

Search for production of a Higgs boson and a single top quark in $\mu\mu$ final states in proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV

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March 13, 2019



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Overview

- Through this project we will investigate the production of Higgs boson in association with a single top quark (tH) in proton-proton collisions with the CMS experiment of the LHC. This mechanism of production of the Higgs boson has not been observed before by any experiment.
- Understanding the production of the Higgs boson, as well as its decays are an important part of the physical program of the CERN international laboratory experiments that try to complete the tests to verify the Standard Model, the theory of the fundamental particles

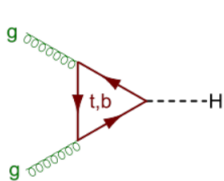


Motivation for single top Higgs (tH)

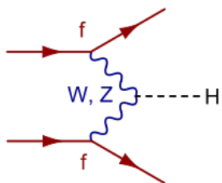
- Coupling measurement is essential to establish the nature of the Higgs
- The exploration of Higgs production on the tH channel is subject relatively new. Measurements of CMS and ATLAS are compatible with SM.
- The tH study explores the relative sign of top-Higgs and W-Higgs.
Small deviations from SM predictions could be associated with physics beyond the standard model (BSM)



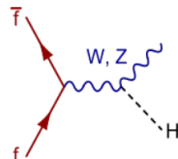
Higgs production mechanisms



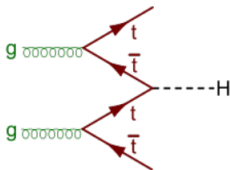
ggF



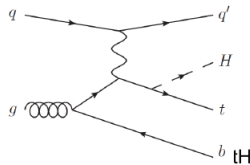
VBF



VH



ttH



tH production mechanisms

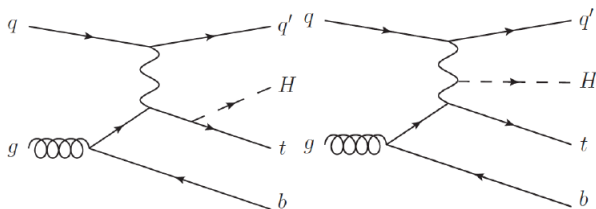


Figure: tH mechanism. Left. Higgs radiated from a top quark. Right. Higgs radiated from a W boson

Cross section

- Classical definition: When two particles interact, cross section is the area transverse to their relative motion within which they must meet in order to scatter from each other.
- Quantum definition: Cross section describes the likelihood of two particles interacting under certain conditions[1]
- Experimentally

$$d\sigma = \frac{\text{number of particles scattered into solid angle } \Delta\Omega/s}{(\text{number of particles incident}/s)(\text{scattering centers/area})} \quad (1)$$



Cross section

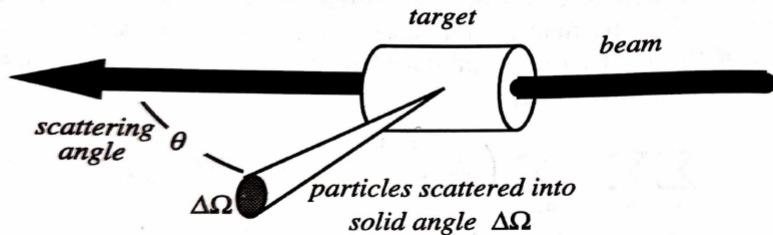


Figure: Drawing of an idealized scattering process showing the differential solid angle $\Delta\Omega$ and the scattering angle θ [1]



Cross section

Higgs boson production cross sections in pp collisions for $\sqrt{s} = 13\text{TeV}$ (in pico barn). Integrated luminosity of 35.9 fb^{-1} for Run 2¹

Production mechanism	σ (picobarns pb)	Number of events
ggF	48.93	1756587
VBF	3.78	135702
WH	1.35	48465
ZH	0.88	31592
ttH	0.50	18255
tH (only)	0.015	560.39

¹Data taken from The cern collaborarion "Higgs Physics the HL-LHC and HE-LHC" 2019, CERN-LPCC-2018-04



