

# Lepton Number Violation at Colliders via Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations

Stefan Antusch

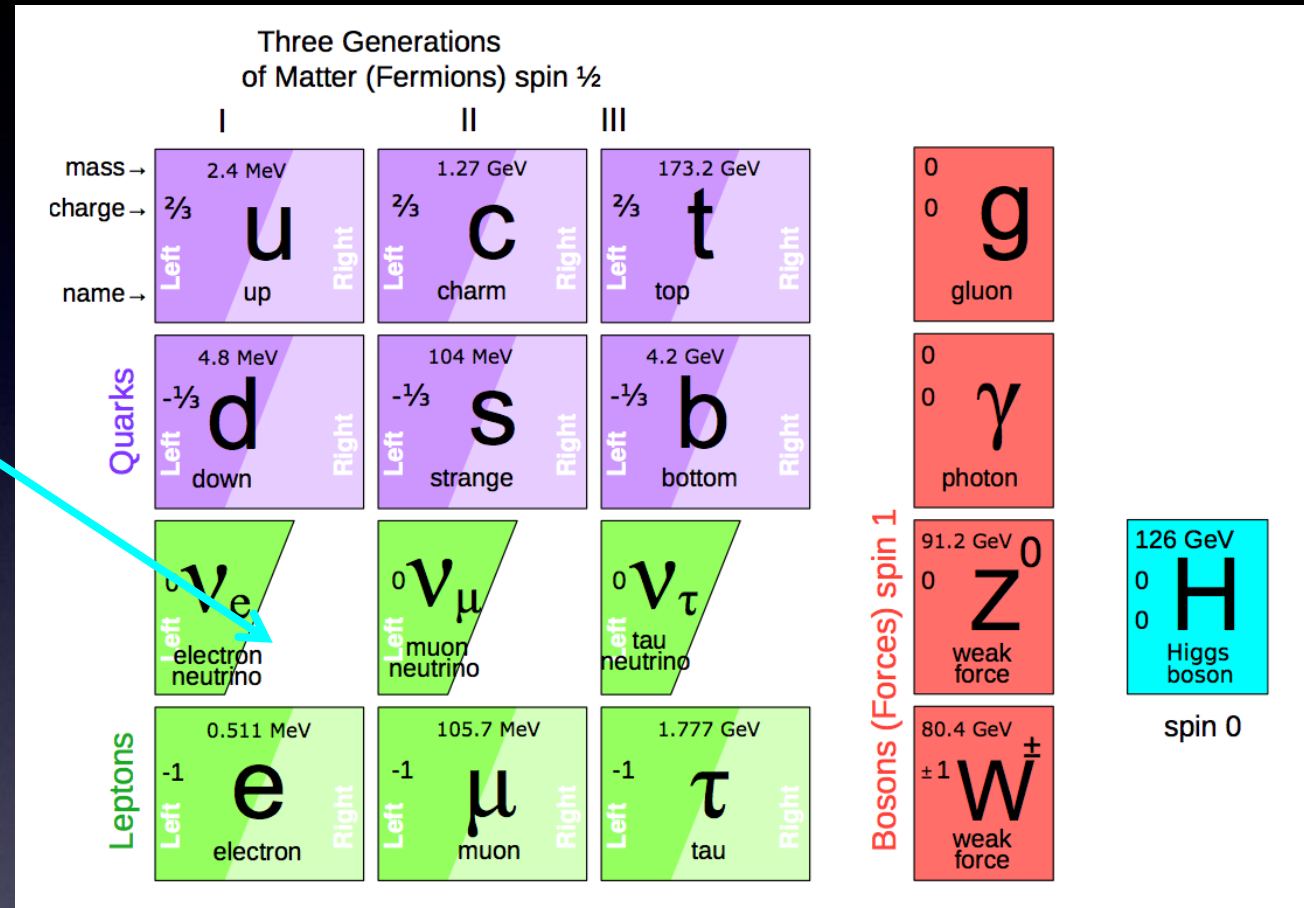
University of Basel, Department of Physics



# Heavy Neutral Leptons – the right SM extension to explain the light neutrino masses?

There are no right-chiral neutrino states  $N_{Ri}$  in the Standard Model

→  $N_{Ri}$  would be completely neutral under all SM symmetries (HNLs  
↔ RH neutrinos  
↔ sterile neutrinos)



Adding  $N_{Ri}$  leads to the following extra terms in the Lagrangian density:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} - \frac{1}{2} \overline{N_R^i} M_{ij} N_R^{cj} - (Y_\nu)_{i\alpha} N_R^i \widetilde{\phi}^\dagger L^\alpha + \text{H.c.}$$

M: HNL mass matrix

$Y_\nu$ : neutrino Yukawa matrix  
(→ Dirac mass terms  $m_D$ )

# Light Neutrino Masses via the “Seesaw Mechanism”

Majorana mass matrix of the  
(three) light neutrinos

Mass matrix of the (2+n) sterile  
(= right-handed) neutrinos  
(masses of Majorana-type)

$$(m_\nu)_{\alpha\beta} = -\frac{v_{\text{EW}}^2}{2} (Y_\nu^T M_N^{-1} Y_\nu)_{\alpha\beta}$$

Valid for  $v_{\text{EW}} y_\nu \ll M_R$

**„Seesaw  
Formula“**

From neutrino oscillation experiments  
and mass searches:

$|m_3^2 - m_1^2| \approx 2.5 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$   
 $m_2^2 - m_1^2 \approx 7.4 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$   
 all three  $m_\alpha$  below  $\sim \mathcal{O}(0.2) \text{ eV}$

+ measurements of the **leptonic mixing  
angles** (from neutrino osc. experiments)

Neutrino Yukawa matrix

P. Minkowski ('77), Mohapatra,  
Senjanovic, Yanagida, Gell-Mann,  
Ramond, Slansky, Schechter, Valle, ...

Note: At least two sterile neutrinos are required  
 → generate masses for two of the light neutrinos  
 (necessary for realizing the two observed mass splittings)

# *Outline of my talk*

- "Landscape of the Seesaw Mechanism" ... & region testable at colliders
- Sensitivities for HNL searches at future colliders: Displaced vertices, signatures with LFV or (?) LNV
- LFV signatures at ep colliders  $\leftrightarrow$  New (updated) results
- LNV  $\rightarrow$  Can be induced by Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations

# *Minimal example: 2 RH Neutrinos (2 HNLS)*

In the mass basis:

$$\mathcal{L}_N = -(m_D^{(1)})_\alpha \bar{\nu}_L^\alpha N_R^1 - (m_D^{(2)})_\alpha \bar{\nu}_L^\alpha N_R^2 - \frac{1}{2} M_1 \overline{N_R^1} N_R^{c1} - \frac{1}{2} M_2 \overline{N_R^2} N_R^{c2} + \text{H.c.}$$

where  $(m_D^{(i)})_\alpha = \frac{v_{\text{EW}}}{\sqrt{2}} (Y_\nu)_{i\alpha}$



**„Seesaw  
Formula“**

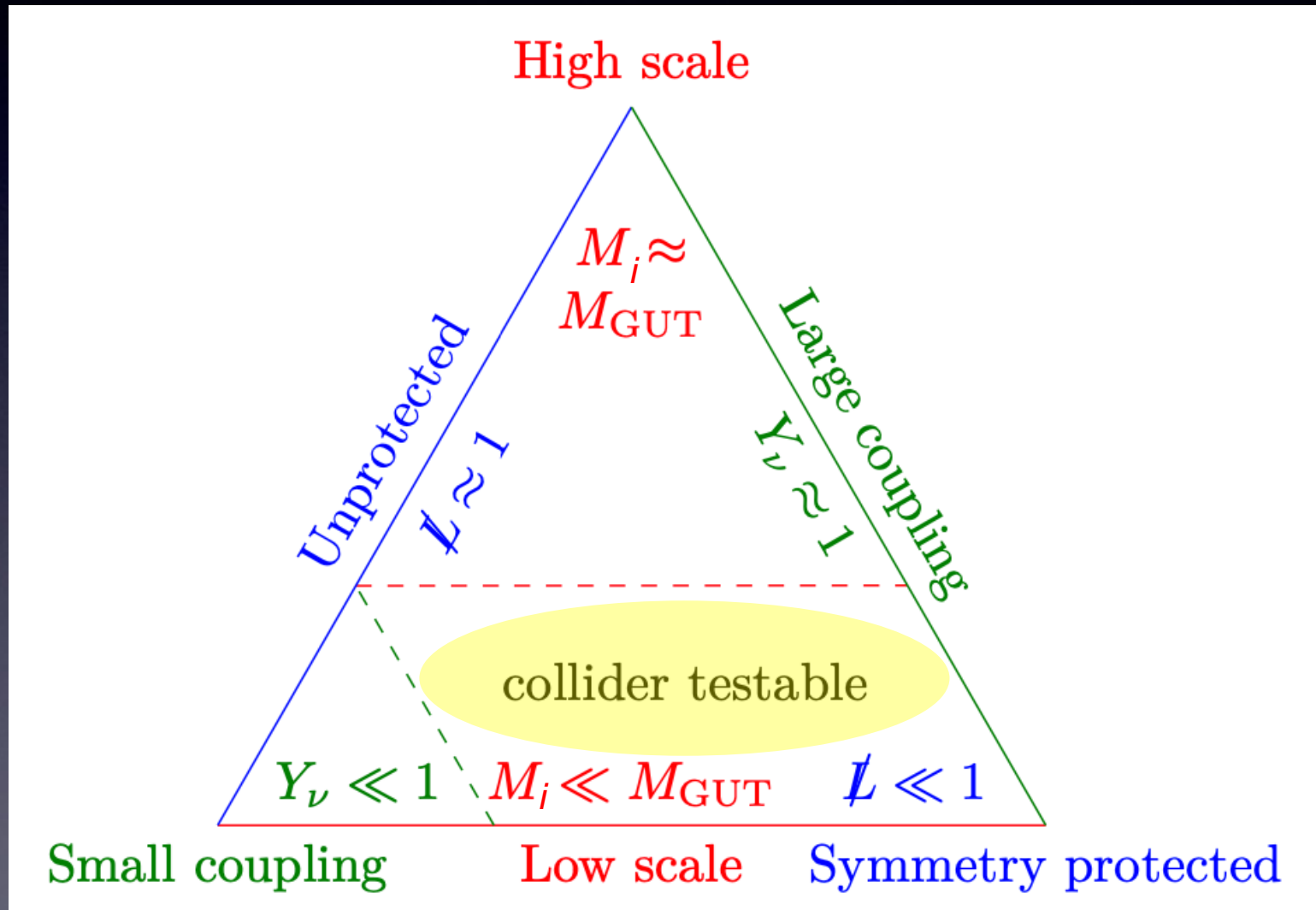
$$(m_\nu)_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{(m_D^{(1)})_\alpha (m_D^{(1)})_\beta}{M_1} + \frac{(m_D^{(2)})_\alpha (m_D^{(2)})_\beta}{M_2}$$



# Landscape of the Seesaw Mechanism

$$(m_\nu)_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{(m_D^{(1)})_\alpha (m_D^{(1)})_\beta}{M_1} + \frac{(m_D^{(2)})_\alpha (m_D^{(2)})_\beta}{M_2}$$

↔ Smallness of observed  $m_{\nu\alpha}$ ?



# Low Scale Seesaw with "Symmetry protection"

Example for protective "lepton number"-like symmetry (case of 2HNLs):

	$L_\alpha$	$N_{R1}$	$N_{R2}$
"Lepton-#"	+1	+1	-1

→

With 2 HNLs (min # to explain  $m_\nu$ ) and exact symmetry

$$\mathcal{L}_N = - \overline{N}_R^1 M N_R^c{}^2 - y_\alpha \overline{N}_R^1 \tilde{\phi}^\dagger L^\alpha + \text{H.c.}$$

In the symmetry limit:  $m_{\nu\alpha} = 0$

with basis  $\Psi = (\nu_L, (N_R^1)^c, (N_R^2)^c)$

$$M_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D & 0 \\ (m_D)^T & 0 & M \\ 0 & M & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Low Scale Seesaw with "Symmetry protection"

Example for protective "lepton number"-like symmetry (case of 2HNLs):

	$L_\alpha$	$N_{R1}$	$N_{R2}$
"Lepton-#"	+1	+1	-1

With 2 HNLs (min # to explain  $m_\nu$ ) and exact symmetry

$$\rightarrow \mathcal{L}_N = - \bar{N}_R^1 M N_R^c{}^2 - y_\alpha \bar{N}_R^1 \tilde{\phi}^\dagger L^\alpha + \text{H.c.}$$

In the symmetry limit:  $m_{\nu\alpha} = 0$

with basis  $\Psi = (\nu_L, (N_R^1)^c, (N_R^2)^c)$

For comparison: most general seesaw with 2 HNLs:

$$M_\nu^{\text{general}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D & m'_D \\ (m_D)^T & M' & M \\ (m'_D)^T & M & M'' \end{pmatrix}$$

From general 2 HNL  
seesaw to "symmetry limit"

$$M_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D & 0 \\ (m_D)^T & 0 & M \\ 0 & M & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Low Scale Seesaw with "Symmetry protection"

Example for protective "lepton number"-like symmetry (case of 2HNLs):

	$L_\alpha$	$N_{R1}$	$N_{R2}$
"Lepton-#"	+1	+1	-1

→

With 2 HNLs (min # to explain  $m_\nu$ ) and exact symmetry

$$\mathcal{L}_N = - \bar{N}_R^1 M N_R^c{}^2 - y_\alpha \bar{N}_R^1 \tilde{\phi}^\dagger L^\alpha + \text{H.c.}$$

Note: "Symmetry protection" → right-chiral neutrinos form "pseudo-Dirac pair"!

In the symmetry limit:  $m_{\nu\alpha} = 0$

with basis  $\Psi = (\nu_L, (N_R^1)^c, (N_R^2)^c)$

For comparison: most general seesaw with 2 HNLs:

$$M_\nu^{\text{general}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D & m'_D \\ (m_D)^T & M' & M \\ (m'_D)^T & M & M'' \end{pmatrix}$$

From general 2 HNL seesaw to "symmetry limit"

$$M_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D & 0 \\ (m_D)^T & 0 & M \\ 0 & M & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

To generate the light neutrino masses → approximate symmetry

when  $\varepsilon$ -terms "get larger"

$$M_\nu^{\text{L broken}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D & \varepsilon \\ (m_D)^T & \varepsilon' & M \\ \varepsilon^T & M & \varepsilon'' \end{pmatrix}$$

# Low Scale Seesaw with "Symmetry protection"

→ Light neutrino masses induced from small breaking of the "L-like" symmetry ( $m_\nu \sim \varepsilon$ )

$$\mathcal{L}_N = - \overline{N}_R^1 M N_R^c - y_\alpha \overline{N}_R^1 \tilde{\phi}^\dagger L^\alpha + \text{H.c.}$$

+ symmetry breaking terms  $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$

"Linear" seesaw: \*

$$M_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D & \varepsilon \\ (m_D)^T & 0 & M \\ \varepsilon^T & M & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow m_\nu \sim \frac{\varepsilon^T m_D}{M}$$

In "Minimal linear seesaw" (2 HNLs):

$$\Delta M_{\text{NH}}^{\text{lin}} = m_{\nu_3} - m_{\nu_2} \stackrel{m_{\nu_1}=0}{=} 0.042 \text{ eV}$$

$$\Delta M_{\text{IH}}^{\text{lin}} = m_{\nu_2} - m_{\nu_1} \stackrel{m_{\nu_3}=0}{=} 0.00075 \text{ eV}$$

cf. S. A., E. Cazzato, O. Fischer (arXiv:1709.03797)

"Inverse" seesaw: \*

$$M_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D & 0 \\ (m_D)^T & 0 & M \\ 0 & M & \varepsilon \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow m_\nu \sim \frac{m_D^T m_D}{M^2} \varepsilon$$

Estimate for induced **HNL mass splitting**  $\Delta M$  in "inverse" seesaw:

$$\Delta M^{\text{inv}} = \frac{m_{\nu_\alpha}}{|\theta^2|}$$

(Note: Here only one  $\nu_\alpha$  gets mass)

also: ... no tree-level  $m_\nu$

$$M_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D & 0 \\ (m_D)^T & \varepsilon & M \\ 0 & M & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

\*) Note: names "inverse" and "linear" seesaw used here to indicate the position of the  $\varepsilon$ -term in  $M_\nu$

For low scale seesaw models and discussions, see e.g.: D. Wyler, L. Wolfenstein ('83), R. N. Mohapatra, J. W. F. Valle ('86), M. Shaposhnikov ('07), J. Kersten, A. Y. Smirnov ('07), M. B. Gavela, T. Hambye, D. Hernandez, P. Hernandez ('09), M. Malinsky, J. C. Romao, J. W. F. Valle ('05), S.A., Hohl, King, Susic: arXiv:1712.05366) ...

