

# Top quark physics at FCC-ee and FCC-hh

EPS-HEP 2025, Marseille, France

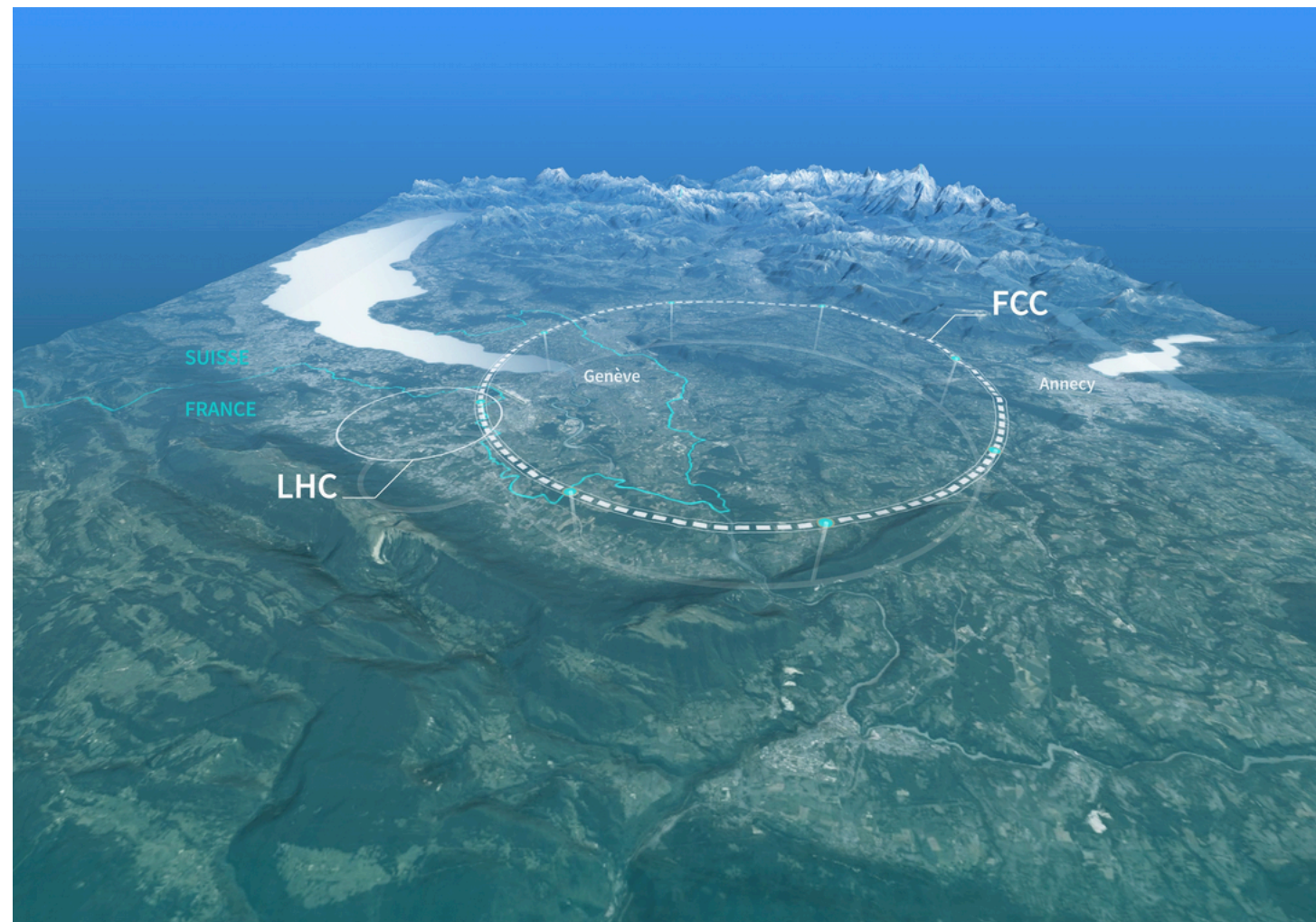
Ankita Mehta, Louise Beriet, Matteo Defranchis, Jorge De Blas, Michele Selvaggi, Birgit Stapf, Marcel Vos

**July 11, 2025**

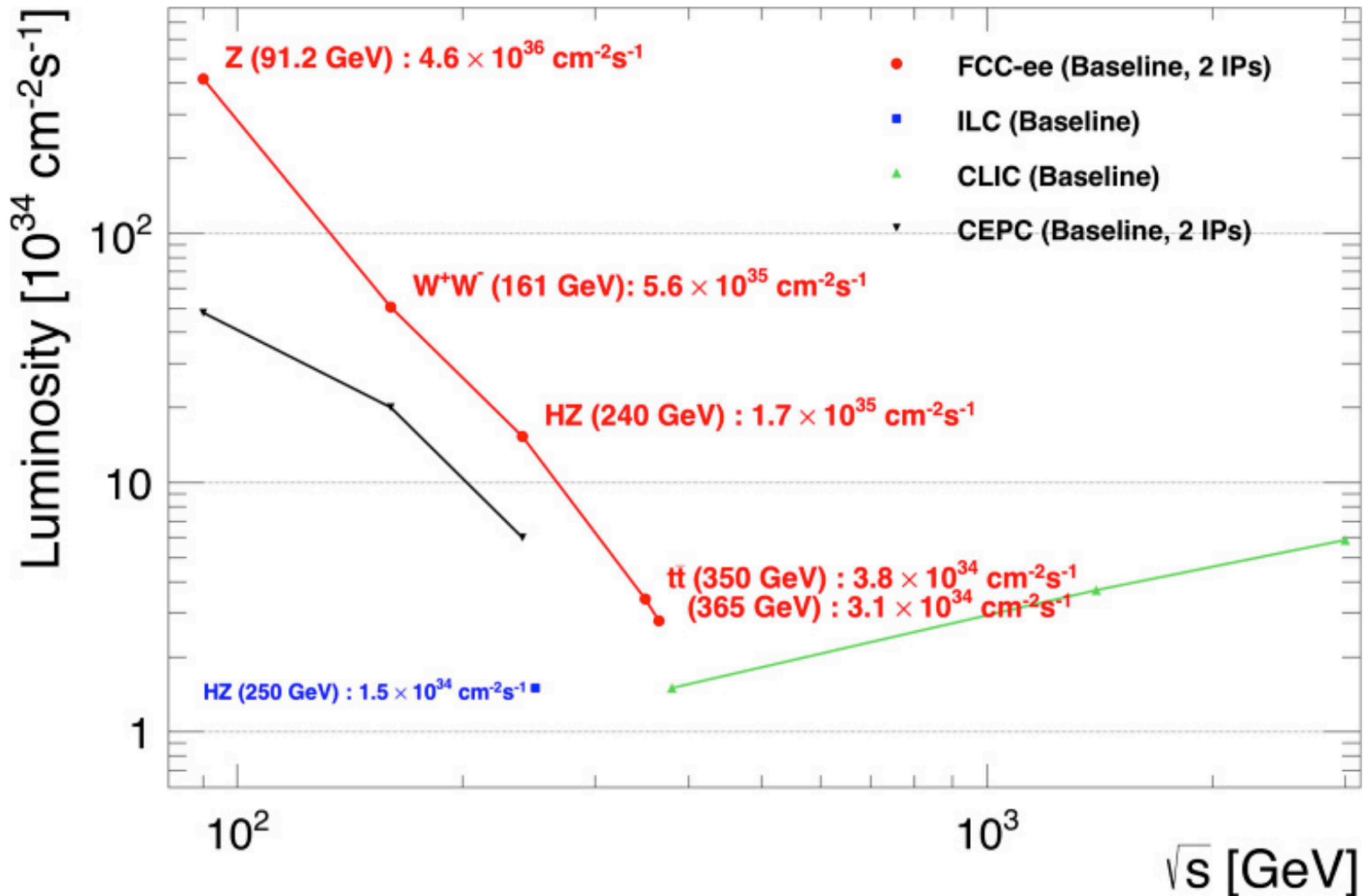


# Future circular collider (FCC) @CERN

- FCC-ee: High-luminosity  $e^+e^-$  circular collider; machine design for highest luminosities at Z, WW, ZH and  $t\bar{t}$  working points
- Unprecedented precision measurements for all SM parameters
- Potential to directly or indirectly discover BSM physics
- 91 km ring beneath France & Switzerland
- Schedule (and physics) complementary to LHC followed by FCC-hh (reaching energies up to eight times those of the LHC)
- Eight surface sites for up to four experiments.



