



## Single Forward Jet-Tagging and Central Jet-Vetoing to Identify the Leptonic $WW$ Decay Mode of a Heavy Higgs Boson

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### ABSTRACT

We study the extraction of the heavy Higgs boson signal  $H \rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow \bar{\ell}\nu, \ell\bar{\nu}$  ( $\ell = e$  or  $\mu$ ) from the Standard Model background at hadron supercolliders. By tagging a single forward jet with energy  $E_j > 3$  TeV and pseudorapidity  $3 < |\eta_j| < 5$  and by vetoing central jets of transverse momenta  $p_{Tj} > 60$  GeV in the pseudorapidity range  $0 < |\eta_j| < 3$ , the QCD  $WWj$  and  $t\bar{t}j \rightarrow WWb\bar{b}j$  backgrounds are suppressed. For  $m_H = 1$  TeV there are about 46 signal events from electroweak vector boson scattering (of which 36 events are of Higgs boson origin) at the SSC for an integrated luminosity of  $10 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  and 10 other events from the  $WWj$  and  $t\bar{t}j$  backgrounds for  $m_t = 140$  GeV. The experimental separation of the vector boson scattering subprocess is thereby possible. At the LHC, with an  $E_j > 2$  TeV jet energy cut, all cross sections are about a factor of 10 below the SSC values.



## I. INTRODUCTION

The nature of the electroweak symmetry-breaking mechanism is a fundamental question in contemporary high energy physics. Experimental searches for the neutral Higgs boson ( $H$ ), the relic of electroweak symmetry breaking in the Standard Model (SM), presents a major challenge[1]. The mass of the Higgs boson is undetermined in the SM so one must be prepared to search over a mass range extending up to the unitarity bound of order  $m_H = 1$  TeV and possibly beyond for strong  $VV$  ( $V = W, Z$ ) scattering effects[2–4] if a resonant scalar state is not found at lower mass.

If the Higgs boson has mass  $m_H > M_Z$ , then the LHC and SSC hadron supercolliders will be the first generation of machines capable of finding it. For  $m_H$  in the range  $2M_Z < m_H < 800$  GeV, the decay mode of principal interest is  $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow \ell\bar{\ell}, \ell\bar{\ell}$  ( $\ell = e$  or  $\mu$ ), since these modes provide especially distinctive signatures. However, the four-charged-lepton mode has a rather small rate, since the  $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  branching fraction is only 0.14%. The mode  $H \rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow \ell\nu, jj$  with one  $W$  decaying into jets, has been intensively studied as a possible alternative signal[3] since this mode has a branching fraction of 20%. Unfortunately the SM backgrounds from QCD  $Wjj$  production[5] (with a dijet invariant mass close to  $M_W$ ) and from top quark pairs[6–8] are daunting. Extensive studies have found a signal to background ratio smaller than unity[9].

The double leptonic mode  $H \rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow \bar{\ell}\nu\ell\bar{\nu}$  has a branching fraction of 3.1% and is free from the QCD  $Wjj$  background. The major disadvantage of this channel is that the Higgs boson mass cannot be precisely reconstructed, because two neutrinos are missing. However, this is not such an important consideration since a heavy Higgs boson has a very broad resonance structure. Besides, one would like to measure the  $H \rightarrow W^+W^-$  channel not only to find the Higgs boson, but also to study its properties, such as determining the relative coupling strength of the Higgs boson to  $ZZ$  and to  $WW$ .

In this paper, we study the feasibility of a heavy Higgs boson search in the  $W^+W^-$  leptonic channel. The SM background from  $W^+W^-$  production in association with QCD jets[10, 11]

can be eliminated by tagging a single high energy jet in the forward region. A much larger background arises from  $t\bar{t}j \rightarrow W^+W^-b\bar{b}j$ . The CDF bound[12]  $m_t > M_W$  implies that the  $t \rightarrow bW$  branching fraction in the SM is essentially 100%. At the outset this background is several orders of magnitude larger than the Higgs boson signal but it can be reduced to the level of the signal by tagging a single energetic forward jet. In addition, there is considerable jet activity in the central region due to  $b$  quarks from  $t$  decays. By a central jet-veto the  $t\bar{t}j$  background can be suppressed by another order of magnitude. After imposing appropriate jet-selection criteria, there are about 46 electroweak signal events (of which 36 events are of  $m_H = 1$  TeV origin) and 10  $WWj$  and  $t\bar{t}j$  background events at the SSC ( $\sqrt{s} = 40$  TeV) for an integrated luminosity of  $10 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . At the LHC ( $\sqrt{s} = 16$  TeV) the corresponding numbers are about 5 electroweak signal events and 1 background event per  $10 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ .

The paper is organized as follows. In Section II we describe the calculations for the signal and the backgrounds. The implementation of kinematical jet cuts to enhance the signal over the background is discussed in Section III. In Section IV we give an overview of the leptonic observable after forward jet-tagging and central jet-vetoing and we discuss to what extent they may serve to suppress the electroweak background from transverse  $W$ -boson production. Section V gives a summary of our results. The calculation of the  $qq \rightarrow qqWW$  electroweak subprocess is described in the Appendix.

## II. CALCULATIONS OF PROCESSES PRODUCING $W^+W^- + \text{JETS}$

The Higgs boson can be produced at hadron supercolliders via the subprocesses

$$gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow W^+W^- , \quad (1)$$

and

$$qq \rightarrow qqH \rightarrow qqW^+W^- . \quad (2)$$

Although for a heavy top quark the  $gg \rightarrow H \rightarrow W^+W^-$  cross section[13] is dominant for

$m_H$  up to  $\sim 1$  TeV, this contribution cannot be separated from the large backgrounds from  $gg \rightarrow t\bar{t} \rightarrow W^+W^-b\bar{b}$  and  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow W^+W^-$  production. Hence, jet-inclusive searches for the Higgs signal are not feasible in the  $W^+W^-$  channel, unlike the situation for  $H \rightarrow ZZ$ .

On the other hand, the  $qq \rightarrow qqH$  subprocess provides an additional handle for identification via the final state quarks emitted at high energies and forward angles. The primary backgrounds in this case are

$$gg \rightarrow t\bar{t} \tag{3a}$$

$$gg \rightarrow t\bar{t}g \tag{3b}$$

$$qg \rightarrow t\bar{t}q \tag{3c}$$

$$q\bar{q} \rightarrow t\bar{t}g \tag{3d}$$

and

$$qg \rightarrow W^+W^-q \tag{4a}$$

$$q\bar{q} \rightarrow W^+W^-g. \tag{4b}$$

We generally refer to the processes in Eq. (3) as  $t\bar{t}j$  and to those in Eq. (4) as QCD  $WWj$  production, where  $j$  denotes a jet.

Jet-tagging involves forward jets, and hence it is necessary to consider the backgrounds from  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$   $t\bar{t}j$  production rather than just  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^2)$   $t\bar{t}$  production. An  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$  calculation[6, 7] is sufficient here because we will tag only one forward jet.

In the following we briefly present the basis of our signal and background calculations.

#### A. The Electroweak Processes $qq \rightarrow W^+W^-qq$

At  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^4)$ , electroweak processes contribute significantly to  $W^+W^-$  production in association with two quarks giving up to two visible jets. An incomplete set of Feynman graphs for these processes is shown in Fig. 1. The major interest here is in the scattering of longitudinal vector

bosons occurring in subprocesses such as the ones shown in Fig. 1(a) that include Higgs boson resonance production. A full tree-level calculation of  $qqW^+W^-$  production must include the contributions to  $W^+W^-$  production in which the  $W$ -bosons are radiated from external quark lines (see Figs. 1(b) and 1(c)). These electroweak processes have been evaluated previously in Refs. [14] and [15]. We have independently performed a full calculation using the helicity amplitude techniques of Ref. [16], and have checked against the calculation of Ref. [15] and find numerical agreement. In our calculation, we have also included the  $W$ -boson decays  $W^+W^- \rightarrow \bar{\ell}\nu\ell\nu$ , which was not done in previous analyses. For completeness our formulas are given in the Appendix. All our results are obtained with a Breit-Wigner form of the Higgs-propagator for the  $s$ -channel Higgs boson exchange in Fig.1(a), taking an  $s$ -independent width  $\Gamma_H$ .

Many aspects of the electroweak calculation for  $qq \rightarrow qqW^+W^-$  production are similar to that for  $qq \rightarrow qqZZ$  and we refer the reader to our recent discussion of the latter[17]. We impose a  $Q^2 > 5 \text{ GeV}^2$  cut-off on  $t$ -channel photon propagators and require a jet-jet separation cut  $\Delta R_{jj} > 0.7$  for final state partons throughout this paper.

The dominant electroweak contribution arises from the vector boson fusion graphs of Fig.1(a). As seen by each of the two incoming protons this process resembles deep inelastic lepton-proton scattering via  $W$ -boson exchange. This strongly suggests a scale choice in the structure functions which is related to the average virtuality of the incoming weak bosons. Thus we use  $Q^2 = M_W^2$  as the scale in the calculation of the electroweak signal processes[18]. For the parton distribution functions we use the parameterization HMRS(B) of Harriman *et al.*[19].

The above scale argument is very important in connection with the vetoing of central jets. In determining the acceptance of the  $qq \rightarrow qqWW$  signal we consider the second final state parton (after forward jet-tagging) as a candidate for a central jet, but we need not take into account additional central parton radiation from higher order QCD processes. In the lowest order  $qq \rightarrow qqWW$  process the two final state quarks have an average transverse momentum  $p_T \approx \mathcal{O}(M_W)$ . Any additional radiation of partons with  $p_T \gtrsim M_W/2$  occurs via hard processes

which will be suppressed by additional powers of  $\alpha_s$ , and hence can be neglected.

We are principally interested in the electroweak contribution due to a heavy Higgs boson or other longitudinal weak boson scattering mechanisms. In this context the electroweak production of transversely polarized  $W$ -bosons may obscure the longitudinal  $W$ -boson scattering signal. Because of important interference effects between all the contributing Feynman graphs, the Higgs boson contribution cannot be directly isolated. Rather, we use the SM perturbative calculation with a light Higgs boson ( $m_H = 0.1 \text{ TeV}$ ), where the  $W$ -bosons are primarily transverse, to estimate contamination from transverse  $W$ -boson production; henceforth we call this the electroweak  $qqWW$  background.

### B. QCD $W^+W^-j$ Background

The tree-level results for  $W^+W^- + 1 \text{ jet}$  production[10, 11] are the basis for our estimates of the QCD background to single jet-tagging. Gluon emission from a quark leg leads to both infrared and collinear singularities in the tree level cross section formulas. These singularities can be avoided by implementing experimental acceptances in the calculation. As discussed in Ref. [17], we impose a cut on the jet energy  $E_{j_{min}}$ , as measured in the lab frame, in order to regularize the soft divergencies, and the collinear singularities are eliminated by requiring the jet to have a pseudorapidity  $|\eta_j| < |\eta_j|_{max} = 5$ . We choose a scale  $Q^2 = M_{WW}^2$  in both the strong coupling constant  $\alpha_s$ , and in the structure functions for all our QCD  $WWj$  background calculations.

In our analysis we do not consider  $W^+W^- + \text{jet}$  production via pentagon, box, and triangle loops because no full calculation of these  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$  processes exists. However, we expect these contributions to be smaller than the tree level contributions since the lowest order loop result for the  $gg \rightarrow W^+W^-$  cross section is somewhat smaller than the tree level  $q\bar{q} \rightarrow W^+W^-$  cross section[13]. Furthermore, our jet-tagging procedure will effectively eliminate the tree-level QCD contributions to  $W^+W^-j$  final states, and we expect equally effective suppression of the loop

contributions with jets.

### C. $t\bar{t}j$ Background

We wish to calculate the  $t\bar{t}$  background in such a way that it generates the dynamical distributions of the  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$  processes listed in Eq. (3b-d). The relevant cross section formulas are given in Ref. [6]. We also want to reproduce the full 1-loop corrected  $t\bar{t}$  production cross section[7] when the extra jet becomes soft. The “poor person’s shower” (PPS) approximation[20] incorporates the above features. The tree-level  $t\bar{t} + 1$  jet differential cross section  $d\sigma(t\bar{t}j)_{\text{TL}}$  is replaced by

$$d\sigma(t\bar{t}j)_{\text{PPS}} = d\sigma(t\bar{t}j)_{\text{TL}} \left(1 - e^{-c p_{Tj}^2}\right), \quad (5)$$

with the constant  $c$  properly chosen to correctly reproduce the full  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha_s^3)$  total cross section. As  $p_{Tj} \rightarrow 0$  the final factor in Eq. (5) acts as a regulator. For both SSC and LHC energies, we find that  $c = \left(\frac{1}{20 \text{ GeV}}\right)^2$  gives the desired result for  $m_t = 140 \text{ GeV}$ . In effect our calculations are very insensitive to this regulator: our final jet acceptance criteria of  $E_j(\text{tag}) > 3 \text{ TeV}$ ,  $3 < |\eta_j(\text{tag})| < 5$  always give  $|p_{Tj}| > 40 \text{ GeV}$  and then the regulator in Eq. (5) is nearly unity. We choose the transverse energy squared  $m_t^2 + p_T^2$  of the top quark as the  $Q^2$  scale in the structure functions and in  $\alpha_s$ .

In calculating the distributions of the final state particles in  $t \rightarrow Wb \rightarrow \ell\nu b$  decays, we include full spin correlations in the decay matrix elements, but we neglect the polarization effects of the parent top quark which are known to be small[21].

### III. EVENT SELECTION CRITERIA

We have recently shown that single jet-tagging provides an effective means of suppressing the QCD backgrounds to the  $qq \rightarrow qqZZ$  signal from heavy Higgs boson production[17]. In a completely analogous fashion we expect to be able to suppress the QCD  $WWj$  background to the Higgs boson signal in  $qq \rightarrow qqW^+W^-$ . A more serious concern is the  $t\bar{t}j \rightarrow W^+W^-b\bar{b}j$

background which is initially 2-3 orders of magnitude larger than the signal. We will employ jet-tagging to help suppress this background as well. In the study of strong vector boson scattering signals in the  $qq \rightarrow qqW^+W^+$  process[4], it was found that a veto of events in which there was a hard central jet was effective in suppressing the  $t\bar{t}W^+$  background. In this vein we shall use jet-vetoing in the central region[4, 22] together with forward jet-tagging to achieve the necessary suppression of the background.