# **Benchmark scenario: The SPSS** (= **Symmetry Protected Seesaw Scenario**)

... captures the phenomenology of a dominant "pseudo-Dirac"-like HNL pair at colliders  
... without the constraints of a restricted pure 2HNL model ( $\leftrightarrow$  correlations between  $y_{\nu\alpha}$ )

$$Y_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} y_{\nu_e} & 0 & & \\ y_{\nu_\mu} & 0 & \dots & \\ y_{\nu_\tau} & 0 & & \end{pmatrix}, \quad M_N = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & M & & 0 \\ M & 0 & & \\ & & \dots & \\ 0 & & & \dots \end{pmatrix}$$

+  $O(\varepsilon)$  perturbations to generate the light neutrino masses  
(which we can often neglect for collider studies)

Additional sterile neutrinos can exist, but assumed to have no effects at colliders (which can be realised easily, e.g. by giving lepton number = 0 to them).

For details on the SPSS, see:

S.A., O. Fischer (arXiv:1502.05915)

S.A., E. Cazzato, O. Fischer (arXiv:1612.02728)

# The SPSS in the "symmetry limit"



# ***We consider the SPSS (Symmetry Protected Seesaw Scenario)***

In the  
symmetry  
limit:

$$\mathcal{L}_N = - \overline{N_R}^1 M N_R^c - y_\alpha \overline{N_R}^1 \tilde{\phi}^\dagger L^\alpha + \text{H.c.} \\ + \dots \text{ (terms from additional sterile vs)}$$



# *We consider the SPSS (Symmetry Protected Seesaw Scenario)*

In the  
symmetry  
limit:

$$\mathcal{L}_N = - \overline{N_R}^1 M N_R^c - y_\alpha \overline{N_R}^1 \tilde{\phi}^\dagger L^\alpha + \text{H.c.} \\ + \dots \text{ (terms from additional sterile vs)}$$

**4 Parameters:**  
 **$M, y_\alpha$  ( $\alpha=e,\mu,\tau$ )**

# We consider the SPSS (Symmetry Protected Seesaw Scenario)

In the  
symmetry  
limit:

$$\mathcal{L}_N = - \overline{N_R}^1 M N_R^c - y_\alpha \overline{N_R}^1 \tilde{\phi}^\dagger L^\alpha + \text{H.c.} \\ + \dots \text{ (terms from additional sterile vs)}$$

After EW symmetry breaking, we diagonalize the 5x5 mass matrix:

Mass eigenstates:

$$\tilde{n}_j = (\nu_1, \nu_2, \nu_3, N_4, N_5)_j^T = U_{j\alpha}^\dagger n_\alpha$$

“light” and “heavy”  
neutrinos

with:

$$n = (\nu_{eL}, \nu_{\mu L}, \nu_{\tau L}, (N_R^1)^c, (N_R^2)^c)^T$$

“active” and “sterile”  
neutrinos

This defines the 5x5 mixing matrix U.

**We consider the SPSS: Instead of the  $y_\alpha$ , we use the active sterile mixing angles  $\theta_\alpha$  ( $\alpha=e,\mu,\tau$ )**

In the  
symmetry  
limit:

$$\mathcal{L}_N = - \overline{N_R}^1 M N_R^c{}^2 - y_\alpha \overline{N_R}^1 \tilde{\phi}^\dagger L^\alpha + \text{H.c.} \\ + \dots \text{ (terms from additional sterile vs)}$$

- The leptonic mixing matrix to leading order in the active-sterile mixing parameters:

$$U_{5 \times 5} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{N}_{1e} & \mathcal{N}_{1\mu} & \mathcal{N}_{1\tau} & -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \theta_e & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \theta_e \\ \mathcal{N}_{2e} & \mathcal{N}_{2\mu} & \mathcal{N}_{2\tau} & -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \theta_\mu & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \theta_\mu \\ \mathcal{N}_{3e} & \mathcal{N}_{3\mu} & \mathcal{N}_{3\tau} & -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} \theta_\tau & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \theta_\tau \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\theta_e^* & -\theta_\mu^* & -\theta_\tau^* & \frac{-i}{\sqrt{2}} (1 - \frac{1}{2} \theta^2) & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (1 - \frac{1}{2} \theta^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

**Parameters:  
 $M$ ,  $y_\alpha$  ( $\alpha=e,\mu,\tau$ )  
or equivalently  
 $M$ ,  $\theta_\alpha$  ( $\alpha=e,\mu,\tau$ )**

Active-sterile neutrino mixing parameters:

$$\theta_\alpha = \frac{y_\alpha^*}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{v_{\text{EW}}}{M}, \quad \alpha = e, \mu, \tau$$

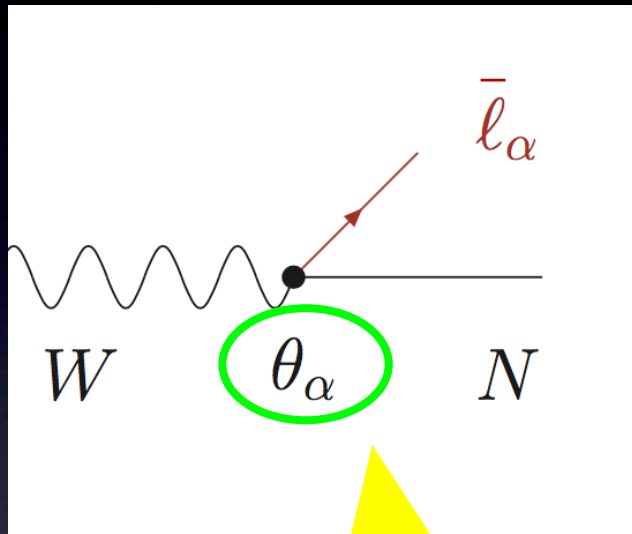
Sterile neutrinos mix with the active ones



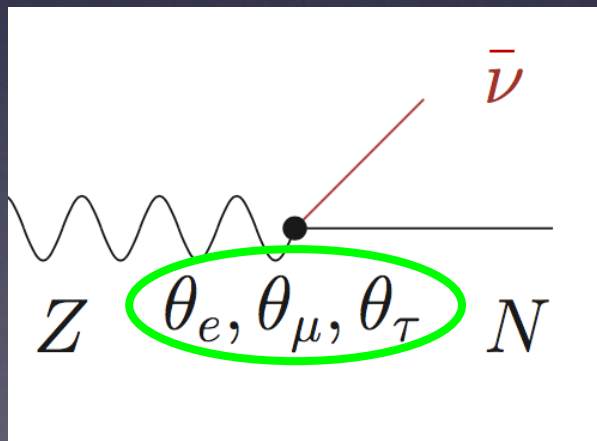
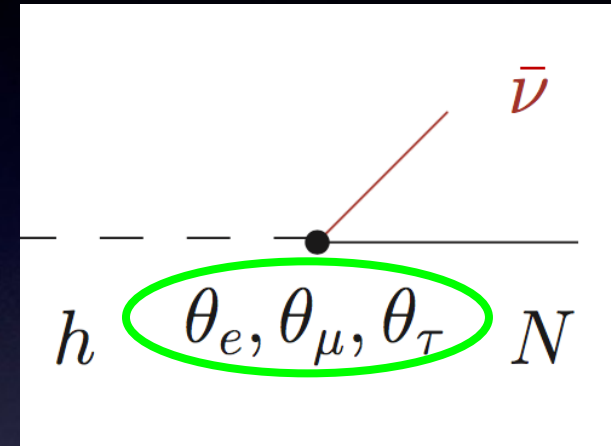
$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{N}_{1e} & \mathcal{N}_{1\mu} & \mathcal{N}_{1\tau} & -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\theta_e & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\theta_e \\ \mathcal{N}_{2e} & \mathcal{N}_{2\mu} & \mathcal{N}_{2\tau} & -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\theta_\mu & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\theta_\mu \\ \mathcal{N}_{3e} & \mathcal{N}_{3\mu} & \mathcal{N}_{3\tau} & -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\theta_\tau & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\theta_\tau \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ -\theta_e^* & -\theta_\mu^* & -\theta_\tau^* & \frac{-i}{\sqrt{2}}(1 - \frac{1}{2}\theta^2) & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1 - \frac{1}{2}\theta^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

⇒ heavy neutrinos can get produced in weak interaction processes!

# Heavy neutrino interactions



When  $W$  bosons are involved, there is a possible sensitivity to the flavour-dependent  $\theta_\alpha$

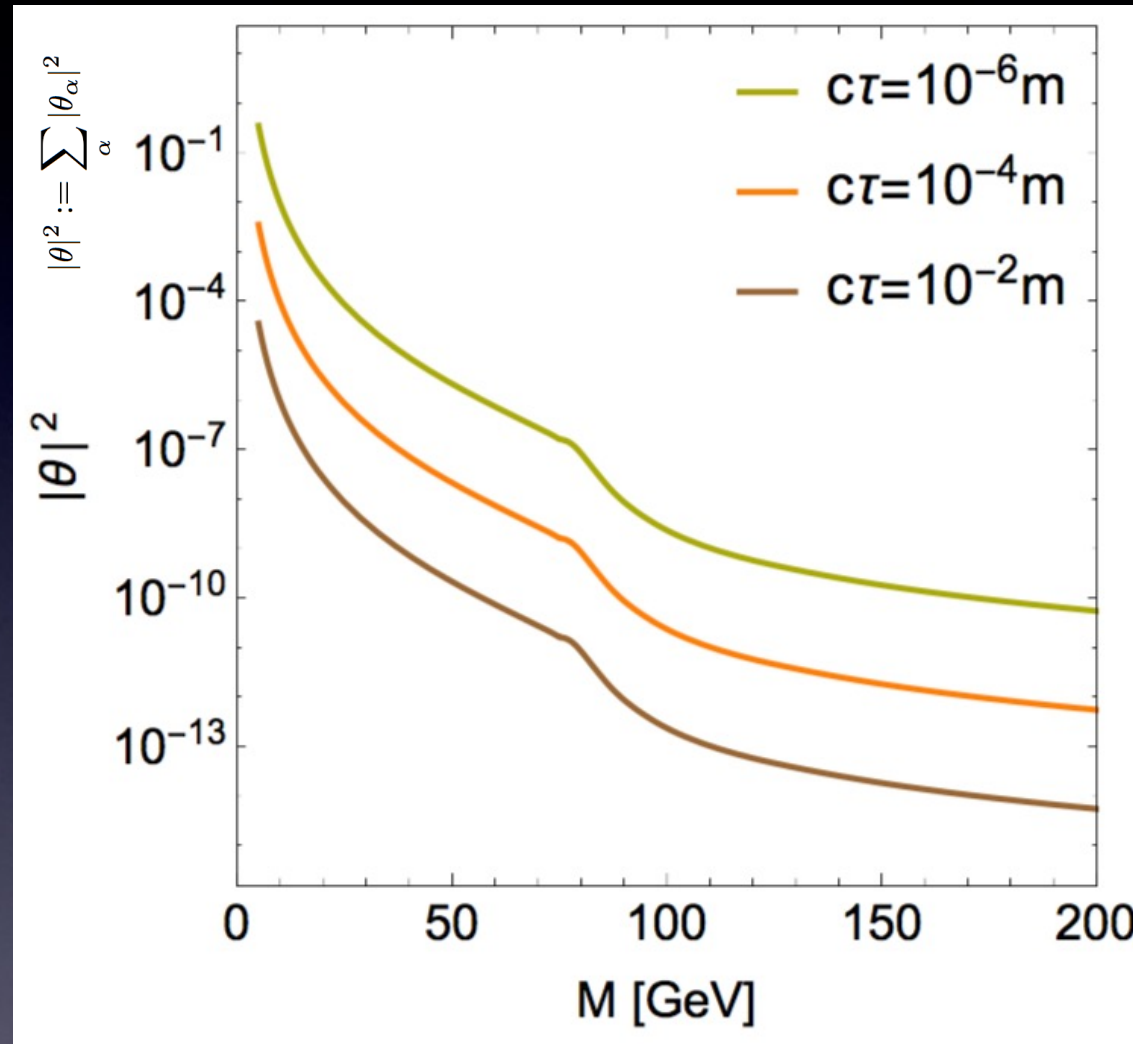


... vertices for production and for decay ...



# *Lifetime and decay length of heavy neutrinos:*

## *For $M < m_W$ , they can be long-lived!*

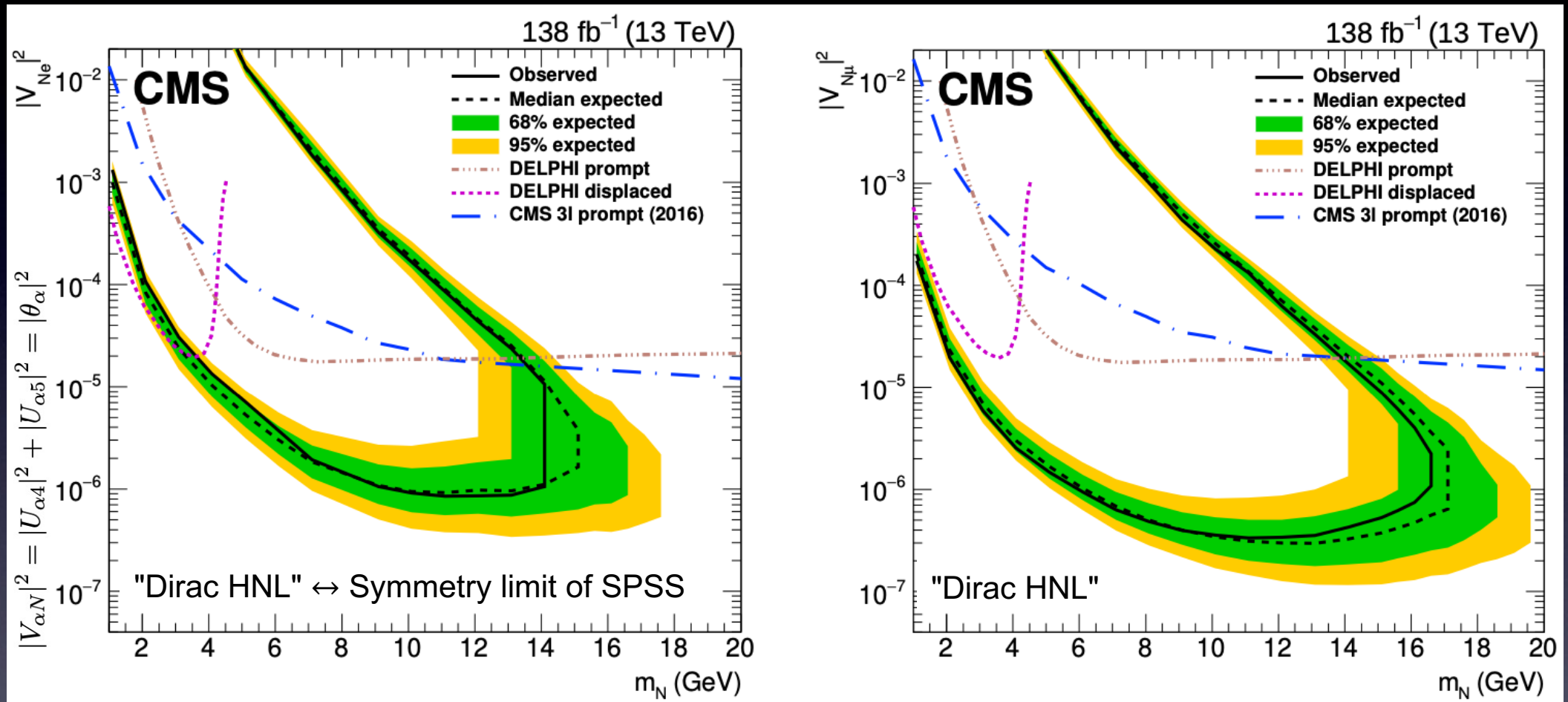


Note: Decay length in the laboratory frame is:

$$c\tau \sqrt{\gamma^2 - 1}$$

cf. S. A., E. Cazzato, O. Fischer  
(arXiv:1709.03797)

