

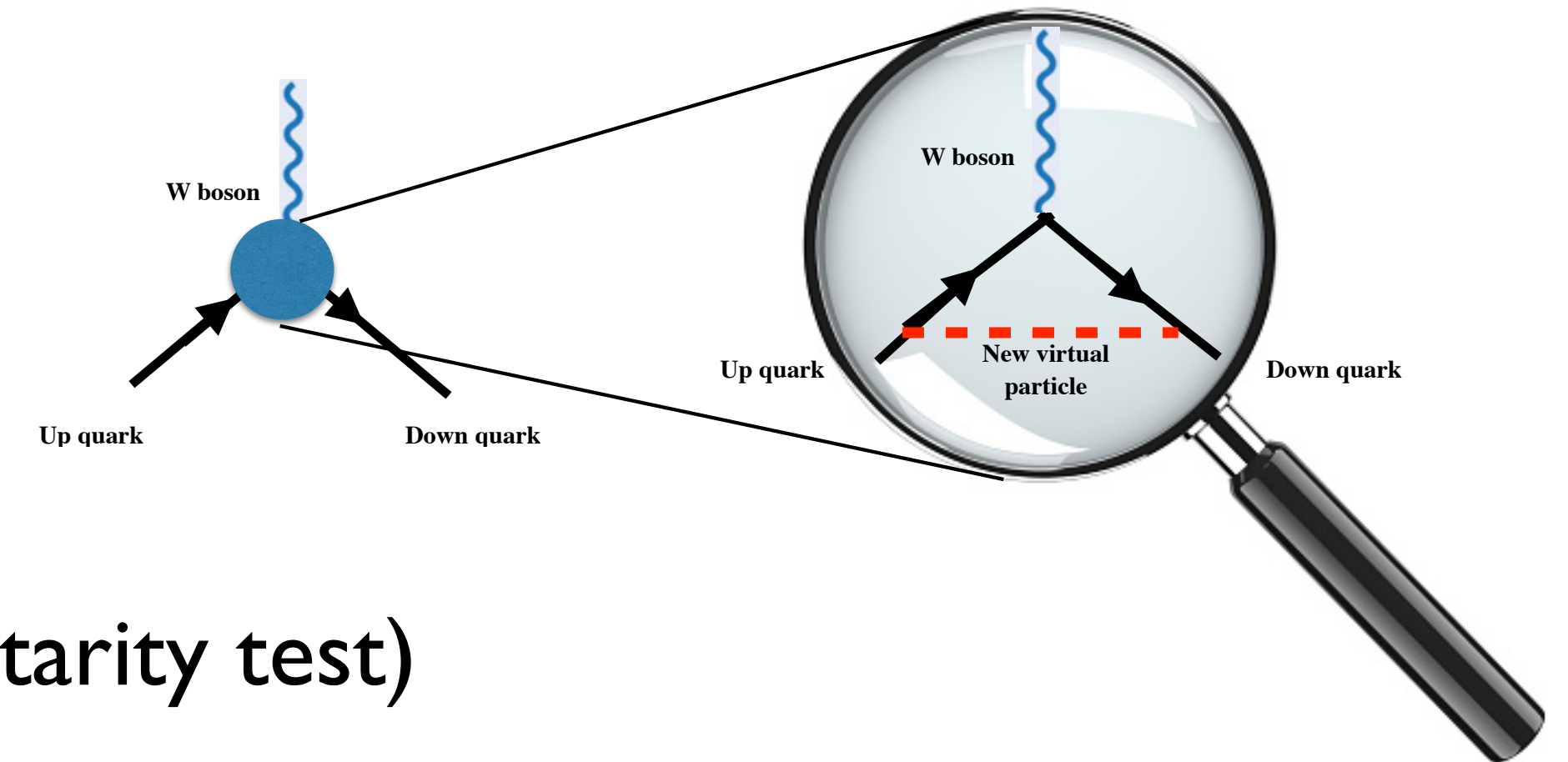
Beta decays as a probe of new physics

Vincenzo Cirigliano



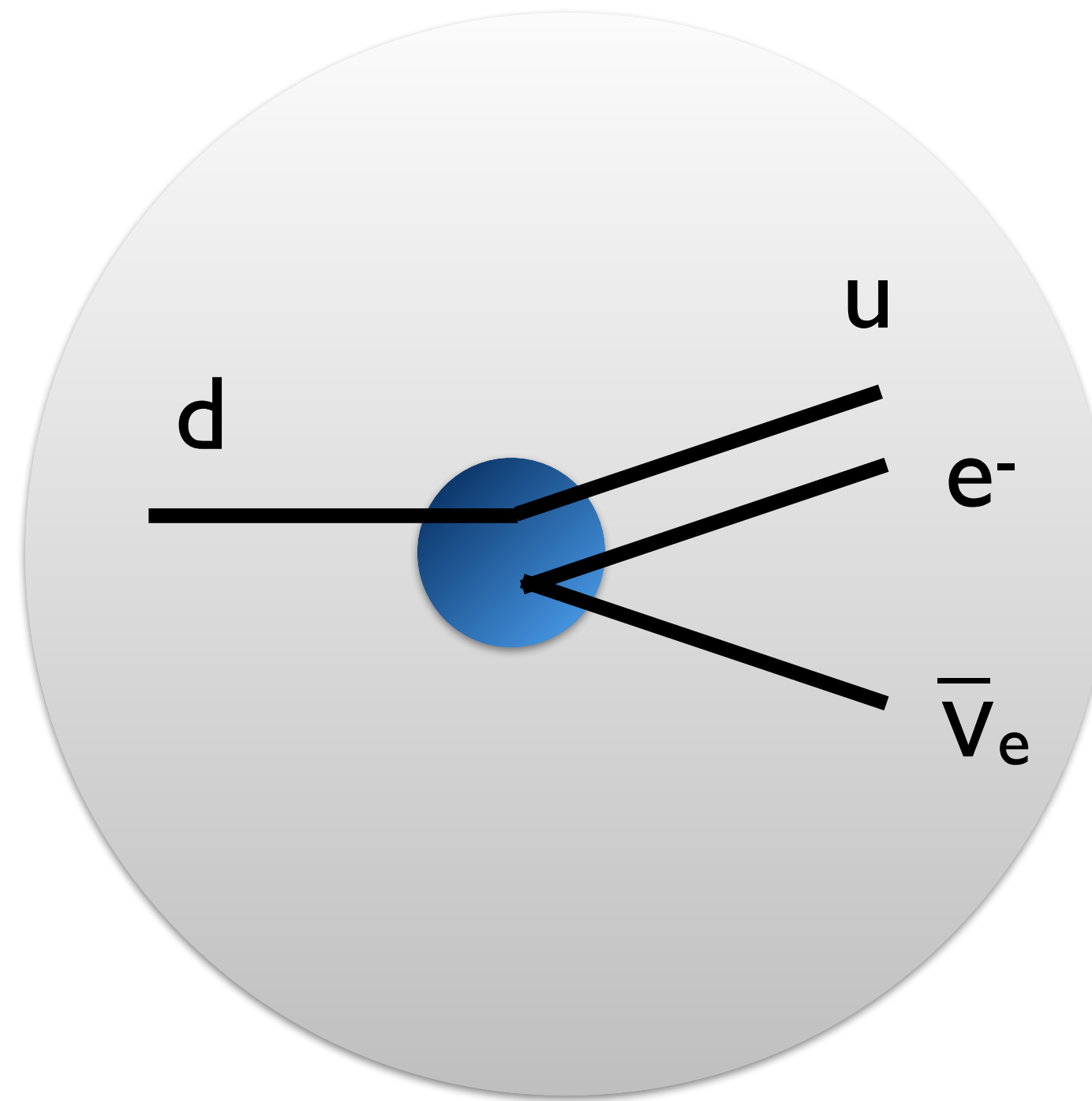
Outline

- Introduction: beta decays in the SM and beyond
- The “Cabibbo universality test” (a.k.a. 1st row CKM unitarity test)
 - Summary of **current status**
 - Recent progress in **SM predictions**
 - **Implications for new physics** & connection to other observables
- Conclusion and outlook



β decays in the SM and beyond

