A search is presented for photonic signatures motivated by generalized models of gauge-mediated supersymmetry breaking. This search makes use of 20.3 fb\(^{-1}\) of proton-proton collision data at \(\sqrt{s} = 8\) TeV recorded by the ATLAS detector at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) in 2012. For the first of the four classes, two isolated energetic photons are required ("diphoton" events), while for the remaining classes only a single isolated photon is required. For the second and third classes, the isolated photon is required to appear in combination with a "b-jet" identified as having arisen from the production of a bottom (b) quark ("photon + b" events) or an isolated electron or muon ("photon + \(\ell\)" events), respectively. For the fourth class of events the isolated photon is required to appear in combination with multiple jets selected without regard to the flavor of the underlying parton ("photon + \(j\)" events).

The results are interpreted in the context of a broad range of general models of gauge-mediated supersymmetry breaking (GGM) \([1–3]\) that include the production of supersymmetric partners of strongly coupled Standard Model (SM) particles as well as SM partners possessing only electroweak charge. In all models of GGM, the lightest supersymmetric particle (LSP) is the gravitino \(\tilde{G}\) (the partner of the hypothetical quantum of the gravitational field), with a mass significantly less than 1 GeV. In the GGM models considered here, the decay of the supersymmetric states produced in LHC collisions would proceed through the next-to-lightest supersymmetric particle (NLSP), which would then decay to the \(\tilde{G}\) LSP and one or more SM particles, with a high probability of decay into \(\gamma + \tilde{G}\). In this study, several different possibilities for the nature of the NLSP are considered, providing separate motivation for the four different and complementary experimental signatures that are explored. In all models considered, all supersymmetric states with the exception of the \(\tilde{G}\) are short lived, leading to prompt production of SM particles that are observed in the ATLAS detector.

The results based on the diphoton and photon + b signatures extend and supplant studies (Refs. \([4]\) and \([5]\), respectively) that made use of 4.8 fb\(^{-1}\) of pp collision data at \(\sqrt{s} = 7\) TeV; the analyses based on the photon + \(j\) and photon + \(\ell\) signatures are new and have only been performed with the 8 TeV data. Making use of 19.7 fb\(^{-1}\) of pp collision data at \(\sqrt{s} = 8\) TeV, a search \([6]\) for events similar in nature to those of the diphoton and photon + \(j\) signatures mentioned above has been performed by the CMS Collaboration, and used to set limits on the masses of strongly coupled supersymmetric particles in several GGM scenarios.

**II. GAUGE-MEDIATED SUPERSYMMETRY PHENOMENOLOGY**

Supersymmetry (SUSY) \([7–15]\) introduces a symmetry between fermions and bosons, resulting in a SUSY partner (sparticle) with identical quantum numbers except a difference by half a unit of spin for each SM particle. As none of these sparticles have been observed, SUSY must be a broken symmetry if realized in nature. Assuming \(R\)-parity conservation \([16–20]\), sparticles are produced in pairs. These would then decay through cascades involving other sparticles until the stable, weakly interacting LSP is produced, leading to a final state with significant \(E_T^{\text{miss}}\).
Experimental signatures of gauge-mediated SUSY breaking models [21–26] are largely determined by the nature of the NLSP. For GGM, the NLSP is often formed from an admixture of any of the SUSY partners of the electroweak gauge and Higgs boson states. In this study, three cases are assumed for the composition of the NLSP. For the first case, the NLSP is assumed to be purely binolike [the SUSY partner of the SM U(1) gauge boson]. For the second case, the NLSP is assumed to be a degenerate triplet of wino states [the SUSY partners of the SM SU(2) gauge bosons]. In this paper, the neutral NLSP is denoted $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$, irrespective of its composition. For the case that the NLSP is a degenerate triplet, the charged NLSP states are denoted $\tilde{\chi}_1^\pm$. The properties of the GGM models used to represent these possibilities are discussed below and summarized in Table I.

For the case that the NLSP is a bino, the final decay in each of the two cascades in a GGM event would be predominantly $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow \gamma + \tilde{G}$, leading to final states with $\gamma\gamma + E_T^{\text{miss}}$. For the case that the NLSP is a mixture of bino and neutral higgsino states, both the possibilities that the higgsino mass parameter $\mu$ is less than or greater than zero are explored. For the $\mu < 0$ possibility, the final decay in the cascade would include a significant contribution from $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow h + \tilde{G}$ with the subsequent decay $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$, leading to final states with a photon, multiple $b$-jets, and $E_T^{\text{miss}}$. The latter ($\mu > 0$) possibility can produce scenarios for which the final decay in the cascade can be relatively evenly split between $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow \gamma + \tilde{G}$ and $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow Z + \tilde{G}$, leading to final states with a photon, multiple jets (including two from the hadronic decay of the $Z$ boson) that most often do not arise from $b$-quarks, and $E_T^{\text{miss}}$. For the case that the NLSP is a degenerate set of three wino states, the final step in the cascade includes charged as well as neutral wino decays. Charged wino decays tend to produce isolated leptons, while neutral wino decays produce photons with a wino-to-photon branching fraction that is no less than $\sin^2\theta_W$ for any value of the wino mass. Overall, these two wino-NLSP contributions lead to a significant number of events with an isolated photon accompanied by an isolated lepton. Of the five GGM models considered here, two (the “gluino-bino” and “wino-bino” models, where the gluino is the SUSY partner of the gluon) incorporate a purely binolike NLSP, two (the “higgsino-bino” models) incorporate a NLSP that is a higgsino-bino admixture, and one (the “wino-NLSP” model) incorporates a winouple set of NLSPs; in all cases the mass of the NLSP state is considered to be a free parameter of the model.

The two GGM models incorporating a binolike NLSP are the focus of the diphoton analysis. For these models, one other set of SUSY partner states is taken to be potentially accessible in 8 TeV $pp$ collisions, while all other SUSY masses are decoupled (set to inaccessibly large values). For both of these binolike NLSP cases, production proceeds solely through this set of SUSY partners, with the NLSP appearing in the subsequent decays of the produced SUSY partner states. For the gluino-bino model, the set of partners is composed of a degenerate octet of gluinos. For the wino-bino model, the set of partners is composed of a degenerate triplet of wino states that is dominated by the production of $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$, and is dominated by the production of $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ and $\tilde{\chi}_2^0$. For both of these models, the mass of these produced states are considered to be free parameters along with that of the chosen $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ state, the latter of which is constrained to be less than those of the produced states. This results in a SUSY production process that proceeds through the creation of pairs of the higher-mass states, which subsequently decay through short cascades to the NLSP $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ states. Other SM objects (jets, leptons, photons) may be produced in these cascades. The $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ branching fraction to $\gamma + \tilde{G}$ is 100% for $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0} \rightarrow 0$ and approaches $\cos^2\theta_W$ for $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0} \gg m_\gamma$, with the remainder of the $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ sample decaying to $Z + \tilde{G}$. For all $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ masses, then, the branching fraction is dominated by the photonic decay, leading to the diphoton-plus-$E_T^{\text{miss}}$ signature. For these models with a binolike NLSP, typical production and decay channels for strong (gluino) and electroweak (wino) production are exhibited in Fig. 1.

The higgsino-bino GGM models incorporate a NLSP composed of a higgsino-bino admixture, as well as a degenerate octet of gluinos identical in nature to those of the gluino-bino model. For the first of these models, which is the focus of the photon + $b$ analysis, the higgsino mass parameter $\mu$ is required to be negative, and the composition of the NLSP is set by adjusting $\mu$ and the GGM U(1) mass parameter $M_1$ so that a constant ratio of

<table>
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<td>Higgsino-bino ($\mu &lt; 0$)</td>
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<td>gluino, higgsino</td>
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<td>Higgsino-bino ($\mu &gt; 0$)</td>
<td>photon + $j$</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wino NLSP</td>
<td>photon + $\ell$</td>
<td>wino</td>
<td>wino</td>
<td>$M_\tilde{w}$</td>
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</table>
the branching fraction of $\chi^0_1 \to h + G$ to that of $\chi^0_1 \to \gamma + G$ is maintained at approximately 1.7:1 over the full range of NLSP masses. The photon + $b\bar{b}$ analysis was found to provide the greatest advantage relative to the diphoton analysis for this ratio of branching fractions. In the limit that $m_{\chi^0_1} \gg m_Z$, the NLSP branching fractions to $h + G$, $\gamma + G$, and $Z + G$ approach 56%, 33%, and 11%, respectively. The GGM SU(3) mass parameter $M_3$ bears a direct relation to the gluino mass, and is taken to be a free parameter in this $\mu < 0$ higgsino-bino model, with all squark states decoupled. The GGM SU(2) mass parameter $M_2$ is set to a value of 2.5 TeV. Four other electroweak gaugino states typically lie within 25 GeV of the $\chi^0_1$ NLSP: the two lightest charginos $\chi^\pm_1$, and two additional neutralinos $\chi^0_2$ and $\chi^0_3$. The pair production of gluinos or any of these four additional gaugino states leads to decays to the $\chi^0_1$ via cascades involving SM particles.

For the second of the higgsino-bino models, which is the focus of the photon + $j$ analysis, the $\mu$ parameter is chosen to be positive, which suppresses the $h + G$ decay mode of the higgsino. As in the models described above, the NLSP mass is taken to be a free parameter. The $M_1$ and $\mu$ parameters are adjusted so that the branching fractions of the $\chi^0_1$ to $\gamma + G$, $Z + G$ and $h + G$ are maintained close to 50%, 49% and 1% for most values of the $\chi^0_1$ and gluino masses. In this model, the production of gluino pairs can be followed by decays to both a single photon and a hadronically decaying $Z$ boson, producing events with a single isolated high-energy photon accompanied by two jets. In the case that the gluino mass is substantially larger than the $\chi^0_1$ mass, additional jets can be produced in the cascade. Three additional electroweak gaugino states lie close in mass to the $\chi^0_1$, allowing for the possibility of SUSY production through pairs of these states. Such events tend to produce fewer jets than those that proceed through gluino production, but in certain regions of the model space can provide a significant contribution to data samples selected to isolate the photon-plus-jets signature. As in the $\mu < 0$ higgsino-bino model, the value of $M_3$, which is directly related to the gluino mass, is taken to be a free parameter, $M_2$ is set to a value of 2.5 TeV, and all squark states are decoupled. Typical production and decay-chain processes for the two models for which the NLSP is a higgsino-bino admixture are shown in Fig. 2.

Finally, the wino-NLSP model, which is the focus of the photon + $\ell$ analysis, incorporates a set of three degenerate winolike NLSPs. This set includes the neutral $\tilde{W}^0$, which as the lightest neutral gaugino is also referred to as the $\chi^0_1$, as well as the two charged wino states, which form the $\tilde{Z}^\pm$ states. Production proceeds through the direct production of pairs of NLSP states; such events usually contain at least one $\tilde{W}^0$ NLSP. Although the $\tilde{W}^0$ couples preferentially to the $Z$ boson relative to the photon, the $\tilde{W}^0$ decays into a photon + gravitino final state with unit branching fraction for wino mass below that of the $Z$ boson. The $\tilde{W}^0$ branching fraction to photon + gravitino approaches $\sin^2 \theta_W$ for wino masses far above that of the $Z$ boson. Leptons can be produced either through the decays of charged wino states, or through the decays of $Z$ bosons that arise from $\tilde{W}^0$ decay, leading to a significant probability that the overall final state would contain both a photon and a lepton. In this model, a common wino mass scale is taken as a free parameter, with all other GGM mass parameters set to a value of 2.5 TeV, except the squark masses, which are set to infinity. A production and decay diagram typical for this model is shown in Fig. 3.

For all five models considered here, the mass of the gravitino is chosen so that the NLSP decay length is never greater than 1 mm. This ensures that all particles arising from the decay of the NLSP are prompt, and in particular that the relationship between the point and direction of impact of photons from NLSP decay upon the face of the

FIG. 1 (color online). Typical production and decay-chain processes for the gluino-production (left) and electroweak-production (right) instances of the GGM model for which the NLSP is a binolike neutralino, referred to in the text as the gluino-bino and wino-bino models, respectively.

