



# Probing the Flavor Changing Interactions of the Top Quark at the LHC



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**23-25 May 2016 @ Subatech**

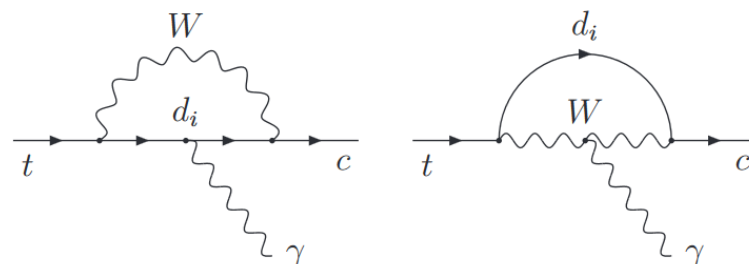


- FCNC top couplings are highly suppressed in the SM due to GIM (Glashow-Iliopoulos-Maiani) mechanism

→ Promising signatures of New Physics

| Standard Model (branching ratio) |                       |                         |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| $t \rightarrow uZ$               | $8 \times 10^{-17}$   | $t \rightarrow cZ$      | $1 \times 10^{-14}$   |
| $t \rightarrow u\gamma$          | $3.7 \times 10^{-16}$ | $t \rightarrow c\gamma$ | $4.6 \times 10^{-14}$ |
| $t \rightarrow ug$               | $3.7 \times 10^{-14}$ | $t \rightarrow cg$      | $4.6 \times 10^{-12}$ |
| $t \rightarrow uH$               | $2 \times 10^{-17}$   | $t \rightarrow cH$      | $3 \times 10^{-15}$   |

[arXiv:0409342\[hep-ph\]](https://arxiv.org/abs/0409342)



- Our phenomenological project**
  - EFT-based research
  - gathering theorists & experimentalists
- Goals:**
  - Reviewing expectations at **13 TeV** in FCNC results (single top + ttbar)
  - Providing guidelines for the CMS analyses (promising observables, relevance of a MVA, ...)

Effective model for anomalous couplings between top & boson:

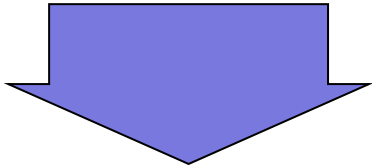
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \sum \frac{C_x}{\Lambda^2} \mathcal{O}_{6,x} + \sum \frac{C_x}{\Lambda^4} \mathcal{O}_{8,x} + \sum \frac{C_x}{\Lambda^6} \mathcal{O}_{10,x} + \dots$$

Higher order are neglected

Wilson coefficients

Energy scale of new physics

Dimension-6 gauge invariant operators



Combining them to obtain Lorentz structure  
 [Aguilar-Saavedra arXiv:0803.3810, 0811.3842, 0904.2387]

Lagrangian piece corresponding to FCNC couplings:

$$\mathcal{L}_{FCNC} = \sum_{q=u,c} \left[ \begin{aligned} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} g_s \frac{\kappa_{gqt}}{\Lambda} \cdot \bar{t} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (f_{gq}^L P_L + f_{gq}^R P_R) q G_{\mu\nu}^a \\ & + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} e \frac{\kappa_{\gamma qt}}{\Lambda} \cdot \bar{t} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (f_{\gamma q}^L P_L + f_{\gamma q}^R P_R) q A_{\mu\nu} \\ & + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \eta_{hqt} \cdot \bar{t} (f_{hq}^L P_L + f_{hq}^R P_R) q H \\ & + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4} \frac{g}{\cos \theta_W} \frac{\kappa_{zqt}}{\Lambda} \cdot \bar{t} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (f_{zq}^L P_L + f_{zq}^R P_R) q Z_{\mu\nu} \\ & + \frac{1}{4} \frac{g}{\cos \theta_W} \zeta_{zqt} \cdot \bar{t} \gamma^\mu (f_{zq}^L P_L + f_{zq}^R P_R) q Z_\mu \end{aligned} \right] + h.c$$

with  $\sigma^{\mu\nu} = \frac{i}{2} [\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu]$

