

International School of Nuclear Physics
43rd Course
Neutrinos in Cosmology, in Astro-, Particle- and Nuclear Physics
Erice, September 16-22, 2022

Neutrino-less double beta decay (theory)

Vincenzo Cirigliano
Institute for Nuclear Theory
University of Washington

Outline

- Introduction: neutrino mass, Lepton Number, and $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay
- ‘End-to-end’ Effective Field Theory framework for LNV and $0\nu\beta\beta$
 - $0\nu\beta\beta$ from **high-scale see-saw** (LNV @ dim 5)
 - $0\nu\beta\beta$ from **(multi)TeV-scale dynamics** (LNV @ dim 7, 9, ...)
 - $0\nu\beta\beta$ and **sterile neutrinos**
- Conclusions & outlook

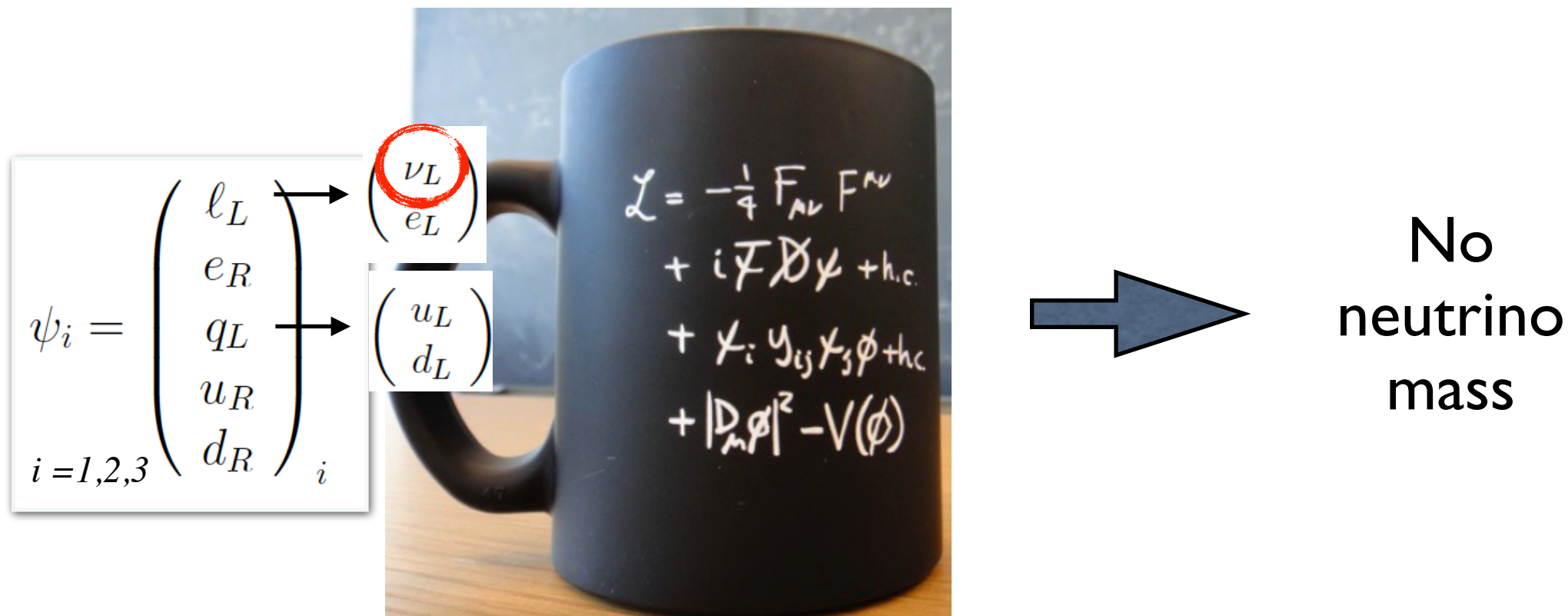
Special thanks to collaborators on these topics:

W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Graesser, M. Hoferichter, E. Mereghetti, S. Pastore, M. Piarulli,
U. van Kolck, A. Walker-Loud, R. Wiringa

Neutrino mass and new physics

- Massive neutrinos provide concrete evidence of physics beyond the SM

The Standard Model



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

Neutrino mass and new physics

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

Dirac mass:

$$m_D \overline{\psi_L} \psi_R + \text{h.c.}$$



Majorana mass:

$$m_M \psi_L^T C \psi_L + \text{h.c.}$$

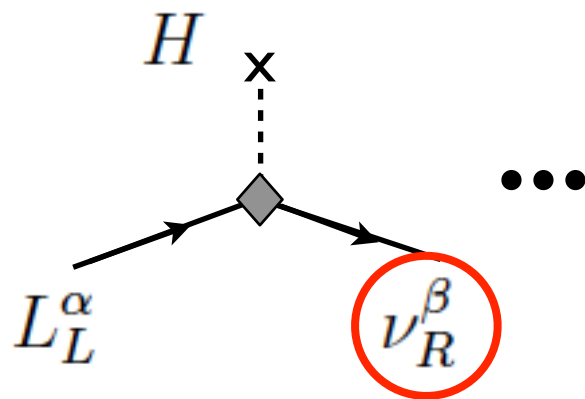


Neutrino mass and new physics

- Lorentz invariance $\Rightarrow$ two options: Dirac or Majorana
- $SU(2)_W$ invariance $\Rightarrow$ need **new degrees of freedom**

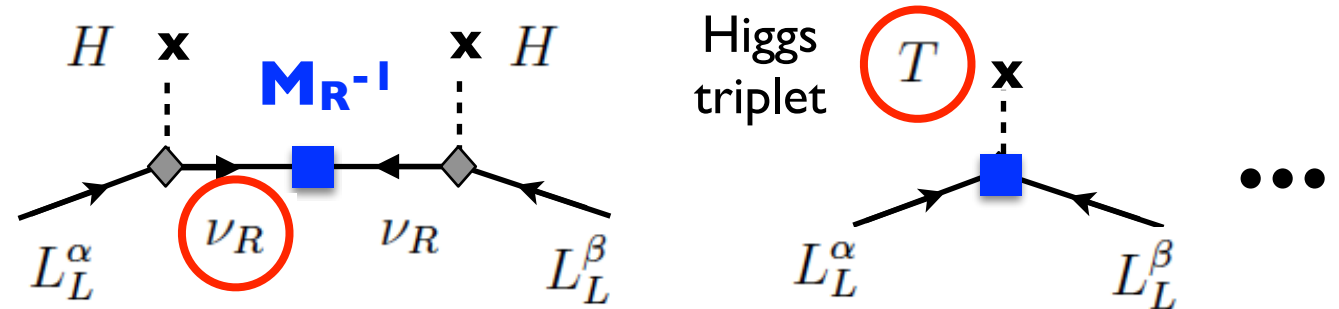
Dirac mass:

$$m_D \bar{\psi}_L \psi_R + \text{h.c.}$$



Majorana mass:

$$m_M \psi_L^T C \psi_L + \text{h.c.}$$

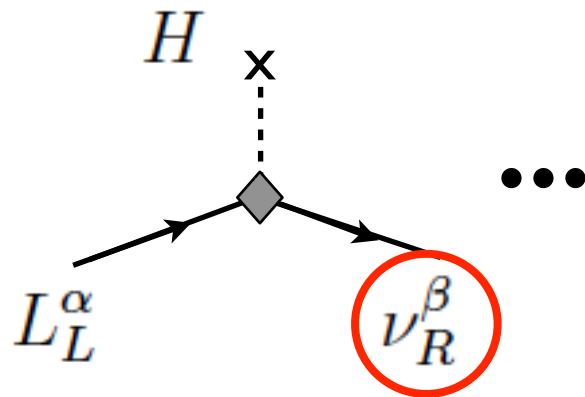


Neutrino mass and new physics

- Lorentz invariance $\Rightarrow$ two options: Dirac or Majorana
- $SU(2)_W$ invariance $\Rightarrow$ need **new degrees of freedom**

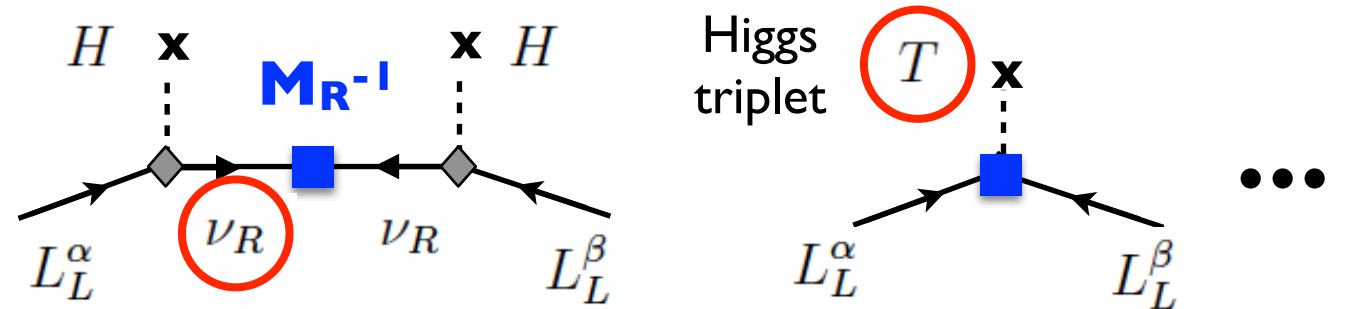
Dirac mass:

$$m_D \bar{\psi}_L \psi_R + \text{h.c.}$$



Majorana mass:

$$m_M \psi_L^T C \psi_L + \text{h.c.}$$



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

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

Which option is realized in nature?

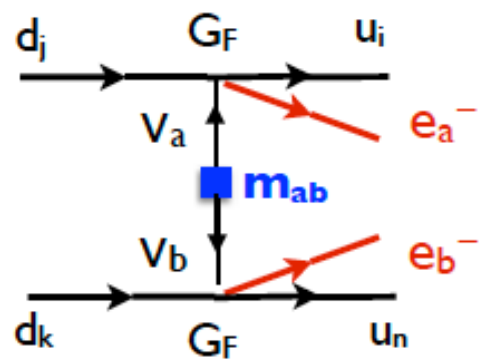
- Smallness of ν mass and chiral nature of the weak interactions implies that *neutrino-less processes are the best probes of $\Delta L=2$ interactions*



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

Which option is realized in nature?

- Smallness of ν mass and chiral nature of the weak interactions implies that *neutrino-less processes are the best probes of $\Delta L=2$ interactions*



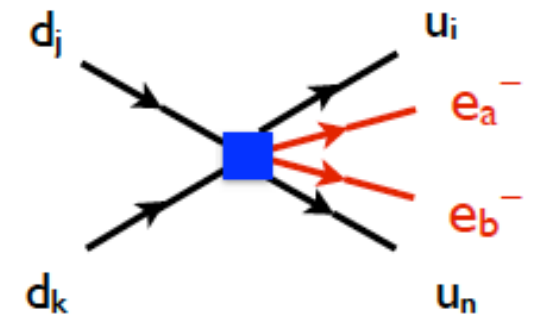
$$(N, Z) \rightarrow (N - 2, Z + 2) + e^- + e^-$$

$$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \ell_1^+ \ell_2^+ \quad B^+ \rightarrow h^- \ell_1^+ \ell_2^+$$

$$\tau^- \rightarrow \ell^+ h_1^- h_2^-$$

...

$$pp \rightarrow \ell\ell + 2 \text{ jets}$$

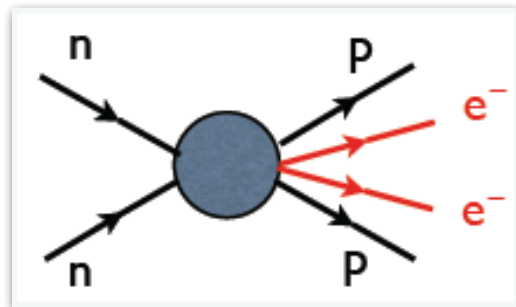


- $0\nu\beta\beta$ provides in many scenarios the strongest sensitivity to LNV couplings (“Avogadro’s number wins”, P. Vogel)
- Other processes can be very competitive in models with low-scale LNV

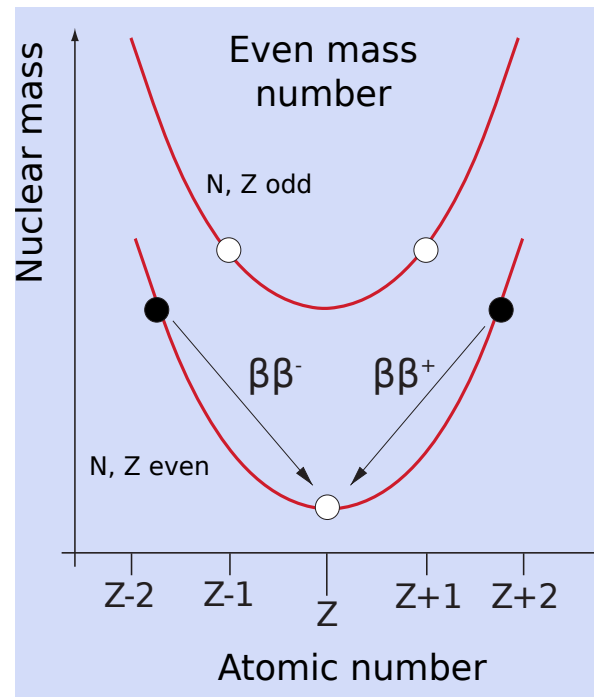
Neutrinoless double beta decay

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

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



$$\Delta L = 2$$

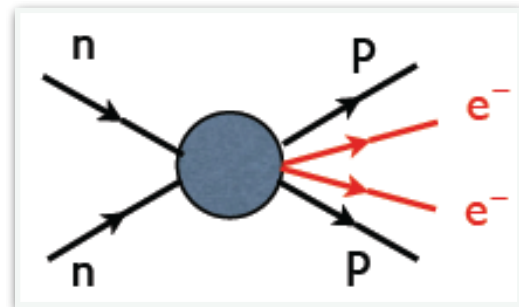


Potentially observable in even-even nuclei (^{48}Ca , ^{76}Ge , ^{136}Xe , ...) for which single beta decay is energetically forbidden

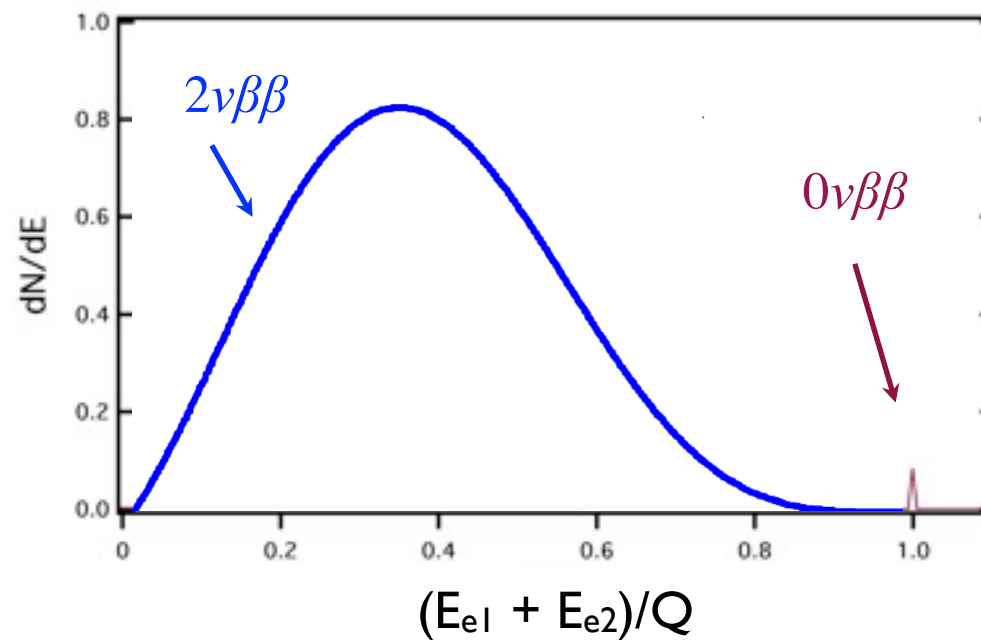
Neutrinoless double beta decay

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

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



$$\Delta L = 2$$

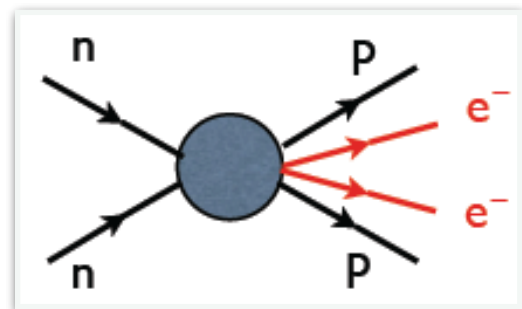


Potentially observable in even-even nuclei (^{48}Ca , ^{76}Ge , ^{136}Xe , ...) for which single beta decay is energetically forbidden

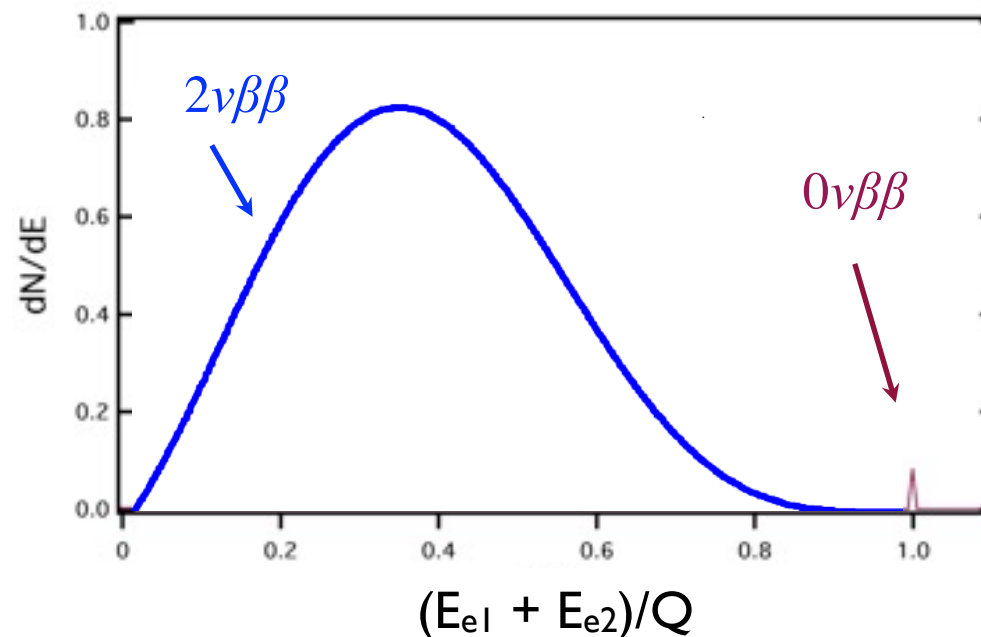
Neutrinoless double beta decay

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

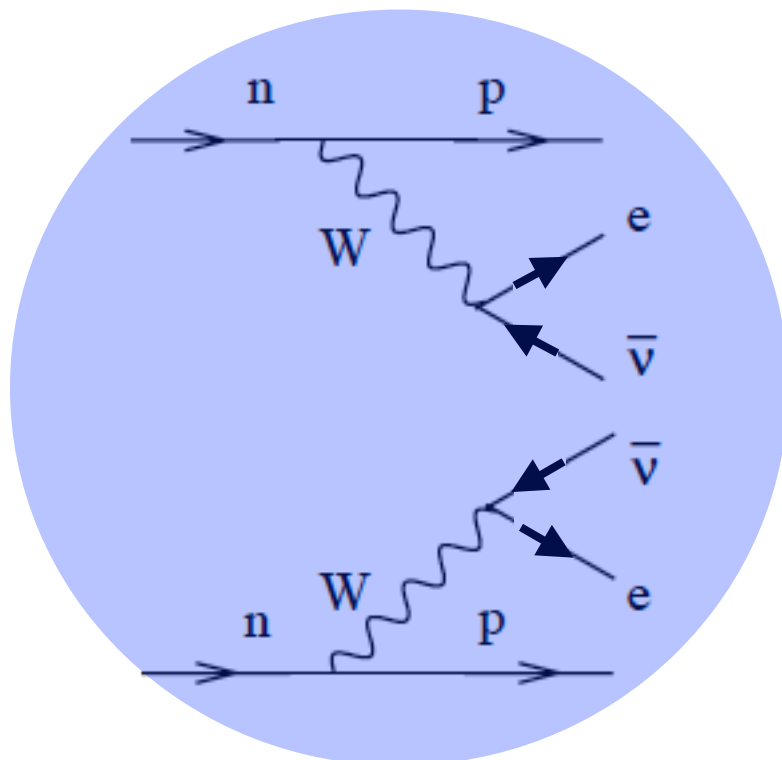
$$T_{1/2} > \# 10^{25} \text{ yr}$$



$$\Delta L = 2$$



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

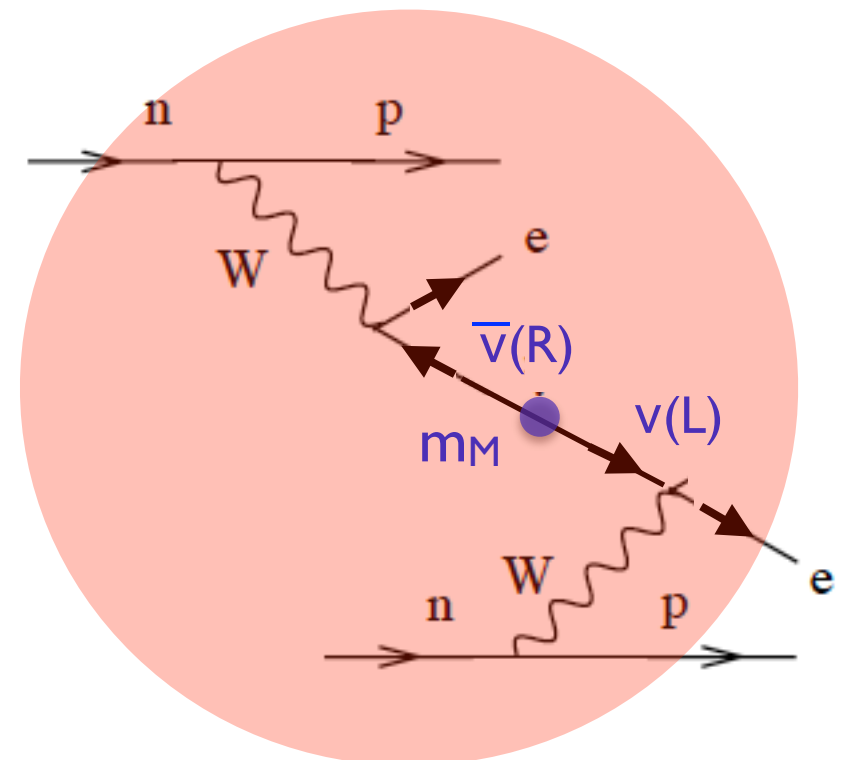


Simplest mechanism:
Majorana mass term



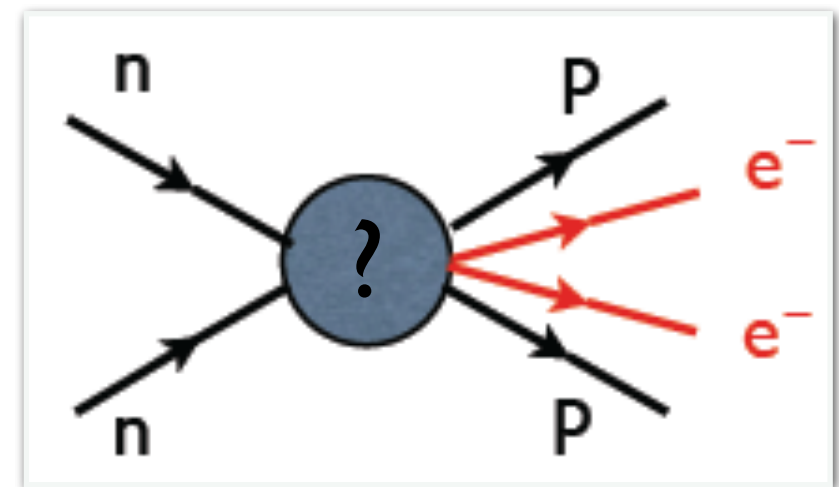
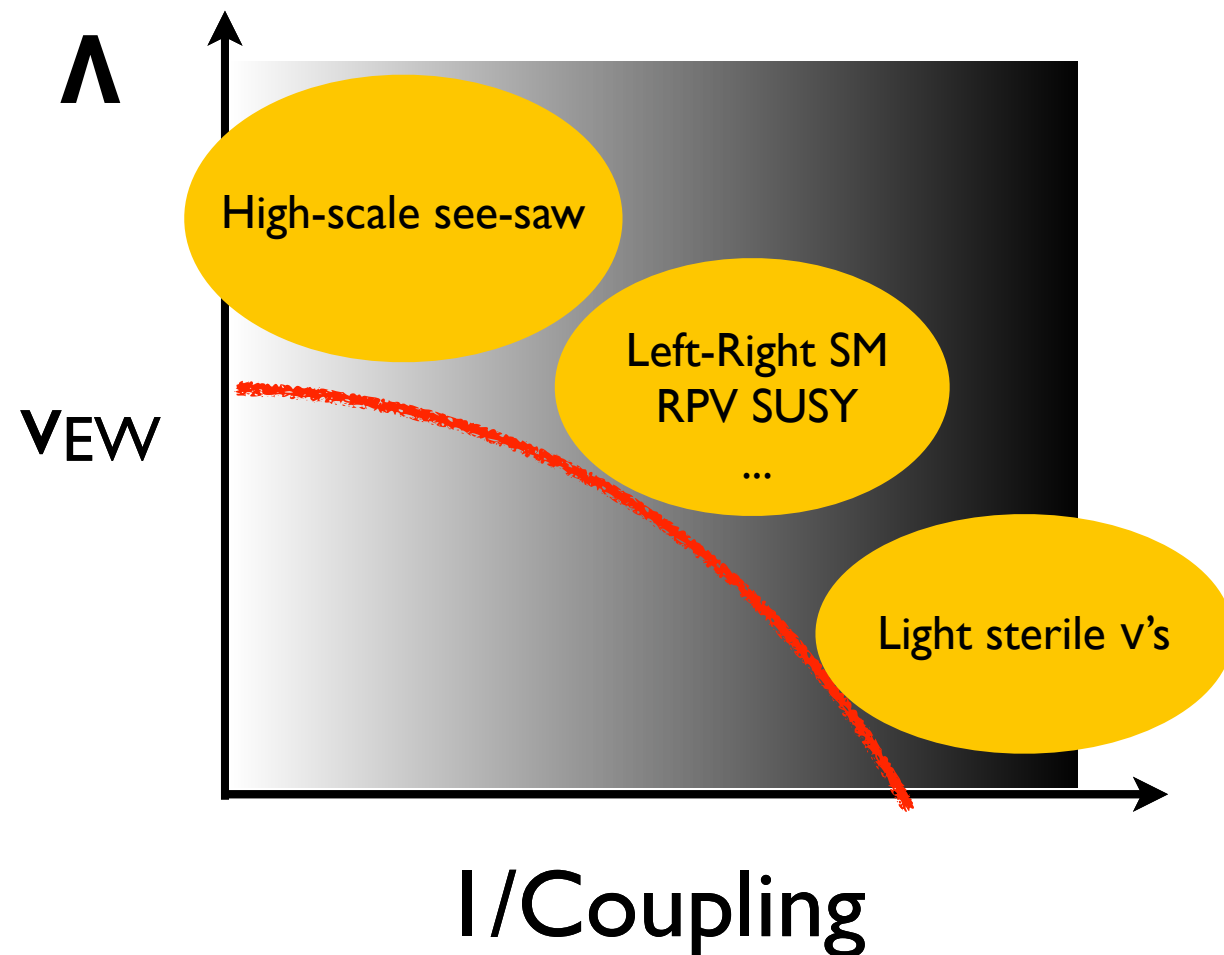
But not the only one!

