

# Understanding Lepton Number Violation at Future Colliders

*This talk: **LNV induced by HNLs***

Stefan Antusch

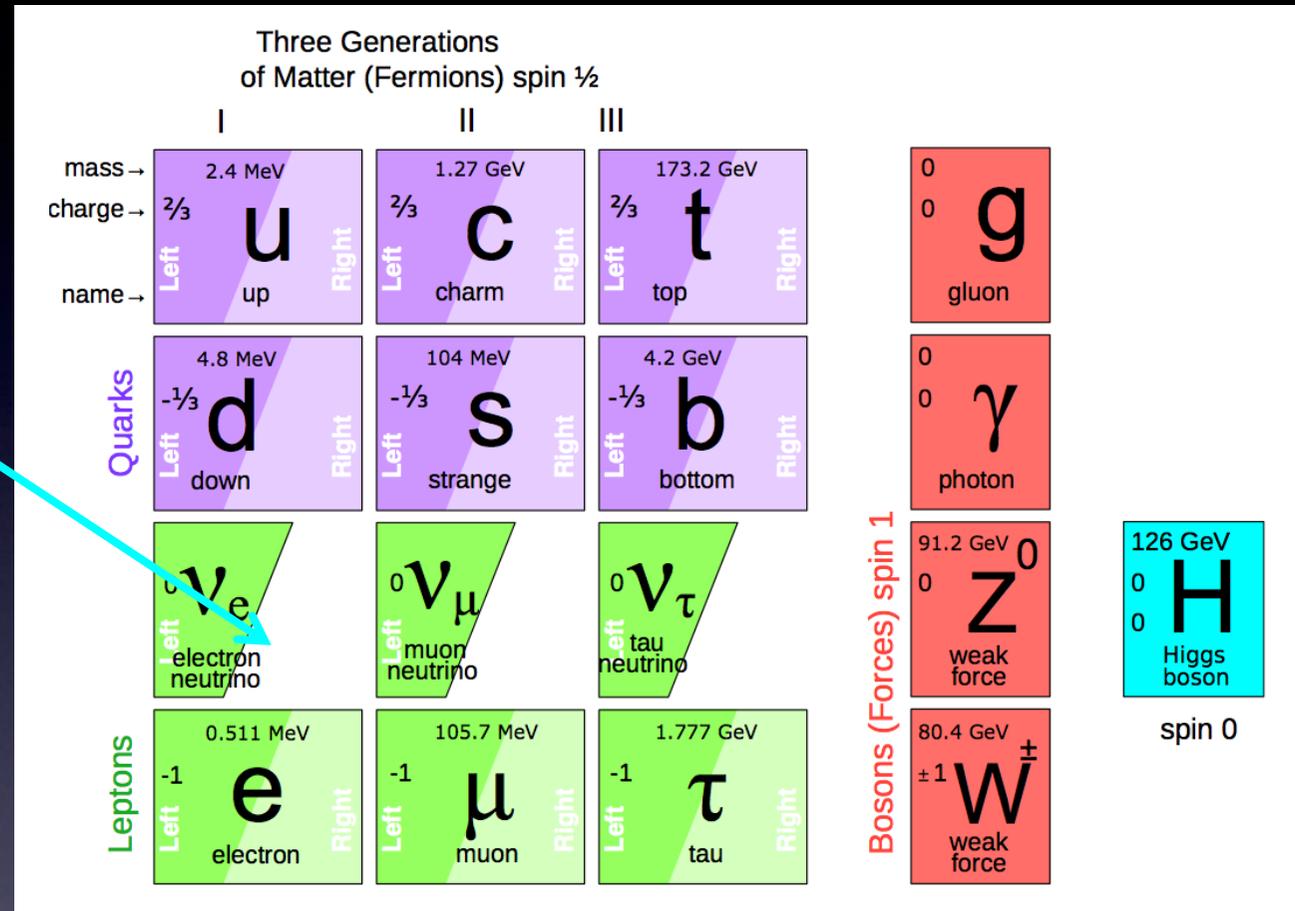
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# Heavy Neutral Leptons – the right SM extension to explain the light neutrino masses?

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:

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

M: HNL mass matrix

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

# Outline

- Collider testable low-scale seesaw models feature **pseudo-Dirac pairs of heavy neutrinos** (L approx. symm., small mass splitting  $\Delta M$ )
- **LNV** → induced by **heavy neutrino-antineutrino oscillations**
- Recent developments:
  - S.A., J. Roskopp (arXiv:2012.05763)
  - **QFT calculation** of oscillations (LO and NLO, decoherence effects)
  - Phenomenological (**pSPSS**) benchmark model and **Madgraph patch** for including heavy neutrino-antineutrino oscillations in collider simulations (HNLs from W)  
S.A., J. Hajer, J. Roskopp (arXiv:2210.10738)
  - Oscillations can be **resolvable at HL-LHC** (for benchmark parameters)  
S.A., J. Hajer, J. Roskopp (arXiv:2212.00562)
  - From QFT calculation: **Decoherence effects** can have a large impact, e.g. enhance the total ratio of LNV/LNC events (known as  $R_{ll}$  ratio)  
S.A., J. Hajer, J. Roskopp (arXiv:2307.06208)
  - Heavy neutrino-antineutrino oscillations **at the FCC-ee** (HNLs from Z)  
S.A., J. Hajer, B.M.S. Oliviera (arXiv:2308.07297)

# Minimal example: 2 RH Neutrinos (2 HNLS)

In the mass  $N_R$  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  $(m_D^{(i)})_\alpha = \frac{v_{EW}}{\sqrt{2}} (Y_\nu)_{i\alpha}$



