

# *Prospects of probing Right-handed neutrinos via Semileptonic Higgs decays @ LHC*

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# *Outline*

- Searches for right-handed neutrinos
- Brief discussion on collider searches & bounds
- A search channel from  $pp \rightarrow h j$  and semileptonic  $h$  decays

# *Why RH neutrinos & where to look*

Allahverdi, Campbell, Dutta, Gao  
PRD 90, 073002 (2014)

- Understanding neutrino masses: heavy Majorana fermion(s) for see-saw mechanism
- Cosmology: Relativistic species ( $N_{\text{eff}}$ ), reheat, dark matter, etc.
- EW theories: Extended symmetry requirements
- Indirect search cosmic ray signals:  $\gamma$ ,  $e$ ,  $\mu$ ,  $\nu$  (flavors), and spectral features
- Correction to W, Z properties (EWPD)
- Weakly (and **strongly, too**) produced at collider
- Associated production with (model dependent) other BSM partners

## *‘Common’ see-saw features in RH Neutrinos*

- See-saw: A finite Majorana RH neutrino mass
- RH neutrino talks to SM via Yukawa (Dirac mass) terms
- Leads to a (small) mixing into SM neutrinos, hence W, Z, couplings, etc.
- Identify with “economical” SM extensions with fermion(s)

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \bar{N}_i i \not{\partial} N_i + (\lambda_N^{ij} N^i L^j H + \frac{M_N^{ij}}{2} N_i N_j + \text{h.c.})$$

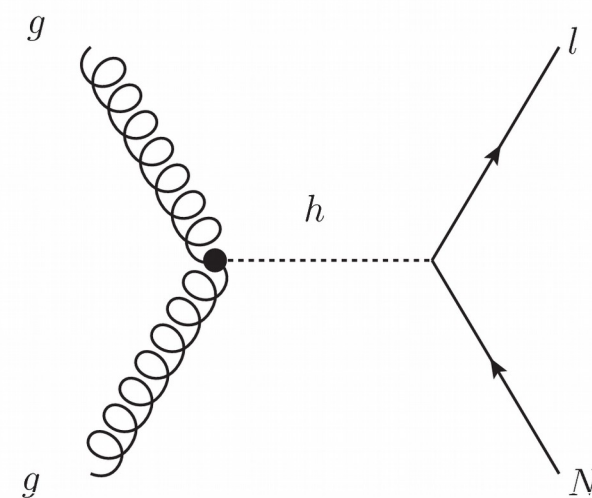
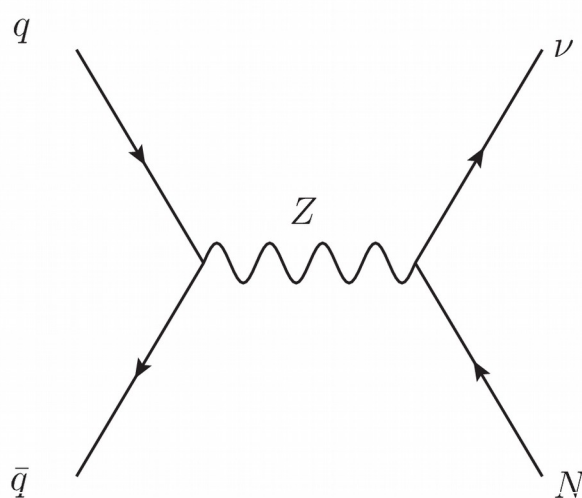
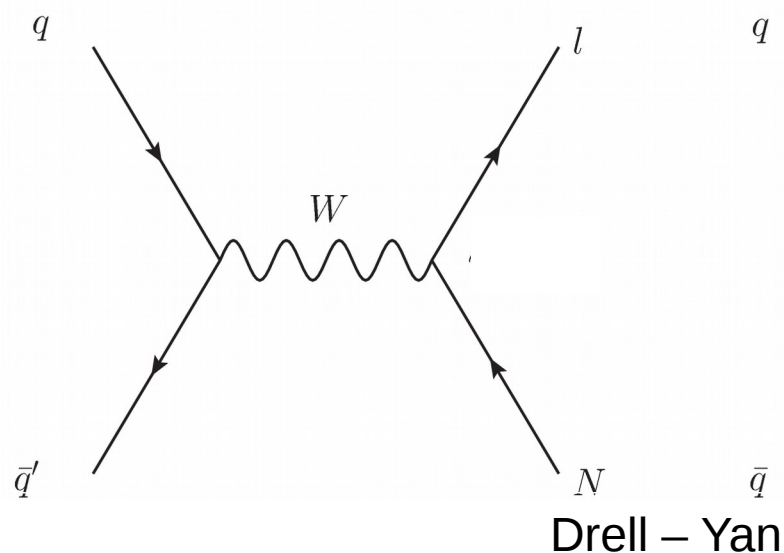
(Type-I) see-saw

Minkowski (1977) Yanagida(1979)  
Gell-Mann, Ramond, & Slansky (1979)  
Glashow (1980)

