

# Discrimination of the spin of dark matter candidates at the LHC

Luca Panizzi

# Beyond the Higgs boson

open problems

The Standard Model is complete  
but are we happy with it?

## Observations

Dark Matter

Matter-antimatter  
asymmetry

Neutrino masses

## Theoretical issues

Fermion mass  
hierarchies

Origin of flavour  
families

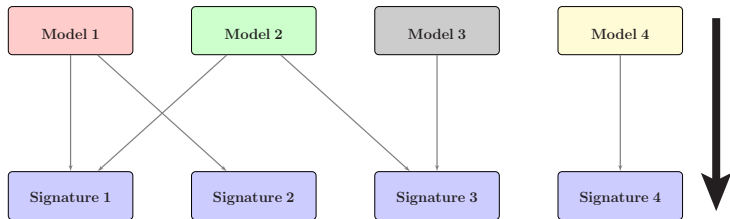
Gauge coupling  
unification

...

**There must be new physics**  
and most probably it's already in our reach!

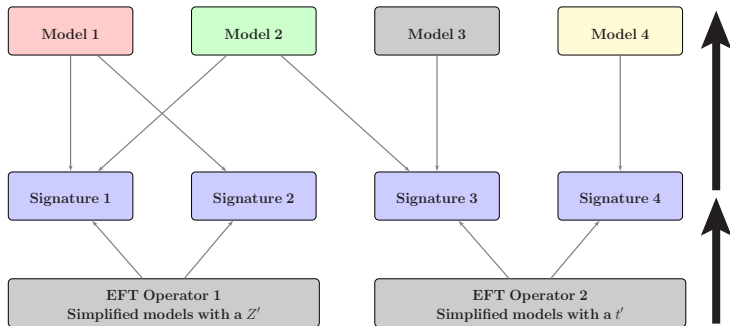
And if there's new physics we should be able to observe new particles (hopefully soon!)

# Looking for new physics at the LHC



Designing searches or simulating signals to test specific models is a risky bet

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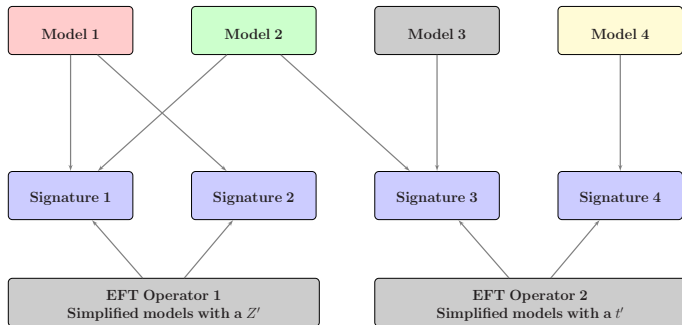
**Model-independent approach**

**EFTs: higher dimension operators where heavy d.o.f. are integrated out**

**Simplified models: minimal extensions of the SM with new states**

**Approximate description of classes of theoretical models**

# Characterisation of new physics



**Suppose Signature 1 is discovered**

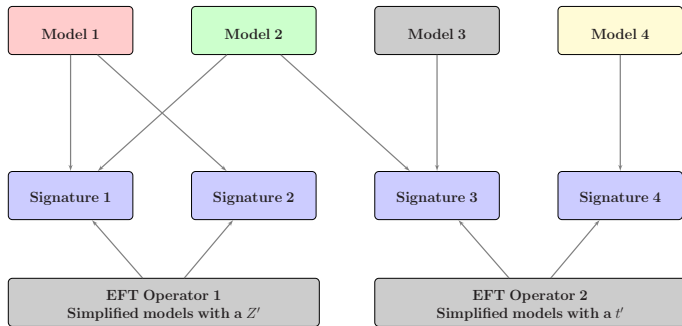
**Is it possible to distinguish between Model 1 and Model 2?**

**Answer 1**

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Implies further experimental effort  
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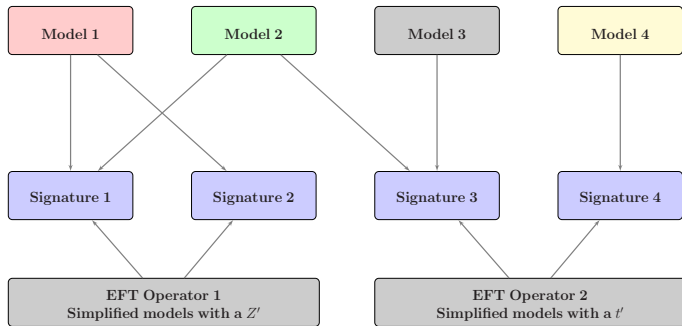
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Try to characterise Signature 1  
Implies a detailed analysis of available data  
which can be done immediately  
(though success is not always guaranteed)

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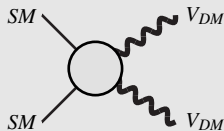
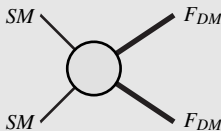
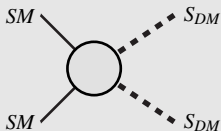
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**Let's focus on the Dark Matter!**

# The role of DM spin

## Scalar, Fermion or Vector DM?



Examples:

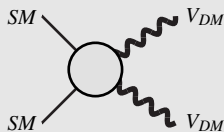
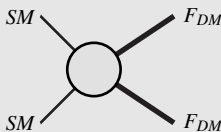
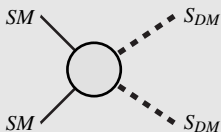
- **Supersymmetry**: lightest R-odd particle, usually neutralino (fermion) or sneutrino (scalar)
- **Universal Extra Dimensions**: lightest KK-odd particle, usually photon partner (scalar or vector depending on the number of dimensions)

**Determining the spin of a DM candidate  
would strongly constrain or rule out classes of BSM scenarios**



# The role of DM spin

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**Determining the spin of a DM candidate  
would strongly constrain or rule out classes of BSM scenarios**

Report of the ATLAS/CMS Dark Matter Forum, arXiv:1507.00966 [hep-ex]:

“Different spins of Dark Matter particles will typically give similar results [...]. Thus the choice of Dirac fermion Dark Matter should be sufficient as benchmarks for the upcoming Run-2 searches”

Can the kinematical properties of DM candidates with different spin be  
**different enough to be detected** in certain channels?

# The rationale

## Interactions of the DM candidate

Vertices have different Lorentz structures

$$i\lambda \quad i\lambda\gamma^\mu \quad i\lambda g^{\mu\nu} \quad \dots$$



## Signal events

At fixed DM mass, distributions of final state objects are different for different DM spins  
(and different EFT operators or different mediator spins)



## Analysis

Shape analysis of signatures with MET can help in the characterisation of the signal

**A spin characterisation analysis requires enough signal events**

# Outline

## 1 Setup of the framework: EFTs and simplified models

## 2 Mono-objects

- Mono-jet and EFT operators
- Mono-jet in simplified models
- Mono-Z in a simplified model with Z mediator

A. Belyaev, **LP**, A. Pukhov, M. Thomas, JHEP **1704** (2017) 110

work in progress

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## 3 Multi-particle + $\cancel{E}_T$

- di-jet and top-antitop

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# EFTs or simplified models

What to use?

