Search for long-lived particles in final states with displaced dimuon vertices in pp collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV with the ATLAS detector

Aaboud, M.; ATLAS Collaboration

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I. INTRODUCTION

The ATLAS and CMS experiments at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) were conceived to address a variety of questions not fully explained within the Standard Model (SM) of particle physics. The data collected by the LHC experiments have not yet revealed evidence of physics beyond the Standard Model (BSM). As a result, there is an increased emphasis on the exploration of unusual final-state signatures that would elude the searches based on experimental methods aimed at prompt signatures. In many models of new phenomena including gauge-mediated supersymmetry or decay of the Higgs boson, $H$, to a pair of dark photons, $Z_D$. Lifetimes in the range $\tau = 1$–2400 cm are excluded, depending on the parameters of the model. In the supersymmetric model, the lightest neutralino is the next-to-lightest supersymmetric particle, with a relatively long lifetime due to its weak coupling to the gravitino, the lightest supersymmetric particle. The lifetime limits are determined for very light gravitino mass and various assumptions for the neutralino mass in the range 300–1000 GeV.

Events with long-lived particles may feature vertices that are significantly displaced from the proton-proton ($pp$) interaction point (IP). This article presents the results of a search for displaced vertices (DVs) formed by a pair of muons of opposite-sign electric charge, denoted “OS” muons. The search is designed to be sensitive to decays of LLPs with masses between 20 and 1100 GeV and DVs at distances ranging from a few centimeters to a few meters from the IP. The data sample consists of $pp$ collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV and an integrated luminosity of 32.9 fb$^{-1}$ collected with the ATLAS detector at the LHC.

Although SM decay products typically consist primarily of hadrons, due to the relatively large number of color degrees of freedom for quarks, there are notable advantages to searching for DVs using only tracks of identified muons: the design of the ATLAS muon spectrometer allows detection of dimuon DVs within an unusually large decay volume, free from backgrounds associated with...
vertices produced in interactions of hadrons with detector material [20,21].

Previous searches by the ATLAS Collaboration for high-mass LLPs that decay within the inner detector to give displaced dilepton vertices excluded LLP lifetimes of $c\tau = 0.1–100$ cm [22]. ATLAS has also searched for very low mass LLPs ($<10$ GeV) by considering pairs of highly collimated leptons [23], with sensitivity to LLP lifetimes of $c\tau = 0.1–20$ cm. Several other LLP searches targeting a wide range of lifetimes and signatures have been conducted by the ATLAS [24–33], CMS [34–40], LHCb [41–44], CDF [45], D0 [46,47], BABAR [48], Belle [49], and ALEPH [50] collaborations.

II. ATLAS DETECTOR

The ATLAS detector [51,52] at the LHC covers nearly the entire solid angle around the collision point.\(^2\) It consists of an inner tracking detector surrounded by a thin superconducting solenoid, electromagnetic and hadronic calorimeters, and a muon spectrometer incorporating superconducting toroidal magnets.

The inner detector (ID) is immersed in a 2 T axial magnetic field and provides charged-particle tracking in the range $|\eta| < 2.5$. A high-granularity silicon pixel detector covers the vertex region and typically provides four measurements per track, the first hit being normally in the innermost layer. It is followed by a silicon microstrip tracker, which usually provides four two-dimensional measurement points per track. These silicon detectors are complemented by a transition radiation tracker, which enables radially extended track reconstruction up to $|\eta| = 2.0$. The transition radiation tracker also provides electron identification information based on the fraction of hits (typically 30 in total) above a higher energy-deposit threshold corresponding to transition radiation.

The calorimeter system covers the pseudorapidity range $|\eta| < 4.9$. Within the region $|\eta| < 3.2$, electromagnetic calorimetry is provided by barrel and end cap high-granularity lead/liquid-argon (LAr) sampling calorimeters, with an additional thin LAr presampler covering $|\eta| < 1.8$ to correct for energy loss in material upstream of the calorimeters. Hadronic calorimetry is provided by a steel/scintillator-tile calorimeter, segmented into three barrel structures within $|\eta| < 1.7$, and two copper/LAr hadronic end cap calorimeters. The solid-angle coverage is completed with forward copper/LAr and tungsten/LAr calorimeter modules optimized for electromagnetic and hadronic measurements respectively.

The muon spectrometer (MS) comprises separate trigger and high-precision tracking chambers measuring the deflection of muons in a magnetic field generated by three superconducting air-core toroidal magnets, each with eight coils. The field integral of the toroids ranges between 2.0 and 6.0 T m across most of the detector. The MS is designed to detect muons in the region $|\eta| < 2.7$ and to provide momentum measurements with a relative resolution better than 3% over a wide transverse momentum ($p_T$) range and up to 10% at $p_T \sim 1$ TeV. It consists of a barrel ($|\eta| < 1.05$), with an inner radius of about 50 cm, and two end cap sections ($1.05 < |\eta| < 2.7$).

Resistive-plate chambers in the barrel and thin-gap chambers in the end cap regions provide triggering capability to the detector as well as $(\eta, \phi)$ position measurements with a typical spatial resolution of 5–10 mm. A precise momentum measurement is provided by three layers of monitored drift-tube chambers (MDT), with each chamber providing six to eight $\eta$ measurements along the muon trajectory. For $|\eta| > 2$, the inner layer is instrumented with a quadruplet of cathode-strip chambers (CSC) instead of MDTs. The single-hit resolution in the bending plane for the MDT and the CSC is about 80 and 60 $\mu$m, respectively. The muon chambers are aligned with a precision between 30 and 60 $\mu$m. The material between the IP and the MS ranges from approximately 100 to 190 radiation lengths, depending on $\eta$, and consists mostly of the calorimeters.

Online event selection is performed with a two-level trigger system [53]. A hardware-based level-1 trigger which uses information from the MS trigger chambers and the calorimeters is followed by a software-based trigger.

III. DATA AND SIMULATED SAMPLES

Proton-proton collision data, collected at the LHC during 2016, with a center-of-mass energy $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV, are analyzed. After application of detector and data-quality requirements, the integrated luminosity of the data sample is 32.9 $fb^{-1}$.

Samples of Monte Carlo (MC) simulated events are used for studies of both the LLP signal and background processes. The detector response was simulated with GEANT4 [54,55], and the events were processed with the same reconstruction software as used for the data. The distribution of the number of additional $pp$ collisions in the same or neighboring bunch crossings (“pileup”) is accounted for by overlaying minimum-bias events simulated with PYTHIA8 [56] using the A2 set of tuned parameters (tune) [57] and MSTW2008LO parton distribution function (PDF) set [58]. The pileup profile in the MC samples is reweighted to match the distribution observed in the data.
A. BSM signal samples

Monte Carlo simulated samples from two different BSM physics models are used to tune selection criteria and to evaluate signal efficiencies for use in converting signal yields into cross sections. The chosen models, a general gauge-mediated supersymmetry and dark-sector gauge boson model, represent a variety of BSM physics possibilities, as well as final-state topologies and kinematics, to which the analysis may be sensitive. The two processes are illustrated in Fig. 1. Samples for both models were generated with MadGraph5_AMC@NLO [59] using the NNPDF23LO PDF set [60] and Pythia8 for parton showering and hadronization. The matrix elements were calculated to next-to-leading order in the strong coupling constant. TheEvtGen generator [61] was used for weak decays of heavy-flavor hadrons. The hadronization and underlying-event parameters were set according to the A14 tune [57].

