

Me, myself, and VLQs

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Lorenzo Basso

CPPM, Marseille

- 2007: Graduated in Physics at University of Padova (Italy)
- 2007-2011: PhD in Physics at University of Southampton (UK) within NExT Institute
Supervisor: Stefano Moretti. Student member of CMS, associated to an experimental supervisor (Claire Shepher-Themistocleous)
Thesis: *Phenomenology of the minimal B-L extension of the Standard Model at the LHC*
Defense: 24/05/2011
- 2011-2013: PostDoc at University of Freiburg (Germany) within Graduiertenkolleg (mentoring to ATLAS PhD students)
Supervisor/Advisors: Prof. Dr. Stefan Dittmaier / Prof. Dr. Karl Jakobs
- 2013-2015: PostDoc at IPHC (ANR BATs@LHC)
Supervisor: Dr. Caroline Collard
Non-signing member of CMS collaboration

Summary of competences and work

Phenomenologist (theory): MC parton/detector level event simulation and analysis, analytic computations, model building, model implementations (LanHEP, SARAH, FeynRules), dark matter properties

- PhD on phenomenology at LHC and ILC of a $SM \times U(1)_{B-L}$ model: Z' , heavy neutrinos, extra Higgs boson, plus theory constraints (RGEs etc), first fast sim studies of $pp \rightarrow Z' \rightarrow \nu_h \nu_h \rightarrow 3\ell 2j + MET$
- Model extended to SUSY version: study of DM and first inspection of scalar sector. Implementation in SARAH
- Extension to include gauged inverse seesaw, study of DM/leptogenesis
- Asymmetries in Z' models, in $t\bar{t}$ and then interplay with $b\bar{b}$ and $\tau^+\tau^-$
- 2HDM: $H^\pm \rightarrow W^\pm h$ and $H^\pm \rightarrow \tau\nu_\tau$ (parton level)
- other works on LRSSM, fitting of neutrino models to precision data (possible 3σ hint), proposal for seesaw in SLHA, RGE study of $B-L$ model and Hill/HEIDI model
- full QCD+EW NLO corrections to top decay width
- Detector level studies: 13 TeV CMS prospects for top FCNC, resonant mono Higgs (LHC and FCC-ee, on going), and

discovery potential for VLQ $T' \rightarrow tZ$ in trilepton channel

Introduction

Vector-like quarks (equal LH and RH couplings) are common to BSM theories:
Extra Dimensions, Little Higgs Models, Composite Higgs Models

At LHC, searched for in pair-production: QCD-like (model-independent)

Single production: *model-dependent*

- allows to access underlying model
- favoured when very heavy resonances

In this talk: LHC discovery potential of singly-produced T' (top-partner)

Simplified model

M. Buchkremer et al. *Nucl.Phys.* **B876**, 376 (2013) [1305.4172]

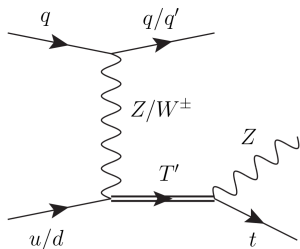
$$\mathcal{L}_{T'} = g^* \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{R_L}{1+R_L}} \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} [\overline{T'}_L W_\mu^+ \gamma^\mu d_L] + \sqrt{\frac{1}{1+R_L}} \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} [\overline{T'}_L W_\mu^+ \gamma^\mu b_L] + \sqrt{\frac{R_L}{1+R_L}} \frac{g}{2 \cos \theta_W} [\overline{T'}_L Z_\mu \gamma^\mu u_L] + \sqrt{\frac{1}{1+R_L}} \frac{g}{2 \cos \theta_W} [\overline{T'}_L Z_\mu \gamma^\mu t_L] \right\} + h.c.$$

We allow for generic mixing to 1st generation quarks

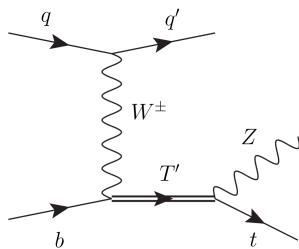
Only 3 parameters:

- $M_{T'}$, the vector-like mass of the top partner
- g^* , the coupling strength to SM quarks, only relevant in single production. Rescaling: $\sigma \propto (g^*)^2$
- R_L , the mixing coupling to first generation quarks. $R_L = 0$ corresponds to coupling to t/b only. Rescaling: by integrating 1st $\propto \frac{R_L}{1+R_L}$ and 3rd $\propto \frac{1}{1+R_L}$ gen. quark processes independently

