

# Status of heavy neutrino searches at ep colliders

Ahmed Hammad

University of Basel, Department of physics



University  
of Basel

*In collaboration with:*

Stefan Antusch and Oliver Fischer

**Contribution to the FCC week 2021**

# Introduction

- 1- The measured neutrinos oscillation can only be explained when neutrinos have masses
- 2- The SM successfully describes an impressive amount of data, but neutrinos are massless in the SM framework



# Introduction

- 1- The measured neutrinos oscillation can only be explained when neutrinos have masses
- 2- The SM successfully describes an impressive amount of data, but neutrinos are massless in the SM framework
- 3- The simplest extension is to add right handed neutrinos, N

$$\mathcal{L}_y \supset \mathcal{L}_y^{\text{SM}} - y^\nu \bar{l}_L \tilde{\phi} N_R - M_N \bar{N}_R^c N_R + \text{H.C.}$$

fix the observed  
neutrino masses

Mass of N is  
unconstrained !!

# Introduction

One can look for sterile neutrinos (for fixed mixing parameters) in different mass ranges as:

- $M_N \sim \text{KeV}$

sterile neutrino is very long-lived and it skip the detector before it decays.

In this mass range N can be probed as dark matter

- $M_N \sim \text{GeV}$

sterile neutrino is long-lived but it decay inside the detector.

In this mass range N can be probed via its displaced distance

- $M_N \sim \text{EW}$

sterile neutrino is no longer long-lived and it decays promptly.

In this mass range N can be probed via its LNV or LFV decays

- $M_N > \mathcal{O}(\text{TeV})$

This mass range is out of reach of the current colliders energy.

N can be probed indirectly from loop processes,  $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ ,  $\mu \rightarrow 3e$ , etc



Introduction

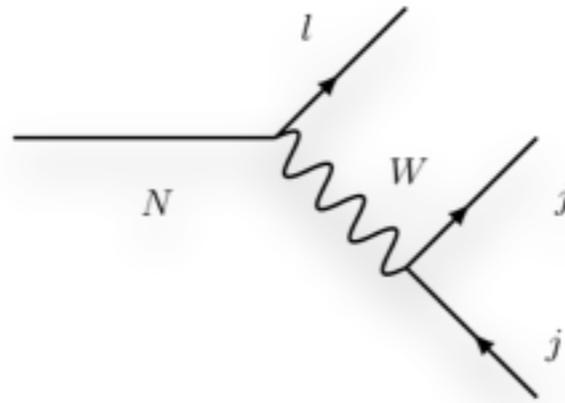
Collider search

Direct

Indirect

Optimized cut based analysis  
or ML Algorithms

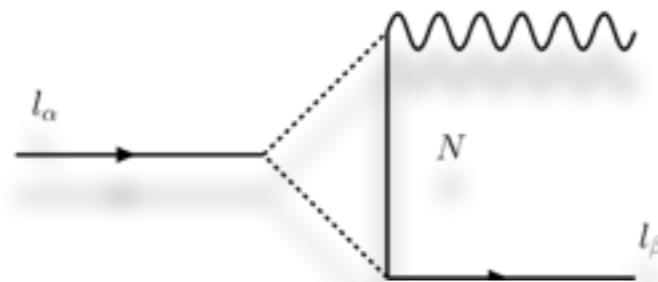
## Direct search



1- The heavy neutrino has to be produced on mass shell  
(mass range is limited to  $\sqrt{s}$  )

2- possible reconstruction of N from its final state products

## Indirect search

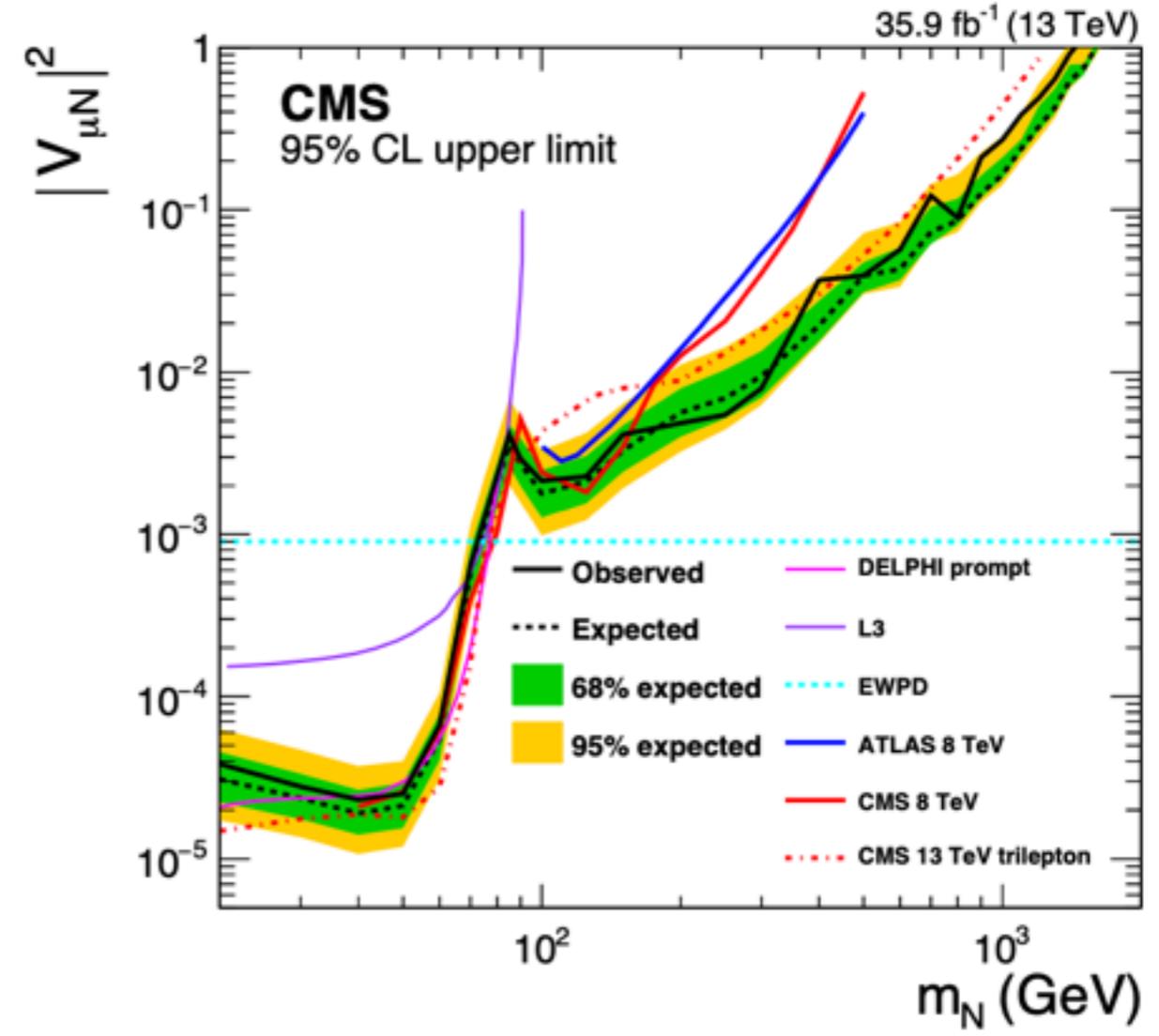
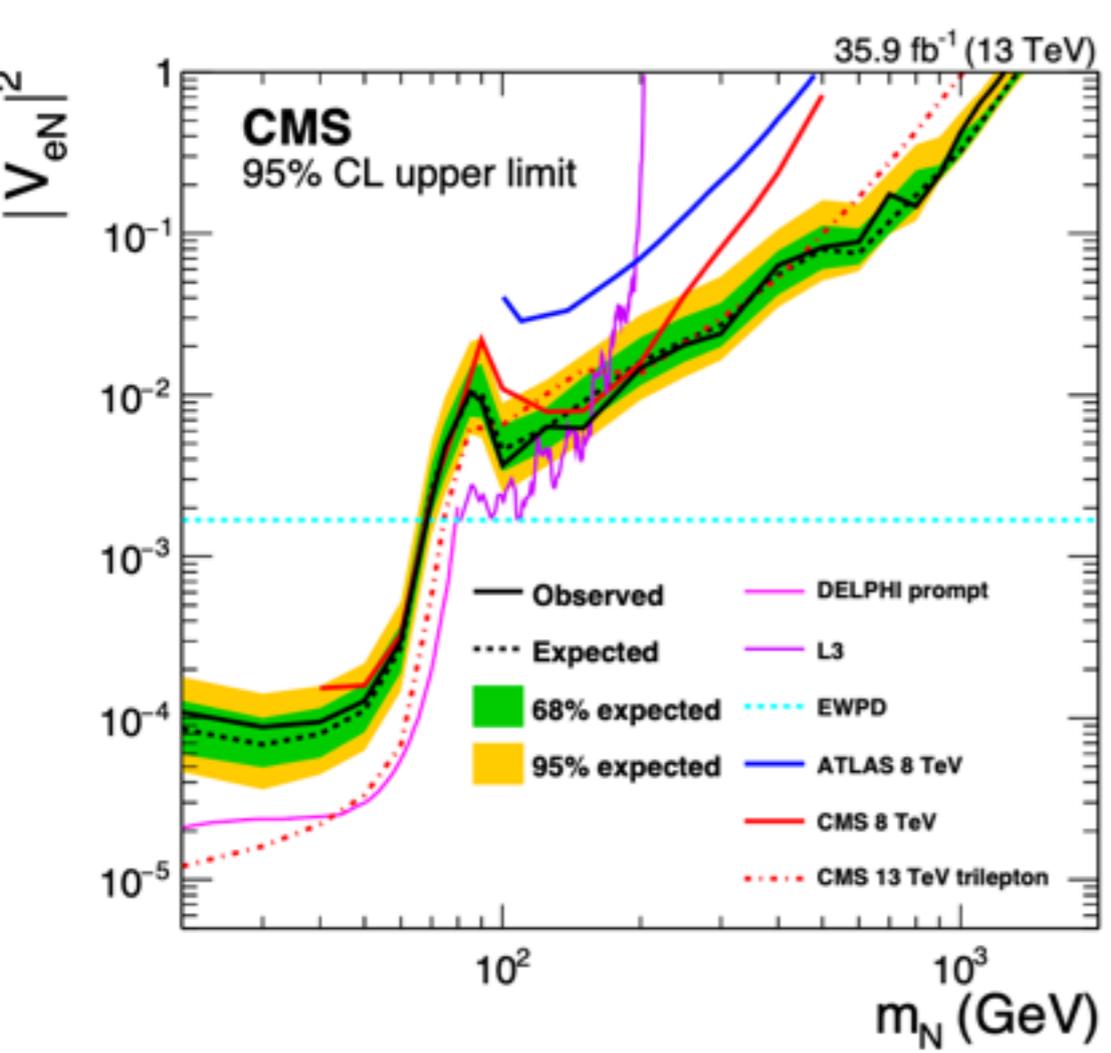
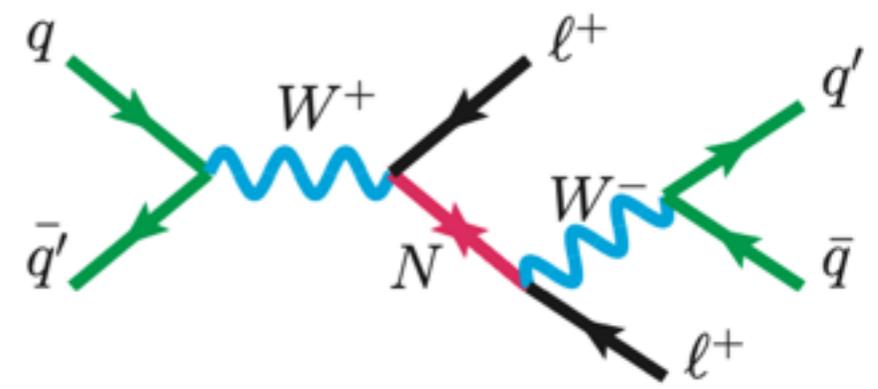


1- N in the loop and not required to be on mass shell  
(mass range not limited)

2- The enhanced measurement for LFV is an indication for heavy neutrino contribution

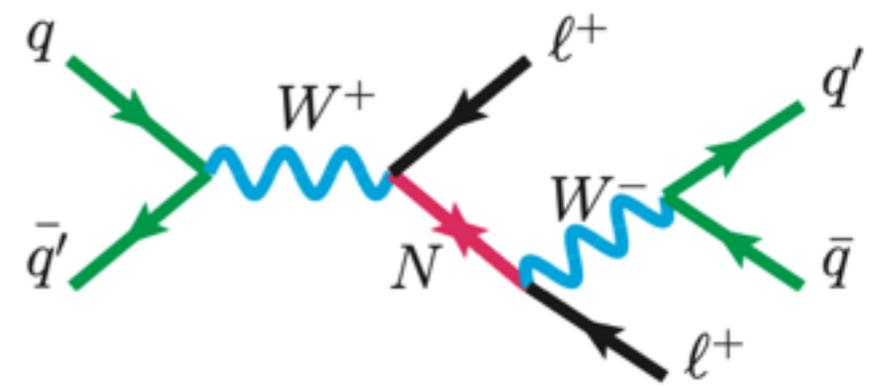
3- We cannot reconstruct the properties of the N!!

