

Searching for heavy neutral lepton and LNV through VBS at muon colliders



based on JHEP 09 (2023) 131 with **Tong Li** (Nankai) and **Chang-yuan Yao** (Nankai and DESY)

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Outline

Motivation

Production features

Heavy neutral lepton and lepton number violation



Why a muon collider ?

• The past and ongoing particle colliders (LEP, SppS, PETRA, SLC, Tevatron, LHC...) made important measurements for the SM and BSM. So far, we haven't seen any conclusive evidence of BSM physics.

• What kind of collider is an ideal environment to reach higher energy and higher luminosity?

- Large muon mass $(m_{\mu}/m_e \sim 207)$ suppresses the synchrotron radiation by a factor of 10^9 , compared with electron beams.
- Compare to a circular electron-positron collider, muon collider with smaller size would have the potential to reach above TeV c.m. energies.
- A 14 TeV muon collider has potential similar to that of a 100 TeV *pp* collider.
- Higher luminosity
- Lower background



• The idea of muon collider introduced in 1980 's.

Skrinsky, Parkhomchuk, Sov.J.Part.Nucl.12(1981)223 Neuffer, Part.Accel.14 (1983) 75-90, AIP Conf.Proc.156(1987)201-208 Barger, Berger, Gunion, Han, PRL75(1995)1462-1465, Phys.Rept.286(1997)1-51

• Proton/positron driver scheme.

Muon Accelerator Program (MAP)



 Due to the short lifetime (2µs) of muon, cooling process is the biggest challenge on its construction. MICE collaboration,

Nature 578(2020)53

- Recently, due to the technological development, muon colliders have received much attention in the community.
- Luminosity scaling scheme: $\sigma \mathcal{L} \sim \text{const.}$ and luminosity goals

$$\mathcal{L} \gtrsim \frac{5 \text{ years}}{\text{time}} \left(\frac{\sqrt{s_{\mu}}}{10 \text{ TeV}}\right)^2 2 \cdot 10^{35} \text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$$
1901.06150

Production features

• Recall the hadron colliders: p p collision at LHC



 $PDFs \otimes partonic cross section$



$$\sigma(AB \to X) = \sum_{a,b} \int \mathrm{d}x_a \mathrm{d}x_b \; f_{a/A}(x_a, Q) f_{b/B}(x_b, Q) \; \hat{\sigma}(ab \to X)$$

▶ a, b are the "partons" from the beam particles A, B

► $f_{a/A}(f_{b/B})$ are PDFs, defined as the probabilities of finding partons a (b) from the beam particles A (B) with the momentum fractions $x_a(x_b)$

• EW PDF

- ► Ultra-high energy at muon collider $Q > M_Z$: $\frac{v}{E} = \frac{v}{10 \text{ TeV}} \rightarrow 0$
- ► The SM gauge symmetry is restored and all EW states are dynamically activated.
- ► EW PDF:
 - "Equivalent photon approximation (EPA)"
 - "Effective W Approximation (EWA)"



• We should take into account the four EW gauge bosons (B, W^i)

• Inclusive production cross section



Sum over all partonic contributions and calculate the inclusive production cross section, e.g. $t \bar{t}$

- The direct $\mu\mu$ annihilation falls as 1/s and vector boson scattering (VBS) takes over it at high energies
- ▶ VBS is important at high energies

2007.14300

Heavy neutral lepton



orn between identities - tau-, electron- or muon-neutrino?

- Since the last century, a large number of neutrino oscillation experiments provide clear evidences that neutrinos have tiny masses. Obviously, it is contrary to the prediction of SM (neutrinos are massless)!!!
- It is well-known that, an economical way to generate neutrino mass in the SM content is through the dim-5 effective operator — "Weinberg operator"

 $\ell_L\ell_L HH$

Phys.Rev.L.43,1566(1979)



