

3 minutes talk

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Research Area: Theoretical Particle Physics

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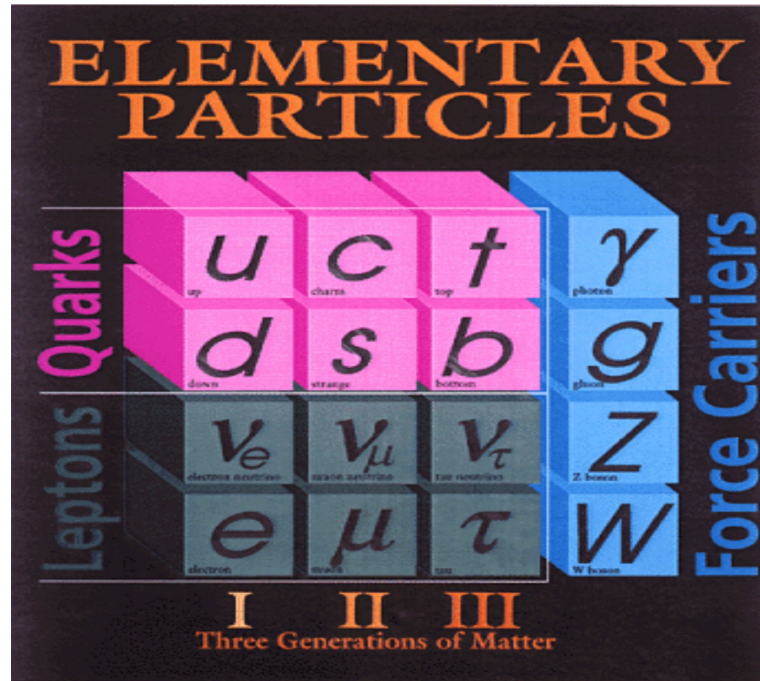
Theoretical Section

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Particle physics: where are we

SM proposed by
Glashow, Weinberg, Salam
during the sixties



+ Higgs boson

- **Standard Model (SM)** theory successfully describes **EW interactions** between fundamental matter constituents: **quarks** and **leptons**
- All **SM** particles acquire masses by the Higgs mechanism
- **SM** predicts the **Higgs boson** (spin-0), but not its mass !
- **Higgs boson** was the last missing piece of **SM** to be discovered
- **discovered in 2012** at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN with mass ~ 125 GeV

Particle physics: where are we

- New discovered particle perfectly consistent with SM Higgs boson predictions → small room for any New Physics contribution

Why do we need New Physics ?

- Light New Physics (NP) degrees of freedom can cure the problem of large quantum corrections to the Higgs boson mass → naturalness
- Most popular NP scenarios: Supersymmetry, composite Higgs, large extra-dimensions ...not seen yet at LHC ! Maybe NP is more exotic..
- but SM does not explain:
 - Dark Matter (missing particle candidate)
 - large mass hierarchy of fermions
 - origin of neutrino masses (and why so small ?)
 - baryon-antibaryon asymmetry in the Universe (requiring add. CP violation)

My research activity

- Analyzing the phenomenology of New Physics scenarios at the **LHC** and future **e^+e^- colliders**
- **Higgs boson physics** at the LHC (new processes, exotic decays)
- **Top quark physics** (polarized processes, rare decays) → **very sensitive to NP contributions**
- Exploring NP models that can naturally explain the **hierarchy of SM fermion masses** and solve the **naturalness problem** in the Higgs sector
- searching for **Dark Matter scenarios** at the LHC
- **From more theoretical side:** investigating formal aspects of quantum field theory and gravitational interactions