

1 STANDARD MODEL IS BEST MODEL (WORKING TITLE)

2 William Kennedy DiClemente

3 A DISSERTATION

4 in

5 Physics and Astronomy

6 Presented to the Faculties of The University of Pennsylvania  
7 in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy  
8 2018 Last compiled: December 31, 2018

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---

10 I. Joseph Kroll, Professor, Physics  
11 Supervisor of Dissertation

12

---

13 Joshua Klein, Professor, Physics  
14 Graduate Group Chairperson

15 Dissertation Committee

16 (Committee Prof. 1), Professor, Physics

17 (Committee Prof. 2), Associate Professor, Physics

18 (Committee Prof. 3), Professor, Physics

19 (Committee Prof. 4), Professor, Physics

20 I. Joseph Kroll, Professor, Physics

21

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## Acknowledgements

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27 I'd like to thanks the Ghosts of Penn Students Past for providing me with such an amazing thesis  
28 template.

29

# ABSTRACT

30

STANDARD MODEL IS BEST MODEL (WORKING TITLE)

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William Kennedy DiClemente

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J. Kroll

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This is the abstract text.

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114		<b>Move to appendix or omit</b> . . . . .	20
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122		<b>Move to appendix or omit</b> . . . . .	22
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# Preface

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127 This is the preface. It's optional, but it's nice to give some context for the reader and stuff.

Will K. DiClemente  
Philadelphia, February 2019

129

## CHAPTER 1

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130

# Introduction

---

131 The Standard Model (SM)<sup>1</sup> has been remarkably successful...

---

<sup>1</sup>Here's a footnote.

## CHAPTER 2

---

# Theoretical Framework

---

(Some example introductory text for this chapter)...

### 2.1 Introduction to the Standard Model

Modern particle physics is generally interpreted in terms of the Standard Model (SM). This is a quantum field theory which encapsulates our understanding of the electromagnetic, weak, and strong interactions...

### 2.2 Electroweak Mixing and the Higgs Field

When the theory of the electroweak interaction was first developed [2, 3], the  $W$  and  $Z$  bosons were predicted to be massless (a typical mass term in the Lagrangian would violate the  $SU(2)$  symmetry). However, these were experimentally observed to have masses...

## CHAPTER 3

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# LHC and the ATLAS Detector

---

### 3.1 The Large Hadron Collider

The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) [4] is...

### 3.2 The ATLAS Detector

ATLAS is a general-purpose particle detector...

#### 3.2.1 The Inner Detector

The Inner Detector serves the primary purpose of measuring the trajectories of charged particles...

##### 3.2.1.1 Pixel Detector

The Pixel detector consists of four cylindrical barrel layers and three disk-shaped endcap layers...

##### 3.2.1.2 Semiconductor Tracker

The Semiconductor Tracker uses the same basic technology as the Pixels, but the fundamental unit of silicon is a larger “strip”...

##### 3.2.1.3 Transition Radiation Tracker

The Transition Radiation Tracker is the outermost component of the ID...

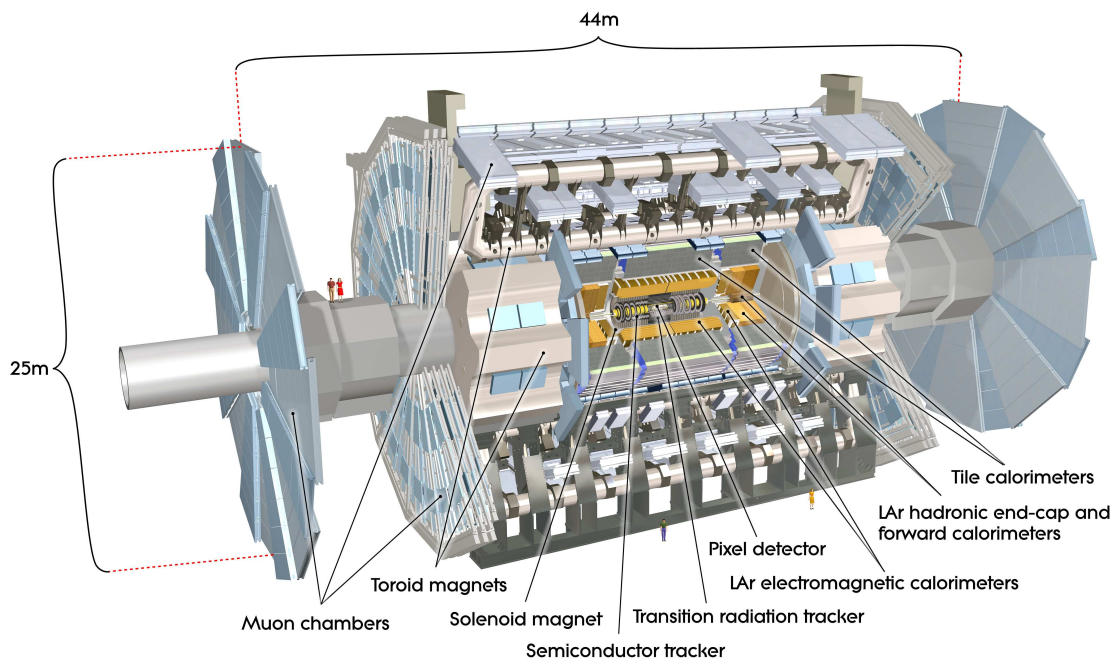


Figure 3.1: General cut-away view of the ATLAS detector [5].

### 3.2.2 The Calorimeters

ATLAS includes two types of calorimeter system for measuring electromagnetic and hadronic showers. These are the Liquid Argon (LAr) calorimeters and the Tile calorimeters. Together, these cover the region with  $|\eta| < 4.9$ ...

#### 3.2.2.1 Liquid Argon Calorimeters

The Liquid Argon system consists of...

#### 3.2.2.2 Tile Calorimeters

The Tile calorimeter provides coverage for hadronic showers...

