

1 A search for sparticles in zero lepton final states

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ABSTRACT

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A search for sparticles in zero lepton final states

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Russell W. Smith

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Contents

19	Contents	i
20	1 Introduction	1
21	2 The Standard Model	5
22	2.1 Overview	5
23	2.2 Field Content	5
24	2.3 Deficiencies of the Standard Model	15
25	3 Supersymmetry	21
26	3.1 Supersymmetric theories : from space to superspace	21
27	3.2 Minimally Supersymmetric Standard Model	24
28	3.3 Phenomenology	30
29	3.4 How SUSY solves the problems with the SM	33
30	3.5 Conclusions	35
31	4 The Large Hadron Collider	37
32	4.1 Basics of Accelerator Physics	37
33	4.2 Accelerator Complex	39
34	4.3 Large Hadron Collider	41
35	4.4 Dataset Delivered by the LHC	43
36	5 The ATLAS detector	49

37	5.1	Magnets	50
38	5.2	Inner Detector	52
39	5.3	Calorimetry	56
40	5.4	Muon Spectrometer	61
41	5.5	Trigger System	66
42	6	Object Reconstruction	73
43	6.1	Primitive Object Reconstruction	73
44	6.2	Physics Object Reconstruction and Quality Identification	79
45	7	Recursive Jigsaw Reconstruction	105
46	7.1	Razor variables	105
47	7.2	Recursive Jigsaw Reconstruction	110
48	7.3	Variables used in the search for zero lepton SUSY	116
49	8	A search for supersymmetric particles in zero lepton final states with the Recursive Jigsaw Technique	123
50	8.1	Simulation samples	123
51	8.2	Event selection	127
52	8.3	Background estimation	134
54	9	Results	161
55	9.1	Signal region distributions	161
56	9.2	Systematic Uncertainties	164
57	9.3	Limits and Model-dependent Exclusions	166
58	Conclusion		173
59	9.4	New Section	173
60	Bibliography		175

61	Additional N-1 plots	187
62	Compressed region N-1 plots	187

Acknowledgements

Dedication

Introduction

67 Particle physics is a remarkably successful field of scientific inquiry. The ability to
 68 precisely predict the properties of a exceedingly wide range of physical phenomena,
 69 such as the description of the cosmic microwave background [1, 2], the understanding
 70 of the anomalous magnetic dipole moment of the electron [3, 4], and the measurement
 71 of the number of weakly-interacting neutrino flavors [5] is truly amazing.

72 The theory that has allowed this range of predictions is the *Standard Model*
 73 of particle physics (SM). The Standard Model combines the electroweak theory of
 74 Glashow, Weinberg, and Salam [6–8] with the theory of the strong interactions, as
 75 first envisioned by Gell-Mann and Zweig [9, 10]. This quantum field theory (QFT)
 76 contains a tiny number of particles, whose interactions describe phenomena up to at
 77 least the TeV scale. These particles are manifestations of the fields of the Standard
 78 Model, after application of the Higgs Mechanism. The particle content of the SM
 79 consists only of the six quarks, the six leptons, the four gauge bosons, and the scalar
 80 Higgs boson.

81 Despite its impressive range of described phenomena, the Standard Model has
 82 some theoretical and experimental deficiencies. The SM contains 26 free parameters
 83 ¹. It would be more theoretically pleasing to understand these free parameters in
 84 terms of a more fundamental theory. The major theoretical concern of the Standard
 85 Model, as it pertains to this thesis, is the *hierarchy problem*[11–15]. The light mass

¹This is the Standard Model corrected to include neutrino masses. These parameters are the fermion masses (6 leptons, 6 quarks), CKM and PMNS mixing angles (8 angles, 2 CP-violating phases), W/Z/Higgs masses (3), the Higgs field expectation value, and the couplings of the strong, weak, and electromagnetic forces (3 α_{force}).

86 of the Higgs boson (125 GeV) should be quadratically dependent on the scale of UV
87 physics, due to the quantum corrections from high-energy physics processes. The
88 most perplexing experimental issue is the existence of *dark matter*, as demonstrated
89 by galactic rotation curves [16–22]. This data has shown that there exists additional
90 matter which has not yet been seen interacting with the particles of the Standard
91 Model. There is no particle in the SM which can act as a candidate for dark matter.

92 Both of these major issues, as well as numerous others, can be solved by the
93 introduction of *supersymmetry* (SUSY) [15, 23–35]. In supersymmetric theories, each
94 SM particles has a so-called *superpartner*, or sparticle partner, differing from given SM
95 particle by 1/2 in spin. These theories solve the hierarchy problem, since the quantum
96 corrections induced from the superpartners exactly cancel those induced by the SM
97 particles. In addition, these theories are usually constructed assuming *R*–parity,
98 which can be thought of as the “charge” of supersymmetry, with SM particles having
99 $R = 1$ and sparticles having $R = -1$. In collider experiments, since the incoming
100 SM particles have total $R = 1$, the resulting sparticles are produced in pairs. This
101 produces a rich phenomenology, which is characterized by significant hadronic activity
102 and large missing transverse energy (E_T^{miss}), which provide significant discrimination
103 against SM backgrounds [36].

104 Despite the power of searches for supersymmetry where E_T^{miss} is a primary
105 discriminating variable, there has been significant interest in the use of other variables
106 to discriminate against SM backgrounds. These include searches employing variables
107 such as αT , $M_{T,2}$, and the razor variables (M_R, R^2) [37–47]. In this thesis, we
108 will present the first search for supersymmetry using the novel Recursive Jigsaw
109 Reconstruction (RJR) technique. RJR can be considered the conceptual successor
110 of the razor variables. We impose a particular final state “decay tree” on an events,
111 which roughly corresponds to a simplified Feynmann diagram in decays containing
112 weakly-interacting particles. We account for the missing degrees of freedom associated

113 to the weakly-interacting particles by a series of simplifying assumptions, which allow
114 us to calculate our variables of interest at each step in the decay tree. This allows an
115 unprecedented understanding of the internal structure of the decay and the ability to
116 construct additional variables to reject Standard Model backgrounds.

117 This thesis details a search for the superpartners of the gluon and quarks, the
118 gluino and squarks, in final states with zero leptons, with 13.3 fb^{-1} of data using the
119 ATLAS detector. We organize the thesis as follows. The theoretical foundations of
120 the Standard Model and supersymmetry are described in Chapters 2 and 3. The
121 Large Hadron Collider and the ATLAS detector are presented in Chapters 4 and 5.
122 Chapter 5 provides a detailed description of Recursive Jigsaw Reconstruction and a
123 description of the variables used for the particular search presented in this thesis.
124 Chapter 6 presents the details of the analysis, including details of the dataset, object
125 reconstruction, and selections used. In Chapter 7, the final results are presented;
126 since there is no evidence of a supersymmetric signal in the analysis, we present the
127 final exclusion curves in simplified supersymmetric models.

*The Standard Model***130 2.1 Overview**

131 A Standard Model is another name for a theory of the internal symmetry group
 132 $SU(3)_C \otimes SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$, with its associated set of parameters. *The Standard*
 133 Model refers specifically to a Standard Model with the proper parameters to describe
 134 the universe. The SM is the culmination of years of work in both theoretical
 135 and experimental particle physics. In this thesis, we take the view that theorists cite

136 construct a model with the field content and symmetries as inputs, and write down the
 137 most general Lagrangian consistent with those symmetries. Assuming this model is
 138 compatible with nature (in particular, the predictions of the model are consistent with
 139 previous experiments), experimentalists are responsible measuring the parameters of
 140 this model. This will be applicable for this chapter and the following one.

141 Additional theoretical background is in ?? . The philosophy and notations are
 142 inspired by [48, 49].

143 2.2 Field Content

The Standard Model field content is

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Fermions} &: Q_L(3, 2)_{+1/3}, U_R(3, 1)_{+4/3}, D_R(3, 1)_{-2/3}, L_L(1, 2)_{-1}, E_R(1, 1)_{-2} \\
 \text{Scalar (Higgs)} &: \phi(1, 2)_{+1} \\
 \text{Vector Fields} &: G^\mu(8, 1)_0, W^\mu(1, 3)_0, B^\mu(1, 1)_0
 \end{aligned} \tag{2.1}$$

144 where the $(A, B)_Y$ notation represents the irreducible representation under $SU(3)$
145 and $SU(2)$, with Y being the electroweak hypercharge. Each of these fermion fields
146 has an additional index, representing the three generation of fermions.

147 We observed that Q_L, U_R , and D_R are triplets under $SU(3)_C$; these are the *quark*
148 fields. The *color* group, $SU(3)_C$ is mediated by the *gluon* field $G^\mu(8, 1)_0$, which has
149 8 degrees of freedom. The fermion fields $L_L(1, 2)_{-1}$ and $E_R(1, 1)_{-2}$ are singlets under
150 $SU(3)_C$; we call them the *lepton* fields.

151 Next, we note the “left-handed” (“right-handed”) fermion fields, denoted by L (R)
152 subscript, The left-handed fields form doublets under $SU(2)_L$. These are mediated
153 by the three degrees of freedom of the “W” fields $W^\mu(1, 3)_0$. These fields only act
154 on the left-handed particles of the Standard Model. This is the reflection of the
155 “chirality” of the Standard Model; the left-handed and right-handed particles are
156 treated differently by the electroweak forces. The right-handed fields, U_R, D_R , and
157 E_R , are singlets under $SU(2)_L$.

158 The $U(1)_Y$ symmetry is associated to the $B^\mu(1, 1)_0$ boson with one degree of
159 freedom. The charge Y is known as the electroweak hypercharge.

160 To better understand the phenomenology of the Standard Model, let us investigate
161 each of the *sectors* of the Standard Model separately.

162 Electroweak sector

The electroweak sector refers to the $SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$ portion of the Standard
Model gauge group. Following our philosophy of writing all gauge-invariant and
renormalizable terms, the electroweak Lagrangian can be written as

$$\mathcal{L} = W_a^{\mu\nu} W_{\mu\nu}^a + B^{\mu\nu} B_{\mu\nu} + (D^\mu \phi)^\dagger D_\mu \phi - \mu^2 \phi^\dagger \phi - \lambda (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2. \quad (2.2)$$

where $W_a^{\mu\nu}$ are the three ($a = 1, 2, 3$) gauge bosons associated to the $SU(2)_L$ gauge
group, $B^{\mu\nu}$ is the one gauge boson of the $U(1)_Y$ gauge group, and ϕ is the complex

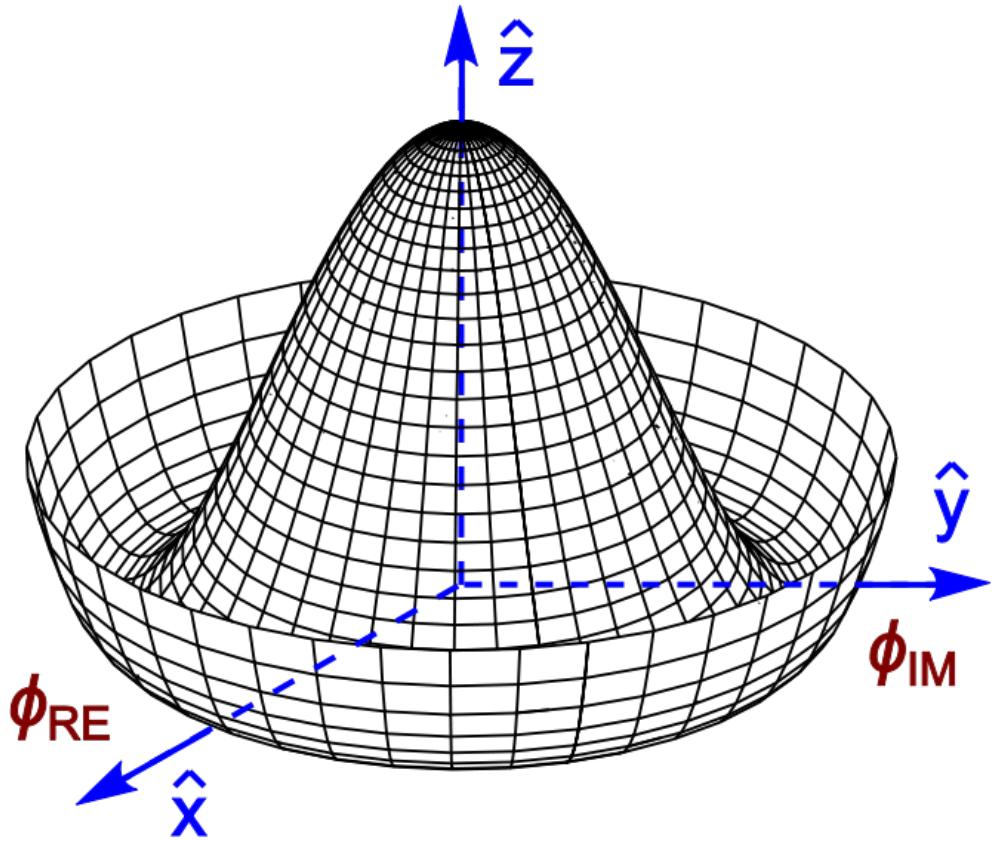


Figure 2.1: Sombrero potential

Higgs multiplet. The covariant derivative D^μ is given by

$$D^\mu = \partial^\mu + \frac{ig}{2}W_a^\mu\sigma_a + \frac{ig'}{2}B^\mu \quad (2.3)$$

where $i\sigma_a$ are the Pauli matrices times the imaginary constant, which are the generators for $SU(2)_L$, and g and g' are the $SU(2)_L$ and $U(1)_Y$ coupling constants, respectively. The field strength tensors $W_a^{\mu\nu}$ and $B^{\mu\nu}$ are given by the commutator of the covariant derivative associated to each field

$$B^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu B^\nu - \partial^\nu B^\mu \quad (2.4)$$

$$W_a^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu W_a^\nu - \partial^\nu W_a^\mu - g\epsilon_{abc}W_a^\mu W_b^\nu, \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$

164 The terms in the Lagrangian 2.2 proportional to μ^2 and λ make up the “Higgs
 165 potential” [50]. As normal (see Appendix ??), we restrict $\lambda > 0$ to guarantee our
 166 potential is bounded from below, and we also require $\mu^2 < 0$, which gives us the
 167 standard “sombrero” potential shown in 2.1.

This potential has infinitely many minima at $\langle \phi \rangle = \sqrt{2m/\lambda}$; the ground state is *spontaneously* broken by the choice of ground state, which induces a vacuum expectation value (VEV). Without loss of generality, we can choose the Higgs field ϕ to point in the real direction, and write the Higgs field ϕ in the following form :

$$\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \exp\left(\frac{i}{v} \sigma_a \theta_a\right) \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v + h(x) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.5)$$

We choose a gauge to rotate away the dependence on θ_a , such that we can write simply

$$\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v + h(x) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.6)$$

Now, we can see how the masses of the vector bosons are generated from the application of the Higgs mechanism. We plug Eq.2.6 back into the electroweak Lagrangian, and only showing the relevant mass terms in the vacuum state where $h(x) = 0$ see that (dropping the Lorentz indices) :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_M &= \frac{1}{8} \left| \begin{pmatrix} gW_3 + g'B & g(W_1 - iW_2) \\ g(W_1 + iW_2) & -gW_3 + g'B \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ v \end{pmatrix} \right|^2 \\ &= \frac{g^2 v^2}{8} \left[W_1^2 + W_2^2 + \left(\frac{g'}{g} B - W_3 \right)^2 \right] \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

Defining the Weinberg angle $\tan(\theta_W) = g'/g$ and the following *physical* fields :

$$W^\pm = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (W_1 \mp iW_2) \quad (2.8)$$

$$Z^0 = \cos \theta_W W_3 - \sin \theta_W B$$

$$A^0 = \sin \theta_W W_3 + \cos \theta_W B$$

we can write the piece of the Lagrangian associated to the vector boson masses as

$$\mathcal{L}_{MV} = \frac{1}{4}g^2 v^2 W^+ W^- + \frac{1}{8}(g^2 + g'^2) v^2 Z^0 Z^0. \quad (2.9)$$

and we have the following values of the masses for the vector bosons :

$$\begin{aligned} m_W^2 &= \frac{1}{4}v^2 g^2 \\ m_Z^2 &= \frac{1}{4}v^2(g^2 + g'^2) \\ m_A^2 &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

We thus see how the Higgs mechanism gives rise to the masses of the W^\pm and Z boson in the Standard Model; the mass of the photon is zero, as expected. The $SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$ symmetry of the initially massless $W_{1,2,3}$ and B fields is broken to the $U(1)_{EM}$. Of the four degrees of freedom in the complex Higgs doublet, three are “eaten” when we give mass to the W^\pm and Z_0 , while the other degree of freedom is the Higgs particle, as found in 2012 by the ATLAS and CMS collaborations [51, 52].

174 Quantum Chromodynamics

Quantum chromodynamics (or the theory of the *strong* force) characterizes the behavior of *colored* particles, collectively known as *partons*. The partons of the Standard Model are the (fermionic) quarks, and the (bosonic) gluons. The strong force is governed by $SU(3)_C$, an unbroken symmetry in the Standard Model, which implies the gluon remains massless. Defining the covariant derivative for QCD as

$$D^\mu = \partial^\mu + ig_s G_a^\mu L_a, a = 1, \dots, 8 \quad (2.11)$$

where L_a are the generators of $SU(3)_C$, and g_s is the coupling constant of the strong force. The QCD Lagrangian then is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{QCD} = i\bar{\psi}_f D_\mu \gamma^\mu \psi_f - \frac{1}{4}G_{a,\mu\nu} G_a^{\mu\nu} \quad (2.12)$$

where the summation over f is for quarks *families*, and $G_a^{\mu\nu}$ is the gluon field strength tensor, given by

$$G_a^{\mu\nu} = \partial^\mu G_a^\nu - \partial^\nu G_a^\mu - g_s f^{abc} G_b^\mu G_c^\nu, a, b, c = 1, \dots, 8 \quad (2.13)$$

175 where f^{abc} are the structure constants of $SU(3)_C$, which are analogous to ϵ_{abc} for
 176 $SU(2)_L$. The kinetic term for the quarks is contained in the standard ∂_μ term, while
 177 the field strength term contains the interactions between the quarks and gluons, as
 178 well as the gluon self-interactions.

179 Written down in this simple form, the QCD Lagrangian does not seem much
 180 different from the QED Lagrangian, with the proper adjustments for the different
 181 group structures. The gluon is massless, like the photon, so one could naïvely expect
 182 an infinite range force, and it pays to understand why this is not the case. The
 183 reason for this fundamental difference is the gluon self-interactions arising in the
 184 field strength tensor term of the Lagrangian. This leads to the phenomena of *color*
 185 *confinement*, which describes how one only observes color-neutral particles alone in
 186 nature. In contrast to the electromagnetic force, particles which interact via the
 187 strong force experience a *greater* force as the distance between the particles increases.
 188 At long distances, the potential is given by $V(r) = -kr$. At some point, it is more
 189 energetically favorable to create additional partons out of the vacuum than continue
 190 pulling apart the existing partons, and the colored particles undergo *fragmentation*.
 191 This leads to *hadronization*. Bare quarks and gluons are actually observed as sprays
 192 of hadrons (primarily kaons and pions); these sprays are known as *jets*, which are
 193 what are observed by experiments.

194 It is important to recognize the importance of understanding these QCD inter-
 195 actions in high-energy hadron colliders such as the LHC. Since protons are hadrons,
 196 proton-proton collisions such as those produced by the LHC are primarily governed by
 197 the processes of QCD. In particular, by far the most frequent process observed in LHC
 198 experiments is dijet production from gluon-gluon interactions (see Fig.2.2). These

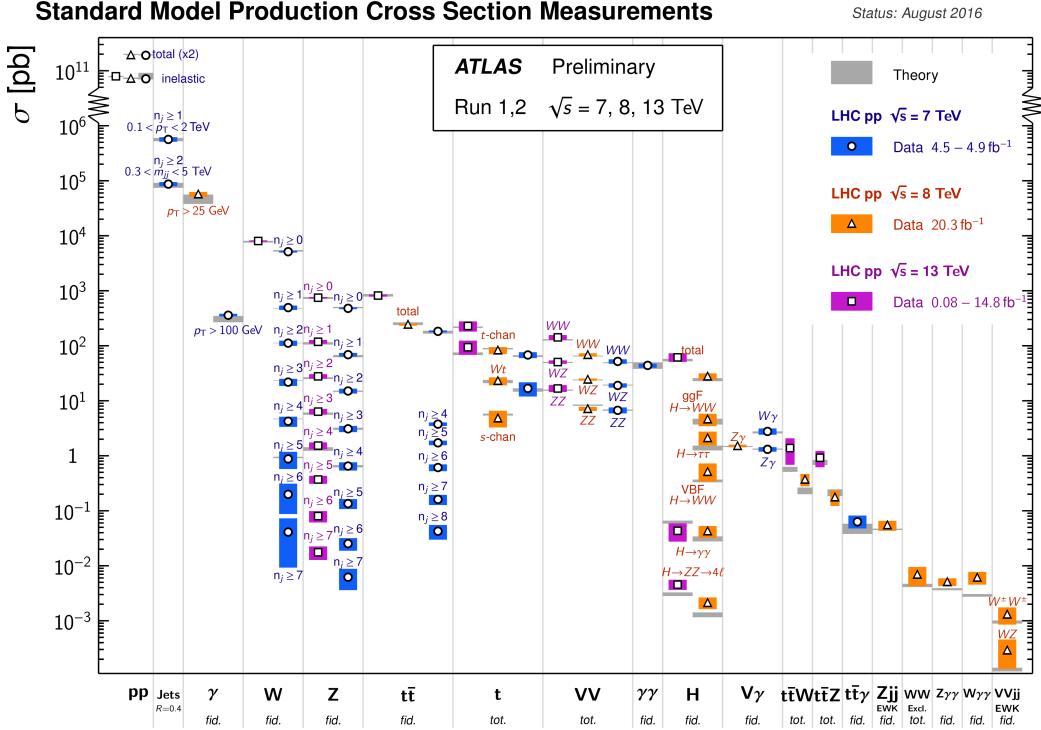


Figure 2.2: Cross-sections of various Standard Model processes

199 gluons that interact are part of the *sea* particles inside the proton; the simple $p = uud$
 200 model does not apply. The main *valence* uud quarks are constantly interacting via
 201 gluons, which can themselves radiate gluons or split into quarks, and so on. A more
 202 useful understanding is given by the colloquially-known *bag* model [53, 54], where the
 203 proton is seen as a “bag” of (in principle) infinitely many partons, each with energy
 204 $E < \sqrt{s} = 6.5$ TeV. One then collides this (proton) bag with another, and views the
 205 products of this very complicated collision, where calculations include many loops in
 206 nonperturbative QCD calculations.

207 Fortunately, we are generally saved by the QCD factorization theorems [55]. This
 208 allows one to understand the hard (i.e. short distance or high energy) $2 \rightarrow 2$ parton
 209 process using the tools of perturbative QCD, while making series of approximations
 210 known as a *parton shower* model to understand the additional corrections from
 211 nonperturbative QCD. We will discuss the reconstruction of jets by experiments in
 212 Ch.5.

213 **Fermions**

214 We will now look more closely at the fermions in the Standard Model [56].

215 As noted earlier in Sec.2.2, the fermions of the Standard Model can be first
 216 distinguished between those that interact via the strong force (quarks) and those
 217 which do not (leptons).

There are six leptons in the Standard Model, which can be placed into three
generations.

$$\begin{pmatrix} e \\ \nu_e \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ \nu_\mu \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \tau \\ \nu_\tau \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.14)$$

218 There is the electron (e), muon (μ), and tau (τ), each of which has an associated
 219 neutrino (ν_e, ν_μ, ν_τ). Each of the so-called charged (“electron-like”) leptons has
 220 electromagnetic charge -1 , while the neutrinos all have $q_{EM} = 0$.

221 Often in an experimental context, lepton is used to denote the stable electron
 222 and metastable muon, due to their striking experimental signatures. Taus are often
 223 treated separately, due to their much shorter lifetime of $\tau_\tau \sim 10^{-13}s$; these decay
 224 through hadrons or the other leptons, so often physics analyses at the LHC treat
 225 them as jets or leptons, as will be done in this thesis.

226 As the neutrinos are electrically neutral, nearly massless, and only interact via the
 227 weak force, it is quite difficult to observe them directly. Since LHC experiments rely
 228 overwhelmingly on electromagnetic interactions to observe particles, the presence of
 229 neutrinos is not observed directly. Neutrinos are instead observed by the conservation
 230 of four-momentum in the plane transverse to the proton-proton collisions, known as
 231 *missing transverse energy*.

There are six quarks in the Standard Model : up, down, charm, strange, top, and
 bottom. Quarks are similar organized into three generations :

$$\begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} c \\ s \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} t \\ b \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.15)$$

232 where we speak of “up-like” quarks and “down-like” quarks.

233 Each up-like quark has charge $q_{up} = 2/3$, while the down-like quarks have $q_{down} =$
234 $-1/3$. At the high energies of the LHC, one often makes the distinction between
235 the light quarks (u, d, c, s), the bottom quark, and top quark. In general, due to
236 the hadronization process described above, the light quarks, with masses $m_q < \sim$
237 1.5GeV are indistinguishable by LHC experiments. Their hadronic decay products
238 generally have long lifetimes and they are reconstructed as jets.¹. The bottom quark
239 hadronizes primarily through the B -mesons, which generally travels a short distance
240 before decaying to other hadrons. This allows one to distinguish decays via b -quarks
241 from other jets; this procedure is known as *b-tagging* and will be discussed more in
242 Ch.5. Due to its large mass, the top quark decays before it can hadronize; there
243 are no bound states associated to the top quark. The top is of particular interest at
244 the LHC; it has a striking signature through its most common decay mode $t \rightarrow Wb$.
245 Decays via tops, especially $t\bar{t}$ are frequently an important signal decay mode, or an
246 important background process.

247 **Interactions in the Standard Model**

248 We briefly overview the entirety of the fundamental interactions of the Standard
249 Model; these can also be found in 2.3.

250 The electromagnetic force, mediated by the photon, interacts with via a three-
251 point coupling all charged particles in the Standard Model. The photon thus interacts
252 with all the quarks, the charged leptons, and the charged W^\pm bosons.

253 The weak force is mediated by three particles : the W^\pm and the Z^0 . The Z^0 can
254 interacts with all fermions via a three-point coupling. A real Z_0 can thus decay to
255 a fermion-antifermion pair of all SM fermions except the top quark, due to its large

¹In some contexts, charm quarks are also treated as a separate category, although it is quite difficult to distinguish charm quarks from the other light quarks.

Standard Model Interactions (Forces Mediated by Gauge Bosons)



Figure 2.3: The interactions of the Standard Model

mass. The W^\pm has two important three-point interactions with fermions. First, the W^\pm can interact with an up-like quark and a down-like quark; an important example in LHC experiments is $t \rightarrow Wb$. The coupling constants for these interactions are encoded in the unitary matrix known as the Cabibbo–Kobayashi–Maskawa (CKM) matrix [57, 58], and are generally known as flavor-changing interactions. Secondly, the W^\pm interacts with a charged lepton and its corresponding neutrino. In this case, the unitary matrix that corresponds to CKM matrix for quarks is the identity matrix, which forbids (fundamental) vertices such as $\mu \rightarrow We$. For leptons, instead this is a two-step process : $\mu \rightarrow \nu_m u W \rightarrow \nu_m u \bar{\nu}_e e$. Finally, there are the self-interactions

265 of the weak gauge bosons. There is a three-point and four-point interaction; all
266 combinations are allowed which conserve electric charge.

267 The strong force is mediated by the gluon, which as discussed above also carries
268 the strong color charge. There is the fundamental three-point interaction, where a
269 quark radiates a gluon. Additionally, there are the three-point and four-point gluon-
270 only interactions.

271 2.3 Deficiencies of the Standard Model

272 At this point, it is quite easy to simply rest on our laurels. This relatively simple
273 theory is capable of explaining a very wide range of phenomena, which ultimately
274 break down only to combinations of nine diagrams shown in Fig.2.3. Unfortunately,
275 there are some unexplained problems with the Standard Model. We cannot go
276 through all of the potential issues in this thesis, but we will motivate the primary
277 issues which naturally lead one to *supersymmetry*, as we will see in Ch.3.

The Standard Model has many free parameters; see Table 2.1 In general, we prefer models with less free parameters. A great example of this fact, and the primary experimental evidence for EWSB, is the relationship between the couplings of the weak force and the masses of the gauge bosons of the weak force :

$$\rho \equiv \frac{m_W^2}{m_Z^2 \cos^2 \theta_W} \stackrel{?}{=} 1 \quad (2.16)$$

278 where ? indicates that this is a testable prediction of the Standard Model (in
279 particular, that the gauge bosons gain mass through EWSB). This relationship has
280 been measured within experimental and theoretical predictions. We would like to
281 produce additional such relationships, which would exist if the Standard Model is a
282 low-energy approximation of some other theory.

283 An additional issue is the lack of *gauge coupling unification*. The couplings of
284 any quantum field theory “run” as a function of the distance scales (or inversely,

m_e	Electron mass	511 keV
m_μ	Muon mass	105.7 MeV
m_τ	Tau mass	1.78 GeV
m_u	Up quark mass	1.9 MeV ($m_{\bar{MS}} = 2\text{GeV}$)
m_d	Down quark mass	4.4 MeV ($m_{\bar{MS}} = 2\text{GeV}$)
m_s	Strange quark mass	87 MeV ($m_{\bar{MS}} = 2\text{GeV}$)
m_c	Charm quark mass	1.32 GeV ($m_{\bar{MS}} = m_c$)
m_b	Bottom quark mass	4.24 GeV ($m_{\bar{MS}} = m_b$)
m_t	Top quark mass	172.7 GeV (on-shell renormalization)
θ_{12} CKM	12-mixing angle	13.1°
θ_{23} CKM	23-mixing angle	2.4°
θ_{13} CKM	13-mixing angle	0.2°
δ CKM	CP-violating Phase	0.995
g'	U(1) gauge coupling	0.357 ($m_{\bar{MS}} = m_Z$)
g	SU(2) gauge coupling	0.652 ($m_{\bar{MS}} = m_Z$)
g_s	SU(3) gauge coupling	1.221 ($m_{\bar{MS}} = m_Z$)
θ_{QCD}	QCD vacuum angle	~0
VEV	Higgs vacuum expectation value	246 GeV
m_H	Higgs mass	125 GeV

Table 2.1: Parameters of the Standard Model. For values dependent on the renormalization scheme, we use a combination of the on-shell normalization scheme [59–62] and modified minimal subtraction scheme with $m_{\bar{MS}}$ as indicated in the table[63]

285 energy scales) of the theory. The idea is closely related to the unification of the
 286 electromagnetic and weak forces at the so-called *electroweak scale* of $O(100 \text{ GeV})$.
 287 One would hope this behavior was repeated between the electroweak forces and the
 288 strong force at some suitable energy scale. The Standard Model does automatically
 289 not exhibit this behavior, as we can see in Fig.2.4.

The most significant problem with the Standard Model is the *hierarchy problem*. In its most straightforward incarnation, the Higgs scalar field is subject to quantum corrections through loop diagrams, as shown in Fig.2.5. For demonstration, we use the contributions from the top quark, since the top quark has the largest Higgs Yukawa coupling due to its large mass. In general, we should expect these corrections to quadratically depend on the scale of the ultraviolet physics, Λ . Briefly assume there is no new physics before the Planck scale of gravity, $\Lambda_{\text{Planck}} = 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$. In this

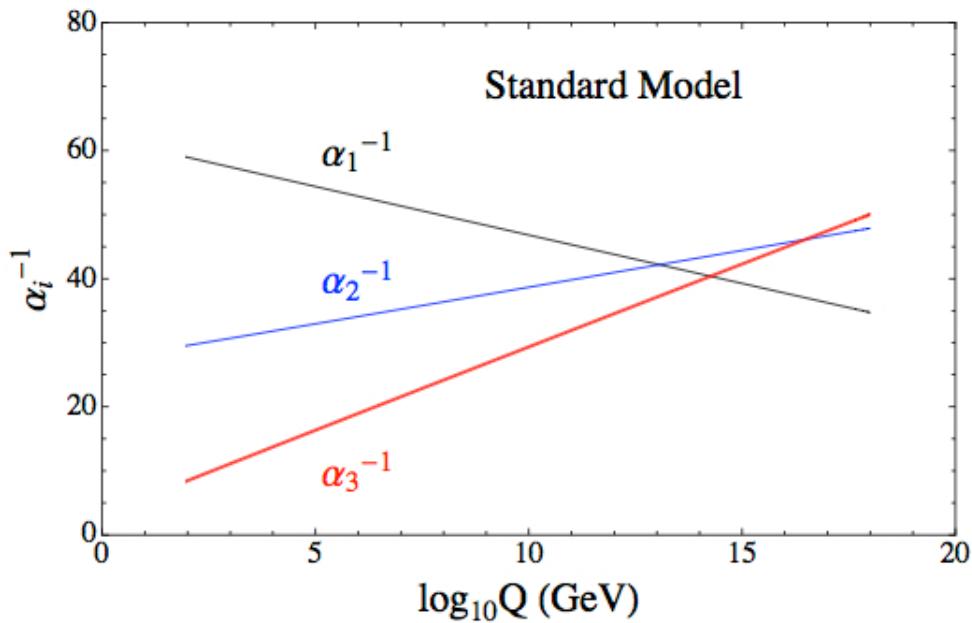


Figure 2.4: The running of Standard Model gauge couplings. The Standard Model couplings do not unify at high energies, which indicates it cannot completely describe nature through the Planck scale.

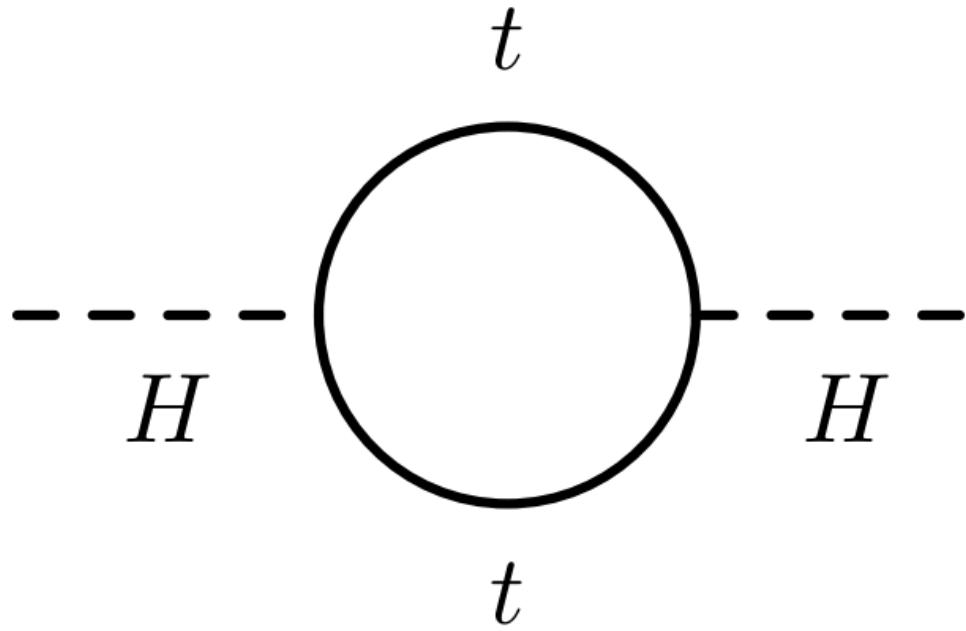


Figure 2.5: The dominant quantum loop correction to the Higgs mass in the Standard Model.

case, we expect the corrections to the Higgs mass like

$$\delta m_H^2 \approx \left(\frac{m_t}{8\pi^2 \langle \phi \rangle_{VEV}} \right)^2 \Lambda_{Planck}^2. \quad (2.17)$$

To achieve the miraculous cancellation required to get the observed Higgs mass of 125 GeV, one needs to then set the bare Higgs mass m_0 , our input to the Standard Model Lagrangian, itself to a *precise* value $\sim 10^{19}$ GeV. This extraordinary level of parameter finetuning is quite undesirable, and within the framework of the Standard Model, there is little that can be done to alleviate this issue.

An additional concern, of a different nature, is the lack of a *dark matter* candidate in the Standard Model. Dark matter was discovered by observing galactic rotation curves, which showed that much of the matter that interacted gravitationally was invisible to our (electromagnetic) telescopes [16–22]. The postulation of the existence of dark matter, which interacts at least through gravity, allows one to understand these galactic rotation curves. Unfortunately, no particle in the Standard Model could possibly be the dark matter particle. The only candidate truly worth another look is the neutrino, but it has been shown that the neutrino content of the universe is simply too small to explain the galactic rotation curves [22, 64]. The experimental evidence from the galactic rotations curves thus show there *must* be additional physics beyond the Standard Model, which is yet to be understood.

In the next chapter, we will see how these problems can be alleviated by the theory of supersymmetry.

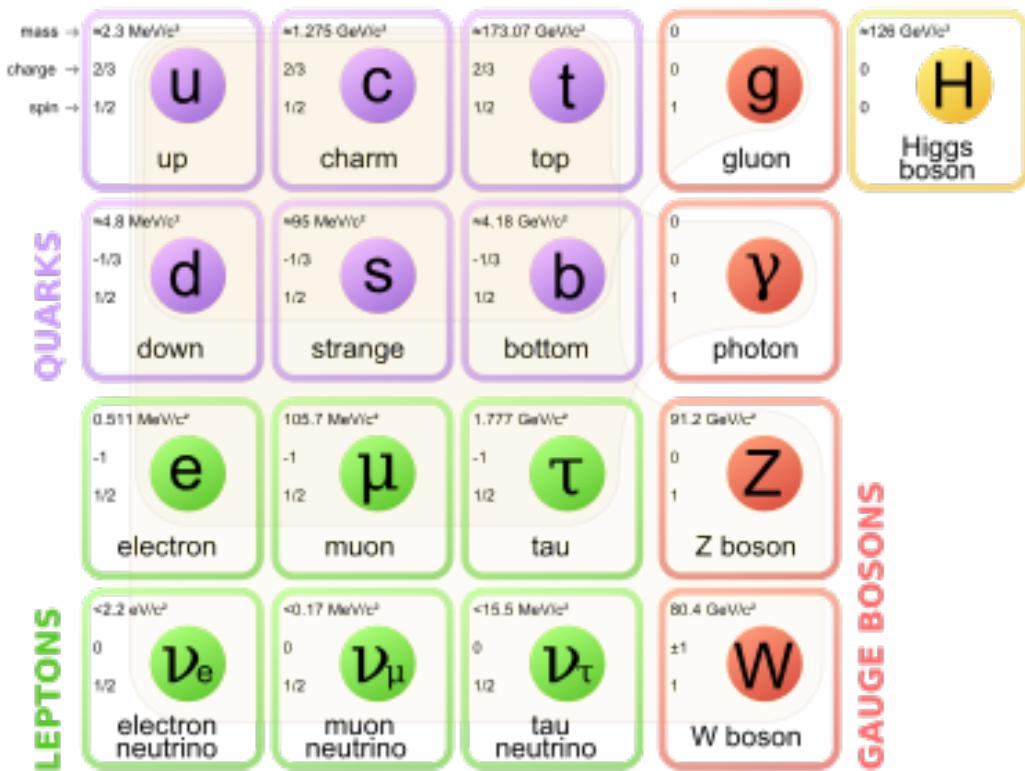


Figure 2.6: Particles of the Standard Model

Supersymmetry

310 This chapter will introduce supersymmetry (SUSY) [15, 23–35]. We will begin by
 311 introducing the concept of a *superspace*, and discuss some general ingredients of
 312 supersymmetric theories. This will include a discussion of how the problems with the
 313 Standard Model described in Ch.2 are naturally fixed by these theories.

314 The next step is to discuss the particle content of the *Minimally Supersymmetric*
 315 *Standard Model* (MSSM). As its name implies, this theory contains the minimal
 316 additional particle content to make Standard Model supersymmetric. We then discuss
 317 the important phenomenological consequences of this theory, especially as it would
 318 be observed in experiments at the LHC.

319 **3.1 Supersymmetric theories : from space to
 320 superspace**

321 **Coleman-Mandula “no-go” theorem**

322 We begin the theoretical motivation for supersymmetry by citing the “no-go” theorem
 323 of Coleman and Mandula [65]. This theorem forbids *spin-charge unification*; it
 324 states that all quantum field theories which contain nontrivial interactions must be
 325 a direct product of the Poincaré group of Lorentz symmetries, the internal product
 326 from of gauge symmetries, and the discrete symmetries of parity, charge conjugation,
 327 and time reversal. The assumptions which go into building the Coleman-Mandula

328 theorem are quite restrictive, but there is one unique way out, which has become
 329 known as *supersymmetry* [26, 66]. In particular, we must introduce a *spinorial* group
 330 generator Q . Alternatively, and equivalently, this can be viewed as the addition
 331 of anti-commuting coordinates; space plus these new anti-commuting coordinates is
 332 then called *superspace* [67]. We will not investiage this view in detail, but it is also a
 333 quite intuitive and beautiful way to construct supersymmetry[15].

334 Supersymmetry transformations

335 A *supersymmetric* transformation Q transforms a bosonic state into a fermionic state,
 336 and vice versa :

$$Q |\text{Fermion}\rangle = |\text{Boson}\rangle \quad (3.1)$$

$$Q |\text{Boson}\rangle = |\text{Fermion}\rangle \quad (3.2)$$

To ensure this relation holds, Q must be an anticommuting spinor. Additionally, since spinors are inherently complex, Q^\dagger must also be a generator of the supersymmetry transformation. Since Q and Q^\dagger are spinor objects (with $s = 1/2$), we can see that supersymmetry must be a spacetime symmetry. The Haag-Lopuszanski-Sohnius extension [66] of the Coleman-Mandula theorem [65] is quite restrictive about the forms of such a symmetry. Here, we simply write the (anti-) commutation relations [15] :

$$Q_\alpha, Q_{\dot{\alpha}}^\dagger = -2\sigma_{\alpha\dot{\alpha}\mu} P_\mu \quad (3.3)$$

$$Q_\alpha, Q_{\dot{\beta}} = Q_{\dot{\alpha}}^\dagger, Q_{\dot{\beta}}^\dagger = 0 \quad (3.4)$$

$$[P^\mu, Q_\alpha] = [P^\mu, Q_{\dot{\alpha}}^\dagger] = 0 \quad (3.5)$$

337 **Supermultiplets**

338 In a supersymmetric theory, we organize single-particle states into irreducible
339 representations of the supersymmetric algebra which are known as *supermultiplets*.
340 Each supermultiplet contains a fermion state $|F\rangle$ and a boson state $|B\rangle$; these two
341 states are the known as *superpartners*. These are related by some combination of
342 Q and Q^\dagger , up to a spacetime transformation. Q and Q^\dagger commute with the mass-
343 squared operator $-P^2$ and the operators corresponding to the gauge transformations
344 [15]; in particular, the gauge interactions of the Standard Model. In an unbroken
345 supersymmetric theory, this means the states $|F\rangle$ and $|B\rangle$ have exactly the same mass,
346 electromagnetic charge, electroweak isospin, and color charges. One can also prove
347 [15] that each supermultiplet contains the exact same number of bosonic (n_B) and
348 fermion (n_F) degrees of freedom. We now explore the possible types of supermultiples
349 one can find in a renormalizable supersymmetric theory.

350 Since each supermultiplet must contain a fermion state, the simplest type of
351 supermultiplet contains a single Weyl fermion state ($n_F = 2$) which is paired with
352 $n_B = 2$ scalar bosonic degrees of freedom. This is most conveniently constructed as
353 single complex scalar field. We call this construction a *scalar supermultiplet* or *chiral*
354 *supermultiplet*. The second name is indicative; only chiral supermultiplets can contain
355 fermions whose right-handed and left-handed components transform differently under
356 the gauge interactions (as of course happens in the Standard Model).

357 The second type of supermultiplet we construct is known as a *gauge* supermul-
358 tiplet. We take a spin-1 gauge boson (which must be massless due to the gauge
359 symmetry, so $n_B = 2$) and pair this with a single massless Weyl spinor¹. The gauge
360 bosons transform as the adjoint representation of the their respective gauge groups;
361 their fermionic partners, which are known as gauginos, must also. In particular,
362 the left-handed and right-handed components of the gaugino fermions have the same

¹Choosing an $s = 3/2$ massless fermion leads to nonrenormalizable interactions.

363 gauge transformation properties.

364 Excluding gravity, this is the entire list of supermultiplets which can participate
365 in renormalizable interactions in what is known as $N = 1$ supersymmetry. This
366 means there is only one copy of the supersymmetry generators Q and Q^\dagger . This is
367 essentially the only “easy” phenomenological choice, since it is the only choice in four
368 dimensions which allows for the chiral fermions and parity violations built into the
369 Standard Model, and we will not look further into $N > 1$ supersymmetry in this thesis.

370 The primary goal, after understanding the possible structures of the multiplets
371 above, is to fit the Standard Model particles into a multiplet, and therefore make
372 predictions about their supersymmetric partners. We explore this in the next section.

373 **3.2 Minimally Supersymmetric Standard Model**

374 To construct what is known as the MSSM [15, 68–71], we need a few ingredients and
375 assumptions. First, we match the Standard Model particles with their corresponding
376 superpartners of the MSSM. We will also introduce the naming of the superpartners
377 (also known as *sparticles*). We discuss a very common additional restraint imposed on
378 the MSSM, known as *R*–parity. We also discuss the concept of soft supersymmetry
379 breaking and how it manifests itself in the MSSM.

380 **Chiral supermultiplets**

381 The first thing we deduce is directly from Sec.???. The bosonic superpartners
382 associated to the quarks and leptons *must* be spin 0, since the quarks and leptons must
383 be arranged in a chiral supermultiplet. This is essentially the note above, since the
384 chiral supermultiplet is the only one which can distinguish between the left-handed
385 and right-handed components of the Standard Model particles. The superpartners of
386 the quarks and leptons are known as *squarks* and *sleptons*, or *sfermions* in aggregate.

387 (for ‘‘scalar quarks’’, ‘‘scalar leptons’’, and ‘‘scalar fermion’’²). The ‘‘s-’’ prefix
 388 can also be added to the individual quarks i.e. *selectron*, *sneutrino*, and *stop*. The
 389 notation is to add a \sim over the corresponding Standard Model particle i.e. \tilde{e} , the
 390 selectron is the superpartner of the electron. The two-component Weyl spinors of the
 391 Standard Model must each have their own (complex scalar) partner i.e. e_L, e_R have
 392 two distinct partners : \tilde{e}_L, \tilde{e}_R . As noted above, the gauge interactions of any of the
 393 sfermions are identical to those of their Standard Model partners.

Due to the scalar nature of the Higgs, it must obviously lie in a chiral supermultiplet. To avoid gauge anomalies and ensure the correct Yukawa couplings to the quarks and leptons[15], we must add additional Higgs bosons to any supersymmetric theory. In the MSSM, we have two chiral supermultiplets. The SM (SUSY) parts of the multiplets are denoted $H_u(\tilde{H}_u)$ and $H_d(\tilde{H}_d)$. Writing out H_u and H_d explicitly:

$$H_u = \begin{pmatrix} H_u^+ \\ H_u^0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.6)$$

$$H_d = \begin{pmatrix} H_d^0 \\ H_d^- \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.7)$$

(3.8)

394 we see that H_u looks very similar to the SM Higgs with $Y = 1$, and H_d is symmetric
 395 to this with $+ \rightarrow -$, with $Y = -1$. The SM Higgs boson, h_0 , is a linear superposition
 396 of the neutral components of these two doublets. The SUSY parts of the Higgs
 397 multiplets, \tilde{H}_u and \tilde{H}_d , are each left-handed Weyl spinors. For generic spin-1/2
 398 sparticles, we add the ‘‘-ino’’ suffix. We then call the partners of the two Higgs
 399 collectively the *Higgsinos*.

²The last one should probably have bigger scare quotes.

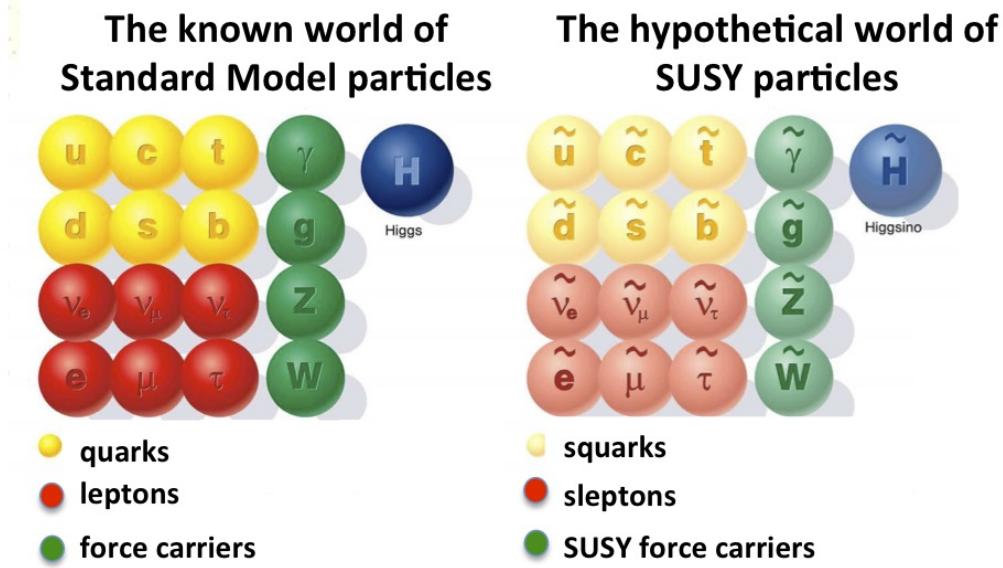


Figure 3.1: Particles of the MSSM

400 Gauge supermultiplets

401 The superpartners of the gauge bosons must all be in gauge supermultiplets since
 402 they contain a spin-1 particle. Collectively, we refer to the superpartners of the
 403 gauge bosons as the gauginos.

404 The first gauge supermultiplet contains the gluon, and its superpartner, which is
 405 known as the *gluino*, denoted \tilde{g} . The gluon is of course the SM mediator of $SU(3)_C$;
 406 the gluino is also a colored particle, subject to $SU(3)_C$. From the SM before EWSB,
 407 we have the four gauge bosons of the electroweak symmetry group $SU(2)_L \otimes U(1)_Y$:
 408 $W^{1,2,3}$ and B^0 . The superpartners of these particles are thus the *winos* $W^{\tilde{1},2,3}$ and
 409 *bino* \tilde{B}^0 , where each is placed in another gauge supermultiplet with its corresponding
 410 SM particle. After EWSB, without breaking supersymmetry, we would also have the
 411 zino \tilde{Z}^0 and photino $\tilde{\gamma}$.

412 The entire particle content of the MSSM can be seen in Fig.3.1.

413 At this point, it's important to take a step back. Where are these particles?
 414 As stated above, supersymmetric theories require that the masses and all quantum



Figure 3.2: This Feynmann diagram shows how proton decay is induced in the MSSM, if one does not impose R -parity.

415 numbers of the SM particle and its corresponding sparticle are the same. Of course,
 416 we have not observed a selectron, squark, or wino. The answer, as it often is, is that
 417 supersymmetry is *broken* by the vacuum state of nature [15].

418 **R -parity**

This section is a quick aside to the general story. R – parity refers to an additional discrete symmetry which is often imposed on supersymmetric models. For a given particle state, we define

$$R = (-1)^{3(B-L)+2s} \quad (3.9)$$

419 where B, L is the baryon (lepton) number and s is the spin. The imposition of
 420 this symmetry forbids certain terms from the MSSM Lagrangian that would violate
 421 baryon and/or lepton number. This is required in order to prevent proton decay, as
 422 shown in Fig.3.2³. .

423 In supersymmetric models, this is a \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry, where SM particles have $R = 1$
 424 and sparticles have $R = -1$. We will take R – parity as part of the definition of
 425 the MSSM. We will discuss later the *drastic* consequences of this symmetry on SUSY
 426 phenomenology

³Proton decay can actually be prevented by allowing only one of the four potential R-parity violating terms to survive.

427 **Soft supersymmetry breaking**

The fundamental idea of *soft* supersymmetry breaking[15, 34, 35, 72, 73] is that we would like to break supersymmetry without reintroducing the quadratic divergences we discussed at the end of Chapter 2. We write the Lagrangian in a form :

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{MSSM}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SUSY}} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{soft}} \quad (3.10)$$

428 In this sense, the symmetry breaking is “soft”, since we have separated out the
 429 completely symmetric terms from those soft terms which will not allow the quadratic
 430 divergences to the Higgs mass.

431 The explicitly allowed terms in the soft-breaking Lagrangian are [35].

- 432 • Mass terms for the scalar components of the chiral supermultipletss
 433 • Mass terms for the Weyl spinor components of the gauge supermultipletss
 434 • Trilinear couplings of scalar components of chiral supermultiplets

In particular, using the field content described above for the MSSM, the softly-broken portion of the MSSM Lagrangian can be written

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{soft}} = -\frac{1}{2} \left(M_3 \tilde{g} \tilde{g} + M_2 \tilde{W} \tilde{W} + M_1 \tilde{B} \tilde{B} + c.c. \right) \quad (3.11)$$

$$- \left(\tilde{u} a_u \tilde{Q} H_u - \tilde{d} a_d \tilde{Q} H_d - \tilde{e} a_e \tilde{L} H_d + c.c. \right) \quad (3.12)$$

$$- \tilde{Q}^\dagger m_Q^2 \tilde{Q} - \tilde{L}^\dagger m_L^2 \tilde{L} - \tilde{u} m_u^2 \tilde{u}^\dagger - \tilde{d} m_d^2 \tilde{d}^\dagger - \tilde{e} m_e^2 \tilde{e}^\dagger \quad (3.13)$$

$$- m_{H_u}^2 H_u^* H_u - m_{H_d}^2 H_d^* H_d - (b H_u H_d + cc). \quad (3.14)$$

435 where we have introduced the following notations :

436 1. M_3, M_2, M_1 are the gluino, wino, and bino masses.

437 2. a_u, a_d, a_e are complex 3×3 matrices in family space.

438 3. $m_Q^2, m_u^2, m_d^2, m_L^2, m_e^2$ are hermitian 3×3 matrices in family space.

439 4. $m_{H_u}^2, m_{H_d}^2, b$ are the SUSY-breaking contributions to the Higgs potential.

440 We have written matrix terms without any sort of additional notational decoration
 441 to indicate their matrix nature, and we now show why. The first term 1 are
 442 straightforward; these are just the straightforward mass terms for these fields. There
 443 are strong constraints on the off-diagonal terms for the matrices of 2 [74, 75]; for
 444 simplicity, we will assume that each $a_i, i = u, d, e$ is proportional to the Yukawa
 445 coupling matrix : $a_i = A_{i0}y_i$. The matrices in ?? can be similarly constrained by
 446 experiments [68, 75–82] Finally, we assume that the elements 4 contributing to the
 447 Higgs potential as well as all of the 1 terms must be real, which limits the possible
 448 CP-violating interactions to those of the Standard Model. We thus only consider
 449 flavor-blind, CP-conserving interactions within the MSSM.