Furry 1939



$0\nu\beta\beta$ physics reach

- Ton-scale $0\nu\beta\beta$ searches ($T_{1/2} > 10^{27-28}$ yr) will probe LNV from a broad range of mechanisms

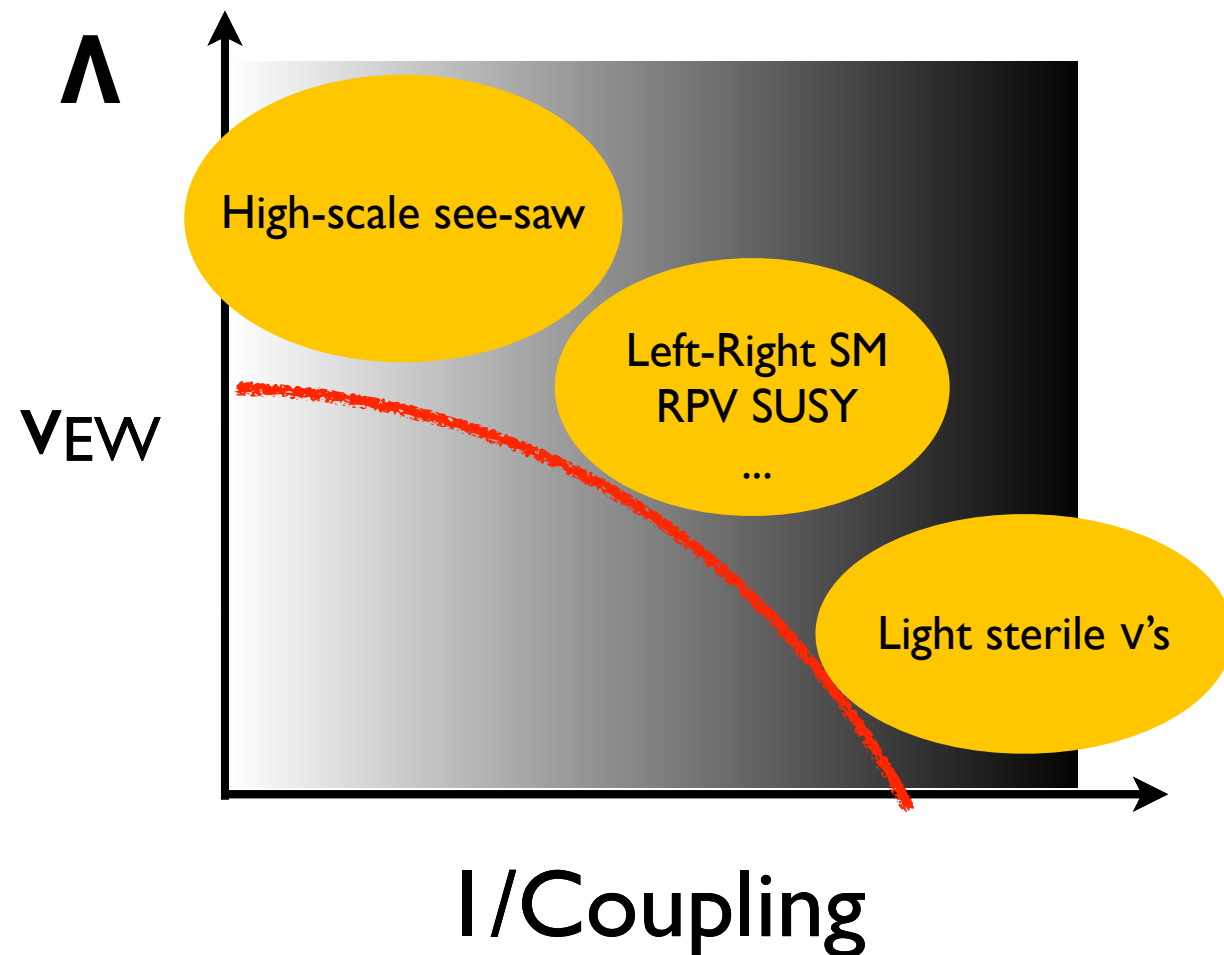


See VC-Dekens-deVries-Graesser-Mereghetti 1806.02780 and references therein

Snowmass white paper: 2203.21169

$0\nu\beta\beta$ physics reach

- Ton-scale $0\nu\beta\beta$ searches ($T_{1/2} > 10^{27-28}$ yr) will probe LNV from a broad range of mechanisms

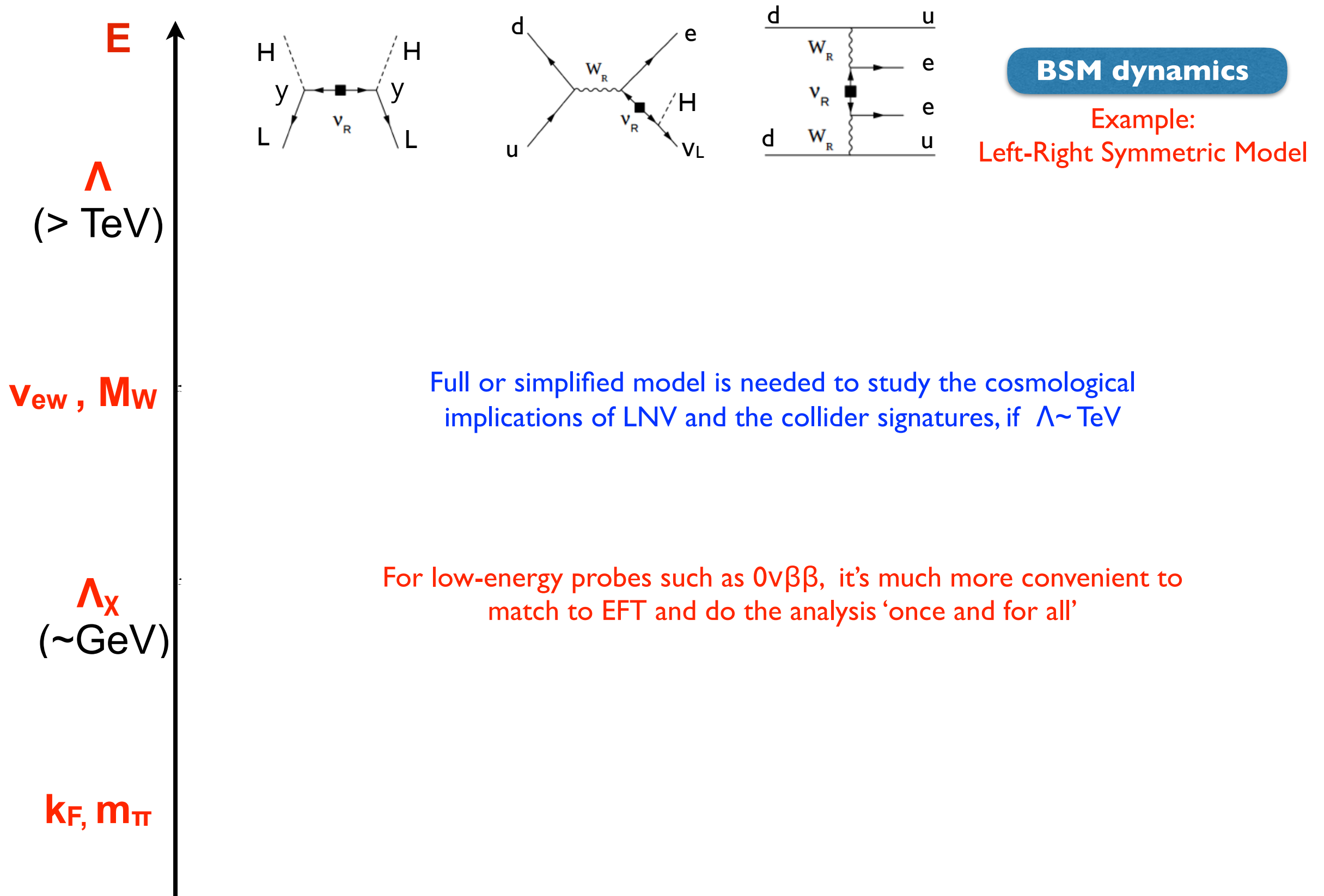


Impact of $0\nu\beta\beta$ searches and relation to other probes of LNV is best analyzed through a **tower of EFTs** that connect LNV scale Λ to nuclear scales, with controllable uncertainties

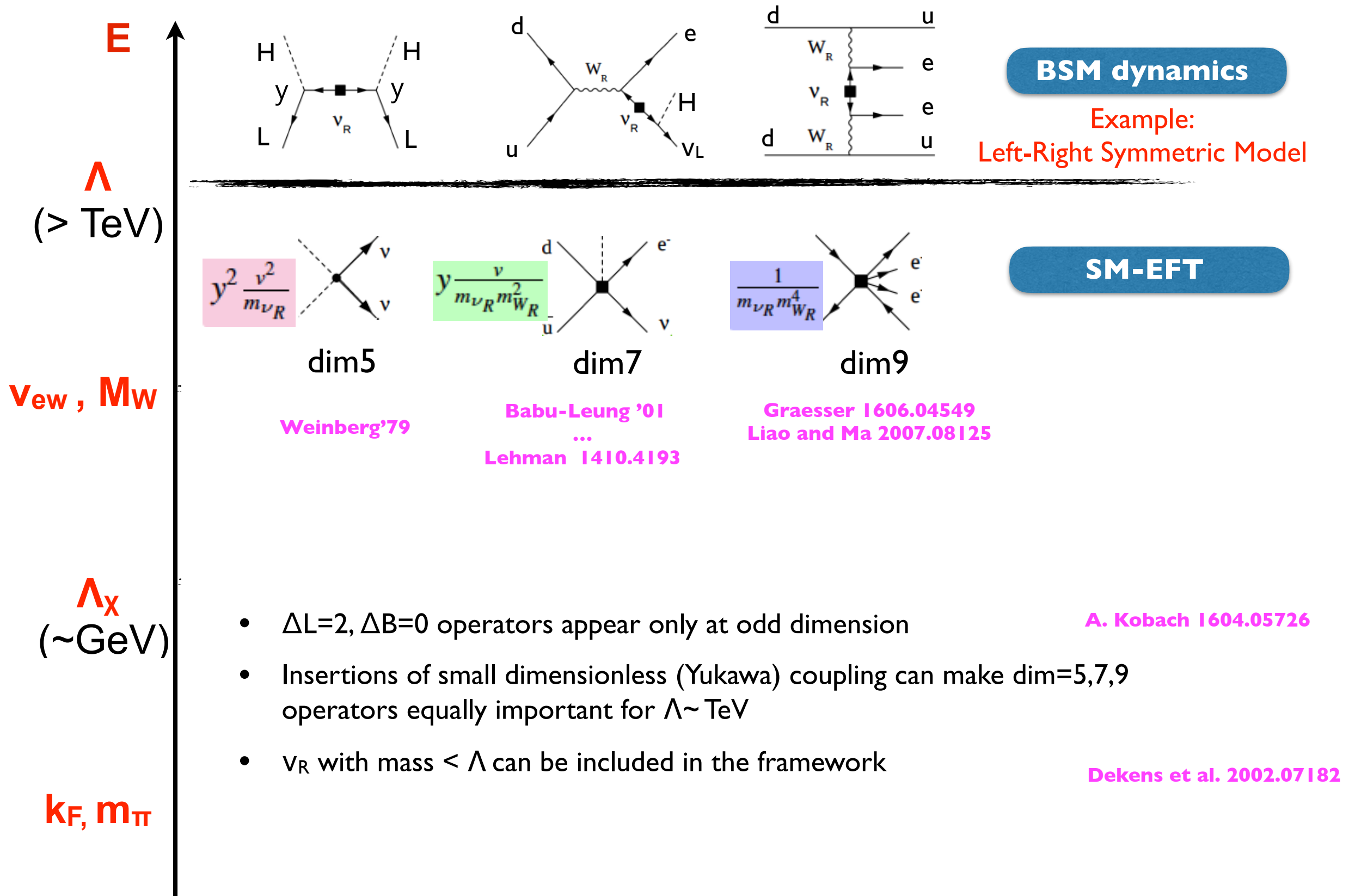
See VC-Dekens-deVries-Graesser-Mereghetti 1806.02780 and references therein

Snowmass white paper: 2203.21169

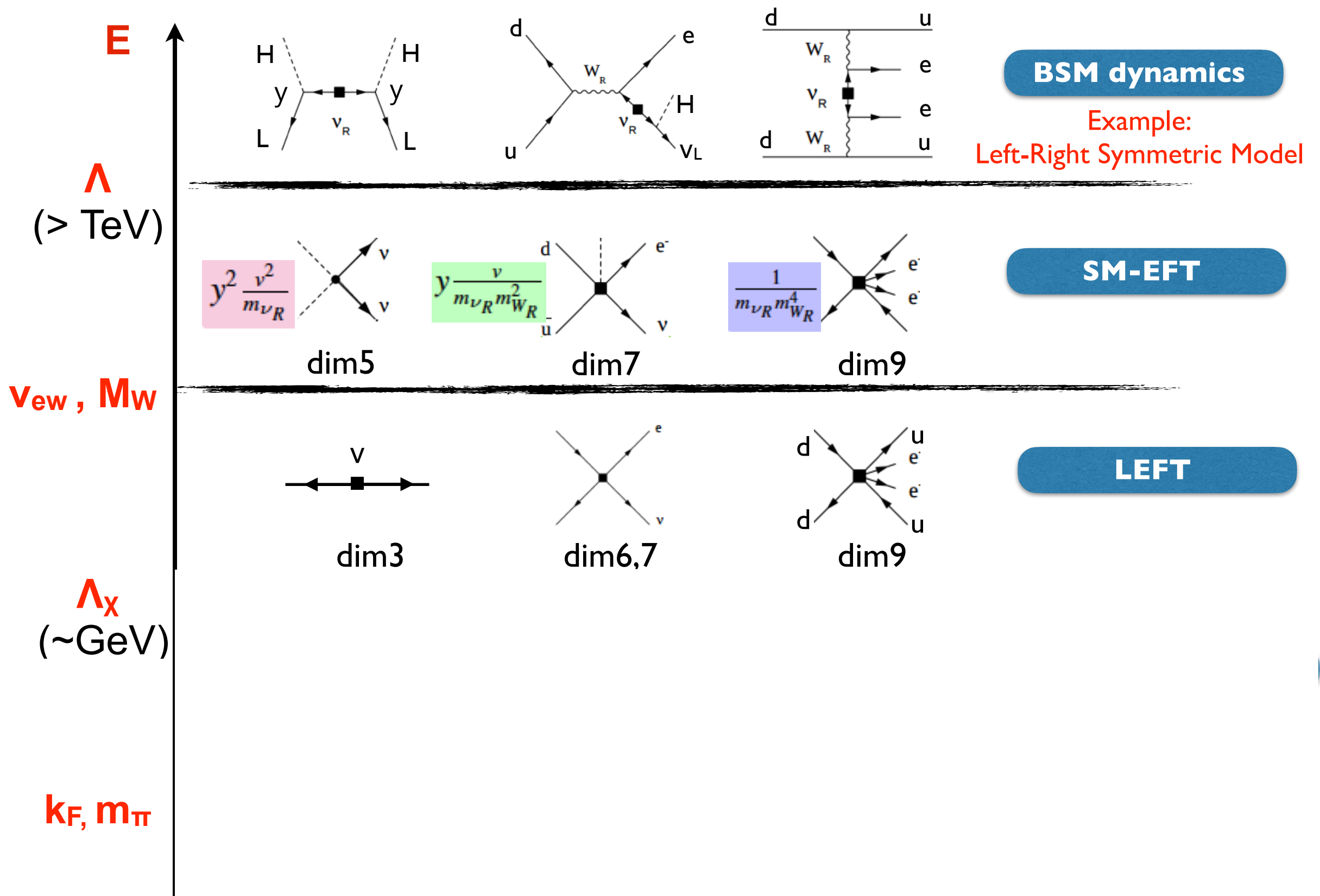
'End-to-end' EFT framework



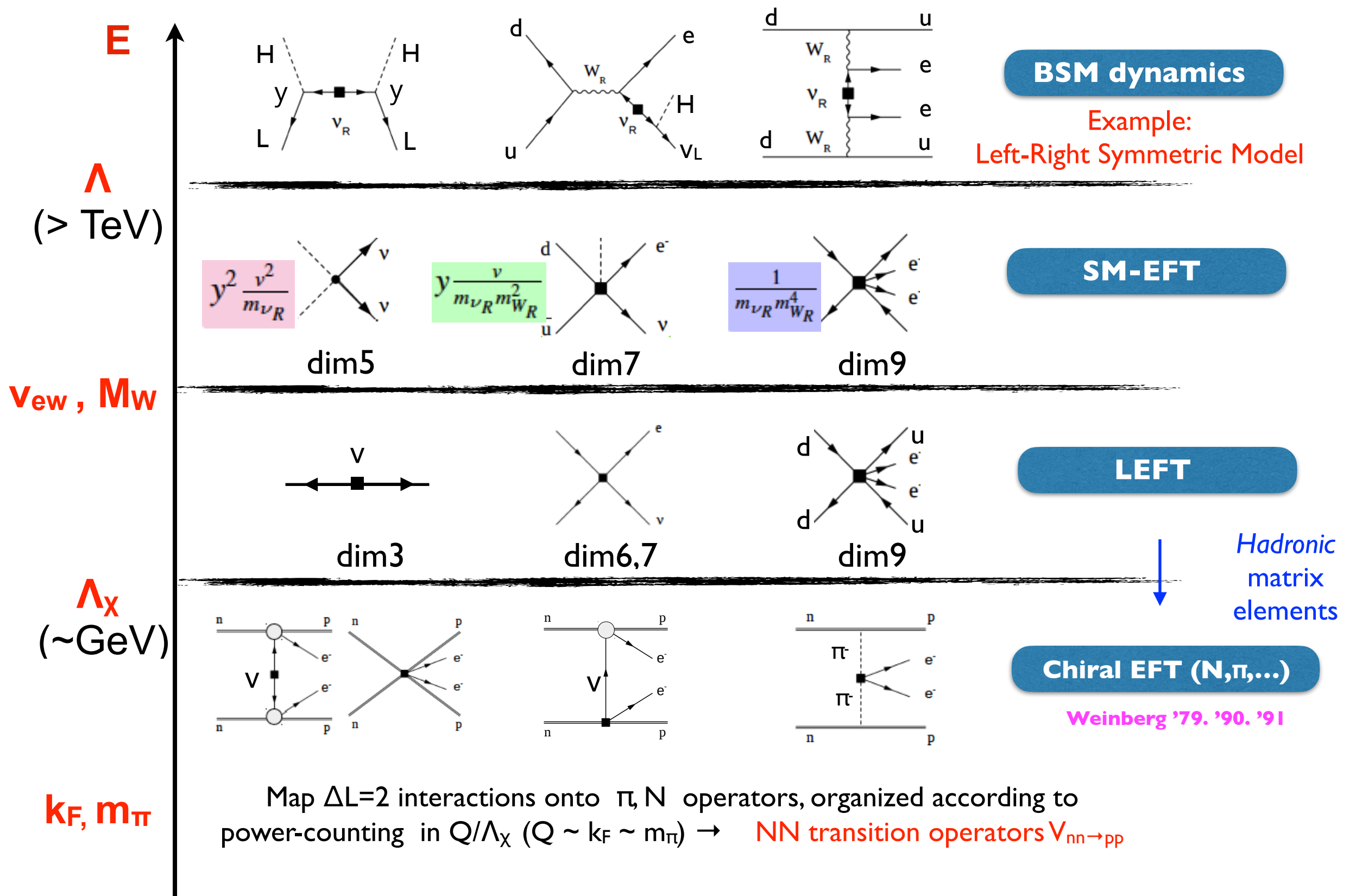
'End-to-end' EFT framework



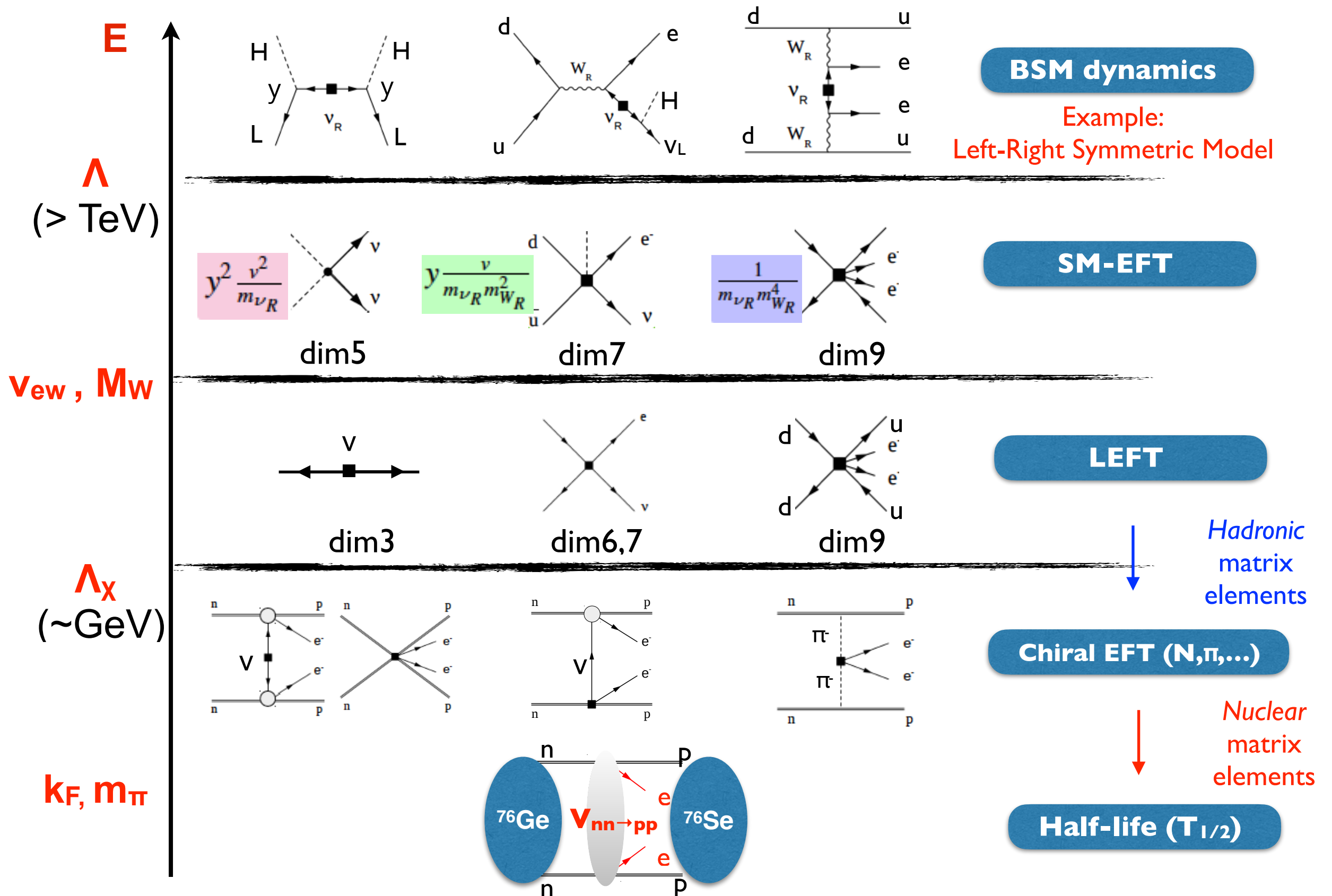
'End-to-end' EFT framework



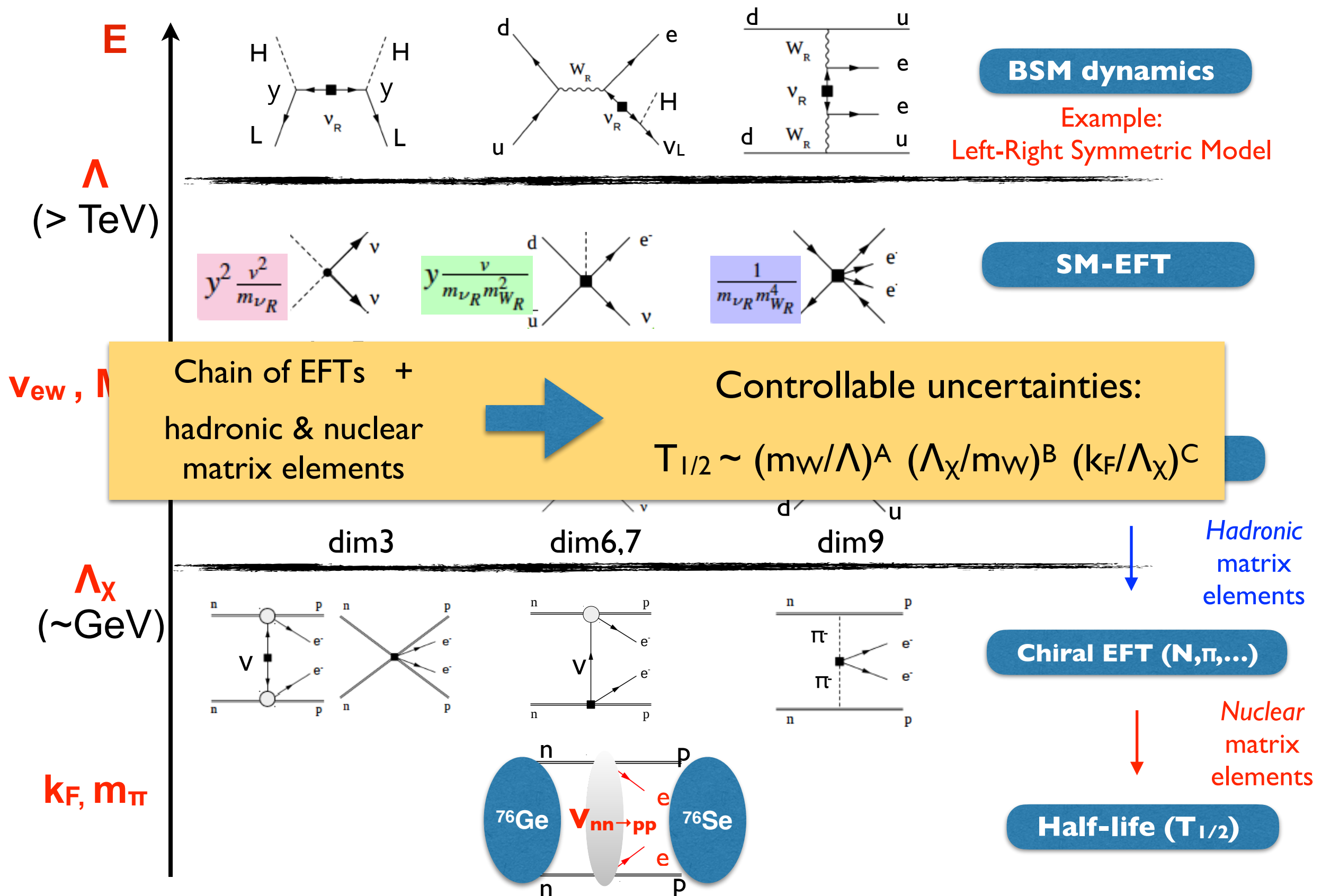
'End-to-end' EFT framework



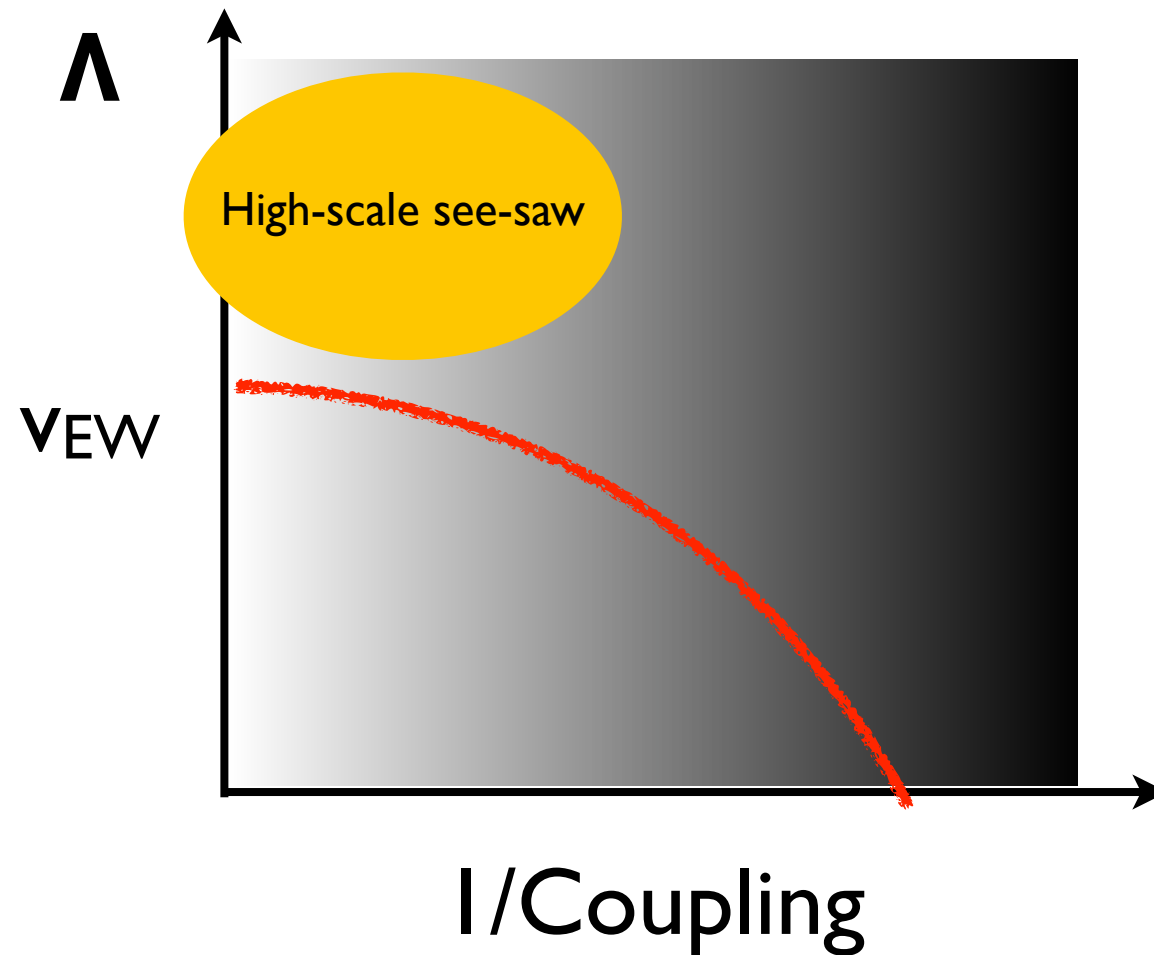
'End-to-end' EFT framework



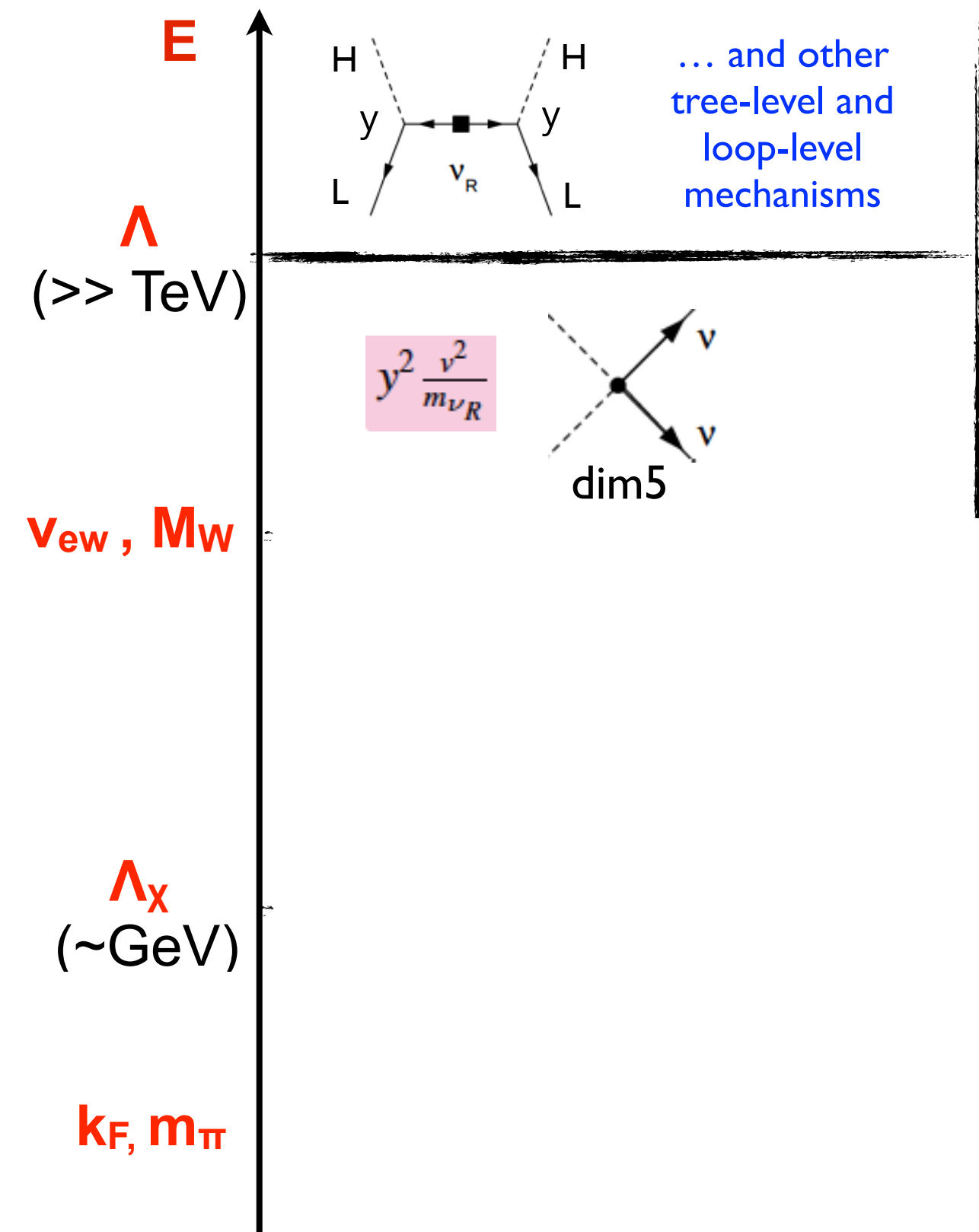
'End-to-end' EFT framework



$0\nu\beta\beta$ from high-scale LNV (dim-5 operator)