## Links between couplings and Wilson coefficients

$$\kappa_{gqt} f_{gq}^L = \frac{v}{g_s \Lambda} [\bar{c}_{uG}]_{i3}^*$$

$$\kappa_{gqt} f_{gq}^R = \frac{v}{g_s \Lambda} [\bar{c}_{uG}]_{3i}$$

$$\kappa_{\gamma qt} f_{\gamma q}^L = \frac{v}{e \Lambda} [c_W \bar{c}_{uB} - s_W \bar{c}_{uW}]_{i3}^*$$

$$\kappa_{\gamma qt} f_{\gamma q}^R = \frac{v}{e \Lambda} [s_W \bar{c}_{uB} - c_W \bar{c}_{uW}]_{3i}$$

$$\kappa_{zqt} f_{zq}^L = -\frac{2c_W v}{g \Lambda} [s_W \bar{c}_{uB} + c_W \bar{c}_{uW}]_{i3}^*$$

$$\kappa_{zqt} f_{zq}^R = -\frac{2c_W v}{g \Lambda} [c_W \bar{c}_{uB} + s_W \bar{c}_{uW}]_{3i}$$

$$\zeta_{xqt} \tilde{f}_{zq}^L = -\frac{2v^2}{\Lambda^2} [(\bar{c}_{hq}^{(1)} - \bar{c}_{hq}^{(3)})_{i3} + (\bar{c}_{hq}^{(1)} - \bar{c}_{hq}^{(3)})_{3i}^*]$$

$$\zeta_{xqt} \tilde{f}_{zq}^R = -\frac{2v^2}{\Lambda^2} [(\bar{c}_{hu})_{i3} + (\bar{c}_{hu})_{3i}^*]$$

$$\eta_{hqt} \hat{f}_{hq}^L = \frac{3v^2}{2\Lambda^2} [\bar{c}_{uh}]_{3i}^*$$

$$\eta_{hqt} \hat{f}_{hq}^R = \frac{3v^2}{2\Lambda^2} [\bar{c}_{uh}]_{i3}$$

## Conventions

$$\sqrt{|f_{xq}^L|^2 + |f_{xq}^R|^2} = 1$$

$$\sqrt{|\tilde{f}_{xq}^L|^2 + |\tilde{f}_{xq}^R|^2} = 1$$

$\frac{\kappa_{xqt}}{\Lambda}$ ,  $\zeta_{xqt}$ , and  $\eta_{xqt}$  are real and positive

## Simplifying assumptions

$$f^R = 1, \quad f^L = 0$$

FeynRules

SM & BSM model description

MG5\_aMC@NLO

Only LO generation + ME/PS merging  
(MLM kt-cone scheme)

