

ILC Higgs Physics Potential

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Higgs factories based on e^+e^- colliders have the potential to measure the complete profile of the Higgs boson at a level of precision that goes qualitatively beyond the expected capabilities of LHC and HL-LHC. In this contribution, we will review the program of Higgs boson coupling measurements expected from the International Linear Collider, including the most recent updates. These measurements span the range of e^+e^- center-of-mass energies from 250 GeV to 1 TeV, and include precision measurements of the Higgs self-coupling.

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1. Introduction

The International Linear Collider (ILC) is one of the proposed future e^+e^- colliders. Its center-of-mass energy (\sqrt{s}) starts from 250 GeV which is suitable for the precision Higgs measurements in the Higgsstrahlung process ($e^+e^- \rightarrow Zh$), but it is upgradable up to 1 TeV enabling access to rare Higgs decays, Higgs self-coupling and BSM signatures in the Higgs sector. Polarized beams will be used at the ILC: 80% for electrons and 30% for positrons improving precision of measurements combining different polarization settings. In this contribution, we will discuss the Higgs physics potential at the ILC based on the Ref. [1]. The evaluation of the precision of Higgs measurements is based on the full detector simulation of the International Large Detector (ILD) concept and/or Silicon Detector (SiD) concept [2].

2. Higgs measurement at the ILC

In this contribution, we will pick up two examples of the Higgs measurement at the ILC. One of the most important observable is the absolute value of inclusive cross-section σ_{Zh} using the recoil mass technique to the $e^+e^- \rightarrow Zh$ process with $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-/\mu^+\mu^-/q\bar{q}$ decay [3, 4]. Since the initial state of the e^+e^- collision is well-known, the mass of the Higgs boson can be determined only by measuring the muon momenta, without looking at any Higgs decay products. This σ_{Zh} can be measured with a precision of 0.7% using $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-/\mu^+\mu^-$ channels and assuming twenty years running of the ILC [5–7].

Another example of Higgs measurement at the ILC is the measurement of the hadronic decay of the Higgs boson, $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}/c\bar{c}/gg$. The key point of this analysis is the performance of the flavor tagging which directly connects to the separation of b -quark and c -quark. To perform flavor tagging, a software package LCFIPlus [8] is developed for linear colliders. Its typical performance is shown in Figure 1. Figure 2 shows the 2D templates for b -likeness and c -likeness for different processes at $\sqrt{s} = 500$ GeV. The processes $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$, $h \rightarrow c\bar{c}$, and $h \rightarrow gg$ are nicely separated from each other. After the full event selection, the statistical uncertainties of the cross-section times branching ratio $\sigma \times \text{BR}$ for $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}/h \rightarrow c\bar{c}/h \rightarrow gg$ are estimated to be 0.4%/3.4%/1.5% with 4 ab^{-1} accumulated luminosity, respectively.

3. Higgs couplings

To extract Higgs boson couplings, we use dimension-6 SM Effective Field Theory (EFT) formalism. We use Higgs observables, triple gauge boson coupling observables, and electroweak precision observables as the inputs to the global fit under the EFT framework. We additionally use the ratio of branching ratios from the HL-LHC prospects as the inputs. Details of the precisions of observables and EFT framework can be found in Refs. [1, 10, 11].

Here, we only present the important remarks and results. The Lagrangian used in this EFT framework is Lorentz invariant, gauge invariant, and CP conserving. Though this Lagrangian has 23 free parameters, it is possible to determine all these parameters simultaneously. The Higgs couplings can be extracted in a highly model-independent way in the sense that all models of new physics are describable either by the addition of local operators to the SMEFT or by the addition