## Effective field theories (EFTs)



Heavy UV physics, not accessible at the LHC

Operators of dimension  $d > 4$  suppressed by  $\Lambda_{UV}^{d-4}$

### Free parameters:

- DM mass
- UV scale (coefficient of the operator)

**Easy to study**  
**Limited applicability**

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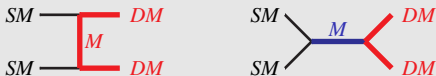
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## Simplified models



The **mediator** can be produced at the LHC either a BSM state or a particle of the SM itself (e.g. Z or Higgs portals)

Operators of dimension 4

### Free parameters:

- DM mass
- Mediator mass (if BSM)
- Coupling between DM and mediator
- Coupling between SM and mediator (if BSM)

**Applicable to more scenarios**  
**EFTs as a limit for large mediator masses**  
**More degrees of freedom, more complexity**

# $d \leq 6$ EFT operators for DM

Complex scalar DM <sup>†</sup>	
$\frac{\bar{m}}{\Lambda^2} \phi^\dagger \phi \bar{q} q$	[C1]*
$\frac{\bar{m}}{\Lambda^2} \phi^\dagger \phi \bar{q} i \gamma^5 q$	[C2]*
$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\mu \phi \bar{q} \gamma^\mu q$	[C3]
$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\mu \phi \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 q$	[C4]
$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \phi^\dagger \phi G^{\mu\nu} G_{\mu\nu}$	[C5]*
$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \phi^\dagger \phi \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu} G_{\mu\nu}$	[C6]*

Dirac fermion DM <sup>†</sup>	
$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \bar{\chi} \chi \bar{q} q$	[D1]*
$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \bar{\chi} i \gamma^5 \chi \bar{q} q$	[D2]*
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$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \chi \bar{q} \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 q$	[D7]
$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \bar{\chi} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 \chi \bar{q} \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 q$	[D8]
$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \bar{\chi} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \chi \bar{q} \sigma_{\mu\nu} q$	[D9]*
$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \bar{\chi} \sigma^{\mu\nu} i \gamma^5 \chi \bar{q} \sigma_{\mu\nu} q$	[D10]*

Complex vector DM <sup>‡</sup>	
$\frac{\bar{m}}{\Lambda^2} V_\mu^\dagger V^\mu \bar{q} q$	[V1]*
$\frac{\bar{m}}{\Lambda^2} V_\mu^\dagger V^\mu \bar{q} i \gamma^5 q$	[V2]*
$\frac{1}{2\Lambda^2} (V_\nu^\dagger \partial_\mu V^\nu - V^\nu \partial_\mu V_\nu^\dagger) \bar{q} \gamma^\mu q$	[V3]
$\frac{1}{2\Lambda^2} (V_\nu^\dagger \partial_\mu V^\nu - V^\nu \partial_\mu V_\nu^\dagger) \bar{q} i \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 q$	[V4]
$\frac{\bar{m}}{\Lambda^2} V_\mu^\dagger V_\nu \bar{q} i \sigma^{\mu\nu} q$	[V5]
$\frac{\bar{m}}{\Lambda^2} V_\mu^\dagger V_\nu \bar{q} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \gamma^5 q$	[V6]
$\frac{1}{2\Lambda^2} (V_\nu^\dagger \partial^\nu V_\mu + V^\nu \partial_\nu V_\mu^\dagger) \bar{q} \gamma^\mu q$	[V7P]
$\frac{1}{2\Lambda^2} (V_\nu^\dagger \partial^\nu V_\mu - V^\nu \partial_\nu V_\mu^\dagger) \bar{q} i \gamma^\mu q$	[V7M]
$\frac{1}{2\Lambda^2} (V_\nu^\dagger \partial^\nu V_\mu + V^\nu \partial_\nu V_\mu^\dagger) \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 q$	[V8P]
$\frac{1}{2\Lambda^2} (V_\nu^\dagger \partial^\nu V_\mu - V^\nu \partial_\nu V_\mu^\dagger) \bar{q} i \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 q$	[V8M]
$\frac{1}{2\Lambda^2} \epsilon^{\mu\nu\rho\sigma} (V_\nu^\dagger \partial_\rho V_\sigma + V_\nu \partial_\rho V_\sigma^\dagger) \bar{q} \gamma_\mu q$	[V9P]
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$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} V_\mu^\dagger V^\mu G^{\rho\sigma} G_{\rho\sigma}$	[V11]*
$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2} V_\mu^\dagger V^\mu \tilde{G}^{\rho\sigma} G_{\rho\sigma}$	[V12]*

\* operators applicable to real DM fields, modulo a factor 1/2

<sup>†</sup> Listed in J. Goodman *et al.*, *Constraints on Dark Matter from Colliders*, Phys.Rev. **D82** (2010) 116010, [arXiv:1008.1783]

<sup>‡</sup> All but V11 and V12 listed in Kumar *et al.*, *Vector dark matter at the LHC*, Phys. Rev. **D92** (2015) 095027, [arXiv:1508.04466]

# Simplified models

A common feature of DM candidates is that they are **odd** under a  $Z_2$  symmetry under which SM particles are **even**. But what about mediators?

## Odd mediators





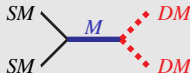
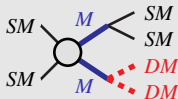
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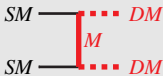
## Even mediators



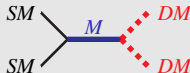
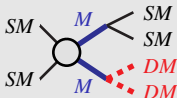
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## SM mediators

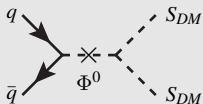


Mono-X from **t-channel** or **loop** topologies for **odd** mediators  
and from **s-channel** or **4-leg** topologies for **even** BSM or SM mediators

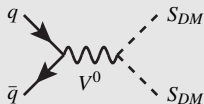
# Are mediator and DM spins related?

s-channel

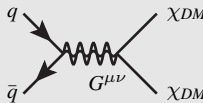
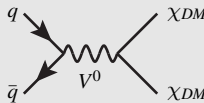
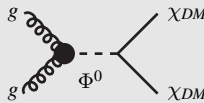
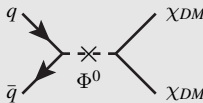
## Scalar mediator



## Vector mediator



## Tensor mediator



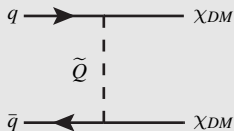
The relevance of gg initiated processes depends on couplings between scalar mediator and SM quarks

**Same mediators for bosonic and fermionic DM**

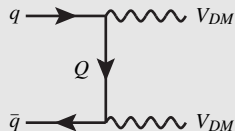
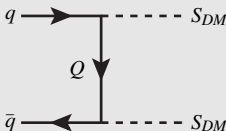
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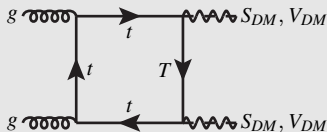
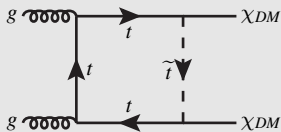
## Scalar mediator



