

Top LHC France
April 28, 2025

Probing the CP nature of the top Yukawa coupling in $t\bar{t}H$ multi-lepton final states with the ATLAS experiment at LHC

Alberto Carnelli, Frederic Déliot, Anastasia Kotsokechagia, Marianna Liberatore, Vera Maiboroda, Tanguy Marsault, Matthias Saimpert

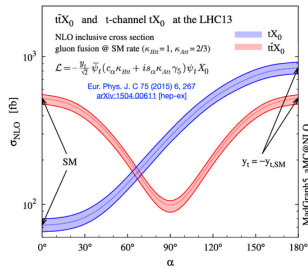
- The asymmetry between matter and antimatter in the Universe is a long-standing mystery
- CP violation, which could lead to such an asymmetry, has already been observed in the K and B meson systems
- It is not enough to explain the observed matter-antimatter asymmetry
- Since 2012, the Higgs sector is a new candidate source for CP violation



Magritte, *La reproduction interdite*, 1937

The top Yukawa coupling

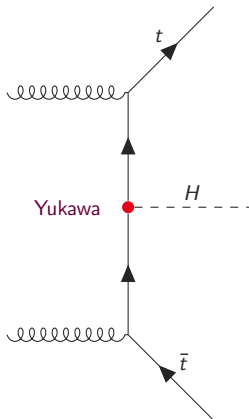
- The top quark has the largest mass $m_t \simeq 172.5 \text{ GeV}$
- The top Yukawa coupling is the strongest coupling in the Standard Model
- It makes it the perfect candidate to study the structure of the coupling



- The CP violating nature of the coupling is introduced through the modified Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}} = -y_t \kappa'_t \bar{t} e^{i\alpha \gamma_5} t h$$

- The phase α accounts for CP violation while the parameter κ'_t accounts for the strength of the coupling
- The $(\alpha, \kappa'_t) = (0^\circ, 1)$ corresponds to the Standard Model scenario



- $t\bar{t}H$ is a rare process ($\sigma \sim 0.5$ pb)
- It can be studied in its different final states, $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$, $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ and the multileptonic final states
- Previous analyses using $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$ and $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ have been carried in ATLAS and CMS
- Confidence Intervals (CI) and CP -odd exclusion are shown in the table below

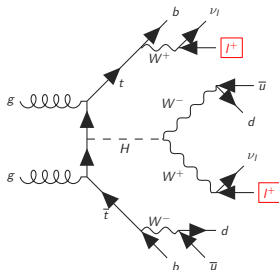
Channel	α CI	CP -odd excl.	Ref.
ATLAS $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	$[-43^\circ, 43^\circ]$	3.9σ	[1]
ATLAS $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$	$[-73^\circ, 53^\circ]$	1.2σ	[2]
CMS $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	—	3.2σ	[3]

1. Analysis strategy
2. Parametrization of the signals
3. Results

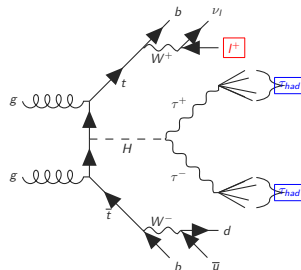
The background image shows the interior of a large particle accelerator, likely the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). It features a long, straight tunnel lined with complex machinery, including large cylindrical superconducting magnets with orange and white spiral patterns. Scaffolding and walkways are visible on both sides. A person wearing a yellow hard hat and safety vest is standing in the center of the tunnel in the distance, providing a sense of scale. The title "I - Introduction" is overlaid in the center in a dark red, serif font.

I - Introduction

- 2 kind of multilepton final states are sensitive to the CP nature of the top Yukawa coupling
- These are discriminated by the number of hadronic τ in the final state



0 τ event



2 τ event

- We will give an overview of these 2 channels separately

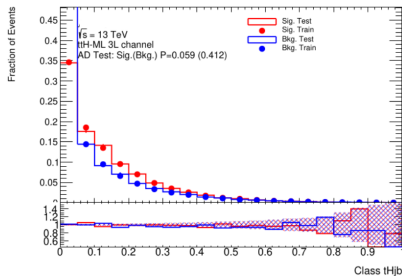
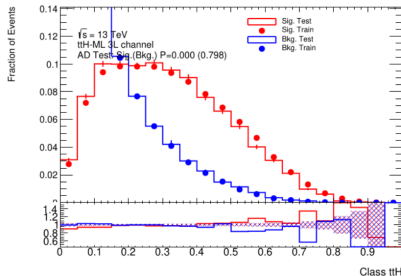
- 2/55

- 3/

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Signal-background discrimination

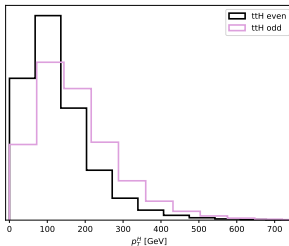
- The $t\bar{t}H$ and tH processes are very rare and various background can mimic the signal
- The most important ones are $t\bar{t}W$, $t\bar{t}Z$, $t\bar{t}$ and VV
- 2 BDTs are used for 2/SS and 3/ channels, relying on kinematics of the leptons, angular variables and tagging of the b -jets
- The different processes are classified using BDT distributions that are fitted
- The BDT outputs a score for $t\bar{t}H$, $tHjb$, $t\bar{t}W$, $t\bar{t}Z$, $t\bar{t}$ and VV



