



Semileptonic Vector Boson Scattering at the ATLAS detector

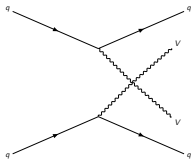
UK IoP Meeting 2021

Tobias Fitschen

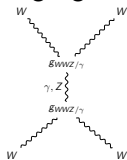
2021-04-12

Why study VBS?

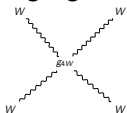
Vector Boson Scattering (VBS)



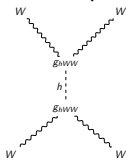
trilinear gauge coupling



... are sensitive to:
quartic gauge coupling



hVV coupling

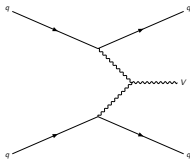


Each diagram individually is divergent towards high energies

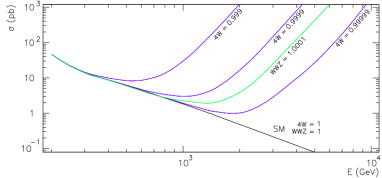
But divergences precisely cancel:

→ Highly sensitive probe for electroweak physics

and Vector Boson Fusion (VBF)

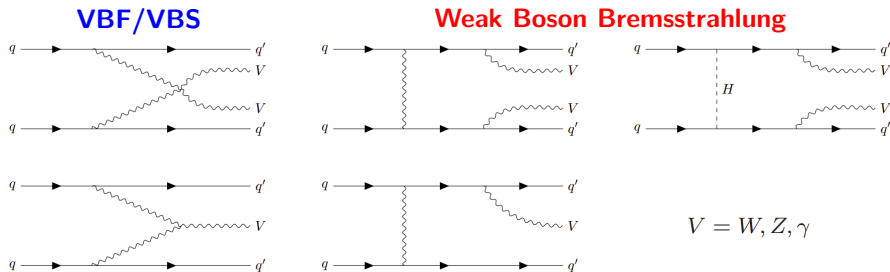


$W_L^+ W_L^+ \rightarrow W_L^+ W_L^+$ with anomalous triple and quartic couplings



There is no such thing as a VBS/VBF measurement on its own!

Gauge invariant set of V_{jj} / VV_{jj} diagrams at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_W^3)$ / $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_W^4)$ tree level:

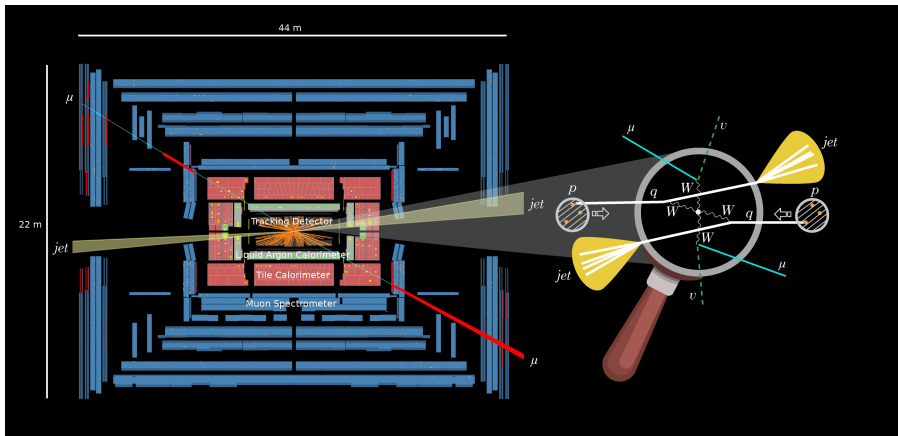


- Negative interference between **VBS/VBF** and **weak boson bremsstrahlung**
- Instead: measure **electroweak (EW) production of V_{jj} and VV_{jj}**
- In this presentation: Semileptonic VV_{jj}

The ATLAS Detector

Common experimental signature of VBS events:

- Dijet system jj with large invariant mass m_{jj}
- Different sides/hemispheres of the detector
- Large angular separation

