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S. Abachi et al.
The D0 Collaboration

Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory
P.O. Box 500, Batavia, Illinois 60510

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S. Abachi,[12] B. Abbott,[33] M. Abolins,[23] B.S. Acharya,[40] I. Adam,[10] D.L. Adams,[34] M. Adams,[15] S. Ahn,[12] H. Aihara,[20] J. Alitti,[36] G. Álvarez,[16] G.A. Alves,[8] E. Amidi,[27] N. Amos,[22] E.W. Anderson,[17] S.H. Aronson,[3] R. Astur,[38] R.E. Avery,[29] A. Baden,[21] V. Balamurali,[30] J. Balderston,[14] B. Baldin,[12] J. Bantly,[4] J.F. Bartlett,[12] K. Bazizi,[7] J. Bendich,[20] S.B. Beri,[31] I. Bertram,[34] V.A. Bezzubov,[32] P.C. Bhat,[12] V. Bhatnagar,[31] M. Bhattacharjee,[11] A. Bischoff,[7] N. Biswas,[30] G. Blazey,[12] S. Blessing,[13] P. Bloom,[5] A. Boehnlein,[12] N.I. Bojko,[32] F. Borcherding,[12] J. Borders,[35] C. Boswell,[7] A. Brandt,[12] R. Brock,[23] A. Bross,[12] D. Buchholz,[29] V.S. Burtovoi,[32] J.M. Butler,[12] D. Casey,[35] H. Castilla-Valdez,[9] D. Chakraborty,[38] S.-M. Chang,[27] S.V. Chekulaev,[32] L.-P. Chen,[20] W. Chen,[38] L. Chevalier,[36] S. Chopra,[31] B.C. Choudhary,[7] J.H. Christenson,[12] M. Chung,[15] D. Claes,[38] A.R. Clark,[20] W.G. Cobau,[21] J. Cochran,[7] W.E. Cooper,[12] C. Cretsinger,[35] D. Cullen-Vidal,[4] M.A.C. Cummings,[14] D. Cutts,[4] O.I. Dahl,[20] K. De,[41] M. Demarteau,[12] R. Demina,[27] K. Denisenko,[12] N. Denisenko,[12] D. Denisov,[12] S.P. Denisov,[32] W. Dharmaratna,[13] H.T. Diehl,[12] M. Diesburg,[12] G. Di Loreto,[23] R. Dixon,[12] P. Draper,[41] J. Drinkard,[6] Y. Ducros,[36] S.R. Dugad,[40] S. Durston-Johnson,[35] D. Edmunds,[23] J. Ellison,[7] V.D. Elvira,[12,‡] R. Engelmann,[38] S. Eno,[21] G. Eppley,[34] P. Ermolov,[24] O.V. Eroshin,[32] V.N. Evdokimov,[32] S. Fahey,[23] T. Fahland,[4] M. Fatyga,[3] M.K. Fatyga,[35] J. Featherly,[3] S. Feher,[38] D. Fein,[2] T. Ferbel,[35] G. Finocchiaro,[38] H.E. Fisk,[12] Yu. Fisyak,[24] E. Flattum,[23] G.E. Forden,[2] M. Fortner,[28] K.C. Frame,[23] P. Franzini,[10] S. Fuess,[12] A.N. Galjaev,[32] E. Gallas,[41] C.S. Gao,[12,*] S. Gao,[12,*] T.L. Geld,[23] R.J. Genik II,[23] K. Genser,[12] C.E. Gerber,[12,§] B. Gibbard,[3] V. Glebov,[35] S. Glenn,[5] B. Gobbi,[29] M. Goforth,[13] A. Goldschmidt,[20] B. Gómez,[1] P.I. Goncharov,[32] H. Gordon,[3] L.T. Goss,[42] N. Graf,[3] P.D. Grannis,[38] D.R. Green,[12] J. Green,[28] H. Greenlee,[12] G. Griffin,[6] N. Grossman,[12] P. Grudberg,[20] S. Grünendahl,[35] W. Gu,[12,*] J.A. Guida,[38] J.M. Guida,[3] W. Guryn,[3] S.N. Gurzhiev,[32] Y.E. Gutnikov,[32] N.J. Hadley,[21] H. Haggerty,[12] S. Hagopian,[13] V. Hagopian,[13] K.S. Hahn,[35] R.E. Hall,[6] S. Hansen,[12] R. Hatcher,[23] J.M. Hauptman,[17] D. Hedin,[28] A.P. Heinson,[7] U. Heintz,[12] R. Hernández-Montoya,[9] T. Heuring,[13] R. Hirosky,[13] J.D. Hobbs,[12] B. Hoeneisen,[1,¶] J.S. Hoftun,[4] F. Hsieh,[22] Ting Hu,[38] Tong Hu,[16] T. Huehn,[7] S. Igarashi,[12] A.S. Ito,[12] E. James,[2] J. Jaques,[30] S.A. Jerger,[23] J.Z.-Y. Jiang,[38] T. Joffe-Minor,[29] H. Johari,[27] K. Johns,[2] M. Johnson,[12] H. Johnstad,[39] A. Jonckheere,[12] M. Jones,[14] H. Jöstlein,[12] S.Y. Jun,[29] C.K. Jung,[38] S. Kahn,[3] J.S. Kang,[18] R. Kehoe,[30] M.L. Kelly,[30] A. Kernan,[7] L. Kerth,[20] C.L. Kim,[18] S.K. Kim,[37] A. Klatchko,[13] B. Klima,[12] B.I. Klochkov,[32] C. Klopfenstein,[38] V.I. Klyukhin,[32] V.I. Kochetkov,[32] J.M. Kohli,[31] D. Koltick,[33] A.V. Kostritskiy,[32] J. Kotcher,[3] J. Kourlas,[26] A.V. Kozelov,[32] E.A. Kozlovski,[32] M.R. Krishnaswamy,[40] S. Krzywdzinski,[12] S. Kunori,[21] S. Lami,[38] G. Landsberg,[12] R.E. Lanou,[4] J-F. Lebrat,[36] A. Leflat,[24] H. Li,[38] J. Li,[41] Y.K. Li,[29] Q.Z. Li-Demarteau,[12] J.G.R. Lima,[8] D. Lincoln,[22] S.L. Linn,[13] J. Linnemann,[23] R. Lipton,[12] Y.C. Liu,[29] F. Lobkowicz,[35] S.C. Loken,[20] S. Lökös,[38] L. Lueking,[12] A.L. Lyon,[21] A.K.A. Maciel,[8] R.J. Madaras,[20] R. Madden,[13] I.V. Mandrichenko,[32] Ph. Mangeot,[36] S. Mani,[5] B. Mansoulié,[36] H.S. Mao,[12,*] S. Margulies,[15] R. Markeloff,[28] L. Markosky,[2] T. Marshall,[16] M.I. Martin,[12] M. Marx,[38] B. May,[29] A.A. Mayorov,[32]

