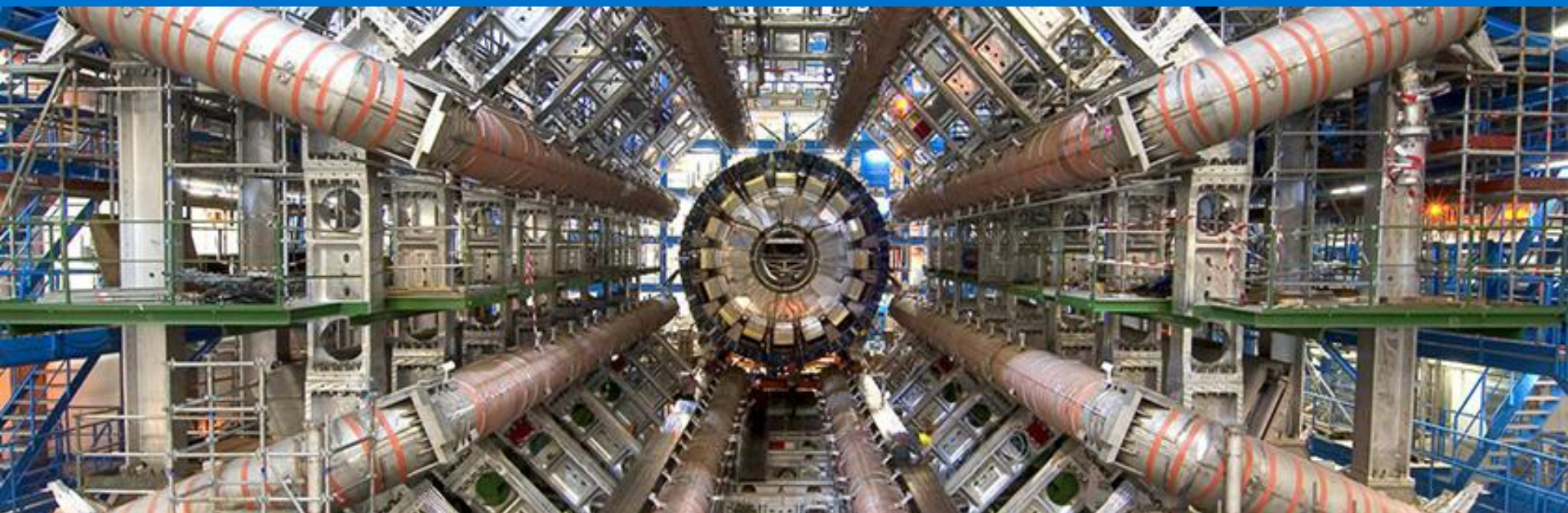


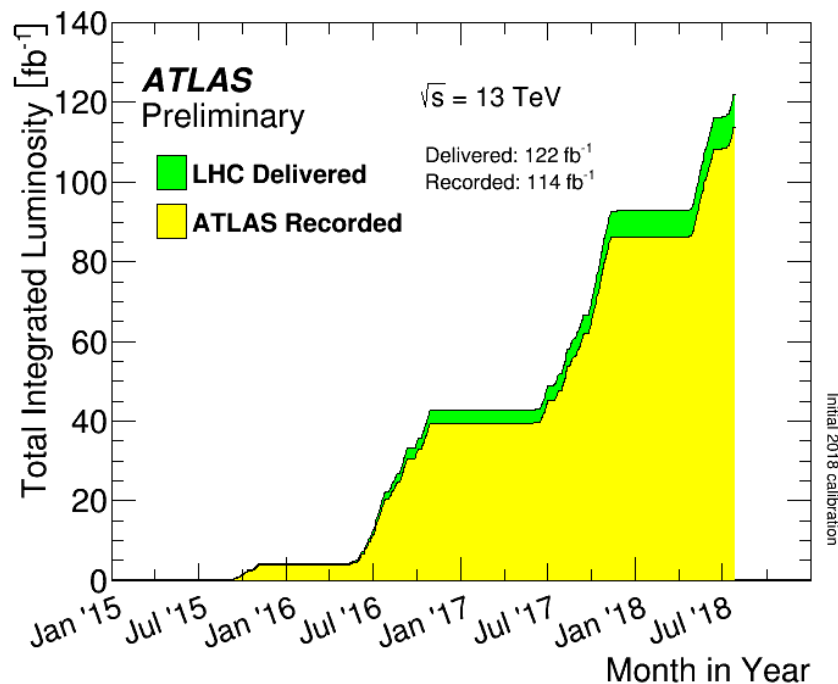
# Searches for electroweak production of supersymmetric particles with ATLAS



Dr Sarah Williams, on behalf of the ATLAS collaboration

# Introduction

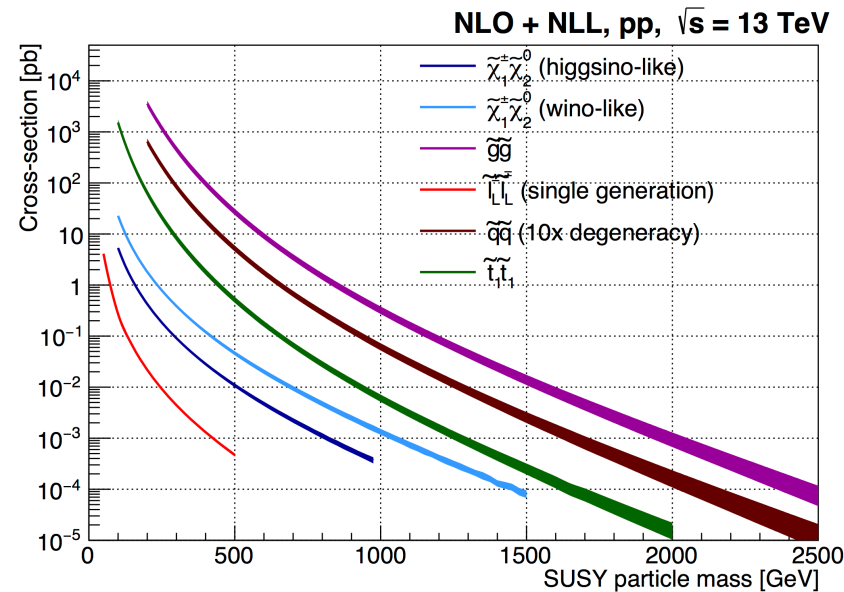
- This talk will summarize the status of ATLAS searches for electroweak SUSY production in run II.
- Increasing data-set sizes in run II have opened up sensitivity to:
  - New previously unexplored signal processes/decay channels.
  - Challenging areas of phase space.



In the interest of time, this talk will focus on a few new results and the innovations/ improvements that have enhanced our run-II sensitivity

# Motivation for (electroweak) supersymmetry

- Supersymmetry provides a well-motivated candidate for BSM physics:
  - Dark matter candidate
  - Solution to the hierarchy problem (subject to naturalness constraints)
- Electroweak processes refer to the production of **sleptons** and **electroweakinos**.
- Electroweakinos are superpositions of **bino**, **wino** and **higgsino** fields:
  - Charginos  $\tilde{\chi}_i^\pm$  ( $i=1,2$ )
  - Neutralinos  $\tilde{\chi}_i^0$  ( $i=1,2,3,4$ )



<https://arxiv.org/abs/1407.5066>

**EWK SUSY processes have lower production cross-sections but promising discovery channel if squarks/gluinos heavy...**

# Electroweak SUSY scenarios

Assuming that LSP is a weakly interacting neutral particle => two options commonly feature in LHC simplified models for EWK SUSY :

Often assumed in  
(p)MSSM

(1)  $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$  is LSP



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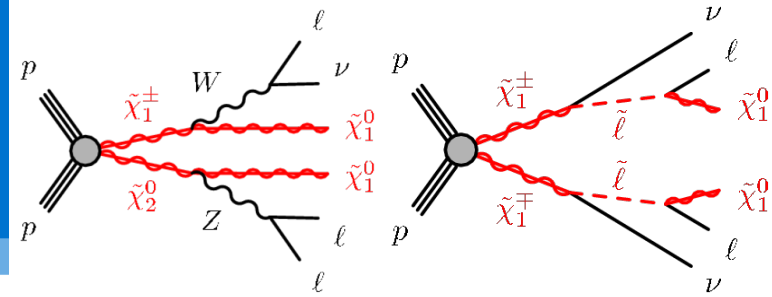
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4. Direct slepton production

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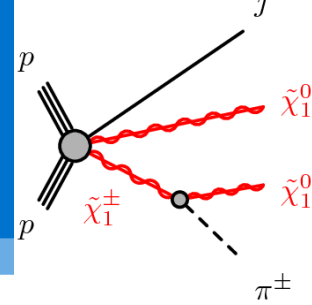
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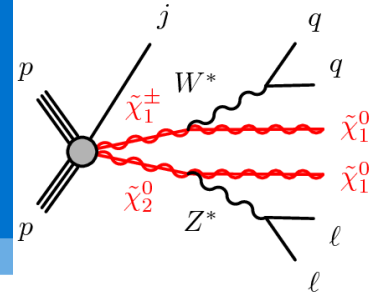
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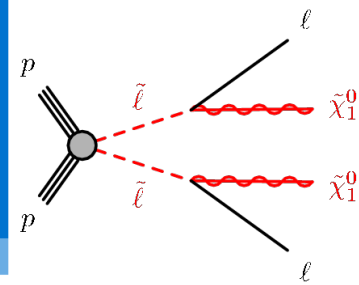
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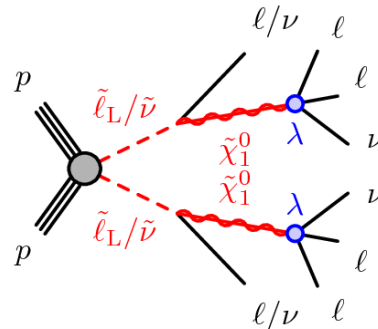
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Stable (RPC) LSP

Unstable (RPV) LSP



- Assuming pure states, LSP can be bino-like, wino-like or higgsino-like.
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- LSP can decay via RPV  $\lambda$  coupling to leptonic final states

# Electroweak SUSY scenarios

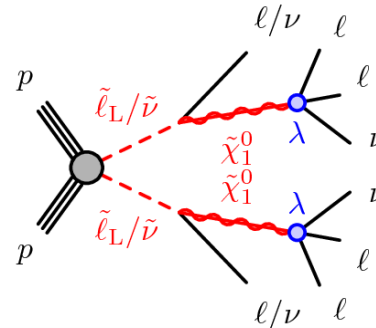
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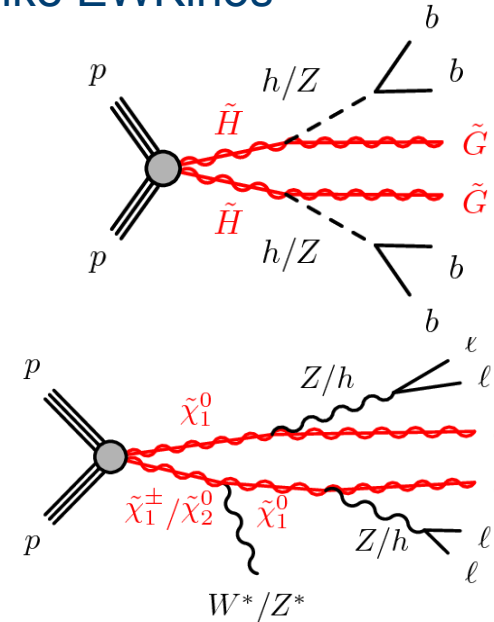


Unstable (RPV) LSP

- LSP can decay via RPV  $\lambda$  coupling to leptonic final states

(2)  $\tilde{G}$  is LSP

NLSPs can be higgsino-like EWKinops



# Typical electroweak SUSY search

\*General SUSY analysis strategy already introduced in talk by Antonia Strübig\*

• Target signal scenario in decay channel with X leptons + Y jets + Z b-tagged jets ( $\pm \vec{p}_T^{miss}$ ) (where X,Y,Z may be 0 or unconstrained), then define:

