

**Lower Limit on the Top-Quark Mass from Events with Two Leptons  
in  $p\bar{p}$  Collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 1.8$  TeV**

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We present results from searches for the top quark in  $p\bar{p}$  collisions at the Fermilab Tevatron Collider. The data sample was collected during 1988–89 with the Collider Detector at Fermilab and has an integrated luminosity of  $4.1 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ . Our previous search for  $e\mu$  final states for  $t\bar{t} \rightarrow evb\mu\nu\bar{b}$  decays has been extended to include the  $ee$  and  $\mu\mu$  channels. In addition, we have searched in each event with a high-transverse-momentum lepton accompanied by hadron jets for a low-transverse-momentum muon as a tag of a bottom quark in  $t\bar{t} \rightarrow l\nu bq\bar{q}\bar{b}$  decays. A lower limit on the top-quark mass of  $91 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  is obtained at the 95% confidence level, assuming standard model decays.

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The top quark ( $t$ ) required to complete the three generations of quarks and leptons in the standard model [1,2] has yet to be observed. The forward-backward asymmetry measured in  $e^+e^- \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  [3] and the absence of flavor-changing neutral currents in bottom-quark ( $b$ ) decays [4] imply the existence of the isodoublet partner of the  $b$  quark. Lower bounds up to  $77 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  on the top-quark mass  $M_{\text{top}}$  have been reported [5–9] and upper limits of about  $200 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  have been placed by requiring consistency with the measured  $W$  and  $Z$  boson masses [10], and with weak-neutral-current data [11].

In a previous Letter, we reported a limit of  $M_{\text{top}} > 72 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  (95% C.L.) based on a search with the Collider Detector at Fermilab (CDF) for the decay of  $t\bar{t}$  pairs into  $e\mu$  pairs:  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t} \rightarrow e\mu + X$  [6]. Here we present an extension of that analysis to include the channels  $ee$  and  $\mu\mu$ . The search has also been extended to include electrons at smaller polar angles relative to the beam. In addition, we have searched in lepton+jets events for a low-transverse-momentum ( $P_T$ ) muon as a tag of a bottom quark in  $t\bar{t} \rightarrow W^+bW^-\bar{b}$  decays.

Top quarks are expected to be produced at the Fermilab Collider mainly via the process  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow t\bar{t} + X$  [12,13]. Each top quark is expected to decay into a  $W$  boson and a  $b$  quark ( $t \rightarrow Wb$ , where the  $W$  is real or virtual depending on the top-quark mass). Each  $W$  subsequently decays into either a charged lepton and a neutrino or two quarks. The branching ratio for both  $W$ 's from a  $t\bar{t}$  pair to decay leptonically is  $\frac{2}{81}$  for  $e\mu$ ,  $\frac{1}{81}$  for  $ee$ , and  $\frac{1}{81}$  for  $\mu\mu$ . The cleanest signature for the production and decay of a  $t\bar{t}$  pair is the presence of two high- $P_T$  leptons ( $e$  or  $\mu$ ) in the final state.

Decay modes of  $t\bar{t}$  pairs in which one of the  $W$  bosons decays hadronically and the other leptonically have larger

branching ratios ( $\frac{24}{81}$ ), but in these channels there are serious backgrounds from  $W$  bosons produced in association with jets ( $p\bar{p} \rightarrow W + \text{jets}$ ). These backgrounds are reduced by looking for a  $b$  (or  $\bar{b}$ ) quark in the  $t\bar{t} \rightarrow W^+bW^-\bar{b}$  decay. The  $b$  quark can be tagged by its transition  $b \rightarrow \mu$ . Decay modes of  $t\bar{t}$  pairs in which both quarks decay hadronically also have a large branching fraction ( $\frac{36}{81}$ ), but it is difficult to distinguish them from multijet QCD backgrounds.

