



# Search for stops with the CMS experiment

Journées de Rencontre des Jeunes Chercheurs  
December 4th, 2013

Alexandre Aubin  
Supervisors : Caroline Collard, Eric Chabert

Institut Pluridisciplinaire Hubert Curien



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graph TD; Context[Context] --> Selection[Selection]; Context --> Background[Background]; Selection --> Optimization[Optimization]; Background --> Interpretation[Interpretation]; Optimization --> Results[Results]; Interpretation --> Results[Results];
```

Context

Selection

Background

Optimization

Interpretation

Results

**Context**

```
graph TD; Context[Context] --> Selection[Selection]; Context --> Background[Background]; Context --> Optimization[Optimization]; Context --> Interpretation[Interpretation]; Selection --> Results[Results]; Background --> Results[Results]; Optimization --> Results[Results]; Interpretation --> Results[Results];
```

Selection

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**Results**

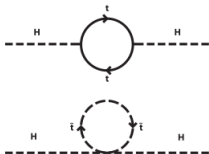
# Context

## Super-symmetry

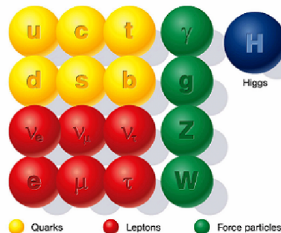
- Standard-Model extension
- Boson  $\leftrightarrow$  fermion symmetry
- Provides dark matter candidate  
(in RP conservative models)
- Solves the hierarchy problem

## Why top squarks?

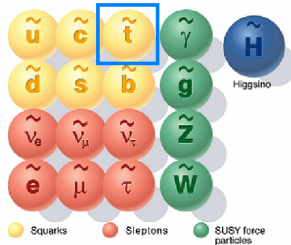
- "Natural" SUSY  $\Rightarrow m_{\tilde{t}} \sim 1 \text{ TeV}$



### Standard particles

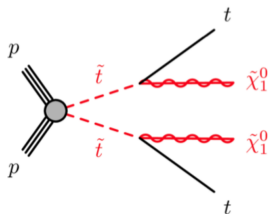


### SUSY particles

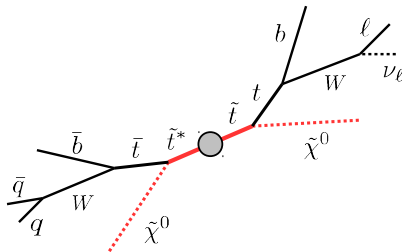


# Context

Feynman diagram



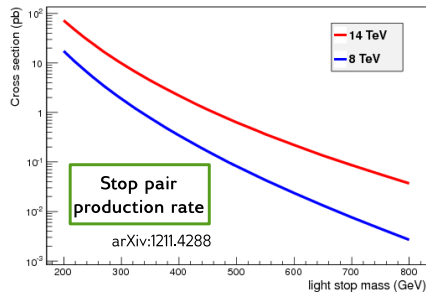