In R-parity-conserving (RPC) SUSY models where gauge interactions mediate the breaking of the supersymmetry, the gravitino $\tilde{G}$ acquires its mass from a “super-Higgs” mechanism and may be very light: $m_{\tilde{G}} = \mathcal{O}(\text{keV})$. The mass is given by

$$m_{\tilde{G}} = \frac{F_0}{\sqrt{3}M_{\text{Pl}}} = \left(\frac{\sqrt{F_0}}{100 \text{ TeV}}\right)^2 \times 2.4 \text{ eV},$$

where $\sqrt{F_0}$ is the fundamental scale of supersymmetry breaking, typically $\gtrsim 100$ TeV, and $M_{\text{Pl}}$ is the Planck scale. Hence, the gravitino is the lightest supersymmetric particle (LSP). All heavier supersymmetric particles decay promptly through cascades leading to the next-to-lightest supersymmetric particle (NLSP), which then decays into the LSP gravitino via an interaction with a $1/F_0$ suppression. The NLSP, depending on model choices, is either the lightest slepton or lightest neutralino $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$. For the latter case, chosen for this search and described in Ref. [62], if $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ has a significant wino or higgsino component the branching fraction for the decay $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow Z\tilde{G}$ can be $\mathcal{O}(1)$. The lifetime of the $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ is determined by $F_0$ [or, alternatively, by $m_{\tilde{G}}$, according to Eq. (1)] and its mass $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$,

$$c\tau_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0} \propto \frac{16\pi F_0^2}{m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}^2} \approx \frac{(100 \text{ GeV})^5}{m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}^4}\left(\frac{\sqrt{F_0}}{300 \text{ TeV}}\right)^4 \times 1 \text{ cm},$$

and hence $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ is long-lived (i.e., nonprompt) for $\sqrt{F_0} = 10^3$ TeV to $10^4$ TeV.

In the GGM model, a $pp$ interaction creates a pair of gluinos, followed by a cascade of decays leading to $\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow Z\tilde{G}$. A simplified model is used whereby the cascade of decays of SUSY particles is reduced to a single vertex: $\tilde{g} \rightarrow q\tilde{\chi}_1^0$, where $q$ represents any of the quarks lighter than the top quark, with equal probability for each. Six signal samples were generated with $m_{\tilde{g}} = 1.1$ TeV and $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$ masses and lifetimes given in Table I. The value of 1.1 TeV for the gluino mass was chosen to be consistent with the value used in Ref. [22], the previous search for DVs with a GGM interpretation. The signal cross sections are calculated to next-to-leading order in the strong coupling constant, adding the resummation of soft gluon emission at next-to-leading-logarithm accuracy (NLO + NLL) [63–67]. The nominal cross sections and their uncertainties are taken

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$ [GeV]</th>
<th>$c\tau_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$ [cm]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700</td>
<td>100</td>
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<td>1000</td>
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<td>1000</td>
<td>500</td>
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from an envelope of cross-section predictions using different PDF sets and factorization and renormalization scales, as described in Ref. [68].

A number of BSM theories feature a “hidden” or “dark” sector of matter that does not interact directly with SM particles but may nevertheless interact weakly with SM matter via coupling to the Higgs field. These are “Higgs portal” models that address the dark-matter problem and electroweak baryogenesis. The model considered for this search is one in which there exists a $U(1)_D$ symmetry in the dark sector, and the dark vector gauge boson $Z_D$, often called a “dark photon,” is given mass via a singlet scalar field $H_D$ that breaks the symmetry and is analogous to the Higgs field $H$ in the visible SM sector [3,69].

The BSM terms in the Lagrangian density include both a hypercharge portal and a Higgs portal, producing kinetic $Z-Z_D$ mixing [i.e., mixing between $U(1)_Y$ and $U(1)_D$] and $H-H_D$ mixing, regulated by the small coupling parameters $\epsilon$ and $\zeta$, respectively. There are two vector-boson mass eigenstates, one that is mostly $Z_D$ and another that is mostly SM $Z$, as well as two scalar mass eigenstates, one that is mostly $H_D$ and another that is mostly $H$. For simplicity, the physical (mass) states are denoted by $H$, $H_D$, $Z$, and $Z_D$.

In the scenario where the singlet scalar $H_D$ is heavier than the SM $H$ boson, which means that the process $H \to H_D H_D$ is kinematically forbidden, and $Z_D$ is lighter than half the $H$ mass, events with a displaced dimuon vertex signature would be observable in experiments at the LHC. The $Z_D$ bosons are produced on-shell in Higgs boson decays and decay to SM fermions due to their induced couplings to the electroweak current. A small value of $\epsilon$ ($\lesssim 10^{-5}$) results in a long-lived $Z_D$ state: $\tau_{Z_D} \approx 1/\epsilon^2$. The branching fraction for $H \to Z_D Z_D$ is determined by the value of $\zeta$ and the masses of the scalar singlets:

$$B(H \to Z_D Z_D) \propto \zeta^2 \frac{m_H^4}{m_{Z_D}^2 - m_H^2},$$

where values as large as 25% have not yet been ruled out by constraints from Higgs coupling fits [70,71]. For $\epsilon \ll 1$, the $Z_D$ branching fraction to muons, $B(Z_D \to \mu^+ \mu^-)$, is independent of $\epsilon$ but varies with $m_{Z_D}$ [69]: from a value of 0.1475 for $m_{Z_D} = 20$ GeV to a value of 0.1066 for $m_{Z_D} = 60$ GeV. Five signal samples were generated with $Z_D$ masses and lifetimes given in Table II. The Higgs boson is produced via the gluon-gluon fusion process, assuming a cross section of 44.1 pb, calculated at next-to-next-to-leading order in the strong coupling constant, adding the resummation of soft gluon emission at next-to-next-to-leading-logarithmic accuracy [72]. The inclusion of other production processes was found to have a negligible impact on the analysis.

The signal samples were generated with values of the LLP lifetime that were chosen to provide sufficiently large number of DVs across the full fiducial decay volume of the search: approximately $0 < r_{\text{st}} < 400$ cm. To obtain distributions corresponding to a different lifetime, $\tau_{\text{new}}$, each event is given a weight. The weight $w_i$ assigned to each LLP $i$ is computed as

$$w_i(t) = \frac{\tau_{\text{gen}}}{\tau_{\text{new}}} e^{-t_i/\tau_{\text{gen}}},$$

where the first factor reweights the exponential decay to a constant distribution and the second factor reweights to the desired lifetime. The quantity $t_i$ is the proper decay time of the LLP and $\tau_{\text{gen}}$ is the lifetime assumed in generating the sample. The event-level weight is the product of the weights for the two LLPs in each event. The event-level signal efficiency is then the sum of weights for all events for which at least one reconstructed dimuon vertex satisfies the selection criteria, divided by the total number of events generated. This scheme ensures that any dependence of the efficiency on the decay time of both LLPs in the event, and not just the one decaying to a dimuon final state, is properly taken into account for each choice of $\tau_{\text{new}}$.

The lifetime reweighting technique is validated by using a signal sample of a given $\tau_{\text{gen}}$ to predict the efficiency for a different lifetime and comparing with the value directly obtained from a sample generated with that lifetime.

### Table II. MC signal samples for the dark-sector interpretation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$m_{Z_D}$ [GeV]</th>
<th>$\tau_{Z_D}$ [cm]</th>
<th>$B(Z_D \to \mu^+ \mu^-)$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0.1475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0.1370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>0.1370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0.1066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>0.1066</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. SM background samples

The MC simulations of background processes are used only as a guide for some of the selection criteria and for categorization of the types of background, while the background yield itself is predicted from techniques that use solely the data. The MC generators, hadronization, and showering software packages, underlying-event simulation and choice of parton distribution functions are summarized in Table III. Further details about the generator settings used for these processes can also be found in Refs. [73–77].

