

Ph.D. DISSERTATION

Searching for heavy neutrinos using the LHC
proton-proton collision data at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV
collected by the CMS detector.

CMS 검출기로 수집된 거대 강입자 충돌기의 질량중심
에너지 13 TeV 양성자-양성자 충돌 데이터를 사용한
무거운 중성미자 탐사

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Abstract

Among several unveiled key questions about the universe, neutrinos' masses and its mechanism are clear evidence beyond the Standard Model (SM). In addition, unique chiral structure of the weak interaction of the SM is unnatural in the sense of parity violation without certain source of it. The left-right symmetric extension of the SM is traditional way to explain the parity violation with specific Higgs sector, for example, a bi-doublet and two triplets, which takes the see-saw mechanism into the model in natural way that can explain the smallness of neutrino masses. The model's $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times U(1)_{B-L}$ group is reduced to the group identical to the SM, $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$, by spontaneous symmetry breaking (SSB) of Higgs sector, and, once again to $U(1)_{em}$ also by SSB.

In this thesis, the search for pair production of heavy neutrinos via the decay of new neutral gauge boson (Z') in the proton-proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13$ TeV in same flavor di-lepton (e or μ) plus at least two jets channel is presented. The data set corresponds to the integrated luminosity of 137.4 fb^{-1} collected by the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) detector at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC).

Keywords: SNU, High Energy Physics, thesis

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Contents

Abstract	i
Chapter 1 Introduction	1
Appendix A First Appendix Section	7
초록	8
Acknowledgements	9

List of Figures

List of Tables

Chapter 1

Introduction

In this thesis, search for the pair production of heavy Majorana neutrinos via the decay of new neutral gauge boson (Z') is presented. This search is mainly motivated by broken parity symmetry of the Standard Model (SM) and smallness of neutrino masses. Event signature of the search consists of two same flavor leptons (e or μ) and at least two jets. The data is collected by the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) detector of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN during 2016 to 2018, corresponding to an integral luminosity of 137.4 fb^{-1} from proton-proton collisions at $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$.

Models of heavy neutrinos based on the left-right symmetric extension of the SM (LRSM) are mainly inspired by unnatural chiral structure of the weak interaction, and, are suggested from about 40 years ago. Among left/right handed fields of fermions, charged gauge bosons (mediator) of the weak force (W^\pm) interacts only with left-handed particles (right-handed anti-particles). For this parity violation of the weak interaction, the SM provides no exact reason or source. The theory will be more natural in the way of spontaneous symmetry

breaking (SSB) of LRSM group at certain high energy level to parity violated group, and it is key point of the LRSM.

In addition to this unnaturalness of chirality, there are additional puzzles on the SM related with masses of neutrinos. After discovery of neutrino oscillations [4], it is well known that at least two out of three mass eigenstates of neutrinos are non-zero. In the SM, it is assumed that neutrinos are massless, so, neutrino oscillations are clear evidence for the physics beyond the SM. Furthermore, bounds on neutrino masses coming from direct measurements of tritium decays [2] is about 1.1 eV while study on cosmology [5] gives about an order of smaller bound. Comparison between these small mass bound of neutrino masses and masses of other Dirac particles of the SM gives additional question as “why masses of neutrinos are so tiny?”.

In the SM, fermions such as quarks or leptons get masses via Yukawa interactions between left-handed field, right-handed field, and Higgs field. With discovery of Higgs boson [1, 3] and no detection of right-handed neutrinos, the question if neutrinos get masses via same Yukawa interactions like other fermions or need another mechanism should be investigated. The LRSM with complex Higgs sector, such as bi-doublet and two triplets for each chirality, can explain smallness of neutrino masses. Under good assumptions on vacuum expectation values of Higgs fields, the model naturally adapts the see-saw mechanism [7]. At same time, the LRSM group is naturally degraded into parity violated group, in another word, to the group of the SM before SSB, and again to $U(1)_{em}$ group, the group of the SM after SSB. As a result, the model is equivalent with the SM at the energy scale of current universe and being studied scale using particle colliders.

