

Zuoz Summer School 2024:  
“From low to high: Particle Physics at the Frontier”

# Low Energy Physics (2)

Vincenzo Cirigliano  
University of Washington



# Flow of the lectures

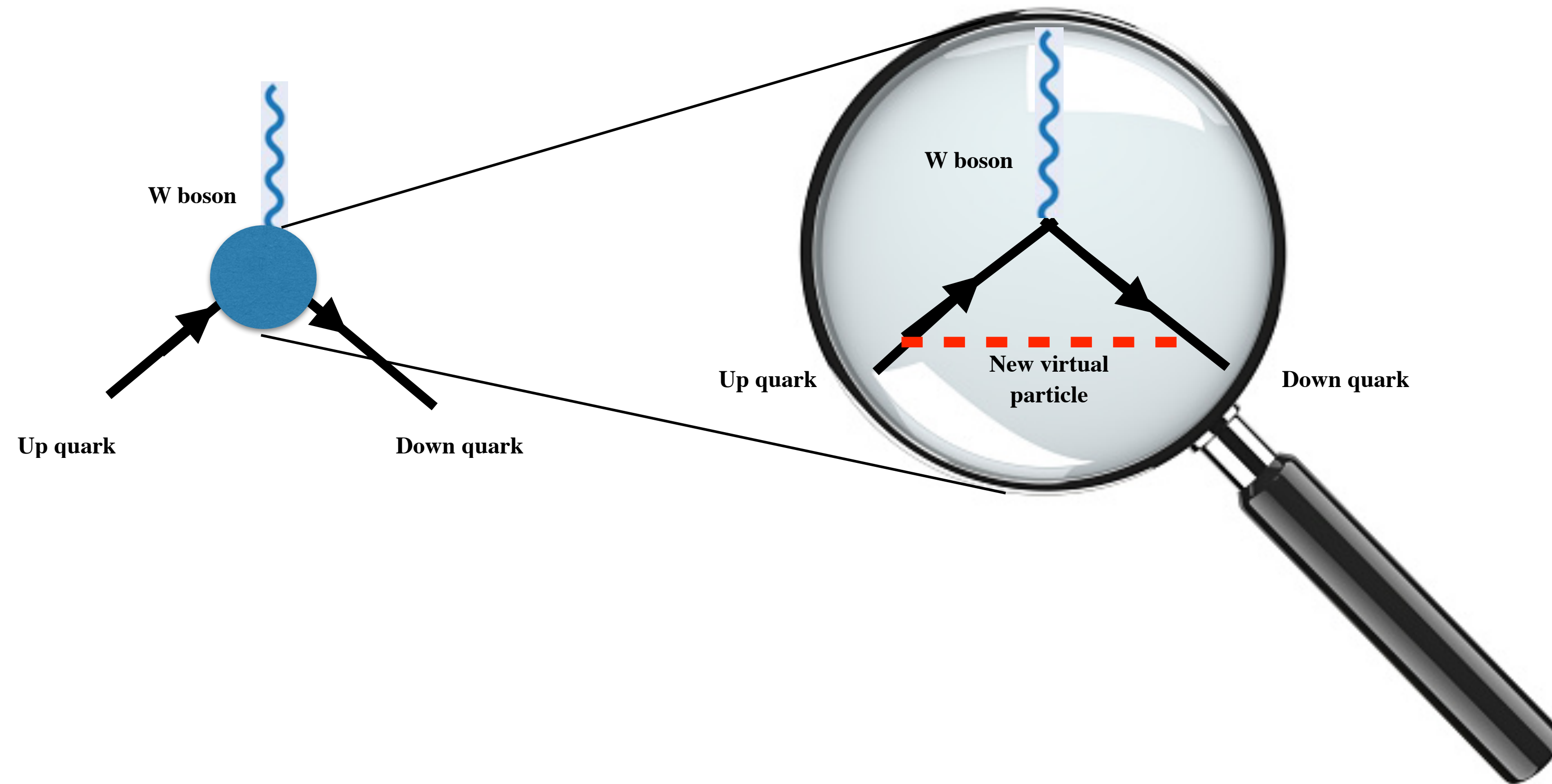
- The quest for new physics at the low-energy frontier
- How does the precision / intensity frontier work? (Theory perspective)
  - An example from history: the Standard Model itself!
  - Effective field theory (EFT) framework
  - Standard Model EFT landscape in the LHC era and beyond

Lecture 1

- 
- “Zoom in” on selected low-energy probes: illustrate methods and impact
    - **Precision measurements:**
      - Weak charged current processes (beta decays)
    - **Symmetry tests:**
      - Lepton Number and Lepton Flavor Violation

Lecture 2

# Precision tests with weak charged currents



# $\beta$ decays in the SM and beyond

- In the SM, W exchange  $\Rightarrow$  only “V-A” + Cabibbo and lepton universality



$$G_F^{(\beta)} \sim G_F^{(\mu)} V_{ij} \sim 1/v^2 V_{ij}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix}$$

Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa

Cabibbo Universality

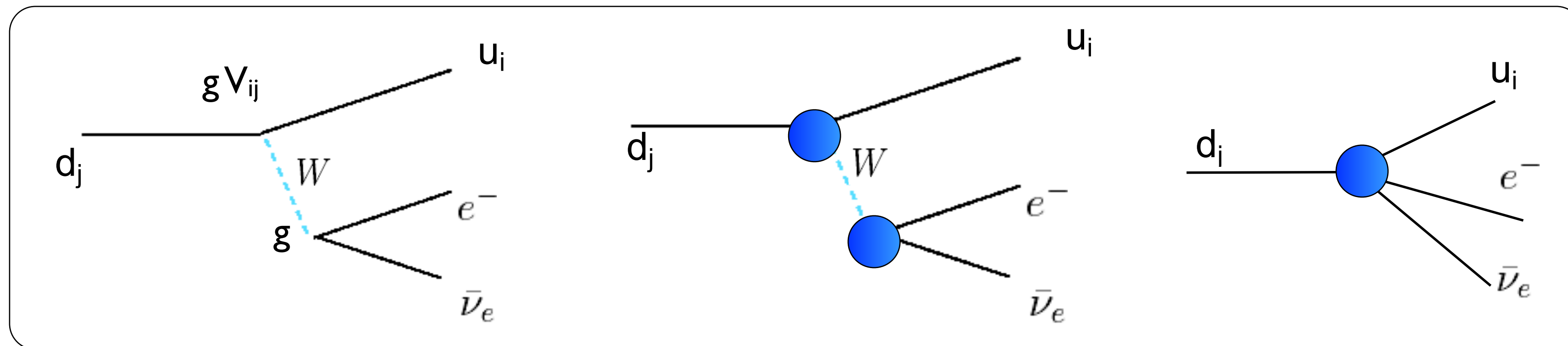
$$|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + \cancel{|V_{ub}|^2} = 1$$

$$[G_F]_e / [G_F]_\mu = 1$$

Lepton Flavor Universality (LFU)

# $\beta$ decays in the SM and beyond

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$$G_F^{(\beta)} \sim G_F^{(\mu)} V_{ij} \sim 1/v^2 V_{ij}$$

$$1/\Lambda^2$$

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- New physics can spoil universality. With current precision of 0.1-0.01% we can probe  $\Lambda > 10$  TeV

$$\sim 0.95$$

$$\sim 0.05$$

$$\sim 1.5 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |\cancel{V_{ub}}|^2 = 1$$

$$\delta V_{ud}/V_{ud} \sim 0.02\%$$

$$\delta V_{us}/V_{us} \sim 0.2\%$$

$$\delta V_{ub}/V_{ub} \sim 5\%$$

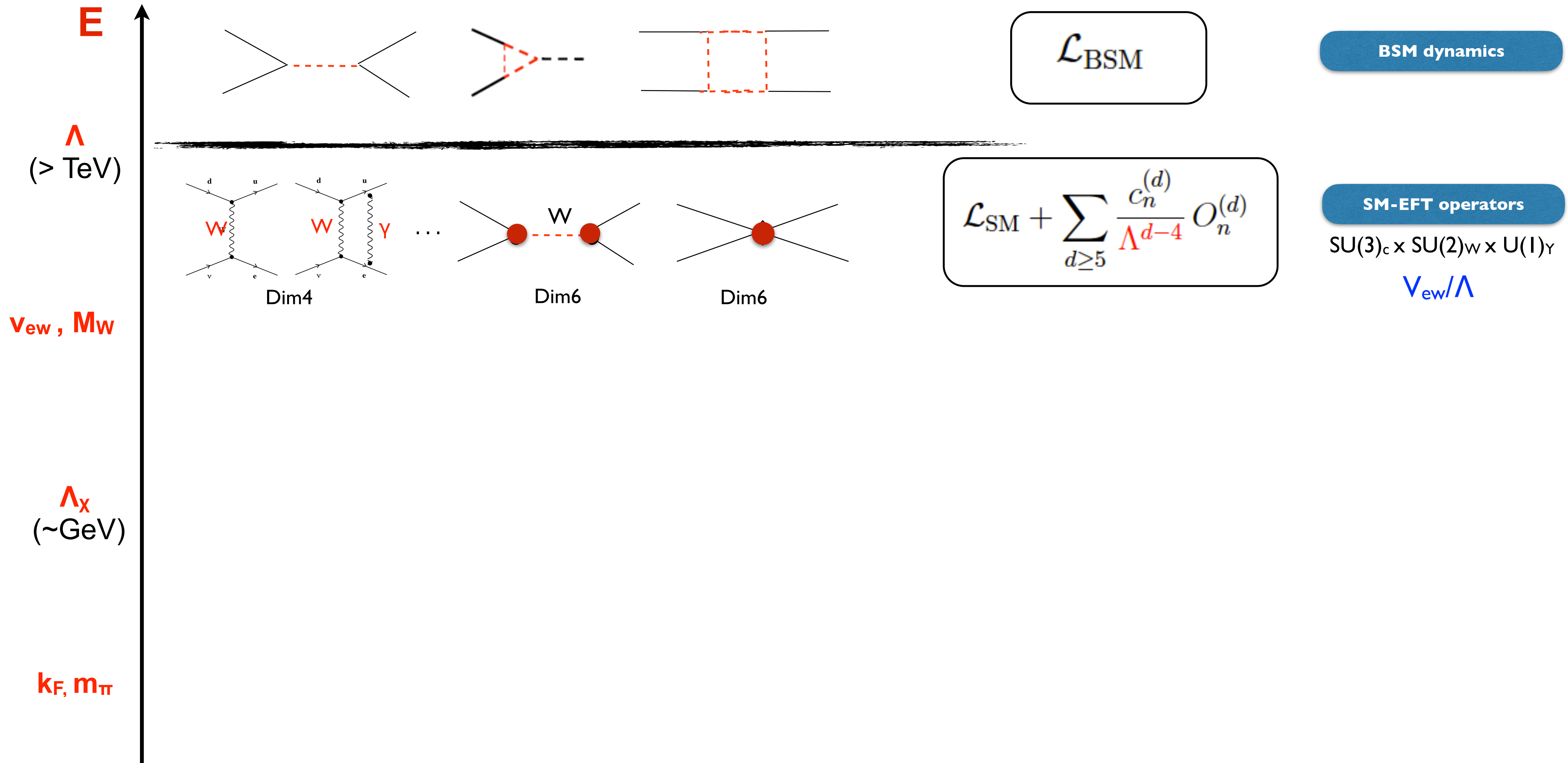
$$R_{e/\mu} = \Gamma(\pi \rightarrow e\nu)/\Gamma(\pi \rightarrow \mu\nu)$$

$$R_{e/\mu}(\text{SM}) = 1.23524(015) \times 10^{-4} \quad 0.01\%$$

$$R_{e/\mu}(\text{Exp}) = 1.23270(230) \times 10^{-4} \quad 0.18\%$$

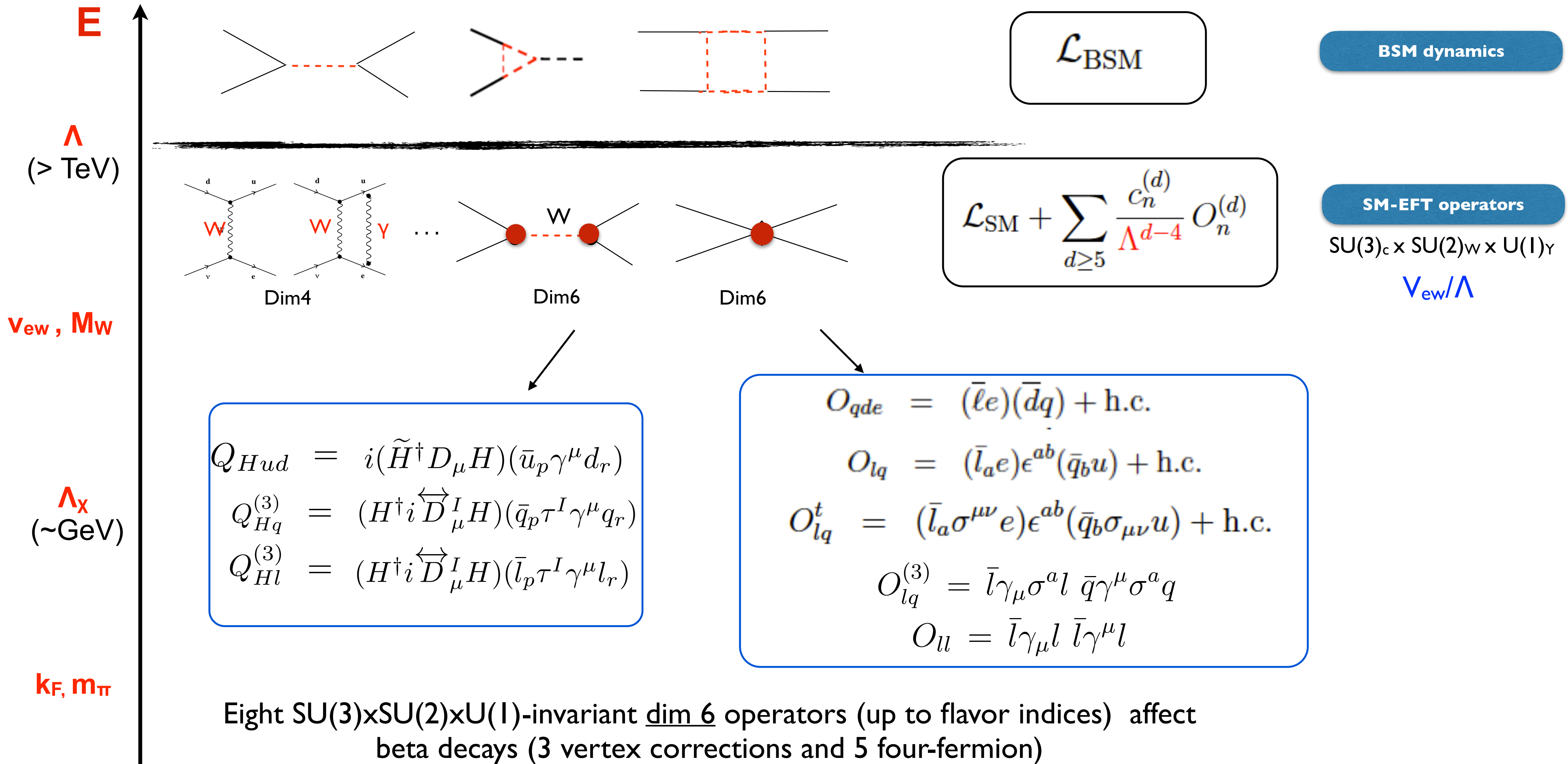
# Bridging scales with EFT

To connect UV physics to hadronic decays, use multiple EFTs



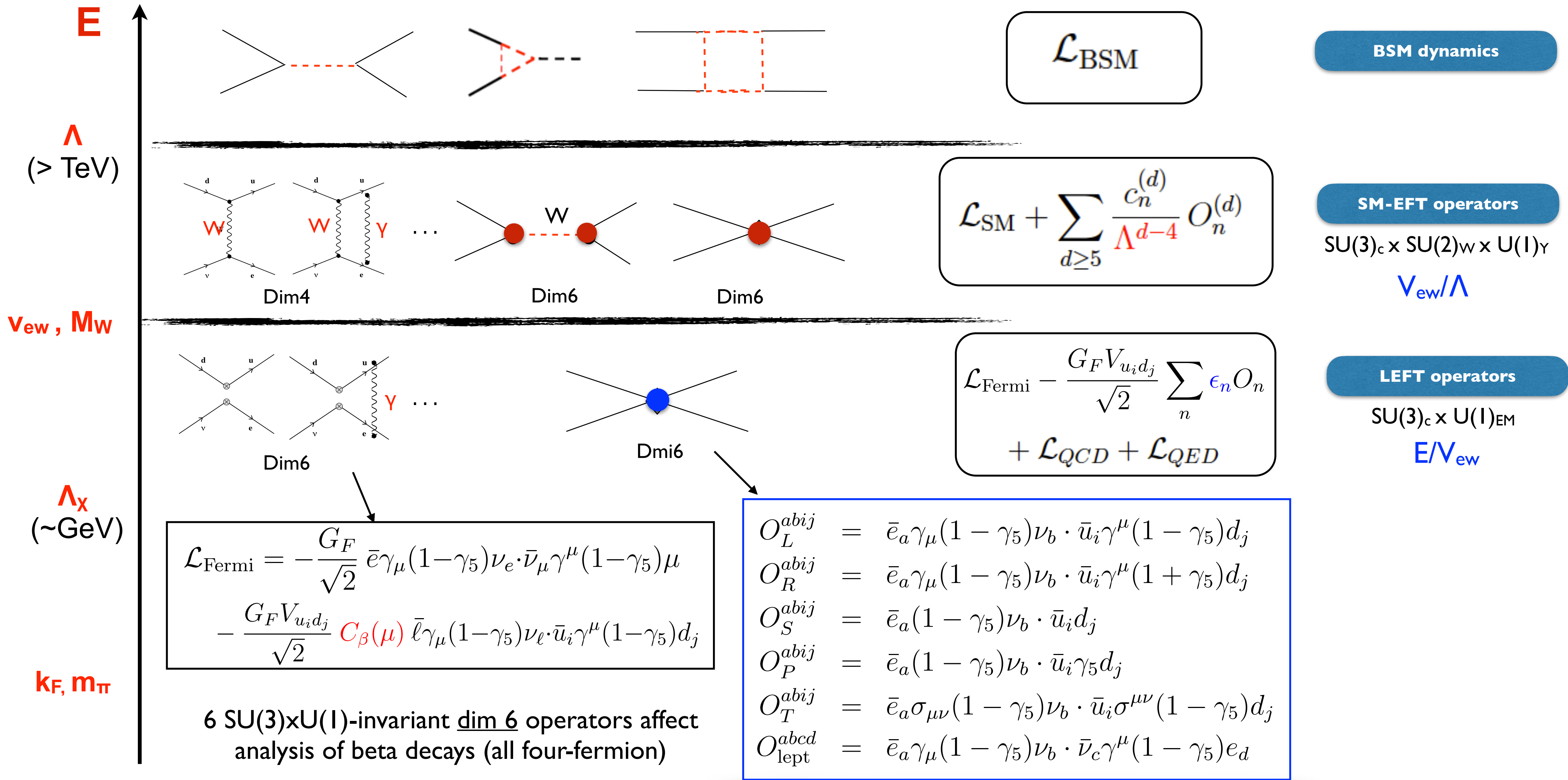
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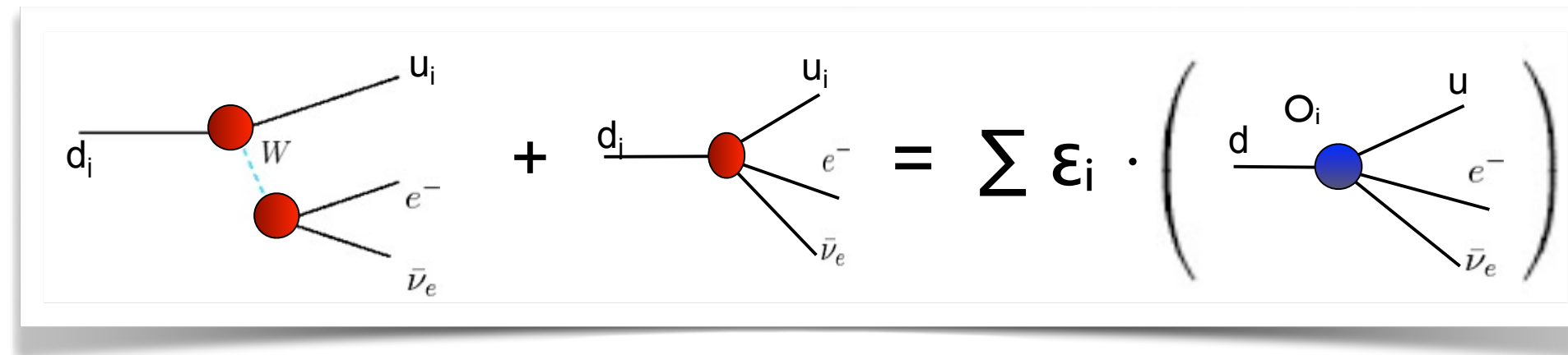
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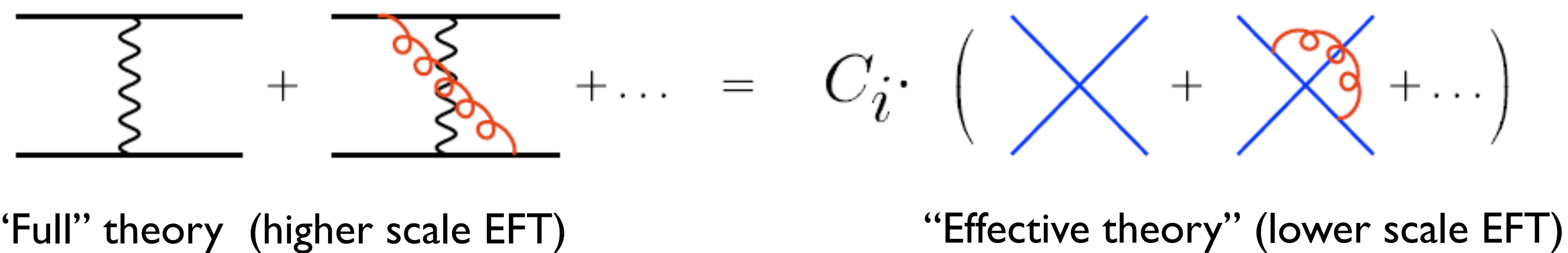


# SMEFT $\rightarrow$ LEFT matching

- Wilson coefficients determined from the matching condition  $A_{\text{SMEFT}} = A_{\text{LEFT}}$
- Tree-level matching for BSM operators determines  $\varepsilon_{L,R,S,P,T}$



- Loop-level matching for SM operators (QED / QCD loops needed for precision)

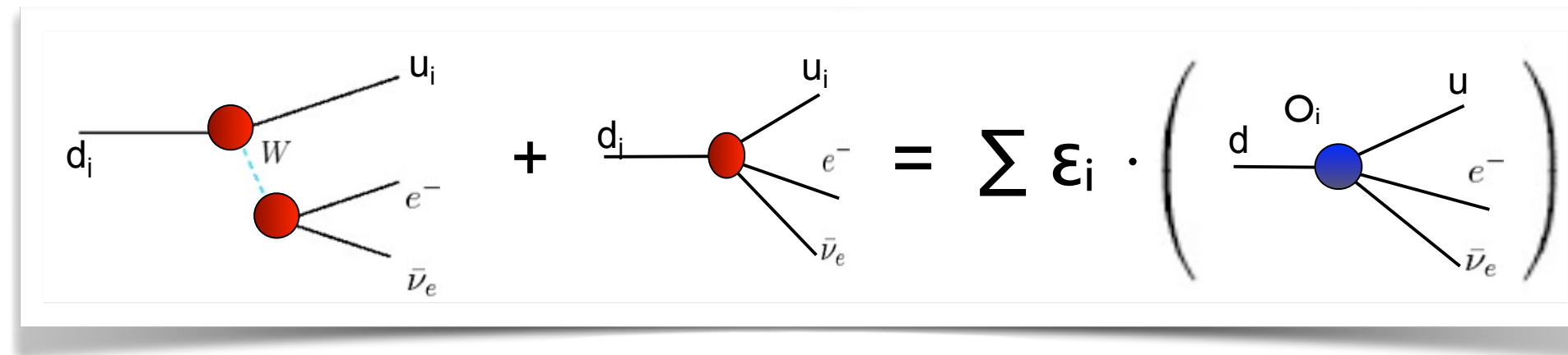


$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CC}} \rightarrow -\frac{G_F V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} C_\beta(\mu) \bar{e}_a \gamma_\alpha (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\alpha (1 - \gamma_5) d + \dots$$

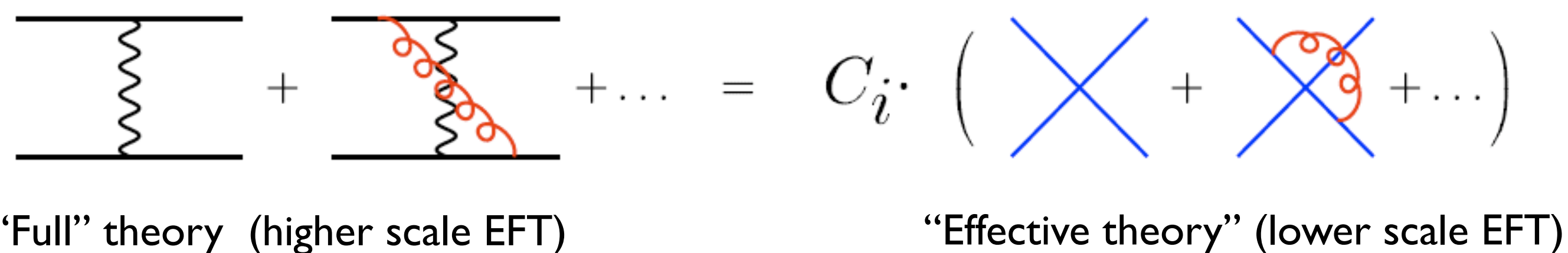
$$C_\beta(\mu) = 1 + \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \log \frac{M_Z}{\mu} + \dots$$

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$$C_\beta(\mu) = 1 + \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \log \frac{M_Z}{\mu} + \dots \quad \longleftarrow \quad \text{Large log @ } \mu \ll M_Z$$

# Renormalization Group “Running” (I)

- At scale  $\mu$  (process)  $<$   $\Lambda$  (matching), QED and QCD corrections to the Wilson coefficients can spoil perturbation theory

QED

$$1 + \# \alpha/\pi \text{Log} (\Lambda/\mu)$$

@  $\mu \sim 1 \text{GeV}$        $\Lambda \sim M_Z$

↓

~1%

Mandatory to include these for SM operator (BSM effect  $<$  1%)

QCD

$$1 + \# \alpha_s/\pi \text{Log} (\Lambda/\mu)$$

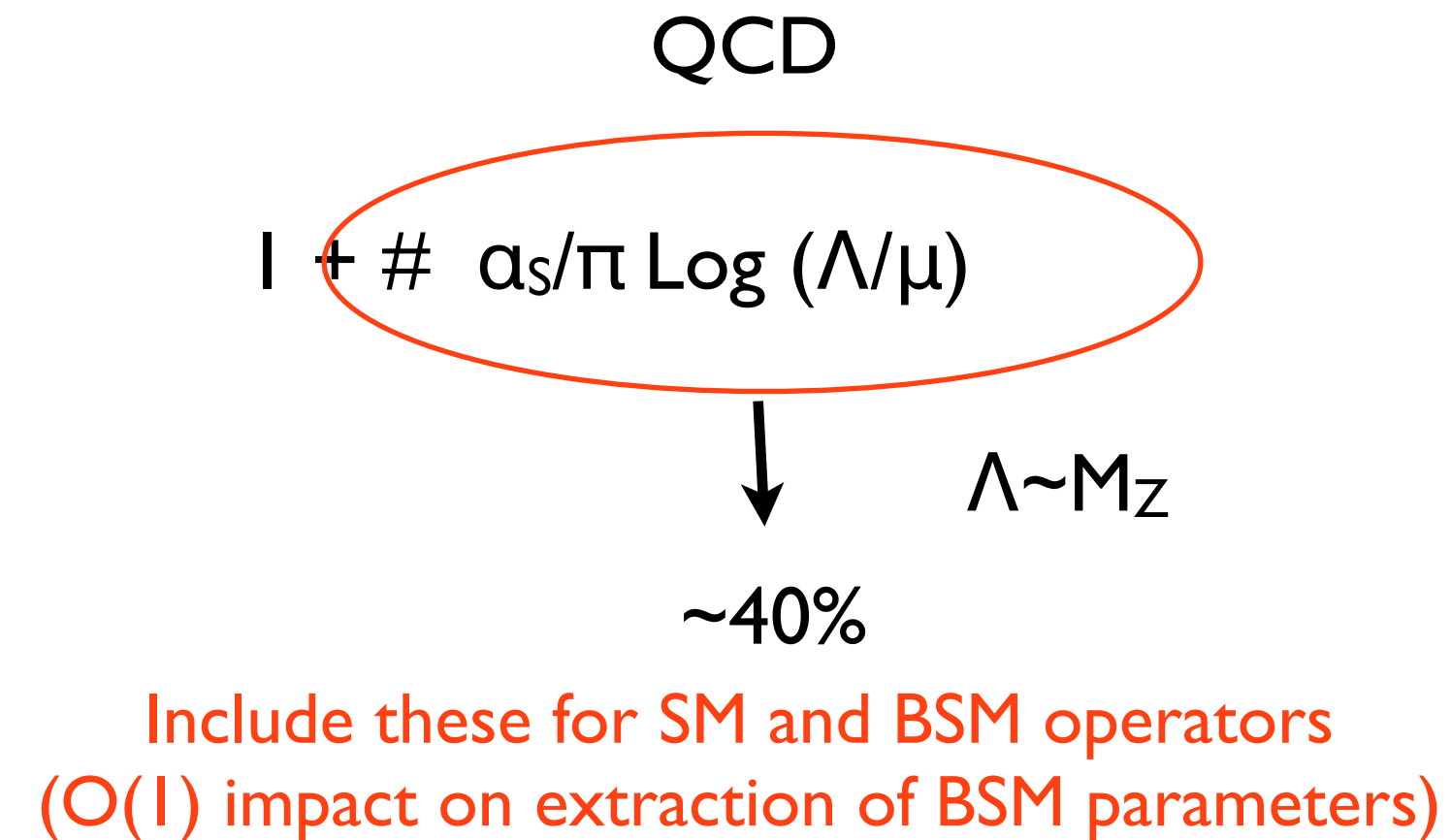
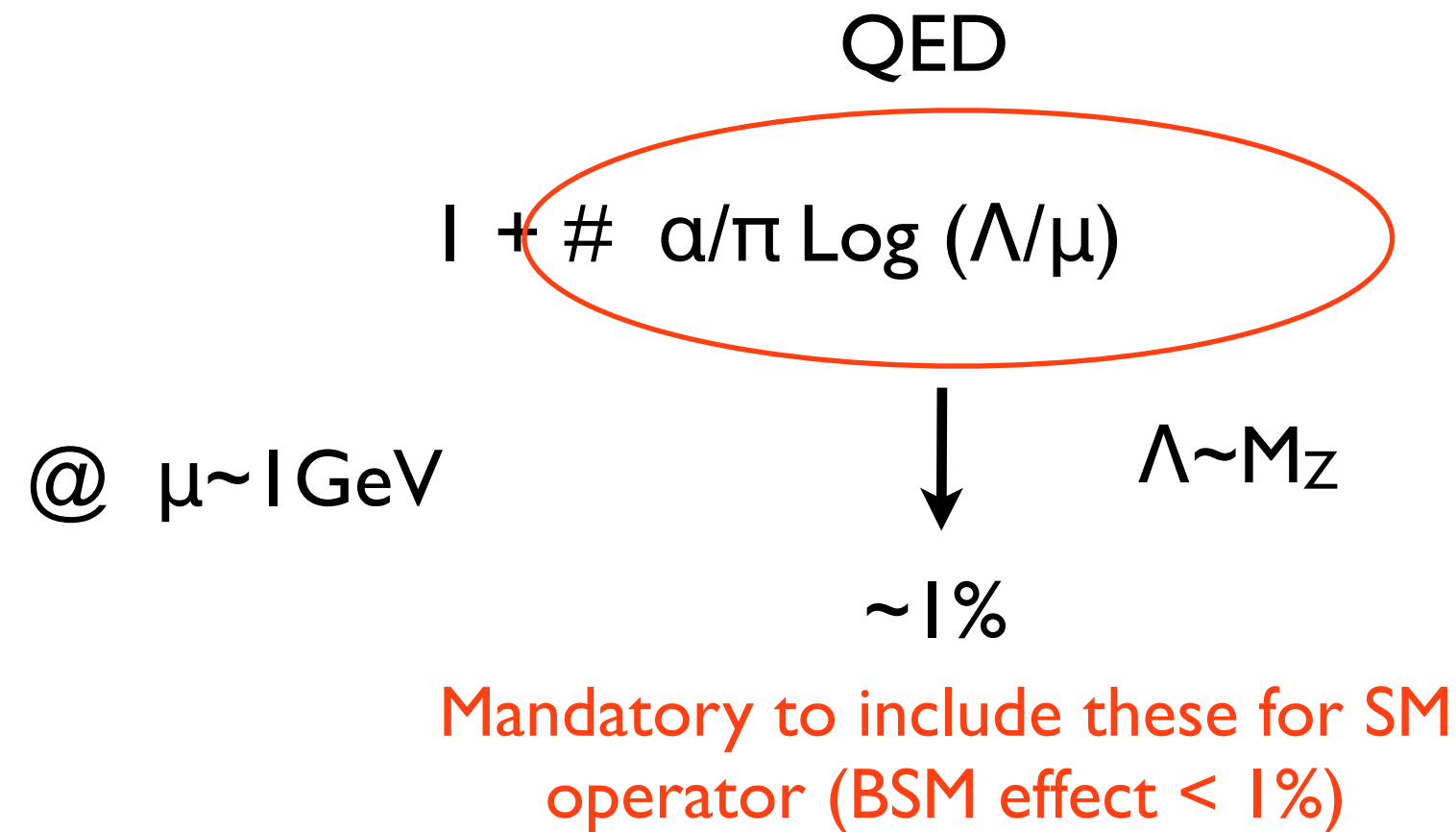
↓

~40%

Include these for SM and BSM operators (O(1) impact on extraction of BSM parameters)

# Renormalization Group “Running” (I)

- At scale  $\mu$  (process)  $< \Lambda$  (matching), QED and QCD corrections to the Wilson coefficients can spoil perturbation theory



- Use RGEs to re-organize perturbation series.  
 Pert. theory expands “by rows”: NLO, N<sup>2</sup>LO, ...  
 RGE: expands “by columns”: LL, NLL, ...

$$l = \log \frac{\Lambda}{\mu} \quad \alpha_s l \sim O(1)$$

	<i>LL</i>	<i>NLL</i>	<i>N<sup>2</sup>LL</i>	...
NLO	$\alpha_s l$	$\alpha_s$		
N <sup>2</sup> LO	$\alpha_s^2 l^2$	$\alpha_s^2 l$	$\alpha_s^2$	
N <sup>3</sup> LO	$\alpha_s^3 l^3$	$\alpha_s^3 l^2$	$\alpha_s^3 l$	$\alpha_s^3$
	...	...	...	
	$O(1)$	$O(\alpha_s)$	$O(\alpha_s^2)$	

# Renormalization Group “Running” (2)

- RG equations:

$$\frac{d}{d(\ln \mu)} C_i = \gamma_i C_i \qquad \frac{d}{d(\ln \mu)} g = \beta(g)$$

$$\gamma_i = \frac{g^2}{16\pi^2} \gamma_i^{(0)} + \dots$$



$$\beta(g) = -\beta_0 \frac{g^3}{16\pi^2} + \dots$$

$$\alpha(\mu) = \frac{\alpha(\Lambda)}{1 - \frac{\beta_0 \alpha(\Lambda)}{2\pi} \log \frac{\Lambda}{\mu}}$$

$$\frac{C_i(\mu)}{C_i(\Lambda)} = \exp \left[ \int_{g(\Lambda)}^{g(\mu)} dg' \frac{\gamma_i(g')}{\beta(g')} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \frac{\alpha(\Lambda)}{\alpha(\mu)} \right]^{\frac{\gamma_i^{(0)}}{2\beta_0}}$$

With one-loop anomalous dimensions, sum the leading log (LL) series

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With one-loop anomalous dimensions, sum the leading log (LL) series

- For the V-A operator the anomalous dimension is known beyond one loop

Solution gives LL  $\sim (\alpha \ln(M_w/\mu))^n$   
 and NLL  $\sim \alpha (\alpha_s \ln(M_w/\mu))^n$ ,  
 $\alpha (\alpha \ln(M_w/\mu))^n$

$$\mu \frac{dC_\beta^r(a, \mu)}{d\mu} = \gamma(\alpha, \alpha_s) C_\beta^r(a, \mu),$$

$$\gamma(\alpha, \alpha_s) = \gamma_0 \frac{\alpha}{\pi} + \gamma_1 \left( \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \right)^2 + \gamma_{se} \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} + \dots$$

$$\gamma_0 = -1 \qquad \gamma_1^{NDR}(a) = \frac{\tilde{n}}{18} (2a+1), \qquad \tilde{n} = \sum_f n_f Q_f^2 \qquad \gamma_{se} = +1$$

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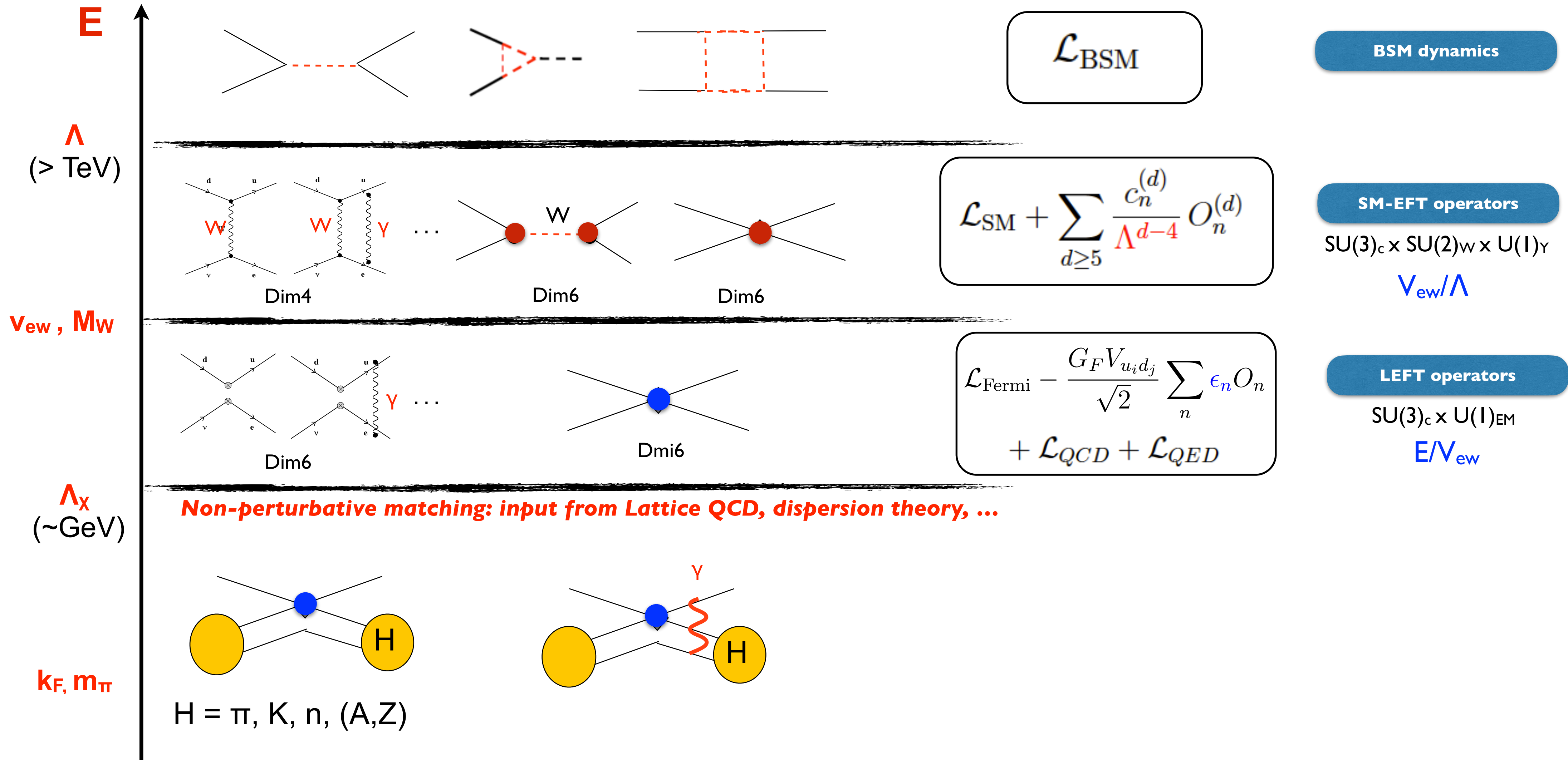
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Beyond one loop  $C_i$  and  $\gamma_i$  depend on other choices (‘scheme dependence’) Physics does not care about our calculations choices

$$\gamma_0 = -1 \qquad \gamma_1^{NDR}(a) = \frac{\tilde{n}}{18} (2a + 1), \qquad \tilde{n} = \sum_f n_f Q_f^2 \qquad \gamma_{se} = +1$$

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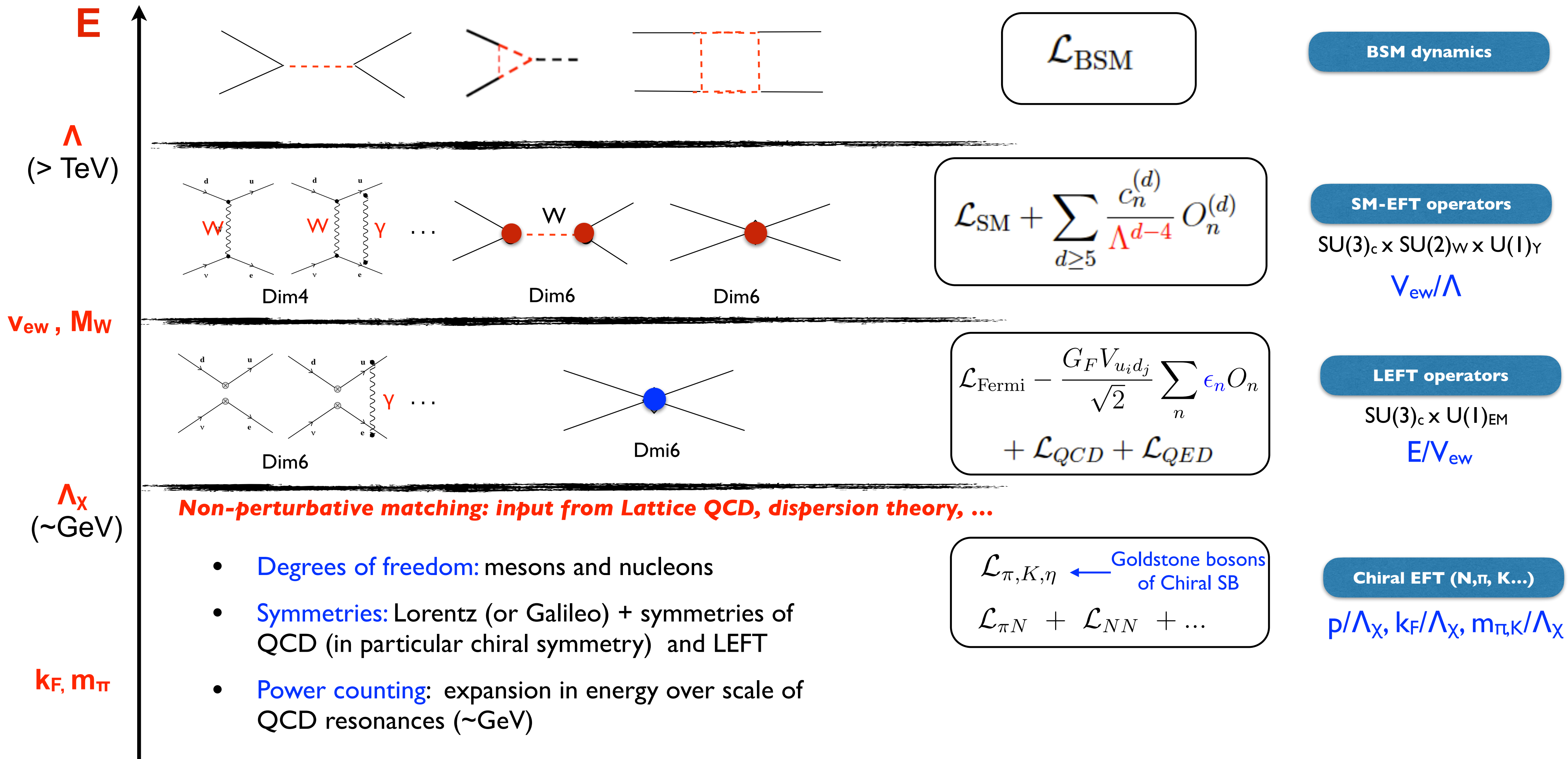
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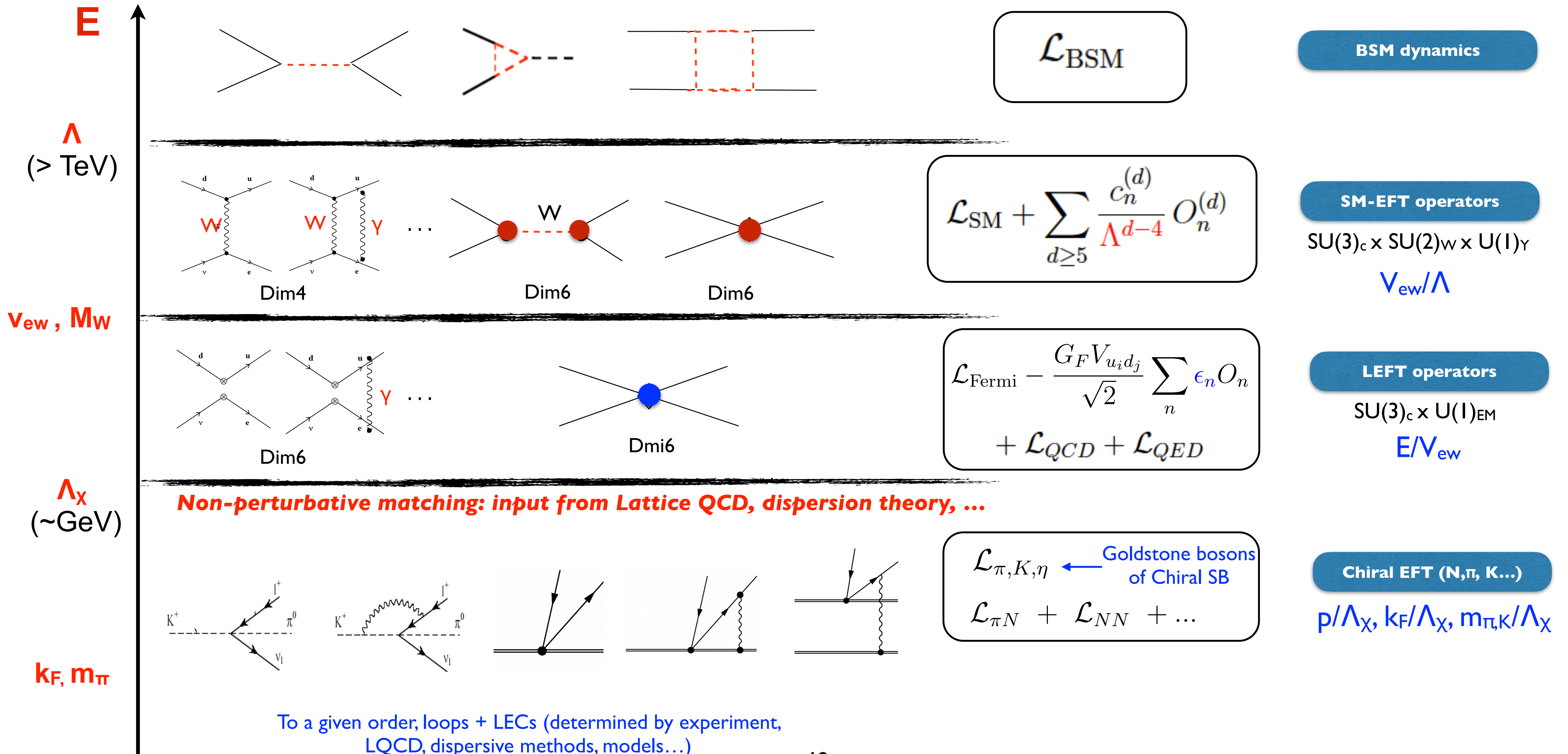
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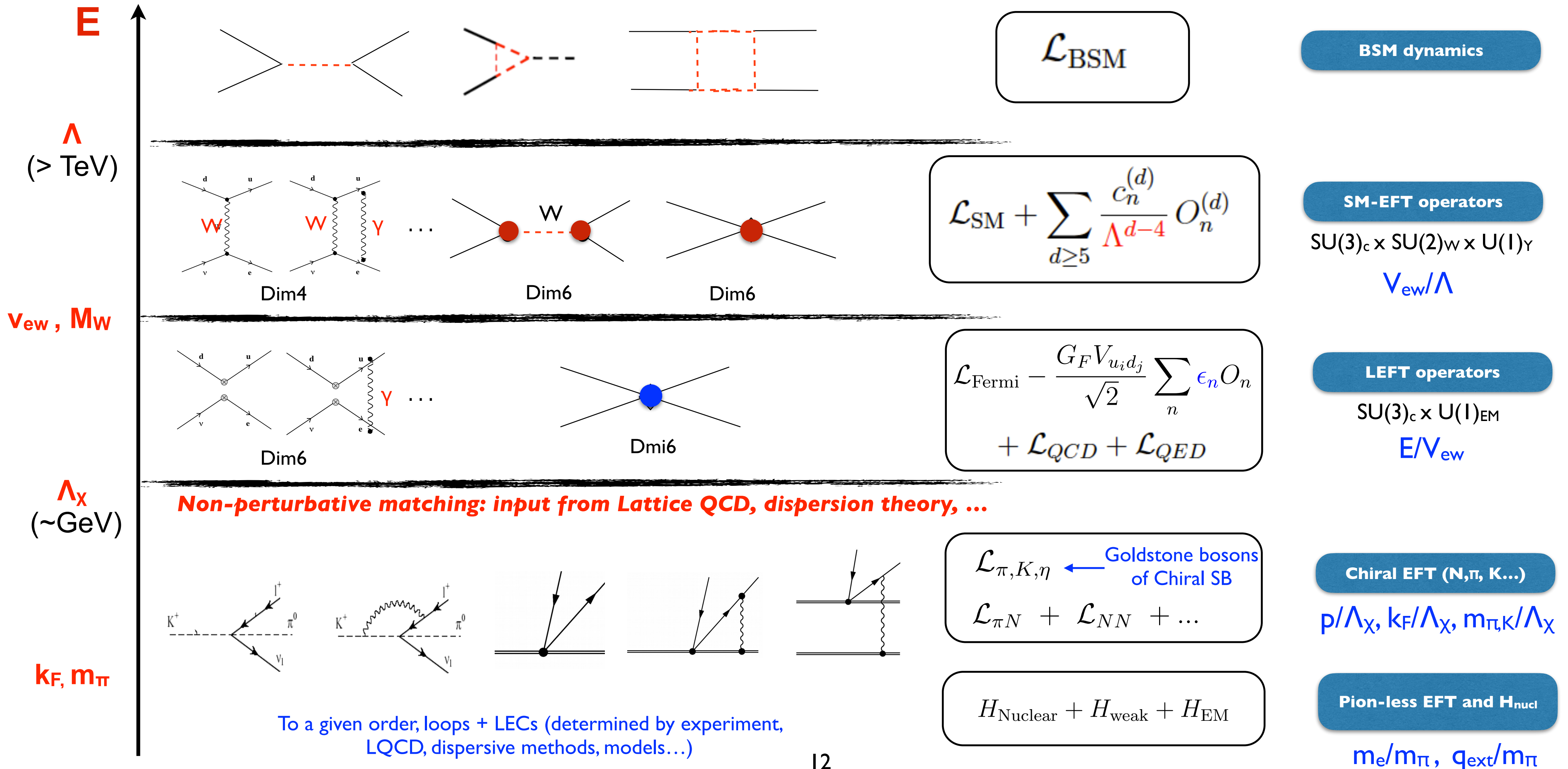
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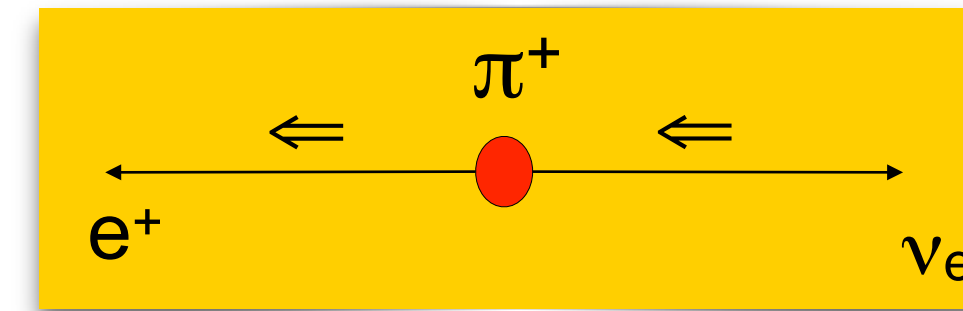
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# Probing LFU with $R_{e/\mu}(\pi)$

- $R_{e/\mu} = \Gamma(\pi \rightarrow e\nu) / \Gamma(\pi \rightarrow \mu\nu)$  helicity suppressed the SM (V-A), zero if  $m_e \rightarrow 0$



VC-Rosell 0707.3439

$$R_{e/\mu}(\text{SM}) = 1.23524(015) \times 10^{-4}$$

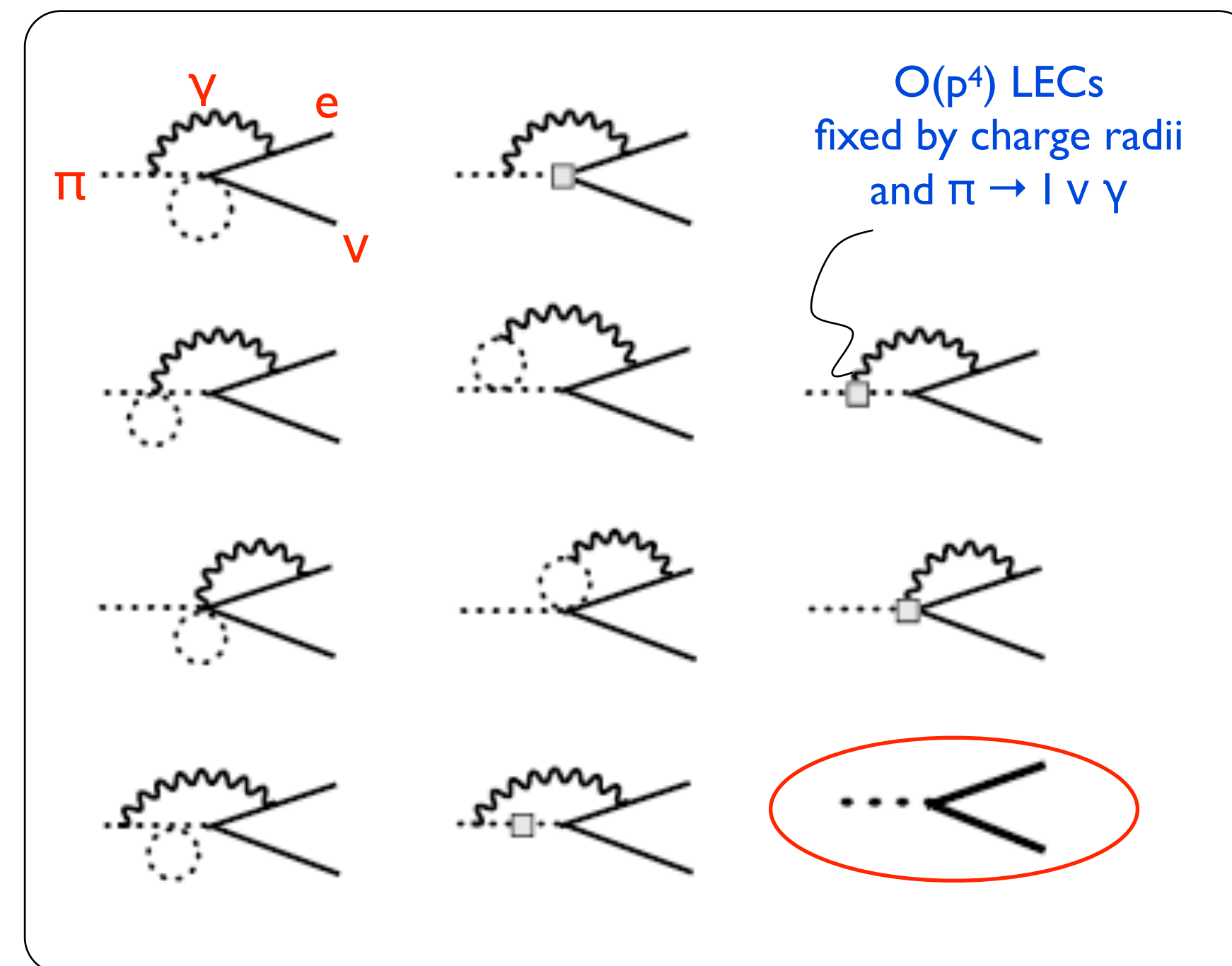
$$R_{e/\mu}(\text{Exp}) = 1.23270(230) \times 10^{-4}$$

PIENU Coll.

