

1 STANDARD MODEL IS BEST MODEL (WORKING TITLE)

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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 2019 Last compiled: January 15, 2019

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Acknowledgements

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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This is the abstract text.

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254

Preface

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

256

Will K. DiClemente
Philadelphia, February 2019

257

CHAPTER 1

258

Introduction

259 The Standard Model (SM)¹ has been remarkably successful...

¹Here'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 [1, 2], 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...

271

CHAPTER 3

272

LHC and the ATLAS Detector

273

3.1 The Large Hadron Collider

274

The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) [3] is...

275

3.2 The ATLAS Detector

276

ATLAS is a general-purpose particle detector...

277

3.2.1 The Inner Detector

278

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

279

3.2.1.1 Pixel Detector

280

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

281

3.2.1.2 Semiconductor Tracker

282

The Semiconductor Tracker uses the same basic technology as the Pixels, but the fundamental unit

283

of silicon is a larger “strip”...

284

3.2.1.3 Transition Radiation Tracker

285

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

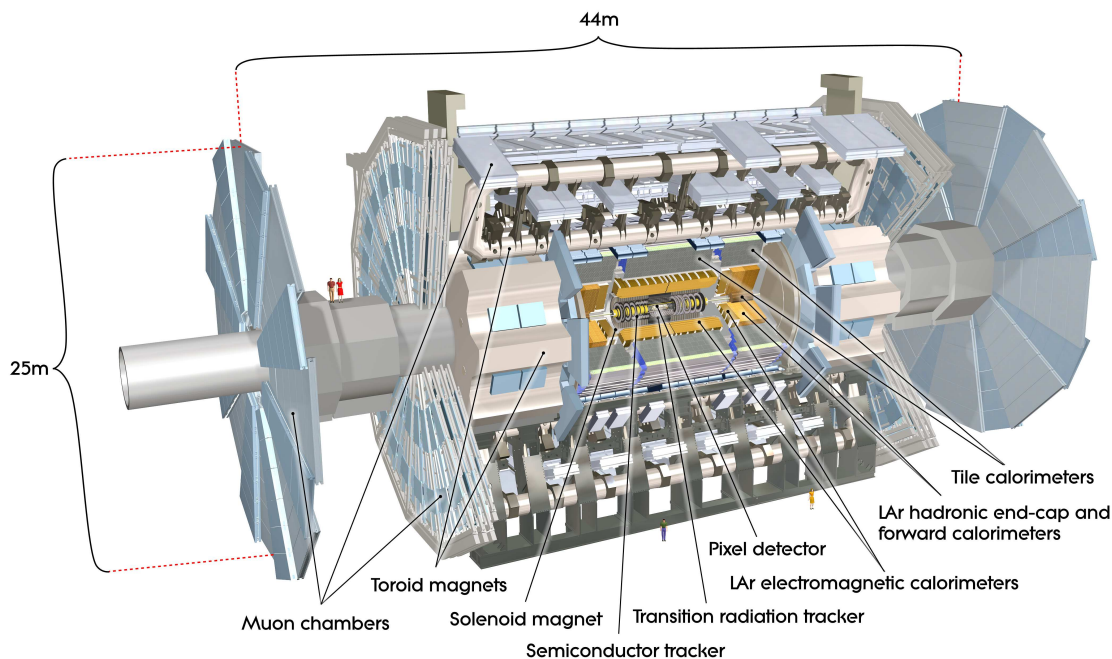


Figure 3.1: General cut-away view of the ATLAS detector [4].

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...

3.2.3 The Muon Spectrometer

Muon spectrometer stuff.

296 **3.2.4 Particle reconstruction**

297 Particle reconstruction algorithms

298 **3.2.4.1 Track reconstruction**

299 **3.2.4.2 Muon reconstruction**

300 **3.2.4.3 Electron reconstruction**

301 **3.2.4.4 Jet reconstruction**

CHAPTER 4

Alignment of the ATLAS Inner Detector

In order for the subdetectors of the ID to operate at their designed precisions, it is essential that the locations of the sensors be known as precisely as possible. Differences between the expected and actual positions of a sensor can result in displaced particle hits and degrade track reconstruction quality. These misalignments can occur for any number of reasons, including but not limited to elements shifting during maintenance periods or cycles in ATLAS's magnetic field, or simply small movements during normal detector operations. Since it is not practical to physically realign hundreds of thousands of detector elements to μm precision by hand, an iterative track-based alignment algorithm is used to determine the physical positions and orientations of these elements [5]. The effects of misalignments and the steps taken to correct and monitor them are detailed in this chapter.

4.1 Effects of Misalignment

Hello world!

4.2 The Alignment Method

Hello world!

4.3 Momentum Bias Corrections

Hello world!

319 **4.4 Alignment of the IBL**

320 Hello world!

321 **4.5 Alignment Monitoring**

322 Hello world!

CHAPTER 5

Measurement of same-sign WW production at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV with ATLAS

Production of same-sign W boson pairs is a particularly interesting SM process. When produced via vector boson scattering (VBS), $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ is particularly sensitive to the electroweak symmetry breaking (EWSB) mechanism as well as potential “beyond the Standard Model” (BSM) physics. $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ events can be produced via electroweak-mediated (EWK) diagrams, of which VBS is a subset, or QCD-mediated diagrams. The biggest advantage of same-sign $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ lies in its ratio of electroweak (EWK) to QCD production cross sections. Despite the opposite-sign $W^\pm W^\mp$ having a considerably larger total cross section, its EWK-mediated diagrams are considerably smaller than its QCD-mediated diagrams, while for same-sign $W^\pm W^\pm$ the ratio is approximately one to one. This makes $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ one of the best channels for studying VBS at the LHC.

The first evidence of electroweak (EWK) $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ production was seen by the ATLAS and CMS experiments at $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV with excesses of 3.6σ [6] and 2.0σ [7] over backgrounds, respectively. More recently, ATLAS and CMS have both observed the EWK process at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV with significances of 6.9σ [8] and 5.5σ [9], respectively. The analysis presented in this chapter is based off of the ATLAS $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV observation and cross section measurement of EWK $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ production [8, 10].

5.0.1 Theoretical overview of vector boson scattering

VBS processes are very important to understand due to their sensitivity to the EWSB mechanism. The scattering amplitude of longitudinally polarized vector bosons grows with center-of-mass energy and ultimately violates unitarity above $\sqrt{s} = 1$ TeV in the absence of a light SM Higgs boson [11, 12]. However, once the Higgs is introduced, the divergences cancel and the cross section no longer grows

unbounded, as can be seen in Figure 5.1, which consists of plots from [13].

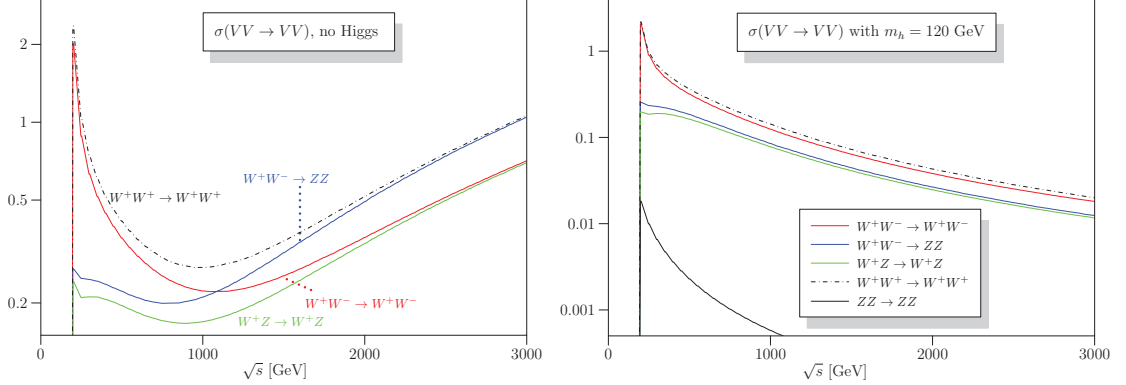


Figure 5.1: Cross sections in nanobarns for five different scattering processes of longitudinally polarized vector bosons as a function of center of mass energy \sqrt{s} . Without a SM Higgs boson (left), the cross sections grow unbounded with \sqrt{s} ; however with a 120 GeV Higgs boson (right), the cross sections no longer diverge. Plots taken from [13].

With the discovery of the Higgs boson in 2012 [14, 15], the EWSB mechanism can now be directly studied. Due to the exchange of a Higgs in the s - and t -channel VBS diagrams ($W^\pm W^\pm jj$ itself only contains the t -channel diagram), VBS processes are directly sensitive to properties of the Higgs. For example, the high-mass tail in the VV scattering system allows an approximation of the effective coupling strength of the Higgs to vector bosons that is independent of any assumptions on the Higgs width [16]. Additionally, the center of mass energy dependence of the VV scattering can reveal whether the Higgs boson unitarizes the longitudinal scattering amplitude fully or only partially [17].

VBS events are characterized by two quarks from the colliding protons each radiating a massive vector boson which then scatter and decay in the detector. The incoming quarks carry a large amount of momentum and only deflect a small amount upon radiating the vector boson; as a result, they often travel very close to the beam line. Ignoring the decay products of the bosons, these VBS events result in a final state of two vector bosons (V) and two jets (j) at high pseudorapidities (called *forward jets*) from the outgoing quarks. The shorthand $VVjj$ is used to represent this final state.

$VVjj$ events can be produced via two different physical processes. The first involves purely electroweak interactions in the tree-level diagrams, with $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_{\text{EWK}}) = 6$ and will be referred to as *EWK production*. This can be further broken down into VBS and non-VBS production. In the VBS EWK production, the scattering occurs via triple or quartic gauge couplings, as well as the s - or t -channel exchange of a Higgs boson. The non-VBS EWK production contains the same final

state of two vector bosons and two outgoing quarks, but the bosons do not scatter. Due to gauge invariance, it is not possible to separate the VBS from the non-VBS productions [18]; therefore, both are included in the signal generation and are indistinguishable from one another. The second process involves a mix of the EWK and strong interactions, of order $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s) = 2 \otimes \mathcal{O}(\alpha_{\text{EWK}}) = 4$ and will be referred to as *QCD production*. The tree-level Feynman diagrams for VBS EWK, non-VBS EWK, and QCD $VVjj$ production are found in Figures 5.2, 5.3, and 5.4, respectively.

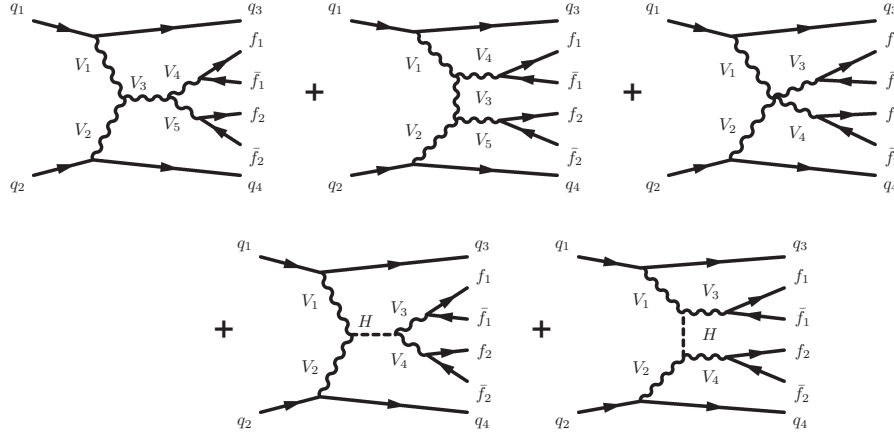


Figure 5.2: Tree-level Feynman diagrams for VBS EWK $VVjj$ production including triple gauge couplings involving W and/or Z bosons (top left and top middle), quartic gauge coupling (top right), or the exchange of a Higgs boson (s -channel bottom left and t -channel bottom right). The labels are quarks (q), fermions (f), and gauge bosons ($V = W, Z$).

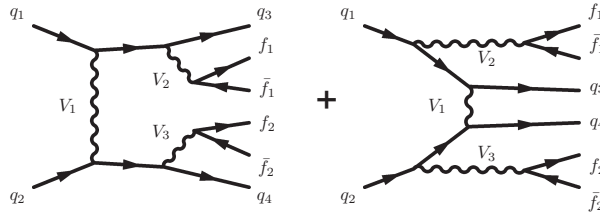


Figure 5.3: Tree-level Feynman diagrams for non-VBS EWK $VVjj$ production. The labels are quarks (q), fermions (f), and gauge bosons ($V = W, Z$).

5.0.2 Same-sign $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ scattering

Same-sign $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ scattering is considered to be one of the best channels for studying VBS at the LHC [16]. This is due primarily to the ratio of the EWK to the QCD production, which matters

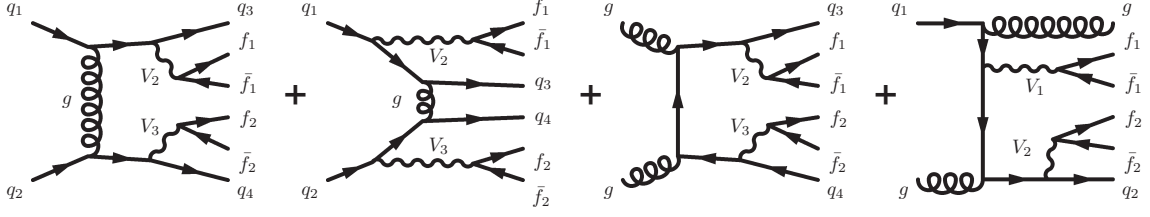


Figure 5.4: Tree-level Feynman diagrams for QCD $VVjj$ production. The labels are quarks (q), fermions (f), and gauge bosons ($V = W, Z$).

374 a great deal due to the VBS events being a subset of the total EWK production. In an analysis
 375 the EWK production would be considered the signal and the QCD production a background, so a
 376 favorable ratio of the two helps greatly when comparing the size of the signal to the backgrounds.
 377 A study at $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV [19] was done using the **SHERPA** Monte Carlo (MC) generator to calculate
 378 EWK and QCD production cross sections at leading order for a variety of $VVjj$ processes decaying
 379 to leptons and can be found in Table 5.1. Despite its lower cross section compared to other $VVjj$
 380 processes, the EWK to QCD ratio for $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ is approximately one-to-one, whereas for opposite-
 381 sign $W^\pm W^\mp jj$ the ratio is closer to 3%.