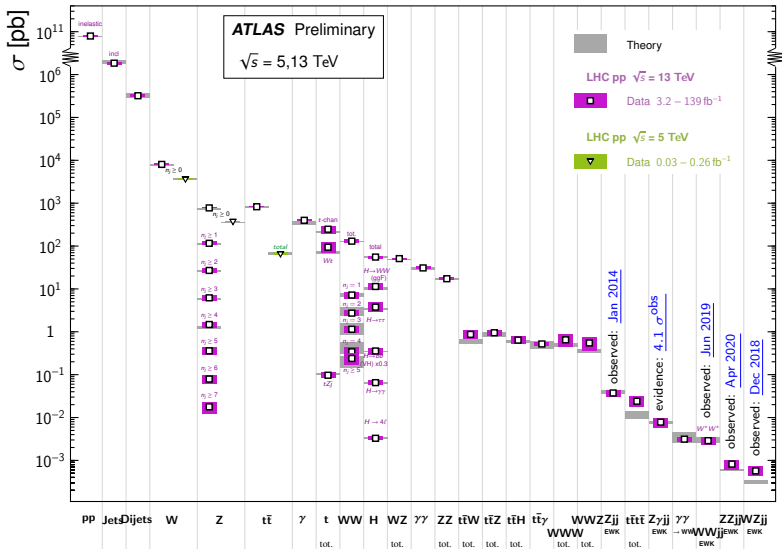


Simplified event display of a fully leptonic VBS candidate event in the ATLAS detector

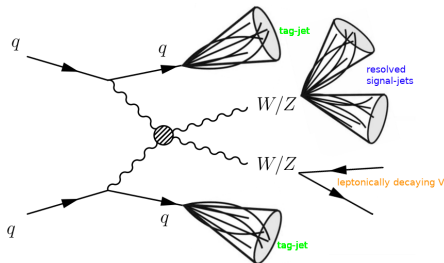
VBS/VBF at ATLAS

Standard Model Production Cross Section Measurements

Status: March 2021



Semileptonic VBS

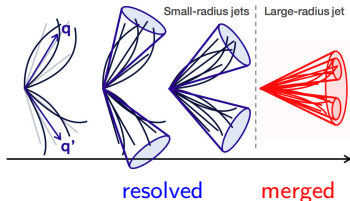


Analysis Goals:

- Measure EW $VVjj$
- Cross-section in fiducial region
→ Differential if possible
- EFT interpretation
→ Search for aQGC
→ Sensitivity in high p_T needed

Final State:

- **2 tagging jets:**
Forward
Opposite Hemispheres
- **1 boson decays hadronically:**
2 $R = 0.4$ signal jets (**resolved**)
or 1 $R = 1.0$ signal jet (**merged**)

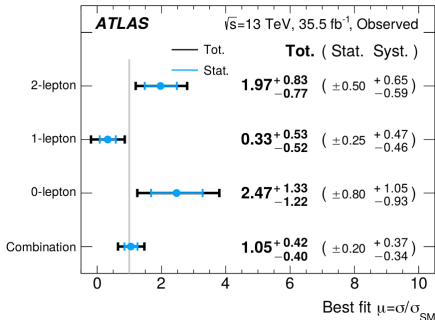


- **1 boson decays leptonically:**
0-lepton: $Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$
1-lepton: $W \rightarrow l\nu$
2-lepton: $Z \rightarrow ll$

Previous Analysis

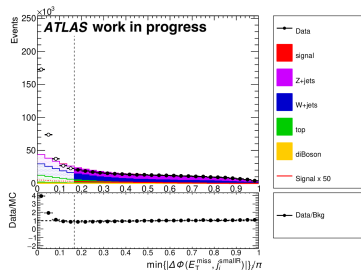
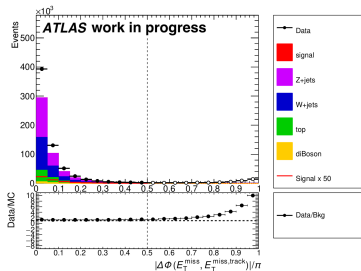
August 2019: Previous Analysis with 35.5 fb^{-1} : [Phys. Rev. D 100, 032007](#)

- Simultaneous max-likelihood fit on BDT outputs in all SRs and CRs
- Cross-section measurement in fiducial region



- Signal strength: $\mu_{\text{EWV}Vjj}^{\text{obs}} = 1.05 \pm 0.20(\text{stat})^{+0.37}_{-0.34}(\text{syst})$
- Significance: $n_{\sigma}^{\text{obs}} = 2.7, n_{\sigma}^{\text{exp}} = 2.5$

0-Lepton Event Selection



Pileup reduction:

- Pileup affects tracker and calorimeters differently
- Exclude events with small $E_T^{\text{miss,track}}$ magnitude
- And with $E_T^{\text{miss,track}}$ in different direction in Φ than E_T^{miss}

QCD multijet rejection:

- No reliable Monte Carlo for QCD background available
- Must be reduced in data
- QCD events typically only pass E_T^{miss} selection if single mismeasured jet j contributes significantly to E_T^{miss}
- Small distance $\Delta\Phi$ of j to E_T^{miss}

Signal composition

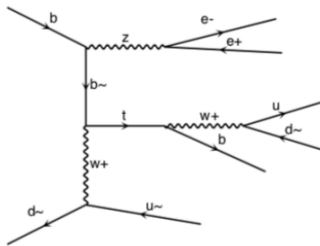
Two approaches for MVA final discriminant:

- **Baseline:** Full selection (tag jets & signal jets), multi variate analysis on high level variables
- **RNN approach:** Only signal-, no tag-jet selection, rely on recurrent neural network (RNN) with four-vector input from all jets to distinguish VBS from non-VBS

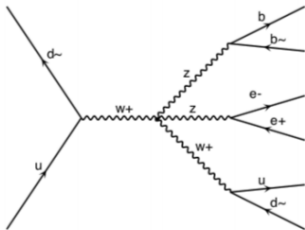
Signal composition:

- Have to separate VBS processes from non-VBS EW VVjj
- **Top** and **triboson** processes large part of Monte Carlo signal sample
- Study contributions in baseline and RNN approach

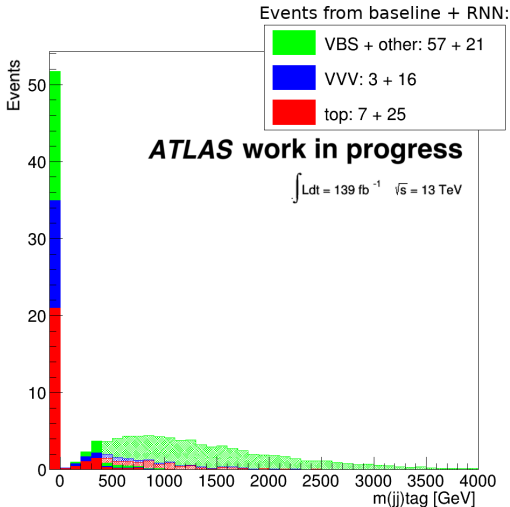
Top processes



Triboson processes



Signal composition (in merged SR):



- **Hatched:** Baseline selection
 - **Filled:** Additional events from RNN approach (dropping tag-jet selection)
 - **Underflow bin:** No two tagging jets reconstructed
- Most events added by RNN approach do not have reconstructed tag-jets

Summary & Outlook

Semileptonic Vector Boson Scattering at the ATLAS detector

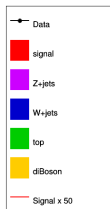
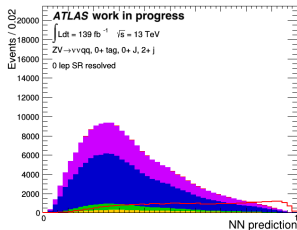
Summary:

- Previous analysis significance: $n_{\sigma}^{\text{obs}} = 2.7$ at 35.5 fb^{-1}
- **New study with 139 fb^{-1} in progress:**
 - Cross section measurement of semileptonic EWK VVjj in fiducial region
 - aQGC study with EFT approach in progress
 - Studies on signal composition (VBS/ non-VBS contributions)
- **Two approaches for MVA final discriminant:**
 - **Baseline:** full selection (tag jets & signal jets) and then BDT or NN
 - **RNN approach:** only signal-, no tag jet selection, then RNN
 - Novel RNN approach must be verified against baseline

Goal:

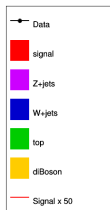
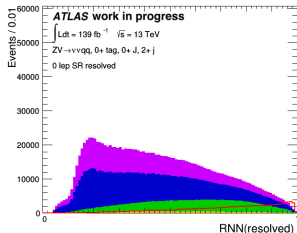
- Obtain 5 sigma observation of the VBS process in semileptonic final state

Additional Material



Baseline selection MVA:

- Simple feed-forward NN
- Using high-level input variables
- Tag-jet selection for VBS-like events
- But some VBS-like events lost by this