## Fermion mediator

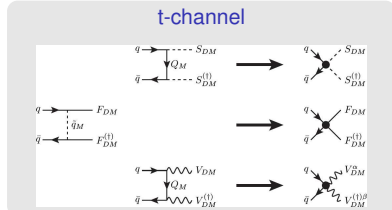
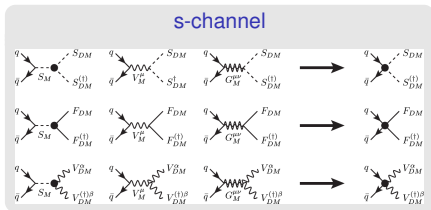


Plus diagrams at one-loop if the mediator does not couple to SM partons



**In t-channel the spin of the DM and the spin of the mediator are related**

# Simplified models to EFT



Different simplified scenarios can be described with the same EFT operators in the heavy mediator limit

- Scalar DM and scalar mediator in s-channel
- Scalar DM and fermion mediator in t-channel
- Scalar DM and (longitudinal component of) vector mediator in s-channel

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \bullet \\ \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} \right\} \implies \frac{\tilde{m}}{\Lambda^2} \phi^{(\dagger)} \phi \bar{q} q \quad \text{C1}$$

Potentially different results with:

- EFT operators corresponding to **different DM spins**
- EFT operators corresponding to **same DM spin** but **different coupling structure**

**How different they are, though? Are the differences observable?**

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work in progress

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## 3 Multi-particle + $E\cancel{T}$

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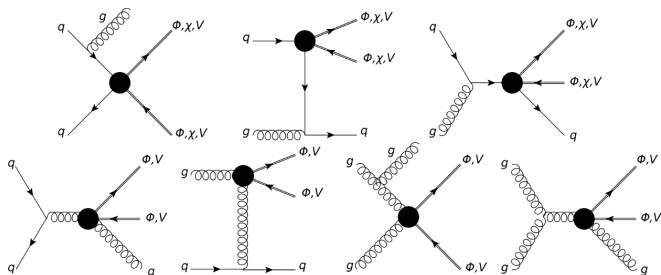
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# Topologies



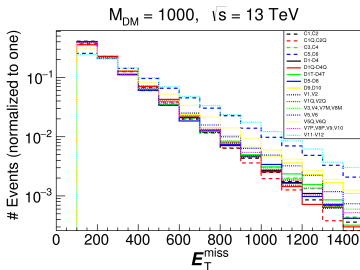
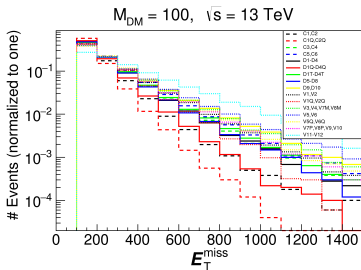
A spin-related difference to start with

Fermion DM cannot have the mono-jet topologies with gluon vertices through dim-6 operators (at least dim-7)



# Differential distributions

$E_T^{\text{miss}}$ , detector level at 13 TeV

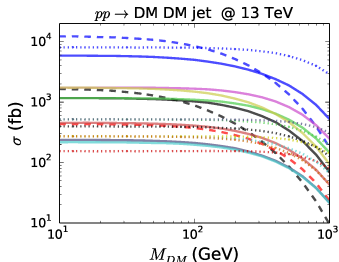


- **Relevant differences** in distributions as long as the DM mass is below the TeV
- Operators proportional to  $m_q$  (red lines) fall **steeper** than others from same-spin DM (due to PDFs) but  $\sigma$  too small
- Operators of dim-5 for scalar DM (**dashed black**) can be distinguished from others as they fall **kind-of steeper**
- Operators for vector DM interacting with gluons (**dotted cyan**) are always the **least steep**, even for large DM masses

To distinguish shapes, the cross-sections should be high enough, though

# Cross-sections and recasting

Cross-sections for  $\Lambda=1$  TeV



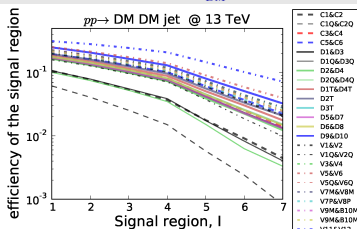
**Mono-jet search**

ATLAS  
EXOT-2015-03  
 $3.2 \text{ fb}^{-1}$

implemented in  
CheckMATE

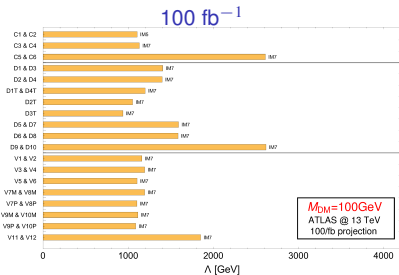
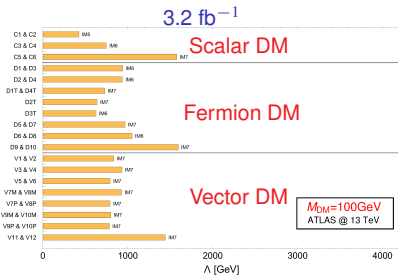
Inclusive SR	$E_T$ (GeV)
IM1	>250
IM2	>300
IM3	>350
IM4	>400
IM5	>500
IM6	>600
IM7	>700

Efficiencies for  $M_{DM}=100\text{GeV}$



The different kinematics is reflected in sizably different efficiencies

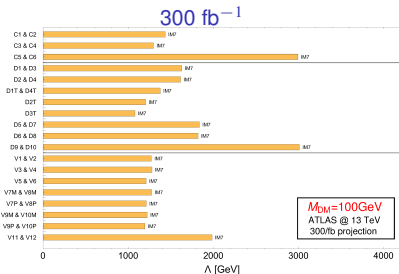
# Bounds on $\Lambda$ and projections to higher luminosities



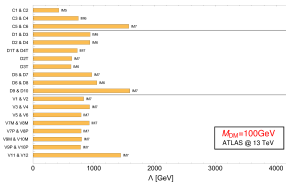
- $M_{DM}=100\text{ GeV}$
- Floor for background uncertainty at 1%
- Improvement of a factor 1.5-3 of the bounds, which then stabilise around 1-3 TeV depending on the operator

Not much room left for discovery  
of EFT scenarios  
with higher luminosities

SRs with higher MET cuts would help  
Higher energies would help



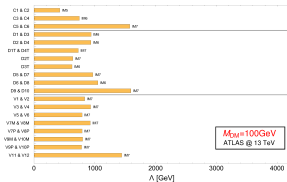
# Limits on EFT $\Lambda$



The bounds on  $\Lambda$  may seem low  
May new physics be produced directly  
instead of being too heavy?

Different answers:

# Limits on EFT $\Lambda$



The bounds on  $\Lambda$  may seem low  
 May new physics be produced directly  
 instead of being too heavy?

