

**Electroweakinos in the light of the Higgs boson**Tao Han,<sup>1,\*</sup> Sanjay Padhi,<sup>2,†</sup> and Shufang Su<sup>3,‡</sup><sup>1</sup>*Pittsburgh Particle Physics, Astrophysics, and Cosmology Center, Department of Physics Astronomy, University of Pittsburgh, 3941 O'Hara Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15260, USA*<sup>2</sup>*Department of Physics, University of California–San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla, California 92093, USA*<sup>3</sup>*Department of Physics, University of Arizona, 1118 E. 4th Street, Tucson, Arizona 85721, USA*

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Given the increasingly more stringent bounds on supersymmetry (SUSY) from the LHC searches, we are motivated to explore the situation in which the only accessible SUSY states are the electroweakinos (charginos and neutralinos). In the minimal SUSY framework, we systematically study the three general scenarios classified by the relative size of the gaugino mass parameters  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  and the Higgsino mass parameter  $\mu$ , with six distinctive cases, four of which would naturally result in a compressed spectrum of nearly degenerate lightest supersymmetric particles. We present the relevant decay branching fractions and provide insightful understanding about the decay modes in connection with the Goldstone-boson equivalence theorem. We show the cross sections for electroweakino pair production at the LHC and International Linear Collider and emphasize the unique signals involving the Standard Model-like Higgs boson as a new search reference. The electroweakino signal from pair production and subsequent decay to the  $Wh/Zh(h \rightarrow b\bar{b})$  final state may yield a sensitivity of 95% C.L. exclusion ( $5\sigma$  discovery) to the mass scale  $M_2$ ,  $\mu \sim 350\text{--}400$  GeV ( $220\text{--}270$  GeV) at the 14 TeV LHC with a luminosity of  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . Combining with all the other decay channels, the 95% C.L. exclusion ( $5\sigma$  discovery) may be extended to  $M_2$ ,  $\mu \sim 480\text{--}700$  GeV ( $320\text{--}500$  GeV). At the ILC, the electroweakinos could be readily discovered once the kinematical threshold is crossed, and their properties could be thoroughly studied.

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**I. INTRODUCTION**

The recent observations of a Standard Model (SM)-like Higgs boson ( $h$ ) [1,2] have further strengthened the belief for a weakly coupled Higgs sector with supersymmetry (SUSY) as the most compelling realization. If the weak-scale SUSY is realized in nature [3], the definitive confirmation will require the discovery of the supersymmetric partners of the electroweak (EW) particles in the SM, in particular the gauginos and Higgsinos,<sup>1</sup> as recently stressed as the “natural SUSY” [4,5]. The identification of the electroweak sector of the supersymmetric theory and the measurement of its parameters are especially important because it is commonly believed that the natural dark matter candidate, the “lightest supersymmetric particle” (LSP), resides in this sector, most likely the lightest neutralino [6].

Given the current results on SUSY searches at the LHC [7–15], the absence of the spectacular events of large hadronic activities plus substantial missing energy implies that new colored supersymmetric particles under QCD strong interaction may not have been copiously produced.

With some simple assumptions, the interpretation of the current LHC data leads to the mass bound for the gluino and light squarks as  $m_{\tilde{g}} = m_{\tilde{q}} > 1.8$  TeV, or  $m_{\tilde{g}} > 1.3$  TeV with decoupled squark sector,  $m_{\tilde{q}} > 800$  GeV [7,8] with the other decoupled particles, based on the ATLAS/CMS analyses. In anticipation of much heavier colored SUSY partners, we are thus led to consider a more challenging search strategy, namely, the SUSY signals only from the EW sector, the charginos and neutralinos. On the other hand, the direct production of electroweak supersymmetric particles at the LHC suffers from relatively small rates [16]. The current direct search bounds at the LHC are thus rather weak [9–15], and the future perspectives for the mass parameter coverage are limited [17,18]. A further complication is that some dark matter consideration favors a situation for nearly degenerate charginos and neutralinos [19], making their identification more challenging [20].

The deciding soft SUSY-breaking mass parameters for the Bino, Wino, and Higgsino are  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ , and  $\mu$ , respectively. Those parameters are related when adopting a specific SUSY-breaking mediation scenario, such as the minimal supergravity model [21] and the minimal gauge mediation [22]. Unfortunately, those minimal and predictive scenarios are disfavored by the current observation of a 125 GeV SM-like Higgs boson [23,24]. In this work, we take a model-independent approach and study the SUSY signals with all possible relative values of these three SUSY-breaking mass parameters, which leads to six cases

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<sup>1</sup>We call the SUSY partners of the EW gauge bosons and the Higgs doublets the gauginos ( $\tilde{B}$ ,  $\tilde{W}$ ) and Higgsinos ( $\tilde{H}$ ), respectively. The mass eigenstates are named as charginos ( $\chi_i^\pm$ ) and neutralinos ( $\chi_i^0$ ). We generically call them the electroweakinos (EWkinos) when no need for specification.

in the most general term. Among them, four cases would naturally result in a compressed spectrum of nearly degenerate LSPs. We would like to address the question of to what extent in the parameter space the SUSY signals only from the electroweakinos can be accessible. The answer to this question, in particular the accessible mass scale, is important not only for the current LHC experiments but also for the planning of future collider programs.

Given the intimate connection between the Higgs boson ( $h$ ) and the SUSY electroweak sector, it is evident that searching for SUSY may be greatly benefitted if one takes advantage of the existence of the Higgs boson. The Higgs boson signal from the SUSY cascade has been discussed via the heavy gluino and squark production [25] and via the electroweakino production [26]. More recently, ATLAS [13] and CMS [15] have also carried out some analysis for the  $Wh$  final state, under the assumption that the decay of  $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$  is 100%. Indeed, the Higgs boson often appears in one of the leading channels from neutralino and chargino decays  $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$ ,  $\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm h$ , and possibly  $\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_{1,2}^0 h$ . By carefully exploring the by-now established channels from the decays of a 125 GeV Higgs boson  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ ,  $WW^*$ ,  $ZZ^*$ , we find it promising to observe the robust electroweakino signals in the light of the Higgs boson. This is of critical importance: by constructing the Higgs boson in the complex events, one could confirm the existence of new physics beyond the SM associated with the Higgs sector. Overall, by exploiting the pair production of the electroweakinos via the Drell–Yan mechanism (DY) and their decays to the Higgs boson and to the leptons via  $W^\pm/Z$ , we may expect to reach up to an electroweakino mass about 700 GeV (500 GeV) for a 95% C.L. exclusion ( $5\sigma$  discovery), with  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  of integrated luminosity at the 14 TeV LHC.

Our treatments are still conservative in two counts. First, we have not taken into account the possible contributions from the other electroweak states, namely, the sleptons and the heavier Higgs bosons. Should the sleptons and the other Higgs bosons be light, comparable to, or even lighter than the electroweakinos, they would be produced to enhance the signal both from their direct pair production and from the electroweakino decays. Also, we have not included the vector boson fusion (VBF) mechanism [27] for the electroweakino production. The production rate for this mechanism is typically smaller than that of the DY processes by orders of magnitude depending on their masses. Its characteristics, however, for the forward-jet kinematics and the  $t$ -channel electroweakino production may provide additional handles to complement the standard searches.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II, we present the electroweakino sector of the minimal supersymmetric Standard Model (MSSM) and lay out the general scenarios for the relevant SUSY parameters in our study, resulting in six distinctive cases over all with respect to their mass relations. We outline their decay patterns and discuss in detail the decay branching fractions. We focus

our attention, although as general as possible for the SUSY electroweak sector, to a situation in which the colored SUSY states as well as the sleptons and other Higgs bosons are inaccessible at the LHC. In Sec. III, we first show the leading production channels of neutralinos and charginos at the LHC and then explore the dominant final states from the decay of heavier electroweakino states. We show the cross sections at the 14 TeV LHC for all the six cases. The results thus suggest the leading signals for the searches, of which the SM-like Higgs boson in the final state is particularly interesting. In Sec. IV, we first briefly summarize the relevant experimental bounds on the masses of the electroweakinos from the direct searches at the Large Electron-Positron Collider 2 (LEP2) and the LHC. We then classify the signals according to their observable final states and emphasize the unique importance for taking advantage of the Higgs decay channels. We present the potential observability at the 14 TeV LHC in terms of our very general classification of the SUSY electroweak parameters. In Sec. V, we discuss the dominant production modes of the electroweakinos at the International Linear Collider (ILC) and evaluate their production cross section at the 1 TeV c.m. energy. We also comment on the physics potential for their property studies. Finally, we summarize our results in Sec. VI. Some approximate formulas for the next-to-the-LSP (NLSP) decays are collected in the Appendix. In particular, insightful understanding about the decay modes in connection with the Goldstone-boson equivalence theorem is provided.

## II. MODEL PARAMETERS AND ELECTROWEAKINO DECAYS

### A. Model specification

We focus on the essential EW sector, namely, the electroweakinos. Without assumptions for a SUSY-breaking mediation scenario, we consider the other SUSY particles, namely, gluinos, squarks, and sleptons, to be inaccessible in the LHC searches. Parametrically, we set the gluino mass  $M_3$ , sfermion masses at multiple TeV, and  $A_i \simeq 0 \text{ GeV}$ ,<sup>2</sup> except for the third-generation squarks' mass parameters. Also, we take  $M_A \approx 1 \text{ TeV}$ , where the heavy Higgs bosons governed by  $M_A$  will also be decoupled from the theory. We explicitly incorporate a SM-like Higgs boson of mass

$$m_h = 125 \text{ GeV}, \quad (1)$$

which can be achieved by adjusting SUSY parameters, in particular the stop mass parameters [23,24,28]. For the gaugino and Higgsino sector, the mass matrix for the neutral components in the gauge-eigenstate basis of  $\psi^0 = (\tilde{B}, \tilde{W}^0, \tilde{H}_d^0, \tilde{H}_u^0)$  is

<sup>2</sup>We do not need to keep track of the specific values, nor do we check the level of the fine-tuning, as long as we assure the other heavy particles unobservable at the LHC, in accordance with our conservative treatment for the electroweakino sector.

$$M_{\tilde{N}} = \begin{pmatrix} M_1 & 0 & -c_\beta s_W m_Z & s_\beta s_W m_Z \\ 0 & M_2 & c_\beta c_W m_Z & -s_\beta c_W m_Z \\ -c_\beta s_W m_Z & c_\beta c_W m_Z & 0 & -\mu \\ s_\beta s_W m_Z & -s_\beta c_W m_Z & -\mu & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad (2)$$

where we have used the abbreviations  $s_W = \sin \theta_W$ ,  $c_W = \cos \theta_W$ ,  $s_\beta = \sin \beta$ , and  $c_\beta = \cos \beta$ , for  $\theta_W$  being the Weinberg angle and  $\tan \beta = \langle H_u^0 \rangle / \langle H_d^0 \rangle$ . Similarly, the mass matrix of the charged components in the basis of  $\psi^\pm = (\tilde{W}^+, \tilde{H}_u^+, \tilde{W}^-, \tilde{H}_d^-)$  is

$$M_{\tilde{C}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0_{2 \times 2} & X_{2 \times 2}^T \\ X_{2 \times 2} & 0_{2 \times 2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{with} \\ X_{2 \times 2} = \begin{pmatrix} M_2 & \sqrt{2} s_\beta m_W \\ \sqrt{2} c_\beta m_W & \mu \end{pmatrix}. \quad (3)$$

There are only four parameters involved in the mass matrices, two soft SUSY breaking mass parameters  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ , the Higgs field mixing parameter  $\mu$ , and the electroweak symmetry breaking parameter  $\tan \beta$ . Diagonalization of the mass matrices gives the mass eigenstates (with increasing mass eigenvalues), namely, the Majorana fermions, neutralinos  $\chi_i^0$  ( $i = 1 \dots 4$ ), and the Dirac fermions, charginos  $\chi_i^\pm$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ).

The mixings among the gaugino states are induced by the electroweak symmetry breaking, as seen by the off-diagonal terms in Eqs. (2) and (3). Relevant to our studies when  $m_Z \ll |\mu \pm M_1|$  and  $|\mu \pm M_2|$ , the mixings between Bino (Wino) and Higgsinos are characteristically suppressed by  $\mathcal{O}(m_Z/|\mu \pm M_1|)$  [ $\mathcal{O}(m_Z/|\mu \pm M_2|)$ ]. The mixings between Bino and Wino are further suppressed since they can only mix via Higgsino states. Consequently, the four neutralinos are nearly a ‘‘Bino-like,’’ a ‘‘Wino-like,’’ and a ‘‘Higgsino-like’’ pair  $(\tilde{H}_d^0 \mp \tilde{H}_u^0)/\sqrt{2}$ , with mass eigenvalues roughly  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ , and  $\pm \mu$ , respectively. In most of the parameter space under our consideration motivated by the current lower bounds on the SUSY masses, this limit largely applies. The fundamental nature of the gauginos and Higgsinos prevails, and the mixing effects are small. We can thus gain intuitive understanding about the behavior of production and decay patterns of the electroweakinos, as we will discuss in the following sections.

For our phenomenological considerations, we work in the  $CP$ -conserving scenario and choose the usual sign convention  $M_2 > 0$ . Without assuming a unification scenario for the soft masses,  $M_1$  and  $\mu$  can still take  $\pm$  sign. We adopt  $M_1 > 0$ <sup>3</sup> and consider both signs of  $\mu$ . Note that  $\mu > 0$  is favored by muon  $g - 2$  consideration [29]. In most of our discussion below, flipping the sign of  $\mu$  does

<sup>3</sup>Flipping the sign of  $M_1$  (or  $M_2$ ) does not lead to a qualitatively different feature.

not lead to qualitatively different results. We therefore use  $\mu > 0$  in most of the results presented below. We will specify the cases in which the sign of  $\mu$  matters, in particular for case AI and case BI discussed below. We thus adopt the parameters in the broad range

$$100 \text{ GeV} < M_1, M_2, \quad |\mu| < 1 \text{ TeV}, \\ 3 < \tan \beta < 50. \quad (4)$$

While  $M_2$  and  $\mu$  are constrained to be above 100 GeV from the chargino searches at the LEP2 experiments [30,31],  $M_1$  could be much lower given the lack of a model-independent limit on the Bino mass. We note that our parameter choices are consistent with the current low-energy bounds, such as the rare decay constraint from  $b \rightarrow s\gamma$ . In a most general case, the mass parameters can be complex with  $CP$ -violating phases. We do not consider such general  $CP$ -violating scenarios.

## B. General classification and the electroweakino decays

To explore the phenomenological consequences in a most general approach, we present the three possible scenarios among the mass parameters of  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$ , and  $\mu$  and categorize them into six different cases. Each of those leads to characteristic phenomenology in their pair production and the decays of the electroweakinos. Since the sfermions are assumed to decouple, the heavier electroweakinos decay to the LSP ( $\chi_1^0$ ) and a real or virtual electroweak gauge boson (generically denoted by  $W$ ,  $W^*$  or  $Z$ ,  $Z^*$ , for either on-shell or off-shell) and a Higgs boson ( $h$ ). The decay via an off-shell Higgs boson is highly suppressed due to the small Yukawa couplings, for modest values of  $\tan \beta$ . We will stress the situation in which the Higgs boson plays a crucial role if kinematically accessible. We have set  $m_h = 125$  GeV as stated in Eq. (1) throughout our numerical evaluations.

### 1. Scenario A: $M_1 < M_2$ , $|\mu|$

This is the usual canonical scenario, which is strongly motivated by the Bino-like (LSP) dark matter [6] and by the grand unified theories with gaugino mass unification [21]. There are two qualitatively different physics cases we would like to explore, namely,

$$\text{Case AI: } M_2 < |\mu|, \quad \chi_1^\pm, \chi_2^0 \text{ are Wino-like, and } \chi_2^\pm, \chi_{3,4}^0 \text{ are Higgsino-like;} \quad (5)$$

$$\text{Case AII: } |\mu| < M_2, \quad \chi_1^\pm, \chi_{2,3}^0 \text{ are Higgsino-like, and } \chi_2^\pm, \chi_4^0 \text{ are Wino-like.} \quad (6)$$

For case AI, the Winos are lighter than Higgsinos and thus are the NLSPs, while for case AII, it is the reverse, and thus the Higgsino are the NLSPs. Without losing much generality, for illustrative purposes in Secs. II and III, we vary  $M_2$  while fixing  $|\mu| = 1$  TeV for case AI and vary  $\mu$  while

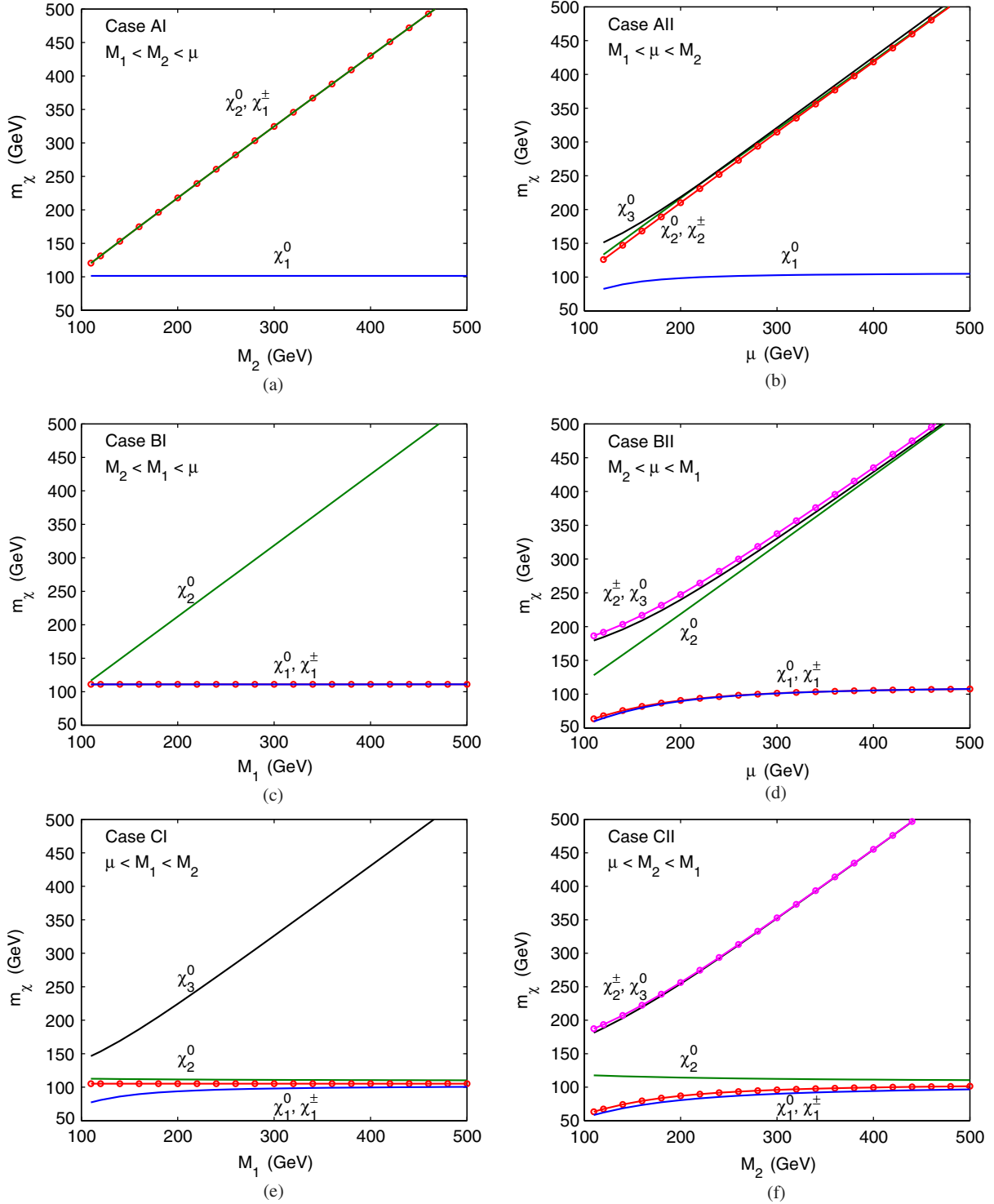


FIG. 1 (color online). Lower-lying neutralino and chargino masses for the six cases: AI – CII. Solid curves are for neutralino states, and those with circles are for chargino states. The mass parameter for the LSP is set to be 100 GeV, that for the heaviest gaugino or Higgsino is set to be 1 TeV, and  $\tan \beta = 10$ .

fixing  $M_2 = 1$  TeV for case AII, along with  $\tan \beta = 10$ . We will explore the characteristic differences for the observable signals in these two cases. Whenever appropriate, we will also illustrate the features with different values of  $\tan \beta$ .