FIG. 2 (color online). Typical production and decay-chain processes for the gluino-production instance of the GGM model for which the NLSP is a higgsino-bino neutralino admixture, referred to in the text as the higgsino-bino model. For the model with $\mu < 0$ (left), the final step of the cascade (the $\chi^0_1$ decay) would have a probability of order 50% of producing a Higgs boson rather than a photon or $Z$ boson; for the model with $\mu > 0$ (right), the $\chi^0_1$ decay would have a probability of order 50% of producing a $Z$ boson rather than a photon. For both of these models, production can also proceed through gaugino and neutralino states, which can dominate the production cross section for high values of gluino mass.
FIG. 3 (color online). Typical production and decay-chain processes for the wino-NLSP model. In this model, the $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ is a pure $W^0$ state, while the $\tilde{\chi}_2^\pm$ are the two charged wino states.

detector is consistent with that of a prompt photon (a separate analysis [27] searches for GGM models with a longer-lived binolike NLSP, leading to signatures with nonprompt photons). In addition, the ratio $\tan\beta$ of the two SUSY Higgs-doublet vacuum-expectation values is set to a value of 1.5; for all five models, the phenomenology relevant to this search is only weakly dependent on the value of $\tan\beta$.

III. SAMPLES OF SIMULATED PROCESSES

For the GGM models under study, the SUSY mass spectra and branching ratios are calculated using SUSPECT 2.41 [28] and SDECAY 1.3b [29], respectively, inside the package SUSY-HIT 1.3 [30]. The Monte Carlo (MC) SUSY signal samples are produced using HERWIG++ 2.5.2 [31] with CTEQ6L1 parton distribution functions (PDFs) [32]. Signal cross sections are calculated to next-to-leading order (NLO) in the strong coupling constant, including, for the case of strong production, the resummation of soft gluon emission at next-to-leading-logarithmic accuracy (NLO + NLL) [33–37]. The nominal cross section and its uncertainty are taken from an envelope of cross-section predictions using different PDF sets and factorization and renormalization scales [38]. At fixed center-of-mass energy, SUSY production cross sections decrease rapidly with increasing SUSY partner mass. At $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV, the gluino-production cross section is approximately 24 fb for a gluino mass of 1000 GeV and falls to below 1 fb for a gluino mass of 1400 GeV. The wino production cross section is approximately 15 fb for a wino mass of 500 GeV, and falls to approximately 1 fb for a wino mass of 750 GeV.

While most of the backgrounds to the GGM models under examination are estimated through the use of control samples selected from data, as described below, the extrapolation from control regions (CRs) to signal regions (SRs) depends on simulated samples, as do the optimization studies. The simulation of $W$ and $Z$ boson production, including events with up to five accompanying partons, is calculated by two different generators. The ALPGEN 2.14 [39] Monte Carlo generator is interfaced to HERWIG 6.520 for showering and fragmentation and to JIMMY [40] for simulation of the underlying event. Parton distributions are provided by the CTEQ6L1 functions. Similar samples are produced with the SHERPA 1.4.1 generator [41] with CT10 [42] PDFs, for up to four accompanying partons.

$W\gamma$ production is also simulated via ALPGEN interfaced to HERWIG and JIMMY, but makes use of the CT10 PDFs. Other $W\gamma$ samples are generated, as is the $Z\gamma$ process, by using SHERPA with the CT10 PDFs. The $t\bar{t}\gamma$ process is simulated at leading order (LO) using MADGRAPH 5.1.5.11 [43] and CTEQ6L1, interfaced to the PYTHIA 6.427 parton shower generator [44]. The $t\bar{t}$ process is simulated not only with the POWHEG generator interfaced to PYTHIA and the CTEQ6L1 PDFs, but also with the MC@NLO 4.0.6 generator [45,46] and the CT10 PDFs, including full NLO QCD corrections. This contribution is rescaled to match the $t\bar{t}$ cross section at NNLO with NNLL soft gluon terms, as calculated with top + + 2.0 [47–52]. The $t\bar{t}$ and $t\gamma$ processes are simulated with the WHIZARD 2.1.1 [53,54] generator, with four-flavor/five-flavor matching provided using HOPPET [55]. Additional photon radiation is added with PHOTOS [56], with parton showering and fragmentation again simulated with PYTHIA. Other $t$ and $\bar{t}$ samples are generated with POWHEG.

The $\gamma + jet(s)$ process is simulated in a similar manner to the $W^\pm$ or $Z$ samples using ALPGEN interfaced to HERWIG and JIMMY and the CTEQ6L1 PDFs. A generator-level requirement of 35 GeV is applied to the photon transverse momentum $p_T^\gamma$, and the sample is generated in exclusive bins of $p_T^\gamma$ to produce a more statistically significant sample at higher values of $p_T^\gamma$. Additional $\gamma + jet(s)$ samples are used, simulated with SHERPA and the CT10 PDFs. The prompt diphoton sample is generated with PYTHIA 6.423, which includes the subprocesses $gg \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and $q\bar{q} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, with the requirement that there be at least two prompt photons with generated transverse momentum greater than 20 GeV. Parton densities are modeled according to the MRST 2007 LO [57] functions.

The background from $Z(\rightarrow \mu\bar{\mu}) + \gamma\gamma$ production is simulated using the SHERPA MC generator, normalized to a cross section calculated at LO using MADGRAPH 5 and the CTEQ6L1 PDF, and then corrected by a $K$-factor of 2.0 ± 1.0 [58]. The background from $W(\rightarrow e\nu) + \gamma\gamma$ production is simulated using the ALPGEN MC generator, although the overall normalization is set via a study making use of data events containing two photons and a charged lepton (to be discussed below). Diboson production, for the case that each boson is a $W$ or $Z$, is simulated with POWHEG. All MC samples are processed with the GEANT4-based simulation [59] of the ATLAS detector [60], or, where appropriate, a simulation of the ATLAS detector based on parametrized shower shapes in the calorimeter, and GEANT4 elsewhere. Corrections are applied to the simulated samples to account for differences between data and simulation for the lepton and photon trigger, identification, and reconstruction efficiencies, as well as for the efficiency and misidentification rate of the algorithm used to identify...
jets containing \( b \)-hadrons (\( b \)-tagging). The variation of the number of \( pp \) interactions per bunch crossing (“pileup”) as a function of the instantaneous luminosity is taken into account by overlaying simulated minimum-bias events according to the observed distribution of the number of pileup interactions in data, with an average of 21 interactions per event.

IV. ATLAS DETECTOR

The ATLAS experiment makes use of a multipurpose detector [61] with a forward-backward symmetric cylindrical geometry and nearly \( 4\pi \) solid angle coverage.\(^1\) Closest to the beam line are solid-state tracking devices comprising layers of silicon-based pixel and strip detectors covering \( |\eta| < 2.5 \) and straw-tube detectors covering \( |\eta| < 2.0 \), located inside a thin superconducting solenoid that provides a 2 T magnetic field. Outside the solenoid, fine-grained lead/liquid-argon electromagnetic (EM) calorimeters provide coverage over \( |\eta| < 3.2 \) for the measurement of the energy and position of electrons and photons. A presampler, covering \( |\eta| < 1.8 \), is used to correct for energy lost upstream of the EM calorimeter. An iron/scintillator-tile hadronic calorimeter covers the region \( |\eta| < 1.7 \), while a copper/liquid-argon medium is used for hadronic calorimeters in the end cap region \( 1.5 < |\eta| < 3.2 \). In the forward region \( 3.2 < |\eta| < 4.9 \), liquid-argon calorimeters with copper and tungsten absorbers measure the electromagnetic and hadronic energy. A muon spectrometer consisting of three superconducting toroidal magnet systems, each comprising eight toroidal coils, tracking chambers, and detectors for triggering, surrounds the calorimeter system. The muon system reconstructs penetrating tracks over a range \( |\eta| < 2.7 \) and provides input to the trigger system over a range \( |\eta| < 2.4 \). A three-level trigger system is used to select events. The first-level trigger is implemented in hardware and uses a subset of the detector information to reduce the accepted rate to at most 75 kHz. This is followed by two software-based trigger levels that together reduce the accepted event rate to 400 Hz on average depending on the data-taking conditions during 2012.

V. RECONSTRUCTION OF CANDIDATES AND OBSERVABLES

Primary vertices are formed from sets of two or more tracks, each with transverse momentum \( p_T^{\text{track}} > 400 \text{ MeV} \), that are mutually consistent with having originated at the same three-dimensional space point within the luminous region of the colliding proton beams. When more than one such primary vertex is found, the vertex with the largest scalar sum of the squared transverse momenta of the associated tracks is chosen. To further ensure the event resulted from a beam collision, the primary vertex of the event is required to have at least five associated tracks.

Electron candidates are reconstructed from EM calorimeter energy clusters consistent with having arisen from the impact of an electromagnetic particle (electron or photon) upon the face of the calorimeter. For the object to be considered an electron, it is required to match a track identified by a reconstruction algorithm optimized for recognizing charged particles with a high probability of bremsstrahlung. In addition, the matched track is required to include information from at least seven layers of the solid-state tracking system; a track within the acceptance of the tracking system typically traverses eleven layers of the solid-state tracking system. The energy of the electron candidate is determined from the EM cluster, while its pseudorapidity is determined from the associated reconstructed track. Further details of the reconstruction of electrons can be found in Refs. [62] and [63]. Electron candidates used by these analyses are further required to have \( p_T > 20 \text{ GeV} \) and \( |\eta| < 2.47 \). For the \( \phi \) analysis, signal electrons are not allowed to be within the transition region \( 1.37 < |\eta| < 1.52 \) between the barrel and end cap calorimeters. A track-based isolation requirement is imposed, with the scalar sum of the transverse momenta of tracks within a cone of size \( \Delta R = 0.3 \) required to be less than 16% of the electron \( p_T \). Finally, the electron track is required to be consistent with coming from the primary vertex in the \( r-z \) plane.

Electromagnetic clusters are classified as photon candidates provided that they either have no matched track or have one or more matched tracks consistent with coming from a photon conversion vertex. Based on the characteristics of the longitudinal and transverse shower development in the EM calorimeter, photons are classified as “loose” or “tight.” Further details of the reconstruction of photons can be found in Ref. [64]. In the case that an EM calorimeter deposition is identified as both a photon and an electron, the photon candidate is discarded and the electron candidate retained. Photon candidates used by these analyses are required to be within \( |\eta| < 2.37 \), and to be outside the transition region \( 1.37 < |\eta| < 1.52 \). Finally, an isolation requirement is imposed. After correcting for contributions from pileup and the deposition assigned to the photon itself, loose and tight isolation criteria are defined, with the tight criterion requiring less than 4 GeV of transverse “isolation energy” in a cone of size \( \Delta R = 0.4 \) surrounding the energy deposition in the calorimeter associated with the photon. For the loose isolation criterion, no more than 5 GeV of isolation energy is allowed within a cone of size \( \Delta R = 0.2 \).

\(^1\)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 \( (r, \phi) \) are used in the transverse plane, \( \phi \) being the azimuthal angle around the beam pipe. The pseudorapidity is defined in terms of the polar angle \( \theta \) as \( \eta = -\ln(\tan(\theta/2)) \). Angular distance is measured in units of \( \Delta R = \sqrt{(\Delta \eta)^2 + (\Delta \phi)^2} \).
The tight criterion is used for the diphoton analysis, while the loose criterion is used for the remaining three signatures (\(\text{photon} + b, \text{photon} + j, \text{photon} + \ell\)).

Muon candidates make use of reconstructed tracks from the tracking system as well as information from the muon system [65]. Muons are required to be either “combined,” for which the muon is reconstructed independently in both the muon spectrometer and the tracking system and then combined, or “segment tagged,” for which the muon spectrometer is used to tag tracks as muons, without requiring a fully reconstructed candidate in the muon spectrometer. Signal muons are required to have \(p_T > 20\, \text{GeV}\) and \(|\eta| < 2.4\). Track-based as well as calorimeter-based isolation requirements are imposed, with the scalar sum of the transverse momenta of tracks within a cone of size \(\Delta R = 0.3\) required to be less than 12% of the muon \(p_T\), and the energy in the calorimeter projected in the transverse plane within a cone of size \(\Delta R = 0.3\), corrected for pileup, also required to be less than 12% of the muon \(p_T\). Finally, the muon track is required to be consistent with coming from the primary vertex in both the \(r-z\) and \(r-\phi\) planes.

Jets are reconstructed from three-dimensional calorimeter energy clusters using the anti- \(k_t\) algorithm [66] with a radius parameter \(R = 0.4\). Jets arising from detector noise, cosmic rays or other noncollision sources are rejected, as described in Ref. [67]. Each cluster is classified, prior to the jet reconstruction, as coming from an electromagnetic or hadronic shower on the basis of its shape [68]. Each cluster energy is then corrected by weighting electromagnetic and hadronic energy deposits with correction factors derived from Monte Carlo simulation. A correction is applied to subtract the expected contamination from pileup, calculated as the product of the jet area in \(\eta-\phi\) space and the average energy density of the event [69]. A further calibration, relating the response of the calorimeter to in situ jet-energy measurements [69] is then applied. Once calibrated, jets are required to have \(p_T > 20\, \text{GeV}\) and \(|\eta| < 2.8\). Jets containing \(b\)-hadrons are identified using the MV1c \(b\)-tagging algorithm [70]. This neural network algorithm combines the information from various algorithms based on track impact-parameter significance or explicit reconstruction of \(b\)- and \(c\)-hadron decay vertices. The analyses presented in this paper use an operating point corresponding to 70% efficiency for jets originating from the fragmentation of a \(b\)-quark in simulated \(t\bar{t}\) events, selecting approximately 0.7% of light-quark and gluon-induced jets and 20% of \(c\)-quark-induced jets.