- $\sigma_{\text{exp}} \sim 15\sigma_{\text{th}} \Rightarrow$  pristine LFU test possible

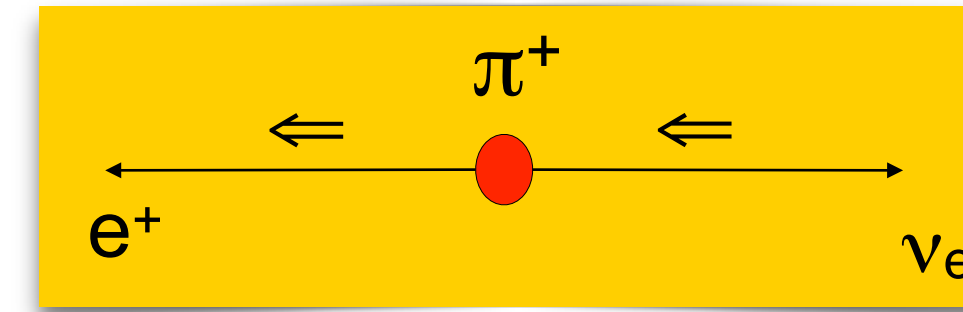
- Result known to  $O(\alpha Q^4)$ , with  $Q \sim m_{\pi, K, \mu} / \Lambda_\chi$

- Many uncertainties cancel in the ratio



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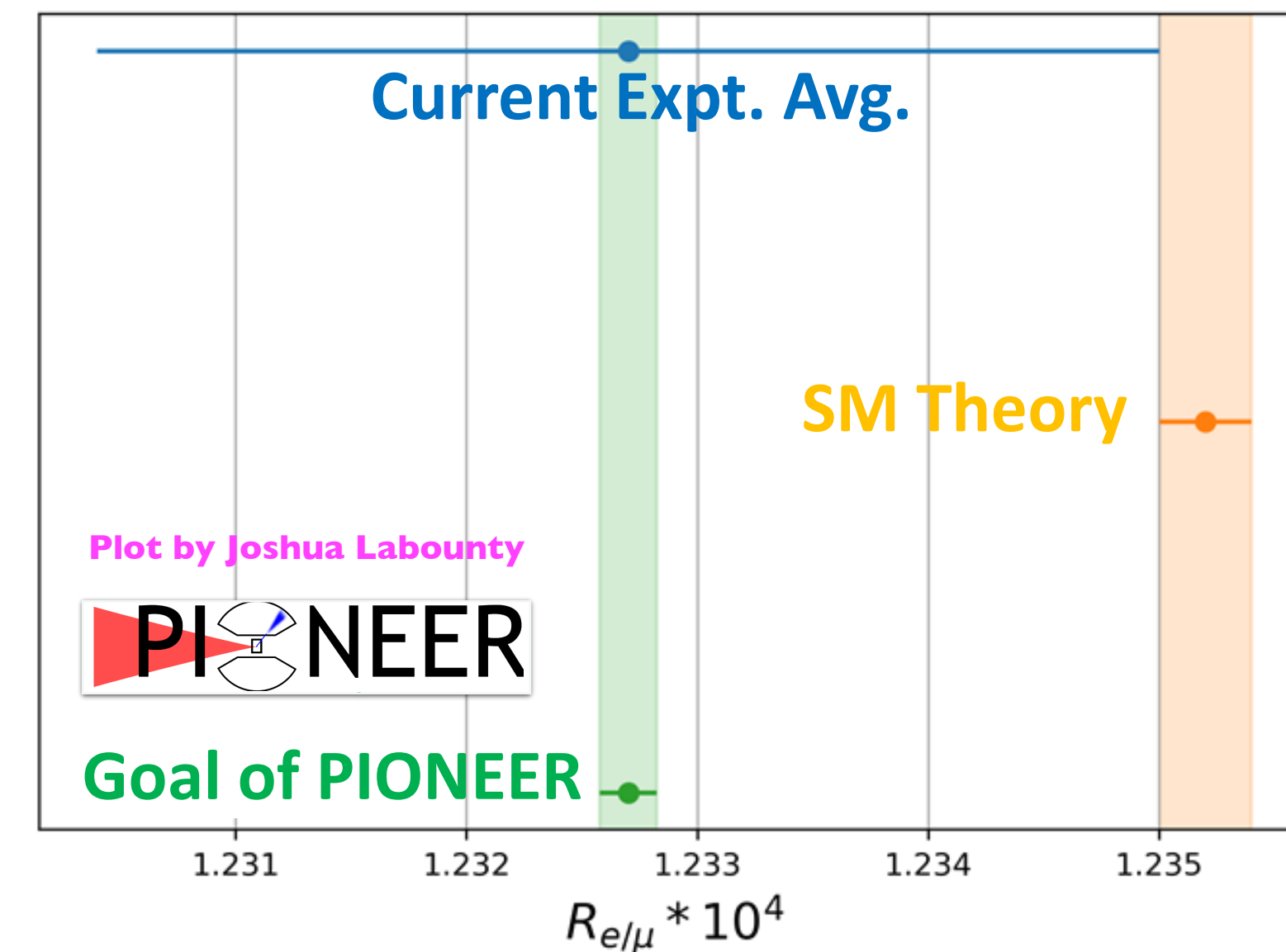
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PIENU Coll.

- $\sigma_{\text{exp}} \sim 15\sigma_{\text{th}} \Rightarrow$  pristine LFU test possible

- PIONEER @ PSI will match theoretical uncertainty. Order of magnitude gap — room for surprises!



# Status of LFU test

$$\frac{R_{e/\mu}^{(\pi)}}{\left[R_{e/\mu}^{(\pi)}\right]^{\text{SM}}} = \frac{\left|1 + \epsilon_L^{ee} - \epsilon_R - \frac{B_0}{m_e} \epsilon_P^{ee}\right|^2}{\left|1 + \epsilon_L^{\mu\mu} - \epsilon_R - \frac{B_0}{m_\mu} \epsilon_P^{\mu\mu}\right|^2} + \dots$$

Non-interfering terms with  
'wrong' neutrino flavor

- BSM axial-current contribution

$$-1.9 \times 10^{-3} < \epsilon_A^{ee} - \epsilon_A^{\mu\mu} < -0.1 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$\epsilon_A \equiv \epsilon_L - \epsilon_R$$

$$\Lambda_A \sim 5.5 \text{ TeV} \rightarrow \sim 22 \text{ TeV with PIONEER}$$

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Non-interfering terms with 'wrong' neutrino flavor

- BSM pseudoscalar contribution

- Not helicity suppressed!

$$B_0(\mu) \equiv \frac{M_\pi^2}{m_u(\mu) + m_d(\mu)}$$



$$B_0/m_e = 3.6 \times 10^3$$

@  $\mu = 2 \text{ GeV}$

- LFU violation  $\leftrightarrow [\epsilon_P]^{\alpha\alpha} \neq \kappa m_\alpha$

$$\epsilon_P^{ee} < 5.4 \times 10^{-7}$$

$\Lambda_P \sim 350 \text{ TeV} \rightarrow \sim 1500 \text{ TeV}$  with PIONEER

# Cabibbo universality tests

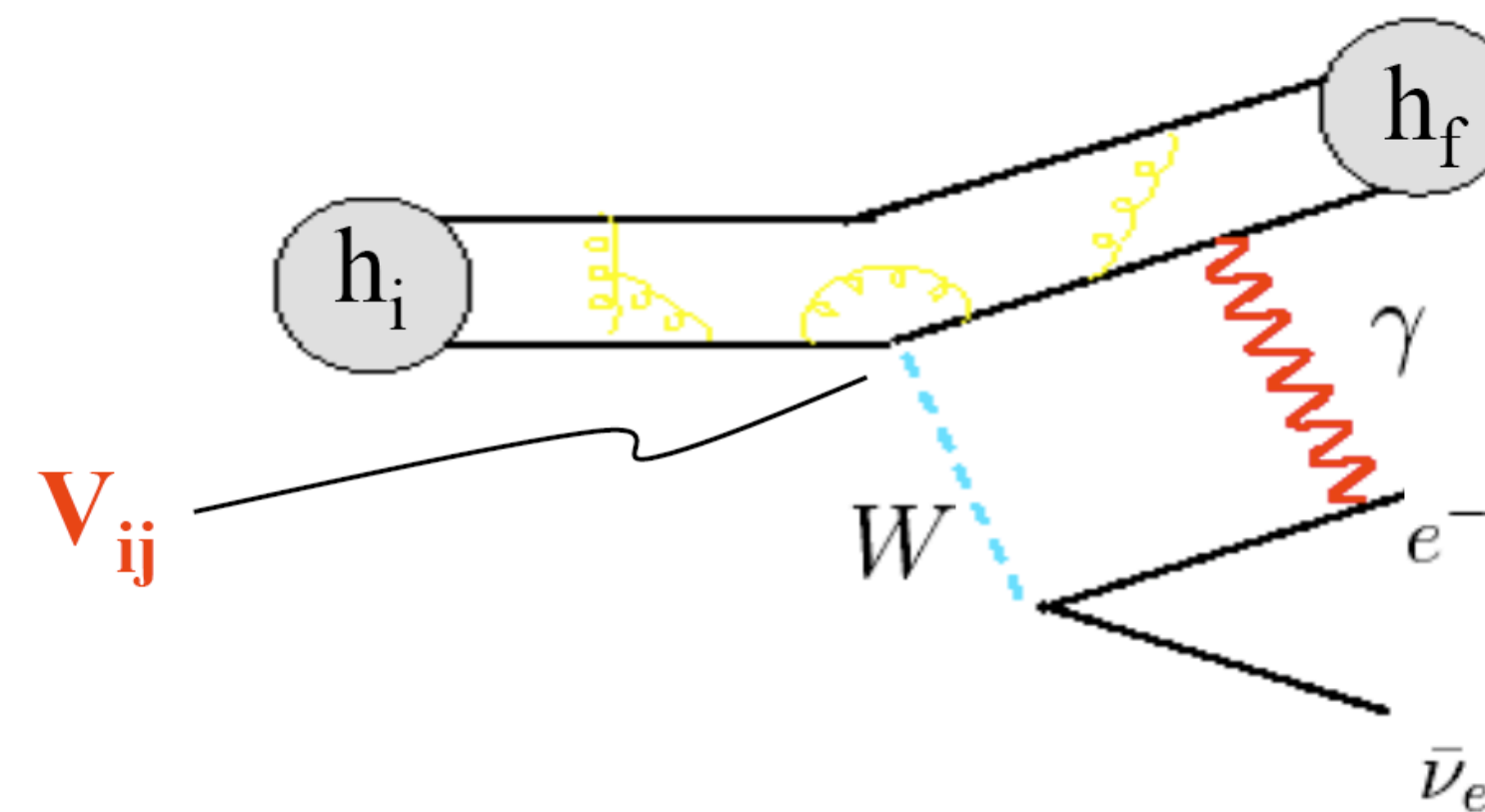
Extract  $V_{ud} = \cos\theta_C$  and  $V_{us} = \sin\theta_C$  from various decays

$$\Gamma = G_F^2 \times |V_{ij}|^2 \times |M_{\text{had}}|^2 \times (1 + \Delta_R) \times F_{\text{kin}}$$

Channel-dependent  
effective CKM element

Hadronic matrix  
element

Radiative corrections:  
( $\alpha/\pi$ )  $\sim 2 \times 10^{-3}$  and smaller effects





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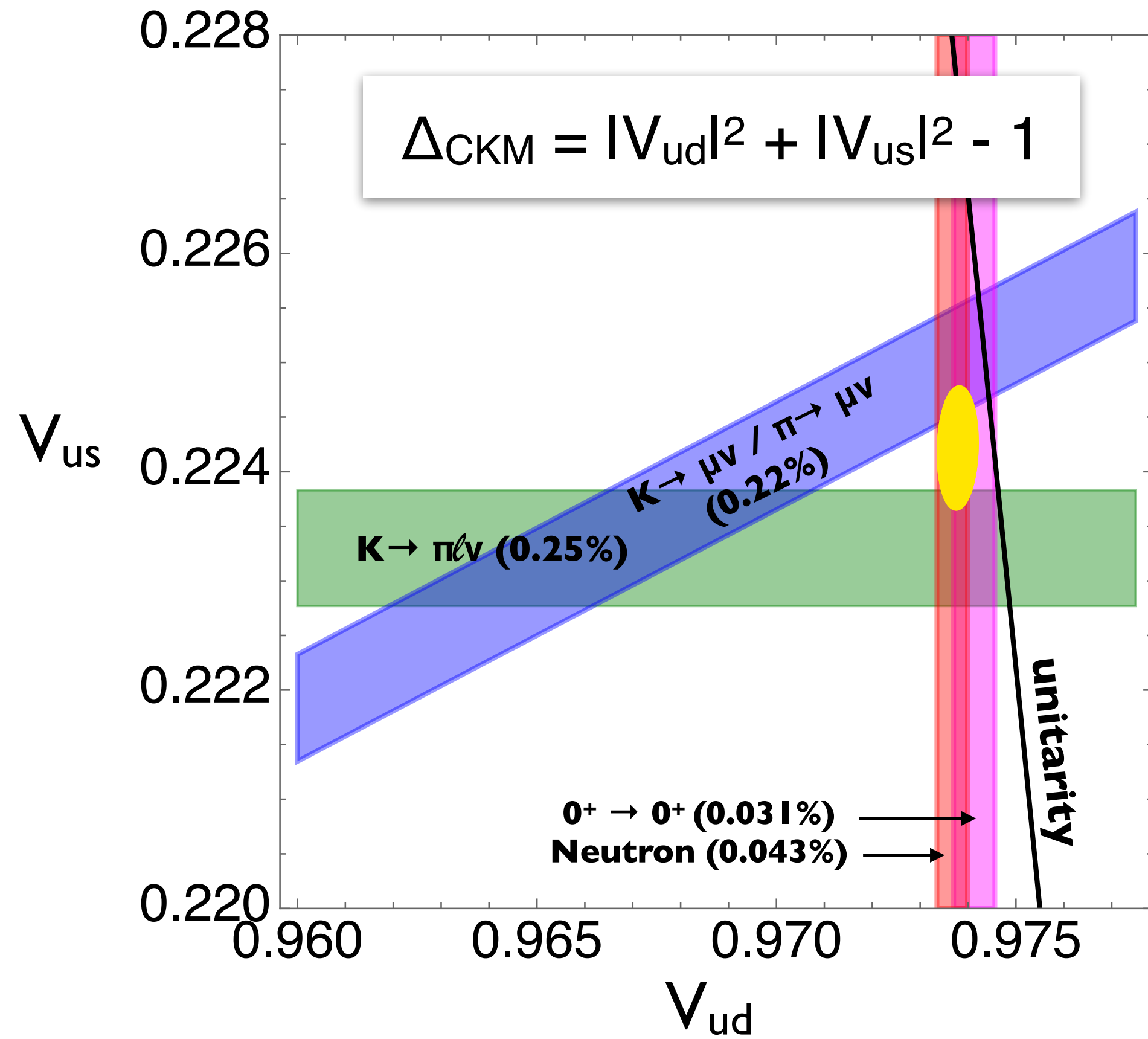
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Unitarity test, with input from many experiments and many theoretical papers

$$\Delta_{\text{CKM}} \equiv |V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 - 1 = 0$$

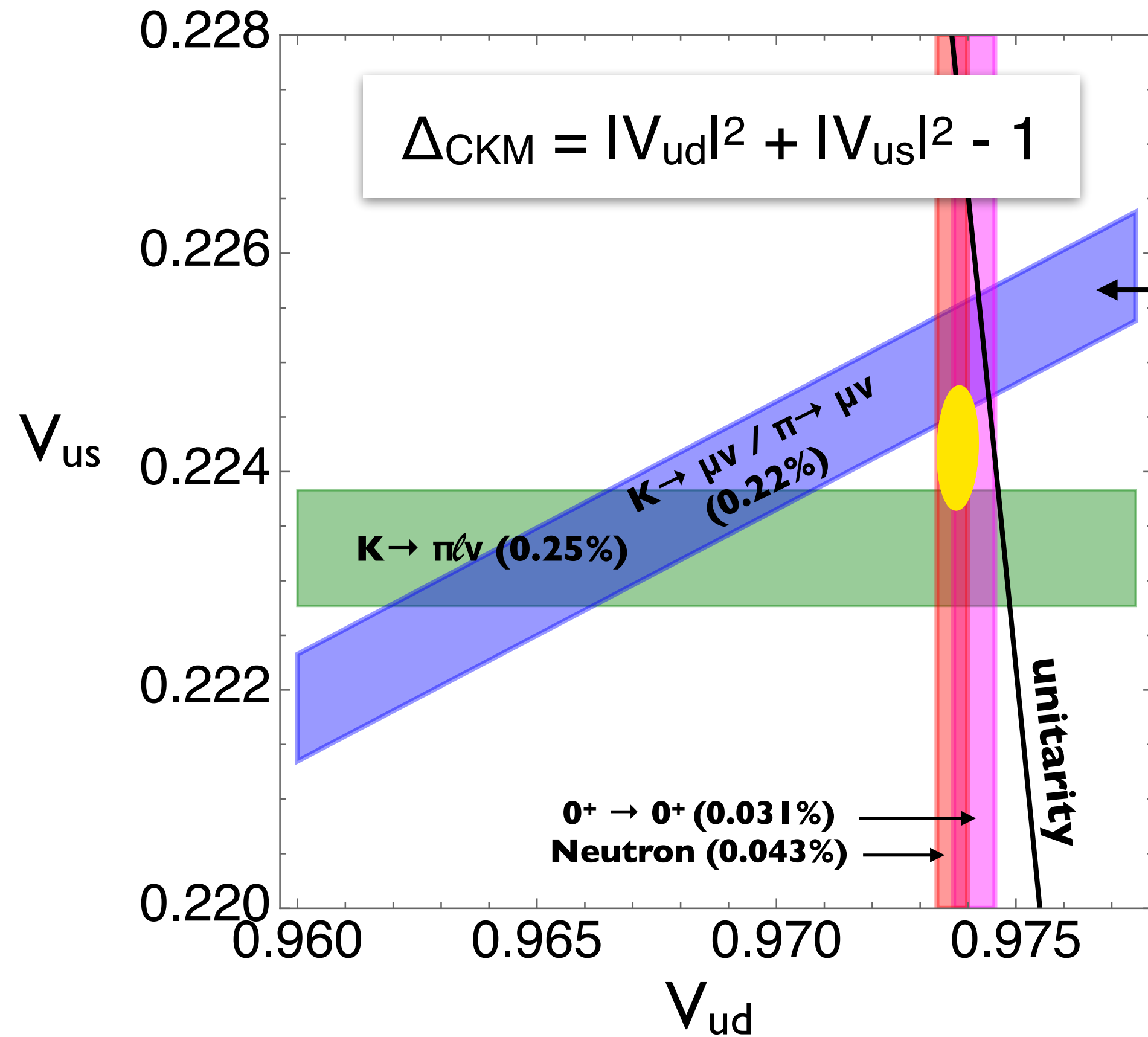
# Status of Cabibbo universality test

VC-Crivellini-Hoferichter-Moulson 2208.11707  
And references therein



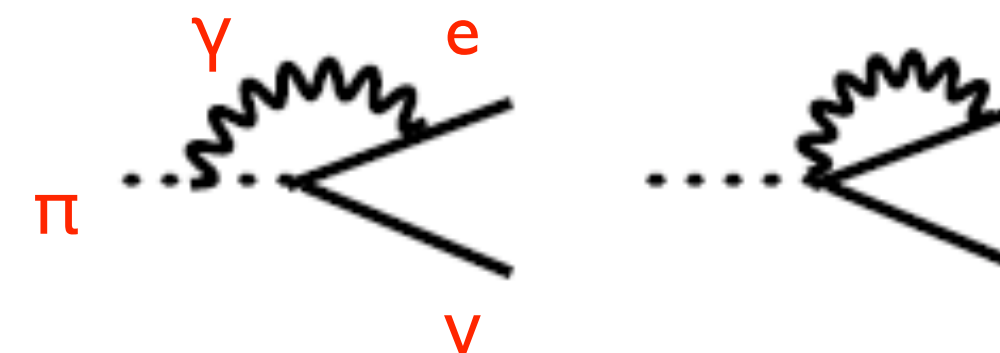
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Ratio of decay constants  $s$  from Lattice QCD

QED + strong isospin-breaking: Lattice QCD and ChPT



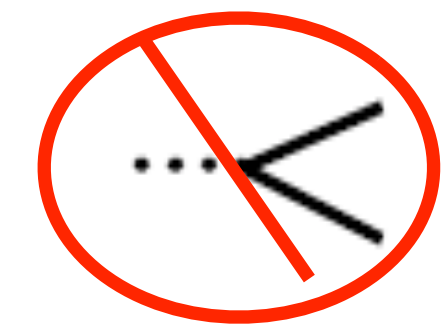
ChPT: VC-Neufeld, 1102.0563

LQCD:

FLAG: 2111.09849

Di Carlo et al., 1904.08731

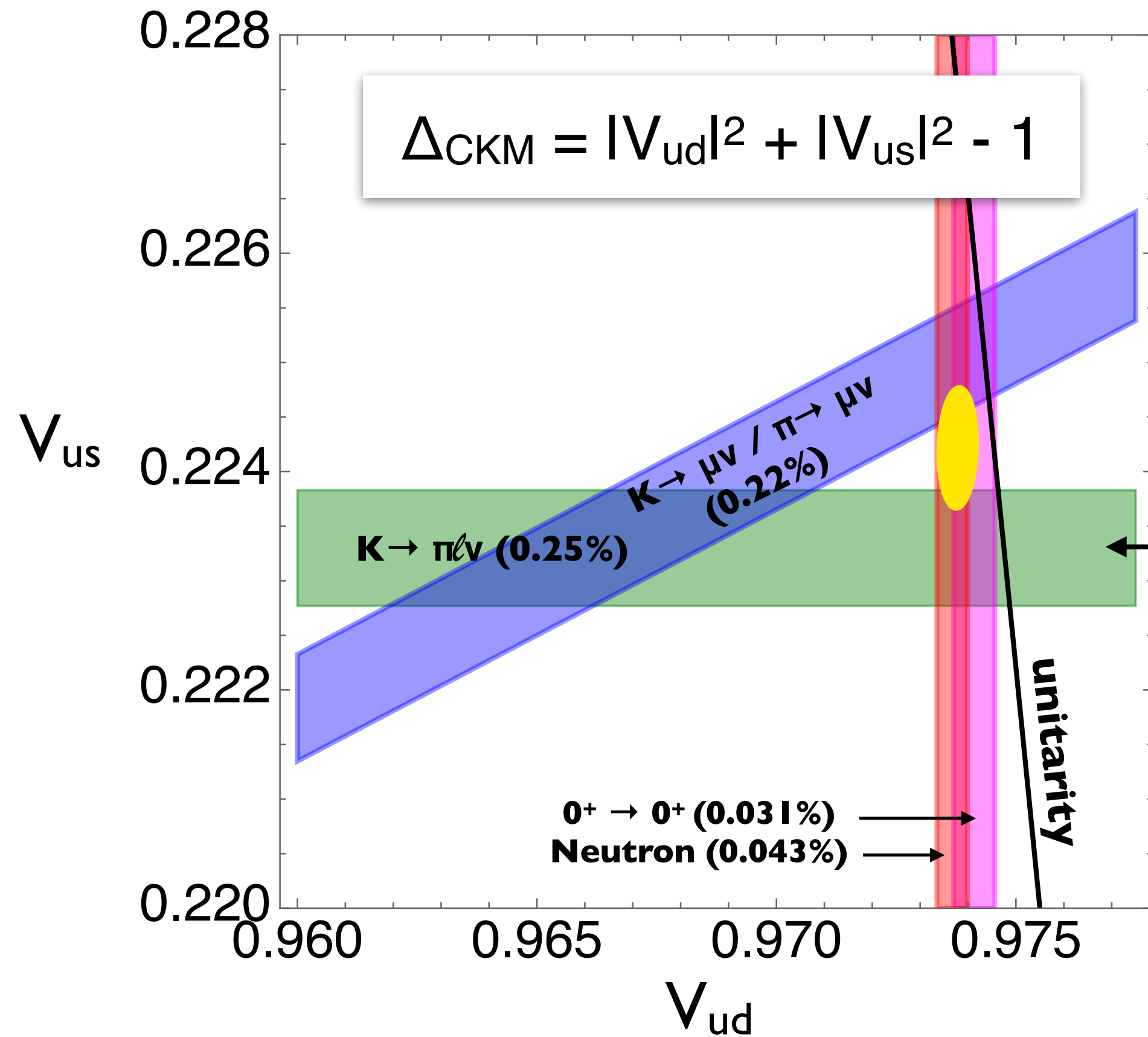
Boyle et al., 2211.12865



No contact (LEC):  
contribution cancels  
in the ratio!

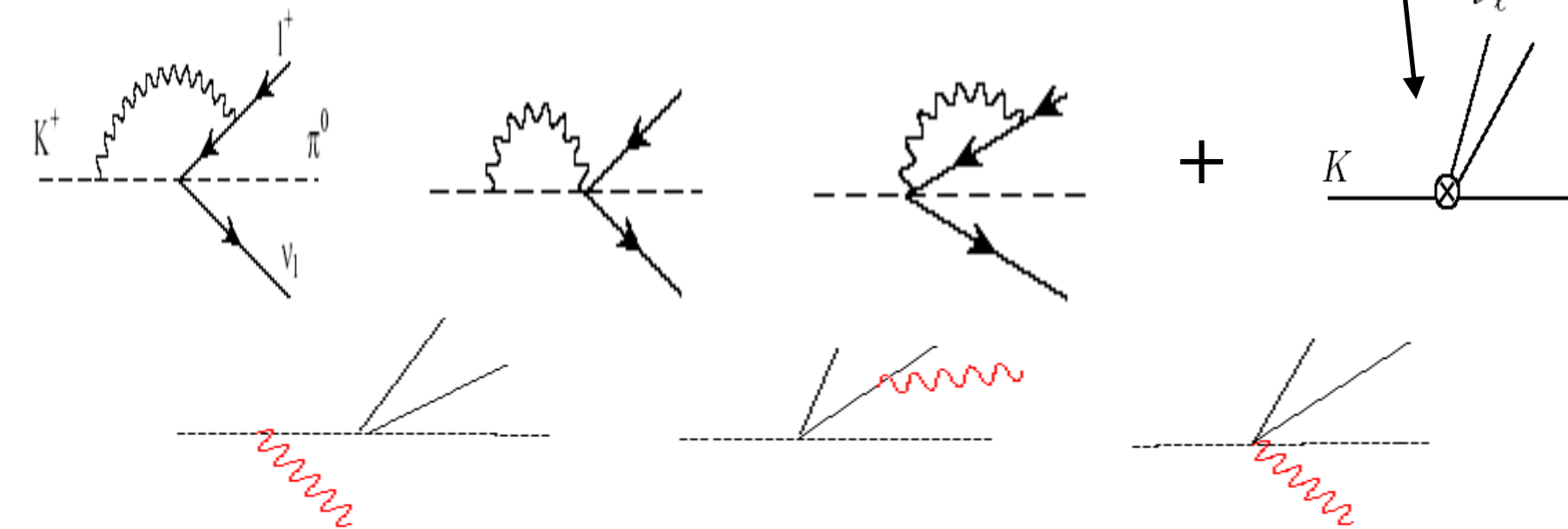
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$\langle \pi | V | K \rangle$  form factor from Lattice QCD FLAG: 2111.09849

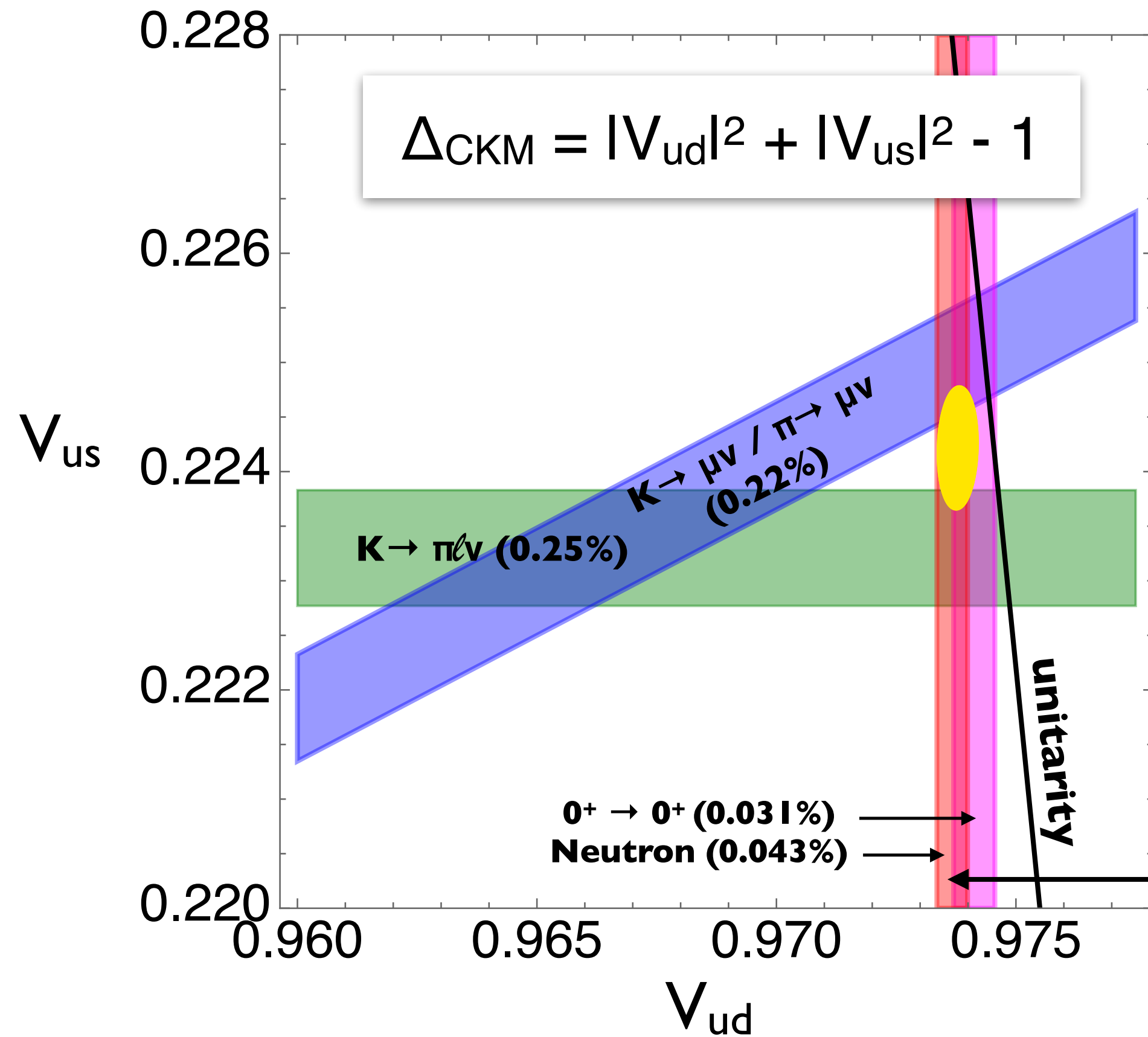
QED + strong isospin-breaking: ChPT + LECs estimated with dispersive methods and LQCD



VC, Giannotti, Neufeld 0807.4607  
Seng et al, 1910.13209, 2103.00975, 2103.4843, 2107.14708,  
2203.05217, Ma et al. 2102.12048

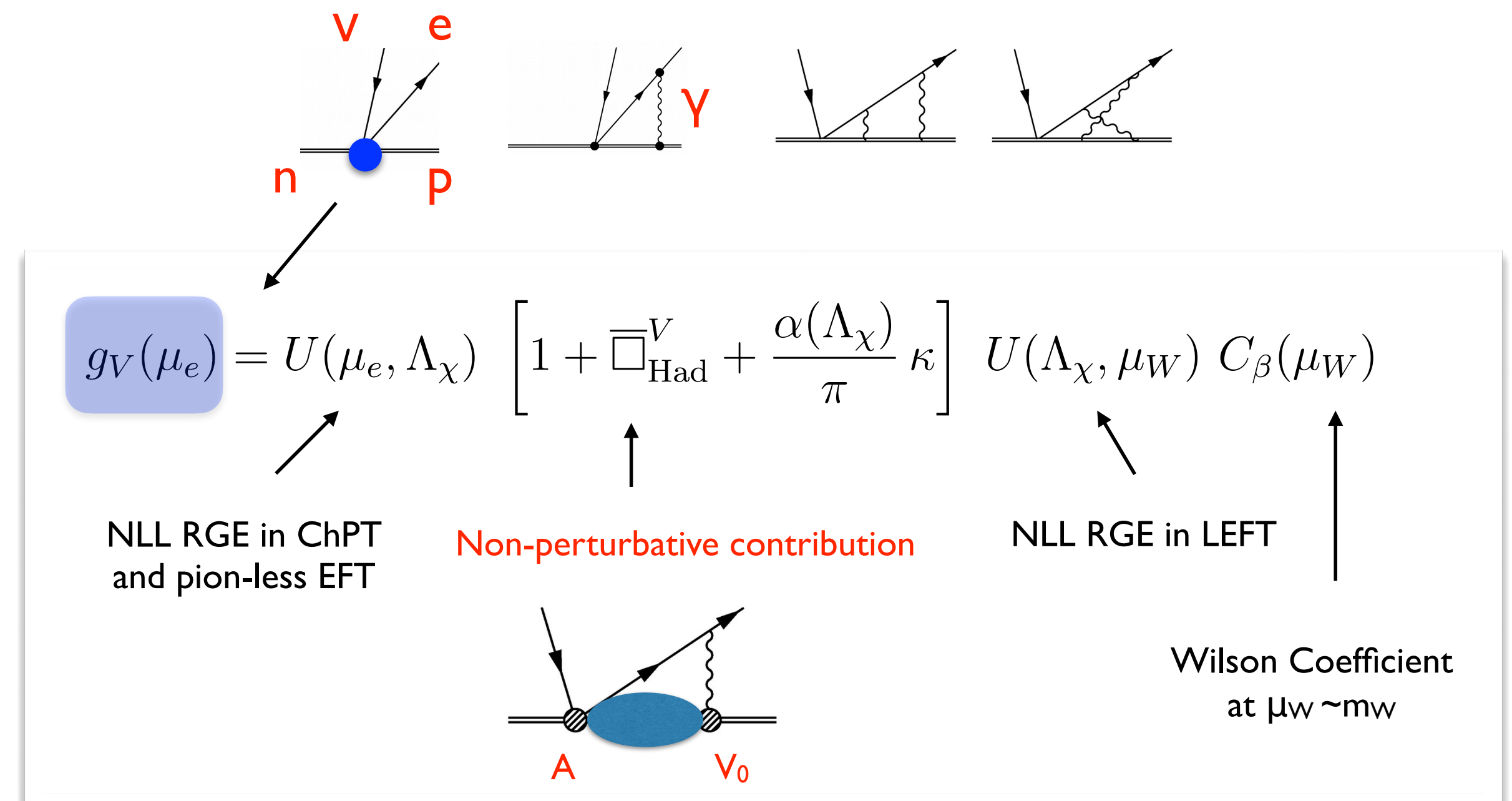
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$\langle p|A|n \rangle$  form experiment

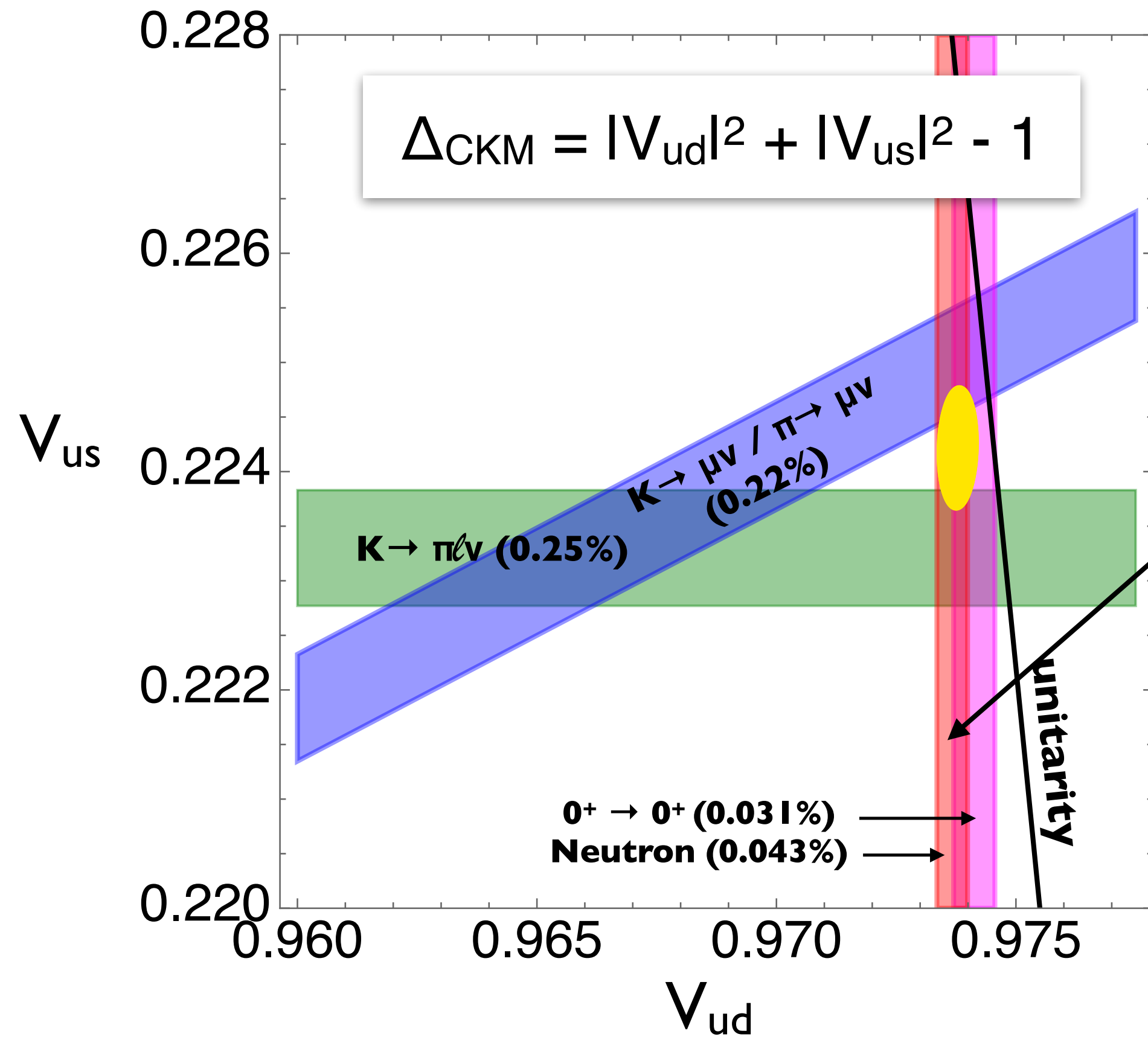
$\langle p|V|n \rangle$  with QED: ChPT + LECs estimated with dispersive methods and LQCD



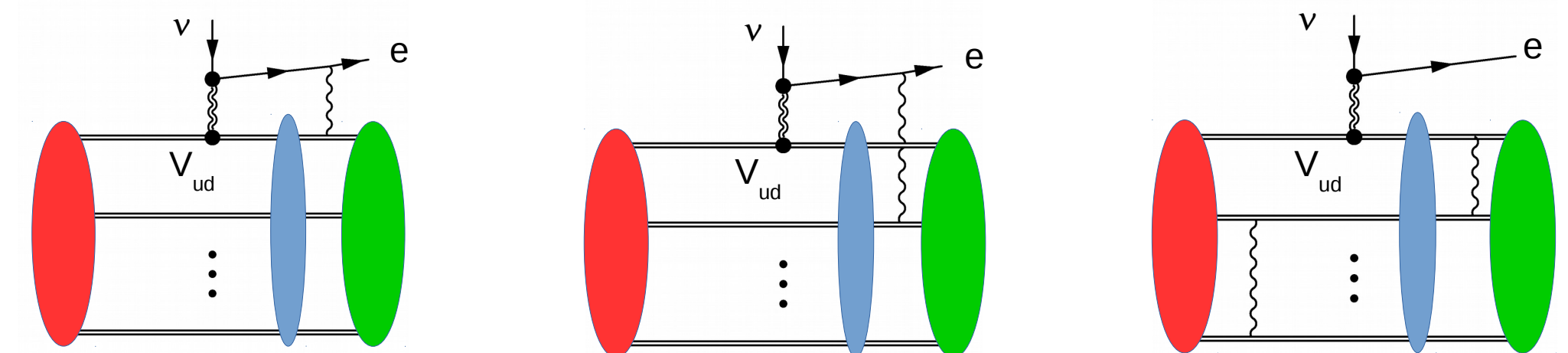
Matching and running: VC-Dekens-Mereghetti-Tomalak 2306.03138  
Input from dispersive theory and LQCD  
[Seng et al. 1807.10197, 2308.16755]

# Status of Cabibbo universality test

VC-Crivellini-Hoferichter-Moulson 2208.11707  
And references therein



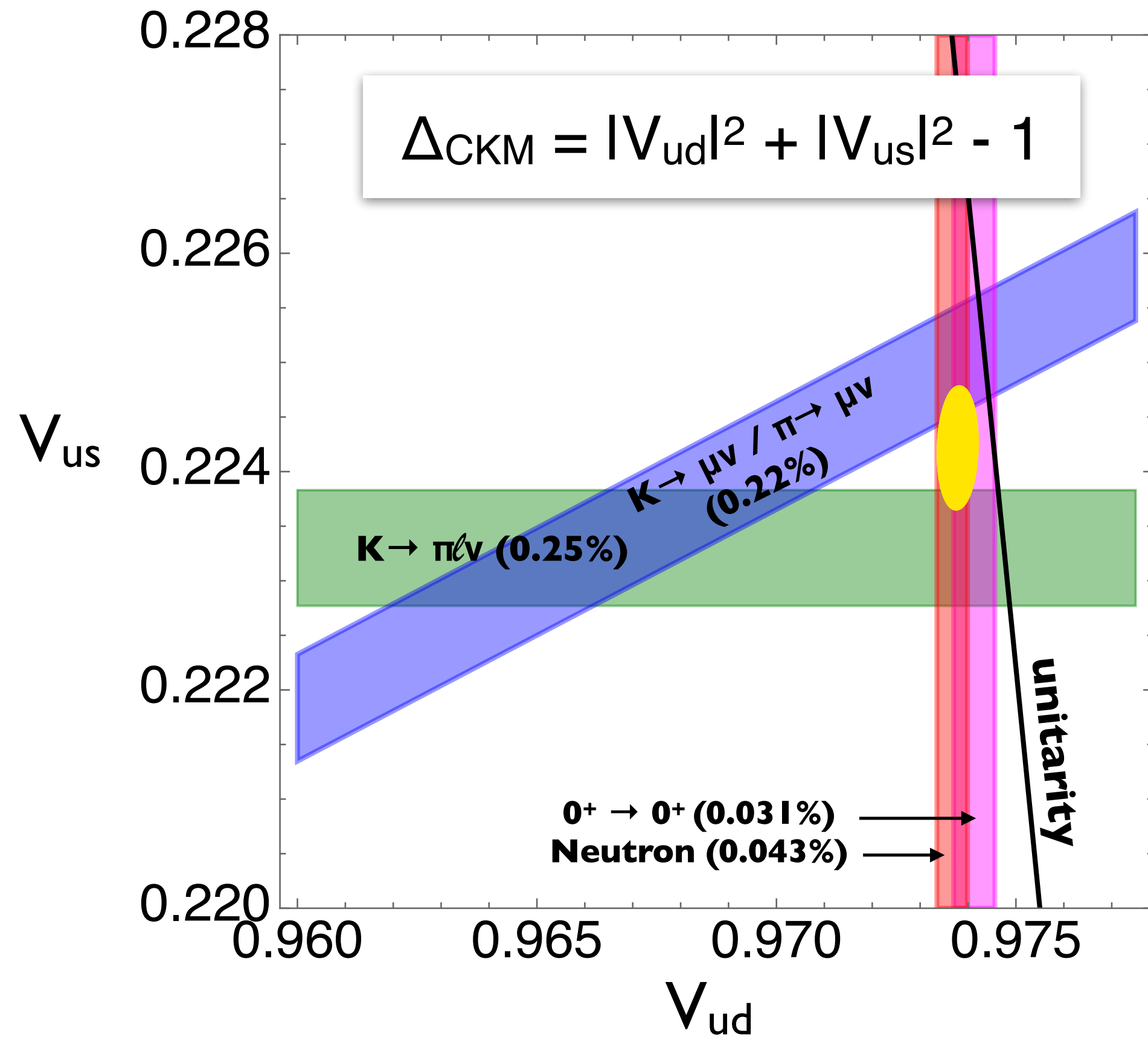
Long history. Current bottleneck from nuclear-structure dependent radiative corrections



Towner-Hardy 2020 PRC  
Gorchtein, Seng 2311.00044 and references therein

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And references therein

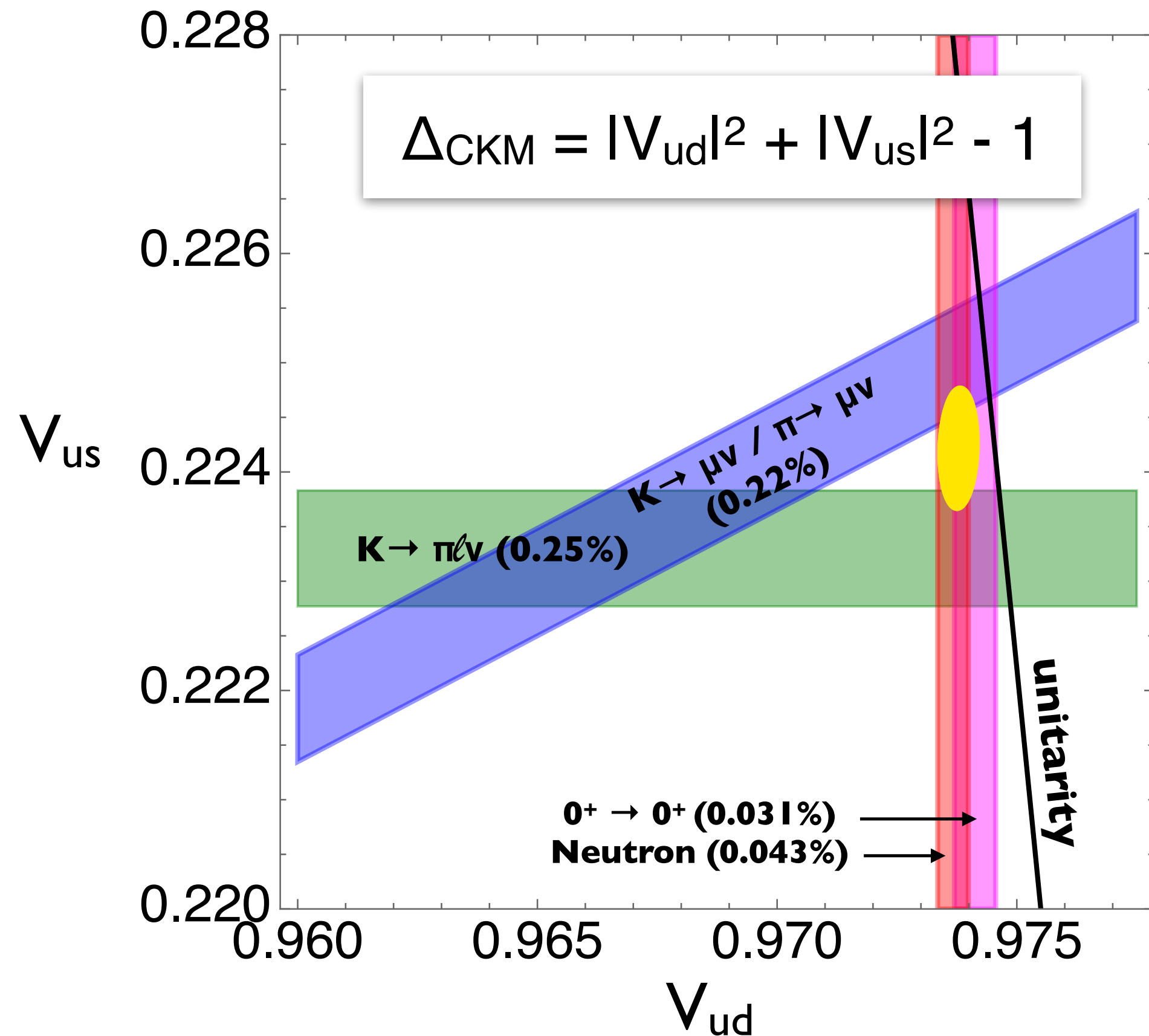


- **Tensions**

- $\sim 3\sigma$  effect in global fit ( $\Delta_{\text{CKM}} = -1.48(53) \times 10^{-3}$ )
- $\sim 3\sigma$  problem in meson sector (KI2 vs KI3)

# Status of Cabibbo universality test

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- **Expected experimental improvements**
  - neutron decay (will match nominal nuclear uncertainty)
  - pion beta decay (3x to 10x at PIONEER phases II, III)
  - new  $K_{\mu 3}/K_{\mu 2}$  BR measurement at NA62
- **Ongoing / future theoretical scrutiny**
  - Radiative corrections in lattice QCD to  $K_{l3}$  and neutron decay
  - EFT and first-principles nuclear structure for radiative corrections in nuclear decay



# Implications for new physics

- Start with LEFT

$$|\bar{V}_{ud}|_i^2 = |V_{ud}|^2 \left( 1 + \sum_{\alpha} C_{i\alpha} \epsilon_{\alpha} \right)$$

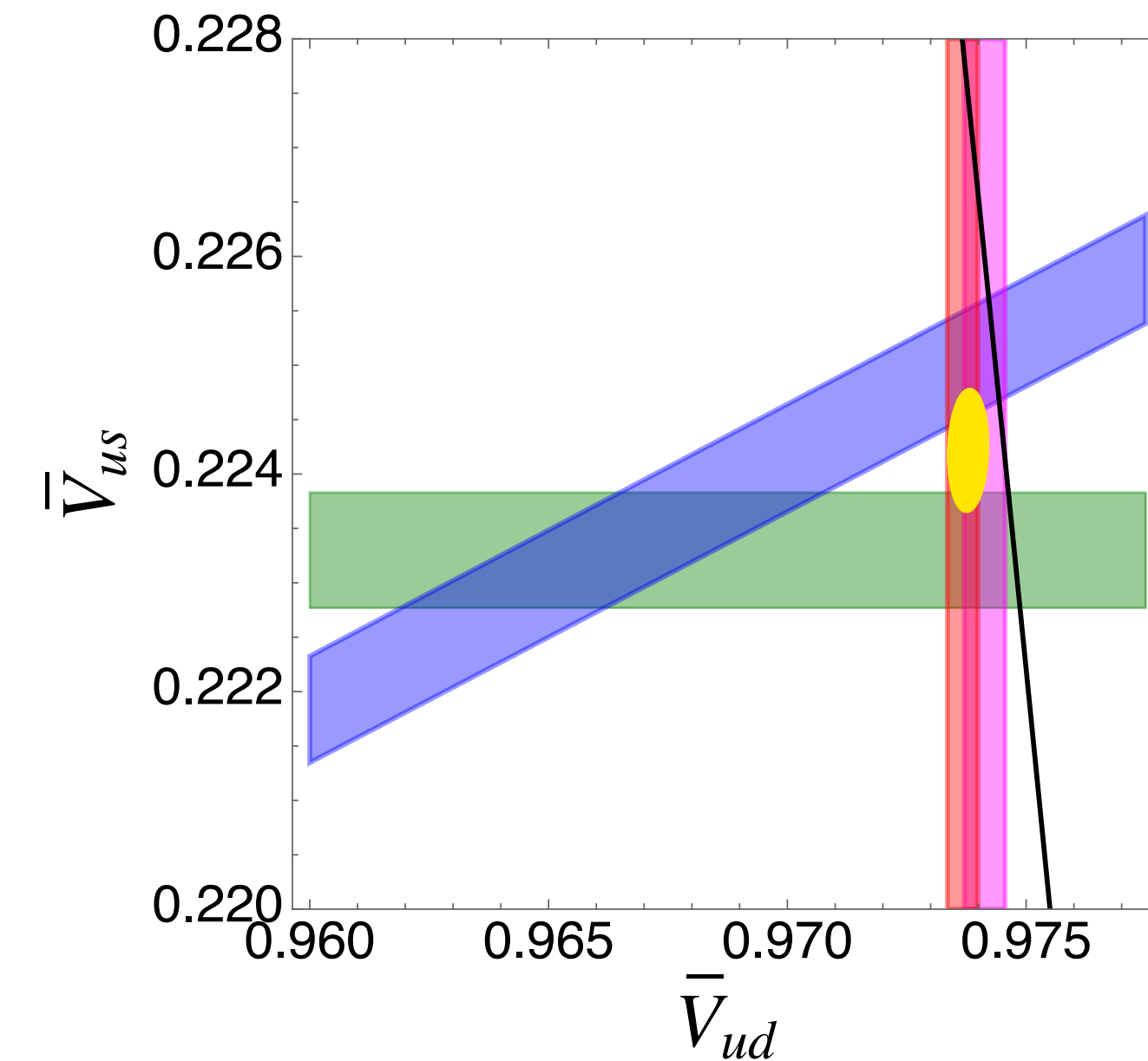
$$|\bar{V}_{us}|_j^2 = |V_{us}|^2 \left( 1 + \sum_{\alpha} C_{j\alpha} \epsilon_{\alpha} \right)$$

Channel-dependent CKM elements extracted in the 'SM-like analysis'

Elements of the unitary CKM matrix

Known coefficients

LEFT couplings



Find set of  $\epsilon$ 's so that  $V_{ud}$  and  $V_{us}$  bands meet on the unitarity circle

# Implications for new physics

- Start with LEFT

$$|\bar{V}_{ud}|_i^2 = |V_{ud}|^2 \left( 1 + \sum_{\alpha} C_{i\alpha} \epsilon_{\alpha} \right)$$

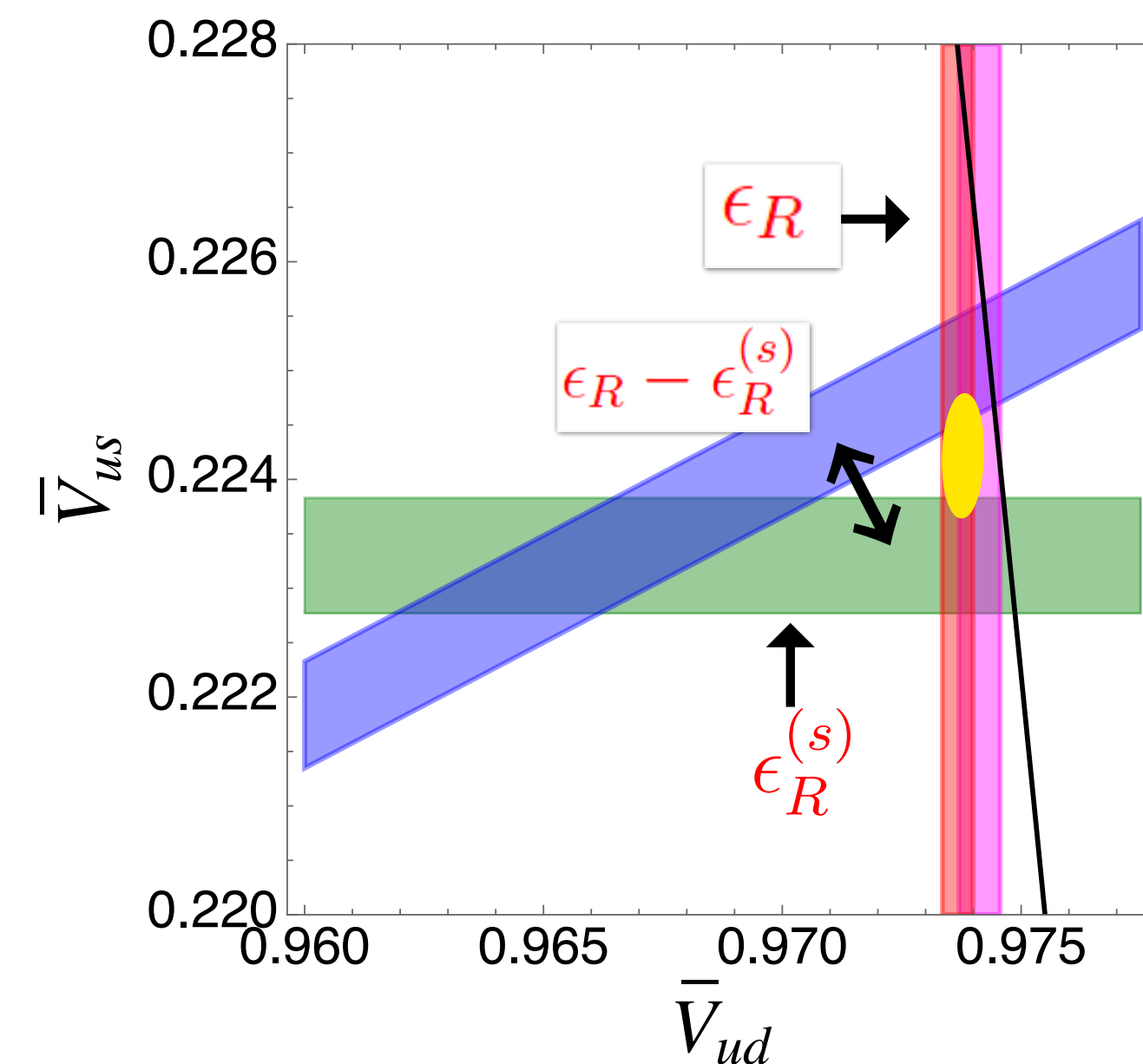
$$|\bar{V}_{us}|_j^2 = |V_{us}|^2 \left( 1 + \sum_{\alpha} C_{j\alpha} \epsilon_{\alpha} \right)$$

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Elements of the unitary CKM matrix

Known coefficients

LEFT couplings



Find set of  $\epsilon$ 's so that  $V_{ud}$  and  $V_{us}$  bands meet on the unitarity circle

**Simplest 'solution': right-handed (V+A) quark currents**

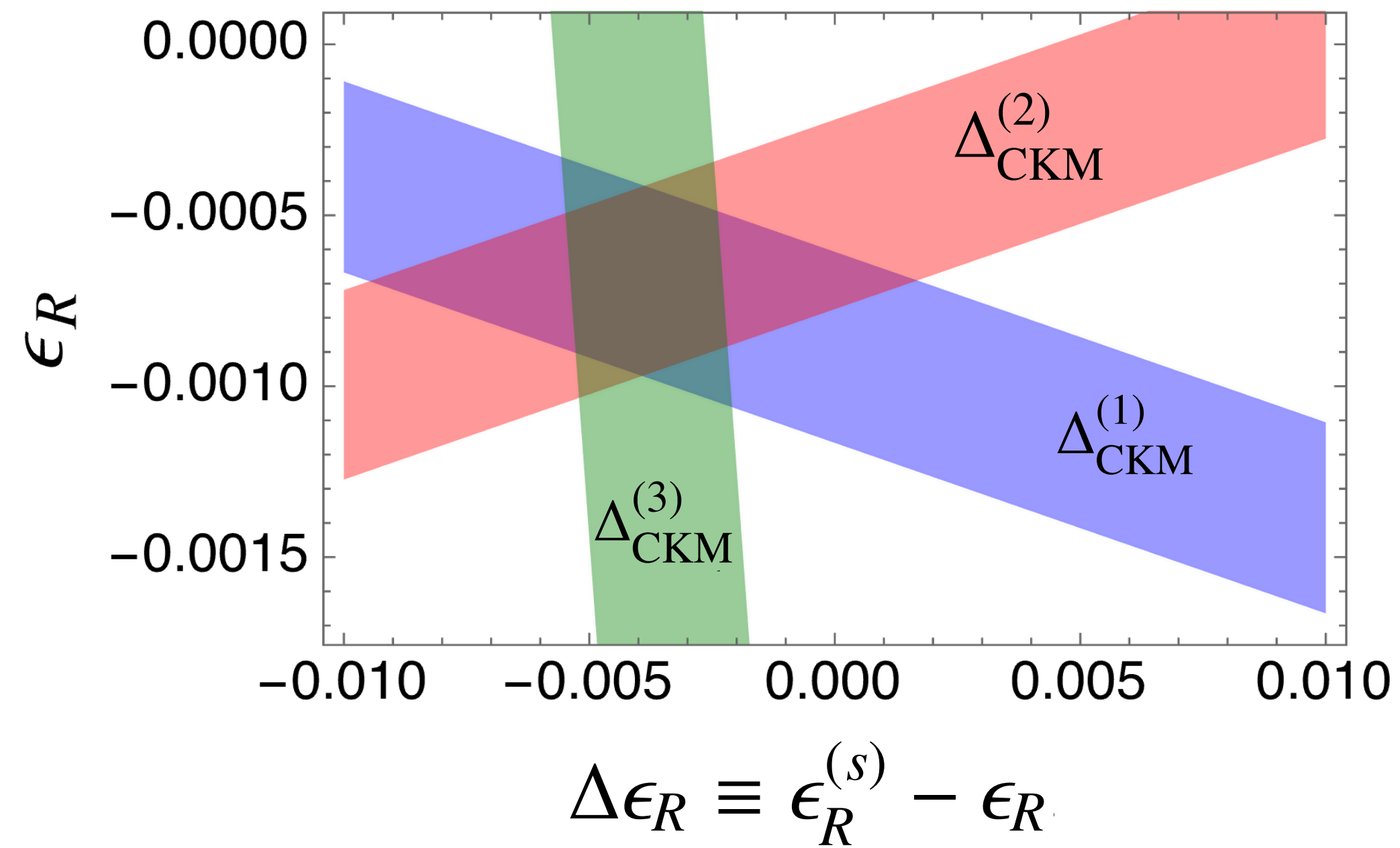
CKM elements from vector (axial) channels are shifted by  $1 + \epsilon_R$  ( $1 - \epsilon_R$ ).

