#### ABSTRACT

### SEARCH FOR CHARGED HIGGS BOSONS IN THE $\tau + \ell$ FINAL STATE WITH $36.1~{\rm fb^{-1}OF}$ ppCOLLISION DATA AT $\sqrt{s} = 13$ WITH THE ATLAS EXPERIMENT

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This dissertation uses 139 fb<sup>-1</sup> of ppcollision data collected at a center of mass energy of  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  by the ATLAS detector to search for charged Higgs bosons decaying to a tau lepton and a neutrino  $(H^{\pm} \to \tau^{\pm} \nu_{\tau})$  in association with a leptonically decaying top quark. No significant excess was found, therefore limits are set at the 95% confidence level on the charged Higgs production cross section times the branching fraction into the  $\tau^{\pm}\nu_{\tau}$  ranging from XX pb to XX fb. These limits are interpreted in the hMSSM benchmark scenario as an exclusion at 95% confidence on tan as a function of  $m_{H^{\pm}}$ . In this scenario, for tan = 60, the  $H^{\pm}$  mass range up to XXXXGeV is excluded, with all values of tan excluded for  $m_{H^{\pm}} \leq XXXGeV$ 

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BY

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# A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

Dissertation Director:

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### CHAPTER 1 THEORY

#### 1.1 The Standard Model

#### 1.1.1 Particles

1.1.1.1 Fermions

#### 1.1.1.2 Bosons

#### 1.1.2 Interactions

 ${\bf 1.1.2.1} \quad \underline{\bf Electromagnetic \ Interaction}$ 

1.1.2.2 Weak Interaction

#### 1.1.2.3 Strong Interaction

#### 1.1.3 The Higgs Mechanism

#### 1.2 Supersymmetry

#### 1.2.1 MSMM Particles

### ${\it CHAPTER~2}$ THE LHC AND ATLAS EXPERIMENT

#### 2.1 The Large Hadron Collider

#### 2.2 The ATLAS Detector

#### 2.2.1 Inner Detector

2.2.1.1	Pixel
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#### 2.2.1.2 Semiconductor Tracker

#### 2.2.1.3 Transition Radiation Tracker

#### 2.2.2 Calorimeters

#### 2.2.2.1 Liquid Argon Electromagnetic

#### 2.2.2.2 Tile Hadronic

#### 2.2.3 Muon System

#### 2.2.3.1 Monitored Drift Tubes

### $\begin{array}{c} \text{CHAPTER 3} \\ \\ \text{EVENT RECONSTRUCTION} \end{array}$

- 3.1 Trigger
- 3.2 Inner Detector
  - 3.3 Calorimeters
    - 3.4 Muon
    - 3.5 E Gamma
      - **3.6** Jets
- 3.6.1 Flavor Tagging
  - 3.6.2 Tau
  - 3.7  $E_{\mathbf{T}}^{\mathbf{miss}}$

### ${\it CHAPTER~4}$ SEARCH FOR CHARGED HIGGS BOSONS

#### 4.1 Signature and Event Selection

NEEDS TO BE DONE

#### 4.1.1 Object Definitions

NEEDS TO BE DONE

#### 4.1.2 Event Selections

NEEDS TO BE DONE

#### 4.2 Datasets

NEEDS TO BE DONE

#### 4.2.1 Signal Modeling

NEEDS TO BE DONE

#### 4.3 Background Modeling

NEEDS TO BE DONE

#### 4.4 Analysis Strategy

NEEDS TO BE DONE

#### 4.4.1 Multivariate Analysis Techniques

NEEDS TO BE DONE

#### 4.4.2 Training

NEEDS TO BE DONE

#### 4.4.3 Feature Selection

NEEDS TO BE DONE

#### 4.4.4 Hyperparameter Optimization

NEEDS TO BE DONE

#### 4.5 Systematic Uncertainties

#### NEEDS TO BE DONE

#### 4.6 Results

### CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION

Appendices