

2009

Measurement of the W Boson Mass

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Measurement of the W Boson Mass

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(Received 7 August 2009; published 1 October 2009)

We present a measurement of the W boson mass in $W \rightarrow e\nu$ decays using 1 fb^{-1} of data collected with the D0 detector during Run II of the Fermilab Tevatron collider. With a sample of 499830 $W \rightarrow e\nu$ candidate events, we measure $M_W = 80.401 \pm 0.043 \text{ GeV}$. This is the most precise measurement from a single experiment.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.103.141801

PACS numbers: 14.70.Fm, 13.38.Be

Knowledge of the W boson mass (M_W) is currently a limiting factor in our ability to tighten the constraints on the mass of the Higgs boson as determined from internal consistency of the standard model (SM) [1]. Improving the measurement of M_W is an important contribution to our understanding of the electroweak (EW) interaction, and, potentially, of how the electroweak symmetry is broken. The current world-average measured value is $M_W =$

$80.399 \pm 0.025 \text{ GeV}$ [1] from a combination of measurements from the ALEPH [2], DELPHI [3], L3 [4], OPAL [5], D0 [6], and CDF [7,8] Collaborations.

In this Letter we present a measurement of M_W using data collected from 2002 to 2006 with the D0 detector [9], corresponding to a total integrated luminosity of 1 fb^{-1} [10]. We use the $W \rightarrow e\nu$ decay mode because the D0 calorimeter is well suited for a precise measurement of

electron energies, providing an energy resolution of 3.6% for electrons with an energy of 50 GeV. The components of the initial state total momentum and of the neutrino momentum along the beam direction are unmeasurable, so M_W is measured using three kinematic variables measured in the plane perpendicular to the beam direction: the transverse mass m_T , the electron transverse momentum p_T^e , and the neutrino transverse momentum p_T^ν . The transverse mass is defined as $m_T = \sqrt{2p_T^e p_T^\nu (1 - \cos\Delta\phi)}$, where $\Delta\phi$ is the opening angle between the electron and neutrino momenta in the plane transverse to the beam. The magnitude and direction of p_T^ν are inferred from the event missing transverse energy (\cancel{E}_T). The M_W measurement is made by comparing data spectra of m_T , p_T^e , and \cancel{E}_T with probability density functions (templates) for these spectra constructed from Monte Carlo simulation with varying input M_W values.

The D0 detector [9] contains tracking, calorimeter, and muon systems. Silicon microstrip tracking detectors (SMT) near the interaction point cover pseudorapidity $|\eta| \lesssim 3$ to provide tracking and vertex information. The central fiber tracker surrounds the SMT, providing coverage to $|\eta| \approx 2$. A 2 T solenoid surrounds these tracking detectors. Three uranium, liquid-argon calorimeters measure particle energies. The central calorimeter (CC) covers $|\eta| < 1.1$, and two end calorimeters (EC) extend coverage to $|\eta| \approx 4$. The CC is segmented in depth into eight layers. The first four layers are used primarily to measure the energy of photons and electrons and are collectively called the electromagnetic (EM) calorimeter. The remaining four layers, along with the first four, are used to measure the energy of hadrons. Intercryostat detectors (ICD) provide added sampling in the region $1.1 < |\eta| < 1.4$ where the CC and EC cryostat walls degrade the calorimeter energy resolution. A three level trigger system selects events for recording with a rate of 100 Hz.

Events are initially selected using a trigger requiring at least one EM cluster found in the CC with transverse energy threshold varying from 20 to 25 GeV depending on run conditions. Additionally, the position of the reconstructed production point of a W or Z boson along the beam line is required to be within 60 cm of the center of the detector.

Candidate W boson events are required to have one EM cluster reconstructed in the CC, with $p_T^e > 25$ GeV and $|\eta| < 1.05$ where η is the pseudorapidity measured with respect to the center of the detector. The EM cluster must pass electron shower shape and energy isolation requirements in the calorimeter, be within the central 80% of the electromagnetic section of each CC module, and have one track matching in (η, ϕ) space, where the track has at least one SMT hit and $p_T > 10$ GeV. The central 80% requirement is applied to the ϕ coordinate only and excludes regions with slightly degraded energy resolution. The event must satisfy $\cancel{E}_T > 25$ GeV, $u_T < 15$ GeV, and $50 < m_T <$

200 GeV. Here \cancel{E}_T is the magnitude of the vector sum of the transverse energy of calorimeter cells above read out threshold, excluding those in the coarse hadronic layer and in the intercryostat detector, and u_T is the magnitude of the vector sum of the transverse component of the energies measured in calorimeter cells excluding those associated with the reconstructed electron. This selection yields 499 830 candidate $W \rightarrow e\nu$ events. Throughout this Letter we use “electron” to imply either electron or positron.