# At EW scale the LHC is sensitive to LNV but not LFV processes !!

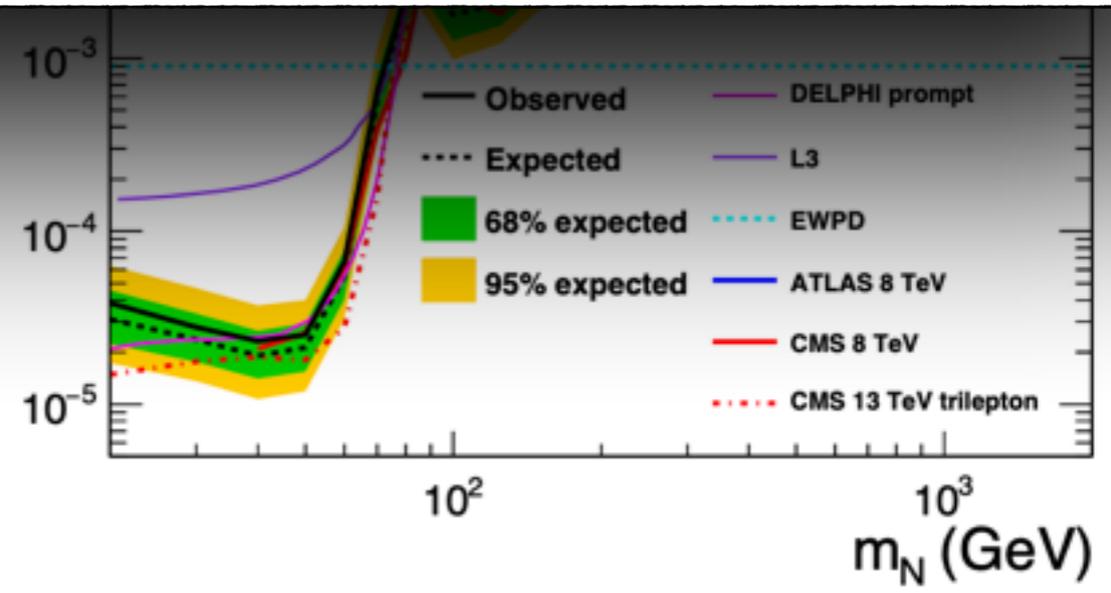
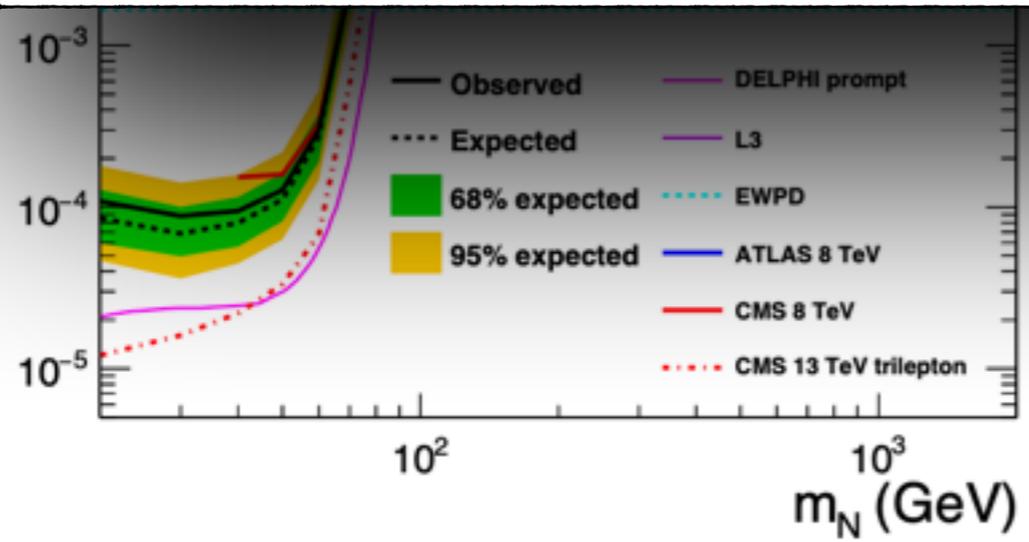


arXiv:1806.10905

At EW scale the LHC is sensitive to LNV  
 but not LFV processes !!

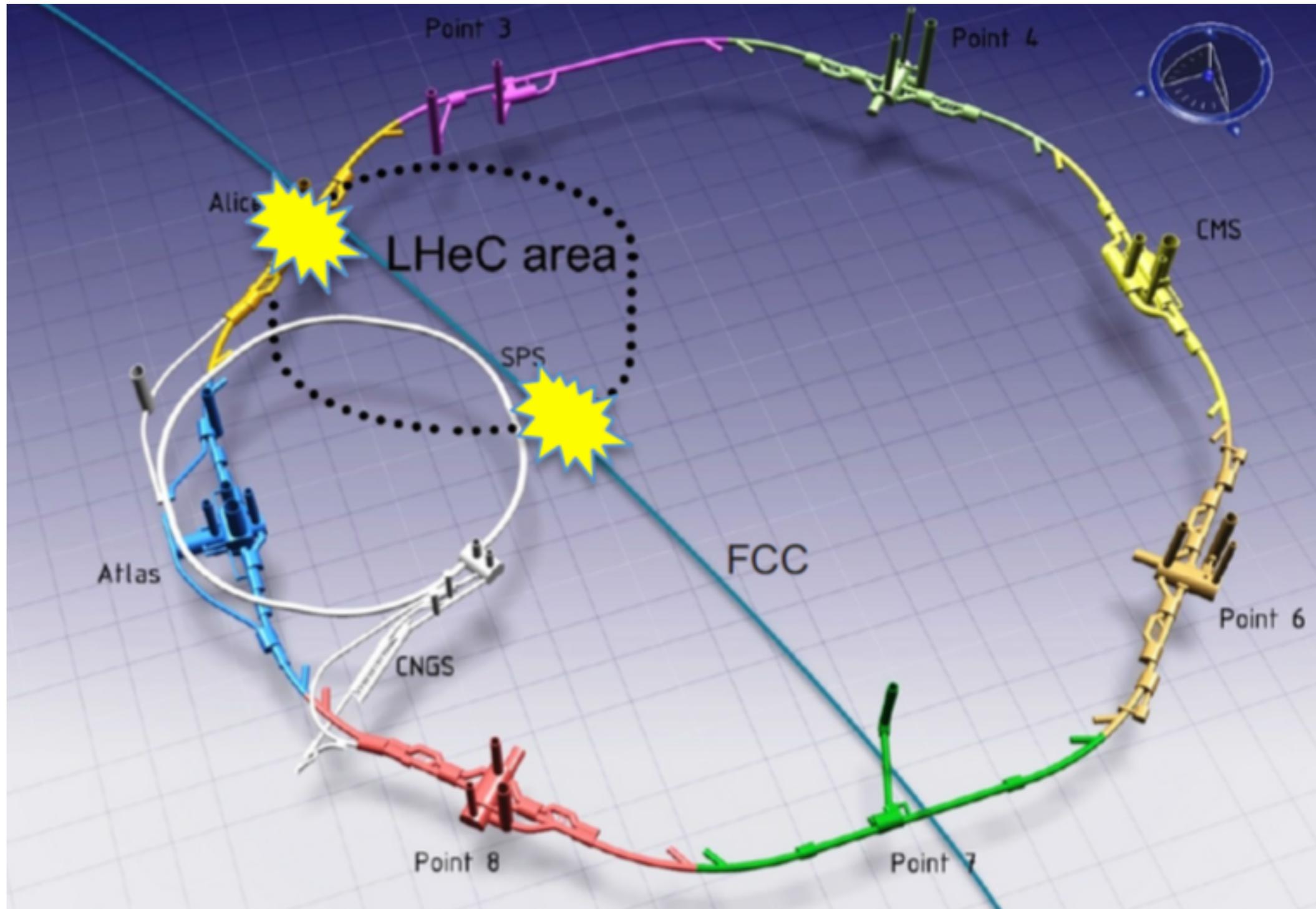


Where to look for LFV heavy neutrino decays ??



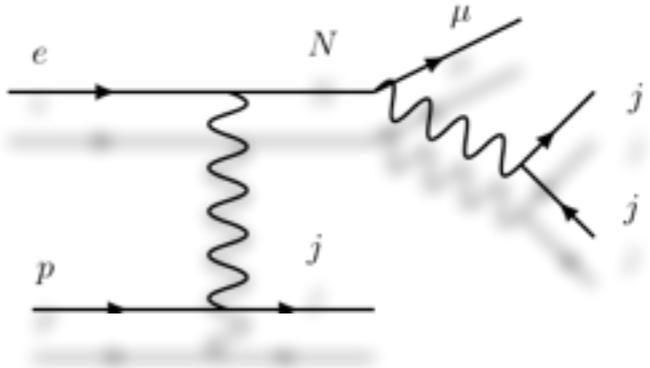
arXiv:1806.10905

# The Large Hadron electron Collider (LHeC)

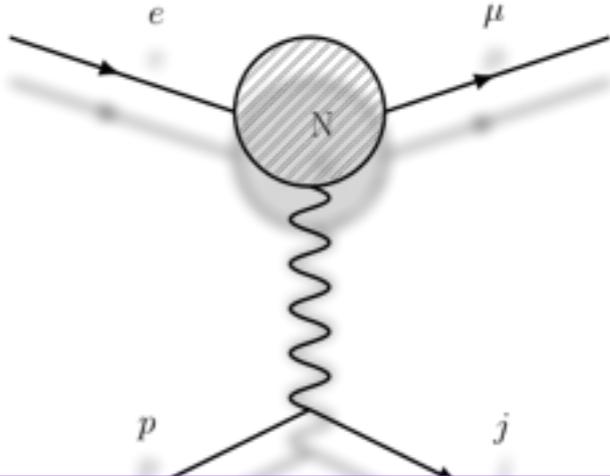


In this talk we discuss two examples

1- Lepton flavor violating heavy neutrino decays at the LHeC and FCChe (prompt & displaced)

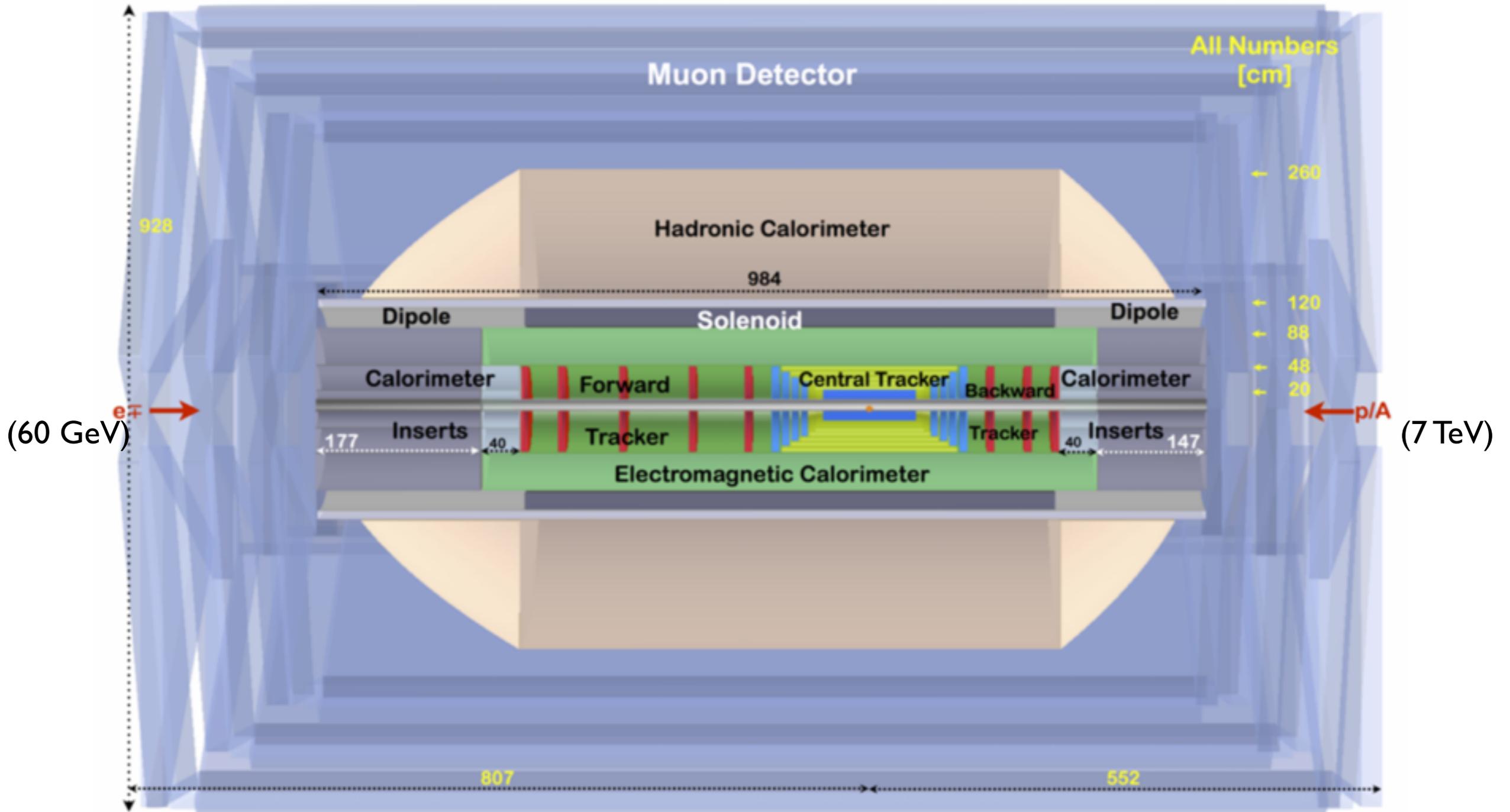


2- Induced Lepton flavor violation by heavy neutrino at the LHeC



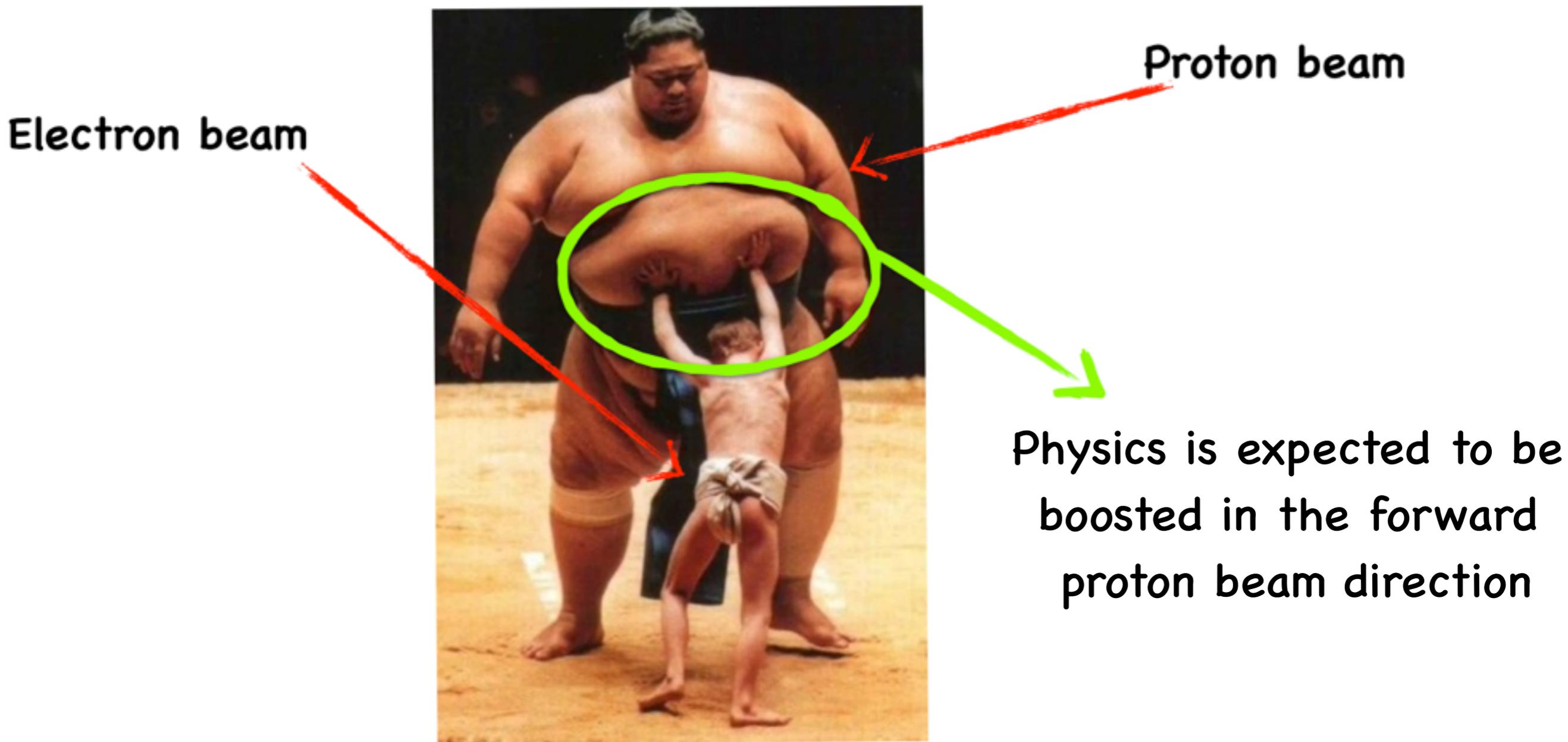
So let us first introduce the proposed LHeC