Each of the simulated background samples is scaled to correspond to an integrated luminosity of 32.9 fb$^{-1}$, the size of the data sample.
IV. EVENT SELECTION, SIGNAL EFFICIENCIES, AND BACKGROUND ESTIMATE

Candidate signal events are selected by identifying $\mu^+\mu^-$ pairs consistent with having been produced in a vertex displaced at least several centimeters from the IP. The selection criteria are designed to strongly suppress background from SM processes that produce muons near the IP while efficiently accepting signal events over a wide range of LLP masses, lifetimes and velocities. To retain the greatest possible model independence, minimal requirements are placed on other aspects of the event.

The initial event selection is performed with a combination of triggers that require either the presence of a muon candidate or large missing transverse momentum, whose magnitude is denoted $E_T^{\text{miss}}$. Next, offline selection criteria are used to first identify suitable muon candidates, and then pairs of muons of opposite charge consistent with a DV. The backgrounds from all SM beam-collision and non-beam-collision processes (cosmic-ray muons or beam-halo particles) are estimated directly from the data. Finally, the number of vertices expected from background processes is compared with the observed number of vertices in data in two signal regions, distinguished by the dimuon invariant mass.

A. Trigger requirements

Events must satisfy the requirements of at least one of four different triggers in order to achieve the best possible efficiency for a wide variety of signal topologies and kinematics. The triggers used and their descriptions are given in Table IV. The first two triggers are highly efficient for signals with high-mass states that feature muons with large transverse momentum and large transverse impact parameters, $d_0$, such as the GGM model, while the final two allow efficient selection of signals featuring low-mass states, and therefore lower-$p_T$ muons (e.g., the dark-sector model). All three of the muon triggers use only measurements in the MS to identify muons.

The thresholds for the $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ and collimated-dimuon triggers changed during the course of 2016 data taking. To account for these changes, the highest available threshold for each trigger is used and offline requirements are imposed corresponding to the thresholds listed in the table. Moreover, additional stricter requirements are imposed on the corresponding offline quantity in order to ensure that the trigger efficiency falls on the efficiency plateau.

For signal events with displaced dimuon vertices, the single-muon trigger efficiency falls off approximately linearly with $|d_0|$, from a maximum of about 70% at 0 cm to approximately 10% at the fiducial limit of 400 cm, due to requirements that favor muon candidates that originate close to the IP. The calorimeter-based $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ trigger is employed to recover some signal efficiency. As muons leave little energy in the calorimeter and the $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ at the trigger level is computed only using the calorimeter signals, the $E_T^{\text{miss}}$ trigger is an effective muon trigger.

The collimated-dimuon trigger is based on reconstruction of muon tracks with low $p_T$ thresholds. The large rates associated with the low $p_T$ thresholds are offset by requiring two muons in the MS that are within a cone of size $\Delta R = 0.5$. The efficiency of this trigger for a given signal model is strongly dependent on the magnitude of the boost of the particle decaying to the dimuon final state, as this determines the likelihood of the two muons being found within a cone of size $\Delta R = 0.5$. The trimuon trigger increases the efficiency for selecting events with particles that have a relatively large branching fraction to muons, as is the case of the $Z_D$ in the signal model explored in this article.

B. Offline reconstruction and preselection

Interaction vertices from the $pp$ collisions are reconstructed from at least two tracks with $p_T$ larger than 400 MeV that are consistent with originating from the beam-collision region in the $x$-$y$ plane. Selected events are required to have at least one reconstructed interaction vertex.
Jet candidates are reconstructed from topological clusters [87], built from energy deposits in the calorimeters calibrated to the electromagnetic scale, using the anti-$k_t$ algorithm [88] with radius parameter $R = 0.4$. The reconstructed jets are calibrated to the hadronic energy scale by scaling their four-momenta to the particle level [89]. The jets are required to have $p_T > 20 \text{ GeV}$ and $|\eta| < 4.4$. If a jet in an event fails the “loose” jet-quality requirements of Ref. [90], the event is vetoed in order to suppress detector noise and noncollision backgrounds [90,91]. To reduce the contamination due to jets originating from pileup interactions, an additional requirement on the jet vertex tagger [92] output is made for jets with $p_T < 60 \text{ GeV}$ and $|\eta| < 2.4$.

The muon reconstruction algorithm [93] starts by finding tracks in the MS, denoted MS tracks, and extrapolating their trajectories towards the IP. All MS track parameters are expressed at the point of closest approach to the IP and their uncertainties reflect the effects of multiple Coulomb scattering in the detector material. Although the highest track reconstruction efficiency is obtained for muons originating near the IP, appreciable efficiency is obtained for muons with transverse impact parameters as large as 200 cm. In order to optimize the resolution of the track parameters, the following criteria are imposed. The MS tracks are required to have transverse momentum greater than 10 GeV, $|\eta| < 2.5$, measurements in each of the three layers of both the precision and trigger chambers, an uncertainty in the $d_0$ measurement less than 20 cm and to not traverse regions of the MS that are poorly aligned.

Interactions between beam protons and beam collimators upstream of the IP are a source of high-momentum muons, denoted beam-induced-background (BIB) muons, that can enter the ATLAS detector nearly parallel to the beam axis. Most MS tracks generated by this process are identified and rejected with the method described in Ref. [91] and results in a negligible reduction in signal efficiency.

Track reconstruction is performed independently in the ID, and an attempt is made to match each MS track with an ID track. The two matched tracks are then used as input to a combined fit that takes into account all of the ID and MS measurements, the energy loss in the calorimeter and multiple-scattering effects. During the fit, additional MS measurements may be added to or removed from the track to improve the fit quality. The ID track is required to be within the ID acceptance, $|\eta| < 2.5$, to have transverse momentum greater than 400 MeV, to have a minimum number of hits in each ID subsystem and to have $|d_0| < 1 \text{ cm}$. Hence, these combined-muon candidates correspond to muons produced within $\sim 1 \text{ cm}$ of the $x$-$y$ position of the IP.

To suppress background from misidentified jets as well as from hadron decays to muons inside jets, all muon candidates are required to have at least a minimum angular separation from all jets (muon-jet overlap removal) and to satisfy track-based isolation criteria. Muon-jet overlap removal is accomplished by requiring that $\Delta R_{\mu-jet} > \min(0.4, 0.04 + 10 \text{ GeV}/p_T^\mu)$ for all jets in the event, where $\Delta R_{\mu-jet}$ is the angular separation between the muon candidate and the jet in consideration. The track-based isolation quantity $I_{\mu}^{\text{ID}}$ is defined as the ratio of the scalar sum of $p_T$ of all ID tracks matched to the primary vertex, and with $p_T > 0.5 \text{ GeV}$ within a cone of size $\Delta R = 0.4$ around the muon candidate, to the muon $p_T$. To remove the contribution of the ID track forming the muon candidate (if it exists), the ID track that is nearest to and within $\Delta R = 0.1$ of the muon candidate and has a $p_T$ within 10% of the MS-track $p_T$ is not used in the sum. Muon candidates are required to have $I_{\mu}^{\text{ID}}(\Delta R=0.4) < 0.05$. The muon-jet overlap and isolation requirements are removed in defining control regions used to study backgrounds described in Sec. IV F.

Muon candidates that trigger in a small set of resistive-plate chambers that can have timing jitter are rejected. This amounts to no more than 0.3% of selected muon candidates, which has a negligible effect on the signal acceptance.

To distinguish between muon candidates that originate from prompt and nonprompt decays, the following classification of MS tracks is used. Those for which a successful ID-MS combination has been made, defined by the requirement that the angular distance between the MS track and nearest combined-muon track is less than 0.1, are referred to as “MScomb” muon candidates and the rest are referred to as “MSonly” muon candidates, as summarized in Table V. The large majority of MS tracks are MScomb, which reflects the fact that most muons are produced very close to the IP.