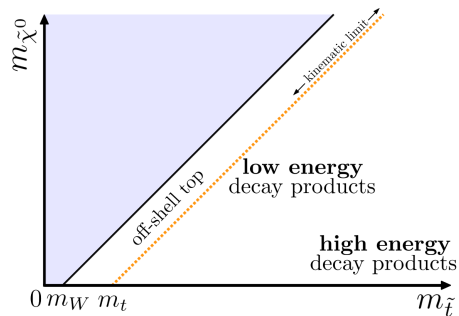
Transversal view



**Stop pair production**  
(1-lepton channel)

$$\begin{aligned}
 pp &\rightarrow \tilde{t}\tilde{t}^* \rightarrow \tilde{\chi}^0\tilde{\chi}^0 + tt \\
 &\rightarrow \tilde{\chi}^0\tilde{\chi}^0 + bbWW \\
 &\rightarrow \tilde{\chi}^0\tilde{\chi}^0 + bb + \ell\nu_\ell + q\bar{q}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Context



- Study in the frame of simplified SUSY models (generic result)
- Production rate divided by 10 every  $\sim 200$  GeV

Context

**Selection**

Background

Optimization

Interpretation

Results

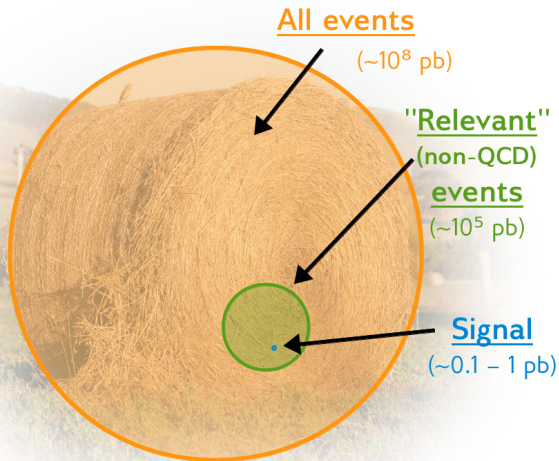
# Selection



Looking for a needle in a haystack



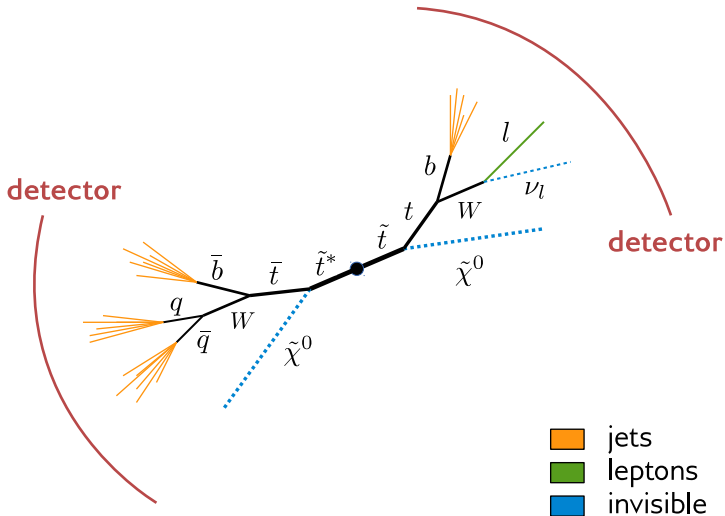
# Selection



Looking for a needle in a haystack  
About 1 signal event among 100 millions !

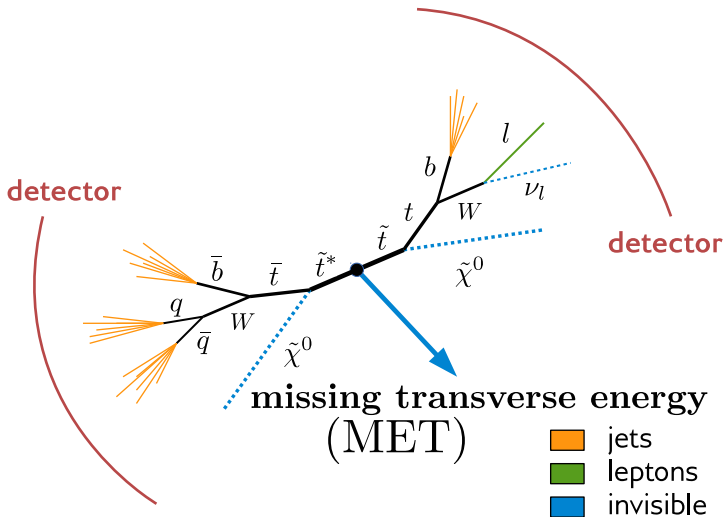
# Selection

$$\begin{aligned}
 pp \rightarrow \tilde{t}\tilde{t}^* &\rightarrow bbWW + \tilde{\chi}^0\tilde{\chi}^0 \\
 &\rightarrow \textcolor{green}{\ell} + \textcolor{orange}{qqbb} + \textcolor{blue}{\nu_\ell\tilde{\chi}^0\tilde{\chi}^0}
 \end{aligned}$$



# Selection

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# Selection

$$\begin{aligned} pp \rightarrow \tilde{t}\tilde{t}^* &\rightarrow bbWW + \tilde{\chi}^0\tilde{\chi}^0 \\ &\rightarrow \ell + qqbb + \nu_\ell\tilde{\chi}^0\tilde{\chi}^0 \end{aligned}$$

## Selection

- 1 lepton ( $e/\mu$ )
- $\geq 4$  jets,  $\geq 1$  b-jet
- $\text{MET} \geq 100 \text{ GeV}$
- second-lepton vetos  
(isolated track, hadronic  $\tau$ )

$\Rightarrow$  signal-to-noise ratio increased to  $\sim 1$  per 15000!  