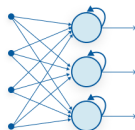


No-tag selection RNN:

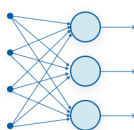
- Dropping selection on j^{tag}
- Full jet four-vectors as inputs in addition to high level variables
- Recurrent architecture (RNN) allows variable input length

Here: Each event has a different number of jets

- Rely on RNN to learn VBS-specific jet configuration



Recurrent Neural Network



Feed-Forward Neural Network

Fiducial Selection:

Object definition:

- ℓ^{good} : μ/e^{truth} with $p_T > 20$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2.5$
- ℓ^{veto} : μ/e^{truth} with $p_T > 7$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2.5$
- $R=4$ jets j : J^{truth} with $(p_T > 20$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2.5)$ or $(p_T > 30$ GeV and $|\eta| < 4.5)$ and $\Delta R(\ell^{\text{good}}) > 0.2$
- $R=1$. jets J : J^{truth} with $p_T > 200$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2$
- b-labeled jet j_b : j with 'HadronConeExclTruthLabelID' = 5
- tag jets: highest-mass (jj) system from all j with $\text{eta}(j_1) * \text{eta}(j_2) < 0$ and not b-labeled
- resolved sig jets $(jj)^{\text{sig}}$: two leading p_T j excluding jj^{tag}
- merged sig jet J^{sig} : leading- p_T J with $\Delta R(j^{\text{tag}}) > 1.4$

Channel selections:

- 0-lepton:
 - $\cancel{E}_T > 200$ GeV
 - $\text{==} 0$ ℓ^{veto}
 - 0 or 2 b-tagged j^{sig} , no other
- 1-lepton:
 - $\cancel{E}_T > 80$ GeV
 - $\text{==} 1$ ℓ^{good}
 - $p_T(\ell^{\text{good}}) > 27$ GeV
 - no b-labeled jets
- 2-lepton:
 - $\text{==} 2$ ℓ^{good}
 - $p_T(\ell_{\text{lead}}^{\text{good}}) > 28$ GeV
 - $p_T(\ell_{\text{sub-lead}}^{\text{good}}) > 20$ GeV
 - 0 or 2 b-labeled j^{sig} , no other

Regime Definitions:

- merged: J^{sig} has $64 < m < 106$ GeV
- resolved: $(jj)^{\text{sig}}$ has $64 < m < 106$ GeV and $p_T(j_{\text{lead}}^{\text{sig}}) > 40$ GeV

Selection order (VBSFidType):

VBSFidType	channel	regime
0	0-lepton	merged
1	0-lepton	resolved
2	1-lepton	merged
3	1-lepton	resolved
4	2-lepton	merged
5	2-lepton	resolved

Tag jet selection (passFidMjjTag):

- p_T of both $j^{\text{tag}} > 30$ GeV
- $m(jj)^{\text{tag}} > 400$ GeV

Number of signal events after various extra selections to reduce non-VBS signal:

baseline selection:

selection	merged HP SR				merged LP SR				resolved SR			
	events	% fid.	% t	% V	events	% fid.	% t	% V	events	% fid.	% t	% V
nominal	68	43	10	4	114	40	12	5	1339	23	28	5
nominal+topMass	58	46	7	4	94	45	8	4	717	31	14	4
nominal+bVetoExcl	62	46	6	4	103	44	8	5	1197	25	22	5
nominal+bVetoExcl+topMass	55	48	5	3	88	47	6	4	683	32	12	4
nominal+bVetoExcl+bVetoSig	56	48	4	4	92	46	5	5	972	29	13	6
nominal+bVetoExcl+bVetoSig+topMass	50	50	4	4	80	49	4	4	588	35	7	5

no-tag selection:

selection	merged HP SR				merged LP SR				resolved SR			
	events	% fid.	% t	% V	events	% fid.	% t	% V	events	% fid.	% t	% V
nominal	130	23	25	15	233	20	28	15	2809	11	43	12
nominal+topMass	100	28	17	13	167	26	19	13	1253	19	27	10
nominal+bVetoExcl	105	28	14	16	185	25	16	16	2197	14	32	23
nominal+bVetoExcl+topMass	86	32	10	13	144	30	12	14	1096	21	31	10
nominal+bVetoExcl+bVetoSig	92	30	10	16	159	27	11	17	1680	17	20	15
nominal+bVetoExcl+bVetoSig+topMass	77	34	7	13	125	32	8	14	894	24	13	11