---

## Alignment of the ATLAS Inner Detector

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168 In order for the subdetectors of the ID to operate at their designed precisions, it is essential that  
169 the locations of the sensors be known as precisely as possible. Differences between the expected and  
170 actual positions of a sensor can result in displaced particle hits and degrade track reconstruction  
171 quality. These misalignments can occur for any number of reasons, including but not limited to  
172 elements shifting during maintenance periods or cycles in ATLAS's magnetic field, or simply small  
173 movements during normal detector operations. Since it is not practical to physically realign hundreds  
174 of thousands of detector elements to  $\mu\text{m}$  precision by hand, an iterative track-based alignment  
175 algorithm is used to determine the physical positions and orientations of these elements [6]. The  
176 effects of misalignments and the steps taken to correct and monitor them are detailed in this chapter.

### 177 4.1 Effects of Misalignment

178 Hello world!

### 179 4.2 The Alignment Method

180 Hello world!

### 181 4.3 Momentum Bias Corrections

182 Hello world!

---

183 **4.4 Alignment of the IBL**

184 Hello world!

185 **4.5 Alignment Monitoring**

186 Hello world!



187

## CHAPTER 5

188

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# Same-sign $WW$ @ $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV

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189 **5.1 Theoretical motivation**

190 Hello world!

191 **5.2 Signal definition**

192 Hello world!

193 **5.3 Background estimations**

194 Hello world!

195 **5.4 Cross section measurement**

196 Hello world!

## CHAPTER 6

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# Prospects for same-sign $WW$ at the High Luminosity LHC

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On December 3, 2018, Run 2 of the LHC officially ended, and the collider was shut down to begin the first of two scheduled extended maintenance periods [7]. During these two long shutdowns, the Phase-I and Phase-II upgrades of the LHC and ATLAS will occur in order to prepare for the High-Luminosity LHC (HL-LHC) which is scheduled to begin operation in 2026 [8].

The HL-LHC is planned to run at a center-of-mass energy of  $\sqrt{s} = 14$  TeV with an instantaneous luminosity of  $\mathcal{L} = 5 \times 10^{34} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$  with up to 200 collisions per beam-crossing. Over the course of operation, the HL-LHC is expected to collect a total integrated luminosity of  $\mathcal{L} = 3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  by 2035 [9].

These run conditions are much harsher than what ATLAS has experienced so far, and as a result there are several planned upgrades to the detector. Most notably, the entire ID will be replaced with an all-silicon tracker which will extend the coverage from  $|\eta| \leq 2.7$  up to  $|\eta| \leq 4.0$ . This will allow for reconstruction of charged particle tracks which can in turn be matched to clusters in the calorimeters for electron identification or forward jet tagging [10].

The upgraded detector combined with the higher beam energy and the considerable increase in integrated luminosity means that many analyses with low signal statistics in Run 2 have the potential to be greatly improved with the HL-LHC. While the ATLAS 13 TeV  $W^{\pm}W^{\pm}jj$  cross section measurement certainly did not suffer greatly from low statistics **TODO: -reword-**, the accuracy of the measurement can still be improved at the HL-LHC. Of particular interest is the longitudinal polarization of the  $W$  bosons due to its sensitivity to electroweak symmetry breaking [11].

The analysis detailed in this chapter is based off of the 2018 public ATLAS  $W^{\pm}W^{\pm}jj$  prospects

study [12] which is itself an extension of the 2017 ATLAS study [13]. **TODO: mention CMS's study + yellow report?**

### 6.0.1 Analysis Overview

The experimental signature of interest here is identical to the 13 TeV analysis detailed in Chapter 5: two prompt leptons (electrons or muons) with the same charge, missing transverse energy, and two jets. Once again the two leading jets are required to have a large angular separation and a high combined invariant mass to preferentially select EWK VBS production over QCD  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  events.

Background processes that can mimic the signal are again similar to the 13 TeV analysis. The dominant source of prompt background from  $WZ$ +jets events where both bosons decay leptonically. If the lepton from the  $Z$ -decay with opposite charge from the  $W$  falls outside of the detector acceptance or is not identified, the remainder could appear to be a  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  signal event. To a lesser extent,  $ZZ$ +jets events can enter the signal region in much the same way provided two leptons are “lost”. Other prompt sources include  $t\bar{t} + V$  and multiple parton interactions, however these processes do not contribute much. The upgrades to the ATLAS detector are expected to reduce the size of these prompt contributions due in large part to the increased detector acceptance from the forward tracking. Jets mis-reconstructed as leptons or leptons from hadronic decays (such as  $t\bar{t}$  and  $W$ +jets production) comprise the non-prompt lepton background. Lastly, events with two prompt, opposite-charge electrons can contribute provided one of the electrons is mis-reconstructed as the wrong charge.

In this analysis, the EWK production of  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  is studied in the context of the planned HL-LHC run conditions and upgraded ATLAS detector. An optimized event selection (referred to as the *optimized selection*) is also explored in an effort to gain increased signal significance over the *default selection*. The cross section of the inclusive EWK production is measured for both the default and optimized selections, and the extraction of the longitudinal scattering significance is measured with the optimized selection.

## 6.1 Theoretical motivation

The theoretical motivation for studying the ssWW process is detailed in Section 5.1. The particular interest in polarization is the potential for the scattering amplitude of longitudinally polarized weak bosons to diverge linearly as the center of mass energy increases, ultimately violating unitarity around 1 TeV [14]. In the Standard Model, the Higgs boson cancels these divergences. However, as

the Higgs is recently discovered it is still extremely to study the mechanism of electroweak symmetry breaking (EWSB), and the longitudinal scattering of  $W$  bosons is expected to be one of the most sensitive tests of EWSB [11].

### 6.1.1 Experimental sensitivity to longitudinal polarization

There are three possible polarization states for a massive vector boson: two transverse (+ or  $-$ ) and one longitudinal (0). Therefore, in a system with two  $W$  bosons, the overall polarization can be purely longitudinal (00), purely transverse ( $++$ ,  $--$ , and  $+-$ ), or mixed ( $+0$  and  $-0$ ). The three combinations will be referred to as  $LL$ ,  $TT$ , and  $LT$  respectively.