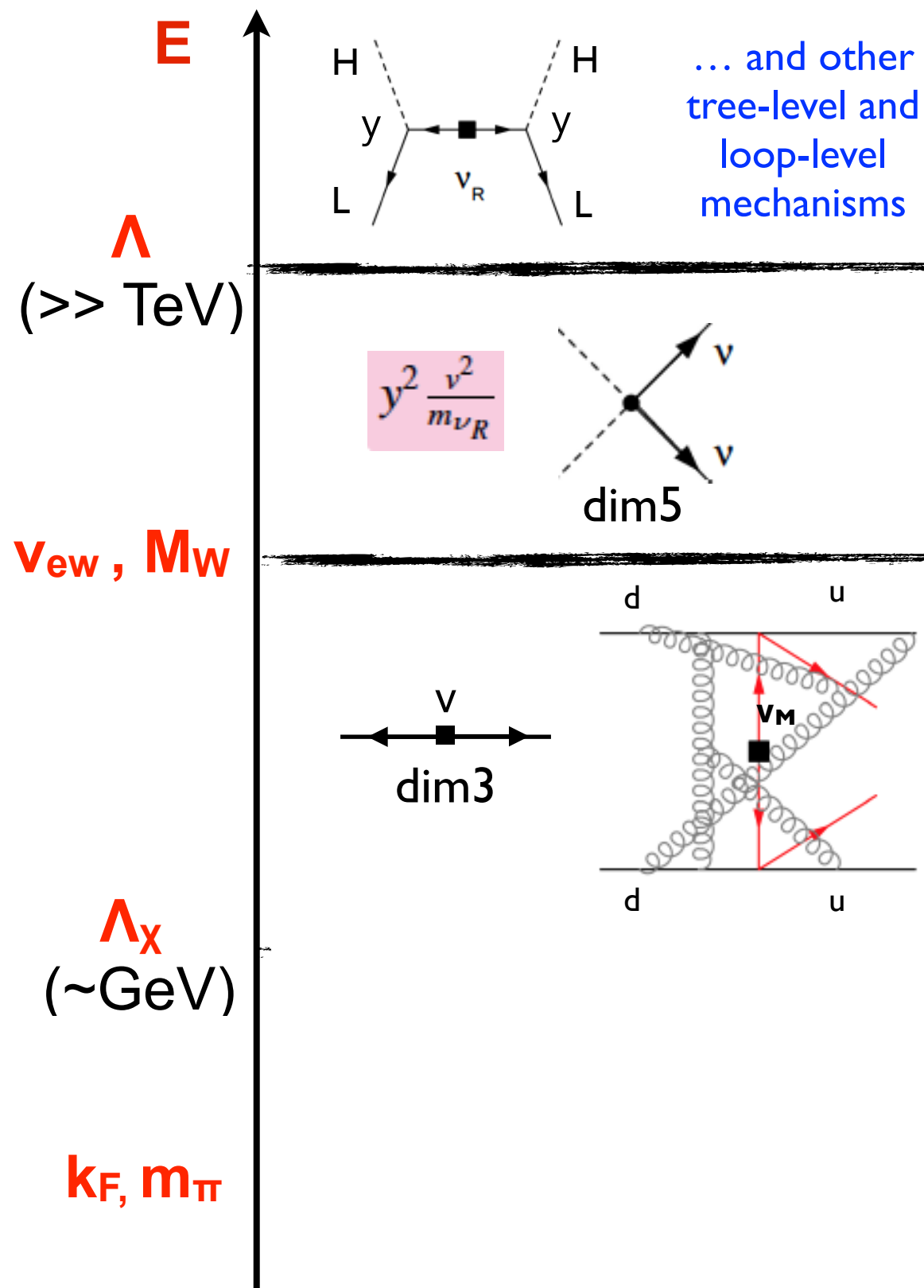
High scale LNV



- 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



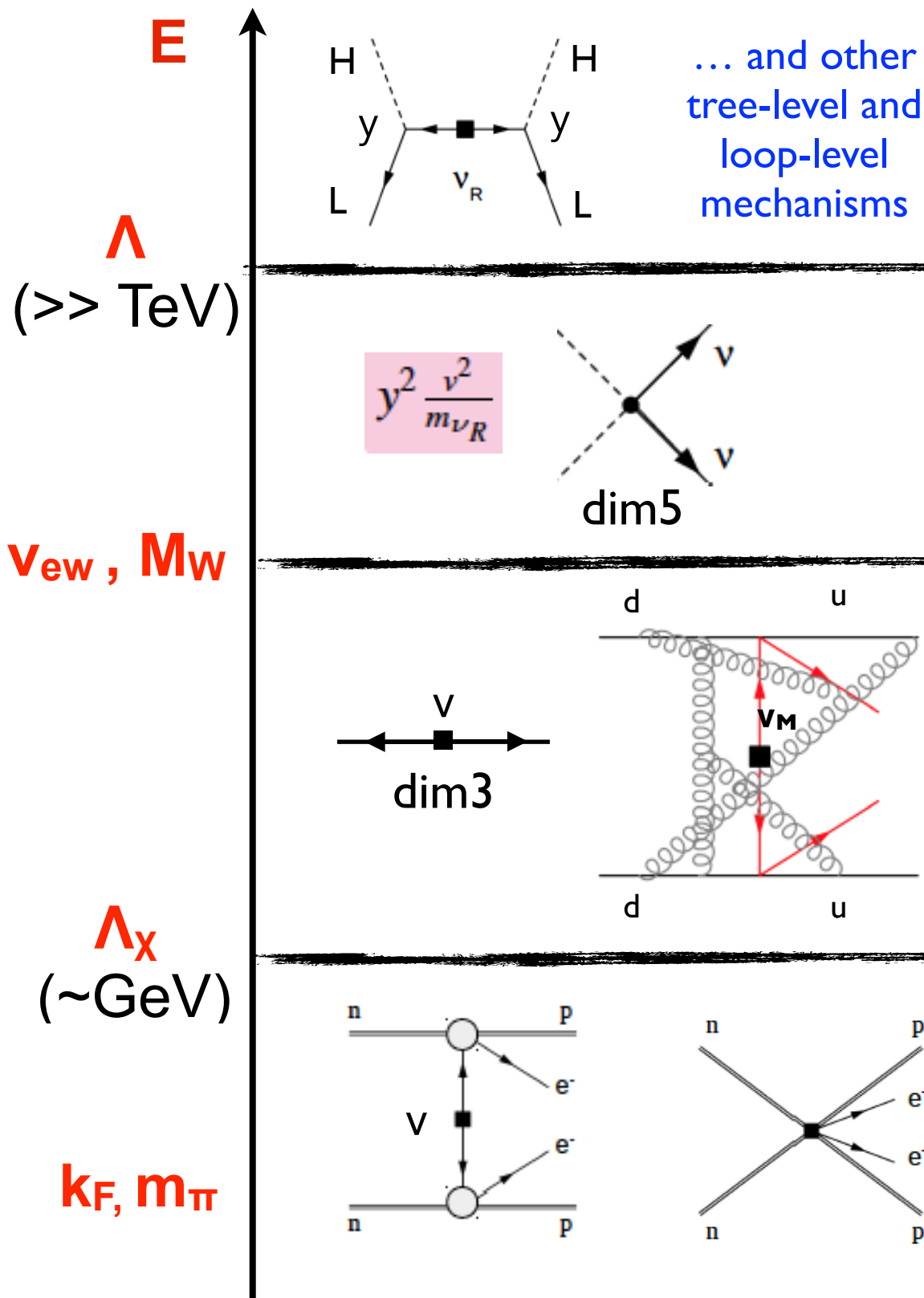
- LNV originates at very high scale ($\Lambda \gg v$) $\rightarrow$ dominant low-energy remnant is Weinberg's dim-5 operator:

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

- 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



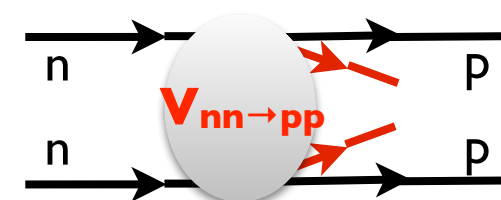
- LNV originates at very high scale ($\Lambda \gg v$) $\rightarrow$ dominant low-energy remnant is Weinberg's dim-5 operator:

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

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

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

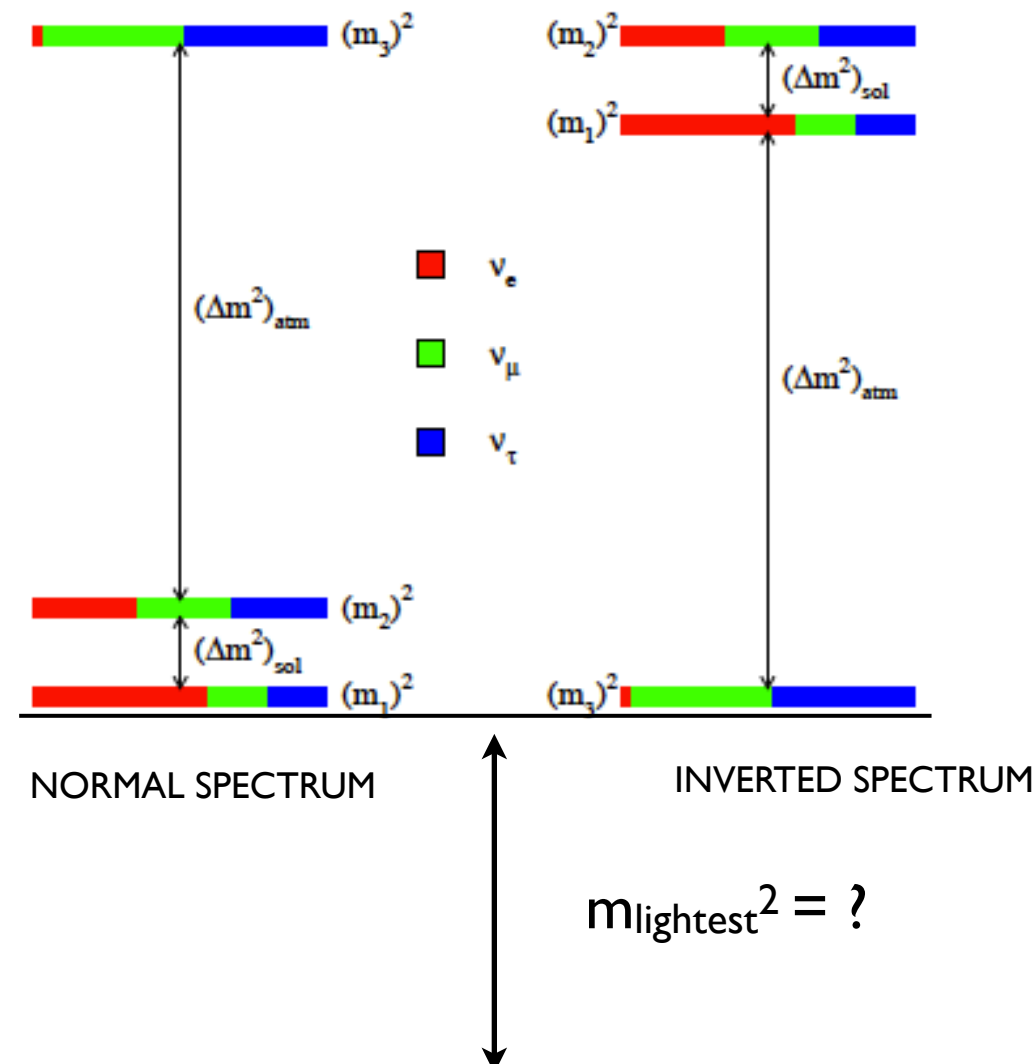
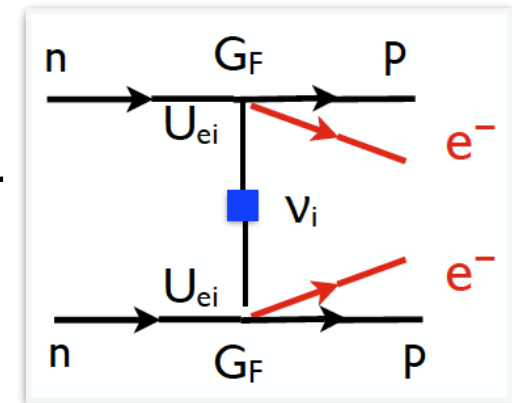
- $0\nu\beta\beta$ mediated by *active* ν_M with potential $V_{nn \rightarrow pp}$ with long- and short-range components proportional to $m_{\beta\beta}$



Discovery potential / target

- $0\nu\beta\beta$ can be predicted in terms of ν mass parameters: $\Gamma \propto |M_{0\nu}|^2 (m_{\beta\beta})^2$

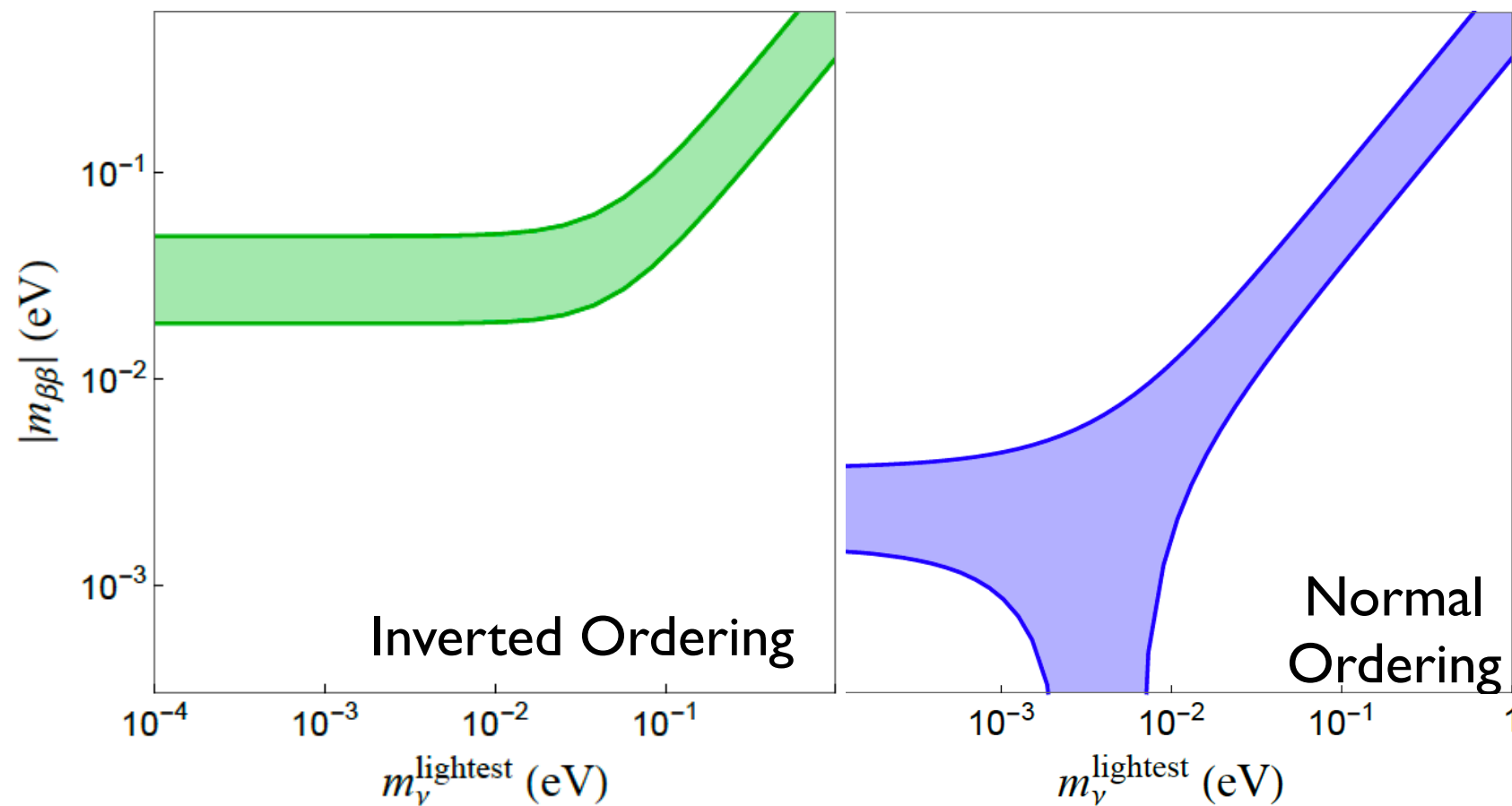
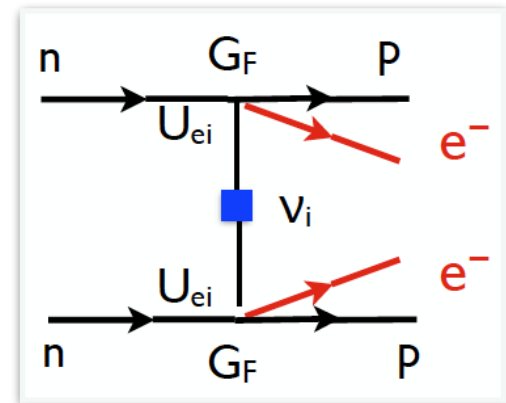
$$\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2 = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_{\nu i} \right|^2$$



Discovery potential / target

- $0\nu\beta\beta$ can be predicted in terms of ν mass parameters: $\Gamma \propto |M_{0\nu}|^2 (m_{\beta\beta})^2$

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

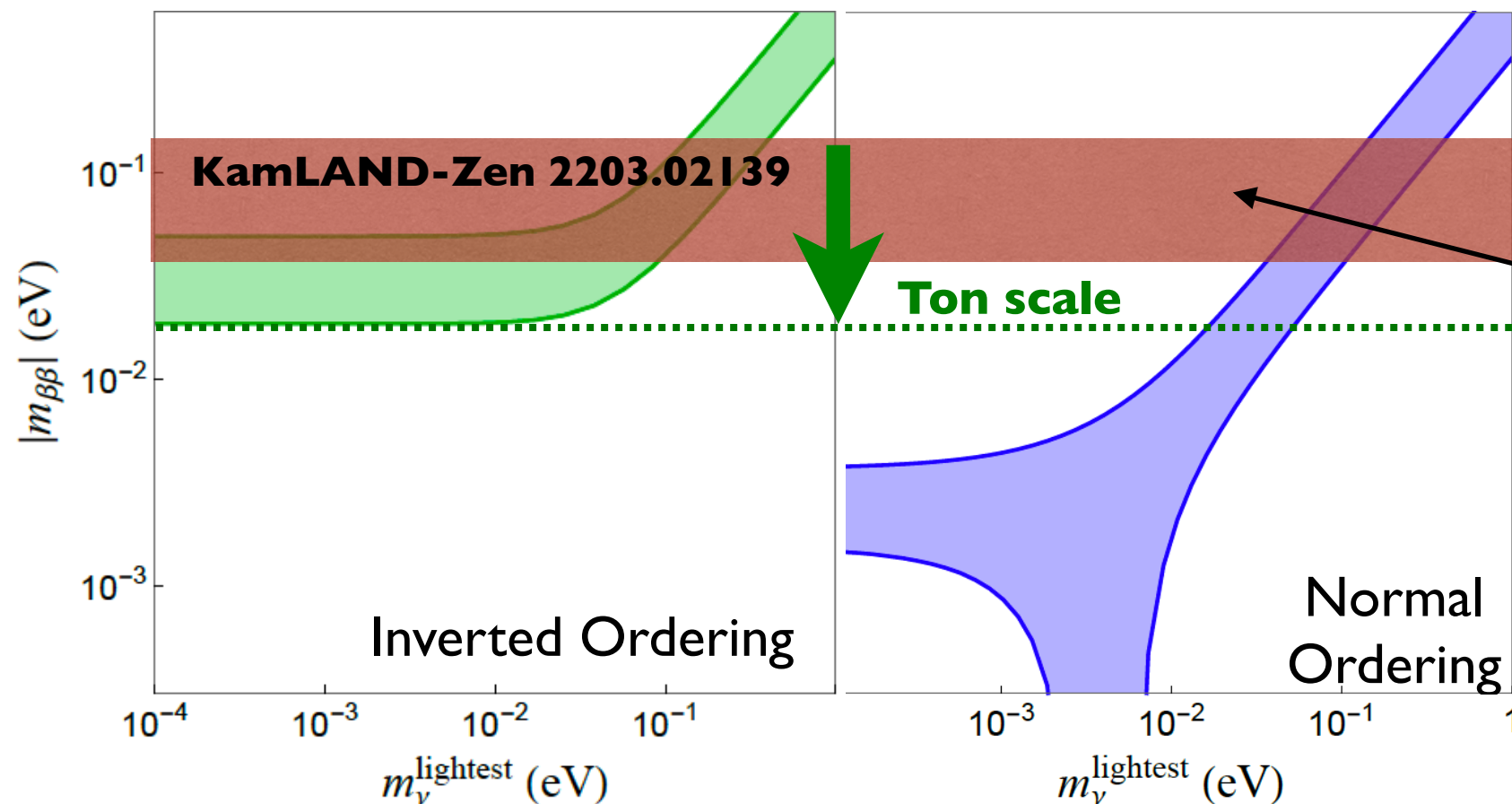
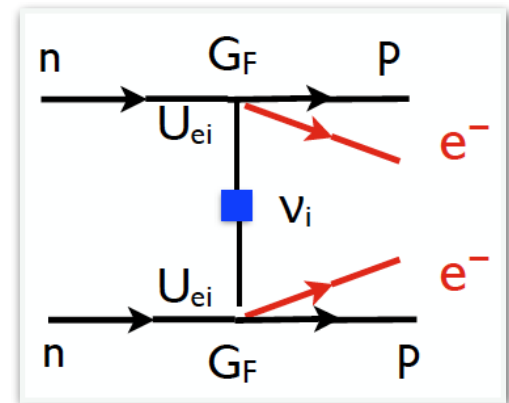


Bands: unknown
Majorana phases

Discovery potential / target

- $0\nu\beta\beta$ can be predicted in terms of ν mass parameters: $\Gamma \propto |M_{0\nu}|^2 (m_{\beta\beta})^2$

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

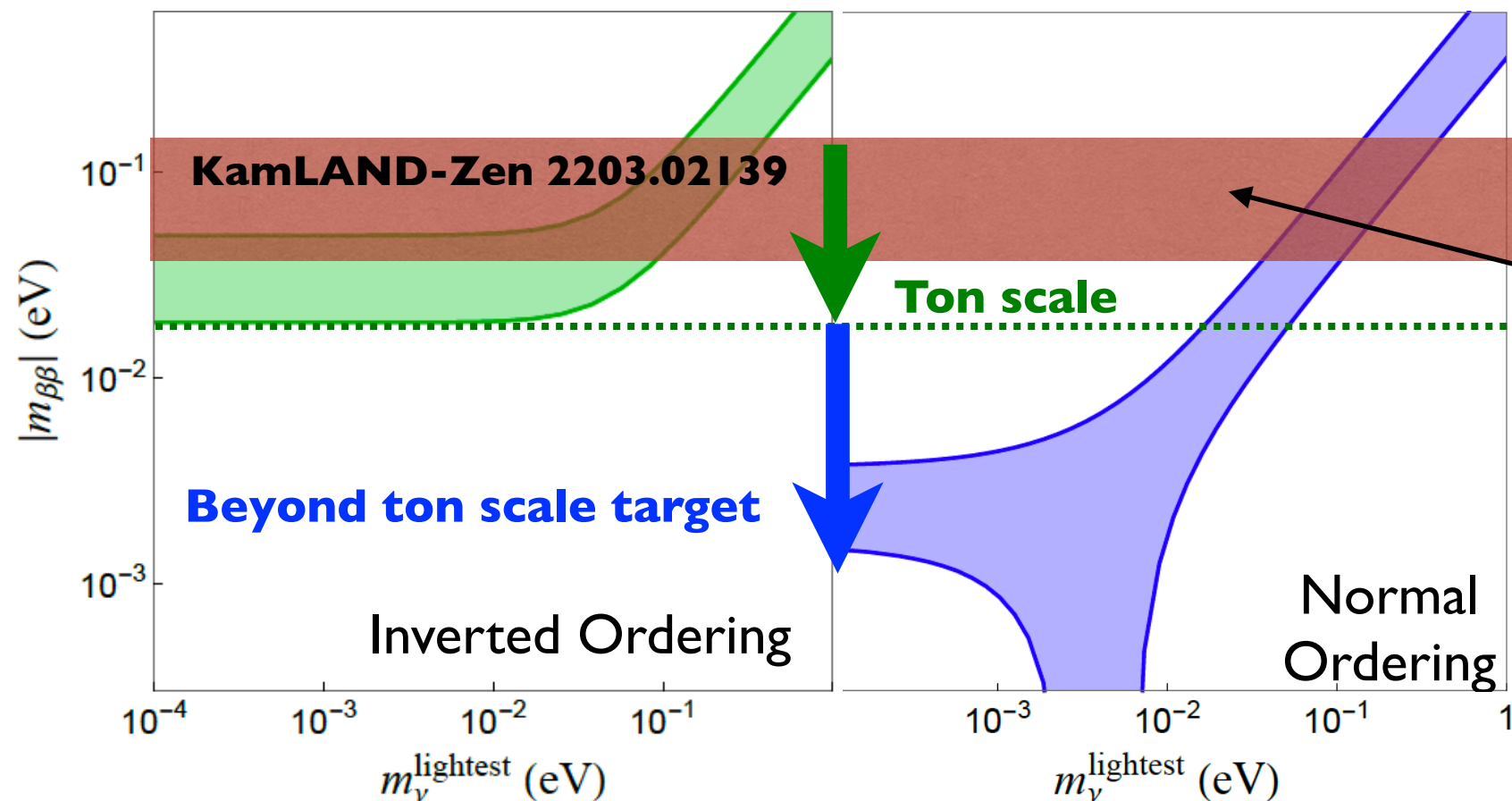
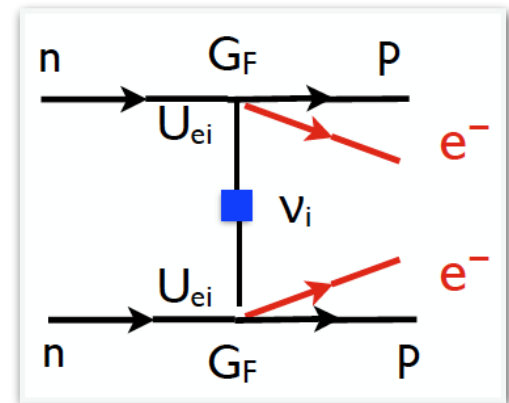


Assuming current range for matrix elements, discovery @ ton-scale possible for
inverted spectrum or **$m_{\text{lightest}} > 50 \text{ meV}$**

Discovery potential / target

- $0\nu\beta\beta$ can be predicted in terms of ν mass parameters: $\Gamma \propto |M_{0\nu}|^2 (m_{\beta\beta})^2$

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



Bands: unknown
Majorana phases

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

Diagnosing power

- High scale seesaw implies falsifiable correlation with other ν mass probes.
Future data can unravel new LNV sources or physics beyond “ Λ CDM + m_ν ”

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

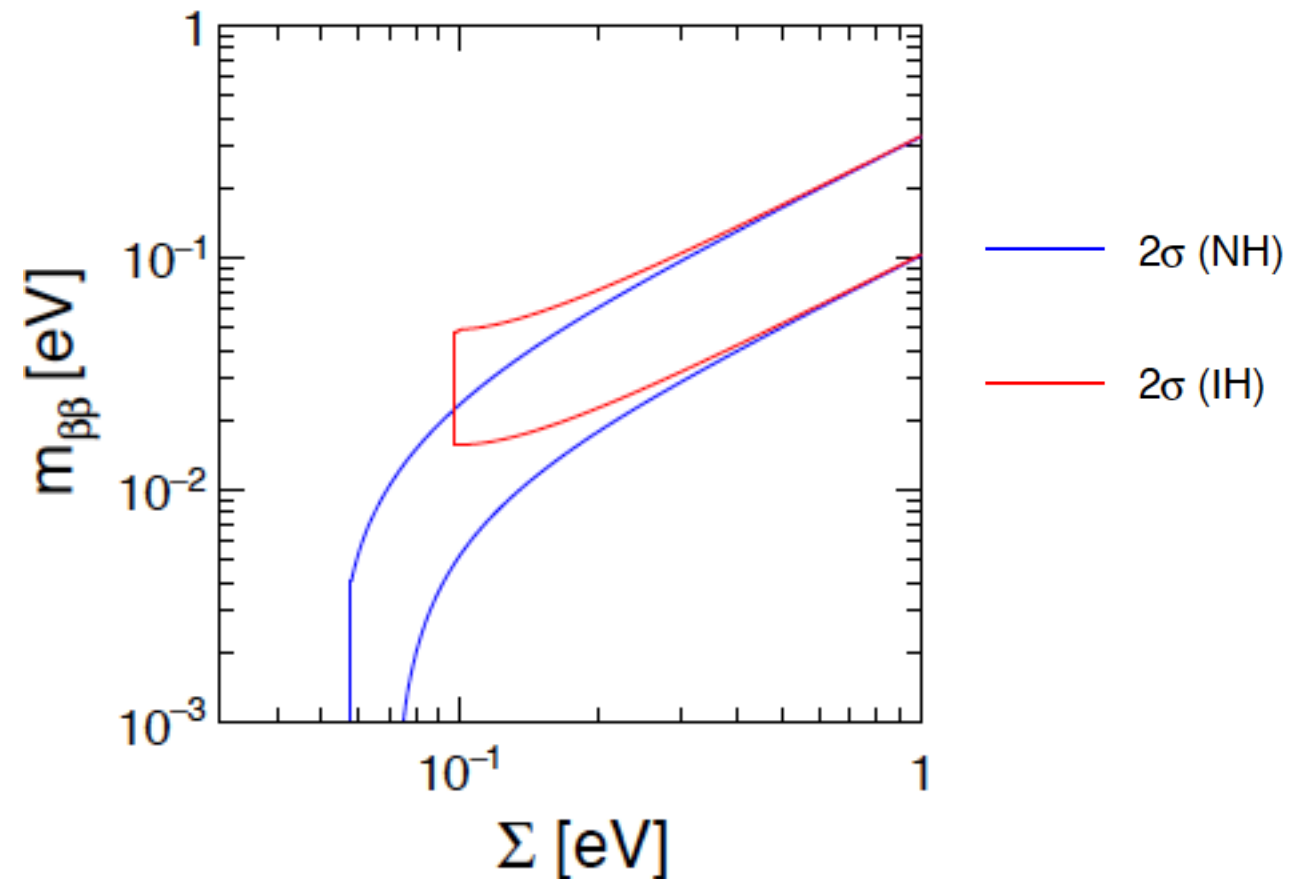
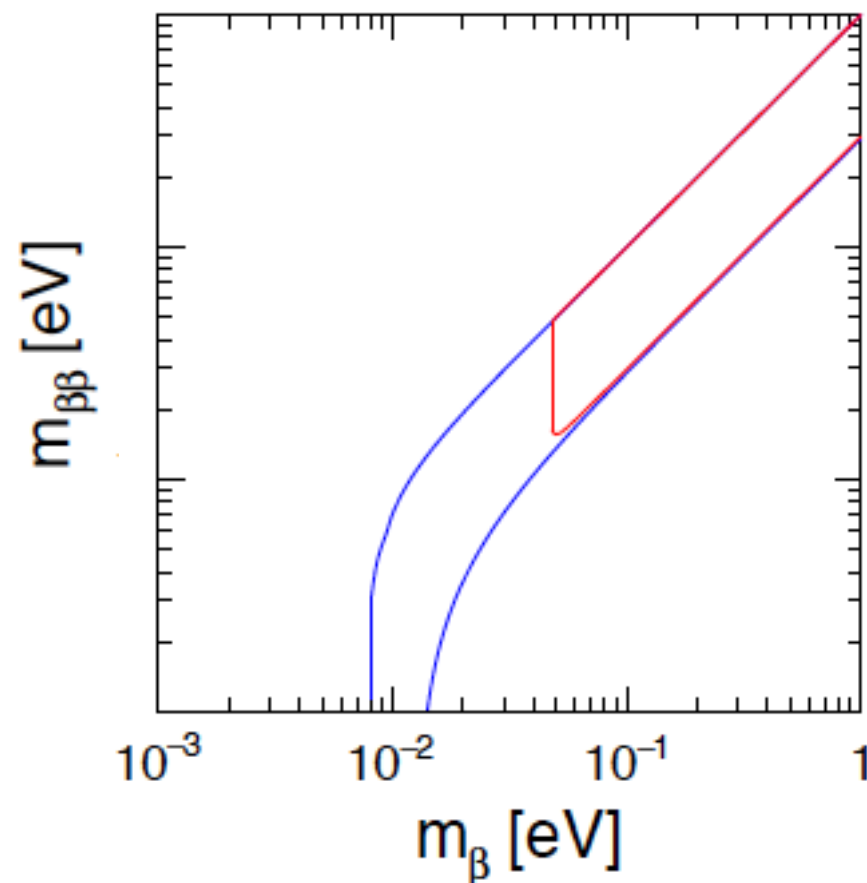
$0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

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

Tritium β decay

$$\Sigma = \sum_i m_i$$

Cosmology



Diagnosing power

- High scale seesaw implies falsifiable correlation with other ν mass probes.
Future data can unravel new LNV sources or physics beyond “ Λ CDM + m_ν ”

