

HEAVY LEPTON PRODUCTION AT LINAC $\otimes$ LHC

A.T. ALAN, A.T. TASCI

Abant Izzet Baysal University, Department of Physics, 14280, Bolu, Turkey

e-mail: alan_a@ibu.edu.tr

e-mail: taschi_a@ibu.edu.tr

AND O. ÇAKIR

Ankara University, Department of Physics, 06100, Tandogan, Ankara, Turkey

e-mail: ocakir@science.ankara.edu.tr

(Received February 12, 2004)

We investigate the production, signatures and backgrounds of new heavy leptons via string inspired E_6 model at the proposed Linac $\otimes$ LHC. Assuming maximal mixing, the production rate is found to be 2000 events per year for masses up to 3 TeV.

PACS numbers: 14.60.Hi, 12.60.-i

1. Introduction

Although the Standard Model (SM) is very successful in explaining the physics of many phenomena under a few hundred GeV, it is not a complete description of the physics at higher energies. The most fundamental problems with SM are the mass hierarchy and the number of fermion generations. There are many models extending the SM to overcome these problems. Almost all of these new models include new fermions in addition to the ordinary ones. We investigate the possibility of the single production of new heavy leptons suggested by string inspired E_6 model in ep collisions. There are many analysis of the heavy lepton production at future linear colliders [1–3], at hadron colliders [4–6] and also at ep collider HERA [7]. For the searches of new physics beyond the SM, the linac-ring type ep colliders have as much potential as lepton colliders [8].

2. Production of heavy leptons

The model that we use in the single production of a new heavy lepton is the string inspired E_6 model [9, 10]. We, therefore, assume the new heavy lepton interactions in the following flavor changing neutral current (FCNC) Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{nc}} = g_z \sin \theta_{\text{mix}} \psi_L \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma_5) \psi_e Z^\mu + \text{h.c.}$$

and similar terms for the other leptonic families. Here θ_{mix} are the mixing angles between right handed components of the ordinary and new heavy charged leptons. Throughout this paper we will suppose an upper limit $\sin \theta_{\text{mix}} < 0.1$ coming from the high precision measurements of the Z properties at LEP/SLC [11]. We use the parameter b_{lLZ} for $\sin \theta_{\text{mix}}$ to denote the mixing in the vertex $l - L - Z$ explicitly. In E_6 , the parton level process $eq \rightarrow Lq$, responsible for the heavy lepton production in ep collision occurs via FCNC Z exchange in the t -channel.

The differential cross section for the subprocess $eq \rightarrow Lq$ in the framework of E_6 model is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{d\hat{t}} &= \frac{\pi \alpha^2 b_{lLZ}^2}{\sin^4 \theta_W \cos^4 \theta_W \hat{s}^2 \left[(\hat{t} - M_Z^2)^2 + M_Z^2 \Gamma_Z^2 \right]} \\ &\times \left[(a_q + v_q)^2 \hat{t}^2 + (a_q + v_q)^2 (2\hat{s} - m_L^2) \hat{t} + 2\hat{s} (a_q^2 + v_q^2) (\hat{s} - m_L^2) \right], \end{aligned}$$

where θ_W is the weak angle, α is the fine structure constant, $\hat{s}$ and $\hat{t}$ are the Mandelstam variables and $\hat{s} = xs$ is the square of the center of mass energy for the subprocess while x is the momentum fraction of the parton inside the proton. The total cross section can be obtained by folding the subprocess cross section $\hat{\sigma}$ over the parton distribution functions as

$$\sigma(ep \rightarrow LqX) = \int_{x_{\min}}^1 dx f_q(x, Q^2) \int_{t_{\min}}^{t_{\max}} \frac{d\hat{\sigma}}{d\hat{t}} d\hat{t},$$

where $x_{\min} = m_L^2/s$, $\hat{t}_{\min} = -(\hat{s} - m_L^2)$ and $\hat{t}_{\max} = 0$. These relations are obtained for the massless lepton and quark case. We give the production cross sections for the signal as function of the heavy lepton mass, m_L , in Fig. 1 for different values of b_{lLZ} . In Fig. 2, we display the invariant mass distribution of the background process $ep \rightarrow qZeX$ as function of invariant mass of Ze system at future lepton-hadron collider Linac $\otimes$ LHC with the main parameters $\sqrt{s} = 5.3$ TeV and $\mathcal{L} = 10^{33} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ [12]. We have used the COMPHEP package [13] to calculate the cross sections, decay widths