$V_{us}/V_{ud}$ ,  $V_{ud}$  and  $V_{us}$  shift in correlated way, can resolve all tensions!

Alioli et al 1703.04751 Grossman-Passemar-Schacht 1911.07821  
 VC-Crivellin-Hoferichter-Moulson 2208.11707  
 VC, W. Dekens, J. De Vries, E. Mereghetti, T. Tong, 2311.00021

# Unveiling R-handed quark currents?

VC-Crivellin-Hoferichter-Moulson 2208.11707



$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{CKM}^{(1)} &= |V_{ud}^\beta|^2 + |V_{us}^{K_{\ell 3}}|^2 - 1 \\ &= -1.76(56) \times 10^{-3} \\ \Delta_{CKM}^{(2)} &= |V_{ud}^\beta|^2 + |V_{us}^{K_{\ell 2}/\pi_{\ell 2, \beta}}|^2 - 1 \\ &= -0.98(58) \times 10^{-3} \\ \Delta_{CKM}^{(3)} &= |V_{ud}^{K_{\ell 2}/\pi_{\ell 2, K_{\ell 3}}}|^2 + |V_{us}^{K_{\ell 3}}|^2 - 1 \\ &= -1.64(63) \times 10^{-2}\end{aligned}$$

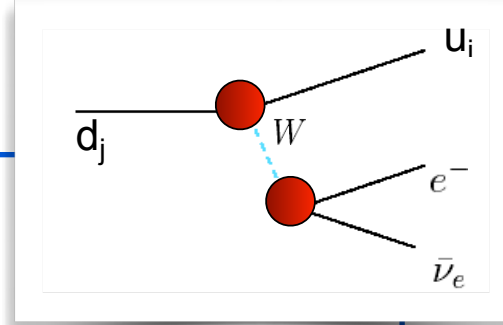


$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_R &= -0.69(27) \times 10^{-3} \\ \Delta\epsilon_R &= -3.9(1.6) \times 10^{-3}\end{aligned}$$

$\Lambda_R \sim 5-10 \text{ TeV}$

- Preferred ranges are not in conflict with constraints from other low-E probes
- Does the R-handed current explanation survive after taking into account high energy data?

# High Energy constraints



$\mathcal{E}_R$

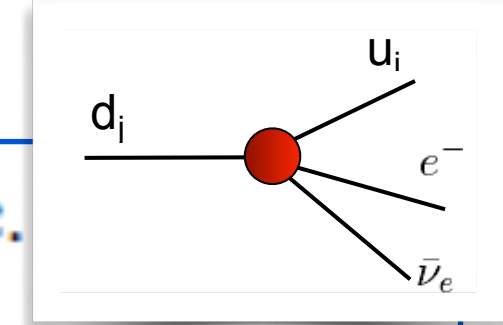
$$Q_{Hud} = i(\tilde{H}^\dagger D_\mu H)(\bar{u}_p \gamma^\mu d_r)$$

$\mathcal{E}_L$

$$Q_{Hq}^{(3)} = (H^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I H)(\bar{q}_p \tau^I \gamma^\mu q_r)$$

$\mathcal{E}_L$

$$Q_{Hl}^{(3)} = (H^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I H)(\bar{l}_p \tau^I \gamma^\mu l_r)$$



$\mathcal{E}_{S,P}$

$$O_{qde} = (\bar{l}e)(\bar{d}q) + \text{h.c.}$$

$\mathcal{E}_{S,P}$

$$O_{lq} = (\bar{l}_a e) \epsilon^{ab} (\bar{q}_b u) + \text{h.c.}$$

$\mathcal{E}_T$

$$O_{lq}^t = (\bar{l}_a \sigma^{\mu\nu} e) \epsilon^{ab} (\bar{q}_b \sigma_{\mu\nu} u) + \text{h.c.}$$

$\mathcal{E}_L$

$$O_{lq}^{(3)} = \bar{l} \gamma_\mu \sigma^a l \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \sigma^a q$$

$\mathcal{E}_L$

$$O_u = \bar{l} \gamma_\mu l \bar{l} \gamma^\mu l$$

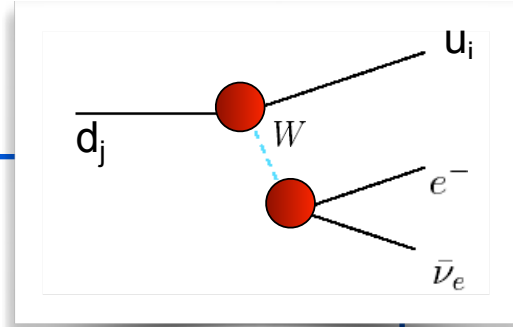
# High Energy constraints

$\mathcal{E}_R$   
 $\mathcal{E}_L$   
 $\mathcal{E}_L$

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$\mathcal{E}_{S,P}$   
 $\mathcal{E}_{S,P}$   
 $\mathcal{E}_T$   
 $\mathcal{E}_L$   
 $\mathcal{E}_L$

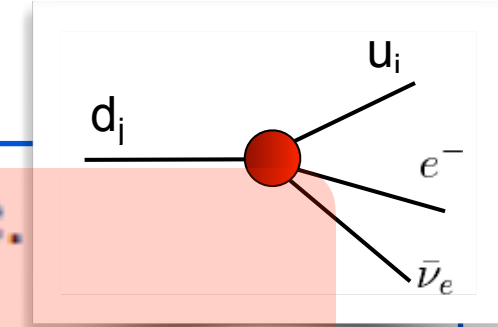
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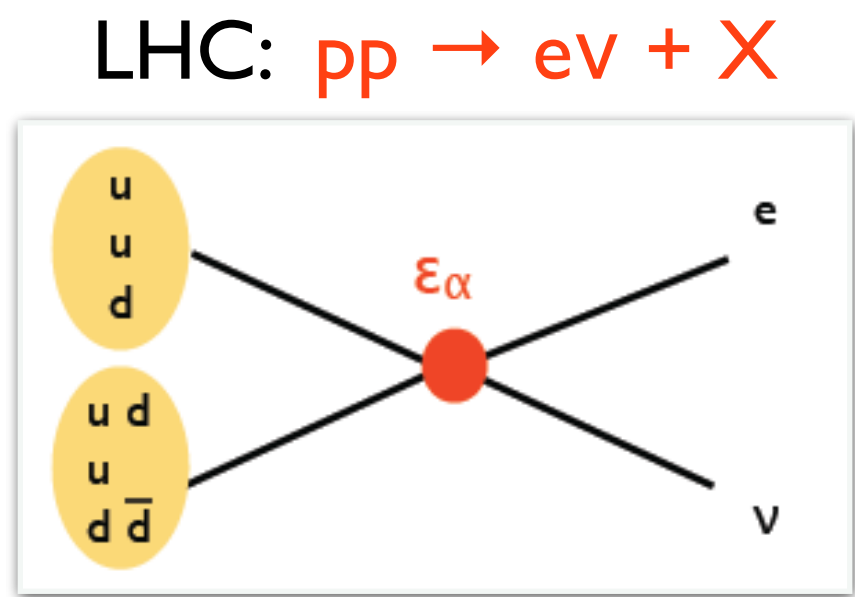
$$O_{lq}^t = (\bar{l}_a \sigma^{\mu\nu} e) \epsilon^{ab} (\bar{q}_b \sigma_{\mu\nu} u) + \text{h.c.}$$

$$O_{lq}^{(3)} = \bar{l} \gamma_\mu \sigma^a l \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \sigma^a q$$

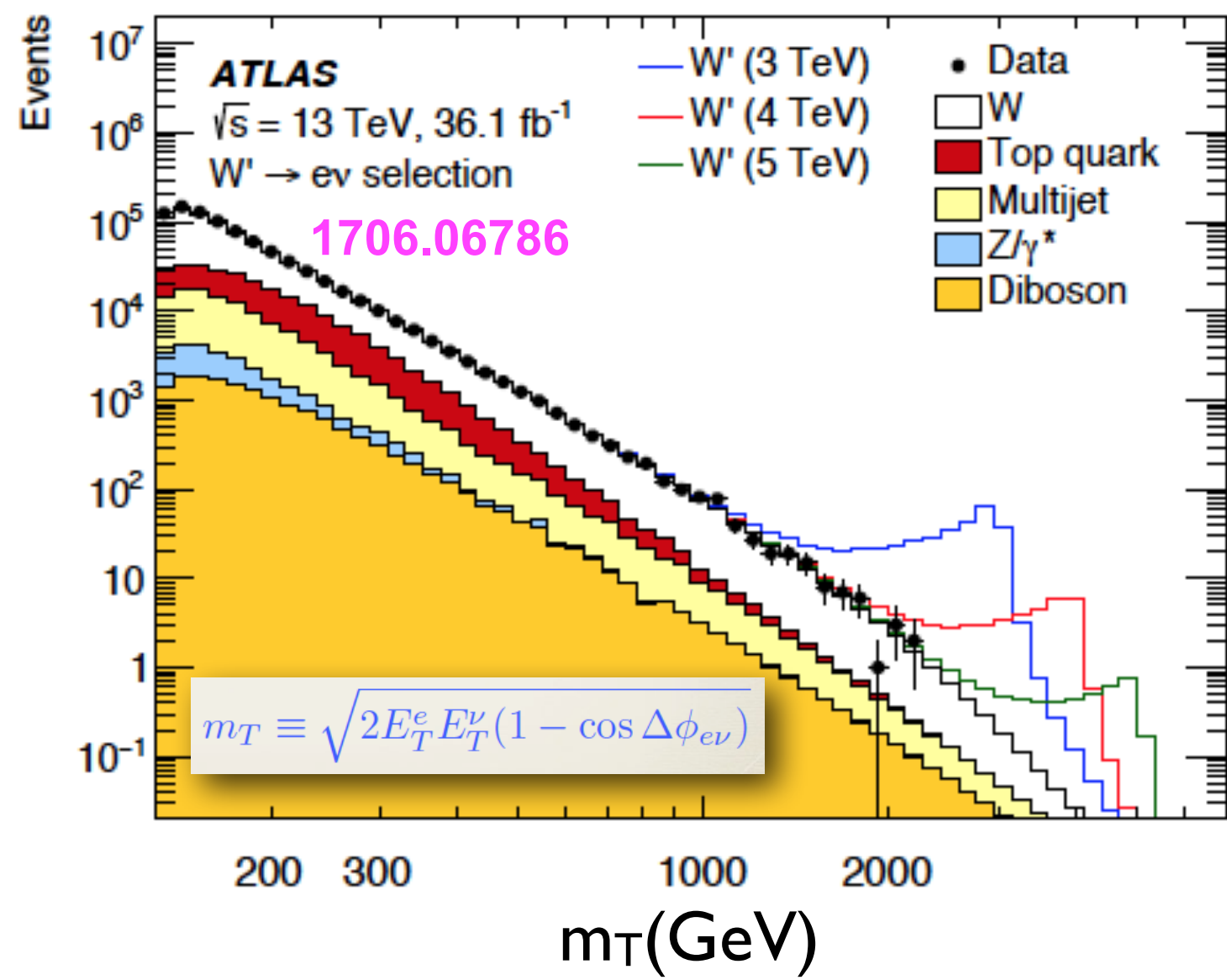
$$O_u = \bar{l} \gamma_\mu l \bar{l} \gamma^\mu l$$



Constrained by  $pp \rightarrow ev+X$  and  $pp \rightarrow e^+e^-+X$  at the LHC



Vertex corrections essentially unconstrained



$\mathcal{E}_\alpha \sim 10^{-3} - 10^{-4}$

VC, Graesser, Gonzalez-Alonso 1210.4553  
 Alioli-Dekens-Girard-Mereghetti 1804.07407  
 Gupta et al. 1806.09006  
 Boughezal-Mereghetti-Petriello 2106.05337  
 ...

# High Energy constraints

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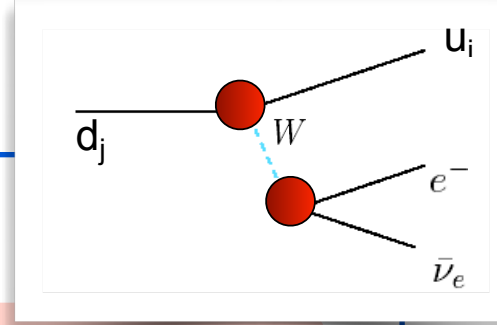
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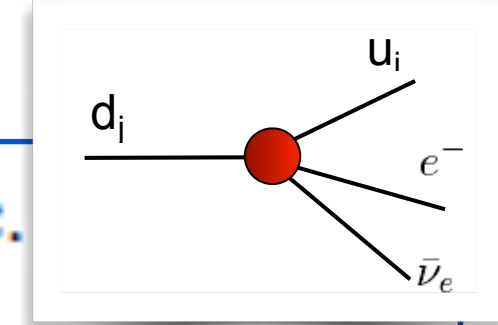
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$\mathcal{E}_L$

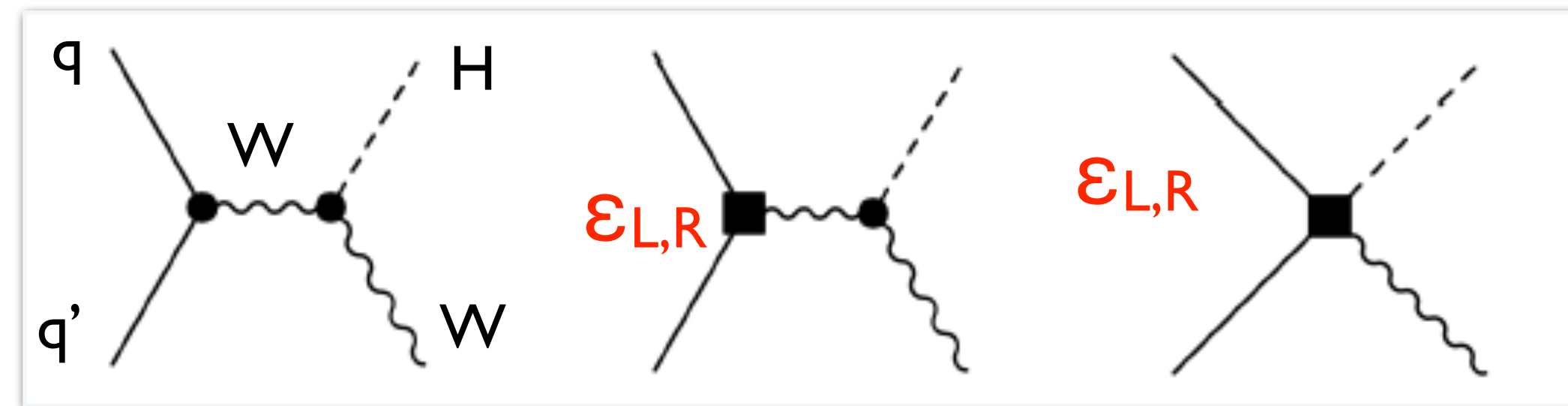
$$O_{lq}^{(3)} = \bar{l} \gamma_\mu \sigma^a l \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \sigma^a q$$

$\mathcal{E}_L$

$$O_{ll} = \bar{l} \gamma_\mu l \bar{l} \gamma^\mu l$$



Can be probed at the LHC by associated Higgs + W production (5-10%)



S. Alioli, VC, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, E. Mereghetti 1703.04751

LHC run 2 projection would lead to  $\mathcal{E}_{L,R} \sim 3-4\%$

# High Energy constraints

$\mathcal{E}_R$

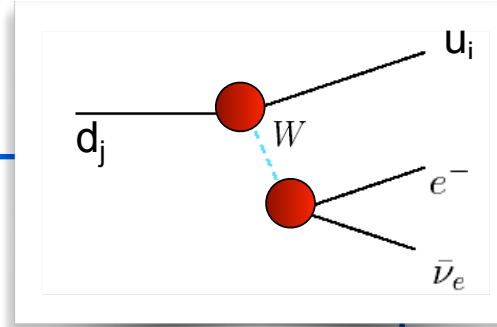
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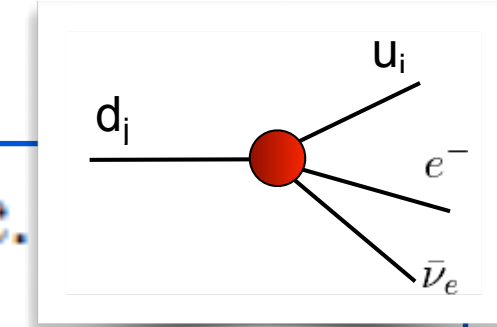
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Contribute to Z-pole and other EW observables, including\*\*  $M_W$

# High Energy constraints

$\mathcal{E}_R$

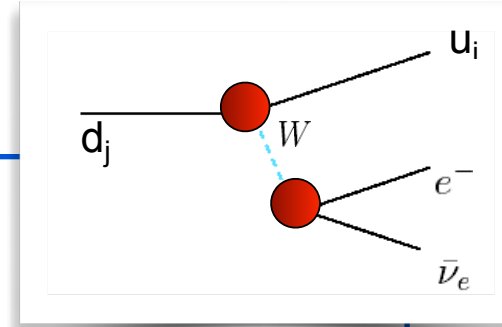
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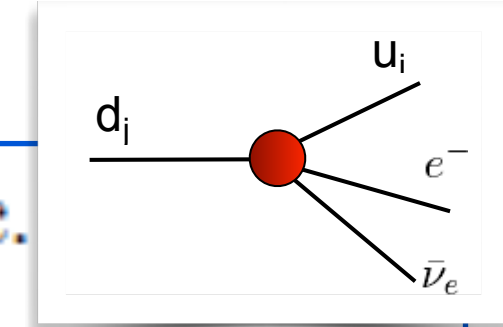
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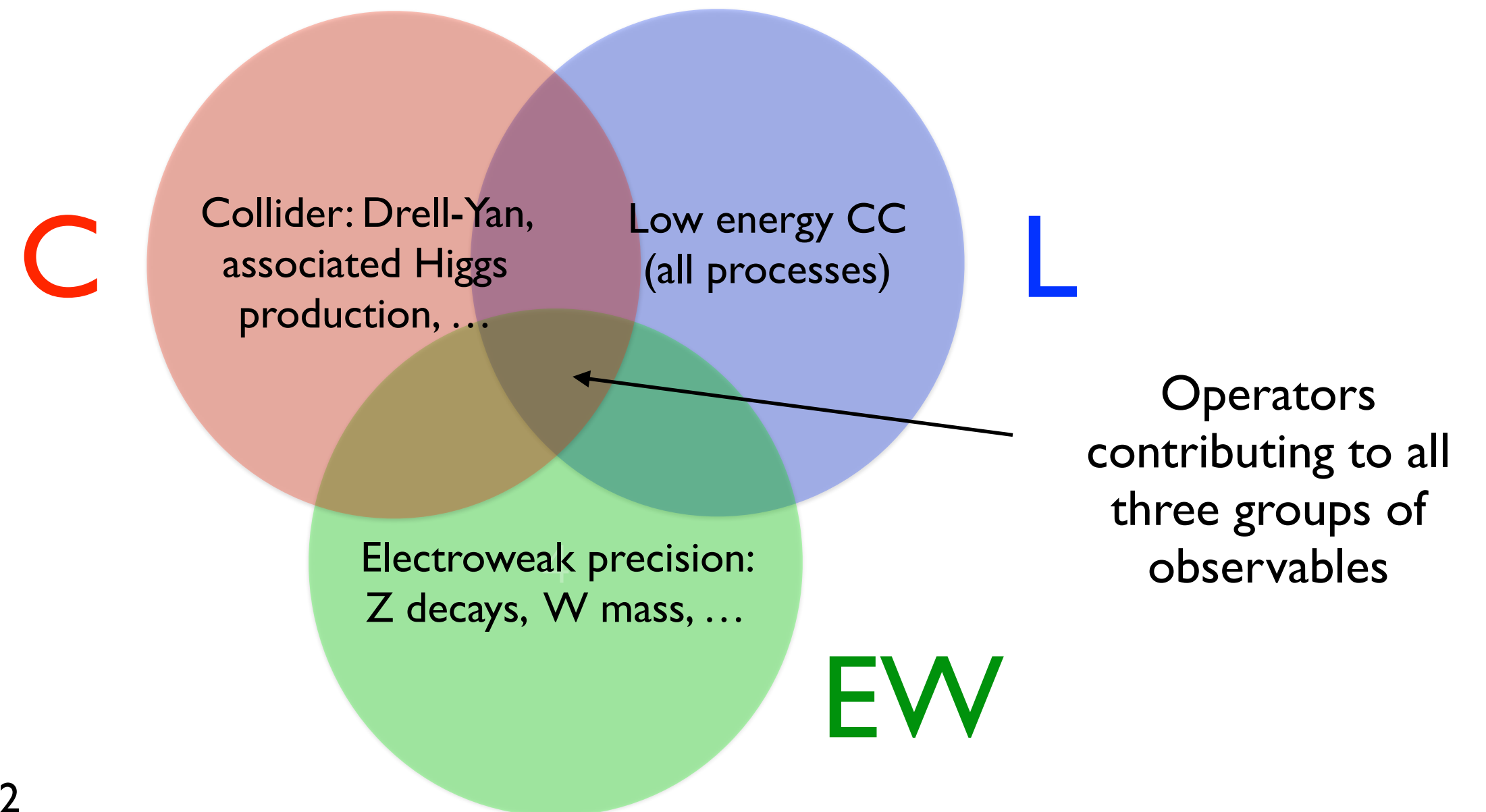
$\mathcal{E}_L$

$$** O_{ll} = \bar{l} \gamma_\mu l \bar{l} \gamma^\mu l$$



Contribute to Z-pole and other EW observables, including\*\*  $M_W$

- A consistent analysis of beta decays in the SM-EFT requires using data from, Collider, Low energy, and ElectroWeak tests
- Requires 37 dim-6 operators

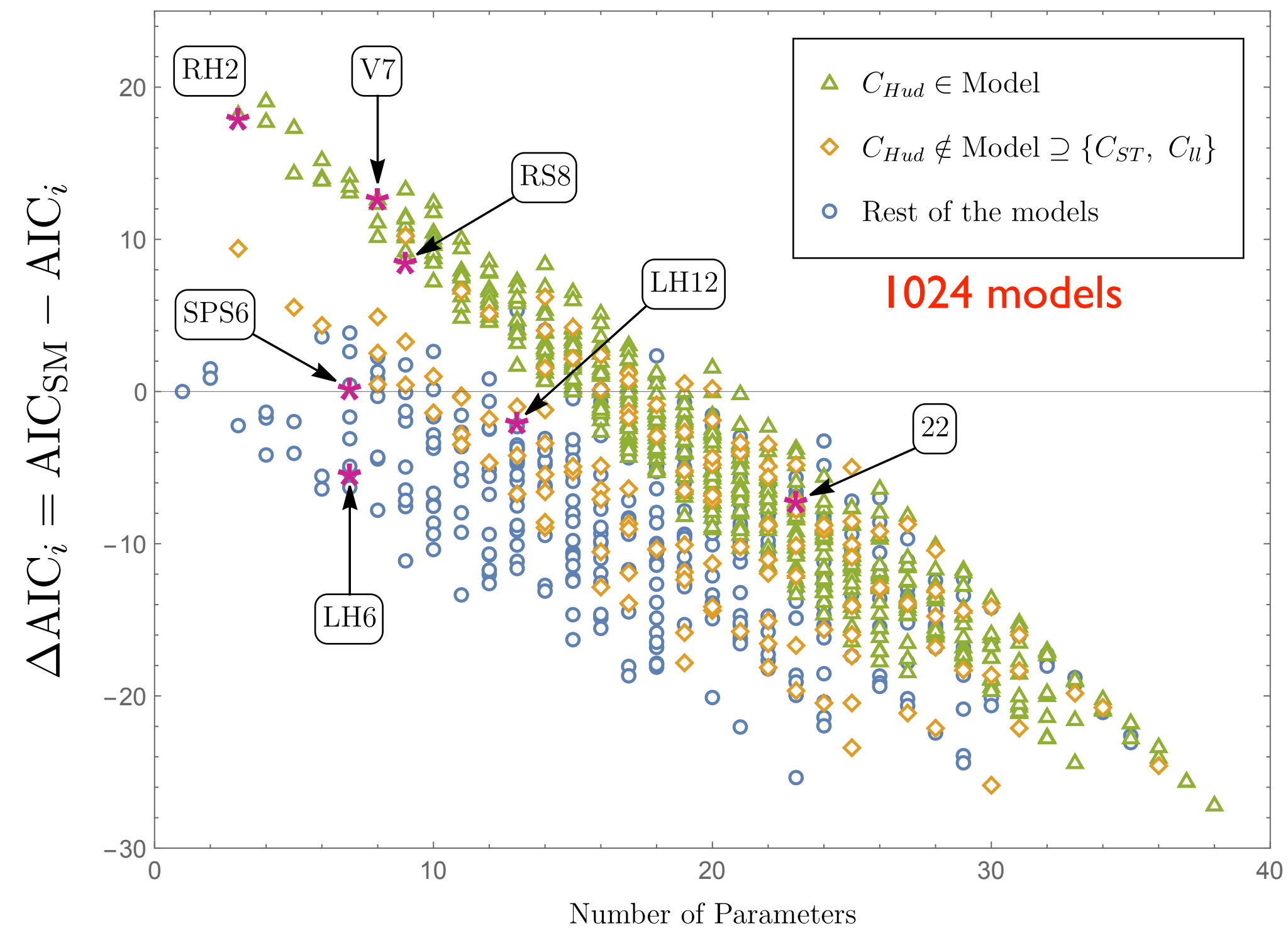
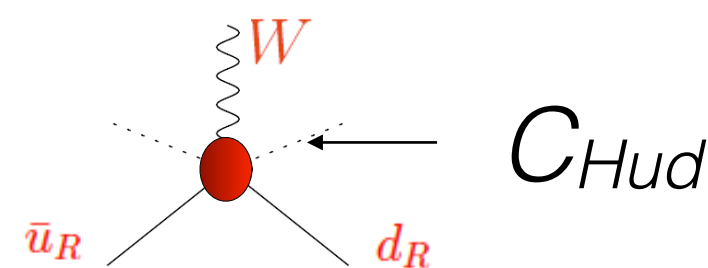




# 'Global' analysis

VC, W. Dekens, J. De Vries, E. Mereghetti, T. Tong,  
JHEP 03 (24) 33, arXiv: 2311.00021

- Performed 'CLEWed' analysis within SMEFT. Scanned model space by 'turning on' certain classes of effective couplings
- Model selection? Akaike Information Criterion [ $AIC = 2k - \ln(L)$ ] favors models with Right-Handed Charged Currents of quarks (V+A)

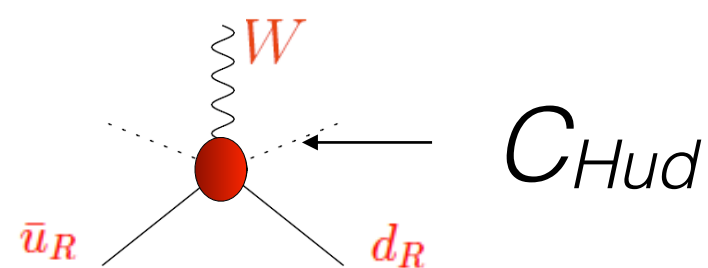


More favored models  
↑  
Standard Model  
↓  
Less favored models

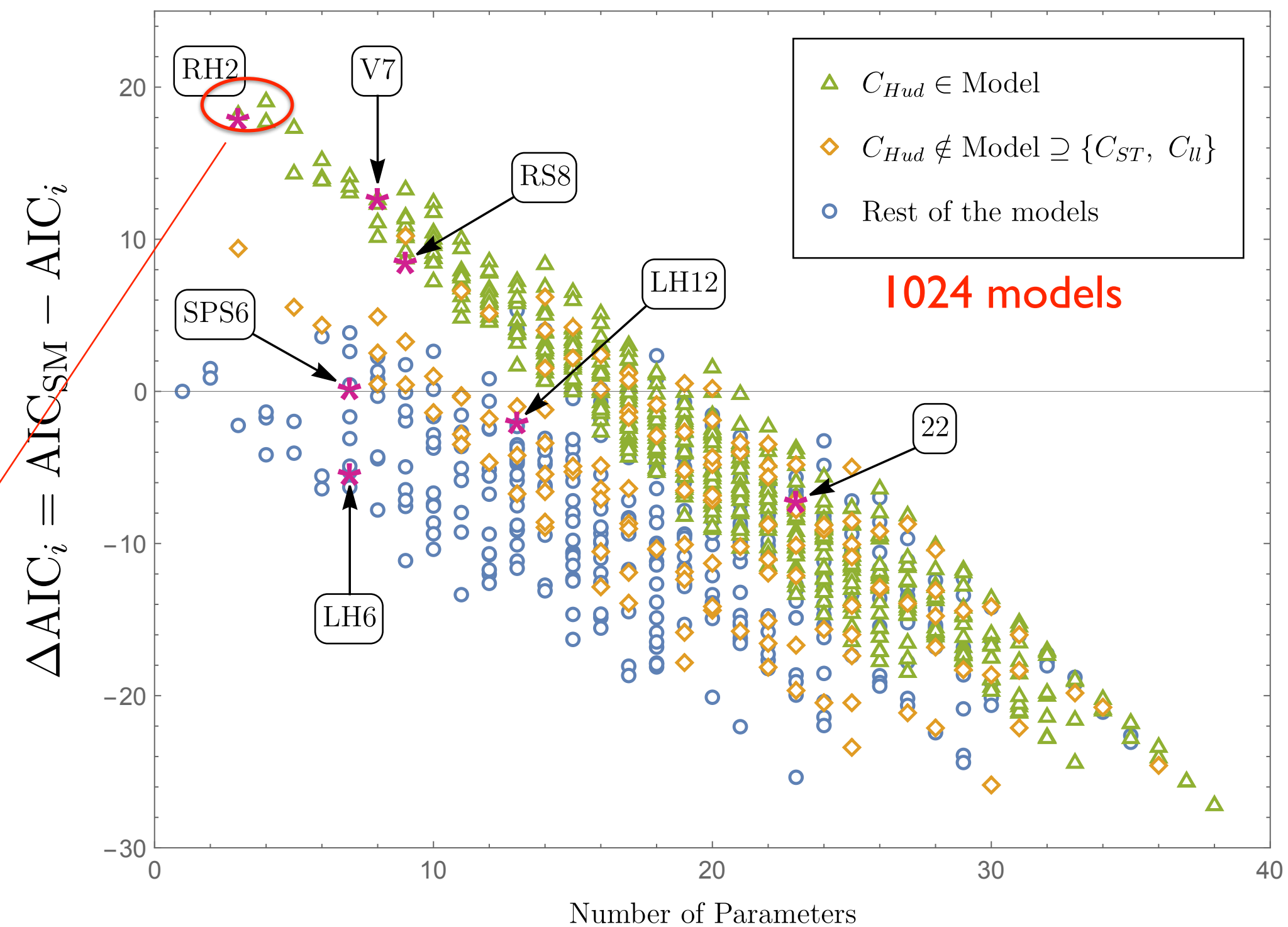
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- Best fit to CLEW data: two RH CC vertex corrections and the S parameter



CKM "anomaly" not ruled out by other data.  
Unitarity test provides relevant input to unravel possible new physics

# Precision tests: lessons

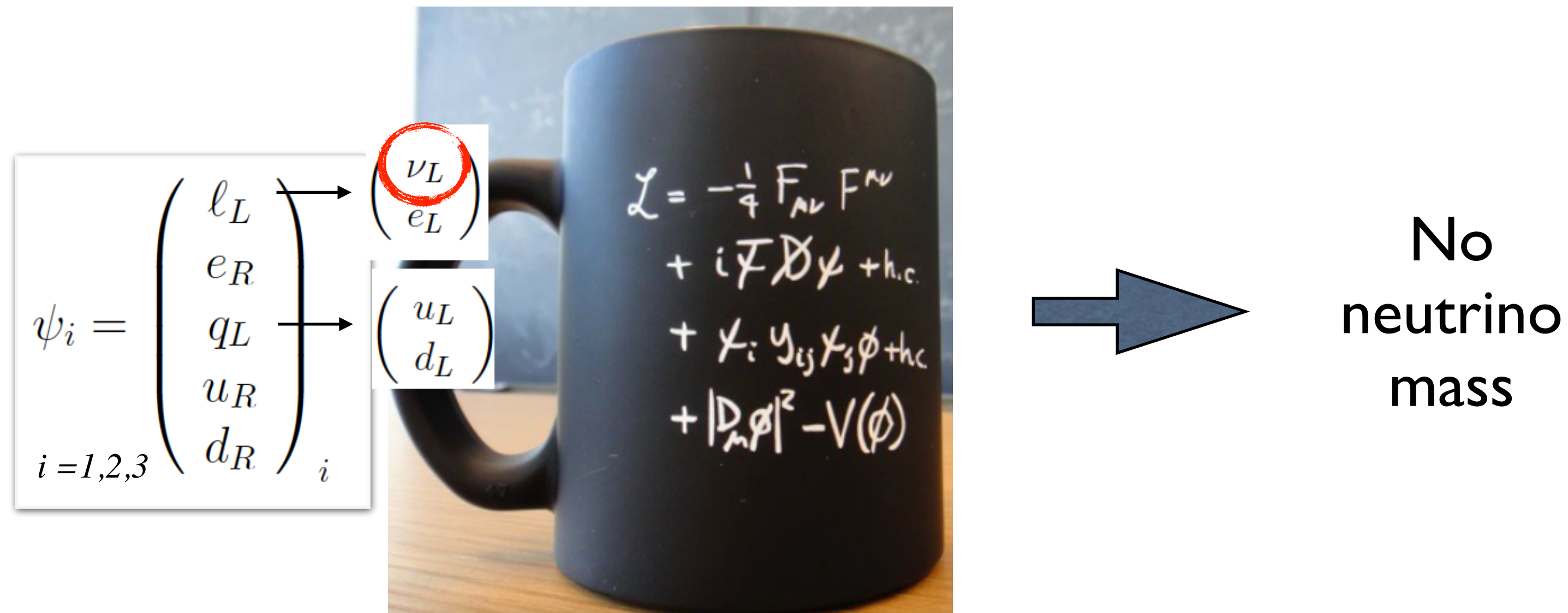
- Illustrated with (semi)leptonic charged currents some general features of precision tests at low energy
- Impactful tests require:
  - Ability to compute the SM prediction to high accuracy
  - Ability to measure to high precision (similar to theory)
  - Framework to interpret possible deviations in light of ‘everything else’, including high-energy searches

Lepton Number Violation  
&  
Neutrinoless double beta decay

# Neutrino mass and new physics

- Neutrino masses not accounted in the Standard Model

## The Standard Model

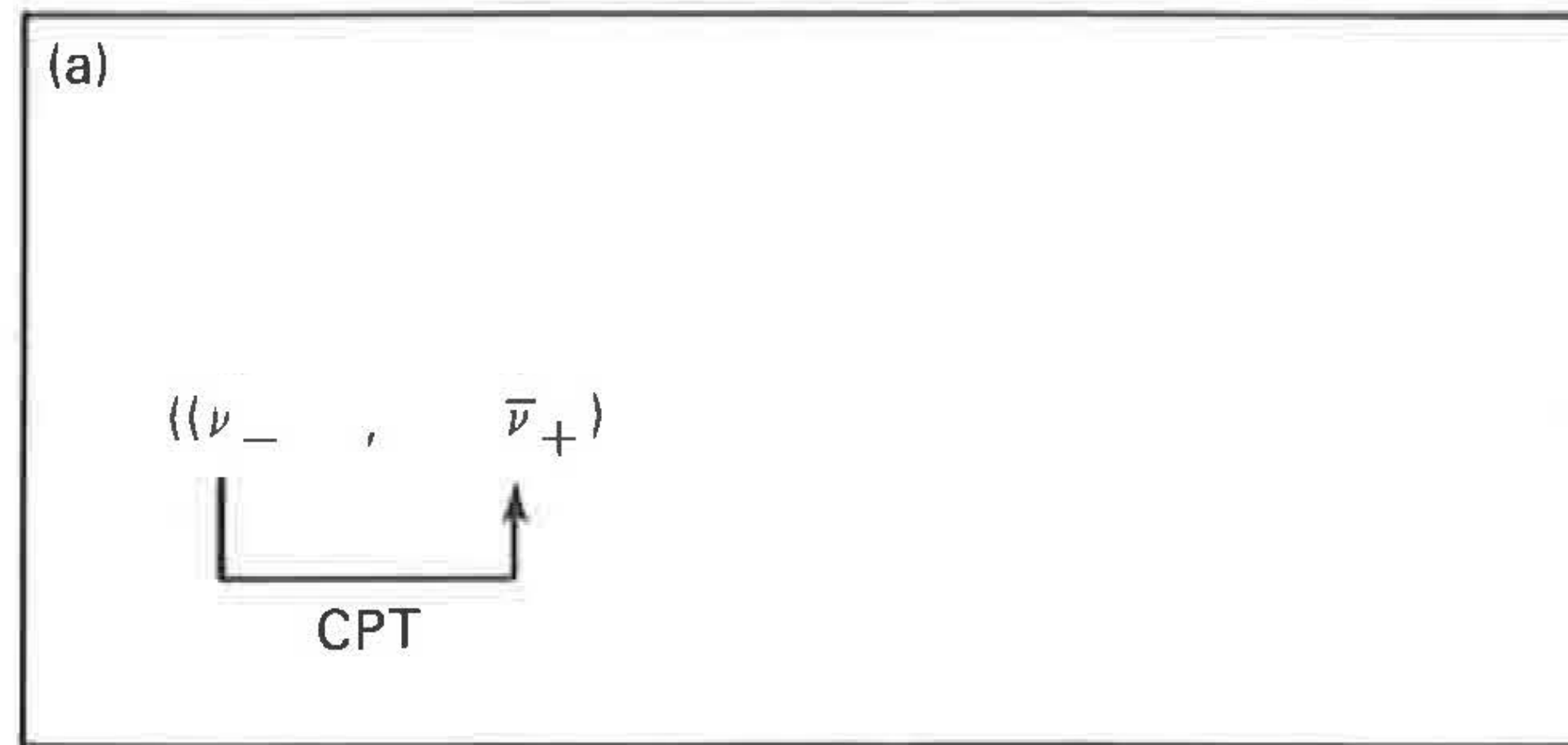
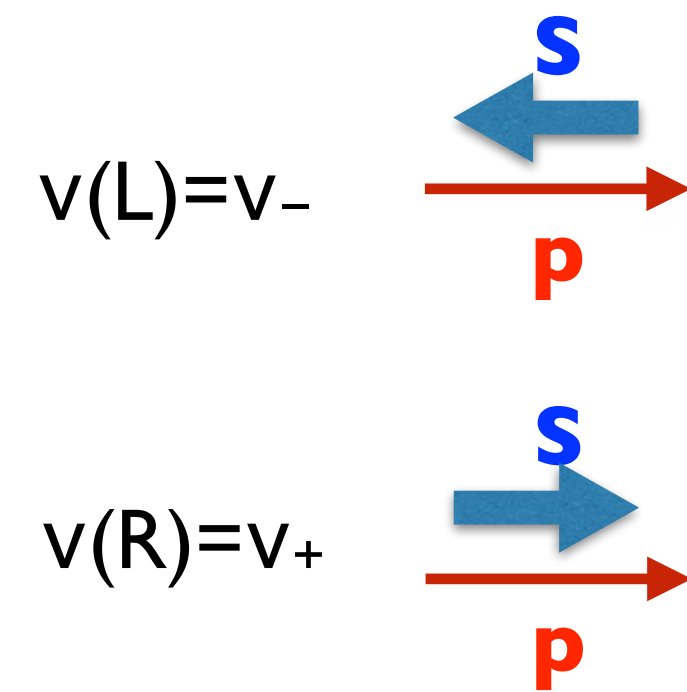


Understanding origin and nature of neutrino mass is an open problem, with implications for baryogenesis, DM, structure formation, ...

# Neutrino mass and symmetries

- Lorentz invariance  $\Rightarrow$  two options: Dirac or Majorana

B. Kayser 1984

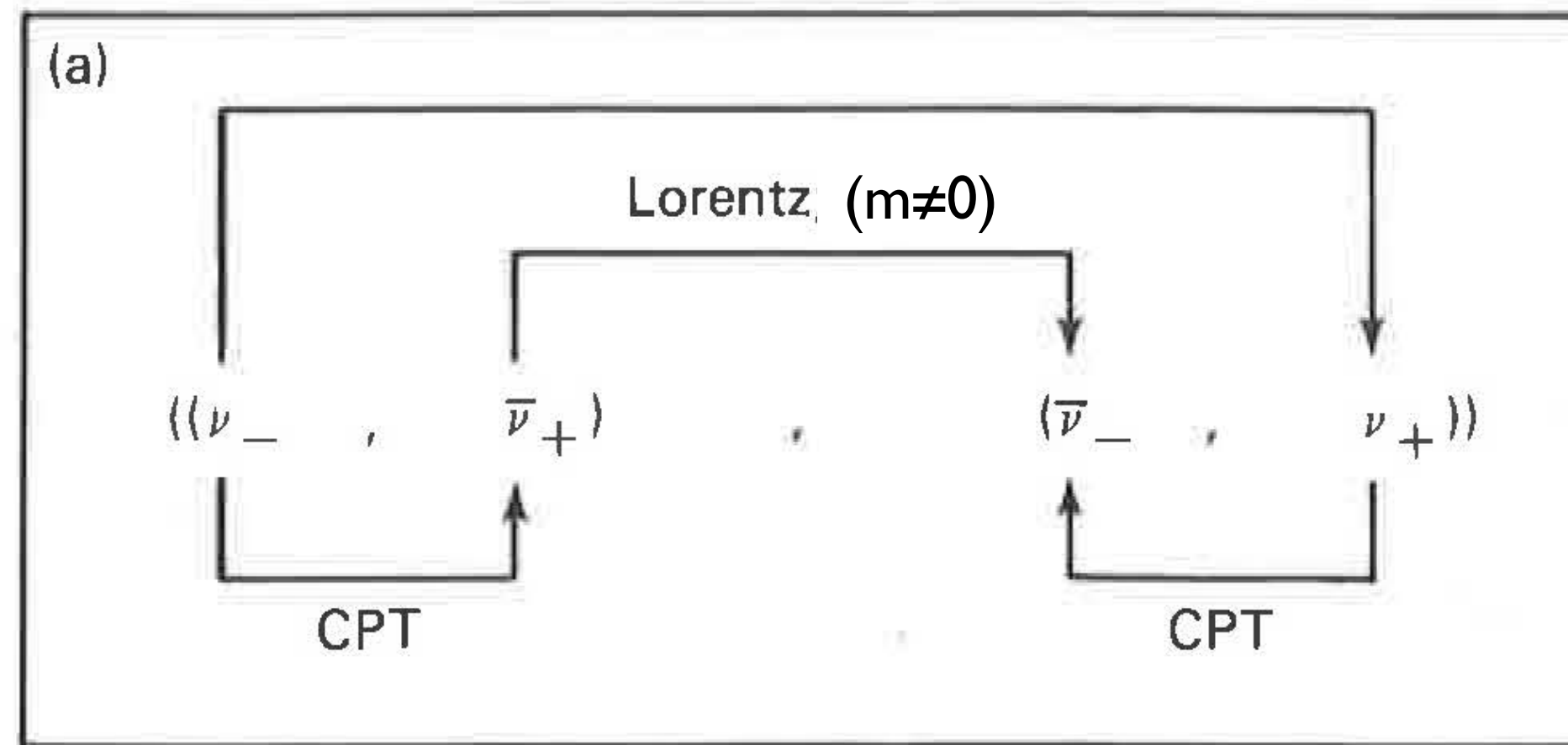
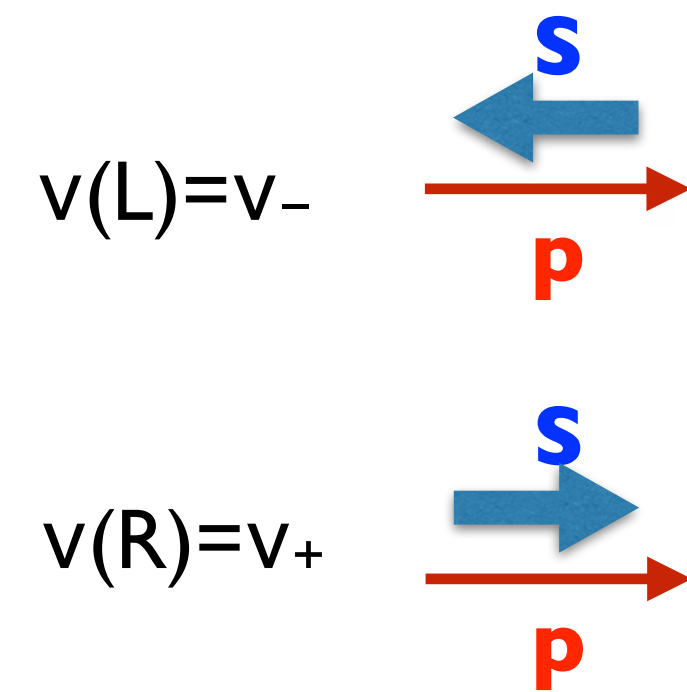


Dirac:  
4 states

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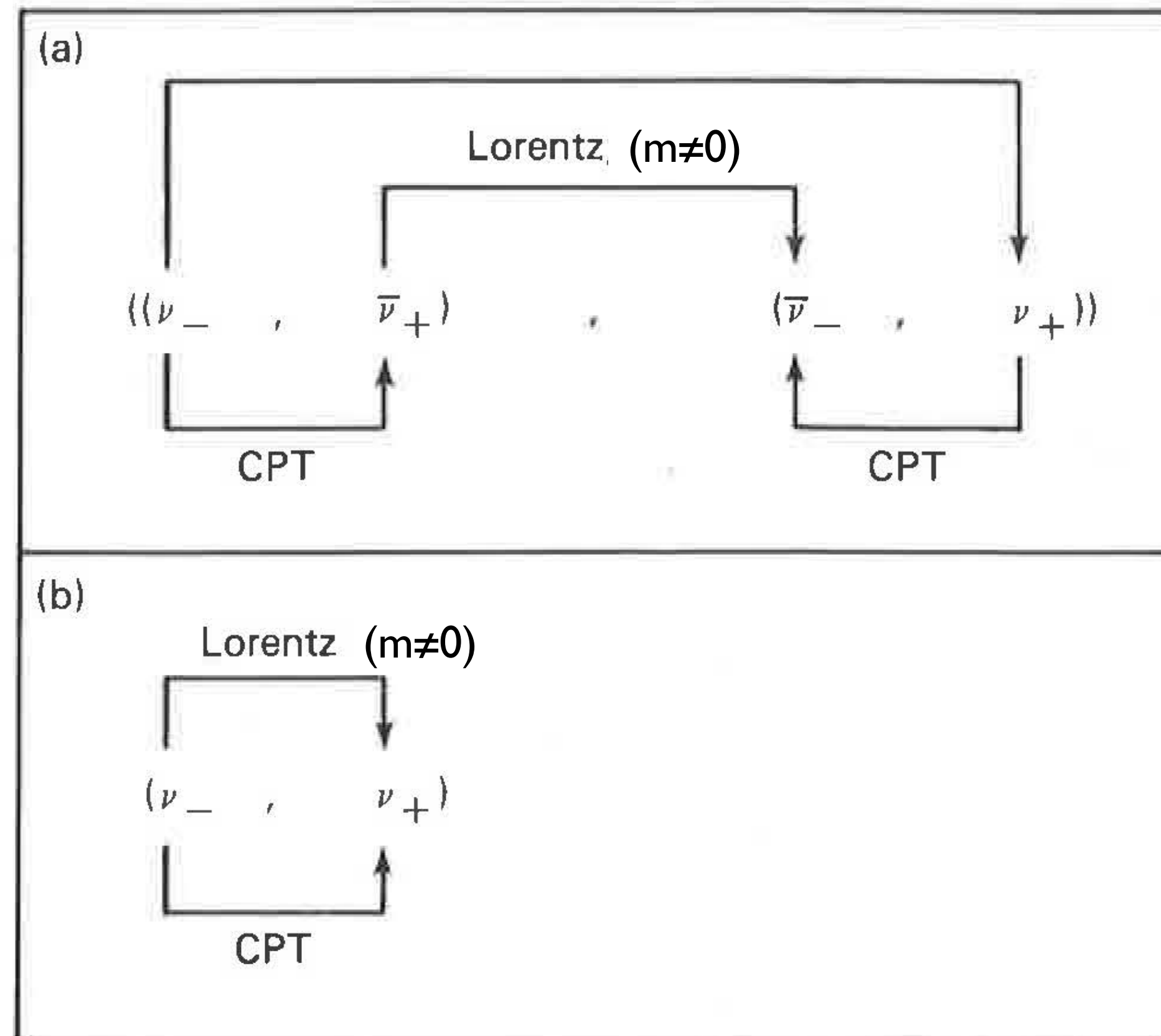
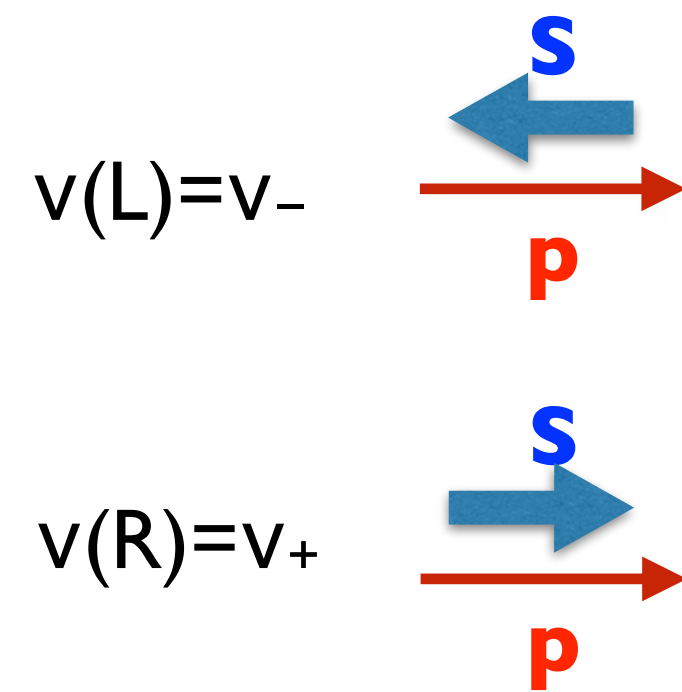


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4 states

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Dirac:  
4 states

Majorana:  
2 states

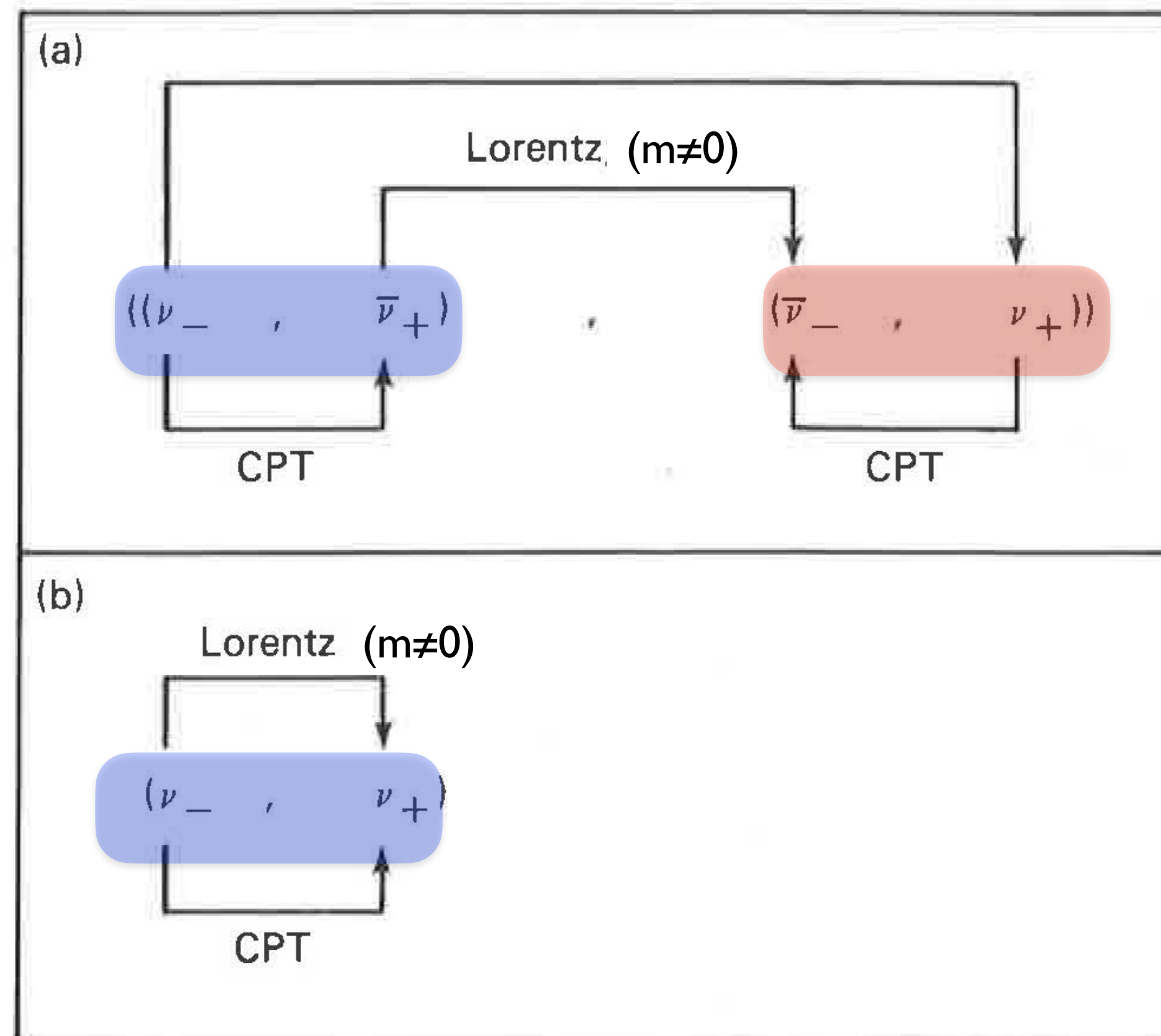
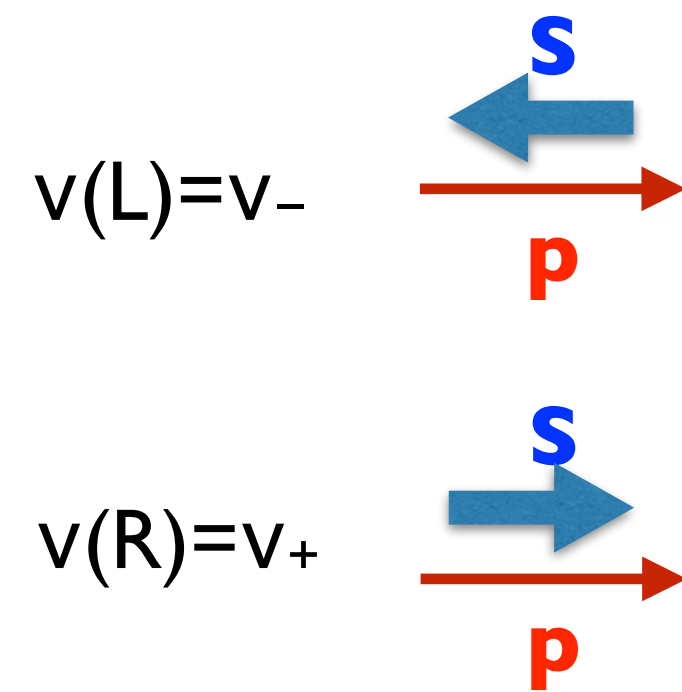
Only possible if there no internal quantum number that flips sign under "C"



# Neutrino mass and symmetries

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Dirac:  
4 states

Majorana:  
2 states

Only possible if there no internal quantum number that flips sign under "C"

$\mathbf{v}_L(x)$ : takes part in weak interactions

$\mathbf{v}_R(x)$ : no interactions in the SM

# Neutrino mass and symmetries

- Lorentz invariance  $\Rightarrow$  two options: Dirac or Majorana

Dirac mass:

$$m \bar{\nu}_R \nu_L$$



Majorana mass:

$$m \nu_L^T C \nu_L$$

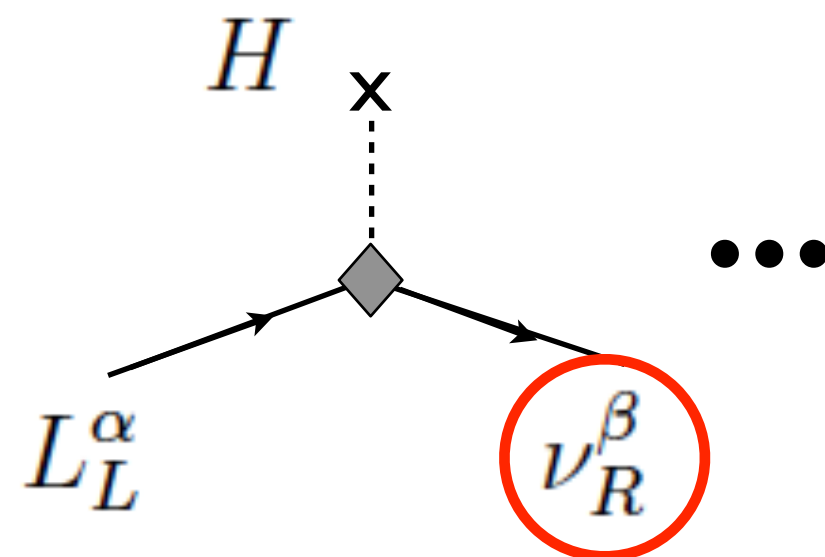


# Neutrino mass and symmetries

- Lorentz invariance  $\Rightarrow$  two options: Dirac or Majorana
- Lorentz (Dirac case) and weak isospin (Majorana case)  $\Rightarrow$  need **new degrees of freedom**

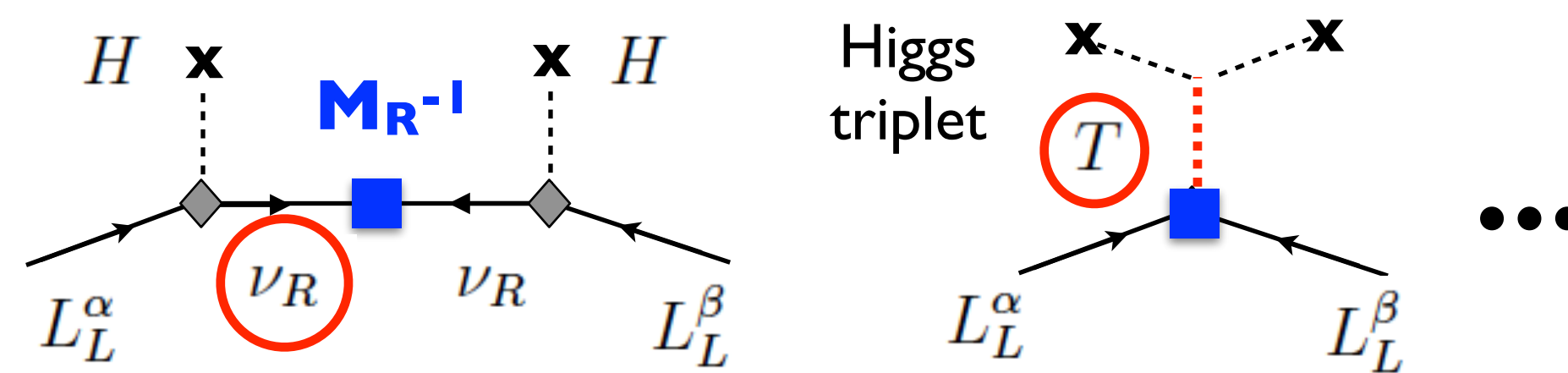
Dirac mass:

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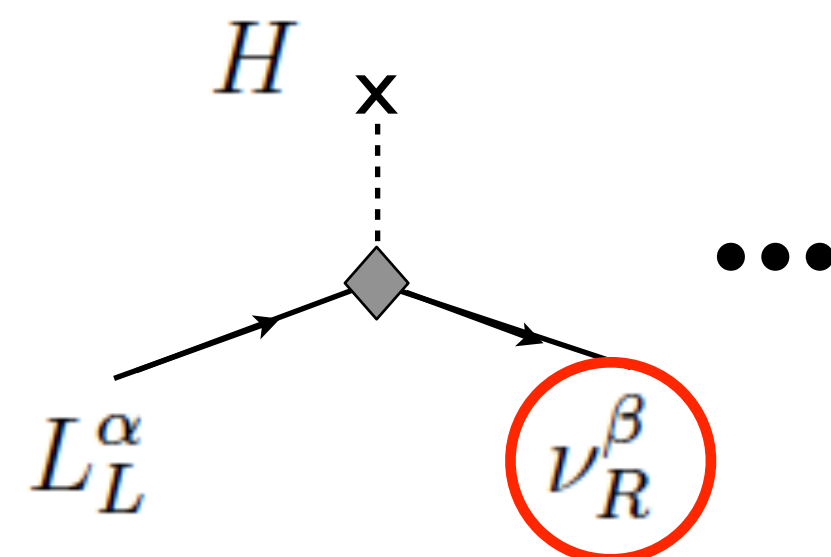


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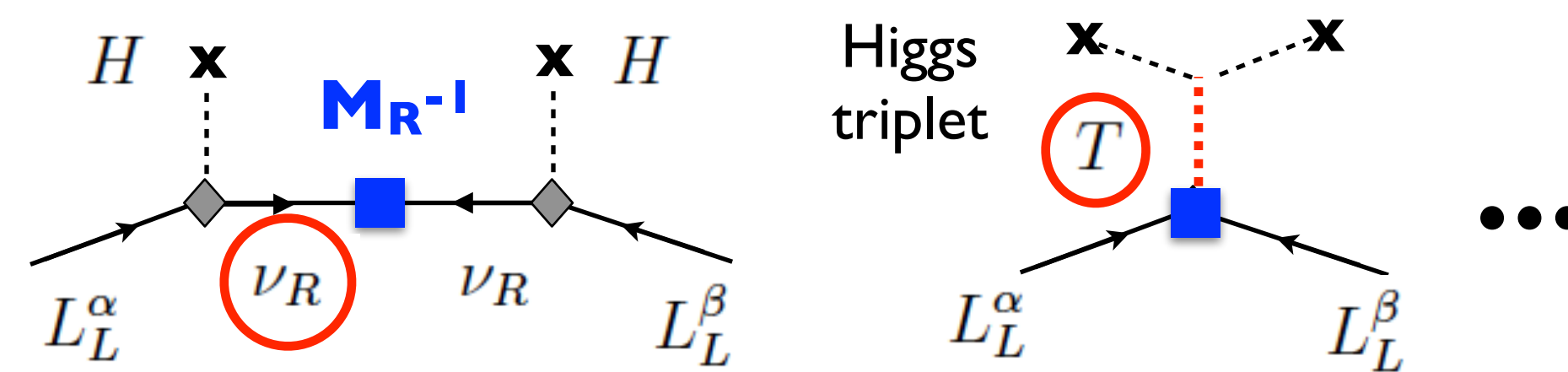
$$m \bar{\nu}_R \nu_L$$



Violates  $L_{e,\mu,\tau}$ , conserves  $L$

Majorana mass:

$$m \nu_L^T C \nu_L$$



Violates  $L_{e,\mu,\tau}$  and  $L$  ( $\Delta L=2$ )

# Neutrino mass and symmetries

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Majorana mass:

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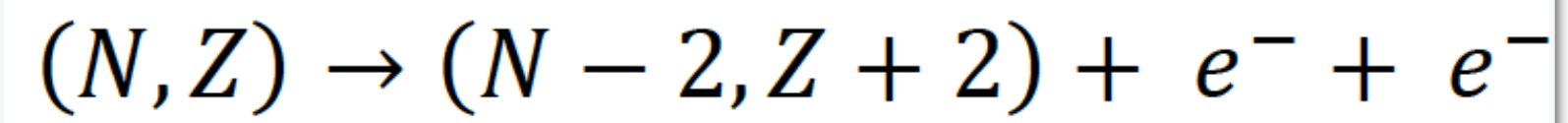
Which option is realized in nature?