„Seesaw  
Formula“

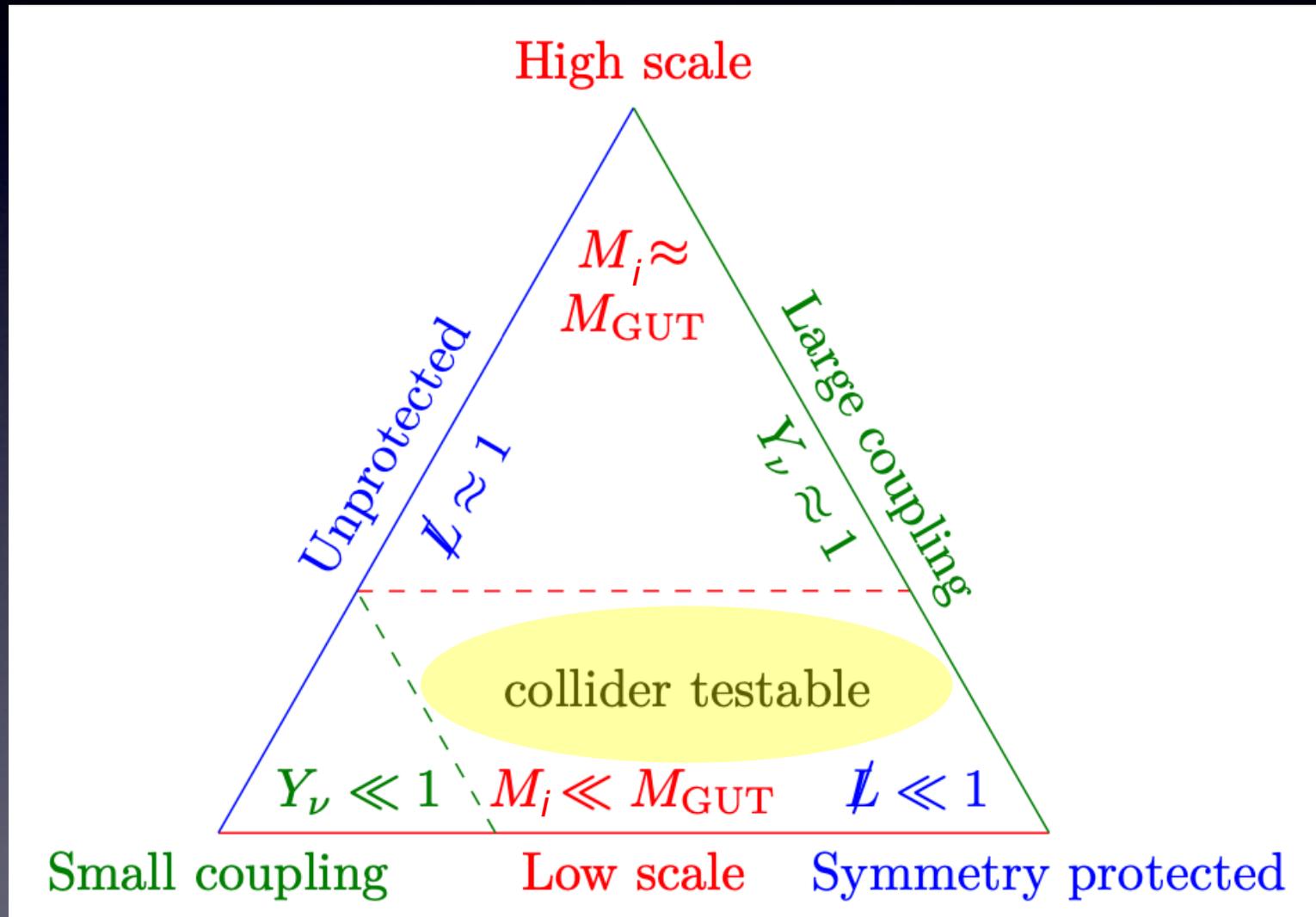
$$(m_\nu)_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{(m_D^{(1)})_\alpha (m_D^{(1)})_\beta}{M_1} + \frac{(m_D^{(2)})_\alpha (m_D^{(2)})_\beta}{M_2}$$

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

# 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"

... from approximate L-like symmetry

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

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

→

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

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

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

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

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

mass basis: two mass-degenerate Majorana states forming an exact Dirac HNL

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For comparison: most general seesaw with 2 HNLs:

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

mass basis: two Majorana HNLs with large mass splitting

From general 2 HNL seesaw to "symmetry limit"

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

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

**Important: approximate "L-like symmetry**  
**→ right-chiral neutrinos form "pseudo-Dirac pair"!**

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

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

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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"

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

mass basis: **two Majorana states with small mass splitting  $\Delta M$**

# 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  $y_{\nu\alpha}$ )

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

+  $O(\epsilon)$  perturbations to generate the light neutrino mass ...

Additional sterile neutrinos can exist, but assumed to have negligible effects at colliders (which can be realised easily, e.g. by giving lepton number = 0 to them).

for phenomenology  
(pSPSS)

Main additional parameter:  $\Delta M$

plus:  $M, \theta_\alpha$  where  $\theta_\alpha = \frac{y_\alpha^* v_{EW}}{\sqrt{2} M}$

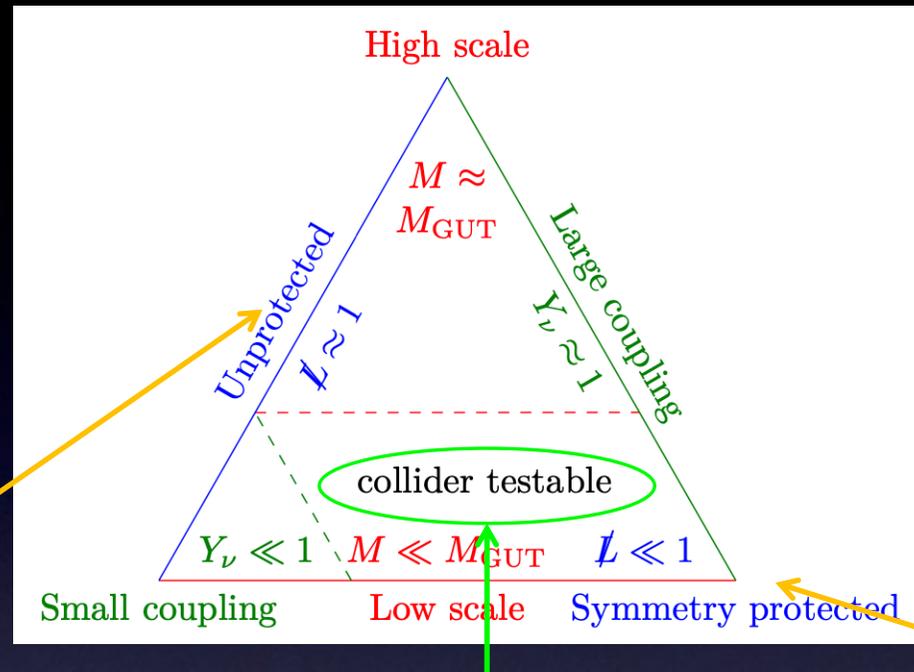
For details on the SPSS/pSPSS, see:

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

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

S.A., J. Hajer, J. Roskopp (arXiv:2210.10738)

# Overview: Benchmark models for HNL studies



Two mass-separated Majorana HNLs (or a **single Majorana HNL**)

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

- LNV/LNC ratio 50%, no oscillations
- for observability at the (HL-)LHC one generates **too large  $m_{\nu\alpha}$**  ☹️
- single Majorana HNL not sufficient to describe  $m_\nu$  ←  $\Delta M \sim M$

**Pseudo-Dirac pair of HNLs** (e.g. pSPSS benchmark model)

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

- collider testable ☺️
- can describe  $m_\nu$  ☺️
- interesting phenomenology ☺️
- mass splitting  $\Delta M$  as **additional pheno parameter** →  $\Delta M \rightarrow 0$

**Pure Dirac HNL**

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

- no LNV, no oscillations
- limit of exact L-like symmetry
- **no contribution to  $m_\nu$**  ☹️

