



ICHEP  
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# BSM physics at the FCC-ee : Heavy Neutral Leptons

Nicolò Valle\*, on behalf of the PED-BSM Physics Group

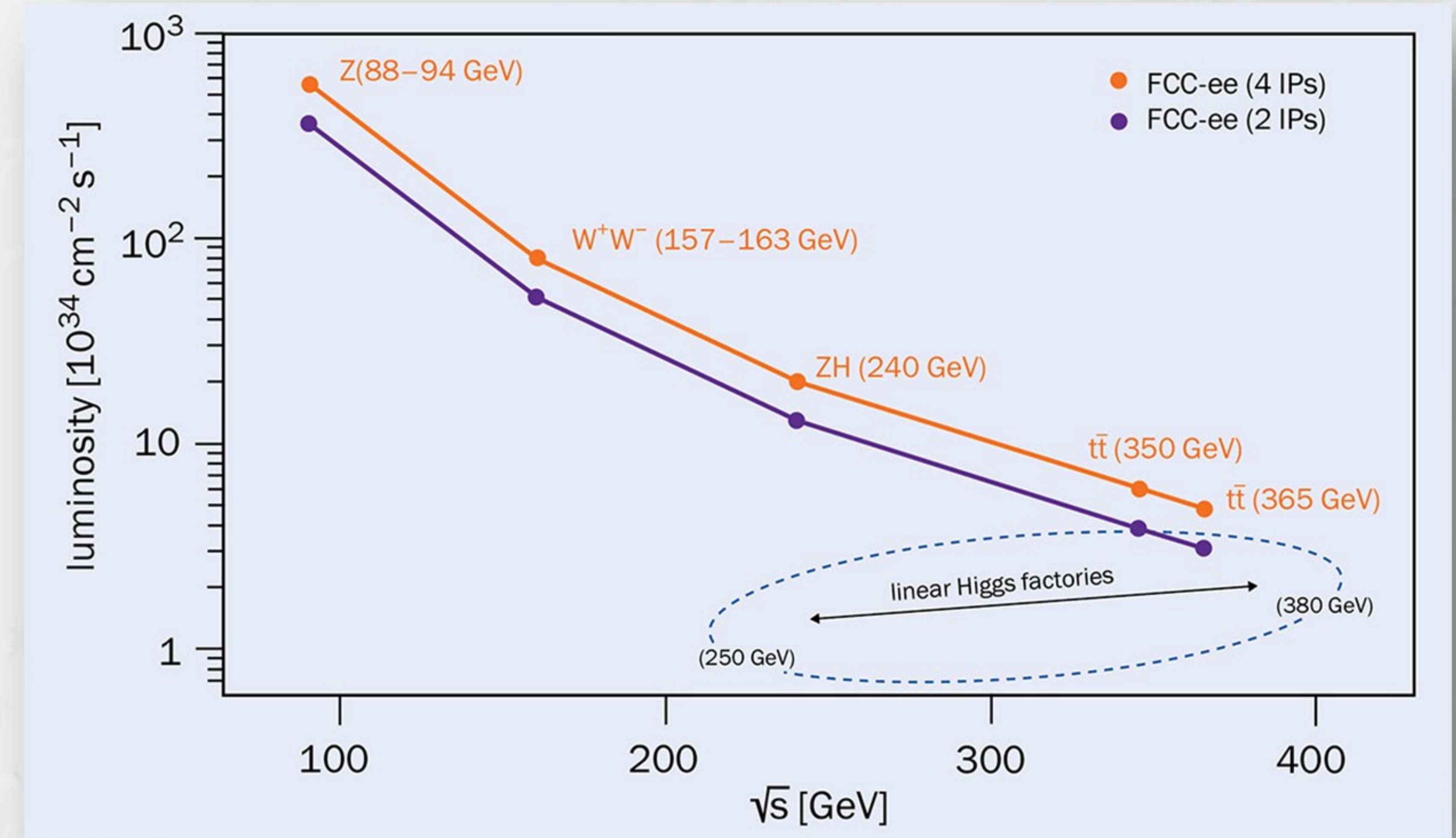
\* INFN, Sezione di PAVIA

# BSM at FCC-ee

A Higgs, top, EW and flavour factory, for tests of the Standard Model at an unprecedented level

Designed to operate at c.m. energies from 90 to 365 GeV

Key words: **clean environment** and **high statistics**



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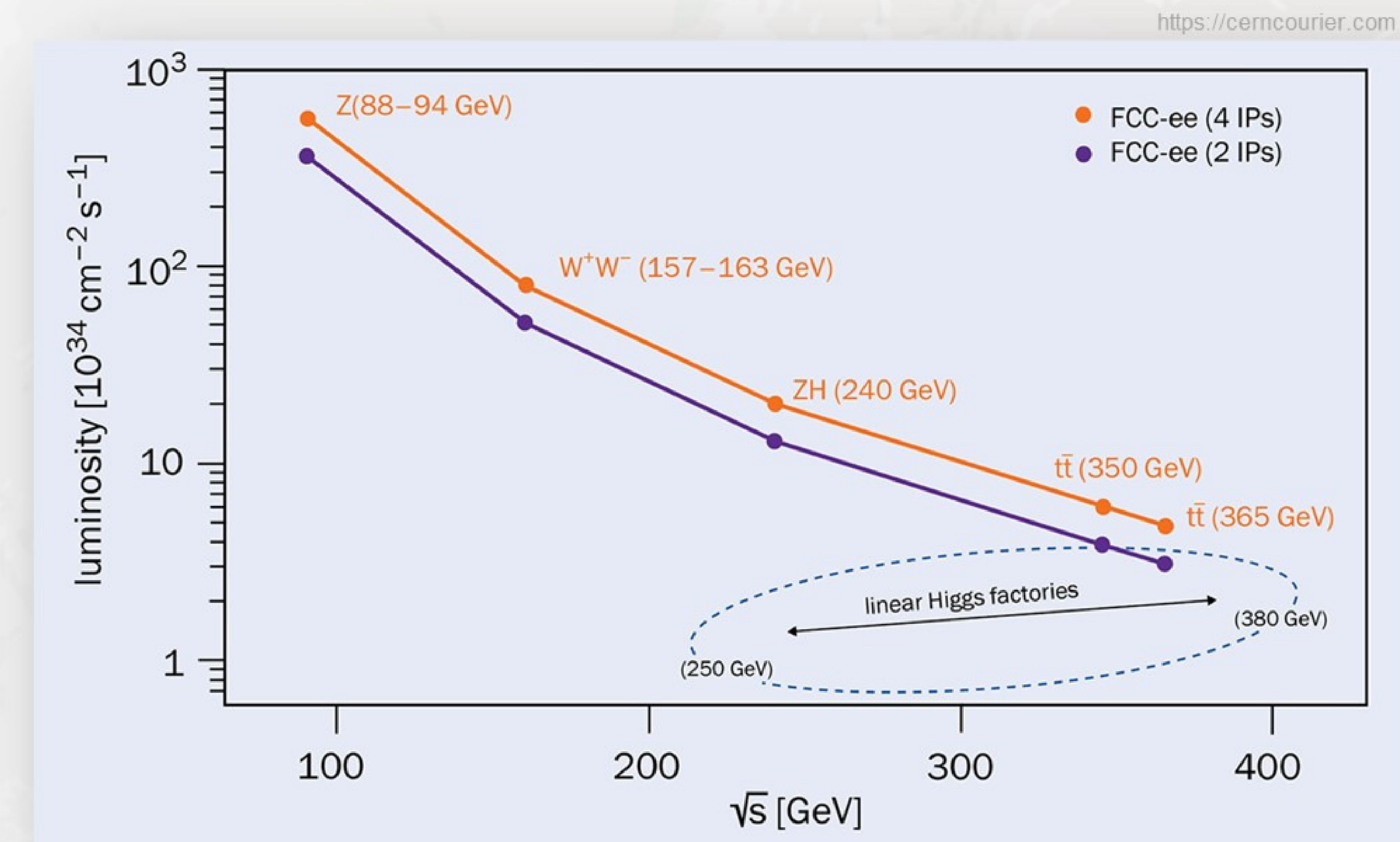
## Possibility to direct search for BSM physics

**Tera-Z run** (5 orders of magnitude more than LEP)

- ↙ Huge gain in **sensitivity for feebly-coupled new particles** with mass in  $\sim 1 - 91$  GeV
- ↙ Broad search program, mostly model-independent

## Detector requirements

- Large decay volume
- High segmentation (tracker, calorimetry, muon)
- Impact parameter resolution for large displacement
- Timing
- No limitations related to triggering



## Feebly interacting BSM particles

- Heavy Neutral Leptons
- Dark photons
- Axion Like Particles
- Exotic Higgs decays

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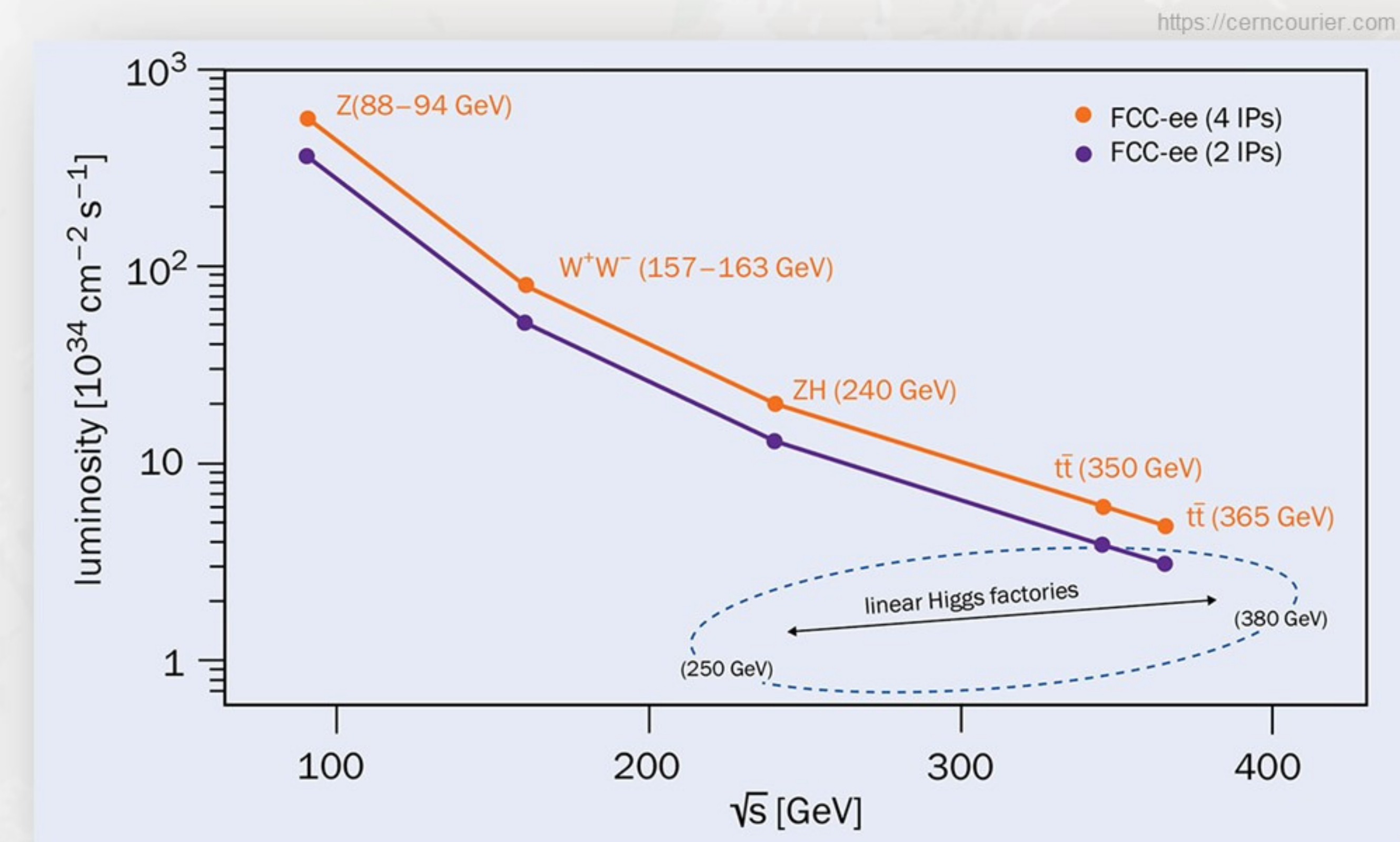
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This talk will focus on HNLs, but...  
Intense activity on all the mentioned channels  
within the FCC-PED community



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# HNLs, a promising new physics channel

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Open **key questions** on SM neutrinos (mass ordering, mass mechanism, Dirac/Majorana nature...)

- ▽ HNLs can explain small  $\nu$  **masses**, e.g. through seesaw mechanism
- ▽ HNLs as potential candidates for **dark matter**
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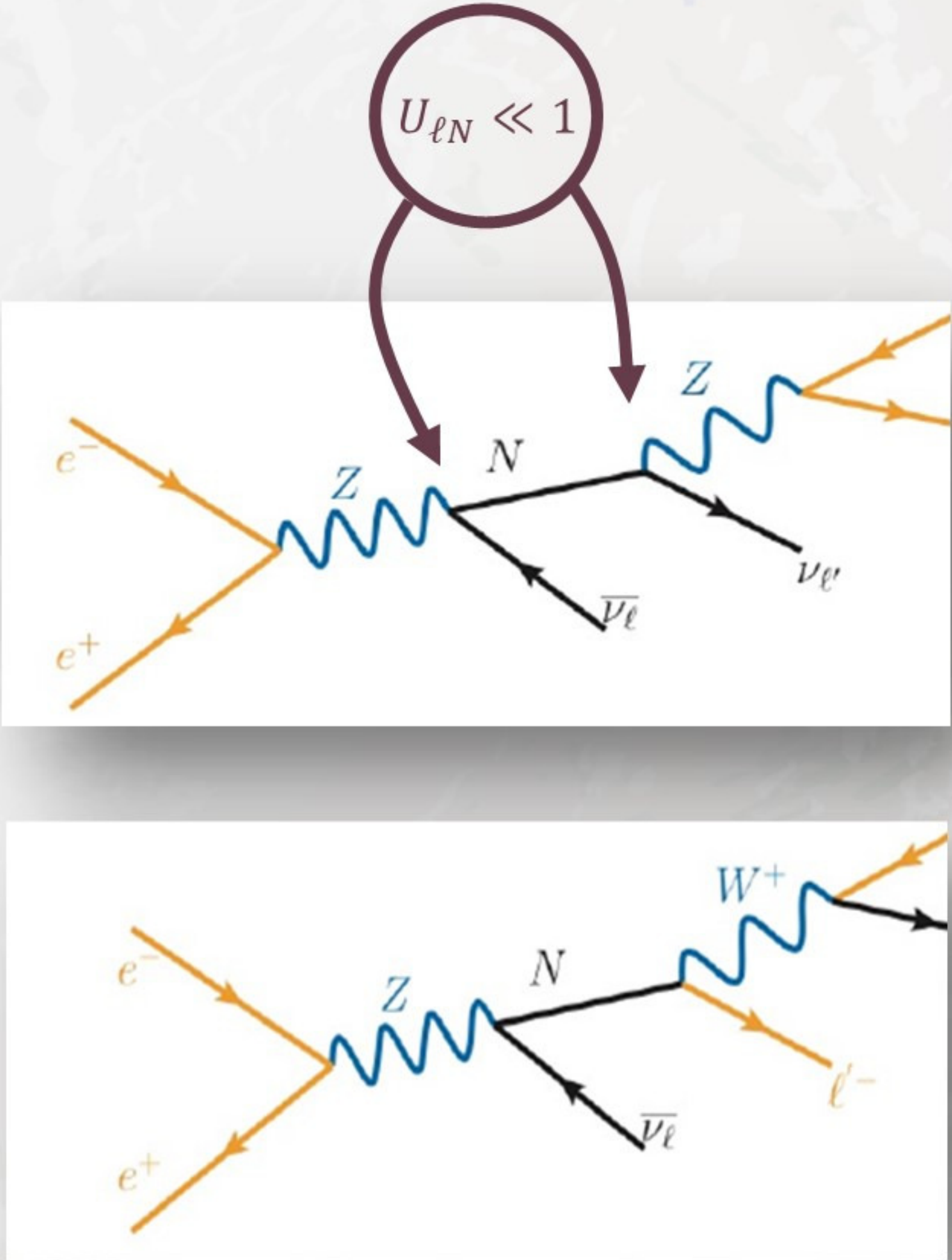
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Experimental point of view: **a heavy fermion with suppressed interactions**