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_L \\ \nu_R \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \lambda_N^T v \\ \lambda_N v & M_N \end{pmatrix} \quad \theta \approx \left( \frac{m_\nu}{M_N} \right)^{1/2}$$

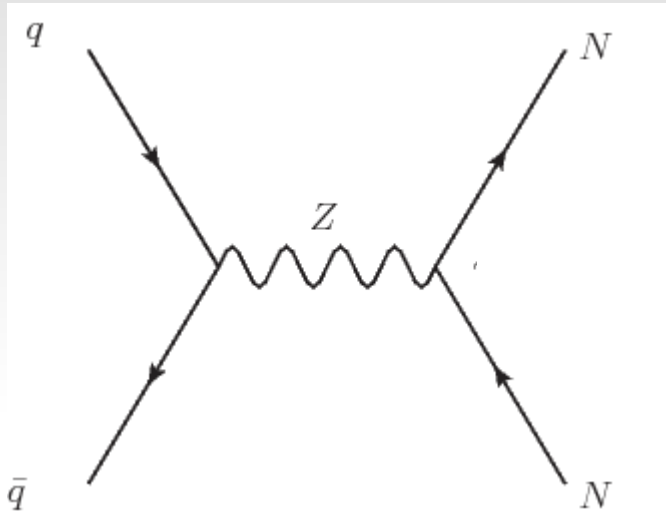
# *How to produce a heavy neutrino at collider?*

- Via mixing with the SM left-handed neutrino.
- Leading channel : Drell-Yan
- Resonant W, Z, h production (for  $M_N < M_{W/Z/h}$ )
- **Need significant mixing**

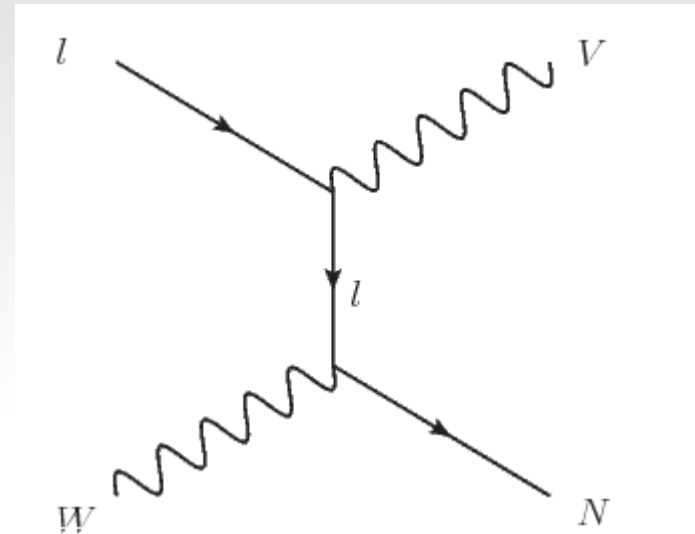


Gluon fusion

*and a few other ways ...*

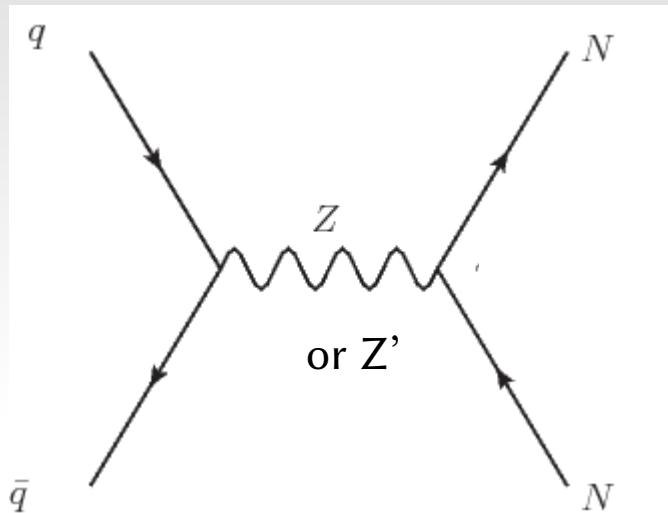


$N$  pair production suppressed  
by  $\text{mixing}^4$



Vector-boson and/or lepton fusion:  
need lepton and/or VB luminosity

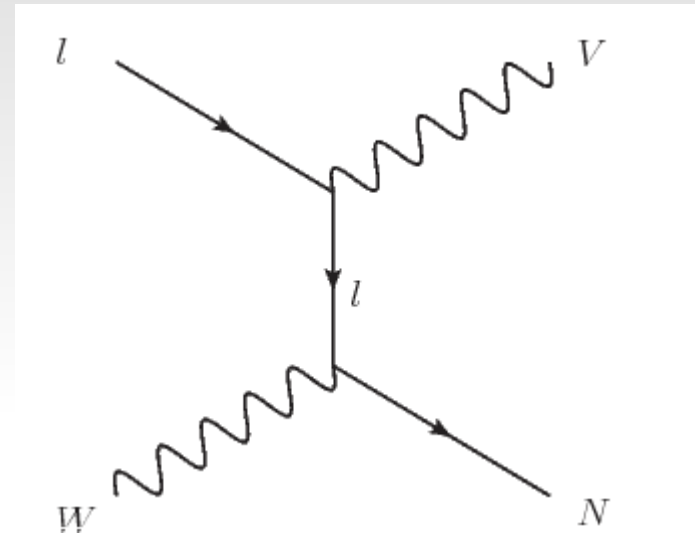
and a few other *less blessed* ways ...