MadSpin

Top-quark & V decay

Pythia6

- Public TuneZ2
- Higgs decay

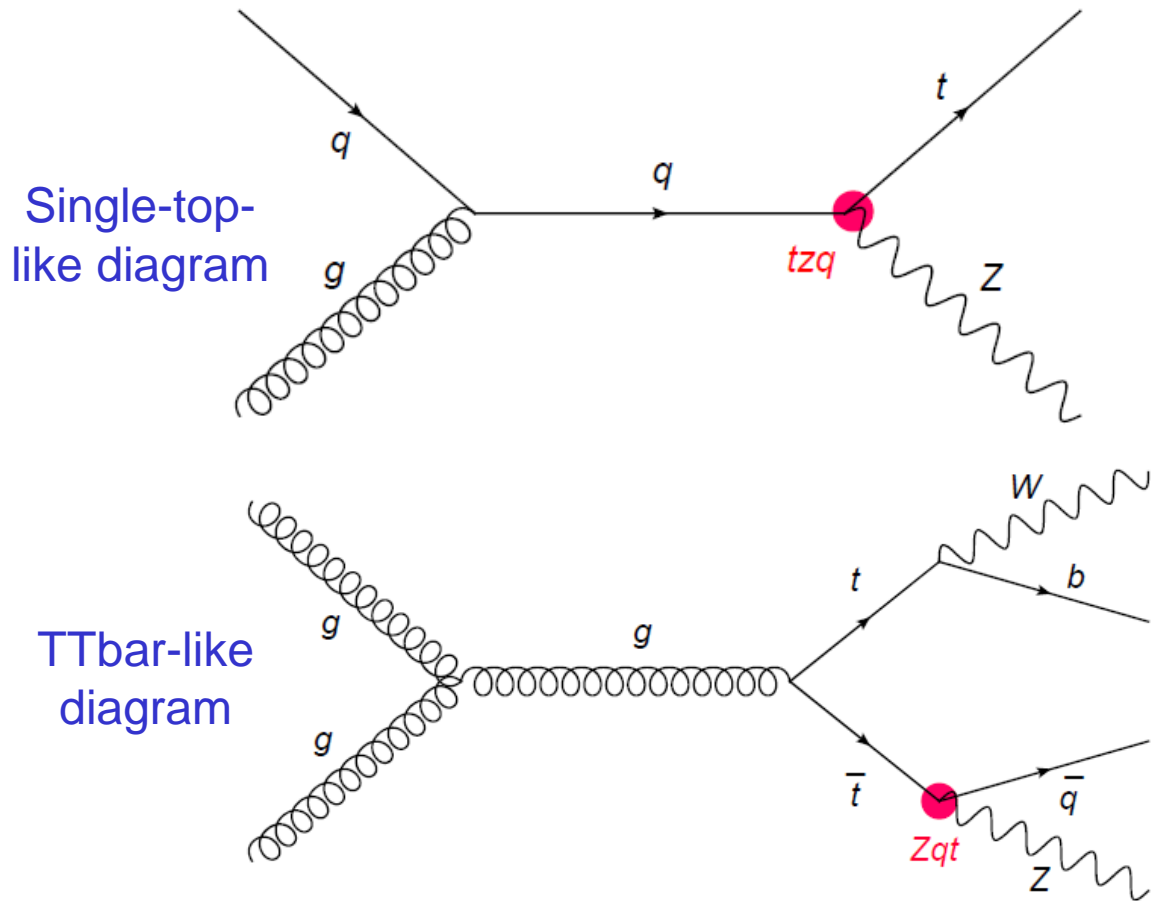
Delphes-MA5tune

- **Delphes limitation:** no trigger, no fake lepton
- **MadAnalysis5 tune:**
  - Isolation @ analysis level: relative tracker+calo isolation  $I_{rel}$
  - CMS b-tagging benchmarks (CSV L,M,T)

MadAnalysis5

- **Private improvement:**
  - Basic implementation of fake electron
  - Misidentification of electron electric charge

## Signal (ex:Zqt coupling)



K-factor extracted from literature

## Background

- V + jets
  - H + jets
  - VV + jets
  - VH + jets
  - T + jets
  - TV + jets
  - TH + jets
  - TT + jets
  - TTV + jets
  - TTH + jets
  - TTVV + jets
- with V=W,Z, $\gamma$*

**No multijet!!!!!!!**

K-factor for background are mainly computed with MG\_aMC@NLO

# Analyses performed

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single top  
 $p p > t$  (+0,1 jet)  
Considered decay:  $t > b l \nu$



$\kappa_{gqt}/\Lambda$

single top  
 $p p > t\gamma$   
Considered decay:  $t > b l \nu$



$\kappa_{\gamma qt}/\Lambda$

single top  
 $p p > tZ$

ttbar  
 $p p > tt$  where  $t > Zq$

Considered decays:  $t > b l \nu$  &  $Z > l+l-$



$\kappa_{Zqt}/\Lambda$



$\zeta_{Zqt}$

single top  
 $p p > th$

ttbar  
 $p p > tt$  where  $t > hq$

Considered decays:  $t > b l \nu$  &

$h > \gamma\gamma$

$h > WW^* > l\nu l\nu$

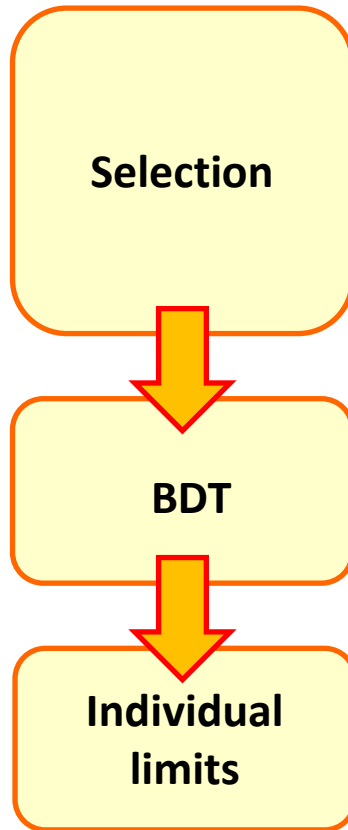
$h > bb$



$\kappa_{hqt}$

## Step 1

One selection  
per  
process  
&  
one activated  
coupling



- Integrated luminosity = **100 fb<sup>-1</sup>** (5 times the 8TeV LHC L<sup>int</sup>)
- Figure of merit (FOM) =  $S/\sqrt{S+B}$
- Looking for all discriminant observables
- Optimizing individually each cut
  
- **TMVA** framework is used.
- Finding minimum set of observables (overtraining is checked).
- Estimating the possible gain of MVA wrt cut-and-count analysis.
  
- Limits computed for L=100fb<sup>-1</sup> @ 2σ, 3σ and 5σ.
- Limits expressed in terms of BR (anomalous top decay)
- 2D plots u-quark vs c-quark

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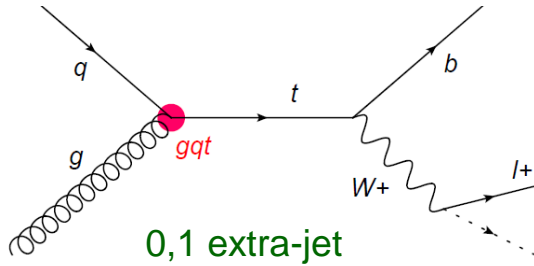
## Step 2