- Beta decays have played a central role in the development of the Standard Model
- Nowadays: precision measurements provide a tool to challenge the SM & probe possible new physics



β decays in the SM and beyond

- In the SM, mediated by W exchange \Rightarrow only “V-A”; Cabibbo universality; 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

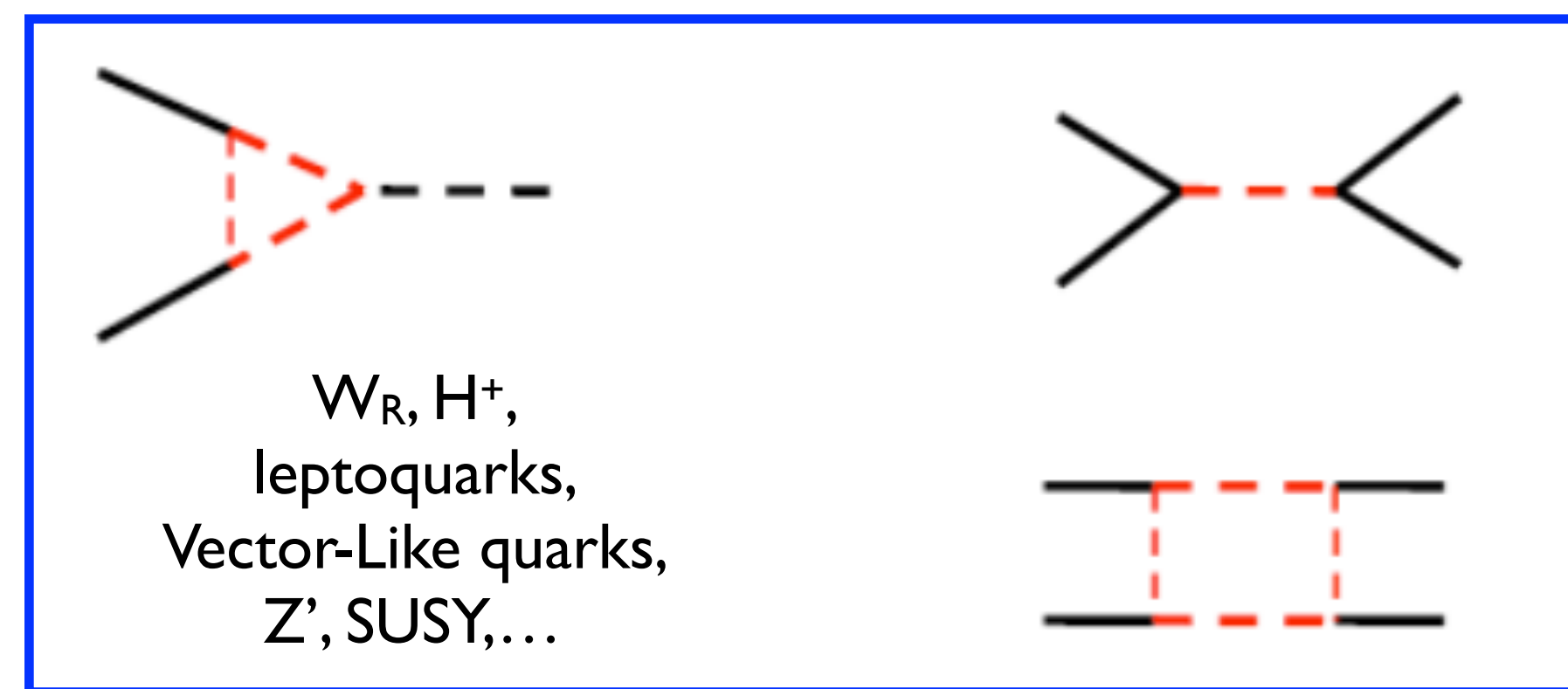
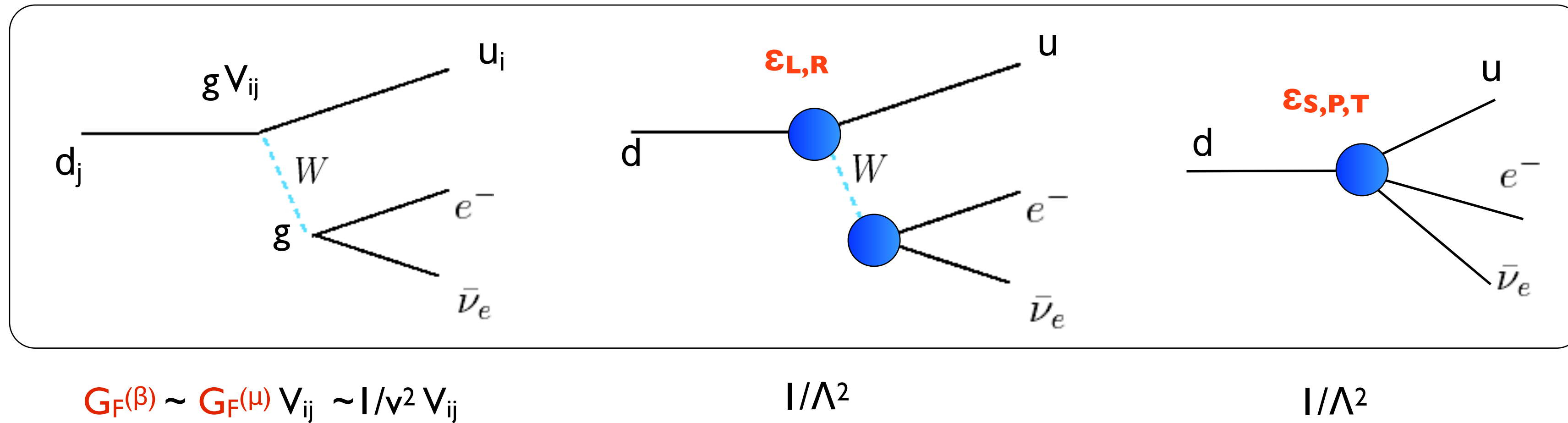
$$|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + \cancel{|V_{ub}|^2} = 1$$