$N$  pair production suppressed  
by  $\text{mixing}^4$

Note:  $Z'$  are not mixing-suppressed  
but  $(m_{Z'}/g_{Z'})$  must be large

Or maybe go after associated  
 $N$  partners instead



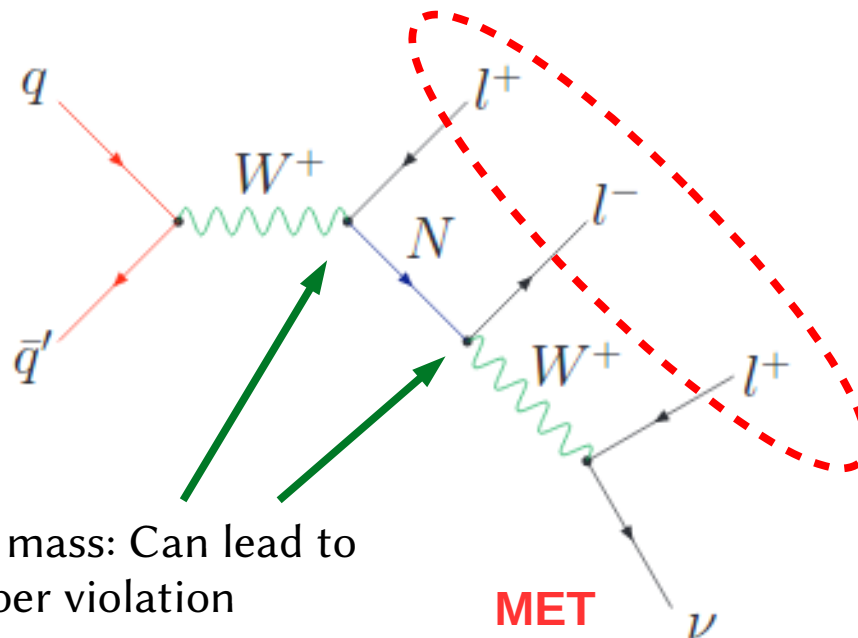
Vector-boson and/or lepton fusion:  
need lepton and/or VB luminosity

VBF has cleaner bkg, yet  
suffers from small signal

VB- $l$  fusion at  $e^+e^-$  collider  
or even at CR experiments:  
needs larger  $E_{\text{com}}$

## *Drell-Yan channels*

- $pp \rightarrow l N, N \rightarrow l l \nu$ , final state: 'Trilepton'  $lll\nu$
- $pp \rightarrow \nu N, N \rightarrow l l \nu$ , final state: two lepton  $ll\nu\nu$
- Semileptonic  $N$  decays  $N \rightarrow jj\nu$ , mass reconstruct-able
- Mediator can be on shell (resonance) for light  $N$



A Majorana mass: Can lead to  
lepton number violation  
e.g.  $e^+e^+\mu^-\bar{\nu}$



# Heavy $N$ decays: Missing energy, or prompt decays?

- (Mostly RH)  $N$  decays weakly via its mixing into SM neutrino, yet its lifetime varies greatly...

Type I mixing is very tiny

$$\begin{matrix} \nu_L & \nu_R \\ \nu_L & \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \lambda_{N\nu}^T \\ \lambda_{N\nu} & M_N \end{pmatrix} \\ \nu_R & \end{matrix} \quad \theta \approx \left( \frac{m_\nu}{M_N} \right)^{1/2}$$

$M_D$

Suppress production rate / decay branching fraction  
 $N$  may become completely invisible at LHC

May search for other 'associated' particles, like  
charged scalars in Type II, heavy  $Z'$  in extra U(1), etc.

When RH  $N$ 's lifetime is very long and  $N$  becomes MET at collider, leads to mono-lepton signals, but measuring its mass and identifying the  $N$  can be difficult.