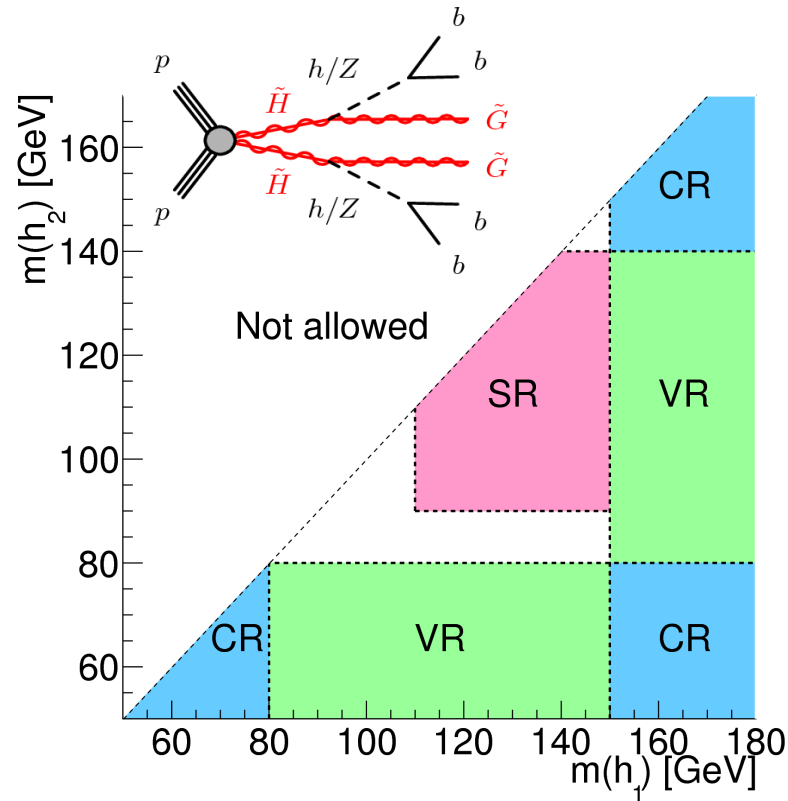


Image credit: [1806.04030](#)

1. (Binned-) **signal regions** (SRs) to search for an excess of data over predictions.
2. **Control regions** (CRs) to extract normalization of dominant MC backgrounds.
3. **Validation regions** (VRs) to check background modelling.

...plus additional data-driven background estimates...

- Results interpreted using **simplified models** for the signature of interest.

\*Table only includes searches for prompt EWK SUSY decays-> for long-lived searches see talk by Karri Dipetrillo\*

# ATLAS Run II electroweak searches

Signal	Decay mode	Channel	Lumi [fb <sup>-1</sup> ]	Details
$\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm \tilde{\chi}_1^\mp$	WW (RPC) WW (RPV $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ decay)	2l+ $\vec{p}_T^{miss}$ 4l	80 36	<a href="#">ATLAS-CONF-2018-042</a> <a href="#">arXiv:1804.03602</a> ★
$\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm \tilde{\chi}_2^0$	WZ (RPC)  WZ (RPV $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ decay)	2l +ISR + $\vec{p}_T^{miss}$ 2l+jets/3l+ $\vec{p}_T^{miss}$ 2l+jets/3l+ $\vec{p}_T^{miss}$ 4l	36 36 36 36	<a href="#">Phys. Rev. D 97 (2018) 052010</a> (*) <a href="#">arXiv:1803.02762</a> <a href="#">arXiv:1806.02293</a> (RJR) ★ <a href="#">arXiv:1804.03602</a>
$\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm \tilde{\chi}_2^0$ $/\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm \tilde{\chi}_1^\mp$	Sleptons	2l/3l+ $\vec{p}_T^{miss}$ 2 $\tau$	36 36	<a href="#">arXiv:1803.02762</a> <a href="#">Eur. Phys. J. C 78 (2018) 154</a>
$\tilde{H}\tilde{H}$	ZZ/hh + $\tilde{G}\tilde{G}$ (GGM/GMSB)	4b 4l	36 36	<a href="#">arXiv:1806.04030</a> <a href="#">arXiv:1804.03602</a>
Zh	h-> neutralinos	2l+photon(s)	80	<a href="#">ATLAS-CONF-2018-019</a> ★
$\tilde{l}\tilde{l}$ ( $\tilde{l} = \tilde{e}, \tilde{\mu}$ ) $\tilde{l}\tilde{l}$ ( $\tilde{l} = \tilde{e}, \tilde{\mu}$ )	RPC RPV	2l (+ISR) + $\vec{p}_T^{miss}$ 4l	36	<a href="#">arXiv:1803.02762</a> + (*) <a href="#">arXiv:1804.03602</a>

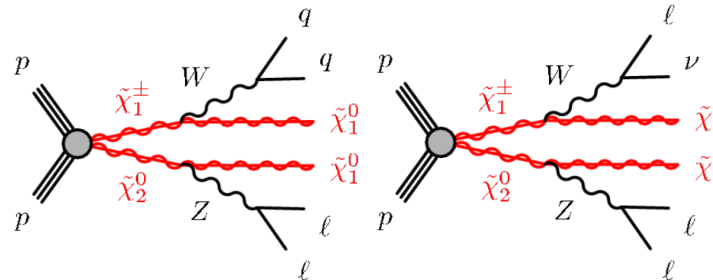
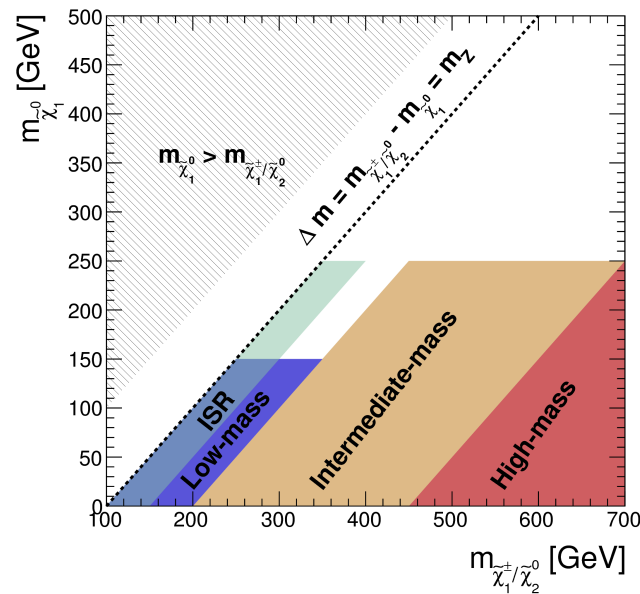
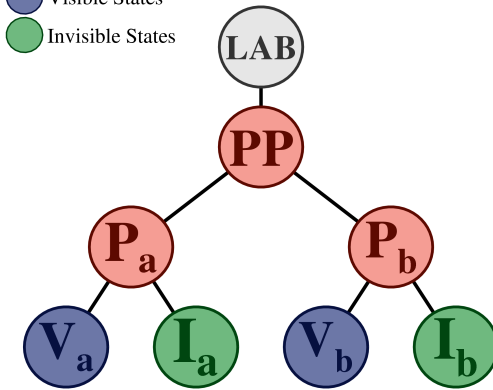
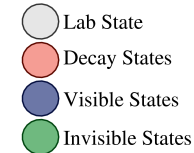
=> Already achieved rich search programme in terms of signal topology, RPC+RPV and different (N)LSP compositions (i.e. wino-bino, higgsino). The rest of this talk will discuss the three most recent results in more detail...



# $\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm \tilde{\chi}_2^0 \rightarrow WZ$ using recursive jigsaw reconstruction (RJR)

[arXiv:1806.02293](https://arxiv.org/abs/1806.02293)

- Use measured event properties to approximate rest frames of intermediate particles in a "decay tree".
- RJR gives a new basis of observables based on energies and momenta of objects in these frames.

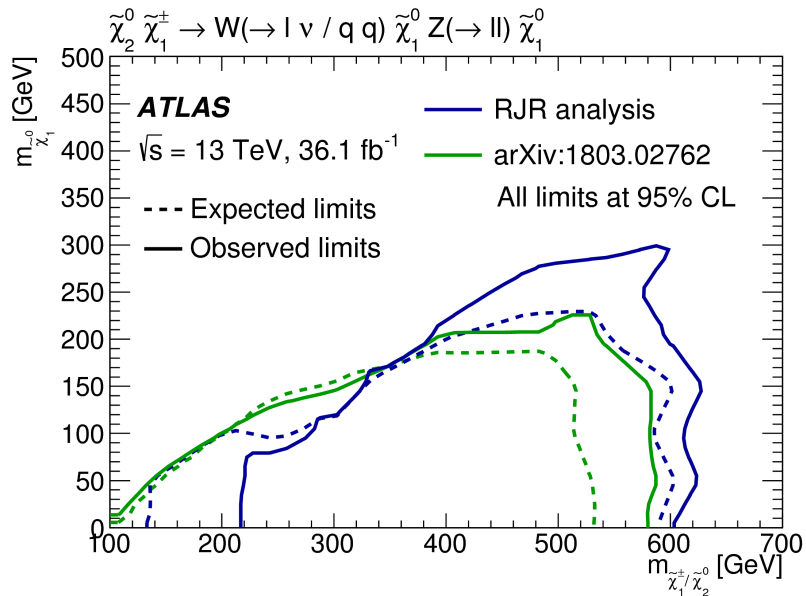


Recent result considers  $\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm \tilde{\chi}_2^0 \rightarrow WZ$  in

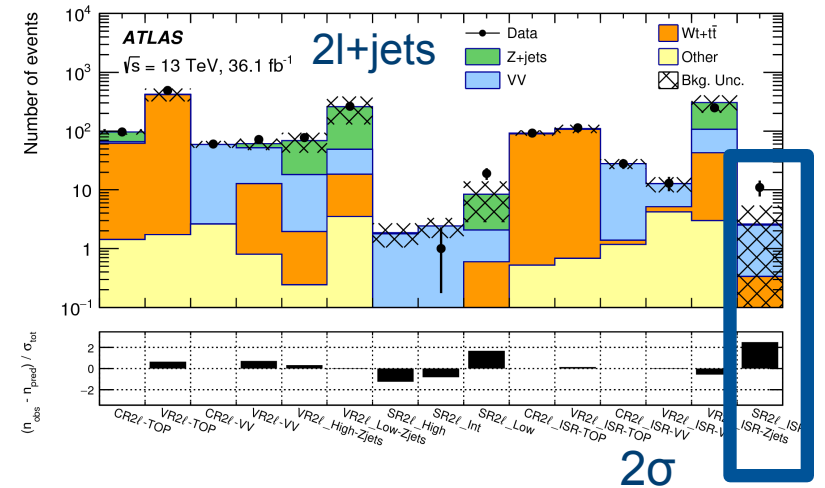
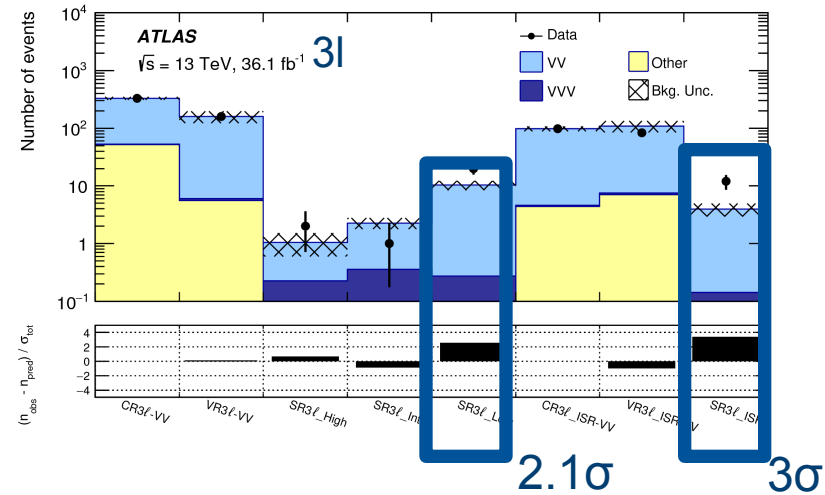
- **2 decay channels:**  $2l+2j$  ( $W \rightarrow jj, Z \rightarrow ll$ ) and  $3l$  ( $W \rightarrow l\nu, Z \rightarrow ll$ ) each of which have:
  - **4 SRs** targeting different mass splittings ( $\Delta m$ ) between the  $\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm, \tilde{\chi}_2^0$  and the LSP.