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

Lepton Flavor Universality (LFU)

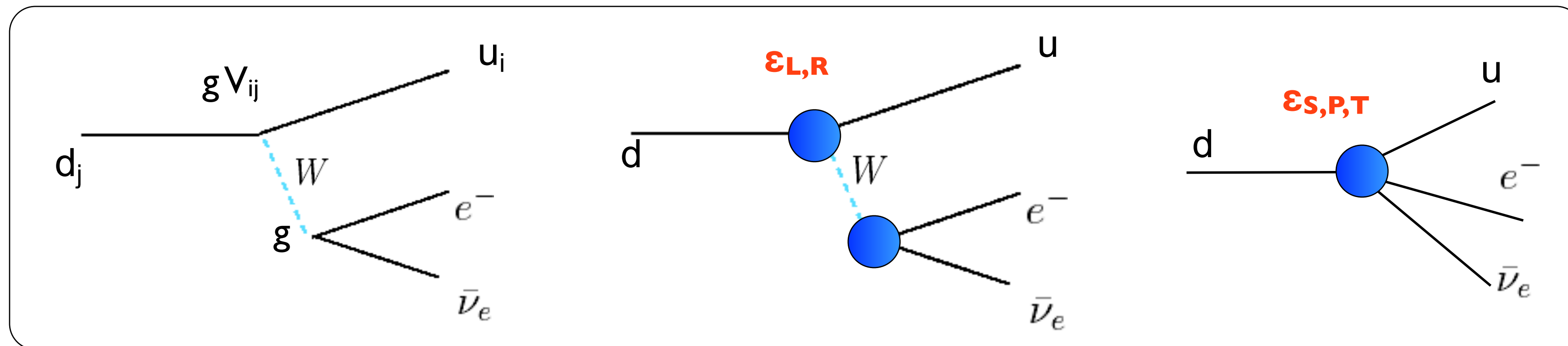
β decays in the SM and beyond

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$$1/\Lambda^2$$

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$$E \ll \Lambda \quad \downarrow \quad \epsilon_\Gamma \sim \tilde{\epsilon}_\Gamma \sim (v/\Lambda)^2$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} = \frac{G_F V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_{\Gamma} \left[\epsilon_\Gamma \bar{\ell} \Gamma \nu_L \cdot \bar{u} \Gamma d + \tilde{\epsilon}_\Gamma \bar{\ell} \Gamma \nu_R \cdot \bar{u} \Gamma d \right]$$

Ten effective couplings

$$\Gamma = L, R, S, P, T$$

- Precision of 0.1-0.01% probes $\Lambda > 10 \text{ TeV}$. Several precision tests are possible....

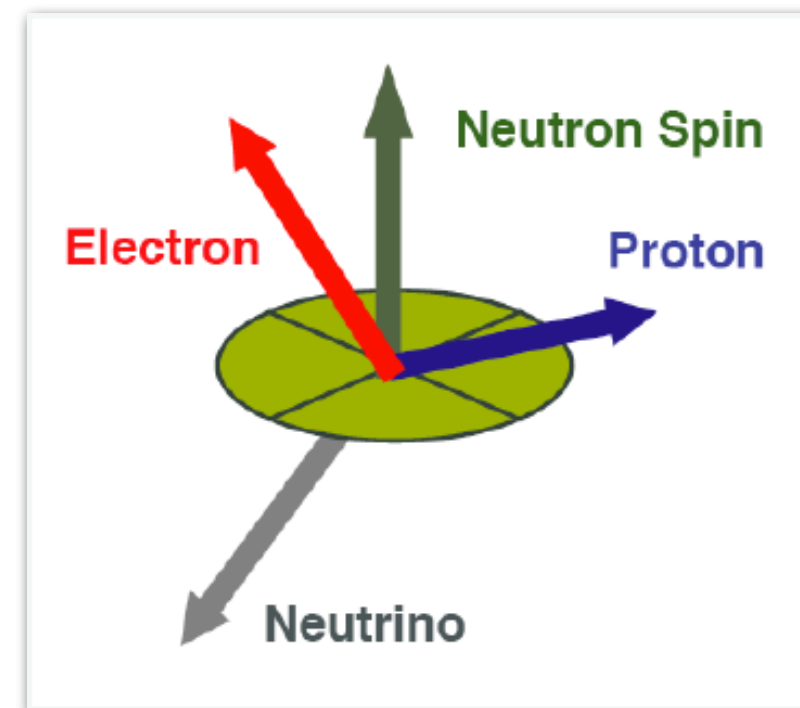
Searches for 'non V-A' currents

Measure differential decay distributions (mostly sensitive to $\varepsilon_{S,T}$)

$$d\Gamma \propto F(E_e) \left\{ 1 + b \frac{m_e}{E_e} + a \frac{\vec{p}_e \cdot \vec{p}_\nu}{E_e E_\nu} + \langle \vec{J} \rangle \cdot \left[A \frac{\vec{p}_e}{E_e} + B \frac{\vec{p}_\nu}{E_\nu} + \dots \right] \right\}$$

Lee-Yang, 1956 Jackson-Treiman-Wyld 1957

b ($g_S \varepsilon_S$, $g_T \varepsilon_T$):
distortion of beta spectrum



$a(g_A)$, $A(g_A)$, $B(g_A, g_A \varepsilon_A)$, ...
isolated via suitable experimental asymmetries

