Search for Randall-Sundrum Gravitons in Dilepton and Dijeton Final States


(D0 Collaboration)

1 Universidad de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina
2 LAFEX, Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Físicas, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
3 Instituto de Física Teórica, Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
4 University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada
5 York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, and McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
6 Institute of High Energy Physics, Beijing, People’s Republic of China
7 University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, People’s Republic of China
8 Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia
9 Center for Particle Physics, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
10 Czech Technical University, Prague, Czech Republic
11 Institute of Physics, Academy of Sciences, Center for Particle Physics, Prague, Czech Republic
12 Universidad San Francisco de Quito, Quito, Ecuador
13 Laboratoire de Physique Corpusculaire, IN2P3-CNRS, Université Blaise Pascal, Clermont-Ferrand, France
14 Laboratoire de Physique Subatomique et de Cosmologie, IN2P3-CNRS, Université Grenoble I, Grenoble, France
15 CPPM, IN2P3-CNRS, Université de la Méditerranée, Marseille, France
16 Laboratoire de l’Accélérateur Linéaire, IN2P3-CNRS, Orsay, France
17 LPNHE, IN2P3-CNRS, Universités Paris VI and VII, Paris, France
18 DAFFA/Service de Physique des Particules, CEA, Saclay, France
19 IReS, IN2P3-CNRS, Université Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg, France, and Université de Haute Alsace, Mulhouse, France
20 Institut de Physique Nucléaire de Lyon, IN2P3-CNRS, Université Claude Bernard, Villeurbanne, France
21 II. Physikalisches Institut A, RWTH Aachen, Aachen, Germany
22 Physikalisches Institut, Universität Bonn, Bonn, Germany
23 Physikalisches Institut, Universität Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany
24 Institut für Physik, Universität Mainz, Mainz, Germany
25 Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, München, Germany
26 Fachbereich Physik, Universität Wuppertal, Wuppertal, Germany
27 Panjab University, Chandigarh, India
28 Delhi University, Delhi, India
29 Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, India
30 University College Dublin, Dublin, Ireland
31 Korea Detector Laboratory, Korea University, Seoul, Korea
32 CINVESTAV, Mexico City, Mexico
33 FOM-Institute NKHEF and University of Amsterdam/NIKHEF, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
We report the first direct search for the Kaluza-Klein (KK) modes of Randall-Sundrum gravitons using dielectron, dimuon, and diphoton events observed with the D0 detector operating at the Fermilab Tevatron \( pp \) Collider at \( \sqrt{s} = 1.96 \) TeV. No evidence for resonant production of gravitons has been found in the data corresponding to an integrated luminosity of \( \approx 260 \text{ pb}^{-1} \). Lower limits on the mass of the first KK mode at the 95\% C.L. have been set between 250 and 785 GeV, depending on its coupling to SM particles.

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Phenomenological models inspired by string theory in which there exist additional spatial dimensions have recently been proposed to remedy some of the defects in the standard model (SM). These models may solve the hierarchy problem, allow for low-energy gauge coupling unification, and address the issues of flavor and CP-violation.

The Randall-Sundrum (RS) model [1] of extra dimensions (ED) offers a rigorous solution to a pressing problem of the SM — an apparent large hierarchy between the Planck scale at which gravity is expected to become
strong ($M_{pl} \sim 10^{16}$ TeV) and the electroweak symmetry breaking scale ($M_{EW} \sim 1$ TeV). This is achieved through the geometry of a slice of the 5-dimensional Anti-deSitter space-time ($AdS_5$), with a curved metric $ds^2 = \exp(-2kR|f|)\eta_{\mu\nu}dx^\mu dx^\nu - R^2 df^2$, where $0 \leq |f| \leq \pi$ is the coordinate along the single ED of radius $R$, $k$ is the curvature of the $AdS_5$ space (the warp factor), $x^\mu$ are the conventional (3+1)-space-time coordinates, and $\eta^{\mu\nu}$ is the metric tensor of the Minkowski space-time. A "hidden" (3+1)-dimensional brane (Planck brane) is placed at $\varphi = 0$ and the second brane (SM brane) is located at $\varphi = \pi$. Gravity originates on the Planck brane and the graviton wave function is exponentially suppressed away from the brane along the ED due to the warp factor. Consequently, the $O(M_{pl})$ operators on the Planck brane yield low-energy effects on the SM brane with a typical scale of $\Lambda_\pi = M_{pl} \exp(-kR)$, where $M_{pl} \equiv M_{pl}/\sqrt{8\pi}$ is the reduced Planck mass. Thus, the hierarchy problem is solved if $\Lambda_\pi \sim 1$ TeV, which can be achieved with little fine tuning by requiring $kR \approx 10$. This is a natural solution, as the only fundamental scale in this model is $M_{pl}$ and $k \sim R^{-1} \sim M_{pl}$.