- Smallness of  $\nu$  mass and chiral nature of the weak interactions implies that **neutrino-less processes are the best probes of  $\Delta L=2$  interactions**
- $0\nu\beta\beta$  provides in many scenarios the strongest sensitivity to LNV interactions (“Avogadro’s number wins”, P. Vogel)

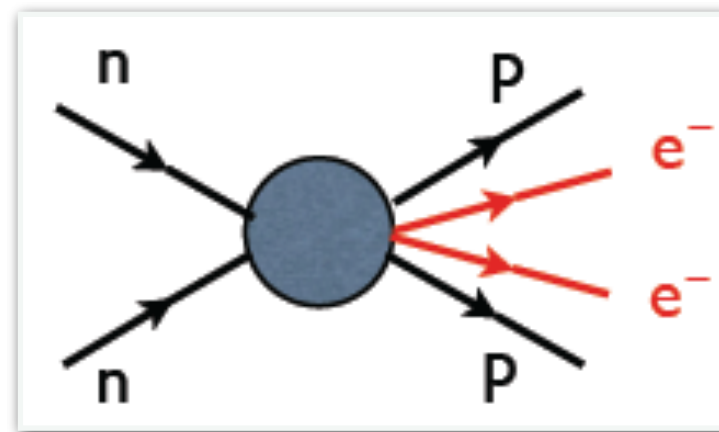
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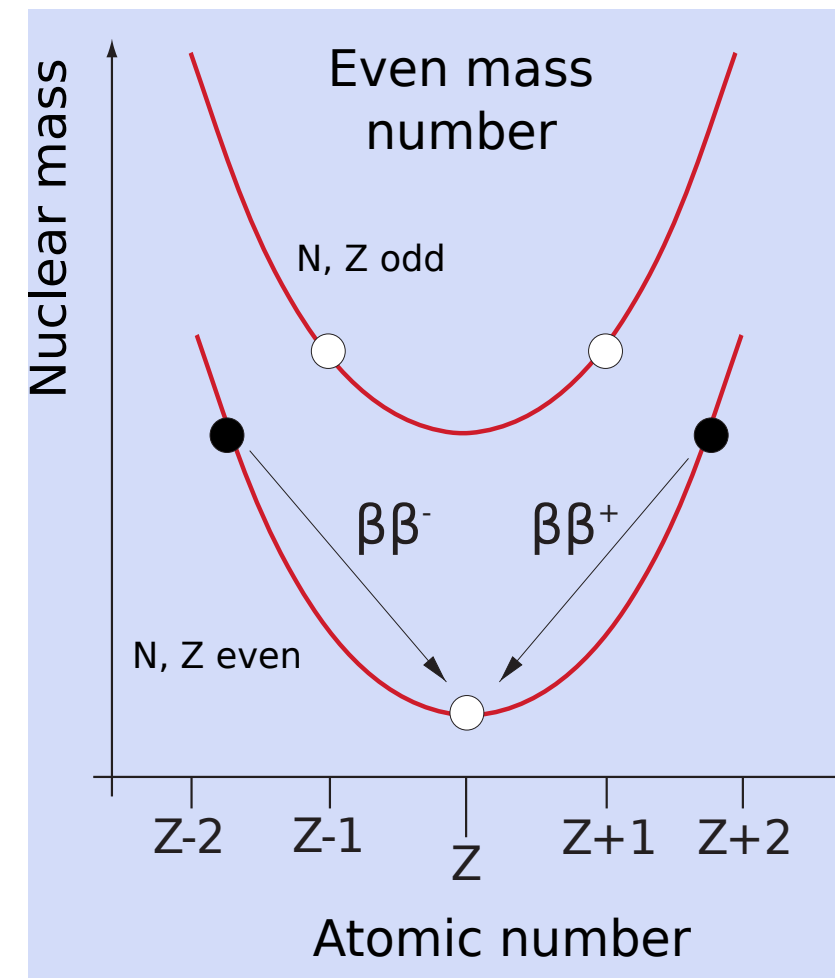
# Neutrinoless double beta decay



$$T_{1/2} > \# 10^{25} \text{ yr}$$



$$\Delta L = 2$$

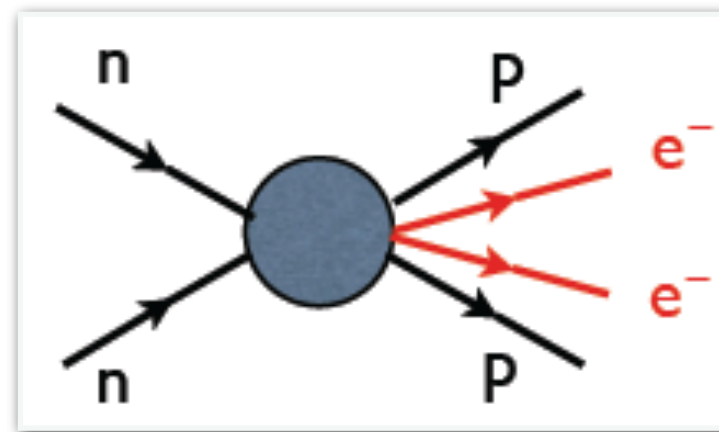


Potentially observable in even-even nuclei ( $^{48}\text{Ca}$ ,  $^{76}\text{Ge}$ ,  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ , ...) for which single beta decay is energetically forbidden

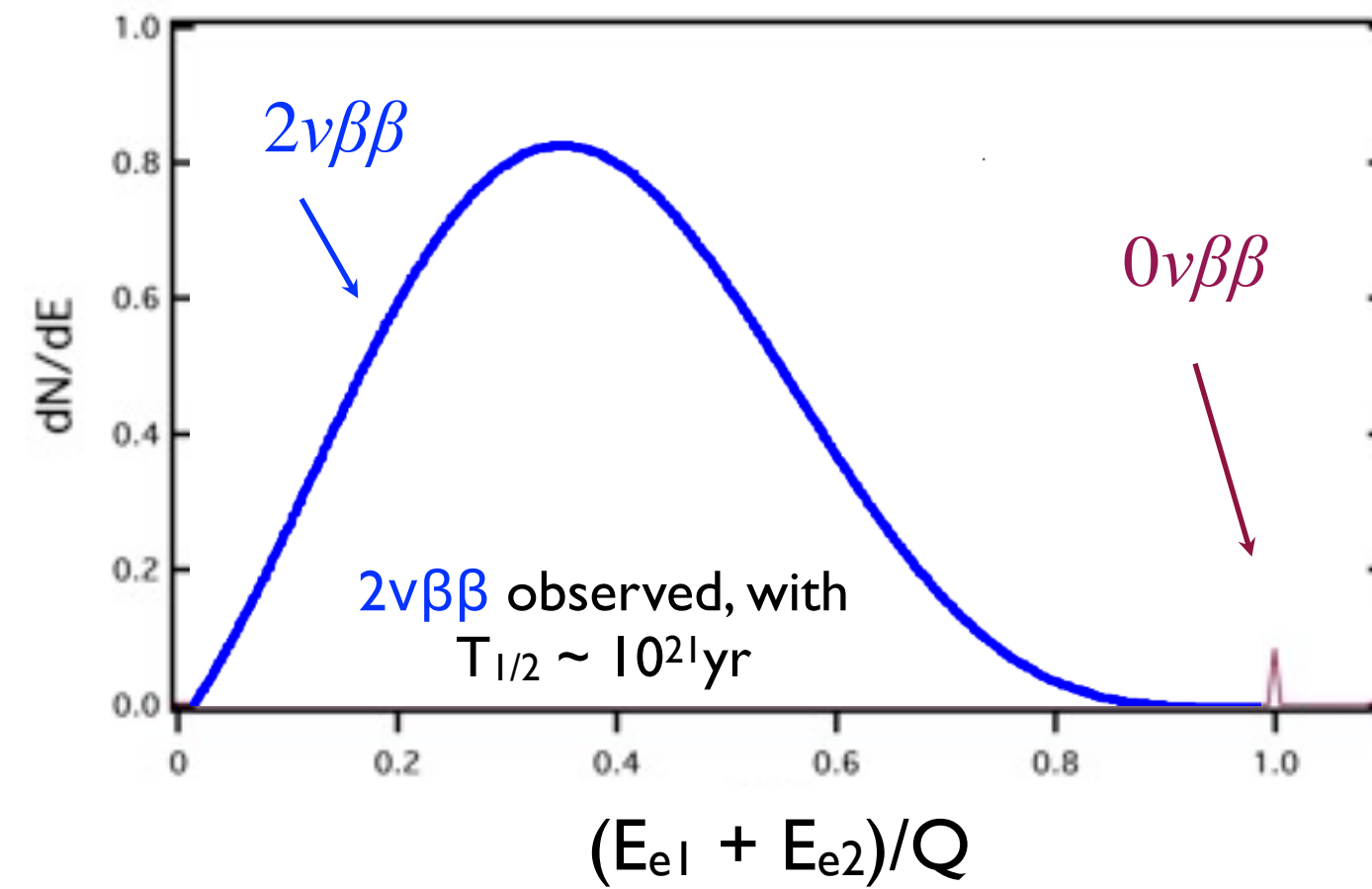
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$$(N, Z) \rightarrow (N - 2, Z + 2) + e^- + e^-$$

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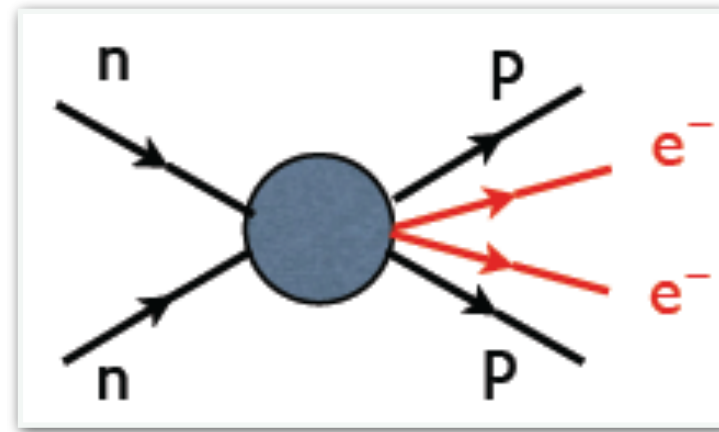


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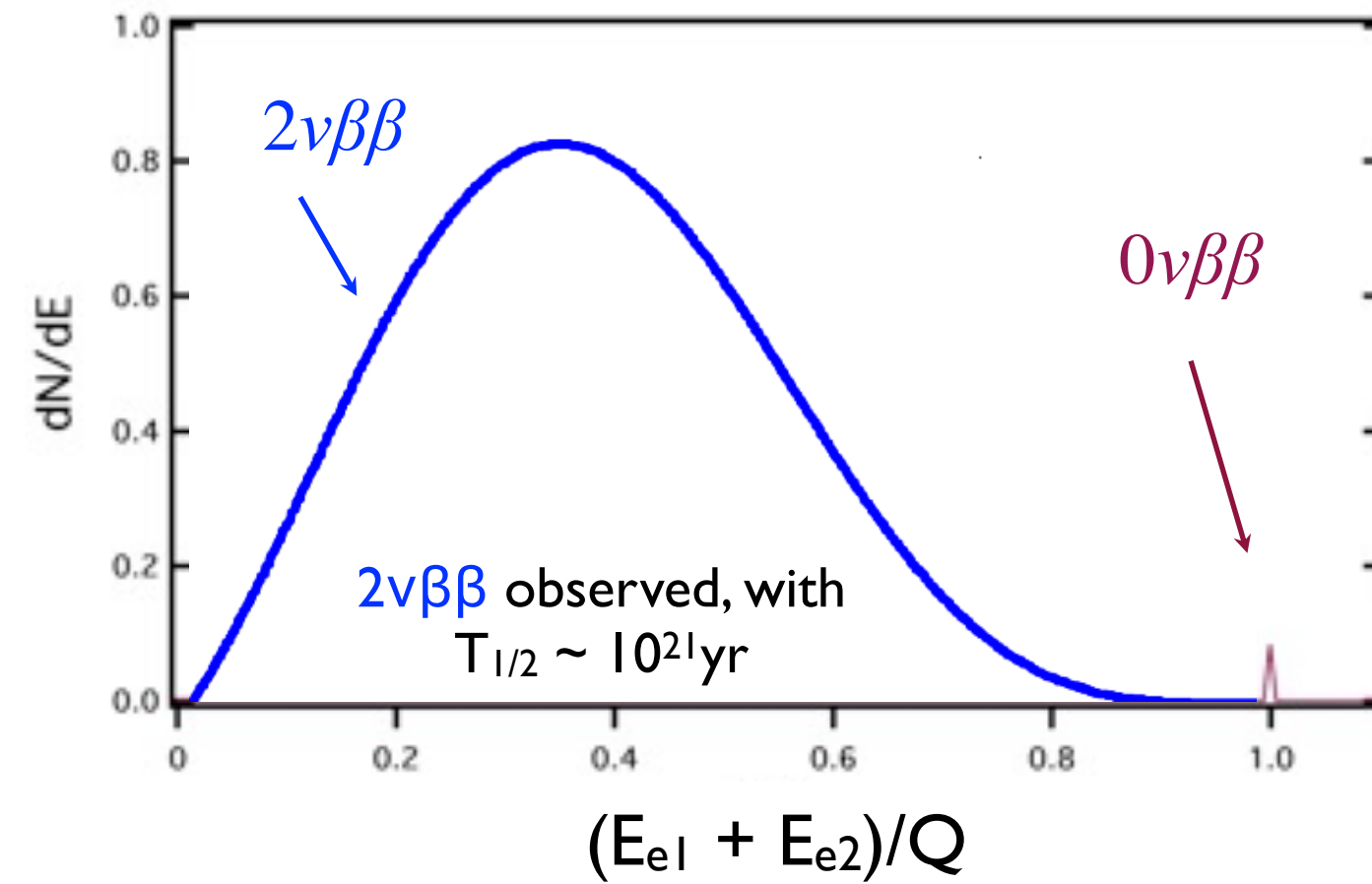
# Neutrinoless double beta decay

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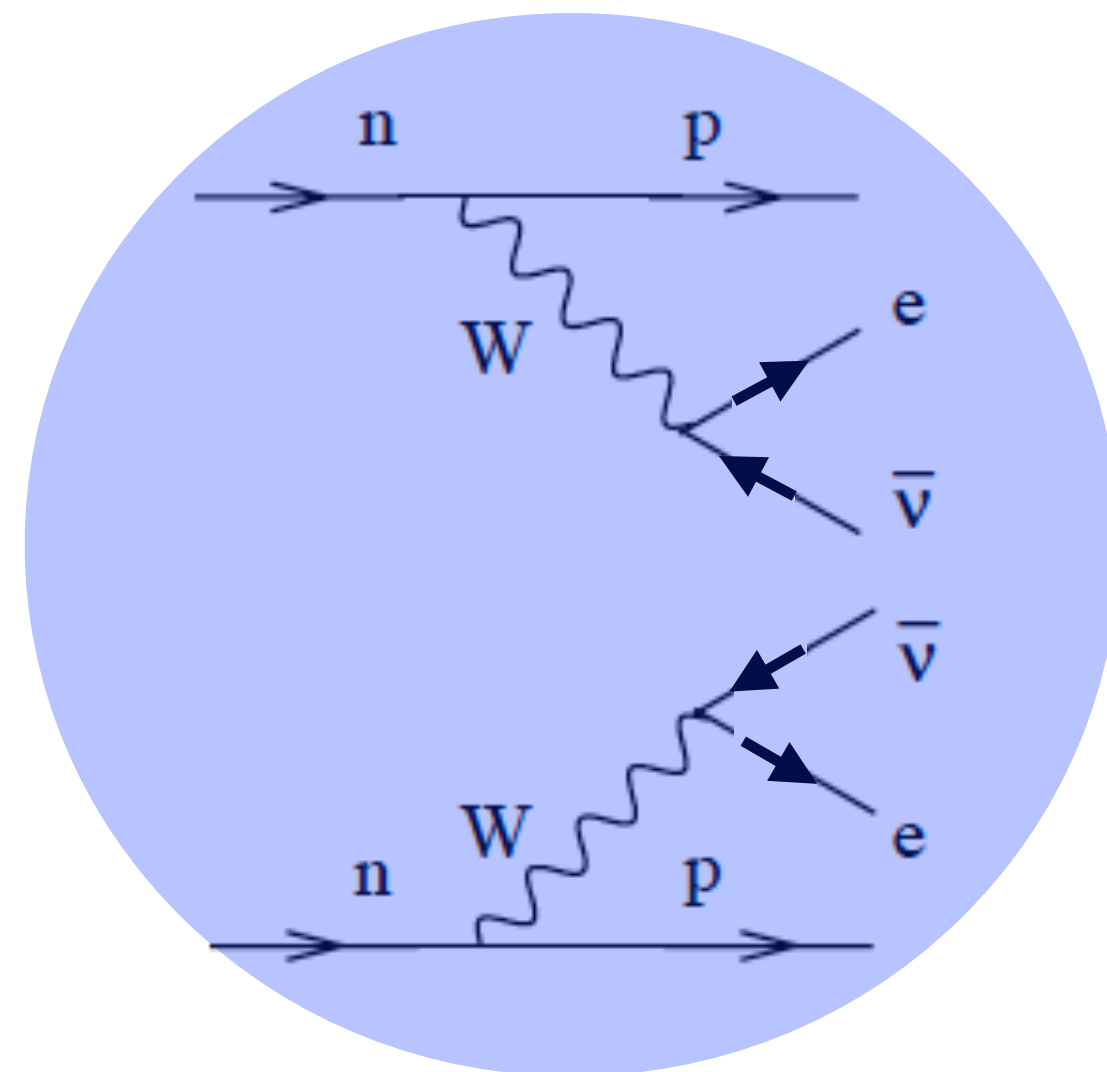
$$T_{1/2} > \# 10^{25} \text{ yr}$$



$$\Delta L = 2$$



Potentially observable in even-even nuclei ( $^{48}\text{Ca}$ ,  $^{76}\text{Ge}$ ,  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ , ...) for which single beta decay is energetically forbidden

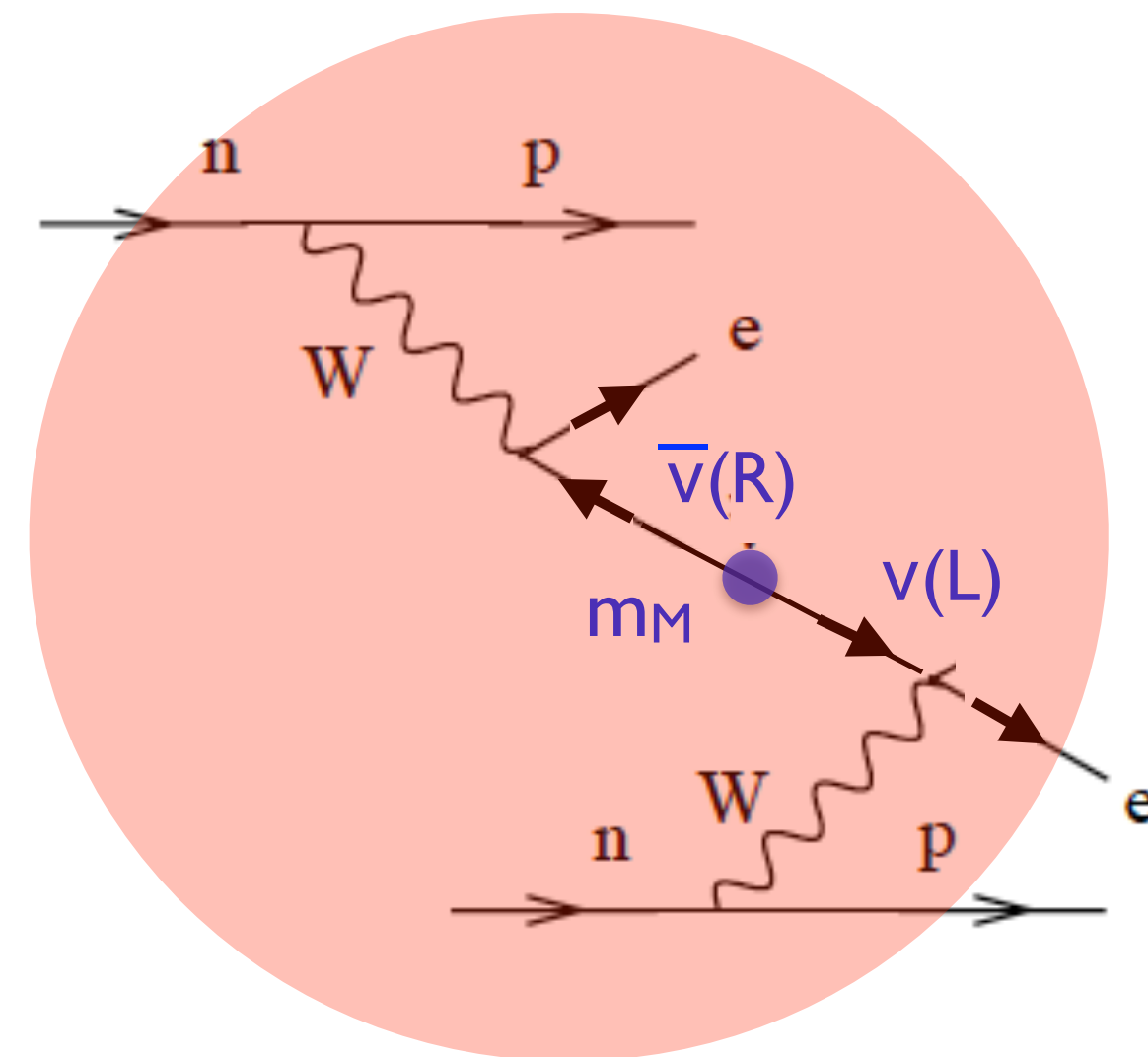


Simplest mechanism:  
Majorana mass term



But not the only one!

Furry 1939

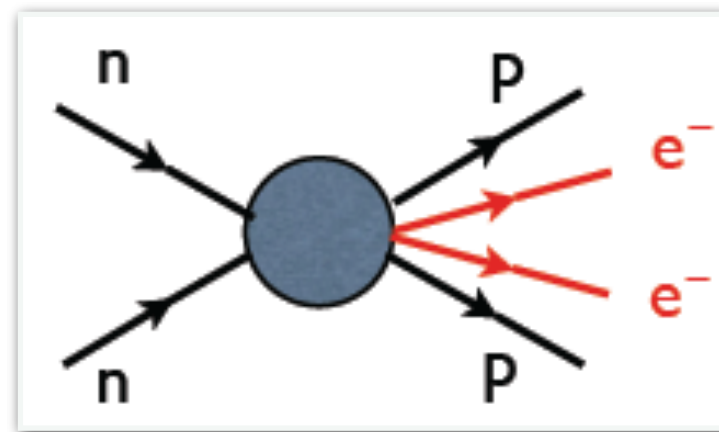




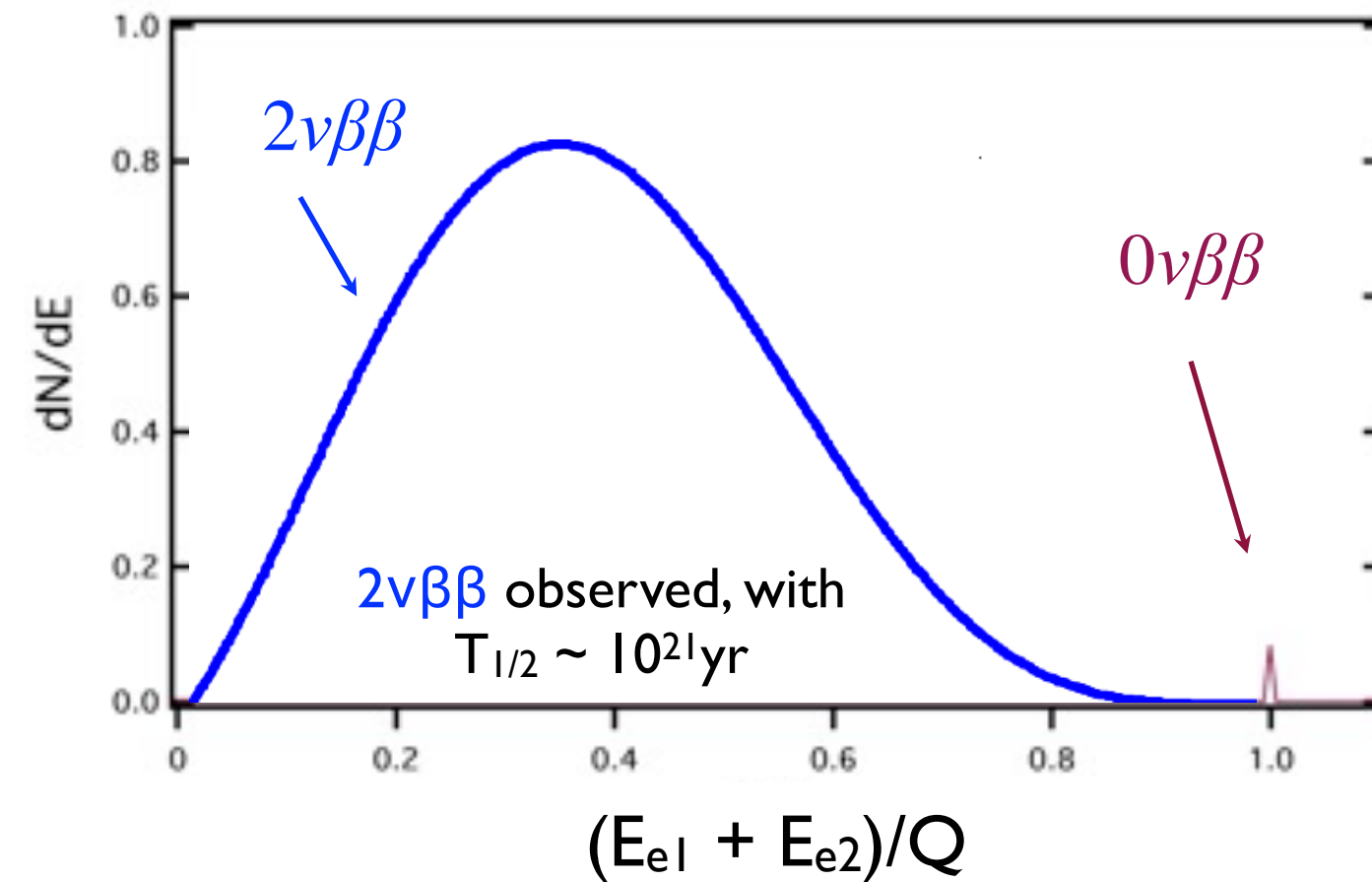
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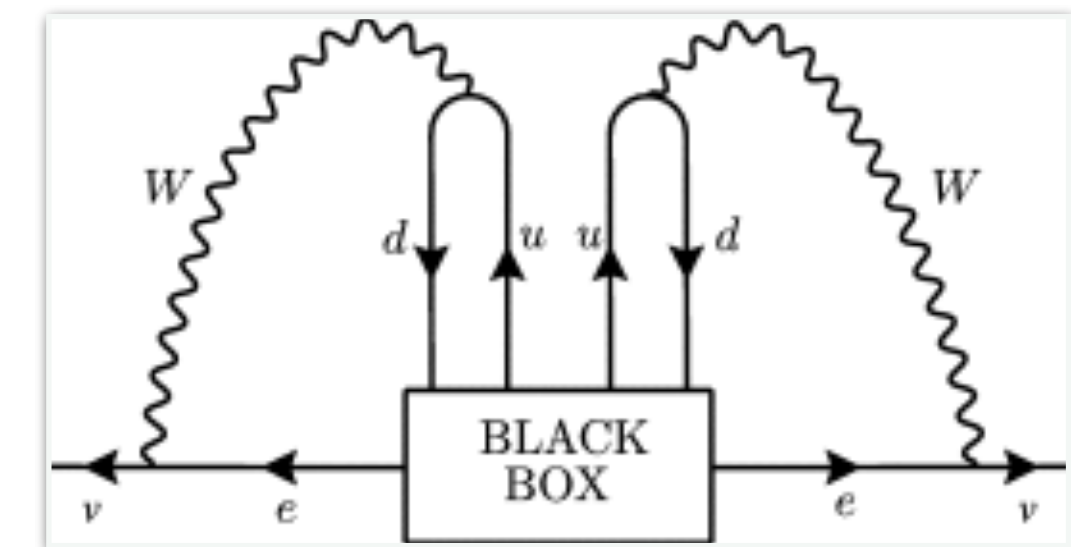
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Potentially observable in even-even nuclei ( $^{48}\text{Ca}$ ,  $^{76}\text{Ge}$ ,  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ , ...) for which single beta decay is energetically forbidden

- Observation would have far-reaching implications
  - Demonstrate that neutrinos are Majorana fermions
  - Establish LNV, key ingredient to generate the baryon asymmetry via leptogenesis

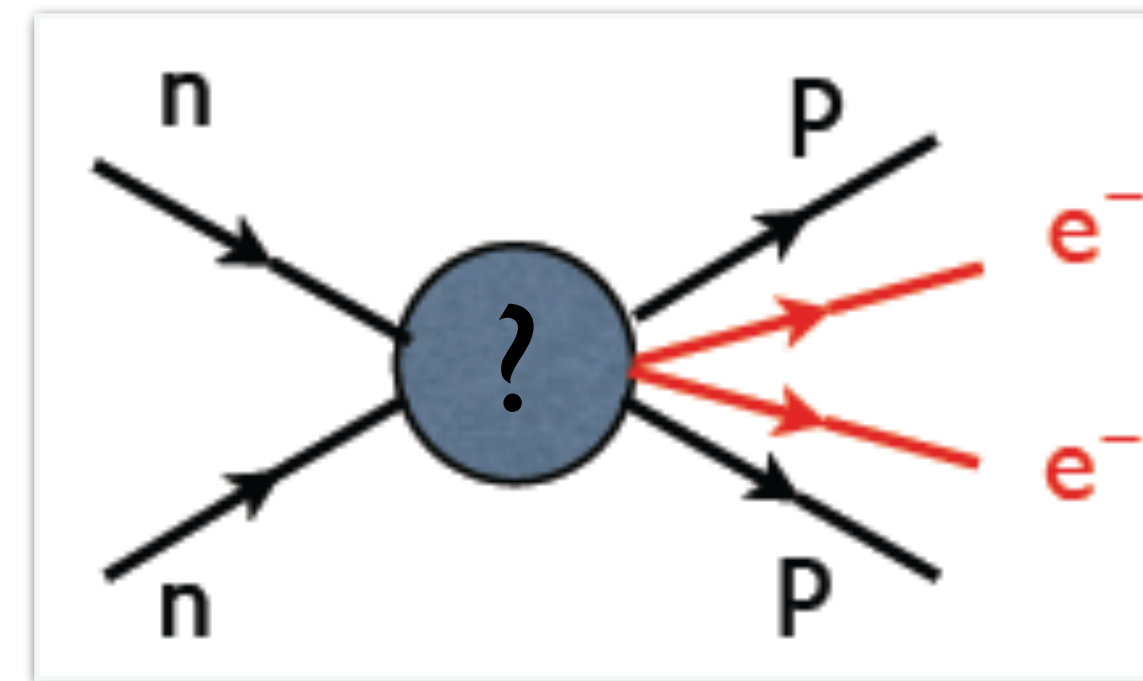
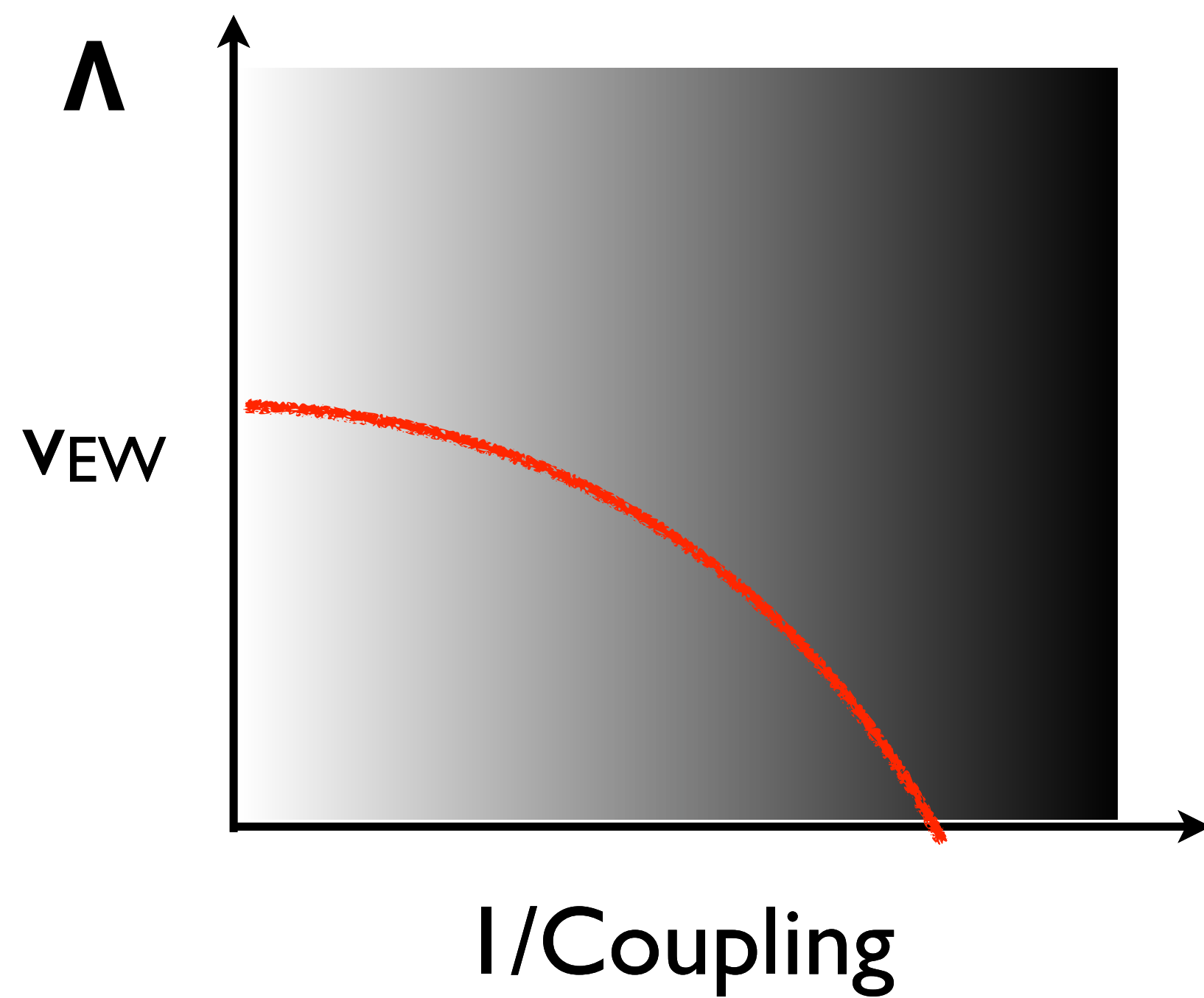
Fukugita-Yanagida 1987



Shechter-Valle 1982

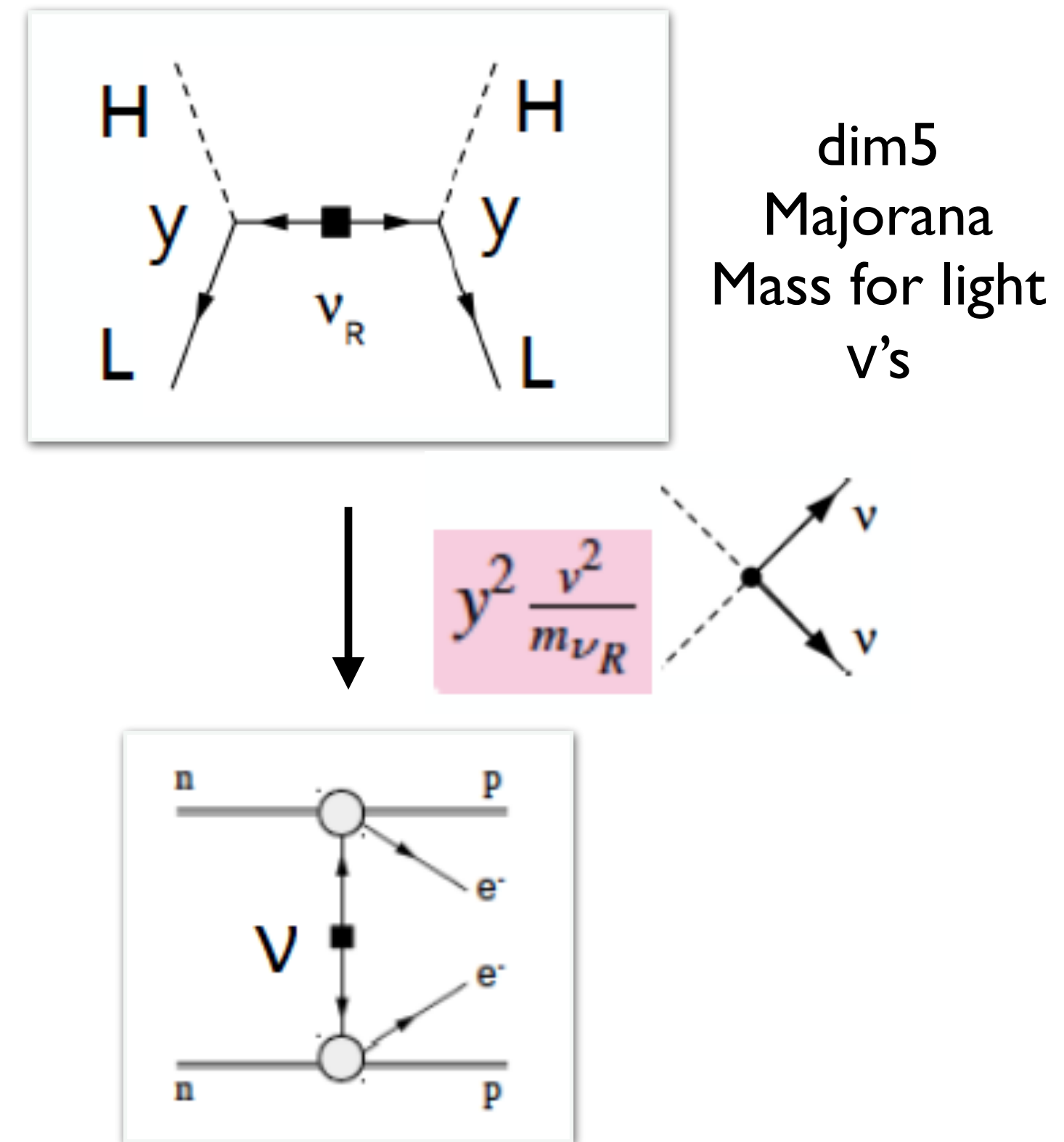
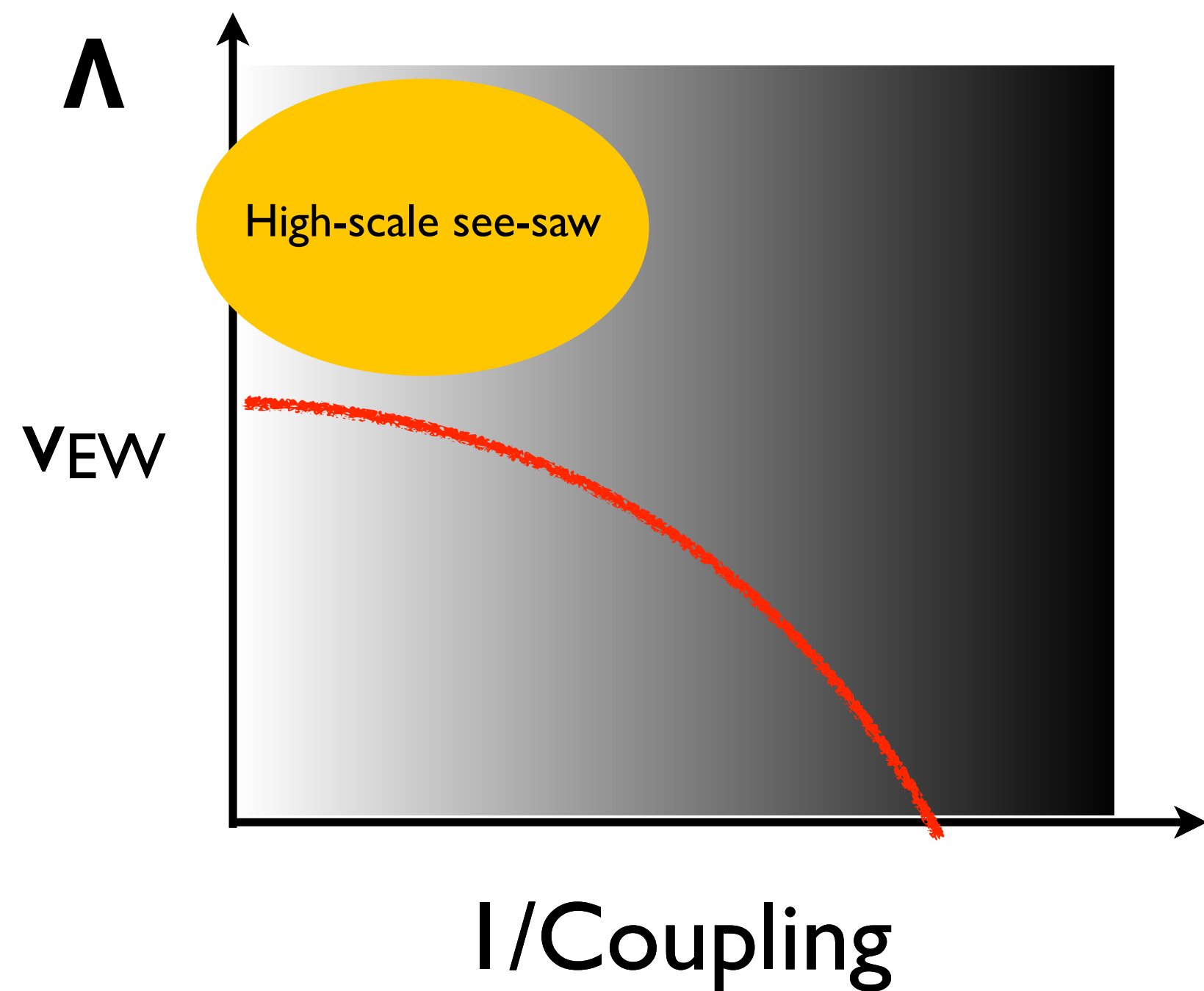
# $0\nu\beta\beta$ physics reach

- $0\nu\beta\beta$  searches @  $T_{1/2} > 10^{27-28}$  yr will have broad sensitivity to LNV mechanisms



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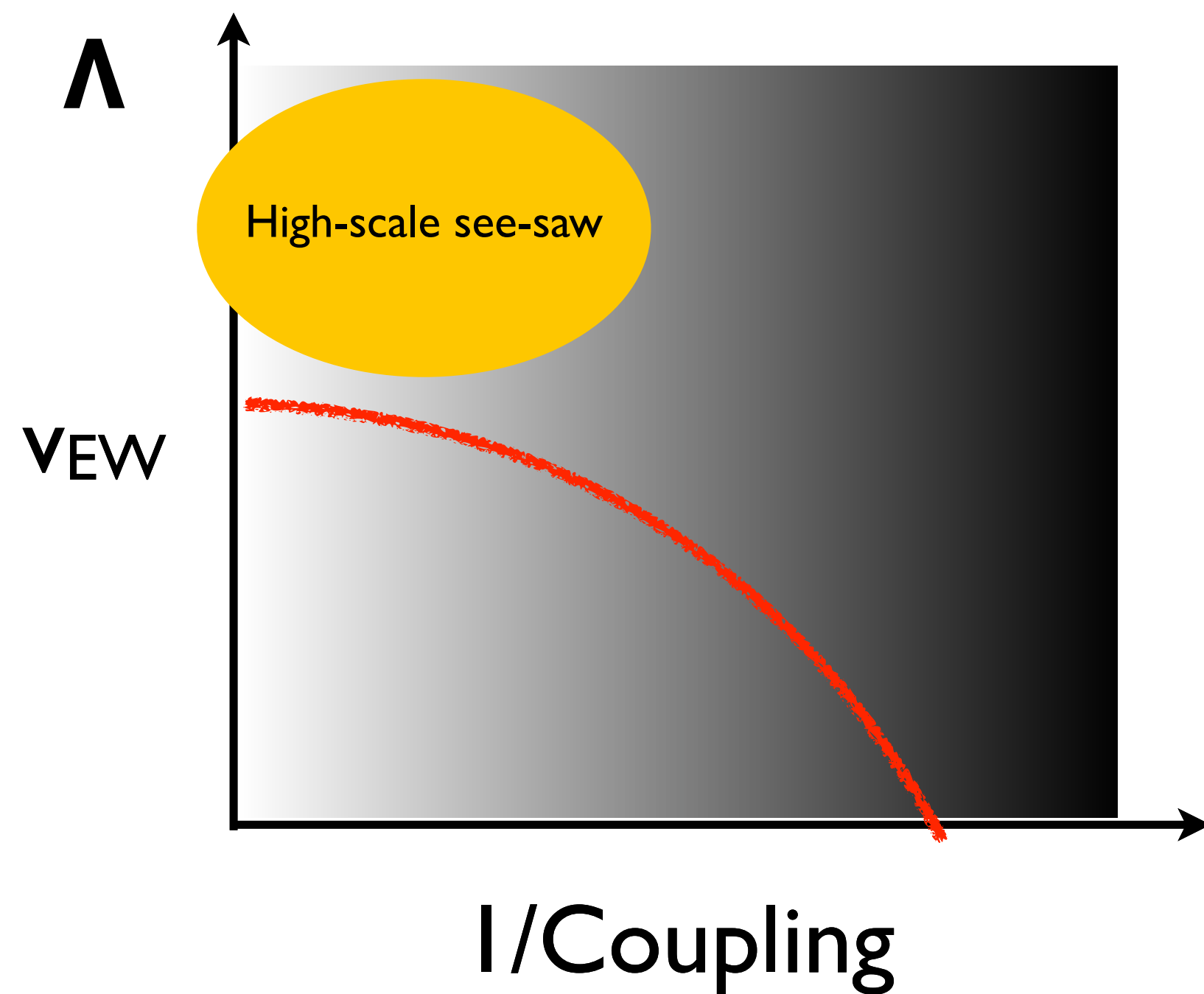
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Only low-E remnant of LNV is the neutrino mass

# $0\nu\beta\beta$ physics reach

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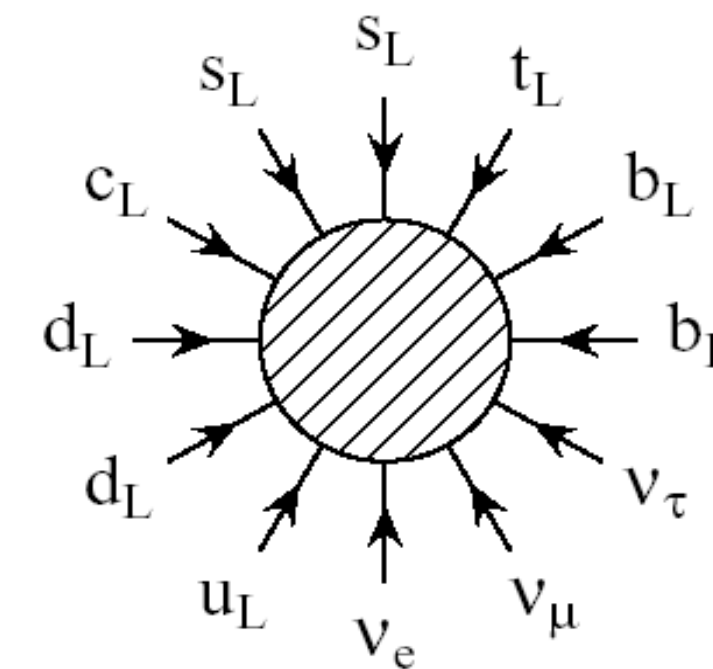


## Baryogenesis via Leptogenesis

- 1) CP- and L- violating out-of-equilibrium decays of heavy  $\nu_{Ri} \Rightarrow n_L$

$$\Gamma(\nu_R \rightarrow H^* \ell) \neq \Gamma(\nu_R \rightarrow H \bar{\ell})$$

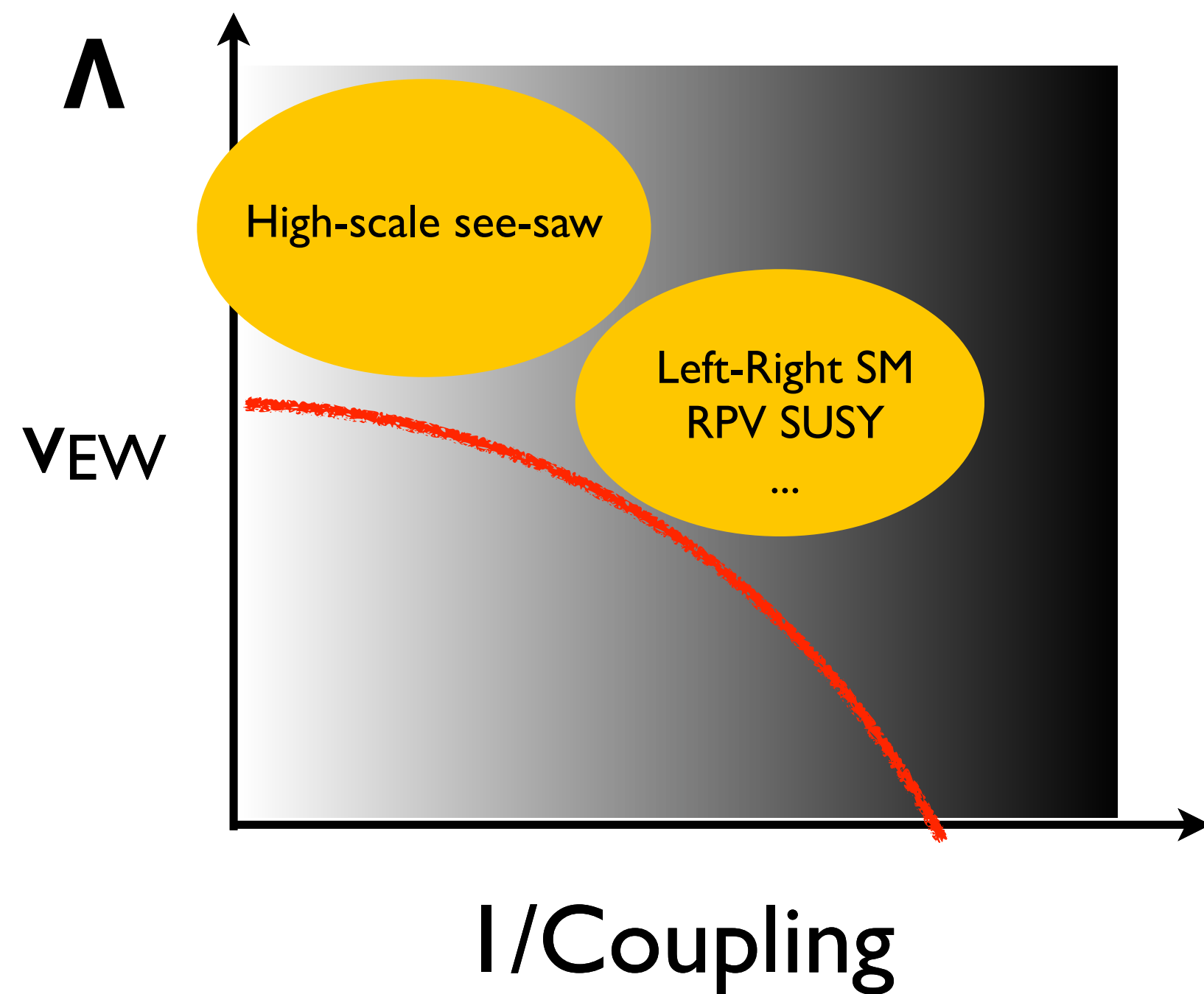
- 2) EW sphalerons  $\Rightarrow n_B = \# n_L$