Bounds on $\varepsilon_{S,T}$ at the 0.1% level, $\Lambda \sim 5-10$ TeV

Cabibbo universality test

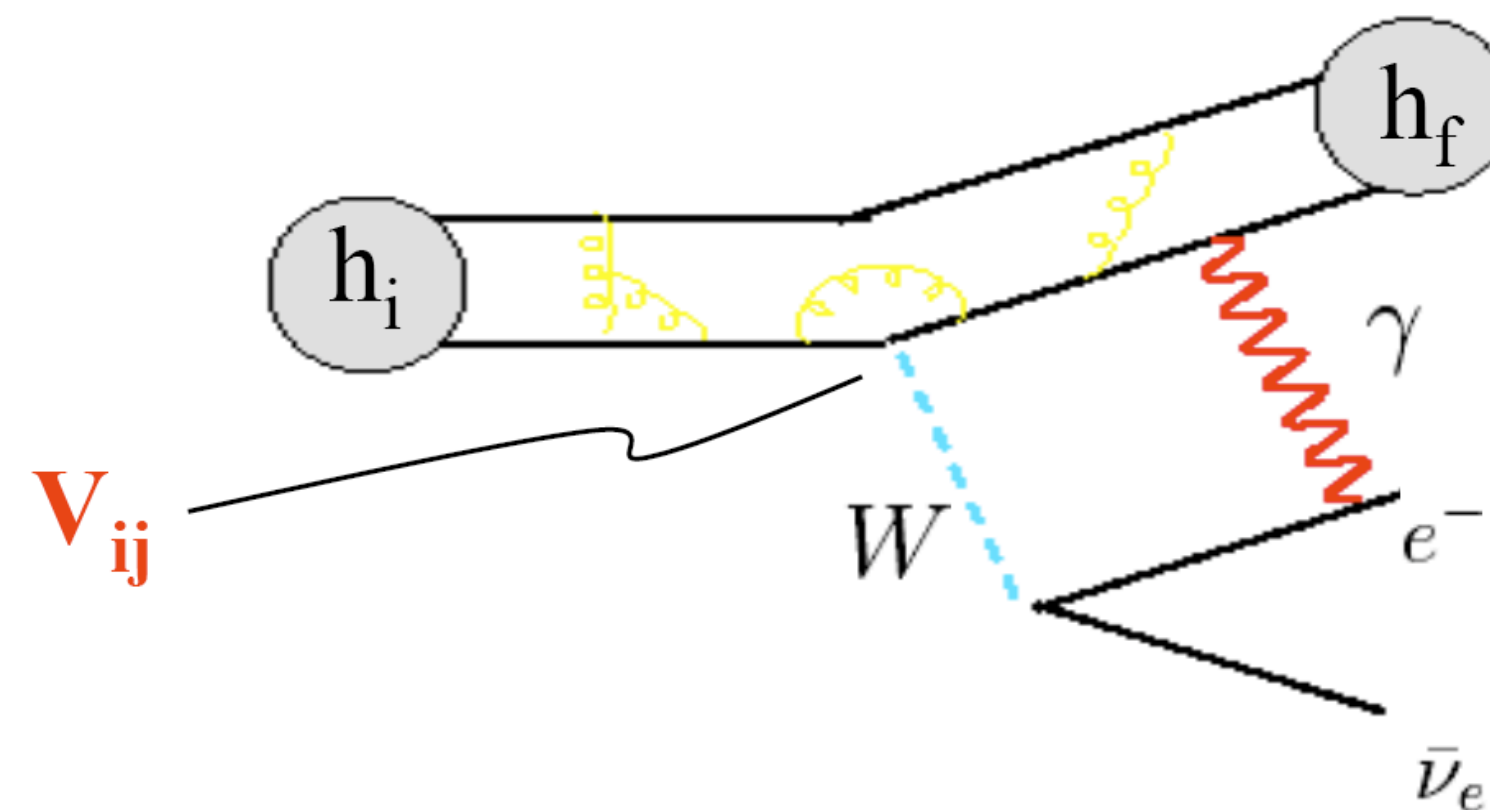
Extract $V_{ud}=\cos\theta_C$ and $V_{us}=\sin\theta_C$ from total decay rates

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

Channel-dependent effective CKM element
(Contaminated by the BSM ε 's)

Hadronic / nuclear
matrix element

Radiative corrections:
(α/π) $\sim 2.\times 10^{-3}$ and other effects



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Channel-dependent effective CKM element
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Unitarity test

$$\Delta_{\text{CKM}} \equiv |V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 - 1 = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{v^2}{\Lambda^2}\right)$$

Paths to V_{ud} and V_{us}

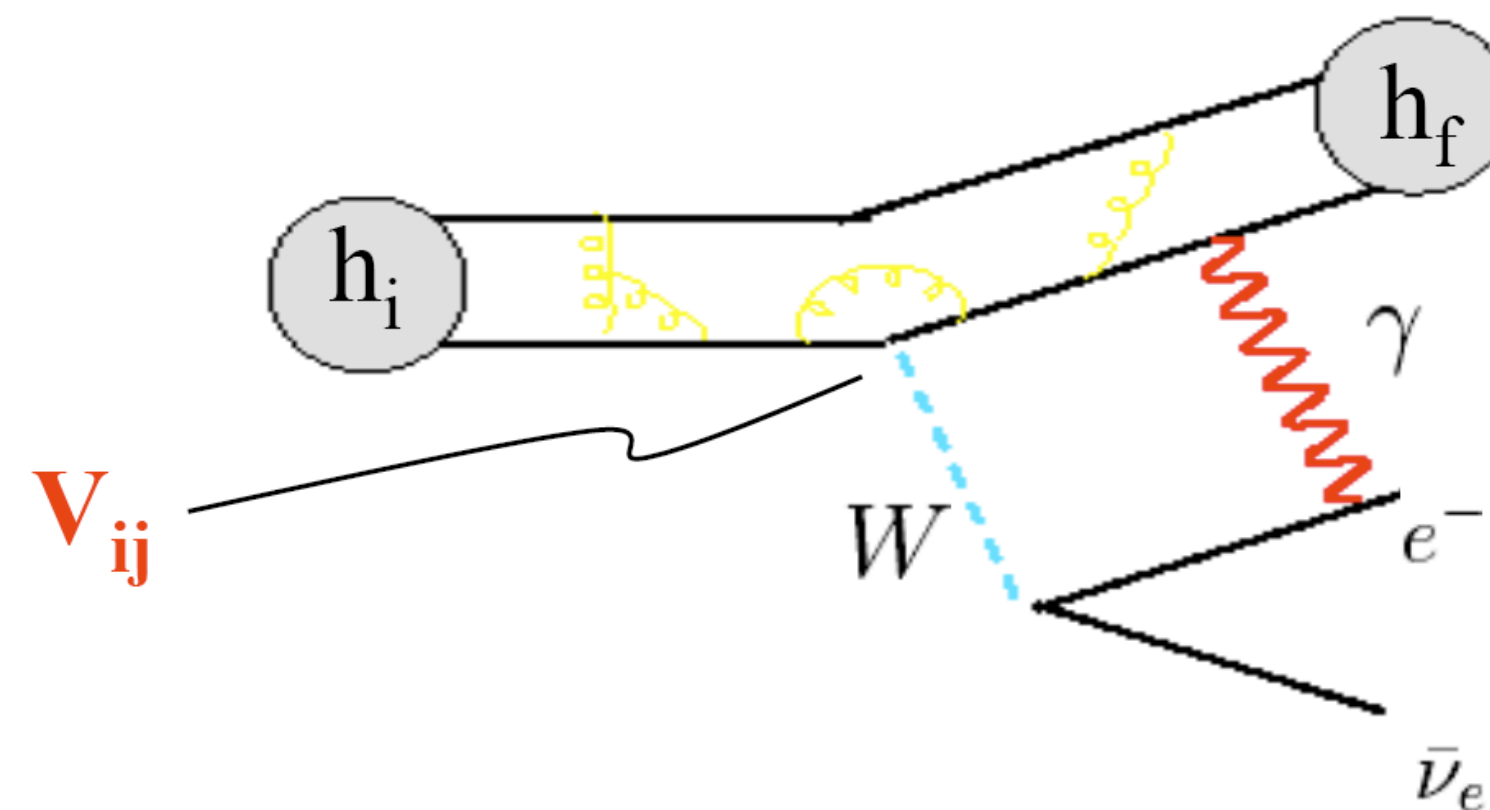
| | Hadron decays | | | Lepton decays |
|----------|--|--|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| V_{ud} | $\pi^\pm \rightarrow \pi^0 e \nu$ Nucl. $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ | $n \rightarrow p e \nu$ Nucl. mirror decays | $\pi \rightarrow \mu \nu$ | $\tau \rightarrow h_{NS} \nu$ |
| V_{us} | $K \rightarrow \pi \ell \nu$ | $\Lambda \rightarrow p e \nu, \dots$ | $K \rightarrow \mu \nu$ | $\tau \rightarrow h_S \nu$ |

