



# Top Quark at ATLAS

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## The Standard Model



#### Spin-1/2 particles called fermions:

- Quarks
  - electric charge 2/3e or -1/3e
  - three colours
- Leptons:
  - neutrinos, electrically neutral
  - charged leptons



## **Open Questions**

- Three particle generations?
- Neutrino mass
- Mass hierarchy, eV scale to ~173 GeV.
- Matter antimatter asymmetry?
- Gravity
- Dark matter and dark energy



Extensions to SM try to answer one or more of these questions by:

- New particles
- New symmetries
- Extra dimensions
- String theory

## The Large Hadron Collider





- 27 km circumference
- Proton-proton collider
- Operational since 2010
  - in 2011  $\sqrt{s} = 7$  TeV
  - in 2012  $\sqrt{s} = 8$  TeV
  - in 2015  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV



## Top-quark production at LHC

- The heaviest fundamental particle
- It decays very fast before it hadronize
- Top quark can be produced in SM:
  - in pairs through strong interaction
  - singly associated to other particles through weak interaction

•  $M_{top} = 173.3 \pm 0.9 \text{ GeV}$ 

• Life-time ~  $10^{-25}$  s

• Decays to bW 
$$\sim 100\%$$



## Top Anti-Top Quark Cross Section



- Cross section goes up with energy?!
- At low energy proton antiproton produce more top quarks!
- Many things we should get right before we have an agreement between theory and experiment

# Single Top Quark Production

• Three production channels:



#### Single Top Quark Cross Section



## Parton Distribution Function



 $x_1 x_2 . s = M^2$  $\sqrt{s} = 7, 8, 13, 14 \text{ TeV}$ 

# Rare Top Quark Production Processes: FCNC in strong sector



- Motivation:
  - Experimental
  - Theoretical (predicted excess depends highly on model; 5-8 orders)?

## Example of FCNC processes

Probe the coupling between the top quark and light quarks+gluon



Searching for FCNC in top quark decay is challenging:

- limited by tt production cross-section and low branching fraction
- very difficult to separate from the multijet background

Top quark production via FCNC:

- higher cross-section
- no associated production
  - the top quark has very low  $P_T$  compared with SM top quarks

#### **Event selection**

- Lepton selection (electron / muon):
- Missing transverse momentum
- One Jets (identified as a b-jet)

#### **Dominant backgrounds:**





## Event yields

#### arXiv:1509.00294

Process	Control region	Signal region
Single top	$7930 \pm 250$	$8580 \pm 260$
$t\bar{t}$	$6290 \pm 170$	$6870 \pm 180$
W+LF	$410100\pm8200$	$4\ 100 \pm 1\ 100$
W+HF	$340800\pm4700$	$38000 \pm 1600$
Z+jets	$38800 \pm 1500$	$3570 \pm 280$
Multi-jet	$32100\pm5500$	$4970\pm840$
Total expected	$836000 \pm 11000$	$66100\pm 2200$
Data	826 517	66 305



Pixel detector is very important in identify b quark jets

#### Neural Network



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#### Input variables

#### arXiv:1509.00294

#### Signal signature:

- P<sub>T</sub> (top) ~ 0
  (W and b are back-to-back)
- P(W) is large
- More top than anti-top quarks



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### NN Output



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## Systematic uncertainties

- Type of systematic uncertainties:
  - rate systematic uncertainties of each background processes
  - shape systematics which affects the signal and background templates



## Results from collision data

No signal is observed and an upper limit at 95% C.L. is calculated 



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## Summary

• Top quark play an important rule in search for new physics

 Understanding the proton structure plays a key rule in measuring the cross section

 The ATLAS inner detector is critical in identifying the short lived particles

Do not forget the importance of the detector and physics Simulations!