Throughout this paper, we are studying the purely leptonic decay mode  $H \rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow \bar{\ell}\nu\ell\bar{\nu}$  ( $\ell = e, \mu$ ). We incorporate the full matrix elements of the  $W$  decays in the calculations of both signal and backgrounds. In order to simulate the detector coverage for the leptons and to enhance the signal to background ratio, we will, unless stated otherwise, implement the following lepton acceptance cuts on the transverse momentum and rapidity,

$$p_{Te} > 100 \text{ GeV} , \quad |y_e| < 2 , \quad (6)$$

and include the branching fraction of  $W$  leptonic decays in the results.

#### A. Single forward jet-tagging

Following the jet-tagging criteria of Ref. [17] we start by requiring the presence of a single jet of energy and pseudorapidity

$$E_j > 1 \text{ TeV} \quad \text{and} \quad |\eta_j| < 5. \quad (7)$$

When more than 1 jet satisfies this condition we define the tag-jet to be the most energetic one. Figure 2 gives the distribution  $d^2\sigma/dE_j d|\eta_j|$  at the SSC for the  $m_H = 1 \text{ TeV}$  heavy Higgs boson signal, the  $m_H = 0.1 \text{ TeV}$  case, the QCD  $WWj$  background, and the background due to  $t\bar{t}j$  production with  $t \rightarrow Wb$  decay for a top quark mass of  $m_t = 140 \text{ GeV}$ . Notice that both backgrounds are concentrated at low jet energies while the signal is more or less uniform in jet energy. Moreover, the signal is concentrated at large pseudorapidities ( $|\eta_j| > 2$ ). Even at the edge of phase space, when  $|\eta_j| \approx 5$  and  $E_j \approx 1 \text{ TeV}$ , the regularization factor in Eq. (5) is only

about 0.4 and thus the PPS approach does not significantly reduce the perturbative  $t\bar{t}j$  cross section.

The different features of the tagged jet in the signal versus the backgrounds are also evident in Fig. 3 where the pseudorapidity distributions  $d\sigma/d|\eta_j|$  at the SSC are compared for minimum jet energies of 1 and 3 TeV. By using jet-tagging requirements of

$$E_j(\text{tag}) > 3 \text{ TeV} \quad \text{and} \quad 3 < |\eta_j(\text{tag})| < 5 \quad (8a)$$

at the SSC and

$$E_j(\text{tag}) > 2 \text{ TeV} \quad \text{and} \quad 3 < |\eta_j(\text{tag})| < 5 \quad (8b)$$

at the LHC, we succeed in reducing the backgrounds to the level of the  $m_H = 1 \text{ TeV}$  signal.

### B. Central jet-vetoing

The major jet activity in the signal is at high pseudorapidities and low  $p_{Tj}$ . The radiation of additional jets in the central region is suppressed by factors of  $\alpha_s(M_W^2) \ln \frac{M_W^2}{p_{Tj}^2(\text{cut})}$  where  $p_T(\text{cut})$  refers to the minimum transverse momentum requirement of identified central jets. To avoid jets of minimum bias origin we choose  $p_{Tj}(\text{cut}) = 60 \text{ GeV}$ . Then the bulk of the signal events contain no extra such central jets.

In contrast, the  $t\bar{t}j$  background has copious jet activity in the central region due to the  $b$  jets from  $t \rightarrow Wb$  decays. Only  $W$ -bosons produced in the central region (*e.g.*  $0 \leq |y_W| \lesssim 2$ ) can be identified via  $W \rightarrow \ell\nu$ , and then the  $b$ -quarks from  $t \rightarrow bW$  decay will also populate the central region. Thus a veto of events with extra jets in the central region satisfying

$$p_{Tj}(\text{veto}) > 60 \text{ GeV} \quad \text{and} \quad |\eta_j(\text{veto})| < 3, \quad (9)$$

will greatly suppress this background at little cost to the signal. The pseudorapidity distribution in Fig. 4 for the additional jets in tagged events substantiate this expectation. The  $t\bar{t}j$  events largely populate the pseudorapidity range  $|\eta_j| < 2.5$  while the signal contribution is primarily at

$|\eta_j| > 2.5$ . Note that Fig. 4 does not show the complete signal nor the complete  $t\bar{t}j$  background: only events having additional jets with  $p_{Tj} > 60$  GeV are included.

Figure 5 compares the signal and background distributions  $d\sigma/dp_{Tj}(\text{veto})$  of the central jet with the largest transverse momentum; this jet is the veto candidate. From Fig. 5(b) we see that after imposing a forward jet-tagging requirement of  $E_j(\text{tag}) > 3$  TeV, most of the  $t\bar{t}j$  events have a veto candidate above 60 GeV, while this is not the case for the heavy Higgs boson signal.

Using the central jet-veto but relaxing the forward jet-tag requirement, the  $E_j(\text{tag})$  distributions in Fig. 6 for SSC and LHC energies are obtained. The  $t\bar{t}j$  background produces a steeply falling distribution; this rapid decrease with increasing  $E_j(\text{tag})$  is largely due to the behavior of the gluon-gluon luminosity. The heavy Higgs boson signal produces a sharp break near  $E_j \approx 2.5$  TeV at the SSC and near  $E_j \approx 1.8$  TeV at the LHC. The fact that the signal appears as a distinct break in the  $E_j$  distribution means that its discovery does not depend on a precise knowledge of the normalization of the background cross sections.

#### IV. RESULTS COMBINING FORWARD JET-TAGGING AND CENTRAL JET-VETOING

##### A. Event rates and jet characteristics

We have shown above that the  $t\bar{t}j$  and  $WWj$  backgrounds can be effectively suppressed by imposing the jet-tagging and central jet-vetoing requirements of Eqs. (8) and (9). The cross sections are summarized in Table I(a) for the SSC and in Table I(b) for the LHC. The results with single jet-tagging alone are given in parentheses for various minimal values of  $E_j$  of the tagged jet. At the SSC the  $t\bar{t}j$  background with  $m_t = 140$  GeV is reduced by a factor of 50 from 350 fb for  $E_j(\text{tag}) > 1$  TeV to 6.6 fb for  $E_j(\text{tag}) > 3$  TeV, which is just below the value of the  $m_H = 1$  TeV signal. Even an  $E_j(\text{tag})$  cut of 1 TeV reduces the  $WWj$  background to an acceptable level. The  $m_H = 1$  TeV signal is only reduced by a factor of 2 upon increasing the jet-tag requirement from 1 TeV to 3 TeV.

Including the effects of central jet-vetoing, a further order of magnitude reduction of the  $t\bar{t}j$  background is achieved while the signal rate is reduced by only a factor of 2. After these considerations the largest remaining contamination is the electroweak production of transverse  $W$ -bosons via the process  $qq \rightarrow qqWW$ . Its contribution is estimated by the  $m_H = 0.1$  TeV column in Table I. For a standard SSC year of  $10\text{fb}^{-1}$  integrated luminosity there would be 36 heavy Higgs boson signal events (for  $m_H = 1$  TeV) compared to 10 electroweak events (for  $m_H = 0.1$  TeV) and 4  $t\bar{t}j$  background events for  $m_t = 140$  GeV. In addition there may be up to 6 events of  $WWj$  origin as determined from the QCD column of Table I. At the LHC with the same integrated luminosity, the corresponding numbers are 3.7 heavy Higgs boson signal events, 0.9 transverse  $W$  events, 0.5  $t\bar{t}j$  and 0.8  $WWj$  background events. With higher luminosity the event rates would be correspondingly increased, but additional backgrounds from overlapping events may have to be considered.

As this point, the top-quark mass dependence of the  $t\bar{t}j$  background calculation needs to be addressed. We also give the results for  $m_t = 100$  GeV in Table I and Fig. 7 shows the  $t\bar{t}j$  cross section versus  $m_t$  after forward jet-tagging and central jet-vetoing at (a) the SSC and (b) the LHC. We see that the  $t\bar{t}j$  contribution is about a factor of 4 larger for  $m_t = 100$  GeV than for  $m_t = 140$  GeV. When  $m_t$  is close to  $M_W$ , the  $b$ -quark from  $t \rightarrow bW$  is relatively soft, so that the jet-veto requirement is less effective. However, even for  $m_t = 100$  GeV our approach is successful in isolating the heavy Higgs boson signal. If we also require lepton isolation from hadrons, the  $t\bar{t}j$  background for  $m_t = 100$  GeV will be further reduced, with essentially no reduction of the heavy Higgs boson signal.

We show in Fig. 8 the transverse momentum distribution of the tagged jet. The  $p_{Tj}$  distribution for the  $m_H = 1$  TeV signal is relatively softer than for both the  $m_H = 0.1$  TeV electroweak and the  $WWj$  QCD backgrounds, due to helicity suppression of transverse  $W$  production in the forward direction.

## B. Lepton characteristics

Having succeeded in isolating the  $W^+W^-$  electroweak signal we proceed to a discussion of the characteristics of the resulting lepton distributions. Our purpose is to compare the features of the heavy Higgs signal with those expected from transverse  $W$ -pair production or the QCD backgrounds.

Figures 9 and 10 give rapidity and  $p_T$  distributions of the leptons. We see from these figures that our lepton acceptance cuts of Eq. (6) optimize the signal to background ratio, while retaining a sizable signal event rate. The shapes of the rapidity distributions are distinctly different for the electroweak and QCD processes, allowing a verification that the signal has in fact been isolated. In the  $p_T$  distributions the  $m_H = 1$  TeV signal gives a much broader distribution than the transverse  $W$  or QCD backgrounds.

In all our considerations we have adopted  $p_{T\ell} > 100$  GeV and  $|y_\ell| < 2$  lepton cuts. It is appropriate to ask whether an improved signal-to-background ratio would be achieved by relaxing the lepton acceptance requirements. The results of relaxed  $p_{T\ell}$  cuts are presented in part (a) of Table II. A smaller lepton  $p_T$  cut yields a substantially higher rate from  $qq \rightarrow qqWW$  but this increase is mostly due to contributions from transverse  $W$ -boson production.

We may define the signal of a heavy Higgs boson with mass  $m_H$  as  $S = [\sigma(m_H) - \sigma(m_H = 0.1 \text{ TeV})] \int \mathcal{L} dt$ , with  $\int \mathcal{L} dt$  the integrated luminosity, since the cross section with a light Higgs boson ( $m_H \sim 0.1$  TeV) can be considered as a measure of electroweak contributions to  $qqWW$  involving transverse  $W$ 's only. Correspondingly we may define a background as  $B = [\sigma(m_H = 0.1 \text{ TeV}) + \sigma(t\bar{t}j) + \sigma(WWj)] \int \mathcal{L} dt$ . Then  $S/\sqrt{B}$  is a measure of the significance of the signal. We give the significance values for various  $p_{T\ell}$  cuts in Table II for  $m_H = 1$  TeV,  $m_t = 140$  GeV, and  $\int \mathcal{L} dt = 10 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . The significance decreases as the  $p_{T\ell}$  cut decreases. The  $8\sigma$  significance for  $p_{T\ell} > 100$  GeV should allow an unambiguous heavy Higgs boson discovery.

In the case of  $W^+W^+ \rightarrow \bar{\ell}\nu\bar{\ell}\nu$  events, distributions in the angle  $\phi_{\ell\ell}$  between the leptons in the transverse plane and in the transverse momentum difference

$$\Delta p_{T\ell\ell} = |p_{T\ell_1} - p_{T\ell_2}| \quad (10)$$

have been used[18, 23] to distinguish the transverse  $W$  background from the longitudinal  $W$  signal. The distributions in these variables for the  $W^+W^- \rightarrow \bar{\ell}\nu\ell\bar{\nu}$  events are shown in Fig. 11 at the SSC energy. Because of the success of our jet cuts, additional cuts on these variables would not improve the background suppression appreciably. However, these distributions of the  $m_H = 1$  TeV signal have a shape different from that of the transverse  $W$  contributions and the QCD backgrounds and can hence serve as another independent verification that the backgrounds have indeed been suppressed.

Quantitative effects of cuts on  $\phi_{\ell\ell}$  and  $\Delta p_{T\ell\ell}$  are given in part (b) of Table II. A  $\phi_{\ell\ell} > 140^\circ$  or  $\Delta p_{T\ell\ell} > 300$  GeV cut increases the significance  $S/\sqrt{B}$  by 1 or  $2\sigma$ , with a 15% reduction in the signal. It seems likely that we can obtain an overall significance level above  $10\sigma$  by fully exploring the characteristics of the lepton distributions.

The invariant mass distributions of the decay leptons from  $W^+W^-$  are shown in Fig. 12. The  $\ell^+\ell^-$  invariant mass distribution of the  $m_H = 1$  TeV signal has a broad peak at about  $m_H/2$  while the electroweak and QCD backgrounds fall with increasing  $m_{\ell\ell}$  above the effective kinematic threshold set by the  $p_{T\ell} > 100$  GeV cut. Another useful variable is the cluster transverse mass of the  $W^+W^- \rightarrow \bar{\ell}\nu\ell\bar{\nu}$  system, defined by[24]

$$M_T^2(\ell\ell, \not{p}_T) = \left( \sqrt{M_{\ell\ell}^2 + p_{T\ell\ell}^2} + |\not{p}_T| \right)^2 - (p_{T\ell\ell} + \not{p}_T)^2. \quad (11)$$

After imposing a missing transverse momentum acceptance cut of  $\not{p}_T > 75$  GeV, we obtain the cluster transverse mass distributions in Fig. 13. The  $M_T$  distribution also shows a broad peak for the signal with its maximum near  $\frac{3}{4}m_H$ .

The dependence of the peak position on the Higgs mass is displayed in Fig. 14, where the  $\ell^+\ell^-$  invariant mass and the cluster transverse mass distributions are compared for  $m_H = 0.6$  TeV, 0.8 TeV, and 1.0 TeV. These distributions for the  $W^+W^- \rightarrow \bar{\ell}\nu\ell\bar{\nu}$  decay channel will provide useful information on the heavy Higgs boson mass.

## V. CONCLUSIONS

We have studied the possibility of isolating the signal of a heavy Higgs boson in the process  $qq \rightarrow W^+W^-qq$  with both  $W$ -bosons decaying to  $e\nu$  or  $\mu\nu$  final states. This channel has a sizable event rate at hadron supercolliders but there are potentially severe backgrounds from QCD production of  $W^+W^-j$  and from  $t\bar{t}j$  production where both top quarks decay into real  $W$ 's. Our results may be summarized as follows:

*a)* The requirement of a single energetic forward jet having  $3 < |\eta_j(\text{tag})| < 5$  and  $E_j(\text{tag}) > 3$  TeV for the SSC and  $E_j(\text{tag}) > 2$  TeV for the LHC largely eliminates the  $W^+W^-j$  background and reduces the  $t\bar{t}j$  background to a level comparable to the heavy Higgs boson signal.

*b)* The further imposition of a veto on jets in the central region, having  $p_{Tj}(\text{veto}) > 60$  GeV and  $|\eta_j(\text{veto})| < 3$ , reduces the  $t\bar{t}j$  background by another order of magnitude.