We use $Z \rightarrow ee$ events for calibration. Candidate Z boson events are required to have two EM clusters satisfying the requirements above. Both electrons must have $p_T^e > 25$ GeV. One must be reconstructed in the CC and the other in either the CC or EC ($1.5 < |\eta| < 2.5$). The associated tracks must be of opposite charge. Events must also have $u_T < 15$ GeV and $70 \text{ GeV} \leq m_{ee} \leq 110 \text{ GeV}$, where m_{ee} is the invariant mass of the dielectron pair. Events with both electrons in the CC are used to determine the EM calibration. There are 18 725 candidate $Z \rightarrow ee$ events in this category.

The backgrounds in the W boson sample are $Z \rightarrow ee$ events in which one electron escapes detection, multijet events (MJ) in which a jet is misidentified as an electron with \cancel{E}_T arising from misreconstruction, and $W \rightarrow \tau_\nu \rightarrow e\nu\nu\nu$ events. The background from Z boson events arises from electrons which traverse the gap between the CC and EC. The tracking efficiency in this region is high, so this background is estimated by selecting data events passing the W boson selection in which an additional track is pointing at the gap region.

The MJ background is determined using a sample obtained by removing the track matching requirement for the electron candidates. The probabilities for background and W boson signal events in this sample to have a matching track are measured in control samples. The number of events in the sample without the track requirement and the two probabilities are then used to determine the number of MJ background events in the final W boson sample. The $W \rightarrow \tau_\nu \rightarrow e\nu\nu\nu$ contribution is determined from detailed simulation of the process using the D0 GEANT [11]-based simulation. The backgrounds expressed as a fraction of the final sample are $(0.90 \pm 0.01)\%$ from $Z \rightarrow ee$, $(1.49 \pm 0.03)\%$ from MJ, and $(1.60 \pm 0.02)\%$ from $W \rightarrow \tau_\nu \rightarrow e\nu\nu\nu$.

W and Z boson production and decay kinematics are simulated using the RESBOS [12] next-to-leading order generator which includes nonperturbative effects at low boson p_T . These effects are parametrized by three constants (g_1 , g_2 , and g_3) whose values are taken from global fits to data [13]. The radiation of one or two photons is performed using the PHOTOS [14] program.

Detector efficiencies and energy response and resolution for the electron and hadronic energy are applied to the RESBOS + PHOTOS events using a fast parametric

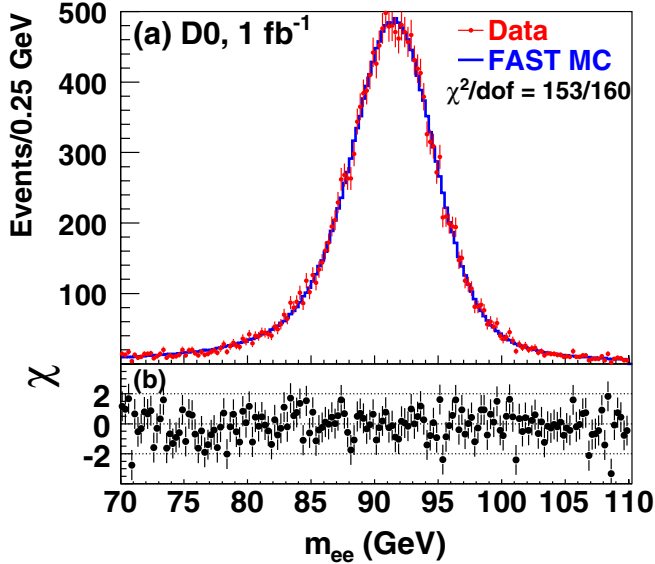


FIG. 1 (color online). (a) The dielectron invariant mass distribution in $Z \rightarrow ee$ data and from the fast simulation FASTMC and (b) the χ values where $\chi_i = [N_i - (\text{FASTMC}_i)]/\sigma_i$ for each point in the distribution, N_i is the data yield in bin i , and σ_i is the statistical uncertainty in bin i .

Monte Carlo simulation (FASTMC) developed for this analysis. The FASTMC parameters are determined using a combination of detailed simulation and control data samples. The primary control sample used for both the electromagnetic and hadronic response tuning is $Z \rightarrow ee$ events. W boson events are also used in a limited manner, as are events recorded in random beam crossings, with or without requiring hits in the luminosity counters.

Since the Z boson mass and width are known with high precision from measurements [15] at the CERN e^+e^- collider (LEP), these values are used to calibrate the electromagnetic calorimeter response assuming a form $E^{\text{meas}} = \alpha E^{\text{true}} + \beta$ with α and β constants determined by calibration. The M_W measurement presented here is effectively a measurement of the ratio of W and Z boson masses. Figure 1 shows a comparison of the m_{ee} distributions for data and FASTMC, as well as the χ distribution defined as the difference between data and the FASTMC prediction divided by the statistical uncertainty on the difference.