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

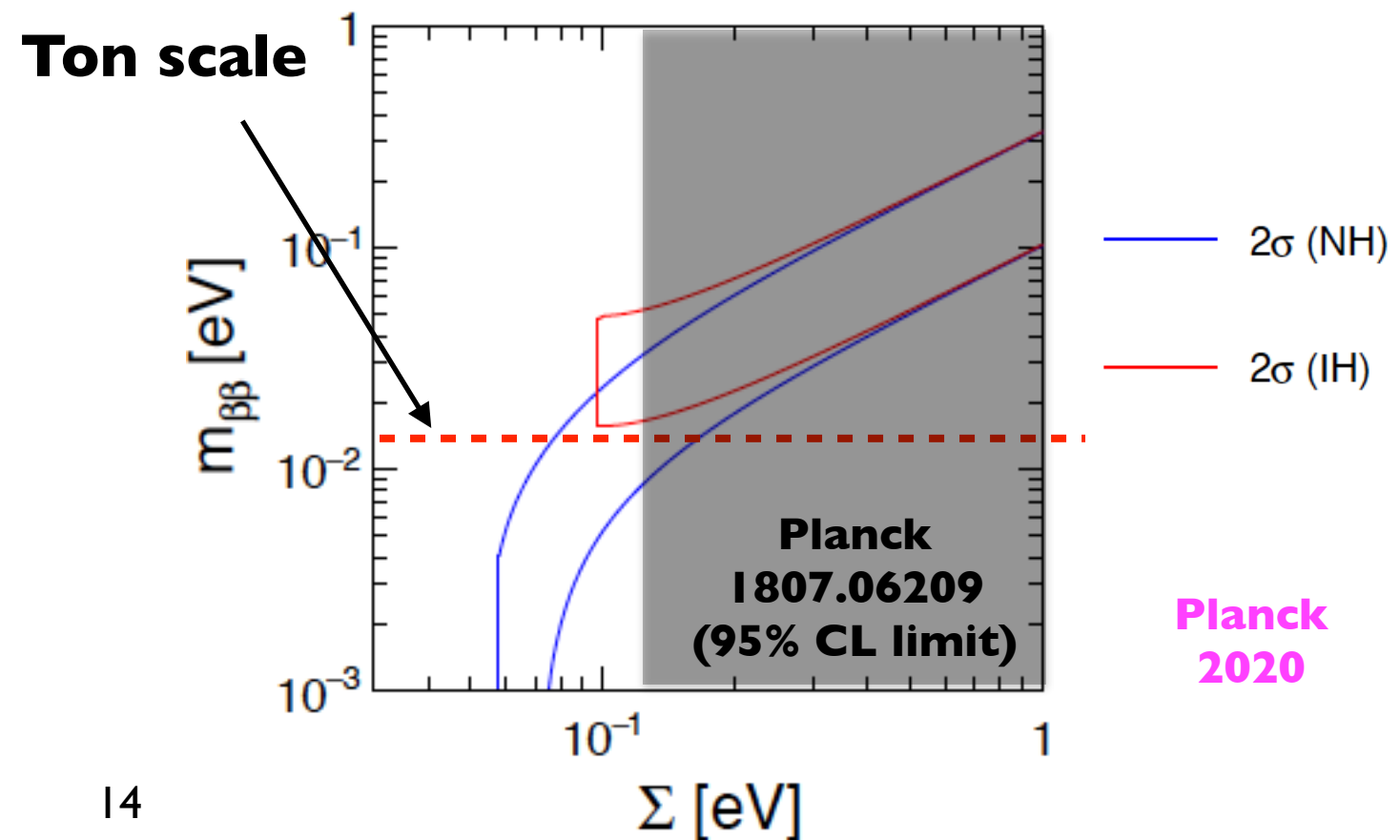
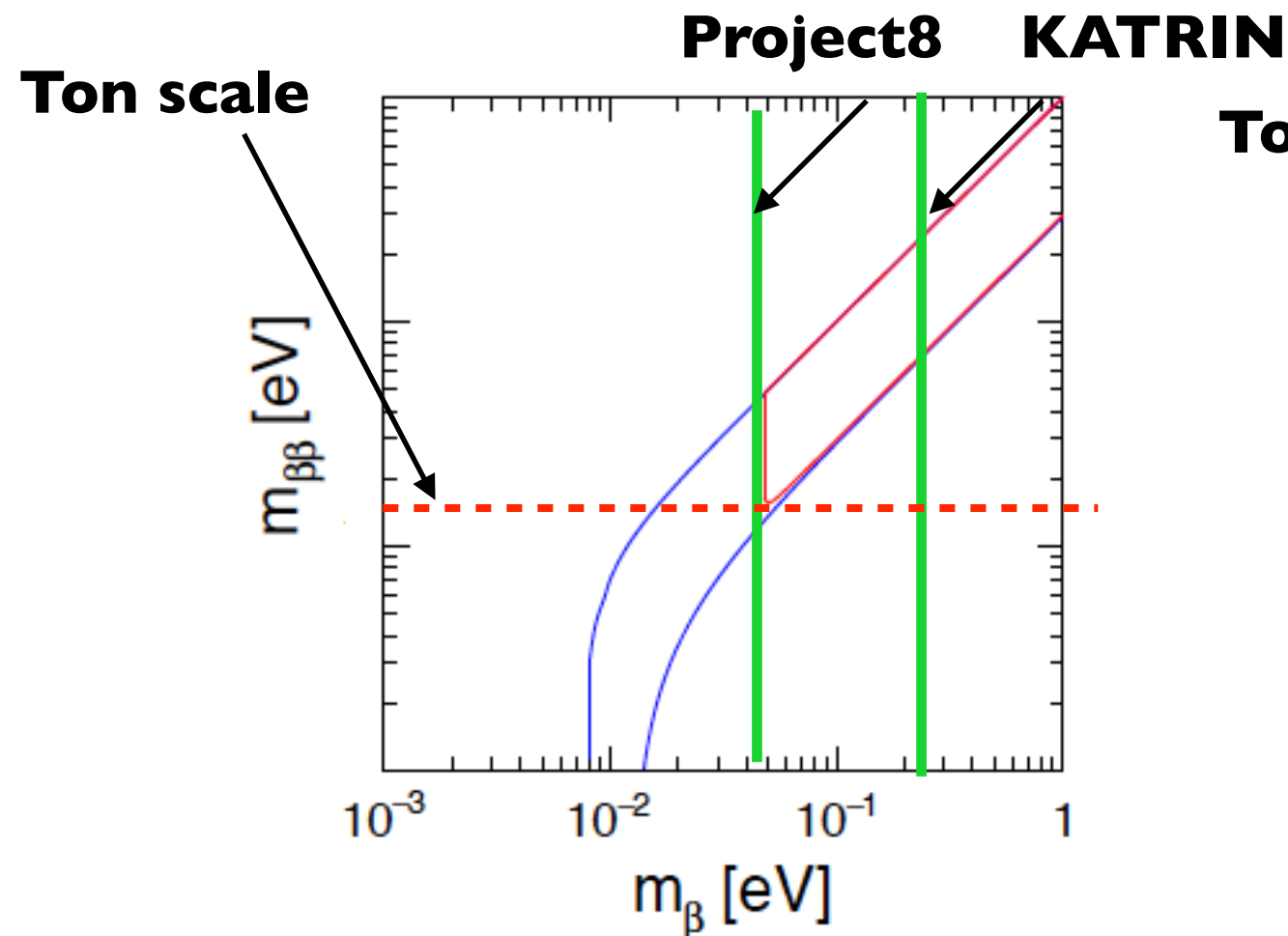
$0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

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

Tritium β decay

$$\Sigma = \sum_i m_i$$

Cosmology



Diagnosing power

- High scale seesaw implies falsifiable correlation with other ν mass probes.
Future data can unravel new LNV sources or physics beyond “ Λ CDM + m_ν ”

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

$0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

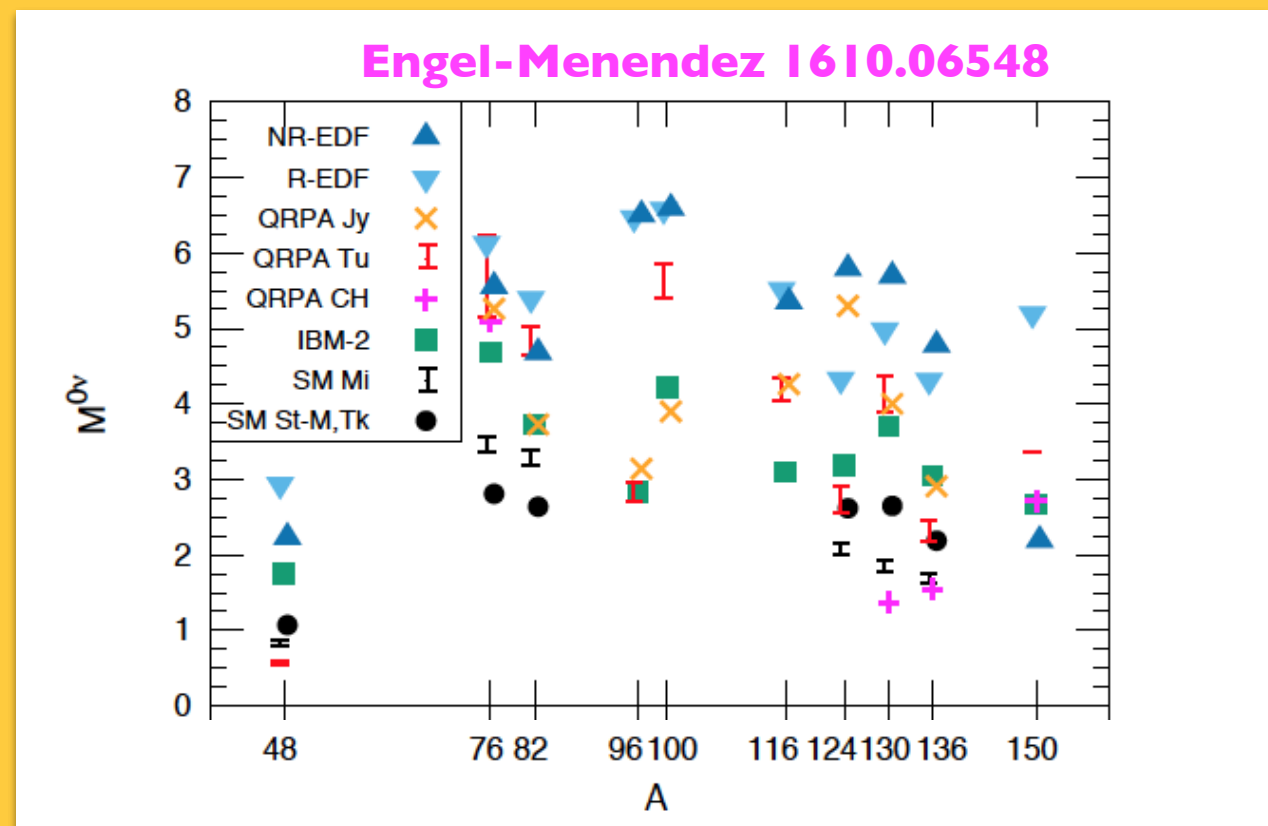
$$m_\beta = \sqrt{\sum_i |U_{ei}|^2 m_i^2}$$

Tritium β decay

$$\Sigma = \sum_i m_i$$

Cosmology

But these important *quantitative* connections require knowing nuclear matrix elements and their uncertainties!



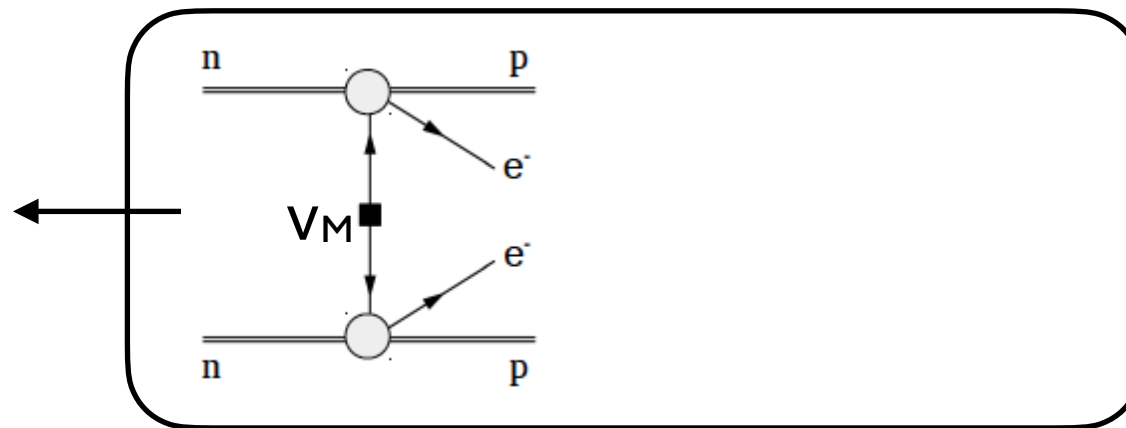
New insights from EFT

VC, W. Dekens, E. Mereghetti, A. Walker-Loud, 1710.01729

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

- Transition operator to leading order in Q/Λ_χ ($Q \sim k_F \sim m_\pi$, $\Lambda_\chi \sim \text{GeV}$)

‘Usual’ V_M exchange
 $\sim 1/k_F^2 \sim 1/Q^2$
 Coulomb-like potential



$$V_\nu^{(a,b)} = \tau^{+,a} \tau^{+,b} \frac{1}{q^2} \left(J_V^{(a)}(\mathbf{q}) J_V^{(b)}(-\mathbf{q}) + J_A^{(a)}(\mathbf{q}) J_A^{(b)}(-\mathbf{q}) \right)$$

$$J_V \sim 1$$

$$J_A \sim g_A \sigma$$

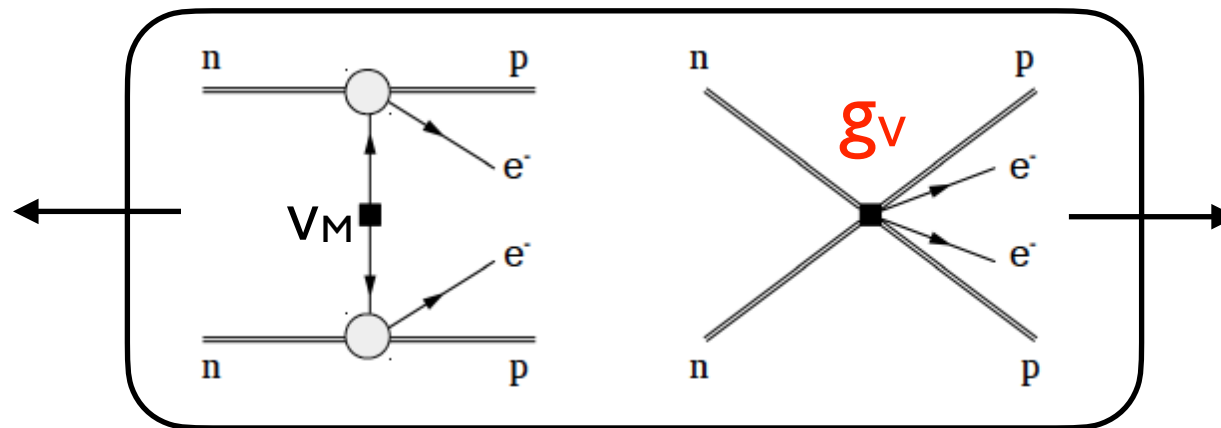
New insights from EFT

VC, W. Dekens, E. Mereghetti, A. Walker-Loud, 1710.01729

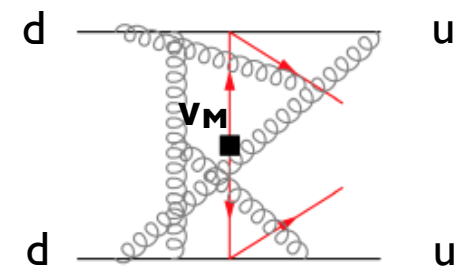
VC, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Graesser, E. Mereghetti, S. Pastore, U. van Kolck 1802.10097

- Transition operator to leading order in Q/Λ_χ ($Q \sim k_F \sim m_\pi$, $\Lambda_\chi \sim \text{GeV}$)

‘Usual’ V_M exchange
 $\sim 1/k_F^2 \sim 1/Q^2$
 Coulomb-like potential



‘New’: short-range
 coupling $g_v \sim 1/Q^2$



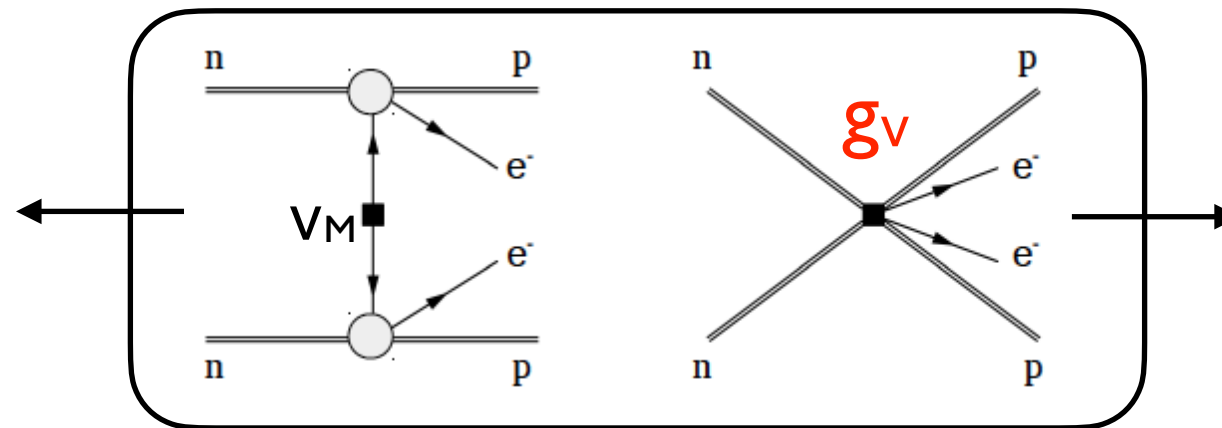
New insights from EFT

VC, W. Dekens, E. Mereghetti, A. Walker-Loud, 1710.01729

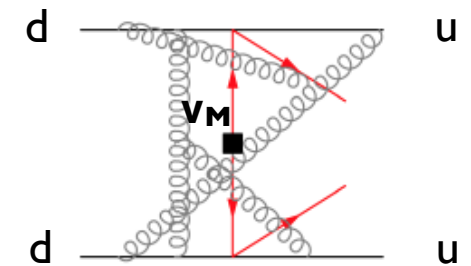
VC, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Graesser, E. Mereghetti, S. Pastore, U. van Kolck 1802.10097

- Transition operator to leading order in Q/Λ_χ ($Q \sim k_F \sim m_\pi$, $\Lambda_\chi \sim \text{GeV}$)

‘Usual’ V_M exchange
 $\sim 1/k_F^2 \sim 1/Q^2$
 Coulomb-like potential



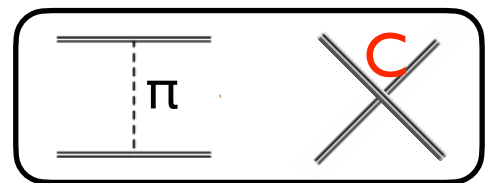
‘New’: short-range
 coupling $g_v \sim 1/Q^2$



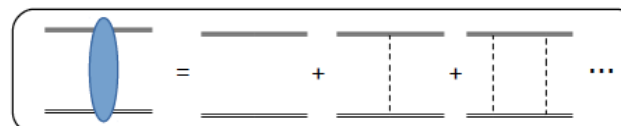
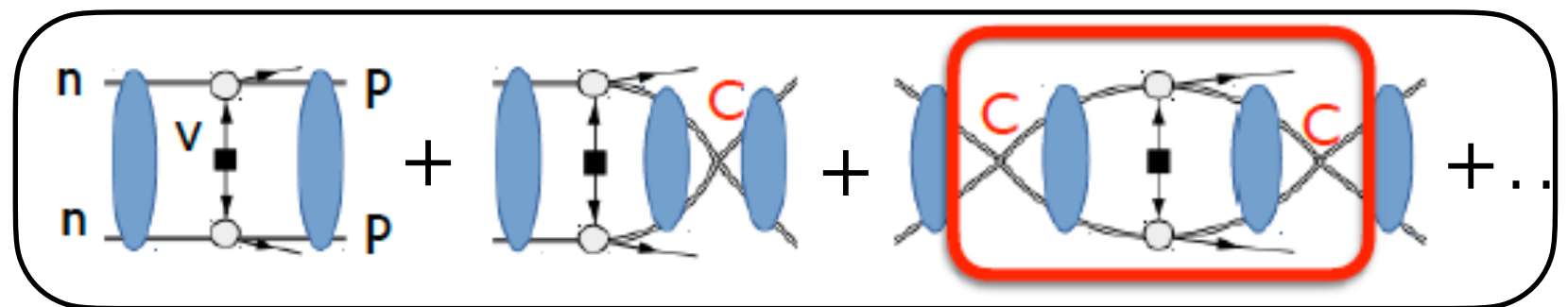
- Required by renormalization of $nn \rightarrow pp$ amplitude in presence of strong interactions

UV divergence $\propto (m_N C/4\pi)^2 \sim 1/Q^2$

LO strong potential

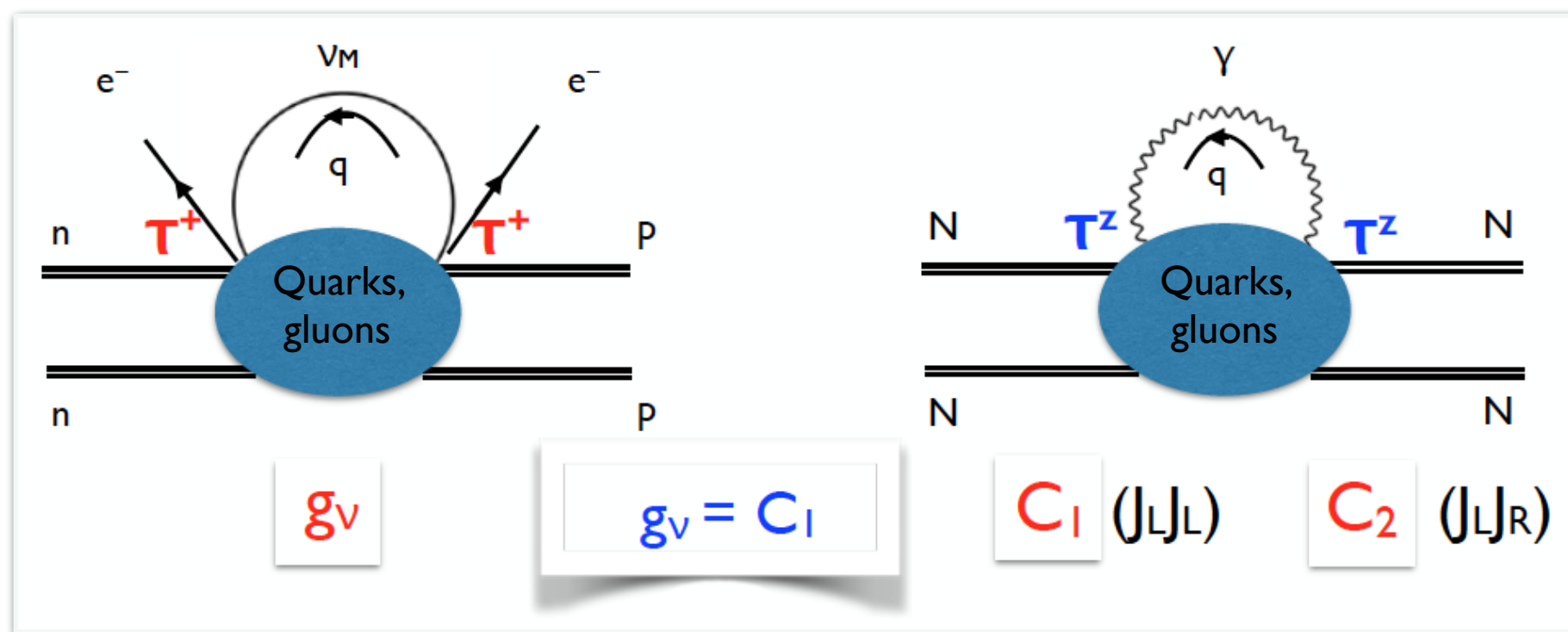


$C \sim 4\pi/(m_N Q)$



Connection with data?

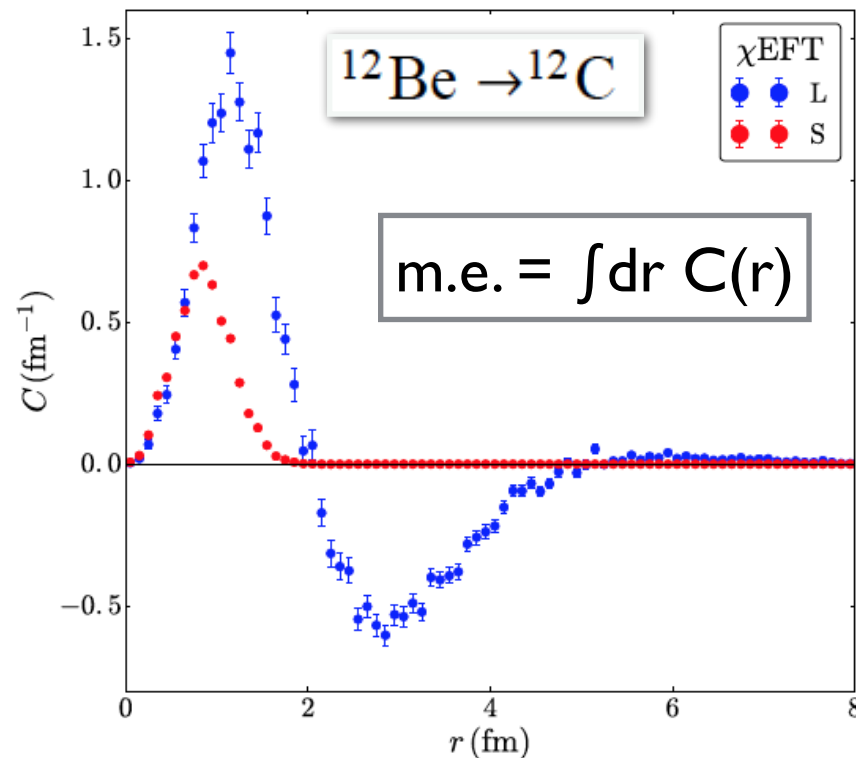
- Isospin symmetry relates g_v to one of two $I=2$ e.m. couplings (hard γ 's & ν 's)



- NN data ($a_{nn} + a_{pp} - 2a_{np}$) determine $C_1 + C_2$, confirming LO scaling!

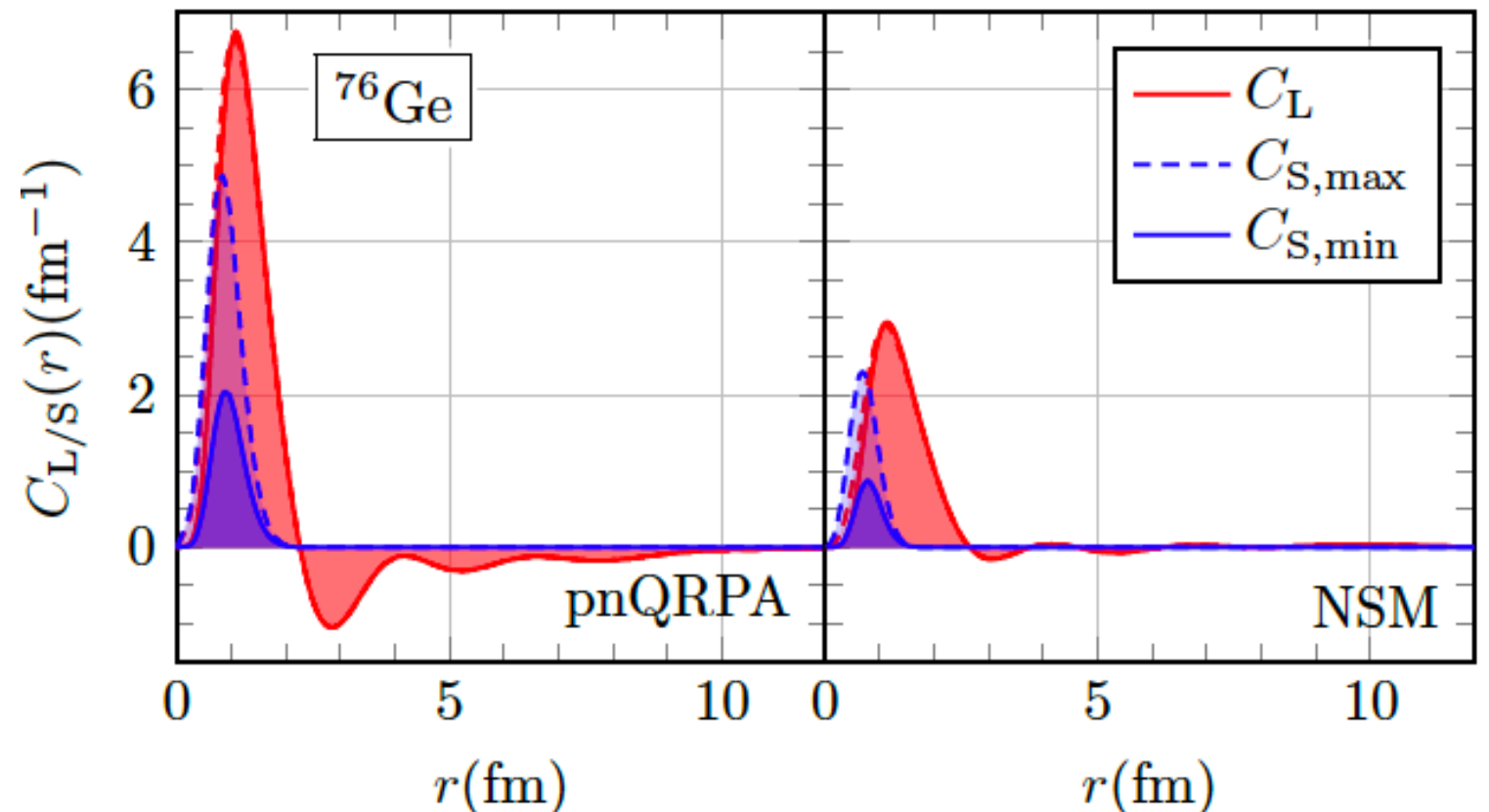
Impact on nuclear matrix elements

- Assuming $g_v \sim (C_1 + C_2)/2 \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(1)$ impact on m.e. and $m_{\beta\beta}$ extraction



70% effect in ^{12}Be transition, using Variational Monte Carlo methods + Norfolk chiral potential [1606.06335]

VC, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Graesser, E. Mereghetti, S. Pastore, M. Piarulli, U. van Kolck, R. Wiringa, 1907.11254

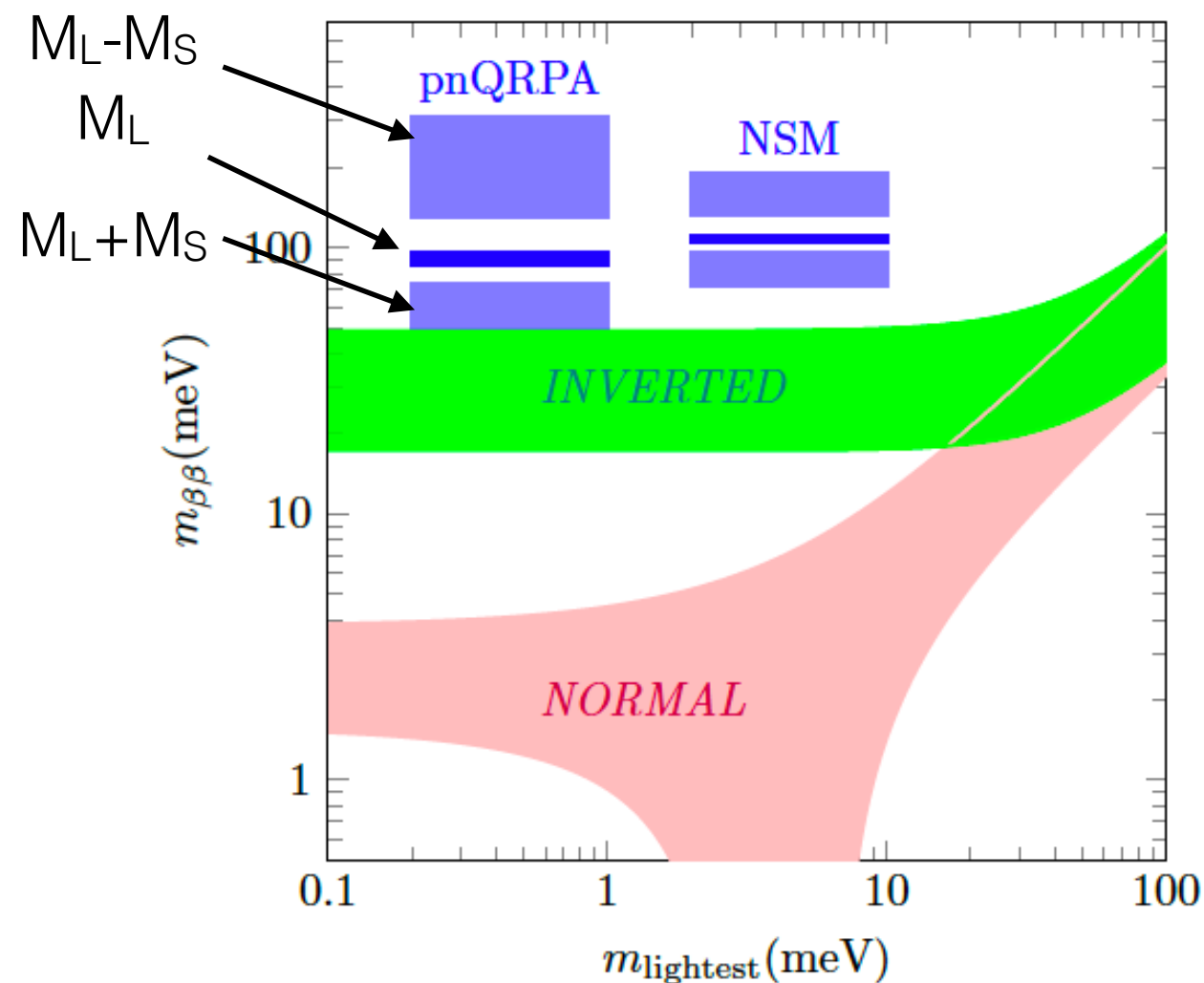


30-70% effect in QRPA and 15-45% in NSM. Similar or larger in other isotopes

Jokiniemi-Soriano-Menendez, 2107.13354

Impact on nuclear matrix elements

- Assuming $g_v \sim (C_1 + C_2)/2 \rightarrow O(1)$ impact on m.e. and $m_{\beta\beta}$ extraction



Key question:
is the interference
constructive or
destructive?