In order to extract the longitudinal scattering component, it is necessary to find variables that distinguish the  $LL$  from the  $TT$  and  $LT$ . Several variables were studied, and those with the best discriminating power between the polarizations were the leading and subleading lepton  $p_T$  as well as the azimuthal separation ( $|\Delta\phi_{jj}|$ ) of the two VBS jets. The  $LL$  events preferred lower  $p_T$  for both signal leptons (see Figure 6.1), which motivates keeping these two cuts as low as possible in the event selection in order to preserve as much longitudinal polarization as possible. In the case of  $|\Delta\phi_{jj}|$ , the  $LL$  events generally had a larger dijet separation (see Figure 6.2), and this variable is used in a binned likelihood fit to extract the longitudinal scattering significance.

## 6.2 Monte Carlo samples

As no real HL-LHC data will be available for many years, all processes in this prospects study must be simulated using Monte Carlo (MC) generators. Signal and background processes were generated at  $\sqrt{s} = 14$  TeV, and the event yields scaled to the anticipated HL-LHC integrated luminosity of  $\mathcal{L} = 3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ .

**TODO: Consider putting all this in a table**

The signal sample consists of both VBS and non-VBS electroweak (EWK)  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  production, and it is simulated with the `Madgraph5_aMC@NLO` generator [15] using the NNPDF3.0 PDF set [16] and interfaced with `PYTHIA v8` [17] for hadronization and parton showering. To study the longitudinal polarization more directly, two additional `Madgraph5_aMC@NLO`  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  samples are used: one containing only the longitudinal contribution ( $LL$ ) and a second containing the transverse ( $TT$ ) and mixed ( $LT$ ) contributions.

There are many other processes that can produce the same final state as the  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  and must also be accounted for using MC simulations.  $WZ$  events are generated using `SHERPA v2.2.0` [18, 19,

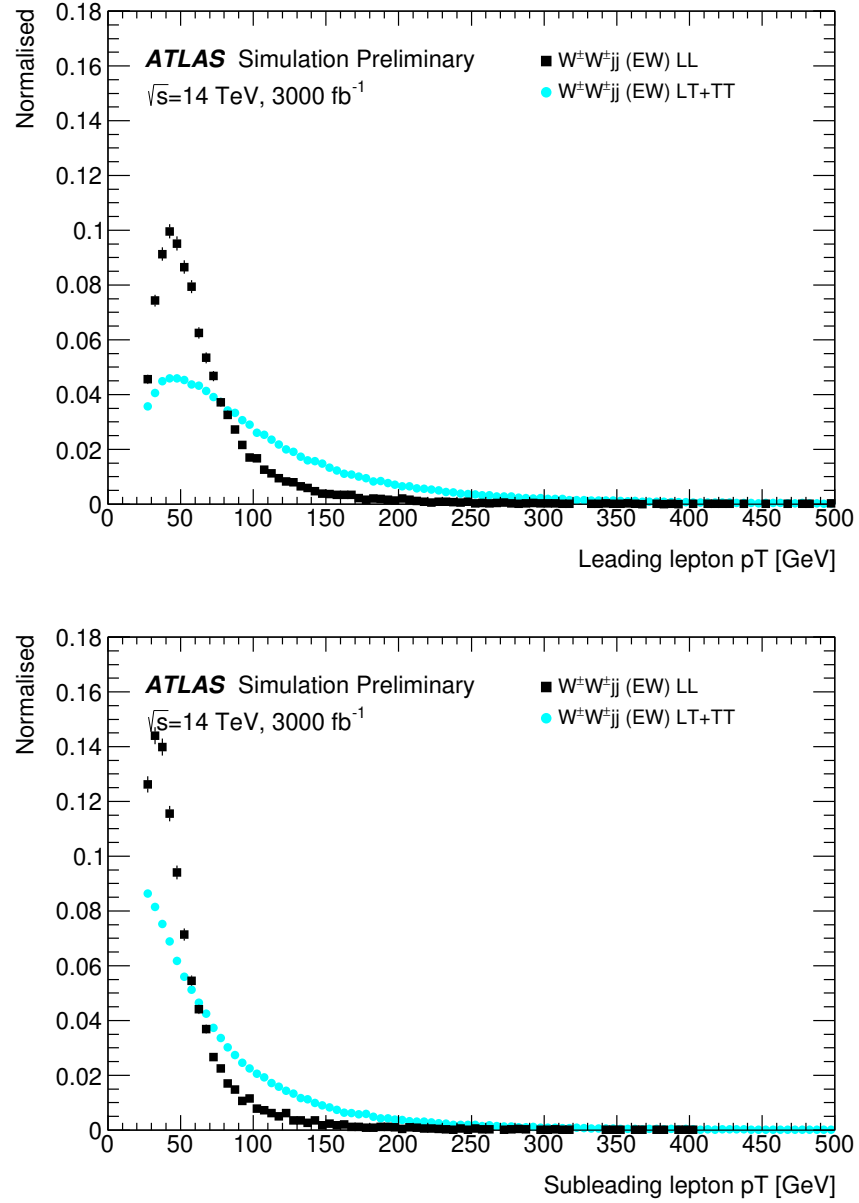


Figure 6.1: Comparison of the leading (top) and subleading (bottom) lepton  $p_T$  distributions for purely longitudinal (LL, black) and mixed polarization (LT+TT, cyan)  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  events. Plots from [1].

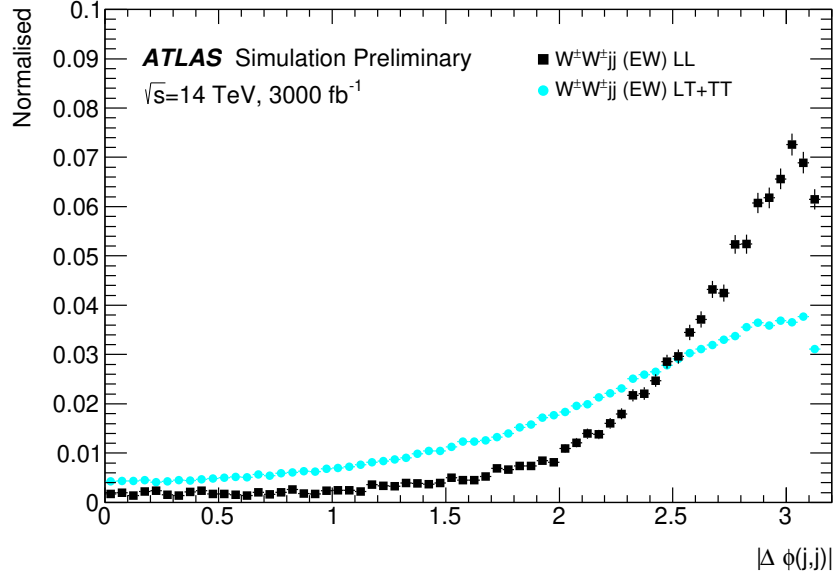


Figure 6.2: Comparison of the azimuthal dijet separation ( $|\Delta\phi_{jj}|$ ) for purely longitudinal (LL, black) and mixed polarization (LT+TT, cyan)  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  events. Plot from [1].

