

#### Probing HNLs with Non-standard Interactions

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work in collaboration with R. Beltran, P. Bolton, C. Hati, M. Hirsch, JHEP 07 (2024) 153; W. Liu, S. Kulkarni, 2407.20676

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#### Dirac vs Majorana

Two possibilities to define fermion mass







Dirac mass analogous to other fermions but with  ${}^{m_{\nu}}/_{\Lambda_{EW}} \approx 10^{-12}$  couplings to Higgs



Majorana mass, using only a left-handed neutrino → Lepton Number Violation



### Dirac versus Majorana



- Origin of neutrino masses beyond the Standard Model
- Crucial role of total lepton number L symmetry
  - Arises accidentally as global  $U(1)_L$  in SM from particle content and gauge symmetry
  - L broken non-perturbatively but B L conserved
  - Global symmetries expected to be broken gravitational effects?

$$m_{\nu} \approx \frac{\nu^2}{M_{\text{Planck}}} \approx 10^{-5} \text{ eV}$$

- Too small to explain oscillations but too large as subdominant splitting
- Connection to matter-antimatter asymmetry

### **Heavy Sterile Neutrinos**



#### SM + Sterile Neutrinos

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\rm SM} + i\bar{N}_{iR}\partial N_{iR} - (Y_{\nu})_{\alpha i}\bar{L}_{\alpha}\tilde{H}N_{iR} - \frac{1}{2}(\mathcal{M}_S)_{ij}\bar{N}_{iR}^cN_{jR} + \text{h.c.}$$

- Seesaw Mechanism with TeV scale heavy neutrinos
  - Standard Seesaw with small Yukawa couplings



### HNL Searches – Current





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#### HNL Searches – Proposed

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### **HNL Portals**



- Active-sterile neutrino mixing
- Gauge portal
- Higgs portal
- HNL dipole portal





# **Extended Gauge Sectors**

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# **Extended Gauge Sectors**



- Additional  $U(1)_{B-L}$  gauge symmetry
  - Production via Z' portal
  - Ability to measure small couplings via displaced vertices
  - *N* can only decay through heavy-light suppressed coupling  $\theta = Y_{\nu} \langle H \rangle / m_N$
  - SM Higgs mixing with U(1)<sub>B-L</sub> breaking Higgs → Scalar Portal --> LNV Higgs decays (Maiezza, Nemevšek, Nesti, PRL 115 (2015) 081802)



FFD, Liu, Mitra JHEP 1808 (2018) 181

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## LLPs in CMS Muon Endcap

- Search for long-lived particles decaying in the CMS endcap muon detectors in proton-proton collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV (CMS, PRL 127 (2021) 261804)
  - LLPs producing hadronic and electromagnetic showers in the CMS endcap muon detectors (CSCs = cathode strip chamber)
  - Sensitivity to single or multiple LLPs decaying to hadrons, τ, e, γ
  - Original search for  $h \to SS$  $(S \to b\overline{b}, d\overline{d}, \tau^+\tau^-)$

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CMS, Phys. Rev. Lett. 127 (2021) 261804

## LLPs in CMS Muon Endcap



- Search for long-lived particles decaying in the CMS endcap muon detectors in proton-proton collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV (CMS, PRL 127 (2021) 261804)
  - Stringent limits for  $m_{LLP} = 10 50$  GeV with  $c\tau > O(1 \text{ m})$





## HNLs in CMS Muon Endcap

Interpretation in Neutrino Minimal SM

$$L_N^0 \approx 3 \text{ m} \times \left(\frac{10^{-12}}{|V_{\ell N}|^2}\right) \left(\frac{40 \text{ GeV}}{m_N}\right)^5$$



Cottin, Helo, Hirsch, Pena, Wang, JHEP 02 (2023) 011



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# HNLs in CMS Muon Endcap

- Interpretation via gauge and Higgs portal production
  - Specifically,  $U(1)_{B-L}$  model
  - $pp \rightarrow Z, Z', \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{\Phi} \rightarrow NN$
  - Selection criteria:
    - $E_T^{miss} > 200 \text{ GeV}$  in tracker or calorimeter
    - At least one CSC cluster aligned with p<sub>T</sub><sup>miss</sup>
  - CMS Delphes card and modules
  - Effective gluon-gluon Higgs coupling at LO
  - Enhanced E<sub>T</sub><sup>miss</sup> for gluon-gluon fusion
  - Background determined in data:  $b = 2.0 \pm 1.0$ , Observed: N = 3

W. Liu, S. Kulkarni, FFD arXiv:2407.20676



 $E_T^{\text{miss}}$  [GeV]



### **HNLs in CMS Muon Endcap**

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## HNLs in CMS Muon Endcap





*N<sub>R</sub>*LEFT Transition Magnetic Moments

$$\mathcal{O}_{NN\gamma}^{ij} = (\bar{N}_{Ri}^c \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_{Rj}) F^{\mu\nu} , \quad \mathcal{O}_{\nu N\gamma}^{\alpha i} = (\bar{\nu}_{L\alpha} \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_{Ri}) F^{\mu\nu} ,$$

► N<sub>R</sub>SMEFT

$$\mathcal{O}_{NNB}^{(5)ij} = (\bar{N}_{Ri}^c \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_{Rj}) B^{\mu\nu} ,$$
  
$$\mathcal{O}_{NB}^{(6)\alpha i} = (\bar{L}_{\alpha} \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_{Ri}) \tilde{H} B^{\mu\nu} , \quad \mathcal{O}_{NW}^{(6)\alpha i} = (\bar{L}_{\alpha} \sigma_{\mu\nu} N_{Ri}) \tau^I \tilde{H} W^{I\mu\nu} ,$$







#### Phenomenology at LHC



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#### LHC Production Cross Sections



JHEP 07 (2024) 153



#### HNL Decay Modes



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#### Non-pointing photon signal in ECal









#### Sensitivity prospects at HL-LHC





#### Sensitivity prospects at HL-LHC



### Conclusion



#### Neutrinos much lighter than other fermions

- Dirac or Majorana? Lepton Number Violation?
- Determination of absolute mass scale

#### Probing LNV and HNLs

- Testing the mechanism of neutrino mass generation
- Baryon asymmetry of the Universe via Leptogenesis
- Light neutrino masses generically require small Yukawa couplings
  → Small active-sterile mixing → HNLs are LLPs

#### Beyond sterile: HNL portals

- Efficient BSM portals to produce HNLs beyond mixing
  - Gauge, Higgs and Dipole
- Sensitivity to seesaw floor of neutrino mass generation