Jokiniemi-Soriano-Menendez, 2107.13354

Towards determining g_V

- Large- N_c arguments point to $g_V \sim (C_1 + C_2)/2$

Richardson, Shindler, Pastore, Springer, 2102.02814

- Lattice QCD

- $\pi^- \rightarrow \pi^+ e^- e^-$ precisely known
- Formalism for NN developed

Tuo et al. 1909.13525;
Detmold, Murphy 2004.07404

Davoudi, Kadam, 2012.02083

- Analytic approach inspired by Cottingham formula for $\delta m_{p,n}$ (EM)

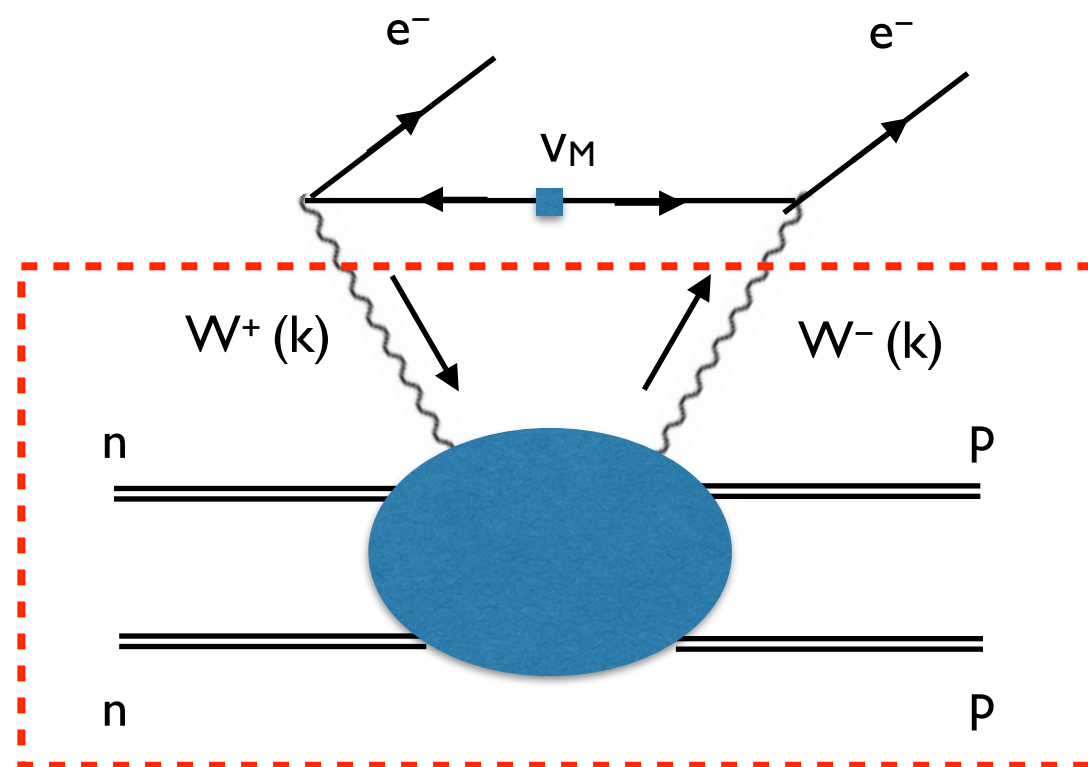
VC, Dekens, deVries, Hoferichter, Mereghetti, 2012.11602, 2102.03371

Estimating the contact term (I)

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

- Useful representation of the amplitude

$$\mathcal{A}_\nu \propto \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{g_{\alpha\beta}}{k^2 + i\epsilon} \int d^4 x e^{ik \cdot x} \langle pp | T \{ j_W^\alpha(x) j_W^\beta(0) \} | nn \rangle$$



Forward “Compton” amplitude

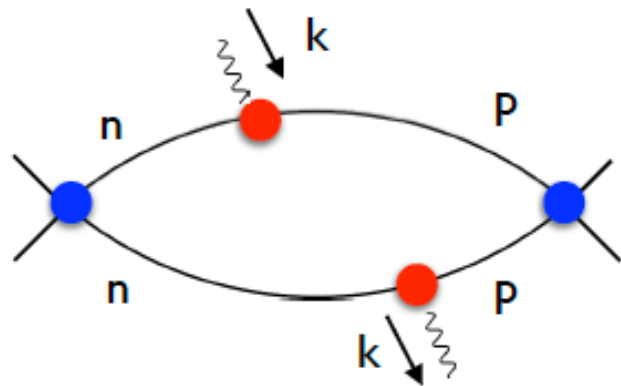
Estimating the contact term (I)

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

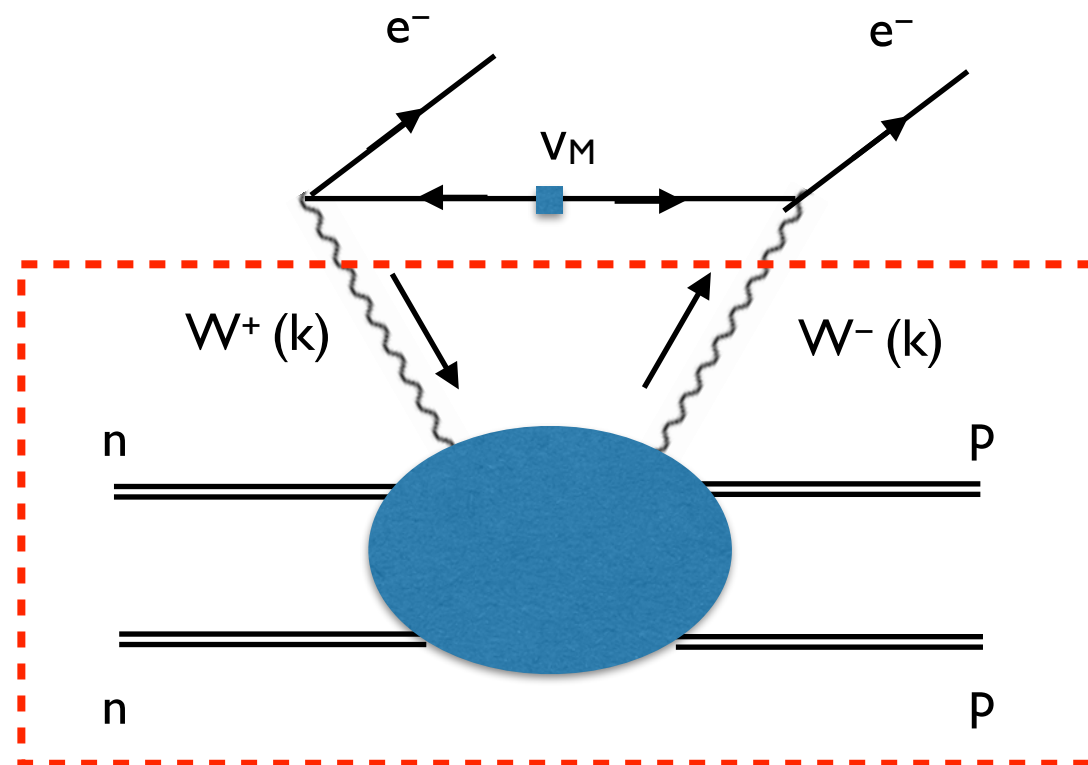
- Useful representation of the amplitude

$$\mathcal{A}_\nu \propto \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{g_{\alpha\beta}}{k^2 + i\epsilon} \int d^4 x e^{ik \cdot x} \langle pp | T \{ j_W^\alpha(x) j_W^\beta(0) \} | nn \rangle$$

Low k: chiral EFT to NLO

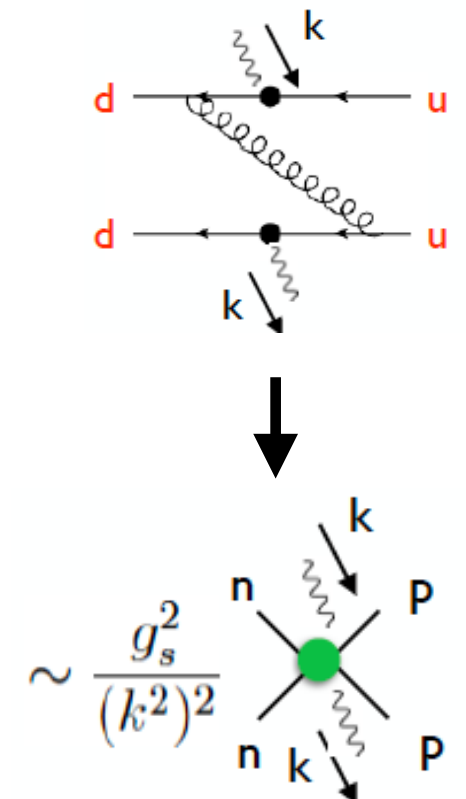


Intermediate k: resonance contributions in  and , πNN intermediate state, ...



Forward "Compton" amplitude

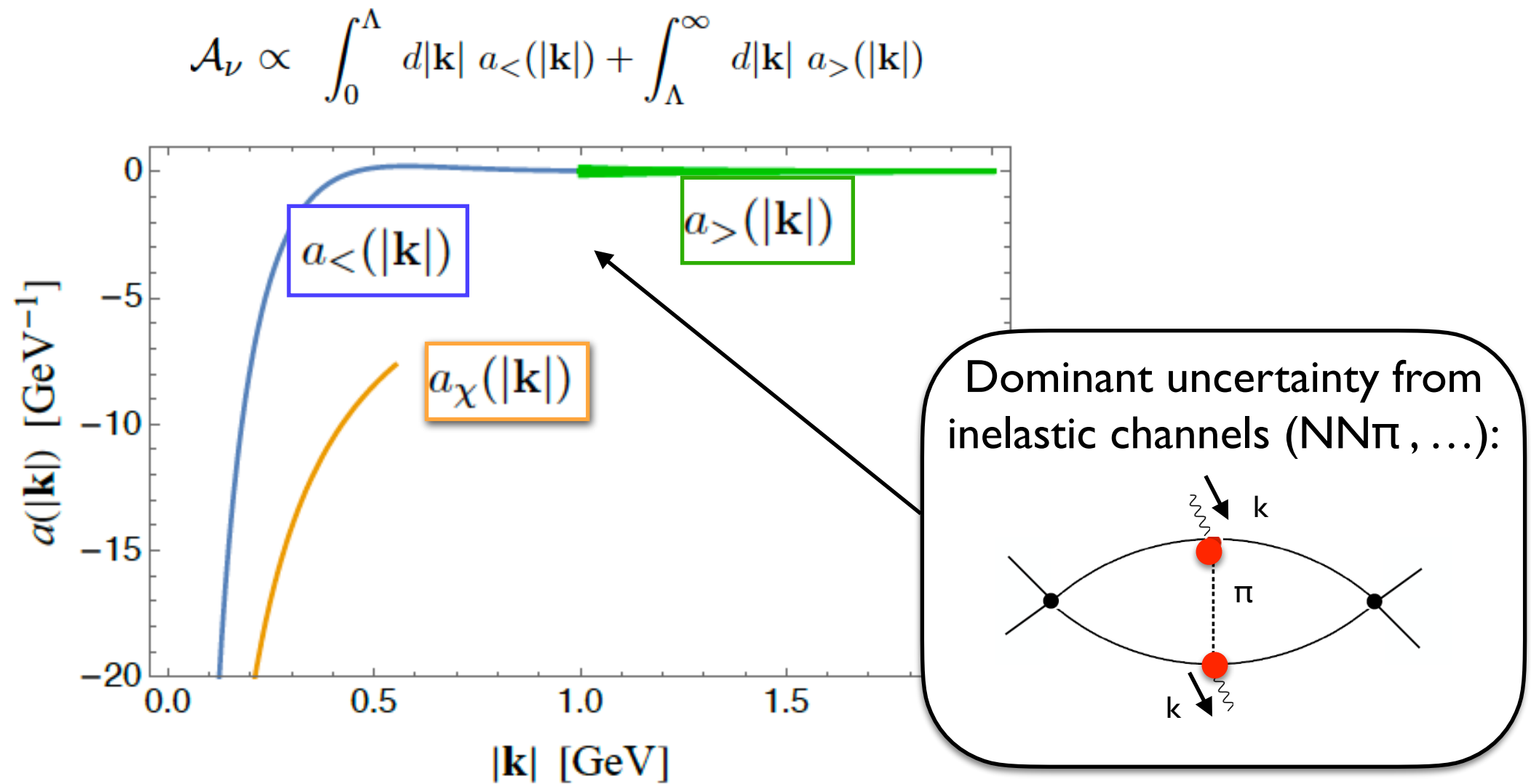
High k: QCD OPE



Estimating the contact term (2)

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

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



Estimating the contact term (2)

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

- Determine $C_{1,2}$ with $\sim 30\%$ uncertainty (dominated by intermediate k)
- Validation: $C_1 + C_2 \Rightarrow (a_{nn} + a_{pp})/2 - a_{np} = 15.5(4.5) \text{ fm}$ versus $10.4(2) \text{ fm}$ (exp)
- 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

Estimating the contact term (2)

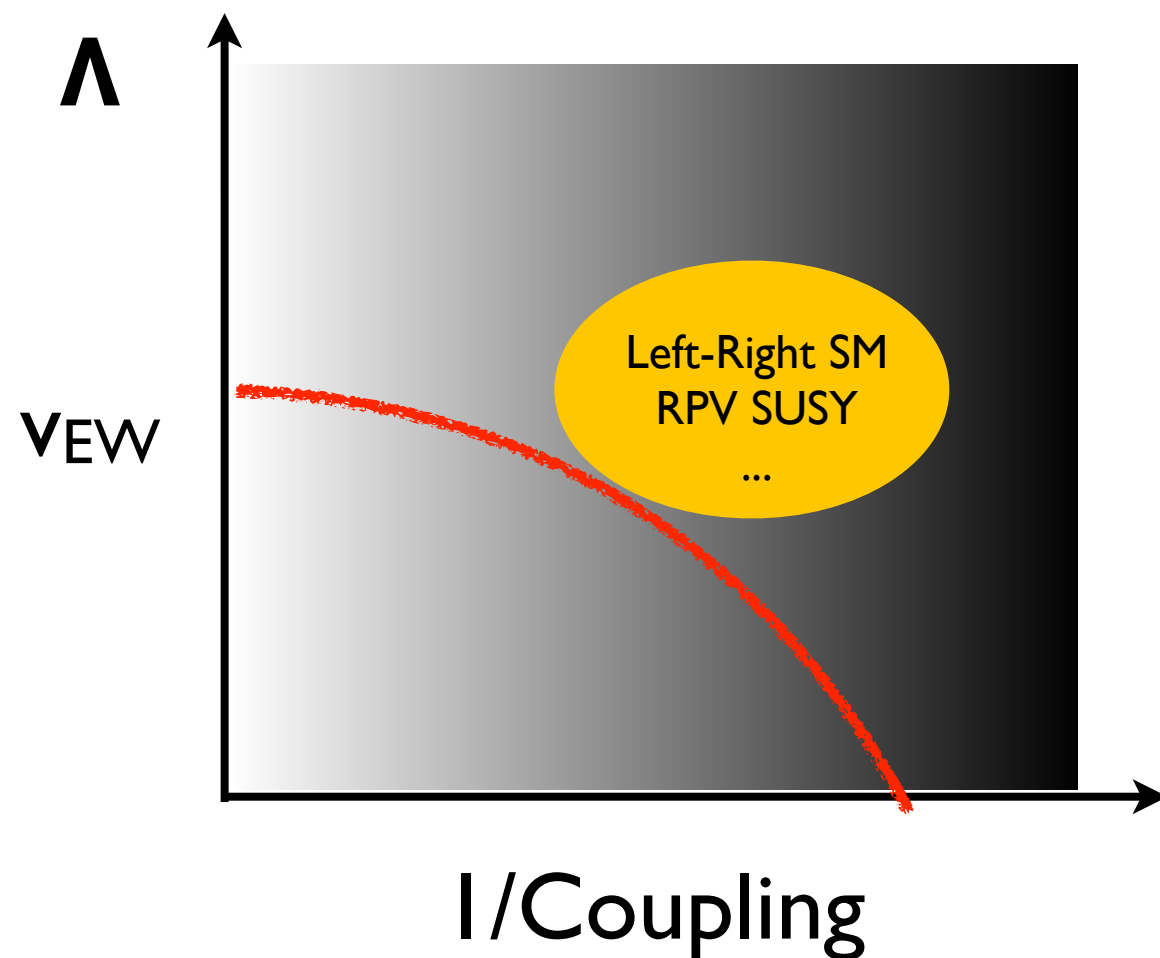
VC, Dekens, deVries, Hoferichter, Mereghetti, 2012.11602, 2102.03371

- Determine $C_{1,2}$ with $\sim 30\%$ uncertainty (dominated by intermediate k)
- Validation: $C_1 + C_2 \Rightarrow (a_{nn} + a_{pp})/2 - a_{np} = 15.5(4.5) \text{ fm}$ versus $10.4(2) \text{ fm}$ (exp)
- 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 $(43 \pm 7)\%$

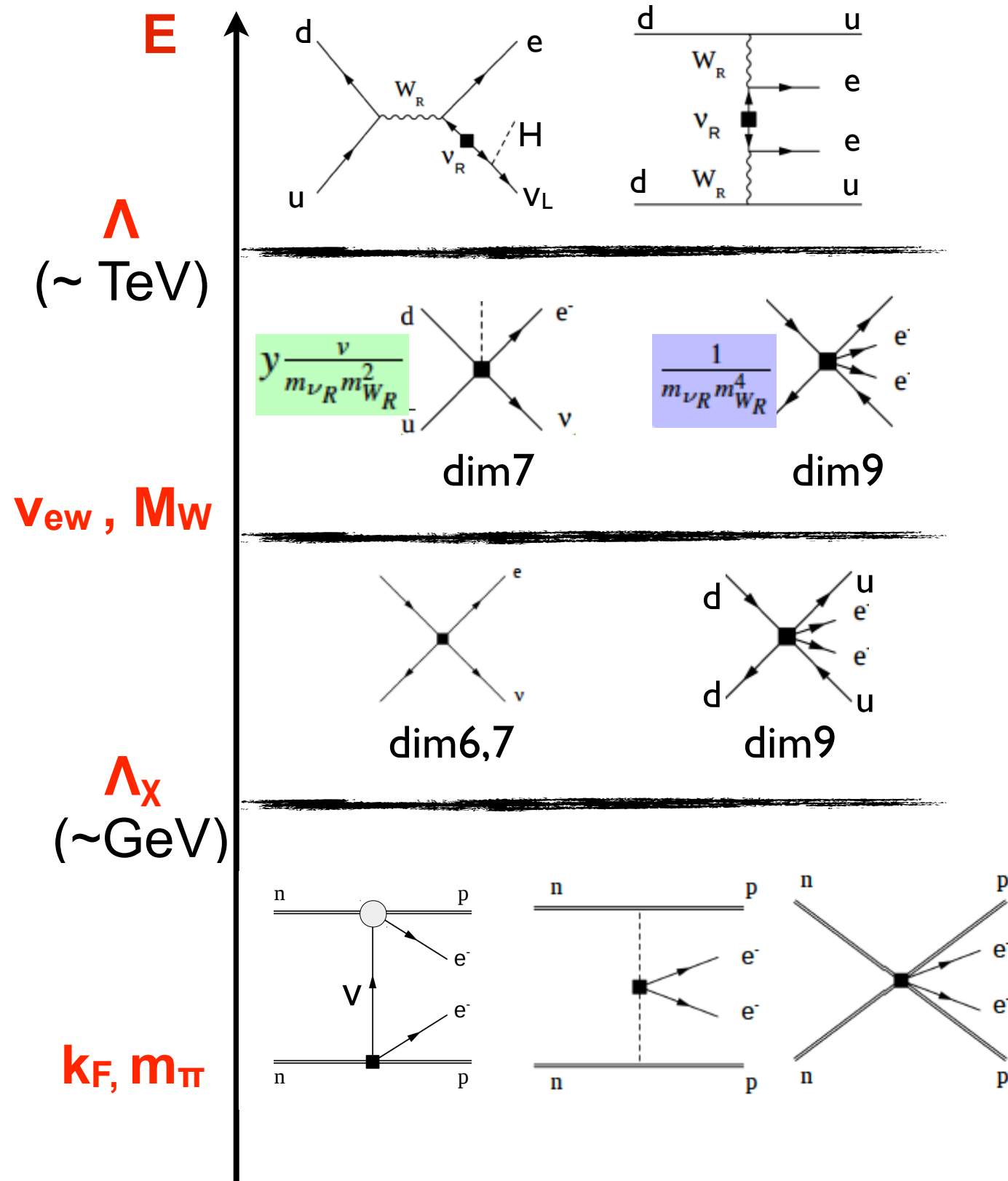
Wirth, Yao, Hergert, 2105.05415

Good news, while we wait for lattice results

$0\nu\beta\beta$ from multi-TeV scale dynamics (dim-7, 9, ... operators)



~TeV-scale LNV

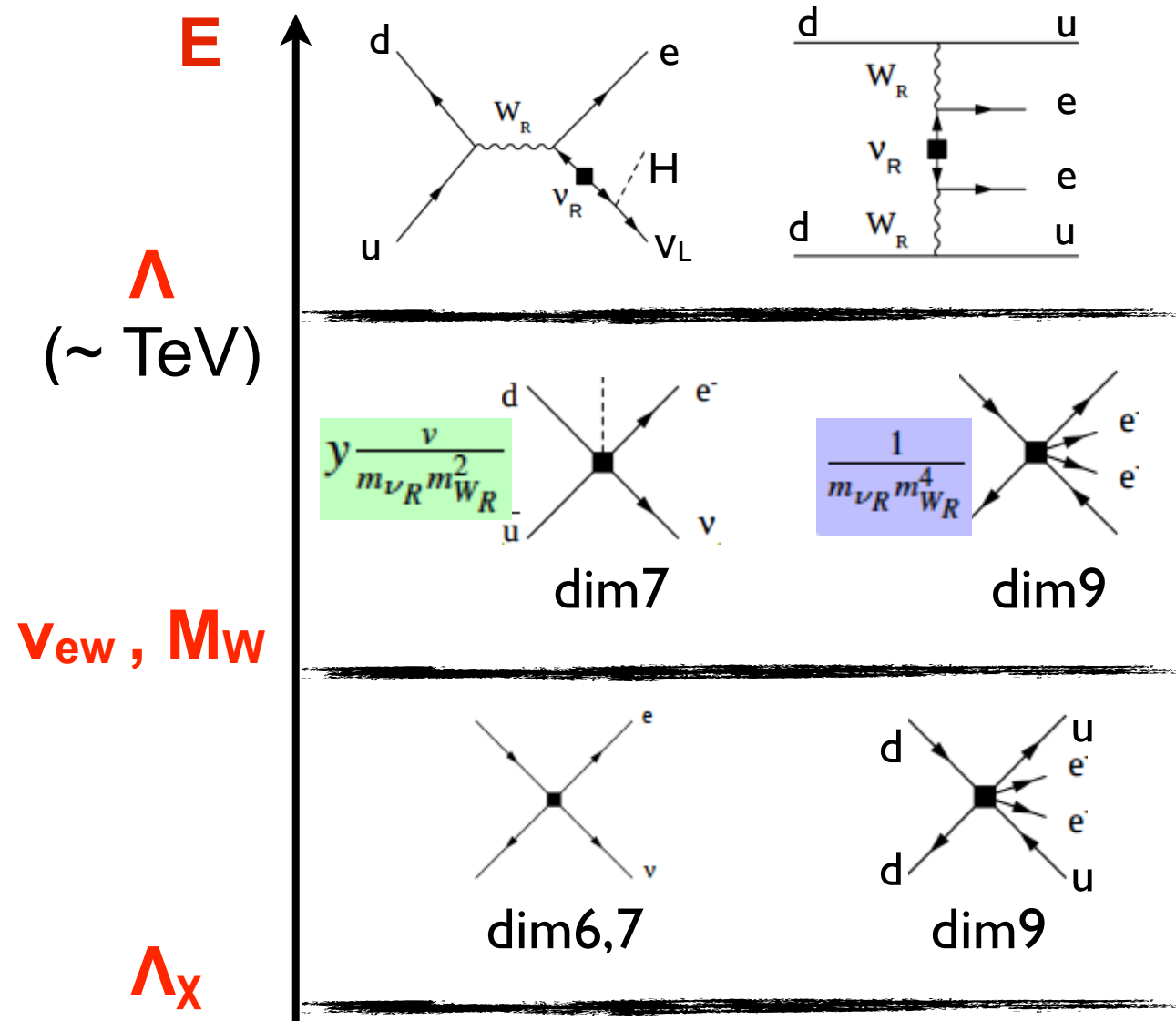


- Higher dim operators arise in well motivated models

- 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!**

~TeV-scale LNV



- Higher dim operators arise in well motivated models

- 31 operators up to dimension 9

Vast literature, with varying degree of enthusiasm for EFT tools (SM-EFT, chiral EFT)

Some reviews:

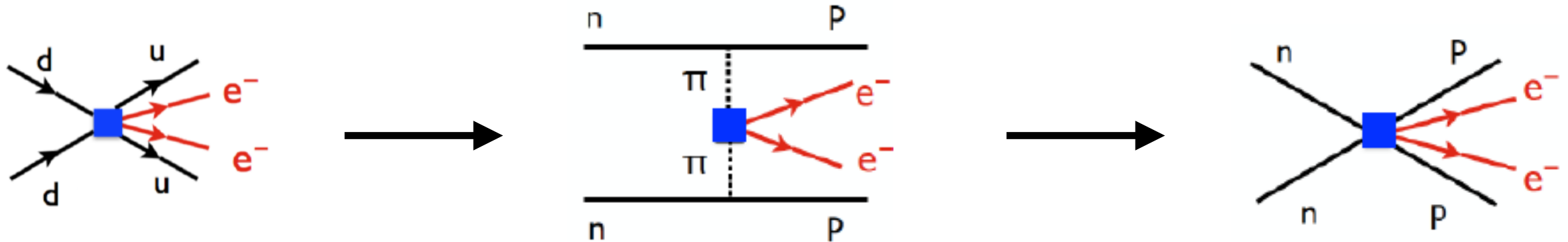
Rodejohann 1106.1334,
Vergados-Eijiri-Simkovic 1205.0649
Deppisch-Hirsch-Pas 1208.0727
deGouvea-Vogel 1303.4097
...

Some recent papers:

VC-Dekens-deVries-Graesser-Mereghetti, 1806.02780
Neacsu-Horoi 1801.04496.
Graf-Deppisch-Iachello-Kotila, 1806.06058
Graf, Lindner, Scholer 2204.10845
...

Hadronic theory developments

- Leading order hadronic realization of dim-9 operators:



In Weinberg's counting,
pion-exchange contribution
dominates

Prezeau, Ramsey-Musolf, Vogel
hep-ph/0303205

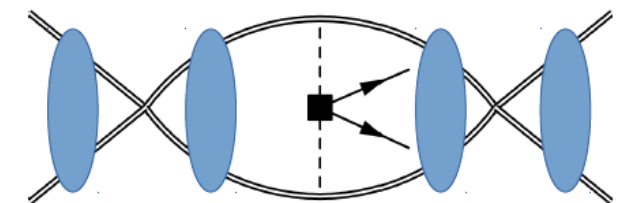
Vergados 1982,

Faessler, Kovalenko, Simkovic, Schweiger 1996

$\pi\pi$ matrix element known
from Lattice QCD at <10%

Nicholson et al (CalLat),
1805.02634

Renormalization requires a
contact at the same order!