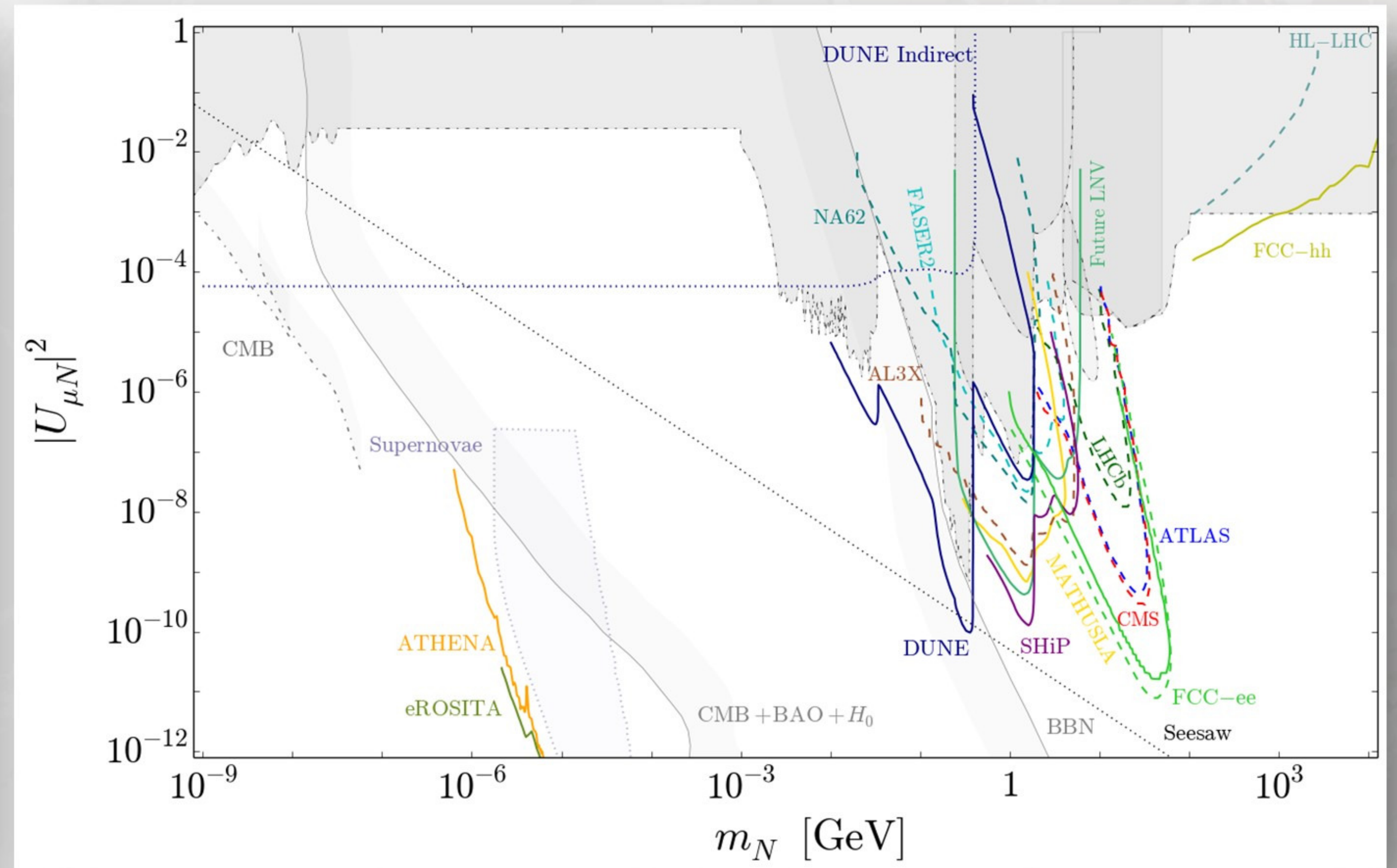
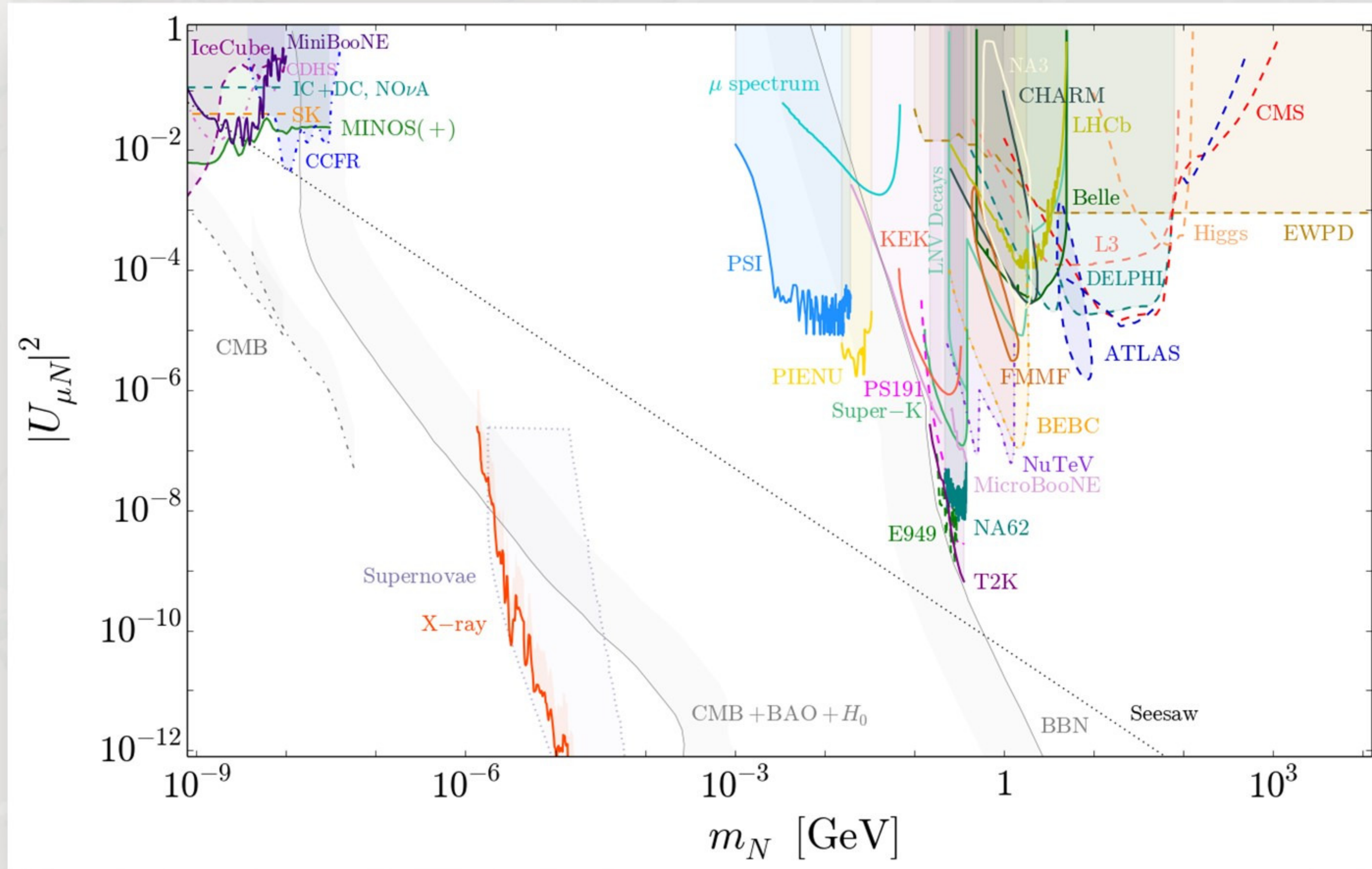
Minimal scenario, production and decay are controlled by two model parameters

$$(m_N, U_{\ell N})$$

Small mixing  $U_{\ell N}$  with SM leptons  $\rightarrow$  **suppressed production**, and **long decay path**



# Existing limits and projections



arXiv:1912.03058

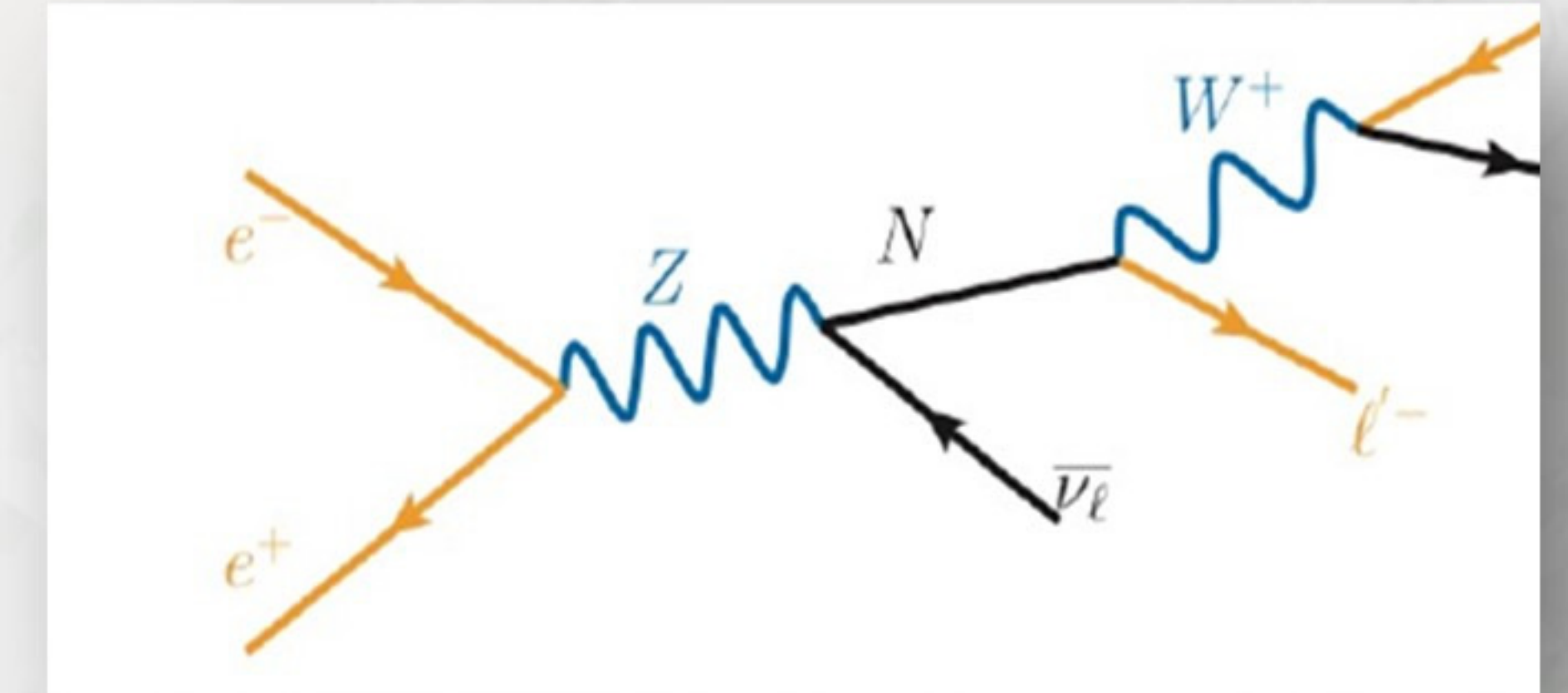
# $N \rightarrow \mu jj$ as benchmark channel

Production of **HNL in Z decay** through mixing with light neutrinos

One HNL flavour assumed  $\rightarrow$  two parameters,  $(m_N, U)$

$$BR(Z \rightarrow \nu N) = \frac{2}{3} |U^2| BR(Z \rightarrow \text{invisible}) \left(1 + \frac{m_N^2}{2m_Z^2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{m_N^2}{m_Z^2}\right)$$

$$\Gamma_N \simeq c_{dec} \frac{\alpha}{96\pi^3} G_F^2 U^2 m_N^5 \quad (m_N < 80 \text{ GeV})$$





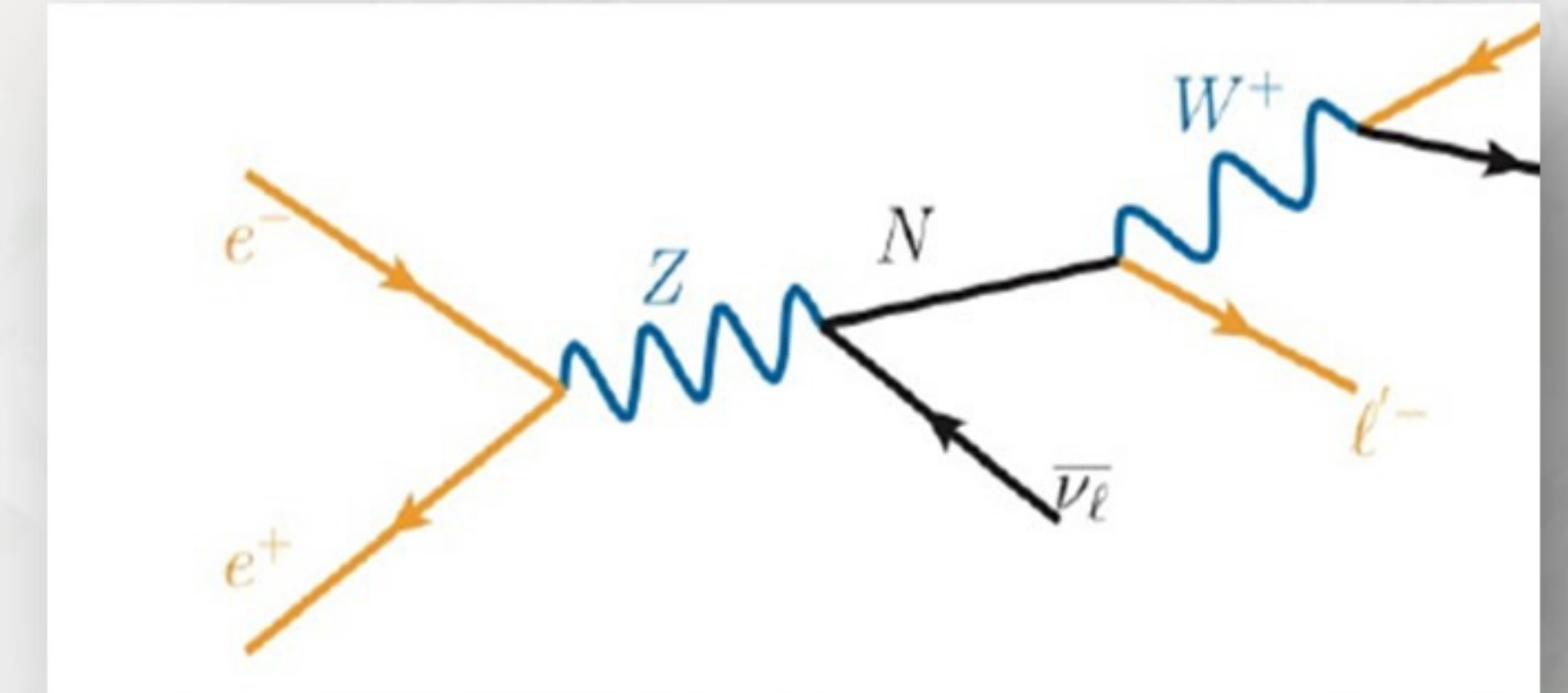
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$N \rightarrow \mu jj$

- High production rate
- Visible final state allowing for full reconstruction of the kinematics



**Displaced** and **prompt** signatures are both accessible at the FCC: severe **requirements** on the performance of the detector

# The simulation

The workflow



# The simulation

## The workflow



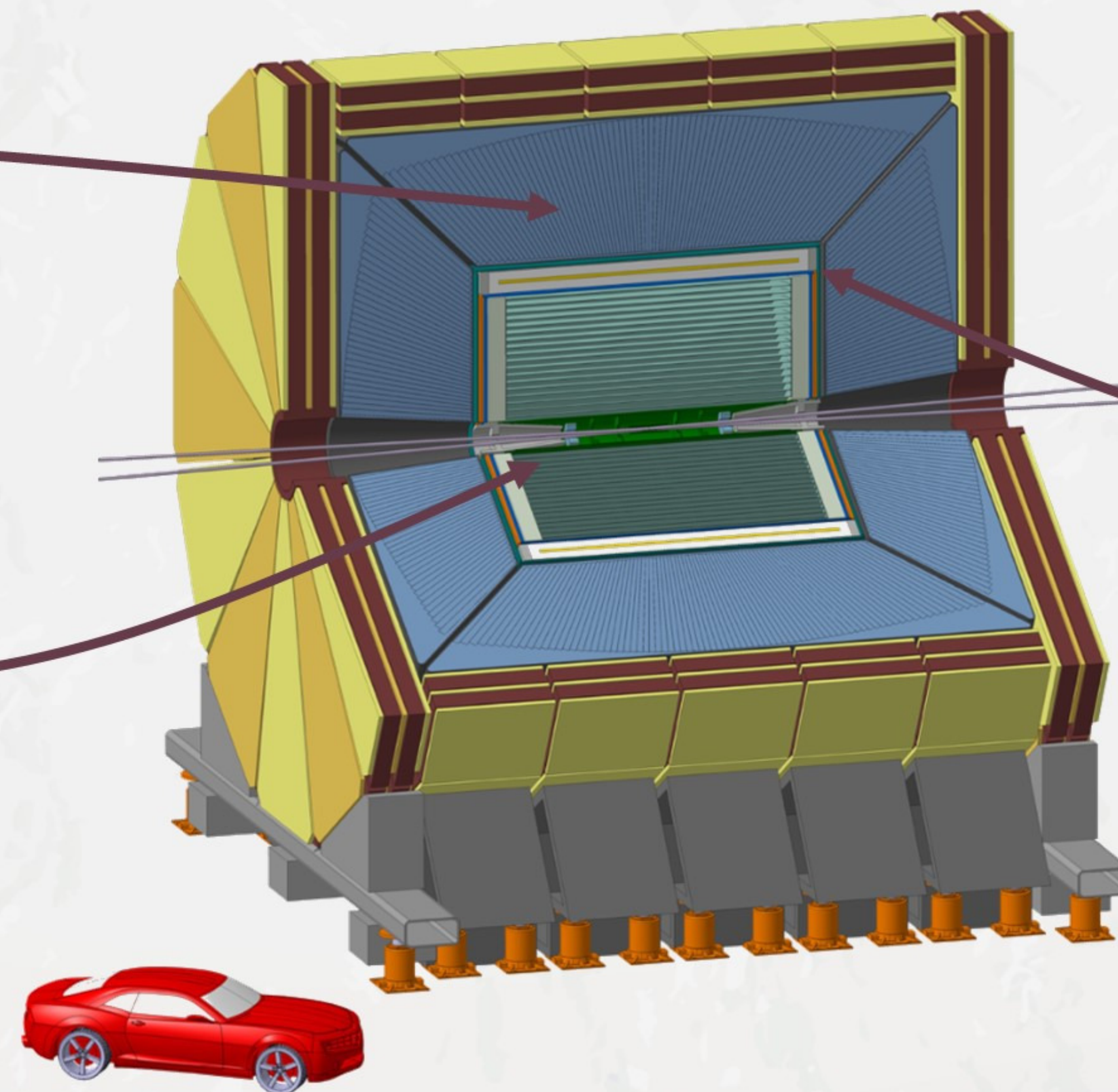
## IDEA layout

**Calorimetry: High resolution, segmented, dual-readout fiber calorimeter**

### Tracker: MAPS sensors + drift chambers

#### DELPHES:

- ▽ Advanced simulation of the full geometry + efficient tracking and vertexing code
- ▽ [1.2-31 cm]: 5 cylindrical layers (down to 3  $\mu\text{m}$  resolution) + 6 endcap disks (7  $\mu\text{m}$  resolution)
- ▽ [34-200 cm]: 112 4m-long coaxial layers modelling the drift chambers