Combination

- Combination between single top & ttbar
  
- Combination between different channels



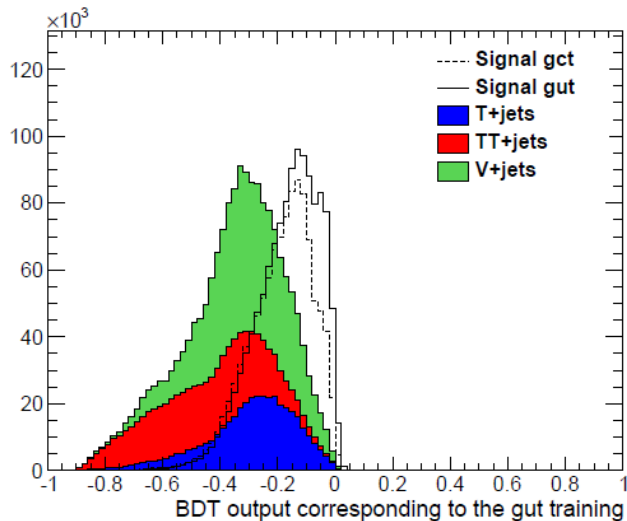
## Selection



- 1 lepton  $p_T > 30$  GeV (no more with  $p_T > 20$  GeV),  $|\eta| < 2.5$ ,  $I_{rel} < 0.2$
- 1 or 2 jets:  $p_T(j_1) > 30$  GeV,  $p_T(j_2) > 20$  GeV,  $|\eta| < 2.4$ ,  $H/E > 0.15$
- b-tagging: CSV point for j1
- MET > 30
- Multijet removal:  $m_T(W) > 50$  GeV [ATLAS paper]
- No photon with  $p_T > 10$  GeV,  $|\eta| < 2.5$ ,  $I_{rel} < 0.2$

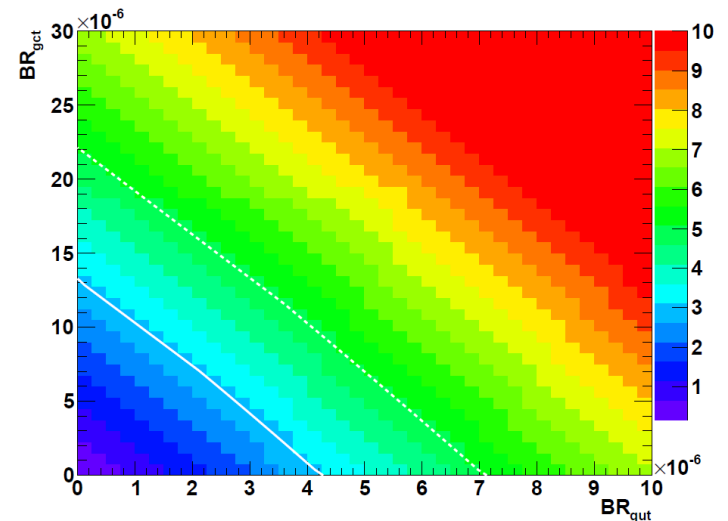
## MVA

- One training for u and c coupling.
- Most discriminated variables:  $M_{top}$ ,  $m_T(W)$ ,  $p_T(W)$ ,  $p_T(b)$ ,  $\Delta\phi(b,W)$ ,  $\Delta\phi(l,b)$ ,  $\Delta\phi(l,MET)$ ,  $\eta(l)$ ,  $Q(l)$

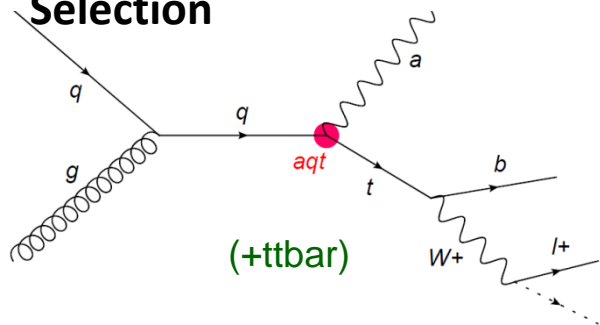


## Results

| 2 $\sigma$ -limit on BR | B(t $\rightarrow$ ug) | B(t $\rightarrow$ cg) |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Cut&count               | $4.3 \times 10^{-6}$  | $1.2 \times 10^{-5}$  |
| MVA                     | $2.9 \times 10^{-6}$  | $9.3 \times 10^{-6}$  |