In Fig. 1, we present the physical masses of the lower-lying neutralinos and charginos. The mass spectrum, as well as decay branching fractions for neutralinos and charginos, are calculated using SUSY-HIT 1.3 [32]. Figures 1(a) and 1(b) are for case AI vs the mass

parameters  $M_2$  and for case AII vs  $\mu$  with  $M_1 = 100$  GeV. The LSP,  $\chi_1^0$ , is mostly Bino for both cases with mass close to  $M_1$ . The subleading mixing component in the LSP is at the order of  $\mathcal{O}(m_Z/\mu)$  for the Higgsino component and  $\mathcal{O}(m_Z^2/\mu^2)$  for the Wino component. The Higgsino component in case AII, on the other hand, is less suppressed, in particular at the smaller values of  $\mu$ , as shown in Fig. 1(b). For case AI,  $\chi_1^\pm$  and  $\chi_2^0$  are mostly Winos, with mass around  $M_2$ . The mass splitting between  $\chi_2^0$  and  $\chi_1^\pm$  is very small. In fact, the near degeneracy of these states calls for a new convention to call them NLSPs altogether. The convenience will be seen more clearly later when discussing the decays. For case AII, both the light chargino  $\chi_1^\pm$  and the second and the third neutralinos  $\chi_{2,3}^0$  are mostly Higgsinos, with mass around  $|\mu|$ . The mass splittings between those Higgsino-like states are small for  $\mu$  larger than about 200 GeV.

For small values of  $\mu$ , however, mass splittings as large as 20–30 GeV could occur, as seen in Fig. 1(b). These differences in masses get smaller as  $\mu$  increases, thus referred to as naturally compressed spectra [33]. In particular, this would lead to unsuppressed decays of  $\chi_3^0$  to  $\chi_2^0/\chi_1^\pm$  in the small  $\mu$  case. Heavier states,  $\chi_2^\pm$  and  $\chi_4^0$ , become out of reach.

To a large extent, the electroweakino phenomenology is governed by the NLSP decays. We depict the NLSP decay patterns for all the six cases in Fig. 2 and their corresponding decay branching fractions in Figs. 3–8. The partial width formulas are collected in the Appendix. The transitional decays among the degenerate Winos or Higgsinos NLSPs (e.g.,  $\chi_2^0 \leftrightarrow \chi_1^\pm$ ) are almost always suppressed due to the small mass splitting among the multiplets. Dominant decay modes for NLSPs are always those directly down to the Bino-like LSP.

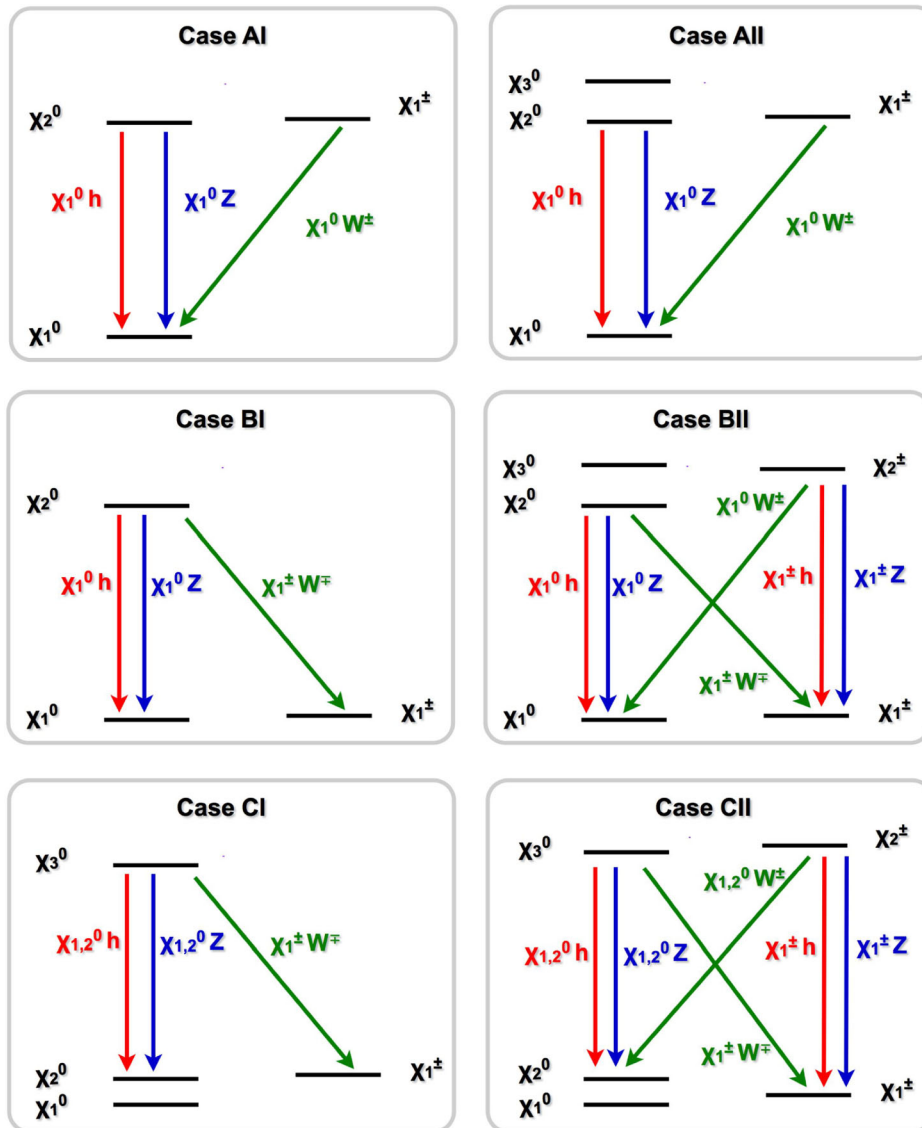


FIG. 2 (color online). Decay patterns of NLSP's for all the six cases AI – CII.

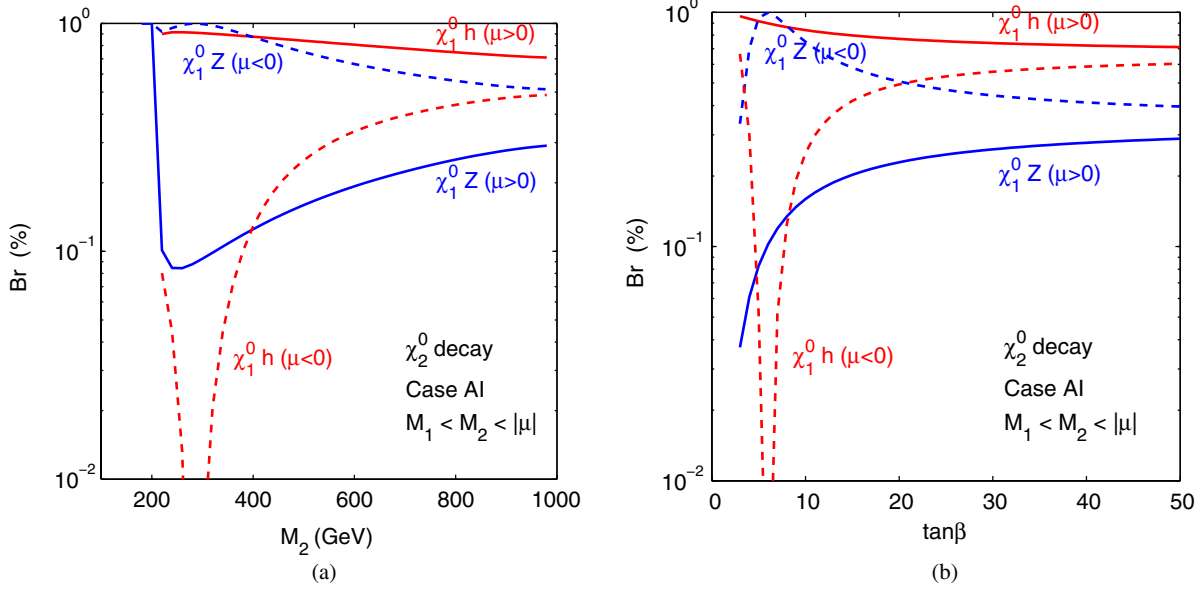


FIG. 3 (color online). Case AI with Wino-like NLSPs and a Bino-like LSP: decay branching fractions of  $\chi_2^0$  (a) vs  $M_2$  for  $\tan\beta = 10$  and (b) vs  $\tan\beta$  for  $M_2 = 500$  GeV. Two-body on-shell inclusive decays are labeled by  $\chi_1^0 Z$  and  $\chi_1^0 h$ . Solid lines are for  $\mu > 0$ , and dashed lines are for  $\mu < 0$ . Other parameters are set as  $M_1 = 100$  GeV,  $|\mu| = 1$  TeV.

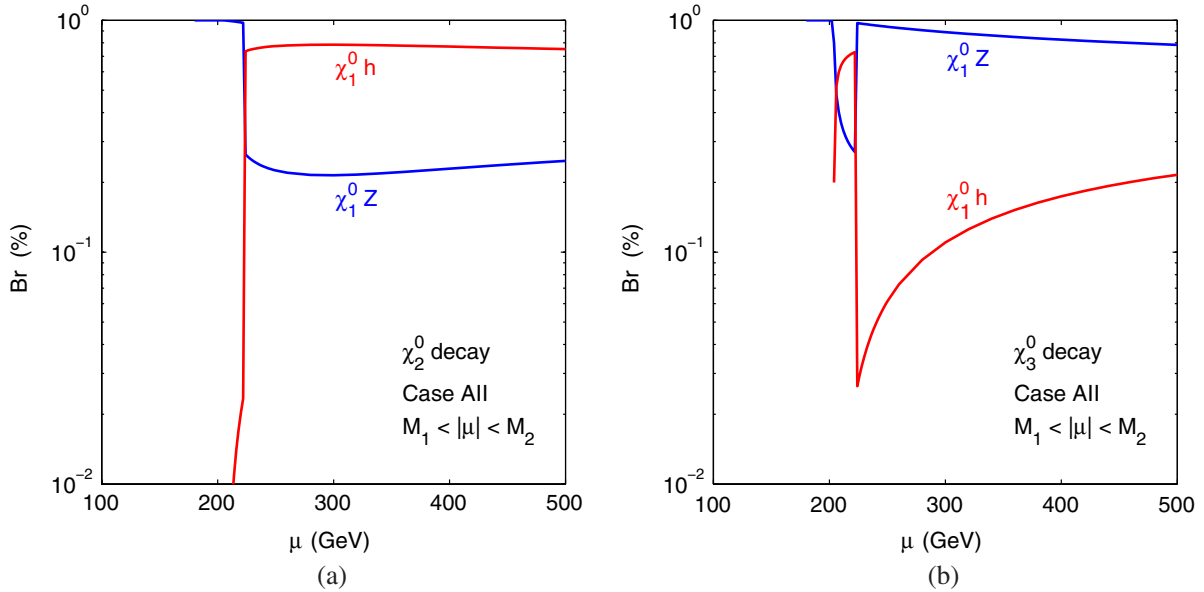


FIG. 4 (color online). Case AII with Higgsino-like NLSPs and Bino-like LSP: decay branching fractions of (a)  $\chi_2^0$  and (b)  $\chi_3^0$  vs  $\mu$ , for  $M_1 = 100$  GeV,  $M_2 = 1$  TeV, and  $\tan\beta = 10$ .

For cases AI and AII with Wino and Higgsino NLSPs, respectively, the two-body decay of  $\chi_1^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^0 W$  dominates, leading to  $f\bar{f}'\chi_1^0$  of about a 100% branching fraction. Leptonic and hadronic final states are essentially governed by the  $W$  decay branching fractions to the SM fermions, namely, about 67% for  $\chi_1^0 qq'$  and 11% for  $\chi_1^0 \ell \nu_\ell$  for each lepton flavor.

For  $\chi_2^0$  decay in case AI, there are two competing channels as in shown in Fig. 2,

$$\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z, \chi_1^0 h, \quad (7)$$

once both modes are kinematically open. Both partial decay widths are suppressed by a factor of  $\mathcal{O}(m_Z^2/\mu^2)$  compared to other cases discussed below (except case BI), since such decays occur via the mixture of Higgsino states in either  $\chi_1^0$  or  $\chi_2^0$ . The decay branching fractions are shown in Fig. 3(a) vs  $M_2$  and Fig. 3(b) vs  $\tan\beta$ , respectively. Solid lines are for  $\mu > 0$ , and dashed lines are for

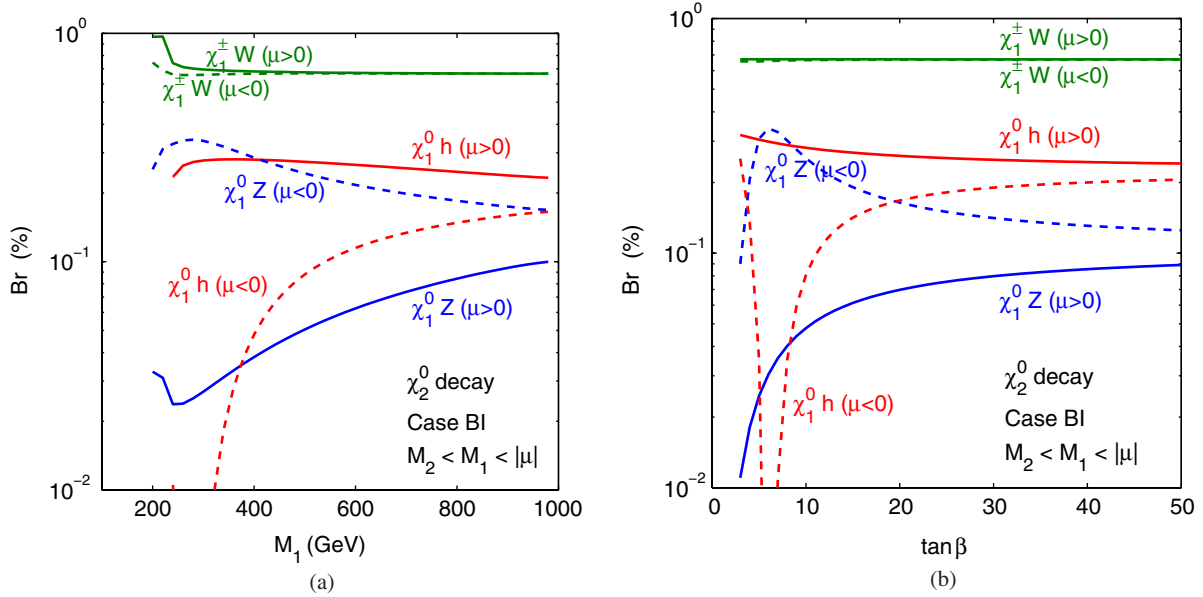


FIG. 5 (color online). Case BI with Bino-like NLSP and Wino-like LSPs: decay branching fractions of  $\chi_2^0$  (a) vs  $M_1$  for  $\tan\beta = 10$  and (b) vs  $\tan\beta$  for  $M_1 = 500$  GeV. Solid lines are for  $\mu > 0$ , and dashed lines are for  $\mu < 0$ . Other parameters are set as  $M_2 = 100$  GeV,  $|\mu| = 1$  TeV.

$\mu < 0$ . It is important to see that once the  $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$  channel is open, it quickly dominates when  $\mu > 0$ :  $\text{Br}(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h)$  is about 82% for  $M_2 = 500$  GeV, while  $\text{Br}(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z)$  is about 18%. The branching fractions of  $Z$  and  $h$  modes are reversed for  $\mu < 0$ , about 50–100% for  $\chi_1^0 Z$  and  $\lesssim 50\%$  for  $\chi_1^0 h$  with  $\tan\beta = 10$ . The dependence on the sign of  $\mu$  comes from the  $(2s_{2\beta} + (M_1 + M_2)/\mu)$  term in Eq. (A1). In particular, the cancellation between these two terms for the  $\mu < 0$  case leads to the dip in  $\text{Br}(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h)$ , as shown in Fig. 3. For relatively large  $\tan\beta$ , the branching fractions for the  $\chi_1^0 h$  and  $\chi_1^0 Z$  channels approach a constant. While for small  $\tan\beta$ , the sign of  $\mu$  has a large impact on the branching fractions for the  $\chi_1^0 h$  and  $\chi_1^0 Z$  channels, as shown in Fig. 3(b).

