

# Two is not always better than one: Single Top Quarks and Dark Matter

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There are several theories predicting **DM production** at hadron colliders

- different assumptions can be made on the mediator particle and on the kind of interaction (spin, parity, ...)

→ Spin-0 simplified model: [Phys. Rev. D91 015017](#), [arXiv:1507.00966](#)

- scalar and/or pseudo-scalar mediators
- **minimal flavour violation**, couplings proportional to SM fermions masses
- also used to interpret LHC results

Scalar

$$g_q \frac{\phi}{2} \sum_f y_f \bar{f} f$$

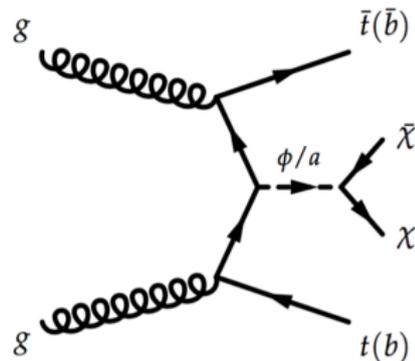
Pseudoscalar

$$g_q \frac{iA}{2} \sum_f y_f \bar{f} \gamma^5 f$$

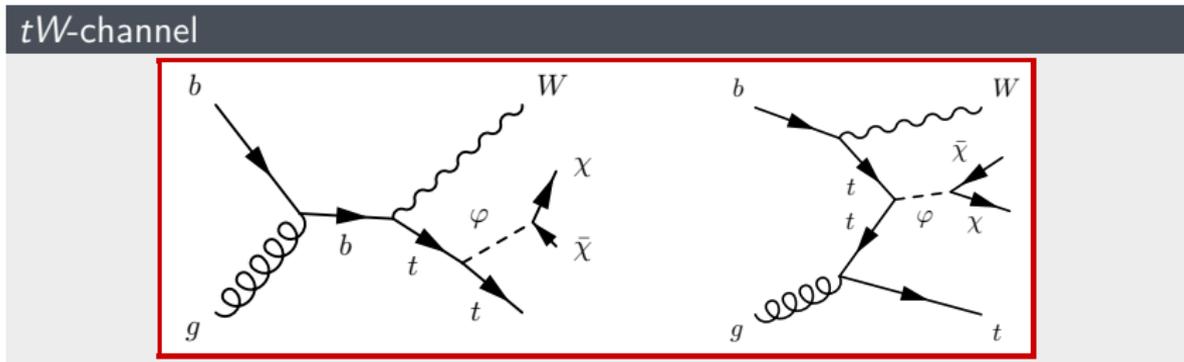
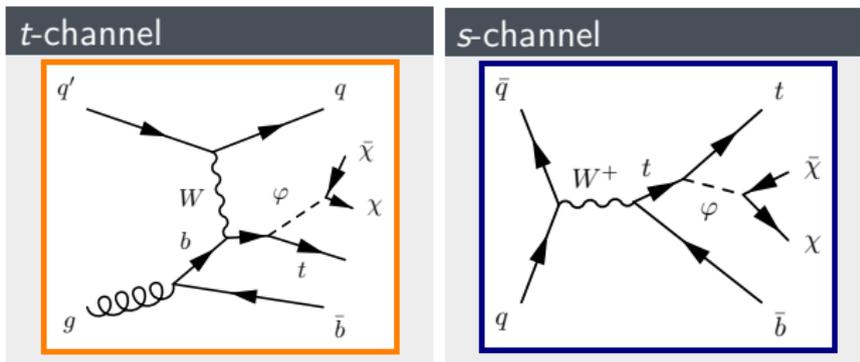
Channels covered by DM and heavy flavour searches:

- ATLAS  $b\bar{b} + \text{DM}$  ([ATLAS-CONF-2016-086](#))
- CMS  $b\bar{b} + \text{DM}$  ([CMS-PAS-B2G-15-007](#))
- ATLAS  $t\bar{t} + \text{DM}$  ([ATLAS-CONF-2016-077](#))
- CMS  $t\bar{t} + \text{DM}$  ([CMS-PAS-EXO-16-005](#))

Is there something missing?