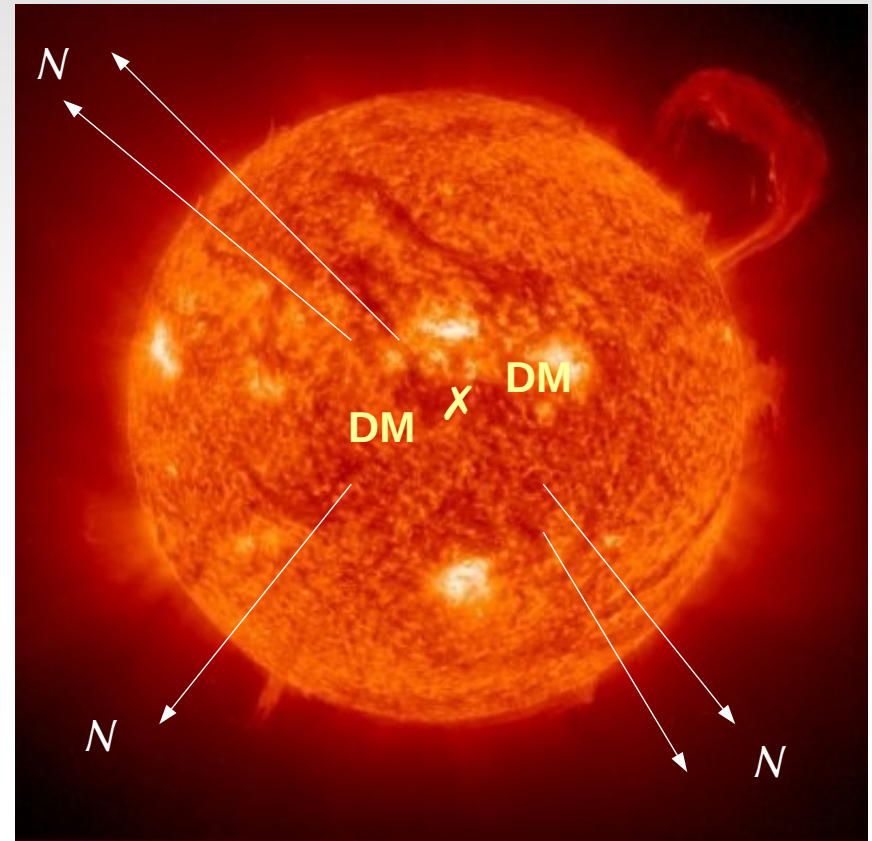
# *NOTE: A long-lived heavy $N$ can be useful in indirect searches*

- In a 1 – 5 GeV mass range, (Type-I) RH neutrinos can escape the Sun before decaying [with a Lorentz boost from TeV-scale dark matter annihilations]
- Signal in both high-energy  $\gamma$ -ray & neutrinos in the Sun's direction

$$\Delta\mathcal{L} \supset y_D(L^\dagger \cdot i\tau_2 H)N + \text{h.c.},$$

$$\Gamma_N \propto \theta^2 G_F^2 M_N^5 \frac{M_N}{M_{\text{DM}}}$$

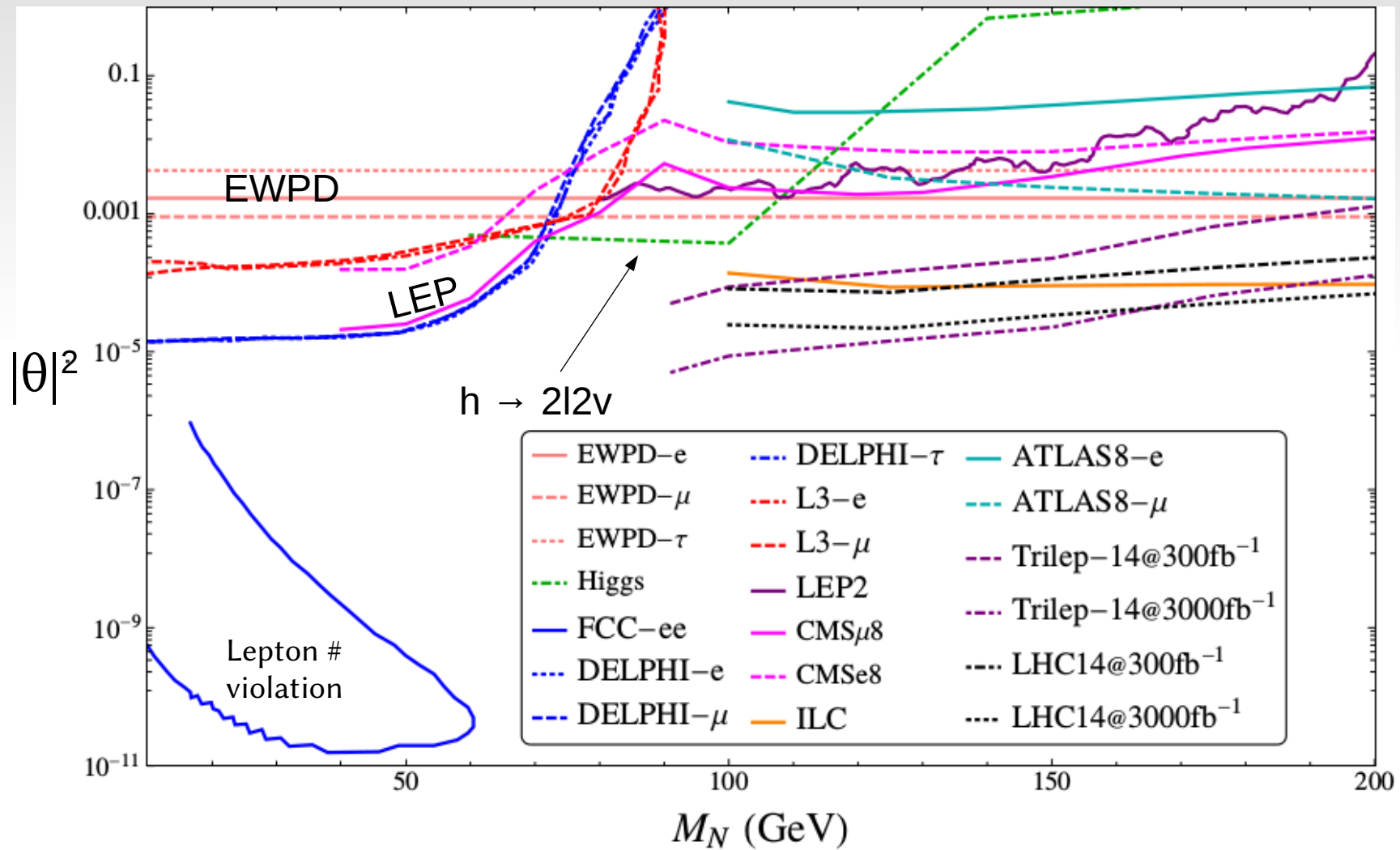
- Leads to  $\gamma$ -ray  $\gamma$ -rays from both Fermi-LAT and IceCube



