Search for Gauge-Mediated Supersymmetry-Breaking Events in the $\gamma\gamma+$ Missing Transverse Energy Final State at CDF II

(Dated: July 6, 2009; Version 0.2; Line-count 504 out of 460)

We present the results of search for a gauge-mediated supersymmetry-breaking model with $\widetilde{\chi}^0_1 \to \gamma \widetilde{G}$ using $\gamma \gamma + \text{missing}$ transverse energy events. In $2.6 \pm 0.2 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ of $p \bar{p}$ collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 1.96 \text{ TeV}$ recorded by the CDF II detector we observe no candidate events, consistent with a standard model background expectation of 1.4 ± 0.4 events. We set 95% C.L. cross section limits and place the world-best lower limit on the $\widetilde{\chi}^0_1$ mass of 149 GeV/c² at $\tau_{\widetilde{\chi}^0_1} = 0$ ns as well as make exclusions in the $\widetilde{\chi}^0_1$ mass-lifetime plane for $\tau_{\widetilde{\chi}^0_1} \lesssim 2$ ns.

PACS numbers: 13.85.Rm, 12.60.Jv, 13.85.Qk, 14.80.Ly

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The standard model (SM) [1] of elementary particles 47 has been enormously successful, but is incomplete. For 48 theoretical reasons [2], and because of the observation of the ' $ee\gamma\gamma$ +missing transverse energy ($\not\!E_T$)' [3, 4] candidate event by the CDF experiment during Run I at 51 the Fermilab Tevatron, there is compelling rationale to 52 search for the production and decay of new heavy par-53 ticles that produce events with final state photons and 54 E_T in collider experiments. Of particular theoretical in- $_{55}$ terest are supersymmetry (SUSY) models with gaugemediated SUSY-breaking (GMSB) [2]. Since many ver- 57 sions of these models have a similar phenomenology we 58 consider the scenario in which the lightest neutralino 59 $(\tilde{\chi}_1^0)$ decays almost exclusively into a photon (γ) and a 60 weakly interacting, stable gravitino (G) that gives rise $_{61}$ to E_T by leaving a detector without depositing any en- $_{62}$ ergy [5]. The G is a warm dark matter candidate, favored $_{63}$ in these models to have 0.5 keV < $m_{\tilde{G}}$ <1.5 keV to be $_{\mbox{\tiny 64}}$ consistent with cosmological constraints [6]. Other direct 65 searches [7–9] have constrained the mass of the $\tilde{\chi}^0_1$ to have $_{66}$ $m_{\widetilde{\chi}^0_1} \gtrsim 100 \; {\rm GeV/c^2}$ for much of the parameter space. At $_{c\bar{c}}$ the Tevatron, sparticle production is dominated by gaug- 68 ino pairs, and the $\widetilde{\chi}^0_1$ mass $(m_{\widetilde{\chi}^0_1})$ and lifetime $(\tau_{\widetilde{\chi}^0_1})$ are $_{^{69}}$ the two most important parameters in determining the 70 final states and their kinematics. Different search strate- 71 gies are required for $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$ lifetimes above and below about 72 a nanosecond [10].

In this letter we describe a search for neutralinos that $_{75}$ is sensitive to $\tau_{\widetilde{\chi}_1^0} \leq 2$ ns, favored for large $m_{\widetilde{\chi}_1^0}$, in which $_{76}$ gaugino pairs are produced and decay to the $\gamma\gamma + E_T + X$ 77 final state where X are other high E_T final state particles. 78 We use a dataset corresponding to an integrated luminos- 79 ity of 2.6 ± 0.2 fb⁻¹ of $p\bar{p}$ collisions at $\sqrt{s}=1.96$ TeV from 80 the Tevatron collected with the CDF II detector [11]. 81 This work improves previous Tevatron searches [7, 8] for 82 GMSB in this channel by using an upgraded detector 83 with the photon timing system [12], a larger data sample, 84 and a new model of the E_T resolution (Met Model) [13]. 85 The strategy is to select $\gamma\gamma$ candidates and search for 86 the presence of both significant E_T and large total event 87 transverse energy to indicate the decays of heavy gaug- 88 inos. We perform an a priori analysis and optimize the 89 inos. We perform an a priori analysis and optimize the

selection criteria based on the expected sensitivity, taking into account the background and signal predictions.

