ABSTRACT

Title of dissertation: Search for Pair Production of

 ${\bf Third\text{-}Generation\ Scalar\ Leptoquarks}$

and R-Parity Violating Stops

in Proton-Proton Collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 8 \text{ TeV}$

Kevin Pedro, Doctor of Philosophy, 2014

Dissertation directed by: Professor Sarah C. Eno

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Search for Pair Production of Third-Generation Scalar Leptoquarks and R-Parity Violating Stops in Proton-Proton Collisions at $\sqrt{s}=8\,\text{TeV}$

by

Kevin Pedro

Dissertation submitted to the Faculty of the Graduate School of the University of Maryland, College Park in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

2014

Advisory Committee: Professor Sarah C. Eno, Chair/Advisor © Copyright by Kevin Pedro 2014

Dedication

To my parents, Philip and Lisa

Acknowledgments

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List of Abbreviations

ALICE A Large Ion Collider Experiment

APD Avalanche Photodiode

APV Atomic Parity Violation

ATLAS A Toroidal LHC ApparatuS

BPTX Beam Pick-up Timing for the eXperiments

BRW Buchmüller-Rückl-Wyler

BSM Beyond Standard Model

CERN European Organization for Nuclear Research

CL Confidence Level

CMS Compact Muon Solenoid

CMSSW CMS Software

CP Charge-Parity

CPU Central Processing Unit

CSC Cathode Strip Chamber

CTF Combinatorial Track Finder

DAQ Data Acquisition

DT Drift Tube

EB ECAL Barrel

ECAL Electromagnetic Calorimeter

EE ECAL Endcap EM Electromagnetic

FCNC Flavor-Changing Neutral Current

FSR Final-State Radiation

GSF Gaussian Sum Filter

GUT Grand Unified Theory

HB HCAL Barrel

HCAL Hadron Calorimeter

HE HCAL Endcap

HEEP High Energy Electron Pairs

HERA Hadron-Electron Ring Accelerator

HF HCAL Forward

HO HCAL Outer

HPD Hybrid Photodiode

HLT High-Level Trigger

IP Interaction Point

ISR Initial-State Radiation

L1 Level 1

L1A Level-1 Accept

LEP Large Electron-Positron Collider

LHC Large Hadron Collider

LHCb Large Hadron Collider beauty

LQ Leptoquark

LO Leading Order

mBRW minimal Buchmüller-Rückl-Wyler

MB Muon Barrel

MC Monte Carlo

ME Muon Endcap

MET Missing Transverse Energy

NLO Next-to-Leading Order

NNLO Next-to-Next-to-Leading Order

PD Primary Dataset

PF Particle Flow

PDF Parton Distribution Function

PMT Photomultiplier Tube

PS Proton Synchrotron, Preshower

PSB Proton Synchrotron Booster

QED Quantum Electrodynamics

QCD Quantum Chromodynamics

RBX Readout BoX

RF Radio Frequency RMS Root Mean Square

RPC Resistive Plate Chamber

RPC R-Parity Conserving

RPV R-Parity Violating

SiPM Silicon Photomultiplier

SLHA SUSY Les Houches Accord

SM Standard Model

SPS Super Proton Synchrotron

SUSY Supersymmetry

TCS Trigger Control System

TEC Tracker End Cap

TIB Tracker Inner Barrel

TID Tracker Inner Disks

TOB Tracker Outer Barrel

TPG Trigger Primitive Generator

TTC Timing, Trigger and Control

VPT Vacuum Phototriode

WLS Wavelength-Shifting