

Measurement of Triboson Production and aQGCs with the ATLAS detector

Multi-Boson Interactions 2019

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SCIPP

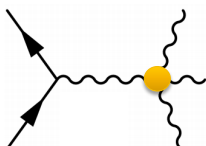
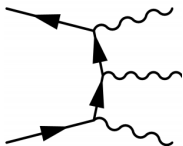
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- Introduction to Standard Model triboson processes
- ATLAS triboson measurements and limits on anomalous quartic gauge couplings (aQGCs)
- Evidence for the production of three massive vector bosons
- Prospects

- Triboson measurements: stringent tests of SM predictions in the EW sector
 - High luminosity and centre-of-mass energy allow **unprecedented sensitivity**
- Sensitivity to BSM via **anomalous gauge couplings** and **narrow resonances**
 - aQGC: fully neutral couplings forbidden within the SM at tree-level
 - Triboson BSM resonances: new era to be explored at the LHC
 - **Connecting EW to the Higgs sector**: accessible via $VH(\rightarrow VV)$, where $V = W/Z$
- Non-negligible source of **irreducible background** for Higgs/BSM/SM searches and measurements

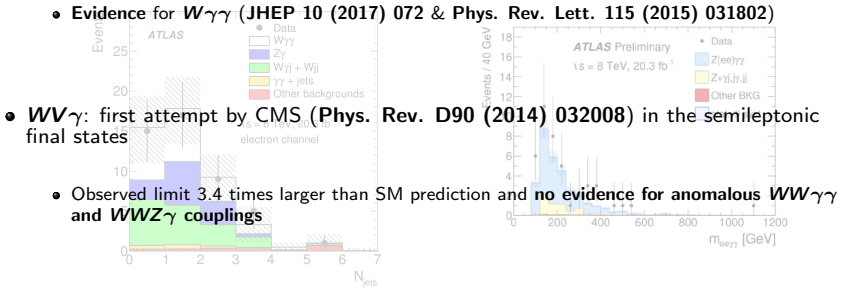
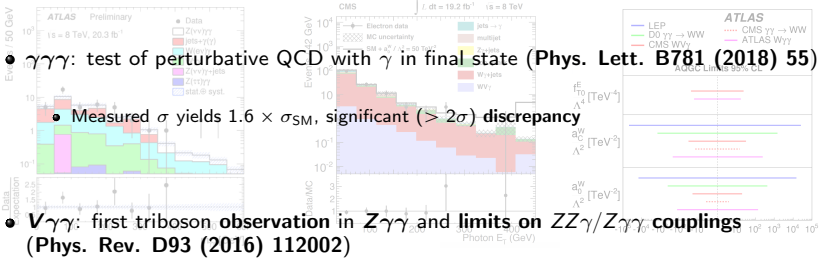


QGC



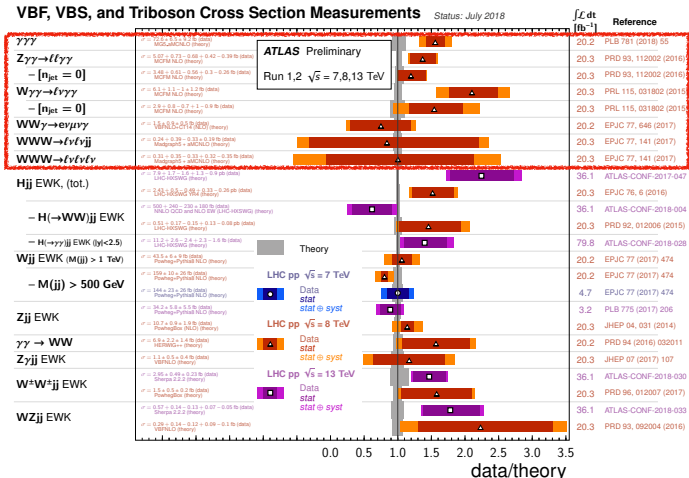
VH

Triboson Production at the LHC



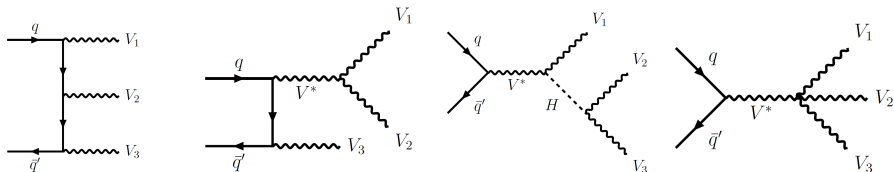
Triboson Production with ATLAS Detector

- Triboson processes, apart from pure $\gamma(Z)\gamma\gamma$, among the least precisely measured!
- Most triboson measurements still dominated by statistical uncertainties
 - Hot prospects with increasing luminosity
- **WWW** needs improvement, **WWZ**, **WZZ** and **ZZZ** never attempted before