Single production and $T' \rightarrow tZ$



(a) \mathcal{A}_1



(b) \mathcal{A}_3

$$\sigma_{pp \rightarrow T'}(M_{T'}, R_L) = \mathcal{A}_1(M_{T'}) \frac{R_L}{1 + R_L} + \mathcal{A}_3(M_{T'}) \frac{1}{1 + R_L}$$

$$BR_{T' \rightarrow tZ}(M_{T'}, R_L) = \mathcal{B}(M_{T'}) \frac{1}{1 + R_L}$$

$M_{T'} \text{ (GeV)}$	$\mathcal{A}_1(M_{T'}) \text{ (pb)}$	$\mathcal{A}_3(M_{T'}) \text{ (pb)}$	$\mathcal{B}(M_{T'}) \text{ (\%)}$
800	1.2614	0.07242	22.4
1000	0.7752	0.03518	23.5
1200	0.5001	0.01826	24.0
1400	0.3331	0.00994	24.2
1600	0.2265	0.00561	24.4

Monte Carlo simulation details

LO samples simulation with

- parton level: MG5_aMC@NLO (CTEQ6L1)
- Hadronisation/showering: Pythia6 Tune Z2
- FastSim: Delphes3 ma5Tune
- Analysis: MadAnalysis5

Signal:

5 benchmark points of T' mass in steps of 200 GeV: $M_{T'} \in [800; 1600]$ GeV, with $g^* = 0.1$ and $R_L = 0.5$. No k -factors

Backgrounds (plus up to 2 jets):

- 3 prompt leptons: $t\bar{t}W$, $t\bar{t}Z$, tZj , and WZ
- non-prompt leptons: $t\bar{t}$ and $Z/W + jets$

Samples normalised to NLO cross sections where available

CMS detector emulation

Anti- k_T algorithm with $R = 0.5$

b -tagging CSV medium working point: b -tag = 70%, mistag = 1%

Cut-and-count

Objects identification

$$p_T(\ell) > 20 \text{ GeV},$$

$$p_T(j) > 40 \text{ GeV},$$

$$|\eta(j)| < 5,$$

$$|\eta(e/\mu)| < 2.5/2.4,$$

$$\Delta R(\ell, j) > 0.4,$$

$$|\eta(b)| < 2.4,$$

Cuts:

$$n_\ell \equiv 3$$

$$1 < n_j < 3$$

$$n_b \equiv 3$$

$$|M(\ell^+\ell^-)/\text{GeV} - M_Z| < 15 \quad Z \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^- \text{ reco}$$

$$10 < M_T(\ell_W\nu)/\text{GeV} < 150 \quad W \rightarrow \ell_W\nu \text{ reco}$$

$$0 < M_T(b\ell_W\nu)/\text{GeV} < 220 \quad t \rightarrow bW \text{ reco}$$

suppress $t\bar{t} + X \rightarrow$ **0.09%**

(remove pair-prod.)

suppress $WZ \rightarrow$ **4.2%**

Cuts optimised to retain $\geq 90\%$ of signal

Discovery power: benchmarks

Surviving events and significances for signal benchmark points
($g^* = 0.1$, $R_L = 0.5$)

- C&C: select a window around the peak in $M_T(b3\ell)$
- MVA: perform a LH cut on BDT (13 variables) output

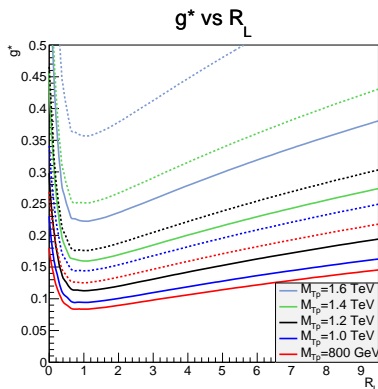
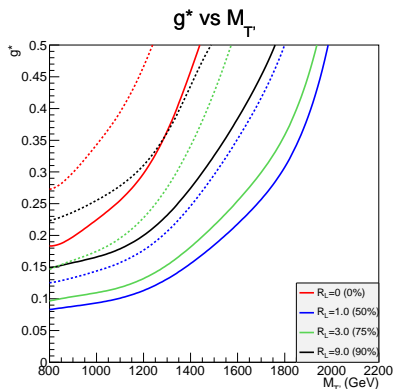
to maximise the significance: $\sigma = S/\sqrt{S+B}$

Analysis	$M_{T'} = 0.8$ TeV	$M_{T'} = 1.0$ TeV	$M_{T'} = 1.2$ TeV	$M_{T'} = 1.4$ TeV	$M_{T'} = 1.6$ TeV
$M_T(b3\ell)$ cut (GeV)	[800 – 860]	[840 – 1200]	[1000 – 1340]	[1120 – 1640]	[1200 – 1800]
C&C S (ev.)	18.00	12.28	7.16	3.40	1.57
C&C B (ev.)	8.90	4.88	1.74	0.90	0.63
σ	3.47	2.96	2.40	1.64	1.06
MVA cut	0.07	0.08	0.11	0.12	0.12
σ	3.64	3.10	2.50	1.62	1.15

MVA: non-significant improvement (5%–8%)