A full description of the CDF Run II detector can be found elsewhere [11]. Here we briefly describe the aspects of the detector relevant to this analysis. The magnetic spectrometer consists of tracking devices inside a 3-m diameter, 5-m long superconducting solenoid magnet that operates at 1.4 T. A 3.1-m long drift chamber (COT) with 96 layers of sense wires is used to determine the momenta of charged particles, the z position of the $p\bar{p}$ interaction, and the time of the interaction. The calorimeter, constructed of projective towers, each with an electromagnetic (EM) and hadronic (HAD) compartment, is divided into a central barrel that surrounds the solenoid coil ($|\eta| < 1.1$) [3] and a pair of plug barrels that cover the region $1.1 < |\eta| < 3.6$. Both are used to identify photons, electrons, jets (j) [14] and E_T and measure their 4-momenta. The EM calorimeters are instrumented with a timing system, EMTiming [12], that measures the arrival time of photons.

Our analysis begins with events passing one of four online, three-level trigger [13] that, when combined, are effectively 100% efficient for our diphoton events. From this sample we create a subset of events with two photons with $|\eta| < 1.1$ and $E_T > 13$ GeV. Offline, both photons are required to be in the fiducial part of the calorimeter and pass the standard CDF photon identification and isolation requirements [7] with two minor modifications to remove instrumental and electron backgrounds [13, 15].

This set of events is dominated by SM production of $\gamma\gamma$, γj with $j \to \gamma_{fake}$ and $jj \to \gamma_{fake}\gamma_{fake}$, where γ_{fake} is a jet misidentified as a photon, but there are also electroweak sources with real E_T and non-collision backgrounds. To minimize the number of SM events in our inclusive diphoton sample with large E_T due to calorimeter energy mismeasurement we remove events if the E_T vector points along the direction, within $|\Delta\phi| < 0.3$, of the second photon or a narrow jet, with $E_T^j > 5$ GeV and $|\eta| < 2.5$, located close to the calorimeter cracks at $\eta \sim 0$ and $|\eta| \sim 1.1$ where these objects can be partially lost [13]. To help maintain the projective nature of the photon reconstruction in the calorimeter we require a vertex with $|z_{\text{vertex}}| < 60$ cm, which also helps to reduce

non-collision backgrounds. For events with multiple re- 56 constructed vertices we pick the vertex with the highest 57 $\sum_{\text{tracks}} p_T$ [3], unless assigning the photons to a differ- 58 ent vertex lowers the E_T , in which case we choose that 59 vertex.

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Non-collision backgrounds coming from cosmic rays 61 and beam-related effects can produce diphoton candi-62 dates and $E_{\rm T}$, and are removed from the inclusive $\gamma\gamma$ 63 sample using a number of techniques. Photon candi-64 dates from cosmic rays are not correlated in time with 65 collisions. We reject events if the photon time of arrival 66 at the calorimeter, corrected for average path length (t_{γ}) 67 has $t_{\gamma} > 4\sigma_t$ or $|t_{\gamma 1} - t_{\gamma 2}| > 4\sigma_{|t_1 - t_2|}$, where $\sigma_t = 1.66$ ns 68 and is a measurement of consistency with being from the 69 collision and $\sigma_{|t_1-t_2|}=1.02$ ns. Photon candidates can 70 also be produced by beam-related muons that originate 71 upstream of the detector (mostly from the more intense 72 p beam) and travel through the calorimeter, typically de-73 positing small amounts of energy near $\phi \approx 0$ for geomet-74 rical reasons. These are suppressed using standard beam 75 halo (BH) identification requirements [15]. A total of 76 38,053 diphoton candidate events pass the preselection 77 requirements, which is dominated by SM backgrounds 78 with fake $E_{\rm T}$.