- There are only three ultraviolet (UV) completions of this
 - "Weinberg operator" at tree level : PLB 67,421(1977), Conf.Proc.C 7902131,95(1979) Conf.Proc.C 790927,315(1979), PRL 44,912(1980) NATO Sci.Ser.B 61,687(1980), PRD 24,1232(1981) Type-I Seesaw $\rightarrow SU(2)_{I_{c}}$ fermion singlet
 - Type-II Seesaw $\rightarrow SU(2)_L$ scalar triplet
 - Type-III Seesaw $\rightarrow SU(2)_L$ fermion triplet

PLB 70,433(1977) PRD 22,2227(1980) PRD 22,2860(1980) Nucl.Phys.B 181,287(1981)

Z.Phys.C 44,441(1989)

• The heavy neutral lepton (**HNL**) can be realized in canonical Type I Seesaw mechanism

$$-\mathcal{L}_{Y}^{I} = Y_{\nu}^{D} \bar{\ell}_{L} \tilde{H} N_{R} + \frac{1}{2} \overline{(N^{c})_{L}} M_{R} N_{R} + \text{h.c.}$$

• Mixing matrix $V_{\ell N}$: $\nu_{\ell} = \sum_{m=1}^{3} (U_{\text{PMNS}})_{\ell m} \nu_{m} + \sum_{m'=1} (V_{\ell N})_{\ell m'} N_{m'}^{c}$

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{Type-I}} & \supset \quad -\frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \, W^{-}_{\mu} \sum_{\ell=e}^{\tau} \Big(\sum_{m=1}^{3} \bar{\ell}(U_{\mathrm{PMNS}})_{\ell m} \gamma^{\mu} P_{L} \nu_{m} + \sum_{m'=1} \overline{\bar{\ell}}(V_{\ell N})_{\ell m'} \gamma^{\mu} P_{L} N^{c}_{m'} \Big) + \mathrm{h.c.} \\ & - \frac{g}{2 \cos \theta_{W}} Z_{\mu} \sum_{\ell=e}^{\tau} \Big(\sum_{m=1}^{3} \bar{\nu}_{\ell}(U_{\mathrm{PMNS}})_{\ell m} \gamma^{\mu} P_{L} \nu_{m} + \sum_{m'=1} \overline{\bar{\nu}}_{\ell}(V_{\ell N})_{\ell m'} \gamma^{\mu} P_{L} N^{c}_{m'} \Big) + \mathrm{h.c.} \; . \end{split}$$

The search of Majorana neutrino at hadron colliders

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Signatures for Majorana Neutrinos at Hadron Colliders

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The Majorana nature of neutrinos may only be experimentally verified via lepton-number violating processes involving charged leptons. We explore the $\Delta L = 2$ like-sign dilepton production at hadron colliders to search for signals of Majorana neutrinos. We find significant sensitivity for resonant production of a Majorana neutrino in the mass range of 10–80 GeV at the CERN LHC with 100 fb⁻¹.

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PACS numbers: 14.60.Pq, 13.15.+g, 13.85.Qk, 14.60.St



• The search of HNLs at muon colliders • The signal at $\mu^+\mu^-$ collider: $\mu^+\mu^- \rightarrow N_\ell + \bar{\nu}_\ell$ 2301.02602 2301.05177 2301.07117



► Features :

- light ν in final states, but Majorana or Dirac type?
- t-channel only sensitive to $V_{\mu N}$
- $V_{\ell N}$ in s-channel

The search of HNLs at muon colliders 2302.13247
 The signal at μ⁺μ⁺ collider: μ⁺μ⁺ → W⁺W⁺
 2304.04483



► Features :

- it can probe HNLs with heavier mass
- \blacksquare only sensitive to $V_{\mu N}$, but $\sigma \varpropto |V_{\nu N}|^4$ is weaker than $\mu^+\mu^-$
- \blacksquare LNV through W 's hadronic decays, but it be suppressed by ${\rm BR}(W\!\to qq')^2\sim 40\%$

• Our proposal: LNV through vector boson scattering (VBS)

• The signal at $\mu^+\mu^-$ collider: $V_iV_j \to \ell_1^{\pm}N \to \ell_1^{\pm}\ell_2^{\pm}q\bar{q}'$



► The signal at $\mu^+\mu^+$ collider: W^+ $W^+W^+ \rightarrow \ell^+\ell^+$ clear LNV signature T. Li, C.Y. Yao, M. Yuan, JHEP 09 (2023) 131 W^+



HNLs

• We simulate to investigate HNLs at muon collider, by using the MadGraph, Madspin, Pythia and Delphes …



• 2σ exclusion limits for $|V_{\mu N}|^2$



- ▶ The probing potential of $|V_{\mu N}|^2$ is worse that from other annihilation channel.
- ▶ But we provide smoking-gun LNV signatures as a complement by the VBS process.

