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Reinterpretation of searches for supersymmetry in models with variable R -parity-violating coupling strength and long-lived R -hadrons

The ATLAS Collaboration

A selection of ATLAS searches for supersymmetry (SUSY), optimized for R -parity-conserving and R -parity-violating (RPV) models, are reinterpreted in SUSY models with variable RPV-coupling strength. Depending on the coupling strength the lightest supersymmetric particle is stable at collider scales, is long-lived and decays away from the interaction point, or decays promptly. Limits are placed on simplified models of pair-produced gluinos decaying to final states enhanced or depleted with top quarks, and models of pair-produced top squarks. In a model of pair-produced gluinos decaying to final states enhanced with top quarks, a lower limit of 1.8 TeV on the gluino mass is set at 95% confidence level regardless of the RPV coupling value. Limits are set on models of gluino pair production decaying to light-flavor quarks, and models of top squark production. Limits are also placed on meta-stable gluinos decaying within the detector volume.

1 Introduction

Supersymmetry (SUSY) [1–9], is a generalization of space-time symmetries which extends the Standard Model (SM) by introducing supersymmetric partners for every SM particle with identical quantum numbers except for a half-unit difference in spin. The scalar partners of the left- and right-handed quarks, the squarks \tilde{q}_L and \tilde{q}_R , mix to form two mass eigenstates \tilde{q}_1 and \tilde{q}_2 ordered by increasing mass. Superpartners of the charged and neutral electroweak and Higgs bosons, so called winos, bino and higgsinos, also mix producing charginos ($\tilde{\chi}_{1,2}^\pm$) and neutralinos ($\tilde{\chi}_{1,2,3,4}^0$) with subscripts indicating increasing mass. Squarks and the fermionic partners of the gluons, the gluinos (\tilde{g}), could be produced in strong-interaction processes at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) with large cross-sections.

In the most generic superpotential, the following Yukawa and bilinear couplings can lead to baryon- and lepton-number violation:

$$\mathcal{W}_{\text{RPV}} = \frac{\lambda_{ijk}}{2} L_i L_j \bar{E}_k + \lambda'_{ijk} L_i Q_j \bar{D}_k + \frac{\lambda''_{ijk}}{2} \bar{U}_i \bar{D}_j \bar{D}_k + \kappa_i L_i H_u, \quad (1)$$

where i , j , and k are quark and lepton generation indices. The L_i and Q_i represent the lepton and quark $SU(2)_L$ doublet superfields and H_u the Higgs superfield that couples to up-type quarks. The \bar{E}_i , \bar{D}_i and \bar{U}_i are the lepton, down-type quark and up-type quark $SU(2)_L$ singlet superfields, respectively. The couplings are λ , λ' , λ'' , as well as κ which is a dimensional mass parameter. The λ and λ'' couplings are antisymmetric under the exchange of $i \rightarrow j$ and $j \rightarrow k$, respectively. While these terms are removed in many scenarios by imposing an additional \mathbb{Z}_2 symmetry (R -parity) [10], the possibility that at least some of these R -parity-violating (RPV) couplings are not zero is not ruled out experimentally [11, 12].

In this note the lightest neutralino, $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$, is assumed to be the lightest supersymmetric particle (LSP). If R -parity is conserved, SUSY particles are produced in pairs and decay either directly or via cascades to the LSP which is stable and escapes the detector unseen. Introducing non-zero RPV couplings renders the LSP unstable and allows decays to SM particles via the interactions in Eq. (1). The LSP lifetime, τ_{LSP} , depends on the RPV coupling strength as well as the masses of the sfermions involved in the decay. Most searches for RPV SUSY assume values of the coupling that are large enough to ensure prompt decays of the LSP. However, in the parameter space of small RPV couplings and/or large sfermion masses the LSP can become long-lived and decay after traversing a sizable distance within the detector volume. In the limit where the RPV coupling is vanishingly small the majority of LSP decays occur outside the detector volume, producing the same experimental signature as R -parity-conserving (RPC) SUSY. For high values of the coupling, the LSP decays promptly; as the coupling increases even further, squarks and gluinos can decay directly to SM particles via the large RPV coupling. Thus, scaling the value of the RPV coupling transitions the SUSY final state through several distinct regimes. Furthermore, non-zero RPV coupling values allow for single sparticle production. Different ATLAS analyses, described in Section 3, are optimized for different points of this phase space, but a complete analysis of the transition in sensitivity as a function of the coupling strength has never been performed.

Final states with displaced decays can also emerge from models such as Split SUSY [13, 14], where large mass hierarchies allow bound states involving SUSY particles (called R -hadrons) to obtain macroscopic lifetimes. Many existing ATLAS analyses target such models explicitly by searching for displaced vertices [15], anomalous dE/dX in silicon detectors [16], stable charged particle signatures [17], or decays in empty LHC bunch-crossings [18]. However, depending on the lifetime of these particles, SUSY searches targeting traditional simplified models can also provide sensitivity to these signatures.

This note presents a reinterpretation of published ATLAS SUSY searches, originally designed for scenarios with either RPC or RPV with prompt LSP decays, in models with baryon-number-violating RPV with variable coupling strength λ'' , and in models with variable R -hadron lifetime.

2 SUSY models

The main characteristics of the SUSY models considered in this note are given in Table 1 and detailed in this section.

Model name	Gqq	Gtt	Stop	R -hadron
Coupling	λ''_{112}	λ''_{323}	λ''_{323}	–
Decay	$\tilde{g} \rightarrow qq\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ $\tilde{g} \rightarrow qq\tilde{\chi}_1^0(\rightarrow qqq)$ $\tilde{g} \rightarrow qqq$	$\tilde{g} \rightarrow tt\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ $\tilde{g} \rightarrow tt\tilde{\chi}_1^0(\rightarrow tbs)$ $\tilde{g} \rightarrow tbs$	$\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow t\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ $\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow t\tilde{\chi}_1^0(\rightarrow tbs)$ $\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow bs$	$\tilde{g} \rightarrow qq\tilde{\chi}_1^0$
Other colored sparticle masses	$m(\tilde{q}) = 3 \text{ TeV}$ $m(\tilde{t}, \tilde{b}) = 5 \text{ TeV}$	$m(\tilde{q}) = 5 \text{ TeV}$ $m(\tilde{t}, \tilde{b}) = 2.4 \text{ TeV}$	$m(\tilde{q}, \tilde{g}) = 3 \text{ TeV}$ $m(\tilde{t}_2, \tilde{b}) = 3 \text{ TeV}$	$m(\tilde{q}, \tilde{t}, \tilde{b}) \approx \text{PeV}$
LSP	The LSP is bino-like, $m(\tilde{\chi}_1^0) = 200 \text{ GeV}$			$m(\tilde{\chi}_1^0) = 100 \text{ GeV}$

Table 1: Summary of signal models. First and second generation squark masses are assumed to be degenerate ($\tilde{q} = \tilde{u}, \tilde{d}, \tilde{s}, \tilde{c}$). Left- and right-handed superpartner masses are also assumed to be degenerate ($\tilde{q} = \tilde{q}_1, \tilde{q}_2$), except for the stop model where the right-handed top quark partner is assumed to be lighter.

2.1 RPV models

The sensitivity of a suite of ATLAS searches is evaluated on a set of simplified SUSY models [19–21]. All models assume the existence of a non-zero baryon-number-violating RPV λ'' coupling. Lepton-number-violating couplings, λ and λ' , are assumed to be zero. Within the set of λ''_{ijk} couplings, only one is considered to be non-zero in each simplified model, while the rest are assumed to be zero.¹ The antisymmetry condition $\lambda''_{ijk} = -\lambda''_{ikj}$ is respected, and is always implied when a model is described as having only one non-zero coupling. Supersymmetric scenarios featuring only baryon-number-violating RPV couplings are predicted in minimal flavor violation (MFV) SUSY [22]. The LSP is assumed to be the lightest neutralino, $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$, which is purely bino-like and has a fixed mass of 200 GeV. The value of the mass is chosen to allow decays of the neutralino to a top quark. The choice of a bino-like neutralino is made for simplicity as the absence of a chargino in the particle spectrum reduces the number of possible squark or gluino decays. The nature of the neutralino has also an impact on its lifetime, e.g. a higgsino-like neutralino has a shorter lifetime due to the large Yukawa coupling to the stop.

¹ The absence of lepton-number-violating couplings is enough to satisfy proton stability bounds. The choice of having only one non-zero baryonic coupling is made for simplicity and the availability of a theoretical upper limit.

Despite the usage of simplified models, the masses of all the squarks have to be specified even if they are not considered in the accessible sparticle spectrum, since the LSP lifetime depends on the choice of squark masses. The results are presented as a function of the RPV coupling strength, λ'' , and as a function of the LSP lifetime and branching ratio. The correspondence between coupling strength and lifetime or branching ratio is determined by the choice of squark masses. The mean decay length for a bino-like lightest neutralino can be numerically estimated [23] from:

$$L(cm) = \frac{0.9\beta\gamma}{\lambda''^2} \left(\frac{m(\tilde{q})}{100 \text{ GeV}} \right)^4 \left(\frac{1 \text{ GeV}}{m(\tilde{\chi}_1^0)} \right)^5 \quad (2)$$

For a fixed value of the coupling higher squark masses lead to higher neutralino lifetimes. The computation of lifetime and branching ratios is performed with SPHENO 4.0.2 [24, 25] in combination with SARAH 4.12.0 [26].