Below the threshold of the Higgs channel  $M_2 < M_1 + m_h$ , the branching fractions for various final states follow the  $Z$  decays to the SM fermions, about 55% into light quarks, 15% into  $bb$ , 20% into neutrinos, and 3.3% into each lepton flavor. For  $M_2$  slightly above  $M_1$ , loop-induced radiative decay  $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 \gamma$  reaches about 10%, while the final state photon will be very soft, making its identification difficult. The phase space suppression near the threshold for  $\chi_1^0 bb$  and  $\chi_1^0 \tau\tau$  channels is also appreciable.

Figure 4 show the decay branching fractions of (a)  $\chi_2^0$  and (b)  $\chi_3^0$ , respectively, vs  $\mu$  for the Higgsino NLSP case AII, with  $M_2$  fixed to be 1 TeV. For  $\mu \gtrsim 250$  GeV, the decay pattern for  $\chi_2^0$  is qualitatively similar to that of the light Wino case AI with  $\mu > 0$ . The branching fraction of  $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$  and  $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z$  is about 75% and 25% for  $\mu = 500$  GeV, respectively. The decays of  $\chi_3^0$ , however, are more preferable to  $\chi_1^0 Z$ . The difference in the decay pattern

of  $\chi_2^0$  and  $\chi_3^0$  is due to the different composition of  $\chi_{2,3}^0$  as  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\tilde{H}_d^0 \mp \tilde{H}_u^0)$ . Note that in Fig. 4 the branching fraction of  $\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$  shows a sudden drop around 230 GeV, coming from the level crossing of the two Higgsino-like mass eigenstates. For  $m_{\chi_{2,3}^0} - m_{\chi_1^0} < m_Z$ , off-shell decay via  $Z^*$  again dominates, with the branching fraction of fermion final states similar to that of  $\chi_2^0$  in case AI.

In the limit of large  $\tan\beta$  and  $|\mu \pm M_1| \gg m_Z$  such that all final state particles are effectively massless compared to the parent particle,  $\text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h) \approx \text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z) \approx 50\%$ , while for  $\tan\beta \rightarrow 1$ , one of the  $h$  or  $Z$  channels is highly suppressed while the other channel is greatly enhanced since  $\text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h) : \text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z) \approx (s_\beta \pm c_\beta)^2 : (s_\beta \mp c_\beta)^2$ .

Flipping the sign of  $\mu$  also leads to the reversal of branching fractions into  $h$  and  $Z$  modes for large  $\tan\beta$ . However, since  $\chi_2^0$  and  $\chi_3^0$  are either pair produced at colliders as  $\chi_2^0 \chi_3^0$  or they are produced in association with  $\chi_1^\pm$  with similar cross sections at the LHC, changing the sign of  $\mu$  has little impact on the overall cross sections of the observed final states.

For small  $|\mu \pm M_1| \sim m_Z$ , the mass splittings between the Higgsino multiplets  $\chi_3^0$  and  $\chi_2^0/\chi_1^\pm$  could reach 20–30 GeV. Although not shown in the figures, there are leading decay modes between Higgsino states:

$$\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^*, \chi_2^0 Z^*. \quad (8)$$

Even with the phase space suppression comparing to the decay of  $\chi_3^0$  directly down to  $\chi_1^0$ , the branching fractions for  $\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^*$  could dominate over  $\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z^*$  since the

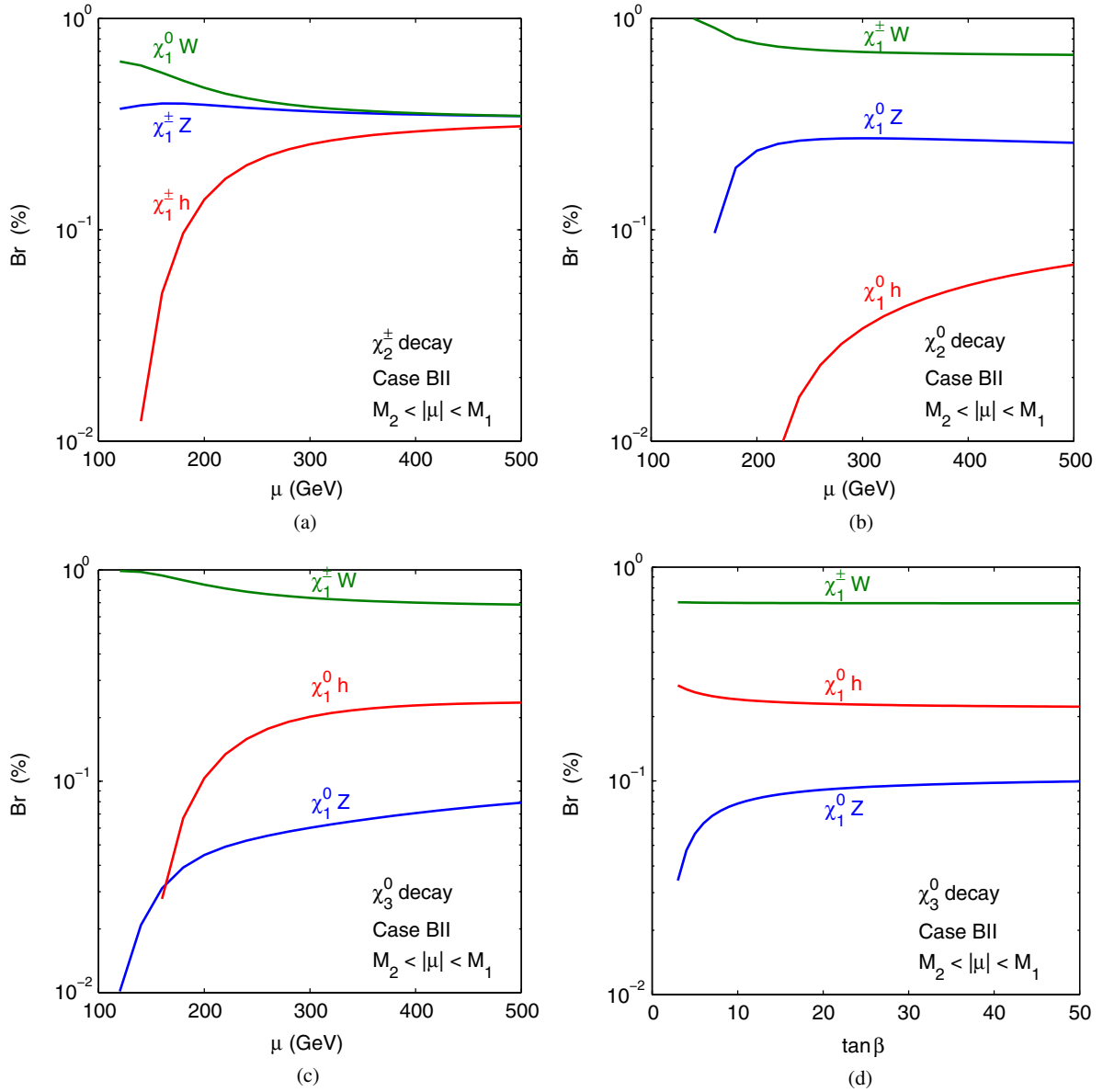


FIG. 6 (color online). Case BII Higgsino NLSPs and Wino LSPs: decay branching fractions of (a)  $\chi_2^\pm$ , (b)  $\chi_2^0$ , and (c)  $\chi_3^0$  vs  $\mu$  with  $\tan\beta = 10$  and (d)  $\chi_3^0$  vs  $\tan\beta$ , for  $\mu = 500$  GeV. Other parameters are chosen as  $M_2 = 100$  GeV,  $M_1 = 1$  TeV.

coupling  $\chi_3^0\chi_1^\pm W$  is unsuppressed, while  $\chi_3^0\chi_1^0 Z$  suffers from Bino-Higgsino mixing. It should be noted, however, that the decay products will be very soft due to the small mass difference, so that it renders the experimental observation difficult at hadron colliders. At the ILC, however, the clean experimental environment may allow the observation of those decay modes.

## 2. Scenario B: $M_2 < M_1$ , $|\mu|$

This is the situation of Wino LSP, as often realized in anomaly-mediated SUSY-breaking scenarios [34]. The lightest states  $\chi_1^0$  and  $\chi_1^\pm$  are nearly degenerate in mass close to  $M_2$ . It thus makes more sense to follow the newly

introduced convention to call them all ‘‘LSPs.’’<sup>4</sup> In this scenario, there are two possible mass relations we will explore

$$\text{Case BI: } M_1 < |\mu|, \quad \chi_2^0 \text{ Bino-like, and } \chi_2^\pm, \chi_{3,4}^0 \text{ Higgsino-like;} \quad (9)$$

$$\text{Case BII: } |\mu| < M_1, \quad \chi_2^\pm, \chi_{2,3}^0 \text{ Higgsino-like, and } \chi_4^0 \text{ Bino-like.} \quad (10)$$

<sup>4</sup>Note that in the usual convention the neutral Wino  $\chi_1^0$  is called the LSP and the charged Wino  $\chi_1^\pm$  is called the NLSP.



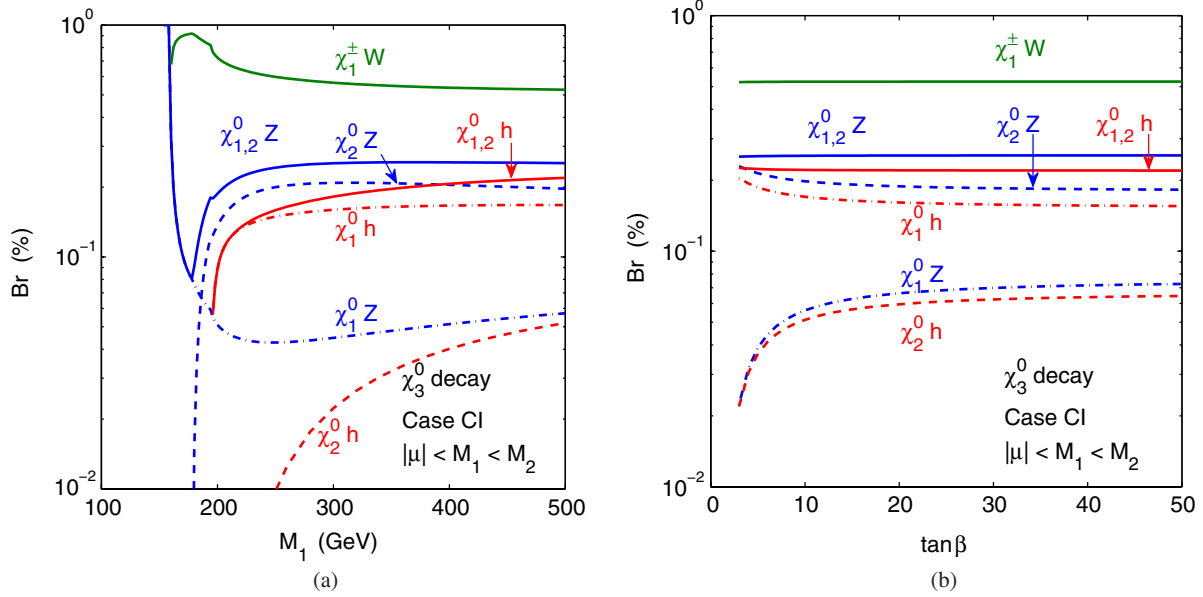


FIG. 7 (color online). Case CI Bino-like NLSP and Higgsino-like LSPs: decay branching fractions of  $\chi_3^0$  (a) vs  $M_1$  for  $\tan\beta = 10$  and (b) vs  $\tan\beta$  for  $M_1 = 500$  GeV, where  $\chi_{1,2}^0$  indicates the sum over the  $\chi_1^0$  and  $\chi_2^0$  channels. Other parameters are chosen as  $\mu = 100$  GeV and  $M_2 = 1$  TeV.

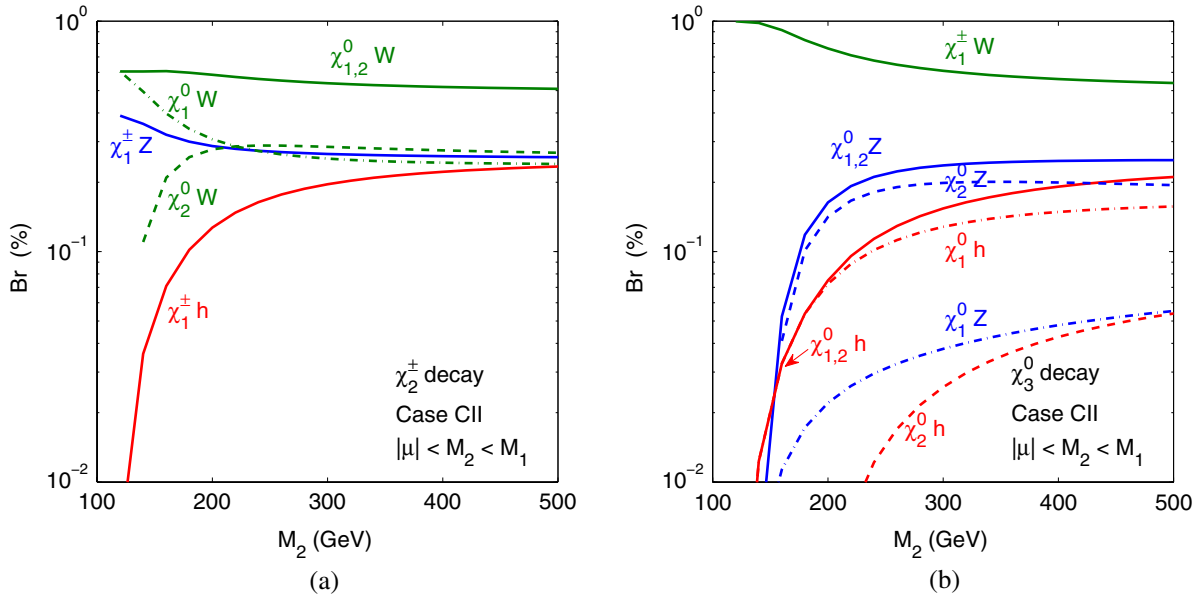


FIG. 8 (color online). Case CII Wino NLSPs and Higgsino LSPs: decay branching fractions of (a)  $\chi_2^\pm$  and (b)  $\chi_3^0$  vs  $M_2$  for  $\mu = 100$  GeV,  $M_1 = 1$  TeV, and  $\tan\beta = 10$ . Note that  $\chi_{1,2}^0$  indicates the sum over the  $\chi_1^0$  and  $\chi_2^0$  channels.

In Figs. 1(c) and 1(d), we present the physical masses of the lower-lying neutralinos and charginos with  $M_2 = 100$  GeV for case BI vs the mass parameters  $M_1$  while fixing  $\mu = 1$  TeV and for case BII vs  $\mu$  while fixing  $M_1 = 1$  TeV. Similar to scenario A, there is almost no mixing in Wino- and Bino-like states for large  $\mu$  as in case AI. The Bino-like  $\chi_2^0$  is NLSP, and the Higgsinos are heavy and decoupled. In case BII, on the

other hand, a large mixing could occur between Wino- and Higgsino-like states when  $\mu$  is relatively small, less than 200 GeV. Above that, the Higgsinos group together as the NLSPs.

Figure 2(c) presents the decay patterns of the NLSP  $\chi_2^0$  in case BI, and their corresponding decay branching fractions are shown in Fig. 5. The leading decay modes are

$$\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp, \chi_1^0 Z, \chi_1^0 h. \quad (11)$$

The partial decay widths for those channels are suppressed by  $\mathcal{O}(m_Z^2/\mu^2)$ , similar to case AI, as the decay occurs via the Bino-/Wino-Higgsino mixing.

The decay branching fractions for  $\chi_2^0$  in case BI are shown in Fig. 5(a) vs  $M_1$  and (b) vs  $\tan\beta$ . Under the limit of  $M_1 - M_2 \gg m_Z$ ,  $|\mu \pm M_{1,2}| \gg m_Z$ , and large  $\tan\beta$ , the partial decay widths to various final states in case BI satisfy the approximate relations

$$\Gamma_{\chi_1^+ W^-} = \Gamma_{\chi_1^- W^+} \approx \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 Z} + \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 h}. \quad (12)$$

For  $\mu = 500$  GeV, the branching fraction of  $\chi_2^0$  is 68%, 27%, and 5% for  $W$ ,  $h$ , and  $Z$  channels, respectively. It is interesting to note that  $\chi_2^0$  is more likely to decay into  $h$  than to  $Z$  for  $\mu > 0$  and more likely to decay to  $Z$  than to  $h$  for  $\mu < 0$  at small  $\tan\beta$ . The effect of the sign of  $\mu$  can be explained using the approximate formula, Eq. (A7) in the Appendix. The decay branching fraction to  $W^\pm$ , on the other hand, depends little on the sign of  $\mu$ .

The decay branching fractions for the NLSPs  $\chi_2^\pm$ ,  $\chi_2^0$ , and  $\chi_3^0$  in case BII are shown in Fig. 6. Given the LSPs are nearly degenerate neutral and charge Winos  $\chi_1^0$ ,  $\chi_1^\pm$ , more decay channels open for the Higgsino NLSPs.

For  $\chi_2^\pm$ , the dominant decay modes are

$$\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^0 W, \chi_1^\pm Z, \chi_1^\pm h. \quad (13)$$

Under the limit of  $|\mu \pm M_2| \gg m_Z$ , the ratios of the partial decay widths are roughly  $\Gamma_{\chi_1^0 W}:\Gamma_{\chi_1^\pm Z}:\Gamma_{\chi_1^\pm h} \approx 1:1:1$ , with small deviation caused by phase space effects. The  $\tan\beta$  dependence is very weak, especially for large  $\mu$ . For  $\mu = 500$  GeV, the branching fractions of  $\chi_2^\pm$  to the  $W$ ,  $Z$ , and  $h$  channels are roughly 35%, 35%, and 30%, respectively.

