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BRUSSEL

¹ **A search for flavour changing neutral currents
2 involving a top quark and a Z boson, using the
3 data collected by the CMS collaboration at a
4 centre of mass of 13 TeV**

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Theoretical basis

1

38 The Standard Model (SM) [1] is a name given in 1970s to a theory describing the fundamental
 39 particles and their interactions. This quantum field theory describes the particles and their
 40 interactions as fields and has successfully incorporated three of the four fundamental forces in
 41 the universe. In [Section 1.1](#), the particle content of the SM is summarised, while [Section 1.2](#)
 42 describes the SM Lagrangian and its symmetries. In [Section 1.3](#), the flavour content of the SM
 43 is highlighted. The successful theory of the SM has some shortcomings which are discussed
 44 in [Section 1.4](#) and lead to searches for a more general theory. One of such a search is using
 45 effective field theory (EFT). In [Section 1.5](#) an EFT model focussing on flavour changing neutral
 46 currents (FCNC) involving a top quark is presented. Its current experimental constraints are
 47 given in [Section 1.6](#).

48 The physics search presented in this thesis relies on statistical tools and interpretations. In
 49 [Section ??](#), the notion of a likelihood is presented as well as maximum likelihood fits. To set
 50 upper limits on a signal process the confidence levels method is used. The background modelling
 51 is checked using goodness-of-fit tests. Furthermore, the search will use multivariate analysis
 52 methods which are also explained.

53 1.1 Elementary particles and forces

54 The interactions in nature can be described by four forces, the strong force, the electromagnetic
 55 (EM) force, the weak force and the gravitational force. These interactions happen via particles
 56 with an integer spin known as bosons. The strong interaction is mediated by eight gluons g ,
 57 while the electromagnetic force is mediated by photons γ , and the weak force by Z and W^\pm
 58 bosons. In [Table 1.1](#), the forces and their characteristics are shown. The gravitational force is
 59 the only force not included in the SM and can be neglected for energies lower than the Planck
 60 scale ($1.22 \cdot 10^{19}$ GeV).

61 The fermions are the particles that make up the visible matter in the universe. They carry half
 62 integer spin and can be subdivided into leptons and quarks, where leptons don't interact strongly.
 63 Each fermion has a corresponding anti-fermion which has the same mass and is oppositely
 64 charged. The electron e^- is the first elementary particle discovered [2] and belongs to the first
 65 generation of leptons together with electron neutrino ν_e . The second generation is made up

Table 1.1: The four forces of nature and their characteristics.

	Range	Mediator
Strong force	$10^e - 15$ m	8 gluons
Electromagnetic force	∞	photon
Weak force	10^{-18} m	W^\pm , Z bosons
Gravitational force	∞	unknown

of the muon μ^- and the muon neutrino ν_μ , whereas the third generation consists of the tau τ and the tau neutrino ν_τ . The neutrino's are neutral particles, while the other leptons have charge $\pm q_e$ where q_e represents the elementary charge of $1.602 \cdot 10^{-19}$ C. The masses of the charged leptons differ by four orders of magnitude between the first and third generations. In the SM the neutrino's are assumed to be massless, while it is experimentally established that neutrino do have a tiny non-zero mass. In [Table 1.2](#), the leptons and their properties in the SM are summarised.

Table 1.2: The properties of the leptons in the three generations of the SM [3], where q_e represents the elementary charge.

Generation	Particle	Mass	Charge
First	e^-	0.511 MeV	$-q_e$
	ν_e	≈ 0	0
Second	μ^-	106 MeV	$-q_e$
	ν_μ	≈ 0	0
Third	τ	1 777 MeV	$-q_e$
	ν_τ	≈ 0	0

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The quarks can also be divided into three generations. Unlike the leptons, they carry colour charge and can interact via the strong interaction. The top quark, discovered in 1995 at the Tevatron [4, 5] is the heaviest SM particle with a mass close to 173.1 ± 0.6 GeV¹ [3]. The quarks and their properties are summarized in [Table 1.3](#). In nature, only colour neutral objects can exist. This has as consequence that quarks are bound through gluons into mesons (quark+anti-quark) and baryons (three quarks). These mesons and baryons are mostly short-lived and unstable particle that rapidly decay through W^\pm and Z bosons, associated with a fermion. The only known stable baryon is the proton, made up of two up quarks and one down quark.

The scalar boson, commonly known as the Higgs boson, is the last piece of the SM and is discovered in 2012 [6, 7]. It is responsible for the masses of the W^\pm and Z boson, and that of the fermions.

¹In this thesis all masses and energies are expressed in natural units, where the speed of light and \hbar are taken to be equal to one.

Table 1.3: The properties of the quarks in the three generations of the SM [3], where q_e represents the elementary charge.

	Generation	Particle	Mass	Charge
First	up u	$2.2^{+0.6}_{-0.4}$ MeV	$\frac{2}{3} q_e$	
	down d	$4.7^{+0.5}_{-0.4}$ MeV	$\frac{-1}{3} q_e$	
Second	charm c	1.28 ± 0.03 GeV	$\frac{2}{3} q_e$	
	strange s	96^{+8}_{-4} MeV	$\frac{-1}{3} q_e$	
Third	top t	173.1 ± 0.6 GeV	$\frac{2}{3} q_e$	
	bottom b	$4.18^{+0.04}_{-0.03}$ GeV	$\frac{-1}{3} q_e$	

84 1.2 Standard Model Lagrangian

85 The SM is a quantum field theory and thus describes the dynamics and kinematics of particles
 86 and forces by a Lagrangian \mathcal{L} . The theory is based on the $SU_C(3) \times SU_L(2) \times U_Y(1)$ gauge
 87 symmetry, where $SU_L(2) \times U_Y(1)$ describes the electroweak interaction and $SU_C(3)$ the strong
 88 coupling. The indices refer to colour C, the left chiral nature of the $SU_L(2)$ coupling L, and the
 89 weak hypercharge Y. Its Lagrangian is constructed such that contains symmetries representing
 90 physics conservation laws such as conservation of energy, momentum and angular momentum.
 91 By imposing gauge invariance the symmetries under local group transformations are sustained.

The $U_Y(1)$ group has one generator Y with an associated gauge field B_μ . The three gauge fields W_μ^1 , W_μ^2 , and W_μ^3 , are associated to $SU_L(2)$ with three generators that can be written as half of the Pauli matrices:

$$T_1 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, T_2 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } T_3 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.1)$$

The generators T^a satisfy the Lie algebra:

$$[T^a, T^b] = i\epsilon^{abc} T_c \text{ and } [T^a, Y] = 0, \quad (1.2)$$

92 where ϵ^{abc} is an antisymmetric tensor. The gauge fields of $SU_L(2)$ only couple to left-handed
 93 fermions as required by the observed parity violating nature of the weak force. The $SU_C(3)$
 94 group represents quantum chromodynamics (QCD). It has eight generators corresponding to
 95 eight gluon fields $G_\mu^{1\dots 8}$. Unlike $SU_L(2) \times U_Y(1)$, $SU_C(3)$ is not chiral.

Under $SU_C(3)$ quarks are colour triplets while leptons are colour singlets. This implies that the quarks carry a colour index ranging between one and three, whereas leptons do not take part in strong interactions. Based on the chirality, the quarks and leptons are organized in doublets or singlets. Each generation i of fermions consists of left-handed doublets and right-handed singlets:

$$l_L = \begin{pmatrix} e^-_L \\ \nu_L \end{pmatrix}, e^-_R, q_L = \begin{pmatrix} u_L \\ d_L \end{pmatrix}, u_R, \text{ and } d_R \quad (1.3)$$

NOTE:
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The SM Lagrangian can be decomposed as a sum of four terms

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}} + \mathcal{L}_f + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Yuk}} + \mathcal{L}_\phi, \quad (1.4)$$

that are related to the gauge, fermion, Yukawa and scalar sectors. The gauge Lagrangian regroups the gauge fields of all three symmetry groups, and the fermionic part consists of kinetic energy terms for quarks and leptons. The interaction between fermions and the scalar doublet ϕ gives rise to fermion masses and is described by the Yukawa Lagrangian. The scalar part of the Lagrangian is composed of a kinematic and potential component related to the scalar boson.

For the electroweak theory, two coupling constants are introduced, namely g' for $U_Y(1)$ and g for $SU_L(2)$. The physically observable gauge bosons of this theory are the photon field A_μ , the Z boson field Z_μ^0 , and the W field W_μ^\pm . These are a superposition of the four gauge fields of $SU_L(2) \times U_Y(1)$:

$$A_\mu = \sin\theta_W W_\mu^1 + \cos\theta_W B_\mu, \quad Z_\mu^0 = \cos\theta_W W_\mu^3 - \sin\theta_W B_\mu, \quad \text{and} \quad W_\mu^\pm = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} (W_\mu^1 \mp W_\mu^2), \quad (1.5)$$

where θ_W represents the weak mixing angle defined as $\tan\theta_W = \frac{g'}{g}$.

The coupling constant representing the strength of the QCD interactions is denoted as g_s . In QCD there is asymptotic freedom whereby the strong coupling constant becomes weaker as the energy with which the interaction between strongly interacting particles is probed increases, and stronger as the distance between the particles increases. A consequence of this is known as colour confinement. The quarks and gluons can not exist on their own and are not observed individually. They are bound in colour neutral states called hadrons, this process is known as hadronisation.

Electroweak symmetry breaking

In $\mathcal{L}_{\text{gauge}}$ and \mathcal{L}_f are no mass terms for fermions present because only singlets under $SU_C(3) \times SU_L(2) \times U_Y(1)$ can acquire a mass with an interaction of the type $m^2 \phi^\dagger \phi$ without breaking the gauge invariance. In order to accommodate mass terms for fermions and gauge fields, electroweak symmetry breaking, leading to \mathcal{L}_ϕ is introduced.

The scalar doublet is introduced in the SM as

$$\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi_1 + i\varphi_2 \\ \varphi_3 + i\varphi_4 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.6)$$

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constants
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Its field potential is of the form

$$V(\phi) = \mu^2 \phi^\dagger \phi + \lambda (\phi^\dagger \phi)^2, \quad (1.7)$$

with $\mu^2 < 0$ and λ a positive integer. This choice of parameters gives the potential a "Mexican hat" shape. It has an infinite set of minima (ground states) and by expanding the field around an arbitrary choice of ground state, the electroweak symmetry is broken (EW):

$$\phi = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} + \hat{\phi}, \quad (1.8)$$

where v is the vacuum expectation value (vev), measured to be around 245 GeV and corresponds to $\sqrt{\frac{-\mu}{\lambda}}$. The scalar doublet's four degrees of freedom is reduced to three degrees of freedom that couple to the gauge fields and mix with the W^+ , W^- and Z bosons. The remaining fourth degree of freedom has given rise to a physically observable particle, called the Brout-Englert-Higgs (BEH) boson. This spontaneous symmetry breaking leaves the gauge invariance intact and gives masses to the W^\pm and Z bosons as:

$$m_W = \frac{1}{2}v|g| \quad \text{and} \quad m_Z = \frac{1}{2}v\sqrt{g'^2 + g^2}. \quad (1.9)$$

- ¹¹⁴ The Brout-Englert-Higgs field couples universally fermions with a strength proportional to their masses, and to gauge bosons with a strength proportional to the square of their masses.

¹¹⁶ 1.3 Flavour changing currents in the SM

Flavour changing charged currents are introduced in 1963 by Nicola Cabibbo [8]. Via interaction with a W boson the flavour of the quarks is changed. At the time of the postulation, only up, down and strange quarks were known and the charged weak current was described as a coupling between the up quark and d_{weak} , where d_{weak} is a linear combination of the down and strange quarks, $d_{\text{weak}} = \cos\theta_c d + \sin\theta_c s$. This linear combination is a direct consequence of the chosen rotation

$$\begin{pmatrix} d_{\text{weak}} \\ s_{\text{weak}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta_c & \sin\theta_c \\ -\sin\theta_c & \cos\theta_c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{R} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \end{pmatrix}, \quad (1.10)$$

where the rotation angle θ_c is known as the Cabibbo angle. This provides a definition for the charged weak current between u and d quarks,

$$J_\mu = \bar{u} \gamma_\mu (1 + \gamma_5) d_{\text{weak}}. \quad (1.11)$$

A consequence of Cabibbo's approach is that the s_{weak} is left uncoupled, leading to Glashow, Iliopoulos and Maiani (GIM) [9–11] to require the existence of a fourth quark with charge $\frac{2}{3}$. This quark, known as the charm quark, couples to s_{weak} and a new definition of the charged weak current is modified to

$$J_\mu = (u \ c) \gamma_\mu (1 + \gamma_5) \mathcal{R} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \end{pmatrix} = \bar{U} \gamma_\mu (1 + \gamma_5) \mathcal{R} D. \quad (1.12)$$

The neutral weak current is defined as

$$J_3 = \bar{U} \gamma_\mu (1 + \gamma_5) [\mathcal{R}, \mathcal{R}^\dagger] D, \quad (1.13)$$

- ¹¹⁷ and is diagonal in flavour space. This has as consequence that no flavour changing neutral currents occur at tree-level Feynmann diagrams².