280 [20], which includes up to one parton at next-to-leading order (NLO) in the strong coupling constant  
 281  $\alpha_s$  and up to three additional partons at leading order (LO). Both EWK and QCD production  
 282 are included in these samples.  $ZZ$  events are generated using SHERPA v2.2.2 with up to two  
 283 additional partons in the final state. Triboson backgrounds  $VVV$ ,  $V = W, Z$  where the bosons can  
 284 decay leptonically or hadronically are simulated with SHERPA v2.2.2 with up to two additional  
 285 partons in the final state.  $W$ +jets backgrounds are generated for electron, muon, and tau final states  
 286 are generated at LO with Madgraph5\_aMC@NLO and the NNPDF3.0 set with showering from PYTHIA  
 287 v8.  $Z$ +jets events are generated using POWHEG-BOX [21] and the CT10 PDF set [22] interfaced with  
 288 PYTHIA v8. Finally,  $t\bar{t}$  and single-top events are generated using POWHEG-BOX with showering from  
 289 PYTHIA v6.

290 Since the MC samples used in the analysis are generated at particle-level and have not been  
 291 run through the typical full simulation of the ATLAS detector, smearing functions are instead used  
 292 to estimate detector effects. These are derived from a GEANT4 simulation of the upgraded ATLAS  
 293 detector [23]. In addition, pileup events are fully simulated.

### 6.3 Background estimations

In this analysis, all background contributions are estimated using MC simulations. Backgrounds such as electron charge misidentification and fake electrons from jets—which are traditionally estimated using data-driven techniques—are estimated using a set of parameterization functions applied to the MC. These functions calculate the probability that an electron is assigned the wrong charge or a jet is mis-reconstructed as an electron parameterized by the  $p_T$  and  $\eta$  of the electron or jet. The probabilities are derived from studies on expected electron performance with the upgraded ATLAS detector [24].

Processes involving two  $W$  and  $Z$  bosons are grouped together as *diboson* backgrounds, with the exception of  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  events produced via QCD interactions, which are kept separate. Similarly, all backgrounds with three vector bosons are combined and labeled as *triboson*. Any  $W$ +jets or top events that pass selection and do not contain a fake electron, as well as any  $Z$ +jets events without an electron identified as having its charge misidentified are combined as *other non-prompt* backgrounds.

#### 6.3.1 Truth-based isolation

Since the MC samples used in this analysis have not been run through a full detector simulation, they lack any kind of particle isolation variables (since they require, for example, information on the calorimeter response). Generally, this is not a large concern, as at truth-level, high  $p_T$  signal leptons tend to be well isolated to begin with. However, isolation is one of the most powerful tools for rejecting leptons from non-prompt sources such as top events, which are produced in association with additional nearby particles from  $b$  and  $c$  quark decays. In the absence of any sort of isolation requirement, contributions from top backgrounds (including single top,  $t\bar{t}$  and  $t\bar{t} + V$ ) were more than an order of magnitude higher than expected.

As a result, it was necessary to create an analogue to the isolation information that is available in fully-simulated samples. Track- and calorimeter-based isolation variables were constructed by summing the momentum and energy, respectively, of stable truth particles with  $p_T > 1$  GeV within a specified radius of each signal lepton. For the track-based isolation, only charged truth particles were used; both charged and neutral particles (excluding neutrinos) were included for the calorimeter-based isolation. Ultimately, a set of isolation cuts were chosen that are similar to those recommended by ATLAS for Run 2 analyses. The truth-based isolation requirements are listed in Table 6.1.

The truth-based isolation requirement reduced the top background by over 99% and reduced the contribution of top events to the total background from 83% to 2%. Additional details on the

	Electron Isolation	Muon Isolation
Track-based isolation cone size	$\Delta R < 0.2$	$\Delta R < 0.3$
Track-based isolation requirement	$\sum p_T/p_T^e < 0.06$	$\sum p_T/p_T^\mu < 0.04$
Calorimeter-based isolation cone size	$\Delta R < 0.2$	$\Delta R < 0.2$
Calorimeter-based isolation requirement	$\sum E_T/p_T^e < 0.06$	$\sum E_T/p_T^\mu < 0.15$

Table 6.1: Truth-based isolation requirements for electrons and muons.

truth-based isolation studies are presented in Appendix A.

## 6.4 Object and Event selection

### 6.4.1 Object selection

Electrons and muons are preselected to have  $p_T > 7$  and 6 GeV, respectively, and  $|\eta| \leq 4.0$ . The likelihood of a given lepton to pass the trigger or identification requirements is estimated by estimating an efficiency dependent on the  $p_T$  and  $\eta$  of the lepton. The leptons are also required to pass the isolation criteria detailed in Table 6.1. Jets that have been tagged as a fake electron by the functions described earlier in Section 6.3 are treated as electrons for the purpose of the object selection and are subject to the same criteria. In order to be considered a signal lepton, an additional requirement of  $p_T > 25$  GeV is applied on top of the preselection. The two highest  $p_T$  leptons passing this selection are chosen to be the leading and subleading signal leptons.

Jets are clustered using the anti- $k_t$  algorithm [25] from final-state particles within a radius of  $\Delta R = 0.4$  (excluding muons and neutrinos). Jets are required to have  $p_T > 30$  GeV and lie within  $|\eta| < 4.5$ , with an additional cut of  $p_T > 70$  GeV for jets above  $|\eta| \geq 3.8$  in order to suppress jets from pileup interactions. Jets overlapping with a preselected electron within  $\Delta R_{e,j} < 0.05$  are removed in order to prevent double counting. The two highest  $p_T$  jets are defined as the leading and subleading *tag jets*.