(good, but still not enough)

Context

Selection

**Background**

Optimization

Interpretation

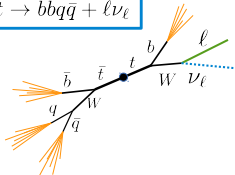
Results

# Backgrounds

- Other Standard-Model processes have **similar final state**

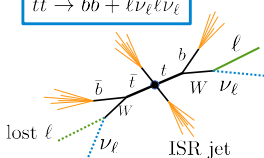
## 1-lepton $t\bar{t}$

$$t\bar{t} \rightarrow b\bar{b}q\bar{q} + \ell\nu_\ell$$



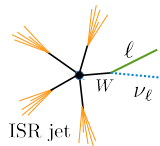
## 2-lepton $t\bar{t}$

$$t\bar{t} \rightarrow b\bar{b} + \ell\nu_\ell\ell\nu_\ell$$

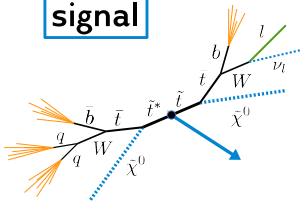


## W + jets

$$W \rightarrow \ell\nu_\ell$$



## signal

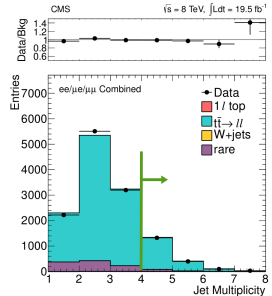


- Understanding these processes is crucial to **spot and exploit second-order differences**

# Backgrounds

## Need for precise background prediction

- Reliance on Standard-Model measurements and Monte-Carlo generator
- Estimation and checks from the data



Selection criteria	$1\ell$	$\geq 2\ell$
0 b-jet	W+jets dominated	-
$\geq 1$ b-jet	Signal region	$t\bar{t} \rightarrow \ell\ell$ dominated

Context

Selection

Background

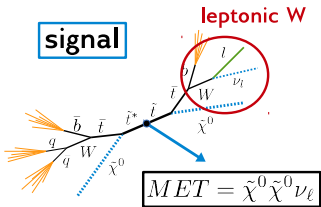
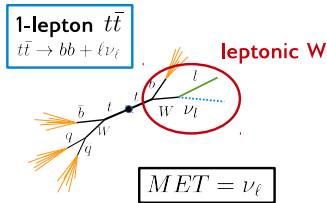
**Optimization**

Interpretation

Results



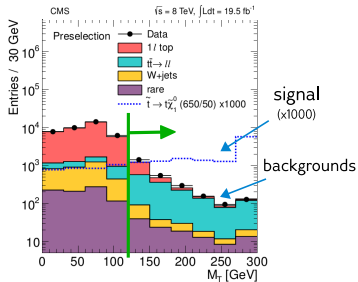
# Optimization


$$W_{\text{leptonic}} = \text{lepton} + \text{neutrino}$$


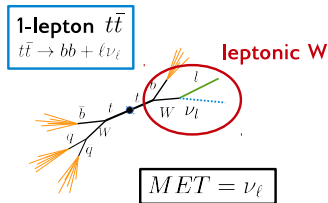
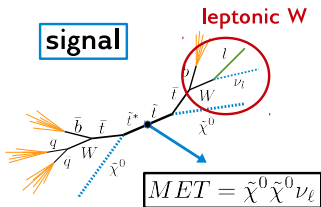
mass(W) ~ 80 GeV

## The $M_T$ variable

- $M_T = \text{mass}(\ell + MET)$
- try to exploit the leptonic  $W$  to discriminate signal and background



# Optimization

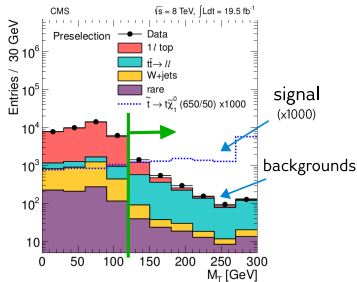