The decay channels for the second and the third neutralinos<sup>5</sup>  $\chi_{2,3}^0 \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\tilde{H}_d^0 \pm \tilde{H}_u^0)$ , with the  $+$  sign for  $\chi_2^0$  and  $-$  sign for  $\chi_3^0$ , are

$$\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp, \chi_1^0 Z, \chi_1^0 h. \quad (14)$$

Under the limit of  $|\mu \pm M_2| \gg m_Z$ , the following simplified relation holds for the partial decay widths (and decay branching fractions as well) of  $\chi_{2,3}^0$ :

$$\Gamma_{\chi_1^+ W^-} = \Gamma_{\chi_1^- W^+} \approx \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 Z} + \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 h}. \quad (15)$$

For both  $\chi_2^0$  and  $\chi_3^0$ , decay to  $W$  dominates since both  $\chi_1^+ W^-$  and  $\chi_1^- W^+$  contribute.  $\chi_2^0$  is more likely to decay to  $Z$ , while  $\chi_3^0$  is more likely to decay to  $h$  for  $\mu > 0$ .

The  $\tan\beta$  dependence of the branching fractions into  $Z$  and  $h$  channels is similar to that of case BII.  $\text{Br}(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z(h))$  varies between 30%–24% (3%–9%) for  $\tan\beta$  between 3–50 and similarly for  $\chi_3^0$  decay with the

<sup>5</sup>Note that the composition of  $\chi_{2,3}^0$  in case BII is opposite to that of  $\chi_{2,3}^0$  in case AII.

branching fraction for the  $Z$  and  $h$  modes switched.  $\text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp)$ , however, is almost independent of  $\tan\beta$ . For  $\mu = 500$  GeV, the branching fraction of  $\chi_2^0(\chi_3^0)$  is 67% (68%), 26% (8%), and 7% (24%) for  $W$ ,  $Z$ , and  $h$  channels, respectively. In the limit of large  $\tan\beta$  and very heavy Higgsino mass,  $\text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp) \approx 4\text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h) \approx 4\text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z) \approx 68\%$ . Flipping the sign of  $\mu$  has similar effects on the  $\chi_{2,3}^0$  decay branching fractions as in case AII for the  $Z$  and  $h$  modes, while it affects little of the  $W$  mode.

### 3. Scenario C: $|\mu| < M_1, M_2$

This is the situation of the Higgsino LSP [5], with the lightest states  $\chi_{1,2}^0$  and  $\chi_1^\pm$  being Higgsino-like. The two possible mass relations here are

$$\text{Case CI: } M_1 < M_2, \quad \chi_3^0 \text{ Bino-like; } \chi_2^\pm, \chi_4^0 \text{ Wino-like;} \quad (16)$$

$$\text{Case CII: } M_2 < M_1, \quad \chi_2^\pm, \chi_3^0 \text{ Wino-like; } \chi_4^0 \text{ Bino-like.} \quad (17)$$

In Figs. 1(e) and 1(f), we present the physical masses of the lower-lying neutralinos and charginos with  $\mu = 100$  GeV for case CI vs the mass parameters  $M_1$  while fixing  $M_2 = 1$  TeV and for case CII vs  $M_2$  while fixing  $M_1 = 1$  TeV. In both cases, relatively large mixing occurs for smaller values  $M_1 < 200$  GeV in (e) and  $M_2 < 300$  GeV in (f). For larger values, the Higgsinos again group together as the LSPs.

Given the LSPs being the nearly degenerate neutral and charged Higgsinos  $\chi_{1,2}^0, \chi_1^\pm$ , more decay channels open for the Bino-like NLSP. The decay channels for  $\chi_3^0$  in case CI are depicted in Fig. 2(e) as

$$\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp, \chi_1^0 Z, \chi_2^0 Z, \chi_1^0 h, \chi_2^0 h. \quad (18)$$

The decay branching fractions for the NLSP  $\chi_3^0$  are shown in Fig. 7, with the approximate formulas for the partial decay widths to various final states given in Eqs. (A17)–(A19). The following relation between the partial decay widths (and decay branching fractions as well) holds:

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{\chi_1^+ W^-} &= \Gamma_{\chi_1^- W^+} \approx \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 Z} + \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 h} \approx \Gamma_{\chi_2^0 Z} + \Gamma_{\chi_2^0 h} \\ &\approx \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 h} + \Gamma_{\chi_2^0 h} \approx \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 Z} + \Gamma_{\chi_2^0 Z}. \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

Since  $\chi_1^0$  and  $\chi_2^0$  are hard to distinguish experimentally due to their small mass splitting,  $\chi_1^0 h$  and  $\chi_2^0 h$  shall be combined as far as experimental observation goes and similarly for  $\chi_1^0 Z$  and  $\chi_2^0 Z$ . While the decay branching fraction of individual channel  $\chi_1^0 h$ ,  $\chi_2^0 h$ ,  $\chi_1^0 Z$ , and  $\chi_2^0 Z$  varies with  $\tan\beta$ , the sum of branching fractions:  $\text{Br}_{\chi_{1,2}^0 h} = \text{Br}_{\chi_1^0 h} + \text{Br}_{\chi_2^0 h}$ ,  $\text{Br}_{\chi_{1,2}^0 Z}$ , as well as  $\text{Br}_{\chi_1^\pm W^\mp}$ , are almost independent of  $\tan\beta$ , as shown in Fig. 7(b). For  $\mu = 500$  GeV,

the branching fractions of  $\chi_3^0$  are 52%, 26%, and 22% for the  $W$ ,  $Z$ , and  $h$  channels, respectively.

The decay branching fractions for the NLSPs  $\chi_2^\pm$  and  $\chi_3^0$  in case CII are shown in Fig. 8. For  $\chi_2^\pm$ , the dominant decay modes are

$$\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^0 W, \chi_2^0 W, \chi_1^\pm Z, \chi_1^\pm h. \quad (20)$$

Under the limit of  $|M_2 \pm \mu| \gg m_Z$ , the ratios of the partial decay widths are roughly  $\Gamma_{\chi_1^0 W} : \Gamma_{\chi_2^0 W} : \Gamma_{\chi_1^\pm Z} : \Gamma_{\chi_1^\pm h} \approx 1:1:1:1$ . The  $\tan \beta$  dependence is very weak, especially for large  $M_2$ . Because of the near degeneracy of  $\chi_1^0$  and  $\chi_2^0$ ,  $\chi_1^0 W$  and  $\chi_2^0 W$  final states cannot be distinguished experimentally. Combining these two channels, the branching fractions of  $\chi_2^\pm$  to  $W$ ,  $Z$ , and  $h$  channels are roughly 51%, 26%, and 23%, respectively. In the limit of large  $M_2$ , the branching fractions approach the asymptotic limit  $\text{Br}(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_{1,2}^0 W) \approx 2\text{Br}(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm h) \approx 2\text{Br}(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm Z) \approx 50\%$ .

The decay pattern for  $\chi_3^0$  in case CII is very similar to  $\chi_3^0$  decay in case CI:

$$\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp, \chi_1^0 Z, \chi_2^0 Z, \chi_1^0 h, \chi_2^0 h. \quad (21)$$

Under the limit of  $|M_2 \pm \mu| \gg m_Z$ , the partial decay widths to various final states follow similar formulas as Eqs. (A17)–(A19), with the replacement of  $M_1$  by  $M_2$ . Combining  $\chi_1^0$  and  $\chi_2^0$  final states, the branching fraction of the  $Z$  channel is almost the same as the  $h$  channel, which is about half of the branching fraction of the  $W$  final states. For  $\mu = 500$  GeV, the branching fractions of  $\chi_3^0$  are 54%, 24%, and 22% for  $W$ ,  $Z$ , and  $h$  channels, respectively.

### III. ELECTROWEAKINO PRODUCTION AT THE LHC

Without the contributions of production and the cascade decays from the gluinos, squarks, or sleptons and heavy Higgs bosons, the electroweakinos are pair produced by the standard electroweak processes. The leading contributions under our consideration are the DY processes via the  $s$ -channel exchange of  $W/Z/\gamma$ , as shown in Fig. 9,

$$pp \rightarrow \chi_i^\pm \chi_j^0 X, \quad \chi_i^+ \chi_j^- X, \quad \chi_i^0 \chi_j^0 X, \quad (22)$$

where  $i, j = 1 \dots 4$  for neutralinos and  $i, j = 1 \dots 2$  for charginos, and  $X$  generically denotes the hadronic remnants. Dominant processes are typically those that involve

two Wino-like or two Higgsino-like states, since their relevant couplings to  $W$ ,  $Z$ , and  $\gamma$  are unsuppressed. Furthermore, the electroweakino pair production via  $W$  exchange in Fig. 9(a) has the largest cross section due to the large  $SU(2)_L$  coupling. There could also be  $t$ -channel contributions with the exchange of  $u$  and  $d$  squarks. In our current treatment, we will neglect those effects under the assumption of heavy squarks.

The electroweakinos could also be produced via weak VBF [27]:

$$qq' \rightarrow qq' \chi_i^+ \chi_j^0, \quad qq' \chi_i^+ \chi_j^-, \quad qq' \chi_i^0 \chi_j^0. \quad (23)$$

The production rate for this mechanism is typically smaller than that of the DY processes by 1 to 2 orders of magnitude depending on their masses. Thus, these channels do not contribute much to the inclusive signal of our consideration [20]. On the other hand, if a signal is observed via the DY processes, the unique kinematics of the forward-backward jets [35] make the signal quite characteristic to study [27].

We now present the signal production rates via the DY processes as a function of a relevant mass parameter, in all the cases discussed in the last section. We show these in Fig. 10 at the 14 TeV LHC, including the next-to-leading-order (NLO) QCD corrections, which are about a 20%–30% increase to the overall cross sections comparing to the leading-order results [36]. The cross sections at the 8 TeV LHC are about a factor of 2 smaller in the low gaugino mass region  $\sim 200$ – $300$  GeV, while they become smaller by about 1 order of magnitude at a high mass near 1 TeV. For the sake of illustration, we have taken

$$\begin{aligned} \tan \beta = 10, \quad \min(M_1, M_2, |\mu|) = 100 \text{ GeV}, \\ \max(M_1, M_2, |\mu|) = 1000 \text{ GeV}, \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

unless stated otherwise. The results for the leading NLSP pair production channels presented here are rather insensitive to the choice of these values. The numerical results presented below are always for  $\mu > 0$ . Here and henceforth, we adopt the parton distribution functions CTEQ6 [37]. We now present the production cross sections for all the cases and also discuss the leading decays of the electroweakinos to the SM final states.

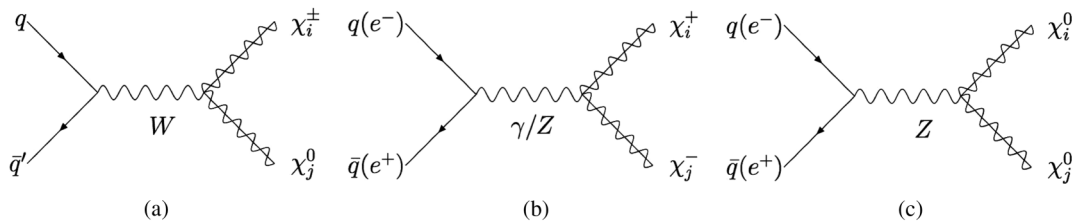


FIG. 9. Feynman diagram for neutralino/chargino pair production.

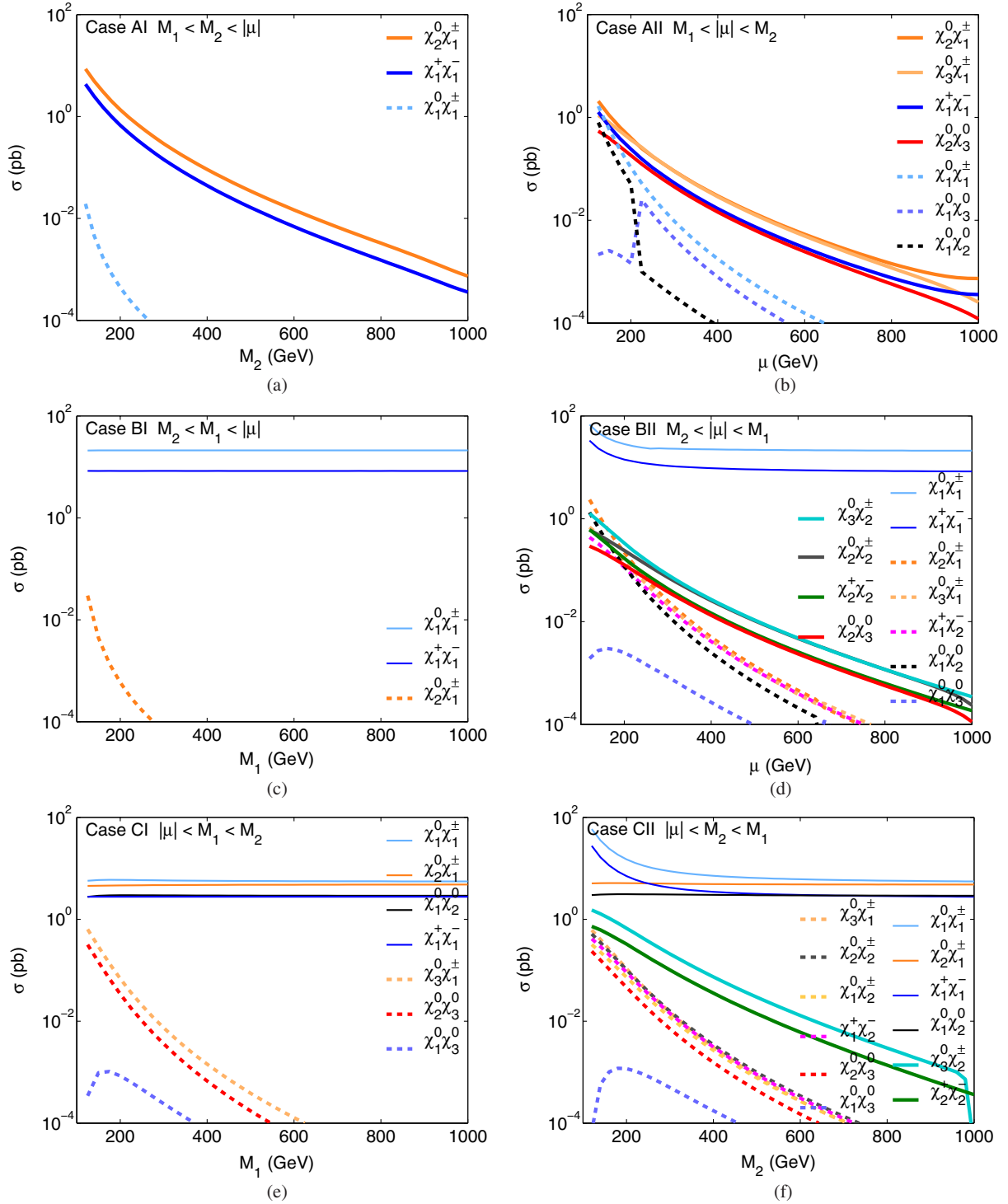


FIG. 10 (color online). Total cross sections for the chargino and neutralino pair production at the NLO in QCD at the 14 TeV LHC for all six cases: (a) case AI: vs  $M_2$  for  $M_1 = 100$  and  $\mu = 1$  TeV, (b) case AII: vs  $\mu$  for  $M_1 = 100$  and  $M_2 = 1$  TeV, (c) case BI: vs  $M_1$  for  $M_2 = 100$  and  $\mu = 1$  TeV, (d) case BII: vs  $\mu$  for  $M_2 = 100$  and  $M_1 = 1$  TeV, (e) case CI: vs  $M_1$  for  $\mu = 100$  and  $M_2 = 1$  TeV, (f) case CII: vs  $M_2$  for  $\mu = 100$  and  $M_1 = 1$  TeV.

### A. Scenario A: $M_1 < M_2, |\mu|$

#### 1. Case AI: $M_1 < M_2 < |\mu|$

This case is characterized by a Bino LSP and three Wino NLSPs. The cross sections at the NLO in QCD for the

14 TeV LHC are shown in Fig. 10(a) vs  $M_2$ . The leading production channels are

$$\text{Case AI: } pp \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm \chi_2^0 X, \quad \chi_1^+ \chi_1^- X. \quad (25)$$

These are the typical cases for Wino-like production, with the unsuppressed  $SU(2)_L$  couplings. The cross section summing over the leading channels is typically at the order of 1 pb for  $M_2$  at about 200 GeV, and it drops to about 1 fb at 1 TeV. The dominant cross sections have very weak dependence on  $M_1$ , only through the state mixing. The next potentially relevant channel,  $\chi_1^\pm \chi_1^0 X$  production, is suppressed by almost 3 orders of magnitude, since it involves a small Bino-Wino mixing in  $\chi_1^0$  or 2 orders of Bino-/Wino-Higgsino mixings. All the other channels, especially those involving a Higgsino, are negligibly small.

## 2. Case AII: $M_1 < |\mu| < M_2$

For case AII with a Bino-like LSP and four Higgsino-like NLSPs, cross sections at the NLO in QCD for the 14 TeV LHC are shown in Fig. 10(b) vs  $\mu$ . The leading channels are more involved, as lower-lying NLSPs are the four Higgsino-like states:  $\chi_1^\pm$ ,  $\chi_2^0$ , and  $\chi_3^0$ . We thus have, in turn

$$\text{Case AII: } pp \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm \chi_2^0 X, \quad \chi_1^\pm \chi_3^0 X, \quad \chi_1^+ \chi_1^- X, \\ \text{and } \chi_2^0 \chi_3^0 X, \quad (26)$$

again with unsuppressed  $SU(2)_L$  couplings. The next group of channels involves in the Bino-like LSP, such as  $\chi_1^0 \chi_1^\pm$ ,  $\chi_1^0 \chi_3^0$ , and  $\chi_1^0 \chi_2^0$ . They fall off faster at higher  $\mu$  due to the  $\mathcal{O}(m_Z/\mu)$  Bino-Higgsino mixing suppression. Contributions from  $\chi_2^0 \chi_2^0 X$  and  $\chi_3^0 \chi_3^0 X$  are small since  $Z\chi_2^0 \chi_2^0$  and  $Z\chi_3^0 \chi_3^0$  coupling vanishes in the pure Higgsino mass eigenstate limit. The total production rates for the Higgsino cross section in case AII are slightly smaller than that in case AI, about 400 fb for  $\mu$  at about 200 GeV, and drop to 1 fb for  $\mu$  around 1 TeV.