In the simplest RS model [1, 2], the only particles propagating in the ED are gravitons. Consequently, they appear as a Kaluza-Klein (KK) tower of massive excitations from the point of view of the SM brane and can be resonantly produced in $pp$ collisions. The masses and widths of the KK-excitations are related to the parameters of the RS model. The zeroth KK mode ($G(0)$) remains massless and couples to the SM fields with gravitational strength, $1/M_{pl}$, while the excited modes couple with the strength of $1/\Lambda_\pi$. The excited modes can decay into fermion-antifermion or diboson pairs, leading to the characteristic resonance structure in their invariant mass spectrum. In this Letter we report on a search for the first excited mode of the KK graviton, $G(1)$, in the dielectron, dimuon, and diphoton final states. Since the graviton has spin 2, its decay products are either found in the $s$-wave (diphotons) or $p$-wave (dielectrons). This leads to the branching fraction of the graviton decay in a single dilepton channel ($e\ell$) to be half that of diphotons.

Phenomenologically, it is convenient to express the two RS parameters $k$ and $R$ in terms of two direct observables: the mass of the first excited mode of the graviton, $M_1$, and the dimensionless coupling to the SM fields, $k/M_{pl}$, which governs both graviton production cross section ($\sim (k/M_{pl})^2$) and the width of the graviton resonance. The theoretically preferred range for $M_1$ is between a few hundred GeV and a few TeV, while $k/M_{pl}$ is expected to be between 0.01 and 0.1. Larger values of the coupling would render the theory non-perturbative, while smaller would require an undesirably large amount of fine-tuning. Indirect limits on RS model parameters come from precision electroweak data (dominated by the $S$ parameter) [3]. There have been no dedicated searches for RS gravitons to date.

We used the D0 detector operating at the Fermilab Tevatron $pp$ Collider at $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$ TeV with approximately 246 pb$^{-1}$ of data accumulated with dimuon triggers and 275 pb$^{-1}$ of data collected with single or diphoton (EM) triggers for this search. To maximize the reconstruction efficiency for dielectrons and diphotons, we did not use tracking confirmation and combined these two channels in a single, calorimeter-based, "diEM" channel. The detector, data acquisition system, and triggering are detailed elsewhere [3].

Offline, we required EM objects to have transverse energy $E_T > 25$ GeV, be isolated in the calorimeter and tracker, have significant fraction of their energy deposited in the EM calorimeter, and have their EM shower shape consistent with that expected for an electron. We accepted EM objects in the central ($|\eta_\ell| < 1.1$) [4] and forward ($1.5 < |\eta_\ell| < 2.4$) regions of the calorimeter, but required at least one of them to be central.

The overall efficiency per electron was determined using $Z \rightarrow ee$ events, and is $(91 \pm 2)\%$ in the central and $(82 \pm 2)\%$ in the forward regions. The efficiency is uniform in $E_T$ and $\eta$, with the exception of the region close to the boundaries between the central and forward calorimeters, $1.0 < |\eta_\ell| < 1.1$, where it drops by a factor of two. Monte Carlo (MC) simulations show that the efficiency per photon is 5% lower than that per electron. An additional inefficiency of 7% per event arises from the trigger, EM objects lost in azimuthal cracks between the central calorimeter modules or overlaps with jets in the events.

Muons were identified in the muon spectrometer (covering $|\eta_\ell| < 2.0$) and were required to have a matching track in the central tracking detector, transverse momentum $p_T > 15$ GeV, be isolated, and pass additional hit and track quality requirements. Since the muon momentum resolution degrades rapidly at high $p_T$, high-mass dimuon events sometimes have the momentum of one of the muons misreconstructed. To remedy this and reduce non-Gaussian tails in the invariant mass resolution, we assigned both muons the same value of transverse momentum, based on the weighted average (in 1/$p_T$) of their individual $p_T$’s. This results in $\approx 30%$ decrease in the RMS of the invariant mass distribution at the cost of a modest ($\approx 1\%$) decrease in the invariant mass resolution.