²Feynmann diagrams are physical representation of interaction between particles. They are based on Feynmann rules [1].

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feynmann
diagrams?

Kobayashi and Maskawa generalised the Cabibbo rotation matrix to accommodate for a third generation of quarks. The result is a 3×3 unitary matrix known as the CKM matrix, responsible for the mixing of weak interaction states of down-type quarks:

$$\begin{pmatrix} d_{\text{weak}} \\ s_{\text{weak}} \\ b_{\text{weak}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \mathcal{V}_{\text{CKM}} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.14)$$

The unitarity of the matrix ($\mathcal{V}_{\text{CKM}}^\dagger \mathcal{V}_{\text{CKM}} = \mathbb{1}$). A general 3×3 unitary matrix depends on three real angles and six phases. For the CKM matrix, the freedom to redefine the phases of the quark eigenstates can remove five of the phases, leaving a single physical phase known as the Kobayashi-Maskawa phase. This phase is responsible for the charge parity violation in the SM [12]. Each element V_{ij} of \mathcal{V}_{CKM} represents the transition probability of a quark i going to a quark j , and is experimentally determined to be [3]

$$\mathcal{V}_{\text{CKM}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.97425 \pm 0.00022 & 0.2253 \pm 0.0008 & (4.13 \pm 0.49)10^{-3} \\ 0.225 \pm 0.008 & 0.986 \pm 0.016 & (41.1 \pm 1.3)10^{-3} \\ (8.4 \pm 0.6)10^{-3} & (40.0 \pm 2.7)10^{-3} & 1.021 \pm 0.032 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1.15)$$

From Equation 1.15 follows that top quarks predominantly decay via charged weak currents to bottom quarks, with a probability consistently with unity. In the SM, FCNC can only occur via higher loop Feynmann diagrams which are highly suppressed. The expected transition probabilities for a top quark decaying via a FCNC interaction in the SM are given in Table 1.4, where it is clear that the FCNC sector of the SM is still beyond the reach of the sensitivity of current experiments.

Table 1.4: The predicted branching ratios \mathcal{B} for FCNC interactions involving the top quark in the SM [13]

Process	\mathcal{B} in the SM	Process	\mathcal{B} in the SM
$t \rightarrow uZ$	$8 \cdot 10^{-17}$	$t \rightarrow cZ$	$1 \cdot 10^{-14}$
$t \rightarrow u\gamma$	$4 \cdot 10^{-16}$	$t \rightarrow c\gamma$	$5 \cdot 10^{-14}$
$t \rightarrow ug$	$4 \cdot 10^{-14}$	$t \rightarrow cg$	$5 \cdot 10^{-12}$
$t \rightarrow uH$	$2 \cdot 10^{-17}$	$t \rightarrow cH$	$3 \cdot 10^{-15}$

124

1.4 Motivations for new physics

Many high energy experiments confirm the success of the SM. In particular the scalar boson, the cornerstone of the SM, has consecrated the theory. Unfortunately there are also strong indications that the SM ought to be a lower energy expression of a more global theory. The existence of physics beyond the SM(BSM) [14] is strongly motivated. These motivations are based on direct evidence from observation such as the existence of neutrino masses, the existence of dark matter and dark energy, or the matter-antimatter asymmetry, and also from theoretical problems such as the hierarchy problem, the coupling unification or the large numbers of free parameters in the SM.

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134 In the SM, the neutrino is assumed to be massless, whilst experiments with solar, atmospheric,
 135 reactor and accelerator neutrinos have established that neutrinos can oscillate and change
 136 flavour during flight [15, 16]. These oscillations are only possible when neutrino's have masses.
 137 The flavour neutrinos (ν_e , ν_μ , ν_τ) are then linear expressions of the fields of at least three mass
 138 eigenstate neutrinos ν_1 , ν_2 , and ν_3 .

139 The ordinary or baryonic matter described by the SM describes only 5% of the mass (energy)
 140 content of the universe. Astrophysical evidence indicated that dark matter is contributing
 141 to approximately 27%, and dark energy to 68% of the content of the universe. From the
 142 measurements of the temperature and polarizations anisotropies of the cosmic microwave
 143 background by the Planck experiment [17], the density of cold non baryonic matter is determined.
 144 Cold dark matter is assumed to be only sensitive to the weak and gravitational force, leading
 145 to only one possible SM candidate: the neutrino. However, these are too light to account for
 146 the vast amount of dark matter and other models are needed. Dark energy is assumed to be
 147 responsible for the acceleration in the expansion of the universe [18].

148 At the big bang matter and antimatter is assumed to be produced in equal quantities. However,
 149 it is clear that we are surrounded by matter. So where did all the antimatter go? In 1967,
 150 Sakharov identified three mechanisms that are necessary to obtain a global matter antimatter
 151 asymmetry [19]. These mechanisms are baryon and lepton number violation, at a given moment
 152 in time there was a thermal imbalance for the interactions in the universe, and there is charge
 153 C and charge parity CP violation³. The large numbers of free parameters in the SM are taken
 154 as nine fermion masses, three CKM mixing angles and one CP violating phase, one EM coupling
 155 constant g' , one weak coupling constant g , one strong coupling constant g_s , one QCD vacuum
 156 angle, one vacuum expectation value, and one mass of the scalar boson. This large number of
 157 free parameters lead to the expectation of a more elegant, general theory beyond the SM.

158 The hierarchy problem [20] is related to the huge difference in energy between the weak
 159 scale and the Planck scale. The vev of the Brout-Englert-Higgs field determines the weak scale
 160 that is approximately 246 GeV. The radiative corrections to the scalar boson squared mass m_H^2 ,
 161 coming from its self couplings and couplings to fermions and gauge bosons, are quadratically
 162 proportional to the ultraviolet momentum cut-off Λ_{UV} . This cut-off is at least equal to the energy
 163 to which the SM is valid without the need of new physics. The SM is valid up to the Planck mass
 164 making the correction to m_H^2 about thirty orders of magnitude larger than m_H^2 . This implies that
 165 an extraordinary cancellation of terms should happen. This is also known as the naturalness
 166 problem of the H boson mass.

The correction to the squared mass of the scalar boson coming from a fermion f , coupling to
 the scalar field ϕ with a coupling λ_f is given by

$$\Delta m_H^2 = -\frac{|\lambda_f|^2}{8\pi^2} \Lambda_{UV}^2, \quad (1.16)$$

³The rate of a process $i \rightarrow f$ can be different from the CP-conjugate process: $\tilde{i} \rightarrow \tilde{f}$. The SM includes sources of CP-violation through the residual phase of the CKM matrix. However, these could not account for the magnitude of the asymmetry observed.

while the correction to the mass from a scalar particle S with a mass m_S , coupling to the scalar field with a Lagrangian term $-\lambda_{\text{mathrm}{S}}|\phi|^2|S|^2$ is

$$\Delta m_H^2 = -\frac{|\lambda_S|^2}{16\pi^2} \left(\Lambda_{\text{UV}}^2 - 2m_S^2 \ln\left(\frac{\Lambda_{\text{UV}}}{m_S}\right) + \dots \right). \quad (1.17)$$

As one can see the correction term to m_H^2 is much larger than m_H^2 itself. By introducing BSM physic models that introduce new scalar particles at TeV scale that couple to the scalar boson can cancels the Λ_{UV}^2 divergence and avoid this fine-tuning.

Also the large mass differences between the fermions related to the Yukawa couplings can go up to six order of magnitude in the case of the electron and the top quark and constitute the fermion mass hierarchy problem.

The choice of the $SU_C(3) \times SU_L(2) \times U_Y(1)$ symmetry group itself as well as the separate treatment of the three forces included in the SM raises concern. The intensity of the forces show a large disparity around the electroweak scale, but have comparable strengths at higher energies. The electromagnetic and weak forces are unified in a electroweak interaction, but the strong coupling constant does not encounter the other coupling constants at high energies. In order to reach a grand unification, the running of couplings can be modified by the addition of new particles in BSM models.

1.5 An effective approach beyond the SM: FCNC involving a top quark

The closeness of the top mass to the electroweak scale led physicist to believe that it is a sensitive probe for new physics. Its property study is therefore an important topic of the experimental program at the LHC. Several extensions of the SM enhance the FCNC branching ratios and can be probed at the LHC [13], from which some of them are shown in Table 1.5. Previous searches have been performed at the Fermilab Tevatron by the CDF [21] and D0 [22] collaborations, and at the LHC by the ATLAS [23–26] and CMS [27–31] collaborations.

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Table 1.5: The predicted branching ratios \mathcal{B} for FCNC interactions involving the top quark in some BSM models [13]: quark singlet (QS), generic two Higgs doublet model (2HDM) and the minimal super symmetric extensions to the SM (MSSM);

Process	QS	2HDM	MSSM	Process	QS	2HDM	MSSM
$t \rightarrow uZ$	$\leq 1.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$	—	$\leq 2 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$t \rightarrow cZ$	$\leq 1.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$\leq 10^{-7}$	$\leq 2 \cdot 10^{-6}$
$t \rightarrow u\gamma$	$\leq 7.5 \cdot 10^{-9}$	—	$\leq 2 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$t \rightarrow c\gamma$	$\leq 7.5 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$\leq 10^{-6}$	$\leq 2 \cdot 10^{-6}$
$t \rightarrow ug$	$\leq 1.5 \cdot 10^{-7}$	—	$\leq 8 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$t \rightarrow cg$	$\leq 1.5 \cdot 10^{-7}$	$\leq 10^{-4}$	$\leq 8 \cdot 10^{-5}$
$t \rightarrow uH$	$\leq 4.1 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$\leq 5.5 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$\leq 10^{-5}$	$t \rightarrow cH$	$\leq 4.1 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$\leq 10^{-3}$	$\leq 10^{-5}$

187

The impact of BSM models can written in a model independent way by means of an effective field theory valid up to an energy scale Λ . The leading effects are parametrized by a set of

190 fully gauge symmetric dimension-6 operators that are added to the SM Lagrangian and can be
 191 reduced to a minimal set of operators as discussed in [32, 33]. The full Lagrangian, neglecting
 192 neutrino physics, in the fully gauge symmetric case is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM+EFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_i \frac{\bar{c}_i}{\Lambda^2} \mathcal{O}_i + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\Lambda^3}\right), \quad (1.18)$$

where the Wilson coefficients \bar{c}_i depend on the considered theory and on the way that new physics couples to the SM particles. Considering that Λ is large, contributions suppressed by powers of Λ greater than two are neglected. Moreover, all four fermion operators are omitted for the rest of this thesis. After electroweak symmetry breaking the operators induce [13, 34] both corrections to the SM couplings and new interactions at tree level such as FCNC interactions. The FCNC interactions of the top quark that are not present in the SM are given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}}^t = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \sum_{q=u,c} \left[g' \frac{\kappa_{t\gamma q}}{\Lambda} A_{\mu\nu} \bar{t} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (f_{\gamma q}^L P_L + f_{\gamma q}^R P_R) q \right. \quad (1.19)$$

$$+ \frac{g}{2\cos\theta_W} \frac{\kappa_{tZq}}{\Lambda} Z_{\mu\nu} \bar{t} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (f_{Zq}^L P_L + f_{Zq}^R P_R) q \quad (1.20)$$

$$+ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{4\cos\theta_W} \zeta_{tZq} \bar{t} \gamma^\mu (\tilde{f}_q^L P_L + \tilde{f}_q^R P_R) q Z_\mu \quad (1.21)$$

$$+ g_S \frac{\kappa_{gqt}}{\Lambda} Z_{\mu\nu} \bar{t} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (f_{gq}^L P_L + f_{gq}^R P_R) q G_\mu^a \quad (1.22)$$

$$+ \eta_{Hqt} \bar{t} (\hat{f}_q^L P_L + \hat{f}_q^R P_R) q H + \text{h.c.} \Big], \quad (1.23)$$

where the value of the FCNC couplings at scale Λ are represented by $\kappa_{tZq}, \kappa_{gqt}, \kappa_{t\gamma q}, \zeta_{tZq}$, and η_{Hqt} . These are assumed to be real and positive, with the unit of GeV^{-1} for κ_{txq}/Λ and no unit for ζ_{xqt} and η_{xqt} . In the equation $\sigma^{\mu\nu}$ equals to $\frac{i}{2} [\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu]$, and the left- and right-handed chirality projector operators are denoted by P_L and P_R . The electromagnetic coupling constant is denoted by g' , the strong interaction coupling is denoted as g_s , while the electroweak interaction is parametrised by the coupling constant g and the electroweak mixing angle θ_W . The complex chiral parameters are normalized according to $|f_{xq}^L|^2 + |f_{xq}^R|^2 = 1$, $|\tilde{f}_q^L|^2 + |\tilde{f}_q^R|^2 = 1$, and $|\hat{f}_q^L|^2 + |\hat{f}_q^R|^2 = 1$. In the expression for $\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}}^t$, the unitary gauge is adopted on the scalar field is expanded around its vacuum expectation value with H being the SM scalar boson, and the field strength tensors of the photon A_μ , the gluon field $G_\mu^{1..8}$, and the Z boson Z_μ^0 are defined as

$$A_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu, Z_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu Z_\nu - \partial_\nu Z_\mu, \text{ and } G_{\mu\nu} = \partial_\mu G_\nu^a - \partial_\nu G_\mu^a + g_S f_{bc}^a G_\mu^b G_\nu^c. \quad (1.24)$$

193 Denoting the structure constant of the $SU_C(3)$ group as f_{bc}^a . Note that there are two coupling
 194 constants arising in $\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}}^t$, which is a residue of electroweak symmetry breaking. The massive Z
 195 boson will appear in both the Z_μ^0 field as well as the covariant derivative, leading to an extra
 196 Z-vertex.

