

Search for pair production of higgsinos in events with two Higgs bosons and missing transverse momentum in  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV  $pp$  collisions at the ATLAS experiment

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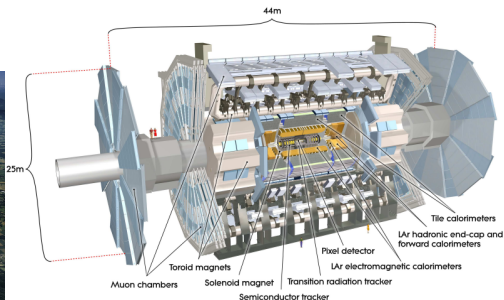
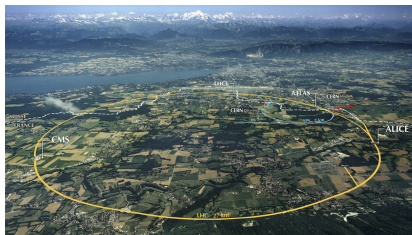


- 1 Introduction
- 2 Low-mass Channel
- 3 High-mass Channel
- 4 Results

Full paper available at [arXiv:2401.14922](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.14922)

# The Large Hadron Collider and ATLAS

- The Large Hadron Collider (LHC) is the world's largest particle accelerator
  - 13 TeV collision energy<sup>1</sup>,  $\approx 1$  billion proton-proton collisions/second
- ATLAS is a general purpose particle detector

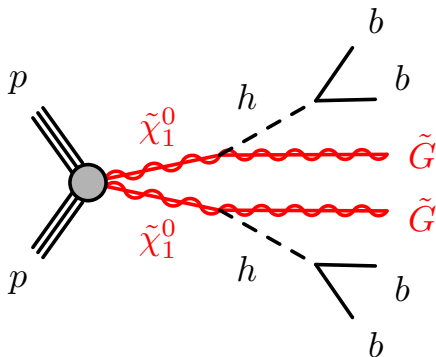


Left: The LHC. Image credit: Maximilien Brice, CERN. Right: The ATLAS detector ([JINST 3 \(2008\) S08003](#)).

<sup>1</sup>13.6 TeV in Run 3

# Signal Model

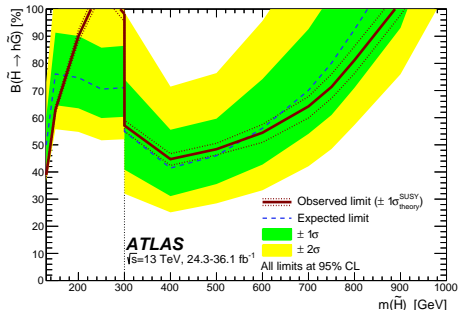
- Look for supersymmetric (SUSY) model
  - Lightest SUSY particle (LSP) is nearly massless gravitino
- Target higgsino-dominated neutralino as next-to-lightest SUSY particle
- Most common predicted decays are  $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow h\tilde{G}$  and  $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow Z\tilde{G}$ 
  - Target the Higgs decay channel
- $\mathcal{B}(h \rightarrow b\bar{b}) \approx 58\%$ 
  - Look for  $hh \rightarrow b\bar{b}b\bar{b} + E_T^{\text{miss}}$



SUSY signal model.

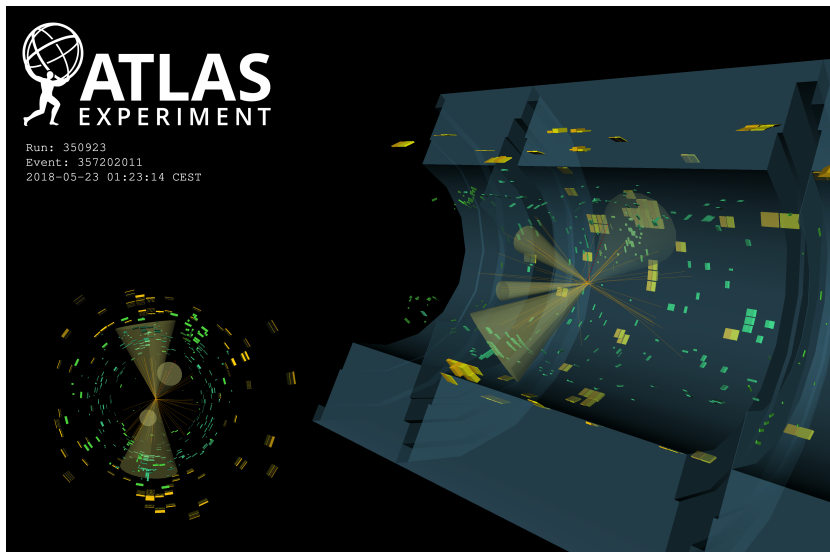
# Motivation

- Previous results use 2015-2016 data
  - Small excess at 275 GeV
- Natural SUSY favors light higgsinos
  - Worth investigating excess with more data
  - We now have roughly 5x the data



Exclusion limits on higgsino pair production using 2015-2016 data. Figure from [2].

# Low-mass Channel



Candidate event with  $E_T^{\text{miss}} = 14.0$  GeV

# Trigger Strategy and Event Selection

- For low higgsino masses, gravitinos not energetic enough for  $E_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}}$  trigger
  - Using triggers targeting 2  $b$ -jets ( $p_{\text{T}}$  threshold 35-55 GeV)

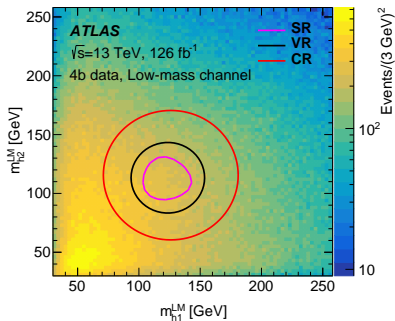
- Reduce  $t\bar{t}$  by vetoing events with leptons or

$$X_{Wt} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{m_{jj} - m_W}{0.1 \cdot m_{jj}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{m_{jjb} - m_t}{0.1 \cdot m_{jjb}}\right)^2} < 1.8$$

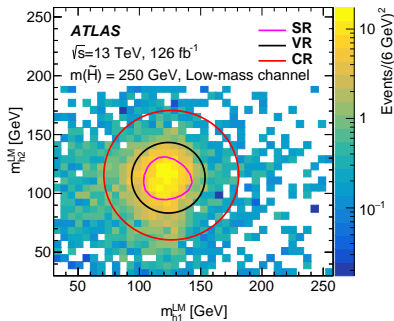
- Reconstruct Higgs bosons from  $b$ -jets
  - If  $< 4$   $b$ -jets, use random untagged jets

# Region Definitions

- Regions defined using the masses of the reconstructed Higgs bosons
- Signal:  $\sqrt{\left(\frac{m_{h1}-120}{0.1m_{h1}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{m_{h2}-110}{0.1m_{h2}}\right)^2} < 1.6$



(a) 4b data

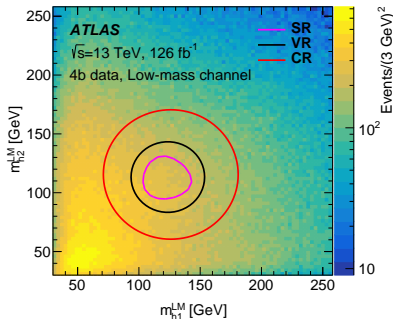


(b) 250 GeV Signal

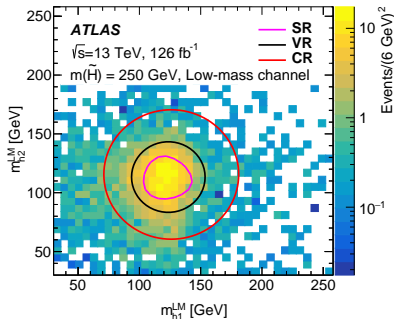


# Region Definitions

- Regions defined using the masses of the reconstructed Higgs bosons
- Signal:  $\sqrt{\left(\frac{m_{h_1}-120}{0.1m_{h_1}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{m_{h_2}-110}{0.1m_{h_2}}\right)^2} < 1.6$
- Validation:  $\sqrt{(m_{h_1} - 120 * 1.03)^2 + (m_{h_2} - 110 * 1.03)^2} < 30 \text{ GeV}$