Cross section

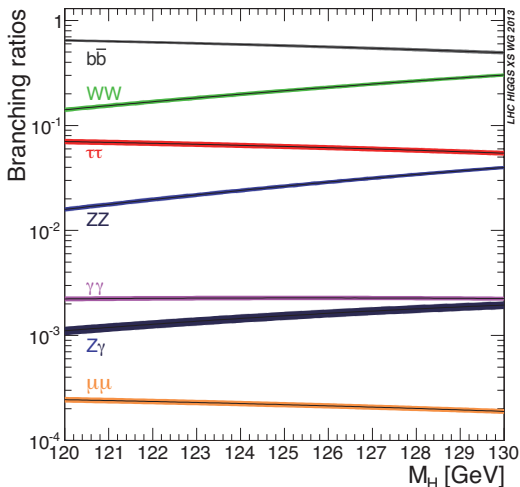


Figure: Standard Model Higgs boson decay branching ratios



Higgs Branching ratios and expected events per channel

SM Higgs boson branching ratios and number of events per decay for tH process $M_H = 125$ GeV

Higgs decay	Branching ratio (BR)
$H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$	5.82×10^{-1}
$H \rightarrow W^+W^-$	2.15×10^{-1}
$H \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$	6.27×10^{-2}
$H \rightarrow ZZ$	2.61×10^{-2}
$H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	2.27×10^{-3}
$H \rightarrow Z\gamma$	1.53×10^{-3}
$H \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$	2.17×10^{-4}



Decay chain

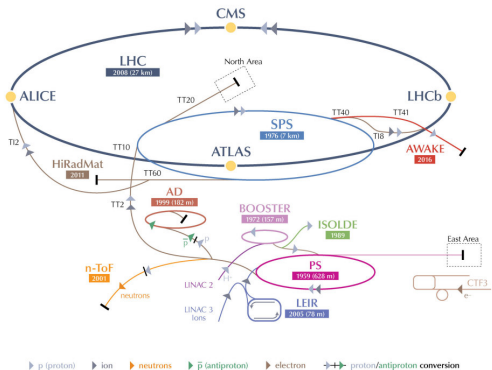
Table of decay chains for tH. Number of total events for tH=560.39.

Decay chain	BR	Events
$th \rightarrow q\bar{q}(q=u,c) b+W^+W^- \rightarrow q \bar{q}+b + l\nu + l\nu$	1.663×10^{-3}	0.9319
$th \rightarrow Wb+W^+W^- \rightarrow \mu^+\nu_\mu+b + l\nu + l\nu$	3.37×10^{-4}	0.899
$tH \rightarrow Wb+ W^+W^- \rightarrow \mu^+\nu_\mu+b+\mu^-\nu_\mu+\mu^+\nu_\mu$	3.235×10^{-4}	0.1888
$tH \rightarrow Wb+ \tau^+\tau^- \rightarrow \mu^+\nu_\mu+b+\mu^+\nu_\mu\nu_\tau+\mu^-\nu_\mu\nu_\tau$	2.540×10^{-4}	0.1423
$tH \rightarrow \tau\nu_\mu b+ W^+W^- \rightarrow \mu^+\nu_\mu\nu_\tau+b+\mu^+\mu^-+\mu^+\mu^-$	2.981×10^{-5}	0.016
$tH \rightarrow Wb+ Z\gamma \rightarrow \mu^+\nu_\mu+b+\mu^-\nu_\mu+\mu^+\nu_\mu+\gamma$	6.902×10^{-6}	0.0038
$tH \rightarrow Wb+ZZ \rightarrow \mu^+\nu_\mu+\mu^+\mu^-+\mu^+\mu^-$	3.962×10^{-6}	0.0022
$tH \rightarrow \tau\nu_\mu b+ ZZ \rightarrow \mu^+\nu_\mu+b+\mu^-\nu_\mu+\mu^+\nu_\mu$	3.650×10^{-7}	0.0002



LHC

CERN's Accelerator Complex



LHC Large Hadron Collider SPS Super Proton Synchrotron PS Proton Synchrotron

AD Antiproton Decelerator CTF3 Clic Test Facility AWS Advanced WAKEfield Experiment ISOLDE Isotope Separator OnLine Device

LEIR Low Energy Ion Ring LINAC LINear ACcelerator n-ToF Neutrons Time Of Flight HiRadMat High-Radiation to Materials

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LHC

Quantity	Number
Circumference	26 659 m
Dipole operating temperature	1.9 K (-271.3°C)
Number of magnets	9593
Number of main dipoles	1232
Number of main quadrupoles	392
Number of RF cavities	8 per beam
Nominal energy, protons	6.5 TeV
Nominal energy, ions	2.56 TeV/u (energy per nucleon)
Nominal energy, protons collisions	13 TeV
No. of bunches per proton beam	2808
No. of protons per bunch (at start)	1.2×10^{11}
Number of turns per second	11245
Number of collisions per second	1 billion

Table. LHC characteristics for run 2.