R. McCarthy,[38] T. McKibben,[15] J. McKinley,[23] H.L. Melanson,[12] J.R.T. de Mello Neto,[8] K.W. Merritt,[12] H. Miettinen,[34] A. Milder,[2] A. Mincer,[26] J.M. de Miranda,[8] C.S. Mishra,[12] M. Mohammadi-Baarmand,[38] N. Mokhov,[12] N.K. Mondal,[40] H.E. Montgomery,[12] P. Mooney,[1] M. Mudan,[26] C. Murphy,[16] C.T. Murphy,[12] F. Nang,[4] M. Narain,[12] V.S. Narasimham,[40] A. Narayanan,[2] H.A. Neal,[22] J.P. Negret,[1] E. Neis,[22] P. Nemethy,[26] D. Nešić,[4] D. Norman,[42] L. Oesch,[22] V. Oguri,[8] E. Oltman,[20] N. Oshima,[12] D. Owen,[23] P. Padley,[34] M. Pang,[17] A. Para,[12] C.H. Park,[12] Y.M. Park,[19] R. Partridge,[4] N. Parua,[40] M. Paterno,[35] J. Perkins,[41] A. Peryshkin,[12] M. Peters,[14] H. Piekarz,[13] Y. Pischalnikov,[33] A. Pluquet,[36] V.M. Podstavkov,[32] B.G. Pope,[23] H.B. Prosper,[13] S. Protopopescu,[3] D. Pušeljić,[20] J. Qian,[22] P.Z. Quintas,[12] R. Raja,[12] S. Rajagopalan,[38] O. Ramirez,[15] M.V.S. Rao,[40] P.A. Rapidis,[12] L. Rasmussen,[38] A.L. Read,[12] S. Reucroft,[27] M. Rijssenbeek,[38] T. Rockwell,[23] N.A. Roe,[20] P. Rubinov,[38] R. Ruchti,[30] S. Rusin,[24] J. Rutherfoord,[2] A. Santoro,[8] L. Sawyer,[41] R.D. Schamberger,[38] H. Schellman,[29] J. Sculli,[26] E. Shabalina,[24] C. Shaffer,[13] H.C. Shankar,[40] R.K. Shivpuri,[11] M. Shupe,[2] J.B. Singh,[31] V. Sirotenko,[28] W. Smart,[12] A. Smith,[2] R.P. Smith,[12] R. Snihur,[29] G.R. Snow,[25] S. Snyder,[38] J. Solomon,[15] P.M. Sood,[31] M. Sosebee,[41] M. Souza,[8] A.L. Spadafora,[20] R.W. Stephens,[41] M.L. Stevenson,[20] D. Stewart,[22] D.A. Stoianova,[32] D. Stoker,[6] K. Streets,[26] M. Strovink,[20] A. Taketani,[12] P. Tamburello,[21] J. Tarazi,[6] M. Tartaglia,[12] T.L. Taylor,[29] J. Teiger,[36] J. Thompson,[21] T.G. Trippe,[20] P.M. Tuts,[10] N. Varelas,[23] E.W. Varnes,[20] P.R.G. Virador,[20] D. Vititoe,[2] A.A. Volkov,[32] A.P. Vorobiev,[32] H.D. Wahl,[13] J. Wang,[12,*] L.Z. Wang,[12,*] J. Warchol,[30] M. Wayne,[30] H. Weerts,[23] W.A. Wenzel,[20] A. White,[41] J.T. White,[42] J.A. Wightman,[17] J. Wilcox,[27] S. Willis,[28] S.J. Wimpenny,[7] J.V.D. Wirjawan,[42] J. Womersley,[12] E. Won,[35] D.R. Wood,[12] H. Xu,[4] R. Yamada,[12] P. Yamin,[3] C. Yanagisawa,[38] J. Yang,[26] T. Yasuda,[27] C. Yoshikawa,[14] S. Youssef,[13] J. Yu,[35] Y. Yu,[37] Y. Zhang,[12,*] Y.H. Zhou,[12,*] Q. Zhu,[26] Y.S. Zhu,[12,*] Z.H. Zhu,[35] D. Zieminska,[16] A. Zieminski,[16] and A. Zylberstejn[36]