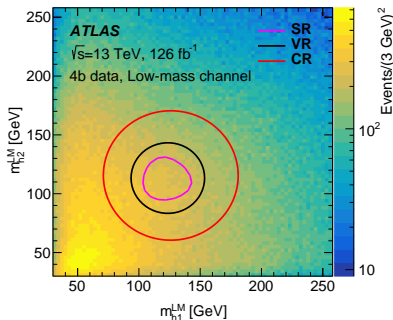
(a) 4b data



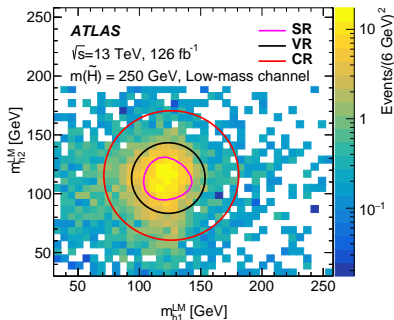
(b) 250 GeV Signal

# Region Definitions

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- Validation:  $\sqrt{(m_{h_1} - 120 * 1.03)^2 + (m_{h_2} - 110 * 1.03)^2} < 30 \text{ GeV}$
- Control:  $\sqrt{(m_{h_1} - 120 * 1.05)^2 + (m_{h_2} - 110 * 1.05)^2} < 55 \text{ GeV}$



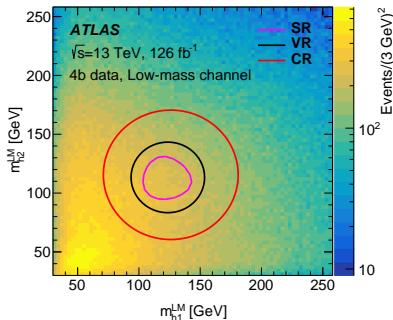
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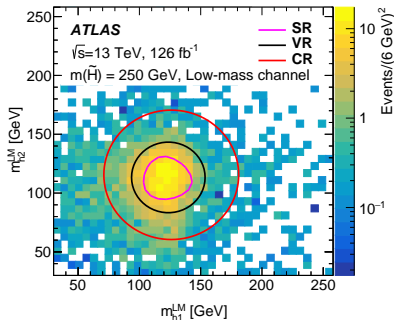
(b) 250 GeV Signal

# Region Definitions

- Regions defined using the masses of the reconstructed Higgs bosons
- Signal:  $\sqrt{\left(\frac{m_{h1}-120}{0.1m_{h1}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{m_{h2}-110}{0.1m_{h2}}\right)^2} < 1.6$
- Validation:  $\sqrt{(m_{h1} - 120 * 1.03)^2 + (m_{h2} - 110 * 1.03)^2} < 30 \text{ GeV}$
- Control:  $\sqrt{(m_{h1} - 120 * 1.05)^2 + (m_{h2} - 110 * 1.05)^2} < 55 \text{ GeV}$
- Each is split into a 2b sample (=2  $b$ -jets) and a 4b ( $\geq 4$   $b$ -jets) sample



(a) 4b data



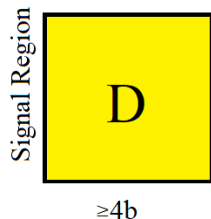
(b) 250 GeV Signal

# Background Estimate

- Background is many QCD multijet
  - Poorly modeled by MC, so use a data-driven method

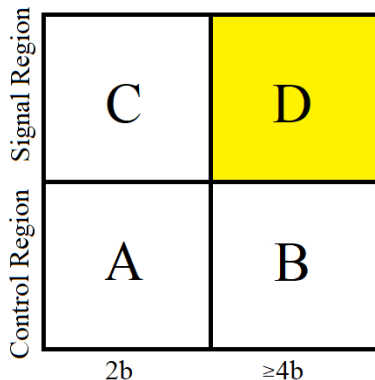
# Background Estimate

- Background is many QCD multijet
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- We want to estimate background in  $\geq 4b$  signal region “D”



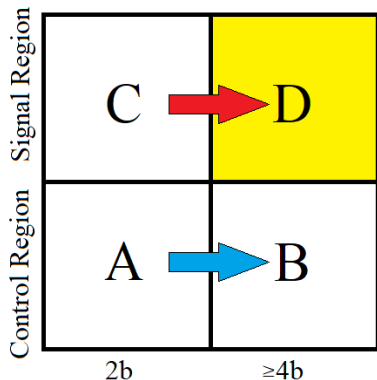
# Background Estimate

- Background is many QCD multijet
  - Poorly modeled by MC, so use a data-driven method
- We want to estimate background in  $\geq 4b$  signal region “D”
- In each region, make  $2b$  and  $\geq 4b$  sample
  - $2b$  has low signal contamination
  - Similar backgrounds to  $4b$



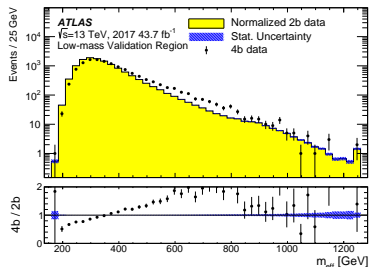
# Background Estimate

- Background is many QCD multijet
  - Poorly modeled by MC, so use a data-driven method
- We want to estimate background in  $\geq 4b$  signal region “D”
- In each region, make  $2b$  and  $\geq 4b$  sample
  - $2b$  has low signal contamination
  - Similar backgrounds to  $4b$
- Transfer factor  $\mu_{CR} = \frac{N_{4b}^{CR}}{N_{2b}^{CR}} (=B/A)$
- $N_{4b,bkg}^{SR} = \mu_{CR} N_{2b}^{SR} (D=CB/A)$



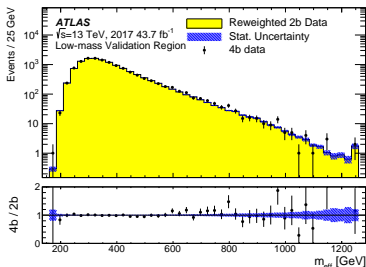
# Boosted Decision Tree Reweighting

- Baseline ABCD method only gives us event counts, not distributions
- We bin our data in  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  and  $m_{\text{eff}} = E_T^{\text{miss}} + \sum_{i=1}^4 p_T(\text{jet}_i)$
- Train a Boosted Decision Tree (BDT) to reweight kinematics
  - Train using 2b/4b CRs
  - Apply to 2b SR



(a) Before reweighting

BDT  
→



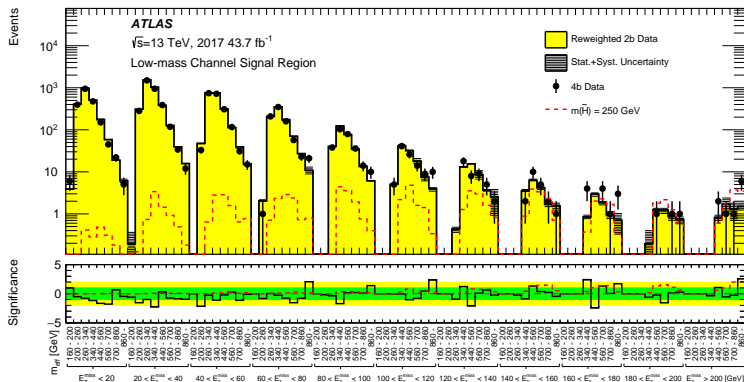
(b) After reweighting

Comparison of 2017 data in the VR.