# Current bounds for $M < M_W$ from displaced vertex searches

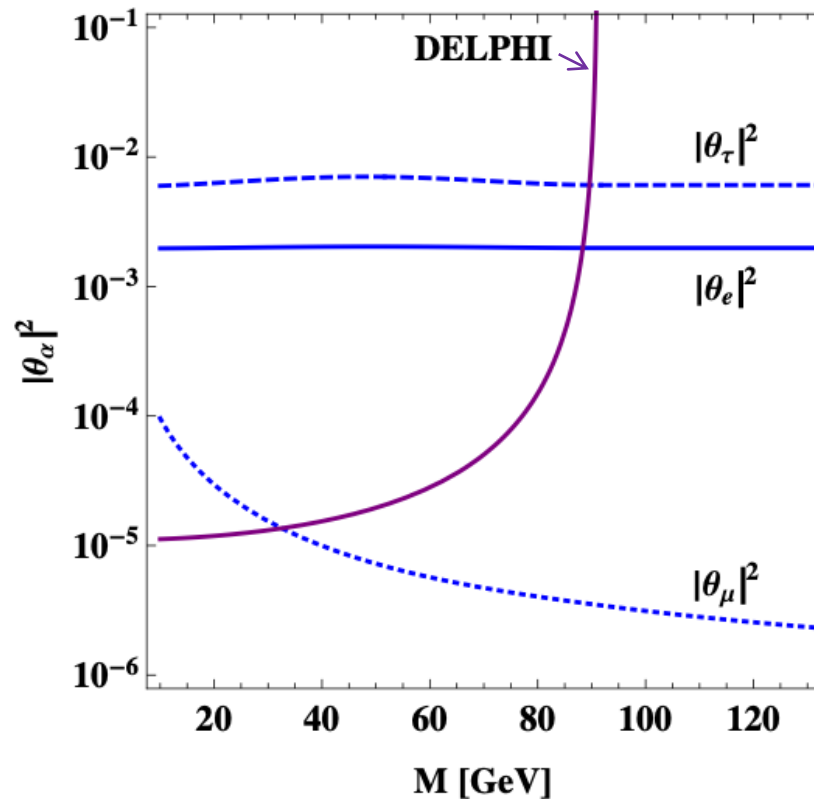


See also bounds  
from ATLAS:  
arXiv:1905.09787

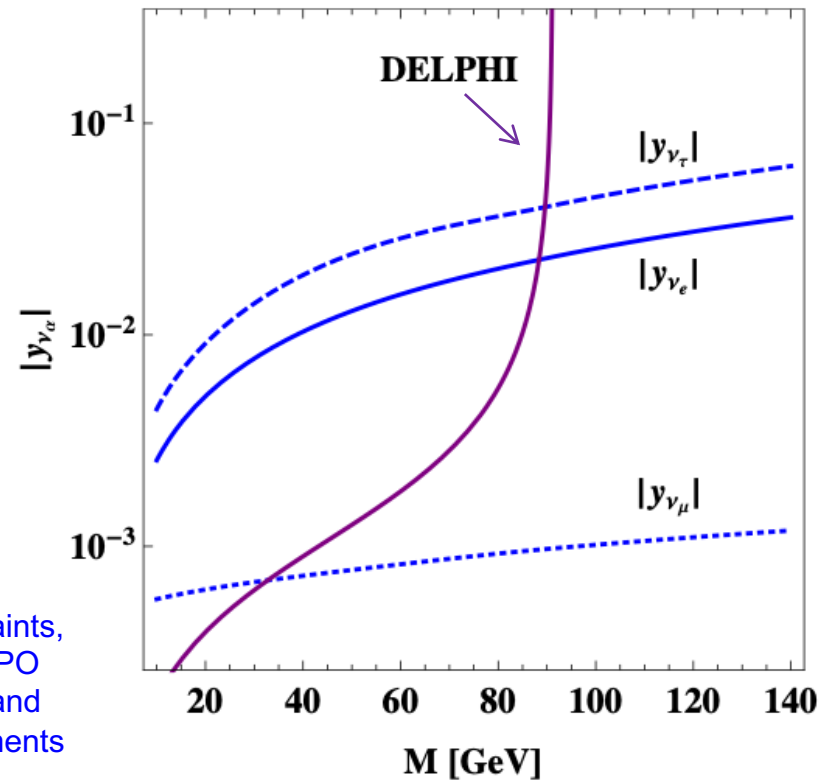
... and LHCb analysis arXiv:1612.00945  
interpreted for HNLs in: S. A., E. Cazzato,  
O. Fischer, arXiv:1706.05990

CMS Collaboration  
arXiv: 2201.05578

# *In addition: Constraints from precision experiments (EWPO, cLFV, ...) – also apply to higher $M$*



global constraints,  
including EWPO  
observables and  
cLFV experiments



Constraints from global fit ( $M > 10$  GeV): S.A., O. Fischer (arXiv:1502.05915)

For a similar study, see also: E. Fernandez-Martinez, J. Hernandez-Garcia, J. Lopez-Pavon (arXiv:1605.08774)

Constraints for smaller  $M$ , see e.g.: M. Drewes, B. Garbrecht (arXiv:1502.00477)

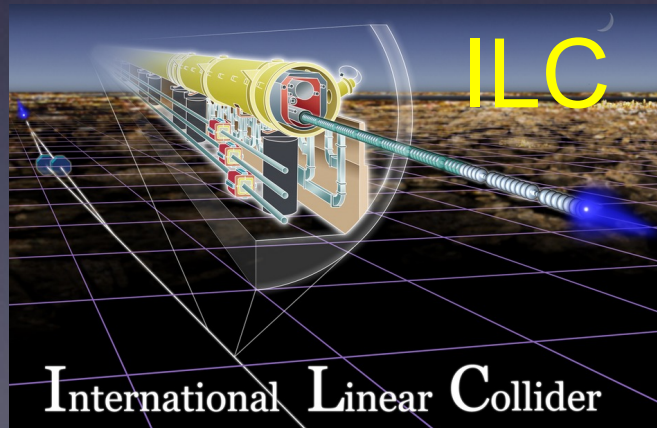
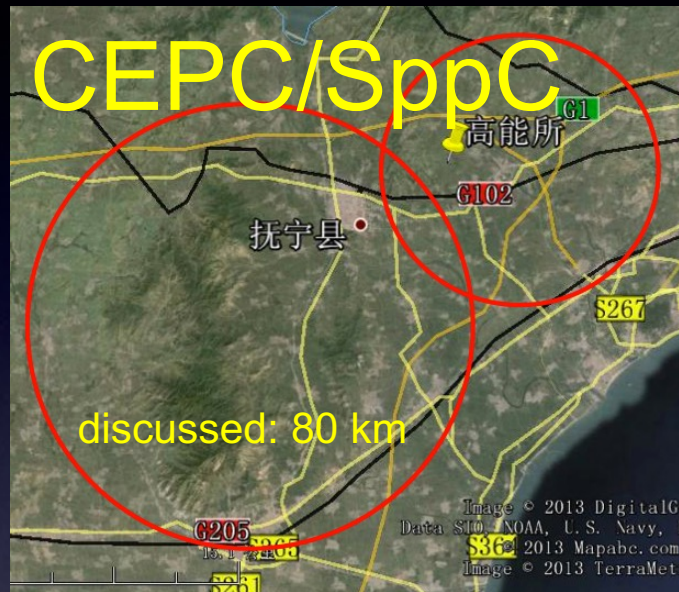
# What are the sensitivities for probing HNLs at future collider experiments?

Note: I will consider the SPSS as a benchmark scenario and restrict myself to  $M > 10$  GeV

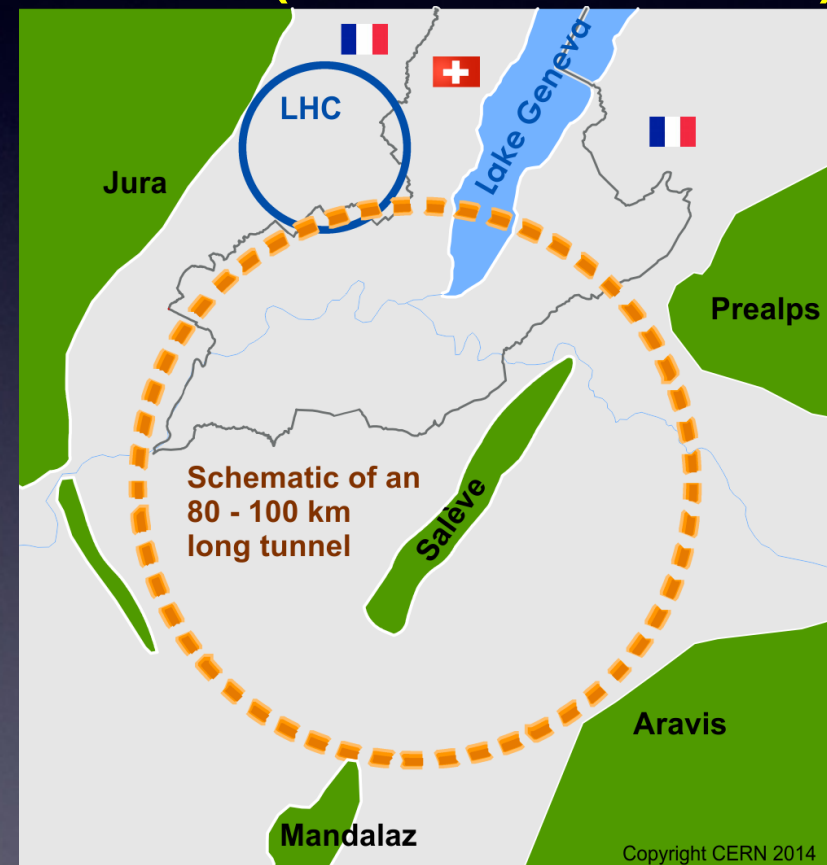


# Ambitious concepts for future colliders ...

## ... different collider types: $e^+e^-$ , $pp$ , $ep$



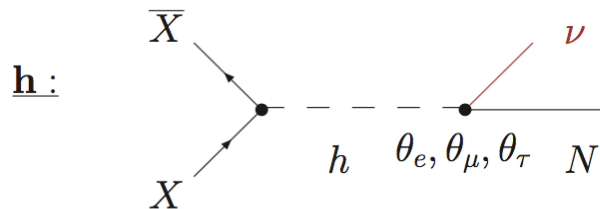
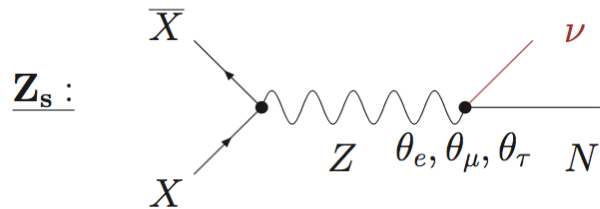
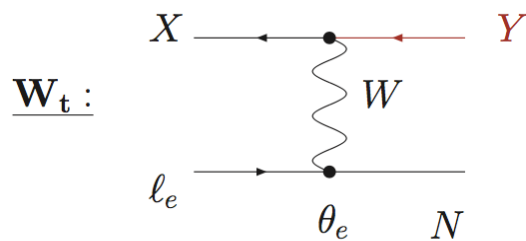
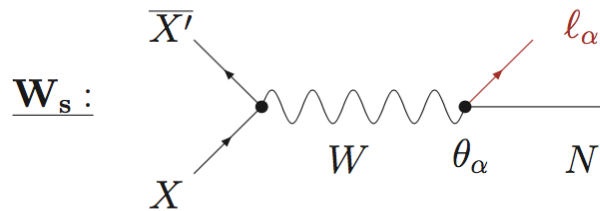
## FCC (-ee, -hh, -eh)





# Systematic assessment of HNL signatures at the various collider types

S.A., E. Cazzato, O. Fischer (arXiv:1612.02728),  
See also many other works by many authors ...



Different collider types feature  
different production channels ...

(at LO)

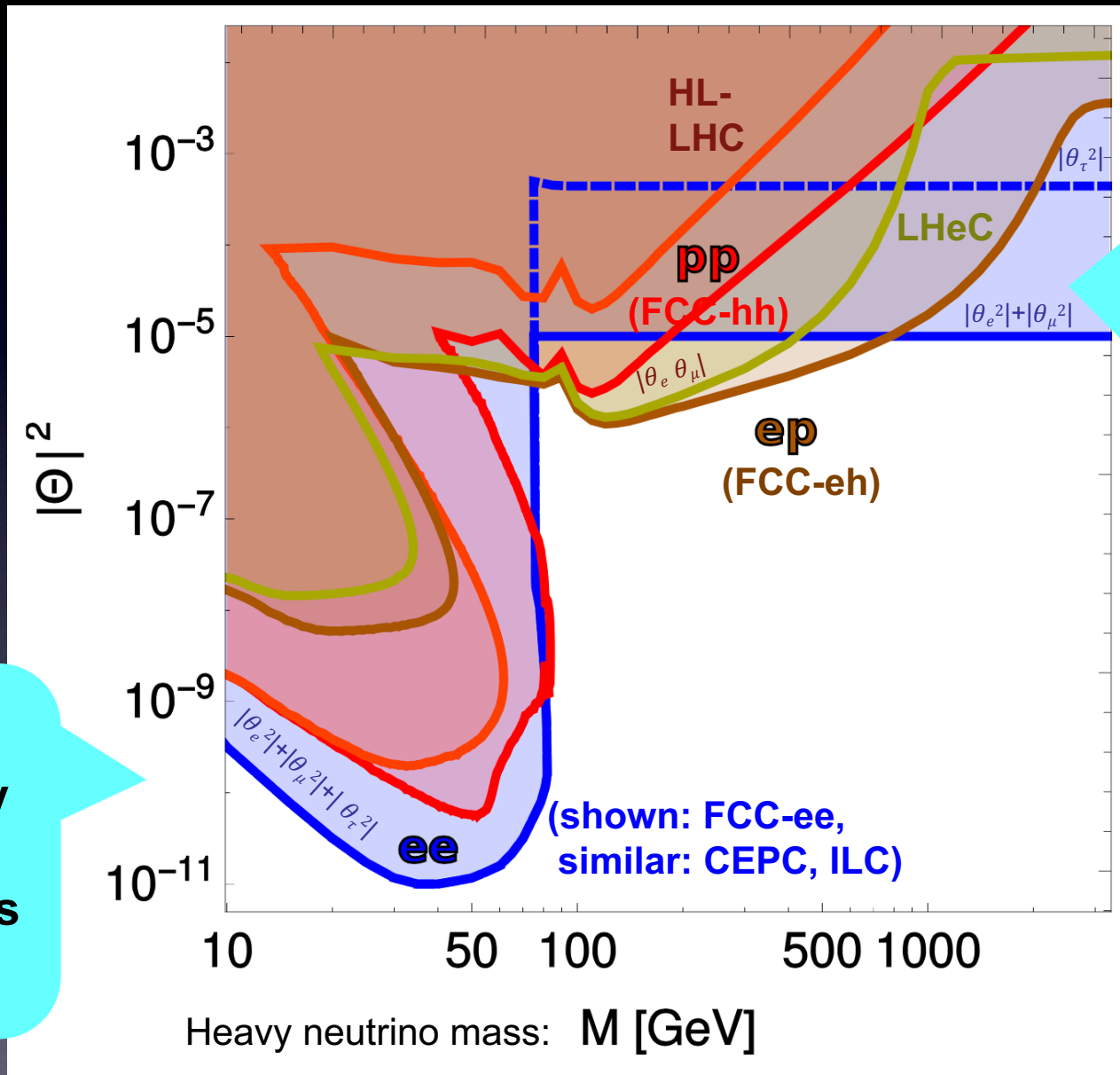
	$e^-e^+ *$	$pp$	$e^-p$
$\underline{W_s}$	$\times$	$\checkmark + \text{LNV/LFV}$	$\times$
$\underline{W_t}$	$\checkmark$	$\times$	$\checkmark + \text{LNV/LFV} *$
$\underline{Z_s}$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\times$
$\underline{h}$	$(\checkmark)$	$(\checkmark)$	$(\checkmark)$

... helps a lot to suppress SM background!