### 6.4.2 Event selection

The default event selection is summarized in Table 6.2 and described here. Exactly two signal leptons are required with the same electric charge and separated from each other by 0.3 in  $\Delta R$ . In order to suppress contributions from Drell-Yan backgrounds, the two signal leptons must have an invariant mass  $m_{ll}$  greater than 20 GeV. Additionally, if both signal leptons are electrons, their mass must



be at least 10 GeV from the  $Z$ -boson mass in order to reduce background from  $Z$ -boson decays<sup>2</sup>. The event is required to have at least 40 GeV of missing transverse energy ( $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ ) to account for the two neutrinos from the  $W$  decays. Events with additional preselected leptons are vetoed, which greatly reduces  $WZ$  and  $ZZ$  backgrounds. Both tag jets are required to not overlap with the signal leptons, and there is a veto on events with one or more  $b$ -jets. In order to preferentially select VBS production, the tag jets are also required to have a large separation between them and a large invariant mass. Finally, a cut on the lepton centrality,  $\zeta$ , defined in Equation 6.1 enhances the EWK  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  signal.

$$\zeta = \min[\min(\eta_{\ell 1}, \eta_{\ell 2}) - \min(\eta_{j 1}, \eta_{j 2}), \max(\eta_{j 1}, \eta_{j 2}) - \max(\eta_{\ell 1}, \eta_{\ell 2})] \quad (6.1)$$

Selection requirement	Selection value
Lepton kinematics	$p_T > 25 \text{ GeV}$ $ \eta  \leq 4.0$
Jet kinematics	$p_T > 30 \text{ GeV}$ for $ \eta  \leq 4.5$ $p_T > 70 \text{ GeV}$ for $ \eta  > 3.8$
Dilepton charge	Exactly two signal leptons with same charge
Dilepton separation	$\Delta R_{l,l} \geq 0.3$
Dilepton mass	$m_{ll} > 20 \text{ GeV}$
$Z$ boson veto	$ m_{ee} - m_Z  > 10 \text{ GeV}$ ( $ee$ -channel only)
$E_T^{\text{miss}}$	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 40 \text{ GeV}$
Jet selection	At least two jets with $\Delta R_{l,j} > 0.3$
$b$ jet veto	$N_{b\text{-jet}} = 0$
Dijet separation	$\Delta\eta_{jj} > 2.5$
Trilepton veto	No additional preselected leptons
Dijet mass	$m_{jj} > 500 \text{ GeV}$
Lepton-jet centrality	$\zeta > 0$

Table 6.2: Summary of the signal event selection.

## 6.5 Selection optimization

As mentioned earlier, the HL-LHC will feature forward tracking, an increase in center of mass energy, and a higher integrated luminosity. Therefore, this study is an excellent time to see if there are new optimizations to the signal event selection that can improve the signal to background ratio.

<sup>2</sup>The electron charge mis-ID rate is high enough that contributions from  $Z \rightarrow ee$  backgrounds are non-negligible.

### 6.5.1 Random grid search algorithm

The chosen method for optimizing the event selection is a cut-based algorithm known as the Random Grid Search (RGS) [26]. Consider a simple case of two variables  $x$  and  $y$  chosen to differentiate the signal from the background. In order to be considered a signal event, a given event would be required to pass a *cut point*  $c = \{x > x_c, y > y_c\}$ . A simple method to choose the optimal cut point (i.e. the “best” values of the cuts  $x_c$  and  $y_c$ ) would be to construct an  $n \times m$  rectangular grid in  $x$  and  $y$  consisting of points  $(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_m)$ , as in Figure 6.3. One can then choose a cut point  $c_k = \{x > x_i, y > y_j\}$  that maximizes the signal significance as measured by a chosen metric. This would be considered a *regular* or *rectangular* grid search.

While effective in principle, this rectangular grid search comes with two major drawbacks:

1. The algorithm does not scale well as the number of variables to be optimized—the dimensionality of the grid—increases. In the case of a square grid with  $N$  bins per variable  $v$ , the number of cut points to be evaluated grows as  $N^v$ .
2. Signal and background samples are rarely evenly distributed over the entire grid, resulting in many cut points being sub-optimal and evaluating them would be a waste of computing resources.

To combat these limitations, the RGS algorithm constructs a grid of cut points directly from the signal sample itself. In the two-dimensional example, this means that the variables  $x_i$  and  $y_j$  making up the cut point  $c_k = \{x > x_i, y > y_j\}$  take their values directly from a given signal event. This has the benefit of creating a *random grid* of cut points that is by construction biased towards regions of high signal concentration. This reduces the need for exponentially increasing numbers of cut points while ensuring that computing resources are not wasted in regions with few to no signal events. An example of the the two-dimensional random grid is shown in Figure 6.4.

Once the random grid of cut points is constructed, the optimal cut point can be chosen using whatever metric the analyzer chooses, such as signal to background ratio. For the purpose of the  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  upgrade study, the optimal cut point is the one that maximizes the signal significance  $Z$  defined as in Equation 6.2 [27].

$$Z = \sqrt{2 \left[ (s+b) \ln \left( \frac{s+b}{b_0} \right) + b_0 - s - b \right] + \frac{(b-b_0)^2}{\sigma_b^2}} \quad (6.2)$$

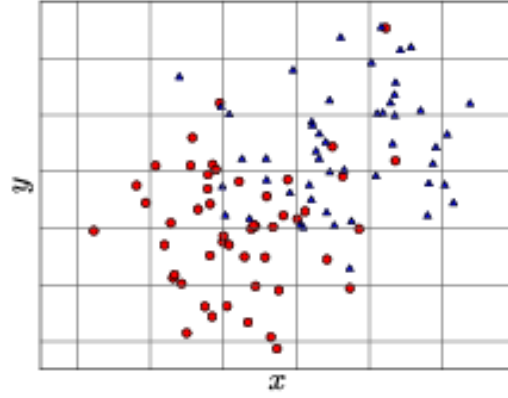


Figure 6.3: A visual representation of a rectangular grid search algorithm. The signal events are the blue triangles, and the red circles are the background events. **TODO: replace with own figure**

