Strange reports of 'discovery' of the Higgs boson

by
Stephen J. Crothers

Queensland, Australia
thenarmis@gmail.com
5th April 2013

ABSTRACT

Reports of the discovery of the Higgs boson have been very cryptic, contradictory, shrouded in ambiguity, refer to different types of Higgs bosons, multiple Higgs bosons, and Higgs-like particles, and are often accompanied by mock-up images that contain not one iota of scientific information. Very disturbing is the revelation that scientists at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) made several videos for press release in advance of any announcement, for various different outcomes, so that they could choose to release the video they wanted to present to the world in the press release on the 4th July 2012 reporting on the performance of the LHC. One such video briefly appeared on the CERN website on the 3rd of July 2012, the day prior to the official announcement, and was very quickly removed, but not soon enough to prevent wider knowledge of its existence. Even the CERN Press Office did not know what the scientists at the LHC would report to the world on the 4th of July 2012 and admitted the existence of several different advance videos for different possible reports. Who leaked the video is not publicly known. Then there is the issue of replication. Who has the capability and wherewithal to independently replicate the experiments at the LHC in order to ascertain the veracity of the reports by the people at the LHC? Without independent experiment replication the people at the LHC are at liberty to tell the world what they please.

It was reported on the 4th of July 2012 by scientists at the Large Hadron Collider or LHC at CERN in Switzerland that they had finally detected the long sought after Higgs boson, theoretically proposed in 1964 by Professor Peter Higgs of the University of Edinburgh, and that they had done so with 99% certainty. Newspapers and television stations all around the world reported this alleged discovery with great fanfare and feverish excitement. Physicists got on television and told the world that this was a momentous discovery for science. Just after the announcement there just happened to be a large gathering of physicists in Melbourne, Australia who went on to discuss this 'momentous discovery', along with a video link to the LHC. Australian television stations trampled over one another to host various physicists who said with great smiles and wild abandon that the Higgs boson, otherwise called the God Particle, had now been found. There was an overwhelming air of relief that the LHC had at last delivered the goods.

Despite all this festival-like frenzied gaiety and media induced excitement and adulation, cracks very quickly began to appear in their claims. An early report in *The Washington Post* stated,

"Scientists have found evidence showing the footprint of the Higgs particle, which proves that it exists ***but doesn't actually show it****."*

Later in 2012 Yuri Milner's Special Fundamental Physics Prize was awarded to,

*"**Peter Jenni**, **Fabiola Gianotti** (ATLAS), **Michel Della Negra**, **Tejinder Singh Virdee**, **Guido Tonelli**, **Joe Incandela** (CMS) and **Lyn Evans** (LHC) for their leadership role in the scientific endeavour that led to the discovery of the new Higgs-like particle by the ATLAS and CMS collaborations at CERN's Large Hadron Collider."*

The three million American dollars attached to the Special Fundamental Physics Prize was presumably shared by the aforementioned scientists, but *not* for discovery of the Higgs boson as claimed in the announcement on the 4th of July 2012, but for a "*Higgs-like particle*".

The Economist posted to the internet on the 16th of December 2012 an article titled '**The Higgs boson'**, penned by a person only going by the initials, J.P. It is reported in this article that the ATLAS team at the LHC found *two* Higgs bosons, at 123.5GeV and 126.6GeV respectively. In the same article it is stated that the CMS found only *one* Higgs boson, at about 126GeV. One finds the following remark in this article,

***"**Odder still would be the two Higgses' preference for distinct daughters; theorists expect any Higgs-like particle to display either both decay modes, or neither."*

Very strangely, in this article we find claims for both one Higgs boson and two different Higgs bosons, and also Higgs-like particles. It seems that, according to scientists at the LHC, all bets are winners.

The two different Higgs bosons were again reported on the 17th December 2012 by Michael Rundle in the Huffington Post UK in the article '**Physicists May Have Accidentally Found Two Higgs Bosons Instead Of Just One**'. The accompanying image carries the caption *'Visualisation' of particle collider experiments*. Not only is the image a constructed one, it is a construction that apparently pertains to any and all particle collider experiments. One can only guess as to why such an image is presented in the first place. After all, it does not contain any scientific data whatsoever, being as it is a figment of somebody's imagination by virtue of it being a 'visualisation'. What is a general reader of this article expected to conclude by looking at this meaningless image?