Production of WV at the LHC

- Goal: search for the production of WV ($V = W/Z$) in pp collisions
- Production of WV is sensitive to both triple (**TGC**) and quartic gauge couplings (**QGC**)
- Off-shell production via VH treated as part of the signal definition
- Possibility to probe anomalous quartic gauge couplings (aQGCs)
 - Limits on aQGC are not evaluated for this paper, focus on cross-section measurement



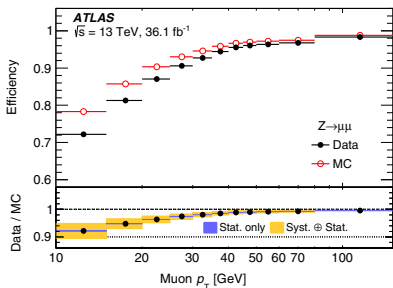
- NLO corrections: QCD $\sim 100\%$ and EW $\sim 1 - 10\%$ (*)
 - NLO QCD corrections are mandatory
 - NLO EW corrections small as compared to actual sensitivity, rise in boosted regime

(*) JHEP 06 (2008) 082, JHEP 12 (2013) 096, JHEP 07 (2018) 076

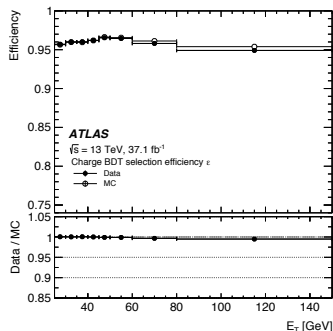
- Focused on the search for the production of WWW , WVZ and WZZ
 - ZZZ has smaller cross section \times branching ratio \rightarrow not yet sensitive
- Looking into two-, three- and four-light-lepton ($\ell = e, \mu$) final states
 - WWW : semileptonic ($2\ell SS$) and fully leptonic channels (3ℓ)
 - WVZ : semileptonic and fully leptonic channels (3ℓ and 4ℓ)
- Shape analysis to enhance sensitivity to signal processes
 - Constrain normalisation of relevant irreducible background processes
- **WWW cut-based, WVZ MVA-based**
 - WWW : accurate estimation of reducible backgrounds
 - WVZ : phase space split according to kinematic properties and MVA discriminants developed
 - **Complementarity** ensured by vetoing (requiring) a $Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-$ candidate in WWW (WVZ)
- **Combined profile likelihood fit** of discriminating shapes, single bins and a dedicated control region (CR)

Lepton Reconstruction & Selection

- More stringent definition of leptons in the WWW analysis, affected by a larger contamination from mis-reconstructed and non-prompt leptons
- In order to suppress reducible backgrounds all leptons in WWW and some of them (see later) in WVZ are required to fulfil:
 - **Nonprompt lepton** BDT requirement: reject leptons originating from heavy-flavour decays combining b -tagging related observables
 - **Charge-flip tagger** BDT requirement: reject electrons with misidentified electric charge



Phys. Rev. D 97 (2018) 072003



CERN-EP-2018-273

WWW - Event Selection

- Main analysis strategy: avoid (SF)OS leptons in $2\ell SS$ (3ℓ)
- **WWW** $\rightarrow \ell\nu\ell\nu qq$: two same-sign leptons ($\ell^\pm\ell'^\pm$), missing transverse momentum (E_T^{miss}) and two jets with an invariant mass close to 80 GeV
 - At least 2 jets with b -jet veto
 - Specific $\Delta\eta_{jj}$ and m_{jj} cuts to reduce $W^\pm W^\pm$ contamination
 - Split phase space according to lepton flavour (ee , $e\mu$, μe , $\mu\mu$)
- **WWW** $\rightarrow \ell\nu\ell\nu\nu$: three leptons and E_T^{miss}
 - 0 SFOS requirement suppresses majority of backgrounds
 - b -jet veto is additionally applied to suppress $t\bar{t}$ events

	WWW $\rightarrow \ell\nu\ell\nu qq$	WWW $\rightarrow \ell\nu\ell\nu\nu$
Lepton	Two leptons with $p_T > 27(20)$ GeV and one same-sign lepton pair	Three leptons with $p_T > 27(20, 20)$ GeV and no same-flavour opposite-sign lepton pairs
$m_{\ell\ell}$	$40 < m_{\ell\ell} < 400$ GeV	-
Jets	At least two jets with $p_T > 30(20)$ GeV and $ \eta < 2.5$	-
m_{jj}	$m_{jj} < 300$ GeV	-
$\Delta\eta_{jj}$	$ \Delta\eta_{jj} < 1.5$	-
E_T^{miss}	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 55$ GeV (only for ee)	-
Z boson veto	$m_{ee} < 80$ GeV or $m_{ee} > 100$ GeV (only for ee and μee)	
Lepton veto	No additional lepton with $p_T > 7$ GeV and $ \eta < 2.5$	
b -jet veto	No b -jets with $p_T > 25$ GeV and $ \eta < 2.5$	