Besides limits from direct searches at particle colliders such as Tevatron and LHC Run1 on additional gauge bosons introduced by the LRSM (W_R^\pm and

Z'), most stringent limits are coming from meson system with CP violation, mass difference between K_L and K_S . For the worst case, the limit on mass of W_R^\pm is given as to be greater than about 4 TeV/ c^2 . By using relation between mass of W_R^\pm ($m_{W_R'}$) and mass of Z' ($m_{Z'}$) which is $m_{Z'} \simeq 1.7m_{W_R'}$, limit on $m_{Z'}$ becomes to be greater than about 6.8 TeV/ c^2 . In the best case, limits are resolved to $(m_{W_R'}, m_{Z'}) = (2.5 \text{ TeV}/c^2, 4.25 \text{ TeV}/c^2)$ from $(4 \text{ TeV}/c^2, 6.8 \text{ TeV}/c^2)$ [6]. Either cases are accessible at the LHC Run2 proton-proton collisions with $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}/c^2$

Although additional gauge bosons of the LRSB can be searched by low energy experiments such as B meson decays (B anomalies) and neutrinoless double beta decays ($0\nu\beta\beta$) via new physics contributions coming from W_R and flavor changing heavy Higgs, direct search at the LHC has unique characteristic which is possibility of mass reconstruction of additional gauge bosons and heavy neutrinos. Especially, direct measurement of masses of heavy neutrinos for multi flavor channels provides values of elements of Majorana mass matrix that are very important physical parameters to understand results of low energy experiments.

The discovery of heavy neutrinos at the LHC will provide wider understanding on symmetries of the universe and the detailed characteristics of neutrino sector which is still the world of many unknowns. Furthermore, hints on matter dominance of the universe in the sense of matter and anti-matter asymmetry would be also provided by additional CP violation source coming from parity symmetry breaking. Cosmology based on three neutrino scheme and nuclear physics based on left-handed charged current weak interaction only would also get huge impact for further understanding on underlying physics.

This thesis mainly describes the search for pair production of such heavy neutrinos via s-channel production of the new neutral gauge boson (Z') at the

LHC based on the LRSM. The thesis is structured as follows: The brief summary on history related with the SM and neutrino physics with detailed theories on them are discussed in chapter 2 including motivations of the search. In chapter 3, brief review about the LHC is discussed including accelerator chain and simple principle of synchrotrons. The summary on the CMS detector is covered at chapter 4 also with particle flow (PF) algorithm which is used for reconstruction of incoming particles from proton-proton collisions and triggering systems. In chapter 5, Monte Carlo simulations for signal processes and background processes are described.

Chapter 6 is for data samples used for the analysis. Definitions of physical objects and event selection criteria are discussed in chapter 7. Chapter 8 presents signal efficiencies under event selections of this analysis. Correction applied to physical object are summarized in chapter 9. Background estimations are described in chapter 10, and validation of those estimations and systematic uncertainties are discussed in chapter 11. The comparison between the data and the expected background in the signal region, and result of the search are presented at chapter 12. Finally, in chapter 13, the thesis finishes with the conclusions.

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Appendix A

First Appendix Section

Okay.

초록

입자물리학은 20세기를 거쳐 눈부신 발전을 이뤄냈지만 여전히 이 우주에는 밝혀지지 않은 수수께끼들이 있다. 그 중에서도 중성미자의 질량과 그것을 생성하는 기작은 표준모형을 넘어서는 이론이 필요하다고 주장하는 대표적인 현상 중 하나다. 이에 덧붙여서, 약한상호작용이 가지는 특이한 카이랄성은 반전성 대칭 붕괴에 대해 확실한 근거를 제공하지 못한다는 점에서 자연스럽게 않다. 표준모형의 좌우 대칭 확장은 이러한 문제를 해결하는 전통적인 방법 중 하나다. 여기에 다소 복잡한 힉스보존 구조를 사용하면, 예를들어 하나의 겹이중항과 두개의 삼중항, 중성미자 질량이 다른 페르미 입자들보다 왜 크게 작은지 설명할 수 있는 시소(see-saw)기작이 자연스럽게 적용된다. 이 확장된 모형의 군은 $SU(2)_L \times SU(2)_R \times U(1)_{B-L}$ 로 표현되며, 자발적 대칭성 붕괴를 통해 낮은 에너지 수준에서는 표준모형과 동일한 $SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$ 군으로 근사된다. 여기서 한번더 자발적 대칭성 붕괴에 의해 $U(1)_{em}$ 군으로 표현된다.

이 논문에서는 질량중심 에너지 13 TeV 으로 발생시킨 양성자-양성자 충돌에서 위 모형에서 등장하는 새로운 중성 게이지 보존 (Z')이 생성되고, 이것이 두개의 무거운 중성미자로 붕괴하는 반응을 탐사한 결과를 발표한다. 이 과정에서 두개의 하전 경입자와 네개의 젯들이 형성되는데, 하전 경입자들의 경우 두개의 전자 혹은 두개의 뮤온이 생성되는 과정만 고려되었다. 분석에 사용한 데이터는 거대 강입자 가속기에 있는 CMS 검출기로 수집하였으며, 총 137.4 fb^{-1} 의 총 적분 광도량에 해당한다.

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