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# THOMAS GADFORT

*Curriculum Vitae*

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Personal Information

Birthdate: 24 August 1979  
Citizenship: Denmark

## Education

Fall 2001 - Spring 2007	Ph.D. in Physics University of Washington, Seattle Dissertation Advisor: Prof. Gordon Watts Title: "Evidence for Electroweak Top Quark Production in Proton-Antiproton Collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$ TeV"
Fall 1997 - May 2001	B.A. in College Scholars with Physics Emphasis, Cum Laude University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN

## Awards and Honors

March 2009	BNL Goldhaber Distinguished Fellowship
May 2004	Eugene Kenneth Miller Award for excellence in graduate research
May 2000	Douglas V. Roseberry Award for excellence in Physics
December 1999	Phi Beta Kappa
May 1999	Sigma Pi Sigma Physics Honors Society
May 1998	Outstanding First Year Physics Student

## Research Experience

Fall 2009 – Present	Goldhaber Distinguished Fellow ATLAS experiment Brookhaven National Laboratory
Spring 2007 – October 2009	Postdoctoral Researcher ATLAS and DØ experiments Columbia University
Fall 2003 – Spring 2007	Research Assistant DØ experiment University of Washington
Fall 2002 – Fall 2003	Research Assistant KATRIN experiment University of Washington
Fall 2000 – Spring 2001	Senior Thesis FOCUS experiment University of Tennessee

## PHYSICS ANALYSIS

- **Search for leptoquark production (2010-2011)**

I recently completed a search for first and second generation scalar leptoquarks using  $1 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of  $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$  LHC data collected with the ATLAS detector. Leptoquarks, or an equivalent particle that couples leptons and quarks, appear in many extensions to the standard model including grand unified theories and R-parity violating supersymmetry. This result will be submitted for publication soon. The previous year I published a search for leptoquarks using  $35 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ . I found no evidence for leptoquark production and excluded the possibility of first and second generation scalar leptoquarks below approximately 400 GeV. This work was published in Phys. Rev. D **83** 112006 (2011) [arXiv:1104.448].

- **Search for new physics with  $W$  and  $Z$  bosons (2008-2011)**

I searched for the production of three specific beyond the standard model particles produced in  $p\bar{p}$  collisions using  $5.4 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of DØ Run II data. The first search is for a massive electrically charged resonance decaying to  $W$  and  $Z$  boson pairs using events with at least one charged lepton resulting from either the  $W$  or  $Z$  boson decay. No excess of data was observed in this search. Using the extended gauge model (EGM)  $W'$  boson as a baseline prediction, I excluded a large fraction of the model parameter space defined by the  $W'$  mass and the  $W'WZ$  coupling strength. Also included in this result is a limit on low scale Technicolor, where the  $\rho_T$  is equivalent to the EGM  $W'$ . Both of these results can be found in the PRL publication [Phys. Rev. Lett. **104**, 061801 (2010)]. Another search that was published by PRL [Phys. Rev. Lett. **106**, 081801 (2011)] is the electroweak production of vector-like quarks. This analysis sets the first lower limits on the vector-like quark production assuming both charged

current ( $Q \rightarrow Wq$ ) and neutral current ( $Q \rightarrow Zq$ ) decays. The final search, whose result is near publication, is the production of a Randall-Sundrum graviton decaying to a  $WW$  boson pair. This search uses events with a semi-leptonic  $WW$  decay and is the first Tevatron Run II analysis to use events with a single massive jet, which result from highly boosted hadronic  $W$  and  $Z$  decays.

- **Single top quark production cross section measurement (2003-2009)**

I obtained the first evidence for single-top quark production and then the first measurement of the single-top quark production cross section using an analysis technique known as the matrix element method. The matrix element method takes advantage of all angular correlations in both the signal production and decay through a probability based on the product of the leading-order single top quark matrix element and the expected energy and momentum resolution of the final state particles. This work resulted in two publications in PRL [Phys. Rev. Lett. **98**, 181802 (2007)] and PRD [Phys. Rev. D **78**, 012005 (2008)]. I improved this method in a subsequent analysis using  $2.3 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of Run II data. This analysis measured the single top quark production cross section at the  $5\sigma$  confidence level and was published in PRL [Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 092001 (2009)].