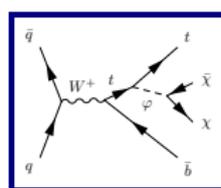
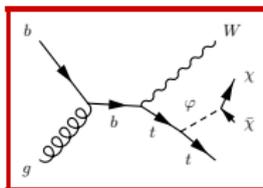
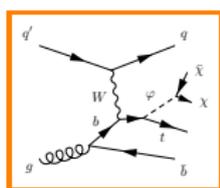
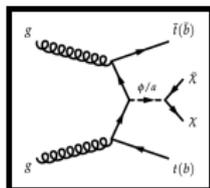


- Same spin-0 simplified model predicts a **third**, unexplored channel:  
DM produced with a **single top quark (t+DM)**

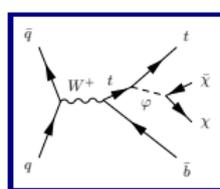
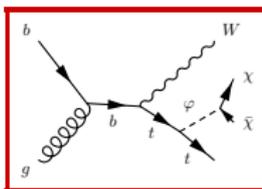
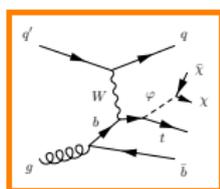
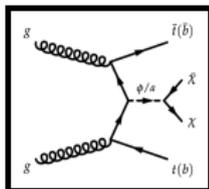
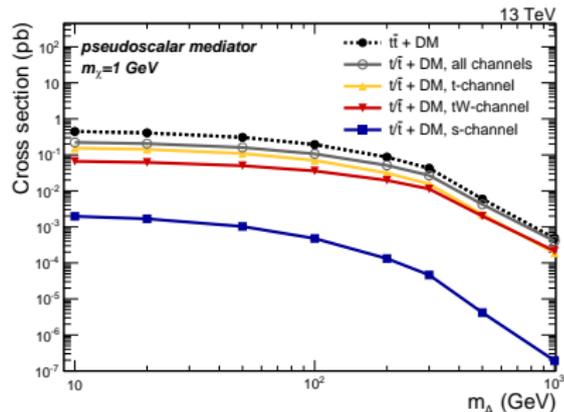
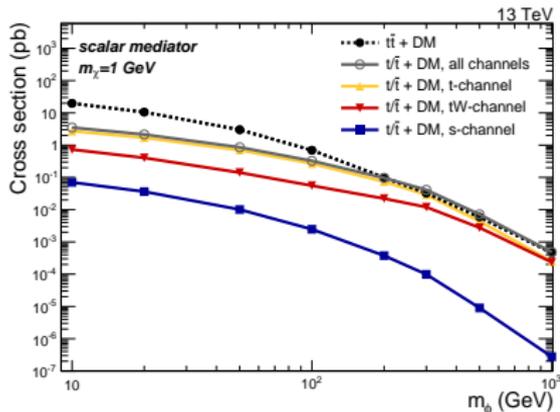


- Unlike in the SM,  $t$ +DM processes may have non-negligible cross sections compared to  $t\bar{t}$ +DM