In the high- $P_T$  dilepton analysis, the  $P_T$  threshold has been chosen such that a large portion of the top signal is preserved while the backgrounds, which mostly come from  $b\bar{b}$  decays and from particle misidentification, are suppressed. Electrons are detected [7,14] inside the rapidity regions  $|\eta| < 1.0$  (central calorimeter) and  $1.26 < |\eta| < 2.2$  (plug calorimeter). Muons are identified in the region  $|\eta| < 1.2$ , but can trigger the apparatus only in the region  $|\eta| < 0.6$ . Further details of the analysis are presented in Ref. [15].

For events in the signal region, we require that each lepton has  $P_T > 15 \text{ GeV}/c$  and that each event has been triggered by at least one of the central electron and muon triggers, which are highly efficient above  $15 \text{ GeV}/c$ . The subset of  $e\mu$  events, in which the electron is in the plug calorimeter and the muon has a rapidity  $0.6 < |\eta| < 1.2$ , must be triggered by the plug electron trigger. For this subset of events, we require the electron  $E_T$  to be higher than  $30 \text{ GeV}$  to ensure that the trigger is efficient.

After the  $P_T$  and lepton identification cuts, there are 4  $e\mu$ , 271  $ee$ , and 112  $\mu\mu$  events. Further kinematic and event topology cuts are applied to reject the remaining backgrounds. A back-to-back cut, requiring  $\Delta\phi_{ll} < 160^\circ$ , where  $\Delta\phi_{ll}$  is the dilepton azimuthal opening angle, is placed to suppress a small expected  $Z^0 \rightarrow \tau\tau$  back-

ground. For dielectron and dimuon channels, the  $\Delta\phi_{ll}$  cut also reduces large background from  $Z^0$  and Drell-Yan events. These backgrounds are reduced further by a dilepton invariant mass ( $M_{ll}$ ) cut around the  $Z^0$  peak and a cut on missing transverse energy ( $E_T$ ). We remove  $ee$  and  $\mu\mu$  events with  $75 < M_{ll} < 105$  GeV/ $c^2$  or with  $E_T < 20$  GeV. In  $t\bar{t}$  events, there would be two undetected high-transverse-energy neutrinos, and the two leptons are not expected to be back to back. Therefore, with these cuts, most of the  $t\bar{t}$  acceptance is preserved.

Of the 271  $ee$  and 112  $\mu\mu$  events, 50  $ee$  and 15  $\mu\mu$  events survive the invariant mass cut. The distribution of  $\Delta\phi_{ll}$  vs  $E_T$  for these events is shown in Fig. 1(a). After imposing the  $\Delta\phi_{ll}$  and  $E_T$  cuts, no dielectron or dimuon events remain in the data. Figure 1(b) shows the expected distribution for  $t\bar{t} \rightarrow ll + X$  events with  $M_{top} = 90$  GeV/ $c^2$  generated from the ISAJET [16] Monte Carlo program together with a CDF detector simulation. We expect  $0.9 \pm 0.7$  event from the Drell-Yan and  $Z^0$  production processes, and  $0.4 \pm 0.1$  event from fake lepton background.

Three of the four  $e\mu$  events are rejected by the  $\Delta\phi_{ll}$  cut. The three events also have small  $E_T$ , and are consistent with being background events. The remaining event is the same one found in the previous analysis [6], which, however, did not include electrons in the plug calorimeter. Before the  $\Delta\phi_{ll}$  cut, we expect 1.4  $e\mu$  events from the process  $Z^0 \rightarrow \tau\tau$ , 0.15 event from  $WW$ , 1.5 events from QCD  $b\bar{b}$  production, and 1.6 events from fake lepton