197 1.6 Experimental constraints on top-FCNC

Experiments commonly put limits on the branching ratio's which allow an easier interpretation across different EFT models as

$$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow qX) = \frac{\delta_{txq}^2 \Gamma_{t \rightarrow qX}}{\Gamma_t}, \quad (1.25)$$

198 where $\Gamma_{t \rightarrow qX}$ represents the FCNC decay width⁴ for a coupling strength $\delta_{txq}^2 = 1$, and Γ_t the full
199 decay width of the top quark. In the SM, supposing a top quark mass of 172.5 GeV, the full
200 width becomes $\Gamma_t^{\text{SM}} = 1.32$ GeV [35].

201 Searches for top-FCNC usually adopt a search strategy depending on the experimental set-up
202 and the FCNC interaction of interest, looking either for FCNC interactions in the production of
203 a single top quark or in its decay for top pair interactions. In Figure 1.1, these two cases are
204 shown for the tZq vertex.

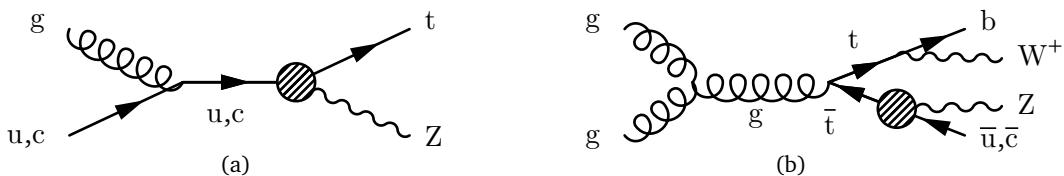


Figure 1.1: Feynman diagrams for the tZq FCNC interaction, where the FCNC interaction is indicated with the shaded dot. (a) Single top production through an FCNC interaction. (b) Top pair production with an FCNC induced decay.

206 The observation of top-FCNC interactions has yet to come and experiments have so far only
207 been able to put upper bounds on the branching ratios. An overview of the best current limits is
given in Table 1.6. In Figure 1.2 a comparison is shown between the current best limits set by
ATLAS and CMS with respect to several BSM model benchmark predictions. From there one can
see that FCNC searches involving a Z or H boson are close to excluding or confirming several
BSM theories.

NOTE: 208
Check at-
las result 209
for tZq from 210
top2017 211
proceedings
when they
appear

⁴The decay width of a certain process represents the probability per unit time that a particle will decay. The total decay width, defined as all possible decay widths of a particle, is inversely proportional to its lifetime.

Table 1.6: Overview of the most stringent observed and expected experimental limits on top-FCNC branching ratios \mathcal{B} at 95% confidence level.

Process	Search mode	Observed \mathcal{B}	Expected \mathcal{B}	Experiment	
$t \rightarrow uZ$	top pair decay and single top production	$2.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$2.7 \cdot 10^{-4}$	CMS	[27]
$t \rightarrow u\gamma$	single top production	$1.3 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$1.9 \cdot 10^{-4}$	CMS	[29]
$t \rightarrow ug$	single top production	$4.0 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$3.5 \cdot 10^{-5}$	ATLAS	[24]
$t \rightarrow uH$	top pair decay	$2.4 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-3}$	ATLAS	[26]
$t \rightarrow cZ$	top pair decay and single top production	$4.9 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$12 \cdot 10^{-4}$	CMS	[27]
$t \rightarrow c\gamma$	single top production	$2.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.7 \cdot 10^{-3}$	CMS	[29]
$t \rightarrow cg$	single top production	$2.0 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$1.8 \cdot 10^{-4}$	ATLAS	[24]
$t \rightarrow cH$	top pair decay	$2.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.6 \cdot 10^{-3}$	CMS	[26]

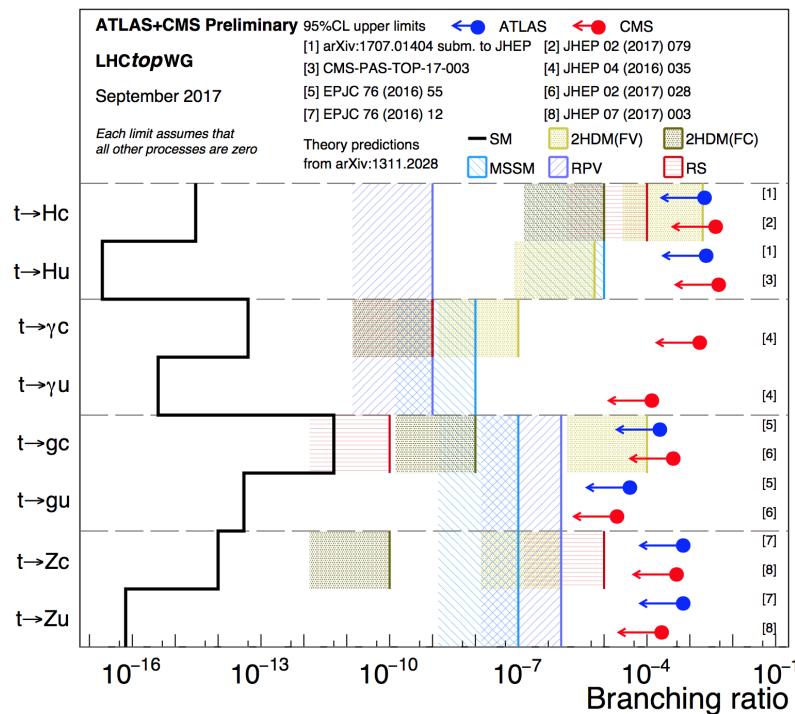


Figure 1.2: Current best limits set by CMS and ATLAS for top-FCNC interactions.

Experimental set-up

2

213 The main objective of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) was the search for the Brout-Englert-
 214 Higgs boson (or scalar boson). It was known from the Linear Electron Positron(LEP)[36] and
 215 Tevatron[37] experiments that the scalar boson mass had to be larger than 114 GeV[38, 39],
 216 and smaller than around 1 TeV due to unitarity and perturbativity constraints [40]. On top of
 217 this, the search of supersymmetry or dark matter were part of the motivation for building the
 218 LHC. Since the start of its operation, the LHC is pushing the boundaries of the Standard Model,
 219 putting the best limits on physics beyond the Standard Model as well as precision measurements
 220 of the parameters of the Standard Model. One such an accomplishment is the discovery the
 221 scalar boson in 2012 by the two largest experiments at the LHC [6, 7].

222 In the first part of this chapter, the LHC and the acceleration process for protons to reach
 223 their design energies is discussed. The second part presents the Compact Muon Solenoid.

224 2.1 The Large Hadron Collider

225 The LHC has started its era of cutting edge science on 10 September 2008 [41] after approval by
 226 the European Organisation of Nuclear Research (CERN) in 1995 [42]. Installed in the previous
 227 Large Electron Positron collider (LEP) tunnels, the LHC consists of a 26.7 km ring, that is
 228 installed between 45 and 170 m under the French-Swiss border between Cessy (France) and
 229 Meyrin (Switzerland). Built to study rare physics phenomena at high energies, the LHC has the
 230 possibility to accelerate two type of particles - protons or ions Pb^{45+} - and provides collisions
 231 at four points of interaction or bunch crossings.. At the interaction points, experiments are
 232 installed in order to study the collisions.

233 As can be seen in [Figure 2.1](#), the LHC is last element in a chain of creation, injection and
 234 acceleration of protons. Protons are obtained by ionising hydrogen and injected in a linear
 235 accelerator (LINAC 2), where they obtain an energy of 50 MeV. They continue to the proton
 236 synchrotron booster (PSB or Booster), where the proton packets are accelerated to 1.4 GeV and
 237 are split up in twelve. The proton synchrotron (PS) increases their energy to 25 GeV before
 238 handing the protons to the super proton synchrotron (SPS), where the proton reach an energy
 239 of 450 GeV. Each accelerator ring increases in radius in order to reduce the energy loss of the
 240 protons by synchrotron radiation. This energy loss is proportional to the fourth power of the

241 proton energy and inversely proportional to the bending radius. The protons are then injected
 242 into opposite directions into the LHC, where they are accelerated to 3.5 TeV (in 2010 and
 243 2011), 4 TeV (in 2012 and 2013) or 6.5 TeV (in 2015 and 2016) [43]. Before the start up of
 244 the LHC in 2010, the previous energy record was held by the Tevatron collider at Fermilab,
 245 colliding proton with antiprotons at $\sqrt{s} = 1.96$ TeV.

246 The beam has a bunch structure obtained by the injection scheme and properties of the dump
 247 system. These bunches are obtained in the PS with 25 ns spacing for run II. The operation of
 248 accelerating and transferring to the LHC is repeated 12 times for each counter-rotating beam.
 249 When completely filled, the LHC nominally contains 2220 bunches in run II, compared to 1380
 250 in run I (design: 2200). At full intensity, it would have nearly 2800 bunches but this is limited
 251 due to SPS.

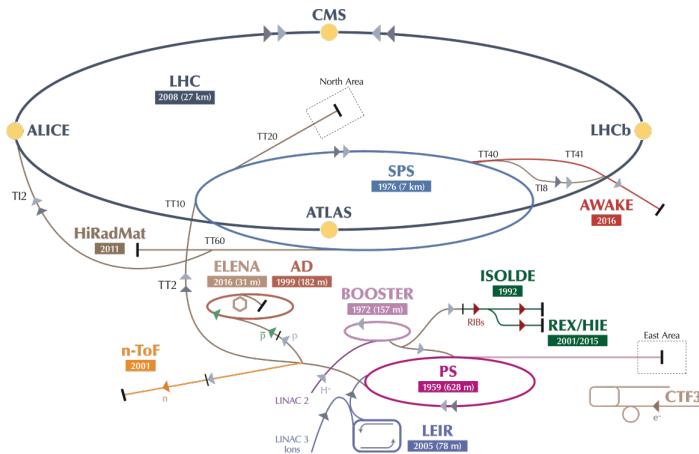


Figure 2.1: Schematic representation of the accelerator complex at CERN [44]. The LHC (dark blue) is the last element in chain of accelerators. Protons are successively accelerated by LINAC 2, the Booster, the Proton Synchrotron (PS) and the Super Proton Synchrotron (SPS) before entering the LHC.

252 The LHC is home to seven experiments that are placed on an interaction point:

- 253 • A Toroidal LHC ApparatuS (ATLAS [45]) and the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS [46])
 254 experiments are the two general purpose detectors at the LHC. They both have a hermetic,
 255 cylindrical structure and were designed to search for new physics phenomena as well as
 256 precision measurements of the Standard Model. The existence of two distinct experiments
 257 allows cross-confirmation for any discovery.
- 258 • A Large Ion Collider Experiment (ALICE [47]) and the LHC Beauty (LHCb [48]) experiments
 259 are focusing on specific phenomena. ALICE studies strongly interacting matter
 260 at extreme energy densities where quark-gluon plasma forms from heavy ions (Pb-Pb or
 261 p-Pb). LHCb searches for differences between matter and anti matter by means of the b
 262 quark, while focussing on CP symmetry violation.
- 263 • The forward LHC (LHCf [49]) and the TOTal cross section, Elastic scattering and diffraction
 264 dissociation Measurement (TOTEM [50]) experiments are two smaller experiments that

265 focus on interactions where protons or heavy ions only meet while head on collisions take
 266 place. LHCf consists of two parts placed before and after ATLAS and studies particles
 267 created at very small angles. TOTEM is placed in the same cavern as CMS and performs
 268 precise measurements of the LHC luminosity.

- 269 • The Monopoles and Exotics Detector At the LHC (MoEDAL [51]) experiment is situated
 270 near LHCb and tries to find magnetic monopoles.