(DØ Collaboration)

[1] *Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia*
[2] *University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona 85721*
[3] *Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York 11973*
[4] *Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island 02912*
[5] *University of California, Davis, California 95616*
[6] *University of California, Irvine, California 92717*
[7] *University of California, Riverside, California 92521*
[8] *LAFEX, Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Físicas, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil*
[9] *CINVESTAV, Mexico City, Mexico*
[10] *Columbia University, New York, New York 10027*
[11] *Delhi University, Delhi, India 110007*
[12] *Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, Batavia, Illinois 60510*
[13] *Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida 32306*
[14] *University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822*
[15] *University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois 60607*
[16] *Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana 47405*
[17] *Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50011*

[18]*Korea University, Seoul, Korea*
[19]*Kyungsung University, Pusan, Korea*
[20]*Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory and University of California, Berkeley, California 94720*
[21]*University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742*
[22]*University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109*
[23]*Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824*
[24]*Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia*
[25]*University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska 68588*
[26]*New York University, New York, New York 10003*
[27]*Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts 02115*
[28]*Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Illinois 60115*
[29]*Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois 60208*
[30]*University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556*
[31]*University of Panjab, Chandigarh 16-00-14, India*
[32]*Institute for High Energy Physics, 142-284 Protvino, Russia*
[33]*Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907*
[34]*Rice University, Houston, Texas 77251*
[35]*University of Rochester, Rochester, New York 14627*
[36]*CEA, DAPNIA/Service de Physique des Particules, CE-SACLAY, France*
[37]*Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea*
[38]*State University of New York, Stony Brook, New York 11794*
[39]*SSC Laboratory, Dallas, Texas 75237*
[40]*Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Colaba, Bombay 400005, India*
[41]*University of Texas, Arlington, Texas 76019*
[42]*Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843*
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Abstract

The inclusive cross sections times leptonic branching ratios for W and Z boson production in $p\bar{p}$ collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 1.8$ TeV were measured using the DØ detector at the Fermilab Tevatron collider:

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_W \cdot B(W \to e\nu) &= 2.36 \pm 0.07 \pm 0.13 \text{ nb} \\
\sigma_W \cdot B(W \to \mu\nu) &= 2.09 \pm 0.23 \pm 0.11 \text{ nb} \\
\sigma_Z \cdot B(Z \to e^+e^-) &= 0.218 \pm 0.011 \pm 0.012 \text{ nb} \\
\sigma_Z \cdot B(Z \to \mu^+\mu^-) &= 0.178 \pm 0.030 \pm 0.009 \text{ nb}
\end{aligned}$$

The first error is the combined statistical and systematic uncertainty, and the second reflects the uncertainty in the luminosity. For the combined electron and muon analyses we find $\sigma_W \cdot B(W \to l\nu)/\sigma_Z \cdot B(Z \to l^+l^-) = 10.90 \pm 0.49$. Assuming Standard Model couplings, this result is used to determine the width of the W boson, $\Gamma(W) = 2.044 \pm 0.093$ GeV.

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The measurement of the production cross sections times leptonic branching ratios ($\sigma \cdot B$) for W and Z bosons allows a determination of the width of the W boson and a comparison of W and Z boson production with QCD predictions. The total width of the Z boson is known to a precision of 0.3% [1], which places strong constraints on the existence of new particles produced in neutral weak decays. Our knowledge of the total width of the W boson is an order of magnitude less precise, and the corresponding limits on charged weak decays are much less stringent. It is therefore important to improve the measurement of the W boson width as a means of searching for unexpected W boson decay modes.

We determine the leptonic branching ratio of the W boson, $B(W \to l\nu)$, from the ratio of the measured W and Z boson $\sigma \cdot B$ values

$$R \equiv \frac{\sigma_W \cdot B(W \to l\nu)}{\sigma_Z \cdot B(Z \to ll)}, \tag{1}$$

where $l = e$ or μ, σ_W and σ_Z are the inclusive cross sections for W and Z boson production in $p\bar{p}$ collisions, and $B(Z \to ll)$ is the leptonic branching ratio of the Z boson. We extract $B(W \to l\nu)$ from the above ratio using a theoretical calculation of σ_W/σ_Z and the precise measurement of $B(Z \to ll)$ from LEP. We then combine $B(W \to l\nu)$ with a theoretical calculation of the W boson leptonic partial width, $\Gamma(W \to l\nu)$, to obtain the W boson total width, $\Gamma(W)$. Previous measurements of $\Gamma(W)$ have been published by UA1 [2], UA2 [3] and CDF [4,5].

In this letter, we report a new measurement of $\sigma \cdot B$ and determination of $\Gamma(W)$ using data collected with the DØ detector [6] in 1992-93 at the Fermilab Tevatron $p\bar{p}$ collider at $\sqrt{s} = 1.8$ TeV. The four decay channels included in this analysis are $W \to e\nu, \mu\nu$ and $Z \to e^+e^-, \mu^+\mu^-$.

Electrons were detected in hermetic, uranium liquid-argon calorimeters [7,8], with an energy resolution of about $15\%/\sqrt{E(\mathrm{GeV})}$. The calorimeters have a transverse granularity of $\Delta\eta \times \Delta\phi = 0.1 \times 0.1$, where η is the pseudorapidity and ϕ is the azimuthal angle.

For the $W \to e\nu$ and $Z \to e^+e^-$ analyses we accepted electrons with $|\eta| < 1.1$ or $1.5 < |\eta| < 2.5$. The W and Z boson analyses both used the same trigger which required a single electron with transverse energy (E_T) greater than 20 GeV. Kinematic selections were made in the offline analysis requiring that Z boson candidates have two electrons, each with $E_T > 25$ GeV, and that W boson candidates have one electron with $E_T > 25$ GeV and missing transverse energy ($\not\!\!E_T$) greater than 25 GeV.

The offline electron identification requirements consisted of three criteria for a "loose" electron: *i*) the electron had to deposit at least 95% of its energy in the 21 radiation length electromagnetic calorimeter, *ii*) the transverse and longitudinal shower shapes had to be consistent with those expected for an electron (based on test beam measurements), and *iii*) the electron had to be isolated with $I < 0.1$. The isolation variable is defined as $I = (E_{\mathrm{tot}}(0.4) - E_{\mathrm{EM}}(0.2))/E_{\mathrm{EM}}(0.2)$, where $E_{\mathrm{tot}}(0.4)$ is the total calorimeter energy inside a cone of radius $\sqrt{\Delta\eta^2 + \Delta\phi^2} = 0.4$ and $E_{\mathrm{EM}}(0.2)$ is the electromagnetic energy inside a cone of 0.2. For a "tight" electron we also required a good match between a reconstructed track in the drift chamber system and the shower position in the calorimeter. For W boson events we required one "tight" electron, while for Z boson events we required one electron to be "tight" and the other to be either "tight" or "loose." Figures 1(a) and 1(c) show the observed transverse mass

and invariant mass distributions for $W \to e\nu$ and $Z \to e^+e^-$ candidates passing these cuts. For the $Z \to e^+e^-$ analysis we used the events in the invariant mass range $75 - 105$ GeV/c^2.