The important mixing for mass and gauge interaction eigenstates in the MSSM occurs within electroweak sector, in a process akin to EWSB in the Standard Model. The neutral portions of the Higgsinos doublets and the neutral gauginos ($\tilde{H}_u^0, \tilde{H}_d^0, \tilde{B}^0, \tilde{W}^0$) of the gauge interaction basis mix to form what are known as the *neutralinos* of mass basis :

$$M_{\tilde{\chi}} = \begin{pmatrix} M_1 & 0 & -c_\beta s_W m_Z & s_\beta s_W m_Z \\ 0 & M_2 & c_\beta c_W m_Z & -s_\beta c_W m_Z \\ -c_\beta s_W m_Z & c_\beta c_W m_Z & 0 & -\mu \\ s_\beta s_W m_Z & -s_\beta c_W m_Z & -\mu & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.15)$$

450 where $s(c)$ are the sine and cosine of angles related to EWSB, which introduced
 451 masses to the gauginos and higgsinos. Diagonalization of this matrix gives the four
 452 neutralino mass states, listed without loss of generality in order of increasing mass :
 453 $\tilde{\chi}_{1,2,3,4}^0$.

454 The neutralinos, especially the lightest neutralino $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$, are important ingredients
 455 in SUSY phenomenology.

456 The same process can be done for the electrically charged gauginos with
457 the charged portions of the Higgsino doublets along with the charged winos
458 ($\tilde{H}_u^+, \tilde{H}_d^+, \tilde{W}^+, \tilde{W}^-$). This leads to the *charginos*, again in order of increasing mass
459 : $\tilde{\chi}_{1,2}^\pm$.

460

3.3 Phenomenology

461 We are finally at the point where we can discuss the phenomenology of the MSSM,
462 in particular as it manifests itself at the energy scales of the LHC.

463 As noted above in Sec.3.2, the assumption of *R*–parity has important conse-
464 quences for MSSM phenomenology. The SM particles have $R = 1$, while the sparticles
465 all have $R = -1$. Simply, this is the “charge” of supersymmetry. Since the particles of
466 LHC collisions (pp) have total incoming $R = 1$, we must expect that all sparticles will
467 be produced in *pairs*. An additional consequence of this symmetry is the fact that the
468 lightest supersymmetric particle (LSP) is *stable*. Off each branch of the Feynmann
469 diagram shown in Fig., we have $R = -1$, and this can only decay to another sparticle
470 and a SM particle. Once we reach the lightest sparticle in the decay, it is absolutely
471 stable. This leads to the common signature E_T^{miss} for a generic SUSY signal.

472 For this thesis, we will be presenting an inclusive search for squarks and gluinos
473 with zero leptons in the final state. This is a very interesting decay channel⁴, due
474 to the high cross-sections of $\tilde{g}\tilde{g}$ and $\tilde{q}\tilde{q}$ decays, as can be seen in Fig.?? [83]. This
475 is a direct consequence of the fact that these are the colored particles of the MSSM.
476 Since the sparticles interact with the gauge groups of the SM in the same way as their
477 SM partners, the colored sparticles, the squarks and gluinos, are produced and decay
478 as governed by the color group $SU(3)_C$ with the strong coupling g_S . The digluino
479 production is particularly copious, due to color factor corresponding to the color octet

⁴Prior to Run1, probably the most *most* interesting SUSY decay channel.

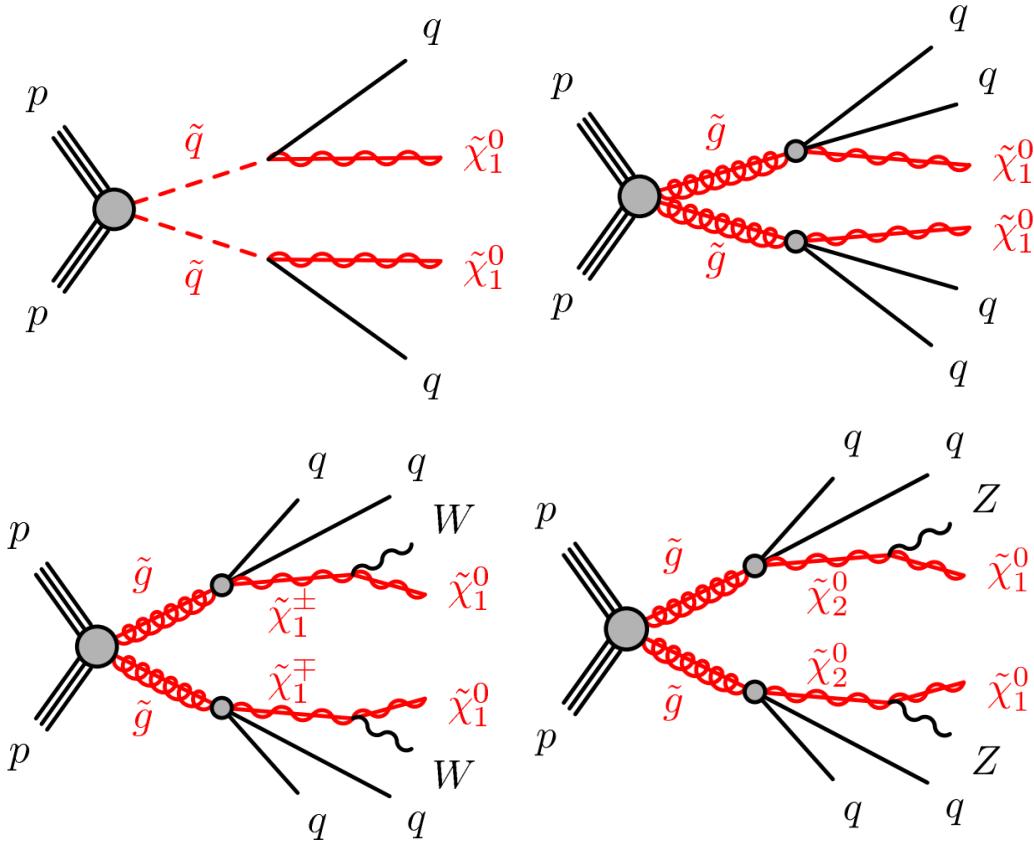


Figure 3.3: SUSY signals considered in this thesis

480 of $SU(3)C$.

481 In the case of disquark production, the most common decay mode of the squark in
 482 the MSSM is a decay directly to the LSP plus a single SM quark [15]. This means the
 483 basic search strategy of disquark production is two jets from the final state quarks,
 484 plus missing transverse energy for the LSPs. There are also cascade decays, the most
 485 common of which, and the only one considered in this thesis, is $\tilde{q} \rightarrow q\chi_1^\pm \rightarrow qW^\pm\chi_1^0$.

486 For digluino production, the most common decay is $\tilde{g} \rightarrow g\tilde{q}$, due to the large
 487 g_S coupling. The squark then decays as listed above. In this case, we generically
 488 search for four jets and missing transverse energy from the LSPs. We can also have
 489 the squark decay in association with a W^\pm or Z^0 ; in this thesis, we are interested in
 490 those cases where this vector boson goes hadronically.

491 In the context of experimental searches for SUSY, we often consider *simplified*

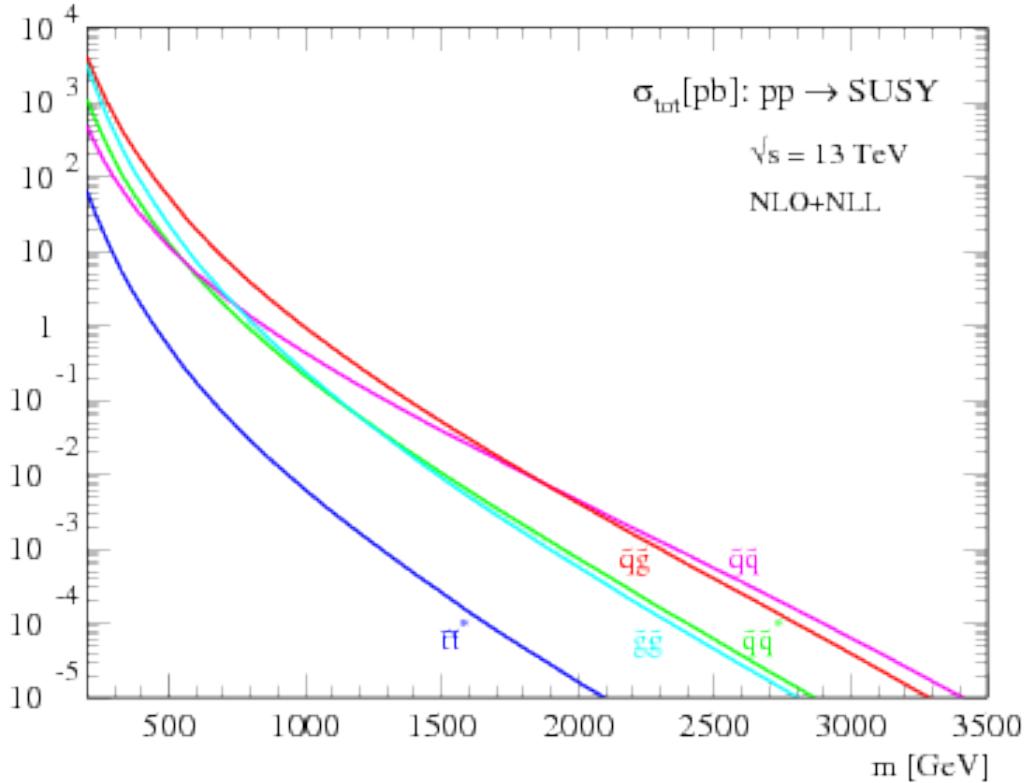


Figure 3.4: SUSY production cross-sections as a function of sparticle mass at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV.

492 *models*. These models make certain assumptions which allow easy comparisons of
 493 results by theorists and rival experimentalists. In the context of this thesis, the
 494 simplified models will make assumptions about the branching ratios described in the
 495 preceding paragraphs. In particular, we will often choose a model where the decay of
 496 interest occurs with 100% branching ratio. This is entirely for ease of interpretation
 497 by other physicists⁵, but it is important to recognize that these are more a useful
 498 comparison tool, especially with limits, than a strict statement about the potential
 499 masses of sought-after beyond the Standard Model particle.

⁵In the author's opinion, this often leads to more confusion than comprehension. We will revisit the shortcomings of simplified models in the Conclusion to this thesis.

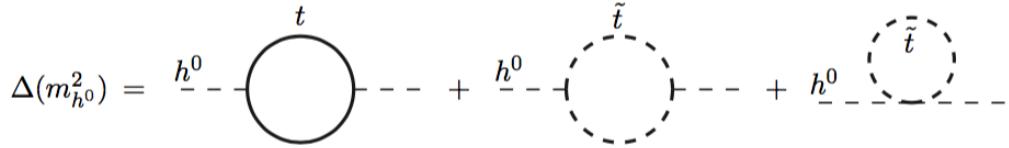


Figure 3.5: Loop diagrams correct the Higgs mass in the MSSM

500 3.4 How SUSY solves the problems with the SM

501 We now return to the issues with the Standard Model as described in Ch.2 to see
 502 how these issues are solved by supersymmetry.

503 Quadratic divergences to the Higgs mass

The quadratic divergences induced by the loop corrections to the Higgs mass, for example from the top Yukawa coupling, goes as

$$\delta m_H^2 \approx \left(\frac{m_t}{8\pi^2 \langle \phi \rangle_{VEV}} \right)^2 \Lambda_{Planck}^2. \quad (3.16)$$

504 The miraculous thing about SUSY is each of these terms *automatically* comes
 505 with a term which exactly cancels this contribution[15]. The fermions and bosons
 506 have opposite signs in this loop diagram to all orders in perturbation theory, which
 507 completely solves the hierarchy problem. This is the most well-motivated reason for
 508 supersymmetry.

509 Gauge coupling unification

510 An additional motivation for supersymmetry is seen by the gauge coupling unification
 511 high scales. In the Standard Model, as we saw the gauge couplings fail to unify at
 512 high energies. In the MSSM and many other forms of supersymmetry, the gauge
 513 couplings unify at high energy, as can be seen in Fig.???. This provides additional
 514 aesthetic motivation for supersymmetric theories.



Figure 3.6: The running of Standard Model gauge couplings; compare to Fig.2.4. The MSSM gauge couplings nearly intersect at high energies.

515 Dark matter

516 As we discussed previously, the lack of any dark matter candidate in the Standard
 517 Model naturally leads to beyond the Standard Model theories. In the Standard Model,
 518 there is a natural dark matter candidate in the lightest supersymmetric particle[15]
 519 The LSP would in dark matter experiments be called a *weakly-interacting massive*
 520 *particle* (WIMP), which is a type of cold dark matter [22, 84]. These WIMPS would
 521 only interact through the weak force and gravity, which is exactly as a model like the
 522 MSSM predicts for the neutralino. In Fig.3.7, we can see the current WIMP exclusions
 523 for a given mass. The range of allowed masses which have not been excluded for LSPs
 524 and WIMPs have significant overlap. This provides additional motivation outside of
 525 the context of theoretical details.



Figure 3.7: WIMP exclusions from direct dark matter detection experiments.

526 3.5 Conclusions

527 Supersymmetry is the most well-motivated theory for physics beyond the Standard
 528 Model. It provides a solution to the hierarchy problem, leads to gauge coupling
 529 unification, and provides a dark matter candidate consistent with galactic rotation
 530 curves. As noted in this chapter, due to the LSPs in the final state, most SUSY
 531 searches require a significant amount of missing transverse energy in combination
 532 with jets of high transverse momentum. However, there is some opportunity to do
 533 better than this, especially in final states where one has two weakly-interacting LSPs
 534 on opposite sides of some potentially complicated decay tree. We will see how this is
 535 done in Ch.??.

The Large Hadron Collider

538 The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) produces high-energy protons which are collided
 539 at the center of multiple large experiments at CERN on the outskirts of Geneva,
 540 Switzerland [85]. The LHC produces the highest energy collisions in the world,
 541 with design center-of-mass energy of $\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV, which allows the experiments
 542 to investigate physics far beyond the reach of previous colliders. This chapter will
 543 summarize the basics of accelerator physics, especially with regards to discovering
 544 physics beyond the Standard Model. We will describe the CERN accelerator complex
 545 and the LHC.

546 **4.1 Basics of Accelerator Physics**

547 This section follows closely the presentation of [86].

Simple particle accelerators simply rely on the acceleration of charged particles in a static electric field. Given a field of strength E , charge q , and mass m , this is simply

$$a = \frac{qE}{m}. \quad (4.1)$$

548 For a given particle with a given mass and charge, this is limited by the static electric
 549 field which can be produced, which in turn is limited by electrical breakdown at high
 550 voltages.

551 There are two complementary solutions to this issue. First, we use the *radio*
 552 *frequency acceleration* technique. We call the devices used for this *RF cavities*. The

553 cavities produce a time-varied electric field, which oscillate such that the charged
554 particles passing through it are accelerated towards the design energy of the RF
555 cavity. This oscillation also induces the particles into *bunches*, since particles which
556 are slightly off in energy from that induced by the RF cavity are accelerated towards
557 the design energy.

Second, one bends the particles in a magnetic field, which allows them to pass through the same RF cavity over and over. This second process is often limited by *synchrotron radiation*, which describes the radiation produced when a charged particle is accelerated. The power radiated is

$$P \sim \frac{1}{r^2} \left(E/m \right)^4 \quad (4.2)$$

558 where r is the radius of curvature and E, m is the energy (mass) of the charged
559 particle. Given an energy which can be produced by a given set of RF cavities (which
560 is *not* limited by the mass of the particle), one then has two options to increase the
561 actual collision energy : increase the radius of curvature or use a heavier particle.
562 Practically speaking, the easiest options for particles in a collider are protons and
563 electrons, since they are (obviously) copious in nature and do not decay¹. Given the
564 dependence on mass, we can see why protons are used to reach the highest energies.
565 The tradeoff for this is that protons are not point particles, and we thus we don't
566 know the exact incoming four-vectors of the protons, as discussed in Ch.2.

The particle *beam* refers to the bunches all together An important property of a beam of a particular energy E , moving in uniform magnetic field B , containing particles of momentum p is the *beam rigidity* :

$$R \equiv rB = p/c. \quad (4.3)$$

567 The linear relation between r and p , or alternatively B and p have important
568 consequences for LHC physics. For hadron colliders, this is the limiting factor on

¹Muon colliders are a really cool option at high energies, since the relativistic γ factor gives them a relatively long lifetime in the lab frame.

569 going to higher energy scales; one needs a proportionally larger magnetic field to
570 keep the beam accelerating in a circle.

571 Besides the rigidity of the beam, the most important quantities to characterize
572 a beam are known as the (normalized) *emittance* ϵ_N and the *betatron function* β .
573 These quantities determine the transverse size σ of a relativistic beam $v \gtrsim c$ beam :
574 $\sigma^2 = \beta^* \epsilon_N / \gamma_{\text{rel}}$, where β^* is the value of the betatron function at the collision point
575 and γ_{rel} is the Lorentz factor.

These quantities determine the *instantaneous luminosity* L of a collider, which combined with the cross-section σ of a particular physics process, give the rate of this physics process :

$$R = L\sigma. \quad (4.4)$$

The instantaneous luminosity L is given by :

$$L = \frac{f_{\text{rev}} N_b^2 F}{4\pi\sigma^2} = \frac{f_{\text{rev}} n N_b^2 \gamma_{\text{rel}} F}{4\pi\beta^* \epsilon_N}. \quad (4.5)$$

576 Here we have introduced the frequency of revolutions f_{rev} , the number of bunches n ,
577 the number of protons per bunch N_b^2 , and a geometric factor F related to the crossing
578 angle of the beams.

The *integrated luminosity* $\int L$ gives the total number of a particular physics process P , with cross-section σ_P .

$$N_P = \sigma_P \int L. \quad (4.6)$$

579 Due to this simple relation, one can also quantify the “amount of data delivered” by
580 a collider simply by $\int L$.

581 4.2 Accelerator Complex

582 The Large Hadron Collider is the last accelerator in a chain of accelerators which
583 together form the CERN accelerator complex, which can be seen in 4.1. The protons



Figure 4.1: The CERN accelerator complex.

begin their journey to annihilation in a hydrogen source, where they are subsequently ionized. The first acceleration occurs in the Linac 2, a linear accelerator composed of RF cavities. The protons leave the Linac 2 at an energy of 50 MeV and enter the Proton Synchrotron Booster (PSB). The PSB contains four superimposed rings, which accelerate the protons to 1.4 GeV. The protons are then injected into the Proton Synchrotron (PS). This synchrotron increases the energy up to 25 GeV. After leaving the PS, the protons enter the Super Proton Synchrotron (SPS). This is the last step before entering the LHC ring, and the protons are accelerated to 450 GeV. From the SPS, the protons are injected into the beam pipes of the LHC. The process to fill the LHC rings with proton bunches from start to finish typically takes about four minutes.

595 **4.3 Large Hadron Collider**

The Large Hadron Collider is the final step in the CERN accelerator complex, and produces the collisions analyzed in this thesis. From the point of view of experimentalists on the general-purpose ATLAS and CMS experiments, the main goal of the LHC is to deliver collisions at the highest possible energy, with the highest possible instantaneous luminosity. The LHC was installed in the existing 27 km tunnel used by the Large Electron Positron (LEP) collider [87]. This allowed the existing accelerator complex at CERN, described in the previous section, to be used as the injection system to prepare the protons up to 450 GeV. Many aspects of the LHC design were decided by this very fact, and specified the options allowed to increase the energy or luminosity. In particular, the radius of the tunnel was already specified; from Eq.4.3, this implies the momentum (or energy) of the beam is entirely determined by the magnetic field. Given the 27 km circumference of the LEP tunnel, one can calculate the required magnetic field to reach the 7 TeV per proton design energy of the LHC :

$$r = C/2\pi = 4.3 \text{ km} \quad (4.7)$$

$$\rightarrow B = \frac{p}{rc} = 5 \text{ T} \quad (4.8)$$

596 In fact, the LHC consists of 8 528 m straight portions consisting of RF cavities, used
597 to accelerate the particles, and 8 circular portions which bend the protons around the
598 LHC ring. These circular portions actually have a slightly smaller radius of curvature
599 $r = 2804 \text{ m}$, and we require $B = 8.33 \text{ T}$. To produce this large field, we need to use
600 superconducting magnets, as discussed in the next section.

601 **Magnets**

602 There are many magnets used by the LHC machine, but the most important are the
603 1232 dipole magnets; a schematic is shown in Fig.4.2 and a photograph is shown in



Figure 4.2: Schematic of an LHC dipole magnet.

604 Fig.4.3.

605 The magnets are made of Niobium and Titanium. The maximum field strength is
 606 10 T when cooled to 1.9 Kelvin. The magnets are cooled by superfluid helium, which
 607 is supplied by a large cryogenic system. Due to heating between the eight helium
 608 refrigerators and the beampipe, the helium is cooled in the refrigerators to 1.8 K.

609 A failure in the cooling system can cause what is known as a *quench*. If the
 610 temperature goes above the critical superconducting temperature, the metal loses its
 611 superconducting properties, which leads to a large resistance in the metal. This leads
 612 to rapid temperature increases, and can cause extensive damages if not controlled.

613 The dipole magnets are 16.5 meters long with a diameter of 0.57 meters. There
 614 are two individual beam pipes inside each magnet, which allows the dipoles to house
 615 the beams travelling in both directions around the LHC ring. They curve slightly,
 616 at an angle of 5.1 mrad, which carefully matches the curvature of the ring. The

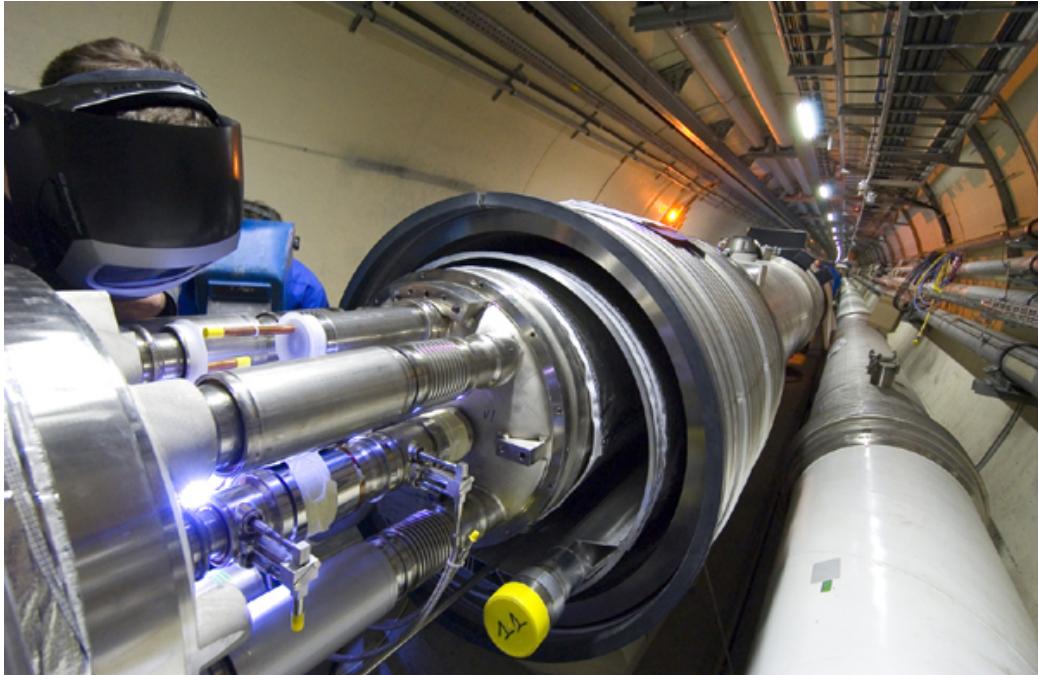


Figure 4.3: Photograph of a technician connecting an LHC dipole magnet.

617 beampipes inside of the magnets are held in high vacuum, to avoid stray particles
618 interacting with the beam.

619 **4.4 Dataset Delivered by the LHC**

620 In this thesis, we analyze the data delivered by the LHC to ATLAS in the 2015 and
621 2016 datasets. The beam parameters relevant to this dataset are available in Table
622 [4.1](#).

623 The peak instantaneous luminosity delivered in 2015 (2016) was $L =$
624 $5.2(11) \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1} \times 10^{33}$. One can note that the instantaneous luminosity delivered in
625 the 2016 dataset exceeds the design luminosity of the LHC. The total integrated
626 luminosity delivered was 13.3 fb^{-1} . In Figure [4.4](#), we display the integrated luminosity
627 as a function of day for 2015 and 2016.

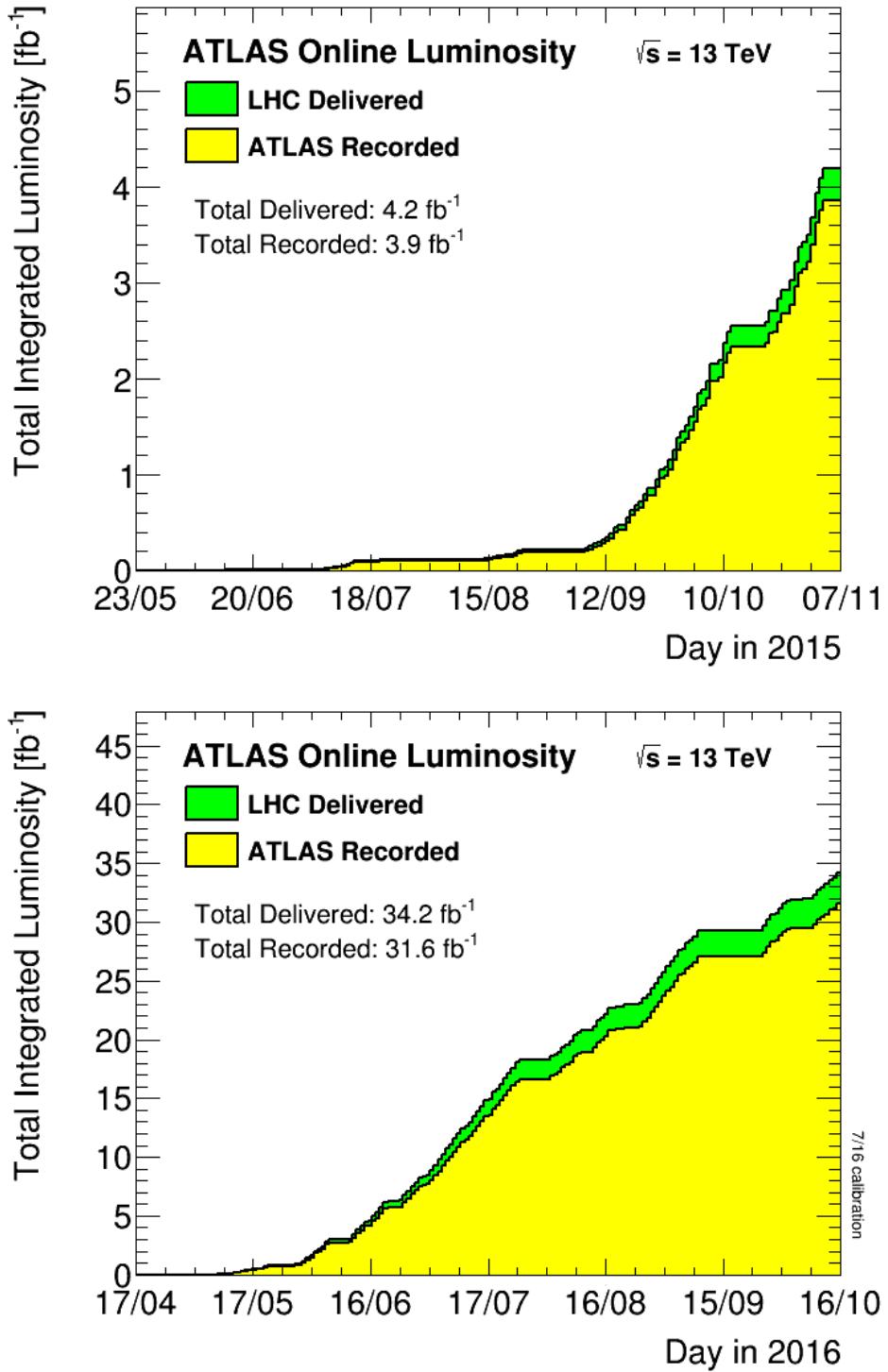


Figure 4.4: Integrated Luminosity delivered by the LHC and collected by ATLAS in the 2015 and 2016 datasets.

Parameter	Injection	Extraction
Energy (GeV)	450	7000
Rigidity (T-m)	3.8	23353
Bunch spacing (ns)	25	25
Design Luminosity ($\text{cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1} \times 10^3$)	-	1.0
Bunches per proton beam	2808	2808
Protons per bunch	1.15 e11	1.15 e11
Beam lifetime (hr)	-	10
Normalized Emittance ϵ_N (mm μrad)	3.3	3.75
Betatron function at collision point β^* (cm)	-	55

Table 4.1: Beam parameters of the Large Hadron Collider.

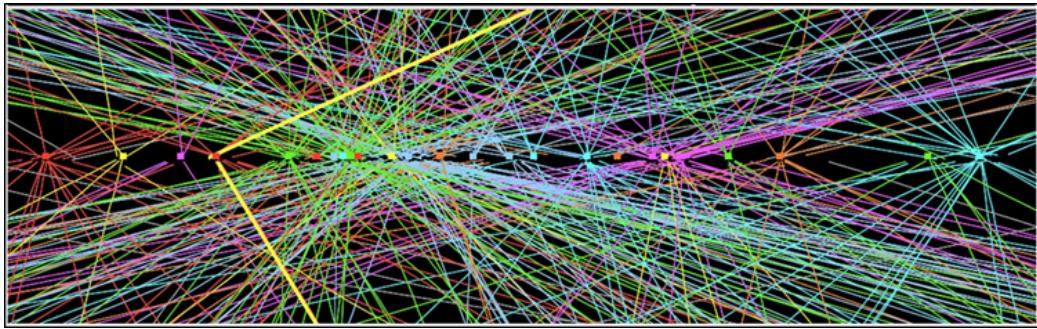


Figure 4.5: Simulated event with many pileup vertices.

628 Pileup

629 *Pileup* is the term for the additional proton-proton interactions which occur during
 630 each bunch crossing of the LHC. At the beginning of the LHC physics program, there
 631 had not been a collider which averaged more than a single interaction per bunch
 632 crossing. In the LHC, each bunch crossing (or *event*) generally contains multiple
 633 proton-proton interactions. An simulated event with many *vertices* can be seen in
 634 Fig.4.5. The so-called *primary vertex* (or *hard scatter vertex*) refers to the vertex
 635 which has the highest Σp_T^2 ; this summation occurs over the *tracks* in the detector,
 636 which we will describe later[**ATL-INDET-PUB-2009-001**]. We then distinguish
 637 between *in-time* pileup and *out-of-time* pileup. In-time pileup refers to the additional
 638 proton-proton interactions which occur in the event. Out-of-time pileup refers to
 639 effects related to proton-proton interactions previous bunch crossings.

640 We quantify in-time pileup by the number of “primary”² vertices in a particular
641 event. To quantify the out-of-time pileup, we use the average number of interactions
642 per bunch crossing $\langle \mu \rangle$ over some human-scale time. In Figure 4.6, we show the
643 distribution of μ for the dataset used in this thesis.

²The primary vertex is as defined above, but we unfortunately use the same name here.



Figure 4.6: Mean number of interactions per bunch crossing in the 2015 and 2016 datasets.

The ATLAS detector

646 The dataset analyzed in this thesis was taken by the ATLAS detector [88], which is
 647 located at the “Point 1” cavern of the LHC beampipe, just across the street from
 648 the main CERN campus. The much-maligned acronym stands for *A Toroidal LHC*
 649 *ApparatuS*. ATLAS is a massive cylindrical detector, with a radius of 12.5 m and a
 650 length of 44 m, with nearly hermitic coverage around the collision point. It consists
 651 of multiple subdetectors; each plays a role in ATLAS’s ultimate purpose of measuring
 652 the energy, momentum, and type of the particles produced in collisions delivered by
 653 the LHC. These subdetectors are immersed in a hybrid solenoid-toroid magnet system
 654 whichs forces charged particles to curve, which allows for precise measurements of
 655 their momenta. These magnetic fields are maximized in the central solenoid magnet,
 656 which contains a magnetic field of 2 T. A schematic of the detector can be seen in
 657 [5.1](#).

658 The *inner detector* (ID) lies closest to the collision point, and contains three
 659 separate subdetectors. It provides pseudorapidity¹coverage of $|\eta| < 2.5$ for charged
 660 particles to interact with the tracking material. The tracks reconstructed from the
 661 inner detector hits are used to reconstruct the primary vertices, as noted in Ch.??,

¹ATLAS uses a right-handed Cartesian coordinate system; the origin is defined by the nominal beam interaction point. The positive- z direction is defined by the incoming beam travelling counterclockwise around the LHC. The positive- x direction points towards the center of the LHC ring from the origin, and the positive- y direction points upwards towards the sky. For particles of transverse (in the $x - y$ plane) momentum $p_T = \sqrt{p_x^2 + p_y^2}$ and energy E , it is generally most convenient fully describe this particle’s kinematics as measured by the detector in the (p_T, ϕ, η, E) basis. The angle $\phi = \arctan(p_y/p_x)$ is the standard azimuthal angle, and $\eta = \ln \tan(\theta/2)$ is known as the pseudorapidity, and defined based on the standard polar angle $\theta = \arccos(p_z/p_T)$. For locations of i.e. detector elements, both (r, ϕ, η) and (z, ϕ, η) can be useful.



Figure 5.1: The ATLAS detector

and to determine the momenta of charged particles. The ATLAS *calorimeter* consists of two subdetectors, known as the *electromagnetic* and *hadronic* calorimeters. These detectors stop particles in their detector material, and measure the energy deposition inside, which measures the energy of the particles deposited. The calorimeters provide coverage out to pseudorapidity of $|\eta| < 4.9$. The muon spectrometer is aptly named; it is specifically used for muons, which are the only particles which generally reach the outer portions of the detector. In this region, we have the large tracking systems of the muon spectrometer, which provide precise measurements of muon momenta. The muon spectrometer has pseudorapidity coverage of $|\eta| < 2.7$.

5.1 Magnets

ATLAS contains multiple magnetic systems; primarily, we are concerned with the solenoid, used by the inner detector, and the toroids located outside of the ATLAS calorimeter. A schematic is shown in Fig.5.2. These magnetic fields are used to bend

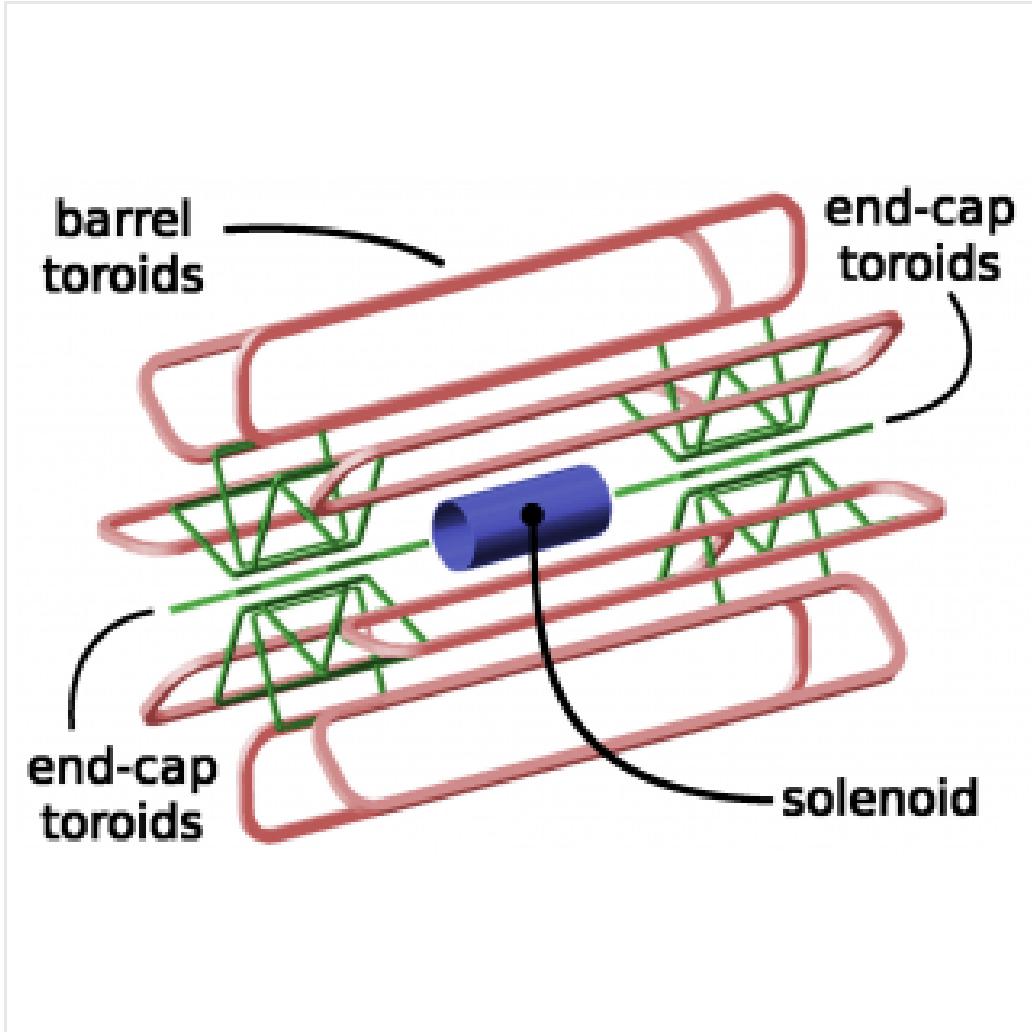


Figure 5.2: The ATLAS magnet system

675 charged particles under the Lorentz force, which subsequently allows one to measure
676 their momentum.

677 The ATLAS central solenoid is a 2.3 m diameter, 5.3 m long solenoid at the center
678 of the ATLAS detector. It produces a uniform magnetic field of 2 T; this strong field
679 is necessary to accurately measure the charged particles in this field. An important
680 design constraint for the central solenoid was the decision to place it in between the
681 inner detector and the calorimeters. To avoid excessive impacts on measurements in
682 the calorimetry, the central solenoid must be as transparent as possible².

²This is also one of the biggest functional differences between ATLAS and CMS; in CMS, the



Figure 5.3: The ATLAS inner detector

683 The toroid system consists of eight air-core superconducting barrel loops; these
 684 give ATLAS its distinctive shape. There are also two endcap air-core magnets. These
 685 produce a magnetic field in a region of approximately 26 m in length and 10 m of
 686 radius. The magnetic field in this region is non-uniform, due to the prohibitive costs
 687 of a solenoid magnet of that size.

688 **5.2 Inner Detector**

689 The ATLAS inner detector consists of three separate tracking detectors, which are
 690 known as, in order of increasing distance from the interaction point, the Pixel
 691 Detector, Semiconductor Tracker (SCT), and the Transition Radiation Tracker
 692 (TRT). When charged particles pass through these tracking layers, they produce
 693 *hits*, which using the known 2 T magnetic field, allows the reconstruction of *tracks*.
 694 Tracks are used as inputs for reconstruction of many higher-level physics objects,

solenoid is outside of the calorimeters.

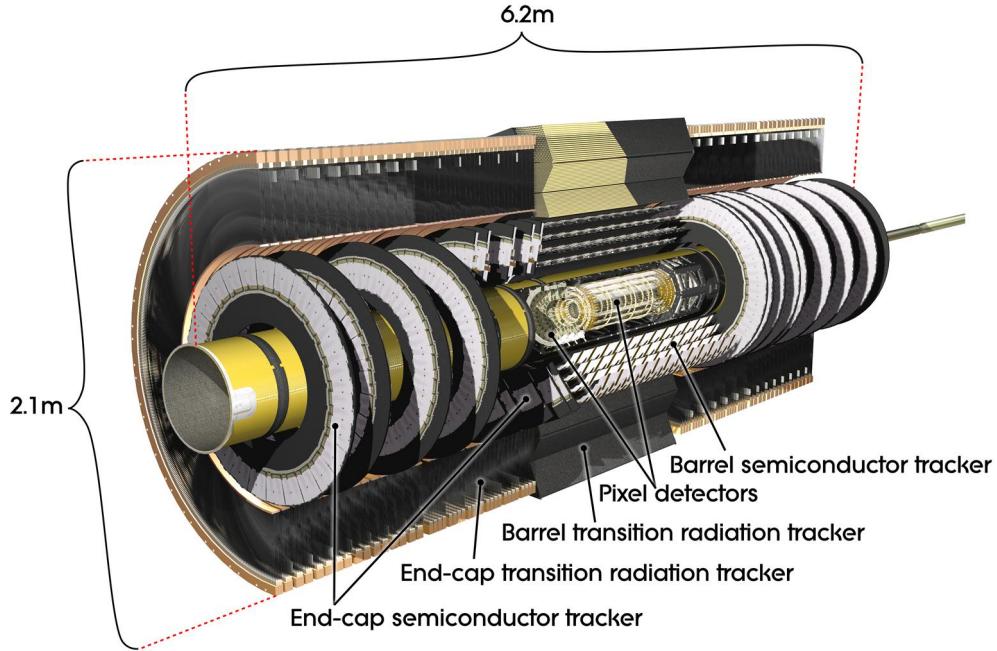


Figure 5.4: The ATLAS pixel detector

695 such as electrons, muons, photons, and E_T^{miss} . Accurate track reconstruction is thus
 696 crucial for precise measurements of charged particles.

697 Pixel Detector

698 The ATLAS pixel detector consists four layers of silicon “pixels”. This refers to the
 699 segmentation of the active medium into the pixels; compare to the succeeding silicon
 700 detectors, which will use silicon “strips”. This provides precise 3D hit locations. The
 701 layers are known as the “Insertable”³B-Layer (IBL), the B-Layer (or Layer-0), Layer-
 702 1, and Layer-2, in order of increasing distance from the interaction point. These
 703 layers are very close to the interaction point, and therefore experience a large amount
 704 of radiation.

705 Layer-1, Layer-2, and Layer-3 were installed with the initial construction of
 706 ATLAS. They contain front-end integrated electronics (FEI3s) bump-bonded to 1744

³Very often, the IBL is mistakenly called the Inner B-Layer, which would have been a much more sensible name.

707 silicon modules; each module is $250\ \mu\text{m}$ in thickness and contains 47232 pixels. These
708 pixels have planar sizes of $50 \times 400\ \mu\text{m}^2$ or $50 \times 600\ \mu\text{m}^2$, to provide highly accurate
709 location information. The FEI3s are mounted on long rectangular structures known
710 as staves, which encircle the beam pipe. A small tilt to each stave allows full coverage
711 in ϕ even with readout systems which are installed. These layers are at radia of 50.5
712 mm, 88.5 mm, and 122.5 mm from the interaction point.

713 The IBL was added to ATLAS after Run1 in 2012 at a radius of 33 mm from the
714 interaction point. The entire pixel detector was removed from the center of ATLAS
715 to allow an additional pixel layer to be installed. The IBL was required to preserve
716 the integrity of the pixel detector as radiation damage leads to inoperative pixels in
717 the other layers. The IBL consists of 448 FEI4 chips, arranged onto 14 staves. Each
718 FEI4 has 26880 pixels, of planar size $50 \times 250\ \mu\text{m}$. This smaller granularity was
719 required due to the smaller distance to the interaction point.

720 In total, a charged particle passing through the inner detector would expect to
721 leave four hits in the pixel detector.

722 Semiconductor Tracker

723 The SCT is directly beyond Layer-2 of the pixel detector. This is a silicon strip
724 detector, which do not provide the full 3D information of the pixel detector. The
725 dual-sensors of the SCT contain 2×768 individual strips; each strip has area $6.4\ \text{cm}^2$.
726 The SCT dual-sensor is then double-layered, at a relative angle of 40 mrad;
727 together these layers provide the necessary 3D information for track reconstruction.
728 There are four of these double-layers, at radia of 284 mm, 355 mm, 427 mm, and 498
729 mm. These double-layers provide hits comparable to those of the pixel detector, and
730 we have four additional hits to reconstruct tracks for each charged particle.

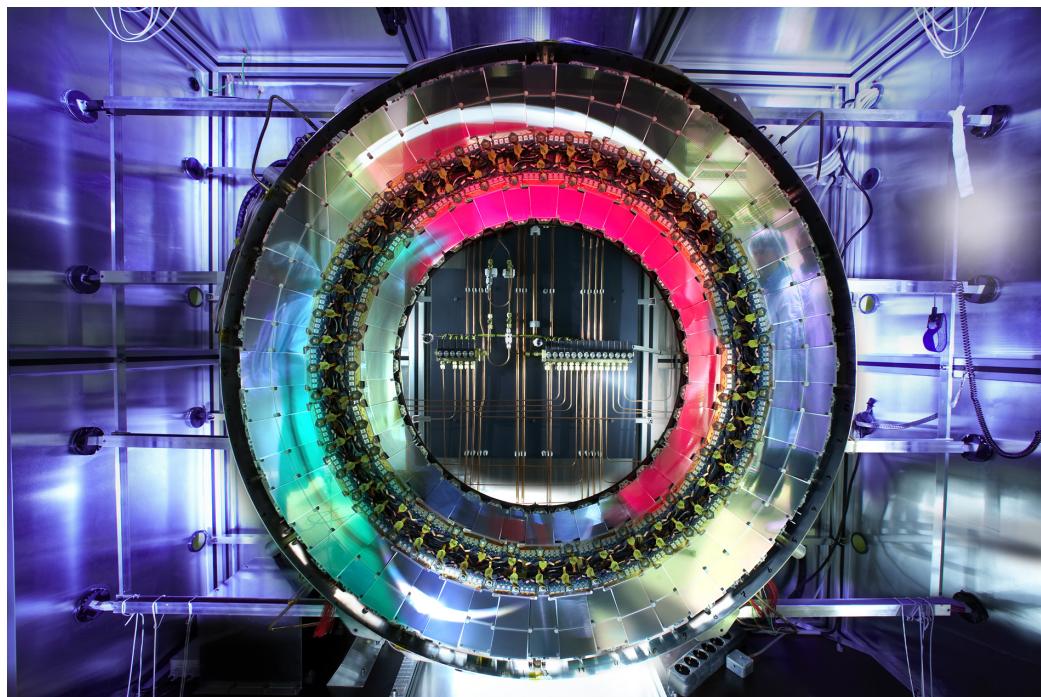


Figure 5.5: A ring of the Semiconductor Tracker

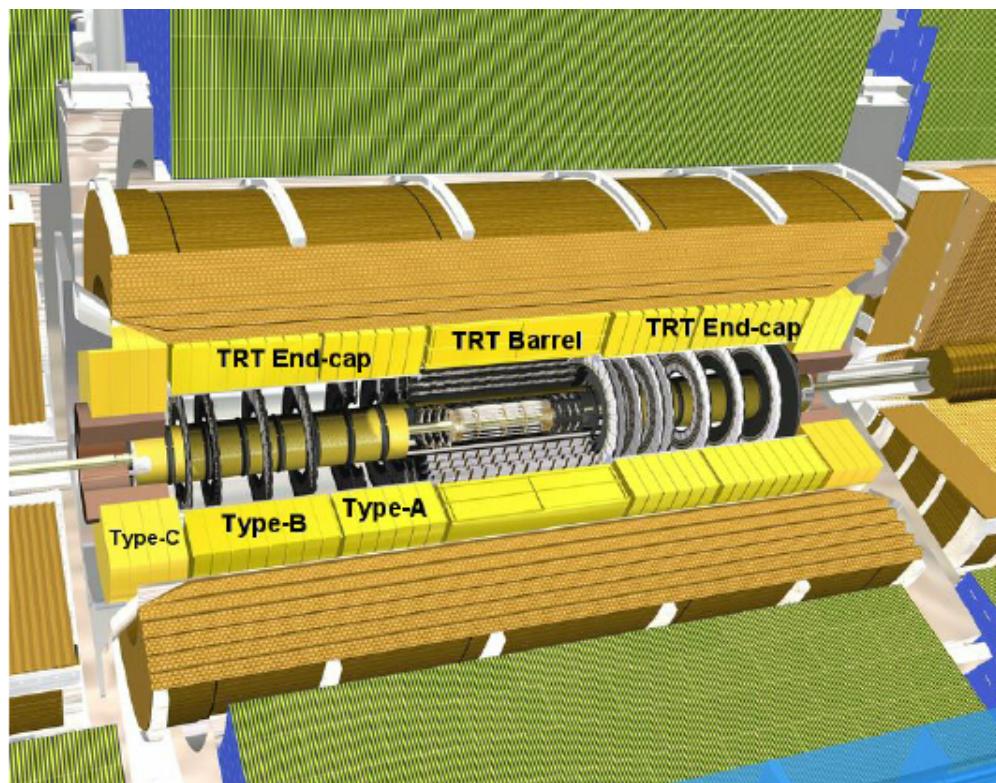


Figure 5.6: A schematic of the Transition Radiation Tracker

731 **Transition Radiation Tracker**

732 The Transition Radiation Tracker is the next detector radially outward from the SCT.
733 It contains straw drift tubes; these contain a tungsten gold-plated wire of $32 \mu\text{m}$
734 diameter held under high voltage (-1530 V) with the edge of the Kapton-aluminum
735 tube. They are filled with a gas mixture of primarily xenon that is ionized when
736 a charged particle passes through the tube. The ions are collected by the “drift”
737 due to the voltage inside the tubes, which is read out by the electronics. This gives
738 so-called “continuous tracking” throughout the tube, due to the large number of ions
739 produced.

740 The TRT is so-named due to the *transition radiation* (TR) it induces. Due to
741 the dielectric difference between the gas and tubes, TR is induced. This is important
742 for distinguishing electrons from their predominant background of minimum ionizing
743 particles. Generally, electrons have a much larger Lorentz factor than minimum
744 ionizing particles, which leads to additional TR. This can be used as an additional
745 handle for electron reconstruction.

746 **5.3 Calorimetry**

747 The calorimetry of the ATLAS detector also includes multiple subdetectors; these sub-
748 detectors allow precise measurements of the electrons, photons, and hadrons produced
749 by the ATLAS detector. Generically, calorimeters work by stopping particles in their
750 material, and measuring the energy deposition. This energy is deposited as a cascade
751 particles induce from interactions with the detector material known *showers*. ATLAS
752 uses *sampling* calorimeters; these alternate a dense absorbing material, which induces
753 showers, with an active layer which measures energy depositions by the induced
754 showers. Since some energy is deposited into the absorption layers as well, the energy
755 depositions must be properly calibrated for the detector.

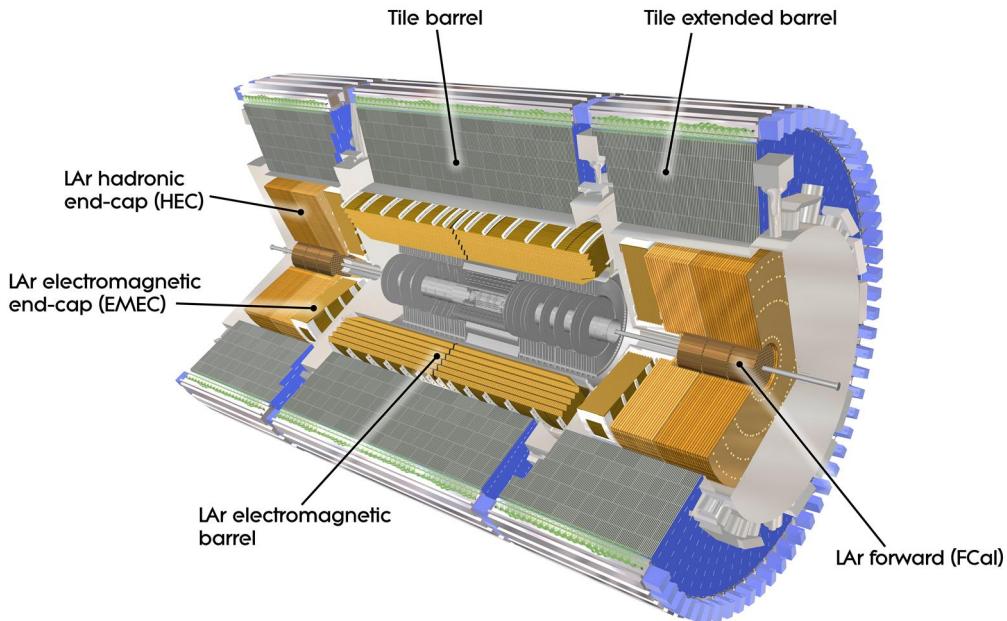


Figure 5.7: The ATLAS calorimeter

756 Electromagnetic objects (electrons and photons) and hadrons have much different
 757 interaction properties, and thus we need different calorimeters to accurately measure
 758 these different classes of objects; we can speak of the *electromagnetic* and *hadronic*
 759 calorimeters. ATLAS contains four separate calorimeters : the liquid argon (LAr)
 760 electromagnetic barrel calorimeter, the Tile barrel hadronic calorimeter, the LAr
 761 endcap electromagnetic calorimeter, the LAr endcap hadronic calorimeter, and the
 762 LAr Forward Calorimeter (FCal). Combined, these provide full coverage in ϕ up to
 763 $|\eta| < 4.9$, and can be seen in Fig.5.7.

764 **Electromagnetic Calorimeters**

765 The electromagnetic calorimeters of the ATLAS detector consist of the barrel and
 766 endcap LAr calorimeters. These are arranged into an ingenious “accordion” shape,
 767 shown in 5.8, which allows full coverage in ϕ and exceptional coverage in η while
 768 still allowing support structures for detector operation. The accordion is made of



Figure 5.8: A schematic of a subsection of the barrel LAr electromagnetic calorimeter

769 layers with liquid argon (active detection material) and lead (absorber) to induce
 770 electromagnetic showers. The LAr EM calorimeters are each more than 20 radiation
 771 lengths deep, which provides the high stopping power necessary to properly measure
 772 the electromagnetic showers.

773 The barrel component of the LAr EM calorimeter extends from the center of the
 774 detector out to $|\eta| < 1.475$. The calorimeter has a presampler, which measures the
 775 energy of any EM shower induced before the calorimeter. This has segmentation of
 776 $\Delta\eta = 0.025, \Delta\phi = .01$. There are three “standard” layers in the barrel, which have
 777 decreasing segmentation into calorimeter *cells* as one travels radially outward from
 778 the interaction point. The first layer has segmentation of $\Delta\eta = 0.003, \Delta\phi = .1$, and
 779 is quite thin relative to the other layers at only 4 radiation lengths deep. It provides
 780 precise η and ϕ measurements for incoming EM objects. The second layer is the
 781 deepest at 16 radiation lengths, with a segmentation of $\Delta\eta = 0.025, \Delta\phi = 0.025$. It



Figure 5.9: A schematic of Tile hadronic calorimeter

is primarily responsible for stopping the incoming EM particles, which dictates its large relative thickness, and measures most of the energy of the incoming particles. The third layer is only 2 radiation lengths deep, with a rough segmentation of $\Delta\eta = 0.05$, $\Delta\phi = .025$. The deposition in this layer is primarily used to distinguish hadrons interacting electromagnetically and entering the hadronic calorimeter from the strictly EM objects which are stopped in the second layer.