The other major calibration is that of the hadronic energy in the event, which includes energy recoiling against the boson. The hadronic response (resolution) is

tuned using the mean (width) of the η_{imb} distribution in $Z \rightarrow ee$ events in bins of p_T^{ee} . Here η_{imb} is defined as the sum of the projections of the dielectron momentum (p_T^{ee}) and \vec{u}_T vectors in the transverse plane on the axis bisecting the dielectron opening angle [16].

To determine M_W , FASTMC template distributions for m_T , p_T^e , and \cancel{E}_T are generated at a series of test M_W values at intervals of 10 MeV with the backgrounds added to the simulated distributions. A binned likelihood between the data and each template is then computed. The resulting log likelihoods as a function of mass are fit to a parabola. The minimum point of the parabola defines the measured M_W value. The fits are performed separately for each of the m_T , p_T^e , and \cancel{E}_T distributions, and the fit ranges were chosen to minimize the total expected uncertainty on M_W for each distribution.

A test of the analysis procedure is performed using events produced by the detailed GEANT Monte Carlo simulation treated as collider data. The methods used for the data analysis are applied to the simulated events, including the FASTMC tuning using the simulated $Z \rightarrow ee$ events. Each of the M_W fit results using the m_T , p_T^e , and \cancel{E}_T distributions agree with the input M_W value within the 20 MeV total uncertainty of the test arising from Monte Carlo statistics.

During the FASTMC tuning performed to describe the collider data, the M_W values returned from fits are blinded by the addition of an unknown constant offset. The same offset was used for m_T , p_T^e , and \cancel{E}_T . This allowed the full tuning on the W and Z boson events and internal consistency checks to be performed without knowledge of the final result. Once the important data and FASTMC comparison plots have acceptable χ distributions, the results are unblinded. The Z boson mass value from the post-tuning fit is $91.185 \pm 0.033(\text{stat})$ GeV, in agreement with the world average of 91.188 GeV used for the tuning. The M_W results from data after unblinding are given in Table I. The m_T , p_T^e , and \cancel{E}_T distributions showing the data and FASTMC template with background for the best fit M_W are shown in Fig. 2.

The systematic uncertainties in the M_W measurement arise from a variety of sources, and can be categorized as those from experimental sources and those from uncertainties in the production mechanism. The systematic uncertainties are summarized in Table II.

The uncertainties on the electron energy calibration and the hadronic recoil model are determined by simultaneously varying the parameters determined in the tuning

TABLE I. Results from the fits to data. The uncertainty is only the statistical component.

Variable	Fit range (GeV)	M_W (GeV)	$\chi^2/(\text{degrees of freedom})$
m_T	$65 < m_T < 90$	80.401 ± 0.023	48/49
p_T^e	$32 < p_T^e < 48$	80.400 ± 0.027	39/31
\cancel{E}_T	$32 < \cancel{E}_T < 48$	80.402 ± 0.023	32/31

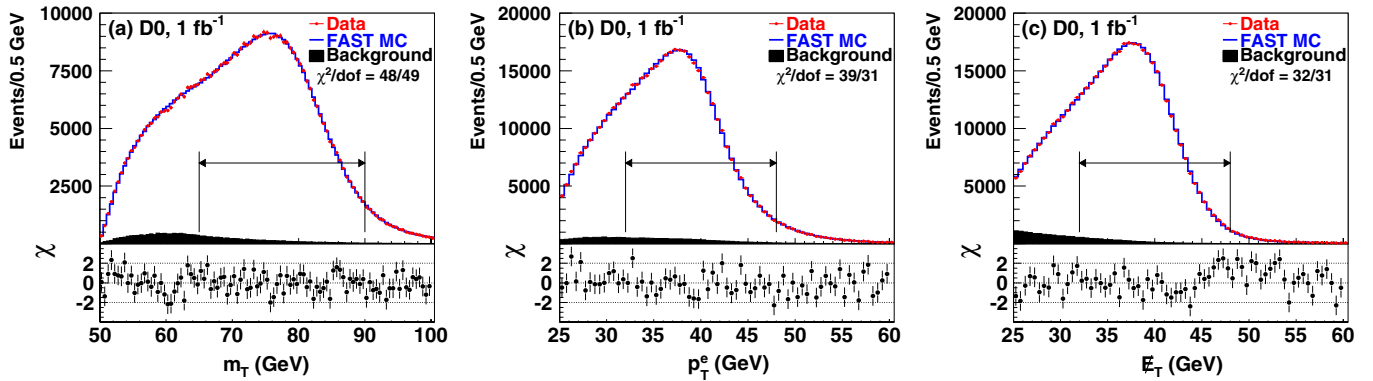


FIG. 2 (color online). The (a) m_T , (b) p_T^e , and (c) \cancel{E}_T distributions for data and FASTMC simulation with backgrounds. The χ values are shown below each distribution where $\chi_i = [N_i - (\text{FASTMC}_i)]/\sigma_i$ for each point in the distribution, N_i is the data yield in bin i , and only the statistical uncertainty is used. The fit ranges are indicated by the double-ended horizontal arrows.