Different answers:

- **It can be, yes.**

Interpretation for **single mediator**:

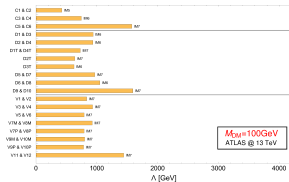
- **Small couplings:** EFT validity limit (for fermion DM) around the TeV

G. Busoni, A. De Simone, E. Morgante and A. Riotto, Phys. Lett. B **728** (2014) 412

- **Larger couplings:** larger  $\Lambda \rightarrow \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} = \frac{g^2}{\Lambda'^2} \Rightarrow$  **very large mediator width**

O. Buchmueller, M. J. Dolan and C. McCabe, JHEP **1401** (2014) 025

# Limits on EFT $\Lambda$



The bounds on  $\Lambda$  may seem low  
 May new physics be produced directly  
 instead of being too heavy?

Different answers:

- It can be, yes.
- The value of  $\Lambda$  may not necessarily correspond to the mass of the mediator

Parametrisation in terms of effective dimension  $D$

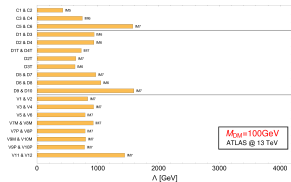
Asymptotic behaviour of the cross-section:  $\sigma_{2 \rightarrow 2} \propto \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \times \left(\frac{E}{\Lambda}\right)^{\Delta\sigma}$ ,  $\Delta\sigma = 2(D - 5) \implies D = \Delta\sigma/2 + 5$

**Vector DM**  $\implies$  enhancement of  $E/M_{DM}$  for each allowed longitudinal polarisation

$$\implies \text{coefficient of the EFT operator: } \frac{1}{\Lambda_D^{d-4}} \left(\frac{M_{DM}}{\Lambda_D}\right)^{D-d} = \frac{M_{DM}^{D-d}}{\Lambda_D^{D-4}}$$

$V_{DM}$ Operator	$\Lambda_d$	$d$	Amplitude Enhancement	$\Delta\sigma (\sigma_{2 \rightarrow 2} \propto E^{\Delta\sigma})$	$\Lambda_D$	$D$
V1, V2, V5, V6	$\frac{1}{\Lambda}$	5	$(E/M_{DM})^2$	4	$\frac{M_{DM}^2}{\Lambda^3}$	7
V3, V4, V7M, V8M, V11, V12	$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2}$	6	$(E/M_{DM})^2$	6	$\frac{M_{DM}^2}{\Lambda^4}$	8
V7P, V8P, V9, V10	$\frac{1}{\Lambda^2}$	6	$E/M_{DM}$	4	$\frac{M_{DM}}{\Lambda^3}$	7

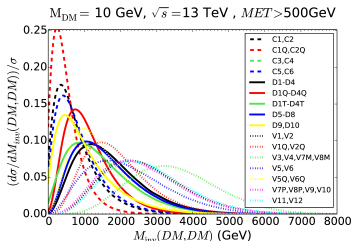
# Limits on EFT $\Lambda$



The bounds on  $\Lambda$  may seem low  
 May new physics be produced directly  
 instead of being too heavy?

Different answers:

- It can be, yes.
- The value of  $\Lambda$  may not necessarily correspond to the mass of the mediator
- Unitarity constraints are a robust criterion



Applying a cut above  $E_{lim}$   
 for which unitarity is violated  
 (numerical check)

$$M_{inv}(DM, DM) < 2E_{lim} \simeq 4\Lambda_{lim}$$

$\mathcal{O}(\%)$  decrease in the limit for  $\Lambda$

Debate in literature, but this is a case study for characterising signals with MET

# Discrimination between operators

- Assume that in the highest SR (IM7) there is signal at half of the number of excluded events at 95%
- Suppose that with an increase of luminosity the signal will be observed
- Use a  $\chi^2$  procedure on the last 4 bins (more sensitive to distribution tails) with 1% uncertainty on the background

$$\chi_{k,l}^2 = \min_{\kappa} \sum_{i=3}^7 \left[ \left( \frac{1}{2} N_i^k - \kappa \cdot N_i^l \right) / (10^{-2} B G_i) \right]^2$$

- Compare with  $\chi_{min}^2 = 9.49$ , the 95%CL limit with 4 d.o.f.

			Complex Scalar DM				Dirac Fermion DM				Complex Vector DM							
			100 GeV		1000 GeV		100 GeV		1000 GeV		100 GeV			1000 GeV				
			C1	C5	C1	C5	D1	D9	D1	D9	V1	V3	V5	V11	V1	V3	V5	V11
Complex Scalar DM	100 GeV	C1	0.0	<b>19.7</b>	<b>25.54</b>	<b>74.63</b>	<b>11.73</b>	<b>41.79</b>	<b>25.78</b>	<b>52.58</b>	<b>22.97</b>	<b>32.89</b>	<b>54.35</b>	<b>73.34</b>	<b>25.18</b>	<b>34.61</b>	<b>52.34</b>	<b>80.85</b>
		C5	<b>15.74</b>	0.0	0.37	<b>16.25</b>	1.11	3.93	0.74	7.35	0.18	1.53	8.2	<b>15.73</b>	0.44	1.9	7.24	<b>19.13</b>
	1000 GeV	C1	<b>19.89</b>	0.36	0.0	<b>11.82</b>	2.33	2.09	0.27	4.58	0.06	0.45	5.29	<b>11.41</b>	0.06	0.68	4.42	<b>14.36</b>
		C5	<b>50.86</b>	<b>13.86</b>	<b>10.34</b>	0.0	<b>21.03</b>	3.7	<b>11.18</b>	1.53	<b>11.57</b>	6.82	1.26	0.01	<b>10.84</b>	6.1	1.61	0.14
Dirac Fermion DM	100 GeV	D1	<b>9.88</b>	1.17	2.52	<b>25.99</b>	0.0	9.23	2.4	<b>14.17</b>	1.85	5.09	<b>15.34</b>	<b>25.37</b>	2.29	5.85	<b>13.85</b>	<b>29.81</b>
		D9	<b>30.49</b>	3.59	1.96	3.96	7.99	0.0	2.71	0.52	2.49	0.62	0.73	3.69	2.31	0.39	0.56	5.36
	1000 GeV	D1	<b>20.31</b>	0.73	0.27	<b>12.92</b>	2.25	2.93	0.0	5.42	0.32	0.82	6.33	<b>12.58</b>	0.08	1.18	5.08	<b>15.7</b>
		D9	<b>37.38</b>	6.54	4.18	1.6	<b>11.96</b>	0.5	4.89	0.0	4.98	2.02	0.06	1.44	4.56	1.61	0.04	2.55
Complex Vector DM	100 GeV	V1	<b>18.06</b>	0.17	0.06	<b>13.34</b>	1.72	2.68	0.32	5.5	0.0	0.77	6.25	<b>12.9</b>	0.1	1.06	5.34	<b>16.03</b>
		V3	<b>24.86</b>	1.45	0.44	7.57	4.57	0.65	0.79	2.14	0.74	0.0	2.68	7.25	0.57	0.03	2.04	<b>9.59</b>
	1000 GeV	V5	<b>38.36</b>	7.24	4.79	1.3	<b>12.86</b>	0.7	5.67	0.06	5.61	2.5	0.0	1.14	5.24	2.04	0.13	2.13
		V11	<b>50.03</b>	<b>13.43</b>	<b>10.0</b>	0.01	<b>20.55</b>	3.45	<b>10.89</b>	1.39	<b>11.2</b>	6.54	1.11	0.0	<b>10.52</b>	5.83	1.49	0.16
	1000 GeV	V1	<b>19.73</b>	0.43	0.06	<b>12.46</b>	2.13	2.48	0.08	5.02	0.1	0.59	5.83	<b>12.09</b>	0.0	0.89	4.78	<b>15.14</b>
		V3	<b>25.96</b>	1.78	0.65	6.72	5.21	0.4	1.12	1.7	1.01	0.03	2.17	6.41	0.85	0.0	1.65	8.6
1000 GeV	V5	<b>37.33</b>	6.47	4.04	1.68	<b>11.72</b>	0.55	4.59	0.04	4.84	1.93	0.14	1.55	4.34	1.57	0.0	2.72	
	V11	<b>54.48</b>	<b>16.14</b>	<b>12.42</b>	0.13	<b>23.85</b>	4.95	<b>13.43</b>	2.41	<b>13.74</b>	8.55	2.03	0.16	<b>13.01</b>	7.73	2.57	0.0	