Suppress Z decays

Suppress $W^\pm W^\pm$

Suppress most 3ℓ backgrounds

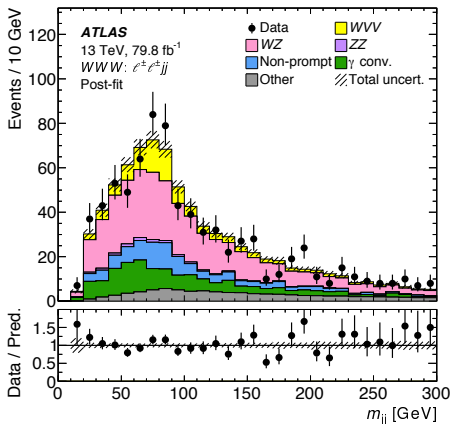
WWW - Background Composition

- Few SM processes can mimic these final states
- A large fraction of background processes is due to mis-reconstructed or mis-identified physics objects

WZ
Largest background

V+ γ
A photon is reconstructed
as an electron

Non-prompt
Mostly $t\bar{t}$ and $W+j$

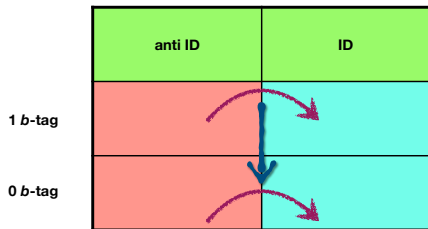


- $t\bar{t}$ dominates non-prompt sources in channels with μ
- Non-isolated anti-ID electrons and muons used to estimate the non-prompt background
- Non-prompt rates from regions similar to the 2ℓ SS and 3ℓ SRs: the only difference is requiring exactly 1 b -tagged jet
- The non-prompt rate is determined by simultaneously fitting the following formula across all channels

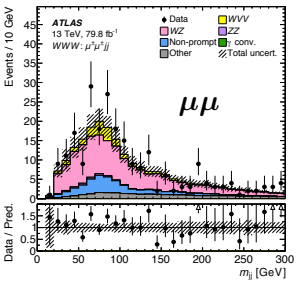
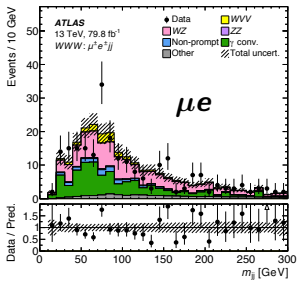
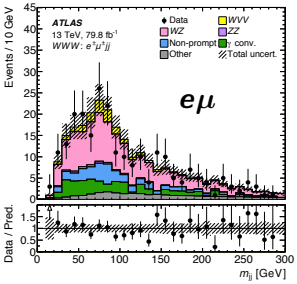
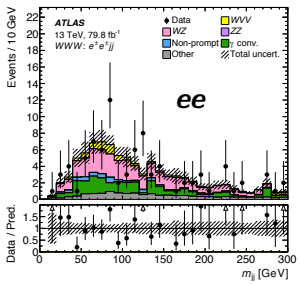
$$N_{\text{anti ID, ID, (ID)}} = \text{Data}_{\text{anti ID, ID, (ID)}} - \sum_i BG_{\text{anti ID, ID, (ID)}}^i$$

$$N_{\text{ID, ID, (ID)}} = \text{Data}_{\text{ID, ID, (ID)}} - \sum_i BG_{\text{ID, ID, (ID)}}^i$$

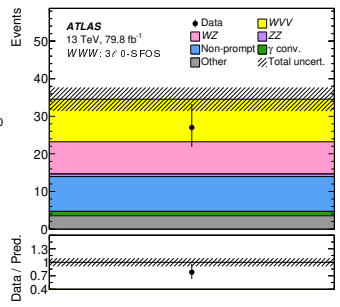
$$\text{Rate}_{\text{non-prompt}} = \frac{N_{\text{ID, ID, (ID)}}}{N_{\text{anti ID, ID, (ID)}}}$$