R. Allahverdi, YG , B. Knockel, S. Shalgar, 1612.03110, PRD 95 no. 7, 075001 (2017)

For neutrino sector's DM, also see R. Allahverdi, S.Campbell, B.Dutta, YG PRD 90, no. 7, 073002 (2014)

# A quick look at the present and future at colliders...



# *Higgs can be sensitive to New Physics*

Higgs versus W & Z mediation:

SM Higgs width is small, (potentially) sensitive to mixing  
Higher resonance mass than W, Z.

$$\Gamma(h \rightarrow N\nu) = \frac{Y_N^2}{8\pi m_h^3} (m_h^2 - M_N^2)^2$$

$$\mathcal{BR}_{h \rightarrow N\nu} = \frac{\Gamma(h \rightarrow N\nu)}{\Gamma_h^{\text{SM}} + \Gamma(h \rightarrow N\nu)}$$

↑  
~4MeV

Future **Higgs Precision** data  
can be powerful

$$\text{Signal } \sigma = \sigma(hj) \text{ Br}_{h \rightarrow N\nu} \text{ Br}_{N \rightarrow X} A_{\text{eff}}$$

N mostly (80+%) decays via W  
Optimizes cuts for a  
semi-leptonic N→ljj channel

## *The semileptonic channel*

- Higgs leptonic, DY searches by LHC exist.
- Gluon fusion has a good Higgs production rate.
- Production:  $p p \rightarrow h j$ , with a **high PT** triggering jet.
- Higgs decays semileptonically  $h \rightarrow \nu N$ ,  $N \rightarrow l W$ ,  $W \rightarrow j j$
- Can see the  $N$  mass: fully reconstructible from  $l j j$
- Requires high-PT jet for triggering, and on-shell (and separate)  $W$ ,  $N$  mass windows,  $M_T$  for bkg suppression
- SM bkg: channels with (real & fake)  $W$ +jets.