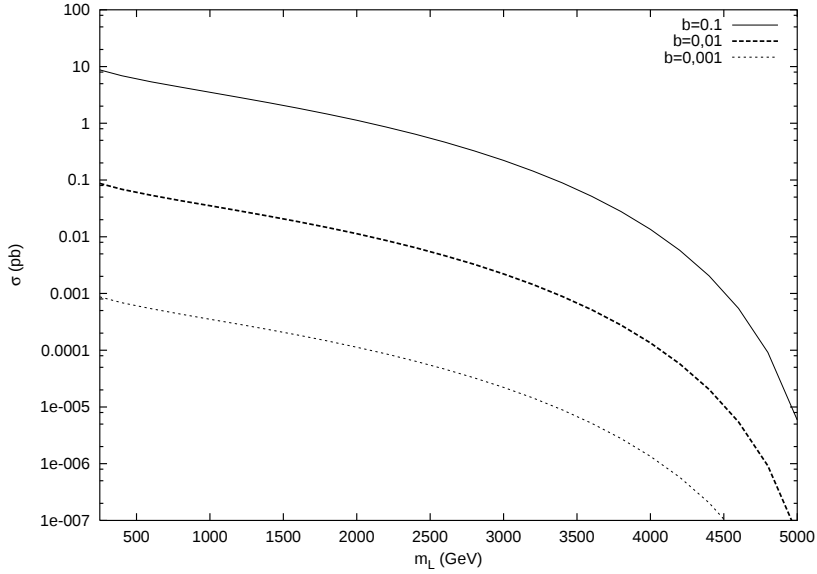


Fig. 1. Total production cross sections as functions of the heavy lepton masses (m_L) at $\sqrt{s} = 5.3$ TeV for different $l - L - Z$ couplings b .

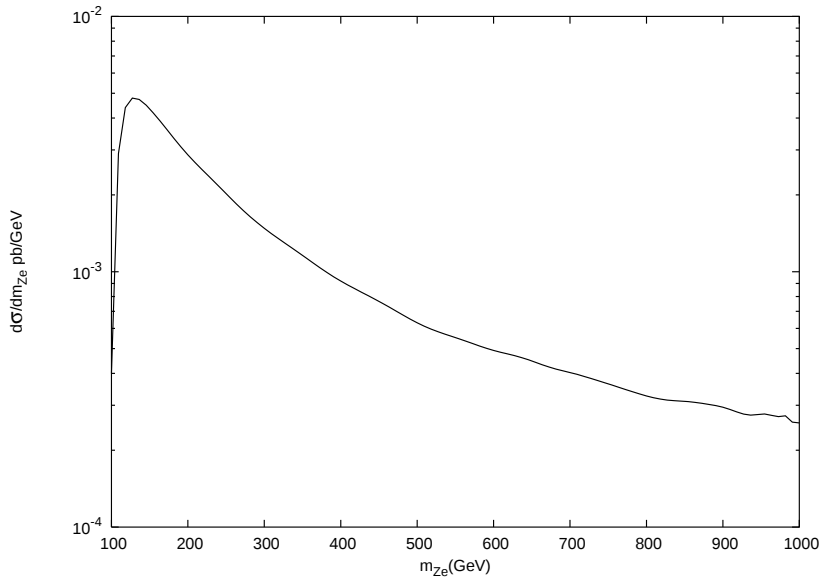


Fig. 2. The invariant mass distribution of the Ze system for the background process $ep \rightarrow qZeX$.

and branching ratios. For the parton distribution functions $f_q(x, Q^2)$ we have used MRS [14] with the factorization scale $Q^2 = m_L^2$.

The heavy lepton production cross sections ($\sigma \times \text{BR}$) and the number of signal events depending on the mass m_L are shown in Table I. For decreasing values of the $l-L-Z$ couplings, b , the production cross section and, therefore, the number of events decreases.

TABLE I

Cross sections depending on the heavy lepton mass m_L for $b = 0.1$. The branching ratios BR_1 and BR_2 denote $\text{BR}(L \rightarrow Ze)$ and $\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow e^+e^-, \mu^+\mu^-)$, respectively. The total decay width of the heavy lepton is given in the last column.