WWW - Pre-Fit Inputs



3ℓ



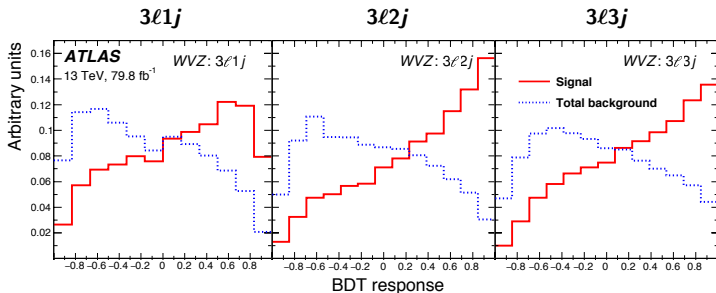
WVZ - Event Selection

- $Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-$ candidate required: naturally orthogonal to WWW analysis
- **Common selection**
- **WVZ $\rightarrow \ell\nu q\ell\ell$**
 - At least one reconstructed jet
 - Scalar sum of lepton and jet p_T (H_T) above 200 GeV \rightarrow suppress most of Z + jets
 - Phase space split according to number of jets: 1 (**3 ℓ 1j**), 2 (**3 ℓ 2j**) and ≥ 3 (**3 ℓ 3j**)
- **WWZ $\rightarrow \ell\nu\ell\nu\ell\ell$ and WZZ $\rightarrow qq\ell\ell\ell\ell$**
 - 3rd and 4th p_T leading ℓ fulfilling Nonprompt and charge-flip reqs \rightarrow suppress Z + jets
 - Categorising events according to whether the no- $Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^-$ lepton pair is same flavour (SF) or different flavour (**4 ℓ DF**)
 - SF region further split into on-shell (**4 ℓ on-shell SF**) and off-shell (**4 ℓ off-shell SF**)

	$WVZ \rightarrow \ell\nu q\ell\ell$	$WVZ \rightarrow \ell\nu\ell\nu\ell\ell/q\ell\ell\ell\ell$
Z boson Low mass resonance veto b-jet veto	At least one OS lepton pair with $ m_{\ell\ell} - m_Z < 10$ GeV $m_{\ell\ell} > 12$ GeV for any OS lepton pair No b-jets with $p_T > 25$ GeV and $ \eta < 2.5$	
Leptons	One additional nominal lepton	One additional OS lepton pair; third and fourth lepton nominal
H_T	$H_T > 200$ GeV	-

WVZ - 3 ℓ MVAs

- Prompt processes dominate background sources in WVZ channels
- WZ and ZZ dominate 3 ℓ and 4 ℓ channels, respectively
 - Train a Boosted Decision Tree (BDT) in each of the six regions
 - Combine background- and signal-like regions in a fully shape analysis
- Built several variables to separate WVZ $\rightarrow \ell\nu q\ell\ell$ from WZ + j
 - Invariant masses for combinations of $W \rightarrow \ell\nu$, $V \rightarrow jj$ and $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$ candidates
- Most discriminating variables in 3 $\ell 1j$, 3 $\ell 2j$ and 3 $\ell 3j$:
 - total invariant mass of the system (leptons, jet and E_T^{miss})
 - di-jet invariant mass
 - invariant mass of best $W \rightarrow jj$ candidate



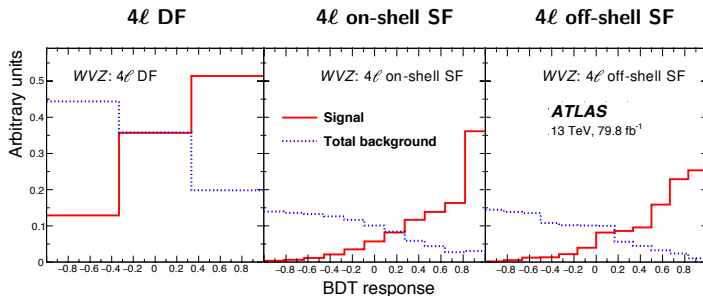
WVZ - 4 ℓ MVAs

Strategy:

- 4 ℓ DF region rich in WVZ, very sensitive to signal
- Half of WWZ \rightarrow 4 ℓ and most of WZZ \rightarrow 4 ℓ qq' expected in SF region
 - Dominated by ZZ, main 4 ℓ background, this region allows constraint on its normalisation
- SF split in 4 ℓ on-shell SF and 4 ℓ off-shell SF to gain in sensitivity
 - Based on whether the invariant mass of the no-Z $\rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$ lepton pair is within 10 GeV of the Z

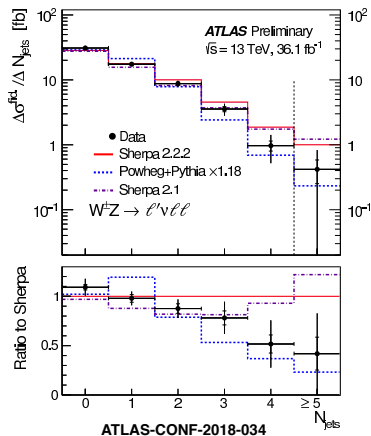
Top-ranked MVA input variables in DF, on-shell SF and off-shell SF regions:

- no-Z $\rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$ lepton pair invariant mass
- multiplicity of reconstructed jets
- E_T^{miss}