# Production at loop level

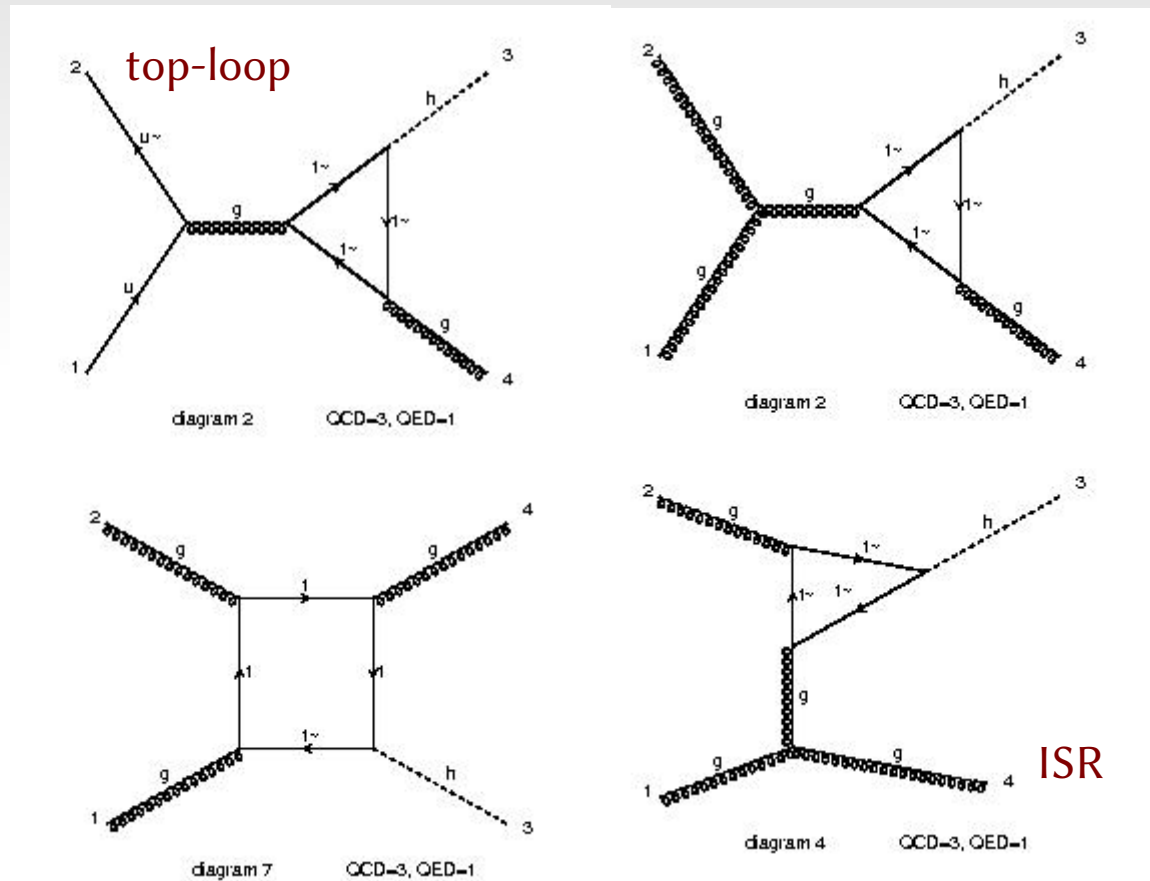
1 loop  $pp \rightarrow hj$  at LO

High PT jet originates  
from loop and ISR

$j_1 P_T > M_{\text{top}}$ : Need loop calc

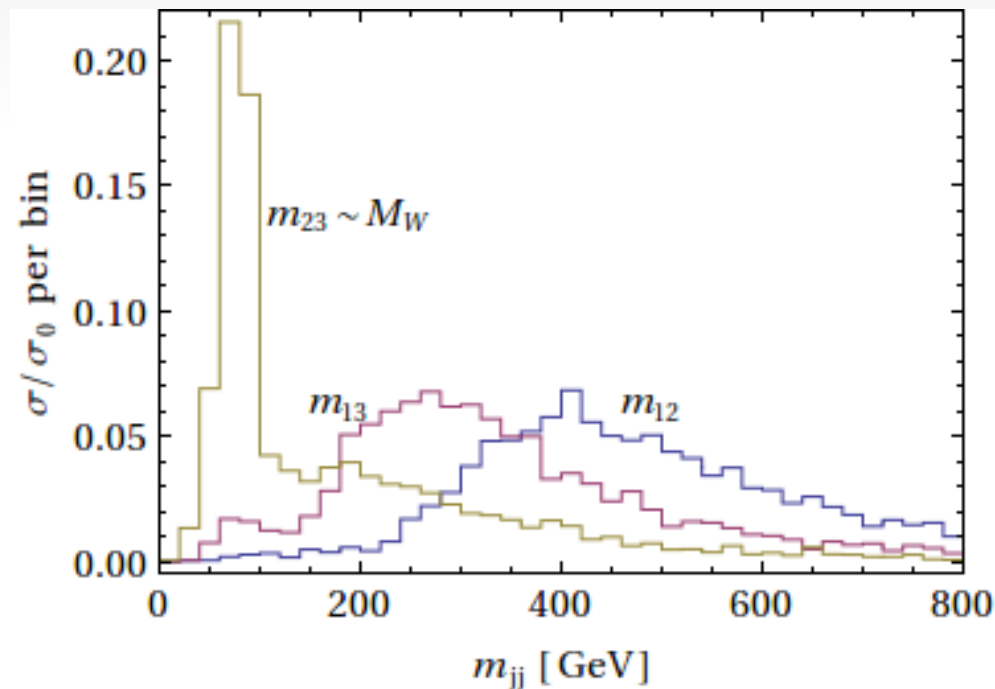
MG5+pythia6+PGS4

MadGraph NLO model:  
Degrande, Mattelaer,  
Ruiz, Turner, PRD 94,  
053002 (2016)