To reduce cosmic ray background, muon arrival times in the muon detector were required to be consistent with that for particles originating from beam collisions. The two muons in the event were not required to have opposite signs, as the sign determination efficiency degrades fast at high $p_T$. The overall selection efficiency per muon is $(80 \pm 4)\%$, as determined using $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ events.

The above requirements result in 22,786 (17,128) diEM (dimuon) events used in the analysis. The main background to the RS graviton signal is Drell-Yan (DY) production in the dielectron and dimuon decay channels and direct diphoton production in the diphoton channel. These backgrounds were estimated using the leading or-
FIG. 1: Invariant mass spectrum in the a) diEM and b) dimuon channels. The points with error bars are data and the solid line is the overall background (dark shading in a) represents instrumental background). Also shown with an open histogram is the signal from an RS graviton with mass $M_1 = 300 \text{ GeV}$ and coupling $k/M_{\pi} = 0.05$.

The RS graviton signal was simulated with the PYTHIA [8] MC event generator with the CTEQ5L PDF, followed by the parametric simulation of the DØ detector. The LO PYTHIA cross section was scaled by a constant $K$-factor of 1.34 to account for next-to-LO (NLO) effects, recently calculated [9] for graviton exchange and shown to be similar to those for SM DY production. We set limits on the ratio of the graviton production cross section and the next-to-NLO (NNLO) $pp \rightarrow Z \rightarrow ee$ cross section of $254 \pm 10 \text{ pb}$ [10]. Since the $Z$-peak is found in the candidate sample, this approach allows for in situ calibration and reduces the overall systematic uncertainty. We quote the limits on production of gravitons in terms of the absolute cross section, which is obtained by multiplying the limits on the ratio by 254 pb.

A simulated signal is shown in Fig. 1 for $M_1 = 300 \text{ GeV}$ and $k/M_{\pi} = 0.05$. Since the muon momentum was measured in the tracker, while the EM energy was determined from the calorimeter, the difference in resolutions for the two detectors explains that the mass resolution in these two channels is so different. We used a conservative estimate of the muon momentum and EM energy smearing parameters in the detector response simulation by attributing the measured width of the $Z$ boson to the constant resolution term, which dominates at high masses. This choice leads to a somewhat broader than expected reconstructed signal and to conservative limits on signal cross section.

To set limits on graviton production, we performed analyses in a series of overlapping windows corresponding to different graviton masses. The width and position of the windows were optimized to give the highest signal sensitivity via a modified method of Ref. [11], which takes into account Gaussian fluctuations of an exponentially falling background. For the diEM channel at high masses ($> 300 \text{ GeV}$), the background is small so a symmetric window with the width set to six times the detector resolution was used to maximize the sensitivity. Since the muon momentum resolution effects on the invariant mass are very asymmetric and result in a long high-mass tail (see Fig. 1), only the lower mass bound is used in the dimuon channel windows. Since the internal graviton width is negligible compared to the instrumental resolution in the range of $M_1$ and $k/M_{\pi}$ we studied, the window size did not depend on $k/M_{\pi}$. The overall geometrical acceptance for the signal in the diEM channel varies between 45% and 62%, depending on the mass point. In the dimuon channel, the corresponding variation is between 55% and 67%.