In the case that two reconstructed objects are in close enough proximity to one another to raise a concern that they are a single detector object reconstructed as more than one particle or jet candidate, an overlap-removal procedure is followed. To reduce the rate of electrons misidentified as photons, if the angular distance \(\Delta R\) between a reconstructed electron and photon is less than 0.01, the object is classified as an electron.

To avoid ambiguity that arises when an electron or photon is also reconstructed as a jet, if a jet and an electron or photon are reconstructed within an angular distance \(\Delta R = 0.2\) of one another, the electron or photon is retained and the jet is discarded; if \(0.2 < \Delta R < 0.4\) then the jet is retained and the electron or photon is discarded. Finally, in order to suppress the reconstruction of muons arising from showers induced by jets, if a jet and a muon are found with \(\Delta R < 0.4\) the jet is retained and the muon is discarded.

The vector momentum imbalance in the transverse plane is obtained from the negative vector sum of the reconstructed and calibrated physics objects and is referred to as missing transverse momentum \(E_T^{\text{miss}}\) [71]. Calorimeter energy deposits are associated with a reconstructed and identified high- \(p_T\) object in a specific order: electrons with \(p_T > 10\, \text{GeV}\), photons with \(p_T > 10\, \text{GeV}\), and jets with \(p_T > 20\, \text{GeV}\). Deposits not associated with any such objects are also taken into account in the \(E_T^{\text{miss}}\) determination, as are muons with \(p_T > 10\, \text{GeV}\).

The transverse mass \(M_T\) of a system of two massless particles with four-vectors \(p_1\) and \(p_2\) is given by

\[
M_T = \sqrt{2p_{T,1}p_{T,2}(1 - \cos \Delta \phi_{1,2})},
\]

where \(\Delta \phi_{1,2}\) is the angular separation between the two vectors projected into the transverse plane. The analyses presented here make use of the transverse mass of both the photon- \(E_T^{\text{miss}}\) (\(M_T^{\text{phot}}\)\(E_T^{\text{miss}}\)) and lepton- \(E_T^{\text{miss}}\) (\(M_T^{\ell}E_T^{\text{miss}}\)) systems, where the lepton is taken to be massless in the transverse-mass determination.

Several additional observables are defined to help in the discrimination of SM backgrounds from potential GGM signals. The total visible transverse energy \(H_T\) is calculated as the scalar sum of the transverse momenta of the selected photons and any additional leptons and jets in the event; a similar observable based only on the momenta of jets in the events is referred to as \(H_T^{\text{jets}}\). The “effective mass” \(m_{\text{eff}}\) is defined as the scalar sum of \(H_T\) and \(E_T^{\text{miss}}\). The photon- \(E_T^{\text{miss}}\) separation \(\Delta \phi(\gamma, E_T^{\text{miss}})\) is defined as the azimuthal angle between the missing transverse momentum vector and the selected photon. In the case of the diphoton analysis, \(\Delta \phi_{\text{min}}(\gamma, E_T^{\text{miss}})\) is defined to be the minimum value of \(\Delta \phi(\gamma, E_T^{\text{miss}})\) of the two selected photons. The minimum-jet- \(E_T^{\text{miss}}\) separation \(\Delta \phi_{\text{min}}(\text{jet}, E_T^{\text{miss}})\) is defined as the minimum azimuthal angle between the missing transverse momentum vector and the leading (highest- \(p_T\)) jets in the event. The number of leading jets used differs depending on the signature under study and is shown in Tables II and III. For the diphoton analysis, leading jets are required to have \(p_T > 75\, \text{GeV}\), and if no such jet is found, no requirement is placed on the observable. The quantity \(\Delta \phi_{\text{min}}(\text{jet}, \gamma)\) is defined as the minimum separation between the selected photon and each of the two leading jets in the event. The quantity \(\Delta R(\ell, \gamma)\) is defined as the distance in


Table II. Enumeration of the requirements defining the four SRs developed for the diphoton signature search.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signal Region</th>
<th>SR_{S-L}^{\gamma\gamma}</th>
<th>SR_{S-H}^{\gamma\gamma}</th>
<th>SR_{W-L}^{\gamma\gamma}</th>
<th>SR_{W-H}^{\gamma\gamma}</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of photons (E_T [GeV])</td>
<td>&gt; 1 (&gt; 75)</td>
<td>&gt; 1 (&gt; 75)</td>
<td>&gt; 1 (&gt; 75)</td>
<td>&gt; 1 (&gt; 75)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E_T^{miss} [GeV]</td>
<td>&gt; 150</td>
<td>&gt; 200</td>
<td>&gt; 150</td>
<td>&gt; 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H_T [GeV]</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>&gt; 600</td>
<td>&gt; 400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m_{eff} [GeV]</td>
<td>&gt; 1800</td>
<td>&gt; 1500</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Δφ_{miss}(jet, E_T^{miss}) (number of leading jets)</td>
<td>&gt; 0.5 (2)</td>
<td>&gt; 0.5 (2)</td>
<td>&gt; 0.5 (2)</td>
<td>&gt; 0.5 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Δφ_{miss}(γ, E_T^{miss})</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>&gt; 0.5</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>&gt; 0.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table III. Enumeration of the requirements defining the four SRs developed for the photon + b and photon + j signature searches.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signal Region</th>
<th>SR_{b}^{\gamma}</th>
<th>SR_{b}^{\gamma}</th>
<th>SR_{J}^{\gamma}</th>
<th>SR_{J}^{\gamma}</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of photons (E_T [GeV])</td>
<td>&gt; 0 (&gt; 125)</td>
<td>&gt; 0 (&gt; 150)</td>
<td>1 (&gt; 125)</td>
<td>1 (&gt; 300)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E_T^{miss} [GeV]</td>
<td>&gt; 100</td>
<td>&gt; 200</td>
<td>&gt; 200</td>
<td>&gt; 300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H_T [GeV]</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>&gt; 1000</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>&gt; 800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of jets (number of b-jets)</td>
<td>2–4 (&gt; 1)</td>
<td>3 (&gt; 0)</td>
<td>&gt; 3^{\gamma}</td>
<td>&gt; 1^{\gamma}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of leptons</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M_{bb} [GeV]</td>
<td>75–150</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M_{T}^{eff} [GeV]</td>
<td>&gt; 90</td>
<td>&gt; 90</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Δφ_{miss}(jet, E_T^{miss}) (number of leading jets)</td>
<td>&gt; 0.3 (2)</td>
<td>&gt; 0.3 (4)</td>
<td>&gt; 0.4 (2)</td>
<td>&gt; 0.4 (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R_{J}</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>&lt; 0.85</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>&lt; 2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Δφ_{miss}(jet, γ)</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>...</td>
<td>&lt; 2.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For SR_{J}^{\gamma} and SR_{J}^{\gamma}, the two leading jets are required to have p_T > 100 and p_T > 40 GeV, respectively.

η–φ space between the leading photon and lepton. Finally, the quantity R_{J} is defined as the scalar sum of the transverse momentum of the four highest-p_T jets in the event divided by the sum of the transverse momentum of all jets in the event.

VI. EVENT SELECTION

The data sample is selected by a trigger requiring the presence of one loose photon with energy projected into the plane transverse to the beam pipe (E_T) of greater than 120 GeV for the photon + b, photon + j and photon + ℓ analyses, or two loose photons with E_T > 40 GeV for the diphoton analysis. Events are removed from the data sample if they contain jets likely to be produced by beam backgrounds, cosmic rays or detector noise, as described in Ref. [67]. After applying data-quality requirements related to the beam and detector conditions, the total available integrated luminosity is 20.3 fb^{-1}. The uncertainty on the integrated luminosity is ±2.8%, estimated via the methodology of Ref. [72].

For the diphoton analysis, geared towards the exploration of the gluino-bino and wino-bino GGM models incorporating a purely binolike \tilde{χ}_1^0, two separate SR selection strategies were developed: a “SR_{S}^{\gamma\gamma}” selection geared towards the production of higher-mass strongly coupled SUSY states (gluinos and squarks) and a “SR_{W}^{\gamma\gamma}” selection geared towards the production of lower-mass weakly coupled SUSY states (winos). For each of these approaches, two SRs are defined: the first (SR_{S-L}^{\gamma\gamma}, SR_{W-L}^{\gamma\gamma}) optimized for the case of a lower-mass \tilde{χ}_1^0 and the second (SR_{S-H}^{\gamma\gamma}, SR_{W-H}^{\gamma\gamma}) for a higher-mass \tilde{χ}_1^0.

For the photon + b analysis, geared towards the higgsino-bino GGM model with a negative value of the μ parameter, two SRs (SR_{L}^{\gamma b}, SR_{J}^{\gamma b}) are defined. The SRs are again distinguished by their optimization for low- and high-\tilde{χ}_1^0 mass, respectively. In particular, the SR_{J}^{\gamma b} selection is designed to have a high acceptance for events that arise through the production of pairs of weakly coupled SUSY partners, which can have a significant cross section for the low-\tilde{χ}_1^0 mass reaches of the higgsino-bino GGM model explored here. For the photon + j analysis, geared towards the higgsino-bino GGM model with a positive value of the μ parameter, a further set of two SRs are defined (SR_{L}^{\gamma J}, SR_{J}^{\gamma J}). These two SRs are once again distinguished by their optimization for low and high \tilde{χ}_1^0 mass, respectively.

A final “SR_{e/μ}^{\gamma\gamma}” signal region was developed to search for photon + ℓ events arising from the GGM model with a winolike set of NLSPs. This SR is divided into two subsets—SR_{e}^{\gamma\gamma} and SR_{μ}^{\gamma\gamma}—depending on the flavor of the leading lepton (electron or muon).

All four diphoton SRs require two tight, isolated photons with E_T > 75 GeV, while the SR_{b}^{\gamma\gamma} and SR_{J}^{\gamma\gamma} signal regions require a single tight, isolated photon with E_T > 125 GeV.
and $E_T > 150$ GeV, respectively, and the SR$^{\ell}_{e/\mu}$ and SR$^{\ell}_{\ell}$ signal regions require a single tight, isolated photon with $E_T > 125$ GeV and $E_T > 300$ GeV, respectively. The SR$^{\ell}_{e/\mu}$ signal region requires a single tight, isolated photon with $E_T > 125$ GeV. Along with $E_T^{miss}$, leptonically, and (b-) jet activity, requirements are made on a number of additional observables, with values chosen to optimize the sensitivity to the GGM signal of interest for each SR. To ensure that the $E_T^{miss}$ observable is accurately measured, minimum requirements on $\Delta\phi_{\ell\mu} (E_T^{miss})$ and $\Delta\phi_{\ell\mu}(jet, E_T^{miss})$ are considered for each SR. For the SR$^{\ell}_{H}$ signal region of the photon $+j$ analysis, rejecting events with jets misidentified as photons by placing a requirement on $\Delta\phi_{\text{min}}(jet, \gamma)$ is found to improve the sensitivity of the analysis.

To exploit the high-energy scale associated with SUSY production at masses close to the expected limit of sensitivity of the various SRs, several SRs include minimum requirements on one of the two total-transverse-energy observables $H_T$ or $m_{\text{eff}}$. As an illustration, Fig. 4 (left) shows the $m_{\text{eff}}$ distribution of selected diphoton events as well as that expected from several SM sources and from characteristic strong-production points of the binolike NLSP GGM model. For electrons from $W$ boson decay that are misreconstructed as photons, the transverse mass $M_{T,\gamma}^{E_T^{miss}}$ of the photon-$E_T^{miss}$ system tends to be less than that of the $W$ boson; because of this, the photon $+b$ analysis is found to benefit from a minimum requirement on $M_{T,\gamma}^{E_T^{miss}}$. The SR$^{\ell}_{H}$ analysis also benefits from a requirement that the invariant mass $M_{\ell\mu}$ of the system formed by the two most energetic $b$-jets be close to the Higgs boson mass. A minimum requirement on the transverse mass $M_{T,\ell}^{E_T^{miss}}$ of the lepton-$E_T^{miss}$ system is similarly found to be effective in rejecting backgrounds from $W$ boson and semileptonic $t\bar{t}$ decay for the photon $+\ell$ analysis. A further requirement that the electron-photon system invariant mass not be close to the $Z$ boson mass helps to reject $Z$ boson backgrounds to the photon $+\ell$ analysis. A requirement that SR$^{\ell}_{H}$ signal events have no identified charged leptons helps to reduce the background from semileptonic $t\bar{t}$ events, while a requirement that SR$^{\ell}_{H}$ signal events have $R_T < 0.85$ helps reduce the background from SM events, which tend to have fewer and softer jets than do signal events; as an illustration, see Fig. 4 (right). Finally, a requirement that the total transverse energy from jets with $p_T > 40$ GeV ($H_T^{jets}$) be less than 100 GeV helps reduce the backgrounds to SR$^{\ell}_{e/\mu}$ due to top quark production.