## Selection



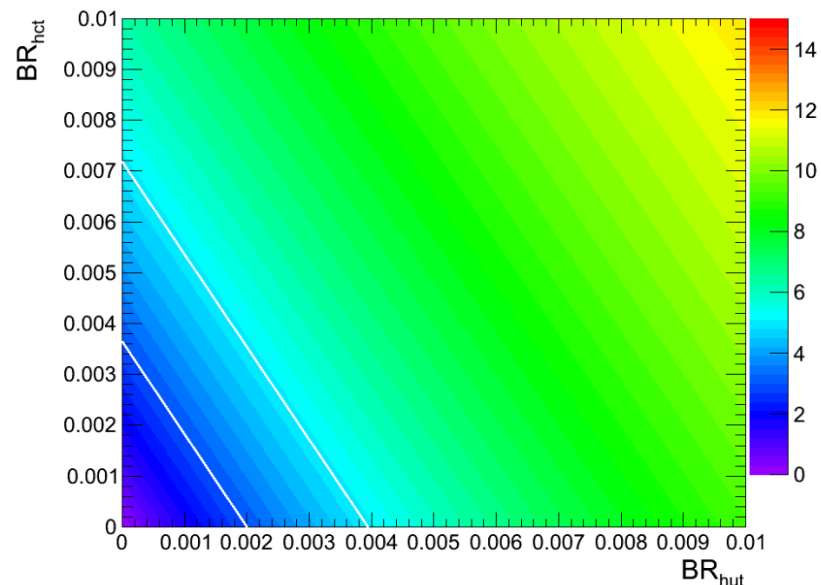
- Only 1 lepton:  $p_T > 30$  GeV (no more with  $p_T > 20$  GeV),  $|\eta| < 2.1$ ,  $I_{rel} < 0.2$
- Only 1 photon:  $p_T > 80$  GeV (no more with  $p_T > 30$  GeV),  $|\eta| < 2.5$ ,  $I_{rel} < 0.2$
- Only 1 b-jet:  $H/E > 0.15$ ,  $p_T > 30$  GeV,  $|\eta| < 2.1$ , CSV Tight (no more with  $p_T > 20$  GeV with CSV Loose)

## MVA

- One training for u and c coupling against  $t\gamma q$
  - Most discriminated variables:  $M_{top}$ ,  $m_T(W)$ ,  $p_T(W)$ ,  $p_T(b)$ ,  $\Delta\phi(b,W)$ ,  $\Delta\phi(l,b)$ ,  $\Delta\phi(l,MET)$ ,  $\eta(l) \times Q(l)$
- MVA seems to not improve the sensibility.

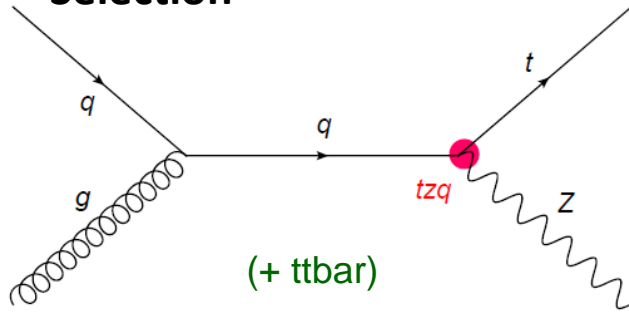
## Results

| $2\sigma$ -limit on BR | $B(t \rightarrow u\gamma)$ | $B(t \rightarrow c\gamma)$ |
|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Cut&count              | $2.0 \times 10^{-3}$       | $3.6 \times 10^{-3}$       |



# Probing Zqt coupling – single top part 11 / 15

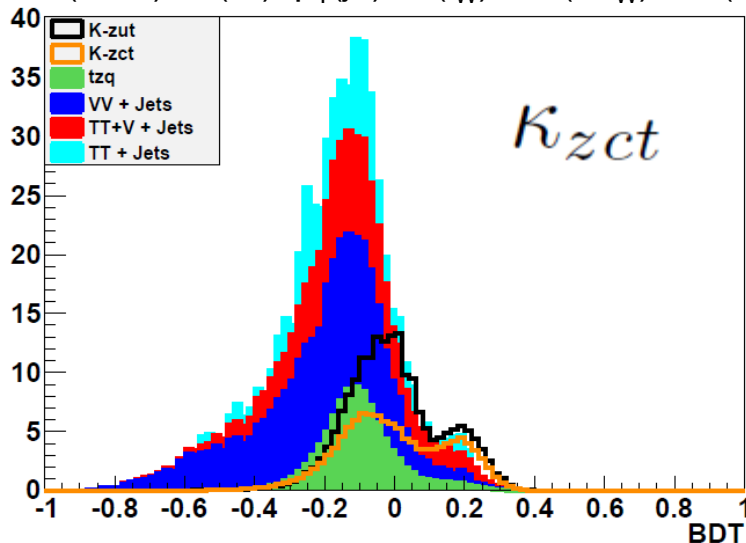
## Selection



- Exactly 3 leptons:  $p_T > 20$  GeV,  $|\eta| < 2.5$ ,  $I_{rel} < 0.2$
- Z candidate =  $l+l-$  the closest to  $m_Z \pm 15$  GeV
- at least **1** jet:  $p_T(j) > 40$  GeV,  $|\eta| < 2.4$ ,  $H/E > 0.15$
- b-tagging: CSV Loose workpoint
- $10 \text{ GeV} < m_T(W) < 150 \text{ GeV}$
- $m_{top} < 220 \text{ GeV}$
- $m(lb) < 150 \text{ GeV}$