# Detector geometry

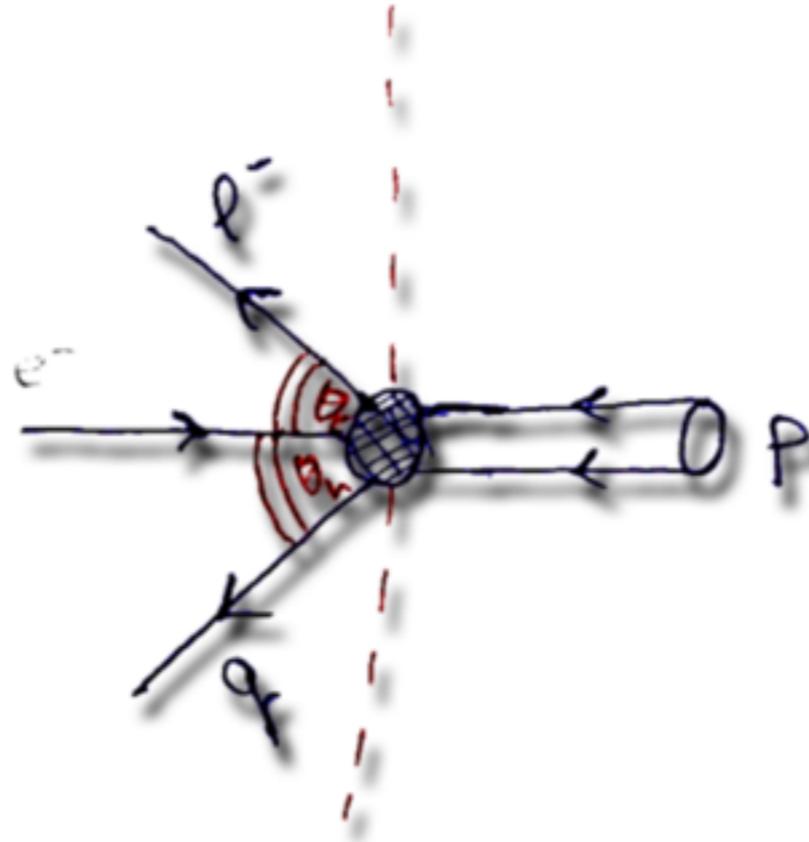
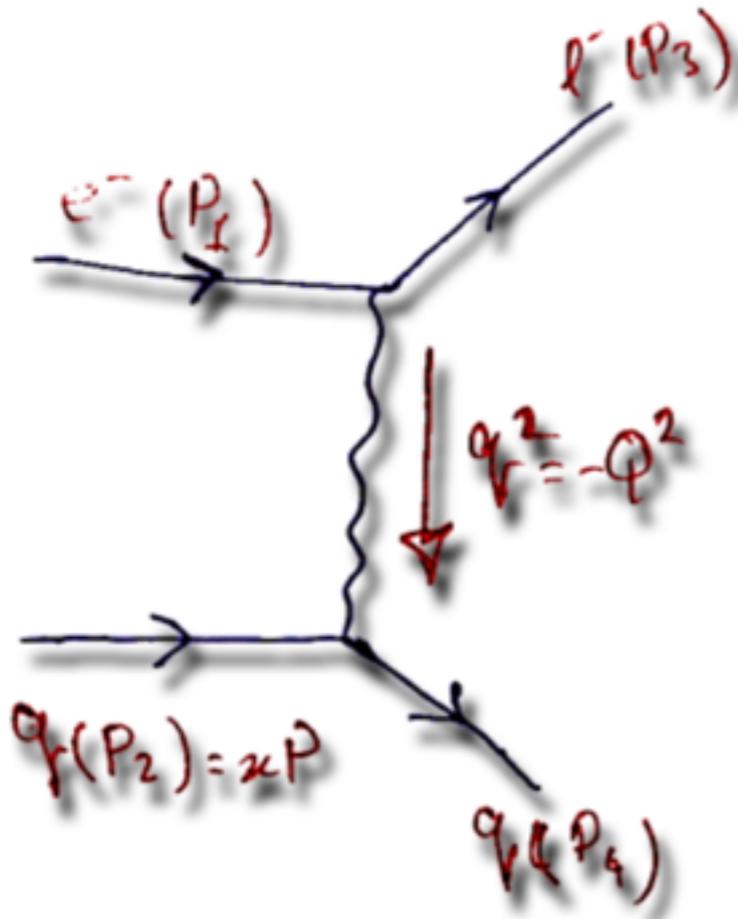


arXiv:1305.2090v1

The LHeC is expected to provide a collision of proton beam with energy 7000 GeV and electron beam with energy 60 GeV



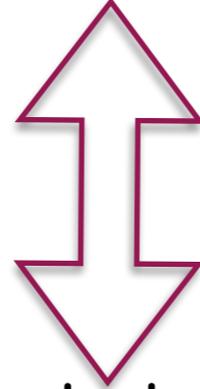
# LHeC Kinematics



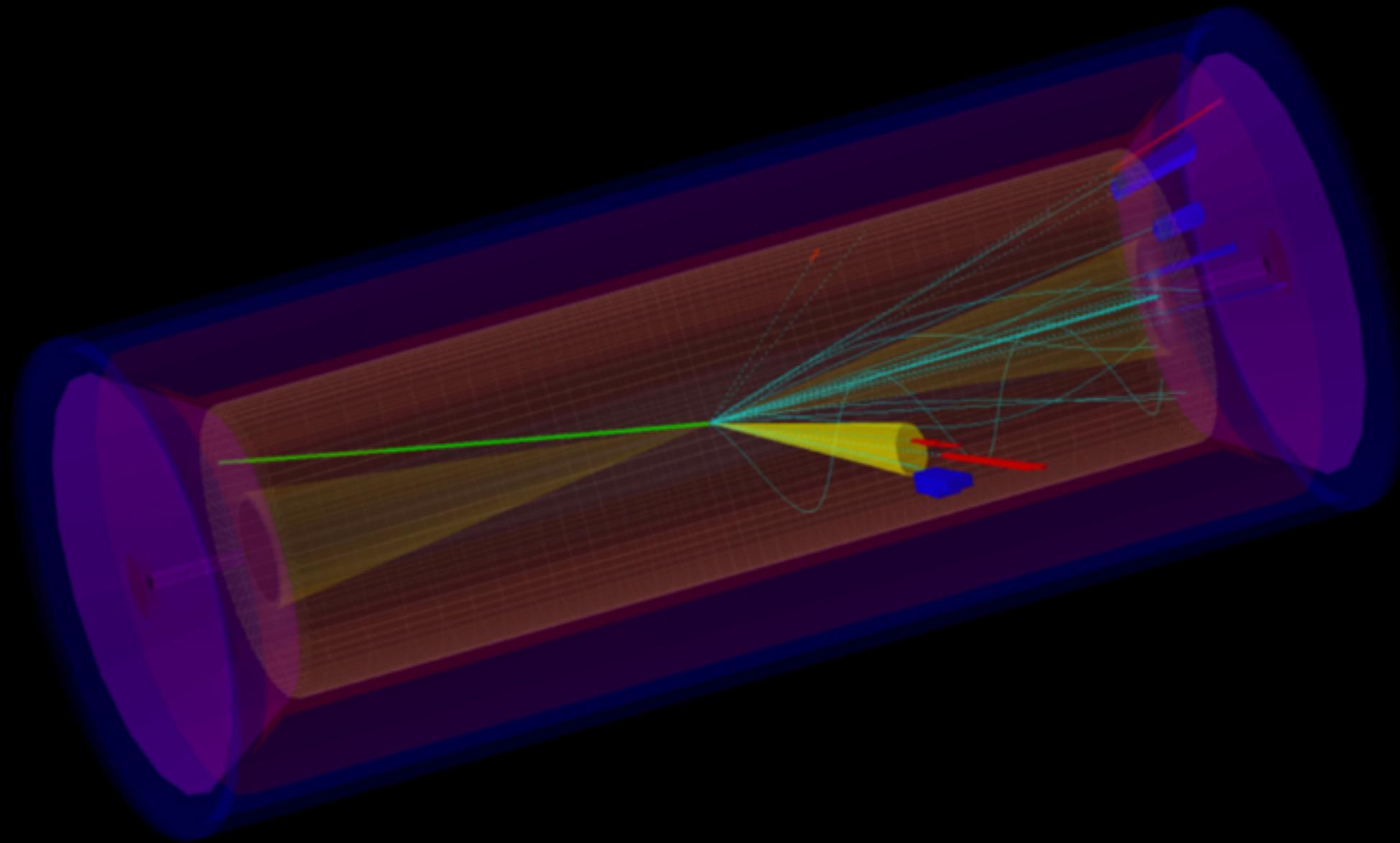
Couple of equations that control the whole kinematics

$$x = \frac{q^2}{s y_e}, \quad \text{with} \quad y_e = 1 - \frac{E_l}{2E_e} (1 - \cos \theta_e)$$

At the LHeC, Bjorken variable controls the incoming quark energy. For most of the parameter space the energy of the incoming electron and quark are similar



For small energy transfer, the final state lepton scatter in the backward direction of the detector: "*Lepton back scattering at ep colliders*"



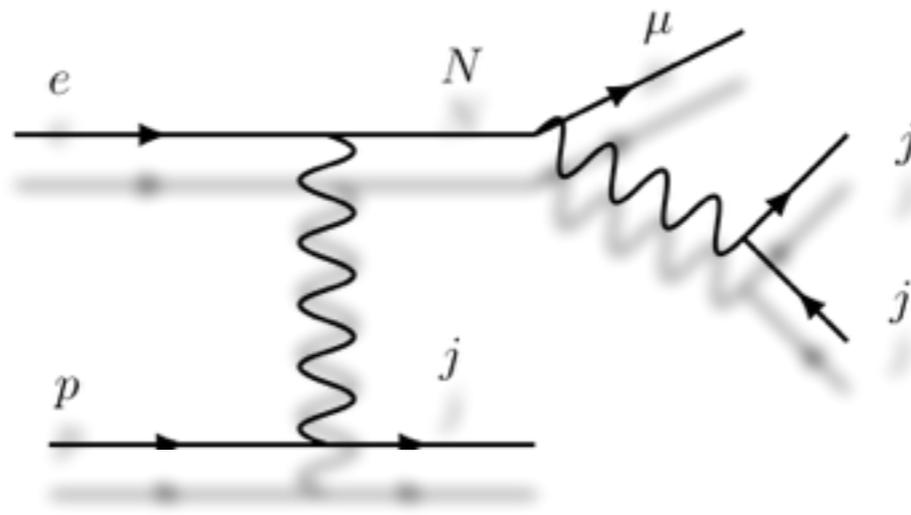
**Delphes event display**

# Part 1

## Direct search:

### Lepton-Trijet Searches for Heavy Neutrinos

*prompt decays*



# The model

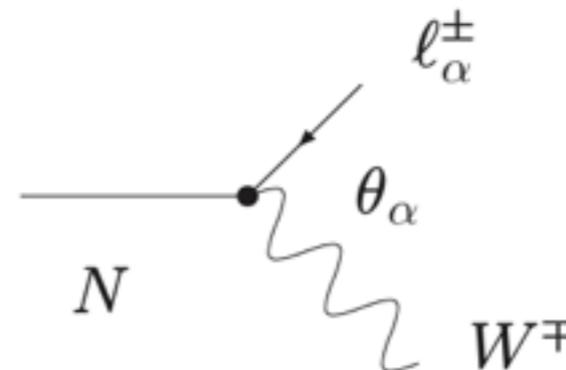
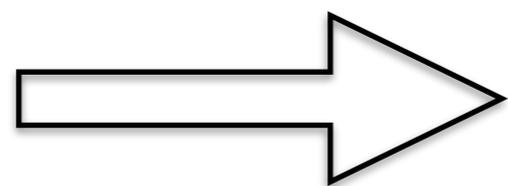
Low scale seesaw model with two right handed neutrinos

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} - y_{\nu\alpha} \overline{N_R^1} \tilde{\phi}^\dagger L^\alpha - \overline{N_R^1} M_N N_R^{2c} + H.C.$$

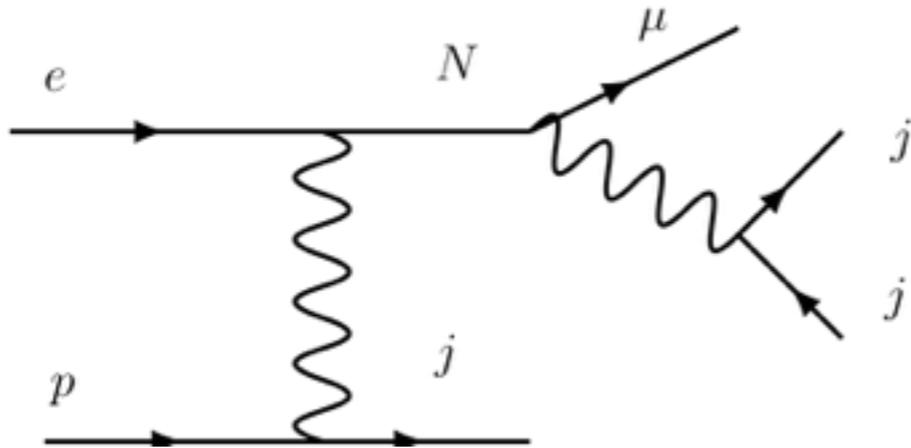
$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \mathcal{N}_{e1} & \mathcal{N}_{e2} & \mathcal{N}_{e3} \\ \mathcal{N}_{\mu1} & \mathcal{N}_{\mu2} & \mathcal{N}_{\mu3} \\ \mathcal{N}_{\tau1} & \mathcal{N}_{\tau2} & \mathcal{N}_{\tau3} \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\theta_e \\ -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\theta_\mu \\ -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}\theta_\tau \end{matrix} & \begin{matrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\theta_e \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\theta_\mu \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\theta_\tau \end{matrix} \\ \begin{matrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \end{matrix} & \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \begin{matrix} -\theta_e^* & -\theta_\mu^* & -\theta_\tau^* \end{matrix} & \frac{-i}{\sqrt{2}}(1 - \frac{1}{2}\theta^2) & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(1 - \frac{1}{2}\theta^2) \end{pmatrix}$$