The barrel EM calorimeter has a similar overall structure, but extends from $1.4 < |\eta| < 3.2$. The segmentation in η is better in the endcap than the barrel; the ϕ segmentation is the same. In total, the EM calorimeters contain about 190000 individual calorimeter cells.

Hadronic Calorimeters

The hadronic calorimetry of ATLAS sits directly outside the EM calorimetry. It contains three subdetectors : the barrel Tile calorimeter, the endcap LAr calorimeter,

795 and the Forward LAr Calorimeter. Similar to the EM calorimeters, these are
796 sampling calorimeters that alternate steel (dense material) with an active layer
797 (plastic scintillator).

798 The barrel Tile calorimeter extends out to $|\eta| < 1.7$. There are again three layers,
799 which combined give about 10 interactions length of distance, which provides excellent
800 stopping power for hadrons. This is critical to avoid excess *punchthrough* to the muon
801 spectrometer beyond the hadronic calorimeters. The first layer has a depth of 1.5
802 interaction lengths. The second layer is again the thickest at a depth of 4.1 interaction
803 lengths; most of the energy of incoming particle is deposited here. Both the first and
804 second layer have segmentation of about $\Delta\eta = 0.1, \Delta\phi = 0.1$. Generally, one does not
805 need as fine of granularity in the hadronic calorimeter, since the energy depositions
806 in the hadronic calorimeters will be summed into the composite objects we know as
807 jets. The third layer has a thickness of 1.8 interaction lengths, with a segmentation of
808 $\Delta\eta = 0.2, \Delta\phi = 0.1$. The use of multiple layers allows one to understand the induced
809 hadronic shower as it propagates through the detector material.

810 The endcap LAr hadronic calorimeter covers the region $1.5 < |\eta| < 3.2$. It is
811 again a sampling calorimeter; the active material is LAr with a copper absorbed. It
812 does not use the accordion shape of the other calorimeters; it has a “standard” flat
813 shape perpendicular to the interaction point. The segmentation varies with η . For
814 $1.5 < |\eta| < 2.5$, the cells are $\Delta\eta = 0.1, \Delta\phi = 0.1$; in the region $2.5 < |\eta| < 3.2$, the
815 cells are $\Delta\eta = 0.2, \Delta\phi = 0.2$ in size.

816 The final calorimeter in ATLAS is the forward LAr calorimeter. Of those
817 subdetectors which are used for standard reconstruction techniques, the FCal sits
818 at the most extreme values of $3.1 < |\eta| < 4.9$. The FCal itself is made of three
819 subdetectors; FCal1 is actually an electromagnetic module, while FCal2 and FCal3
820 are hadronic. The absorber in FCal1 is copper, with a liquid argon active medium.
821 FCal2 and FCal3 also use a liquid argon active medium, with a tungsten absorber.

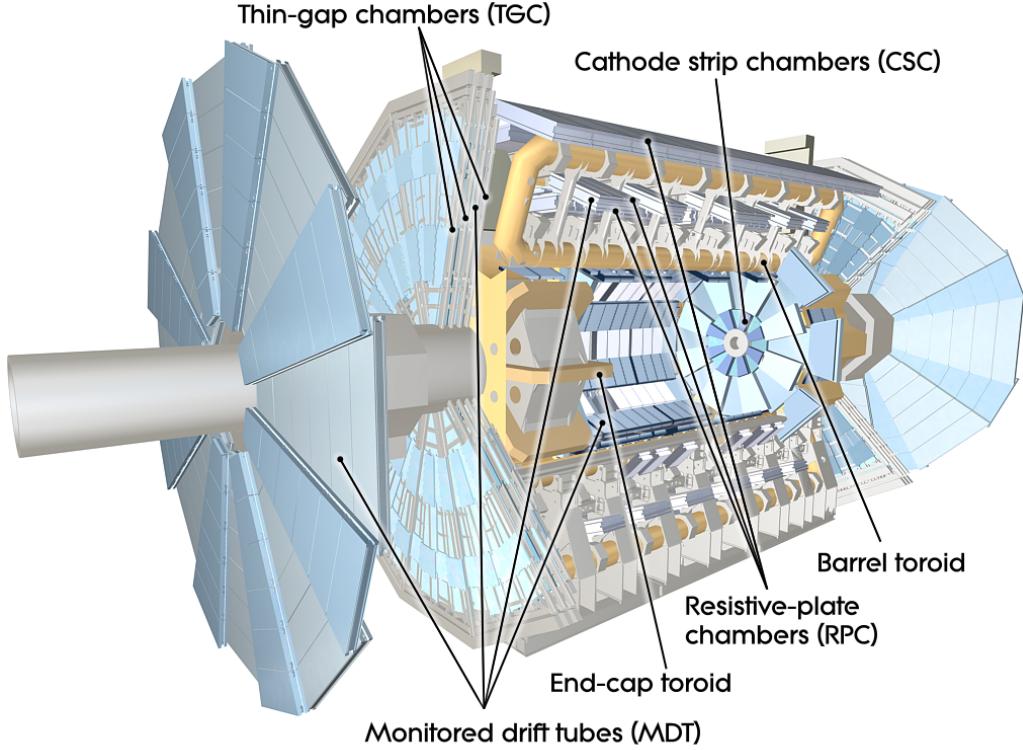


Figure 5.10: The ATLAS muon spectrometer

822 5.4 Muon Spectrometer

823 The muon spectrometer is the final major subdetector of the ATLAS detector.
824 The muon spectrometer sits outside the hadronic calorimetry, with pseudorapidity
825 coverage out to $|\eta| < 2.7$. The MS is a huge detector, with some detector elements
826 existing as far as 11 m in radius from the interaction point. This system is used
827 almost exclusively to measure the momenta of muons; these are the only measured
828 SM particles which consistently exit the hadronic calorimeters. These systems provide
829 a rough measurement, which is used in triggering (described in Ch.5.5), and a precise
830 measurement to be used in offline event reconstruction as described in Ch.???. The
831 MS produces tracks in a similar way to the ID; the hits in each subdetector are
832 recorded and then tracks are produced from these hits. Muon spectrometer tracks are
833 largely independent of the ID tracks due to the independent solenoidal and toroidal
834 magnet systems used in the ID and MS respectively. The MS consists of four separate

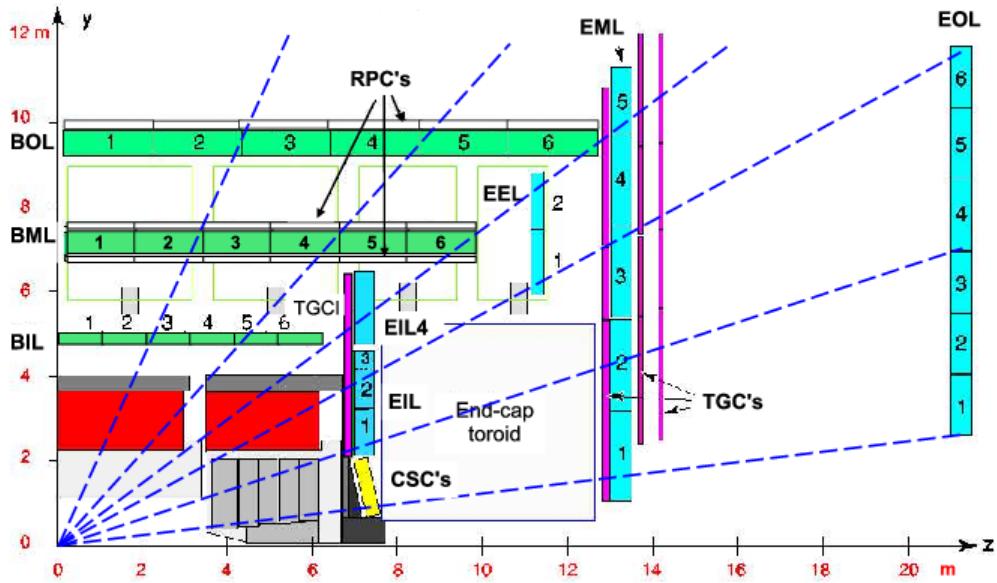


Figure 5.11: A schematic in z/η showing the location of the subdetectors of the muon spectrometer

835 subdetectors: the barrel region is covered by the Resistive Plate Chambers (RPCs)
 836 and Monitored Drift Tubes (MDTs) while the endcaps are covered by MDTs, Thin
 837 Gap Chambers (TGCs), and Cathode Strip Chambers (CSCs).

838 Monitored Drift Tubes

839 The MDT system is the largest individual subdetector of the MS. MDTs provide
 840 precision measurements of muon momenta as well as fast measurements used for
 841 triggers. There are 1088 MDT chambers providing coverage out to pseudorapidity
 842 $|\eta| < 2.7$; each consists of an aluminum tube containing an argon- CO_2 gas mixture.
 843 In the center of each tube there $50\mu\text{m}$ diameter tungsten-rhenium wire at a voltage of
 844 3080 V. A muon entering the tube will induce ionization in the gas, which will “drift”
 845 towards the wire due to the voltage. One measures this ionization as a current in the
 846 wire; this current comes with a time measurement related to how long it takes the
 847 ionization to drift to the wire.

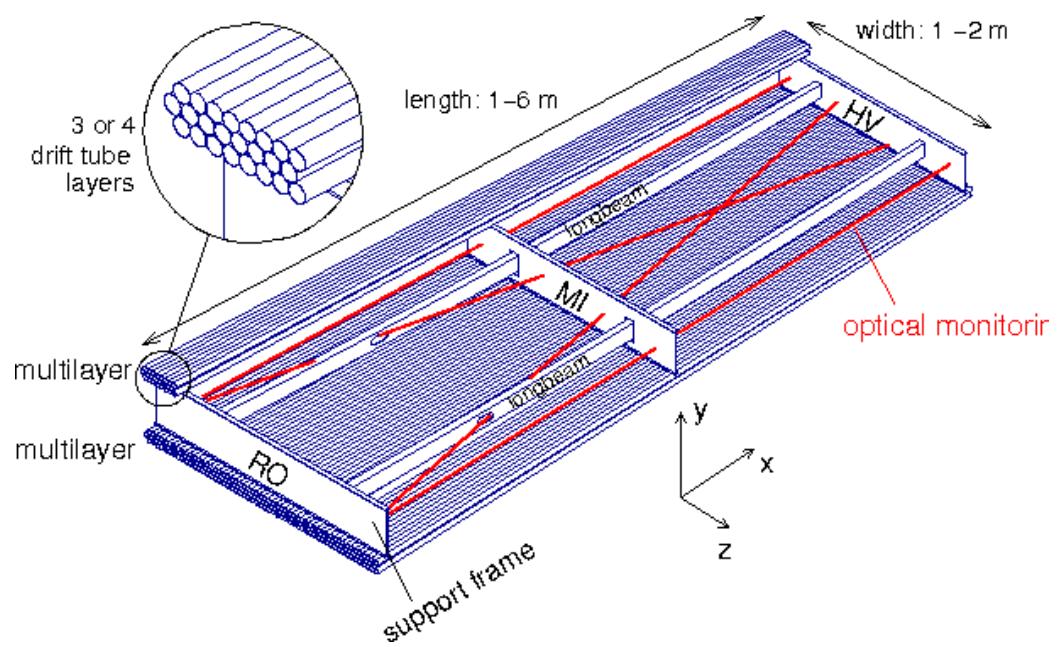


Figure 5.12: Schematic of a Muon Drift Tube chamber

848 These tubes are layered in a pattern shown in Fig.5.12. Combining the measure-
849 ments from the tubes in each layer gives good position resolution. The system consists
850 of three subsystems of these layers, at 5 m, 7m, and 9 m from the interaction point.
851 The innermost layer is directly outside the hadronic calorimeter. The combination of
852 these three measurements gives precise momenta measurements for muons.

853 Resistive Plate Chambers

854 The RPC system is alternated with the MDT system in the barrel; the first two layers
855 of RPC detectors surround the second MDT layer while the third is outside the final
856 MDT layer. The RPC system covers pseudorapidity $|\eta| < 1.05$. Each RPC consists
857 of two parallel plates at a distance of 2 mm surrounding a $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2\text{F}_4$ mixture. The
858 electric field between these plates is 4.9k kV/mm. Just as in the MDTs, an incoming
859 muon ionizes the gas, and the deposited ionization is collected by the detector (in this
860 case on the plates). It is quite fast, but with a relatively poor spatial resolution of
861 1 cm. Still, it can provide reasonable ϕ resolution due to its large distance from the
862 interaction point. This is most useful in triggering, where the timing requirements are
863 quite severe. The RPCs are also complement the MDTs by providing a measurement
864 of the non-bending coordinate.

865 Cathode Strip Chambers

866 The CSCs are used in place of MDTs in the first layer of the endcaps. This region, at
867 $2.0 < |\eta| < 2.7$, has higher particle multiplicity at the close distance to the interaction
868 point from low-energy photons and neutrons. The MDTs were not equip to deal with
869 the higher particle rate of this region, so the CSCs were designed to deal with this
870 deficiency.

871 Each CSC consists multiwire proportional chambers, oriented radially outward
872 from the interaction point. These chambers overlap partially in ϕ . The wires contain



Figure 5.13: Photo of the installation of Cathode Strip Chambers and Monitored Drift Tubes

873 a gas mixture of argon and CO₂, which is ionized when muons enter. The detectors
874 operate with a voltage of 1900 V, with much lower drift times than the MDTs. They
875 provide less hits than MDTs, but their lower drift times lower uptime and reduce the
876 amount of detector overload.

877 The CSCs are arranged into four planes on the wheels of the muon spectrometer,
878 as seen in Fig.???. There are 32 CSCs in total, with 16 on each side of the detector
879 in η .

880 Thin Gap Chambers

881 The TGCs serve the purpose of the RPCs in the endcap at pseudorapidity of $1.05 <$
882 $|\eta| < 2.4$; they provide fast measurements used in triggering. The TGCs are also
883 multiwire proportional chambers a la the CSCs. The fast readouts necessary for
884 trigger are provided by a high electric field and a small wire-to-wire distance of 1.8
885 mm. These detectors provide both η and ϕ information, allowing the trigger to use
886 as much information as possible when selecting events.



Figure 5.14: Photo of a muon Big Wheel, consisting of Thin Gap Chambers

887 5.5 Trigger System

888 The data rate delivered by the LHC is staggering [89]. In the 2016 dataset, the
889 collision rate was 40 MHz, meaning a *bunch spacing* of 25 ns. In each of the event,
890 as we saw in Ch.??, there are many proton-proton collisions. Most of the collisions
891 are uninteresting, such as elastic scattering of protons, or even inelastic scattering
892 leading to low-energy dijet events. These types of events have been studied in detail
893 in previous experiments.

894 Even if one is genuinely interested in these events, it's *impossible* to save all of
895 the information available in each event. If all events were written "to tape" (as the
896 jargon goes), ATLAS would store terabytes of data per second. We are limited to only
897 about 1000 Hz readout by computing processing time and storage space. We thus
898 implement a *trigger* which provides fast inspection of events to drastically reduce
899 the data rate from the 40 MHz provided by the LHC to the 1000 Hz we can write to
900 tape for further analysis.

901 The ATLAS trigger system consists of a two-level trigger, known as the Level-
902 1 trigger (L1 trigger) and the High-Level Trigger (HLT)⁴. Trigger selections are
903 organized into *trigger chains*, where events passing a particular L1 trigger are passed
904 to a corresponding HLT trigger. For example, one would require a particular high- p_T
905 muon at L1, with additional quality requirements at HLT. One can also use HLT
906 triggers as prerequisites for each other, as is done in some triggers requiring both jets
907 and E_T^{miss} .

908 **Level-1 Trigger**

909 The L1 trigger is hardware-based, and provides the very fast rejection needed to
910 quickly select events of interest. The L1 trigger uses only what is known as *prompt*
911 data to quickly identify interesting events. Only the calorimeters and the triggering
912 detectors (RPCs and TGCs) of the MS are fast enough to be considered at L1,
913 since the tracking reconstruction algorithms used by the ID and the more precise
914 MS detectors are very slow. This allows quick identification of events with the
915 most interesting physical objects : large missing transverse momentum and high-
916 p_T electrons, muons, and jets.

917 L1 trigger processing is done locally. This means that events are selected without
918 considering the entire available event. Energy deposits over some threshold are
919 reconstructed as *regions of interest*. These RoIs are then compared using pattern
920 recognition hardware to “expected” patterns for the given RoIs. Events with RoIs
921 matching these expected patterns are then handed to the HLT through the Central
922 Trigger Processor. This step alone lowers the data rate down by about three orders
923 of magnitude.

⁴In Run1, ATLAS ran with a three-level trigger system. The L1 was essentially as today; the HLT consisted of two separate systems known as the L2 trigger and the Event Filter (EF). This was changed to the simpler system used today during the shutdown between Run1 and Run2.

924 **High-Level Trigger**

925 The HLT performs the next step, taking the incoming data rate from the L1 trigger
926 of ~ 75 kHz down to the ~ 1 kHz that can be written to tape. The HLT really
927 performs much like a simplified offline reconstruction, using many common quality
928 and analysis cuts to eliminate uninteresting events. This is done by using computing
929 farms located close to the detector, which process events in parallel. Individually, each
930 event which enters the computing farms takes about 4 seconds to reconstruct; the
931 HLT reconstruction time also has a long tail, which necessitates careful monitoring
932 of the HLT to ensure smooth operation.

933 HLT triggers are targetted to a particular physics process, such as a E_T^{miss} trigger,
934 single muon trigger, or multijet trigger. The collection of all triggers is known as
935 the trigger *menu*. Since many low-energy particles are produced in collisions, it is
936 necessary to set a *trigger threshold* on the object of interest; this is really just a fancy
937 naming for a trigger p_T cut. Due to the changing luminosity conditions of the LHC,
938 these thresholds change constantly, mostly by increasing thresholds with increasing
939 instantaneous luminosity. This allows an approximately constant number of events to be
940 written for further analysis. Triggers which have rates higher than those designated
941 by the menu are *prescaled*. This means writing only some fraction of the triggered
942 events. Of course, for physics analyses, one wishes to investigate all data events
943 passing some set of analysis cuts, so often one uses the “lowest threshold unprescaled
944 trigger”. *Turn-on curves* allow one to select the needed offline analysis cut to ensure
945 the trigger is fully efficient. An example turn-on curve for the E_T^{miss} triggers used in
946 the signal region of this analysis is shown in ??.

947 The full set of the lowest threshold unprescaled triggers considered here can be
948 found in Table 5.1. These are the lowest unprescaled triggers associated to the SUSY
949 signal models and Standard Model backgrounds considered in this thesis. More
950 information can be found in [89].

Physics Object	Trigger	p_T (GeV)	Threshold	Level-1 Seed	Additional Requirements	Approximate Rate (Hz)
2015 Data						
E_T^{miss}	HLT_xe70	70	L1_XE50	-	60	
Muon	HLT_mu24_iloose_L1MU15	50	L1_MU15	isolated, loose	130	
Muon	HLT_mu50	50	L1_MU15	-	30	
Electron	HLT_e24_1hmedium_ll2base_L1EM20VH		L1_EM20VH	medium OR isolated, loose	140	
Electron	HLT_e60_1hmedium	60	L1_EM20VH	medium	10	
Electron	HLT_e120_1hloose	120	L1_EM20VH	loose	<10	
Photon	HLT_g120_loose	120	L1_EM20VH	loose	20	
2016 Data						
E_T^{miss}	HLT_xe100_mht_L1XE5000		L1_XE50	-	180	
Muon	HLT_mu24_ivarmedium4	50	L1_MU20	medium	120	
Muon	HLT_mu50	50	L1_MU20	-	40	
Electron	HLT_e24_1htight_noD1ivarloose		L1_EM22VHI	tight with no d_0 or loose	110	
Electron	HLT_e60_1hmedium_nd60		L1_EM22VHI	medium with no d_0	10	
Electron	HLT_e140_1hloose_noD0		L1_EM22VHI	loose with no d_0	<10	
Photon	HLT_g140_loose	140	L1_EM22VHI	loose	20	

Table 5.1: High-Level Triggers used in this thesis. Descriptions of loose, medium, tight, and isolated can be found in [89]. The d_0 cut refers to a quality cut on the vertex position; this was removed from many triggers in 2016 to increase sensitivity to displaced vertex signals. For most triggers, the increased thresholds in 2016 compared to 2016 were designed to keep the rate approximately equal. The exception is the E_T^{miss} triggers; see 5.5.

951 **Razor Triggers**

952 For the analysis presented in this thesis, the *razor triggers* were developed. These are
953 topological triggers, combining both jet and E_T^{miss} information to select interesting
954 events. In particular, they use the razor variable M_{Δ}^R which will be described in
955 Chapter ??.

956 Based on 2015 run conditions, these triggers would have allowed the use of a lower
957 offline E_T^{miss} cut with a similar rate to the nominal E_T^{miss} triggers. This can be seen
958 in the turn-on curves shown in Figure 5.15. The razor triggers are fully efficient at
959 nearly 100 GeV lower than the corresponding E_T^{miss} triggers in M_{Δ}^R .

960 There was a quite big change in the 2016 menu, which increased the rate given to
961 E_T^{miss} triggers drastically. This can be seen in the difference in rate shown between
962 E_T^{miss} triggers in 2015 and 2016 in Table 5.1. This allowed the E_T^{miss} triggers to
963 maintain a lower threshold throughout the dataset used in this thesis.

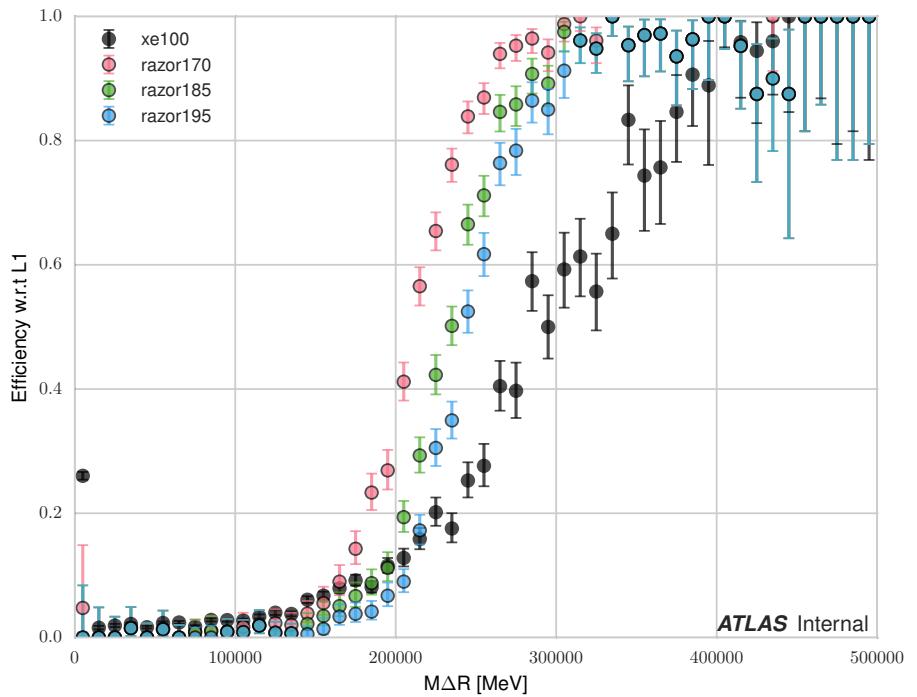
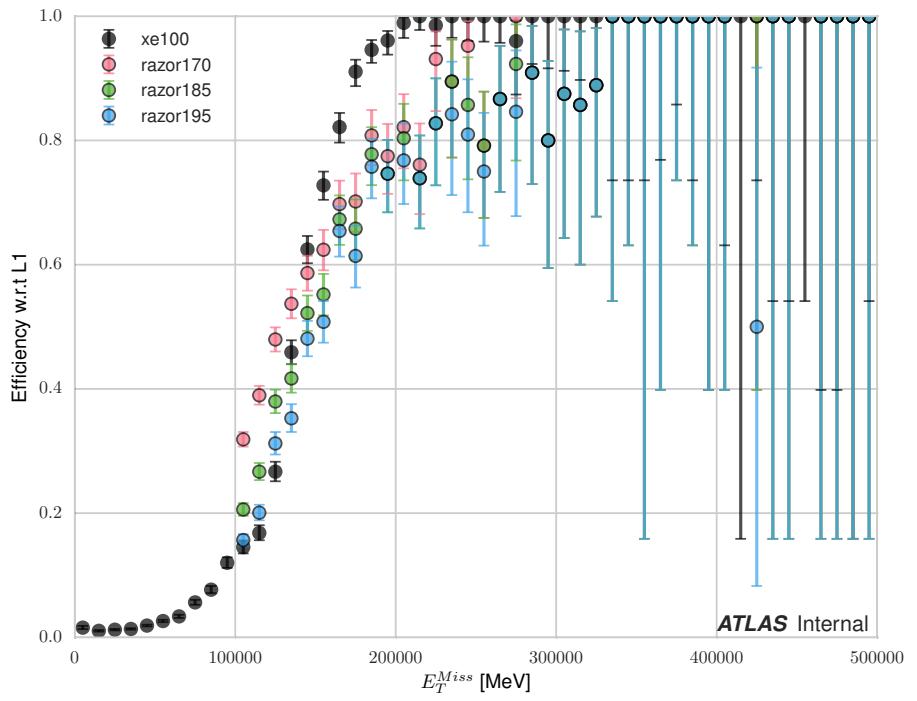


Figure 5.15: Turn-on curves for the razor triggers and nominal E_T^{miss} trigger. The razor triggers show a much sharper turn-on in M_D^R relative to the E_T^{miss} trigger. The converse is true for the E_T^{miss} triggers.

Object Reconstruction

966 This chapter describes the reconstruction algorithms used within ATLAS. We will
967 make the distinction between the “primitive” objects which are reconstructed from
968 the detector signals from the “composite” physics objects we use in measurements
969 and searches for new physics.

970 6.1 Primitive Object Reconstruction

971 The primitive objects reconstructed by ATLAS are *tracks* and (calorimeter) *clusters*.
972 These are reconstructed directly from tracking hits and calorimeter energy deposits
973 into cells. Tracks can be further divided into inner detector and muon spectrom-
974 eter tracks. Calorimeter clusters can be divided into sliding-window clusters and
975 topological clusters (topoclusters).

976 Inner Detector Tracks

977 Inner detector tracks are reconstructed from hits in the inner detector [90, 91] These
978 hits indicate that a charged particle has passed through the detector material. Due
979 to the 2 T solenoid in the inner detector, the hits associated with any individual
980 particle will be curved. The amount of curvature determines the momentum of the
981 particle. In any given event, there are upwards of 10^4 hits, making it impossible to do
982 any sort of combinatorics to reconstruct tracks. There are two algorithms used by
983 ATLAS track reconstruction, known as *inside-out* and *outside-in*.

984 ATLAS first employs the inside-out algorithm. One assumes the track begins
985 at the interaction point. Moving out from the interaction point, one creates track
986 seeds. Track seeds are proto-tracks constructed from three hits. These hits can be
987 distributed as three pixel hits, two pixel hits and one SCT hit, or three SCT hits.
988 One extrapolates the track and uses a combinatorial Kalman filter[90], which adds
989 the rest of the pixel and SCT hits to the seeds. This is done seed by seed, so it
990 avoids the combinatorial complexity involved with checking all hits with all seeds.
991 At this point, the algorithm applies an additional filter to avoid ambiguities from
992 nearby tracks. The TRT hits are added to the seeds using the same method. After
993 this procedure, all hits are associated to a track.

994 The next step is to figure out the correct kinematics of the track. This is
995 done by applying a fitting algorithm which outputs the best-fit track parameters
996 by minimizing the track distance from hits, weighted by each hit's resolution. These
997 parameters are $(d_0, z_0, \eta, \phi, q/p)$ where d_0 (z_0) is the transverse (longitudinal) impact
998 parameter and q/p is the charge over the track momenta. This set of parameters
999 uniquely defines the measurement of the trajectory of the charged particle associated
1000 to the track. An illustration of a track with these parameters is shown in Fig.6.1.

1001 The other track reconstruction algorithm is the outside-in algorithm. As the
1002 name implies, we start from the outside of the inner detector, in the TRT, and
1003 extend the tracks in toward the interaction point. One begins by seeding from
1004 TRT hits, and extending the track back towards the center of the detector. The
1005 same fitting procedure is used as in the inside-out algorithm to find the optimal
1006 track parameters. This algorithm is particularly important for finding tracks which
1007 originate from interactions with the detector material, especially the SCT. For tracks
1008 from primary vertices, this often finds the same tracks as the inside-out algorithm,
1009 providing an important check on the consistency of the tracking procedure.

1010 In the high luminosity environment of the LHC, even the tracks reconstructed

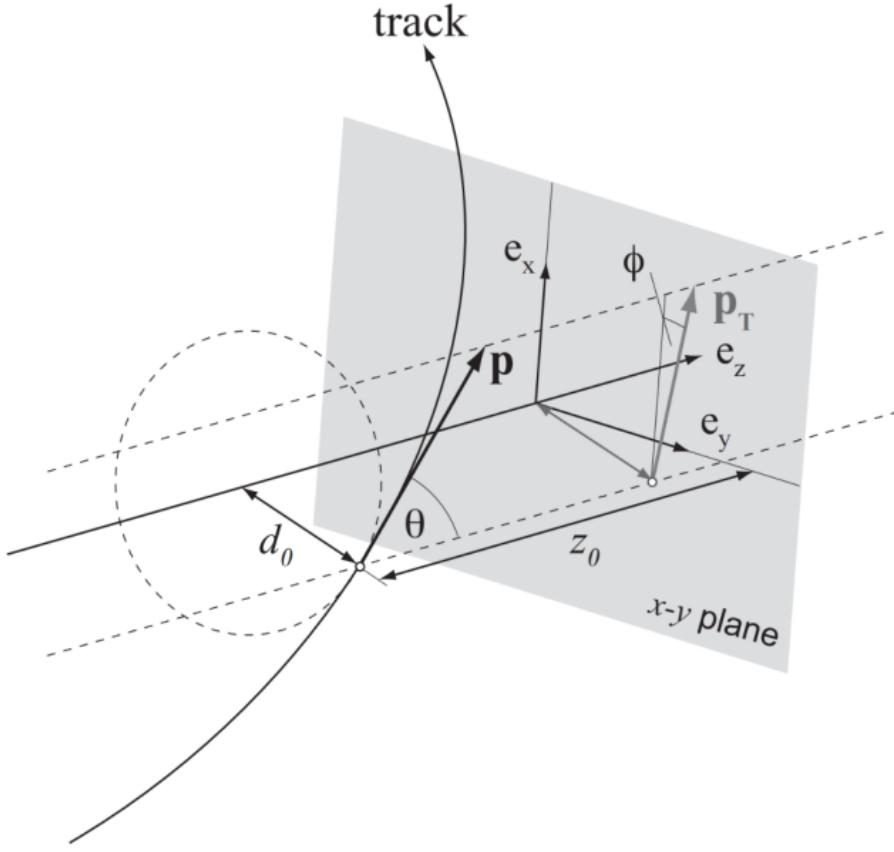


Figure 6.1: The parameters associated to a track.

from precision detectors such as those of ATLAS inner detector can sometimes lead to fake tracks from simple combinatoric chance. Several quality checks are imposed after track fitting which reduce this background. Seven silicon (pixel + SCT) hits are required for all tracks. No more than two *holes* are allowed in the pixel detector. Holes are expected measurements from the track that are missing in the pixel detector. Finally, tracks with poor fit quality, as measured by χ^2/ndf , are also rejected. Due to the high quality of the silicon measurements in the pixel detector and SCT, these requirements give good track reconstruction efficiency, as seen in Fig.6.2 for simulated events[92].



(a) Track reconstruction as a function of p_T . (b) Track reconstruction as a function of η .

Figure 6.2: Track reconstruction efficiency as a function of track p_T and η . The efficiency is defined as the number of reconstructed tracks divided by the number of generate charged particles.

1020 Sliding-window clusters

1021 The sliding-window algorithm is a way to combine calorimeter cells into composite
 1022 objects (clusters) to be used as inputs for other algorithms[93]. Sliding-window
 1023 clusters are the primary inputs to electron and photon reconstruction, as described
 1024 below. The electromagnetic calorimeter has high granularity, with a cell size of
 1025 $(\eta, \phi) = (.025, .025)$ in the coarsest second layer throughout most of the calorimeter.
 1026 The “window” consists of 3 by 5 cells in the (η, ϕ) space. All layers are added on
 1027 this same 2D space. One translates this window over the space and seeds a cluster
 1028 whenever the energy sum of the cells is maximized. If the seed energy is greater
 1029 than 2.5 GeV, this seed is called a sliding-window cluster. This choice was motivated
 1030 to optimize the reconstruction efficiency of proto-electrons and proto-photons while
 1031 rejecting fakes from electronic noise and additional particles from pileup vertices.

1032 Topological clusters

1033 Topoclusters are the output of the algorithm used within ATLAS to combine
1034 hadronic and electromagnetic calorimeter cells in a way which extracts signal from
1035 a background of significant electronic noise[94]. They are the primary input to the
1036 algorithms which reconstruct jets.

1037 Topological clusters are reconstructed from calorimeter cells in the following way.
1038 First, one maps all cells onto a single $\eta - \phi$ plane so one can speak of *neighboring*
1039 cells. Two cells are considered neighboring if they are in the same layer and directly
1040 adjacent, or if they are in adjacent layers and overlap in $\eta - \phi$ space. The *significance*
1041 ξ_{cell} of a cell during a given event is

$$\xi_{\text{cell}} = \frac{E_{\text{cell}}}{\sigma_{\text{noise},\text{cell}}} \quad (6.1)$$

1042 where $\sigma_{\text{noise},\text{cell}}$ is measured for each cell in ATLAS and E_{cell} measures the current
1043 energy level of the cell. One thinks of this as the measurement of the energy *over*
1044 *threshold* for the cell.

1045 Topocluster *seeds* are defined as calorimeter cells which have a significance $\xi_{\text{cell}} >$
1046 4. These are the inputs to the algorithm. One iteratively tests all cells adjacent
1047 to these seeds for $\xi_{\text{cell}} > 2$. Each cells passing this selection is then added to the
1048 topocluster, and the procedure is repeated. When the algorithm reaches the point
1049 where there are no additional adjacent cells with $\xi_{\text{cell}} > 2$, every positive-energy cell
1050 adjacent to the current proto-cluster is added. The collection of summed cells is a
1051 topocluster. An example of this procedure for a simulation dijet event is shown in
1052 Fig.6.3.

1053 There are two calibrations used for clusters[95]. These are known as the
1054 electromagnetic (EM) scale and the local cluster weighting (LCW) scale. The EM
1055 scale is the energy read directly out of the calorimeters as described. This scale
1056 is appropriate for electromagnetic processes. The LCW scale applies additional



Figure 6.3: Example of topoclustering on a simulated dijet event.

1057 scaling to the clusters based on the shower development. The cluster energy can be
1058 corrected for calorimeter non-compensation and the differences in the hadronic and
1059 electromagnetic calorimeters’ responses. This scale provides additional corrections
1060 that improve the accuracy of hadronic energy measurements. This thesis only uses
1061 the EM scale corrections. LCW scaling requires additional measurements that only
1062 became available with additional data. Due to the jet calibration procedure that
1063 we will describe below, it is also a relatively complicated procedure to rederive the
1064 “correct” jet energy.

1065 Muon Spectrometer Tracks

1066 Muon spectrometer tracks are fit using the same algorithms as the ID tracks, but
1067 different subdetectors. The tracks are seeded by hits in the MDTs or CSCs. After
1068 seeding in the MDTs and CSCs, the hits from all subsystems are refit as the final
1069 MS track. These tracks are used as inputs to the muon reconstruction, as we will see
1070 below.

1071 6.2 Physics Object Reconstruction and Quality

1072 Identification

1073 There are essentially six objects used in ATLAS searches for new physics: electrons,
1074 photons, muons, τ -jets, jets, and E_T^{miss} . The reconstruction of these objects is
1075 described here. In this thesis, τ lepton jets are not treated differently from other
1076 hadronic jets, and we will not consider their reconstruction algorithms. A very
1077 convenient summary plot is shown in Fig.6.4.

1078 One often wishes to understand “how certain” we are that a particular object
1079 is truly the underlying physics object. In ATLAS, we often generically consider, in



Figure 6.4: The interactions of particles with the ATLAS detector. Solid lines indicate the particle is interacting with the detector, while dashed lines are shown where the particle does not interact.

1080 order, *very loose*, *loose*, *medium*, and *tight* objects¹. These are ordered in terms of
 1081 decreasing object efficiency, or equivalently, decreasing numbers of fake objects. We
 1082 will also describe briefly the classification of objects into these categories.

1083 In this thesis, since we present a search for new physics in a zero lepton final state,
 1084 we will provide additional details about jet and E_T^{miss} reconstruction.

¹ These are not all used for all objects, but it's conceptually useful to think of these different categories.

1085 Electrons and Photons

1086 Reconstruction

1087 The reconstruction of electrons and photons (often for brevity called “electromagnetic
1088 objects”) is very similar [93, 96, 97]. This is because the reconstruction begins with
1089 the energy deposit in the calorimeter in the form of an electromagnetic shower. For
1090 any incoming e/γ , this induces many more electrons and photons in the shower. The
1091 measurement in the calorimeter is similar for these two objects.

1092 One begins the reconstruction of electromagnetic objects from the sliding-window
1093 clusters reconstructed from the EM calorimeter. These $E > 2.5$ GeV clusters the
1094 the primary seed for electrons and photons. One then looks for all ID tracks within
1095 $\Delta R < 0.3$, where $\Delta R = \sqrt{\Delta\eta^2 + \Delta\phi^2}$. We “match” the track and cluster if they are
1096 within $\Delta\phi < 0.2$ in the direction of track curvature, or $\Delta\phi < 0.05$ in the direction
1097 opposite the track curvature. Those track-cluster seeds with tracks pointing to the
1098 primary vertex are reconstructed as electrons.

1099 For photons, we have two options to consider, known as *converted* and *unconverted*
1100 photons. Due to the high energy of the LHC collisions, typical photons have energy
1101 $>\sim 1$ GeV. At this scale, photons interact almost exclusively via pair-production in
1102 the presence of the detector material, as shown in Fig.6.5 [56]. If the track-cluster seed
1103 has a track which does not point at the primary vertex, we reconstruct this object as a
1104 converted photon. This happens since the photon travels a distance before decay into
1105 two electrons, and see the tracks coming from this secondary vertex. Those clusters
1106 which do not have any associated tracks are then reconstruced as an unconverted
1107 photon.

1108 The final step in electromagnetic object reconstruction is the final energy value
1109 assigned to these objects. This process is different between electrons and photons due
1110 to their differing signatures in the EM calorimeter. In the barrel, electrons energies

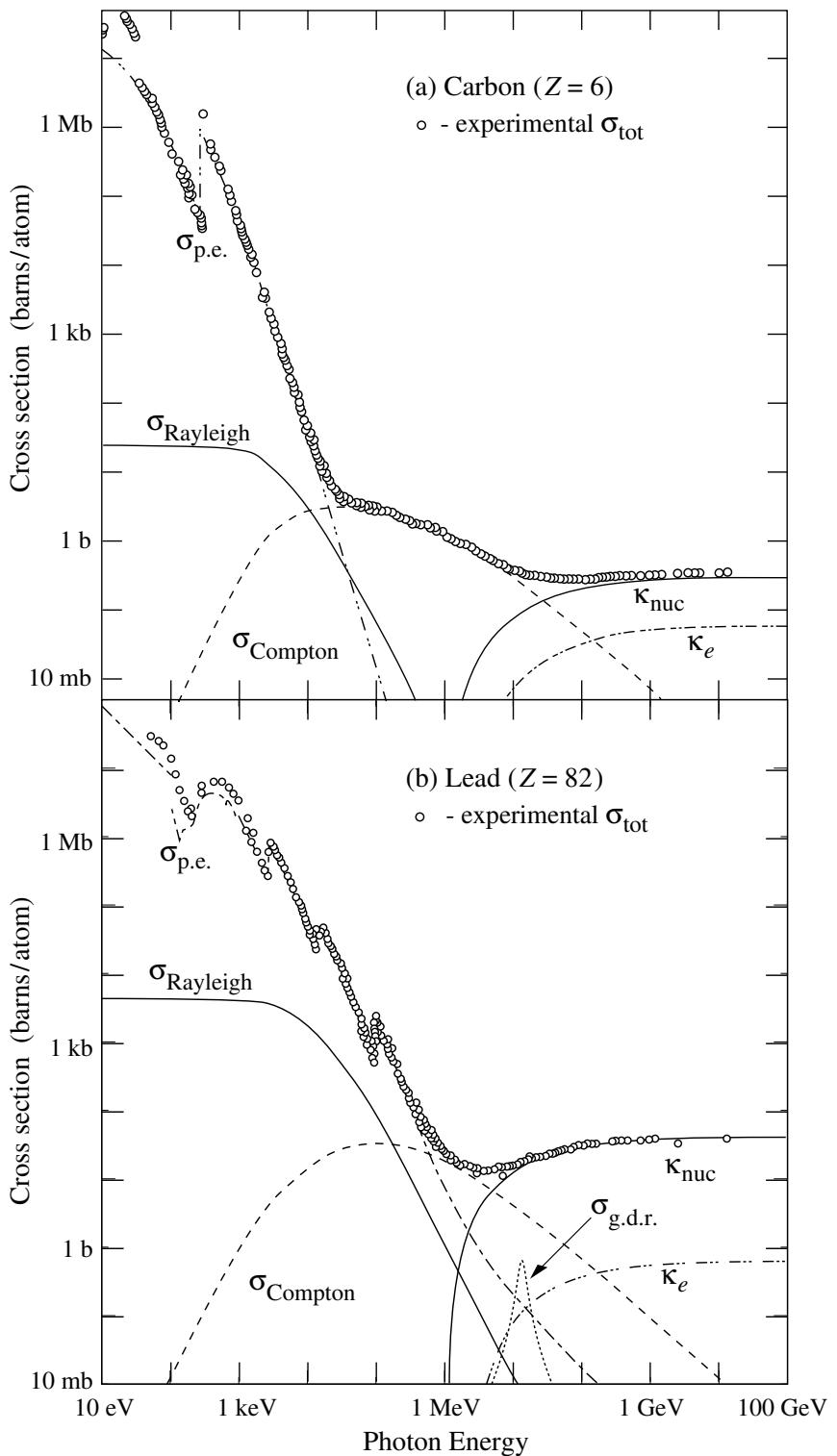


Figure 6.5: Photon total cross sections as a function of energy in carbon and lead, showing the contributions of different processes[56].

1111 are assigned as the sum of the 3 clusters in η and 7 clusters in ϕ to account for the
1112 electron curving in the ϕ direction. Barrel photons are assigned the energy sum of
1113 (3, 5) clusters in (η, ϕ) space. In the endcap, the effect of the magnetic field on the
1114 electrons is smaller, and there is a coarser granularity. Both objects sum the (5, 5)
1115 clusters for their final energy value.

1116 Quality Identification

1117 Electrons have a number of important backgrounds which can give fakes. Fake
1118 electrons come primarily from secondary vertices in hadron decays or misidentified
1119 hadronic jets. To reduce these backgrounds, quality requirements are imposed on
1120 electron candidates. Loose electrons have requirements imposed on the shower
1121 shapes in the electromagnetic calorimeter and on the quality of the associated ID
1122 track. There is also a requirement that there is a small energy deposition in the
1123 hadronic calorimeter behind the electron, to avoid jets being misidentified as electrons
1124 (low hadronic leakage). Medium and tight electrons have increasingly stronger
1125 requirements on these variables, and additional requirements on the isolation (as
1126 measured by ΔR) and matching of the ID track momentum and the calorimeter
1127 energy deposit.

1128 Photons are relatively straightforward to measure, since there are few background
1129 processes[98]. The primary one is pion decays to two photons, which can cause a jet
1130 to be misidentified as photon. Loose photons have requirements on the shower shape
1131 and hadronic leakage. Tight photons have tighter shower shape cuts, especially on
1132 the high granularity first layer of the EM calorimeter. The efficiency for unconverted
1133 tight photons as a function of p_T is shown in

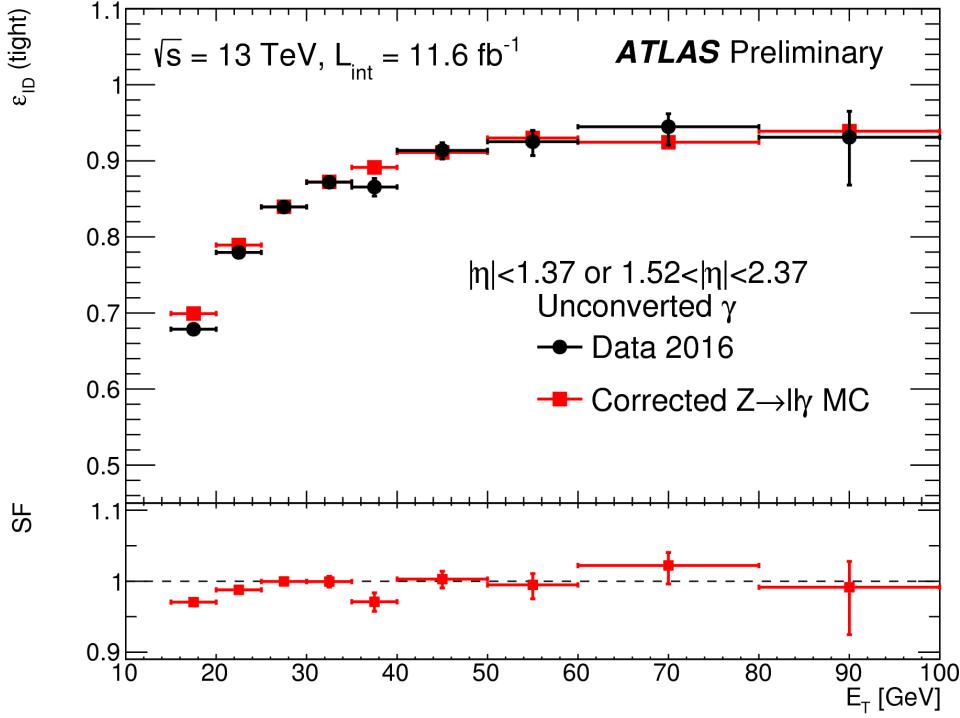


Figure 6.6: Unconverted photon efficiency as measured in [98].

1134 Muons

1135 Reconstruction

1136 Muons are reconstructed using measurements from all levels of the ATLAS detec-
 1137 tor[99]. They leave a ID track, a small, characteristic deposition in the EM calorime-
 1138 ter, and then a track in the muon spectrometer. The primary reconstruction technique
 1139 produces a so-called *combined* muon. “Combined” means using a combination of the
 1140 ID and MS tracks to produce the final reconstructed muon kinematics. This is done
 1141 by refitting the hits associated to both tracks, and using this refit track for the muon
 1142 kinematics. This process produces the best measured muons, although several other
 1143 worse algorithms are used when the full detector information is missing. An example
 1144 is in the region $2.5 < |\eta| < 2.7$ outside the ID acceptance, where MS tracks are used
 1145 without the corresponding ID tracks.

1146 **Quality Identification**

Several additional criteria are used to assure muon measurements are free of significant background contributions, especially from pion and kaon decays to muons. Muons produced via these decay processes are often characterized by a “kink”. Candidate muons with a poor fit quality, characterized by $\chi^2/\text{n.d.f.}$, are thus rejected. Additionally, the absolute difference in momentum measurements between the ID and MS provide another handle, since the other decay products from hadron decays carry away some amount of the initial hadron momentum. This is measured by

$$\rho' = \frac{|p_T^{\text{ID}} - p_T^{\text{MS}}|}{p_T^{\text{Combined}}}. \quad (6.2)$$

Additionally, there is a requirement on the q/p significance, defined as

$$S_{q/p} = \frac{|(q/p)^{\text{ID}} - (q/p)^{\text{MS}}|}{\sqrt{\sigma_{\text{ID}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{MS}}^2}}. \quad (6.3)$$

1147 The $\sigma_{\text{ID,MS}}$ in the denominator of Eq.6.3 are the uncertainties on the corresponding
1148 quantity from the numerator. Finally, cuts are placed on the number of hits in the
1149 various detector elements.

1150 Subsequently tighter cuts on these variables allow one to define the different muon
1151 identification criteria. Loose muons have the highest reconstruction efficiency, but
1152 the highest number of fake muons, since there are no requirements on the number
1153 of subdetector hits and the loosest requirements on the suite of quality variables.
1154 Medium muons consist of Loose muons with tighter cuts on the quality variables.
1155 They also require more than three MDT hits in at least two MDT layers. These are
1156 the default used by ATLAS analyses. Tight muons have stronger cuts than those of
1157 the medium selection, and reducing the reconstruction efficiency. The reconstruction
1158 efficiency as a function of p_T can be seen for Medium muons in Fig.6.7.

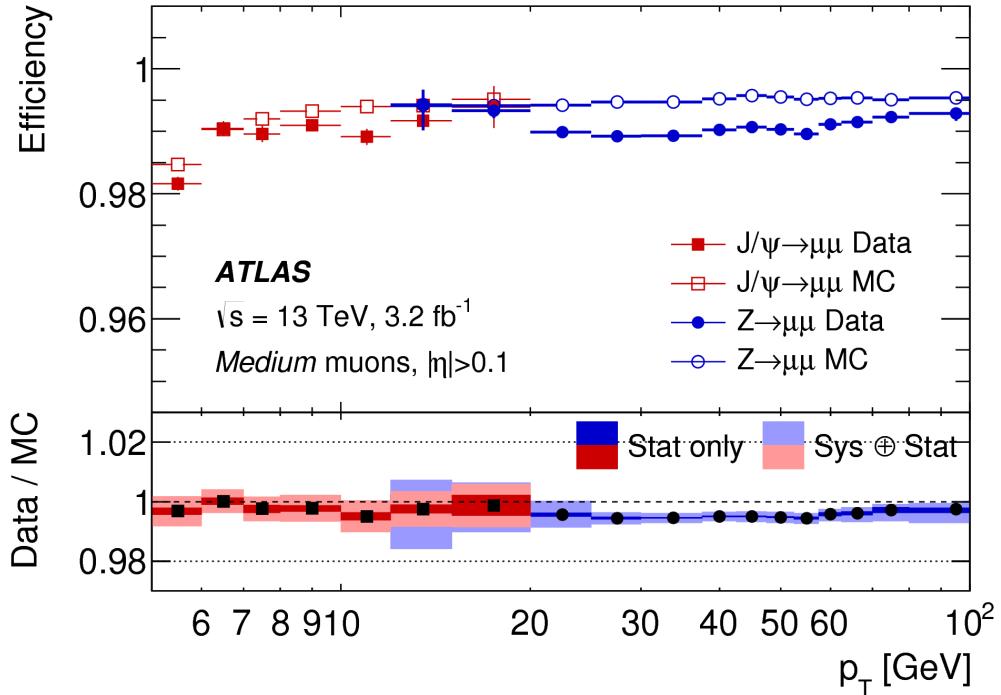


Figure 6.7: Medium muon efficiency as measured in [99].

1159 Jets

1160 Jets are composite objects corresponding to many physical particles [56, 100, 101]
 1161 This is a striking difference from the earlier particles. Fortunately, we normally (and
 1162 in this thesis) care about the original particle produced in primary collision. In the
 1163 SM, this corresponds to quarks and gluons. Due to the hadronization process, free
 1164 quarks and gluons spontaneously hadronize and produce a hadronic shower, which
 1165 we call a jet. These showers can be measured by the EM and hadronic calorimeters,
 1166 and the charged portions can be measured in the ID. The first question is how to
 1167 combine these measurements into a composite object representing the underlying
 1168 physical parton. This is done via jet algorithms.

1169 Jet Algorithms

1170 It might seem straightforward to combine the underlying physical particles into a
1171 jet. There are three important characteristics required for any jet reconstruction
1172 algorithm to be used by ATLAS.

- 1173 • Collinear safety - if any particle with four-vector p is replaced by two particles
1174 of p_1, p_2 with $p = p_1 + p_2$, the subsequent jet should not change

1175 • Radiative (infrared) safety - if any particle with four-vector p radiates a particle
1176 of energy $\alpha \rightarrow 0$, the subsequent jet should not change

1177 • Fast - the jet algorithm should be “fast enough” to be useable by ATLAS
1178 computing resources

1179 The first two requirements can be seen in terms of requirements on soft gluon emission.
1180 Since partons emit arbitrarily soft gluons freely, one should expect the algorithms
1181 to not be affected by this emission. The final requirement is of course a practical
1182 limitation.

The algorithms in use by ATLAS (and CMS) which satisfies these requirements are collectively known as the k_T algorithms [102–104]. These algorithms iteratively combine the “closest” objects, defined using the following distance measures :

$$d_{ij} = \min(k_{T,i}^{2p}, k_{T,j}^{2p}) \frac{\Delta_{ij}^2}{R^2} \quad (6.4)$$
$$d_{iB} = k_{Ti}^{2p}$$

1183 In Eq.6.4, k_T, i is the transverse momentum of i -th jet *constituent*, Δ_{ij} is the angular
1184 distance between the constituents. Both R and p are adjustable parameters: R is
1185 known as the (jet) *cone size* and p regulates the power of the energy versus the
1186 geometrical scales. The algorithm sequence, for a given set of objects i with four-
1187 vector k :

- 1188 1. Find the minimum distance in the set of all d_{ij} and d_{iB} .

1189 2. If the distance is one of the d_{ij} , combine the input pair of object i, j and return
1190 to (1). If the distance is one of the d_{iB} , remove the object from the list, call it
1191 a jet, and return to (1).

1192 This process ends when all objects i have been added to a jet.

1193 Any choice of (p, R) has the requirements of collinear and radiative safety. In
1194 essence, the choice is then to optimize based on speed and the potential for new
1195 physics discoveries. In ATLAS, we make the choice of $p = -1$ which is also known
1196 as the *anti- k_T* algorithm. The choice of $R = 0.4$ is used for the distance parameter of
1197 the jets.

1198 The primary “nice” quality of this algorithm can be seen with the following
1199 example. Consider three inputs to an anti- k_T algorithm, all with $\eta = 0$:

- 1200 • Object 1 : $(p_T, \phi) = (30 \text{ GeV}, 0)$
1201 • Object 2 : $(p_T, \phi) = (20 \text{ GeV}, -0.2)$
1202 • Object 3 : $(p_T, \phi) = (10 \text{ GeV}, 0.2)$
1203 • Object 4 : $(p_T, \phi) = (1 \text{ GeV}, 0.5)$

1204 . In the case shown, it seems natural to first combine the “bigger” objects 1 and 2.
1205 These then pick up the extra small object 3, and object 4 is not included in the jet.
1206 This is exactly what is done by the anti- k_T algorithm. The (normal) k_T algorithm with
1207 $p = 1$ instead combines the smallest objects, 3 and 4, first. Object 1 and 2 combine
1208 to form their own jet, instead of these jets picking up object 3. This behavior is not
1209 ideal due to the effects of pileup, as we will see in the next section.