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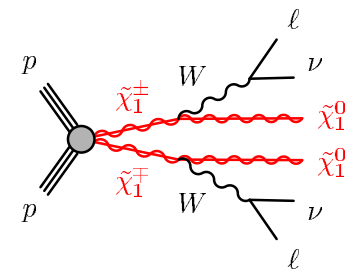
**\*New techniques, and statistical combination of channels\***



- Excesses seen in SRs targeting low and compressed mass splittings.
- Need to follow up with more data.

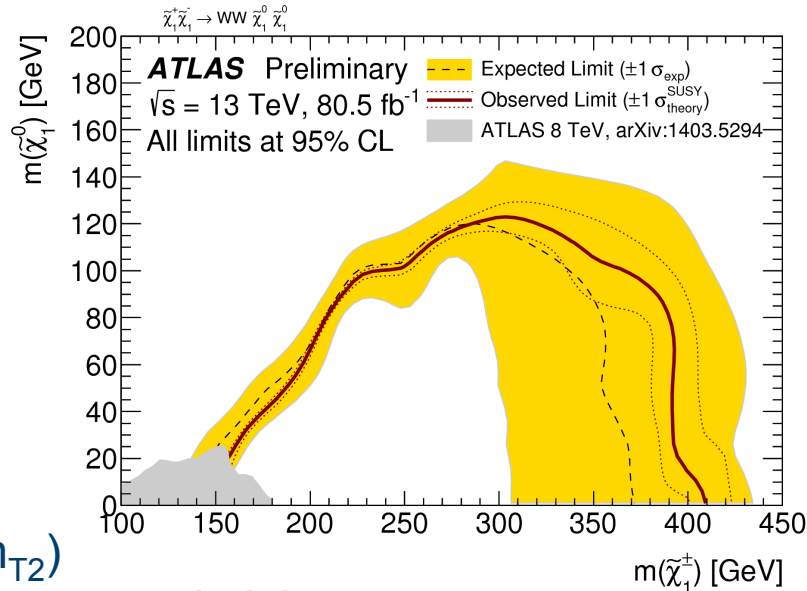
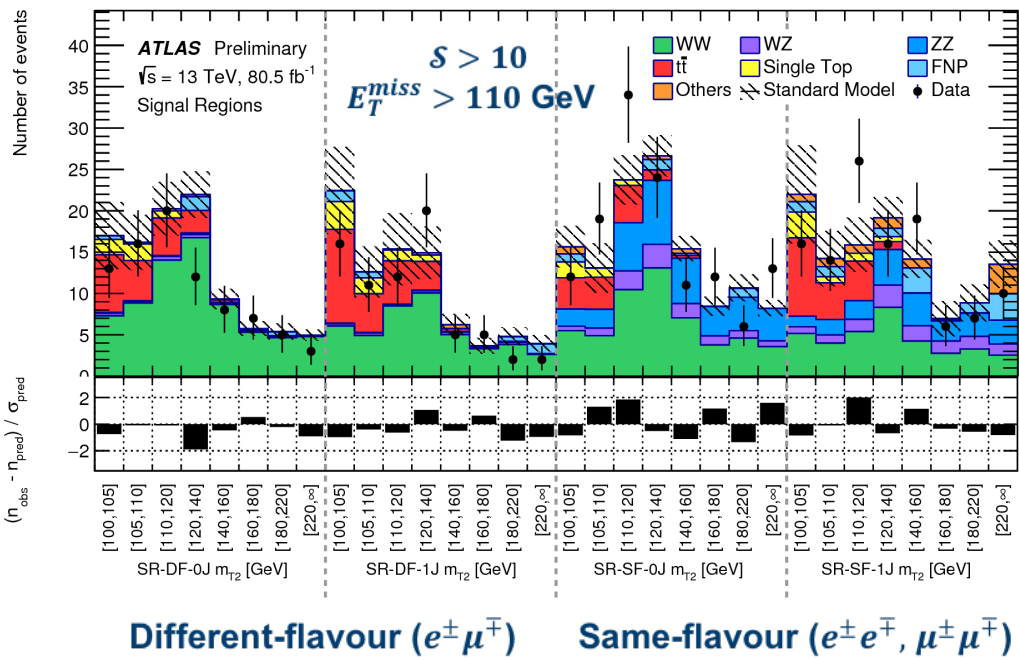


# Chargino pair production $\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm \tilde{\chi}_1^\mp \rightarrow WW\tilde{\chi}_1^0\tilde{\chi}_1^0$



## \*New variables and binned SRs\*

- Define SRs at high missing transverse momentum significance ( $\mathcal{S}$ ) using new object-based definition ([ATLAS-CONF-2018-038](#))



- Exploiting shape fits in "transverse mass" ( $m_{T2}$ ) and jet multiplicity greatly improves sensitivity

[ATLAS-CONF-2018-042](#)



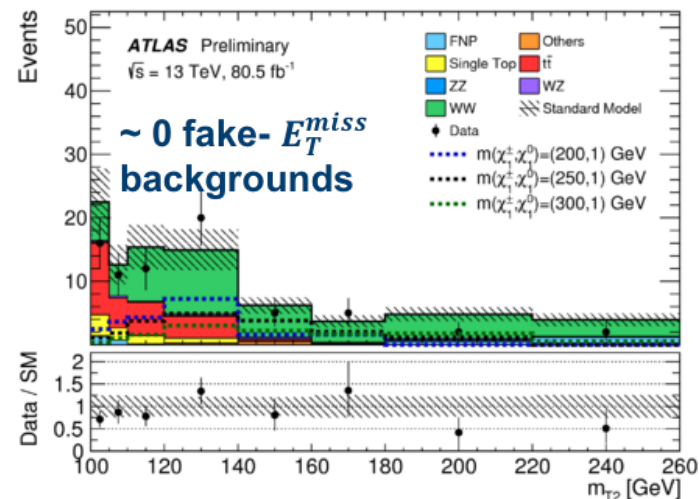
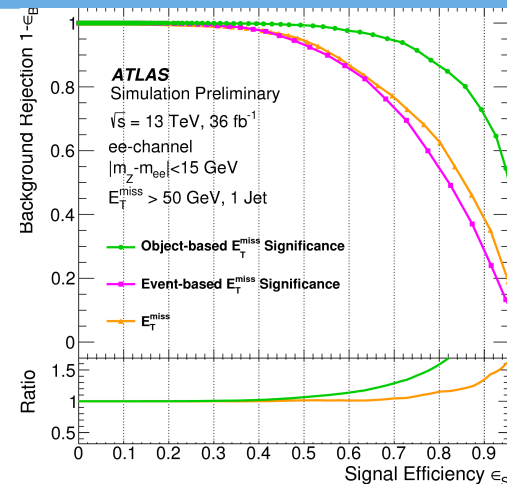
# New variables: object-based $\vec{p}_T^{miss}$ significance

- Indicates the degree to which the reconstructed  $E_T^{miss}$  is consistent with momentum resolution and particle identification efficiencies.

- Event-based significance:**  $\mathcal{S} = \frac{E_T^{miss}}{\sqrt{H_T}}$  or  $\mathcal{S} = \frac{E_T^{miss}}{\sqrt{\sum E_T}}$

- Object-based definition** determines  $\mathcal{S}$  from the log-likelihood ratio that the reconstructed  $E_T^{miss}$  is consistent with the hypothesis of 0 real  $E_T^{miss}$ , based on the full event composition.

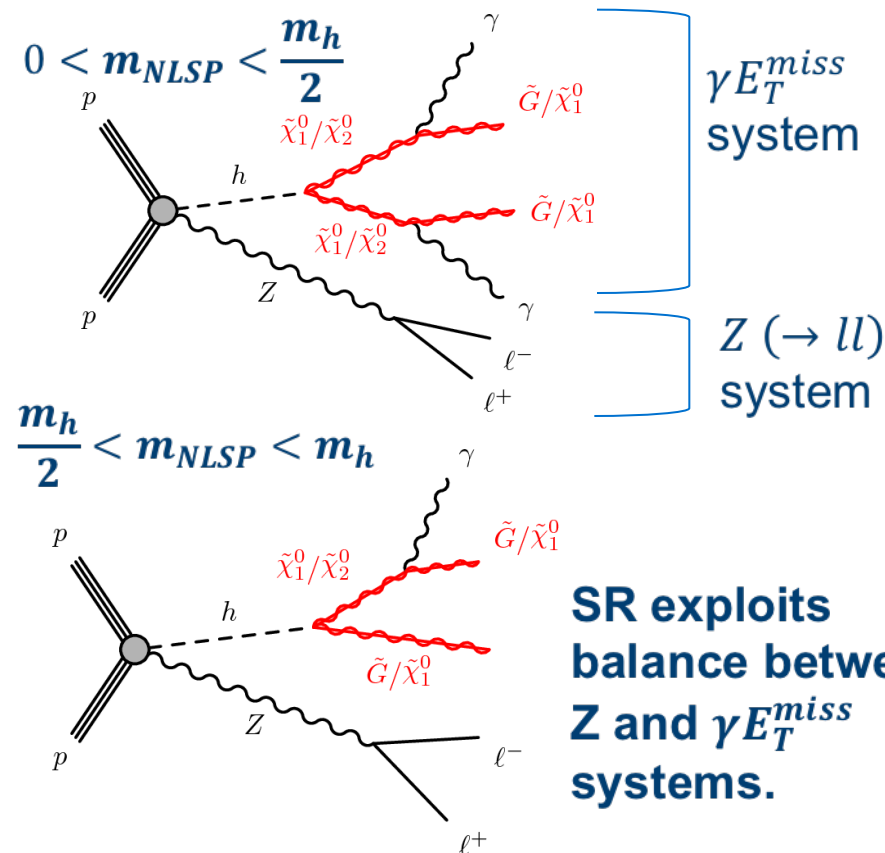
New definition greatly improved background suppression in the 1-jet bins (particularly for ee,  $\mu\mu$  events where Z+jets is problematic) => RH plot shows same-flavour 1-jet SRs...