Process	Final state	σ_{EWK}	σ_{QCD}
$W^\pm W^\pm$	$l^\pm l^\pm \nu \nu jj$	19.5 fb	18.8 fb
$W^\pm W^\mp$	$l^\pm l^\mp \nu \nu jj$	91.3 fb	3030 fb
$W^\pm Z$	$l^\pm l^\pm l^\mp \nu jj$	30.2 fb	687 fb
ZZ	$l^+ l^- \nu \nu jj$	2.4 fb	162 fb
ZZ	$l^+ l^- l^+ l^- jj$	1.5 fb	106 fb

Table 5.1: Predicted cross sections for EQK and QCD production of diboson processes relevant to VBS at $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV using the **SHERPA** MC generator. Loose generator level cuts are applied on lepton $p_T > 5$ GeV, dilepton invariant mass $m_{ll} > 4$ GeV, and at least two jets with $m_{jj} > 10$ GeV. Numbers taken from [19].

382 This analysis studies $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ scattering where both W bosons decay leptonically to $e\nu$ or $\mu\nu$ ².
 383 The $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ VBS final state consists of two leptons with the same electric charge, two neutrinos,
 384 and two high energy forward jets with a large invariant mass. Tree-level Feynman diagrams of VBS
 385 $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ production can be found in Figure 5.5 and a visual representation of the VBS topology
 386 can be found in Figure 5.6. The two forward jets also serve as a powerful tool to suppress the
 387 QCD production mode. In EWK events, the two jets tend to have much higher separation and a

²Throughout the rest of this chapter, l denotes either electrons (e) or muons (μ) unless stated otherwise. Additionally, e , μ , and ν (neutrino) with no charge or anti-particle designation refer interchangeably to either the particle or anti-particle.

larger combined invariant mass than the two leading jets in a QCD event. The two plots shown in Figure 5.7 highlight the differences in these dijet quantities between the two production modes.

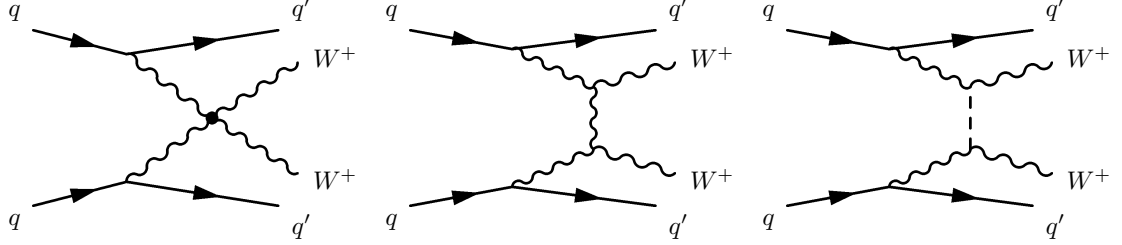


Figure 5.5: Feynman diagrams for VBS EWK production of $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ events. The leftmost diagram contains a quartic gauge coupling vertex, and the rightmost diagram contains an exchange of a Higgs boson. **TODO: Make diagrams consistent with others**

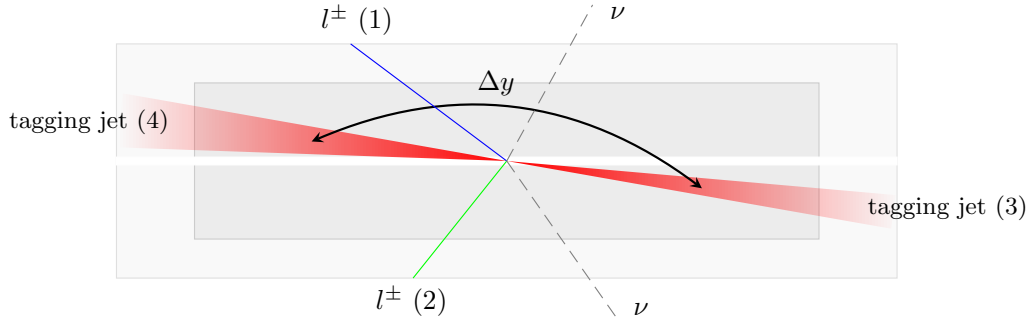


Figure 5.6: $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ VBS event topology containing two leptons (1 and 2) with the same electric charge, two neutrinos, and two forward tagging jets (3 and 4) with large rapidity separation Δy .

5.0.3 Overview of backgrounds

In addition to QCD production of $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ events, there are several other processes that can end up with a final state of two same-sign leptons, two neutrinos, and two jets. However, due to the ± 2 final state charge, there is a considerable reduction in SM backgrounds (such as Z boson events) when compared to an analysis like opposite-sign $W^\pm W^\mp jj$.

One of the largest sources of background involves processes with prompt leptons³. These are

³Prompt leptons are those that are produced in the primary collision and are a direct decay product of the process of interest. Non-prompt leptons originate from some secondary process, such as a b -hadron decay, or are jets that get mis-reconstructed as a lepton.

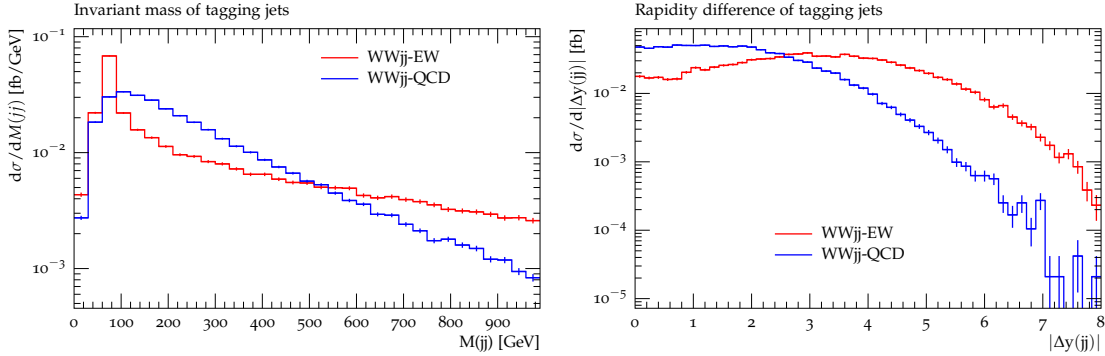


Figure 5.7: Generator level comparisons at $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV of dijet invariant mass (m_{jj} , left) and dijet rapidity (Δy_{jj} , right) in EWK (red) and QCD (blue) $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ events. Both data sets have been normalized to the same area. Plots taken from [19].

events that contain two leptons with the same electric charge and one or more additional leptons that are “lost”, either by failing the selection criteria or falling outside of the detector’s acceptance. The number of processes that can contribute is limited by the requirement of same-sign leptons, and as a result this background is dominated by processes involving two or more vector bosons, with the largest contribution coming from WZ events and smaller contributions from ZZ and $t\bar{t}V$ events. Triboson events where one boson decays hadronically also contribute to this background; however, the jets are generally softer and more central than in a typical VBS event, and the cuts applied on the forward jets suppress these contributions.

The other dominant background comes from non-prompt, or “fake”, leptons. Here one or more leptons originate from the decay of another particle unrelated to the signal process, such as a heavy-flavor decay or photon conversion, or come from a jet that is misidentified as a lepton. This background is mostly made up of events from $t\bar{t}$ and W +jets processes, with a much smaller contribution from $V\gamma$ events. **TODO: check whether $V\gamma$ really qualifies as non-prompt, we lump $Z\gamma$ in with the charge flip background in the paper...**

Finally, opposite-sign lepton pairs can enter the signal region if one of the leptons is reconstructed with the wrong charge (called *charge misidentification*⁴). In practice, this only affects events with electrons, as the charge misidentification rate for muons is negligible [20]. This is a major background in events with two electrons, but is a much smaller contribution for events with one electron and one muon.

⁴Charge misidentification is also referred to interchangeably as *charge mis-ID* and *charge flip*.

5.1 Data and Monte Carlo samples

This analysis uses 36.1 fb^{-1} of $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV proton-proton collision data recorded by ATLAS during 2015 and 2016. The uncertainty in the combined integrated luminosity is 2.1%. It is derived following a methodology similar to that detailed in [21] and using the LUCID-2 detector for the baseline luminosity measurements [22] from calibration of the luminosity scale using x - y beam-separation scans.

5.1.1 Monte Carlo samples

A number of Monte Carlo (MC) simulations are employed to model signal and background processes. In order to model the real collision data as closely as possible, each MC has been run through a full simulation of the ATLAS detector [23] in GEANT4 [24], and events have been reconstructed using the same algorithms as the data. The simulation reproduces as closely as possible the momentum resolutions and calorimeter responses of the detector, and also includes the effects of pileup by including soft QCD interactions using PYTHIA v8.1 [25]. The MC samples used in this analysis are detailed in this section and summarized in Table 5.2.

The $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ samples are modeled using SHERPA v2.2.2 [26, 27, 28] with the NNPDF3.0 PDF set [29]. The EWK signal samples are generated by fixing the electroweak coupling constant to $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_W) = 6$, and a QCD background sample was also generated with $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_W) = 4$. SHERPA includes up to one parton at next-to-leading order (NLO) and up to three at leading order (LO) in the strong coupling constant α_s . A second $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ EWK sample is generated using POWHEG-BOX v2 [30] with the NNPDF3.0 PDF set and at NLO accuracy. This sample is only used for systematic studies, as POWHEG-BOX does not include resonant triboson contributions in its matrix element, which are non-negligible at NLO [31].

Diboson processes (VV where $V = W, Z$) are simulated with SHERPA v2.2.2 for mixed hadronic and leptonic decays and SHERPA v2.2.1 for fully leptonic decays of the bosons. Similarly, triboson (VVV) and $V\gamma$ processes are simulated using SHERPA v2.1.1 with up to one parton at NLO and up to three at LO. W +jets processes are simulated with SHERPA2.2.1 with up to two partons at NLO and four at LO. All the above SHERPA samples use the NNPDF3.0 PDF set and SHERPA's own parton showering. The Z +jets events are generated with Madgraph5_aMC@NLO [32] at LO and interfaced with PYTHIA v8.1 for parton showering.

$t\bar{t}$ events are generated using POWHEG-BOX v2 with the CT10 PDF set [33]. $t\bar{t}V$ samples are generated at NLO with Madgraph5_aMC@NLO and the NNPDF3.0 PDF set interfaced with PYTHIA v8

Process	Generator	Comments
$W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (EWK)	SHERPA v2.2.2	Signal sample
$W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (EWK)	POWHEG-BOX v2	Systematics sample
$W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (QCD)	SHERPA v2.2.2	
Diboson	SHERPA v2.2.2	Both bosons decay leptonically ($llll$, $lll\nu$, $ll\nu\nu$)
	SHERPA v2.2.1	One boson decays leptonically, the other hadronically
Triboson	SHERPA v2.1.1	
W +jets	SHERPA v2.2.1	
Z +jets	Madgraph5_aMC@NLO	
$V\gamma$	SHERPA v2.1.1	
$V\gamma jj$ (EWK)	SHERPA v2.2.4	
$t\bar{t}V$	Madgraph5_aMC@NLO	
$t\bar{t}$	POWHEG-BOX v2	
Single top	POWHEG-BOX v1	EWK t -, s -, & Wt -channels

Table 5.2: Summary of MC samples used in the analysis.

446 for parton showering. Finally, single top events are generated with POWHEG-BOX v1 and the CT10f4
 447 PDF set interfaced with PYTHIA v6 [34] for parton showering.

448 5.2 Object and event selection

449 This section details the selection criteria for objects used in the analysis as well as the selection for
 450 signal events.

451 5.2.1 Object selection

452 Muons, electrons, and jets all must pass strict selection requirements to ensure that only high quality,
 453 well measured objects are used. For leptons, a baseline selection is defined (called the *preselection*),
 454 which all leptons must pass in order to be considered for the analysis. This preselection is an
 455 intentionally loose set of criteria in order to have high acceptance for rejecting backgrounds with
 456 additional leptons (i.e. $WZ \rightarrow 3l\nu jj$). Signal leptons are then required to satisfy a much tighter
 457 *signal selection* aimed at suppressing backgrounds from non-prompt or fake leptons. A third set of
 458 lepton selection criteria, the *loose selection*, defines a sample enriched in non-prompt leptons, and
 459 it is used in the fake factor method for estimating the non-prompt background, discussed in detail
 460 in Section 5.3.4. Jets are only required to pass one set of selection criteria. These selections are
 461 detailed in the following sections and summarized in Table 5.3 for muons, Table 5.4 for electrons,
 462 and Table 5.5 for jets.

5.2.1.1 Muon candidate selection

Cuts on muon p_T serve to reject low momentum leptons from background processes and additional collisions from pileup events. Preselected muons must have $p_T > 6$ GeV and signal muons $p_T > 27$ GeV. The p_T requirement for loose muons is lower than for signal muons, $p_T > 15$ GeV, for reasons that are discussed in Section 5.3.4. **TODO: reference proper subsection when it's done** Muons are required to fall within the detector's η acceptance: $|\eta| < 2.7$ for preselected muons, which is tightened to $|\eta| < 2.5$ for the signal muons.

Cuts on the transverse and longitudinal impact parameters are applied to ensure that the candidate muon originated from the primary particle interaction and not some other source, such as a heavy flavor decay. The preselection and the loose selection both have looser requirements on the transverse impact parameter significance (d_0/σ_{d_0}) than the signal selection; all three have the same requirement on the transverse impact parameter ($|z_0 \times \sin \theta|$).

Finally, the muon candidates are required to pass a particle identification and an isolation criteria as defined in [35]. The methods used in constructing the identification and isolation workingpoints are described in more detail in Section 3.2.4.2. The muon identification serves to select prompt muons with high efficiency and well measured momenta. This analysis uses two different workingpoints, **Loose** for preselected muons and **Medium** for loose and signal muons, where **Medium** muons are a tighter subset of those that pass the **Loose** requirement. Muon isolation is a measurement of detector activity around the muon candidate, and it is measured with both track-based and calorimeter-based variables. The isolation workingpoint used for the signal muons, **Gradient**, is defined such that there is 90% or better background rejection efficiency for 25 GeV muons, and 99% efficiency at 60 GeV. There is no minimum isolation requirement for preselected or loose muons. Loose muons are additionally required to fail one or both of the signal transverse impact parameter cut and signal isolation requirement.