## B. Scenario B: $M_2 < M_1, |\mu|$

### 1. Case BI: $M_2 < M_1 < |\mu|$

This case is characterized by three Wino-like LSPs and a Bino-like NLSP. The total cross sections at the NLO in QCD for the 14 TeV LHC are shown in Fig. 10(c) vs  $M_1$ . The leading channels  $\chi_1^\pm \chi_1^0 X$  and  $\chi_1^+ \chi_1^- X$  are the pair production of the LSPs, which is almost unobservable via conventional searches given the small mass splitting of  $m_{\chi_1^\pm} - m_{\chi_1^0}$ . The subdominant channel  $\chi_1^\pm \chi_2^0 X$  is suppressed by either the small Bino-Wino mixing or two powers of Bino-/Wino-Higgsino mixing. The cross section is only about 4 fb for  $M_1$  around 150 GeV and quickly drops down to 0.1 fb for  $M_1 \sim 250$  GeV. The search for the nearly degenerate Wino-like LSPs in case BI at the LHC could be very challenging [27,38], and we will not discuss it in this work. Instead, we will comment on its straightforward observability at the ILC.

### 2. Case BII: $M_2 < |\mu| < M_1$

For case BII with three Wino LSPs and four Higgsino NLSPs, total cross sections at the NLO in QCD for the 14 TeV LHC are shown in Fig. 10(d) vs  $\mu$ . Similar to case BI, the top two production channels  $\chi_1^\pm \chi_1^0 X$  and  $\chi_1^+ \chi_1^- X$  are those of the LSPs, therefore essentially unobservable at hadron colliders. The next set of production channels is similar to those of case AII for Higgsino pair production as NLSPs,

$$\text{Case BII: } pp \rightarrow \chi_2^\pm \chi_2^0 X, \quad \chi_2^\pm \chi_3^0 X, \quad \chi_2^+ \chi_2^- X, \\ \text{and } \chi_2^0 \chi_3^0 X, \quad (27)$$

with unsuppressed  $SU(2)_L$  couplings. Contributions from  $\chi_1^0 \chi_2^\pm X$ ,  $\chi_1^\pm \chi_2^0 X$ ,  $\chi_1^0 \chi_2^0 X$ , and  $\chi_1^\pm \chi_2^\mp X$  are only comparable for  $\mu \lesssim 200$  GeV and become small due to the suppressed  $\mathcal{O}(m_Z/\mu)$  Higgsino components in  $\chi_1^{0,\pm}$  for  $\mu \gtrsim 200$ –300 GeV.

## C. Scenario C: $\mu < M_1, M_2$

### 1. Case CI: $|\mu| < M_1 < M_2$

This is a case with four Higgsino-like LSPs and a Bino-like NLSP. The total cross sections at the NLO in QCD for the 14 TeV LHC are shown in Fig. 10(e) vs  $M_1$ . The leading channels  $\chi_1^\pm \chi_{1,2}^0 X$ ,  $\chi_1^+ \chi_1^- X$ , and  $\chi_1^0 \chi_2^0 X$  are those of pair production of the nearly degenerate Higgsino LSPs, which are hard to observe at hadron colliders as in case BI previously discussed. The subdominant channels of Higgsino-Bino pair production  $\chi_1^\pm \chi_3^0 X$ ,  $\chi_{1,2}^0 \chi_3^0 X$  are suppressed by the small Bino-Higgsino mixing  $\mathcal{O}(m_Z/M_1)$ . The suppression factor is milder than that of case BI. The cross section is about 300 fb for  $M_1$  around 150 GeV and quickly drops down to 0.1 fb for  $M_1 \sim 600$  GeV. Similar to case BI as discussed above, the search for the nearly degenerate Higgsino-like LSPs at the LHC could be very challenging [27,39], and we will not discuss it in this work. We will again comment on its straightforward observability at the ILC.

### 2. Case CII: $|\mu| < M_2 < M_1$

For the four Higgsino LSPs and three Wino NLSPs, total cross sections at the NLO in QCD for the 14 TeV LHC are shown in Fig. 10(f) vs  $M_2$ . Similar to case CI, the leading channels of pair production of nearly degenerate Higgsino LSPs are hard to observe at the LHC. The next set of processes is similar to that of case AI for Wino pair production,

$$\text{Case CII: } pp \rightarrow \chi_2^\pm \chi_3^0 X, \quad \chi_2^+ \chi_2^- X, \quad (28)$$

with unsuppressed  $SU(2)_L$  couplings. Note that for small  $M_2$  the cross sections for the those subprocesses are smaller than Wino pair productions in the Bino-like LSP and Wino-like NLSPs case AI. This is because, at low  $M_2$ , relatively large Wino-Higgsino mixing pushes up the mass

spectrum of the Winos  $\chi_2^\pm$  and  $\chi_3^0$  much more than the small Bino-Wino mixing does in case AI, as shown in the mass spectrum Fig. 1. Contributions from subleading processes  $\chi_{1,2}^0\chi_2^\pm X$ ,  $\chi_1^\pm\chi_3^0 X$ ,  $\chi_{1,2}^0\chi_3^0 X$ , and  $\chi_1^\pm\chi_2^\mp X$  are typically small due to the  $\mathcal{O}(m_Z/M_2)$  suppression of Wino-Higgsino mixing except for small  $M_2$ . The total cross section is about 700 fb for  $M_2$  around 200 GeV, and it drops to about 1 fb for  $M_2$  around 1 TeV.

#### D. Summary for the signals at the LHC

We have laid out the most general electroweakino scenarios based on the relations among the gaugino soft mass parameters  $M_1$ ,  $M_2$  and the Higgsino mass parameter  $\mu$ . In the absence of substantial mixing when all the mass parameters are of the similar size, the three sets of multiplets (namely, a Bino, three Winos, and four Higgsinos) are each nearly degenerate in mass, respectively.

The three scenarios with six distinctive cases are summarized in Table I. For each case, we show the dominant pair production channels for the NLSP electroweakinos and their decay modes with branching fractions, which

are given for the parameters of benchmark values as in Eq. (24), and the mass parameter corresponding to the NLSP mass taken to be 500 GeV. For the decay branching fractions, most of them are insensitive to the particular value of  $\tan\beta$ . For those that do have  $\tan\beta$  dependence, we show the variation in the parenthesis with  $\tan\beta$  in the range of 3–50.

Generally speaking, the Wino-like electroweakinos are of the highest values of the production cross section. The next are the Higgsino-like ones. The Bino-like states are of the smallest production rate. Thus, case A presents the idealistic cases with leading production of Wino-like NLSPs (case AI) and Higgsino-like NLSPs (case AII), and both dominantly decay via the Bino-like LSP. For the rest of cases, they all naturally result in a compressed spectrum of nearly degenerate LSPs. The leading production channels are the Wino-like LSPs in case B and the Higgsino-like LSPs in case C. As discussed earlier, the LSP multiplet production will be difficult to observe at hadron colliders because of the mass degeneracy and the soft decay products [38,39]. This possesses significant

TABLE I. Dominant production and decay channels for the NLSPs. The mass parameter for NLSPs is taken to be 500 GeV, and  $\tan\beta = 10$ ,  $\mu > 0$  is used a benchmark point. Numbers in parentheses show the variation of the decay branching fractions for  $\tan\beta$  varying between 3 to 50. For signals listed in the last seven columns, there are always missing  $E_T$  (MET) + possible soft jets/leptons.

	NLSP decay branching fractions	Production	Total branching fractions (%)							
			$W^+W^-$	$W^\pm W^\pm$	$WZ$	$Wh$	$Zh$	$ZZ$	$hh$	
Case AI $M_1 < M_2 < \mu$	$\chi_1^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^0 W^\pm$ $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$	100% 82%(96–70%)	$\chi_1^\pm \chi_2^0$ $\chi_1^\pm \chi_1^\mp$	100		18	82			
Case AII $M_1 < \mu < M_2$	$\chi_1^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^0 W^\pm$ $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$ $\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z$	100% 74%(90–70%) 78%(90–70%)	$\chi_1^\pm \chi_2^0$ $\chi_1^\pm \chi_3^0$ $\chi_1^\pm \chi_1^\mp$ $\chi_2^0 \chi_3^0$	100		26 78	74 23		63	20 17
Case BI $M_2 < M_1 < \mu$	$\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp, \chi_1^0 h, \chi_1^0 Z$	68%, 27%(31–24%), 5%(1–9%), production suppressed								
Case BII $M_2 < \mu < M_1$	$\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^0 W^\pm$ $\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm Z$ $\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm h$ $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp$ $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z$ $\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp$ $\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$	35% 35% 30% 67% 26%(30–24%) 68% 24%(30–23%)	$\chi_2^\pm \chi_2^0$ $\chi_2^\pm \chi_3^0$ $\chi_2^\pm \chi_2^\mp$ $\chi_2^0 \chi_3^0$	12 12 12 23	12 12 23	32 26 25 23	23 29 21 21	10 11 21 7	9 3 12 2	2 7 9 2
Case CI $\mu < M_1 < M_2$	$\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp, \chi_{1,2}^0 Z, \chi_{1,2}^0 h$	52%, 26%, 22%, production suppressed								
Case CII $\mu < M_2 < M_1$	$\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_{1,2}^0 W^\pm$ $\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm Z$ $\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm h$ $\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp$ $\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_{1,2}^0 Z$ $\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_{1,2}^0 h$	51% 26% 23% 54% 24% 22%	$\chi_2^\pm \chi_3^0$ $\chi_2^\pm \chi_2^\mp$	14 26	14	27 26	23 24	11 12	6 7	5 5

difficulty for their searches at the LHC, and we will thus leave cases BI and CI for future exploration. Instead, we will comment on them for the ILC studies in a later section. On the other hand, the situation of the observability may be improved if the subleading production cross sections via the NLSPs are not small. These are indeed what happens as in case BII for Higgsino-like NLSPs production and in case CII for Wino-like NLSPs production.

To guide the searches at the LHC, we combine with the decay branching fractions of the corresponding NLSPs for each production mode and show the total branching fraction into each particular final state,

$$XY = W^+W^-, W^\pm W^\pm, WZ, Wh, Zh, ZZ, \text{ and } hh, \quad (29)$$

as in Table I. Note that all of the final states in addition include missing transverse energy introduced by the  $\chi_1^0$  LSP as well as soft jets and leptons that might appear from

decays between nearly degenerate particles in LSP multiplet. Since the same final states might come from different production processes, the total cross section of a particular final state is given by

$$\sigma_{XY}^{\text{tot}} = \sum_{i,j} \sigma(\chi_i\chi_j) \times \text{Br}(\chi_i\chi_j \rightarrow XY), \quad (30)$$

where the sum is over the dominant production modes listed in the table.

Extending the above discussions, we present the total cross sections for the electroweakino pair production subsequently decaying to specific final states of the electroweak bosons  $XY$  of Eq. (29) in Fig. 11. Here, we only show the four observationally relevant model cases to the LHC searches as laid out in Table I. Again, the leading signal rates can reach a few hundreds to a few tenths of fb with the mass parameters from 200 GeV to 1 TeV. It is important to note that one of the leading channels is  $Wh$ , typically larger than the observationally clean channel  $W^+W^-$  and

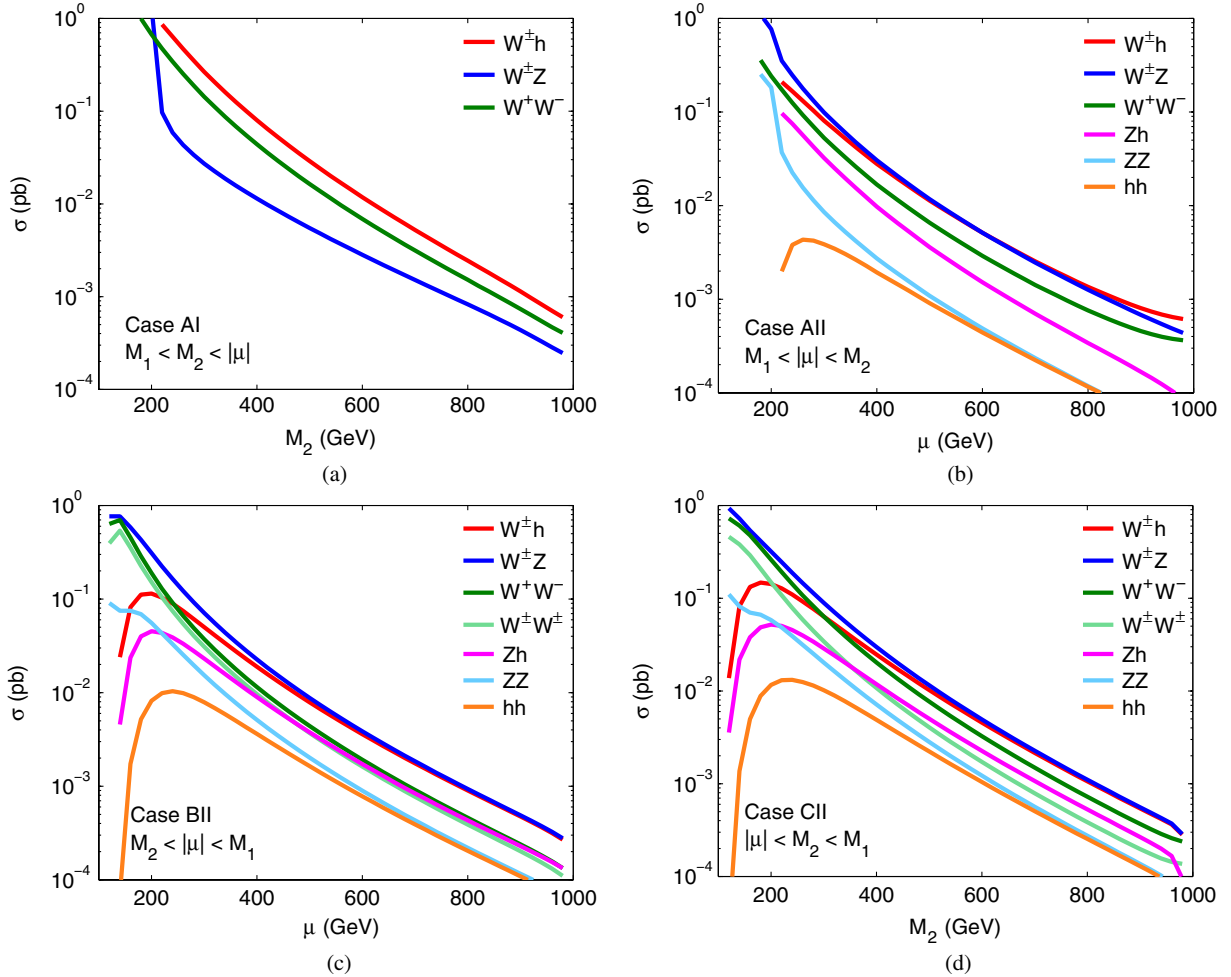


FIG. 11 (color online). Total cross sections for the chargino and neutralino pair production to specific final states at the 14 TeV LHC for the four cases relevant to direct searches with the NLPS production: (a) Case AI: versus  $M_2$  for  $M_1 = 100$  and  $\mu = 1$  TeV, (b) Case AII: versus  $\mu$  for  $M_1 = 100$  and  $M_2 = 1$  TeV, (c) Case BII: versus  $\mu$  for  $M_2 = 100$  and  $M_1 = 1$  TeV, (d) Case CII: versus  $M_2$  for  $\mu = 100$  and  $M_1 = 1$  TeV.

comparable to (in case AI, larger than) the conventionally considered leading channel  $WZ$ , except near the kinematical threshold at low  $\mu$  or low  $M_2$ . We thus emphasize that with unique decay  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  and the reconstructable Higgs mass variable, this channel should serve as a “standard candle” for the signal of the electroweakino pair production, to be discussed in a later section.

#### IV. CURRENT BOUNDS, THE HIGGS BOSON CHANNEL, AND FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

##### A. Bounds from LEP2 experiments

With the same mechanism as discussed in the last session, charginos  $\chi_1^\pm$  could be pair produced at the LEP via  $s$ -channel exchange of  $Z/\gamma^*$ , as well as the  $t$ -channel exchange of  $\tilde{\nu}_e$ , with destructive interference. It decays to  $f\bar{f}'\chi_1^0$  via a real or virtual  $W$  or a sfermion. Results for the chargino mass lower bounds from standard searches at the LEP2 experiments are briefly summarized in Table II.

For a lower sfermion mass, the bound is weaker due to the reduced pair production cross section as well as the reduction of selection efficiency due to the opening up of the two-body decay. In particular, there is a so called “corridor” region in which  $m_{\chi_1^\pm} - m_{\tilde{\nu}}$  is small and the lepton from  $\chi_1^\pm \rightarrow \ell\tilde{\nu}$  is so soft that it escapes detection. Associated production of  $\chi_1^0\chi_2^0$  can be adopted to improve the search in such a case in which the chargino search becomes ineffective. Limits on chargino and neutralino masses for the light sfermion case therefore depend on the sfermion spectrum.

As for the mass of the lightest neutralino LSP, there is no general bound from the LEP if the gaugino mass unification relation is relaxed. Production via  $s$ -channel exchange of  $Z/\gamma^*$  could be absent for a Bino-like neutralino, and

$t$ -channel production could be negligible for heavy selectrons. The indirect mass limit on the neutralino LSP can be derived from chargino, slepton, and Higgs boson searches when gaugino mass and sfermion mass unification relations are assumed. A lower mass limit of 47 GeV can be obtained at large  $\tan\beta$  [40], while a tighter limit of 50 GeV can be derived in the mSUGRA scenario [41].