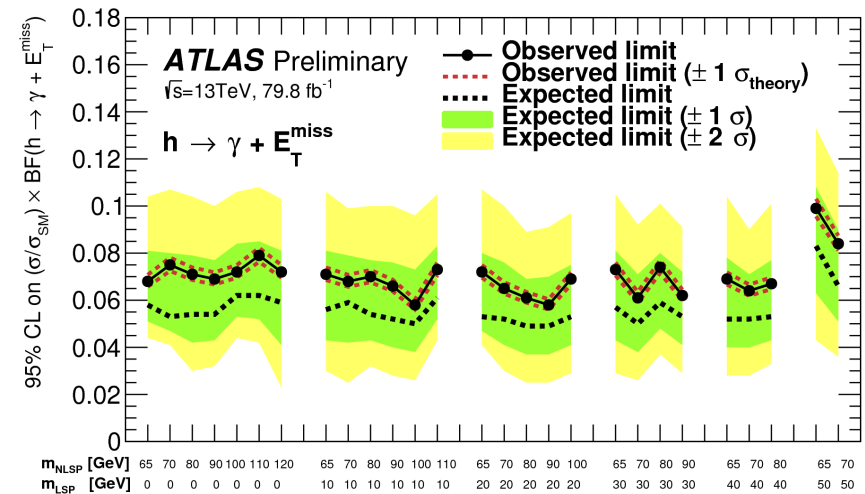
# Searches with photons: $Zh$ with $h \rightarrow$ neutralinos

[ATLAS-CONF-2018-019](#)

**\*Search for EWK SUSY through exotic Higgs decays\***



- Search for exotics Higgs decays in GMSB where 125 GeV Higgs decays to neutralinos that then decay to gravitinos+photon(s) (GMSB) or singlino+photon(s) (nMSSM)
- Improved limits on  $\sigma/\sigma_{SM} \times BR$  for  $h \rightarrow \gamma + E_T^{miss}$  and  $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma + E_T^{miss}$



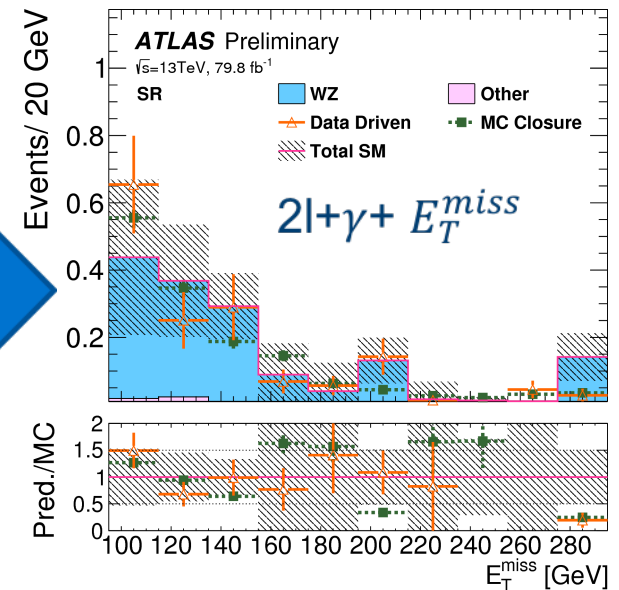
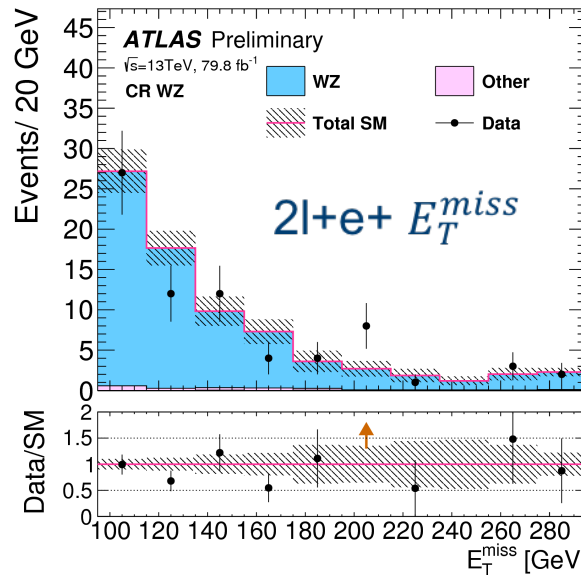


# Background estimates for $2l + \vec{p}_T^{miss} + \gamma(\gamma)$

Background	Estimation method
Electron faking a photon ( $WZ \rightarrow evll$ )	Data-driven (see below)
SM $Z\gamma$	Data-driven (CR)
Jet faking a photon (Z+jets)	Data-driven "photon-factor"
Other SM processes with $2l + \gamma$	MC (negligible)

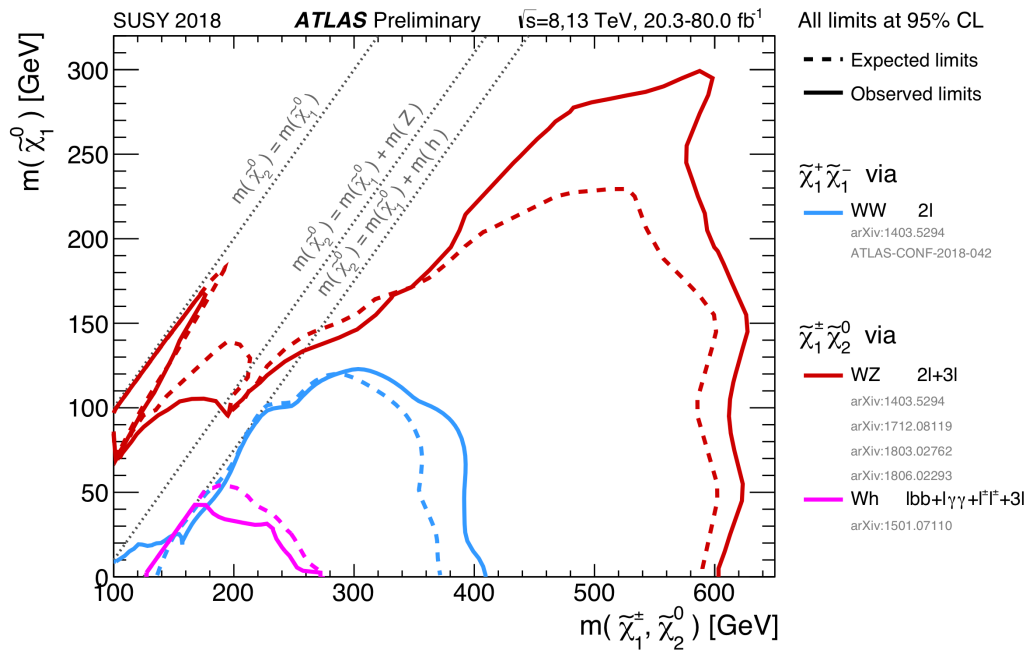
**=> data-driven methods used for all dominant backgrounds!**

WZ background in SR estimated scaling  $ll + e$  events by data-driven  $e \rightarrow \gamma$  mis-identification rate!



# Summary: where could (EWK) SUSY be hiding?

Run II results extended the exclusion limits in a number of EWK SUSY scenarios. But there are still lots of interesting areas of phase space to explore...



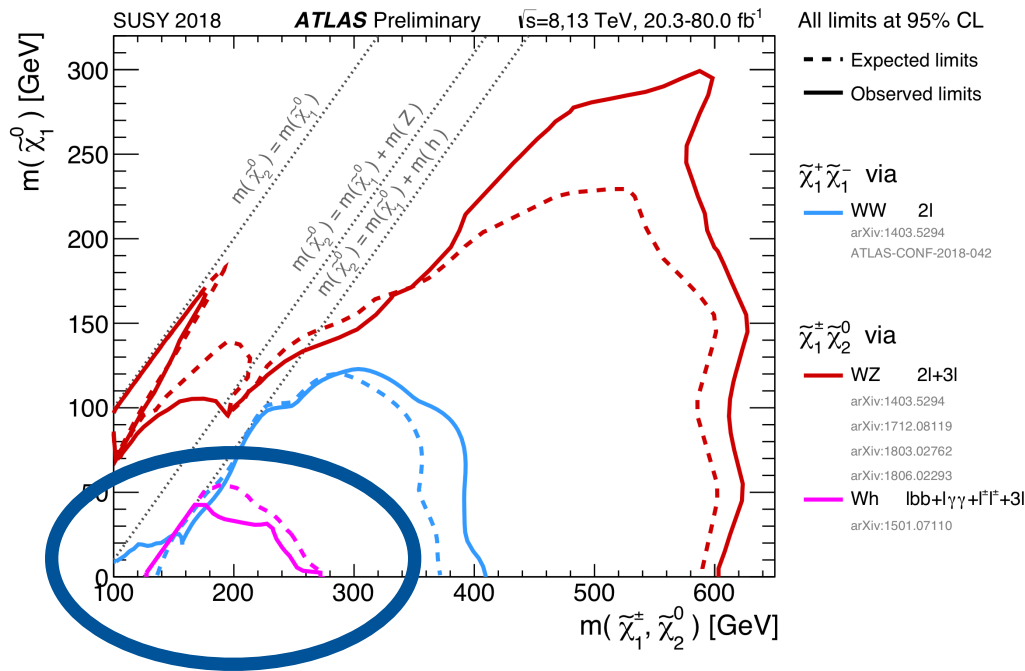
1. Challenging decay modes (i.e. decays through Higgs) and new final states.
2. Compressed and moderately compressed regions of phase space.
3. Mixed LSP scenarios (not currently included in simplified models)

Above: summary plot for wino-like  $\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm, \tilde{\chi}_2^0$  and bino-like  $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$

**Important message: do not confuse limits in simplified models with real limits on SUSY masses!**

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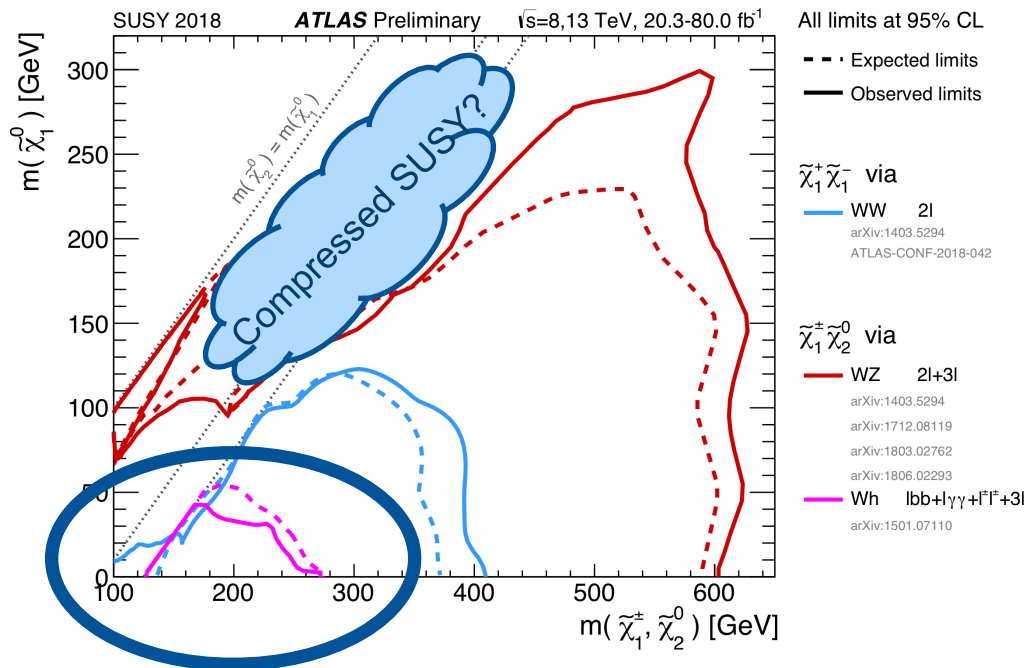
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1. Challenging decay modes (i.e. decays through Higgs) and new final states.
2. Compressed and moderately compressed regions of phase space.
3. Mixed LSP scenarios (not currently included in simplified models)

Above: summary plot for wino-like  $\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm, \tilde{\chi}_2^0$  and bino-like  $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$

**Important message: do not confuse limits in simplified models with real limits on SUSY masses!**

# Conclusions

- 36 fb<sup>-1</sup> in 2015-2016 enabled:
  - New limits on higgsinos and compressed scenarios
  - Extension of run I limits in many scenarios.
  - Excesses in some low/compressed SRs.
- 80 fb<sup>-1</sup> in 2015-2017 enabled:
  - First ATLAS run II results for several challenging signatures.