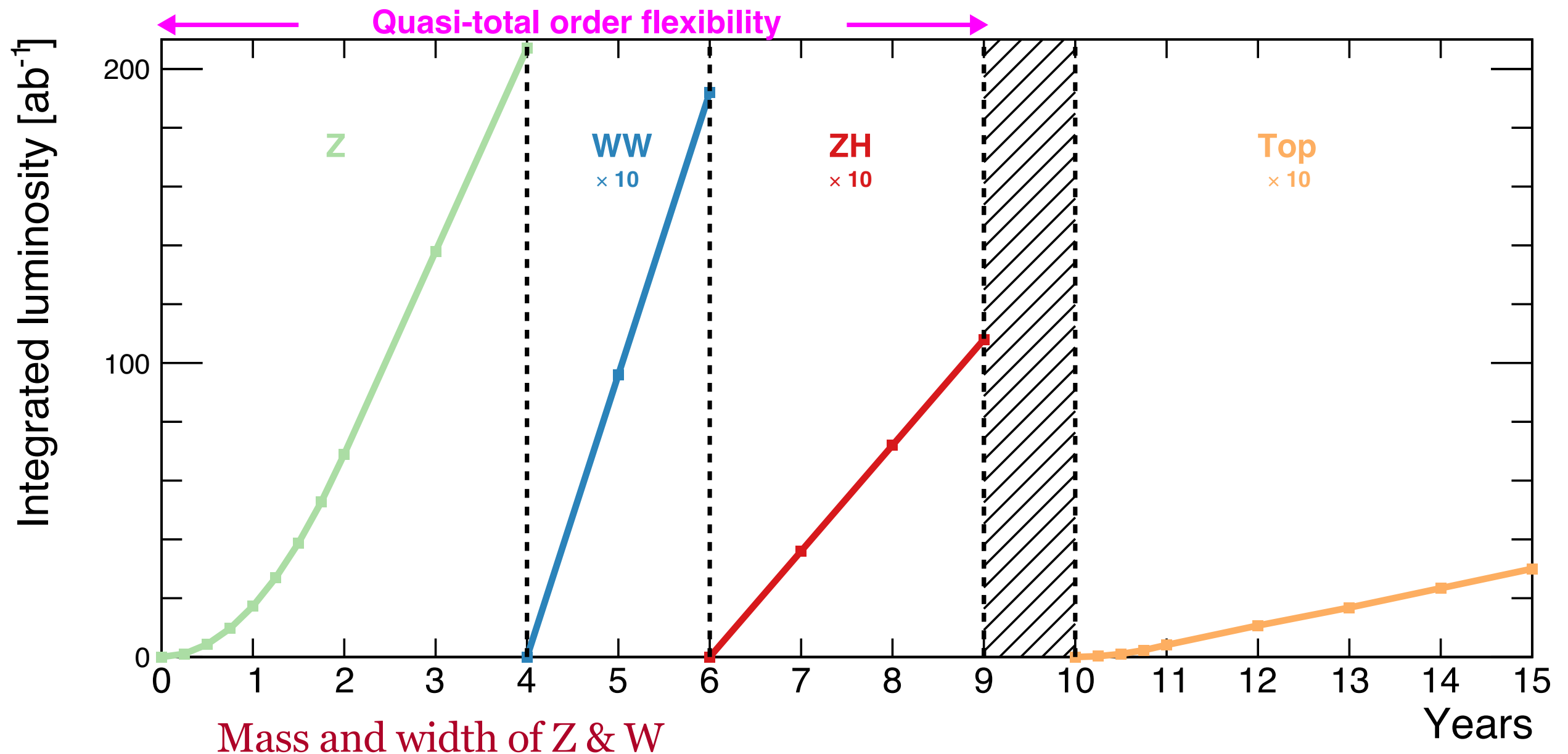
# Future lepton colliders luminosities



Clear advantage in luminosity for circular colliders vs. linear colliders  
CLIC has higher energy reach, but less than LHC

# Top quark physics at FCC-ee

- Measure total production cross section as a function of  $\sqrt{s}$
- **345-365 GeV runs**
- Compare to standalone theory prediction to extract physical parameters (mass, total width...) **Requires excellent control over beam and luminosity calibration**





# Need for $t\bar{t}$ threshold scan at FCC-ee

- Measurement of  $WbWb$  total rate around the  $t\bar{t}$  production threshold
- Cross section shape depends strongly on top quark mass ( $m_{\text{top}}$ ), width ( $\Gamma_{\text{top}}$ ),  $\alpha_s$  and top-Yukawa ( $y_{\text{top}}$ )
- Lepton colliders aim to measure  $\alpha_s$  with very high precision (0.1% for FCC-ee, 0.6% for LC) at Z pole and  $m_W$  at WW threshold

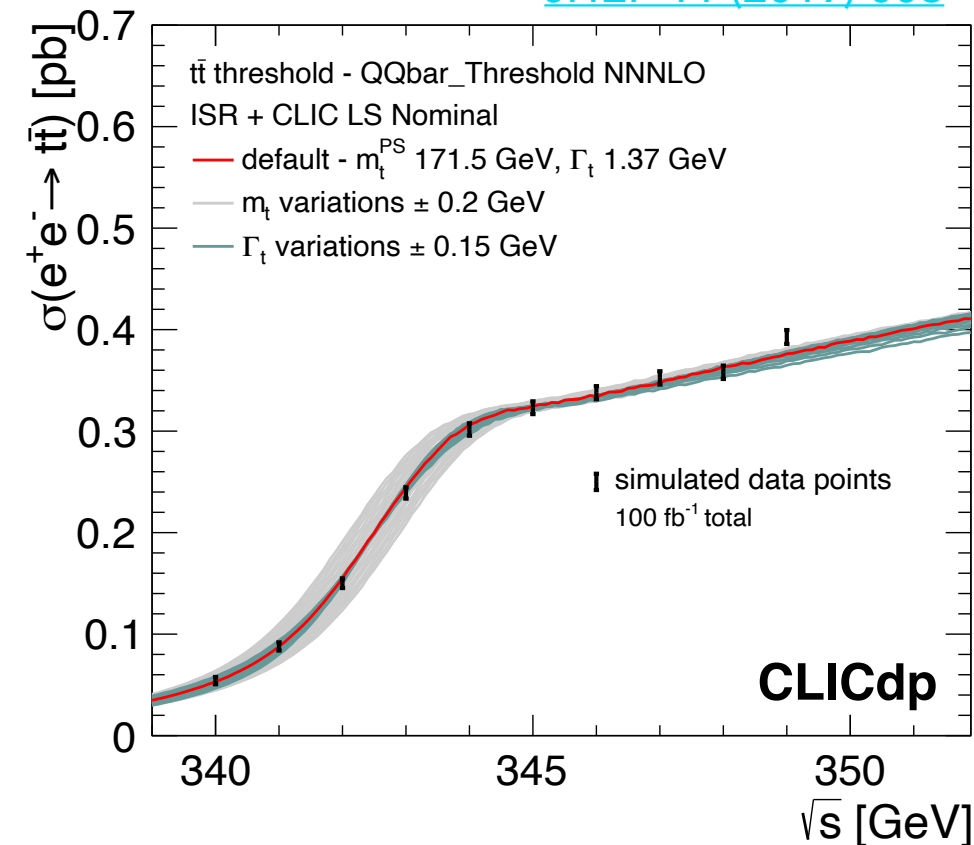
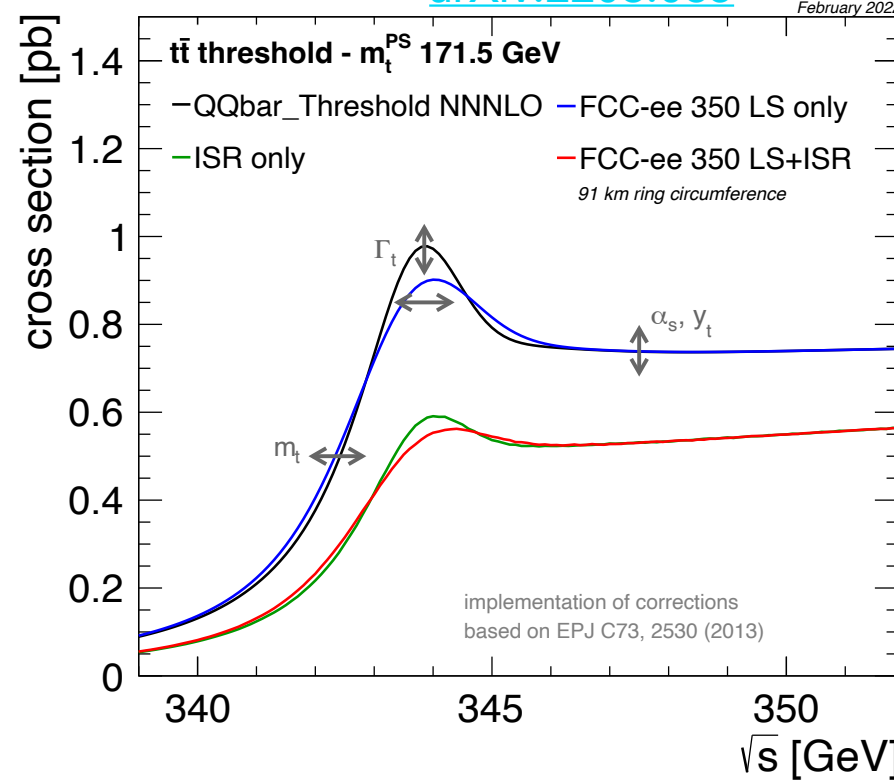
arXiv:2203.065