1210 Jet Reconstruction

1211 In ATLAS, jets are reconstructed using multiple different objects as inputs, including
1212 tracks, “truth” objects, calorimeter clusters, and *particle flow objects* (PFOs). For

1213 physics analyses, ATLAS primarily uses jets reconstructed from calorimeter clusters,
1214 but we will describe the others here, as they are often used for derivations of
1215 systematic uncertainties or future prospects.

1216 Calorimeter jets are reconstructed using topoclusters using the anti- k_T algorithm
1217 with $R = 0.4$. The jet reconstruction algorithm is run on the collection of all
1218 topoclusters reconstructed as in Sec.6.1. Both EM and LCW scale clusters are used
1219 in the ATLAS reconstruction software and produce two sets of jets for analysis. As
1220 stated above, this thesis presents an analysis using jets reconstructed using EM scale
1221 clusters, which we refer to these as *EM jets*.

1222 Tracks can be used as inputs to jet reconstruction algorithms. Jets reconstructed
1223 from tracks are known as *track jets*. Since the ID tracks do not measure neutral
1224 objects, these jets measure an incorrect energy. However, these are still useful for
1225 checks and derivations of systematic uncertainties.

1226 *Truth* jets are reconstructed from *truth* particles. In this case, truth is jargon for
1227 simulation. In simulation, the actual simulated particles are available and used as
1228 inputs to the jet reconstruction algorithms. Similarly to track jets, these are not useful
1229 in and of themselves. Instead, truth jets are used for comparisons and derivations of
1230 systematic uncertainties.

1231 The last object used as inputs to jet reconstruction algorithms are *particle flow*
1232 *objects* (PFOs). These are used extensively as the primary input to jet particle
1233 reconstruction algorithms by the CMS collaboration[105]. Particle flow objects are
1234 reconstructed by associating tracks and clusters through a combination of angular
1235 distance measures and detector response measurements to create a composite object
1236 which contains information from both the ID and the calorimeters. For calorimeter
1237 clusters which do not have any associated ID track, the cluster is simply the PFO.
1238 The natural association between tracks and clusters provides easy pileup subtraction
1239 since tracks are easily associated to the primary vertex. This technique is generally

1240 used in CMS, and ATLAS has been slow to adopt the same. As pileup has increased,
1241 the utility of using PFOs as inputs to jet reconstruction has increased as well.

1242 Jet Calibration

1243 Jets as described in the last section are still *uncalibrated*. Even correcting the cluster
1244 energies using the LCW does not fully correct the jet energy, due to particles losing
1245 energy in the calorimeters. The solution to this is the *jet energy scale* (JES). The
1246 JES is a series of calibrations which on average restore the correct truth jet energy
1247 for a given reconstructed jet. These steps are shown in Fig.6.8 and described here.

1248 The first step is the origin correction. This adjusts the jet to point at the
1249 primary vertex. Next, is the jet-area based pileup correction. This step subtracts
1250 the “average” pileup as measured by the energy density ρ outside of the jets and
1251 assumes this is a good approximation for the pileup inside the jet. One then removes
1252 energy $\Delta E = \rho \times A_{\text{jet}}$ in this step. The residual pileup correction makes a final offset
1253 correction by parametrizing the change in jet energy as a function of the number of
1254 primary vertices N_{PV} and the average number of interactions μ .

1255 The next step is the most important single correction, known as the AbsoluteEta-
1256 JES step. Due to the use of non-compensation and sampling calorimeters in ATLAS,
1257 the measured energy of a jet is a fraction of the true energy of the outgoing parton.
1258 Additionally, due to the use of different technologies and calorimeters throughout the
1259 detector, there are directional biases induced by these effects. The correction bins a
1260 multiplicative factor in p_{T} and η which scales the reconstructed jets to corresponding
1261 truth jet p_{T} . This step does not entirely correct the jets, since it is entirely a
1262 simulation-based approach.

1263 The final steps are known as the global sequential calibration (GSC) and the
1264 residual in-situ calibration. The GSC uses information about the jet showering shape
1265 to apply additional corrections based on the expected shape of gluon or quark jets.

1266 The final step is the residual in-situ calibration, which is only applied to data. This
1267 step uses well-measured objects recoiling off a jet to provide a final correction to the
1268 jets in data. In the low p_T region ($20 \text{ GeV} \sim < p_{T,\text{jet}} \sim < 200 \text{ GeV}$), $Z \rightarrow ll$ events are
1269 used as a reference object. In the middle p_T region ($100 \text{ GeV} \sim < p_{T,\text{jet}} \sim < 600 \text{ GeV}$),
1270 the reference object is a photon, while in the high p_T region ($p_{T,\text{jet}} \sim > 200 \text{ GeV}$),
1271 the high p_T jet is compared to multiple smaller p_T jets. The reference object is this
1272 group of multijets. After this final correction, the data and MC scales are identical
1273 up to the corresponding uncertainties. The combined JES uncertainty as a function
1274 of p_T is shown in Fig.6.9.

1275 Jet Vertex Tagger

1276 The *jet vertex tagger* (JVT) technique is used to separate pileup jets from those
1277 associated to the hard primary vertex[106]. The technique for doing so first involves
1278 *ghost association*[107]. Ghost association runs the anti- k_T jet clustering algorithm on
1279 a combined collection of the topoclusters and tracks. The tracks *only* momenta are
1280 set to zero², with only the directional information is included. As discussed above,
1281 the anti- k_T algorithm is “big to small”; tracks are associated to the “biggest” jet near
1282 them in (η, ϕ) . This method uniquely associates each track to a jet, without changing
1283 the final jet kinematics.

1284 The JVT technique uses a combination of these track variables to determine the
1285 likelihood that the jet originated at the primary vertex. For jets which have associated
1286 tracks from ghost association, this value ranges from 0 (likely pileup jet) to 1 (likely
1287 hard scatter jet). Jets without associated tracks are assigned $\text{JVT} = -.1$. The
1288 working point of $\text{JVT} > .59$ is used for jets in this thesis.

²Well, not exactly zero, since zero momentum tracks wouldn’t have a well-defined (η, ϕ) coordinate, but set to a value obeying $p_{T,\text{track}} << 400 \text{ MeV} = p_{\text{track,min}}$. This is the minimum momentum for a track to reach the ATLAS inner detector.

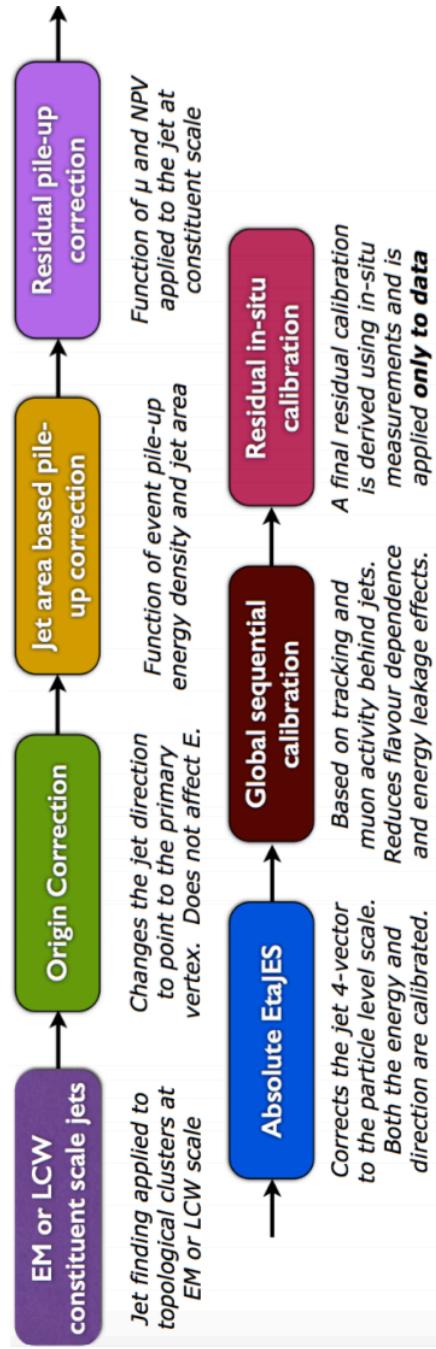


Figure 6.8: The steps used by ATLAS to calibrate jets

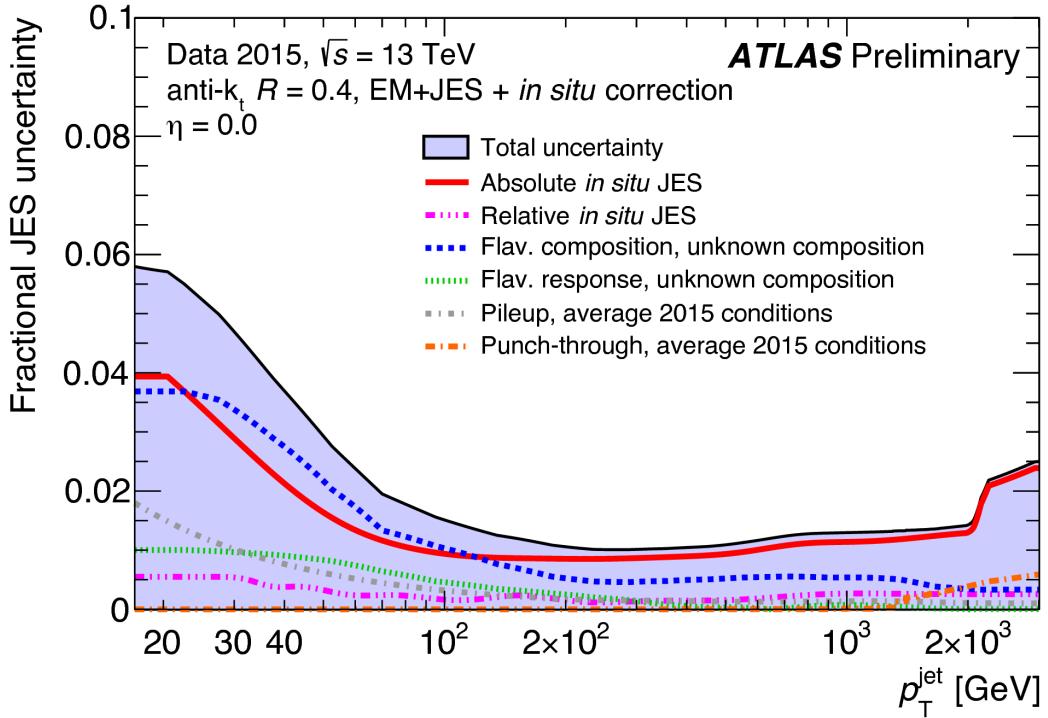


Figure 6.9: Combined jet energy scale uncertainty as a function of p_T at $\eta = 0$.

1289 B-jets

1290 Jets originating from bottom quarks (b-jets) are interesting physical phenomena that
 1291 can be *tagged* by the ATLAS detector[Aad:2015ydr, 108]. B-hadrons, which have
 1292 a comparatively long lifetime compared to hadrons consisting of lighter quarks, can
 1293 travel a macroscopic distance inside the ATLAS detector. The high-precision tracking
 1294 detectors identify the secondary vertices from these decays and the jet matched to
 1295 that vertex is called a *b-jet*. The “MV2c10” algorithm, based on boosted decision
 1296 trees, identifies these jets using a combination of variables sensitive to the difference
 1297 between light-quark and b-quark jets. The efficiency of this tagger is 77%, with a
 1298 rejection factor of 134 for light-quarks and 6 for charm jets.

1299 **Missing Transverse Momentum**

1300 Missing transverse momentum E_T^{miss} [109] is a key observable in searches for new
1301 physics, especially in SUSY searches[110, 111]. However, E_T^{miss} is not a uniquely
1302 defined object when considered from the detector perspective (as compared to the
1303 Feynammn diagram), and it is useful to understand the choices that affect the
1304 performance of this observable in searches for new physics.

1305 **E_T^{miss} Definitions**

Hard objects refers to all physical objects as defined in the previous sections. The
 E_T^{miss} reconstruction procedure uses these hard objects and the *soft term* to provide
a value and direction of the missing transverse momentum. The $E_{x(y)}^{\text{miss}}$ components
are calculated as:

$$E_{x(y)}^{\text{miss}} = E_{x(y)}^{\text{miss, } e} + E_{x(y)}^{\text{miss, } \gamma} + E_{x(y)}^{\text{miss, jets}} + E_{x(y)}^{\text{miss, } \mu} + E_{x(y)}^{\text{miss, soft}}, \quad (6.5)$$

1306 where each value $E_{x(y)}^{\text{miss, } i}$ is the negative vectorial sum of the calibrated objects defined
1307 in the previous sections.

1308 For purposes of E_T^{miss} reconstruction, we must assign an ordering of *overlap*
1309 *removal*. This is to avoid double counting of the underlying primitive objects (clusters
1310 and tracks) which are inputs to the reconstruction of the physics objects. We resolve
1311 this in the following order : electrons, photons , jets and muons. This is motivated
1312 by the performance of the reconstruction of these objects in the calorimeters.

1313 The soft term $E_{x(y)}^{\text{miss, soft}}$ contains all of the primitive objects which are not
1314 associated to any of the reconstructed physics objects. Of course, we need to choose
1315 which primitive object to use. The primary choices which have been used within
1316 ATLAS are the *calorimeter-based soft term* (CST) and the *track-based soft term*
1317 (TST). Based on the soft term choice, we then call E_T^{miss} built with a CST (TST)

1318 soft term simply CST (TST) E_T^{miss} . An additional option, which will be important
1319 as pileup continues to increase, particle flow E_T^{miss} (PFlow E_T^{miss}).

1320 The CST E_T^{miss} was used for much of the early ATLAS data-taking. CST E_T^{miss} is
1321 built from the calibrated hard objects, combined with the calorimeter clusters which
1322 are *not* assigned to any of those hard objects. In the absence of pileup, it provides the
1323 best answer for the “true” E_T^{miss} in a given event, due to the impressive hermiticity of
1324 the calorimeters. Unfortunately, the calorimeters do not know “where” from where
1325 their energy deposition came, and thus CST is susceptible to drastically reduced
1326 performance as pileup is increased.

1327 TST E_T^{miss} is the standard for ATLAS searches as currently performed by ATLAS.
1328 TST E_T^{miss} is built by using the calibrated hard objects and the soft term is built from
1329 the tracks which are not assigned to any of those hard objects. In particular, due
1330 to the impressive track-vertex association efficiency, one chooses tracks which only
1331 come from the primary vertex. This drastically reduces the pileup contributions to
1332 the E_T^{miss} measurement. However, since the ID tracking system is unable to measure
1333 neutral objects, the TST E_T^{miss} is “wrong”. This bias is important to understand for
1334 many measurements. However, in most searches for new physics, the soft E_T^{miss} is
1335 generally a small fraction of the total E_T^{miss} , and thus this bias is not particularly
1336 hurtful.

1337 PFlow E_T^{miss} uses the PFOs described above to build the E_T^{miss} . The PFOs which
1338 are assigned to hard objects are calibrated, and the PFOs which are not assigned
1339 to any hard object are added to the soft term. In this context, it is convenient to
1340 distinguish between “charged” and “neutral” PFOs. Charged PFOs can be seen as a
1341 topocluster which has an associated track, while neutral PFOs do not. This charged
1342 PFO is essentially a topocluster that we are “sure” comes from the primary vertex.
1343 The neutral PFOs are in the same status as the original topoclusters. Thus a “full”
1344 PFlow E_T^{miss} should have performance somewhere between TST E_T^{miss} and CST E_T^{miss} ³.

1345 A *charged* PFlow E_T^{miss} should for sanity be the same as TST.

1346 **Measuring E_T^{miss} Performance : event selection**

1347 The question is now straightforward: how do we compare these different algorithms?
1348 We compare these algorithms in $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell + \text{jets}$ and $W \rightarrow \ell\nu + \text{jets}$ events. Due to
1349 the presence of leptons, these events are well-measured “standard candles”. Here
1350 we present the results in early 2015 data with $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ and $W \rightarrow e\nu$ events, as
1351 shown in [112, 113]. This result was important to assure the integrity of the E_T^{miss}
1352 measurements at the higher energy and pileup environment of Run-2.

1353 The $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$ selection is used to measure the intrinsic E_T^{miss} resolution of the
1354 detector. The only possible source of neutrinos in these decays is from heavy-flavor
1355 decays inside of jets, and thus $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$ events they have very low E_T^{miss} . This provides
1356 an ideal event topology to understand the modelling of E_T^{miss} mismeasurement.
1357 Candidate $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ events are first required to pass a muon or electron trigger, as
1358 described in Table 5.1. Offline, the selection of $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ events requires exactly two
1359 medium muons. The muons are required to have opposite charge and $p_T > 25 \text{ GeV}$,
1360 and mass of the dimuon system is required to be consistent with the Z mass
1361 $|m_{ll} - m_Z| < 25 \text{ GeV}$.

$W \rightarrow \ell\nu$ events are an important topology to evaluate the E_T^{miss} modelling in
an event with real E_T^{miss} . This E_T^{miss} is from the neutrino, which is not detected.
The E_T^{miss} in these events has a characteristic distribution with a peak at $\frac{1}{2}m_W$. The
selection of $W \rightarrow e\nu$ events begins with the selection of exactly one electron of medium
quality. A selection on TST $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 25 \text{ GeV}$ drastically reduces the background from
multijet events where the jet fakes an electron. The transverse mass is used to select

³Naively, due to approximate isospin symmetry, about 2/3 of the hadrons will be charged and 1/3 will be neutral.

the $W \rightarrow e\nu$ events :

$$m_T = \sqrt{2p_T^\ell E_T^{\text{miss}}(1 - \cos \Delta\phi)}, \quad (6.6)$$

1362 where $\Delta\phi$ is the difference in the ϕ between the E_T^{miss} and the electron. m_T is required
1363 to be greater than 50 GeV.

1364 There are two main ingredients to investigate : the E_T^{miss} resolution and the E_T^{miss}
1365 scale.

1366 **Measuring E_T^{miss} Performance in early 2015 data : metrics**

1367 To compare these algorithms we use the E_T^{miss} resolution, E_T^{miss} scale, and the
1368 linearity. Representative distributions of TST E_x^{miss} , E_y^{miss} , and E_T^{miss} from early
1369 2015 datataking are shown in Fig.6.10.

The E_T^{miss} resolution is an important variable due to the fact that the bulk of the distributions associated to $E_{x(y)}^{\text{miss}}$ are Gaussian distributed [Aad2012]. However, to properly measure the tails of this distribution, especially when considering non-calorimeter based soft terms, it is important to use the root-mean square as the proper measure of the resolution. This is strictly larger than a resolution as measured using a fit to a Gaussian, due to the long tails from i.e. track mismeasurements. The resolution is measured with respect to two separate variables : $\sum E_T$ and N_{PV} . $\sum E_T$ is an important measure of the “total event activity”. It is defined as

$$\sum E_T = \sum p_T^e + \sum p_T^\gamma + \sum p_T^\tau + \sum p_T^{\text{jets}} + \sum p_T^\mu + \sum p_T^{\text{soft}}. \quad (6.7)$$

1370 The measurement as a function of N_{PV} is useful to understand the degradation of
1371 E_T^{miss} performance with increasing pileup. Figure 6.11 shows the E_T^{miss} resolution in
1372 the early 2015 data. The degradation of the E_T^{miss} performance is shown as a function
1373 of pileup N_{PV} and total event activity $\sum E_T$.

Another important performance metric is the E_T^{miss} scale, or how “right” we are in our E_T^{miss} calculation. This can be off in various directions, as CST E_T^{miss} contains

additional particles from pileup, while soft neutral particles⁴ are ignored by TST E_T^{miss} .

To measure this in data, we again use $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ events, where the $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ system is treated as a well-measured reference object. The component of E_T^{miss} which is in the same direction as the reconstructed $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ system is sensitive to potential biases in the detector response. The unit vector \mathbf{A}_Z of the Z system is defined as

$$\mathbf{A}_Z = \frac{\vec{p}_T^{\ell^+} + \vec{p}_T^{\ell^-}}{|\vec{p}_T^{\ell^+} + \vec{p}_T^{\ell^-}|}, \quad (6.8)$$

where $\vec{p}_T^{\ell^+}$ and $\vec{p}_T^{\ell^-}$ are the transverse momenta of the leptons from the Z boson decay. The relevant scale metric is then the mean value of the \vec{E}_T^{miss} projected onto \mathbf{A}_Z : $\langle \vec{E}_T^{\text{miss}} \cdot \mathbf{A}_Z \rangle$. In Figure 6.12, the scale is shown for the early 2015 dataset. The negative bias, which is maximized at about 5 GeV, is a reflection of two separate effects. The soft neutral particles are missed by the tracking system, and thus ignored in TST E_T^{miss} . Missed particles due to the limited ID acceptance can also affect the scale.

For events with real E_T^{miss} , one can also look at the *linearity* in simulation. This is defined as

$$\text{linearity} = \left\langle \frac{E_T^{\text{miss}} - E_T^{\text{miss,Truth}}}{E_T^{\text{miss,Truth}}} \right\rangle. \quad (6.9)$$

$E_T^{\text{miss,Truth}}$ refers to “truth” particles as defined before, or the magnitude of the vector sum of all noninteracting particles. The linearity is expected to be zero if the E_T^{miss} is reconstructed at the correct scale.

1384 Particle Flow Performance

As described above, the resolution, scale, and linearity are the most important metrics to understand the performance of the different E_T^{miss} algorithms. In this section, we present comparisons of the different algorithms, including particle flow, in simulation

⁴“Soft” here means those particles which are not hard enough to be reconstructed as their own particle, using the reconstruction algorithms above.

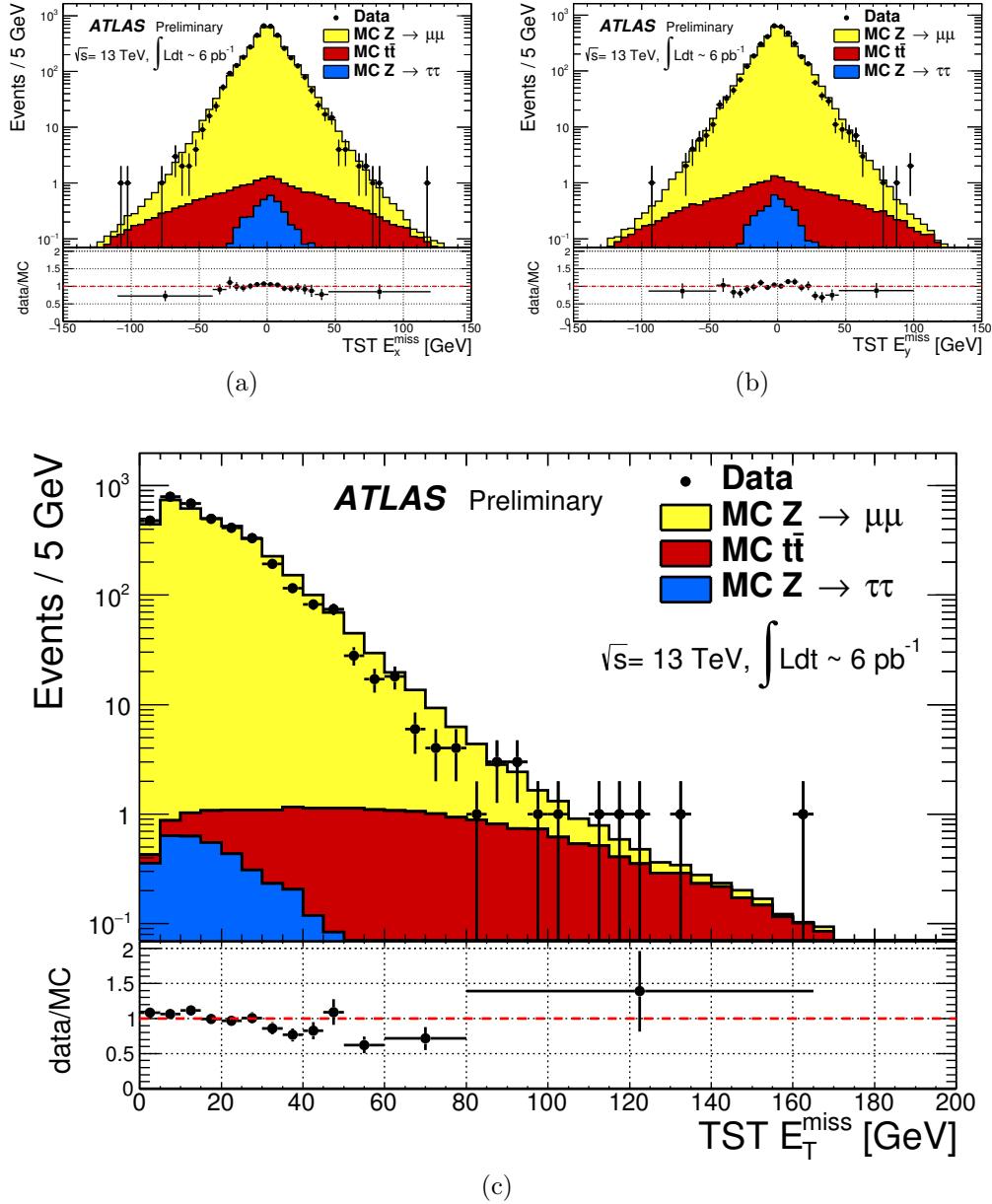


Figure 6.10: TST E_{x}^{miss} , E_{y}^{miss} , and $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$ distributions of early $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV data compared with simulation after the $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ selection described in Sec. 6.2. The data sample consists of 6 pb^{-1} .

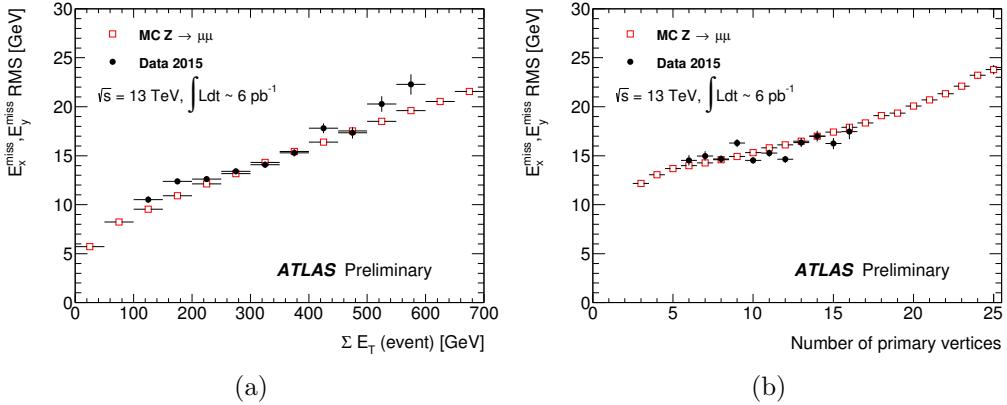


Figure 6.11: Resolution of TST E_T^{miss} of early $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV data compared with simulation after the $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ selection described in Sec.6.2. The data sample consists of 6 pb^{-1} .

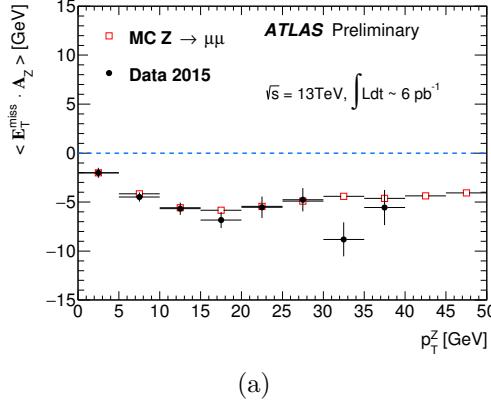


Figure 6.12: Scale of TST E_T^{miss} of early $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV data compared with simulation after the $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ selection described in Sec.6.2. The data sample consists of 6 pb^{-1} .

1388 and using a data sample from 2015 of 80 pb^{-1} . In these plots, ‘‘MET_PFlow-TST’’
 1389 refers to charged PFlow E_T^{miss} , while the other algorithms are as described above.

1390 Figures ?? show the resolution and scale in simulated $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ events. The
 1391 resolution curves follow the ‘‘intuitive’’ behavior discussed before. Due to the high
 1392 pileup in 2015 run conditions, the CST E_T^{miss} resolution is poor, and becomes even
 1393 poorer with increasing pileup and event activity. The ‘‘regular’’ PFlow E_T^{miss} shows
 1394 reduces pileup and event activity dependence as compared to the CST. As stated
 1395 earlier, the E_T^{miss} from the PFlow algorithm can be seen as a hybrid of TST E_T^{miss}

1396 and CST E_T^{miss} . The charged PFOs ($\sim 2/3$) are pileup suppressed, while the neutral
1397 PFOs (or topoclusters) are not. Both charged PFlow and TST E_T^{miss} show only a
1398 small residual dependence on N_{PV} and $\sum E_T$, since they have fully pileup suppressed
1399 inputs through the track associations.

1400 The scale plots are shown for $Z + \text{jets}$ events and Z events with no jets. For the
1401 nonsuppressed CST, the scale continues to worsen with increasing p_T^Z . It is almost
1402 always the worst performing algorithm. The standard PFlow algorithm performs the
1403 second worst in the region of high p_T^Z , but is the best at low p_T^Z . The most exciting note
1404 in this plot is the improved scale of the charged PFlow E_T^{miss} compared to the TST
1405 E_T^{miss} . Considering the resolution is essentially identical, the PFlow algorithm is better
1406 picking up the contributions from additional neutral particles. In events with no jets,
1407 the soft term is essentially the only indication of the E_T^{miss} mismeasurement, since
1408 the muons will be well-measured. In this case, the pileup effects cancel, on average,
1409 due to the $U(1)_\phi$ symmetry of the ATLAS detector, and CST performs rather well
1410 compared to the more complicated track-based algorithms. The full PFlow algorithm
1411 performs best, since it provides a small amount of pileup suppression on the neutral
1412 components from CST.

1413 The resolution and linearity are shown in simulated $W \rightarrow e\nu$ events in Figure ???.
1414 The resolution in $W \rightarrow e\nu$ events shows a similar qualitative behavior to that shown
1415 in $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ events. The CST E_T^{miss} has the worst performance, with charged PFlow
1416 E_T^{miss} performing best. The surprise here is that the scale associated to TST E_T^{miss} in
1417 these events is best throughout the space parameterized by $E_T^{\text{miss,Truth}}$, except for one
1418 bin at $40 \text{ GeV} < E_T^{\text{miss,Truth}} < 50 \text{ GeV}$. The scale in these events is best measured
1419 using a track-based soft term.

1420 The resolution also investigated in real data passing the $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ selection
1421 described above. A comparison of the E_T^{miss} between real data and simulation for
1422 each algorithm is presented in Figure 6.16. The resolution as a function of $\sum E_T$ and

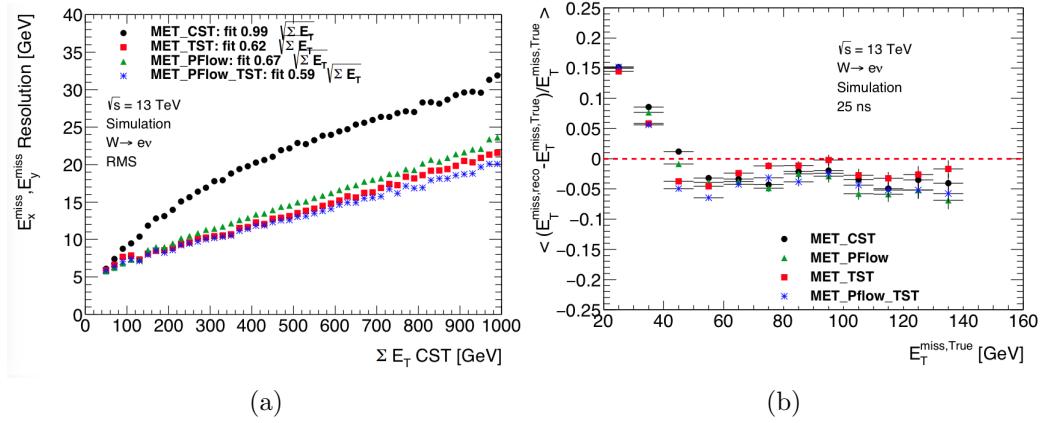


Figure 6.13: Comparison of E_T^{miss} resolution and linearity using different E_T^{miss} algorithms with simulated $W \rightarrow e\nu$ events.

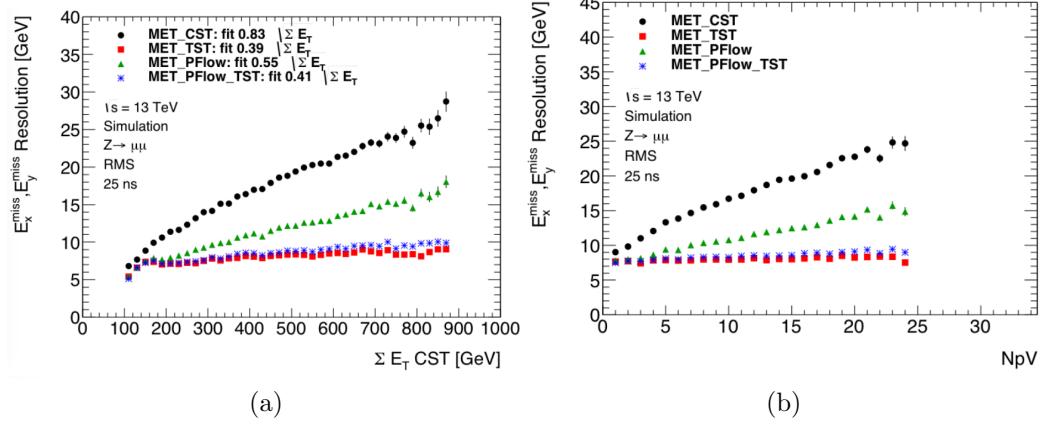


Figure 6.14: Comparison of E_T^{miss} resolution using different E_T^{miss} algorithms with simulated $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ events.

1423 N_{PV} is shown in Figure 6.17 for this dataset. Overall, this plot shows the same general
 1424 features as the simulation dataset in terms of algorithm performance. However, the
 1425 performance of all algorithms seems to be significantly worse in data. This is likely due
 1426 to simplifications made in the simulation: soft interactions that cannot be simulated
 1427 can have a significant effect on an event level variable such as the E_T^{miss} resolution.

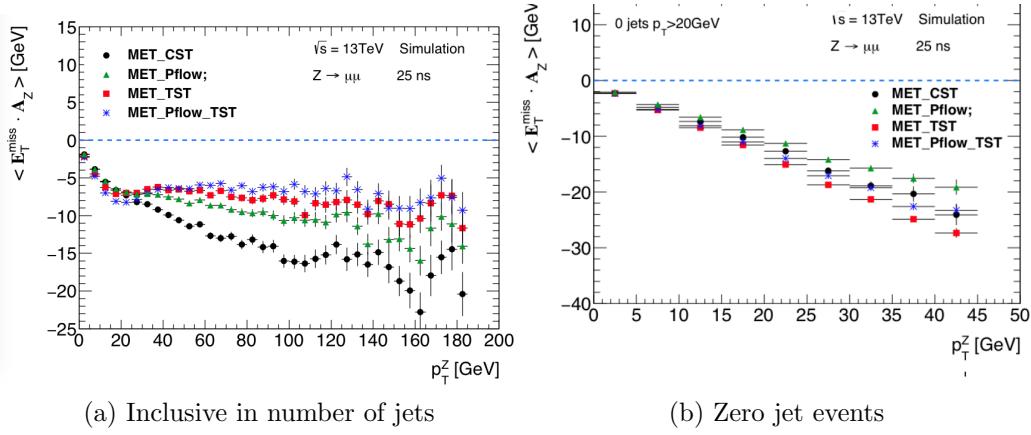


Figure 6.15: Comparison of E_T^{miss} scale using different E_T^{miss} algorithms with simulated $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ events.

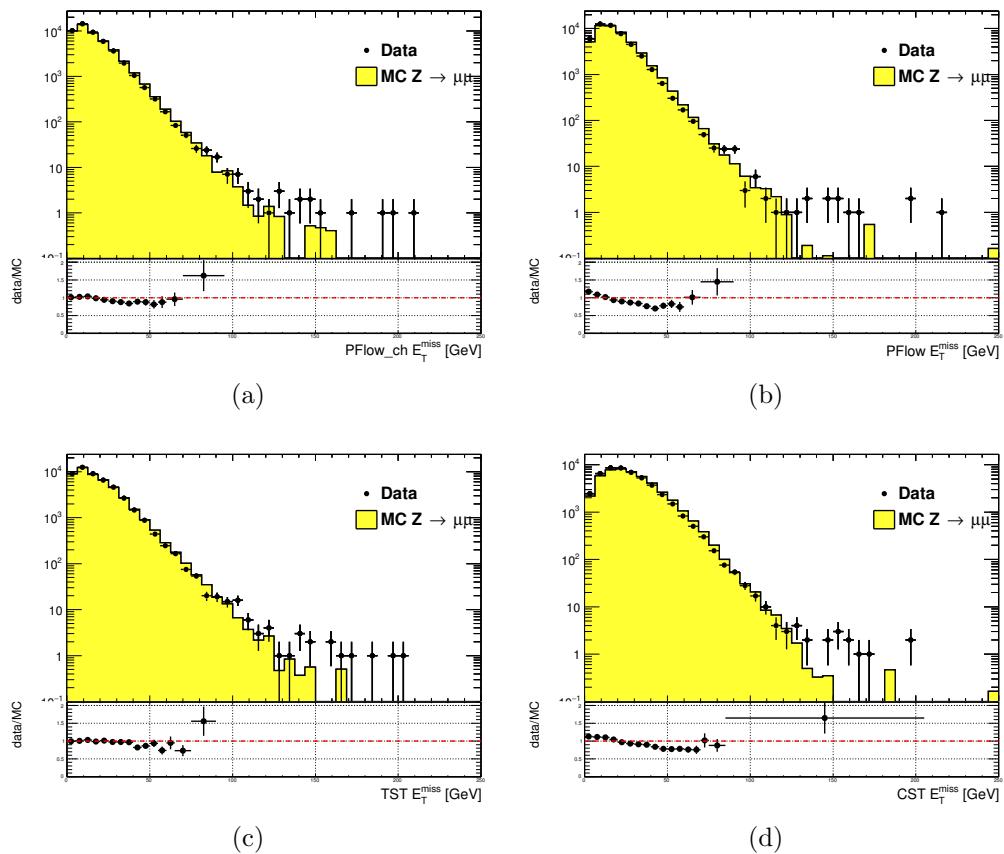


Figure 6.16: Comparison of E_T^{miss} distributions using different E_T^{miss} algorithms with a data sample of 80 pb^{-1} after the $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ selection described in Sec. 6.2

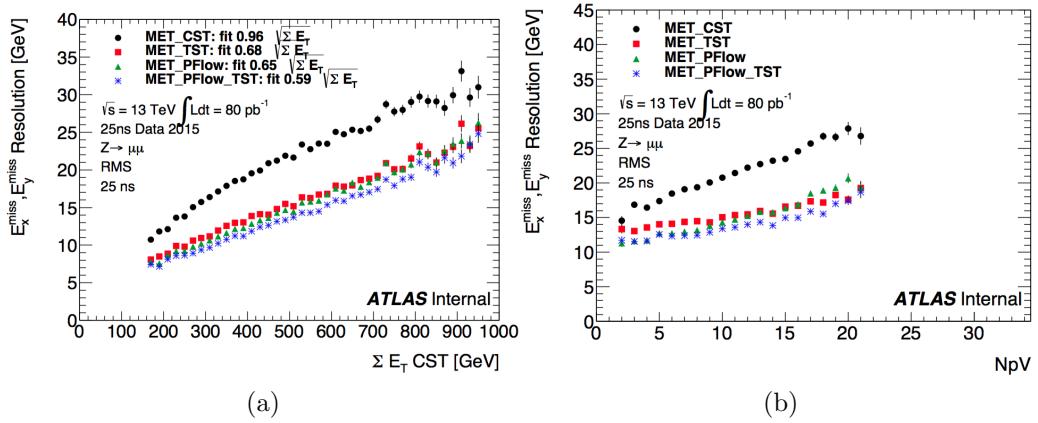


Figure 6.17: Comparison of E_T^{miss} resolution using different E_T^{miss} algorithms with a data sample of 80 pb^{-1} after the $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ selection described in Sec.6.2

Recursive Jigsaw Reconstruction

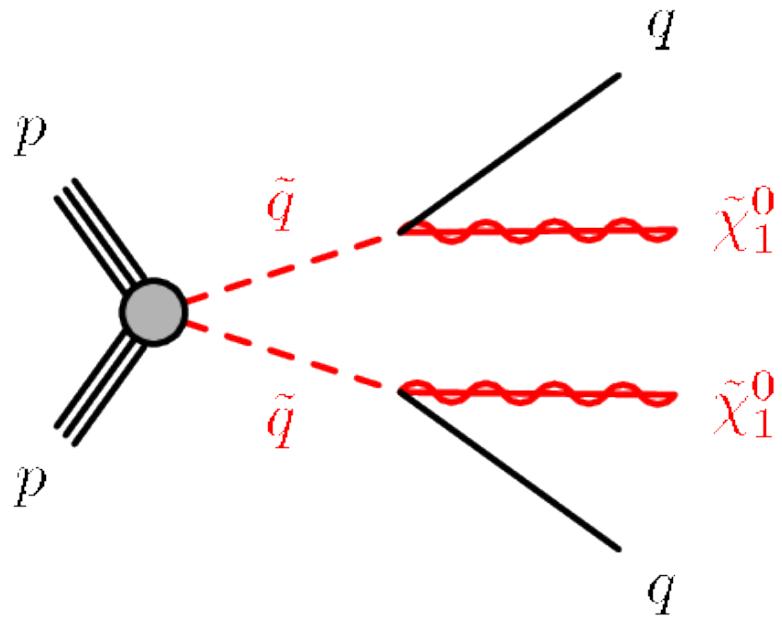
1430 *Recursive Jigsaw Reconstruction* (RJR) [114, 115] is a novel algorithm used for the
 1431 analysis presented in this thesis. RJR is the conceptual successor to the razor
 1432 technique [116, 117], which has been used successfully in many new physics searches
 1433 [37, 38, 40, 41, 47, 118]. In this chapter, we will first present the razor technique,
 1434 and describe the razor variables. We will then present the RJR algorithm. After the
 1435 description of the algorithm, we will describe the precise RJR variables used by this
 1436 thesis and attempt to provide some physical intuition of what they describe.

7.1 Razor variables

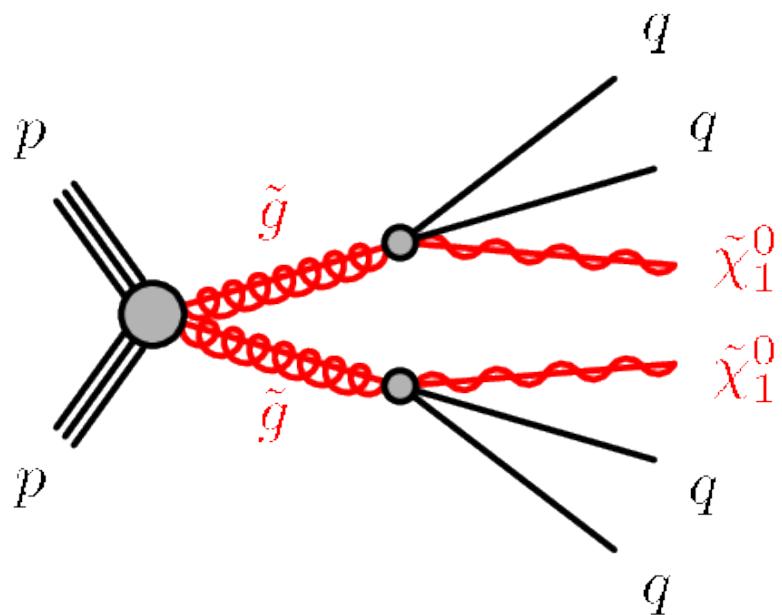
Motivation

1439 In this thesis, we consider SUSY models where gluinos and squarks are pair-produced.
 1440 Pair-production is a consequence of the R -parity imposed in many SUSY models.
 1441 R -parity violation is highly constrained by limits on proton decay[15], and is often
 1442 assumed in SUSY model building. The Feynman diagrams considered are shown in
 1443 Fig.7.1.

1444 As discussed previously, the consequences of this \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry are drastic. To un-
 1445 derstand the utility of the razor variables, the stability of the lightest supersymmetric
 1446 particle is very important. In many SUSY models, including the ones considered in
 1447 this thesis, this is the lightest neutralino $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$. This means that on either side of a
 1448 SUSY decay process, where we begin with disparticle production, we have a final



(a) Disquark production



(b) Digluino production

Figure 7.1: Feynman diagrams for the SUSY signals considered in this thesis

1449 state particle which is not detected. Generically, this leads to E_T^{miss} . Selections based
1450 on E_T^{miss} are very good at reducing dominant backgrounds, for example from QCD
1451 backgrounds.

1452 However, there are limitations to searches based on E_T^{miss} . Due to jet mismeasurements,
1453 instrumental failures, finite detector acceptance, nongaussian tails in the
1454 detector response, and production of neutrinos inside of jets, there are many sources of
1455 “fake” E_T^{miss} which does not correspond to a Standard Model neutrino or new physics
1456 object such as an LSP. An additional limitation is the complete lack of longitudinal
1457 information. As events from i.e. QCD backgrounds tend to have higher boosts along
1458 the z -direction, this is ignoring an important handle in searches for new physics.
1459 Finally, E_T^{miss} is only one object, which is a measurement for *two* separate LSPs. If one
1460 could factorize this information somehow, this would provide additional information
1461 to potentially discriminate against backgrounds. The *razor variables* (M_{Δ}^R, R^2) are
1462 more robust than standard variables against these effects[[116](#), [117](#)].

1463 Derivation of the razor variables

1464 To derive the razor variables (M_{Δ}^R, R^2), we start with a generic situation of the pair
1465 production of heavy sparticles with mass m_{Heavy} .¹ Each sparticle decays to a number
1466 of observable objects (in this thesis, jets), and an unobservable $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ of mass $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$. We
1467 will combine all of the jets into a *megajet*; this process will be described below. We
1468 begin by analyzing the decay in the “rough-approximation”, or in modern parlance,
1469 *razor frame* (*R-frame*). This is the frame where each sparticle is at rest. The complete
1470 set of frames considered in the case of the razor variables is shown in [7.2](#).

In the *R-frame*, the decay is straightforward to analyze. By construction, there
are in fact two *R-frame* s, and they have identical kinematics. Each megajet has

¹The razor variables have undergone confusing notational changes over the years. We will be self-consistent, but the notation used here may be different from references.

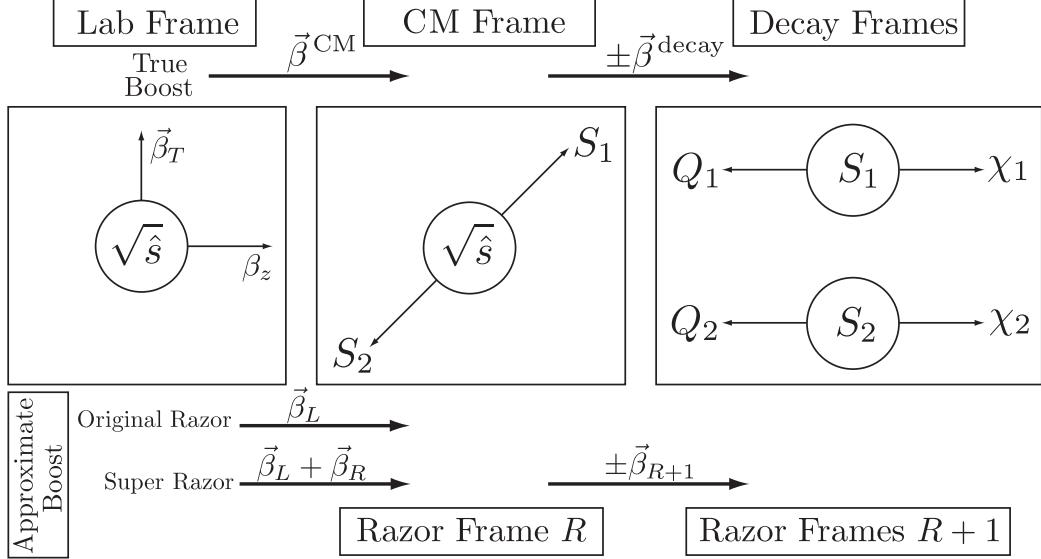


Figure 7.2: Frames considered when applying the razor technique, from [117].

energy E_1^R, E_2^R in the frame of its parent sparticle, and we define a characteristic mass M_R :

$$E_1^R = E_2^R = \frac{m_{\text{Heavy}}^2 - m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}^2}{2m_{\text{Heavy}}} \quad (7.1)$$

$$M_R = 2 \times E_1^R = 2 \times E_2^R = \frac{m_{\text{Heavy}}^2 - m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}^2}{m_{\text{Heavy}}} \quad (7.2)$$

For cases where $m_{\text{Heavy}} \gg m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$, M_R is an estimator of m_{Heavy} . This scenario happens in the SM, such as in $t\bar{t}$ and WW events, where the $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ is instead a neutrino.

The question now is how to use this simple derivation in the lab frame, where we actually have measurements. There are two related issues: how to combine the jets into the megajets, and how to “transform” (or *boost*) to the R -frame.

To construct the megajets, the procedure is the following. For a given set of jets $j_i, i = 0, \dots, n_{\text{jet}}$, we construct *all* combinations of their four-momenta such that there is at least one jet inside each megajet. Among this set of possible megajets $\{J_{1,2}\}$, we make the following unique choice for the megajets. We minimize the following quantity:

$$m_{J_1}^2 + m_{J_2}^2. \quad (7.3)$$

1476 In modern parlance, this is known as a *jigsaw*. It is important to note, this is a
 1477 *choice*. It may have nice physical qualities or satisfy some convenient intuition about
 1478 the events, but as we will see later, other choices are possible.

We now describe how we translate our megajet kinematics, measured in the lab frame, to the R -frame. This is a two-step procedure. We perform two *boosts*: a longitudinal boost β_L and a transverse boost β_T . Schematically,

$$J_1^R \xrightarrow{\beta_T} J_1^{CM} \xrightarrow{\beta_L} J_1^{\text{lab}} \quad (7.4)$$

$$J_2^R \xrightarrow{-\beta_T} J_2^{CM} \xrightarrow{\beta_L} J_2^{\text{lab}} \quad (7.5)$$

$$(7.6)$$

1479 The $J_{1,2}^{\text{lab}}$ correspond directly to those in the megajet construction. We drop the
 1480 “lab” designation for the rest of the discussion. The question is how to compute the
 1481 magnitudes of these boosts, given the missing degrees of freedom.

For the transverse boost β_T , recall the two megajets have equal energies in their R -frame by construction. This constraint can be reexpressed as a constraint on the magnitude of this boost, in terms of the boost velocity β_L (and Lorentz factor γ_L):

$$\beta_T = \frac{\gamma_L(E_1 - E_2) - \gamma_L\beta_L(p_{1,z} - p_{2,z})}{\hat{\beta}_T \cdot (\vec{p}_{1,T} + \vec{p}_{2,T})} \quad (7.7)$$

where we have denoted the lab frame four-vectors as $p_i = (E_i, \vec{p}_{i,T}, p_z)$. We now make the *choice* for the direction of the transverse boost $\hat{\beta}_T$:

$$\hat{\beta}_T = \frac{\vec{p}_{1,T} + \vec{p}_{2,T}}{|\vec{p}_{1,T} + \vec{p}_{2,T}|}. \quad (7.8)$$

1482 This choice forces the denominator of 7.7 to unity, and corresponds to aligning the
 1483 transverse boost direction with the sum of the two megajets transverse directions.

For the longitudinal boost, we choose $\vec{\beta}_L$ along the z -direction, with magnitude:

$$\beta_L = \frac{p_{1,z} + p_{2,z}}{E_1 + E_2}. \quad (7.9)$$

1484 Viewed in terms of the original parton-parton interactions, this is the choice which
 1485 “on average” gives $p_{z,\text{CM}} = 0$, as we would expect. This well-motivated choice due to
 1486 the total z symmetry.

We now have well-motivated guesses for both boosts, which allow us write our original characteristic mass M_R in terms of the lab frame variables, by application of these two Lorentz boosts to the energies of 7.1:

$$M_R^2 \xrightarrow{\beta_T} M_{R,\text{CM}}^2 \xrightarrow{\beta_L} M_{R,\text{lab}}^2 = (E_1 + E_2)^2 - (p_{1,z} + p_{2,z})^2. \quad (7.10)$$

Finally, we define an additional mass variable, which include the missing transverse energy $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$. Importantly, note that we did not use the $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$ in the definition of M_R , which depends only on the energies of the megajets. Backgrounds with no invisible particles (such as multijet events) must have J_1 and J_2 back to back. Thus, we define the transverse mass:

$$(M_R^T)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \left[E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}(p_{1,T} + p_{2,T}) - \vec{E}_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} \cdot (\vec{p}_{1,T} + \vec{p}_{2,T}) \right]. \quad (7.11)$$

Generally, we have $M_R^T < M_R$, so we define a dimensionless ratio (“the razor”):

$$R^2 = \left(\frac{M_R^T}{M_R} \right)^2. \quad (7.12)$$

1487 For signal events, we expect R to peak around $R \sim 1/4$, while backgrounds without
 1488 real $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$ are expected to have $R \sim 0$.

1489 7.2 Recursive Jigsaw Reconstruction

1490 Recursive Jigsaw Reconstruction is an algorithm allowing the imposition of a decay
 1491 tree interpretation on an particular event[114, 115]. The idea is to construct the
 1492 underlying kinematic variables (the masses and decay angles) on an event-by-event
 1493 level. This is done “recursively” through a decay tree which corresponds (sometimes
 1494 approximately) to the Feynmann diagram for the signal process of interest. After

1495 each step of the recursive procedure, the objects are “placed” into one bucket (or
1496 branch) of the decay tree, and the process is repeated on each frame we have imposed.
1497 The imposition of these decay trees is done by *jigsaw* rule: a procedure to resolve
1498 combinatoric or kinematic ambiguities while traversing the decay tree. This procedure
1499 is performed by the `RestFrames` software packages [119]

1500 In events where all objects are fully reconstructed, this is straightforward, and
1501 of course has been used for many years in particle physics experiments. Events
1502 which contain E_T^{miss} are more difficult, due to the loss of information: the potential
1503 for multiple mismeasured or simply unmeasureable objects, such as neutrinos or the
1504 LSP in SUSY searches. There can also be combinatoric ambiguities in deciding how
1505 to group objects of the same type; specifically here, we will be concerned with the
1506 jigsaw rule to associate jets to a particular branch of a decay tree. The jigsaw rules
1507 we impose will remove these ambiguities. First, we will describe the decay trees used
1508 in this thesis, and then describe the jigsaw rules we will use. Finally, we will describe
1509 the variables used in the all-hadronic SUSY search presented in this thesis.