### Timing layer

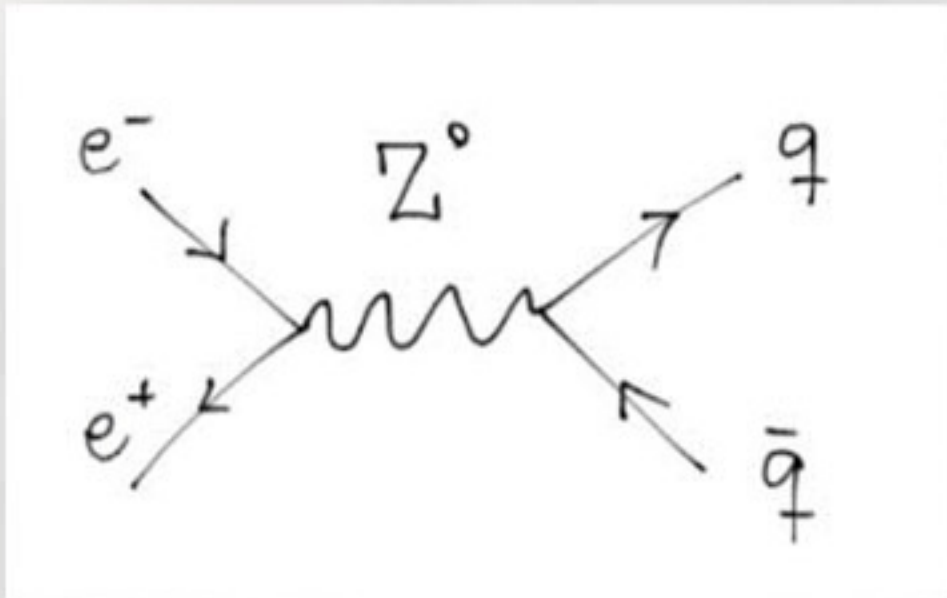
- ▽ Assumed to be 2 m from the interaction point
- ▽ TOF precision within few tens of ps

# The analysis

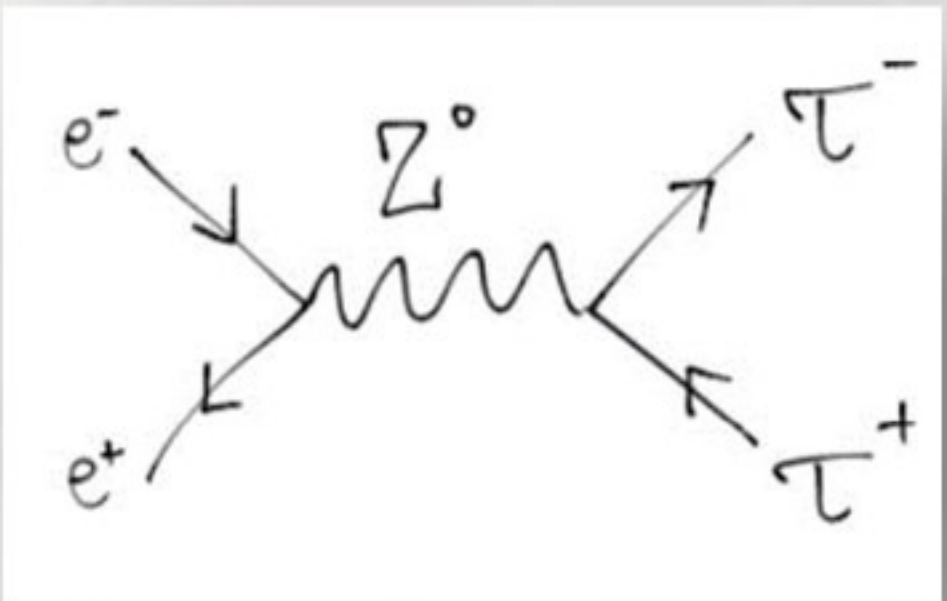
**Sensitivity limits** extracted over a **wide range** of parameter space

Working with the Z-pole run statistics:  $L_{int} = 240 \text{ ab}^{-1}$

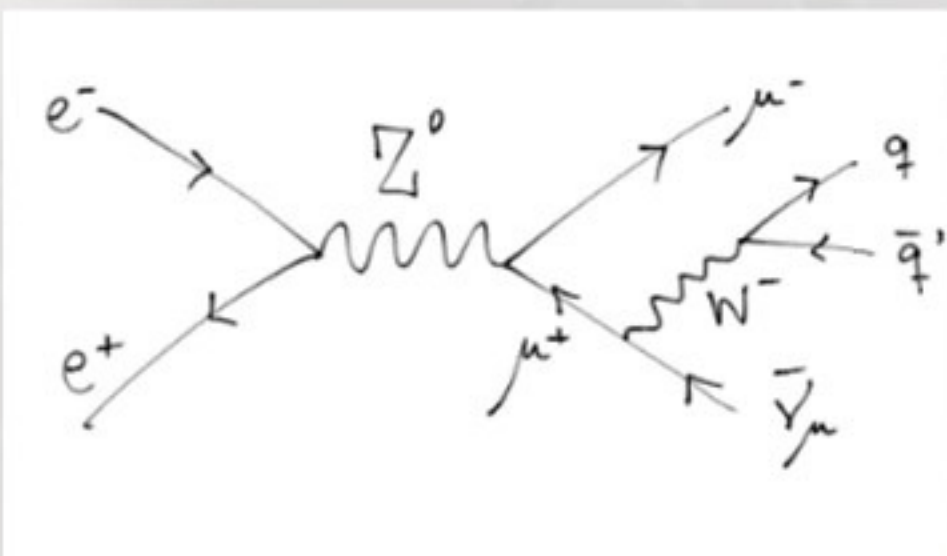
**Background**



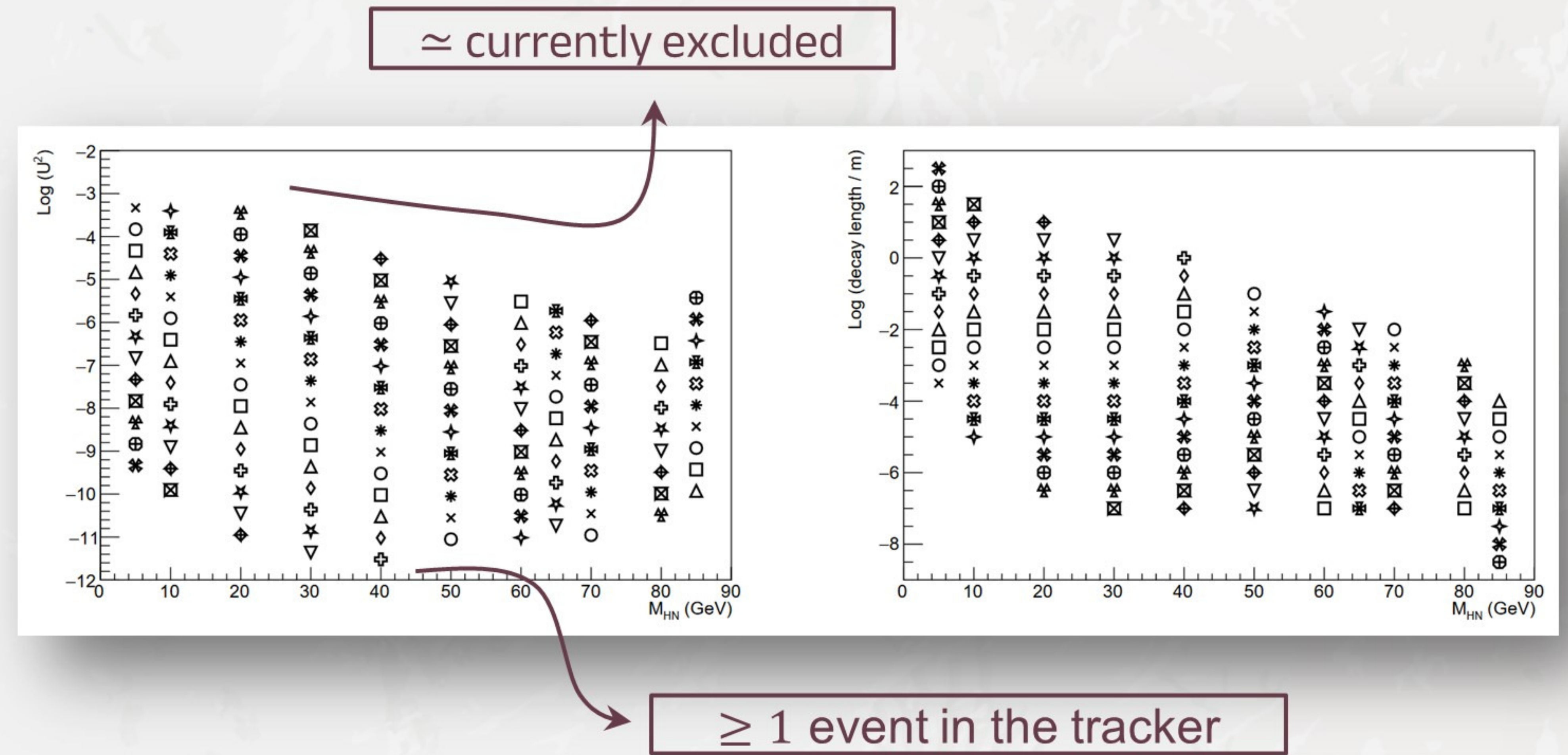
$Z \rightarrow bb/cc/uds$  especially relevant at high mass



$Z \rightarrow \mu\mu, Z \rightarrow \tau\tau$ , more easily suppressed



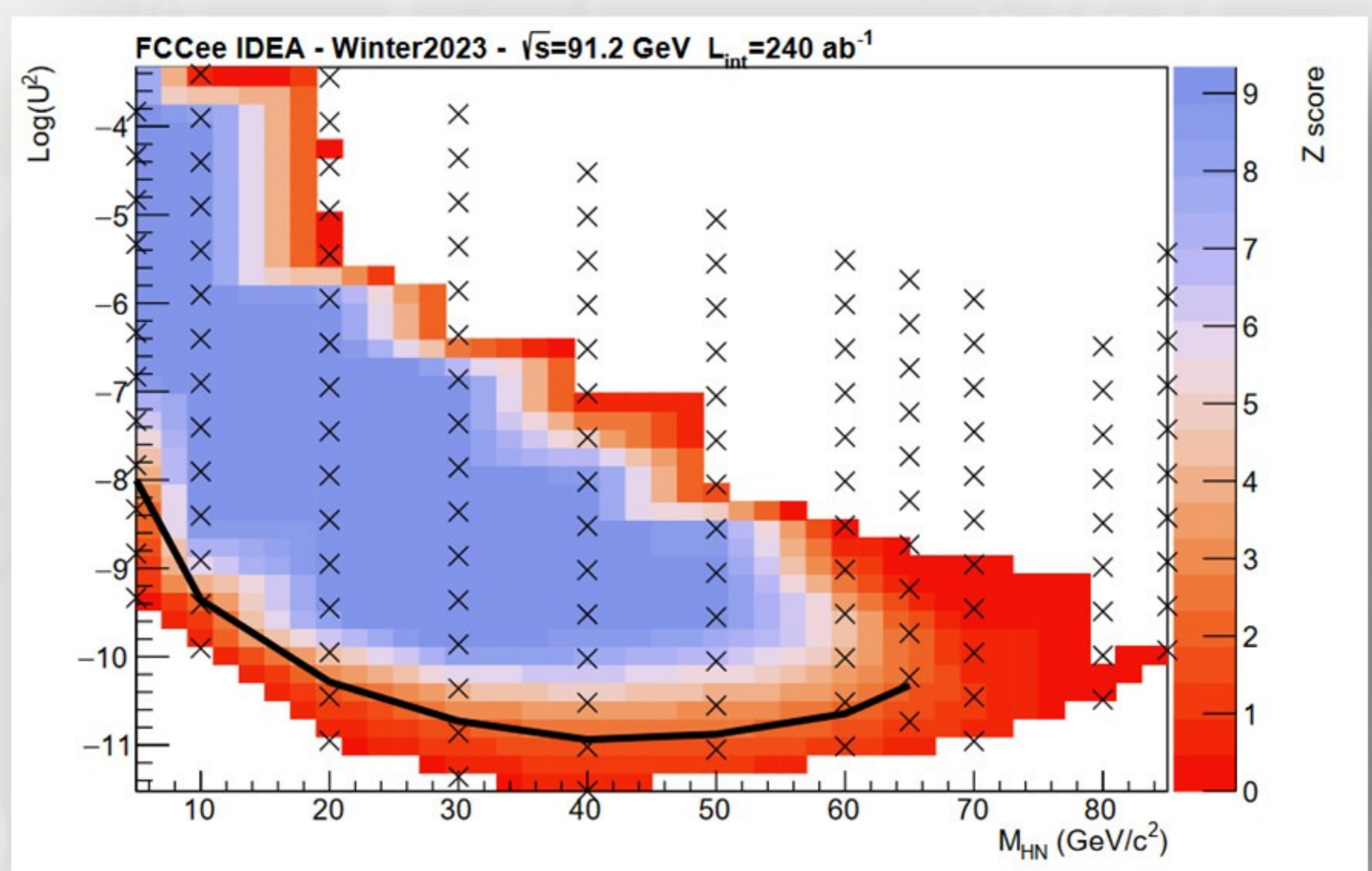
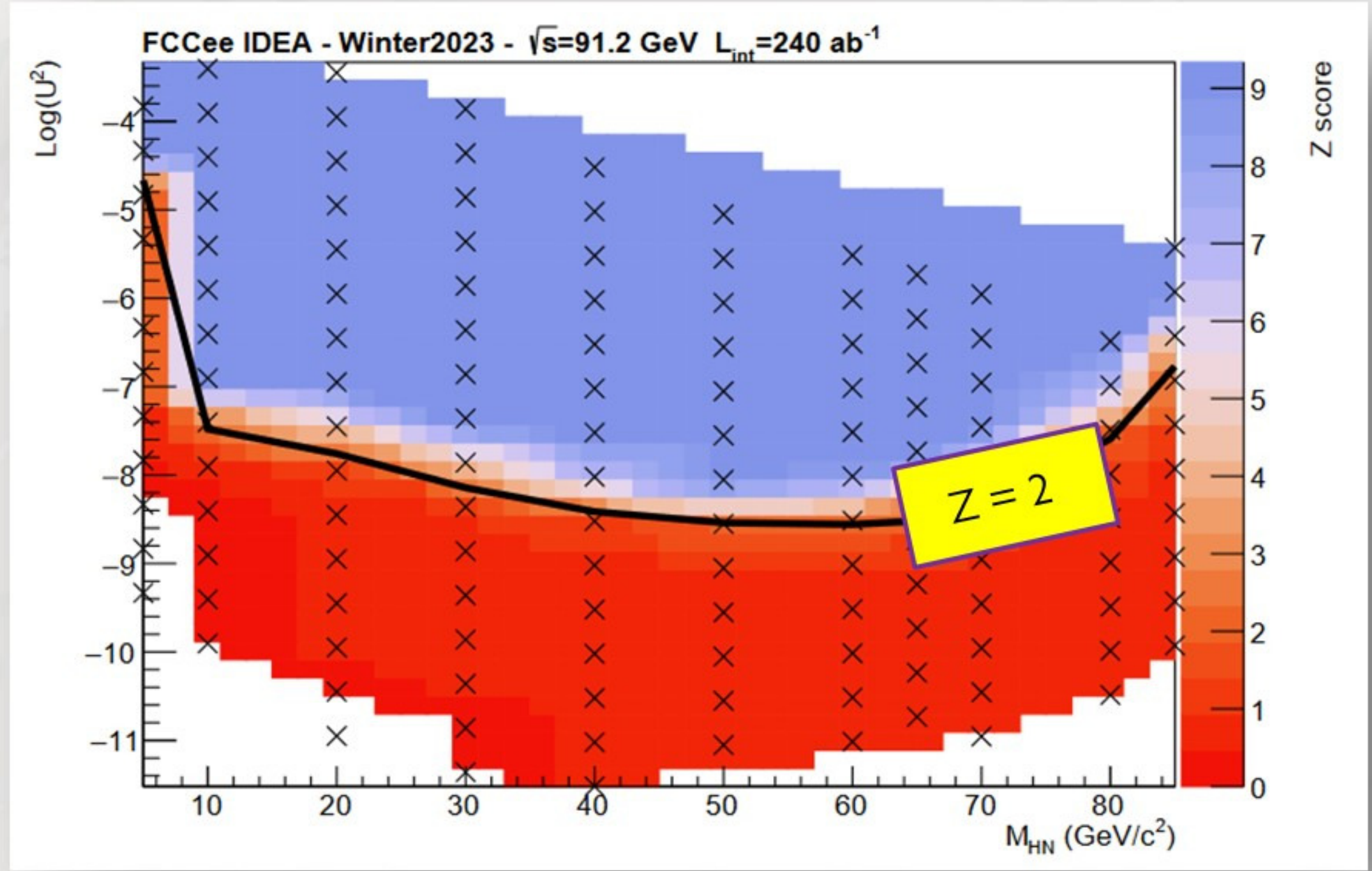
Four-fermion process: irreducible but purely prompt