**The success of our electroweak SUSY programme in run II owes a lot to those who have worked hard in operations, computing and combined performance areas throughout run II -> a team effort!**

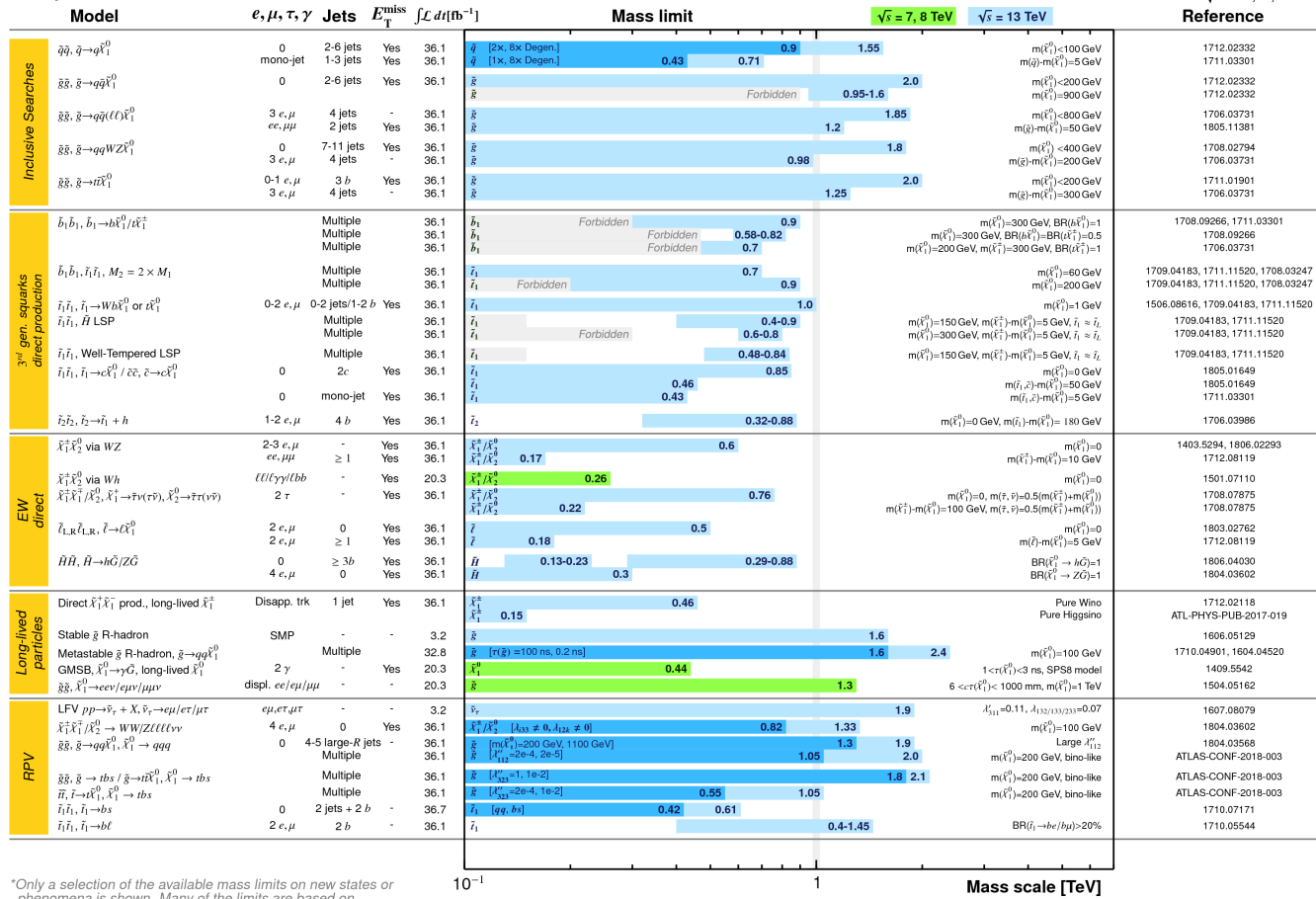


**Maybe the O(150) fb<sup>-1</sup> expected by the end of run II will unearth convincing evidence for supersymmetry...**

# Backup: ATLAS SUSY summary plot

## ATLAS SUSY Searches\* - 95% CL Lower Limits July 2018

ATLAS Preliminary  
 $\sqrt{s} = 7, 8, 13$  TeV

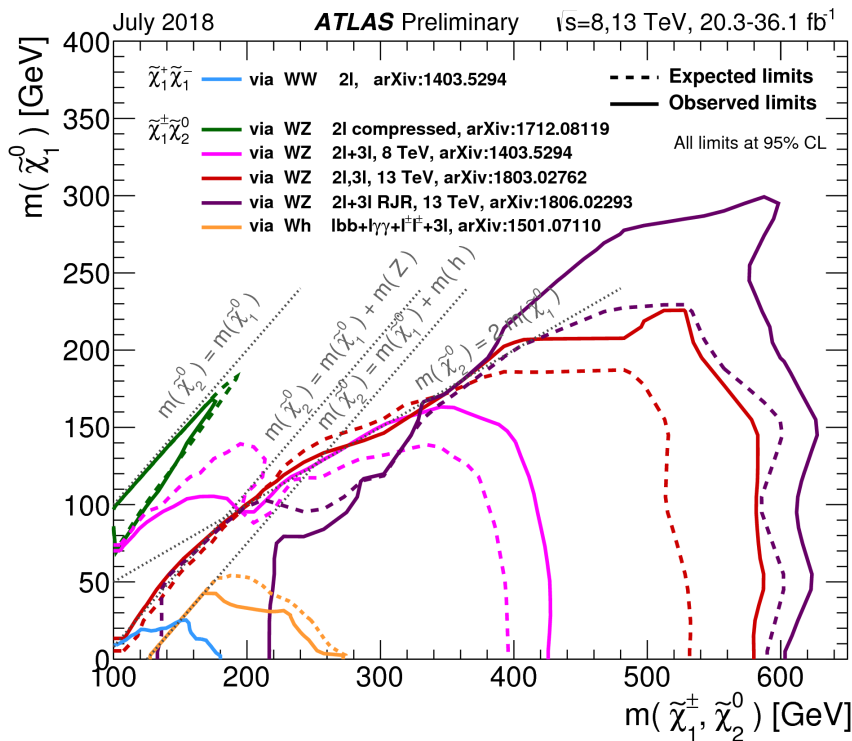
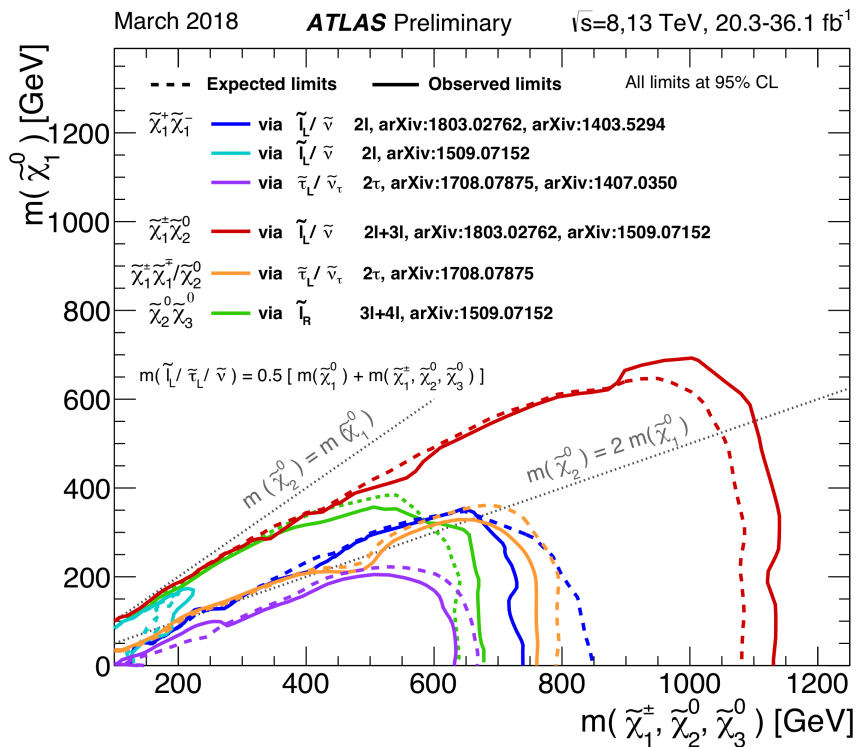


\*Only a selection of the available mass limits on new states or phenomena is shown. Many of the limits are based on simplified models, c.f. refs. for the assumptions made.

10<sup>-1</sup> 1 Mass scale [TeV]