The kinematic and geometric acceptance (shown in Table I) for the $W \to e\nu$ and $Z \to e^+e^-$ channels was calculated with a Monte Carlo simulation using the measured detector resolutions to smear generated four-momenta. The calculation used the CTEQ2M [9] parton distribution functions (pdf), and a NLO calculation [10] of the W boson transverse momentum. The systematic error in the acceptance includes contributions from the uncertainty in the pdf (the spread among CTEQ2 [9], MRS [11], and GRV [12] pdf), from the uncertainty in the W boson mass [13], and from systematic uncertainties associated with modeling the detector response. The trigger and selection efficiencies (Table I) were determined using $Z \to e^+e^-$ events where one of the electrons satisfied tight trigger and selection criteria and the second electron provided an unbiased sample to measure the efficiencies. The trigger efficiencies were found to be $> 95\%$.

Muons were detected as tracks in three layers of proportional drift tube (PDT) chambers outside the calorimeter. One layer of PDT chambers had four planes and was located inside an iron toroid magnet. The other two layers, each with three planes, were located outside of the iron. The muon momentum resolution in this analysis was $\sigma(1/p) = 0.18(p - 2)/p^2 \oplus 0.008$ (with p in GeV/c). A muon track was required to match a charged track in the central drift chamber system. We accepted muons that passed through the central iron toroid ($|\eta| < 1.0$).

The $W \to \mu\nu$ and $Z \to \mu^+\mu^-$ analyses both used the same trigger which required a single muon with transverse momentum (p_T) greater than 15 GeV/c. Cosmic ray background was reduced by rejecting muons that also had hits or tracks within 10 degrees in θ and 20 degrees in ϕ in the muon chambers on the opposite side of the interaction point. Trigger efficiencies were measured using the subsample of events with high p_T muons that satisfied jet or $\not{E}_T$ triggers, and also using the second muon in $Z \to \mu^+\mu^-$ events. The trigger efficiency was about 40% (70%) for $W(Z)$ boson events. Kinematic cuts were made requiring muon $p_T > 20$ GeV/c and $\not{E}_T > 20$ GeV for W boson events, and $p_T > 15, 20$ GeV/c for the two muons in Z boson events.

A "loose" muon was required to deposit sufficient energy in the calorimeter to be consistent with the passage of a minimum ionizing particle and to traverse a minimum field integral of 2.0 T·m. This latter requirement restricts the muon analysis to a region of the detector with ≥ 13 interaction lengths of material, so that hadronic punchthrough is negligible. A "tight" muon had five additional requirements: *i*) a stringent track match with a track in the central detector, *ii*) a good quality global fit with the vertex and a central detector track, *iii*) a muon time of origin within 100 ns of the beam crossing, *iv*) energy in the calorimeter consistent with single muon ionization within a cone of radius $\sqrt{\Delta\eta^2 + \Delta\phi^2} = 0.2$ and with less than 6 GeV of additional energy in a cone of 0.6, and *v*) a good muon impact parameter.

For Z boson events, we required at least one muon to be "tight" and the other to be either "tight" or "loose." For W boson events, we required at least one "tight" muon (after Z boson candidates were removed). Figures 1(b) and 1(d) show the observed transverse mass and invariant mass distributions for $W \to \mu\nu$ and $Z \to \mu^+\mu^-$ candidates passing our criteria. The kinematic and geometric acceptances (Table I) were calculated with a full detector Monte Carlo simulation. The selection efficiencies (Table I) were determined with $Z \to \mu^+\mu^-$ events using the same method that was used for electrons.