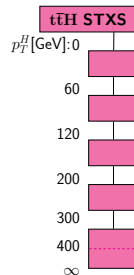
BDT output distributions discrimination

$t\bar{t}HML$ CP

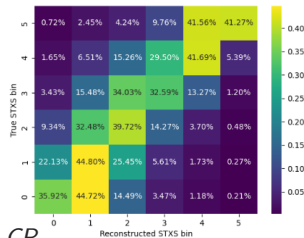
- An enhanced sensitivity to CP has been observed when splitting the analysis in Higgs p_T bins
- This is the STXS framework
- It will be used in the 0τ channel



Higgs p_T distribution

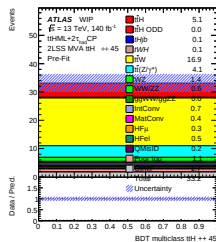
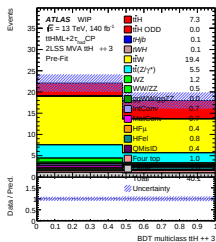
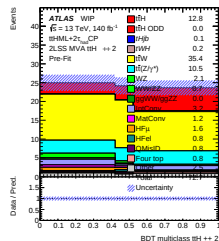
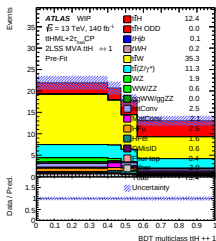
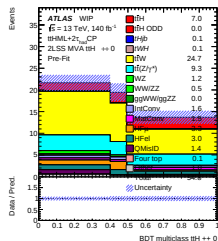


Confusion matrices of the GNN. $2/SS$ on the left and $3/$ on the right

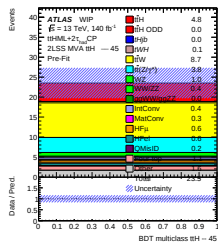
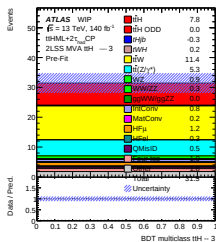
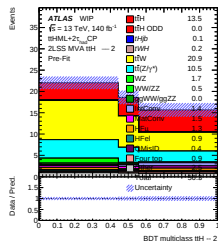
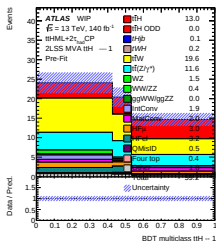
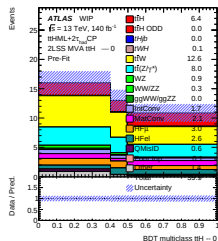


$t\bar{t}HML$ CP

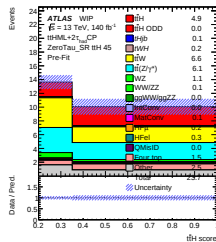
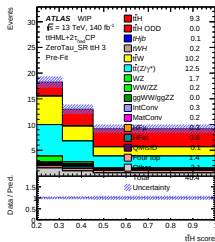
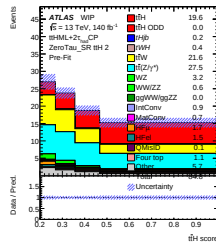
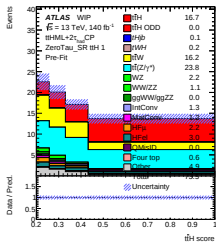
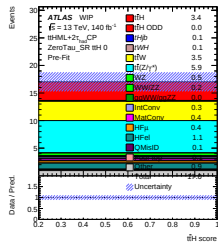
2/SS signal regions, $t\bar{t}H$ ++



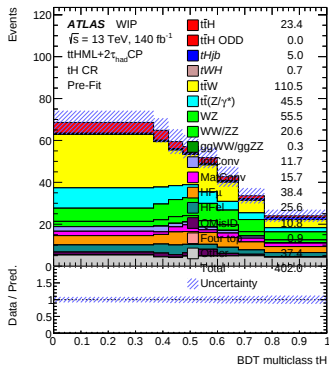
2/SS signal regions, $t\bar{t}H$ —



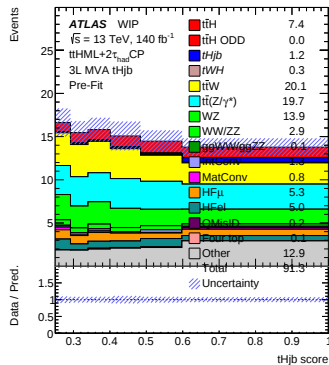
3/ signal regions



- tH may also be sensitive to the CP nature of the top Yukawa coupling
- 2 tH signal regions are included in the analysis, one for 2/SS and one for 3/



tH 2/SS



tH 3/

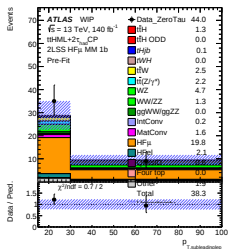
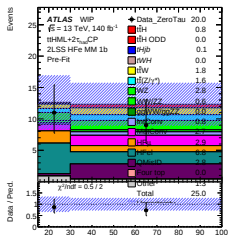
Background processes