**LNV from pseudo-Dirac HNLs:**

**Heavy neutrino-antineutrino  
oscillations**

# Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations

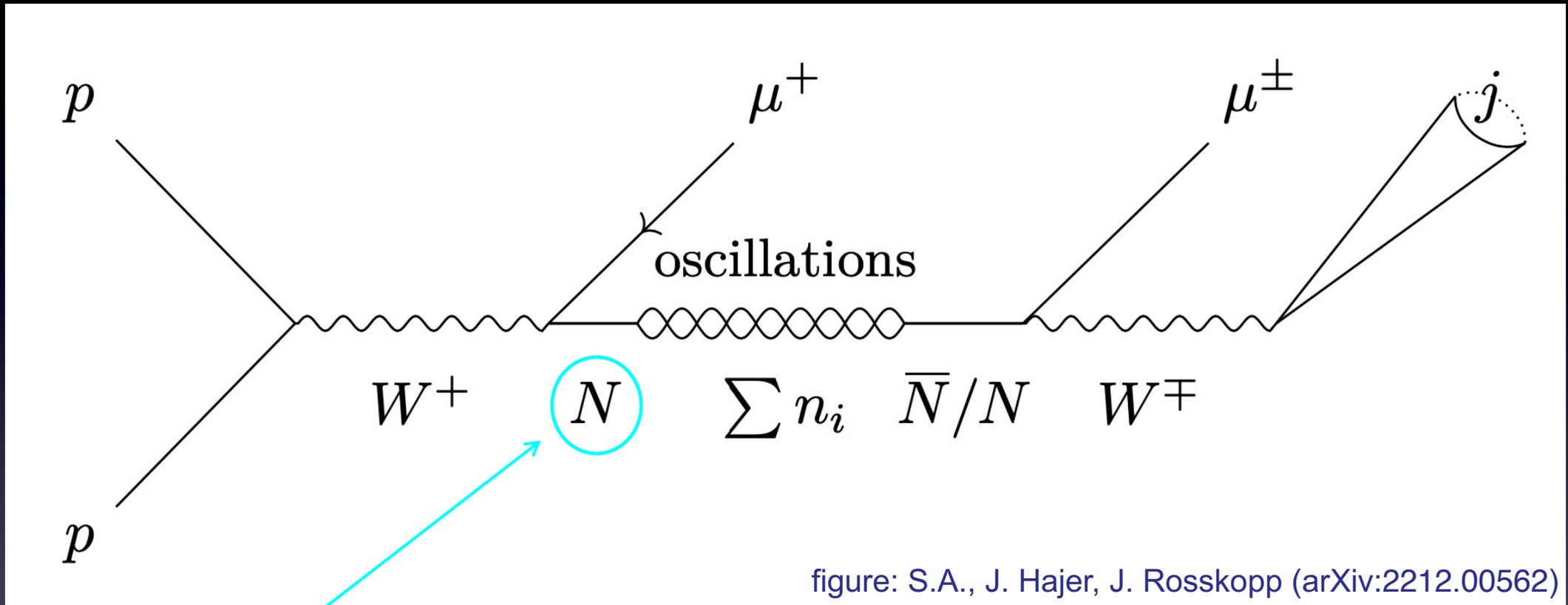


figure: S.A., J. Hajer, J. Roskopp (arXiv:2212.00562)

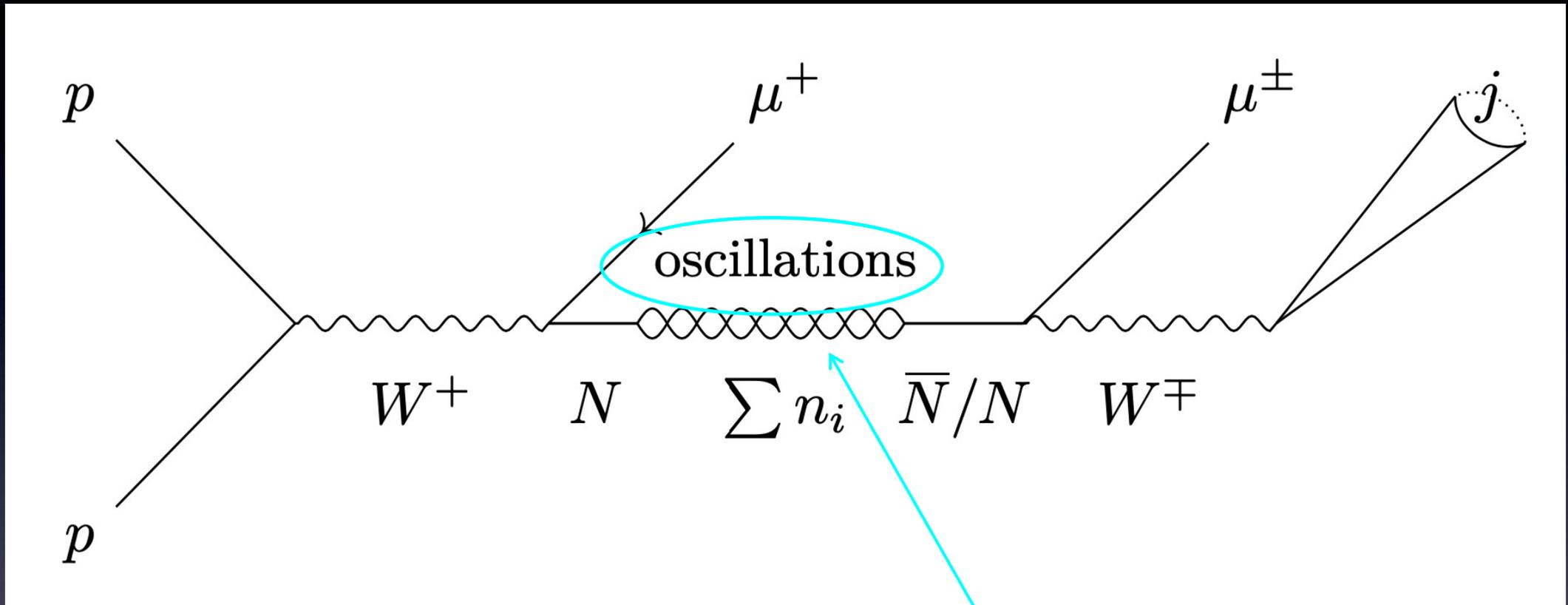
Interaction states: Produced from W decay  
 - "Heavy Neutrinos  $N$ " (together with  $l_\alpha^+$ )  
 - "Heavy Antineutrinos  $\bar{N}$ " (together with  $l_\alpha^-$ )

They are superpositions of the mass eigenstates:

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

**Example process at the LHC – HNLs produced from W**

# Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations



Interaction states: Produced from W decay

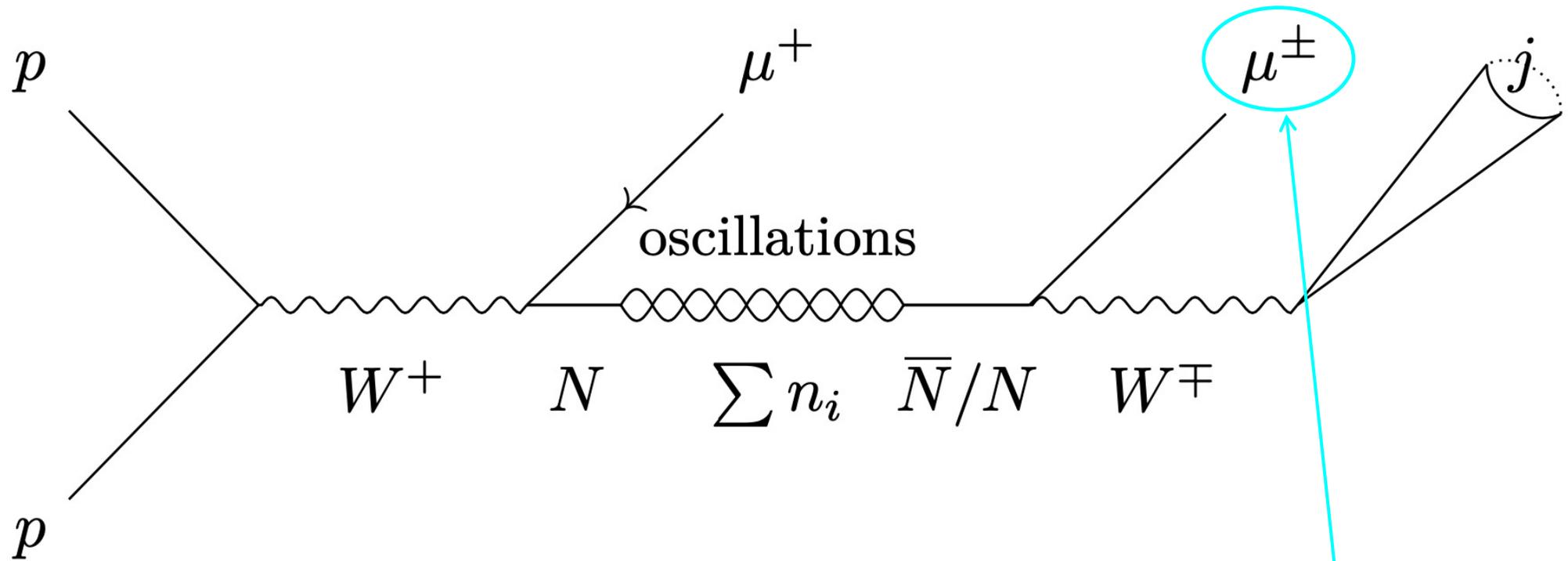
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They are superpositions of the mass eigenstates:

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

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  $N$

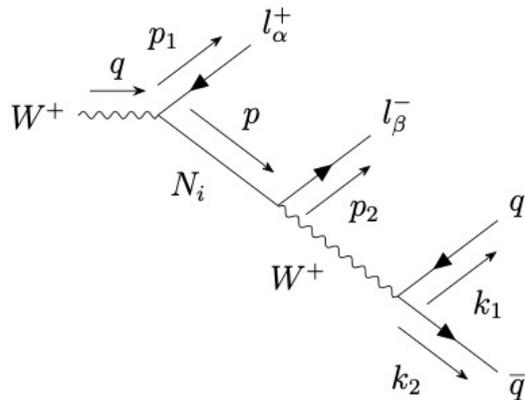
# Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations



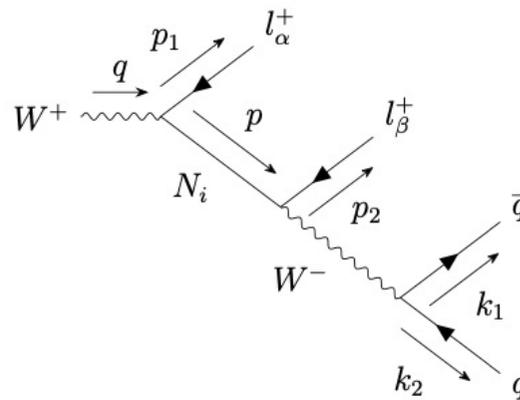
Since an  $N$  decays into a  $l_\alpha^-$  and a  $\bar{N}$  into a  $l_\alpha^+$ , the Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations lead to an **oscillation between LNC and LNV final states**, as a function of the oscillation time (or travelled distance)

# 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

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

S.A., J. Hajer, J. Roskopp  
(arXiv:2307.06208)

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

→ Full oscillation formulae,  
decoherence effects, ...

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

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

← LO

← NLO

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

← LO

← NLO

$$I_{\beta} := \text{Im}(\theta_{\beta}^* \theta'_{\beta} \exp(-2i\Phi)), \\ \phi_{ij} := -\frac{2\pi}{L_{ij}^{osc}} = -\frac{M_i^2 - M_j^2}{2|\mathbf{p}_0|}, \\ \Phi := \frac{1}{2} \text{Arg}(\vec{\theta}' \cdot \vec{\theta}^*).$$

