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Searching for Dark Matter in top quark production with the CMS experiment

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A search for Dark Matter (DM) produced in association with top quarks, with a focus on the dileptonic channel, is presented. This kind of search provides sensitivity to models where the DM couples to the Standard Model (SM) via a spin-0 mediator with a yukawa coupling, which can arise in a number of BSM physics scenarios, for example the 2HDM+a model. This analysis is part of the CMS search covering the dileptonic, semileptonic and full hadronic final states with the full Run-2 dataset, which combines for the first time the top quark pair + DM and single top + DM processes, greatly improving sensitivity to the highest mediator masses in the search.

The dileptonic channel poses an interesting challenge due to a large amount of missing transverse momentum in the SM $t\bar{t}$ background, and an irreducible $t\bar{t}Z$ ($Z \rightarrow \nu\nu$) background. This analysis therefore uses novel variables and machine learning techniques in the signal extraction, and new control regions to constrain the irreducible backgrounds.

In-person participation

Yes

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