

# Top Future

Kirill Skovpen (Ghent University)

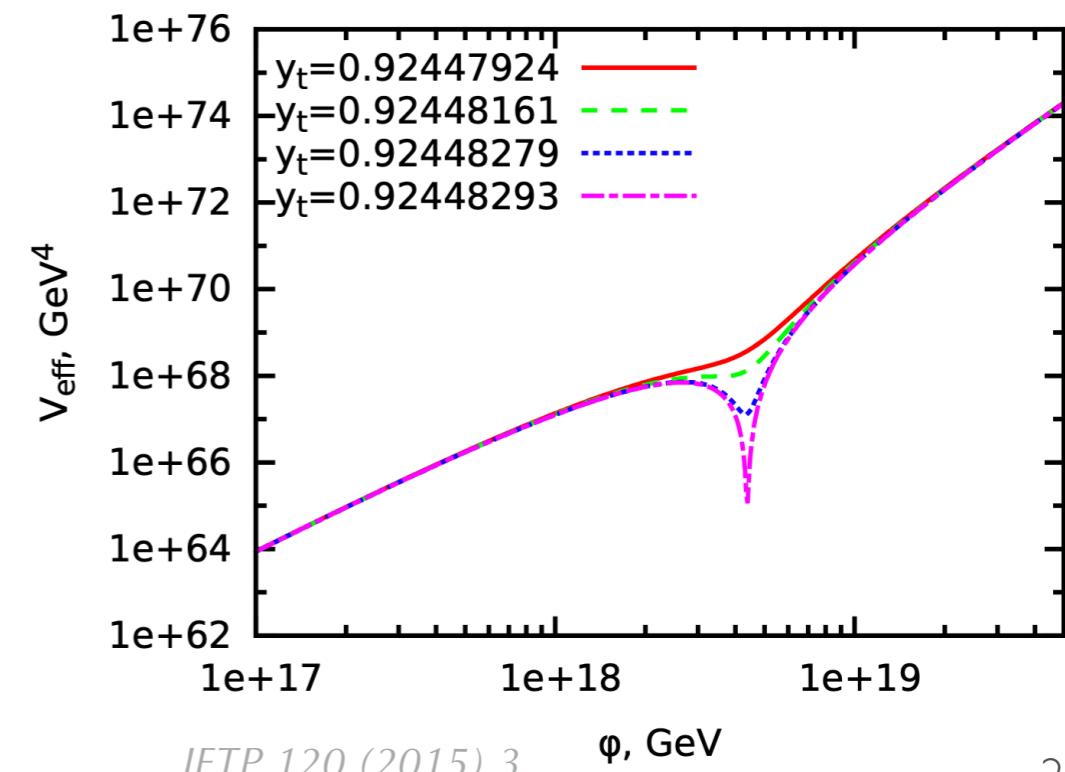
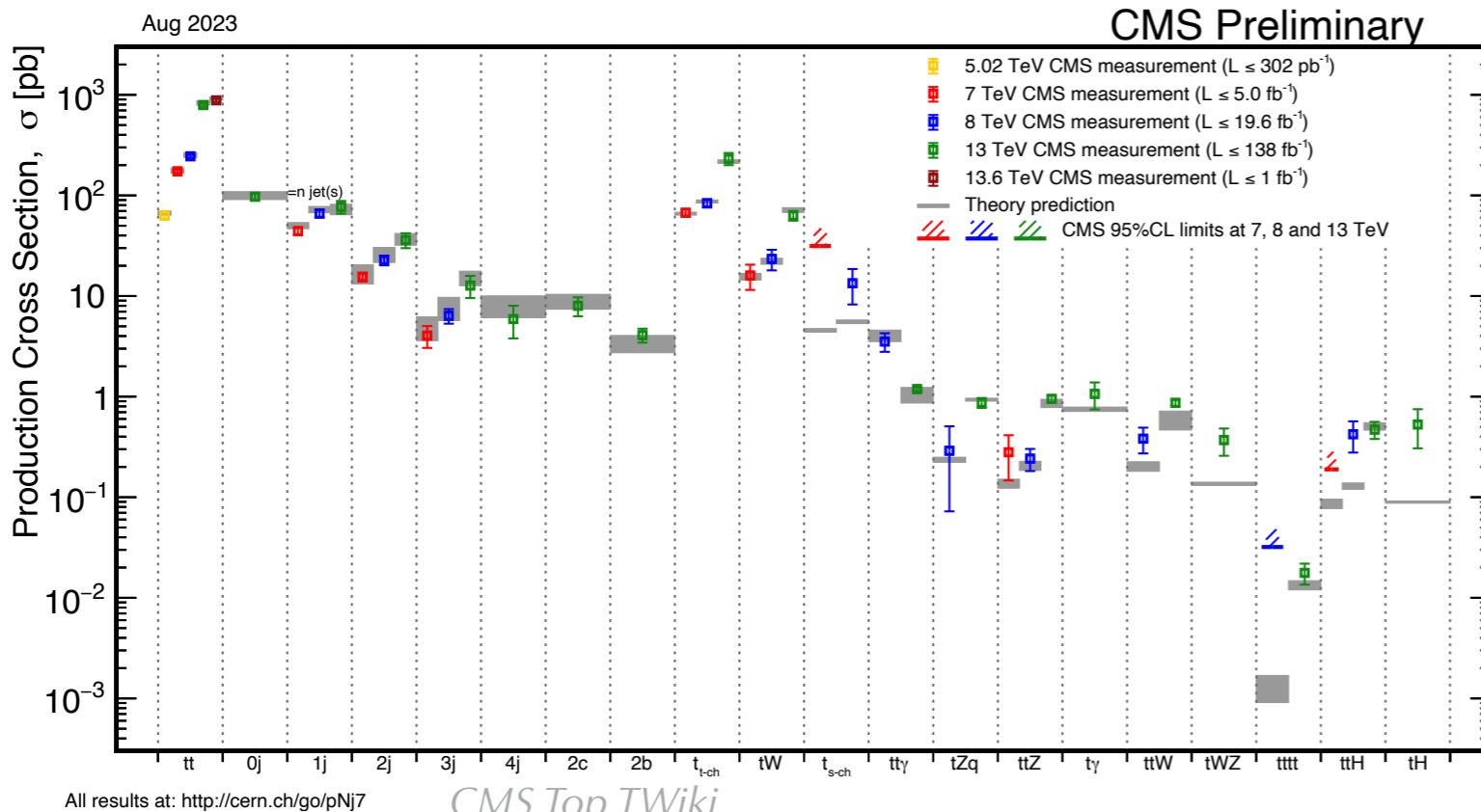
*on behalf of the ECFA Focus Group on Higgs / Top / EW factories*

Fundamental Interactions at Future Colliders  
Lepton Future Collider (LFC24) workshop

Trieste, Italy  
September 16-20, 2024

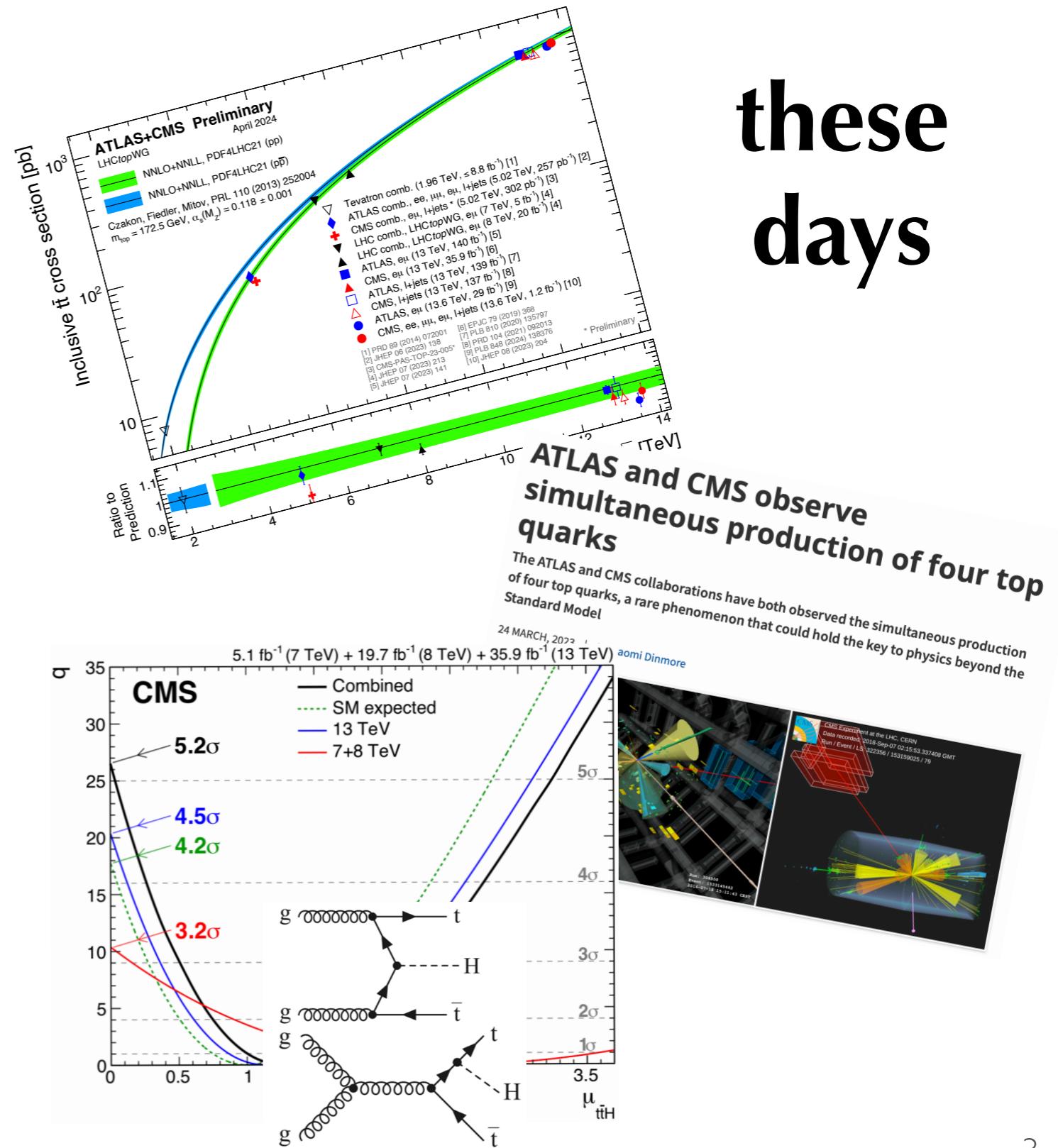
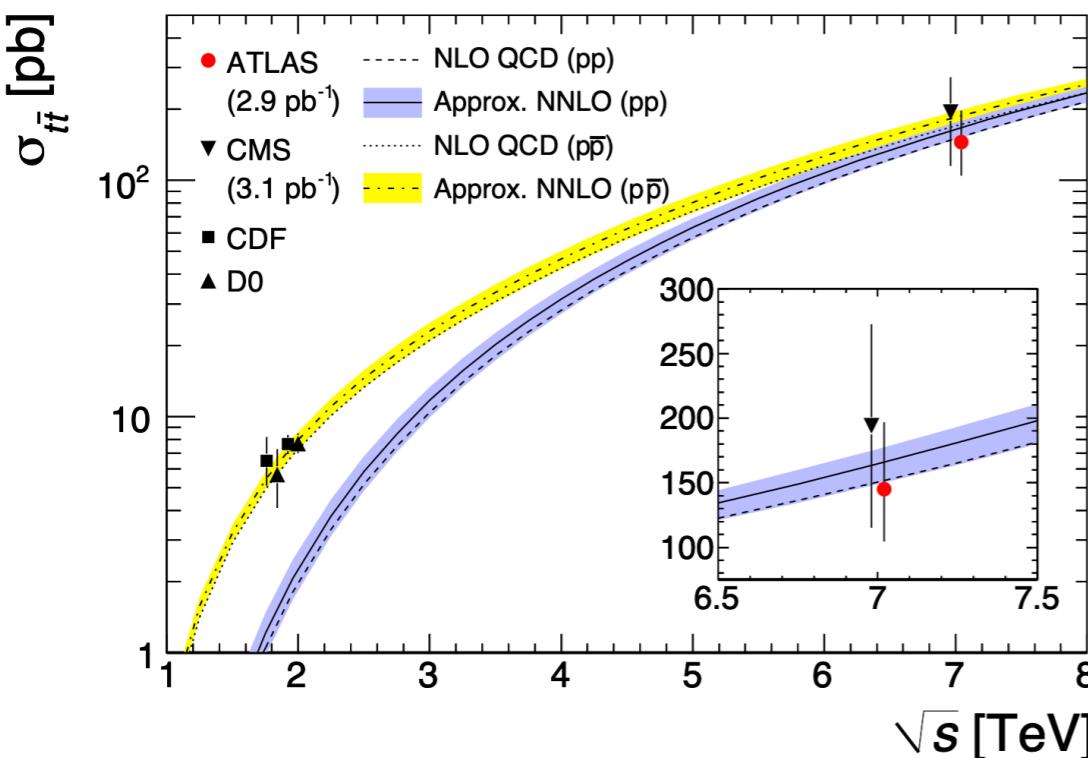
# The top case

- **First appearance** at Tevatron in 1995
- **Always in the LHC headlines** with new measurements appearing every year
- The **heaviest** authority and fastest decay
- A special agent of the SM - in close relation with the **Higgs boson**