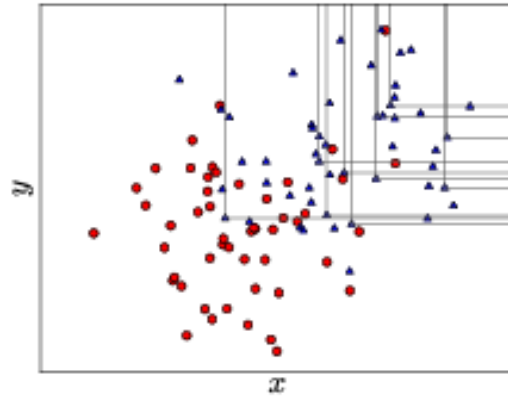


Figure 6.4: A visual representation of a random grid search algorithm. The signal events are the blue triangles, and the red circles are the background events. **TODO: replace with own figure**

where  $s$  and  $b$  are the number of signal and background events, respectively,  $\sigma_b$  is the total uncertainty on the background, and  $b_0$  is defined as:

$$b_0 = \frac{1}{2} \left( b - \sigma_b^2 + \sqrt{(b - \sigma_b^2)^2 + 4(s + b)\sigma_b^2} \right) \quad (6.3)$$

In the case where the background is known precisely (i.e.  $\sigma_b = 0$ ), Equation 6.2 simplifies to

$$Z = \sqrt{2 \left( b \left[ (1 + s/b) \ln(1 + s/b) - s/b \right] \right)} \quad (6.4)$$

which further reduces to the familiar  $Z = s/\sqrt{b}$  for the case when  $s \ll b$ .

### 6.5.2 Inputs to the optimization

In order to train the RGS, signal and background samples were prepared from events passing the event selection outlined in Table 6.2 up through the  $b$ -jet veto. The signal sample was chosen to be the longitudinally polarized  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  EWK events, and the transverse and mixed polarizations were treated as background along with  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  events from QCD interactions and the traditional backgrounds listed in Section 6.3. Splitting the inclusive  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  EWK events by polarization allows the optimization to favor the longitudinally polarized events as much as possible, even though they both contribute to the EWK signal.

The following variables were chosen for optimization:

- Leading lepton  $p_T$
- Dilepton invariant mass ( $m_{ll}$ )
- Leading and subleading jet  $p_T$
- Dijet invariant mass ( $m_{jj}$ )
- Lepton-jet centrality ( $\zeta$ )

Subleading lepton  $p_T$  was omitted as it is desirable to keep the cut value as low as possible due to its sensitivity to the longitudinal polarization (as discussed in Section 6.1.1). Additionally, the dijet separation  $\Delta\eta_{jj}$  was included in the optimization originally, however it was dropped from the list due to the cut value being motivated by differences between EWK and QCD produced  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  events.

Two additional constraints were imposed when selecting the optimal cut point:

1. At least 1000 signal events must survive in order to prevent the optimization from being too aggressive and unnecessarily reducing signal statistics.

411 2. The dijet invariant mass may only vary within a 50 GeV range of the default value (from  
 412 450-550 GeV) due to the cut being physically motivated by the VBS event topology (**TODO:**  
 413 **reference where this is discussed in the 13TeV section** ).

414 Lastly, the decision was made to use calculate the signal significance without taking into account  
 415 the uncertainty of the background using Equation 6.4. This was due to the fact that the statistical  
 416 uncertainties of the fake electron and charge-misID backgrounds were quite large, and if Equation 6.2  
 417 were used instead, the optimization would cut unreasonably hard against these backgrounds. Since  
 418 Monte Carlo statistics is not expected to be a limiting factor when this analysis is performed at the  
 419 HL-LHC, it is more realistic to simply ignore these large statistical uncertainties for the purpose of  
 420 the selection optimization.

### 421 6.5.3 Results of the optimization

422 Ultimately, the random grid was constructed from over 38,000 LL-polarized  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  events in  
 423 the variables listed above. After applying the constraints, an optimal cut point was chosen which  
 424 reduced the total background from 9900 to 2310 while reducing the signal from 3489 to 2958. This  
 425 corresponds to an increase in signal significance from  $Z = 33.26$  to  $Z = 52.63$  as calculated by  
 426 Equation 6.4. The updates to the event selection are listed in Table 6.3.

427 The large reduction in the background is primarily a result of the increase in the leading and  
 428 subleading jet  $p_T$  from 30 GeV to 90 GeV and 45 GeV, respectively. As can be seen in Figure 6.7,  
 429 this increase removes a significant portion of the backgrounds from jets faking electrons and charge  
 430 mis-ID. Additionally, the loosening of the lepton-jet centrality cut  $\zeta$  allows more signal events to  
 431 survive the event selection (see Figure 6.9). Other changes to the event selection are minor and do  
 432 not individually have a large impact on the signal or background yields.

433 The full event yields after optimization as well as the cross section measurement are detailed  
 434 alongside those using the default selection in Section 6.6.

435 **TODO: It's a bit awkward to reference the results of the default/optimized before they're prop-**  
 436 **erly presented. Maybe move the sections around? not sure...**

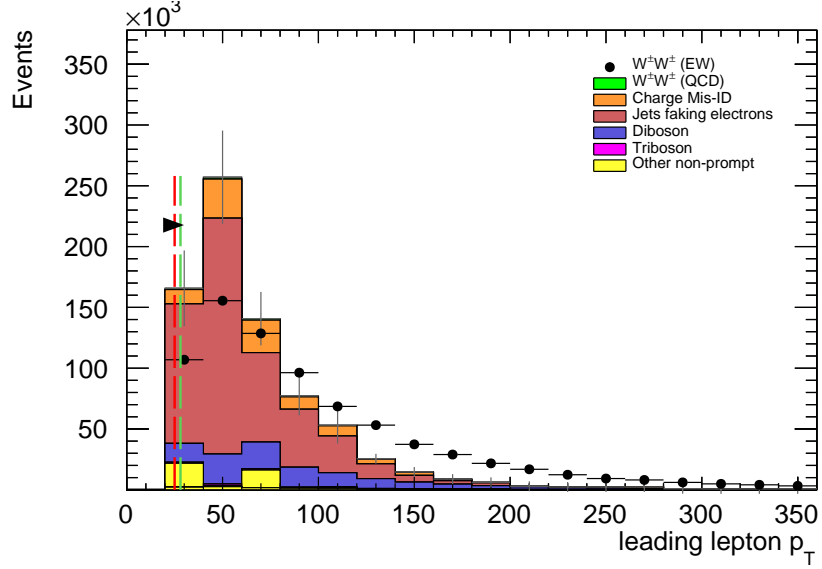


Figure 6.5: Leading lepton  $p_T$  distribution. The default and optimized cuts are represented by the red and green dashed lines, respectively. The  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  EWK signal (black points) is normalized to the same area as the sum of the backgrounds (colored histogram). **TODO:** Move to appendix or omit