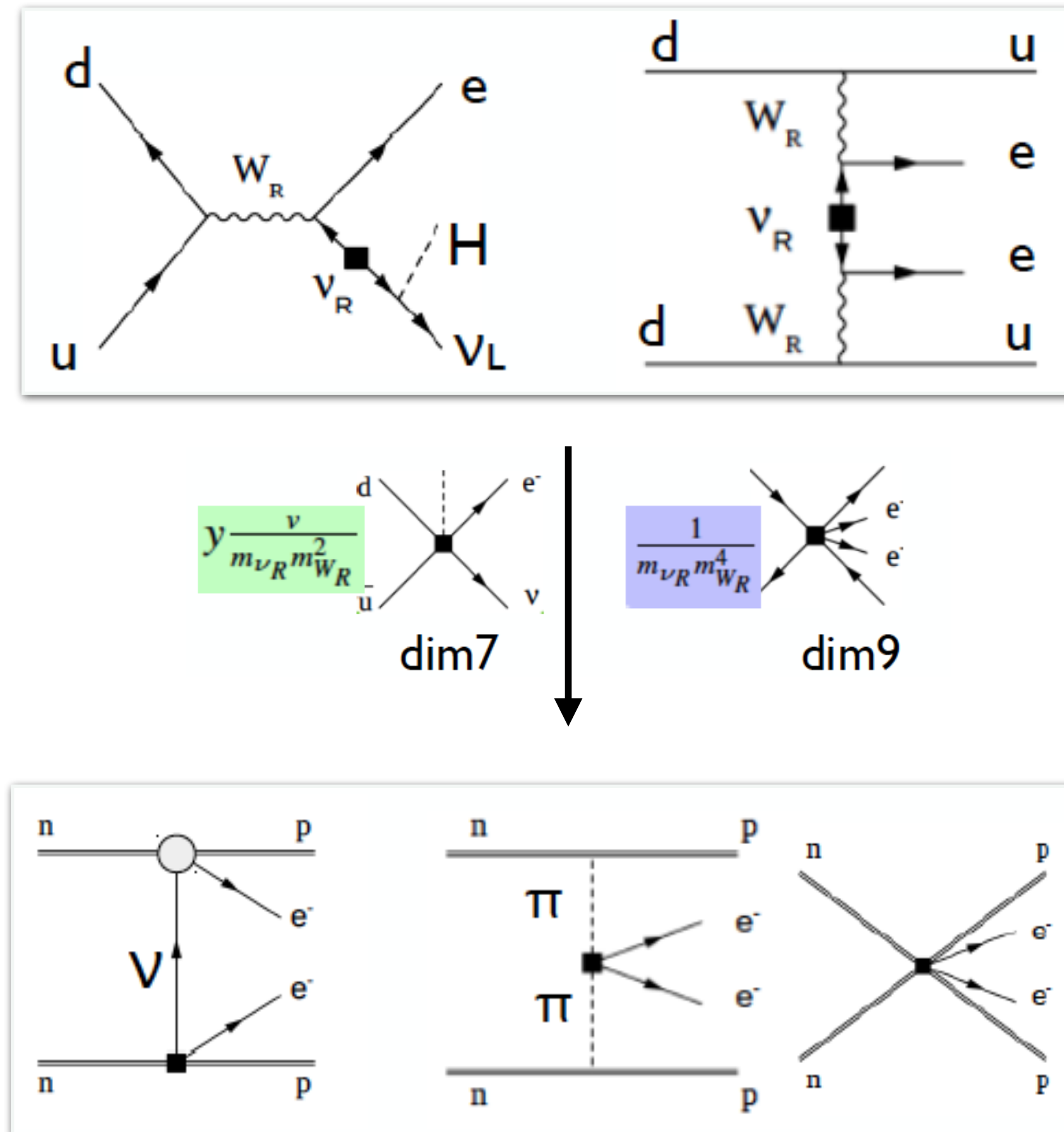
Fukugita-Yanagida 1987

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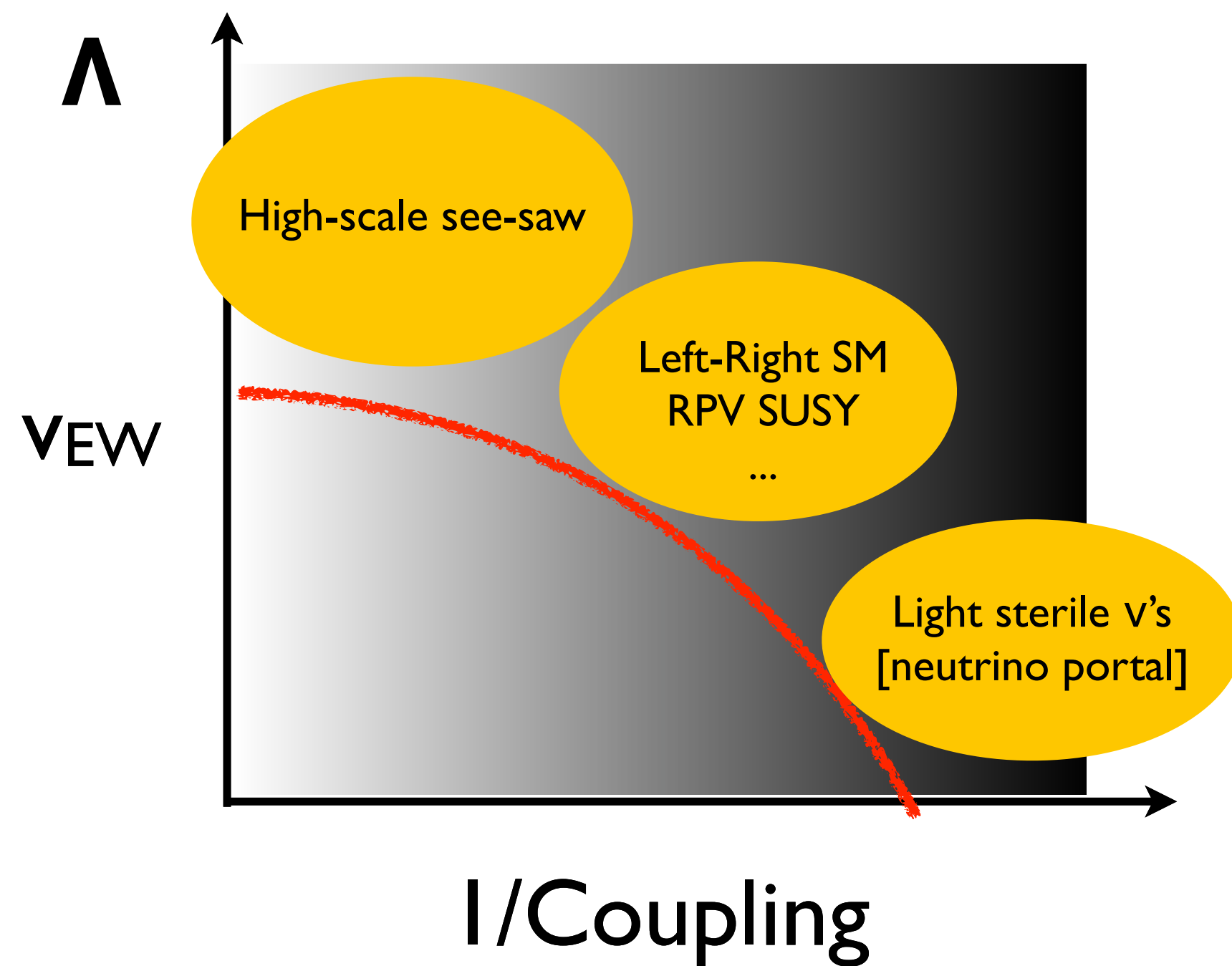


These contributions can compete if scale is not too high (10-100 TeV) and lead to new mechanisms at the nuclear scale

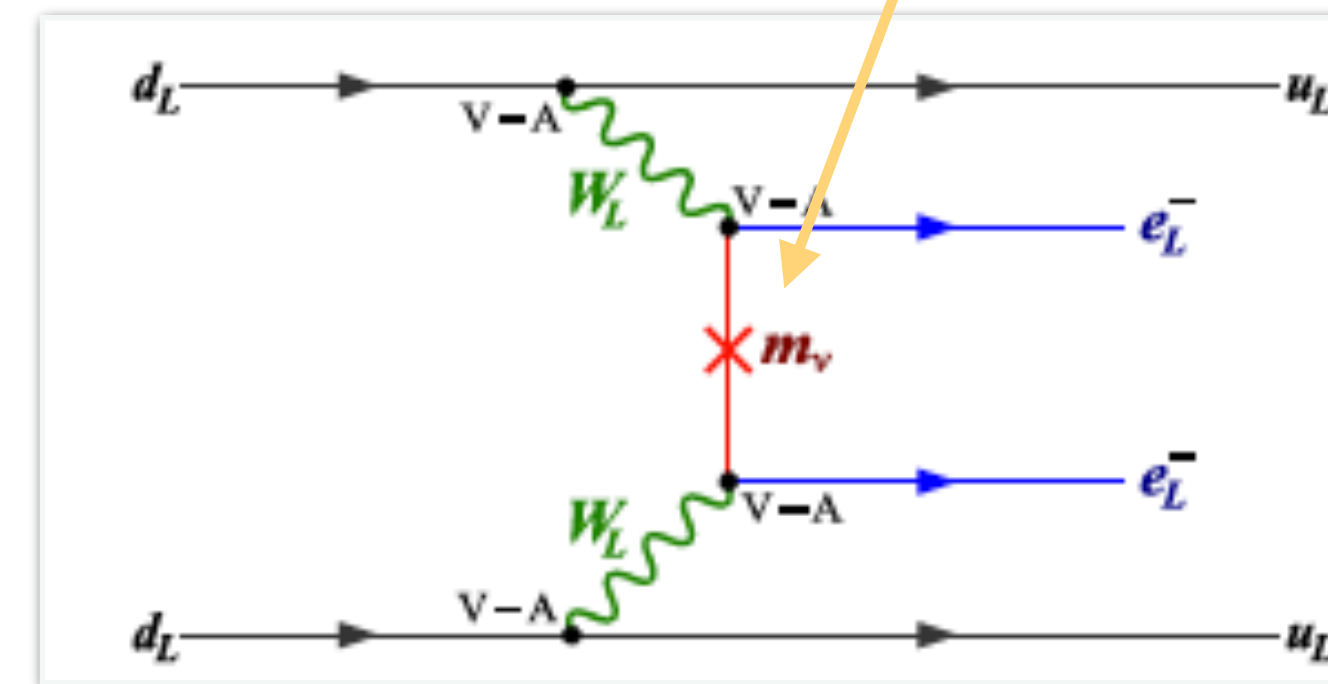


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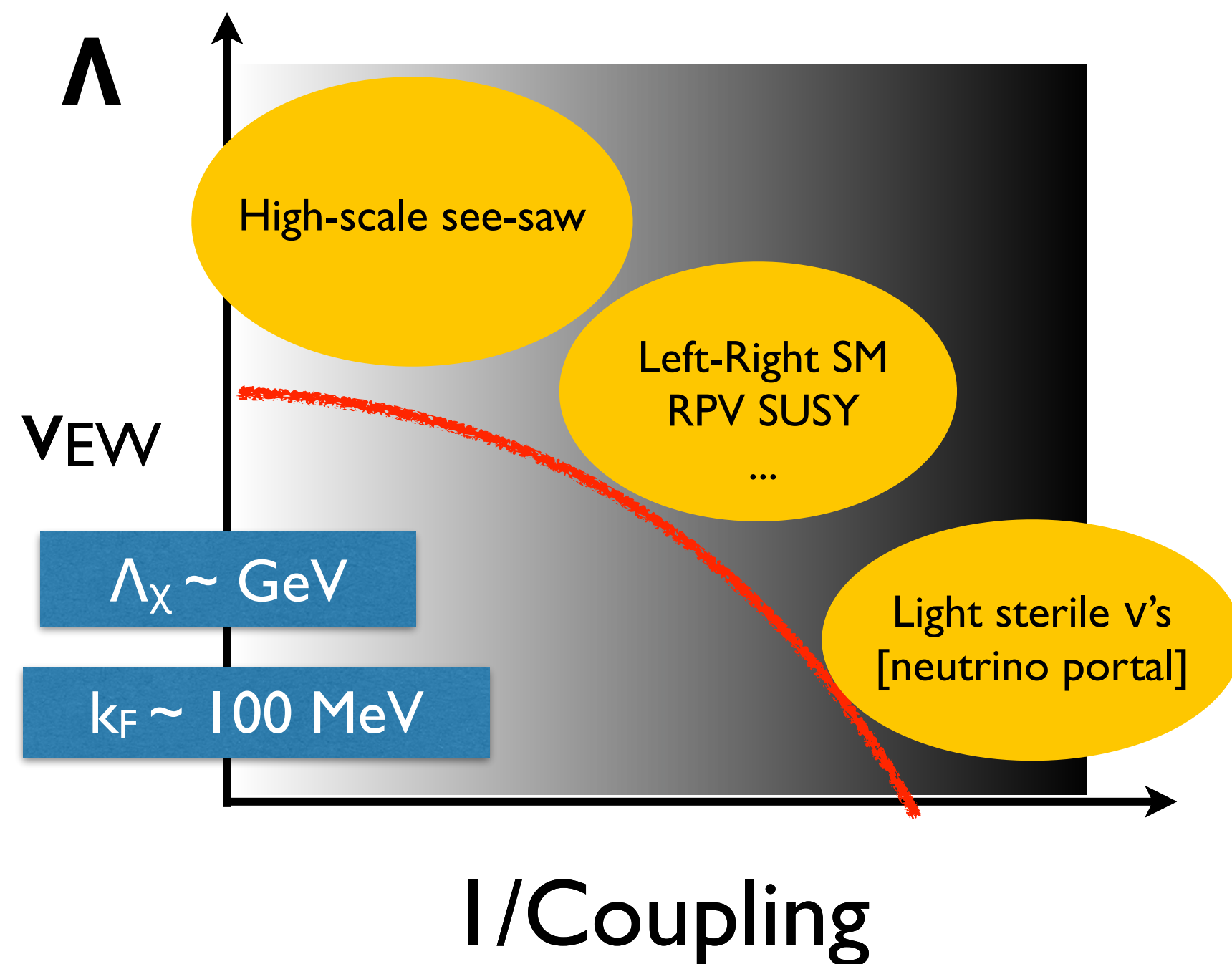


Light (nearly sterile) Majorana neutrinos



# $0\nu\beta\beta$ physics reach

- $0\nu\beta\beta$  searches @  $T_{1/2} > 10^{27-28}$  yr will have broad sensitivity to LNV mechanisms



- Multi-scale problem best tackled through ‘end-to-end’ EFT: only chance to achieve controllable uncertainty
- Synergy of **EFT**, **Lattice QCD**, and first-principles **nuclear structure**

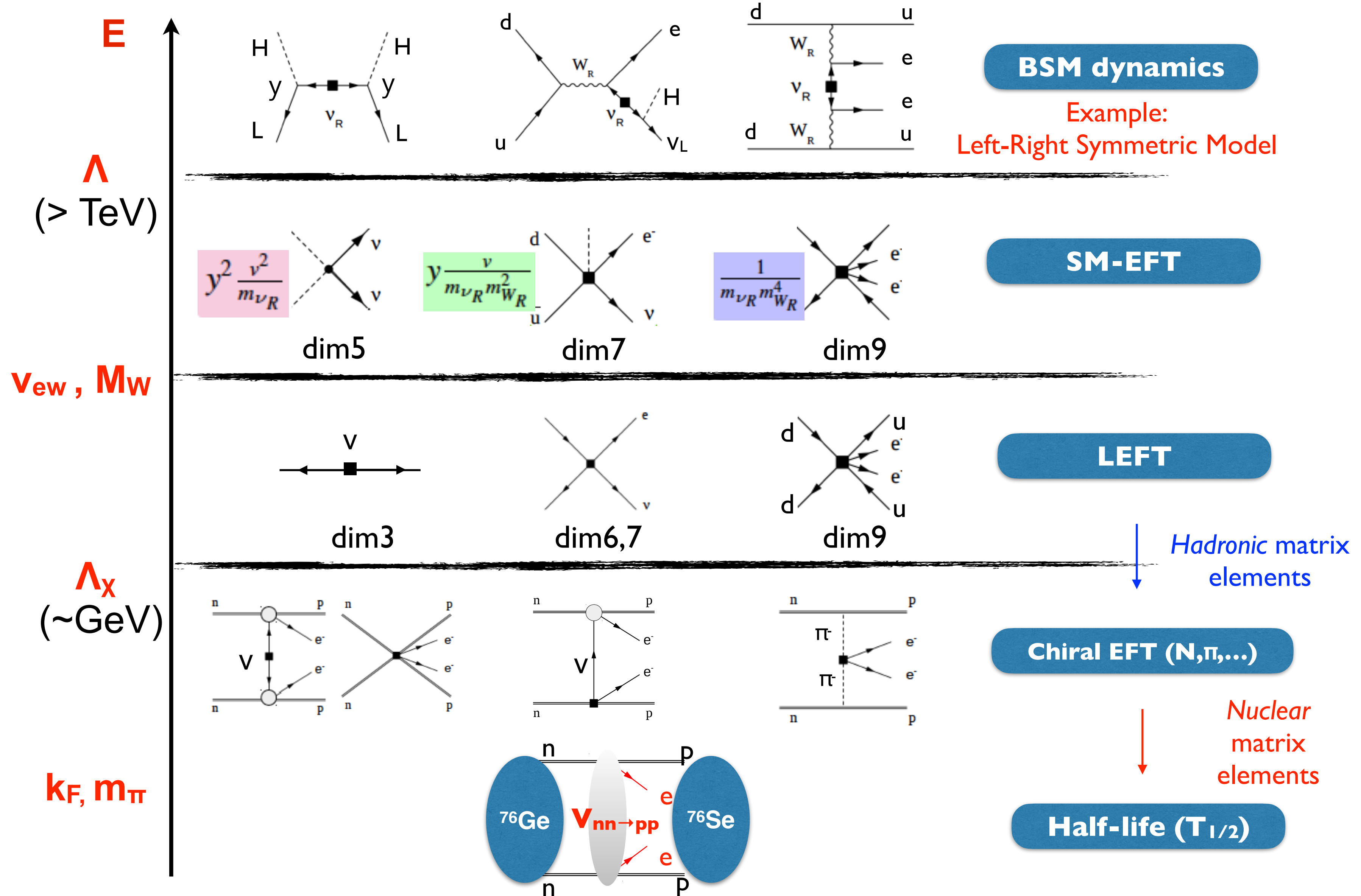
SMEFT      LEFT      Chiral EFT

$$T_{1/2} \propto (m_W/\Lambda)^A (\Lambda_\chi/m_W)^B (k_F/\Lambda_\chi)^C$$

White paper 2203. 21169 and refs therein

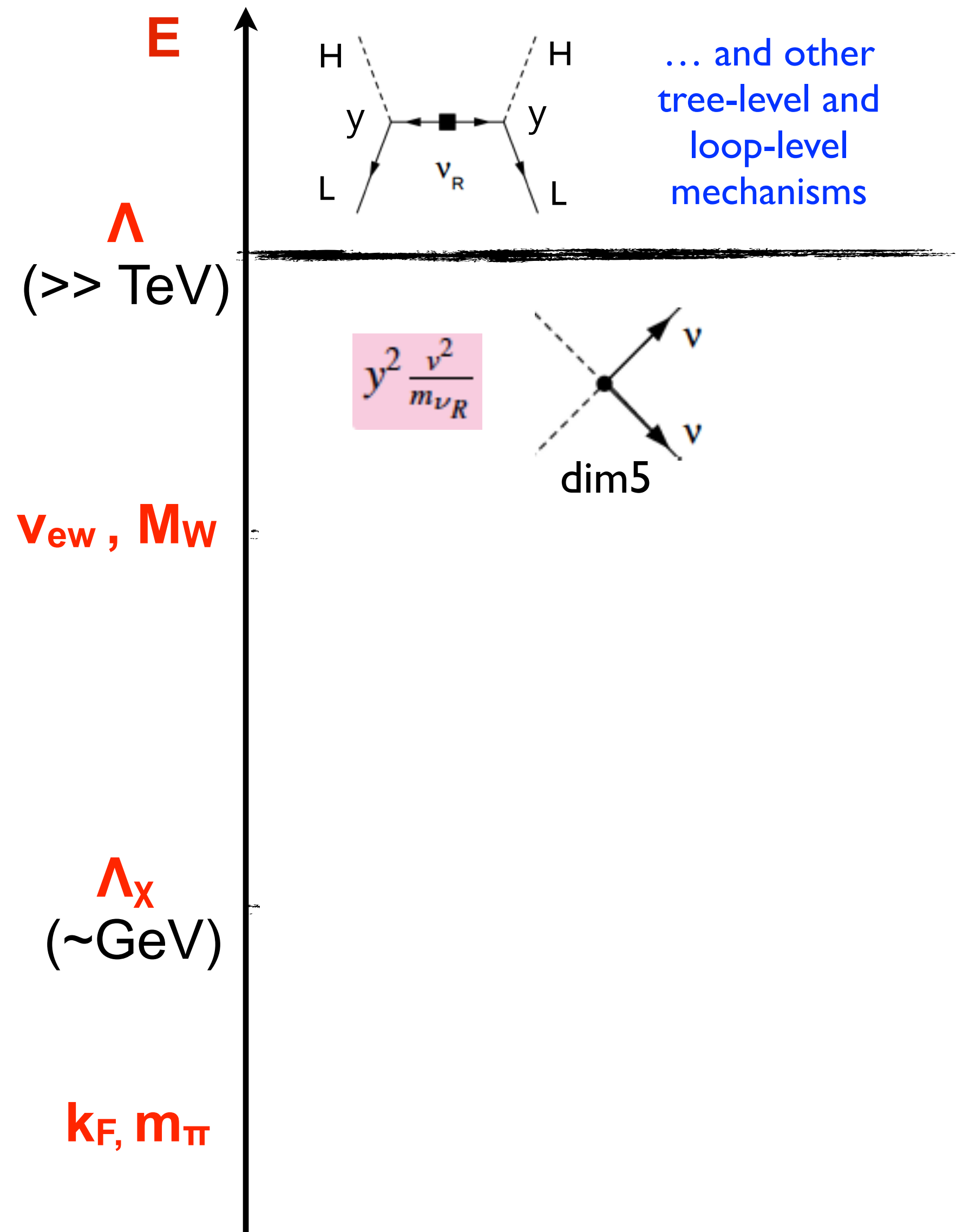
# 'End-to-end' EFT framework

V. Cirigliano, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Graesser, E. Mereghetti, JHEP 1812 (2018) 097 [1806.02780]





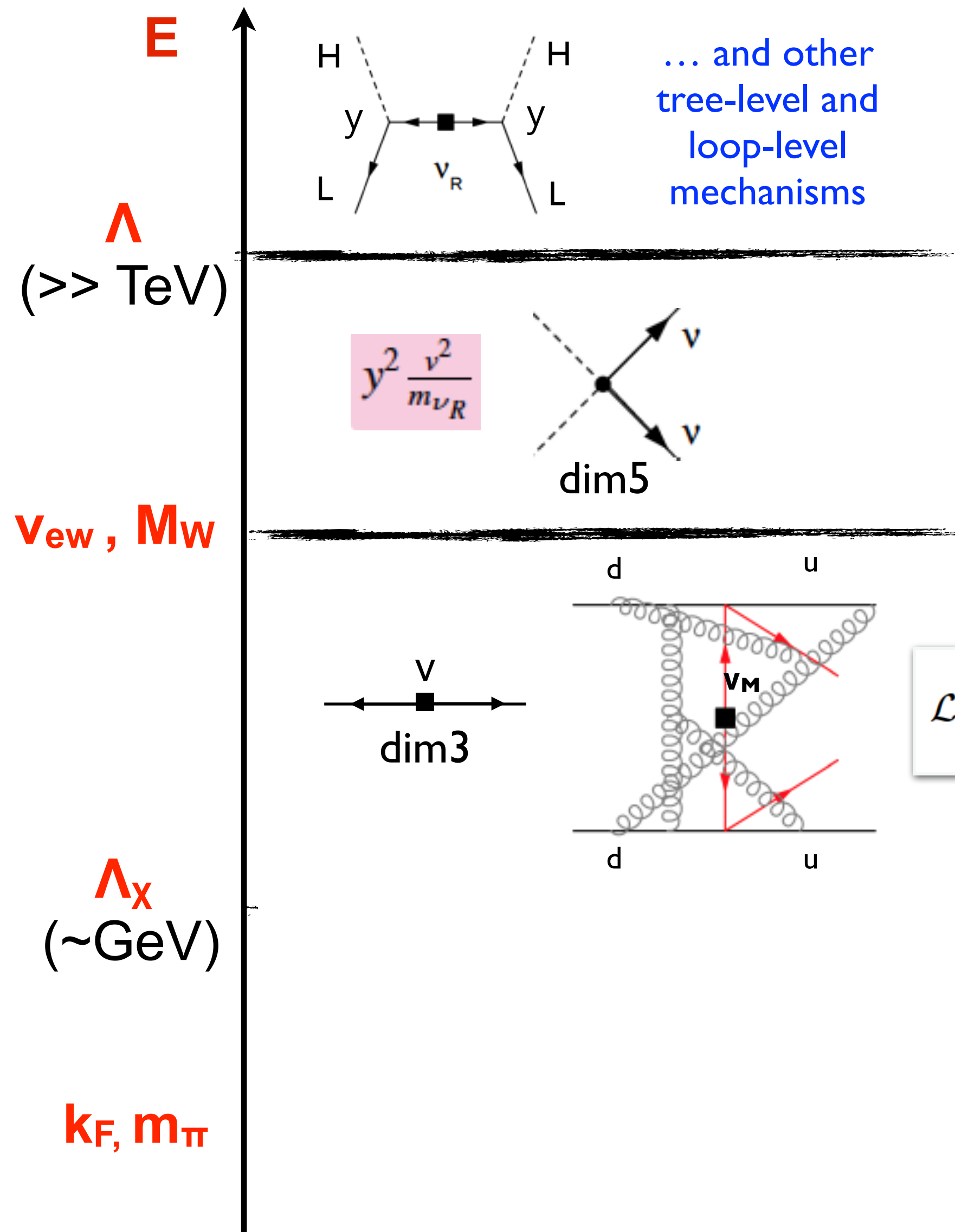
# High scale LNV



- LNV originates at very high scale ( $\Lambda \gg v$ )  $\rightarrow$  dominant low-energy remnant is Weinberg's dim-5 operator:

$$\mathcal{L}_5 = \frac{w_{\alpha\alpha'}}{\Lambda} L_\alpha^T C \epsilon H H^T \epsilon L_{\alpha'}$$

# High scale LNV



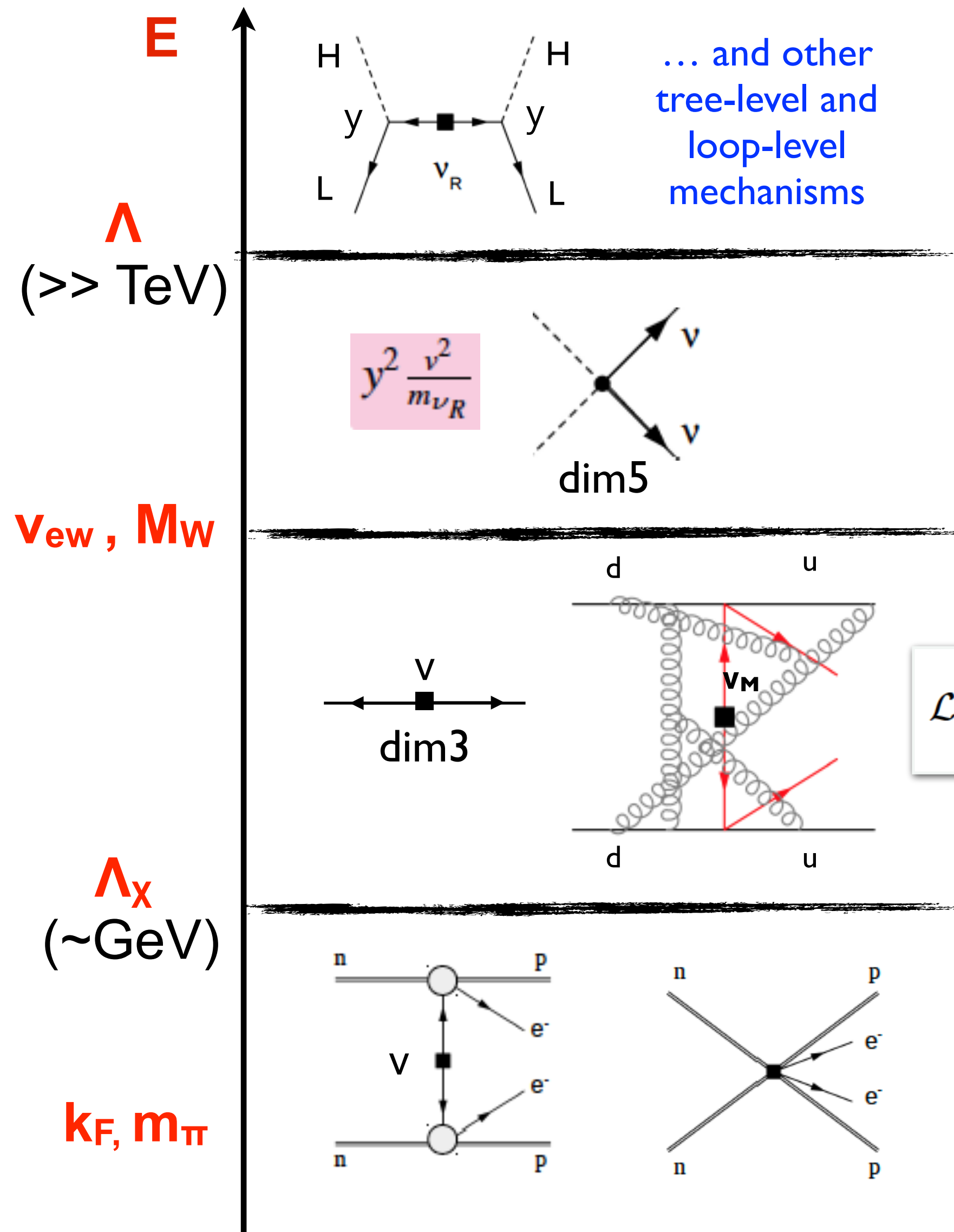
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- Below the weak scale this is just the neutrino Majorana mass ( $m_{\beta\beta} \sim w_{ee} v^2/\Lambda$ )

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} - \frac{4G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{ud} \bar{u}_L \gamma^\mu d_L \bar{e}_L \gamma_\mu \nu_{eL} - \frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{2} \nu_{eL}^T C \nu_{eL} + \text{H.c.}$$

# High scale LNV



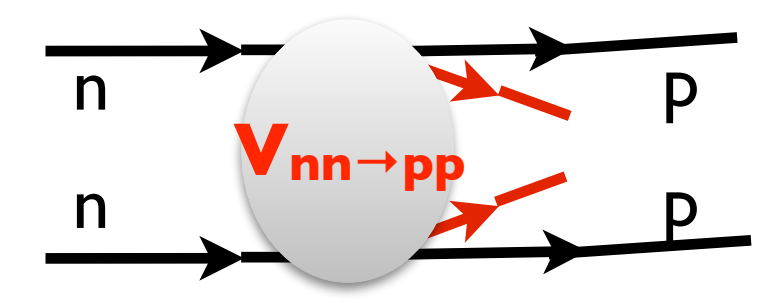
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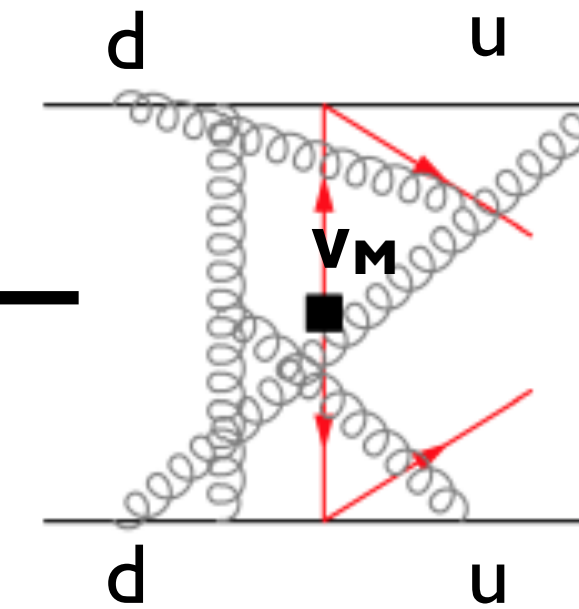
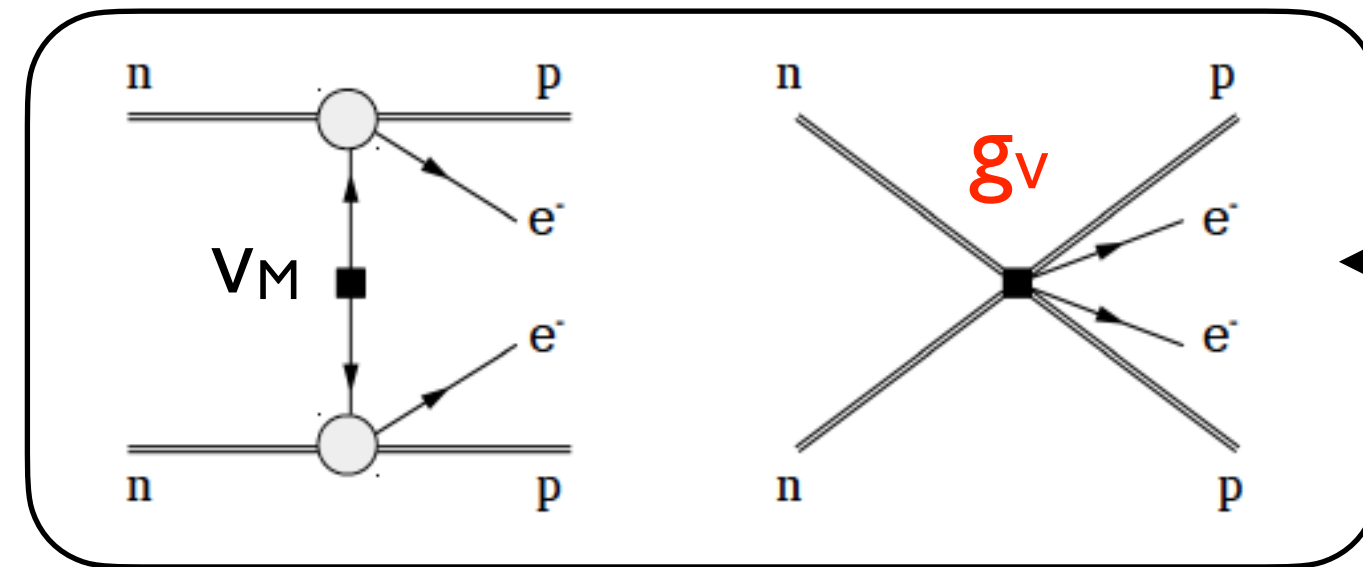
- $0\nu\beta\beta$  mediated by active  $\nu_M$  with potential  $V_{nn \rightarrow pp}$  with long- and short-range components proportional to  $m_{\beta\beta}$



# Recent theoretical developments

- Insight from EFT: new NN contact interaction to leading order in  $Q/\Lambda_\chi$

$$Q \sim k_F \sim m_\pi$$
$$\Lambda_\chi \sim \text{GeV}$$



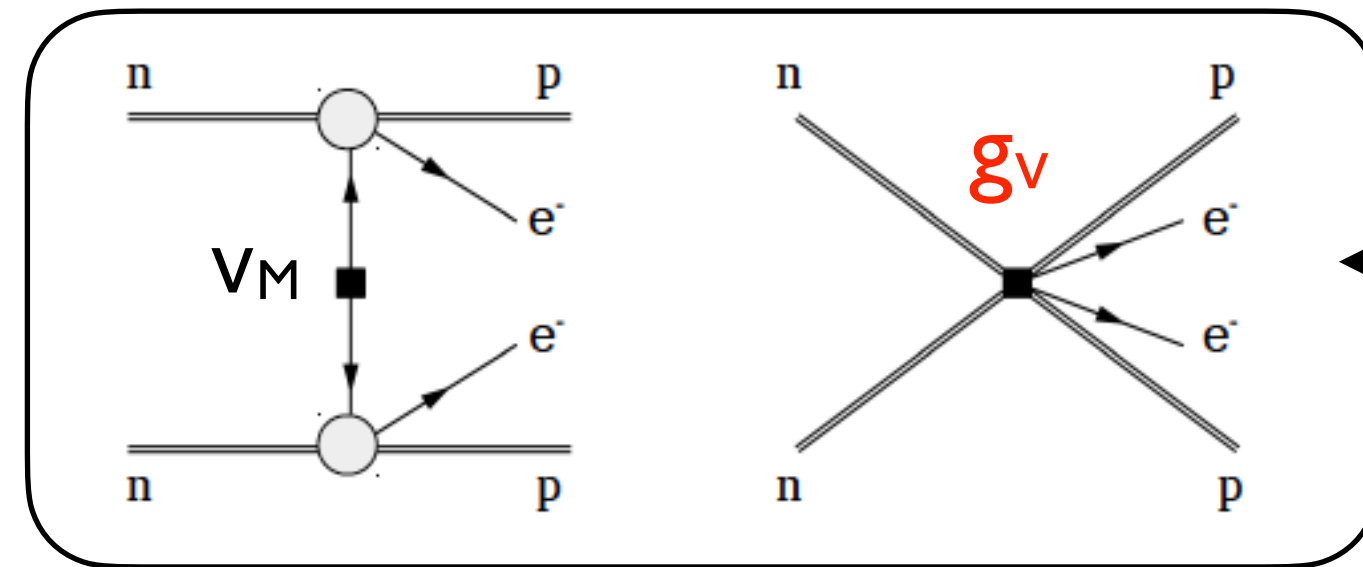
VC, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Graesser,  
E. Mereghetti, S. Pastore, U. van Kolck 1802.10097

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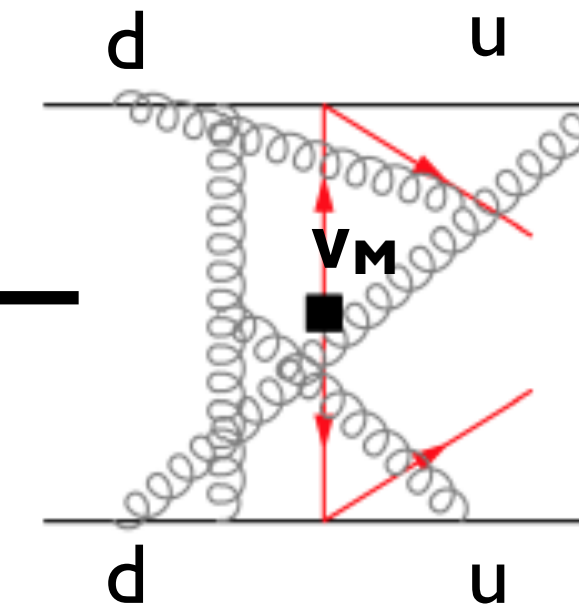
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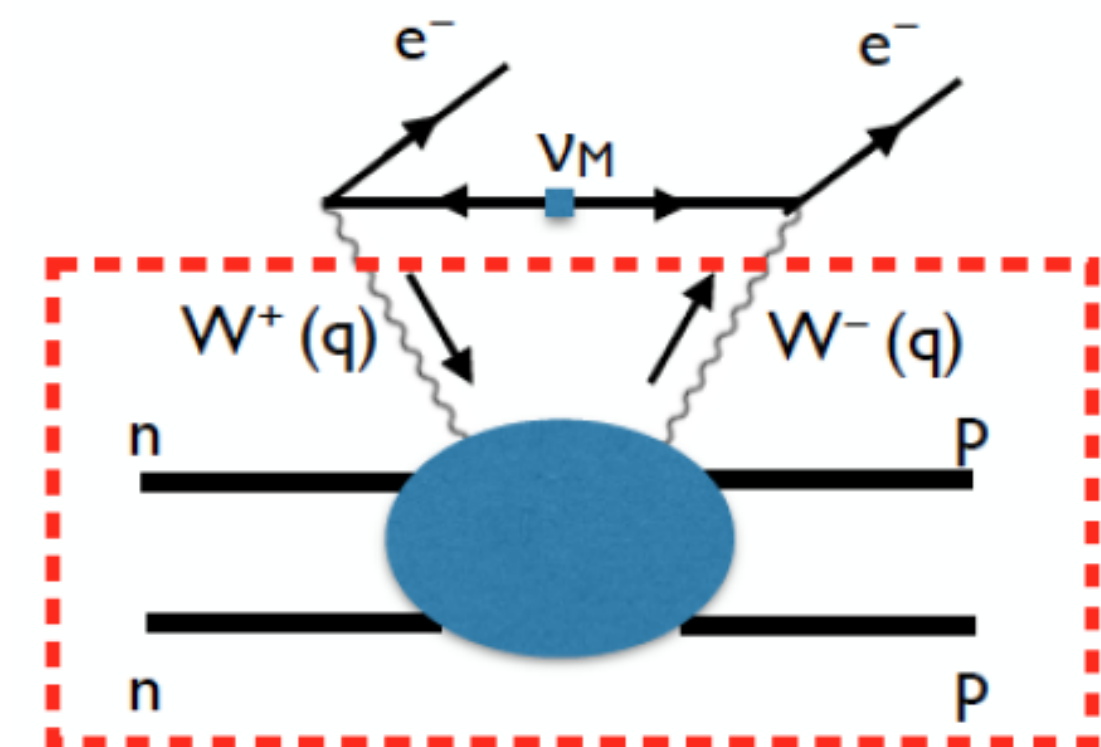
VC, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Graesser,  
E. Mereghetti, S. Pastore, U. van Kolck 1802.10097



- $g_V$  estimated through dispersive analysis [1] and used in first-principles calculation [2] of  $^{48}\text{Ca} \rightarrow ^{48}\text{Ti}$ :  
contact term enhances n.m.e. by  $\sim 50\%$

[1] VC, Dekens, deVries, Hoferichter, Mereghetti, 2012.11602, 2102.03371

[2] Wirth, Yao, Hergert, 2105.05415. See also Belley et al, 2307.15156, 2308.15634

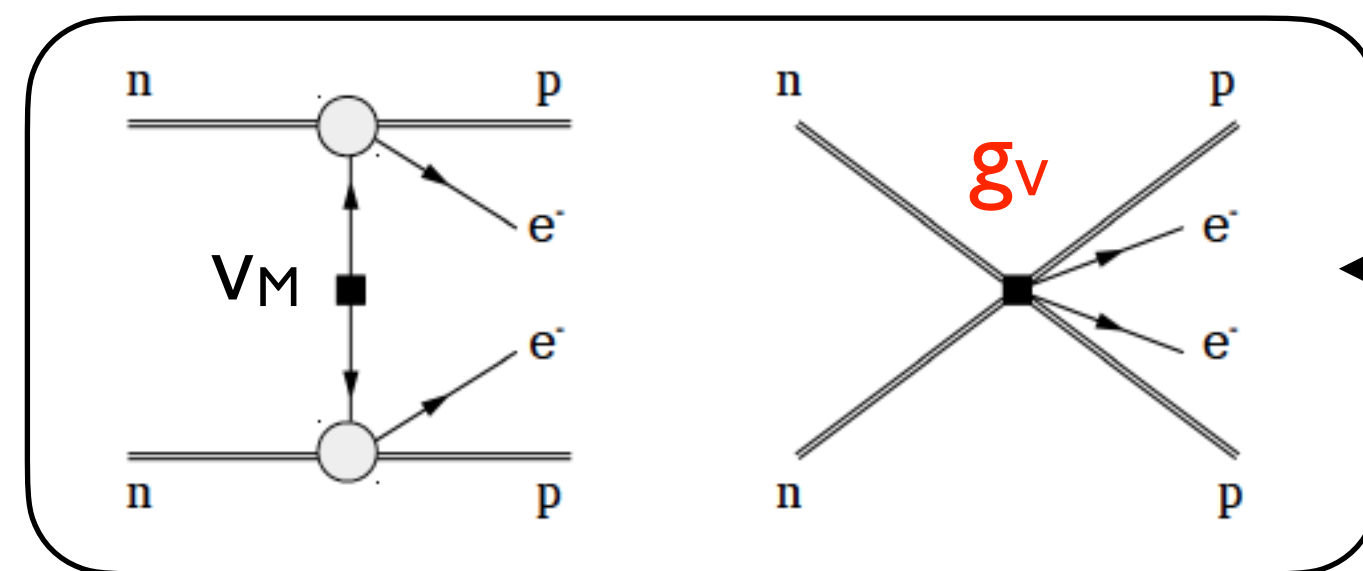


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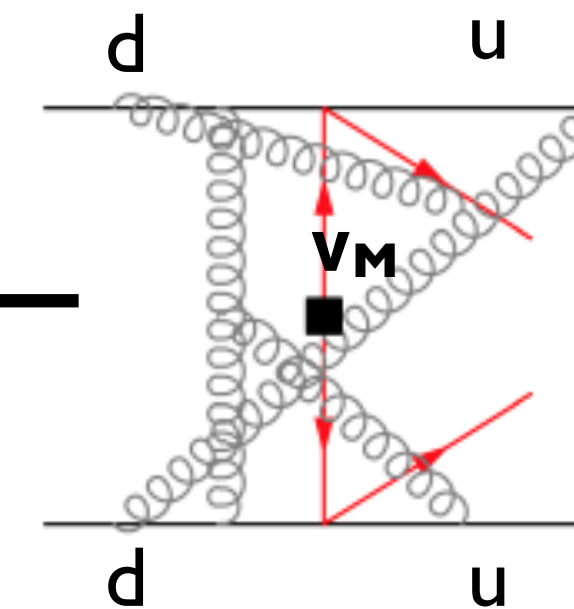
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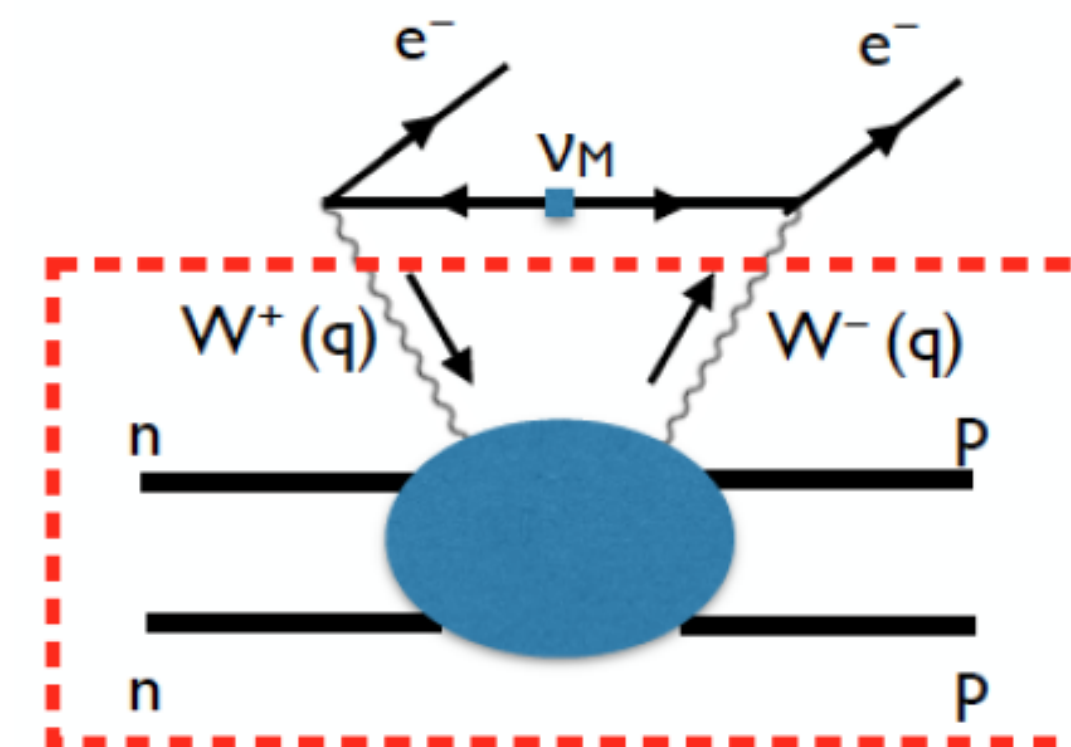
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E. Mereghetti, S. Pastore, U. van Kolck 1802.10097



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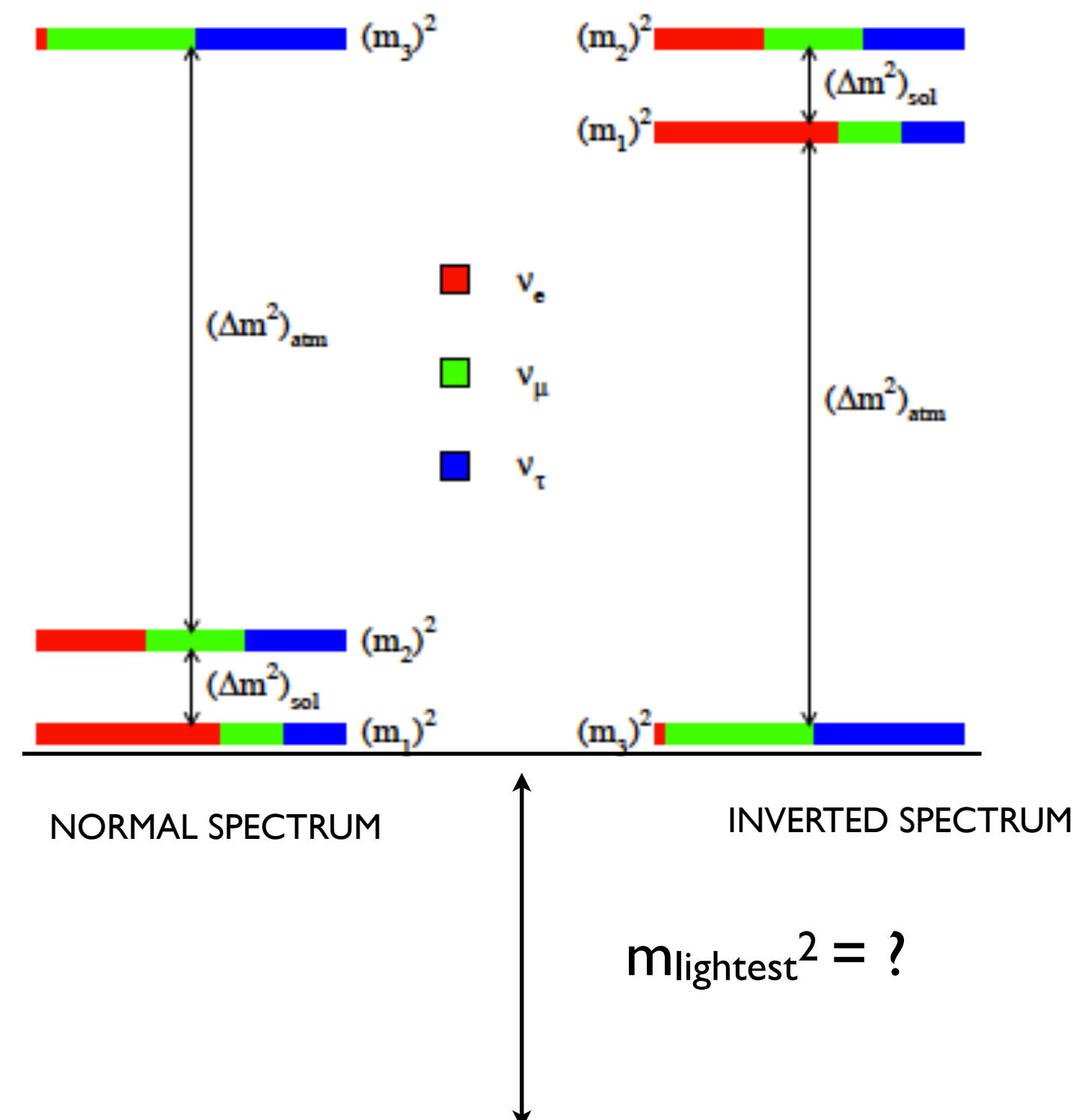
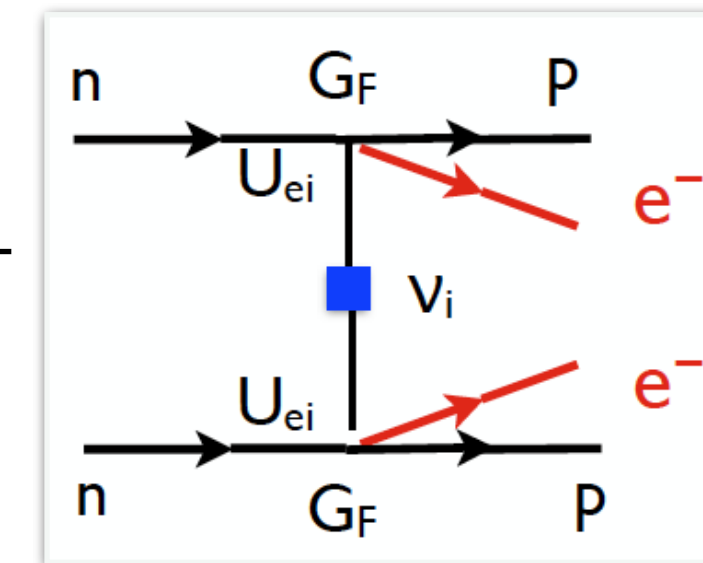


Overall, uncertainties still sizable. Progress requires theoretical activity at the interface of EFT, lattice QCD, and nuclear structure

# Discovery potential / target

- Within the high-scale seesaw,  $0\nu\beta\beta$  can be predicted in terms of  $\nu$  mass parameters:  $\Gamma \propto |M_{0\nu}|^2 (m_{\beta\beta})^2$

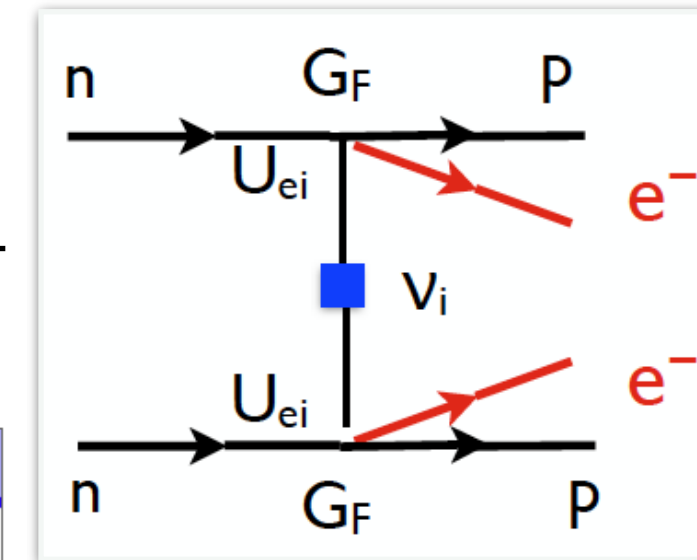
$$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2 = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_{\nu i} \right|^2$$