- The $t\bar{t}H$ and tH processes are very rare and various background can mimic the signal
- The most important ones are $t\bar{t}W$, $t\bar{t}Z$, $t\bar{t}$ and VV
- Control Regions (CR) are included for each of these processes to adjust their normalisation
- Another CR is included to control other minor backgrounds

Fakes and conversions

- Control regions are also included to control the rates of fake leptons (specific to the multilepton channel)
- These can be heavy flavor leptons HFe HF_{μ} , for which 6 regions are included in total
- Conversion of photons into leptons close to the interaction vertex (Internal Conversion) and in the detector material (External Conversion) are also controlled

Heavy flavor control regions

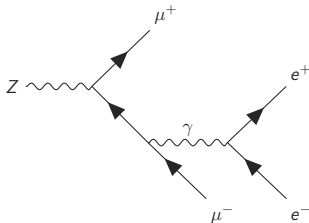


HFe/ μ 2LSS MM

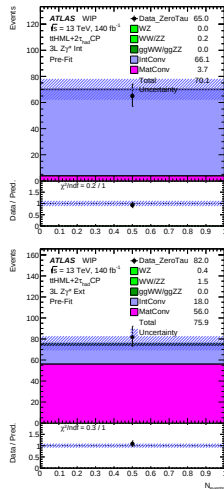
- Control electrons coming from heavy flavor decays
- Require 2 jets and a b -jets (decays are mostly from b -hadrons)
- Include every combination of lepton definition
- Leptons are selected as tight in the signal regions
- Here they are either both medium, or one of them is tight

Conversion control regions

- The internal conversions regions require to identify decays of the Z boson into 2 muons
- They are built by tagging no b -jet
- Additionally, 2 muons are required and an internal or material conversion candidate is required
- The invariant mass of the three leptons is required to be compatible with the Z mass within 10 GeV
- Evaluated using $Z \rightarrow \mu\mu$ bremsstrahlung events



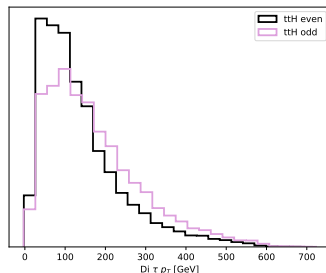
$t\bar{t}HML$ CP



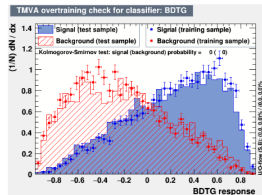
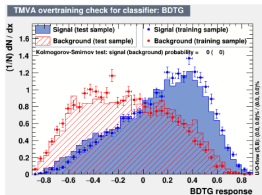
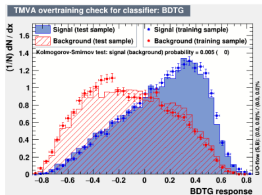
$Z\gamma$ internal and external conversion

- Targets specifically $H \rightarrow \tau_{\text{had}}\tau_{\text{had}}$
- In such cases, the $t\bar{t}$ pair decays in 1 or 2 leptons
- The tH process is also sensitive to the CP nature of the top Yukawa coupling and makes another signal region

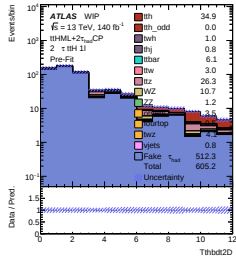
- A BDT has been trained to discriminate between CP -even and CP -odd tH and $t\bar{t}H$ events
- One of its main discriminative variable is $p_T^{\tau\tau} \sim p_T^H$
- Various angular variables between the different objects in the event are also used
- The STXS framework is not used in this case