\*) unambiguous (i.e. clear from final state), no SM background at parton level (but of course background with e.g. extra neutrinos)

\*\*) LNV signatures also possible at  $e^+e^-$  colliders, but there only show up in final state angular distributions

# Summary: Estimated sensitivities at future ee, pp and ep colliders



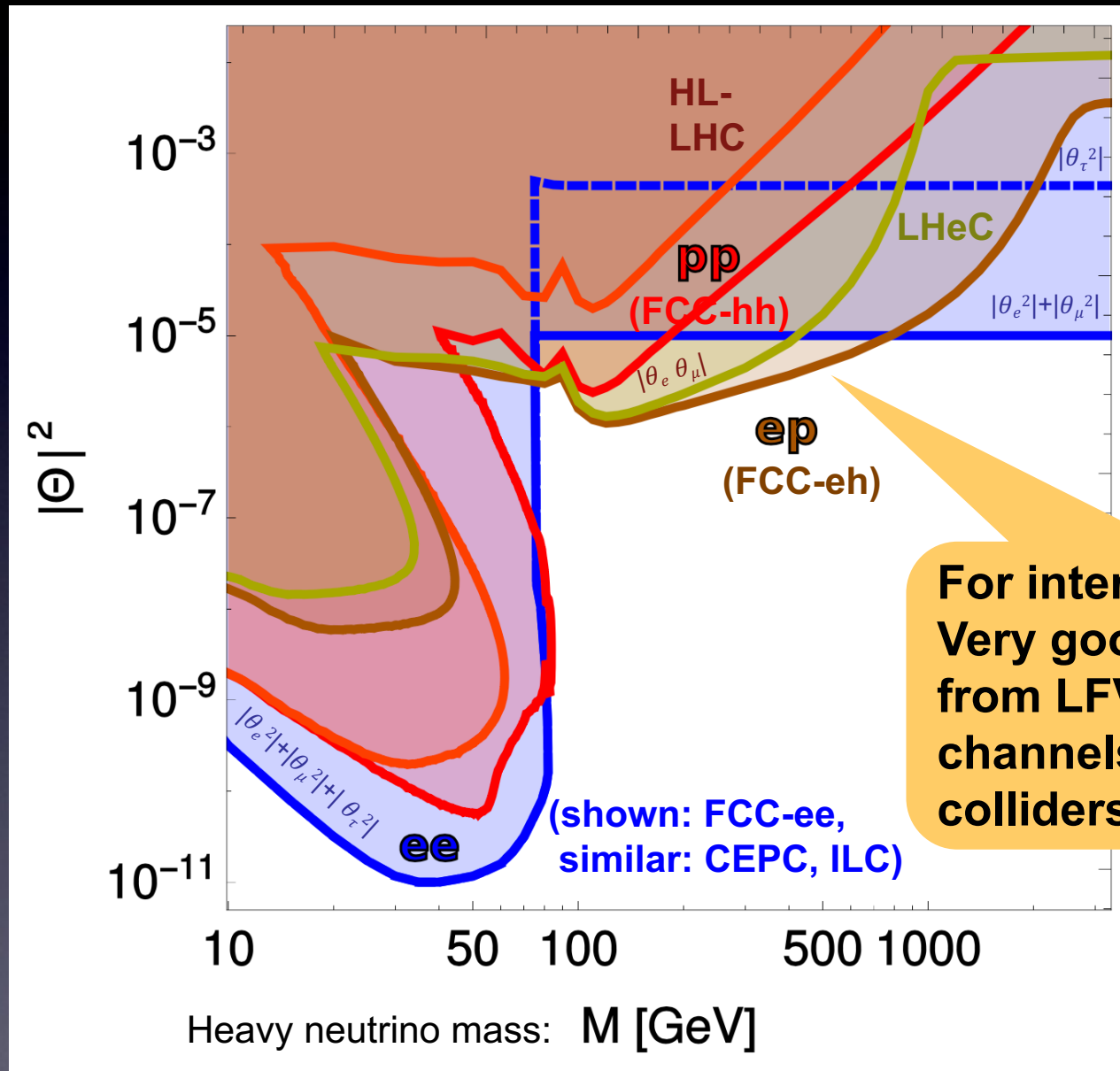
For  $M < m_W$ :  
Best sensitivity  
from displaced  
vertex searches  
at FCC-ee

For  $M \gg O(\text{TeV})$ :  
Very good  
sensitivity  
from EWPO  
measurements  
at FCC-ee

Also, future exp. on:  
 $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma, \mu \rightarrow 3e$ ,  
 $\mu - e$  conversion in  
nuclei very sensitive!

Plot from: S.A.,  
E. Cazzato, O. Fischer  
(arXiv:1612.02728)

# Summary: Estimated sensitivities at future ee, pp and ep colliders



Note: Sensitivity to different combinations of active-sterile mixing angles!

For intermediate  $M$ :  
Very good sensitivities from LFV (but LNC) channels at pp and ep colliders (FCC-hh & -eh)

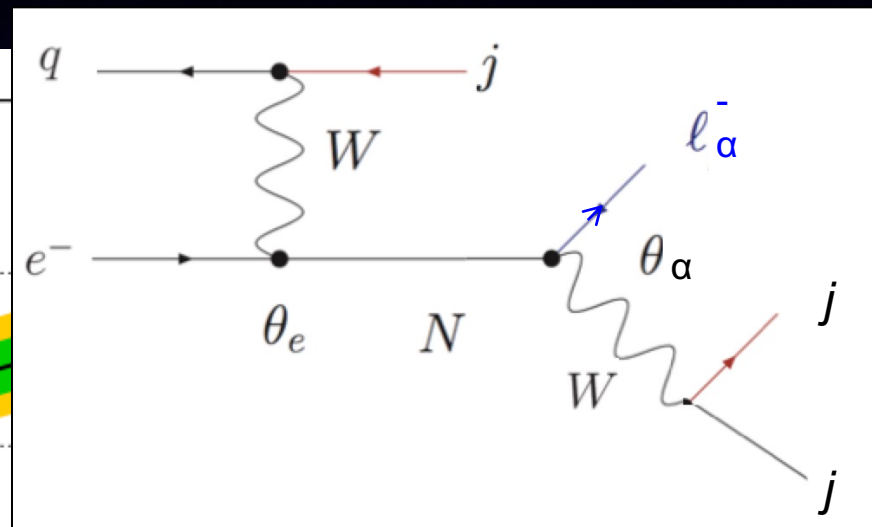
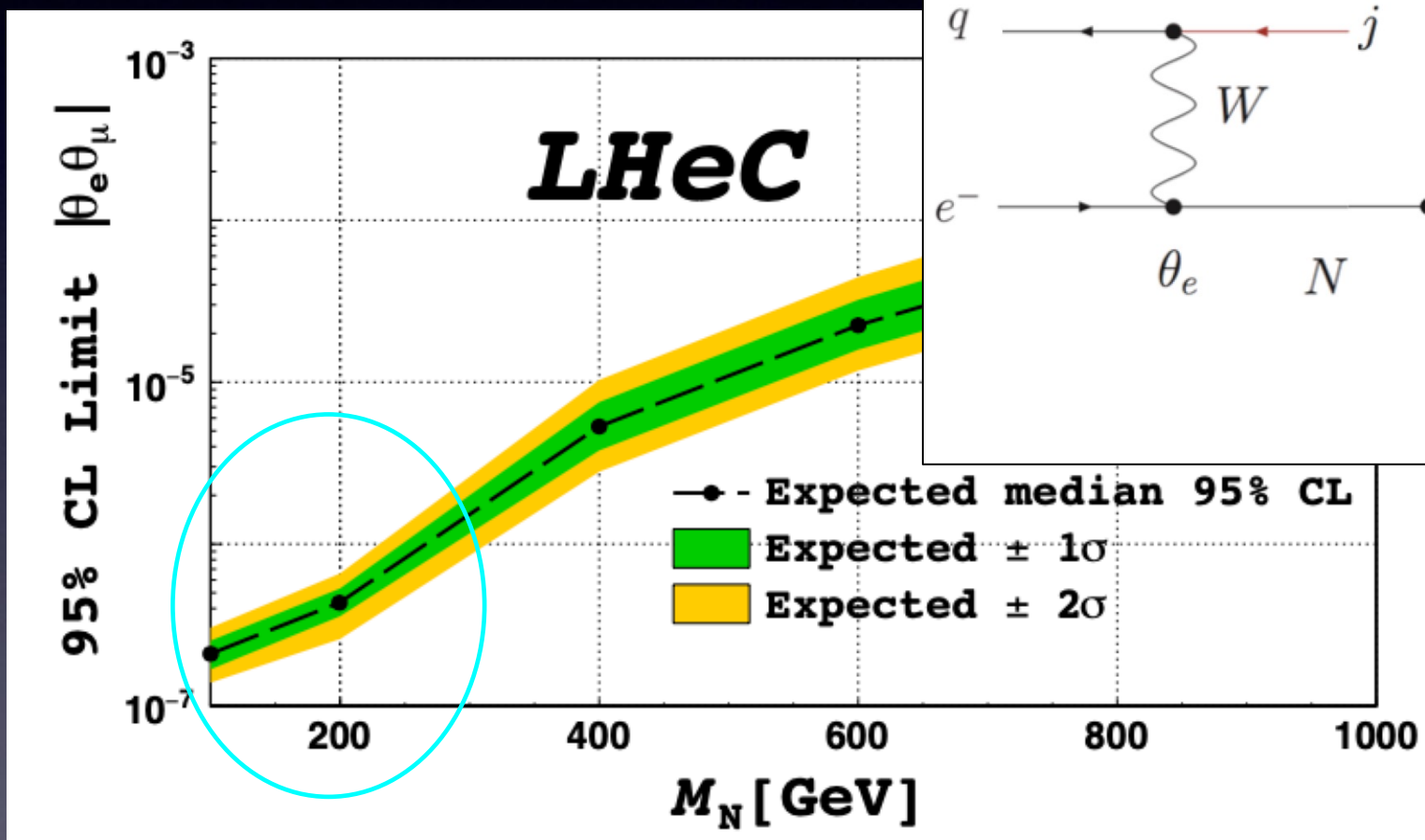
Plot from: S.A., E. Cazzato, O. Fischer (arXiv:1612.02728)

# Sensitivity of lepton-trijet searches at ep colliders

update!

LFV lepton-trijet signature at LHeC and FCC-eh:  
Sensitivity from analysis at the reconstructed level

“lepton-trijet” signature at ep colliders (LHeC, FCC-eh)  $l_\alpha^- jjj$  with e.g.  $\alpha = \tau^-$  or  $\mu^-$



Extremely sensitive!

LHeC with 1 ab<sup>-1</sup>

S.A., A. Hammad, O. Fischer (arXiv:1908.02852)

In addition, as we found out recently:  
LFV at ep colliders can also probe  
HNLs with much larger masses!

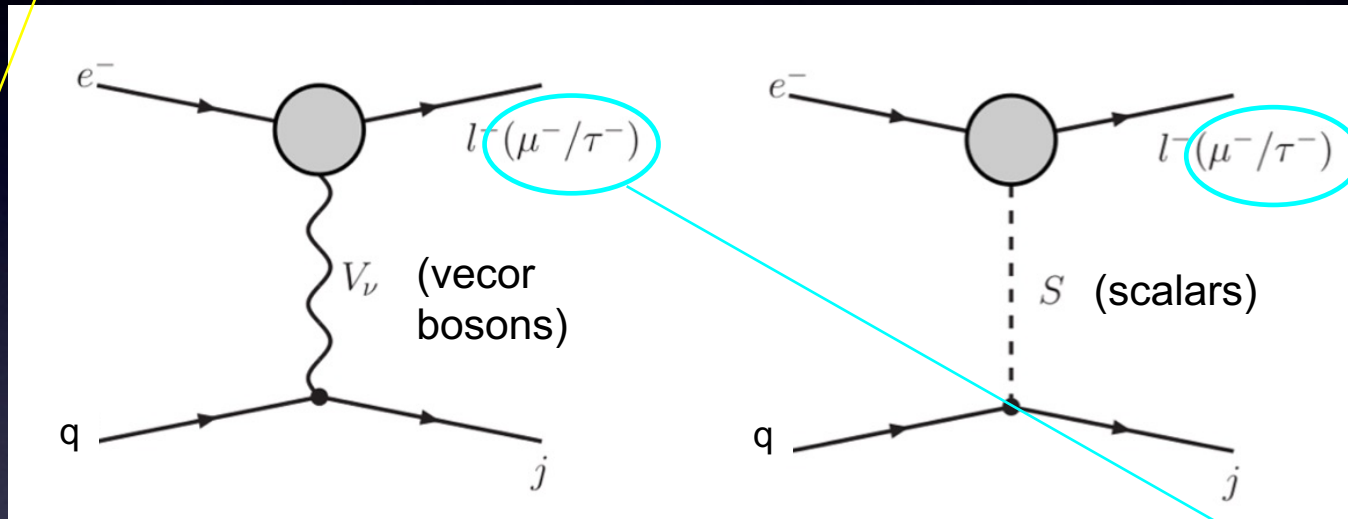
Novel signature: cLFV from effective  
 $e\text{-}\mu$  and  $e\text{-}\tau$  conversion operators  
at LHeC/FCC-eh



# cLFV searches via e- $\mu$ and e- $\tau$ conversion at ep colliders

S.A., A. Hammad, A. Rashed (arXiv:2010.08907)

Effective description:



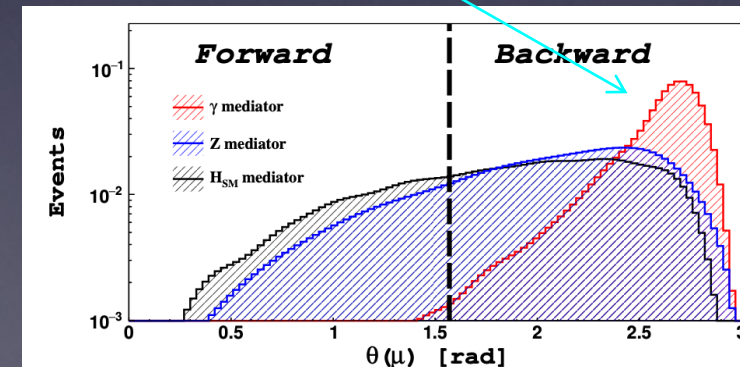
Effective operators:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{scalar}} = \bar{\ell}_\alpha P_{L,R} \ell_\beta S N_{L,R}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{monopole}} = \bar{\ell}_\alpha \gamma_\mu P_{L,R} \ell_\beta [A_{L,R} g^{\mu\nu} + B_{L,R} (g^{\mu\nu} q^2 - q^\mu q^\nu)] V_\nu$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{dipole}} = \bar{\ell}_\alpha \sigma^{\mu\nu} P_{L,R} \ell_\beta q_\mu V_\nu D_{L,R}$$

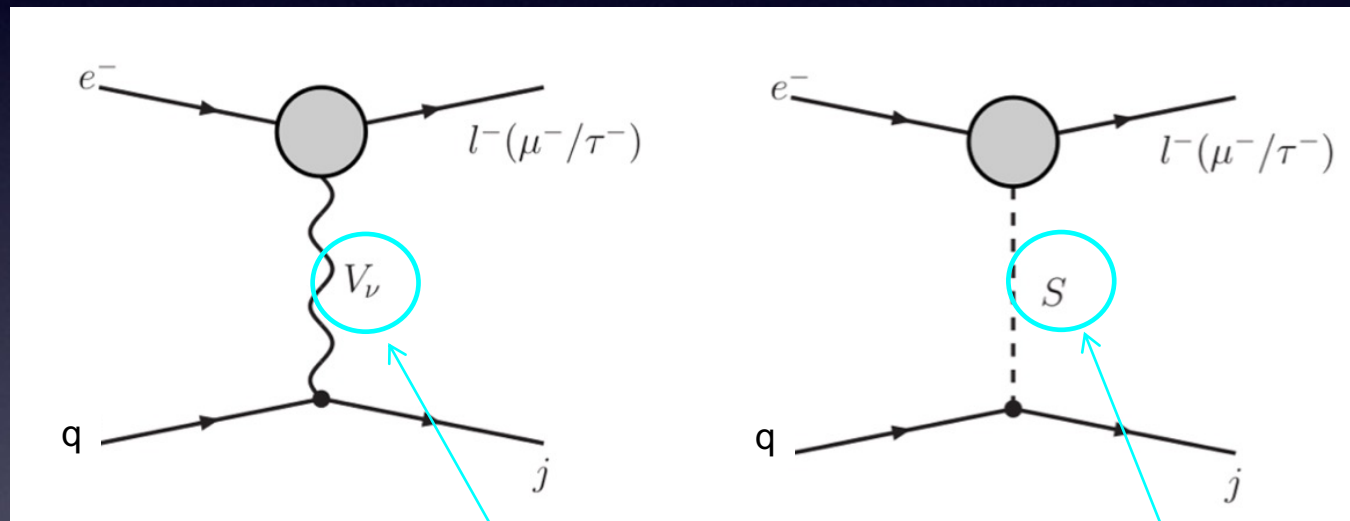
Scattered dominantly in backward direction of the detector!



