

Top Yukawa at Muon Collider

The Frontier of Particle Physics: Exploring Muon, Quantum Science and the Cosmos
Yukawa Institute for Theoretical Physics

Ya-Juan Zheng
(University of Osaka)

June 17, 2025

Based on

- [1] Vernon Barger, Kaoru Hagiwara and YJZ, Phys.Lett.B 850 (2024) 138547.
- [2] Morgan Cassidy, Zhongtian Dong, Kyoungchul Kong, Ian Lewis, Yanzhe Zhang and YJZ, JHEP05(2024) 176.
- [3] Vernon Barger, Kaoru Hagiwara and YJZ, in preparation.

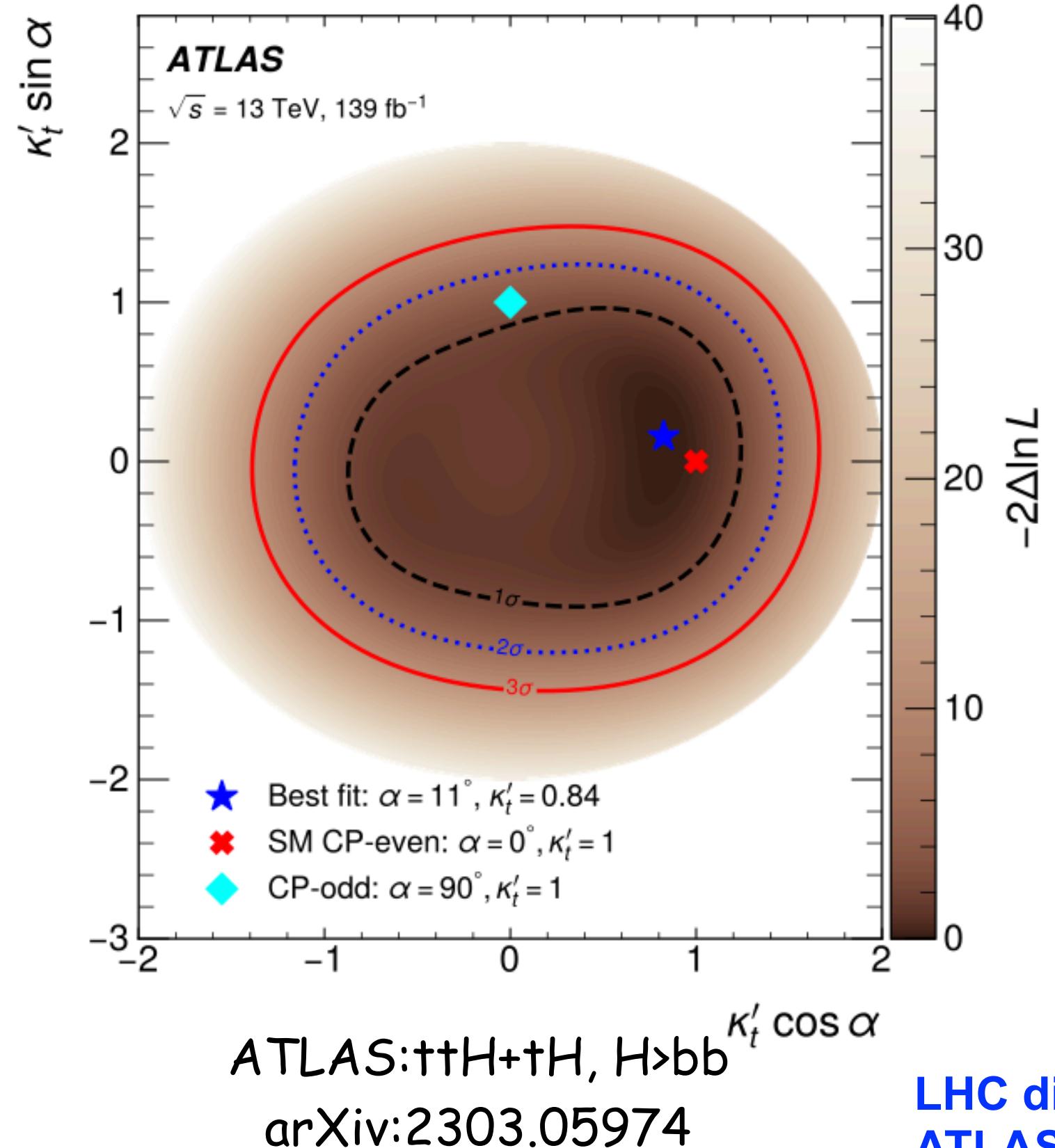
LHC searches and constraints

$$\mathcal{L}_{ttH} = -gH\bar{t}(\cos \xi + i\gamma_5 \sin \xi)t$$

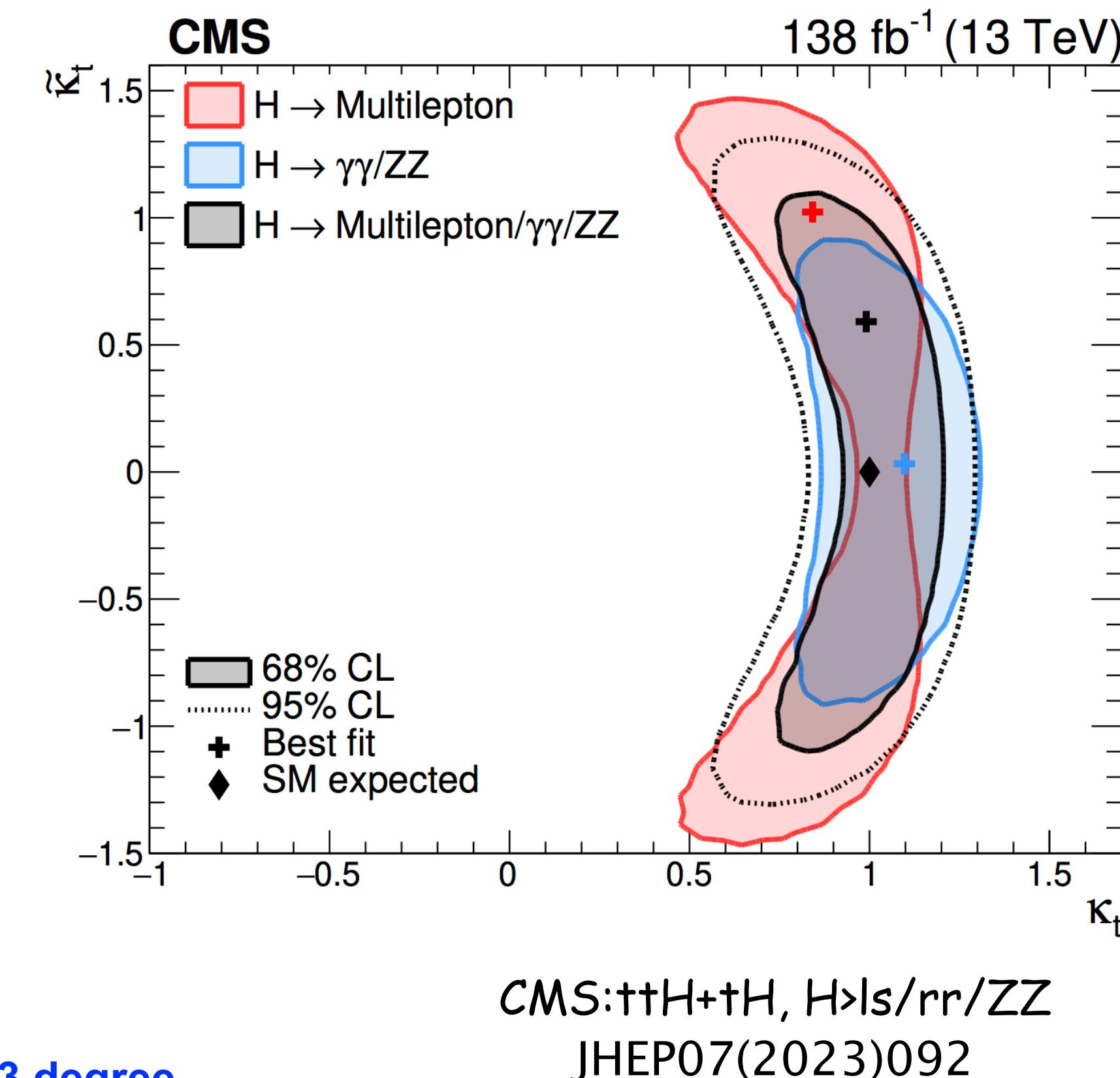
g is real and positive, $-\pi < \xi < \pi$