271 **2.1.1 LHC design and operation**

The most important quantity at the LHC is the luminosity[52]. This is a measurement of the number of collisions that can be produced in a detector per m^2 and per second. The LHC collisions create a number of events per second given by

$$N_{\text{event}} = L\sigma_{\text{event}}, \quad (2.1)$$

where σ_{event} is the cross section of the event of interest and L the machine luminosity. This luminosity depends only on the beam parameters and is for a Gaussian beam expressed as

$$L = \frac{1}{4\pi} \textcolor{blue}{N_b} n_b f_{\text{rev}} \frac{\textcolor{red}{N_b}}{\textcolor{brown}{\epsilon}_n} \left(1 + \left(\frac{\theta_c \sigma_z}{2\sigma^*} \right)^2 \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\gamma_r}{\beta^*}. \quad (2.2)$$

272 The number of particles per bunch is expressed by N_b , while n_b is the number of bunches
 273 per beam, f_{rev} the revolution frequency, γ_r the relativistic gamma factor, ϵ_n the normalized
 274 transverse beam emittance - a quality for the confinement of the beam , β^* the beta function at
 275 the collision point - a measurement for the width of the beam, θ_c the angle between the two
 276 beams at the interaction point, σ_z the mean lengths of one packet, and σ^* the mean height of
 277 one packet. In Equation 2.2), the blue part represents the stream of particles, the red represents
 278 the brilliance; and the green part represents the geometric reduction factor due to the crossing
 279 angle at the interaction point. Hence, in order to enhance the chances for exploration of rare
 280 events and thus enhancing the number of collisions. High beam energies as well as high beam
 281 intensities are required.

282 The peak design luminosity for the LHC in 2016 was $10^{34} \text{ 1}/(\text{m}^2 \text{ s})$, which leads to about 1
 283 billion proton interactions per second. In 2016, the LHC was around 10% above this design
 284 luminosity[53]. This luminosity is not a constant in time. It diminishes due to collisions between
 285 the beams, and the interaction of the protons and the particle gas that is trapped in the centre
 286 of the vacuum tubes due to the magnetic field. The intern diffusion of the beam degrades the
 287 emittance and therefore also the luminosity. For this reason, the mean lifetime of a beam inside
 288 the LHC is around 15 h. The integrated luminosity - the luminosity provided for a certain time
 289 range - recorded by CMS and ATLAS over the year 2016 is given in Figure 2.1.1. In Run II, the
 290 peak luminosity is $13\text{-}17 \cdot 10^{33} \text{ 1}/(\text{cm}^2 \text{ s})$ compared to $7.7 \cdot 10^{33} \text{ 1}/(\text{cm}^2 \text{ s})$ in Run I.

291 Inside the LHC ring [54], the protons are accelerated by the means of radio frequency cavities,
 292 while 1232 magnets of approximately 15 m long, weighing 35 t ensure the deflection of the
 293 beams. The cross section view of such a dipole is given in Figure 2.4. The two proton beams
 294 circulate in opposite direction in separate pipes inside of the magnet. Through the use of a strong

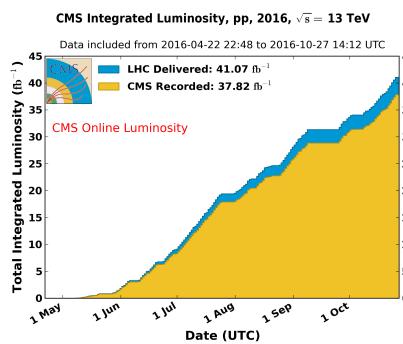


Figure 2.2: Cumulative luminosity measured online versus day delivered to (blue), and recorded by CMS (orange) during stable beams and for proton collisions at 13 TeV centre-of-mass energy in 2016. The delivered luminosity accounts for the luminosity delivered from the start of stable beams until the LHC requests CMS to turn off the sensitive detectors to allow a beam dump or beam studies.

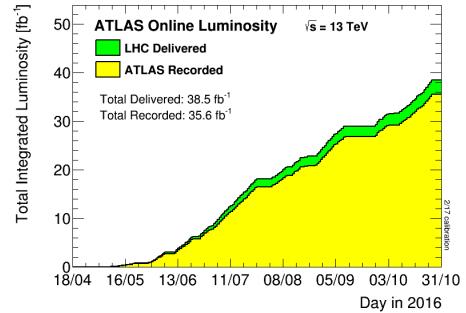


Figure 2.3: Total Integrated Luminosity in 2016 Cumulative luminosity versus time delivered to (green) and recorded by ATLAS (yellow) during stable beams for proton collisions in 2016. The delivered luminosity accounts for luminosity delivered from the start of stable beams until the LHC requests ATLAS to put the detector in a safe standby mode to allow for a beam dump or beam studies. Shown is the luminosity as determined from counting rates measured by the luminosity detectors.)

295 electric current in the coils around the beam pipe, magnetic fields are generated and cause the
296 protons to bend in the required orbits. In order to get the coil to become superconducting and
297 able to produce - with the aid of an iron return yoke - a strong magnetic field of 8.3 T, the
298 magnet structure is surrounded by a vessel. This vessel is filled with liquid Helium making it
299 possible to cool down the magnet to 1.9 K. In order to get more focussed and stabilised proton
300 beam, other higher-order multipole and corrector magnets are placed along the LHC tunnel.

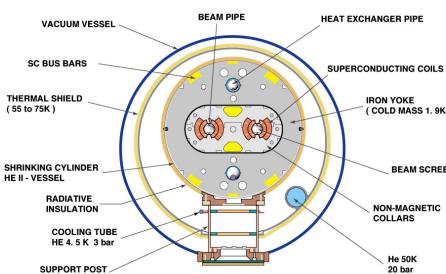


Figure 2.4: Schematic representation of the LHC dipole [55]. Two beam pipes where the proton beams circulate around the LHC ring are shown. The superconducting coils generate a magnetic field of 8.3 T that steer the protons in the circular path.

301 2.2 The Compact Muon Solenoid

302 At one of the collision points of the LHC, the CMS detector[56–58] is placed. Weighing 14 000
 303 t, This cylindrical detector is about 28.7 m long and 15 m in diameter, weighing around 14 000
 304 t. It has an onion like structure of several specialised detectors and contains a superconducting
 305 solenoid with a magnetic field of 3.8 T. The CMS detector is designed in a way that it can
 306 address the needs of physics coming from the LHC. Living in a hadronic environment, multi-jet
 307 processes produced by the strong interaction are a main source of background for rare physics
 308 processes. Therefore, good identification, momentum resolution, and charge determination of
 309 muon, electrons and photons is one of the main goals of the CMS detector. Further it provides a
 310 good charged particle momentum resolution and reconstruction efficiency in the inner tracker
 311 such that for example jets coming from b quarks or tau particles can be identified. Also the
 312 electromagnetic resolution for an efficient photon and lepton isolation as well as a good hadronic
 313 calorimeter for the missing transverse energy were kept into account while designing CMS. In
 314 [Figure 2.5](#), an overview of the CMS detector is given.

315 The LHC provides many collisions in a short amount of time. In order to discriminate between
 316 consecutive collisions - known as out of time pile up events - , CMS has to complete the full data
 317 acquisition for one collision event before the next one happens (around 25 ns in Run II and
 318 around 50 ns in Run I [59]). Furthermore, since the photons are in packets, around 21 in Run
 319 I and approximately 40 in Run II inelastic collisions happen every beam crossing . This creates
 320 a great amount of background processes in the detector called in time pile up events. Due to
 321 this difficult conditions, the detector has a high granularity which on its turn creates a need for
 322 huge number of synchronized electronic channels. Furthermore, due to to high flux of particles
 323 in the regions close to the beam, the electronics have to be able to endure high radiation.

324 Before the start of taking collision data for 13 TeV operations on 3 June, CMS had a long
 325 shutdown (LS1)[61]. During this shut down several upgrades were performed. The innermost
 326 part of detection material in CMS (pixel) is made of three concentric cylindrical layers in
 327 run I. At the end of 2016 it is upgraded by adding a fourth layer, enhancing the particle
 328 tracking capabilities of CMS. In order to be able to incorporate this new layer, the section
 329 of the beryllium beam pipe within CMS was replaced by a narrower one during LS1. For
 330 this, the pixel was removed and reinserted into CMS. In order to avoid long damage caused
 331 by the intense particle flux at the heart of CMS, the tracker is been made ready to operate
 332 at much lower temperature than before. During Run I, a small problem was detected in the
 333 electromagnetic calorimeter preshower system. For this, the preshower discs were removed,
 334 repaired and reinstalled successfully inside CMS in 2014. To help the discrimination between
 335 interesting low momentum muons coming from collisions and muons caused by backgrounds, a
 336 fourth triggering and measurement station for muons was added in each of the end caps. CMS
 337 measures the collision rate within the detector and monitors beam related backgrounds. For
 338 this, several new detectors were installed into CMS during LS1.

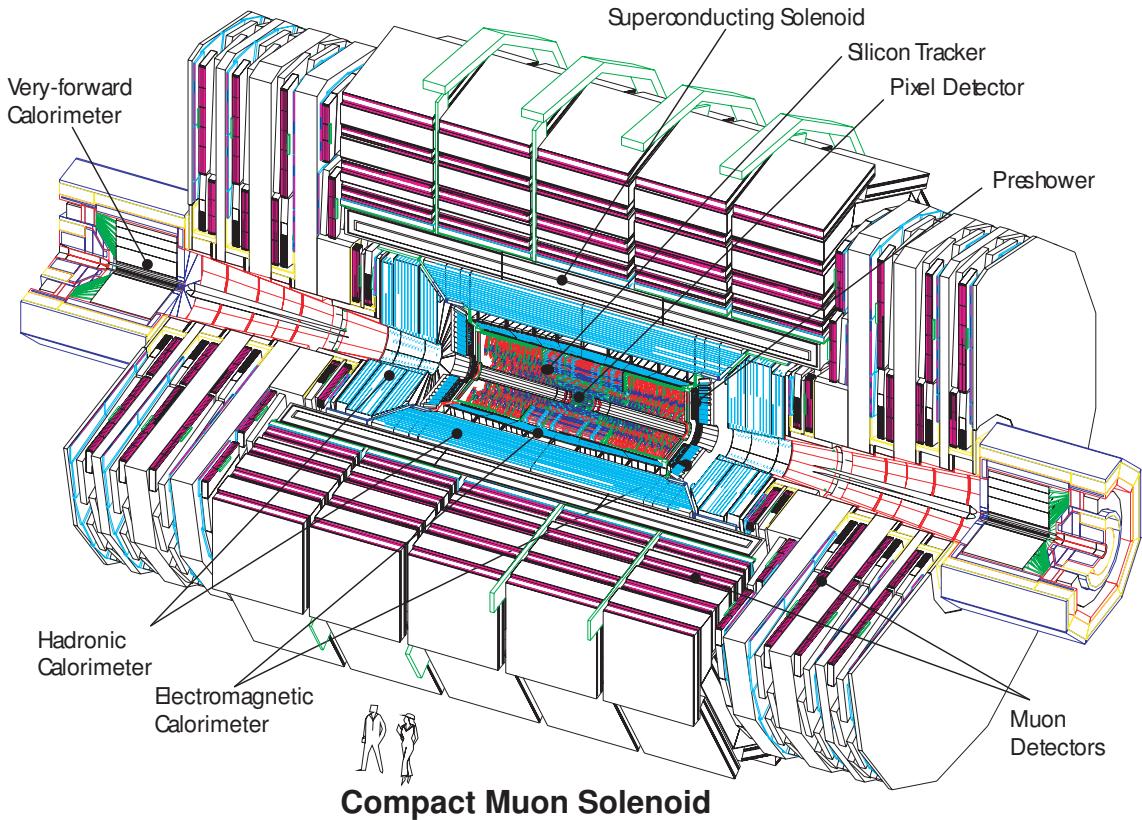


Figure 2.5: Mechanical layout of the CMS detector[60].

339 2.2.1 CMS coordinate system

The coordinate system used by CMS can be found in [Figure 2.6](#). The origin of the right handed orthogonal coordinate system is chosen to be the point of collisions. The x-axis points towards the centre of the LHC ring such that the y-axis points towards the sky, and the z-axis lies tangent to the beam axis. Since the experiment has a cylindrical shape, customary coordinates are used to describe the momentum \vec{p} : the distance ρ , the azimuthal angle $\phi \in [-\pi, \pi]$ - the angle between the x-axis and the projection in the transverse plane of \vec{p} (\vec{p}_T) - , the pseudo-rapidity η - expressed by the polar angle θ between the direction of \vec{p} and the beam - :

$$\eta = -\ln\left(\tan\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)\right). \quad (2.3)$$

For the energies considered at the LHC, where $E \gg m$, the pseudo-rapidity is a good approximation of the rapidity y

$$y = \frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{E + p_z}{E - p_z}\right), \quad (2.4)$$

340 where the difference of rapidities of two particles is invariant under a Lorentz boost in the
341 z-direction.