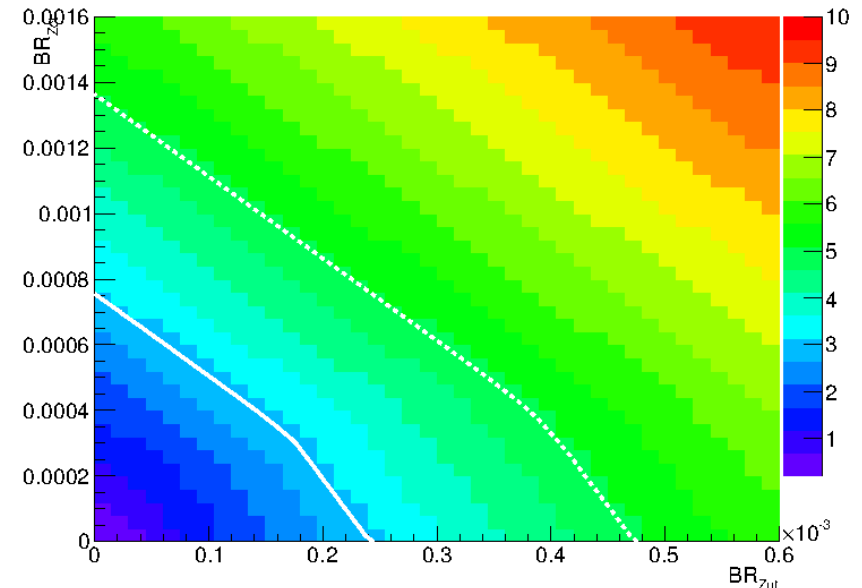
## MVA

- One training for each coupling
- Most discriminated variables:  $m(l_W b)$ ,  $m(jZ)$ ,  $p_T(Z)$ ,  $\Delta R(b, l_W)$ ,  $m(tZ)$ ,  $p_T(j1)$ ,  $Q(l_W)$ ,  $\Delta R(Z, l_W)$ ,  $\Delta R(t, Z)$ ,

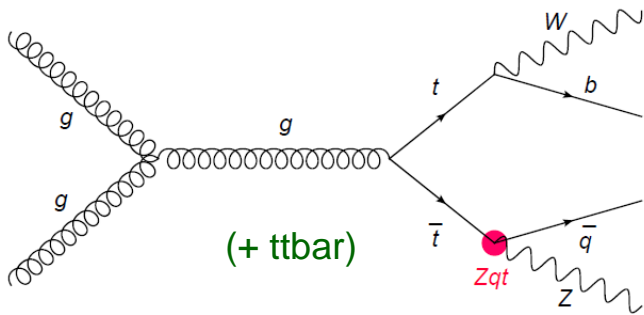


## Results

| $2\sigma$ -limit on BR | $B(t \rightarrow uZ)$ | $B(t \rightarrow cZ)$ |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| MVA                    | $1.4 \times 10^{-4}$  | $2.8 \times 10^{-4}$  |



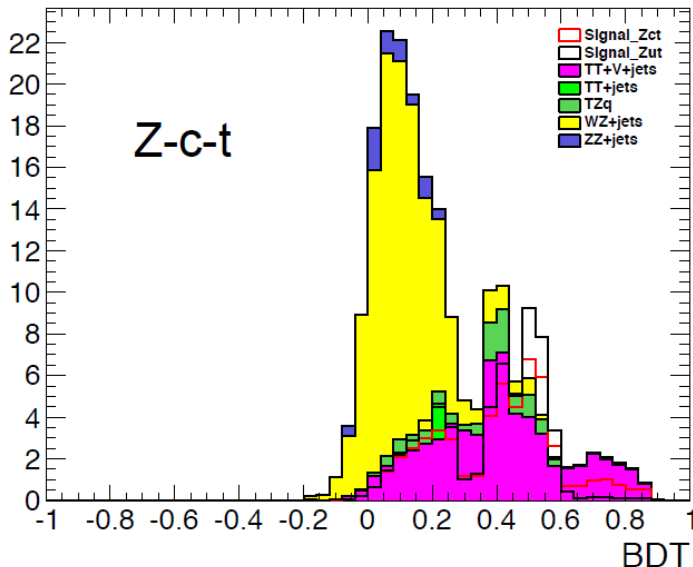
## Selection



- Exactly 3 leptons:  $p_T > 20$  GeV,  $|\eta| < 2.5$ ,  $I_{rel} < 0.2$
- Z candidate =  $l+l-$  the closest to  $m_Z \pm 15$  GeV
- at least **2** jets:  $p_T(j) > 40$  GeV,  $|\eta| < 2.4$ ,  $H/E > 0.15$
- b-tagging: CSV Loose workpoint
- $m_T(W) > 50$  GeV
- $140 \text{ GeV} < m_{top} < 210 \text{ GeV}$