## Final state kinematics

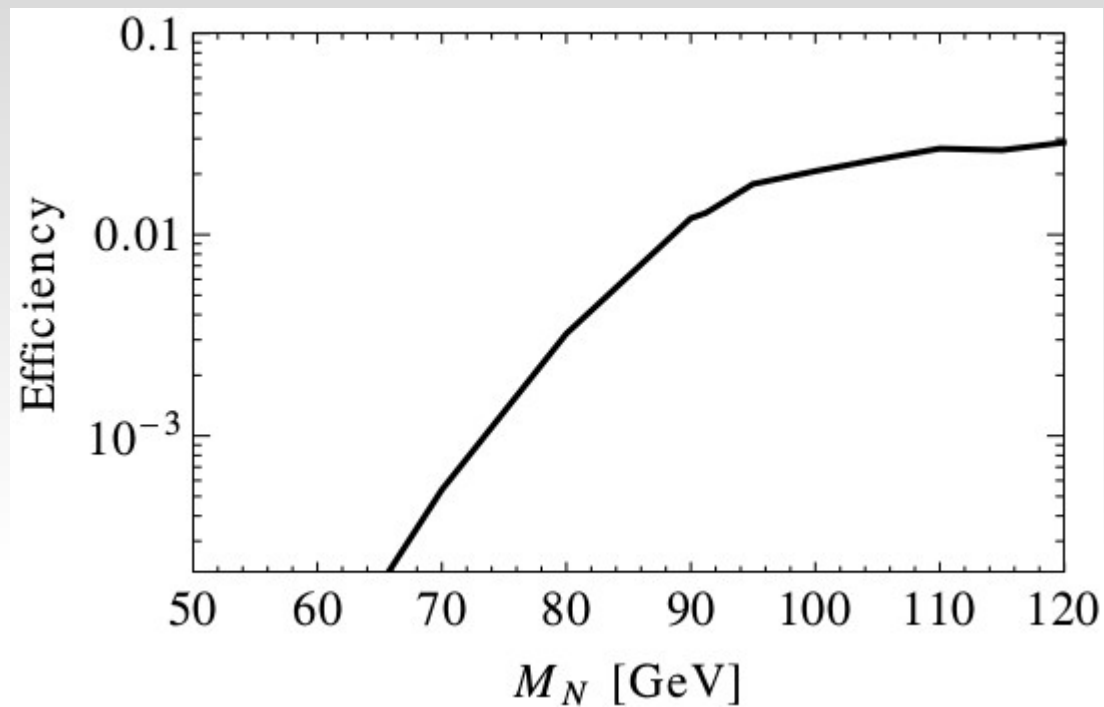
- $N$  mass fully reconstructible
- No large  $P_T$  leptons, needs jet for triggering
- High  $P_T$  jet transversely boosts  $h$  system – higher  $l, j_2 j_3 P_T$



A large  $j_1 P_T$  separates  $M(j_2 j_3)$  from  $M(j_1 j_2)$  and  $M(j_1 j_3)$

A dijet ( $j_2 j_3$ ) mass cut around  $W$  mass helps.

LO  $pp \rightarrow hj$ , after a 200 GeV leading jet cut for  $|\eta(j)| < 2.5$



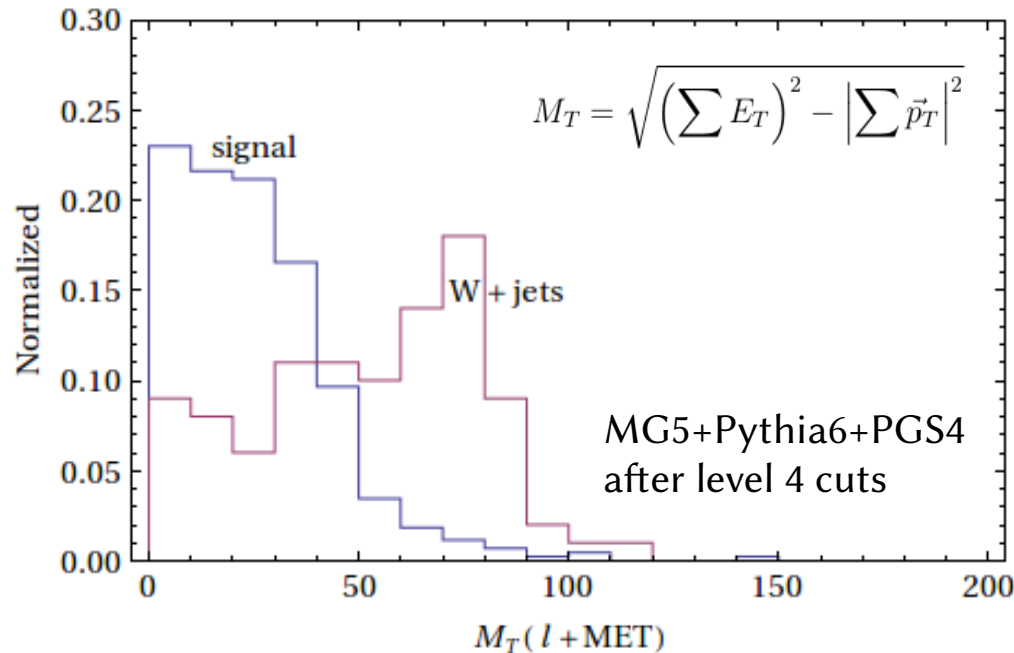
A percent level selection efficiency is expected for signal  
In the near  $M_h$  mass range.