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## FCC advantages

- Better  $\sqrt{s}$  precision and accuracy  $\rightarrow$  beneficial for  $m_t$  and  $\Gamma_t$
- Access to precise direct determination of  $\alpha_s$  from Z pole run



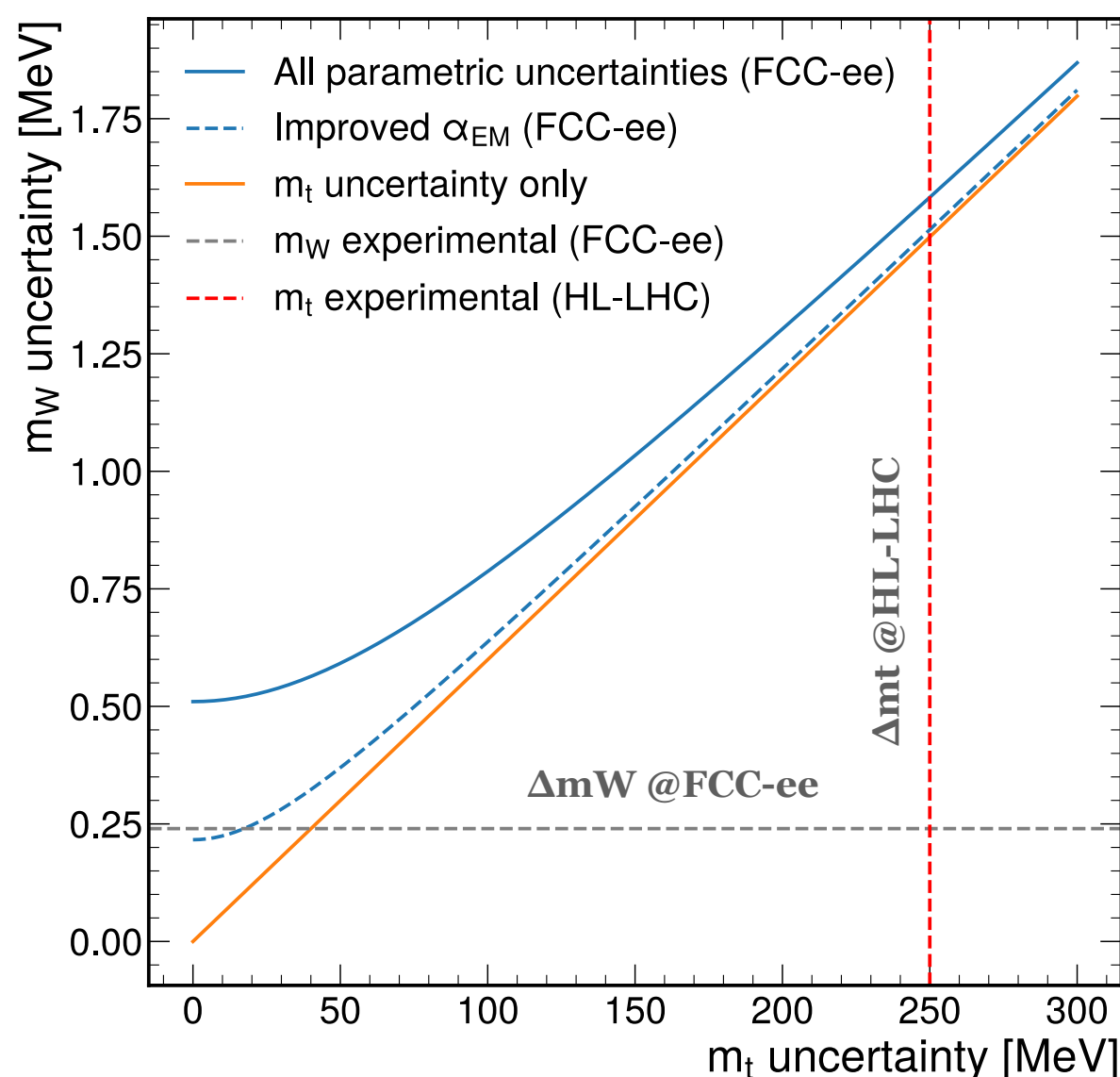
## LC advantages (not directly related to threshold scan)

- Beam polarisation  $\rightarrow$  interesting for top quark couplings
- Access to higher energies ( $t\bar{t}H$ )

# $t\bar{t}$ threshold scan at FCC-ee

- Measurement of  $WbWb$  production cross section at different center-of mass energies (340-365 GeV) around  $t\bar{t}$  production threshold in  $e^+e^-$  collisions at FCC-ee
- Different center-of mass energy points offer measurements of  $m_{\text{top}}$ ,  $\Gamma_{\text{top}}$ , and  $y_{\text{top}}$
- Even possible to search for new physics indirectly at 365 GeV

$m_W$  measurements at FCC-ee: 0.24 MeV  $\rightarrow$  need to measure  $m_{\text{top}}$  with  $< 20$  MeV precision



- Targeting semi-hadronic and hadronic decay modes (total branching fractions  $\sim 75\%$ )
- $\mathcal{L}_{\text{int.}} = 41 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  per e.c.m @340-355 GeV &  $2.65 \text{ ab}^{-1}$  @ 365 GeV

# Detector level studies

- Signal: WbWb production including  $t\bar{t}$ , single top, and non-resonant contributions
- Background contributions from WW, ZZ, WWZ( $\rightarrow b\bar{b}$ ), and  $q\bar{q}$
- MC simulation samples from Pythia & Whizard

Expected number of signal events: 2e6 for 41 fbinv

Process	Decays	Generator	Order	Cross section [pb]		
				340 GeV	345 GeV	365 GeV
WbWb	inclusive	WHIZARD+Pyhtia6	LO	0.1	0.5	0.5
WWZ	$Z \rightarrow b\bar{b}$	WHIZARD+Pyhtia6	LO	$2.02 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.46 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.32 \times 10^{-3}$
$q\bar{q}$	n.a.	WHIZARD+Pyhtia6	LO	26.3	25.6	22.8
ZZ	inclusive	Pythia8	LO	0.932	0.916	0.643
WW	inclusive	Pythia8	LO	12.1	11.9	10.7