V

V, A

A

V, A



Matrix elements

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Hadronic matrix elements: ‘Vector - Axial’ quark current

V

Berhends-Sirlin
Ademollo-Gatto

Traditionally “Golden modes”:
 $\langle f | V_\mu | i \rangle$ known in SU(2) [SU(3)] limit
 &
 corrections are 2nd order in
 SU(2) [SU(3)] breaking.
 Computed in lattice QCD for $K \rightarrow \pi$

V, A

Need experimental input on
 $\langle f | A | i \rangle / \langle f | V | i \rangle$

For neutron and hyperons,
 Lattice QCD catching up but
 not as precise as experiment

A

$\langle 0 | A_\mu | M \rangle$
 (decay constants)
 from Lattice QCD
 [$\sim 0.2\%$]

V, A

Use combination of
 data and theory
 (pQCD + lattice QCD)

Radiative corrections

| | Hadron decays | | | Lepton decays |
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Electroweak radiative corrections

Mesons and neutron:
 well developed perturbative
 framework, with non-perturbative
 input from lattice QCD and / or
 dispersive methods

For leptonic meson decays:
 full lattice QCD+QED available

Recent activity to assess nuclear
 structure uncertainties:

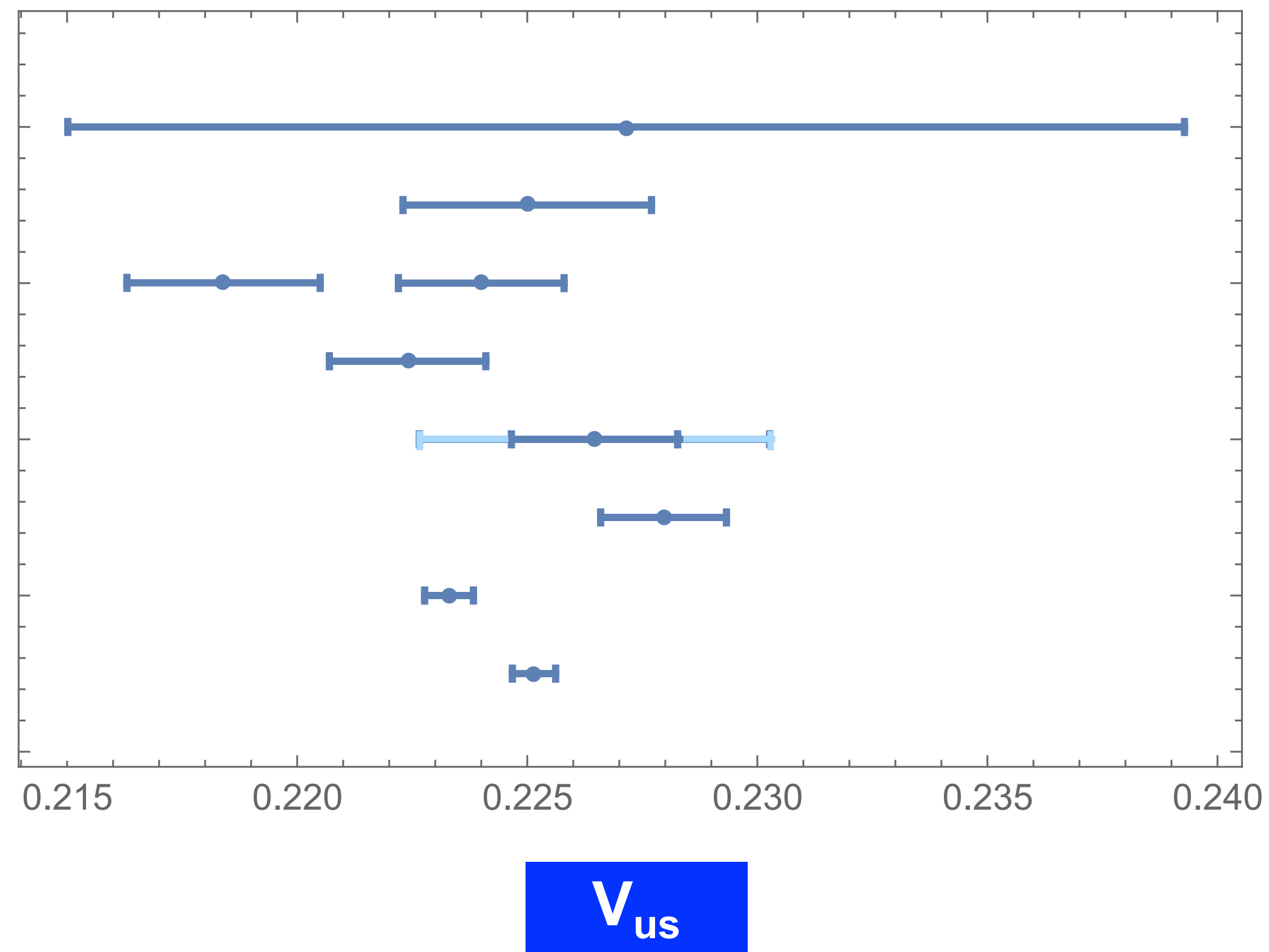
- Dispersive approach
- Chiral EFT

For exclusive channels, difficult
 to estimate the hadronic
 structure-dependent effects.
 Lattice QCD+QED?

The Cabibbo angle — global view

Convert V_{ud} to V_{us} via unitarity

$\pi^\pm \rightarrow \pi^0 e \nu$
 Hyperons
 τ inclusive
 τ exclusive
 $n \rightarrow p e \nu$
 $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$
 $K \rightarrow \pi l \nu$
 $K \rightarrow \mu \nu$ / $\pi \rightarrow \mu \nu$



Fractional uncertainty

5.3%

1.2% + ?

0.8% + ?

0.8% + ?

0.8% (1.7%) (PDG)

0.6% + ?