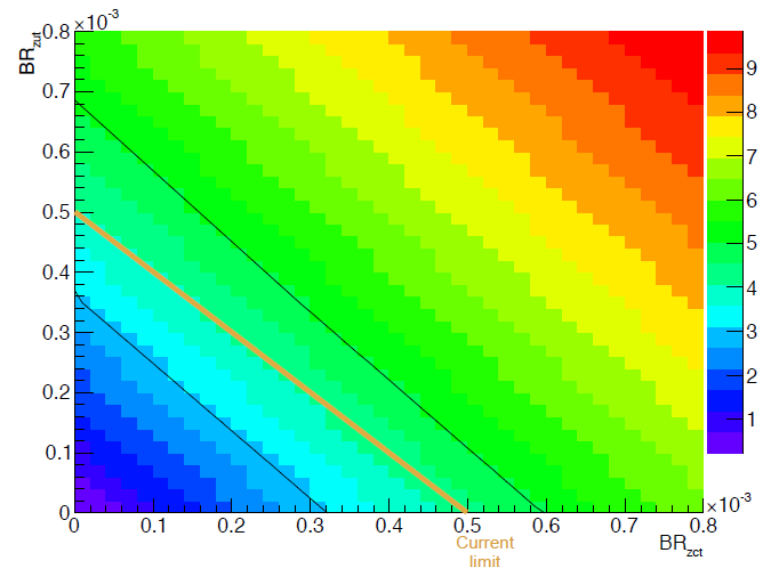
## MVA

- One training for each coupling
- Most discriminated variables:  $m(l_W, b)$ ,  $m(Zj)$ ,  $n(b)$



## Results

| $2\sigma$ -limit on BR | $B(t \rightarrow uZ)$ | $B(t \rightarrow cZ)$ |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| MVA                    | $2.0 \times 10^{-4}$  | $2.3 \times 10^{-4}$  |