Backgrounds to the $\gamma\gamma + E_T$ final state come from SM 80 production where E_T arises due to energy mismeasure- 81 ments in the calorimeter or event reconstruction patholo-82 gies. To select events with real and significant \$\mathbb{E}_T\$, as \$3 part of the optimization, and to predict the contribution 84 of SM backgrounds with mismeasured ("fake") E_T due to 85 normal energy measurement fluctuations, we use a Met 86 Model [13]. This model considers the clustered (jets) and 87 unclustered energy in the event and calculates a proba-88 bility for fluctuations in the energy measurement to pro-89 duce E_T^{fluct} equivalent to or larger than the measured 90 $E_T (P_{E_T f^{luct} > E_T})$. This probability is then used to define 91 a E_T -significance as $-\log_{10}\left(P_{E_T^{fluct}} > E_T\right)$. Events with $^{92}_{93}$ true and fake E_T of the same value should have, on aver-94 age, different E_T -significance. To estimate the expected 95 $E_{\rm T}$ -significance distribution for SM events with fake $E_{\rm T}$, 96 and the number of mismeasured events above a given 97 E_{T} -significance requirement, we use pseudo-experiments 98 where we smear the jets and unclustered energy, using 99 appropriate resolution functions in the event. The sys-100 tematic uncertainty is evaluated by comparing the Met₁₀₁ Model predictions with a default set of parameters of the₁₀₂ resolution functions to predictions obtained with parameters varied by one standard deviation. Statistical uncertainties are added in quadrature with the systematic $^{^{104}}$

Event reconstruction pathologies in SM events with no intrinsic E_T , such as a wrong choice of the primary in-¹⁰⁷ teraction vertex or tri-photon events with a lost photon, ¹⁰⁸ are unaccounted for by the Met Model. To obtain the ¹⁰⁹ prediction for this background we model SM kinematics, ¹¹⁰

uncertainties to obtain the total uncertainty.

and event reconstruction using a PYTHIA [16] $\gamma\gamma$ sample with a detector simulation [17] and normalize to the number of events in the inclusive $\gamma\gamma$ data sample to take into account γj and jj contributions to the backgrounds. We subtract the expectations for energy mismeasurement fluctuations in the MC to avoid double counting. The systematic uncertainties for this background prediction includes the uncertainty due to MC-data differences in the unclustered energy parameterization and on the jet energy scale.

Electroweak production of W's and Z's which decay to leptons can also give rise to the $\gamma\gamma + E_T$ signature where one or more of the photons can be fake, but the E_T is due to one or more neutrinos. To estimate the contribution from these backgrounds we use MC simulations [17], normalized to their production cross sections and considering all the leptonic decay modes of the bosons. The Baur MC [18] is used to simulate $W\gamma$ and $Z\gamma$ production and decay where initial and final state radiation (ISR/FSR) simulates $W/Z + \gamma \gamma$ events. The PYTHIA [16] MC is used to simulate W, Z, with photons from ISR/FSR removed, and $t\bar{t}$ backgrounds where both photon candidates are fakes. To minimize the dependence of our predictions on potential Data-MC differences we scale our MC productions to the observed number of $e\gamma$ events in data where we use the same diphoton triggers and analysis selection procedures as used for our inclusive $\gamma\gamma$ sample. Uncertainties are dominated by the $e\gamma$ normalization uncertainty.

Non-collision backgrounds are estimated using the data. Using the sample selection requirements, but requiring one of the photons to have $t_{\gamma} > 25$ ns we identify a cosmic enhanced sample. Similarly, we select a beam related background enhanced sample. we estimate the number of these events in the signal region, using the ratio of events outside the timing requirements to inside region and the measured efficiencies of the non-collision rejection requirements [13]. The uncertainties on both non-collision background estimates are dominated by statistical uncertainty on the number of identified events. Top of Figure 1 shows the E_T -significance distribution for the final signal sample, along with shape of the predictions for all the backgrounds.