0.24%

0.21%

Largest uncertainty

EXP

EXP + TH

EXP + TH

EXP + TH

EXP

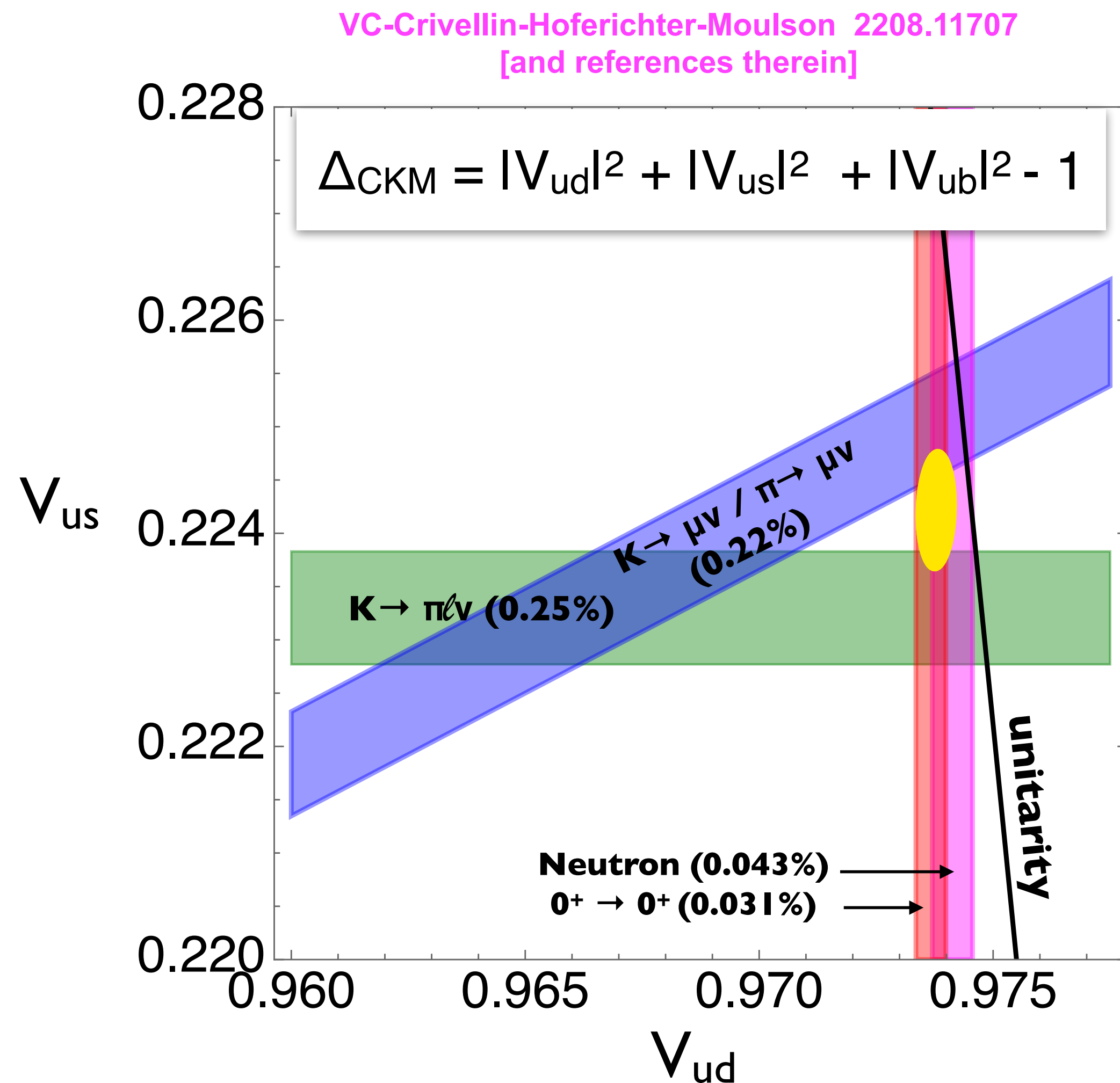
TH

EXP + TH

TH

Tension among the most precise determinations

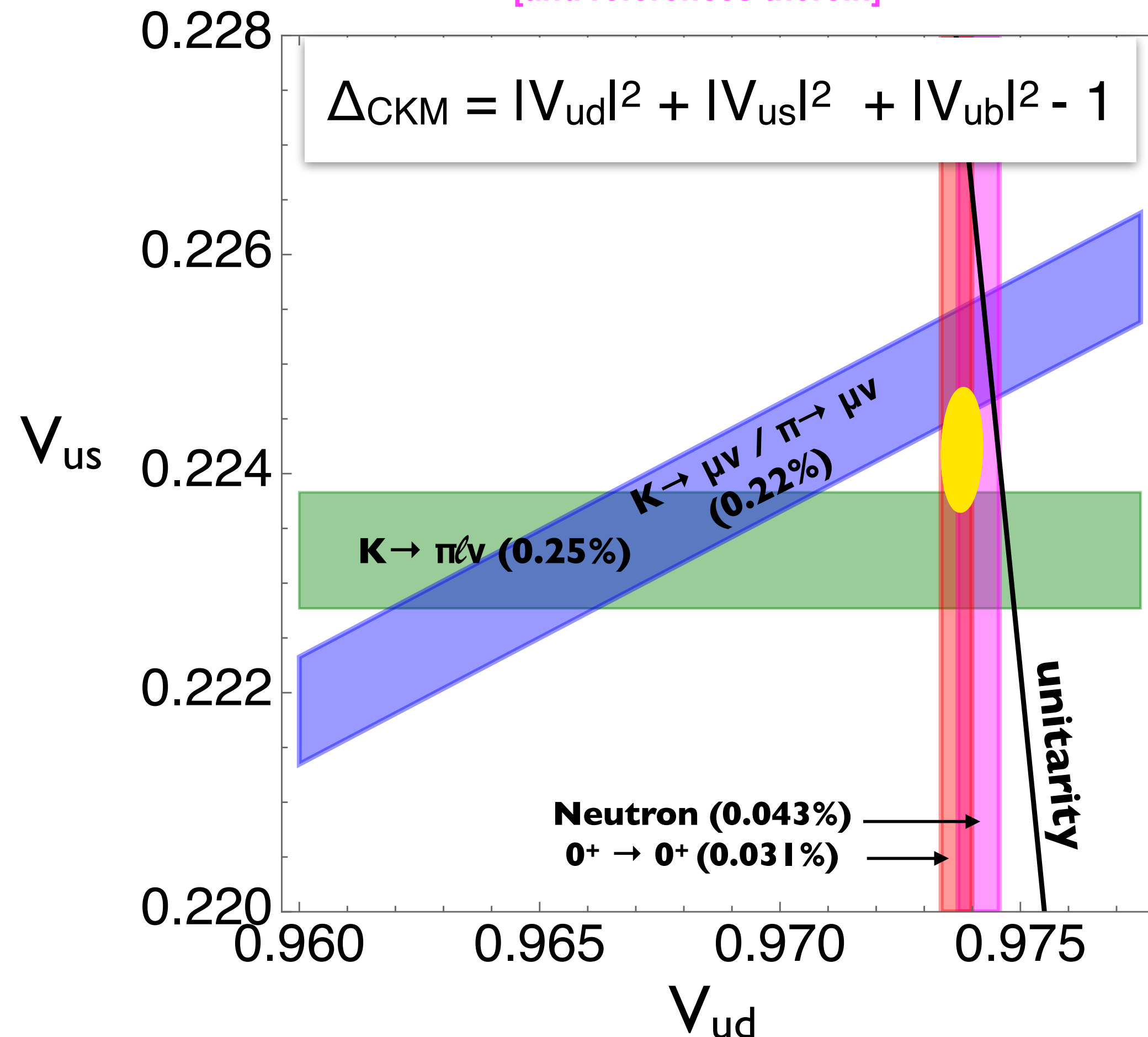
Tensions in the V_{ud} - V_{us} plane



- Bands don't intersect in the same region on the unitarity circle
- $\sim 3\sigma$ problem even in meson sector (Kl2 vs Kl3)
- $\sim 3\sigma$ effect in global fit ($\Delta_{CKM} = -1.48(53) \times 10^{-3}$)