$m_L(\text{GeV})$	$\sigma(\text{pb})$	$\sigma \times \text{BR}_1(\text{pb})$	$\sigma \times \text{BR}_1 \times \text{BR}_2(\text{pb})$	$\Gamma(\text{GeV})$
200	9.423	3.109	0.105	0.59
400	6.873	2.267	0.076	5.18
600	5.384	1.776	0.059	17.53
800	4.333	1.429	0.048	41.53
1000	3.519	1.161	0.039	81.05
2000	1.129	0.373	0.012	647.16
3000	0.221	0.073	0.002	2142.88

After their production, heavy leptons will decay via the neutral current process $L \rightarrow lZ$, where l is a light lepton (e, μ, τ). The branching ratio for these processes would be around 33% for each channel.

The backgrounds for the signal process $ep \rightarrow LqX$ with the subsequent decays $L \rightarrow Z\mu$ or $L \rightarrow Z\tau$ and $Z \rightarrow e^+e^-$ are expected to be at very low rate. By applying appropriate cuts to the final state particles this type of backgrounds can be kept at very low levels. Still we may need at least 10 signal events in the final state after all cuts. Therefore, the ep collider Linac $\otimes$ LHC can probe heavy lepton masses up to about 3 TeV as can be deduced from Table I. For a heavy lepton with a mass of 200 GeV we expect 10^3 signal events for the coupling value of $b = 0.1$.

We applied an initial cut on the electron and jet transverse momentum $p_T^{e,q} > 10 \text{ GeV}$ for the signal and background analysis. These cuts reduce the background by about 20%. The total background cross section is $(\sigma \times \text{BR}) = 0.055 \text{ pb}$ after the cuts. This improves the statistical significance $S/\sqrt{B}$, where S and B denote the total signal and background events, respectively. The calculated 3σ and 5σ discovery contours for heavy lepton masses and couplings, are displayed in Fig. 3.

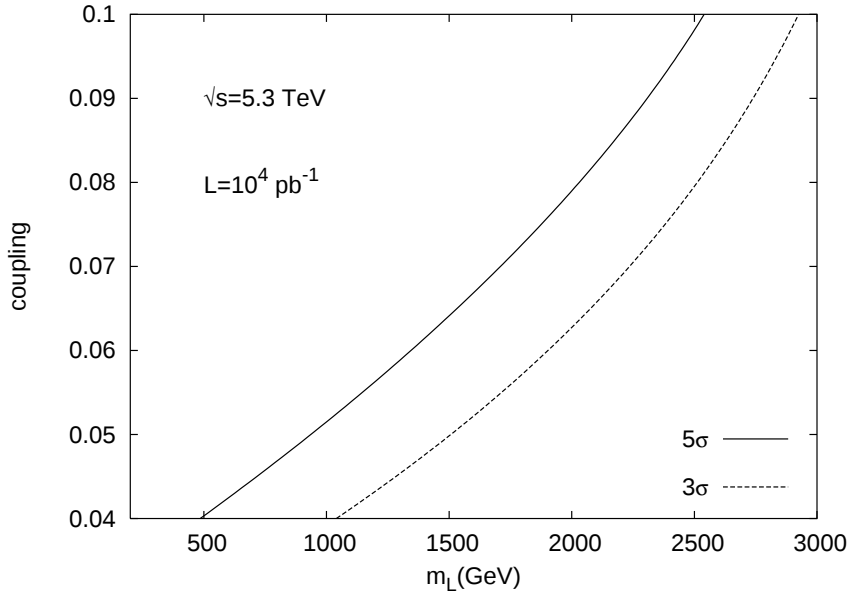


Fig. 3. Attainable mass limits depending on the coupling b for heavy leptons at Linac⊗LHC.

We also have performed the same calculations for the THERA ($\sqrt{s} = 1$ TeV, $\mathcal{L} = 40$ pb $^{-1}$) collider [15]. Unfortunately, we have seen that at this collider it is not possible to observe a heavy lepton with mass greater than 200 GeV. Taking the $l - L - Z$ coupling value of 0.1 for a heavy lepton with a mass of 200 GeV, the production rate is 100 events per year.

3. Conclusions

This work shows that some of future high energy lepton–hadron colliders can test the existence of heavy leptons. Linac⊗LHC has very promising discovery potential for heavy leptons with masses up to 3 TeV at 3σ significance, that is, it offers the opportunity of the manifestations of new physics beyond the SM, while at THERA it does not seem to be likely to achieve masses greater than 200 GeV.

This work was partially supported by Abant Izzet Baysal University Research fund.

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