The background estimates (Table I) due to $Z \to e^+e^-$ or $Z \to \mu^+\mu^-$ (where one of the electrons or muons was lost) and $W \to \tau\nu$ or $Z \to \tau^+\tau^-$ (where $\tau \to e\nu\nu$ or $\mu\nu\nu$) were obtained from Monte Carlo. The multijet background estimate for the $W \to e\nu$ sample was derived from the data by measuring the tail of the $\not\!\!E_T$ distribution for non-isolated electrons and normalizing this at small $\not\!\!E_T$ to the $\not\!\!E_T$ spectrum for isolated electrons. The multijet background in the $W \to \mu\nu$ and $Z \to \mu^+\mu^-$ samples was estimated using the distribution of the isolation variable. The amount of multijet background in the $Z \to e^+e^-$ sample was estimated by performing a fit to the data using the predicted Z boson mass distribution and the experimentally determined shape of the multijet background from dijet and direct photon events. The cosmic ray and random hit backgrounds to $W \to \mu\nu$ and $Z \to \mu^+\mu^-$ were estimated from the distributions of muon time of origin relative to beam crossing.

The luminosity (Table I) was calculated by measuring the rate for $p\bar{p}$ non-diffractive inelastic collisions using two hodoscopes of scintillation counters [6] mounted close to the beam on the front surfaces of the end calorimeters. The normalization for the luminosity measurement and the 5.4% systematic error in the luminosity, which has been estimated from the uncertainty in the $p\bar{p}$ inelastic cross section and uncertainties in the acceptance and efficiency of the counters, are described in Ref. [14].

We calculated $\sigma \cdot B$ by subtracting the background from the number of observed events ($N_{\rm obs}$), and dividing the result by the acceptance, efficiency, and luminosity. The results obtained are shown in Table I, and are plotted in Fig. 2, together with the CDF results [15,16] and the theoretical $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$ QCD prediction [17,18] of $\sigma_W \cdot B(W \to l\nu) = 2.42^{+0.13}_{-0.11}$ nb and $\sigma_Z \cdot B(Z \to ll) = 0.226^{+0.011}_{-0.009}$ nb.

Using the definition for R in Eq. (1), we obtain for the electron, muon and combined results:

$$\begin{aligned} R_e &= 10.82 \pm 0.41(stat) \pm 0.30(sys), \\ R_\mu &= 11.8^{+1.8}_{-1.4}(stat) \pm 1.1(sys), \text{ and} \\ R_{e+\mu} &= 10.90 \pm 0.49(stat \oplus sys). \end{aligned}$$

Many common sources of error cancel in R, including the uncertainty in the luminosity and parts of the errors in the acceptance and event selection efficiency.

We use the combined ratio $R_{e+\mu}$ and Eq. (1) to determine $B(W \to l\nu)$. We use $B(Z \to ll) = (3.367 \pm 0.006)\%$ [1], and the theoretical calculation [17] of $\sigma_W/\sigma_Z = 3.33 \pm 0.03$, where the quoted error is due to systematic differences in the pdf choices [9,11] (with CTEQ2ML and CTEQ2MS giving the maximum variation) and the uncertainty in the W boson mass [13]. We obtain

$$B(W \to l\nu) = (11.02 \pm 0.50)\%.$$

We combine this measurement of $B(W \to l\nu)$ with a theoretical calculation [20,13] of $\Gamma(W \to l\nu) = 225.2 \pm 1.5$ MeV to obtain

$$\Gamma(W) = 2.044 \pm 0.093 \text{ GeV}.$$

The measurement of $\Gamma(W)$ (or $B(W \to l\nu)$) can be used to set limits on unexpected decay modes of the W boson, such as W decays into supersymmetric charginos and neutralinos [23], or into heavy quarks [24]. Comparing our result for $\Gamma(W)$ with the Standard

Model prediction, $\Gamma(W) = 2.077 \pm 0.014$ GeV [20,13], the 95% CL upper limit on the contribution of unexpected decays to the W boson width is 164 MeV. Combining our result for $\Gamma(W)$ with other measurements [25] gives a weighted average of $\Gamma(W) = 2.062 \pm 0.059$ GeV. Comparing this weighted average with the Standard Model value gives a 95% CL upper limit of 109 MeV on unexpected decays.

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REFERENCES

* Visitor from IHEP, Beijing, China.
‡ Visitor from CONICET, Argentina.
§ Visitor from Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina.
¶ Visitor from Univ. San Francisco de Quito, Ecuador.