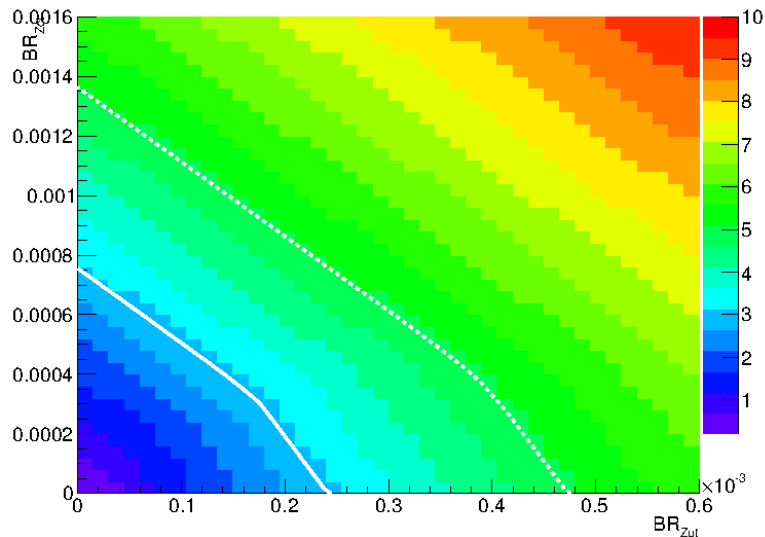
# First summary

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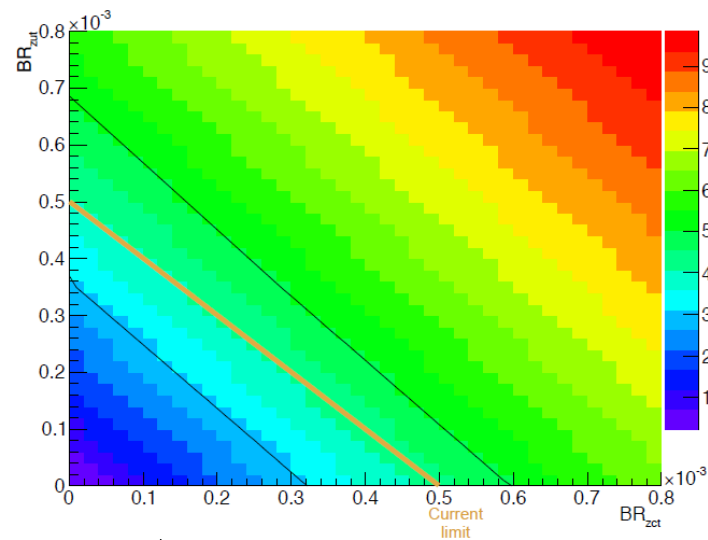
| Couplings                    | Current BR limit<br>CL=95% | Channel            | 2 $\sigma$ -limit on BR<br>single top | 2 $\sigma$ -limit on BR<br>ttbar |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| $\kappa_{gut}/\Lambda$       | $3.1 \times 10^{-5}$       |                    | $2.9 \times 10^{-6}$                  |                                  |
| $\kappa_{gct}/\Lambda$       | $1.6 \times 10^{-4}$       |                    | $9.3 \times 10^{-6}$                  |                                  |
| $\kappa_{\gamma ut}/\Lambda$ | $1.6 \times 10^{-4}$       |                    | $2.0 \times 10^{-3}$                  |                                  |
| $\kappa_{\gamma ct}/\Lambda$ | $1.8 \times 10^{-3}$       |                    | $3.6 \times 10^{-3}$                  |                                  |
| $\kappa_{Zut}/\Lambda$       | $5 \times 10^{-4}$         |                    | $1.4 \times 10^{-4}$                  | $2.0 \times 10^{-4}$             |
| $\kappa_{Zct}/\Lambda$       | $5 \times 10^{-4}$         |                    | $2.8 \times 10^{-4}$                  | $2.3 \times 10^{-4}$             |
| $\kappa_{hut}$               | $4.2 \times 10^{-3}$       | h > $\gamma\gamma$ | $3.0 \times 10^{-3}$                  | $9.5 \times 10^{-3}$             |
| $\kappa_{hct}$               | $4.6 \times 10^{-3}$       |                    | $8.0 \times 10^{-3}$                  | $9.5 \times 10^{-3}$             |
| $\kappa_{hut}$               | $4.2 \times 10^{-3}$       | h > bb             | $2.5 \times 10^{-3}$                  | $2.1 \times 10^{-3}$             |
| $\kappa_{hct}$               | $4.6 \times 10^{-3}$       |                    | $2.6 \times 10^{-3}$                  | $1.9 \times 10^{-3}$             |
| $\kappa_{hut}$               | $4.2 \times 10^{-3}$       | h > WW*            | ?                                     | $9.4 \times 10^{-4}$             |
| $\kappa_{hct}$               | $4.6 \times 10^{-3}$       |                    | ?                                     | $1.2 \times 10^{-3}$             |

# Probing Zqt coupling – combination

single top analysis

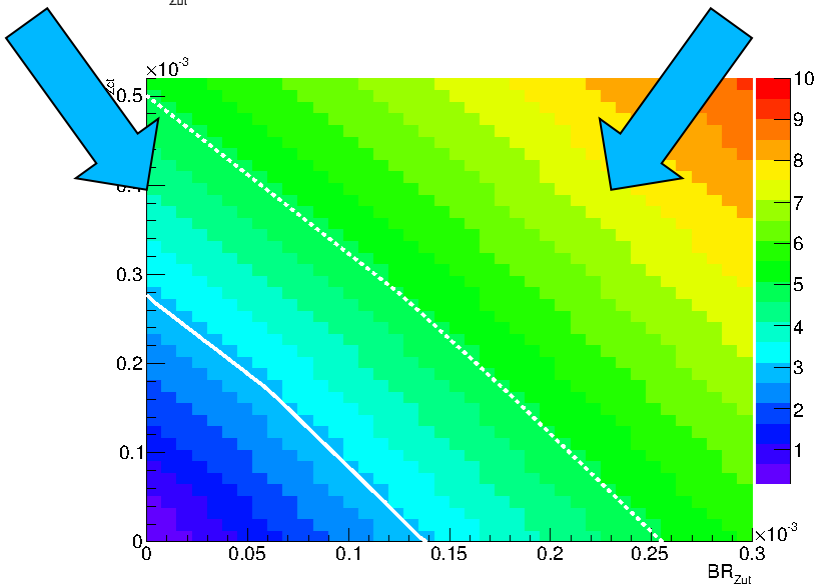


ttbar analysis



+

N jet = 1 (no loose jet with  $p_T > 30$  GeV)



combination

- Research of FCNC in the top sector at 13 TeV,  $L^{\text{int}}=100\text{fb}^{-1}$
- For Higgs & Z couplings, perform several analyses:
  - single top
  - $t\bar{t}$
  - single top +  $t\bar{t}$
- BDT relevance is studied with a list of promising observables
- Potential for improvement of current limits at 13 TeV
- Work to finalize: global combination of all results  
Paper will be released soon...
- What's next?
  - Reinterpretation? Example: search for  $t'$  [[arXiv:1409.6962](#)]