We estimate the sensitivity to heavy, neutral particles that decay to photons using the GMSB reference model [5] in the mass-lifetime range, $75 \leq m_{\widetilde{\chi}^0_1} \leq 150$ GeV and $\tau_{\widetilde{\chi}^0_1} \leq 2$ ns. Events from all SUSY processes are simulated with PYTHIA [16] and followed by a detector simulation [17]. The acceptance is a strong function of the fraction of $\widetilde{\chi}^0_1$ decays that occur in the detector volume, which is dependent on both $\tau_{\widetilde{\chi}^0_1}$ and the masses of the sparticles, all of which scale linearly with $m_{\widetilde{\chi}^0_1}$ for our model [10]. The total systematic uncertainty on the acceptance, after all kinematic requirements, is estimated to be 7%, dominated by the uncertainty on the photon

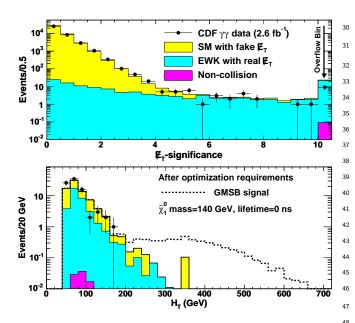


FIG. 1: The top plot shows the $E_{\rm T}$ -significance prediction for ⁴⁹ the $\gamma\gamma$ candidate sample, along with the data, after the preselection requirements. The bottom plot shows the predicted $_{51}$ $H_{\rm T}$ distribution after all but the final $H_{\rm T}$ requirement. There $_{52}$ is no evidence for new physics and the data is well modeled $_{53}$ by backgrounds alone.

ID efficiency (2.5% per photon). Other significant contributions come from uncertainties on ISR/FSR (4%), jet energy measurement (2%), E_T -significance parameterizations (1%) and the parton distribution functions (1%).

We determine the kinematic selection requirements by optimizing the mean expected 95% confidence level $_{51}$ (C.L.) cross section limit in the no-signal assumption without looking at the data in the signal region [19]. To compute the predicted cross section upper limit we combine the luminosity, the acceptance and the background estimates with the systematic uncertainties using a Bayesian method [20]. The predicted limits are optimized by simultaneously varying the selection require-67 ments for E_T -significance, H_T (total E_T of photons, jets 68 and $E_{\rm T}$), and the azimuthal angle between the two lead- 69 ing photons, $\Delta\phi(\gamma_1,\gamma_2)$. The large E_T -significance re-70 quirement eliminates most of the SM background with 71 fake ₱_T. GMSB production is dominated by heavy gaug- 72 ino pairs which decay to high $E_{\rm T}$, light final state par- 73 ticles via cascade decays. GMSB signal has, on average, 74 larger $H_{\rm T}$ compared to SM backgrounds so that an $H_{\rm T}$ 75 requirement can remove these backgrounds effectively. 76 Electroweak backgrounds with large $H_{\rm T}$ typically con- 77 sist of a high $E_{\rm T}$ photon recoiling against $W \to e\nu$, iden-78 tified as $\gamma_{fake} E_{T}$, which means the gauge boson decay 79 is highly boosted. Thus, the two photon candidates in 80 the final state are mostly back-to-back. Also, the high 81 $E_{\rm T}$ diphotons with large H_T from SM background are 82 mostly back-to-back with fake E_T ; the $\Delta\phi(\gamma_1,\gamma_2)$ cut, 83

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therefore, reduces both these backgrounds.

While each point in the considered $au_{\widetilde{\chi}_1^0}$ vs. $m_{\widetilde{\chi}_1^0}$ space gives a slightly different optimization, we choose a single set of requirements to maximize the expected 95% C.L. exclusion region; where the predicted production cross section at next-to-leading order [21] is above the expected cross section limit. The exclusion region also takes into account the production cross section uncertainties which are dominated by the parton distribution functions (7%) and the renormalization scale (3%). We find the optimal set of cuts, before unblinding the signal region, to be: E_T -significance> 3, E_T > 200 GeV, and E_T and E_T and E_T with these requirements we predict 1.38±0.44 background events with 0.92±0.37 events from electroweak sources with real E_T , 0.46±0.24 from SM with fake E_T , and 0.001 $^{+0.008}_{-0.001}$ from non-collision sources.