Lower mass harder to pass  $M_w$  window cut



# Signal cut flow

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| (1) leading jet $p_T^j > 200$ GeV;              | ← Trigger & $j_1 - j_{2,3}$ separation |
| (2) at least three jets and exactly one lepton; | ← Remove Z bkg                         |
| (3) $ M(j_2 j_3) - M_W  < 20$ GeV;              | ← A physical W mass                    |
| (4) $ M(l_1 j_2 j_3) - M_N  < 20$ GeV.          | ← $M_N$ mass window                    |
| (5) $ M_T(l_1 \cancel{E}_T)  < 45$ GeV          | ← Suppress leptonic W                  |



$\sigma / \text{Br}_{h \rightarrow N \nu}$

Cut #	$M_N=110$	$M_N=100$
1	0.19pb	0.19pb
2	34 fb	28 fb
3	13 fb	10 fb
4	11 fb	8 fb
5	9.5 fb	7.3 fb

Leptons  
become  
soft

# Backgrounds & significance...

$M_N$	Mass window	ttbar (+0,1,2 jets)	W+jets (+1,2,3 jets)	Z+jets (+1,2,3 jets)	Others (tj, vvj)	Signal/Br <sub>h→Nν</sub> (LO)
	100	63	23	12	12	7.3
	110	101	94	19	18	9.5

V+jets from large stat. simulations, MG5+Pythia+PGS4

Leading order: for BR(h→Nν) = 10% / 5% / 1 %  
 $M_N=100\text{GeV}$ :  $S/\sqrt{S+B}$  at 3 ab<sup>-1</sup> = 3.5[5.2] / 1.7[2.6] / 0.3[0.5]  
 $M_N=110\text{GeV}$ :  $S/\sqrt{S+B}$  at 3 ab<sup>-1</sup> = 3.7[5.6] / 1.9[2.8] / 0.4[0.6]  
 Higher signal corrections from NLO ? (50%) NLO enhancements

Inverse seesaw: Can accomodate for large Nν mixing in flavor diagonal cases

maximally allowed h→Nν BR= 4%(100 GeV) and 3%(110 GeV) → 2.1σ and 1.7σ @3ab<sup>-1</sup>

## *Summary*

- A complementary channel for HL-LHC, optimal  $N$  mass range 100-110 GeV
- A triggering high  $j_1$   $P_T$  (200 GeV) : for both triggering &  $N$  mass reconstruction
- Signal  $O(10)$  fb \*  $\text{Br}(h \rightarrow N \nu)$  at LO, Bkg at  $O(10^2)$  fb
- RH neutrino mass reconstructible in semileptonic  $pp \rightarrow hj$  channel, dedicated kin. analysis can help.

# *Backups*

# Collider friendly scenario: Inverse seesaw

R. N. Mohapatra, 1986

- Outsource Maj. mass to an additional singlet fermion
- Larger mixing angle into RH  $N$ , but no LNV in  $N$  decay
- Can be flavor-diagonal in  $\nu$ - $N$  mixing ( $m_D$  terms)

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -Y_D^{\alpha\beta} \bar{\ell}_L^\alpha \tilde{H} N_R^\beta - M_N^{\alpha\beta} \bar{S}_L^\alpha N_R^\beta - \frac{1}{2} \mu_{\alpha\beta} \bar{S}_L^\alpha S_L^{\beta c} + H.c.$$

	SU(2)	U(1) <sub>Y</sub>
$\ell$	<b>2</b>	-1/2
$H$	<b>2</b>	+1/2
$N_R$	<b>1</b>	0
$S_L$	<b>1</b>	0

$$M_\nu = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_D & 0 \\ m_D^T & 0 & M_N^T \\ 0 & M_N & \mu \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \nu \\ N \\ S \end{matrix}$$

$m_\nu \simeq (m_D M_N^{-1}) \mu (M_N^{-1T} m_D^T)$

# Backgrounds & significance...

$M_N$	Mass window	ttbar (+0,1,2 jets)	W+jets (+1,2,3 jets)	Z+jets (+1,2,3 jets)	Others (tj, vvj)	Signal/Br <sub>h→Nν</sub> (LO)
	100	63	23	12	12	7.3
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V+jets from large stat. simulations,  
MG5+Pythia+PGS4

Leading order:      for BR(h→Nν) = 10%   /   5%   /   1 %  
 $M_N=100\text{GeV}$ :  $S/\sqrt{S+B}$  at  $3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$  = 3.5[5.2, 7.0]/1.7[2.6, 3.5]/0.3[0.5, 0.7]  
 $M_N=110\text{GeV}$ :  $S/\sqrt{S+B}$  at  $3 \text{ ab}^{-1}$  = 3.7[5.6, 7.5]/1.9[2.8, 3.7]/0.4[0.6, 0.7]

Higher signal corrections from NLO ? (50%, 100%) NLO enhancements