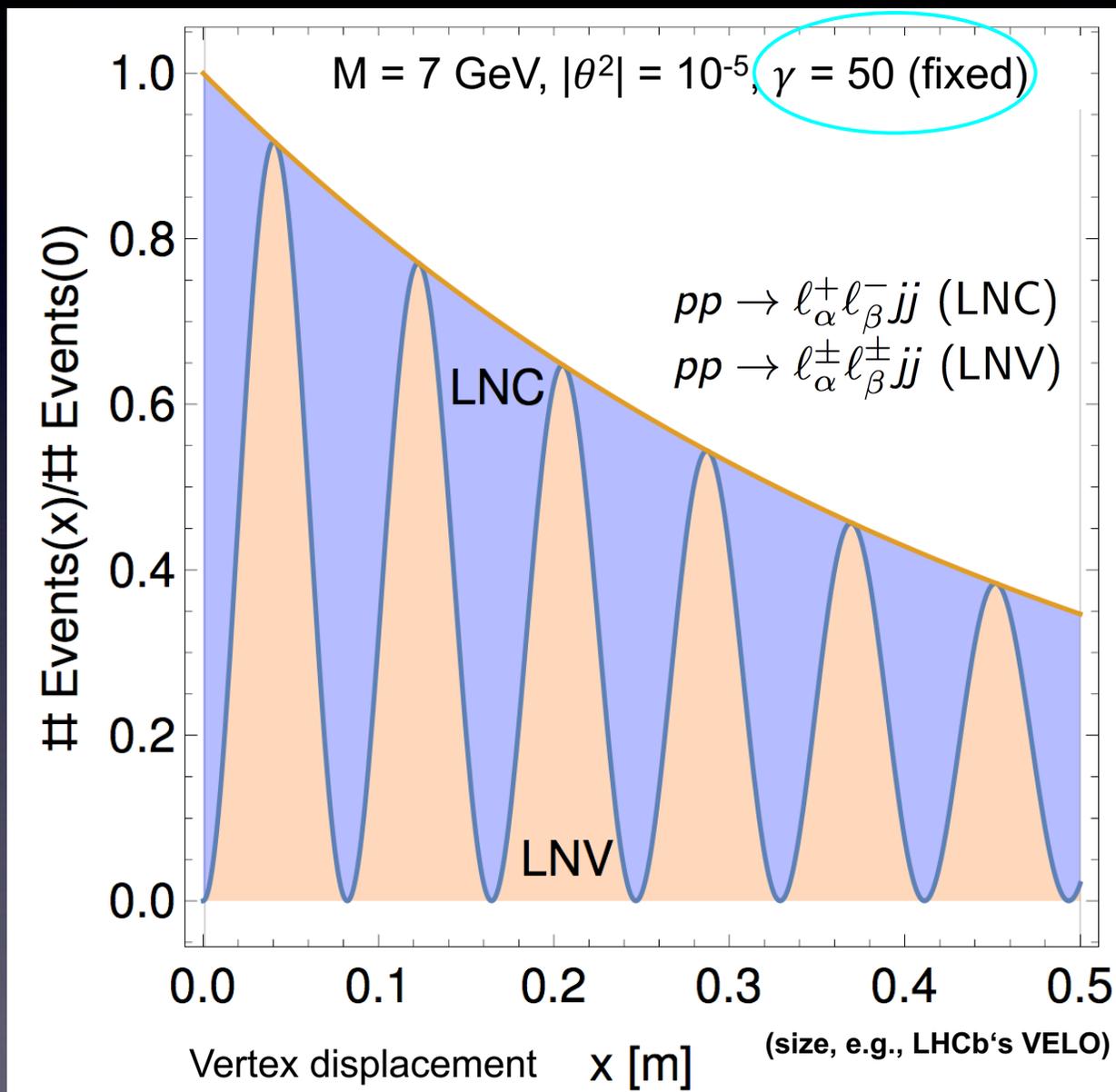
where

LO agrees with previous works, e.g.:  
G. Anamiati, M. Hirsch and E. Nardi (2016),  
G. Cvetič, C. S. Kim, R. Kogerler and  
J. Zamora-Saa (2015), ...

# 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), cf. "extra slides" ...



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

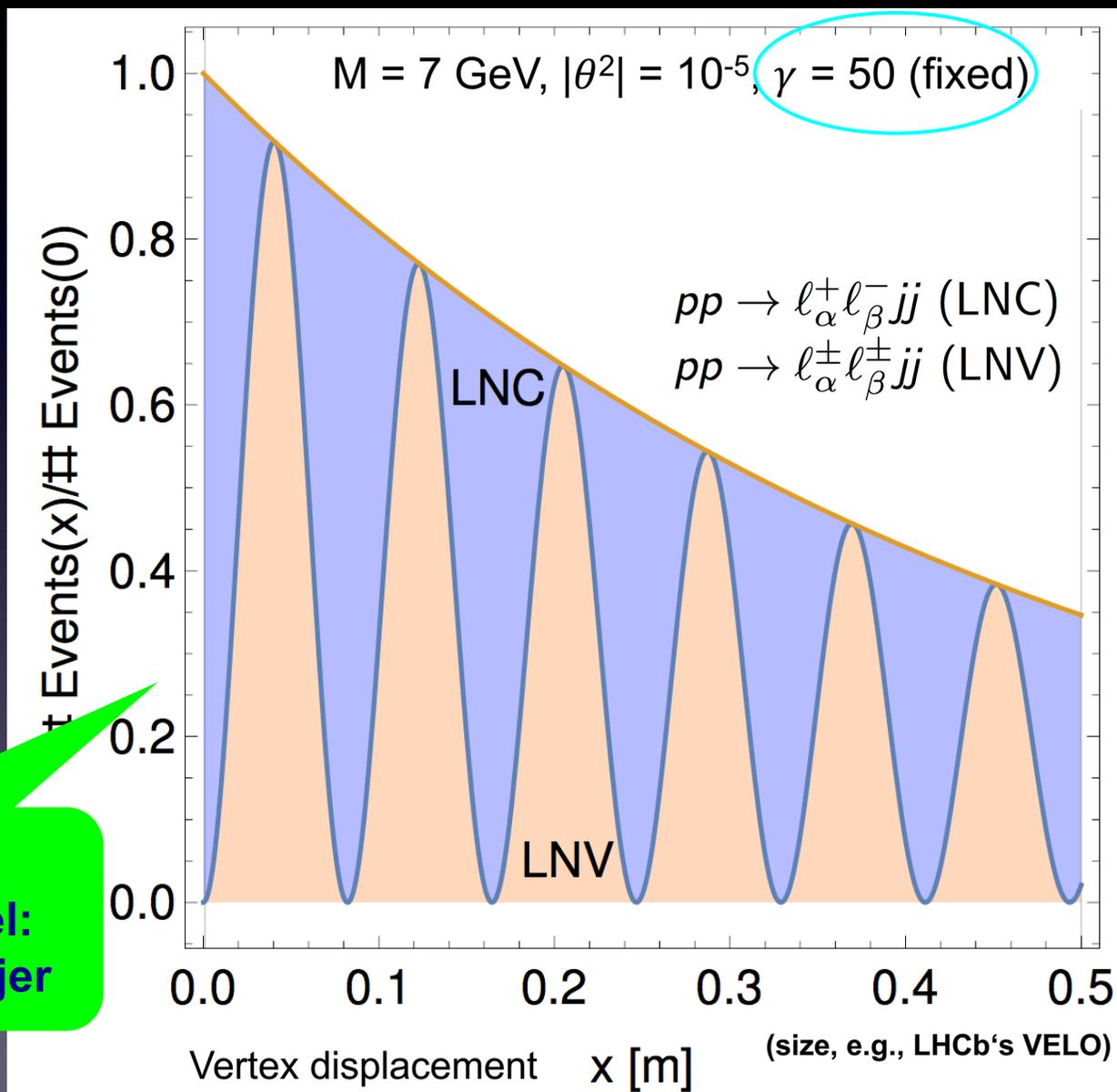
S. A., E. Cazzato,  
O. Fischer  
(arXiv:1709.03797)

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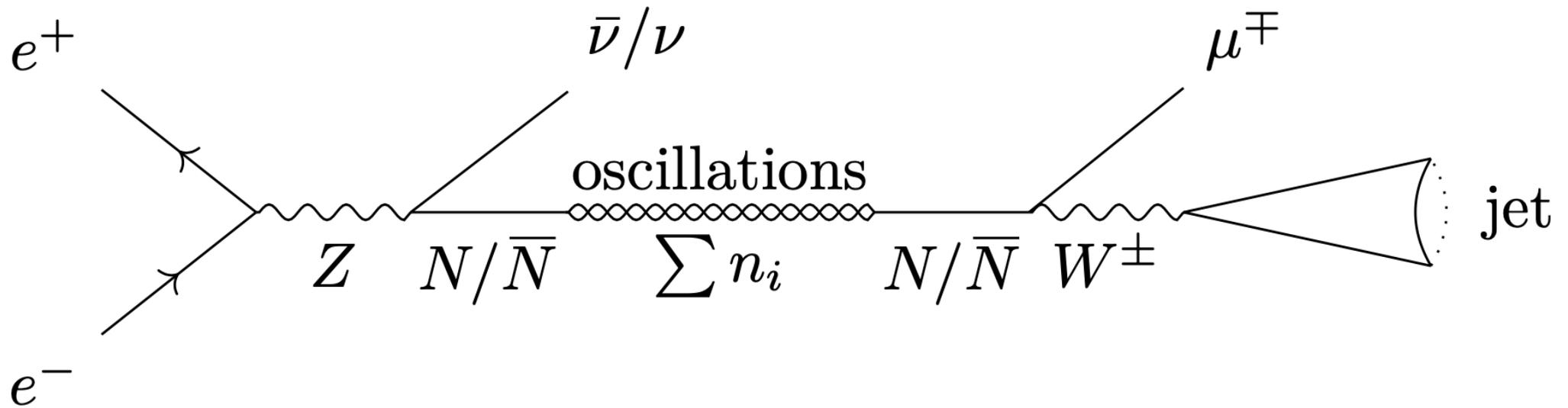
Analysis at the reconstructed level:  
see talk by Jan Hajer