##### B. Current bounds from the LHC experiments

The search for charginos and neutralinos are being actively pursued by the LHC experiments. The hadronic decay of  $\chi_1^\pm$  and  $\chi_2^0$  will give the fully hadronic mode under the usual assumption of Bino-like LSP and Wino-like NLSPs. The leptonic decay of  $\chi_1^\pm$  will lead to an isolated lepton, while the  $\chi_2^0$  leptonic decay typically leads to the opposite-sign dilepton final state as well. The  $\chi_1^+\chi_1^-$  production gives opposite-sign dileptons in their leptonic decay. The  $\chi_1^\pm\chi_2^0$  production with decays via  $W^{(*)}$  and  $Z^{(*)}$  gives the clean signal of  $3\ell + \cancel{E}_T$  (here and henceforth,  $\ell = e, \mu$ , and  $\cancel{E}_T$  is the missing transverse energy), which has been the dominant search channel for neutralinos and charginos.

The ATLAS and CMS collaborations recently performed searches for pair production of the electroweakinos through the conventional channels of multilepton plus  $\cancel{E}_T$  [9–12,14]. The absence of signal put some bounds on the mass parameters under certain assumptions as collected in Table III. Note, however, that the decays included in their analyses via sleptons are only applicable for the slepton mass lighter than  $\chi_2^0, \chi_1^\pm$ . Limits from  $W, Z$  channels assume a 100% branching fraction to the gauge bosons, which is usually not realized in a realistic model. Also shown in the last row are the latest results from the  $Wh + \cancel{E}_T$  channel [13,15].

TABLE II. Chargino mass lower bounds at 95% C.L. from the LEP2 experiments.

Lower limit on the chargino mass	Conditions
$m_{\chi_1^\pm} > 103.5$ GeV	Heavy $\tilde{\nu}$ , large $m_{\chi_1^\pm} - m_{\chi_1^0}$ [30]
$m_{\chi_1^\pm} > 92.4$ GeV	“Deep Higgsino” region $ \mu  \ll M_{1,2}$ [31]
$m_{\chi_1^\pm} > 91.9$ GeV	Degenerate gaugino region [31]

TABLE III. Electroweakino mass lower bounds at 95% C.L. from the LHC experiments at 8 TeV with  $21 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ , with the assumption of  $m_{\chi_1^\pm} \approx m_{\chi_2^0}$ .

Lower limit on the electroweakino mass	Conditions
$m_{\chi_1^\pm, \chi_2^0} > 350\text{--}740$ GeV	$2\ell + \cancel{E}_T, 3\ell + \cancel{E}_T, 4\ell + \cancel{E}_T$ [9–12,14] $m_{\tilde{\ell}} = (m_{\chi_1^\pm} + m_{\chi_1^0})/2, m_{\chi_1^\pm} - m_{\chi_1^0} > 100$ GeV
$m_{\chi_1^\pm, \chi_2^0} > 300$ GeV	$2\ell + \text{jets} + \cancel{E}_T, 3\ell + \cancel{E}_T$ [10,14] $m_{\chi_1^0} = 0, \text{BR}(\chi_1^\pm \rightarrow W^\pm \chi_1^0) = \text{BR}(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow Z\chi_1^0) = 100\%$
$m_{\chi_1^\pm, \chi_2^0} > 204\text{--}287$ GeV	$\ell b\bar{b} + \cancel{E}_T, 2\ell + \text{jets} + \cancel{E}_T, \geq 3\ell + \cancel{E}_T$ [13,15] $m_{\chi_1^0} = 0, \text{BR}(\chi_1^\pm \rightarrow W^\pm \chi_1^0) = \text{BR}(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow h\chi_1^0) = 100\%$



### C. Search for electroweakinos in the light of the Higgs boson

This section contains our key results. What we would like to emphasize here is the unique new signature due to  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ . As discussed in the previous section, this channel is one of the leading channels. According to the production summary in Table I, there are significant fractions of the gaugino pair signal decaying to  $Wh$  and  $Zh$ , leading to charged leptons plus  $b\bar{b}$ . Not only would this signal have the invariant mass peak  $m_{bb} = m_h$  as a standard candle to discriminate against backgrounds, but it also reassures the clear non-SM origin of the Higgs boson from a SUSY parent. There is also the Higgs pair from the decay, but this mode will be rather challenging due to the large background to the leading signal channel  $b\bar{b} + b\bar{b} + \cancel{E}_T$ .

There exist some related studies on the electroweakino production with  $\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$  [26]. Our current work makes the most complete compilation for the channels in the MSSM and the comprehensive study for the Higgs boson in the decays, which is then combined with all the other channels to reach the final estimate for the LHC sensitivity.

Monte Carlo simulations are used to estimate the SM backgrounds as well as to calculate the efficiency for various electroweakino productions. In this study, events are generated using the MADGRAPH event generator [42] and PYTHIA [43] for parton shower and hadronization. NLO cross sections are used for background and signal normalization, calculated using MCFM [44] and PROSPINO [45], respectively. For both background and signal samples [46], the events are processed through the Snowmass detector [47] using Delphes [48] parametrized simulation and object reconstruction. Large statistics of background samples are generated using the Open Science Grid infrastructure [49]. Effects due to additional interactions (pileups) are studied, and they are found to be small for the  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  luminosity scenario [47]. Jets are reconstructed using the anti- $k_T$  clustering algorithm [50] with a distance parameter of 0.5, as implemented in the FASTJET package [51]. To be as realistic as possible in our simulation, we have also assumed a systematic uncertainty of 20% in this study.

#### 1. $Wh$ channel: single lepton plus $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ analysis

This study focuses on production modes such as  $\chi_1^\pm \chi_2^0$  and  $\chi_1^\pm \chi_3^0$  in the Bino-like LSP case, where  $\chi_1^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^0 W^\pm$ ,  $\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$ , with  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  in the final state, as listed in Table I and Fig. 11. The  $Wh$  mode may take place in all of the three cases of A, B, and C as a leading production channel, although the LSPs may have rather different properties. Observationally, this is similar to the event topology of single lepton channel,  $\ell^\pm + \text{jets} + \cancel{E}_T$ , in which there is a resonant production of  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ . We consider the following event selection for this study:

- (1) Require exactly one lepton with  $p_T^\ell > 25 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $|\eta^\ell| < 2.5$  and veto any isolated track with  $p_T > 10 \text{ GeV}$  within the tracker acceptance of  $|\eta| < 2.5$

as well as hadronic  $\tau$ 's with  $p_T > 20 \text{ GeV}$  and  $|\eta| < 2.5$ .

- (2) Require exactly two  $b$ -tag jets with  $p_T^{b_1, b_2} > 50, 30 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $|\eta^b| < 2.5$ , which are expected to be in one hemisphere of the transverse plane. A  $b$ -tag efficiency of 65% is used in the simulation. More details on flavor tagging can be found in Ref. [47].
- (3) Invariant mass of the  $b$ -jets must be within  $100 \text{ GeV} < m_{bb} < 150 \text{ GeV}$ .
- (4) Require the transverse mass ( $M_T^{\cancel{E}_T, h}$ ) between  $\cancel{E}_T$  and the Higgs  $> 200 \text{ GeV}$  and  $\cancel{E}_T > 100 \text{ GeV}$ .
- (5) Require the difference in azimuthal angle  $\Delta\phi^{\cancel{E}_T, h} > 2.4$  between  $\cancel{E}_T$  and the Higgs boson.

Several signal regions are defined using a combination of variables, including  $\cancel{E}_T$ ,  $p_T^{\text{axis}}$  of a hemisphere containing a  $b\bar{b}$  pair, where the axis in an event is defined based on the vector sum of all the momenta of particles in that hemisphere;  $m_{\text{eff}}$  is the scalar sum of  $p_T^\ell$ ,  $p_T^b$  and  $\cancel{E}_T$ ; and  $M_{T2}^{b\ell}$  is variable [52]. We use the best signal significance from all of the signal regions to determine the sensitivity. The dominant SM backgrounds for this signal come from  $t\bar{t}$ , single tops,  $Wb\bar{b}$ , and dibosons productions. Although various signal regions are defined based on parameters in the gaugino mass plane, a combination of  $M_T^{\cancel{E}_T, h}$ ,  $p_T^{\text{axis}}$ , and  $M_{T2}^{b\ell}$  gives the largest sensitivity and thus the signal significance.

The sensitivity reach for  $Wh \rightarrow \ell b\bar{b} + \cancel{E}_T$  is shown in Fig. 12(a) for case A Bino-like LSP at the 14 TeV LHC with  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . We take  $M_1 = 0$ ,  $\mu > 0$ ,  $\tan\beta = 10$ , but with arbitrary mixing in the  $\mu - M_2$  plane. We see that the 95% C.L. ( $5\sigma$ ) reach for  $M_2$  is about 400 GeV (250 GeV). The asymptotic reach in  $\mu$  is slightly less compared to that of  $M_2$ , giving about 250 GeV (200 GeV) for 95% C.L. ( $5\sigma$ ). This is due to the fact that  $\chi_{2,3}^0$  decays to  $\chi_1^0 h$  only half of the time in case AII, while  $\chi_2^0$  dominantly decays via the  $h$ -channel in case AI.

#### 2. $Zh$ channel: dilepton plus $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ analysis

This study focuses on production modes such as  $\chi_2^0 \chi_3^0$  in the Bino-like LSP and Higgsino-like NLSPs case, in which  $\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$ ,  $\chi_1^0 Z$  as listed in Table I and Fig. 11. The  $Zh$  mode may also take place in cases BII and CII. This channel is similar to the event topology of the opposite-sign dilepton channel,  $\ell^+ \ell^- + \text{jets} + \cancel{E}_T$ , again with the dijet as  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$ . We consider the following event selection for this study:

- (1) Require exactly two opposite-sign same-flavor (OSSF) leptons with  $p_T^{\ell_1, \ell_2} > 50, 20 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $|\eta^\ell| < 2.5$  and veto any isolated track with  $p_T > 10 \text{ GeV}$  within the tracker acceptance of  $|\eta| < 2.5$  as well as hadronic  $\tau$ 's with  $p_T > 20 \text{ GeV}$  and  $|\eta| < 2.5$ .
- (2) Require exactly two  $b$ -tag jets with  $p_T^{b_1, b_2} > 50, 30 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $|\eta^b| < 2.5$ , which are expected to be in one hemisphere of the transverse plane. A  $b$ -tag efficiency of 65% is used in the simulation.

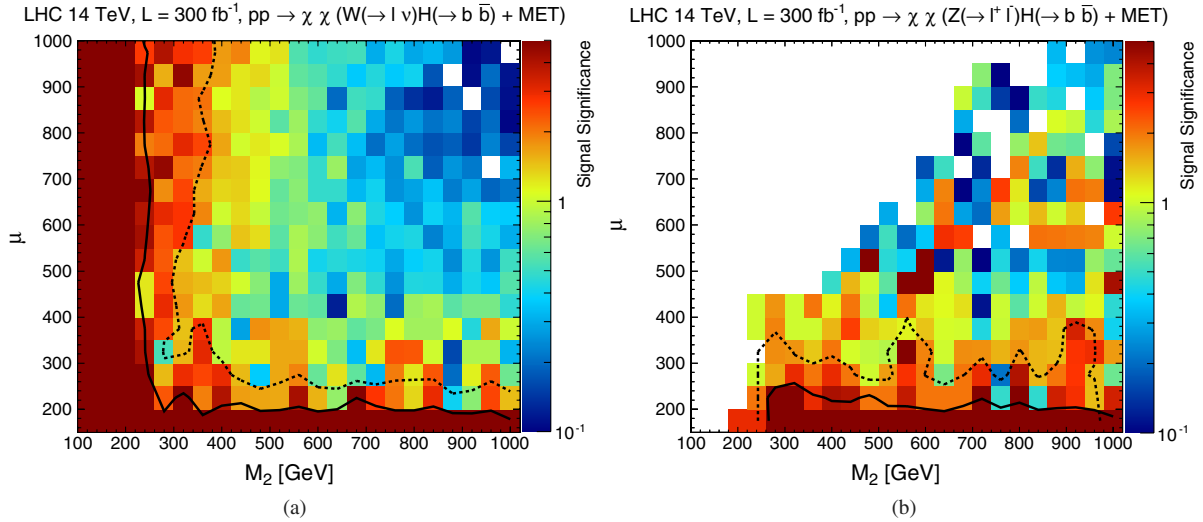


FIG. 12 (color online). Sensitivity reach at the 14 TeV LHC with  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  for the case A Bino-like LSP in  $\mu - M_2$  plane, (a) for  $Wh(\ell bb + \cancel{E}_T)$  and (b) for  $Zh(\ell\ell bb + \cancel{E}_T)$  channels. The statistical significance is labeled by the color code on the right-hand side. The solid and dashed curves indicate the  $5\sigma$  discovery and 95% C.L. exclusion reach. The other MSSM parameters are set to be  $M_1 = 0 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $\tan\beta = 10$ , and  $\mu > 0$ .

- (3) The invariant mass of the  $b$ -jets must be within  $100 \text{ GeV} < m_{bb} < 150 \text{ GeV}$ .
- (4) The invariant mass of OSSF dileptons must be within  $76 \text{ GeV} < m_{\ell^+\ell^-} < 106 \text{ GeV}$ .
- (5)  $\cancel{E}_T > 50 \text{ GeV}$ .
- (6) Require the difference in azimuthal angle  $\Delta\phi^{\cancel{E}_T, h} > 1.0$  between  $\cancel{E}_T$  and the Higgs boson.

Several signal regions are defined using a combination of variables, including  $\cancel{E}_T$ ,  $p_T^{\text{axis}}$  of the hemisphere, where the axis in an event is defined based on the vector sum of all the momenta of particles in that hemisphere,  $m_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $M_T^{\cancel{E}_T, h}$ , and  $M_{T2}^{Zh}$ . The dominant SM backgrounds for this signal are from  $t\bar{t}$ , a single top associated with a boson,  $Zb\bar{b}$ , and dibosons. A combination of  $M_T^{\cancel{E}_T, h}$ ,  $p_T^{\text{axis}}$ ,  $M_{T2}^{Zh}$ , and  $p_T^{\cancel{E}_T}$  provides the largest sensitivity in the gaugino mass plane.

The  $Zh \rightarrow \ell\ell bb + \cancel{E}_T$  channel has less SM background than the  $Wh$  mode and is promising in the region of  $|\mu| < M_2$ . The sensitivity reach is shown in Fig. 12(b). The 95% C.L. ( $5\sigma$ ) reach is about  $\mu \sim 300 \text{ GeV}$  (200 GeV). In Fig. 12, the white spots indicate the region in which the

sensitivity is weaker than approximately 0.1 as we plotted. Note that no sensitivity in the  $Zh$  channel is obtained for  $M_2 < \mu$  (case AI) since such final states do not appear, as shown in Table I. We combine the Higgs boson channels  $Wh$  and  $Zh$  together and present the sensitivity reach in Fig. 14(a). The summary results for their mass reach are shown in the first column in Table IV.

#### D. Combined results for all channels

For completeness, we combine the Higgs channels studied above with the other conventional electroweakino search channels, in which we have also included the contributions from  $h \rightarrow WW^*$ ,  $ZZ^*$  in the due course. It would be informative to first compare the signal significance involving  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  with the other channels. We show this in Fig. 13 again for the case A Bino-like LSP with  $M_1 = 0$ ,  $\mu > 0$ ,  $\tan\beta = 10$ , but with arbitrary mixing in the  $\mu - M_2$  plane:

- (i) Opposite sign  $WW$  (OSWW):  $\ell^+\ell^- + \cancel{E}_T$  with jet veto and  $Z$  veto. While the signal dominantly comes from  $W^+W^-$  final states,  $Wh(\rightarrow WW^*)$  with one

TABLE IV. NLSP electroweakino mass lower bounds at 95% C.L. ( $5\sigma$ ) from the LHC experiments at 14 TeV and  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . The results of sensitivity in the first column are from the Higgs final states  $Wh + Zh$  with  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  as in Fig. 14(a), and those in the second column are from all six channel combinations as in Fig. 14(b). Case A with a light Bino-like LSP is assumed.

