## Search for heavy resonances in four-top-quark final states in *pp* collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV with the ATLAS detector



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## Motivation

Searches for **heavy resonances decaying to top quarks** are motivated by the large top-Yukawa coupling and could be accessible at the LHC. <sup>g</sup> mmm

Typical resonance searches target **quark-initiated production of resonance** Z', but top-philic (exclusive couplings to top quarks) resonances feature **associated**  $t\bar{t}Z'$  **production leading to 4-top quark final state.** 

First search of this kind.

## **Background estimation**

- Resonance mass reconstructed from two leading large-R jets  $m_{JJ}$
- $t\bar{t}$  mismodelled in MC  $\rightarrow$  data-driven background estimate
- Background  $B^{reg}(m_{JJ})$  is estimated by a dijet fit in the source region  $f(m_{JJ})$  which is extrapolated to signal regions using extrapolation functions  $C^{source \to reg}(m_{JJ})$



Event:

Events selected using **lepton** triggers and ≥2 **large-radius top candidate jets** 2-4 b-jets 2-4 b-jets 2-4 additional jets (small-radius jets outside of top candidate jets)

> Functional form fit Signal region MC

MC in



- Post-fit prediction with total uncertainties after background-only profile likelihood fit
- **BumpHunter results**: largest deviation between data and background expectation

DESY

- Expected and observed **95% CL upper limits on the production cross section** of the  $t\bar{t}Z'$  signal with different  $m_Z$
- Blue curve: tt
   tZ' cross sections of a simplified model of top-philic vector resonances





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