with active-sterile mixing angles

$$\theta_\alpha = \frac{y_{\nu\alpha}^* v_{EW}}{\sqrt{2} M_N}$$



# Kinematic variables



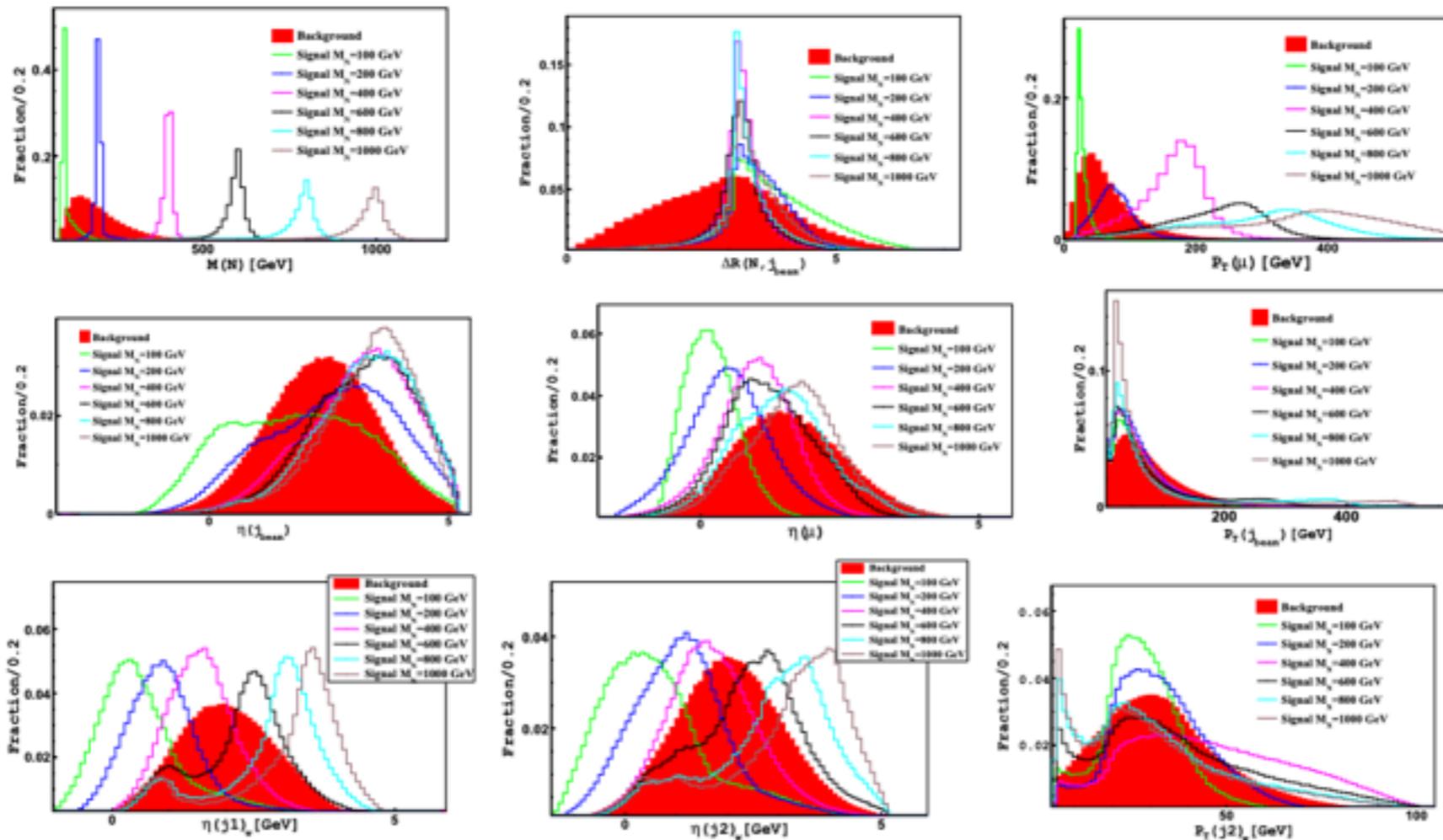
## Backgrounds

$$pe^- \rightarrow je^-VV, \quad \text{where } VV \rightarrow jj\mu^- \mu^+$$

$$pe^- \rightarrow je^-VV, \quad \text{where } VV \rightarrow jj\mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu$$

$$pe^- \rightarrow j\nu_e VV, \quad \text{where } VV \rightarrow jj\mu^- \mu^+$$

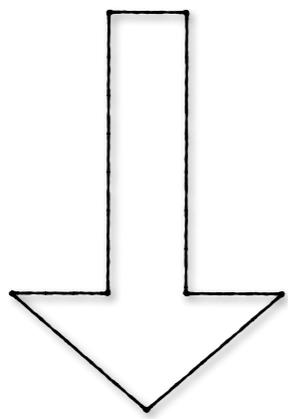
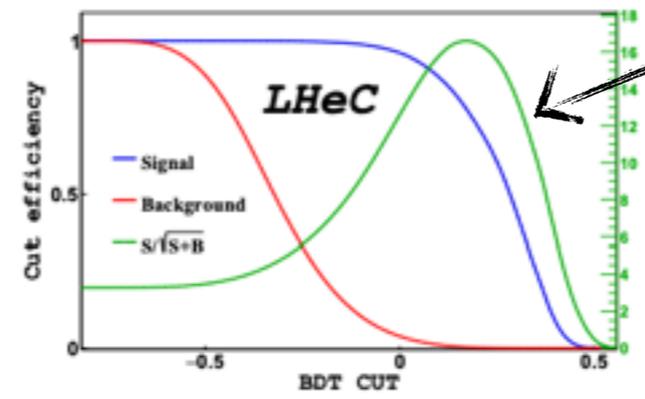
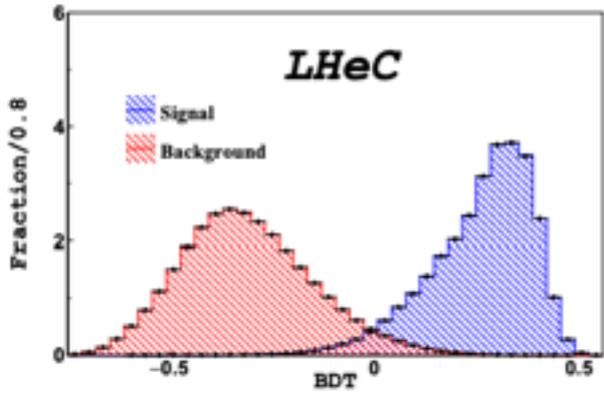
$$pe^- \rightarrow j\nu_e VV, \quad \text{where } VV \rightarrow jj\mu^- \bar{\nu}_\mu$$



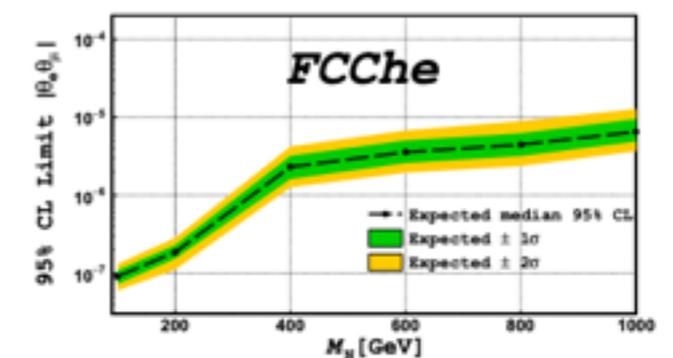
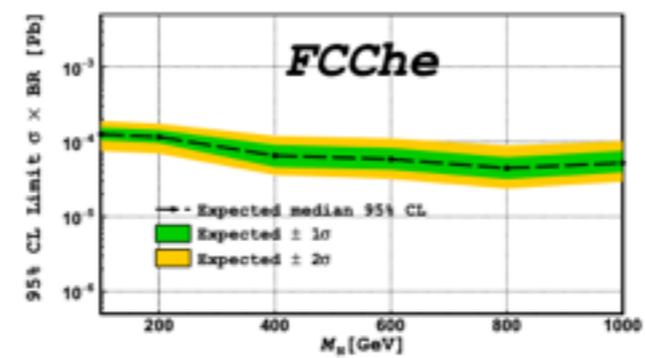
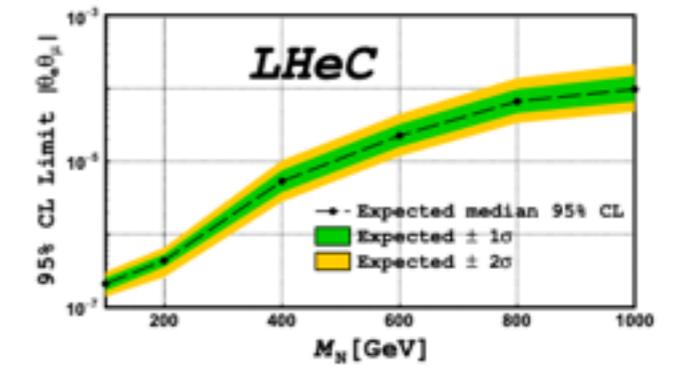
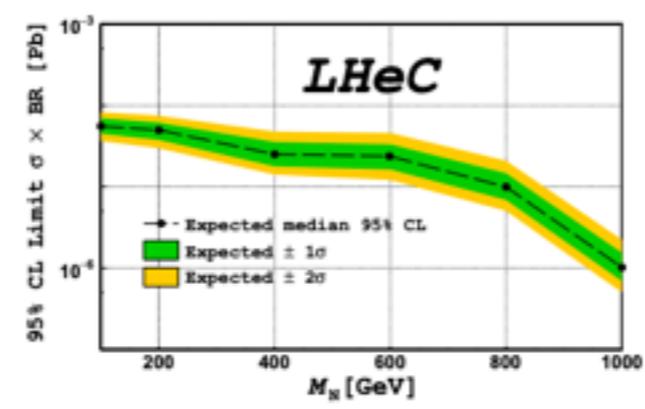
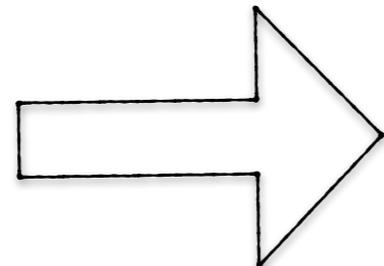
# Kinematic variables

Optimized cut  
 $M_N = 500 \text{ GeV}$

arXiv:1908.02852



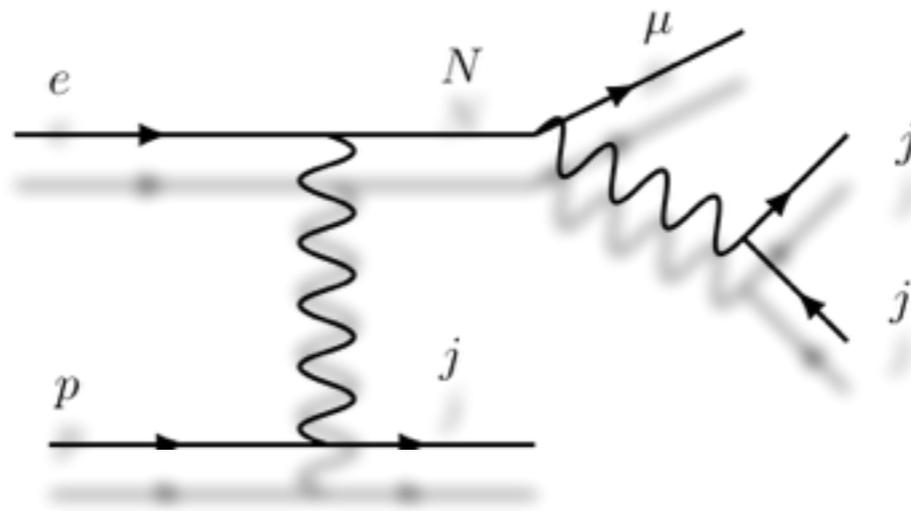
Remaining events

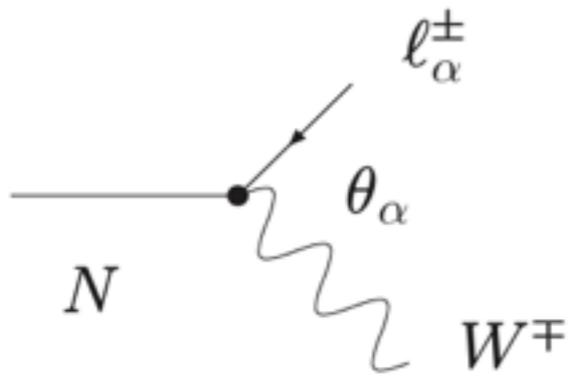


# Part 2

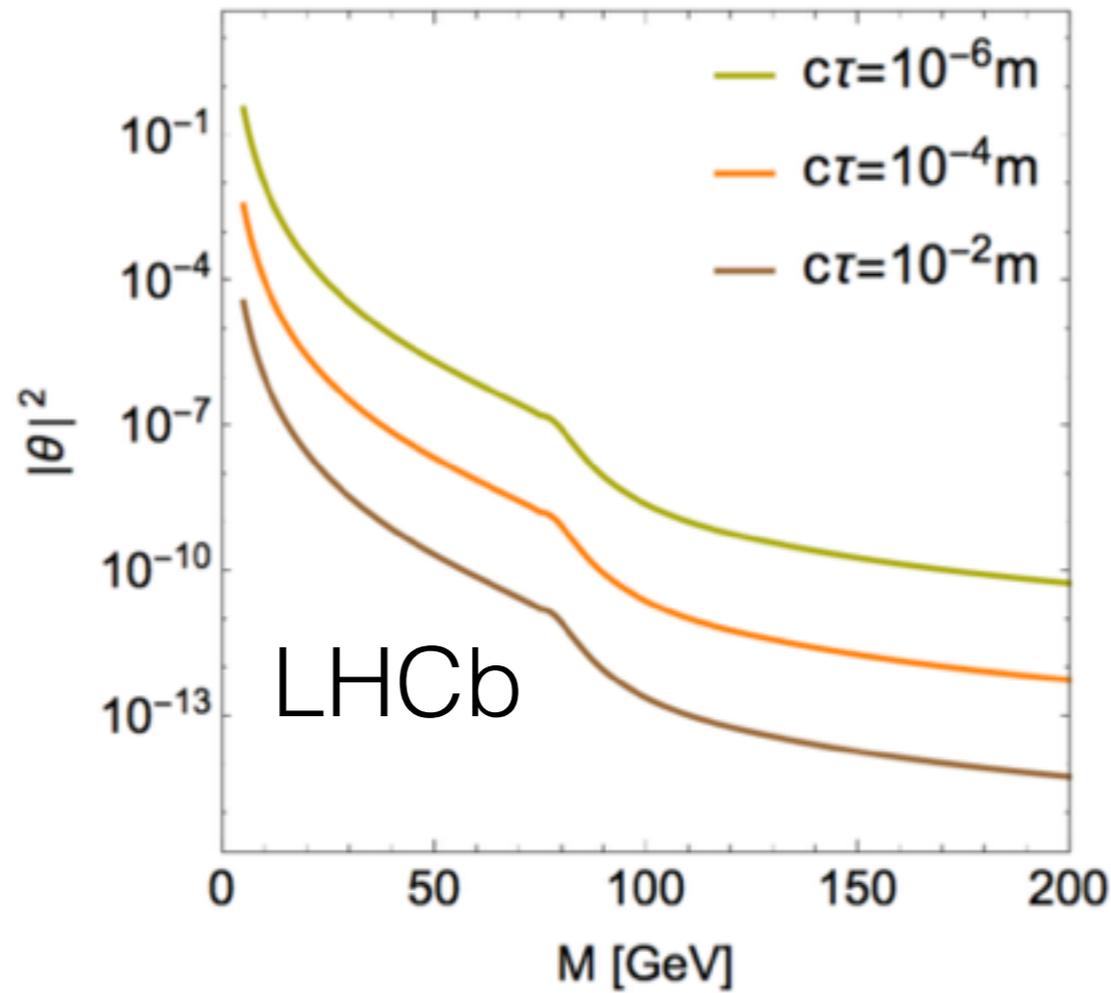
## Direct search:

### Lepton-Trijet Searches for Heavy Neutrinos *displaced decays*





Heavy neutrino can be long-lived by  $M_N < M_W$  and/or small  $\theta_\alpha$



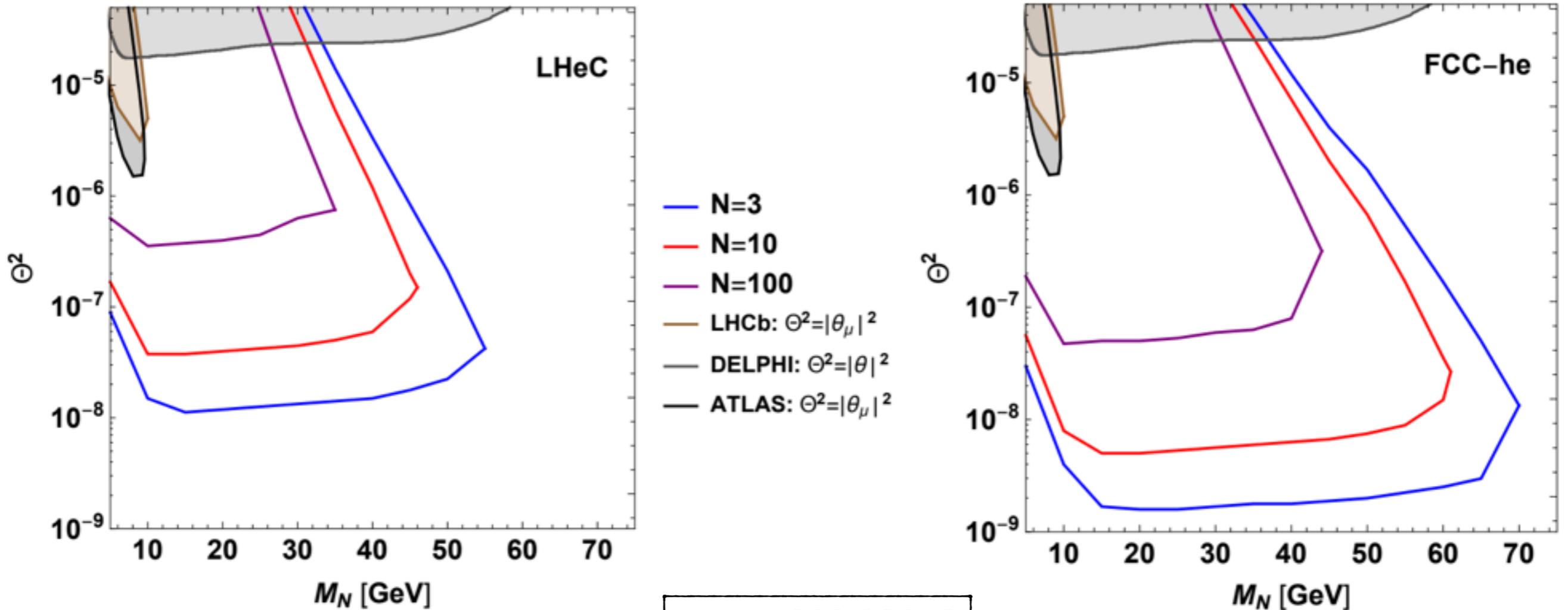
arXiv:1709.03797

$$N_{\text{dv}}(\sqrt{s}, \mathcal{L}, m_N, |\theta|) = \overbrace{\sigma_{\text{tot}}(\sqrt{s}, m_N, |\theta|)}^{\text{Number of events}} \mathcal{L} \\ \times \int D_N(\Theta, \gamma) P_{\text{dv}}(x_{\text{min}}(\Theta), x_{\text{max}}(\Theta), \Delta x_{\text{lab}}(\tau, \gamma)) d\Theta d\gamma$$

Number of signal events from displaced vertices

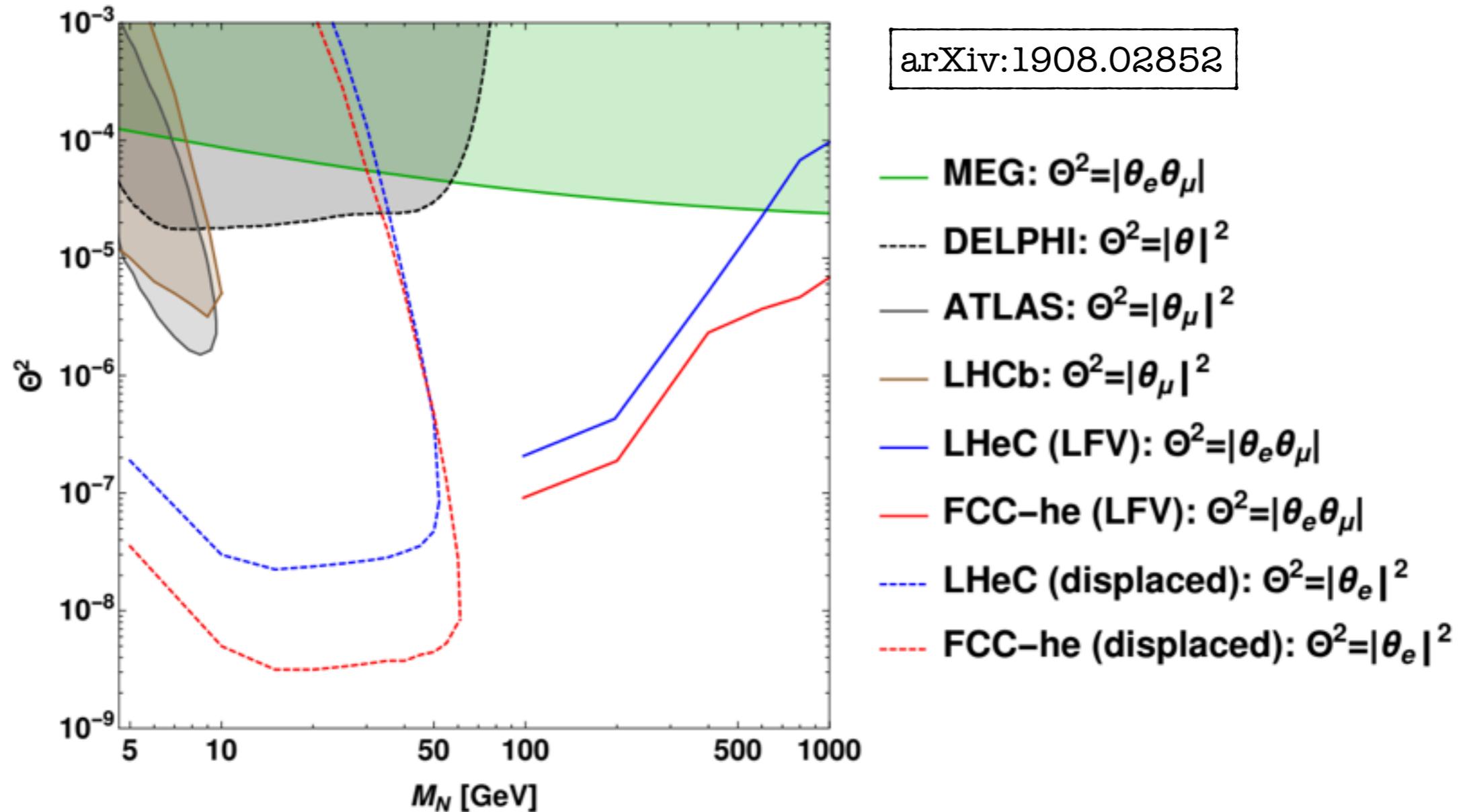
Probability distribution for producing N with certain angle  $\Theta$  and  $\gamma$

Probability distribution for N decays with certain parts of the detector



arXiv:1908.02852

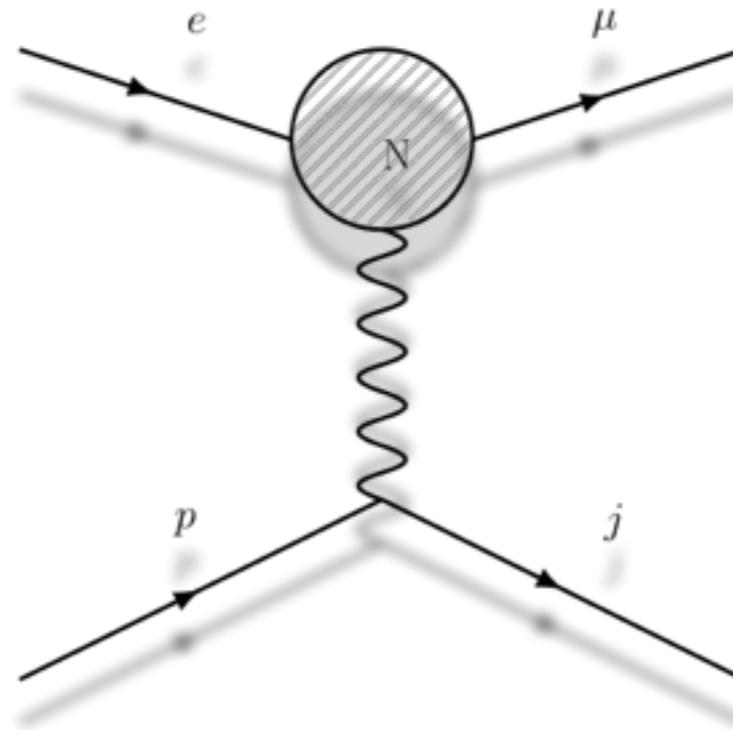
# Summary of heavy neutrino direct search



limited sensitivity to heavy neutrino mass around 1 TeV!!