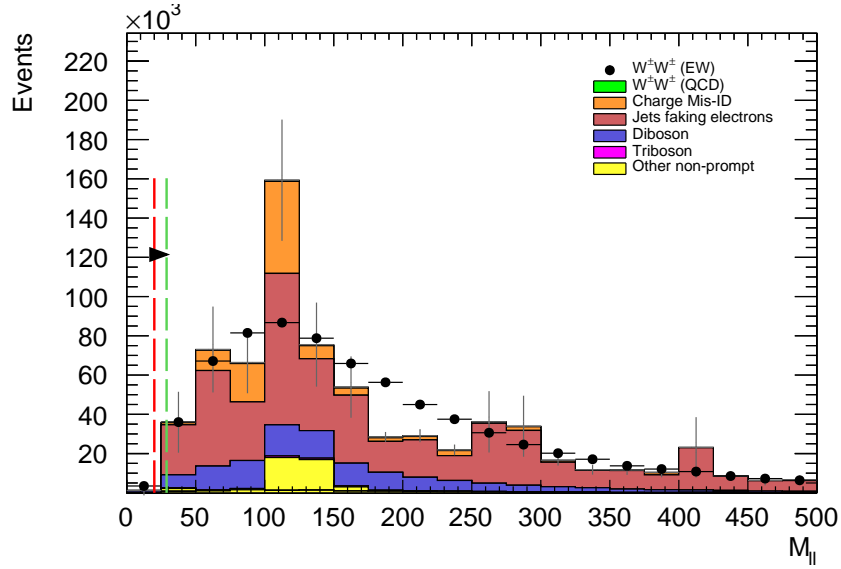


Figure 6.6: Dilepton invariant mass distribution. The default and optimized cuts are represented by the red and green dashed lines, respectively. The  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  EWK signal (black points) is normalized to the same area as the sum of the backgrounds (colored histogram). **TODO:** Move to appendix or omit

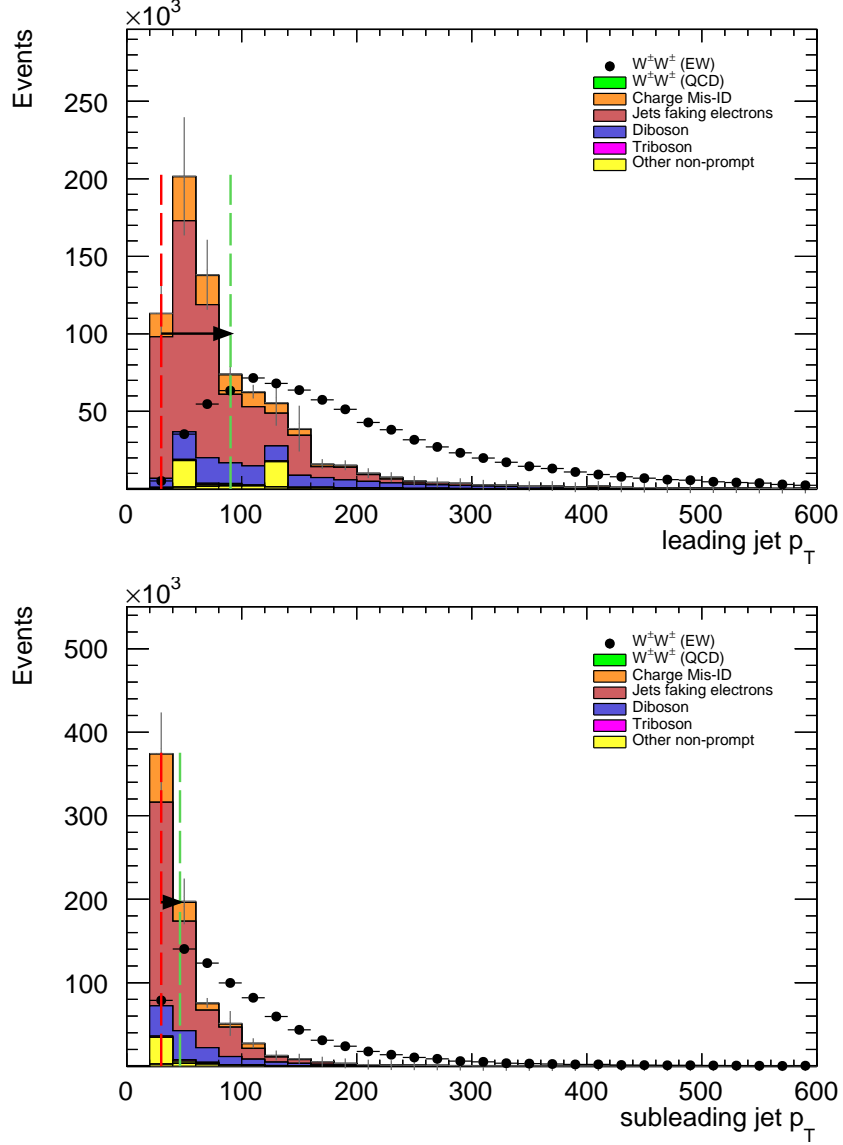


Figure 6.7: Leading (top) and subleading (bottom) jet  $p_T$  distributions. The default and optimized cuts are represented by the red and green dashed lines, respectively. The  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  EWK signal (black points) is normalized to the same area as the sum of the backgrounds (colored histogram).