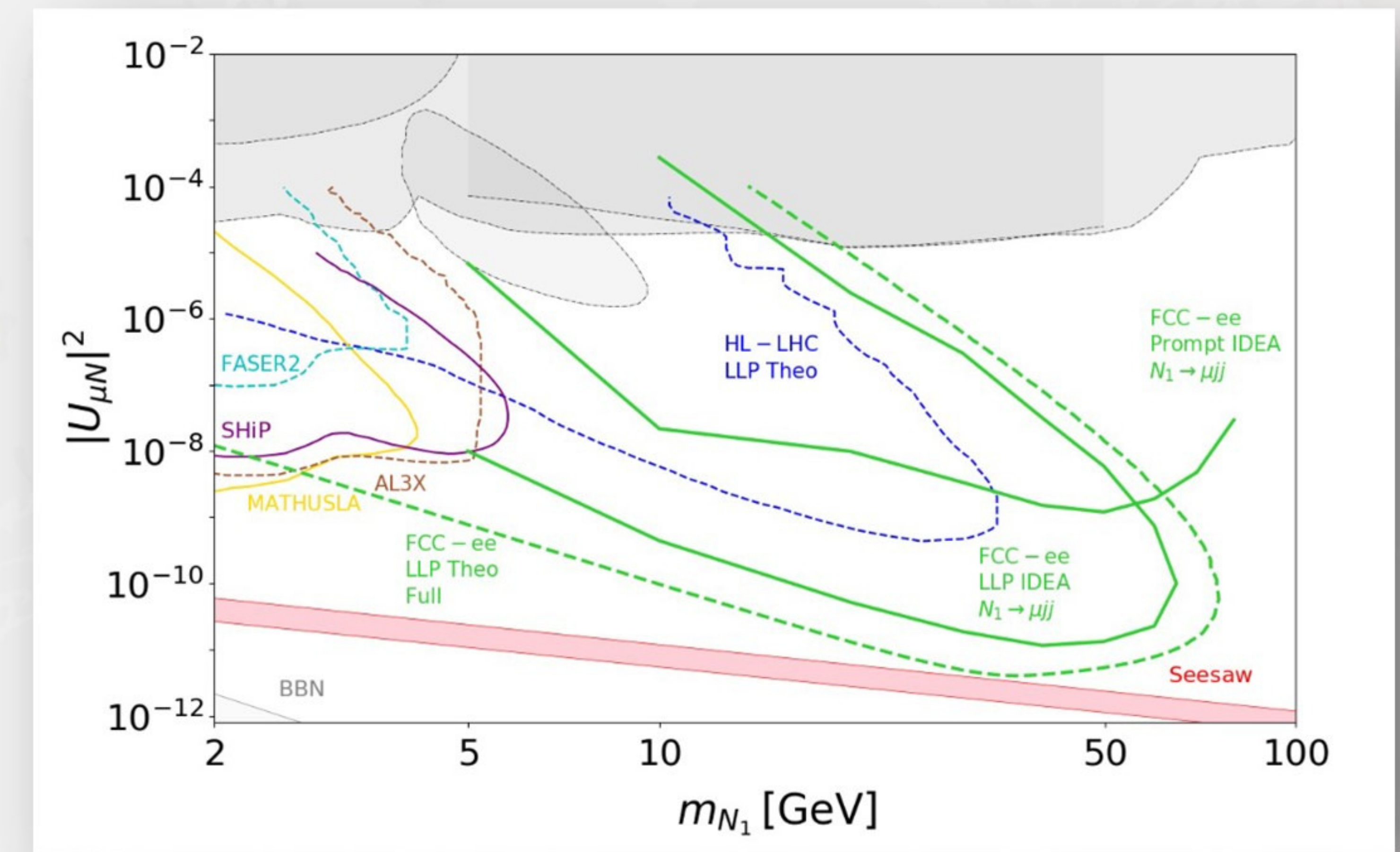
Crucial role of both **energy resolution** and **vertexing capabilities**, to maximize signal yield over background

**Prompt vs long-lived** separation  
 [radial vertex position  $\lesssim 0.5 \text{ mm}$ ]  
 so to have **no background** in the long-lived regime

# The results



**Sensitivity limit:**  $U^2$  value producing 95% CL excess of events



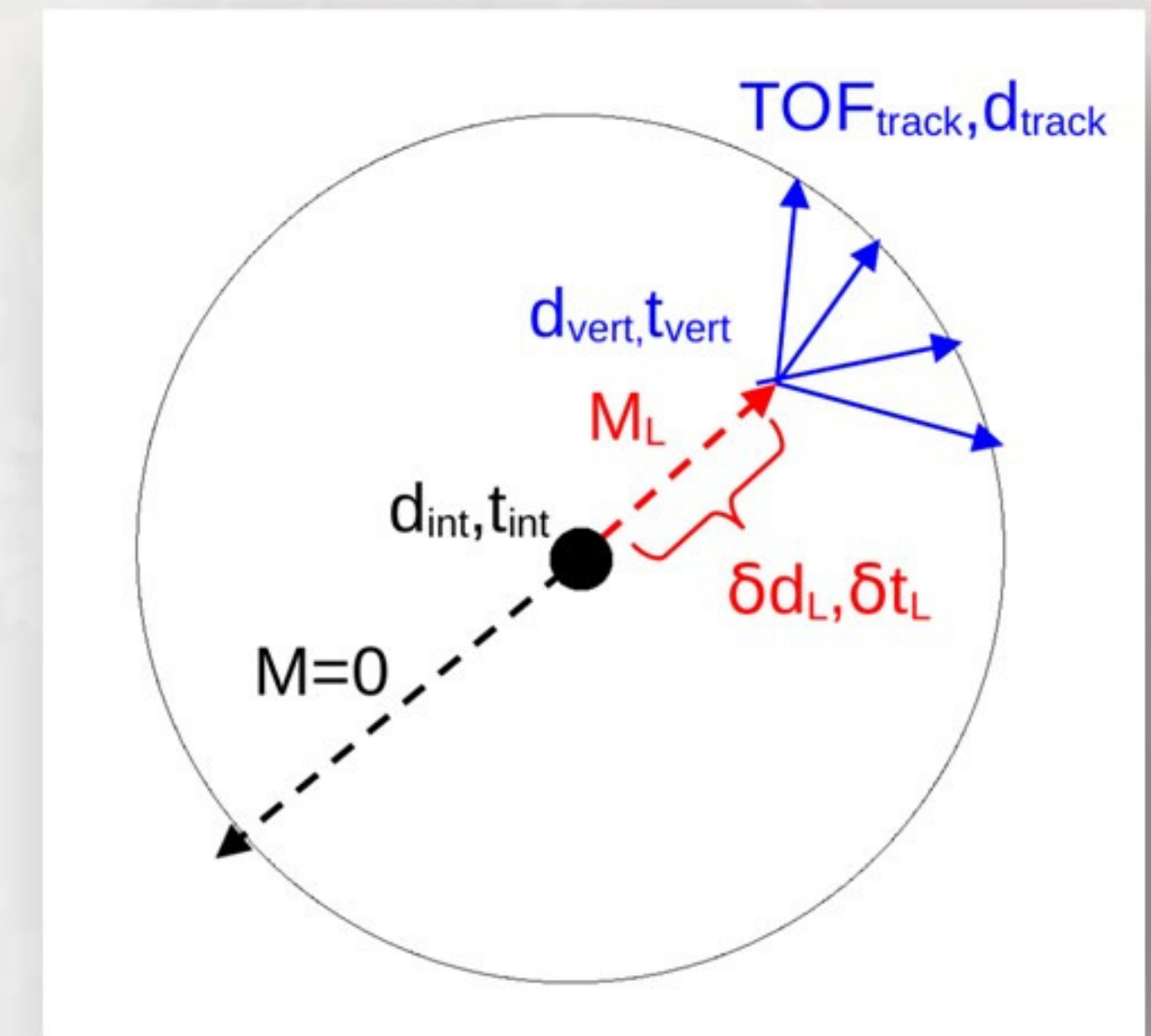
arXiv:1912.03058

# More on the mass measurement

$$m_N = E_{cm} \sqrt{\frac{1 - \beta_N}{1 + \beta_N}} = E_{cm} F(\beta_N)$$

$$\sigma(m_N) \sim E_{cm} F'(\beta_N) \sigma(\beta_N)$$

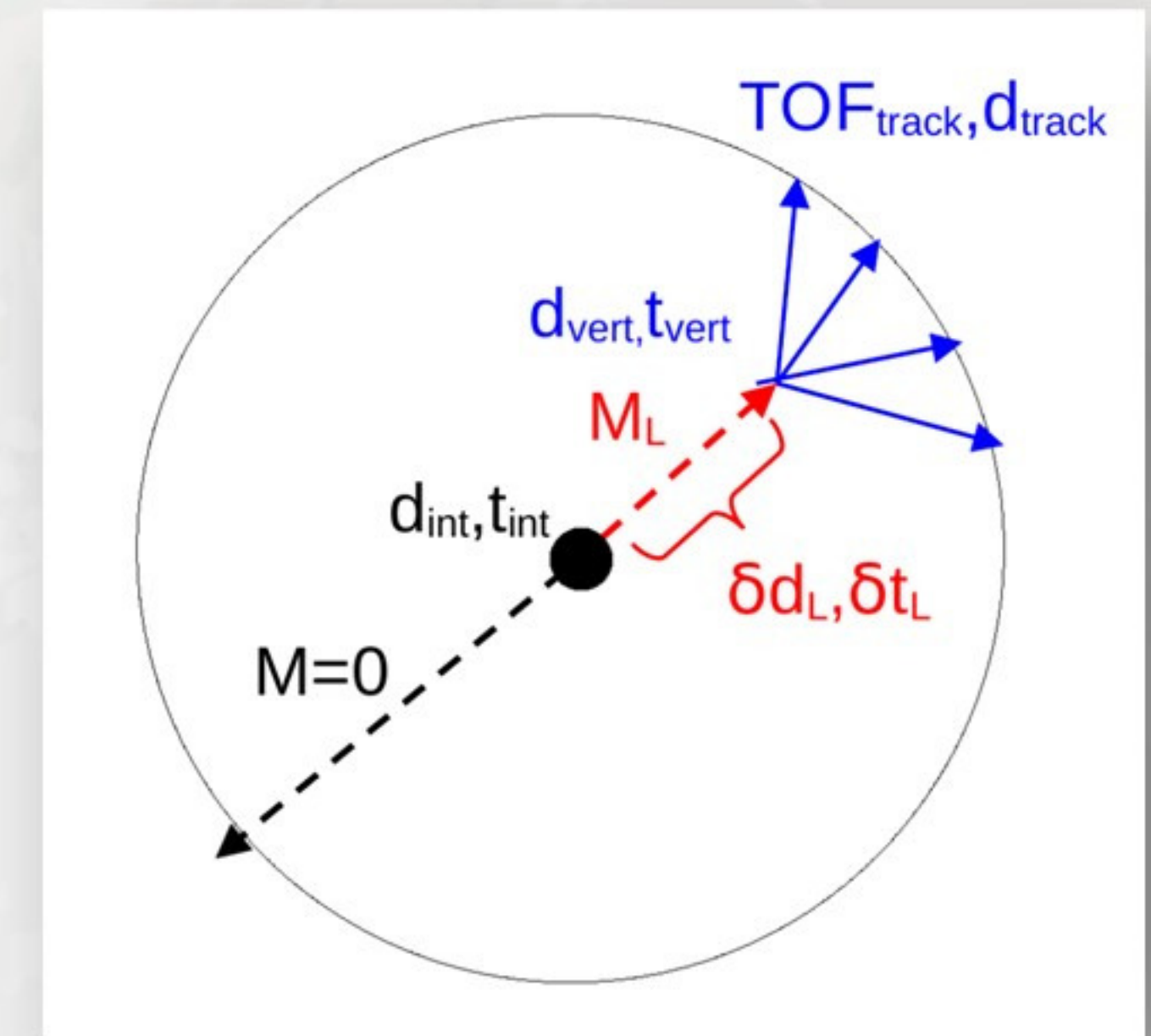
$$\beta_N = \frac{\delta d_N}{\delta t_N}$$



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The **HNL mass** can be constrained by measuring its decay **timing and path**