# *cLFV searches via $e$ - $\mu$ and $e$ - $\tau$ conversion at ep colliders*

S.A., A. Hammad, A. Rashed (arXiv:2010.08907)

Effective description:

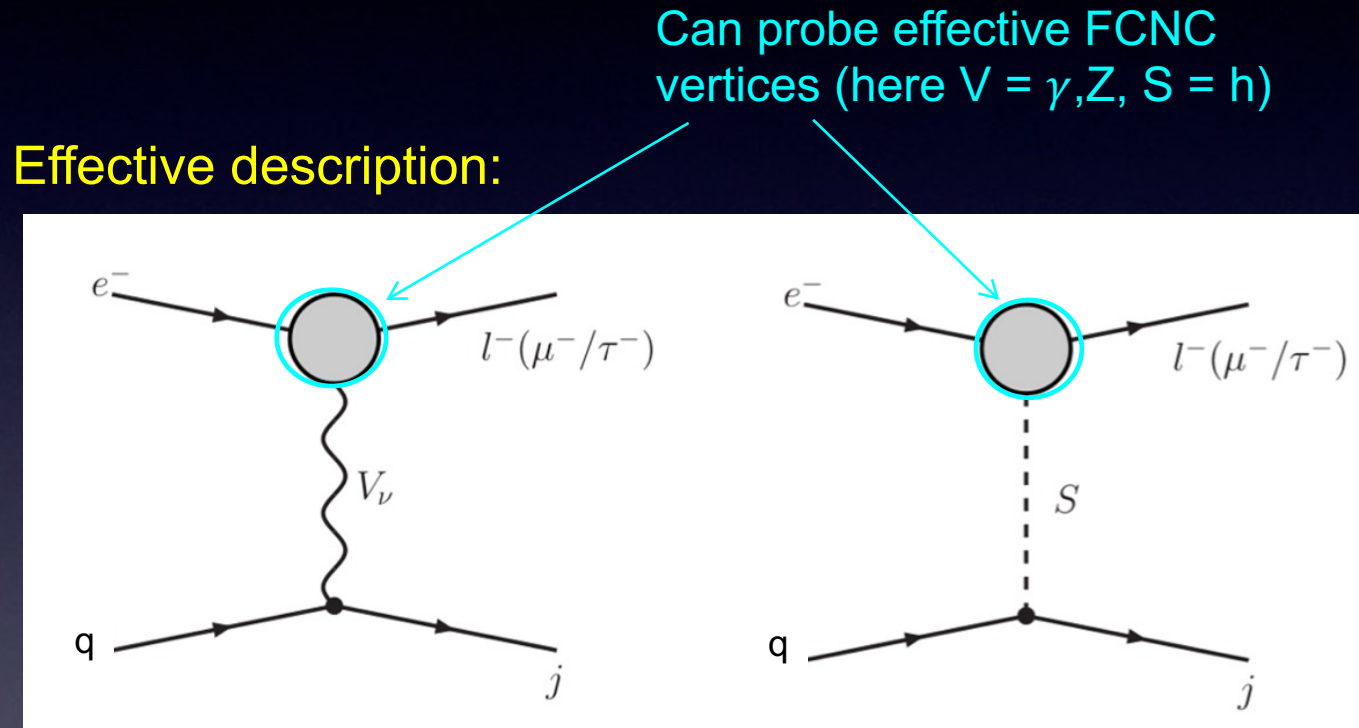


Can probe new vector bosons (e.g. LFV via  $Z'$ ) or scalars ...

S.A., A. Hammad, A. Rashed (arXiv:2003.11091)

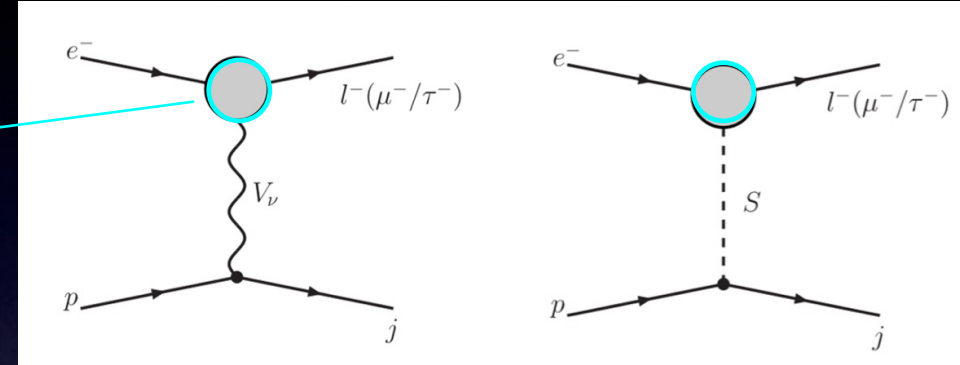
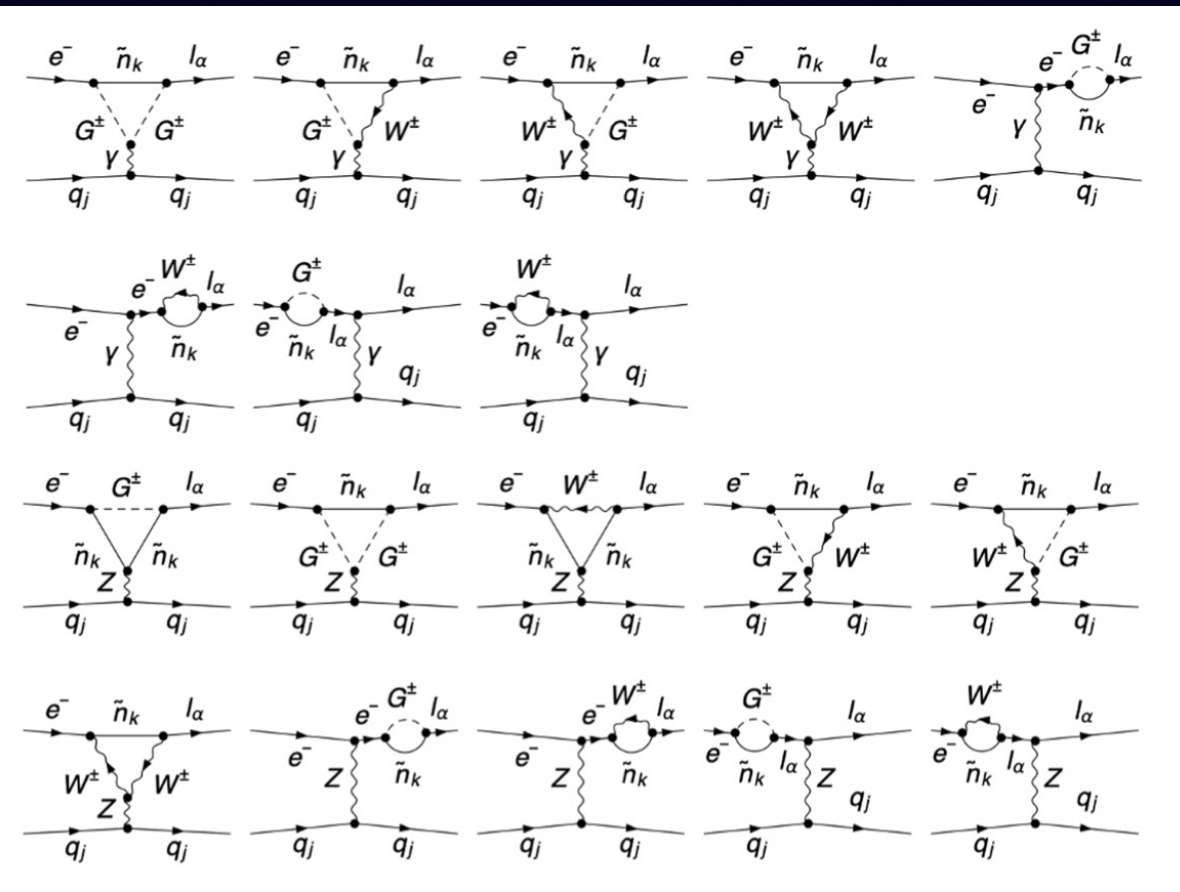
# *cLFV searches via $e$ - $\mu$ and $e$ - $\tau$ conversion at $ep$ colliders*

S.A., A. Hammad, A. Rashed (arXiv:2010.08907)



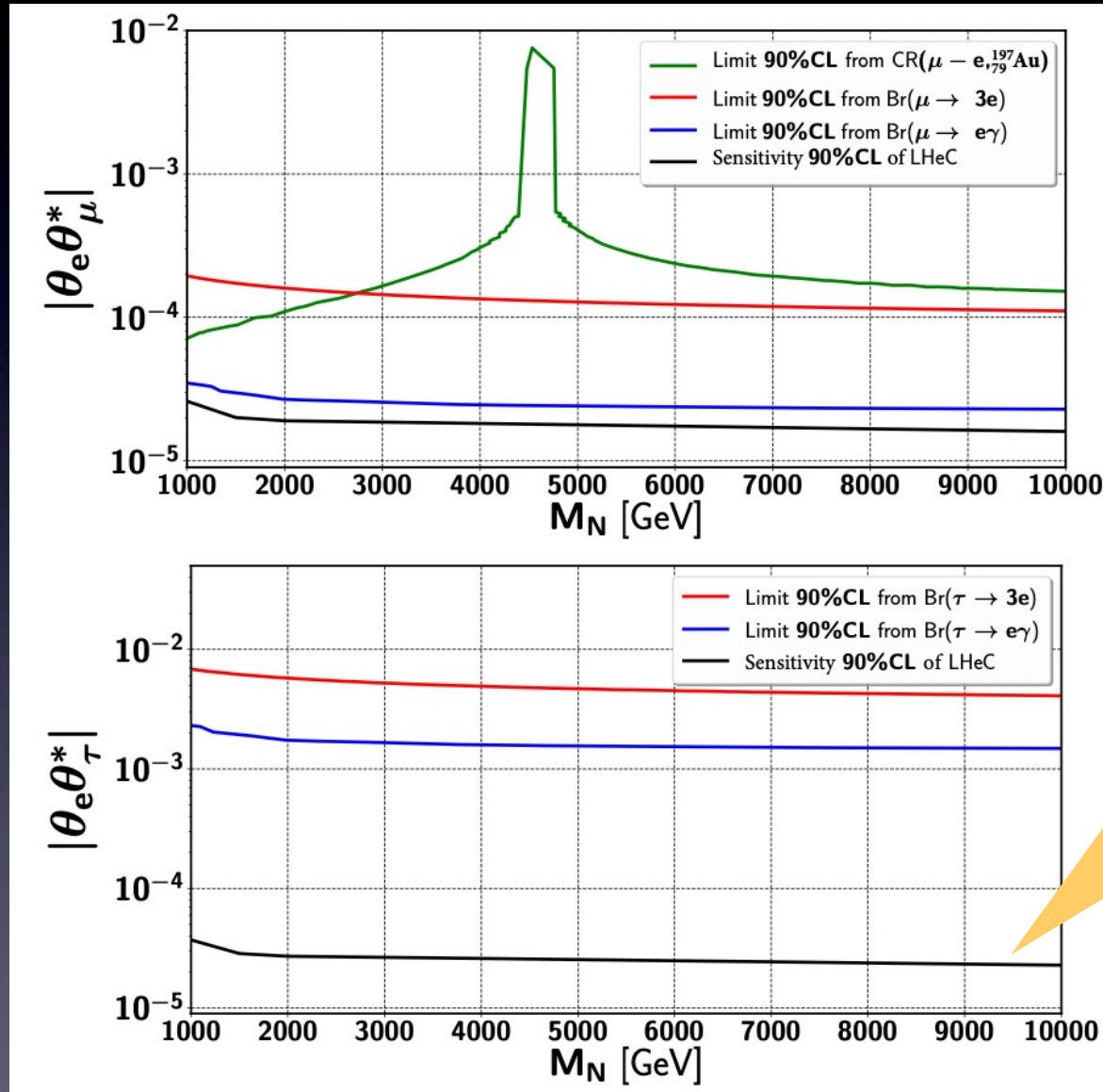
# *cLFV searches via $e\text{-}\mu$ and $e\text{-}\tau$ conversion at ep colliders*

In the SM extended by HNLs:



S.A., A. Hammad, A. Rashed (arXiv:2010.08907)

# Sensitivity at LHeC for HNLs with masses far above $M_W$ via $e\text{-}\mu$ and $e\text{-}\tau$ conversion



LHeC with  $3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$

To my knowledge, this search channel could yield the best sensitivity to  $e\text{-}\tau$  cLFV (among the currently envisioned experiments)!

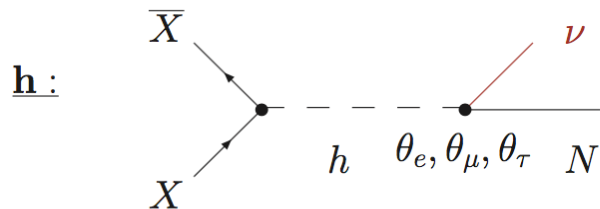
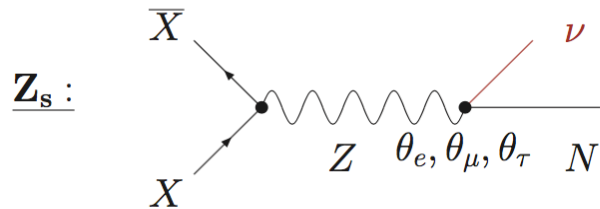
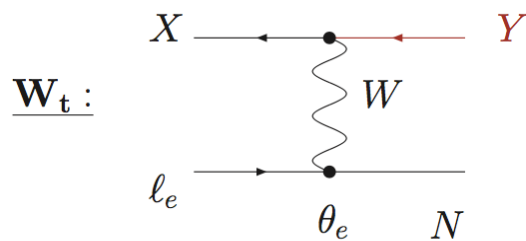
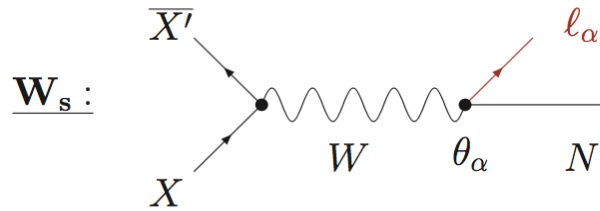
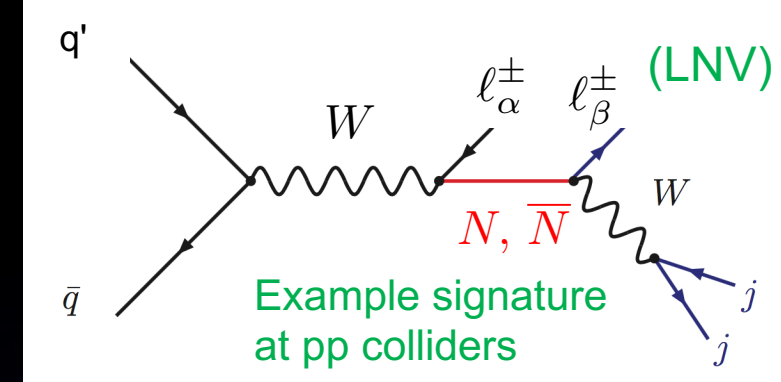
S.A., A. Hammad, A. Rashed  
(arXiv:2010.08907)



Beyond the "L-like"-symmetry limit:  
Can we observe LNV from the HNLs  
(required to generate light  $m_\nu$ )?