Mass parameters	95% C.L. ( $5\sigma$ ) reach $2b$ tag from $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$	95% C.L. ( $5\sigma$ ) reach combined
Case AI: $\mu \gg M_2 \sim m_{\chi_1^\pm, \chi_2^0}$	380 GeV (250 GeV)	500 GeV (350 GeV)
Case AII: $M_2 \gg \mu \sim m_{\chi_1^\pm, \chi_{2,3}^0}$	350 GeV (220 GeV)	480 GeV (320 GeV)
Case A: $M_2 \approx \mu \sim m_{\chi_1^\pm, \chi_{2,3}^0}$	400 GeV (270 GeV)	700 GeV (500 GeV)

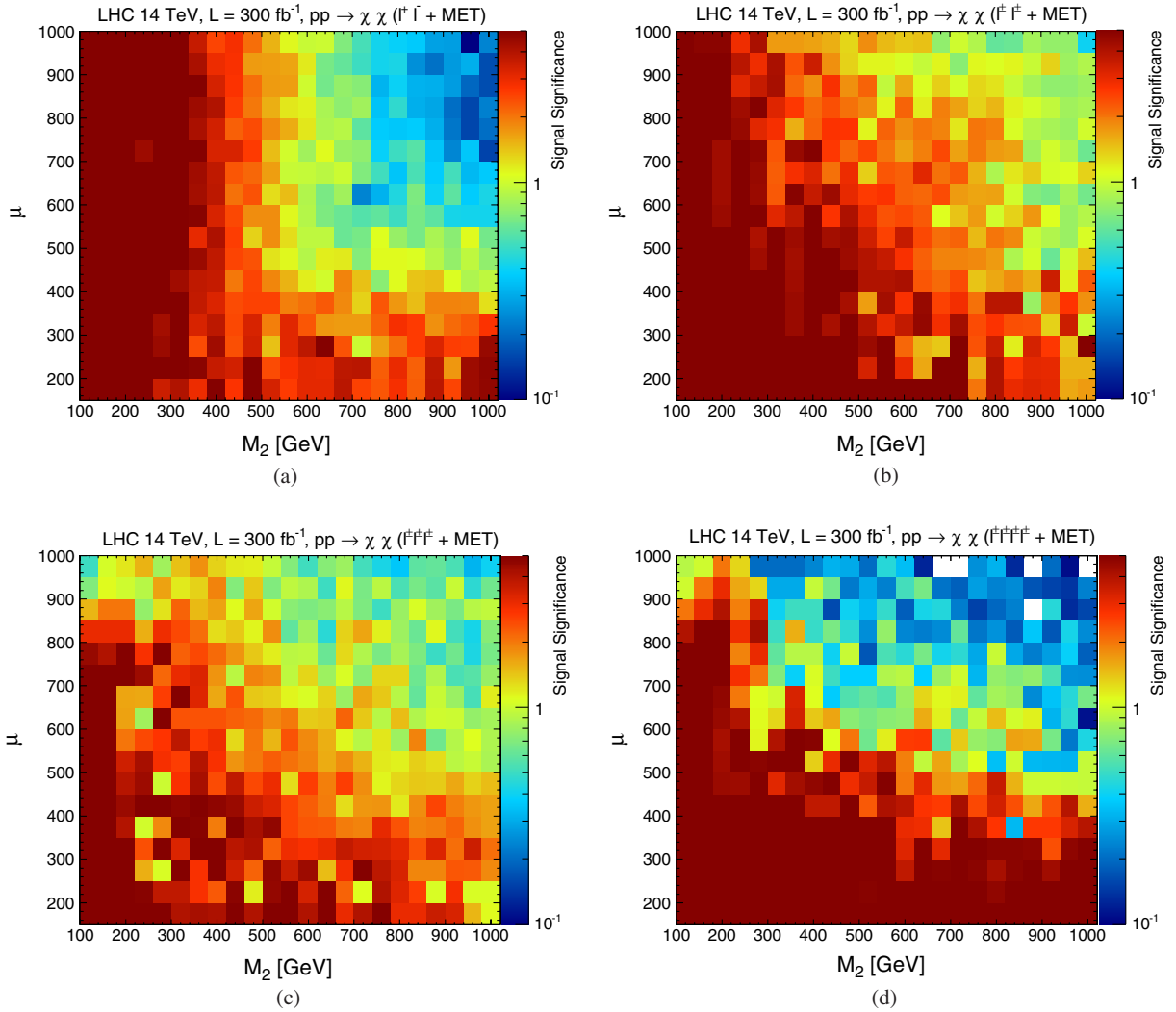


FIG. 13 (color online). Sensitivity reach at the 14 TeV LHC with  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  for the case A Bino-like LSP in the  $\mu - M_2$  plane, for (a) OSWW, (b) SSWW, (c) 3L, and (d) 4L channels. The statistical significance is labeled by the color code on the right-hand side. The other MSSM parameters are set to be  $M_1 = 0 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $\tan \beta = 10$ , and  $\mu > 0$ .

missing lepton could also contribute as well. We use the same event selection as in CMS  $h \rightarrow W^+ W^-$  study [53] with the jet veto. Signal regions are defined using  $\cancel{E}_T$ ,  $m_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $M_{T2}^W$ , and  $M_T^{\cancel{E}_T, \ell}$ .

- (ii) Same sign  $WW$  (SSWW):  $\ell^\pm \ell^\pm + \text{jets} + \cancel{E}_T$  with signal dominantly from  $W^\pm W^\pm$  final states, or  $Wh \rightarrow WWW$  with two  $W$  decaying leptonically and one  $W$  decaying hadronically. We select same-sign dileptons with veto on  $b$ -tagged jets as well as any additional lepton. Signal regions are based on  $\cancel{E}_T$ ,  $p_T^{\ell_1}$ ,  $m_{\text{eff}}$ , and  $M_{T2}^W$ .
- (iii) Three leptons (3L):  $\ell \ell \ell + \text{jets} + \cancel{E}_T$ , with signals dominantly from  $WZ$  final states, or  $Wh$ ,  $Zh$  with  $h \rightarrow WW^*$ ,  $ZZ^*$ . We select trileptons with  $p_T^{\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3} > 20, 20, 7(5) \text{ GeV}$  using electrons (muons) with a veto on  $b$ -tagged jets. Signal regions are based on  $\cancel{E}_T$ ,  $m_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $M_{T2}^W$ , and on-shell  $Z$  in

case of opposite-sign same-flavor leptons with invariant mass within  $60 < m_{\ell^+ \ell^-} < 120 \text{ GeV}$ . If an on-shell  $Z$  boson is found, asymmetric  $M_{T2}$  is computed using  $Z$ ,  $\cancel{E}_T$ , and the third lepton.

- (iv) Four leptons (4L):  $\ell \ell \ell \ell + \text{jets} + \cancel{E}_T$ , with signals dominantly from  $ZZ$  final states, or  $Wh$ ,  $Zh$  with  $h \rightarrow WW^*$ ,  $ZZ^*$ .

As expected, we see that the OSWW mode is more sensitive to case AI with  $M_2 < \mu$  reaching  $M_2 \sim 500 \text{ GeV}$  (400 GeV) for 95% C.L. ( $5\sigma$ ) for any value of  $\mu$ . A similar feature appears for the SSWW channel sensitive to the small  $M_2$  region, with the dominant contributing channel from  $Wh$  with  $h \rightarrow WW$ ,  $ZZ$  and  $\tau\tau$ . The more interesting probe from this channel occurs when  $M_2 \approx \mu$ , where a  $5\sigma$  sensitivity for a 500 GeV mass scale can be achieved. The 3L and 4L modes, on the other hand, are more sensitive to case AII with  $\mu < M_2$ . The 3L mode can reach  $\mu \sim 350 \text{ GeV}$  at

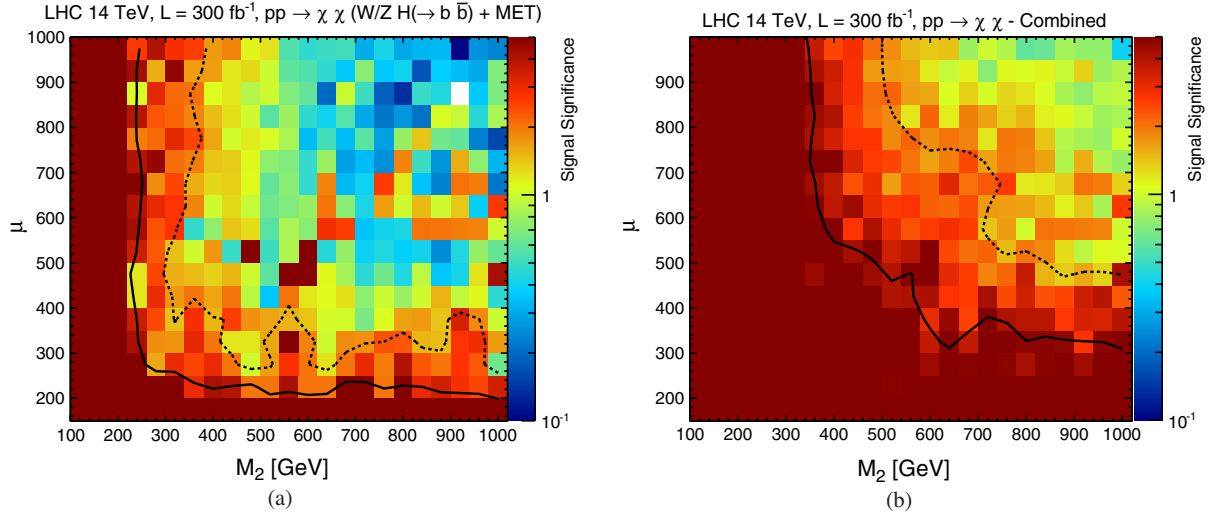


FIG. 14 (color online). Combined sensitivity reach at the 14 TeV LHC with  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  for the case A Bino-like LSP in the  $\mu - M_2$  plane, (a) for the Higgs final states  $Wh + Zh$  with  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  and (b) for all final states. The statistical significance is labeled by the color code on the right-hand side. The solid and dashed curves indicate the  $5\sigma$  discovery and 95% C.L. exclusion reach. The other MSSM parameters are set to be  $M_1 = 0 \text{ GeV}$ ,  $\tan \beta = 10$ , and  $\mu > 0$ .

95% C.L. for an asymptotic value of  $M_2$ .<sup>6</sup> The 4L channel has the lowest SM backgrounds, and a  $5\sigma$  reach in the  $\mu$  parameter can be obtained around 350 GeV.

Based on those detailed analyses above, we show the combined sensitivity reach in Fig. 14(b) in the  $\mu - M_2$  plane using all the six channels (two from  $Wh/Zh, h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  and four from the conventional multilepton searches), again for the case A Bino-like LSP at the 14 TeV LHC with  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  integrated luminosity. The reach for 95% C.L. exclusion and  $5\sigma$  discovery based on Fig. 14 is summarized in Table IV. The robust search results from  $Wh, Zh$  with  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  are separately listed in the first column. The final results for the combined channels are summarized in the second column.

## V. ELECTROWEAKINOS AT THE ILC

Because of the rather small electroweak production cross sections and large SM backgrounds at the LHC, the discovery of the electroweakinos via direct production would be very challenging as discussed in the previous section. Exploiting the additional feature of the Higgs in the final state, the signal observability and identification can be improved. Even if the signal is observed, the determination of the gaugino properties

<sup>6</sup>We note that our results for the 3L mode in case AI are less sensitive compared to the ATLAS and CMS studies [54], in which a  $5\sigma$  sensitivity was expected for 500–600 GeV for  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  luminosity. This is due to the fact that their results were obtained under the assumption of 100% branching fraction for the  $WZ + \cancel{E}_T$  final state, while in the realistic case with  $\mu > 0$ , such a branching fraction is only about 20% or less.

would be very difficult. This is where the ILC would show the major advantage. Similar to the mechanism in Fig. 9, the electroweakinos can be produced via the  $s$ -channel  $\gamma/Z$  exchange as in shown in Figs. 9(b) and 9(c).

The total cross section for the electroweakino pair production at the 1 TeV ILC is shown in Fig. 15 vs the appropriate mass, with (a) and (b) the Bino-like LSP, (c) and (d) the Wino-like LSPs, and (e) and (f) the Higgsino-like LSPs. The typical cross sections are quite sizable and are of the order of 100 fb. After crossing the kinematical threshold, the fermionic pair production reaches the maximum rather soon, while the cross section falls off above the threshold like  $1/s$ . This scaling law also leads to an estimate at different energies. With the designed annual luminosity of the order  $100 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ , there are plenty of signal events produced, without the major background problem. Even the subleading channels of the NLSPs produced in association with the LSP could be observed.

Extending the above discussions, we present the total cross section for the electroweakino pair production subsequently decaying to specific final states of the electroweak bosons  $XY$  of Eq. (29) in Fig. 16. Once again, we note that besides observationally clean channels,  $W^+W^-$ ,  $W^\pm W^\pm$ , and  $WZ, Wh$  and  $Zh$  channels contribute significantly as well. Even the subdominant  $hh$  mode could be identifiable.

Although not shown, one would expect that the ILC will be able to uncover the challenging decay modes with rather soft (10 GeV or less) leptons and jets in the final state, such as in the difficult cases of BI and CI with a compressed mass spectrum of Wino- or Higgsino-like

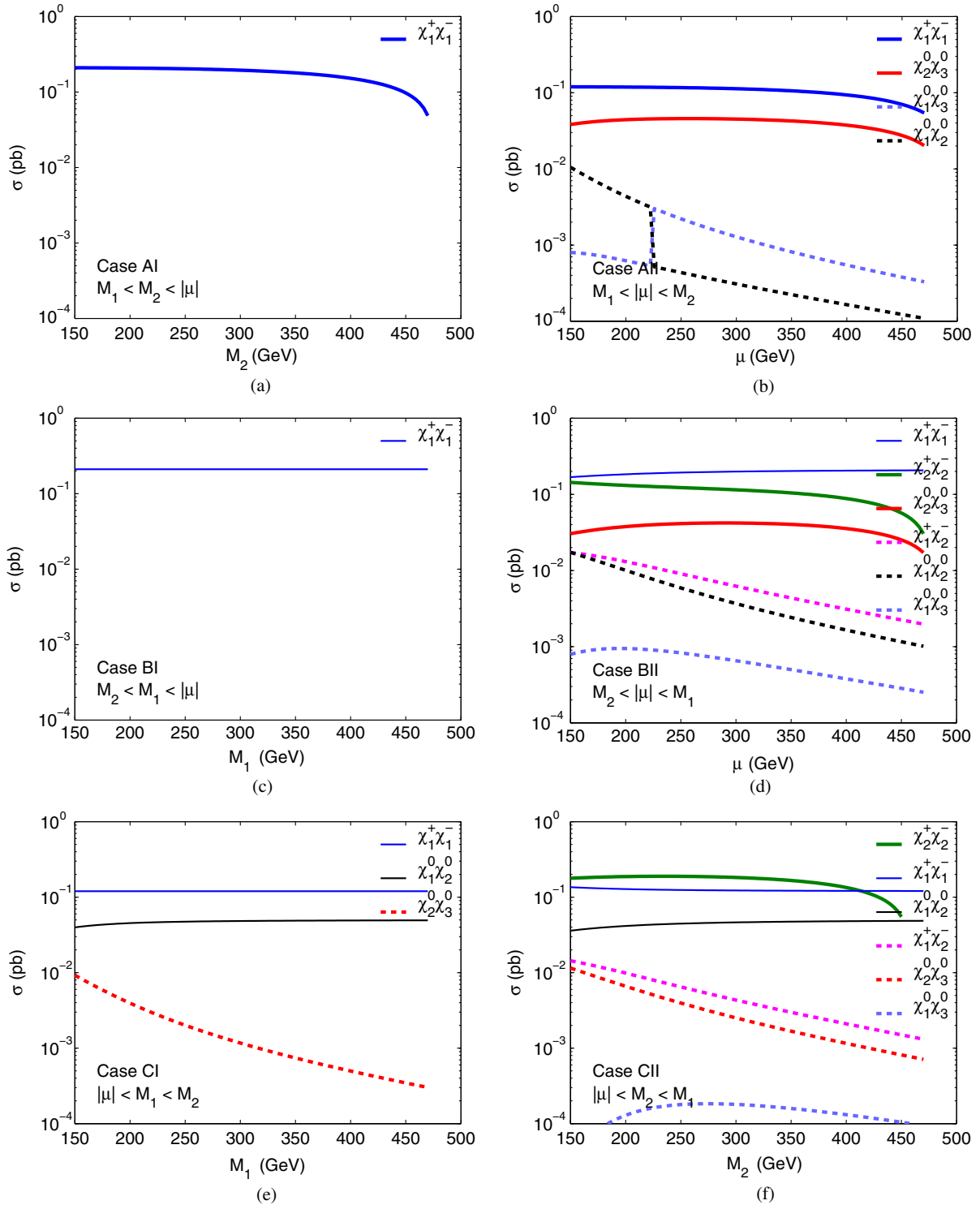


FIG. 15 (color online). Total cross sections for the chargino and neutralino pair production at the ILC for  $\sqrt{s} = 1$  TeV for all the six cases. The parameter choices are the same as in Fig. 10.

LSPs, because of the clean experimental environment for event reconstruction. The situation with very soft final states may be further improved by making use of the hard photon from initial state radiation plus large missing energy to identify the SUSY signal [55]. For the

same reason, the large rate signal, such as 4-jets +  $\cancel{E}_T$  events could be fully used. The effective kinematical reconstruction and unambiguous final-state identification will help to determine the properties of the electroweakinos [56] and the missing LSP (dark matter) mass [57].

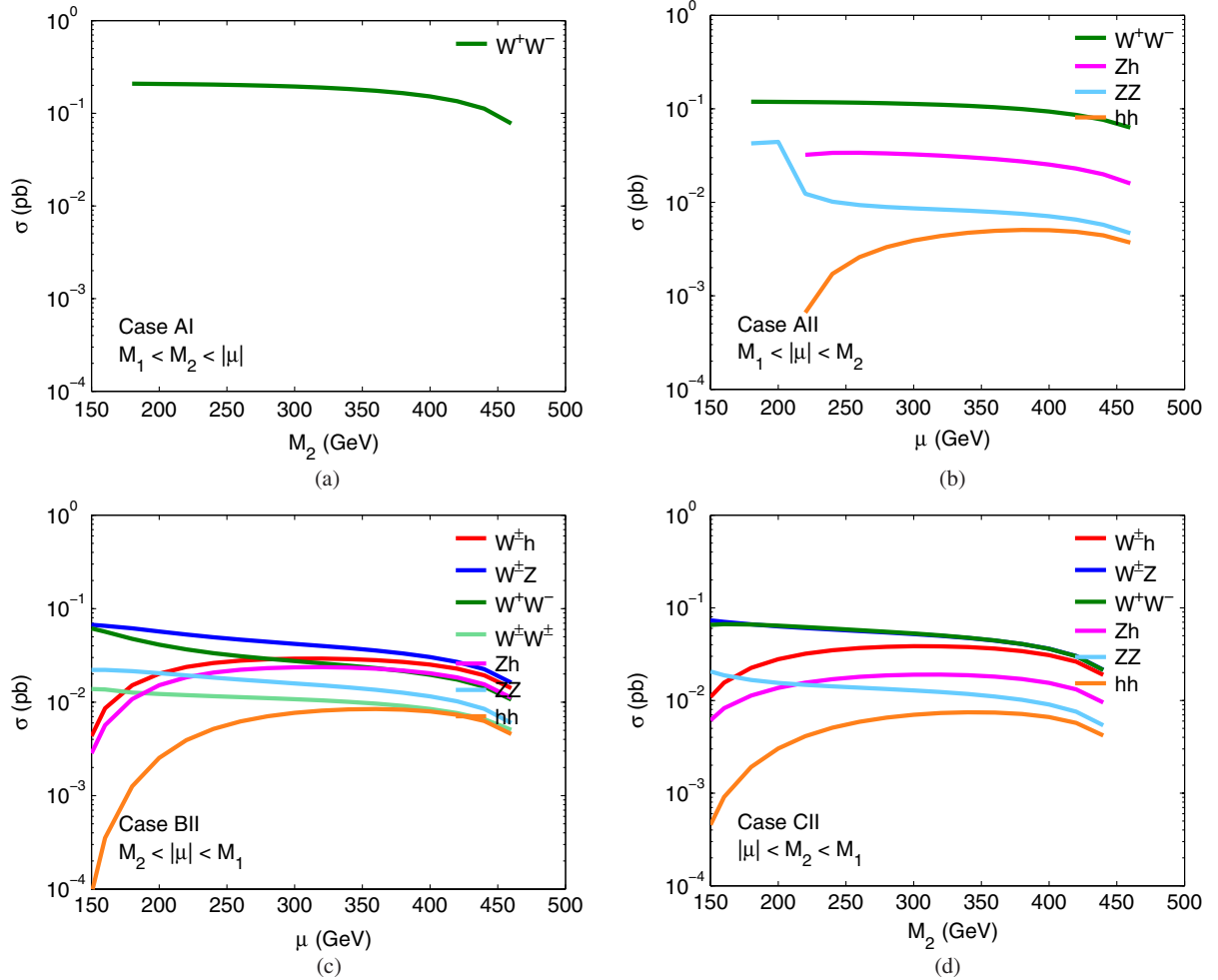


FIG. 16 (color online). Total cross section for the chargino and neutralino pair production at the ILC for  $\sqrt{s} = 1$  TeV to specific final states for the four cases for the NLPS production. The parameter choices are the same as in Fig. 11.