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S. A., E. Cazzato,  
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# Heavy Neutrino-Antineutrino Oscillations at $e^+e^-$ Colliders (e.g. Z pole HNLs at FCC-ee)



S.A., J. Hajer, B.M.S. Oliviera (arXiv:2308.07297)

Important difference: light neutrinos are not detected, so there is no direct information on whether a  $N$  or an  $\bar{N}$  is produced!

-> Distinguishing LNV/LNC relies on final state angular distributions!

→  $N - \bar{N}$  oscillations induce an oscillating pattern on top of the angular dependencies

More details and observables in Jan Hajer's talk ...

# Summary

- Collider testable low-scale seesaw models feature **pseudo-Dirac pairs of heavy neutrinos** (L approx. symm., small mass splitting  $\Delta M$ )
- **LNV** → induced by **heavy neutrino-antineutrino oscillations**
- Recent developments:
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  - **QFT calculation** of oscillations (LO and NLO, decoherence effects)
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S.A., J. Hajer, J. Roskopp (arXiv:2210.10738)
  - Oscillations can be **resolvable at HL-LHC** (for benchmark parameters)  
S.A., J. Hajer, J. Roskopp (arXiv:2212.00562)
  - From QFT calculation: **Decoherence effects** can have a large impact, e.g. enhance the total ratio of LNV/LNC events (known as  $R_{ll}$  ratio)  
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  - Heavy neutrino-antineutrino oscillations **at the FCC-ee** (HNLs from Z)  
S.A., J. Hajer, B.M.S. Oliviera (arXiv:2308.07297)

**Thanks for  
your attention!**

# Extra Sildes

# Low Scale Seesaw Scenarios with "Symmetry protection"

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

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

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

"Linear" seesaw: \*

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

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

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: \*

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

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

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

$$\Delta M^{\text{inv}} = \frac{m_{\nu_\alpha}}{|\theta^2|} \quad (\text{Note: Here only one } \nu_\alpha \text{ gets mass})$$

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

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

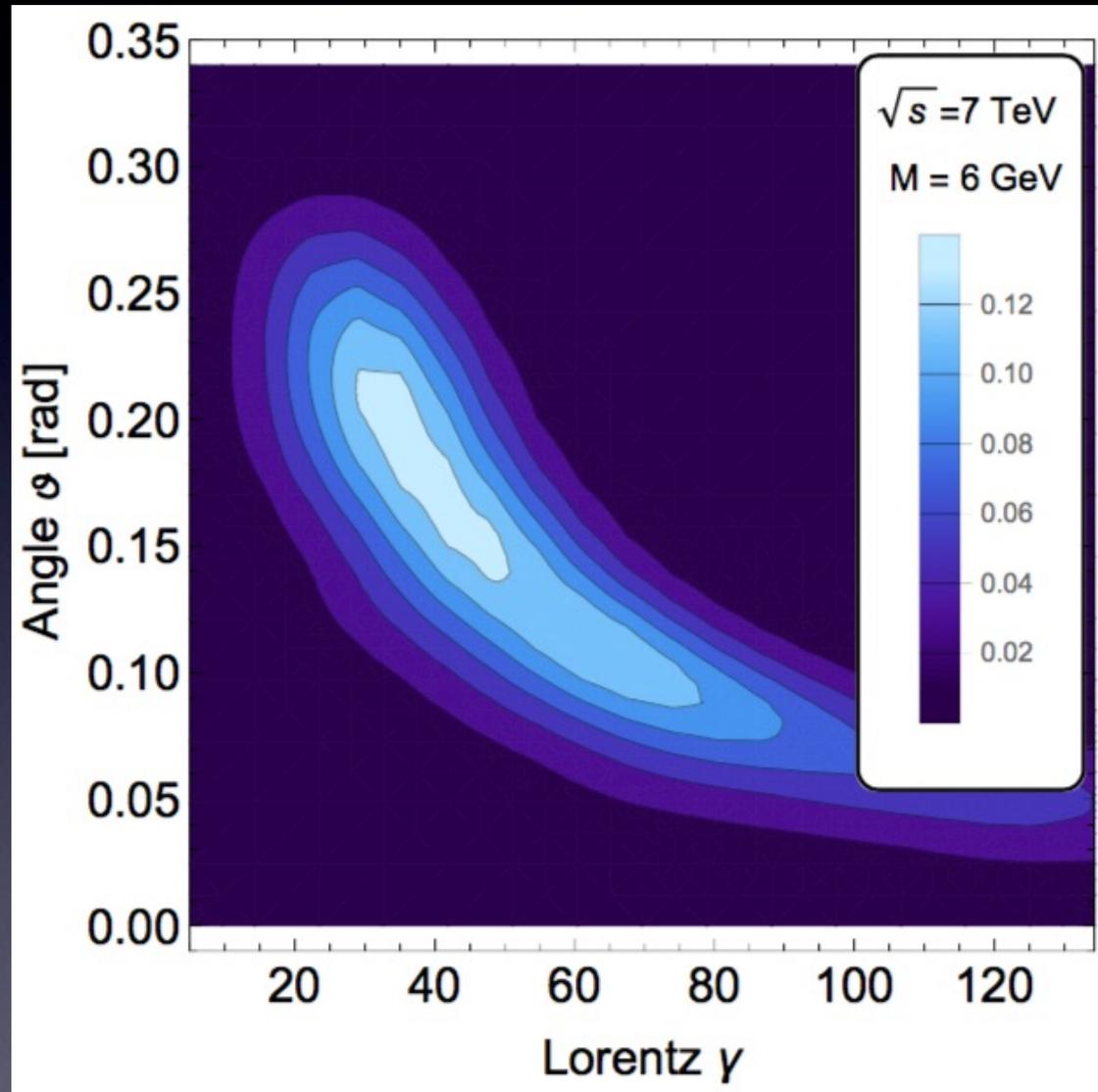
"loop seesaw"

\*) Note: names "inverse" and "linear" seesaw used here to indicate the position of the  $\epsilon$ -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) ...