A summary of the selection requirements specific to each of the diphoton SRs is presented in Table II, to SR$^{\ell}_{e/\mu}$, SR$^{\ell}_{H}$, and SR$^{\ell}_{\ell}$.
Table IV. Enumeration of the requirements defining the two SRs developed for the photon + $t\bar{t}$ signature search.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signal Region</th>
<th>SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{L}}$</th>
<th>SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{H}}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of photons ($E_T$ [GeV])</td>
<td>$&gt; 0$ ($&gt; 125$)</td>
<td>$&gt; 0$ ($&gt; 125$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$E_T^{\text{miss}}$ [GeV]</td>
<td>$&gt; 120$</td>
<td>$&gt; 120$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$p_T^{\text{miss}}$ [GeV]</td>
<td>$&lt; 100$</td>
<td>$&lt; 100$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of leptons</td>
<td>$&gt; 0$ ($e$)</td>
<td>$&gt; 0$ ($\mu$)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$</td>
<td>M_{\gamma\gamma} - M_Z</td>
<td>$, [GeV]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$M_{\gamma\gamma}^{\text{miss}}$ [GeV]</td>
<td>$&gt; 120$</td>
<td>$&gt; 120$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\Delta R(\ell, \gamma)$</td>
<td>$&gt; 0.7$</td>
<td>$&gt; 0.7$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$\gamma$ and $\gamma$ in Table III, and to the two photon + $t\bar{t}$ SRs in Table IV. After all selection requirements, the numbers of events remaining in the various signal regions are 0 (SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{S-L}}$, SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{S-H}}$), 5 (SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{W-L}}$), 1 (SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{W-H}}$), 12 (SR$^{\gamma}\gamma_{\text{H}}$), 2 (SR$^{\gamma}\gamma_{\text{L}}$, SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{H}}$, SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{L}}$), 16 (SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\gamma}$) and 10 (SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\gamma}$).

VII. BACKGROUND ESTIMATION

Backgrounds to the various SRs arise from a number of sources, including processes such as radiative vector boson production that generate real photons in combination with energetic neutrinos, as well as events in which one or more energetic jets or electrons are misidentified as a photon. While these sources contribute generically to all four signatures explored in this study, the differing definitions of each of the associated SRs lead to, in many cases, significant differences in the manner in which the contributions of these various background sources are estimated. In the following, the methodology of the background estimation for each of the four experimental signatures is discussed, and the resulting background estimates, broken down by source, are tabulated. For the estimation of background contributions that rely upon MC simulation, either directly or through the estimation of rate factors relating the background content of control regions to that of corresponding SRs, the effect of MC modeling uncertainties have been considered; in general, these uncertainties are found not to be dominant contributions to the overall uncertainty in the background estimates. Background models are confirmed in validation regions (VRs) with selection criteria closely related to those of the corresponding SR, but with one or more selection criteria modified to suppress the contribution of possible GGM signal to the VR.

A. Backgrounds to the diphoton analysis

Backgrounds from SM contributions to the four diphoton SRs are grouped into three primary components. The first of these, referred to as “QCD background,” arises from a mixture of processes that include $\gamma\gamma$ production as well as $\gamma + \text{jet}$ and multijet events with at least one jet misreconstructed as a photon. The second background component, referred to as “EW background,” is due to $W + X$ (here “$X$” can be any number of jets, accompanied by no more than one photon; the two-photon case is treated separately) and $t\bar{t}$ events, with a smaller contribution arising from $Z + X$ events. These events tend to include final-state neutrinos that produce significant $E_T^{\text{miss}}$. In both cases, EW background events entering the signal regions generally have at least one electron misreconstructed as a photon. The QCD and EW backgrounds are estimated through the use of dedicated control samples of data events.

The third background component, referred to as “irreducible,” consists of $W$ and $Z$ bosons produced in association with two real photons, with a subsequent decay into one or more neutrinos. For this background, the $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu) + \gamma\gamma$ component dominates, and requires corrections to its LO contribution that are both large and rapidly varying across the phase space of the $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu) + \gamma\gamma$ (plus possible additional jets) process [73]. Thus a data-driven approach was developed to constrain the $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu)$ contribution to the four SRs. The $Z(\rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}) + \gamma\gamma$ contribution is estimated directly from the MC simulation.

The QCD background to SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{S-L}}$, SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{S-H}}$, SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{W-L}}$ and SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{W-H}}$ is expected to arise from events with two real, isolated photons (diphoton QCD events) unaccompanied by any additional electroweak bosons, and from events with a single real, isolated photon and a jet whose fragmentation fluctuates in such a manner as to cause it to be misidentified as a second isolated photon (“photon + jet” QCD events). A contribution from dijet QCD events is found to be small and largely incorporated into the photon + jet background estimate. To estimate the photon + jet contribution a “QCD control sample” is identified within the diphoton-trigger data sample by selecting events for which one photon candidate satisfies the tight selection criterion, while the other satisfies the loose but not the tight photon criterion. QCD control sample events containing electrons are vetoed to reduce contamination from $W \rightarrow e\nu$ decays. Studies with MC simulated samples as well as $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and $H_T$ sideband data suggest that the $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ distribution of this control sample adequately reproduces the $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ distribution of the QCD background in the high-$E_T^{\text{miss}}$ region used for the signal selection. A diphoton MC sample is used for the estimation of the diphoton contribution to the QCD background.

The $H_T$, $m_{\text{eff}}$, $\Delta\Phi_{\text{min}}(\text{jet}, E_T^{\text{miss}})$ and $\Delta\Phi_{\text{min}}(\gamma, E_T^{\text{miss}})$ requirements associated with each of the four SRs are applied to the QCD control and diphoton MC samples, and the resulting samples are scaled so that the combination of the two samples exactly reproduces the number of observed diphoton events (for the given SR) in the region $0 < E_T^{\text{miss}} < 60$ GeV, and with the diphoton MC sample providing a specified fraction of the total event count in this region. As suggested by the independent ATLAS $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ [74] and isolated photon pair cross-section [75] analyses, this fraction is set to 75%, although in this analysis a range...
between 50% and 100% is adopted to reflect the degree of uncertainty in this fraction. The resulting QCD-background estimate, for each of the four binlike SRs, is then obtained by summing the scaled number of combined QCD control and diphoton MC events with $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ above the minimum requirement for the given SR. Additional sources of systematic uncertainty on the QCD-background estimate include its dependence on the low-$E_T^{\text{miss}}$ region used to scale the diphoton MC and QCD control samples, and the effect of possible mismodeling of the $\Delta \phi_{\text{min}}(\text{jet}, E_T^{\text{miss}})$ and $\Delta \phi_{\text{min}}(\gamma, E_T^{\text{miss}})$ distributions of the QCD background by the QCD control sample. Including both systematic uncertainty and the statistical uncertainty associated with the limited number of events in the QCD control and diphoton MC samples, the result for the QCD background and its overall uncertainty is shown in Table V.

The QCD-background model is validated by comparing the observed numbers of events to the total expected SM background in bins of 300 GeV in $H_T$ for the sideband region $100 < E_T^{\text{miss}} < 150$ GeV, for which event rates are expected to be dominated by the QCD background. The observed event rate tends to be somewhat lower than that predicted by the overall background model, although it is within 1 standard deviation of the overall background model uncertainty for all $H_T$ bins.

The EW background, arising predominantly from $W + X$ and $t\bar{t}$ events, is estimated via an “electron-photon” control sample composed of events with at least one isolated tight photon and one isolated electron, each with $E_T > 75$ GeV, and scaled by the probability for such an electron to be misreconstructed as a tight photon, as estimated from a “tag-and-probe” study of the Z boson in the $ee$ and $e\gamma$ sample. The electron-to-photon scale factor varies between 1.9% ($0 < |\eta| < 0.6$) and 3.7% ($1.52 < |\eta| < 1.81$), since it depends on the amount of material in front of the calorimeter. Events with two or more tight photons are vetoed from the control sample to preserve its orthogonality to the signal sample. In the case of more than one electron, the one with the highest $p_T$ is used. Including systematic uncertainties of ±25% each, associated with a possible $p_T$ dependence of the scale factor and a possible overlap between the QCD and EW background estimates, leads to the estimates for the EW background to the four diphoton SRs shown in Table V.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signal Regions</th>
<th>SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{S-L}$</th>
<th>SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{S-H}$</th>
<th>SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{W-L}$</th>
<th>SR$^{\gamma\gamma}_{W-H}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expected background events</td>
<td>0.06±0.03</td>
<td>0.00±0.00</td>
<td>2.04±0.82</td>
<td>1.01±0.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QCD</td>
<td>0.00±0.00</td>
<td>0.00±0.00</td>
<td>0.32±0.32</td>
<td>0.22±0.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EW</td>
<td>0.02±0.02</td>
<td>0.00±0.00</td>
<td>0.64±0.27</td>
<td>0.13±0.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(W → ℓν)γγ</td>
<td>0.04±0.02</td>
<td>0.05±0.04</td>
<td>1.01±0.62</td>
<td>0.53±0.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Z → ℓℓ)γγ</td>
<td>0.00±0.00</td>
<td>0.01±0.01</td>
<td>0.07±0.04</td>
<td>0.13±0.07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The irreducible background is composed of two distinct components: diphoton production in association with either a W or Z boson. The latter contribution is relatively small and is sufficiently well understood to allow the use of the MC simulation, with a total cross section scaled to that of Ref. [58], to directly estimate the $Z(\rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}) + \gamma\gamma$ contribution to the four SRs. The value of this estimate is shown in Table V; the uncertainty is dominated by a ±50% uncertainty on the $Z(\rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}) + \gamma\gamma$ cross section of Ref. [58] that arises from the variation of the factorization and renormalization scales used to quantify the uncertainty due to missing higher-order processes.

The $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu) + \gamma\gamma$ background to the four SRs is estimated using a lepton-diphoton ($\ell\gamma\gamma$) CR. To enhance the contribution of $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu) + \gamma\gamma$ and ensure that the $\ell\gamma\gamma$ CR is exclusive of the four SRs, the photon $p_T$ requirement is lowered to 50 GeV and a requirement of $50 < E_T^{\text{miss}} < 150$ GeV is imposed. To ensure that the CR sample arises from the same region of the $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu) + \gamma\gamma$ process phase space as the expected background, a further requirement that the transverse momentum of the $\ell\gamma\gamma$ system be greater than 100 GeV is imposed. A total of seven events is observed in the CR, for which MC simulation suggests that 2.2 are expected to arise from SM sources other than $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu) + \gamma\gamma$. When setting limits on contributions from new physics in the four SRs, a simultaneous fit to the CR and the signal region under study is performed, allowing both the signal and $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu) + \gamma\gamma$ contributions to float to their best-fit values. When setting model-dependent limits, the fit also takes into account a possible signal contribution to the $\ell\gamma\gamma$ CR, which can be significant for the electroweak-production models in the case that the $\chi_1^0$ mass is light. In the limit that no GGM signal contributes to the $\ell\gamma\gamma$ control region, an enhancement factor of 2.3 must be applied to the $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu) + \gamma\gamma$ MC sample to achieve agreement between the MC simulation and data in the $\ell\gamma\gamma$ control region. The resulting $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu) + \gamma\gamma$-background estimate in each of the four SRs, under the assumption that there is no signal contribution to the $\ell\gamma\gamma$ CR, is shown in Table V; the uncertainty is dominated by that of the limited number of events in the $\ell\gamma\gamma$ CR. Also shown is the combined
background estimate, including uncertainty, from all four sources.