1510 Decay Trees

1511 The decay trees imposed in this thesis are shown in 7.3. Leaving temporarily the
1512 question of “how” we apply the jigsaw rules, let us compare these trees to the signal
1513 processes of interest. In particular, we want to compare the Feynman diagrams of 7.1
1514 with the decay trees of 7.3. The decay tree in ?? corresponds exactly to that expected
1515 from disquark production, and matches very closely with the principles of the razor
1516 approach. We first apply a jigsaw rule, indicated by a line, to the kinematics of the
1517 objects in the *lab* frame. This outputs the kinematics of our event in the *parent-parent*
1518 (*PP*) frame, or in the razor terminology, the CM frame. That is, the kinematics of
1519 this frame are an estimator for the kinematics in the center of mass frame of the
1520 disquark system. We apply another jigsaw, which splits the objects in the *PP* frame

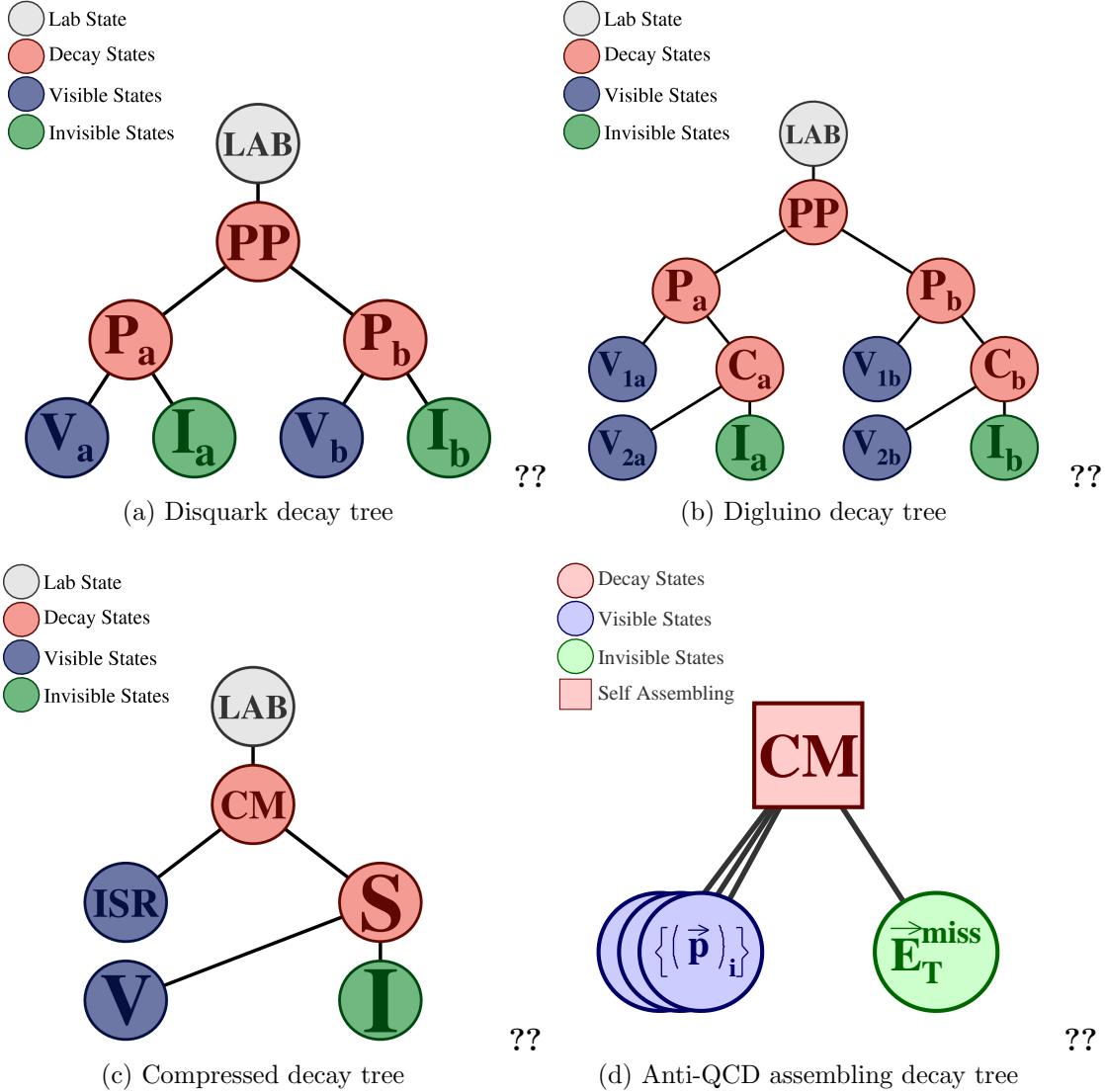


Figure 7.3: RJR decay trees imposed in this thesis

1521 into two new frames, known as the P_a and P_b systems. These are equivalent to the
 1522 razor frames of the razor technique, and represent proxy frames where each squark
 1523 is at rest. In $P_a(P_b)$, the decay is symmetric between the visible $V_a(V_b)$ objects and
 1524 the invisible system $I_a(I_b)$. To generate the estimator of the kinematics of the V_a , V_b ,
 1525 I_a , and I_b systems in the P_a and P_b systems, we apply another jigsaw rule to split the
 1526 total E_T^{miss} between P_a and P_b , which allows calculations of these kinematics in these
 1527 frames. For the case of disquark production, this is the expected decay tree, and we

1528 stop the recursive calculation at that level.

1529 In the case of digluino production, we expect two additional jets, and we can
1530 perform an additional boost in each of P_a and P_b , to what we call the C_a and C_b frames.
1531 The decay tree is shown in ?? . In this case we apply a jigsaw at the level of $P_a(P_b)$
1532 which separates a single visible object V_{1a} (V_{2a}) from the child frame $C_a(C_b)$. This
1533 child frame represents the hypothesized squark after the decay $\tilde{g} \rightarrow g\tilde{q}$, which then
1534 decays as in the squark case. This gives additional information which will be exploited
1535 for the gluino specific search regions.

The third decay tree used in this thesis is the *compressed* decay tree. Compressed refers to signal models which have a small splitting between the mass of the proposed sparticle and the $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$. In this case, the sparticle decay products (i.e. the jets and E_T^{miss}) do not generally have large scale[114]. Instead, the strategy is generally to look for a large-scale initial state radiation (ISR) jet which is recoiling off the disparticle system. In the case where the LSPs receive no momentum from the sparticle decays, the following approximation holds:

$$E_T^{\text{miss}} \sim -p_T^{\text{ISR}} \times \frac{m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}}{m_{\text{sparticle}}} \quad (7.13)$$

1536 where p_T^{ISR} is the transverse momentum associated to the entire ISR system.

1537 RJR offers a natural and straightforward way to exploit this feature in events
1538 containing ISR. One imposes the simple decay tree in ?? with associated jigsaw rules.
1539 With suitable jigsaw rules, this decay tree “picks out” the large p_T ISR jet, recoiling
1540 off the E_T^{miss} and additional radiation from the sparticle decays. This provides a
1541 convenient set of variables to understand compressed scenarios.

1542 There is one other decay tree, shown in ?? . This is special, as it is only used for
1543 the purpose of QCD rejection, and does not directly map to a sparticle decay chain.
1544 Due to the large production cross-sections of QCD events, even very rare large jet
1545 mismeasurements can lead to significant E_T^{miss} which can enter the signal region. To
1546 reduce these backgrounds, one usually rejects events which contain jets which are

1547 “too close” by some distance metric to the E_T^{miss} in the event. Generally, in the past,
1548 the distance metric has been defined as simply the angular distance ΔR .

1549 The *self-assembling tree* can be seen as defining a distance metric which depends
1550 on the magnitudes of the E_T^{miss} and jets rather than simply their distance in angular
1551 space. Depending on the exact kinematics, the one or two closest jets are found, and
1552 label the E_T^{miss} *siblings*.

1553 In this section, we have seen how one imposes particular decay trees on an event
1554 to produce a basis of kinematic variables in the approximated frames relevant to
1555 the hypothesized sparticle decay chain. This explains why we call this procedure
1556 “recursive”: we can continue the procedure through as many steps of a decay tree as
1557 we want, and each application of a jigsaw rule is dependent on the variables produced
1558 in the last step. The question, of course, is *what are these jigsaw rules?*.

1559 Jigsaw Rules

1560 Jigsaw rules are the fundamental step that allow the recursive definitions of the
1561 variables of interest. We want rules which allow us to fully define kinematic variables
1562 at each step in a decay tree. The only possible solution to fully define the event
1563 kinematics in terms of the frames of the hypothesized decays is the imposition of
1564 external constraints to eliminate additional degrees of freedom. In principle, these
1565 need not have any particular physical motivation. Instead, the jigsaw rules are a
1566 way to resolve the mathematical ambiguities to fully reconstruct the full decay chain
1567 kinematics. However, most practical jigsaw rules also have some reasonable physical
1568 motivation, which we will also elucidate.

1569 In the original razor point of view, some jigsaw rules can be seen as the definitions
1570 of the boosts which relate the different frames of interest, while other rules allow one
1571 to combine multiple objects and place them into a particular hemisphere (previously
1572 megajet). These are the two forms of jigsaw rules: combinatoric and kinematic. As

1573 we have stressed before, the jigsaw rules are a *choice*; as long as a particular jigsaw
1574 rule allows the definition of variables at each step in a decay tree, it is “as valid” as
1575 any other rule.

Practically speaking, in this thesis we use only a small subset of possible jigsaw rules. The combinatoric jigsaw rule we use has already been introduced as megajet construction above. The minimization of

$$m_{J_1}^2 + m_{J_2}^2. \quad (7.14)$$

1576 is a jigsaw rule to deal with the combinatoric ambiguity implicit in which jets go in
1577 which hemisphere. This is the jigsaw rule used in the decay trees when going from
1578 one frame to two frames such as $PP \rightarrow P_a, P_b$.

1579 We will use three other jigsaw rules, which are both kinematic jigsaw rules. One
1580 has already been used in the razor technique. The minimization of β_L will be used
1581 as the jigsaw rule in the first step of each decay tree: the lab frame to the PP/CM
1582 frame. This is in effect the imposition of longitudinal boost invariance, as we expect
1583 on average $p_{z,PP,\text{CM}} = 0$. One defines a unique longitudinal boost by imposition of
1584 this external constraint.

1585 The final two jigsaw rules used in this thesis was not used in the razor technique.
1586 We describe them here.

The first kinematic ambiguity is the total mass of the invisible system M_I . We
guess this to be:

$$M_I^2 = M_V^2 - 4M_{V_a}M_{V_b}. \quad (7.15)$$

1587 As we stated above, there is no need to “justify” the jigsaw rules, as they are in some
1588 ways a mathematical trick to fully resolve the event kinematics. However in this case,
1589 there is a nice property of this guess. The symmetry of the production mechanism,
1590 where we have two decay products V_i and I_i produced from the decay of the same
1591 heavy sparticle, is explicit with this jigsaw choice.

1592 The final jigsaw rule we employ in this thesis is used to resolve the “amount” of
1593 E_T^{miss} that “belongs” to each hemisphere, and therefore how to impose the transverse
1594 boost onto each of i.e. P_a and P_b from PP . Equivalently, it can be seen as the
1595 resolution of the kinematics of the I_a and I_b objects in the disquark and digluino
1596 decay trees. Recall that at this point, we have already approximated the boost
1597 of the PP frame. The choice we use is to minimize the masses P_a and P_b , while
1598 simultaneously constraining $P_a = P_b$. As is the case in the last step, there is a
1599 straightforward physical interpretation of this choice. In the signal models we are
1600 considering, P_a and P_b are the estimated frames of the squark or gluino pair-produced
1601 as a heavy resonance. We then of course expect $M_{P_a} = M_{P_b}$.

1602 The imposition of the decay trees, with ambiguities resolved through the jigsaw
1603 rules, give a full set of boosts relating the frames of each decay tree. In each frame,
1604 we have estimates for the frame mass and decay angles, which can be used in searches
1605 for new physics. In the next section, we describe the variables that are used in this
1606 thesis in more details.

1607 7.3 Variables used in the search for zero lepton

1608 SUSY

1609 We describe here the variables used in the search described in ???. These were
1610 reconstructed using the RJR algorithm as just described, using the RestFrames
1611 packages[119]. In these frames, the momenta of all objects placed into that branch
1612 of the decay tree are available (after application of the approximated boost), and in
1613 principle we can calculate any variable of interest such as invariant masses or the
1614 angles between these objects. The truly useful set of variables are highly dependent
1615 on the signal process, and we leave their discussion to the subsequent chapters. It is
1616 useful to understand the philosophy employed in the construction of these variables.

1617 In general, we can split variables useful for searches for new physics into two
1618 categories: *scaleful* and *scaleless* variables. In this search, we will use a set of scaleful
1619 variables called the H variables. The scaleless variables will consists of ratios and
1620 angles. In general, we want to limit the number of scaleful cuts we apply, for two
1621 reasons. Different scaleful variables are often highly correlated, and this of course
1622 limits the utility of additional cuts. Addtionally, selections based on many scaleful
1623 variables often “over-optimize” for particular signal model of interest, especially as
1624 related to the mass difference chosen between the sparticle and the LSP. To avoid
1625 this, each decay tree will only use two scale variables, one of which quantifies the
1626 overall mass scale of the event, and another which acts as a measure of the event
1627 balance.

1628 **Squark and gluino variables**

1629 Taking our general philosophy to a particular case, we here describe the variables
1630 used by the squark and gluino searches. We have a suite of scale variables which we
1631 will call the H variables, and a suite of angles and ratios.

1632 As we have described above, the RJR algorithm gives us access to the masses of
1633 each frame of interest. It maybe seem natural, then, that these variables would be the
1634 most useful for discrimination of the signal from background processes. However, due
1635 to the all hadronic state considered in this thesis, the that can be constructed such
1636 as M_{PP} can be affected by extra QCD radiation, which can promote the background
1637 processes to large scales. The H variables show a resilience to this effect. They
1638 take their name from the commonly used variable H_T , which is the scalar sum of
1639 the visible momentum. However, due to the RJR technique, we can evaluate these
1640 variables in the non-lab frame, including longitudinal information. They are also
1641 constructed with *aggregate* momenta using a similar mass minimization procedure
1642 as we have already described.

We label these variables as $H_{n,m}^F$. The frame from where they are evaluated is denoted F ; practically, this means $F \in \{\text{lab}, PP, P_a, P_b\}$. When the discussion applies to both P_a and P_b , we will write P_i . The subscripts n and m denote the number of visible and invisible vectors considered, respectively. When there are more vectors available than n or m , we add up vectors using the hemisphere (megajet) jigsaw rule until there are n (m) objects.² In the opposite case, where n or m is greater than the number of available objects, one simply considers the available objects. The $H_{n,m}^F$ variables are then defined as

$$H_{n,m}^F = \sum_i^n |\vec{p}_{\text{vis},i}^F| + \sum_j^m |\vec{p}_{\text{inv},i}^F|. \quad (7.16)$$

It may not be clear that these variables encode independent information. Fundamentally, this is just an expression of the triangle inequality $\sum |\vec{p}| \geq |\sum \vec{p}|$. The different combinations can then include independent information. The final note on the H variables is that we can also consider purely transverse versions of these variables, which we will denote $H_{T,n,m}^F$. Including this view, it is easy to see how the H variables are extensions of the normal H_T variables, as

$$H_T = H_{T,\infty,0}^{\text{lab}}. \quad (7.17)$$

1643 Although the H variables are interesting in their own right, the true power of the
 1644 RJR technique comes from the construction of scaleless variables with the technique.
 1645 This is because the scaleless ratios and angles are in fact measured in the “right”
 1646 frame, where right here means an approximation of the correct frame. This provides
 1647 a less correlated set of variables than those measured in the lab frame, due to the
 1648 corrections to the disparticle or sparticle system boosts from the RJR technique.
 1649 For the search for noncompressed disquark production, we use will use the
 1650 following set of RJR variables.

²Recall that these vectors are constructed by the imposition of the decay tree with the relevant jigsaw rules.

- 1651 • $H_{1,1}^{PP}$ - scale variable useful for discrimination against QCD backgrounds and
 1652 used in a similar way to E_T^{miss}

- 1653 • $H_{T,2,1}^{PP}$ - scale variable providing information on the overall mass scale of the
 1654 event for disquark signal production. We will often call this the *full* scale
 1655 variable.

- 1656 • $H_{T,1,1}^{PP}/H_{2,1}^{PP}$ - ratio used to prevent imbalanced events where the scale variable
 1657 is dominated by one high p_T jet or high E_T^{miss}

- 1658 • $p_{PP,z}^{\text{LAB}}/(p_{PP,z}^{\text{LAB}} + H_{T,2,1}^{PP})$ - ratio used to prevent significant boosts in the
 1659 z -direction. $p_{PP,z}^{\text{LAB}}$ is a measure of the total boost of the PP system from the lab
 1660 frame

- 1661 • $p_{T,j2}^{PP}/H_{T,2,1}^{PP}$ - ratio to force the second leading jet in the PP frame to carry a
 1662 significant portion of the total scalar sum in that frame. This requirement is
 1663 another balance requirement, on the total p_T of that second jet in the PP frame.

1664 First, we note that there is an implicit requirement that each hemisphere has at least
 1665 one jet (to even reconstruct the P_a and P_b frames), these variables are implicitly using
 1666 two or more jets, as we expect in disquark production. The other important thing
 1667 to note is that all of the ratios use the full scale variable as the denominator. This
 1668 is sensible, as we expect all of these effects to be scaled with the full scale variable
 1669 $H_{T,2,1}^{PP}$. We will see a similar behavior for the gluino regions, with a new full scale
 1670 variable.

1671 For the search for noncompressed digluino production, we use will use the following
 1672 set of RJR variables. Due to the increased complexity of the event topology with four
 1673 jets, there are additional handles we can exploit:

- 1674 • $H_{1,1}^{PP}$ - same as disquark production

- 1675 • $H_{T,4,1}^{PP}$ - scale variable providing information on the overall mass scale of the
 1676 event for digluino signal production. As before, we often call this the *full* scale
 1677 variable. Since this variable allows the jets to be separated in the *PP* frame, it
 1678 is more appropriate for digluino production.
- 1679 • $H_{T,1,1}^{PP}/H_{4,1}^{PP}$ - ratio used to prevent imbalanced events where the scale variable
 1680 is dominated by one high p_T jet or high E_T^{miss}
- 1681 • $H_{T,4,1}^{PP}/H_{4,1}^{PP}$ - ratio used to measure the fraction of the total scalar sum of the
 1682 momentum in the transverse plane. Digluino production is expected to be fairly
 1683 central
- 1684 • $p_{PP,z}^{\text{LAB}}/(p_{PP,z}^{\text{LAB}} + H_{T,4,1}^{PP})$ - ratio used to prevent significant boosts in the
 1685 z -direction
- 1686 • $\min(p_{T,j2_i}^{PP}/H_{T,2,1_i}^{PP})$ - ratio to require the second leading jet in *both* squark-like
 1687 hemispheres C_a and C_b to contain a significant portion of *that frame's* momenta.
 1688 This is similar to the $p_{T,j2}^{PP}/H_{T,2,1}^{PP}$ disquark discriminator, but applied to both
 1689 hemispheres C_a and C_b .
- 1690 • $\max(H_{1,0}^{P_i}/H_{2,0}^{P_i})$ - ratio requiring one jet in each of the P_i to not take too much
 1691 of the total momentum of that frame. This ratio is generally a very loose cut.

1692 Compressed variables

1693 As we saw above, the decay tree imposed for compressed spectra is simpler. We do
 1694 not attempt to fully reconstruct the details of the system recoiling of the ISR system,
 1695 but use a straightforward set of variables in this case. One additional simplification
 1696 is that all variables are force to be transverse in this case; we simply do not include
 1697 the η/z information of the objects as inputs to the RJR reconstruction. We still use
 1698 the philosophy of limiting our scaleful variables to just two. The compressed scenario
 1699 uses the following set of RJR variables:

1700 • $p_{T,S}^{\text{ISR}}$ - scale variable that is the magnitude of the total transverse momenta of all
 1701 jets associated to the ISR system, as evaluated in the CM frame

1702 • $R_{\text{ISR}} \equiv p_I^{\hat{\text{CM}}} \cdot p_{T,S}^{\hat{\text{CM}}} / p_{T,S}^{\text{CM}}$ - this ratio is our measurement for the ratio of the LSP
 1703 mass to the compressed sparticle mass. These are the values in the CM frame
 1704 In compressed cases, this should be large, as this estimates the amount of the
 1705 total $\text{CM} \rightarrow S$ boost is carried by the invisible system.

1706 • $M_{T,S}$ - the transverse mass of the S system

1707 • N_{jet}^V - the number of jets associated to the visible system V

1708 • $\Delta\phi_{\text{ISR},I}$ - the opening angle between the ISR system and the invisible system
 1709 measured in the lab frame. As the invisible system is expected to carry much
 1710 of the total S system momentum, this should be large, as we expect the ISR
 1711 system to recoil directly opposite the I system in that case.

1712 Anti-QCD variables

1713 For the self-assembling tree, we construct two variables, which we combine to form a
 1714 single variable which rejects QCD events. In this case, we use the mass minimization
 1715 jigsaw, with a fully transverse version of the event (i.e. we set all jet z/η components
 1716 to 0). This jigsaw defines the distance metric, and provides us with one or two jets
 1717 known as the $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$ siblings. We define \vec{p}_{sib} as the sum of these jets, and define the
 1718 following quantities.

We calculate a ratio observable which examines the relative magnitude of the sibling vector \vec{p}_{sib} and $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$, and an angle relating \vec{p}_{sib} and $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$:

$$R(\vec{p}_{\text{sib}}, E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}) \equiv \frac{\vec{p}_{\text{sib}} \cdot \hat{E}_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}}{\vec{p}_{\text{sib}} \cdot \hat{E}_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}} + |\vec{E}_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}|} \quad (7.18)$$

$$\cos \theta(\vec{p}_{\text{sib}}, E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}) \equiv \frac{(\vec{p}_{\text{sib}} + \vec{E}_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}) \cdot \vec{p}_{\text{sib}}^{\text{miss}}}{|\vec{p}_{\text{sib}}| + E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}} \quad (7.19)$$

These observables are highly correlated, but taking the following fractional difference provides strong discrimination between SUSY signal and QCD background events:

$$\Delta_{\text{QCD}} \equiv \frac{1 + \cos \theta(\vec{p}_{\text{sib}}, E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}) - 2R(\vec{p}_{\text{sib}}, E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}})}{1 + \cos \theta(\vec{p}_{\text{sib}}, E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}) + 2R(\vec{p}_{\text{sib}}, E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}})}. \quad (7.20)$$

¹⁷¹⁹ We will use this variable in the next chapter.

1721 *A search for supersymmetric particles in zero lepton final
 1722 states with the Recursive Jigsaw Technique*

1723 This section presents the details of the first search employing RJR variables as
 1724 discriminating variables, as described in [115]. We will describe the simulation
 1725 samples used, and then define the selections where we search for new SUSY
 1726 phenomena, which we call the *signal regions* (SRs) Afterwards, we describe the
 1727 background estimation techniques used in the analysis. Finally, we discuss the
 1728 treatment of systematic uncertainties, and how we combine them using a likelihood
 1729 method[120].

1730 **8.1 Simulation samples**

1731 We discussed the collision data sample provided by the LHC for the analysis in this
 1732 thesis. We analyze a dataset of 13.3 fb^{-1} of collision data, at $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$. To select
 1733 events in data, we use the trigger system as previously discussed, and use the lowest
 1734 unprescaled trigger which is available for a particular Standard Model background.
 1735 We now discuss the simulation samples used for this search.

1736 Simulated data is fundamentally important to the ATLAS physics program.
 1737 Calibrations, measurements, and searches use Monte Carlo (MC) simulations¹ to
 1738 compare with collision data. In this thesis, MC samples are used to optimize the
 1739 signal region selections, assist in background estimation, and assess the sensitivity to

¹In jargon, often just called “Monte Carlo” or MC.

1740 specific SUSY signal models. The details of Monte Carlo production, accuracy, and
1741 utility are far beyond the scope of this thesis, but we provide a short description here.

1742 The first step is MC *generation*. A program is run which does a matrix-element
1743 calculation, sometimes with additional corrections, which produces a set of output
1744 particles from the parton interactions. These output particles are then decayed via
1745 another (or the same) simulation program. This produces a set of *truth* particles,
1746 which are the output of event generation. The details of which generator to use are
1747 the subject of much discussion, and generally (many) comparisons are made between
1748 them, for different processes of interest. Additionally, differences between generators
1749 are often a starting point for the calculation of systematic uncertainties.

1750 The next step is the *simulation*. The detector response to the truth particles
1751 is simulated, and simulated hits are produced. After simulation, the standard
1752 reconstruction algorithms described previously are run with the simulated hits. This
1753 procedure ensures “as close as possible” treatment of simulation and collision data.

1754 We give a brief description of which samples use which generators; additional
1755 details are available in [115].

MAKE 1756 Signal (diguino and disquark) samples are generated with up to two ex-
BETTER 1757 tra partons in the matrix element using MG5_aMC@NLO 2.2.2 event genera-
1758 tor [Alwall:2014hca] interfaced to PYTHIA 8.186 [Sjostrand:2014zea]. The
1759 nominal cross-section is taken from an envelope of cross-section predictions using
1760 different PDF sets and factorization and renormalization scales, as described in
1761 Ref. [Kramer:2012bx], considering only light-flavour quarks (u, d, s, c). For the
1762 light-flavour squarks (gluinos) in case of gluino- (squark-) pair production, cross-
1763 sections are evaluated assuming masses of 450 TeV. The free parameters are $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$ and
 $m_{\tilde{g}} (m_{\tilde{s}})$ for gluino-pair (squark-pair) production models.

explain 1764 Boson (W, Z, γ) plus jet events are simulated using different SHERPAGenerators,
we have a 1765 with COMIX and OPENLOOPS matrix-element generators[comix, openloops, 121].
“grid” of 1766 these signal
models
samples

1767 Photons are required to have transverse momentum of > 35 GeV. Importantly, the
1768 $W(Z)$ +jet events are calculated at NLO while the the γ +jet events are calculated
1769 at LO. The $W/Z +$ jets events are normalized to their NNLO cross-sections
1770 [Catani:2009sm]. The γ +jets LO cross-section is taken directly from SHERPA; we
1771 will apply a correction factor to be described later.

1772 The various $t\bar{t}$ and single-top processes[122] are generated using two versions of
1773 POWHEG-Box [powheg-box, 122]. These are calculated at NLO and normalized
1774 to various orders ranging from NLO to NNLO+NNLL in the different processes,
1775 which can be seen in 8.1[Czakon:2013goa, Czakon:2011xx, Aliev:2010zk,
1776 Kant:2014oha, Kidonakis:2010ux, Kidonakis:2011wy].

1777 Diboson processes (WW , WZ , ZZ) [123] are simulated using the SHERPA 2.1.1
1778 generator For processes with four charged leptons (4ℓ), three charged leptons and
1779 a neutrino ($3\ell+1\nu$) or two charged leptons and two neutrinos ($2\ell+2\nu$), the matrix
1780 elements contain all diagrams with four electroweak vertices, and are calculated for
1781 up to one (4ℓ , $2\ell+2\nu$) or no partons ($3\ell+1\nu$) at NLO and up to three partons at LO
1782 using the COMIX and OPENLOOPS matrix-element generators, and merged with the
1783 SHERPA parton shower using the ME+PS@NLO prescription. For processes in which
1784 one of the bosons decays hadronically and the other leptonically, matrix elements
1785 are calculated for up to one (ZZ) or no (WW , WZ) additional partons at NLO
1786 and for up to three additional partons at LO using the COMIX and OPENLOOPS
1787 matrix-element generators, and merged with the SHERPA parton shower using the
1788 ME+PS@NLO prescription. In all cases, the CT10 PDF set is used in conjunction
1789 with a dedicated parton-shower tuning developed by the authors of SHERPA. The
1790 generator cross-sections are used in this case.

1791 The multi-jet background is generated with PYTHIA 8.186 using the A14
1792 underlying-event tune and the NNPDF2.3LO parton distribution functions.

1793 A summary of the SM background processes together with the MC generators,

1794 cross-section calculation orders in α_s , PDFs, parton shower and tunes used is given
 1795 in Table 8.1.

Physics process	Generator	Cross-section normalization	PDF set	Parton shower	Tune
$W(\rightarrow \ell\nu) + \text{jets}$	SHERPA 2.2.0	NNLO	NNPDF3.0NNLO	SHERPA	SHERPA default
$Z/\gamma^*(\rightarrow \ell\bar{\ell}) + \text{jets}$	SHERPA 2.2.0	NNLO	NNPDF3.0NNLO	SHERPA	SHERPA default
$\gamma + \text{jets}$	SHERPA 2.1.1	LO	CT10	SHERPA	SHERPA default
$t\bar{t}$	Powheg-Box v2	NNLO+NNLL	CT10	PYTHIA 6.428	PERUGIA2012
Single top (Wt -channel)	Powheg-Box v2	NNLO+NNLL	CT10	PYTHIA 6.428	PERUGIA2012
Single top (s -channel)	Powheg-Box v2	NLO	CT10	PYTHIA 6.428	PERUGIA2012
Single top (t -channel)	Powheg-Box v1	NLO	CT10f4	PYTHIA 6.428	PERUGIA2012
$t\bar{t} + W/Z/WW$	MG5_aMC@NLO 2.2.3	NLO	NNPDF2.3LO	PYTHIA 8.186	A14
WW, WZ, ZZ	SHERPA 2.1.1	NLO	CT10	SHERPA	SHERPA default
Multi-jet	PYTHIA 8.186	LO	NNPDF2.3LO	PYTHIA 8.186	A14

Table 8.1: The Standard Model background Monte Carlo simulation samples used in this thesis. The generators, the order in α_s of cross-section calculations used for yield normalization, PDF sets, parton showers and tunes used for the underlying event are shown.

1796 For all SM background samples the response of the detector to particles is
 1797 modelled with a full ATLAS detector simulation [:2010wqa] based on GEANT4
 1798 [Agostinelli:2002hh]. Signal samples are prepared using a fast simulation based on
 1799 a parameterization of the performance of the ATLAS electromagnetic and hadronic
 1800 calorimeters [ATLAS:2010bfa] and on GEANT4 elsewhere.

1801 All simulated events are overlaid with multiple pp collisions simulated with
 1802 the soft QCD processes of PYTHIA 8.186 using the A2 tune [A14tune] and the
 1803 MSTW2008LO parton distribution functions [Martin:2009iq]. The simulations are
 1804 reweighted to match the distribution of the mean number of interactions observed in
 1805 data.

1806 **8.2 Event selection**

1807 This section describes the selection of the signal region events. We begin by describing
1808 the *preselection*, which is used to remove problematic events and reduce the dataset
1809 to a manageable size. We then describe the signal region strategy, and present the
1810 signal regions used in the analysis.

1811 **Preselection**

1812 The preselection is used to reduce the dataset to that of interest in this thesis. The
1813 table containing the preselection cuts is shown in 8.2. This selection is also used for
1814 the samples used for background estimation, except for the lepton veto.

1815 The cuts [1] and [4] are a set of cleaning cuts to remove problematic events.
1816 The *Good Runs List* is a centrally-maintained list of data runs which have been
1817 determined to be “good for physics”. This determination is made by analysis of the
1818 various subdetectors, and monitoring of their status. Event cleaning is used to veto
1819 events which could be affected by noncollision background, noise bursts, or cosmic
1820 rays.

1821 We require the lowest unprescaled E_T^{miss} trigger for the data run of interest, as
1822 described previously, in cut [2]. The lepton veto is applied in cut [5]. These two cuts
1823 are only used for the signal region selection.

1824 The rest of the preselection is used for the signal region and control regions used
1825 for background estimation. These cuts on scaleful variables used by previous searches
1826 are mostly used for the reduction of the dataset to a manageable size. Signal models
1827 with sensitivity to lower values of these scaleful variables have been ruled out by
1828 previous searches[124]. The final cut is on m_{eff} , which is the scalar sum of all jets and
1829 E_T^{miss} . This is the final discriminating variable used in the complementary search to
1830 this thesis, which is also presented in [115].

Cut	Description	
1	Good Runs List	Veto events with intolerable detector errors
2	Trigger	HLT_xe70 (2015), HLT_xe80_tclcw_L1XE50, or HLT_xe100_mht_L1XE50 (2016)
3	Event cleaning	Veto for noncollision background, noise bursts, and cosmic rays
4	Lepton veto	No leptons with $p_T > 10$ GeV after overlap removal
5	E_T^{miss} [GeV] >	250
6	$p_T(j_1)$ [GeV] >	200
7	$p_T(j_2)$ [GeV] >	50
8	m_{eff} [GeV] >	800

Table 8.2: Preselection for the various event topologies used in the analysis.

1831 Signal regions

1832 We define a set of signal regions using the RJR variables previously described.
 1833 These signal regions are split into three general categories: squark pair production
 1834 SRs, gluino pair production SRs, and compressed production SRs. Within these
 1835 general SRs, we have a set of signal regions targetting different mass splittings of the
 1836 sparticle and LSP.

1837 A schematic of this strategy is shown in 8.1. This type of plane is how most
 1838 (R -parity conserving) SUSY searches are organized in both ATLAS and CMS. The
 1839 horizontal axis is the mass of the sparticle considered. In the case of this thesis,
 1840 this will be the squark or gluino mass. On the horizontal axis, we place the LSP mass.
 1841 These are the two free parameters of the simplified models considered here. Our
 1842 search occurs in this two-parameter space. Each signal region targets some portion
 1843 of this plane. As shown in the figure, a new iteration of a search will use a set of
 1844 signal regions which have sensitivity just beyond those of the previous exclusions.
 1845 The choice of how many signal regions to use to fully cover this plane is in many
 1846 ways a matter of judgment, as it is important to avoid over or under/over-fitting
 1847 to the signal models of interest. To take the extreme examples, One signal region

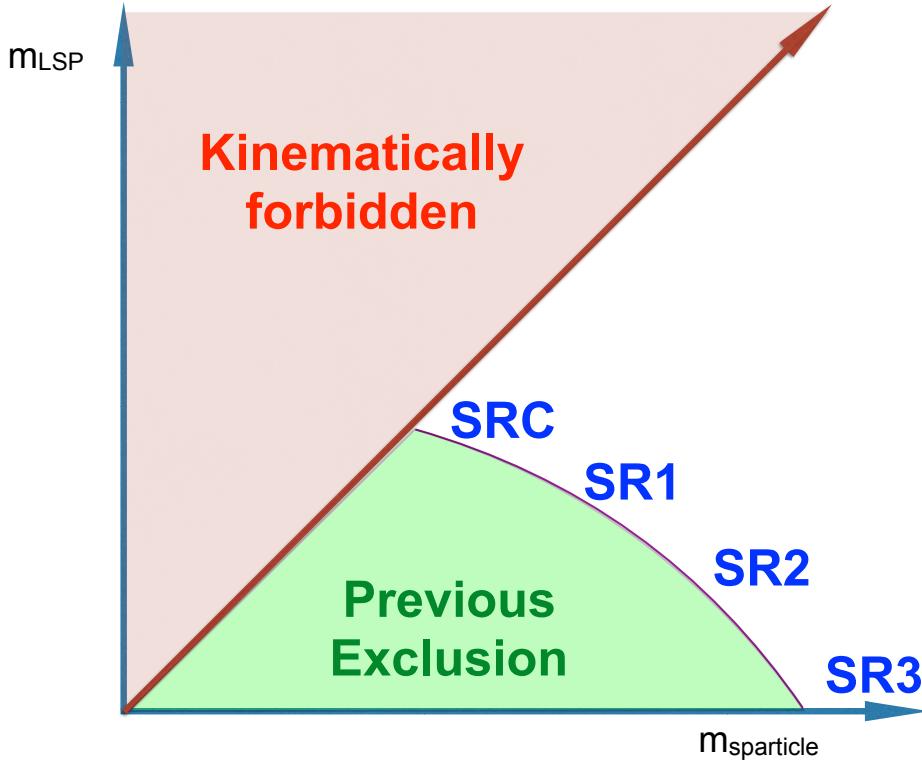


Figure 8.1: Schematic leading the development of the SUSY signal regions in this thesis. A variant of this schematic is used for most SUSY searches on ATLAS and CMS.

1848 will obscure the different phenomena in signal events with large versus small mass
 1849 splittings, leading to underfitting. Binning as finely as possible² leads to overfitting
 1850 due to the fluctuations present in the signal and background events passing the various
 1851 selections selection. In this thesis, we use six squark signal regions, six gluino signal
 1852 regions, and five compressed regions.

1853 The full table defining all signal regions is shown in 8.3. In all cases, the signal
 1854 region selections contain a combination of scaleful and scaleless cuts. Emphasis
 1855 on cuts on scaleful variables provide stronger sensitivity to larger mass splittings,
 1856 while additional sensitivity to smaller mass splittings is found using stronger cuts on
 1857 scaleless variables. One envisions walking from SR1 (with tight scaleless cuts and

²This can be defined as having a signal region for each simulated signal sample, which for this analysis is ~ 100 .

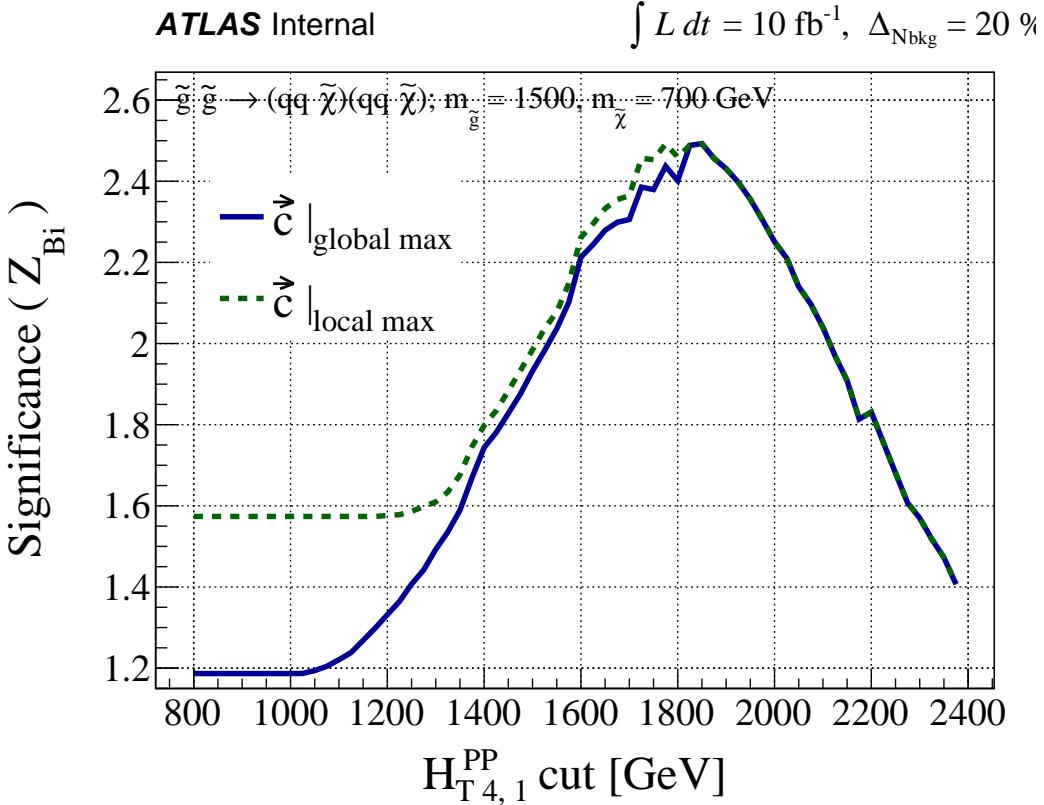


Figure 8.2: Optimization of the $H_{T,4,1}^{PP}$ cut for a gluino signal model with $(m_{\tilde{g}}, m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}) = (1500, 700)$ GeV assuming 10 fb^{-1} and an uncertainty of 20% on the background estimate.

1858 loose scaleful cuts) in 8.1 towards SR3 by loosening the scaleless cuts and tightening
 1859 the scaleful cuts. We will see this strategy at work in each set of signal regions.

1860 We have already described the useful variables in the previous chapter. The
 1861 question is how to choose the optimal cuts for a given set of signal models, which are
 1862 grouped in the mass splitting space. This was done by a brute force scan over the
 1863 cut values, using a guess of integrated luminosity with a fixed systematic uncertainty
 1864 scenario; the value of the systematic uncertainty is motivated by that from previous
 1865 analyses. We choose the lowest cut value that maximizes the Z_{Bi} , as described in
 1866 [125]. This figure of merit gives conservative estimates, as compared to i.e. S/\sqrt{B} .
 1867 A figure showing an example of this selection tuning procedure is shown in 8.2.

1868 The compressed selections are split into five regions (SRC1-5), and due to the

1869 simplified nature of the compressed decay tree, has sensitivity in both the gluino
1870 and squark planes. The compressed regions target mass splittings with $m_{\text{sparticle}} -$
1871 $m_{\text{LSP}} \tilde{<} 200 \text{ GeV}$. For the compressed region, $M_{T,S}$ is the primary scaleful variable.
1872 We can see the general strategy of lowering increasing scale cuts while decreasing the
1873 scaleless cuts here. SRC1 targets the most compressed scenarios, with mass splittings
1874 of less than 25 GeV, and has the loosest $M_{T,S}$ cut coupled with the tightest R_{ISR} and
1875 $\Delta\phi_{\text{ISR},I}$ cuts. SRC4 and SRC5 target mass splittings of ~ 200 GeV, and are coupled
1876 with the loosest scaleless cuts on R_{ISR} and $\Delta\phi_{\text{ISR},I}$. We also note that SRC4 and
1877 SRC5 have differing cuts on N_{jet}^V , since these SRs are closest to the noncompressed
1878 regions, and can be seen as the “crossover” where the differences between squark and
1879 gluino production begins to become manifest.

1880 The squark regions (for noncompressed spectra) are organized into six signal
1881 regions. These are labeled by a numeral 1-3 and letter a/b. SRs sharing a common
1882 numeral i.e. SRS1a and SRS1b share a common set of scaleless cuts, while differing in
1883 the main scale variable $H_{T,2,1}^{PP}$. The two SRs for each set of scaleless cuts, only differing
1884 in the main scale variable, can be seen in a naïve way as providing sensitivity to a
1885 range of luminosity scenarios³. As before, we see that the scaleless cuts are loosened
1886 as we tighten the scaleful cuts, as we move across the table from SRS1a to SRS3b.
1887 This provides strong sensitivity to signal models with intermediate mass splittings with
1888 SRS1a to large mass splittings with SR3b.

1889 The gluino signal regions are organized entirely analogously to the squark signal
1890 regions. There are six gluino signal regions, again labeled via a numeral 1-3 and letter
1891 a/b. Those SRs sharing a common numeral have a common set of scaleless cuts, but
1892 differ in their main scale variable $H_{T,4,1}^{PP}$. The SRs follow scaleless vs scaleful strategy,
1893 with SRG1 having the loosest scaleful cut cuts coupled with the strongest scaleless

³These SRs were defined before the entire collision dataset was produced, and thus needed to be robust in cases where the LHC provided significantly different than expected performance.

1894 cuts, and the converse being true in SRG3. As in the squark case, this strategy
1895 provides strong expected sensitivity throughout the gluino-LSP plane.

Targeted signal	$\tilde{s}\tilde{s}, \tilde{s} \rightarrow q\tilde{\chi}_1^0$									
Requirement	Signal Region									
	RJR-S1		RJR-S2		RJR-S3					
$H_{1,1}^{PP}/H_{2,1}^{PP} \geq$	0.6		0.55		0.5					
$H_{1,1}^{PP}/H_{2,1}^{PP} \leq$	0.95		0.96		0.98					
$p_{PP, z}/(p_{PP, z}^{lab} + H_{T, 2,1}^{PP}) \leq$	0.5		0.55		0.6					
$p_{j2, T}^{PP}/H_{T, 2,1}^{PP} \geq$	0.16		0.15		0.13					
$\Delta_{QCD} >$	0.001									
	RJR-S1a	RJR-S1b	RJR-S2a	RJR-S2b	RJR-S3a	RJR-S3b				
$H_{T, 2,1}^{PP}$ [GeV] >	1000	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000				
$H_{1,1}^{PP}$ [GeV] >	1000		1400		1600					
Targeted signal	$\tilde{g}\tilde{g}, \tilde{g} \rightarrow q\bar{q}\tilde{\chi}_1^0$									
Requirement	Signal Region									
	RJR-G1		RJR-G2		RJR-G3					
$H_{1,1}^{PP}/H_{4,1}^{PP} \geq$	0.35		0.25		0.2					
$H_{T, 4,1}^{PP}/H_{4,1}^{PP} \geq$	0.8		0.75		0.65					
$p_{PP, z}/(p_{PP, z}^{lab} + H_{T, 4,1}^{PP}) \leq$	0.5		0.55		0.6					
$\min(p_{j2, T, i}^{PP}/H_{T, 2,1}^{PP}) \geq$	0.12		0.1		0.08					
$\max(H_{1,0}^{Pi}/H_{2,0}^{Pi}) \leq$	0.95		0.97		0.98					
$ \frac{2}{3}\Delta\phi_{V,P}^{PP} - \frac{1}{3}\cos\theta_p \leq$	0.5		—		—					
$\Delta_{QCD} >$	0									
	RJR-G1a	RJR-G1b	RJR-G2a	RJR-G2b	RJR-G3a	RJR-G3b				
$H_{T, 4,1}^{PP}$ [GeV] >	1000	1200	1500	1900	2300	2700				
$H_{1,1}^{PP}$ [GeV] >	600		800		900					
Targeted signal	compressed spectra in $\tilde{s}\tilde{s}$ ($\tilde{s} \rightarrow q\tilde{\chi}_1^0$); $\tilde{g}\tilde{g}$ ($\tilde{g} \rightarrow q\bar{q}\tilde{\chi}_1^0$)									
Requirement	Signal Region									
	RJR-C1	RJR-C2₁₅₃	RJR-C3	RJR-C4	RJR-C5					
$R_{ISR} \geq$	0.9	0.85	0.8	0.75	0.70					
$\Delta\phi_{ISR, I} >$	3.1	3.07	2.95	2.95	2.95					

Requirement	Signal Region				
	RJR-C1	RJR-C2₁₅₃	RJR-C3	RJR-C4	RJR-C5
$R_{ISR} \geq$	0.9	0.85	0.8	0.75	0.70
$\Delta\phi_{ISR, I} >$	3.1	3.07	2.95	2.95	2.95

1896 8.3 Background estimation

1897 We describe here the method of background estimation. In this thesis, we detail what
 1898 is colloquially called a “cut-and-count” analysis. This is in contrast to a “shape fit”
 1899 analysis, where one needs to consider the details of the variable distribution shapes.
 1900 Instead, we must ensure the overall normalization of the Standard Model backgrounds
 1901 are correct in the regions of phase space considered in the analysis. In order to
 1902 do this, we define a set of *control regions* which are free of SUSY contamination
 1903 based on the previously excluded analysis. We compare the number of events present
 1904 in the control regions in simulation with that in data to define a *transfer factor*
 1905 (TF). We extrapolate the number of expected events from each background using
 1906 this transfer factor to translate from the , which provides our final estimate of the
 1907 SM background in the corresponding signal region. To be explicit, each signal region
 1908 SR has a corresponding set of control regions.

More precisely, for a given signal region, we are attempting to estimate the value $N_{\text{SR}}^{\text{data}}$ for a given background. This value is estimated using the following equation:

$$N_{\text{SR}}^{\text{data,est}} = N_{\text{CR}}^{\text{data,obs}} \times \text{TF}_{\text{CR}} \equiv N_{\text{CR}}^{\text{data,obs}} \times \left(\frac{N_{\text{SR}}^{\text{MC}}}{N_{\text{CR}}^{\text{MC}}} \right) \quad (8.1)$$

1909 where the transfer factor TF is taken directly from MC. The two ingredients to our
 1910 estimation of $N_{\text{SR}}^{\text{data,obs}}$ is thus $N_{\text{CR}}^{\text{data,obs}}$ and the transfer factor taken from MC.

The transfer factor method is potentially more straightforward written in the following way:

$$N_{\text{SR}}^{\text{data,est}} = N_{\text{SR}}^{\text{MC}} \times \left(\frac{N_{\text{CR}}^{\text{data,obs}}}{N_{\text{CR}}^{\text{MC}}} \right) \equiv N_{\text{SR}}^{\text{MC}} \times \mu_{\text{CR}}. \quad (8.2)$$

1911 In this form, the correction to the overall normalization is explicit. The ratio $\frac{N_{\text{CR}}^{\text{data,obs}}}{N_{\text{CR}}^{\text{MC}}}$
 1912 which we call μ informs us how to scale $N_{\text{SR}}^{\text{MC}}$ in order to get the right overall
 1913 normalization. The assumption made with this method is that the overall shape of
 1914 the distribution should not change “that much” as one extrapolates to the signal
 1915 region.

1916 The CR definitions are motivated and designed according to two (generally
1917 competing) requirements:

- 1918 1. Statistical uncertainties due to low CR statistics
1919 2. Systematic uncertainties related to the extrapolation from the CR to the SR.

1920 This motivates the desire to make the control regions as similar as possible
1921 to the signal regions without risking signal contamination while ensuring high
1922 purity in the targeted SM background.

1923 In principle, one can also apply data-driven corrections to the TF obtained for each
1924 CR.

1925 In order to validate the transfer factors obtained from MC, we also develop a series
1926 of *validation regions* (VRs). These regions are generally designed to be “in between”
1927 the control region and signal region selections in phase space, and thus provide a
1928 check on the extrapolation from the control regions into the signal regions. Despite
1929 their closeness in phase space to the signal regions, they are also designed to have
1930 low signal contamination.

1931 In practice, we perform this estimation procedure simultaneously across all control
1932 regions; we describe this later. We only note this here since we can also apply
1933 Eq.8.1 to measure the contamination of a control region with another background as
1934 well. This procedure accounts for the correlations between regions due to correlated
1935 systematic uncertainties. We next describe the control region selection for the major
1936 SM backgrounds for the analysis.

1937 **Control Regions**

1938 As was hinted at in the discussion of Monte Carlo generators, the primary back-
1939 grounds of note in this analysis are $Z + \text{jets}$, $W + \text{jets}$, $t\bar{t}$, and QCD events. There is
1940 also a minor background from diboson events which is taken directly from MC with an

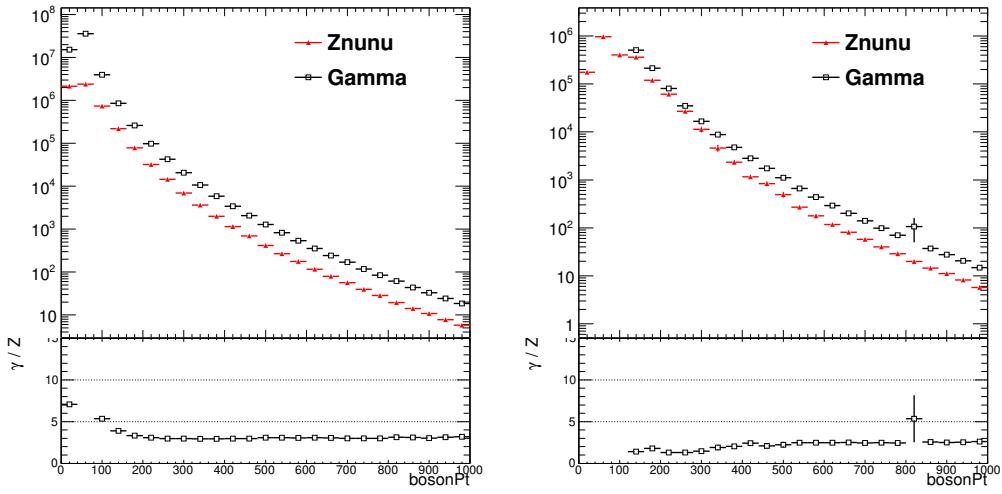
1941 uncertainty of 50%. We describe the strategy to estimate these various backgrounds
 1942 here. A summary table is shown in 8.4. All distributions shown in this section use
 1943 the scaling factors μ from the background fits, which we describe later.

CR	SM background	CR process	CR event selection
Meff/RJR-CR γ	$Z(\rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}) + \text{jets}$	$\gamma + \text{jets}$	Isolated photon
Meff/RJR-CRQ	Multi-jet	Multi-jet	$\Delta_{\text{QCD}} < 0$ reversed requirement on $H_{1,1}^{PP}$ (RJR-S/G) or $R_{\text{ISR}} < 0.5$ (RJR-C)
Meff/RJR-CRW	$W(\rightarrow \ell\nu) + \text{jets}$	$W(\rightarrow \ell\nu) + \text{jets}$	$30 \text{ GeV} < m_T(\ell, E_T^{\text{miss}}) < 100 \text{ GeV}$, b -veto
Meff/RJR-CRT	$t\bar{t}(\text{+EW})$ and single top	$t\bar{t} \rightarrow b\bar{b}qq'\ell\nu$	$30 \text{ GeV} < m_T(\ell, E_T^{\text{miss}}) < 100 \text{ GeV}$, b -tag

Table 8.4: Control regions used in this thesis.

1944 Events with a Z boson decaying to neutrinos in association with jets are the
 1945 primary irreducible background in the analysis. These events have true E_T^{miss} from
 1946 the decaying neutrinos, and can have significant values of the scaleful variables of
 1947 interest. Naively, one might expect us to use $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$ as the control process of interest,
 1948 as $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$ events are quite well-measured. Unfortunately, the $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$ branching ratio
 1949 is about half of from $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$, which necessitates loosening the control region selection
 1950 significantly. This leads to unacceptably large systematic uncertainties in the transfer
 1951 factor.

1952 Instead, photon events are used as the control region for the $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ events. We
 1953 label this photon control region as CRY. The photon is required to have $p_T > 150 \text{ GeV}$
 1954 to ensure the trigger is fully efficient. The kinematic properties of photon events
 1955 strongly resemble those of Z events when the boson p_T is significantly above the
 1956 mass of the Z boson. In this regime, the neutral bosons are both scaleless, and can be
 1957 treated interchangeably, up to the differences in coupling strengths. Additionally, the



(a) Boson p_T ratio as a function of true boson p_T
(b) Boson p_T ratio as a function of reconstructed boson p_T

Figure 8.3

1958 cross-section for $\gamma + \text{jets}$ events is significantly larger than $Z + \text{jets}$ events above the Z
1959 mass. These features are shown in 8.3 in simulated $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ truth and reconstructed
1960 events. The reconstructed $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ events define the boson p_T as simply the E_T^{miss} .
1961 In truth events, one clearly sees the effect of the Z mass below ~ 100 GeV, with a
1962 flattening of the ratio above ~ 300 GeV. In reconstructed events, the effects are less
1963 clear at low boson p_T , primarily due to cut sculpting from i.e. the trigger requirement
1964 on photon events, which necessitates a higher p_T cut on photon events for the trigger
1965 to remain fully efficient. Still, it is clear that the ratio flattens out at high boson p_T ,
1966 and we are justified in the use of CRY to model the $Z + \text{jets}$ background.

1967 The CRY kinematic selection is slightly looser in the scaleful variables for the
1968 noncompressed regions to provide sufficient control region statistics. This is chosen
1969 to be $H_{1,1}^{PP} > 900$ GeV ($H_{1,1}^{PP} > 550$ GeV) for the squark (gluino) regions to minimize
1970 the corresponding statistical and systematic uncertainties.