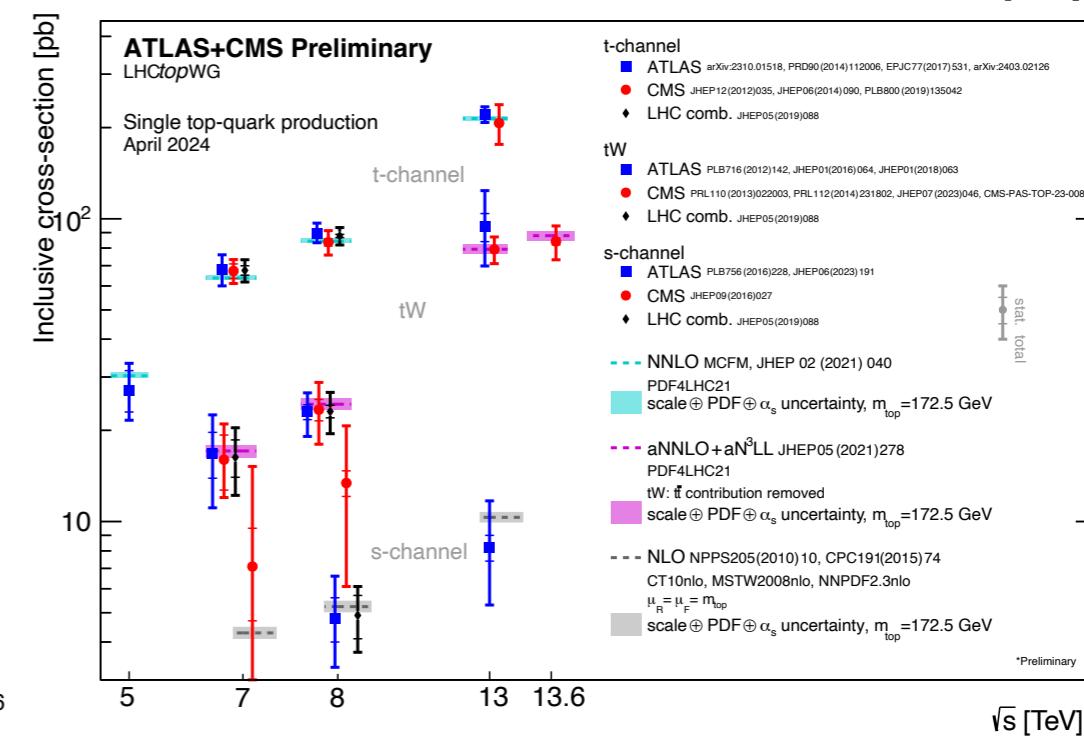
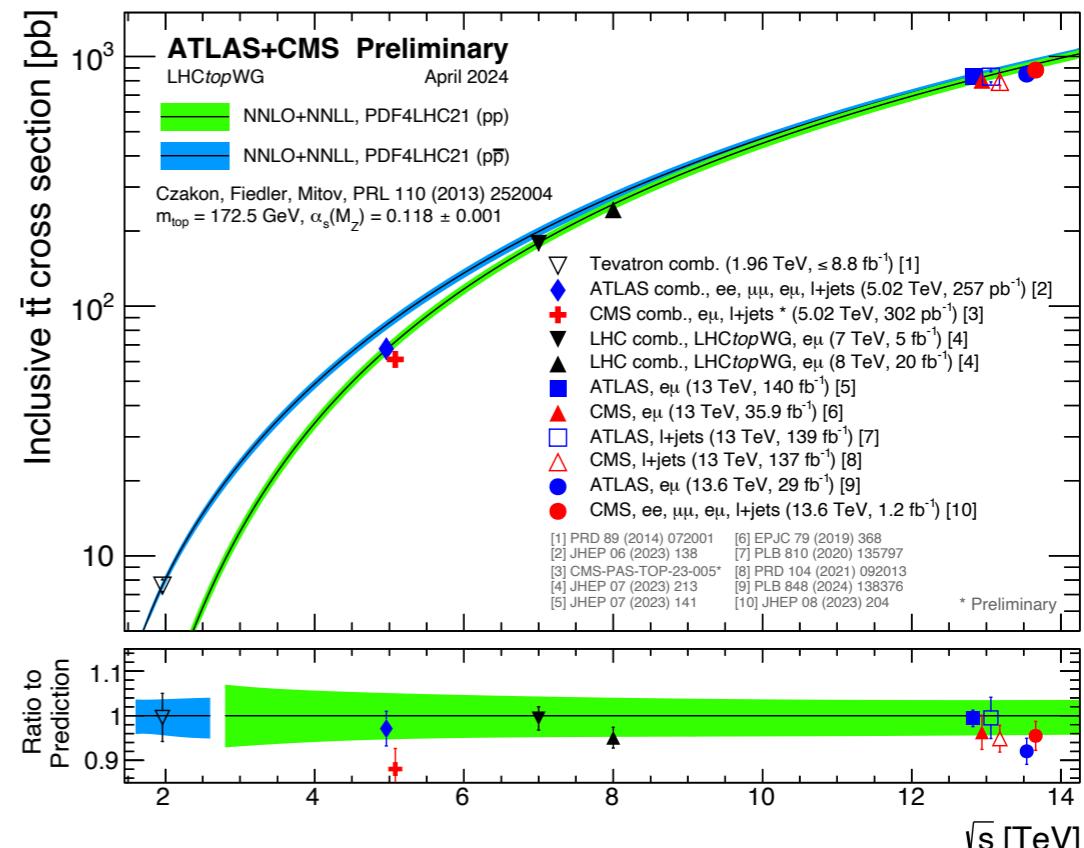
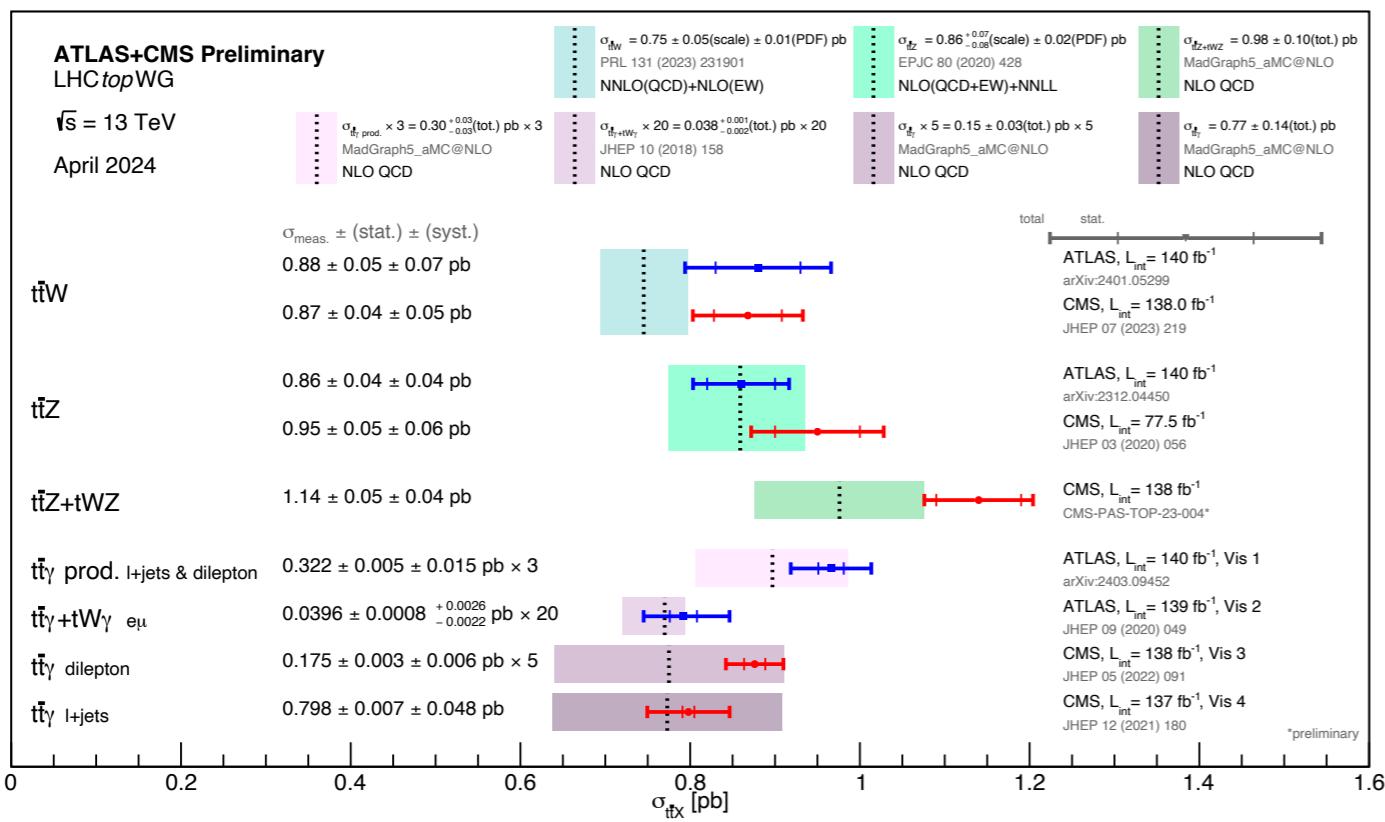
# Time flies . . .

circa 2011

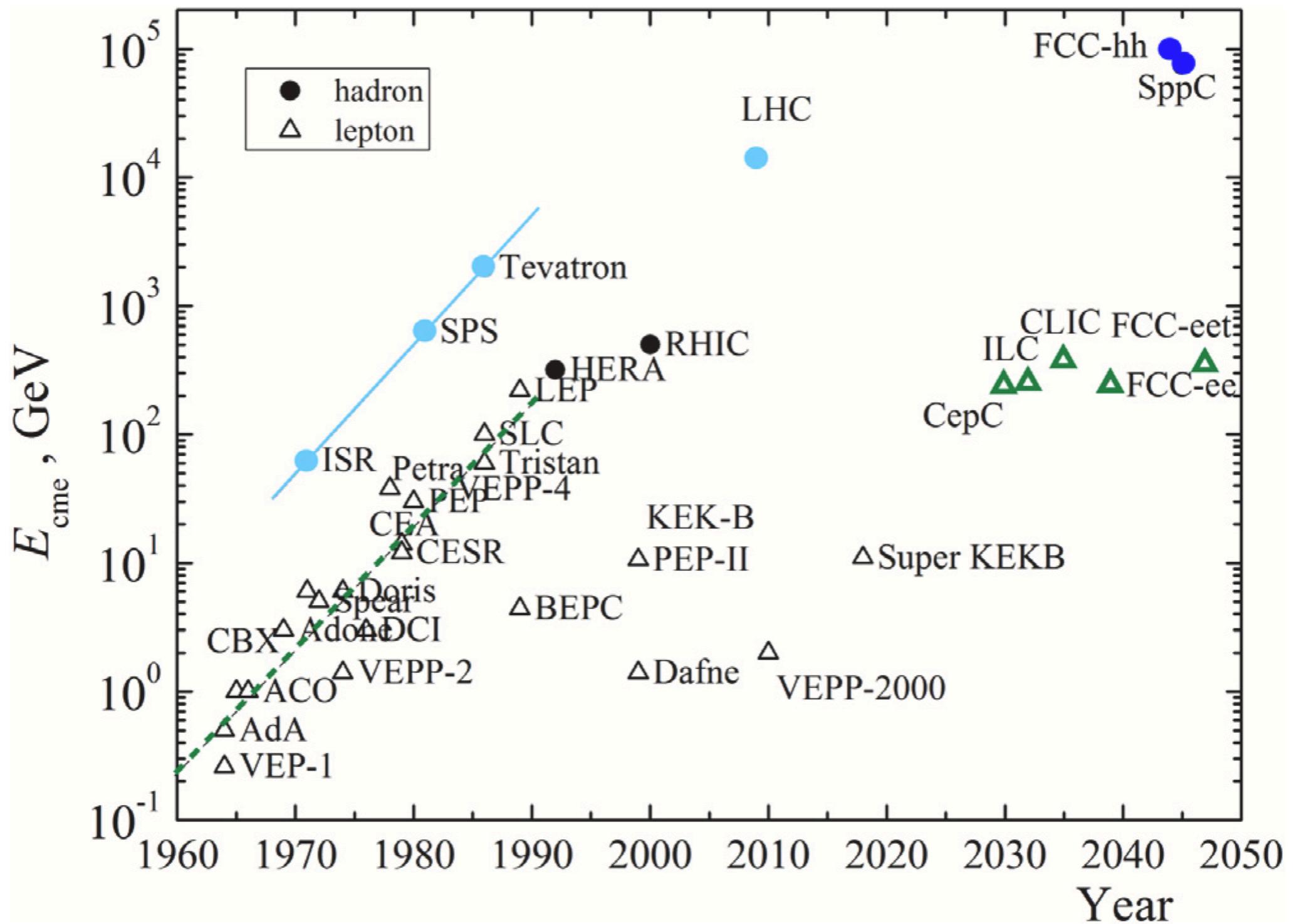


# The LHC top portrait

- **Access** to high energies
- **Predominantly produced** via QCD  
( $\approx 300M$  top pairs at LHC @ $300\text{fb}^{-1}$ )
- **Significant** electroweak production  
( $\approx 30M$  single top events at LHC @ $300\text{fb}^{-1}$ )
- **Distinctive** decay topology helps in busy environment of hadron collisions
- **Cross section** grows with energy

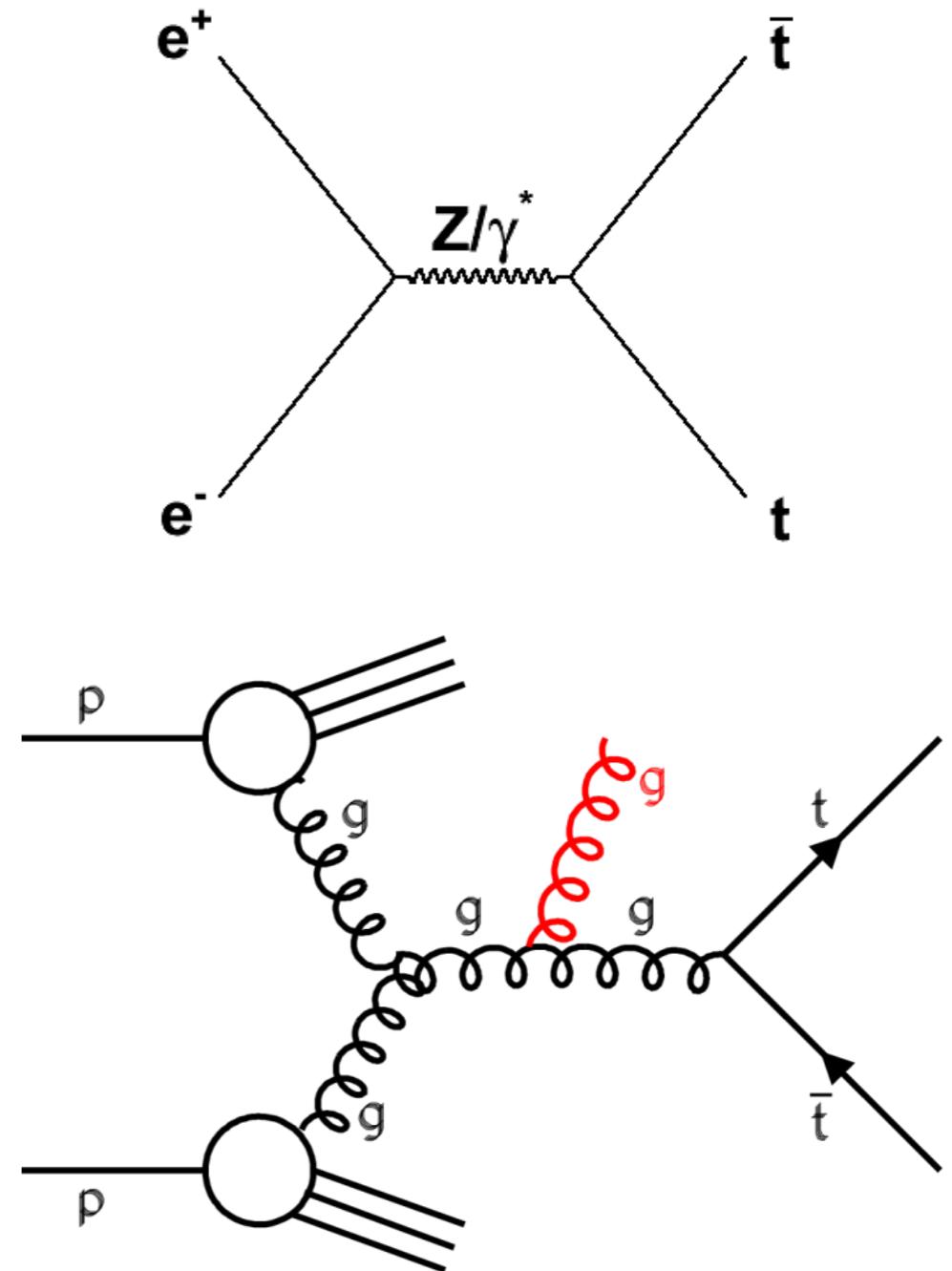


# Future colliders

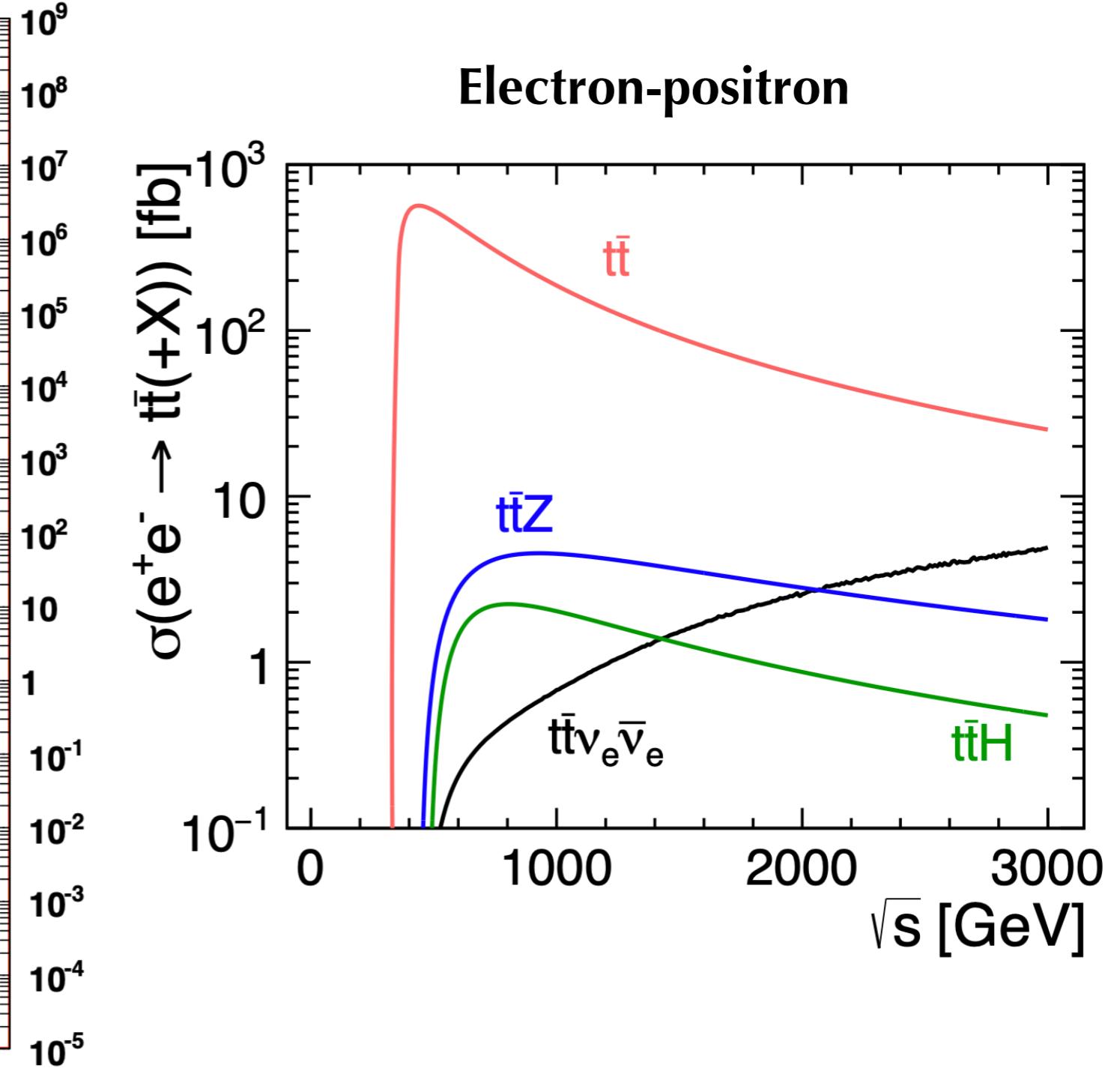
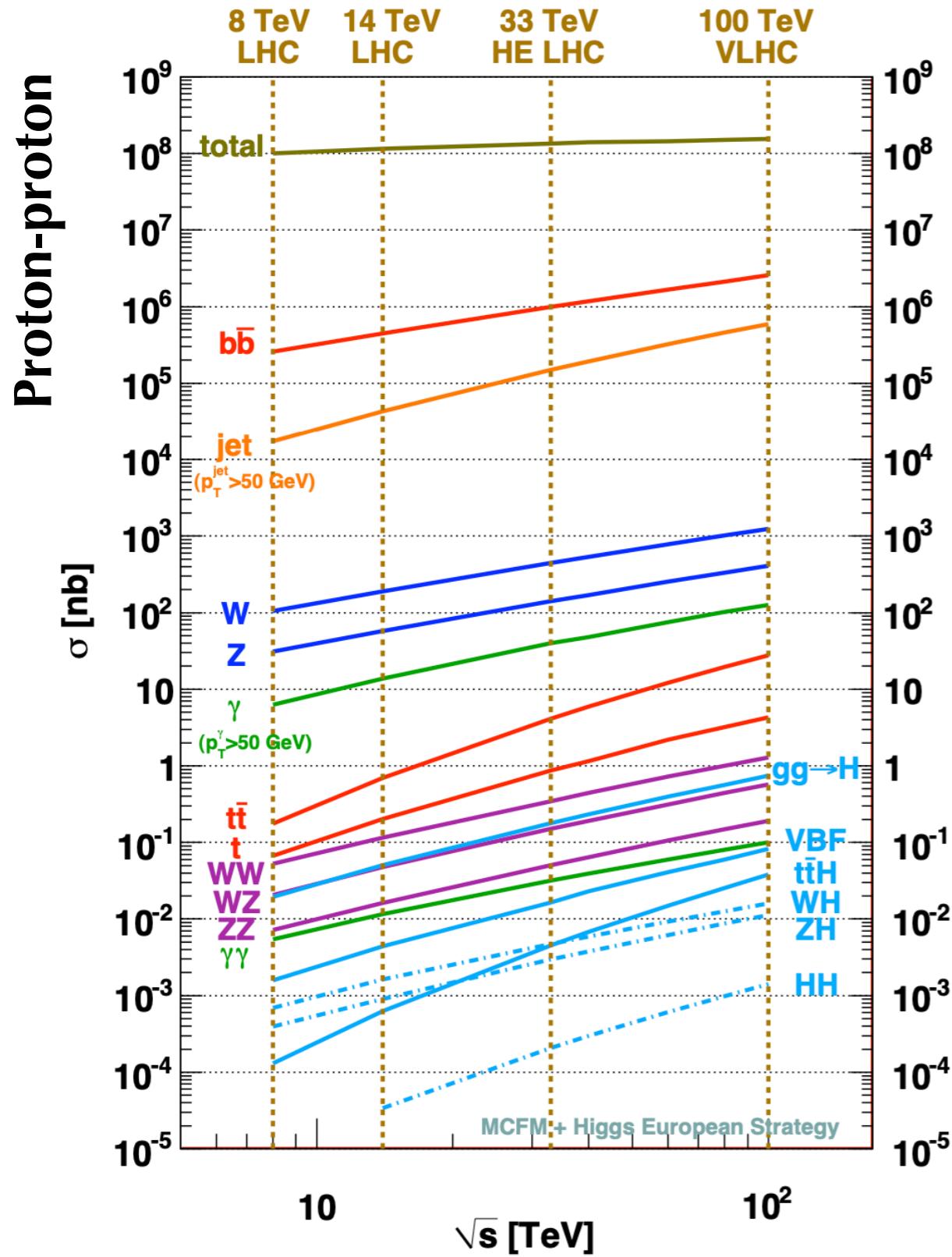