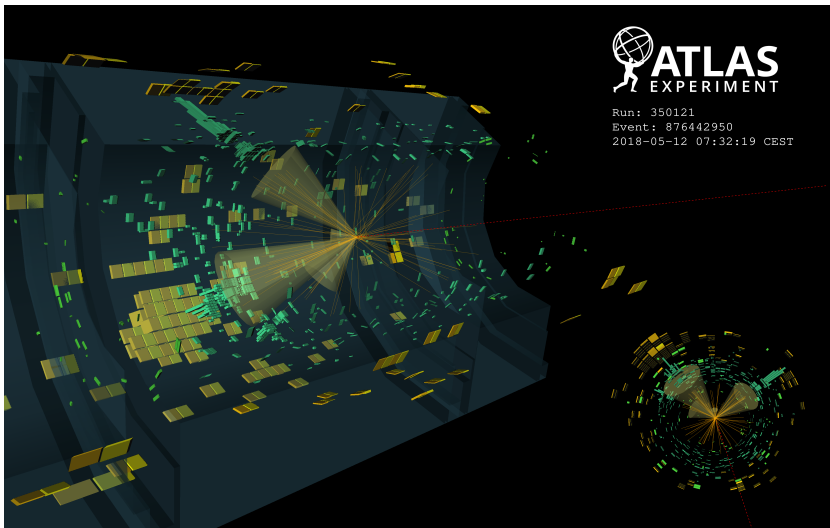
# Signal Region Yields

- Largest deviation in final ( $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 200$  GeV,  $m_{\text{eff}} > 860$  GeV) 2017 bin
  - 6 observed vs.  $1.51 \pm 0.35$  predicted events ( $2.6\sigma$  local)
- Large number of bins means deviations expected; VR modeling shows good agreement



Yields in the 2017 signal region for the low-mass channel.

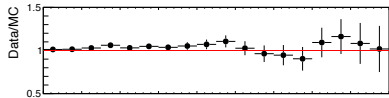
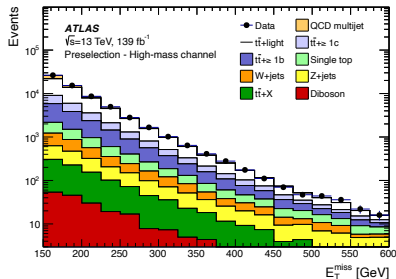
# High-mass Channel



Candidate event with  $E_T^{\text{miss}} = 550.3 \text{ GeV}$

# Trigger Strategy and Event Selection

- Select events using the  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  trigger
- Require
  - $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 150 \text{ GeV}^1$
  - $\geq 3$   $b$ -jets, 4-7 total jets
  - $\Delta\phi_{\text{min}}^{4j} > 0.4$
  - Veto leptons
- Train a BDT to distinguish signal from background
  - Parameterize with truth higgsino mass
  - Input variables:  $N_{\text{jets}}$ ,  $N_{b\text{-jets}}$ ,  $H_T$ ,  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ ,  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  significance,  $m_{T,\text{min}}^{b\text{-jets}}$ ,  $M_J^\Sigma$ ,  $m(h_1)$ ,  $m(h_2)$ ,  $\Delta R(h_1)$ ,  $\Delta R(h_2)$ ,  $\Delta R_{\text{min}}^{bb}$



Preselection  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$

<sup>1</sup>Built with track-based soft term

# Region Definitions

- Signal, Validation, and Control Regions defined using BDT scores
  - Split using  $N_{b\text{-jets}}$ ,  $m_{T,\min}^{b\text{-jets}}$  to handle different backgrounds
  - Nb: Separate for each mass point: SR\_1\_M means SR\_1 for M GeV higgsino
- Use CRs to normalize  $t\bar{t}$ , single top, and  $Z+\text{jets}$ <sup>2</sup> background Monte Carlo

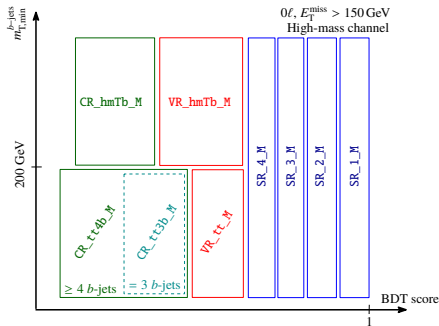
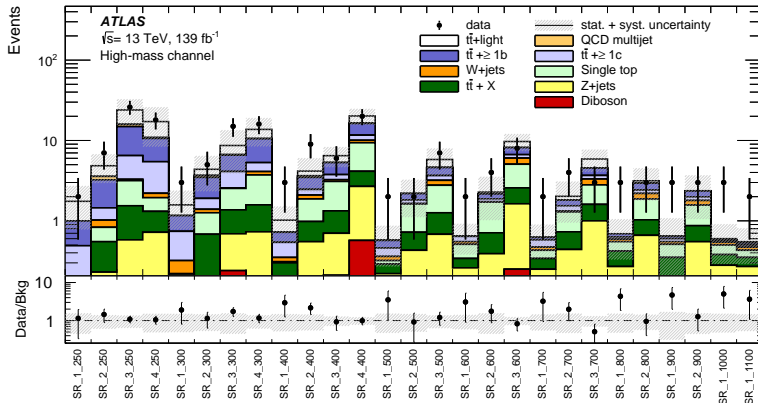


Diagram of high-mass regions.

<sup>2</sup>Special regions used to model  $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$  using  $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$

# Signal Region Yields

- Largest excess is  $1.9\sigma$  (local) in SR\_1\_1000
  - Excesses in SR\_1\_900, SR\_1\_1000, and SR\_1\_1100 highly correlated

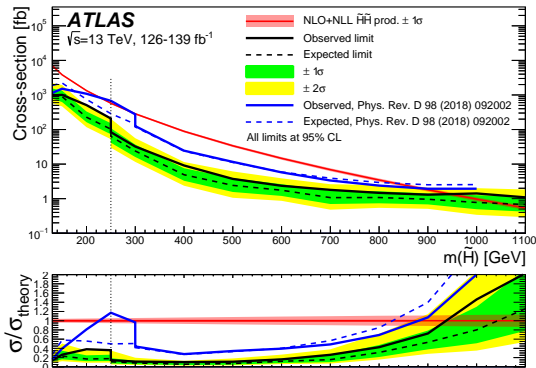


Yields in the signal regions for the high-mass channel

# Results

# Exclusion Limits

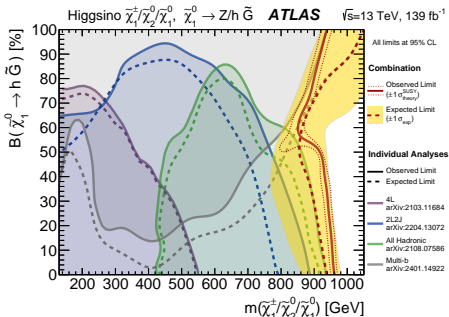
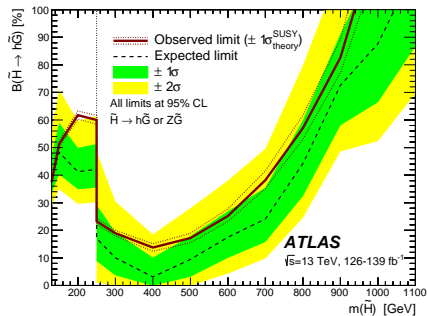
- Use low-mass channel below 250 GeV, high-mass above
- Exclude up to 940 GeV ( $\approx 1040$  GeV expected)
  - Most sensitive analysis to-date
  - Most stringent constraints from 130-800 GeV



Limits for  $\mathcal{B}(\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow h\tilde{G})=100\%$

# Branching Ratio Limits

- Relax assumption on  $\mathcal{B}(\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow h\tilde{G})=100\%$ 
  - Allow for Higgs or  $Z$  decays
  - Assume theory cross section
- Combine with other analyses to achieve strong exclusion across the BR plane



Left: Limits on  $\mathcal{B}(\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow h\tilde{G})$ . Right: EWK Combination results [3].