*c)* The surviving heavy Higgs boson signal rate for  $m_H = 1$  TeV is 36 events per nominal SSC year with an integrated luminosity of  $10 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . The remaining backgrounds are estimated to be 10 electroweak  $qqWW$  background events (calculated as the  $m_H = 0.1$  TeV cross section), 6  $WWj$  events and 4  $t\bar{t}j$  events. At the LHC with the same luminosity, the corresponding numbers for the signal and backgrounds are about an order of magnitude smaller with a slightly smaller signal-to-background ratio.

*d)* We find that  $H \rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow \bar{\ell}\nu\ell\nu$  is a viable discovery channel for the heavy Higgs boson, with event rates exceeding the  $H \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4\ell$  signal even in the jet-inclusive mode of the latter, which suffers from large QCD background contributions.

*e)* Measurement of both  $H \rightarrow WW$  and  $H \rightarrow ZZ$  signals is important to verify the relative factor of 2 in the partial widths predicted by the electroweak  $SU(2)$  symmetry.

*f)* The kinematical distributions of the final-state leptons and jets for a heavy Higgs boson signal, after forward jet-tagging and central jet-vetoing, have distinguishing characteristics from that of electroweak transverse  $W$ -boson production; this allows positive identification of the heavy Higgs boson signal.

*g)* The default value for the top quark mass in our analysis was 140 GeV, but we found that the above conclusions are valid for  $m_t > 100$  GeV.

*h)* Our jet-tagging and jet-vetoing conditions are similarly useful in sorting out the signal for a lighter Higgs boson. For example, for  $m_H = 0.6$  TeV the same acceptance cuts also give 36 Higgs boson signal events.

*i)* If nature has chosen some strong electroweak symmetry breaking mechanism other than a heavy Higgs boson, the jet-tag and jet-veto techniques developed in this paper will be useful in separating the  $W_L^+W_L^-$  scattering signal from the  $t\bar{t}j$ , QCD  $WWj$ , and electroweak  $qqWW$  backgrounds.

In summary, our procedures give the first definitive isolation of the heavy Higgs boson signal in the  $H \rightarrow W^+W^- \rightarrow \bar{\ell}\nu\ell\bar{\nu}$  channel.

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## APPENDIX

This appendix gives all the formulas used in the calculation of the SM electroweak subprocess

$$qq \rightarrow qqW^+W^- . \quad (\text{A1})$$

There are 2 sets of Feynman graphs corresponding to charged current exchange and neutral current exchange. Here we give the helicity amplitude expressions for the scattering matrix elements. For notation and conventions, we refer the reader to Ref. [16, 17]. All fermion masses are neglected. For diagrams of Fig. 15, which involve charged current exchange, the flavors of the external quarks are  $q = u, c$  and  $q' = s, d$ . The amplitudes are given by

$$\begin{aligned} i\mathcal{M}^{(a)} = & -g^2 M_W^2 g_{\sigma_1}^W g_{\sigma_3}^W F_0 D^W(p_1 - p_2) D^W(p_3 - p_4) D^H(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) \\ & \times \langle p_2 | (\not{\ell}(k_1))_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\not{\ell}(k_2))_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A2})$$

$$\begin{aligned} i\mathcal{M}^{(b)} = & -g^2 M_W^2 g_{\sigma_1}^W g_{\sigma_3}^W F_0 D^W(p_1 - p_2) D^W(p_3 - p_4) D^H(k_1 + k_2) \epsilon(k_1) \cdot \epsilon(k_2) \\ & \times \langle p_2 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A3})$$

$$\begin{aligned} i\mathcal{M}^{(c)} = & g^2 g_{\sigma_1}^W g_{\sigma_3}^W F_0 D^W(p_1 - p_2) D^W(p_3 - p_4) \\ & \times \left[ 2 \langle p_4 | (\not{\ell}(k_1))_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \langle p_2 | (\not{\ell}(k_2))_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle - \langle p_4 | (\not{\ell}(k_2))_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \langle p_2 | (\not{\ell}(k_1))_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \right. \\ & \left. - \epsilon(k_1) \cdot \epsilon(k_2) \langle p_2 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \right] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A4})$$

$$\begin{aligned} i\mathcal{M}^{(d)} = & \sum_{V=\gamma, Z} g_{\sigma_1}^W g_{\sigma_3}^W F_0 (g_{VWW})^2 D^W(p_1 - p_2) D^W(p_3 - p_4) D^V(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) P_V^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) \\ & \times \Gamma_\mu(p_1 - p_2, -k_1; \langle p_2 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle, \epsilon(k_1)) \Gamma_\nu(-k_2, p_3 - p_4; \epsilon(k_2), \langle p_4 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle) \\ & \text{where } g_{VWW} = \begin{cases} e \cot \theta_W & \text{if } V = Z \\ e & \text{if } V = \gamma \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A5})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(e)} &= \sum_{V=\gamma,Z} g_{\sigma_1}^W g_{\sigma_3}^W F_0 (g_V W W)^2 D^W(p_1 - p_2) D^W(p_3 - p_4) D^V(k_1 + k_2) \\
&\quad \times \Gamma^\mu(p_1 - p_2, p_3 - p_4; \langle p_2 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle, \langle p_4 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle) \Gamma_\mu(k_1, k_2; \epsilon(k_1), \epsilon(k_2))
\end{aligned} \tag{A6}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(f)} &= \sum_{V=\gamma,Z} g_{\sigma_1}^W g_{\sigma_3}^W F_0 D^V(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) P_V^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) \\
&\quad \times [g_{\sigma_1}^V(q_1') \langle p_2 k_1 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle + g_{\sigma_1}^V(q_1) \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | k_1 p_1 \rangle] \\
&\quad \times [g_{\sigma_3}^V(q_2) \langle p_4 k_2 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle + g_{\sigma_3}^V(q_2') \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | k_2 p_3 \rangle]
\end{aligned} \tag{A7}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(g)} &= \sum_{V=\gamma,Z} -g_{\sigma_1}^W g_{\sigma_3}^W F_0 g_V W W D^V(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) P_V^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) \\
&\quad \times \left\{ D^W(p_1 - p_2) \Gamma_\mu(p_1 - p_2, -k_1; \langle p_2 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle, \epsilon(k_1)) \right. \\
&\quad \times [g_{\sigma_3}^V(q_2) \langle p_4 k_2 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle + g_{\sigma_3}^V(q_2') \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | k_2 p_3 \rangle] \\
&\quad + D^W(p_3 - p_4) \Gamma_\mu(-k_2, p_3 - p_4; \epsilon(k_2), \langle p_4 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle) \\
&\quad \left. \times [g_{\sigma_1}^V(q_1') \langle p_2 k_1 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle + g_{\sigma_1}^V(q_1) \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_1} | k_1 p_1 \rangle] \right\}
\end{aligned} \tag{A8}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(h)} &= (g_{\sigma_1}^W)^3 g_{\sigma_3}^W F_0 D^W(p_3 - p_4) \langle p_4 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \\
&\quad \times [\langle p_2 k_1 k_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle + \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | k_2 k_1 p_1 \rangle] \\
&\quad + (g_{\sigma_1}^W) (g_{\sigma_3}^W)^3 F_0 D^W(p_1 - p_2) \langle p_2 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \\
&\quad \times [\langle p_4 k_2 k_1 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle + \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | k_1 k_2 p_3 \rangle]
\end{aligned} \tag{A9}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(i)} &= \sum_{V=\gamma,Z} -g_V W W g_{\sigma_1}^W g_{\sigma_3}^W F_0 \\
&\times \left\{ D^W(p_3 - p_4) D^V(k_1 + k_2) \left[ g_{\sigma_1}^V(q'_1) \langle p_2 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_1} | k_1 + k_2, p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. + g_{\sigma_1}^V(q_1) \langle p_2, k_1 + k_2 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \right] \right. \\
&\quad \left. + D^W(p_1 - p_2) D^V(k_1 + k_2) \left[ g_{\sigma_3}^V(q'_2) \langle p_4, k_1 + k_2 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. + g_{\sigma_3}^V(q_2) \langle p_4 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_3} | k_1 + k_2, p_3 \rangle \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \right] \right\} \\
\text{where } &\begin{cases} \langle p_2, k_1 + k_2 | = \chi_{\sigma_1}^\dagger(\bar{p}_2) [\mathcal{F}(k_1, k_2; \epsilon(k_1), \epsilon(k_2))]_{\sigma_1} \frac{(\not{p}_2 + \not{k}_1 + \not{k}_2)_{-\sigma_1}}{(p_2 + k_1 + k_2)^2} \\ |k_1 + k_2, p_1 \rangle = \frac{(\not{p}_1 - \not{k}_1 - \not{k}_2)_{-\sigma_1}}{(p_1 - k_1 - k_2)^2} [\mathcal{F}(k_1, k_2; \epsilon(k_1), \epsilon(k_2))]_{\sigma_1} \chi_{\sigma_1}(\bar{p}_1) \end{cases}
\end{aligned} \tag{A10}$$

The neutral current exchange subprocesses are shown in Fig. 16. In the case that two  $W$ 's radiate from a single quark line, the order of  $W^+$ ,  $W^-$  attached to the quark line depends on the initial flavors. In diagrams (g), (h) and (j), special care is needed; here the Kronecker  $\delta$  is used to denote the flavor of initial quarks (*e.g.*  $\delta_{q_1,d}$  means  $q_1$  is a  $d$ -quark or an  $s$ -quark). The individual Feynman diagrams contribute as follows ( $q_1$  and  $q_2$  can now be any flavors)

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(a)} &= -\frac{g^2}{1-x_W} g_{\sigma_1}^Z(q_1) g_{\sigma_3}^Z(q_2) M_W^2 D^Z(p_1 - p_2) D^Z(p_3 - p_4) D^H(k_1 + k_2) F_0 \\
&\quad \times \epsilon(k_1) \cdot \epsilon(k_2) \langle p_4 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle
\end{aligned} \tag{A11}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(b)} &= \sum_{\substack{V_1=\gamma,Z \\ V_2=\gamma,Z}} -g_{\sigma_1}^{V_1}(q_1) g_{\sigma_3}^{V_2}(q_2) g_{V_1} W W g_{V_2} W W F_0 D^{V_1}(p_1 - p_2) D^{V_2}(p_3 - p_4) \\
&\quad \times \left[ 2 \langle p_2 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \epsilon(k_1) \cdot \epsilon(k_2) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \langle p_2 | (\not{\ell}(k_1))_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\not{\ell}(k_2))_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle - \langle p_2 | (\not{\ell}(k_2))_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\not{\ell}(k_1))_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \right]
\end{aligned} \tag{A12}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(c)} = & \sum_{\substack{V_1=\gamma,Z \\ V_2=\gamma,Z}} g_{V_1 WW} g_{V_2 WW} g_{\sigma_1}^{V_1}(q_1) g_{\sigma_3}^{V_2}(q_2) D^{V_1}(p_1 - p_2) D^{V_2}(p_3 - p_4) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) \\
& \times \Gamma_\mu(-k_1, p_1 - p_2; \epsilon(k_1), \langle p_2 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle) \Gamma_\nu(p_3 - p_4, -k_2; \langle p_4 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle, \epsilon(k_2))
\end{aligned} \tag{A13}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(d)} = & \sum_{\substack{V_1=\gamma,Z \\ V_2=\gamma,Z}} g_{V_1 WW} g_{V_2 WW} g_{\sigma_1}^{V_1}(q_1) g_{\sigma_3}^{V_2}(q_2) D^{V_1}(p_1 - p_2) D^{V_2}(p_3 - p_4) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) \\
& \times \Gamma_\mu(p_1 - p_2, -k_2; \langle p_2 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle, \epsilon(k_2)) \Gamma_\nu(-k_1, p_3 - p_4; \epsilon(k_1), \langle p_4 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle)
\end{aligned} \tag{A14}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(e)} = & \sum_{\substack{V_1=\gamma,Z \\ V_2=\gamma,Z}} g_{V_1 WW} g_{V_2 WW} M_W^2 g_{\sigma_1}^{V_1}(q_1) g_{\sigma_3}^{V_2}(q_2) D^{V_1}(p_1 - p_2) D^{V_2}(p_3 - p_4) F_0 \\
& \times \frac{\xi}{\xi(p_1 - p_2 - k_1)^2 - M_W^2} \langle p_2 | (\not{k}_1)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\not{k}_2)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \\
& \times \begin{cases} -\tan^4 \theta_W & \text{if } V_1 = V_2 = Z, \\ -1 & \text{if } V_1 = V_2 = \gamma, \\ \tan^2 \theta_W & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}
\end{aligned} \tag{A15}$$