### C. Selection of dimuon vertices

The selection criteria described below are used to define a sample of dimuon vertices (preselection) to which

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**TABLE IV.** Description of triggers used to select events. The quantity $\Delta R_{\mu\mu}$ is the angular distance between the two muons in the collimated-dimuon trigger.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signal type</th>
<th>Trigger</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Thresholds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High mass</td>
<td>$E_T^{\text{miss}}$</td>
<td>Missing transverse momentum</td>
<td>$E_T^{\text{miss}} &gt; 110 \text{ GeV}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Single muon</td>
<td>Single muon restricted to the barrel region</td>
<td>Muon $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low mass</td>
<td>Collimated dimuon</td>
<td>Two muons with small angular separation</td>
<td>$p_T$ of muons $&gt; 15$ and 20 GeV and $\Delta R_{\mu\mu} &lt; 0.5$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Trimuon</td>
<td>Three muons</td>
<td>$p_T &gt; 6 \text{ GeV}$ for all three muons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
additional criteria are applied to form signal regions (SRs) in which data are compared to background estimates, and control regions (CRs) which are used to provide those background estimates.

Within each event, all possible pairs of muon candidates, both MScomb and MSonly, are formed. For each pair, the muon candidate with the largest $p_T$ is designated the “leading” muon, while the other is designated the “sub-leading” muon. An algorithm which assumes a straight-line extrapolation of the muon trajectory from the MS inner surface towards the IP is used to determine whether or not the two muons are consistent with originating from a common vertex. The midpoint between the points of closest approach along the trajectories of the two muon candidates is taken to be the three-dimensional location of the vertex. This simple approach is sufficient for the purposes of this analysis, as the location of the putative dimuon vertex is only used in defining the geometrical acceptance of the analysis. The decay length $L_{vtx}$ and projections onto the $x$-$y$ plane and $z$ axis, $r_{vtx}$ and $z_{vtx}$ respectively, are measured relative to the IP. It is convenient to sign the vertex radius $r_{vtx}$ according to the following definition. If the angle between the projections in the $x$-$y$ plane of the vertex momentum vector (the dimuon momentum vector) and the “flight direction” (the vector connecting the IP with the displaced dimuon vertex) is less than $\pi/2$ then it is assigned a positive value, otherwise it is assigned a negative value. When the LLP decays exclusively into a pair of muons or there is a small mass difference between the LLP and the dimuon state, the two vectors are typically closely aligned and the signed $r_{vtx}$ more often has a positive value. Examples are the dark-sector model and the GGM model for cases where there is a relatively small mass difference between the $Z$ boson and the $Z$ boson. In all cases, LLPs are distinguished by relatively large values of the magnitude of signed $r_{vtx}$.

Vertices are selected as follows. To reduce combinatorial background from random track crossings, the distance of closest approach between the two straight-line extrapolations is required to be less than 20 cm. As the vertex position is poorly measured for tracks that are nearly parallel to each other, vertices for which the opening angle of the muon pair is less than 0.1 are rejected. Vertices are required to be within the cylindrical fiducial volume $|r_{vtx}| < 400$ cm and $|z_{vtx}| < 600$ cm. Background from muons with relatively low momentum in multijet events, as well as $T$ decays to dimuons, is reduced by requiring that the dimuon invariant mass, $m_{\mu\mu}$, be larger than 15 GeV. The ability to determine the spatial location of the vertex varies with the $p_T$ of the muons in the vertex and the opening angle between them. The average resolutions of $r_{vtx}$ and $z_{vtx}$ are in the range of 2–3 cm. Cosmic-ray muons that pass through the detector in time with a $pp$ collision are sometimes reconstructed as two separate MS tracks that have an opening angle of $\pi$: $\Delta \phi = \pi$ and $\Sigma \eta = 0$, where $\Delta \phi$ is the difference in $\phi$ between the two MS tracks and $\Sigma \eta$ is the sum of their $\eta$ values. Vertices formed by such MS tracks are effectively eliminated by requiring $\sqrt{(\Sigma \eta)^2 + (\pi - \Delta \phi)^2} > 0.1$.

Backgrounds that contribute to the preselection sample include SM proton-proton collision processes as well as events with muons that are not associated with the $pp$ collision (e.g., cosmic-ray muons). The dominant contributions to the former are low-mass Drell-Yan and $Z + \text{jets}$ processes, collectively referred to simply as DY. At small values of $m_{\mu\mu}$, dimuon vertices from multijet processes are also substantial. Dimuon vertices reconstructed in $\ell \ell$ and single-top events make small contributions, while $W + \text{jets}$ and diboson processes are found to be negligibly small backgrounds.

Distributions of $m_{\mu\mu}$ and signed $r_{vtx}$ for opposite-charge and same-charge (SS) dimuon vertices satisfying the preselection criteria are shown in Fig. 2. Also shown are the expected contributions from the background processes discussed above. Due to the limited number of simulated multijet events, this source of background is not included in the MC distributions. Its relative contribution is expected to be dominant for SS pairs and most pronounced for OS ones at small values of $m_{\mu\mu}$, as determined from studies of events where the muon-jet overlap and muon isolation requirements are inverted, and this is the dominant source of difference between the data and MC distributions in those regions of Fig. 2. The fraction of events in the data with multiple dimuon vertices passing the preselection criteria is 0.065%.

The preselected dimuon vertices are divided into two regions to be used in searches for low- and high-mass signal models, which are summarized in Table VI. To further suppress the DY background in the high-mass region, where $Z + \text{jets}$ production dominates, and improve the search sensitivity, the transverse boost of the dimuon pair, defined as the ratio of the transverse momentum of the dimuon system to its invariant mass, is required to be larger than 2. This reduces the DY background by approximately a factor of 20, with a small reduction in the signal efficiencies, where the decay of a heavy BSM particle produces the dimuon state (a $Z$ boson in the GGM model) with a relatively large boost.

The next sections describe the SR and CR selection criteria based on the designation of muon candidates as MScomb or MSonly.
D. Signal regions and signal efficiency

Signal is characterized by vertices where both muon candidates are MSonly. This requirement unavoidably leads to a reduction in efficiency for decays close to the IP. Displaced-vertex analyses that make use of ID tracks [22] effectively recover such signal events. Two orthogonal signal regions are used to increase the sensitivity to low- and high-mass signal models, SRlow and SRhigh, respectively. The two regions are summarized in Table VI. For both SRs, the muons are required to have opposite charge.

The product of acceptance and reconstruction efficiency determined from simulated signal events is shown in Fig. 3 as a function of generated $L_{\text{vtx}}$ and leading muon $d_0$, for the GGM model and for the dark-sector model. The lower efficiency observed for small $L_{\text{vtx}}$ or small $|d_0|$ (more apparent in the $Z_D$ models) is due to the veto on MScomb.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selection</th>
<th>Low mass</th>
<th>High mass</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$p_T^{\mu}$ [GeV]</td>
<td>$&gt; 10$</td>
<td>$&gt; 20$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$m_{\mu\mu}$ [GeV]</td>
<td>$15 - 60$</td>
<td>$&gt; 60$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dimuon transverse boost</td>
<td>$\cdots$</td>
<td>$&gt; 2$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$\text{SR}_{\text{low}}$</th>
<th>$\text{SR}_{\text{high}}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Muon candidates</td>
<td>Both MSonly</td>
<td>Both MSonly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muon candidate charge</td>
<td>Opposite charge</td>
<td>Opposite charge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE VI. Selection criteria for low- and high-mass regions, in addition to the preselection requirements described in the text. The definitions of the low- and high-mass signal regions are also given.
muons, while the loss at large values reflects the lower MS reconstruction efficiency for tracks with trajectories that do not extrapolate back to a region close to the IP. The value of $L_{vtx}$ where maximum efficiency is achieved is different for each choice of $Z_D$ mass due to the large differences in boost.