## LEADERSHIP ROLES AND STUDENT SUPERVISION

- **Paper editor and co-convener of diboson resonance search group (2011)**

I am currently leading the ATLAS effort to search for resonant  $WW$ ,  $WZ$ , or  $ZZ$  production using data recorded during the 2011 LHC run at  $\sqrt{s} = 7 \text{ TeV}$ . Together with my co-convener we brought two analyses to a publication level in the past six months. These analyses search for 1) Technicolor in  $\rho_T \rightarrow WZ \rightarrow \ell\nu\ell\ell$  final states and 2) Randall-Sundrum graviton in  $G_{KK}^* \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow \ell\ell\ell\ell$  and  $\ell\ell jj$  final states. In the coming year we expect these searches will be published along with two additional analyses: Search for the radion (a spin-0 particle found in models with extra dimensions) in  $\ell\ell\ell\ell$  final states and a search for a  $Z'$  or  $G_{KK}^*$  in  $WW \rightarrow \ell\nu\ell\nu$  and  $\ell\nu jj$  events.

- **Co-convener of the  $b$ -jet identification group at DØ (2007-2009)**

As a  $b$ -jet convener, I supervised PHD students, frequently interacted with DØ management and physics analysis groups, and developed new algorithms to increase  $b$ -jet efficiency and light-jet rejection. Notable achievements during my tenure include, but are not limited to: (1) Determined  $b$ -jet,  $c$ -jet, and light-jet efficiencies for the entire Run IIb dataset corresponding to  $2.8 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of DØ data. (2) Supervised work on a new algorithm designed to distinguish  $b$ -jets from  $c$ -jets using a multivariate analysis technique known as a boosted decision tree. This technique resulted in an additional 15% rejection of charm-jets. (3) Helped to increase understanding of jets produced from parton-parton interactions versus jets produced from low  $p_T$   $p\bar{p}$  interactions. This work increased signal acceptance by 5% in the low-mass Higgs search.

- I am currently collaborating with two Columbia graduate students on the search resonant diboson production at the LHC using the ATLAS detector (2011-present).

- I collaborated with a graduate student at Stony Brook University on the search for first generation scalar leptoquark production at the LHC using the ATLAS detector (2010-2011). This student is currently a postdoc with the University of Mainz.
- I collaborated with a Columbia graduate student whose thesis topic was the search for vector-like quark production at the Tevatron (2009-2010). This student is currently a postdoc with Michigan State University.

## HARDWARE EXPERIENCE AND SERVICE TASKS

- **ATLAS event reconstruction software (2011)**

I am currently working with a team charged with daily maintenance of the ATLAS job transforms, which are python scripts designed to facilitate simulation and reconstruction of both Monte Carlo and LHC data events in a transparent manner. Duties include responding to bug reports as needed and improving functionality to the end users.

- **Liquid Argon Front End Board Development (2007-2009)**

The sLHC is expected to increase the instantaneous luminosity of  $pp$  collisions at the LHC by a factor of 10, resulting in an increase in the radiation exposure for the calorimeter electronics. While based at Columbia University, I led an effort to characterize a new transistor technology based on a silicon-germanium (SiGe) substrate that has been shown to tolerate high radiation environments. For this effort, I assembled a highly sensitive current measurement device to profile the newly designed transistors before and after exposure to high levels of radiation.

- **$t\bar{t} \rightarrow$  “all-jets” (6 jets) Editorial Board Member (2008-2010)**

This committee reviews the  $t\bar{t} \rightarrow$  “all-jets” and the  $t\bar{t} \rightarrow \tau_h + \text{jets}$  analyses and determines if they are advanced enough to be presented publicly. My editorial board duties included thoroughly reviewing internal analysis documents and suggesting cross-checks to determine the stability and reliability of the result, including a review of the systematic uncertainties. This board approved a publication in Physical Review D of the measurement of the  $t\bar{t}$  cross section in the all-hadronic channel [Phys. Rev. D **82**, 032002 (2010)].

- **Level 3 / Data Acquisition System (2003-2007)**

The level 3/DAQ system is designed to collect data from each detector sub-system upon a level 2 trigger accept and channel this data to one of many computers on which the level 3 trigger software will reduce the flow-rate from 700 Hz to 50 Hz. The data from each sub-system is collected on a single board computer (SBC) and transferred to the level 3 computer farm via optical fiber and a 16 GHz CISCO 6049C ethernet switch. I was an on-call expert for this system at DØ. My main duties as an expert were to quickly diagnose and resolve problems to prevent data flow stoppage, provide daily maintenance of the level 3 computer farm, and give bi-yearly tutorials on the system for new data taking shifters.