CMS DETECTOR

Total weight : 14,000 tonnes
Overall diameter : 15.0 m
Overall length : 28.7 m
Magnetic field : 3.8 T

STEEL RETURN YOKE
12,500 tonnes

SILICON TRACKERS
Pixel ($100 \times 150 \mu\text{m}$) $\sim 16\text{m}^2 \sim 66\text{M}$ channels
Microstrips ($80 \times 180 \mu\text{m}$) $\sim 200\text{m}^2 \sim 9.6\text{M}$ channels

SUPERCONDUCTING SOLENOID
Niobium titanium coil carrying $\sim 18,000\text{A}$

MUON CHAMBERS
Barrel: 250 Drift Tube, 480 Resistive Plate Chambers
Endcaps: 468 Cathode Strip, 432 Resistive Plate Chambers

PRESHOWER
Silicon strips $\sim 16\text{m}^2 \sim 137,000$ channels

FORWARD CALORIMETER
Steel + Quartz fibres $\sim 2,000$ Channels

CRYSTAL ELECTROMAGNETIC CALORIMETER (ECAL)
 $\sim 79,000$ scintillating PbWO_4 crystals

HADRON CALORIMETER (HCAL)
Brass + Plastic scintillator $\sim 7,000$ channels

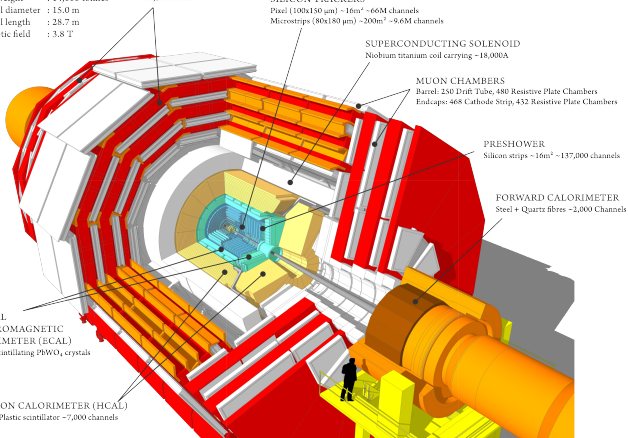


Figure: Compact muon solenoid

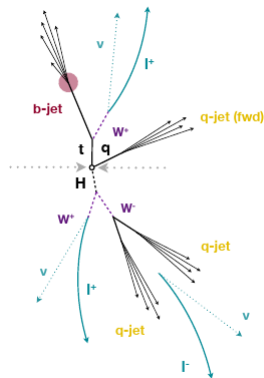
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Topology of events tH

The characteristics of the signal tHq:

- A Higgs Bosons decays two W boson $H \rightarrow WW$ Same-sign dilepton (2lss): one W from Higgs decays hadronically, others decay Leptonically.
- W Boson decays to a lepton and a neutrino $W \rightarrow l\nu$
- W bosons decay leptonically with equal electrical charge, resulting in a signature of two same-sign leptons with two light-quark jets.[2]



Event selection

- The events are selected those that contain two leptons ($\mu\mu$) with the same sign.
- Using a boosted decision tree for discriminate the data.
- The main analysis strategy is to obtain a selection of events compatible with certain characteristics of the signal at pre-selection level
- Extract the signal contribution in a second analysis step, using multivariate discriminators against the main backgrounds of ttW^\pm / ttZ and non prompt leptons from $tt[2]$.

It is required:

- Transverse moment $p_t > 25$ and 15 GeV, for the muons.
- A front jet with $p_t > 40$ GeV, $|\eta| > 2.4$
- One or more b-jets with $(|\eta| < 2.4)(1)$



Previous results

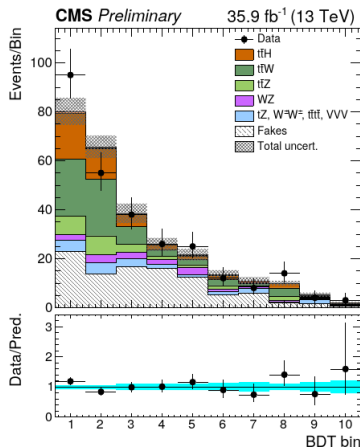
- Direct searches for tHq production using all relevant Higgs decay modes have previously been carried out by CMS in the 8 TeV dataset and in the 2015 13 TeV dataset using the $H \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ channel .
- In the full 2016 13 TeV dataset, a search for ttH production in multilepton final states recently produced first evidence for associated production of top quarks and Higgs bosons²