to $Z \rightarrow ee$ events by one statistical standard deviation including correlation coefficients. The electron energy resolution systematic uncertainty is determined by varying resolution parameters determined in the fit to the width of the observed $Z \rightarrow ee m_{ee}$ distribution. The shower modeling systematic uncertainties are determined by varying the amount of material representing the detector in the detailed simulation within the uncertainties found by comparing the electron showers in the simulation to those observed in data. No effect was seen when studying possible systematic bias for the energy loss differences arising from the differing E or η distributions for the electrons from W and Z boson decay. The quoted systematic uncertainty is due to the finite statistics of the event samples from the tuned detailed simulation that are used to transport calibrations from the Z to the W sample. The electron efficiency systematic is determined by varying the efficiency by 1 standard deviation. Table II also shows the M_W uncertainties arising from variation of the background uncertainties indicated above.

Among the production uncertainties, the parton distribution function (PDF) uncertainty is determined by generating W boson events with the PYTHIA [17] program using the CTEQ6.1M [18] PDF set. The CTEQ prescription [18] is used to determine a 1 standard deviation uncertainty [8] on M_W . The QED uncertainty is determined using WGRAD [19] and ZGRAD [20], varying the photon-related parameters and assessing the variation in M_W and by comparisons between these and PHOTOS. The boson p_T uncertainty is determined by varying g_2 by its quoted uncertainty [13]. Variation of g_1 and g_3 has negligible impact.

The quality of the simulation is indicated by the good χ^2 values computed for the difference between the data and FASTMC shown in the figures. The data are also subdivided into statistically independent categories based on instantaneous luminosity, time, the total hadronic transverse energy in the event, the vector sum of the hadronic energy, and electron pseudorapidity range. The fit ranges are also

varied. The results are stable to within the measurement uncertainty for each of these tests.

The results from the three methods have combined statistical and systematic correlation coefficients of 0.83, 0.82, and 0.68 for (m_T, p_T^e) , (m_T, \cancel{E}_T) , and (p_T^e, \cancel{E}_T) , respectively. The correlation coefficients are determined using ensembles of simulated events. The results are combined [21] including these correlations to give the final result

$$\begin{aligned} M_W &= 80.401 \pm 0.021(\text{stat}) \pm 0.038(\text{syst}) \text{ GeV} \\ &= 80.401 \pm 0.043 \text{ GeV}. \end{aligned}$$

The dominant uncertainties arise from the available statistics of the $W \rightarrow e\nu$ and $Z \rightarrow ee$ samples. Thus, this measurement can still be expected to improve as more data are analyzed. The M_W measurement reported here agrees with the world average and the individual measurements and is more precise than any other single measurement. Its introduction in global electroweak fits is expected to lower

TABLE II. Systematic uncertainties of the M_W measurement.

Source	ΔM_W (MeV)		
	m_T	p_T^e	\cancel{E}_T
Electron energy calibration	34	34	34
Electron resolution model	2	2	3
Electron shower modeling	4	6	7
Electron energy loss model	4	4	4
Hadronic recoil model	6	12	20
Electron efficiencies	5	6	5
Backgrounds	2	5	4
Experimental subtotal	35	37	41
PDF	10	11	11
QED	7	7	9
Boson p_T	2	5	2
Production subtotal	12	14	14
Total	37	40	43

the upper bound on the SM Higgs mass, although it is not expected to change the best fit value [1].

We thank the staffs at Fermilab and collaborating institutions, and acknowledge support from the DOE and NSF (USA); CEA and CNRS/IN2P3 (France); FASI, Rosatom and RFBR (Russia); CNPq, FAPERJ, FAPESP and FUNDUNESP (Brazil); DAE and DST (India); Colciencias (Colombia); CONACyT (Mexico); KRF and KOSEF (Korea); CONICET and UBACyT (Argentina); FOM (The Netherlands); STFC and the Royal Society (United Kingdom); MSMT and GACR (Czech Republic); CRC Program, CFI, NSERC and West-Grid Project (Canada); BMBF and DFG (Germany); SFI (Ireland); The Swedish Research Council (Sweden); CAS and CNSF (China); and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (Germany).

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