On the 20th of December 2012, The Guardian posted to the internet an article by Robert Booth, with the title '**Discovery of Higgs Boson rated year's top scientific achievement by Science**'. Booth writes,

"The discovery of the Higgs boson by physicists using the Large Hadron Collider in Switzerland was named breakthrough of the year by Science magazine…

'Adrian Cho, a writer on the journal, said: "For all the hype, the discovery of the Higgs boson easily merits recognition as the breakthrough of the year. Its observation completes the standard model, perhaps the most elaborate and precise theory in all of science."

'The discovery proves there is an energy field all around us that gives mass to the fundamental particles that make up our world. The announcement of its discovery in Geneva was met by cheers usually heard at football matches or rock concerts.

'"The feat marks an intellectual, technological and organisational triumph," said Cho.'

The "*Higgs-like particle*" has very oddly returned to a Higgs boson, just as when reported on 4th July 2012 that it had been found, amidst "*cheers usually heard at football matches or rock concerts.*"

On the 19th of February 2013, Livescience.com posted an article by Clara Moskowitz, with the title '**Higgs Boson Particle May Spell Doom For the Universe'**. The opening sentence of this article is,

"A subatomic particle discovered last year that may be the long-sought Higgs boson might doom our universe to an unfortunate end, researchers say."

Moskowitz goes on to say this,

"After searching for decades for proof that this field and particle existed, physicists at the LHC announced in July 2012 that they'd discovered a new particle whose properties strongly suggest it is the Higgs boson."

"To confirm the particle's identity for sure, more data are needed."

"And finding the Higgs, if it's truly been found, not only confirms the theory about how particles get mass, but it allows scientists to make new calculations that weren't possible before the particle's properties were known."

She also quotes physicist I. Joseph Kroll of the University of Pennsylvania,

"This discovery to me was personally astounding. To me, the Higgs was sort of, it might be there, it might not. The fact that it's there is really a tremendous accomplishment."

So within the one article the Higgs boson is a "*may be*", an "*if it's truly been found*", and also a "*fact*".

On the 14th March 2013, Jeanna Bryner reported on the website Livescience.com in an article titled '**Confirmed! Newfound Particle Is a Higgs Boson**', that scientists announced that same day at the annual Rencontres de Moriond conference in Italy, that the 'particle' said to have been found by the LHC, as reported on the 4th of July 2012 by scientists at the LHC, is indeed the Higgs boson. Yet in the very same online report we are told this,

"The preliminary results with the full 2012 data set are magnificent and to me it is clear that we are dealing with a Higgs boson though we still have a long way to go to know what kind of Higgs boson it is," said CMS spokesperson Joe Incandela in a statement."

"Even so, the scientists are not sure whether this Higgs boson is the one predicted by the Standard Model or perhaps the lightest of several bosons predicted to exist by other theories."

So now there are evidently, quite suddenly reported, different kinds of Higgs bosons and physicists don't even know if the alleged find is related to the theoretical boson due to Higgs. Furthermore, an image presented in Bryner's article carries the following caption:

"The mass of the Higgs boson particle, possibly uncovered at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) in Geneva, may mean doom for our universe. Here proton-proton collisions at the LHC showing events consistent with the Higgs."

Although Bryner's article reports scientists reaffirming the alleged detection of the Higgs boson in 2012, it also leaves the door ajar with the words "*possibly uncovered*" at the LHC. The image presented is credited to Taylor, L. and McCauly, T. of CERN CMS.

Not one of the reports for the discovery of the Higgs boson have mentioned the fact that the predecessor to the LHC, the Large Electron-Positron collider, LEP, had exceeded by far the theoretical energy at which it was maintained that the Higgs boson would manifest. Indeed the LEP got as high as 206 GeV, but did not find the Higgs boson. Nonetheless the LHC now alleges discovery of the Higgs boson at about 125 GeV or 126GeV. The two different Higgs bosons seem to have fallen off the radar for reasons anybody can venture a guess.