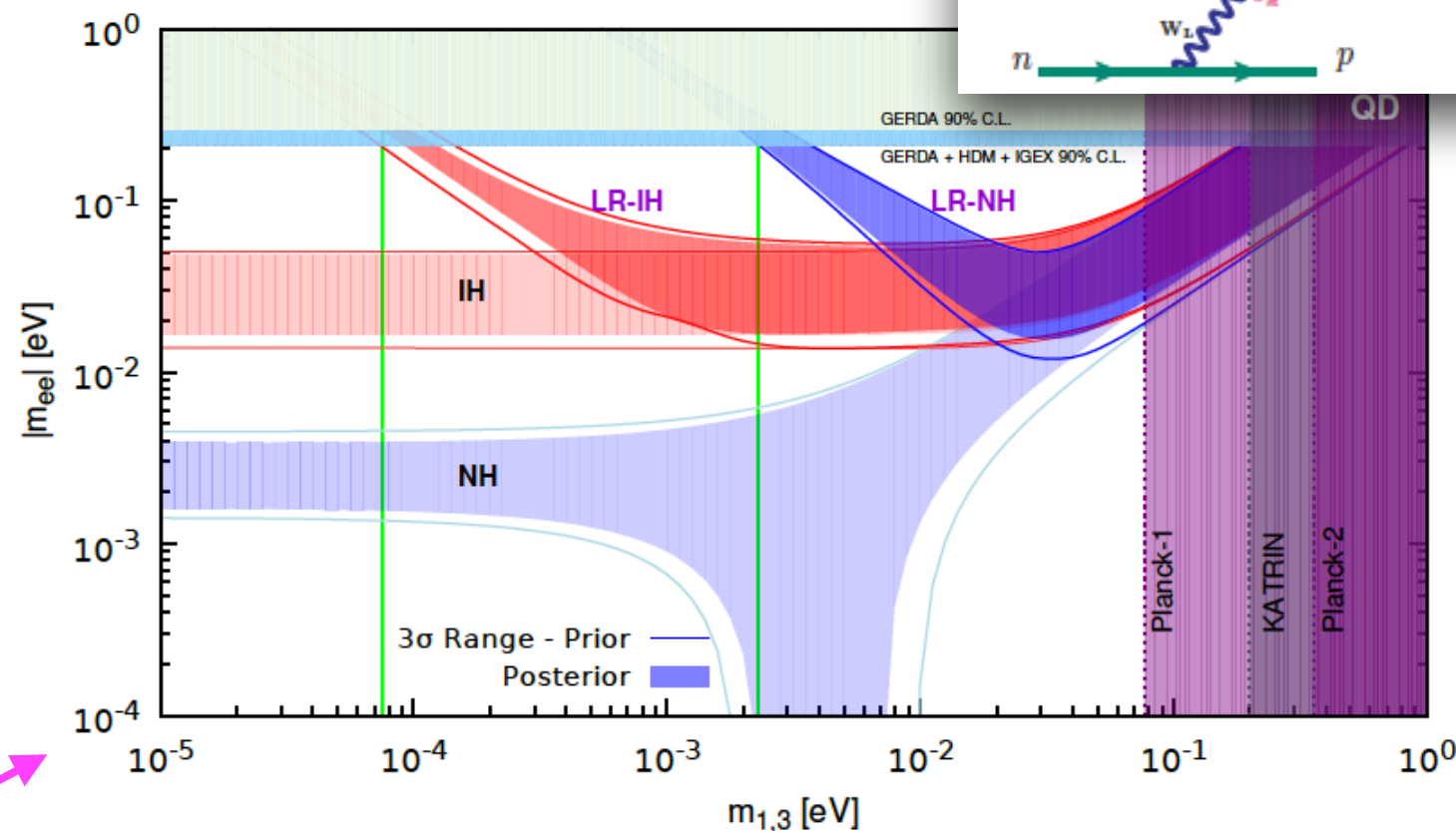
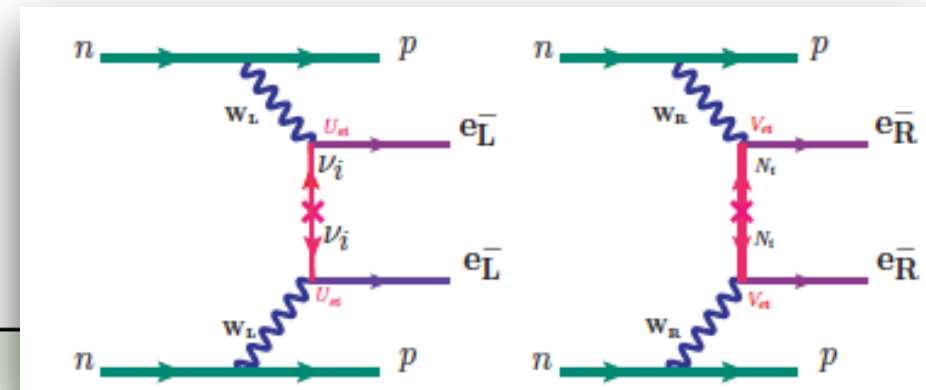
VC, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Graesser,
E. Mereghetti [1806.02780]

- Several unknown LO NN contact couplings! Opportunity for LQCD

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



$$M_i \propto m_i$$

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

$$M_i = \frac{m_4}{m_3} M_3, \text{ for NH}$$

$$M_i = \frac{m_4}{m_2} M_2, \text{ for IH.}$$

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

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

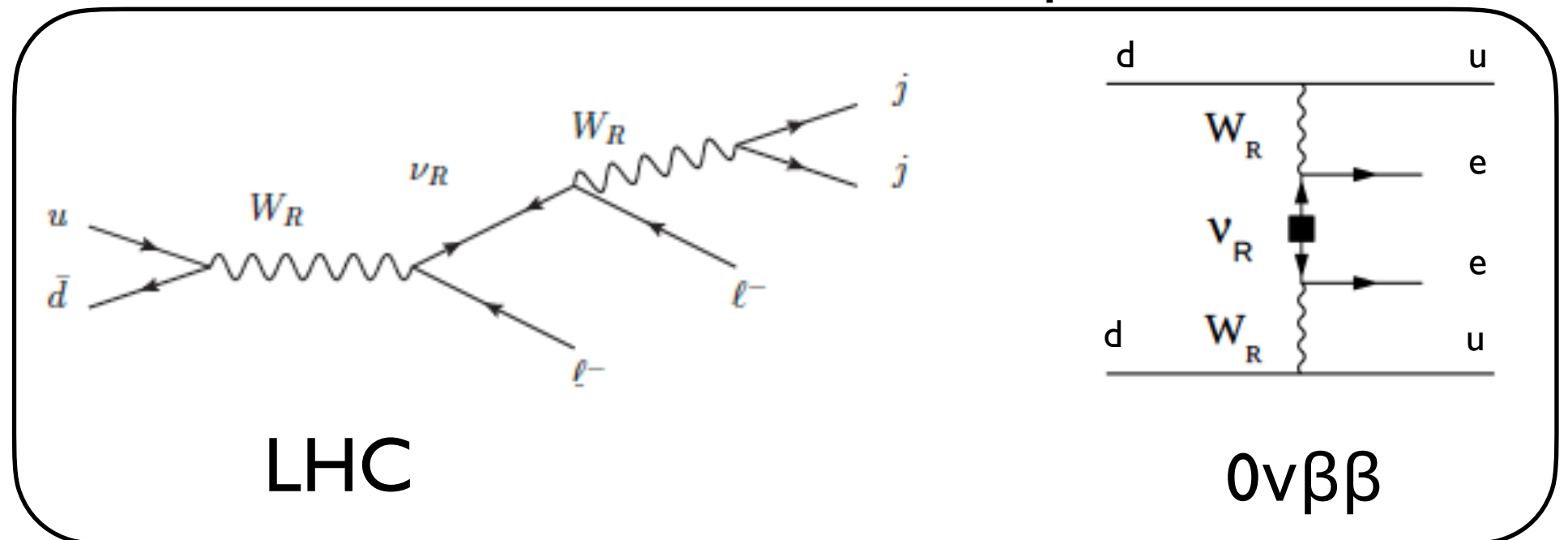
Maiezza-Nemevesek-
Nesti- Senjanovic
1005.5160

Helo-Kovalenko-Hirsch-
Pas 1303.0899, 1307.4849

Cai, Han, Li, Ruiz
1711.02180

...

Classic LRSM example



Phenomenological interest (2)

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

Keung-Senjanovic '83

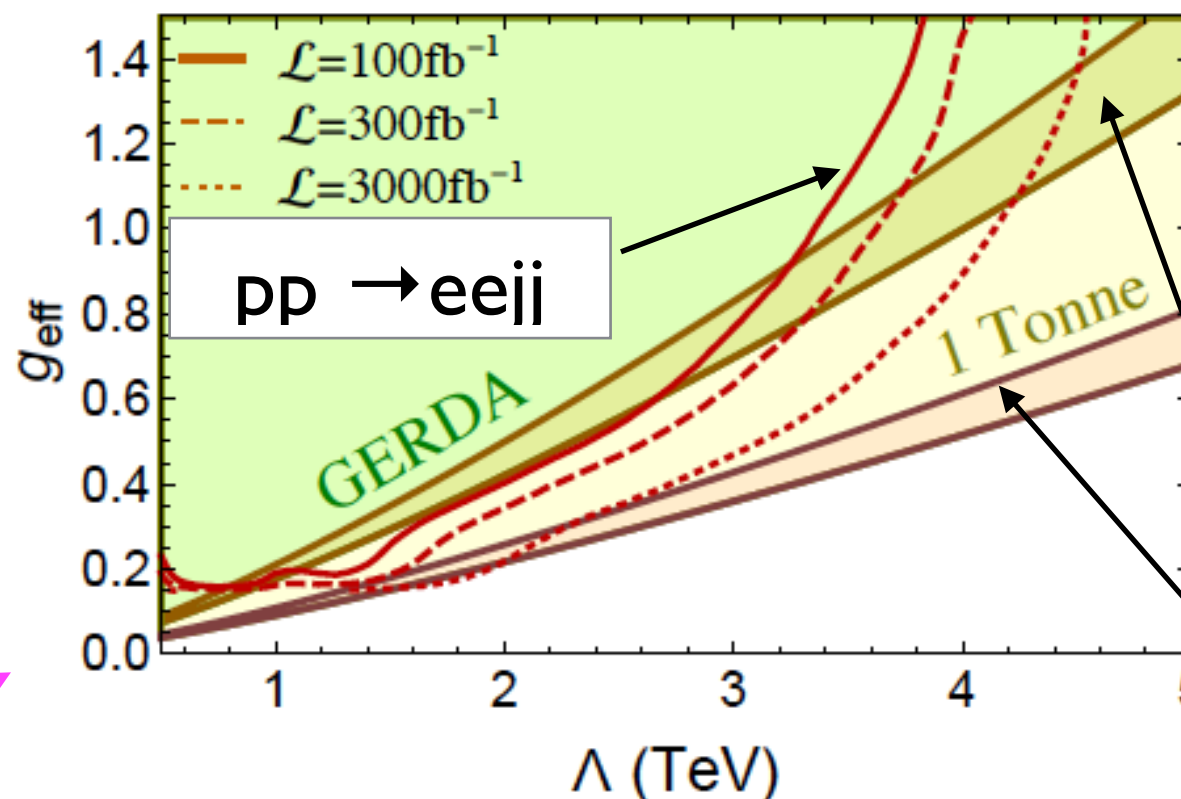
Maiezza-Nemevesek-
Nesti- Senjanovic
1005.5160

Helo-Kovalenko-Hirsch-
Pas 1303.0899, 1307.4849

Cai, Han, Li, Ruiz
1711.02180

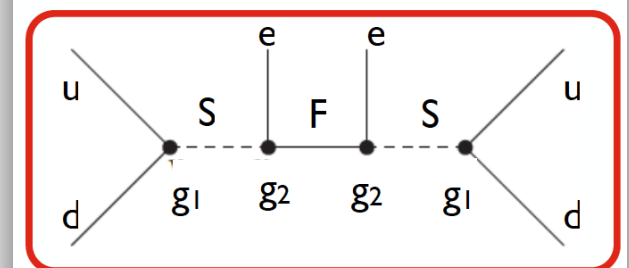
Peng, Ramsey-Musolf,
Winslow, 1508.0444

...



Simplified model

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



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

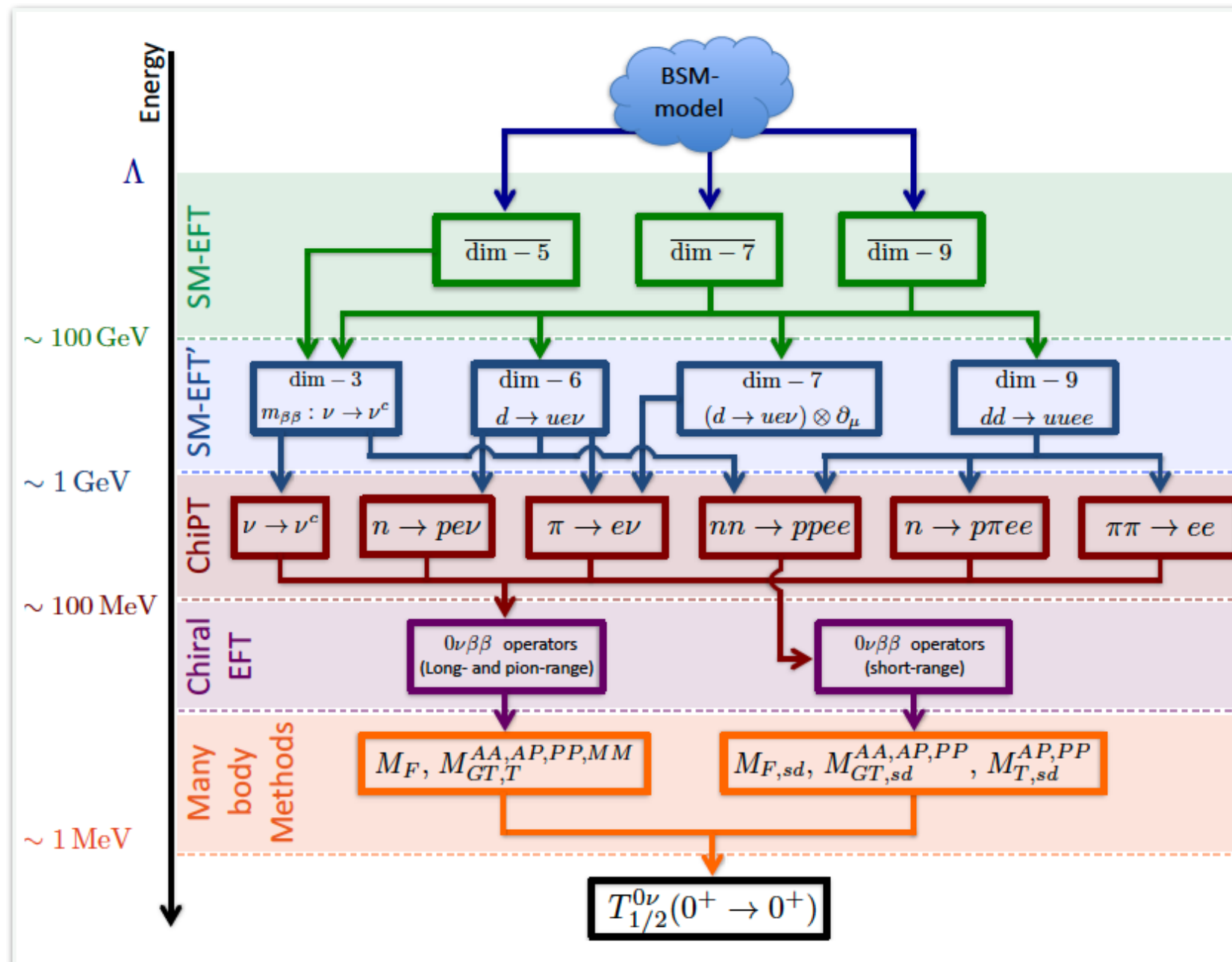
Hadronic / nuclear
uncertainty

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

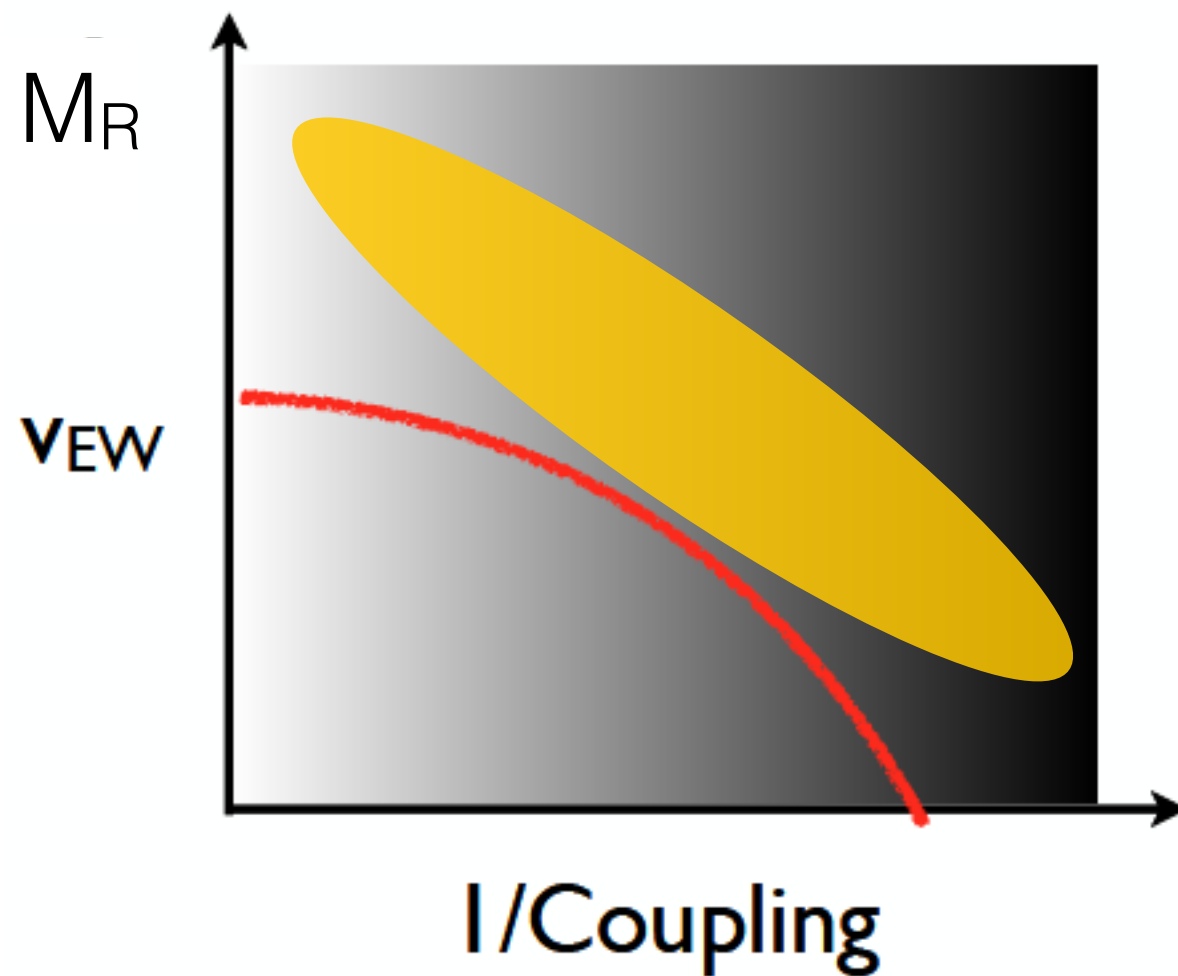
Deppisch-Harz-Hirsch 1312.4447, Deppisch-Graf-Harz-Huang 1711.10432, Harz, Ramsey-Musolf, et al 2106.10838, ...

Summary: 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



$0\nu\beta\beta$ and sterile neutrinos



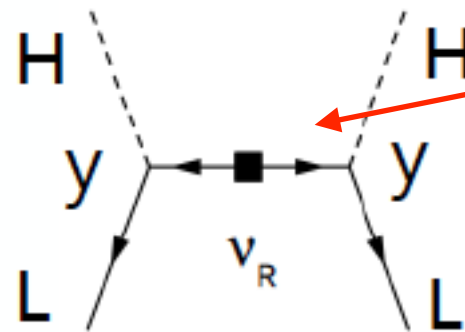
Phenomenological interest

Akhmedov, Rubakov, Smirnov
hep-ph/9803255

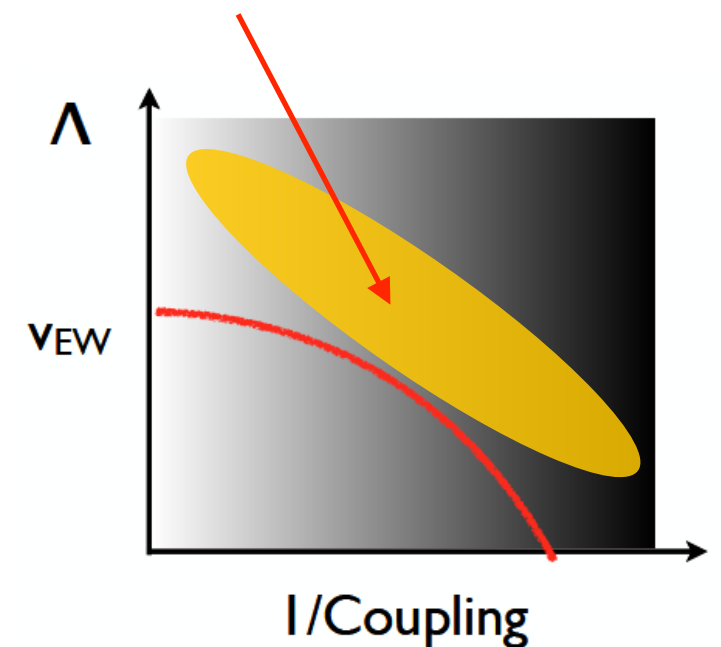
Canetti, Drewes, Shaposhnikov
1204.3902

...

- Attractive class of “minimal” models
 - V_R can give rise to light neutrino masses
 - V_R can provide a **dark matter** candidate
 - V_R can generate the **baryon asymmetry through leptogenesis**
- In general $m_{\beta\beta} \neq (m_{\beta\beta})_{\text{active}}$, with strong dependence on V_R spectrum



Arbitrary scale $M_R \leftrightarrow \Lambda$



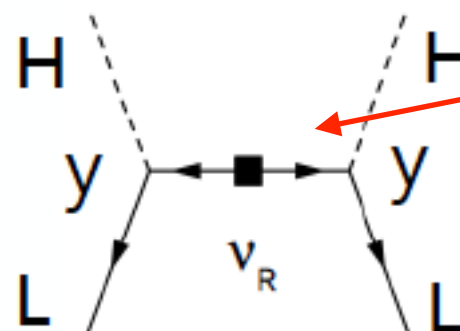
Phenomenological interest

Drewes-Garbrecht I502.00477

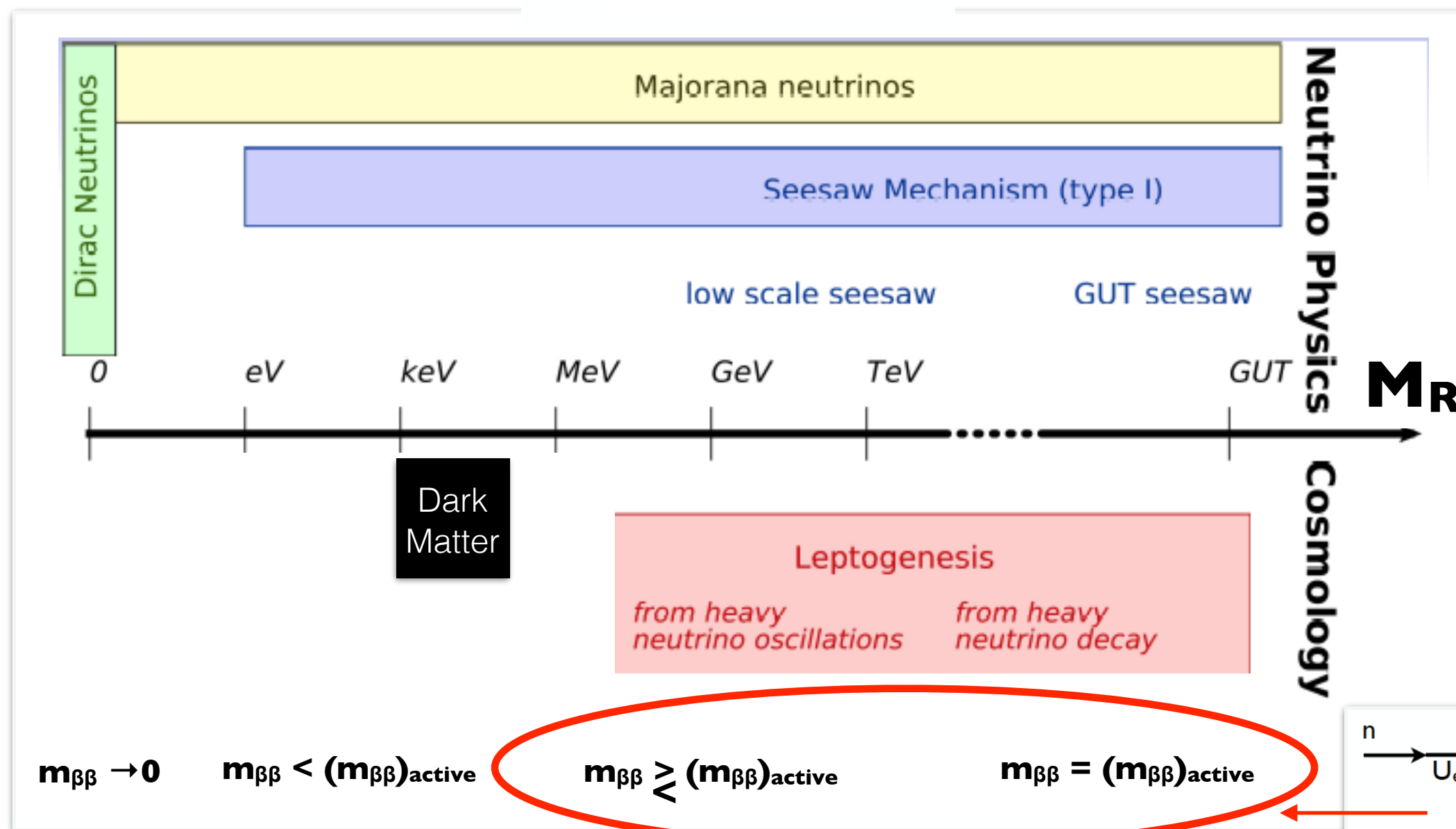
Drewes-Eijima I606.06221

Hernandez et al I606.06719

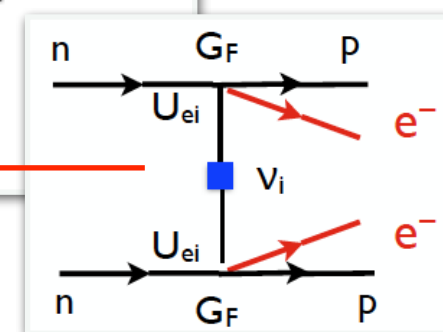
...



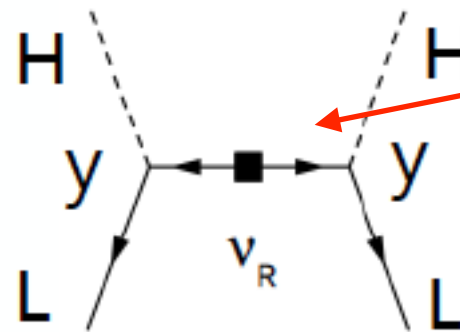
Arbitrary scale $M_R \leftrightarrow \Lambda$



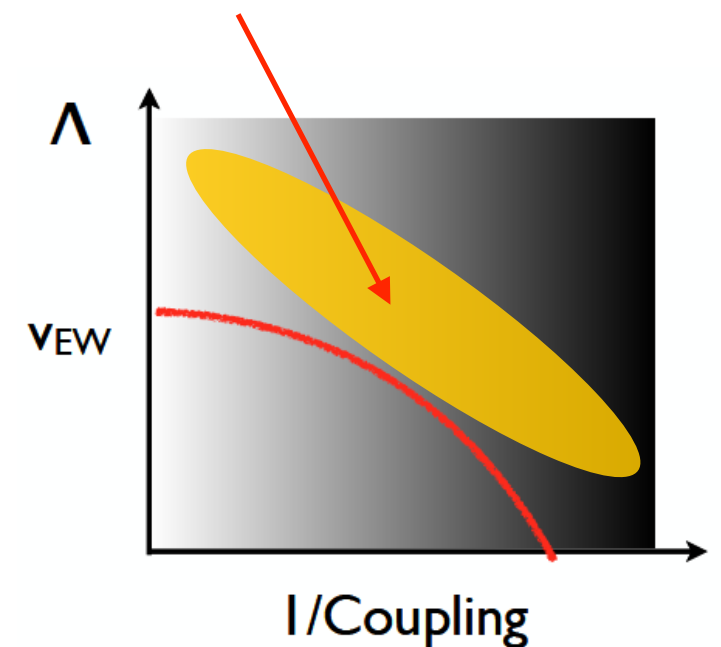
Plot by Marco Drewes



Phenomenological interest



Arbitrary scale $M_R \leftrightarrow \Lambda$



- Attractive class of “minimal” models
 - V_R can give rise to light neutrino masses
 - V_R can provide a **dark matter** candidate
 - V_R can generate the **baryon asymmetry through leptogenesis**
- In general $m_{\beta\beta} \neq (m_{\beta\beta})_{\text{active}}$, with strong dependence on V_R spectrum
- Can be probed at colliders, beam dump, semileptonic decays, EWPO, ...

See e.g. Bolton, Deppisch, Dev 1912.03058

Conclusions & Outlook

- Ton-scale $0\nu\beta\beta$ searches have **significant discovery potential** — we simply don't know the origin of m_ν and the scale Λ associated with LNV
- EFT approach provides a general framework to:
 1. **Relate $0\nu\beta\beta$ to underlying LNV dynamics (and collider & cosmology)**
 - Master formula for $0\nu\beta\beta$ up dim-9 operators
 2. **Organize contributions to hadronic and nuclear matrix elements**
 - Identified new leading order short-range contributions

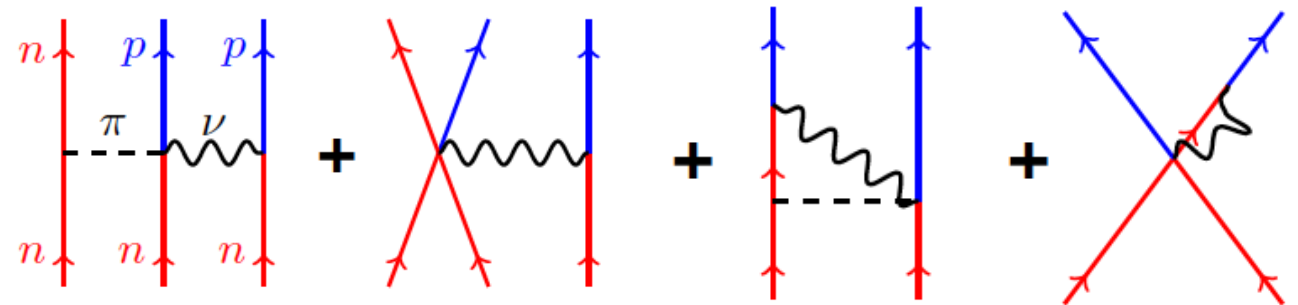
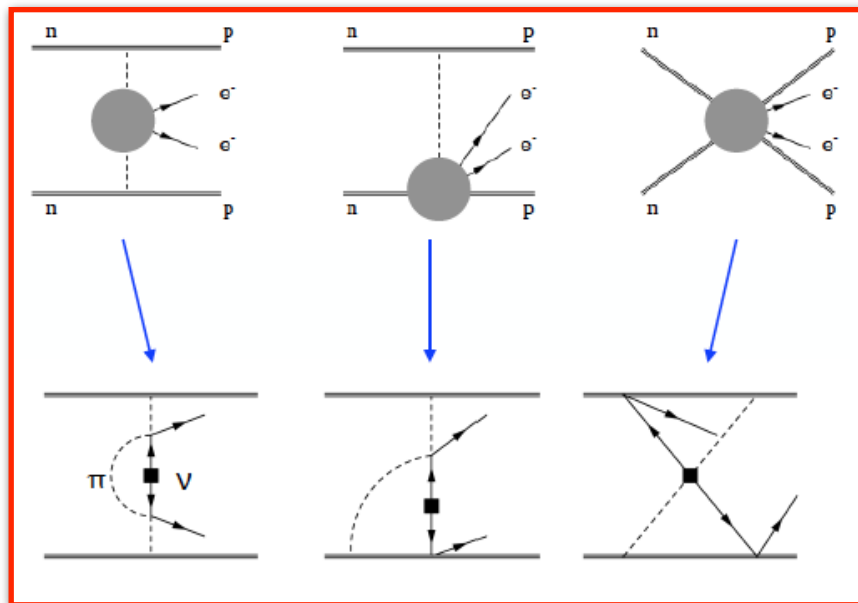
Improving the theory uncertainty is challenging, but there are exciting prospects thanks to advances in **EFT**, **lattice QCD**, and **nuclear structure**

Backup

LVN@dim5: What about higher orders?

- N2LO
 - πN loops + new contact VC, W. Dekens, E. Mereghetti, A. Walker-Loud, 1710.01729
 - 2-body $\times$ 1-body current (and a new contact) Wang-Engel-Yao 1805.10276
 - Neglecting contact terms, calculations in light and heavy nuclei find $O(10\%)$ corrections: encouraging!

S. Pastore, J. Carlson, V.C., W. Dekens, E. Mereghetti, R. Wiringa 1710.05026
J. Engel, private communication



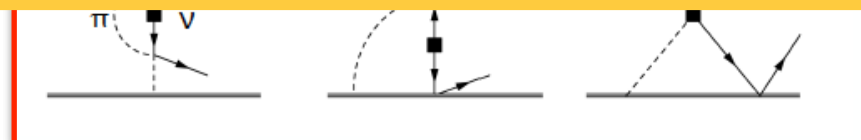
LVN@dim5: What about higher orders?

- N2LO
 - πN loops + new contact VC, W. Dekens, E. Mereghetti, A. Walker-Loud, 1710.01729
 - 2-body $\times$ 1-body current (and a new contact) Wang-Engel-Yao 1805.10276
 - Neglecting contact terms, calculations in light and heavy nuclei find $O(10\%)$ corrections: encouraging!