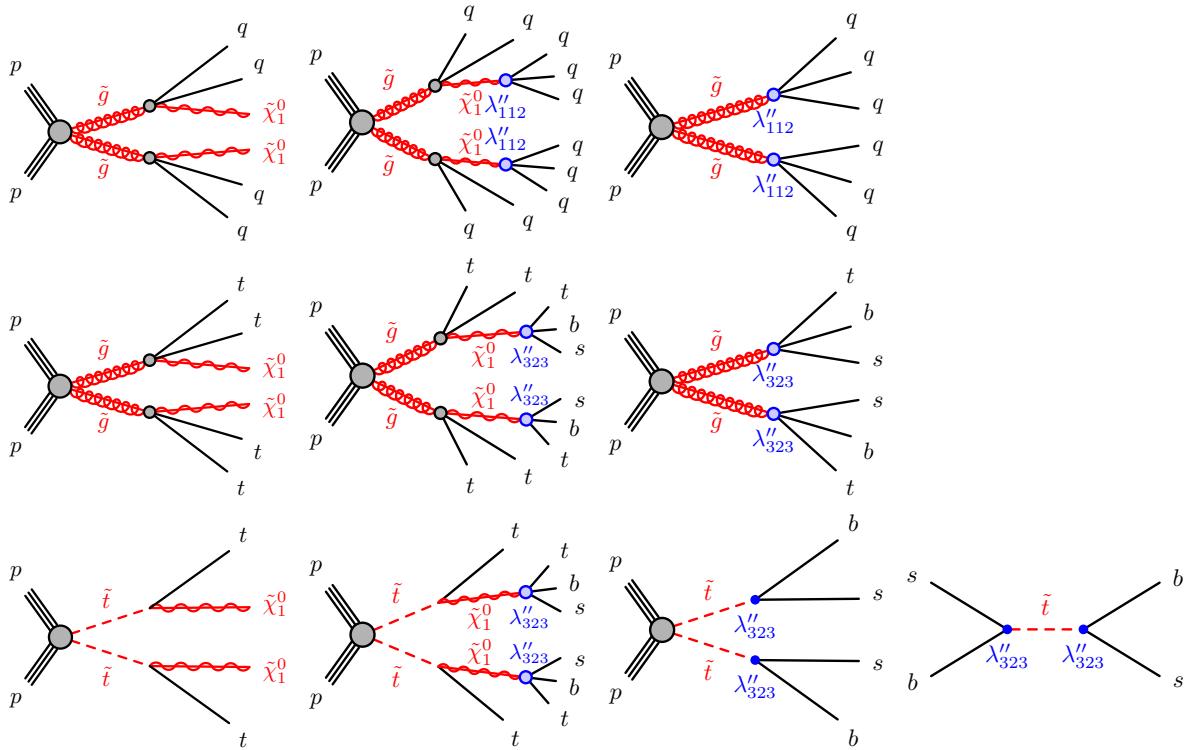


Figure 1: Production and decay processes for the three RPV SUSY models considered: (top) Gqq model, (middle) Gtt model, and (bottom) stop model. For each model the dominant process varies with increasing λ'' coupling from left to right.

Three simplified models are considered:

Gqq model: the model contains light gluinos and the LSP, with non-zero λ''_{112} coupling and all other RPV couplings equal to zero. The gluinos are pair-produced and decay via off-shell squarks of the first and second generation. For low values of the RPV coupling the gluino decays as $\tilde{g} \rightarrow qq\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ ($q = u, d, s, c$) with the subsequent LSP decay, $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow qqq$. For larger values of the coupling the gluino can also decay as $\tilde{g} \rightarrow qqq$. The masses of the first and second generation squarks are

assumed to be 3 TeV, while the masses of the other sparticles are set above 5 TeV, including third generation squarks.

Gtt model: the model contains light gluinos and the LSP, with non-zero λ''_{323} coupling and all other RPV couplings equal to zero. Values of the λ''_{323} coupling that are larger than the rest of the couplings are favored by the MFV hypothesis [22]. The gluinos are pair-produced and decay via off-shell top squarks. For low values of the RPV coupling the gluino decays as $\tilde{g} \rightarrow tt\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ with the subsequent LSP decay, $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow tbs$. For larger values of the coupling the gluino can also decay as $\tilde{g} \rightarrow tbs$. The masses of the third-generation squarks are assumed to be 2.4 TeV; the masses of the other sparticles are set above 5 TeV, including first- and second-generation squarks. The choice for the masses of third-generation squarks is made to ensure that the prompt decay regime is reached before the branching fraction of $\tilde{g} \rightarrow tbs$ becomes non-negligible. A different choice is needed with respect to the Gqq model due to the presence of only two light right-handed squarks (stop and sbottom) and the phase-space suppression due to the top quark mass in the decay. Concurrence of direct RPV gluino decays and decays to a long-lived neutralino are possible for other choices of third-generation squark masses, but are not considered in this note.

Stop model: the model contains a light stop, \tilde{t}_1 , which is the right-handed superpartner of the top quark, and the LSP, with non-zero λ''_{323} coupling and all other RPV couplings equal to zero. Stops are pair-produced and decay as $\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow t\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ for low coupling values, or $\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow bs$ for high coupling strengths. The LSP always decays as $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow tbs$. The masses of the other sparticles are set above 3 TeV, but since the RPV decay proceeds via the right-handed stop, which is already part of the simplified model, there is no impact from this choice on the lifetime or branching ratios. For high coupling values single stop resonant production is also considered, $pp \rightarrow \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow bs$, leading to a di-jet final state which may provide stronger constraints on the stop mass than pair production at the LHC [27]. The cross section for single production is more than two orders of magnitude higher than pair production for a stop mass of 500 GeV and for a fixed value of the coupling strength of $\lambda''_{323} = 1$, and evolves as $(\lambda''_{323})^2$.

Figure 1 illustrates the production and decay modes considered in the three models, as a function of the λ'' coupling strength. For very small values of the coupling the decay of the LSP can be displaced. For higher values of the coupling the decay of the LSP is prompt and the diagrams in the middle column occur with 100% branching ratio. For even higher values of the coupling the direct decay of the gluino or stop (right column) occurs with increasing branching ratio, reaching 100% for λ'' values of order one. Direct decays of the gluino or stop are always prompt.

A theoretical upper limit on the coupling strength can be obtained by considering the renormalization group equations (RGE) of the superpotential parameters and by requiring the couplings to be perturbative up to the unification (GUT) scale, $\lambda''(M_{GUT}) < \sqrt{4\pi}$. The limits obtained are $\lambda''_{112} < 1.25$ [28] and $\lambda''_{323} < 1.07$ [29]. More stringent experimental limits on λ''_{112} can be obtained for particular choices of the sparticle masses. Low-energy measurements such as di-nucleon decay [30, 31] impose $\lambda''_{112} \lesssim 5 \cdot 10^{-7} \left(\frac{m(\tilde{s}_R)}{1 \text{ TeV}}\right)^2 \left(\frac{m(\tilde{g})}{1 \text{ TeV}}\right)^{1/2}$. Combined with Eq. (2) lifetimes shorter than 100 ns are excluded for gluino masses up to 5 TeV, assuming a neutralino mass of 200 GeV. This lifetime limit scales as $m(\tilde{\chi}_1^0)^{-5}$, and is evaded if the masses of the second generation squarks are chosen to be much larger than those of the first generation. The ATLAS analyses described in this note that provide limits on this model do not rely on b -quark identification, therefore the limits can be interpreted for any choice of λ''_{ijk} with $i \neq 3$, for which no such stringent limits exist. No experimental limit can be set on λ''_{323} .

Samples of Monte Carlo (MC) simulated events are used to model the signal. The response of the detector to signal events is modeled with the full ATLAS detector simulation [32] based on GEANT4 [33]. All simulated events are overlaid with pile-up collisions simulated with the soft strong interaction processes of PYTHIA 8.186 [34] using the A2 set of tunable parameters (tune) [35] and the MSTW2008LO [36] parton distribution function (PDF) set. Signal samples are generated at leading order with MADGRAPH5_aMC@NLO 2.3.3 [37] interfaced to PYTHIA 8.210, with up to two additional partons in the matrix element and using the A14 [38] tune for the underlying event. The parton luminosities are provided by the NNPDF23LO [39] PDF set.

Signal pair-production cross-sections are calculated to next-to-leading order in the strong coupling constant, adding the resummation of soft-gluon emission at next-to-leading-logarithmic accuracy (NLO+NLL) [40–44]. The nominal cross-section and its uncertainty are taken from an envelope of cross-section predictions using different PDF sets as well as different factorization and renormalization scales, as described in Ref. [45]. Although the models in this note specify the squark masses, contributions from squarks are not considered in the gluino pair-production cross-sections. The cross-section for single stop resonant production is computed at next-to-leading order in the strong coupling constant [27, 46].

Figure 2 shows the impact of neutralino decays with different lifetimes on four representative distributions. The number of jets increases once the neutralino decays are sufficiently prompt to be reconstructed in the calorimeter. A similar behavior is also seen in the number of b -tagged jets, but the maximum of the distribution occurs for a lifetime of 0.01 ns, where the additional decay length of the neutralino increases the b -tagging efficiency. Larger lifetimes reduce the number of b -tagged jets as the tracks are no longer reconstructed. The magnitude of the missing transverse momentum, E_T^{miss} , is reduced for shorter lifetimes as a larger fraction of decays happen within the detector volume; this reduction of the E_T^{miss} signal strongly reduces the sensitivity of RPC searches. The m_{eff} variable, defined as the scalar sum of lepton p_T , jet p_T and E_T^{miss} , increases slightly for events where the neutralino decays. This increase of the m_{eff} is caused by the momentum and mass of the neutralino being transmitted to the decay products: the scalar sum of the LSP decay products is always larger than the vectorial sum of the LSPs when they contribute to the E_T^{miss} .