- Presented a search for higgsinos decaying to Higgs bosons and gravitinos
- Used two complementary channels to target low and high higgsino masses
- Improved significantly over previous analyses, placing strong constraints on the SUSY model

Thank you for listening!

[arXiv:2401.14922](https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.14922)

- 1 ATLAS Collaboration, "Search for pair production of higgsinos in events with two Higgs bosons and missing transverse momentum in  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV  $pp$  collisions at the ATLAS experiment," submitted to PRD, [arXiv:2401.14922 [hep-ex]].
- 2 ATLAS Collaboration, "Search for pair production of higgsinos in final states with at least three  $b$ -tagged jets in  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV  $pp$  collisions using the ATLAS detector," Phys. Rev. D **98**, no.9, 092002 (2018) doi:10.1103/PhysRevD.98.092002 [arXiv:1806.04030 [hep-ex]].
- 3 ATLAS Collaboration, "A statistical combination of ATLAS Run 2 searches for charginos and neutralinos at the LHC," submitted to PRL, [arXiv:2402.08347 [hep-ex]].
- 4 CMS Collaboration, "Search for higgsinos decaying to two Higgs bosons and missing transverse momentum in proton-proton collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV," JHEP **05** 014 (2022) doi:10.1007/JHEP05(2022)014 [arxiv:2201.04206 [hep-ex]].

# Backup

# The Triumph of the Standard Model

- The Standard Model (SM) provides an excellent description of many phenomena
  - 17 particles (+anti-particles)
  - 3 fundamental forces (excluding gravity)
- Withstood numerous tests
- Astonishing accuracy

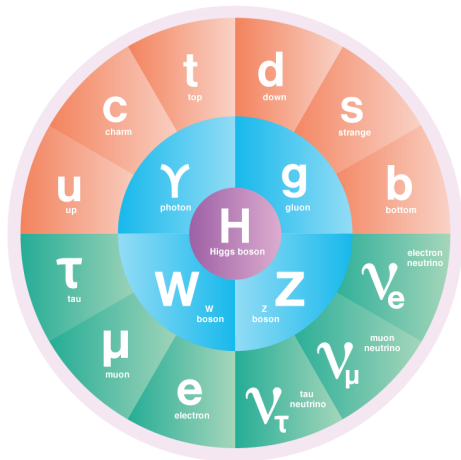


Image credit: [Symmetry Magazine](#).

# Breaking the Standard Model

- However, the SM suffers from several problems
  - Requires **fine-tuning** to explain the Higgs boson mass (hierarchy problem)
  - Does **not** account for dark matter nor dark energy
  - Does **not** explain dominance of matter over antimatter (baryon asymmetry)
  - Does **not** explain neutrino masses

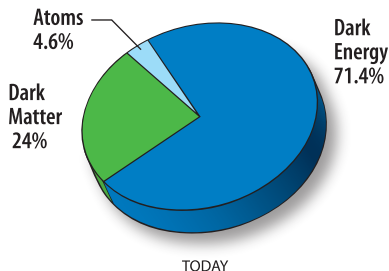
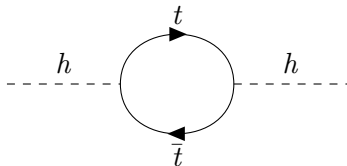


Image credit: [NASA/WMAP Science Team](#).

# The Hierarchy Problem

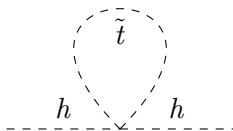
- Observed Higgs mass is  $125 \text{ GeV} = m_h \approx m_{\text{bare}} + m_{\text{correc}}$
- Fermions (in particular top quark) contribute to  $m_{\text{correc}}$
- $\Delta m_{\text{fromtop}} = O(\Lambda_{\text{cutoff}}) \approx 10^{19} \text{ GeV}$
- To get observed 125 GeV, need suspiciously neat cancellation
  - In principle,  $m_{\text{bare}}$  should be free parameter



Higgs self-energy top quark loop.

# Supersymmetry

- Theory of supersymmetry (SUSY) can solve this
- Introduce a bosonic partner for every fermion (and vice versa)
- Corrections similar in magnitude but opposite sign
- $\Delta m_{\text{toploop}} + \Delta m_{\text{stoploop}} \approx 0$



Higgs self-energy stop quark loop.

- Similar considerations require other SUSY particles
- Bonus: Lightest supersymmetric particle (LSP) could be dark matter!

# SUSY and the Higgs boson

- SUSY requires separate Higgs doublets for up-type, down-type quarks
- 3 degrees of freedom provide masses for  $W^\pm$ ,  $Z$ 
  - 5 Higgs bosons:  $h$ ,  $H$ ,  $A$ ,  $H^+$ , and  $H^-$
  - Superpartners of Higgs called “higgsinos”
- Higgsinos mix with binos and winos
  - 4 neutralinos:  $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ ,  $\tilde{\chi}_2^0$ ,  $\tilde{\chi}_3^0$ ,  $\tilde{\chi}_4^0$
  - 2 charginos:  $\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm$ ,  $\tilde{\chi}_2^\pm$



- To obtain the correct Higgs vacuum expectation values, need

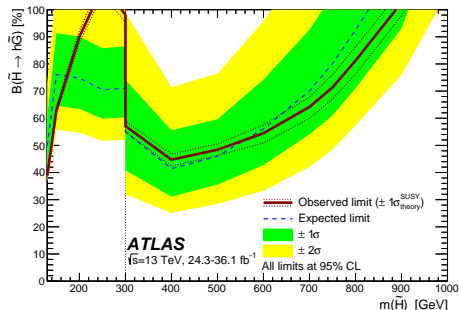
$$\frac{m_Z^2}{2} \approx -\mu^2 - m_{H_u}^2 - \text{loop corrections}$$

where  $\mu$  is the higgsino mass term and  $m_{H_u}$  is SUSY-breaking term

- $m_Z = 91.2$  GeV
- For this cancellation to be natural, terms must be of the order of  $m_Z$ 
  - Higgsinos predicted to be relatively light

# Prior Results

- Previous results use 2015-2016 data
  - Small excess at 275 GeV
- Split into two channels
  - **Low-mass** and **high-mass**
- We made many improvements, including:
  - Roughly 5 times the stats (2015-2018)
  - Improved jet reconstruction and  $b$ -tagging
  - Implementing a BDT for the high-mass channel
  - Significant reoptimization



Exclusion limits on higgsino pair production using 2015-2016 data. Figure from [2].

# Glossary

- Jets are streams of particles from hadronization of quarks and gluons
- $b$ -jets are jets tagged as containing bottom quarks
  - Optimal working point for this analysis has 77% efficiency
- $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  is the negative vector sum of all objects'  $p_T$  with a track-based soft term
  - “Missing energy” of the event
- $m_{\text{eff}}$  is the  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  plus the sum of  $p_T$  of jets from Higgs boson decays

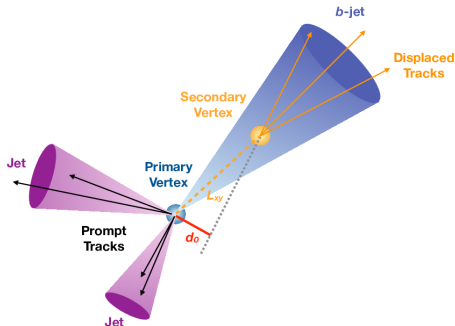


Image credit: [2106.03584](#)