B. Backgrounds to the photon $+ b$ analysis

For both SR$_{L}^{b}$ and SR$_{H}^{b}$, which include a requirement of at least one $b$-jet, backgrounds arise from two predominant sources: from leptonic decays of real or virtual $W$ bosons accompanied by the production of $q$-quark pairs, including those arising in $t\bar{t}$ events ["$W(\rightarrow \ell\nu)$" backgrounds]; and from events containing no electroweak bosons or top quarks (QCD backgrounds). $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu)$ background events are further classified according to the origin of the high-energy isolated photon. Contributions from $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu)$ backgrounds for which the photon arises from the mis-identification of an electron are estimated via a control sample for which the photon requirement is replaced by an electron requirement, scaled by an electron-to-photon misidentification probability; this approach is similar in nature to that of the diphoton analysis. Estimates of this component of the background to SR$_{L}^{b}$ and SR$_{H}^{b}$ are shown in Table VI; the quoted uncertainty arises from the limited number of events in the control sample, as well as systematic uncertainty associated with the possible $p_{T}$ dependence of the electron-to-photon misidentification-rate scale factor.

Contributions from $W(\rightarrow \ell\nu)$ backgrounds for which the photon is real, or for which the photon arises from a misidentified jet or $\tau$ lepton, are estimated via lepton-enriched CRs that constrain the normalization of MC samples used to simulate contributions from these two sources. Separate control regions CR$_{L}^{lep}$ and CR$_{H}^{lep}$ are defined for the low- and high-neutralino-mass SRs by requiring a lepton in addition to the requirements already imposed to define the SRs. In addition, in order to increase the number of events in the CR, the $E_{T}^{miss}$ requirement is reduced, the $M_{bb}$ requirement is removed (for the SR$_{L}^{b}$ analysis), and the $H_{T}$ requirement is relaxed (for the SR$_{H}^{b}$ analysis). Events in these two CRs are expected to be dominated by $t\bar{t}$, $t\bar{t}\gamma$ and $W\gamma$ production, as is expected for the corresponding background contributions to the SRs, and any overlapping phase space is subtracted as part of the background estimation. Including all SM sources, a total of 14.5 (58.0) events are expected in the CR$_{L}^{lep}$ (CR$_{H}^{lep}$) control regions, to be compared to an observation of 18 (61) events. Scaling the combined SM MC samples by these ratios of data to expectation, after having subtracted the contributions estimated by other techniques, yields the SR background estimates shown in Table VI. It is found that the data-to-expectation scale factor is somewhat dependent upon the requirements used to define the lepton-enriched CRs; these variations are included in the systematic error on the resulting SR background prediction.

The QCD background is estimated via the definition of a two-dimensional signal- and control-sample grid (the "ABCD" method). For the SR$_{L}^{b}$ analysis, three control samples are defined by requiring only a single tagged $b$-jet, by requiring that $E_{T}^{miss} <$ 75 GeV, or by requiring both of these SR modifications. For the SR$_{H}^{b}$ analysis, three similar control samples are defined by requiring that no jet be identified as a $b$-jet, by requiring that $E_{T}^{miss} <$ 150 GeV, or by requiring both of these SR modifications. A transfer factor is calculated by taking the ratio of the number of events with only the $E_{T}^{miss}$ requirement changed to the number of events with both the $E_{T}^{miss}$ and $b$-jet requirements changed. Assuming that the relaxation of the $b$-jet requirement is uncorrelated with the relaxation of the $E_{T}^{miss}$ requirement, the number of QCD-background events in the SR can then be estimated by scaling, by this transfer factor, the number of events with only the $b$-tag requirement changed. This scaling is done only after subtracting the number of events expected to come from sources other than those that produce QCD-background events from each of the control samples. To avoid the biasing effects of possible correlations between the relaxation of the $b$-jet requirement and the $E_{T}^{miss}$ requirement, for the SR$_{L}^{b}$ (SR$_{H}^{b}$) analysis events are binned in $E_{T}^{miss}$ and weighted bin by bin in the ratio of the number of events in the 2-tag (1-tag) region to the number of events in the 1-tag (0-tag) region in the $\gamma + jet$ MC sample. The resulting estimate of the small expected QCD background in the two SRs is shown in Table VI, with the systematic uncertainty dominated by the limited number of events to which the scale factor is applied.

An additional background due to the production of a $Z$ boson that decays into two neutrinos, in association with a photon and a $b$-jet, is estimated directly from the MC simulation, and is tabulated in Table VI. For this final contribution, a 50% scale error is assumed for the overall rate of production for this process. The combined background from all expected sources is also shown in Table VI.

For both photon $+ b$ SRs, the background model is validated in four VRs, defined for SR$_{L}^{b}$ by requiring $75 < E_{T}^{miss} < 100$ GeV, by reversing the $M_{bb}$ requirement, by requiring $M_{T}^{miss} < 90$ GeV, or by requiring

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE VI. The expected and observed numbers of events for the two photon $+ b$ signal regions. The quoted errors are the combined statistical and systematic uncertainties.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Signal Regions</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected background events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$e \rightarrow \gamma$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$W(\rightarrow \ell\nu)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QCD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observed events</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
C. Backgrounds to the photon + j analysis

Backgrounds to the photon + j analysis are expected to arise both from events with real photons as well as events for which an electron or a jet is misidentified as a photon. The former source is expected to receive contributions from events for which a W/Z boson, a single-top quark, or a t̄ pair is produced in association with a real photon, with neutrinos in the subsequent weak decays of these produced states providing significant \( E_T^{\text{miss}} \) (\( W_\gamma \), \( Z_\gamma \) and \( t\bar{t}_\gamma \) background). Events with real photons can also contribute to the background to the photon + j analysis when significant \( E_T^{\text{miss}} \) arises from instrumental sources (QCD background). The \( W_\gamma \), \( t\bar{t}_\gamma \) and QCD backgrounds are estimated by scaling a corresponding MC sample to match the observed event count in a corresponding CR enriched in the given background process but otherwise kinematically similar to the corresponding SR. The MC simulation is then used to provide an estimate of the expected background in the SR\(_L\) and SR\(_R\) SRs. Smaller contributions from single-top + \( \gamma \) and \( Z_\gamma \) are estimated directly from the MC simulation.

The QCD-background CR is defined by changing the SR\(_L\) and SR\(_R\) \( E_T^{\text{miss}} \) requirements to instead select events with \( E_T^{\text{miss}} < 50 \text{ GeV} \), but leaving all other selection requirements unchanged, providing a region dominated by real photons arising from radiative QCD processes. The \( W_\gamma \)-background CR is defined by requiring, in addition to the other SR\(_L\) and SR\(_R\) requirements, that there be a single identified isolated lepton (electron or muon) and no \( b\)-jet in the event. The \( t\bar{t}_\gamma \)-background CR is defined similarly, but requires instead at least one \( b\)-jet. In both cases, in order to increase the number of events in the CR the \( E_T^{\text{miss}} \) requirement is changed to 100 < \( E_T^{\text{miss}} \) < 200 GeV. The event counts in the resulting QCD, \( W_\gamma \) and \( t\bar{t}_\gamma \) CRs are used to scale the \( \gamma + \text{jet} \), \( W_\gamma \) and \( t\bar{t}_\gamma \) MC samples, respectively, after applying a selection identical to that of the corresponding CR. The scale factors are determined in a simultaneous fit to all CRs, taking into account mutual cross contamination between the different backgrounds. Estimates for the contributions of all three of the real-photon backgrounds are shown in Table VII. Systematic uncertainty on the scale factor is dominated by the theoretical uncertainties on the relevant MC samples, related in turn to the PDF choice and the renormalization and factorization scales.

As in the other analyses, backgrounds from events for which electrons are misidentified as photons are estimated by identifying a control sample of events through the application of a set of selection requirements that are identical to those of the given SR, but with a requirement that the event have an electron that replaces the required photon. The estimate of the background in the SR (SR\(_L\) or SR\(_R\)) is then, as in the other analyses, derived by scaling each event in the control sample by an \( \eta \)-dependent electron-to-photon misidentification factor. The resulting background estimates are displayed in Table VII.

Finally, the contribution of a background due to events for which the selected photon arises from the misidentification of a jet is estimated by determining the jet-to-photon misidentification rate from the observed isolation-energy distribution of energy in a cone of size \( \Delta R = 0.2 \) surrounding the energy deposition in the calorimeter associated with the photon. The isolation-energy distribution for real photons is modeled with electrons from \( Z \) boson decays, while that of misidentified jets is modeled with a sample of events for which there is a “pseudophoton.” A pseudophoton is defined to be an object that passed all loose photon selection requirements, as well as jet photon selection requirements except one or more from a set of four that relate to the shape of the deposition in the finely granulated front portion of the EM calorimeter. The fraction of misidentified jets within the tight, isolated photon sample is determined with a control sample composed of events with tight, isolated photons with \( p_T > 125 \text{ GeV} \), as well as a relaxed \( E_T^{\text{miss}} \) requirement of 50 < \( E_T^{\text{miss}} \) < 150 GeV and an intermediate requirement of \( H_T > 600 \text{ GeV} \). The photon isolation-energy distribution of this control sample is fit to establish the relative amounts of these two sources (real photons and misidentified jets), with the misidentification fraction taken to be the relative integrals of the isolation-energy distributions of the misidentified and total contributions in the region for which the isolation energy is less than 5 GeV. The estimation of the jet-misidentification background in each signal region and control sample (as well as for the validation regions described below) is then obtained by scaling the observed number of events in each

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signal Regions</th>
<th>( \text{SR}_L )</th>
<th>( \text{SR}_R )</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expected background events</td>
<td>1.27 ± 0.43</td>
<td>0.84 ± 0.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( W + \gamma )</td>
<td>0.13 ± 0.12</td>
<td>0.54 ± 0.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( Z + \gamma )</td>
<td>0.03 ± 0.05</td>
<td>0.21 ± 0.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( t\bar{t} + \gamma )</td>
<td>0.64 ± 0.40</td>
<td>0.05 ± 0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single-( t + \gamma )</td>
<td>0.06 ± 0.02</td>
<td>0.03 ± 0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \gamma + \text{jet} ) (QCD background)</td>
<td>0.00 ± 0.00</td>
<td>0.00 ± 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( e \rightarrow \gamma )</td>
<td>0.38 ± 0.10</td>
<td>0.00 ± 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( j \rightarrow \gamma )</td>
<td>0.02 ± 0.08</td>
<td>0.00 ± 0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observed events</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
region or sample by the jet-misidentification factor. The number of misidentified jets is then parametrized as a function of $E_{\text{miss}}$ by fitting the $E_{\text{miss}}$ dependence of the estimated misidentified-jet contribution in the range $E_{\text{miss}} < 200$ GeV. The estimates in the SR$_T^\gamma$ and SR$_T^\mu$ signal regions are then extracted by integrating the fit function over the relevant $E_{\text{miss}}$ range. The result for the contribution of the jet-misidentification backgrounds for each SR is shown in Table VII. Systematic uncertainties arise due to the uncertainties in the combined fit used to derive the misidentification factor, for which the parameters of the signal and background templates are allowed to vary within their uncertainties, and from the uncertainties of the extrapolation fit used for the estimation of the SR contamination.

The background model is validated by comparing expected and observed event rates in several VRs. For SR$_T^\gamma$, this includes three VRs for which the $\Delta\phi_{\text{min}}(\text{jet}, E_{\text{miss}})$ is reversed, $E_{\text{miss}}$ is required to be within an intermediate range of $75 < E_{\text{miss}} < 150$ GeV, and for which the $R_t^\gamma$ requirement is reversed. For SR$_H^\gamma$ two VRs are made use of, including one for which $\Delta\phi_{\text{min}}(\text{jet}, E_{\text{miss}})$ is reversed and another that requires that $400 < H_T < 800$ GeV. Good agreement is observed between the number of expected and observed events in all five VRs.

D. Backgrounds to the photon + $\ell$ analysis

Backgrounds to the photon + $\ell$ analysis (SR$_T^\ell$ and SR$_H^\ell$) are expected to arise primarily from events with hard photons produced in association with electroweak bosons ($W\gamma$ or $Z\gamma$) and top quarks ($t\bar{t}\gamma$), and events containing $W$ bosons or semileptonically decaying top quarks for which an accompanying jet is misidentified as a photon (jet-to-photon events). Lesser contributions are expected to arise from $t\bar{t}$ events and events containing two electron-weak bosons that produce two final-state leptons, one of which is an electron that is subsequently misidentified as a photon. As in the other analyses, data-driven techniques making use of CRs similar to but exclusive of the SRs, or control samples appropriate for assessing jet-to-photon and electron-to-photon misidentification rates, are used to estimate or constrain the primary backgrounds, while lesser backgrounds are estimated directly from MC simulation.

