

# Higgs decay into photon and invisible

Aliaksei Kachanovich

Université libre de Bruxelles

November 4, 2024



# Plan

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Theory
- 3 Phenomenology
- 4 Conclusion

# Motivation

# Motivation

The Standard Model is a highly successful yet incomplete theory of particle physics. Major challenges that remain unexplained within its framework include:

- Dark Matter,
- lepto- and baryogenesis,
- strong CP-problem,
- neutrino masses,
- gravity,
- origin of the 19 parameters of the SM,
- ...

# Motivation

- Rare processes can provide hints for extensions of the Standard Model (SM).
- The decay of the Higgs boson into a photon and two neutrinos is a rare process within the Standard Model.
- In revisited calculation the total decay rate is  $\Gamma(H \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}\gamma) = 1.33, \text{ keV}$ , which is in close agreement with the narrow-width approximation (NWA) for the intermediate Z boson.
- The differential decay rate with respect to the photon's energy is evaluated, revealing that the kinematic region associated with high-energy photons is notably affected by non-resonant contributions from box diagrams beyond the narrow-width approximation (NWA), where the intermediate Z boson is off-shell.

# Motivation

- The results of previous studies differ from each other.
- We perform the calculation in a general  $R_\xi$  gauge and provide as many details as possible about our calculations
- We studied the contribution of box diagrams to the differential decay rate.

# Theory

- The amplitude for  $H \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\ell \nu_\ell \gamma$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A} = & \left[ (k_\mu p_{1\nu} - g_{\mu\nu} k \cdot p_1) b_1 \bar{u}(p_1) \gamma^\mu P_L v(p_2) \right. \\ & \left. + (k_\mu p_{2\nu} - g_{\mu\nu} k \cdot p_2) b_2 \bar{u}(p_1) \gamma^\mu P_L v(p_2) \right] \varepsilon^{\nu*}(k), \end{aligned}$$

where  $p_1$ ,  $p_2$ ,  $k$  are the momenta of outgoing neutrino, antineutrino and photon, respectively.

- The loop coefficients  $b_{1,2}$  are functions of Mandelstam variables:

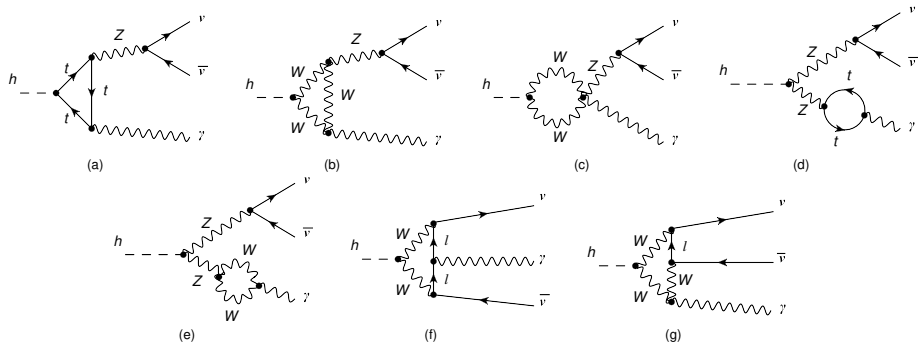
$$s = (p_1 + p_2)^2, \quad t = (p_1 + k)^2, \quad u = (p_2 + k)^2 = m_H^2 - s - t.$$

- The loop function  $b_2$  can be obtained from  $b_1$  by a variable exchange:

$$b_2(t, u) = b_1(u, t).$$



# Theory



**Figure:** Sample set of Feynman diagrams for  $h \rightarrow \nu \bar{\nu} \gamma$  decay process in  $R_\xi$  gauge. The diagrams (a-e) are examples of what we refer to as 'pole' contributions - these involve the coupling of  $Z$  propagator to the neutrino pair. The diagrams (f) and (g) are sample box diagrams.

- The gauge-invariant loop coefficients are split into two components,

$$b_{1,2} = b_{1,2}^{\text{pole}} + b_{1,2}^{\text{box}},$$

where the term  $b_{1,2}^{\text{pole}}$  includes contributions of the resonant diagrams, while  $b_{1,2}^{\text{box}}$  contains contributions originating from the box diagrams.

- Replacing the pole propagator in the  $b_{1,2}^{\text{pole}}$  functions with the Breit-Wigner propagator resolves the divergence issue

$$\frac{1}{s - m_Z^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{s - m_Z^2 + i\Gamma_Z m_Z}.$$

- This replacement affect on gauge amplitude gauge dependence.