# Top pairs

- **Lepton** colliders:
  - Electroweak production via  $Z/\gamma^*$
  - Initial state well defined
  - Beam polarization to distinguish between  $Z/\gamma^*$  couplings
  - Clean experimental environment
- **Hadron** colliders:
  - Production via strong interactions ( $q\bar{q}/gg$ )
  - Initial state unknown
  - Larger production cross section at higher energies
  - Large backgrounds

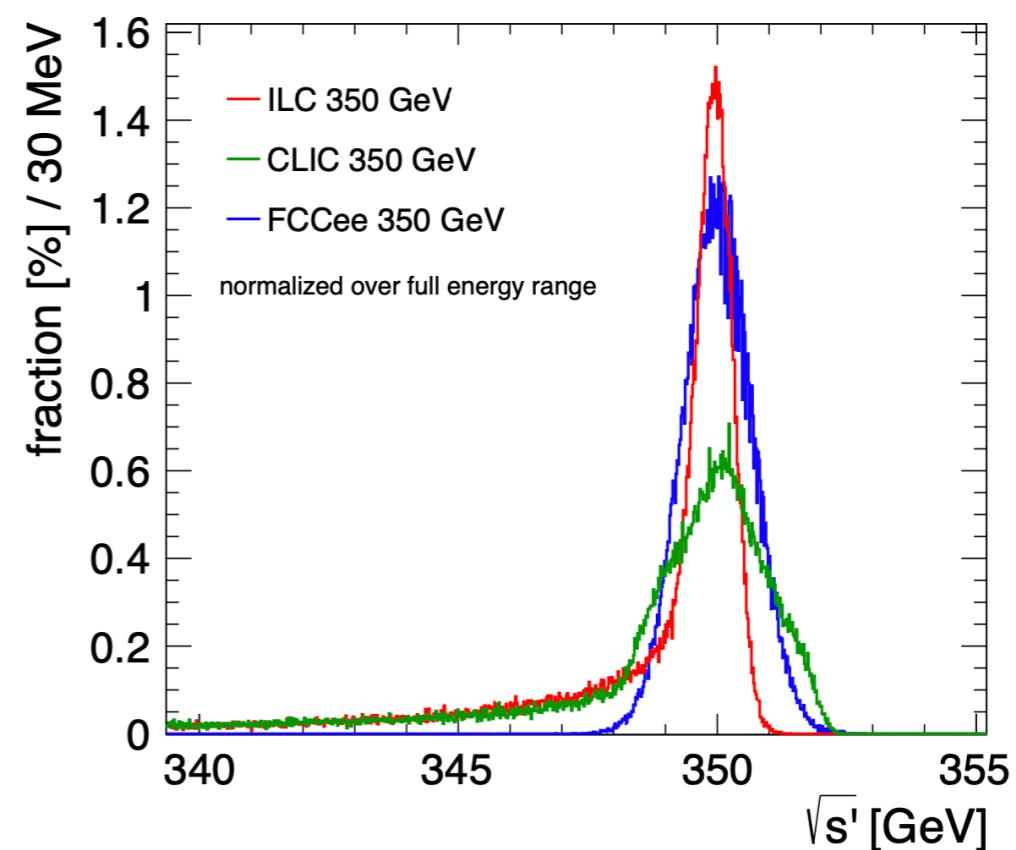
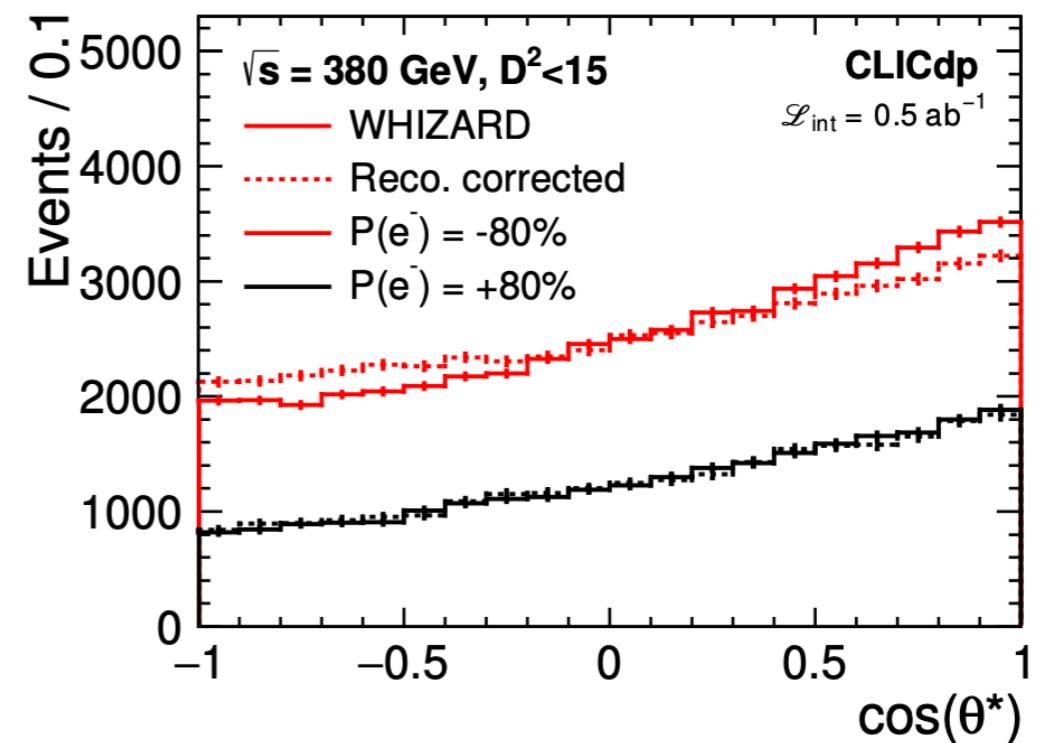


# Production cross sections



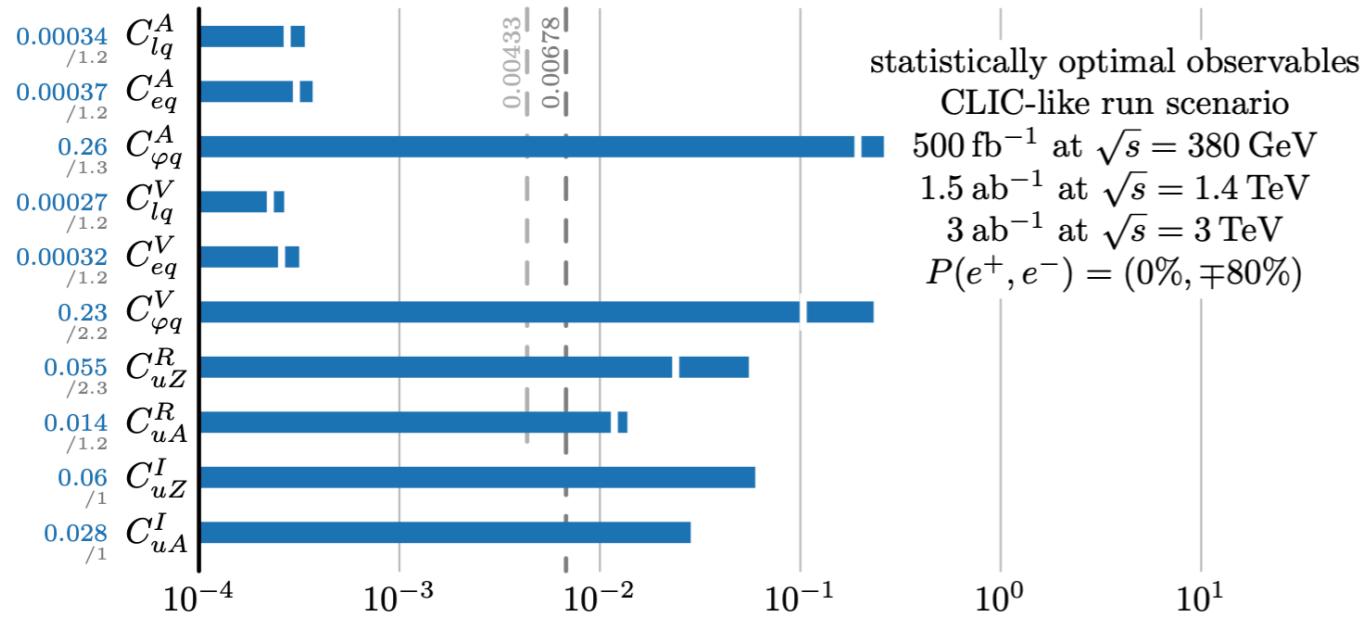
# Lepton beams

- Control **polarization states** of top quark pairs with polarized lepton beams (80%  $e^-$ , 30%  $e^+$ )
- Maximum energy of polarized beams is limited by **beam energy spread**
- Low-energy tail due to significant **beamstrahlung** at ILC/CLIC
- **Synchrotron radiation** limits the maximum energy achievable at FCC-ee
- **No energy limit** at MuC

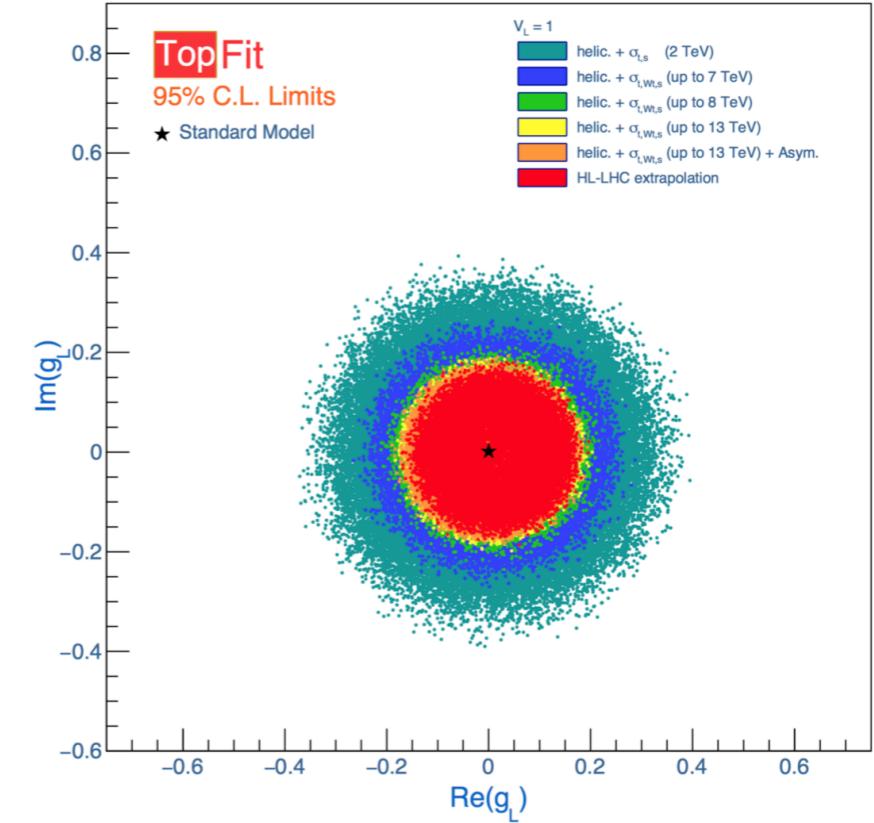


# Electroweak couplings

- Extensively studied at hadron colliders, though, not easy
- About 10% improvement in **Wtb coupling** determination at HL-LHC with respect to LHC
- Possible to construct **clean optimal observables** with  $t\bar{t}$  events in electron-positron collisions
- Significantly improve** constraints on electroweak EFT couplings with statistically optimal observables (enhanced sensitivity to linear contributions) at lepton colliders