# LNV signatures?

\*\*) LNV signatures also possible, but only show up in final state angular distributions



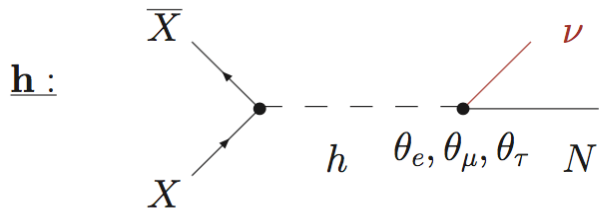
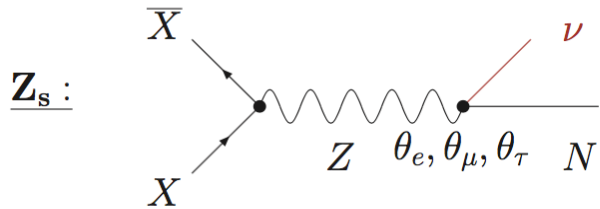
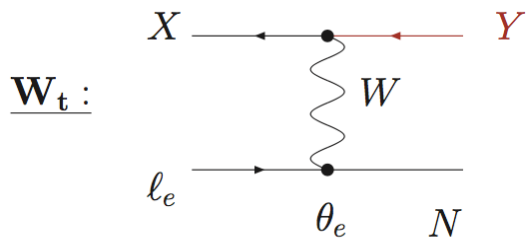
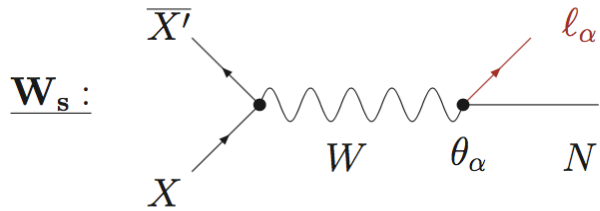
	$e^-e^+$ *	$pp$	$e^-p$
$\underline{W_s}$	$\times$	$\checkmark + \text{LNV/LFV}$	$\times$
$\underline{W_t}$	$\checkmark$	$\times$	$\checkmark + \text{LNV/LFV}$
$\underline{Z_s}$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\times$
$\underline{h}$	$(\checkmark)$	$(\checkmark)$	$(\checkmark)$

(at LO)

**Lepton-number violating (LNV) signatures possible (with no SM background at parton level) but expected to be strongly suppressed by the (approximate) protective “lepton number”-like symmetry!**

See e.g. discussion in [Kersten, Smirnov \(2007\)](#)  
 → LNV from neutrino mass generation not observable at LHC

# ***LNV signatures***

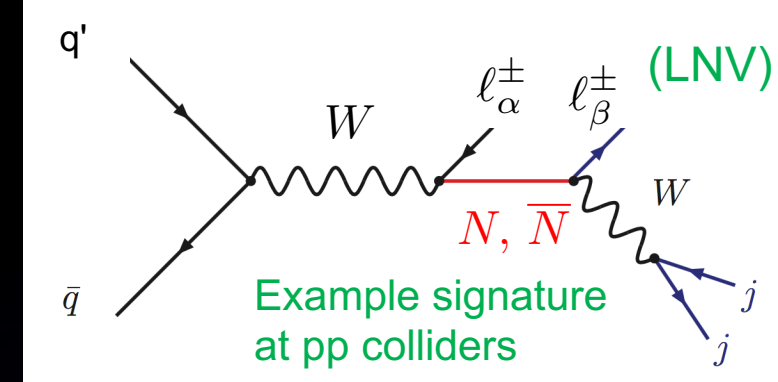


**\*\*)) LNV also possible, but requires measuring final state distributions**

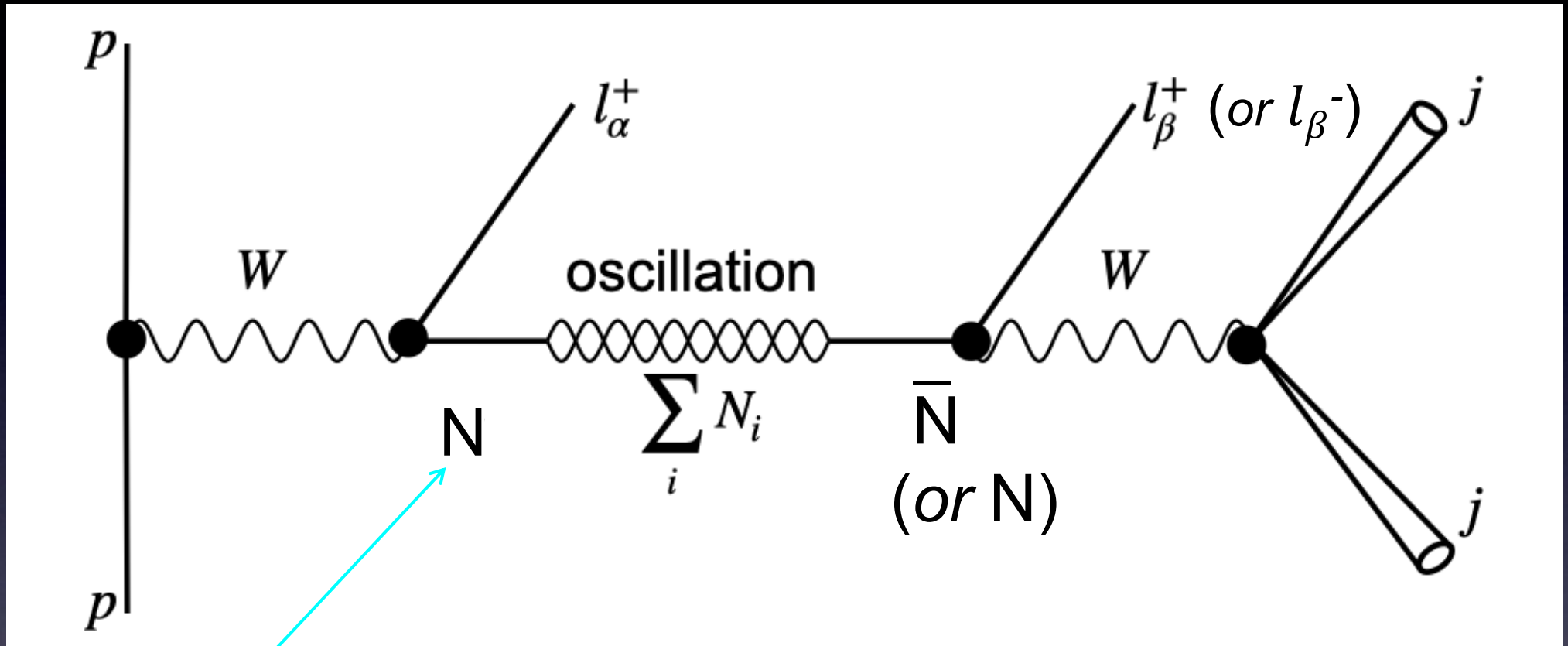
	$e^-e^+^{*}$	$pp$	$e^-p$
$\mathbf{W}_s$	$\times$	$\checkmark + \text{LNV/LFV}$	$\times$
$\mathbf{W}_t$	$\checkmark$	$\times$	$\checkmark + \text{LNV/LFV}$
$\mathbf{Z}_s$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\times$
$\mathbf{h}$	$(\checkmark)$	$(\checkmark)$	$(\checkmark)$

(at LO)

Statement not entirely valid when one takes into account the possibility of Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations!



# Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations



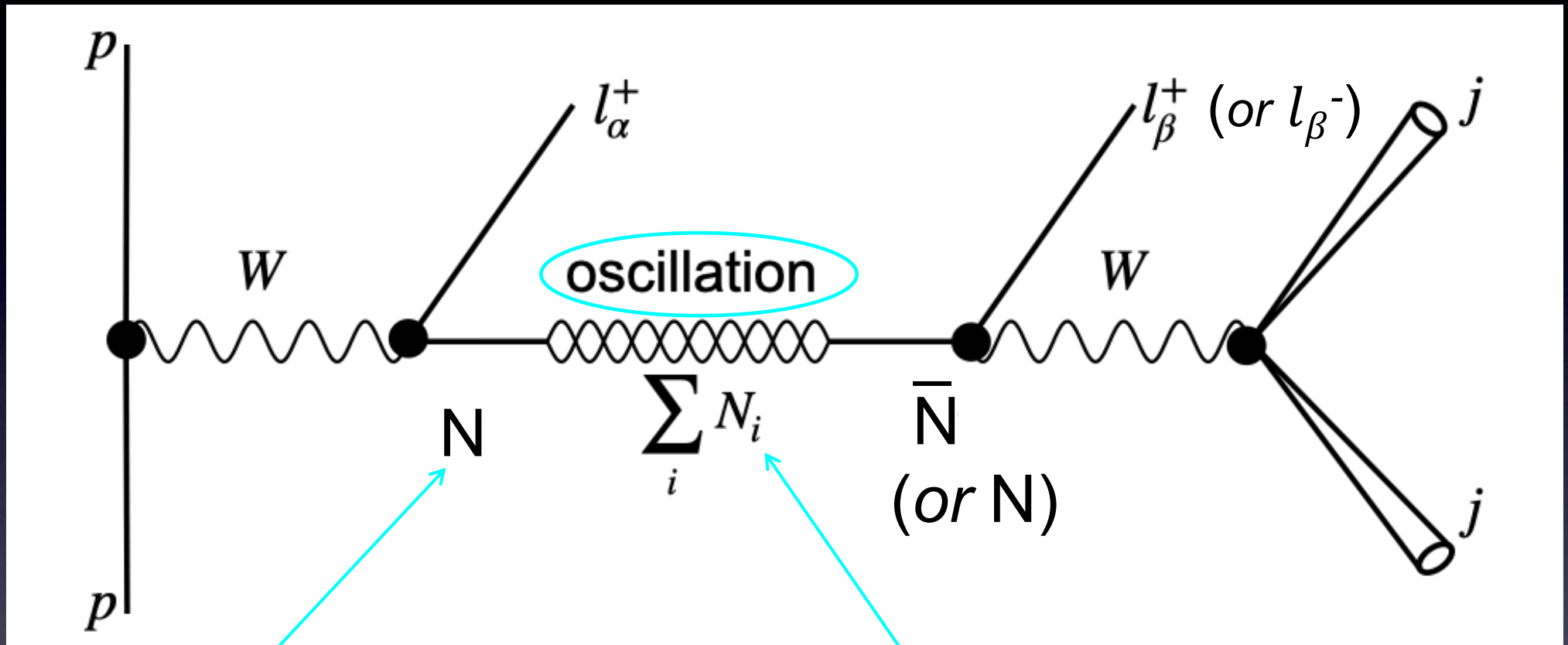
Interaction states: Produced from  $W$  decay

- "Heavy Neutrinos  $N$ " (together with  $l_\alpha^+$ )
- "Heavy Antineutrinos  $\bar{N}$ " (together with  $l_\alpha^-$ )

They are superpositions of the mass eigenstates:

$$\bar{N} = 1/\sqrt{2}(iN_4 + N_5) \quad N = 1/\sqrt{2}(-iN_4 + N_5)$$

# Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations



Interaction states: Produced from  $W$  decay

- "Heavy Neutrinos  $N$ " (together with  $l_\alpha^+$ )
- "Heavy Antineutrinos  $\bar{N}$ " (together with  $l_\alpha^-$ )

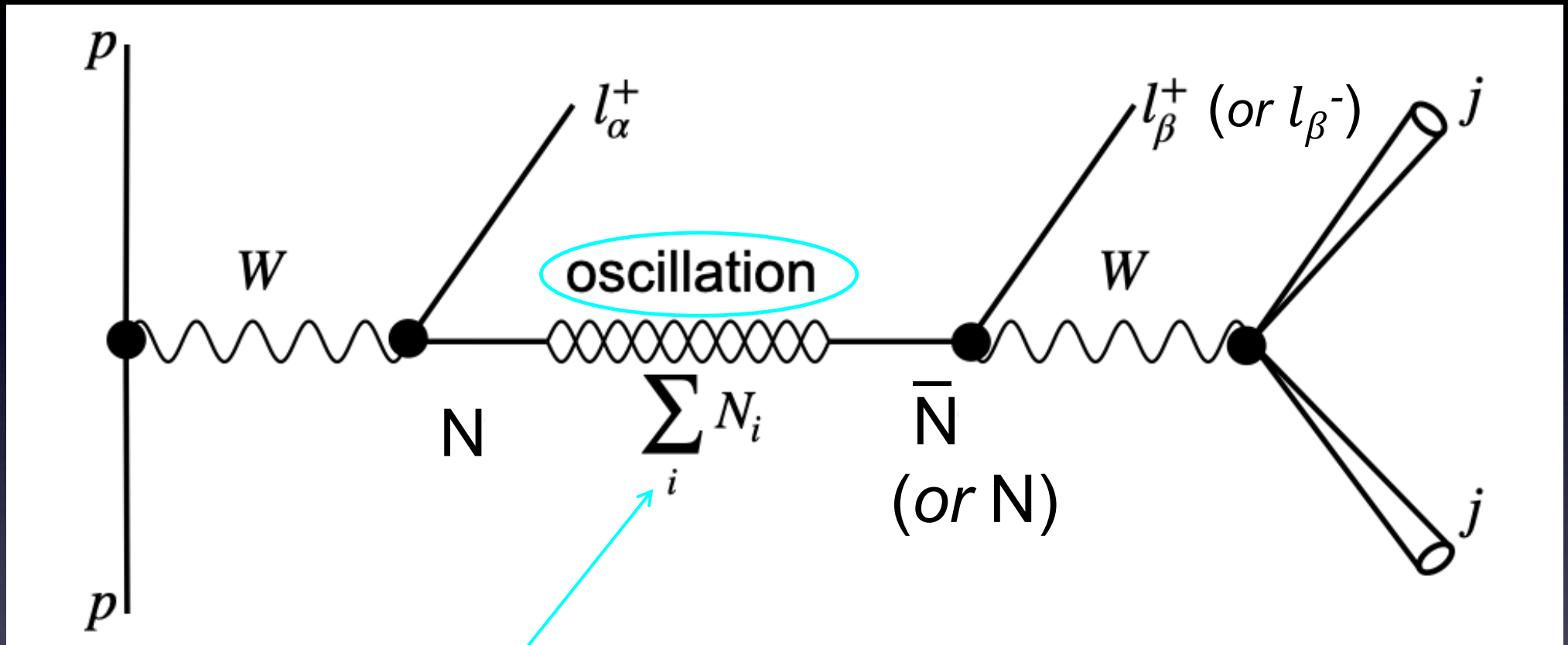
Due to the  $O(\varepsilon)$  perturbations to generate the light neutrino masses:  $\rightarrow$  mass splitting  $\Delta M$  between the heavy mass eigenstates  $N_4$  and  $N_5$   $\rightarrow$  propagation of interfering mass eigenstates induces oscillations between  $\bar{N}$  and  $N$