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

after cuts:



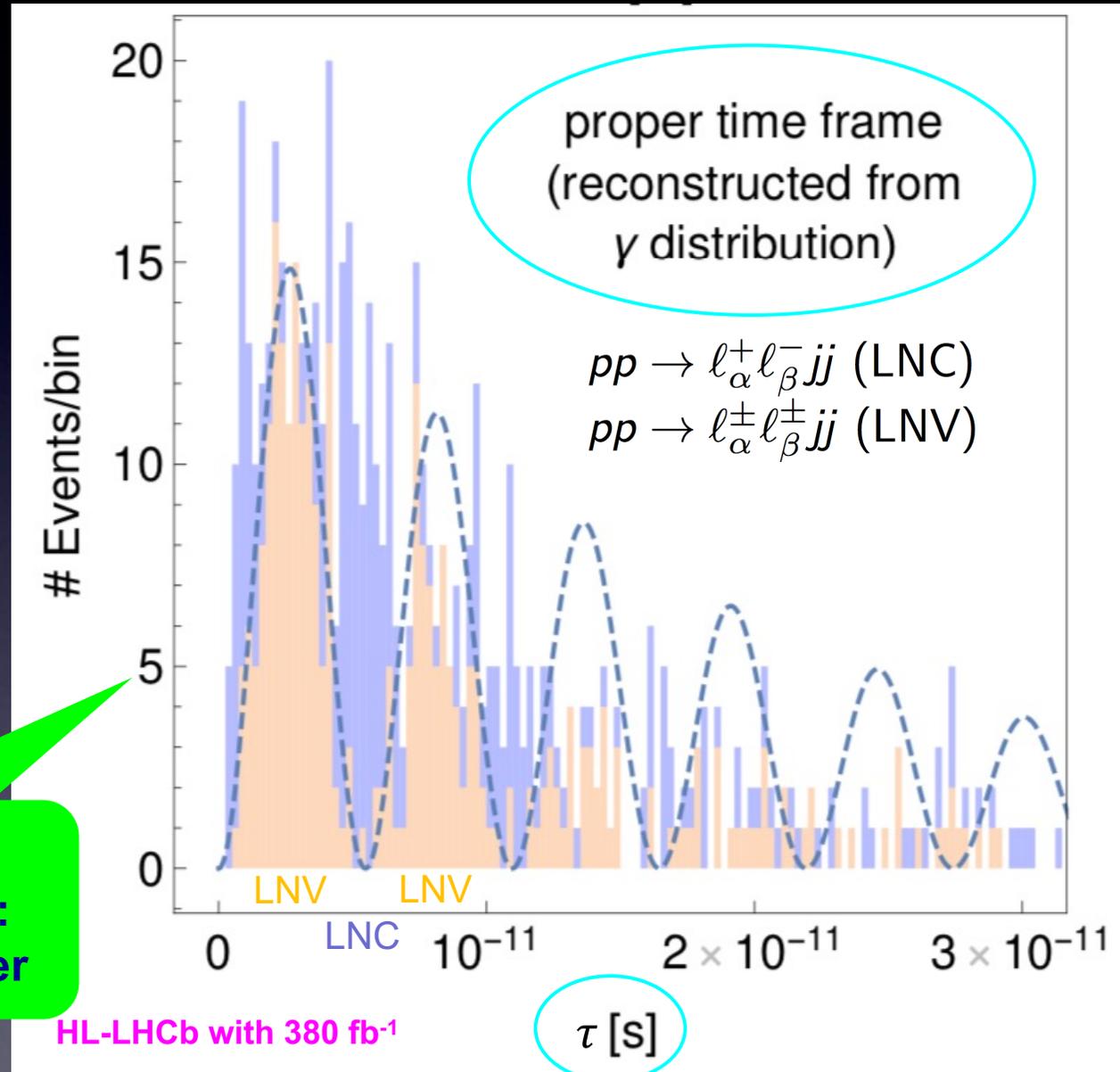
S. A., E. Cazzato, O. Fischer; arXiv:1706.05990

# Estimate: 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)

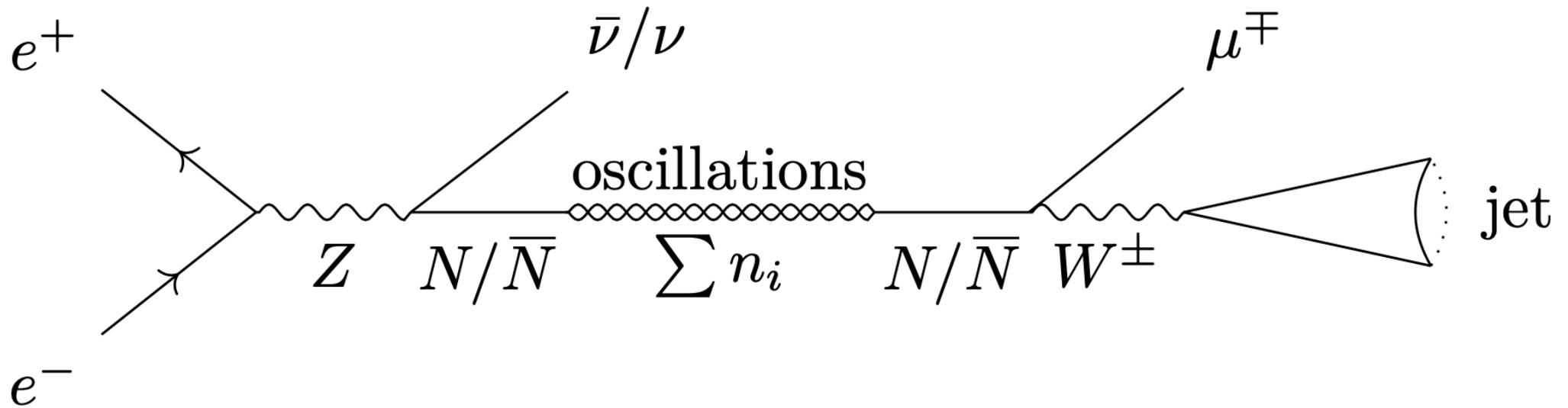
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Distribution of  $\gamma$  factors included  
→ one has to reconstruct signal as function of lifetime (not displacement)

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

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Important difference: light neutrinos are not detected, so there is no direct information on whether a  $N$  or an  $\bar{N}$  is produced!  
 -> Distinguishing LNV/LNC relies on final state angular distributions!