5.2.1.2 Electron candidate selection

The electron candidate selections are very similar to those for muons. The p_T cut starts at $p_T > 6$ GeV for the preselection, increases to $p_T > 15$ GeV for loose electrons, and finally to $p_T > 27$ GeV for signal electrons. The $|\eta|$ cut for electrons requires $|\eta| < 2.47$ for all electrons, with the region $1.37 \leq |\eta| \leq 1.52$ removed from loose and signal electrons. This region is where the electromagnetic calorimeter transitions from the barrel to the endcaps and is not fully instrumented. Both the transverse and longitudinal impact parameter cuts are the same for all electron selections.

Muon preselection	
Momentum cut	$p_T > 6$ GeV
Angular acceptance	$ \eta < 2.7$
Longitudinal impact parameter	$ z_0 \times \sin \theta < 0.5$ mm
Transverse impact parameter	$d_0/\sigma_{d_0} < 10$
Particle identification	Loose

Muon signal selection	
Momentum cut	$p_T > 27$ GeV
Angular acceptance	$ \eta < 2.5$
Longitudinal impact parameter	$ z_0 \times \sin \theta < 0.5$ mm
Transverse impact parameter	$d_0/\sigma_{d_0} < 3$
Particle identification	Medium
Particle isolation	Gradient

Muon loose selection	
Momentum cut	$p_T > 15$ GeV
Angular acceptance	$ \eta < 2.5$
Longitudinal impact parameter	$ z_0 \times \sin \theta < 0.5$ mm
Transverse impact parameter	$d_0/\sigma_{d_0} < 10$
Particle identification	Medium
Fail signal transverse impact parameter and/or isolation cuts	

Table 5.3: Muon selection criteria. All muons are required to pass the preselection (top), and then either the signal (middle) or loose (bottom) criteria is applied to the preselected electrons.

494 The electron particle identification uses a multivariate likelihood technique (LH) [36] detailed
 495 in Section 3.2.4.3. Preselected electrons must pass the loosest LH workingpoint **LooseLH** with
 496 an additional requirement that there be a reconstructed track hit in the first layer of the pixel
 497 detector (a so-called B -layer hit). The LH requirement for the loose and signal electrons the tighness
 498 of the identification using **MediumLH** and **TightLH**, respectively. As for isolation, the **Gradient**
 499 workingpoint is required for signal electrons only. The loose electrons must fail one or both of the
 500 signal identification and isolation requirements.

501 5.2.1.3 Jet candidate selection

502 The final objects that need to pass selection are jets. Jets are clustered using the anti- k_t algo-
 503 rithm [37] within a radius of $\Delta R = 0.4$. The jets are then calibrated using E_T - and η -dependent
 504 correction factors that are trained using MC simulations [38]. These calibrated jets are then re-
 505 quired to have $p_T > 30$ GeV if they lie in the forward regions of the detector ($2.4 < |\eta| < 4.5$) and

Electron preselection	
Momentum cut	$p_T > 6$ GeV
Angular acceptance	$ \eta < 2.47$
Longitudinal impact parameter	$ z_0 \times \sin \theta < 0.5$ mm
Transverse impact parameter	$d_0/\sigma_{d_0} < 5$
Particle identification	LooseLH + B -layer hit

Electron signal selection	
Momentum cut	$p_T > 27$ GeV
Angular acceptance	$ \eta < 2.47$, excluding $1.37 \leq \eta \leq 1.52$
Longitudinal impact parameter	$ z_0 \times \sin \theta < 0.5$ mm
Transverse impact parameter	$d_0/\sigma_{d_0} < 5$
Particle identification	TightLH
Particle isolation	Gradient

Electron loose selection	
Momentum cut	$p_T > 15$ GeV
Angular acceptance	$ \eta < 2.47$, excluding $1.37 \leq \eta \leq 1.52$
Longitudinal impact parameter	$ z_0 \times \sin \theta < 0.5$ mm
Transverse impact parameter	$d_0/\sigma_{d_0} < 5$
Particle identification	MediumLH
Fail signal identification and/or isolation cuts	

Table 5.4: Electron selection criteria. All electrons are required to pass the preselection (top), and then either the signal (middle) or loose (bottom) criteria is applied to the preselected electrons.

506 $p_T > 25$ GeV in the central region ($|\eta| \leq 2.4$). In order to suppress pileup jets, the so-called jet-
507 vertex-tagger (JVT) discriminant associates a jet with the primary interaction vertex [39]; central
508 jets with $p_T > 60$ GeV are required to pass the **Medium** JVT workingpoint, which corresponds to
509 an average efficiency of over 92%. Finally, the jets are required to be separated by selected prompt
510 leptons by at least $\Delta R(j, l) > 0.3$.

Jet selection	
Momentum cut	$p_T > 30$ GeV for $2.4 < \eta < 4.5$ $p_T > 60$ GeV for $ \eta < 2.4$
JVT cut	Medium
Jet-lepton separation	$\Delta R(j, l) > 0.3$

Table 5.5:

5.2.1.4 Treatment of overlapping objects

In the event that one or more objects are reconstructed very close to each other, there is the possibility for double-counting if both originated from the same object. The procedure by which this ambiguity is resolved is called *overlap removal* (OR). The standard ATLAS recommendation for OR is implemented in this analysis [40, 41] and is summarized in Table 5.6.

Since electrons leave a shower in the EM calorimeter, every electron has a jet associated with it. Therefore, any jets close to an electron (within $\Delta R(e, j) < 0.2$) are rejected due to the high probability that they are the same object. On the other hand, when jets and electrons overlap within a large radius of $0.2 < \Delta R(e, j) < 0.4$, it is likely that the electron and jet both are part of a heavy-flavor decay, and the electron is rejected.

High energy muons can produce photons via bremsstrahlung radiation or collinear final state radiation which results in a nearby energy deposit in the calorimeters. Non-prompt muons from hadronic decays produce a similar signature; however, in this case the jet has a higher track multiplicity in the ID. It is possible to address both cases by rejecting the jet when the ID track multiplicity is less than three and otherwise rejecting the muon for jets and muons within $\Delta R(\mu, j) < 0.4$.

In addition to the case above where muon bremsstrahlung results in a nearby reconstructed jet, the ID track from the muon and the calorimeter energy deposit can lead to it being reconstructed as an electron. In this case, if both a muon and an electron share a track in the ID, the muon is kept and the electron is rejected, unless the muon is calorimeter-tagged⁵, in which case the muon is removed in favor of the electron.

Overlap	Check	Result (remove → keep)
Electron & Jet	$\Delta R(e, j) < 0.2$	Jet → electron
	$0.2 < \Delta R(e, j) < 0.4$	Electron → jet
Muon & Jet	$\Delta R(\mu, j) < 0.4$ and Jet $N_{\text{ID tracks}} < 3$	Jet → muon
	$\Delta R(\mu, j) < 0.4$ and Jet $N_{\text{ID tracks}} \geq 3$	Muon → jet
Electron & Muon	Shared ID track	Electron → muon
	Shared ID track & muon is calo-tagged	Muon → electron

Table 5.6: Summary of the overlap removal procedure used in the analysis. If the criteria in the “check” column is met, in the “result” column, the object on the left of the arrow is removed in favor of the object on the right.

⁵A calorimeter-tagged (CT) muon is a muon that is identified by matching an ID track to a calorimeter energy deposit. CT muons have relatively low reconstruction efficiency compared to those measured by the MS, but can be used to recover acceptance in regions of the detector where the MS does not have full coverage [35].

5.2.2 Signal event selection

After the objects have been selected, cuts are applied on a per-event level to select $W^{\pm}W^{\pm}jj$ signal events. The event selection is summarized in Table 5.8 and is detailed in this section. It includes the results of an optimization performed using a multidimensional grid scan.

The initial event selection begins by choosing events that pass one or more of the trigger requirements listed in Table 5.7. At least one signal lepton is “matched” to a passed trigger in order to ensure that it was indeed a signal lepton that fired the trigger. A collection of *event cleaning* cuts must also be passed in order to remove events collected during periods in which one or more components of the detector was not operating optimally. Finally, the events are required to contain at least one interaction vertex. An event can have multiple reconstructed vertices from additional proton-proton collisions that occurred in the same bunch crossing. In this case, the *primary vertex* is determined by choosing the vertex with the largest sum of the p_T^2 of its associated tracks.

	2015 data	2016 data
Electrons	$p_T > 24$ GeV and Medium ID $p_T > 60$ GeV and Medium ID $p_T > 120$ GeV and Loose ID	$p_T > 26$ GeV and Tight ID and Loose isolation $p_T > 60$ GeV and Medium ID $p_T > 140$ GeV and Loose ID
Muons	$p_T > 20$ GeV and Loose isolation $p_T > 50$ GeV	$p_T > 26$ GeV and Medium isolation $p_T > 50$ GeV

Table 5.7: Summary of trigger requirements for electrons and muons for $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV data collected in 2015 and 2016. At least one of the triggers must be satisfied.

Events are then required to contain exactly two signal leptons with the same electric charge. The dilepton pair must have a combined invariant mass of $m_{ll} \geq 20$ GeV in order to suppress low mass Drell-Yan backgrounds. Two additional selections are applied to events in the ee -channel: both electrons are required to have $|\eta| < 1.37$ with an invariant mass at least 15 GeV away from the Z -boson mass to reduce events where one electron is reconstructed with the wrong charge (this background will be discussed in more detail in Section 5.3 **TODO: Replace with proper subsection once it's written**). To suppress backgrounds from events with more than two leptons, events with more than two leptons passing the preselection are vetoed.

Missing transverse energy (E_T^{miss}) represents any particles that escape the detector without being measured, such as neutrinos, and is defined as the magnitude of the vector sum of transverse momenta of all reconstructed objects. It can be difficult to calculate accurately, as it involves measurements from all subsystems within the detector, and it is sensitive to any corrections that may be applied to the reconstructed physics objects [42]. These corrections, including the momentum

smearing for muons, energy scale and smearing for electrons, and jet calibrations, are propagated to the E_T^{miss} calculation. Events are required to contain $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 30$ GeV in order to account for the two neutrinos from the W boson decays.

At least two jets are required. The leading and subleading jets must have $p_T > 65$ GeV and $p_T > 35$ GeV, respectively, and are referred to as the *tagging jets*. Events are vetoed if they contain one or more jets that have been tagged as a b -jet to suppress backgrounds from heavy flavor decays (especially top quark events). The b -tagging algorithm used by ATLAS is a boosted decision tree (BDT) called MV2c10, and this analysis uses a workingpoint with 85% efficiency [43].

Finally, cuts are applied on the VBS signature outlined in Section 5.0.2. The tagging jets are required to have a dijet invariant mass $m_{jj} > 200$ GeV and be separated in rapidity by $|\Delta y_{jj}| > 2.0$. This preferentially selects the VBS EWK events over the QCD-produced $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ events.

Event selection	
Event preselection	Pass at least one trigger with a matched lepton
	Pass event cleaning
	At least one reconstructed vertex
Lepton selection	Exactly two leptons passing signal selection
	Both signal leptons with the same electric charge
	$ \eta < 1.37$ and $ M_{ee} - M_Z > 15$ GeV (ee -channel only)
Missing transverse energy	Veto events with more than two preselected leptons
Jet selection	$E_T^{\text{miss}} \geq 30$ GeV
	At least two jets
	Leading jet $p_T > 65$ GeV
	Subleading jet $p_T > 35$ GeV
	$m_{jj} > 200$ GeV
	$N_{b\text{-jet}} = 0$
	$ \Delta y_{jj} > 2.0$

Table 5.8: The signal event selection

5.3 Background estimations

The major sources of background events are summarized in Section 5.0.3, and the methods used to estimate them are detailed in this section. Prompt backgrounds from ZZ and $t\bar{t}V$ are estimated directly from MC simulations. The shape of the WZ and $V\gamma$ backgrounds are taken from MC, and the predicted yields are normalized to the data predictions in dedicated control regions, as outlined in Sections 5.3.1 and 5.3.2, respectively. Opposite sign events with a charge misidentified electron are estimated by a data-driven background method which is summarized in Section 5.3.3. Finally, a

574 *fake factor* method is used to estimate the contributions from non-prompt backgrounds and is the
 575 subject of Section 5.3.4.

576 5.3.1 Estimation of the WZ background

577 The dominant background involving prompt leptons comes from WZ +jets events. The contribution
 578 is estimated from MC simulation and normalized to data in a control region enriched in WZ events
 579 defined by the same event selection as Table 5.8 for the signal region, with the following changes
 580 applied to increase the purity of the WZ process:

- 581 • The third lepton veto is inverted, requiring a third lepton with $p_T > 15$ GeV
- 582 • Two of the leptons must make a same-flavor opposite-sign pair. If more than one pair exists,
 583 the one with m_{ll} closest to the Z boson mass is chosen.
- 584 • The trilepton invariant mass is required to be $m_{lll} > 106$ GeV to reduce contributions from
 585 $Z\gamma$ and Z +jets

586 Once the event yields in the control region are calculated, they are propagated to the final
 587 signal region fit, detailed in Section 5.4 **TODO: update reference with proper subsection once it's**
 588 **written**, in a single bin combining all the lepton channels. The systematic uncertainties of the WZ
 589 background are also calculated at this time. The event yields for the WZ control region are listed
 590 in Table 5.9, and distributions of the leading lepton p_T and η as well as trilepton invariant mass
 591 m_{lll} are found in Figures 5.9 and 5.8, respectively.

Event yields in the WZ control region	
WZ	197.9 ± 1.4
ZZ	14.1 ± 0.3
Triboson	1.26 ± 0.1
top	10.8 ± 1.1
$Z\gamma$	3.1 ± 1.1
Z +jets	2.5 ± 1.4
Total prediction	229.7 ± 2.5
Data	201 ± 14.2

Table 5.9: Event yields in the WZ control region before normalization. All lepton flavor channels are combined.