2.2 *R*-hadron model

An additional simplified model inspired by Split SUSY is considered in this note, and referred to as the *R*-hadron model.

In this model, the gluino is kinematically accessible at LHC energies while the squarks have masses that are several orders of magnitude larger, in the PeV range. The gluino decays via a highly virtual intermediate state resulting in macroscopic lifetimes. Unlike the models described above, the long-lived particle is the gluino, which decays to a stable LSP via RPC couplings as shown in the first diagram of Figure 1. The LSP is assumed to be the lightest neutralino, $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$, with a mass of 100 GeV.

If the gluino lifetime is larger than the hadronization timescale of order 10^{-23} s, it will form a color-singlet state with SM quarks and gluons. This bound state is referred to as an *R*-hadron. The mass of the *R*-hadron is dictated by the mass of the gluino with additional contributions from the mass of the bound SM particles and the binding energy associated with the hadron. The decays of the *R*-hadrons are largely defined by the decay of the underlying gluino with a small amount of additional hadronic activity initiated by the spectator partons.

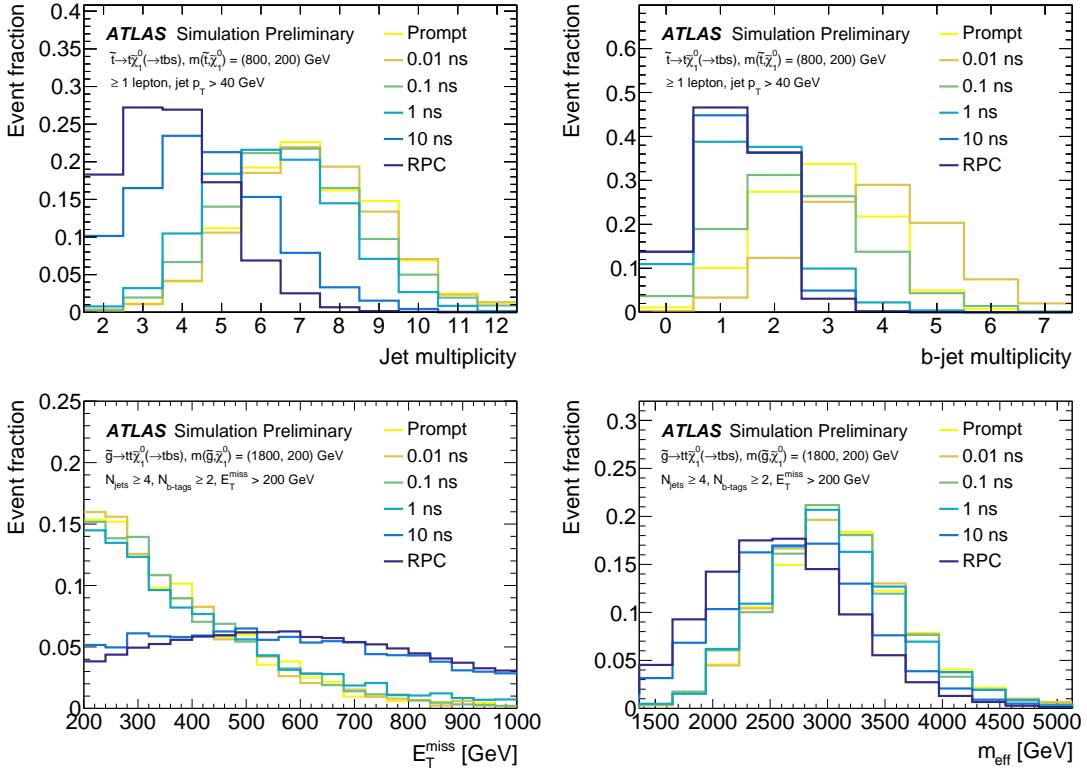


Figure 2: Impact of neutralino decays with different lifetimes on the number of jets, number of b -tags, E_T^{miss} , and m_{eff} . All observables are shown at the reconstruction level with full simulation of the ATLAS detector.

Long-lived gluinos may hadronize into gluino-gluon balls ($\tilde{g}g$), gluino R -baryons ($\tilde{g}qqq$), or gluino R -mesons ($\tilde{g}q\bar{q}$). In this note, a model of R -hadrons is employed as described in [47–49]. Signal samples are simulated with PYTHIA 6.428, with the AUET2B tune [35] parameters for the underlying event and the CTEQ6L1 [50] PDF set. Dedicated routines [49, 51, 52] for hadronization of heavy colored particles were used to simulate the production of R -hadrons, while the interactions of the R -hadrons with matter are handled by a dedicated simulation implemented in GEANT4 [48].

The decay of the R -hadrons produces a final state with jets and E_T^{miss} . In the range of lifetimes where the decay of the R -hadron occurs within the inner detector, it can produce a displaced vertex signature for which dedicated searches exist [15]. For shorter lifetimes the number of sufficiently displaced vertices decreases and the signal resembles an RPC decay.

3 Analyses

A set of nine ATLAS searches that are sensitive to the models described in Section 2 are re-interpreted to set exclusion limits. None of the analyses saw significant excesses above the SM expectation in datasets ranging from 3.2 fb^{-1} to 37 fb^{-1} of 13 TeV proton–proton collision data. An outline of each of the included analyses is presented below, and the main characteristics of the most sensitive signal regions used can be found in Table 2. All the signal regions from the corresponding analyses are considered in the limit setting procedure, even if not listed in the table, except where explicitly noted. The requirements on E_T^{miss}

or related variables are shown for each analysis, highlighting the different approach of RPC and RPV searches.

RPC 0-lepton, 2-6 jets: the analysis [53] searches for pair production of squarks or gluinos in final states with jets and E_T^{miss} , while vetoing electrons or muons. Two strategies are used: one based on the m_{eff} variable, and a second one based on recursive jigsaw reconstruction. Only m_{eff} SRs are considered here since they provide the best performance for the chosen neutralino mass. The search sets an exclusion limit on the gluino mass around 2 TeV in a simplified model with RPC, equivalent to the Gqq model considered in this note in the limit of a vanishingly small λ'' coupling. The analysis rejects events from detector noise and non-collision background, if at least one of the two leading jets with $p_T > 100$ GeV fails to satisfy the ‘Tight’ quality criteria, as described in Ref. [54]. This requirement places a cut on the jet charged particle fraction, defined as the ratio of the scalar sum of the p_T of the tracks associated with the jet to the jet p_T . This requirement introduces a high inefficiency for long-lived signals where displaced jets have no associated tracks, and is modified with respect to the original result. The modified requirement is based on the longitudinal calorimeter-sampling profile of these jets, and has been used in ATLAS searches for long-lived particles [15]. The two leading jets are required to have less than 96% of their energy in the electromagnetic calorimeter and less than 80% of their energy in a single calorimeter layer. The signal and background yields in all signal and control regions show minimal changes, with all variations with respect to published results being below 4%, and below 2% for most regions. The full yields are provided in Appendix A. No excess of events is observed in any of the signal regions with the modified cleaning procedure.

RPC 0-lepton, 7-11 jets: the analysis [55] searches for gluinos which decay via long chains of particles, yielding a final state with high jet multiplicity and moderate E_T^{miss} . The analysis relies on a simplified E_T^{miss} significance, defined as $E_T^{\text{miss}}/\sqrt{H_T}$, where H_T is the scalar sum of all jet p_T . The models targeted by this search do not map directly to the models considered in this note; in simplified models with long decay chains of SUSY particles, the analysis sets limits of up to 1.8 TeV on the gluino mass. Given the high jet multiplicity in events with moderate λ'' coupling, and the possibility to obtain moderate E_T^{miss} due to misreconstruction of jets from late decays, this search has potential sensitivity to the Gqq and Gtt models.

RPC multi- b : the analysis [56] targets gluino production with the subsequent decay to top quarks and a neutralino, in a scenario equivalent to the Gtt model in the RPC limit. The search requires high jet and b -jet multiplicity, moderate E_T^{miss} and large m_{eff} . The final states with zero or one lepton are analyzed, and the sensitivity of the search is optimized using a two-dimensional shape-fit of the number of jets and m_{eff} . Gluino masses up to 2 TeV are excluded for a 200 GeV neutralino mass.

RPV 1-lepton: the analysis [57] searches for gluinos and stops in models with RPV couplings, yielding final states with at least one lepton, very high jet multiplicity and either no b -jets or many b -jets. The search sets limit on the stop mass around 1 TeV in a model equivalent to the one considered in this note, in the regime where the LSP decay is prompt and assuming the stop decays only as $\tilde{t} \rightarrow t\tilde{\chi}_1^0 (\rightarrow tbs)$. The search also sets limits on the gluino mass for two models that are similar to the Gtt model considered in this note, in the the regime where the LSP decay is prompt and the gluino decays only to $\tilde{g} \rightarrow tt\tilde{\chi}_1^0$, or only to $\tilde{g} \rightarrow tbs$.

RPC stop 0-lepton, stop 1-lepton: both analyses [58, 59] search for stop pair production in a $t\bar{t} + E_T^{\text{miss}}$ final state, with either both tops decaying hadronically, or one top decaying hadronically and the other leptonically. Both analyses exploit jet reclustering to reconstruct boosted hadronic top decays,

while requiring that other quantities are incompatible with SM top quark pair production. Both searches set an exclusion limit on the stop mass around 1 TeV in a simplified model with RPC, equivalent to the stop model considered in this note in the limit of a vanishingly small λ'' coupling.