When $g=g_{SM}=m_t/v$, $\xi=0 \rightarrow$ SM

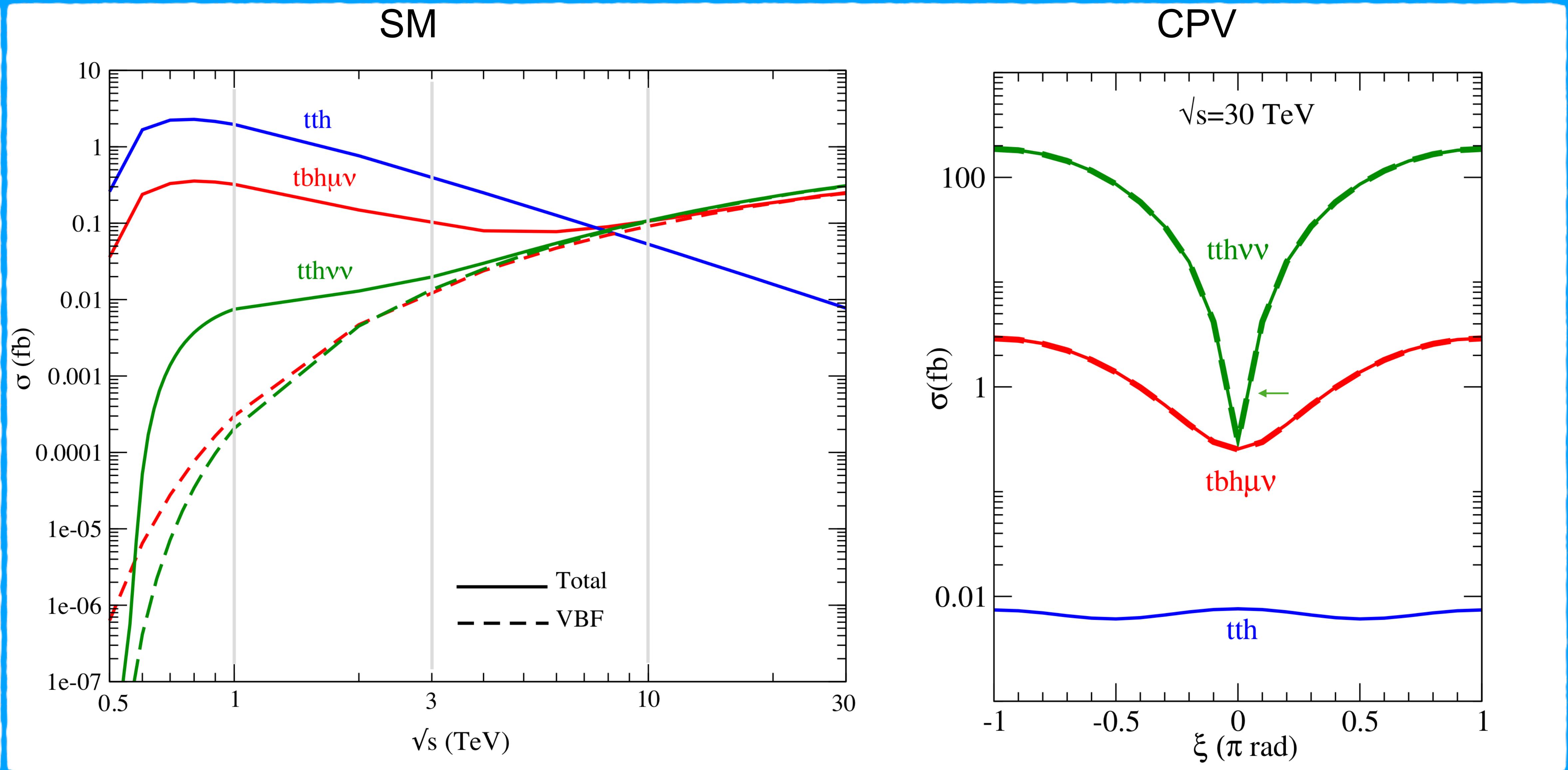
- X. Zhang, S. K. Lee, K. Whisnant, and B. L. Young, “Phenomenology of a nonstandard top quark Yukawa coupling,” Phys. Rev. D 50 (1994) 7042–7047, arXiv:hep-ph/9407259.
- H. Bahl, E. Fuchs, S. Heinemeyer, J. Katzy, M. Menen, K. Peters, M. Saimpert, and G. Weiglein, “Constraining the CP structure of Higgs-fermion couplings with a global LHC fit, the electron EDM and baryogenesis,” Eur. Phys. J. C 82 (2022) no. 7, 604, arXiv:2202.11753 [hep-ph].
- ...