Extra cuts:

- **topMass:** $m_t > 200$ GeV where m_t : mass of $(jj)^{\text{sig}}$ + additional jet (triplet closest to SM top mass)
- **bVetoExcl:** no R= .4 jet (excl. sig jets) b-tagged
- **bVetoSig:** == 0 or 2 signal jets b-tagged

Fractions:

- % **fid:** Fraction of events passing fiducial selection (resolved + merged combined)
- % **t:** Fraction of events that have a top in the diagram (truth info)

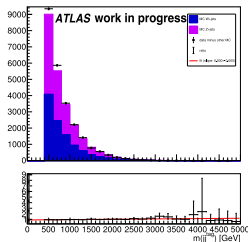
Reweighting

$m(jj)^{\text{tag}}$ reweighting in 0-lepton:

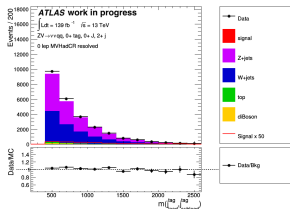
- Well-known mismodeling in Sherpa W/Z+jets samples
- Common issue among VBS/VBF analyses
- $m(jj)^{\text{tag}}$ reweighting derived in 1-lepton/2-lepton (W/Z) CR too strong for 0-lepton
- Independently deriving W and Z reweightings in 0-lepton CR reduces slope substantially

Procedure:

Fit ratio of W/Z+jets to data - all other MC

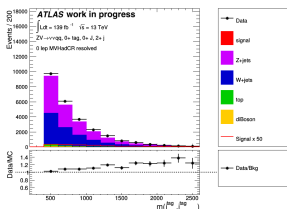


no reweighting



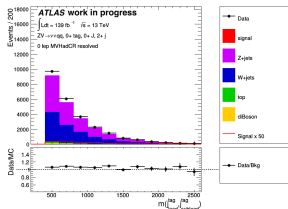
negative slope

reweighting from 1/2-lep



positive slope

reweighting from 0-lep



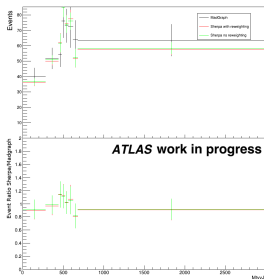
constant

Shape systematics (0-lepton):

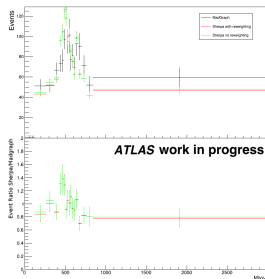
- Shape syst. from ratio of shape in Sherpa (nominal) and MadGraph (syst)
- Normalized to MadGraph
- Rebinned (from right to left: merge bins with < 50 events)
- Two options: With and without $m(jj)$ reweighting in Sherpa

W+jets:

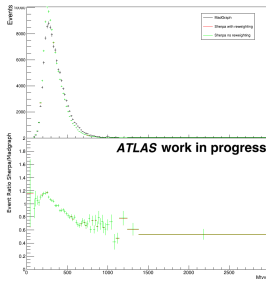
merged HP SR



merged LP SR

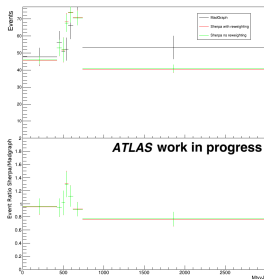


resolved SR

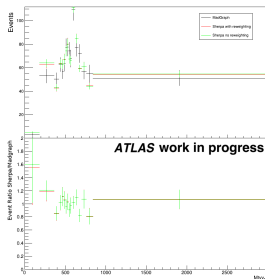


Shape systematics (0-lepton): Z+jets:

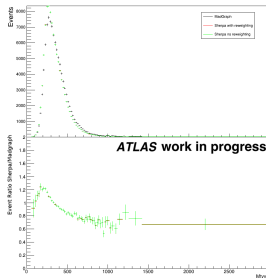
merged HP SR



merged LP SR



resolved SR



VBS MC with aQGC EFT according to [Eboli Model](#):

- 3 scalar (FS), 10 tensor (FT), and 8 mixed (FM) operators
- [MadGraph implementation](#)
- Simulate $pp \rightarrow VVjj$, use MadSpin for V decays
- Adding simulated EFT contrib. to SM template