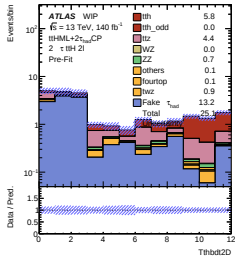
2τ signal regions



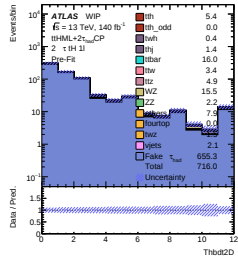
BDT discrimination



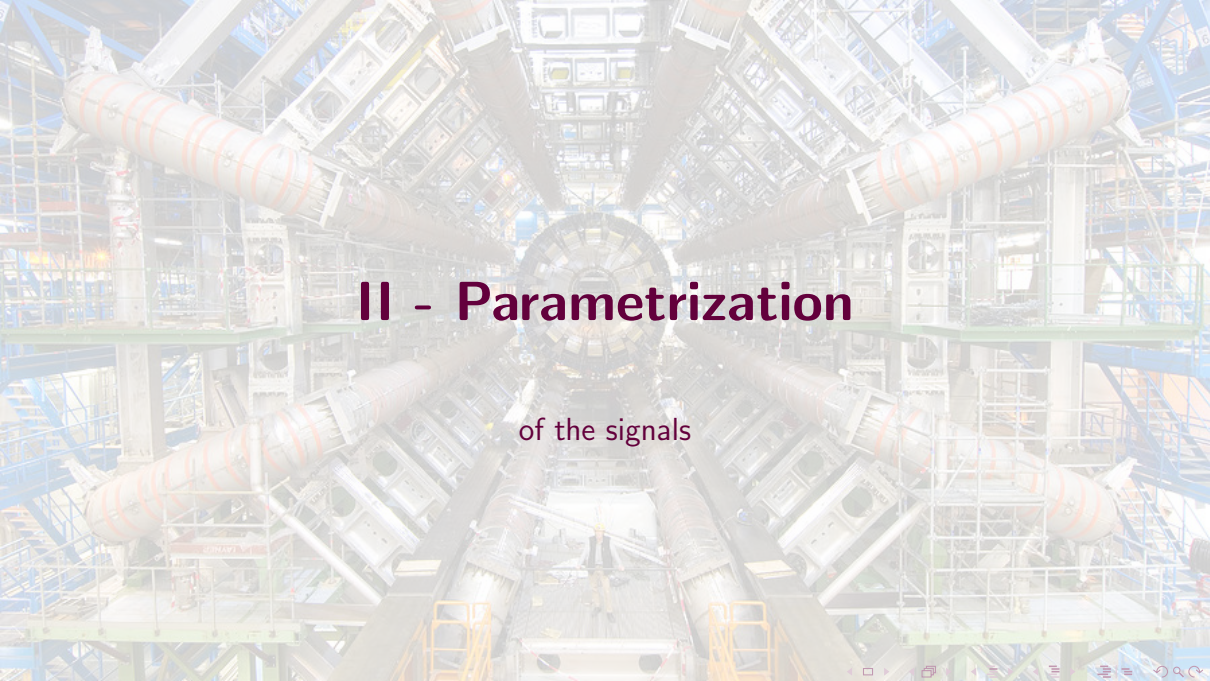
t $\bar{t}$ H 1L2 τ



t $\bar{t}$ H 2L2 τ



tH 1L2 τ



II - Parametrization

of the signals

- The modified Yukawa coupling can be parametrized as,

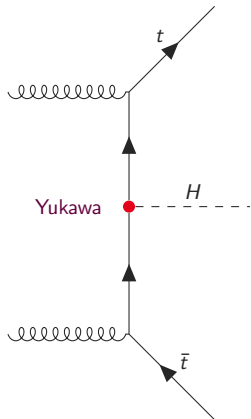
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Yukawa}} = -y_t \kappa'_t \bar{t} (\cos \alpha + i \sin \alpha \gamma_5) t h$$

- How does the yield evolve in the SR *w.r.t* (α, κ'_t) ?
- At first order in the coupling, the most general form must be,

$$y^{SR}(\alpha, \kappa'_t) \propto A \kappa'^2_t \cos^2 \alpha + B \kappa'^2_t \sin^2 \alpha + E \kappa'^2_t \cos \alpha \sin \alpha \\ + C \kappa'_t \cos \alpha + D \kappa'_t \sin \alpha \\ + F$$

2 diagrams w/ Yukawa
1 w/ Yukawa and 1 w/o
2 diagrams w/o Yukawa

- Parity considerations *w.r.t* $\alpha = 0$ leads to $E = D = 0$
- How to determine the coefficients A, B, C, F ?



- There is only one main diagram for the production of the $t\bar{t}H$ process
- So that the parametrization is much simpler,

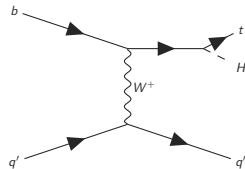
$$y_{t\bar{t}H}^{SR}(\alpha, \kappa'_t) = y_{t\bar{t}H}^{SM} \kappa_t'^2 \cos^2 \alpha + y_{t\bar{t}H}^{CP} \kappa_t' \sin \alpha$$

- where y^{SM} and y^{CP} are the yields for $(\alpha = 0, \kappa'_t = 1)$ and $(\alpha = 90^\circ, \kappa'_t = 1)$ respectively

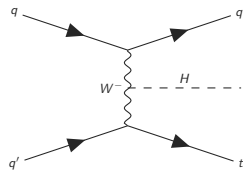
- It may come from these two diagrams
- Interferences between these diagrams lead to coefficient $\propto \kappa_t'$
- The parametrization cannot be further simplified,

$$y_{tH}^{SR}(\alpha, \kappa_t') = A\kappa_t'^2 \cos^2 \alpha + B\kappa_t'^2 \sin^2 \alpha + C\kappa_t' \cos \alpha + F$$

- Needs to fit the coefficients A, B, C, F in the $t\bar{t}H$ process
- Procedure done for tHq and tWH events independently



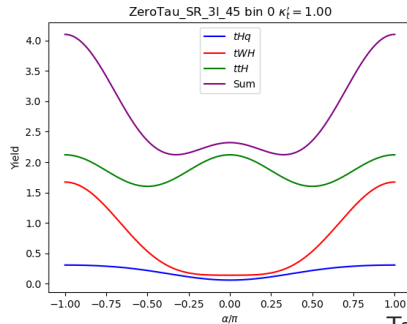
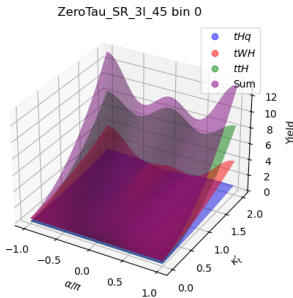
Yukawa