|              | $g_\chi = g_\varphi = 1$<br>$m_\chi, m_\varphi$ | $t\bar{t}$ +DM (pb)   | $t$ +DM (pb)          |                       |                       | total $t$ +DM         | $\frac{t+DM}{t\bar{t}+DM}$ |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
|              |                                                 |                       | $t$ -channel          | $tW$ -channel         | $s$ -channel          |                       |                            |
| scalar       | 1, 10                                           | 19.76                 | $27.18 \cdot 10^{-1}$ | $73.25 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $7.03 \cdot 10^{-2}$  | $35.20 \cdot 10^{-1}$ | <b>0.18</b>                |
|              | 1, 20                                           | 10.55                 | $17.03 \cdot 10^{-1}$ | $40.44 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $36.29 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $21.43 \cdot 10^{-1}$ | <b>0.20</b>                |
|              | 1, 50                                           | $30.06 \cdot 10^{-1}$ | $7.00 \cdot 10^{-1}$  | $14.09 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $10.10 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $8.51 \cdot 10^{-1}$  | <b>0.29</b>                |
|              | 1, 100                                          | $69.60 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $26.83 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $55.49 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $24.74 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $32.62 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | <b>0.47</b>                |
|              | 1, 200                                          | $99.16 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $7.37 \cdot 10^{-2}$  | $22.15 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $37.6 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $9.62 \cdot 10^{-2}$  | <b>0.97</b>                |
|              | 1, 300                                          | $32.21 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $28.88 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $12.04 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $9.87 \cdot 10^{-5}$  | $41.02 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | <b>1.27</b>                |
|              | 1, 500                                          | $59.00 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $43.85 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $27.61 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $9.01 \cdot 10^{-6}$  | $71.55 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | <b>1.21</b>                |
|              | 1, 1000                                         | $46.03 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $24.99 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $23.46 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $27.64 \cdot 10^{-8}$ | $48.48 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | <b>1.05</b>                |
| pseudoscalar | 1, 10                                           | $44.63 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $15.34 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $66.36 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $19.69 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $22.19 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | <b>0.50</b>                |
|              | 1, 20                                           | $40.80 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $14.19 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $61.82 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $16.78 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $20.53 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | <b>0.50</b>                |
|              | 1, 50                                           | $30.72 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $10.94 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $50.00 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $10.30 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $16.04 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | <b>0.52</b>                |
|              | 1, 100                                          | $19.41 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | $7.04 \cdot 10^{-2}$  | $35.79 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $47.79 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $10.66 \cdot 10^{-2}$ | <b>0.55</b>                |
|              | 1, 200                                          | $86.78 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $31.39 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $19.65 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $13.20 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $51.17 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | <b>0.59</b>                |
|              | 1, 300                                          | $42.50 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $15.55 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $11.33 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | $46.28 \cdot 10^{-6}$ | $26.92 \cdot 10^{-3}$ | <b>0.63</b>                |
|              | 1, 500                                          | $59.43 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $22.27 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $19.96 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | $41.72 \cdot 10^{-7}$ | $42.27 \cdot 10^{-4}$ | <b>0.71</b>                |
|              | 1, 1000                                         | $48.33 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $19.09 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $21.44 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | $19.31 \cdot 10^{-8}$ | $40.56 \cdot 10^{-5}$ | <b>0.84</b>                |



- Unlike in the SM,  $t$ +DM processes may have non-negligible cross sections compared to  $t\bar{t}$ +DM



## What is the impact of the new channel on existing searches?

- 0 Reference analysis → CMS search for  $t\bar{t}$ +DM (CMS-PAS-EXO-16-005)
  - Similar final state and topology: top quarks and missing energy
  - Results interpreted within the same model
  - Evaluate the improvement by adding  $t$ +DM on top of  $t\bar{t}$ +DM
- 1 Validate simulation framework
  - Madgraph (LO) + Pythia (showering) + Delphes (CMS response)
  - 200 000  $t\bar{t}$ +DM events generated
  - reproduce  $t\bar{t}$ +DM yields from CMS-PAS-EXO-16-005 after selection
- 2 Use simulation framework to produce  $t$ +DM samples
  - $tW$ -channel in 5F scheme and  $t$ -,  $s$ -channels in 4F scheme
  - cross section calculated in 5F scheme
  - $tW$ -,  $s$ -channel 200 000 events,  $t$ -channel 500 000 events
- 3 Reproduce analysis selections, and compare  $t$ +DM and  $t\bar{t}$ +DM yields
- 4 Compute limits improvements

## 1 Event selection and comparison with CMS-PAS-EXO-16-005

### Hadronic channel ( $0\ell$ )

|                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| $\cancel{E}_T$   | $> 200 \text{ GeV}$ |
| number of jets   | $\geq 4$            |
| number of b-jets | $\geq 2$            |

### Semileptonic channel ( $1\ell$ )

|                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| $\cancel{E}_T$   | $> 160 \text{ GeV}$ |
| number of jets   | $\geq 3$            |
| number of b-jets | $\geq 1$            |
| $m_T^W$          | $> 160 \text{ GeV}$ |
| $m_{T2}^W$       | $> 200 \text{ GeV}$ |