	WWWW	WWZZ	ZZZZ	WWAZ	WWAA	ZZZA	ZZAA	ZAAA	AAAA
$\mathcal{L}_{S,0}, \mathcal{L}_{S,1}$	X	X	X	O	O	O	O	O	O
$\mathcal{L}_{M,0}, \mathcal{L}_{M,1}, \mathcal{L}_{M,6}, \mathcal{L}_{M,7}$	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	O	O
$\mathcal{L}_{M,2}, \mathcal{L}_{M,3}, \mathcal{L}_{M,4}, \mathcal{L}_{M,5}$	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	O	O
$\mathcal{L}_{T,0}, \mathcal{L}_{T,1}, \mathcal{L}_{T,2}$	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
$\mathcal{L}_{T,5}, \mathcal{L}_{T,6}, \mathcal{L}_{T,7}$	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
$\mathcal{L}_{T,9}, \mathcal{L}_{T,9}$	O	O	X	O	O	X	X	X	X

Analysis regions:

Regions		Discriminants		
		Merged high-purity	Merged low-purity	Resolved
0-lepton	SR	BDT	BDT	BDT
	V _{jj} CR	m_{jj}^{tag}	m_{jj}^{tag}	m_{jj}^{tag}
1-lepton	SR	BDT	BDT	BDT
	WCR	m_{jj}^{tag}	m_{jj}^{tag}	m_{jj}^{tag}
	TopCR	One bin	One bin	One bin
2-lepton	SR	BDT	BDT	BDT
	ZCR	m_{jj}^{tag}	m_{jj}^{tag}	m_{jj}^{tag}

Baseline MVA inputs:

merged:

Variable	0-lepton	1-lepton	2-lepton
m_{jj}^{tag}	✓	–	✓
$\Delta\eta_{jj}^{\text{tag}}$	–	–	✓
p_T^{tag,j_2}	✓	✓	✓
m_J	✓	–	–
$D_2^{(\beta=1)}$	✓	–	✓
E_T^{miss}	✓	–	–
$\Delta\phi(\vec{E}_T^{\text{miss}}, J)$	✓	–	–
η_ℓ	–	✓	–
$n_{j,\text{track}}$	✓	–	–
ζ_V	–	✓	✓
m_{VV}	–	–	✓
p_T^{VV}	–	–	✓
$m_{VV,jj}$	–	✓	–
$p_T^{VV,jj}$	–	–	✓
w^{tag,j_1}	✓	–	–
w^{tag,j_2}	✓	–	–

resolved:

Variable	0-lepton	1-lepton	2-lepton
m_{jj}^{tag}	✓	–	✓
$\Delta\eta_{jj}^{\text{tag}}$	–	–	✓
p_T^{tag,j_1}	✓	✓	–
p_T^{tag,j_2}	✓	✓	✓
$\Delta\eta_{jj}$	✓	✓	✓
$p_T^{j_1}$	✓	–	–
$p_T^{j_2}$	✓	✓	✓
w^{j_1}	✓	✓	✓
w^{j_2}	✓	✓	✓
$n_{\text{tracks}}^{j_1}$	–	✓	✓
$n_{\text{tracks}}^{j_2}$	–	✓	✓
w^{tag,j_1}	✓	✓	✓
w^{tag,j_2}	✓	✓	✓
$n_{\text{tracks}}^{\text{tag},j_1}$	–	✓	✓
$n_{\text{tracks}}^{\text{tag},j_2}$	–	✓	✓
$n_{j,\text{track}}$	✓	–	✓
$n_{j,\text{extr}}$	✓	–	–
E_T^{miss}	✓	–	–
η_ℓ	–	✓	–
$\Delta R(\ell, \nu)$	–	✓	–
ζ_V	–	✓	✓
m_{VV}	–	–	✓
$m_{VV,jj}$	–	✓	–

Object Definition: Jets

Small-R-jets j :

- EMPFlow
- AntiKt with $R = 0.4$
- $p_T(j) > 20$ GeV

Large-R-jets J :

- LCTopo
- AntiKt with $R = 1.0$
- $p_T(J) > 200$ GeV
- Trimmed with $f_{\text{cut}} = 5.0$,
 $R_{\text{sub}} = 0.2$ (Kt-reclustering)

Track-jets j^{track} :

- From PV0-Tracks
- AntiKt with $R = 0.2$

Tagging Jets $(jj)^{\text{tag}}$:

- dijet small-R-jet system jj with:
- $\Delta\eta(jj) < 0$
- $\max(m_{jj})$

Signal jets $(jj)^{\text{sig}}$:

- dijet small-R-jet system jj with:
- $\min(|m_{W/Z} - m_{jj}|)$
- selected after tagging jets

Signal fat jet J^{sig} :

- leading p_T large-R-jet J
- with $\Delta R(J, j^{\text{tag}}) > 1.4$

B-tagging:

- MV2c10 algorithm
- $\epsilon = 70\%$ working point (in $t\bar{t}$)

Object Reconstruction:

- e: isolated clusters in EMcal matched to ID tracks
 - $E_T > 7$ GeV
 - $|\eta| < 2.47$
 - {loose,medium,tight} id to separate from hadrons
- μ : combined fit from MS and ID
 - $p_T > 7$ GeV
 - $|\eta| < 2.5$
 - {loose,medium,tight} id from #hits in ID and $|\frac{q}{p_{MS}} - \frac{q}{p_{ID}}|$
- $l(e,\mu)$ isolation:
 - from $\sum p_T$ of tracks in p_T -dep. cone around l
- jets: EMPFlow(R=0.4)+LCTopo(R=1.0)
- b-tagging for j at 70% (in $t\bar{t}$), rejection factor: 380(L), 12(C)
- j(R=0.4):
 - $p_T > 20$ GeV at $|\eta| < 2.5$, $p_T > 30$ GeV at $2.5 < |\eta| < 4.5$
 - vertex tagger PU supr. for j with $p_T < 60$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2.5$
- J(R=1.0):
 - $p_T > 200$ GeV, $|\eta| < 2.0$
- j^{track} (R=0.2) (# j^{track} used as BDT input):
 - $p_T > 20$ GeV, $|\eta| < 2.5$
- E_T^{miss} : neg. vectorial sum of $p_T(e, \mu, j)$
- p_T^{miss} : neg. vectorial sum of all good ID tracks assoc. to PV

Overlap Removal:

- j removed if $\Delta R(j, e) < 0.2$
- e removed if $0.2 < \Delta R(j, e) < 0.4$
- j removed if $\Delta R(j, \mu) < 0.2$ and (j has < 3 tracks or small $\Delta E, p(j, \mu)$)
- μ removed if $0.2 < \Delta R(j, \mu) < 0.4$
- J removed if $\Delta R(J, e) < 1.0$
- no overlap removal between $J, j,$ and j^{track}

W/Z tagging (in J):

- p_T dependent requirement on $D_2^{(\beta=1)}$
- must be in p_T dependent window around m_{boson}
- working points of 50% and 80%

Prev. Analysis: 0Lep Event yields:

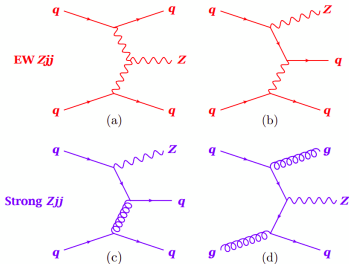
	Sample	Resolved	Merged HP	Merged LP
Background	W + jets	9200 ± 1300	259 ± 27	582 ± 56
	Z + jets	19000 ± 1400	383 ± 29	955 ± 69
	Top quarks	3280 ± 480	277 ± 28	276 ± 32
	Diboson	720 ± 120	69 ± 12	68 ± 14
	Total	32100 ± 2000	988 ± 50	1881 ± 96
Signal	$W(\ell\nu)W(qq')$	56 ± 22	8.0 ± 3.2	5.4 ± 2.2
	$W(\ell\nu)Z(qq)$	12.0 ± 4.7	2.1 ± 0.8	1.6 ± 0.6
	$Z(\nu\nu)W(qq')$	66 ± 25	9.0 ± 3.5	7.4 ± 2.9
	$Z(\nu\nu)Z(qq)$	27 ± 10	5.1 ± 2.0	3.1 ± 1.2
	Total	161 ± 35	24.3 ± 5.2	17.5 ± 3.9
SM	32300 ± 2000	1012 ± 50	1898 ± 96	
Data	32 299	1002	1935	

Prev. Analysis: Uncertainties:

Uncertainty source	σ_μ
Total uncertainty	0.41
Statistical	0.20
Systematic	0.35
Theoretical and modeling uncertainties	
Floating normalizations	0.09
Z + jets	0.13
W + jets	0.09
$t\bar{t}$	0.06
Diboson	0.09
Multijet	0.04
Signal	0.07
MC statistics	0.17
Experimental uncertainties	
Large- R jets	0.08
Small- R jets	0.06
Leptons	0.02
E_T^{miss}	0.04
b -tagging	0.07
Pileup	0.04
Luminosity	0.03

Electroweak Zjj (VBS):

- Leptonic decay: $\rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- jj$
($\ell = e, \mu$)
- 8 TeV [paper](#) (20.3 fb^{-1}):
5 σ observation
- First 13 TeV [paper](#) (3 fb^{-1}):
Fiducial cross-section
- Current 13 TeV [paper](#) (139 fb^{-1}):



Differential x-sec measurement:

- With respect to 4 observables: $m(jj)$, $|\Delta y(jj)|$, $\Delta\Phi(jj)$, $p_T(\ell\ell)$
- Short term goal: Gives handle on which MC Generator models VBS/VBF most reliably
- Long term goal: Provides input for MC generator improvement

Search for anomalous weak-boson self-interactions:

- EFT approach
- Limits on 4 dim. 6 operators producing anomalous WWZ interactions

Electroweak ZZjj (VBS):

- 13 TeV [paper](#) (139 fb^{-1}):

Final states: $\rightarrow lllljj$ and $ll\nu\nu jj$

Combined: 5.5σ

One of the smallest cross-sections measured in ATLAS!

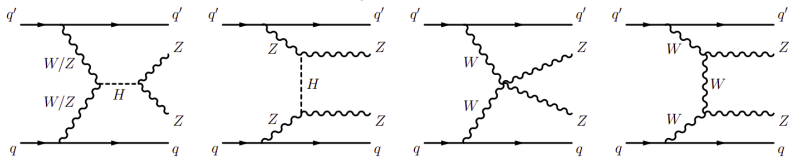
significance of EW Zjj:

	Significance Obs. (Exp.)
$lllljj$	$5.5 (3.9) \sigma$
$ll\nu\nu jj$	$1.2 (1.8) \sigma$
Combined	$5.5 (4.3) \sigma$

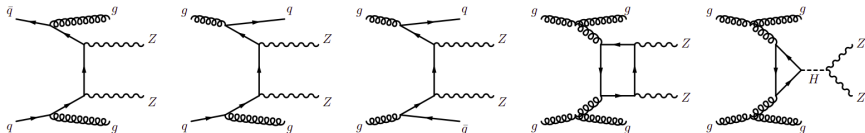
measured cross-section:

$$\sigma_{\text{EW}}^{\text{ZZjj}} = 0.82 \pm 0.21 \text{ fb}$$

EW production:

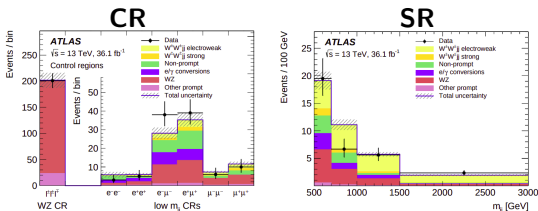


strong production:



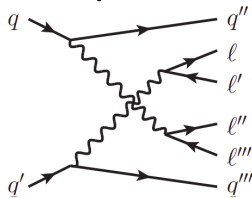
EW WW_{jj} same sign (VBS):

- $W^\pm W^\pm jj$ has largest ratio of EW/QCD cross-section among VBS diboson
- Strong production not the dominant background
- 8 TeV [paper](#) (20.3 fb^{-1}):
Evidence: 4.5σ
- 13 TeV [paper](#) (36.1 fb^{-1}):
observation: 6.5σ
fid. cross-section: $\sigma_{EW}^{W^\pm W^\pm jj} = 2.89 \text{ fb}$

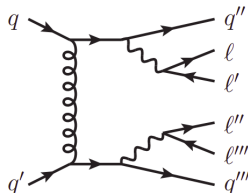


- 6 channels: $e^\pm e^\pm, \mu^\pm \mu^\pm, e^\pm \mu^\pm$
- \Rightarrow 6 SRs ($\times 4$ bins) + 6 m_{jj} CRs + WZ CR

weak production:



strong production:



Non-prompt leptons bkg:

- l from heavy-flavour hadrons
- Jets misidentified as e