It is claimed that the Higgs boson accounts for how other particles get their mass. It is now also claimed that the Higgs boson has a mass about 125 times that of the proton. As the American scientist Miles Mathis aptly remarks in his article '**Higgs Boson Found under Bigfoot's Paw**,

"They have to show some rational mechanism by which this larger particle gives mass to smaller particles."

"If the Higgs' theory is accepted, we will have larger particles defining the qualities or quantities of smaller particles."

I add to these comments by Miles Mathis that one must also wonder how it is that the Higgs boson gets its reported mass at about 125 times that of the proton. Apparently the Higgs boson begets its own mass.

Long before the announcement of the alleged discovery of the Higgs boson, scientists were telling the world that if the Higgs boson is discovered by the LHC that will be a great discovery, but if the Higgs boson is not discovered by the LHC that too will be a great discovery. Indeed, physicist Brian Cox made such remarks in a television documentary. The proponents of the Higgs boson have been hedging their bets for a long time so that no matter what the LHC produces or fails to produce, the vast sums of money spent building it and on its continued operation and on the wages for the people working with it have not been wasted because find the Higgs boson or not the LHC has always been fated by its protagonists to make a great discovery irrespective

of any experimental data obtained or not obtained. It's like flipping a coin: heads I win, tails you lose! Various sources cite the construction cost alone of the LHC at between 9 and 11 billion American dollars of public money. Certainly many more millions of public money is spent each year on the operation and maintenance of this machine. A few years ago the Minister responsible for Austria's contribution to the funding of the LHC attempted to stop any further Austrian public money flowing into the coffers of the LHC since it was viewed by him as a white elephant. The enormous hue and cry from the particle physicists was immediate and much political pressure was brought to bear. The Austrian Minister involved was ultimately removed from his position by the leader of the Austrian Government who then assured continued Austrian financial contribution to the LHC. Besides the allegation of discovery of the Higgs boson, what has the LHC contributed to science to date? On the 5th of July 2012, the very day after the report of the alleged detection of the Higgs boson, New Scientist published online an article by Richard Webb, called '**Physicists propose factory to spew out Higgs particles**'. In this article it is revealed that scientists at CERN want at least 20 billion American dollars to build an even bigger particle collider, the International Linear Collider. Webb reports as follows,

"Finding something that looks like the Higgs boson has required painstaking reconstructions of what was fleetingly produced in the violence of the collisions. So much different stuff is produced that it might simply be too confusing an environment in which to pin down with any certainly what the putative Higgs's true properties are, and so reach a conclusive identification."

"The question is, will the LHC be able to do it at all? Or do we need something else?" says Carlo Rubbia, an experimentalist who as the head of CERN, Europe's particle physics lab near Geneva, Switzerland, played a major part in getting the LHC project off the ground in the 1990s."

Certain people seem to be assured of continued employment by the operation of the LHC and the proposal for its successor the ILC, all again at the expense of the public purse.

An even more disturbing article was posted to the website of ScienceNews on the 3rd of July 2012. The title of the article is '**CMS spokesman: 'We've observed a new particle', CERN video confirms existence of a heavy boson, probably Higgs.**' The article reports on the brief release of a video to the CERN website in which CMS spokesman Joe Incandela is quoted as follows,

"We've observed a new particle ... we have quite strong evidence that there's something there."

"This is the most massive such particle that exists, if we confirm all of this — which I think we will."

"It may in the end be one of the biggest discoveries, or observations, of any new phenomenon that we've had in our field in the last 30 or 40 years."

"When we say we've observed a particle, it means we've just got enough data to say that it's definitely there and it's very unlikely to go away. We then need more data to start to ascertain its characteristics, what are its properties."