Discrimination is not always possible but in some cases different spins of DM can be distinguished



# Outline

## 1 Setup of the framework: EFTs and simplified models

## 2 Mono-objects

- Mono-jet and EFT operators

A. Belyaev, LP, A. Pukhov, M. Thomas, JHEP 1704 (2017) 110

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work in progress

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work in progress

## 3 Multi-particle + $E_T$

- di-jet and top-antitop

(1) S.Kraml, U.Laa, LP, H.Prager, JHEP 1611 (2016) 107

(2) S.Moretti, D.O'Brien, LP, H.Prager, Phys. Rev. D 96 (2017) no.3, 035033

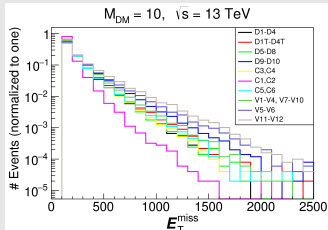
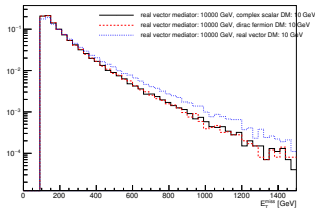
# s-channel topologies

example with vector mediator

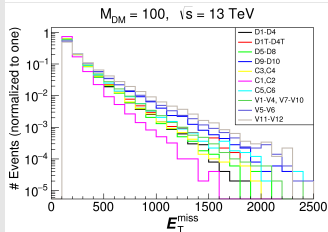
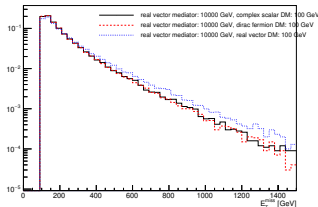
Simplified model  $M_V = 10$  TeV

EFT  $\Lambda_{UV} = 10$  TeV

$M_{DM} = 10$  GeV



$M_{DM} = 100$  GeV



Same **qualitative** behaviour in the large mediator mass limit

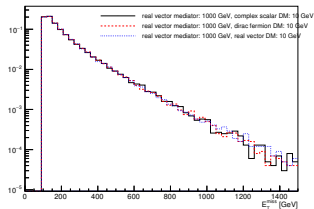
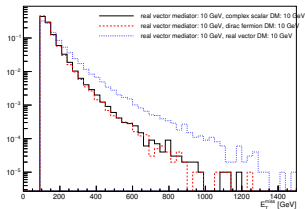
# s-channel topologies

example with vector mediator

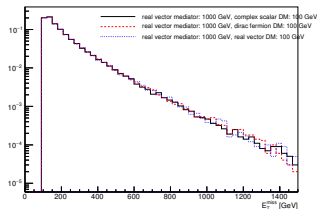
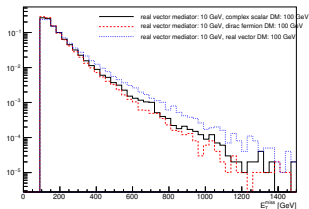
$M_V = 10 \text{ GeV}$

$M_V = 1000 \text{ GeV}$

$M_{DM} 10 \text{ GeV}$



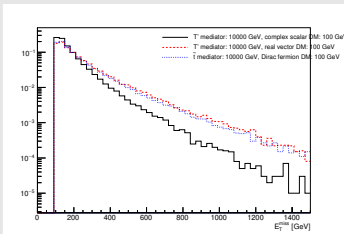
$M_{DM} 100 \text{ GeV}$



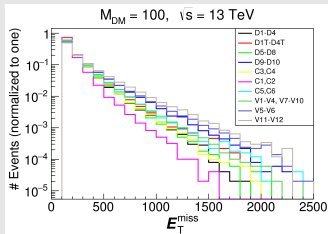
**More sensitivity to the spin of the DM when the mediator is not on-shell**

# t-channel topologies

Simplified model  $M_V = 10$  TeV



EFT  $\Lambda_{UV} = 10$  TeV



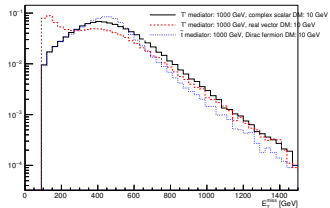
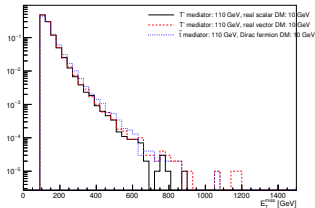
Same **qualitative** behaviour in the large mediator mass limit

# t-channel topologies

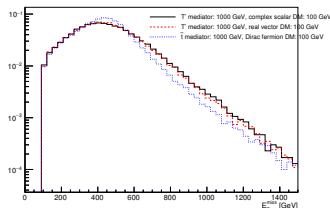
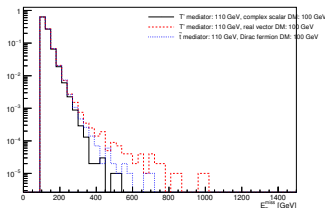
$M_V = 110 \text{ GeV}$

$M_V = 1000 \text{ GeV}$

$M_{DM} 10 \text{ GeV}$



$M_{DM} 100 \text{ GeV}$



Potentially visible differences for all mediator and DM masses of different spins

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work in progress

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(2) S.Moretti, D.O'Brien, LP, H.Prager, Phys. Rev. D 96 (2017) no.3, 035033

# Signal topologies

mono-Z

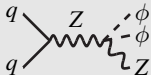
## Assumptions

- The DM interacts **only** with the SM gauge bosons

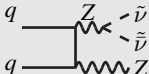
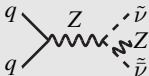
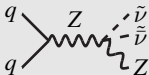
- DM couplings of EW strength: 
$$\begin{cases} g_{Z-Z-DM} = \lambda_Z e/s_W/c_W & \text{(Z 3-leg)} \\ g_{Z-Z-DM-DM} = (\lambda_Z e/s_W/c_W)^2 & \text{(Z 4-leg)} \\ g_{W-W-DM-DM} = (\lambda_W e/s_W)^2 & \text{(W 4-leg)} \end{cases}$$