LHC direct searches:
 ATLAS best fit: 11+52-73 degree

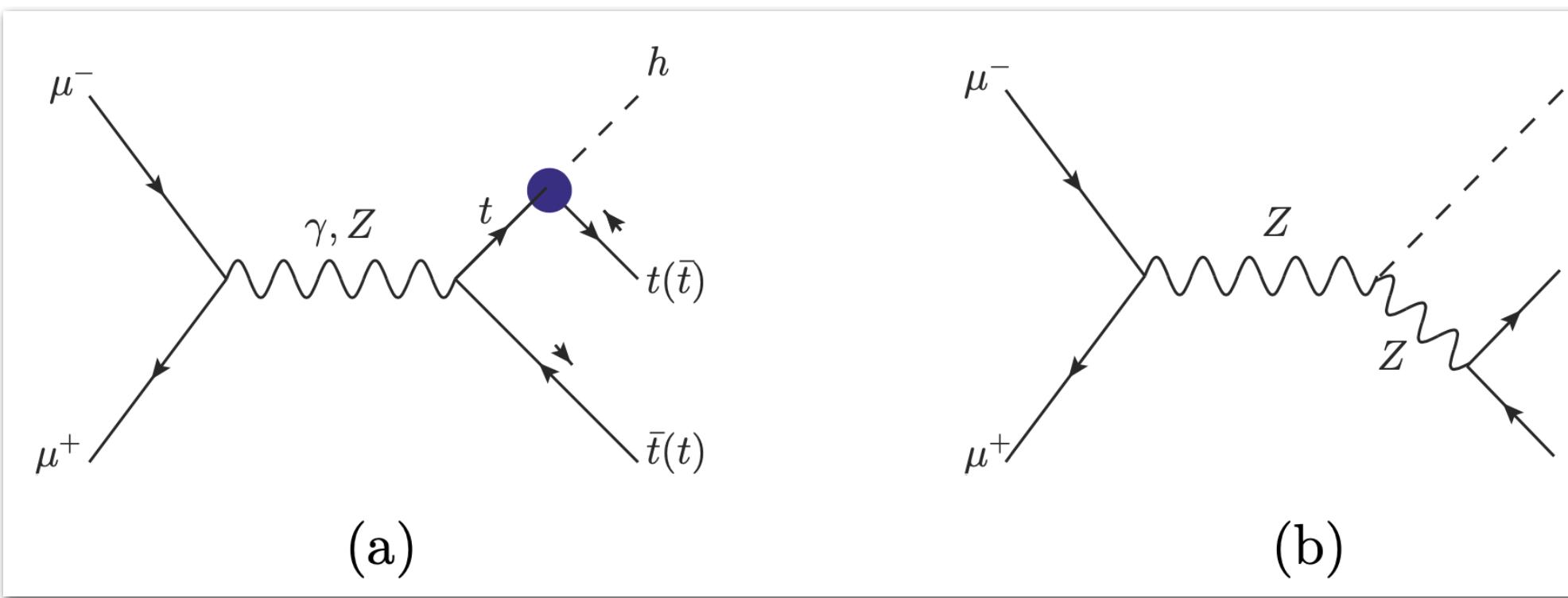


Top Yukawa processes at muon collider

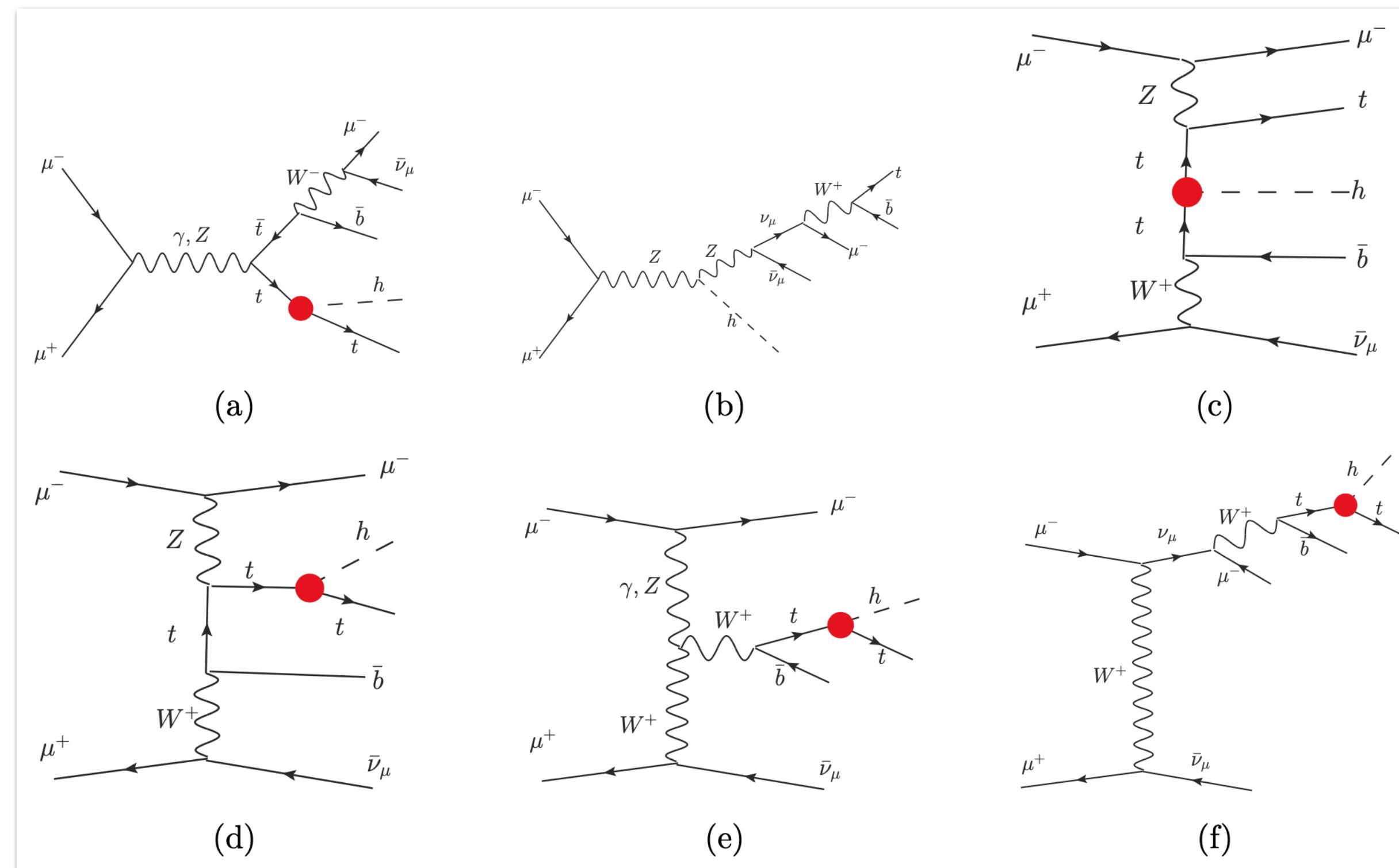


Representative Feynman diagrams

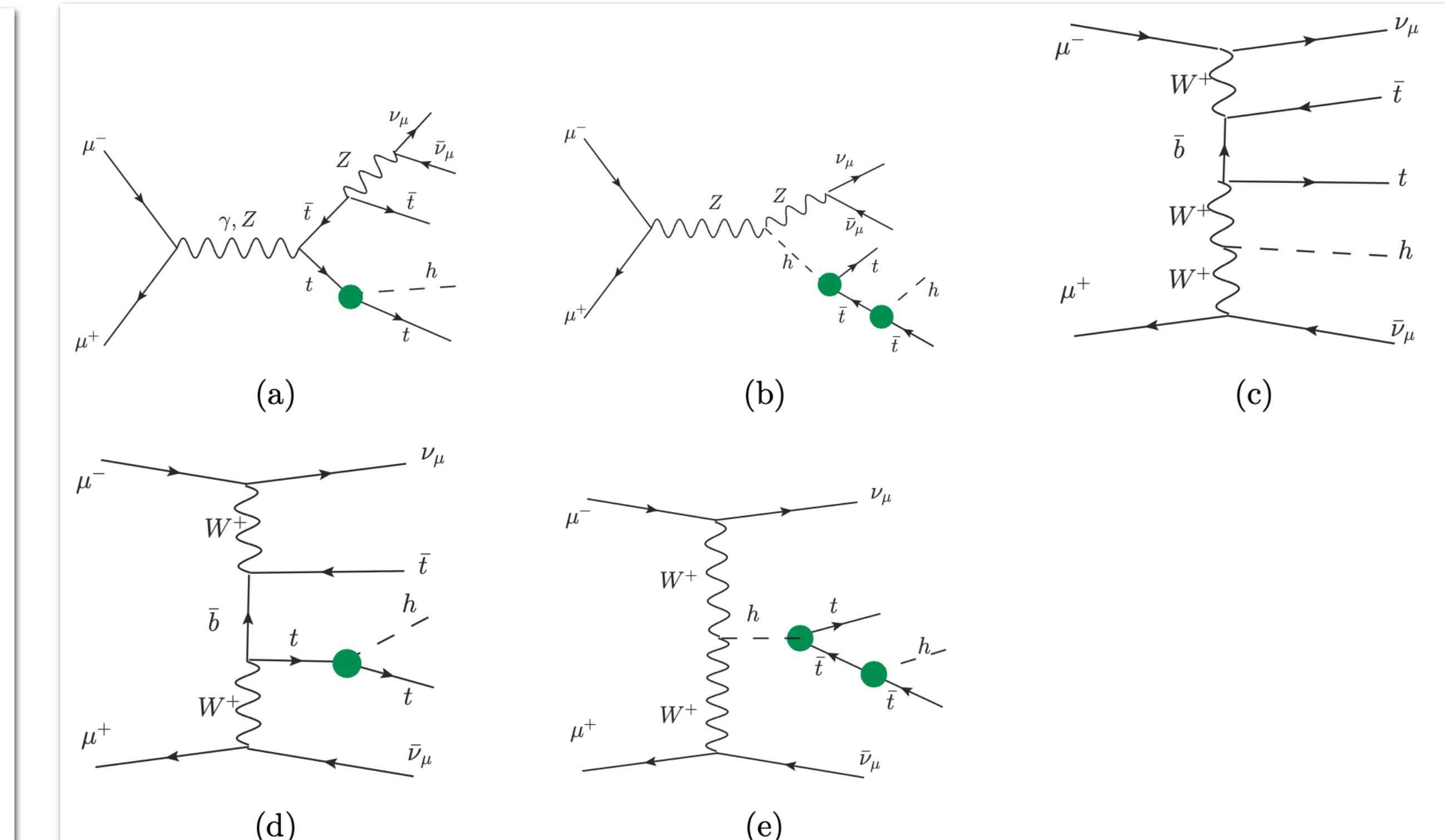
tth



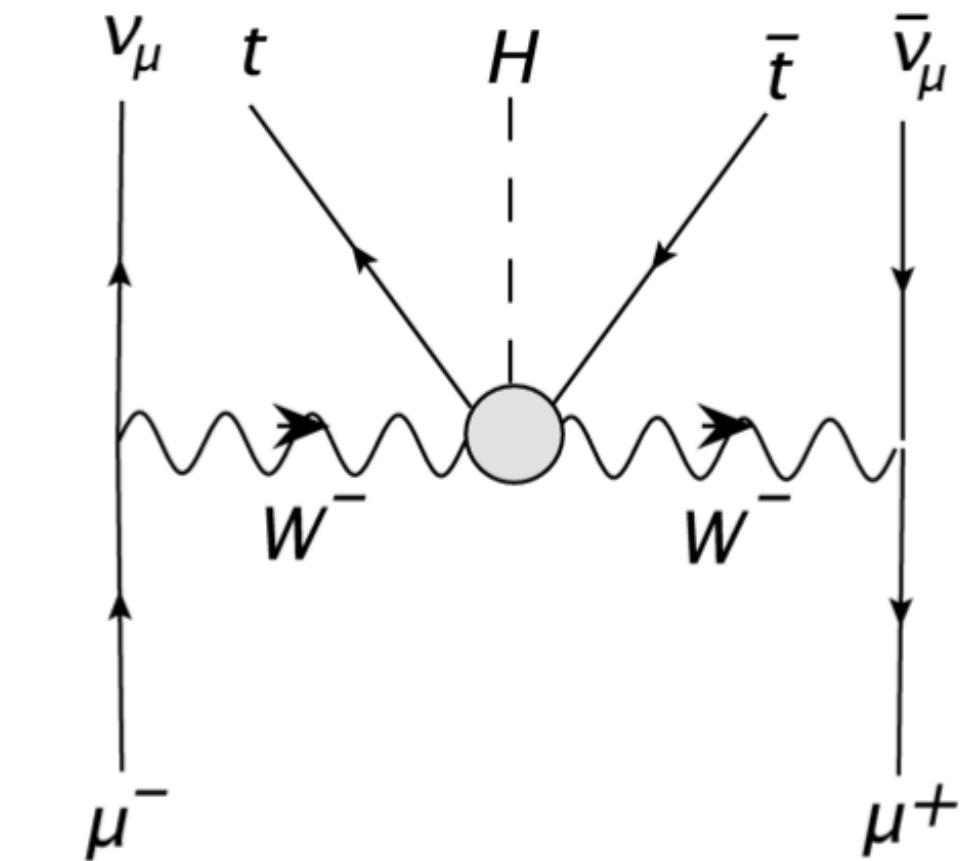
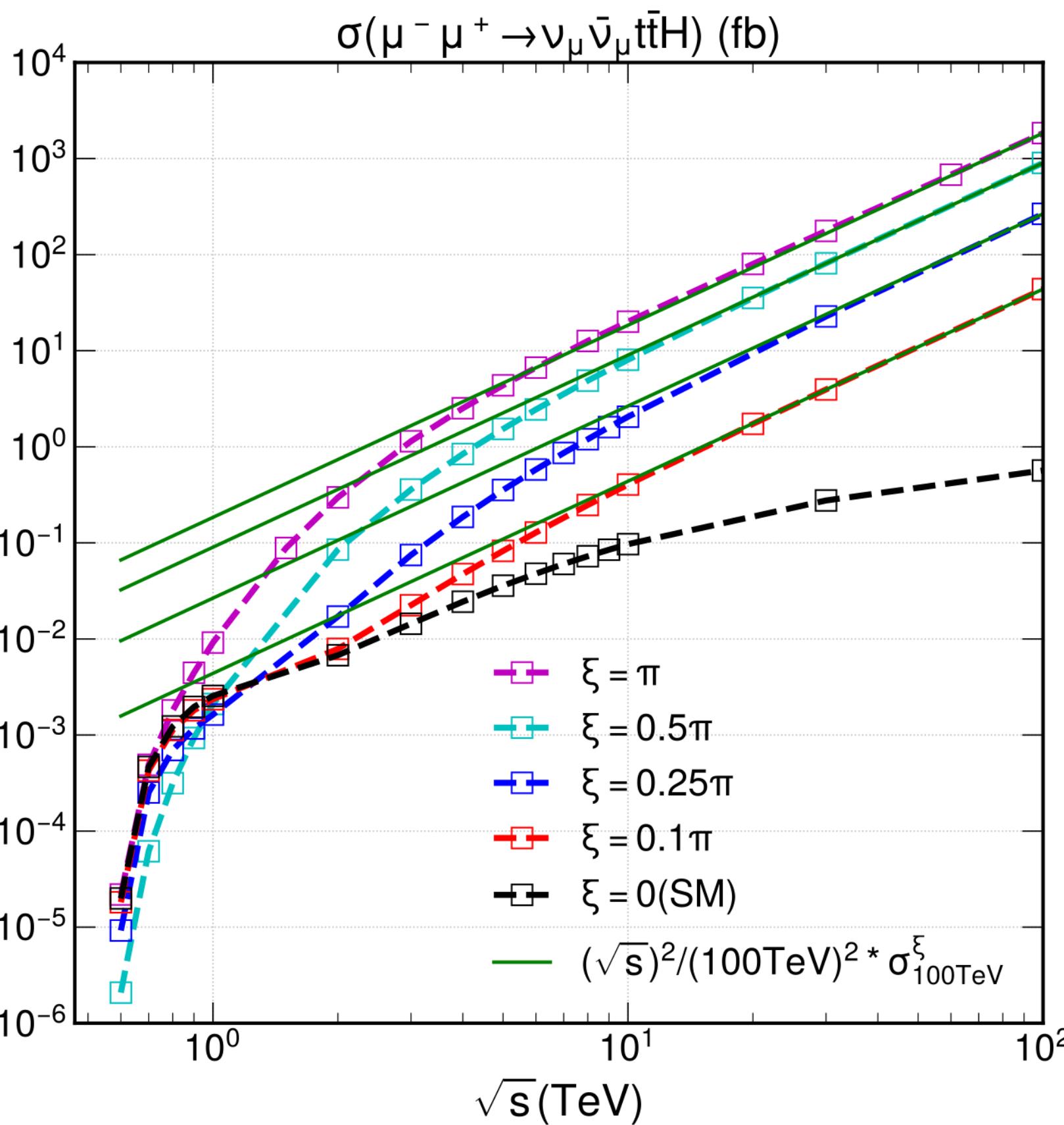
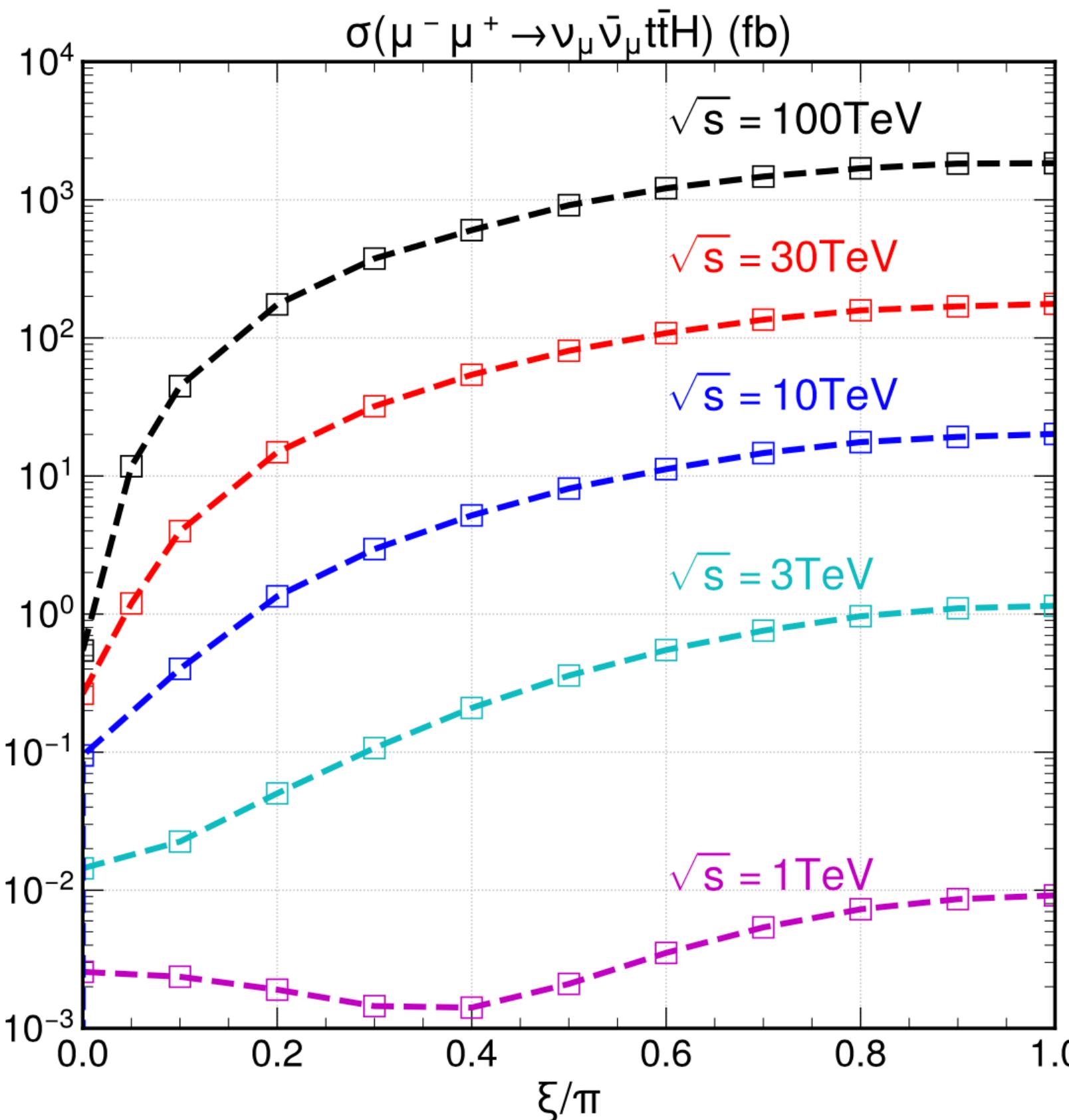
tbhμν