- Lepton acceptance (isolated leptons with momentum  $> 12$  GeV)  $>99\%$  across all e.c.m. points
- Inclusive jet clustering (generalised anti-kT algorithm with cone size 0.5)
- Variables of interest: Number of jets in different bins of number of b-tagged jets (0,1, $\geq 2$ )
- Parameterised b-tagging efficiencies

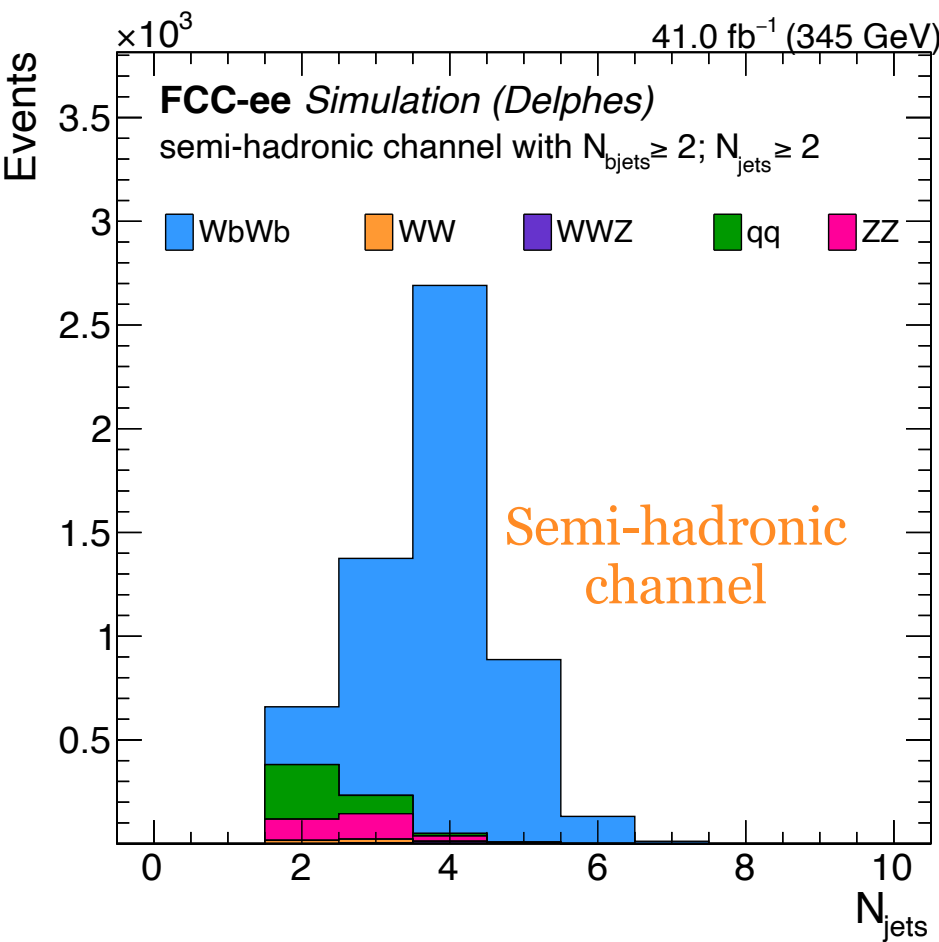
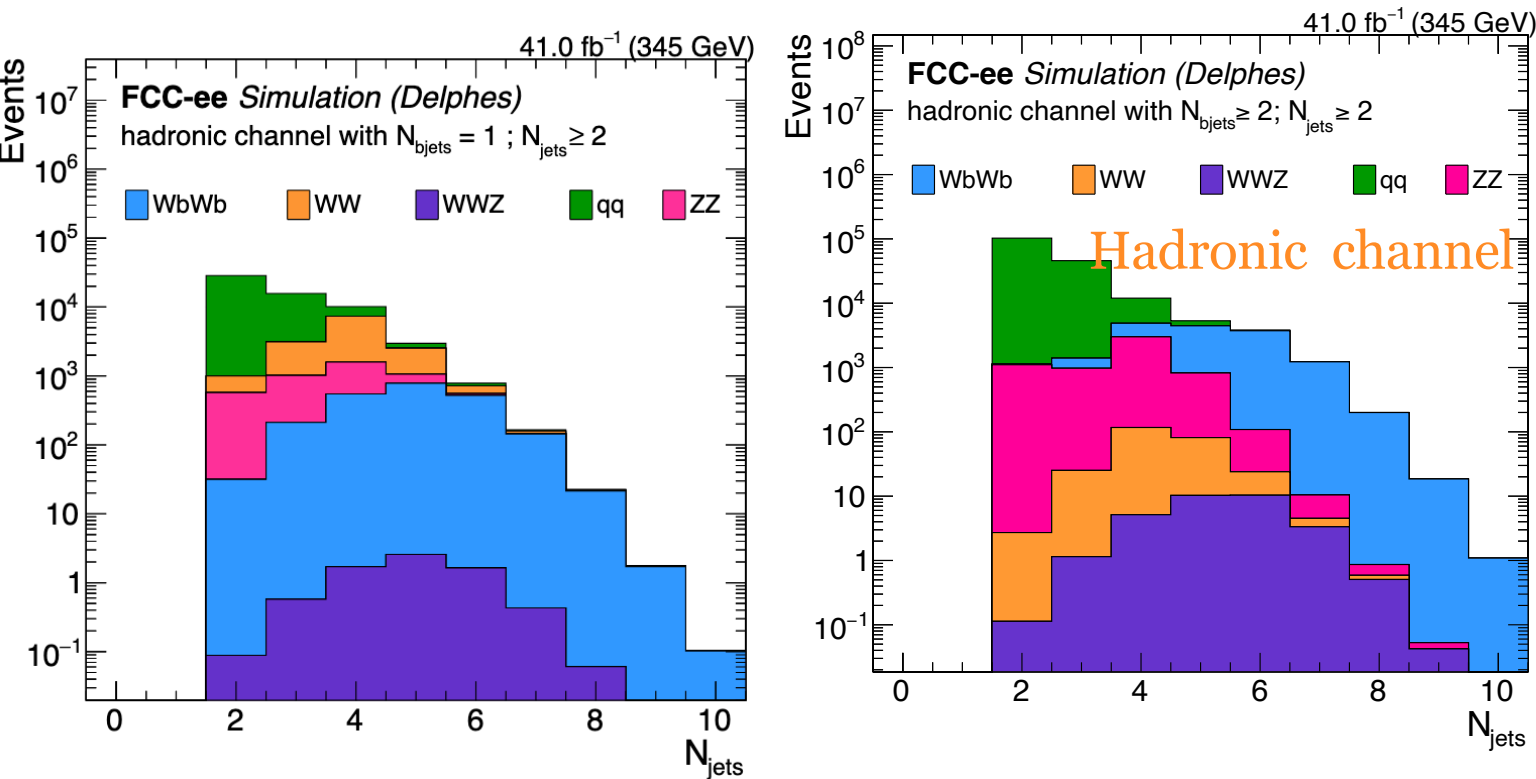
Zero btagged category  $\rightarrow$  WW

$\geq 1$  btagged category  $\rightarrow$  signal

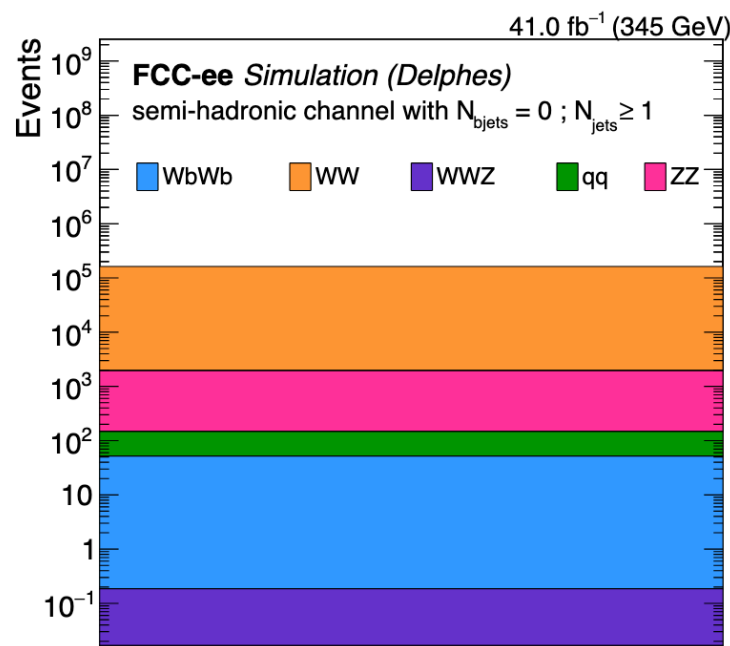
One btagged category  $\rightarrow$  signal with one unidentified b-tagged jet