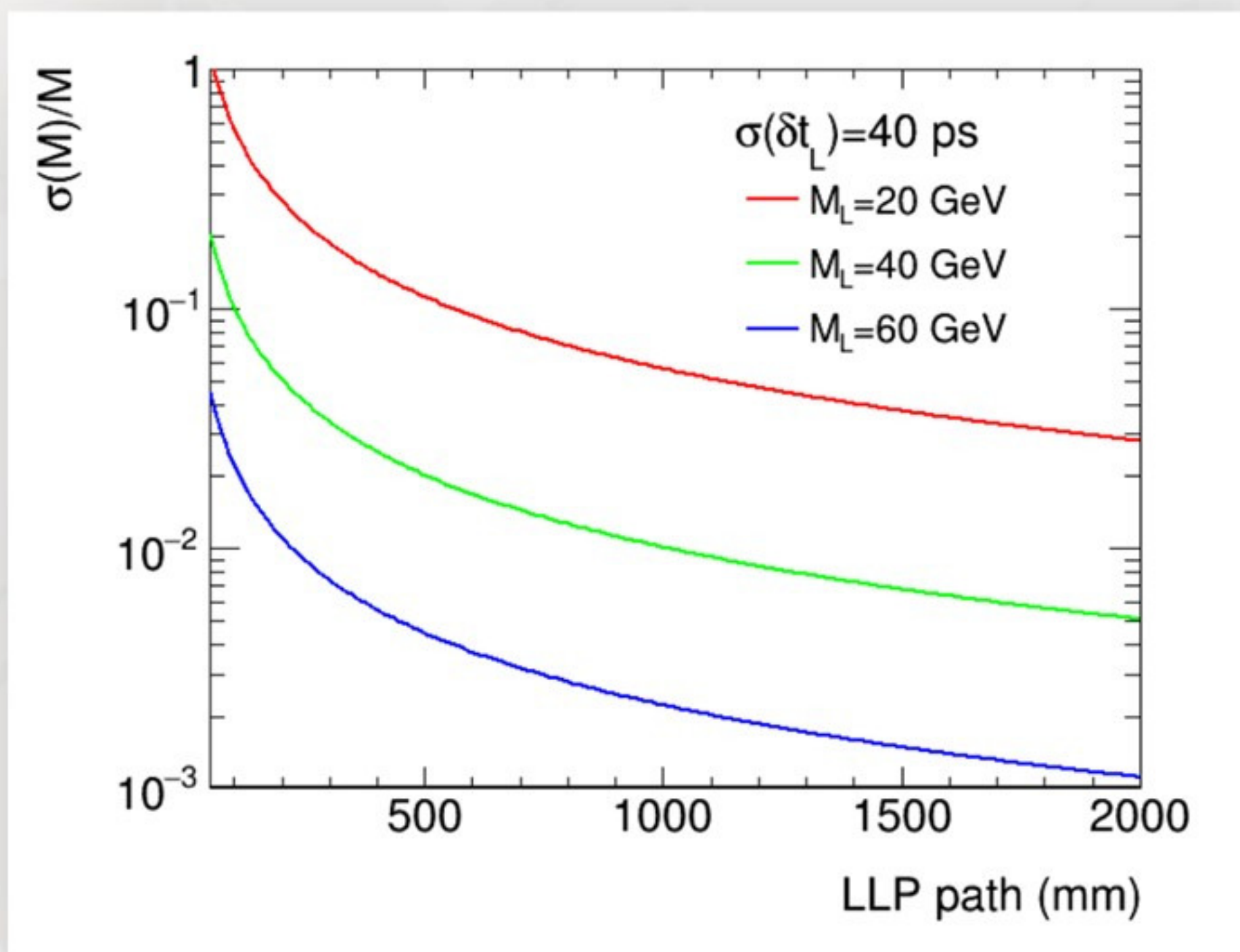
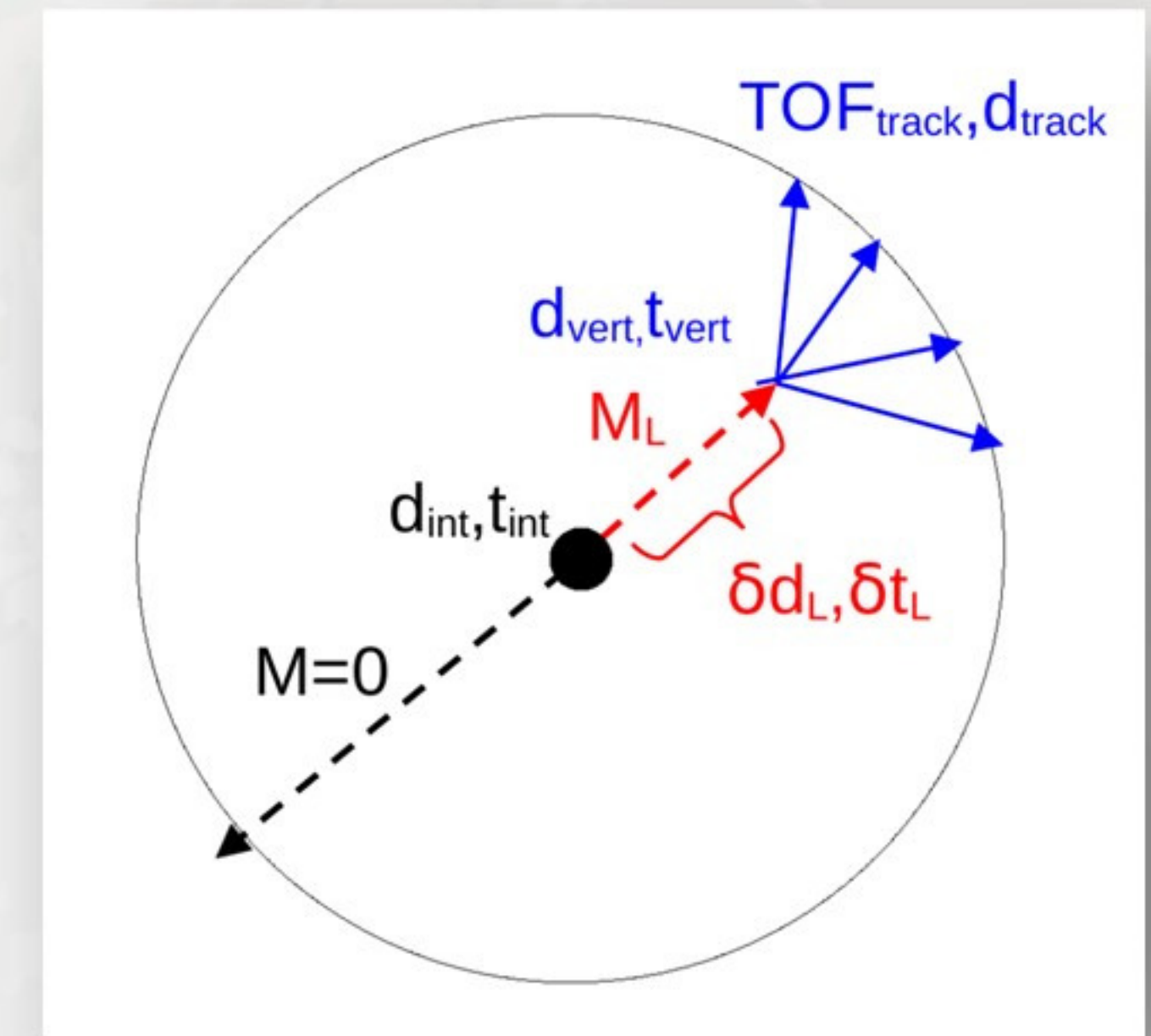
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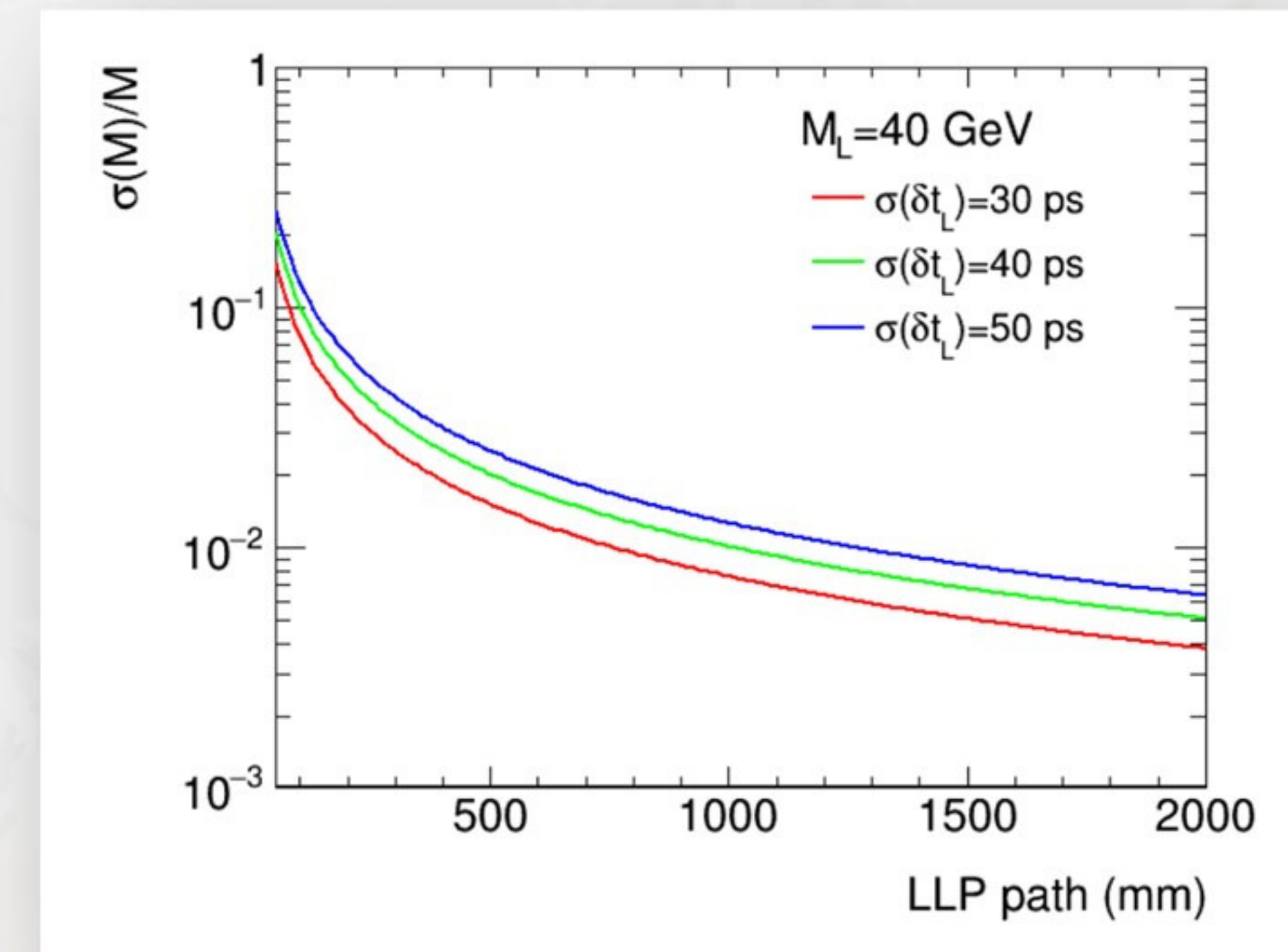
The **HNL mass** can be constrained by measuring its decay **timing and path**

Resolution controlled by the uncertainty on HNL decay time and on the **undetected interaction point** \*

\*  $\sigma_x = 5.96 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $\sigma_y = 23.8 \text{ nm}$ ,  $\sigma_z = 0.397 \text{ mm}$ ,  $\sigma_z = 36.3 \text{ ps}$



Measurement below the percent level is possible with plausible detector performance,  
for sufficiently high masses  
and long lifetimes



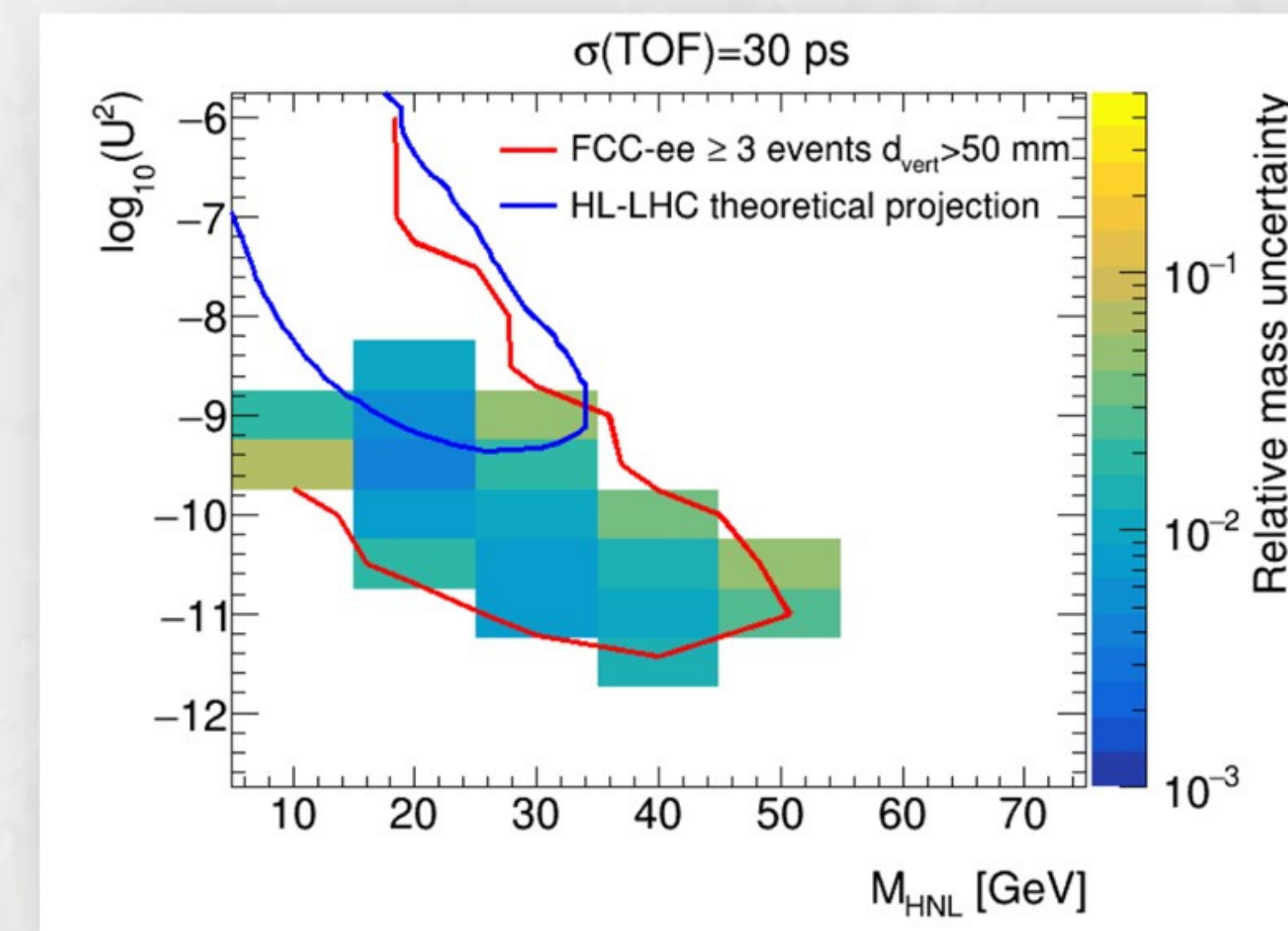
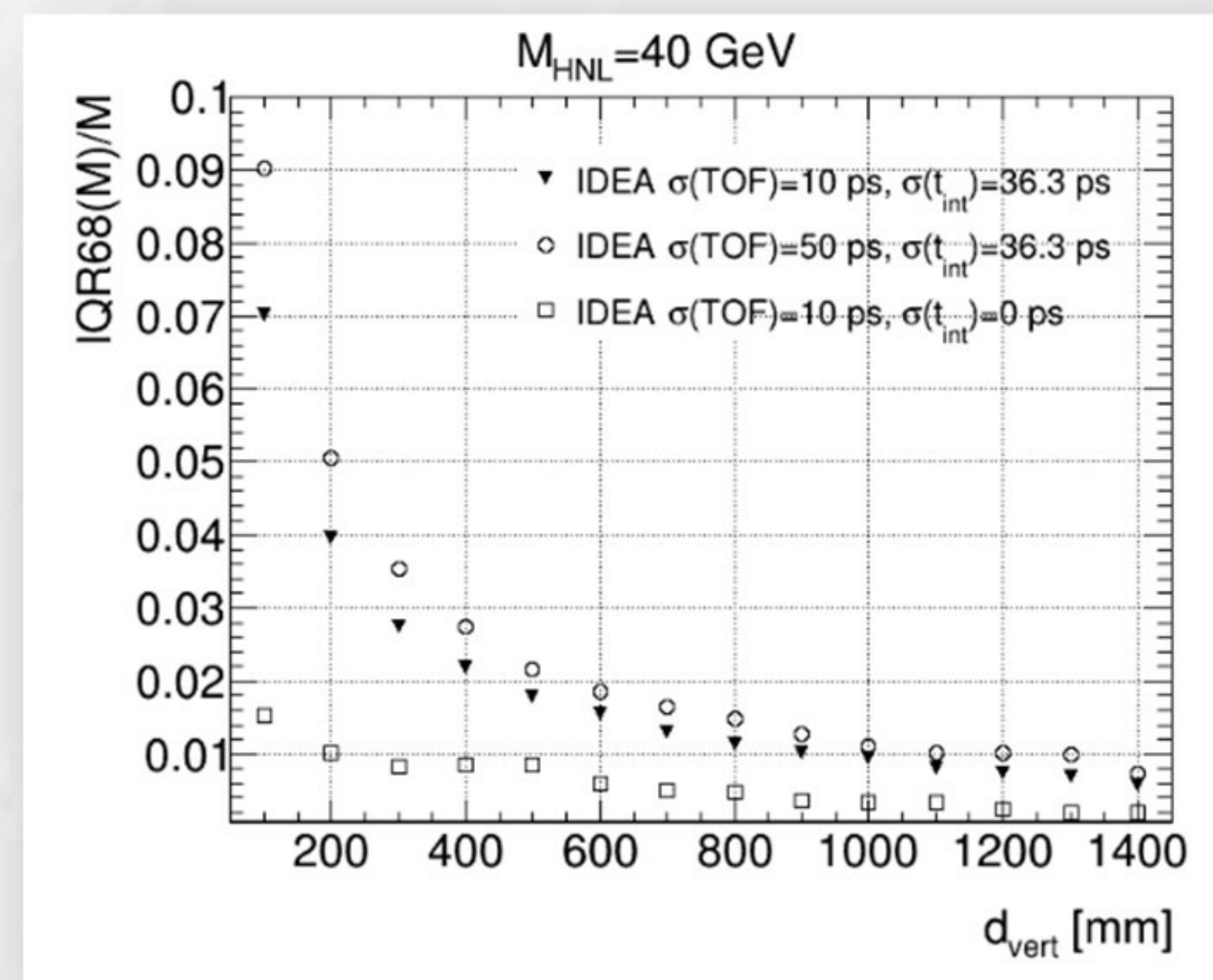
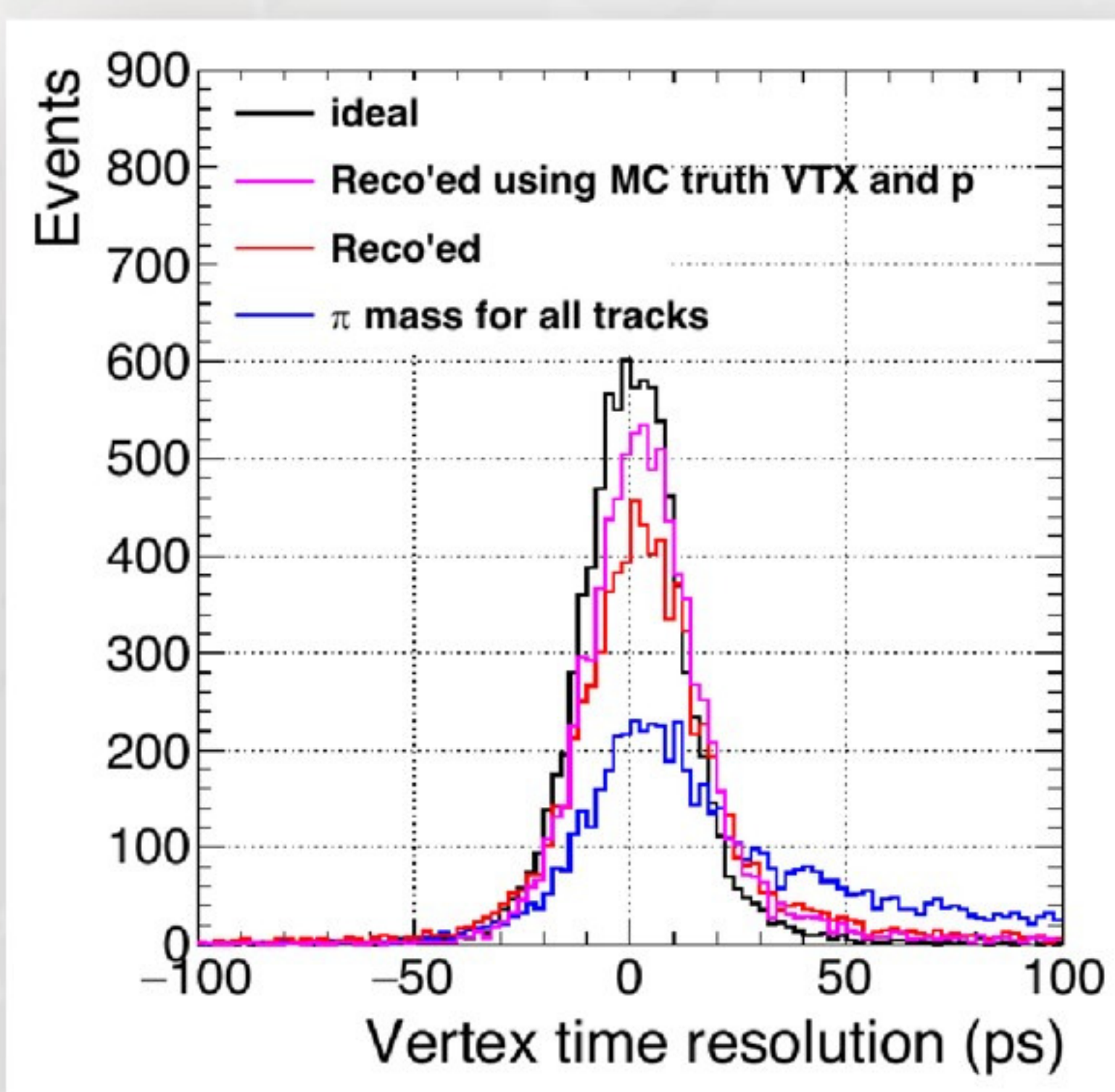
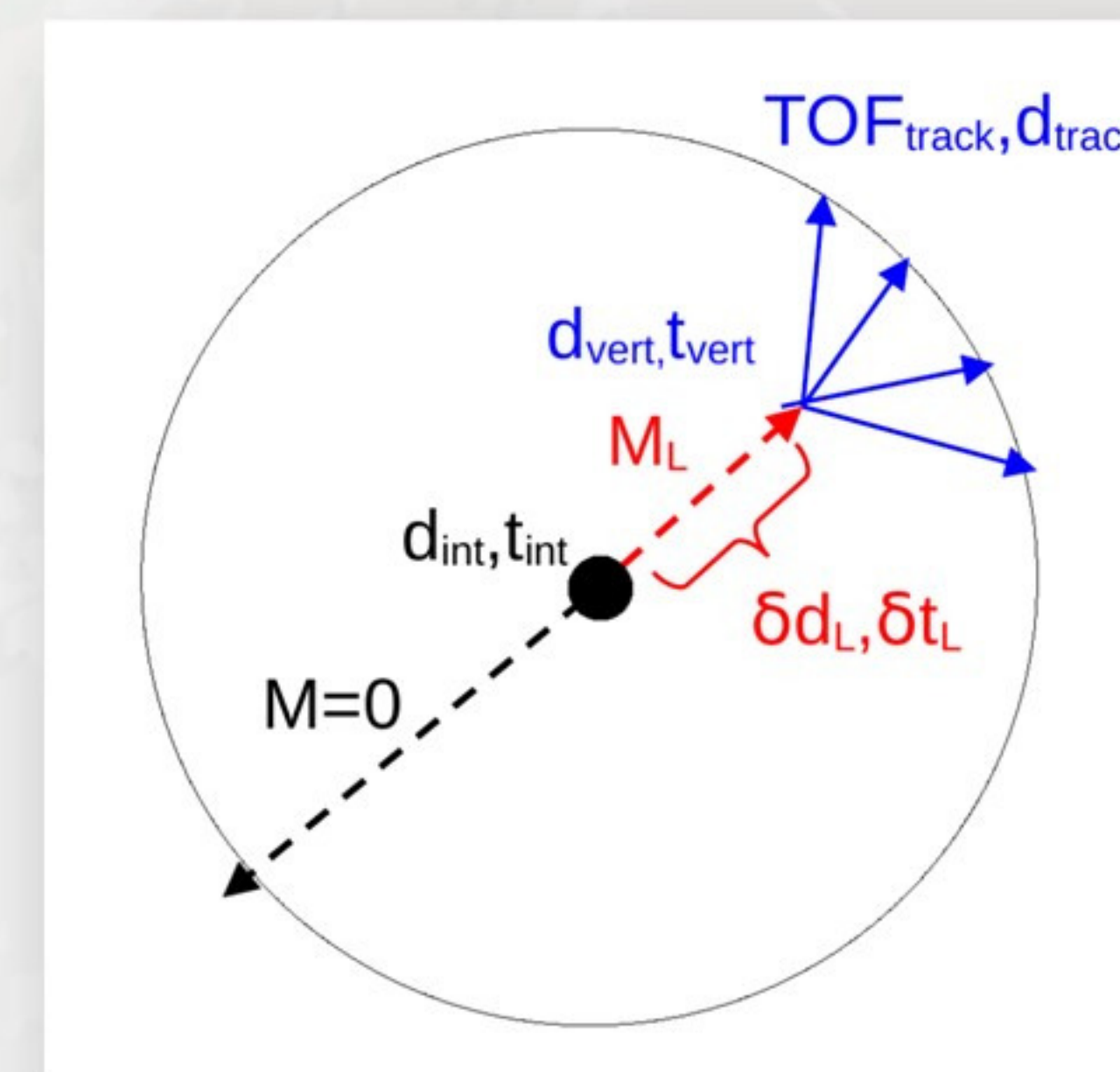