tthvv



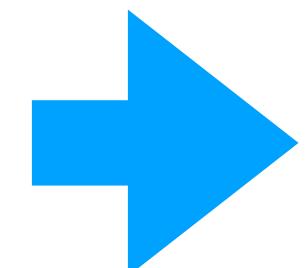
$\nu_\mu \bar{\nu}_\mu t\bar{t}H$ at future muon collider



88 diagrams generated from
Madgraph5, 20 diagrams are
Vector Boson Fusions

ξ dependence:
at low energy: s-channel diagrams contribute.
at high energy: t-channel (VBF) dominates.

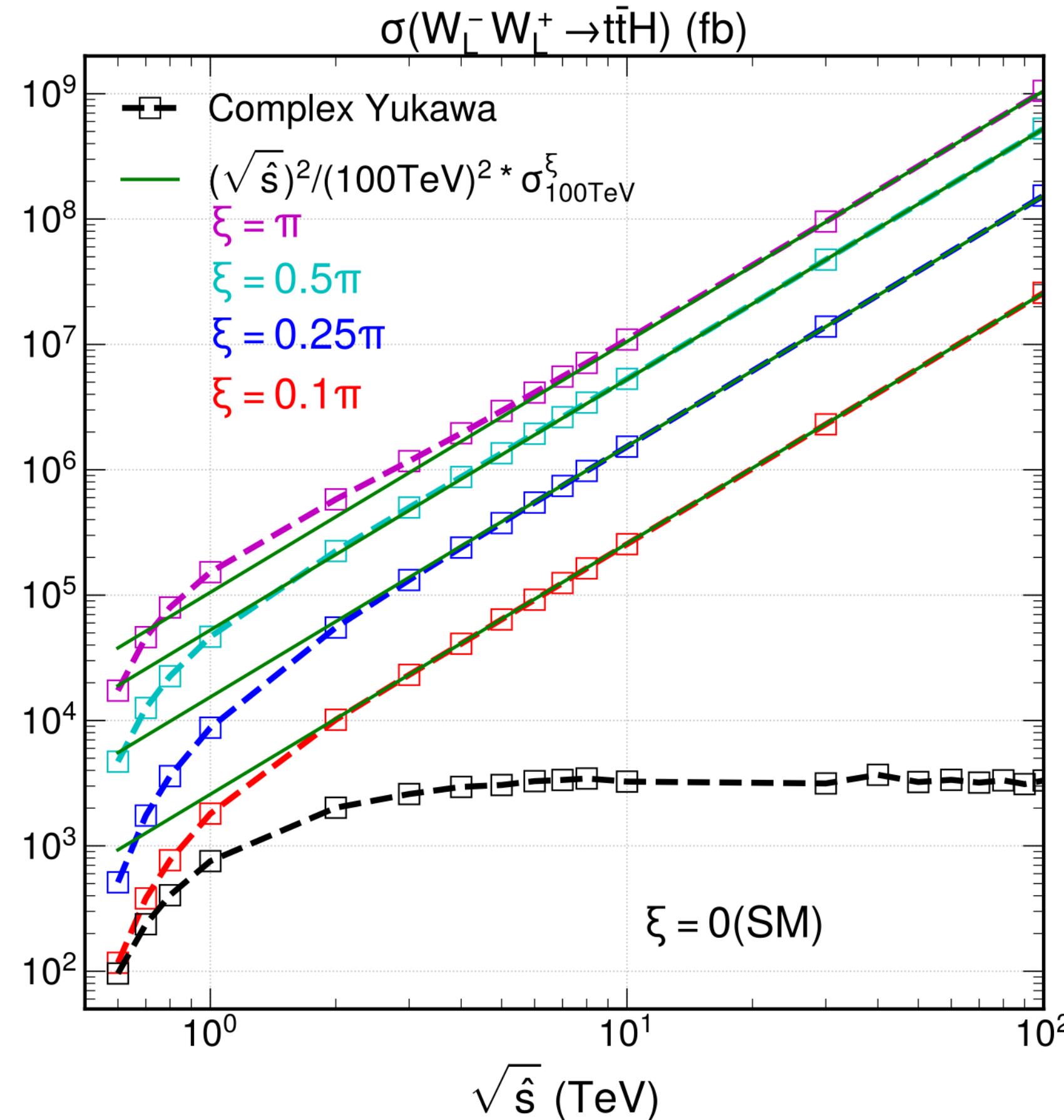
Energy dependence at high energy:
BSM: quadratic growth
SM: logarithmically growth