No Yukawa

Determination of the $t\bar{t}H$ parametrization

- Samples were generated with MG5_aMC@NLO for some values of (α, κ_t')
 $(0^\circ, 1), (15^\circ, 1), (30^\circ, 1), (45^\circ, 1), (60^\circ, 1), (75^\circ, 1), (90^\circ, 1), (180^\circ, 1), (0^\circ, 0.5), (0^\circ, 2)$
- A fit was performed to derive the coefficients A, B, C, F in the $t\bar{t}H$ process for each bin of each region





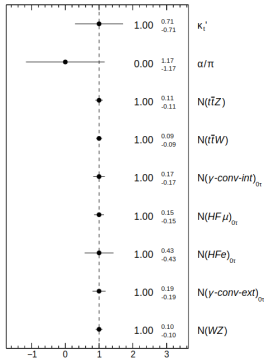
III - Results

and expected sensitivity

- Tanguy Marsault

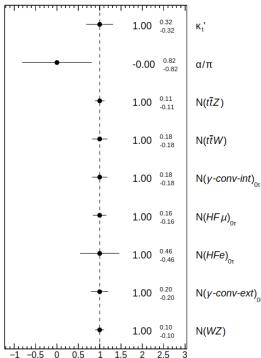
Individual channel Asimov results

ATLAS WIP



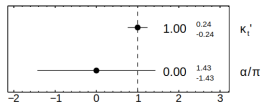
2LSS fit

ATLAS WIP



3L fit

ATLAS WIP

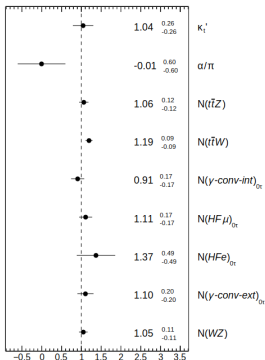


2τ fit

- All normalisation factors are fitted to their SM value as expected
- The errors on α are not to be trusted here

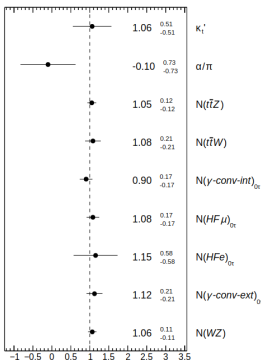
Individual channel Hybrid results

ATLAS WIP



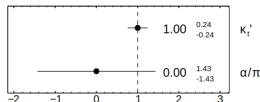
2LSS fit

ATLAS WIP



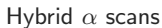
3L fit

ATLAS WIP



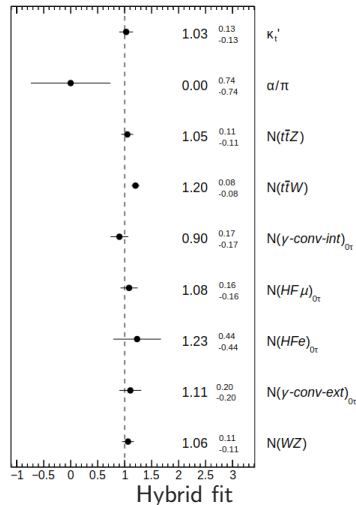
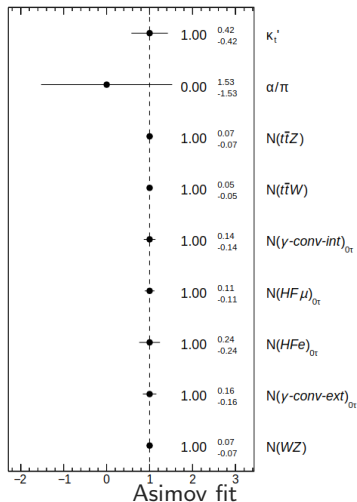
2τ fit

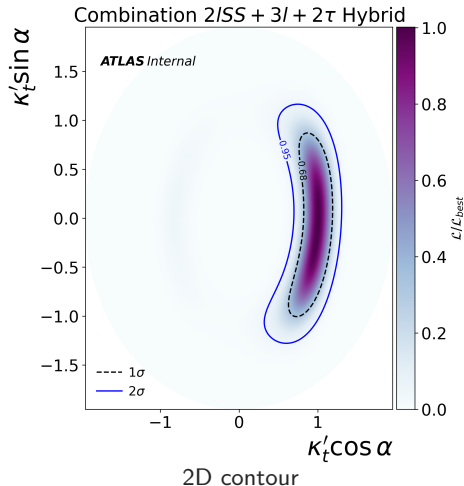
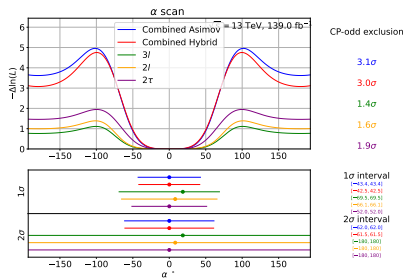
- All norm factors are compatible with the SM value apart from $N(t\bar{t}W)$