## 1 Event selection and comparison with CMS-PAS-EXO-16-005

### Hadronic channel ( $0\ell$ )

|                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
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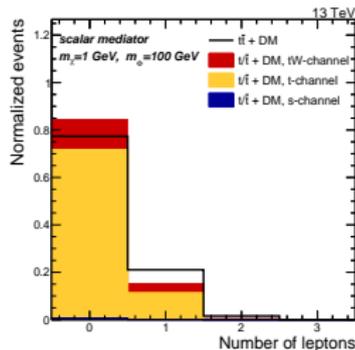
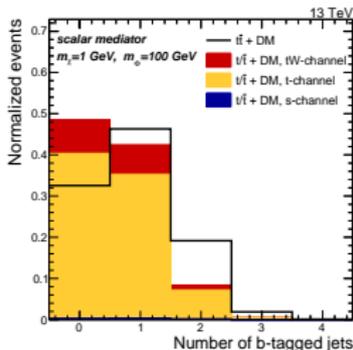
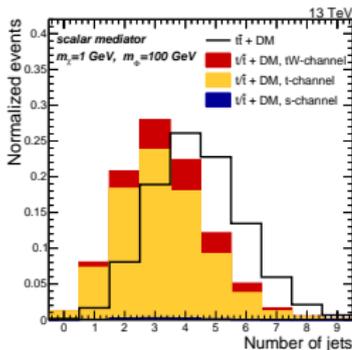
## ■ Check consistency between CMS analysis and DELPHES parametrization:

| $m_\chi, m_\phi$ (GeV)     | $t\bar{t} + \text{DM}$ |                 |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
|                            | CMS                    | DELPHES         |
| $m_\chi = 1, m_\phi = 10$  | $20 \pm 12$            | $23.9 \pm 2.3$  |
| $m_\chi = 1, m_\phi = 100$ | $10.0 \pm 3.0$         | $10.1 \pm 0.42$ |
| $m_\chi = 1, m_A = 100$    | $8.5 \pm 1.4$          | $8.03 \pm 0.13$ |

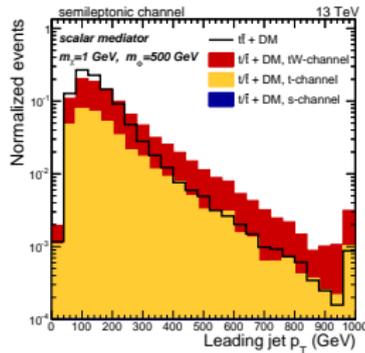
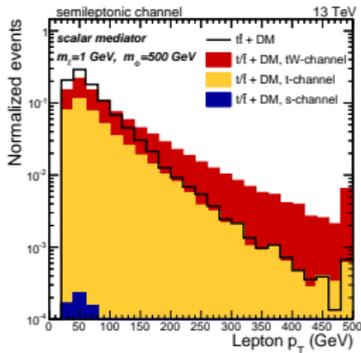
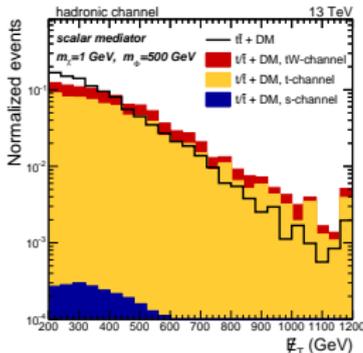


| $m_\chi, m_\phi$ (GeV)     | $t\bar{t} + \text{DM}$ |                 |
|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
|                            | CMS                    | DELPHES         |
| $m_\chi = 1, m_\phi = 10$  | $9.1 \pm 4.3$          | $8.8 \pm 1.8$   |
| $m_\chi = 1, m_\phi = 100$ | $4.64 \pm 0.56$        | $4.78 \pm 0.38$ |
| $m_\chi = 1, m_A = 100$    | $4.36 \pm 0.29$        | $4.61 \pm 0.13$ |