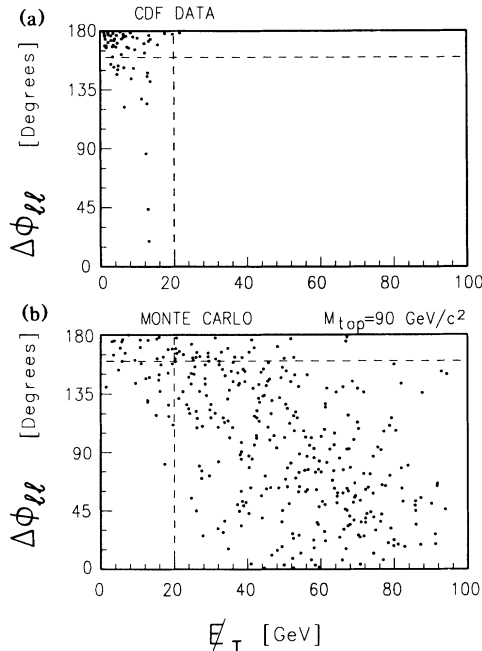


FIG. 1. Distributions of  $E_T$  vs  $\Delta\phi_{ll}$ . (a) CDF dielectron and dimuon data with integrated luminosity of  $4.1 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ . (b) Monte Carlo  $t\bar{t} \rightarrow ll + X$  events for  $M_{top} = 90 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  for  $600 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ . Events with dilepton masses in the range  $75 < M_{ll} < 105$  are not included in the figure.

background [15]. After the  $\Delta\phi_{ll}$  cut, we expect  $0.2 \pm 0.1$ ,  $0.12 \pm 0.01$ ,  $0.3 \pm 0.2$ , and  $0.6 \pm 0.4$  event from the above sources, respectively. Background events from  $WZ$  pair production, the decay  $Z^0 \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ , and the Drell-Yan processes are negligible.

For  $M_{top} = 90 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ , the total detection efficiency for  $t\bar{t}$  pairs from the high- $P_T$  dilepton analysis is  $16\% \times \frac{4}{81}$ . The direct double semileptonic decays of  $t\bar{t}$  into  $e\mu$ ,  $ee$ , or  $\mu\mu$  account for over 80% of the high- $P_T$  dilepton  $t\bar{t}$  signal. The next major contribution to the signal is 12% from events with one lepton from the decay of a  $\tau$  daughter of one top quark.

In the  $b$  tag analysis, we consider events with a high- $P_T$  electron or muon from the decay of a  $W$  boson, plus a low- $P_T$  muon from direct or sequential  $b$  decays,  $t\bar{t} \rightarrow l\nu b\bar{q}\bar{q}\bar{b}$ ,  $b \rightarrow \mu$  or  $b \rightarrow c \rightarrow \mu$ . For each event, we require an isolated electron or muon with  $P_T > 20 \text{ GeV}/c$ ,  $E_T > 20 \text{ GeV}$ , and at least two jets of  $E_T > 10 \text{ GeV}$  and  $|\eta| < 2$ . In this analysis, we consider only electrons inside the rapidity region  $|\eta| < 1.0$  and muons with  $|\eta| < 0.6$ . Any event with two lepton candidates that are consistent with being decay products of a  $Z$  boson is removed from the sample. The properties of the remaining 104  $e$ +jets and 91  $\mu$ +jets events are consistent with expectations for  $p\bar{p} \rightarrow W$ +jets. The background from  $b$  semileptonic decays and from misidentified hadrons is estimated from studies of the lepton isolation distribution to be less than 15%. For  $M_{top} < 100 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ , the muon from the  $b$  decay is expected to have a soft  $P_T$  spectrum ( $\langle P_T \rangle \approx 3 \text{ GeV}/c$ ). We explicitly exclude muons with  $P_T(\mu) > 15 \text{ GeV}/c$  to avoid overlap with the high- $P_T$  dilepton analysis described above. Muons with  $P_T < 1.6 \text{ GeV}/c$  are stopped in the calorimeter without reaching the muon chambers. Because of uncertainties in the detection efficiency of the lowest-momentum muons, a  $P_T$  cutoff of  $2 \text{ GeV}/c$  is imposed in the search.