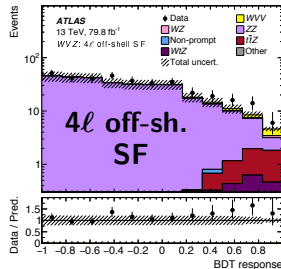
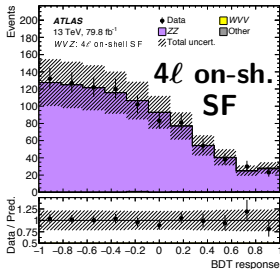
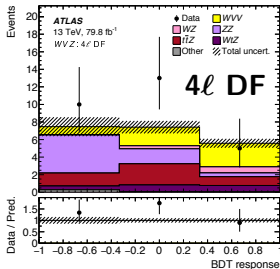
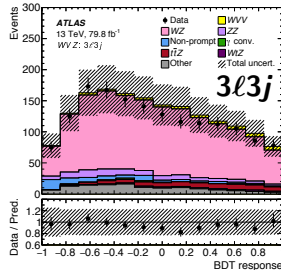
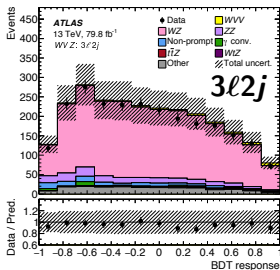
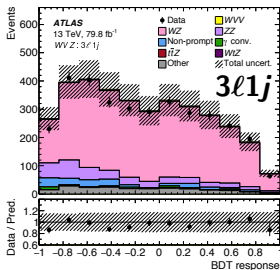


WVZ - NJet-based Reweighting

- Nice modelling of all relevant kinematic observables in 3ℓ and 4ℓ regions, but... jet multiplicity
 - Trend already observed by latest WZ (ATLAS-CONF-2018-034) and ZZ (Phys. Rev. D97 (2018) 032005) measurements
- Assumption: the poor description of the distributions is mainly due to WZ and ZZ , as they are dominating by far the regions at issue
- Two principles are underlying the reweighting procedure:
 - it is **shape-only**: WZ (ZZ) overall normalisation is unchanged with respect to the Sherpa prediction in 3ℓ (4ℓ);
 - it is **combined** in the two channels (ZZ contamination in the 3ℓ channel is non-negligible).
- A scale factor is extracted in each of the jet-multiplicity bins ($0-1, 2, \geq 3$ jets)
- Significant improvement in the description of jet-related kinematical properties and no degradation in the modelling of observables related to leptons



WVZ - Pre-Fit Inputs



- Define one common signal strength μ_{WVW} for WWW and WVZ processes

- Inputs to the WVW combined fit

- 2lSS**: m_{jj} distribution in each region (4×30 bins)
- 3l**: 1 bin from the WWW region, 12 + 13 + 13 bins from the WVZ regions and 1 bin from a dedicated $t\bar{t}Z$ CR (≥ 4 jets & ≥ 2 b -tagged)
- 4l**: 3 + 12 + 11 = 26 bins
- grand total of **186 bins** entering the combined fit

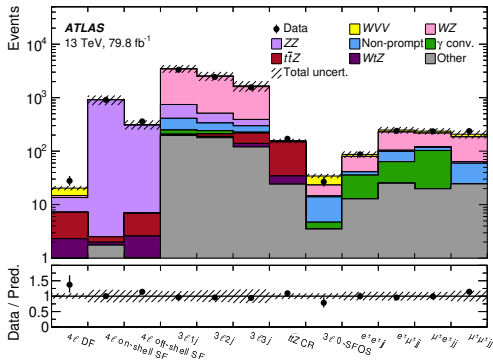
- Correlated systematics

- experimental uncertainties
- irreducible background (theory)

- Uncorrelated systematics

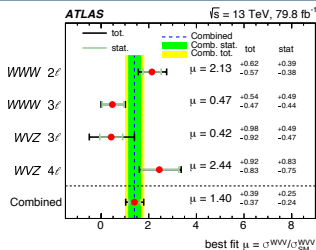
- reducible background: data-driven in WWW , pure simulation in WVZ

Pre-fit summary

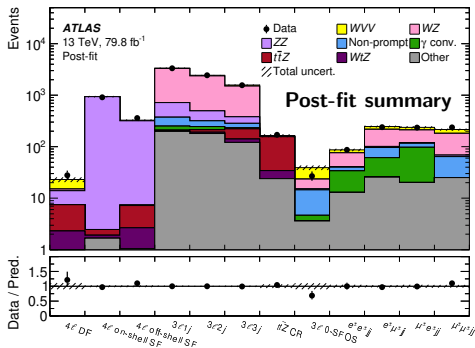


WVW Combination - Fit Results

- Expected: $\mu_{WVW}^{\text{Asimov}} = 1_{-0.34}^{+0.36} = 1_{-0.24}^{+0.24}$ (stat.) $_{-0.24}^{+0.27}$ (syst.)
- Observed: $\mu_{WVW}^{\text{Data}} = 1.40_{-0.37}^{+0.39} = 1.40_{-0.24}^{+0.25}$ (stat.) $_{-0.27}^{+0.30}$ (syst.)
- Exclusion of background-only hypothesis: **evidence**
 - WVW (expected and observed)
 - WWW $\rightarrow 2\ell$ and WVZ $\rightarrow 4\ell$ (observed)