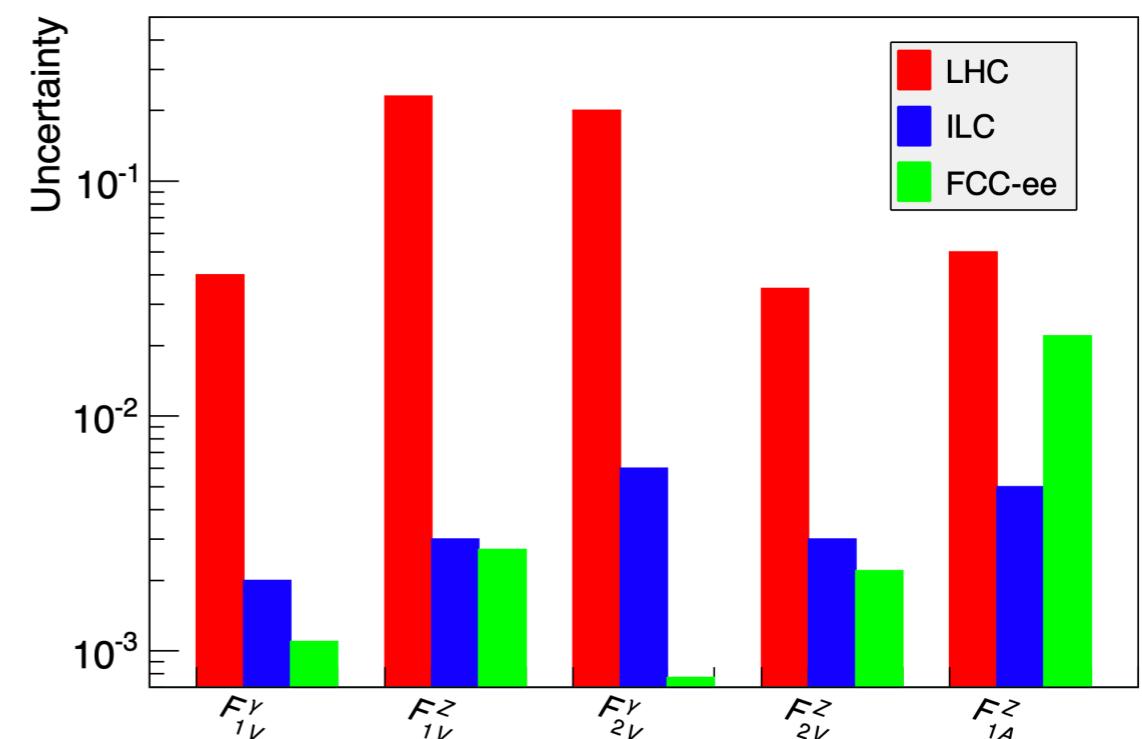


*JHEP 10 (2018) 168*

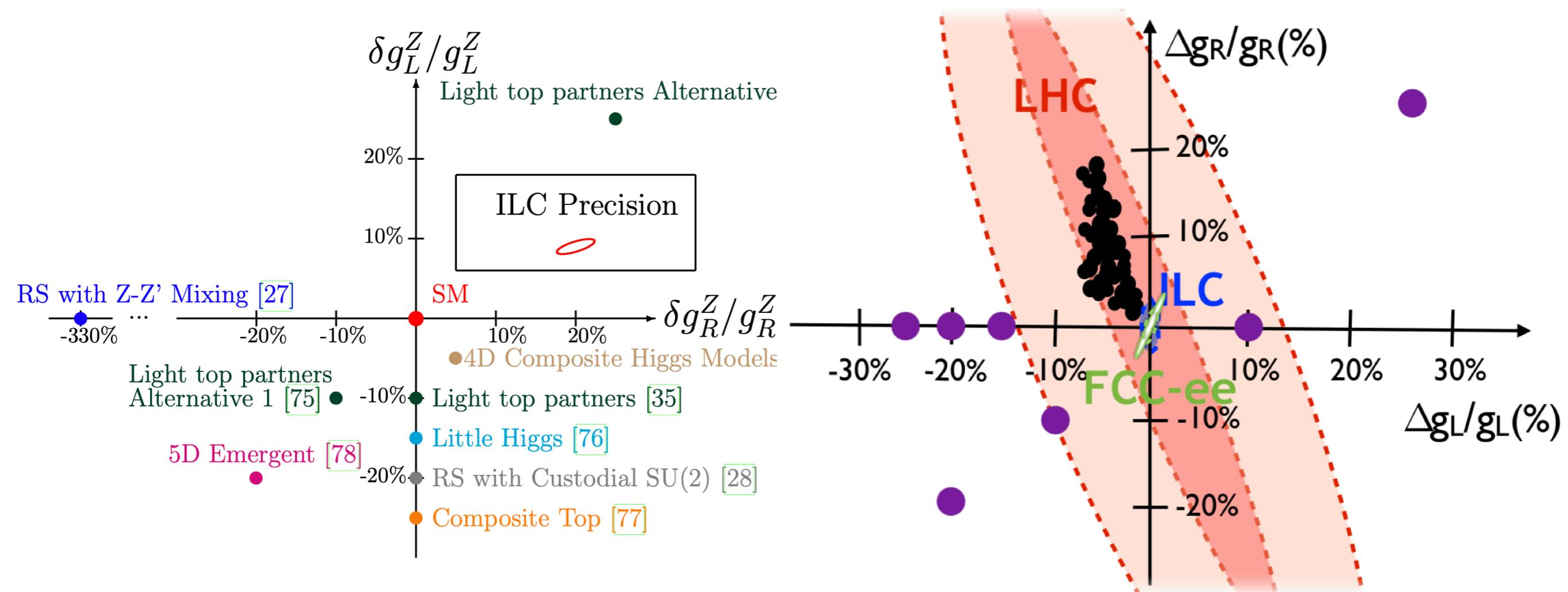


*Mod. Phys. Lett. A 34 (2019) 195014*

*JHEP 04 (2015) 182*



# Electroweak couplings

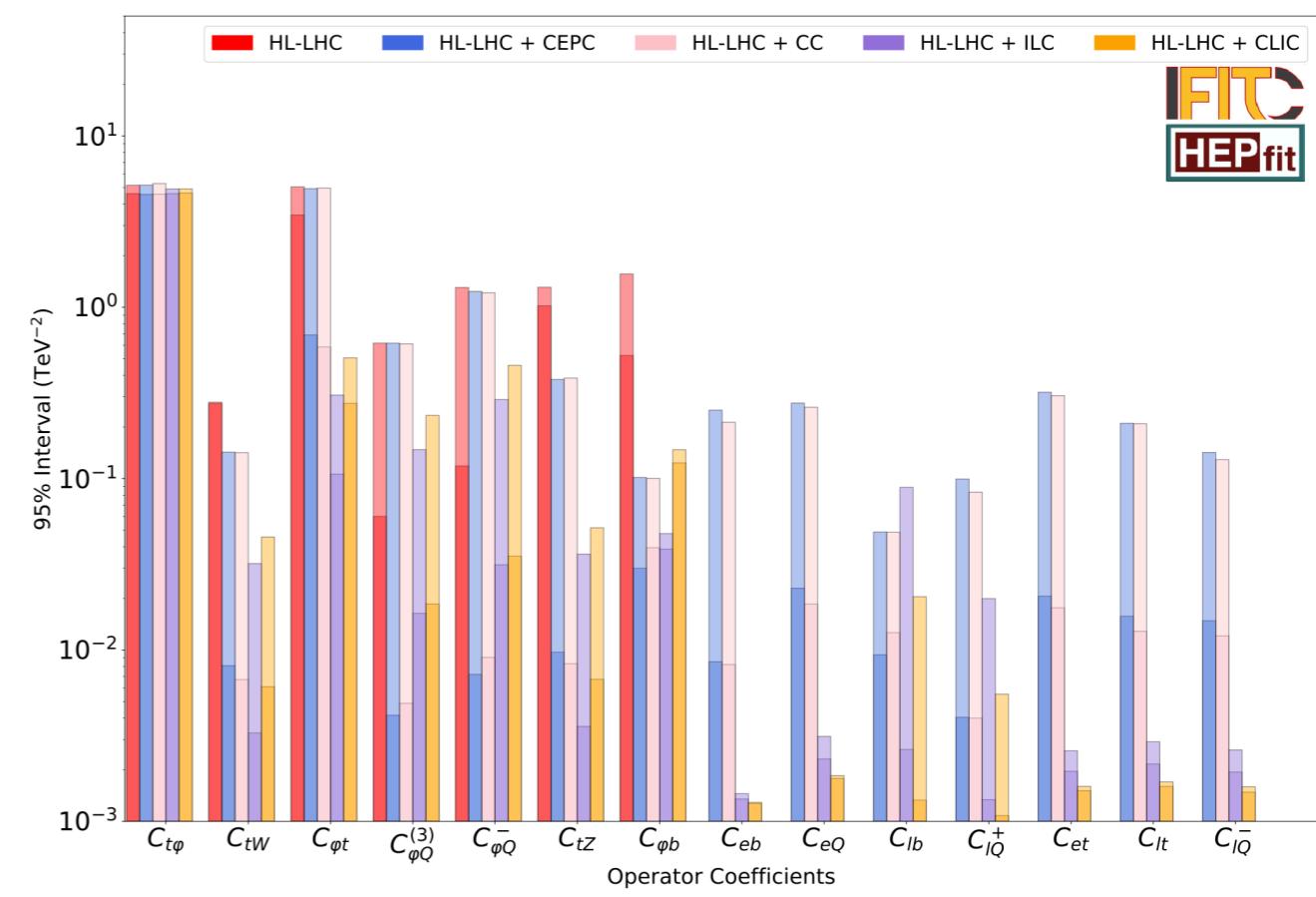
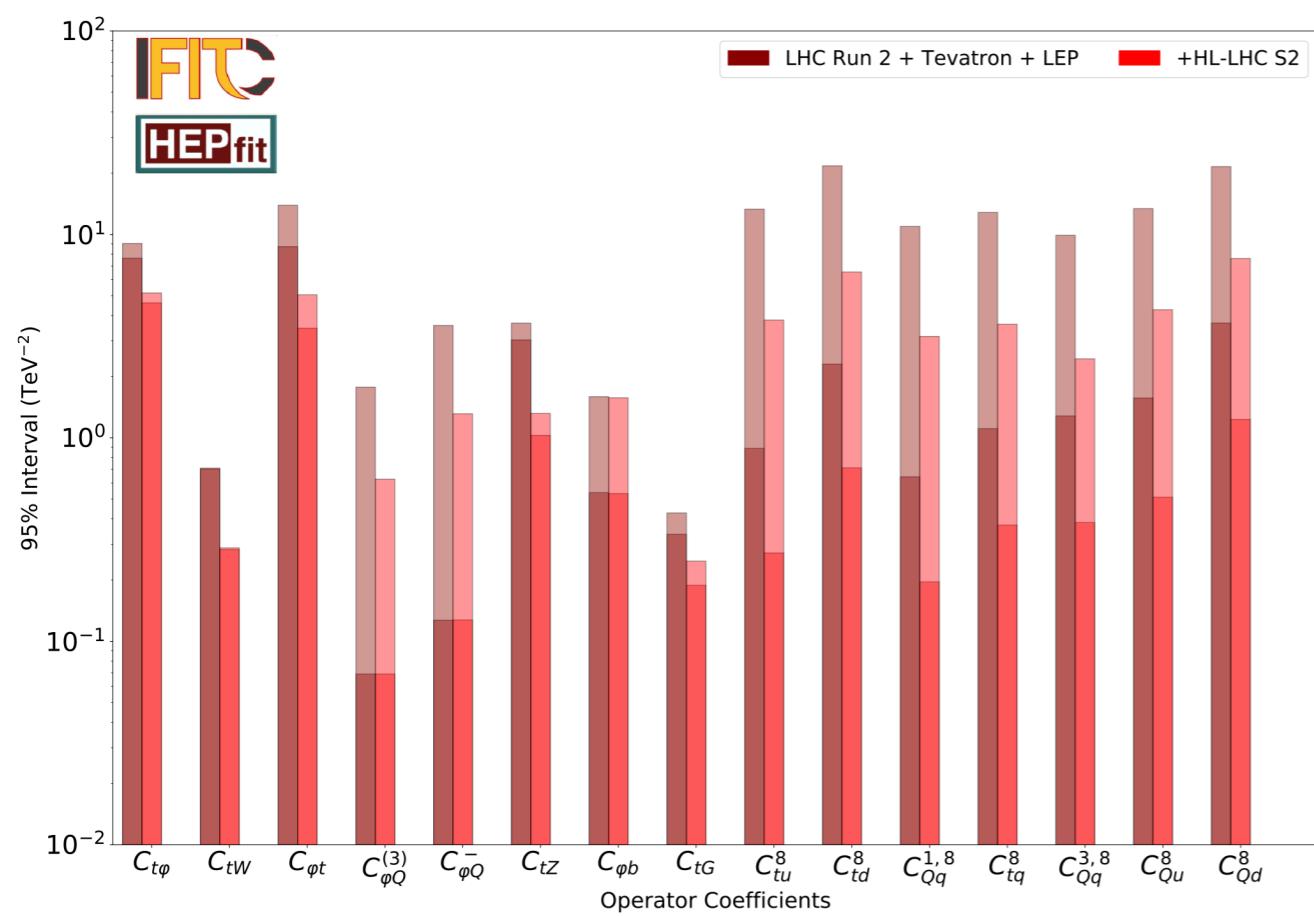


[arXiv:1702.05333](https://arxiv.org/abs/1702.05333)

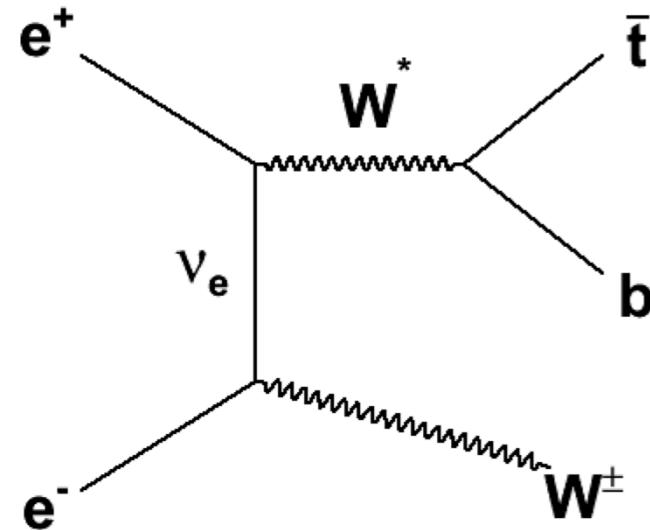
[JHEP 08 \(2015\) 127](https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP08(2015)127)

# Global EFT sensitivity

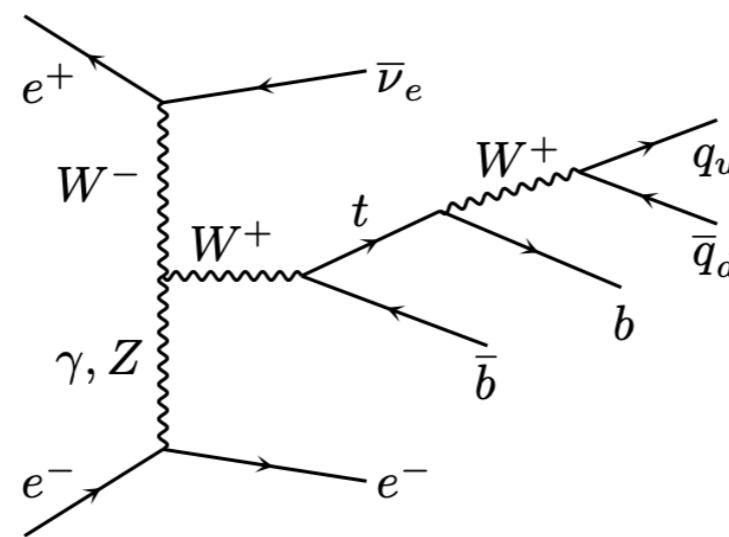
- Improve constraints x2-4 on many operators at **HL-LHC**
- Significant improvement for two-fermion electroweak operators at **FCC-ee**
- Further improvements for various two-fermion operators at higher energies at **ILC/CLIC**
- Entering a highly boosted regime at **FCC-hh** with an order of magnitude improvement for  $q\bar{q}t\bar{t}$  with respect to HL-LHC