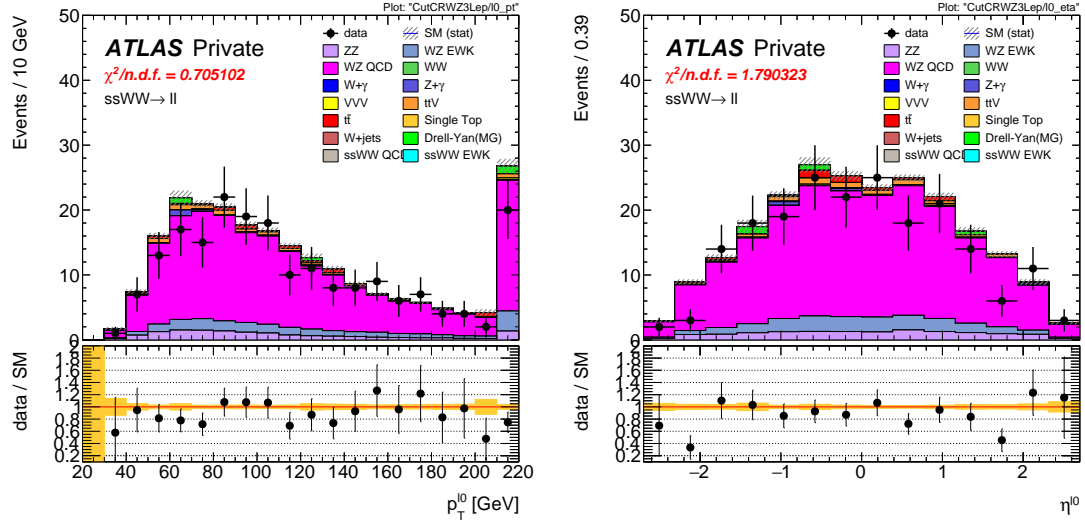


Figure 5.8: Leading lepton p_T (left) and η (right) distributions in the WZ control region before normalization. All lepton channels are combined.

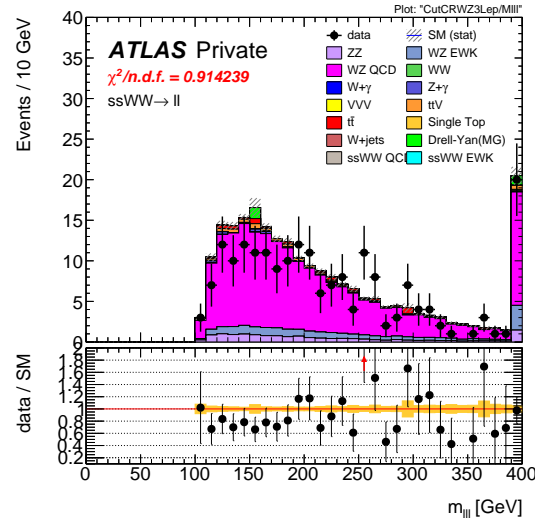


Figure 5.9: Tripleton invariant mass m_{III} distribution in the WZ control region before normalization. All lepton channels are combined.

5.3.2 Estimation of the $V\gamma$ background

Events from $V\gamma$ processes can pass selection if the photon converts into an e^+e^- pair and one of the electrons passes the selection criteria. The background is estimated from MC simulations which are then scaled by a normalization factor calculated from a control region enriched in $Z(\mu^+\mu^-)\gamma$ events. This control region selects two opposite-sign muons and an additional electron that is assumed to come from the photon conversion. The full event selection is detailed in Table 5.10.

$V\gamma$ control region
Exactly two muons with $p_T > 27$ GeV and $p_T > 20$ GeV
Exactly one additional electron with $p_T > 15$ GeV
Remove overlap between Z +jets and $Z\gamma$
Di-muon + photon invariant mass $75 < M_{\mu\mu\gamma} < 100$ GeV
$E_T^{\text{miss}} < 30$ GeV

Table 5.10: Selection criteria for the $V\gamma$ control region.

The $Z\gamma$ MC samples available do not cover the full range of p_T^γ and $\Delta R(\gamma, l)$; thus, additional Drell-Yan samples (Z +jets) are used to fill out the phase space. Overlap between the two samples are removed based to avoid double counting. Events with final state photons at truth level are checked to ensure that the photon did not originate from a hadronic decay. Cuts on $p_T^\gamma > 10$ GeV and $\Delta R(\gamma, l) > 0.1$ are then applied at generator level, and $Z\gamma$ events that fail and Z +jets events that pass this additional selection are removed.

The normalization factor is calculated directly from the event yields in the $V\gamma$ control region rather than in the signal fit, as is done for the WZ background. The event yields are listed in Table 5.11, and the normalization factor is determined to be 1.77. No MC events from $Z\gamma$ processes survive the full event selection; thus, the scaling is only applied to the $W\gamma$ background in the signal region. A systematic uncertainty of 44% is assigned to the background based off of the uncertainties in the calculation of the normalization factor.

5.3.3 Estimation of backgrounds from charge misidentification

If an electron's charge is mis-reconstructed, it can lead to a real, opposite-sign lepton pair passing the same-sign requirement in the event selection. There are two primary reasons this can occur:

1. An electron emits a photon via bremsstrahlung which then converts into an electron-positron pair, and the conversion track with the wrong electric charge is matched to the original electron.

Event yields in the $V\gamma$ control region	
$Z\gamma$	24.6 ± 3.3
Z +jets	3.0 ± 1.5
diboson + triboson	6.7 ± 0.3
top	1.5 ± 0.5
Total prediction	35.8 ± 3.7
Data	57 ± 7.6

Table 5.11: Event yields in the $V\gamma$ control region. The $V\gamma$ scale factor of 1.77 is calculated by scaling up the $Z\gamma$ and Z +jets backgrounds to account for the difference between the data and predicted total background.

This is the dominant process leading to charge flip, and it is highly dependent on the electron η due to the different amount of detector material the electron passes through.

2. The curvature of the electron's track is mismeasured, resulting in the wrong charge being assigned. This process is dependent on the momentum of the electron, as its track becomes more straight as the momentum of the electron increases.

In order to estimate this background, the rate at which an electron's charge is misidentified is calculated from $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$ MC simulation. It is known that the MC does not perfectly model the material effects leading to charge flip; as a result, scale factors are applied to the MC in order for it to better reflect the real performance. These scale factors are obtained from the ratio of charge mis-ID rates in data and uncorrected MC in [10] following the method outlined in [44]. Once the scale factors are applied, the charge misidentification rate ε can be extracted by comparing the electron's reconstructed charge with the charge of its truth particle:

$$\varepsilon(\eta, p_T) = \frac{N_{\text{wrong charge}}}{N_{\text{prompt electrons}}} \quad (5.1)$$

The charge mis-ID rate is calculated in bins of electron $|\eta|$ and p_T and varies from below 0.1% in the central region of the detector up to 8% in the forward regions for high p_T (above 90 GeV) electrons. A two-dimensional plot of ε can be found in Figure 5.10.

Given the charge flip rate $\varepsilon(\eta, p_T)$, the rate at which an electron has its charge correctly reconstructed is $(1 - \varepsilon)$. Thus there are three possible combinations of charge identification, assuming a two-electron event:

1. Both electrons are reconstructed correctly: $(1 - \varepsilon)^2$

2. Both electrons are mis-reconstructed: ε^2

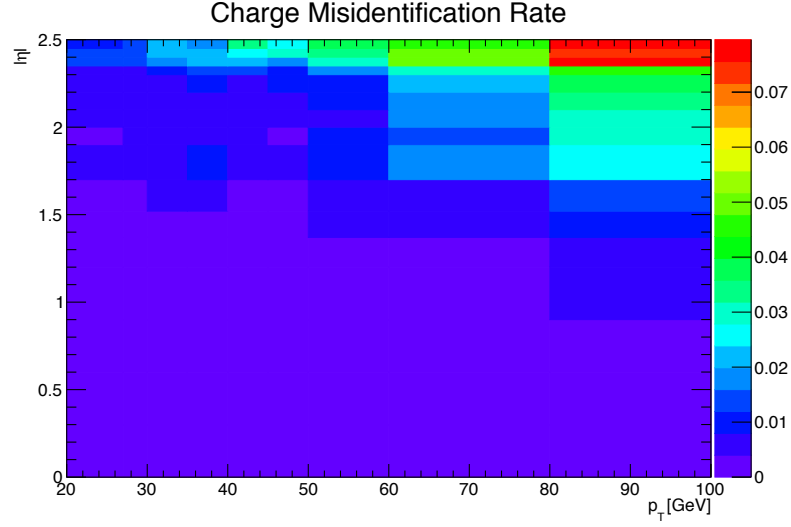


Figure 5.10: Charge misidentification rates for electrons as a function of $|\eta|$ and p_T . Rates are calculated from $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$ MC after applying scale factors to approximate the charge mis-ID rates in data.

635 3. Only one electron is mis-reconstructed: $2\varepsilon(1 - \varepsilon)$

636 In order to estimate the size of the background from charge misidentification, opposite-sign events
 637 are selected using the default event selection for a given signal or control region with the same-sign
 638 requirement inverted. These events are then weighted by the probability for one of the electrons to
 639 be reconstructed with the wrong charge:

$$\omega = \frac{\varepsilon_1(1 - \varepsilon_2) + \varepsilon_2(1 - \varepsilon_1)}{(1 - \varepsilon_1)(1 - \varepsilon_2) + \varepsilon_1\varepsilon_2} \quad (5.2)$$

640 where the subscripts 1 and 2 refer to the leading and subleading electrons, respectively, and ε_i is a
 641 function of the η and p_T of the i^{th} electron. In the case of an event with only one electron and one
 642 muon, Equation 5.2 simplifies:

$$\omega = \frac{\varepsilon}{1 - \varepsilon} \quad (5.3)$$

643 This method assumes that there is little contamination from fake electrons in the opposite-sign
 644 sample, and this has been verified with MC simulation.

645 Additionally, charge-flipped electrons tend to be reconstructed with lower energy when compared
 646 to electrons with the correct charge. This is due to energy loss from the material interactions that
 647 can cause the charge to be misidentified. A correction factor is calculated from MC simulations,

648 comparing the p_T of the truth electron to its reconstructed counterpart:

$$\alpha = \frac{\left(\frac{p_T^{\text{reco}}}{p_T^{\text{truth}}} - 1\right)_{\text{correct charge}}}{\left(\frac{p_T^{\text{reco}}}{p_T^{\text{truth}}} - 1\right)_{\text{wrong charge}}} \quad (5.4)$$

649 The correction is then applied to the p_T of the charge-flipped electron via

$$p_T = p_T^0 / (1 + \alpha) + dE \quad (5.5)$$

650 where p_T^0 is the uncorrected p_T of the electron and dE is a gaussian smearing factor centered at
 651 zero with a width related to the energy resolution. Since which electron is misreconstructed is never
 652 determined in this method, in the case of a two-electron event, the energy correction is applied
 653 randomly to one of the two electrons based on the probabilities for them to be charge-flipped. This
 654 also determines the overall sign of the event; the charge of the electron that does not receive the
 655 correction is taken to be the charge for both.

656 Systematic uncertainties on the charge mis-ID rates are calculated by generating two additional
 657 sets of rates with the uncertainties on the scale factors varied up and down. The size of the esti-
 658 mated charge flip background without the energy correction applied is also taken as a systematic
 659 uncertainty. These systematic uncertainties are estimated to be approximately $\pm 15\%$.

660 5.3.3.1 Validation of the charge misidentification estimate

661 The performance of the charge misidentification estimation is tested in the same-sign inclusive
 662 validation region (VR), defined in Table 5.12. For ee events, the mass of the dilepton pair is required
 663 to lie within 15 GeV of the Z boson mass to increase the purity of the charge flip background.
 664 $t\bar{t}$ production, which can contribute to both the charge mis-ID and fake lepton backgrounds, is
 665 suppressed by the b -jet veto. The di-electron invariant mass is shown in Figure 5.11, and distributions
 666 of the leading and subleading electron p_T in the ee -channel are shown in Figure 5.12 with the Z
 667 mass cut inverted. Agreement between data and prediction is seen within the total statistical and
 668 systematic uncertainties in the VR.

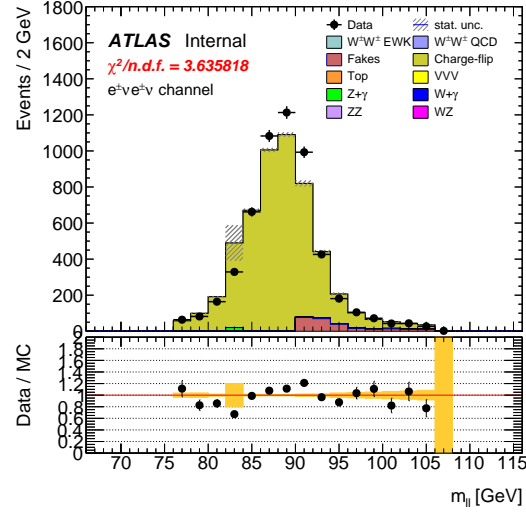


Figure 5.11: Dilepton invariant mass distribution m_{ll} for the ee channel in the same-sign inclusive VR.

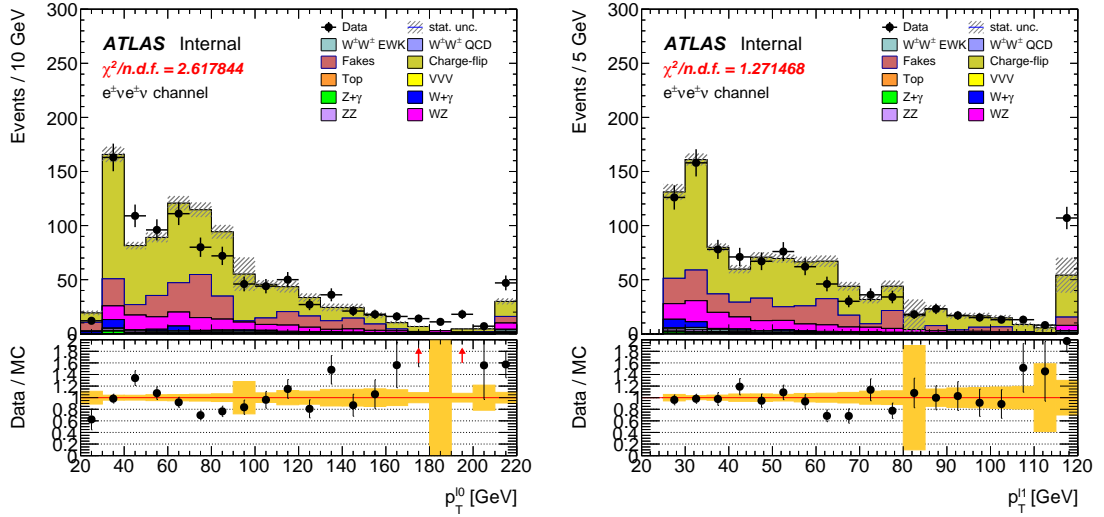


Figure 5.12: p_T distributions for the leading (left) and subleading (right) electron for the ee channel in the same-sign inclusive VR. In these plots, the cut requiring m_{ee} to fall within the Z mass window has been inverted in order to test the modelling away from the Z peak.