- | Channel | CP -odd excl. |
|---------|-----------------|
| $3l$ | 1.4σ |
| $2lSS$ | 1.6σ |
| 2τ | 1.9σ |

Results of combination Hybrid and Asimov





- Improved sensitivity when combining
- $|\alpha| \leq 43^\circ$ at 95% CI
- CP-odd hypothesis excluded at 3σ
- Similar expected results between Asimov and Hybrid setups

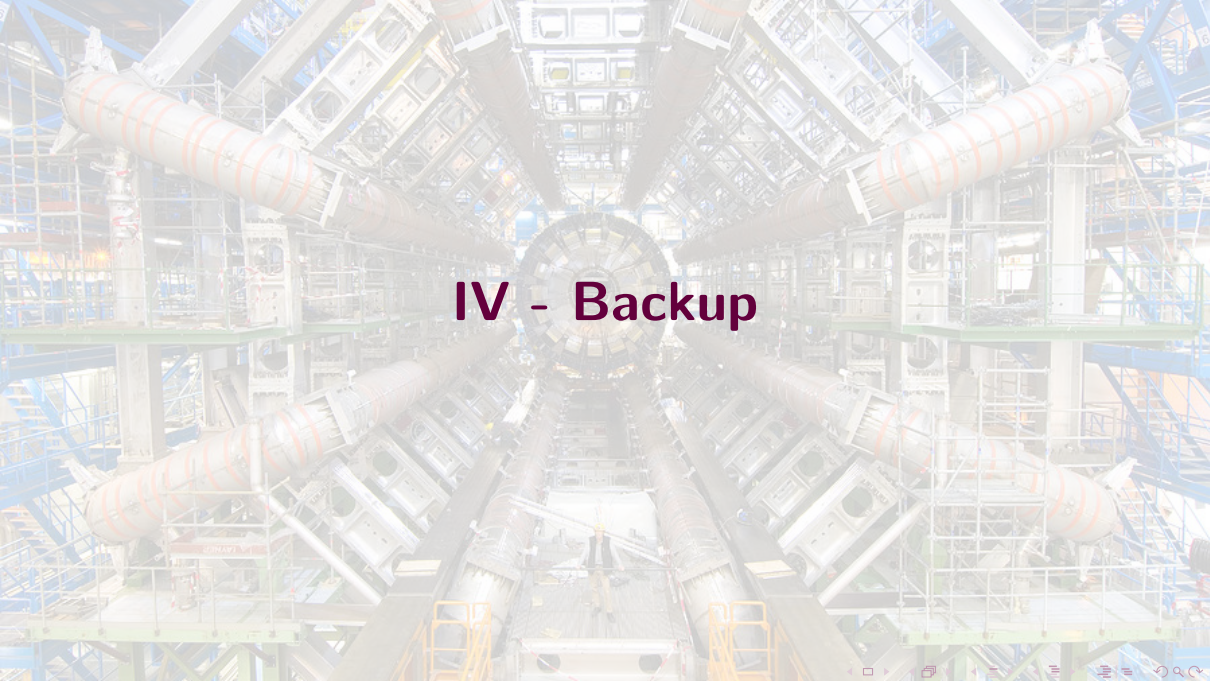
- The $t\bar{t}H$ CP analysis in the multilepton channel has an expected sensitivity comparable to the measurements in other Higgs decay channels
- The expected confidence region for α is at 43°
- The CP -odd hypothesis is excluded at 3σ
- The analysis is also performing the cross section measurement

Channel	CP -odd excl.
$2lSS$	1.6σ
$3l$	1.4σ
2τ	1.9σ
Combined	3σ

Further steps

- Analysis unblinded and approval in progress
- Expected publication soon

Thank you for your attention!



IV - Backup

	e					μ				
	L	L'	M	M _{ex}	T	L	L'	M	M _{ex}	T
LooseVar_Rad isolation	Yes					Yes				
Non-prompt lepton BDT (PLIV)	No		<i>Tight</i>	<i>Tight-not-VeryTight</i>	<i>VeryTight</i>	No		<i>Tight</i>	<i>Tight-not-VeryTight</i>	<i>VeryTight</i>
Identification	Loose	Tight				Loose	Medium			
Charge mis-assignment veto (ECIDS)	No	Yes				N/A				
Conversion rejection	No	Yes				N/A				
Transverse impact parameter significance $ d_0 /\sigma_{d_0}$	< 5					< 3				
Longitudinal impact parameter $ z_0 \sin \theta $	$< 0.5 \text{ mm}$									

Table 5: Loose (L or L'), Medium (M), Medium exclusive (M_{ex}), and Tight (T) light lepton definitions.