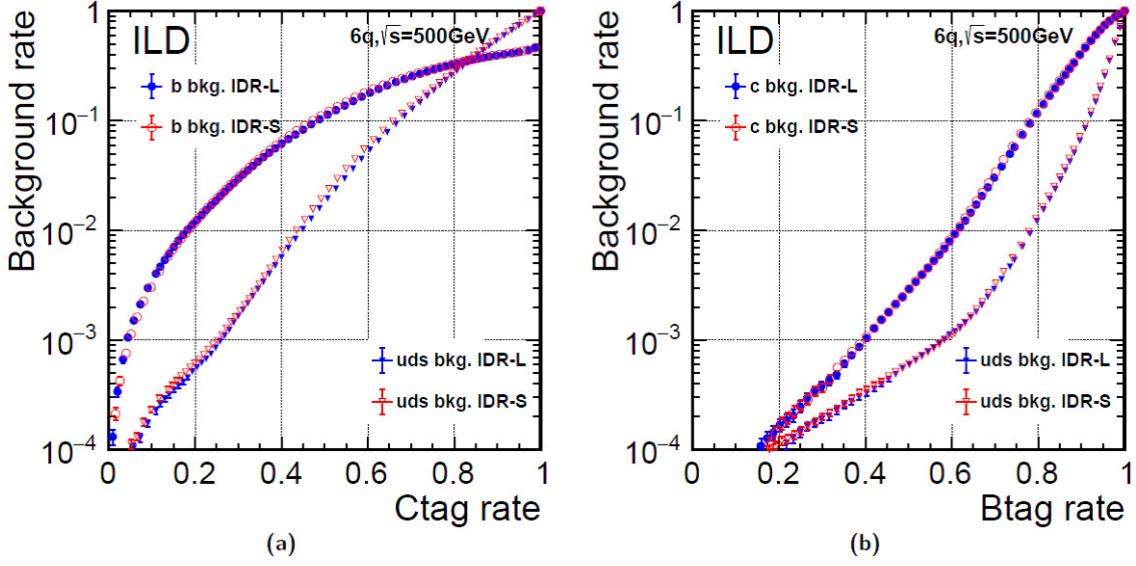


Figure 1: Flavour tag performance for the large and small ILC detector models. (a) background rate as a function of the c -tagging efficiency for b -quark and light flavour quark jets. (b) background rate as a function of the b -tagging efficiency for c -quark and light flavour quark jets. Taken from Ref. [9].

of invisible and exotic Higgs decays. In the global fitting, not only the statistical uncertainties but also systematic uncertainties have been considered [1]. Figure 3 shows the results of global fitting. Already at $\sqrt{s} = 250$ GeV stage of the ILC, many couplings are reached to $\sim 1\%$ precision in combination with the HL-LHC results.

In Figure 4, a comparison has been made between polarized and unpolarized beams. When we compare the results of “ 2 ab^{-1} 250 GeV polarized” and of “ 5 ab^{-1} 250 GeV unpolarized”, there are no drastic differences. In general, higher statistics always help to improve precision. However, beam polarization allows us to have more independent measurements and have better control of systematics. These facts give us more constraints in the global fitting, which is another factor of the improvement. The beam polarization is a very powerful tool, essentially compensates for a factor of 2.5 in integrated luminosity.

4. Summary

In this contribution, we have discussed the Higgs physics potential at the ILC with a few examples. It is possible to determine the Higgs couplings in a highly model-independent way under the EFT framework at the ILC, and most of the couplings can be measured within $\sim 1\%$ precision even at $\sqrt{s} = 250$ GeV stage. The beam polarization is a very powerful tool, essentially compensates a factor of ~ 2.5 in integrated luminosity. A comparison has been made for the prospects of combination with HL-LHC, illustrating the synergy between projects.

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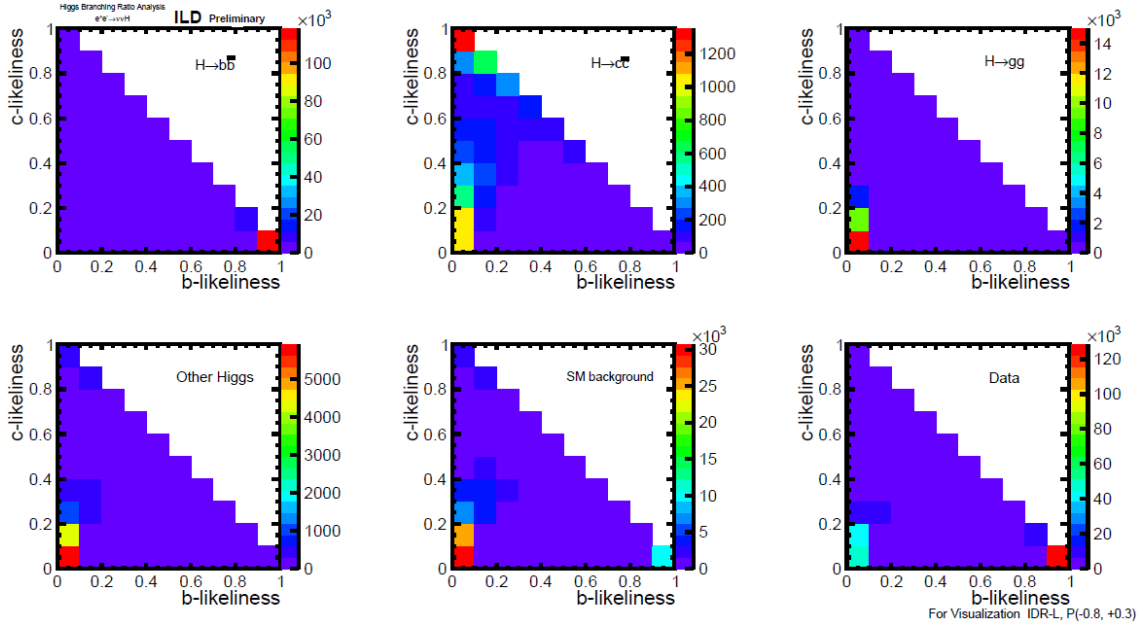


