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Search for compressed supersymmetry using low p_T leptons and missing transverse energy with the ATLAS detector

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A search is presented for the electroweak production of gauginos, the supersymmetric partners of the Standard Model gauge bosons, in a scenario where the mass difference between the lightest supersymmetric particle (LSP) and other light gauginos is small, resulting in decays to virtual W/Z bosons and the LSP.

The search is based on 36 fb^{-1} of $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$ data collected by the ATLAS detector at the LHC in 2015 and 2016.

The signature is

two or three low transverse momentum (p_T) charged leptons (e, μ) and large missing transverse energy, which is enhanced by requiring a high p_T initial state radiation jet.

The use of very low p_T leptons poses challenges for triggering, particle identification, and background estimation.

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