External conversion

- Reconstruction of a conversion vertex with $r > 20$ mm
- The invariant mass of the electron track and the closest track to the conversion vertex is required to be < 100 MeV

Internal conversion

- Not classified as *external conversion*
- The invariant mass of the electron track and the closest track to the primary vertex is required to be < 100 MeV

Channel	Cut-based Control Regions	Signal and MVA-based Control regions
$2\ell SS$	$TM_{ex}, M_{ex}T, M_{ex}M_{ex}$	TT
3ℓ	L'MM/LMM (L' for μ and L for e)	LTT (L for ℓ_0)
4ℓ	LLLL	
$2\ell SS+1\tau_{had}$	L'L' and MM (for fake τ_{had} CR)	MM
$1\ell+2\tau_{had}$ and $2\ell+2\tau_{had}$	L[L]	

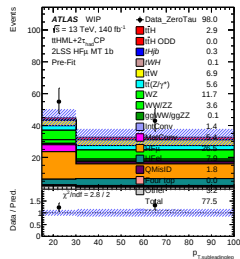
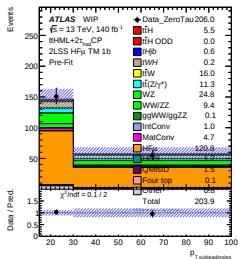
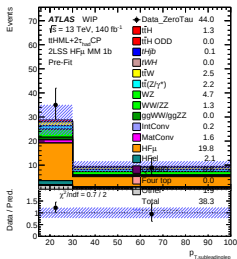
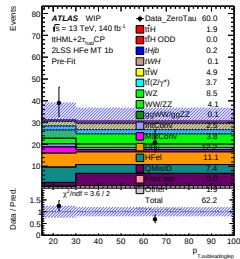
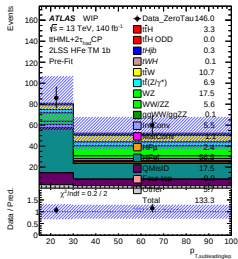
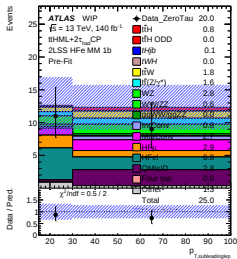
Table 6: Summary of the light lepton definitions used in the six analysis channels. The definition used for each of the leptons selected in a given channel is indicated e.g TT corresponds to the definition of the two leptons in the SR of the $2\ell SS$ channel while LLLL corresponds to the definition of the 4 leptons in the 4ℓ channel.

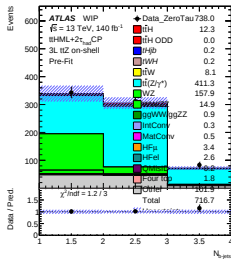
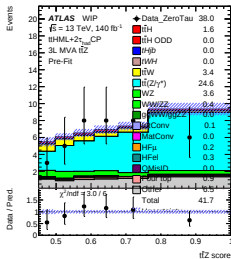
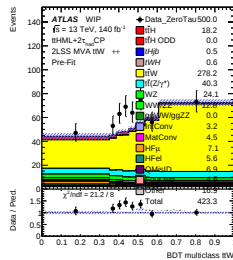
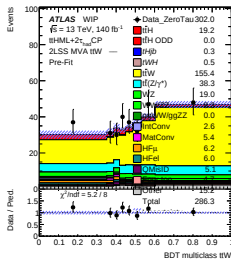
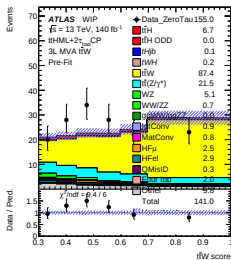
◀ ◻ ▶ ◀ ◻ ▶ ◀ ≡ ▶ Tanguy Marsault

Control regions definitions

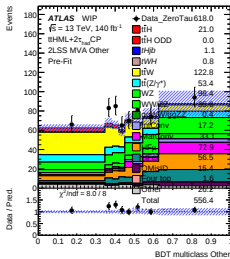
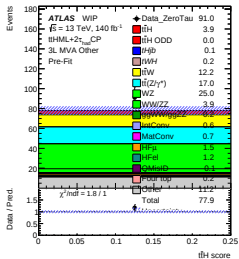
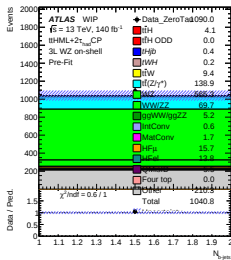
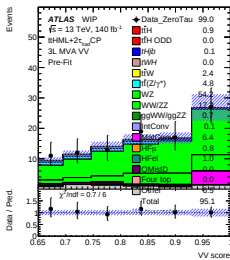
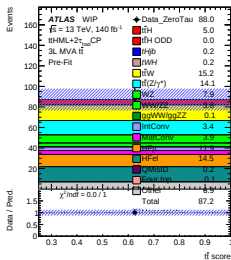
Control regions for:	Diboson	$t\bar{t}Z$	Conversions	HF non-prompt
N_{jets}	2 or 3	≥ 4	≥ 0	≥ 2
$N_{b\text{-jets}}$	$1\ b^{85\%}$		$0\ b^{85\%}$	$1\ b^{85\%}$
Lepton requirement	3ℓ		$\mu\mu e^*$	$2\ell\text{SS}$
Lepton definition		(L, M, M)		$(T, M_{\text{ex}}) \parallel (M_{\text{ex}}, T) \parallel (M_{\text{ex}}, M_{\text{ex}})$
Lepton p_T [GeV]		$(10, 15, 15)$		$(15, 15)$
$ m_{\ell^+\ell^-}^{\text{SF}} - m_Z $ [GeV]	< 10		> 10	–
$ m_{\ell\ell\ell} - m_Z $ [GeV]	> 10		< 10	–
$m_T(\ell_0, E_T^{\text{miss}})$ [GeV]		–		< 250 for TM_{ex} and $M_{\text{ex}}T$ pairs
τ_{had} candidates (Medium)		0		0
Region split	–	–	internal / material	subleading $e/\mu \times (TM_{\text{ex}}, M_{\text{ex}}T, M_{\text{ex}}M_{\text{ex}})$
Region naming	$3\ell\text{VV}$	$3\ell\text{tt}Z$	$3\ell\text{IntC}$ $3\ell\text{MatC}$	$2\ell\text{tt}(e)_{TM_{\text{ex}}}, 2\ell\text{tt}(e)_{M_{\text{ex}}T}, 2\ell\text{tt}(e)_{M_{\text{ex}}M_{\text{ex}}}$ $2\ell\text{tt}(\mu)_{TM_{\text{ex}}}, 2\ell\text{tt}(\mu)_{M_{\text{ex}}T}, 2\ell\text{tt}(\mu)_{M_{\text{ex}}M_{\text{ex}}}$