Same-sign inclusive VR
Exactly 2 same-sign signal leptons
$p_T > 27$ GeV for both leptons
$m_{ll} > 20$ GeV
$ m_{ee} - m_Z > 15$ GeV (ee -channel only)
$N_{b\text{-jet}} = 0$

Table 5.12: Selection criteria for the same-sign inclusive validation region.

5.3.4 Estimation of non-prompt backgrounds with the fake factor method

5.3.4.1 Test of fake factor in validation regions

5.3.5 Reduction of WZ background using custom overlap removal

The dominant source of prompt background in this analysis comes from WZ events where both bosons decay leptonically. Traditionally, the background is dealt with by imposing a veto on any event with a third lepton passing some loose identification criteria (the so-called *trilepton veto*). In the case of this analysis, if one or more leptons (in addition to the two signal leptons) passed the preselection criteria, the event would be rejected. However, WZ events can still enter the signal region if one of the leptons fails the veto selection or falls outside of the detector's acceptance.

In order to understand the sources of WZ events that are not removed by the tripleton veto, a study was performed on truth-level leptons⁶ on $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ and WZ MC samples. Events with three truth leptons were selected, and each was matched to its reconstruction-level partner by finding the closest $\Delta R(\text{truth}, \text{reco})$ and $\Delta p_{T, \text{truth}, \text{reco}}$ match. For events surviving the tripleton veto, the two signal leptons were removed, and the remaining leptons represent real leptons that failed to be selected for the veto. Between 40-50% of these leptons fell outside of the eta acceptance of the analysis (see Figure 5.13) and were unrecoverable. The second largest source of leptons failing the preselection was the OR, defined in Section 5.2.1.4. The standard OF procedure appeared to be too aggressive in removing leptons in favor of jets, causing many three lepton events to “lose” their third lepton and pass the tripleton veto. Therefore a *Custom OR* was investigated which would replace the standard OR in the preselection and allow for better WZ rejection by removing fewer third leptons.

TODO: Mention how the extra leptons in the $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ are background leptons since there are only 2 from the main decay

⁶Truth particles are the particles produced directly by the MC generator before being passed through the full detector simulation, at which point they are considered *reconstruction-level* (or *reco-level*) particles.

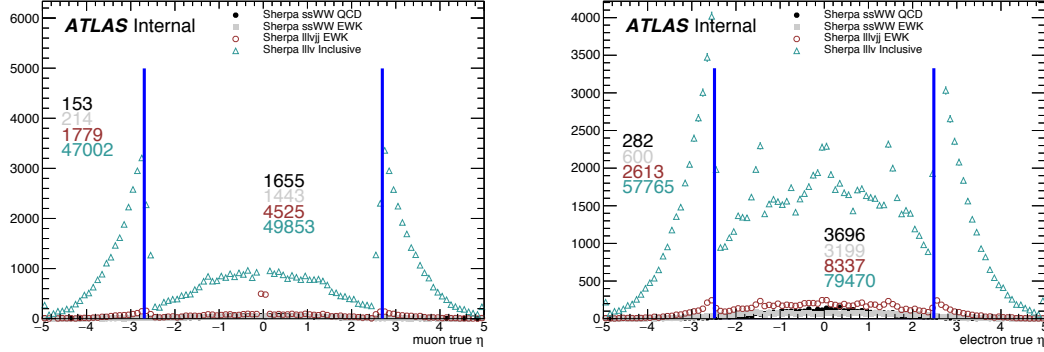


Figure 5.13: Pseudorapidity (η) distributions of truth muons (top) and electrons (bottom) for Sherpa $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ and WZ MC samples. The blue vertical lines represent the allowed η range for each lepton flavor. The numbers correspond to the number of raw MC events that fall within and outside of the allowed η range for each MC sample.

In order to construct a “custom” OR, a new quantity is defined between a lepton (l) and a nearby jet (j)

$$p_{T,\text{ratio}}(l, j) = \frac{p_{Tl}}{p_{Tj}} \quad (5.6)$$

which, along with $\Delta R(l, j)$, will allow for more third leptons to pass the preselection. The idea behind including $p_{T,\text{ratio}}$ is to be able to preferentially remove background leptons originating from jets (i.e. those that carry a low percentage of the total jet momentum) instead of removing *any* lepton near to jet. The distributions of $p_{T,\text{ratio}}$ and the associated efficiency curves for muons and electrons can be found in Figures 5.14 and 5.16, respectively, and the distributions for $\Delta R(\mu, j)$ for muons can be found in Figure 5.15. Since all electrons have an associated jet in the calorimeters, the $\Delta R(e, j)$ variable is not a good quantity to use for this custom OR.

A workingpoint for the Custom OR was chosen by requiring 90% signal retention for muons and 90% background rejection for electrons. The cut on electrons was allowed to be much tighter because the number of signal events with a third electron is considerably smaller than for muons. It should be re-emphasized the signal events that are present in Figures 5.14-5.16 do not represent the full set of signal events, but only those with a real third lepton (which must come from some source other than the signal $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ process). For muons, an or of $p_{T,\text{ratio}}(\mu, j)$ and $\Delta R(\mu, j)$ is used to maximize the third lepton acceptance due to correlations between the quantities, as shown in Figure 5.17; for electrons, only a cut on $p_{T,\text{ratio}}(e, j)$ is used. The Custom OR workingpoint is outlined in Table 5.13.

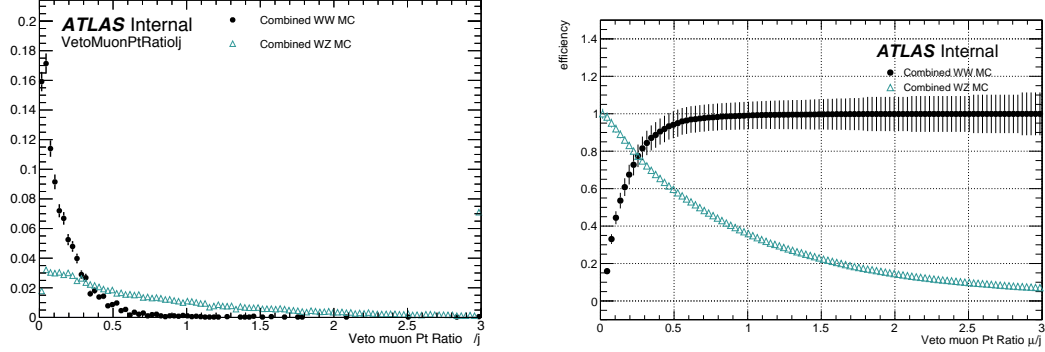


Figure 5.14: Distributions of $p_{T,ratio}(\mu, j)$ for EWK and QCD $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ signal (black) and WZ background (teal) for truth-matched third muons in events that pass the triplepton veto. Both distributions are normalized to unit area. The associated efficiency curves are on the right where efficiency is defined as the percentage of total events that would pass a cut on $p_{T,ratio}(\mu, j)$ at a given value on the x -axis.

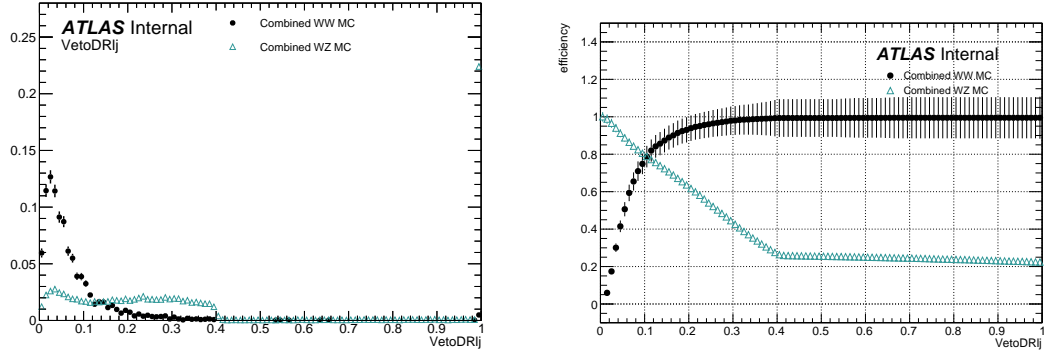


Figure 5.15: Distributions of $\Delta R(\mu, j)$ for EWK and QCD $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ signal (black) and WZ background (teal) for truth-matched third muons in events that pass the triplepton veto. Both distributions are normalized to unit area. The associated efficiency curves are on the right where efficiency is defined as the percentage of total events that would pass a cut on $\Delta R(\mu, j)$ at a given value on the x -axis.

Custom OR Definition	
Muons	$p_{T,ratio}(\mu, j) > 0.40$ or $\Delta R(\mu, j) > 0.15$
Electrons	$p_{T,ratio}(e, j) > 0.18$

Table 5.13: Custom OR definition. Leptons must pass this selection in order to be counted for the triplepton veto.

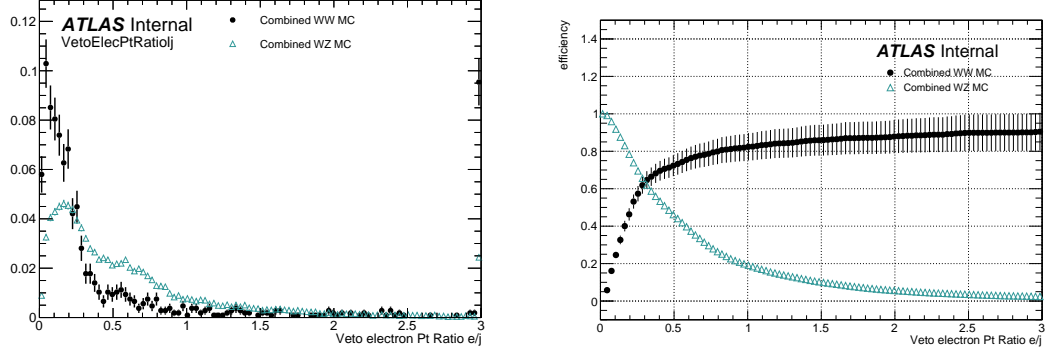


Figure 5.16: Distributions of $p_{T, \text{ratio}}(e, j)$ for EWK and QCD $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ signal (black) and WZ background (teal) for truth-matched third electrons in events that pass the triplepton veto. Both distributions are normalized to unit area. The associated efficiency curves are on the right where efficiency is defined as the percentage of total events that would pass a cut on $p_{T, \text{ratio}}(e, j)$ at a given value on the x -axis.

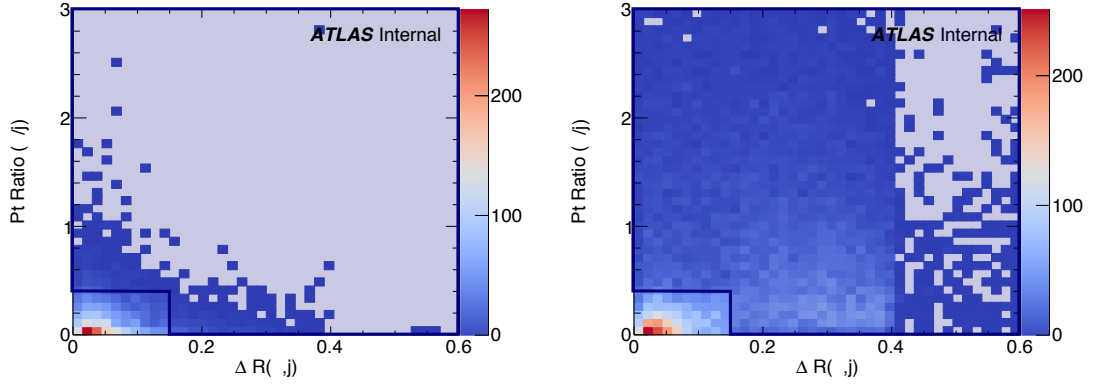


Figure 5.17: Two-dimensional plots of $p_{T, \text{ratio}}(\mu, j)$ vs $\Delta R(\mu, j)$ for truth-matched third muons in events that pass the triplepton veto for EWK and QCD $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ signal (left) and WZ background (right). The blue overlay indicates the area in which the third leptons will pass the custom OR and result in the event failing the triplepton veto.

710 Tests of the performance of the Custom OR yield promising results, with approximately 20%
711 reduction in WZ background compared to less than 2% signal loss in the signal region. Unfortu-
712 nately, due to differences between the primary analysis framework and the one used for testing,
713 in practice the gains in WZ rejection are not nearly as substantial, and ultimately the Custom
714 OR is not included in the final analysis. However, it is still a potentially useful tool for improving
715 background rejection via lepton number vetoes in analyses with overly aggressive OR procedures.

716 5.4 Cross section measurement

717 Hello world!

718 5.5 Results

719 Results

CHAPTER 6

Prospects for same-sign WW at the High Luminosity LHC

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 [45]. 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 [46].

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 [47]. **TODO: Compare to current LHC numbers?**

These run conditions will be much harsher than what ATLAS has experienced so far, and there are several upgrades planned for the detector to operate in the high luminosity environment. 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 [48].

