# Spinfest 2016 Student Introduction

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# Background

- Born in Yerevan, Armenia
- Family moved to United States when I was two months old and we have been in California ever since.
- Always interested in the microscopic aspect about things like cells, atoms, etc.
- Got into physics when I found out there was a whole other world inside atoms and we can actually probe it.
- Goal is to better understand the quantum nature of things (like spin) and find out what's up with gravity

### Other Interests

- Movies
- Video Games

• Programming and computers in general

# Education

- University of California Irvine (2008-2013)
  - B.S. Physics
    - Senior Thesis Project with Tim M.P. Tait
    - "Sensitivity of a future high energy e<sup>+</sup> e<sup>-</sup> collider to Z' bosons" J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 41 (2014) 075011. (Arxiv: 1312.3377)
  - B.S. Chemistry
- University of California Riverside
  - Started Graduate School in Fall 2014
  - Advisor: Kenneth Barish
    - Began working on Phenix Summer 2014

# Undergrad Senior Thesis

- Explored the limits of discovering a Z' boson
- Z' boson treated as an extension to the Standard Model, specifically U(1)' gauge group
- Similar to Weak Interaction via Z boson but much heavier (>2.5 TeV)
- Ran simulations with a virtual Z' interaction in an e<sup>+</sup> e<sup>-</sup> collision at various energies and 100 fb<sup>-1</sup> luminosity using MadGraph
- Four different models were considered and each coupled to e<sup>-</sup> differently
- Cross sections of  $e^+ e^-$ ,  $\mu^+ \mu^-$ , jets, and bottom quarks were fitted to second order in coupling and mass based on the model considered

## Models Considered

Z' Model	U(1) <sub>universal</sub>	U(1) <sub>B-xL</sub>	U(1) $_{10 + x\bar{5}}$	U(1) <sub>10-xu</sub>
g <sub>qL</sub>	x	1/3	1/3	0
g <sub>uR</sub>	X	1/3	-1/3	-x/3
<b>g</b> <sub>dR</sub>	X	1/3	-x/3	1/3
g <sub>IL</sub>	X	Х	x/3	(-1+x)/3
<b>g</b> <sub>IR</sub>	X	X	-1/3	x/3

## Results



### More Results



#### Even More Results



# Current and Future Work

- Finished with Courses and passed Comprehensive Exam
- PHENIX and sPHENIX/fsPHENIX collaboration at BNL
- Previously worked on Analysis of data from Run 15
  - Emphasis on MPC-EX and MPC to probe proton spin structure by looking at direct photons from pp (maybe p Au and p Al) collisions.
  - Data was no good because of timing on svtx chips
  - The goal was to measure the contribution of the Sivers Effect
  - Will start work with STAR in the coming year to measure this effect
- Also working on fsPHENIX simulations
  - Looked at plug door dimensions to see how it affected the energy lost by the incoming particles
  - Now looking at energy resolution of forward calorimeter

#### How plug door thickness

affects energy loss

- fsPHENIX uses an iron cylindrical <sup>50</sup> block as a magnetic flux return
- Its thickness was altered and the 400 resulting energy measured is shown in the Plot on the right
- Red is 20.4 cm (Double)
- Blue is 10.2 cm (Default)
- Green is 5.1 cm (Half)
- Orange is 2.55 cm (Quarter)
- Black is 0.1 cm (millimeter)



#### Energy resolution of forward detector fsPHENIX

- Just started this study by looking at mean (Ē) and RMS (⊿E) values from histograms like the one before.
- Plotted ∠E/Ē to see how detector is working
- Plot can be seen on the left
- Work in progress