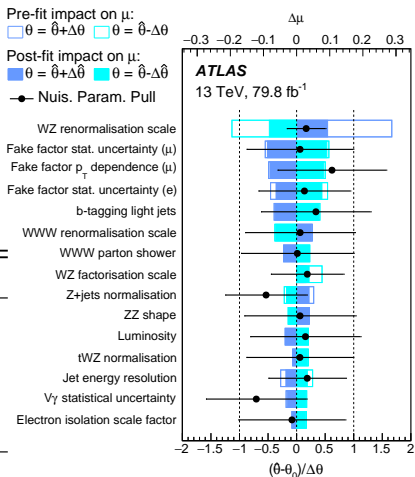


Decay channel	Significance	
	Observed	Expected
WWW combined	3.2σ	2.4σ
WWW $\rightarrow l\nu l\nu q\bar{q}$	4.0σ	1.7σ
WWW $\rightarrow l\nu l\nu l\nu$	1.0σ	2.0σ
WVZ combined	3.2σ	2.0σ
WVZ $\rightarrow l\nu q\bar{q}ll$	0.5σ	1.0σ
WVZ $\rightarrow l\nu l\nu ll/q\bar{q}llll$	3.5σ	1.8σ
WVW combined	4.1σ	3.1σ

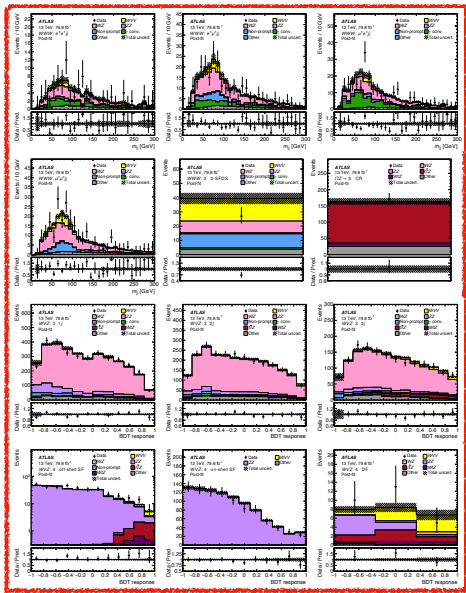


- Constraints and pulls compatible with WWW and WVZ standalone fits
- Largest impact from data-driven estimation and theory uncertainties

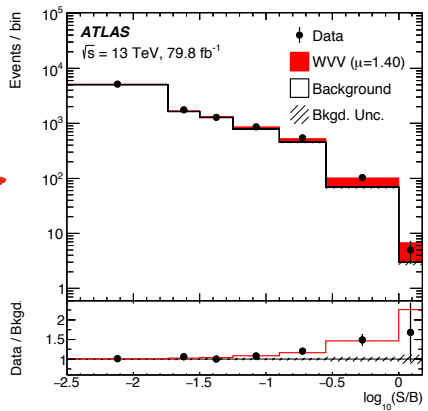
Uncertainty source	$\Delta\mu_{WVW}$	
Data-driven	+0.14	-0.14
Theory	+0.15	-0.13
Instrumental	+0.12	-0.09
MC stat. uncertainty	+0.06	-0.04
Generators	+0.04	-0.03
Total systematic uncertainty	+0.30	-0.27



WV Combination - Post-Fit Plots



Sort bins according to S/B and merge bins

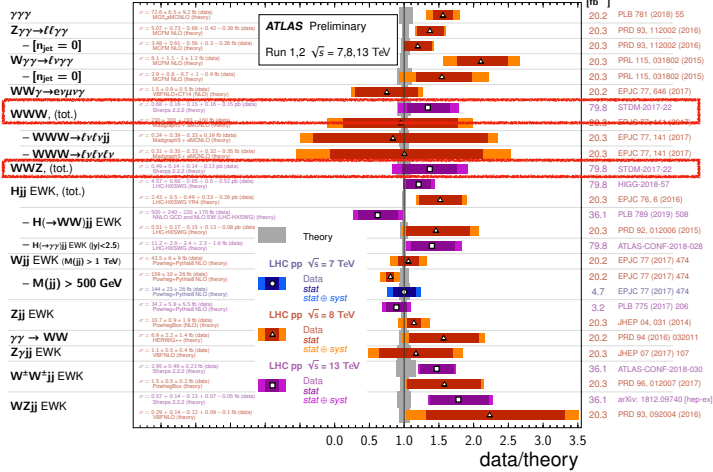



Extraction of Cross Sections

- Extract: σ_{WWW} and σ_{WWZ}
 - Limited sensitivity to WZZ \rightarrow fixed to SM prediction
- Results: $\sigma_{WWW} = 0.65^{+0.23}_{-0.21}$ pb and $\sigma_{WWZ} = 0.55^{+0.21}_{-0.19}$ pb