Significance depends on g^* and R_L per fixed T' mass

Discovery power: parameter space

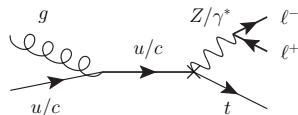
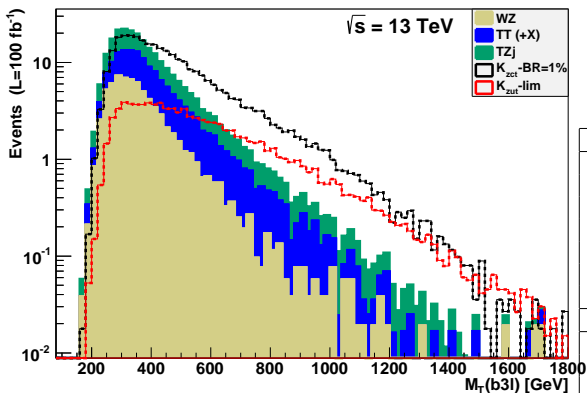


(dashed lines: 5σ , solid lines: 3σ)

T' masses up to 2 TeV can be observed

Increased reach when R_L is non-vanishing (maximum for $R_L \simeq 1$, corresponding to 50%–50% mixing)

Reinterpretation: top anomalous couplings



Cut	κ_{tZu}	κ_{tZc}
no cuts	2263(100%)	5360(100%)
$1 \leq n_j \leq 3$	1765(78.0%)	4452(83.0%)
$n_\ell \equiv 3$	191.8(10.9%)	623.3(14.0%)
$n_b \equiv 1$	113.8(59.3%)	381.0(61.1%)
Z-reco	103.2(90.7%)	342.7(90.0%)
W-reco	96.2(93.3%)	323.6(94.4%)
t-reco	91.1(94.7%)	304.7(94.1%)
$M_T(b3l)$	$> 400 \text{ GeV}$	$> 200 \text{ GeV}$
S	68.0	304.5
B	102.9	241.7
σ	5.2	13.0

Present limit: $\text{BR}(t \rightarrow Zq) < 0.05\%$ (inclusive, from $t\bar{t}$)

MVA trained on T' signals: no improvements

In progress: training on the top anomalous signal

Proposal: Vector-like Quarks (VLQ)

VLQ: vector-like quarks, quarks with equal LH and RH chiral couplings

Strong interactions with 3^{rd} generation of quarks: (again) a preferred window to New Physics. However, mixing with 1^{st} generation is also possible

Very common in BSM: simplified Lagrangians for model-independent analyses

Only 4 types couple to SM quarks [1305.4172](#)

$$Q = 5/3 \Rightarrow X \rightarrow W^+ t$$

$$Q = 2/3 \Rightarrow T \rightarrow W^+ b, Zt, Ht$$

$$Q = -1/3 \Rightarrow B \rightarrow W^- t, Zb, Hb$$

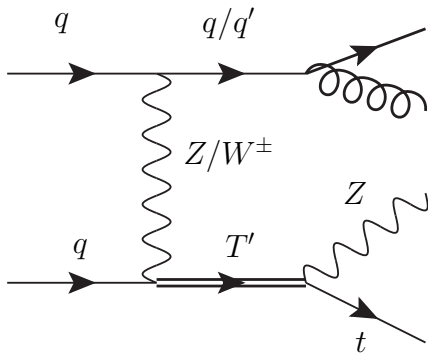
$$Q = -4/3 \Rightarrow Y \rightarrow W^- b$$

LHC@13 TeV: single prod (model dep) overtakes pair prod (QCD, model ind)

- possibility to access underlying model
- **PROPOSAL:** Wt/b only common decay mode: single analysis in hadronic final state, also comparing boosted techniques

Why NLO-QCD

VLQ are still quarks, hence NLO-QCD correction can be large at the LHC.
Important to investigate modification to forward jet, used in analyses



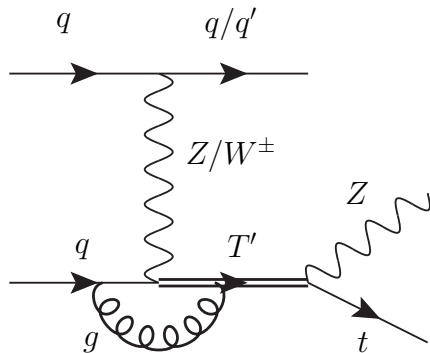
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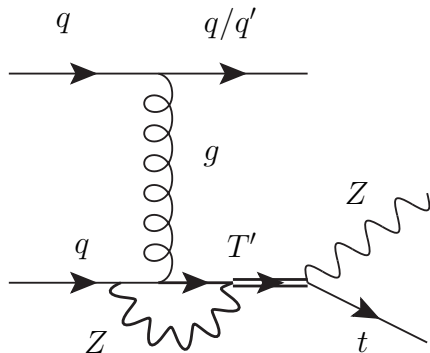
Important to investigate modification to forward jet, used in analyses

Model recently implemented in FeynRules v2.1 for automated NLO event generation in MG5_aMC@NLO