1971 One additional correction scale factor is applied to $\gamma + \text{jets}$ events before calculat-
1972 ing the transfer factors. This is known as the κ method, which is used to determine
1973 the disagreement arising from the use of a LO generator for photon events vs. a NLO

1974 generator for Z +jets events, which can reduce the theoretical uncertainties from
 1975 this disagreement. One can see this as a measurement of the k-factor for the LO
 1976 γ +jets sample. This is effectively done with an auxiliary CRZ region, defined using
 1977 two leptons with an invariant mass close with 25 GeV of the Z mass. The correction
 1978 factor derived for this purpose is $\kappa = 1.39 \pm 0.05$.

1979 Distributions of CRY in squark, gluino, and compressed regions are shown in ??.
 1980 One can see the quite high purity of CRY in photon events from these plots.

Event with a W boson decaying leptonically via $W \rightarrow \ell\nu$ can also enter the signal region. In this case, we use leptonically to include all leptons (e, μ, τ). The W +jets events passing the event selection either have a hadronically-decaying τ , with a neutrino supplying E_T^{miss} , or the case where a muon or electron is misidentified as a jet or missed completely due to the limited detector acceptance. To model this background, we use a sample of one-lepton events with a veto on b-jets, which we label CRW. The lepton is required to have $p_T > 27$ GeV to guarantee a fully efficient trigger. We then treat this single lepton as a jet for purposes of the RJR variable calculations. We apply a kinematic selection on the transverse mass:

$$m_T = \sqrt{2p_{T,\ell}E_T^{\text{miss}}(1 - \cos\phi_e - E_\phi^{\text{miss}})}, \quad (8.3)$$

1981 around the W mass: $30 \text{ GeV} < m_T < 100 \text{ GeV}$. Checks in simulation shows that
 1982 these requirements give a sample of high purity $W \rightarrow \ell\nu$ background. Due to low
 1983 statistics using the kinematic cuts imposed in the signal regions, the control region
 1984 kinematic cuts are slightly loosened with respect to the signal region cuts. We use
 1985 the loosest cut in any signal region as the control region selection for all signal
 1986 regions. More clearly, the control region selection corresponding to each signal region
 1987 is the *same*. As discussed above, this leads to a tolerable increase in the systematic
 1988 uncertainty from the extrapolation from the CR to the SR when compared to the
 1989 resulting statistical uncertainty.

1990 Distributions of CRW in squark, gluino, and compressed regions are shown in ??.

1991 There is high purity in $W+\text{jets}$ events in the control region corresponding to all

1992 signal regions.

1993 Top events are also an important background, for the same reasons as the

1994 $W+\text{jets}$ background, due to the dominant top decay channel of $t \rightarrow Wb$. For a

1995 top event to be selected by the analysis criteria, as in the case of $W+\text{jets}$, we expect

1996 a W to decay via a τ lepton which decays hadronically or one a muon or electron to

1997 be misidentified as a jet or be outside the detector acceptance. We are not so worried

1998 about hadronic or all dileptonic tops: hadronic $t\bar{t}$ events generally have low E_T^{miss}

1999 (and $H_{1,1}^{PP}$) so they will not pass the kinematic cuts, while dileptonic $t\bar{t}$ events have a

2000 lower cross-section and good reconstruction efficiency from the two leptons. We are

2001 thus primarily concerned with semileptonic $t\bar{t}$ events with E_T^{miss} from the neutrino.

2002 To model this background, we use the same selection as the W selection, but require

2003 that one of the jets chosen by the analysis has at least one b -tag. This selection has

2004 quite high purity, as we expect the $t\bar{t}$ background to have two b -jets. Thus with

2005 the 70% b -tagging efficiency working point used in this analysis, ignoring (small)

2006 correlations between the two b -tags, we expect to tag one of the b -jets greater than

2007 90% of the time. As with CRW, we need to loosen the cuts applied to CRT with

2008 respect to the signal region in order to gain sufficient expected data statistics. We

2009 use exactly the same scheme; the CRT corresponding to each SR is identical, due to

2010 using the loosest set of cuts among the SRs. This comes at the cost of an increased

2011 systematic uncertainty for this extrapolation, but it was determined that this tradeoff

2012 resulted in the lowest overall uncertainty.

2013 Distributions of CRT in squark, gluino, and compressed regions are shown in ??.

2014 There is high purity in top events in the control region corresponding to all signal

2015 regions.

2016 The final important background is the QCD background. As briefly discussed in

2017 the previous chapter, QCD backgrounds are difficult, for a few reasons we describe
2018 here. The large cross-section for QCD events means that even very rare extreme
2019 mismeasurements can be seen in our signal regions. However, as these events are
2020 very rare, one requires extreme confidence in the tails of the distributions to use
2021 simulation as an input for background estimation. To avoid this, the strategy in
2022 these cases is to apply a strong enough cut to expect *zero* QCD events in the signal
2023 regions to avoid this issue. To produce a sample enriched in QCD, which we call CRQ,
2024 we reverse the Δ_{QCD} and $H_{1,1}^{PP}$ cuts. This analysis uses the jet smearing method, as
2025 described in [126]. This is a data-driven method which applies a resolution function
2026 to well-measured QCD events, which also an estimate of the impact of the jet energy
2027 mismeasurement on $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$ and subsequently the RJR variables.

2028 Distributions of CRQ in squark, gluino, and compressed regions are shown in ??.
2029 There is high purity in top events in the control region corresponding to all signal
2030 regions.

2031 The final background of note in this background is the diboson background. This
2032 background is estimated directly from simulation. Due to the low cross-section of
2033 electroweak processes, this background is not significant in the signal regions. We
2034 assign a large ad-hoc 50% systematic on the cross-section, and do not attempt to
2035 define a control region for this background.

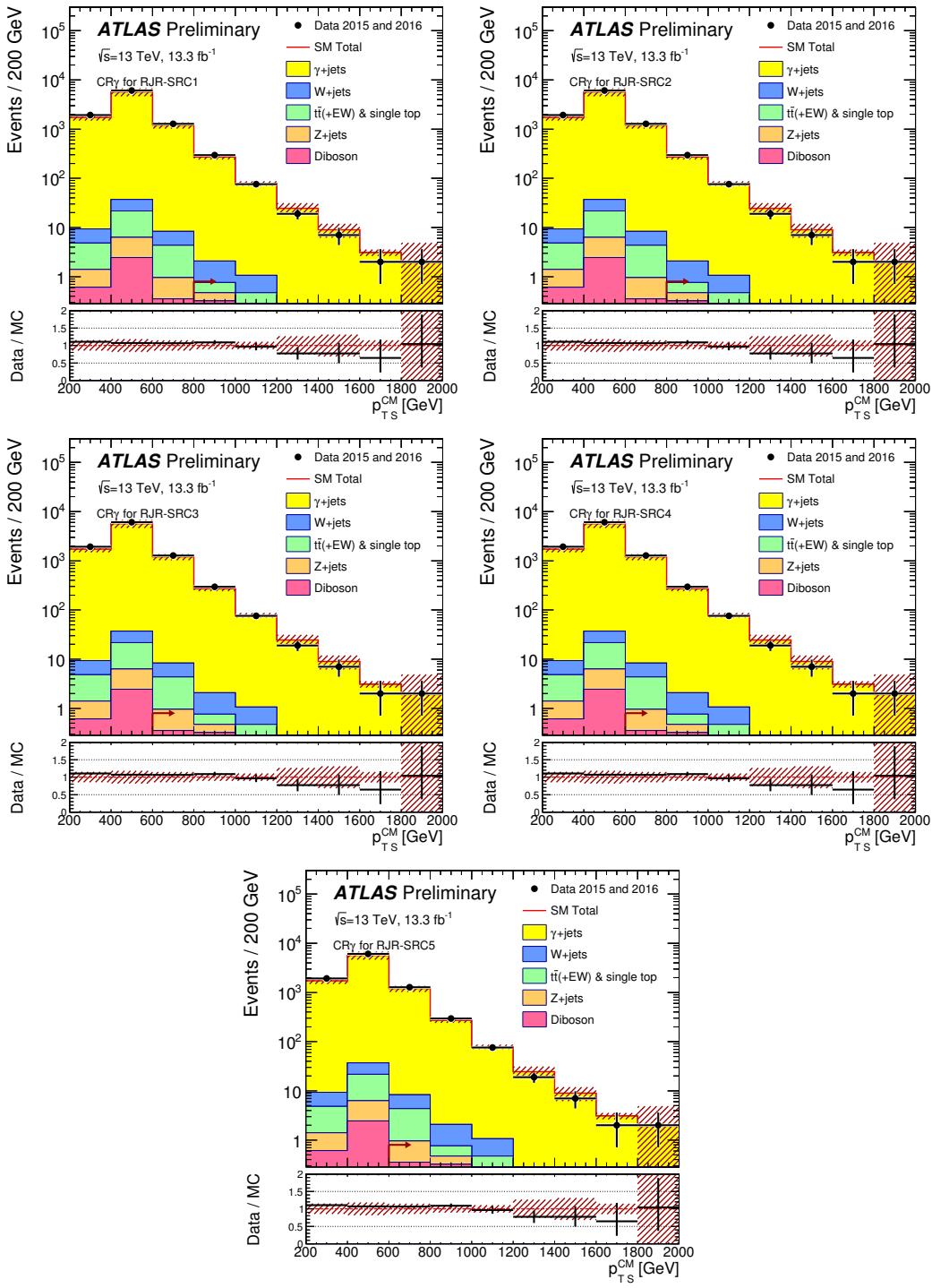


Figure 8.4: Scale variable distributions for the compressed CRY regions.

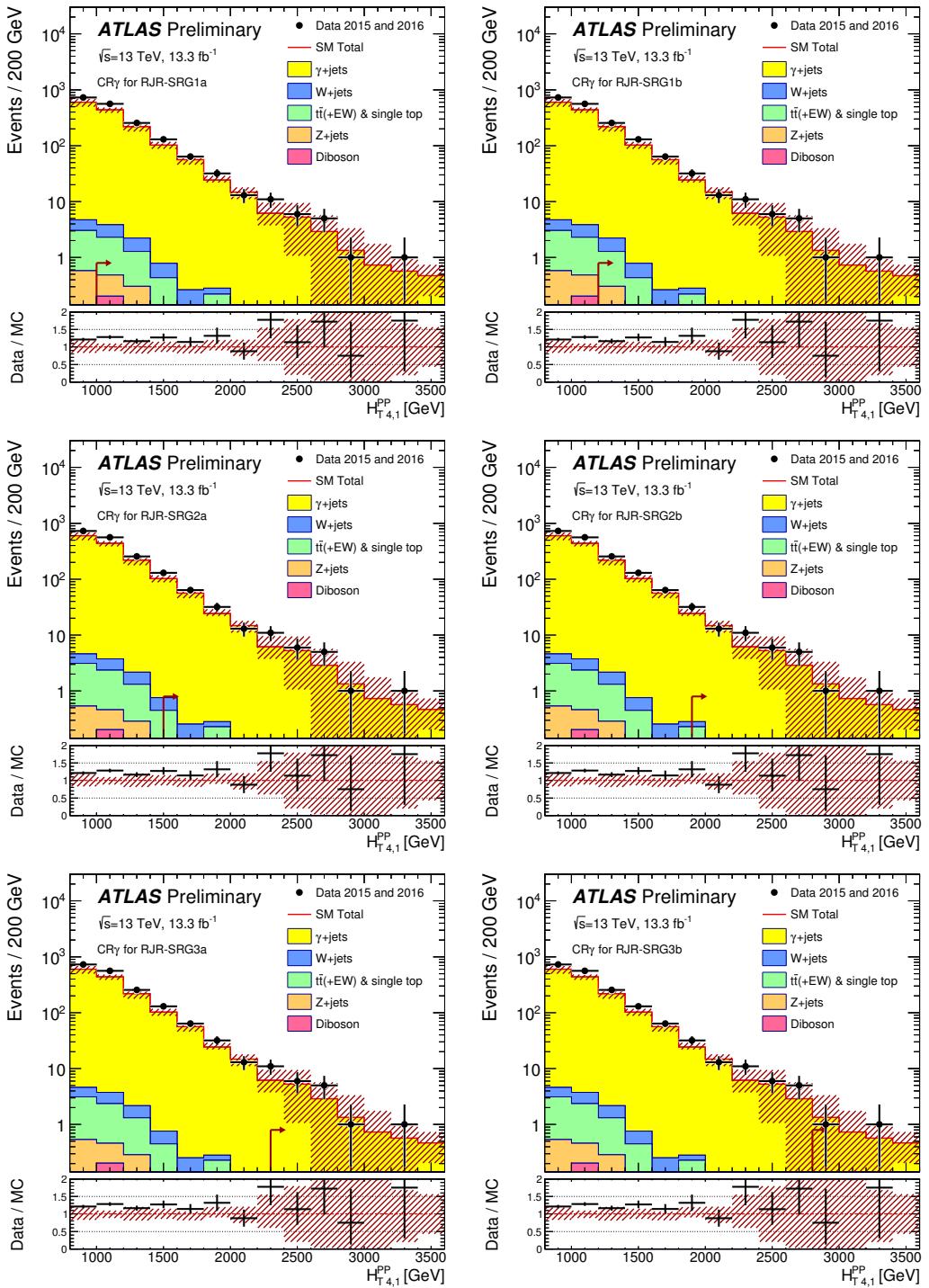


Figure 8.5: Scale variable distributions for the gluino CRY regions.

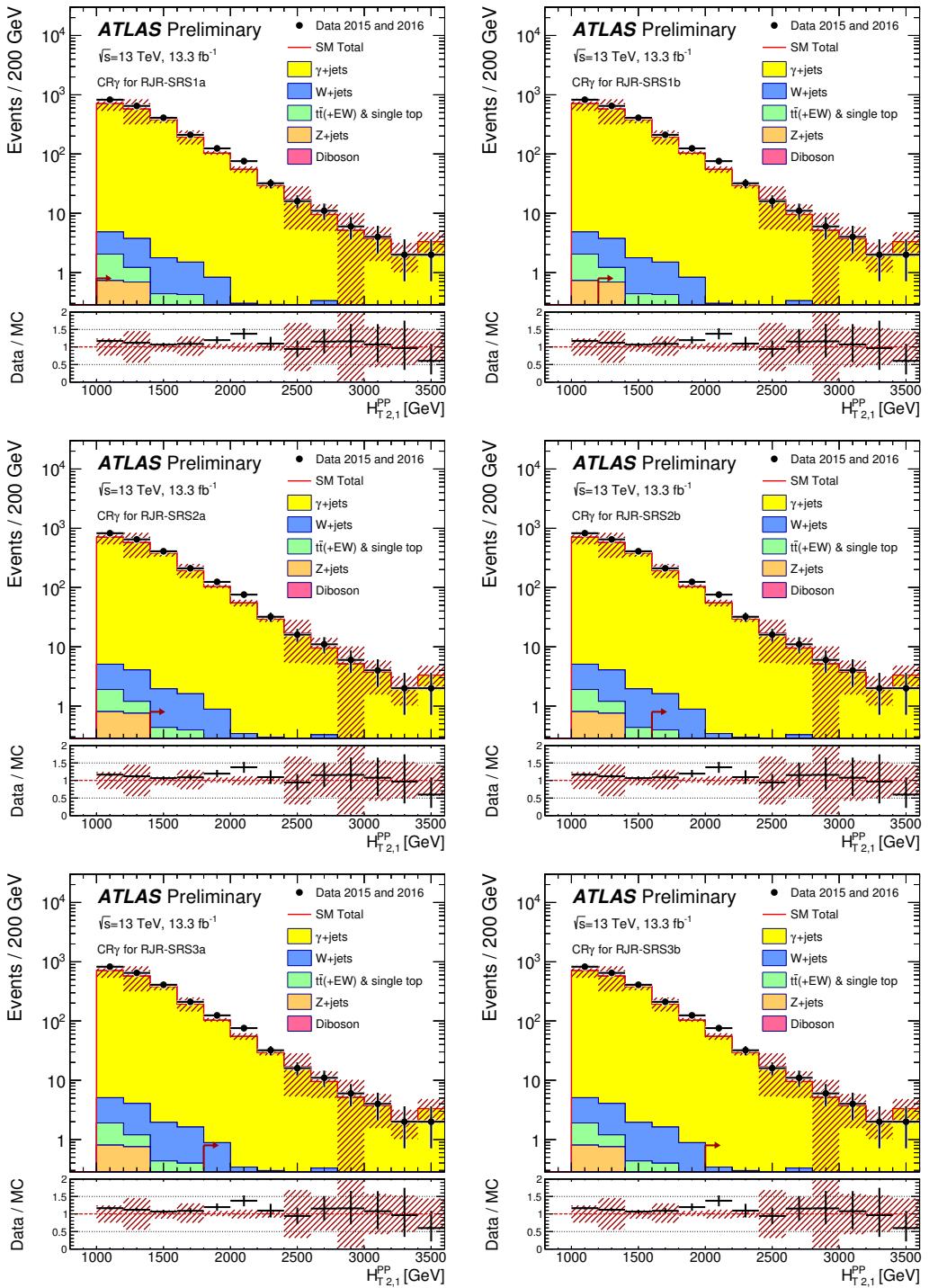


Figure 8.6: Scale variable distributions for the squark CRY regions.

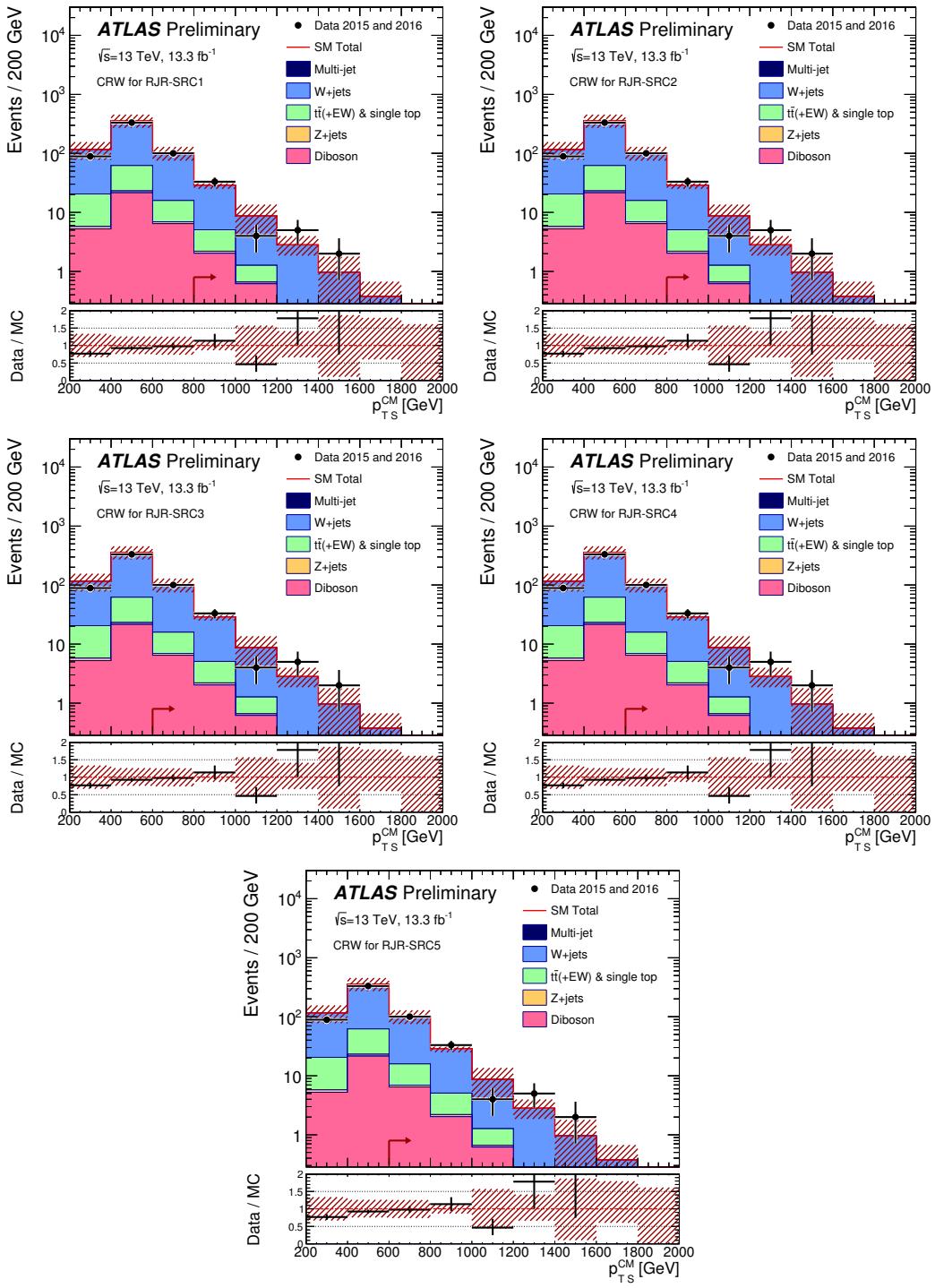


Figure 8.7: Scale variable distributions for the compressed CRW regions.

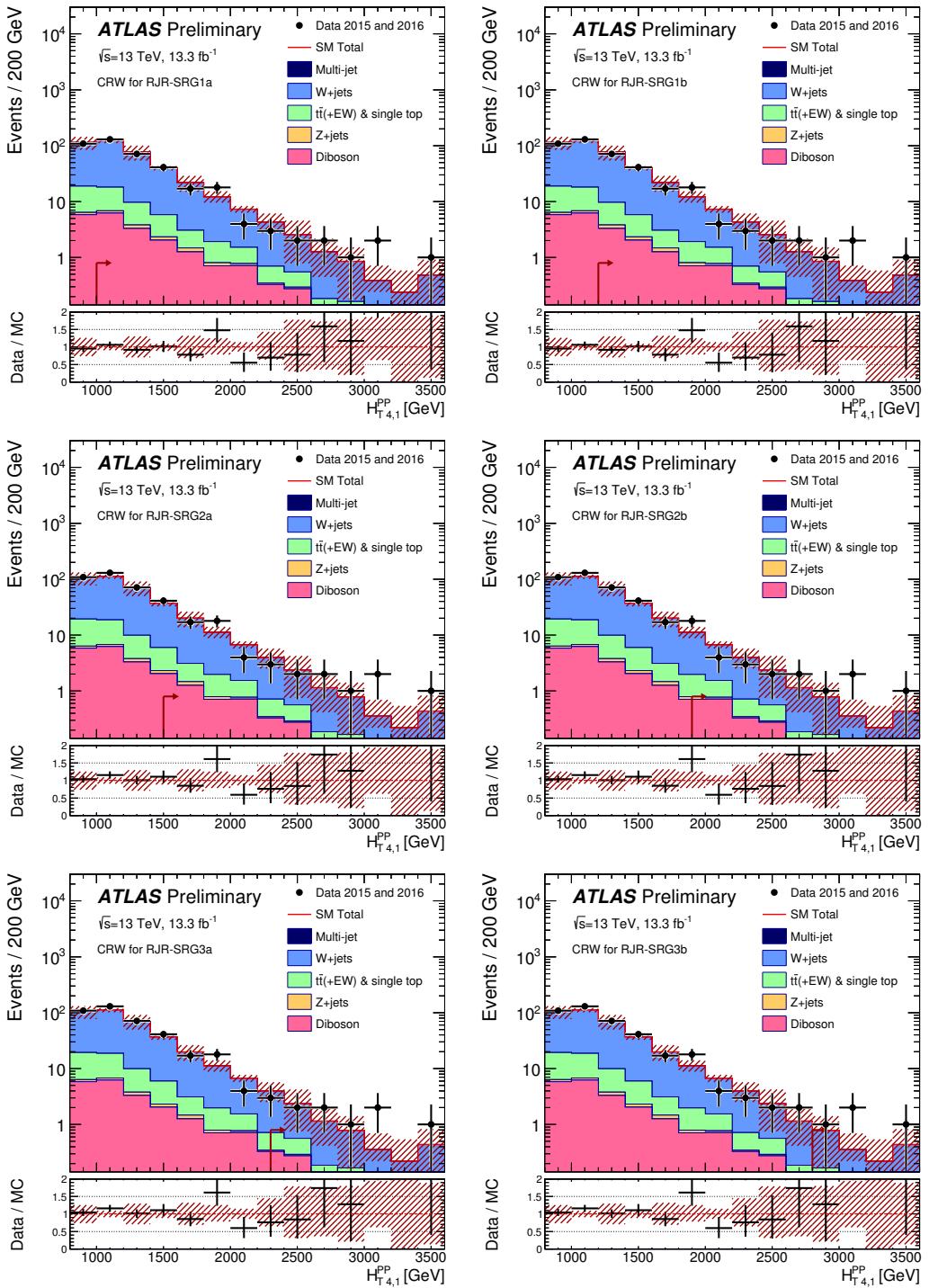


Figure 8.8: Scale variable distributions for the gluino CRW regions.

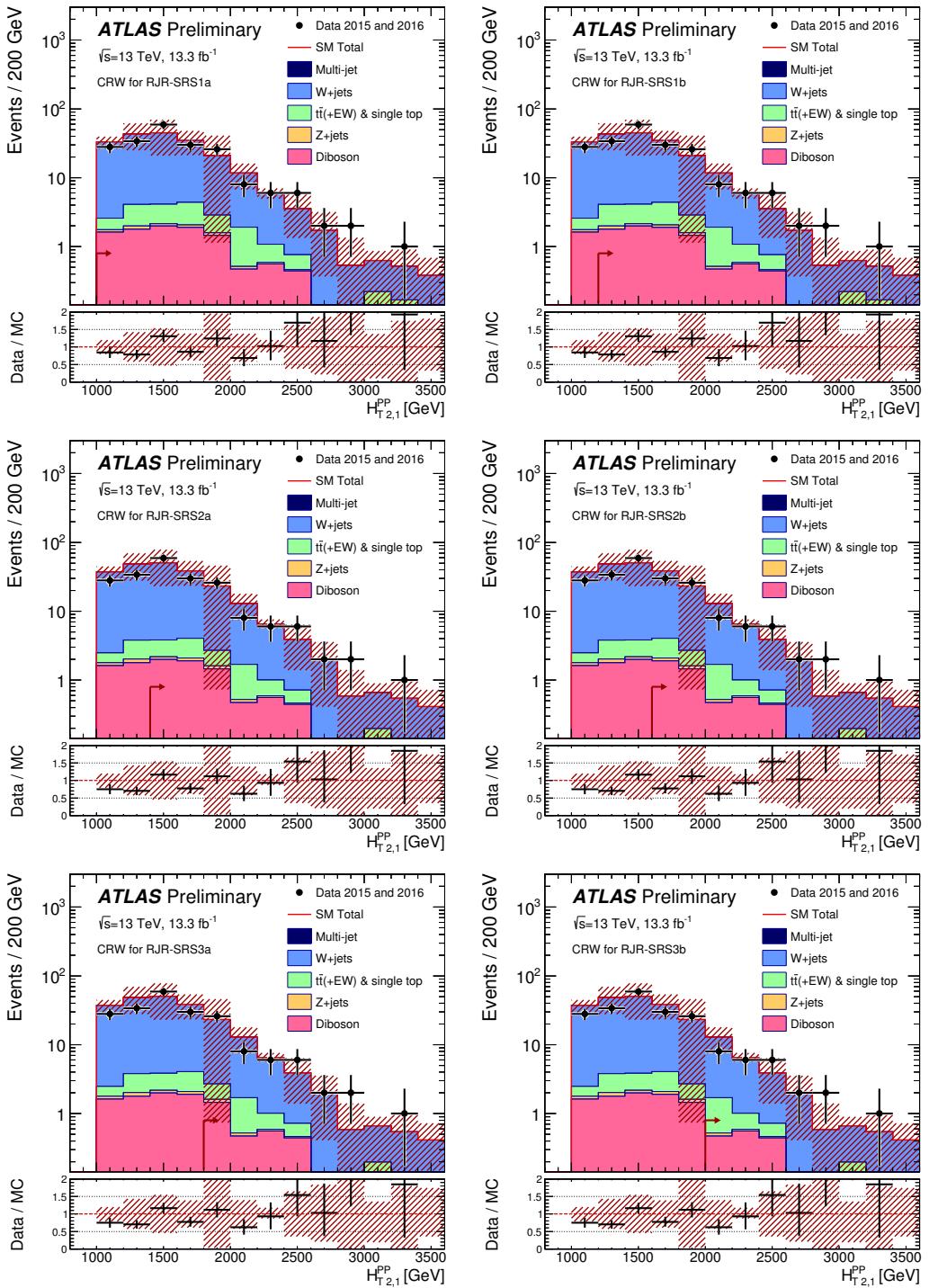


Figure 8.9: Scale variable distributions for the squark CRW regions.

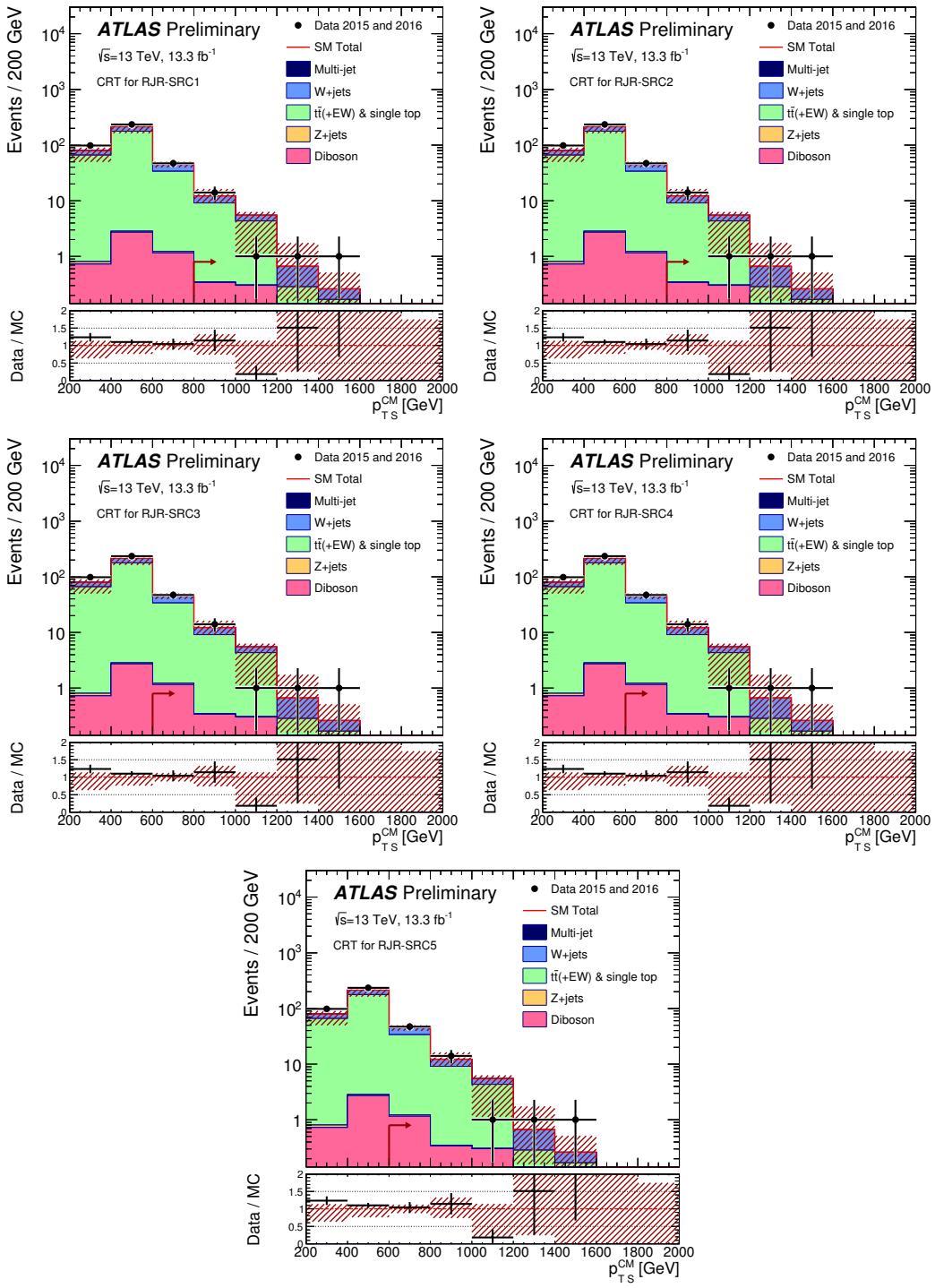


Figure 8.10: Scale variable distributions for the compressed CRT regions.

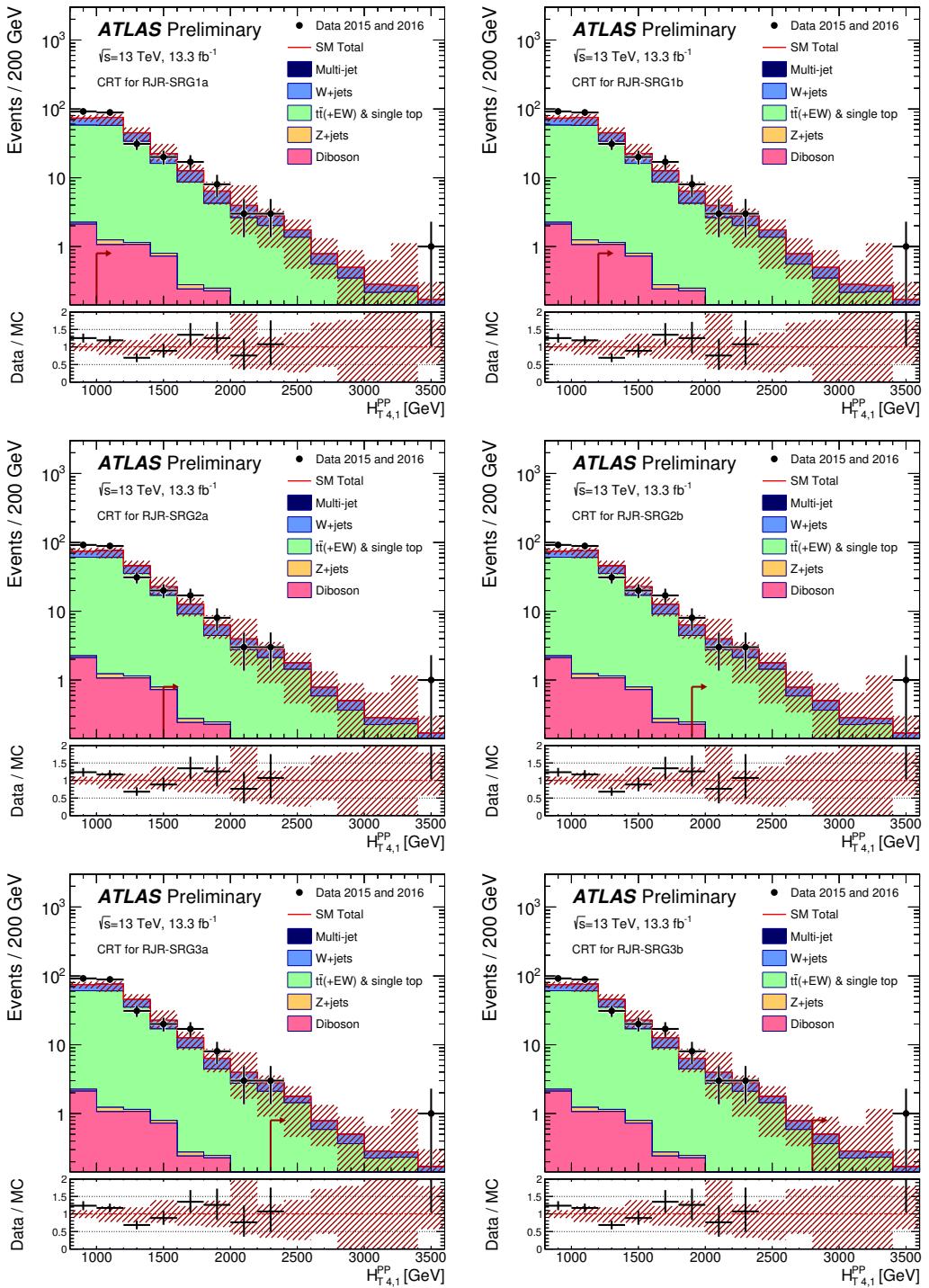


Figure 8.11: Scale variable distributions for the gluino CRT regions.

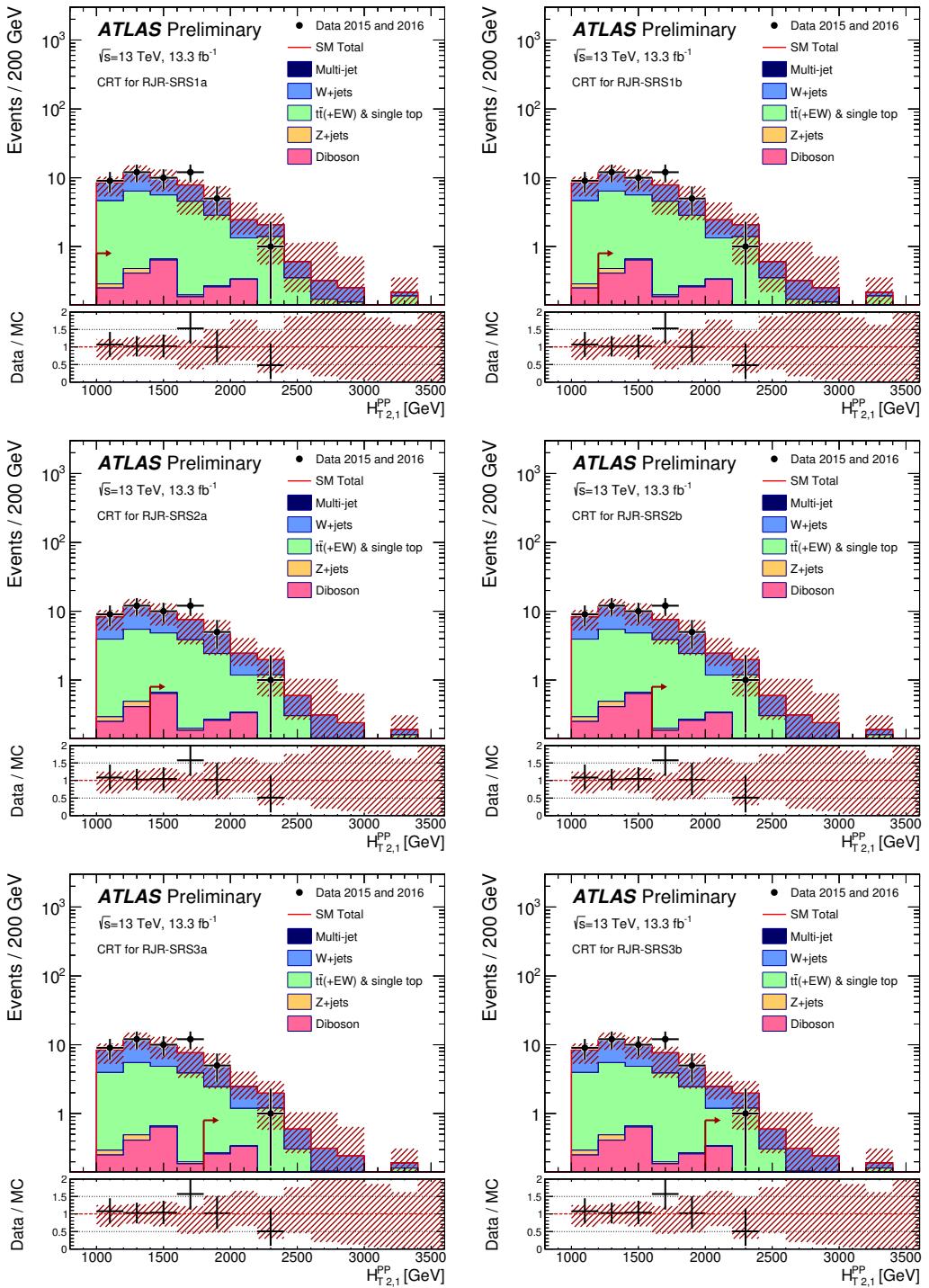


Figure 8.12: Scale variable distributions for the squark CRT regions.

2036 **Validation Regions**

2037 As discussed in general terms above, we define a set of validation regions to ensure
2038 we can properly model the particular backgrounds as we move closer to the SRs in
2039 phase space. We define at least one validation region for each major background.

2040 For the most important background $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$, we use a series of validation regions.
2041 The primary validation region, which we label as VRZ, is defined by selecting lepton
2042 pairs of opposite sign and identical flavor which lie within ± 25 GeV of the Z boson mass.
2043 This selection has high purity for $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$ events as seen in simulation. We treat the
2044 two leptons as contributions to the E_T^{miss} (as we did with the photon in CRY). This
2045 selection uses the same kinematic cuts as the signal region. We also define two VRs
2046 using the same event selection but looser kinematic cuts, which we label VRZa and
2047 VRZb. VRZa has a loosened selection on $H_{1,1}^{PP}$, again to the loosest value among the
2048 signal regions, as was done for CRW and CRt. VRZa has a loosened selection on
2049 the primary scaleful variable ($H_{T,2,1}^{PP}$ or $H_{T,4,1}^{PP}$), again to the loosest value among the
2050 signal regions, as was done for CRW and CRT. These two validation regions allow us
2051 to test the modeling of each of these variables individually, as well as allowing more
2052 validation region statistics in the signal regions with tighter cuts on these variables.

2053 For the compressed regions, these Z validation region were found lacking. The
2054 leptons are highly boosted in the compressed case, and the lepton acceptance was
2055 quite low due to lepton isolation requirements in ΔR . Instead, two fully hadronic
2056 validation region were developed for the compressed regions. The first, VRZc has
2057 identical requirements to the signal regions with an inverted requirement on $\Delta\phi_{ISR,I}$.
2058 From simulation, this region was found to be at least 50% pure in Z events, which
2059 was considered enough to validate this background in this extreme portion of phase
2060 space. For additional validation region statistics, we also developed VRZca, which
2061 takes again uses the loosest set of cuts from each signal region. Note this means that
2062 each compressed signal region has an identical VRZca.

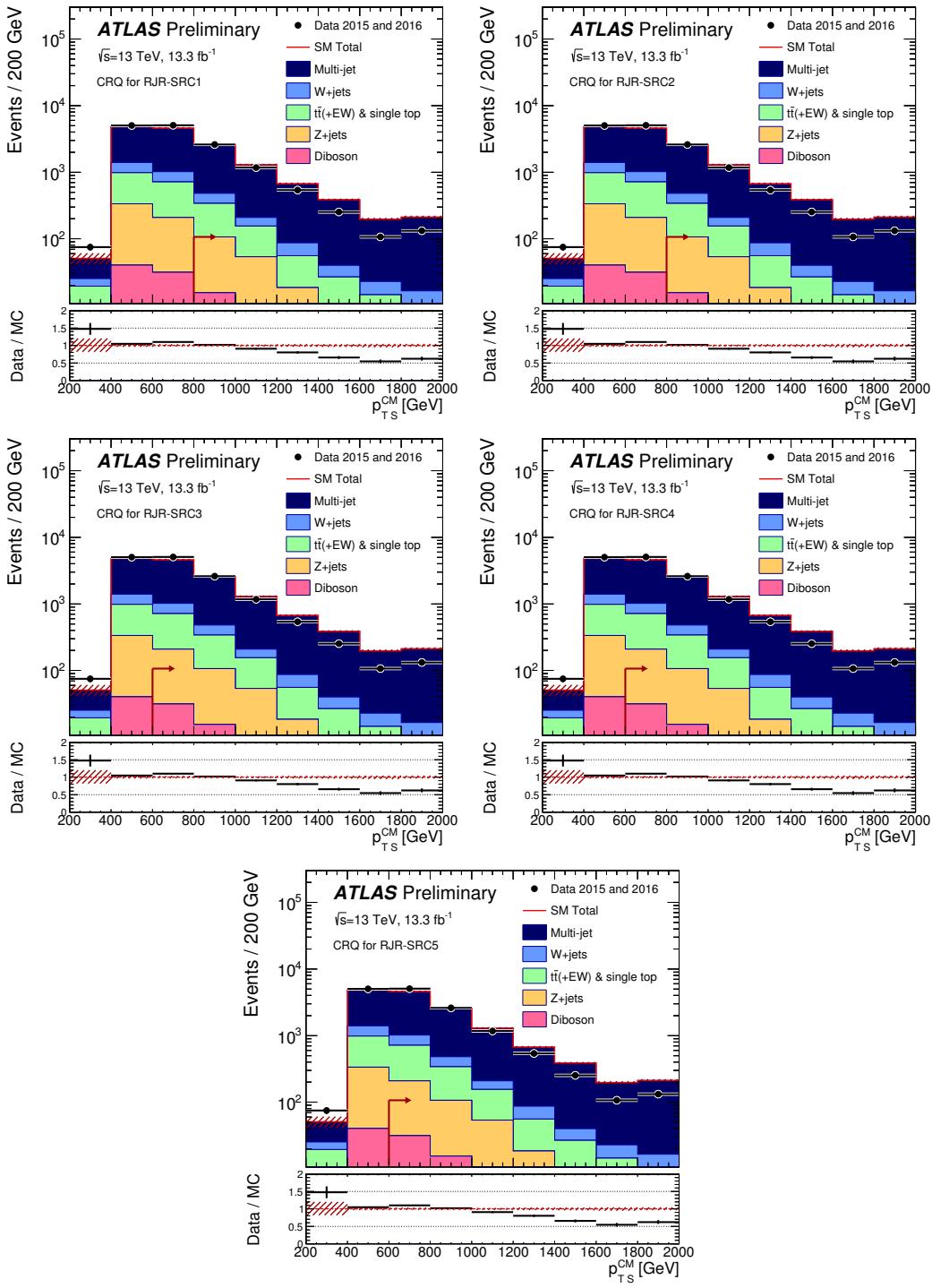


Figure 8.13: Scale variable distributions for the compressed CRQ regions.

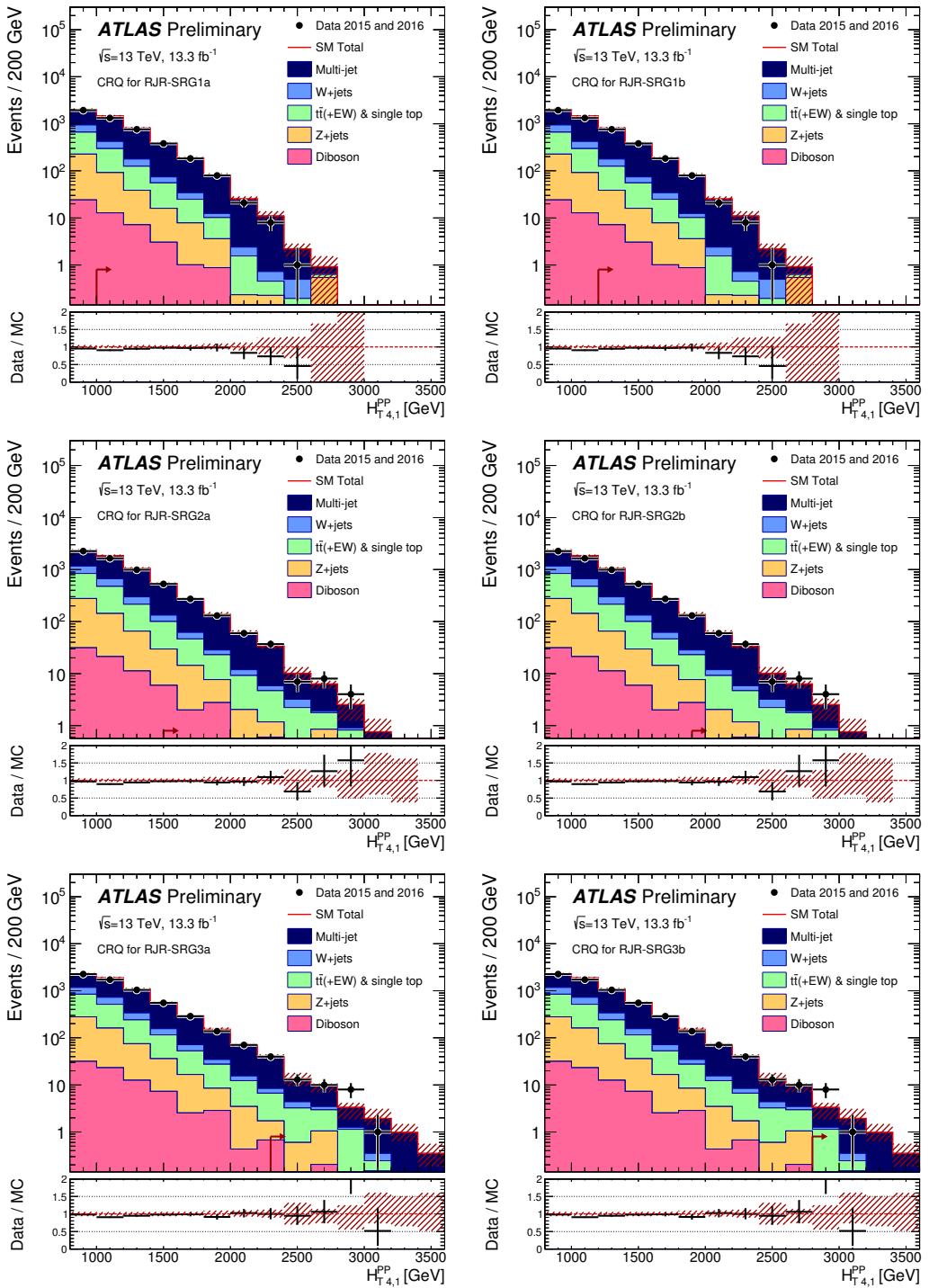


Figure 8.14: Scale variable distributions for the gluino CRQ regions.

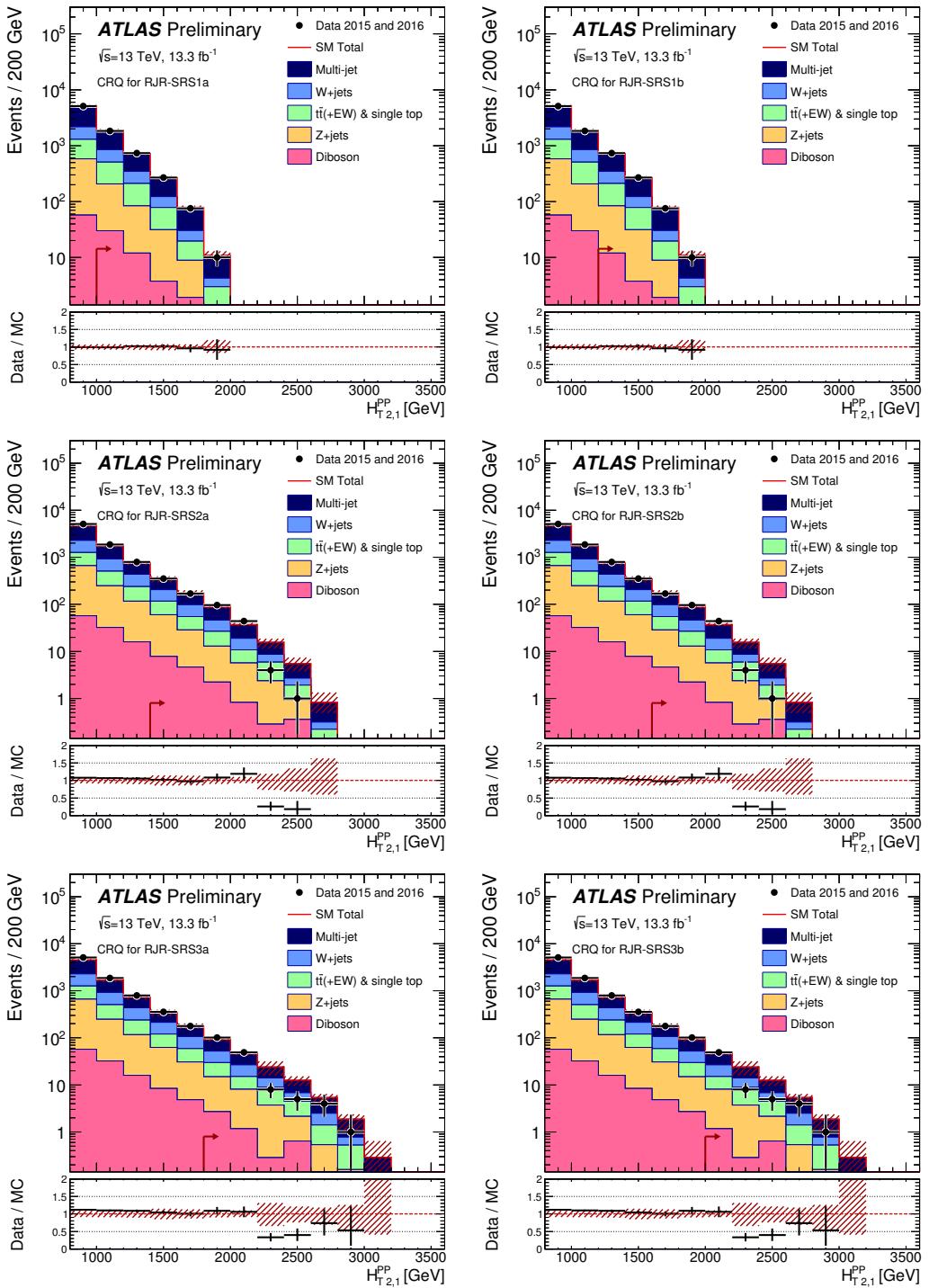


Figure 8.15: Scale variable distributions for the squark CRQ regions.

2063 The top and W validation regions use the same event selection as the correspond-
 2064 ing control regions, as described above. However, unlike the control regions, these
 2065 validation regions reimpose the SR scaleful variable selections, to be closer in phase
 2066 space to the hadronic signal regions. In the same way as we did for VRZa and
 2067 VRZb, we also define auxiliary VRs which loosen the cuts on the scale variables. We
 2068 define VRTa (VRWa) as VRT (VRW) with the same loosened cut on $H_{1,1}^{PP}$ and VRTb
 2069 (VRWb) as VRT (VRW) with the same loosened cut on the primary scale variable.

2070 The final set of validation regions are those defined to check the estimation of
 2071 the QCD background. VRQ is defined to be identical to the corresponding CRQ,
 2072 but again we use the full SR region cuts for the scaleful variables. This selection is
 2073 then closer to the corresponding signal region to validate the CRQ estimate. We also
 2074 define the auxiliary validation regions VRQa and VRQb for the noncompressed signal
 2075 regions. In this case, we reimpose one of the two inverted cuts in CRQ with respect
 2076 to the signal regions, to make each one even closer to the SRs. In CRQa (CRQb), we
 2077 reimpose the $H_{1,1}^{PP}$ (Δ_{QCD}).

2078 For the compressed case, we again define a separate validation region, due to
 2079 the special kinematics probed. We construct a validation region which is the same as
 2080 CRQ, with $.5 < R_{\text{ISR}} < R_{\text{ISR, SR}}$, where $R_{\text{ISR, SR}}$ is the cut on R_{ISR} in the corresponding
 2081 SR. Again, this can be seen as probing “in between” the CR and SR in phase space.