The most prevalent background in the photon + $\ell$ sample is expected to arise from $W\gamma$ events. A $W\gamma$ CR is defined by requiring an isolated electron or muon, and by requiring in addition that $45 < E_{\text{miss}} < 100$ GeV and $35 < M_{\text{T}}^\ell, E_{\text{miss}}^\gamma < 90$ GeV, but otherwise requiring that the sample satisfy the SR$_T^\ell$ and SR$_H^\ell$ criteria. Transfer factors relating the number of events observed in the $W\gamma$ CR to the number of $W\gamma$ events expected in the SRs are estimated, separately for the electron and muon contributions, from the $W\gamma$ MC simulation. Systematic uncertainties on the resulting $W\gamma$-background estimate for the two SRs arise from the scale and PDF uncertainties associated with the transfer factors. A somewhat lesser contribution from $\tilde{t}\gamma$ events is estimated directly from the MC simulation, with uncertainties arising from imprecise knowledge of the strong-interaction scale and the rate of final-state photon production into the acceptance of the SRs. A smaller background contribution from $Z\gamma$ events is estimated directly from the MC simulation, with an uncertainty of $\pm50\%$ assumed for the production rate into the region of the $Z\gamma$ phase space that populates the photon + $\ell$ SRs.

As in the other analyses, a potentially sizable contribution to the photon + $\ell$ sample arises from jet-to-photon misidentification. The contribution of SR events arising from jet-to-photon misidentification is estimated by exploring the isolation-energy distribution of events in an extended $W\gamma$ control sample for which the requirement on isolation energy has been removed. Isolation-energy distribution templates for true photons and for jets misidentified as photons are developed in the manner described for the photon + $\ell$ analysis. A fit is then performed on the isolation-energy distribution of the extended $W\gamma$ control sample to estimate the number of events in the isolated (isolation energy less than 5 GeV) $W\gamma$ CR that arise from jets misidentified as photons. A scale factor is defined as the ratio of the estimated number of events in the isolated $W\gamma$ CR arising from misidentified jets to that expected from the $W + \gamma$ jets and semileptonic $t\bar{t}$ MC simulations. A data-driven estimate of the number of events arising from misidentified jets in SR$_T^\ell$ and SR$_H^\ell$ is then derived by multiplying the number of such events expected from the combination of the $W + \gamma$ jets and semileptonic $t\bar{t}$ MC simulations by this scale factor. Because the MC simulation is relied upon to propagate the background estimate from the control sample into the SR, uncertainties on the jet-to-photon misidentification background arise due to imprecise knowledge of the proton PDFs and strong-interaction scale. An additional uncertainty is assigned based on the difference between the scale factors determined for the separate electron and muon samples.

A final significant source of background is expected to arise from $t\bar{t}$ events, single-top events, and events containing two electroweak bosons that produce two final-state leptons, one of which is an electron that is subsequently misidentified as a photon. The contribution from these backgrounds is estimated from MC simulation, applying a correction based on the relative electron-to-photon misidentification rate between data and MC simulation. This correction is determined from $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$ events as described above for other analyses. In addition to the uncertainty in the measurement of the misidentification rate, uncertainties in the estimate arise from PDF and scale uncertainty in the $t\bar{t}$ production process as well as an
TABLE VIII. The expected and observed numbers of events for the two photon + $\ell^+\ell^-$ signal regions. The quoted errors are the combined statistical and systematic uncertainties. The contribution from the $Z\gamma$ process arises from events for which one of the leptons from the $Z \to \ell^+\ell^-$ decay is either missed or badly mismeasured. The likelihood of this occurring is significantly greater for muons than electrons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signal Regions</th>
<th>$SR^g_\ell$</th>
<th>$SR^g_\gamma$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expected background events</td>
<td>$10.5 \pm 1.4$</td>
<td>$14.1 \pm 1.5$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$W\gamma$</td>
<td>$6.7 \pm 1.2$</td>
<td>$8.8 \pm 1.3$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$t\bar{t}\gamma$</td>
<td>$1.4 \pm 0.6$</td>
<td>$1.7 \pm 0.7$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$Z\gamma$</td>
<td>$0.0 \pm 0.0$</td>
<td>$1.2 \pm 0.6$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jet $\to \gamma$</td>
<td>$1.5 \pm 1.0$</td>
<td>$1.2 \pm 0.7$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$e \to \gamma$</td>
<td>$0.7 \pm 0.2$</td>
<td>$0.8 \pm 0.3$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other sources</td>
<td>$0.3 \pm 0.1$</td>
<td>$0.4 \pm 0.2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observed events</td>
<td>$16$</td>
<td>$10$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The product of acceptance times efficiency tends to be greatest (10%–25%) when the masses of both the produced and the NLSP states are largest, leading to large amounts of both visible energy and missing transverse momentum that would clearly distinguish signal from background events. However, for the lower accessible mass scales associated with electroweak production, and particularly for the case of a low-mass NLSP, the product of acceptance times efficiency can be significantly smaller. For example, for the region relevant to establishing limits at low values of $\mu$, the efficiency of the $SR^g_\ell$ analysis is less than 0.1%, leading to a relatively modest lower limit on the mass of produced SUSY states.

Making use of a bootstrap method [77], the efficiencies of both the single photon and diphoton triggers are determined to be greater than 99%, with an uncertainty of less than 1%.

The reconstruction efficiency for tight, isolated photons is estimated with complementary data-driven methods [78]. Photons identified kinematically as having come from radiative decays of a $Z$ boson ($Z \to \ell^+\ell^-\gamma$) are used to study the photon reconstruction efficiency as a function of $p_T$ and $\eta$. Independent measurements making use of a tag-and-probe approach with $Z \to ee$ events, with one of the electrons used to probe the calorimeter response to electromagnetic depositions, also provide information about the photon reconstruction efficiency. For photons with $E_T > 75$ GeV, the identification efficiency in the range $0 < |\eta| < 1.81$ is greater than 95%; for the range $1.81 < |\eta| < 2.37$ the efficiency is approximately 90%. The uncertainty in the efficiency also varies with $|\eta|$, and lies between $(1-2)\%$.

The isolated electron efficiency is also estimated using tag-and-probe methods, making use of samples of $Z \to ee$ and $J/\psi \to ee$ events as described in Refs. [62,63]. The efficiency and its uncertainty are estimated as a function of electron $p_T$ and $\eta$, leading to an overall uncertainty of $\pm 1.0\%$ on the efficiency of the photon + $\ell$ analysis, the only analysis that explicitly requires an electron. The muon identification uncertainty, estimated as described in Ref. [65], is found to contribute an uncertainty of only 0.4% on the efficiency of the photon + $\ell$ analysis.

In portions of the GGM parameter space, uncertainties that vary across the parameter space dominate the systematic uncertainty on the signal acceptance times efficiency. These model-dependent uncertainties include those due to uncertainties in the photon, electron and jet-energy scales, the $b$-jet tagging efficiency, and the “pileup” uncertainty arising from the modeling of additional interactions in the same or nearby bunch crossings.

The electron and photon energy scale is determined using samples of $Z \to ee$ and $J/\psi \to ee$ events [79], both of whose masses are known precisely and thus provide an accurate calibration signal for determination of the electromagnetic calorimeter response. Uncertainties arise from
imprecise knowledge of the material burden between the IP and the face of the EM calorimeter. The muon energy scale and uncertainty are similarly estimated with calibration samples of $Z \to \mu\mu$, $T \to \mu\mu$ and $J/\psi \to \mu\mu$ events [65].

The jet-energy scale is established via the propagation of single-particle test-beam measurements of the calorimeter response through simulations of jets arising from $pp$ collisions [67,80]. The jet-energy scale uncertainty is constrained by the study of momentum imbalance in dijet events [81], as well as from an assessment of the effect of uncertainties in the modeling of jet properties with MC simulations, and from uncertainties in the modeling of the varying response to differing jet flavor composition.

Uncertainties in the values of whole-event observables, such as $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and $H_T$, arise from uncertainties on the energy of the underlying objects from which they are constructed. In addition, the $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ observable receives a contribution from calorimetric energy deposits not associated with any of the reconstructed objects in the event. Uncertainties on the energy scale of these unassigned contributions are found to contribute negligibly to the overall uncertainty on the value of the $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ observable.

The uncertainty due to pileup is estimated by varying the distribution of the number of interactions per bunch crossing overlaid in the simulation by $\pm 10\%$. The uncertainty on the $b$-tagging efficiency in the MC simulation is estimated from measurements of dedicated heavy-flavor calibration data samples.

In the regions of GGM parameter space relevant for establishing the exclusion limits discussed below, and excepting MC statistical uncertainty, the quadrature sum of the individual sources of systematic uncertainty on the signal reconstruction efficiency for the diphoton, photon + $b$ and photon + $\ell$ analyses is of order 10%. For the photon + $j$ analysis the systematic uncertainty is somewhat larger—approximately 20%—due to an increased sensitivity to the jet-energy scale and resolution associated with the multiple-jet requirement.

**IX. RESULTS**

An accounting of events observed in each SR is shown in Table IX, along with the size of the expected SM background. Comparisons of the $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ distribution between signal and expected background is shown for several different SRs in Figs. 5–7. No evidence for physics beyond the SM is observed in any of the SRs. The largest excess relative to the expected background is observed for the SR$_{W-L}^{\gamma}$ analysis; considering both statistical and systematic uncertainty, and assuming that all observed events are from SM sources, an observation of five or more events over an expected background of $2.04^{+0.82}_{-0.75}$ represents an upward fluctuation with a probability of occurrence of approximately 6%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signal</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>$N_{\text{obs}}$</th>
<th>$N^{\text{SM}}_{\text{exp}}$</th>
<th>$S^{\gamma\gamma}_{\text{obs}}$</th>
<th>$\langle \epsilon \sigma \rangle_{\text{obs}}^{\gamma\gamma} [\text{fb}]$</th>
<th>$\langle \epsilon \sigma \rangle_{\text{exp}}^{\gamma\gamma} [\text{fb}]$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SR$_{Z-L}^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.06$^{+0.23}_{-0.03}$</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>0.15$^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR$_{Z-H}^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>0.06$^{+0.04}_{-0.04}$</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>0.15$^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR$_{W-L}^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2.04$^{+0.82}_{-0.75}$</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>0.41</td>
<td>0.25$^{+0.09}_{-0.06}$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR$_{W-H}^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.01$^{+0.40}_{-0.42}$</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>0.18$^{+0.07}_{-0.02}$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR$_{b}^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>18.8$^{+5.4}_{-5.0}$</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td>0.57$^{+0.24}_{-0.16}$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR$_{f}^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.82$^{+1.25}_{-1.25}$</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>0.27$^{+0.09}_{-0.07}$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR$_{D}^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.27$^{+0.43}_{-0.43}$</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>0.27</td>
<td>0.19$^{+0.10}_{-0.06}$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR$_{f}^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.84$^{+0.38}_{-0.36}$</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>0.28</td>
<td>0.20$^{+0.11}_{-0.05}$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR$_{f}^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10.5$^{+1.4}_{-1.4}$</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td>0.41$^{+0.20}_{-0.12}$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR$_{f}^{\gamma}$</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14.1$^{+1.5}_{-1.5}$</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.45$^{+0.21}_{-0.14}$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the numbers of observed events in the ten SRs and the background expectation shown in Table IX, 95% confidence-level (CL) upper limits are set for each SR on the number of events from any scenario of physics beyond the SM, using the profile likelihood and CL$_s$ prescriptions [82]. Uncertainties on the background expectations are treated as Gaussian-distributed nuisance parameters in the maximum-likelihood fit. Assuming no events due to physical processes beyond those of the SM populate the various CRs used to estimate SR backgrounds, observed 95% CL limits on the number of such events vary between 3.0 (for the SR$_{Z-L}^{\gamma}$ and SR$_{W-H}^{\gamma}$ SRs) and 14.2 (for the SR$_{f}^{\gamma}$ SR). Taking into account the integrated luminosity of 20.3 $\pm$ 0.6 fb$^{-1}$ these number-of-event limits translate into 95% CL upper limits on the visible cross section for new physics, defined by the product of cross section, branching fraction, acceptance and efficiency for the different SR definitions. Correspondingly, the observed visible cross-section limits vary between 0.15 and 0.70 fb.

By considering, in addition, the value and uncertainty of the acceptance times efficiency of the selection requirements associated with the various SRs, as well as the NLO (+NLL) GGM cross sections [33–37], which vary steeply with gluino and gaugino mass, 95% CL lower limits may be set on the masses of these states in the context of the various GGM scenarios explored in this study. For the diphoton, photon + $b$ and photon + $j$ analysis, the SR with...
the best expected sensitivity at each simulated point in the parameter space of the corresponding GGM model(s) is used to determine the degree of exclusion of that model point. For the photon + $\ell^-$ analysis, the 95% CL exclusion limits are derived from the combined likelihood of the electron and muon channels, taking into account the correlation between the systematic uncertainty estimates in the two channels.