Problem under investigation: single-out pure QCD corrections



(a) NLO-QCD

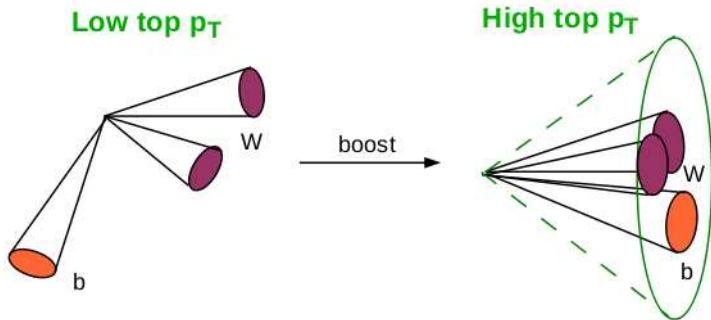


(b) NLO-EW

Boosted techniques

Present exclusions require $M_{VLQ} \gtrsim 1 \text{ TeV}$

Final state particles are boosted:



Traditional techniques for reconstructing particles lose efficiency

⇒ “Boosted” techniques/substructures: more efficient (vs. pileup)

Aim of project: compare traditional reconstruction against boosted techniques

Backup slides

Examples of models

Very quick review: [J. Reuter and M. Tonini, JHEP 1501 \(2015\) 088 \[arXiv:1409.6962\]](#)

Composite Higgs models: Higgs boson is a composite state

Minimal case: $SO(5)/SO(4) \begin{cases} t_R \sim \mathbf{1}_4, \text{ complete rep. of } SO(4) \\ q_L \sim \text{incomplete rep. of } SO(5) \end{cases}$

New fermions: $\Psi \begin{cases} \mathbf{1}_4 : T' \\ \mathbf{4}_4 : (T', B'), (X_{5/3}, X_{2/3}) \end{cases}$

Little Higgs models: Higgs is a pseudo-Goldstone boson

from a global spontaneous breaking of $SU(5)/SO(5)$ (Littlest Higgs model)

A vector-like heavy top is required to cancel loop quadratic divergences

Many models, many similarities \rightarrow simplified model

Here, **singlet top partner**: T'

Typically, $\text{BR}(T' \rightarrow qW^\pm) : \text{BR}(T' \rightarrow qZ) : \text{BR}(T' \rightarrow qh) \sim 2 : 1 : 1$

More simulation details

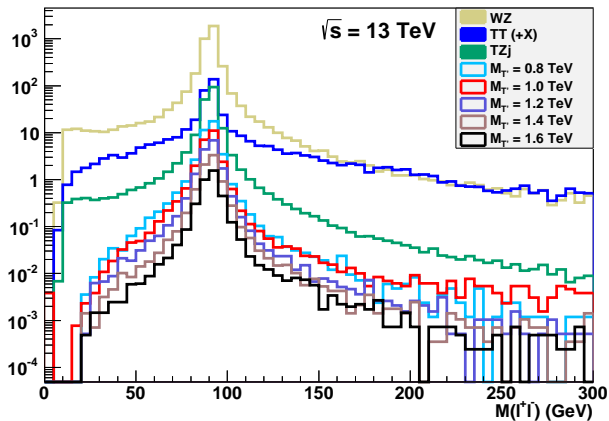
Massive background event generation to gather enough statistics:

Process	# Files	# Events	Process	# Files	# Events
SingleTop_W_madspin	189	18898481	SingleTop_s_madspin	188	18771372
SingleTop_t_5FS_madspin	83	8299246	TTdilep_WToLNu_madspin	1	64191
TTdilep_WWToLLNuNu_madspin	1	99999	TTdilep_WZToLLNu_madspin	1	99991
TTdilep_ZToLL_madspin	1	99989	TTdilep_ZZToLLLL_madspin	1	99993
TTdilep_madspin	200	9427953	TTsemilep_WToLNu_madspin_1	1	59694
TTsemilep_WToLNu_madspin_2	1	59771	TTsemilep_WWToLLNuNu_madspin_1	1	99989
TTsemilep_WWToLLNuNu_madspin_2	1	99997	TTsemilep_WZToLLNu_madspin_1	2	199988
TTsemilep_ZToLL_madspin_1	1	99995	TTsemilep_ZToLL_madspin_2	1	99987
TTsemilep_ZZToLLLL_madspin_1	1	99993	TTsemilep_ZZToLLLL_madspin_2	1	99990
TTsemilep_madspin_1	172	8105465	TTsemilep_madspin_2	173	8156688
TZq2_W_trilep1	100	9999157	TZq2_W_trilep2	97	9672987
TZq2_s_trilep	94	9393276	TZq2_t5FS_trilep	97	9699081
WToLNu-0Jet_sm-no_masses	592	52785449	WToLNu-0Jet_sm-no_masses-run2	482	42972689
WToLNu-1Jet_sm-no_masses	586	32827404	WToLNu-2Jets_sm-no_masses	396	15769022
WToLNu-3Jets_sm-no_masses	488	12931463	WWToLLNuNu	194	11221071
WZToLLJJ	5	306339	WZToLLNuNu	120	7666801
WZToLNuNuNu	1	59147	WZToNuNuJJ	1	59420
ZToLL10-50-0Jet_sm-no_masses	1	97701	ZToLL10-50-1Jet_sm-no_masses	1	45361
ZToLL10-50-2Jets_sm-no_masses	1	38998	ZToLL10-50-3Jets_sm-no_masses	1	5690
ZToLL50-0Jet_sm-no_masses	9	784399	ZToLL50-1Jet_sm-no_masses	10	549567
ZToLL50-2Jets_sm-no_masses	9	350088	ZToLL50-3Jets_sm-no_masses_split	8	115396
ZToLL50-4Jets_sm-no_masses_split	1	2884	ZZTo4Nu	1	35808
ZZToLLLL	92	6222800	ZZToLLNuNu	1	64305