Tensions in the V_{ud} - V_{us} plane

VC-Crivellini-Hoferichter-Moulson 2208.11707
[and references therein]

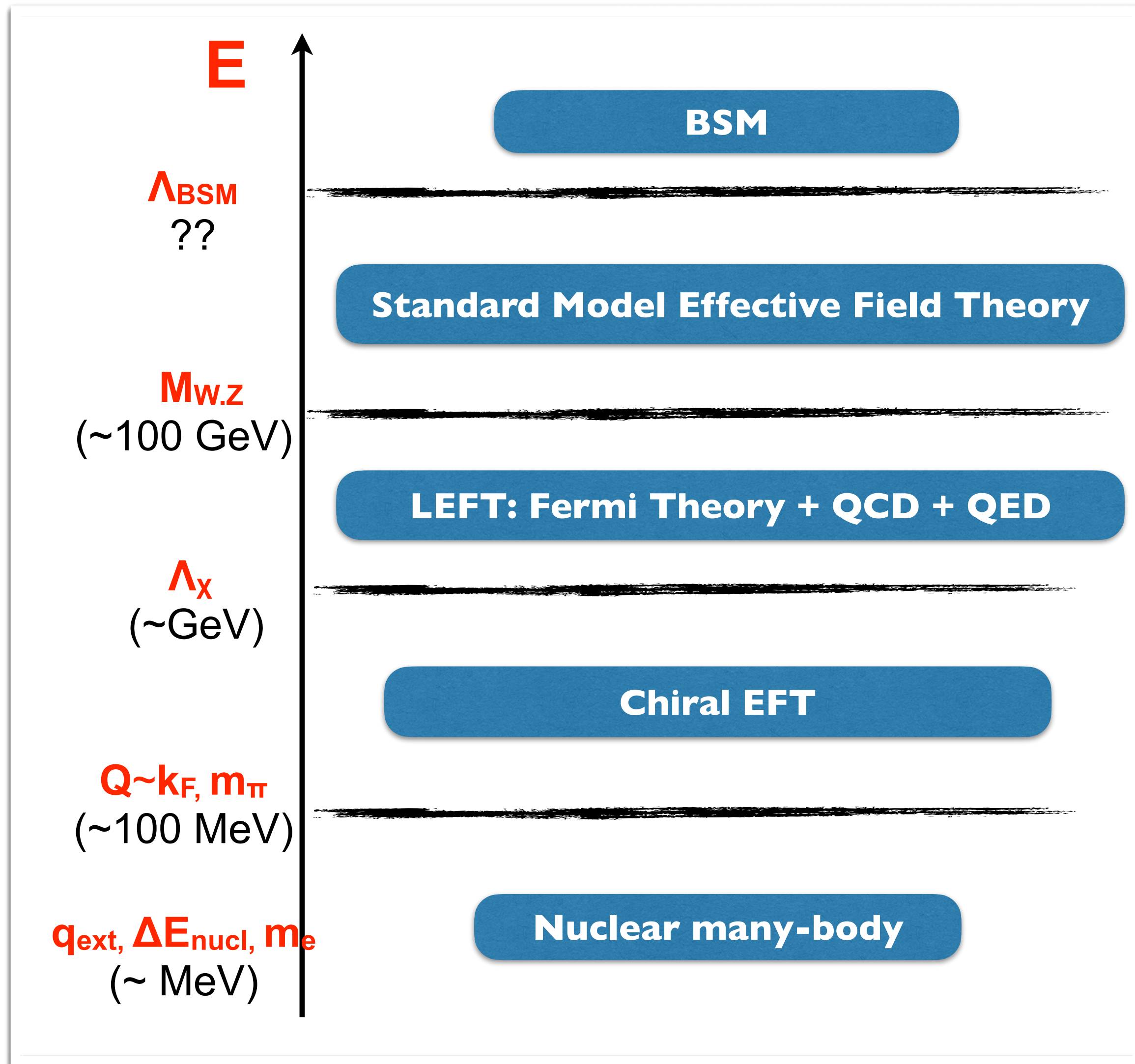


Cabibbo angle anomaly?

- **Needed / expected experimental scrutiny:**
 - neutron decay (will match nominal nuclear uncertainty)
 - pion beta decay (6x to 10x at PIONEER phases II, III)
 - new $K_{\mu 3}/K_{\mu 2}$ BR measurement at NA62
- **Theoretical scrutiny:**
 - Standard Model predictions with $\text{few} \times 10^{-4}$ precision!
 - Study possible BSM explanations that survive the constraints from other precision tests and the LHC

Theory for β decays

Widely separated scales: $\Lambda_{\text{BSM}} \gg M_W \gg \Lambda_\chi \gg Q \sim k_F \sim m_\pi \gg m_e \sim q_{\text{ext}} \Rightarrow$ tower of EFTs



The EFT expands amplitudes in ϵ 's and sums large logarithms $\sim \alpha^{n+m} (\ln(\epsilon))^n$