The results of this validation can be seen in 8.16. Each bin is *pull* of the validation
 region corresponding to a particular signal region. This is defined

$$\text{Pull} = \frac{N_{\text{obs}} - N_{\text{pred}}}{\sigma_{\text{tot}}} \quad (8.4)$$

2082 where σ_{tot} is the total uncertainty folding in all systematic uncertainties, which we
 2083 will describe later. Assuming we have well-measured our backgrounds, we expect a
 2084 Gaussian distribution of the pulls around 0, with a standard deviation of 1, as this
 2085 is measuring the number of standard deviations around the mean. We can see there
 2086 are few positive pulls (indicating an underestimation of the background), indicating

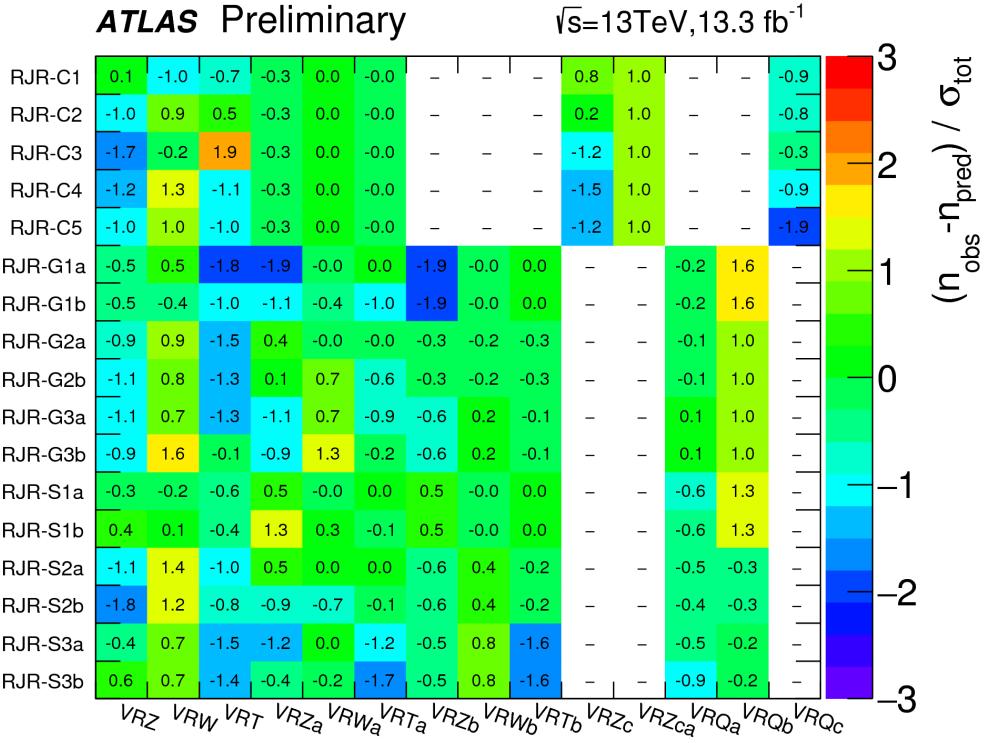


Figure 8.16: Summary of the validation region pulls

2087 we have conservatively measured the Standard Model backgrounds with our control
 2088 regions.

2089 Systematic Uncertainties

2090 In this section, we discuss the uncertainties considered. These generally fall into
 2091 four categories: theoretical generator uncertainties, uncertainties on the CR to SR
 2092 extrapolations, uncertainties on the data-driven transfer factor corrections, and object
 2093 reconstruction uncertainties. We discuss each of these categories here. A table
 2094 summarizing this section is in 8.5

Systematic	Uncertainty Description
alpha_GeneratorZ	Theoretical on Z cross-section
alpha_generatorW	Theoretical on W cross-section
alpha_generatorTop	Theoretical on t cross-section
alpha_radiationTop	Theoretical on t radiation tune
alpha_Pythia8Top	Theoretical on t fragmentation tune
alpha_FlatDiboson	Flat on diboson cross-section
mu_Zjets	CRY extrapolation to SR
mu_Wjets	CRW extrapolation to SR
mu_Top	CRT extrapolation to SR
mu_Multijets	CRQ extrapolation to SR
alpha_Kappa	κ factor
alpha_QCDError	Jet smearing
alpha_JET_GroupedNP_1	JES NP group 1
alpha_JET_GroupedNP_2	JES NP group 2
alpha_JET_GroupedNP_3	JES NP group 3
alpha_JER	JER
alpha_MET_SoftTrk_ResoPerp	Soft E_T^{miss} resolution perpendicular to hard object system
alpha_MET_SoftTrk_ResoPara	Soft E_T^{miss} resolution parallel to hard object system
alpha_MET_SoftTrk_Scale	Soft E_T^{miss} scale

Table 8.5: Description of the systematic uncertainties in the analysis.

2095 The theoretical generator uncertainties are evaluated by using alternative sim-
 2096 ulation samples or varying scale uncertainties. In the case of the $Z+jets$ and
 2097 $W+jets$ backgrounds, the related theoretical uncertainties are estimated by varying
 2098 the renormalization, factorization, and resummation scales by two, and decreasing
 2099 the nominal CKKW matching scale by 5 GeV and 10 GeV respectively. In
 2100 the case of $t\bar{t}$ production, we compare the nominal POWHEG-Box generator with
 2101 MG5_aMC@NLO, as well as comparing different radiation and generator tunes. As
 2102 stated above, we account for the uncertainty on the small diboson background by
 2103 imposition of a flat 50% uncertainty.

2104 The CR to SR extrapolation uncertainties, or what could be called the transfer

2105 factor uncertainties, are listed in 8.5 as μ_- . There is one normalization factor μ for
2106 each major background, and their uncertainties, especially μ_Z , are often dominant
2107 for the measurement in many signal regions. This uncertainty is generally dominated
2108 by the statistical uncertainty in the CR.

2109 There are two uncertainties from the data-driven corrections to the transfer
2110 factors. The first is the uncertainty on κ , which is measured using an auxiliary $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$
2111 control region. This is labeled alpha_Kappa. The other is the uncertainty is that
2112 assigned to the jet smearing method, which is seen in the table as alpha_QCDError.

2113 The final set of uncertainties are those related to object reconstruction. In the
2114 case of the hadronic search presented, the important uncertainties are those assigned
2115 to the jet energy and E_T^{miss} . The uncertainties on the lepton reconstruction and
2116 b -tagging uncertainties were found to be negligible in all SRs. The measurement
2117 of the jet energy scale (JES) uncertainty is quite complicated, and described in
2118 [Aad:2011he, Aad:2012vm, 127]. After a complicated procedure to decorrelate
2119 the various components of the JES uncertainty, there are three components which
2120 remain, which are labeled as alpha_JET_GroupedNP_1,2,3. The jet energy resolution
2121 uncertainty is estimated using the methods discussed in Refs. [Aad:2012ag, 127],
2122 and is labeled alpha_JER.

2123 The E_T^{miss} soft term uncertainties are described in [112, 113, 128]. The
2124 uncertainty on the E_T^{miss} soft term resolution is parameterized into a component
2125 parallel to direction of the rest of the event (the sum of the hard objects p_T)
2126 and a component perpendicular to this direction. There is also an uncertainty
2127 on the E_T^{miss} soft term scale. These are labeled as alpha_MET_SoftTrk_ResoPara,
2128 alpha_MET_SoftTrk_ResoPerp, and alpha_MET_SoftTrk_Scale.

2129 **Fitting procedure**

2130 In this section, we describe the fitting procedure employed, which properly accounts
2131 for the correlations between the uncertainties through the use of a likelihood fit
2132 as described in [120]. We use three classes of likelihood fits: *background-only*,
2133 *model-independent*, and *model-dependent* fits. The background-only fits estimate the
2134 background yields in each signal region. These fits use only the control region event
2135 yields as inputs; they do not include the information from the signal regions besides
2136 the simulation event yield. The cross-contamination between CRs is also fit by this
2137 procedure. The systematic uncertainties described in the previous section are used as
2138 nuisance parameters. This background only fit also estimates the background event
2139 yields in the validation regions. When designing the analysis (before unblinding
2140 the signal regions), checking the validation region agreement is the primary way to
2141 validate the consistency and accuracy of the background estimation procedure.

2142 In the case no excess is observed, we use a model-independent fit to set upper limits
2143 on the possible number of possible beyond the Standard Model events in each SR.
2144 These limits are derived using the same procedure as the background-only fit, with
2145 two additional pieces of information included in the fitting procedure. We include
2146 the SR event count, and a parameter known as the *signal strength*, defined as $\mu =$
2147 $\sigma/\sigma_{\text{BG}}$. Using the CL_s procedure[129] and neglecting the possible (small) signal
2148 contamination in control regions, we derive the the observed and expected limits on
2149 the number of events from BSM phenomena in each signal region.

2150 Model-dependent fits are used to set exclusion limits on the specific SUSY
2151 models considered in this thesis, particular the gluino or squark pair production
2152 with various mass splittings. This can be seen as identical to the background-only
2153 fit with an additional simulation input from the particular model of interest, with its
2154 corresponding systematic uncertainties from detector effects accounted for as in the
2155 background-only fit. As noted when we introduced 8.1, the exclusion contours from

2156 previous model-dependent fits are the primary motivating factor in the design of our
2157 signal regions. If no excess is found, we set limits on each of the simplified signal
2158 models with various mass splittings.

Results

2161 This chapter presents the results of the analysis presented in the previous chapter.
 2162 We present the full set of signal region distributions after applying the μ factors
 2163 derived from the fitting procedure. We also present the systematic uncertainties in
 2164 each signal region properly accounting for the correlations of the uncertainties. As
 2165 no excess is observed, we show exclusion limits in the sparticle- $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ plane based on
 2166 the results of the model-dependent fits and present the model-independent limits.

2167 **9.1 Signal region distributions**

2168 In figs. 9.1 to 9.3, we can see the unblinded distributions of the last scale cut used
 2169 for each signal region. These distributions include the μ normalization scale factors
 2170 derived from the fitting procedure. The systematic uncertainties are also shown.
 2171 Each plot shows the distribution from a signal model which is targetted by the given
 2172 signal region.

2173 These distributions have all cuts applied except for the cut on this scale variable,
 2174 which allows us to see the additional discrimination provided by the given variable.
 2175 Since signal regions with the same numeral have identical cuts except for that on the
 2176 main scale variable, we show (a) and (b) on the same figure. The left-most (right-
 2177 most) arrow shown is the location of the a (b) cut applied in the analysis. We call
 2178 these plot $N - 1$ plots, where N refers to the number of cuts applied in the analysis.
 2179 The full set of $N - 1$ plots in the signal regions for the other variables used in the

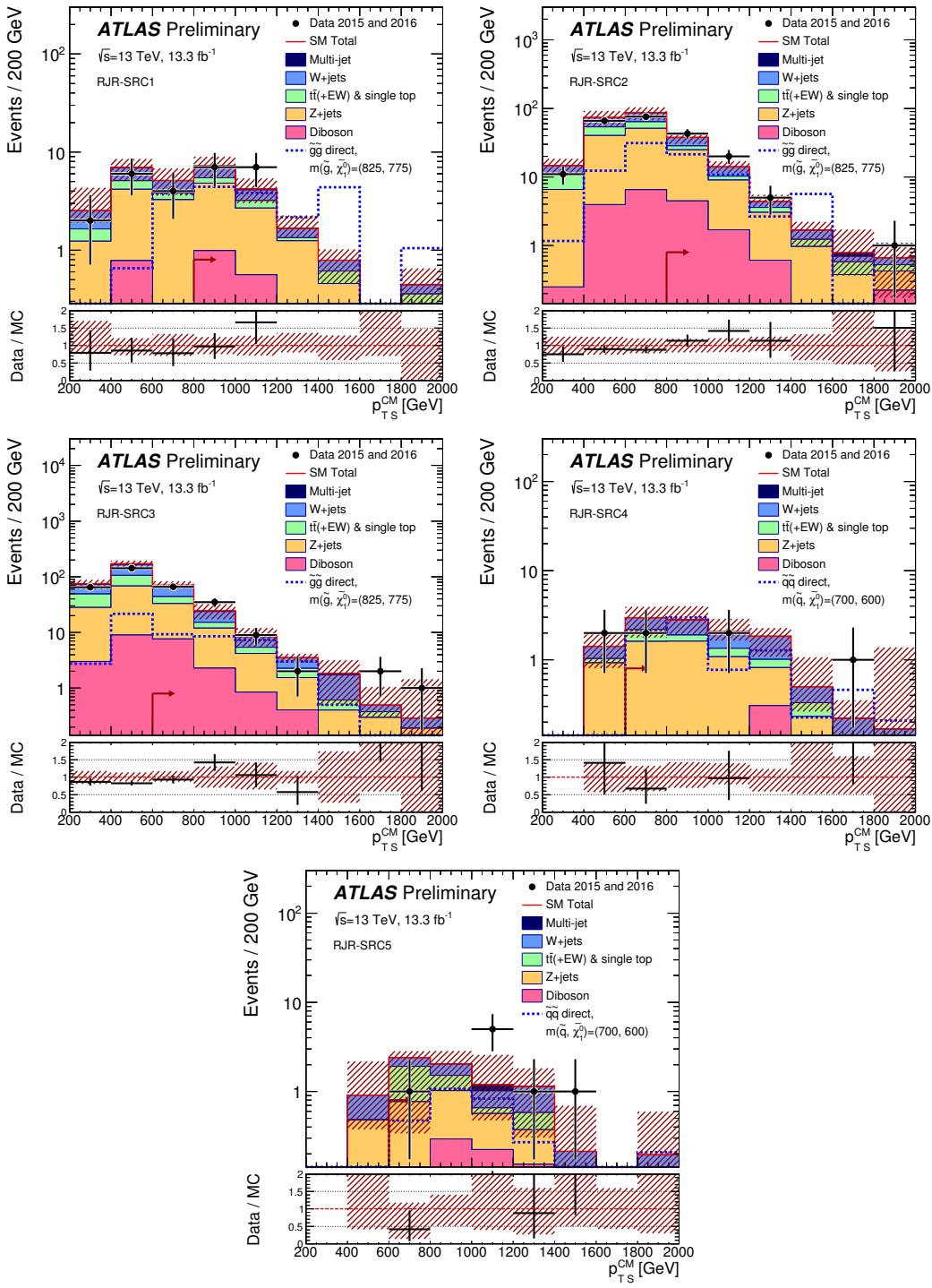


Figure 9.1: Scale variable distributions for the compressed signal regions.

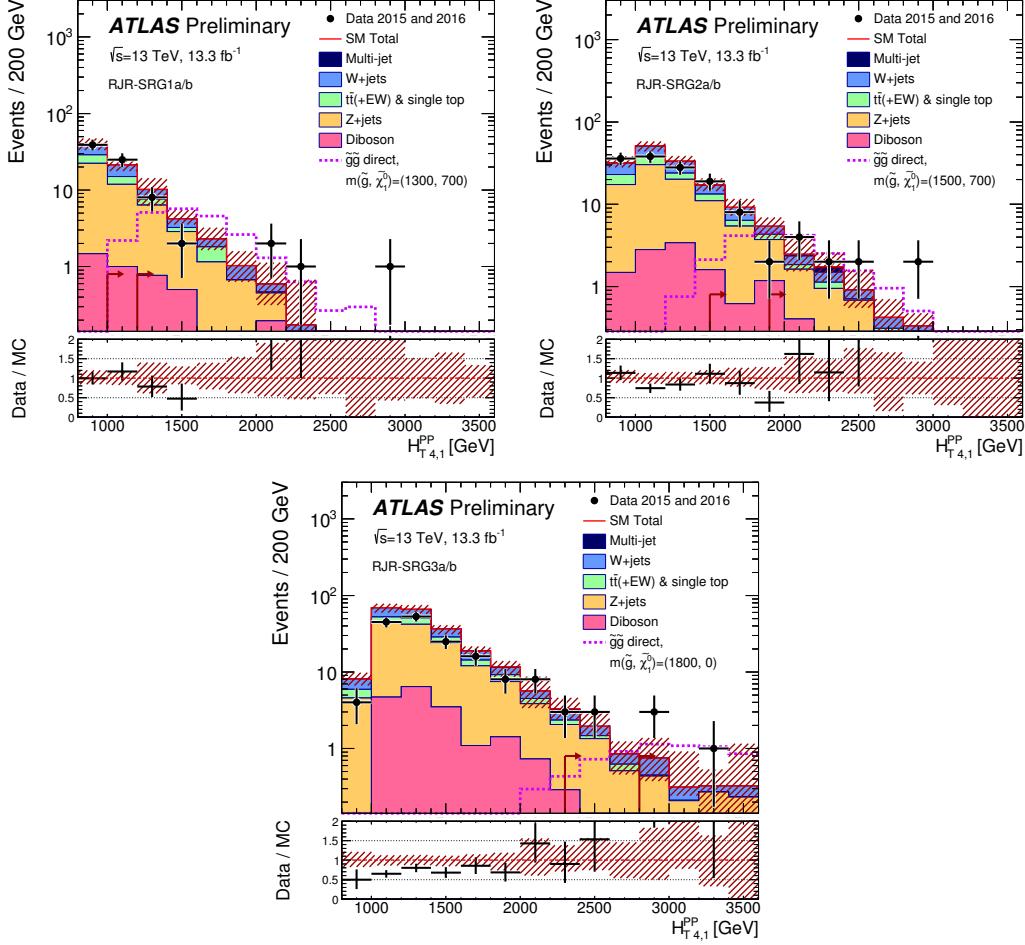


Figure 9.2: Scale variable distributions for the gluino signal regions.

analysis are shown in 9.4.

A figure showing a summary of the pulls in all of the SRs is shown in 9.4. This figure shows the integrated data and simulation values above the cut values in the N-1 plots, with the corresponding statistical and systematic uncertainties, for all signal regions simultaneously. The systematic uncertainties will be discussed in the next section. From this plot, we can see there is no significant excess of events over the Standard Model background.

This information is also presented in 9.2. The table includes the expectations from simulation before applying the μ normalization factor, as well as the model-independent limits we will discuss later.

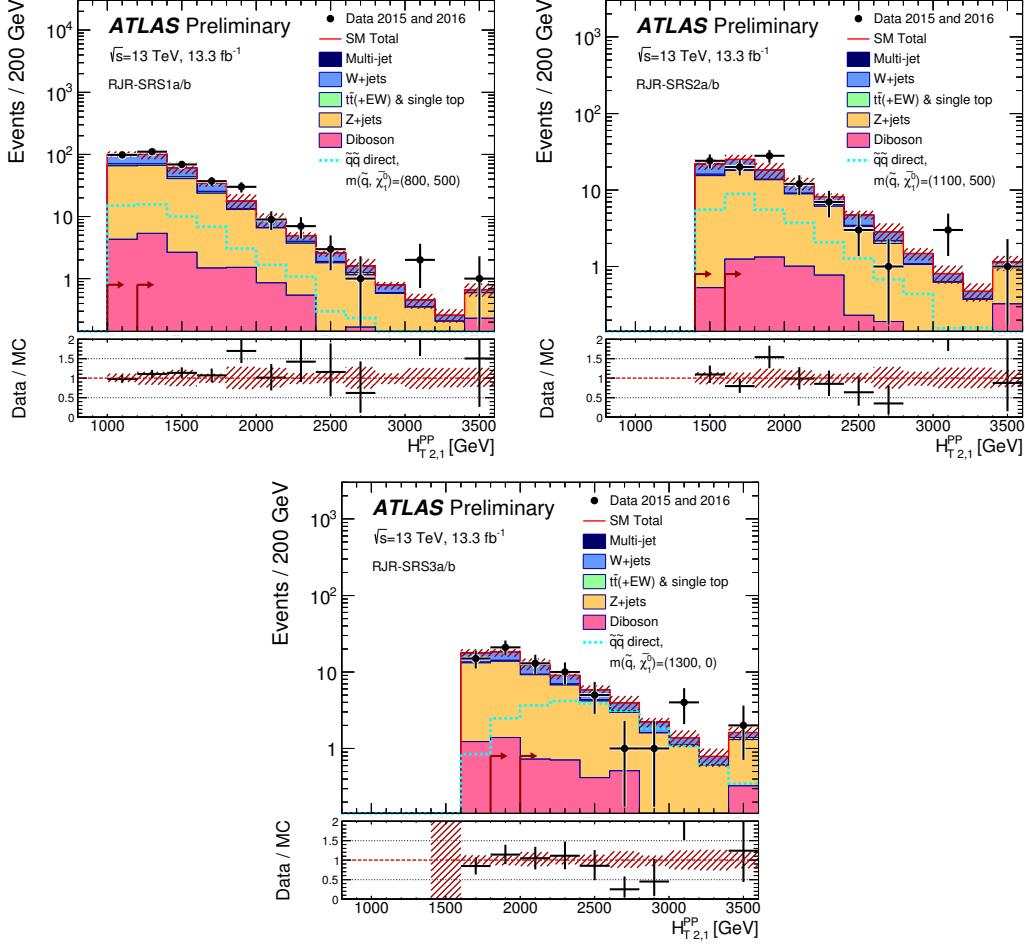


Figure 9.3: Scale variable distributions for the squark signal regions.

2190 We now consider the final values of the systematic uncertainties.

2191 9.2 Systematic Uncertainties

2192 This section considers the results of 9.1. This table is a summary of the resulting
 2193 systematic uncertainties on the background estimation in each signal region, properly
 2194 accounting for systematic uncertainties. These uncertainties are expressed both as a
 2195 relative uncertainty and absolute uncertainty. As correlations are properly treated,
 2196 the absolute uncertainties do not add in quadrature, although most uncertainties are
 2197 relatively uncorrelated. We discuss the general trends in the systematic uncertainties

2198 for each type of signal region.

2199 In the squark regions, the total uncertainties range from 10% to 11%. We note
2200 that the uncertainties on the Z , both theoretical and $\Delta_{\mu, Z+jets}$ account for the largest
2201 on the background estimate in each signal region. The κ factor uncertainty, which is
2202 also an uncertainty on the Z estimate, is also significant at 4% in each region. The
2203 $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ contribution to the squark regions is the primary irreducible background, so
2204 even when relatively well-measured, the uncertainty on its event yield dominates the
2205 overall uncertainty. There are also significant uncertainties from the W , top, and flat
2206 diboson uncertainties, although these are subdominant. We note that the uncertainty
2207 due to statistics of the MC simulation samples are very small for the squark case; this
2208 is a reflection of the “looseness” of these regions, as the MC statistics are sufficient
2209 for all of the major backgrounds.

2210 The gluino regions have overall larger uncertainties than the squark regions,
2211 between 10% and 25%. due to a multitude of factors. The Z related uncertainties
2212 all contribute significantly to the final background yield uncertainties. These
2213 are relatively similar to the squark Z uncertainties. The W , top, and diboson
2214 uncertainties are all significantly more important than in the squark case however. In
2215 the gluino case, we also see that the limited simulation statistics begin to significantly
2216 affect the measurement of the Standard Model background. These are all reflections
2217 of the overall “tighter” quality of the gluino regions, as indicated by the event yields.
2218 The Δ_{μ} uncertainties are affected by this due to the need to use overall looser
2219 control regions, while the theory uncertainties are more affected by small statistical
2220 fluctuations between different generators. The low statistics is particularly clear in
2221 SRG3b, where the simulation statistics account for a very large 14% uncertainty.

2222 The compressed regions have systematic uncertainties ranging from 10% to 19%.
2223 For the tighter regions, SRC1, SRC4, and SRC5, we see a large contribution from
2224 the lack of MC statistics. SRC1 and SRC4 should a large value for the W theory

uncertainty, while all compressed regions show a large uncertainty on the Z estimate. These large uncertainties result from the fact that we are probing extreme phase space in boson p_T with the compressed regions. SRC5 shows large top and jet/ E_T^{miss} uncertainties; these uncertainties are more pronounced in this region than the other compressed region due to the $N_{\text{jet}}^V > 3$ cut, and thus the uncertainty in this region is quite affected by fluctuations in the top, jet, or E_T^{miss} uncertainties.

9.3 Limits and Model-dependent Exclusions

In Table 9.1, we show the statistical significance Z for each signal region. We calculate this using the fitted simulation mean compared with the observed event counts in each region. There is no significant excess in each region; the highest excess is in SRG3b, which is only $Z_{\text{SRG3b}} = 1.55$. This information is summarized in 9.4. We thus set model-independent and model-dependent limits.

As no significant excess is observed in any of the signal regions of this analysis after estimating the background using the background-only fit, we set limits on the model-independent and model-dependent cross sections.

The model-independent limits are shown in 9.1. We present the limits on the new physics cross section in each SR. The observed and expected limits S_{obs}^{95} and S_{exp}^{95} are reported for the potential contribution from new physics in each region. Including the acceptance ϵ , the model-independent limits in most signal regions are of $\sim 1 - 2$ fb. One should note that the (b) version of each signal region is strictly tighter in the primary scale cut, and thus provides a stronger limit when we observe no excess, as seen here.

Additionally, we derive exclusion limits for the simplified models considered in this thesis. These are the models with pair-production of squark pairs with inaccessible gluinos, and gluino pairs with inaccessible squarks. They correspond directly to the

Channel	RJR-S1a	RJR-S1b	RJR-S2a	RJR-S2b	RJR-S3a	RJR-S3b
Total bkg	334	233	96	75	56	37
Total bkg unc.	± 35 [10%]	± 25 [11%]	± 10 [10%]	± 8 [11%]	± 6 [11%]	± 4 [11%]
MC statistics	—	± 2.6 [1%]	± 1.5 [2%]	± 1.3 [2%]	± 1.0 [2%]	± 0.7 [2%]
$\Delta\mu_{Z,+jets}$	± 20 [6%]	± 14 [6%]	± 4 [4%]	± 2.9 [4%]	± 2.2 [4%]	± 1.5 [4%]
$\Delta\mu_{W,+jets}$	± 10 [3%]	± 7 [3%]	± 3.1 [3%]	± 2.3 [3%]	± 1.6 [3%]	± 1.1 [3%]
$\Delta\mu_{Top}$	± 6 [2%]	± 4 [2%]	± 1.5 [2%]	± 1.1 [1%]	± 0.9 [2%]	± 0.6 [2%]
$\Delta\mu_{Multijet}$	± 0.09 [0%]	± 0.05 [0%]	± 0.02 [0%]	—	—	—
CR γ corr. factor	± 12 [4%]	± 8 [3%]	± 4 [4%]	± 2.9 [4%]	± 2.2 [4%]	± 1.4 [4%]
Theory Z	± 23 [7%]	± 16 [7%]	± 7 [7%]	± 6 [8%]	± 4 [7%]	± 2.8 [8%]
Theory W	± 4 [1%]	± 5 [2%]	± 0.4 [0%]	± 0.11 [0%]	± 1.5 [3%]	± 1.2 [3%]
Theory Top	± 4 [1%]	± 2.7 [1%]	± 0.8 [1%]	± 0.7 [1%]	± 0.6 [1%]	± 0.4 [1%]
Theory Diboson	± 9 [3%]	± 6 [3%]	± 2.8 [3%]	± 2.6 [3%]	± 2.1 [4%]	± 1.4 [4%]
Jet/MET	± 3.3 [1%]	± 1.5 [1%]	± 0.6 [1%]	± 0.6 [1%]	± 1.2 [2%]	± 1.0 [3%]
Multijet method	± 0.7 [0%]	± 0.4 [0%]	± 0.08 [0%]	—	—	—
Channel	RJR-G1a	RJR-G1b	RJR-G2a	RJR-G2b	RJR-G3a	RJR-G3b
Total bkg	40	18.8	27.8	8.5	5.8	1.7
Total bkg unc.	± 4 [10%]	± 2.5 [13%]	± 3.4 [12%]	± 1.4 [16%]	± 1.1 [19%]	± 0.4 [24%]
MC statistics	± 1.6 [4%]	± 1.0 [5%]	± 1.2 [4%]	± 0.6 [7%]	± 0.4 [7%]	± 0.23 [14%]
$\Delta\mu_{Z,+jets}$	± 1.5 [4%]	± 0.7 [4%]	± 1.6 [6%]	± 0.5 [6%]	± 0.4 [7%]	± 0.1 [6%]
$\Delta\mu_{W,+jets}$	± 0.9 [2%]	± 0.4 [2%]	± 1.2 [4%]	± 0.31 [4%]	± 0.28 [5%]	± 0.1 [6%]
$\Delta\mu_{Top}$	± 0.8 [2%]	± 0.33 [2%]	± 0.9 [3%]	± 0.23 [3%]	± 0.07 [1%]	± 0.1 [6%]
$\Delta\mu_{Multijet}$	± 0.1 [0%]	—	± 0.03 [0%]	± 0.02 [0%]	—	—
CR γ corr. factor	± 1.2 [3%]	± 0.6 [3%]	± 0.8 [3%]	± 0.26 [3%]	± 0.19 [3%]	± 0.05 [3%]
Theory Z	± 2.3 [6%]	± 1.1 [6%]	± 1.6 [6%]	± 0.5 [6%]	± 0.4 [7%]	± 0.1 [6%]
Theory W	± 1.1 [3%]	± 1.3 [7%]	± 0.3 [1%]	± 0.7 [8%]	± 0.6 [10%]	± 0.16 [9%]
Theory Top	± 1.2 [3%]	± 0.7 [4%]	± 1.0 [4%]	± 0.4 [5%]	± 0.4 [7%]	± 0.26 [15%]
Theory Diboson	± 1.3 [3%]	± 0.8 [4%]	± 1.5 [5%]	± 0.6 [7%]	± 0.31 [5%]	± 0.13 [8%]
Jet/MET	± 1.0 [3%]	± 0.6 [3%]	± 0.4 [1%]	± 0.17 [2%]	± 0.22 [4%]	± 0.05 [3%]
Multijet method	± 0.24 [1%]	± 0.12 [1%]	± 0.5 [2%]	± 0.4 [5%]	—	—
Channel	RJR-C1	RJR-C2	RJR-C3	RJR-C4	RJR-C5	
Total bkg	14.5	59	110	10.5	7.3	
Total bkg unc.	± 2.2 [15%]	± 6 [10%]	± 11 [10%]	± 1.5 [14%]	± 1.4 [19%]	
MC statistics	± 0.7 [5%]	± 1.7 [3%]	± 2.4 [2%]	± 0.6 [6%]	± 0.6 [8%]	
$\Delta\mu_{Z,+jets}$	± 0.5 [3%]	± 1.9 [3%]	± 2.5 [2%]	± 0.31 [3%]	± 0.13 [2%]	
$\Delta\mu_{W,+jets}$	± 0.4 [3%]	± 1.7 [3%]	± 5 [5%]	± 0.4 [4%]	± 0.25 [3%]	
$\Delta\mu_{Top}$	± 0.33 [2%]	± 1.3 [2%]	± 4 [4%]	± 0.31 [3%]	± 0.4 [5%]	
$\Delta\mu_{Multijet}$	—	± 0.1 [0%]	± 0.06 [0%]	—	± 0.1 [1%]	
CR γ corr. factor	± 0.5 [3%]	± 1.8 [3%]	± 2.3 [2%]	± 0.29 [3%]	± 0.13 [2%]	
Theory Z	± 0.8 [6%]	± 3.5 [6%]	± 4 [4%]	± 0.6 [6%]	± 0.24 [3%]	
Theory W	± 1.3 [9%]	± 0.03 [0%]	± 2.0 [2%]	± 1.0 [10%]	± 0.13 [2%]	
Theory Top	± 0.5 [3%]	± 1.3 [2%]	± 3.2 [3%]	± 0.6 [6%]	± 0.9 [12%]	
Theory Diboson	± 1.0 [7%]	± 4 [7%]	± 6 [5%]	± 0.27 [3%]	± 0.4 [5%]	
Jet/MET	± 0.5 [3%]	± 1.5 [3%]	± 3.1 [3%]	± 0.24 [2%]	± 0.5 [7%]	
Multijet method	± 0.09 [1%]	± 0.4 [1%]	± 2.1 [2%]	—	± 0.18 [2%]	

Table 9.1: Breakdown of the dominant systematic uncertainties in the background estimates for the RJR-based search. The individual uncertainties can be correlated, and do not necessarily add in quadrature to the total background uncertainty. Δ_μ uncertainties are the result of the control region statistical uncertainties and the systematic uncertainties entering a specific control region. In brackets, uncertainties are given relative to the expected total background yield, also presented in the Table. Empty cells (indicated by a ‘-’) correspond to uncertainties $< 0.1\%$.

Signal Region	RJR-S1a	RJR-S1b	RJR-S2a	RJR-S2b	RJR-S3a	RJR-S3b
MC expected events						
Diboson	17	13	5.6	5.1	4.2	2.8
Z/ γ^* +jets	231	163	63	48	36	24
W+jets	97	66	22	16	11	7.8
$t\bar{t}$ (+EW) + single top	15	10	2.9	2.1	1.7	1.1
Fitted background events						
Diboson	17 ± 9	13 ± 7	5.6 ± 2.8	5.1 ± 2.6	4.2 ± 2.1	2.8 ± 1.4
Z/ γ^* +jets	207 ± 33	146 ± 23	65 ± 9	50 ± 7	37 ± 5	25.0 ± 3.5
W+jets	95 ± 9	65 ± 7	24.1 ± 2.9	18.3 ± 2.3	12.8 ± 2.8	8.7 ± 2.0
$t\bar{t}$ (+EW) + single top	14 ± 7	9 ± 5	2.1 ± 1.7	1.6 ± 1.3	1.3 ± 1.0	0.8 ± 0.7
Multi-jet	$0.71^{+0.71}_{-0.71}$	$0.41^{+0.41}_{-0.41}$	$0.08^{+0.09}_{-0.08}$	—	—	—
Total Expected MC	362	253	93	72	53	36
Total Fitted bkg	334 ± 35	233 ± 25	96 ± 10	75 ± 8	56 ± 6	37 ± 4
Observed	368	270	99	75	57	36
$\langle\epsilon\sigma\rangle_{\text{obs}}^{95}$ [fb]	7.6	6.5	2.2	1.7	1.6	1.1
S_{obs}^{95}	101	86	29	23	22	15
S_{exp}^{95}	78^{+27}_{-21}	61^{+22}_{-16}	28^{+11}_{-8}	23^{+9}_{-7}	20^{+8}_{-6}	16^{+7}_{-5}
p_0 (Z)	0.20 (0.84)	0.12 (1.17)	0.44 (0.15)	0.50 (0.00)	0.44 (0.14)	0.50 (0.00)
Signal Region	RJR-G1a	RJR-G1b	RJR-G2a	RJR-G2b	RJR-G3a	RJR-G3b
MC expected events						
Diboson	2.6	1.6	2.9	1.1	0.62	0.26
Z/ γ^* +jets	18	8.8	13	4.2	3.1	0.83
W+jets	11	4.7	7.7	2.0	1.9	0.63
$t\bar{t}$ (+EW) + single top	7.4	3.1	4.4	1.1	0.34	0.03
Fitted background events						
Diboson	2.6 ± 1.3	1.6 ± 0.8	2.9 ± 1.5	1.1 ± 0.6	0.6 ± 0.4	0.26 ± 0.14
Z/ γ^* +jets	21.1 ± 3.1	10.2 ± 1.6	14.3 ± 2.5	4.5 ± 0.8	3.3 ± 0.6	0.88 ± 0.19
W+jets	10.8 ± 1.7	4.6 ± 1.4	6.7 ± 1.3	1.7 ± 0.7	1.6 ± 0.7	0.55 ± 0.2
$t\bar{t}$ (+EW) + single top	5.4 ± 1.6	2.3 ± 0.9	3.4 ± 1.4	0.8 ± 0.5	$0.26^{+0.45}_{-0.26}$	$0.02^{+0.26}_{-0.02}$
Multi-jet	0.24 ± 0.24	0.12 ± 0.12	0.5 ± 0.5	0.4 ± 0.4	—	—
Total Expected MC	39	18	29	8.7	5.9	1.7
Total Fitted bkg	40 ± 4	18.8 ± 2.5	27.8 ± 3.4	8.5 ± 1.4	5.8 ± 1.1	1.7 ± 0.4
Observed	39	14	30	10	8	4
$\langle\epsilon\sigma\rangle_{\text{obs}}^{95}$ [fb]	1.1	0.56	1.1	0.71	0.64	0.55
S_{obs}^{95}	15	7.5	15	9.4	8.5	7.3
S_{exp}^{95}	16^{+7}_{-4}	10^{+5}_{-3}	14^{+6}_{-4}	$7.6^{+3.5}_{-2.0}$	$7.0^{+2.5}_{-2.1}$	$4.2^{+1.9}_{-0.5}$
p_0 (Z)	0.50 (0.00)	0.50 (0.00)	0.36 (0.35)	0.31 (0.50)	0.21 (0.81)	0.06 (1.55)
Signal Region	RJR-C1	RJR-C2	RJR-C3	RJR-C4	RJR-C5	
MC expected events						
Diboson	1.9	7.1	11	0.54	0.75	
Z/ γ^* +jets	8.8	36	46	5.8	2.5	
W+jets	3.5	16	43	3.8	2.3	
$t\bar{t}$ (+EW) + single top	1.9	7.2	20	1.7	2.5	
Fitted background events						
Diboson	1.9 ± 1.0	7 ± 4	11 ± 6	0.54 ± 0.29	0.8 ± 0.5	
Z/ γ^* +jets	7.7 ± 1.1	32 ± 5	40 ± 6	5.0 ± 0.8	2.2 ± 0.4	
W+jets	3.3 ± 1.4	14.5 ± 1.7	40 ± 5	3.56 ± 1.0	2.14 ± 0.35	
$t\bar{t}$ (+EW) + single top	1.5 ± 0.6	5.8 ± 1.8	16 ± 5	1.4 ± 0.7	2.0 ± 1.1	
Multi-jet	0.09 ± 0.09	0.4 ± 0.4	2.1 ± 2.1	—	0.18 ± 0.18	
Total Expected MC	16	67	124	12	8.3	
Total Fitted bkg	14.5 ± 2.2	59 ± 6	110 ± 11	10.5 ± 1.5	7.3 ± 1.4	
Observed	14	69	115	5	8	
$\langle\epsilon\sigma\rangle_{\text{obs}}^{95}$ [fb]	0.76	2.2	2.5	0.35	0.61	
S_{obs}^{95}	10	29	34	4.7	8.1	
S_{exp}^{95}	11^{+5}_{-3}	21^{+9}_{-6}	30^{+12}_{-8}	$8.1^{+3.0}_{-2.3}$	$7.4^{+2.9}_{-1.8}$	
p_0 (Z)	0.50 (0.00)	0.18 (0.92)	0.37 (0.32)	0.50 (0.00)	0.39 (0.30)	

Table 9.2: Numbers of events observed in the signal regions used in the RJR-based analysis compared with background expectations obtained from the fits described in the text. Empty cells (indicated by a ‘-’) correspond to estimates lower than 0.01. The p-values (p_0) give the probabilities of the observations being consistent with the estimated backgrounds. For an observed number of events lower than expected, the p-value is truncated at 0.5. Between parentheses, p -values are also given as the number of equivalent Gaussian standard deviations (Z). Also shown are 95% CL upper limits on the visible cross-section ($\langle\epsilon\sigma\rangle_{\text{obs}}^{95}$), the visible number of signal events (S_{obs}^{95}) and the number of signal events (S_{exp}^{95}) given the expected number of background events (and $\pm 1\sigma$ excursions of the expectation).

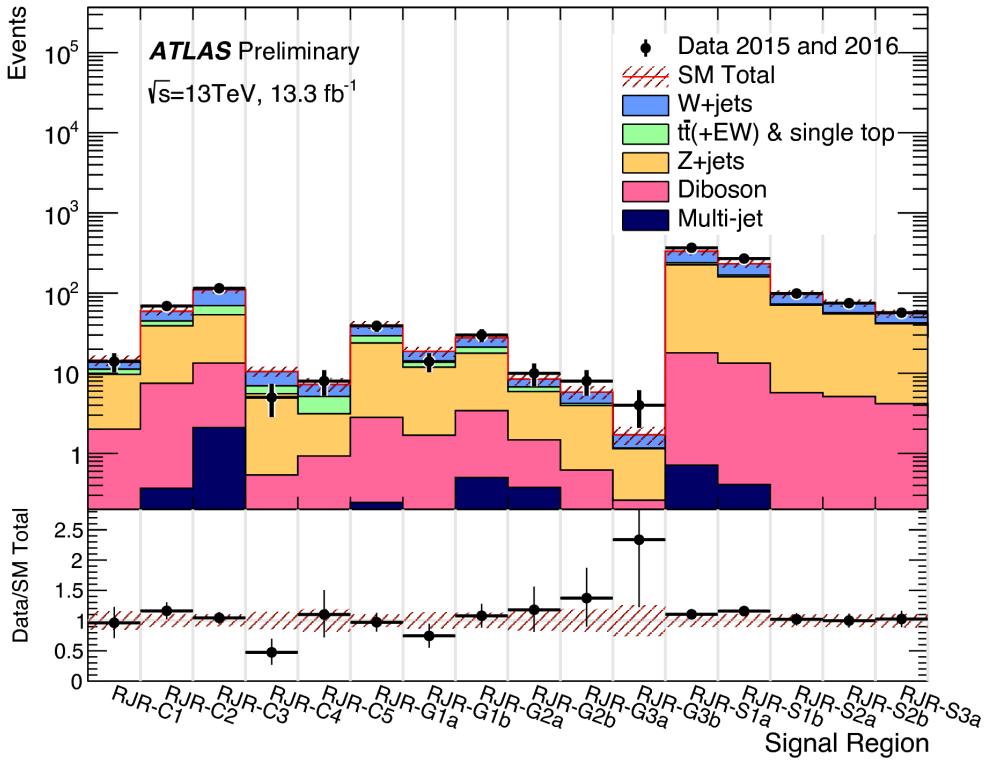


Figure 9.4: Summary of the signal region pulls

2250 Feynman diagrams shown previously. The free parameters of these simplified models
 2251 are the relevant sparticle mass and the mass of the LSP $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$. We set limits in a plane
 2252 of these free parameters.

2253 The exclusion limits are shown in 9.5. Gray text is imposed on the plane at the
 2254 point of each simplified model with masses $(m_{\text{sparticle}}, m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0})$. This gray text indicates
 2255 the signal region which provided the best sensitivity at that point, as measured by the
 2256 background-only fit. For each simplified signal model, we run the model-dependent fit
 2257 described in the last chapter, where the signal model signal strength μ_{sig} is included
 2258 as an additional free parameter. The signal sample is also allowed to freely contribute
 2259 to the control regions due to signal contamination. This produces a CL_s p -value for
 2260 each signal model in the plane, and we can find those with $p = 0.05$ to set a 95%
 2261 exclusion limit.

2262 In the squark- $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ plane, we observe that the limits from the 2015 dataset are far
2263 extended in all directions. The expected and observed exclusions are similar, which
2264 is a reflection of the compatibility of the expected Standard Model event counts and
2265 observed event counts in the squark regions. A squark with mass of 1350 GeV or less
2266 is excluded by the analysis in direct decays to a quark and LSP. In the compressed
2267 spectra, we have extended limits significantly over the 2015 result in the region of 600-
2268 700 GeV in squark mass with an LSP of 450 GeV to 600 GeV. We note that directly
2269 along the kinematically-forbidden diagonal, the shape of the exclusions is affected
2270 by the interpolation between the signal models considered. This could be rectified
2271 by inclusion of additional compressed signal models. The limits in the intermediate
2272 with an LSP of \sim 450-500 GeV are not far extended beyond the previous dataset. We
2273 also note that every signal region designed to provide sensitivity to this simplified
2274 model (all SRS regions and SRC1-4) is chosen as the best region at least once in
2275 the plane, indicating that each signal region provided additional sensitivity to squark
2276 phenomena.

2277 Another curiosity is the fact that a gluino region, SRG2a is chosen as the optimal
2278 region in the squark- $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ plane, when the squark mass is \sim 700 GeV. Generally, the
2279 squark regions are looser than the gluino regions, as seen in their overall event counts.
2280 One could see this as an indication that the next iteration of the analysis should have
2281 an additional tight squark region here. Another possibility is that this region also
2282 benefits from the compressed region strategy of using an ISR jet. As the gluino
2283 regions require four jets from the imposition of the gluino decay tree, these could be
2284 capturing events where a two jet ISR system recoils off the disquark system.

2285 In the gluino- $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ plane, the limits on gluino masses in the simplified model where
2286 gluinos decay to two jets and an $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ are again far extended beyond the 2015 dataset.
2287 We note in most of the plane, the expected limit is significantly stronger than the
2288 observed limit; for example, the gluino mass limit is more than 50 GeV stronger in

2289 the case of a massless $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$. As much of the phase space is covered by SRG3a and
2290 SRG3b, this results from the small statistical fluctuation upward in these regions.
2291 Again, we note that every gluino signal region is the best choice at some point in this
2292 plane. This is an indication of the utility of the signal region strategy employed in
2293 this thesis, as each point provides additional sensitivity to new SUSY models.

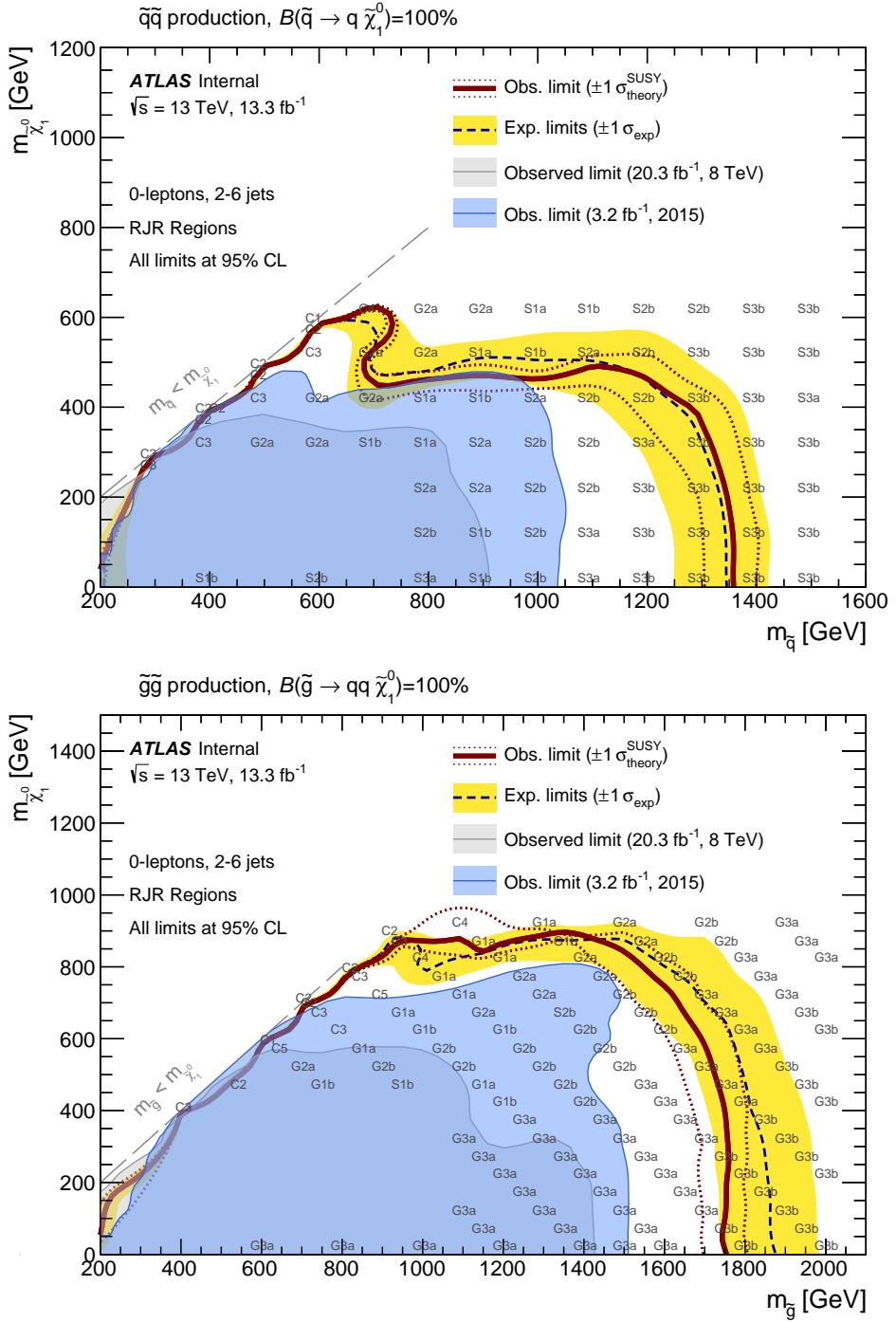


Figure 9.5: Exclusion limits for direct production of (a) light-flavour squark pairs with decoupled gluinos and (b) gluino pairs with decoupled squarks. Exclusion limits are obtained by using the signal region with the best expected sensitivity at each point. The blue dashed lines show the expected limits at 95% CL, with the yellow bands indicating the 1σ excursions due to experimental and background-only theoretical uncertainties. Observed limits are indicated by maroon curves where the solid contour represents the nominal limit, and the dotted lines are obtained by varying the signal cross-section by the renormalization and factorization scale and PDF uncertainties. Results are compared with the observed limits obtained by the previous ATLAS searches with no leptons, jets and missing transverse momentum [124, 130].

2294

Conclusion

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2296 sentence its own line.

2297 When you need a new paragraph, just skip an extra line.

2298 **9.4 New Section**

2299 By using the asterisk to start a new section, I keep the section from appearing in the
2300 table of contents. If you want your sections to be numbered and to appear in the
2301 table of contents, remove the asterisk.