Vector Boson Fusion

Dominate sub-diagrams

$$W_L^- W_L^+ \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$$



Energy dependence at high energy:
BSM: quadratic growth from $(E/mw)^2$, with $E=\sqrt{\hat{s}}/2$
SM: constant

$$W^-(q, h=0) W^+(\bar{q}, \bar{h}=0) \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$$

$$\xi \neq 0$$

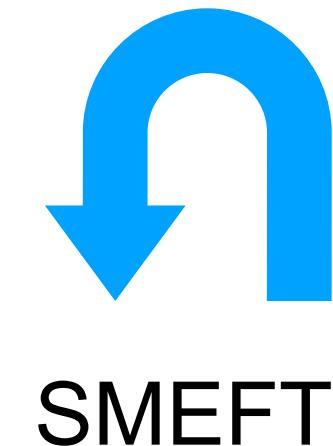
quadratic energy growth from the longitudinally polarized weak boson wave functions E/mw .

$$\xi = 0$$

In the SM, E/mw from individual diagram **cancels** after summing up, leading to the **Goldstone boson equivalence theorem** (GBET) as a manifestation of gauge invariance.

$$\mathcal{L}_{ttH} = -gH\bar{t}(\cos\xi + i\gamma_5 \sin\xi)t$$

Gauge invariant formulation: Models like two Higgs doublet models, etc



A gauge invariant top Yukawa sector

Dimension-6 operator

$$\mathcal{L} = -y_{\text{SM}} Q^\dagger \phi t_R + \frac{\lambda}{\Lambda^2} Q^\dagger \phi t_R \left(\phi^\dagger \phi - \frac{v^2}{2} \right) + \text{h.c.}$$

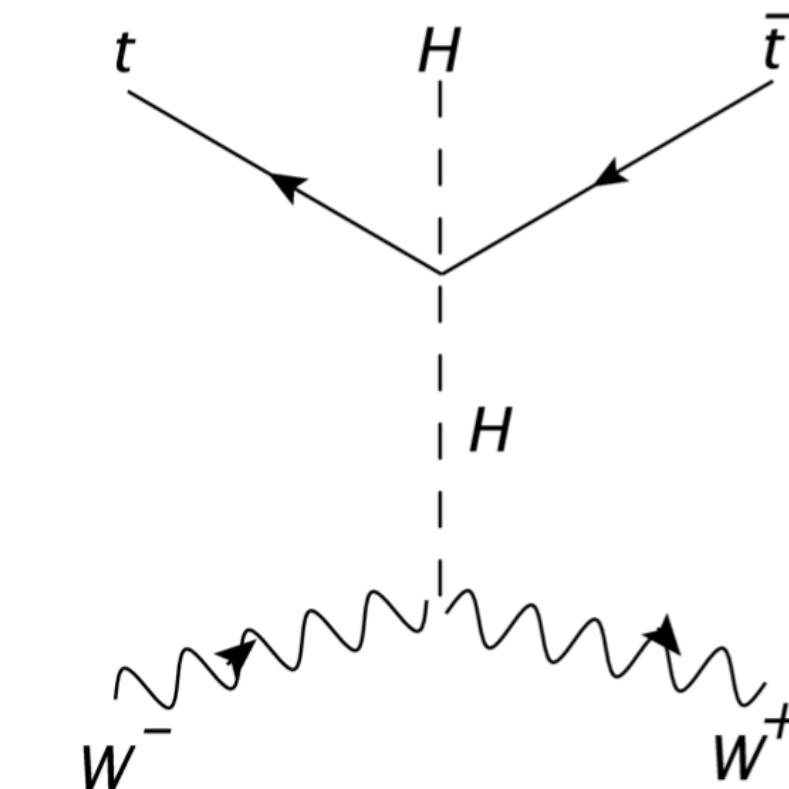
$Q = (t_L, b_L)^T$
 $\phi = ((v + H + i\pi^0)/\sqrt{2}, i\pi^-)^T$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{ttH}^{\text{SMEFT}} = & -m_t t_L^\dagger t_R - g_{\text{SM}} \left[(H + i\pi^0) t_L^\dagger + i\sqrt{2}\pi^- b_L^\dagger \right] t_R \\ & - (ge^{i\xi} - g_{\text{SM}}) \left\{ H t_L^\dagger t_R + \frac{H}{v} \left[(H + i\pi^0) t_L^\dagger + i\sqrt{2}\pi^- b_L^\dagger \right] t_R \right\} \\ & - (ge^{i\xi} - g_{\text{SM}}) \left\{ \left[\frac{H^2 + (\pi^0)^2}{2v} + \frac{\pi^+ \pi^-}{v} \right] t_L^\dagger t_R \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{H^2 + (\pi^0)^2 + 2\pi^+ \pi^-}{2v^2} \left[(H + i\pi^0) t_L^\dagger + i\sqrt{2}\pi^- b_L^\dagger \right] t_R \right\} + \text{h.c.}, \end{aligned}$$

$$g_{\text{SM}} = \frac{y_{\text{SM}}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{m_t}{v}$$

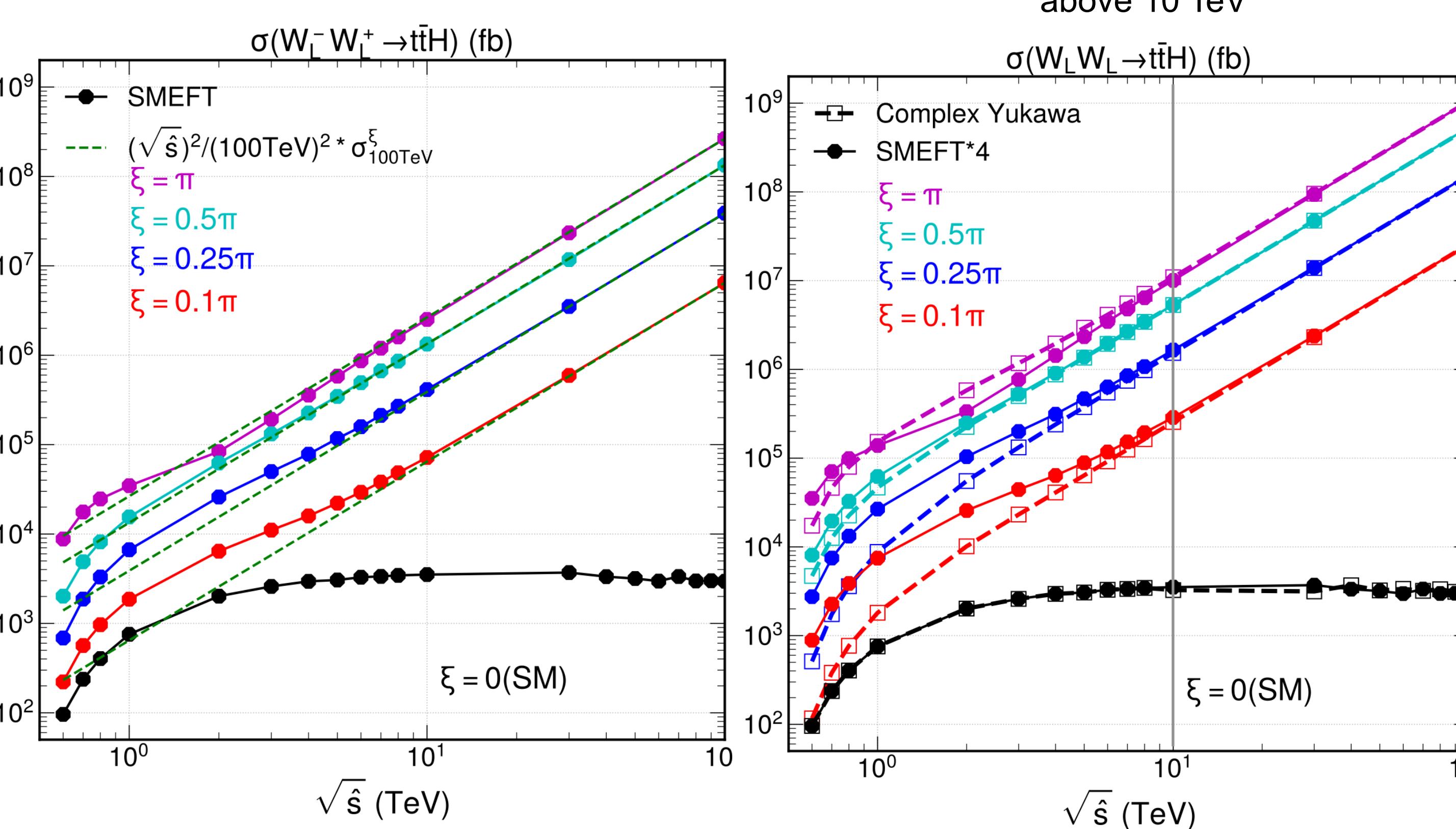
$$\frac{g_{\text{SM}} - ge^{i\xi}}{v^2} = \frac{\lambda}{\Lambda^2}$$