### Scalar DM

Real ( $\phi$ )  
only 4-leg



Complex ( $\tilde{\nu}, \tilde{\bar{\nu}}$ )  
4-leg and 3-leg

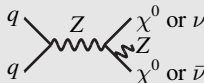


### Fermion DM

Majorana ( $\chi^0$ )

Weyl ( $\nu, \bar{\nu}$ )

only 3-leg

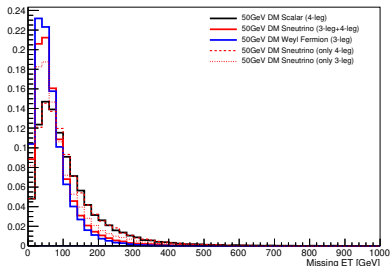


Can we distinguish effects given by spin from effects given by different topologies?

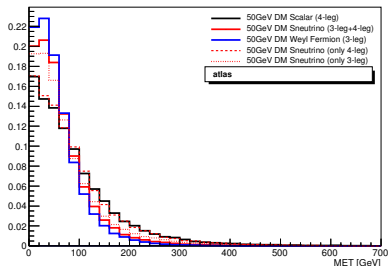
# Mono-Z channel

$$M_{DM} = 50\text{GeV}, \lambda_Z = 1$$

Parton level after Z decay  
Normalized Missing Transverse Energy



Detector level (CheckMATE)  
Normalised MET



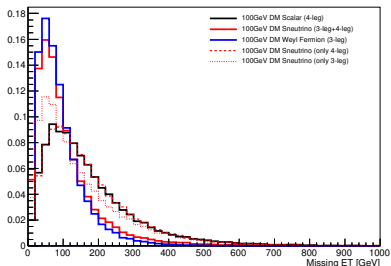
- Difficult to separate spin effects for topologies with **4-leg vertices**
- Spin effects much clearer for topologies with **3-leg vertices**
- Differences **increase** at large DM masses
- Differences are always **large enough** not to be smeared away at detector level



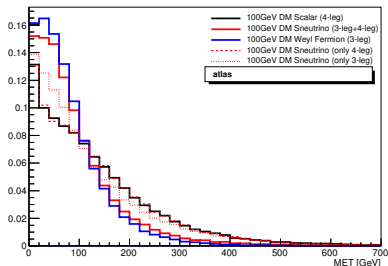
# Mono-Z channel

$$M_{DM} = 100\text{GeV}, \lambda_Z = 1$$

Parton level after Z decay  
Normalized Missing Transverse Energy

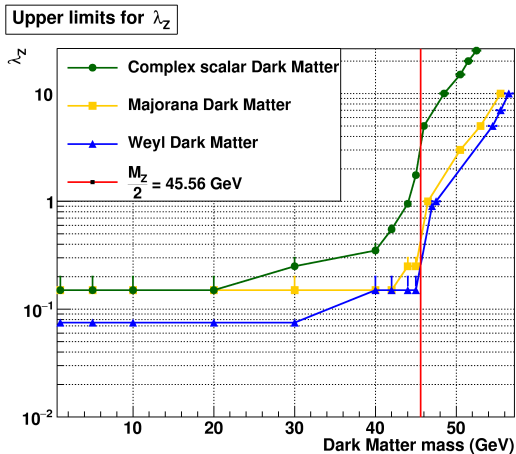


Detector level (CheckMATE)  
Normalised MET



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- Differences are always **large enough** not to be smeared away at detector level

# Bounds on the coupling



Bounds coming Z to invisible and  $e^+e^- \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow q\bar{q} + E_T$

**For heavy DM there is basically no bound on the coupling**

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work in progress

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(2) S.Moretti, D.O'Brien, LP, H.Prager, Phys. Rev. D **96** (2017) no.3, 035033

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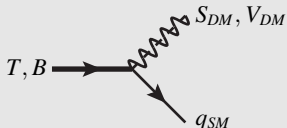
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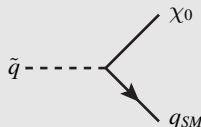
(2) S.Moretti, D.O'Brien, LP, H.Prager, Phys. Rev. D **96** (2017) no.3, 035033

# XQ vs SUSY

## Decay into Dark Matter and SM quarks



**Extra-quark**

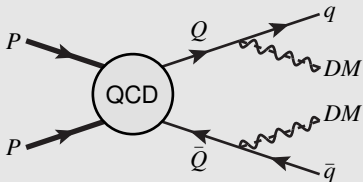


**Supersymmetry**

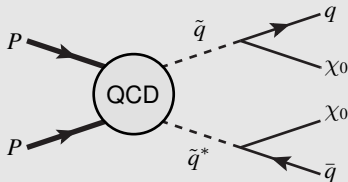
If heavy quarks decay into DM, it is possible to reinterpret any SUSY-inspired search  
Due to the different nature of the DM particles, the kinematics may be different enough

# XQ vs SUSY

## Pair production



**Heavy quark signal**

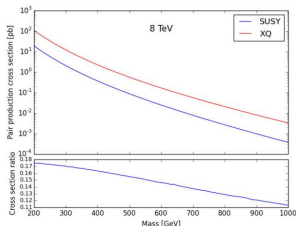


**SUSY signal**

Decays into light SM quarks:

G. Cacciapaglia, A. Deandrea, J. Ellis, J. Marrouche and LP, Phys. Rev. D **87** (2013) 7, 075006, arXiv:1302.4750 [hep-ph]

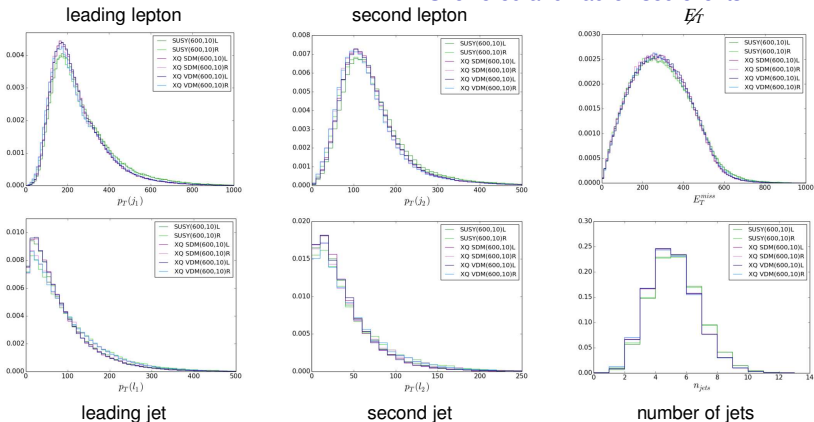
L. Edelhäuser, M. Krämer and J. Sonneveld, JHEP **1504** (2015) 146, arXiv:1501.03942 [hep-ph]