Remark: One source of angular dependence is the polarisation of  $Z$  from  $e^+e^-$  collisions of about 15% (due to parity violation)



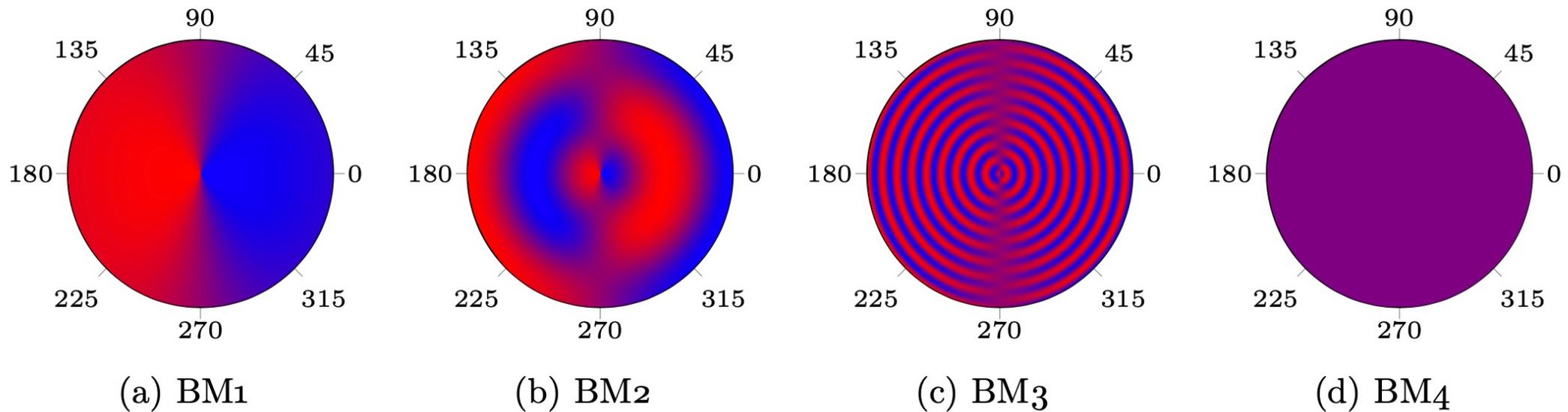
Forward-backward asymmetry of produced  $N$  vs.  $\bar{N}$

For pure Dirac or single Majorana HNL (no oscillations):  
 A. Blondel, A. de Gouvêa and B. Kayser (arXiv: 2105.06576)

# Signal: Oscillating ratio of $l^+/l^-$ final states as function of HNL lifetime and polar angle of displaced vertex

$$R_\ell(\tau, \cos \theta) = \frac{P_{\ell^-}(\tau, \cos \theta)}{P_{\ell^+}(\tau, \cos \theta)}$$

blue:  $>1$ , red,  $<1$



pseudo-Dirac with very small  $\Delta M$  (looks like pure Dirac HNL)

pseudo Dirac with relatively small  $\Delta M$

pseudo Dirac with relatively large  $\Delta M$

pseudo-Dirac with very large  $\Delta M$  (looks like single Majorana HNL)

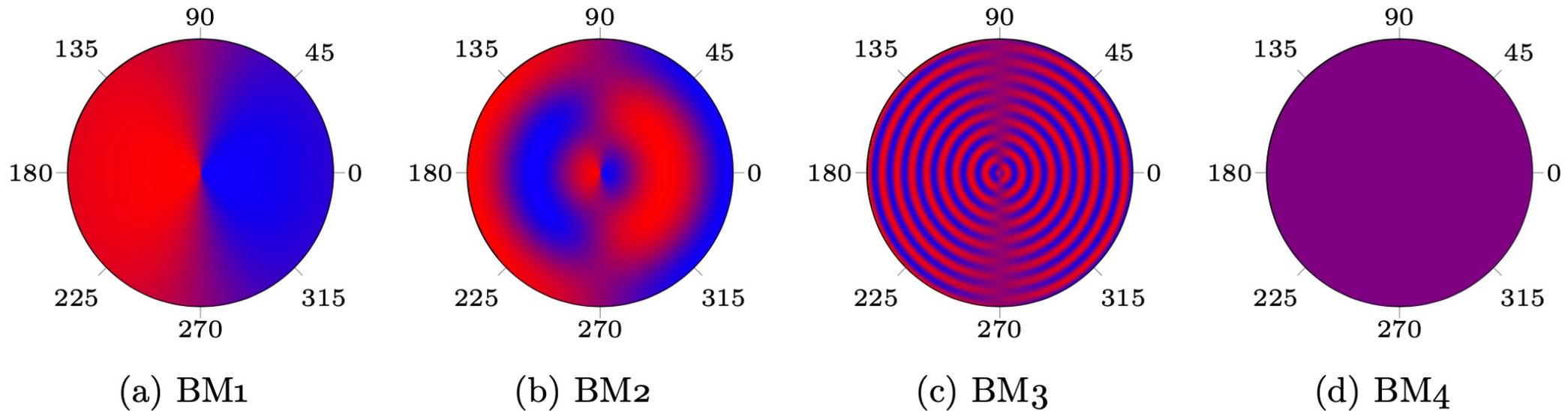
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blue:  $>1$ , red,  $<1$

For angular segment:  
Lepton # changes as function of  $\tau$   
→ clear signal of LNV



pseudo-Dirac with very small  $\Delta M$  (looks like pure Dirac HNL)

pseudo Dirac with relatively small  $\Delta M$

pseudo Dirac with relatively large  $\Delta M$

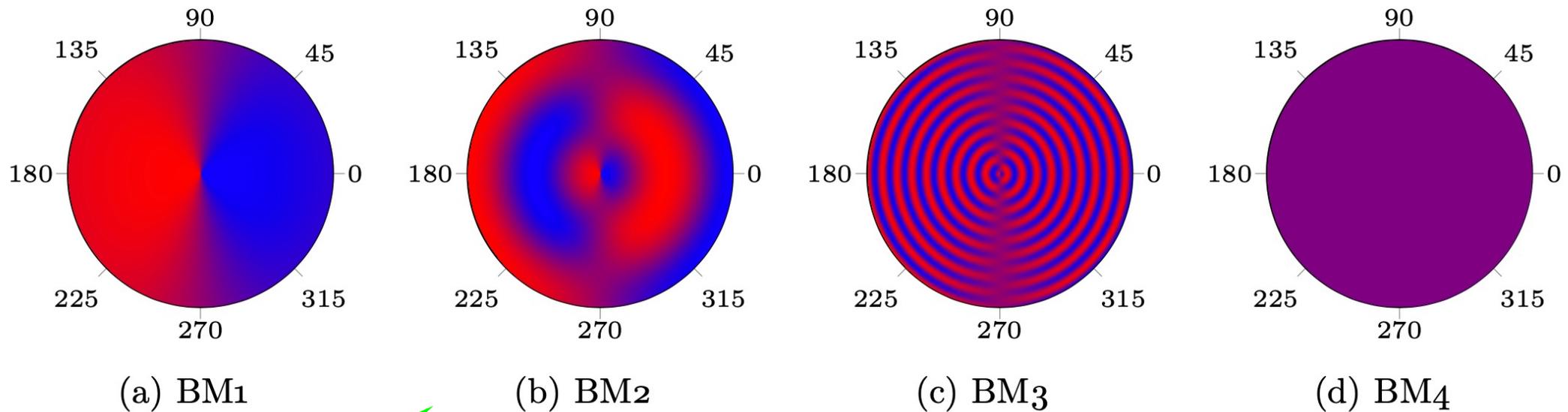
pseudo-Dirac with very large  $\Delta M$  (looks like single Majorana HNL)

S.A., J. Hajer, B. Oliviera (arXiv:2308.07297)

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