The upgraded detector, the higher beam energy, and the increased volume of data to be collected provides the opportunity to measure rarer processes with a much higher precision than what was possible in Run 1. Same-sign $W^{\pm}W^{\pm}jj$ production, is one such process. With greater statistics, the accuracy of the cross section measurement can be improved over the 13 TeV analysis detailed in Chapter 5, and it also will allow for more detailed physics studies, such as measuring the polarization of the W bosons. A measurement of the longitudinal polarization of the scattered W bosons has

not yet been possible, but it remains of great interest due to its sensitivity to electroweak symmetry breaking [49]. The analysis detailed in this chapter is based off of the 2018 ATLAS HL-LHC $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ prospects study [50] which is itself an extension of the 2017 ATLAS study [51]. **TODO: mention CMS's study + yellow report?**

6.0.1 Analysis Overview

The experimental signature of interest is identical to the 13 TeV analysis: two prompt leptons (either electrons or muons) with the same charge, missing transverse energy, and two high energy, forward jets. These jets are again required to have a large angular separation and a high combined invariant mass to preferentially select EWK- over QCD-produced $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ events.

Background processes are again similar to the 13 TeV analysis and are summarized again here. 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. These prompt backgrounds are expected to contribute less than in Run 2 with the addition of forward tracking in the upgraded ATLAS detector. 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 appear as a same-sign event 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—and VBS in general—is detailed in Section 5.0.1. Since it is specifically the scattering of *longitudinally polarized* vector bosons that violates

unitarity without a SM Higgs boson, a direct measurement of this cross section will be very useful for understanding how the Higgs unitarizes the process [49].

6.1.1 Experimental sensitivity to longitudinal polarization

TODO: mention that since there are so many polarization possibilities, a large integrated luminosity is needed to measure just one of them individually 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 were studied, and those with the best discriminating power between the polarizations are the leading and subleading lepton p_T as well as the azimuthal separation ($|\Delta\phi_{jj}|$) of the two VBS jets. The LL events prefer lower p_T for both signal leptons (see Figure 6.1), which motivates keeping cuts on these quantities as low as possible in the event selection. 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 signal and background processes are modeled using MC simulations generated at $\sqrt{s} = 14$ TeV, with the event yields scaled to the anticipated HL-LHC integrated luminosity of $\mathcal{L} = 3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$. The MC samples used in the analysis are generated at particle-level and have not been run through the typical full simulation of the ATLAS detector. Instead, smearing functions derived from a GEANT4 simulation of the upgraded ATLAS detector are used to estimate detector effects such as momentum resolution. In addition, pileup events are fully simulated. The MC samples used in this analysis are summarized in Table 6.1.

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 using the NNPDF3.0 PDF set and interfaced with PYTHIA v8 [52] 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.

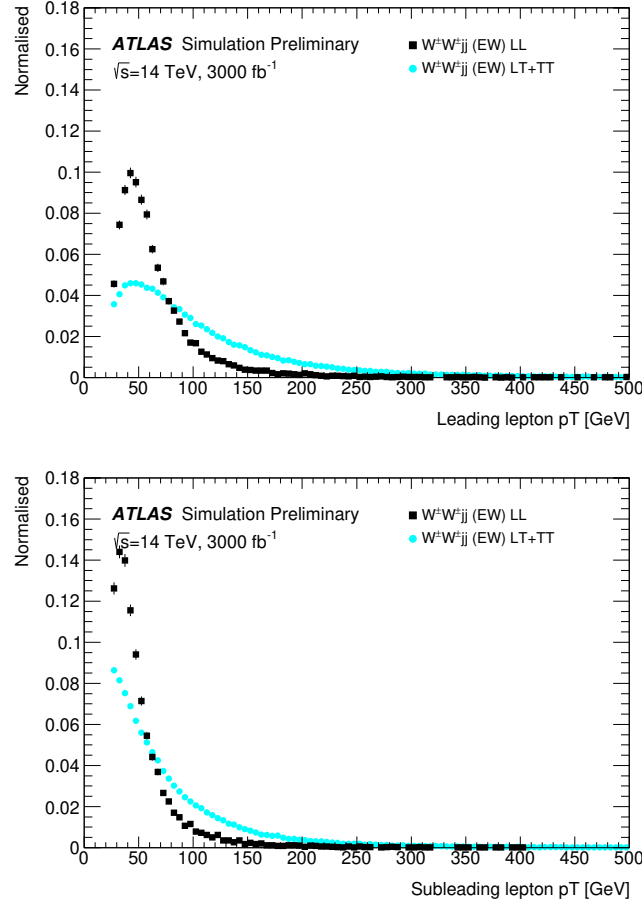


Figure 6.1: Comparison of the leading (top) and subleading (bottom) lepton p_T distributions for purely longitudinal (LL, black) and mixed polarization (LT+TT, cyan) $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ events.

803 There are many other processes that can produce the same final state as the $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ and
 804 must also be accounted for using MC simulations. WZ events are generated using **SHERPA v2.2.0**,
 805 which includes up to one parton at NLO in the strong coupling constant and up to three addi-
 806 tional partons at LO. Both EWK and QCD production are included in these samples. ZZ and
 807 triboson VVV ($V = W, Z$) events are generated using **SHERPA v2.2.2** with up to two additional
 808 partons in the final state. For the triboson backgrounds, the bosons can decay leptonically or
 809 hadronically. W +jets backgrounds are generated for electron, muon, and tau final states at LO
 810 with **Madgraph5_aMC@NLO** and the **NNPDF3.0** set with showering from **PYTHIA v8**. Z +jets events are
 811 produced using **POWHEG-BOX v2** and the **CT10** PDF set interfaced with **PYTHIA v8**. Finally, $t\bar{t}$ and

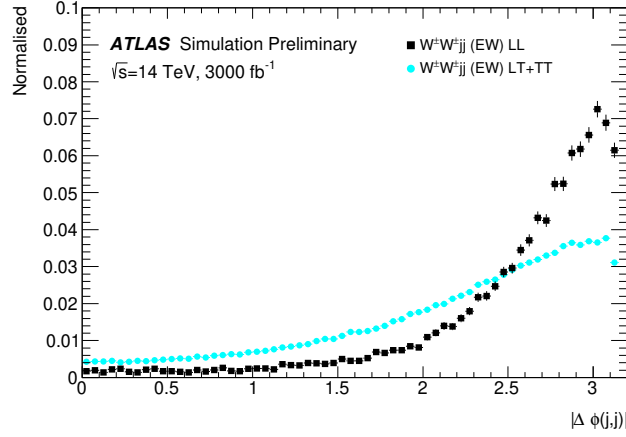


Figure 6.2: Comparison of the azimuthal dijet separation ($|\Delta\phi_{jj}|$) for purely longitudinal (LL, black) and mixed polarization (LT+TT, cyan) $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ events.

Process	Generator	Comments
$W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (EWK)	Madgraph5_aMC@NLO	Signal sample
$W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (QCD)	Madgraph5_aMC@NLO	
$W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (LL)	Madgraph5_aMC@NLO	
$W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (TT+LT)	Madgraph5_aMC@NLO	
Diboson	SHERPA v2.2.0	WZ events
	SHERPA v2.2.2	ZZ events
Triboson	SHERPA v2.2.2	
W +jets	Madgraph5_aMC@NLO	
Z +jets	POWHEG-BOX v2	
$t\bar{t}$	POWHEG-BOX	
Single top	POWHEG-BOS	

Table 6.1: Summary of MC samples used in the analysis.

single-top events are generated using POWHEG-BOX with showering from PYTHIA v6.

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 η of the electron or jet. The probabilities are derived from studies on expected electron performance with the upgraded ATLAS

820 detector [53].

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

826 6.3.1 Truth-based isolation

827 To properly calculate particle isolation, it requires information from several detector subsystems
 828 including tracking and calorimeter responses. Since the MC samples used in this analysis have not
 829 been run through a full detector simulation, it is not possible to construct the canonical isolation
 830 variables used in analyses. At truth-level, this is generally not a serious concern as p_T signal leptons
 831 tend to be well isolated to begin with. However, isolation is one of the most powerful tools for
 832 rejecting leptons from non-prompt sources such as top events, which are produced in association
 833 with additional nearby particles from b and c quark decays. In this analysis, with the absence of
 834 any sort of isolation requirement, contributions from top backgrounds (including single top, $t\bar{t}$ and
 835 $t\bar{t} + V$) are more than an order of magnitude higher than expected.

836 As a result, it is necessary to find one or more quantities that are comparable to the isolation
 837 information that is available in fully-simulated samples. Analogues to track- and calorimeter-based
 838 isolation variables are constructed by summing the momentum and energy, respectively, of stable
 839 truth particles with $p_T > 1$ GeV within a specified radius of each signal lepton. For the track-
 840 based isolation, only charged truth particles are used; both charged and neutral particles (excluding
 841 neutrinos) are included for the calorimeter-based isolation. Ultimately, a set of isolation cuts are
 842 chosen that are similar to those recommended by ATLAS for Run 2 analyses. The truth-based
 843 isolation requirements are listed in Table 6.2.

	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 6.2: Truth-based isolation requirements for electrons and muons.

844 The truth-based isolation requirement reduces the top background by over 99%, and the per-

centage of the total background consisting of top events is reduced from 83% to 2%. Additional details on the 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 and identification requirements is estimated by calculating an efficiency dependent on the p_T and η of the lepton. The leptons are also required to pass the isolation criteria detailed in Table 6.2. Jets that have been tagged as a fake electron by the functions described 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 [37] 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 6.3 and described here. Exactly two signal leptons are required with the same electric charge and separated from each other by $\Delta R(l, l) > 0.3$. 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 decays⁷. The event is required to have at least 40 GeV of missing transverse energy (E_T^{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.

⁷The electron charge misidentification rate in the upgraded ATLAS detector is estimated to be high enough that contributions from $Z \rightarrow ee$ backgrounds are non-negligible.

Each event must have at least two jets, and 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 EWK 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 centrality⁸, ζ , 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^{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 6.3: Summary of the signal event selection.

6.5 Selection optimization

An upgraded detector along with an increase in center of mass energy and integrated luminosity provides an opportunity to study whether the event selection can be optimized to improve the signal to background ratio.

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) [54]. Consider a simple case of two variables x and y chosen to differentiate signal

⁸ ζ is a measurement of whether the two signal leptons lie between the two tagging jets in η , as is preferred by the VBS topology.

from background. In order to be considered a signal event, a given event would be required to pass a set of selection criteria, called 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 *rectangular grid search*.

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

1. The algorithm scales exponentially as the number of variables to be optimized increases, as this is effectively increasing the dimensionality of the grid. In the simple 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 biased towards regions of high signal concentration by construction. 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 any number of metrics, such as signal to background ratio. For the purpose of the $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ upgrade study, the optimal cut point is chosen to be the one that maximizes the signal significance Z as defined in Equation 6.2 [55].

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

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

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

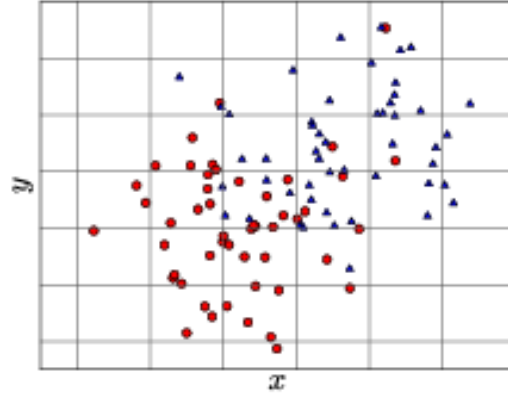


Figure 6.3: A visual representation of a rectangular grid search algorithm. The signal events are the blue triangles, and the red circles are the background events. **TODO: replace with own figure**

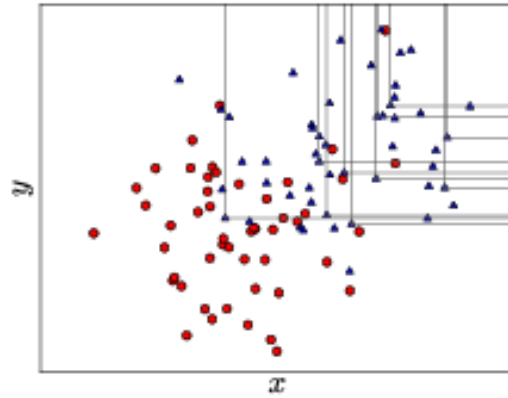


Figure 6.4: A visual representation of a random grid search algorithm. The signal events are the blue triangles, and the red circles are the background events. **TODO: replace with own figure**

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

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

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

912 6.5.2 Inputs to the optimization

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

920 The following variables are chosen for optimization:

- 921 • Leading lepton p_T
- 922 • Dilepton invariant mass (m_{ll})
- 923 • Leading and subleading jet p_T
- 924 • Dijet invariant mass (m_{jj})
- 925 • Lepton-jet centrality (ζ)

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

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

- 931 1. At least 1000 signal events must survive in order to prevent the optimization from being too
 932 aggressive and unnecessarily reducing signal statistics.
- 933 2. The dijet invariant mass may only vary within a 50 GeV range of the default value (from
 934 450 – 550 GeV) due to the cut being physically motivated by the VBS event topology (see
 935 Section 5.0.2).

936 Lastly, the signal significance is calculated without taking into account the uncertainty of the
 937 background using Equation 6.4. This is due to the fact that the statistical uncertainties of the fake
 938 electron and charge misidentification backgrounds are quite large, owing to poor MC statistics in a
 939 few of the samples. If Equation 6.2 were used instead, the optimization will cut unreasonably hard
 940 against these backgrounds. Since Monte Carlo statistics is not expected to be a limiting factor when
 941 this analysis is performed at the HL-LHC, it is more realistic to simply ignore these large statistical
 942 uncertainties for the purpose of the optimization.

943 6.5.3 Results of the optimization

944 Ultimately, the random grid is constructed from over 38,000 LL-polarized $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ events in the
 945 six variables listed above. After applying the constraints, the optimal cut point reduces the total
 946 background from 9900 to 2310 while reducing the signal from 3489 to 2958. This corresponds to
 947 an increase in signal significance from $Z = 33.26$ to $Z = 52.63$ as calculated by Equation 6.4. The
 948 updates to the event selection are listed in Table 6.4.