# Detector level studies

Profile-likelihood fit in jet & b-tag multiplicity to extract total rates  $\rightarrow$  measure b-tagging efficiency in-situ



Relevant systematic effects controlled well below statistical uncertainty



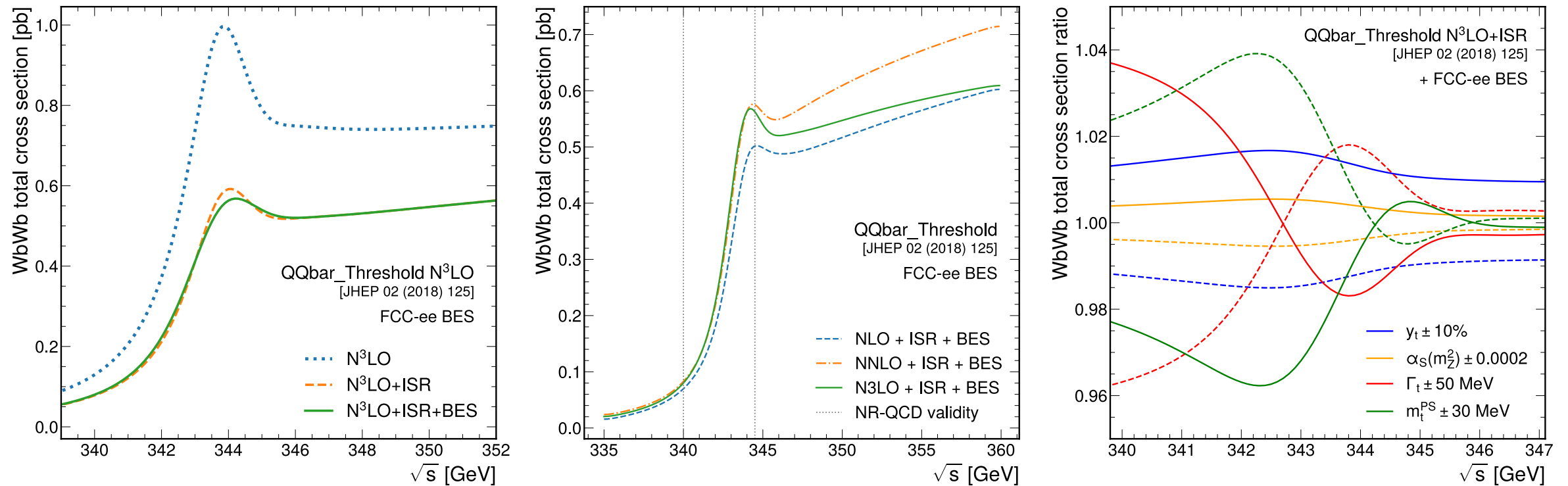
Helps to constrain normalisation of WW

Extremely clean in WW

Uncertainty source	Impact on $\sigma_{WbWb}$ [%]		
	340 GeV	345 GeV	365 GeV
Integrated luminosity	0.12	0.11	0.02
b tagging	0.11	0.06	0.01
ZZ had. norm.	0.46	0.19	0.04
ZZ semihad. norm.	0.23	0.07	0.03
WW had. norm.	0.17	0.09	0.02
WW semihad. norm.	0.06	0.04	0.03
q $\bar{q}$ had. norm.	0.12	0.09	0.02
q $\bar{q}$ semihad. norm.	0.18	0.06	0.01
WWZ norm.	0.03	0.01	0.01
Total (incl. stat)	2.31	0.89	0.12



# Theoretical calculation



- Top quarks form a quasi-bound state  $\rightarrow$  non-relativistic QCD calculation (NR-QCD) at  $N^3LO$
- Initial state radiation (ISR) effectively reduces total cross section (LL precision)
- Calculation convoluted with expected FCC beam energy spread (BES): 0.18% / beam
- Calculation only valid in the vicinity of threshold, where the sensitivity to the parameters lies

# Fit results

- 3D fit of  $m_{\text{top}}$ ,  $\Gamma_{\text{top}}$ , and  $y_{\text{top}}$  with profiled  $\alpha_s$  and calibration parameters
- 10 equally-spaced points with equal luminosity
- Additional sensitivity to  $y_{\text{top}}$  from 365 GeV run