$$i\mathcal{M}^{(f)} = i\mathcal{M}^{(e)} \text{ with } (k_1 \leftrightarrow k_2) \tag{A16}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(g)} = & \sum_{V=\gamma,Z} -g_{V WW} (g_{\sigma_3}^W)^2 g_{\sigma_1}^V(q_1) F_0 D^V(p_1 - p_2) \\
& \times \left[ D^W(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) \Gamma_\mu(-k_1, p_1 - p_2; \epsilon(k_1), \langle p_2 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle) \right. \\
& \quad \times (\delta_{q_2,d} \langle p_4 k_2 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle + \delta_{q_2,u} \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | k_2 p_3 \rangle) \\
& \quad + D^W(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) \Gamma_\mu(p_1 - p_2, -k_2; \langle p_2 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle, \epsilon(k_2)) \\
& \quad \left. \times (\delta_{q_2,d} \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | k_1 p_3 \rangle + \delta_{q_2,u} \langle p_4 k_1 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle) \right] \\
& + \sum_{V=\gamma,Z} -g_{V WW} (g_{\sigma_1}^W)^2 g_{\sigma_3}^V(q_2) F_0 D^V(p_3 - p_4) \\
& \quad \times \left[ D^W(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) \Gamma_\mu(-k_1, p_3 - p_4; \epsilon(k_1), \langle p_4 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle) \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \times \left( \delta_{q_1, u} \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_1} | k_2 p_1 \rangle + \delta_{q_1, d} \langle p_2 k_2 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \right) \\
& + D^W(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) \Gamma_\mu(p_3 - p_4, -k_2; \langle p_4 | (\sigma)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle, \epsilon(k_2)) \\
& \times \left( \delta_{q_1, u} \langle p_2 k_1 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle + \delta_{q_1, d} \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_1} | k_1 p_1 \rangle \right) \Big] \tag{A17}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(h)} &= \sum_{V=\gamma, Z} g_{\sigma_1}^V(q_1) (g_{\sigma_3}^W)^2 F_0 D^V(p_1 - p_2) \langle p_2 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \\
& \times \left\{ \delta_{q_2, u} \left[ \langle p_4 k_1 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | k_2 p_3 \rangle g_{\sigma_3}^V(q'_2) + \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | k_1 k_2 p_3 \rangle g_{\sigma_3}^V(q_2) \right. \right. \\
& \qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. + \langle p_4 k_1 k_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle g_{\sigma_3}^V(q_2) \right] \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \delta_{q_2, d} \left[ \langle p_4 k_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | k_1 p_3 \rangle g_{\sigma_3}^V(q'_2) + \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | k_2 k_1 p_3 \rangle g_{\sigma_3}^V(q_2) \right. \right. \\
& \qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. + \langle p_4 k_2 k_1 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle g_{\sigma_3}^V(q_2) \right] \right\} \\
& + \sum_{V=\gamma, Z} g_{\sigma_3}^V(q_2) (g_{\sigma_1}^W)^2 F_0 D^V(p_3 - p_4) \langle p_4 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \\
& \times \left\{ \delta_{q_1, u} \left[ \langle p_2 k_1 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | k_2 p_1 \rangle g_{\sigma_1}^V(q'_1) + \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | k_1 k_2 p_1 \rangle g_{\sigma_1}^V(q_1) \right. \right. \\
& \qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. + \langle p_2 k_1 k_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle g_{\sigma_1}^V(q_1) \right] \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \delta_{q_1, d} \left[ \langle p_2 k_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | k_1 p_1 \rangle g_{\sigma_1}^V(q'_1) + \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | k_2 k_1 p_1 \rangle g_{\sigma_1}^V(q_1) \right. \right. \\
& \qquad \qquad \qquad \left. \left. + \langle p_2 k_2 k_1 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle g_{\sigma_1}^V(q_1) \right] \right\} \tag{A18}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(i)} &= \sum_{\substack{V_1=\gamma, Z \\ V_2=\gamma, Z}} -g_{V_1 W W} g_{\sigma_1}^{V_1}(q_1) g_{\sigma_1}^{V_2}(q_1) g_{\sigma_3}^{V_2}(q_2) D^{V_1}(k_1 + k_2) D^{V_2}(p_3 - p_4) F_0 \\
& \quad \times \langle p_4 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \left[ \langle p_2 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_1} | k_1 + k_2, p_1 \rangle + \langle p_2, k_1 + k_2 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \right] \\
& + \sum_{\substack{V_1=\gamma, Z \\ V_2=\gamma, Z}} -g_{V_2 W W} g_{\sigma_1}^{V_1}(q_1) g_{\sigma_3}^{V_1}(q_2) g_{\sigma_3}^{V_2}(q_2) D^{V_1}(p_1 - p_2) D^{V_2}(k_1 + k_2) F_0 \\
& \quad \times \langle p_2 | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \left[ \langle p_4, k_1 + k_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle + \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_3} | k_1 + k_2, p_3 \rangle \right] \tag{A19}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
i\mathcal{M}^{(j)} &= (g_{\sigma_1}^W)^2 (g_{\sigma_3}^W)^2 F_0 \\
&\times \left\{ \delta_{q_1,u} \delta_{q_2,u} \left[ D^W(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | k_2 p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 k_1 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. + D^W(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) \langle p_2 k_1 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | k_2 p_3 \rangle \right] \right. \\
&+ \delta_{q_1,u} \delta_{q_2,d} \left[ D^W(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | k_2 p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | k_1 p_3 \rangle \right. \\
&\quad \left. + D^W(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) \langle p_2 k_1 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 k_2 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \right] \\
&+ \delta_{q_1,d} \delta_{q_2,u} \left[ D^W(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) \langle p_2 k_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 k_1 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \right. \\
&\quad \left. + D^W(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | k_1 p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | k_2 p_3 \rangle \right] \\
&+ \delta_{q_1,d} \delta_{q_2,d} \left[ D^W(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_2) \langle p_2 k_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | k_1 p_3 \rangle \right. \\
&\quad \left. + D^W(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) P_W^{\mu\nu}(p_1 - p_2 - k_1) \langle p_2 | (\sigma_\mu)_{\sigma_1} | k_1 p_1 \rangle \langle p_4 k_2 | (\sigma_\nu)_{\sigma_3} | p_3 \rangle \right] \left. \right\} \tag{A20}
\end{aligned}$$

In both charged and neutral current subprocesses the complete matrix element must be antisymmetrized in  $(p_1, \sigma_1)$   $(p_3, \sigma_3)$  or  $(p_2, \sigma_2)$   $(p_4, \sigma_4)$ , when identical flavors occur on the two incoming or outgoing fermion lines.

To include the subsequent decays  $W^\pm \rightarrow \ell^\pm \nu$ , we replace

$$\epsilon^\mu(k_1) \rightarrow \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{4\bar{\ell}^o \bar{\nu}^o} D^W(\ell^- + \bar{\nu}) \delta_{\sigma_\nu \sigma_\ell} \langle \ell^- | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_\nu} | \bar{\nu} \rangle \tag{A21}$$

$$\epsilon^\mu(k_2) \rightarrow \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{4\bar{\ell}^o \bar{\nu}^o} D^W(\ell^+ + \nu) \delta_{\sigma_\nu \sigma_\ell} \langle \nu | (\sigma^\mu)_{\sigma_\nu} | \ell^+ \rangle \tag{A22}$$

in the above expressions, and we use the narrow-width approximation.

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TABLES

TABLE I. Cross sections in fb, after vetoing of central jets with  $p_{Tj}(\text{veto}) > 60$  GeV,  $|\eta_j(\text{veto})| < 3$  and tagging forward jets. Cross sections without the central jet-veto are given in parentheses. Lepton acceptance cuts  $p_{T\ell} > 100$  GeV and  $|y_\ell| < 2$  are imposed everywhere. The 4 leptonic channels  $\bar{\ell}_1 \ell_2 \bar{\nu} \nu$  with  $\ell_i = e, \mu$  are summed.

Table I(a): SSC ( $\sqrt{s} = 40$ TeV)						
	$m_H$			QCD	$t\bar{t}j$	
	1.0 TeV	0.6 TeV	0.1 TeV		$m_t = 140$	$m_t = 100$ GeV
(1) $E_j > 1$ TeV $0 <  \eta_j  < 5$	(23)	(25)	(10)	(17)	(920)	(1700)
(2) $E_j > 1$ TeV $3 <  \eta_j  < 5$	11 (18)	11 (18)	2.0 (5.8)	(3.4)	53 (350)	270 (790)
(3) $E_j > 3$ TeV $3 <  \eta_j  < 5$	4.6 (8.4)	4.6 (8.1)	1.0 (3.2)	(0.60)	0.42 (6.6)	1.6 (9.6)
Table I(b): LHC ( $\sqrt{s} = 16$ TeV)						
	$m_H$			QCD	$t\bar{t}j$	
	1.0 TeV	0.6 TeV	0.1 TeV		$m_t = 140$	$m_t = 100$ GeV
(1) $E_j > 1$ TeV $0 <  \eta_j  < 5$	(2.7)	(3.4)	(1.2)	(2.24)	(43)	(86)
(2) $E_j > 1$ TeV $3 <  \eta_j  < 5$	1.0 (2.0)	1.3 (2.5)	0.20 (0.68)	(0.50)	2.9 (17)	16 (39)
(3) $E_j > 2$ TeV $3 <  \eta_j  < 5$	0.46 (0.78)	0.53 (0.98)	0.09 (0.20)	(0.076)	0.045 (0.48)	0.18 (0.84)

TABLE II. SSC cross section in fb for modified acceptance cuts on the final state leptons. The forward jet-tagging and central jet-vetoing requirements of Eqs. (8a) and (9) are imposed everywhere. The significance  $S/\sqrt{B}$  is for  $m_H = 1$  TeV,  $m_t = 140$  GeV, and an integrated luminosity of  $10 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ .

	$m_H$ (TeV)			QCD	$t\bar{t}j$		$S/\sqrt{B}$
	1.0	0.6	0.1		$m_t = 140$	$m_t = 100$ GeV	
(a) <u>Relaxed <math>p_{T\ell}</math> cut</u>							
<u><math>p_{T\ell}</math> cut</u>							
0	19	19	12	11	14	39	3.7
60	7.0	8.6	3.2	1.9	1.2	4.5	4.8
100	4.6	4.6	1.0	0.60	0.42	1.6	8.0
(b) <u>Added <math>\phi_{\ell\ell}</math> or <math>\Delta p_{T\ell\ell}</math> cut (<math>p_{T\ell} &gt; 100</math> GeV and <math> y_\ell  &lt; 2</math>)</u>							
$\phi_{\ell\ell} > 140^\circ$	3.9	3.5	0.58	0.26	0.33	1.3	9.7
$\Delta p_{T\ell\ell} > 300$ GeV	3.6	3.1	0.59	0.27	0.26	0.96	9.0

## FIGURES

FIG. 1. Feynman diagrams for the electroweak processes  $qq \rightarrow qqW^+W^-$ . Representative diagrams are shown for (a) vector boson fusion, (b)  $t$ -channel photon,  $Z$ , or  $W$  exchange, and (c)  $s$ -channel electroweak boson exchange.

FIG. 2.  $d^2\sigma/dE_j d|\eta_j|$  distributions of the tagged jet at the SSC from (a) the  $m_H = 1$  TeV SM signal, (b) the SM electroweak  $qqWW$  background ( $m_H = 0.1$  TeV), (c) the QCD  $WWj$  background, and (d) the  $t\bar{t}j$  background for  $m_t = 140$  GeV. The jet and lepton acceptance are given in Eqs. (6) and (7).

FIG. 3. Pseudorapidity distributions of the tagged jet for the  $t\bar{t}j$ , QCD  $WWj$ , and electroweak  $qqWW$  ( $m_H = 0.1$  TeV) backgrounds and the SM Higgs boson signal for  $m_H = 1$  TeV at the SSC for (a)  $E_j > 1$  TeV, (b)  $E_j > 3$  TeV. The lepton acceptance is given in Eq. (6).

FIG. 4. Pseudorapidity distributions of the second jet (veto candidate) for the  $t\bar{t}j$ , electroweak  $qqWW$  ( $m_H = 0.1$  TeV) backgrounds and the SM Higgs boson signal for  $m_H = 1$  TeV at the SSC with a tagged jet requirement of (a)  $E_j > 1$  TeV, (b)  $E_j > 3$  TeV. The acceptance cuts as listed in (b) are imposed in both figures.

FIG. 5. Transverse momentum distributions of the second jet (veto candidate) with  $|\eta_j(\text{veto})| < 3$  for the  $t\bar{t}j$ , electroweak  $qqWW$  ( $m_H = 0.1$  TeV) backgrounds and the SM Higgs boson signal for  $m_H = 1$  TeV at the SSC. The tagged jet requirements are (a)  $E_j > 1$  TeV, (b)  $E_j > 3$  TeV. The

acceptance criteria for leptons and jets are those of Eqs. (6) and (8a).

FIG. 6. Energy distribution (a) at the SSC and (b) at the LHC of the tagged jet with  $3 < |\eta_j(\text{tag})| < 5$ . The integrated cross section for the tagged jet energy  $E_j(\text{tag})$  above a specified value  $E_j(\text{cut})$  is given at (c) the SSC, and (d) the LHC. The SM Higgs signals for  $m_H = 1$  TeV are shown along with the  $t\bar{t}j$ , the QCD  $WWj$ , and the electroweak  $qqWW$  ( $m_H = 0.1$  TeV) backgrounds. Acceptance criteria are given in Eqs. (6) and (9).

FIG. 7. Cross section for  $t\bar{t}j$  events after forward jet-tagging and central jet-vetoing as a function of  $m_t$  (a) at the SSC and (b) at the LHC. Acceptance criteria are given in Eqs. (6), (8) and (9).

FIG. 8. Transverse momentum distribution of the tagged jet in the Higgs boson signal for  $m_H = 1$  TeV, and the  $t\bar{t}j$ , the QCD  $WWj$ , and the electroweak  $qqWW$  ( $m_H = 0.1$  TeV) backgrounds at (a) the SSC and (b) the LHC. Jet and lepton acceptances are the same as in Fig. 7.

FIG. 9. Rapidity distribution  $|y_\ell|_{\text{max}}$  of the leptons with  $p_{T\ell} > 100$  GeV for the  $t\bar{t}j$ , QCD  $WWj$ , and electroweak  $qqWW$  ( $m_H = 0.1$  TeV) backgrounds and the SM Higgs boson signal for  $m_H = 1$  TeV at the SSC. Acceptance criteria are given in Eqs. (8a) and (9).

FIG. 10. (a) Transverse momentum distributions  $d\sigma/dp_{T\ell}^{\text{min}}$  and (b) integrated cross section versus  $p_{T\ell}(\text{cut})$ , of the  $W$  decay leptons with  $|y_\ell| < 2$  for the  $t\bar{t}j$ , QCD  $WWj$ , and electroweak  $qqWW$  ( $m_H = 0.1$  TeV) backgrounds and the SM heavy Higgs boson signal for  $m_H = 1$  TeV at the SSC. Acceptance criteria are given in Eqs. (8a) and (9).

FIG. 11. Distribution in (a) the opening angle and (b) momentum difference of the leptons in the transverse plane at the SSC. Acceptance criteria are the same as in Fig. 7.

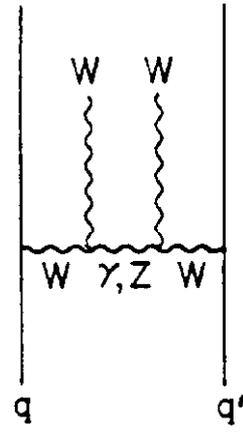
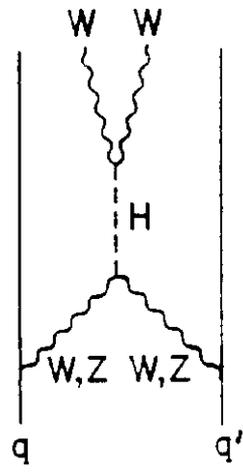
FIG. 12. Lepton pair invariant mass distribution for the Higgs boson signal ( $m_H = 1$  TeV), the electroweak  $qqWW$  background ( $m_H = 0.1$  TeV), the QCD  $WWj$  background, and the  $t\bar{t}j$  background at (a) the SSC and (b) the LHC. Acceptance criteria are the same as in Fig. 7.

FIG. 13. Cluster transverse mass distribution in  $W^+W^-$  events for the Higgs boson signal ( $m_H = 1$  TeV), and the  $t\bar{t}j$ , the QCD  $WWj$ , and the electroweak  $qqWW$  ( $m_H = 0.1$  TeV) backgrounds at (a) the SSC and (b) the LHC. Acceptance criteria are the same as in Fig. 7; in addition a missing transverse momentum cut of  $p_T > 75$  GeV is imposed.