If  $M_{top}$  is near the  $W$  mass, the two most energetic jets in top events usually originate from hadronic  $W$  decay or from initial-state radiation, and rarely from the hadronization of the  $b$  quarks. Thus, muons from  $b$  decays tend to be well separated from the two highest- $E_T$  jets. The background to the muon signal, from decays in flight and hadron-shower leakage in  $W$ +jets events, is reduced by eliminating muon candidates with  $\Delta R < 0.5$ , where  $\Delta R = (\Delta\eta^2 + \Delta\phi^2)^{1/2}$  is the  $\eta$ - $\phi$  distance between the  $\mu$  candidate and the nearest of the two most energetic jets. The threshold for  $\Delta R$  was determined from studies of background muon candidates in QCD jet events [15].

The  $\Delta R$  distribution for muon candidates with  $P_T > 2 \text{ GeV}/c$  is shown in Fig. 2. There are no candidate muons with  $\Delta R > 0.5$ . The expected number of events from the  $W$ +jets background, estimated from the number of lepton+jets events and the fake muon probability, is  $0.9 \pm 0.5$ .

The detection efficiency for  $t\bar{t}$  events for the  $b$  tag analysis is determined also from ISAJET and detector simulation. In this Monte Carlo study, the semileptonic

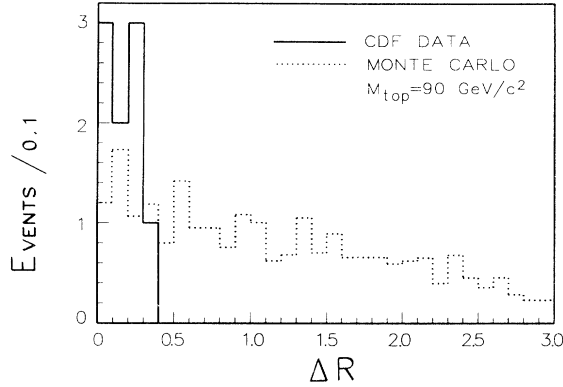


FIG. 2. The  $\eta$ - $\phi$  distance  $\Delta R$  to the nearest of the two most energetic jets for low- $P_T$  muon candidates in the lepton+jets sample. Also shown is the 90-GeV/ $c^2$   $t\bar{t}$  Monte Carlo prediction (arbitrary normalization).

branching ratios of bottom and charmed particles and the lepton spectrum from  $b$  decays are chosen to agree with the most recent measurements [17,18]. Approximately 30% of reconstructed muons originate from sequential charm decays. The efficiency of the  $\Delta R$  requirement for top events is greater than 75%. The detection efficiency of the lepton+jets selection for  $t\bar{t}$  is  $19.5\% \times \frac{24}{81}$  for  $M_{top} = 90 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ . In 4.5% of these events we expect to detect an additional muon, for an overall efficiency of  $(0.26 \pm 0.03)\%$  for the  $b$  tag analysis.

The results from the searches in the high- $P_T$  dilepton and the  $b$  tag analyses are combined by adding detection efficiencies and yields, and are summarized in Table I. The data yield the one  $e\mu$  candidate event described above.

The 95% confidence level (C.L.) upper limit on the cross section can be written as

$$\sigma_{t\bar{t}} < N_{top} / \int \mathcal{L} dt \epsilon_{top}, \quad (1)$$

where  $N_{top}$  is the 95% C.L. upper limit on the number of expected top events,  $\int \mathcal{L} dt$  ( $=4.1 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ ) is the integrated luminosity, and  $\epsilon_{top}$  is the detection efficiency of the analysis for observing top events. With one event detected, the value of  $N_{top}$  would be 4.74; however, the uncertainties in  $\int \mathcal{L} dt$  and  $\epsilon_{top}$  must be considered. This is done by convoluting the Poisson probability distribution

TABLE I. Detection efficiencies  $\epsilon_{top}$  for the high- $P_T$  dilepton and  $b$  tag analyses, the predicted central value of  $t\bar{t}$  production cross section from Ref. [13], and the total number of events expected.