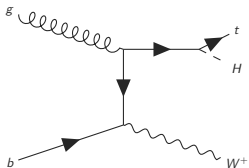
Heavy flavor control regions



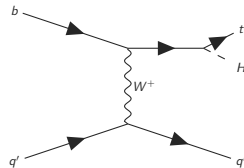


CR $t\bar{t}$, VV and others

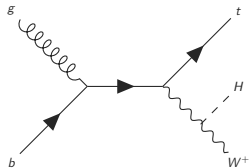




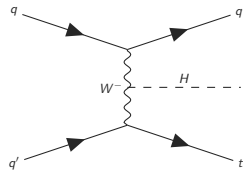
(a) tWH with tH Yukawa coupling



(b) tHq with tH Yukawa coupling

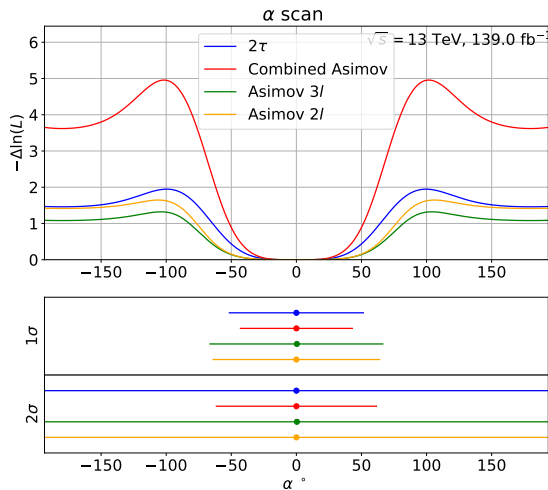


(c) tWH w/o Yukawa tH coupling



(d) tHq w/o Yukawa tH coupling

Variable	Definition	$1\ell + 2\tau_{\text{had}}$	$2\ell + 2\tau_{\text{had}}$	$tH1\ell + 2\tau_{\text{had}}$
$p_{T\tau\tau}$	visible p_T of the di- τ system	5.9	7.9	6.3
$\Delta R(\tau\tau)$	angular distance between two τ -leptons	6.6	9.6	8.8
$\Delta R(\tau\tau, \ell_0)$	angular distance between the leading lepton and the di- τ system	6.6	9.0	8.2
$\min(\Delta R(\tau, \ell))$	minimum angular distance between τ and lepton	6.4	–	9.3
$\min(\Delta R(\tau, j))$	minimum angular distance between jet and τ	7.2	9.2	9.1
$m_{\ell_0\tau\tau}$	visible invariant mass of the leading lepton and the di- τ system	5.5	7.7	–
$\eta_{\tau\tau}$	η of di- τ system	5.9	8.6	8.8
$\Delta\phi(t, t)$	azimuthal angle between the reconstructed top pair	6.9	9.2	–
$\Delta\eta(t, t)$	$\Delta\eta$ between the reconstructed top pair	6.4	9.3	–
m_{tH}	invariant mass of the reconstructed top and Higgs	5.2	–	7.2
$\Delta\phi(t, H)$	azimuthal angle between the reconstructed top and Higgs	6.3	–	9.2
$\Delta\eta(t, H)$	$\Delta\eta$ between the reconstructed top and Higgs	6.7	–	8.6
H_T	sum of jet p_T (GeV)	6.1	7.1	7.8
E_T^{miss}	the missing momenta (GeV)	5.7	–	7.4
$\min(\Delta R(\ell, j))$	minimum angular distance between jet and lepton	6.9	9.2	9.3
$m_{t\bar{t}}$	invariant mass of the reconstructed top pair	5.5	6.2	–
$m_{\ell_1\tau\tau}$	visible invariant mass of the subleading lepton and the di- τ system	–	7.3	–



CP-odd exclusion

1.9 σ

3.1 σ

1.5 σ

1.7 σ

1 σ interval

[−52.0, 52.0]

[−43.4, 43.4]

[−66.9, 66.9]

[−64.4, 64.4]

2 σ interval

[−180, 180]

[−62.0, 62.0]

[−180, 180]

[−180, 180]