Monte Carlo errors below permil: neglected

Cut-based analysis: optimisation

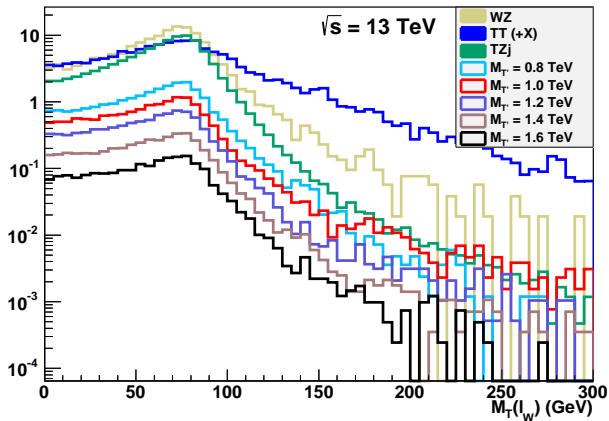
Z-boson reco by minimising distance of OSSF leptons to M_Z



$$|M(\ell^+\ell^-) / \text{GeV} - M_Z| < 15$$

Cut-based analysis: optimisation

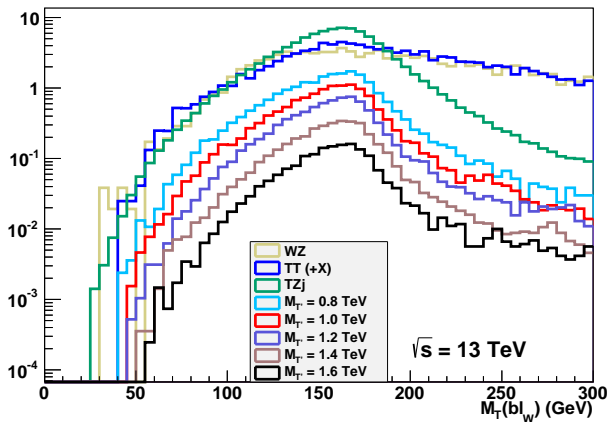
W reco with remaining lepton



$$10 < M_T(l_W)/\text{GeV} < 150$$

Cut-based analysis: optimisation

top reco with remaining lepton and b -tagged jet



$$0 < M_T(\ell_W b)/\text{GeV} < 220$$

Objects selection

Objects identification

$$p_T(\ell) > 20 \text{ GeV}, \quad |\eta(e/\mu)| < 2.5/2.4, \quad (1)$$

$$p_T(j) > 40 \text{ GeV}, \quad \Delta R(\ell, j) > 0.4, \quad (2)$$

$$|\eta(j)| < 5, \quad |\eta(b)| < 2.4, \quad (3)$$

Background	no cuts	$1 \leq n_j \leq 3$	$n_\ell \equiv 3$	$n_b \equiv 1$
$t\bar{t}(+X)$	$7.5 \cdot 10^6$ (100%)	$6.1 \cdot 10^6$ (81.2%)	514.9 (0.09%)	243.8 (47.3%)
tZj	3521 (100%)	2953 (83.9%)	290.6 (9.8%)	170.0 (58.5%)
WZ	$1.4 \cdot 10^5$ (100%)	$5.7 \cdot 10^4$ (41.9%)	3883 (6.9%)	164.3 (4.2%)
Total	$7.6 \cdot 10^6$ (100%)	$6.1 \cdot 10^6$ (80.5%)	4689 (0.08%)	578.0 (12.3%)