RPC and RPV same-sign and 3-leptons (SS/3L): the analysis [60] covers a large variety of models including both RPC and RPV scenarios. Among the targeted scenarios are the three distinct regimes of the Gtt model described before, as well as final states compatible with the stop model with a prompt decay of the neutralino. The requirement of two same-sign or three leptons provides a powerful handle to suppress the Standard Model backgrounds, and allows the search to design SRs with and without an E_T^{miss} requirement, in order to cover RPC and RPV scenarios.

RPV stop dijet pairs: the analysis [61] targets stop pair production with the subsequent decay to a b -quark and s -quark, in a scenario equivalent to the stop model considered in this note in the regime with very high RPV coupling. The analysis requires two pairs of jets with large mass and low mass asymmetry, \mathcal{A} . Stop masses up to 610 GeV are excluded assuming decays only to $\tilde{t} \rightarrow bs$.

Dijet and TLA: For very high coupling values, single stop resonant production is also considered, $pp \rightarrow \tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow bs$, leading to a di-jet final state. The offline dijet search [62] and the trigger-level-analysis (TLA) dijet search [63] are reinterpreted to set limits in this regime. Both analyses search for a localized excess in the dijet mass spectrum, with small rapidity separation, $|y^*|$.² No signal samples are generated, and the limits on generic Gaussian resonances are reinterpreted. The procedure to reinterpret the Gaussian resonance limits is outlined in the Appendix of Ref. [64]. It requires the computation of acceptances suitable for the signal, which have been already computed in Ref. [27] and are applied here. The width-to-mass ratio is found to be 5 – 7% over the range of stop masses, and the experimental limits on a generic Gaussian resonance with width 7% are used for the reinterpretation.

4 Objects and systematic uncertainties

The analyses contained in this note are not designed to target long-lived signals, and as such use the standard ATLAS reconstruction of prompt objects. The object definition varies across analyses and can be found in the respective publications. Two choices that are common across analyses and have direct impact on displaced jets and leptons are discussed in the following.

To minimize the contribution from jets arising from pile-up interactions, the jets used by the analyses must satisfy a loose jet vertex tagger (JVT) requirement [65], where JVT is an algorithm that uses tracking and primary vertex information to determine if a given jet originates from the primary vertex. The chosen working point has an efficiency of 94% at a jet p_T of 40 GeV and is nearly fully efficient at 60 GeV for jets originating from the hard parton–parton scattering. The JVT requirement is only applied to jets up to 60 GeV and within $|\eta| < 2.4$.³ Jets above this p_T threshold will be accepted by the analyses even if they originate from displaced decays.

² ATLAS uses a right-handed coordinate system with its origin at the nominal interaction point (IP) in the center of the detector and the z -axis along the beam pipe. The x -axis points from the IP to the center of the LHC ring, and the y -axis points upwards. Cylindrical coordinates (r, ϕ) are used in the transverse plane, ϕ being the azimuthal angle around the z -axis. The pseudorapidity is defined in terms of the polar angle θ as $\eta = -\ln \tan(\theta/2)$. Angular distance is measured in units of $\Delta R \equiv \sqrt{(\Delta\eta)^2 + (\Delta\phi)^2}$. The distance from the interaction point along the z -axis is denoted as $|z|$.

³ The RPV 1L analysis applies JVT to all jets within $|\eta| < 2.4$, regardless of their p_T .

Analysis name	Leptons	Jets / <i>b</i> -tags	E_T^{miss} requirement	Representative cuts	Model targeted
RPC 0-lepton, 2-6 jets [53]	0	$\geq 4 / -$	$E_T^{\text{miss}} / m_{\text{eff}} > 0.2$	$m_{\text{eff}} > 3000 \text{ GeV}$	Gqq, <i>R</i> -hadron
RPC 0-lepton, 7-11 jets [55]	0	$\geq 7 / -$	$E_T^{\text{miss}} / \sqrt{H_T} > 5 \text{ GeV}^{1/2}$	–	Gqq
		$\geq 11 / \geq 2$			Gtt
RPC multi- <i>b</i> [56]	0	$\geq 7 / \geq 3$	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 350 \text{ GeV}$	$m_{\text{eff}} > 2600 \text{ GeV}$	Gtt
	1	$\geq 5 / \geq 3$	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 500 \text{ GeV}$	$m_{\text{eff}} > 2200 \text{ GeV}$	
RPV 1-lepton [57]	1	$\geq 10 / \geq 4$	–	–	Gtt, stop
RPC Stop 0-lepton [58]	0	$\geq 4 / \geq 2$	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 400 \text{ GeV}$	$m_{\text{jet},R=1.2} > 120 \text{ GeV}$	stop
RPC Stop 1-lepton [59]	1	$\geq 4 / \geq 1$	$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 250 \text{ GeV}$	$m_T > 160 \text{ GeV}$	stop
RPC and RPV same-sign and three leptons [60]	2 SS or 3	$\geq 6 / \geq 2$	$E_T^{\text{miss}} / m_{\text{eff}} > 0.15$	$m_{\text{eff}} > 1800 \text{ GeV}$	Gtt, stop
		$\geq 6 / \geq 2$	–	$m_{\text{eff}} > 2000 \text{ GeV}$	
RPV stop dijet pairs [61]	–	$\geq 4 / \geq 2$	–	$\mathcal{A} < 0.05$	stop
Dijet and TLA [62, 63]	–	$\geq 2 / -$	–	$ y^* < 0.6$	stop

Table 2: Main characteristics of the most sensitive signal region per analysis. Only an illustrative subset of the cuts that define each signal region are included here. A dash (–) is used to indicate that the variable is not used in the analysis selection. The requirement of two same-sign leptons is denoted as SS. The variables used to illustrate the signal region selections are defined in the text.

The leptons used by the different analyses have requirements on their impact parameters in the final state. The muon (electron) definition requires $|z_0 \sin \theta| < 0.5 \text{ mm}$ and $|d_0| / \sigma_{d_0} < 3 (5)$, therefore no displaced leptons are picked up by the analyses.

The performance of the reconstruction and calibration algorithms on displaced signals is studied, and dedicated uncertainties are developed to cover possible discrepancies in the MC simulation of such topologies. All analyses implement the full set of uncertainties described in the respective publication. In addition, the analyses that are sensitive to signals with sizable lifetime include two dedicated uncertainties to account for possible modeling differences between data and simulation of displaced signals, described in this Section. These uncertainties are only applied to signal samples, as the background events in all signal regions originate from promptly-decaying processes.

4.1 Jet energy scale uncertainties for displaced jets

Given the difficulty to study the response of displaced jets in data, an MC-based prescription is designed to evaluate additional uncertainties for displaced jets. The jet response, defined as the p_T ratio of the reconstructed jet over the truth jet, is studied in order to understand the effects of jet displacement on the jet energy scale (JES) and the jet energy resolution (JER).

The procedure of construction and investigation of the jet response follows the strategy described in [66]. The jet response is computed from reconstructed jets geometrically matched to truth jets using the distance measurement ΔR . Truth jets are labeled as originating from a long-lived particle by performing a p_T -dependent ΔR matching to the decaying neutralino or *R*-hadron. Only isolated jets are used to compute the jet response to avoid disturbing effects from near-by jets. Reconstructed jets are required to have no additional reconstructed jets within a cone of $\Delta R = 0.6$. Only one truth jet is allowed to be present within a cone of $\Delta R = 1.0$ of the reconstructed jet. Since reconstructed jets are always assumed to originate from

the primary vertex, a geometric correction to θ and ϕ is applied to the direction of the reconstructed jets, according to the position of the displaced vertex from the long-lived particle. This correction is performed only to improve the matching to truth jets, and the jet response is computed with respect to the uncorrected jet.

The deviation from unity of the observed jet response is affected by the volume of the calorimeter ($1.0 < R < 3.9$ m and $2.8 < |z| < 6$ m) and is taken as an extra systematic uncertainty, and parameterized as a function of the radial decay length of the long-lived particle. The assigned uncertainty is below the percent level for radial decay lengths below 1 m, grows linearly reaching 30% at 1.6 m, and remains approximately constant until it reaches the outside surface. The jet reconstruction efficiency decreases quickly while approaching the outside surface, dropping below 10% for radial decay lengths larger than 3 m.

Usually only a difference between data and MC in the response is considered as an uncertainty [66]. The use of the full response difference is however a conservative choice, since several studies of jets and calorimeter clusters in data with properties similar to displaced jets have shown much smaller levels of disagreement than the uncertainties assigned in this analysis. For example, the longitudinal shower profile in current GEANT physics lists agrees well between data and MC [67]; the modeling of the energy in clusters located in the hadronic calorimeter agrees well with the data [66]; and studies of jets with a large fraction of their energy deposited only in the hadronic calorimeter show that their p_T is well modelled [68]. While the applied uncertainty is thus conservative with respect to these studies in data, it does not strongly affect the sensitivity of the searches.

Similarly to what is done for JES, an extra systematic for JER was considered by studying the evolution of the width of the jet response as a function of the radial decay length. However, the variation of the JER is smaller than the uncertainty associated to it, and is not considered as an additional systematic.

4.2 *b*-tagging uncertainties for displaced jets

The *b*-tagging efficiency is expected to be affected by the additional decay length induced by the long-lived particle. For decay lengths of the order of millimeters the *b*-tagging efficiency improves, while it degrades rapidly once the jets originate after the innermost layer of silicon pixels (IBL), $31\text{ mm} < R_{\text{IBL}} < 40\text{ mm}$ [69]. The average *b*-tagging efficiency for jets originating from the decay of an LSP with $\tau_{\text{LSP}} = 0.01\text{ ns}$ is about 85% for *b*-jets and 20% for light-jets, compared to 77% and < 1% respectively in simulated $t\bar{t}$ events. The contribution from mis-tagged light-jets is therefore not negligible. In order to evaluate the systematic uncertainties associated to the *b*-tagging of displaced jets a bottom-up approach is used, where the underlying tracking observables are adjusted in MC samples to match those found in data, and the effect is then propagated to the *b*-tagging observables.