$W_{\text{leptonic}} = \text{lepton} + \text{neutrino}$

$\text{mass}(W) \sim 80 \text{ GeV}$

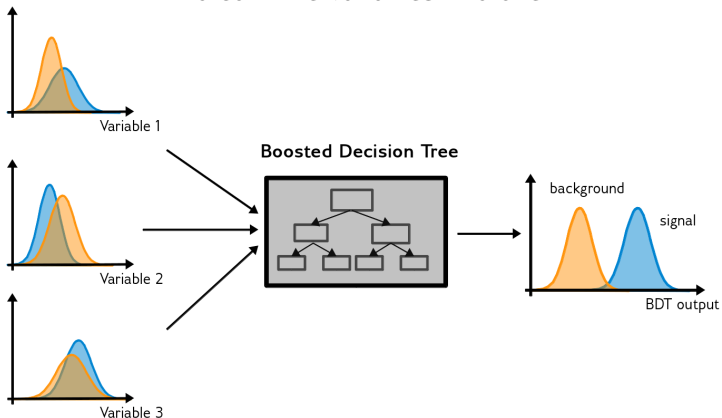
$$M_T > 120 \text{ GeV}$$

$\Rightarrow$  signal-to-noise ratio increased to  
 $\sim 1 \text{ per } 200!$   
 (good, but can do better)



# Optimization

Use boosted decision tree  
to combine variables into one



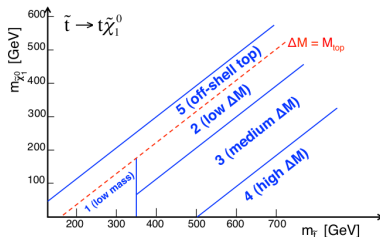
# Optimization

Use boosted decision tree  
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- Use  $\sim 6$  different variables in the BDT

Variable	Usage
MET	✓
$M_{T2}^W$	✓
$\min\Delta\Phi$	✓
$HT_T^{\text{ratio}}$	✓
hadronic top $\chi^2$	on-shell $t$
leading b-tagged jet $p_T$	off-shell $t$

- Split the  $(m_{\tilde{t}}, m_{\tilde{\chi}^0})$  space in different regions

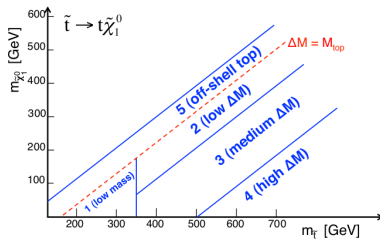


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leading b-tagged jet $p_T$	off-shell $t$

- Split the  $(m_{\tilde{t}}, m_{\tilde{\chi}^0})$  space in different regions



$\Rightarrow$  signal-to-noise ratio increased to 1 per 0.5  $\sim 2$ !



Context

Selection

Background

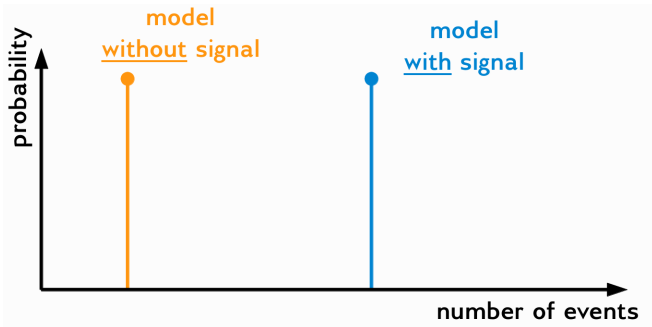
Optimization

**Interpretation**

Results

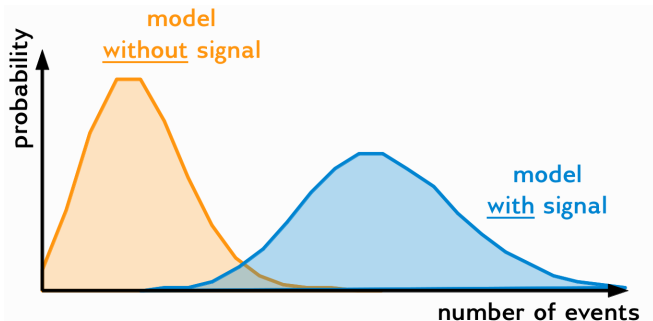
# Interpretation

At the end, what you measure is a number of event



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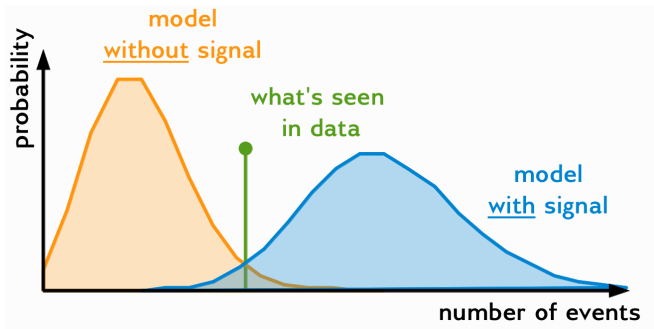




# Interpretation

At the end, what you measure is a number of event

→ what can you really say about the existence  
or non-existence of the signal?