For the diphoton analysis, SR$^{TT}_{S-H}$ is expected to provide the greatest sensitivity to the gluino-bino model for bino...
FIG. 7 (color online). (Left) $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ distribution for the sample surviving all SR$^{\ell\ell}$ requirements except the $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ requirement itself. Overlaid are the expected SM backgrounds as a function of $E_T^{\text{miss}}$, separated into the various contributing sources. Also shown are the signal expectations for the two points in the $M_3 - \mu$ parameter space of the GGM model relevant to the photon + $j$ analysis. (Right) $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ distribution for the combined sample of events surviving all SR$^{\ell\ell}$ and SR$^l$ requirements except the $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ requirement itself. Overlaid are the expected SM backgrounds as a function of $E_T^{\text{miss}}$, separated into the various contributing sources. Also shown is the signal expectation for the $m_{\gamma\gamma} = 300$ GeV GGM model relevant to the photon + $\ell$ analysis. For both figures, the lower plot shows the ratio of observed data to the combined SM expectation, with the inner band representing the range of statistical uncertainty and the outer band the combined statistical and systematic uncertainty. Events outside the range of the displayed region are included in the highest-valued bin.

The following two figures (Figs. 8 and 9), respectively. For the purpose of establishing these model-dependent limits, for all four diphoton SRs both the normalization of the $W(\rightarrow \ell \nu) + \gamma\gamma$-background estimate and the limit on the possible number of events from new physics are extracted from a simultaneous fit to the SR and $W(\rightarrow \ell \nu) + \gamma\gamma$ control region, although the signal contamination in the $W(\rightarrow \ell \nu) + \gamma\gamma$ control sample is appreciable only for the low-bino-mass region of the wino-bino parameter space. Also shown for these two figures, as well as for the following two figures (Figs. 10 and 11), are the expected limits, including their statistical and background uncertainty ranges, as well as observed limits for SUSY model cross sections $\pm 1$ standard deviation of theoretical uncertainty from their central value. Conservatively choosing the $-1$ standard-deviation observed contour, 95% CL lower limits of 1290 and 590 GeV are set by the diphoton analysis on the value of the gluino or wino mass, respectively, for masses above 800 GeV and SR$^{\ell\ell}_{S-1}$ for bino masses below this. For the wino-bino model, the similar transition point between the use of SR$^{\ell\ell}_{S-1}$ and SR$^{\ell\ell}_{w-1}$ is found to be at 350 GeV. The resulting observed limits on the gluino and wino masses are exhibited, as a function of bino mass, for the diphoton analysis gluino and wino production models in Figs. 8 and 9, respectively. For the wino-bino model, the similar transition point between the use of SR$^{\ell\ell}_{S-1}$ and SR$^{\ell\ell}_{w-1}$ is found to be at 350 GeV. The resulting observed limits on the gluino and wino masses are exhibited, as a function of bino mass, for the diphoton analysis gluino and wino production models in Figs. 8 and 9, respectively.
any value of the NLSP bino mass less than that of the gluino (wino) mass. Due to the discrete nature of the number-of-observed-events likelihood distribution in background-only pseudoexperiments, when both the expected number of observed events and its uncertainty are close to zero the expected limit is dominated by the case of zero observed events. This leads to a very narrow one-standard-deviation range for the expected limit, as observed for the expected-limit contour displayed in Fig. 8. In addition, because the observed number of events is very close to the expected number of events for $\text{SR}_{W-H}$ and $\text{SR}_{W-L}$ analyses, the expected and observed limits are nearly identical in Fig. 8.

For the photon + $j$ analysis, limits are set in the two-dimensional plane of the GGM parameters $\mu$ and $M_3$ for the higgsino-bino GGM model with a positive value of the $\mu$ parameter. For NLSP masses near the 95% CL exclusion contour, $\text{SR}_L$ is expected to provide greater sensitivity for NLSP masses below approximately 600 GeV, and so is made use of in this region; above that, $\text{SR}_H$ is used to establish the degree of exclusion of points in the GGM model space. The resulting observed exclusion contour is shown in Fig. 10. Again choosing the $-1$ standard-deviation observed contour, in the context of this GGM model a conservative lower limit of 1140 GeV is established for the gluino mass parameter $M_3$ over much of the range of the $\mu$ parameter. For values of $M_3$ close to the value of $\mu$ for which the gluino mass approaches that of the higgsino-bino NLSP, the sensitivity of the analysis lessens due to the restriction of phase space for producing multiple high-$p_T$ jets.

For the photon + $\ell$ analysis, a limit is set on the wino mass, the single free parameter of the wino-NLSP model. Figure 12 shows the observed limit on the cross section for wino production in this model, as well as the corresponding expected limit with $\pm 1$ and $\pm 2$ standard-deviation uncertainty bands. Also shown is the cross section as a function of wino mass, with its $\pm 1$ standard-deviation range. In the context of this wino-NLSP model, conservatively choosing the $-1$ standard-deviation cross-section contour leads to an
FIG. 12 (color online). Contour of exclusion in wino production cross section from the photon + $\ell$ analysis, as a function of the wino mass parameter $M_{\tilde{W}}$. The expected limit is shown along with its $\pm 1$ and $\pm 2$ standard-deviation ranges. Also shown is the total cross section for the production of $\tilde{W}$ pairs, again as a function of $M_{\tilde{W}}$. The direct production of the wino NLSP in the limit where squark masses are infinite, and are independent of gluino mass.

X. CONCLUSION

Making use of 20.3 fb$^{-1}$ of $pp$ collision data at $\sqrt{s} = 8$ TeV recorded by the ATLAS detector at the LHC, a search is performed for photonic signatures of new physics associated with significant $E_T^{miss}$. Four experimental signatures are explored, each involving at least one energetic isolated final-state photon in association with significant $E_T^{miss}$, and used to search for evidence for several GGM SUSY scenarios. No significant excess of events over the SM expectation is observed in any of the searches and so limits are set on possible contributions of new physics. Model-independent limits are set on the numbers of events from new physics and the associated visible cross section. Model-dependent limits are set on the masses of SUSY particles or on mass parameters associated with the various GGM scenario models.

A diphoton signature is used to explore both strongly and weakly produced SUSY states with a decay chain proceeding through a binolike NLSP. In the context of these models, lower limits of 1290 and 590 GeV are set on the masses of a degenerate octet of gluinos and a degenerate set of winos, respectively, for any value of the bino mass less than the mass of these produced states. A photon-plus-$b$-jet signature is used to search for a scenario in which the GGM NLSP is a higgsino-bino admixture with a roughly equal branching fraction to photons and to the SM Higgs boson. In the context of this model, a lower limit of 1260 GeV is established for the gluino mass over much of the range of the higgsino-bino NLSP mass; for NLSP masses below approximately 450 GeV, the onset of the direct production of gaugino states makes the analysis insensitive to the value of the gluino mass. A photon-plus-jet signature is used to search for an alternative scenario for which the GGM NLSP is a higgsino-bino admixture with a roughly equal branching fraction to photons and to the SM Z boson. In the context of this model, a lower limit of 1140 GeV is established for the gluino mass parameter $M_3$ over much of the range of the higgsino mass parameter $\mu$. Finally, a photon-plus-lepton signature is used to search for a scenario for which the GGM NLSP is a degenerate set of three wino states. Based on the possible direct production of these states, in the limit of infinite squark mass GGM winos are excluded in the range $124 < M_{\tilde{W}} < 361$ GeV, independent of the gluino mass.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank CERN for the very successful operation of the LHC, as well as the support staff from our institutions without whom ATLAS could not be operated efficiently.
We acknowledge the support of ANPCyT, Argentina; YerPhI, Armenia; ARC, Australia; BMWF and FWF, Austria; ANAS, Azerbaijan; STSC, Belarus; CNPq and FAPESP, Brazil; NSERC, NRC and CFI, Canada; CERN; CONICYT, Chile; CAS, MOST and NSFC, China; COLCIENCIAS, Colombia; MSMT CR, MPO CR and VSC CR, Czech Republic; DNRF, DNSRC and Lundbeck Foundation, Denmark; EPLANET, ERC and NSRF, European Union; IN2P3-CNRS, CEA-DSM/IRFU, France; GNSF, Georgia; BMBF, DFG, Helmholtz Association, MPG and AvH Foundation, Germany; INFN, Italy; MEXT and JSPS, Japan; GSRT and NSRF, Greece; RGC, Hong Kong SAR, Research Grants Council, Hong Kong; ITEP, INFN, Italy; KFA Jülich, FRG; KAS, Republic of Korea; LHEP, INFN, Italy; LSTC, Russia; RSF, Russia; INFN, Italy; MEXT and JSPS, Japan; China; ISF, MINERV A, GIF, I-CORE and Benoziyo Center, Israel; INFN, Italy; MEXT and JSPS, Japan; CNRST, Morocco; FOM and NWO, Netherlands; BRF and RCN, Norway; MNiSW and NCN, Poland; GRICES and FCT, Portugal; MNE/IFA, Romania; MES of Russia and NRC KI, Russian Federation; JINR; MSTD, Serbia; MSSR, Slovakia; ARRS and MIZŠ, Slovenia; DST/NRF, South Africa; MINECO, Spain; SRC and Wallenberg Foundation, Sweden; SER, SNSF and Cantons of Bern and Geneva, Switzerland; NSC, Taiwan; TAEK, Turkey; STFC, the Royal Society and Leverhulme Trust, U.K.; DOE and NSF, U.S. The crucial computing support from all WLCG partners is acknowledged gratefully, in particular from CERN and the ATLAS Tier-1 facilities at TRIUMF (Canada), NDGF (Denmark, Norway, Sweden), CC-IN2P3 (France), KIT/GridKA (Germany), INFN-CNAF (Italy), NL-T1 (Netherlands), PIC (Spain), ASGC (Taiwan), RAL (U.K.) and BNL (U.S.) and in the Tier-2 facilities worldwide.

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G. AAD et al.  

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(ATLAS Collaboration)

1Department of Physics, University of Adelaide, Adelaide, Australia
2Physics Department, SUNY Albany, Albany, New York, USA
3Department of Physics, University of Alberta, Edmonton AB, Canada
4aDepartment of Physics, Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey
4bIstanbul Aydin University, Istanbul, Turkey
4cDivision of Physics, TOBB University of Economics and Technology, Ankara, Turkey
5LAPP, CNRS/IN2P3 and Université Savoie Mont Blanc, Annecy-le-Vieux, France
6High Energy Physics Division, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois, USA
7Department of Physics, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA
8Department of Physics, The University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas, USA
9Physics Division, University of Athens, Athens, Greece
10Physics Department, National Technical University of Athens, Zografou, Greece
11Institute of Physics, Azerbaijan Academy of Sciences, Baku, Azerbaijan
12Institut de Física d’Altes Energies and Departament de Física de la Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain
13Institute of Physics, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
14Department for Physics and Technology, University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway
15Physics Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and University of California, Berkeley, California, USA
16Department of Physics, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany
17Albert Einstein Center for Fundamental Physics and Laboratory for High Energy Physics, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland
18School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, United Kingdom
19aDepartment of Physics, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey
19bDepartment of Physics Engineering, Gaziantep University, Gaziantep, Turkey
19cDepartment of Physics, Dogaş University, Istanbul, Turkey
20aINFN Sezione di Bologna, Italy
20bDipartimento di Fisica e Astronomia, Università di Bologna, Bologna, Italy
21Physikalisches Institut, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany
22Department of Physics, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
23Department of Physics, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts, USA
24Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro COPPE/EE/IF, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
24aElectrical Circuits Department, Federal University of Juiz de Fora (UFJF), Juiz de Fora, Brazil
24bFederal University of Sao Joao del Rei (UFSJ), Sao Joao del Rei, Brazil
24cInstituto de Física, Universidade de Sao Paulo, Sao Paulo, Brazil
25Physics Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York, USA
26aNational Institute of Physics and Nuclear Engineering, Bucharest, Romania
26bNational Institute of Physics and Nuclear Engineering, Bucharest, Romania