Additional ttHH and ttHHH coupling

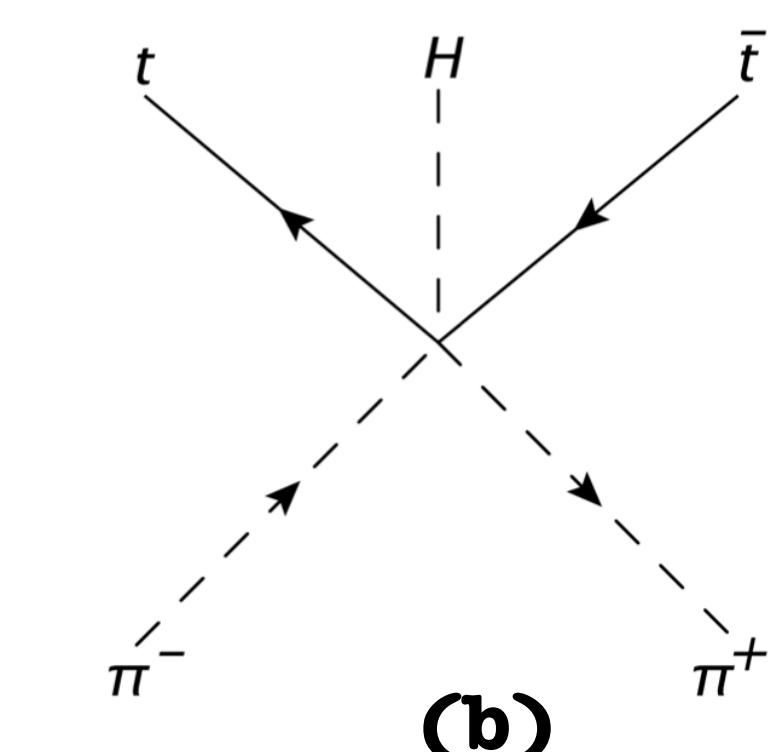
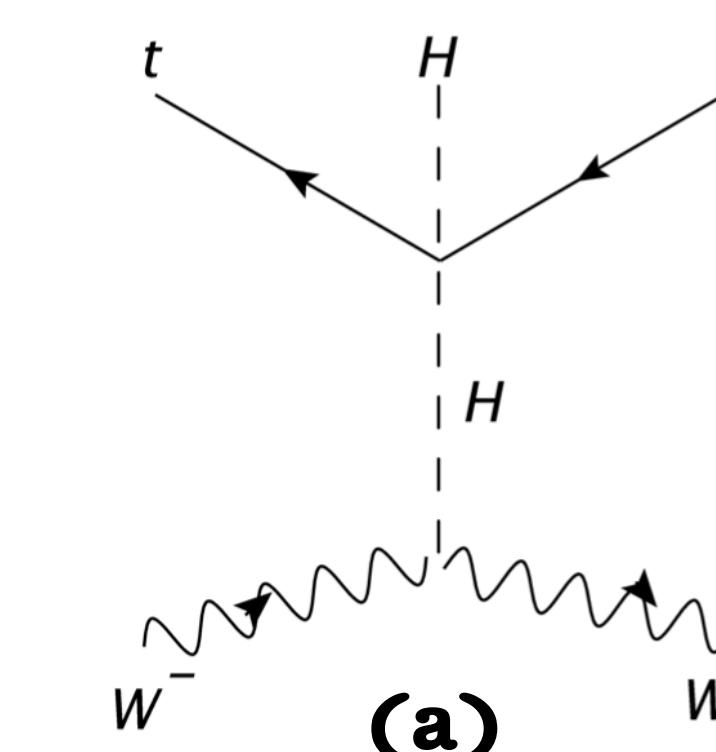


$$\mathcal{L}_{ttHH}^{\text{SMEFT}} = \frac{3(g_{\text{SM}} - ge^{i\xi})}{v} \frac{H^2}{2} t_L^\dagger t_R + \text{h.c.}$$

$$W_L^- W_L^+ \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$$



$$\sigma_{\text{tot}}(W_L^- W_L^+ \rightarrow t\bar{t}H)_{\text{SMEFT}} \approx \frac{1}{4} \sigma_{\text{tot}}(W_L^- W_L^+ \rightarrow t\bar{t}H)_{\text{complex Yukawa}}$$



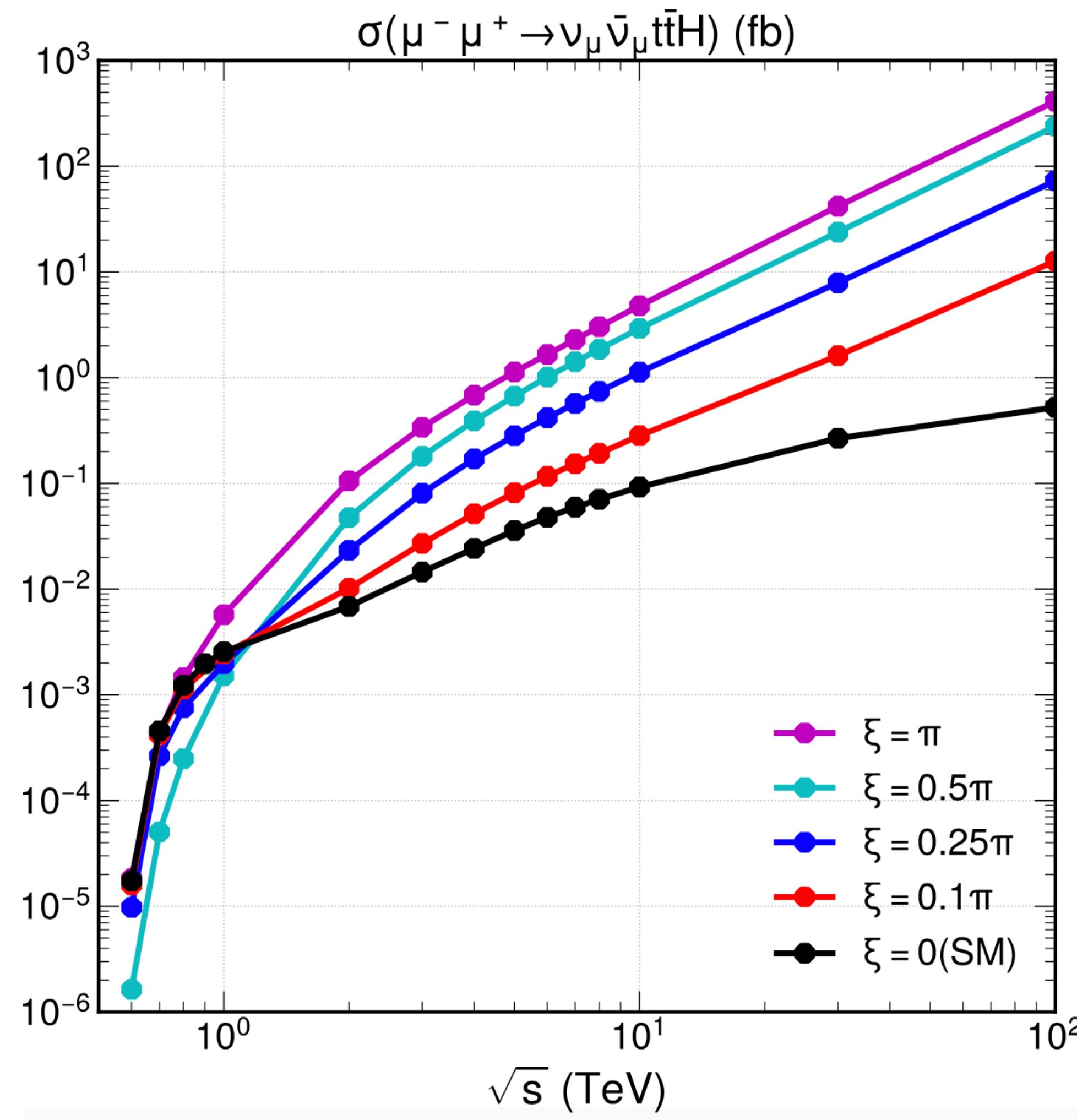
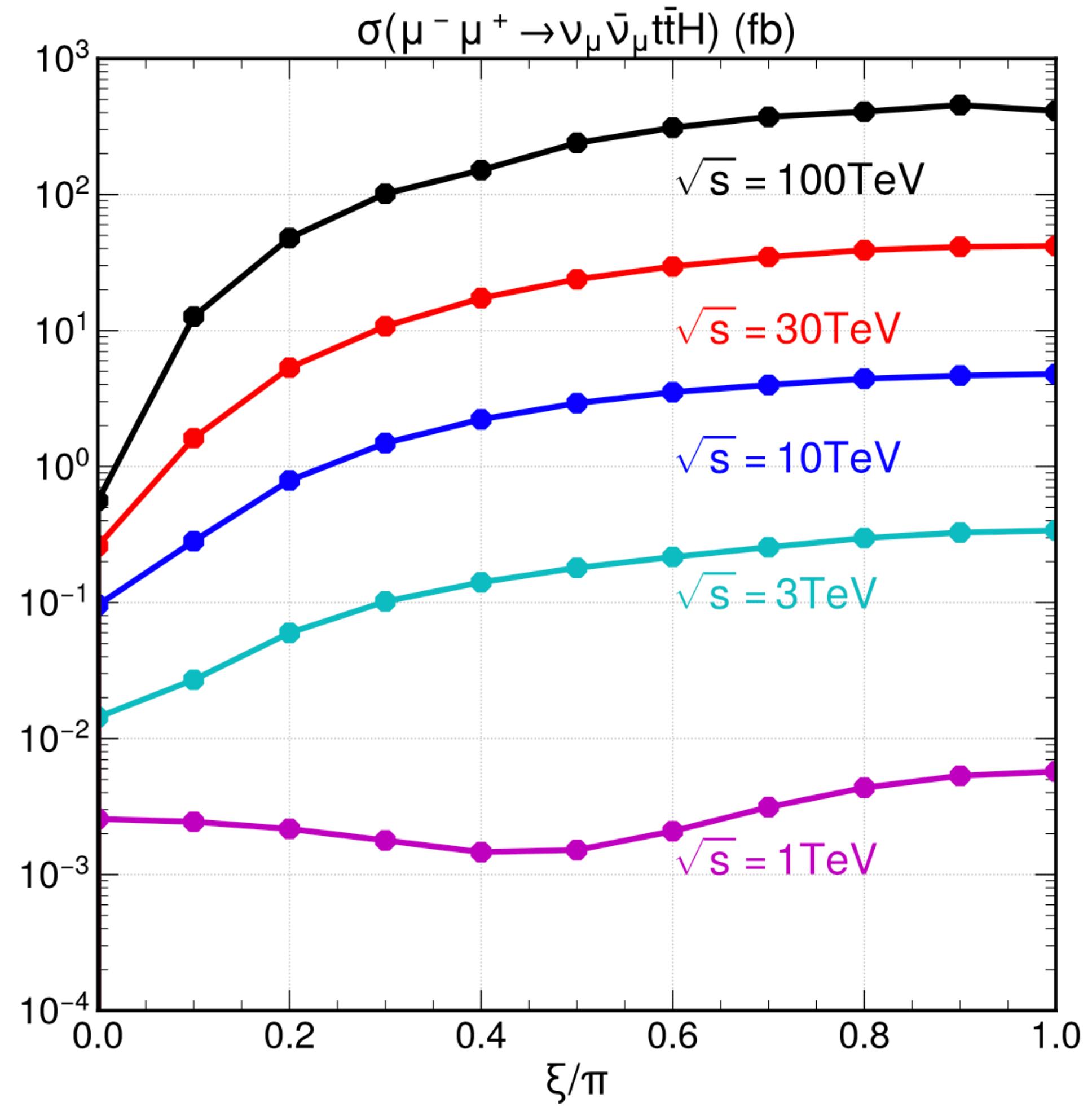
Complete amplitude in SMEFT:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}(W_L^- W_L^+ \rightarrow t\bar{t}H)_{\text{SMEFT}} &= \sum_{k=1}^{20} \mathcal{M}_k + \mathcal{M}_{\text{Fig. a}} \\ \mathcal{M}_{\text{Fig. b}}^{\pm\pm} &= \frac{1}{v^2} [\mp 2p_t(g_{\text{SM}} - g \cos \xi) - im_{tt}(g \sin \xi)] \\ \mathcal{M}_{\text{Fig. a}}^{\pm\pm} &= \frac{3}{v^2} [\mp 2p_t(g_{\text{SM}} - g \cos \xi) - im_{tt}(g \sin \xi)] \frac{(\hat{s} - 2m_W^2)}{(\hat{s} - m_H^2)} \\ \mathcal{M}_{\text{Fig. a}}^{\pm\pm} &= 3\mathcal{M}_{\text{Fig. b}}^{\pm\pm} \cdot \left\{ 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\hat{s}}\right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