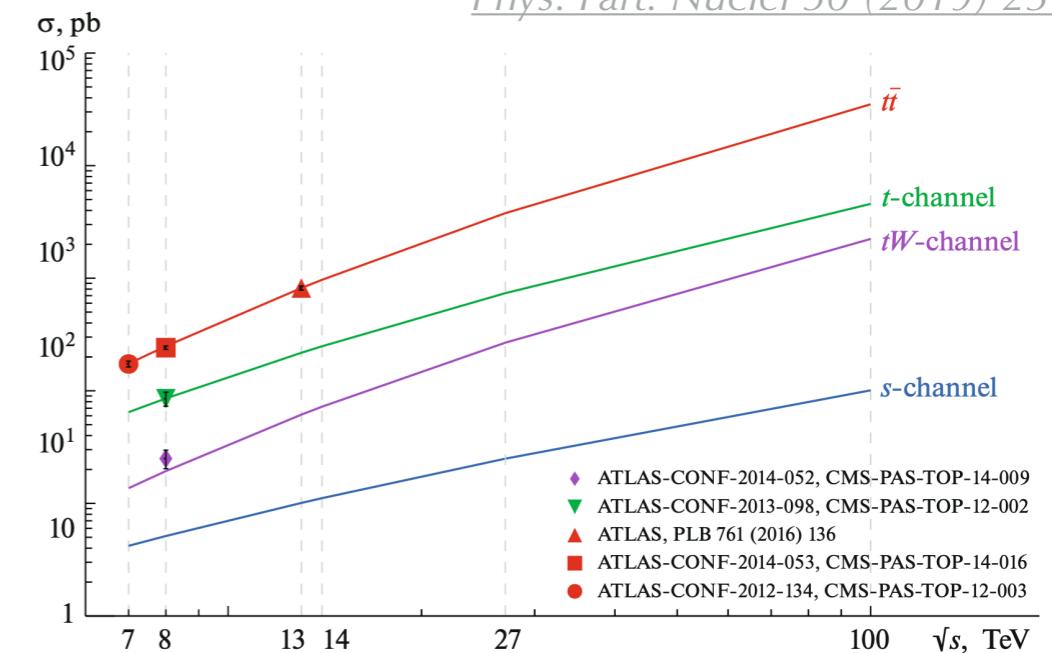
# Single top



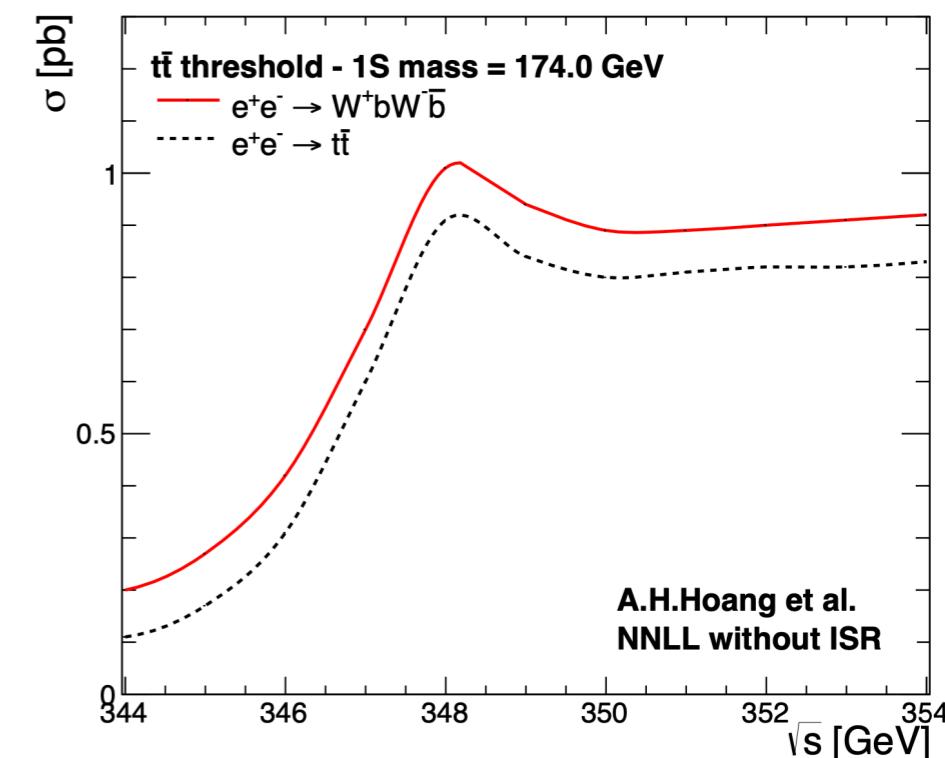
*PRD 97 (2018) 033004*



*Phys. Part. Nuclei 50 (2019) 231*



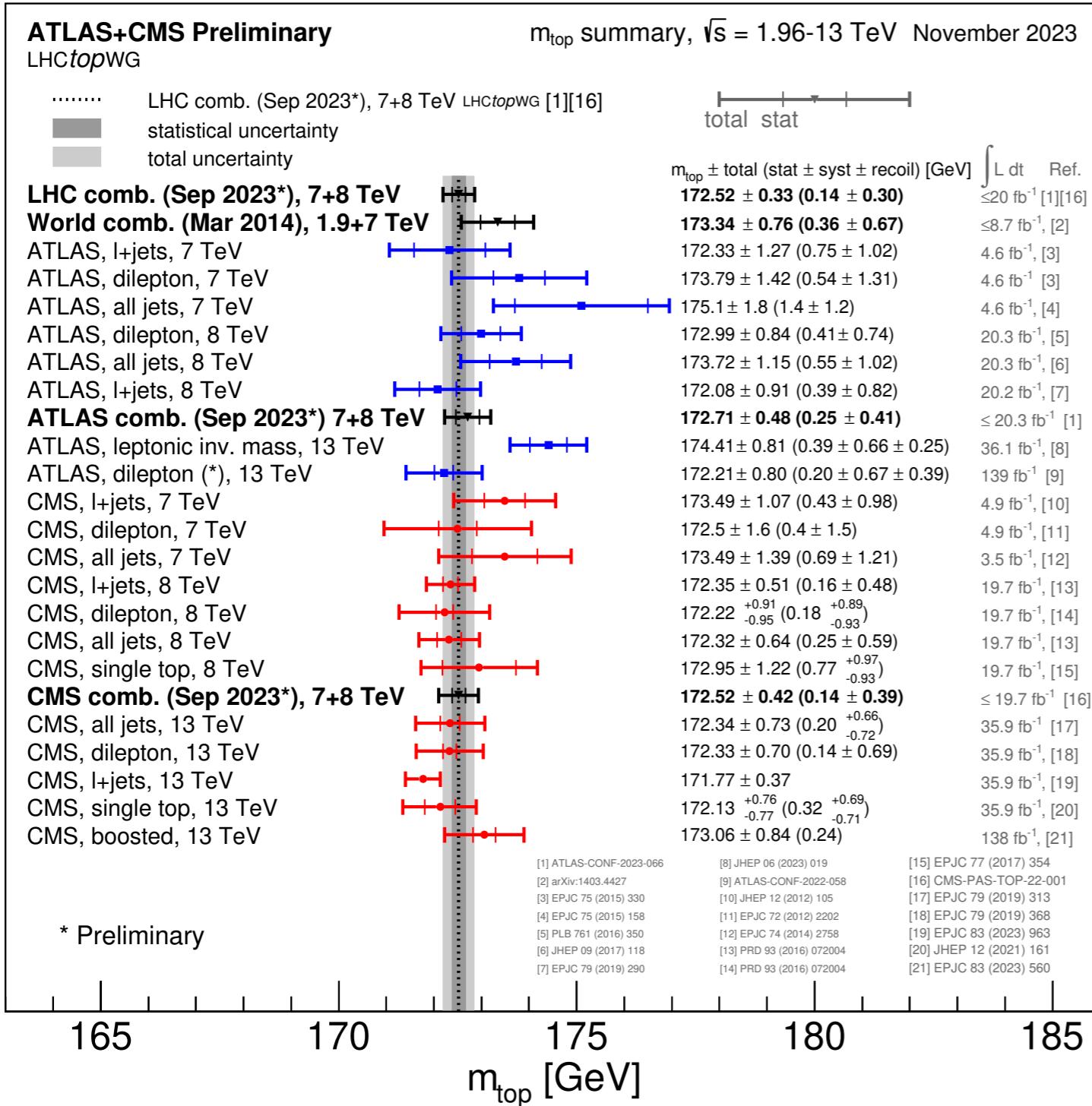
- Always produced through **electroweak couplings**
- **Direct** measurement of  $|V_{tb}|$
- Intrinsic **interference** with top quark pair production
- Sensitive to **polarization** of electron and positron beams (possible reduction of uncertainties)
- Inclusively study  $W^+ b W^- \bar{b}$  final states at lepton colliders to **distinguish**  $t\bar{t}$  from single top (a few % of  $t\bar{t}$ )



*EPJC 75 (2015) 223*

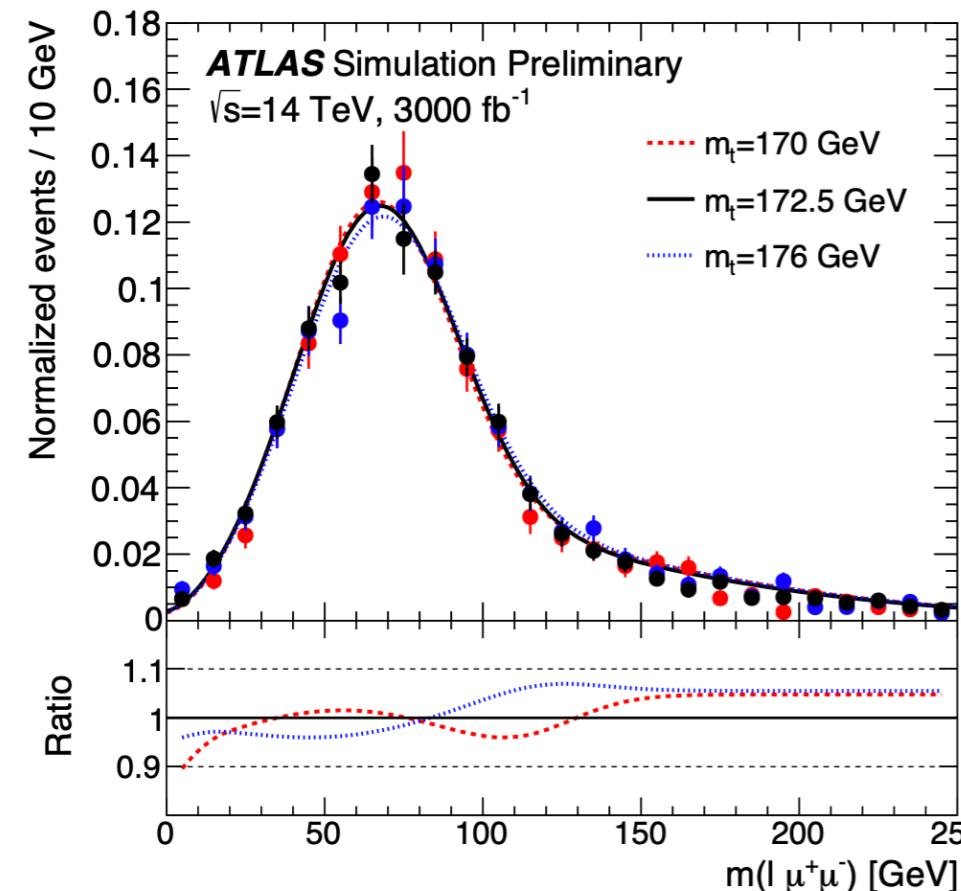
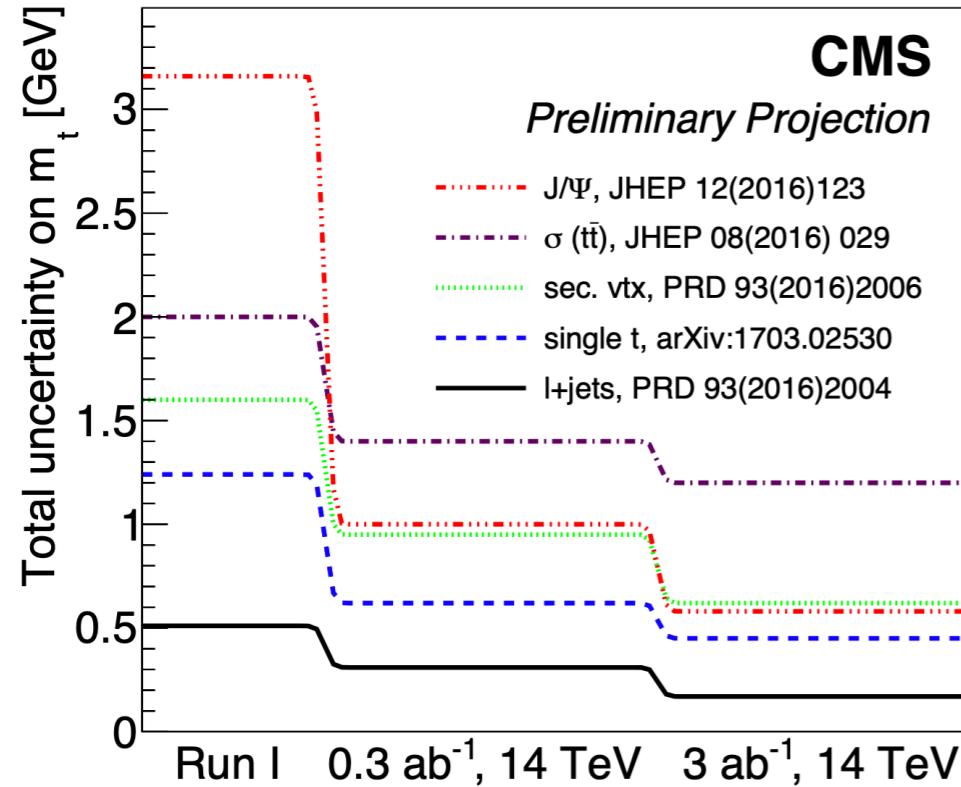
# Mass

## LHCtopWG Summary Plots

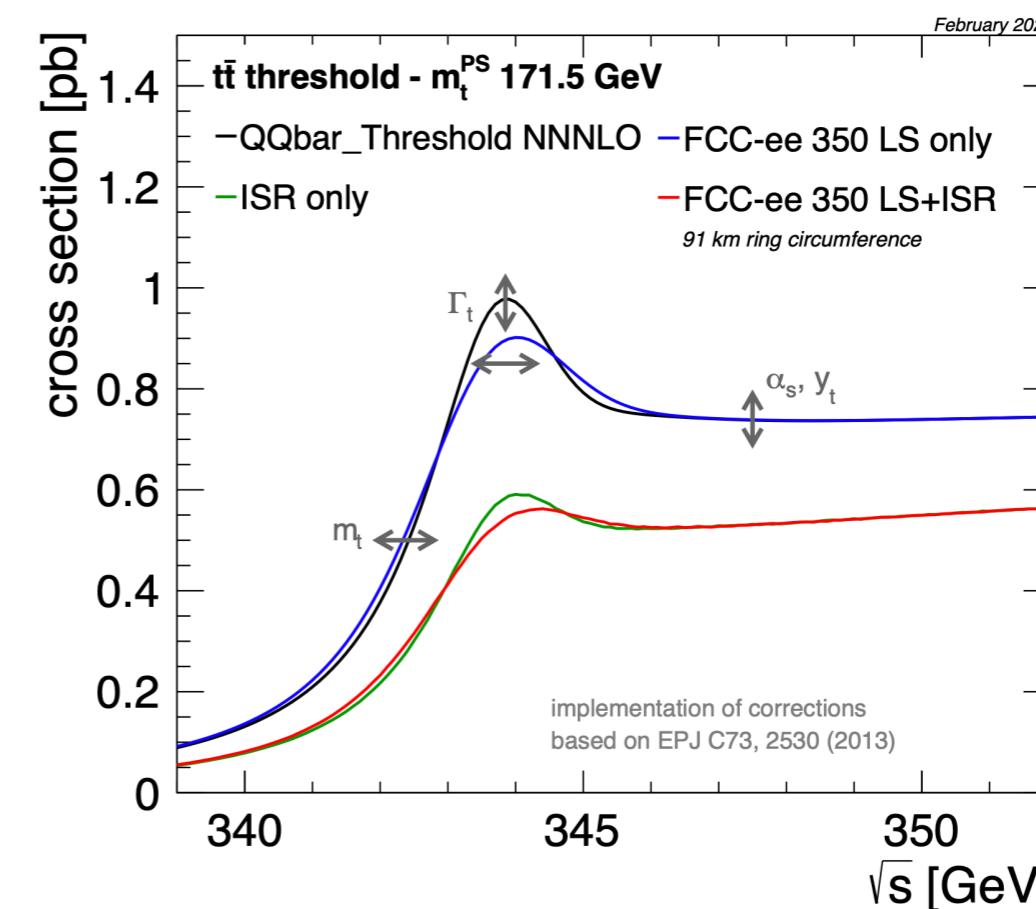


- Measured at 172.52 GeV with **0.2%** (330 MeV) uncertainty
- **Experimental precision** is comparable to the expected differences between pole and MC masses
- Studies done using  **$t\bar{t}$  events** in various final states
- **Dominant uncertainties** arise from jet energy calibrations, parton shower modeling, etc.
- **Important ingredient** to global electroweak fits, vacuum stability, etc.

# Mass



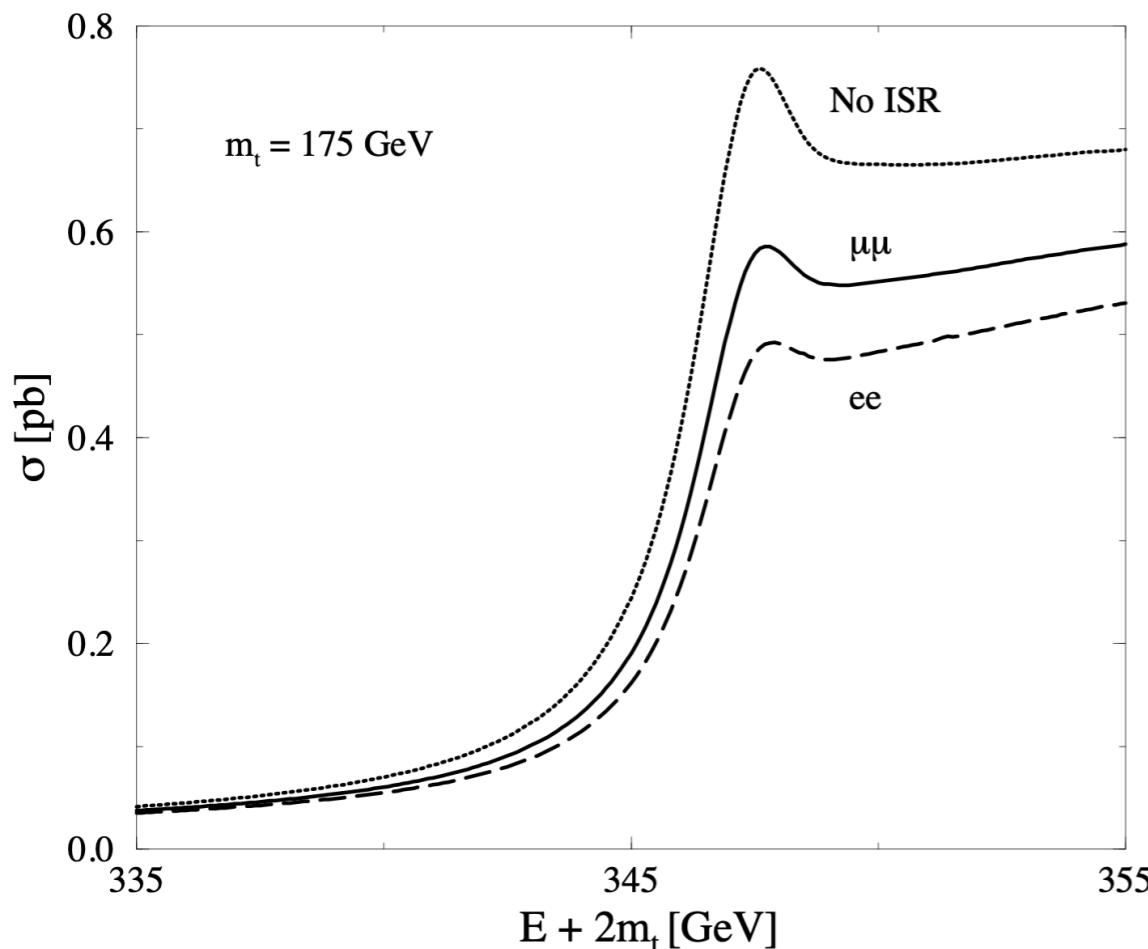
- Projections for **HL-LHC** indicate  $\approx 200 \text{ MeV}$  uncertainty - limited by large systematics
- Extract top mass from a  $t\bar{t}$  production **threshold scan** at lepton colliders:
  - Precisely measure the **cross section shape** at the threshold
  - **Simultaneous measurement** of the top quark mass ( $\approx 20 \text{ MeV}$ ) and width, top quark Yukawa coupling, and the strong coupling constant



arXiv:2203.06520

# Mass

- The top mass resonance smearing mitigated by **reduced ISR** at MuC
- Less dependence on the **beam profile** if narrow beams are obtained
- Projected sensitivity for the uncertainty can reach **a few tens of MeV**



	LEP2		Tevatron		LHC	NLC	$\mu^+\mu^-$	
$\mathcal{L} (\text{fb}^{-1})$	0.1	2	2	10	10	50	10	100
$\Delta M_W (\text{MeV})$	144	34	35	20	15	20	20	6
$\Delta m_t (\text{GeV})$	—	—	4	2	2	0.2	0.2	0.07