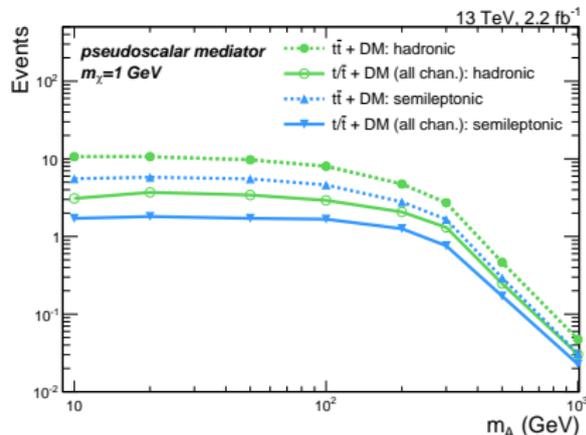
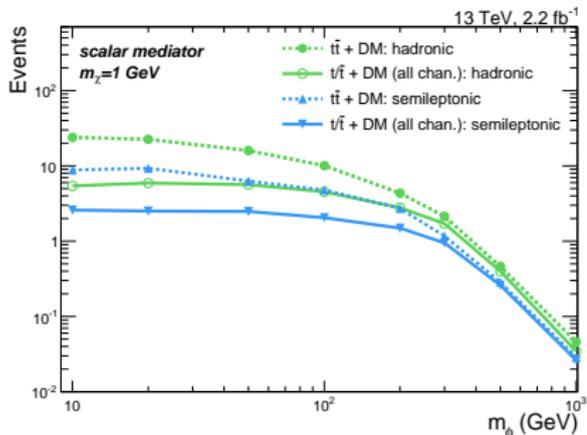




- Object multiplicity is different
  - one less top quark in the final state
- $t+DM$  spectra tend to be “harder” than  $t\bar{t}+DM$  for  $m_\phi \gtrsim 100$  GeV
  - initial state is different (gluon-gluon for  $t\bar{t}+DM$ , quark-gluon for  $t+DM$ )



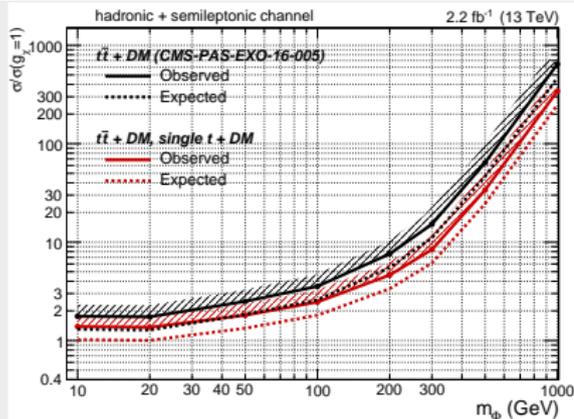
- 2 Simulate  $t\bar{t}$ +DM ,  $t$ +DM samples with Madgraph+Pythia+DELPHES
- 3 Compare  $t$ +DM and  $t\bar{t}$ +DM signal yields after applying the same selections as in CMS-PAS-EXO-16-005
  - significant  $t$ +DM yields contribution ( $\gtrsim 30\%$ ) even after selection



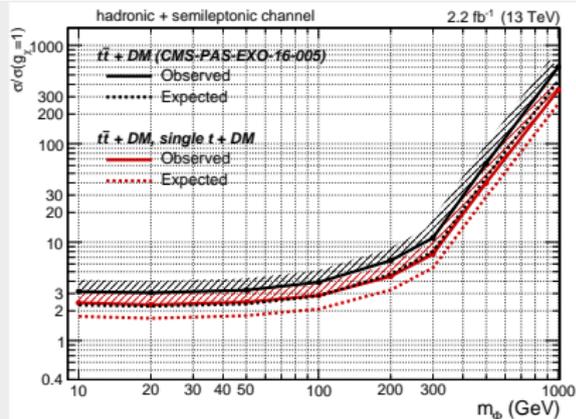
**Note:** selections optimized for events with **two** top quarks!

- 4 **Impact on existing limits:** improvements obtained including  $t+DM$  in addition to the  $t\bar{t}+DM$  signal
- use CMS  $t\bar{t}+DM$  analysis as reference
- no shape information  $\rightarrow$  counting experiment
- data and SM bkg events (plus unc.) from CMS-PAS-EXO-16-005

## Scalar



## Pseudoscalar



Improvement between 30% to factor 2 by adding  $t+DM$  to  $t\bar{t}+DM$

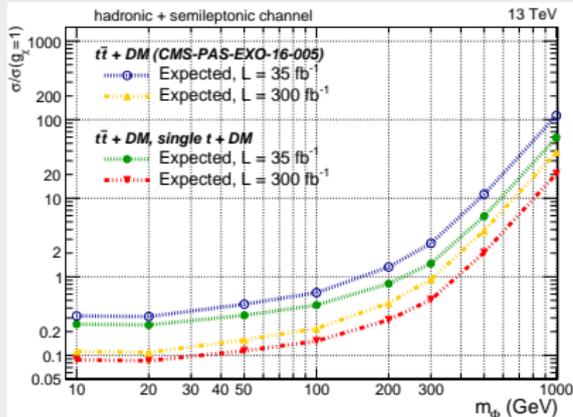
4 Impact on existing limits: improvements obtained including  $t$ +DM in addition to the  $t\bar{t}$ +DM signal

