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Search for new physics in top quark production with additional leptons using the framework of effective field theory

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Motivation for indirect searches for new physics

- There are strong indications that the SM is not the complete description of nature, but there's no guarantee that the new particles would be light enough to be produced on shell at the LHC
- Indirect methods of probing higher mass scales are thus becoming increasingly interesting in the search for new physics at the energy frontier
- Effective field theory (EFT) is an example of such an indirect probe, and offers a model independent method of extending the discovery reach of the LHC



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Brief introduction to EFT

- EFT treats the SM as the lowest order term in an expansion of higher-dimensional operators, that describe physics at a scale Λ , interacting with a strength determined by a dimensionless parameter called a Wilson coefficient, *c*
- If all Wilson coefficients (WCs) are 0, the SM Lagrangian is recovered -> a non-zero WC would indicate new physics



 Example: If a heavy particle can't be produced on-shell at the LHC, would be hard to find via a direct search, but EFT can describe the interaction with a dim6 EFT operator, where the strength of the interaction is determined by the WC c



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Overview of analysis goals

- This analysis uses EFT to probe new physics impacting associated top production
 - These processes are relatively rare, involve heavy particles, and may be an interesting region for new physics to be hiding
 - Signal processes: ttH, ttlnu, ttll, tllq, tHq, tttt
 - Global approach, probe all effects of dimension-6 EFT operators (involving top quarks) that can impact these processes



A few example associated top production diagrams

EFT operators impacting associated top processes

• We study 26 Wilson Coefficients (WCs) that significantly impact associated top processes, the operators fall into 4 main categories:



Strategy for multilepton EFT analysis

- We focus on multilepton signatures, many advantages but also challenges:
 - Multiple signal processes contribute to the same final state signatures
 - Many WCs can affect the processes, interfere with each other and the SM



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The LHC and CMS

Geneva

CERN Prévessin



https://home.cern/topics/large-hadron-collider

• Using 138 fb⁻¹ of pp collision data at $\sqrt{s} = 13 \,\text{TeV}$

ATLA

ALICE

Collected by CMS 2016-2018

Experimental signatures



- We're interested in leptonic decays of associated top processes
- These lead to signatures of leptons, jets, and b jets







Improving sensitivity with differential distributions

- In order to improve sensitivity, we fit a differential kinematic distribution for each of the 43 categories
- Use different variables (pT(lj0), pT(Z)) in different regions to optimize sensitivity to EFT effects



When we reweight to a non-SM point, we can see the shape and normalization of the distribution changes

Summary of event selection and categorization

- Binning the 43 categories with these kinematical distributions \rightarrow 178 total bins
- The predicted yield in each bin depends quadratically on the 26 WCs
- Perform a likelihood fit (where the WCs are the POIs) to extract the confidence intervals for WCs
 - Backgrounds (mainly dibosons and misidentified leptons) also contribute
 - Systematic uncertainties also must be accounted for



Results

- Extract the 1σ and 2σ confidence intervals for the WCs where other WCs are frozen and profiled
- Results are consistent with SM
- For most of the WCs, sensitivity is limited by statistics





Summary and future directions

- SM EFT provides a systematic framework in which to characterize the effects of heavy new physics and potentially extend the discovery reach of the LHC
- This analysis has searched for new physics impacting associated top production in multilepton final states within the context of EFT
 - Used 138 fb⁻¹ of pp collisions collected by CMS during 2016-2018
 - Studied 26 dimension-six WCs
 - Performed simultaneous fit to extracted confidence intervals for the WCs
 - All results are consistent with the SM
 - Details in <u>CMS PAS TOP-22-006</u>
- There are many directions in which to improve and expanded the analysis:
 - More data
 - Improvements in EFT modeling
 - Optimizations of categorizations and kinematic variables
 - Targeting more signal processes and other final states
 - Combinations with other analyses



CMS trigger

- Bunch crossings ~40MHz, \rightarrow too much data to record/store
- Purpose of trigger: Reduce event rate to manageable ~1kHz while keeping as many potentially interesting events as possible