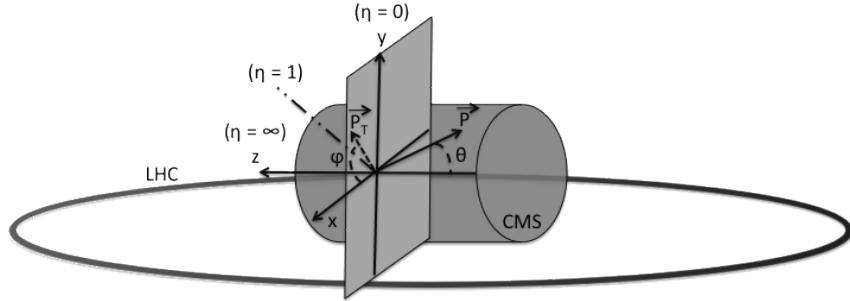


Figure 2.6: Representation of the coordinate system used by CMS. The point of origin is put at the collision point. The x-axis points towards the centre of the LHC ring such that the z-axis lies tangent to the beam axis.

342 2.2.2 Towards the heart of CMS

343 The CMS detector consists of two parts; a central barrel around the beam pipe ($|\eta| < 1.4$) and
 344 two plugs to ensure the hermeticity of the detector. In [Figure 2.5](#) and [Figure 2.7](#) the onion like
 345 structure of the CMS detector is visible. The choice of a solenoid of 12.9 m long and 5.9 m
 346 diameter gives the advantage of bending the particle trajectories in the transverse plane. The
 347 hadronic calorimeter, the electromagnetic calorimeter and the tracker are within the solenoid,
 348 while the muon chambers are placed outside the solenoid.

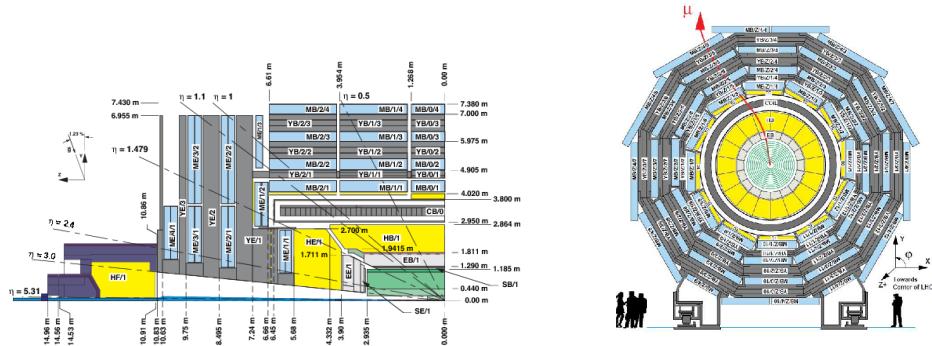


Figure 2.7: Schematic view of the CMS detector in the Run I configuration. (LEFT) Longitudinal view of one quarter of the detector. (RIGHT) Transversal view of one quarter of the detector. The muon system barrel elements are denoted as MBZ/N/S, where $z = -2 \dots +2$ is the barrel wheel number, $n = 1 \dots 4$ the station number and $S = 1 \dots 12$ the sector number. Similarly, the steel return yokes are denoted as YBZ/N/S. The solenoid is denoted as CB0, while the hadronic calorimeter is denoted as HE (end cap)/HB (barrel)/HF(forward) and the electromagnetic calorimeter as EE(end cap)/EB (barrel). The green part represents the tracking system[62]

349 2.2.2.1 Muon system

350 The outermost part of CMS consists of the muon system. The magnet return yoke is interleaved
 351 with gaseous detector chambers for muon identification and momentum measurement. The
 352 barrel contains muon stations arranged in five separate iron wheels, while in the end cap four

353 muon stations are mounted onto three independent iron discs on each side. Each barrel wheel
 354 has 12 sectors in the azimuthal angle.

355 The muon system is divided into three parts, shown in Figure 2.8[62]. The muon rate and
 356 neutrons induced backgrounds are small and the magnetic field is very low for the barrel, thus
 357 CMS can use drift tube (DT) chambers. For the end caps however, the muon and background
 358 flux is much higher and there is a need to use cathode strip chambers (CSC) which are able
 359 to provide a faster response, higher granularity and have a better resistance against radiation.
 360 In order to form a redundant trigger system, resistive plate chambers (RPC) are added. This
 361 makes a total of 250 DT chambers, 540 CSC and 610 RPC. In Figure 2.7 the arrangement is
 362 shown.

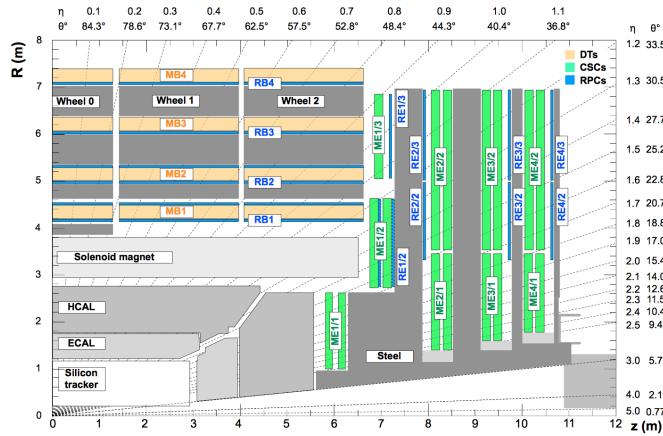


Figure 2.8: Schematic view of one quarter of the CMS muon system in the Run I configuration. [62]

363 Providing a measurement for $|\eta| < 1.2$. The DT chambers in the barrel are on average 2×2.5 m in size and consist of 12 layers of DT cells - 4 cm wide gas tubes with positively
 364 charged stretched wire inside - arranged in three groups of four. The $r\phi$ coordinate is provided
 365 by the two outside groups, while the middle group measures the z coordinate. For each ϕ
 366 sector, the DT chamber is mixed with the flux return yoke. For the outer muon station, the DT
 367 chamber contains only 8 layers of DT cells, providing a muon position in the $r\phi$ plane. There are
 368 four CSC stations in each end cap, providing muon measurements for $0.9 < |\eta| < 2.4$ (Run I
 369 configuration). These CSC are multi-wired proportional chambers that consist of 6 anode wire
 370 planes crossed by 7 copper strips cathode panels in a gas volume. The r coordinate is provided
 371 by the copper strips, while ϕ coordinate comes from the anode wires, giving a two dimensional
 372 position measurement. There are six layers of RPC in the barrel muon system and one layer into
 373 each of the first three stations of the end cap. They are made from two high resistive plastic
 374 plates with an applied voltage and separated by a gas volume. Read out strips mounted on top
 375 of the plastic plates detect the signal generated by a muon passing through the gas volume. The
 376 RPC provides a fast response with a time resolution of 1 ns and covers a range of $|\eta| < 1.8$
 377 (Run I configuration).

379 During the LS1, the muon system underwent major upgrades [63, 64]. In the fourth station
 380 of each end cap, the outermost rings of CSC and RPC chambers were completed, providing an

381 angular region of $1.2 < |\eta| < 1.8$ for Run II, increasing the system redundancy, and allowing
 382 tighter cuts on the trigger quality. In order to reduce the environmental noise, outer yoke discs
 383 have been placed on both sides for the end caps. At the innermost rings of the first station, the
 384 CSC has been upgraded by refurbishing the readout electronics to make use of the full detector
 385 granularity instead of groups of three (Run I).

386 The muon system provides triggering on muons, identifying muons and improves the momentum
 387 measurement and charge determination of high p_T muons. On top of the muon system,
 388 the muon energy is deposited in the electromagnetic calorimeter, the hadronic calorimeter, and
 389 outer calorimeter. The high magnetic field enables an efficient first level trigger and allows a
 390 good momentum resolution of $\Delta p/p \approx 1\%$ for a p_T of 100 GeV and $\approx 10\%$ for a p_T of 1 TeV
 391 (FIXME). There is an efficient muon measurement up to $|\eta| < 2.4$.

392 Muon reconstruction

393 The muon reconstruction[65] has three subdivision: local reconstruction, regional reconstruction
 394 and global reconstruction. The local reconstruction is performed on individual detector elements
 395 such as strip and pixel hits in the inner tracking system, and muon hits and/or segments
 396 on the muon chambers. Independent tracks are reconstructed in the inner tracker - called
 397 tracker track - and in the muon system, called standalone tracks. Based on these tracks,
 398 two reconstructions are considered. The outside-in approach is referred to as Global Muon
 399 reconstruction. For each standalone track, a tracker track is found by comparing the parameters
 400 of the two tracks propagated onto a common surface. Combining the hits from the tracker
 401 track and the standalone track, gives a fit via the Kalman filter technique [66, 67] for a global
 402 muon track. The second approach is an inside-out reconstruction, creating tracker muons. All
 403 candidate tracker tracks are extrapolated to the muon system taking into account the magnetic
 404 field, the average expected energy losses, and multiple Coulomb scattering in the detector
 405 material. When at least one muon segment - DT or CSC hits - matches the extrapolated track,
 406 the corresponding tracker track is indicated as a tracker muon.

407 For low transverse momenta ($p_T \lesssim 5$ GeV), the tracker muon reconstruction is more efficient
 408 than the global muon approach. This is due to the fact that tracker muons only require a
 409 single muon segment in muon system, while the global muon approach requires typically
 410 segments in at least two muon stations. The global muon approach typically improves the
 411 tracker reconstruction for $p_T \gtrsim 200$ GeV.

412 2.2.2.2 Solenoid

413 Making use of the knowledge of previous experiments of ALEPH and DELPHI at LEP and H1
 414 at HERA, CMS choose for a large super conducting solenoid with a length of 12.9 m and
 415 a inner bore of 5.9 m[58]. With 2 168 turns, a current of 19.5 kA and a total energy of 2.7
 416 GJ, a large bending power can be obtained for a modestly-sized solenoid. In order to ensure a
 417 good momentum resolution in the forward regions, a favourable length/radius was necessary.
 418 In [Figure 2.9](#), a photo of the CMS solenoid is given.

419 The solenoid uses a high-purity aluminium stabilised conductor with indirect cooling from
 420 liquid helium, together with fully epoxy impregnation. A four-layer winding is implemented that

421 can withstand an outward pressure of 64 atm. The NbTi cable is co-extruded by pure aluminium
 422 that acts as a thermal stabilizer and has an aluminium alloy for mechanical reinforcement. The
 423 return of the magnetic field is done by five wheels, noted by YB in [Figure 2.7](#).

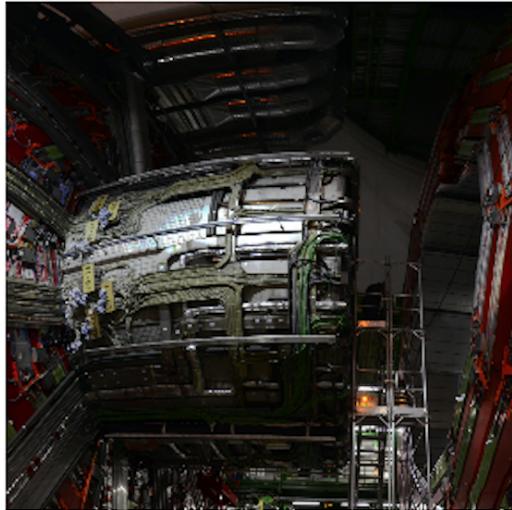


Figure 2.9: CMS solenoid during the long shutdown in 2013.

424 **2.2.2.3 Hadronic calorimeter**

425 The hadronic calorimeter (HCAL) is dedicated to precisely measure the energy of charged and
 426 neutral hadrons via a succession of absorbers and scintillators. This makes it crucial for physics
 427 analyses with hadronic jets or missing transverse energy. The HCAL extends between 1.77
 428 $< r < 2.95$ m where r is the radius in the transverse plane with respect to the beam. Due
 429 to space limitations, the HCAL needs to be as small as possible and is made from materials
 430 with short interaction lengths - the length needed for absorbing 36.7% of the hadrons. The
 431 quality of the energy measurements is dependant on the fraction of the hadronic shower that
 432 can be detected. Therefore, the HCAL barrel (HB) inside the solenoid is reinforced by an outer
 433 hadronic calorimeter between the solenoid and muon detectors (HO, see [Figure 2.10](#)), using the
 434 solenoid as extra absorber. This increases the thickness to 12 interaction lengths. Furthermore,
 435 it should be as hermetic as possible and extend to large pseudo rapidity values. The HB and HO
 436 provide measurements for $|\eta| < 1.3$, while an end cap on each side (HE, $1.3 < |\eta| < 3$) and a
 437 forward calorimeter (HF, $|\eta| < 5.2$) extend the pseudo rapidity range.