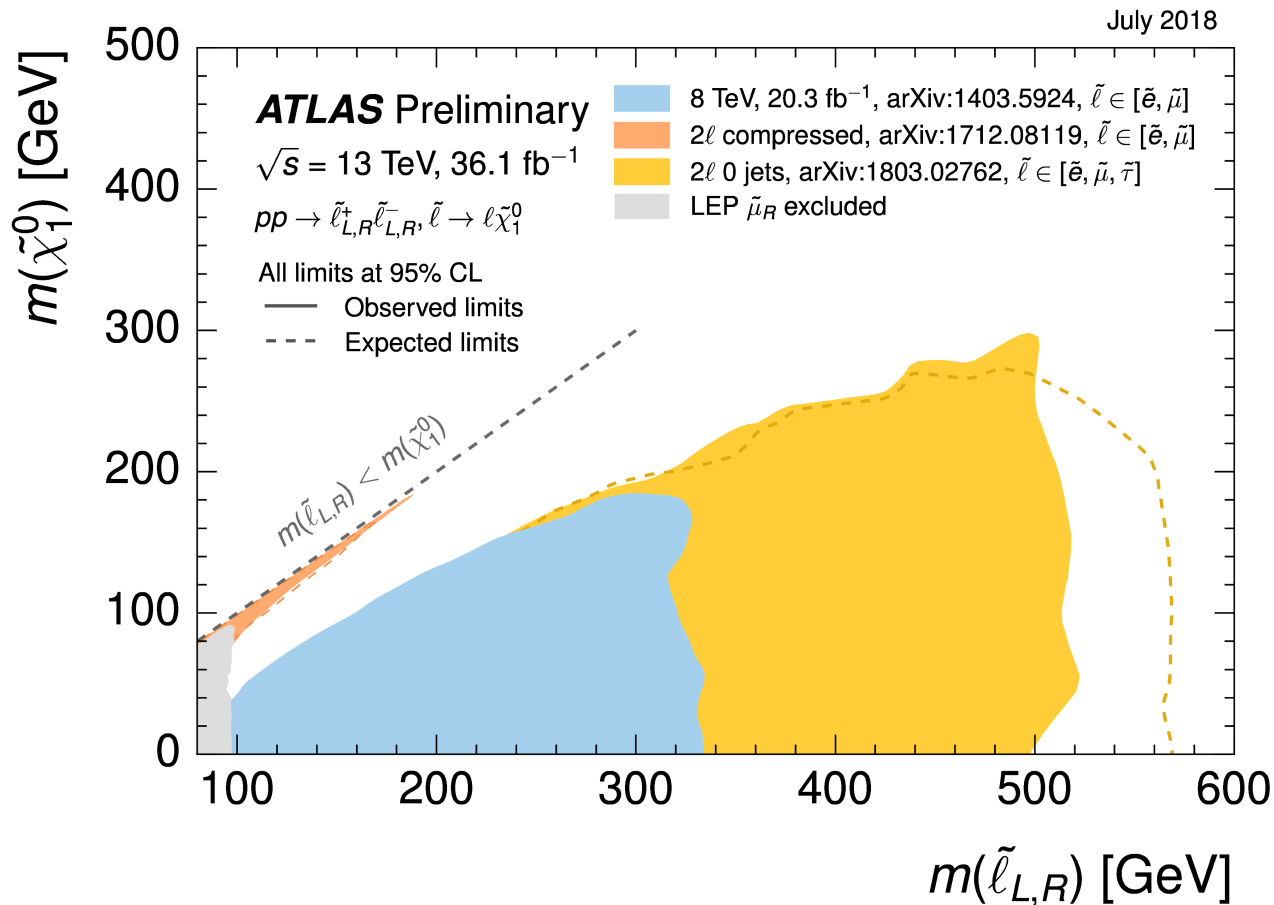


# Backup: ATLAS summary plots for slepton vs boson mediated decays



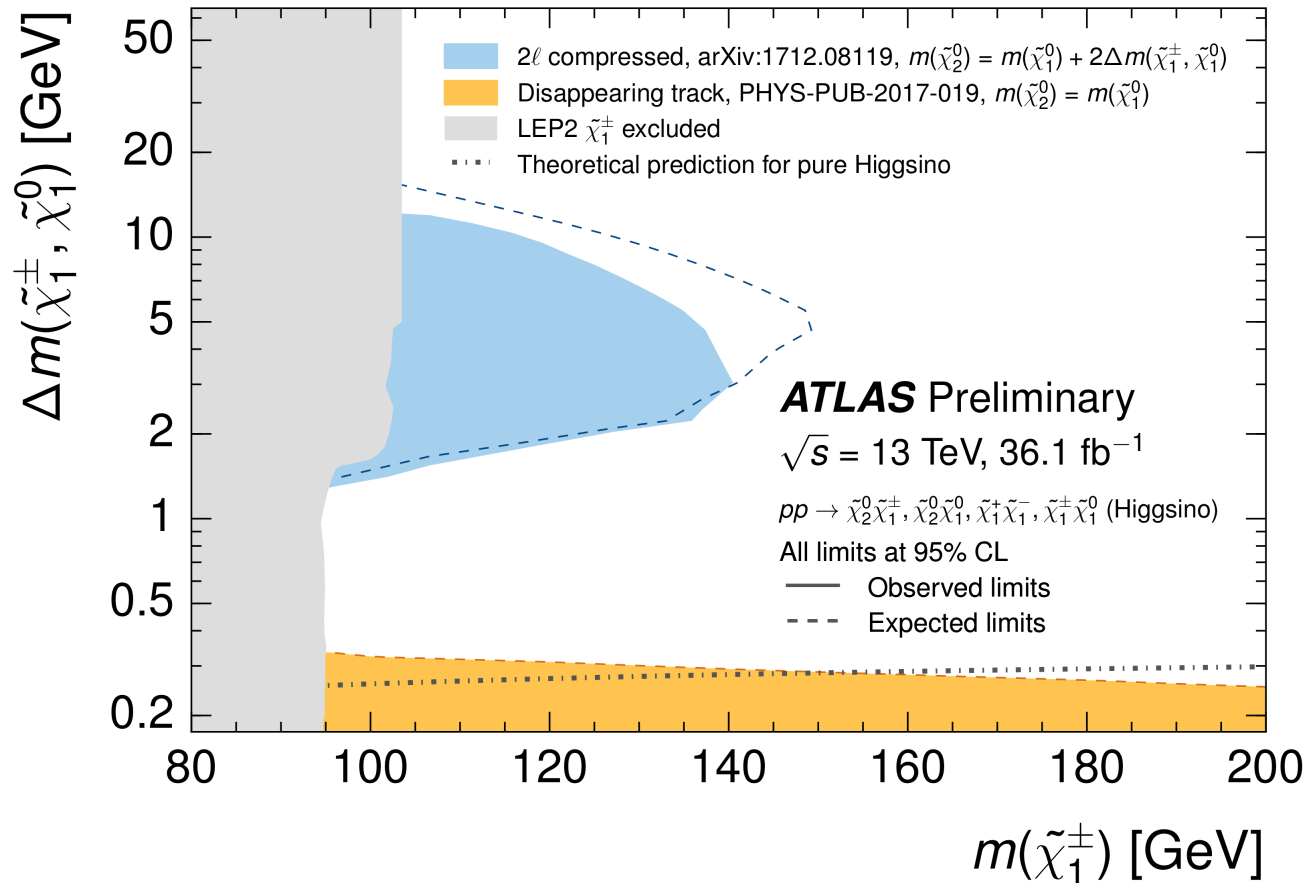


# Backup: ATLAS summary plot for direct slepton production



# Backup: ATLAS summary plot for higgsinos

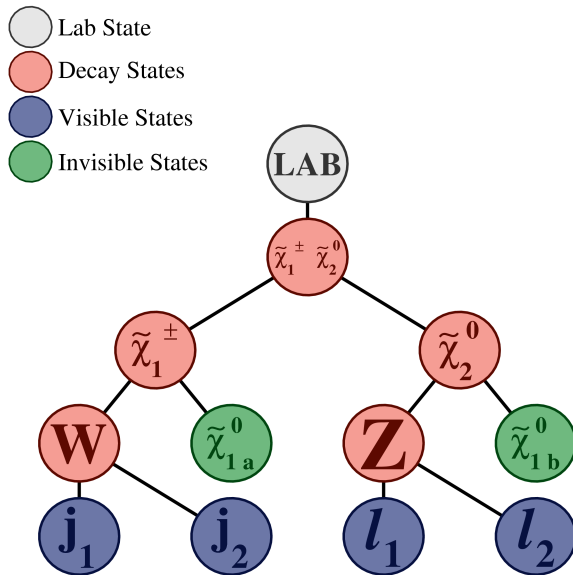
March 2018



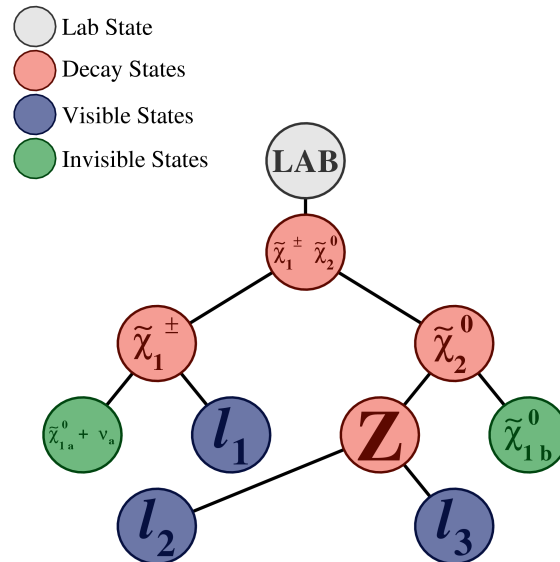
# Backup: RJR analysis decay trees

1806.02293

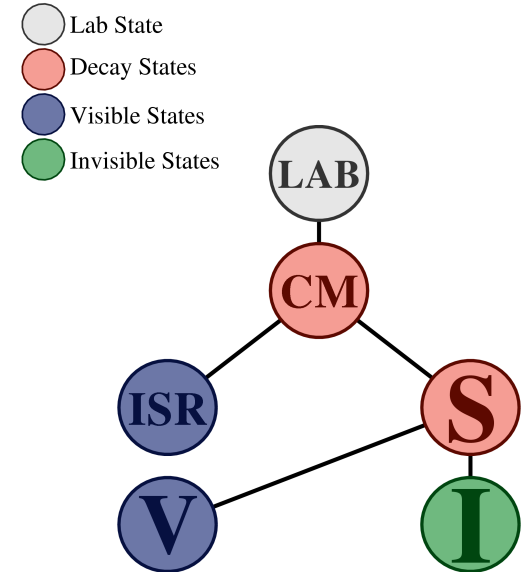
## 2l+jets channel



## 3l channel



## ISR tree (2l+jets and 3l)



# Backup: RJR SR/CR/VRs for 2l+jets 'standard' decay tree

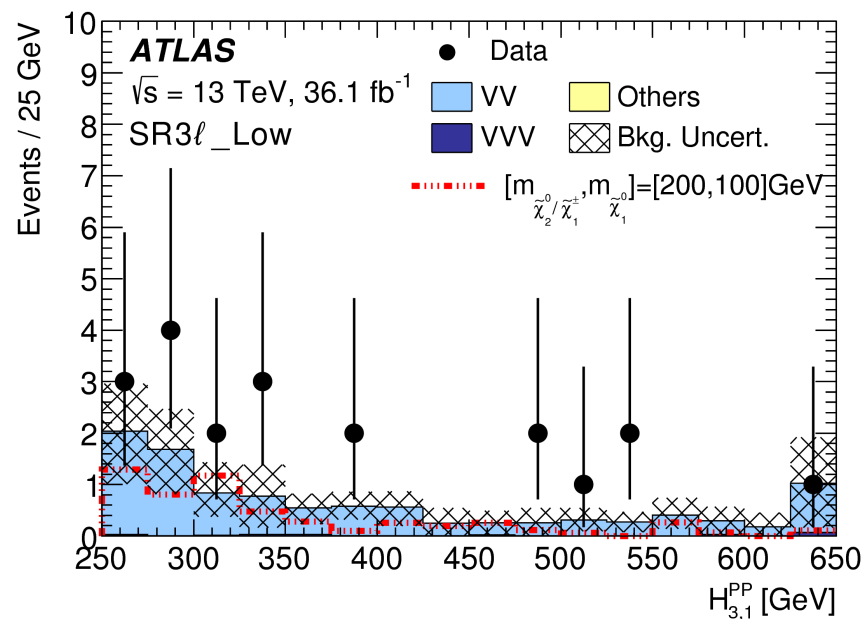
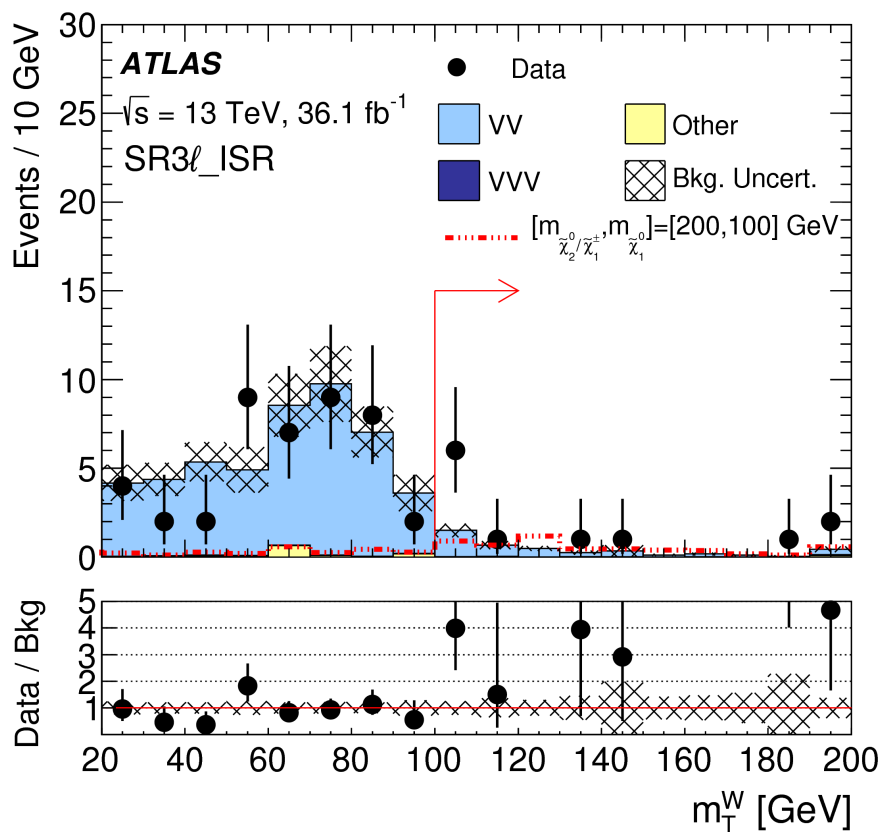
Region	$n_{\text{leptons}}$	$n_{\text{jets}}$	$n_{b\text{-tag}}$	$p_{\text{T}}^{\ell_1, \ell_2}$ [GeV]	$p_{\text{T}}^{j_1, j_2}$ [GeV]	$m_{\ell\ell}$ [GeV]	$m_{jj}$ [GeV]	$m_{\text{T}}^W$ [GeV]
CR2l-VV	$\in [3, 4]$	$\geq 2$	$=0$	$> 25$	$> 30$	$\in (80, 100)$	$> 20$	$\in (70, 100)$ if $n_{\text{leptons}} = 3$
CR2l-Top	$= 2$	$\geq 2$	$=1$	$> 25$	$> 30$	$\in (80, 100)$	$\in (40, 250)$	—
VR2l-VV	$= 2$	$\geq 2$	$=0$	$> 25$	$> 30$	$\in (80, 100)$	$\in (40, 70)$ or $\in (90, 500)$	—
VR2l-Top	$= 2$	$\geq 2$	$=1$	$> 25$	$> 30$	$\in (20, 80)$ or $> 100$	$\in (40, 250)$	—
VR2l_High-Zjets	$= 2$	$\geq 2$	$= 0$	$> 25$	$> 30$	$\in (80, 100)$	$\in (0, 60)$ or $\in (100, 180)$	—
VR2l_Low-Zjets	$= 2$	$= 2$	$= 0$	$> 25$	$> 30$	$\in (80, 100)$	$\in (0, 60)$ or $\in (100, 180)$	—
SR2l_High	$= 2$	$\geq 2$	$= 0$	$> 25$	$> 30$	$\in (80, 100)$	$\in (60, 100)$	—
SR2l_Int	$= 2$	$\geq 2$	$= 0$	$> 25$	$> 30$	$\in (80, 100)$	$\in (60, 100)$	—
SR2l_Low	$= 2$	$= 2$	$= 0$	$> 25$	$> 30$	$\in (80, 100)$	$\in (70, 90)$	—