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

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

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

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

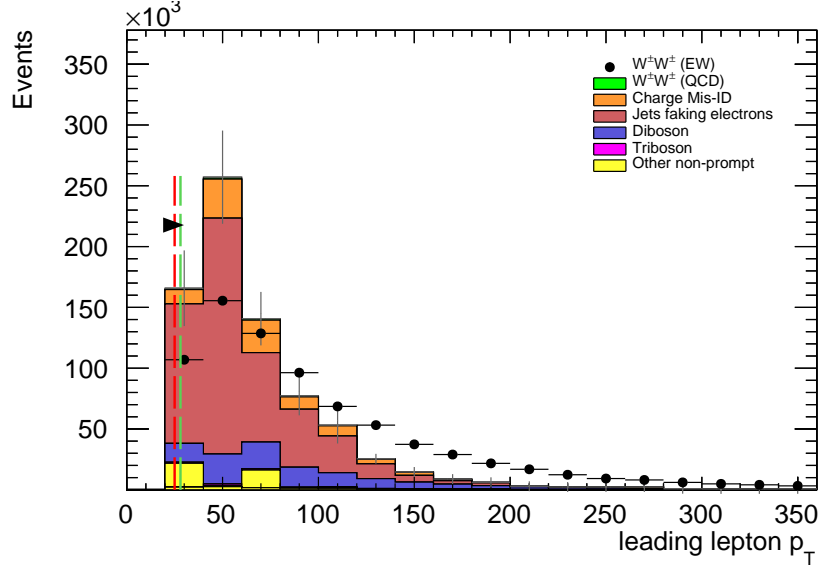


Figure 6.5: Leading lepton p_T distribution. The default and optimized cuts are represented by the red and green dashed lines, respectively. The $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ EWK signal (black points) is normalized to the same area as the sum of the backgrounds (colored histogram). **TODO:** Move to appendix or omit

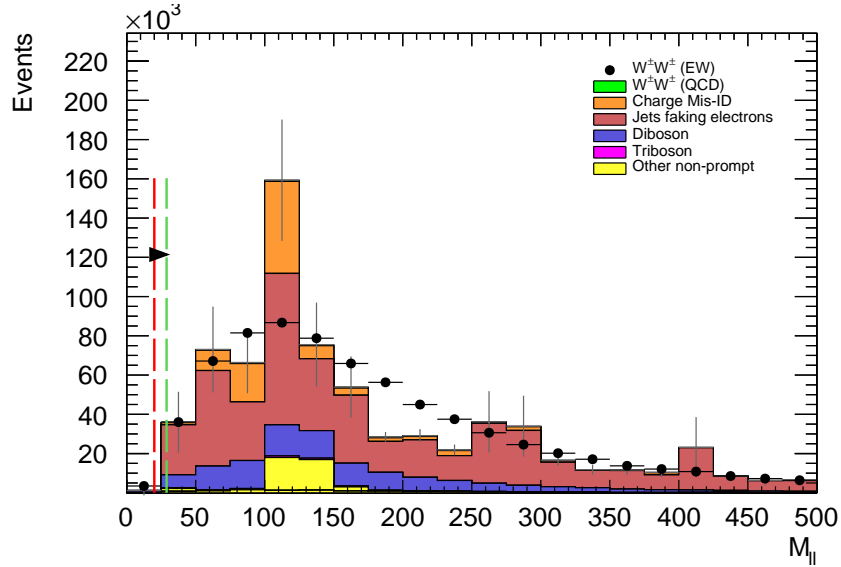


Figure 6.6: Dilepton invariant mass distribution. The default and optimized cuts are represented by the red and green dashed lines, respectively. The $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ EWK signal (black points) is normalized to the same area as the sum of the backgrounds (colored histogram). **TODO:** Move to appendix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

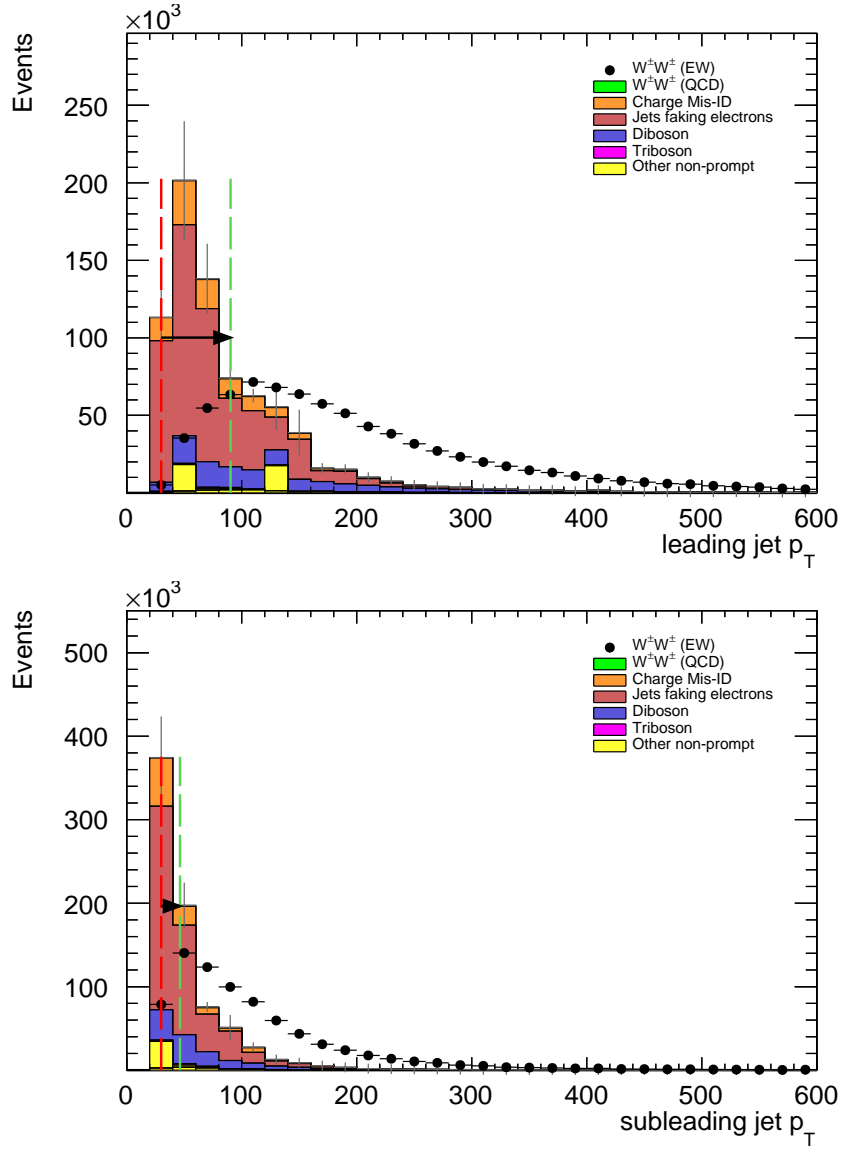


Figure 6.7: Leading (top) and subleading (bottom) jet p_T distributions. The default and optimized cuts are represented by the red and green dashed lines, respectively. The $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ EWK signal (black points) is normalized to the same area as the sum of the backgrounds (colored histogram).

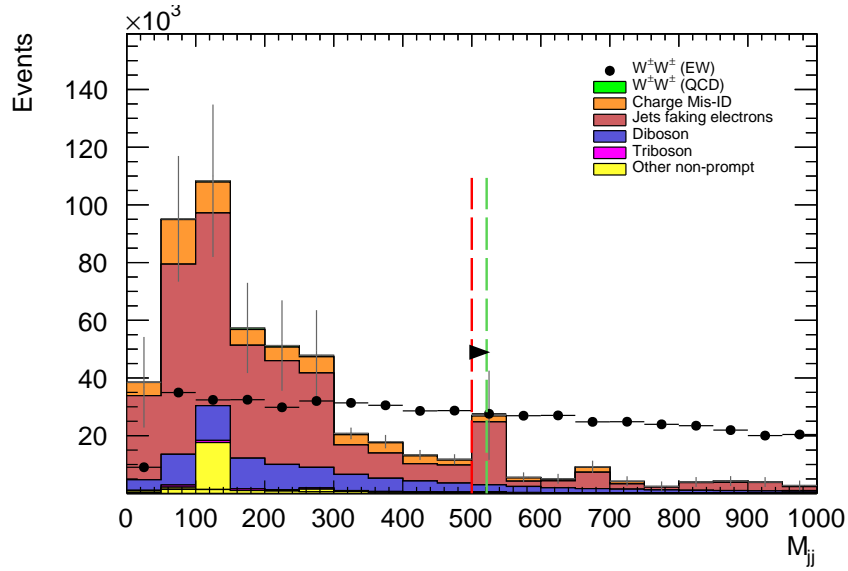


Figure 6.8: Dijet invariant mass distribution. The default and optimized cuts are represented by the red and green dashed lines, respectively. The $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ EWK signal (black points) is normalized to the same area as the sum of the backgrounds (colored histogram). **TODO:** Move to appendix or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

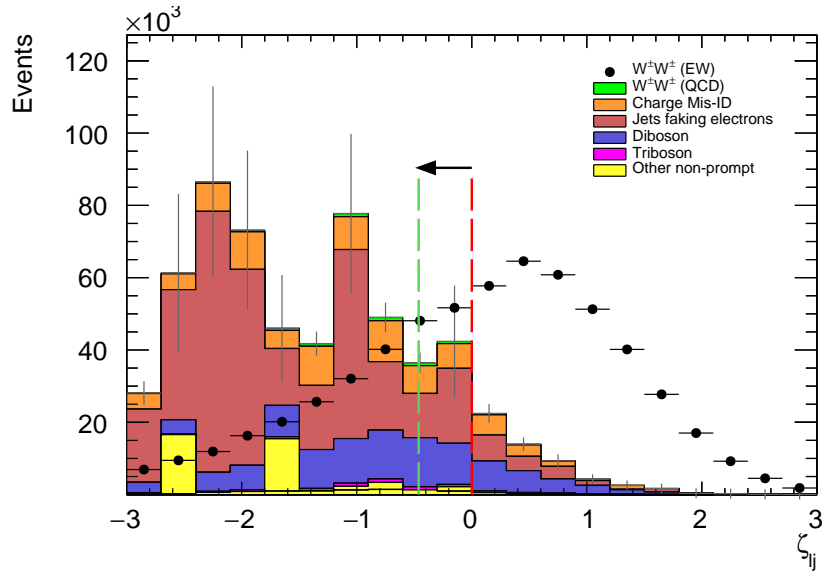


Figure 6.9: Lepton-jet centrality distribution. The default and optimized cuts are represented by the red and green dashed lines, respectively. The $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ EWK signal (black points) is normalized to the same area as the sum of the backgrounds (colored histogram).

6.6 Results

6.6.1 Event yields

After applying the full event selection, the analysis is broken down into four channels based off of the flavor of the signal leptons: $\mu\mu$, ee , μe , and $e\mu$. The full signal and background event yields are shown in Table 6.5 for each channel separately and combined using the default event selection. 3489 EWK $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ events are expected compared to 9900 background events. The dominant sources of background are jets faking electrons followed by charge misidentification and diboson processes. Triboson events, QCD $W^\pm W^\pm jj$, and other non-prompt sources make up approximately 5% of the total background combined.

	All channels	$\mu\mu$	ee	μe	$e\mu$
$W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (QCD)	206.4	91.1	22.8	38.4	54.1
Charge Misidentification	2300	0.0	2100	90	160
Jets faking electrons	5000	0.0	3400	1200	340
$WZ + ZZ$	2040	500	438	423	680
Tribosons	115	47	15.4	21.6	31.2
Other non-prompt	210	110	20	60	27
Total Background	9900	750	6000	1900	1290
Signal $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (EWK)	3489	1435	432	679	944

Table 6.5: Signal and background event yields using the default event selection for an integrated luminosity of $\mathcal{L} = 3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$. Events containing a fake or charge-flipped electron are removed from their respective sources and combined into a single entry each.

The event yields for the optimized selection detailed in Section 6.5.3 are listed in Table 6.6. After optimization, 2958 signal events and just 2310 background events are expected. Diboson events are now the primary source of background, as the optimization greatly reduces the fake and charge misidentification backgrounds. As discussed earlier, the increase in the leading and subleading jet p_T cuts as well as the loosening of the centrality cut are most responsible for the changes in the signal and background yields; distributions of these quantities using the default and the optimized event selections can be found in Figures 6.10, 6.11, and 6.12, respectively.

It is important to note, however, that the MC sample used to estimate Z +jets events suffers from poor statistics which results in large per-event weights once scaled to $\mathcal{L} = 3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$. This sample contributes heavily to the fake and charge misidentification backgrounds, and a handful of these events being cut out by the optimization contributes has a large effect on the dramatic reduction of these backgrounds. As a result, these particular optimized results are likely overly optimistic. However, given proper MC statistics, it is still expected that the optimization will outperform the

	All channels	$\mu\mu$	ee	μe	$e\mu$
$W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (QCD)	168.7	74.6	19.7	32.2	42.2
Charge Misidentification	200	0.0	11	30	160
Jets faking electrons	460	0.0	130	260	70
$WZ + ZZ$	1286	322	289	271	404
Tribosons	76	30.1	9.6	15.1	21.6
Other non-prompt	120	29	16.6	50	19
Total Background	2310	455	480	660	710
Signal $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (EWK)	2958	1228	380	589	761

Table 6.6: Signal and background event yields using the optimized event selection for an integrated luminosity of $\mathcal{L} = 3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$. Events containing a fake or charge-flipped electron are removed from their respective sources and combined into a single entry each.

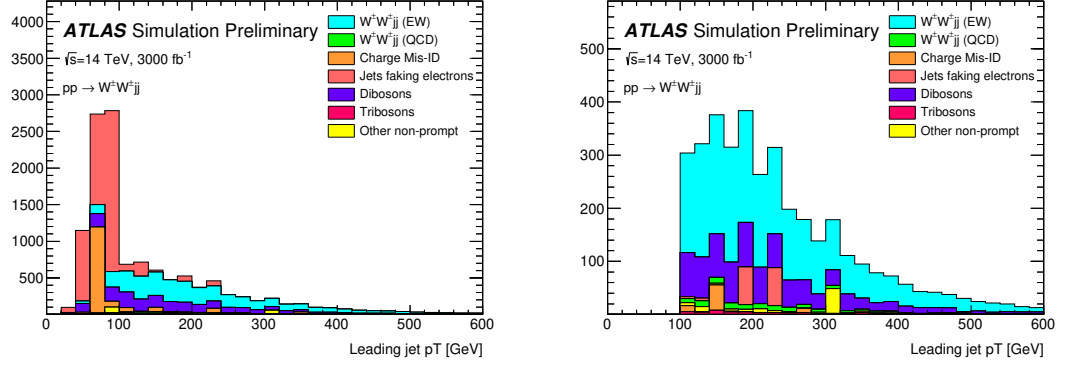


Figure 6.10: p_T distributions for the leading jet using the default (left) and optimized (right) event selections for all channels combined.