They are superpositions of the mass eigenstates:

$$\bar{N} = 1/\sqrt{2}(iN_4 + N_5) \quad N = 1/\sqrt{2}(-iN_4 + N_5)$$



# Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations

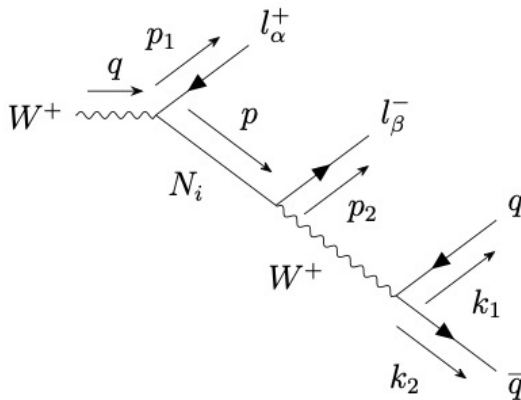


Due to the  $O(\varepsilon)$  perturbations to generate the light neutrino masses:  $\rightarrow$  **mass splitting  $\Delta M$**  between the heavy mass eigenstates  $N_4$  and  $N_5$   $\rightarrow$  propagating mass eigenstates induce **oscillations between  $N$  and  $\bar{N}$**

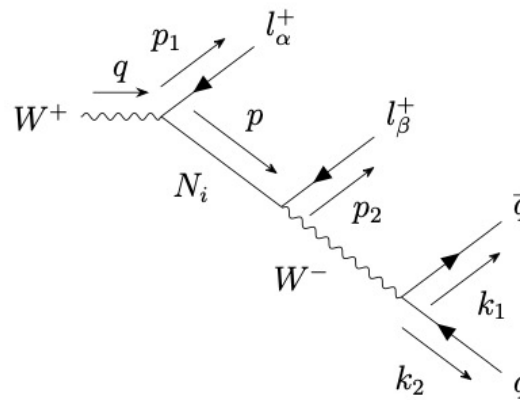
Since an  $N$  decays into a  $l_\alpha^-$  and a  $\bar{N}$  into a  $l_\alpha^+$ , the Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations lead to an **oscillation between LNC and LNV final states**, as a function of the oscillation time (or travelled distance)

# We recently studied the Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations in QFT ...

Study in QFT (using the formalism of external wave packets [cf. Beuthe 2001])



(a) Feynman diagram for the LNC process



(b) Feynman diagram for the LNV process

$$\mathcal{A} = \langle f | \hat{T} \left( \exp \left( -i \int d^4x \mathcal{H}_I \right) \right) - 1 | i \rangle$$

→ Full oscillation formulae

Oscillation formulae in the SPSS (with  $\varepsilon$ -perturbations, in an expansion):

$$P_{\alpha\beta}^{LNV}(L) = \frac{1}{2 \sum_{\beta} |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 |\theta_{\beta}|^2} \left( |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 |\theta_{\beta}|^2 (1 - \cos(\phi_{45} L)) - 2(I_{\beta} |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 + I_{\alpha} |\theta_{\beta}|^2) \sin(\phi_{45} L) \right),$$

← LO

← NLO

$$P_{\alpha\beta}^{LNC}(L) = \frac{1}{2 \sum_{\beta} |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 |\theta_{\beta}|^2} \left( |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 |\theta_{\beta}|^2 (1 + \cos(\phi_{45} L)) - 2(I_{\beta} |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 - I_{\alpha} |\theta_{\beta}|^2) \sin(\phi_{45} L) \right).$$

← LO

← NLO

where

$$I_{\beta} := \text{Im}(\theta_{\beta}^* \theta'_{\beta} \exp(-2i\Phi)),$$

$$\phi_{ij} := -\frac{2\pi}{L_{ij}^{osc}} = -\frac{M_i^2 - M_j^2}{2|\mathbf{p}_0|},$$

$$\Phi := \frac{1}{2} \text{Arg}(\vec{\theta}' \cdot \vec{\theta}^*).$$

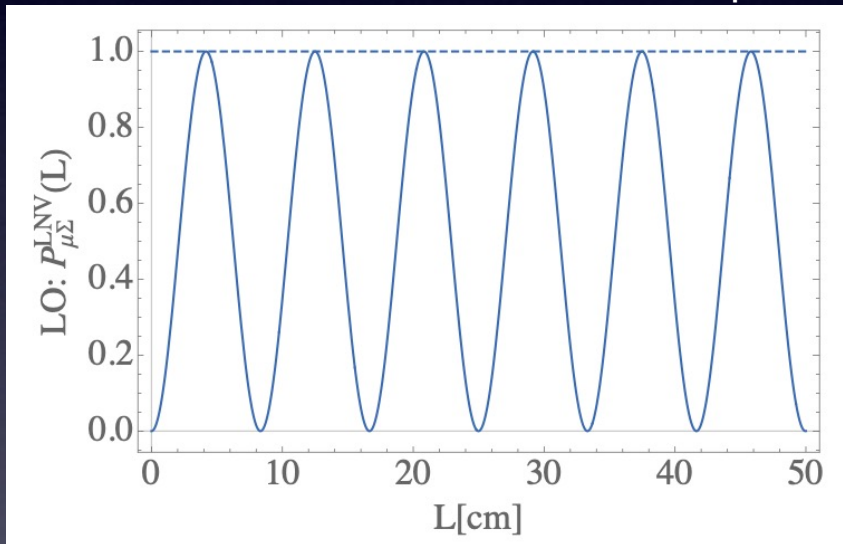
S.A., J. Roszkopp (arXiv:2012.05763)

# We recently studied the Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations in QFT ...

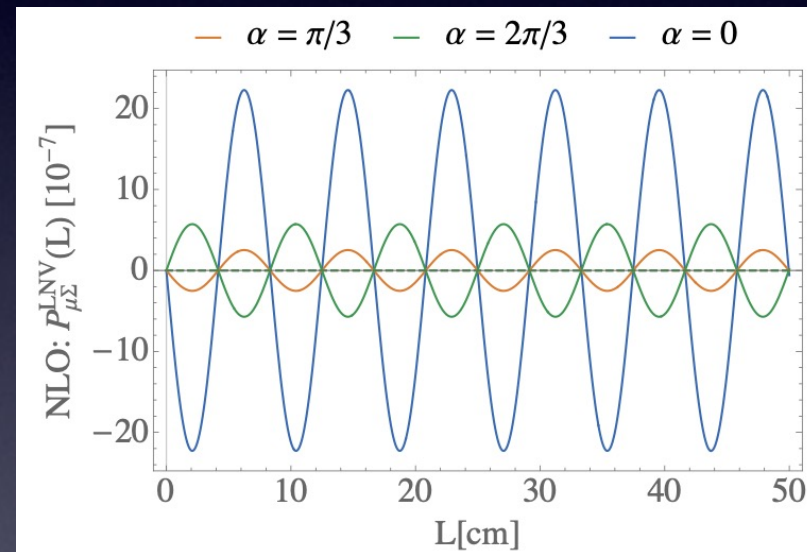
$$P_{\alpha\beta}^{LNV}(L) = \frac{1}{2 \sum_{\beta} |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 |\theta_{\beta}|^2} \left( |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 |\theta_{\beta}|^2 (1 - \cos(\phi_{45}L)) - 2(I_{\beta} |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 + I_{\alpha} |\theta_{\beta}|^2) \sin(\phi_{45}L) \right),$$

$$P_{\alpha\beta}^{LNC}(L) = \frac{1}{2 \sum_{\beta} |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 |\theta_{\beta}|^2} \left( |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 |\theta_{\beta}|^2 (1 + \cos(\phi_{45}L)) - 2(I_{\beta} |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 - I_{\alpha} |\theta_{\beta}|^2) \sin(\phi_{45}L) \right).$$

LO: ... for some chosen benchmark point\*



NLO:



(\*) "Minimal linear seesaw" with IH,  
M = 7 GeV,  $|\theta^2| = 10^{-5}$ ,  $\gamma = 50$  (fixed)

NLO effects are "flavour oscillations" ... oscillations remain when summing LNC+LNV  
... they go to 0 when *additionally* summing over all outgoing flavours

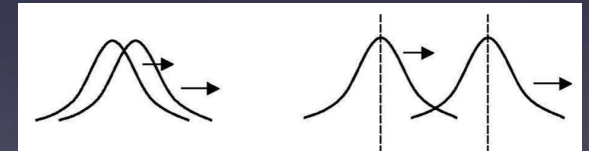
$$P_{\alpha\beta}^{LNC}(L) + P_{\alpha\beta}^{LNV}(L) = \frac{1}{\sum_{\beta} |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 |\theta_{\beta}|^2} \left( |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 |\theta_{\beta}|^2 - 2I_{\beta} |\theta_{\alpha}|^2 \sin(\phi_{45}L) \right)$$

S.A., J. Roszkopp (arXiv:2012.05763)

# *We recently studied the Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations in QFT ...*

In summary:

- We **confirmed the LO formulae** used in previous works.  
See e.g.: G. Anamiati, M. Hirsch and E. Nardi (2016), G. Cvetič, C. S. Kim, R. Kogerler and J. Zamora-Saa (2015), ... (see also Refs in arXiv:2012.05763 for other works)
- We showed that in the SPSS +  $\varepsilon$ -terms, only  $\Delta M$  (in addition to  $\theta_\alpha$  and  $M$ ) is relevant for describing the oscillations at LO  
→ Proposal of the **SPSS $\Delta M$**  (i.e. the SPSS plus only  $\Delta M$  as additional parameter) **as suitable benchmark scenario**
- We carefully discussed how the "**observability conditions**" can be checked (such as e.g. if coherence is maintained, etc.)  
→ satisfied for the considered parameter point
- We discussed the **NLO effects** (i.e. the flavour oscillations) and showed that for the considered benchmark point they are tiny.



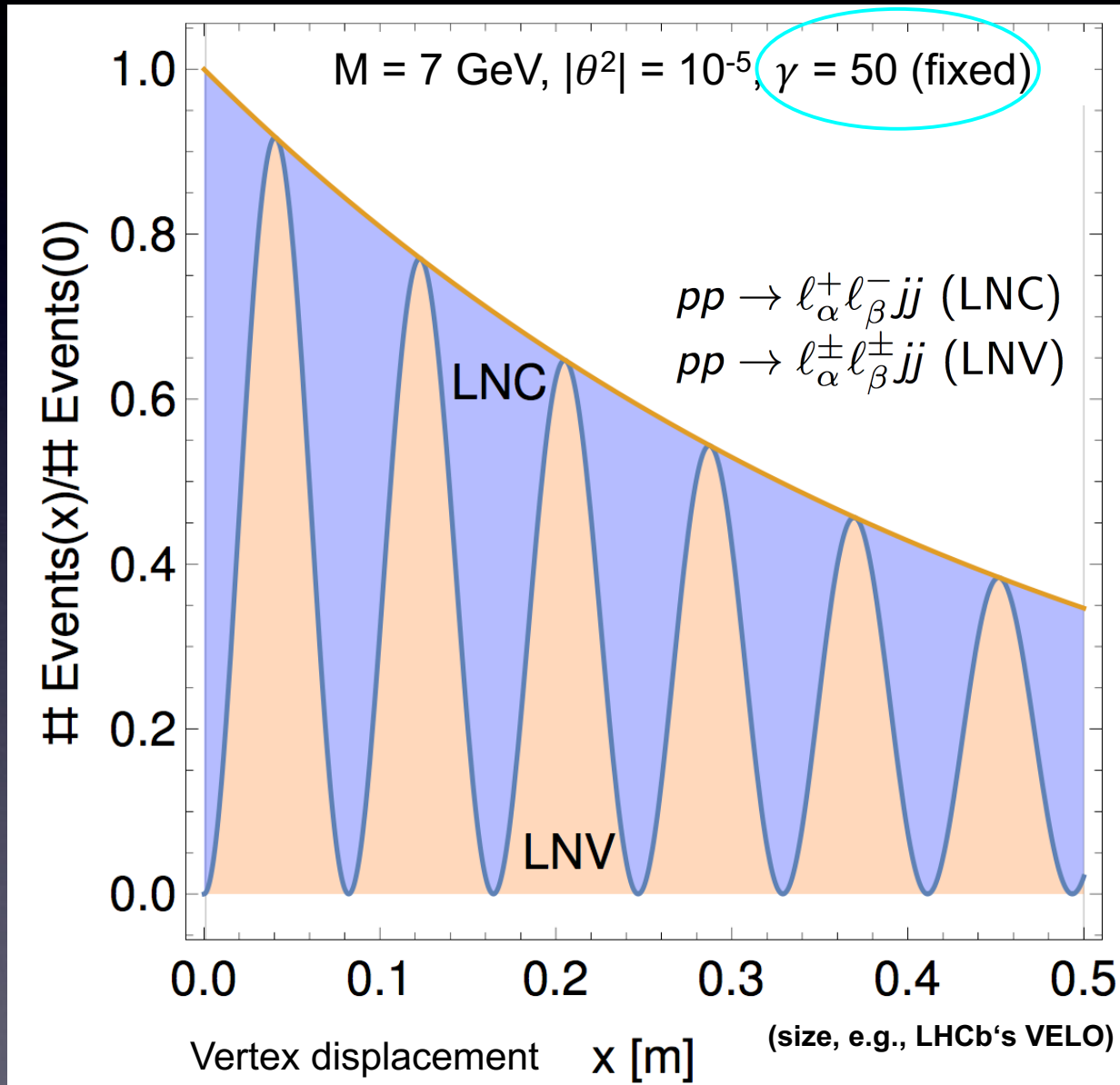
S.A., J. Roszkopp (arXiv:2012.05763)



# Signal: Oscillating fraction of LNV / LNC decays with lifetime ( $\rightarrow$ displacement)

## Example:

$\rightarrow$  using the prediction for  $\Delta M$  in the "Minimal linear seesaw" model with inverse neutrino mass hierarchy (IH)



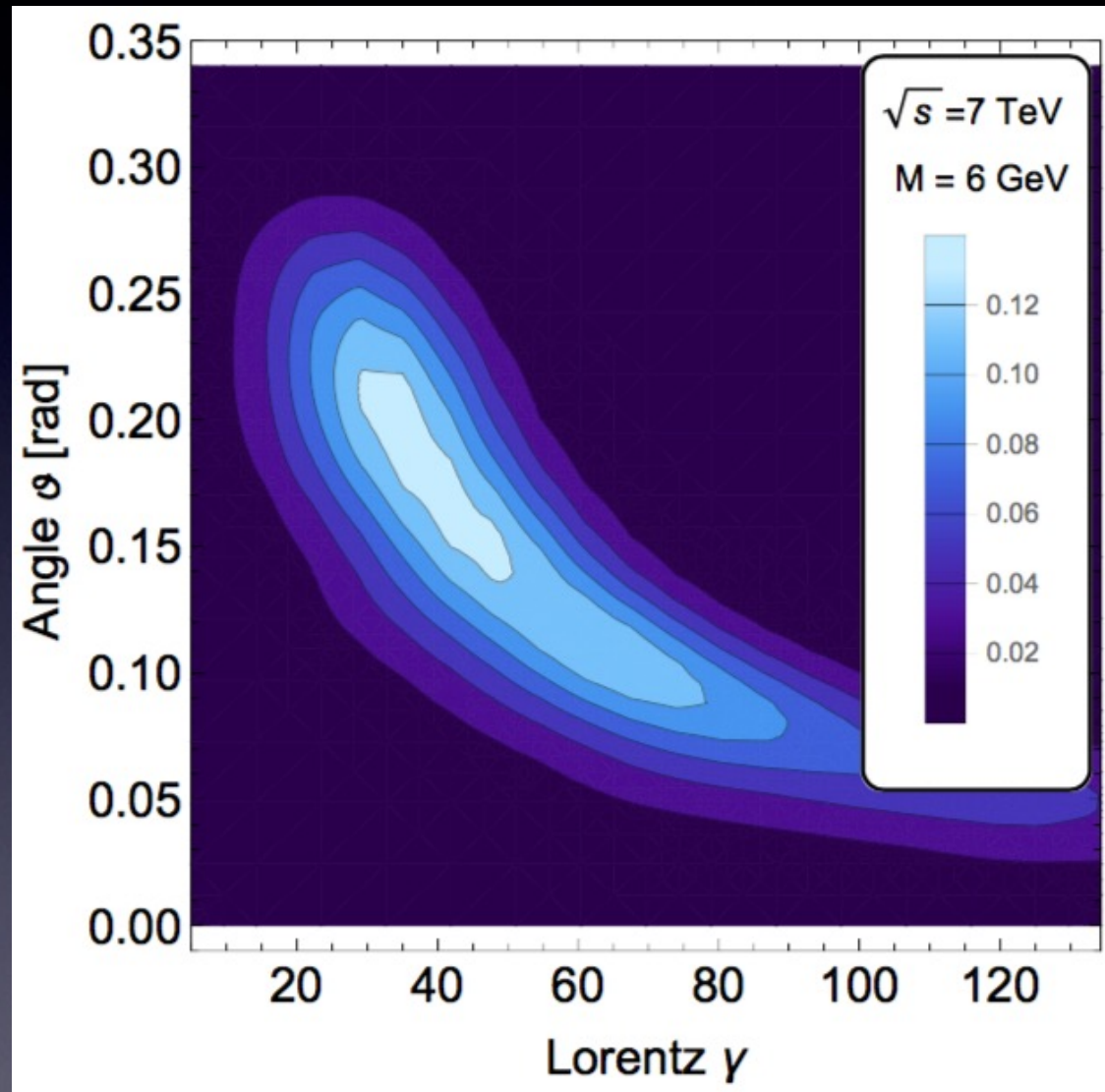
For this plot:  
fixed  $\gamma$  factor  
(instead of  
distribution), no  
uncertainties yet.