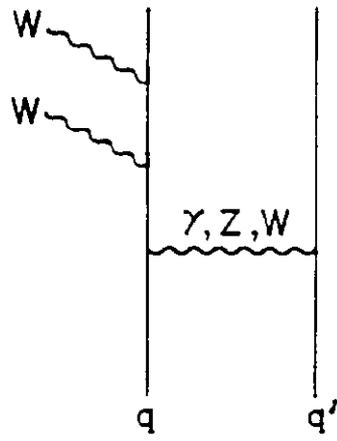
FIG. 14. Mass distributions (a)  $M(\ell\ell)$  and (b)  $M_T(\ell\bar{\ell}, p_T)$  at the SSC energy from the  $qq \rightarrow qqW^+W^-$  subprocess for  $m_H = 0.6, 0.8,$  and  $1.0$  TeV. Acceptance criteria are the same as in Fig. 7.

FIG. 15. Feynman graphs for the electroweak  $qq \rightarrow qqW^+W^-$  process at order  $\alpha^4$  involving charged current exchange.

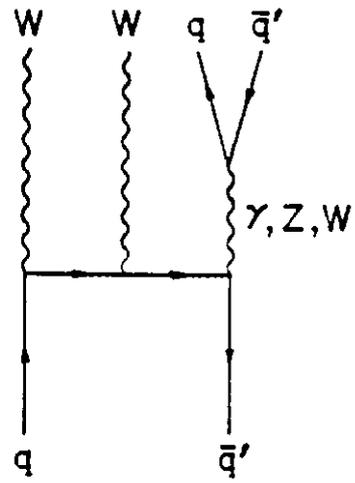
FIG. 16. Feynman graphs for the electroweak  $qq \rightarrow qqW^+W^-$  process at order  $\alpha^4$  involving neutral current exchange.



(a)



(b)



(c)