The total event-level efficiencies, including trigger and offline selection criteria, as functions of the lifetime of the LLP, are shown in Fig. 4 and maximum values are in the $c\tau$ region $20$–$50$ cm. The reweighted samples, as described in Sec. III, are used to estimate the efficiencies for values of the lifetime which were not used in generating the simulated samples. This event-level efficiency is defined as the fraction of generated events that are selected and have at least one dimuon DV.

Distributions of $m_{\mu\mu}$ and signed $r_{vtx}$ for signal vertices in simulated events, for both $SR_{\text{high}}$ and $SR_{\text{low}}$, are displayed in Fig. 5. The vertex properties are computed using the parameters of the reconstructed MS tracks and the distributions are normalized to the expected yields in the signal regions.

### E. Control regions and background estimation

Dimuon vertices are categorized as described in Table VII. The observed yields of same-charge dimuon vertices in all four regions A, B, C, and D are used to estimate the background yields in the SRs due to muons produced more than about a centimeter from the IP, referred to as nonprompt muons. The observed yields in the opposite-charge B, C, and D CRs are used to predict the background yield from SM processes that produce prompt muons (those produced within about a centimeter of the IP) in the SRs (opposite-charge dimuon vertices in region A). Muons from decays of hadrons containing $b$ and $c$ quarks are, within the context of this analysis, considered to be prompt muons.
FIG. 4. Overall event-level efficiencies after the signal-region selections (combining trigger and offline selection), as a function of the lifetime of the long-lived BSM particle, for (a) the GGM model and (b) the dark-sector model. The shaded bands represent the statistical uncertainties only.

FIG. 5. Distributions derived from MC simulations of (a) dimuon invariant mass $m_{\mu\mu}$ and (b) vertex radius $r_{vtx}$ for signal vertices in $\text{SR}_{\text{high}}$ with a long-lived neutralino, $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ ($m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0} = 300, 700, \text{and} 1000 \text{ GeV}$ and $c\tau_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0} = 100 \text{ cm}$) decaying to a Z boson (with $Z \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$) and a gravitino; (c) $m_{\mu\mu}$ and (d) $r_{vtx}$ for signal vertices in $\text{SR}_{\text{low}}$ with a long-lived dark photon, $Z_D$ ($m_{Z_D} = 20, 40, \text{and} 60 \text{ GeV}$; and $c\tau_{Z_D} = 50 \text{ cm}$), that decays to $\mu^+\mu^-$. The shaded bands represent the statistical uncertainties. The distributions are normalized to the expected yields in the signal regions for $m_{\tilde{g}} = 1100 \text{ GeV}$, $\sigma(pp \rightarrow \tilde{g}\tilde{g}) = 0.1635 \text{ pb}$, $B(\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow Z\tilde{G}) = 1.0$, and $B(Z \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) = 0.03366$; and $m_{\tilde{g}} = 125 \text{ GeV}$, $m_{H_D} = 300 \text{ GeV}$, $\sigma(pp \rightarrow H) = 44.1 \text{ pb}$, $B(H \rightarrow Z_DZ_D) = 100\%$, and the value of $B(Z_D \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$ varying between 0.1475 and 0.1066 for the range $m_{Z_D} = 20–60 \text{ GeV}$. 

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Nonprompt muons are those for which no matching ID track is expected. Examples of such sources of background nonprompt muons are cosmic-ray muons, BIB muons, fake MS tracks generated from random hit combinations, and those arising from pion or kaon decay.

Cosmic-ray and BIB muons will usually not produce ID tracks, as they rarely pass close enough to the IP to produce an ID track that satisfies the track reconstruction criteria, in particular the \(|d_0| < 1\) cm requirement. As a result, they produce mostly MSonly muon candidates. As described in Sec. IV B, dimuon vertices reconstructed from a single cosmic-ray or BIB muon that generates two MS tracks are effectively eliminated in the preselection by taking advantage of the fact that the angle between the two tracks will be nearly 180°. On the other hand, vertices formed when a single MS track from a cosmic-ray or BIB muon is paired with an unrelated muon candidate produced from the \(pp\) collision will satisfy these selection criteria and more readily contribute to the background.

Pions and kaons have relatively large lifetimes and feature large branching fractions to final states with one muon. Such decays often result in either no ID track being reconstructed, due to the requirement of at least a minimum number of ID hits, or the ID track of the pion/kaon failing to be matched to the muon MS track. In both of these two cases, a MSonly muon candidate will be produced.

Vertices that contain one or more nonprompt muons are referred to as “nonprompt vertices.” If the vertex contains a cosmic-ray or BIB muon paired with an unrelated muon candidate, the charges of the two MS tracks will be largely uncorrelated. However, some charge correlation is expected in vertices containing muons from pion/kaon decay, because the pion/kaon is produced from the same \(pp\) collision that produces the other muon in the vertex. For the former, the charge correlation is studied by measuring the ratio of OS to SS dimuon vertices, \(R_{q}^{SS/K}\), in the data. As muons from pion/kaon decay are not expected to be isolated from jets, the quantity \(R_{q}^{SS/K}\) is measured in a sample of dimuon vertices where the selection criteria are those of the preselection, except that the jet-muon overlap and isolation requirements are removed for both muons. The value ranges from 1.39 ± 0.09 to 1.55 ± 0.03, depending on the region (A, B, C, or D). As no statistical difference in \(R_{q}^{SS/K}\) is observed for the low- and high-mass regions, a single value is used for both regions. For dimuon vertices composed of BIB or cosmic-ray muons, the muon charges are assumed to be entirely uncorrelated: \(R_{q}^{cos/BIB} = 1.0\).

Since the relative composition of the nonprompt dimuon background is unknown, the average of \(R_{q}^{SS/K}\) and \(R_{q}^{cos/BIB}\) is assumed as the nominal value, \(R_q\), with an uncertainty that is half the difference between the two values; this is shown in Table VIII (\(R_q = 1.24 ± 0.24\) for the SRs).

The numbers of OS nonprompt vertices in the regions A, B, C, and D are predicted using the number of SS vertices in each region and the appropriate \(R_q\), as described above: \(N_{i}^{nonprompt} = R_{q,i}N_{i}^{SS}\), where \(N_{i}^{SS}\) is the number of SS vertices observed in region \(i\) \((i = A, B, C, \) or D\) and \(R_{q,i}\) is the charge ratio for region \(i\).

The predicted yields of nonprompt dimuon vertices for both SRs are given in Table VIII, where the uncertainty in \(R_q\) is treated as a systematic uncertainty added in quadrature to the statistical uncertainties.

G. Prompt muon vertices

The number of dimuon vertices in each of the SRs arising from prompt muon processes is estimated from the observed yields in the OS low-mass and high-mass B, C, and D control regions. Sources of such background in the SRs include SM processes that produce prompt muons that are reconstructed as MSonly due to detector or reconstruction effects, such as ID inefficiencies, or poorly reconstructed combined muons, collectively described as failed combined muon reconstruction.