VBF, VBS, and Triboson Cross Section Measurements

Status: March 2019



- Expected evidence combining four WV channels:
 - $WWW \rightarrow 3\ell : 2.0\sigma$
 - $WVZ \rightarrow 4\ell : 1.8\sigma$
 - $WWW \rightarrow 2\ell : 1.7\sigma$
 - $WVZ \rightarrow 3\ell : 1.0\sigma$
 -  $WVV : 3.1\sigma$
- Best-fit $\mu_{WVV} = 1.40_{-0.24}^{+0.25}$ (stat.) $_{-0.27}^{+0.30}$ (syst.)
 - Observed significance above 3σ in $WVV(4.1\sigma)$, $WWW \rightarrow 2\ell$ and $WVZ \rightarrow 4\ell$
- Cross-section measurement
 - $\sigma_{WWW} = 0.65_{-0.21}^{+0.23}$ pb
 - $\sigma_{WVZ} = 0.55_{-0.19}^{+0.21}$ pb
- **Evidence for the Standard Model production of three massive vector bosons**
- Road to 5σ : improvements in data-driven estimation and VV theory uncertainties



BACKUP

Loose Leptons, Jets and Triggers

Loose muons

- Medium (loose) ID in WWW (WVZ)
- Gradient (FixedCutLoose) isolation in WWW (WVZ)
- $|\eta| < 2.5$
- $p_T > 20(15)$ GeV in WWW (WVZ)
- $|z_0 \sin \theta| < 0.5$ mm
- $d_0/\sigma_{d_0} < 3$

Jets

- AntiKt4TopoEM collection
- $p_T > 25$ GeV and JVT cut
- $|\eta| < 2.5$

Triggers

- Lowest ATLAS unrescaled single-lepton triggers

Loose electrons

- Tight (loose) ID in WWW (WVZ)
- FixedCutLoose isolation
- $|\eta| < 2.47$
- crack region: $|\eta| < 1.37$ or $|\eta| > 1.52$
- $p_T > 20(15)$ GeV in WWW (WVZ)
- $|z_0 \sin \theta| < 0.5$ mm
- $d_0/\sigma_{d_0} < 5$

Overlap removal

Keep	Remove	Cone size (ΔR) or track
electron	electron (lower p_T)	shared track
electron	CT muon	shared track
muon	electron	shared track
electron	jet	0.2
jet	electron	0.4
muon	jet	0.2
jet	muon	0.4

All Lepton Definitions



Lepton definition	Quality	Minimum p_T	Isolation	Maximum $ d_0 /\sigma_{d_0}$	Maximum $ z_0 \sin \theta $	n.p.l. BDT	ch.mis. BDT
Nominal e	Tight		Fix (Loose)	5			yes
Nominal μ WWW	Medium	15 GeV	Gradient	3	0.5 mm	yes	-
Nominal μ WVZ	Loose		FixCutLoose	3			-
Loose e	Loose	15 GeV	no	5	0.5 mm	no	no
Loose μ				3			-
Veto e	Loose Loose and $ \eta < 2.7$	7 GeV	no	no	no	no	no
Veto μ				-			
Fake e	Medium not Tight Not nominal WWW	15 GeV	no	5	0.5 mm	no	no
Fake μ				10			-
Photon-like e	Defined as for nominal, but no hit in first pixel layer					no	no

Logical OR of five single-lepton triggers per data period

Trigger	2015	2016	2017
HLT_e24_lhmedium_L1EM20VH	×		
HLT_e60_lhmedium	×		
HLT_e120_lhloose	×		
HLT_mu20_iloose_L1MU15	×		
HLT_mu50	×	×	×
HLT_mu26_ivarmedium		×	×
HLT_e26_lhtight_nod0_ivarloose		×	×
HLT_e60_lhmedium_nod0		×	×
HLT_e140_lhloose_nod0		×	×