Fig. 1

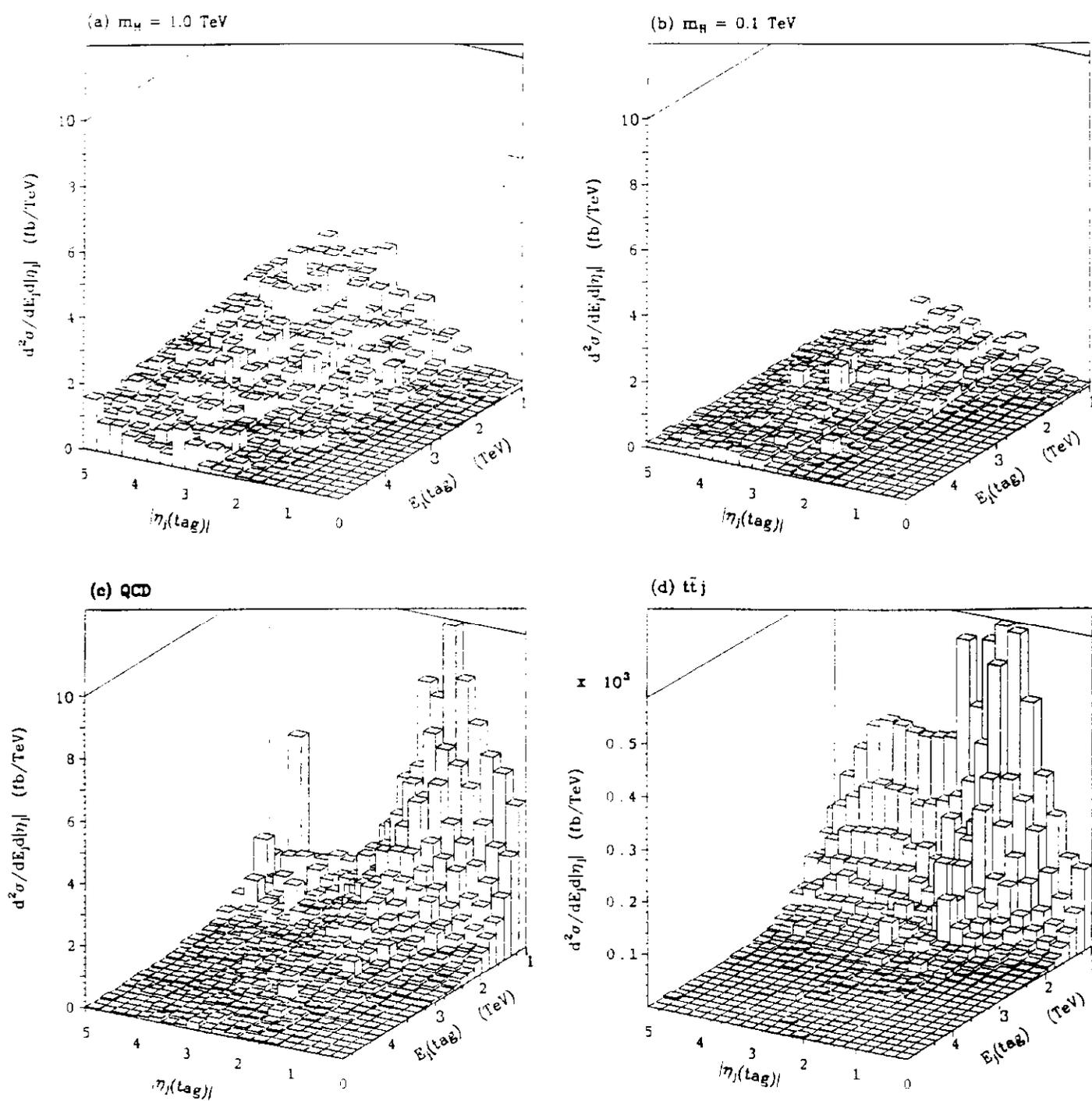


Fig. 2

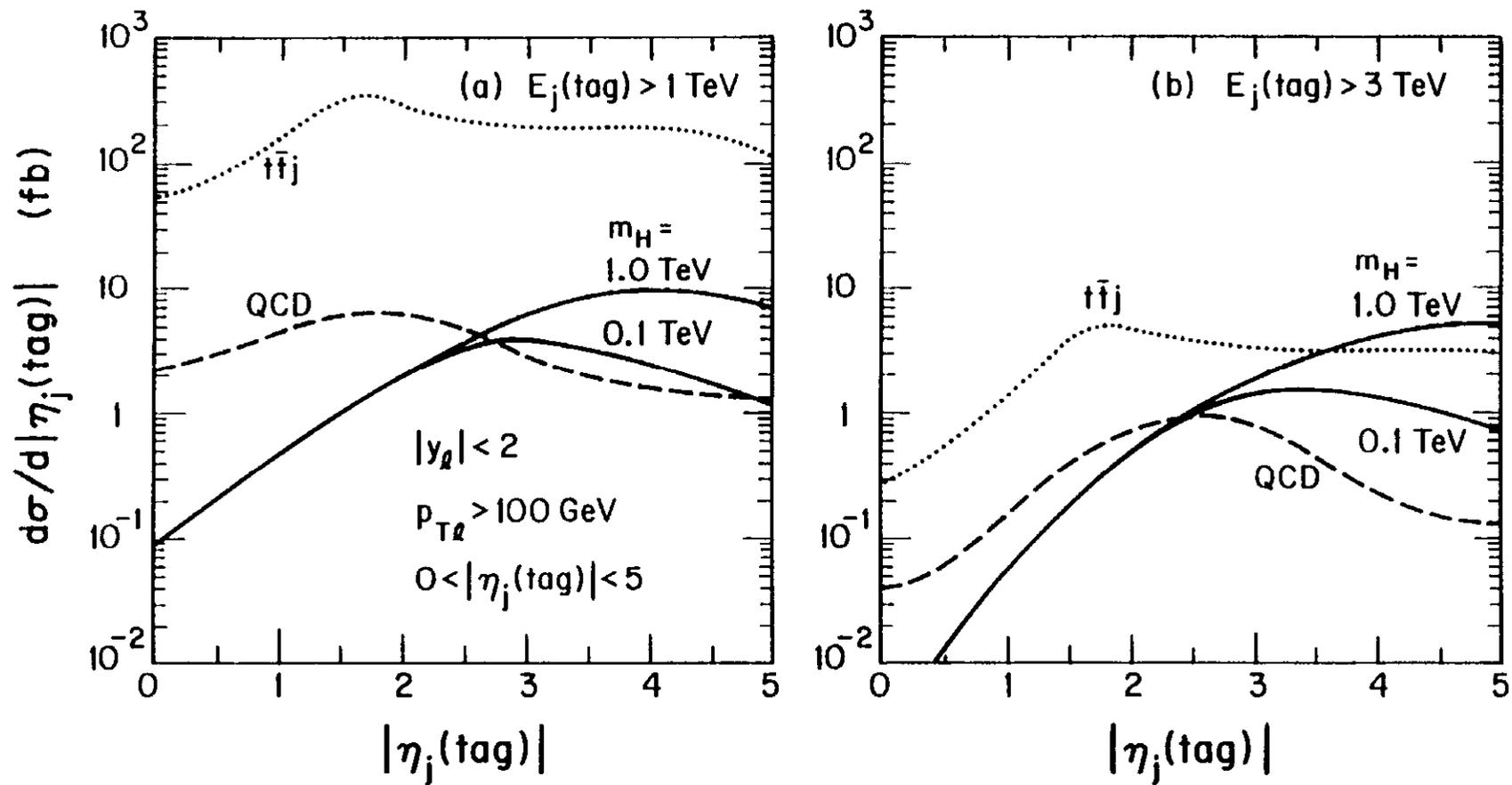


Fig. 3

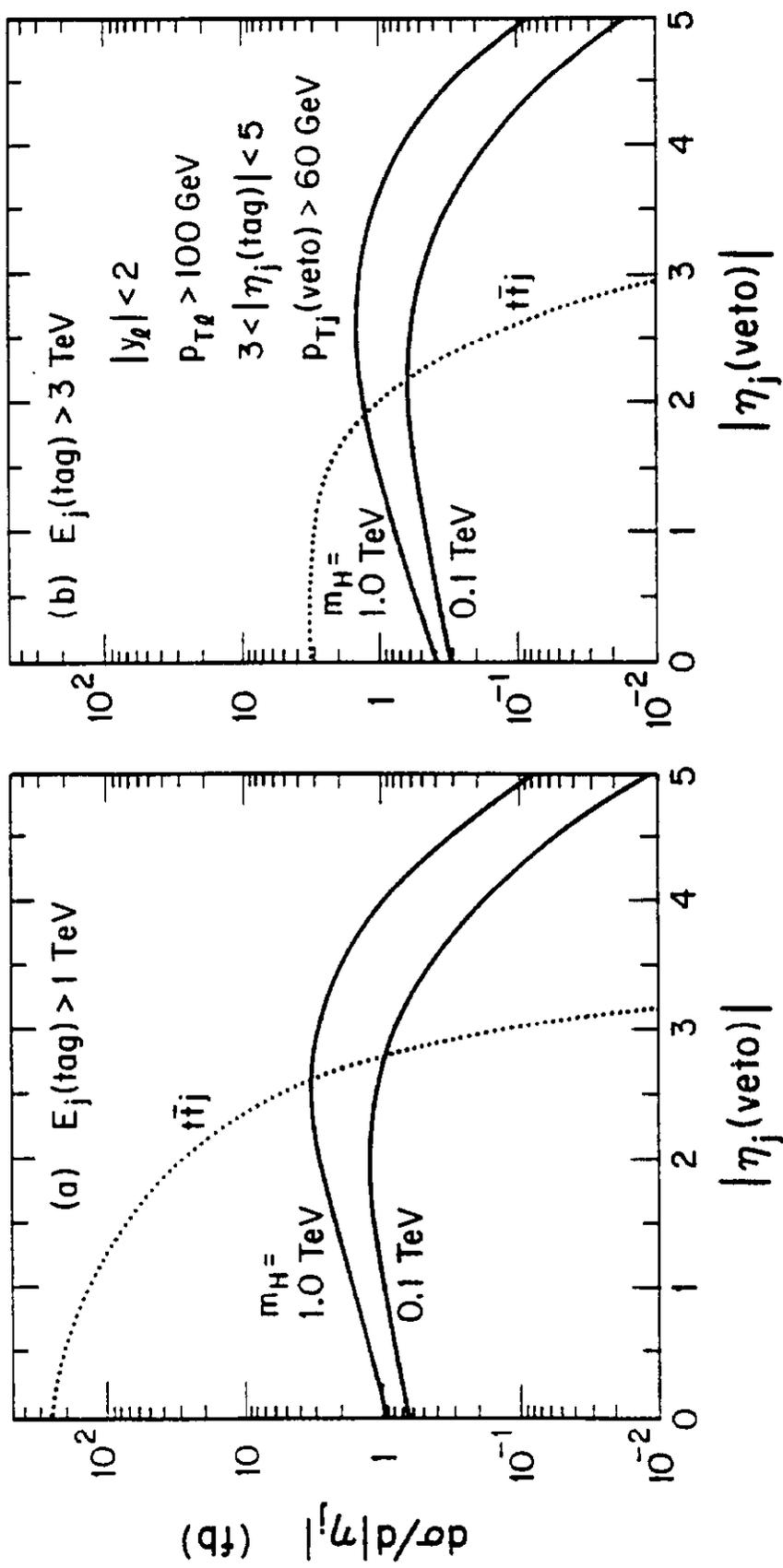


Fig. 4

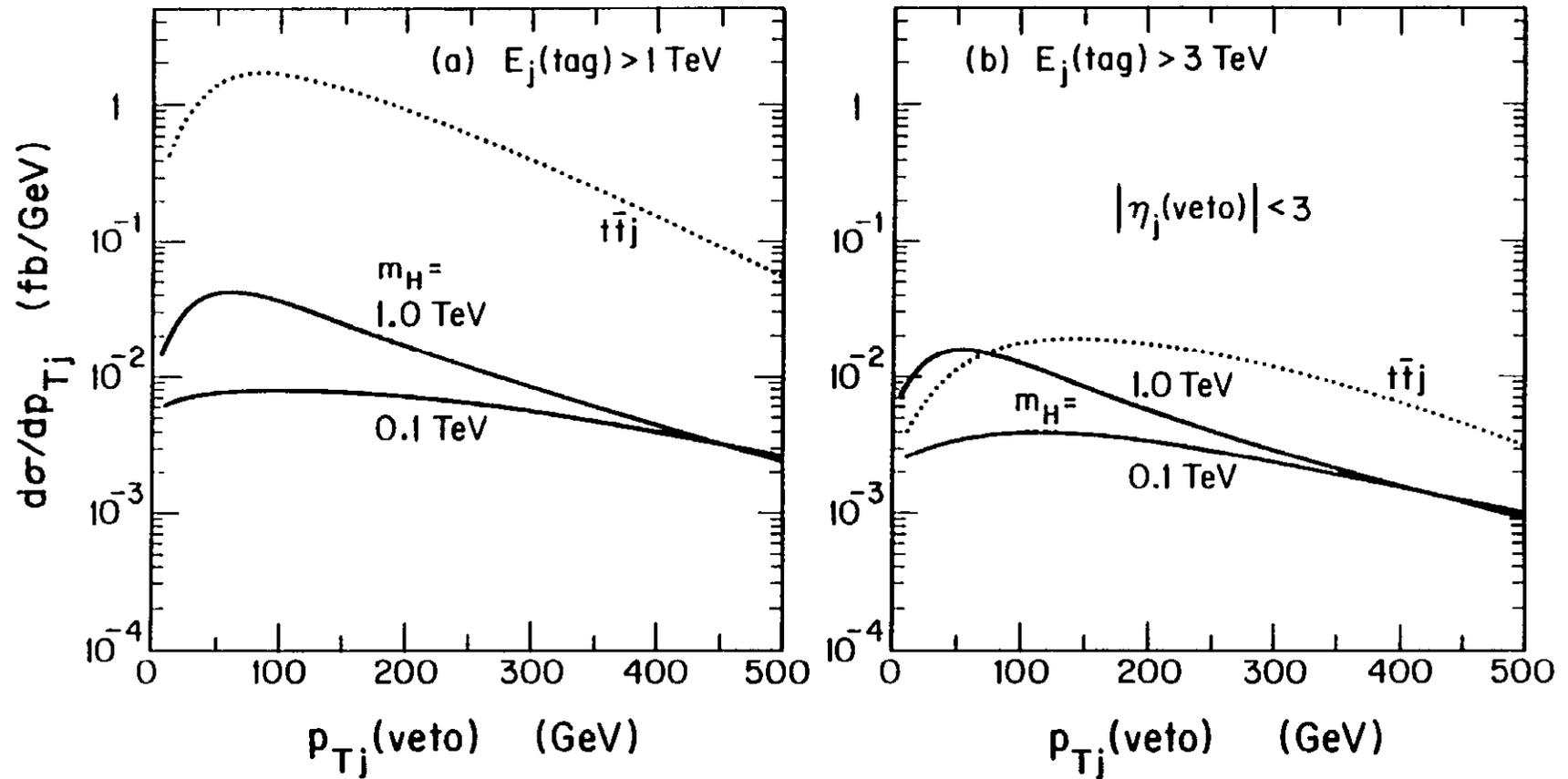


Fig. 5

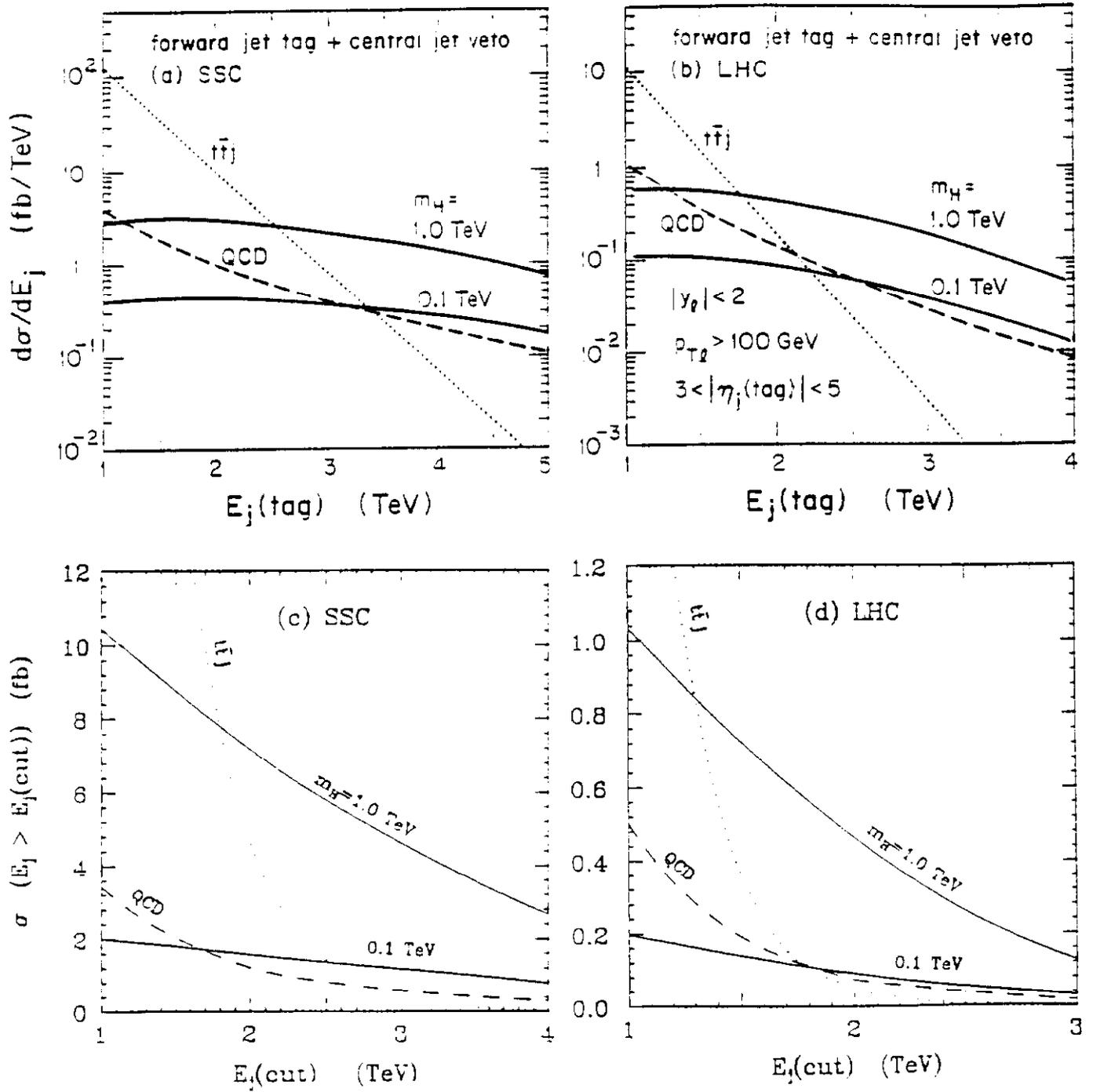


Fig. 6