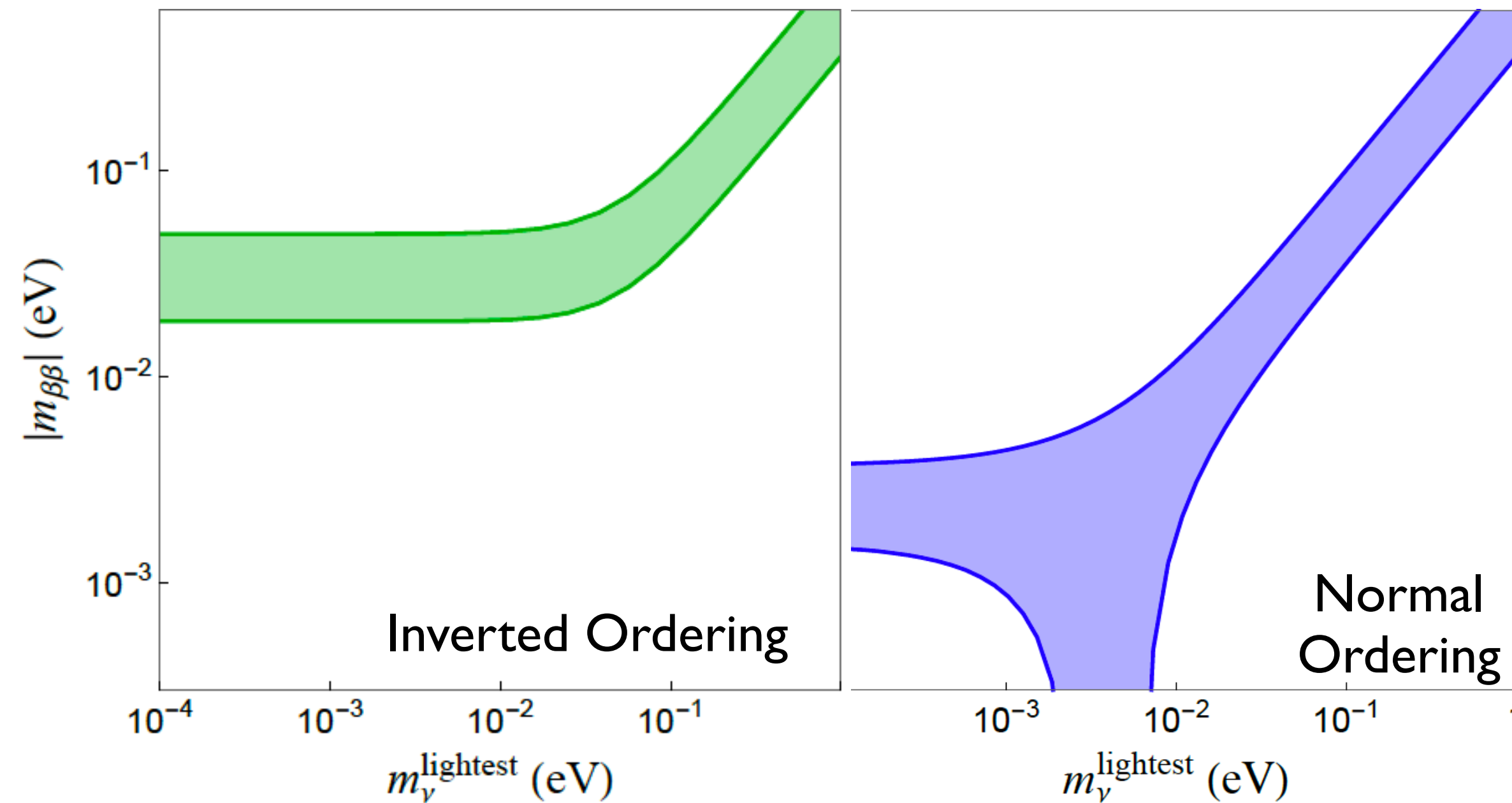
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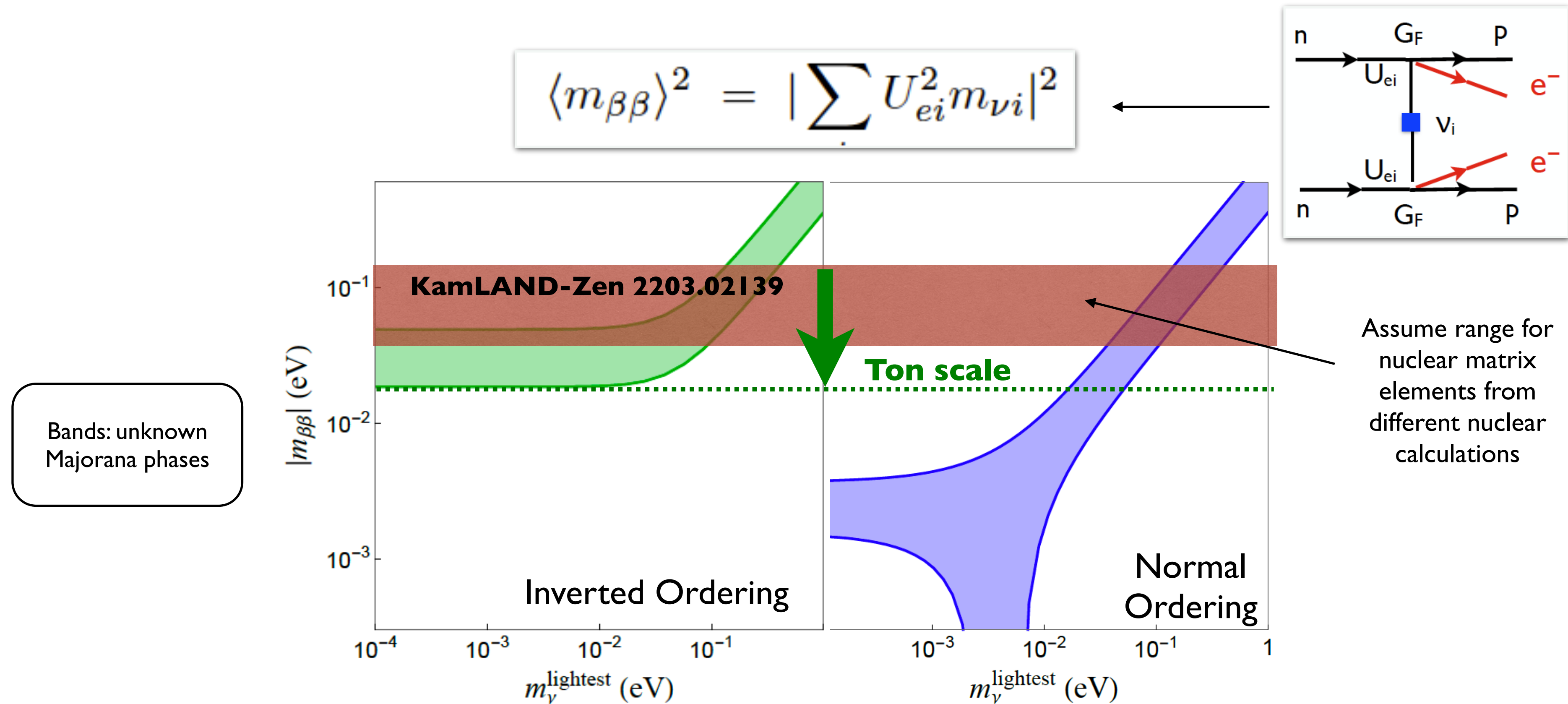
Bands: unknown  
Majorana phases





# Discovery potential / target

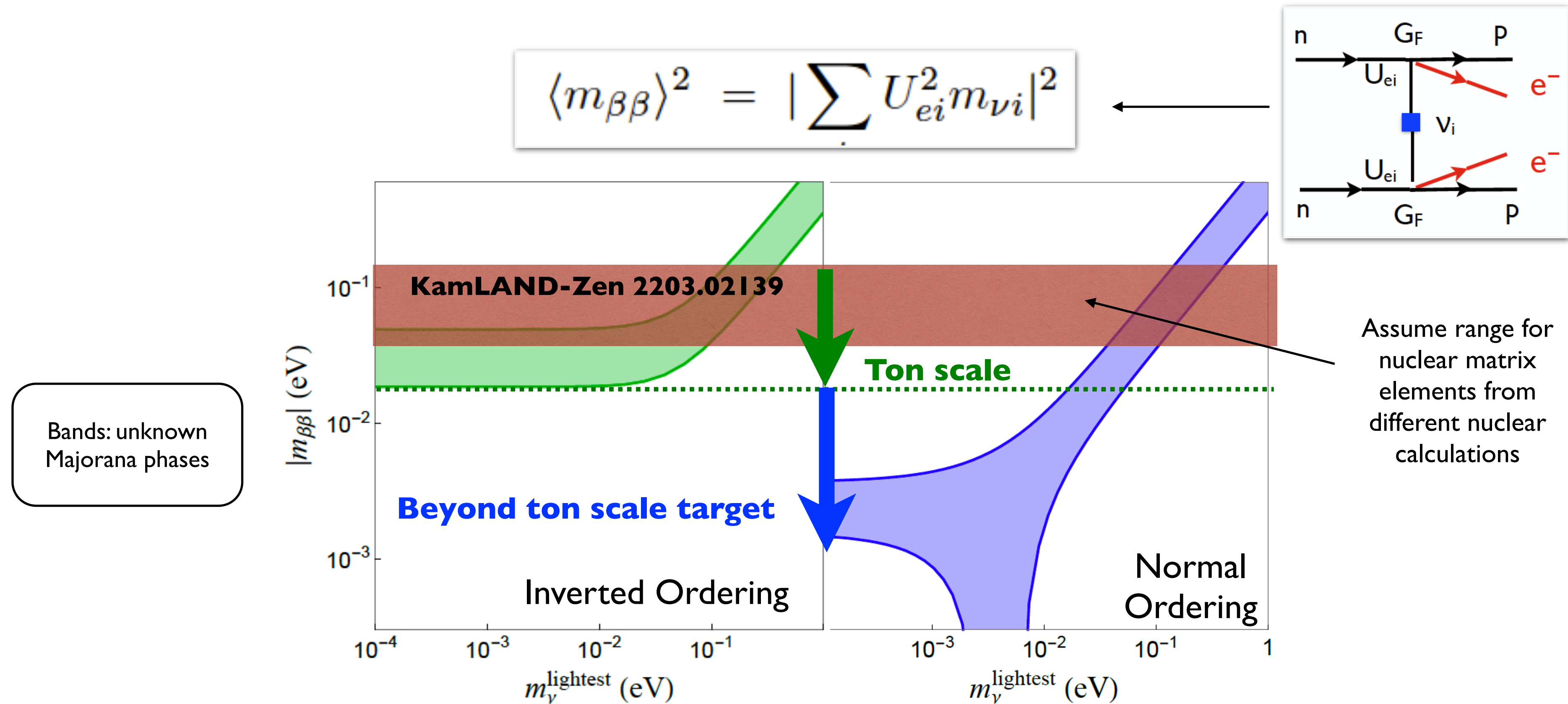
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Assuming current range for matrix elements, discovery @ ton-scale possible for **inverted spectrum** or  **$m_{\text{lightest}} > 50 \text{ meV}$**

# Discovery potential / target

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Natural (but challenging!) beyond ton-scale target is  $m_{\beta\beta} \sim \text{meV}$

# Diagnosing power

- High scale seesaw implies falsifiable correlation with other  $\nu$  mass probes
- Future data coupled with improved theory can challenge the 3-neutrino paradigm, unravel new LNV sources or physics beyond “ $\Lambda$ CDM +  $m_\nu$ ”

$$m_{\beta\beta} = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$$

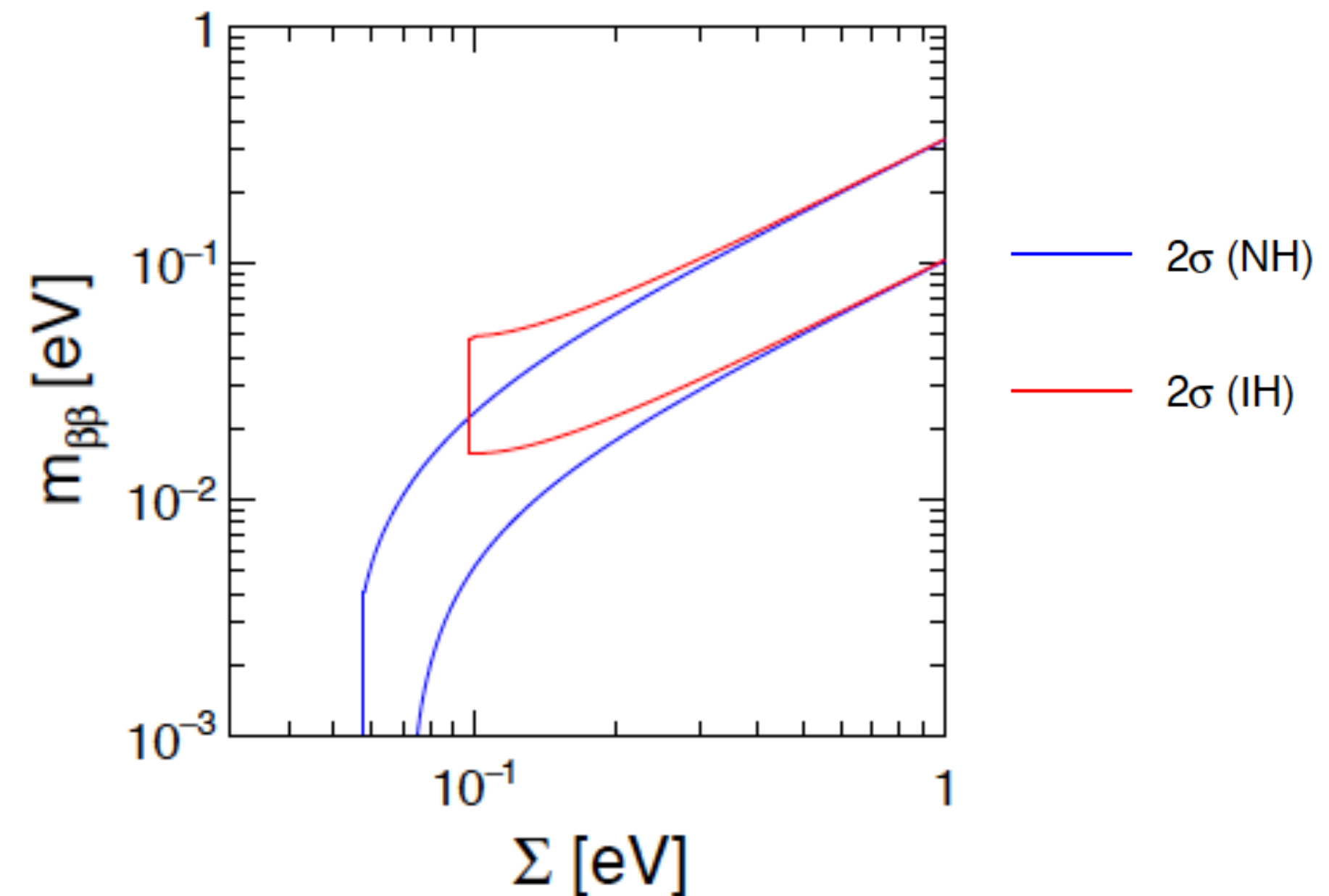
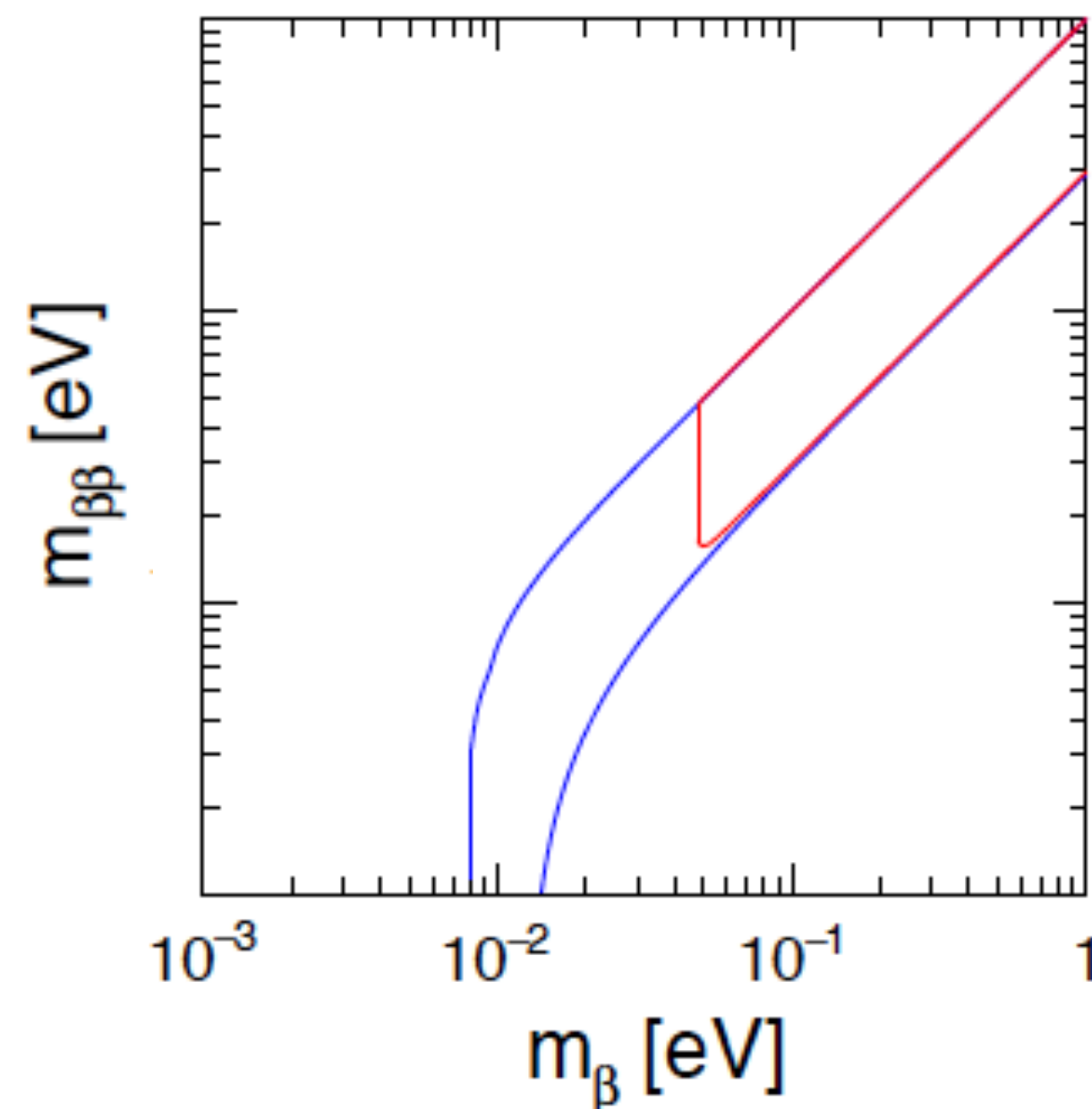
$0\nu\beta\beta$  decay

$$m_\beta = \sqrt{\sum_i |U_{ei}|^2 m_i^2}$$

Tritium  $\beta$  decay

$$\Sigma = \sum_i m_i$$

Cosmology



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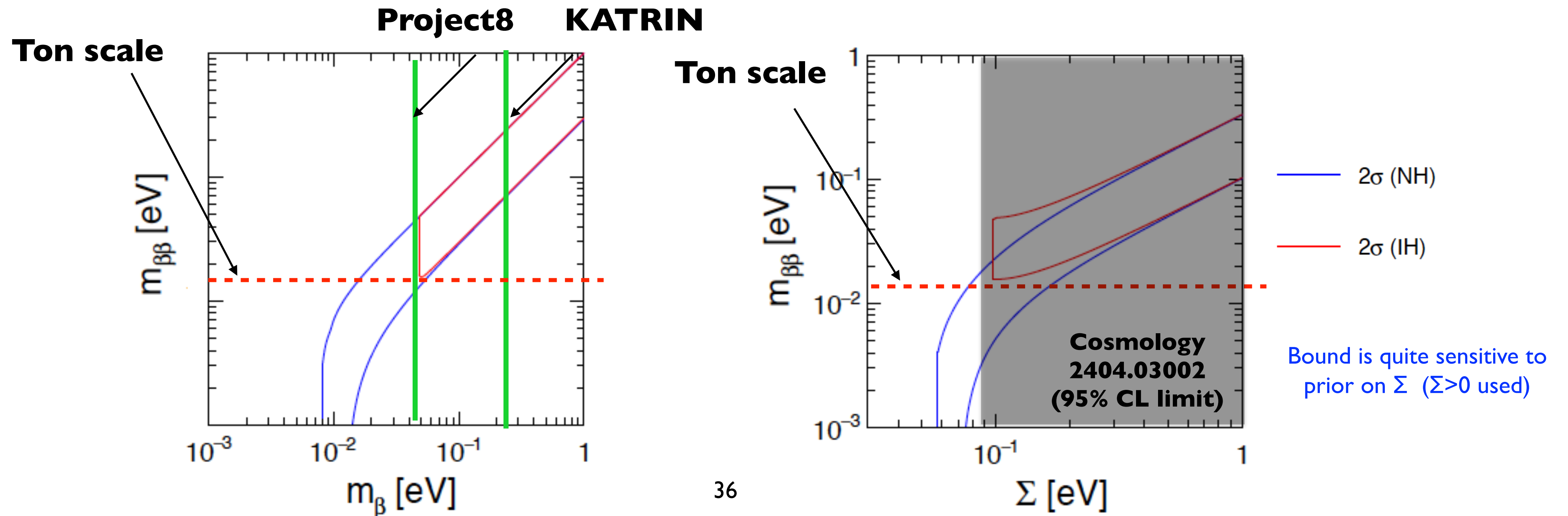
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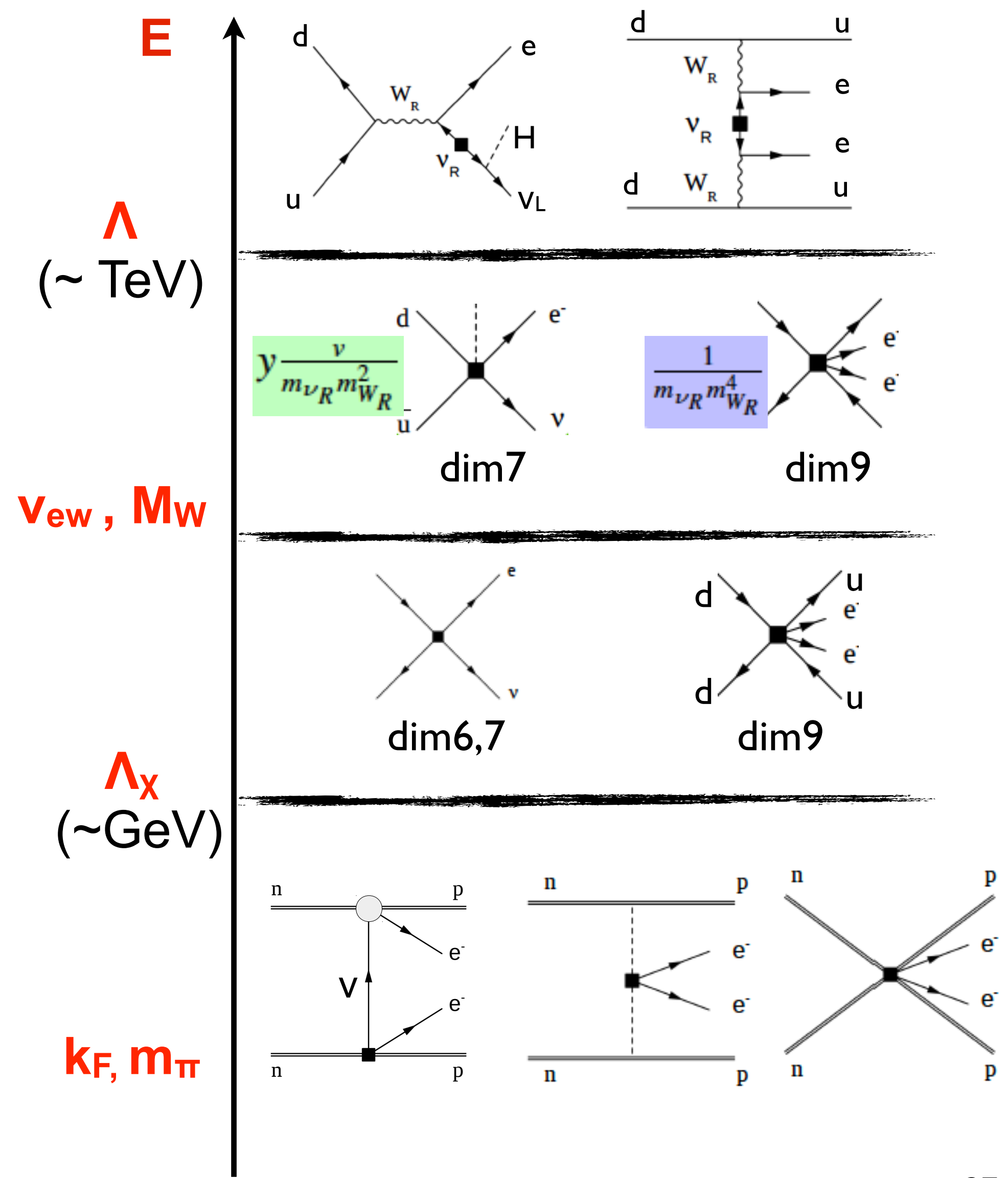
Tritium  $\beta$  decay

$$\Sigma = \sum_i m_i$$

Cosmology



# ~TeV-scale LNV



- Higher dim operators arise in well motivated models. Can compete with Dim=5 operator if  $\Lambda \sim O(1-10 \text{ TeV})$

- 31 operators up to dimension 9

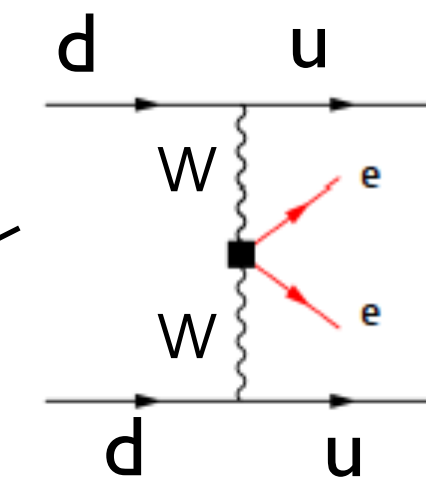
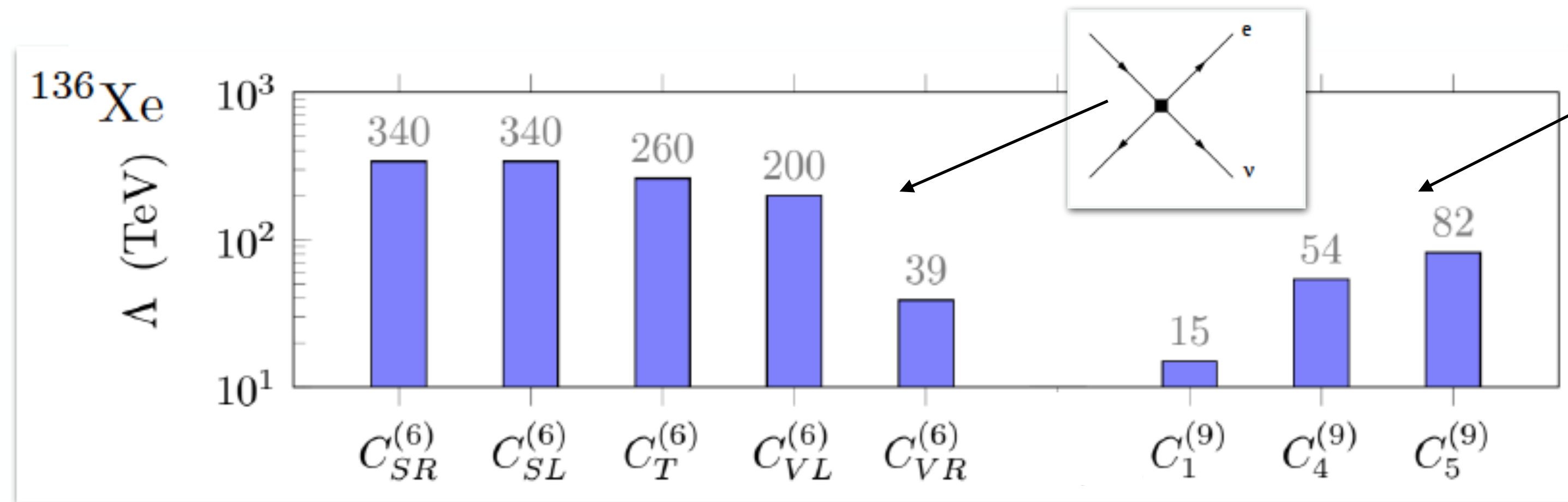
- New mechanisms at the hadronic scale: need appropriate chiral EFT treatment. **Not including pion-range effects leads to factor  $\sim (Q/\Lambda_\chi)^2 \sim 1/100$  reduction in sensitivity to short-distance couplings!**

# What scales are we probing?

VC, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Graesser, E. Mereghetti, 1806.02780

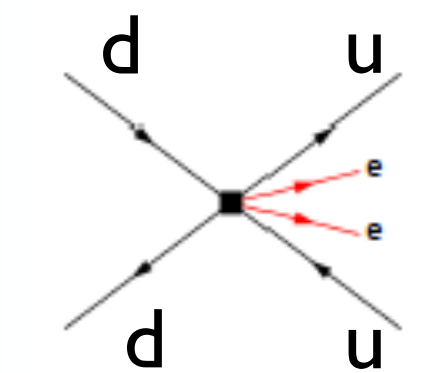
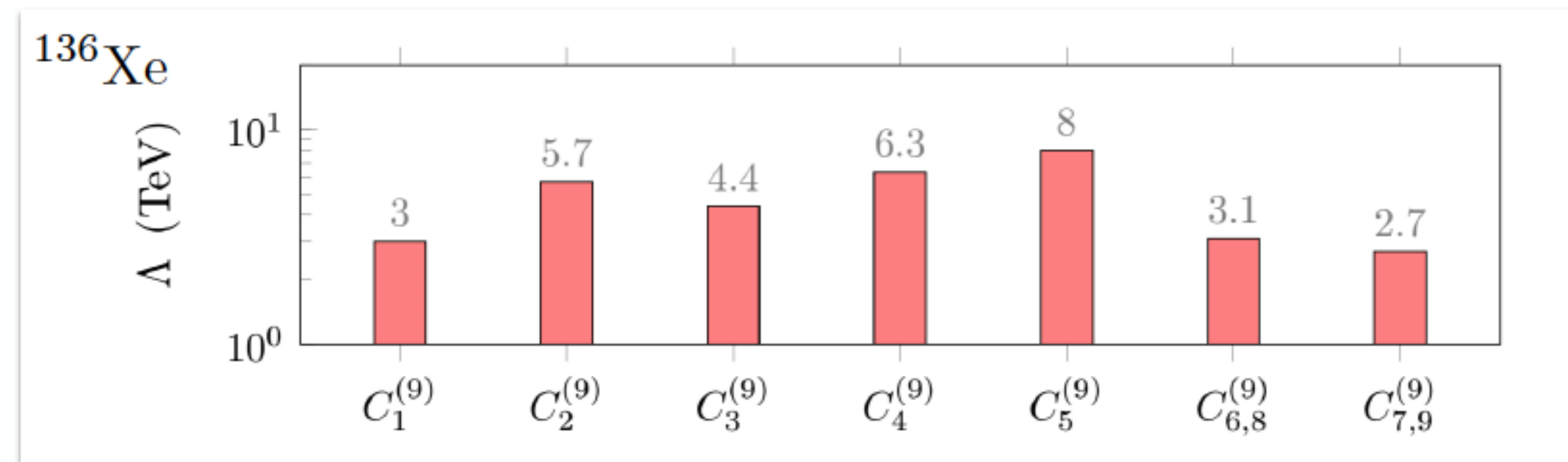
Dim 7 in SM-EFT

$(v/\Lambda)^3$



Dim 9 in SM-EFT

$(v/\Lambda)^5$

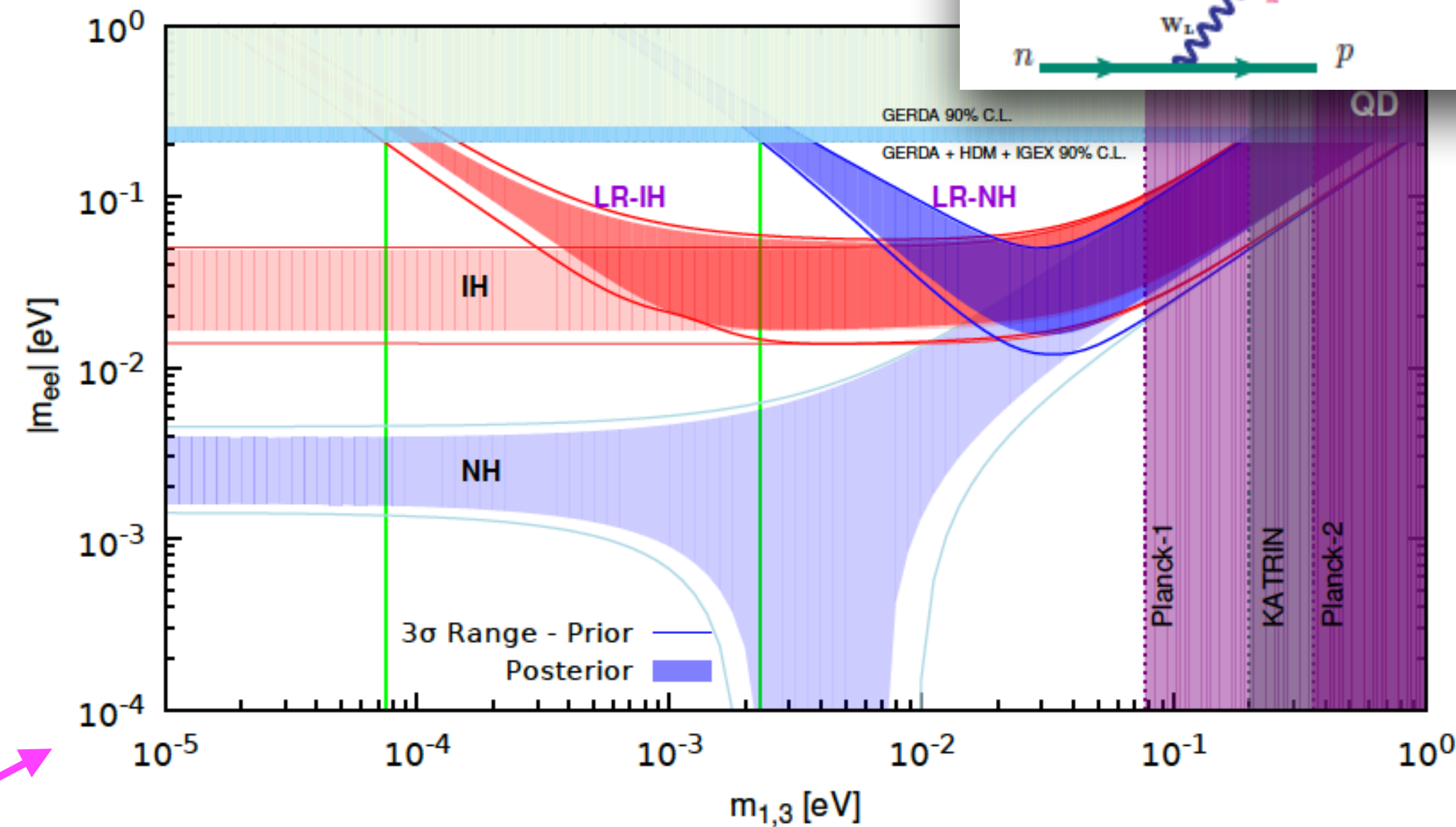
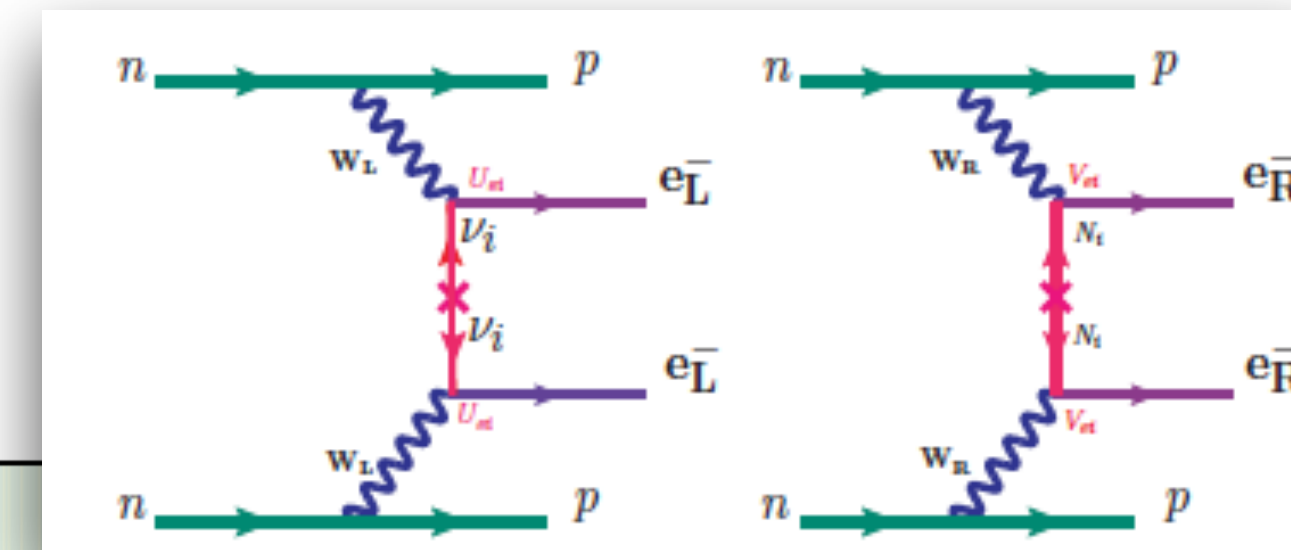


Bounds reflect dependence on  $\Lambda_x/\Lambda$  and  $Q/\Lambda_x$

# Phenomenological interest (I)

- TeV-scale LNV induces contributions to  $0\nu\beta\beta$  not directly related to the exchange of light neutrinos, within reach of planned experiments

Example: left-right symmetric model with type-II seesaw



$$M_i \propto m_i$$

$$V_R^{PMNS} = V_L^{PMNS}$$

$$M_i = \frac{m_1}{m_3} M_3, \text{ for NH}$$

$$M_i = \frac{m_1}{m_2} M_2, \text{ for IH.}$$

$$M_{2,3} = 1 \text{ TeV}$$

Tello-Nemevesek-  
Nesti-Senjanovic-  
Vissani 1011.3522

Ge-Lindner-Patra  
1508.07286

...

# Phenomenological interest (2)

- May lead to correlated (or precursor!) signal at LHC:  $pp \rightarrow ee jj$

Keung-Senjanovic '83

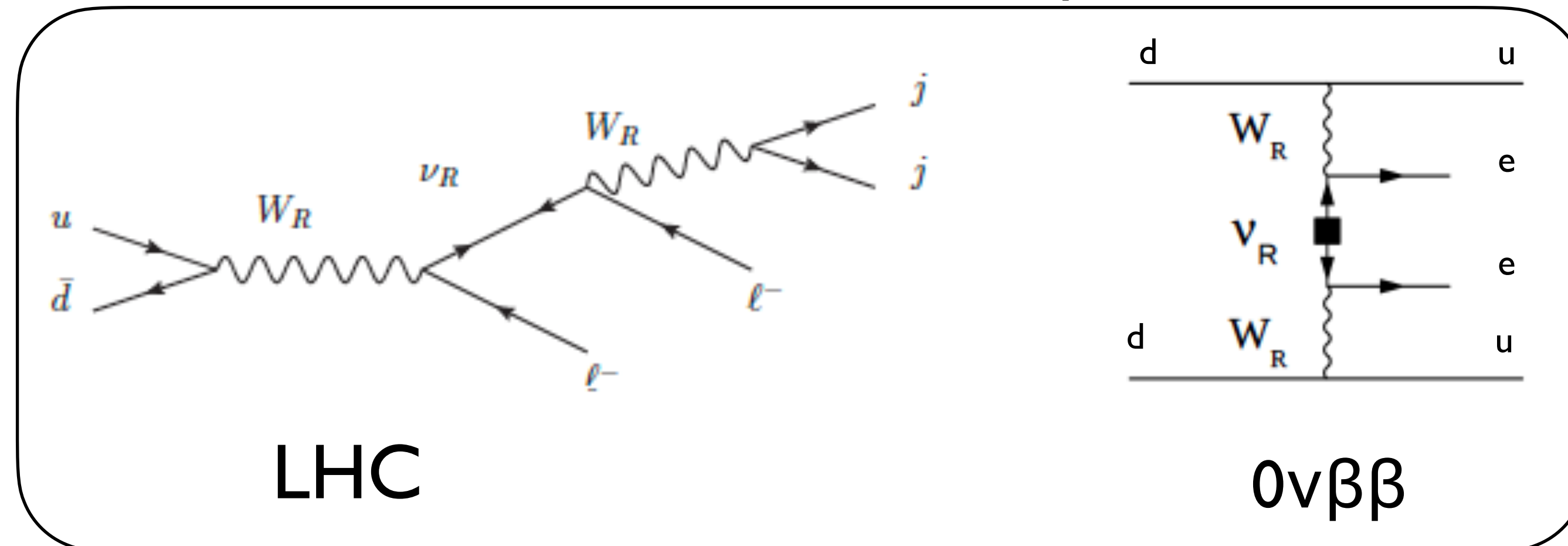
Maiezza-Nemevesek-  
Nesti- Senjanovic  
1005.5160

Helo-Kovalenko-Hirsch-  
Pas 1303.0899, 1307.4849

Cai, Han, Li, Ruiz  
1711.02180

...

## Classic LRSM example





# Phenomenological interest (2)

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Keung-Senjanovic '83

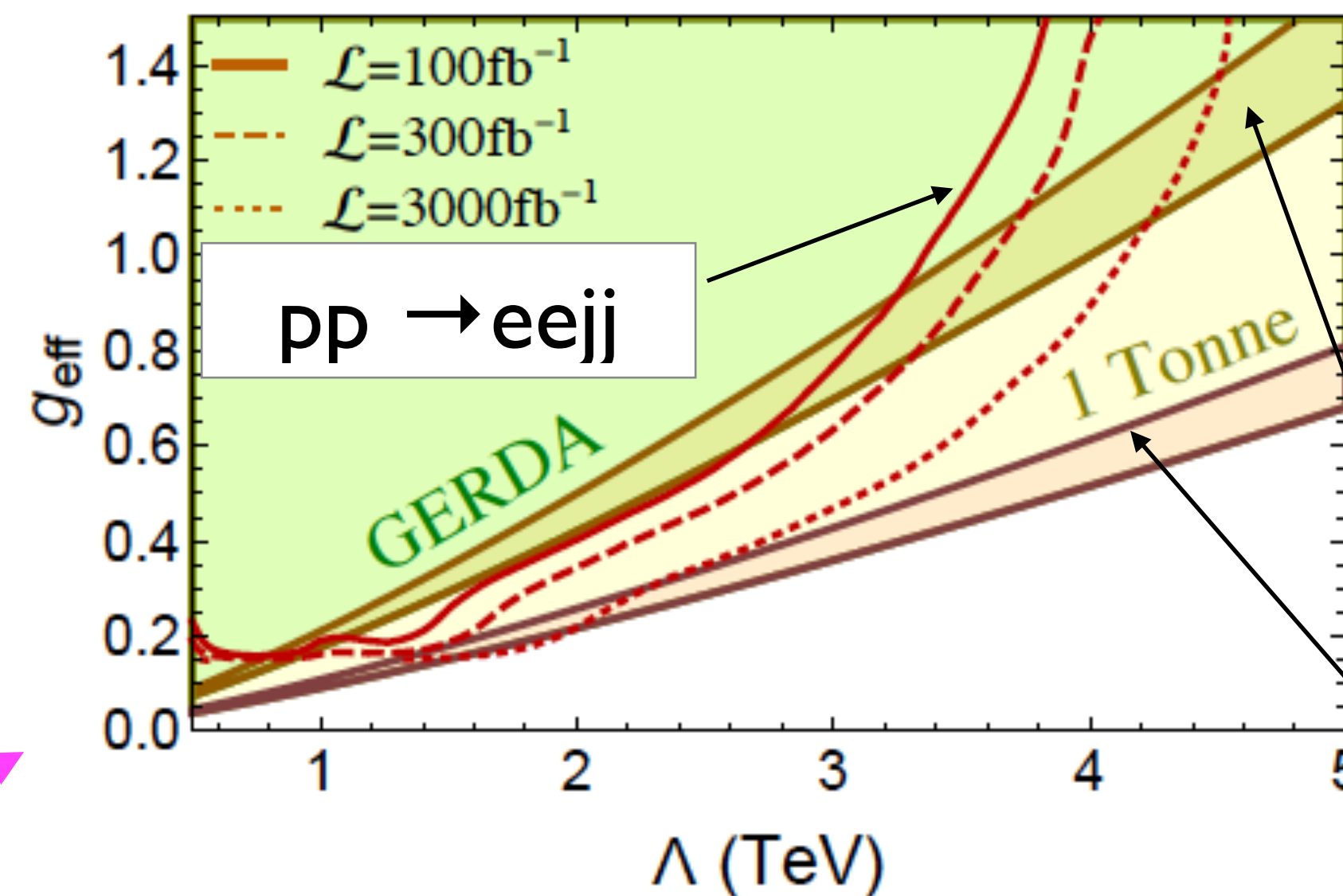
Maiezza-Nemevesek-  
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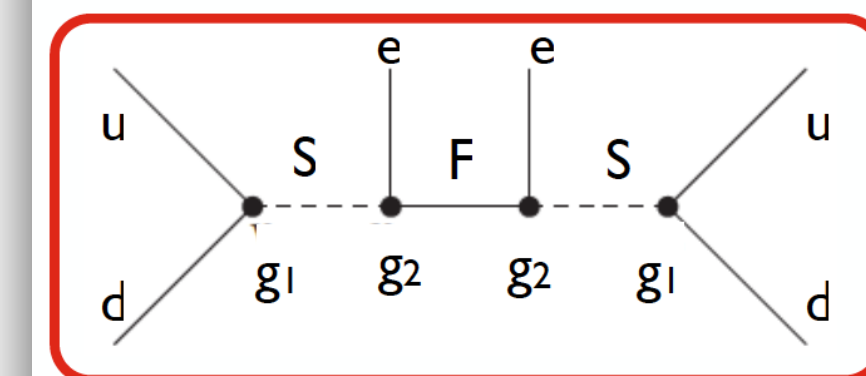
Peng, Ramsey-Musolf,  
Winslow, 1508.0444

...



Simplified model

$$M_S = M_F = M_{\text{eff}} \quad (g_{\text{eff}})^4 = g_1^2 g_2^2$$



$$A_{0\nu\beta\beta} \sim (g_{\text{eff}})^4 / (M_{\text{eff}})^5$$

Hadronic / nuclear  
uncertainty

- LHC searches important to unravel origin of LNV and implications for leptogenesis

Deppisch-Harz-Hirsch 1312.4447, Deppisch-Graf-Harz-Huang 1711.10432, Harz, Ramsey-Musolf, et al 2106.10838, ...

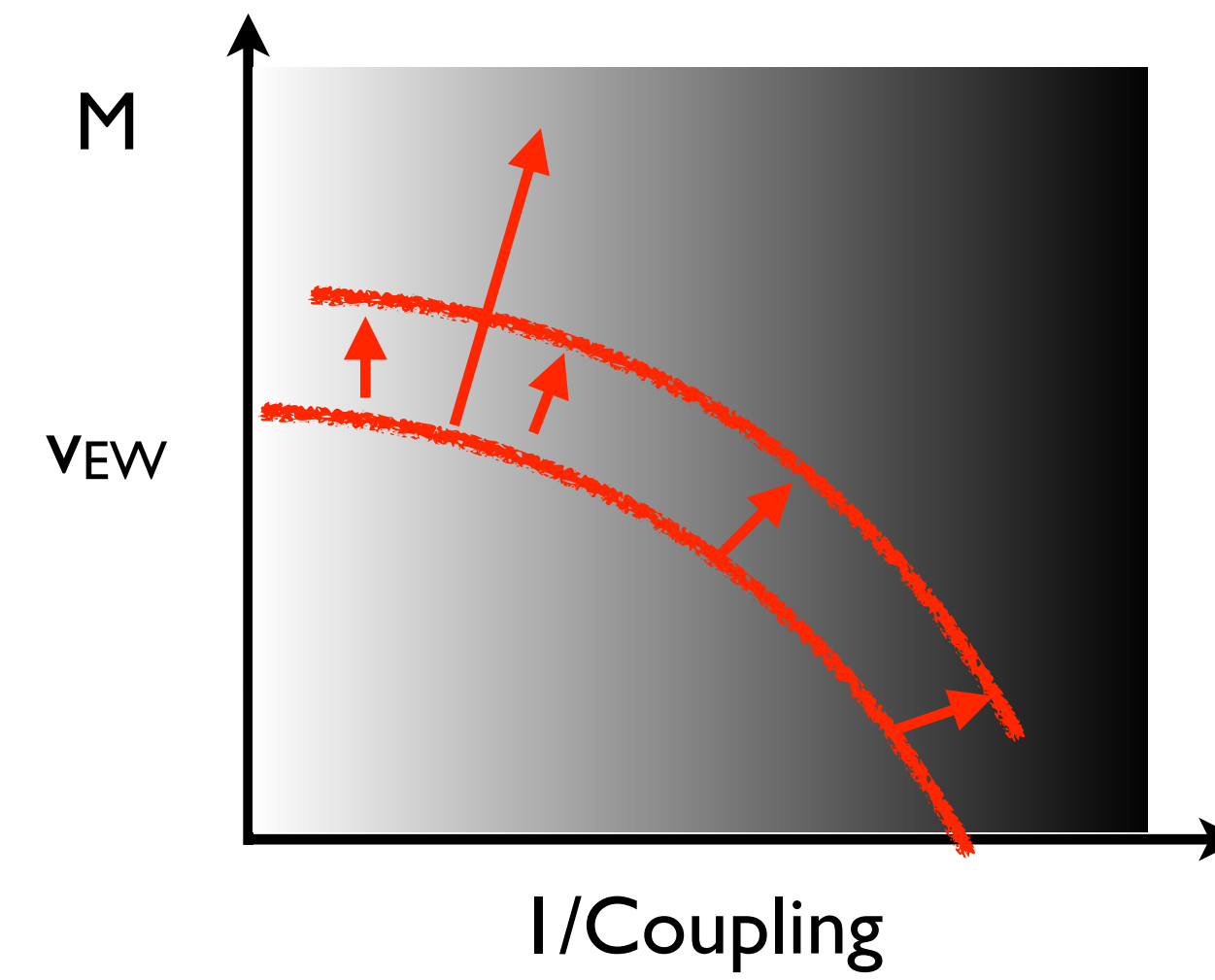
# Outlook on $0\nu\beta\beta$ and LNV

- Ton-scale  $0\nu\beta\beta$  searches have **significant discovery potential** — we simply don't know the origin of  $m_\nu$  and the scale  $\Lambda$  associated with LNV
- EFT approach provides a general framework to:
  1. **Relate  $0\nu\beta\beta$  to underlying LNV dynamics (and collider & cosmology)**
  2. **Organize contributions to hadronic and nuclear matrix elements**

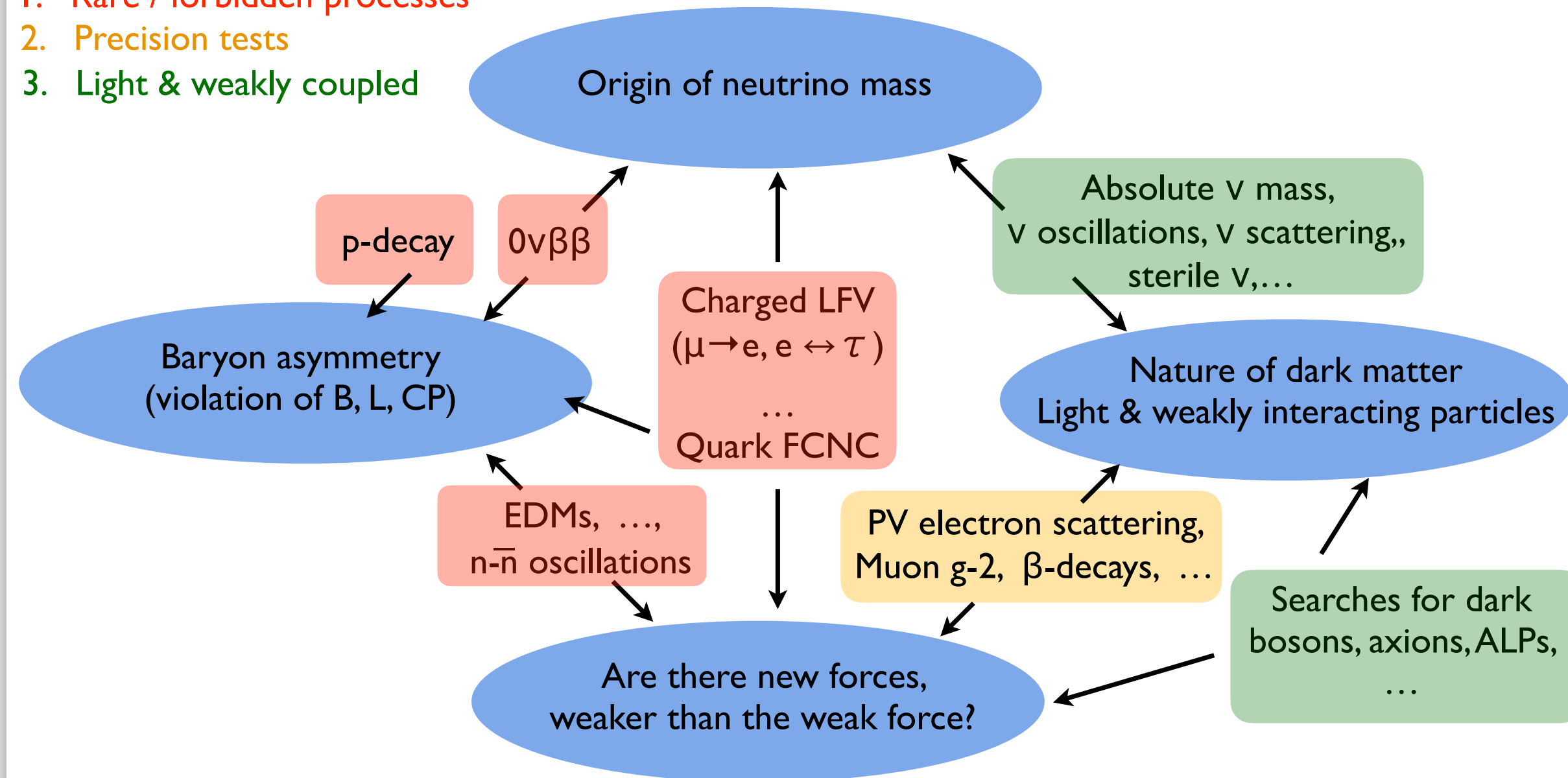
Improving the theory uncertainty is challenging, but there are good prospects thanks to advances in **EFT**, **lattice QCD**, and **nuclear structure**

# Concluding comments

- Experiments at the low-energy Precision / Intensity Frontier are exploring uncharted territory in the search for new physics, in a complementary way to other frontiers



- Rare / forbidden processes
- Precision tests
- Light & weakly coupled

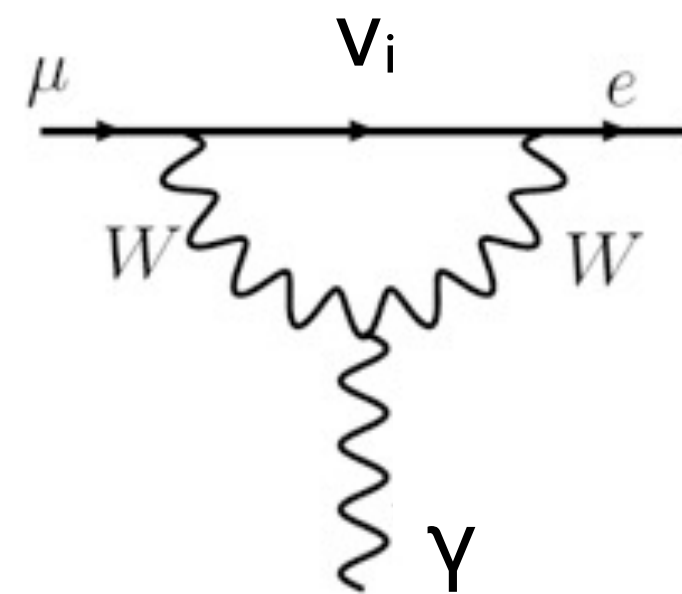


- The low-energy frontier probes BSM physics related to the ‘big questions’
- Theoretical challenges addressed by a combination of EFT, lattice QCD and other non-perturbative methods

# Probing Lepton Flavor Violation with charged leptons

# LFV and new physics (I)

- $\nu$  oscillations  $\Rightarrow L_{e,\mu,\tau}$  not conserved
- In SM + massive  $\nu$ , Charged-LFV decays suppressed to unobservable level



$$\mathcal{L}_{\nu\text{SM}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \mathcal{L}_{\nu\text{-mass}}$$

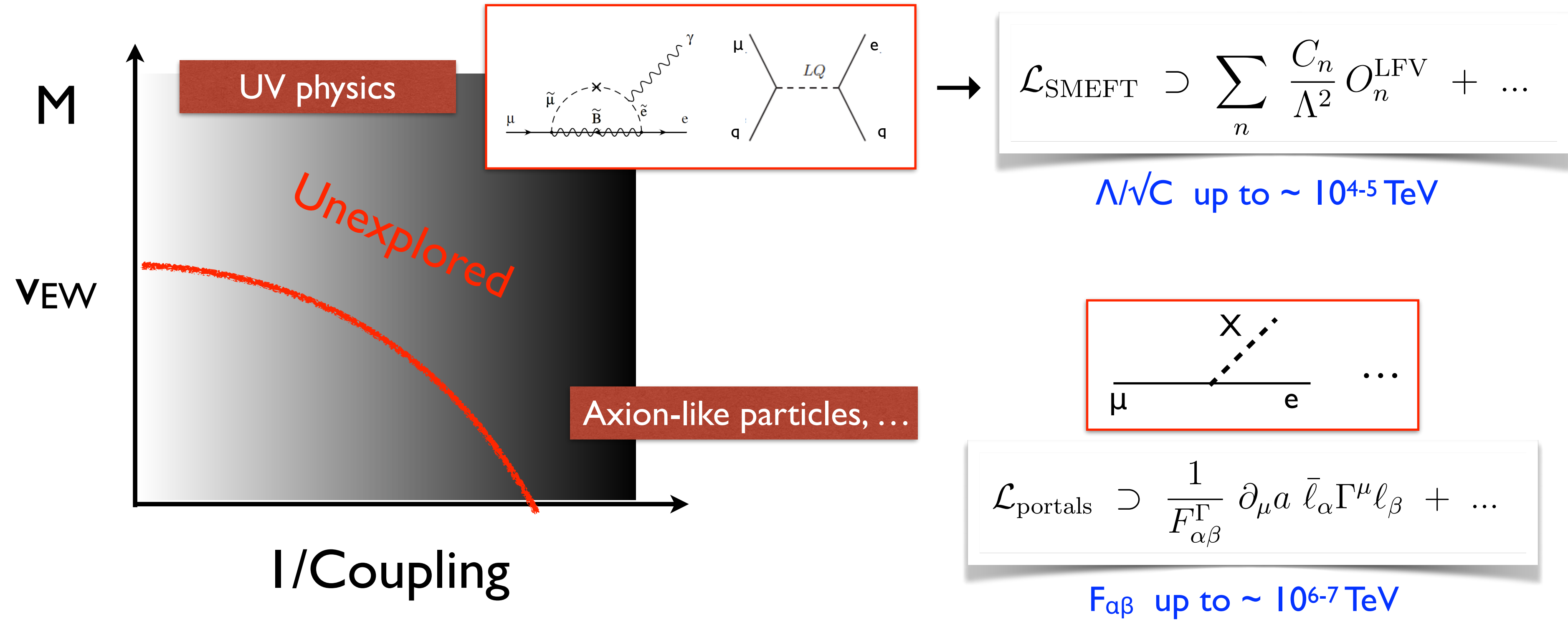
$$Br(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma) = \frac{3\alpha}{32\pi} \left| \sum_{i=2,3} U_{\mu i}^* U_{ei} \frac{\Delta m_{1i}^2}{M_W^2} \right|^2 < 10^{-54}$$

Petcov '77, Marciano-Sanda '77, Shrock '77...