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2681

The Standard Model

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2683 **Compressed region N-1 plots**

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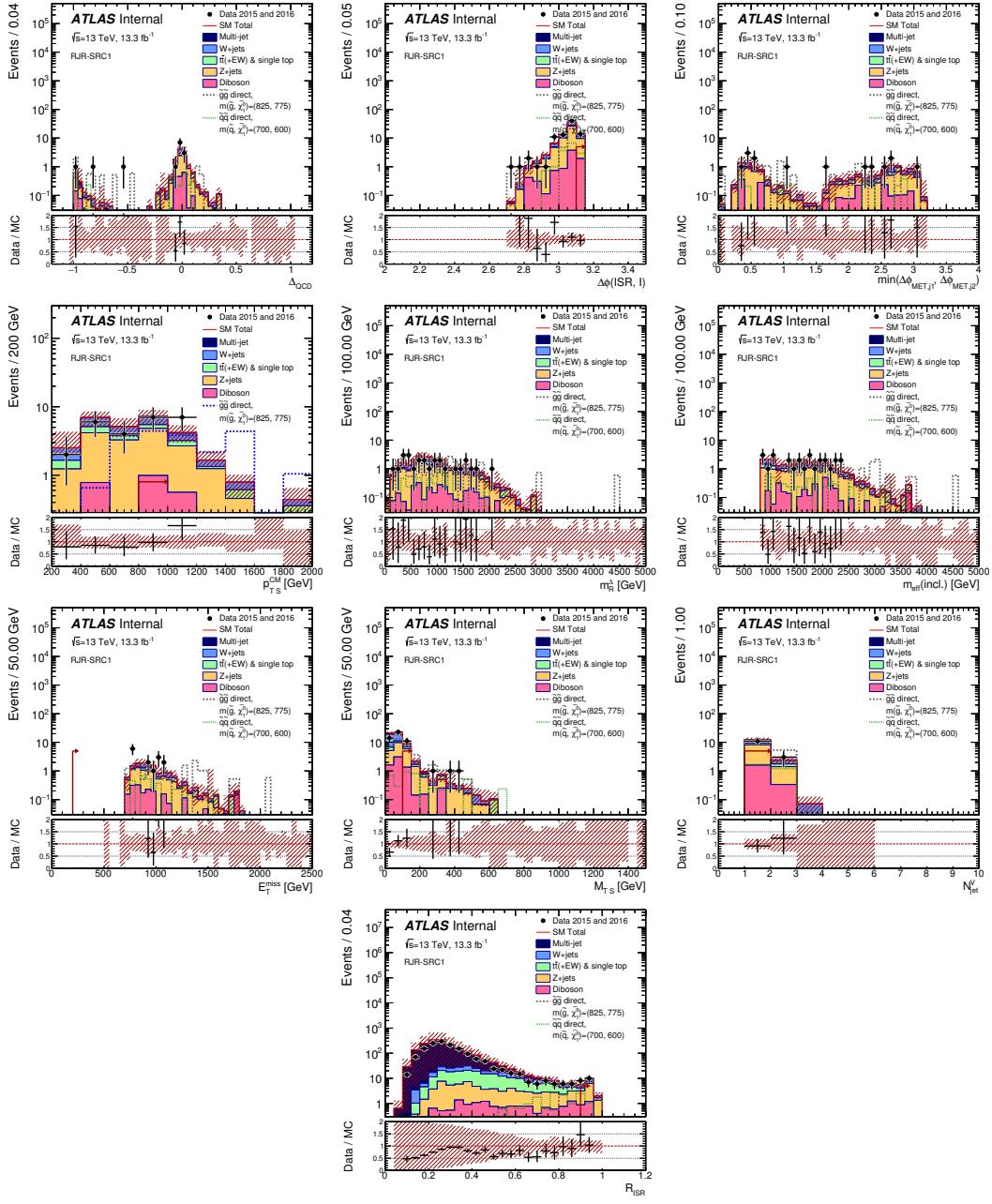


Figure 1

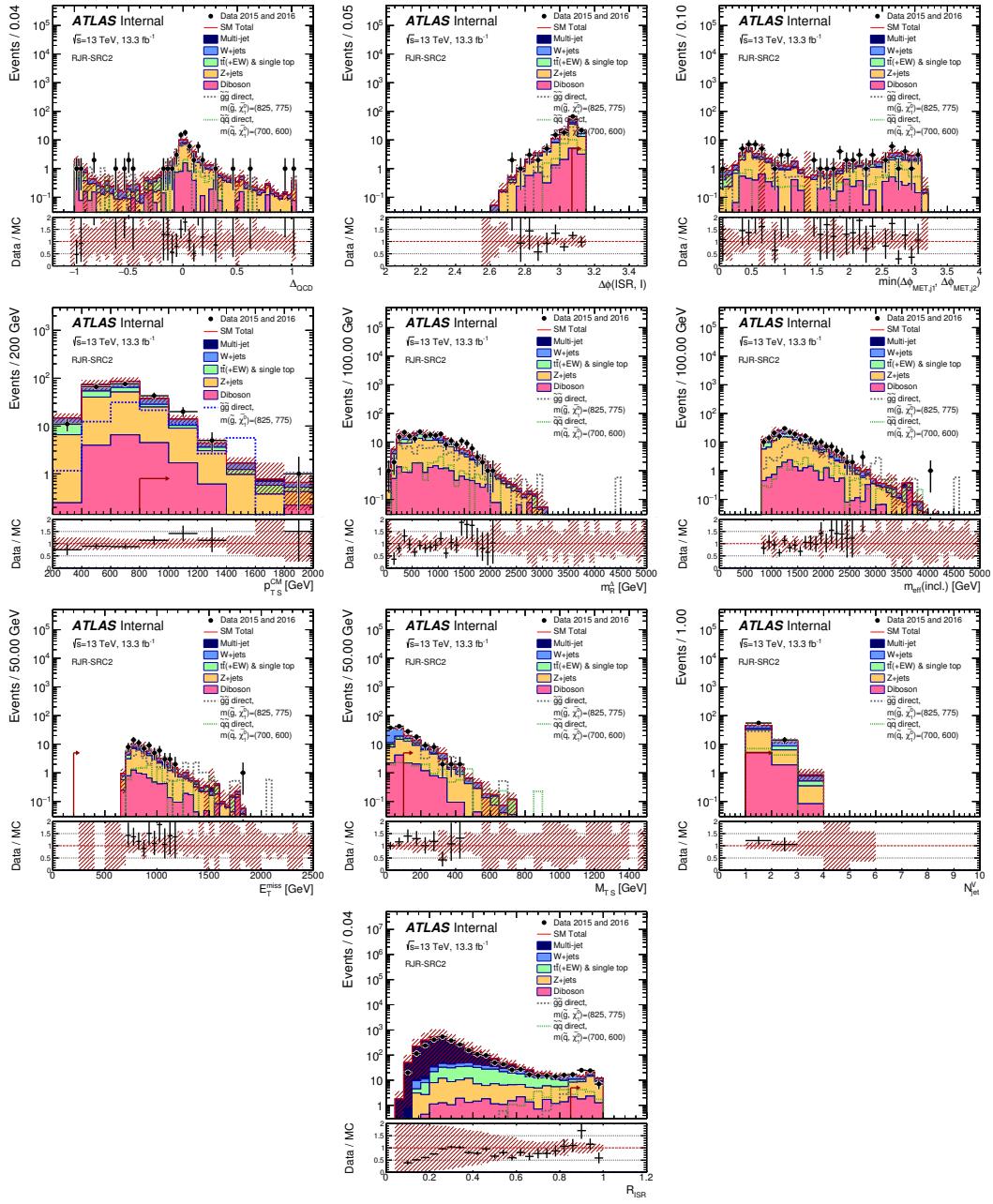


Figure 2

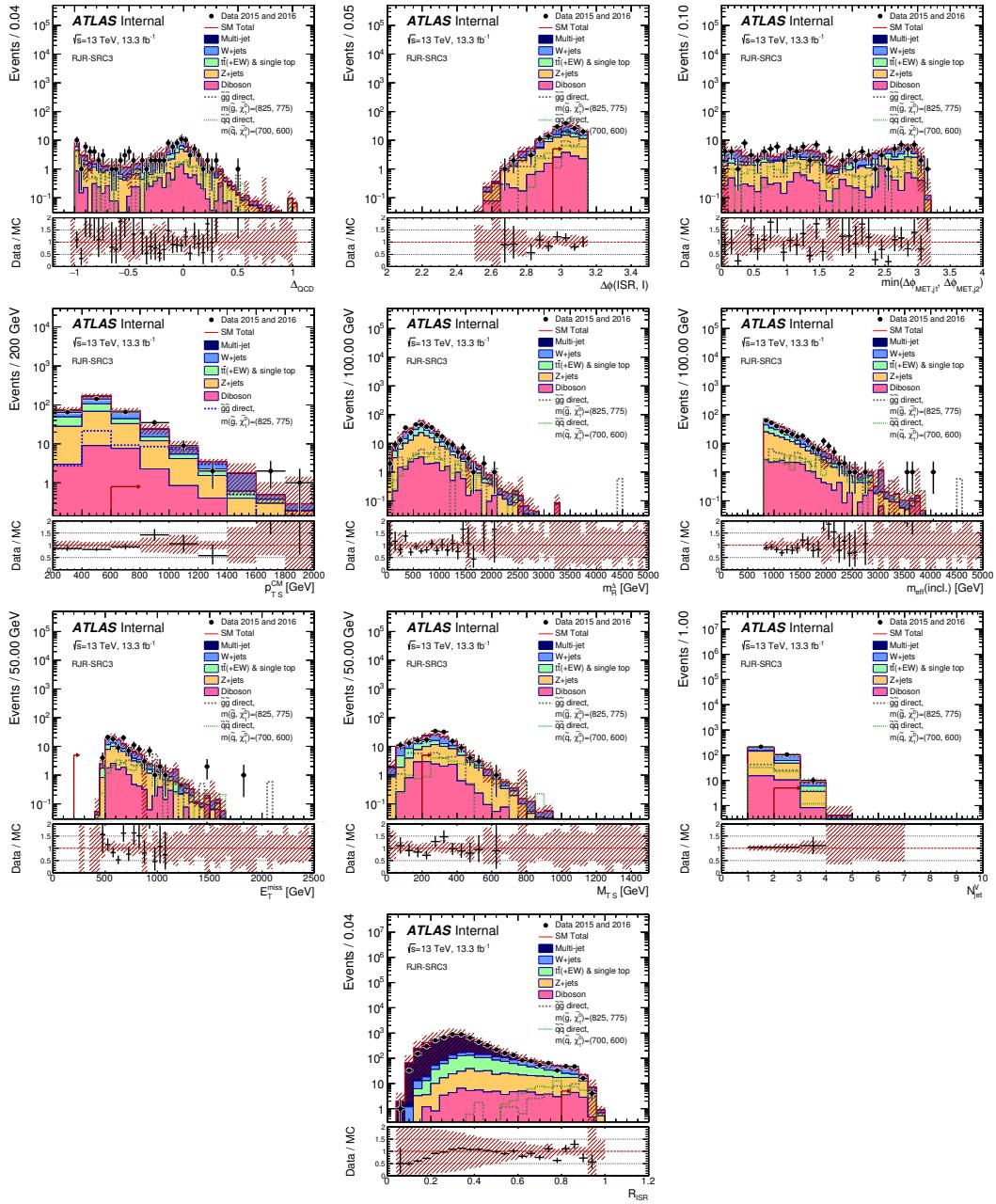


Figure 3

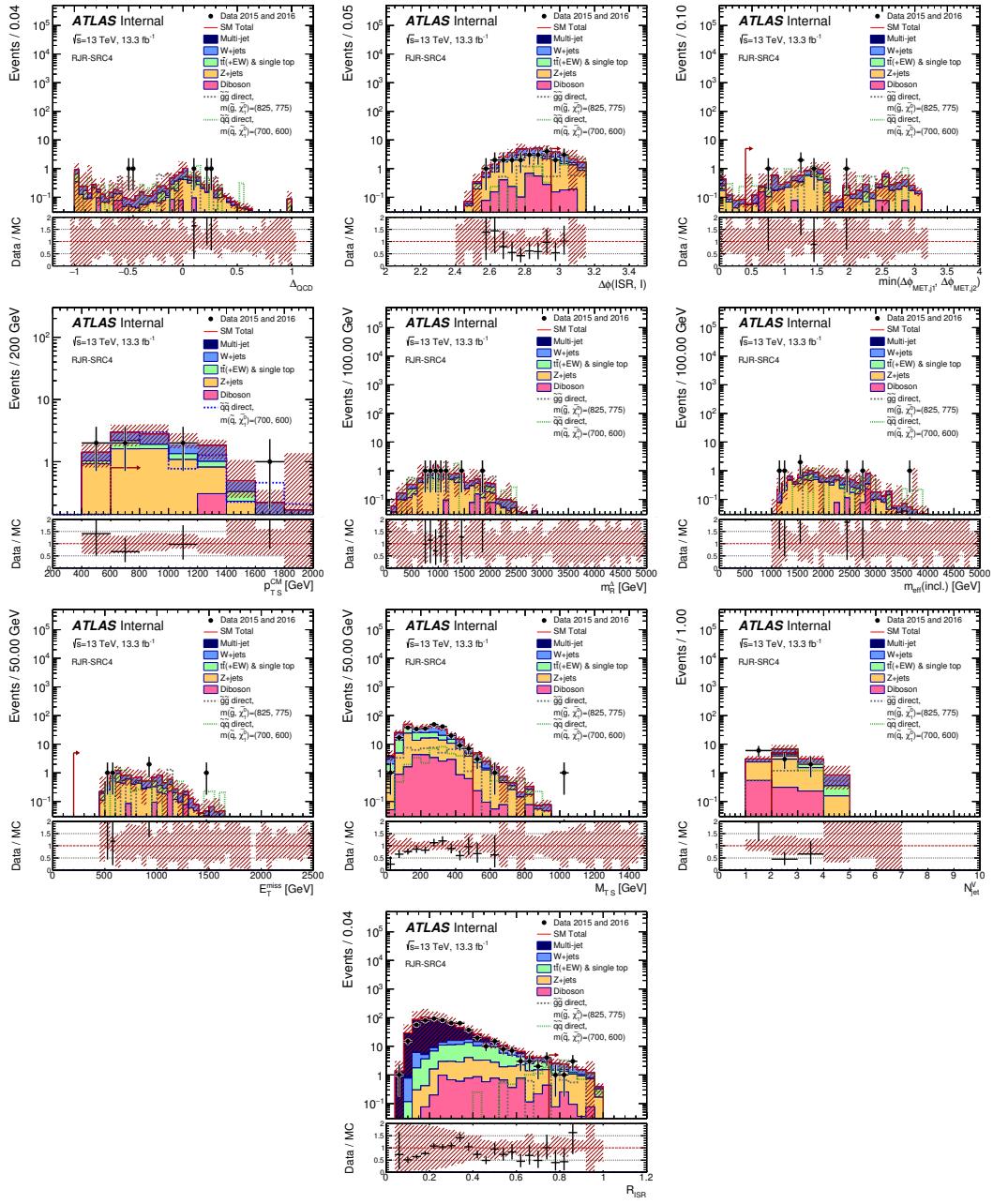


Figure 4

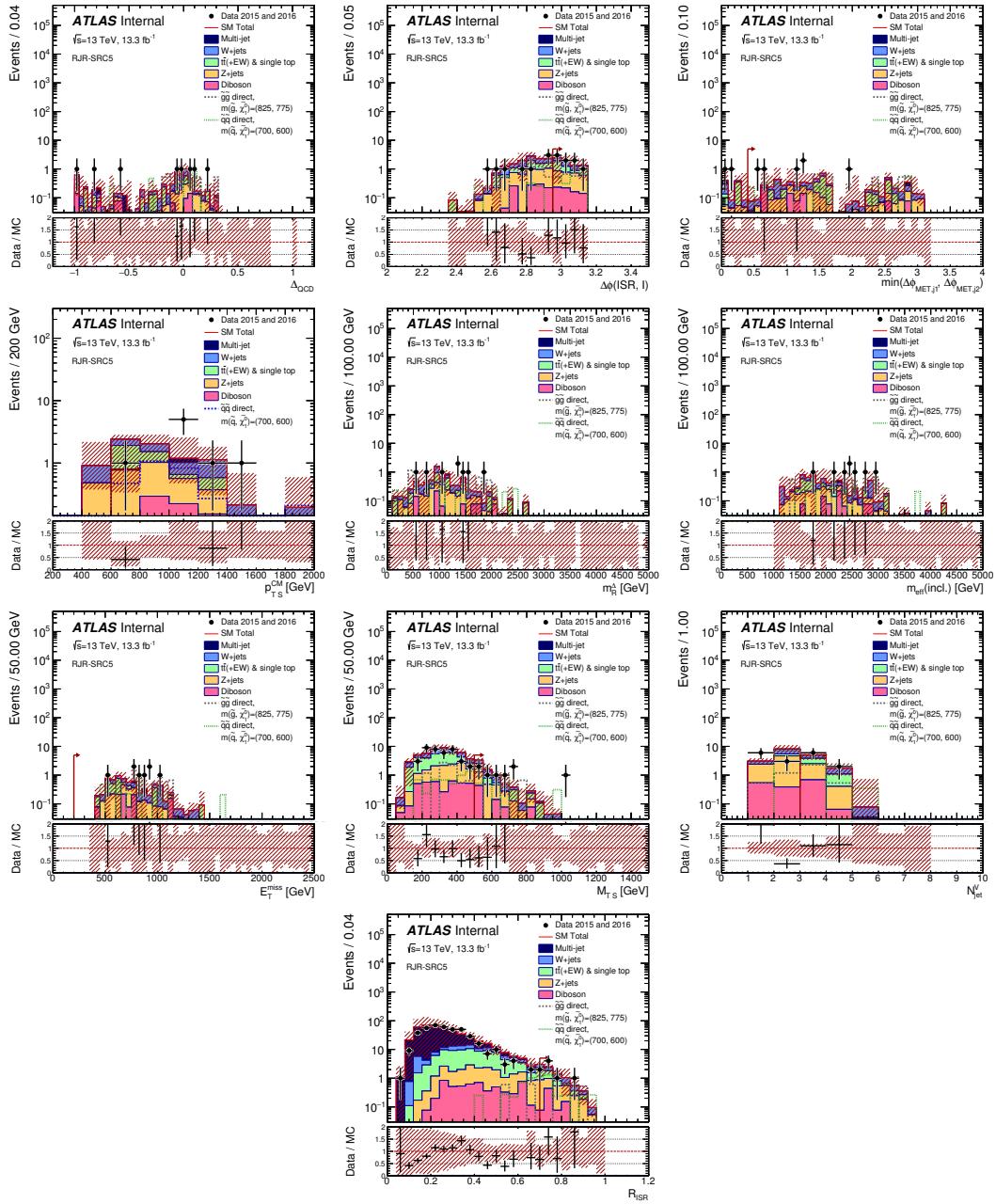


Figure 5

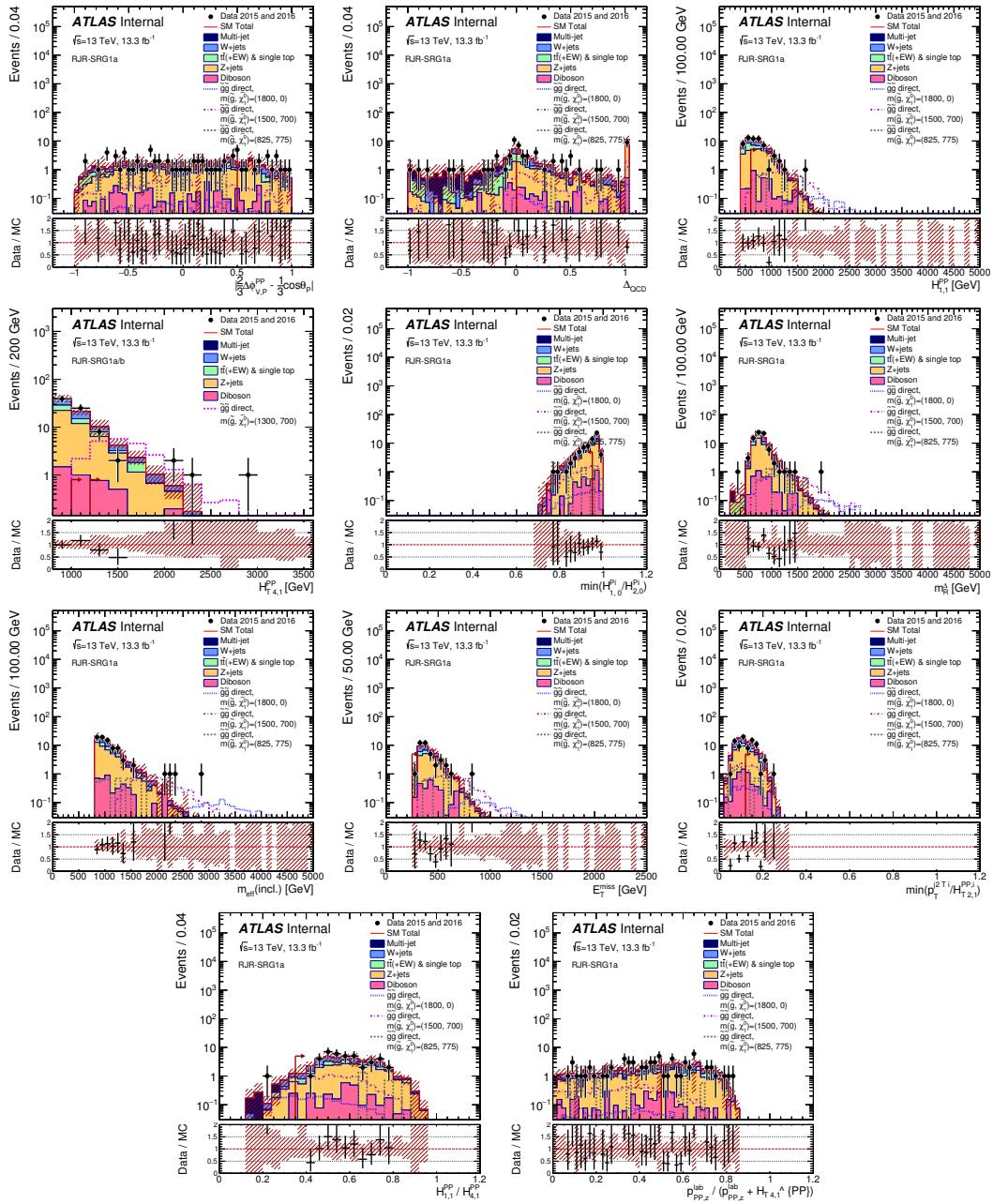


Figure 6

Figure 7

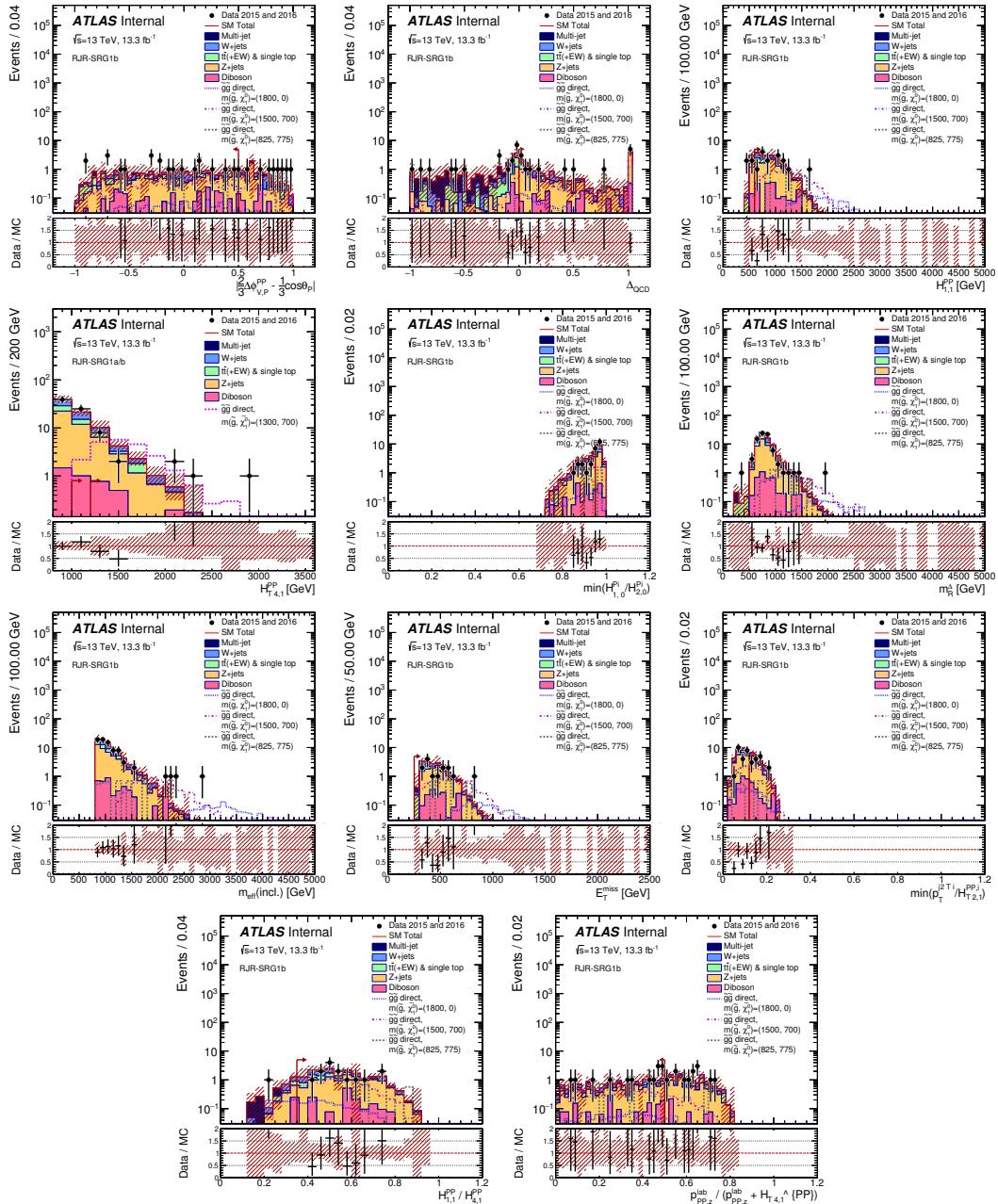


Figure 8

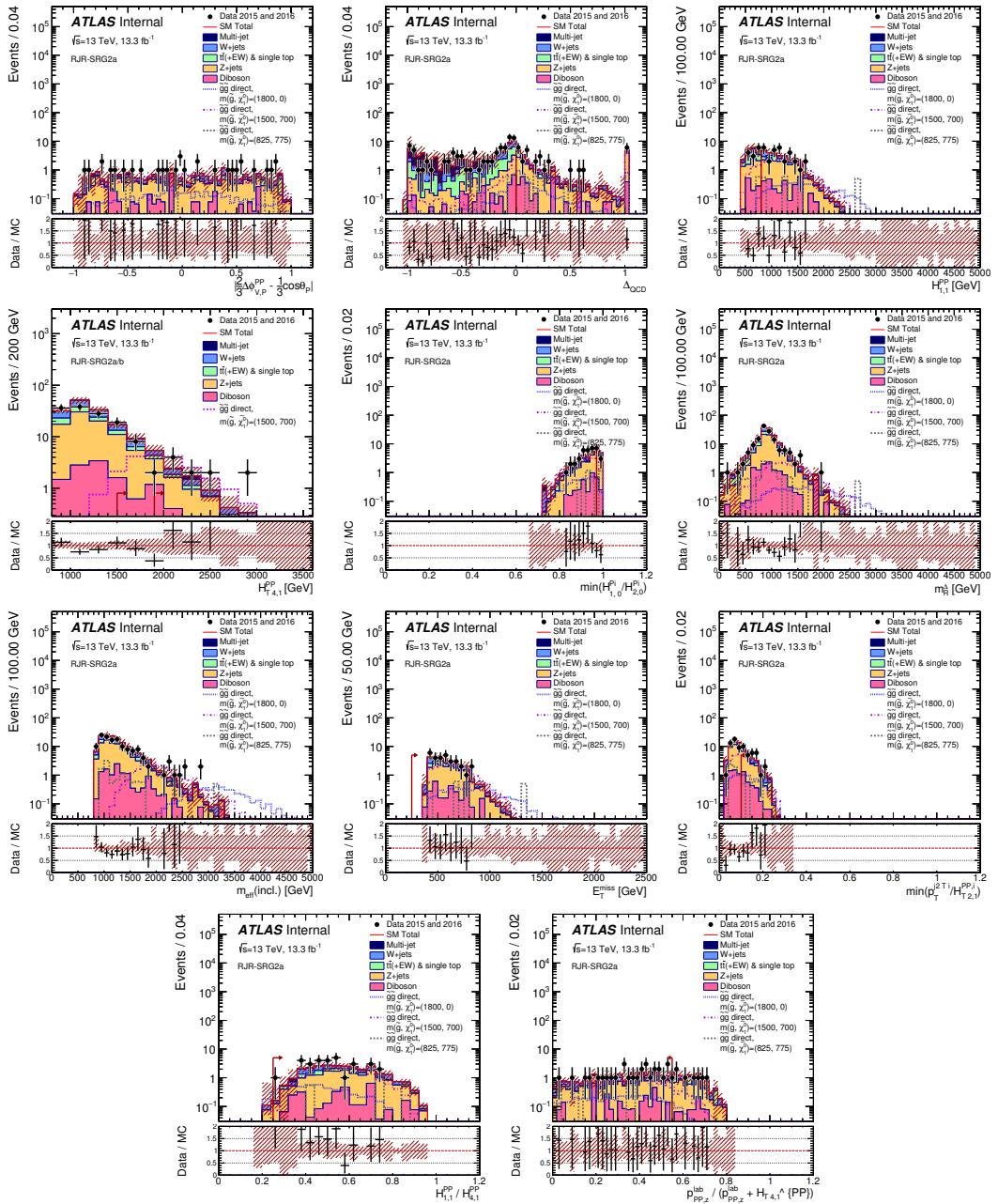


Figure 9

Figure 10

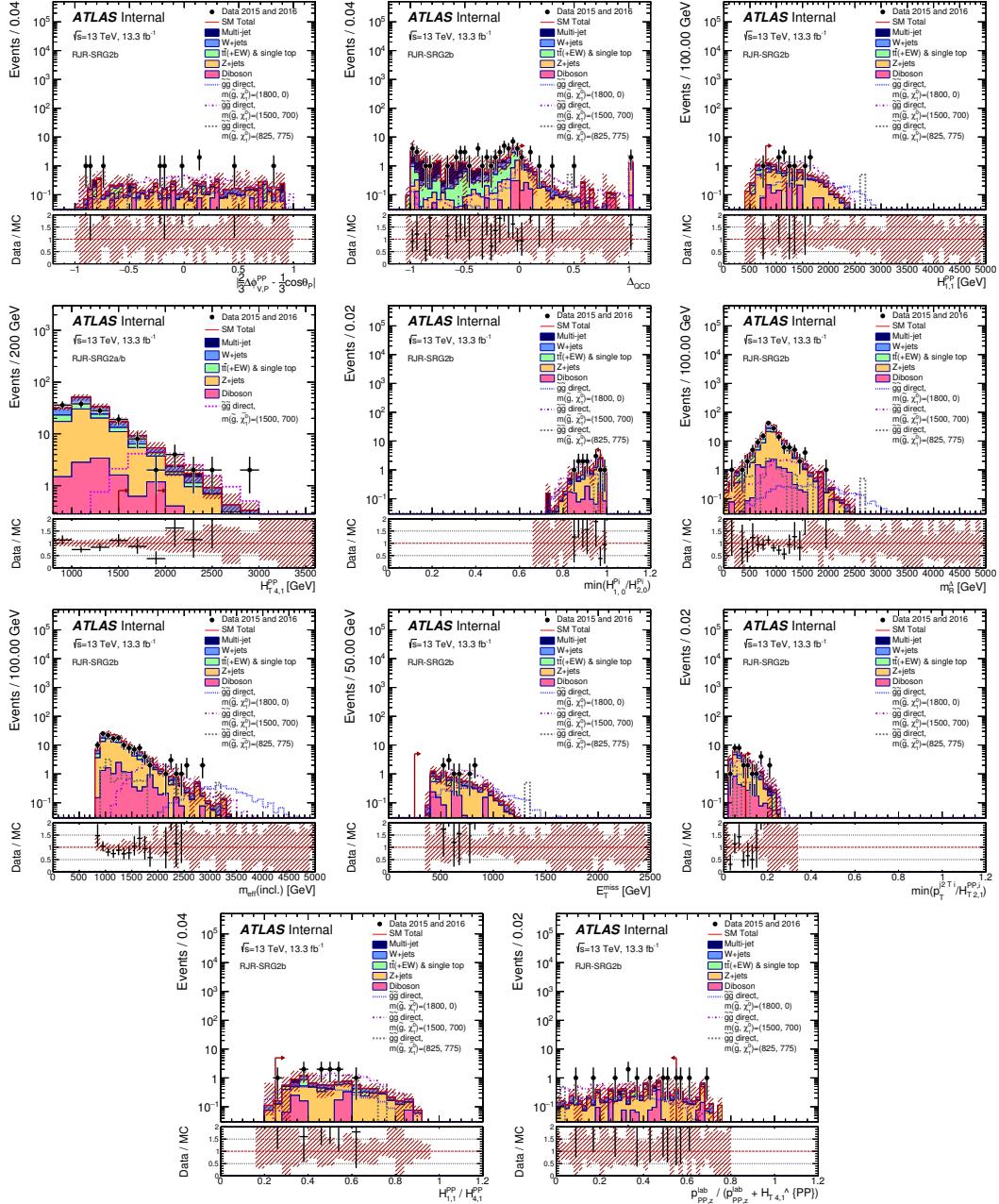


Figure 11

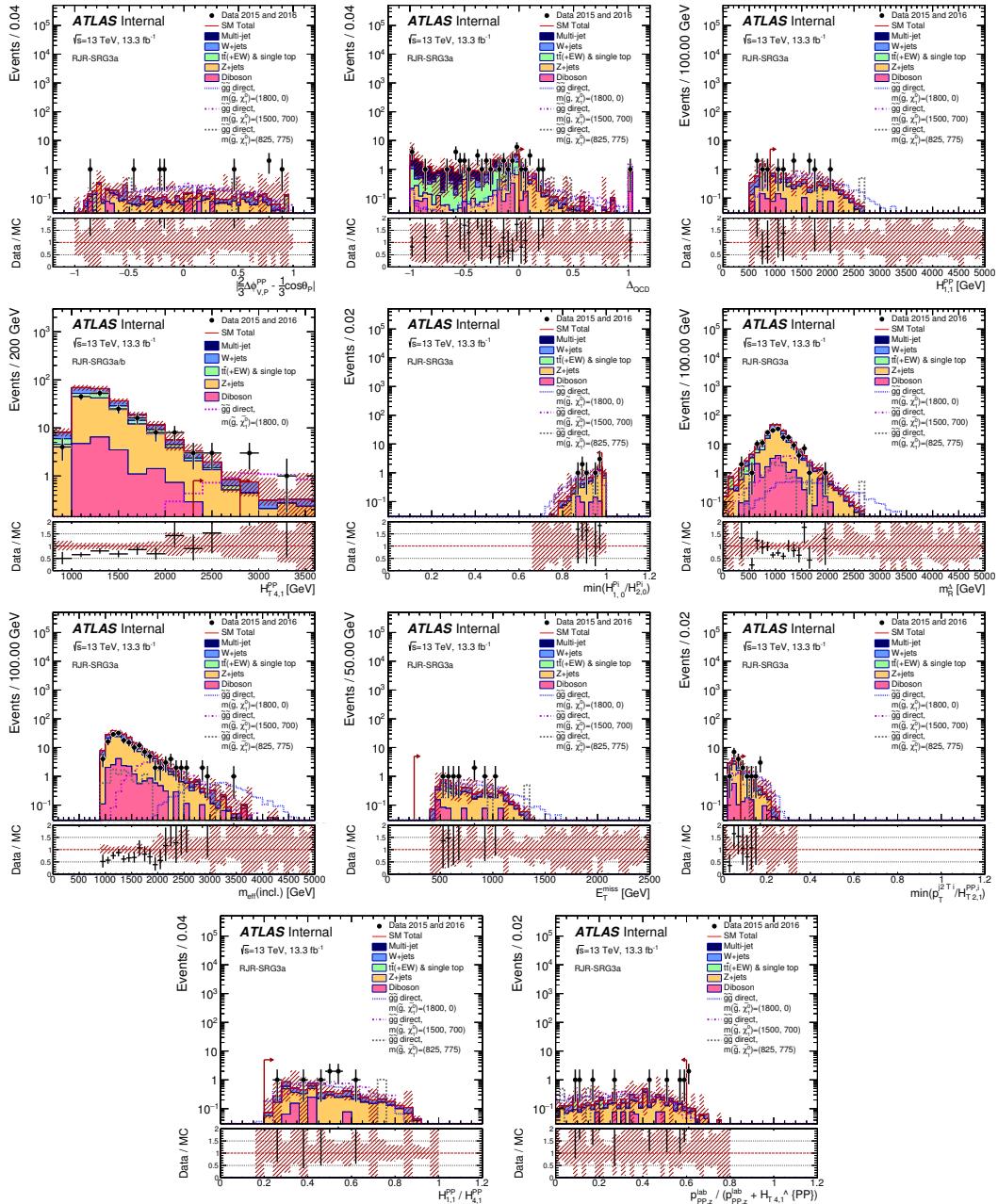


Figure 12

Figure 13

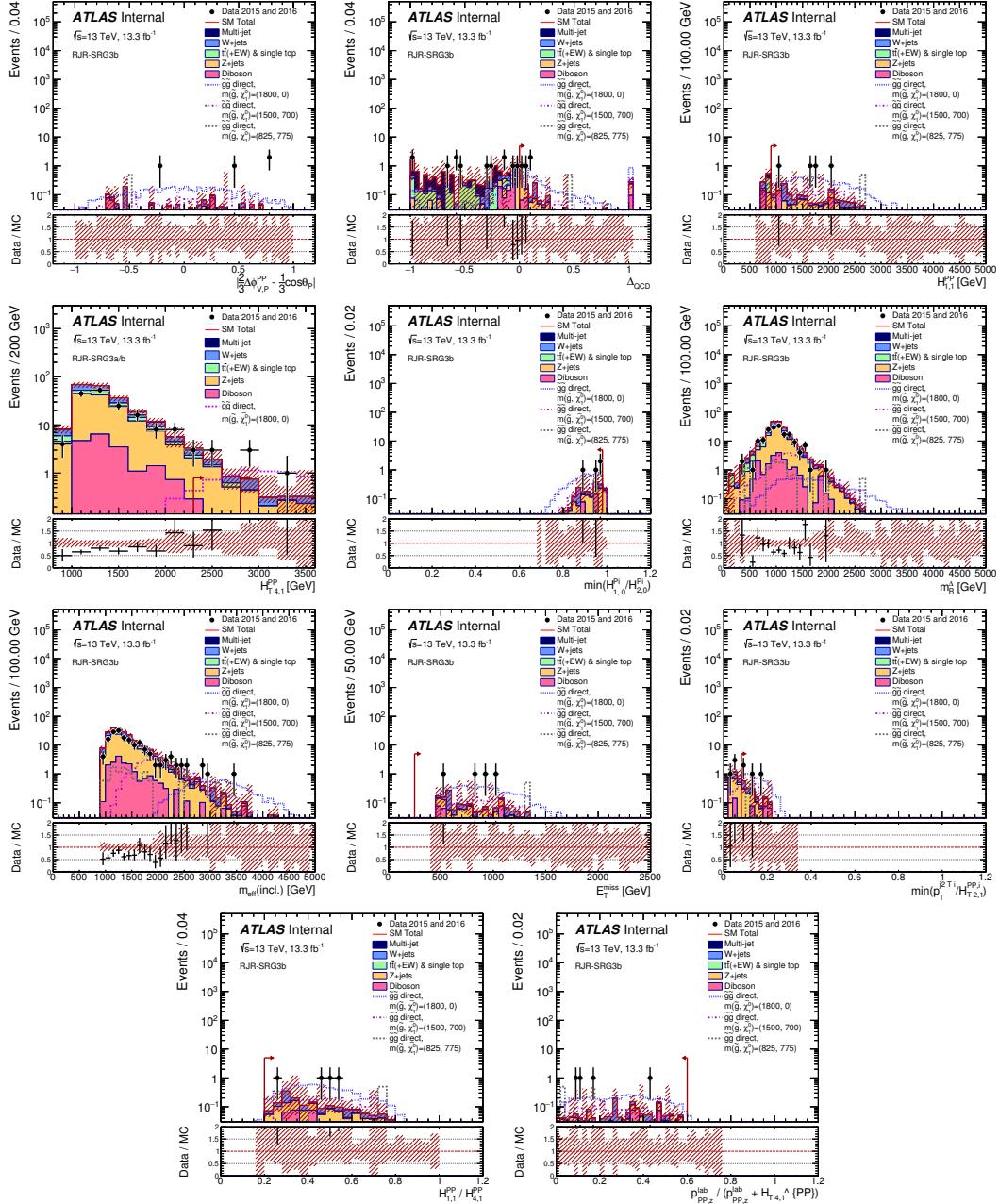


Figure 14

Figure 15

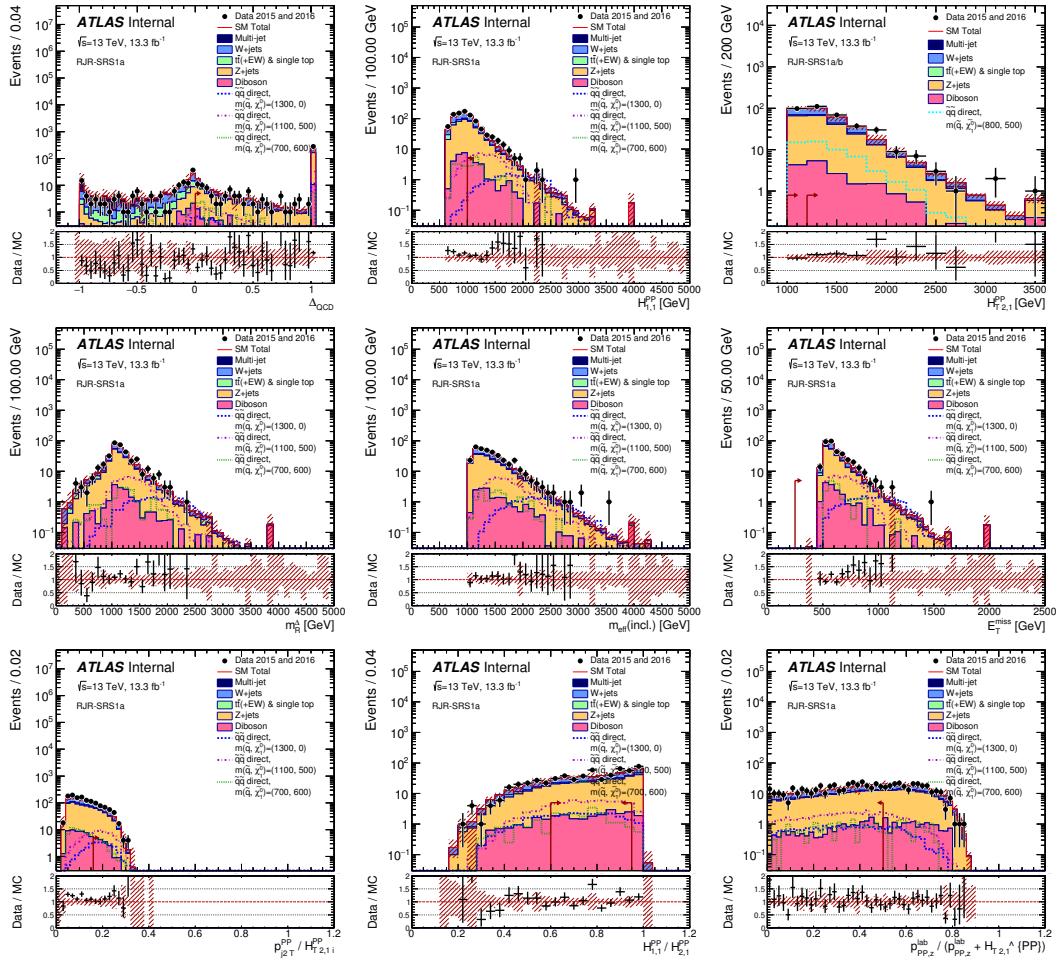


Figure 16

Figure 17

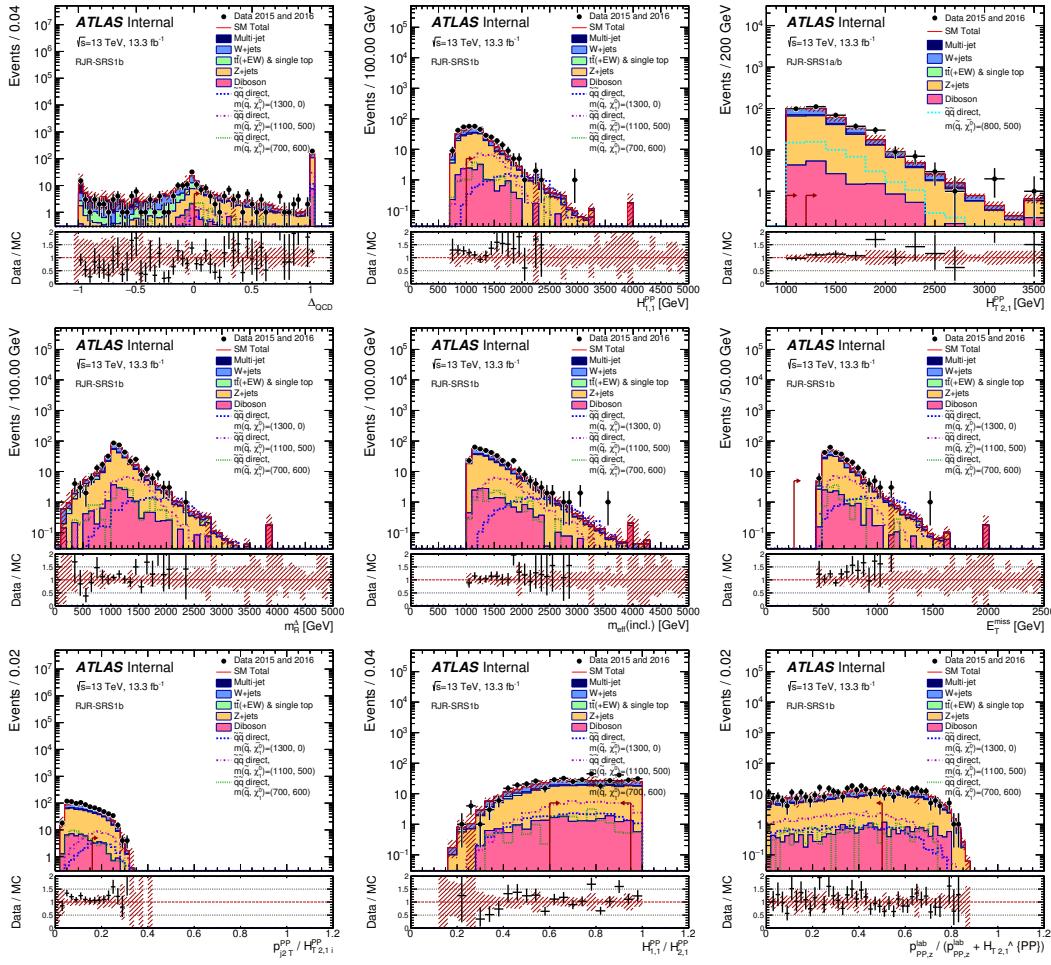


Figure 18

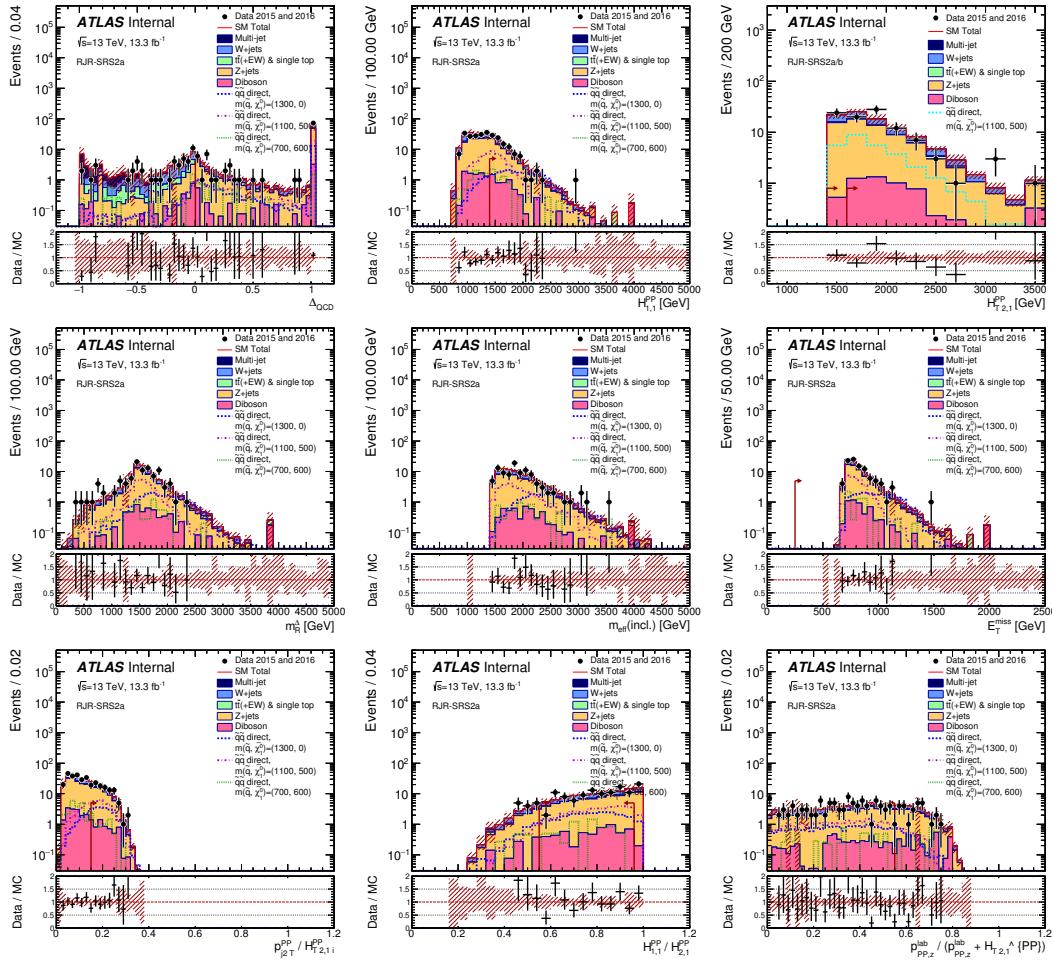


Figure 19

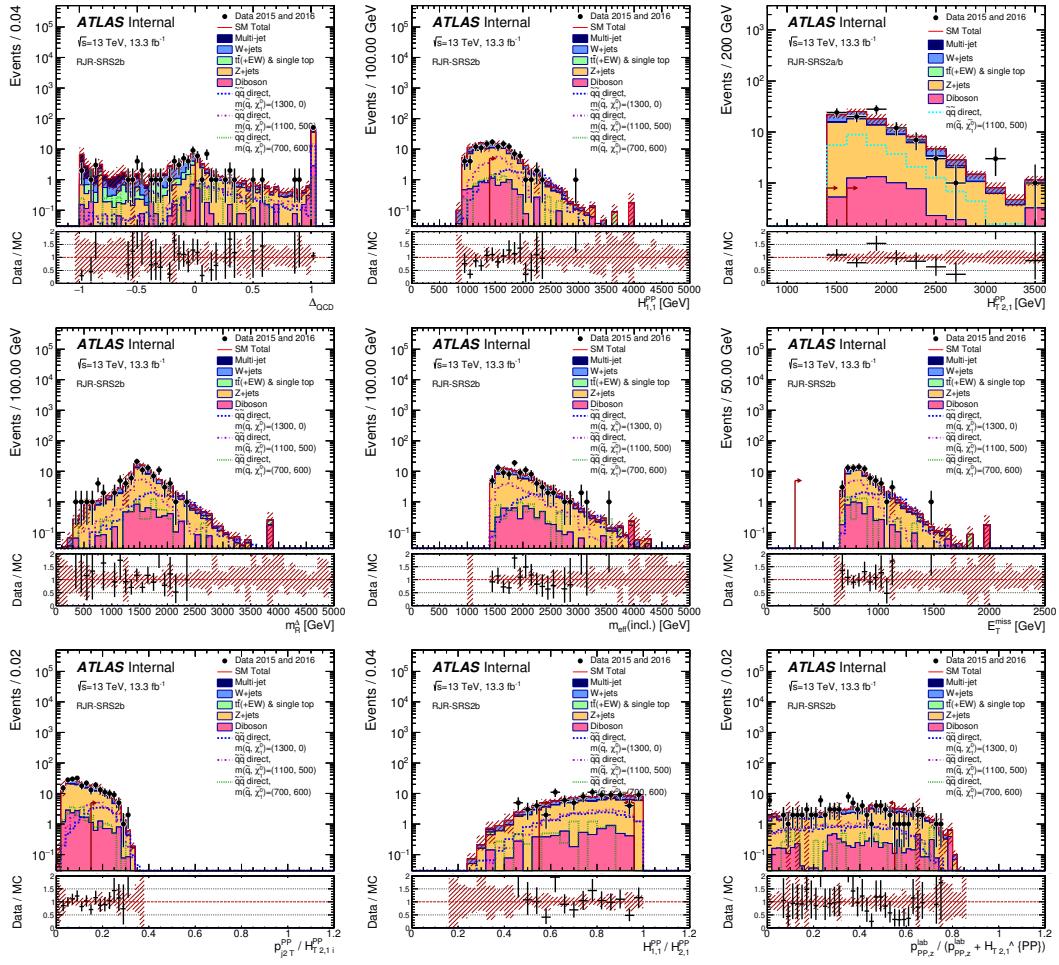


Figure 20

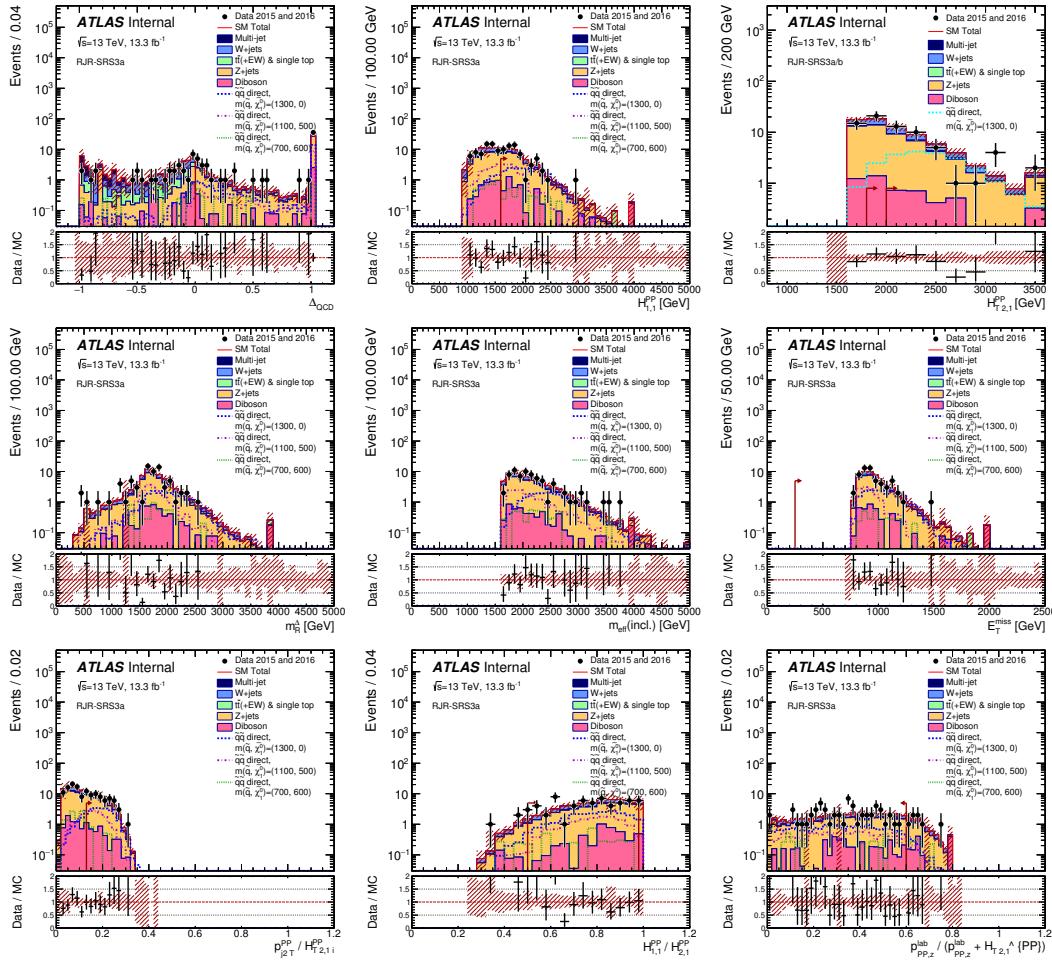


Figure 21

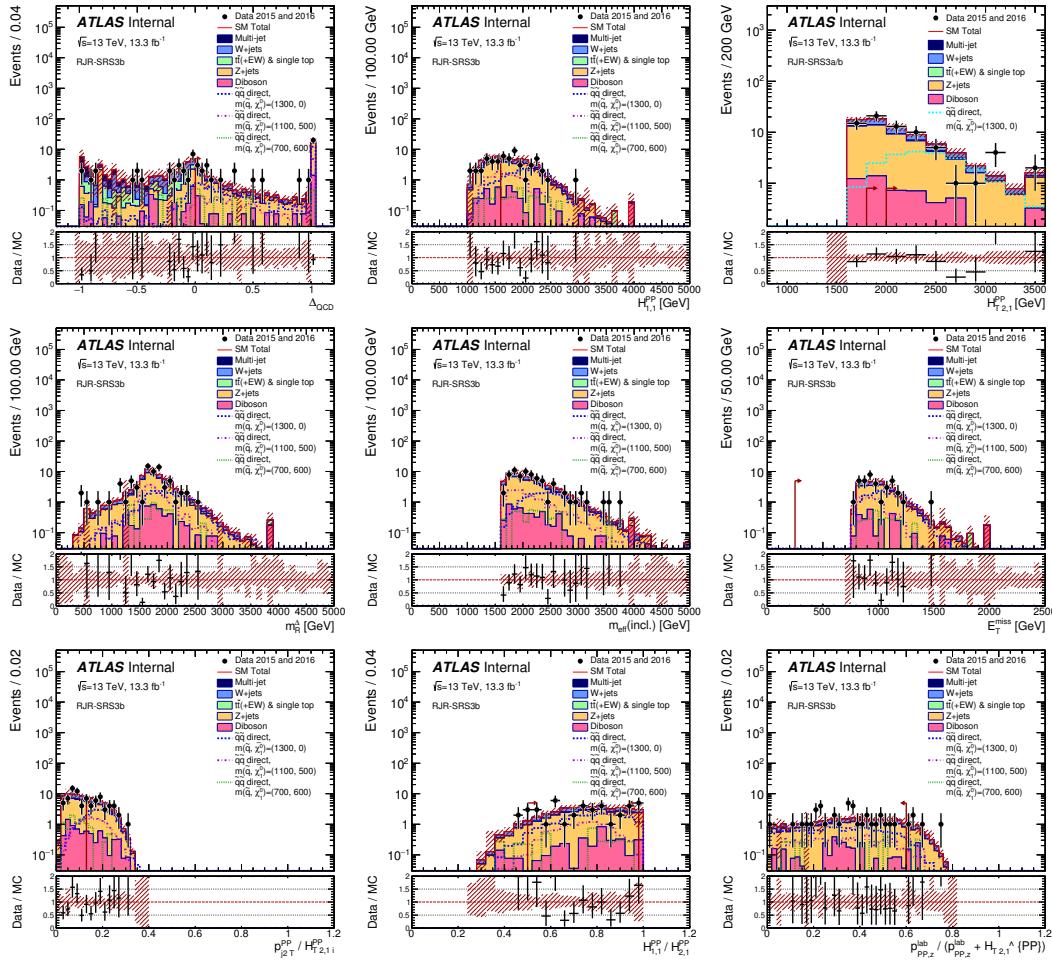


Figure 22