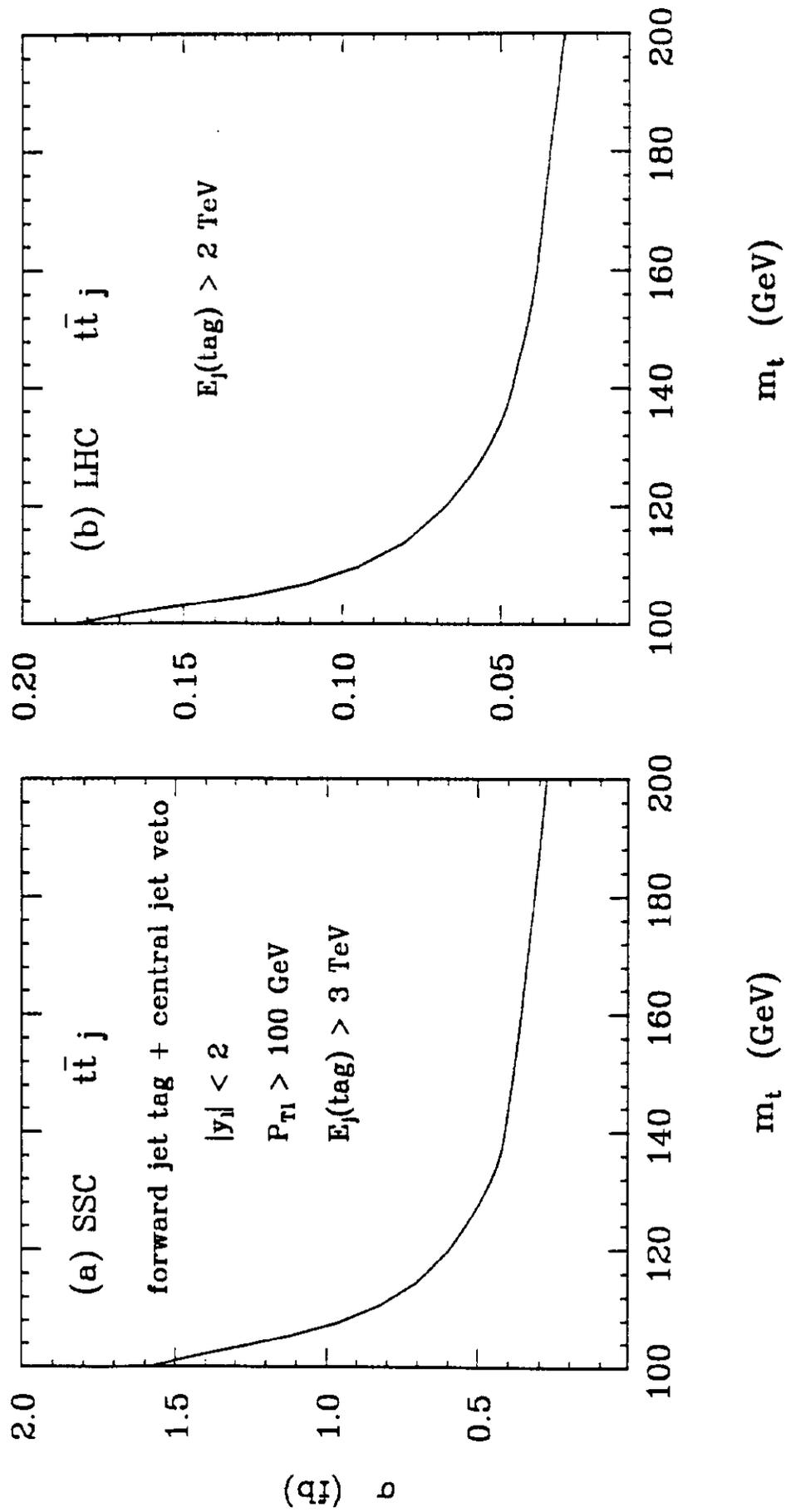


Fig. 7

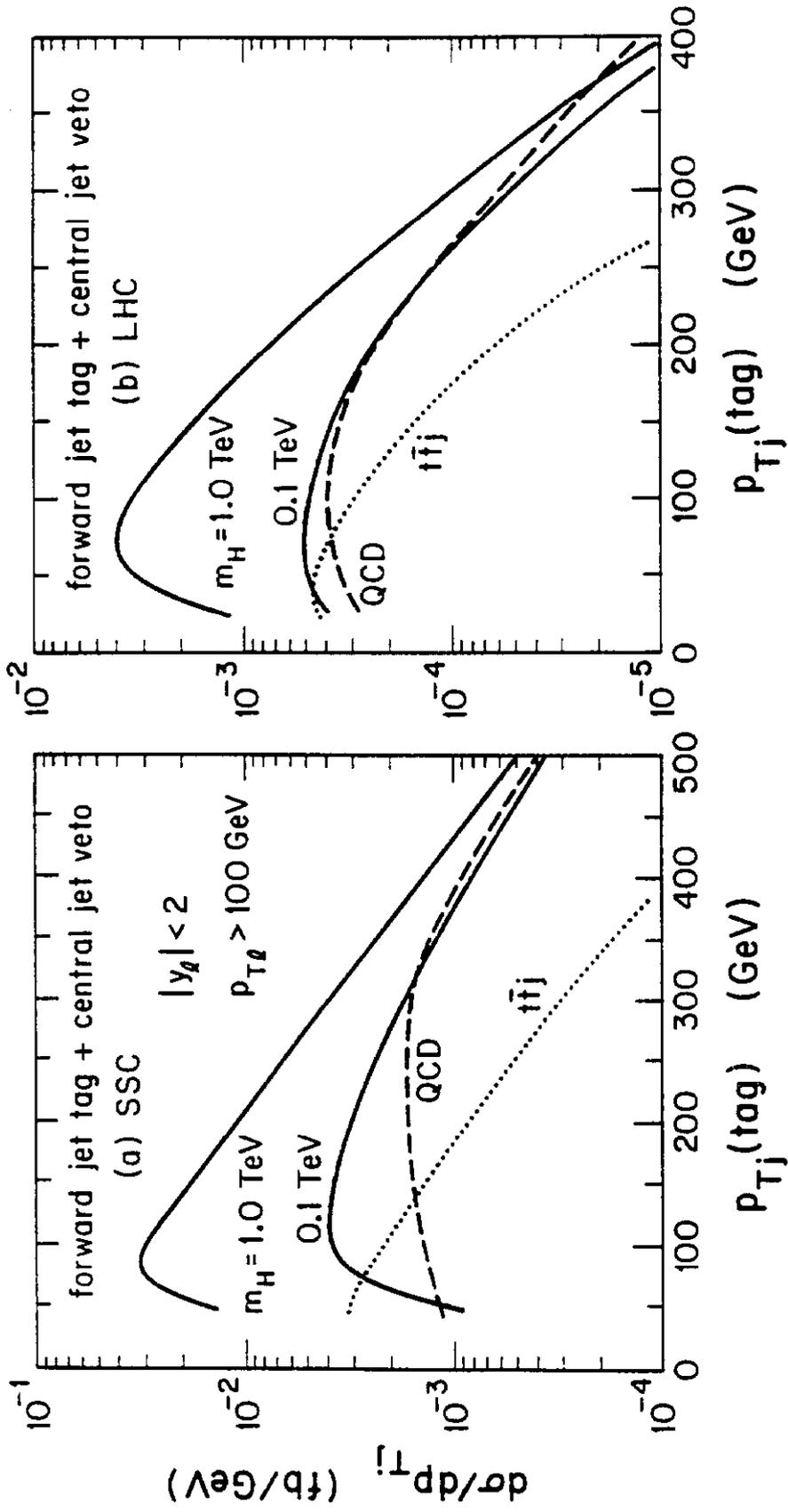


Fig. 8

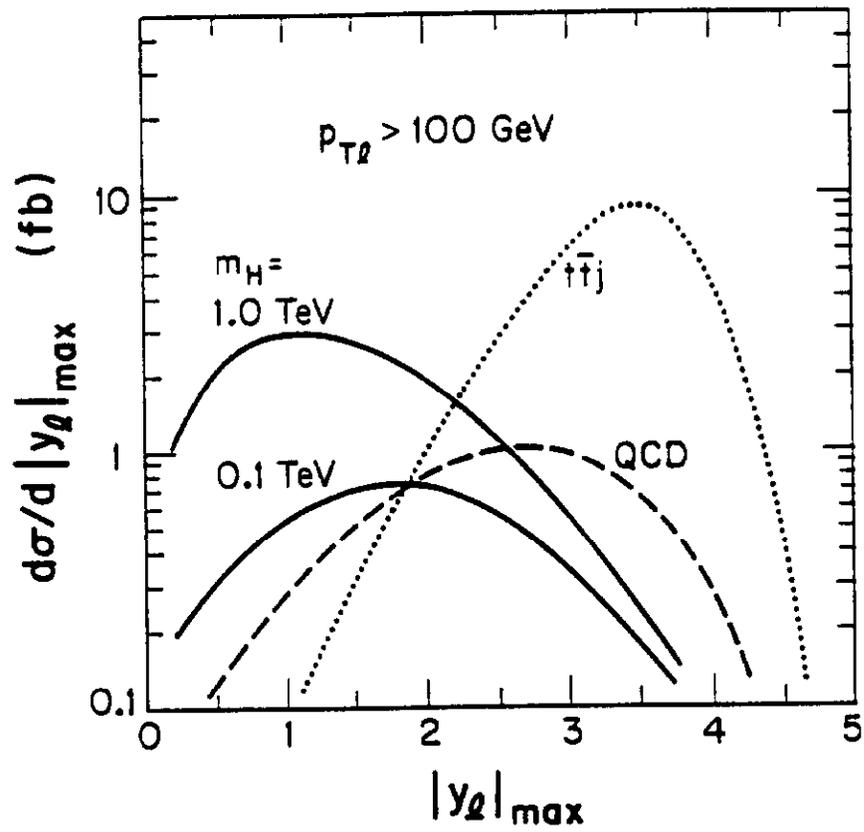


Fig. 9

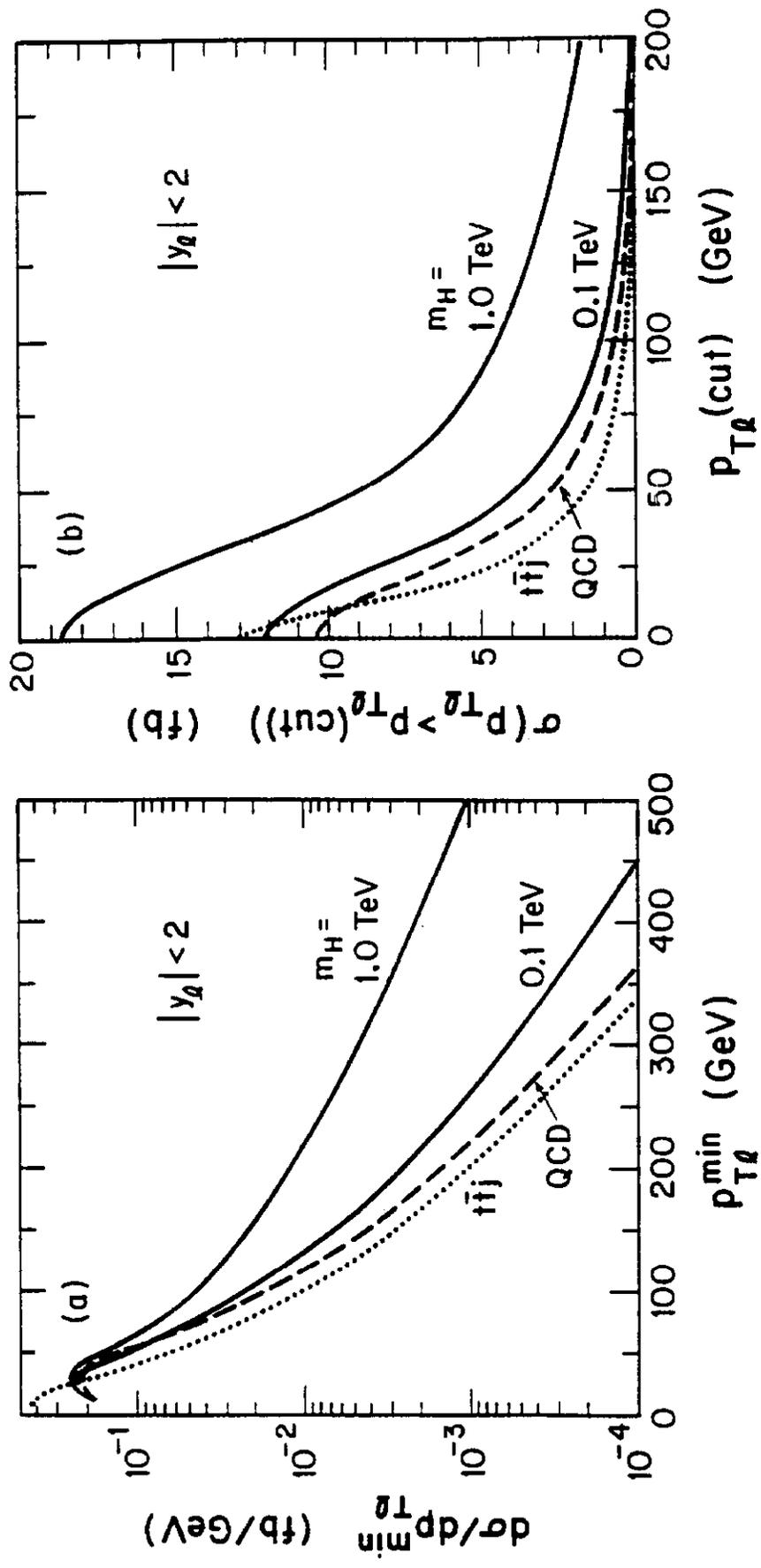


Fig. 10

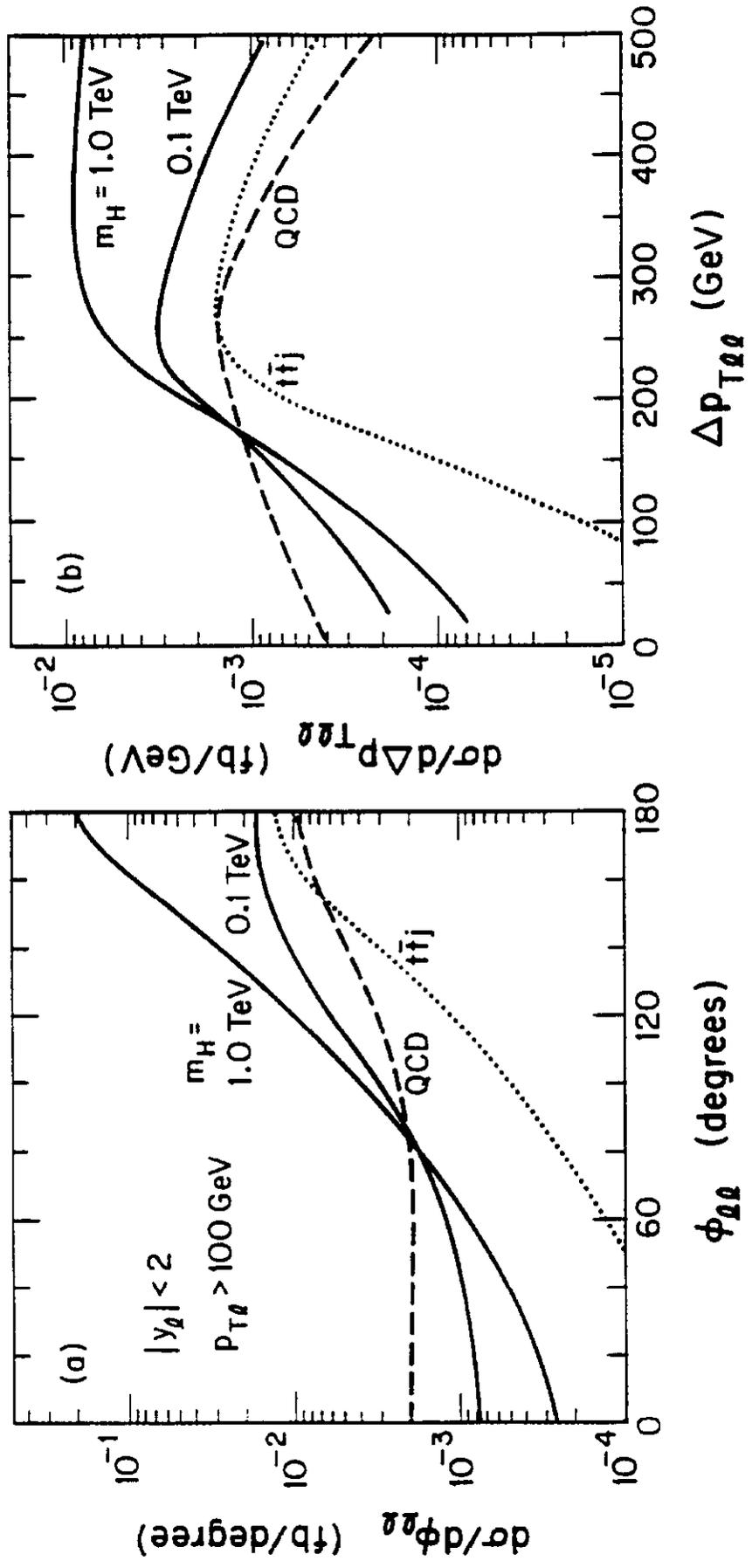


Fig. 11

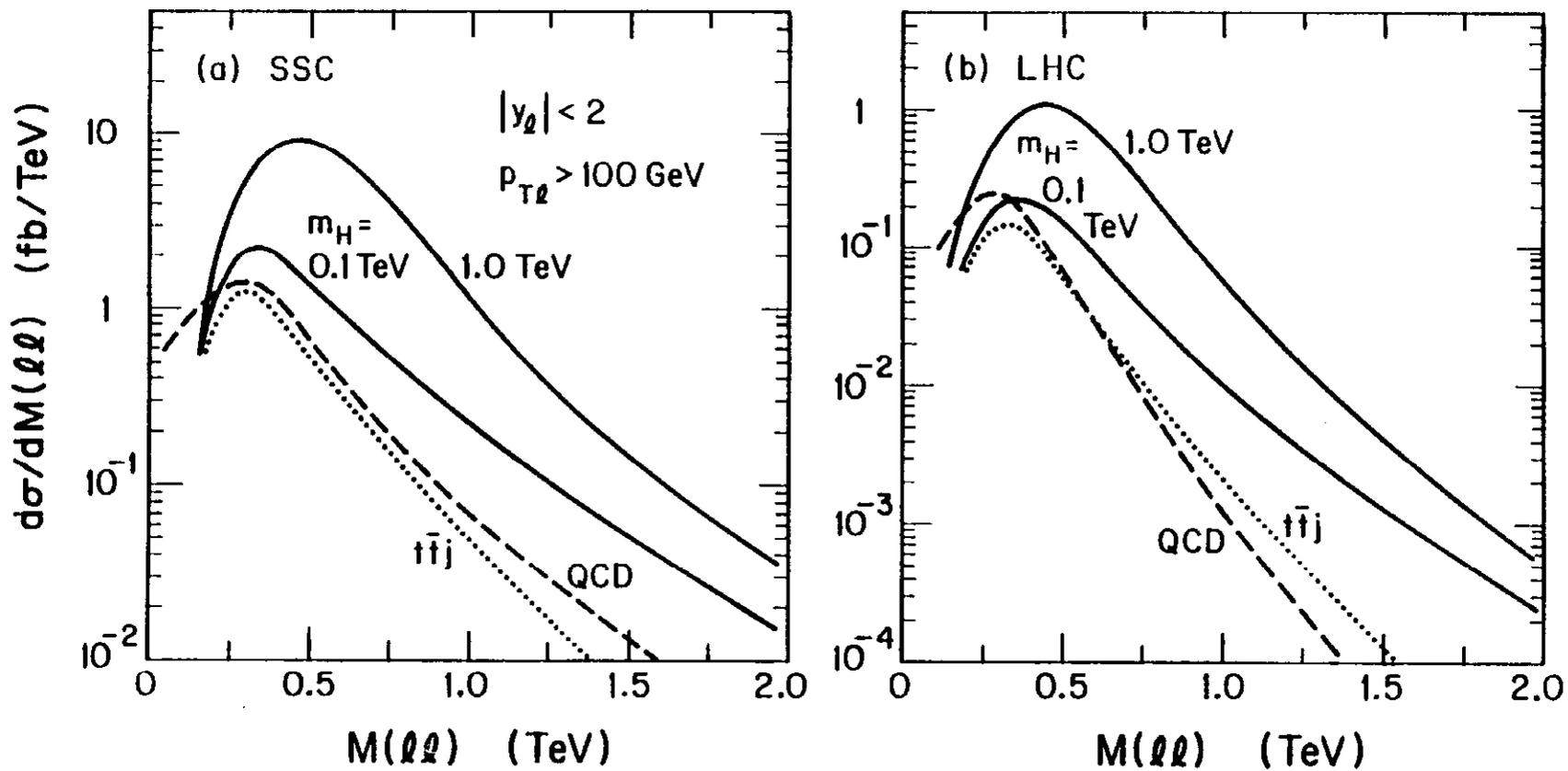