- Observation of CLFV processes would unambiguously indicate BSM physics, related to the origin of leptonic 'flavor' & possibly neutrino mass

# LFV and new physics (2)

- Sensitivity to broad spectrum of new physics: both heavy and light + weakly coupled



# LFV probes across energy scales

- Decays of  $\mu$ ,  $\tau$  (and mesons)

( $K \rightarrow \pi\mu e$ ;  $B \rightarrow K\mu\tau, K\mu e$ ;  $B_s \rightarrow \mu\tau, \mu e$ , quarkonia, ... not discussed in detail here)

$$\mu \rightarrow e\gamma, \quad \mu \rightarrow e\bar{e}e, \quad \mu(A, Z) \rightarrow e(A, Z) \quad M_\mu - \bar{M}_\mu \quad \mu \rightarrow ea$$

$$\tau \rightarrow l\gamma, \quad \tau \rightarrow l_\alpha \bar{l}_\beta l_\beta, \quad \tau \rightarrow lY \quad Y = P, S, V, P\bar{P}, \dots$$

# LFV probes across energy scales

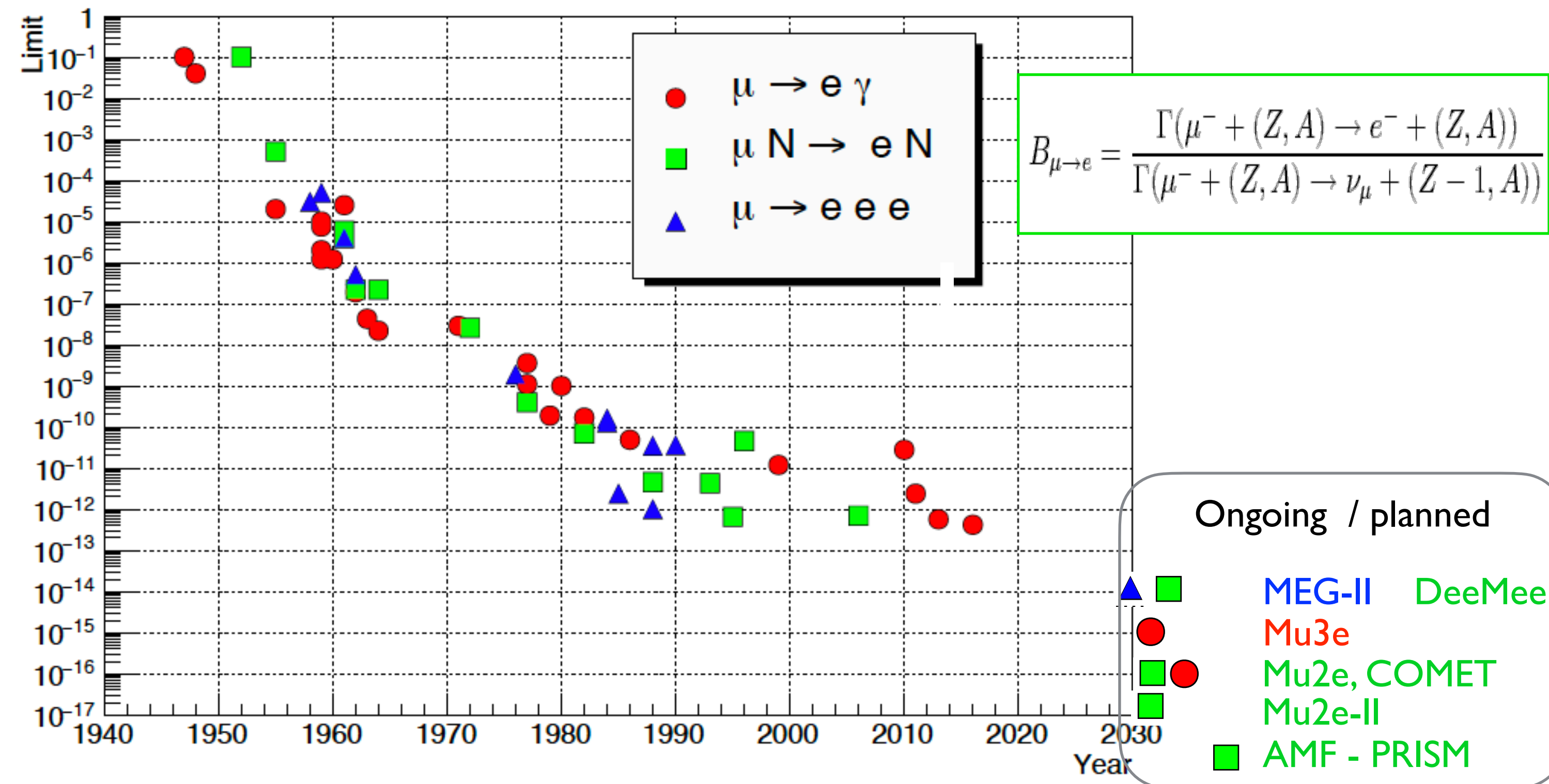
- Decays of  $\mu, \tau$  (and mesons)

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Modified from  
Calibbi-Signorelli  
1709.00294





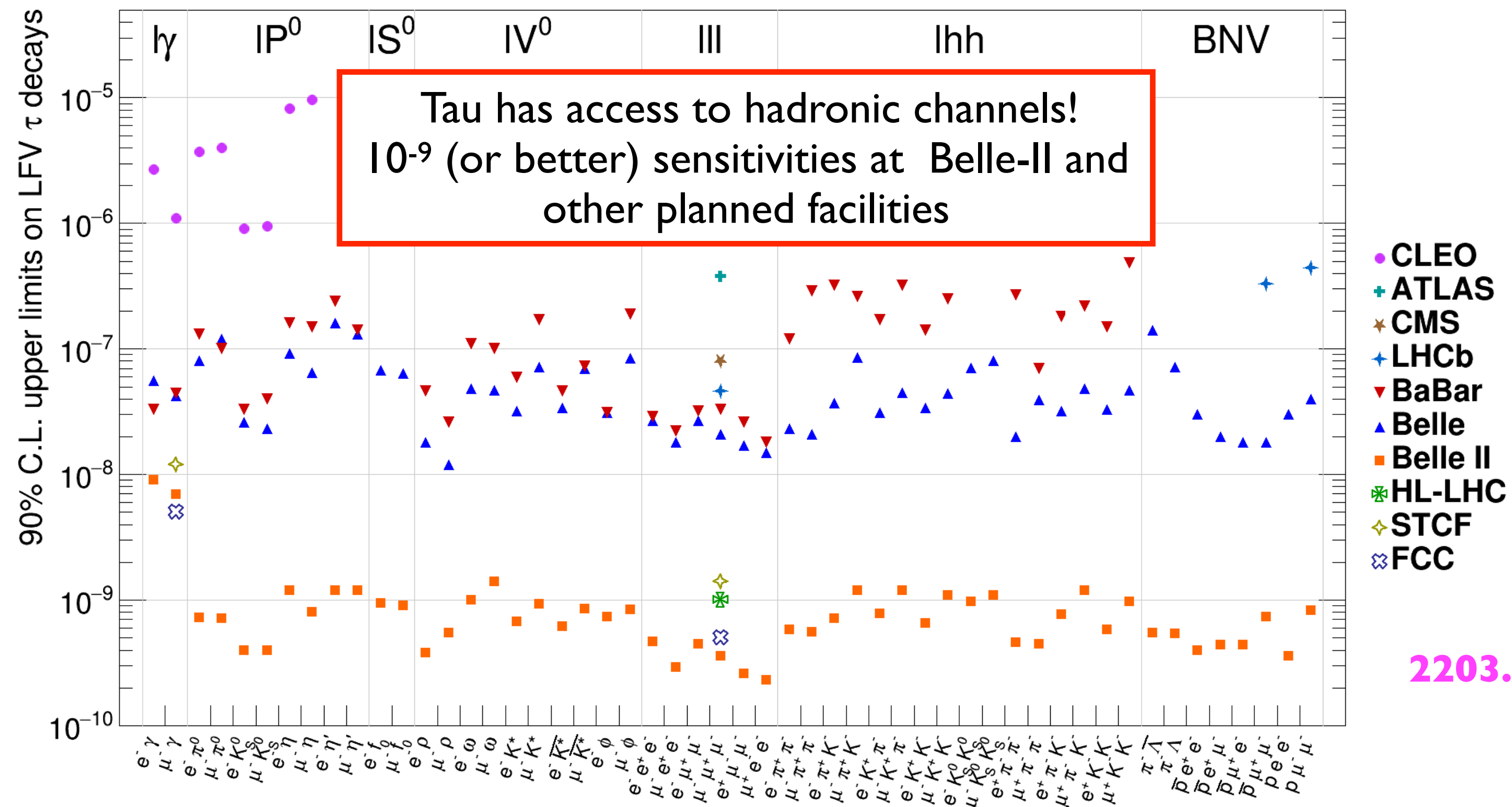
# LFV probes across energy scales

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2203.14919

# LFV probes across energy scales

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$$\begin{aligned} \mu &\rightarrow e\gamma, \quad \mu \rightarrow e\bar{e}e, \quad \mu(A, Z) \rightarrow e(A, Z) \quad M_\mu - \bar{M}_\mu \quad \mu \rightarrow ea \\ \tau &\rightarrow l\gamma, \quad \tau \rightarrow l_\alpha \bar{l}_\beta l_\beta, \quad \tau \rightarrow lY \quad Y = P, S, V, P\bar{P}, \dots \end{aligned}$$

- Collider processes:

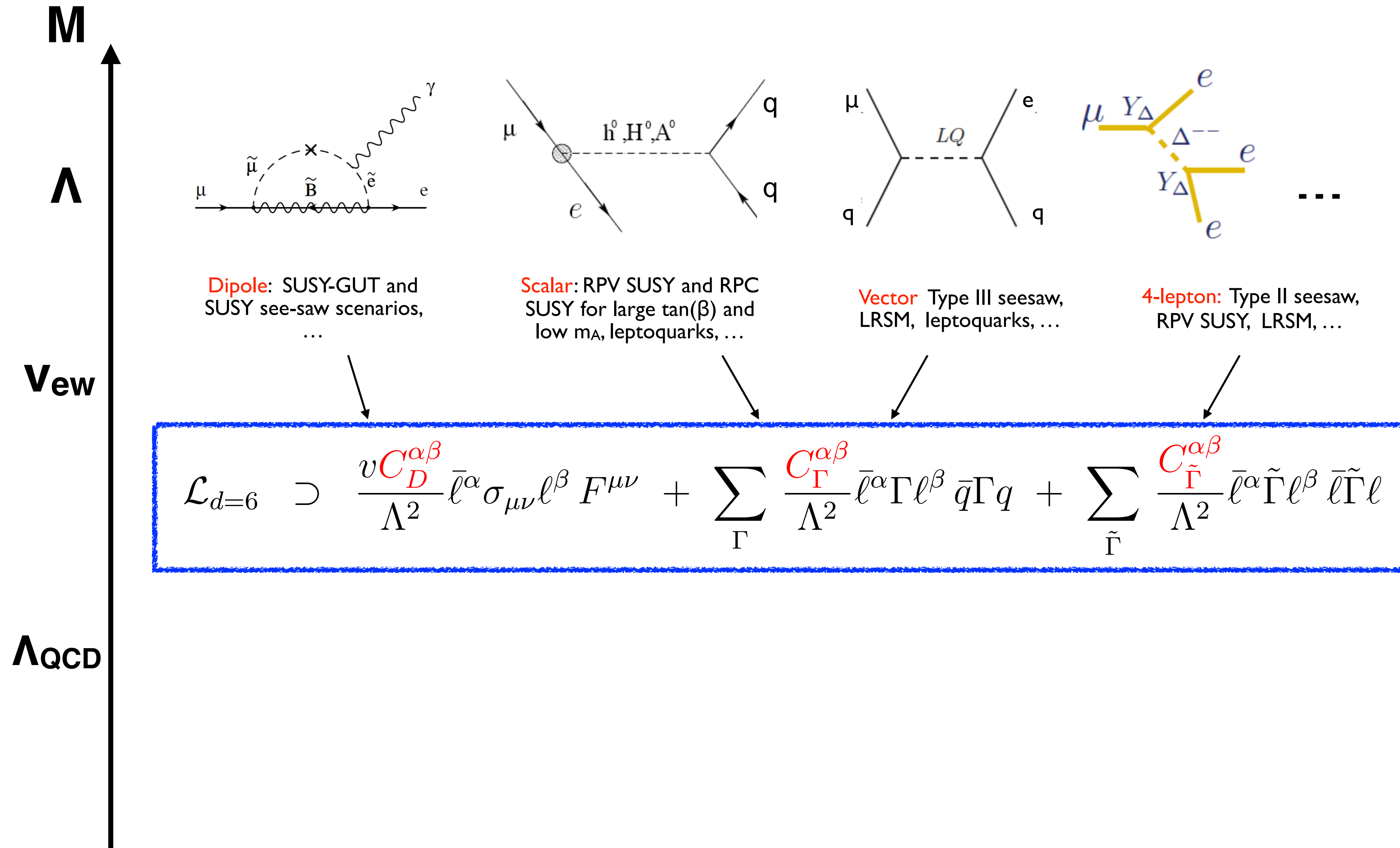
LHC

$$\begin{aligned} pp &\rightarrow R \rightarrow l_\alpha \bar{l}_\beta + X \quad R = Z, h, \tilde{\nu}, \dots \\ pp &\rightarrow l_\alpha \bar{l}_\beta + X \end{aligned}$$

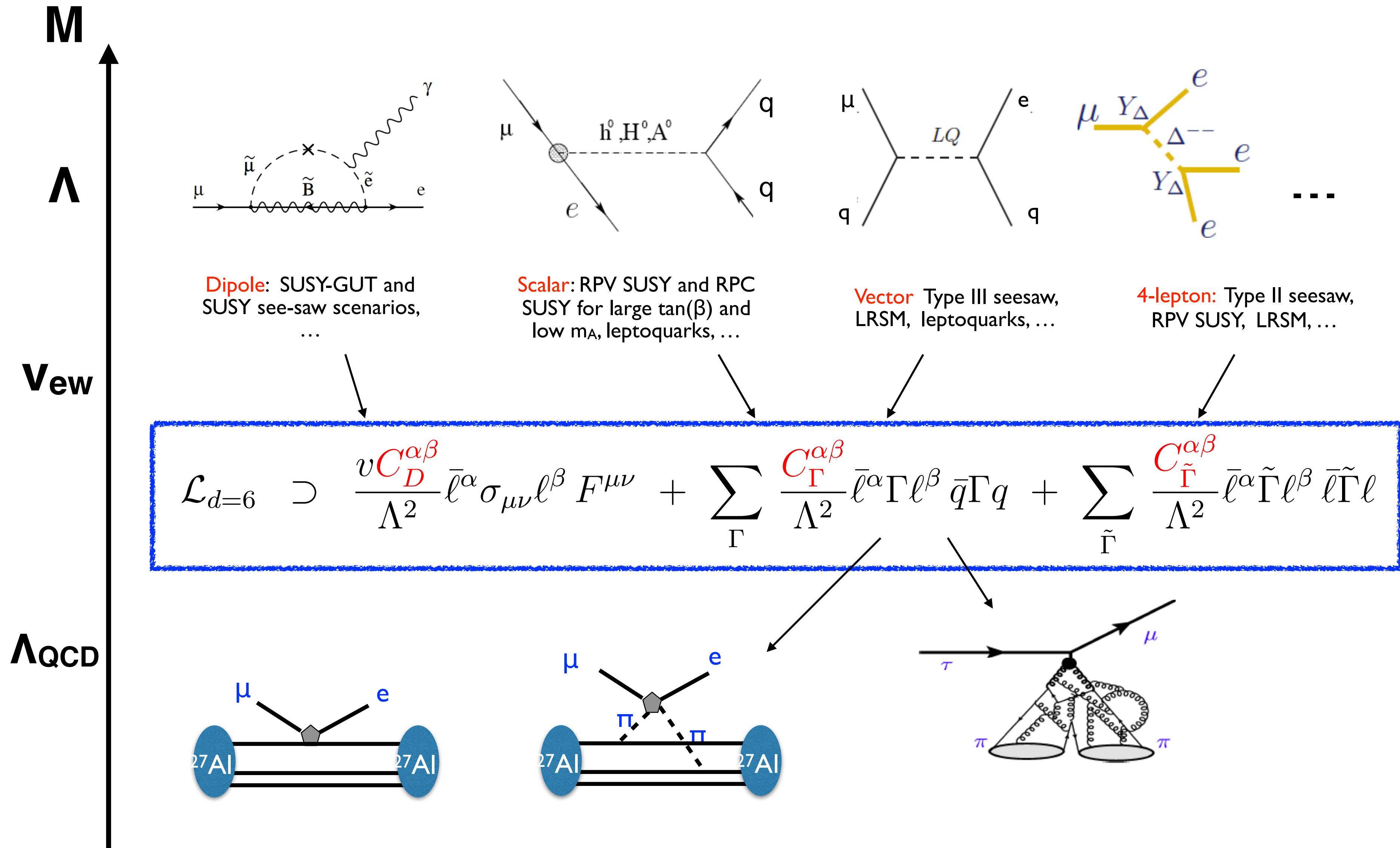
HERA,  
EIC

$$ep \rightarrow l + X$$

# Connecting scales with EFT



# Connecting scales with EFT



# CLFV phenomenology

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{LFV}} \supset \frac{v C_D^{\alpha\beta}}{\Lambda^2} \bar{\ell}^\alpha \sigma_{\mu\nu} \ell^\beta + \sum_{\tilde{\Gamma}} \frac{C_{\tilde{\Gamma}}^{\alpha\beta}}{\Lambda^2} \bar{\ell}^\alpha \tilde{\Gamma} \ell^\beta \bar{\ell} \tilde{\Gamma} \ell + \sum_{\Gamma} \frac{C_{\Gamma}^{\alpha\beta}}{\Lambda^2} \bar{\ell}^\alpha \Gamma \ell^\beta \bar{q} \Gamma q + \frac{1}{F_{\alpha\beta}^{\Gamma}} \partial_\mu a \bar{\ell}^\alpha \Gamma^\mu \ell^\beta$$

Each model generates a specific pattern of operators  
→ multiple CLFV measurements needed to extract the **underlying physics**

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Each model generates a specific pattern of operators

→ multiple CLFV measurements needed to extract the **underlying physics**

- New physics **mass scale** through **any process**

$$\text{BR}_{\alpha \rightarrow \beta} \sim (v_{ew}/\Lambda)^{4*} |(C_n)^{\alpha\beta}|^2$$

μ-e sector:	$\Lambda/\sqrt{C} \sim 10^{4-5} \text{ TeV}$	(Muon decays)
τ-μ(e) sector:	$\Lambda/\sqrt{C} \sim 10^2 \text{ TeV}$	(Tau decays)

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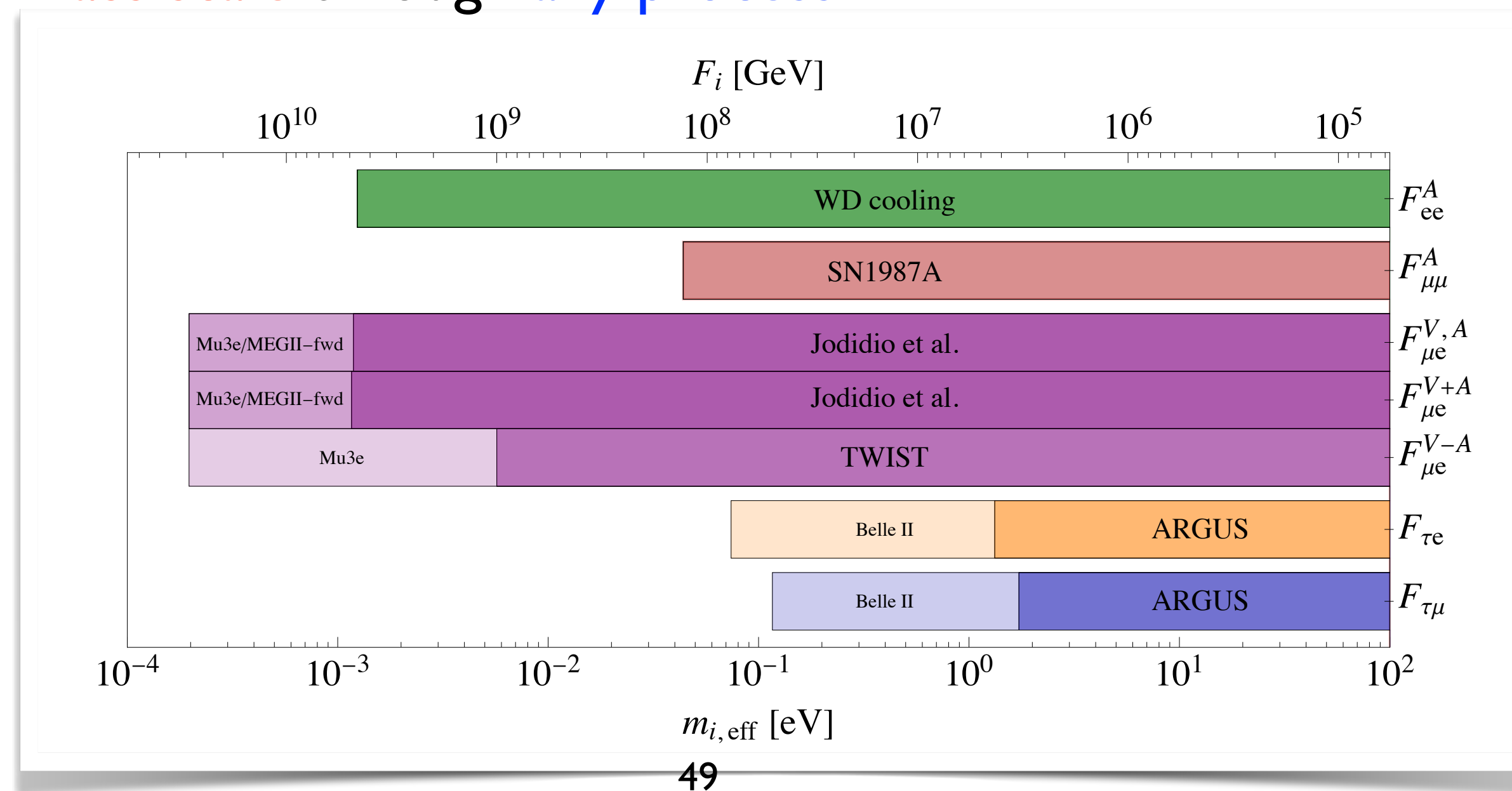
Each model generates a specific pattern of operators

→ multiple CLFV measurements needed to extract the **underlying physics**

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$$\text{BR}(l_\alpha \rightarrow l_\beta a) \sim \frac{((v_{ew})^2 / (m_a F_{\alpha\beta}))^2}{((v_{ew})^2 / (m_a F_{\alpha\beta}))^2}$$

Calibbi-Redigolo-Ziegler-Zupan  
2006.04795



# CLFV phenomenology

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- New physics **mass scale** through **any process**
- Relative strength of operators ( $[C_D]^{e\mu}$  vs  $[C_S]^{e\mu} \dots$ ) through  $\mu \rightarrow 3e$  versus  $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$  versus  $\mu \rightarrow e$  conversion  $\Rightarrow$  **Mediators, mechanism**



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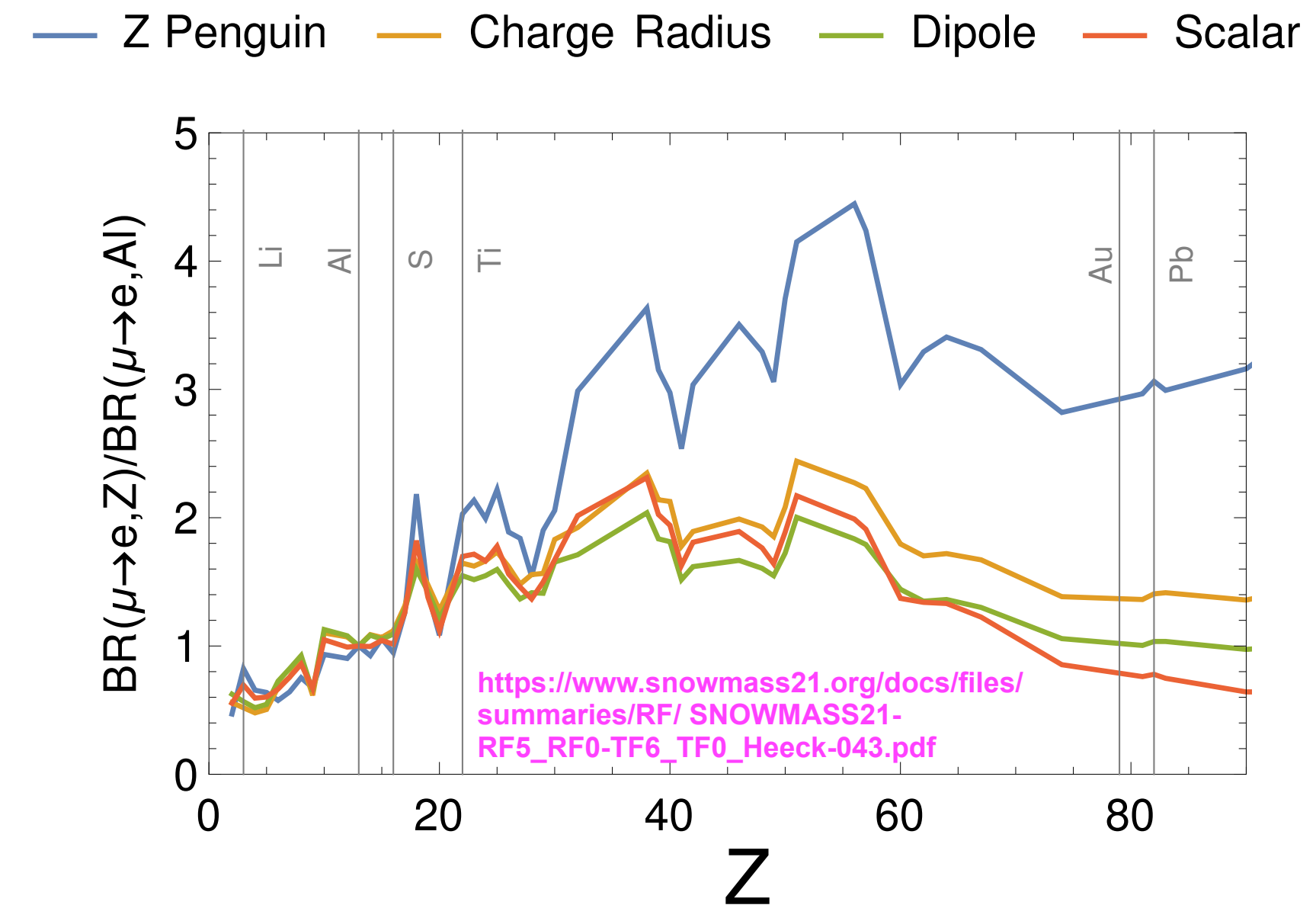
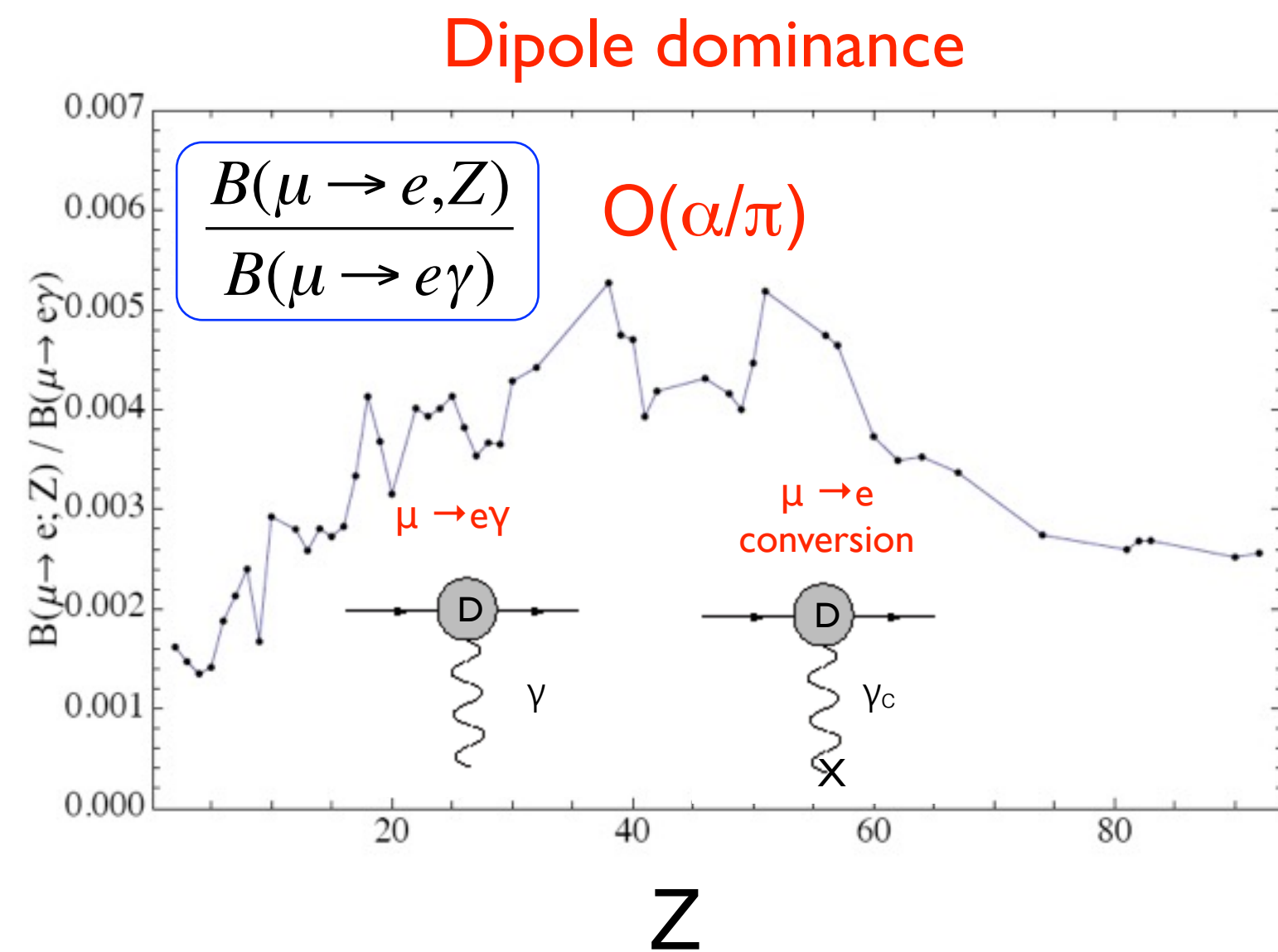
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- Flavor structure of couplings ( $[C_D]^{e\mu}$  vs  $[C_D]^{\tau\mu} \dots$ ) through  $\mu \rightarrow e$  versus  $\tau \rightarrow e$  versus  $\mu \rightarrow \mu$  versus  $\tau \rightarrow e \Rightarrow$  **Sources of flavor breaking**

# $\mu$ -e sector: diagnosing tools (I)

- Extract info on effective couplings by comparing  $\mu \rightarrow e$  to  $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$  and through target-dependence of  $\mu \rightarrow e$  conversion



Kitano-Koike-Okada hep-ph/0203110, VC-Kitano-Okada-Tuzon 0904.0957, Heek-Szafron-Uesaka 2203.00702, ...

# $\mu$ -e sector: diagnosing tools (2)

- Illustration: Higgs-mediated LFV, e.g. from dim-6 operator

Harnik-Kopp-Zupan 1209.1397, ...

- $\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$  is currently probing  $|Y_{\mu e}| \sim 10^{-6}$   
( $\text{BR}(h \rightarrow \mu e) < 10^{-9}$ )

- Correlated signals in  $\mu \rightarrow e$  transitions\*\*

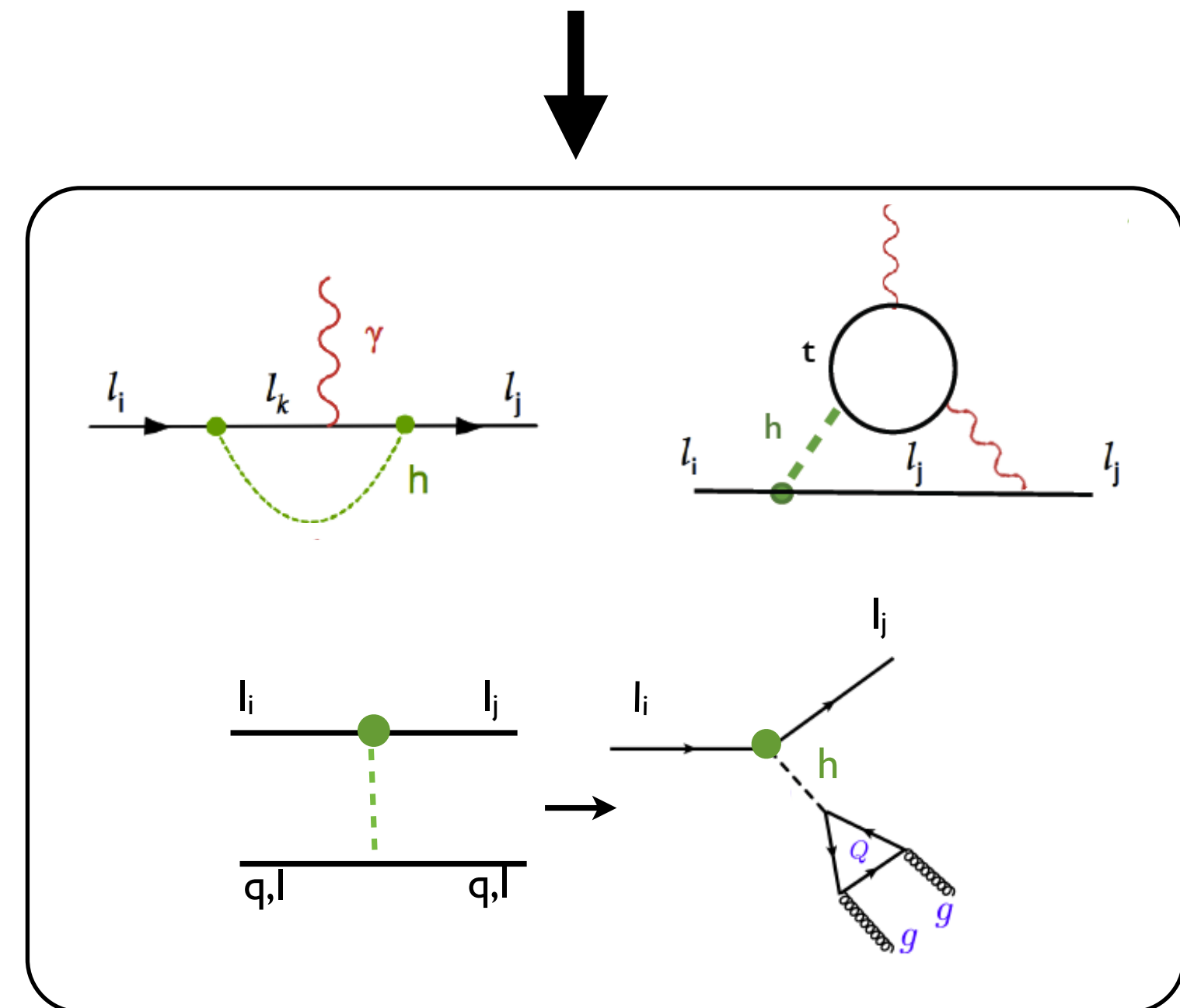
$$\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e, \text{AI}) / \text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e \gamma) = 8.7(3) \cdot 10^{-3}$$

$$\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e, \text{Ti}) / \text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e, \text{AI}) = 1.5(1)$$

VC, Fuyuto, Ramsey-Musolf, Rule 2203.09547

(See also Crivellin et al. 1404.7134)

$$\Delta \mathcal{L} \supset Y_{ij} \bar{e}_L^i e_R^j h + \text{H.c.}$$



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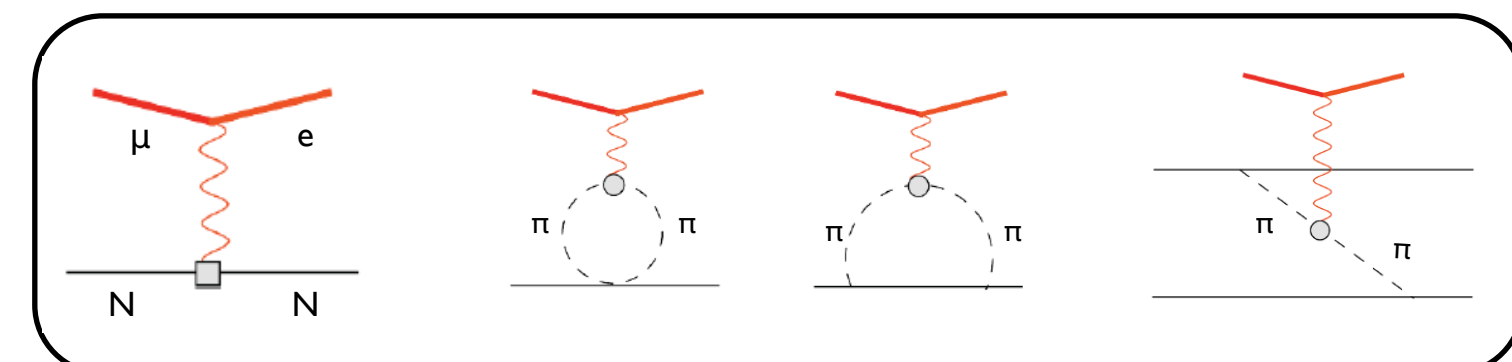
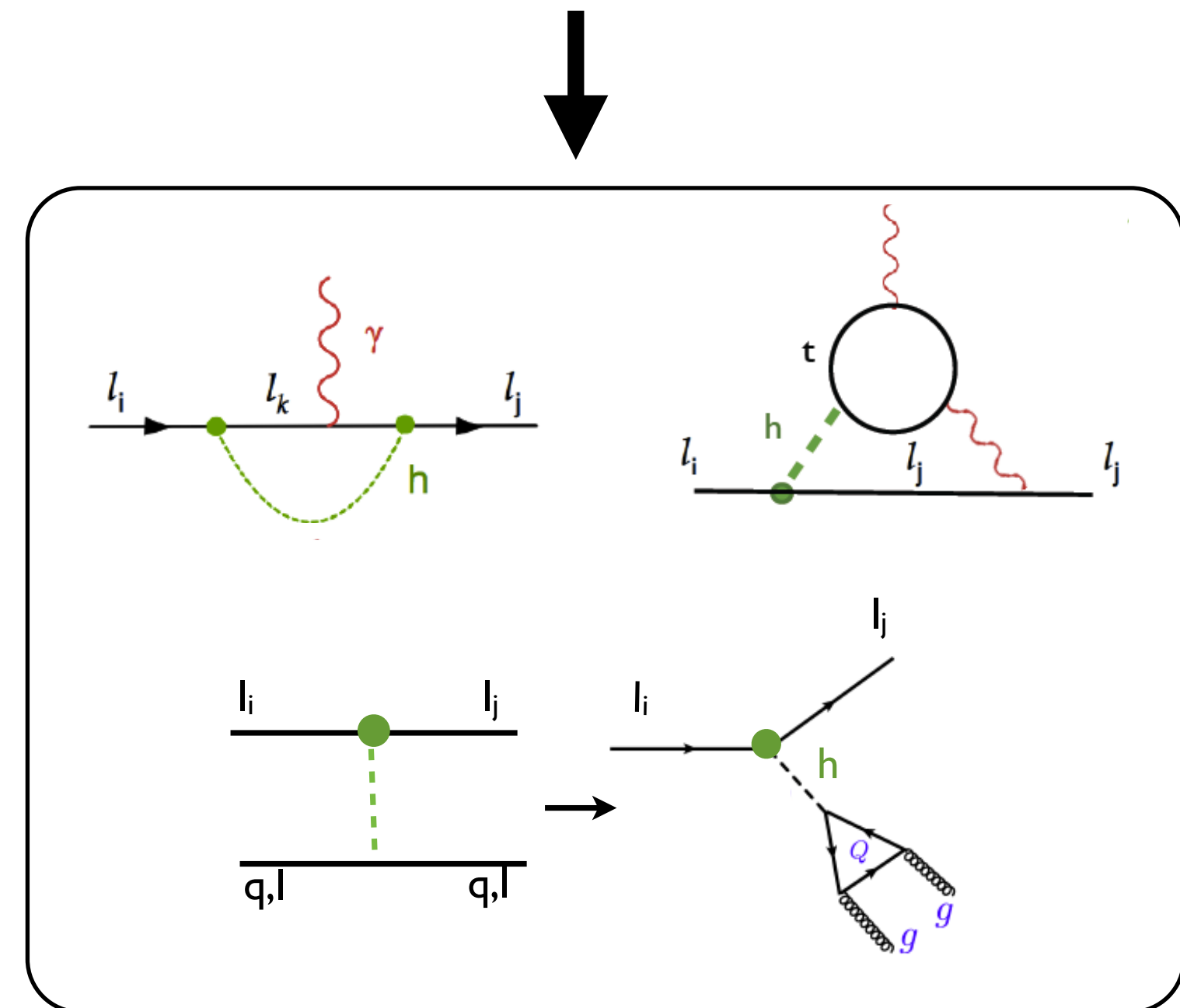
VC, Fuyuto, Ramsey-Musolf, Rule 2203.09547

(See also Crivellin et al. 1404.7134)

\*\* Included NLO chiral EFT corrections in computation of conversion rate.

For NR nuclear EFT approach see Rule et al, 2109.13503

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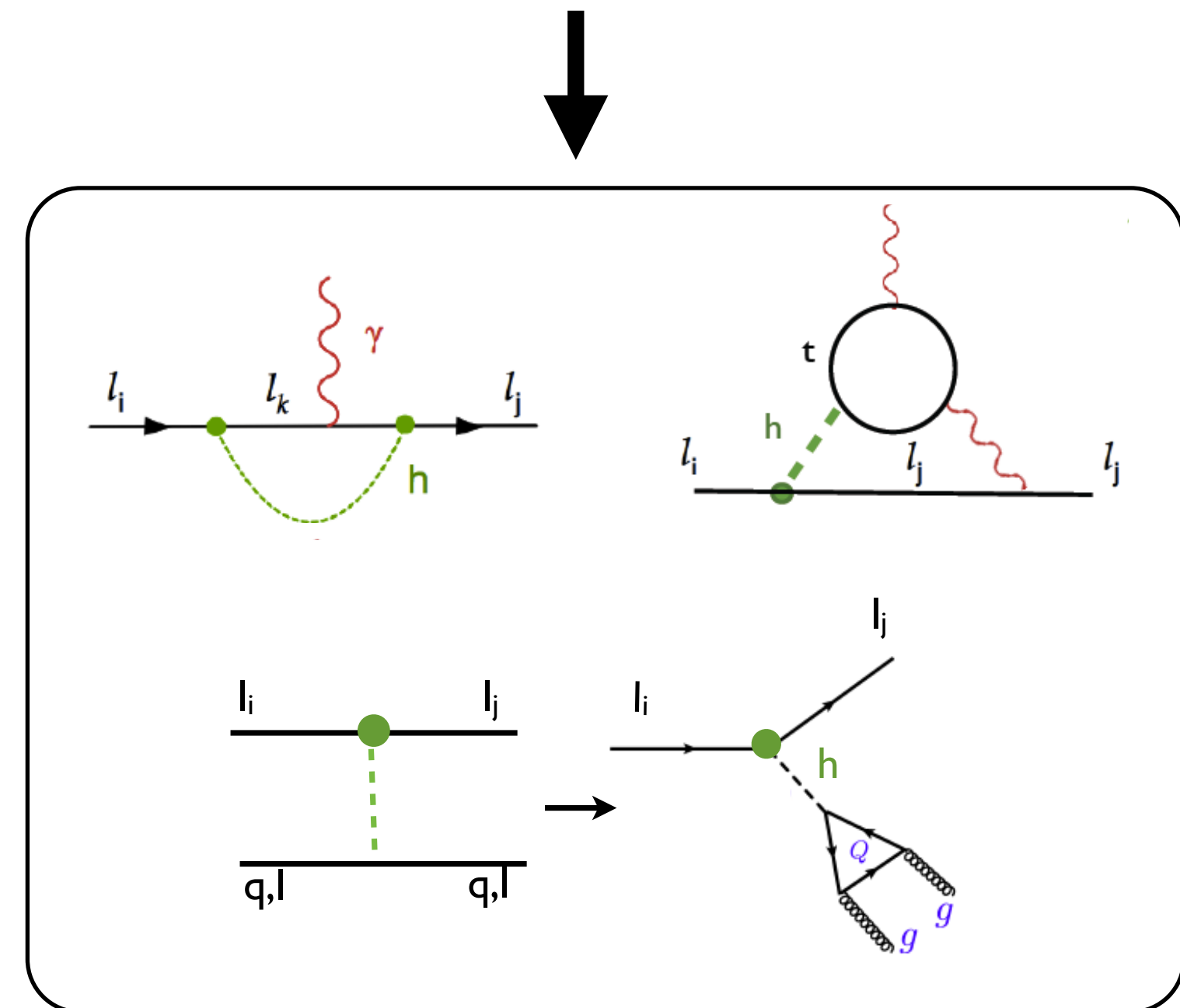
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VC, Fuyuto, Ramsey-Musolf, Rule 2203.09547

(See also Crivellin et al. 1404.7134)

- Muon decays provide clean probe of LFV Higgs couplings!

$$\Delta \mathcal{L} \supset Y_{ij} \bar{e}_L^i e_R^j h + \text{H.c.}$$



# Probing the flavor-breaking pattern: $\mu$ vs $\tau$

- Smaller samples of taus compared to muons  $\Rightarrow BR_{\tau} \sim 10^{-8}$  while  $BR_{\mu} \sim 10^{-13}$
- Well motivated flavor-breaking patterns (leptonic MFV, GUTs,  $U(2)$  symmetries, ...) suppress  $\mu \rightarrow e$  compared to  $\tau \rightarrow \mu$ :

Leptonic MFV:	$BR(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma) / BR(\tau \rightarrow \mu\gamma) \sim s_{13}^2 \sim 10^{-2}$
GUT models:	$BR(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma) / BR(\tau \rightarrow \mu\gamma) \sim  V_{us} ^6 \sim 10^{-4}$

VC-Grinstein-Isidori-Wise, [hep-ph/0507001](#), [hep-ph/0608123](#), ...

Barbieri-Hall-Strumia, [hep-ph/9501334](#)

- This underlies the importance of searches in multiple channels

Backup

# (Incomplete) List of acronyms

- ALPs: Axion-Like Particles
- BNV: Baryon Number Violation
- CC: (weak) charged current
- CKM: Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa
- CP: Charge-Parity
- CPV: CP Violation
- EDM: Electric Dipole Moment
- EFT: Effective Field Theory
- FCNC: Flavor Changing Neutral Currents
- LEFT: Low Energy EFT (below the weak scale)
- LFU: Lepton Flavor Universality
- LFV: Lepton Flavor Violation
- LNV: Lepton Number Violation
- NC: (weak) neutral current
- RGEs: Renormalization Group Equations
- SMEFT: Standard Model EFT
- UV: ultraviolet



# Backup: methods

# Renormalization

- Use dimensional regularization (define theory in  $d=4-\varepsilon$  dims)
- Dimensionless action integral  $\rightarrow$  gauge couplings acquire mass dimension  $\varepsilon/2$
- Introduce **arbitrary dimensionful scale**  $\mu$  (renormalization scale) to work with dimensionless couplings:  $g \rightarrow \mu^{\varepsilon/2} g$
- The scale  $\mu$  appears only in logarithms ( $\mu^\varepsilon = 1 + \varepsilon \log(\mu) + \dots$ ), so it cannot upset EFT power counting (no powers of  $\mu/\Lambda$  appear)
- Physics does not depend on  $\mu$ .
- Renormalization: UV divergences appear as poles in  $\varepsilon$ . Subtract only the  $1/\varepsilon^n$  pole terms (minimal subtraction)

# Renormalization Group “Running”

- RGEs: exploit the fact that physics does not depend on the renormalization scale

$$\mathcal{L}_{CC} = \frac{G_F V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} \times \sum_i C_i O_i$$

- Bare operators do not depend on  $\mu$

$$\frac{d}{d(\ln \mu)} O_i^{(0)} = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \frac{d}{d(\ln \mu)} O_i = -\gamma_i O_i$$

$$O_i^{(0)} = Z_i O_i \quad \quad \quad \gamma_i \equiv \frac{1}{Z_i} \frac{d}{d(\ln \mu)} Z_i = \frac{g^2}{16\pi^2} \gamma_i^{(0)} + \dots$$

- Physical amplitudes do not depend on  $\mu$

$$\frac{d}{d(\ln \mu)} [C_i \langle Q_i \rangle] = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \frac{d}{d(\ln \mu)} C_i = \gamma_i C_i$$

# Chiral symmetry

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = -\frac{1}{4}G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\mu\nu,a} + i\bar{q}_L\gamma^\mu D_\mu q_L + i\bar{q}_R\gamma^\mu D_\mu q_R - \bar{q}_L m_q q_R - \bar{q}_R m_q^\dagger q_L$$

$$q = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \\ s \end{pmatrix} \quad q_{L,R} = \left( \frac{1 \mp \gamma_5}{2} \right) q \quad m_q = \begin{pmatrix} m_u & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_d & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_s \end{pmatrix}$$

# Chiral symmetry

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- For  $m_q = 0$ , invariant under independent U(3) transformations of left- and right-handed quarks:

$$\underbrace{SU(3)_L \times SU(3)_R}_{\text{Chiral group G}} \times [U(1)_V \times U(1)_A]$$

Chiral group G

$$L, R \in SU(3)$$

$$\begin{aligned} q_L &\rightarrow L q_L \\ q_R &\rightarrow R q_R \end{aligned}$$

# Chiral symmetry

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$$\begin{aligned} q_L &\rightarrow L q_L \\ q_R &\rightarrow R q_R \end{aligned}$$

- Symmetry is broken explicitly by  $m_q \neq 0$  and “spontaneously”

$$\partial_\mu (\bar{q} \gamma^\mu T^a q) = \bar{q} [T^a, m_q] q \quad \partial_\mu (\bar{q} \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 T^a q) = \bar{q} \{T^a, m_q\} i\gamma_5 q$$

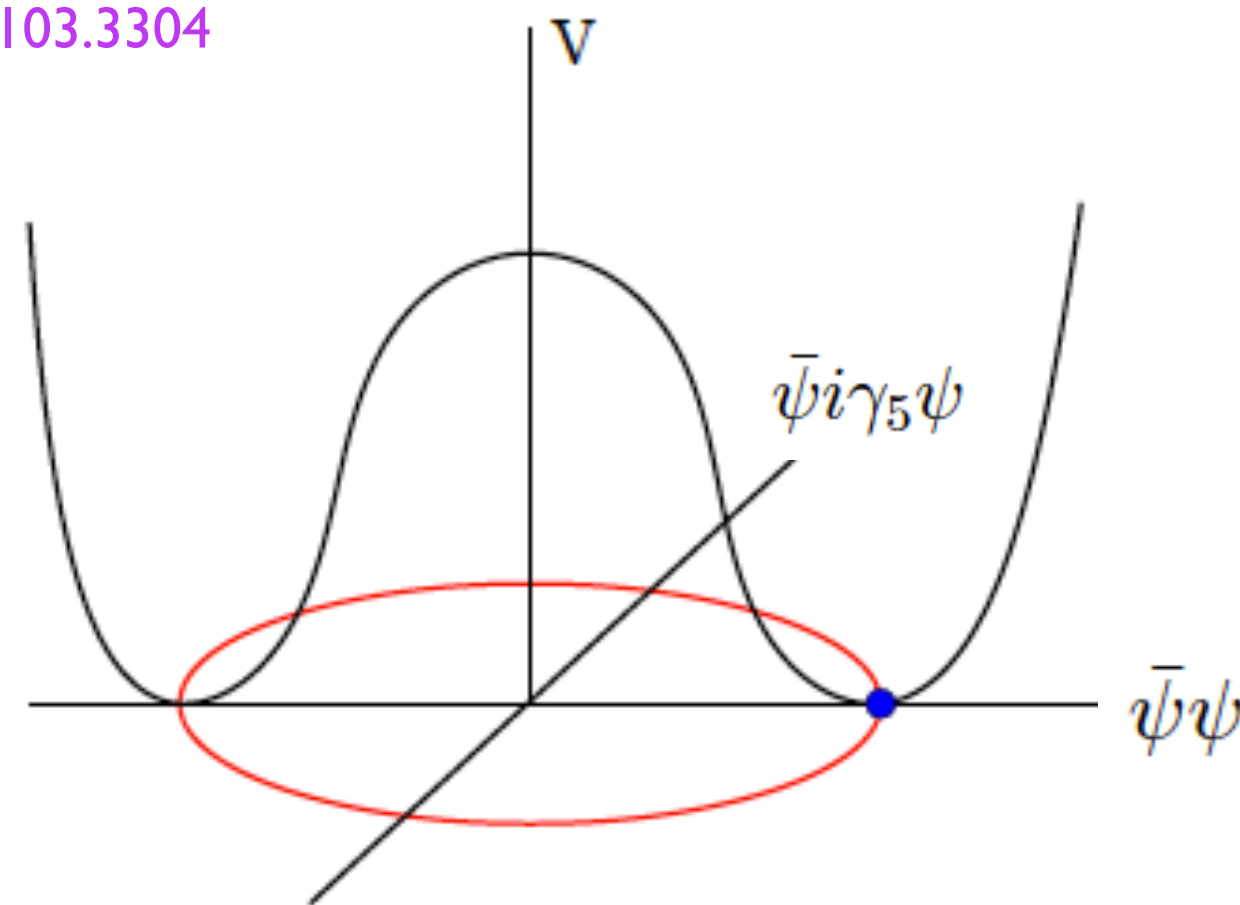
# SSB of chiral SU(3)

- Empirical & theoretical evidence of breaking pattern

$$G = SU(3)_L \times SU(3)_R \rightarrow H = SU(3)_{V=L+R}$$

$$\begin{aligned} q_L &\rightarrow L q_L \\ q_R &\rightarrow R q_R \end{aligned}$$

Figure from M. Creutz  
1103.3304



$$\langle 0 | \bar{q}q | 0 \rangle = \langle 0 | \bar{q}_L q_R | 0 \rangle + \langle 0 | \bar{q}_R q_L | 0 \rangle \neq 0$$

- Vector subgroup  $SU(3)_V$  ( $L=R$ ) unbroken and symmetry is approximately manifest in the QCD spectrum
  - Axial generators broken (no parity doublets, pseudoscalar mesons are the lightest hadrons)
- Goldstone's theorem: massless states appear in the spectrum, in one-to-one correspondence with the broken generators. Identified  $\pi, K, \eta$

# Low-energy EFT for GBs

- At low-E, the only d.o.f. are fluctuations along the vacuum manifold (Goldstone modes)
- Even though  $M_{\pi,K,\eta} \neq 0$  (due to  $m_q \neq 0$ ),  $\pi, K, \eta$  are still the lightest hadrons
- Use EFT methods to analyze the low-energy dynamics:
  - Identify relevant d.o.f: GBs plus possibly matter fields
  - Write down all interactions consistent with chiral symmetry
  - Order interactions according to power counting

Relevant ratio of scales (EFT expansion parameter):  $E/\Lambda$ ,  $M_{\pi,K}/\Lambda$

$\Lambda$ : scale of lowest QCD resonances  $\sim O(1 \text{ GeV})$



# Chiral perturbation theory (I)

Describes low-energy interactions of light PS mesons ( $\pi, K, \eta$ ), nucleons ( $n, p$ ) and other light particles ( $e, \mu, \nu, \gamma$ )

- Special role of  $\pi, K, \eta$ : Goldstone bosons associated with spontaneous breaking of **chiral symmetry** (symmetry broken explicitly by  $m_q$ )

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{QCD}} = -\frac{1}{4} G_{\mu\nu}^a G^{\mu\nu, a} + i\bar{q}_L \gamma^\mu D_\mu q_L + i\bar{q}_R \gamma^\mu D_\mu q_R - \bar{q}_L m_q q_R - \bar{q}_R m_q^\dagger q_L$$

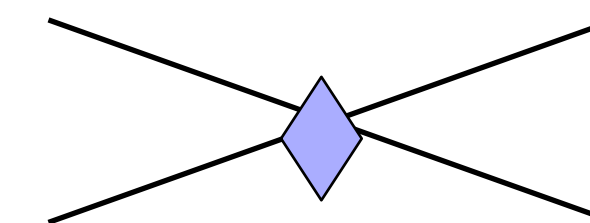
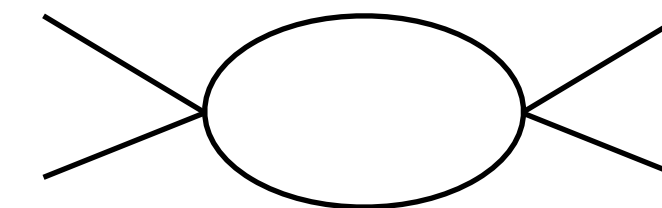
$$SU(3)_L \times SU(3)_R \xrightarrow{\langle \bar{q} q \rangle \neq 0} SU(3)_V$$

- Even in presence of quark masses,  $\pi, K, \eta$  are the lightest hadrons (can integrate out heavy states). Interactions dictated by spontaneous and explicit  $\chi$ SB
- The symmetry dictates that GB have derivative interactions with all fields: GBs interact weakly at low energy. GBs determine the leading long-distance interactions among nucleons (multi N theory = chiral EFT)

# Chiral perturbation theory (2)

Weinberg '79, Gasser-Leutwyler '84-85, Weinberg '91, Jenkins-Manohar '92, Benard-Kaiser-Kambor-Meissner '92 van Kolck '94, Kaplan-Savage-Wise '96-98.....

- In ChPT / chiral EFT, Lagrangian and amplitudes are expanded in  $p/\Lambda$ ,  $M_{\pi,K}/\Lambda$ , where  $p$  is the soft momentum and  $\Lambda \sim \text{GeV}$  is the scale of QCD resonances.
- Counting rules for ChPT:  $\partial \sim p$ ,  $m_q \sim p^2$  (because  $M_{PS^2} \sim B m_q$ )
- To a given order in the chiral expansion:
  - **Loops**: leading IR singularities, perturbative unitarity.  
Except for NN EFT, higher loops imply higher suppression
  - **“Contact” terms, LECs**: UV div.+ finite part, encoding short distance (QCD) physics, to be determined from expt. or via non-perturbative techniques (LQCD, dispersion relations, ...).  
As couplings in any QFT, the LECs satisfy appropriate RGEs.