$M_{T'}$ (GeV)	no cuts	$1 \leq n_j \leq 3$	$n_\ell \equiv 3$	$n_b \equiv 1$
800	119.7 (100%)	105.0 (87.8%)	39.3 (37.4%)	25.5 (64.8%)
1000	77.1 (100%)	67.8 (87.9%)	26.0 (38.4%)	16.4 (63.2%)
1200	52.0 (100%)	45.3 (87.2%)	16.1 (35.6%)	10.1 (62.4%)
1400	35.3 (100%)	30.5 (86.6%)	8.0 (26.1%)	4.8 (60.1%)
1600	24.5 (100%)	21.1 (86.0%)	3.8 (18.0%)	2.2 (58.3%)

Signal generated without taus

Cut-based analysis

Selections

$$Z \rightarrow \ell^+ \ell^- \text{ reco} \quad |M(\ell^+ \ell^-) / \text{GeV} - M_Z| < 15, \quad (4)$$

$$W \rightarrow \ell_W \nu \text{ reco} \quad 10 < M_T(\ell_W \nu) / \text{GeV} < 150, \quad (5)$$

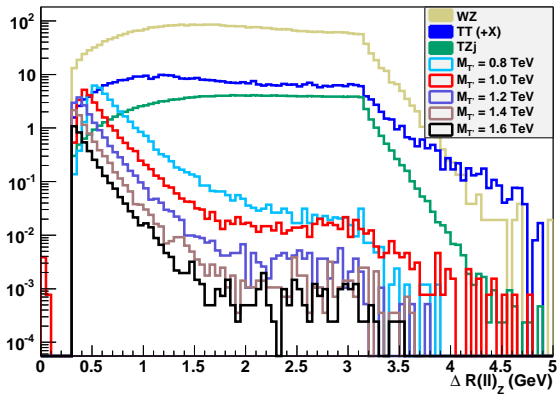
$$t \rightarrow bW \text{ reco} \quad 0 < M_T(b \ell_W \nu) / \text{GeV} < 220. \quad (6)$$

Background	$n_b \equiv 1$	Z-reco	W-reco	t-reco
$t\bar{t}(+X)$	243.8 (47.3%)	154.8 (63.5%)	135.1 (87.3%)	83.0 (61.5%)
tZj	170.0 (58.5%)	155.6 (67.2%)	148.7 (95.6%)	139.8 (63.7%)
WZ	164.3 (4.2%)	146.9 (89.4%)	138.2 (94.1%)	71.5 (51.7%)
Total	578.0 (12.3%)	457.2 (79.1%)	422.0 (92.3%)	294.3 (69.8%)

$M_{T'}$ (GeV)	$n_b \equiv 1$	Z-reco	W-reco	t-reco
800	25.5 (64.8%)	23.8 (93.6%)	22.2 (93.2%)	20.8 (93.6%)
1000	16.4 (63.2%)	15.4 (93.8%)	14.3 (92.4%)	13.4 (94.0%)
1200	10.1 (62.4%)	9.5 (94.2%)	8.7 (92.3%)	8.1 (92.3%)
1400	4.8 (60.1%)	4.5 (93.5%)	4.1 (92.1%)	3.8 (91.3%)
1600	2.2 (58.3%)	2.1 (93.3%)	1.9 (92.2%)	1.7 (90.0%)

Cuts optimised to retain $\geq 90\%$ of signal

$\Delta R(\ell^+\ell^-)$ for T' signals



T' is very massive, hence the decay products are boosted

MVA: 13 variables

Variable	Importance	Variable	Importance
$M_T(b3\ell)$	$2.60 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$\Delta R(b, \ell_W)$	$9.77 \cdot 10^{-2}$
$p_T(Z)/M_T(b3\ell)$	$9.41 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$\Delta\varphi(t, Z)$	$8.17 \cdot 10^{-2}$
$\eta^{max}(j)$	$6.02 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$\Delta\varphi(\ell\ell Z)$	$5.89 \cdot 10^{-2}$
$\Delta\varphi(Z, \not{p}_T)$	$5.37 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$p_T(j_1)/M_T(b3\ell)$	$5.08 \cdot 10^{-2}$
$\Delta\eta(\ell\ell Z)$	$5.05 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$\Delta\eta(b, \ell_W)$	$5.03 \cdot 10^{-2}$
$\eta(t)$	$4.99 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$\Delta\varphi(Z, \ell_W)$	$4.63 \cdot 10^{-2}$
$\eta(Z)$	$4.61 \cdot 10^{-2}$		

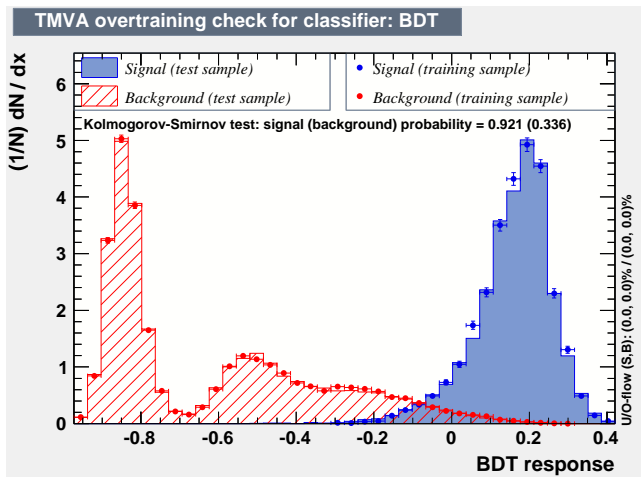
$(\ell\ell|Z)$: the pair of leptons reconstructing the Z boson