²Taken from Search for production of a Higgs boson and a single top quark in multilepton final states in proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV CMS PAS
HIG-17-005



Previous results

Process	$\mu\mu$
$t\bar{t}W^\pm$	68.03 ± 0.61
$t\bar{t}Z/t\bar{t}\gamma$	25.89 ± 1.12
WZ	15.07 ± 1.19
ZZ	1.16 ± 0.29
$W^\pm W^\pm q\bar{q}$	3.96 ± 0.52
$W^\pm W^\pm (\text{DPS})$	2.48 ± 0.42
VVV	2.99 ± 0.34
$tttt$	2.32 ± 0.45
tZq	5.77 ± 2.24
tZW	2.13 ± 0.13
γ conversions	–
Non-prompt	80.94 ± 2.02
Charge flips	–
Total Background	210.74 ± 3.61
$t\bar{t}H$	24.18 ± 0.48
tHq (SM)	1.43 ± 0.04
tHW (SM)	0.71 ± 0.03
Total SM	237.06 ± 3.64
tHq ($\kappa_V = 1 = -\kappa_t$)	18.48 ± 0.22
tHW ($\kappa_V = 1 = -\kappa_t$)	7.72 ± 0.17
Data	280



Post-fit categorized BDT classifier outputs as used in the maximum likelihood fit for the $\mu\mu$ channel for 35 fb^{-1} . In the box below each distribution, the ratio of the observed and predicted event yields is shown.



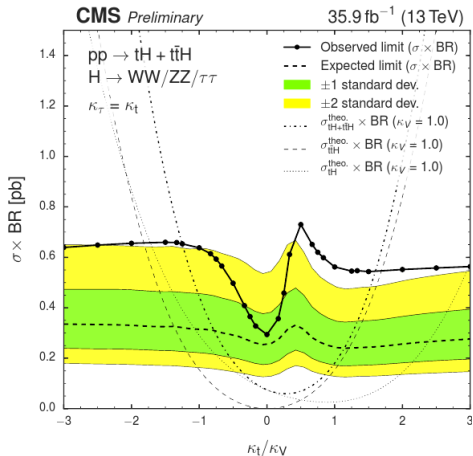


Figure: Observed and expected 95% C.L. upper limit on the tH + t \bar tH cross section times H → WW + $\tau\tau$ + ZZ branching fraction for different 20 values of the coupling ratio κ_t/κ_V . The expected limit is derived from a background-only MC dataset.



Signal and background

Signal: Object of study tH as signal component Background components

- WZ
- ttZ
- ttH
- tV,VVV,WW,tttt
- Non prompt leptons are included

Include ttH to multilepton as signal component (σ SM 500 fb) (Previous result). Use lepton MVA developed for ttH analysis for optimal selection of prompt leptons and suppression of non-prompt leptons.



Boosted decision tree (BDT)

A decision tree takes a set of input features and splits input data recursively based on those features. Boosting is a method of combining many weak learners (trees) into a strong classifier.

Pros:

- Fast
- Easy to tune
- Not sensitive to scale (The features can be a mix of categorical and continuous data)
- Good performance

Cons:

- Sensitive to overfitting and noise



Boosted decision tree (BDT)

Signal discrimination using BDT Two separate BDT trainings using MC samples for signal and backgrounds:

- 1 Signal is only tHq with $\kappa_t = -1.0$, $\kappa_\nu = 1.0$.
- 2 Against $t\bar{t}$: non-prompt lepton type background.
- 3 Against combined $t\bar{t}Z$ and $t\bar{t}W$: prompt lepton type background.