$M_{top}$ (GeV/ $c^2$ )	$\epsilon_{top}$ (dilepton) (%)	$\epsilon_{top}$ ( $t \rightarrow b \rightarrow \mu$ ) (%)	$\sigma_{t\bar{t}}$ (pb)	$N_{events}$ (in $4.1 \text{ pb}^{-1}$ )
80	0.68	0.20	291	10.5
90	0.80	0.26	150	6.5
100	0.83	0.29	94	4.3

for  $N_{top}$  with the uncertainties in  $\int \mathcal{L} dt$  and  $\epsilon_{top}$ , which are assumed to be Gaussian.

For the high- $P_T$  dilepton analysis, the total uncertainty in  $\epsilon_{top}$  is 11%. The largest contributions are from the lepton isolation cuts (8%) and from the lepton identification cuts (5%). In the  $b$  tag analysis, the total uncertainty is 13%. The major contributions come from the initial-state radiation assumptions in ISAJET (5%), the limited Monte Carlo statistics (7%), and the uncertainty on the understanding of the jet energy scale (5%) and on the  $b \rightarrow \mu$  branching ratio (5%). The total uncertainty in  $\epsilon_{top}$ , taking into account correlations in the uncertainties in the two analyses, is 11%. The uncertainty in the luminosity is 6.8% [14]. Without subtracting the expected  $3.6 \pm 1.4$  background events from the one event observed, we find  $N_{top} = 4.90$ . The 95% C.L. limit on  $\sigma_{t\bar{t}}$  varies slightly as a function of  $M_{top}$  and is 113 pb for  $M_{top} = 90 \text{ GeV}/c^2$ .

Using theoretical expectations for  $\sigma_{t\bar{t}}$ , and assuming standard-model charged-current decays for top quarks, the cross-section limit can be translated into a lower limit on the mass of the top quark. Figure 3 shows the upper limits on  $\sigma_{t\bar{t}}$  as a function of  $M_{top}$  together with the QCD calculation to order  $\alpha_s^3$  of the heavy-quark production cross section from Refs. [12,13]. The shaded region represents the uncertainty in the calculation based on different choices of the renormalization scale and the QCD scale parameter  $\Lambda$ . To set a lower limit on  $M_{top}$ , we find the point at which the experimental curve crosses the lower (more conservative) bound of the theoretical prediction. At the 95% C.L. we find  $M_{top} > 85 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  for the high- $P_T$  dilepton analysis. From the combination of the high- $P_T$  dilepton analysis with the  $b$  tag analysis, we obtain  $M_{top} > 95 \text{ GeV}/c^2$  at 90% C.L., and

$$M_{top} > 91 \text{ GeV}/c^2 \text{ at } 95\% \text{ C.L.}$$

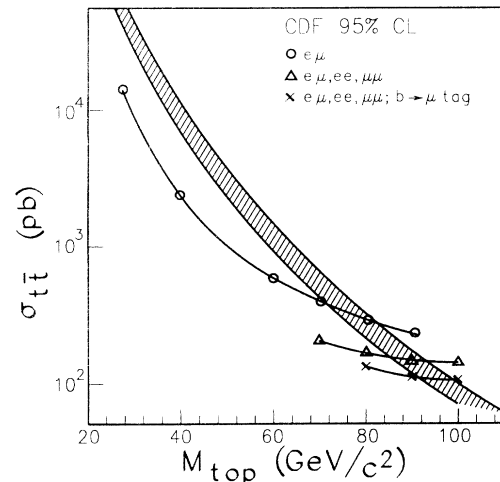


FIG. 3. The 95% C.L. limits on  $\sigma_{t\bar{t}}$  compared with a band of theoretical predictions from Ref. [13]. The three sets of experimental limits are (1) from the  $e\mu$  analysis of Ref. [6]; (2) from this analysis in the dilepton modes  $ee$ ,  $e\mu$ , and  $\mu\mu$  and including electrons with  $1.26 < |\eta| < 2.2$ ; (3) from the combination of this high- $P_T$  dilepton analysis with the  $b$  tag analysis.

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