Bosonic DM has a much larger cross section than fermionic DM

# Distributions

Showered and hadronised events



- **Small differences** overall between SUSY and VLQs
- Harder  $p_T$  for R chiralities (due to top polarisation)
- Somewhat more jets for SUSY (jets processed using anti-kt with  $p_{T>5}$  GeV and cone radius 0.5)

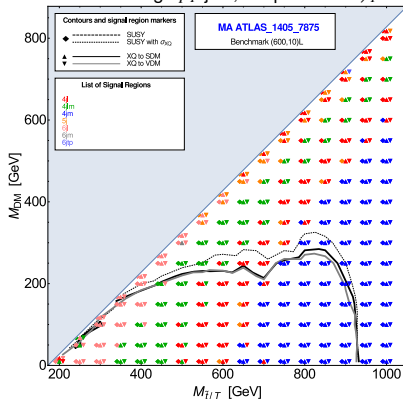
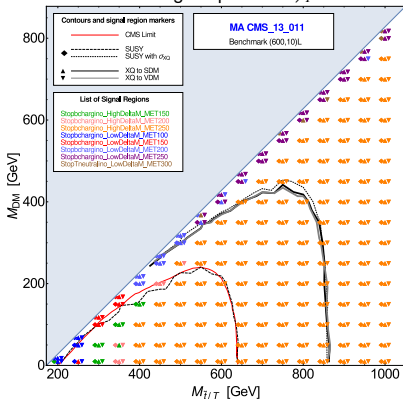
# $PP \rightarrow T\bar{T}/\tilde{t}\tilde{t}^* \rightarrow t\bar{t} + \cancel{E}_T @ 8 \text{ TeV}$

CMS SUSY-13-011

single lepton and  $\cancel{E}_T$

ATLAS SUSY-2013-02

2 to 6 high- $p_T$  jets, 0 leptons and  $\cancel{E}_T$



- **No differences** between scalar and vector DM for XQ scenario
- XQ results obtained by rescaling SUSY with XQ cross-sections  $\Rightarrow$  **analogous kinematics**
- Higher x-sects for XQ with same mass configs  $\Rightarrow$  **Allowed regions for SUSY are excluded for XQs**
- No SUSY bound in the fully hadronic search  $\Rightarrow$  **useful probe for discrimination**

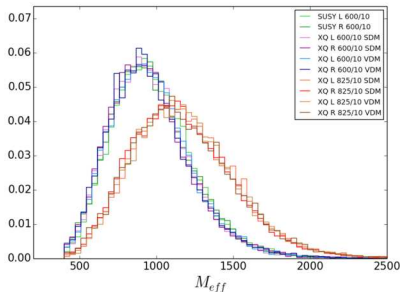


# $PP \rightarrow T\bar{T}/\tilde{t}\tilde{t}^* \rightarrow t\bar{t} + \cancel{E}_T @ 8 \text{ TeV}$

Effective mass distributions

Points with **same mass configuration** vs Points which give the **same cross-section**

$$M_{eff} = \sum p_T(\text{jets}) + p_T(l) + \cancel{E}_T$$



“Cold” colours: SUSY and XQ with same mass configurations but different cross-sections

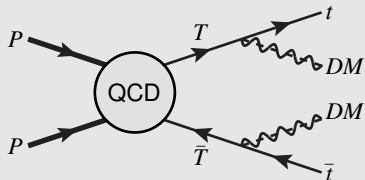
“Warm” colours: XQ with a mass configuration which gives the same cross-section as SUSY

trivially

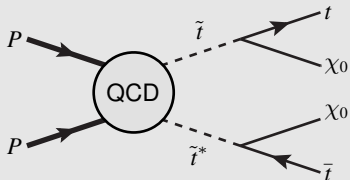
Same mass configurations  $\Rightarrow$  different cross-sections  $\Rightarrow$  identical shapes  
Different mass configurations  $\Rightarrow$  same cross-sections  $\Rightarrow$  different shapes

but this fact can be exploited in case a signal is observed

## Discrimination in the $t\bar{t} + \cancel{E}_T$ channel



Heavy quark signal



Supersymmetry signal

Only fermionic vs bosonic DM, no vector vs scalar DM

- **Channel based:** the fully hadronic channel is more sensitive to scenarios with fermionic mediator and bosonic DM
- **Distribution based:** observation of a signal will exhibit different distributions due to same cross section with different mass configurations

N.B.: what we really discriminate here is the mediator spin!

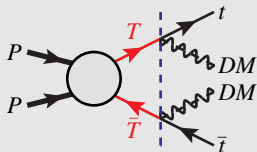
is it possible to go beyond and discriminate scalar and vector DM?

# Scalar vs vector DM discrimination?

Going to large width regime

If the width of the  $T$  mediator is large the kinematics between scalar and vector DM may be different enough to be distinguished

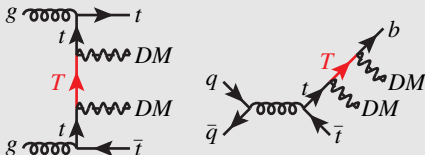
## QCD pair production and decay of on-shell VLQs



$$\sigma_X = \sigma_{2 \rightarrow 2} \times BR(T)BR(\bar{T})$$

- Production and decays are factorized
- Basically no information on the spin of DM

## Full signal

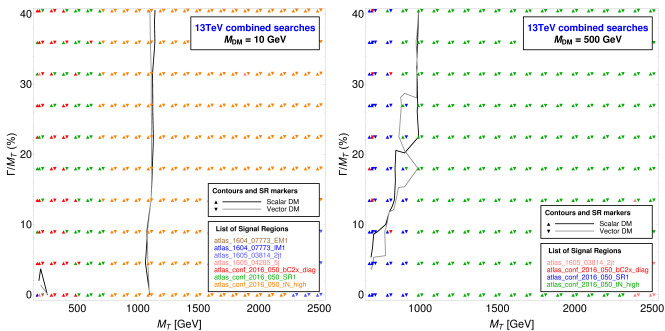


$$\sigma_S = \sigma_{2 \rightarrow 4} \text{ with any allowed topology}$$

- Topologies with  $\geq 1$  VLQ propagator (generally subleading in the NWA)
- More sensitivity to the coupling structure between  $T$  and  $DM$ , and therefore to the DM spin

# Width dependence of bounds

combination of ATLAS searches @ 13 TeV

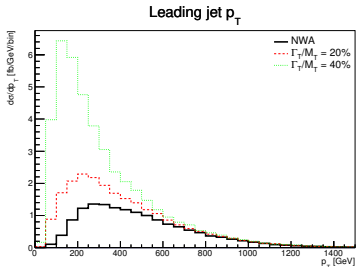
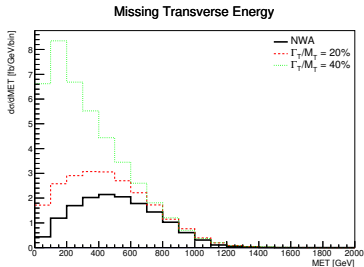


Almost **no distinction** between scalar and vector DM

The **bounds weakly depend on the width** for light DM,  
somewhat more if the DM mass increases