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26b National Institute for Research and Development of Isotopic and Molecular Technologies, Physics Department, Cluj Napoca, Romania
26c University Politehnica Bucharest, Bucharest, Romania
26d West University in Timisoara, Timisoara, Romania
27 Departamento de Fisica, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina
28 Cavendish Laboratory, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom
27 Department of Physics, Carleton University, Ottawa, ON, Canada
30 CERN, Geneva, Switzerland
31 Enrico Fermi Institute, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA
32a Departamento de Fisica, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago, Chile
32b Departamento de Fisica, Universidad Técnica Federico Santa María, Valparaíso, Chile
33 Institute of High Energy Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China
33b Department of Modern Physics, University of Science and Technology of China, Anhui, China
33c Department of Physics, Nanjing University, Jiangsu, China
33d School of Physics, Shandong University, Shandong, China
33e Department of Physics and Astronomy, Shanghai Key Laboratory for Particle Physics and Cosmology, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China
34 Laboratoire de Physique Corpusculaire, Clermont Université and Université Blaise Pascal and CNRS/IN2P3, Clermont-Ferrand, France
35 Nevis Laboratory, Columbia University, Irvington, New York, USA
36 Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark
37a INFN Gruppo Collegato di Cosenza, Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, Italy
37b Dipartimento di Fisica, Università della Calabria, Rende, Italy
38a AGH University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Physics and Applied Computer Science, Krakow, Poland
38b Marian Smoluchowski Institute of Physics, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland
39 Institute of Nuclear Physics Polish Academy of Sciences, Krakow, Poland
40 Physics Department, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, USA
41 Physics Department, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas, USA
42 DESY, Hamburg and Zeuthen, Germany
43 Institut für Experimentelle Physik IV, Technische Universität Dortmund, Dortmund, Germany
44 Institut für Kern- und Teilchenphysik, Technische Universität Dresden, Dresden, Germany
45 Department of Physics, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, USA
46 SUPA - School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom
47 INFN Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, Frascati, Italy
48 Fakultät für Mathematik und Physik, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität, Freiburg, Germany
49 Section de Physique, Université de Genève, Geneva, Switzerland
50a INFN Sezione di Genova, Italy
50b Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Genova, Genova, Italy
51a E. Andronikashvili Institute of Physics, Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia
51b High Energy Physics Institute, Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia
52 II Physikalisches Institut, Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen, Giessen, Germany
53 SUPA - School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, United Kingdom
54 II Physikalisches Institut, Georg-August-Universität, Göttingen, Germany
55 Laboratoire de Physique Subatomique et de Cosmologie, Université Grenoble-Alpes, CNRS/IN2P3, Grenoble, France
56 Department of Physics, Hampton University, Hampton, Virginia, USA
57 Laboratory for Particle Physics and Cosmology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA
58b Kirchhoff-Institut für Physik, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany
58a Physikalisches Institut, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany
59 ZITI Institut für technische Informatik, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, Mannheim, Germany
60 Faculty of Applied Information Science, Hiroshima Institute of Technology, Hiroshima, Japan
61 Department of Physics, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong, China
60a Department of Physics, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China
60b Department of Physics, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong, China
61 Department of Physics, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA
62 Institut für Astro- und Teilchenphysik, Leopold-Franzens-Universität, Innsbruck, Austria
63 University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, USA
64 Department of Physics and Astronomy, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, USA
65 Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, JINR Dubna, Dubna, Russia
66 KEK, High Energy Accelerator Research Organization, Tsukuba, Japan
67 Graduate School of Science, Kobe University, Kobe, Japan
68 Faculty of Science, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan
69 Kyushu University of Education, Kyushu, Japan
70 Department of Physics, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan
71 Instituto de Fisica La Plata, Universidad Nacional de La Plata and CONICET, La Plata, Argentina
72 Physics Department, Lancaster University, Lancaster, United Kingdom
73 INFN Sezione di Lecce, Italy
74 Dipartimento di Matematica e Fisica, Università del Salento, Lecce, Italy
75 Department of Physics, Jožef Stefan Institute and University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
76 School of Physics and Astronomy, Queen Mary University of London, London, United Kingdom
77 Department of Physics, Royal Holloway University of London, Surrey, United Kingdom
78 Department of Physics and Astronomy, University College London, London, United Kingdom
79 Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, Louisiana, USA
80 Laboratoire de Physique Nucléaire et de Hautes Energies, UPMC and Université Paris-Diderot and CNRS/IN2P3, Paris, France
81 Fysiska institutionen, Lunds universitet, Lund, Sweden
82 Departamento de Fisica Teorica C-15, Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Madrid, Spain
83 Institut für Physik, Universität Mainz, Mainz, Germany
84 School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom
85 CPPM, Aix-Marseille Université and CNRS/IN2P3, Marseille, France
86 Department of Physics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts, USA
87 Department of Physics, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada
88 School of Physics, University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
89 Department of Physics, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA
90 Department of Physics and Astronomy, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, USA
91 INFN Sezione di Milano, Italy
92 B.I. Stepanov Institute of Physics, National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, Minsk, Republic of Belarus
93 National Scientific and Educational Centre for Particle and High Energy Physics, Minsk, Republic of Belarus
94 Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA
95 Group of Particle Physics, University of Montreal, Montreal, QC, Canada
96 P.N. Lebedev Institute of Physics, Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia
97 Institute for Theoretical and Experimental Physics (ITEP), Moscow, Russia
98 National Research Nuclear University MEPhI, Moscow, Russia
99 D.V. Skobeltsyn Institute of Nuclear Physics, M.V. Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia
100 Fakultät für Physik, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, München, Germany
101 Max-Planck-Institut für Physik (Werner-Heisenberg-Institut), München, Germany
102 Nagasaki Institute of Applied Science, Nagasaki, Japan
103 Graduate School of Science and Kobayashi-Maskawa Institute, Nagoya University, Nagoya, Japan
104 INFN Sezione di Napoli, Italy
105 Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Napoli, Napoli, Italy
106 Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, North Mexico, USA
107 Institute for Mathematics, Astrophysics and Particle Physics, Radboud University Nijmegen/Nikhef, Nijmegen, Netherlands
108 Nikhef National Institute for Subatomic Physics and University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam, Netherlands
109 Budker Institute of Nuclear Physics, SB RAS, Novosibirsk, Russia
110 Department of Physics, New York University, New York, New York, USA
111 Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA
112 Faculty of Science, Okayama University, Okayama, Japan
113 Homer L. Dodge Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma, USA
114 Department of Physics, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, USA
115 Palacký University, RCPTM, Olomouc, Czech Republic
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116 Center for High Energy Physics, University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon, USA
117 LAL, Université Paris-Sud and CNRS-IN2P3, Orsay, France
118 Graduate School of Science, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan
119 Department of Physics, University of Oslo, Oslo, Norway
120 Department of Physics, Oxford University, Oxford, United Kingdom
121 INFN Sezione di Pavia, Italy
122 Department of Physics, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
123 National Research Centre "Kurchatov Institute" B.P. Konstantinov Petersburg Nuclear Physics Institute, St. Petersburg, Russia
124 INFN Sezione di Pisa, Italy
125 Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA
126 Laboratório de Instrumentação e Física Experimental de Partículas - LIP, Lisboa, Portugal
127 Institute of Physics, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Praha, Czech Republic
128 Czech Technical University in Prague, Praha, Czech Republic
129 Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University in Prague, Praha, Czech Republic
130 State Research Center Institute for High Energy Physics, Protvino, Russia
131 Particle Physics Department, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, United Kingdom
132 INFN Sezione di Roma, Italy
133 INFN Sezione di Roma Tor Vergata, Italy
134 INFN Sezione di Roma Tre, Italy
135 Faculté des Sciences Ain Chock, Réseau Universitaire de Physique des Hautes Energies - Université Hassan II, Casablanca, Morocco
136 Centre National de l’Energie des Sciences Techniques Nucleaires, Rabat, Morocco
137 Faculté des Sciences Semlalia, Université Cadi Ayyad, LPHEA-Marrakech, Morocco
138 Faculty of Sciences, Université Mohamed Premier and LPTPM, Oujda, Morocco
139 DSM/IRFU (Institut de Recherches sur les Lois Fondamentales de l’Univers), CEA Saclay (Commissariat à l’Energie Atomique et aux Energies Alternatives), Gif-sur-Yvette, France
140 Santa Cruz Institute for Particle Physics, University of California Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, California, USA
141 Department of Physics, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA
142 Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, United Kingdom
143 Department of Physics, Shinshu University, Nagano, Japan
144 Department of Mathematics, Physics & Informatics, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovak Republic
145 Department of Physics, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada
146 SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Stanford, California, USA
147 Physics Department, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden
148 Departments of Physics & Astronomy and Chemistry, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, New York, USA

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149 Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Sussex, Brighton, United Kingdom
150 School of Physics, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia
151 Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan
152 Department of Physics, Technion: Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel
153 Raymond and Beverly Sackler School of Physics and Astronomy, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
154 Department of Physics, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece
155 International Center for Elementary Particle Physics and Department of Physics, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
156 Graduate School of Science and Technology, Tokyo Metropolitan University, Tokyo, Japan
157 Department of Physics, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Tokyo, Japan
158 Department of Physics, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada
159 TRIUMF, Vancouver, BC, Canada
160 Department of Physics and Astronomy, York University, Toronto, ON, Canada
161 Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Tsukuba, Japan
162 Department of Physics and Astronomy, Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts, USA
163 Centro de Investigaciones, Universidad Antonio Narino, Bogota, Colombia
164 Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of California Irvine, Irvine, California, USA
165 INFN Gruppo Collegato di Udine, Sezione di Trieste, Udine, Italy
166 ICTP, Trieste, Italy
167 Dipartimento di Chimica, Fisica e Ambiente, Università di Udine, Udine, Italy
168 Department of Physics, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, USA
169 Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Uppsala, Uppsala, Sweden
170 Instituto de Física Corpuscular (IFIC) and Departamento de Física Atómica, Molecular y Nuclear and Departamento de Ingeniería Electrónica and Instituto de Microelectrónica de Barcelona (IMB-CNM), University of Valencia and CSIC, Valencia, Spain
171 Department of Physics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada
172 Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, Canada
173 Department of Physics, University of Warwick, Coventry, United Kingdom
174 Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan
175 Department of Particle Physics, The Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel
176 Department of Physics, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, USA
177 Fakultät für Physik und Astronomie, Julius-Maximilians-Universität, Würzburg, Germany
178 Department of Physics, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, USA
179 Yerevan Physics Institute, Yerevan, Armenia
180 Centre de Calcul de l’Institut National de Physique Nucléaire et de Physique des Particules (IN2P3), Villeurbanne, France

*aDeceased.
aAlso at Department of Physics, King’s College London, London, United Kingdom.
*bAlso at Institute of Physics, Azerbaijan Academy of Sciences, Baku, Azerbaijan.
*cAlso at Novosibirsk State University, Novosibirsk, Russia.
*dAlso at TRIUMF, Vancouver BC, Canada.
*eAlso at Department of Physics, California State University, Fresno CA, United States of America.
*fAlso at Department of Physics, University of Fribourg, Fribourg, Switzerland.
*gAlso at Departamento de Fisica e Astronomia, Faculdade de Ciencias, Universidade do Porto, Portugal.
*hAlso at Tomsk State University, Tomsk, Russia.
*iAlso at CPPM, Aix-Marseille Université and CNRS/IN2P3, Marseille, France.
+jAlso at Universita di Napoli Parthenope, Napoli, Italy.
+kAlso at Institute of Particle Physics (IPP), Canada.
+lAlso at Particle Physics Department, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, United Kingdom.
+mAlso at Department of Physics, St. Petersburg State Polytechnical University, St. Petersburg, Russia.
+nAlso at Louisiana Tech University, Ruston LA, United States of America.
+oAlso at Instituto Catalana de Recerca i Estudis Avancats, ICREA, Barcelona, Spain.
+pAlso at Graduate School of Science, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan.
+qAlso at Department of Physics, National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan.
+rAlso at Department of Physics, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin TX, United States of America.
+sAlso at Institute of Theoretical Physics, Ilia State University, Tbilisi, Georgia.
+tAlso at CERN, Geneva, Switzerland.
+uAlso at Georgian Technical University (GTU), Tbilisi, Georgia.
Also at Manhattan College, New York NY, United States of America.

Also at Hellenic Open University, Patras, Greece.

Also at Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan.

Also at LAL, Université Paris-Sud and CNRS/IN2P3, Orsay, France.

Also at Academia Sinica Grid Computing, Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan.

Also at School of Physics, Shandong University, Shandong, China.

Also at Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology State University, Dolgoprudny, Russia.

Also at Section de Physique, Université de Genève, Geneva, Switzerland.

Also at International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA), Trieste, Italy.

Also at Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of South Carolina, Columbia SC, United States of America.

Also at School of Physics and Engineering, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China.

Also at Faculty of Physics, M.V.Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia.

Also at National Research Nuclear University MEPhI, Moscow, Russia.

Also at Department of Physics, Stanford University, Stanford CA, United States of America.

Also at Institute for Particle and Nuclear Physics, Wigner Research Centre for Physics, Budapest, Hungary.

Also at University of Malaya, Department of Physics, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.