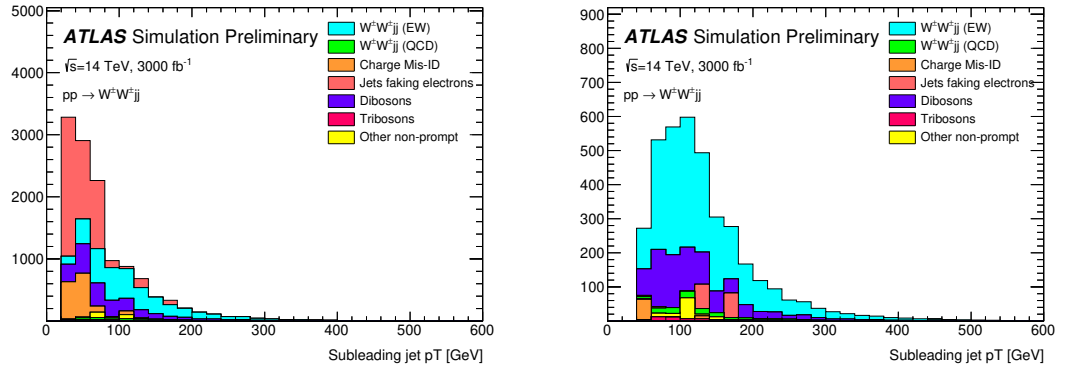


Figure 6.11: p_T distributions for the subleading jet using the default (left) and optimized (right) event selections for all channels combined.

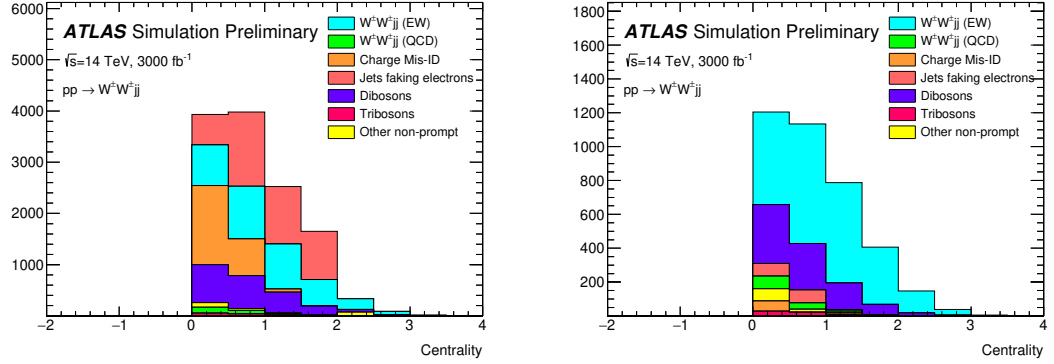


Figure 6.12: p_T distributions for lepton-jet centrality ζ using the default (left) and optimized (right) event selections for all channels combined.

981 default selection.

982 6.6.2 Uncertainties

983 **TODO:** Ask for details on how some of these uncertainties were calculated – specifically the fakes and
 984 **charge mis-ID** The uncertainties considered for the analysis are summarized in Table 6.7. Values for
 985 experimental systematics on the trigger efficiency, lepton and jet reconstruction, and flavor tagging
 986 are taken directly from the 13 TeV analysis [8]. The rate uncertainties for the background processes
 987 are halved from the 13 TeV values.

Source	Uncertainty (%)
$W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (EWK)	3
Luminosity	1
Trigger efficiency	0.5
Lepton reconstruction and identification	1.8
Jets	2.3
Flavor tagging	1.8
Jets faking electrons	20
Charge misidentification	25
$W^\pm W^\pm jj$ (QCD)	20
Top	15
Diboson	10
Triboson	15

Table 6.7: Summary of estimated experimental and rate uncertainties.

6.6.3 Cross section measurement

The cross section is calculated using the same method as in the 13 TeV analysis, detailed in Chapter 5. **TODO: update from chapter reference to subsection reference (once it's written)...** Once again, each of the four lepton flavor channels is further split by charge (i.e. $\mu\mu \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^+ + \mu^-\mu^-$), as this increases the sensitivity of the analysis. Each channel's m_{jj} distribution is combined in a profile likelihood fit to extract the EWK $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ production cross section. The expected cross section calculated using the default event selection is:

$$\sigma_{W^\pm W^\pm jj}^{\text{expected}} = 16.89 \pm 0.36 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.53 \text{ (theory)} \pm 0.84 \text{ (syst)} \text{ fb} \quad (6.5)$$

The expected cross section calculated using the optimized event selection is:

$$\sigma_{W^\pm W^\pm jj}^{\text{expected}} = 16.94 \pm 0.36 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.53 \text{ (theory)} \pm 0.78 \text{ (syst)} \text{ fb} \quad (6.6)$$

The optimized selection should not change the measured value of the cross section, and indeed both are consistent within uncertainties. The systematic uncertainty is reduced by approximately 7% with the optimized selection. Projections of the total uncertainty on the cross section as a function of integrated luminosity made by **TODO: how was this made?** is shown in Figure 6.13. As the integrated luminosity increases past $\mathcal{L} > 3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$, the statistical uncertainty reduces faster than the systematic uncertainties. However, the total uncertainty is expected to reduce by less than a percent with increased luminosity past the planned 3000 fb^{-1} .

6.6.4 Longitudinal scattering significance

TODO: get some details on how this was all done... The longitudinal scattering significance is extracted from the $|\Delta\phi_{jj}|$ distribution using a simultaneous binned likelihood fit. In order to increase sensitivity, the $|\Delta\phi_{jj}|$ distribution was split into two bins in m_{jj} , and an additional cut on the pseudorapidity of the subleading lepton was applied ($|\eta| < 2.5$) to reduce background from fake and charge misidentification. The $|\Delta\phi_{jj}|$ distributions used in the fit are shown in Figure 6.14. Due to limited statistics, the four lepton flavor channels were not split by charge. The expected significance of the $W_L^\pm W_L^\pm jj$ process is 1.8σ with a precision of 47% on the measurement. Projections of the expected significance as a function of integrated luminosity is shown in Figure 6.15.

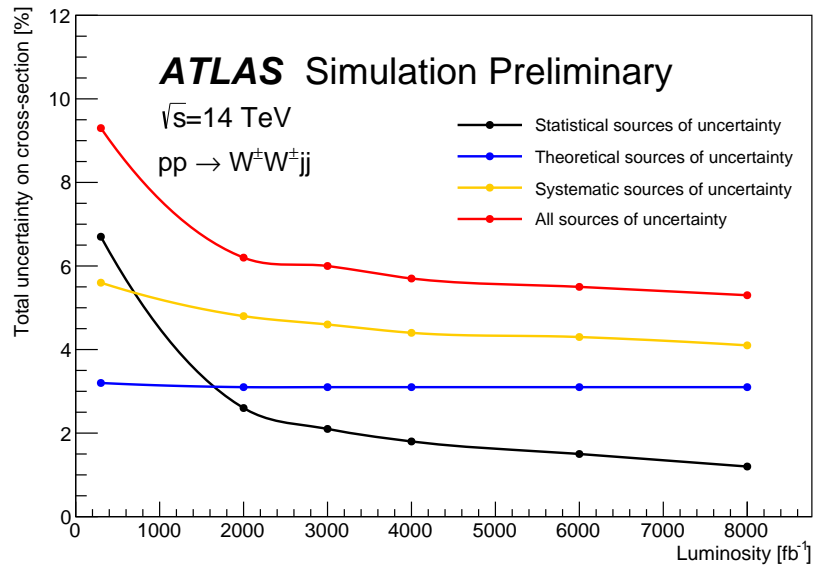


Figure 6.13: Projections of the statistical (black), theoretical (blue), systematic (yellow), and total (red) uncertainties on the measured cross section as a function of integrated luminosity using the optimized event selection.

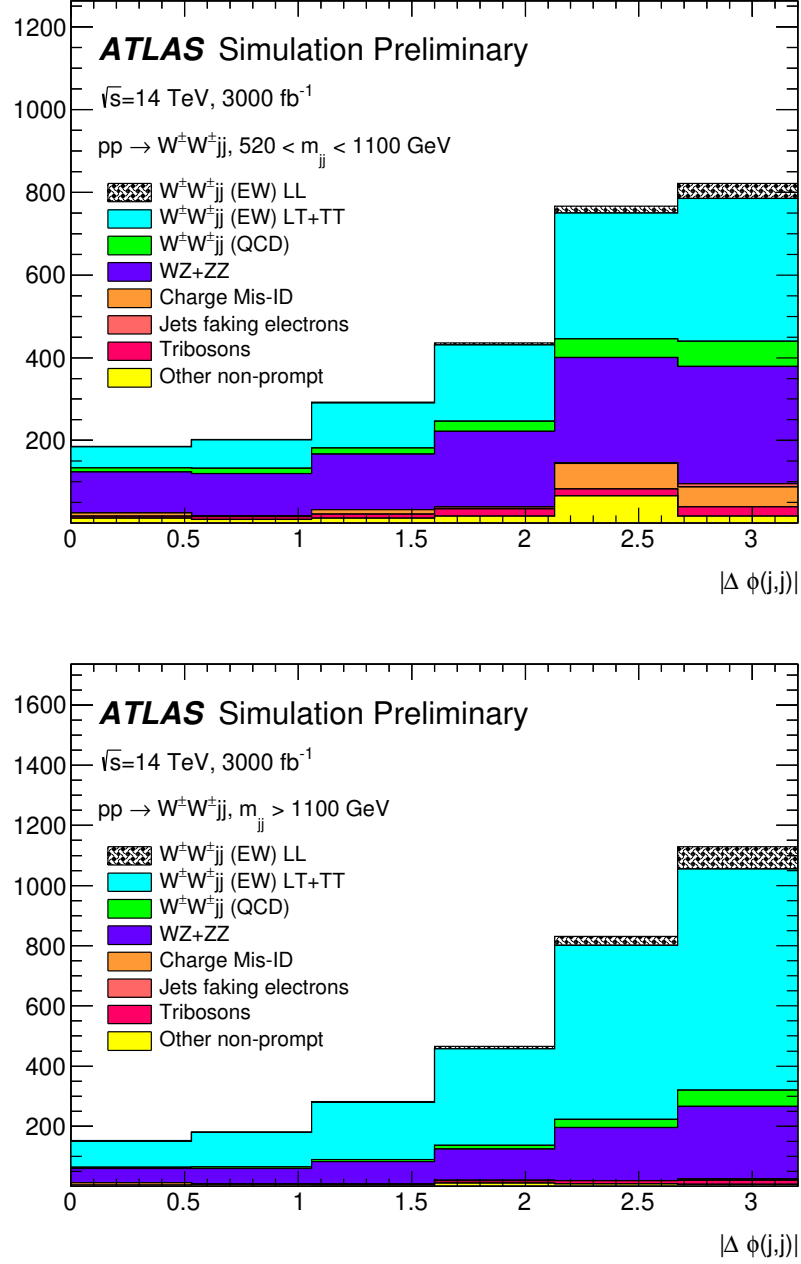


Figure 6.14: Dijet azimuthal separation ($|\Delta \phi_{jj}|$) for the low m_{jj} region ($520 < m_{jj} < 1100$ GeV, top) and the high m_{jj} region ($m_{jj} > 1100$ GeV, bottom). The purely longitudinal (LL, gray) is plotted separately from the mixed and transverse (LT+TT, cyan) polarizations.

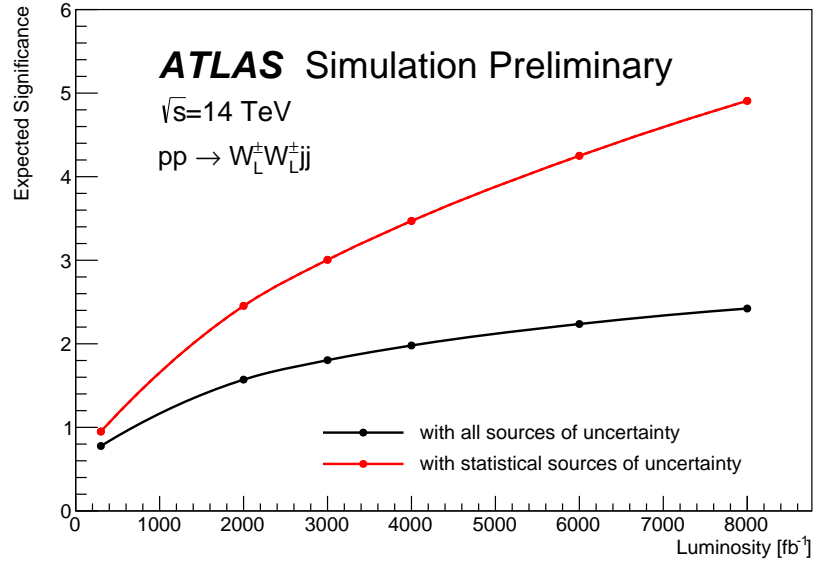


Figure 6.15: Projections of the expected longitudinal scattering significance as a function of integrated luminosity when considering all sources of uncertainties (black) or only statistical uncertainties (red).

1012

CHAPTER 7

1013

Conclusion

1014 Here's where you wrap it up.

1015 **Looking Ahead**

1016

1017 Here's an example of how to have an “informal subsection”.

Additional material on truth isolation

yields by type	all channels	$\mu\mu$	ee	μe	$e\mu$
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	μe	$e\mu$
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.

TODO: Add tables for tight vs loose working point, information on the necessity of TRUTH1++

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