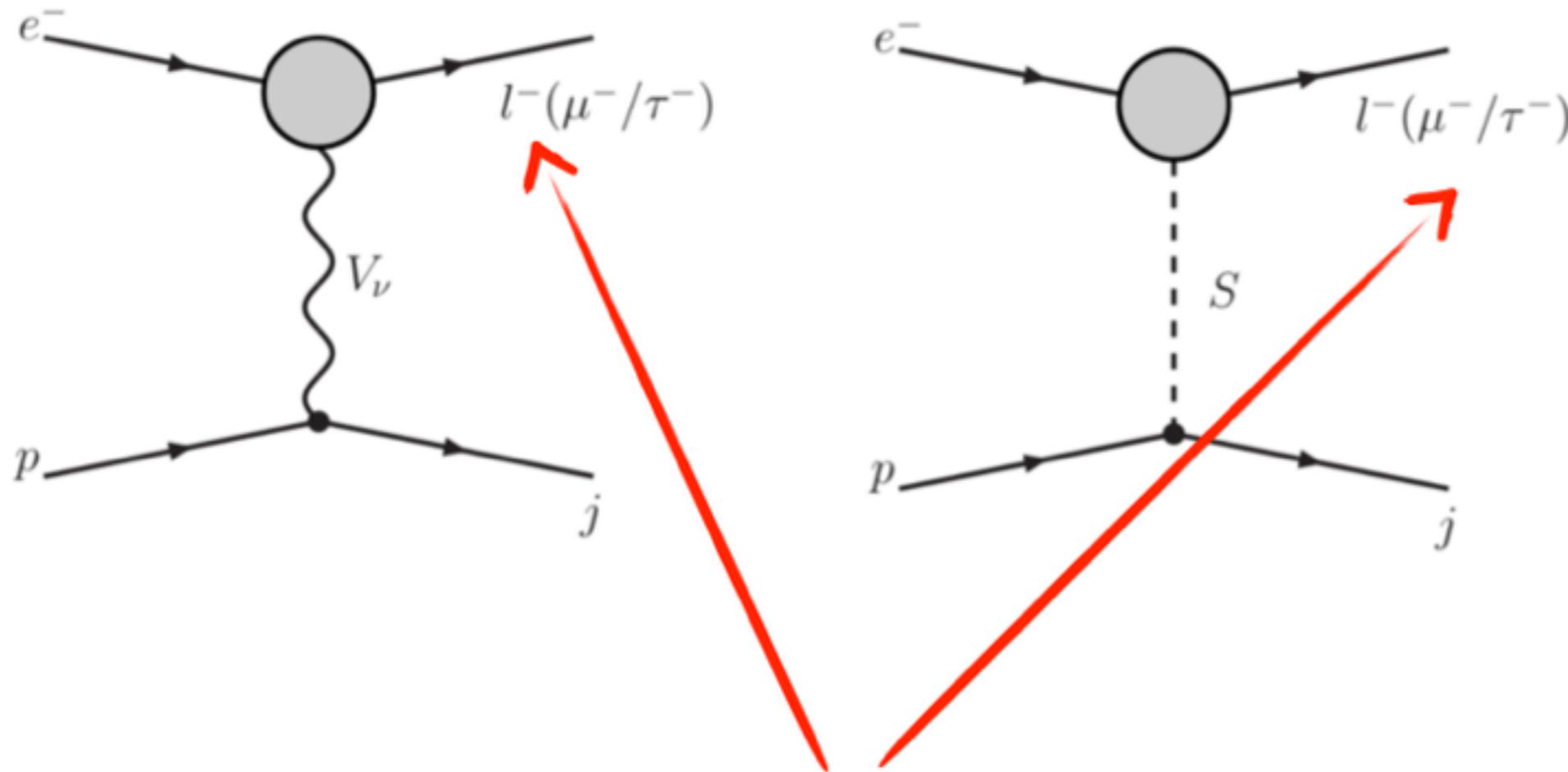
# Part 3

## Indirect search



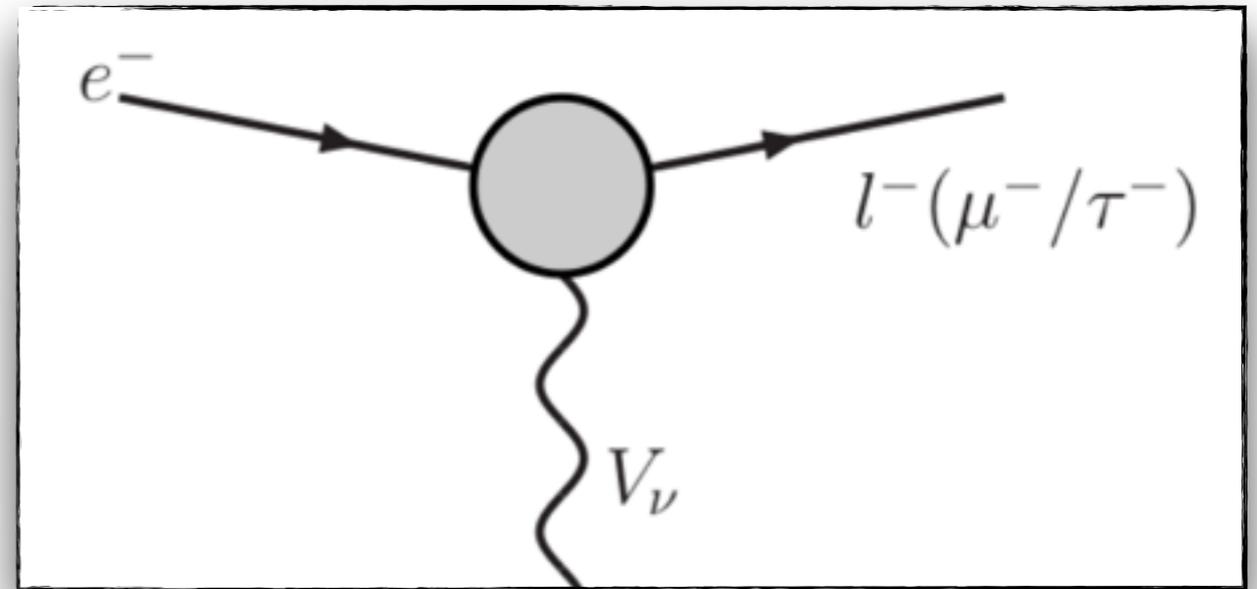
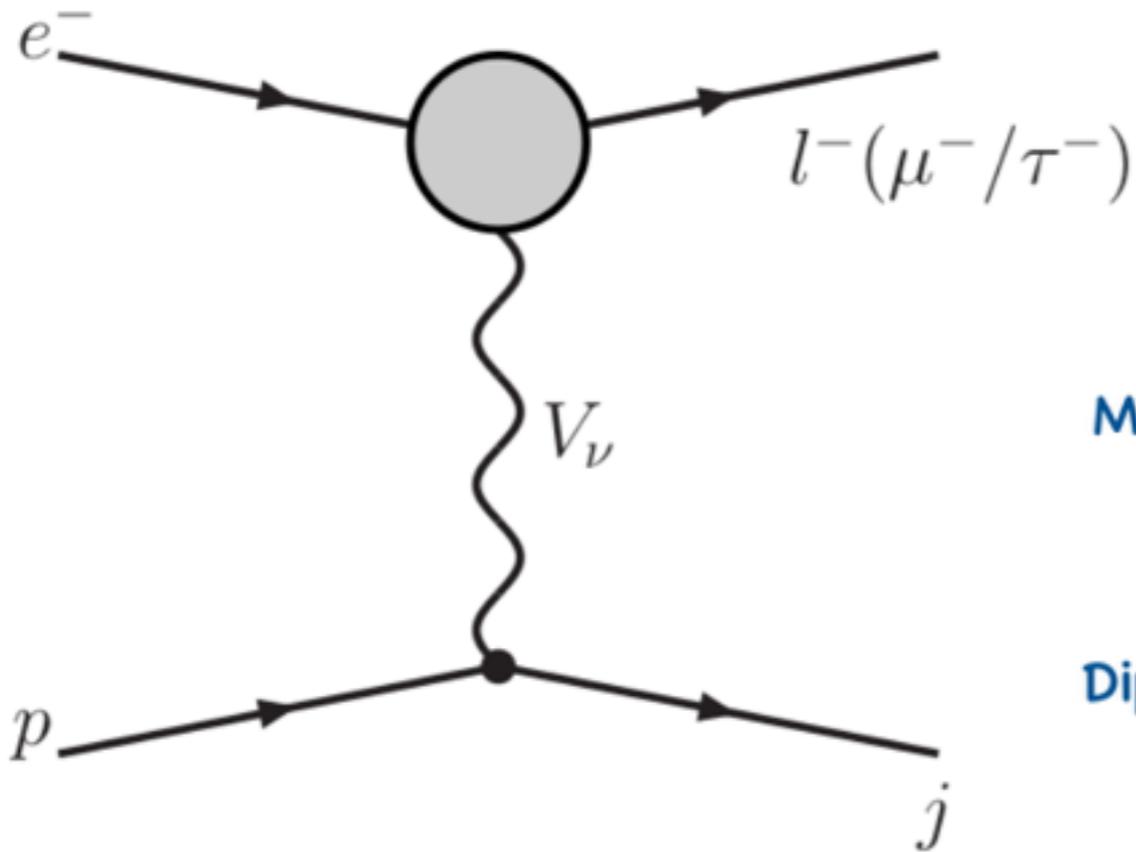
# The model

Effective theory is a generic framework that can be fitted to any specific model



Tree level renormalized SM Lagrangian has no source for LFV

# The model



## Monopole operator

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

## Dipole operator

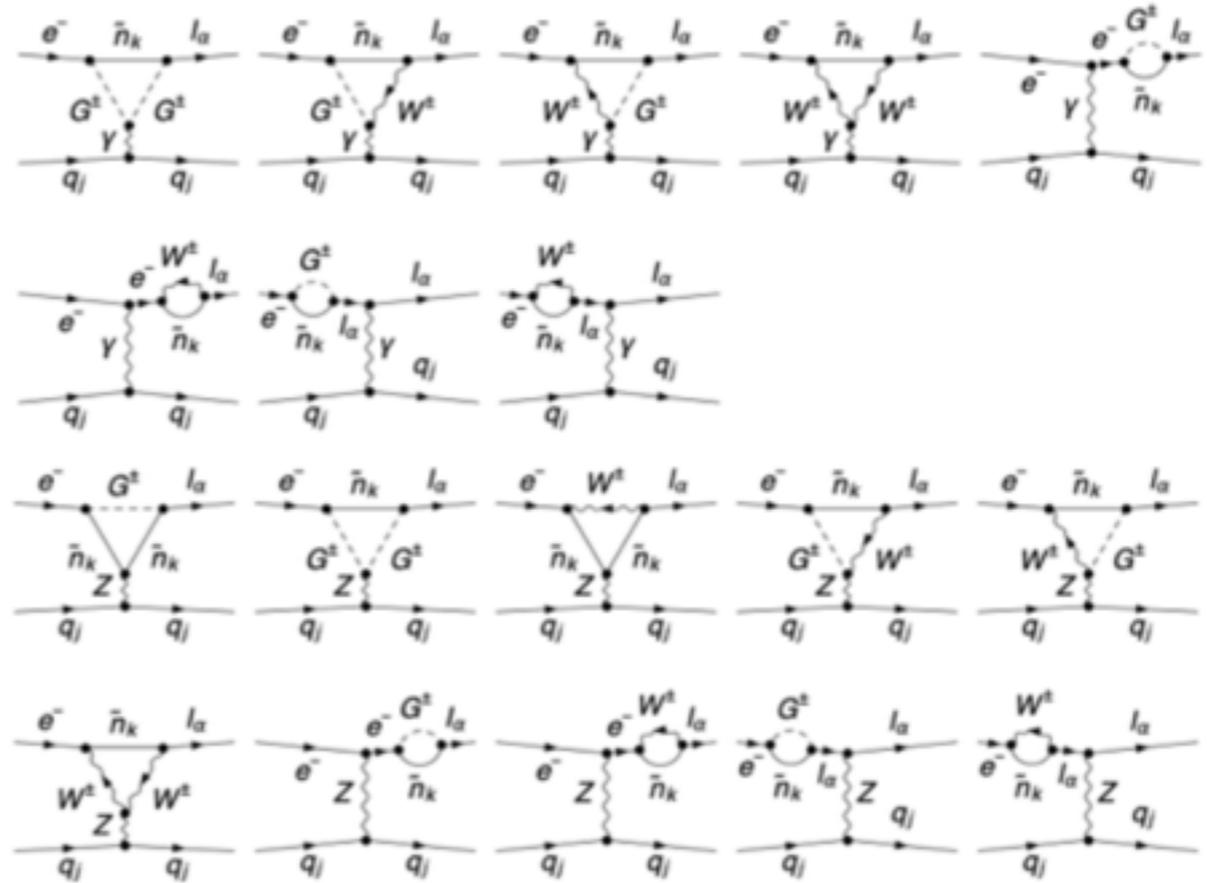
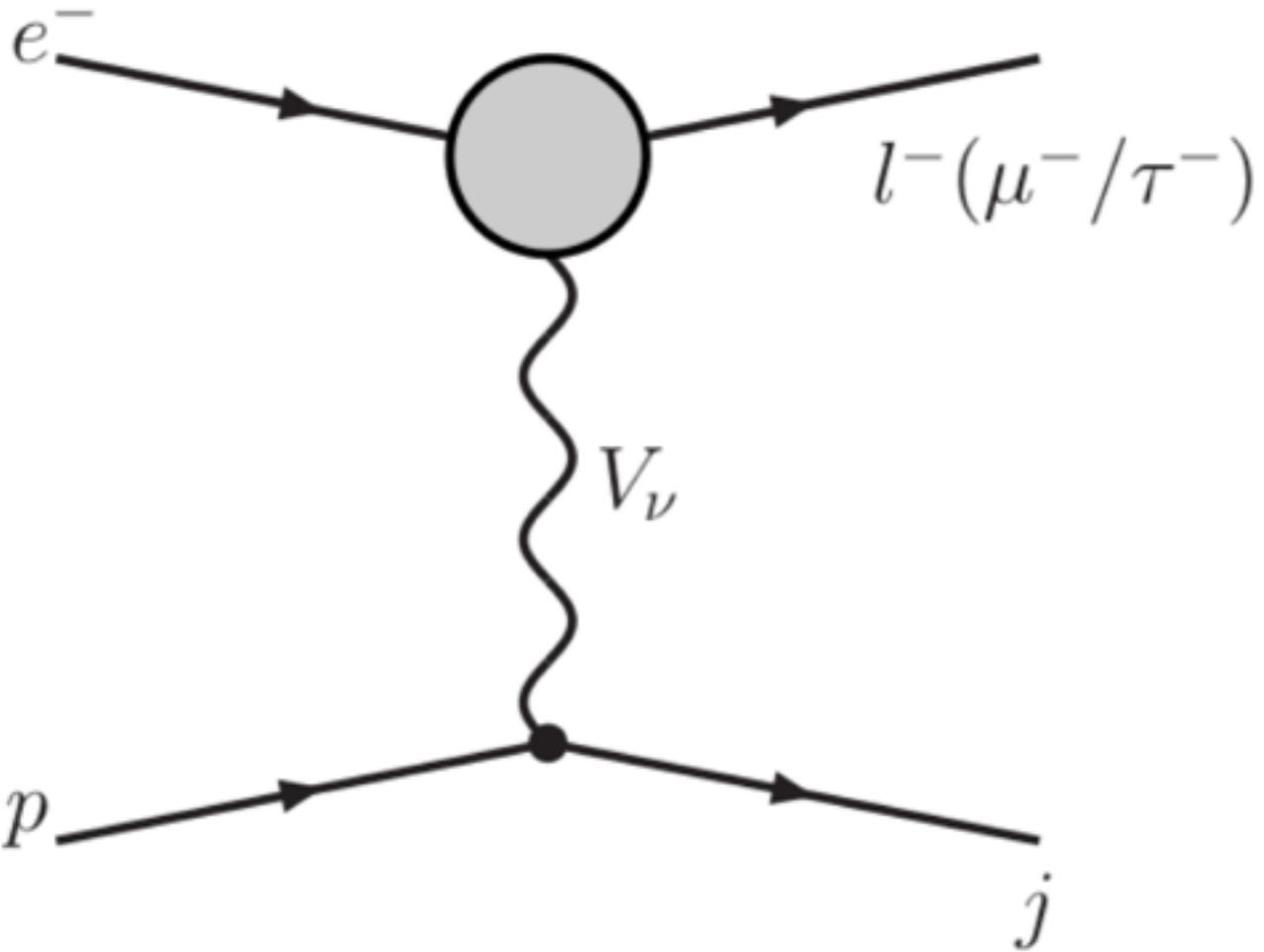
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}}^{\text{dipole}} = \bar{\ell}_\alpha \sigma^{\mu\nu} P_{L,R} \ell_\beta q_\mu V_\nu D_{L,R},$$

## Matrix element for the process

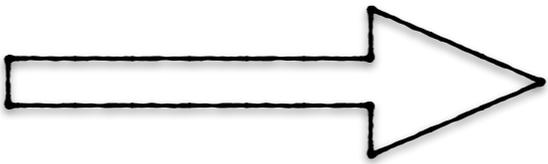
$$\mathcal{M}_{\gamma^*} = \bar{u}_{l_\alpha} \left[ B_{L,R}^\gamma P_{L,R} q^2 \gamma^\nu - i \sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\mu D_{L,R}^\gamma P_{L,R} \right] u_e \left( \frac{-ie g_{\mu\nu}}{q^2} \right) \bar{u}_q (-ie Q_q \gamma^\mu) v_q,$$

$$\mathcal{M}_Z = \bar{u}_{l_\alpha} \left[ A_{L,R}^Z P_{L,R} \gamma^\nu + B_{L,R}^Z P_{L,R} q^2 \gamma^\nu - i \sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\mu D_{L,R}^Z P_{L,R} \right] u_e \left( \frac{-ig_{\mu\nu}}{q^2 - M_Z^2} \right) \bar{u}_q (\gamma^\mu g_{L,R} P_{L,R}) v_q.$$

# Example model: low scale seesaw

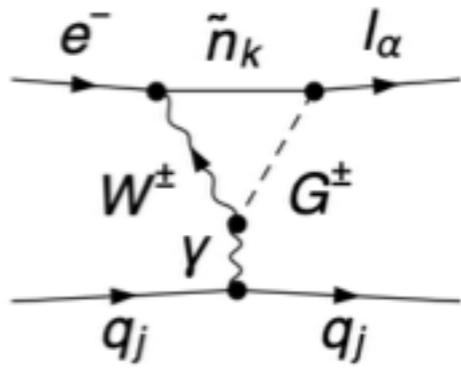
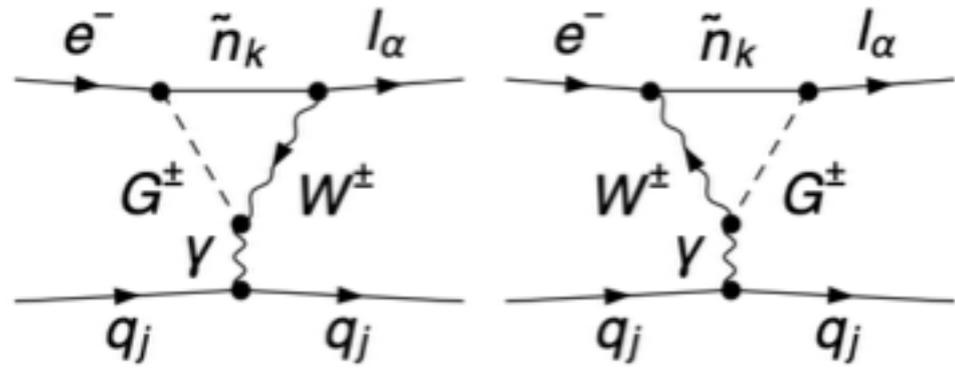