# Kinematics of the signal

Scalar DM:  $M_T=1100$  GeV and  $M_{DM}=10$  GeV

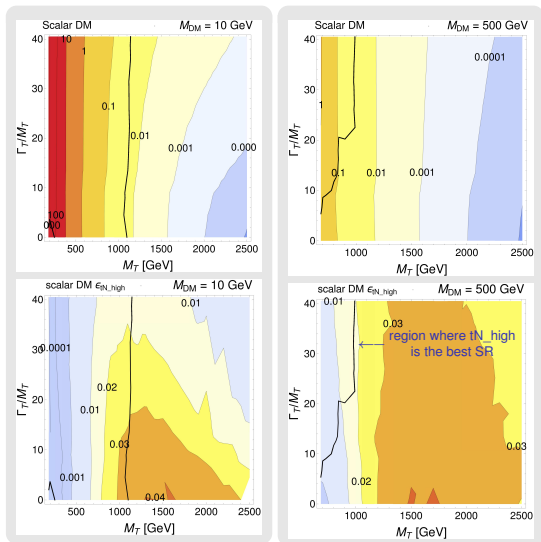


**The distributions of  $E_T^{\cancel{E}}$  and transverse momentum of the leading jet depend significantly on the width along the bound**

Need to look at the performance of the searches

# Cross-sections and efficiencies

SR tN\_high of ATLAS CONF-2016-050 for scalar DM



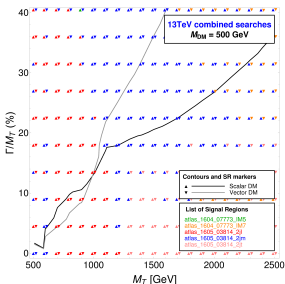
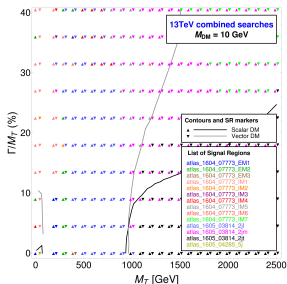
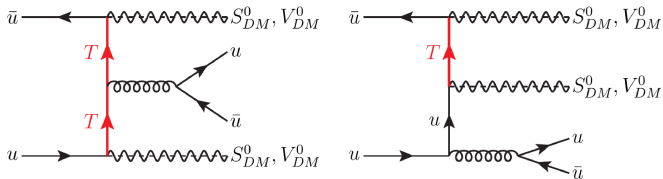
Cross-section weakly dependent on the width in the region of the bound

- Light DM: the efficiency of the best SR in the bound region depends in a complementary way, almost compensating the cross-section increase
- Heavier DM: the efficiency stays almost constant, as well as the cross-section

**For vector DM results are qualitatively analogous**

# Interactions with light quarks

In this case the DM can interact directly with the initial state



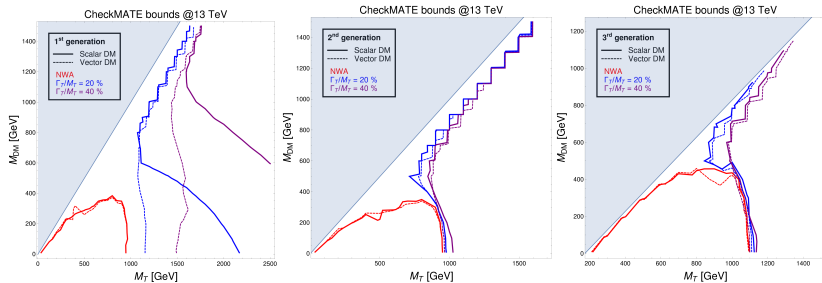
It is possible to distinguish scalar from vector DM

The bound strongly depends on the width

Different behaviour due to interplay between cross-sections and (shape-dependent) efficiencies

# Exclusion limits

$M_T$  vs  $M_{DM}$  plane



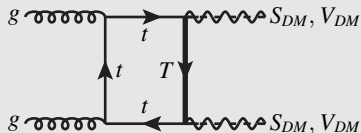
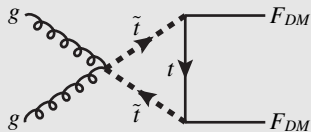
**Only when the  $T$  interacts with the up quark a clear distinction between scalar and vector DM may be possible**  
considering pair production final states and with the selections of current searches  
A shape analysis of the signal would provide information about different scenarios



# Perspectives for DM interacting with top

work in progress

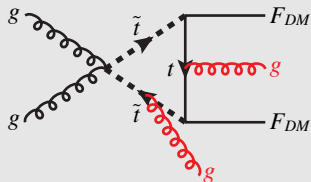
## Mono-objects at one-loop



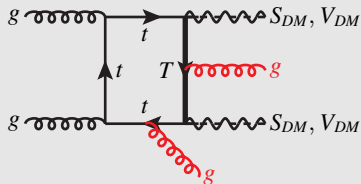
# Perspectives for DM interacting with top

work in progress

## Mono-objects at one-loop



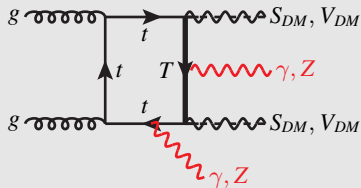
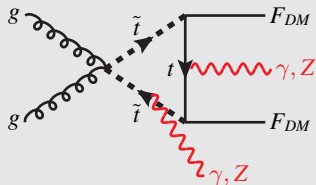
● Mono-jet



# Perspectives for DM interacting with top

work in progress

## Mono-objects at one-loop



- Mono-jet
- Mono-photon
- Mono-Z

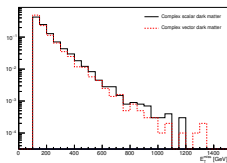
# Perspectives for DM interacting with top

work in progress

## Mono-jet and bosonic DM

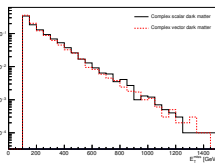
$M_T=180$  GeV,  $M_{DM}=5$  GeV

Normalized Missing Transverse Energy



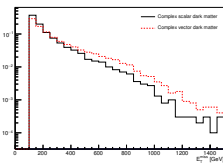
$M_T=500$  GeV,  $M_{DM}=5$  GeV

Normalized Missing Transverse Energy



$M_T=1000$  GeV,  $M_{DM}=5$  GeV

Normalized Missing Transverse Energy



Potentially interesting configurations of masses for DM spin discrimination

but

Cross-section could be **too small** for this signal to be detected

Systematic study under way

# Conclusions and Outlook

## Summary

- Characterising the spin of a DM candidate at the LHC would be crucial for the interpretation in terms of theoretical scenarios
- Mono-X channels are a good probe in both the EFT and simplified model approaches
- Current searches with MET (often inspired by SUSY) can be a powerful tool for the reinterpretation of scenarios where the DM has a different spin

## Work in progress

- Include interplay with other observables and constraints related to DM or mediators
- Determination of the relevance of mono-photon and mono-W channels with respect to mono-jet and mono-Z
- Exploration of the sensitivity of other channels for the characterization of the DM spin
- Exploration of different kinematical variables for the optimisation of analyses aimed at isolating scenarios with different spins