S. A., E. Cazzato,  
O. Fischer  
(arXiv:1709.03797)



# *Typical distribution of the $\gamma$ -factor of HNLs at LHCb*

after cuts:

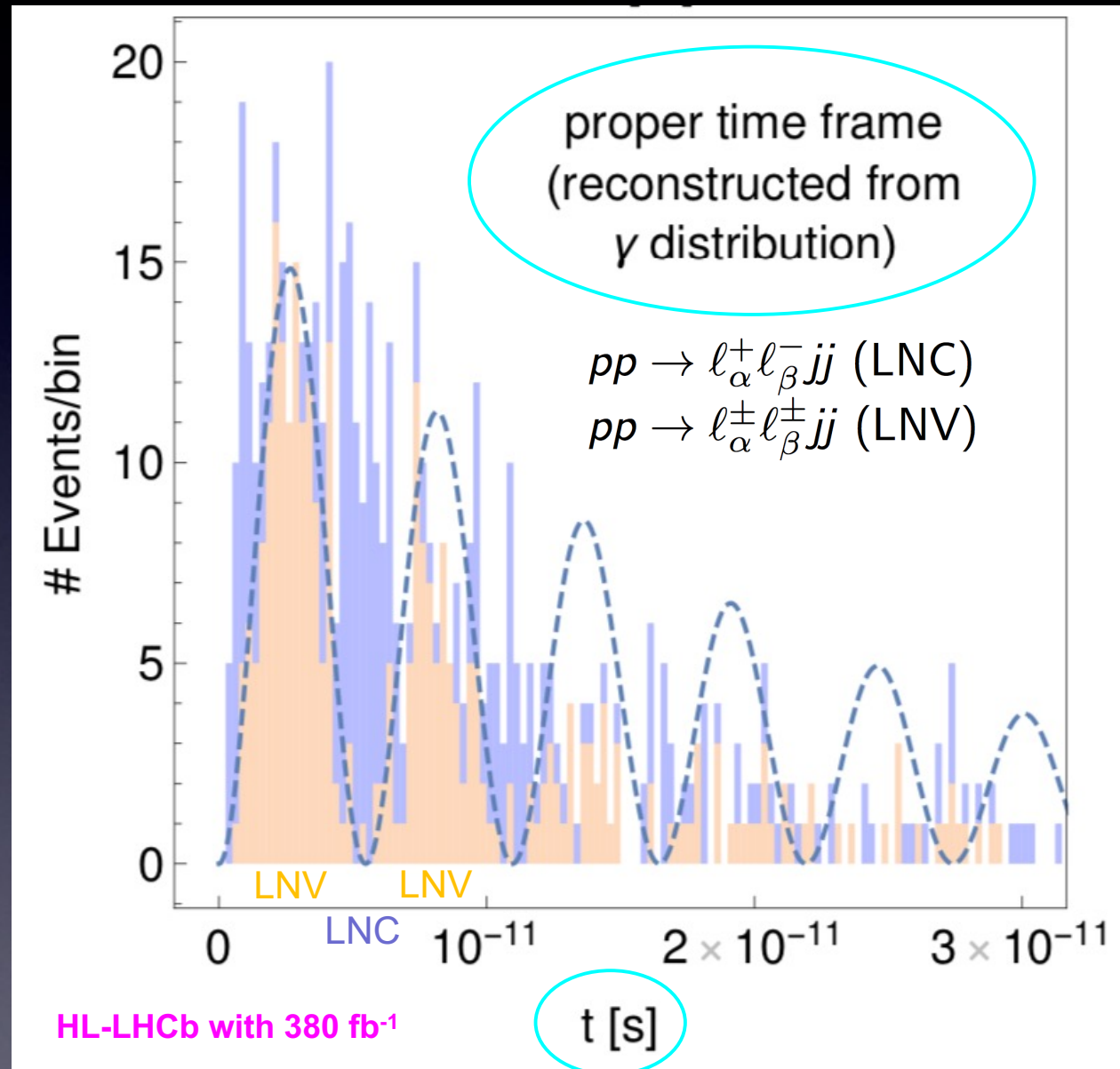


S. A., E. Cazzato, O. Fischer; arXiv:1706.05990

# *Estimate: Simulated signal including uncertainties in proper time frame ...*

## Example:

→ using the prediction for  $\Delta M$  in the "Minimal linear seesaw" model with inverse neutrino mass hierarchy (IH)



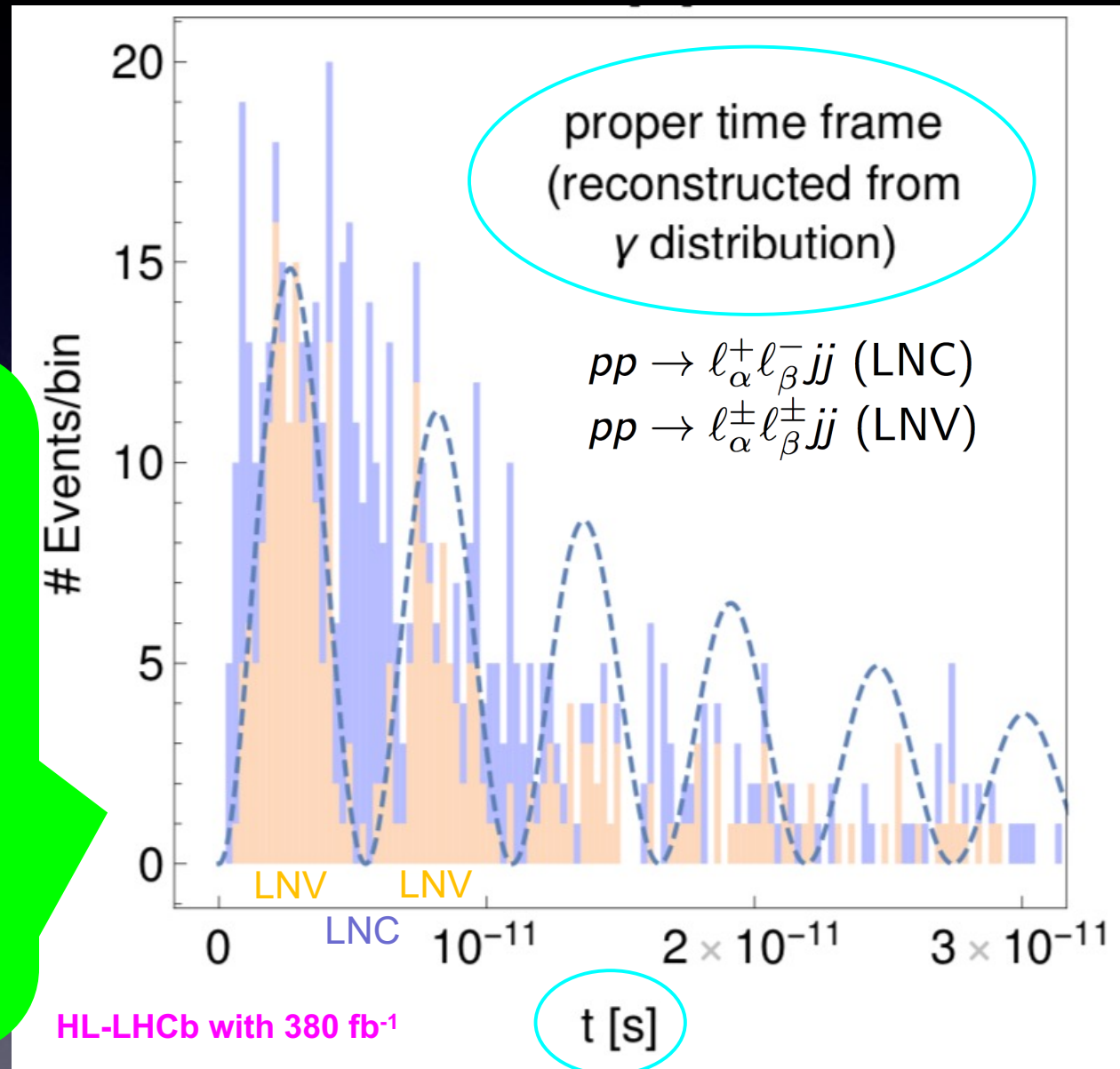
Distribution of  $\gamma$  factors included  
→ one has to reconstruct signal as function of lifetime (not displacement)

S. A., E. Cazzato,  
O. Fischer  
(arXiv:1709.03797)

# ***Estimate: Simulated signal including uncertainties in proper time frame ...***

**Example:**

**Analysis at the reconstructed level in preparation ... plus Madgraph "patch" for simulating the oscillations, and SPSSΔM model file (with Johannes Rosskopp and Jan Hajer)**



Distribution of  $\gamma$  factors included  
→ one has to reconstruct signal as function of lifetime (not displacement)

S. A., E. Cazzato,  
O. Fischer  
(arXiv:1709.03797)

# ***For which parameters is LNV induced? Even if not resolvable → "integrated effect" ( $R_{ll}$ ratio)***

Ratio of LNV over LNC events between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ :

(\*) using LO formulae and when the "observability conditions" are satisfied

$$R_{\ell\ell}(t_1, t_2) = \frac{\#(\ell^+\ell^+) + \#(\ell^-\ell^-)}{\#(\ell^+\ell^-)}$$



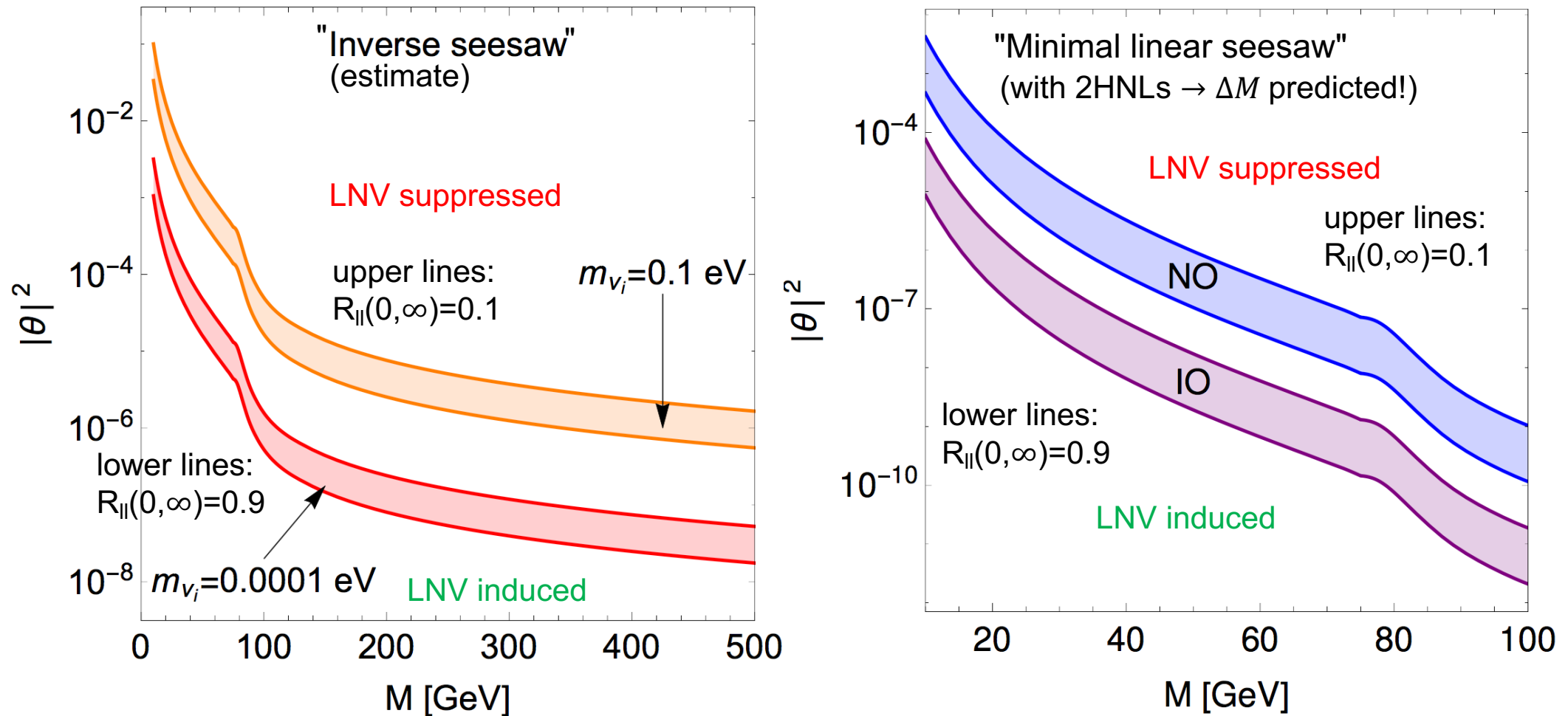
$$R_{ll}(0, \infty) = \frac{\Delta M^2}{2\Gamma^2 + \Delta M^2}$$

cf. G. Anamiati, M. Hirsch and E. Nardi, hep-ph/1607.05641

$$\Rightarrow R_{ll}(0, \infty) = \frac{N_{\text{LNV}}}{N_{\text{LNC}}} = \frac{\Delta M^2}{\Delta M^2 + 2\Gamma^2} = \begin{cases} \approx 0 & \text{No LNV induced by oscillations} \\ > 0 & \text{LNV can be induced by oscillations} \end{cases}$$



# For which parameters is LNV induced? Even if not resolvable → "integrated effect"



Plot from S. A., E. Cazzato, O. Fischer (arXiv:1709.03797)



... a little remark on LNV, and the recent discussion about testing "Dirac HNL" vs. "Majorana HNL"

***... given the various potentially observable phenomena, including LNV***

→ **SPSS $\Delta$ M** (i.e. the SPSS with  $\Delta M$  as additional parameter), appears to be a **useful benchmark scenario** (can capture all of the effects discussed in my talk 😊)\*

→ ... effects **cannot** be described by

- **1 Majorana HNL** (LNV/LNC ratio always 50%- no oscillations, for observable effects too large  $m_{\nu\alpha}$ , need at least 2 to describe  $m_\nu$  😞)
- **1 Dirac HNL** (no LNV – no oscillations, no contribution to  $m_\nu$  😞)

***\*) or alternatively of course a full 2+n HNL model***

# Summary

- With protective “lepton number”-like symmetry, the small observed  $m_\nu$  can be explained with “large  $Y_\nu$ ” and  $\sim$  EW/TeV scale  $M_N$ . **Low scale Seesaw: HNLs testable at present and future colliders**
- → Benchmark scenario: **SPSS (or SPSS $\Delta$ M)**
- **LFV (but LNC) signatures** can be very sensitive, especially at future ep colliders.
- **LVN**, although (apparently) suppressed by the “lepton number”-like symmetry, can be observable at colliders. It can be induced by **Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations**
- Opens up possibilities for testing neutrino mass generation at colliders ...
- In summary: **Fascinating prospects for probing HNLs at future colliders!**

**Thanks for  
your attention!**