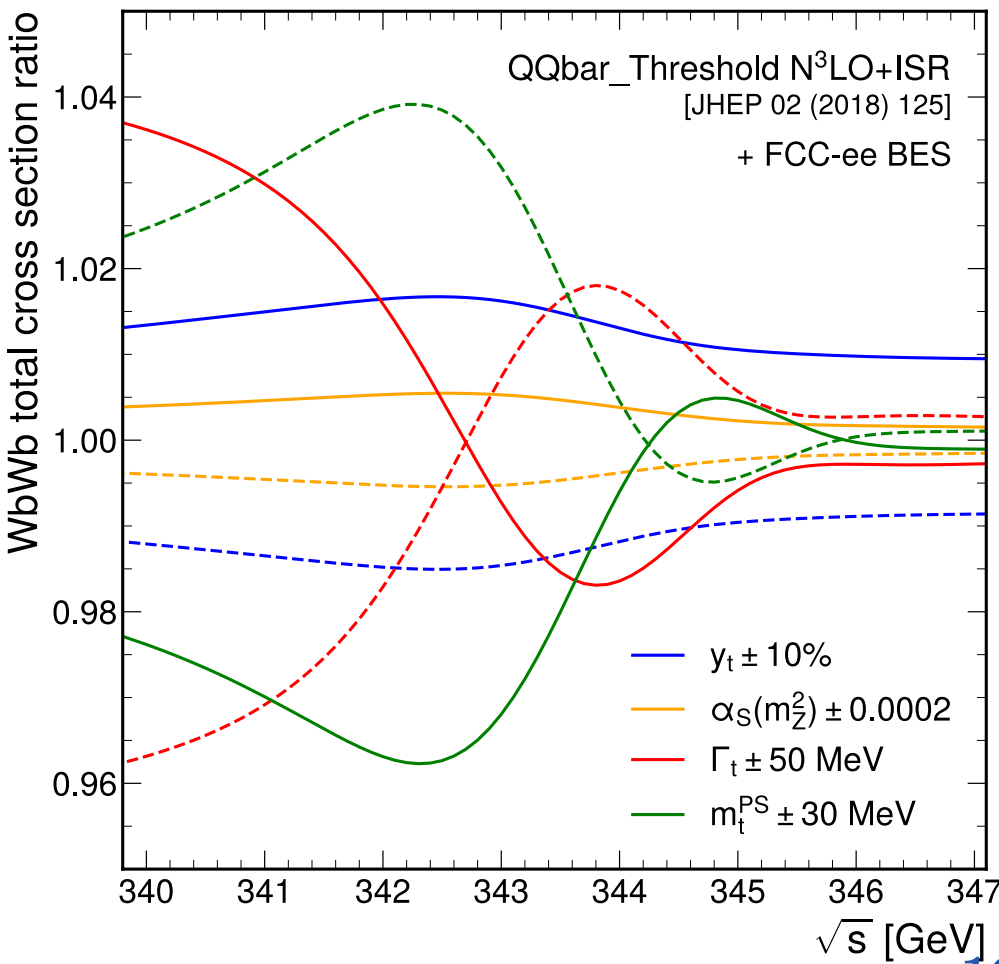
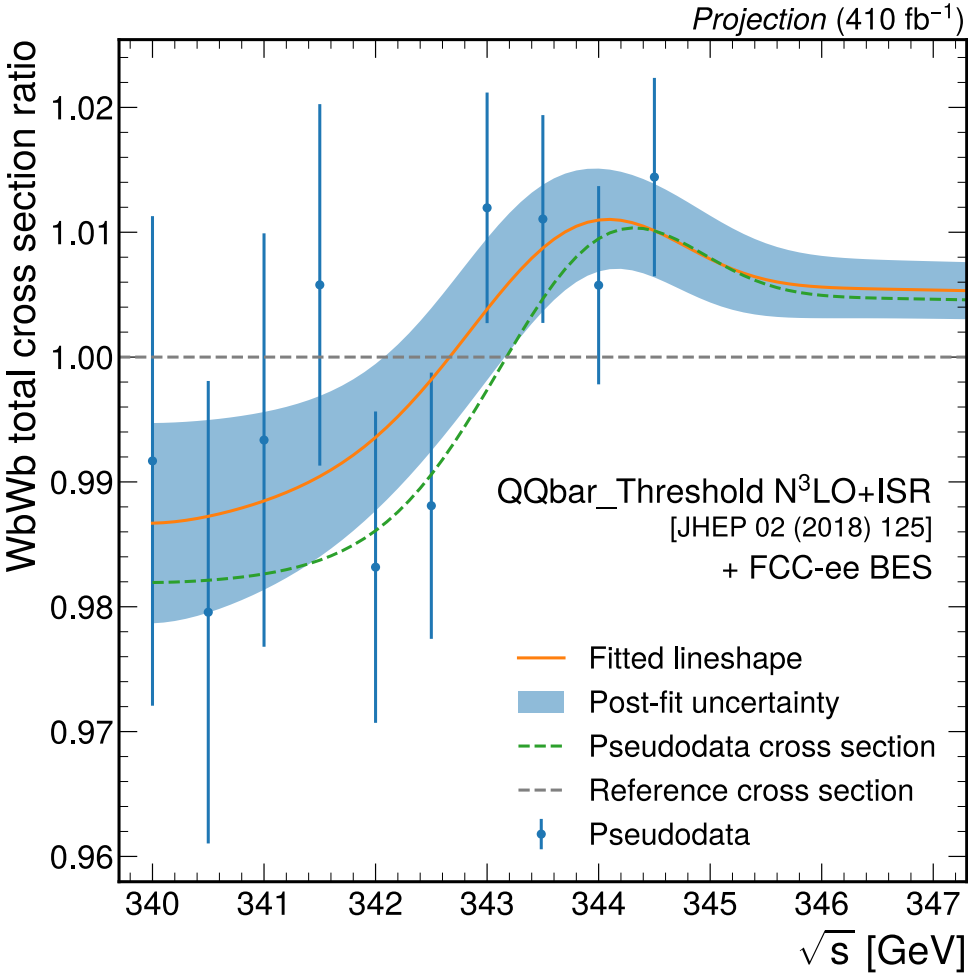
Uncertainty source	$m_t^{\text{PS}}$ [MeV]	$\Gamma_t$ [MeV]	$y_t$ [%]
Experimental (stat. $\times 1.2$ )	4.2	10.0	1.5
Parametric $m_t$	—	5.3	1.2
Parametric $\Gamma_t$	3.0	—	0.8
Parametric $y_t$	3.8	4.8	—
Parametric $\alpha_s$	2.2	1.6	0.2
Luminosity calibration (uncorr.)	0.6	1.1	0.2
Luminosity calibration (corr.)	1.0	0.7	0.9
Beam energy calibration (uncorr.)	1.3	1.9	0.1
Beam energy calibration (corr.)	1.3	< 0.1	< 0.1
Beam energy spread (uncorr.)	0.3	0.9	< 0.1
Beam energy spread (corr.)	< 0.1	1.1	< 0.1
Total profiled	6.5	11.7	2.1

Theory

35

25

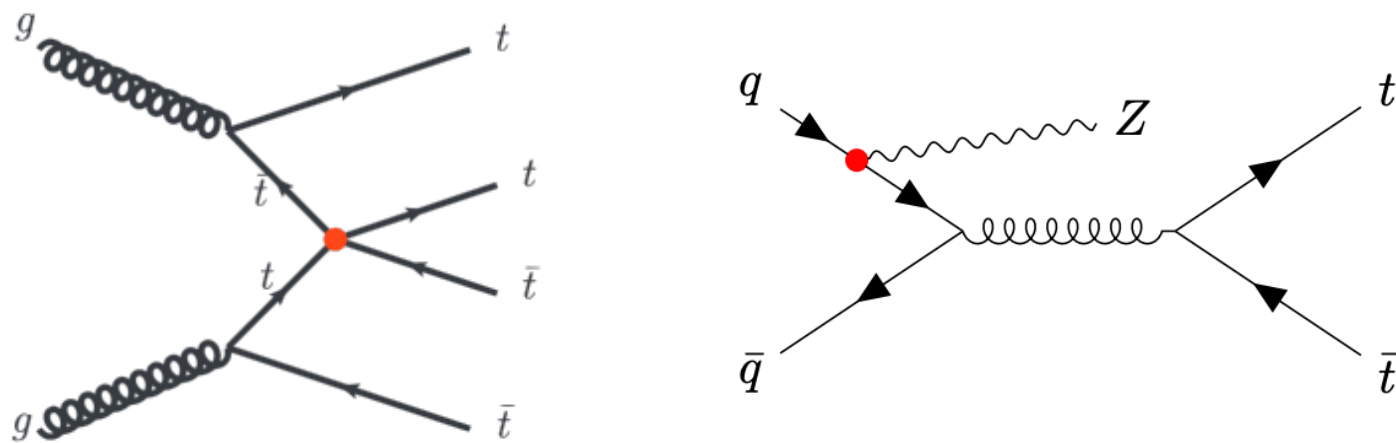
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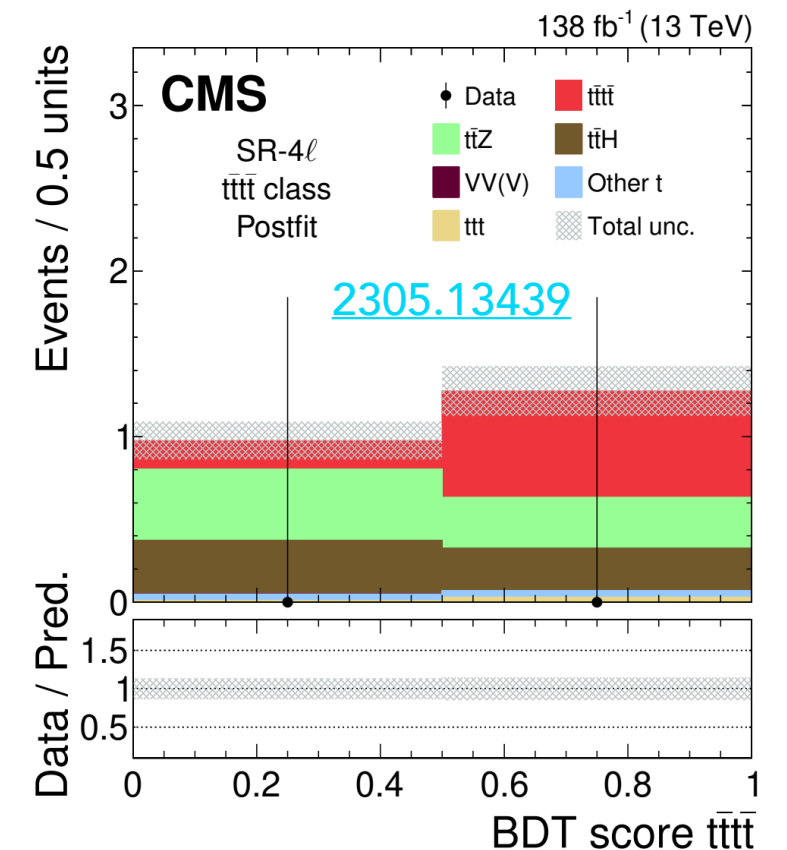
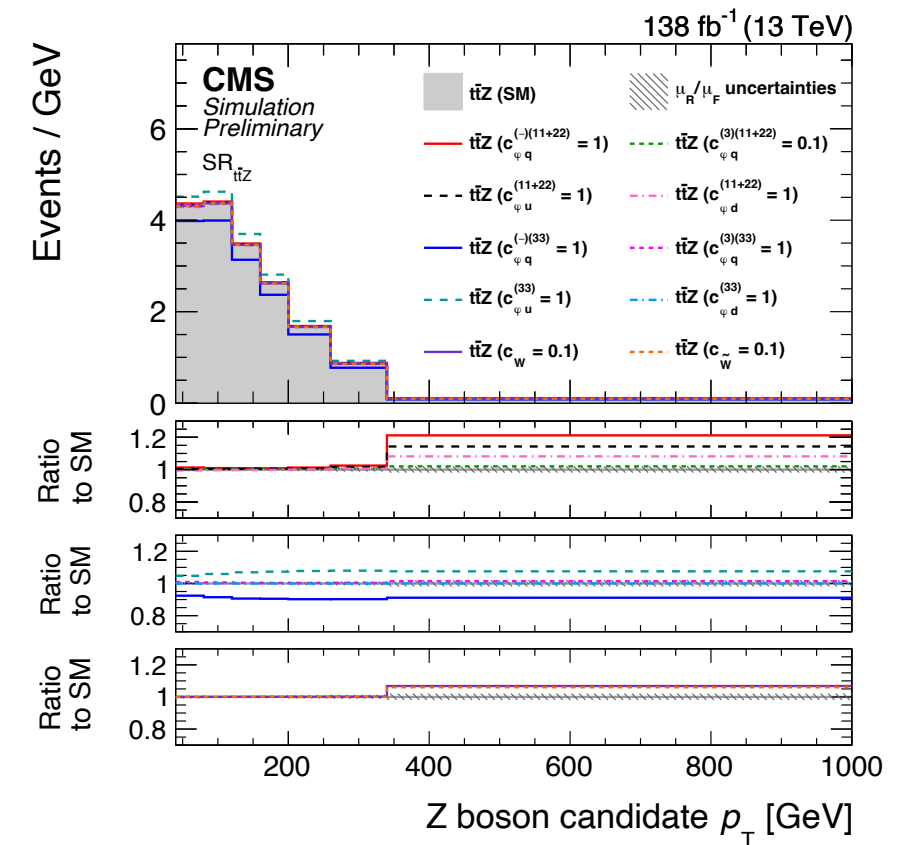
Need to reduce the theoretical scale uncertainties to match the expected experimental precision