The results of the counting experiments are listed in Table I. As the number of events in each window is consistent with the expected background (the significance of an upward fluctuation in the diEM channel at 400 GeV is < 2 standard deviations), we set limits on the graviton production cross section. The limits were set...
TABLE I: Counting experiments and 95% C.L. upper limits (in fb) on $\sigma(p\bar{p} \to G^{(1)} \to \ell\ell)$. All masses are expressed in GeV.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graviton Mass</th>
<th>DiEM Channel Window Background Data Limit Sensitivity</th>
<th>Dimuon Channel Window Background Data Limit Sensitivity</th>
<th>Combined Limit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>190-210</td>
<td>51.5 ± 5.2 70.2 ± 68.2</td>
<td>&gt; 160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>220</td>
<td>210-230</td>
<td>30.7 ± 3.2 31 ± 51.6 51.6 ± 52.7</td>
<td>&gt; 200 42.1 ± 5.5 46 256 224 43.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>240</td>
<td>230-250</td>
<td>17.8 ± 1.9 16 34.8 ± 41.8</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250</td>
<td>240-260</td>
<td>14.1 ± 1.5 16 43.3 ± 38.1</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>270</td>
<td>250-290</td>
<td>20.7 ± 2.2 25 46.7 ± 36.2</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>260-320</td>
<td>11.1 ± 1.1 12 28.9 ± 27.4</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>320</td>
<td>300-340</td>
<td>8.27 ± 0.89 7 20.6 ± 24.9</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>350</td>
<td>330-370</td>
<td>5.80 ± 0.73 2 12.3 ± 22.0</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>370</td>
<td>350-390</td>
<td>4.06 ± 0.51 2 13.1 ± 19.3</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400</td>
<td>380-420</td>
<td>2.40 ± 0.33 6 30.5 ± 16.7</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>450</td>
<td>420-480</td>
<td>1.92 ± 0.30 2 14.5 ± 14.6</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>450-550</td>
<td>2.02 ± 0.31 1 10.8 ± 14.2</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>550</td>
<td>500-600</td>
<td>1.20 ± 0.27 0 8.4 ± 12.4</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600</td>
<td>540-660</td>
<td>0.67 ± 0.26 0 8.3 ± 10.8</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>650</td>
<td>590-710</td>
<td>0.38 ± 0.25 0 8.3 ± 9.8</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700</td>
<td>620-780</td>
<td>0.30 ± 0.25 0 8.2 ± 9.5</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>750</td>
<td>660-840</td>
<td>0.20 ± 0.23 0 8.1 ± 8.9</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800</td>
<td>700-900</td>
<td>0.13 ± 0.25 0 8.1 ± 8.1</td>
<td>&gt; 14.6 26.2 ± 3.4 28 178 165 29.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 95% C.L. upper limits on $\sigma(p\bar{p} \to G^{(1)} \to \ell\ell)$ are listed in Table I and shown in Fig. 2. Also shown is the expected sensitivity of the search in each channel, defined as an average limit expected given the Poisson distribution of the background around its mean. We further combined the diEM and dimuon limits after taking into account common systematic uncertainties. The combined limits are very close to the diEM limits (and in fact are slightly less restrictive due to the overall small excess of observed events in the dimuon channel). We translate the limits on the cross section times branching fraction into limits on the RS model parameters $M_1$ and $k/M_p$, as shown in Fig. 3. We did not include an uncertainty on the signal cross section related to the PDF and higher-order QCD effects. Assuming that it is similar to that for DY production ($\approx 10%$) increases the cross section limits by 2.5%. This translates into a negligible ($\approx 1\%$) fractional change in our limits on $k/M_p$ for any graviton mass.

To conclude, we have performed the first dedicated search for Randall-Sundrum gravitons in the dielectron, dimuon, and diphoton channels using 246–275 pb$^{-1}$ of data collected by the DØ experiment in the Run II of the Fermilab Tevatron Collider. We see no evidence for resonant production of the first Kaluza-Klein mode of the graviton and set the most restrictive limits on the RS model parameters to date. Gravitons masses up to 785 (250) GeV are excluded for $k/M_p$ of 0.1 (0.01).

We thank the staffs at Fermilab and collaborating in-

![FIG. 2: The 95% C.L. upper limits on $\sigma(p\bar{p} \to G^{(1)} \to \ell\ell)$, as a function of the graviton mass. The upper (lower) solid line with points corresponds to the dimuon (diEM) channel. The dashed lines with points represent the expected limits. Also shown with a series of smooth lines the production cross sections for various values of $k/M_p$ between 0.01 and 0.1.](image-url)
FIG. 3: 95% C.L. exclusion limits on the RS model parameters $M_1$ and $k/M_{pl}$. The light-shaded area has been excluded in the dimuon channel; the medium-shaded area shows the extension of the limits obtained in the diEM channel; the dotted line corresponds to the combination of the two channels. The area below the dashed-dotted line is excluded from the precision electroweak data (see Ref. [2]). The dark shaded area in the lower right-hand corner corresponds to $\Lambda_s > 10$ TeV, which requires a significant amount of fine-tuning.

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[4] We use a polar coordinate system with the $z$-axis in the direction of the proton beam. The pseudorapidity in the detector frame $\eta_d$ is related to the polar angle $\theta$ measured with respect to the geometrical center of the detector as $\eta_d = -\ln(\tan(\theta/2))$.