• 2σ exclusion limits for $|V_{eN}|^2$ and $|V_{eN} V_{\mu N}|$



► The probing potential of $|V_{eN}|^2$ is stronger than that from $\mu^+\mu^- \to N\nu$ channel with $\sqrt{s} = 10$ TeV or above.

▶ It can probe lepton flavor combination

Summary

- High-energy muon colliders are potentially ideal machines in both energy and precision frontiers.
- We propose a clear LNV signature through VBS process to search for the heavy neutral lepton at both $\mu^+\mu^-$ and $\mu^+\mu^+$ colliders.

Thank you!

• The LNV signature: $W^{\pm}Z/\gamma \rightarrow \ell_1^{\pm}N \rightarrow \ell_1^{\pm}\ell_2^{\pm}W^{\mp} \rightarrow \ell_1^{\pm}\ell_2^{\pm}q\bar{q}'$

▶ The parameter-independent cross section

$$\sigma \left(V_i \ V_j \to \ell_1^{\pm} \ell_2^{\pm} q \bar{q}' \right) \approx \sigma \left(V_i \ V_j \to \ell_1^{\pm} N \right) \times \text{BR}(N \to \ell_2^{\pm} q \bar{q}') \times (2 - \delta_{\ell_1 \ell_2})$$
$$\equiv \frac{|V_{\ell_1 N} V_{\ell_2 N}|^2}{\sum_{\ell = e, \mu, \tau} |V_{\ell N}|^2} \times \sigma_0 \times (2 - \delta_{\ell_1 \ell_2}) ,$$



• The benchmark choices of the collider energies and the corresponding integrated luminosities are

\sqrt{s}	3 TeV	10 TeV	30 TeV
\mathcal{L}	$1 \; ab^{-1}$	10 ab^{-1}	90 ab $^{-1}$

▶ The SM backgrounds we are considering

$$B_{1}: V V \to W^{\pm} W^{\pm} W^{\mp} \to \ell^{\pm} \ell^{\pm} \frac{(-)}{\nu_{\ell}} \frac{(-)}{\nu_{\ell}} q \bar{q}' ,$$

$$B_{2}: V V \to t \bar{t} W^{\pm} \to b W^{+} \bar{b} W^{-} W^{\pm} \to b \bar{b} \ell^{\pm} \ell^{\pm} \frac{(-)}{\nu_{\ell}} \frac{(-)}{\nu_{\ell}} + X ,$$

where X denotes the decay products of the opposite-sign W boson in B₂ background, i.e., $X = \ell^{\mp} \frac{(-)}{\nu_{\ell}}$ or $q\bar{q}'$.

 Based on the difference between distributions of signal and backgrounds, we employ some cuts for the final states to suppress the background



▶ We use the following formula to evaluate the significance

$$\mathcal{S} = \frac{N_{\rm S}}{\sqrt{N_{\rm S} + N_{\rm B}}},$$

$$\begin{split} N_{\rm S} &= \sigma_0 \ S_{\ell_1 \ell_2} \times \epsilon_{\rm S} \times \mathcal{L} \\ N_{\rm B_i} &= \sigma_{\rm B_i} \times \epsilon_{\rm B_i} \times \mathcal{L} \ , i = 1,2 \end{split}$$

► 2σ exclusion limits for $|V_{\mu N}|^2$

The probing potential of $|V_{\mu N}|^2$ is worse that from other annihilation channel.

But we provide smoking-gun LNV signatures as a complement by the VBS process.