GBET tells:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{20} \mathcal{M}_k + \mathcal{M}_{\text{Fig. a}} &= \mathcal{M}_{\text{Fig. b}} \cdot \left\{ 1 + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\hat{s}}\right) \right\} \\ \sum_{k=1}^{20} \mathcal{M}_k &\approx -2\mathcal{M}_{\text{Fig. b}} \end{aligned}$$

$\mu^- \mu^+ \rightarrow \nu_\mu \bar{\nu}_\mu t\bar{t}H$ in SMEFT



Perturbative Unitarity

In the SM, $g_{\text{SM}} = m_t/v$, unitarity should be valid at all scales

When $\xi \neq 0$, perturbation unitarity can be violated at $\sqrt{s} \geq O\left(\frac{\Lambda}{\sqrt{\lambda}}\right)$

$$g_{\text{SM}} - ge^{i\xi} = \frac{\lambda v^2}{\sqrt{2}\Lambda^2}$$

$$SS^\dagger = 1$$

$$(1 + iT)(1 - iT^\dagger) = 1$$

$$-i(T - T^\dagger) = TT^\dagger$$

$$-i \langle i | (T - T^\dagger) | i \rangle = \langle i | TT^\dagger | i \rangle$$

$$-i(T_{ii} - T_{ii}^*) = \langle i | T | f \rangle \Phi_f \langle f | T^\dagger | i \rangle$$

All final states with phase space Φ_f

Optical Theorem: $2Im(T_{ii}) = \sum_f |T_{fi}|^2 \Phi_f = 2\hat{s} \sum_f \sigma(i \rightarrow f)$

Unitarity bound: $2Im(T_{ii}) > |T_{ii}|^2 \frac{1}{8\pi}$ 2-body phase space

$$|T_{ii}|^2 < 16\pi Im(T_{ii}) < 16\pi |T_{ii}|$$

$$|T_{ii}| < 16\pi$$

$$2\hat{s} \sum_f \sigma(i \rightarrow f)_{J=0} = 2Im(T_{ii})_{J=0} < 32\pi$$

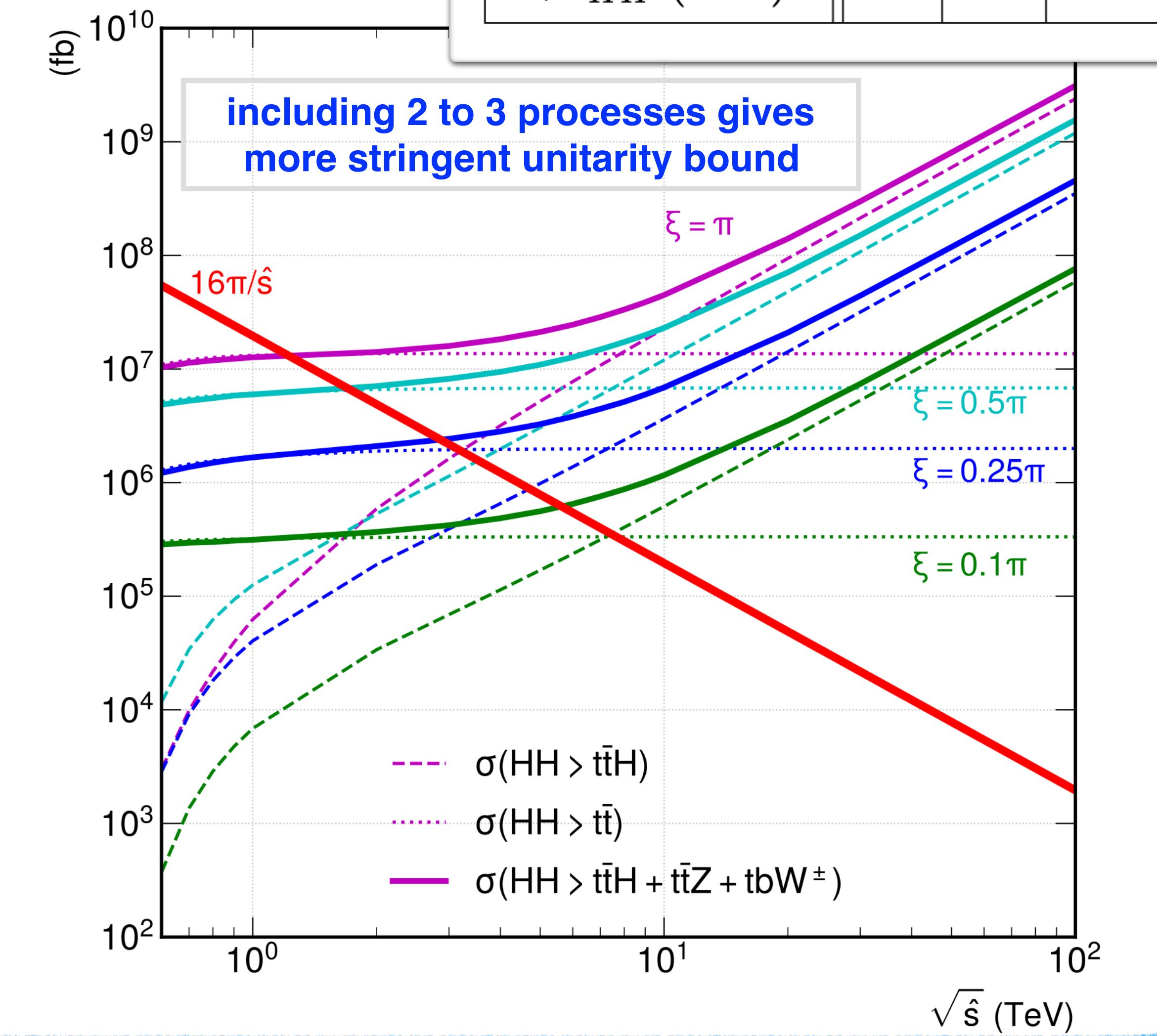
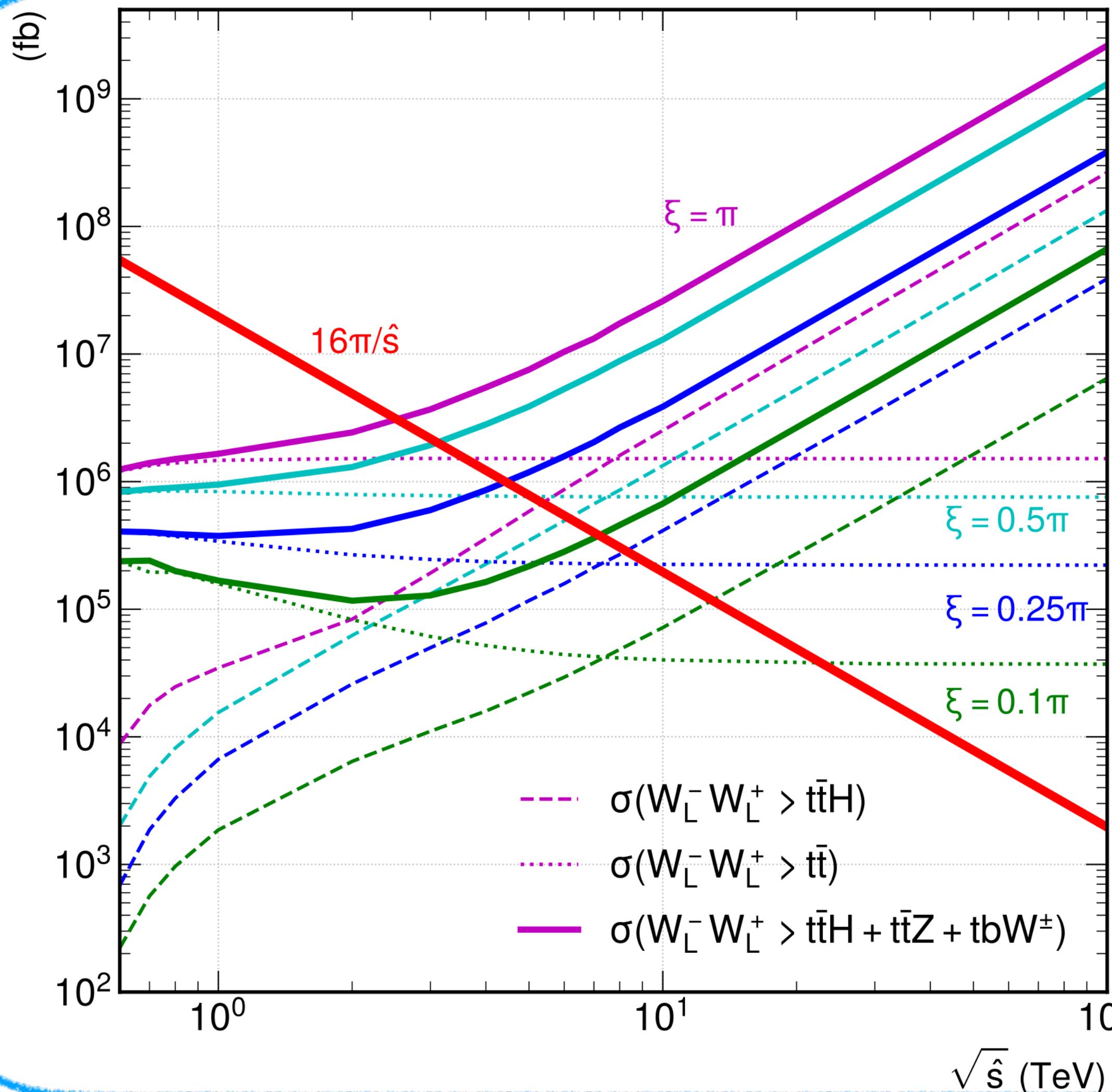
$$\sum_f \sigma(i \rightarrow f)_{J=0} < \frac{16\pi}{\hat{s}}$$