BDT Variables

- Trailing lepton p_t
- Total charge of tight leptons
- $\min \Delta R$ (lepton pairs)
- $\Delta\phi$ between highest p_t lepton pair
- Number of jets with $|\eta| < 2.4$
- Number of non b-tagged jets with $|\eta| > 1.0$
- Maximum $|\eta|$ for jets
- $\Delta\eta$ (most forward light jet, closest lepton)
- $\Delta\eta$ (most forward light jet, hardest loosely b-tagged jet)
- $\Delta\eta$ (most forward light jet, 2nd hardest loosely b-tagged jet)



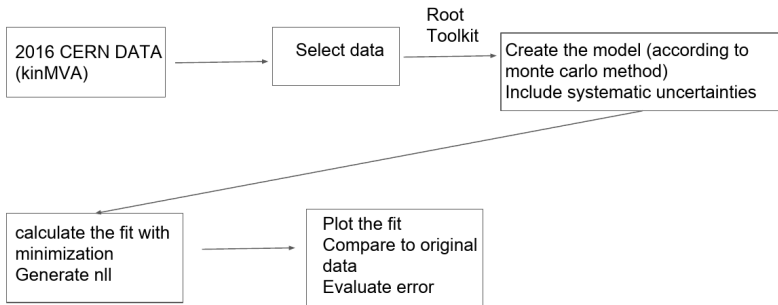
Sources of systematic uncertainty

Luminosity measurement: 2.6%
 Data/MC scale factors for lepton selection (ID, iso) and trigger efficiencies 5% per lepton. Choice of PDF set: 3.7% for tHq 4% for tHW, ttW, ttZ, ttH
 Systematic uncertainties (background normalization)

- ttH 5%
- ttZ 10.7 %
- ttW 12.6 %
- tZ 50%
- WZ 50%
- Non prompt leptons /fakes 40%



Fitting



Results

Table: Prefit and postfit table for each yield.

Process	Number of events prefit	Number of events Postfit
tH	2.13 ± 0.05	10.28 ± 26.17
ttH	24.18 ± 0.10	24.31 ± 0.13
ttW	68.03 ± 8.60	75.57 ± 7.85
ttZ	25.89 ± 2.78	26.43 ± 2.77
tZ	15.04 ± 7.52	16.25 ± 7.53
WZ	15.07 ± 7.53	15.95 ± 7.46
fakes	80.94 ± 32.37	96.80 ± 25.58



Results

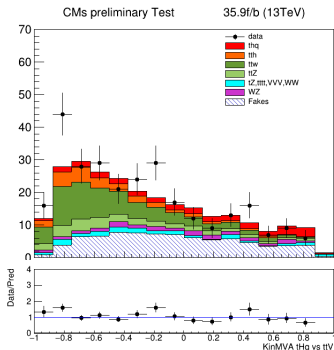
Results

Table: Prefit and postfit table for each yield. $k_t = -1$

Process	Number of events prefit	Number of events Postfit
tH	26.2 ± 0.27	6.49 ± 25.38
ttH	24.18 ± 1.31	24.32 ± 0.14
ttW	68.03 ± 8.60	75.69 ± 8.178
ttZ	25.89 ± 2.78	26.44 ± 2.78
tZ	15.04 ± 7.52	16.40 ± 7.44
WZ	15.07 ± 7.53	16.10 ± 7.53
fakes	80.94 ± 32.37	99.45 ± 25.80

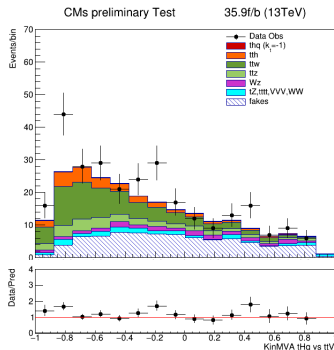


Results



Pre-fit signal and background yields for tH process for $k_t = -1$.

In the box below each distribution, the ratio of the observed and predicted event yields is shown



Post-fit signal and background yields for tH process for $k_t = -1$.

In the box below each distribution, the ratio of the observed and predicted event yields is shown



Results

Likelihood scan

- Likelihood function (often simply the likelihood) is a function of the parameters of a statistical model, given specific observed data.
- Likelihood functions play a key role in frequentist inference, especially methods of estimating a parameter from a set of statistics.
- In informal contexts, "likelihood" is often used as a synonym for probability.



Results

Likelihood scan

The likelihood function is the product of Poisson probabilities for all bins

$$L(\mu, \theta) = \prod_{j=1}^N \frac{(\mu s_j + b_j)^{n_j}}{n_j!} e^{-(\mu s_j + b_j)} \quad (2)$$

- N =number of bins
- μ =parameter of signal
- s =signal
- b =background
- n =number of events



Results

Likelihood scan

To test a hypothesized value of μ we consider the profile likelihood ratio

$$\lambda(\mu) = \frac{L(\mu, \hat{\hat{\theta}})}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta})} \quad (3)$$

Here $\hat{\hat{\theta}}$ in the numerator denotes the value of θ that maximizes L for the specified μ , it is the conditional maximum-likelihood (ML) estimator of $\hat{\theta}$ (and thus is a function of μ). The denominator is the maximized (unconditional) likelihood function, i.e., $\hat{\mu}$ and $\hat{\theta}$ are their ML estimators[3].