No events in the data pass the final event selection. The acceptance for $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}=140~{\rm GeV/c^2}$ and $\tau_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}=0$ ns is estimated to be 7.8±0.6%. The $H_{\rm T}$ distribution, normalized to expectations, is shown in Figure 1, after all but the final $H_{\rm T}$ cut. The data is consistent with the no-signal hypothesis. We set cross section limits as a function of $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$ and $\tau_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$ respectively, as shown in Figure 2. The $m_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}$ reach, based on the predicted and observed number of events for $\tau_{\tilde{\chi}_1^0}=0$, is 141 GeV/c² and 149 GeV/c² respectively. These limits significantly extend the search sensitivity beyond the results of D0 [8] and, when combined with the complementary exclusions from CDF and LEP [9, 15], cover the region shown in Figure 3.

In conclusion, we have performed an optimized search for heavy, neutral particles that decay to photons in the $\gamma\gamma+\not\!\!\!E_\Gamma$ final state using 2.6 fb⁻¹ of data. There is no excess of events beyond expectations. We set cross section limits using a GMSB model with $\widetilde{\chi}^0_1\to\gamma\widetilde{G}$, and find an exclusion region in the $\tau_{\widetilde{\chi}^0_1}^{-m}m_{\widetilde{\chi}^0_1}^{-0}$ plane with a world-best 95% C.L. lower limit on the $\widetilde{\chi}^0_1$ mass of 149 GeV/c² at $\tau_{\widetilde{\chi}^0_1}=0$ ns. By the end of Run II, an integrated luminosity of 10 fb⁻¹ is possible for which we estimate a mass reach of \simeq 160 GeV/c² at a lifetime of 0 ns by scaling the expected number of background events.

We thank the Fermilab staff and the technical staffs of the participating institutions for their vital contributions. This work was supported by the U.S. Department of Energy and National Science Foundation; the Italian Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare; the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan; the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada; the National Science Council of the Republic of China; the Swiss National Science Foundation; the A.P. Sloan Foundation; the Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, Germany; the Korean Science and Engineering Foundation and the Korean Re-

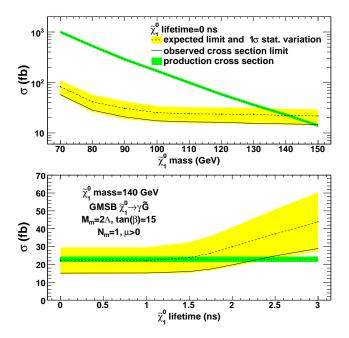


FIG. 2: The predicted and observed 95% C.L. cross section upper limits as a function of the $\widetilde{\chi}^0_1$ mass at a lifetime of 0 ns (top) and as a function of the $\widetilde{\chi}^0_1$ lifetime at a mass of 140 GeV/ c^2 (bottom). Indicated in green (darker shading) is the production cross section, along with its 8.0% uncertainty-band. In yellow (lighter shading) is the RMS variation on the expected cross section limit.

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search Foundation; the Particle Physics and Astronomy ²⁹
Research Council and the Royal Society, UK; the Russian ³⁰
Foundation for Basic Research; the Comisión Interminis- ³¹
terial de Ciencia y Tecnología, Spain; in part by the Eu- ³²
ropean Community's Human Potential Programme un- ³⁴
der contract HPRN-CT-2002-00292; and the Academy ³⁵
of Finland.

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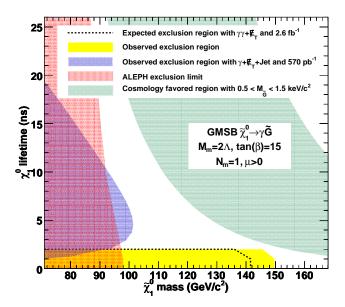


FIG. 3: The predicted and observed exclusion region along with the limit from ALEPH/LEP [9] and the CDF $\gamma + E_T + jet$ 'delayed' photon analysis [15]. We have a mass reach of 141 GeV/ c^2 (predicted) and 149 GeV/ c^2 (observed) at lifetimes up to 1 ns. The shaded band shows the parameter space where $0.5 < m_{\widetilde{G}} < 1.5 \text{ keV}/c^2$, favored in cosmologically consistent models [6].

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