# FCC-hh analyses: Motivation

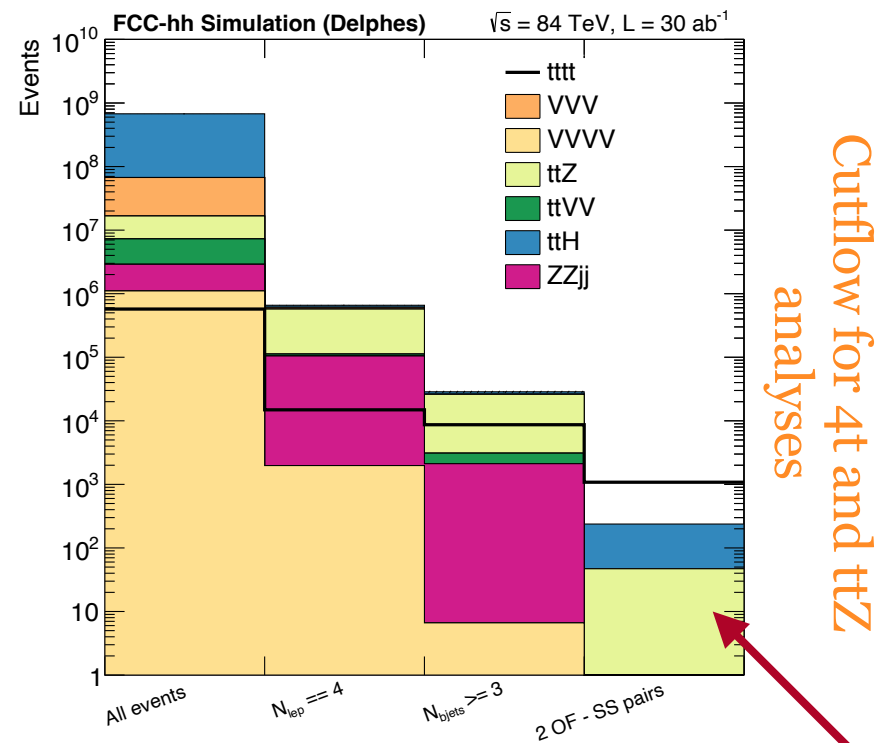
- $30\text{ab}^{-1}$  integrated luminosity at 84 TeV proton-proton collisions
- FCC-ee constrains EW coupling, FCC-hh probes rare processes and boosted topologies
- Higher sensitivity to EFTs energy growing effect (e.g. top self coupling,  $ttZ$  production)



- Very high statistics allowing to target each process individually by applying very restrictive selection
- Limited sensitivity to 4-top operators @ FCC-ee
- Large margin of improvement compared to HL-LHC



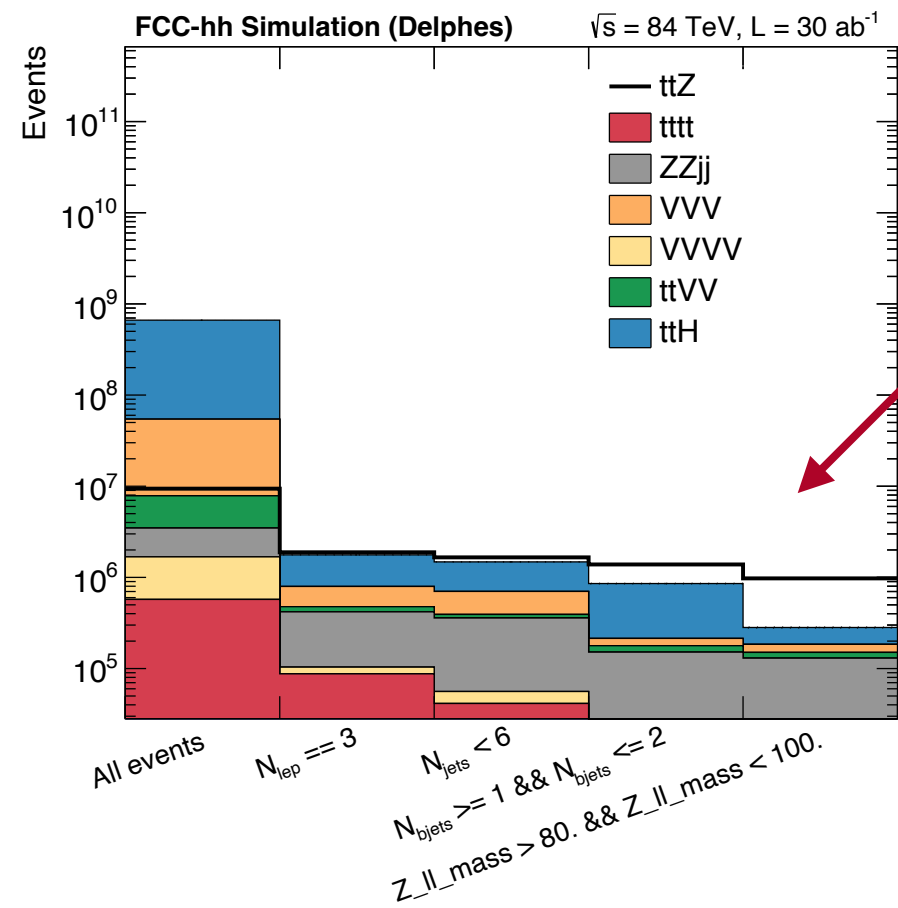
# FCC-hh 4t & ttZ analyses: Strategy



Cutoff for 4t and ttZ analyses

Selection criterion for 4t and ttZ

Criteria	ttZ - 4l	tttt
<b>Lepton Selection</b>		
$p_T$	$> 30 \text{ GeV}$	$> 30 \text{ GeV}$
$ \eta $	$< 4$	$< 4$
Number of leptons	Exactly 4	Exactly 4
Pairing	OS, SF (1st); OS (2nd)	OFSS (both)
Invariant mass (1st pair)	80–100 GeV	–
<b>Jets Selection</b>		
$p_T$	$> 30 \text{ GeV}$	$> 30 \text{ GeV}$
$ \eta $	$< 4$	$< 4$
B-tagged jets	1 or 2, medium WP	$> 2$ , medium WP
Total jets	$< 6$	–