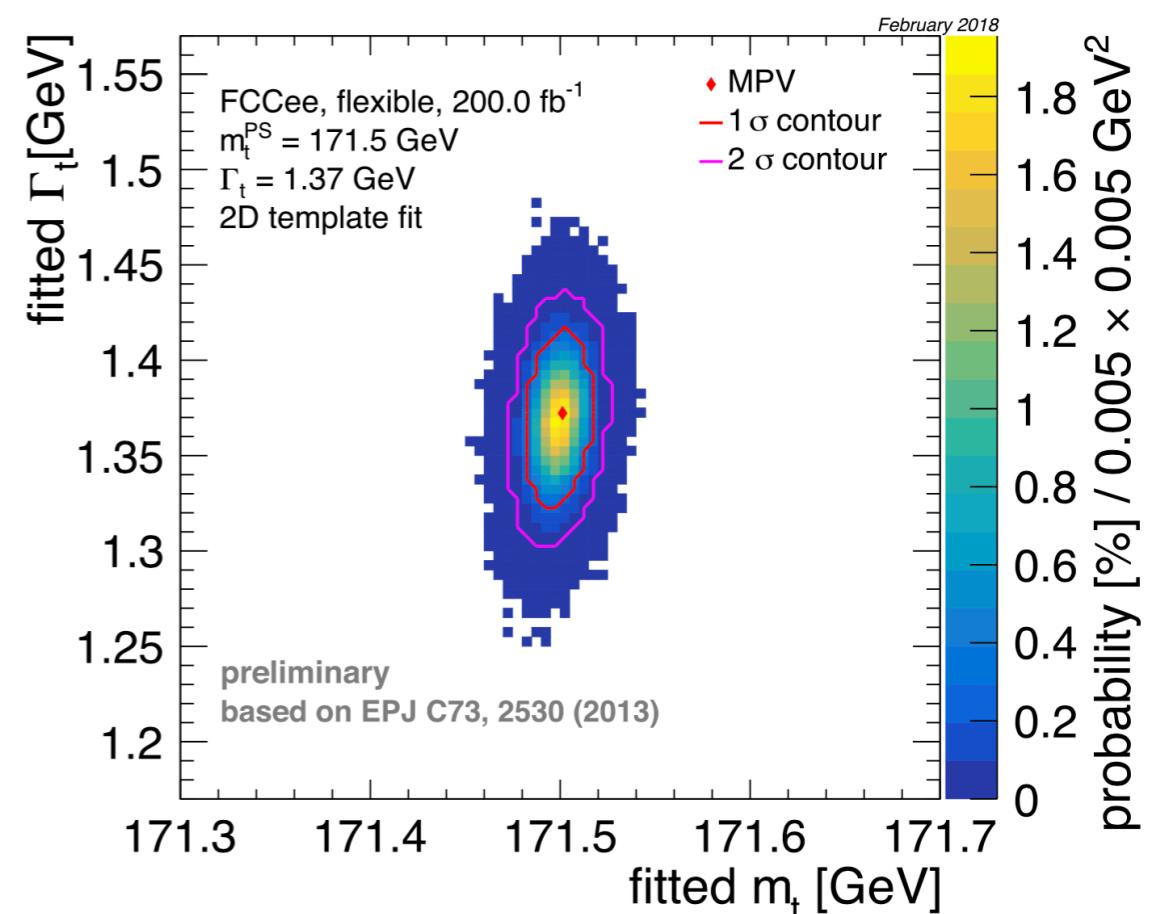
*AIP Conf. Proc. 435 (1998) 227*

*Phys. Rev. D 56 (1997) 1714*

# Width

*EPJC 79 (2019) 474*

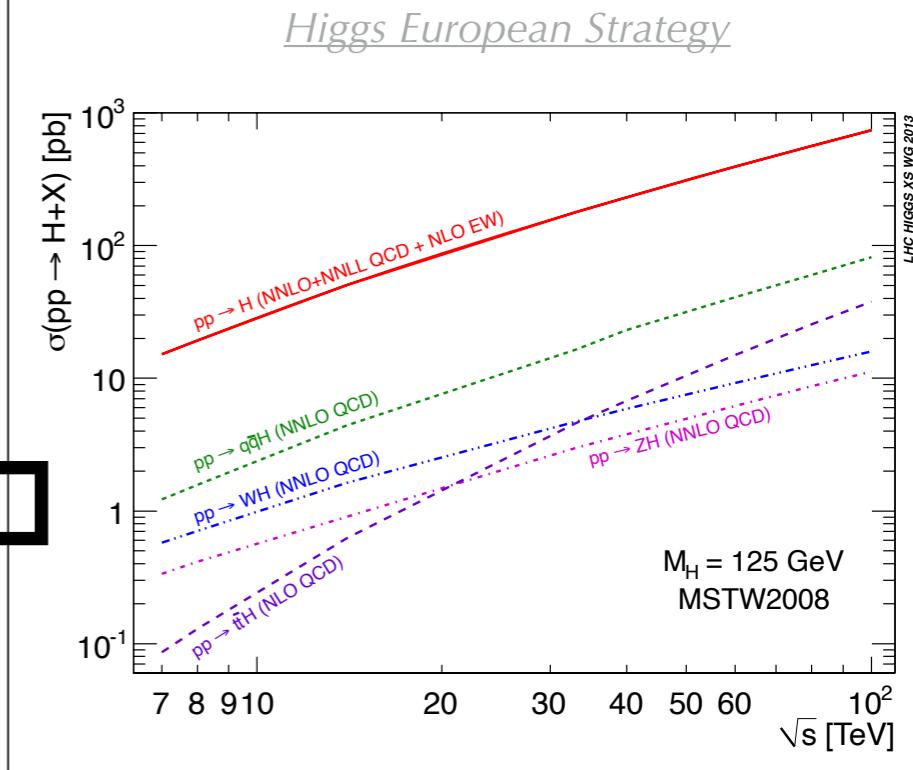
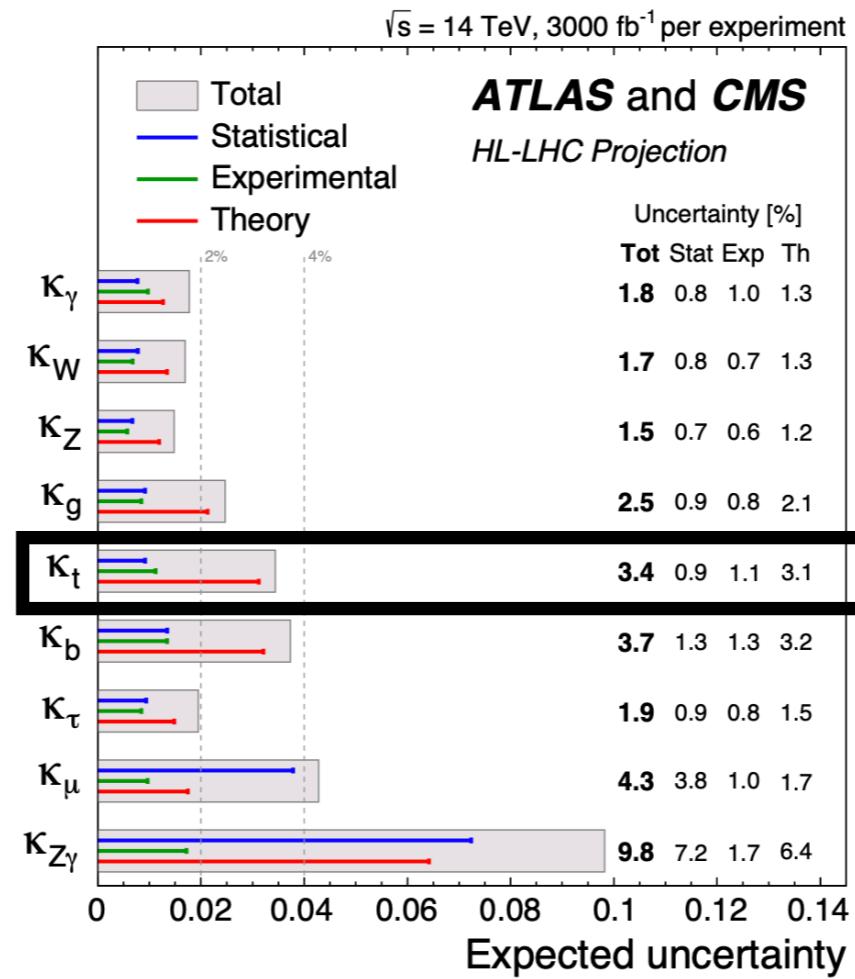
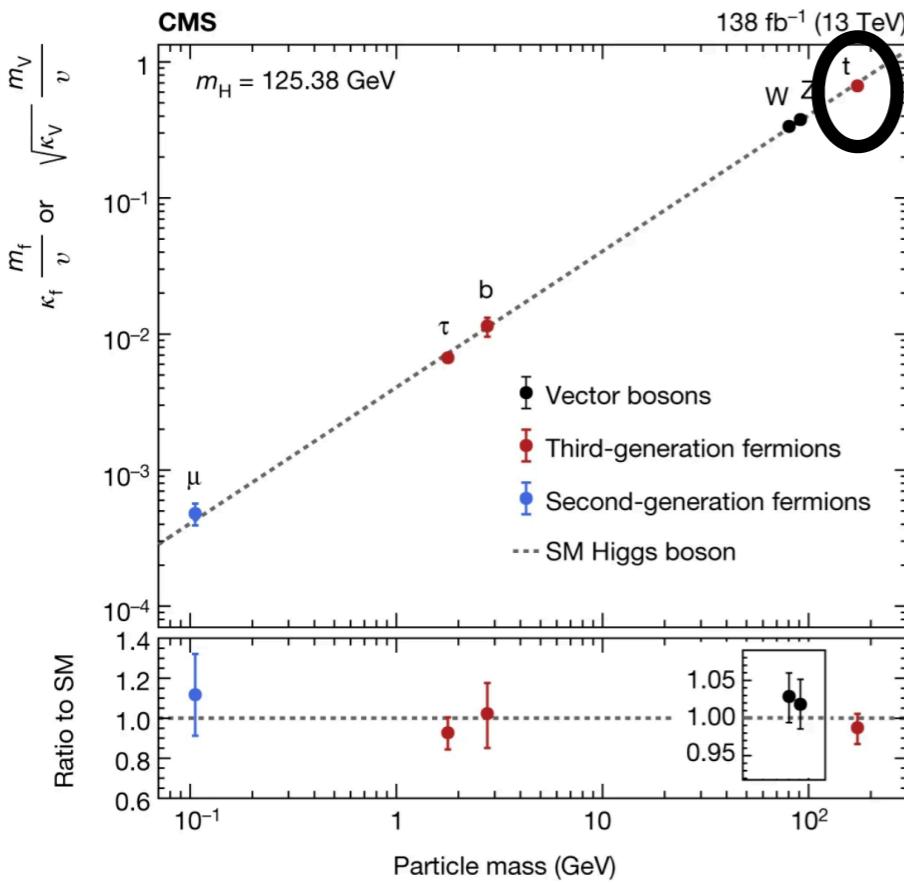
- Top width **strongly depends** on the top quark mass ( $\sim m_t^3$ )
- **Most precise** indirect measurement of  $1.36 \pm 0.14$  GeV
- N.B.: parton shower models treat top quarks in a **narrow width approximation**
- Towards a **simultaneous measurement** of top quark mass and width
- Expect the measurement of the width at  $\approx 50$  MeV precision at FCC-ee



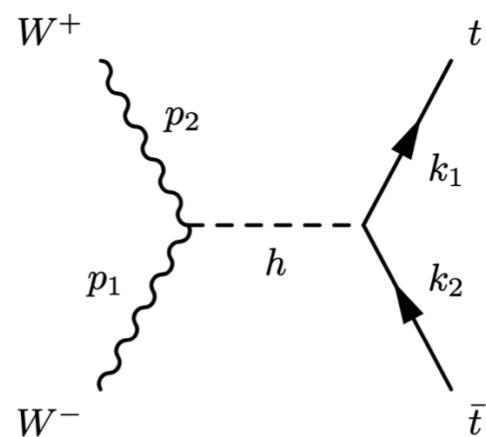
# Top Yukawa

Nature 607 (2022) 60

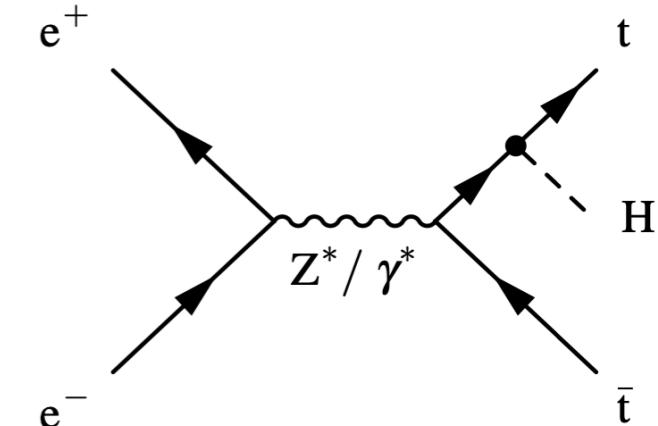
CERN-LPCC-2018-04



- Probed directly in  $t\bar{t}H$  at the **LHC**, also measured in  $H \rightarrow \gamma\gamma, ggH$ , etc.
- The top Yukawa ( $y_t$ ) is currently known at  $\approx 10\%$ , with  $\approx 4\%$  expected at HL-LHC
- Observation of the  $t(\bar{t})Hq$  process (if not already in Run 3) and first hunt for  $t\bar{t}HH$  at HL-LHC
- The FCC-hh will go below 1% with a significant increase in the production cross section ( $\approx 60\times$ )
- A boosted analysis and  $t\bar{t}H/t\bar{t}Z$  ( $H/Z \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ ) ratio-based extraction



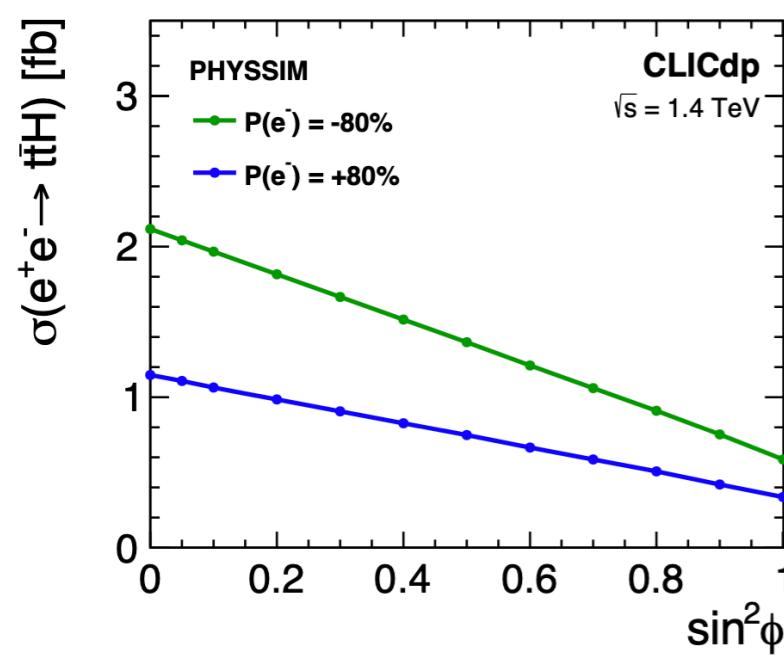
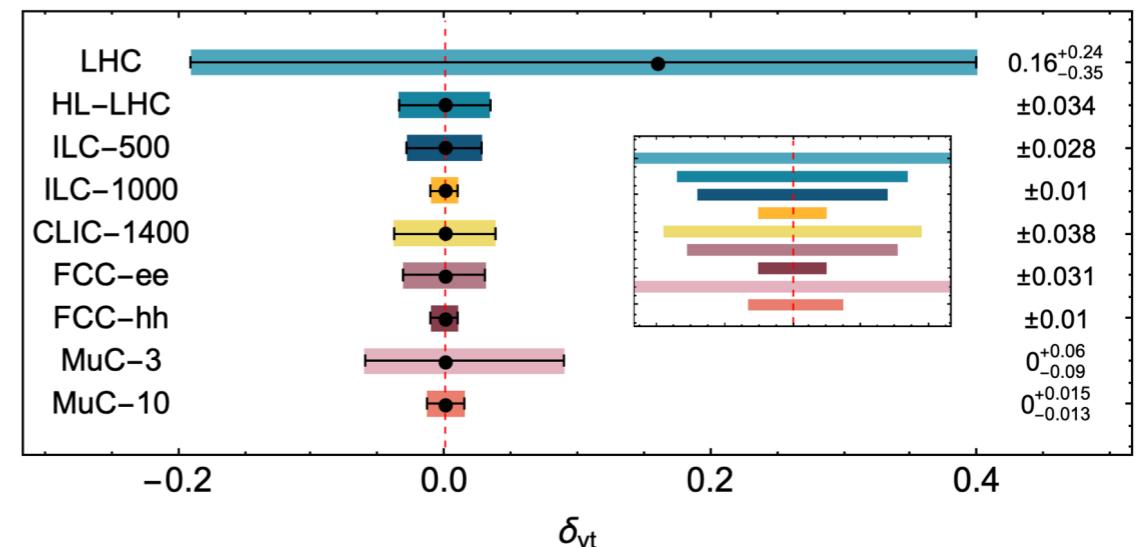
# Top Yukawa