Figure 2: Visualization of the flavor tag performance in $e^+e^- \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}h$ process at $\sqrt{s} = 500$ GeV. The panels show the 2D distributions of c - versus b -likeliness separately for $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$, $h \rightarrow c\bar{c}$, $h \rightarrow gg$, $h \rightarrow$ other, the SM background and their mix expected in the template sample. Taken from Ref. [9].

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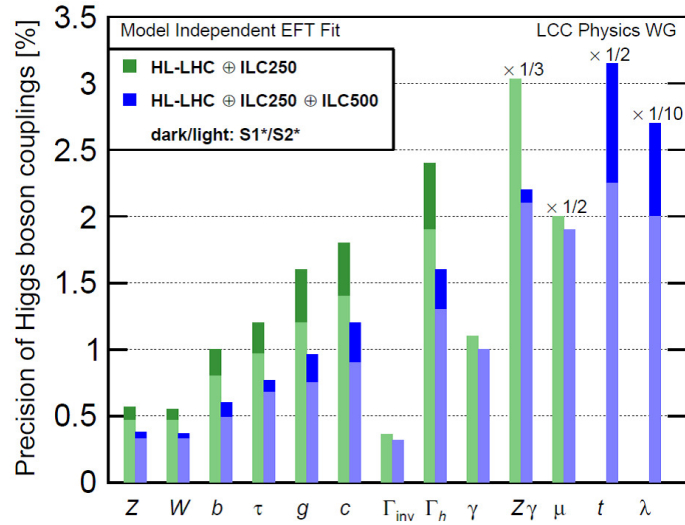


Figure 3: Projected Higgs boson coupling uncertainties for the ILC program at $\sqrt{s} = 250$ GeV and an energy upgrade to $\sqrt{s} = 500$ GeV, using the SMEFT framework. $S1^*$ is the results based on current full simulation, and $S2^*$ is the expected results assuming improvements in analysis techniques and tools. Taken from Ref. [1].

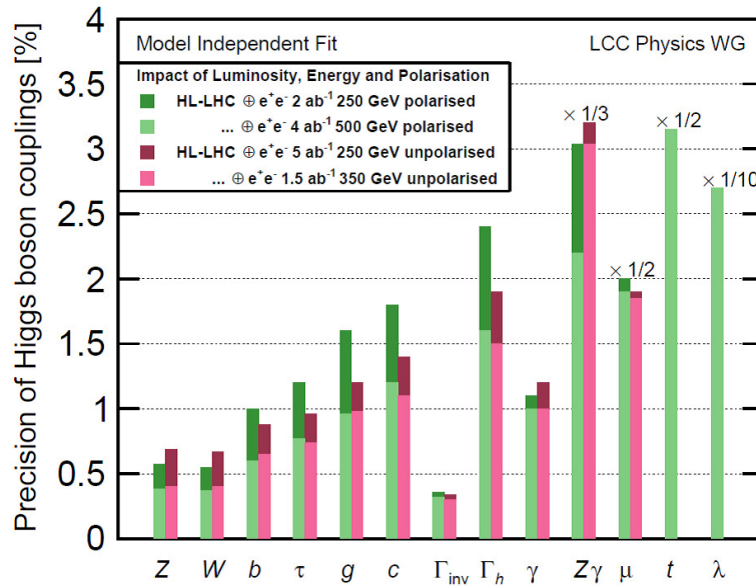


Figure 4: Projected Higgs boson coupling uncertainties obtained under the SMEFT framework for different integrated luminosities, for polarized/unpolarized beams. Taken from Ref. [1].

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