Measurements of tracking performance in both data and simulation are performed. The modeling of the tracking, such as impact-parameter resolution, track reconstruction efficiency and fake-rate, is adjusted in simulation to match the data. The *b*-tagging algorithm is re-evaluated on the adjusted MC to compute the modified *b*-tagging efficiency, and the uncertainties on the tracking modeling are propagated to the efficiency. The difference between nominal and adjusted efficiency is not used to correct the nominal simulation but is instead taken as an additional uncertainty.

The extra systematic uncertainty assigned is 10% (20%) for event selections with ≥ 2 b -tags (≥ 4 b -tags) and signal lifetimes of 1 ns. The size of the uncertainty decreases (increases) for shorter (longer) lifetimes.

4.3 Missing transverse momentum uncertainties

The missing transverse momentum is reconstructed from the negative vector sum of the transverse momenta of the hard objects in the event, and a soft term built from high-quality tracks that are associated with the primary vertex but not with the physics objects. Variations on the hard objects due to systematic uncertainties are propagated to the missing transverse momentum, including the additional JES uncertainty for displaced jets discussed before. Uncertainties on the soft term are taken into account but do not require additional terms due to displaced signals since it is built only from tracks associated with the primary vertex.

The performance of the missing energy trigger and its dependence with the LSP lifetime is evaluated in simulation and no impact on the trigger efficiency turn-on is observed. The online and offline E_T^{miss} definitions do not introduce significant differences in the treatment of displaced jets, therefore no additional trigger systematic is considered.

5 Results

Results are provided in the context of three RPV SUSY benchmark models and the R -hadron model discussed in Section 2, using the nine ATLAS analyses described in Section 3. In all cases except for the dijet analyses, the profile likelihood-ratio test [70] is used to establish 95% confidence intervals using the CL_s prescription [71]. In the dijet analyses a Bayesian procedure is used to set 95% credibility-level upper limits on generic Gaussian resonances [62]. Individual limits from each analysis are reported, and no combination is performed due to substantial overlaps in signal region definitions and in order to highlight the performance of the approach of each analysis.

Figure 3 shows the observed and expected lower gluino mass limits obtained in the Gqq model, as a function of the neutralino lifetime and the gluino branching ratio, as well as the equivalent λ''_{112} coupling strength. The RPC 0L 2-6 jet analysis sets the strongest limits on this model in the RPC and low λ''_{112} regime. The sensitivity of the analysis falls off rapidly as the lifetime of the $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ decreases and the decays to jets reduce the E_T^{miss} . The RPC 0L 7-11 jet analysis, also sets limits, but the moderate jet multiplicity of the signal reduces its efficiency in the small RPV coupling region, while the lack of E_T^{miss} reduces its efficiency in the large RPV coupling region. Gluino masses up to 2 TeV are excluded for a neutralino lifetime of 100 ns, and up to 1 TeV for a lifetime of 1 ns. While the generated model had non-zero values only for λ''_{112} , the limits apply for any λ''_{ijk} with $i \neq 3$. No limits are set for $\lambda''_{112} \gtrsim 10^{-4}$. Previous searches in all-hadronic final states have set a limit of about 1.2 TeV on the gluino mass when considering the prompt decay $\tilde{g} \rightarrow qq\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ [72], and 0.9 TeV when considering the prompt and direct decay to light quarks, $\tilde{g} \rightarrow qqq$ [73].

Figure 4 shows the observed and expected lower gluino mass limits obtained in the Gtt model, as a function of the neutralino lifetime and the gluino branching ratio, as well as the equivalent λ''_{323} coupling strength. The RPC multi- b analysis sets the strongest limits in the RPC limit and for low values of λ''_{323} . As the

coupling increases and the $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ lifetime decreases, the E_T^{miss} in the final state reduces substantially and weakens the limits. Unlike in the Gqq model, though, the high top quark multiplicity in the final state still leads to some E_T^{miss} through leptonic decays, which allows the analysis to continue to be sensitive to even higher values of λ''_{323} . The limits degrade further as the \tilde{g} decay transitions from the $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ cascade to a direct RPV decay, reducing the jet and top quark multiplicities compared to the direct RPV case and thereby lowering the sensitivity. The RPV 1L analysis sets the strongest limits for moderate and high values of λ''_{323} . The analysis was optimized for the high-multiplicity final state resulting from the $\tilde{g} \rightarrow tt\tilde{\chi}_1^0$, $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow tbs$ cascade, and indeed its sensitivity is strongest when the branching ratio to this final state is maximized. The peak sensitivity is achieved for signals with $\tau_{\text{LSP}} \approx 10^{-2}$ ns, due to the improvement in b -tagging efficiency. For higher values of λ''_{323} , the final state jet multiplicity is reduced, weakening the limits; for lower values of λ''_{323} , the displaced signature results in some particles escaping the detector and again reducing the final state jet multiplicity. The entire λ''_{323} range is covered effectively by the various analyses; the weakest limits occur for $\lambda''_{323} \approx 2 \cdot 10^{-3}$, where the appreciable $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ lifetime leads to displaced signatures which none of the existing analyses exploit, and at $\lambda''_{323} \approx 1$, where the \tilde{g} decays directly to fewer jets and is more difficult to separate from the background. The strongest limits occur in the RPC limit for the RPC multi- b analysis, and at $\lambda''_{323} \approx 3 \cdot 10^{-2}$ for the RPV 1L analysis.

Figure 5 shows the observed and expected lower stop mass limits obtained in the stop model as a function of λ''_{323} . Contours of $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ lifetime and branching ratios of direct decays, $\tilde{t} \rightarrow bs$, are overlaid since they depend on both the coupling value and the stop mass. In the RPC regime, and for low values of λ''_{323} , the RPC stop 0L and stop 1L analyses set the strongest limits. The reliance on high E_T^{miss} signatures quickly reduces the sensitivity at even moderate values of λ''_{323} and $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ lifetime. The RPV 1L analysis, in green, begins setting limits for slightly higher values of λ''_{323} , setting its strongest limits near $\lambda''_{323} \approx 10^{-2}$. The gap between the stop 0L/1L and RPV 1L analyses can potentially be closed by new searches utilizing displaced vertices or displaced leptons. At very high values of λ''_{323} , the stop dijet pairs analysis, in black, sets limits for low values of the stop mass. The single stop resonant production, accessible via the dijet analyses, sets extremely strong limits for these high values of λ''_{323} . The weakest limits in the plane occur in the transitions between analyses; the strongest are set by the dijet analysis, which excludes stops of mass 2.4 TeV at $\lambda''_{323} \approx 1$.

Figure 6 shows the observed and expected lower gluino mass limits obtained in the R -hadron model, as a function of the lifetime of the R -hadron.⁴ The re-interpretation of the 0L 2-6 jet analysis places the strongest limits for the lowest lifetime values, and provides strong limits until the decay of the R -hadron reaches the calorimeters. Results from previous ATLAS publications [15, 16, 18, 74] are also shown, excluding gluino masses up to 1.6 TeV over the full range of R -hadron lifetimes. While the sensitivity of analyses searching for the direct interaction of the R -hadron with the detector can be affected by the choice of R -hadron spectrum, the result presented here from the 0L 2-6 jet analysis is insensitive to these effects.

⁴ Contrary to Figures 3–5, the lifetime increases from left to right on Figure 6.

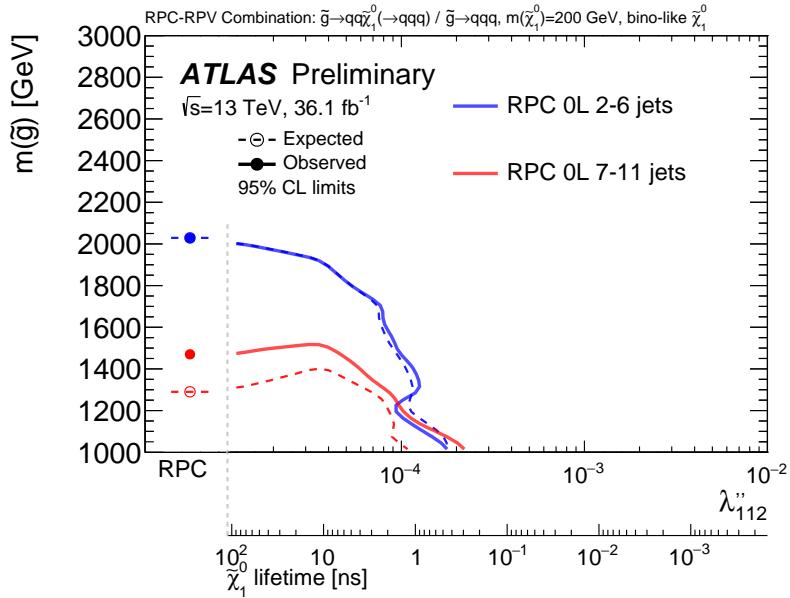


Figure 3: Exclusion limits for the Gqq model as a function of λ_{112}'' and $m(\tilde{g})$. Expected limits are shown with dashed lines, and observed as solid. The RPC-limit is shown on the leftmost part of the axes.