Unitarity bound

$$\sum_f \sigma_{\text{tot}} (W_L^- W_L^+ \rightarrow f; J=0) < \frac{16\pi}{\hat{s}}$$

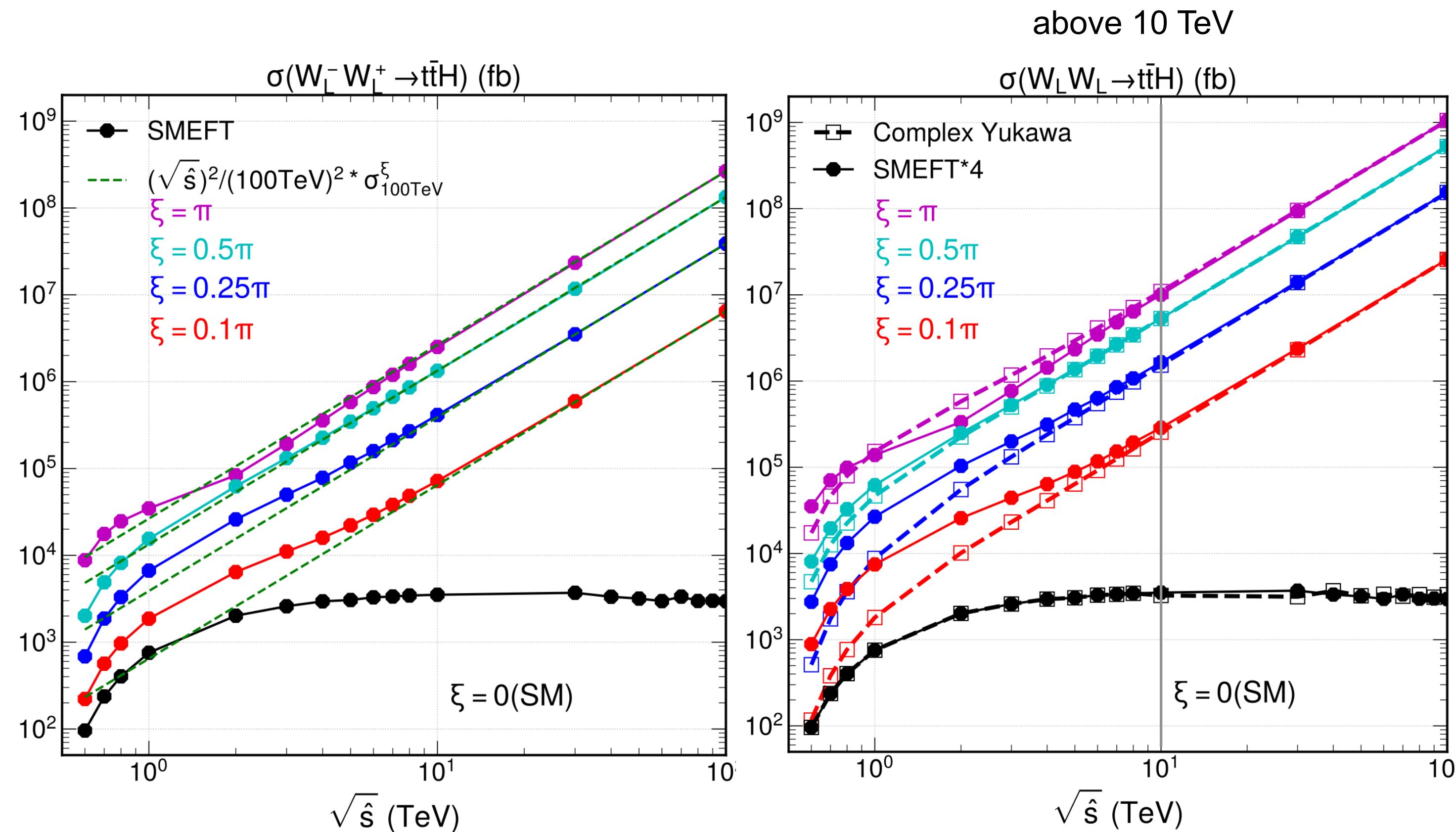
$$\sum_f \sigma_{\text{tot}} (HH \rightarrow f; J=0) < \frac{16\pi}{\hat{s}}$$

$ \xi $	π	0.5π	0.25π	0.1π
$ \lambda \cdot \Lambda^{-2} (\text{TeV}^{-2})$	32.9	23.2	12.6	5.14
$\sqrt{\hat{s}}_{W_L W_L} (\text{TeV})$	2.5	3.1	4.4	7.2
$\sqrt{\hat{s}}_{HH} (\text{TeV})$	1.2	1.7	2.9	5.6



Questions Unanswered

Why the high energy behavior of the $WW \rightarrow Ht\bar{t}$ cross section in the original complex Yukawa model is 4 times that of the SMEFT?



There may be a gauge invariant representation of the complex Yukawa coupling with 2 times the $\pi^+\pi^- Ht\bar{t}$ GB coupling of SMEFT.

Going to dimension-8?

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_{eff}^{ttH} &= Q^\dagger \phi t_R \left\{ -y_{SM} + \frac{\lambda_6}{\Lambda^2} \left(\phi^\dagger \phi - \frac{v^2}{2} \right) + \frac{\lambda_8}{\Lambda^4} \left(\phi^\dagger \phi - \frac{v^2}{2} \right)^2 + \dots \right\} + h.c. \\
&= -\frac{\mathbf{v} y_{SM}}{\sqrt{2}} \boxed{t_L^\dagger t_R} - \left(\frac{y_{SM}}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{\lambda_6 v^2}{\sqrt{2} \Lambda^2} \right) \boxed{H t_L^\dagger t_R} \\
&\quad + \underbrace{\left(\frac{3\lambda_6 v}{2\sqrt{2}\Lambda^2} + \frac{\lambda_8 v^3}{\sqrt{2}\Lambda^4} \right)}_{=0} \boxed{H^2 t_L^\dagger t_R} + \dots = \text{Scenario 2} \\
&\quad + \frac{\lambda_6 v}{\sqrt{2}\Lambda^2} \boxed{\left(\pi^+ \pi^- + \frac{(\pi^0)^2}{2} \right) t_L^\dagger t_R} + \dots \\
&\quad + \underbrace{\left(\frac{\lambda_6}{\sqrt{2}\Lambda^2} + \frac{2\lambda_8 v^2}{\sqrt{2}\Lambda^4} \right)}_{=0} \boxed{\pi^+ \pi^- H t_L^\dagger t_R} + \dots + h.c. = \text{Scenario 3}
\end{aligned}$$

dim. of SMEFT operator	Dim-4	Dim-6	Dim-8	
Scenario 1	y_{SM}	$y_{SM} - ye^{i\xi}$	Negelible	SMEFT
Scenario 2	y_{SM}	$y_{SM} - ye^{i\xi}$	$-3/2(y_{SM} - ye^{i\xi})$	HEFT
Scenario 3	y_{SM}	$y_{SM} - ye^{i\xi}$	$-1/2(y_{SM} - ye^{i\xi})$	No E^2 energy growth

SMEFT expects the couplings from each operator follows $|\text{dim4}| \gg |\text{dim6}| \gg |\text{dim8}|$.

Violation of the above condition tells that the new physics scale is not much above the SM scale.

Summary

- We identify the cause of a power law increase of the $\mu^-\mu^+ \rightarrow v\bar{v}t\bar{t}H$ cross section when the top Yukawa coupling is complex as due to the power law increase of the weak boson fusion subprocess ($WW \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$) cross section.
- We identify the dimension-six SMEFT operator which gives a gauge invariant description for complex Yukawa coupling and confirm that the total cross section for $WW \rightarrow t\bar{t}H$ satisfies the Goldstone Boson Equivalence Theorem.
- We obtain a novel perturbative unitarity bound on the SMEFT operator by summing over all $2 \rightarrow 2$ and $2 \rightarrow 3$ processes which contribute to the $J=0 HH \rightarrow HH$ amplitude.
- We comment on the case with dimension-8 operator.