To avoid double-counting of dimuons from prompt processes, the estimated number of nonprompt OS vertices in each region is subtracted:

\[
N_i^{prompt} = N_i^{OS} - N_i^{nonprompt}, \quad i = B, C, D,
\]

where \(N_i^{OS}\) is the number of OS vertices in region \(i\), \(N_i^{nonprompt}\) is the number of OS nonprompt vertices in region
i (described in Sec. IV F) and \(N_i^{\text{prompt}}\) is the estimated number of opposite-charge vertices from prompt processes in region \(i\). The quantity \(N_B^{\text{prompt}}\) (or \(N_C^{\text{prompt}}\)) is the estimated number of OS vertices from prompt processes with leading (subleading) muons that fail the combined reconstruction and are identified as MSOnly, while the other muon candidate is identified as being MScomb. The quantity \(N_D^{\text{prompt}}\) is the estimated number of OS vertices from prompt processes with muon candidates that pass the combined reconstruction and are both identified as being MScomb. With these definitions, the leading and subleading “transfer factors” are defined as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
    f_L &= N_B^{\text{prompt}}/N_D^{\text{prompt}}, \\
    f_S &= N_C^{\text{prompt}}/N_D^{\text{prompt}}.
\end{align*}
\]

The leading transfer factor multiplied by \(N_C^{\text{prompt}}\), or, alternatively, the subleading transfer factor multiplied by \(N_B^{\text{prompt}}\), thus gives for prompt muons the predicted number of OS vertices in region A, the SRs in this case:

\[
N_A^{\text{prompt}} = f_L \cdot N_C^{\text{prompt}} = f_S \cdot N_B^{\text{prompt}}.
\]

The yields in the various regions are summarized in Table IX. The vertices in all CRs are used to verify that the designation of one of the MS tracks in the vertex as MScomb or MSOnly is independent of the designation of the other as MScomb or MSOnly (the measured correlation is negligibly small, \(< 0.0015\)). The predicted number of vertices from prompt background processes in the low- and high-mass SRs are 0.14 ± 0.22 and 0.504 ± 0.070, respectively, where the uncertainties are statistical only.

As a cross-check, the B, C, and D control regions are subdivided into bins of either muon \(p_T\) or muon \(\eta\) and \(\phi\), and the transfer factors and predictions of \(N^{\text{prompt}}\) in the SRs are recomputed. For both the low-mass and high-mass selection, the sum over the predicted prompt background yields in each bin is consistent with the nominal value.

## H. Total background

The predicted number of nonprompt muon vertices is summed with the predicted number of prompt muon vertices from SM background processes to give the predicted total number of background vertices in each of the SRs: 13.8 ± 4.9 and 0.50\(^{+1.41}_{-0.07}\) for \(\text{SR}_{\text{low}}\) and \(\text{SR}_{\text{high}}\), respectively, where the uncertainties include the statistical components and the systematic uncertainty in \(R_q\).

The reliability of the background estimation method is validated by applying it to both the sum of the simulated background samples and to a high-mass validation region in the data. The predicted number of dimuon vertices in the simulated sample agrees with the number of observed vertices, to within the statistical precision, in both the low- and high-mass signal regions. As the simulated samples do not include multijet processes or cosmic muon backgrounds, this is primarily a validation of the technique to estimate the background from prompt dimuon vertices. The validation region in data comprises dimuon vertices that satisfy all of the selection criteria of the high-mass region, with the exception that the requirement on the transverse boost of the dimuon system is inverted: it is required to have a value less than two, which ensures that there is negligible contribution from signal processes. The results are given in Table X. These two studies validate the method within the statistical precision.

## V. SYSTEMATIC UNCERTAINTIES

The systematic uncertainties are described in detail below. They include those in the integrated luminosity, used in converting signal yields to cross sections; the background estimate, derived entirely from the data; and the signal efficiency, determined from MC simulations. All systematic uncertainties are treated as uncorrelated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>(N_0^{\text{OS}})</th>
<th>(N_0^{SS})</th>
<th>(R_q)</th>
<th>(N_0^{\text{prompt}})</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low-mass region</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>1.28 ± 0.28</td>
<td>43 ± 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>1.20 ± 0.20</td>
<td>49(^{+74}_{-49})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>19599</td>
<td>3220</td>
<td>1.20 ± 0.20</td>
<td>15700 ± 660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-mass region</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.28 ± 0.28</td>
<td>120 ± 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.20 ± 0.20</td>
<td>92 ± 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>21940</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1.20 ± 0.20</td>
<td>21900 ± 150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE IX. The number of opposite-charge vertices, \(N_0^{\text{OS}}\), the number of same-charge vertices, \(N_0^{SS}\), the estimated ratio of opposite-charge to same-charge nonprompt dimuon vertices, \(R_q\) and the estimated number of prompt dimuon vertices \(N_0^{\text{prompt}}\) in each of the control regions B, C, and D. The values of \(N_0^{\text{prompt}}\) are obtained by subtracting the product of \(N_0^{SS}\) and \(R_q\) from \(N_0^{\text{OS}}\). The quoted uncertainties in \(N_0^{\text{prompt}}\) include the statistical component and the systematic uncertainty in \(R_q\).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yield</th>
<th>High-mass validation region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(N_{\text{VR}}^{\text{nonprompt}})</td>
<td>2.5(^{+2.3}_{-1.6})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(N_{\text{VR}}^{\text{prompt}})</td>
<td>7.20 ± 0.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(N_{\text{VR}}^{\text{bkgd}})</td>
<td>9.7(^{+2.3}_{-1.6})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(\Delta \theta_{\text{VR}})</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE X. Predicted nonprompt \(N_{\text{VR}}^{\text{nonprompt}}\), prompt \(N_{\text{VR}}^{\text{prompt}}\), and total \(N_{\text{VR}}^{\text{bkgd}}\) background yields and number of observed vertices \(N_{\text{VR}}^{\text{obs}}\) in data in the high-mass validation region. The uncertainty in \(N_{\text{VR}}^{\text{prompt}}\) includes the statistical component and the systematic uncertainty in \(R_q\).
TABLE XI. Predicted nonprompt $\Lambda_{\text{prompt}}$, prompt $\Lambda_{\text{prompt}}$, and total $\Lambda_{\text{bkgd}}$ background yields and number of observed vertices $N_{\text{obs}}$ in data in SR$_{\text{low}}$ and SR$_{\text{high}}$. The uncertainties in the predicted background yields are statistical uncertainties and systematic uncertainties added in quadrature.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yield</th>
<th>SR$_{\text{low}}$</th>
<th>SR$_{\text{high}}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\Lambda_{\text{nonprompt}}$</td>
<td>$13.6 \pm 4.9$</td>
<td>$0.0^{+1.4}_{-0.4}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\Lambda_{\text{prompt}}$</td>
<td>$0.1^{+0.2}_{-0.1}$</td>
<td>$0.50 \pm 0.07$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\Lambda_{\text{bkgd}}$</td>
<td>$13.8 \pm 4.9$</td>
<td>$0.50^{+1.42}_{-0.07}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$N_{\text{obs}}$</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VI. RESULTS

The predicted number of nonprompt muon vertices is summed with the predicted number of prompt muon vertices from SM background processes to give the predicted total number of background vertices, $N_{\text{bkgd}}$, in each SR. The predicted background yields, along with the number of observed vertices in the data, are summarized in Table XI. The distributions of $m_{\mu\mu}$ and $r_{\text{vtx}}$ are shown in Fig. 6 for the observed vertices in the two signal regions. Each dimuon vertex is in a separate event, and therefore the number of events observed is equivalent to the number of vertices. The dimuon vertex with the highest mass has $m_{\mu\mu} = 381$ GeV, $r_{\text{vtx}} = -220$ cm, and $z_{\text{vtx}} = 99$ cm. Close inspection of the event reveals characteristics of being cosmic in origin. The observation of one such dimuon vertex in SR$_{\text{high}}$ is consistent, within the uncertainties, with the nonprompt background estimate of $\Lambda_{\text{nonprompt}} = 0.0^{+1.4}_{-0.4}$. The other vertex in SR$_{\text{high}}$ has a mass compatible with the decay of the SM Z. The dimuon vertex with the largest value of $r_{\text{vtx}}$ is in SR$_{\text{low}}$ and has $m_{\mu\mu} = 46$ GeV, $r_{\text{vtx}} = 223$ cm, and $z_{\text{vtx}} = 56$ cm. The vertex is formed by an MS track passing through the top of the detector combined with another MS track passing through the bottom of the detector, with an angle of nearly 180º between them. This vertex is likely a cosmic-ray muon that narrowly survived the cosmic-ray veto criteria described in Sec. IV C.