Region	$H_{4,1}^{\text{PP}}$ [GeV]	$H_{1,1}^{\text{PP}}$ [GeV]	$\frac{p_{\text{T}}^{\text{lab}}}{p_{\text{T}}^{\text{lab}} + H_{4,1}^{\text{PP}}}$	$\frac{\min(H_{1,1}^{\text{Pa}}, H_{1,1}^{\text{Pb}})}{\min(H_{2,1}^{\text{Pa}}, H_{2,1}^{\text{Pb}})}$	$\frac{H_{1,1}^{\text{PP}}}{H_{4,1}^{\text{PP}}}$	$\Delta\phi_{\text{V}}^{\text{P}}$	$\min\Delta\phi(j_1/j_2, \vec{p}_{\text{T}}^{\text{miss}})$
CR2l-VV	$> 200$	—	$< 0.05$	$> 0.2$	—	$\in (0.3, 2.8)$	—
CR2l-Top	$> 400$	—	$< 0.05$	$> 0.5$	—	$\in (0.3, 2.8)$	—
VR2l-VV	$> 400$	$> 250$	$< 0.05$	$\in (0.4, 0.8)$	—	$\in (0.3, 2.8)$	—
VR2l-Top	$> 400$	—	$< 0.05$	$> 0.5$	—	$\in (0.3, 2.8)$	—
VR2l_High-Zjets	$> 600$	—	$< 0.05$	$> 0.4$	—	$\in (0.3, 2.8)$	—
VR2l_Low-Zjets	$> 400$	—	$< 0.05$	—	$\in (0.35, 0.60)$	—	—
SR2l_High	$> 800$	—	$< 0.05$	$> 0.8$	—	$\in (0.3, 2.8)$	—
SR2l_Int	$> 600$	—	$< 0.05$	$> 0.8$	—	$\in (0.6, 2.6)$	—
SR2l_Low	$> 400$	—	$< 0.05$	—	$\in (0.35, 0.60)$	—	$> 2.4$

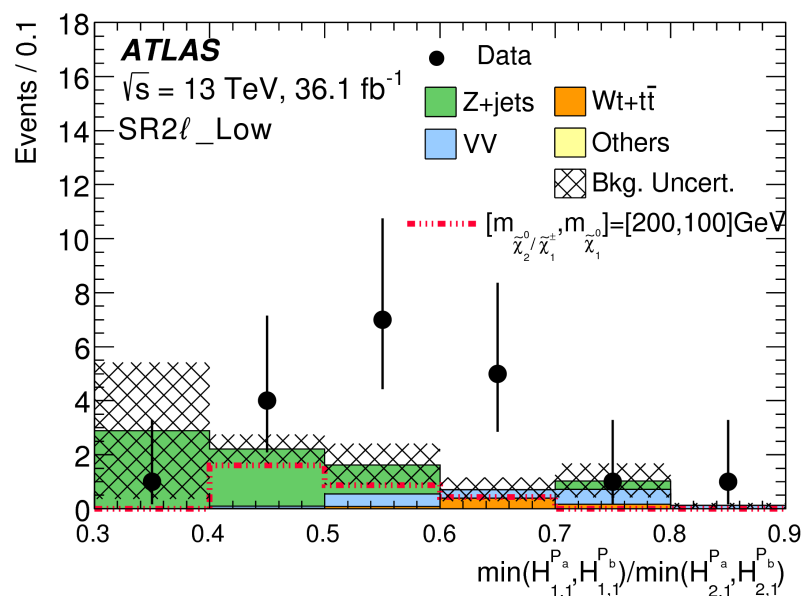
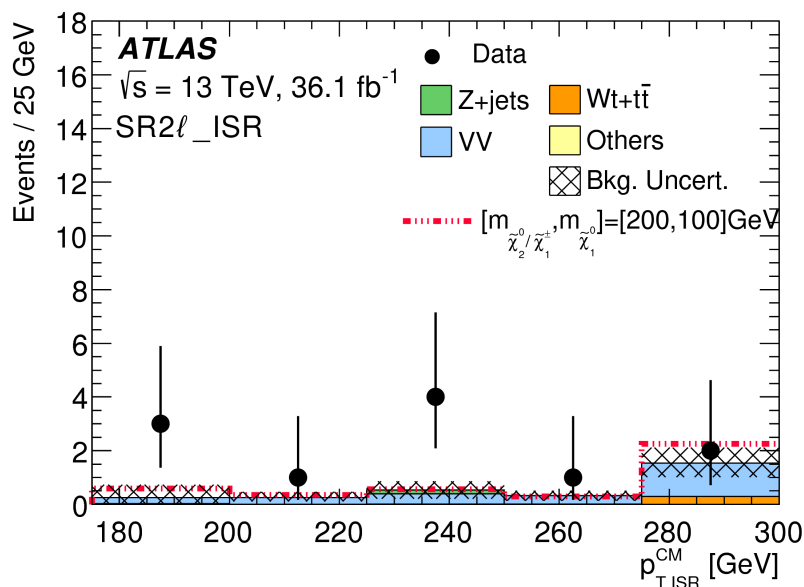
=> SRs use RJR variables relating to energy/mass scale, angular variables and object momenta in several rest frames.

# Backup: RJR analysis SR distributions for 3l channel



$H_{3,1}^{PP}$  = sum of the magnitudes of the visible and invisible momenta in the rest frame of the pair produced system  $\rightarrow$  scale variable that behaves like  $m_{\text{eff}}$

# Backup: RJR analysis SR distributions in 2l+jets channel



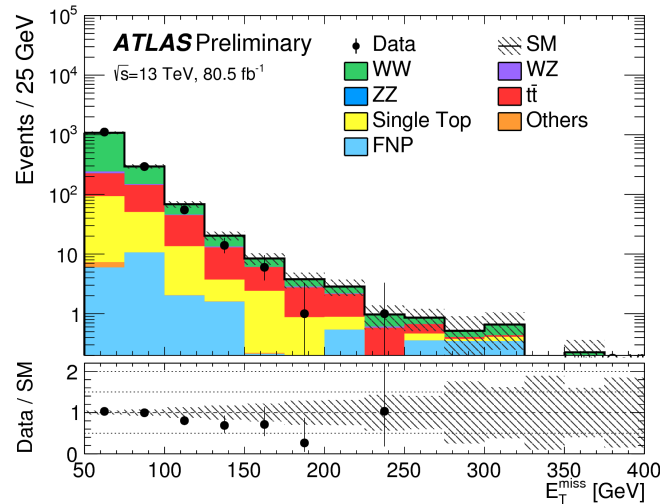
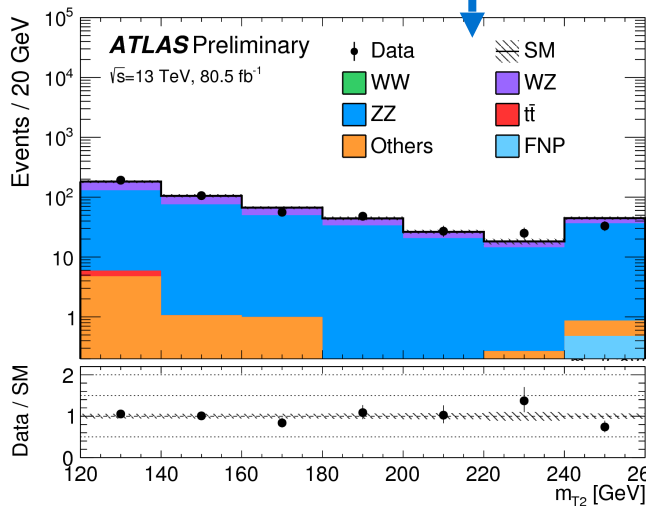
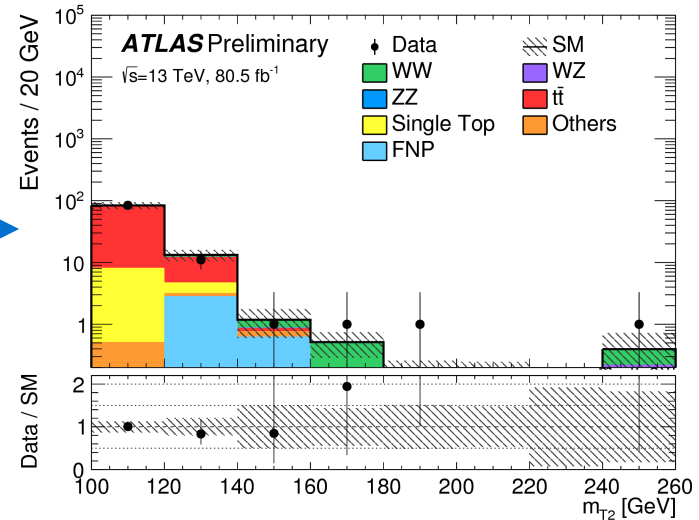
$p_{T\text{ISR}}^{\text{CM}}$  = transverse momentum of the ISR system in the centre of mass frame.

$\frac{\min(H_{1,1}^{Pa}, H_{1,1}^{Pb})}{\min(H_{2,1}^{Pa}, H_{2,1}^{Pb})} \Rightarrow$  Compares scale due to one object +  $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  in respective production frames to two. Good discrimination against Z+jets

# Backup: $2l + \vec{p}_T^{miss}$ analysis background estimation

[ATLAS-CONF-2018-042](#)

Region	CR-VZ	CR-WW	CR-top
Lepton flavour	SF	DF	DF
$n_{b\text{-tagged jets}}$	= 0	= 0	= 1
$n_{\text{non-}b\text{-tagged jets}}$	= 0	= 0	= 0
$m_{T2}$ [GeV]	> 120	$\in [60,65]$	> 100
$E_T^{miss}$ [GeV]	> 110	> 60	> 110
$E_T^{miss}$ significance	> 10	> 5	> 5
$ m_{\ell\ell} - m_Z $ [GeV]	< 30	-	-



**Data-driven normalization for all major backgrounds!**



# Backup: $2l + \vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}$ analysis background estimation

Region	VR-WW-0J	VR-WW-1J	VR-VZ	VR-top-low	VR-top-high
Lepton flavour	DF	DF	SF	DF	DF
$n_{b\text{-tagged jets}}$	= 0	= 0	= 0	= 1	= 1
$n_{\text{non-}b\text{-tagged jets}}$	= 0	= 1	= 0	= 0	= 1
$m_{T2}$ [GeV]	$\in [65, 100]$	$\in [65, 100]$	$\in [100, 120]$	$\in [80, 100]$	$> 100$
$E_T^{\text{miss}}$ [GeV]	$> 60$	$> 60$	$> 110$	$> 110$	$> 110$
$E_T^{\text{miss}}$ significance	$> 5$	$> 5$	$> 10$	$> 5$	$> 5$
$ m_{\ell\ell} - m_Z $ [GeV]	–	–	$< 30$	–	–