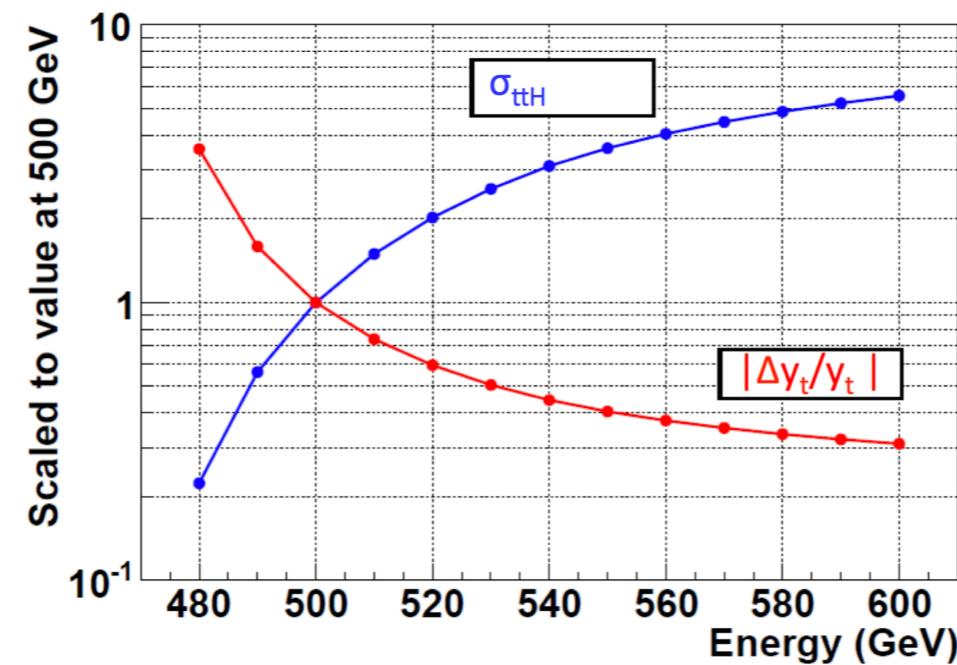
[PRD 109 \(2024\) 035021](#)

[JHEP 05 \(2024\) 176](#)

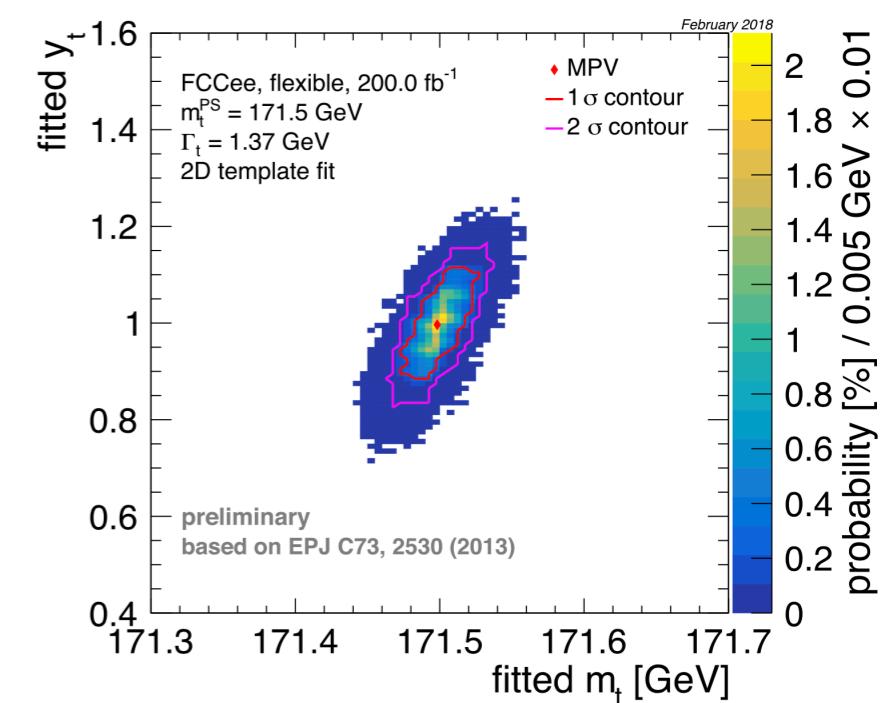
- High energy reach of **linear lepton colliders** ( $> 500$  GeV) provides direct access to  $t\bar{t}H$
- Possible to reach  $\approx 4\%$  precision in  $y_t$  at **ILC/CLIC**
- Indirect probe of  $y_t$  at **FCC-ee** at  $t\bar{t}$  threshold with  $\approx 10\%$  uncertainty
- Expected uncertainty of  $\approx 1.5\%$  at **MuC**



[JHEP 11 \(2019\) 003](#)



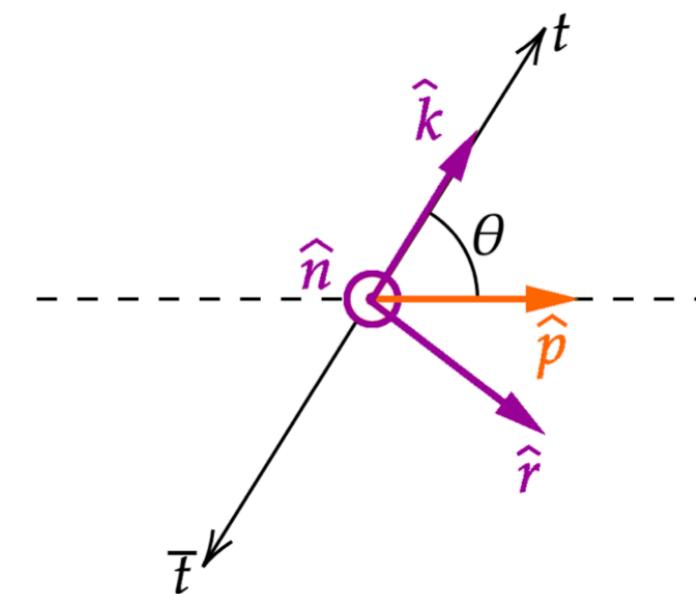
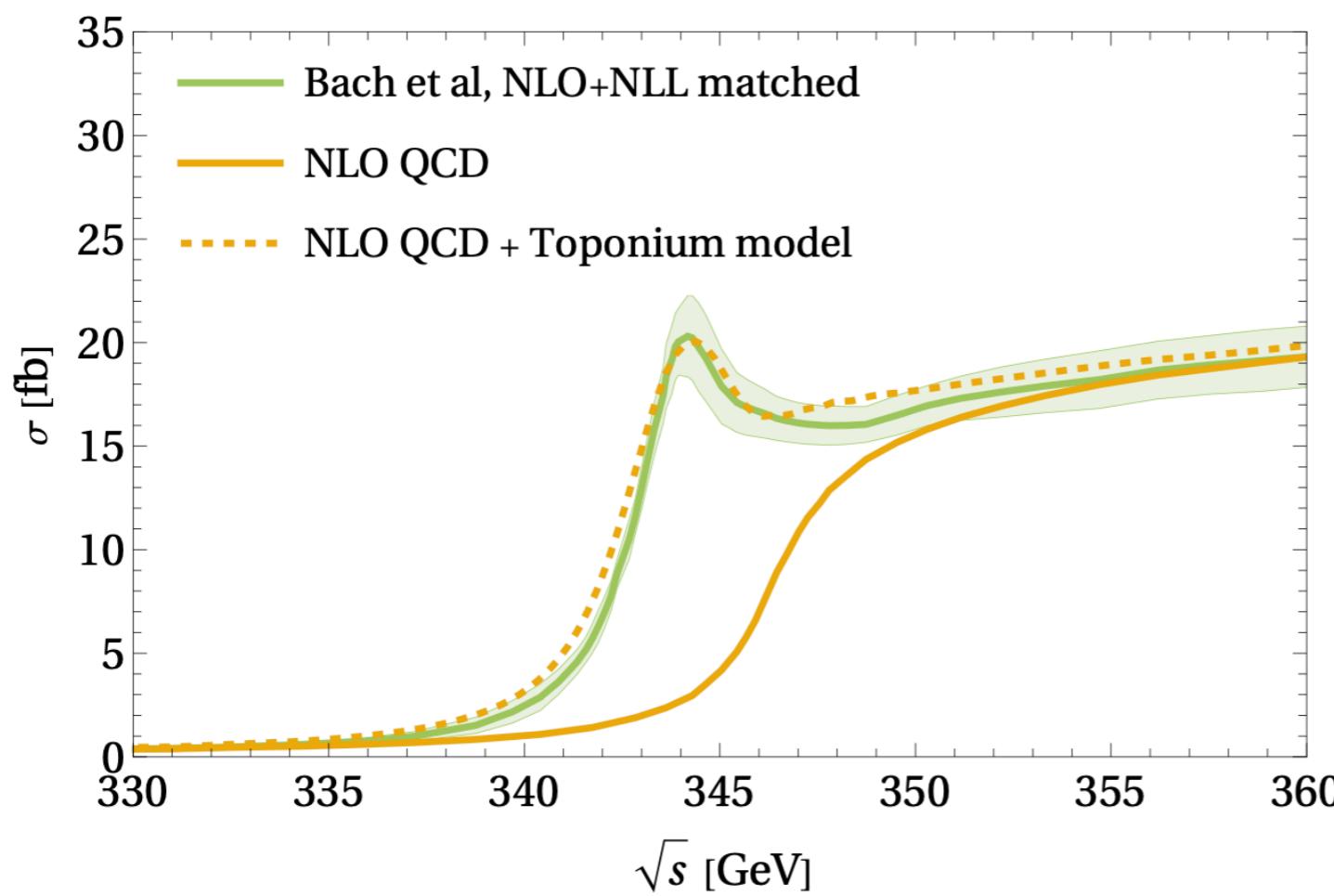
[ILC-NOTE-2015-068](#)



[EPJC 79 \(2019\) 474](#)

# Quantum effects

- Top quarks **feel each other** at the threshold as pseudoscalar and vector bound states (toponium)
- Recent **observation** of the top quark entanglement in  $t\bar{t}$  events at the LHC
- Introduce an **observable D** (angles of charged leptons)
- Top quarks are entangled if  $D < -1/3$
- Confirmation of the **existence of the toponium** requires a high experimental precision and more theory developments for future lepton collider studies

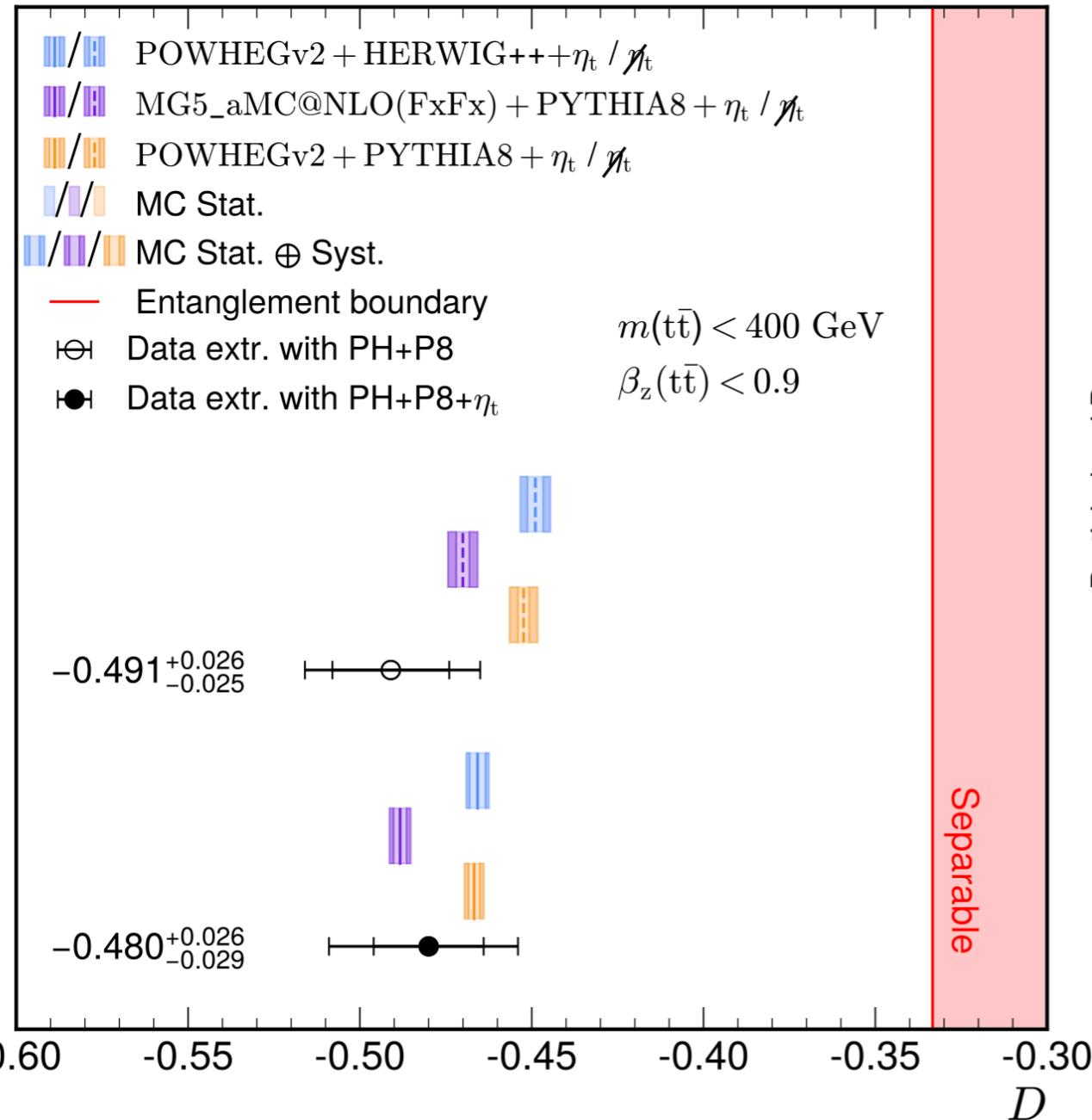


arXiv:2404.08049

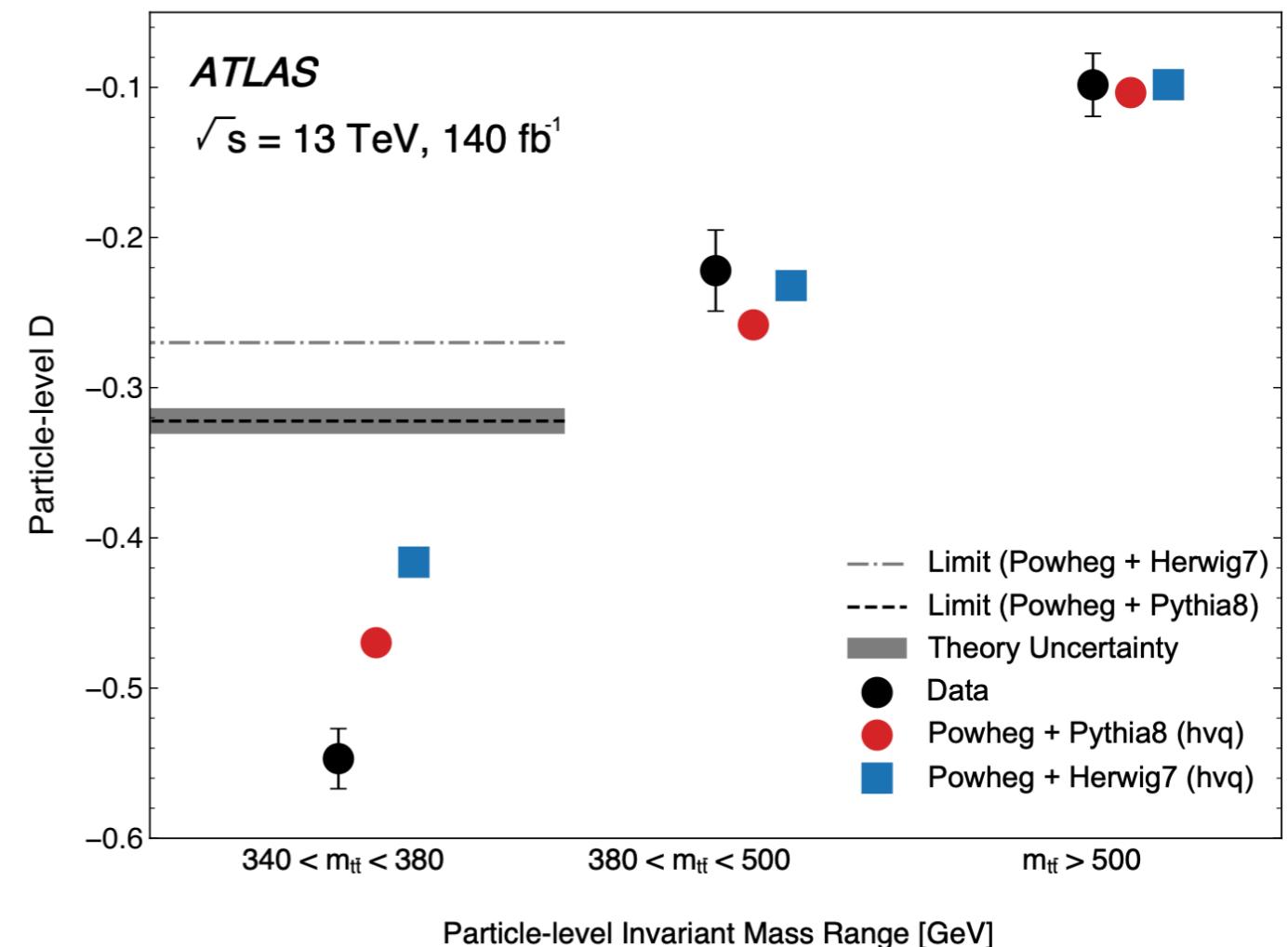
# Quantum effects

CMS

36.3 fb<sup>-1</sup> (13 TeV)