Results

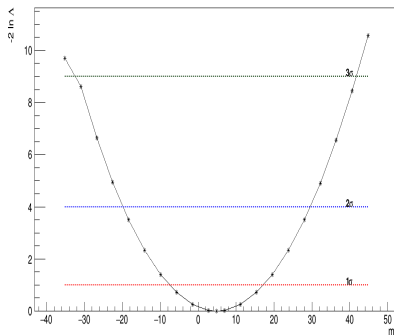
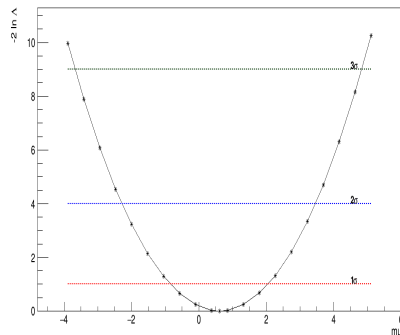
Likelihood scan

The presence of the nuisance parameters broadens the profile likelihood as a function of μ relative to what one would have if their values were fixed. This reflects the loss of information about μ due to the systematic uncertainties[3][4].



Results

Likelihood scan

Likelihood scan KinMVA $k_t=1$ Likelihood scan for $k_t=1$ (SM)Likelihood scan KinMVA $k_t=-1$ Likelihood scan for $k_t=-1$ 

References



Gross F. *Relativistic quantum mechanics and field theory* 1994
Wiley



The CMS collaboration, *Search for production of a Higgs boson and a single top quark in multilepton final states in proton collisions at 13 TeV*, CMS-PAS-HIG-17- 005



Verkerke W *Dealing with systematic uncertainties* 2014. From
https://indico.cern.ch/event/287744/contributions/1641261/attachments/535763/738679/Verkerke_Statistics_3.pdf



Cowan G. , Cranmer K., Gross E. , Vitells O. *Asymptotic formulae for likelihood-based tests of new physics* 2013 , arXiv:1007.1727



Back up



BDT parameters

- Gradient boosted (BDTG)
- No. of trees = 800
- No. of cuts = 50
- Maximum depth = 3
- Found to be most discriminating, minimal overtraining.



List of histograms used in the analysis

Data taken from the file `plots-thq-2lss-kinMVA.root` 2016
CERN

```
thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_tZq  
thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_ttZ  
thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_VVV  
thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_ttW  
thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_data_fakes  
thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_ttH  
thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_tHW_hww  
thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_WWss  
thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_tttt  
thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_WZ  
thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_tHq_hww
```



Backgrounds and signal histograms

tHq: Signal (tH)

- `thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_tHq_hww`
- `thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_tHW_hww`

Backgrounds

`ttW`

- `thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_ttW`

`ttZ`

- `thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_ttZ`

`WZ`

- `thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_WZ`



Backgrounds and signal histograms

Backgrounds

tZ, VVV,tttt,WW:

- thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_tZq
- thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_WWss
- thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_VVV
- thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_tttt

ttH

- thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_ttH

Non prompt leptons (fakes)

- thqMVA_ttv_2lss_40_data_fakes



Sources of systematic uncertainty in HEP (high energy physics)

Detector-simulation related uncertainty

- Calibrations (electron, jet energy scale)
- Efficiencies (particle ID, reconstruction)
- Resolutions (jet energy, muon momentum)

Theoretical uncertainties

- Factorization/Normalization scale of MC generators
- Choice of MC generator (ME and/or PS, e.g. Herwig vs Pythia)

Monte Carlo Statistical uncertainties

- Statistical uncertainty of simulated samples[2]



α values for post fit

Floating Parameter	FinalValue +/- Error
-----	-----
Lumi	1.0000e+00 +/- 1.00e-04
alpha_sample_B_sys	2.0316e-01 +/- 9.90e-01
alpha_sample_F_sys	5.2474e-01 +/- 8.11e-01
alpha_sample_H_sys	1.1984e-01 +/- 9.92e-01
alpha_sample_T_sys	9.1741e-01 +/- 9.44e-01
alpha_sample_W_sys	1.2297e-01 +/- 9.89e-01
alpha_sample_Z_sys	7.3604e-02 +/- 9.76e-01
mu	5.2836e+00 +/- 1.17e+01