WWW

WWW - Non-Prompt Lepton Estimation

- In channels with μ the non-prompt background, dominated by $t\bar{t}$, is the second largest background
- Usage of non-isolated anti-ID electron and muon definitions to estimate the non-prompt background
- Non-prompt rates from regions similar to the 2ℓ SS and 3ℓ SRs: the only difference is requiring exactly 1 b -tagged jet
- The non-prompt rate is determined by simultaneously fitting the following formula across all channels

$$N_{\text{anti ID, ID, (ID)}} = \text{Data}_{\text{anti ID, ID, (ID)}} - \sum_i BG_{\text{anti ID, ID, (ID)}}^i$$

$$N_{\text{ID, ID, (ID)}} = \text{Data}_{\text{ID, ID, (ID)}} - \sum_i BG_{\text{ID, ID, (ID)}}^i$$

$$\text{Rate}_{\text{non-prompt}} = \frac{N_{\text{ID, ID, (ID)}}}{N_{\text{anti ID, ID, (ID)}}}$$

- Closure test shows that ID lepton shapes are well modelled by anti-ID leptons

BTag CR 3I

We require exactly 3 leptons

Lepton Pt 27,20,20

0 Same Flavor Opposite Sign
Lepton Pairs

Exactly 1 B-tagged Jet

BTag CR 2I

Exactly 2 same-sign leptons

Lepton Pt > 20 (27)

Jet Pt > 20 (30)

40 GeV < Mll < 400 GeV

| Mll - 90 | > 10 GeV (ee Only)

Mjj < 300 GeV

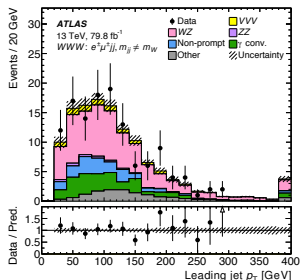
|DEtaJJ| < 1.5

MET > 55 GeV (ee Only)

WWW - $V + \gamma$ Estimation

- The $V + \gamma$ (mostly $V = W$) background is an important background in the 2ℓ SS channels with electrons
- Poor MC available statistics and modelling: data-driven estimation, similar to non-prompt background one
- Perform estimation in a region where a Z peak with 3 leptons is reconstructed: $Z(\rightarrow \mu\mu) + \gamma$
- “Photon-like electron”: no hit found in the innermost layer of the pixel detector, and the Nonprompt lepton and charge-flip tagger BDT requirements are not applied
- Use photon-like (instead of anti-ID) electrons to define an orthogonal region of data enriched in $\gamma \rightarrow e$
- Well-behaved data-driven estimations of non-prompt and fake leptons

Zgamma Region
We require exactly 3 leptons
Lepton Pt 27,20,20
1 SFOS ($\mu\mu$)
80 GeV < M _{lll} < 100 GeV
N-bjets == 0





WVZ

Input Variable	3 ℓ -1j	3 ℓ -2j	3 ℓ -3j
$m_{3\ell}$	5	4	5
$m_{\ell_0\ell_1}$	7	9	
$m_{\ell_0\ell_2}$	8	8	
$m_{\ell_1\ell_2}$	10	10	
leading jet p_T	12	14	
$p_T^{\ell_0}$	3	3	
$p_T^{\ell_1}$	6	5	8
$p_T^{\ell_2}$	9	12	9
E_T^{miss}		6	11
$\Sigma p_T(\ell)$	2	2	4
$\Sigma p_T(j)$			2
H_T	4	7	
total lepton charge	13	15	12
invariant mass of all leptons, jets and E_T^{miss}	1		7
invariant mass of the best $Z \rightarrow \ell\ell$ and leading jet	11		
sub-leading jet p_T		11	3
m_{jj} for the two leading p_T jets		1	
$m_T^{W \rightarrow \ell\nu}$		13	
number of reconstructed jets			10
$m_{jj}^{\text{best } W}$			1
smallest m_{jj}			6

Input Variable	DF	on-shell SF	off-shell SF
number of reconstructed jets	6	4	6
$m_{4\ell}$	3	6	4
E_T^{miss}	4	1	1
H_T^{lep}	1		
H_T^{had}	5		
$m_{\ell\ell}^{\text{second best pair}}$	2	3	2
$m_{\ell\ell}^{\text{best } Z}$		5	5
H_T		2	3



WWW

Performed WV combined fit with four alternative configurations:

- without applying the jet-multiplicity based reweighting in WV
- treating the diboson scale uncertainties uncorrelated across regions
- letting diboson background free to float (instead of 20% prior)
- treating signal theory uncertainties (Sherpa's renormalisation and factorisation scales) correlated between the WV and WWW processes

All results are compatible with the nominal configuration; e.g.:

- diboson floating: $\mu_{WV} = 1.40_{-0.37}^{+0.39}$ and $\mu_{WZ} = 0.96 \pm 0.05$, $\mu_{ZZ} = 1.02 \pm 0.05$
- signal scales correlated: $1.39_{-0.37}^{+0.39}$ (vs. nominal: $1.40_{-0.37}^{+0.39}$)