438 The HB is made of 16 absorber plates where most of them are built from brass and others
 439 are made from stainless steel and is about five to ten interaction lengths thick. The HE is also
 440 composed of brass absorber plates and has a thickness corresponding to approximately ten
 441 interaction lengths. The HF experiences intense particle fluxes with an energy of 760 GeV
 442 deposited on average in a proton interaction at a center of mass of 14 TeV, compared to 100
 443 GeV in the rest of the detector. Therefore, these are Cherenkov light detectors made of radiation
 444 hard quartz fibers. The main causes of such large energy events are high energy muons, cosmic
 445 particles and charged particles from late showering hadrons. During Run I, it became clear that
 446 the glass windows of the PMTs had to be replaced which was done during LS1 [68]

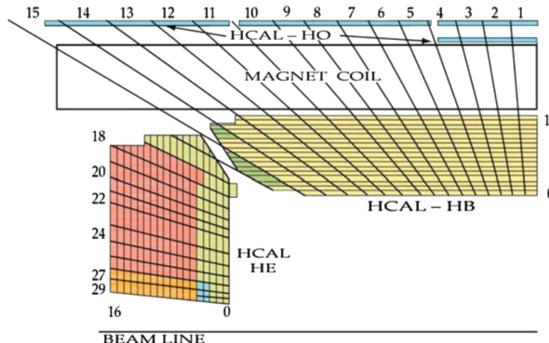


Figure 2.10: Tower segmentation for one quarter of the HCAL displayed in the $r z$ plane[46].

2.2.2.4 Electromagnetic calorimeter

The electromagnetic calorimeter (ECAL) is designed to measure the energy of photons and electrons and covers $|\eta| < 3$. It is an hermetic, homogeneous detector and consists of 75 848 lead tungstate (PbWO_4) crystals. These crystals have a fast response time - 80% of the light is emitted within 25 ns - and are radiation hard. The electromagnetic showers produced by passing electrons or photons ionize the crystal atoms which emit a blue-green scintillation light, that is collected by silicon avalanche photodiodes (APDs) in the barrel and vacuum phototriodes (VPTs) in the end caps. The crystals and the APD response is sensitive to temperature changes and require a stable temperature.

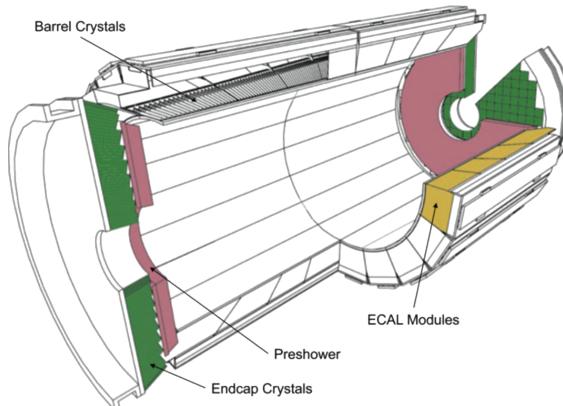


Figure 2.11: Schematic cross section of the electromagnetic calorimeter[46].

There are three regions: a central barrel (EB), a endcap region (EE) and a preshower (ES) (Figure 2.11). The EB has an inner radius of 129 cm and corresponds to a pseudo rapidity of $0 < |\eta| < 1.479$. At a distance of 314 cm from the vertex and covering a pseudo rapidity of $1.479 < |\eta| < 3.0$, are the EE. They consist of semi-circular aluminium plates from which structural units of 5×5 crystals (super crystals) are supported. The ES is placed in front of the crystal calorimeter over the end cap pseudo rapidity range with two planes of silicon strip detectors as active elements.

The electromagnetic shower will typically involve more than one channel. More than 90% of

the energy of a 35 GeV electron or photon is contained in a 5×5 matrix of crystals. Therefore, a clustering algorithm is performed in order to associate the energy deposits to the particles impinging the calorimeter. The achieved precision[69] for the barrel is 2.10^{-3} rad in ϕ and 10^{-3} in η . For the end caps this is 5.10^{-3} rad in ϕ and 2.10^{-3} in η . The energy is reconstructed by a super cluster algorithm, taking into account energy radiated via bremsstrahlung or conversion:

$$E_{e/\gamma} = GF_{e/\gamma} \sum_{i \in \text{cluster}} S_i(t) V C_i A_i, \quad (2.5)$$

where G is the absolute energy scale in GeV/ADC, F the energy containment corrections (depends on type of particle, its energy and pseudo rapidity, eg shower leakage and bremsstrahlung losses for electrons), $S(t)$ the relative channel variation with time, C the relative channel response and A the amplitude in ADC counts. The energy resolution is given by

$$\frac{\sigma(E)}{E} = \frac{2.8\%}{\sqrt{E}} \oplus \frac{0.128}{E(\text{GeV})} \oplus 0.3\%, \quad (2.6)$$

463 in the absence of a magnetic field, where the contributions come from the stochastic, noise and
 464 constant terms respectively. The dominating term is the constant term ($E_{\text{shower}} \approx 100\text{GeV}$) and
 465 thus the performance is highly dependent on the quality of calibration and monitoring .

466 In Run I, the energy reconstruction happened via a weighted sum of the digitized samples[70].
 467 For Run II however, the reconstruction had to be made more resistant for out of time pile up
 468 and a multi-fit approach has been set in to place. In this approach, the pulse shape is modelled
 469 as a sum of one in-time pulse plus the out of time pulses [69]. The energy resolution is less
 470 than 2% in the central barrel region and 2-5 % elsewhere.

471 2.2.2.5 Inner tracking system and operations

472 The tracking system (tracker) [71] is the detecting unit closest to the point of interaction.
 473 Responsible for the reconstruction of trajectories from charged particles with $|\eta| < 2.5$ that are
 474 bent by the magnetic field, it provides a measurement of the momentum. The tracker is also
 475 responsible for the determination of the interaction point or vertex. It should be able to provide
 476 high granularity as well as speed, and be able to endure high radiation. For this reason, the
 477 CMS collaboration choose silicon detector technology.

478 The tracking system consists of a cylinder of 5.8 m long and 2.5 m in diameter. It is immersed
 479 in a co-axial magnetic field of 3.8 T due to the solenoid. As shown Figure 2.12, the tracker
 480 is built up from a large silicon strip tracker with a small silicon pixel inside. The inner region,
 481 pixel ($4.4 < r < 10.2$ cm), gets the highest flux of particles. Therefore, pixel silicon sensors
 482 of 100×150 μm area used. It consists of three cylindrical barrels that are complemented by
 483 two discs of pixel modules at each side. The silicon strip tracker ($20 < r < 116$ cm) has three
 484 subdivisions. The Tracker Inner Barrel and Discs (TIB, TID, see Figure 2.14) are composed
 485 of four barrel layers accompanied by three discs at each end. The outer part of the tracker -
 486 Tracker Outer Barrel (TOB) - consists of 6 barrel layers. In the outer discs, there are nine discs
 487 of silicon sensors, referred to as Tracker End Caps (TEC).

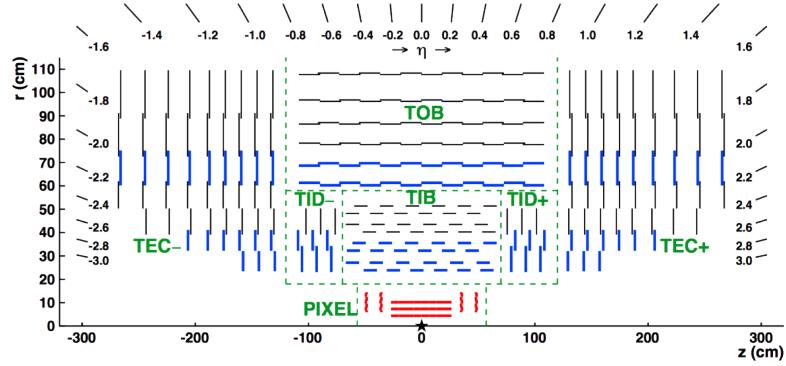


Figure 2.12: Schematic cross section of the top half of the CMS tracking system in the r - z plane. The centre of tracker is shown with a star and corresponds to the approximate position of the proton collision point. The green dashed lines are an indication for each named tracker subsystem. The strip tracker modules that provide two-dimensional hits are shown by thin, black lines, while those able to reconstruct three-dimensional hit positions are shown by thick, blue lines. The pixel modules, shown in red, also provide three-dimensional hits. [57]

488 The pixel, shown in Figure 2.13 has 1440 modules that cover an area of about 1 m² and have
 489 66 million pixels. It provides a three-dimensional position measurement of the hits arising from
 490 the interaction from charged particles with the sensors. In transverse coordinate ($r\phi$), the hit
 491 position resolution is about 10 μm , while 20-40 μm is obtained in the longitudinal coordinate
 492 (z). The sensor plane position provides the third coordinate. The silicon strip trackers consists
 493 of 15 148 single sided modules placed in the TIB, TID and the first four rings of the TEC.
 494 They provide 9.3 million readout channels. In the TOB and the outer three rings of the TEC,
 495 double sided modules are used. These modules are constructed from two back-to-back single
 496 sided modules, where one module is rotated through a stereo angle. This covers an active area
 497 of about 198 m². The TIB and TID provide position measurements in $r\phi$ with a resolution
 498 of approximately 13-38 μm , while the TOB provides a resolution of about 18-47 μm . The
 499 resolution in the z direction is approximately 230 μm in the TIB/TID and 530 μm in the TOB.
 500 To allow overlay and avoid gaps in acceptance, each module is shifted slightly in r or z with
 501 respect to its neighbouring modules within a layer. With this detector lay out, at least nine
 502 points per charged particle trajectory can be measured in an $|\eta|$ range up to 2.4.

During the first data taking period of the LHC (2010 to 2013), the tracker operated at +4°C. With the higher LHC beam intensities from 2015 onwards, the tracker needs to be operated at much lower temperatures. This is due to the fact with intense irradiation, the doping concentration changes, the leakage current increases proportional to the fluence and the charge collection efficiency decreases due to charge trapping. Mostly the leakage current (I) is affected by the temperature change:

$$I \propto T^2 e^{-\frac{E_g}{2kT}}, \quad (2.7)$$

503 where T is the operating temperature, E_g the band gap and k the Boltzmann constant. There is
 504 approximately a factor 15 between the leakage currents at room temperatures and at -10 °C.

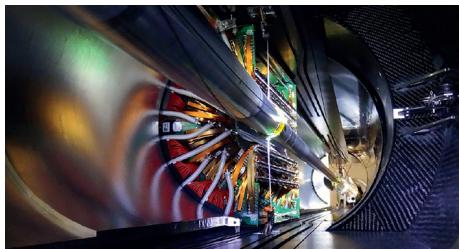


Figure 2.13: The pixel barrel being re-installed after the Long Shutdown in 2015, around the beam pipe at CMS[72]

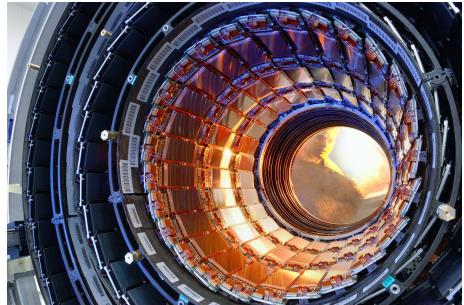


Figure 2.14: First half of the inner tracker barrel, consisting of three layers of silicon modules.[73]

505 During the LS1, the CMS cooling plant was refurbished[74](Figure 2.16) and the fluorocarbon
 506 cooling system overhauled. To help to suppress the humidity inside the tracker, new methods
 507 for vapour sealing and insulation were applied (Figure 2.15). Furthermore, several hundred
 508 high-precision sensors are used to monitor the humidity and temperature. In order to get as
 509 dry air as possible, a new dry-gas plant provides eight times more dry gas (air or nitrogen)
 510 than during the first run, and allows regulation if the flow. As final addition, the cooling
 511 bundles outside the tracker are equipped with heater wires and temperature sensors in order to
 512 maintain safe operations above the cavern dew point For the data taking in 2015-2016, the
 513 tracker operated at -15°C .

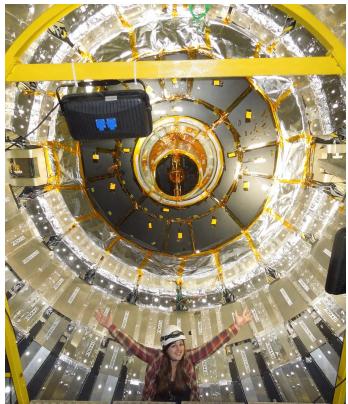


Figure 2.15: Tracker bulkhead being put into closed state with insulation pieces installed during an early trial in fall 2013



Figure 2.16: New Tracker high-capacity dry-gas plant with membrane separation system[61]

514 **Track reconstruction**

515 An iterative tracking algorithm is responsible for the reconstruction of the tracks made by
 516 charged particles in the inner tracking system. Each iteration consists of four steps[58]: the
 517 track-seed generation, the pattern recognition algorithm, removal of track-hit ambiguities and

518 a final track fit.