S. Pastore, J. Carlson, V.C., W. Dekens, E. Mereghetti, R. Wiringa 1710.05026
J. Engel, private communication

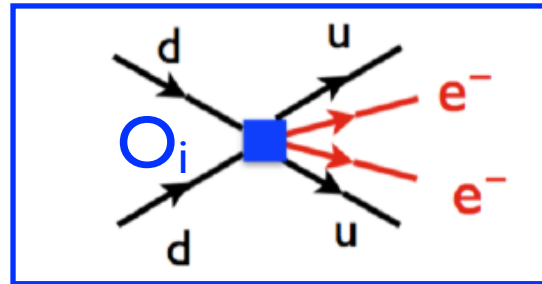


Full analysis beyond leading order requires again matching to Lattice QCD and dedicated many body calculations — long term goal

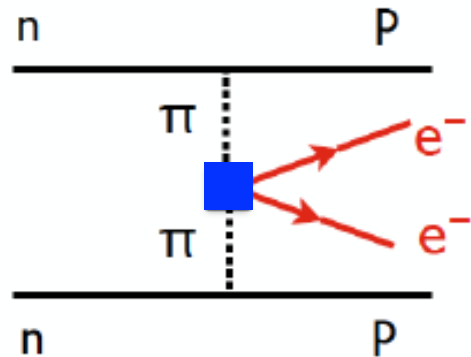


TeV-scale LNV: hadronic theory developments

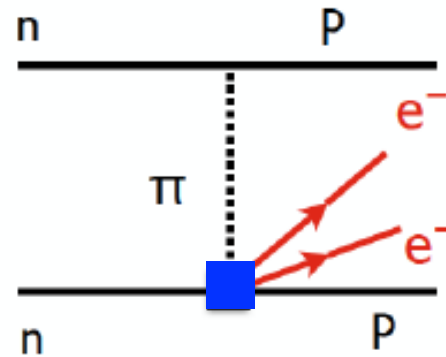
Pion-range
effects



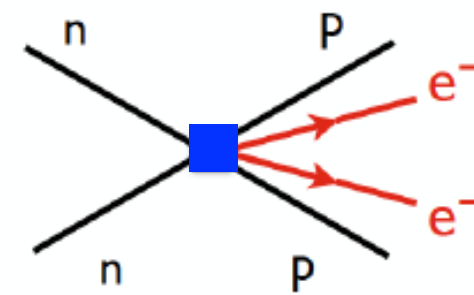
Short-range
effects



Q^{-2}



Q^0



Q^0

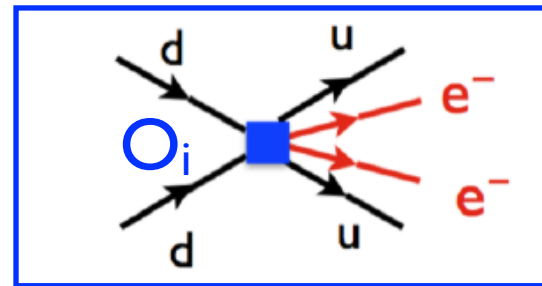
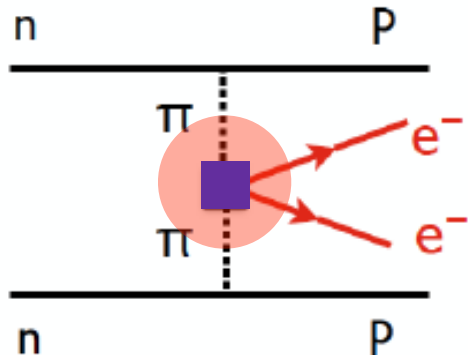
Hadronic realization of dim-9 operators in chiral EFT

Weinberg's counting (NDA for NN contact) $\rightarrow V_{\pi\pi}$ dominates

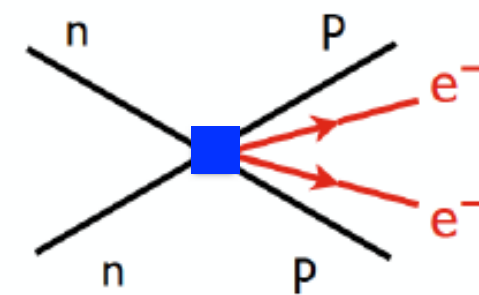
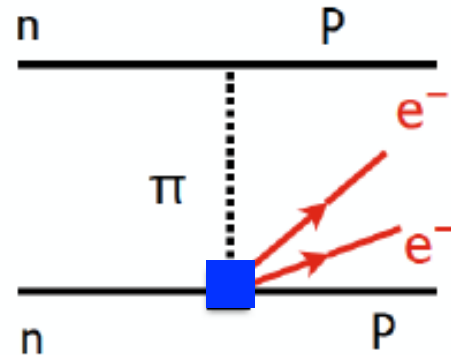
Prezeau, Ramsey-Musolf, Vogel [hep-ph/0303205](#)

TeV-scale LNV: hadronic theory developments

Pion-range effects

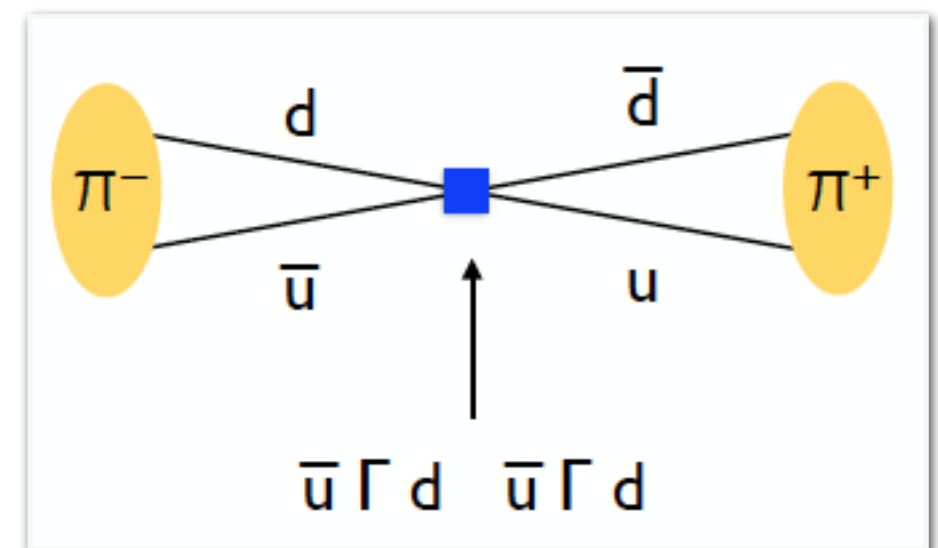


Short-range effects



- Two recent developments:

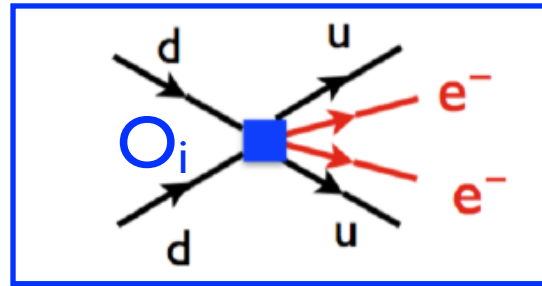
1. $\pi\pi$ matrix elements now precisely calculated in lattice QCD ($\sim 10\%$ or better)



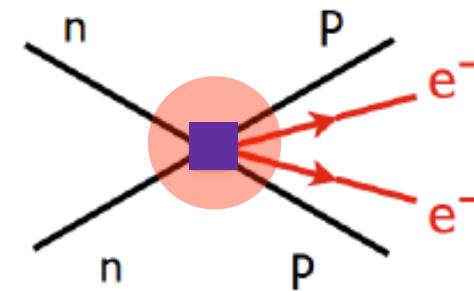
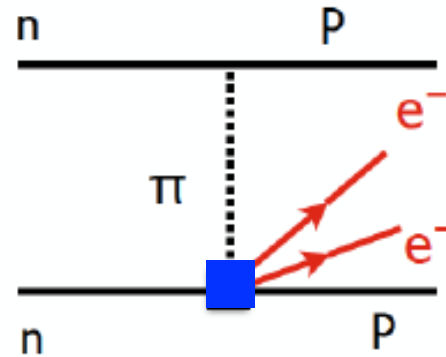
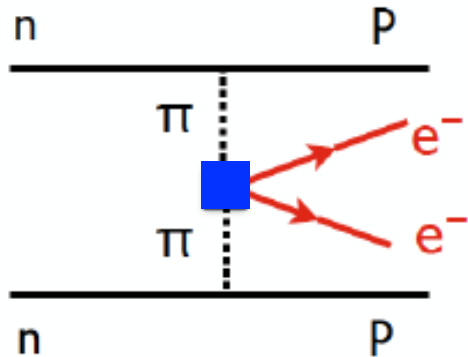
Nicholson et al (CalLat), 1805.02634, PRL

TeV-scale LNV: hadronic theory developments

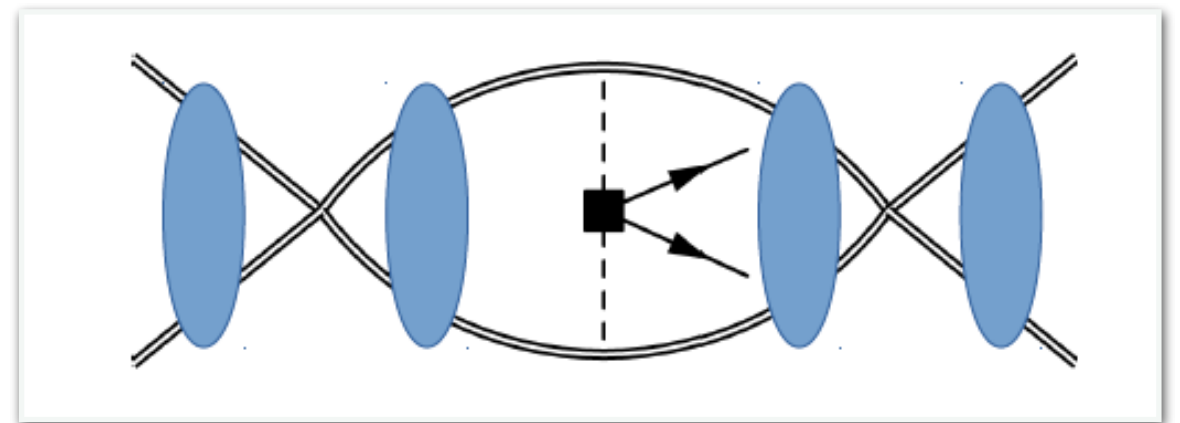
Pion-range
effects



Short-range
effects



- Two recent developments:
 - Renormalization $\rightarrow V_{\pi\pi}$ and V_{NN} are both leading order



V.C, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Graesser, E. Mereghetti [1806.02780]

Dimension 6 and 7 operators

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\Delta L=2}^{(6)} = & \frac{2G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \left(C_{\text{VL},ij}^{(6)} \bar{u}_L \gamma^\mu d_L \bar{e}_{R,i} \gamma_\mu C \bar{\nu}_{L,j}^T + C_{\text{VR},ij}^{(6)} \bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu d_R \bar{e}_{R,i} \gamma_\mu C \bar{\nu}_{L,j}^T \right. \\ & \left. + C_{\text{SR},ij}^{(6)} \bar{u}_L d_R \bar{e}_{L,i} C \bar{\nu}_{L,j}^T + C_{\text{SL},ij}^{(6)} \bar{u}_R d_L \bar{e}_{L,i} C \bar{\nu}_{L,j}^T + C_{\text{T},ij}^{(6)} \bar{u}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_R \bar{e}_{L,i} \sigma_{\mu\nu} C \bar{\nu}_{L,j}^T \right) + \text{h.c.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Delta L=2}^{(7)} = \frac{2G_F}{\sqrt{2}v} \left(C_{\text{VL},ij}^{(7)} \bar{u}_L \gamma^\mu d_L \bar{e}_{L,i} C i \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\mu \bar{\nu}_{L,j}^T + C_{\text{VR},ij}^{(7)} \bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu d_R \bar{e}_{L,i} C i \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\mu \bar{\nu}_{L,j}^T \right) + \text{h.c.}$$

Dimension 9 operators

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Delta L=2}^{(9)} = \frac{1}{v^5} \sum_i \left[\left(C_{iR}^{(9)} \bar{e}_R C \bar{e}_R^T + C_{iL}^{(9)} \bar{e}_L C \bar{e}_L^T \right) O_i + C_i^{(9)} \bar{e} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 C \bar{e}^T O_i^\mu \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} O_1 &= \bar{q}_L^\alpha \gamma_\mu \tau^+ q_L^\alpha \bar{q}_L^\beta \gamma^\mu \tau^+ q_L^\beta, & O'_1 &= \bar{q}_R^\alpha \gamma_\mu \tau^+ q_R^\alpha \bar{q}_R^\beta \gamma^\mu \tau^+ q_R^\beta \\ O_2 &= \bar{q}_R^\alpha \tau^+ q_L^\alpha \bar{q}_R^\beta \tau^+ q_L^\beta, & O'_2 &= \bar{q}_L^\alpha \tau^+ q_R^\alpha \bar{q}_L^\beta \tau^+ q_R^\beta, \\ O_3 &= \bar{q}_R^\alpha \tau^+ q_L^\beta \bar{q}_R^\beta \tau^+ q_L^\alpha, & O'_3 &= \bar{q}_L^\alpha \tau^+ q_R^\beta \bar{q}_L^\beta \tau^+ q_R^\alpha, \\ O_4 &= \bar{q}_L^\alpha \gamma_\mu \tau^+ q_L^\alpha \bar{q}_R^\beta \gamma^\mu \tau^+ q_R^\beta, \\ O_5 &= \bar{q}_L^\alpha \gamma_\mu \tau^+ q_L^\beta \bar{q}_R^\beta \gamma^\mu \tau^+ q_R^\alpha, \end{aligned}$$

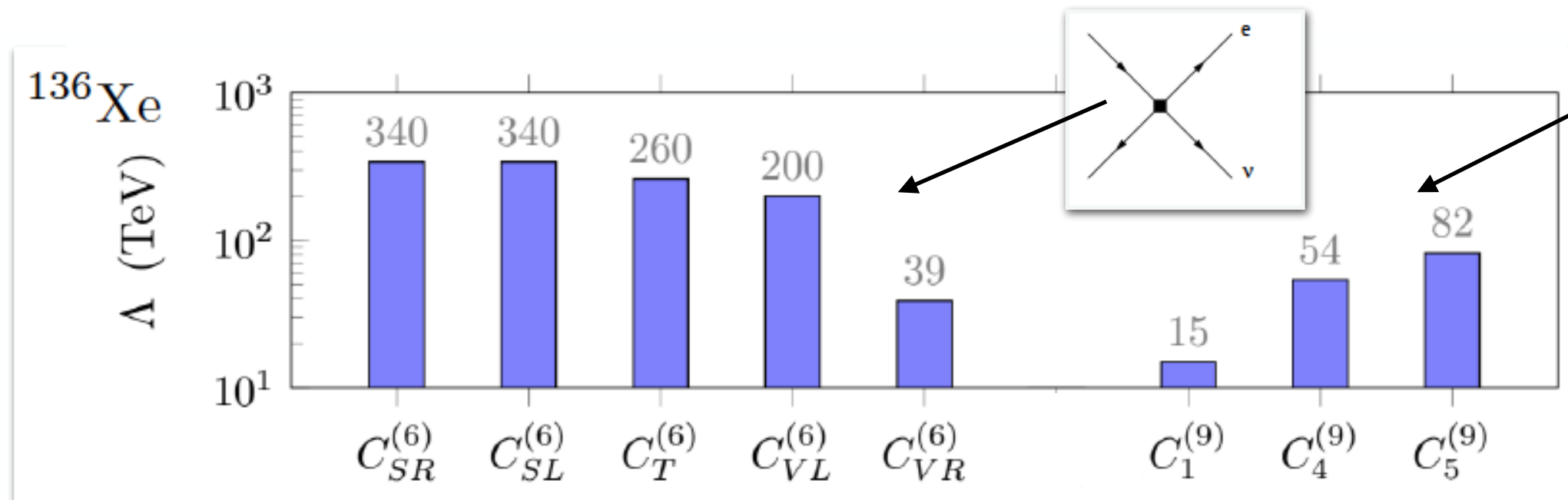
$$\begin{aligned} O_6^\mu &= (\bar{q}_L \tau^+ \gamma^\mu q_L) (\bar{q}_L \tau^+ q_R), & O_6^{\mu'} &= (\bar{q}_R \tau^+ \gamma^\mu q_R) (\bar{q}_R \tau^+ q_L), \\ O_7^\mu &= (\bar{q}_L t^a \tau^+ \gamma^\mu q_L) (\bar{q}_L t^a \tau^+ q_R), & O_7^{\mu'} &= (\bar{q}_R t^a \tau^+ \gamma^\mu q_R) (\bar{q}_R t^a \tau^+ q_L), \\ O_8^\mu &= (\bar{q}_L \tau^+ \gamma^\mu q_L) (\bar{q}_R \tau^+ q_L), & O_8^{\mu'} &= (\bar{q}_R \tau^+ \gamma^\mu q_R) (\bar{q}_L \tau^+ q_R), \\ O_9^\mu &= (\bar{q}_L t^a \tau^+ \gamma^\mu q_L) (\bar{q}_R t^a \tau^+ q_L), & O_9^{\mu'} &= (\bar{q}_R t^a \tau^+ \gamma^\mu q_R) (\bar{q}_L t^a \tau^+ q_R), \end{aligned}$$

What scales are we probing?

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

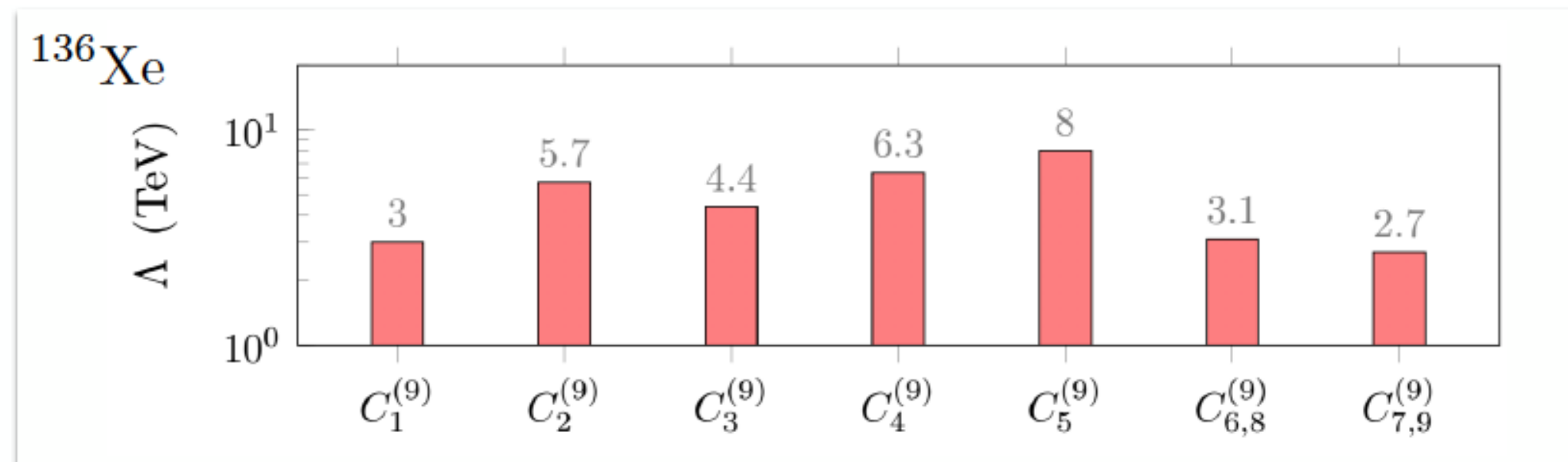
Dim 7 in
SM-EFT

$(v/\Lambda)^3$



Dim 9 in
SM-EFT

$(v/\Lambda)^5$

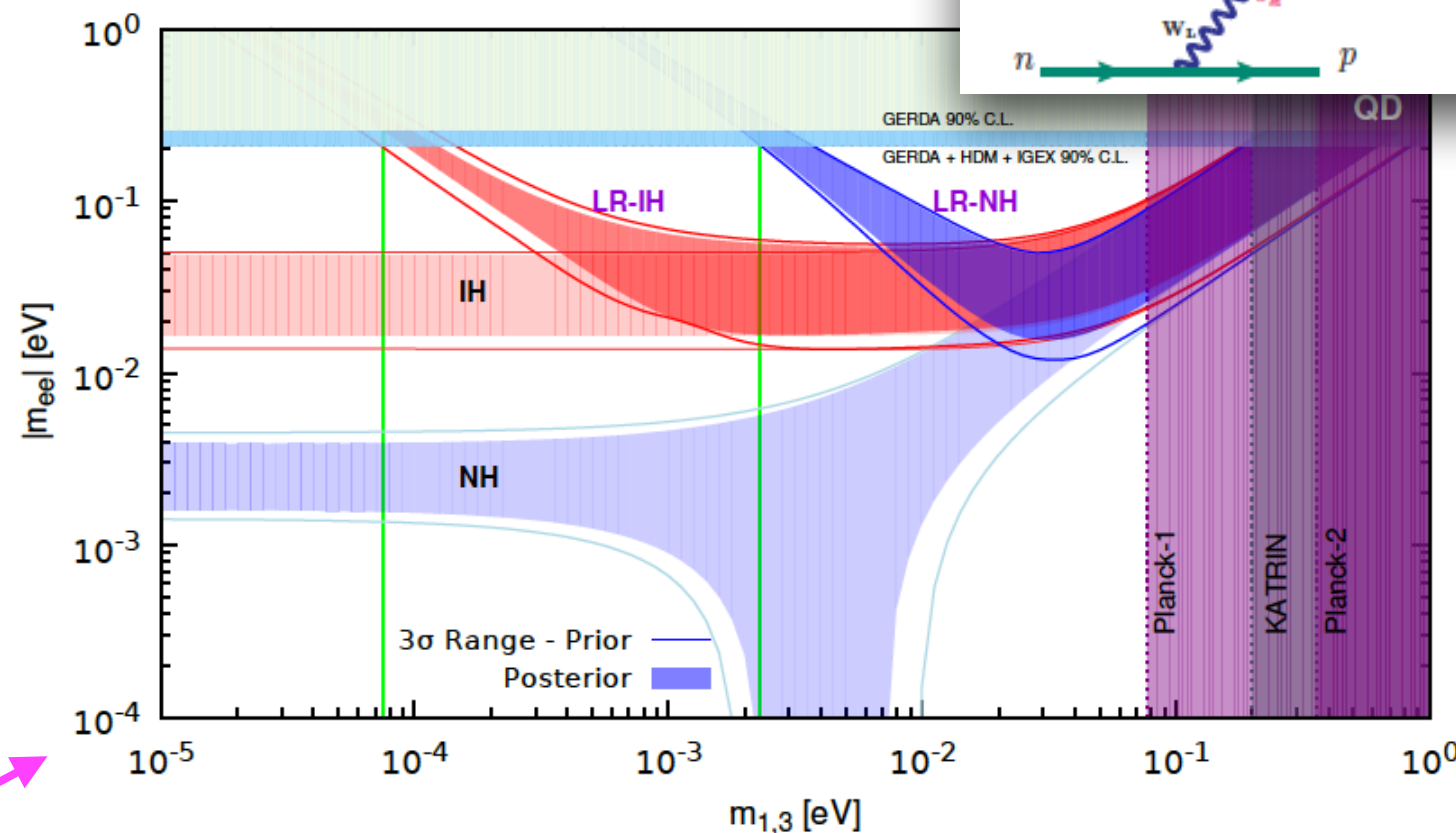
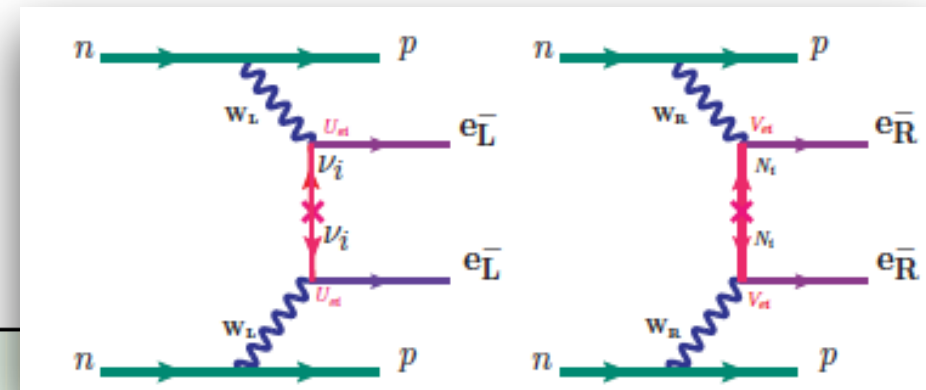


Bounds reflect dependence on Λ_χ / Λ and Q/Λ_χ

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



$$M_i \propto m_i$$

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

$$M_i = \frac{m_4}{m_3} M_3, \text{ for NH}$$

$$M_i = \frac{m_4}{m_2} M_2, \text{ for IH.}$$

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

Tello-Nemevesek-
Nesti-Senjanovic-
Vissani 1011.3522

Ge-Lindner-Patra
1508.07286

...

Phenomenological interest

Akhmedov, Rubakov, Smirnov
hep-ph/9803255

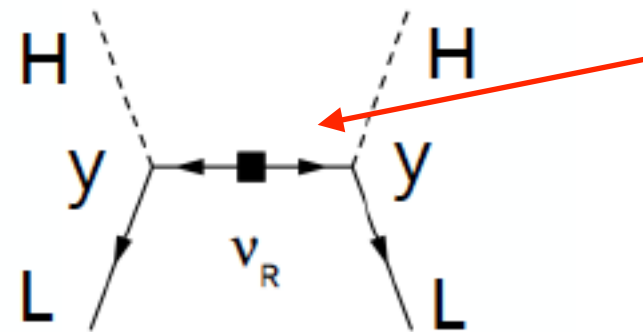
Canetti, Drewes, Shaposhnikov
1204.3902

...

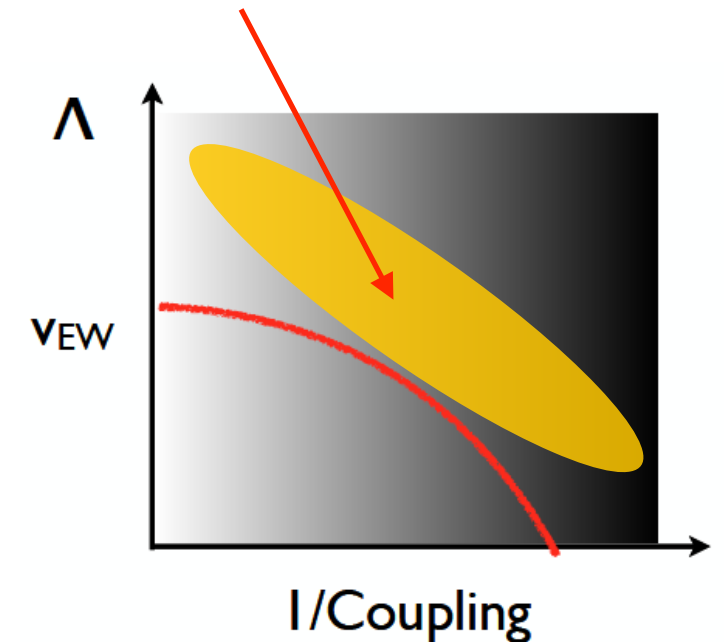
- Attractive class of “minimal” models
 - V_R can give rise to light neutrino masses
 - V_R can provide a **dark matter** candidate
 - V_R can generate the **baryon asymmetry through leptogenesis**
- In general $m_{\beta\beta} \neq (m_{\beta\beta})_{\text{active}}$, with strong dependence on V_R spectrum
- Can be probed at colliders, beam dump, semileptonic decays, EWPO,

...

See e.g. Bolton, Deppisch, Dev 1912.03058



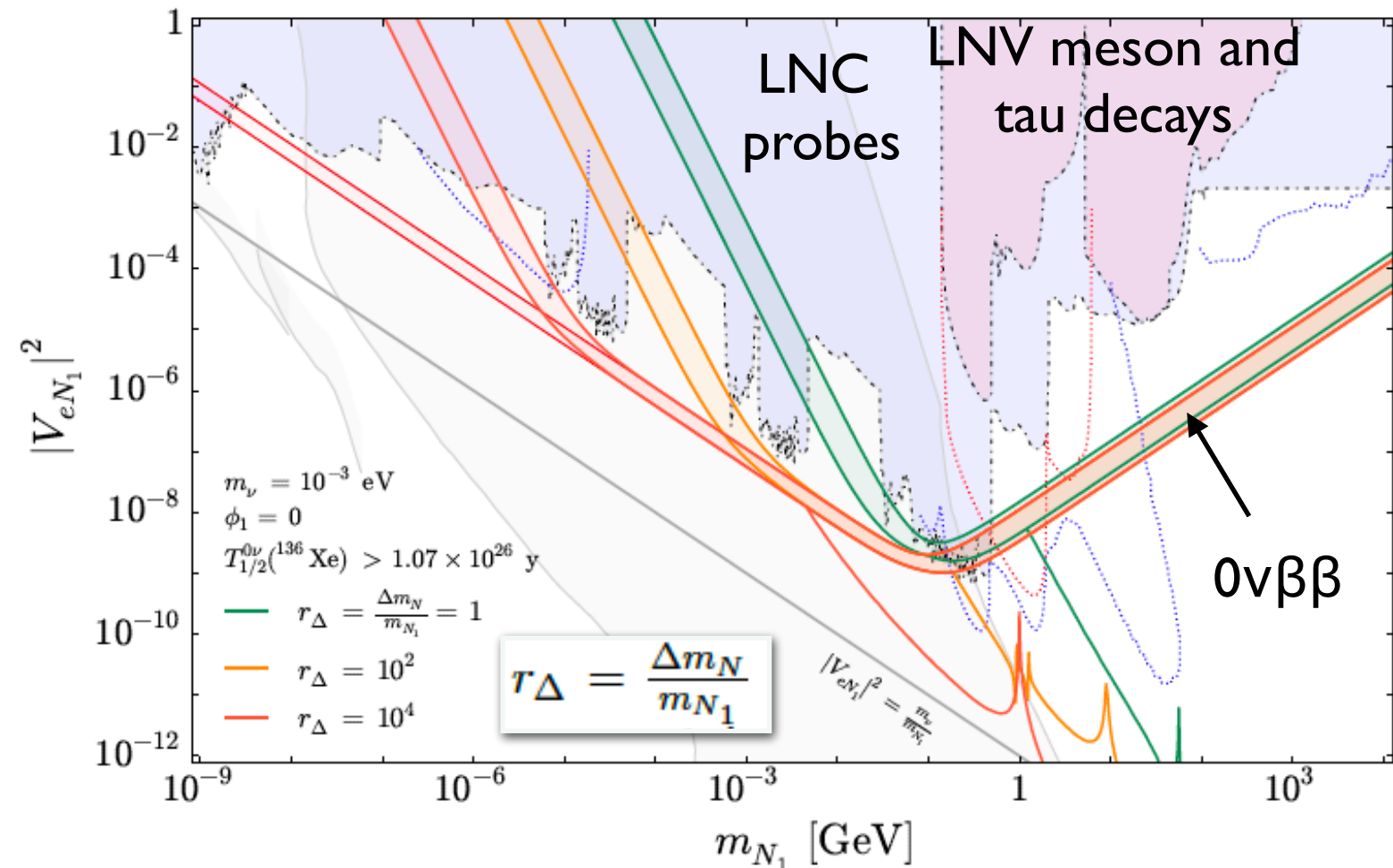
Arbitrary scale $M_R \leftrightarrow \Lambda$



Theory developments and challenges

- Rich literature on $0\nu\beta\beta$ versus other probes of sterile ν_R 's in various mass ranges

...
 Mitra-Senjanovic-Vissani 1108.0004
 Abada et al. 1712.03984
 Bolton, Deppisch, Dev 1912.03058 **
 ...



$$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^- \ell_1^+ \ell_2^+$$

$$\ell_{1,2} = e, \mu$$

$$\text{BRs} < \#10^{-10}$$

$$B^+ \rightarrow h^- \ell_1^+ \ell_2^+$$

$$h = \pi, K \quad \ell_{1,2} = e, \mu$$

$$\text{BR} (\pi^- \mu^+ \mu^+) < \#10^{-9}$$

$$\mu^- q \rightarrow e^+ q'$$

$$\tau^- \rightarrow \ell^+ h_1^- h_2^-$$

$$\ell = e, \mu \quad h_{1,2} = \pi, K$$

$$\text{BRs} < \#10^{-8}$$

($\mu^- \rightarrow e^+$ conversion BR at 10^{-12} level)

Theory developments and challenges

- Rich literature on $0\nu\beta\beta$ versus other probes of sterile V_R 's in various mass ranges

...
 Mitra-Senjanovic-Vissani 1108.0004
 Abada et al. 1712.03984
 Bolton, Deppisch, Dev 1912.03058 **
 ...