Correlations between 4t & ttZ strongly mitigated by the restrictive cutflow

– To improve final statistics will require increase in lepton selection efficiency

– Right now, ~40% on single electron and ~60% on muon

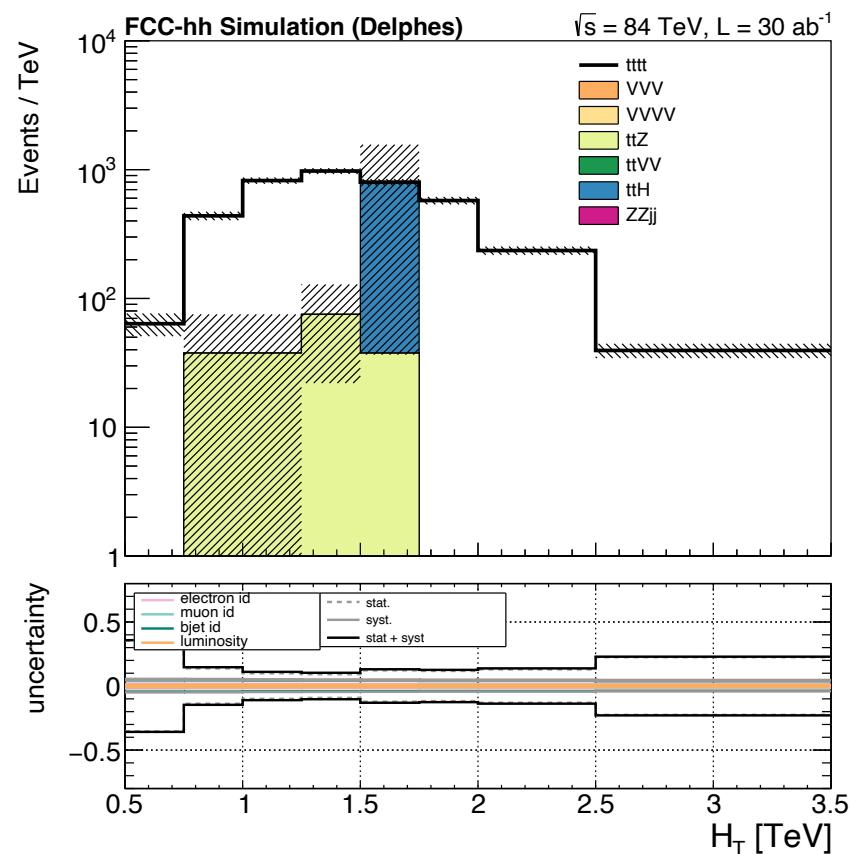
Only ~2.5% of events pass in the 4l channel

A small increase in the single lepton efficiency would have great effects in multi-lepton channels!

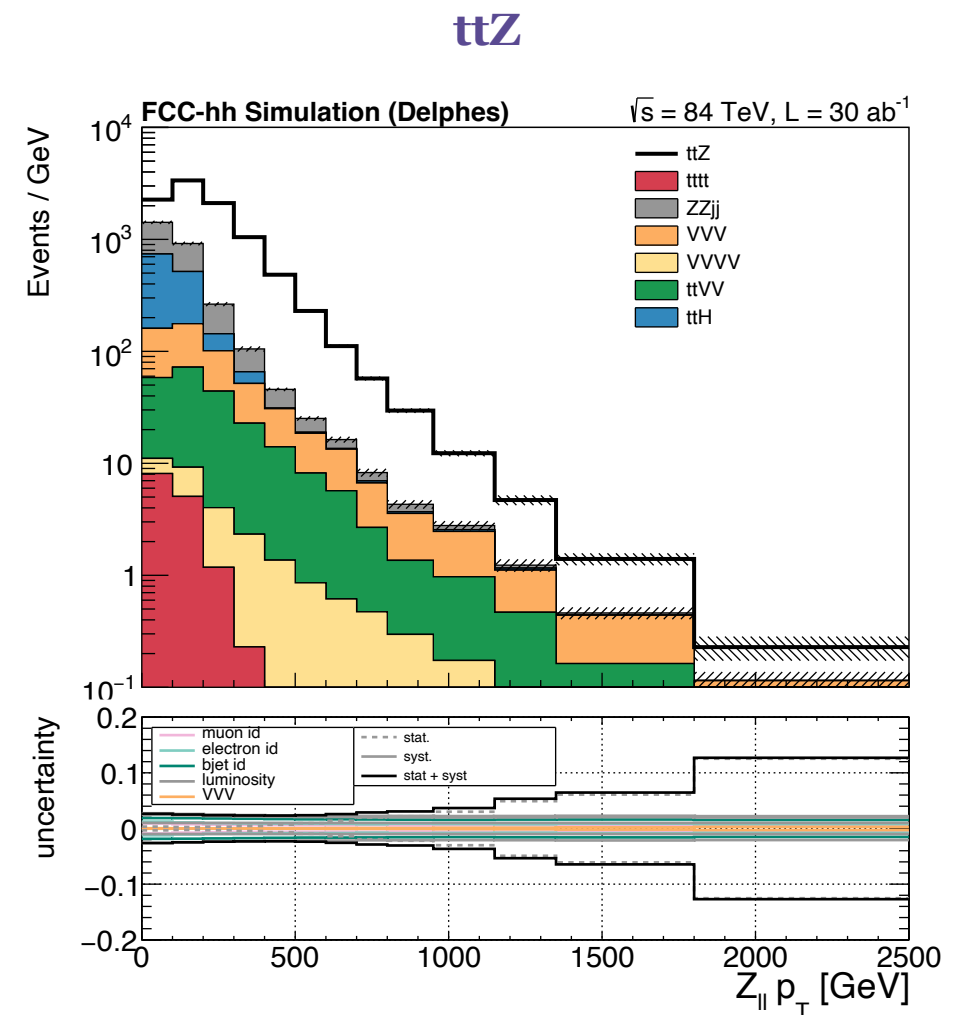
# FCC-hh 4t & ttZ analyses: Results

Reach of 3.5 TeV in  $H_T$  for 4t and of 2.5 TeV in  $p_T^Z$  for ttZ  
Systematics at the 5% level or better

$H_T$  defined as the scalar sum of transverse momenta of all **visible final objects**



- Clear  $H_T$  distribution for 4t events, with ttZ and ttH backgrounds effectively reduced by applying a strict OFSS selection on recollected leptons
- $H_T$  variable sensitive to EFT energy growing effect



- Clean ttZ signal obtained, with strong suppression of 4t background through charge and flavor requirements on selected leptons.
- Tail of the  $p_T^Z$  distribution is cleaner for EFT signals



# Conclusions

- Rich (and complementary) top-quark physics program at FCC-ee and FCC-hh
- Outlined physics case for a  $t\bar{t}$  threshold run at FCC-ee
- Precision measurement
  - Complete study of  $t\bar{t}$  threshold including detector-level, machine-related, and parametric uncertainties
  - Shown that systematic effects are well under control
  - Theoretical progress needed to fully profit from physics potential of FCC-ee
  - High potential to constrain top quark couplings and BSM decays at the 365 GeV FCC-ee run
- New opportunities (and challenges) for top physics at FCC-hh starting to be explored
- BSM physics searches
  - Outlined physics case for  $t\bar{t}Z$  &  $4t$  production process
  - Achieved high-purity  $t\bar{t}Z$  and  $4t$  selection.
  - Reduced  $t\bar{t}Z$ - $4t$  correlation compared to LHC
  - Reaches visible  $H_T$  up to 4.5 TeV for  $4t$  and  $p_T^Z$  up to 2.5 TeV for  $t\bar{t}Z$
  - Results will significantly benefit from improved lepton identification, with ongoing work to optimize selection efficiency