519 The seed generation is the first step. It consists of finding reconstructed hits that are usable
 520 for seeding the subsequent track-finding algorithm. They are identified from a group of at
 521 least three reconstructed hits in the tracker, or from a pair of hits while requiring the origin
 522 of the track segment to be compatible with the nominal beam-collision point. Since the pixel
 523 has a higher granularity compared to the strip tracker, its seed generation efficiency is higher.
 524 The overall efficiency exceeds 99%. The second step of each iteration, the pattern recognition
 525 algorithm, uses the seeds as a starting point for a Kalman filter method [66, 67]. This algorithm
 526 extrapolates the seed trajectory towards the next tracker layer taking into account the magnetic
 527 field and multiple scattering effects. The track parameters are updated when a compatible hit
 528 in the next layer is found. This procedure continues until the outermost layer is reached. Since
 529 the Kalman filter method can result in multiple tracks associated to the same seed, or different
 530 tracks sharing the same hits, a removal of ambiguities is necessary. This ambiguity resolving is
 531 done by removing tracks that are sharing too many hits from the list of track candidates. The
 532 tracks with highest number of hits or with the lowest χ^2 if the track fit is kept. The updated
 533 track parameters are then refitted using the Kalman filter method, where all hits found in the
 534 pattern recognition step are taken into account. The fit is done twice - once outwards from the
 535 beam line towards the calorimeters, and inwards from the outermost track hit to the beam line
 536 -, improving the estimation of the track parameters.

537 All hits that are unambiguously associated to the final track are removed from the list of
 538 available hits. In order to associate the remaining hits, the procedure is repeated with looser
 539 track reconstruction criteria. The use of the iterative track reconstruction procedure has a
 540 high track finding efficiency, where the fake track reconstruction rate is negligible. For muons,
 541 this results in a global track reconstruction efficiency exceeding 98%, and 75-98% for charged
 542 hadrons.

543 Primary vertex reconstruction

544 The primary vertex reconstruction should be able to measure the location of all proton interaction
 545 vertices in each event: the signal vertex and all vertices from pile up events. It consists of a vertex
 546 finding and a vertex fitting algorithm and happens in three steps. Tracks are selected to be
 547 consistent with being produced promptly in the primary interaction by imposing requirements
 548 on the track parameters[71] By grouping reconstructed tracks according to the z coordinate of
 549 their closest approach to the beam line, vertices for all interaction in the same beam crossing
 550 are found, at CMS this is done by a deterministic annealing algorithm [75] . On top of this,
 551 a vertex fitting algorithm like the Adaptive Vertex fitter [76], is performed. This creates the
 552 three-dimensional primary-vertex position. With this fit, the contribution from long-lived hadron
 553 decays is reduced by down weighting the tracks with a larger distance to the vertex. The primary
 554 vertex corresponding to the highest sum of squared track transverse momenta is noted as the
 555 point of the main interaction. The resolution on the primary vertex is about 14 μm in $r\phi$ and
 556 about 19 μm in the z direction for primary vertices with the sum of the track $p_T > 100$ GeV
 557 for 2016 data taking.

558 **2.2.3 Data acquisition**

559 At a design luminosity of $10^{34} \text{ 1/(m}^2 \text{ s)}$, the proton interaction rate exceeds 1 GHz. This makes
 560 it impossible for the CMS experiment to store all the data generated. For this, a two level trigger
 561 system has been put in place. The first level (Level-1) is a custom hardware system, while a
 562 second level (HLT) is software based running on a large farm of computers. In run II, with the
 563 increase in centre of mass energy and a higher luminosity, a larger number of simultaneous
 564 inelastic collisions per crossing is expected with respect to run I. For this, the CMS Level-1 has
 565 been upgraded [77].

566 **CMS Level-1 trigger**

567 The Level-1 trigger has to be a flexible, maintainable system, capable of adapting to the evolving
 568 physics programme of CMS [78]. Its output rate is restricted to 100 kHz imposed by the CMS
 569 readout electronics. It is implemented by custom hardware and selects events containing candi-
 570 date objects - eg ionization deposits consistent with a muon, or energy clusters corresponding
 571 to an electron / photon / tau lepton / missing transverse energy / jet. Collisions with large
 572 momenta can be selected by using scalar sum of the transverse momenta of the jets.

573 By buffering the raw data from the CMS subdetectors in front-end drivers, the level-1 trigger
 574 has a pipeline memory of 3.2 μs to decide whether to keep an event or reject it. The trigger
 575 primitives (TP) from the calorimeters and muon detectors are processed in several steps and
 576 combined into a global trigger. This information is then combined with the input from the other
 577 subsystems for the HLT. The separate inputs are synchronized to each other and the LHC orbit
 578 clock and sent to the global trigger module. Here, level-1 trigger algorithms are performed
 579 within 1 μs to decide whether to keep the event.

580 For run II, all hardware, software, databases and the timing control system have been replaced.
 581 The main changes are that the muon system now uses the redundancy of three muon detector
 582 system earlier to make a high resolution muon trigger. Other upgrades are that the calorimeter
 583 system isn't bound any more for streaming data the data and the global trigger has more level-1
 584 trigger algorithms.

585 **CMS HLT trigger**

586 The HLT is an array of commercially available computers with programmable menu that has
 587 output rate of on average 400 Hz for off-line event storage. The data processing is based on a
 588 HLT path. This is a set of algorithmic steps to reconstruct objects and make selections on them.
 589 Here, the information of all sub detectors can be used to perform algorithms on higher level
 590 reconstructed objects.

591 **2.2.4 CMS computing model**

592 The selected data is stored, processed and dispersed via the Worldwide Large Hadron Collider
 593 GRID (WLCG)[79, 80]. This has a tiered structure that function as a single, coherent system:

594 At CERN, a single Tier-0 is located. The raw data collected by CMS is archived here, and
 595 a first reconstruction of the data is done. This data is then already in a file format usable for

596 physics analysis. Furthermore, it is able to reprocess data when new calibrations are made
597 available. The Tier-0 site distributes this data to a total of seven Tier-1 centres. They carry out
598 data reprocessing and store real data as well as simulated data. The Tier-1 further distribute
599 the data to over 50 Tier-2 centres. These make the data accessible for physics analysis and are
600 also being used for the production of simulated data. The data is made accessible for physicists
601 around the world.

Analysis techniques

3

603 3.1 Event generation

604 In order to compare reconstructed data with theoretical predictions, collision events are generated
 605 and passed through a simulation of the CMS detector and an emulation of its readout. For
 606 the detector simulation, a so-called Full Simulation package [81, 82] based on the Geant4
 607 toolkit [83] is employed. It allows a detailed simulation of the interactions of the particles with
 608 the detector material.

609 3.1.1 Fundamentals of simulating a proton collision

610 The procedure of generating $pp \rightarrow X$ events can be subdivided into sequential steps [84–86],
 611 as shown in Figure 3.1.

612 Each proton consists of three valence quarks ($u u d$) and many sea quarks and gluons, called
 613 partons. These partons emerge from each proton within a certain probability density $f(x, Q^2)$,
 614 determined by the momentum fraction x carried by the parton and the momentum transfer
 615 Q^2 . The parton density functions (PDF) [87–89] give the momentum distribution of the proton
 616 amongst its partons.

617 The interaction of two incoming protons is often soft and elastic leading to events that are not
 618 interesting in the framework of this thesis. More interesting are the hard interaction between
 619 two partons from the incoming protons. The matrix elements (ME) of a hard scattering process
 620 of interest is the starting point of the generation of events. Monte Carlo techniques are used
 621 to sample the corresponding cross section integral and the resulting sample of events reflect
 622 the probability distribution of a process over its final state phase space. After obtaining the
 623 sample of events of the hard interaction, a parton shower (PS) program is used to simulate the
 624 hadronisation of final state partons into hadrons which then can also decay further. Additionally,
 625 radiation of soft gluons or quarks from initial or final state partons is simulated. These are
 626 respectively referred to as initial state radiation (ISR) or final state radiation (FSR). Contributions
 627 from soft secondary interactions, the so-called underlying event (UE), and colour reconnection
 628 effects are also taken into account. A brief overview of the employed programs used for the
 629 event generation of the signal and main background processes used in the search presented in
 630 the thesis are given in Section 3.1.2.

NOTE:
Should I
add more
details?

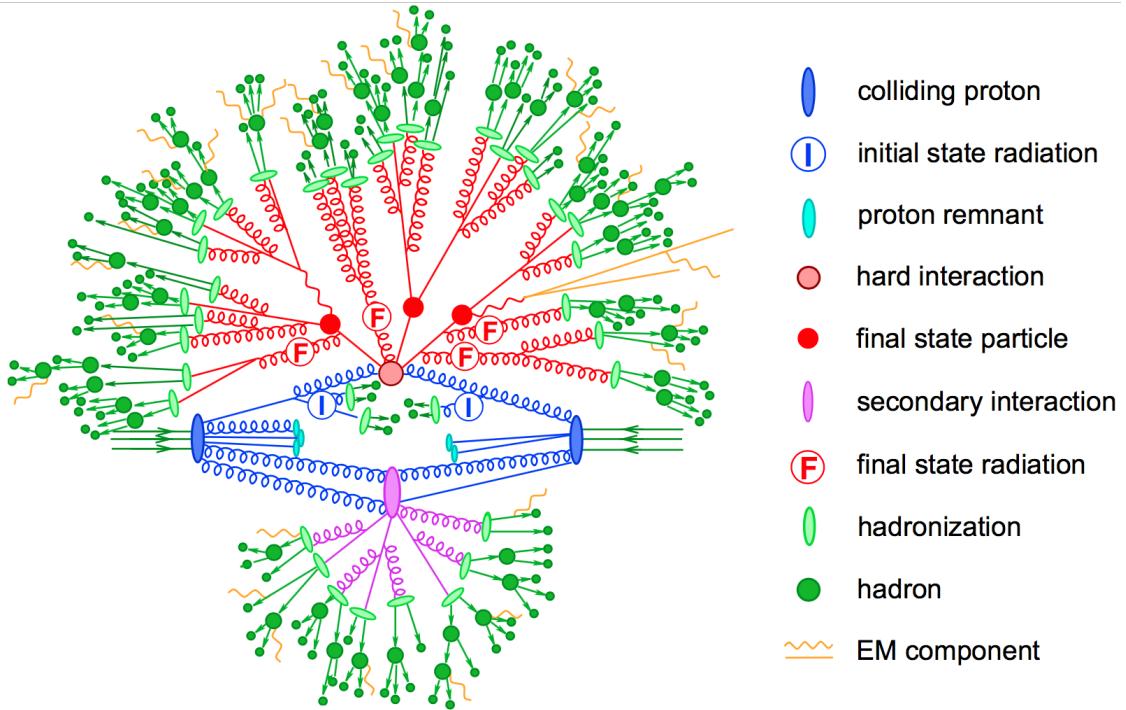


Figure 3.1: Sketch of a hadron collision as simulated by a Monte-Carlo event generator. The red blob in the center represents the hard collision, surrounded by a tree-like structure representing Bremsstrahlung as simulated by parton showers. The purple blob indicates a secondary hard scattering event. Parton-to-hadron transitions are represented by light green blobs, dark green blobs indicate hadron decays, while yellow lines signal soft photon radiation. Figure taken from [86].

631 3.1.2 Programs for event generation

632 The FEYNRULES package [90] allows the calculation of the Feynman rules in momentum space
 633 for any quantum field theory model. By use of a Lagrangian, the set of Feynman rules associated
 634 with this Lagrangian are calculated. Via the Universal FeynRules Output (UFO) [91] the
 635 results are then passed to matrix element generators.

636 The MadGraph program [92] is used to interpret the physics model and calculate the cor-
 637 responding Feynman diagrams and matrix elements. After this, MadEvent [**bibid**] is used to
 638 calculate the corresponding partons. These generated parton configurations are then merged
 639 with Pythia [93–95] parton showers using the MLM merging scheme [96].

640 The MadGraph5_aMC@NLO program [97] combines the leading order¹ (LO) MadGraph [92]
 641 and the aMC@NLO program into a common framework. This combination supports the generation
 642 of samples at LO or next to leading order (NLO) together with a dedicated matching to parton
 643 showers using the MLM [96] or FXFX [98] schemes respectively. The FXFX scheme produces a

¹A leading order process is a process which involves the minimal amount of particles. This is also indicated as a tree-level Feynman diagram. Every added interaction vertex increases the order. To obtain the highest precision of an observable quantity the process should consider an infinite amount of orders. Computational limitations limit the process usually to the next to leading order.

644 certain fraction of events with negative weights originating from the subtraction of amplitudes
 645 that contain additional emissions from the NLO matrix element to prevent double-counting.

646 The POWHEG box (versions 1,2) [99–104] contains predefined implementations of various
 647 processes at NLO. It applies the POWHEG method for ME- to PS- matching, where the hardest
 648 radiation generated from the ME has priority over subsequent PS emission to remove the overlap
 649 with the PS simulation.