■ Sensitivity projection for:

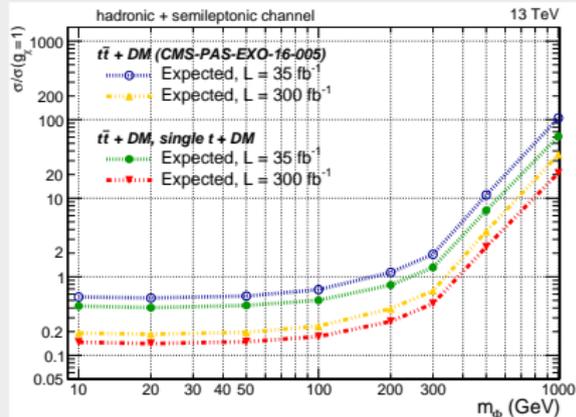
- 2016 dataset of  $35 \text{ fb}^{-1}$
- End of 2023 dataset of  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

■ Simplified assumptions on the uncertainty scaling ( $\text{bkg} \propto \sqrt{\mathcal{L}}$ ,  $\text{signal} \propto \mathcal{L}$ )

## Scalar



## Pseudoscalar



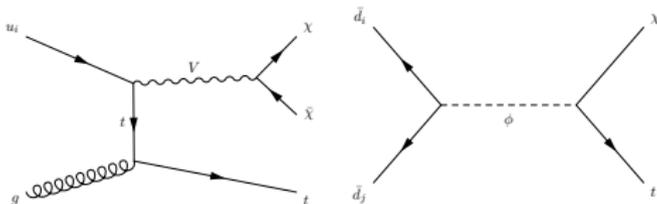
Improvement between 30% to factor 2 by adding  $t$ +DM to  $t\bar{t}$ +DM

- Considered for first time **single top and DM** associated production (spin-0 simpl. model with MFV)
- We demonstrated that this process can have a sizable contribution to heavy-flavoured DM searches ( $\gtrsim 30\%$ )
- The sensitivity of new process has been assessed:
  - include  $t$ +DM on top of  $t\bar{t}$ +DM within CMS-PAS-EXO-16-005 search
  - exclusion limits improvements **up to a factor 2** - even in future scenarios
- Study documented in [arXiv:1701.05195](https://arxiv.org/abs/1701.05195), submitted to PRD
- Further improvements expected with a **dedicated analysis for  $t$ +DM**

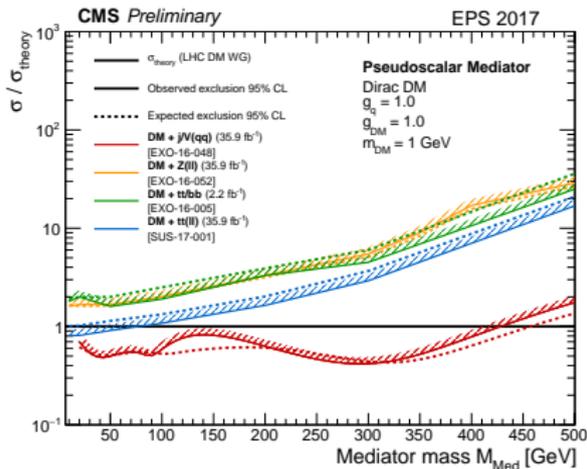
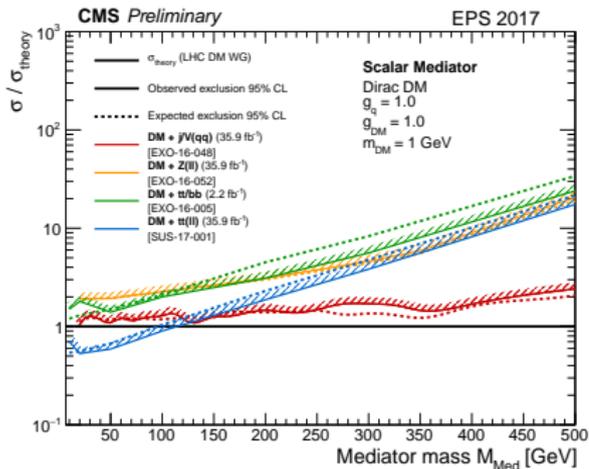