α values for post fit thq $k_t=-1$

Floating Parameter	FinalValue +/- Error
-----	-----
Lumi	1.0000e+00 +/- 1.00e-04
alpha_sample_B_sys	2.0279e-01 +/- 9.87e-01
alpha_sample_F_sys	5.2541e-01 +/- 8.02e-01
alpha_sample_H_sys	1.1946e-01 +/- 9.90e-01
alpha_sample_T_sys	9.1778e-01 +/- 9.36e-01
alpha_sample_W_sys	1.2155e-01 +/- 9.73e-01
alpha_sample_Z_sys	7.2960e-02 +/- 9.67e-01
mu	6.1286e-01 +/- 1.39e+00



Statistical test

It is convenient to use the statistic

$$t_{\mu} = -2 \ln \lambda(\mu) \quad (4)$$

as the basis of a statistical test. Higher values of t_{μ} thus correspond to increasing incompatibility between the data and μ . We may define a test of a hypothesized value of μ by using the statistic t_{μ} directly as measure of discrepancy between the data and the hypothesis, with higher values of t_{μ} correspond to increasing disagreement[4]



Statistical test

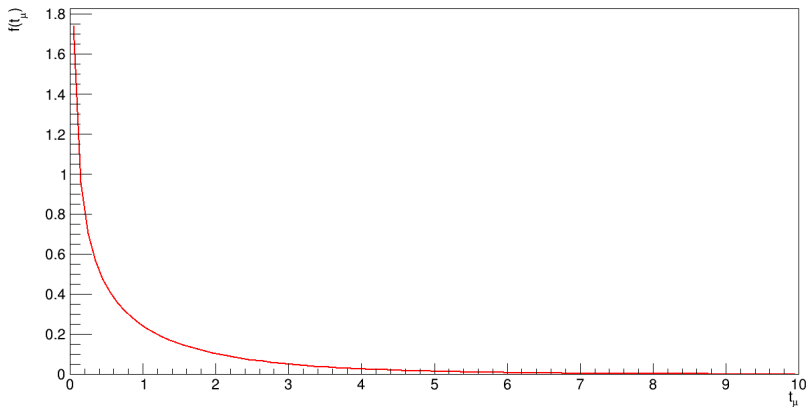


Figure: Statistic test plot $f(t_\mu)$ vs t_μ with $t_\mu = -2 \ln \lambda(\mu)$



P value

To quantify the level of disagreement we compute the P-value

$$P_{\mu} = \int_{t_{\mu}}^{\infty} f(t_{\mu}|\mu) dt_{\mu} \quad (5)$$

where t_{μ} is the value of the statistic t_{μ} observed from the data and $f(t_{\mu}|\mu)$ denotes the PDF (Probability density function) of t_{μ} under the assumption of the signal strength μ [4]



P value

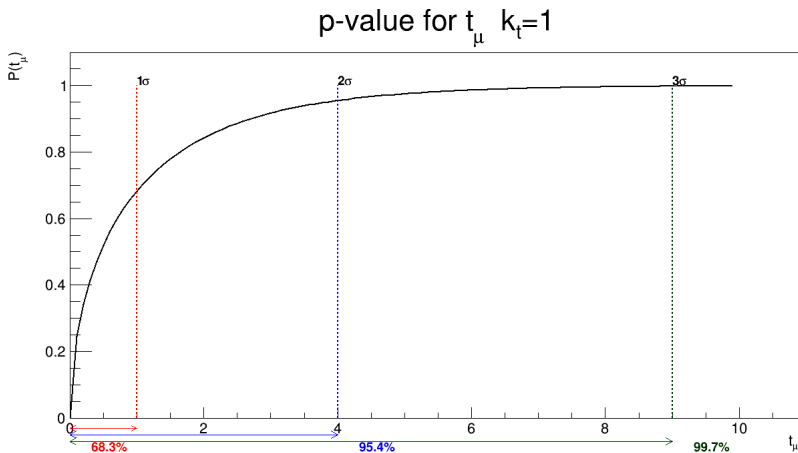


Figure: P_μ vs $f(t_\mu|\mu)$