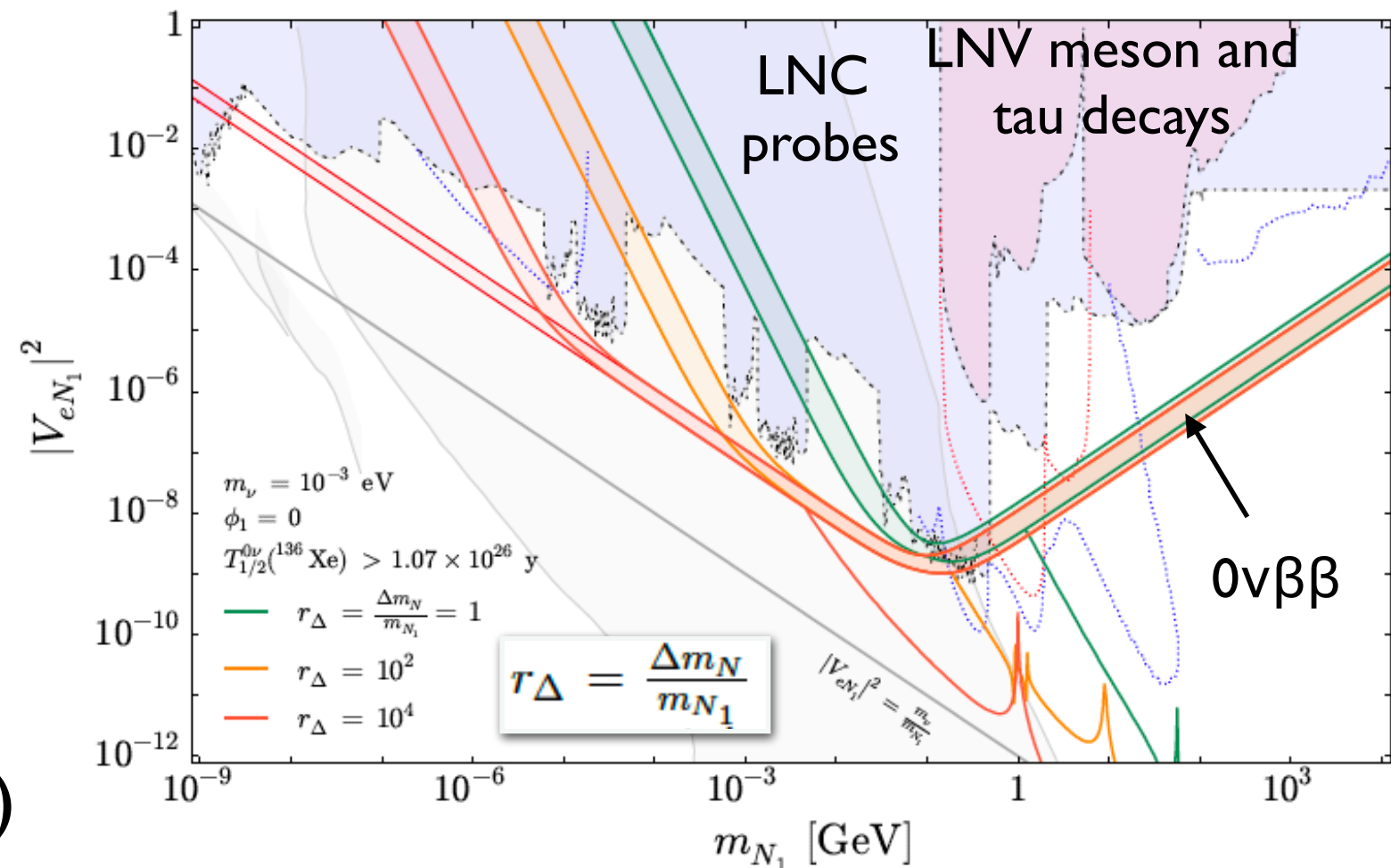
- Beyond pure see-saw (V_R 's interaction beyond Yukawas)

Dekens et al. 2002.07182
 ...

- Challenges from hadronic and nuclear effects:

- Refine dependence of matrix elements on V_R mass spectrum
- Systematic EFT approach (new LECs, ...)

...
 deGouvea et al hep-ph/0608147
 Faessler et al, 1408.6077
 Dekens et al. 2002.07182
 ...



Theory developments and challenges

- Rich literature on $0\nu\beta\beta$ versus other probes of sterile V_R 's in various mass ranges

...
 Mitra-Senjanovic-Vissani 1108.0004
 Abada et al. 1712.03984
 Bolton, Deppisch, Dev 1912.03058 **
 ...

- Beyond pure see-saw (V_R 's interaction beyond Yukawas)

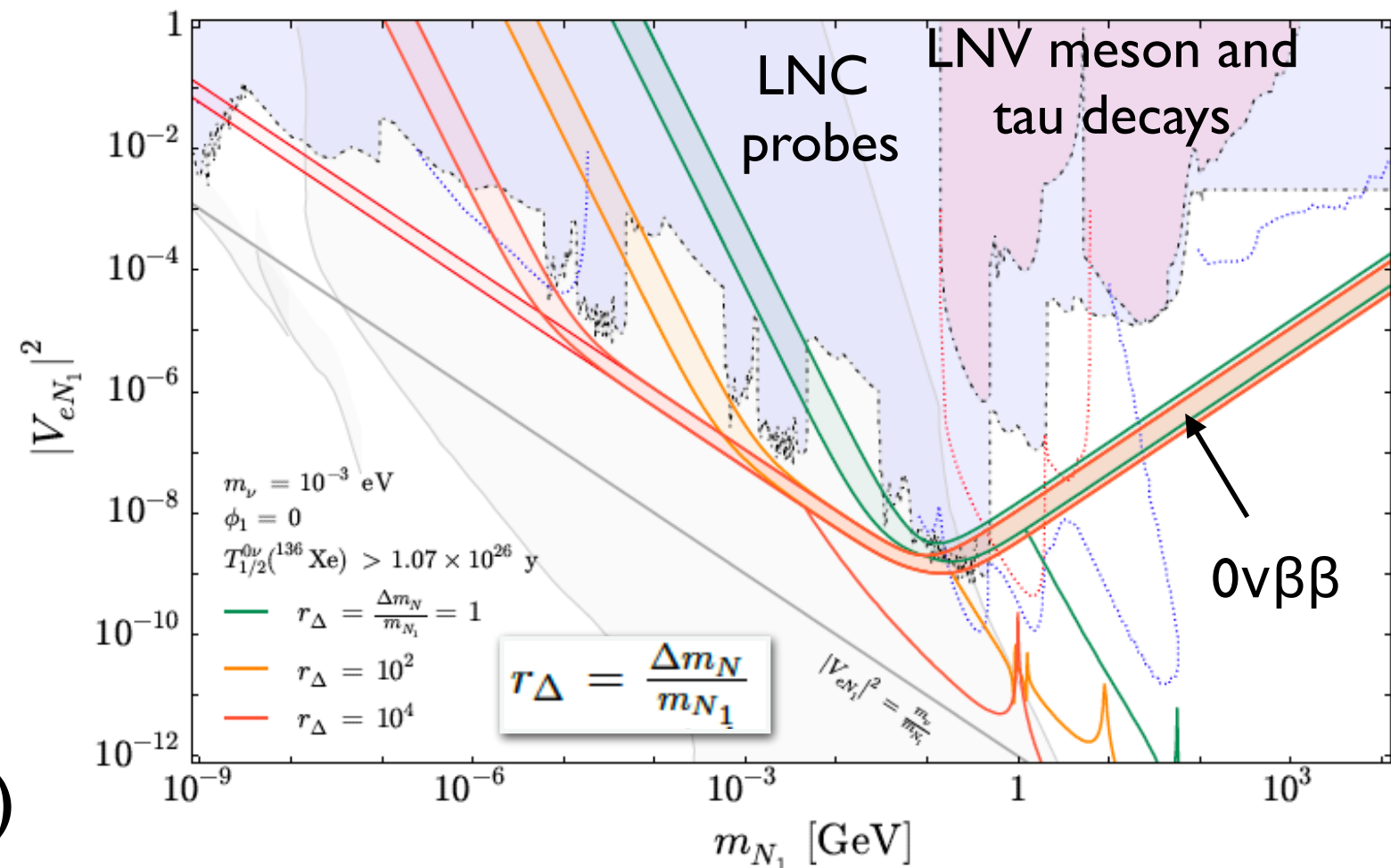
Dekens et al. 2002.07182
 ...

- Challenges from hadronic and nuclear effects:

- Refine dependence of matrix elements on V_R mass spectrum
- Systematic EFT approach (new LECs, ...)

...
 deGouvea et al hep-ph/0608147
 Faessler et al, 1408.6077
 Dekens et al. 2002.07182
 ...

See Jordy de Vries' talk on July 8



EFT developments and challenges

- vSMEFT + chiral EFT analysis

Dekens et al. 2002.07182

$$\mathcal{L}_{\nu_R} = i\bar{\nu}_R \not{\partial} \nu_R - \frac{1}{2} \bar{\nu}_R^c M_R \nu_R - \bar{L} \tilde{H} Y_D \nu_R - \mathcal{L}_{\nu_R}^{(6)} + \mathcal{L}_{\nu_R}^{(7)} + \dots$$

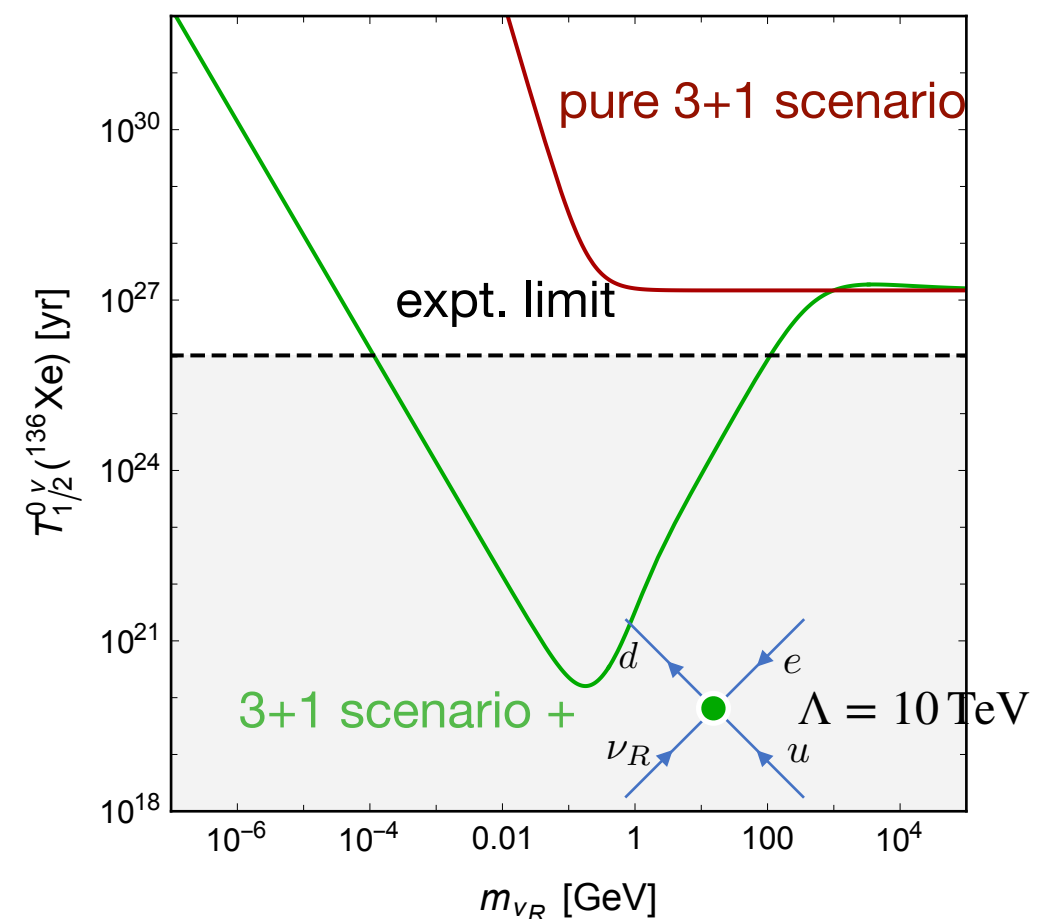
- ν_R 's interaction beyond Yukawa can have large impact

- Challenges:

- New LECs in hadronic EFT
- Dependence of m.e. and LECs on ν_R mass

...
deGouvea et al hep-ph/0608147
Faessler et al, 1408.6077
Dekens et al. 2002.07182
...

O(100%) uncertainties not shown



Plot courtesy of Wouter Dekens

Unraveling $0\nu\beta\beta$ mechanisms?

Graf, Lindner, Scholer 2204.10845

- 32 operators below weak scale @ dim=3, 6, 7, 9 contribute to $0\nu\beta\beta$
- Can they be distinguished by
 1. Isotope-dependence of the decay rates?
 2. β spectrum
 3. Phase space observable? (single electron spectra, relative angle of outgoing electrons)

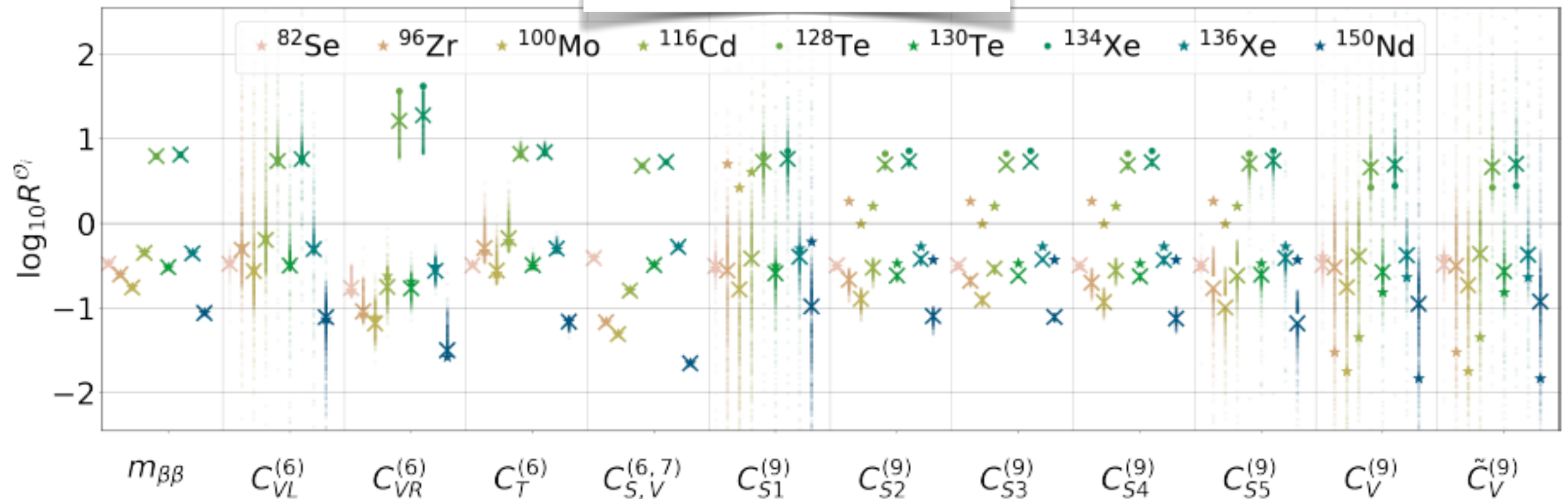
Despite degeneracies, useful diagnosing tools ‘within’ $0\nu\beta\beta$

Isotope dependence

Graf, Lindner, Scholer 2204.10845

- Only 12 groups of operators can be distinguished by taking ratios of decay rates
- Quite sensitive to LECs (varied around reference values denoted by larger markers)
- Distinguishing classes of operators will require combined theoretical uncertainty of $\sim 10\%$, due to LEC + NME (here only IBM used)

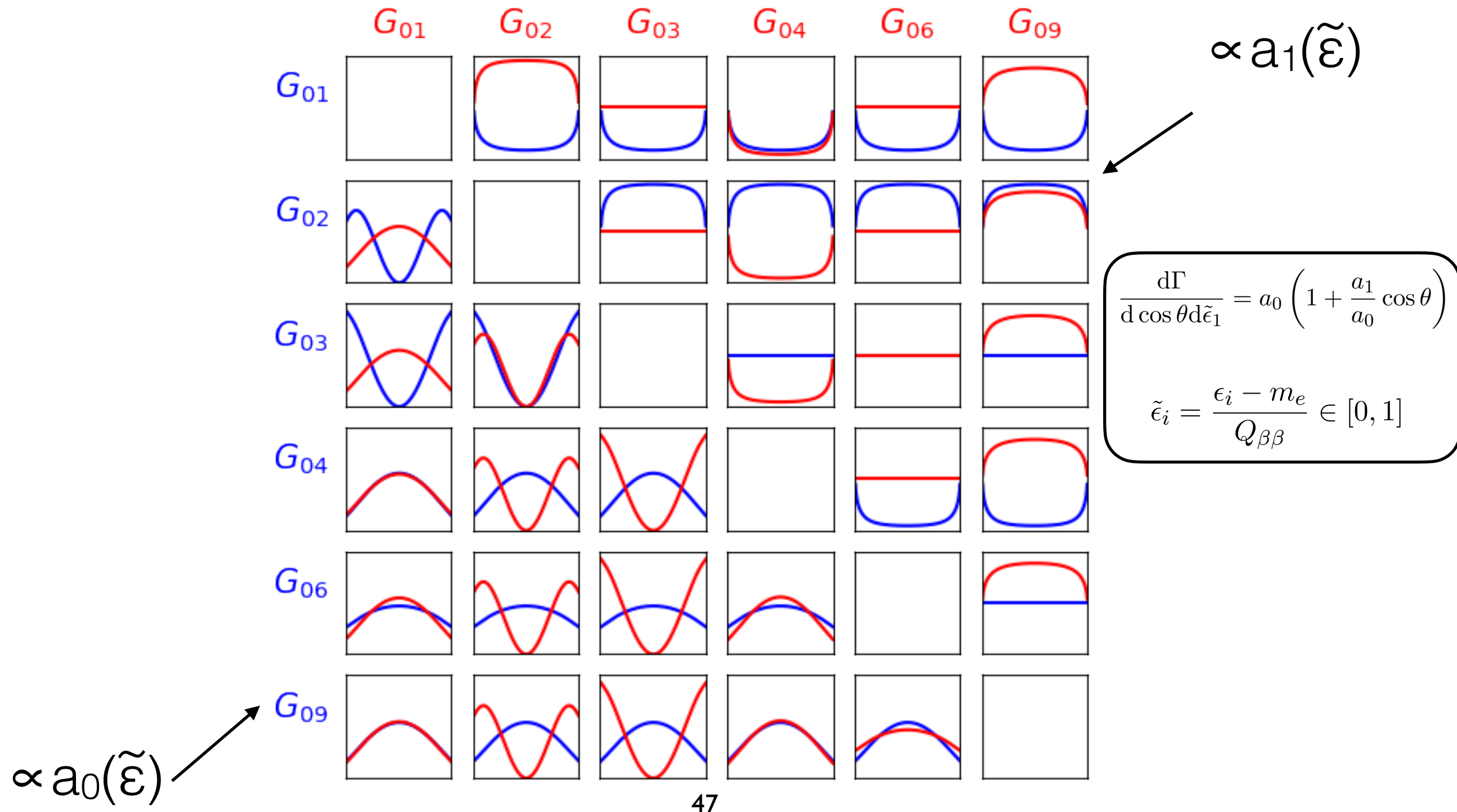
$$R^{\mathcal{O}_i}({}^A\text{X}) \equiv \frac{T_{1/2}^{\mathcal{O}_i}({}^A\text{X})}{T_{1/2}^{\mathcal{O}_i}({}^{76}\text{Ge})}$$



Phase space observables

Graf, Lindner, Scholer 2204.10845

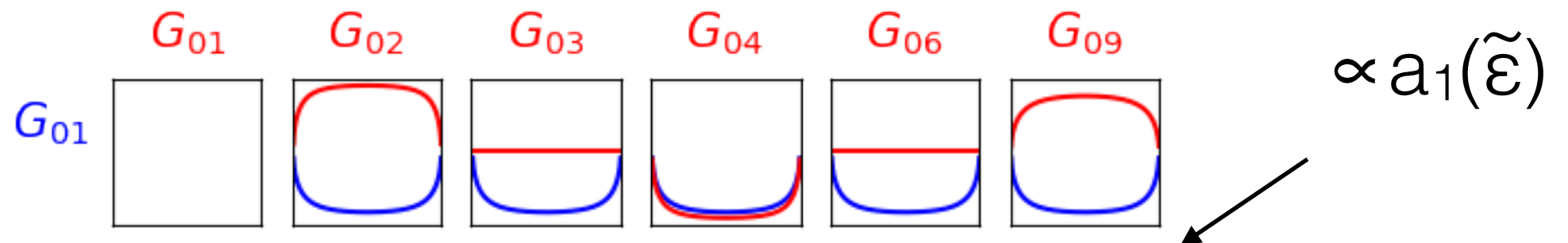
- Six phase space structures G_{0k} , after including interference terms



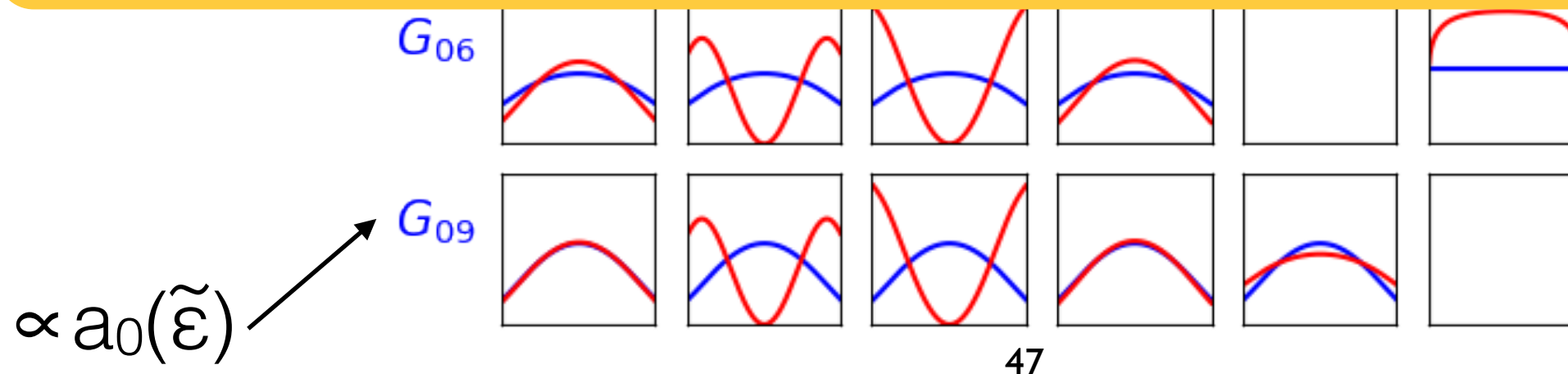
Phase space observables

Graf, Lindner, Scholer 2204.10845

- Six phase space structures G_{0k} , after including interference terms



- Despite degeneracies, useful diagnosing tools ‘within’ $0\nu\beta\beta$
- This analysis reiterates two important points:
 - Need much improved matrix elements, with $O(10\%)$ uncertainty
 - Unraveling the mechanism of LNV will also require other probes (cosmology, collider, ...)



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 current experiments

New contributions can add incoherently *or interfere with $m_{\beta\beta}$* , significantly affecting the interpretation of experimental results

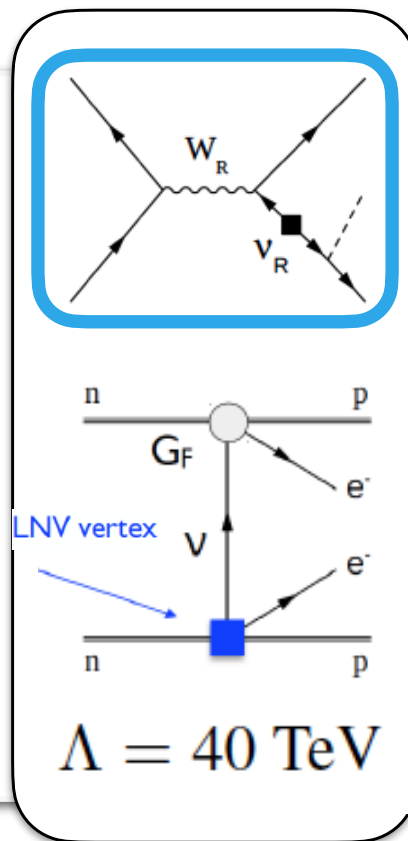
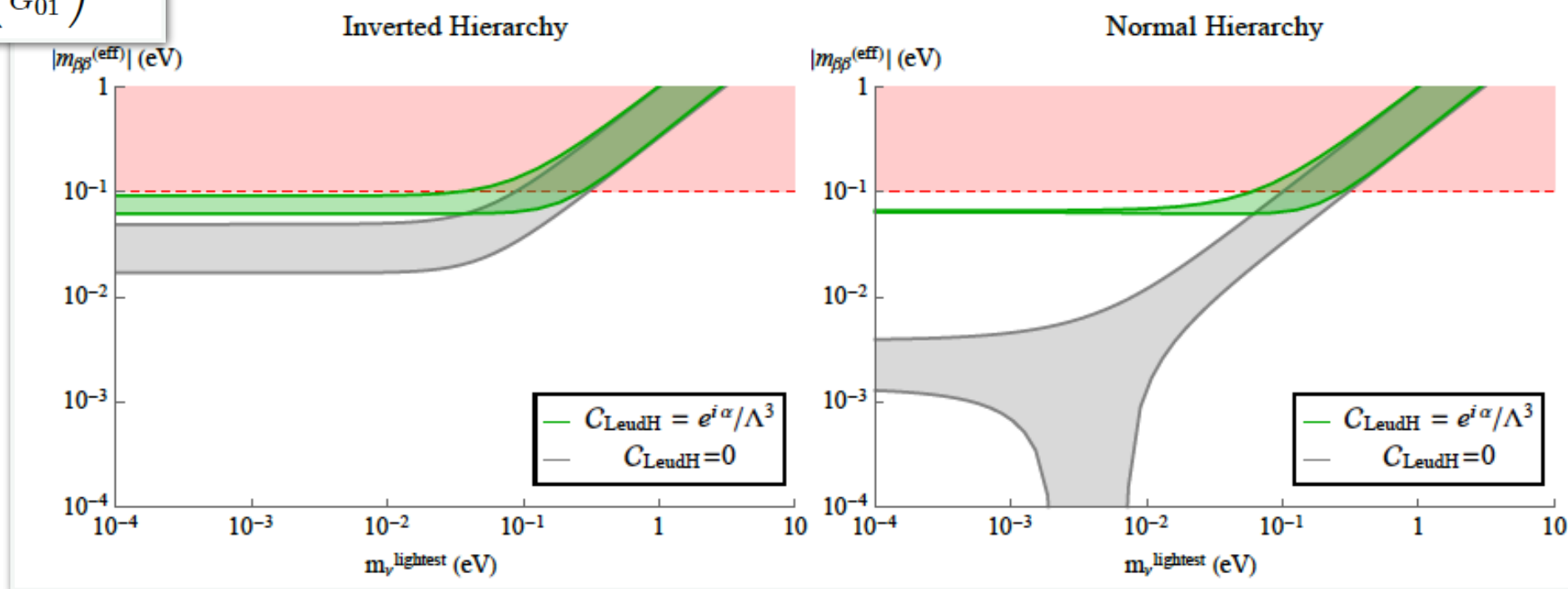
Phenomenological interest (I)

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

New contributions can add incoherently or interfere with $m_{\beta\beta}$, significantly affecting the interpretation of experimental results

$$m_{\beta\beta}^{(\text{eff})} = \frac{m_e}{g_A^2 M_\nu} \left(\frac{T_{1/2}^{0\nu}}{G_{01}} \right)^{-1/2}$$

$$C_{\text{LeudH}} \epsilon_{ij} (\bar{d} \gamma^\mu u) (L_m^T C \gamma_\mu e) H_j$$

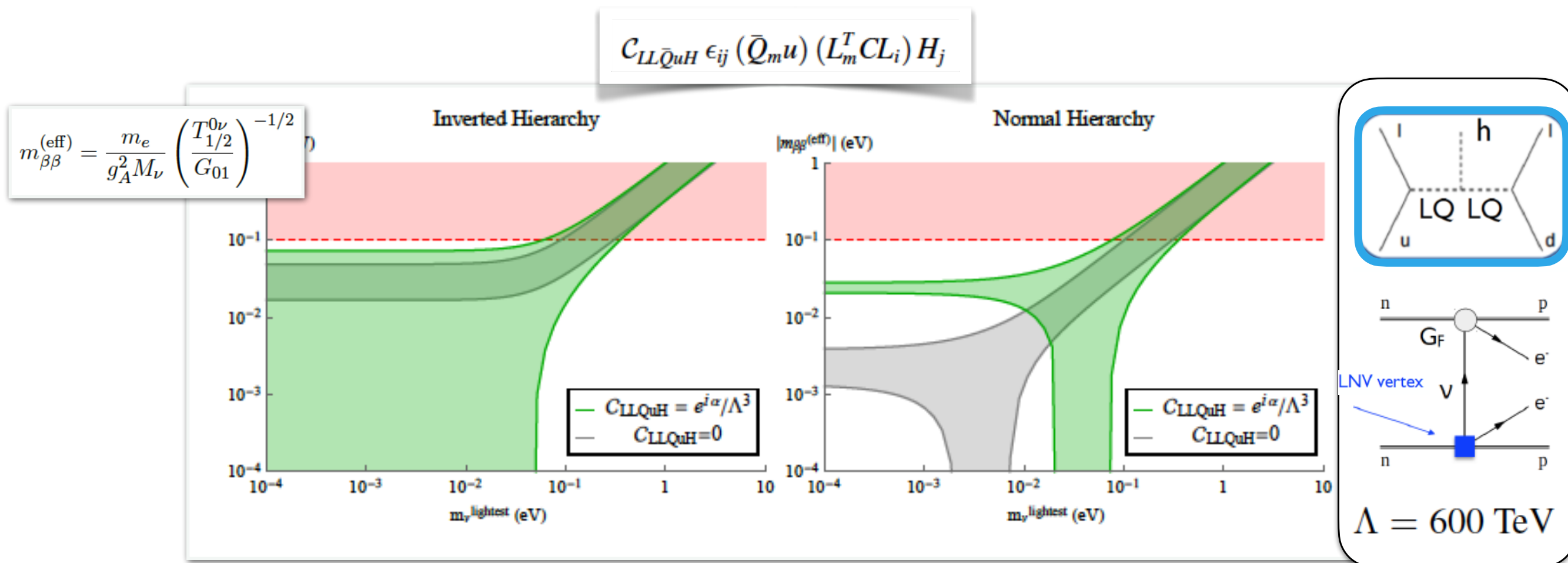


VC, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Graesser, E. Mereghetti, 1708.09390

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 current experiments

New contributions can add incoherently or interfere with $m_{\beta\beta}$, significantly affecting the interpretation of experimental results



VC, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Graesser, E. Mereghetti, 1708.09390