$) $\sim 10\% - 20\%$ invisible BR($N \rightarrow \nu \ l_1^+ \ l_2^-$) $\sim 20\%$ (BR($N \rightarrow \nu \ e^+ \ e^-$) \sim few percent) BR($N \rightarrow hadrons$) $\sim 60\% - 70\%$, various final states

FASER 2 \Rightarrow up to $\sim 10^3$ events for $m_N \gtrsim m_D$ \Rightarrow for $m_N \lesssim m_D$ possible $\sim 10^1$ - 10^2 events



Sebastian Trojanowski (University of Sheffield)





- LOS to pass through the magnet center
- minimum digging to the floor in TI12
- minimized needed services (power, cooling)
- manufacture: CERN magnet group
- stray field around scintillator PMTs ~5mT

shielding (mu-metal)



|B| [mT] at z=1100 mm



FASER TRACKING STATIONS

- The FASER Tracker will be made up of 3 tracking stations
- Each containing 3 layers of double sided silicon micro-strip detectors
- Spare ATLAS SCT modules will be used
 - 80µm strip pitch, 40mrad stereo angle
 - Many thanks to the ATLAS SCT collaboration!
- 72 SCT modules needed for the full tracker
- Due to the low radiation in TI12 the silicon can be operated at room temperature, but the detector needs to be cooled to remove heat from the on-detector ASICs
- Tracker readout using FPGA based board from University of Geneva (already used in Baby MIND neutrino experiment)



SCT module









• FASER will have an ECAL:

measuring the EM energy in the event (up to 1% accuracy in energy \sim 1 TeV)

- Will use 4 spare LHCb outer ECAL modules
 - Many thanks to LHCb Collaboration for allowing us to use these!
 - 66 layers of lead/scintillator (2mm lead, 4mm plastic scintillator)
 - 25 radiation lengths long
 - no longitudinal shower information
 - Resolution will degrade at higher energy due to not containing full shower in calorimeter
- Scintillators used for vetoing charged particles entering the decay volume, for triggering and as a preshower
 - To be produced at CERN scintillator lab
 - Vetoing: achievable extremely efficient charged particle veto (eff>99.99%)
 - Trigger: also timing the signal with respect to timing of the \$pp\$ interactions
 - Preshower: thin radiator in front, photon showering (disentangling from v interactions in ECAL)³⁶

SIGNAL DETECTION

Signal is a pair of oppositely charged high-energy particles e.g. 1 TeV A' -> e⁺e⁻

In the following we assume 100% detection efficiency for a better comparison with other experiments

Ongoing work on full detector simulations



CHARGED TRACK SEPARATION EFFICIENCY

1st tracking station



2nd/3rd tracking station (separation > 0.3mm)



MORE ABOUT TRACK SEPARATION



FASER AND SURROUNDING LHC INFRASTRUCTURE



POSSIBLE LOCATIONS (TI12 vs TI18)

- When designing the detector 2 main possible locations were considered:
 - tunnels TI12 and TI18 on two sides of the ATLAS IP (~480m away from the IP)
- Both are former service tunnels connecting SPS and the main LHC tunnel
- Both are currently unused
- Both slope steeply upwards when leaving the main LHC tunnel (SPS is shallower than LHC)
- In both cases the line-of-sight (along the beam collision axis) is below the tunnel floor as it enters the tunnel, and then emerges from the floor
- Lowering of the floor up to 460mm is possible to maximize the detector length

(CERN survey team)

- The tunnels do have identical geometry: about 5m long detector can be fit in tunnel TI12 about 3m long detector can be fit in tunnel TI18
- Based on this the preferred location is the tunnel TI12
- BG measurements have been performed in both locations (below fluxes within 10 mrad)

	beam	observed tracks	efficiency	normalized flux, all	normalized flux, main peak
	$[\mathrm{fb}^{-1}]$	$[cm^{-2}]$		$[fb cm^{-2}]$	$[fb cm^{-2}]$
TI18	2.86	18407	0.25	$(2.6 \pm 0.7) \times 10^4$	$(1.2 \pm 0.4) \times 10^4$
TI12	7.07	174208	0.80	$(3.0 \pm 0.3) \times 10^4$	$(1.9 \pm 0.2) \times 10^4$
FLUKA simulation, E>100 GeV		1×10^{4}			

FASER