# More on the mass measurement

arXiv:2406.05102

## Realistic conditions simulated in IDEA, using the $N \rightarrow \mu jj$ channel

- ▷  $\sigma(\text{TOF})$  determined only by detector technology
- ▷ The HNL vertex is known and its flight distance is computed
- ▷ Iterative procedure set up to optimize the mass hypotheses, possibly spoiled by the long HNL flight distance
- ▷ Timing resolution roughly scaling with sqrt of number of tracks
- ▷  $200\mu\text{m} \simeq \sigma(d_{\text{vert}})$  dominated by the uncertainty on the interaction point
- ▷ Dependence on HNL yield vs  $(m_N, U)$ : evaluated with MC for the expected Z-pole run luminosity



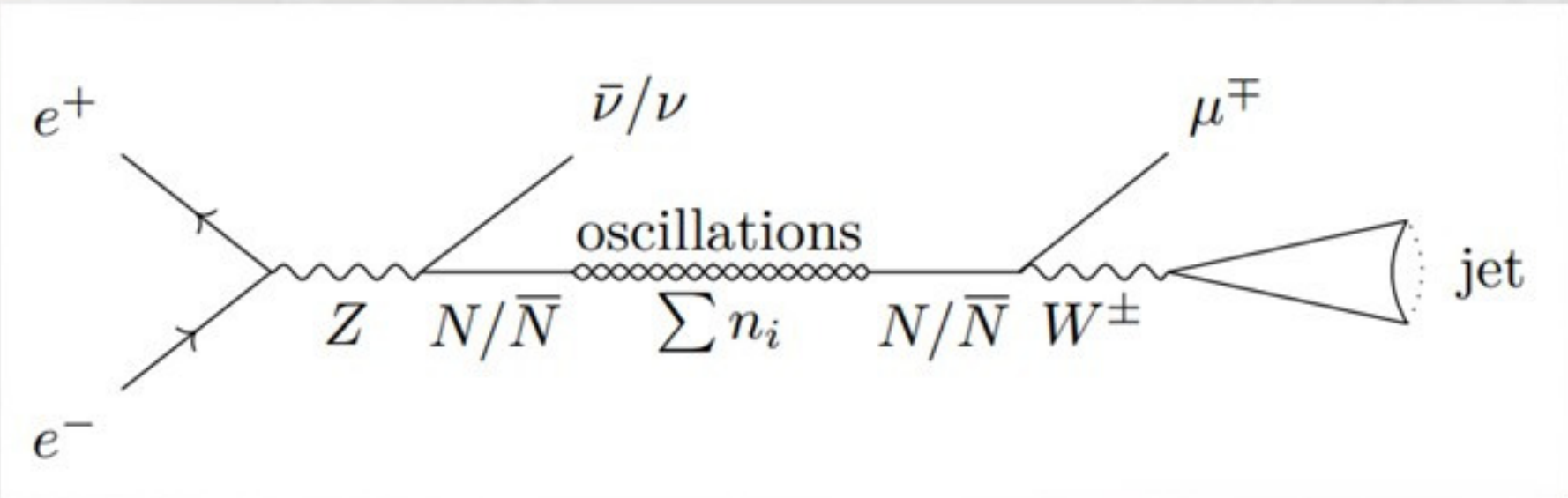
# Expanding the phenomenology

See model in [arXiv:2210.10738](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.10738), [arXiv:2308.07297](https://arxiv.org/abs/2308.07297)

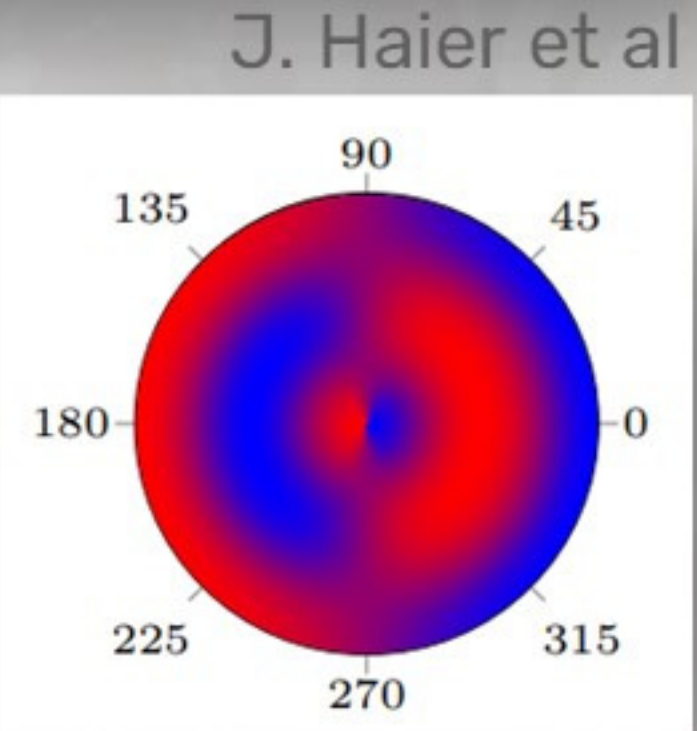
Sterile pseudo-Dirac neutrinos, almost mass-degenerate

Same mixing to SM, generating **superposition of  $N, \bar{N}$**  during Z decay

**Oscillation** between lepton-number conserving (**LNC**) and lepton-number violating (**LNV**) processes



In which parameter space **can we detect oscillations** at FCC-ee ?



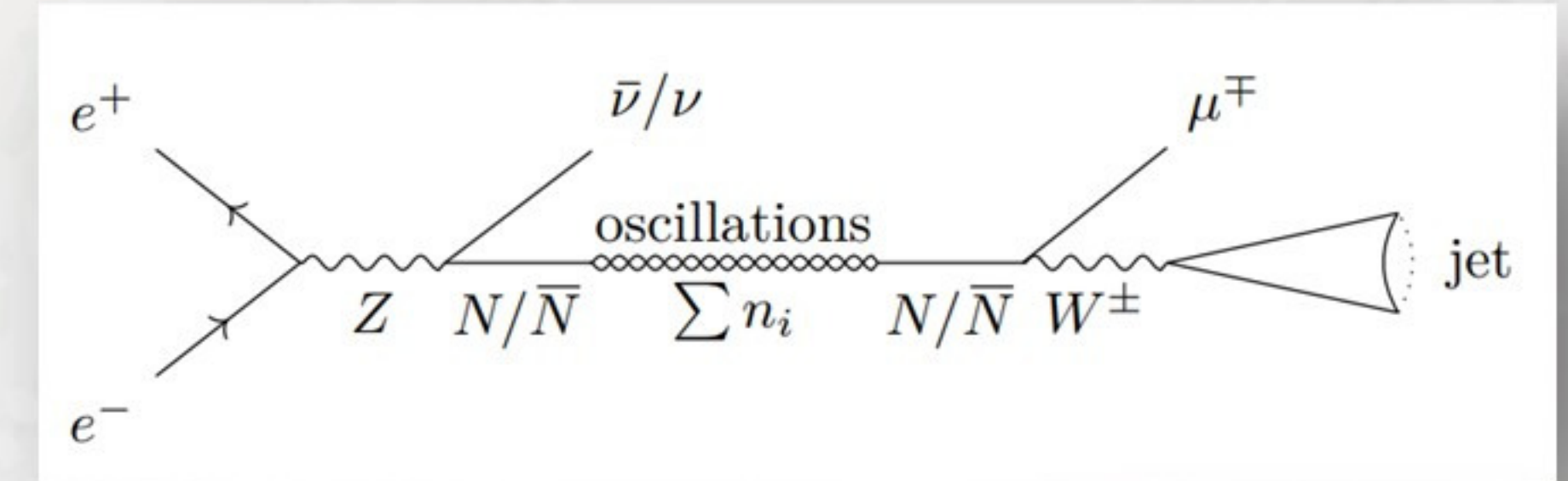
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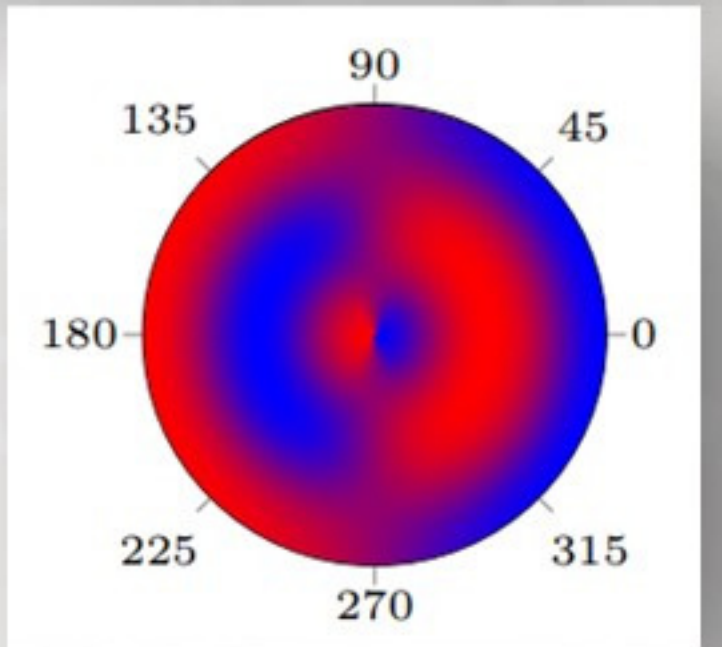
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J. Haier et al



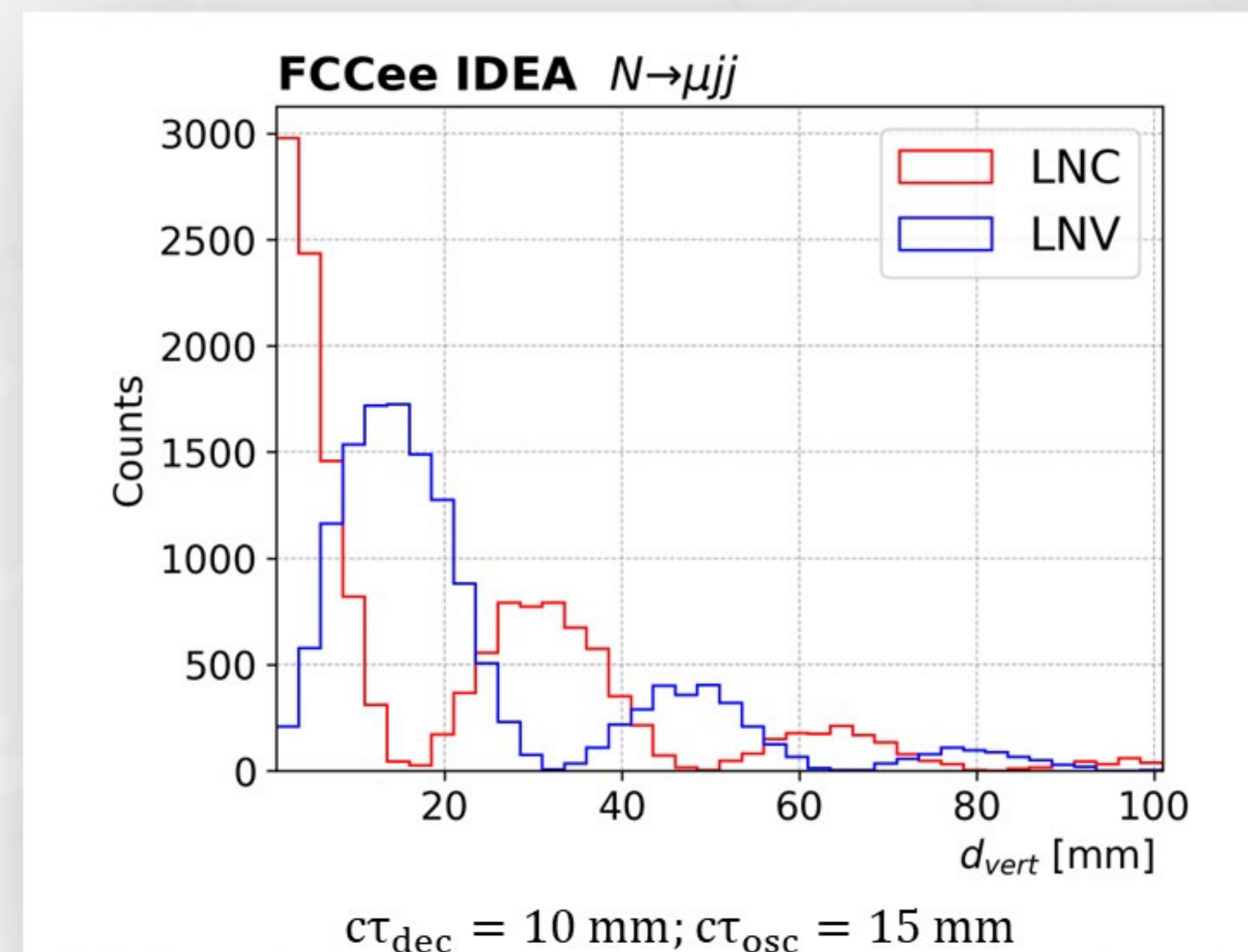
In which parameter space **can we detect oscillations** at FCC-ee ?