- The differential decay rate with respect to the Mandelstam variables  $s$  and  $t$  is given as

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{ds dt} = \frac{3}{512\pi^3 m_H^3} s(t^2 |b_1|^2 + u^2 |b_2|^2).$$

- It is more appropriate to consider the decay distribution with respect to  $E_\gamma$ , the photon's energy in the Higgs boson rest frame:

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dE_\gamma dt} = 2m_H \frac{d\Gamma}{ds dt} \Big|_{s \rightarrow m_H^2 - 2m_H E_\gamma}.$$

# Phenomenology

- The total decay rate

$$\Gamma(H \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}\gamma) = 1.33 \text{ keV},$$

where a minimal cut of  $E_\gamma > 5 \text{ GeV}$  is implemented, with a negligible impact on the result.

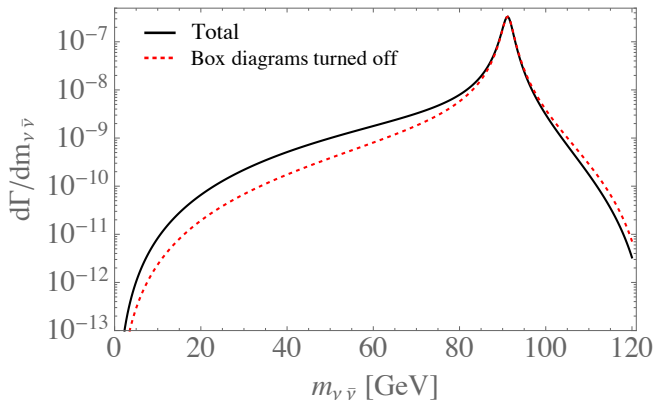
- The branching ratio of this process is

$$BR(H \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}\gamma) = 3.2 \cdot 10^{-4}.$$

- The narrow width approximation (NWA),

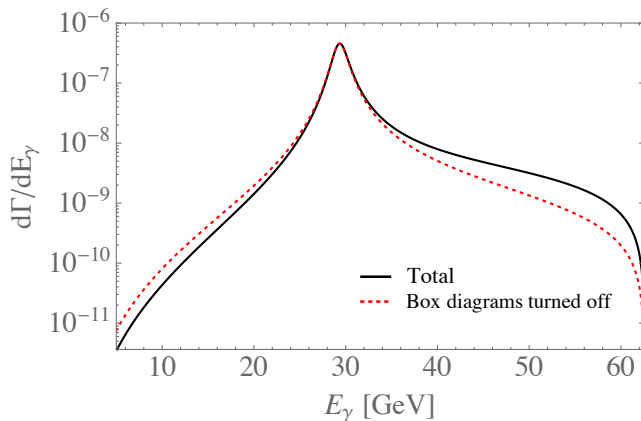
$$\Gamma_{\text{NWA}} = \Gamma(H \rightarrow Z\gamma) \cdot BR(Z \rightarrow \nu\bar{\nu}) = 1.31 \text{ keV}.$$

# Phenomenology



Differential decay rate with respect to the invariant missing mass of the neutrino pair with all three neutrino flavors included.

# Phenomenology



Differential decay rate with respect to the photon energy in the Higgs boson rest frame.

- The non-resonant contributions have a notable effect in the off-shell region associated with high-energy photons. The total rate over  $E_\gamma$  in the range  $(40, \text{GeV}, m_H/2)$  is

$$\Gamma[40 \text{ GeV}, m_H/2] = 7.0 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ keV} .$$

- Decay rate in this region without box-diagrams is

$$\Gamma[40 \text{ GeV}, m_H/2] \Big|_{\text{non-box}} = 3.4 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ keV} .$$



## Conclusion

# Conclusion

- New result for the decay rate  $\Gamma(H \rightarrow \nu\nu\gamma) = 1.33$  keV that is closer to the NWA  $\Gamma_{NWA} = 1.31$  keV, if compare with previous results  $\Gamma(H \rightarrow \nu\nu\gamma) = 1.65$  keV ([arXiv:2106.14466\[hep-ph\]](#))  $\Gamma(H \rightarrow \nu\nu\gamma) = 1.41$  keV ([arXiv:1310.8404\[hep-ph\]](#)).
- Analysis of box diagram contribution.
- A simple analytical result.