## VI. SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

Given the current null results on the SUSY searches at the LHC, namely, the nonobservation of gluinos and squarks under naive assumptions below 1 TeV, we are strongly motivated to consider the situation in which the only accessible SUSY states are the electroweakinos.

Within the constraints from collider searches, we explored the gaugino and Higgsino mass parameter space and categorized the general electroweak SUSY parameter relations into three scenarios with six distinctive cases, as presented in Sec. II B and for the mass relations in Fig. 1. The four cases in B and C would naturally result in a compressed spectrum of nearly degenerate LSPs. We outline the decay patterns for the NLSPs as depicted in Fig. 2 and discussed in great detail their decay branching fractions, as shown in Figs. 3–8. In particular, we provide some insightful understanding about the decay modes in connection with the Goldstone-boson equivalence theorem, shown in the Appendix.

We presented the pair production cross sections for the electroweakinos via the DY processes (Fig. 9) at NLO in QCD for the 14 TeV LHC in Fig. 10. The production rate can typically be of a few hundreds of fb at the 200 GeV mass scale but drop to about a few tenths of fb at a higher mass scale of 500–1000 GeV. Unfortunately, the LSP multiplet production, such as in cases BI and CI, will be difficult to observe at hadron colliders because of the mass degeneracy and the soft decay products [38,39]. We will thus leave them for future exploration. We reiterate that the electroweakino phenomenology and its searches at the LHC are largely dictated by the NLSP production and decays. Incorporating the dominant decays to the observable final states of a pair of gauge bosons and Higgs bosons as listed in Eq. (29), we summarized the leading channels and their branching fractions in Table I and showed the corresponding production cross sections in Fig. 11. Again, the leading signal rates can reach a few hundreds of fb to a few tenths of fb with the mass parameters from 200 GeV to 1 TeV.

Of particular interest is the SM-like Higgs boson in the final state, which turned out to be one of the leading channels. We thus emphasize that with the unique decay  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  and reconstructable Higgs mass variable, this channel may serve as a standard candle for the signal of the electroweakino pair production since it is clearly of a non-SM origin. The decays to gauge bosons  $h \rightarrow WW^*$ ,  $ZZ^*$  can also help to enhance the signal rate for the conventional SSWW and 4L search channels, although the identification to the Higgs contribution is less obvious.

The current experimental bounds on the masses of the electroweakinos from the direct searches at the LEP2 (Table II) and the LHC (Table III) are summarized in Sec. IV. Extending the existing work, we explored the potential observability for a future LHC run at 14 TeV with an integrated luminosity of  $300 \text{ fb}^{-1}$ . We first showed in Fig. 12 the sensitivities for the robust Higgs channels  $Wh$  and  $Zh$  with the identifiable  $h \rightarrow b\bar{b}$  decay. The combined results for the Higgs channels were shown in Fig. 14(a). For completeness, we also presented our studies in Fig. 13 for the four conventional channels and combined all the results in Fig. 14(b). We conclude that, for the case of a light Bino-like LSP, with the Higgs channels, we may reach the electroweakino mass scale about  $M_2$ ,  $\mu \sim 220\text{--}270 \text{ GeV}$  at a  $5\sigma$  sensitivity and about  $350\text{--}400 \text{ GeV}$  for 95% C.L. exclusion. Combining with all the other channels, we may expect to extend the reach to the mass scale about  $M_2$ ,  $\mu \sim 320\text{--}500 \text{ GeV}$  at a  $5\sigma$  sensitivity, and about  $480\text{--}700 \text{ GeV}$  for 95% C.L. exclusion. The summary table for the achievable mass values was given in Table IV. Although we only carried out the detailed analyses for case A with a light Bino-like LSP as above, we expect that our results are equally applicable to case BII (with light Wino-like LSPs) and case CII (with light Higgsino-like LSPs), where the NLSPs have similar production rates and decay patterns to case A as demonstrated in Fig. 11 and in Table I, with the only trade off between the  $W^+W^-$  and  $W^\pm W^\pm$  channels.

Because of the rather low production cross sections and large SM backgrounds, it would be nevertheless challenging for the SUSY searches at the LHC for the electroweakinos to extend the mass reach beyond what was obtained above. It would be particularly difficult if the LSPs are nearly mass degenerate while the NLSP pair production is suppressed, like in cases BI and CI. This motivates the complementary experiments at future lepton colliders with low backgrounds and easy signal reconstruction, in which the electroweakinos can be readily discovered as long as the kinematical threshold is crossed, as illustrated in Figs. 15 and 16. The electroweakino pair signals would be easily identified, and their properties thoroughly studied.

Our conclusions should still be viewed on the conservative side. First, we have not taken into account the possible contributions from the other electroweak states such as the

sleptons and the heavier Higgs bosons. Second, there may exist other additional search channels such as the VBF for the electroweakino production, in which its characteristic kinematics and the  $t$ -channel production mechanism may provide additional handles to complement the leading searches considered here.

Looking forward, the high luminosity LHC with  $3000 \text{ fb}^{-1}$  would be expected to extend the  $5\sigma$  electroweakino reach to a mass generically of  $800 \text{ GeV}$  assuming a 100% branching fraction to the gauge bosons [54]. It would be a pressing issue to address to what extent one would be able to uncover the observationally difficult scenarios like cases BI and CI, in which the lower-lying electroweakinos are in a compressed LSP spectrum and the NLSPs may not be copiously produced. Furthermore, if a multiple TeV lepton collider is ever available [58,59], it would readily cover a mass scale about a half of the center-of-mass energy.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## APPENDIX: NLSP DECAYS AND THE GOLDSTONE-BOSON EQUIVALENCE THEOREM

When the NLSP mass is large in comparison to  $m_Z$ , the Goldstone-boson equivalence theorem [60] becomes an adequate tool to understand the nature of the NLSP decays. We present some approximate formulas and provide some discussions. A collection of the partial decay widths of neutralinos and charginos can be found in the earlier works [61].

### 1. Scenario A: $M_1 < M_2$ , $|\mu|$

The relative size of  $\text{Br}(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h)$  and  $\text{Br}(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z)$  can be understood with the help of the Goldstone-boson equivalence theorem. In case AI with  $M_2 - M_1 \gg m_Z$ , the decay of  $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z$  is dominantly to the longitudinal polarization of the  $Z$  boson, which is related to the Goldstone modes of  $H_u^0$  and  $H_d^0$ . For  $M_2 - M_1 \gg m_Z$  and  $|\mu \pm M_{1,2}| \gg m_Z$ , the partial decay widths of  $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$  and  $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z$  are given approximately by the following formulas,

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h) \\ \approx C_{\text{AI}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_h}{M_2^2} \left( 2s_{2\beta} + \frac{M_1 + M_2}{\mu} \right)^2 [(M_2 + M_1)^2 - m_h^2], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A1})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z) \\ \approx C_{\text{AI}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_Z}{M_2^2} \left( c_{2\beta} \frac{M_1 + M_2}{\mu} \right)^2 [(M_2 - M_1)^2 - m_Z^2], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A2})$$

where  $C_{\text{AI}} = \frac{e^2}{4} \left( \frac{m_Z}{\mu} \right)^2$  and  $p_h$  ( $p_Z$ ) is the momentum for  $h$  ( $Z$ ) in the rest frame of  $\chi_2^0$ . For large  $\tan\beta \gg 4\mu/(M_1 + M_2)$  such that  $2s_{2\beta} \ll (M_1 + M_2)/\mu$ , the second term in the parentheses of Eq. (A1) dominates for the decay of the  $\chi_1^0 h$  channel. The relative size of the  $h$  and  $Z$  decay channel is almost independent of  $\tan\beta$ , determined completely by the ratio  $[(M_2 + M_1)^2 - m_h^2]/[(M_2 - M_1)^2 - m_Z^2]$ . For relatively small  $1 \leq \tan\beta \ll 4\mu/(M_1 + M_2)$ , the first term in the parentheses dominates. The additional suppression of  $(M_1 + M_2)^2/\mu^2$  in the  $Z$  channel decreases the size of the  $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z$  channel. Note, however, for the case of negative  $\mu$ , two terms in the parentheses of Eq. (A1) could cancel each other, leading to the suppression of the branching fraction for the  $\chi_1^0 h$  channel.

In case AII with Higgsino NLSPs, the decay of  $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h$  occurs at the leading order via unsuppressed  $\tilde{H}_{u,d}^0 - \tilde{B}^0 - H_{u,d}^0$  coupling. For  $|\mu| - M_1 \gg m_Z$ ,  $\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z$  again is dominated by the longitudinal mode of the  $Z$  boson. Under the limit of  $|\mu \pm M_1| \gg m_Z$ , the Goldstone-boson equivalence theorem relates the partial decay widths of  $\chi_2^0 \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\tilde{H}_d^0 - \tilde{H}_u^0)$  as

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h) \\ \approx C_{\text{AII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_h}{\mu^2} (s_\beta + c_\beta)^2 [(\mu + M_1)^2 - m_h^2], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A3})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z) \\ \approx C_{\text{AII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_Z}{\mu^2} (s_\beta - c_\beta)^2 [(\mu - M_1)^2 - m_Z^2], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A4})$$

where  $C_{\text{AII}} = \frac{e^2}{8c_W^2}$ . For  $\tan\beta > 1$  and positive  $\mu$ ,  $M_1$ , the  $\chi_1^0 h$  channel is enhanced relatively to the  $Z$  channel by both the  $(s_\beta + c_\beta)^2/(s_\beta - c_\beta)^2$  factor as well as the mass terms inside the square bracket.

The third neutralino  $\chi_3^0 \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\tilde{H}_d^0 + \tilde{H}_u^0)$  exhibits a similar decay pattern, with the role of  $h$  and  $Z$  switched:

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h) \\ \approx C_{\text{AII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_h}{\mu^2} (s_\beta - c_\beta)^2 [(\mu - M_1)^2 - m_h^2], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A5})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z) \\ \approx C_{\text{AII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_Z}{\mu^2} (s_\beta + c_\beta)^2 [(\mu + M_1)^2 - m_Z^2]. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A6})$$

The exchange of  $s_\beta \pm c_\beta \leftrightarrow s_\beta \mp c_\beta$  in  $\chi_{2,3}^0$  decay is due to the composition of  $\chi_{2,3}^0$  as  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\tilde{H}_d^0 \mp \tilde{H}_u^0)$ . The exchange of  $\mu \pm M_1 \leftrightarrow \mu \mp M_1$  can be traced back to the mass eigenvalues of  $\chi_{2,3}^0$  being  $\pm\mu$ . In the limit of large  $\tan\beta$  and  $|\mu \pm M_1| \gg m_Z$  such that all final-state particles are effectively massless compared to the parent particle,  $\text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h) \approx \text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z) \approx 50\%$ , while for  $\tan\beta \rightarrow 1$ , one of the  $h$  or  $Z$  channels is highly suppressed while the other channel is greatly enhanced.

## 2. Scenario B: $M_2 < M_1, |\mu|$

Under the limit of  $M_1 - M_2 \gg m_Z, |\mu \pm M_{1,2}| \gg m_Z$ , the partial decay widths to various final states in case BI follow the simplified formulas,

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h) \\ \approx C_{\text{BI}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_h}{M_1^2} \left( 2s_{2\beta} + \frac{M_1 + M_2}{\mu} \right)^2 [(M_1 + M_2)^2 - m_h^2], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A7})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z) \\ \approx C_{\text{BI}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_Z}{M_1^2} \left( c_{2\beta} \frac{M_1 + M_2}{\mu} \right)^2 [(M_1 - M_2)^2 - m_Z^2], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A8})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp) = \Gamma(\chi_2^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\mp W^\pm) \\ \approx C_{\text{BI}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_W}{M_1^2} (c_\beta^4 + s_\beta^4) \left( \frac{M_1 + M_2}{\mu} \right)^2 \\ \times 2[M_1^2 + M_2^2 - m_W^2], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A9})$$

where  $C_{\text{BI}} = \frac{e^2}{4} \left( \frac{m_Z}{\mu} \right)^2$ . In the limit of large  $\tan\beta$ , the approximate relation holds:

$$\Gamma_{\chi_1^\pm W^\mp} = \Gamma_{\chi_1^\mp W^\pm} \approx \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 Z} + \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 h}. \quad (\text{A10})$$

In case BII under the limit of  $|\mu \pm M_2| \gg m_Z$ , the partial decay widths of  $\chi_2^\pm$  to various final states follow the simplified formulas,

$$\Gamma(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm h) \approx C_{\text{BII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_h}{\mu^2} 2[\mu^2 + M_2^2 - m_h^2], \quad (\text{A11})$$

$$\Gamma(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm Z) \approx C_{\text{BII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_Z}{\mu^2} 2[\mu^2 + M_2^2 - m_Z^2], \quad (\text{A12})$$

$$\Gamma(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^0 W^\pm) \approx C_{\text{BII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_W}{\mu^2} 2[\mu^2 + M_2^2 - m_W^2], \quad (\text{A13})$$



where  $C_{\text{BII}} = \frac{e^2}{8s_w^2}$ . In the limit of large Higgsino mass,  $\text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm h) \approx \text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm Z) \approx \text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\pm) \approx 33\%$ .

The partial decay widths of  $\chi_{2,3}^0 \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\tilde{H}_d^0 \pm \tilde{H}_u^0)$  to various final states follow the simplified formulas:

$$\Gamma(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h) \approx C_{\text{BII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_h}{\mu^2} (s_\beta \mp c_\beta)^2 [(\mu \mp M_2)^2 - m_h^2], \quad (\text{A14})$$

$$\Gamma(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z) \approx C_{\text{BII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_Z}{\mu^2} (s_\beta \pm c_\beta)^2 [(\mu \pm M_2)^2 - m_Z^2], \quad (\text{A15})$$

$$\Gamma(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^+ W^-) = \Gamma(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^- W^+) \approx C_{\text{BII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_W}{\mu^2} 2[\mu^2 + M_2^2 - m_W^2]. \quad (\text{A16})$$

In the limit of large  $\tan\beta$  and very heavy Higgsino mass,  $\text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h) \approx \text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z) \approx \frac{1}{4} \text{Br}(\chi_{2,3}^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp) \approx 16.7\%$ .

### 3. Scenario C: $|\mu| < M_1, M_2$

Under the limit of  $|M_1 \pm \mu| \gg m_Z$  for case CI, the partial decay widths to various final states follow the simplified formulas for  $\chi_{1,2}^0 \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\tilde{H}_d^0 \mp \tilde{H}_u^0)$ ,

$$\Gamma(\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_{1,2}^0 h) \approx C_{\text{CI}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_h}{M_1^2} (s_\beta \pm c_\beta)^2 [(M_1 \pm \mu)^2 - m_h^2], \quad (\text{A17})$$

$$\Gamma(\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_{1,2}^0 Z) \approx C_{\text{CI}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_Z}{M_1^2} (s_\beta \mp c_\beta)^2 [(M_1 \mp \mu)^2 - m_Z^2], \quad (\text{A18})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^+ W^-) &= \Gamma(\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^- W^+) \\ &\approx C_{\text{CI}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_W}{M_1^2} 2[M_1^2 + \mu^2 - m_W^2], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A19})$$

where  $C_{\text{CI}} = \frac{e^2}{8c_w^2}$ . The following relation between the partial decay width (and decay branching fractions as well) holds for  $\chi_3^0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_{\chi_1^+ W^-} &= \Gamma_{\chi_1^- W^+} \approx \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 Z} + \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 h} \approx \Gamma_{\chi_2^0 Z} + \Gamma_{\chi_2^0 h} \\ &\approx \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 h} + \Gamma_{\chi_2^0 h} \approx \Gamma_{\chi_1^0 Z} + \Gamma_{\chi_2^0 Z}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A20})$$

For large Bino mass  $M_1$ , the branching fractions approach the asymptotic value  $\text{Br}(\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 h) + \text{Br}(\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_2^0 h) \approx \text{Br}(\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^0 Z) + \text{Br}(\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_2^0 Z) \approx \frac{1}{2} \text{Br}(\chi_3^0 \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm W^\mp) \approx 25\%$ .

The approximate expression for  $\chi_2^\pm$  decay in case CII under the limit of  $|M_2 \pm \mu| \gg m_Z$  is

$$\Gamma(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm h) \approx C_{\text{CII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_h}{\mu^2} 2[M_2^2 + \mu^2 - m_h^2], \quad (\text{A21})$$

$$\Gamma(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm Z) \approx C_{\text{CII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_Z}{\mu^2} 2[M_2^2 + \mu^2 - m_Z^2], \quad (\text{A22})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^0 W^\pm) &= \Gamma(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_2^0 W^\pm) \\ &\approx C_{\text{CII}} \frac{1}{8\pi} \frac{p_W}{\mu^2} 2[M_2^2 + \mu^2 - m_W^2], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A23})$$

where  $C_{\text{CII}} = \frac{e^2}{8s_w^2}$ . For large Wino mass, the branching fractions approach the asymptotic value  $\text{Br}(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm h) \approx \text{Br}(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^\pm Z) \approx \frac{1}{2} (\text{Br}(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_1^0 W) + \text{Br}(\chi_2^\pm \rightarrow \chi_2^0 W)) \approx 25\%$ .

The expression for the  $\chi_3^0$  decay in case CII is very similar to that in case CI, with  $C_{\text{CII}} = \frac{e^2}{8s_w^2}$  and the replacement of  $M_1 \leftrightarrow M_2$ .

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