One cannot detect whether  $N$  recoils against  $\nu$  or  $\bar{\nu}$  → use **angular asymmetry from Z polarization**

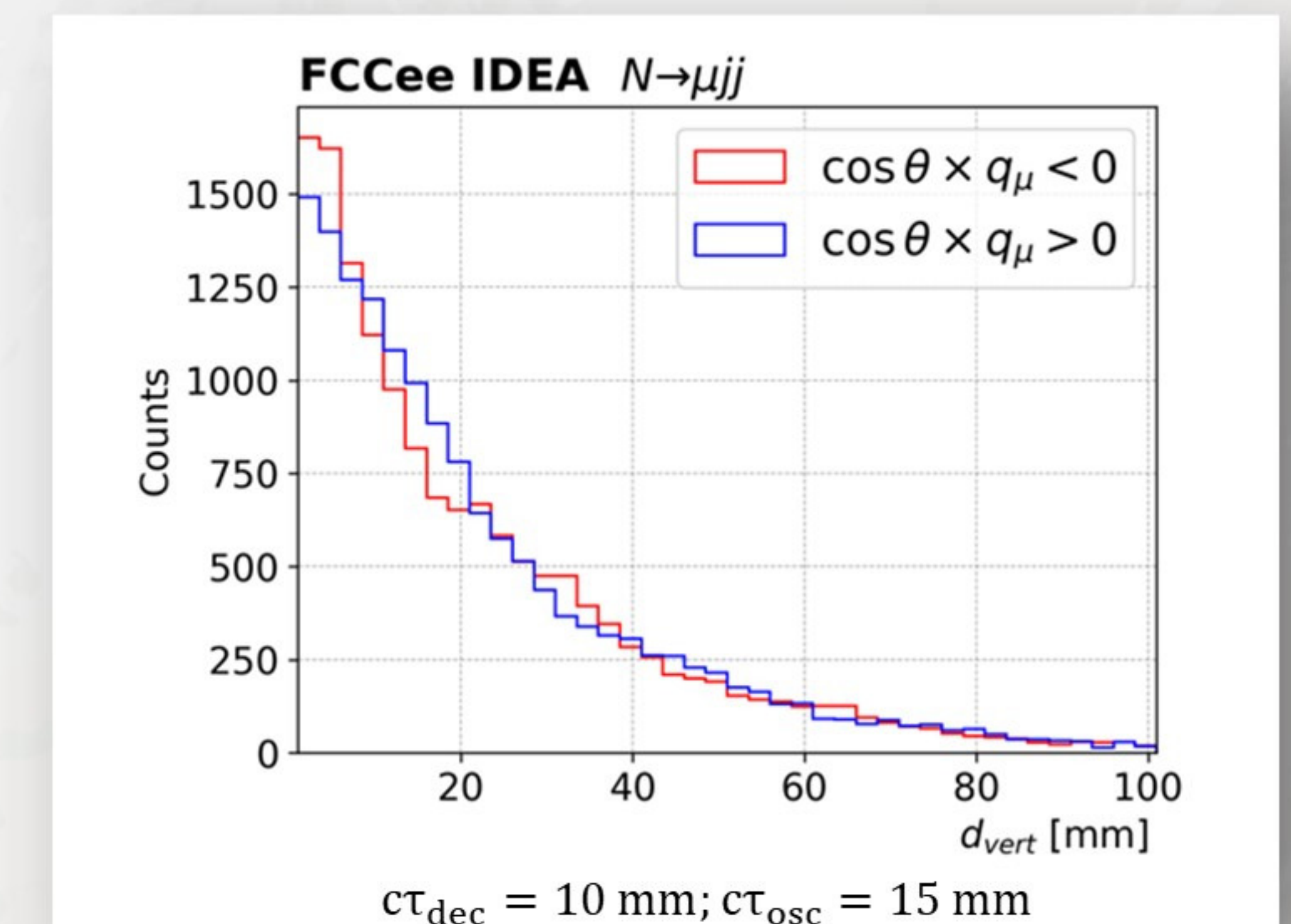
$$P_{osc}^{LNC(+), LNV(-)}(d) = \frac{1 \pm \cos(\Delta m d)}{2}$$

$$A_{\ell^{\mp}}^{FB} = \frac{P_{\ell^{\mp}}^{[\pi/2,0]} - P_{\ell^{\mp}}^{[\pi,\pi/2]}}{P_{\ell^{\mp}}^{[\pi/2,0]} + P_{\ell^{\mp}}^{[\pi,\pi/2]}} = A_{N,\bar{N}}^{FB} \Delta P_{osc}$$

$\nu$  detected (MC truth)



Matching angular distribution with lepton charge



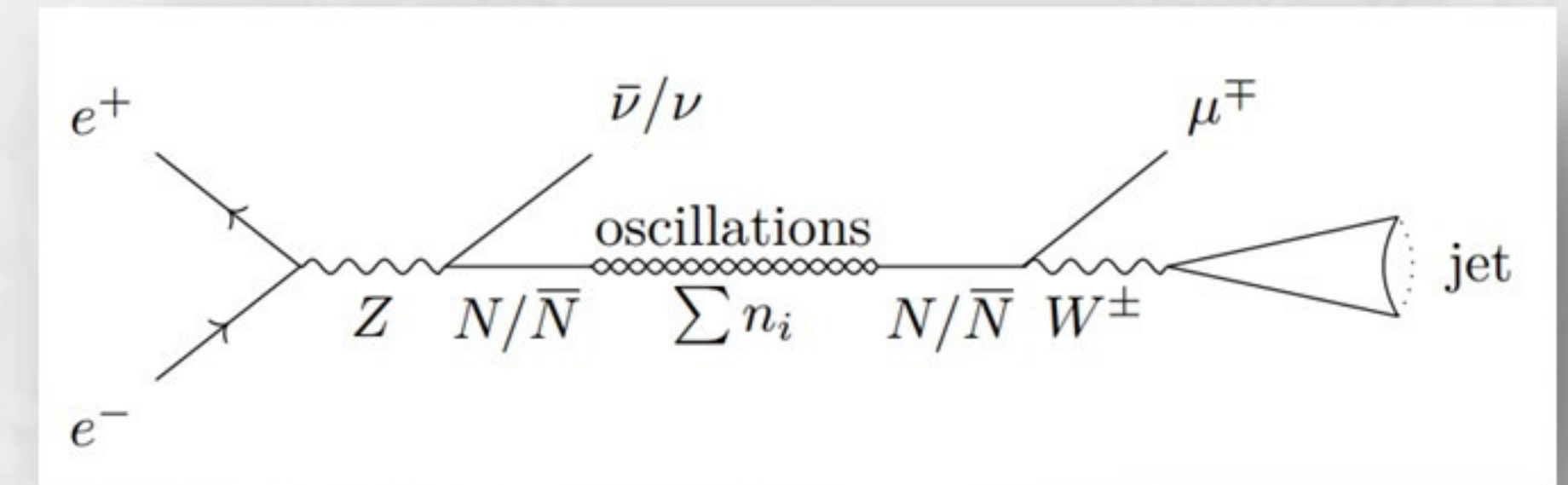
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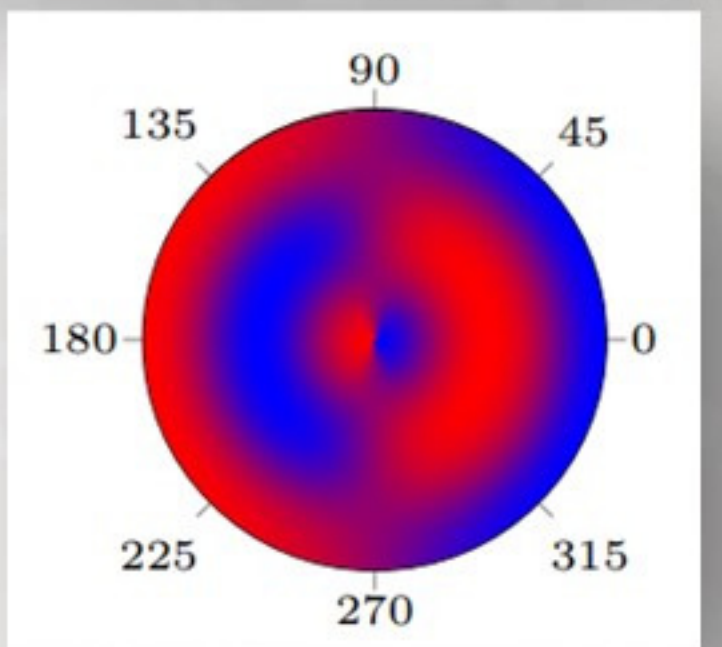
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J. Haier et al

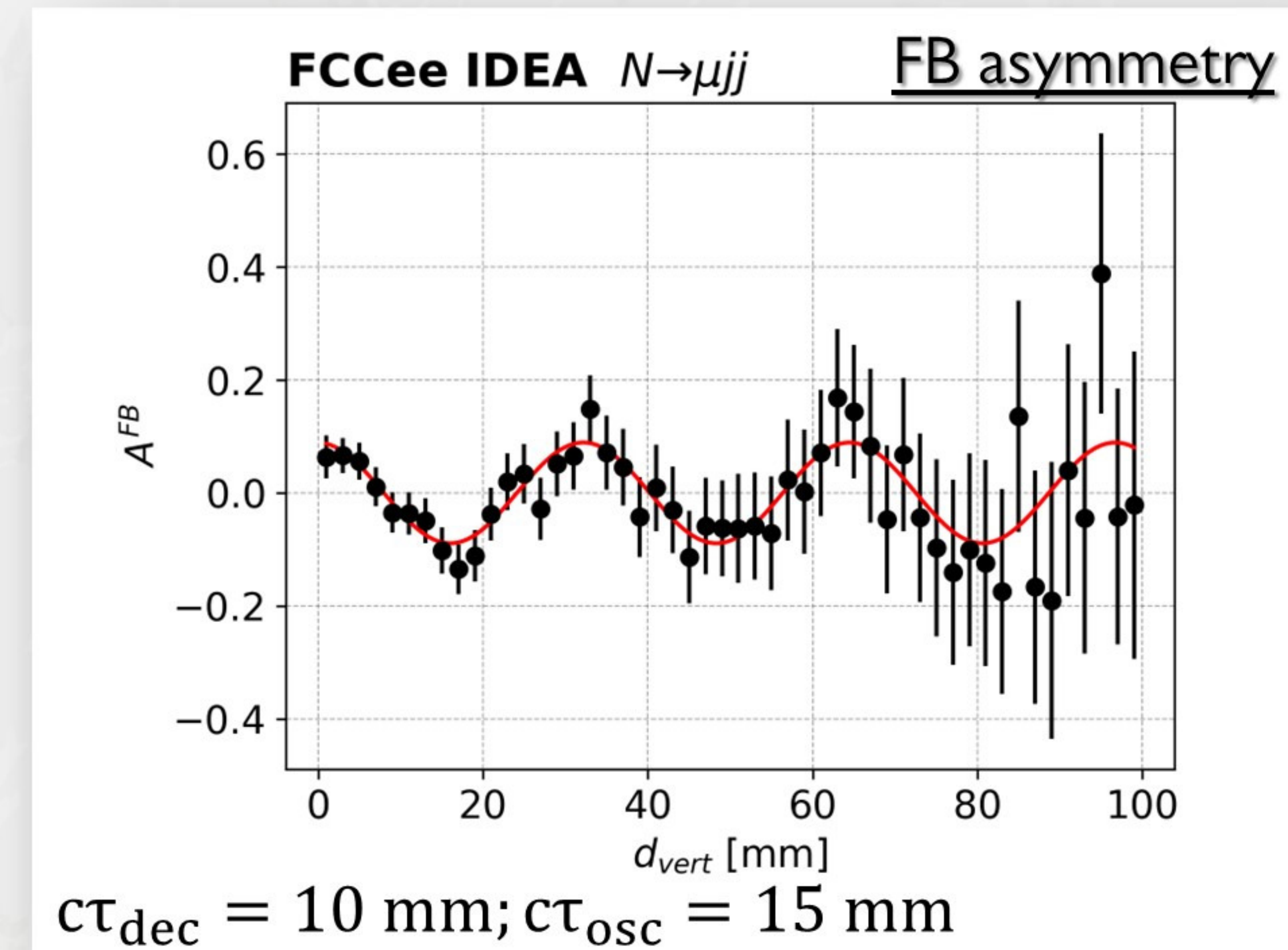


The signal has been passed through the **full analysis workflow**

$c\tau_{oscillation}$  simulated **between 1.5 and 150 mm**

Event selection based on displaced vertices  $\rightarrow$  **zero SM background**

- ✓ Good oscillation detection capability in the detector
- ✓ **Oscillation period** seems **measurable**, if  $c\tau_{osc} \lesssim c\tau_{dec}$



# Summary and outlook

---

... this talk: not representative of the **many FCC BSM analyses** under study!  
Multiple groups working on various benchmark channels at FCC-ee

Excellent potential for direct searches of BSM signatures  
both in **prompt** and **long-lived** channels

Full exploitation of this potential poses severe **requirements**  
**on detector** performance