Important to monitor the rates of the L1 and HLT paths, unexpected rates can be a useful early warning sign of issues in various parts of the detector



Electromagnetic calorimeter

- Composed of lead tungstate crystals
- Responsible for stopping electrons and photons and measuring their energies

Hadronic calorimeter

- Composed of alternating layers of brass absorber and plastic scintillator
- Responsible for stopping hadrons and measuring their energies

Muon chambers

- Gas ionization • detections
- Measures the curved paths of the muons as they pass through the detector



Object reconstruction

- CMS uses a holistic reconstruction technique called particle flow to correlate the elements from each subdetector and construct a global picture of each event
- First identifies muons, then electrons and isolated photons, finally charged hadrons, neutral hadrons, non-isolated photons



Comparison to TOP-19-001

- TOP-22-006 builds on the techniques and tools developed in the <u>TOP-19-001</u> analysis
- Some of the important improvements over TOP-19-001 include:
 - Including an additional signal process (tttt) in addition to the 5 already included in TOP-19-001
 - Studying 10 additional Wilson coefficients in addition to the 16 probed in TOP-19-001, for a total of 26
 - Using the full Run 2 data set (TOP-19-001 only used 2017)
 - Fitting differential distributions, which allows us to gain additional sensitivity (TOP-19-001 followed a more inclusive approach, fitting 35 categories based primarily on object multiplicities)



More process

Operator category	WCs
Two heavy quarks	$c_{t\varphi}, c_{\varphi Q}^{-}, c_{\varphi Q}^{3}, c_{\varphi t}, c_{\varphi t b}, c_{t W}, c_{t Z}, c_{b W}, c_{t C}$
Two heavy quarks two leptons	$c_{Q\ell}^{3(\ell)}, c_{Q\ell}^{-(\ell)}, c_{Qe}^{(\ell)}, c_{t\ell}^{(\ell)}, c_{te}^{(\ell)}, c_{t}^{S(\ell)}, c_{t}^{T(\ell)}$
Two light quarks two heavy quarks	$c_{\rm Qq}^{31}, c_{\rm Qq}^{38}, c_{\rm Qq}^{11}, c_{\rm Qq}^{18}, c_{\rm tq}^{1}, c_{\rm tq}^{8}$
Four heavy quarks	$c_{\rm OO}^1, c_{\rm Ot}^1, c_{\rm Ot}^8, c_{\rm tt}^1$

More WCs



More differential

Modeling the signal contribution

- We generate MC samples for our six signal processes (ttH, ttlnu, ttll, tllq, tHq, tttt) using MG with the dim6top model (1802.07237) to incorporate the relevant EFT effects in the MC
 - The dim6top model uses Warsaw basis of dimension-6 operators
 - The dim6top model is LO, so we include an extra jet in the matrix element (when possible) to improve the modeling at high jet-multiplicities and to capture relevant EFT dependence that enters with an extra parton
 - We include 26 WCs (all WCs from dim6top that significantly impact the processes contributing to our data samples)
- We generated ~300M events in total



Quadratic dependence of the weights on the WCs

• Matrix element can be written as sum of SM and new physics:

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_{SM} + \sum_{i} c_{i} \mathcal{M}_{i} \quad \longleftarrow \begin{array}{c} c_{i} \text{ are the Wilson} \\ \text{coefficients} \end{array}$$

- Since, $\sigma \propto \mathcal{M}^2$, cross sections depend quadratically on the Wilson coefficients c_i
- E.g. for just one c_1 : M = number of WCs M = number of WCs M = number of WCs
- Each event's weight will also depend quadratically on the WCs, which we can find via a reweighting procedure

Summary of how the parameterized weights are used to find the yield in a given bin