As no significant excess of vertices over the SM background expectation is observed, 95% confidence-level (C.L.) upper limits on the signal event yields and production cross sections are calculated for various values of the proper decay distance $c\tau$ of the long-lived particle in each of the two BSM scenarios considered. The limits are calculated using the CL$_S$ prescription [96] with a Poisson likelihood used as the test statistic. Uncertainties in the signal efficiency and background expectation are included.

4For events that are selected exclusively by the trimuon trigger the observed signal yield will have a quadratic dependence on $B(Z\rightarrow\mu^+\mu^-)$. The collimated-dimuon trigger efficiency dominates over the trimuon trigger efficiency for the values of $m_{Z\text{D}}$ considered in this paper.
FIG. 6. Distributions of (a) dimuon invariant mass $m_{\mu\mu}$ and (b) vertex radius $r_{vtx}$ for displaced dimuon vertices in the low-mass (black circles) and high-mass (red squares) signal regions.

FIG. 7. The observed and expected 95% C.L. upper limits on the product of cross section and branching ratios for pair production of gluinos, leading to a final state of $\mu^+ \mu^- + X$, in the GGM model, as a function of the $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ lifetime, for $m_{\tilde{g}} = 1100$ GeV and three different choices of $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$: (a) 300 GeV, (b) 700 GeV, and (c) 1000 GeV. The shaded green (yellow) bands represent the 1$\sigma$ (2$\sigma$) uncertainties in the expected limits. The dashed horizontal line represents the value of the cross section times branching fractions predicted from simulation, with $m_{\tilde{g}} = 1100$ GeV, $\sigma(pp \rightarrow \tilde{g}\tilde{g}) = 0.1635$ pb, $B(\tilde{\chi}_1^0 \rightarrow Z\tilde{G}) = 1.0$, and $B(Z \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-) = 0.03366$. 
FIG. 8. The observed and expected 95% C.L. upper limits on the product of cross section and branching ratios, $\sigma \times B = \sigma(pp \rightarrow H) \times B(H \rightarrow Z_DZ_D) \times B(Z_D \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$, in the dark-sector model, as a function of the $Z_D$ lifetime, for three different choices of $m_{Z_D}$: (a) 20 GeV, (b) 40 GeV, and (c) 60 GeV. The shaded green (yellow) bands represent the 1σ (2σ) uncertainties in the expected limits. The dashed horizontal lines represent the values of the cross section times branching fractions predicted by simulation, with $m_H = 125$ GeV, $m_{H_D} = 300$ GeV, $\sigma(pp \rightarrow H) = 44.1$ pb and assuming $B(H \rightarrow Z_DZ_D) = 10\%$ or 1%. The value of $B(Z_D \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$ varies between 0.1475 and 0.1066 for the range $m_{Z_D} = 20$–60 GeV.

FIG. 9. The observed 95% C.L. excluded regions in the plane of $Z_D$-$Z$ kinetic mixing parameter, $\epsilon$, versus $Z_D$ mass, for values of $B(H \rightarrow Z_DZ_D) = 1\%$ or 10%, and $m_{H_D} = 300$ GeV. The value of $B(Z_D \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-)$ varies between 0.1475 and 0.1066 for the range $m_{Z_D} = 20$–60 GeV. as nuisance parameters, and the CL$_S$ values are calculated by generating ensembles of pseudoexperiments corresponding to the background-only and signal-plus-background hypotheses. Both the expected and observed limits are shown in Fig. 7 for the GGM model, and in Fig. 8 for the dark-sector model, where SR$_{high}$ is used for the GGM model and SR$_{low}$ is used for the dark-sector model. In the GGM model with a gluino mass of 1100 GeV and $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ masses of 300, 700, and 1000 GeV, $c\tau_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$ values are excluded in the ranges 3.1–1000 cm, 2.6–1500 cm, and 2.9–1800 cm, respectively. The observed limits are about $1.5\sigma$ weaker than the expected limits because of the small excess of events observed in SR$_{high}$. In the dark-sector model with a dark-Higgs-boson mass of 300 GeV, $B(H \rightarrow Z_DZ_D) = 10\%$ and $Z_D$ masses of 20, 40, and 60 GeV, $c\tau_{Z_D}$ values are excluded in the ranges 0.3–2000 cm, 0.9–2400 cm, and 2.1–1100 cm, respectively. These limits are translated into 95% exclusion contours in the plane of the $Z_D$-$Z$ kinetic mixing parameter, $\epsilon$, and the
$Z_D$ mass, and are shown in Fig. 9. Values of $c$ of the order $10^{-8}$ are excluded for $20 < m_{Z_D} < 60$ GeV.

VII. CONCLUSION

This article reports on a search for BSM long-lived particles decaying into two muons of opposite-sign electric charge in a sample of $pp$ collisions recorded by the ATLAS detector at the LHC with a center-of-mass energy of $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV and an integrated luminosity of 32.9 fb$^{-1}$. The search is performed by identifying dimuon vertices with displacements from the $pp$ interaction point in the range of 1–400 cm and having invariant mass $m_{\mu\mu}$ within one of two signal regions: 20–60 GeV or > 60 GeV. In neither signal region is a significant excess observed in the number of vertices relative to the predicted background. Hence upper limits at 95% confidence level on the product of cross section and branching fraction are calculated, as a function of lifetime, for production of long-lived particles in either a dark-sector model with dark-photon masses in the range of 60 GeV or $m_\gamma > 60$ GeV. For the models considered, the lower and upper lifetime limits are set from 1 to 2400 cm in $\tau$, respectively, depending on the targeted model’s parameters.

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Correction: The previously published rendition of Figure 9 contained an error and has been replaced.
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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, Alberta, Canada
4aDepartment of Physics, Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey
4bIstanbul Aydin University, Istanbul, Turkey
5LAPP, Université Grenoble Alpes, Université Savoie Mont Blanc, CNRS/IN2P3, Annecy, France
6High Energy Physics Division, Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne, Illinois, USA
7Department of Physics, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA
8Department of Physics, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas, USA
9Physics Department, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece
10Physics Department, National Technical University of Athens, Zografou, Greece
11Department of Physics, University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, USA
12Bahcesehir University, Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, Istanbul, Turkey
12bIstanbul Bilgi University, Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences, Istanbul, Turkey
15Department of Physics, Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey
16Institute of Physics, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, Serbia
17Department for Physics and Technology, University of Bergen, Bergen, Norway
18Physics Division, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and University of California, Berkeley, California, USA
19Institut für Physik, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany
20Albert Einstein Center for Fundamental Physics and Laboratory for High Energy Physics, University of Bern, Bern, Switzerland