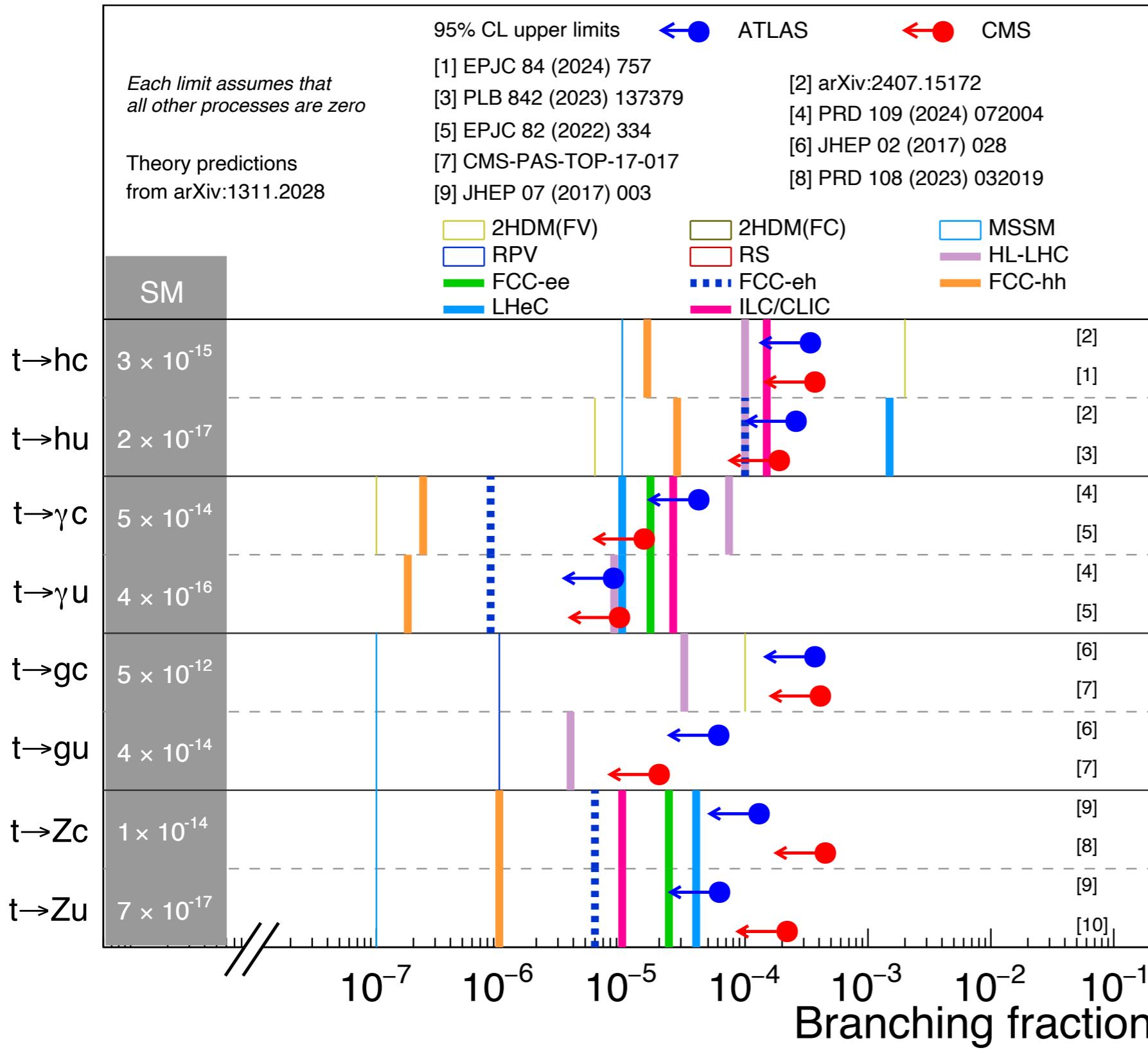


[arXiv:2406.03976](https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.03976)



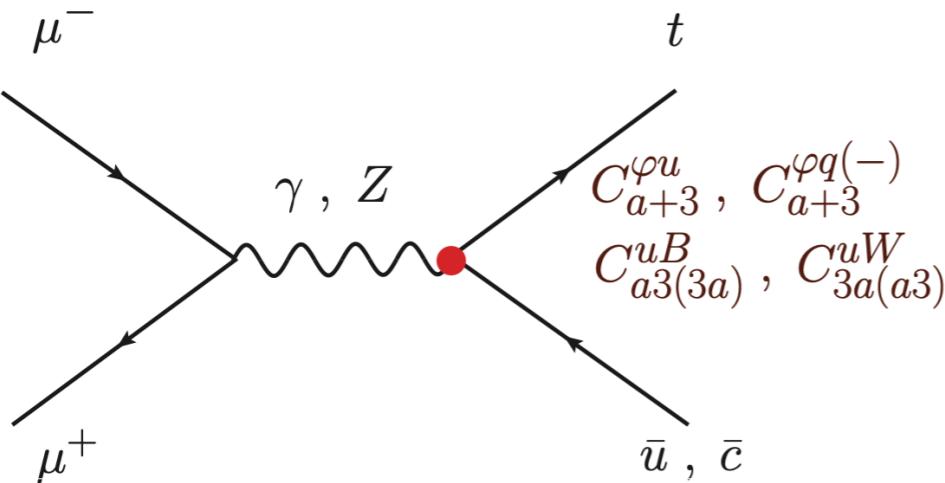
[arXiv:2311.07288](https://arxiv.org/abs/2311.07288)

# Top FCNC

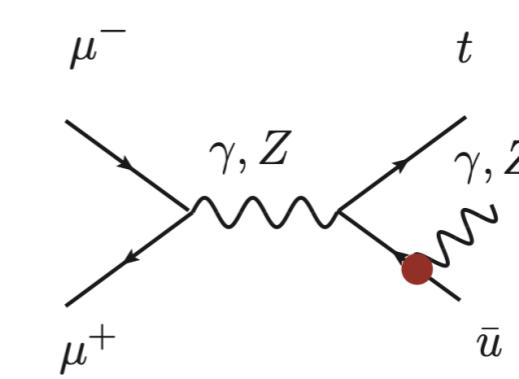
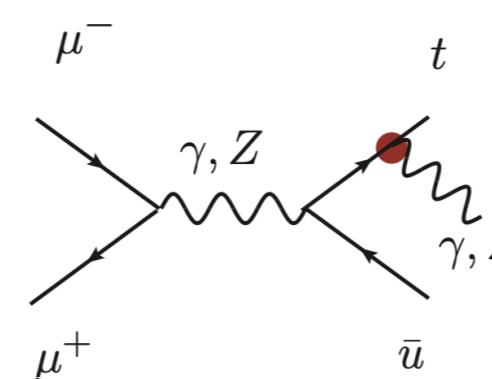
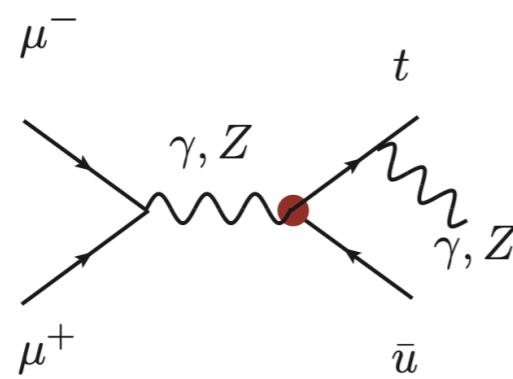
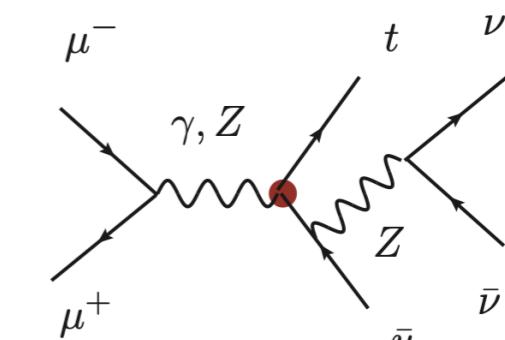
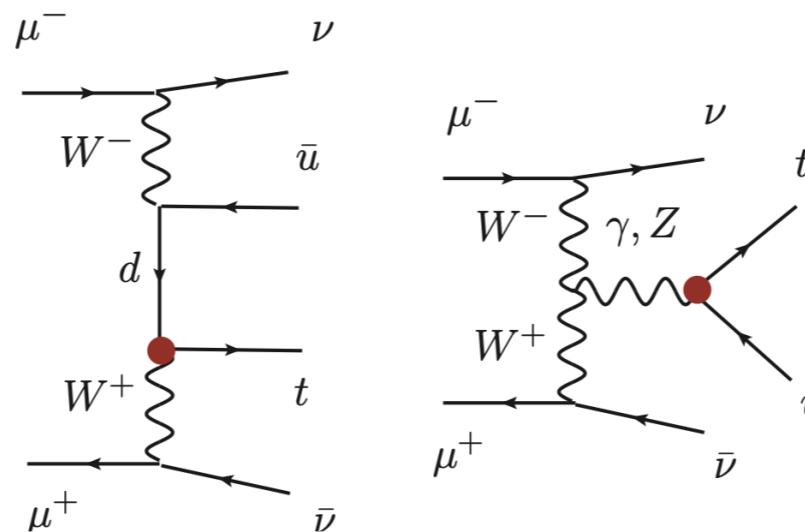
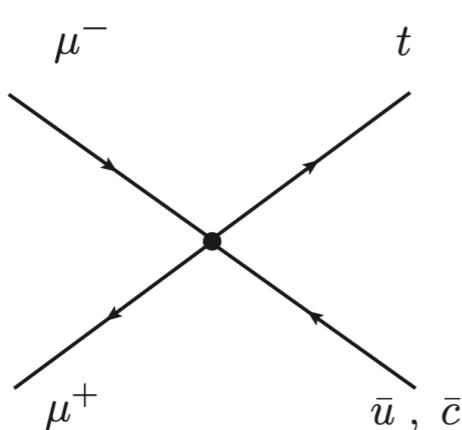


- The **latest LHC constraints** come very stringent thanks to improved reconstruction techniques and analysis optimizations
- The previous **HL-LHC projections** most likely conservative
- Several orders of magnitude improvement at **FCC-hh**
- Moderate improvement at **FCC-ee** and **ILC/CLIC** for electroweak couplings
- Benefit from **single top** quark production at 240 GeV at FCC-ee
- Hard times for **BSM**

# Top FCNC at MuC

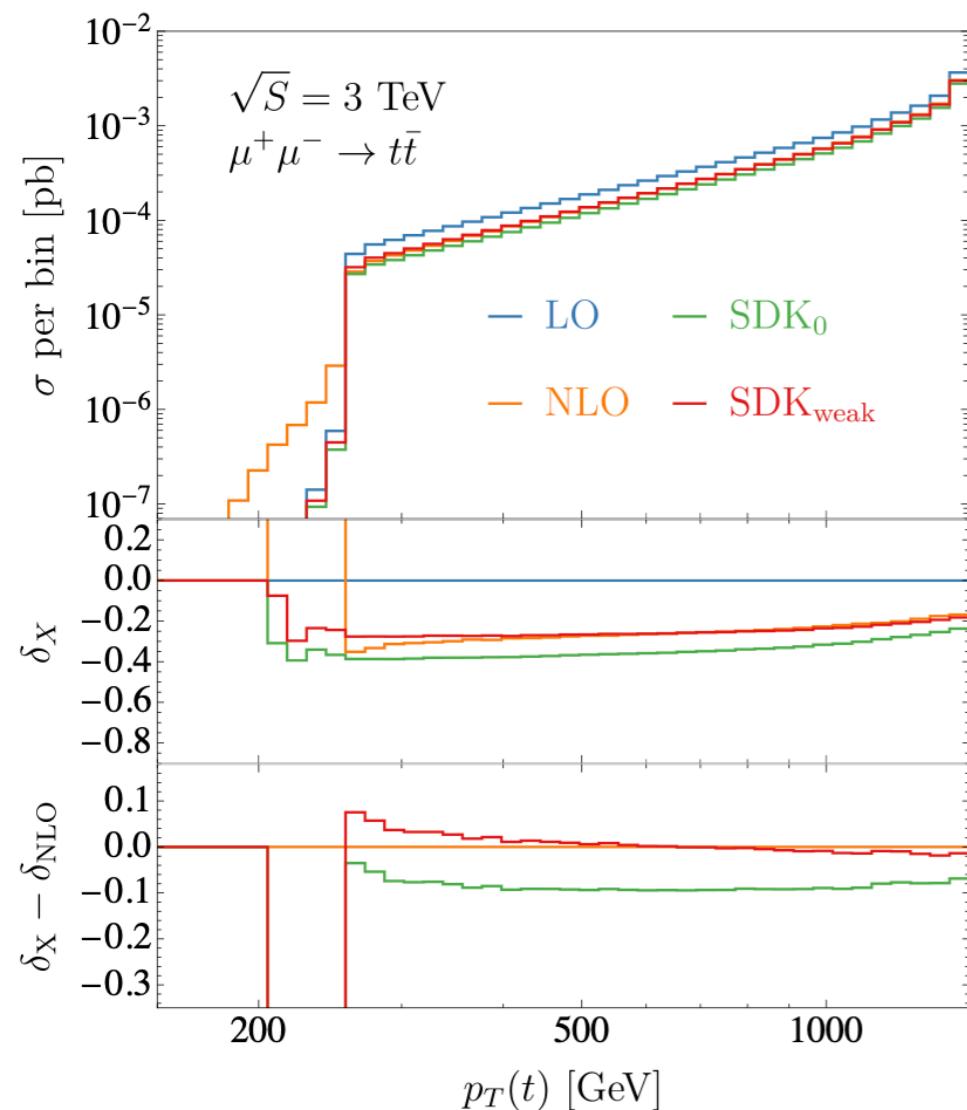


- Probe **electroweak** ( $Z/\gamma$ ) anomalous FCNC couplings of the top quark
- **Competitive or weaker constraints** when compared to the latest LHC results ( $C_{uB}$  and  $C_{uW}$ )



# Top quarks at MuC

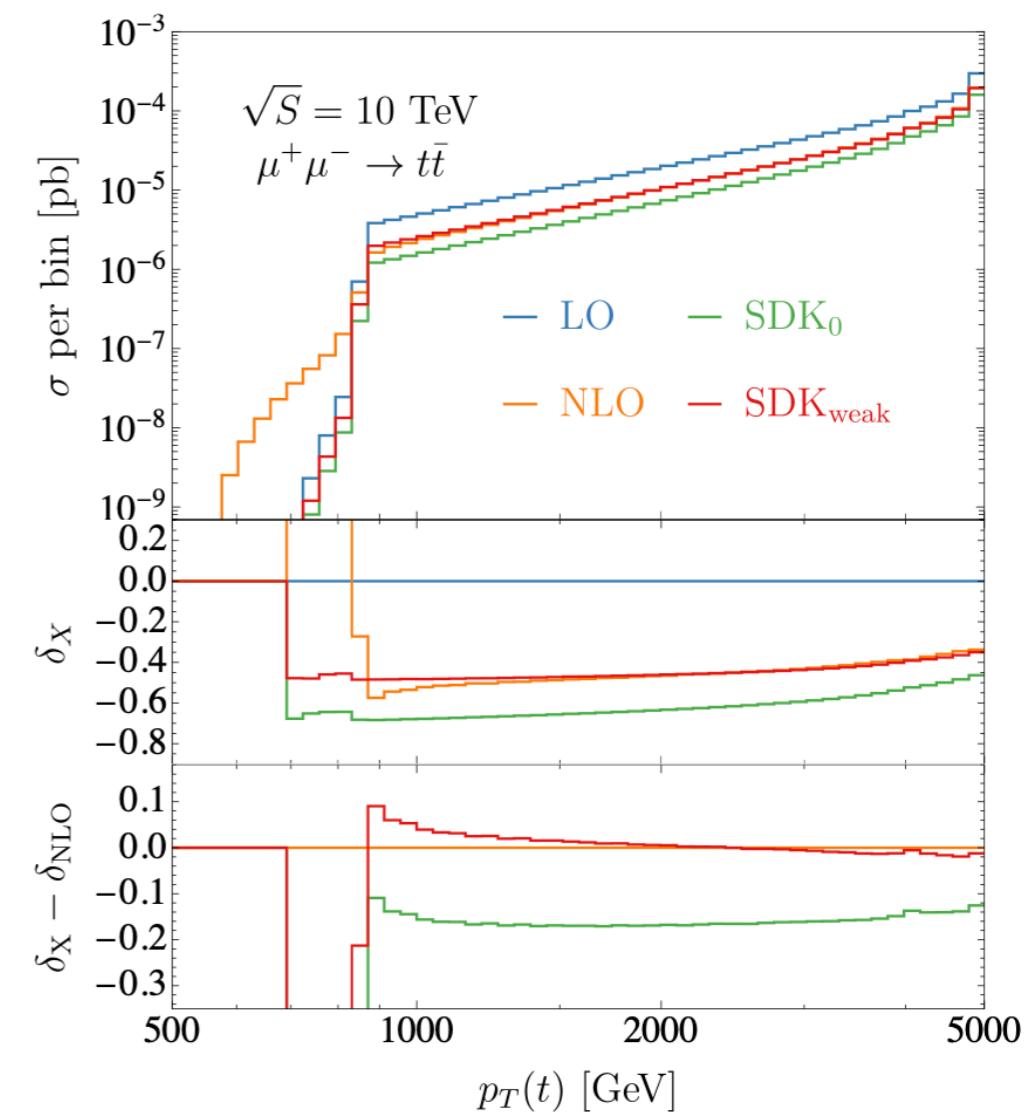
from D. Pagani's talk



For smaller  $p_T$ , larger corrections.

Sudakov (in the  $\text{SDK}_{\text{weak}}$  scheme) **capture NLO EW corrections** up to the % level.

If double logs are written in the form  $\log^2(s/m_W^2)$ , the shapes observed here are all arising from **single logs**.



# Summary

- The **HL-LHC** is our imminent bright future for important unfinished top quark business from the LHC
- The **post-HL-LHC** scenarios will provide a highly complementary way to study top quark properties
  - From **lepton threshold scans** to **high-energy frontier** of hadron collisions
- The top quark will remain a **key portal to BSM** in future collider projects
- Modern experimental particle physics is highly driven by **machine-learning developments** - anticipate sensitivity improvements
- The show **must** go on