Fig. 12

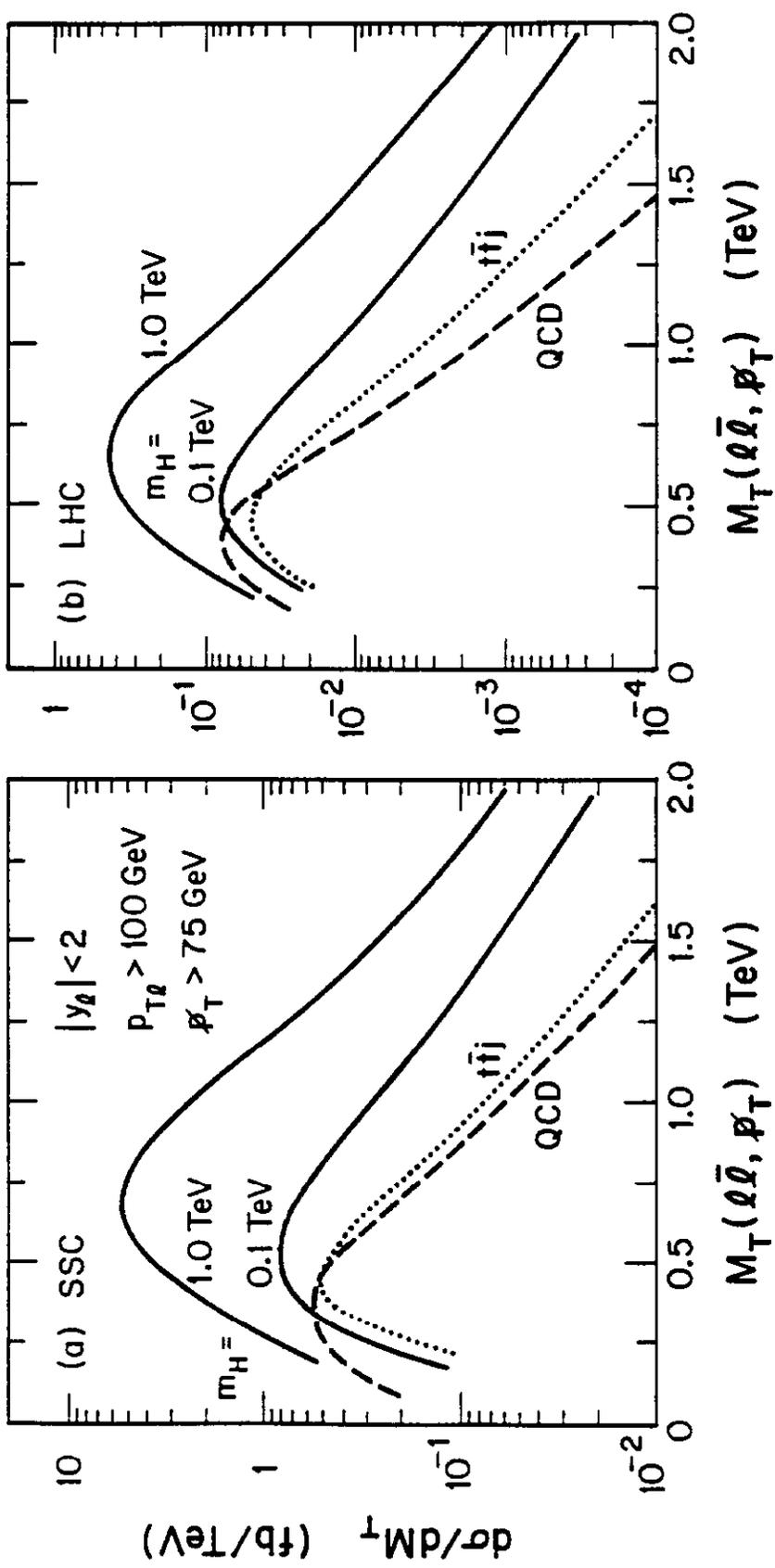


Fig. 13

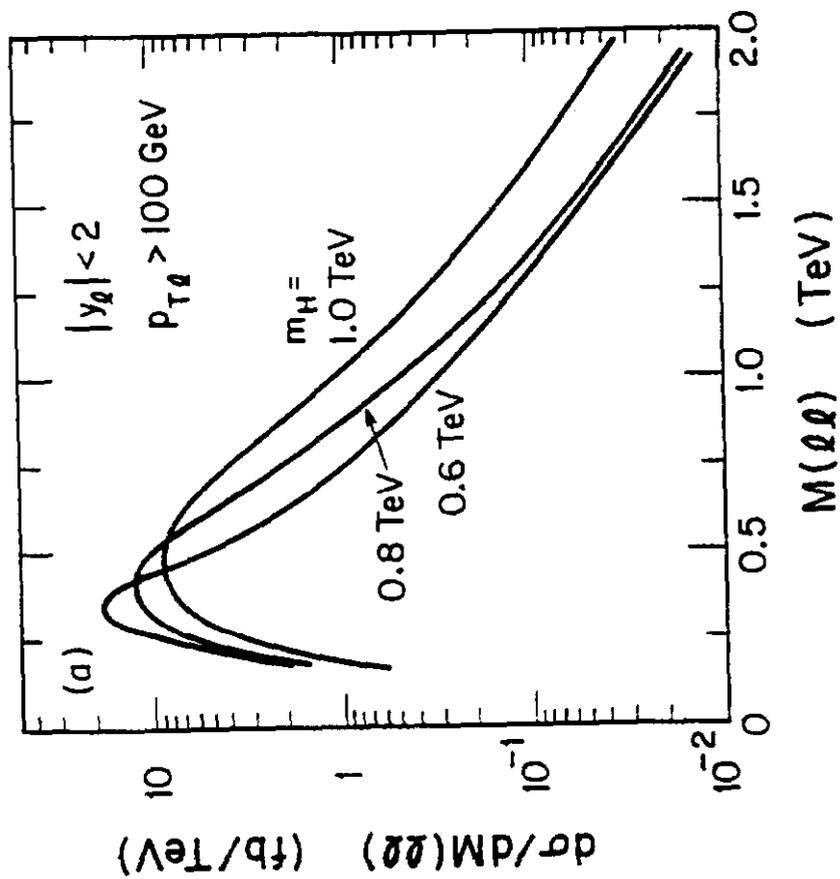
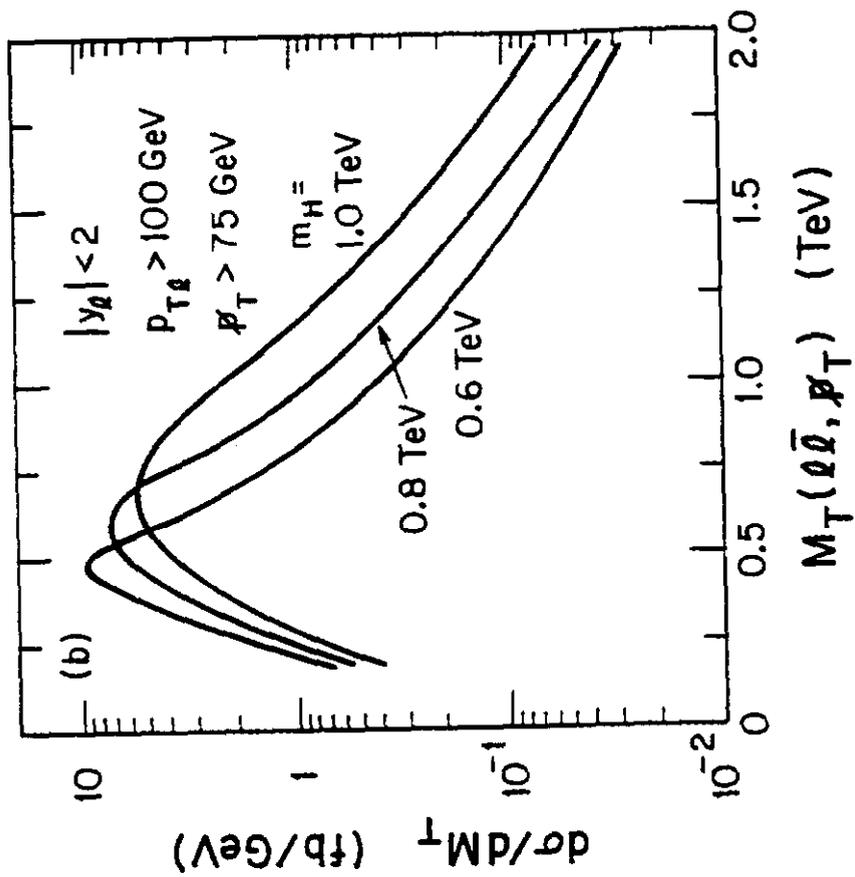


Fig. 14

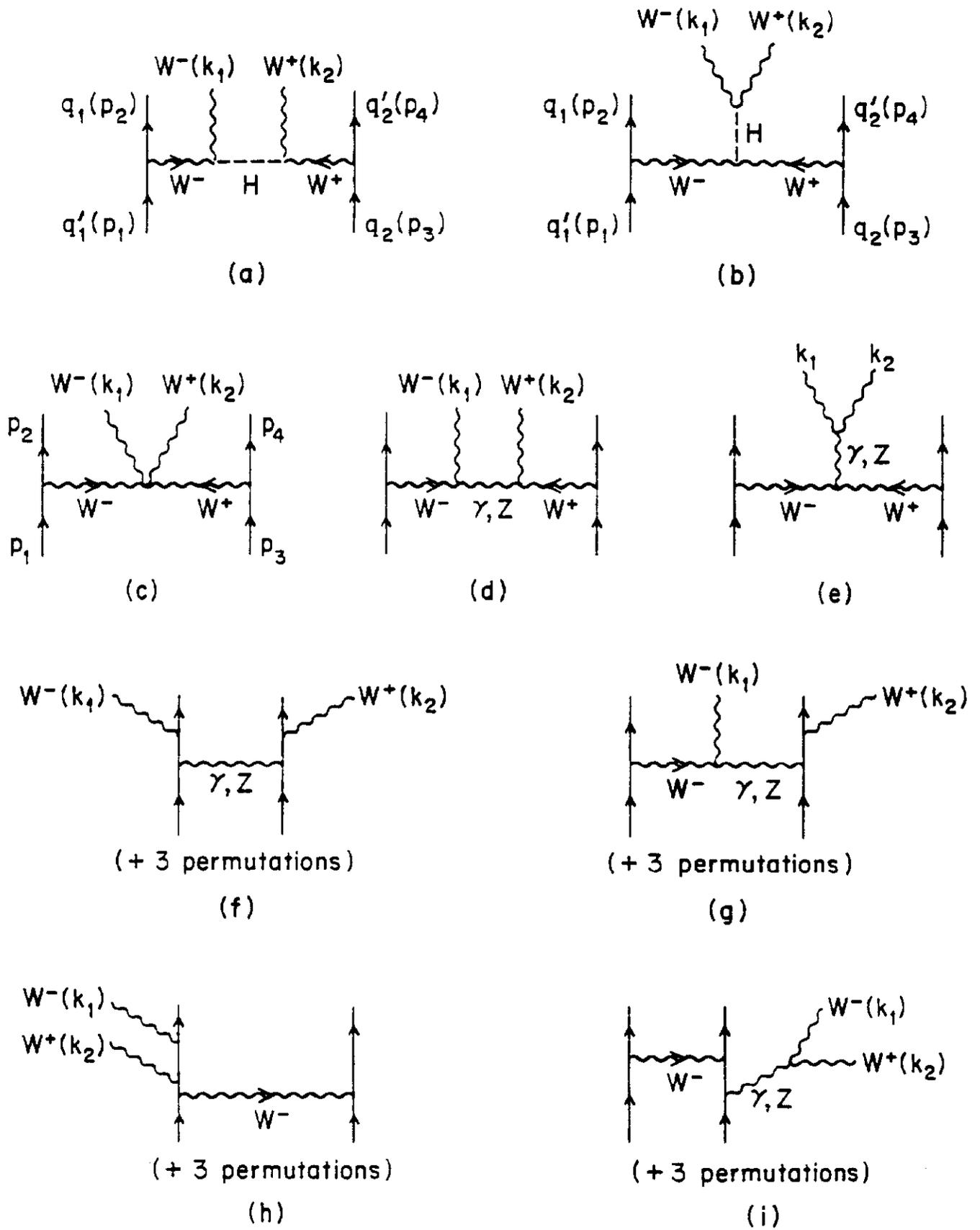


Fig. 15

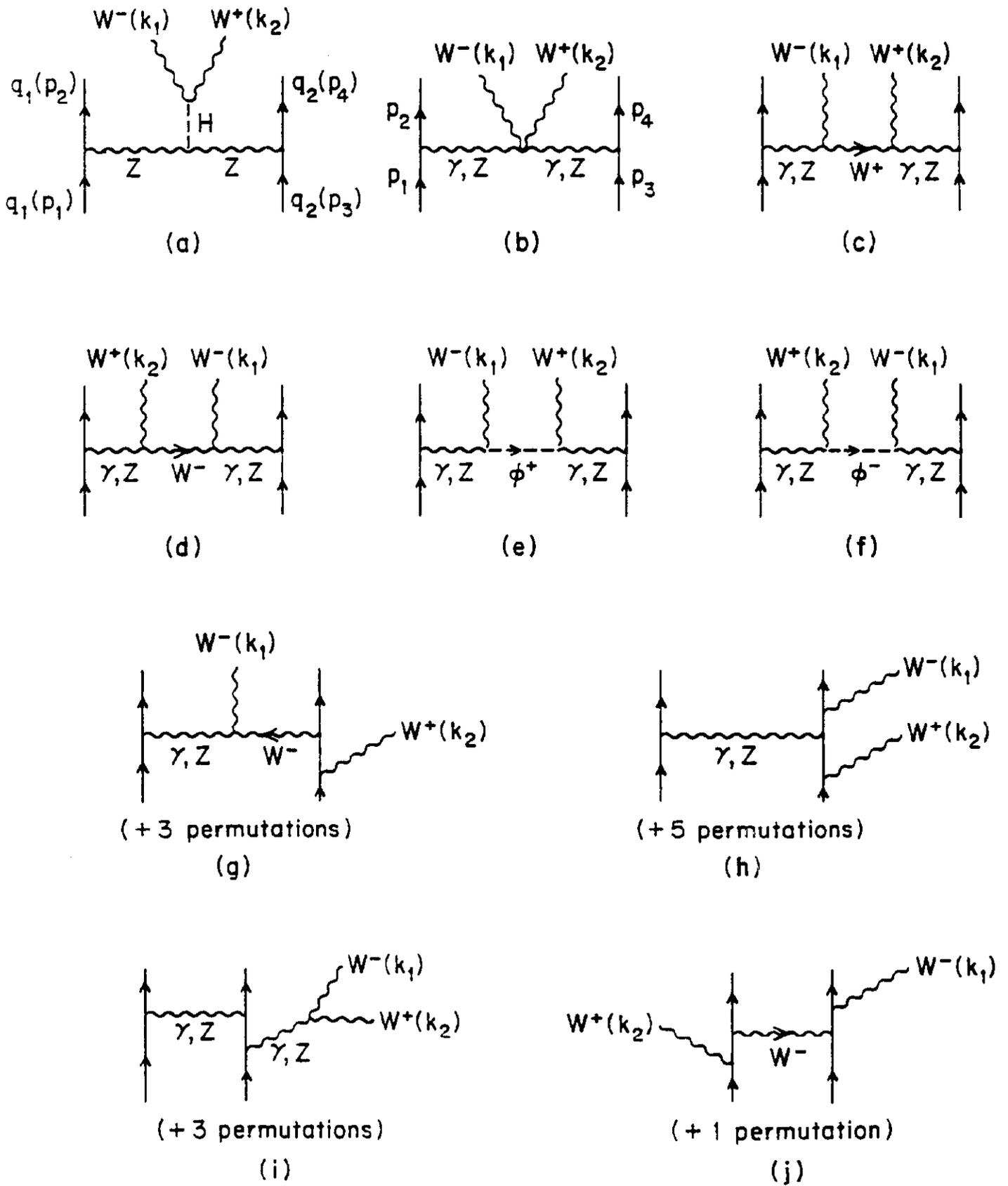


Fig. 16