$\eta^{max}(j)$: jet with largest rapidity (to account for associated jet)

$p_T(j_1)/M_T(b3\ell)$ and $p_T(Z)/M_T(b3\ell)$ effectively decorrelated from $M_T(b3\ell)$

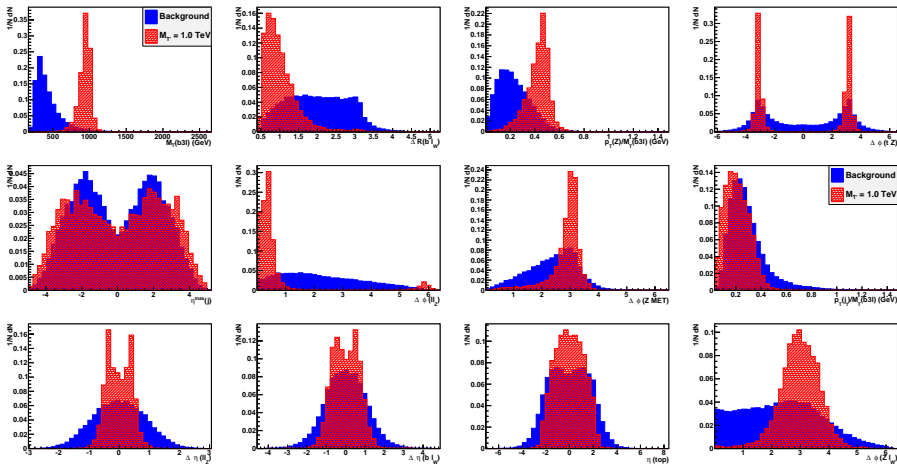
Angular variables from fully reconstructing the neutrino 4-momentum

BDT output



Allows to check for “overtraining”: 2 random samples, one used for training and the other one for comparison, should get similar output