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[18] To obtain the predicted $\sigma{\cdot}B$ we used σ from Ref. [17], $B(W \to l\nu) = (10.84{\pm}0.02)\%$ [20], and $B(Z \to ll) = (3.367 \pm 0.006)\%$ [1]. The errors in $\sigma \cdot B$ include a $(2.5 - 4.5)\%$ error due to the effect of using various pdf choices [9,11] (with CTEQ2ML and CTEQ2MS giving the maximum variation), a 3% error due to using NLO pdf instead of NNLO [21], a $(0.2 - 0.6)\%$ error due to the uncertainty in M_W [13], and a $(0.3 - 0.5)\%$ error due to the variation of the renormalization and factorization scales [22].
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FIGURES

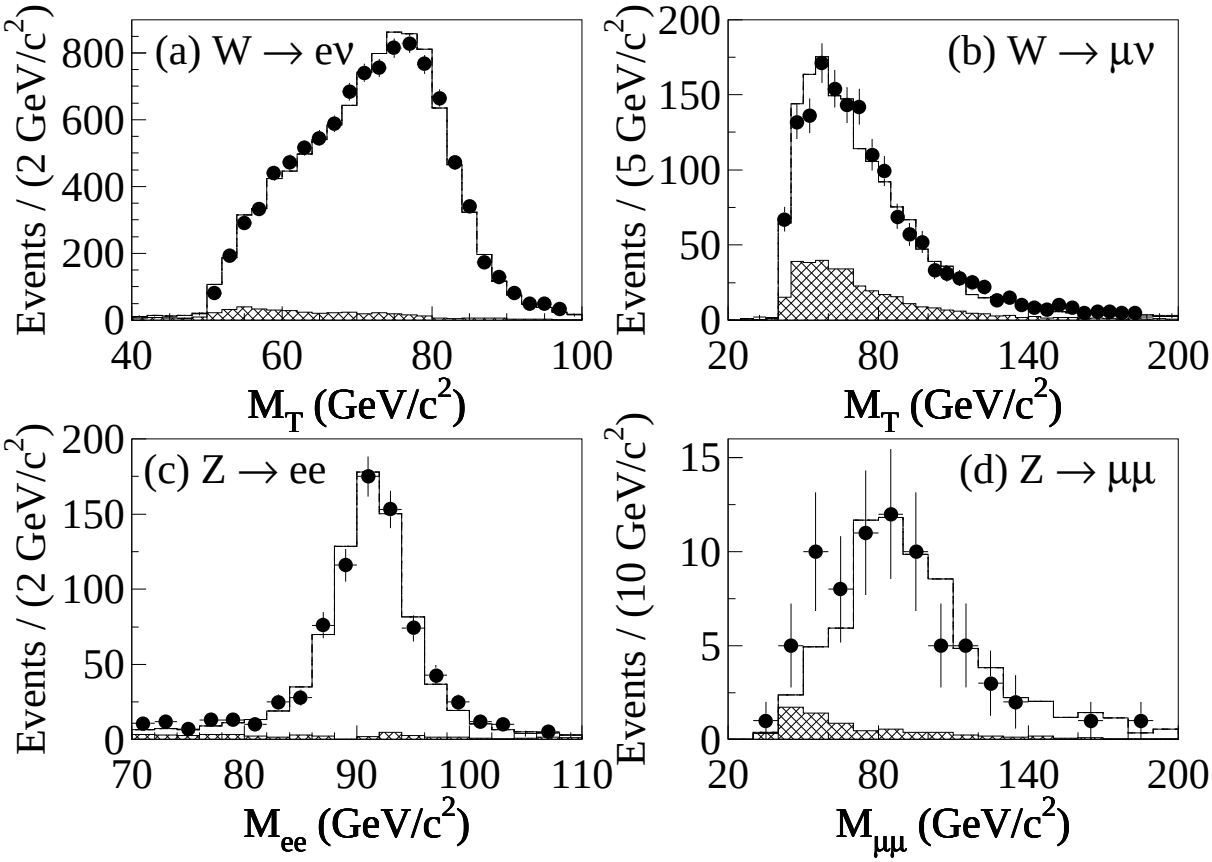

FIG. 1. Transverse mass and invariant mass distributions for the indicated channels. The points are the data. The shaded areas represent the estimated backgrounds, and the solid lines correspond to the sums of the expected signals (from Monte Carlo) and the estimated backgrounds.