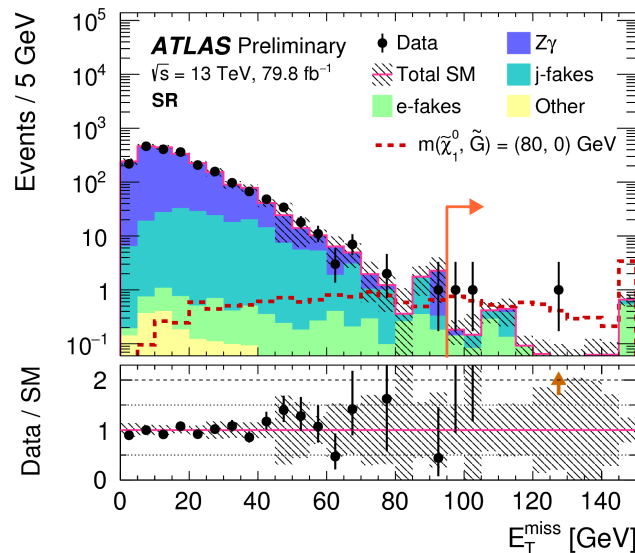
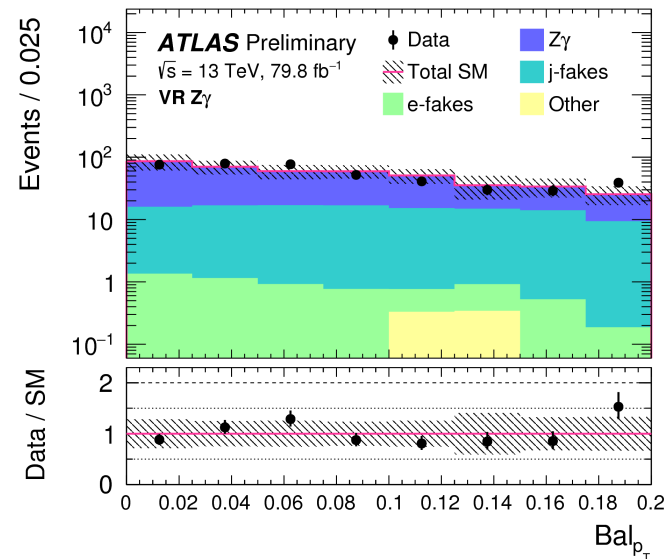
- VRs defined for all dominant background processes, with additional VR-top-low at low  $m_{T2}$  to ensure contamination in the WW CRs/VRs is well-modelled.
- To validate modelling of WW background at high  $m_{T2}$ , used a 3l WZ selection with  $E_T^{\text{miss}} = [40, 120]$  GeV and examined the  $m_{T2}$  distribution when one of the leptons is added to the  $\vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}$  vector to mimic a neutrino.

# Backup: Zh-> neutralinos search analysis regions

Cut	CR WZ	CR Z $\gamma$	VR Z $\gamma$	VR jets	SR
Pass triggers and vetos	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2 signal leptons	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
At least 1 signal photon	> 25 GeV(electron)	> 25 GeV	> 25 GeV	> 25 GeV	> 25 GeV
$m_{\ell\ell}^{\text{win}}$	81-101 GeV	81-101 GeV	81-101 GeV	85-120 GeV	81-101 GeV
$E_T^{\text{miss}}$	> 95 GeV	20-35 GeV	35-70 GeV	> 35 GeV	> 95 GeV
$Bal_{p_T}$	< 0.2	< 0.2	< 0.2	-	< 0.2
$\Delta\phi_{\ell\ell, \gamma E_T^{\text{miss}}}$	> 2.8	-	-	< 2.2	> 2.8
$\Delta\phi(\ell, \ell)$	< 1.4	< 2.0	< 2.0	-	< 1.4

$$Bal_{p_T} = \frac{|p_T^{\ell\ell} - p_T^{\gamma E_T^{\text{miss}}}|}{p_T^{\gamma E_T^{\text{miss}}}}$$

=> Asymmetry of the  $\ell\ell$  and  $\gamma E_T^{\text{miss}}$  systems.

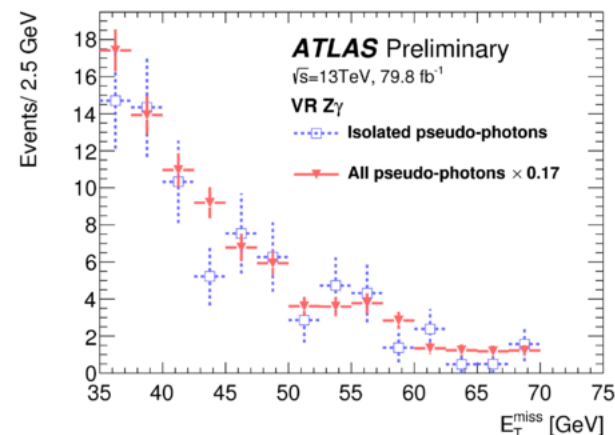


**Final results in SR:  $2.1 \pm 0.5$  expected vs 3 observed**

# Backup: Zh-> neutralinos search

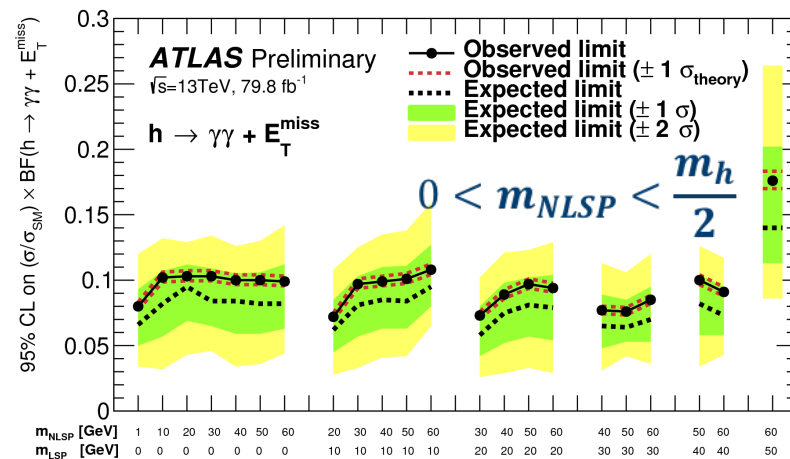
## Background from jets faking photons:

- Apply photon "fake-factor" to events containing "pseudo-photons" (satisfying a loose criteria but failing the tight criteria required by the analysis).
- Reduce statistical uncertainty by removing isolation requirement on pseudo-photons and applying an additional factor (0.17) to account for the difference.



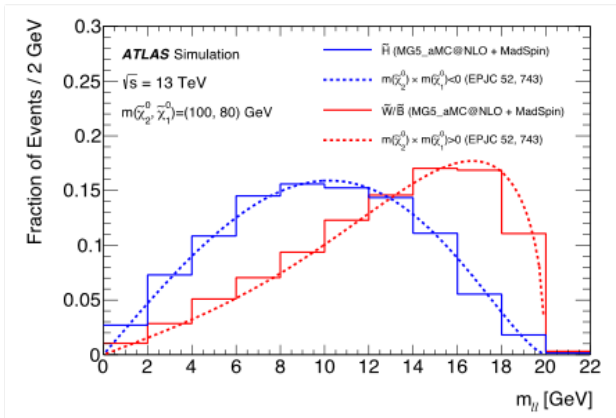
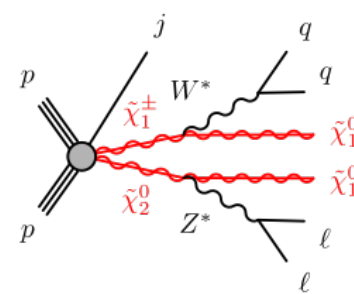
## Results for $h \rightarrow \gamma\gamma + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ region:

Over all BR ranges from 5-18% depending on LSP and NLSP masses!



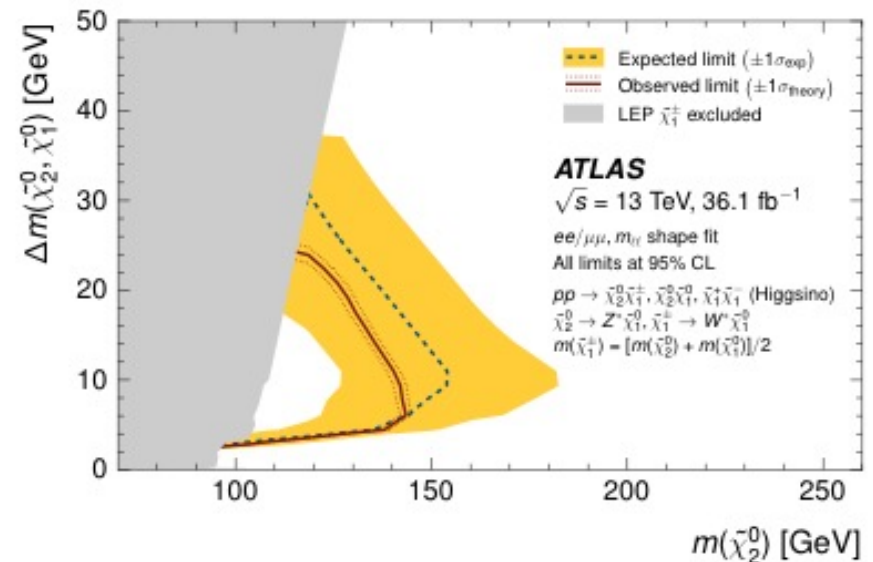
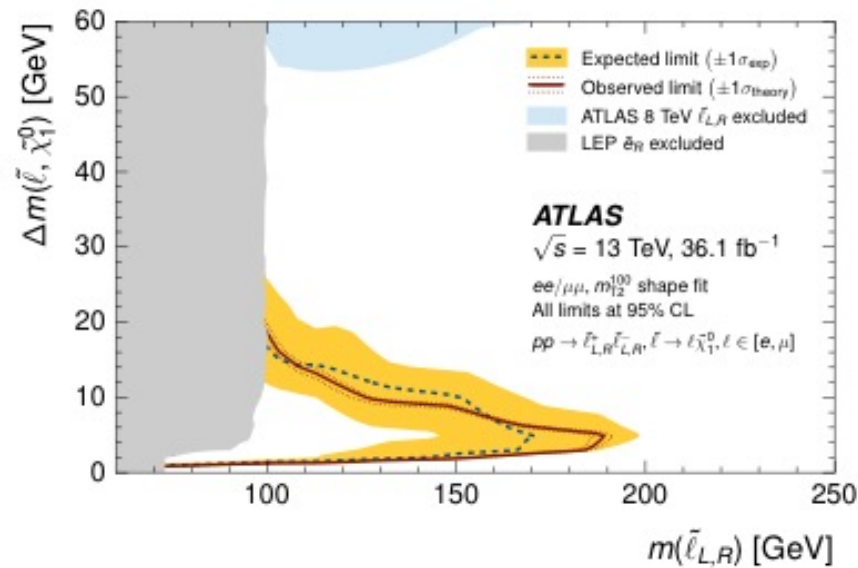
# Backup: Compressed EW searches

[Phys. Rev. D 97 \(2018\) 052010](#)



**\*Improved performance for low  $p_T$  lepton reconstruction and shape fits\***

- Select 2 soft leptons recoiling against ISR jet and exploit kinematic endpoint of signal distributions ( $m_{ll}$  for  $\tilde{\chi}_2^0 \tilde{\chi}_1^\pm$  and  $m_{T2}$  for slepton pair production).



# Backup: Statistical analysis in SUSY searches

For most SUSY searches construct likelihood for hypothesis testing based on data and predicted SM background in all SRs/CRs:

Signal strength parameter, and normalisation parameters for dominant backgrounds

Systematic uncertainties modelled by (unit) gaussian

$$\mathcal{L}(n, \theta^0 | \mu_s, \mu_b, \theta) = \prod_{i \in CR} P(n_i | \lambda_i(\mu_s, \mu_b, \theta)) \times \prod_{j \in SR} P(n_j | \lambda_j(\mu_s, \mu_b, \theta)) \times P_{syst}(\theta^0, \theta)$$

Data yields in SRs/CRs

Poisson probabilities for the CRs and SRs. For binned SRs/CRs include each bin as a separate region.

# Backup: Statistical analysis in SUSY searches

Perform three different simultaneous fits using this likelihood function

1. **Background-only fit:** set  $\mu_s=0$  and fit nuisance parameters to the observed data in the control regions.
2. **Exclusion fit:** simultaneous fit to data in all SRs and CRs, including signal contribution. Perform hypothesis test and reject  $\mu_s=1$  hypothesis if “ $CL_s$ ” value (approximate p-value)  $<0.05$ .
3. **Discovery fit:** inject signal contribution into SR only (no contribution in CRs). Calculate upper limit on signal contribution in SR, and p-value for background-only hypothesis.

=> All of this is handled effectively using the **HistFitter** package ([arXiv:1410.1280](https://arxiv.org/abs/1410.1280))