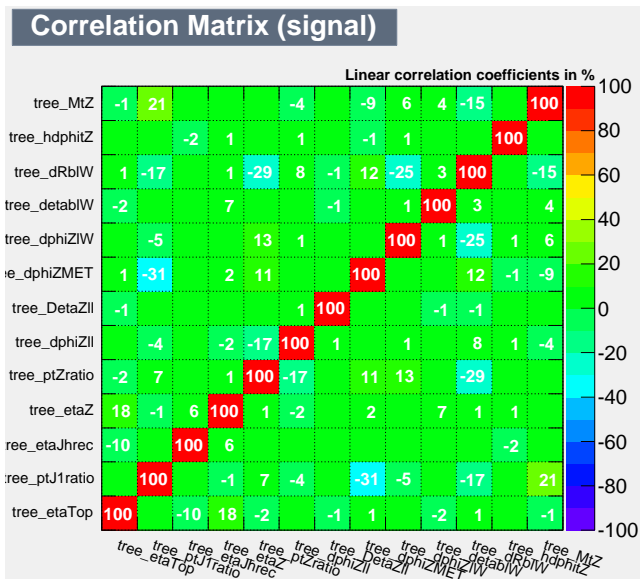
MVA variables



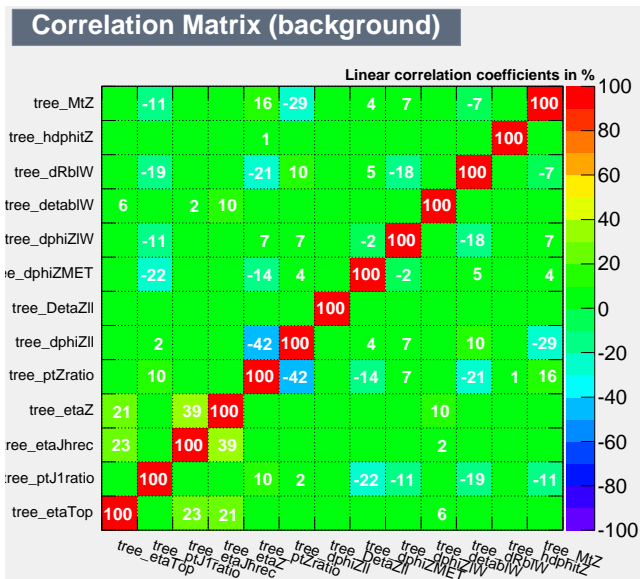
+ η_Z

$p_T(Z)/M_T(b3l)$, $p_T(j_1)/M_T(b3l)$, and $M_T(b3l)$ are decorrelated

Correlations - $M_{T'} = 1 \text{ TeV}$

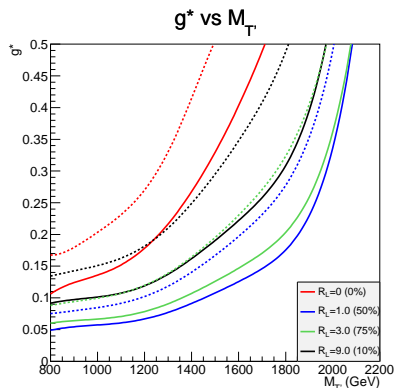


Correlations - Background



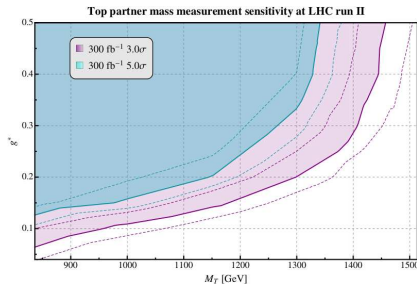
Comparison to dilepton channel

We set ourselves in similar conditions: $\mathcal{L} = 300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$, $\kappa_f = 1.14$, $R_L = 0$



J. Reuter and M. Tonini,

JHEP **1501** (2015) 088 [arXiv:1409.6962]



(dashed lines: 5σ , solid lines: 3σ)

Comparable reach at low T' masses (no pair-prod. here)

200 ÷ 300 GeV better sensitivity at high T' masses

Reinterpretation: top anomalous couplings

The top-quark couplings can be parametrised in an effective field theory

The SM Lagrangian is extended by gauge-invariant (non-renormalisable) operators, obtained by integrating out heavy modes

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \sum_i \frac{C_i O_i}{\Lambda^2}$$

Here we consider only dimension 6 operators, the first non-vanishing terms in $1/\Lambda$ expansion: total of 59 operators [W. Buchmuller, D. Wyler, Nucl.Phys. B268 \(1986\) 621](#)

Not all possible dim-6 operators that one can write are independent
Redundant operators can be reduced by using equation of motions and other relations due to gauge invariance

[J. A. Aguilar-Saavedra, Nucl. Phys. B812, 181 \(2009\) \[0811.3842\]](#)

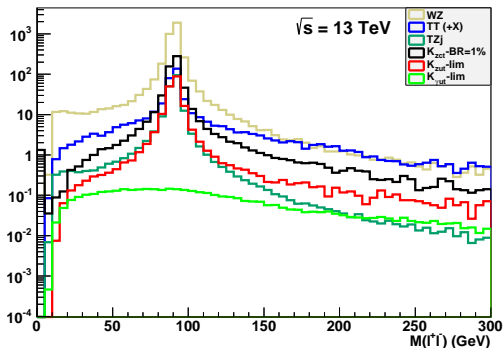
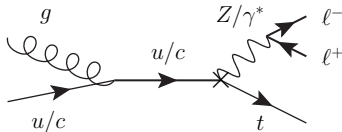
$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{q=u,c} \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}c_W} \frac{\kappa_{tZq}}{\Lambda} \bar{t} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (f_{Zq}^L P_L + f_{Zq}^R P_R) q Z_{\mu\nu},$$

where Λ is the scale of new physics.

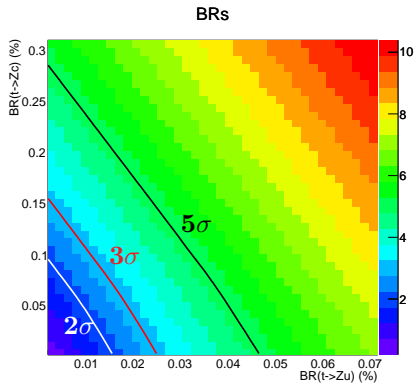
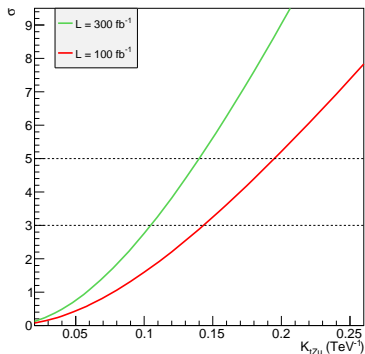
Reinterpretation: optimisation

tZq coupling gives similar final state as $T' \rightarrow tZ \rightarrow t\ell^+\ell^-$

$t\gamma q$ coupling (with γ^*) too. However, the cut around M_Z removes it



Reinterpretation: parameter space



Actual limits: $BR(t \rightarrow Zq) < 0.05\%$ (inclusive, from $t\bar{t}$) $\Rightarrow \kappa_{tZu} < 0.2 \text{ TeV}^{-1}$

Otherwise from single top: $\begin{cases} BR(t \rightarrow Zu) < 0.51\% \\ BR(t \rightarrow Zc) < 11.4\% \end{cases}$

See [CMS-TOP-12-037](#) and [CMS-TOP-12-021](#), respectively