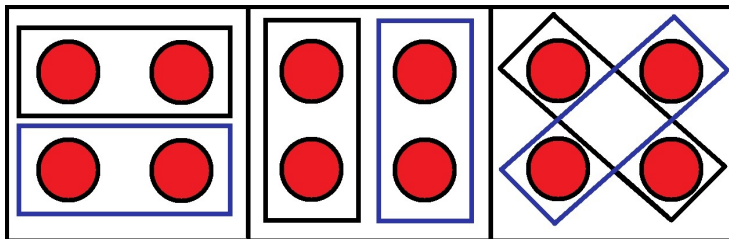
# Low-mass Trigger Strategy

- Need to decorrelate scale factors for each trigger
- Create orthogonal offline selections:
  - 1 If leading jet  $p_T$  above threshold, use 2b1j trigger
  - 2 Else, if  $H_T$  above threshold, use 2b $H_T$  trigger
  - 3 Else, use 2b2j trigger

| Category            | Year | Online selections  | Offline selections                    |
|---------------------|------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Low-mass channel    |      |  |                                       |
| 2b1j                | 2016 | 1 jet ( $p_T > 100$ GeV),<br>2 $b$ -jets (60% $b$ -jet efficiency, $p_T > 55$ GeV) | $p_{T,j1} > 150$ GeV                  |
|                     | 2017 | 1 jet ( $p_T > 150$ GeV),<br>2 $b$ -jets (70% $b$ -jet efficiency, $p_T > 55$ GeV) | $p_{T,j1} > 350$ GeV                  |
|                     | 2018 | 2 $b$ -jets (70% $b$ -jet efficiency, $p_T > 55$ GeV)                              | $p_{T,j1} > 500$ GeV                  |
| 2b $H_T$            | 2017 | $H_T > 300$ GeV,   | $p_{T,j1} < 350$ GeV, $H_T > 850$ GeV |
|                     | 2018 | 2 $b$ -jets (50% $b$ -jet efficiency, $p_T > 55$ GeV)                              | $p_{T,j1} < 500$ GeV, $H_T > 700$ GeV |
| 2b2j                | 2016 | 2 jets ( $p_T > 35$ GeV),<br>2 $b$ -jets (60% $b$ -jet efficiency, $p_T > 35$ GeV) | $p_{T,j1} < 150$ GeV                  |
|                     |      | 2 jets ( $p_T > 35$ GeV),<br>2 $b$ -jets (40% $b$ -jet efficiency, $p_T > 35$ GeV) | $p_{T,j1} < 350$ GeV, $H_T < 850$ GeV |
|                     | 2018 | 2 jets ( $p_T > 35$ GeV),<br>2 $b$ -jets (60% $b$ -jet efficiency, $p_T > 35$ GeV) | $p_{T,j1} < 500$ GeV, $H_T < 700$ GeV |
| High-mass channel   |      |  |                                       |
| $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ | 2015 | $E_T^{\text{miss}}(\mu \text{ inv.}) > 70$ GeV                                     | $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 150$ GeV         |
|                     | 2016 | $E_T^{\text{miss}}(\mu \text{ inv.}) > 90$ GeV                                     |                                       |
|                     | 2017 | $E_T^{\text{miss}}(\mu \text{ inv.}) > 100$ GeV                                    |                                       |
|                     | 2018 | $E_T^{\text{miss}}(\mu \text{ inv.}) > 110$ GeV                                    |                                       |

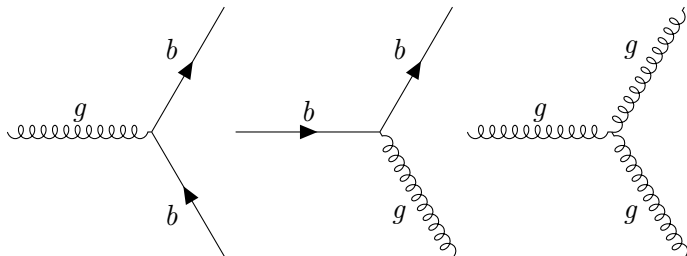
# Low-mass Higgs Boson Reconstruction

- Each Higgs boson decays to 2  $b$ -jets
  - Select 4  $b$ -jets with highest  $p_T$
  - If fewer than 4 exist, select remainder randomly
- 3 ways to pair 4 jets
  - Pair such that  $\max(\Delta R_{jj}(h1), \Delta R_{jj}(h2))$  is minimized



# Low-mass Background Estimation

- Background mainly QCD multijet
  - Large cross section
  - Large cross section theory uncertainty
- Avoid these problems by using a **purely data-driven** method called the ABCD method



Selected fundamental QCD multijet processes.

# Low-mass Boosted Decision Tree Reweighting

- Baseline ABCD method only gives us event counts, not distributions
- We bin our data in  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  and  $m_{\text{eff}}$
- Train a Boosted Decision Tree (BDT) to reweight kinematics
  - Train using 2b/4b CRs
  - Apply to 2b SR
- At each node, BDT splits events into 2 bins
  - Maximize 2b/4b difference
  - End up with many bins
  - Instead of using to discriminate, calculate weight to make 2b match 4b
- Use large set of 51 variables

- Train to reweight from  $2b$  CR  $\rightarrow$   $4b$  CR
- 51 input variables
  - Mass, energy,  $p_T$ ,  $\eta$ ,  $\phi$  of each Higgs boson candidate and Higgs boson candidate jet
  - Mass and  $p_T$  of the di-Higgs system
  - $N_{\text{jets}}$ ,  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ , a modified  $X_{Wt}$
  - Number of track-jets associated to each Higgs candidate
  - 14 angular variables
- Hyperparameters:
  - Learning rate: 0.3
  - Maximum number of layers: 5
  - Minimum number of events per node: 250
  - Sampling fraction: 0.4
  - Number of trees: 50/75/100 for 2016/2017/2018



# Low-mass Bootstraps

- Need statistical uncertainty of BDT-reweighted background
- Use a bootstrap method:
  - 1 Apply random Poisson weights ( $\mu = 1$ ) to each input event
  - 2 Retrain BDT using weighted events
  - 3 Repeat 100 times (+1 unweighted)
  - 4 Set nominal estimate to median of 100+1 variations
  - 5 Set uncertainty using percentiles of variations,  $(84\%-16\%)/2$

- Discovery: Single-bins
  - Optimized for 150 GeV higgsinos:  $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 20$ ,  $m_{\text{eff}} > 560$  GeV
  - Optimized for 300 GeV higgsinos:  $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 150$ ,  $m_{\text{eff}} > 340$  GeV
- Exclusions: 2-dimensional fit
  - $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ :  $\{0, 20, 40, 60, 80, 100, 120, 140, 160, 180, 200, 13000\}$  GeV
  - $m_{\text{eff}}$ :  $\{160, 200, 260, 340, 440, 560, 700, 860, 13000\}$  GeV

# Low-mass Systematic Uncertainties

- Three systematic uncertainties on the background estimate

- 1 Non-closure uncertainty

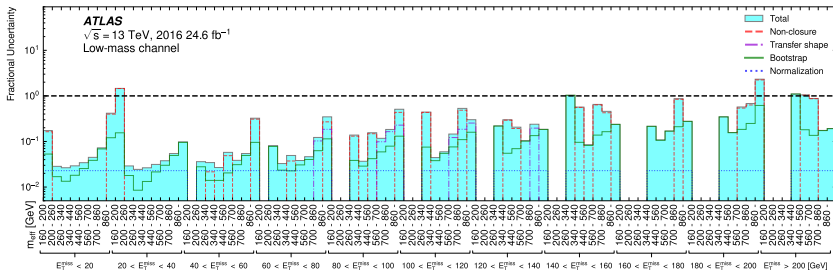
- Reweighting in CR is imperfect
- Set bin-by-bin fractional difference between 4b CR and reweighted 2b CR as shape systematic

- 2 Transfer shape uncertainty

- Validity of weight extrapolation from CR→SR
- Re-train BDT in VR, take difference between predictions