Assess the sensitivity of the  $t$ +DM process at LHC experiments:

- **CMS-PAS-EXO-16-040**: CMS boosted “mono-top” search, different topology and phase space (2 body decay, FCNC, boosted)
  - Different model, cannot add  $t$ +DM to  $t\bar{t}$ +DM easily



- **CMS-PAS-B2G-15-007, ATLAS-CONF-2016-086**:  $b, bb$ +DM also retain some sensitivity, but efficiency is very low (lepton veto, low jet multiplicity)
- **CMS-PAS-EXO-16-005, ATLAS-CONF-2016-077**: the  $t\bar{t}$ +DM probes a similar phase space  $\rightarrow$  **best candidate** to test the  $t$ +DM potential
  - Use CMS  $t\bar{t}$ +DM analysis as reference, and evaluate the improvement by **adding  $t$ +DM on top of  $t\bar{t}$ +DM**



|                                                                                | SR $\bar{t}\bar{t} > 200$ |                                                                                | 2 top tags       | <2 top tags     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| $t\bar{t}$                                                                     | $214 \pm 20$              | $t\bar{t}$                                                                     | $145 \pm 14$     | $194 \pm 20$    |
| Wjets                                                                          | $24.9 \pm 4.0$            | Wjets                                                                          | $12.1 \pm 1.4$   | $23.5 \pm 4.6$  |
| Drell-Yan                                                                      | $0.44 \pm 0.14$           | Drell-Yan                                                                      | $0.15 \pm 0.04$  | $0.25 \pm 0.09$ |
| SingleTop                                                                      | $20.4 \pm 2.9$            | SingleTop                                                                      | $7.5 \pm 1.5$    | $19.4 \pm 2.1$  |
| QCD                                                                            | $0.10 \pm 0.04$           | QCD                                                                            | $3.0 \pm 2.5$    | $0.10 \pm 0.09$ |
| ZToNuNu                                                                        | $52.6 \pm 7.0$            | ZToNuNu                                                                        | $12.9 \pm 1.3$   | $44 \pm 13$     |
| $t\bar{t}V$                                                                    | $6.3 \pm 1.6$             | $t\bar{t}V$                                                                    | $8.12 \pm 0.78$  | $6.7 \pm 1.0$   |
| VV                                                                             | $5.17 \pm 0.96$           | VV                                                                             | $1.02 \pm 0.34$  | $3.32 \pm 0.35$ |
| Backgrounds                                                                    | $324 \pm 22$              | Backgrounds                                                                    | $189 \pm 14$     | $292 \pm 25$    |
| Data                                                                           | 333                       | Data                                                                           | 181              | 305             |
| scalar $m_{\text{MED}} = 10 \text{ GeV}, m_{\text{DM}} = 1 \text{ GeV}$        | $20 \pm 12$               | scalar $m_{\text{MED}} = 10 \text{ GeV}, m_{\text{DM}} = 1 \text{ GeV}$        | $19.7 \pm 6.2$   | $16.3 \pm 5.5$  |
| scalar $m_{\text{MED}} = 100 \text{ GeV}, m_{\text{DM}} = 1 \text{ GeV}$       | $10.0 \pm 3.0$            | scalar $m_{\text{MED}} = 100 \text{ GeV}, m_{\text{DM}} = 1 \text{ GeV}$       | $10.16 \pm 0.82$ | $7.29 \pm 0.68$ |
| pseudoscalar $m_{\text{MED}} = 100 \text{ GeV}, m_{\text{DM}} = 1 \text{ GeV}$ | $8.5 \pm 1.4$             | pseudoscalar $m_{\text{MED}} = 100 \text{ GeV}, m_{\text{DM}} = 1 \text{ GeV}$ | $7.74 \pm 0.39$  | $6.05 \pm 0.33$ |