## Conference Talks

- 19 April 2011 “Use of the jet mass in the reconstruction of hadronic  $W$  and  $Z$  boson decays in the DØ experiment”  
Jet reconstruction and spectroscopy at hadron colliders  
INFN, Pisa, Italy
- 23 August 2010 “Jet substructure measurements with ATLAS”  
US ATLAS Hadronic Final State Forum:  
Joint Theory/Experiment Open Session
- 23 June 2010 “Boosted Objects at the Tevatron”  
Boost 2010, Oxford University
- 8 June 2010 “LHC Experimental Update”  
RHIC and AGS Annual Users’ Meeting
- 15 March 2009 “Searches for low mass SM Higgs at the Tevatron”  
XLIVth Rencontres de Moriond QCD, La Thuile, Italy
- 7 Nov 2008 “ $W'$  and  $Z'$  Discovery Potential with the ATLAS Detector”  
Brookhaven Forum 2008, Upton, NY
- 15 May 2007 “Measuring Single Top Quark Production at DØ With  
The Matrix Element Method”  
XLIInd Rencontres de Moriond EW, La Thuile, Italy
- 2 June 2006 “Search for Electroweak Top Quark Production at DØ”  
New Perspectives, FNAL
- 13 May 2005 “Search for Electroweak Top Quark Production”  
Northwest APS Meeting, Victoria, BC
- 22 May 2004 “Search for Single Top Production at DØ”  
Northwest APS Meeting, Moscow, ID
- 2 May 2004 “Search for Single Top Quark Production in the Muon+Jets Channel”  
APS April Meeting, Denver, CO

## Seminars

- 13 May 2011 “Search for new physics with leptons and jets”  
BNL, Upton, NY
- 27 January 2010 “Search for  $W' \rightarrow WZ$  at DØ”  
BNL, Upton, NY
- 3 October 2006 “Search for Electroweak Top Quark Production at DØ”  
FNAL, Batavia, IL
- 21 September 2006 “Search for Electroweak Top Quark Production at DØ”  
Boston University, Boston, MA
- 13 September 2006 “Search for Electroweak Top Quark Production at DØ”  
Columbia University, New York, NY
- 27 January 2005 “The Search for Electroweak Top Quark Production at DØ”  
University of Washington, Seattle, WA

## Workshops and Schools Attended

30 November – 2 December 2011	Fundamental Physics at the Intensity Frontier Rockville, Maryland
18 June – 1 July 2006	European School of High Energy Physics Aronsburg, Sweden
15 June – 27 June 2003	Nuclear Physics Summer School University of Tennessee, Knoxville

## Selected Publications

1. V. M. Abazov *et al.* [DØ Collaboration], “Search for Resonant  $WW$  and  $WZ$  Production in  $p\bar{p}$  Collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$  TeV, Phys. Rev. Lett. **107**, 011801 (2011) [arXiv:1011.6278 [hep-ex]].
2. G. Aad *et al.* [ATLAS Collaboration], “Search for pair production of first or second generation leptoquarks in proton-proton collisions at  $\sqrt{s}=7$  TeV using the ATLAS detector at the LHC, Phys. Rev. D **83**, 112006 (2011) [arXiv:1104.4481 [hep-ex]].
3. V. M. Abazov *et al.* [DØ Collaboration], “Search for single vector-like quarks in  $p\bar{p}$  collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$  TeV,” Phys. Rev. Lett. **106**, 081801 (2011) [arXiv:1010.1466 [hep-ex]].
4. V. M. Abazov *et al.* [DØ Collaboration], “Search for a Resonance Decaying into  $WZ$  Boson Pairs in  $p\bar{p}$  Collisions, Phys. Rev. Lett. **104**, 061801 (2010) [arXiv:0912.0715 [hep-ex]].
5. V. M. Abazov *et al.* [DØ Collaboration], “Observation of Single Top-Quark Production,” Phys. Rev. Lett. **103**, 092001 (2009) [arXiv:0903.0850 [hep-ex]].
6. V. M. Abazov *et al.* [DØ Collaboration], “Evidence for production of single top quarks,” Phys. Rev. D **78**, 012005 (2008) [arXiv:0803.0739 [hep-ex]].
7. V. M. Abazov *et al.* [DØ Collaboration], “Evidence for production of single top quarks and first direct measurement of  $|V_{tb}|$ ,” Phys. Rev. Lett. **98**, 181802 (2007) [arXiv:hep-ex/0612052].