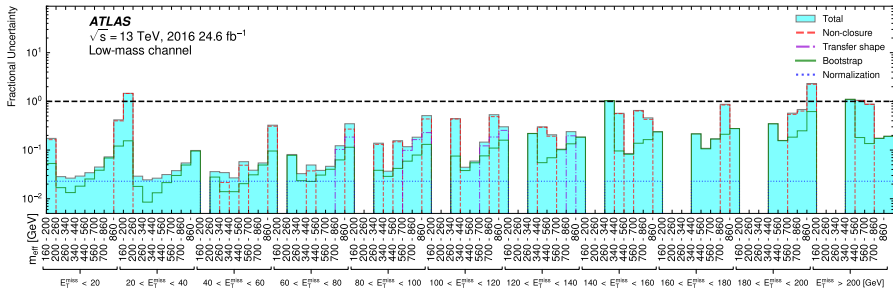
- 3 Transfer normalization uncertainty

- Change in 2b/4b ratio from CR→SR

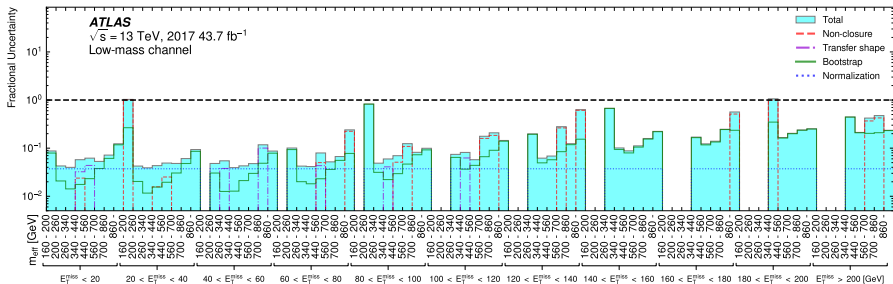


2016 fractional background systematics

# Low-mass Channel 2016 Systematics

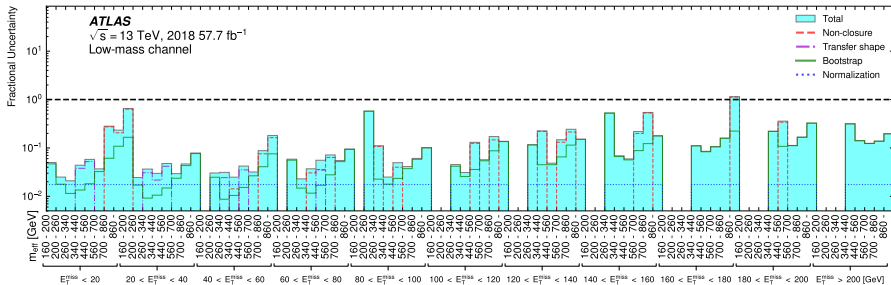


# Low-mass Channel 2017 Systematics



2017 fractional background systematics

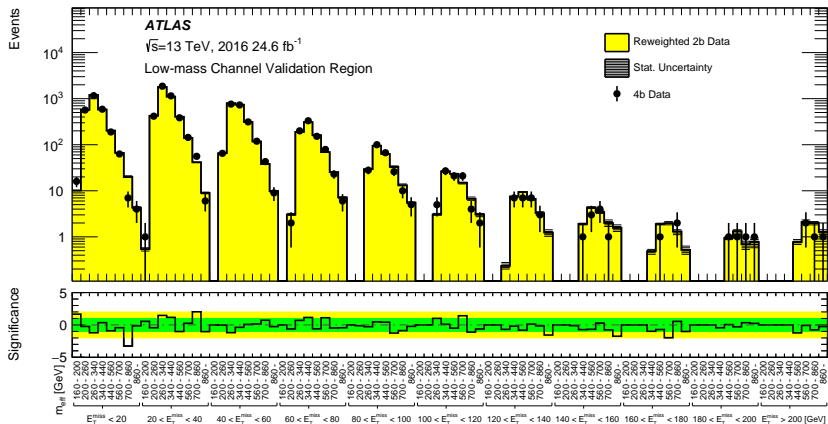
# Low-mass Channel 2018 Systematics



2018 fractional background systematics

# Low-mass Channel 2016 VR Yields

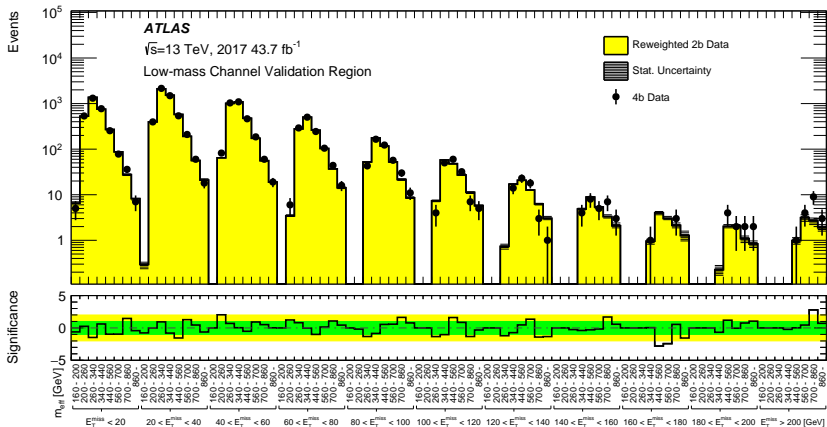
- Modeling looks good in validation regions



Yields in the 2016 validation region for the low-mass channel.

# Low-mass Channel 2017 VR Yields

- Modeling looks good in validation regions

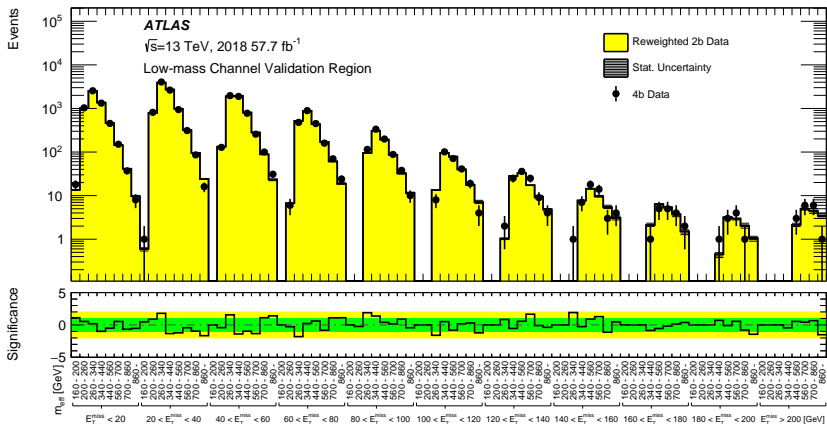


Yields in the 2017 validation region for the low-mass channel.



# Low-mass Channel 2018 VR Yields

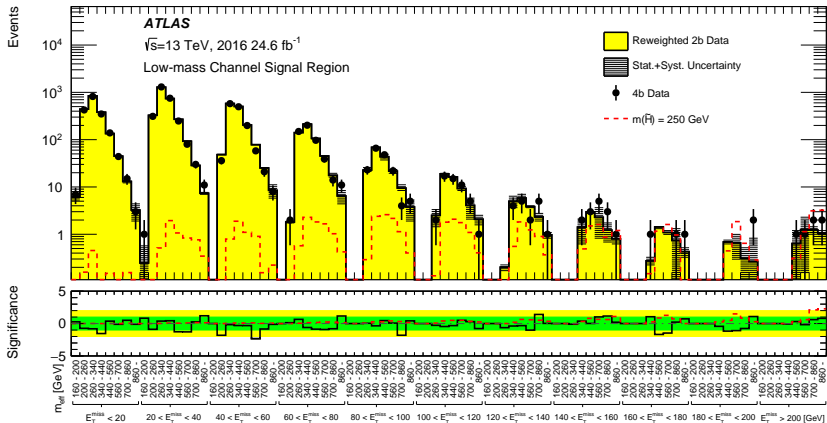
- Modeling looks good in validation regions



Yields in the 2018 validation region for the low-mass channel.