012001-27
School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, United Kingdom
Centro de Investigaciones, Universidad Antonio Nariño, Bogotá, Colombia
Dipartimento di Fisica e Astronomia, Università di Bologna, Bologna, Italy
INFN Sezione di Bologna, Italy
Physikalisches Institut, Universität Bonn, Bonn, Germany
Department of Physics, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
Department of Physics, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts, USA
Transilvania University of Brasov, Brasov, Romania
Horia Hulubei National Institute of Physics and Nuclear Engineering, Bucharest, Romania
Department of Physics, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi, Iasi, Romania
National Institute for Research and Development of Isotopic and Molecular Technologies, Physics Department, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
University Politehnica Bucharest, Bucharest, Romania
West University in Timisoara, Timisoara, Romania
Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Informatics, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovak Republic
Physics Department, Institute of Experimental Physics of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Kosice, Slovak Republic
Physics Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York, USA
Departamento de Física, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Cavendish Laboratory, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, United Kingdom
Department of Physics, University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa
Department of Mechanical Engineering Science, University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg, South Africa
School of Physics, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa
Department of Physics, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
Faculté des Sciences Ain Chock, Réseau Universitaire de Physique des Hautes Energies - Université Hassan II, Casablanca, Morocco
Centre National de l’Energie des Sciences Techniques Nucleaires (CNESTEN), Rabat, Morocco
Faculté des Sciences Semlalia, Université Cadi Ayyad, LPHEA-Marrakech, Morocco
Faculté des Sciences, Université Mohamed Premier and LPTPM, Oujda, Morocco
Faculté des sciences, Université Mohammed V, Rabat, Morocco
CERN, Geneva, Switzerland
Enrico Fermi Institute, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA
LPC, Université Clermont Auvergne, CNRS/IN2P3, Clermont-Ferrand, France
Nevis Laboratory, Columbia University, Irvington, New York, USA
Niels Bohr Institute, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark
Dipartimento di Fisica, Università della Calabria, Rende, Italy
INFN Gruppo Collegato di Cosenza, Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, Italy
Physics Department, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, USA
Physics Department, University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas, USA
Department of Physics, Stockholm University, Sweden
Oskar Klein Centre, Stockholm, Sweden
Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY, Hamburg and Zeuthen, Germany
Lehrstuhl für Experimentelle Physik IV, Technische Universität Dortmund, Dortmund, Germany
Institut für Kern- und Teilchenphysik, Technische Universität Dresden, Dresden, Germany
Department of Physics, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, USA
SUPA - School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom
INFN e Laboratori Nazionali di Frascati, Frascati, Italy
II. Physikalisches Institut, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany
Département de Physique Nucléaire et Corpusculaire, Université de Genève, Genève, Switzerland
Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Genova, Genova, Italy
INFN Sezione di Genova, Italy
II. Physikalisches Institut, Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen, Giessen, Germany
SUPA - School of Physics and Astronomy, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, United Kingdom
LPSC, Université Grenoble Alpes, CNRS/IN2P3, Grenoble INP, Grenoble, France
Laboratory for Particle Physics and Cosmology, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA
Department of Modern Physics and State Key Laboratory of Particle Detection and Electronics, University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, China
Institute of Frontier and Interdisciplinary Science and Key Laboratory of Particle Physics and Particle Irradiation (MOE), Shandong University, Qingdao, China
School of Physics and Astronomy, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, KLPPAC-MoE, SKLPPC, Shanghai, China
Tsung-Dao Lee Institute, Shanghai, China
Department of Physics, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong, China
Department of Physics, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China
Department of Physics and Institute for Advanced Study, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong, China
Department of Physics, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan
Department of Physics, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA
INFN Gruppo Collegato di Udine, Sezione di Trieste, Udine, Italy
ICTP, Trieste, Italy
Dipartimento di Chimica, Fisica e Ambiente, Università di Udine, Udine, Italy
INFN Sezione di Lecce, Italy
Dipartimento di Matematica e Fisica, Università del Salento, Lecce, Italy
INFN Sezione di Milano, Italy
Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Milano, Milano, Italy
INFN Sezione di Napoli, Italy
Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Napoli, Napoli, Italy
INFN Sezione di Pavia, Italy
Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Pavia, Pavia, Italy
INFN Sezione di Pisa, Italy
Dipartimento di Fisica E. Fermi, Università di Pisa, Pisa, Italy
INFN Sezione di Roma, Italy
Dipartimento di Fisica, Sapienza Università di Roma, Roma, Italy
INFN Sezione di Roma Tor Vergata, Italy
Dipartimento di Fisica, Università di Roma Tor Vergata, Roma, Italy
INFN Sezione di Roma Tre, Italy
Dipartimento di Matematica e Fisica, Università Roma Tre, Roma, Italy
INFN-TIFPA, Italy
Università degli Studi di Trento, Trento, Italy
Institut für Astro- und Teilchenphysik, Leopold-Franzens-Universität, Innsbruck, Austria
University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, USA
Department of Physics and Astronomy, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, USA
Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, Russia
Departamento de Engenharia Elétrica, Universidade Federal de Juiz de Fora (UFJF), Juiz de Fora, Brazil
Universidade Federal do Rio De Janeiro COPPE/EE/IF, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Universidade Federal de São João del Rei (UFSJ), São João del Rei, Brazil
Instituto de Física, Universidade de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
KEK, High Energy Accelerator Research Organization, Tsukuba, Japan
Graduate School of Science, Kobe University, Kobe, Japan
AGH University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Physics and Applied Computer Science, Krakow, Poland
Marian Smoluchowski Institute of Physics, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland
Institute of Nuclear Physics Polish Academy of Sciences, Krakow, Poland
Faculty of Science, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan
Kyoto University of Education, Kyoto, Japan
Research Center for Advanced Particle Physics and Department of Physics, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan
Instituto de Física La Plata, Universidad Nacional de La Plata and CONICET, La Plata, Argentina
Physics Department, Lancaster University, Lancaster, United Kingdom
Oliver Lodge Laboratory, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, United Kingdom
Department of Experimental Particle Physics, Jožef Stefan Institute and Department of Physics, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
School of Physics and Astronomy, Queen Mary University of London, London, United Kingdom
Also at II. Physikalisches Institut, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany.

Also at Departament de Fisica de la Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain.

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

Also at The Collaborative Innovation Center of Quantum Matter (CICQM), Beijing, China.

Also at Università di Napoli Parthenope, Napoli, Italy.

Also at Institute of Particle Physics (IPP), Canada.

Also at Dipartimento di Fisica E. Fermi, Università di Pisa, Pisa, Italy.

Also at Horia Hulubei National Institute of Physics and Nuclear Engineering, Bucharest, Romania.

Also at CPPM, Aix-Marseille Université, CNRS/IN2P3, Marseille, France.

Also at Department of Physics, St. Petersburg State Polytechnical University, St. Petersburg, Russia.

Also at Borough of Manhattan Community College, City University of New York, New York, USA.

Also at Department of Financial and Management Engineering, University of the Aegean, Chios, Greece.

Also at Centre for High Performance Computing, CSIR Campus, Rosebank, Cape Town, South Africa.

Also at Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, Louisiana, USA.

Also at Instituto Catalana de Recerca i Estudis Avancats, ICREA, Barcelona, Spain.

Also at Department of Physics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA.

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

Also at Graduate School of Science, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan.

Also at Physikalisches Institut, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany.

Also at Institute for Mathematics, Astrophysics and Particle Physics, Radboud University Nijmegen/Nikhef, Nijmegen, Netherlands.

Also at Near East University, Nicosia, North Cyprus, Mersin, Turkey.

Also at Institute of Theoretical Physics, Ilia State University, Tbilisi, Georgia.

Also at CERN, Geneva, Switzerland.

Also at Department of Physics, Stanford University, USA.

Also at Manhattan College, New York, New York, USA.

Also at Hellenic Open University, Patras, Greece.

Also at The City College of New York, New York, New York, USA.

Also at Departamento de Fisica Teorica y del Cosmos, Universidad de Granada, Granada (Spain), Spain.

Also at Department of Physics, California State University, Sacramento, Stanford, California, USA.

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

Also at Département de Physique Nucléaire et Corpusculaire, Université de Genève, Genève, Switzerland.

Also at Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, United Kingdom.

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

Also at Department of Applied Physics and Astronomy, University of Sharjah, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates.

Also at Institut für Experimentalphysik, Universität Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany.

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

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

Also at Giresun University, Faculty of Engineering, Giresun, Turkey.

Also at Department of Physics, Nanjing University, Nanjing, China.

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

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