## Selected ATLAS Internal Notes

1. “Search for first generation scalar leptoquarks in  $pp$  collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  TeV”, ATL-COM-PHYS-2011-1363 (11-30-2011).
2. “Searches for second generation leptoquarks in dimuon plus jets and muon, missing ET plus jets final states using the ATLAS detector”, ATL-COM-PHYS-2011-1376 (11-30-2011).

3. “Search for resonant  $ZZ$  production at  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  TeV using the ATLAS detector”, ATL-COM-PHYS-2011-1456 (11-29-2011).
4. “Search for resonant  $WZ$  production in the  $WZ \rightarrow \ell\nu\ell\ell$  channel using the ATLAS detector”, ATL-COM-PHYS-2011-1188 (11-24-2011).
5. “Search for New Physics in Events with Four Charged Leptons”, ATLAS-COM-CONF-2011-143 (11-03-2011).
6. “Search for resonant  $WW$  production in fully leptonic boson decays using the ATLAS detector ”, ATL-COM-PHYS-2011-1362 (11-02-2011).
7. “Search for resonant  $WZ$  and  $ZZ$  production in the  $WZ/ZZ \rightarrow \ell\ell qq$  channel using the ATLAS detector”, ATL-COM-PHYS-2011-931 (11-07-2011).
8. “Search for pair production of first or second generation leptoquarks in proton-proton collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  TeV using the ATLAS detector at the LHC (ATLAS-EXOT-2010-08 (22-04-2011).
9. “Evaluation of Two SiGe HBT Technologies for the ATLAS sLHC Upgrade Presented at Topical Workshop on Electronics for Particle Physics by Miguel Ullan, Naxos, Greece, 15 - 19 Sep 2008, pp.111-115.

## Selected DØ Internal Notes

1. “Search for Vector-like Quark Production in the Lepton+Jets Final State Using 5.4  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  of Run II Data”  
Gustaaf Brooijmans, Seth Caughron, Thomas Gadfort, Lidija Zivkovic. (DØ Note Number 6103).
2. “Search for  $W' \rightarrow WZ$  production in the lepton+jets and 2 dilepton+jets final states using 5.4  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  of Run II Data”  
Andrew Askew, Gustaaf Brooijmans, Seth Caughron, Thomas Gadfort, Ketino Kaadze, Yurii, Maravin, Lidija Zivkovic. (DØ Note Number 6022).
3. “Performance of the DO NN b-tagging Tool on 3 fb-1 Run IIb Data”  
Tim Scanlon, Thomas Gadfort. (DØ Note Number 5803).
4. “Search for the Higgs boson in  $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow \mu\mu$  decays at DØ using Neural Networks with 3.0  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  of Data”  
T. Gadfort, A. Haas, D. Johnston, B. Penning. (DØ Note Number 5787).
5. “Combination of the DØ  $H \rightarrow WW \rightarrow \ell\ell\nu\nu$  limits with 3.0  $\text{fb}^{-1}$  at DØ in Run II”  
Ralf Bernhard, Harald Fox, Thomas Gadfort, Andy Haas, Dale Johnston, Bjoern Penning. (DØ Note Number 5757).

6. “Performance of the Dzero NN b-tagging Tool on p20 Data”  
T. Gadfort, A. Haas, D. Johnston, D. Lincoln, T. Scanlon, S. Schlobohm. (DØ Note Number 5554)
7. “Search for Single Top Quark Production using the Matrix Element Analysis Technique in  $1 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of Data”  
E. Aguilo et. al. (DØ Note Number 5287)
8. “Muon Identification Certification for p17 data”  
P. Calfayan, T. Gadfort, G. Hesketh, V. Lesne, M. Owen, R. Stroeher, B. Tuchming. (DØ Note Number 5157)

## Teaching Experience

### 2008, Columbia University

Substitute lecturer for two freshman physics classes. One lecture was on electromagnetic wave properties and the other was on the foundations of quantum mechanics and included a presentation of the Schrodinger equation.

### 2001 - 2002, University of Washington

Laboratory instructor for introductory mechanics. Tutorial instructor for introductory mechanics, introductory electricity and magnetism, and introductory waves & optics.

### 1998, University of Tennessee

Teaching assistant for computer science course on assembly language and computer organization.

## Outreach

- Volunteered at the first annual Science & Engineering Expo held on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. I worked with several demonstrations designed to illustrate concepts such as Rutherford scattering and neutrino oscillations to children at a middle school to high school level.
- Presented the ATLAS Higgs search at a “Science Cafe” public lecture held at Borders book store in Setuaket, NY. This presentation was aimed at a general audience with little or no scientific background.



## References

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