# Low-mass Channel 2016 SR Yields

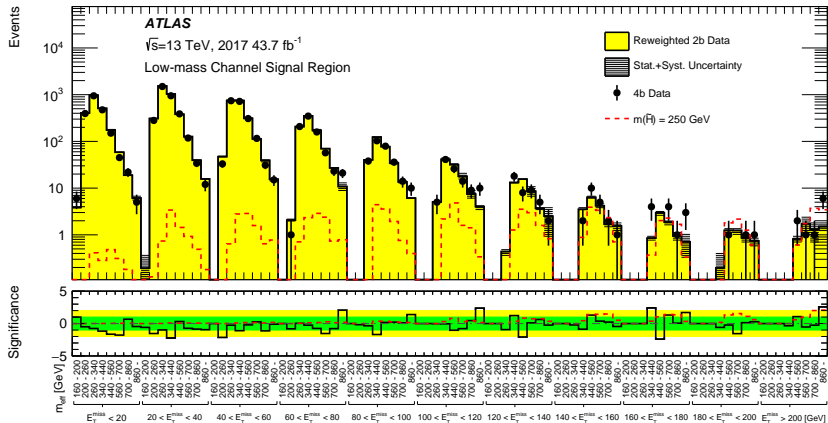
- Good agreement between observations and background
- Some small excesses (and deficits)



Yields in the 2016 signal region for the low-mass channel.

# Low-mass Channel 2017 SR Yields

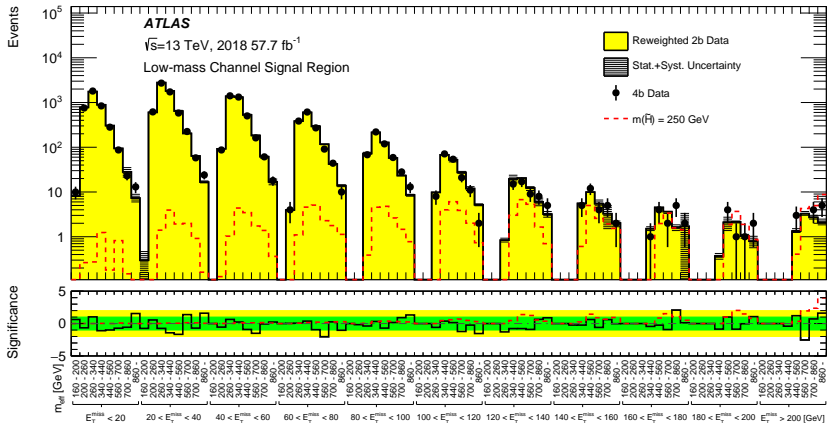
- Largest deviation in final ( $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 200$  GeV,  $m_{\text{eff}} > 860$  GeV) bin
- 6 observed vs.  $1.51 \pm 0.35$  predicted events ( $2.6\sigma$  local)



Yields in the 2017 signal region for the low-mass channel.

# Low-mass Channel 2018 SR Yields

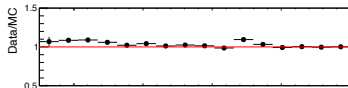
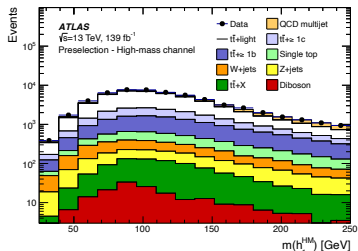
- Good agreement between observations and background
- Some small excesses (and deficits)



Yields in the 2018 signal region for the low-mass channel.

# High-mass Object Definitions

- Need to select  $b$ -jets and pair into Higgs bosons
  - Allow  $3b$  events by treating untagged jet as  $b$ -jet
  - Pair same way as low-mass
- $\Delta\phi_{\min}^{4j}$  is the minimum angle between  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  and any of the 4 leading jets
  - Useful for rejecting fake  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  from jet mismeasurement
- $m_{T,\min}^{b\text{-jets}}$  is the minimum transverse mass of  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  and the 3 leading  $b$ -jets
- $M_J^\Sigma$  is the scalar sum of large-radius jet masses



Preselection  $m(h_1)$

# High-mass Trigger Scale Factors

- Uses  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  trigger down to 150 GeV
- Only fully efficient for  $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 200$  GeV
- Derive SF by comparing data,  $t\bar{t}$  with muon trigger
  - $\geq 4$  jets,  $\geq 2$   $b$ -jets,  $= 1 \mu$
  - 6  $H_T$  bins: [0, 250, 300, 400, 600, 800, 999999] GeV
  - Smooth turn-on curves by fitting data and MC each to

$$f(x) = \frac{p_2}{[1 + (2^{p_3} - 1)e^{-p_0(x-p_1)}]^{1/p_3}}$$

- $\text{SF} = f_{\text{data}}(x) / f_{\text{mc}}(x)$

# High-mass Region Definitions

- Define SRs, VRs, and CRs iteratively using BDT scores
  - Define up to 4 SRs by maximizing significance
  - VRs require  $\geq 25$  events,  $S/B < 20\%$
  - CRs require  $\geq 100$  events,  $S/B < 10\%$
  - Nb: Separate for each mass point
  - SR\_1\_M means SR\_1 for M GeV higgsino
- Separate VRs/CRs for  $t\bar{t}$  and high  $m_{T,\min}^{b\text{-jets}}$
- Split  $t\bar{t}$  CR to measure  $t\bar{t}+ \geq 1b$ ,  $t\bar{t}+ \geq 1c$

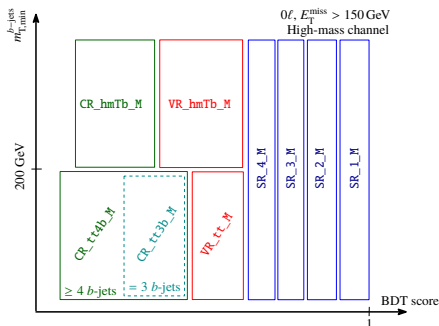


Diagram of high-mass regions.

# High-mass Background Estimation

- Main backgrounds are  $t\bar{t}$ , single top,  $Z$ +jets, and QCD multijet
- $t\bar{t}$ , single top, and  $Z$ +jets are estimated with MC + CRs and SRs
- $Z$ +jets CRs and VRs use  $2\mu$  events to model  $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$ 
  - Treat  $\mu$  as invisible
- Data-driven estimate for QCD multijet
  - Reweight  $\Delta\phi_{\min}^{4j} < 0.2$  to  $\Delta\phi_{\min}^{4j} > 0.4$  using a Neural Network

$2\mu, |m(\mu\mu) - m_Z| < 20 \text{ GeV}, E_T^{\text{miss}} < 75 \text{ GeV}, E_T^{\text{miss}}(\mu \text{ inv.}) > 175 \text{ GeV}$   
High-mass channel

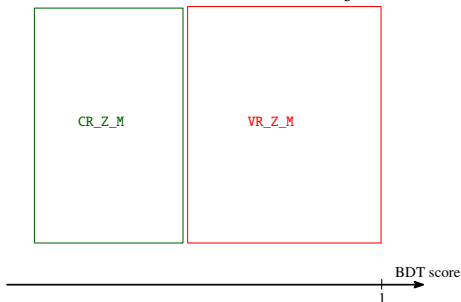


Diagram of high-mass  $Z$  CRs and VRs.