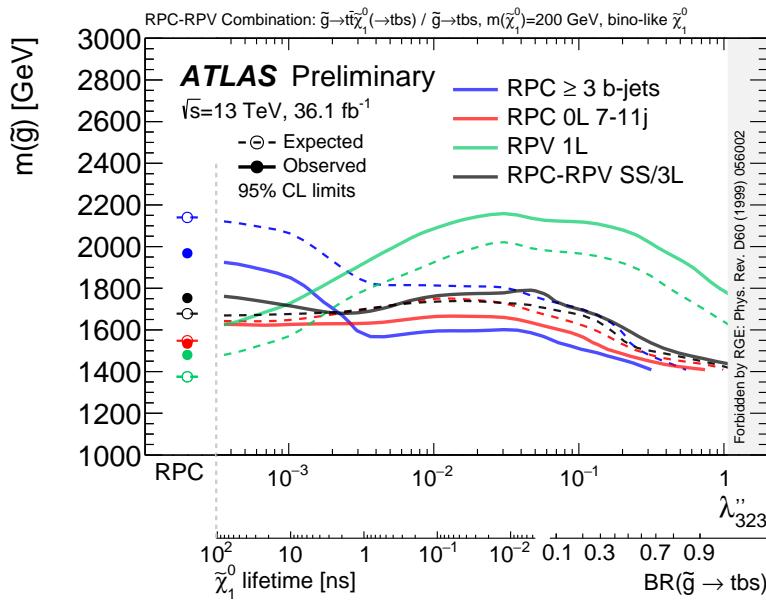


Figure 4: Exclusion limits for the Gtt model as a function of λ_{323}'' and $m(\tilde{g})$. Expected limits are shown with dashed lines, and observed as solid. The RPC-limit is shown on the leftmost part of the axes, while the region $\lambda_{323}'' > 1.07$ is forbidden by constraints from the renormalization group equations.

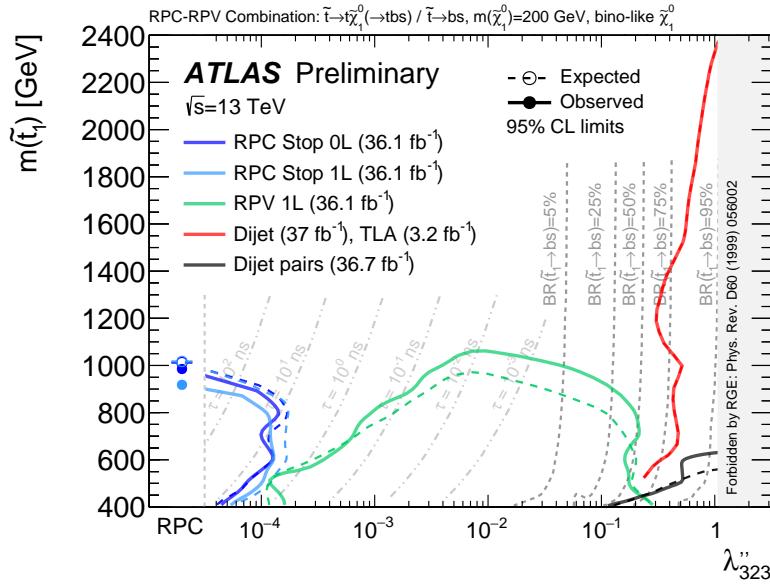


Figure 5: Exclusion limits for the stop model as a function of λ''_{323} and $m(\tilde{t})$. Expected limits are shown with dashed lines, and observed as solid. The RPC-limit is shown on the leftmost part of the axes, while the region $\lambda''_{323} > 1.07$ is forbidden by constraints from the renormalization group equations. No expected limit is shown for the dijet and TLA results.

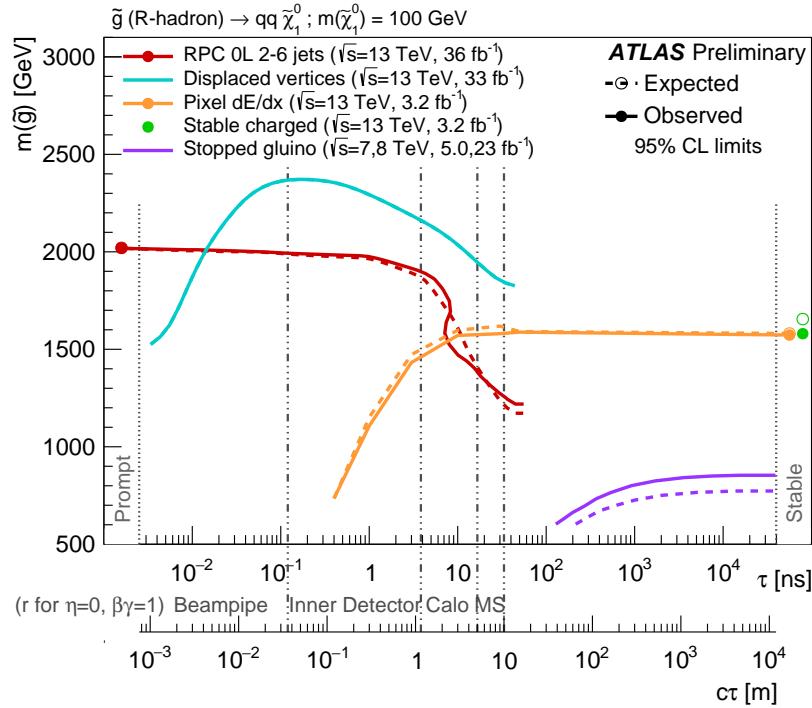


Figure 6: Exclusion limits for the R -hadron model, as a function of the R -hadron lifetime and the gluino mass. The area below the curves is excluded. Results from previous ATLAS publications covering the full range of R -hadron lifetimes are shown. The dots represent results for which the particle is assumed to be prompt or stable. In this context, stable means escaping the detector.

6 Conclusions

This note describes the reinterpretation of existing ATLAS analyses in models with variable R -parity coupling strength and R -hadron lifetime. Four simplified models, three targeting RPV scenarios and one targeting R -hadrons, are analyzed. The large variations in final state, and therefore in sensitivity, as a function of the R -parity coupling strength motivate a thorough examination of the full ATLAS SUSY program’s coverage. Different degrees of sensitivity are observed as a function of λ'' : in the gluino model with large branching fractions to top quarks, gluinos are excluded up to masses of 1.8 TeV, over the full range of lifetime and RPV coupling strengths. In the gluino model with decays to first and second generation quarks, the differences are even more striking: for low values of the coupling, gluino masses are excluded up to 2.0 TeV, but at high values of λ'' no limits are set. The stop model shows large variations in the limits as well: stop masses up to 2.4 TeV can be excluded at high values of λ'' , but no limits can be established for values of $\lambda'' \approx 10^{-4}$, equivalent to neutralino lifetimes around 1 ns. Gluinos in models with short lived R -hadrons can also be excluded up to masses of 2.0 TeV by the re-interpretation of existing RPC-targeting analyses.

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Appendices

A Signal region yields for RPC 0-lepton 2-6 jets with updated cleaning cuts

Table 3 reports the number of observed and expected events in the signal regions for the RPC 0-lepton 2-6 jets analysis with the updated cleaning cuts.

B Resonant single stop production cross-sections

The cross-section for single stop resonant production used for the reinterpretation of the dijet and TLA analysis are taken from Ref. [27] and the numerical values are given in Table 4 for a fixed choice of the