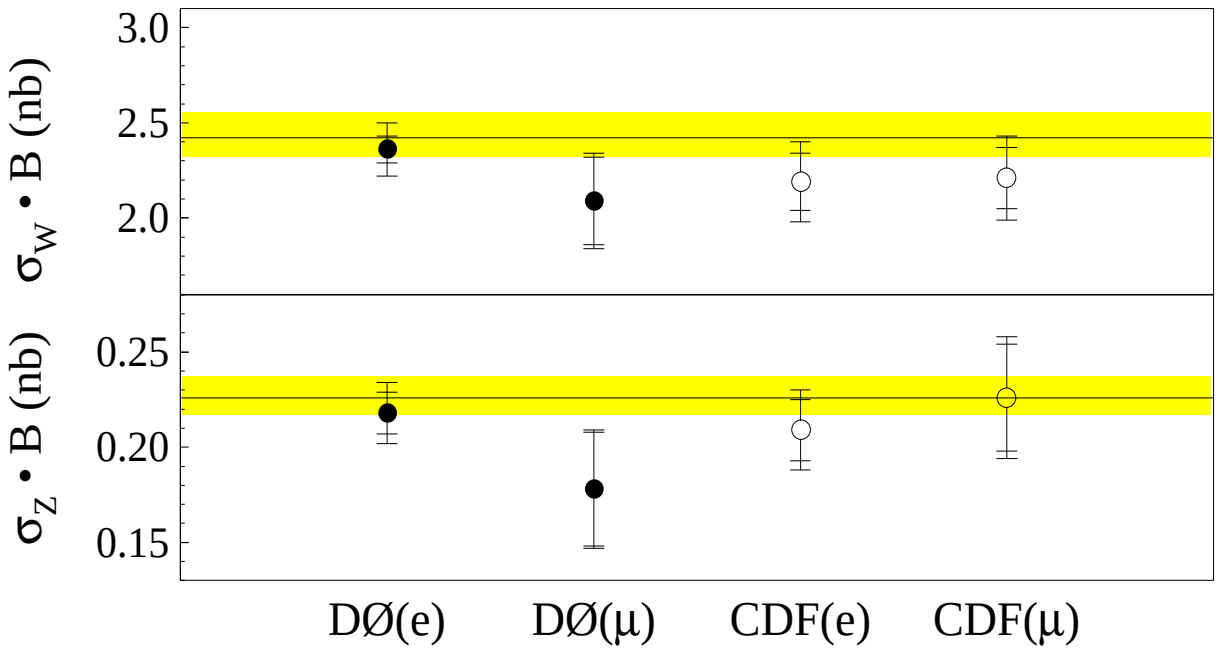

FIG. 2. $\sigma \cdot B$ for inclusive W and Z boson production. The inner error bar is the combined statistical and systematic uncertainty and the outer error bar includes the luminosity uncertainty. The solid line and shaded band are the theoretical prediction described in the text.

TABLES

TABLE I. Production cross section times leptonic branching ratio for W and Z bosons.

Channel	$W \to e\nu$	$Z \to e^+e^-$	$W \to \mu\nu$	$Z \to \mu^+\mu^-$
$N_{\rm obs}$	10338	775	1665	77
Backgrounds(%):				
$Z \to ee, \mu\mu, \tau\tau$	0.6 ± 0.1	—	7.3 ± 0.5	0.7 ± 0.2
$W \to \tau\nu$	1.8 ± 0.1	—	5.9 ± 0.5	—
Multijet	3.3 ± 0.5	2.8 ± 1.4	5.1 ± 0.8	2.6 ± 0.8
Cosmic/Random	—	—	3.8 ± 1.6	5.1 ± 3.6
Drell-Yan	—	1.2 ± 0.1	—	1.7 ± 0.3
Total Bkgnd(%)	5.7 ± 0.5	4.0 ± 1.4	22.1 ± 1.9	10.1 ± 3.7
Acceptance(%)	46.0 ± 0.6	36.3 ± 0.4	24.8 ± 0.7	6.5 ± 0.4
$\epsilon_{\rm trig} * \epsilon_{\rm sel}$(%)	70.4 ± 1.7	73.6 ± 2.4	21.9 ± 2.6	52.7 ± 4.9
$\int \mathcal{L}$dt (pb^{-1})	12.8 ± 0.7	12.8 ± 0.7	11.4 ± 0.6	11.4 ± 0.6
$\sigma \cdot$ B (nb)	2.36	0.218	2.09	0.178
$\pm(stat), (sys), (lum)$	$\pm 0.02 \pm 0.07 \pm 0.13$	$\pm 0.008 \pm 0.008 \pm 0.012$	$\pm 0.06 \pm 0.22 \pm 0.11$	$\pm 0.022 \pm 0.021 \pm 0.009$