650 The JHU generator (version 7.02) [105–108] is used to generate the parton level information
 651 including full spin and polarization correlations. It is commonly used for studying the spin and
 652 parity properties of new resonances such as $ab \rightarrow X \rightarrow VV$, where $V = Z, W, \gamma$.

653 The generation of events from processes involving the production and decay of resonances
 654 creates a computational heavy load, especially at NLO. The narrow width approximation the
 655 resonant particle is assumed to be on-shell. This makes the production and decay amplitude
 656 factorize, allowing to perform the simulation of the production and decay of heavy resonances
 657 like top quarks or Higgs bosons to be performed in separate steps. The MadSpin program [109]
 658 extends this approach and accounts for off-shell effects through a partial reweighting of the
 659 events. Additionally, spin correlation effects between production and decay products are taken
 660 into account.

661 The Pythia program (versions 6,8) [93–95] generates events of various processes at LO.
 662 Usually in the analysis, it is however only used for its PS simulation and it is interfaced with
 663 other LO and NLO event generators to perform subsequent parton showering, hadronisation,
 664 and simulation of the underlying event. In this thesis the underlying event tunes [110] are the
 665 CUETP8M2T4, CUETP8M1 and CUETP8M2.

666 The detector response is simulated via the Geant4 [83] program. This program tracks the
 667 particles through the detector material via a detailed description of the detector and generates
 668 several hits throughout several sensitive layers. In addition, the response of the detector
 669 electronics to these hits are simulated.

670 3.1.3 Generating FCNC top-Z interactions

671 The FCNC processes are generated by interfacing the Lagrangian in [Equation 1.23](#) with
 672 `MadGraph5_aMC@NLO` by means of the `FeynRules` package and the `Universal FeynRules`
 673 `Output` format. The complex chiral parameters are arbitrary chosen to be $f_{Xq}^L = 0$ and $f_{Xq}^R = 1$.
 674 The signal rates are estimated by use of the `MadGraph5_aMC@NLO` program for estimating the
 675 partial widths. The anomalous couplings are left free to float for this estimation, and only one
 676 coupling allowed to be non-vanishing at a time. The results are presented in [Table 3.1](#). The
 677 anomalous single top cross sections are calculated by convolution of the hard scattering matrix
 678 elements with the LO order set of CTEQ6 partons densities [111]. The NLO effects are modelled
 679 by multiplying each LO cross section by a global k -factor. The LO single top production cross
 680 section and the global k -factors for the top-Z production are shown in [Table 3.2](#). The hard
 681 scattering events are then matched to parton showers to `Pythia` to account for the simulation
 682 of the QCD environment relevant for hadronic collisions.

Table 3.1: Leading order partial widths related to the anomalous decay modes of the top quark, where the new physics scale Λ is given in GeV.

Anomalous coupling	vertex	Partial decay width (GeV)
κ_{gqt}/Λ	t g u	$3.665220 \cdot 10^5 \left(\kappa_{tg_u}/\Lambda\right)^2$
	t g c	$3.664620 \cdot 10^5 \left(\kappa_{tg_c}/\Lambda\right)^2$
$\kappa_{t\gamma q}/\Lambda$	t γ u	$1.989066 \cdot 10^4 \left(\kappa_{t\gamma u}/\Lambda\right)^2$
	t γ c	$1.988904 \cdot 10^4 \left(\kappa_{t\gamma c}/\Lambda\right)^2$
κ_{tZq}/Λ	t Z u	$1.637005 \cdot 10^4 \left(\kappa_{tZu}/\Lambda\right)^2$
	t Z c	$1.636554 \cdot 10^4 \left(\kappa_{tZc}/\Lambda\right)^2$
ζ_{tZq}	t Z u	$1.685134 \cdot 10^{-1} \left(\zeta_{tZu}\right)^2$
	t Z c	$1.684904 \cdot 10^{-1} \left(\zeta_{tZc}\right)^2$
η_{tHq}	t H u	$1.904399 \cdot 10^{-1} \left(\eta_{tHu}\right)^2$
	t H c	$1.904065 \cdot 10^{-1} \left(\eta_{tHc}\right)^2$

Table 3.2: Leading order single top production cross section for $pp \rightarrow tZ$ or $\bar{t}Z$, where the new physics scale is given in GeV. The NLO k -factors are given in the last column.

Anomalous coupling	Cross section (pb)	NLO k -factor
κ_{tg_u}/Λ	$3.272 \cdot 10^7 \left(\kappa_{tg_u}/\Lambda\right)^2$	1.00
κ_{tg_c}/Λ	$3.021 \cdot 10^6 \left(\kappa_{tg_c}/\Lambda\right)^2$	1.00
$\kappa_{t\gamma u}/\Lambda$	$2.260 \cdot 10^5 \left(\kappa_{t\gamma u}/\Lambda\right)^2$	1.00
$\kappa_{t\gamma c}/\Lambda$	$2.654 \cdot 10^4 \left(\kappa_{t\gamma c}/\Lambda\right)^2$	1.00
κ_{tZu}/Λ	$1.728 \cdot 10^6 \left(\kappa_{tZu}/\Lambda\right)^2$	1.40
κ_{tZc}/Λ	$2.040 \cdot 10^5 \left(\kappa_{tZc}/\Lambda\right)^2$	1.40
ζ_{tZu}	$7.484 \left(\zeta_{tZu}\right)^2$	1.40
ζ_{tZc}	$1.038 \left(\zeta_{tZc}\right)^2$	1.40

The top pair cross sections are derived from the SM $t\bar{t}$ cross section, calculated with MadGraph5_aMC@NLO at NLO ($\sigma_{t\bar{t}} = 6.741 \cdot 10^2 \text{ pb}$), and considering the decay $t\bar{t} \rightarrow (bW^\pm)(X_{\text{qt}})$. The branching ratio $\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow bW^\pm)$ is assumed to be equal to one and the FCNC branching ratio is calculated as

$$\mathcal{B}(t \rightarrow qX) = \frac{\Gamma_{t \rightarrow qX}}{\Gamma_t^{\text{SM}} + \Gamma_t^{\text{FCNC}}} \approx \frac{\Gamma_{t \rightarrow qX}}{\Gamma_t^{\text{SM}}}, \quad (3.1)$$

683 where $\Gamma_{t \rightarrow qX}$ is given in Table 3.1, and the assumption $\Gamma_t^{\text{FCNC}} \ll \Gamma_t^{\text{SM}}$ is made. In Table 3.3 the resulting NLO cross sections for the top-Z FCNC interactions are given.

Table 3.3: Next to leading order top pair cross section for the top-Z FCNC interactions with a full leptonic decay.

Anomalous coupling	Process	Cross section (pb)	
κ_{tZ_u}/Λ	$t\bar{t} \rightarrow (b\ell^+\nu)(\bar{u}\ell^+\ell^-)$	$2.727008 \cdot 10^5$	$(\kappa_{tZ_u}/\Lambda)^2$
	$t\bar{t} \rightarrow (\bar{b}\ell^-\bar{\nu})(u\ell^+\ell^-)$	$2.727008 \cdot 10^5$	$(\kappa_{tZ_u}/\Lambda)^2$
κ_{tZ_c}/Λ	$t\bar{t} \rightarrow (b\ell^+\nu)(\bar{c}\ell^+\ell^-)$	2.72625710^5	$(\kappa_{tZ_c}/\Lambda)^2$
	$t\bar{t} \rightarrow (\bar{b}\ell^-\bar{\nu})(c\ell^+\ell^-)$	$2.726257 \cdot 10^5$	$(\kappa_{tZ_c}/\Lambda)^2$
ζ_{tZ_u}	$t\bar{t} \rightarrow (b\ell^+\nu)(\bar{u}\ell^+\ell^-)$	2.827184	$(\zeta_{tZ_u})^2$
	$t\bar{t} \rightarrow (\bar{b}\ell^-\bar{\nu})(u\ell^+\ell^-)$	2.827184	$(\zeta_{tZ_u})^2$
ζ_{tZ_c}	$t\bar{t} \rightarrow (b\ell^+\nu)(\bar{c}\ell^+\ell^-)$	2.806801	$(\zeta_{tZ_c})^2$
	$t\bar{t} \rightarrow (\bar{b}\ell^-\bar{\nu})(c\ell^+\ell^-)$	2.806801	$(\zeta_{tZ_c})^2$

684

685 3.1.4 Generating SM background events

686 The SM tZ events were generated using the MadGraph5_aMC@NLO generator, interfaced with
 687 Pythia version 8.2 [95] for parton showering and hadronisation. The $WZ + \text{jets}$, $t\bar{t}Z$ and $t\bar{t}W$
 688 samples are produced using the MadGraph5_aMC@NLO(version 5.222) [97], which includes up
 689 to one hadronic jet at next to leading order (NLO) QCD accuracy. Other minor background (e.g.
 690 WW , ZZ , tWZ and $t\bar{t}H$) are simulated using different generators such as POWHEG [112–115] and
 691 MadGraph [92] at leading order QCD accuracy. All events are interfaced to Pythia for parton
 692 shower and hadronisation.

The complete list of SM samples is given in Table 3.4, along with their cross sections. The cross sections without a reference are coming from the generator with which the sample has been made, for some of them the uncertainties are provided by the Generator Group. For each MC sample, the integrated luminosity that the sample represents is estimated as the number of simulated events divided by the cross section of the generated process. For processes generated with MadGraph5_aMC@NLO, the effective number of simulated events is used, taking into account positive and negative event weights. The correction factor for those events is defined as

$$C = \frac{\text{Nb. of pos. weights} + \text{Nb. of neg. weights}}{\text{Nb. of pos. weights} - \text{Nb. of neg. weights}} \times \text{mc baseweight} \quad (3.2)$$

NOTE:
these partial widths are at LO, how does this relate to NLO that is used? Or is there no difference?

NOTE: Add source

Table 3.4: SM MC samples used in this analysis with their corresponding cross section and MadGraph5_aMC@NLO correction C when applicable. The generators used for each sample are indicated.

Process	Generator	Cross section (pb)	C
$WZ \rightarrow 3\ell\nu$	MadGraph5_aMC@NLO+Pythia	5.26	1.61
tZq with $Z \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$	MadGraph5_aMC@NLO+Pythia	0.0758	3.77
tqH with $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-\ell^+\ell^-$	JHU+Pythia	$8.80 \cdot 10^{-6}$	-
$t\bar{t}W + \text{jets}$ with $W \rightarrow \ell\nu$	MadGraph5_aMC@NLO+MadSpin+Pythia	0.2043 ± 0.0020	1.94
$t\bar{t}Z$ containing at least $2\ell + 2\nu$, with $m_{\ell\ell} > 10$ GeV	MadGraph5_aMC@NLO+Pythia	0.2529 ± 0.0004	2.15
$t\bar{t}H, \text{no } b\bar{b} \text{ decays}$	POWHEG+Pythia	0.2151	-
$t\bar{t}H, b\bar{b} \text{ decays}$	POWHEG+Pythia	0.2934	-
$WW \rightarrow 2\ell 2\nu$	POWHEG+Pythia	12.178	-
$ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$	POWHEG+Pythia	0.3366	-
WZZ	MadGraph5_aMC@NLO+Pythia	0.05565	1.14
ZZZ	MadGraph5_aMC@NLO+Pythia	0.01398	1.17
single top tWZ , with $Z_\mu \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^-$	MadGraph+Pythia	0.001123	-
single top t-channel \bar{t}	POWHEG+MadSpin+Pythia	$44.33^{+1.76}_{-1.49}$	-
single top t-channel t	POWHEG+MadSpin+Pythia	$26.38^{+1.32}_{-1.18}$	-
single top $\bar{t}W$	POWHEG+Pythia	$35.85 \pm 0.90 \text{ (scale)} \pm 1.70 \text{ (pdf)}$	-
single top tW	POWHEG+Pythia	$35.85 \pm 0.90 \text{ (scale)} \pm 1.70 \text{ (pdf)}$	-
$t\bar{t}$	POWHEG+Pythia	$831.76^{+19.77+35.06}_{-29.20-35.06}$	-
$Z/\gamma^* + \text{jets}$, with $m_{\ell\ell} > 50$ GeV	MadGraph5_aMC@NLO+Pythia	$3 \times (1921.8 \pm 0.6 \pm 33.2)$	1.49
$Z/\gamma^* + \text{jets}$, with $10 \text{ GeV} < m_{\ell\ell} < 50 \text{ GeV}$	MadGraph+Pythia	18610	-

⁶⁹³ **3.2 Multivariate analysis techniques: Boosted Decision Trees**

⁶⁹⁴ **3.3 Template-based fitting**

695

Event reconstruction

4

696 After the detector simulation described in Section ??, the simulated data has the exact same
697 format as the real collision data recorded at the CMS experiment. Therefore the same software
698 can be used for the reconstruction of both simulation and real data. In this Chapter, the event
699 reconstruction for physics analysis is shown.

The search for FCNC involving a top quark and a Z boson

700

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