Signal Region [Meff-]	2j-1200	2j-1600	2j-2000	2j-2400	2j-2800	2j-3600	2j-B1600	2j-B2400
MC expected events								
Diboson	27.45	14.84	5.55	3.39	1.16	0.21	1.88	0.41
Z/ γ^* +jets	343.44	139.74	53.91	24.19	10.25	2.29	16.45	2.48
W+jets	140.77	46.66	18.07	8.09	3.29	1.09	5.04	0.67
$t\bar{t}$ (+EW) + single top	21.02	5.72	2.48	1.13	0.32	0.04	0.80	0.03
Multi-jet	1.22	0.14	0.05	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00
Fitted background events								
Diboson	27 \pm 4	14.8 \pm 2.3	5.5 \pm 1.2	3.4 \pm 0.7	1.16 \pm 0.21	0.21 \pm 0.07	1.9 \pm 0.5	0.41 \pm 0.07
Z/ γ^* +jets	334 \pm 19	142 \pm 11	64 \pm 8	28.0 \pm 3.3	12.3 \pm 1.5	3.0 \pm 0.8	14.4 \pm 1.9	2.8 \pm 0.6
W+jets	141 \pm 24	67 \pm 16	19 \pm 4	9.5 \pm 2.5	3.6 \pm 1.1	0.37 \pm 0.32	5.4 \pm 3.1	0.7 \pm 0.7
$t\bar{t}$ (+EW) + single top	15 \pm 4	2.8 \pm 1.6	1.4 \pm 1.0	0.5 \pm 0.5	0.18 \pm 0.16	0.04 \pm 0.05	0.5 \pm 0.5	0.02 \pm 0.67
Multi-jet	2.2 \pm 2.1	0.2 \pm 0.2	0.07 \pm 0.07	0.02 \pm 0.02	0.00 \pm 0.00	–	0.03 \pm 0.03	0.00 \pm 0.00
Total MC	533.89	207.11	80.05	36.81	15.03	3.63	24.20	3.60
Total bkg	520 \pm 30	227 \pm 19	90 \pm 10	41 \pm 4	17.3 \pm 2.0	3.6 \pm 0.9	22 \pm 4	3.9 \pm 1.1
Observed	601	212	71	34	19	5	27	4
Signal Region [Meff-]	2j-2100	3j-1300	4j-1000	4j-1400	4j-1800	4j-2200	4j-2600	4j-3000
MC expected events								
Diboson	12.30	36.86	6.05	17.85	5.95	2.43	1.82	0.24
Z/ γ^* +jets	114.05	263.57	59.16	99.50	32.78	11.95	4.04	1.35
W+jets	33.38	106.45	28.72	51.41	14.47	4.46	1.63	0.61
$t\bar{t}$ (+EW) + single top	4.87	35.73	42.64	41.65	7.55	1.63	0.63	0.20
Multi-jet	0.09	1.18	0.26	0.33	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.00
Fitted background events								
Diboson	12 \pm 5	37 \pm 6	6.0 \pm 1.1	17.9 \pm 3.0	5.9 \pm 1.1	2.4 \pm 0.7	1.8 \pm 0.8	0.24 \pm 0.07
Z/ γ^* +jets	101 \pm 8	217 \pm 20	51 \pm 7	85 \pm 10	25 \pm 4	9.9 \pm 2.0	2.3 \pm 0.9	1.2 \pm 0.5
W+jets	35 \pm 10	106 \pm 19	22 \pm 7	42 \pm 10	12 \pm 6	3.3 \pm 1.1	1.55 \pm 1.0	0.39 \pm 0.3
$t\bar{t}$ (+EW) + single top	2.6 \pm 1.4	25 \pm 9	42 \pm 8	35 \pm 8	4.9 \pm 2.1	0.8 \pm 0.4	0.13 \pm 0.17	0.12 \pm 0.11
Multi-jet	0.11 \pm 0.11	1.33 \pm 1.34	0.38 \pm 0.38	0.5 \pm 0.5	0.09 \pm 0.09	0.02 \pm 0.02	0.03 \pm 0.03	0.01 \pm 0.01
Total MC	164.69	443.78	136.83	210.75	60.81	20.48	8.13	2.40
Total bkg	151 \pm 13	385 \pm 29	122 \pm 11	181 \pm 15	48 \pm 7	16.5 \pm 2.7	5.8 \pm 1.9	2.0 \pm 0.6
Observed	193	419	141	192	53	23	4	2
Signal Region [Meff-]	5j-1600	5j-1700	5j-2000	5j-2600	6j-1200	6j-1800	6j-2200	6j-2600
MC expected events								
Diboson	10.76	6.64	8.81	2.57	19.84	1.87	1.67	1.32
Z/ γ^* +jets	55.64	29.83	49.97	7.35	108.48	3.26	1.25	0.75
W+jets	42.03	15.33	18.44	2.55	80.98	2.19	0.67	0.44
$t\bar{t}$ (+EW) + single top	44.20	11.82	9.89	0.76	141.67	4.19	0.63	0.39
Multi-jet	4.84	0.05	0.06	0.01	1.26	0.05	0.01	0.02
Fitted background events								
Diboson	10.8 \pm 1.8	6.6 \pm 1.1	8.8 \pm 1.5	2.6 \pm 0.7	19.8 \pm 3.4	1.9 \pm 0.7	1.7 \pm 0.8	1.3 \pm 0.9
Z/ γ^* +jets	42 \pm 5	20 \pm 4	36 \pm 6	6.0 \pm 1.7	61 \pm 11	1.1 \pm 0.6	0.9 \pm 0.5	0.38 \pm 0.29
W+jets	26 \pm 7	7.9 \pm 2.6	13.1 \pm 3.3	0.41 \pm 0.44	45 \pm 22	0.80 \pm 1.06	0.10 \pm 0.16	0.16 \pm 0.24
$t\bar{t}$ (+EW) + single top	39 \pm 8	7.0 \pm 2.6	6.5 \pm 2.6	0.4 \pm 0.4	143 \pm 24	1.2 \pm 1.1	0.36 \pm 0.27	0.24 \pm 0.24
Multi-jet	9 \pm 9	0.08 \pm 0.08	0.08 \pm 0.08	0.01 \pm 0.01	1.27 \pm 1.27	0.12 \pm 0.12	0.02 \pm 0.03	0.06 \pm 0.06
Total MC	157.46	63.67	87.17	13.22	352.23	11.56	4.24	2.92
Total bkg	128 \pm 14	42 \pm 5	65 \pm 7	9.3 \pm 2.1	271 \pm 32	5.1 \pm 1.8	3.1 \pm 1.3	2.1 \pm 1.4
Observed	132	46	57	10	269	9	3	1

Table 3: Numbers of events observed in the signal regions used in the m_{eff} -based analysis compared with background predictions, with the modified cleaning requirements. Empty cells (indicated by a ‘-’) correspond to estimates lower than 0.01.

coupling strength, $\lambda_{323}'' = 0.1$.

C Cutflows

The impact of the neutralino lifetime and the gluino or stop branching fraction on the acceptance is shown in Tables 5 to 10. The numbers given are the relative efficiency of each cut in per-cent. The largest degradation in acceptance for RPC analyses originates from the lower E_T^{miss} in the event. For RPV analyses the degradation mostly originates from the reduce number of reconstructed jets.

Stop mass [GeV]	LO cross-section [pb]	NLO cross-section [pb]
200	3514	4240
250	1652	2026
300	777	966
350	439	553
400	249	316
450	156	201
500	98.2	127
550	66.2	86.1
600	44.6	58.3
650	31.5	41.3
700	22.2	29.2
750	16.3	21.5
800	11.9	15.8
850	9.0	11.9
900	6.78	8.95
950	5.22	6.9
1000	4.03	5.32
1100	2.52	3.33
1200	1.57	2.08
1300	1.05	1.38
1400	0.697	0.92
1500	0.463	0.612
1600	0.324	0.428
1700	0.227	0.3
1800	0.159	0.21
1900	0.114	0.151
2000	0.0824	0.109
2200	0.045	0.0595
2400	0.0246	0.0325

Table 4: Single stop resonant production cross-section as a function of the stop mass, for a fixed choice of the coupling strength, $\lambda''_{323} = 0.1$.

Selection	RPC	$\tau = 100$ ns	$\tau = 10$ ns	$\tau = 1$ ns	$\tau = 0.1$ ns
Pre-selection, $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 250$ GeV, $p_T(\text{jet1}) > 200$ GeV, $m_{\text{eff}} > 800$ GeV	88.5	82.0	70.5	8.4	1.6
jet multiplicity ≥ 2	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cleaning Cuts	97.6	94.9	79.4	70.6	98.7
jet multiplicity ≥ 4	95.5	95.2	97.1	99.7	100.0
$\Delta\Phi(\text{jet}_{1,2,(3)}, E_T^{\text{miss}}) > 0.4$	81.4	82.1	80.7	69.5	24.8
$\Delta\Phi(\text{jet}_{i>3}, E_T^{\text{miss}}) > 0.4$	75.9	75.8	70.9	60.1	15.8
$p_T(\text{jet}_3) > 150$ GeV	71.3	72.4	75.5	90.7	100.0
$ \eta(\text{jet}_{1,2,3,4}) < 2.0$	92.5	92.9	92.7	96.4	100.0
Aplanarity > 0.04	73.1	75.0	77.7	70.8	83.3
$E_T^{\text{miss}}/m_{\text{eff}}(4\text{j}) > 0.2$	76.4	74.3	71.3	87.6	0.0
$m_{\text{eff}}(\text{incl.}) > 3000$ GeV	50.7	52.8	61.2	83.6	—

Table 5: Cutflow for the 0-lepton Meff4j-3000 signal region, considering a signal in the Gqq model with $m(\tilde{g}, \tilde{\chi}_1^0) = (1800, 200)$ GeV, and different neutralino lifetimes. The numbers given are the relative efficiency of each cut in per-cent.

Selection	RPC	$\tau = 100$ ns	$\tau = 10$ ns	$\tau = 1$ ns	$\tau = 0.1$ ns	$\tau = 0.01$ ns	BR=0%	BR=25%	BR=50%	BR=75%	BR=100%
All Events	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
≥ 1 baseline lepton and trigger	40.6	39.7	39.5	40.2	45.7	48.8	53.9	46.2	38.1	29.6	20.7
≥ 1 signal lepton	84.9	84.8	84.9	82.0	74.1	68.2	82.0	81.6	81.2	80.5	79.3
≥ 5 jets	91.7	92.4	94.4	99.2	99.6	99.8	100.0	99.8	99.6	99.2	98.6
≥ 10 jets	8.2	9.6	15.6	38.5	47.5	54.3	55.0	48.0	40.3	31.1	18.0
≥ 4 b-jet	32.7	36.1	33.4	32.8	59.9	91.4	70.3	65.9	59.9	50.4	24.6

Table 6: Cutflow for the RPV 1L analysis, considering a signal in the Gtt model with $m(\tilde{g}, \tilde{\chi}_1^0) = (1800, 200)$ GeV, and different lifetimes and branching fractions. The BR in the column headers refer to $\text{BR}(\tilde{g} \rightarrow tbs)$. The numbers given are the relative efficiency of each cut in per-cent.