**Not a trivial problem**  
Need use of statistical tools

Context

Selection

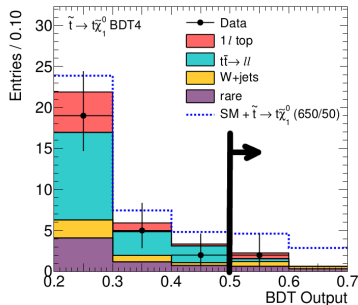
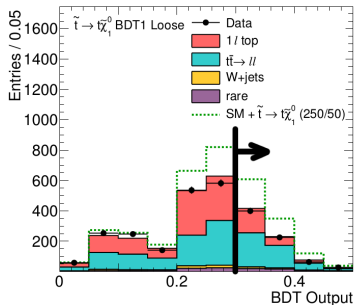
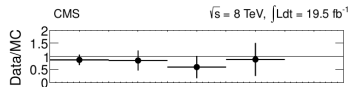
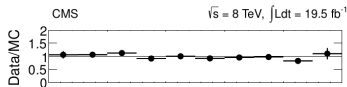
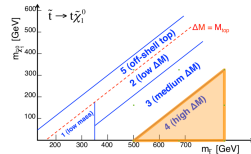
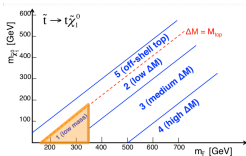
Background

Optimization

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**Results**

# Results

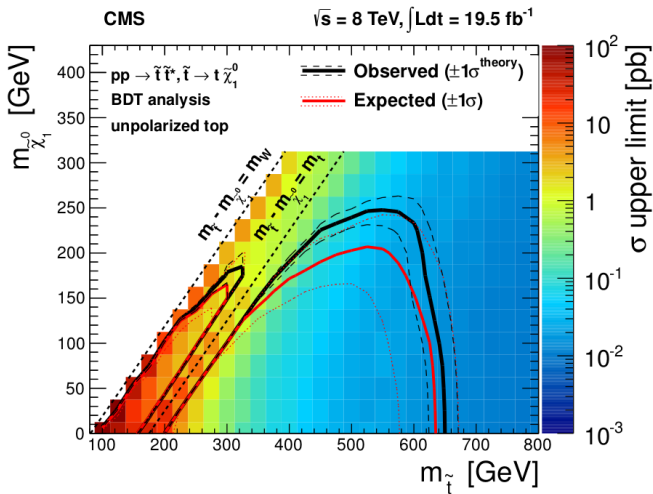


$\Rightarrow$  **no excess is observed**

Alexandre Aubin

# Results

## Excluded parameter space

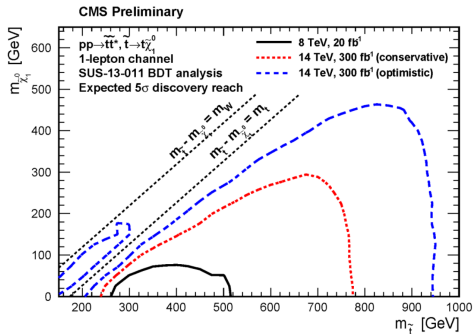
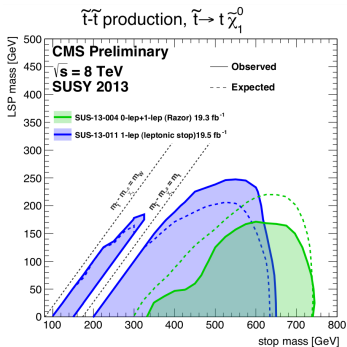


# Results



# Results

- Other analysis providing complementary results
- Ongoing combination with  $0\ell$  and  $2\ell$  channels
- 14 TeV projections predicts  $5\sigma$  discovery potential up  $m_{\tilde{t}} \sim 750\text{-}950$  GeV



# Conclusion

- Hope you understand a bit better **the different aspects of a search** at the LHC
- Stop search : **hot topic to search and constrain SUSY**
- So far, we probe stop masses up to  $\sim 650$  GeV.
- Now working on **combination with 0- $\ell$  and 2- $\ell$  channels**, + looking forward to the **13-14 TeV**.

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Thanks!  
Any questions?