Tree level not exist

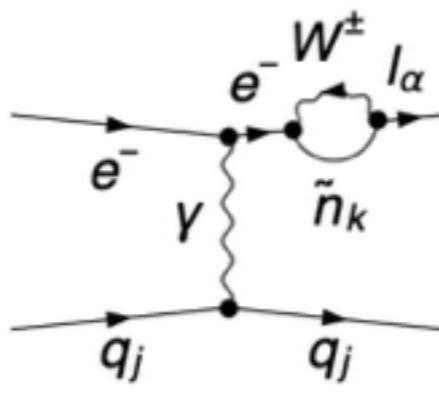
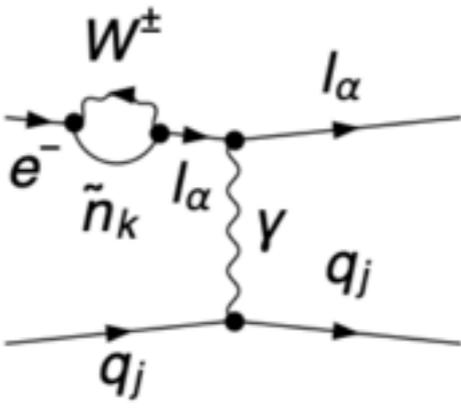
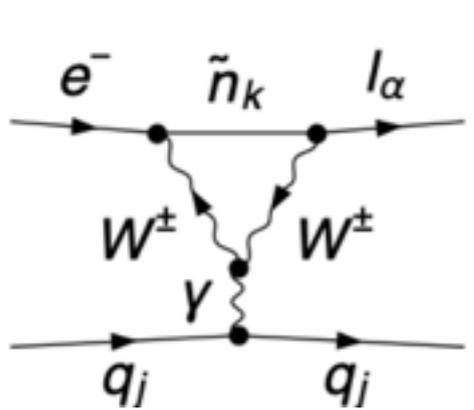


Processes are UV finite

# Example model: low scale seesaw

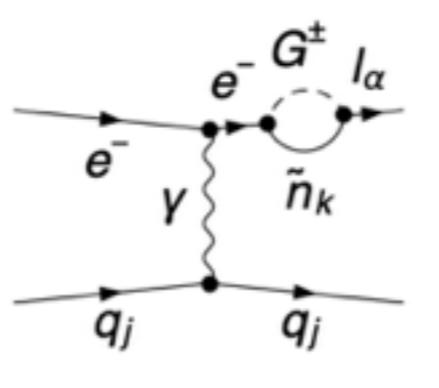
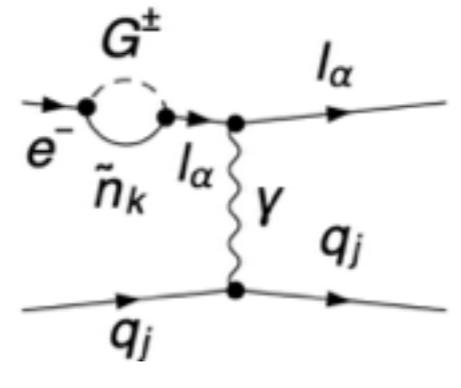
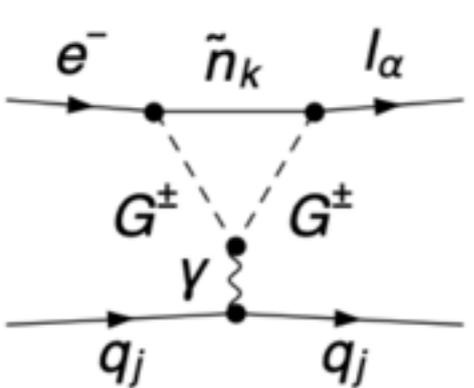


UV finite



UV finite =

Sum Up + unitarity of the mixing matrix



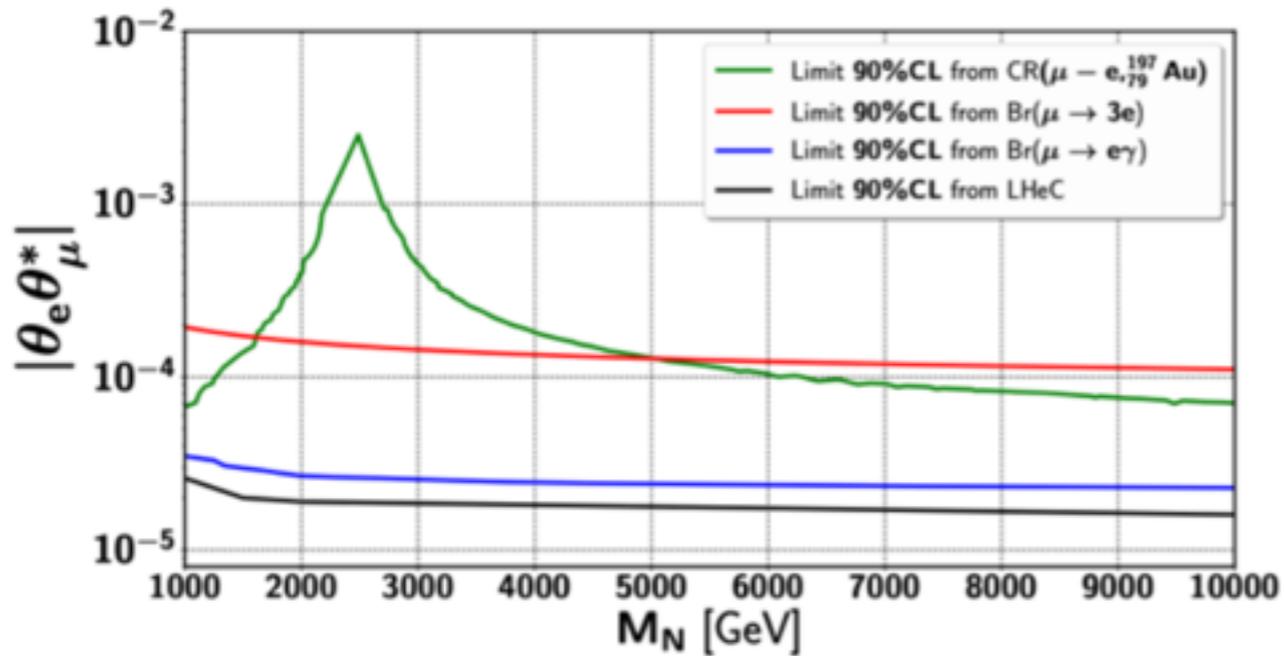
UV finite =

Sum Up + unitarity of the mixing matrix

# Example model: low scale seesaw

arXiv:2010.08907

**LHeC can provide better sensitivity for LFV search than all the existing searches**



**Current limit from different experiments**

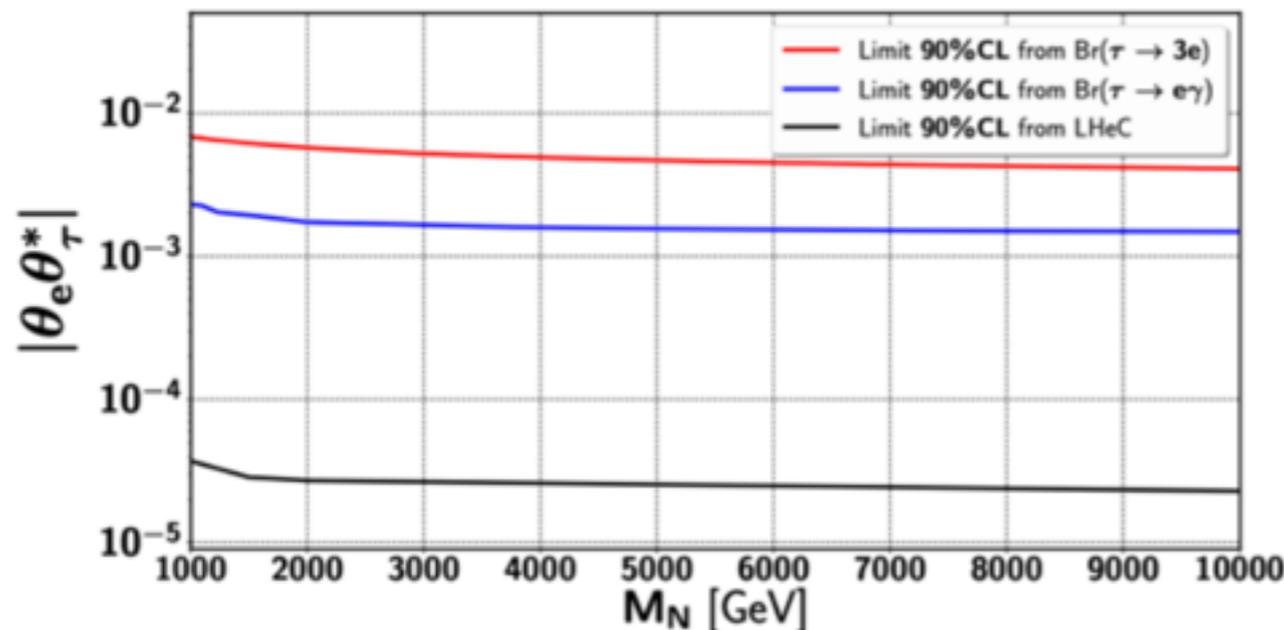
$$Br(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma) \leq 4.2 \times 10^{-13}$$

$$Br(\tau \rightarrow e\gamma) \leq 3.3 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$Br(\mu \rightarrow e^- e^+ e^-) \leq 1. \times 10^{-12}$$

$$Br(\tau \rightarrow e^- e^+ e^-) \leq 2.7 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$Cr(\mu - e, {}^{197}\text{Au}) \leq 7 \times 10^{-13}$$



# Remark

Dominant contribution comes from the Z mediator

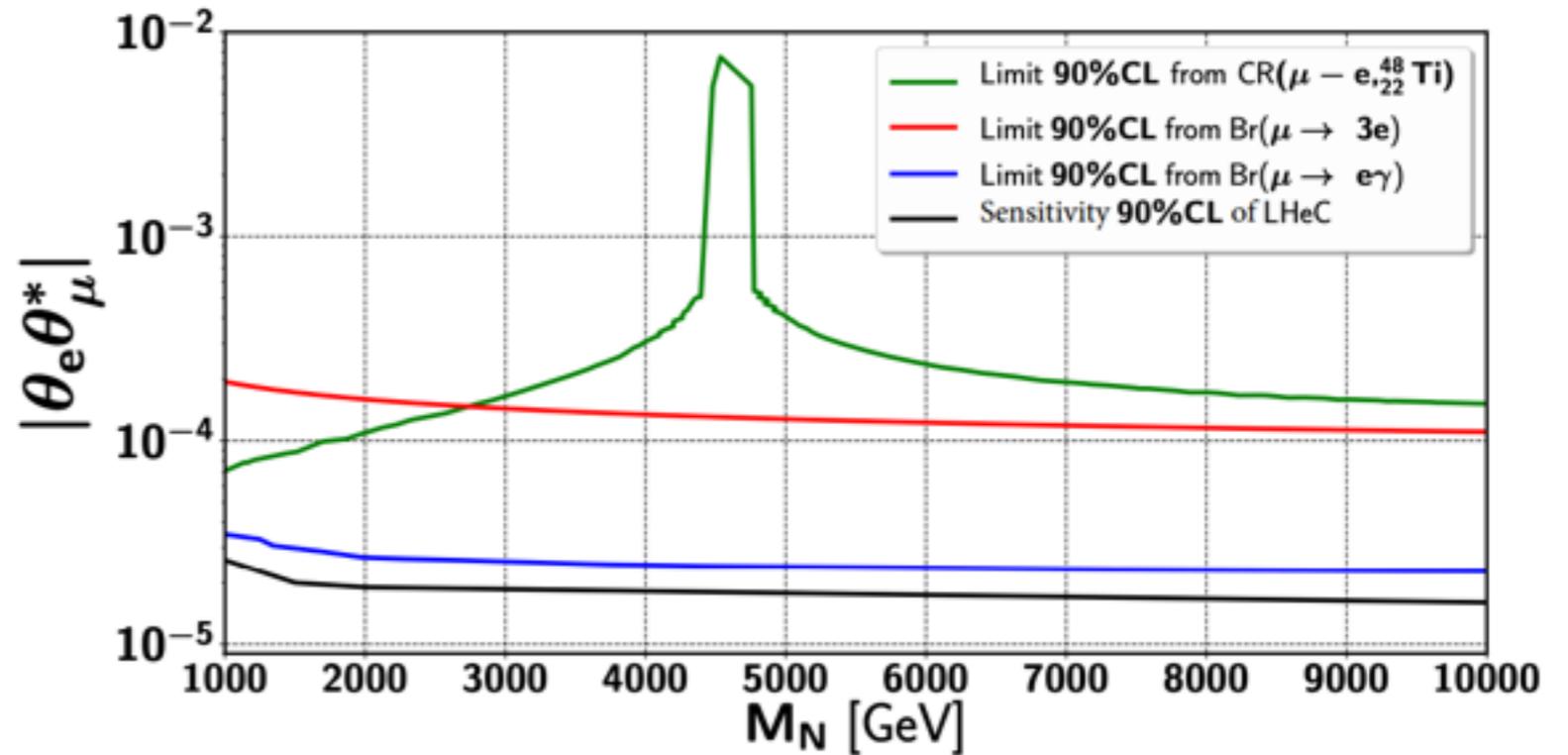


$$\mathcal{M}_Z = \bar{u}_{l_\alpha} [A_{L,R}^Z P_{L,R} \gamma^\nu + B_{L,R}^Z P_{L,R} q^2 \gamma^\nu - i\sigma^{\mu\nu} q_\mu D_{L,R}^Z P_{L,R}] u_e \left( \frac{-ig_{\mu\nu}}{q^2 - M_Z^2} \right) \bar{u}_q (\gamma^\mu g_{L,R} P_{L,R}) v_q.$$

For the processes  $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma, \mu \rightarrow 3e$  and  $CR(\mu \rightarrow e)$  the energy ( $q^2 \sim M_\mu^2$ )