Selection GeV	RPC	$\tau = 100$ ns	$\tau = 10$ ns	$\tau = 1$ ns	$\tau = 0.1$ ns	$\tau = 0.01$ ns
DxAOD skimming	94.0	82.0	86.0	75.0	77.0	78.0
Jet/ E_T^{miss} cleaning	98.9	93.9	76.7	96.0	100.0	100.0
Cosmic muon cut	98.9	98.7	97.0	93.1	77.9	78.2
Lepton veto	58.7	53.9	54.7	47.8	43.3	39.3
$N_{\text{jets}} \geq 4$	98.1	97.6	97.1	100.0	100.0	100.0
$\mathbf{p}_T^{\text{miss,track}} > 30$ GeV	71.7	75.0	85.3	90.6	88.5	87.5
$N_{b\text{-jet}} \geq 1$	92.1	90.0	93.1	89.7	100.0	100.0
$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 250$ GeV	60.0	59.3	44.4	15.4	12.6	10.5
$ \Delta\phi(\mathbf{p}_T^{\text{miss}}, \mathbf{p}_T^{\text{miss,track}}) < 1/3\pi$	95.2	93.8	91.7	72.5	72.4	63.6
$ \Delta\phi(\text{jet}^{0,1,2}, \mathbf{p}_T^{\text{miss}}) > 0.4$	95.0	93.3	85.5	65.5	71.4	71.4
$m_{\text{jet}, R=1.2}^0 > 120$ GeV	73.7	78.6	75.5	78.9	86.7	90.0
SRB-TT						
$m_{\text{jet}, R=1.2}^1 > 120$ GeV	18.6	19.1	28.2	31.3	46.9	50.0
$\Delta R(b, b) > 1.2$	84.6	85.7	80.0	78.7	82.0	75.6
$m_T^{b, \text{max}} > 200$ GeV	90.9	94.4	87.5	81.1	88.0	88.2
$m_T^{b, \text{min}} > 200$ GeV	70.0	76.5	69.3	60.0	36.4	18.0
Tau Veto	85.7	84.6	75.3	47.2	42.5	20.4
$N_{b\text{-jet}} \geq 2$	58.3	61.8	61.6	29.4	52.9	100.0
SRB-TW						
$m_{\text{jet}, R=1.2}^1 < 120$ GeV	78.6	77.3	71.8	73.3	50.0	51.1
$m_{\text{jet}, R=1.2}^1 > 60$ GeV	35.5	35.3	41.2	51.8	50.8	54.3
$\Delta R(b, b) > 1.2$	79.5	76.7	81.0	77.2	81.8	80.0
$m_T^{b, \text{max}} > 200$ GeV	87.1	87.0	82.4	86.4	77.8	95.0
$m_T^{b, \text{min}} > 200$ GeV	70.4	65.0	70.0	57.9	45.2	24.7
Tau Veto	84.2	76.9	72.4	40.9	43.2	72.3
$N_{b\text{-jet}} \geq 2$	58.8	51.0	53.5	37.8	75.6	64.7
SRB-T0						
$m_{\text{jet}, R=1.2}^1 < 60$ GeV	51.4	50.0	43.7	33.3	23.8	23.3
$m_T^{b, \text{min}} > 200$ GeV	69.4	69.1	67.7	54.0	41.9	20.5
$\Delta R(b, b) > 1.2$	66.0	65.8	66.7	74.1	60.0	74.4
$m_T^{b, \text{max}} > 200$ GeV	97.0	100.0	92.9	100.0	100.0	100.0
Tau Veto	84.4	84.0	76.9	48.0	46.2	65.6
$N_{b\text{-jet}} \geq 2$	51.9	52.4	53.0	52.1	55.6	52.4

Table 7: Cutflow for the stop 0L analysis, considering a signal in the stop model with $m(\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{\chi}_1^0) = (600, 200)$ GeV, and different lifetimes. The numbers given are the relative efficiency of each cut in per-cent. The DxAOD skimming step requires at least one of the following four criteria to be fulfilled: $H_T > 150$ GeV; at least one loose electron with $p_T > 100$ GeV or at least two loose electrons with $p_T > 20$ GeV; at least one muon with $p_T > 100$ GeV or at least two muons with $p_T > 20$ GeV; or at least one photon with $p_T > 100$ GeV or at least two photons with $p_T > 50$ GeV.

Selection	RPC	$\tau = 100$ ns	$\tau = 10$ ns	$\tau = 1$ ns	$\tau = 0.1$ ns
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
DxAOD skimming	73.8	70.4	75.9	72.9	79.7
Jet/MET cleaning	98.8	94.1	75.1	94.3	99.7
Bad muon veto	99.8	99.1	98.9	99.1	98.9
≥ 1 baseline lepton	60.7	60.8	59.4	63.8	72.2
≥ 1 signal lepton	68.5	70.2	68.6	64.8	52.8
≥ 1 signal lepton	90.8	90.6	90.2	89.8	90.4
≥ 1 baseline lepton	84.1	83.2	83.1	78.1	58.1
XE trigger, ≥ 4 jets, $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 230$ GeV	50.2	50.6	49.1	21.7	18.8
$ \Delta\phi(j_1, \vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}) > 0.4$	99.4	99.2	98.9	97.6	96.4
$ \Delta\phi(j_2, \vec{p}_T^{\text{miss}}) > 0.4$	95.8	94.6	94.3	85.2	84.5
$m_{T2}^{\tau} > 80$ GeV	98.2	99.0	99.0	97.2	93.7
First jet $p_T > 60$ GeV	99.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Second jet $p_T > 50$ GeV	98.6	98.8	99.8	100.0	100.0
Third jet $p_T > 40$ GeV	94.7	95.2	97.8	99.7	100.0
Fourth jet $p_T > 40$ GeV	75.8	81.2	85.7	96.9	98.7
$E_T^{\text{miss}} > 250$ GeV	92.4	93.6	92.4	81.1	83.5
$E_{T,\perp}^{\text{miss}} > 230$ GeV	66.8	65.4	61.7	47.2	47.4
$H_{T,\text{sig}}^{\text{miss}} > 14$	86.6	85.1	76.4	41.4	46.2
$m_T > 160$ GeV	85.4	85.7	82.1	51.2	27.7
$am_{T2} > 175$ GeV	88.7	87.3	84.5	82.1	82.8
≥ 1 b -jet	93.9	94.3	92.9	80.8	100.0
$\Delta R(b, \ell) < 2.0$	94.3	96.0	89.3	100.0	100.0
$m_{\text{top}}^{\text{recl}} > 150$ GeV	75.0	79.0	75.9	60.5	87.5

Table 8: Cutflow for the stop 1L analysis, considering a signal in the stop model with $m(\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{\chi}_1^0) = (700, 200)$ GeV, and different lifetimes. The numbers given are the relative efficiency of each cut in per-cent. The DxAOD skimming step requires at least one of the following criteria to be fulfilled: one of the E_T^{miss} triggers has fired and there is at least one loose muon (electron) with $p_T > 3.5(4.5)$ GeV; or one of the E_T^{miss} or lepton triggers has fired and there is at least one loose lepton with $p_T > 25$ GeV.

Selection	RPC	$\tau = 100$ ns	$\tau = 10$ ns	$\tau = 1$ ns	$\tau = 0.1$ ns	$\tau = 0.01$ ns	BR=0%	BR=25%	BR=50%	BR=75%	BR=100%
All Events	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
≥ 1 baseline lepton and trigger	24.2	23.1	21.3	26.5	32.1	37.4	39.9	31.1	21.5	11.2	0.2
≥ 1 signal lepton	87.3	88.2	45.1	81.2	66.8	59.8	82.7	83.0	83.1	82.8	0.0
≥ 5 jets	23.6	27.9	1.2	83.2	88.3	92.0	93.9	90.4	87.2	84.2	–
≥ 10 jets	0.3	0.4	0.0	3.2	6.2	7.7	8.2	6.8	5.4	4.0	–
≥ 4 b -jet	0.0	0.0	–	9.4	34.7	87.2	43.2	40.8	37.1	30.8	–

Table 9: Cutflow for the RPV 1L analysis, considering a signal in the stop model with $m(\tilde{t}_1, \tilde{\chi}_1^0) = (800, 200)$ GeV, and different lifetimes and branching fractions. The BR in the column headers refer to $\text{BR}(\tilde{t}_1 \rightarrow bs)$. The numbers given are the relative efficiency of each cut in per-cent.

Selection	$\tau = 50$ ns	$\tau = 10$ ns	$\tau = 1$ ns	$\tau = 0.1$ ns	$\tau = 0.01$ ns	$\tau = 0$ ns
Pre-selection, $E_T^{\text{miss}} > 250$ GeV, $p_T(\text{jet1}) > 200$ GeV, $m_{\text{eff}} > 800$ GeV	43.8	79.5	85.3	83.9	86.5	88.5
jet multiplicity ≥ 2	91.7	98.1	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cleaning Cuts	74.3	76.1	98.8	98.8	99.0	97.6
jet multiplicity ≥ 4	46.3	82.2	95.0	95.4	95.6	95.5
$\Delta\Phi(\text{jet}_{1,2,(3)}, E_T^{\text{miss}}) > 0.4$	81.9	78.9	80.9	81.2	81.2	81.4
$\Delta\Phi(\text{jet}_{i>3}, E_T^{\text{miss}}) > 0.4$	82.4	77.5	76.4	75.9	75.8	75.9
$p_T(\text{jet}_3) > 150$ GeV	30.3	55.0	69.7	70.4	70.3	71.3
$ \eta(j_{1,2,3,4}) < 2.0$	85.1	90.8	92.7	93.2	93.1	92.5
Aplanarity > 0.04	67.9	69.9	72.6	73.4	72.2	73.1
$E_T^{\text{miss}}/m_{\text{eff}}(4j) > 0.2$	77.3	70.2	71.1	73.6	74.2	76.4
$m_{\text{eff}}(\text{incl.}) > 3000$ GeV	18.3	27.3	41.2	45.8	46.8	50.7

Table 10: Cutflow for the 0-lepton Meff4j-3000 signal region, considering a signal in the R -hadron model with $m(\tilde{g}, \tilde{\chi}_1^0) = (1800, 100)$ GeV, and different R -hadron lifetimes. The numbers given are the relative efficiency of each cut in per-cent.