**HNL: electron, neutrino decay channels**  
**Multiple heavy neutrino states**  
**Dirac/Majorana discrimination**

**Exotic Higgs decays**  
**Axion-like particles and light scalars**

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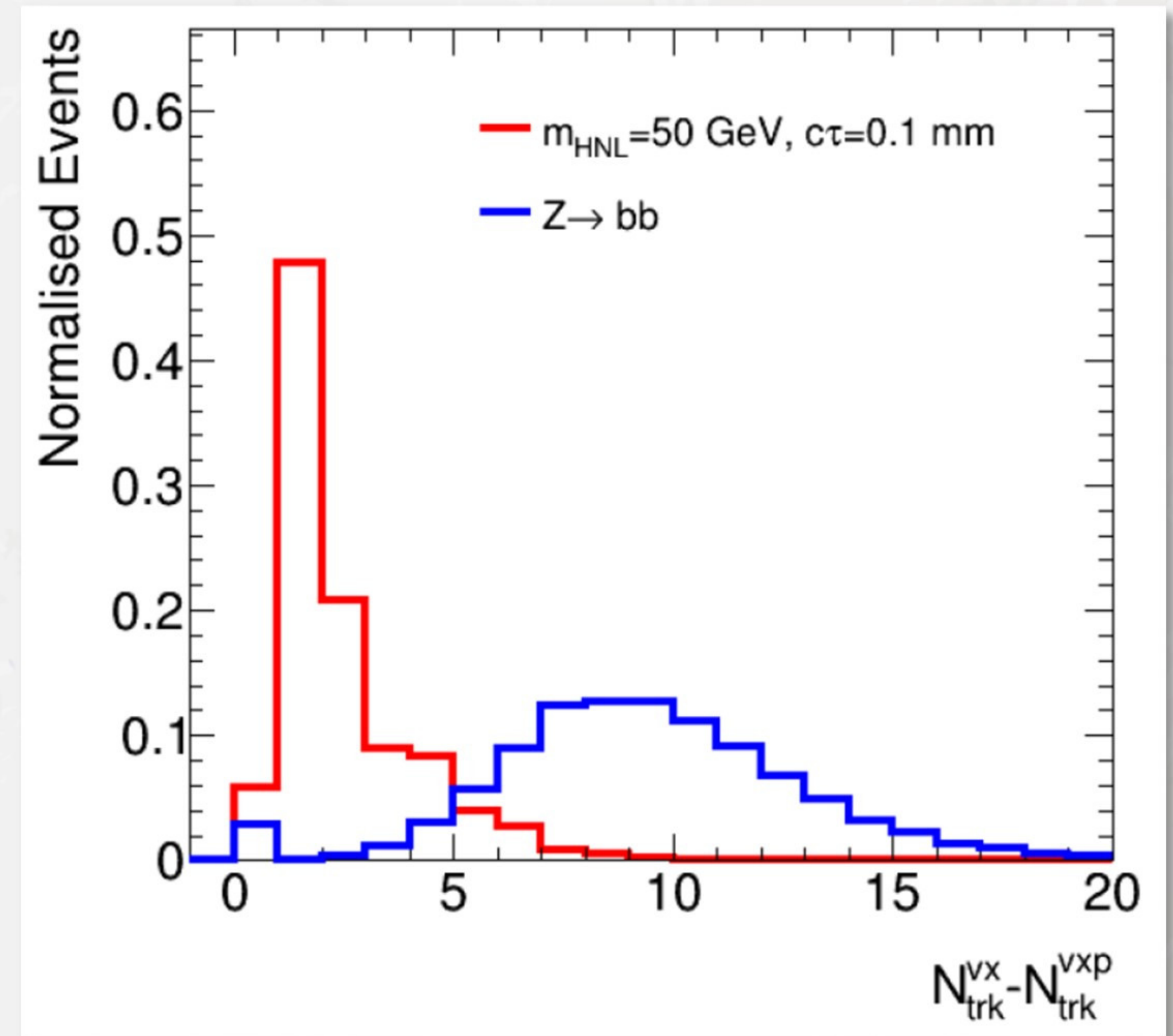
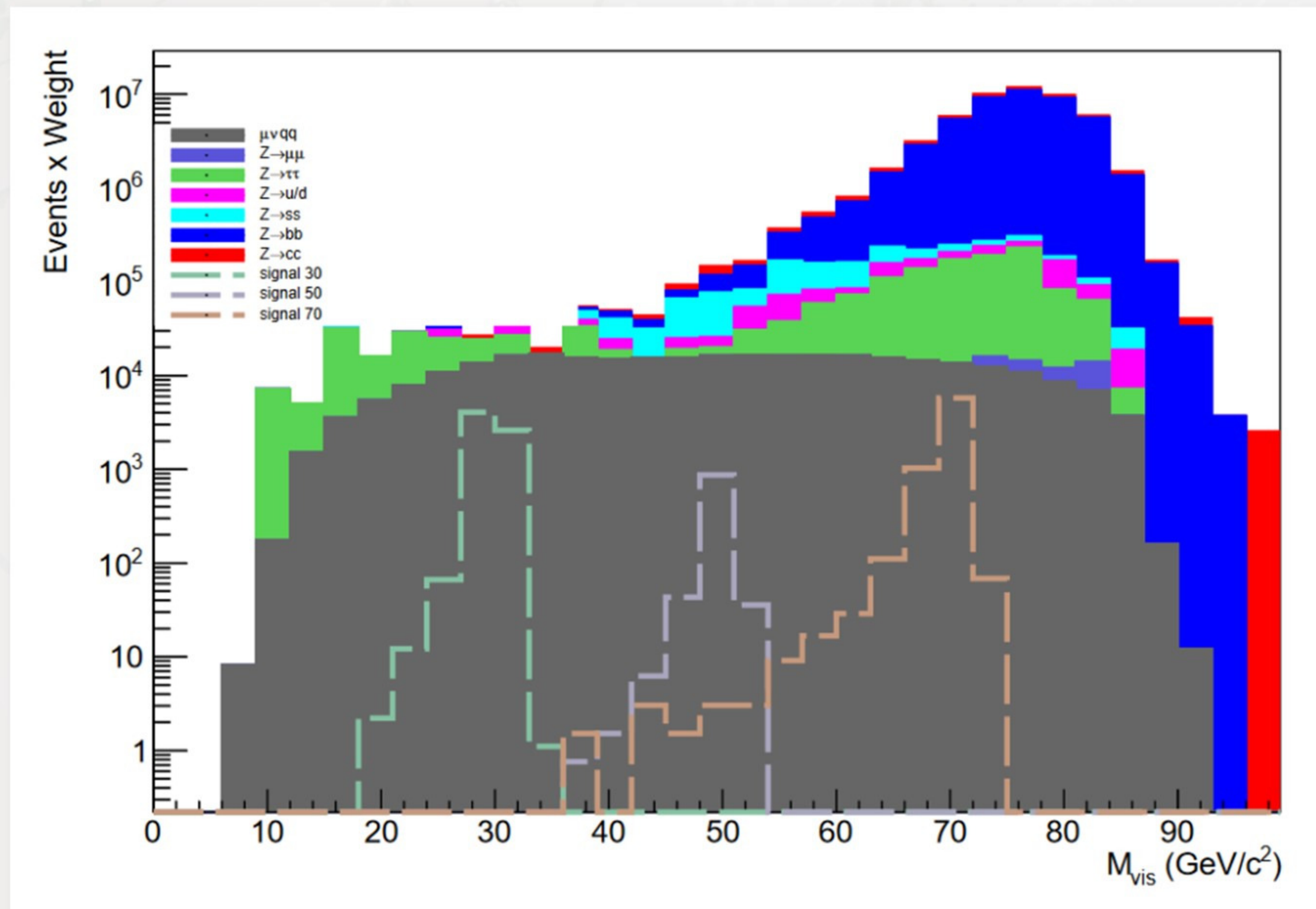
**Exotic Higgs decays**  
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HNL production is a key BSM search for FCC-ee  
Analyses prove sensitivity down to small mixing angles

Vigorous activity on benchmark model parameters is ongoing, at the moment based on parametrised performance of detectors

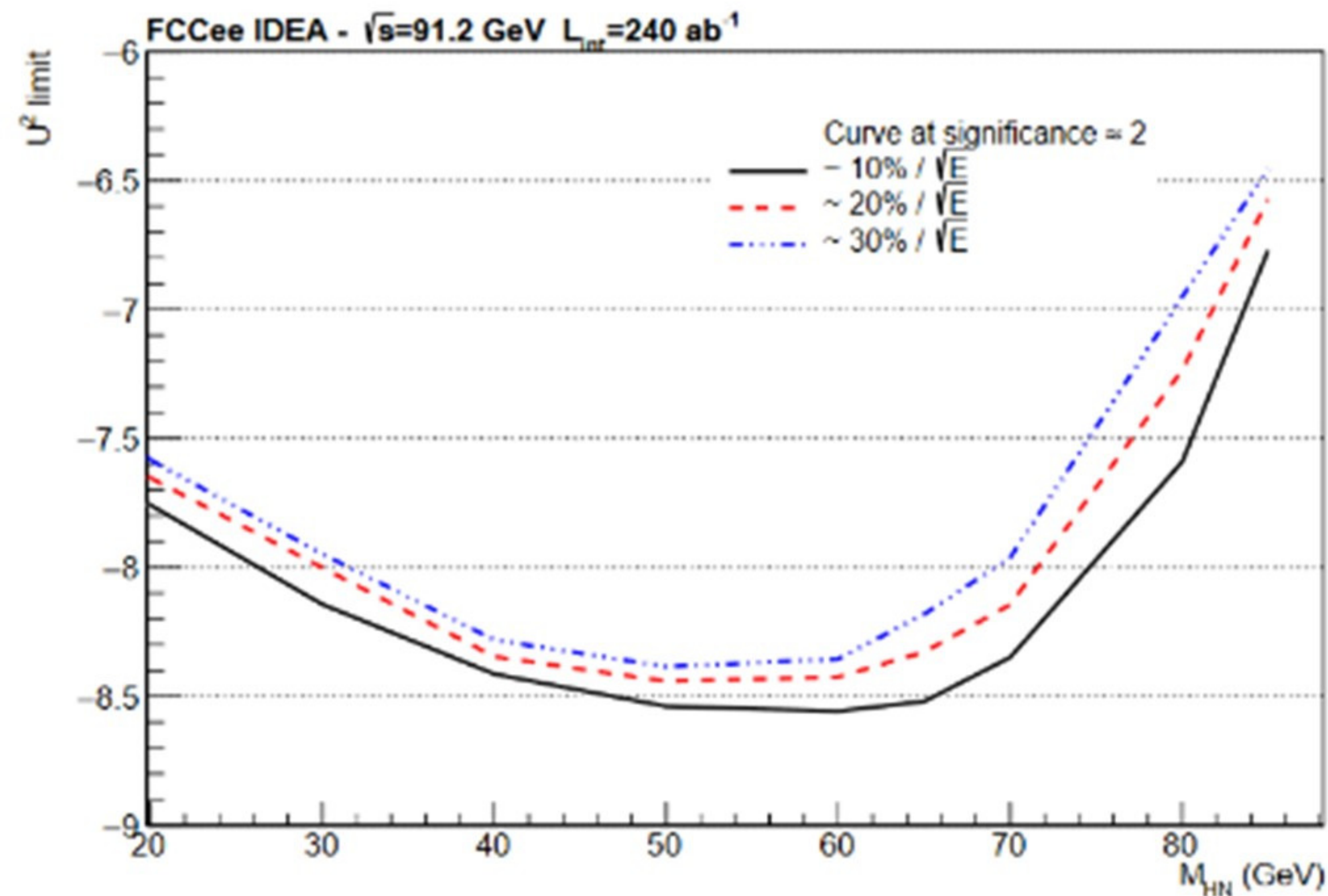
# Extra plots



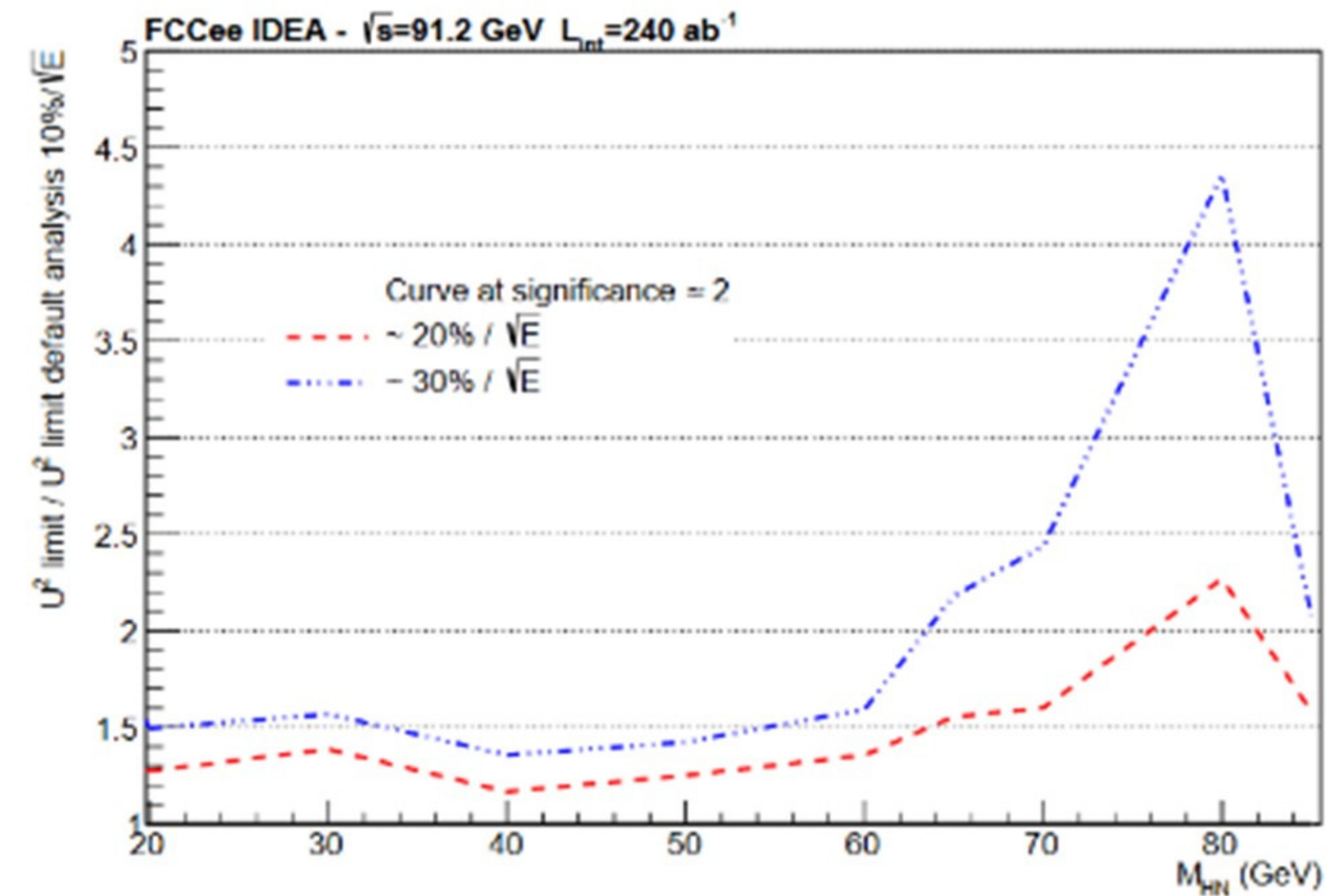


## Dependence on hadronic resolution

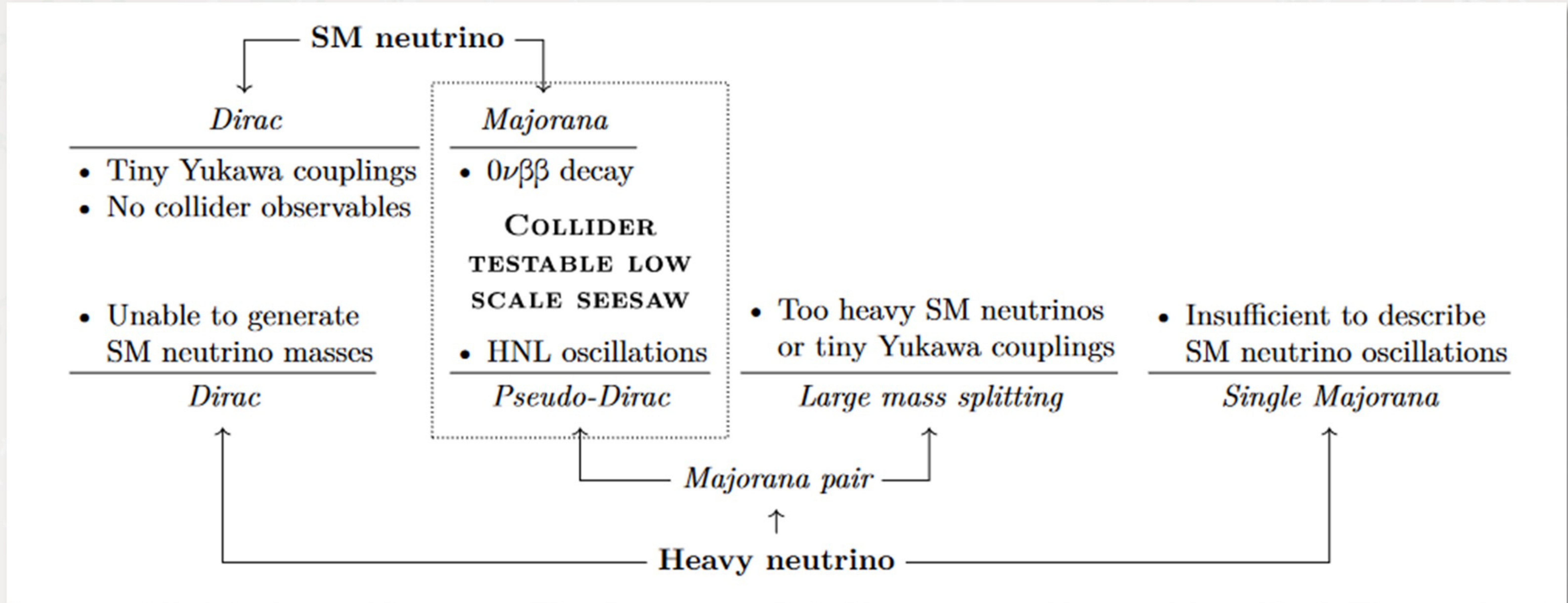
1. Window for baseline study from DELPHES
2. Assume signal efficiency unchanged after enlarging mass window according to resolution
3. Calculate number of background events for enlarged window and calculate significance



**Fig. 24** Curves at Significance = 2 for different values of the assumed hadronic resolution. Each line is a linear interpolation of  $Z$  vs.  $\log(U)$  at the value  $Z = 2$ .



**Fig. 25** Ratio of the  $U^2$  limit obtained with 20% and 30% resolutions with respect to the nominal resolution as a function of  $M_{N_1}$ .



<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2210.10738>