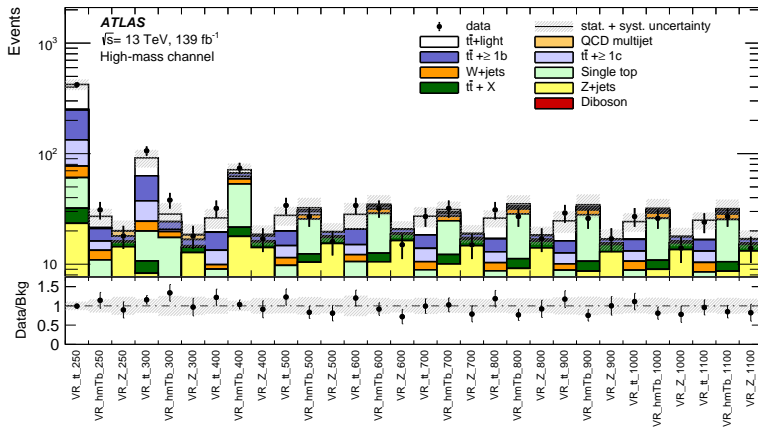


# High-mass QCD Estimation

- Estimated with data-driven technique
- Replace  $\Delta\phi_{\min}^{4j} > 0.4$  with  $\Delta\phi_{\min}^{4j} < 0.2$  to get QCD-dominated region
- Subtract non-QCD MC backgrounds from data to get QCD estimate
- Generate a fake  $\Delta\phi_{\min}^{4j}$  distribution for use in the BDT using information from dijet MC samples
- Reweight the template with a Neural Network to reproduce correct correlations and normalization

# High-mass Channel VR Yields

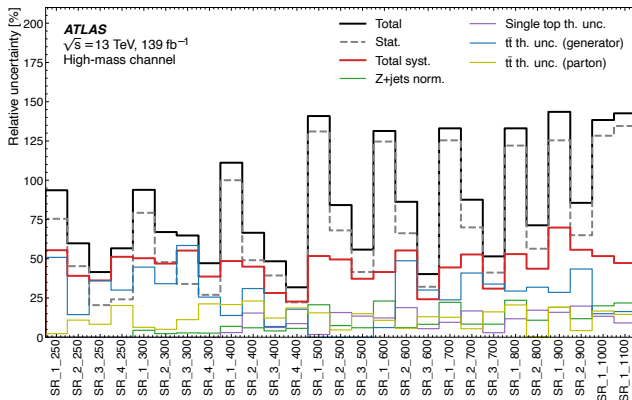
- Modeling looks good in validation regions



Yields in the validation regions for the high-mass channel.

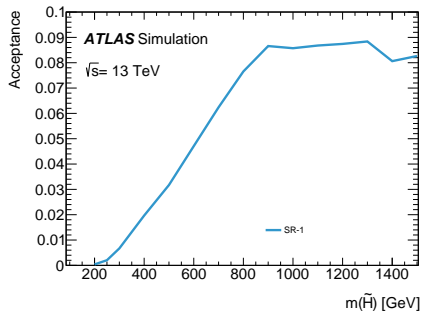
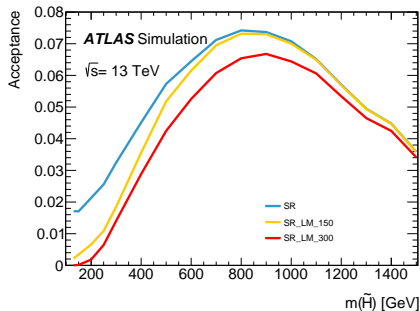
# High-mass Uncertainties

- Experimental and modeling uncertainties on signal and background MC
  - Jet energy scale and resolution, jet mass scale, soft  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  terms, flavor-tagging, pile-up, trigger, luminosity
  - Also on low-mass signals



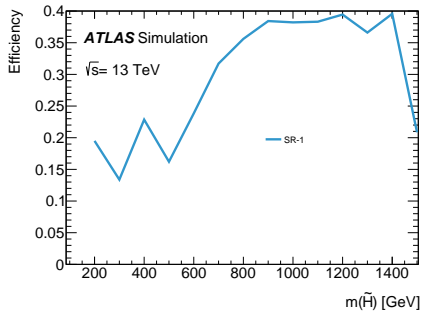
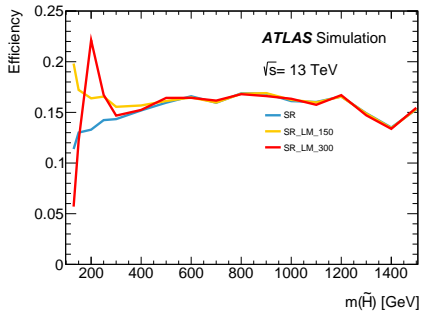
Uncertainties for the high-mass channel.

# Acceptance



Acceptances for the low-mass (left) and high-mass (right) channels.

# Efficiency



Efficiencies for the low-mass (left) and high-mass (right) channels.

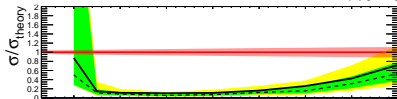
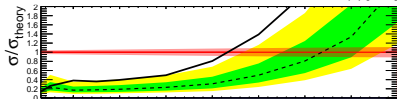
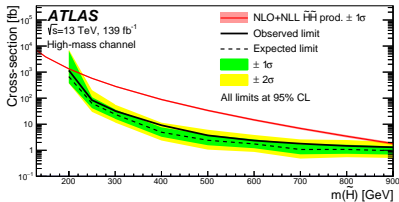
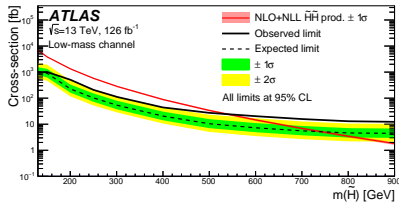
# Discovery Region Results

- Create model-independent regions to search for excesses
  - Low-mass:
    - SR\_LM\_150:  $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 20$ ,  $m_{\text{eff}} > 560$  GeV
    - SR\_LM\_300:  $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 150$ ,  $m_{\text{eff}} > 340$  GeV
  - High-mass: Using SR\_1 from 250, 500, and 1000 GeV
- Excellent precision on low-mass backgrounds
- Mild excesses ( $< 2\sigma$  local)

| Signal channel | $N_{\text{obs}}$ | $N_{\text{pred}}$ | $\langle \epsilon\sigma \rangle_{\text{obs}}^{95}$ [fb] | $S_{\text{obs}}^{95}$ | $S_{\text{exp}}^{95}$ | $p(s=0)$    |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| SR_1_250       | 2                | $1.8 \pm 1.0$     | 0.04  | 6.2                   | $5.9^{+1.7}_{-0.9}$   | 0.48 (0.05) |
| SR_1_500       | 2                | $0.58 \pm 0.30$   | 0.04  | 5.5                   | $4.0^{+1.7}_{-0.6}$   | 0.18 (0.92) |
| SR_1_1000      | 3                | $0.60 \pm 0.31$   | 0.05  | 6.7                   | $4.3^{+0.9}_{-0.9}$   | 0.03 (1.9)  |
| SR_LM_150      | 1790             | $1860 \pm 50$     | 0.73  | 92                    | $127^{+48}_{-34}$     | 0.5 (0.00)  |
| SR_LM_300      | 97               | $77.0 \pm 5.3$    | 0.31  | 39                    | $22^{+9}_{-6}$        | 0.03 (1.8)  |

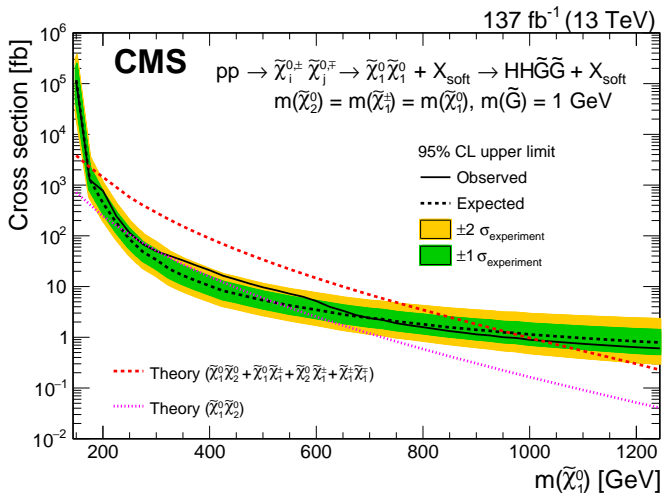
# Individual Channel Results

- Low-mass more sensitive from 130-200 GeV, high-mass 250 GeV+



Results for the low-mass (left) and high-mass (right) channels.

- Exclude up to 1025 GeV ( $\approx 950$  GeV expected)



CMS results [4]