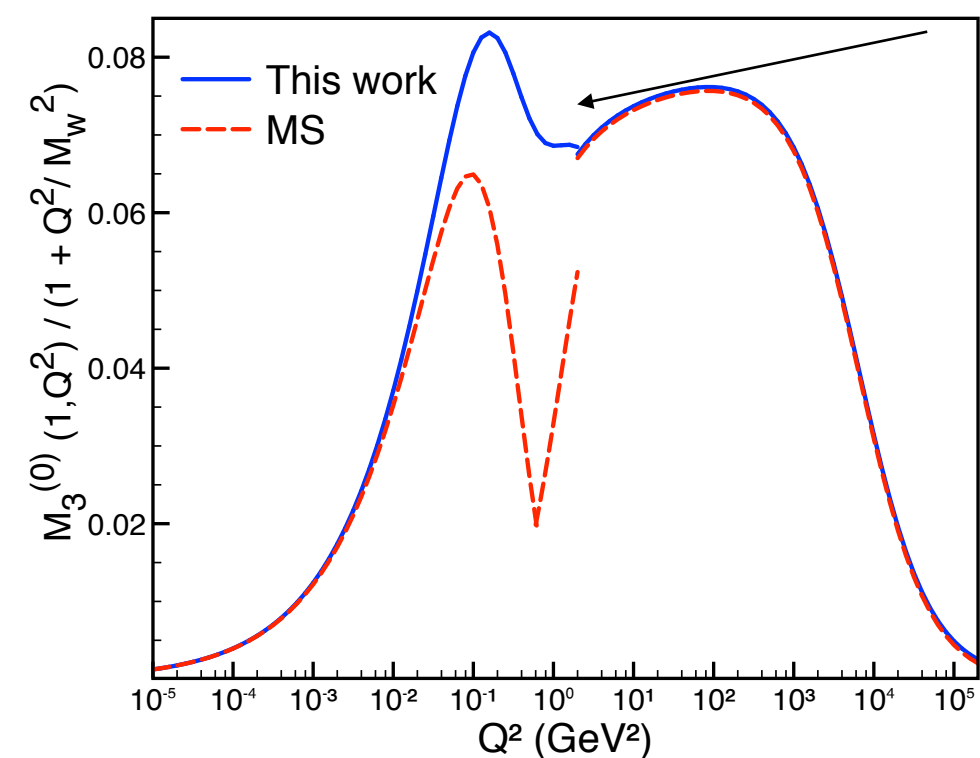


- EFT has been extended to include dynamical photons and light leptons

# Backup: beta decays

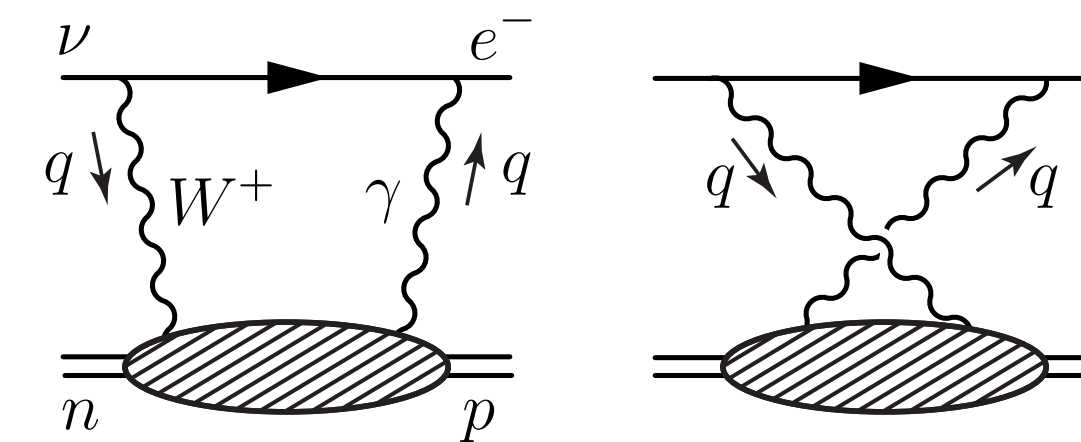
# β decays: pre-EFT radiative corrections

- Long history, starting in the 1950's. Modern approaches build upon Sirlin current algebra formulation from the '60 & '70s
- Recent new development: **dispersive approach** to the non-perturbative input ( $\gamma$ -W box) for **neutron, pion, and kaon** semileptonic decays & **connection to LQCD**
- Example: EM correction to  **$n \rightarrow p$**  vector coupling



Lattice QCD  
calculation confirms  
this behavior  
2308.16755

Seng et al. 1807.10197, Czarnecki et al, 1907.06737, Shiells et al. 2012.01580  
Hayen 2010.07262, Gorchtein-Seng 2106.09185



Gorchtein, Feng, Jin, Seng, ...  
2003.09798, 2003.11264, 2102.12048, 2308.16755

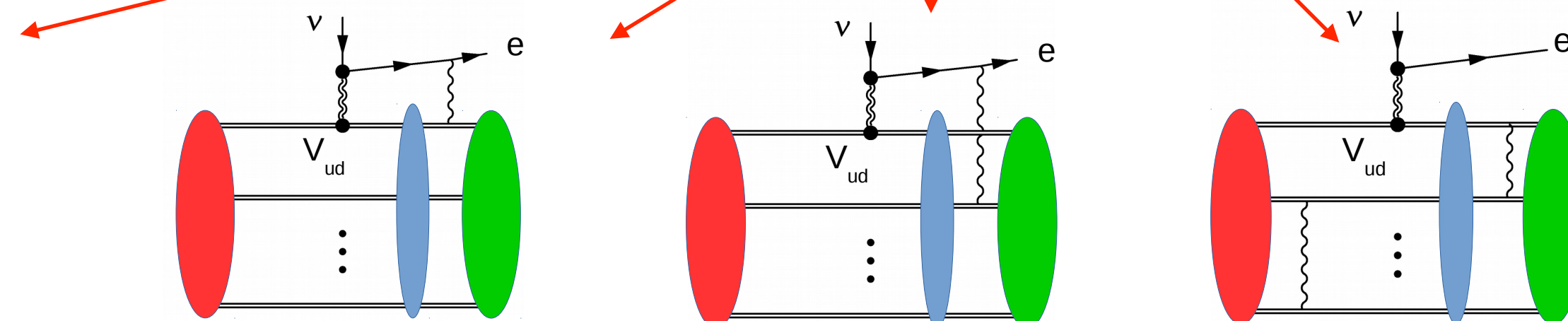
Larger correction, smaller error  
It also affects nuclear decays

Ref.	$\Delta_R^V$
Marciano, Sirlin 2006	0.02361(38)
Seng, Gorchtein, Patel, Ramsey-Musolf 2018	0.02467(22)
Czarnecki, Marciano, Sirlin 2019	0.02426(32)
Seng, Feng, Gorchtein, Jin 2020	0.02477(24)
Hayen 2020	0.02474(31)
Shiells, Blunden, Melnitchouk 2021	0.02472(18)
<b>Combined</b>	0.02467(27)

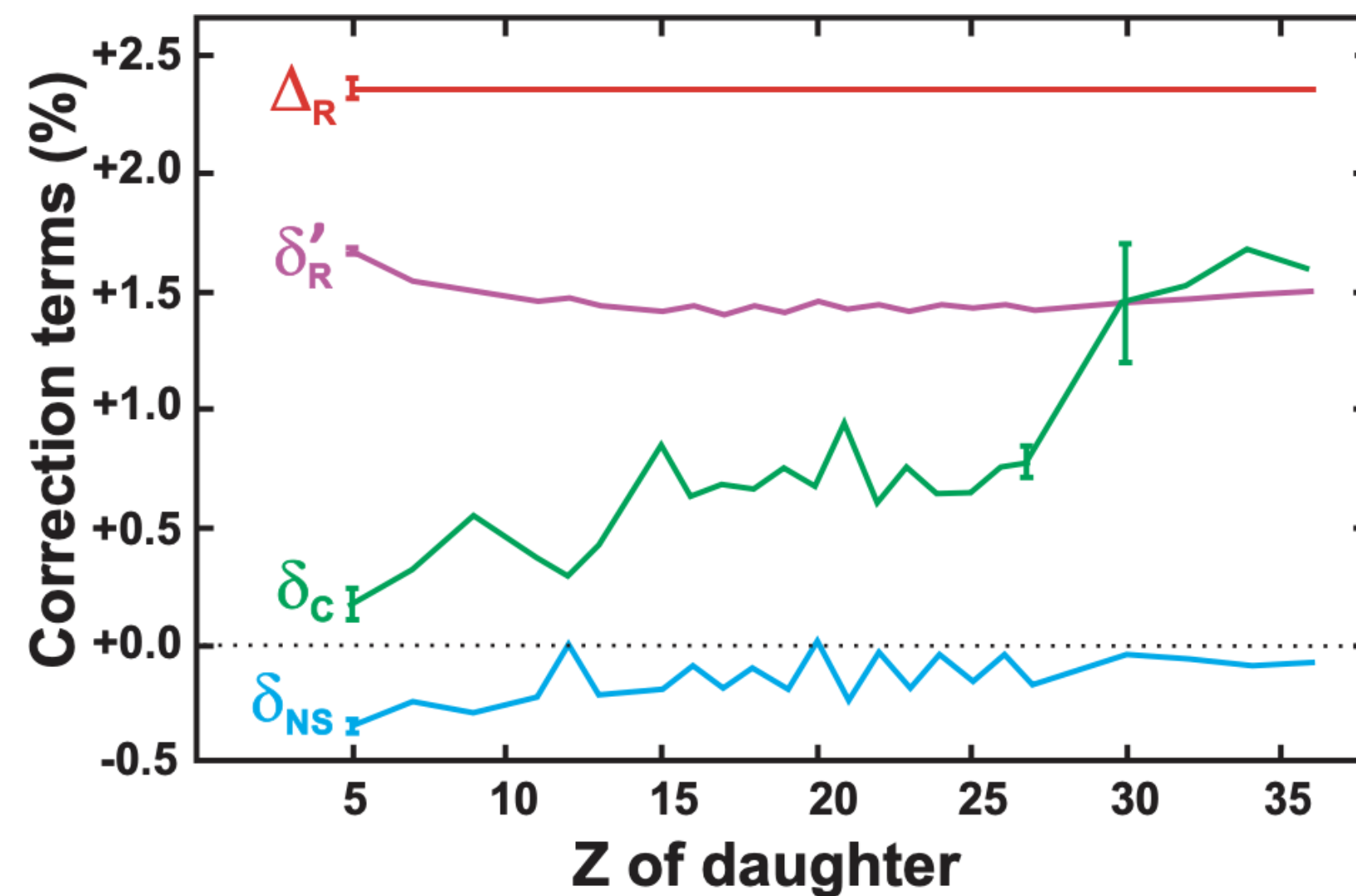
# $V_{ud}$ from nuclear $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ beta decays

$$|V_{ud}|^2 = \frac{2984.432(3) s}{ft \left( 1 + \delta'_R + \delta_{NS} - \delta_C + \Delta_R^V \right)}$$

Point-like nucleus  
'outer corrections'  
( $Z, (E_e)^{\max}$ )



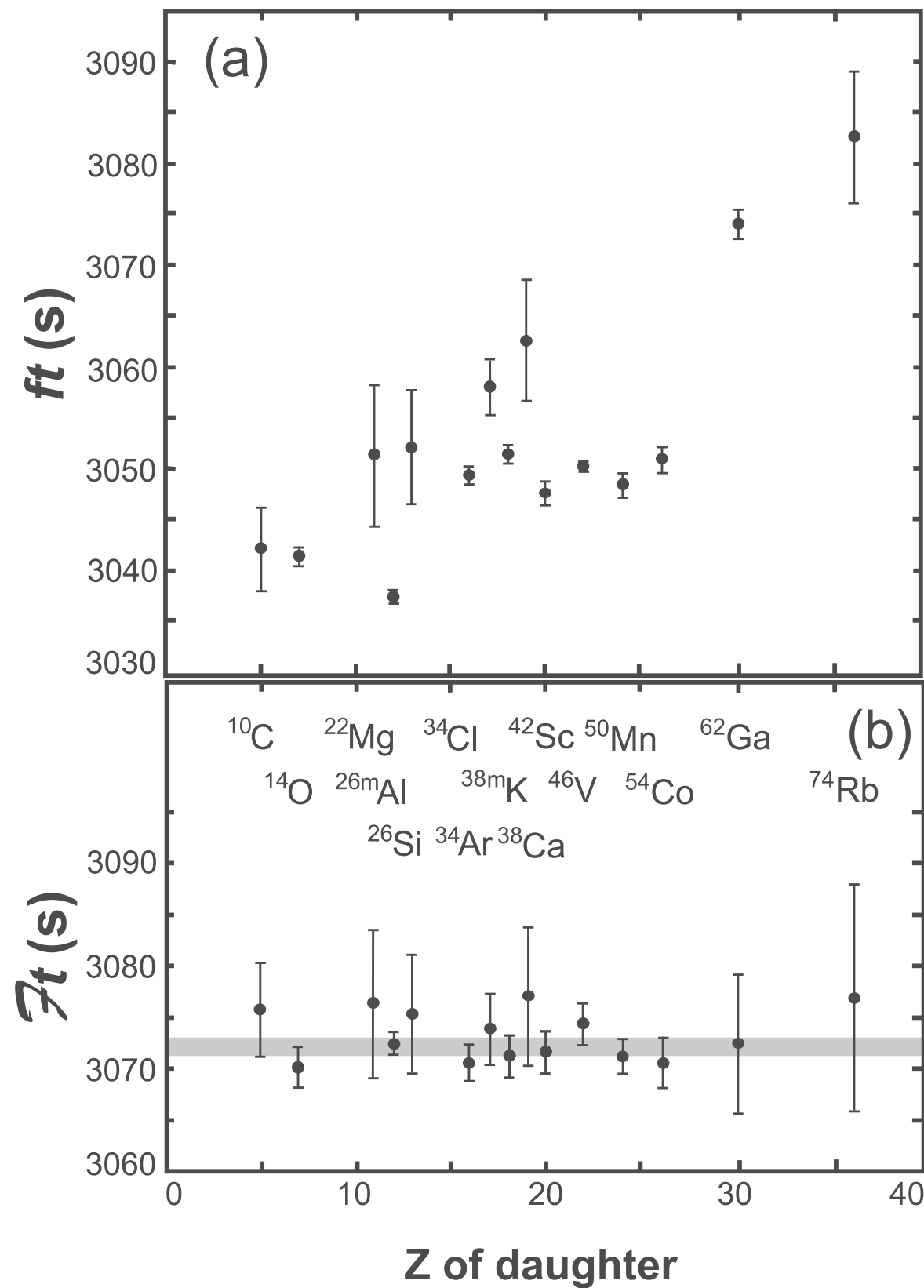
Single nucleon  
' $\gamma$ -W box'



Hardy-Towner, PRC 2020

# $V_{ud}$ from nuclear $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ beta decays

Hardy-Towner, PRC 2020



$$|V_{ud}|^2 = \frac{2984.432(3) s}{ft \left( 1 + \delta'_R + \delta_{NS} - \delta_C + \Delta_R^V \right)}$$

$\mathcal{F}t$

$$V_{ud}^{0^+ \rightarrow 0^+} = 0.97367(11)_{\text{exp}}(13)_{\Delta_R^V} (27)_{\text{NS}} [32]_{\text{total}}$$

Lots of activity

- New analysis of nuclear weak form factors and phase space  $f$
- New approaches towards structure dependent corrections  $\delta_{C,NS}$
- Controlled uncertainties will be achieved for a range of  $A=10, 14, \dots$

Gorchtein, Seng 2311.00044  
and references therein

# V<sub>ud</sub> from neutron decay

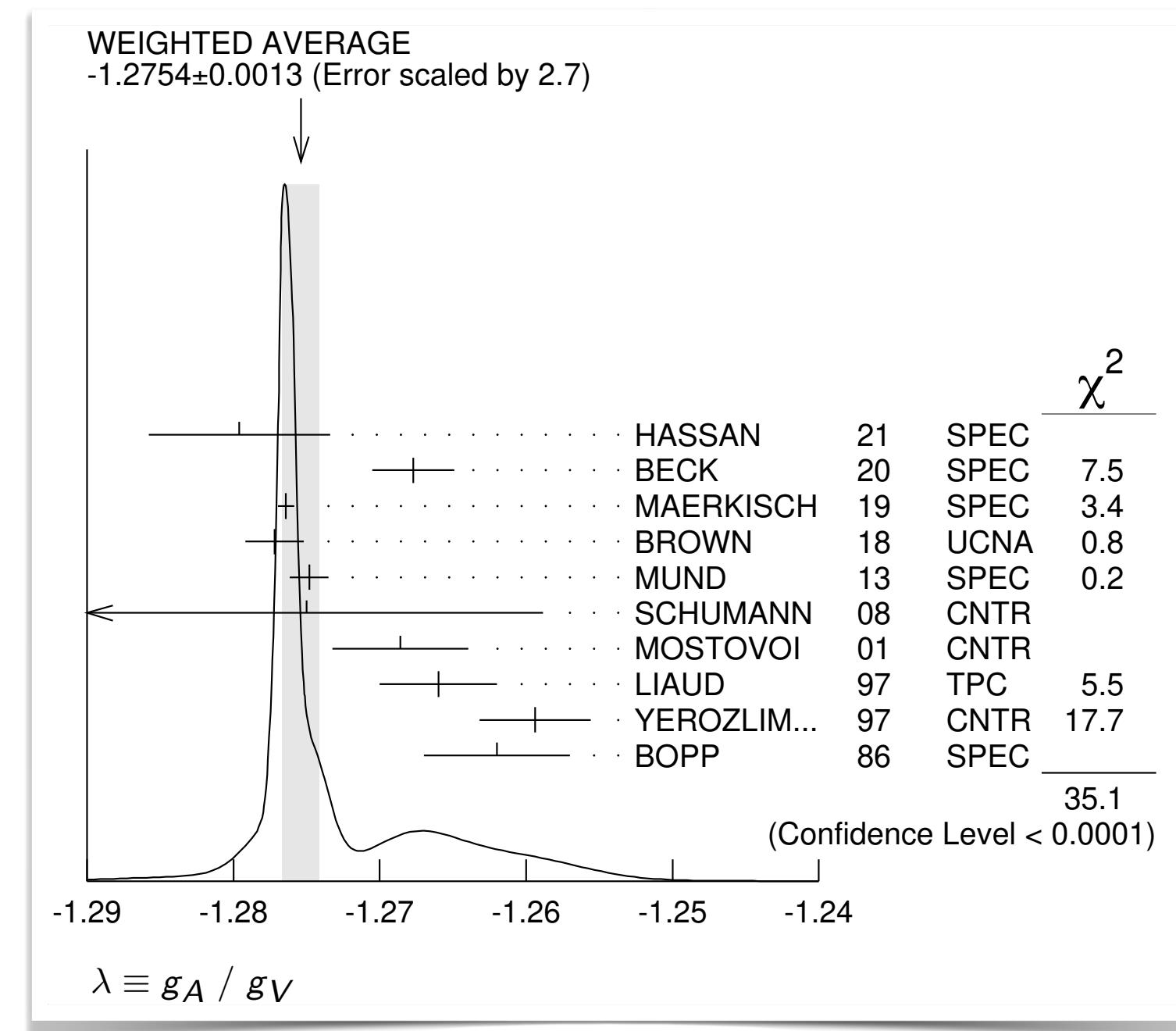
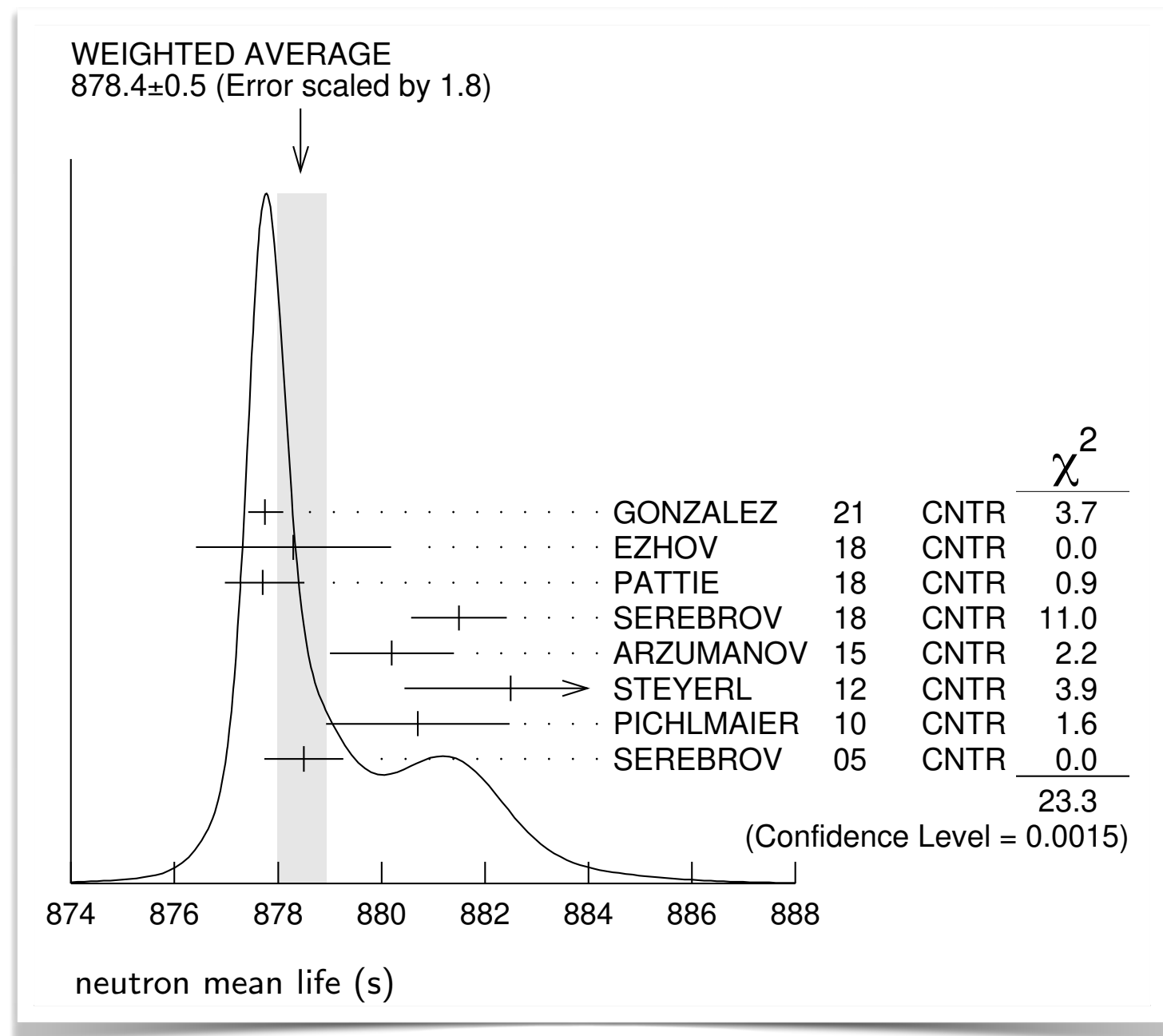
$\lambda = g_A / g_V$

$$\Gamma_n = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{ud}|^2 m_e^5}{2\pi^3} (1 + 3\lambda^2) \cdot f_0 \cdot (1 + \Delta_f) \cdot (1 + \Delta_R),$$

$\Delta_R = 4.044(27)\%$   
 $\Delta_f = 3.573(5)\%$

VC, W. Dekens, E. Mereghetti,  
O. Tomalak, 2306.03138

- Radiative corrections: NLL setup + LECs in terms of 'γ-W box' (dispersive & Lattice QCD)
- Experimental input: PDG averages include large scale factor, particularly for g<sub>A</sub> / g<sub>V</sub>



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- Experimental input: PDG averages include large scale factor, particularly for  $g_A / g_V$

Single most precise  
measurements of lifetime  
and  $\lambda$  imply very  
competitive  $V_{ud}$ !

Maerkish et al,  
1812.04666

Gonzalez et al,  
2106.10375

$$V_{ud}^{n, \text{PDG}} = 0.97430(2)_{\Delta_f} (13)_{\Delta_R} (82)_{\lambda} (28)_{\tau_n} [88]_{\text{total}}$$

$$V_{ud}^{n, \text{best}} = 0.97402(2)_{\Delta_f} (13)_{\Delta_R} (35)_{\lambda} (20)_{\tau_n} [42]_{\text{total}}$$

Need improvements in lifetime  
and  $g_A / g_V$ .  
Within reach in next 5 years



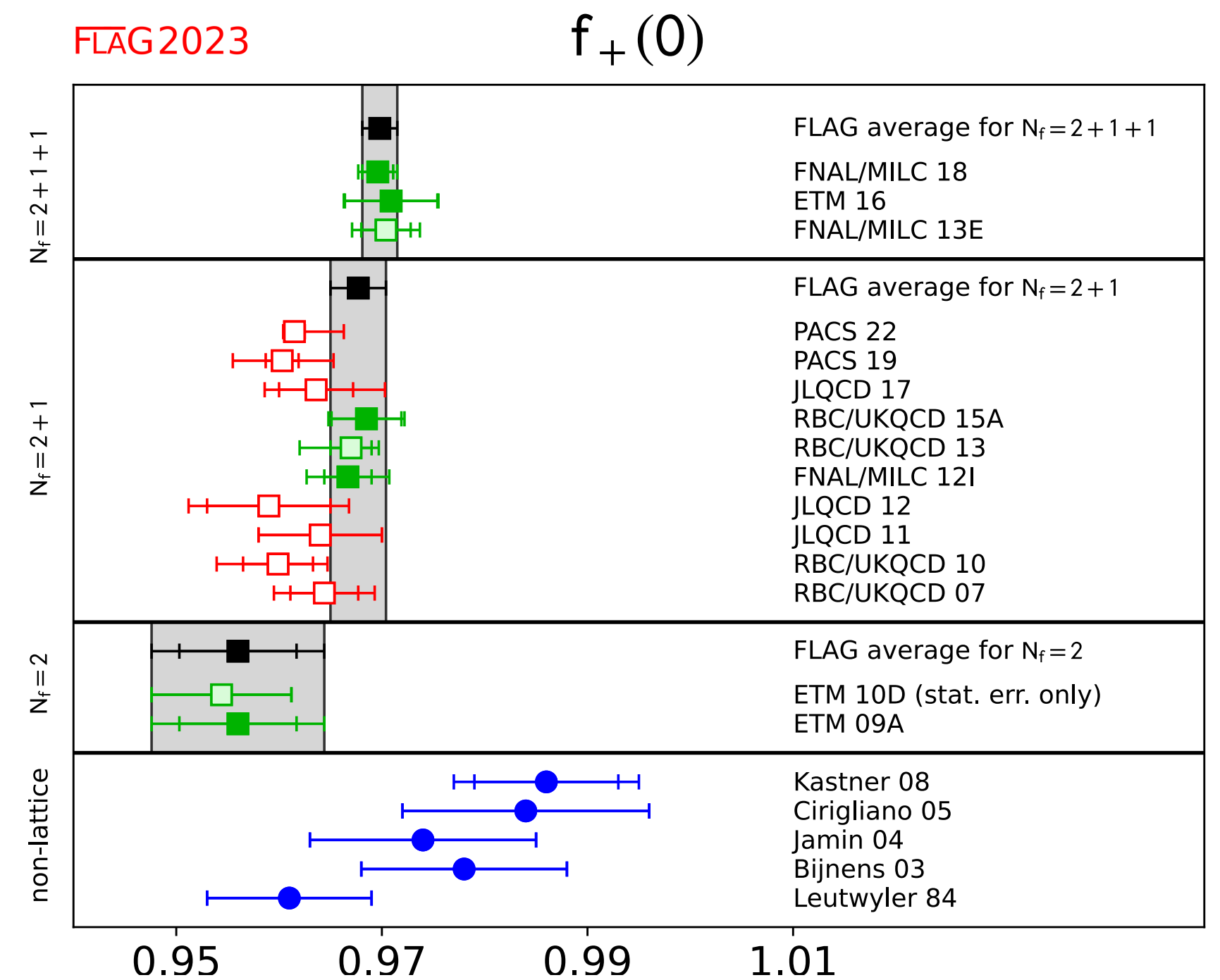
# $V_{us}$ from $K \rightarrow \pi l \nu$ decays

$$\Gamma_{K \rightarrow \pi l \nu(\gamma)} = \frac{C_K^2 G_F^2 S_{EW} |V_{us}|^2 M_K^5}{192\pi^3} |f_+^{K\pi}(0)|^2 I_{Kl} \left( 1 + 2\Delta_{Kl}^{EM} + 2\Delta_K^{IB} \right)$$

- Lattice calculations of  $\langle \pi | V | K \rangle$  @ 0.2%:  $f_+^{K\pi}(0) = 0.9698(17)$
- New radiative corrections based on current algebra + lattice QCD. Consistent with ChPT, with much smaller uncertainties

	Cirigliano et al. '08	Seng et al. '21
$\Delta^{EM}(K^0_{e3})$ [%]	$0.50 \pm 0.11$	<b><math>0.580 \pm 0.016</math></b>
$\Delta^{EM}(K^+_{e3})$ [%]	$0.05 \pm 0.12$	<b><math>0.105 \pm 0.023</math></b>
$\Delta^{EM}(K^+_{\mu3})$ [%]	$0.70 \pm 0.11$	<b><math>0.770 \pm 0.019</math></b>
$\Delta^{EM}(K^0_{\mu3})$ [%]	$0.01 \pm 0.12$	<b><math>0.025 \pm 0.027</math></b>

NEW: Seng et al, 1910.13209, 2103.00975, 2103.4843, 2107.14708, 2203.05217, Ma et al. 2102.12048  
 OLD: VC, Giannotti, Neufeld 0807.4607



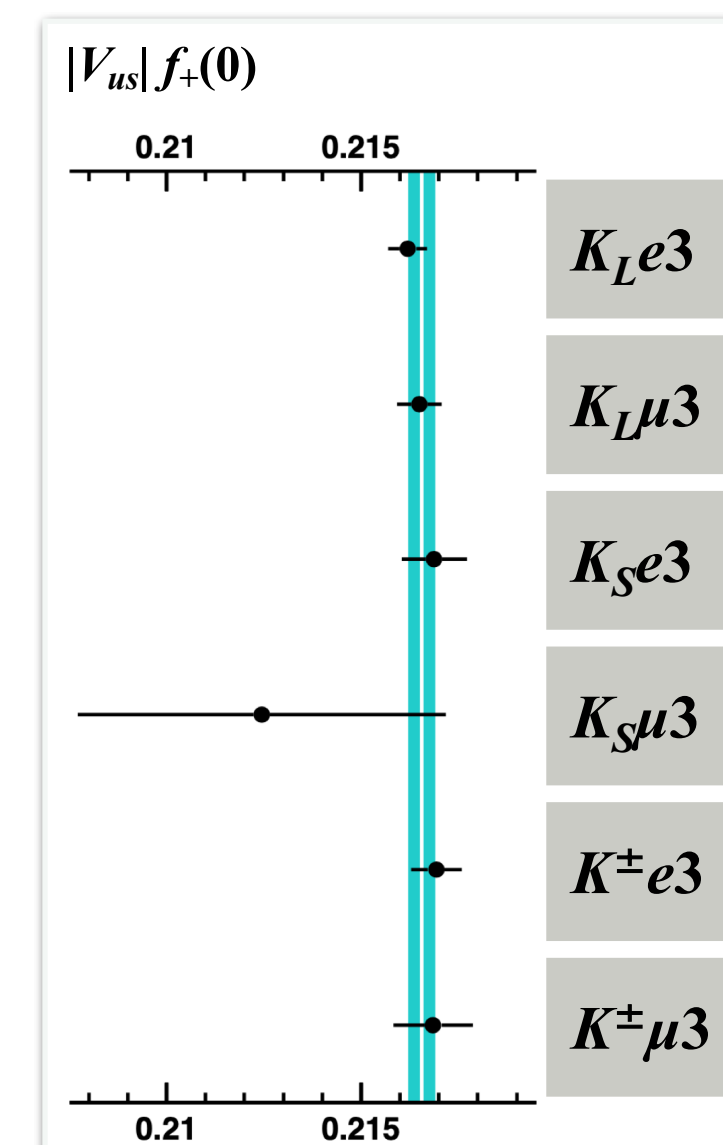
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- New radiative corrections based on current algebra + lattice QCD. Consistent with ChPT, with much smaller uncertainties
- Experimental input has received only small updates since 2010

Flavianet WG, 1005.2323

Moulson 1704.04104



$$V_{us}^{K_{\ell 3}} = 0.22330(35)_{\text{exp}}(39)_{f_+}(8)_{\text{RC+IB}}[53]_{\text{total}}$$

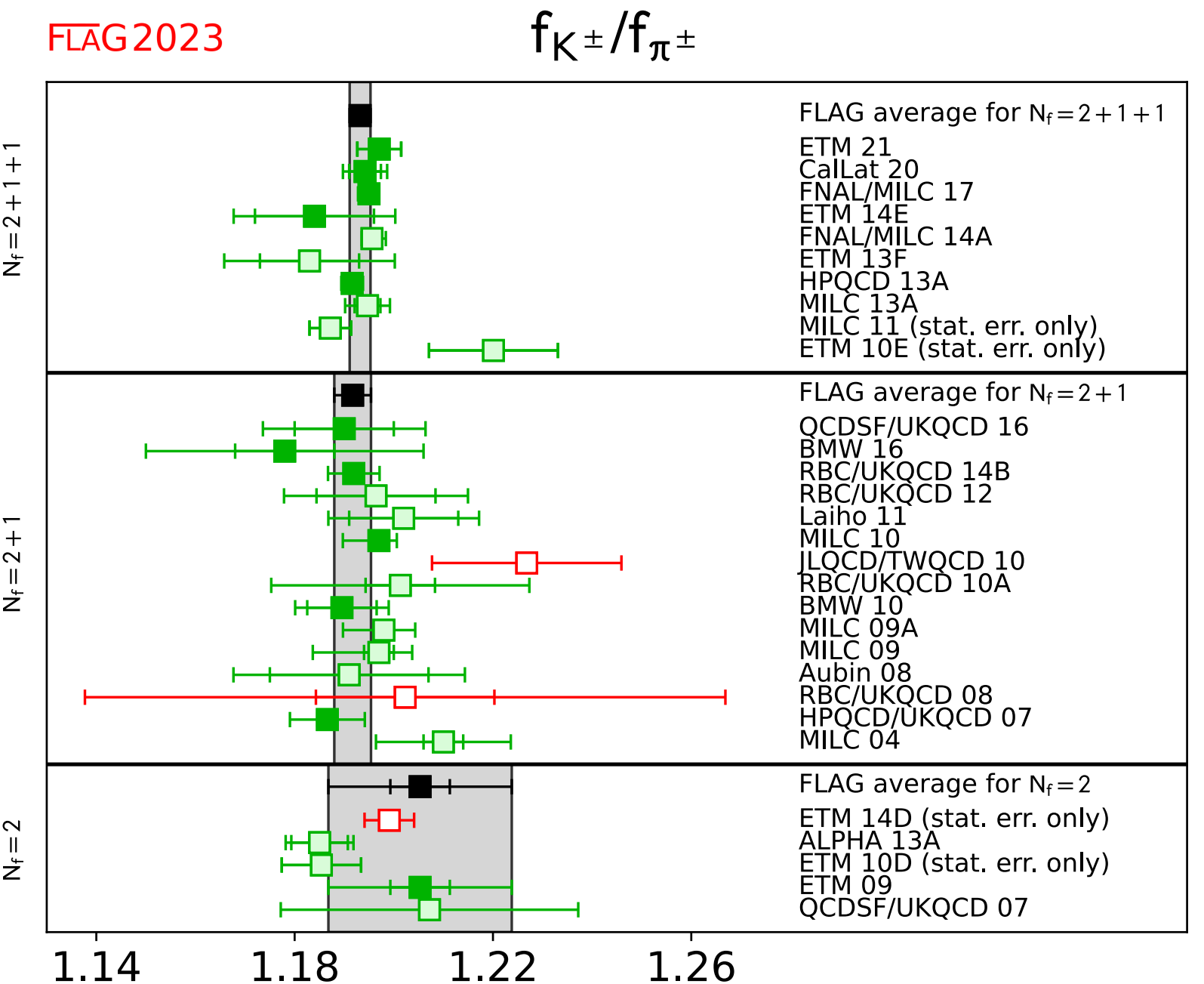
**Potential issue:** definition of 'isosymmetric QCD' in lattice ( $f_+(0)$ ) vs calculations of  $\Delta^{\text{EM,IB}}$

# $V_{us}$ from $K \rightarrow \mu \nu$ decays

$$\frac{|V_{us}| f_K}{|V_{ud}| f_\pi} = \left( \frac{\Gamma_{K \rightarrow \mu \nu(\gamma)} m_{\pi^\pm}}{\Gamma_{\pi \rightarrow \mu \nu(\gamma)} m_{K^\pm}} \right)^{1/2} \frac{1 - m_\mu^2/m_{\pi^\pm}^2}{1 - m_\mu^2/m_{K^\pm}^2} \left( 1 - \frac{\Delta_{RC+IB}^{K\pi}}{2} \right)$$

- Lattice QCD calculations of  $f_K/f_\pi$  are at the 0.2% level
- First calculation of radiative and isospin-breaking corrections in LQCD.\*\* Compatible with ChPT, factor of  $\sim 2$  more precise

ChPT: VC-Neufeld, 1102.0563	** LQCD1: Di Carlo et al., 1904.08731	LQCD2: Boyle et al., 2211.12865
$\Delta_{RC+IB}^{K\pi} = -1.12(21)\%$	$\Delta_{RC+IB}^{K\pi} = -1.26(14)\%$	$\Delta_{RC+IB}^{K\pi} = -0.86(40)\%$



# V<sub>us</sub> from K → μν decays

$$\frac{|V_{us}| f_K}{|V_{ud}| f_\pi} = \left( \frac{\Gamma_{K \rightarrow \mu\nu(\gamma)} m_{\pi^\pm}}{\Gamma_{\pi \rightarrow \mu\nu(\gamma)} m_{K^\pm}} \right)^{1/2} \frac{1 - m_\mu^2/m_{\pi^\pm}^2}{1 - m_\mu^2/m_{K^\pm}^2} \left( 1 - \frac{\Delta_{RC+IB}^{K\pi}}{2} \right)$$

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### Potential issue (1):

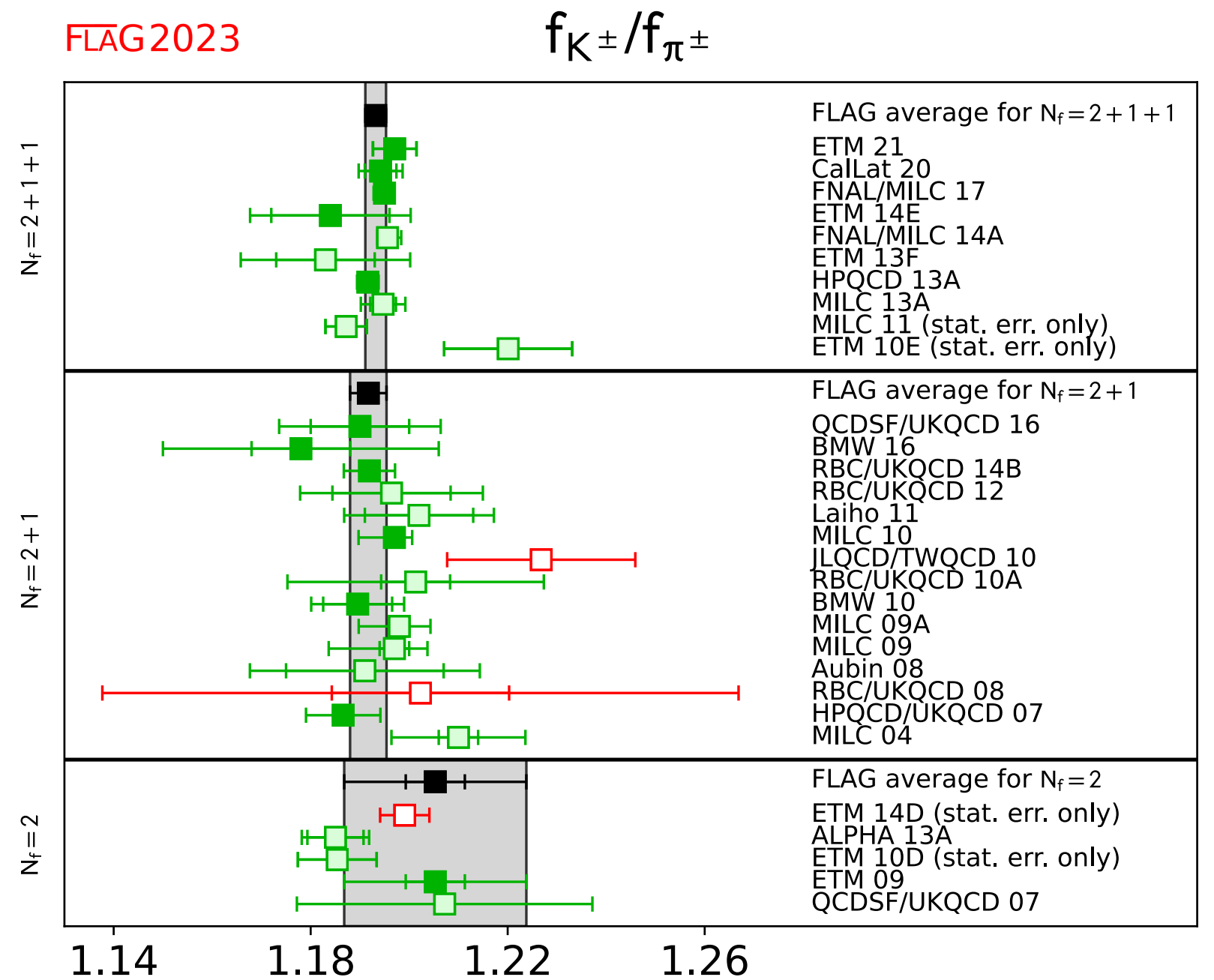
Kmu2 BR dominated by one measurement (KLOE)

Km3/Kmu2 BR measurement at 0.2% would have significant impact

$$\left. \frac{V_{us}}{V_{ud}} \right|_{K_{\ell 2}/\pi_{\ell 2}} = 0.23108(23)_{\text{exp}}(42)_{F_K/F_\pi}(16)_{RC+IB}[51]_{\text{total}}$$

### Potential issue (2):

Isospin scheme dependence



# LEFT Lagrangian for CC processes

VC, Gonzalez-Alonso, Jenkins 0908.1754, NPB

VC, Graesser, Gonzalez-Alonso 1210.4553, JHEP

Leptonic interactions

$$\mathcal{L}_{CC}^{(\mu)} = -\frac{G_F^{(0)}}{\sqrt{2}} \left(1 + \epsilon_L^{(\mu)}\right) \bar{e} \gamma^\rho (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{\nu}_\mu \gamma_\rho (1 - \gamma_5) \mu + \dots$$

Semi-leptonic interactions

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{CC} = & -\frac{G_F^{(0)} V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} \times \left[ \left( \delta^{ab} + \epsilon_L^{ab} \right) \bar{e}_a \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) d \right. \\ & + \epsilon_R^{ab} \bar{e}_a \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma_5) d \\ & + \epsilon_S^{ab} \bar{e}_a (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} d \\ & - \epsilon_P^{ab} \bar{e}_a (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \gamma_5 d \\ & \left. + \epsilon_T^{ab} \bar{e}_a \sigma_{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) d \right] + \text{h.c.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\epsilon_i \sim (v/\Lambda)^2$$

For global analysis of beta decays in this framework see:

Falkowski, Gonzalez-Alonso, Naviliat-Cuncic, 2010.13797

# LEFT Lagrangian for CC processes

VC, Gonzalez-Alonso, Jenkins 0908.1754, NPB

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From SM → LEFT  
matching at tree level

Semi-leptonic interactions

$$\mathcal{L}_{CC} = -\frac{G_F^{(0)} V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} \times \left[ \left( \delta^{ab} + \epsilon_L^{ab} \right) \bar{e}_a \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) d \right. \\ + \epsilon_R^{ab} \bar{e}_a \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma_5) d \\ + \epsilon_S^{ab} \bar{e}_a (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} d \\ - \epsilon_P^{ab} \bar{e}_a (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \gamma_5 d \\ \left. + \epsilon_T^{ab} \bar{e}_a \sigma_{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) d \right] + \text{h.c.}$$

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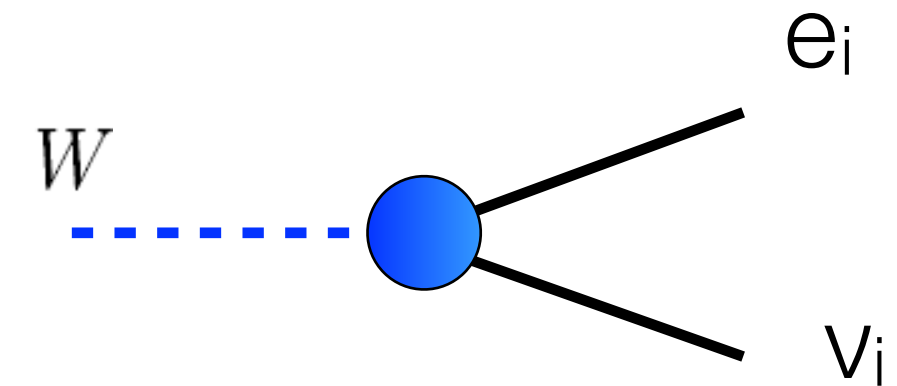
# $R_{e/\mu}(\pi)$ vs other probes of LFU

- Comparison possible within a given class of models
- Instructive example: LFU violation in vertex corrections, probed by decays of  $W, \tau, K, \pi$

A. Pich, 2012.07099  
Bryman, VC, Crivellin, Inguglia,  
2111.05338, ARNPS

$$\mathcal{L} \supset -i \frac{g_2}{\sqrt{2}} \bar{\ell}_i \gamma^\mu P_L \nu_j W_\mu^- (\delta_{ij} + \epsilon_{ij}) + \text{h.c.}$$

$$g_\ell \equiv g_2 (1 + \epsilon_{\ell\ell})$$



$$|g_\mu / g_e|$$

$B_{\tau \rightarrow \mu} / B_{\tau \rightarrow e}$	$1.0017 \pm 0.0016$
$B_{\pi \rightarrow \mu} / B_{\pi \rightarrow e}$	$1.0010 \pm 0.0009$
$B_{K \rightarrow \mu} / B_{K \rightarrow e}$	$0.9978 \pm 0.0018$
$B_{K \rightarrow \pi\mu} / B_{K \rightarrow \pi e}$	$1.0009 \pm 0.0018$
$B_{W \rightarrow \mu} / B_{W \rightarrow e}$	$1.001 \pm 0.003$

$$|g_\tau / g_\mu|$$

$B_{\tau \rightarrow e} \tau_\mu / \tau_\tau$	$1.0011 \pm 0.0014$
$\Gamma_{\tau \rightarrow \pi} / \Gamma_{\pi \rightarrow \mu}$	$0.9964 \pm 0.0038$
$\Gamma_{\tau \rightarrow K} / \Gamma_{K \rightarrow \mu}$	$0.986 \pm 0.008$
$B_{W \rightarrow \tau} / B_{W \rightarrow \mu}$	$1.001 \pm 0.010$

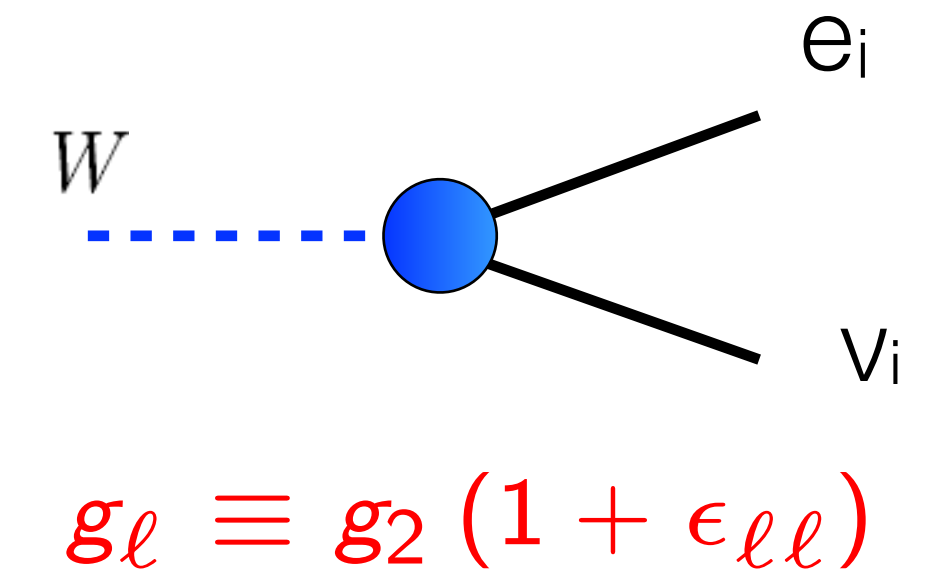
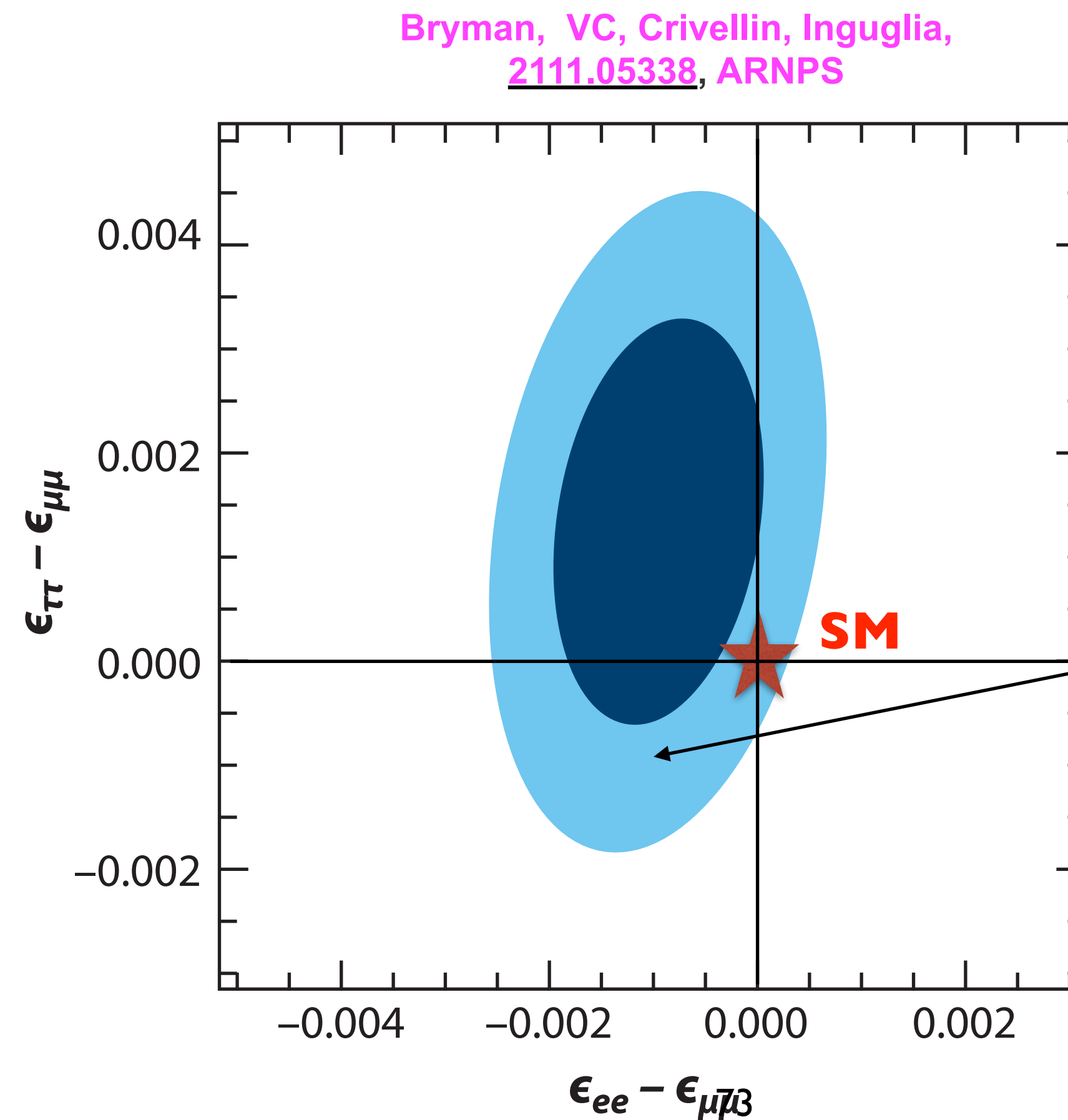
$R_{e/\mu}(\pi)$  gives strongest constraint  
on  $ee - \mu\mu$  combination

$$|g_\tau / g_e|$$

$B_{\tau \rightarrow \mu} \tau_\mu / \tau_\tau$	$1.0028 \pm 0.0015$
$B_{W \rightarrow \tau} / B_{W \rightarrow e}$	$1.008 \pm 0.012$

# $R_{e/\mu}(\pi)$ vs other probes of LFU

- Comparison possible within a given class of models
- Instructive example: LFU violation in vertex corrections, probed by decays of  $W, \tau, K, \pi$
- Global fit [except for B decays]:



PIONEER will have strong impact on the horizontal scale in this plot



# Backup: LNV

# Dirac vs Majorana with $\nu$ beams?

- Simple test (B. Kayser): generate  $\nu$  beam from  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$  and check whether it produces  $\mu^+$  on a target downstream



A Dirac neutrino won't do that.

A Majorana neutrino with helicity=+1 ( $\nu(R)=\nu_+$ ) will produce  $\mu^+$ .  
But fraction of  $\nu(R)=\nu_+$  produced in  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$  is  $\sim (m_\nu/E_\nu)^2 < 10^{-16}!!$

# Dirac vs Majorana with $\nu$ beams?

- Simple test (B. Kayser): generate  $\nu$  beam from  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$  and check whether it produces  $\mu^+$  on a target downstream



Smallness of  $\nu$  mass and V-A nature of the weak interactions imply that  
*Neutrinoless* probes of  $\Delta L=2$  dynamics are our best bet!

# Dirac vs Majorana with $\nu$ beams?

- Simple test (B. Kayser): generate  $\nu$  beam from  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$  and check whether it produces  $\mu^+$  on a target downstream



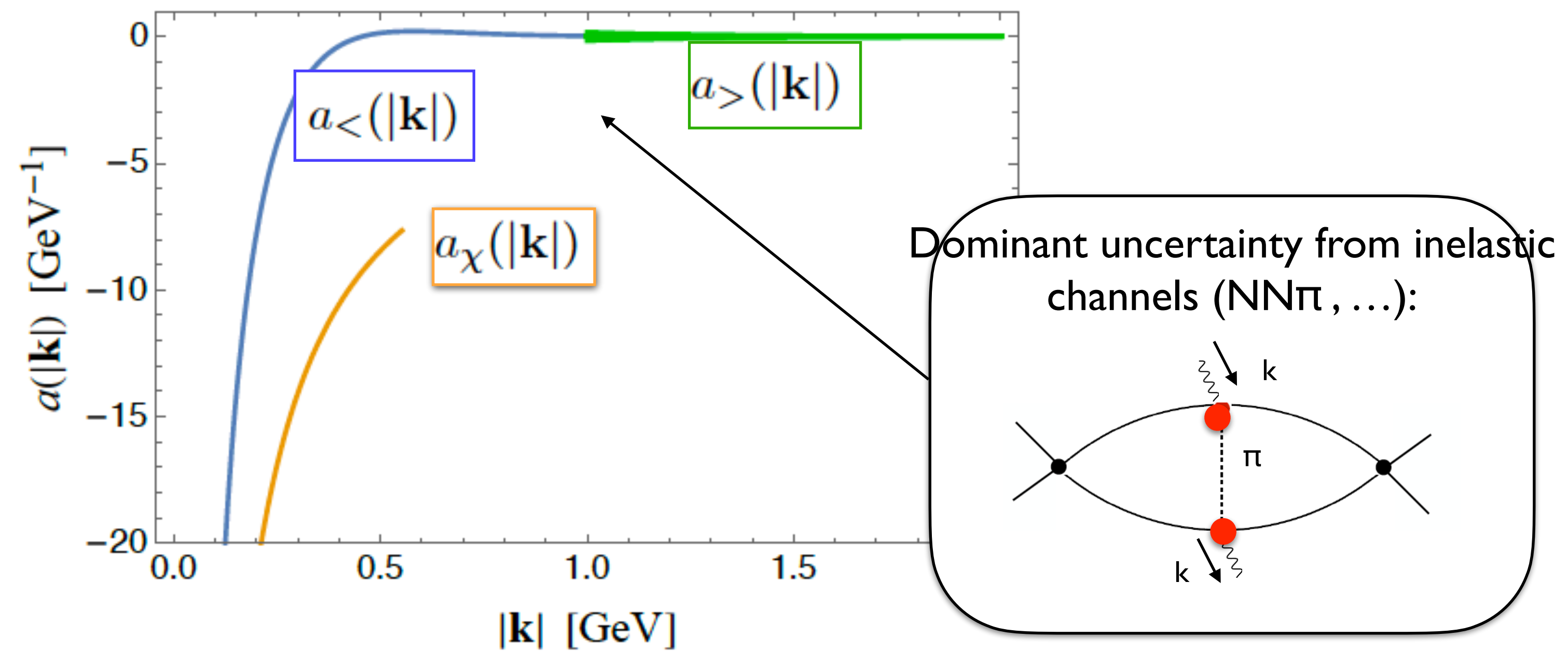
Among  $\Delta L=2$  neutrinoless processes ( $nn \rightarrow ppe^-e^-$ ,  $K^+ \rightarrow \pi^-e^+e^+$ ,  $pp \rightarrow e^+e^+ + 2$  jets, ...),  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay is the strongest\* probe — “Avogadro’s number wins” (P. Vogel)

# Estimating the contact term

VC, Dekens, deVries, Hoferichter, Mereghetti, 2012.11602, 2102.03371

- Determine  $C_{1,2}$  with  $\sim 30\%$  uncertainty (dominated by intermediate  $k$ )

$$\mathcal{A}_\nu \propto \int_0^\Lambda d|\mathbf{k}| a_{<}(|\mathbf{k}|) + \int_\Lambda^\infty d|\mathbf{k}| a_{>}(|\mathbf{k}|)$$



# Estimating the contact term

VC, Dekens, deVries, Hoferichter, Mereghetti, 2012.11602, 2102.03371

- Determine  $C_{1,2}$  with  $\sim 30\%$  uncertainty (dominated by intermediate  $k$ )
- Provided 'synthetic data' for the  $nn \rightarrow pp$  amplitude at threshold
- First calculation of  $^{48}\text{Ca} \rightarrow ^{48}\text{Ti}$  with contact fitted to synthetic data  $\Rightarrow$  **contact term enhances nuclear matrix element by  $(43 \pm 7)\%$**

Wirth, Yao, Hergert, 2105.05415

# EFT-based master formula

- Framework to interpret  $0\nu\beta\beta$  searches in terms of any high-scale model and possibly unravel the underlying mechanism in case of discovery