The astonishing things about this ScienceNews article is that this video not only briefly appeared before the official announcement on the 4th July 2012, but was one of a number of different videos prepared in advance for different possible outcomes from the LHC. Indeed, in the article we find this revelation,

'CERN spokeswoman Corinne Pralavorio says the video was one of several made to cover different possible scenarios of a Higgs announcement and was not supposed to have been posted online. "Even we in the press office do not know what they are going to announce tomorrow," she said on July 3.'

The video is, according to ScienceNews, now "*in a password-protected part*" of the CMS website, so that the general public has no access to it, or any of the other different scenario videos prepared in advance, and is apparently also denied knowledge of the very existence of all these videos. Very odd too is Pralavorio's remark that even the CERN Press Office did not know what would be announced on the 4th of July 2012 by scientists at the LHC.

In closing, many of the people claiming discovery of the Higgs boson have also said that with the LHC they will produce mini black holes and also recreate the conditions of the Big Bang. They have not yet fulfilled these feats either and they never will, because the two notions are mutually exclusive since the black hole pertains to a spatially infinite non-expanding universe that is eternal, contains only one mass (that of the alleged black hole itself), and is asymptotically flat, whereas the alleged Big Bang cosmology pertains to a universe that contains many masses and radiation, including multiple black holes, some of which are primordial, in a universe that is spatially finite, expanding, is of finite age, is not asymptotically flat, and by which even physical laws did not exist before the Bang. Indeed, on the evening of Monday 18th February 2013, American physicist Lawrence Krauss appeared on the television show Q&A on station ABC1 in Australia. On that show Krauss expounded *creatio ex nihilo*, i.e. creation from nothing! He asserted that before the Big Bang there was no time, no space, no radiation, no Universe, no physical laws, which he said is a good description of '*nothing*'. He maintained that the Universe came into existence from '*nothing*'. Creating nothing from something in the LHC, and still being present to observe it and apply physical laws, would be another great feat, as would the production of mini black holes when the alleged black hole is actually alone in a spatially infinite, eternal, and asymptotically flat non-expanding spacetime.

REFERENCES

1. Miles Mathis, 'Higg's Boson found under Bigfoot's Paw', http://milesmathis.com/higgs.pdf

2. The Washington Post, from Miles Mathis, 'Higg's Boson found under Bigfoot's Paw', http://milesmathis.com/higgs.pdf www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/innovations/post/evidence-of-higgs-boson-particle-to-be-unveiled-wednesday/2012/07/02/gJQAt3VXIW_blog.html

3. Special Fundamental Physics Prize, www.fundamentalphysicsprize.org/

4. The Economist, 'The Higgs boson, Double trouble', written by J. P., 16th of December 2012,
www.economist.com/blogs/babbage/2012/12/higgs-boson

5. Huffington Post, UK, 'Physicists May Have Accidentally Found Two Higgs Bosons Instead Of Just One', by Michael Rundle, 17th December 2012,
www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2012/12/17/cern-higgs-boson-two-discovered-large-hadron-collider-atlas_n_2314537.html

6. The Guardian, 'Discovery of Higgs Boson rated year's top scientific achievement by Science', by Robert Booth, 20th of December 2012,
www.guardian.co.uk/science/2012/dec/20/top-scientific-discoveries-higgs-boson

7. Livescience.com, 'Higgs Boson Particle May Spell Doom For the Universe', Clara Moskowitz, 19th February 2013,
www.livescience.com/27218-higgs-boson-universe-future.html

8. Livescience.com, 'Confirmed! Newfound Particle Is a Higgs Boson', Jeanna Bryner, 14th March 2013,
http://www.livescience.com/27888-newfound-particle-is-higgs.html

9. New Scientist, 'Physicists propose factory to spew out Higgs particles', Richard Webb, 5th July 2012,
www.newscientist.com/article/dn22021-physicists-propose-factory-to-spew-out-higgs-particles.html

10. ScienceNews 'CMS spokesman: 'We've observed a new particle', CERN video confirms existence of a heavy boson, probably Higgs', 3rd July 2012,
www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/341970/description/CMS_spokesman_Weve_observed_a_new_particle

11. Krauss, L. Q&A, Television ABC1 Australia, Monday, 18th February, 2013.