Event selection details

Event category	Leptons	$m_{\ell\ell}$	b-tags	Lepton charge sum	Jets	Differential variable
2ℓss 2b	2	No requirement	2	> 0, <0	4,5,6,≥7	$p_{\mathrm{T}}(\ell \mathrm{j} 0)$
$2\ell ss 3b$	2	No requirement	\geq 3	> 0, <0	4,5,6,≥7	$p_{\rm T}(\ell j 0)$
3ℓ off-Z 1b	3	$ m_Z - m_{\ell\ell} > 10 \mathrm{GeV}$	1	> 0, <0	2,3,4,≥5	$p_{\rm T}(\ell j0)$
3ℓ off-Z 2b	3	$ m_{\rm Z}-m_{\ell\ell} >10{ m GeV}$	\geq 2	> 0, <0	2,3,4,≥5	$p_{\mathrm{T}}(\ell \mathrm{j} 0)$
3ℓ on-Z 1b	3	$ m_Z - m_{\ell\ell} \le 10 \mathrm{GeV}$	1	No requirement	2,3,4,≥5	$p_{\mathrm{T}}(\mathbf{Z})$
3ℓ on-Z $2b$	3	$ m_Z - m_{\ell\ell} \le 10 \mathrm{GeV}$	\geq 2	No requirement	2,3,4,≥5	$p_{\rm T}({\rm Z})$ or $p_{\rm T}(\ell j 0)$
4ℓ	≥ 4	No requirement	\geq 2	No requirement	2,3,≥4	$p_{\mathrm{T}}(\ell \mathrm{j}0)$
		-				

- All jets required to have $|\eta| < 2.4$ and $p_T > 30$ GeV, all electrons require $|\eta| < 2.5$, all μ require $|\eta| < 2.4$, with lepton p_T cuts (in GeV):
 - 2lss 1st and 2nd: $p_T > 25, p_T > 15$
 - 3I 1st, 2nd, and 3rd: $p_T > 25$, $p_T > 15$, $p_T > 15$ (10) for e (μ)
 - 4I 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th: $p_T > 25$, $p_T > 15$, $p_T > 15$ (10) for e (µ), $p_T > 15$ (10) for e (µ)

Backgrounds and systematics

- Signal processes (impacted by the EFT) are not the only contributions to our signal regions → about 1/3 of yield is background
- Main backgrounds: From processes that lead to the same final states as our signal processes, and from misidentified leptons
- Model backgrounds with combination of MC and data-driven approaches



 Various systematic uncertainties (impacting signal and background) also must be accounted for in the fit

Event selection summary

- Cannot fully isolate signal processes
- But EFT impacts each process differently and goal is to gain sensitivity to the EFT effects, so the purpose of event selection categorization is to differentiate as much as possible between the admixture



Example one-dimensional scans



Discussion of results: Interpretation of sensitivity

• The sensitivity to most of the WCs comes from a wide range of bins across all selection categories

Grouping of WCs	WCs	Lead categories
Two heavy two leptons	$\begin{array}{c} c_{Q\ell}^{3(\ell)}, c_{Q\ell}^{-(\ell)}, c_{Qe}^{(\ell)}, c_{t\ell}^{(\ell)}, \\ c_{te}^{(\ell)}, c_{t}^{S(\ell)}, c_{t}^{T(\ell)} \end{array}$	3ℓ off-Z
Four heavy	$c_{QQ}^1,c_{Qt}^1,c_{Qt}^8,c_{tt}^1$	$2\ell ss$
Two heavy two light "tīl ν-like"	$c_{Qq}^{11},c_{Qq}^{18},c_{tq}^{1},c_{tq}^{8}$	$2\ell ss$
Two heavy two light "tllq-like"	c_{Qq}^{31}, c_{Qq}^{38}	3ℓ on-Z
Two heavy with bosons "tītll-like"	$c_{tZ},c_{arphi t},c_{arphi Q}^-$	3ℓ on-Z and $2\ell ss$
Two heavy with bosons "tXq-like"	$c_{arphi Q}^3,c_{arphi tb},c_{bW}$	3ℓ on-Z
Two heavy with bosons with sig- nificant impacts on many pro- cesses	$c_{tG}, c_{tarphi}, c_{tW}$	3ℓ and $2\ell ss$