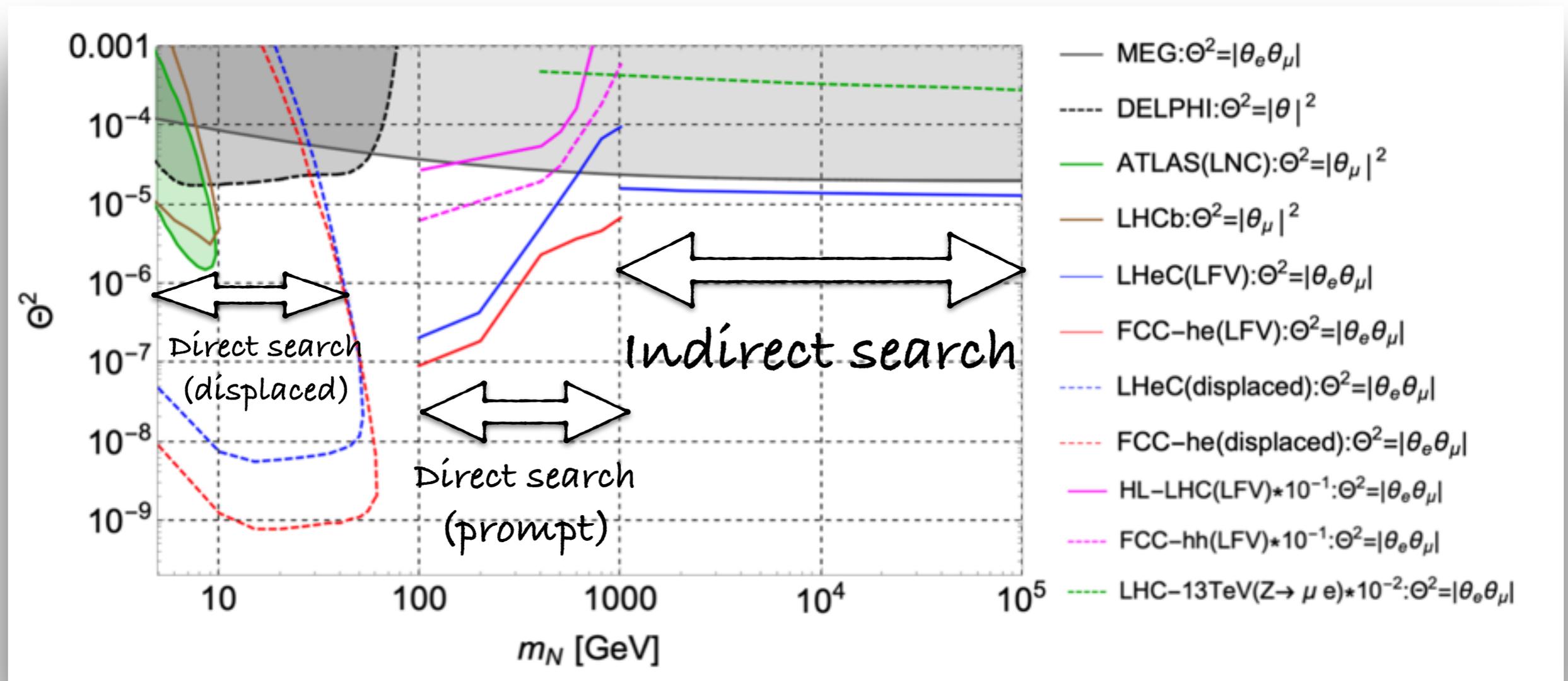
$$\mathcal{M}_Z \propto \frac{-ig_{\mu\nu}}{M_\mu^2 - M_Z^2}$$

The LHeC can provide energy about 1.3 TeV that can always produce on shell Z mediator



# Summary

The LHeC provides the best sensitivity for heavy neutrino searches in all mass ranges



**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**



# Backup

Start with hand written Lagrangian

Calculate all tree level vertices

Calculate total cross section for the process under consideration

Generate the events at parton level weighted by the cross section

Hadronization is required due to the color confinement

Electroweak and QCD radiation

Initial/Final state radiation, etc

Jet clustering

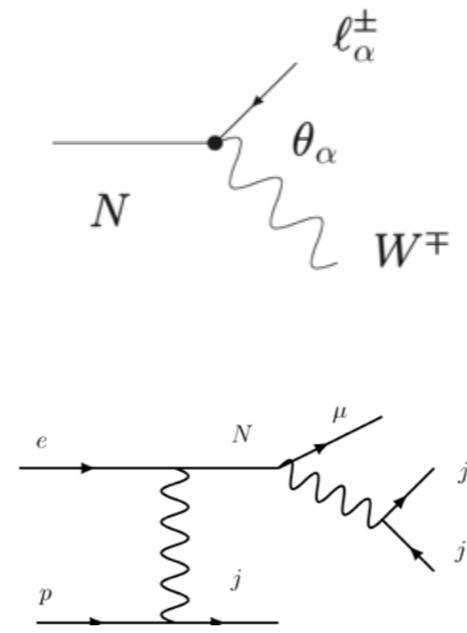
Detector simulation (Fast/full)

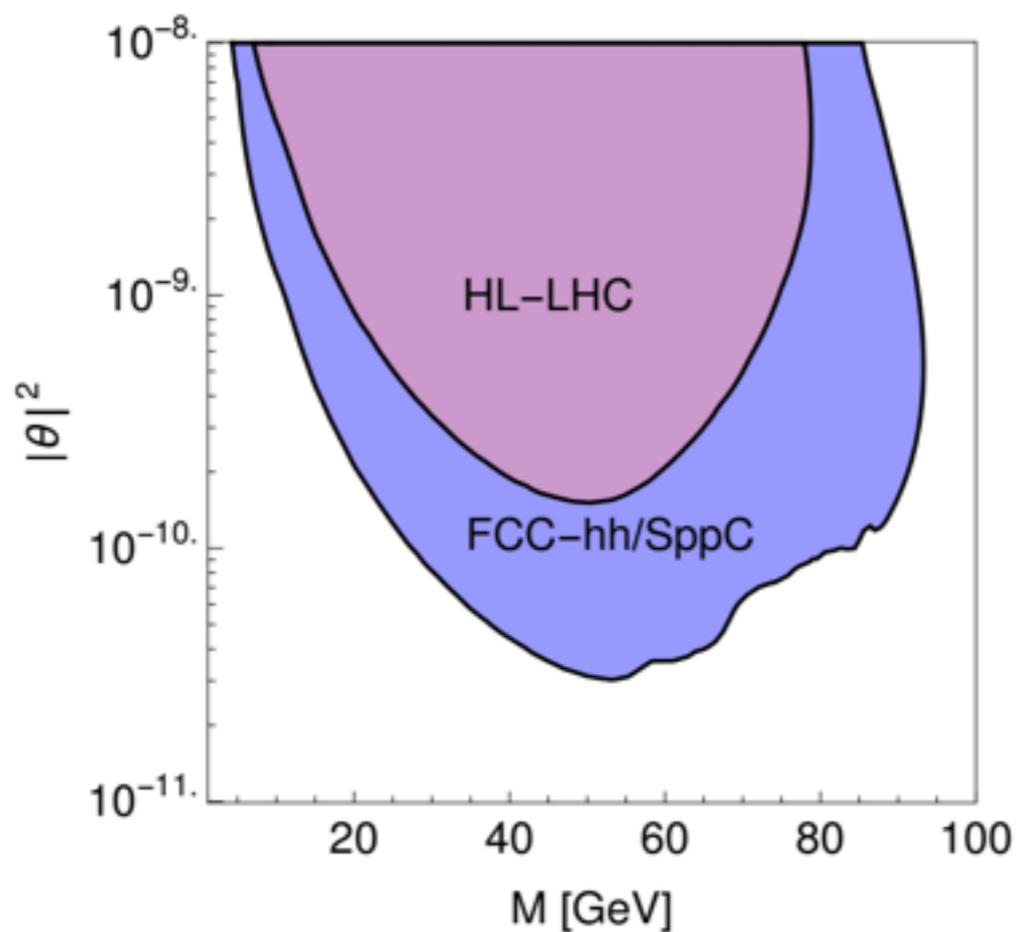
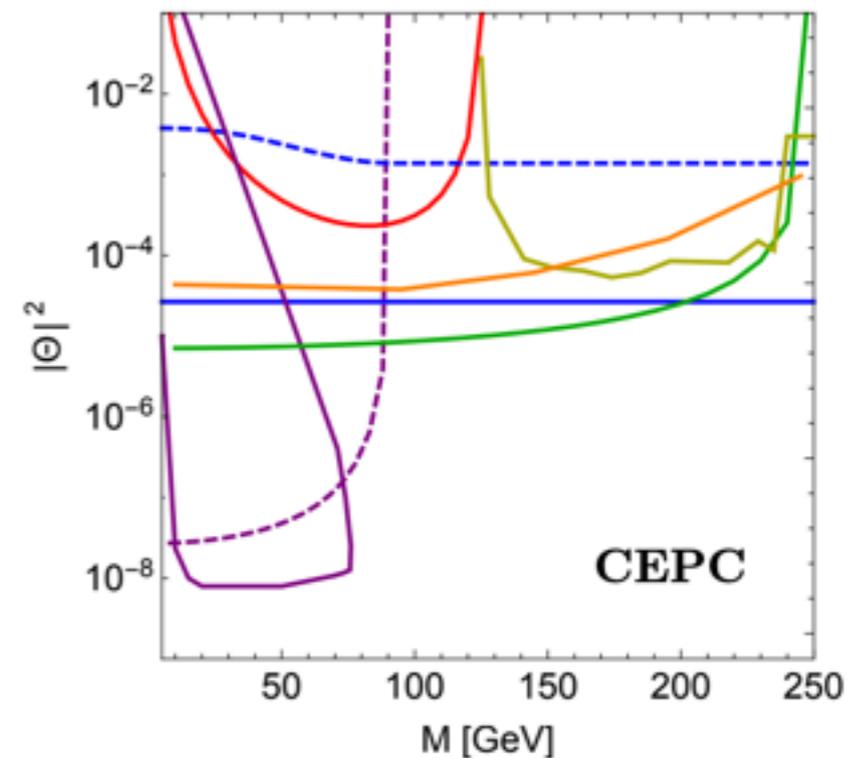
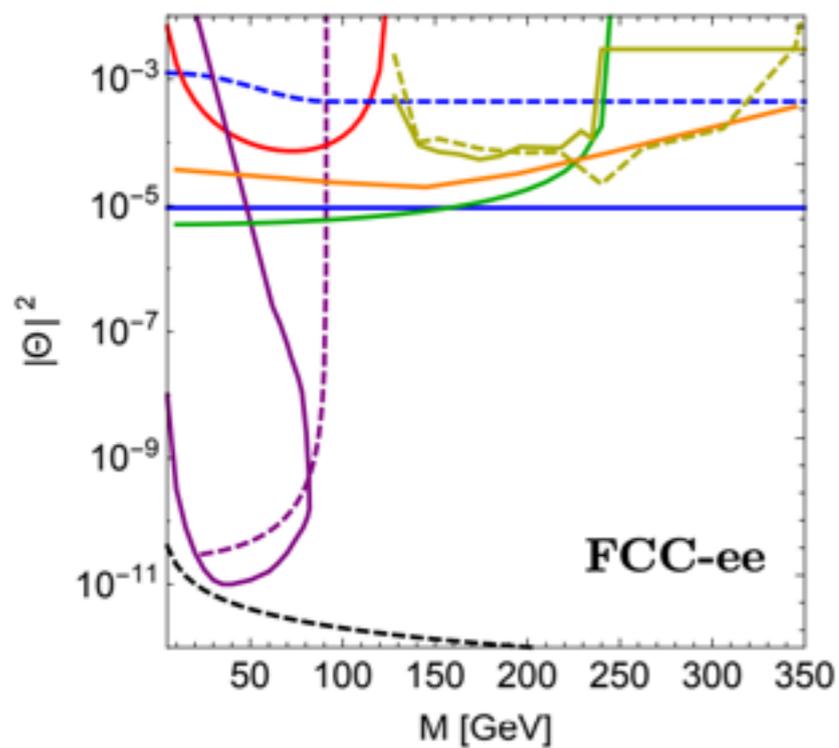
Constructing all kinematic variables

Highest ranked variables are fed to Machine Learning model

Optimize ML output by maximizing signal to bkg yield

Statistical analysis (Maximum likelihood) to provide the significance level/limit

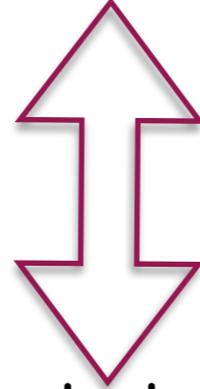




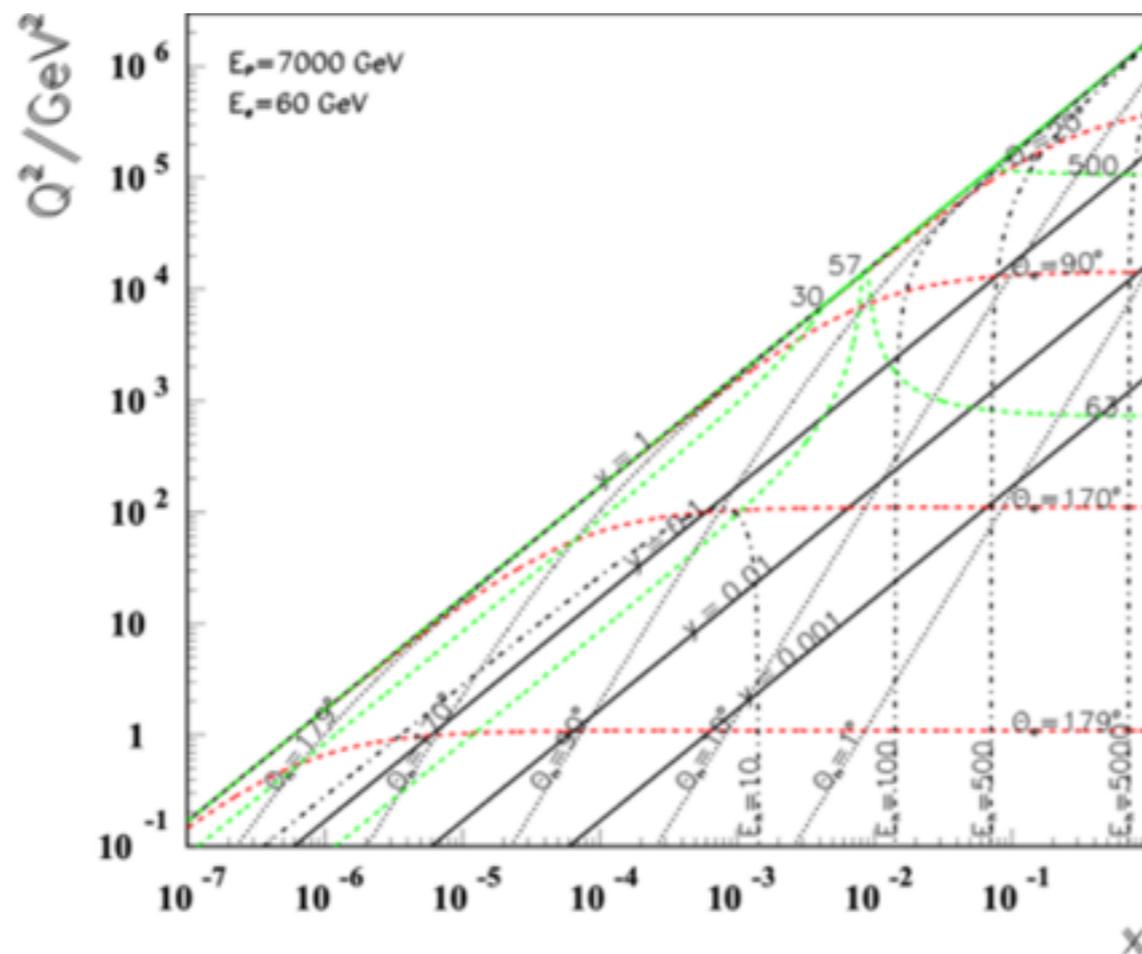
arXiv:1612.02728

# LHeC Kinematics

At the LHeC, Bjorken variable controls the incoming quark energy. For most of the parameter space the energy of the incoming electron and quark are similar



For small energy transfer, the final state lepton scatter in the backward direction of the detector: "Lepton back scattering at ep colliders"



LHeC and FCC-he Study Group  
arXiv:2007.14491

# Kinematics of the scattered muon