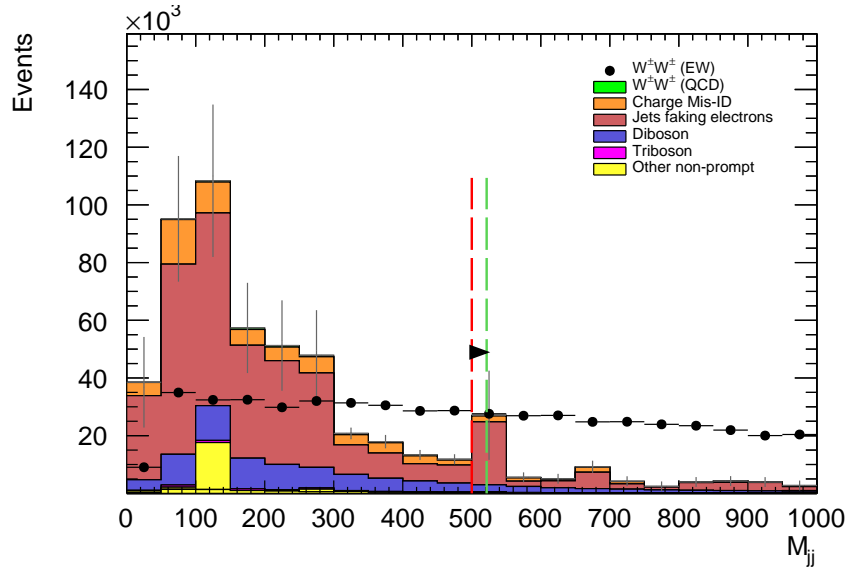


Figure 6.8: Dijet invariant mass distribution. The default and optimized cuts are represented by the red and green dashed lines, respectively. The  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  EWK signal (black points) is normalized to the same area as the sum of the backgrounds (colored histogram). **TODO:** Move to appendix or omit

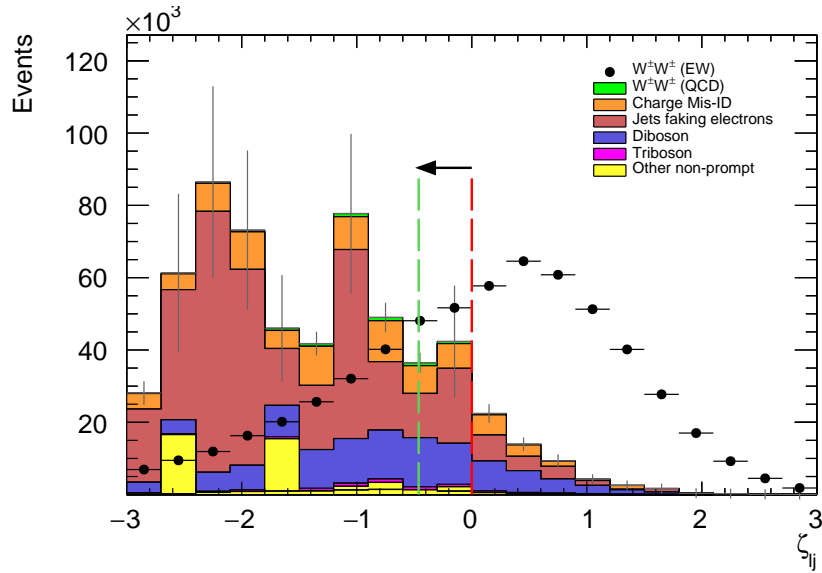


Figure 6.9: Lepton-jet centrality distribution. The default and optimized cuts are represented by the red and green dashed lines, respectively. The  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  EWK signal (black points) is normalized to the same area as the sum of the backgrounds (colored histogram).



Selection requirement	Selection value
Lepton kinematics	$p_T > 28$ GeV (leading lepton only)
Jet kinematics	$p_T > 90$ GeV (leading jet)
	$p_T > 45$ GeV (subleading jet)
Dilepton mass	$m_{ll} > 28$ GeV
Dijet mass	$m_{jj} > 520$ GeV
Lepton-jet centrality	$\zeta > -0.5$

Table 6.3: Updates to the  $W^\pm W^\pm jj$  event selection criteria after optimization. Cuts not listed remain unchanged from the default selection in Table 6.2.

## 437 6.6 Results

### 438 6.6.1 Event yields

### 439 6.6.2 Uncertainties

### 440 6.6.3 Cross section measurement

441

# CHAPTER 7

442

## Conclusion

443 Here’s where you wrap it up.

444 **Looking Ahead**

445

446 Here’s an example of how to have an “informal subsection”.

## Additional material on truth isolation

yields by type	all channels	$\mu\mu$	$ee$	$\mu e$	$e\mu$
signal	4011	1583.2	531.7	793.1	1103.1
ww qcd	252.6	105.8	30.4	48	68.4
charge flip	2528.4	0.0	2075.4	255.1	197.8
fakes	7135.4	0.0	4675.1	1904.3	555.9
diboson	2370.4	581.2	491.8	517.9	779.6
triboson	125.5	49.1	17.8	24.6	34.1
top	90150.5	26618	15301.6	25277.9	22953.1
z+jets	241.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	241.2
w+jets	31.4	3.9	7.6	13.2	6.7
total bkg	102803.9	27354	22592	28027.8	24830.1
signal	4011	1583.2	531.7	793.1	1103.1

Table A.1: Event yields prior to applying any form of truth-based isolation criteria.

yields by type	all channels	$\mu\mu$	$ee$	$\mu e$	$e\mu$
signal	3470.5	1427.3	428.8	675.8	938.7
ww qcd	205.8	90.8	22.7	38.3	54
charge flip	2398.3	0.0	2104.6	95.8	197.9
fakes	4309.7	0.0	3390.6	750.8	168.3
diboson	1552.4	311.3	355.6	346.8	538.7
triboson	115	46.8	15.4	21.6	31.2
top	156.9	42.3	14.8	76.6	23.3
z+jets	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
w+jets	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0
total bkg	8738.1	491.3	5903.7	1329.8	1013.4
signal	3470.5	1427.3	428.8	675.8	938.7

Table A.2: Event yields after applying a test version of the truth-based isolation.

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