Connection to explicit new physics models

$$\epsilon_{\text{SMEFT}} = (m_W/\Lambda_{\text{BSM}})^2$$

$$\epsilon_W = (\Lambda_\chi/m_W)^2$$

Non-perturbative input from Lattice QCD and dispersive methods

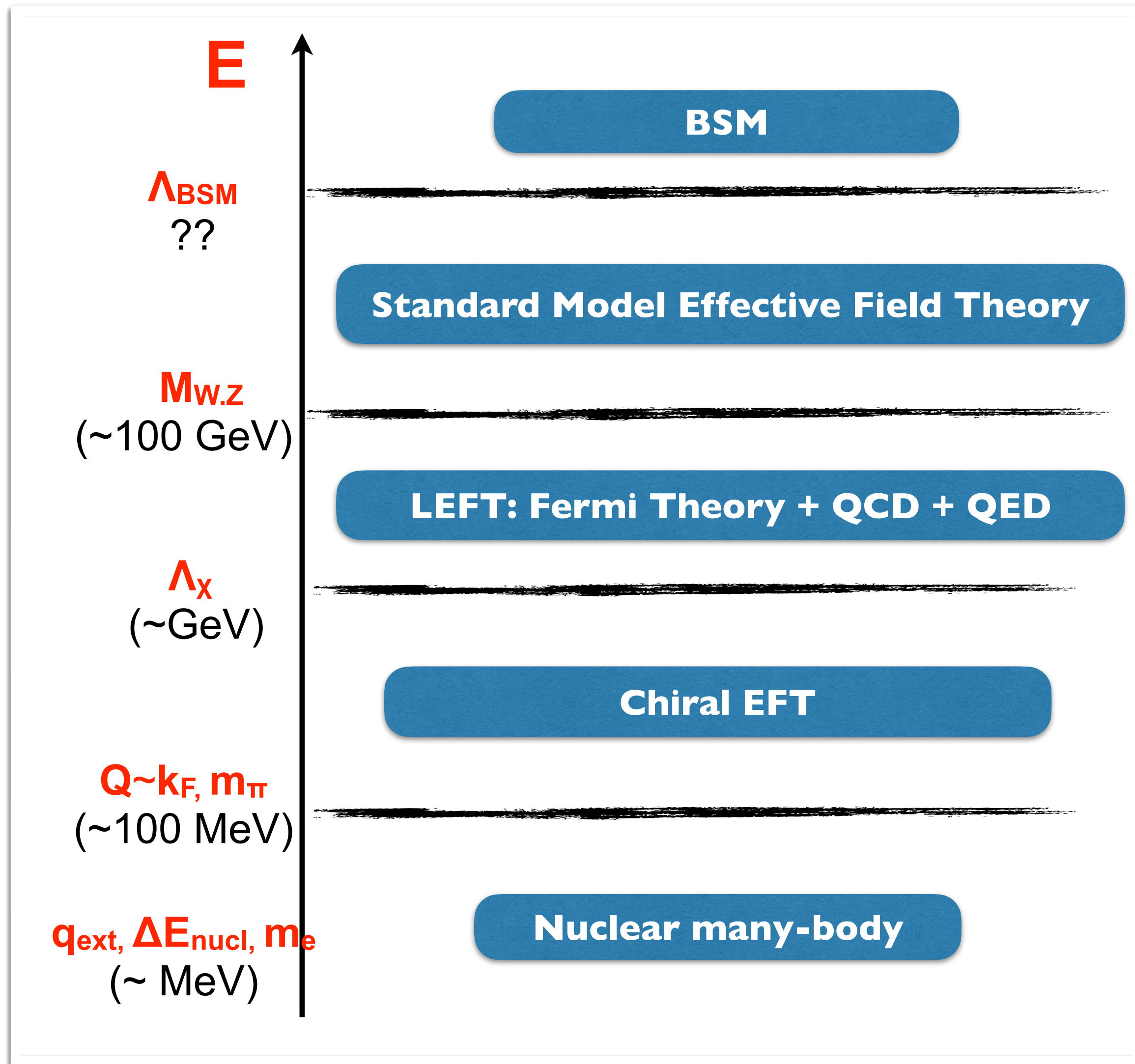
$$\epsilon_\chi = Q/\Lambda_\chi$$

$$\epsilon_{\pi} = q_{\text{ext}}/m_\pi$$

$$\epsilon_{\text{recoil}} = q_{\text{ext}}/\Lambda_\chi$$

Theory for β decays

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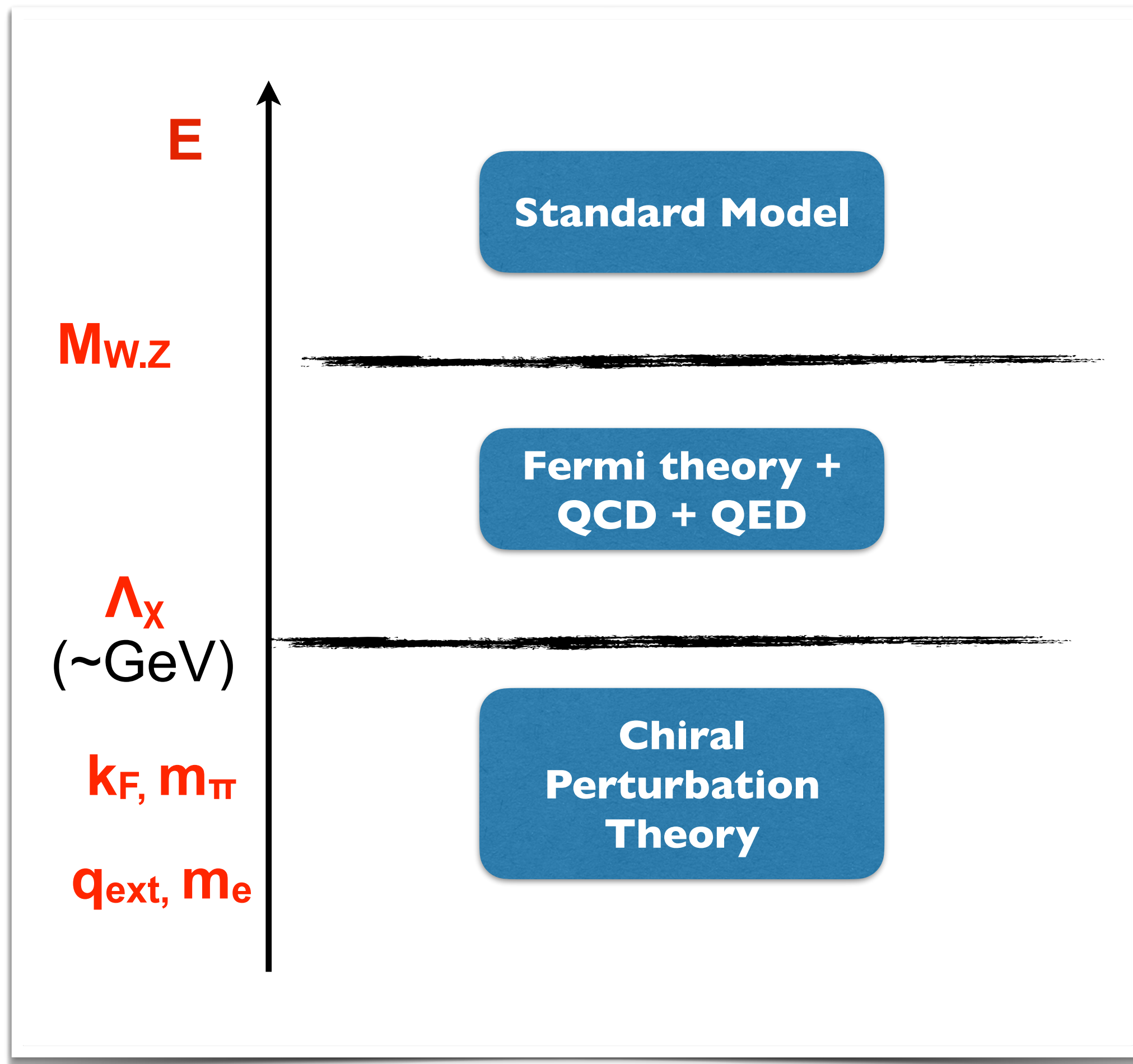
$$\epsilon_\pi = q_{\text{ext}}/m_\pi$$

$$\epsilon_{\text{recoil}} = q_{\text{ext}}/\Lambda_\chi$$

Framework to
(1) organize / improve the Standard Model predictions
(2) study the effects of new physics

Improving the SM predictions

Intense recent theoretical activity on several fronts

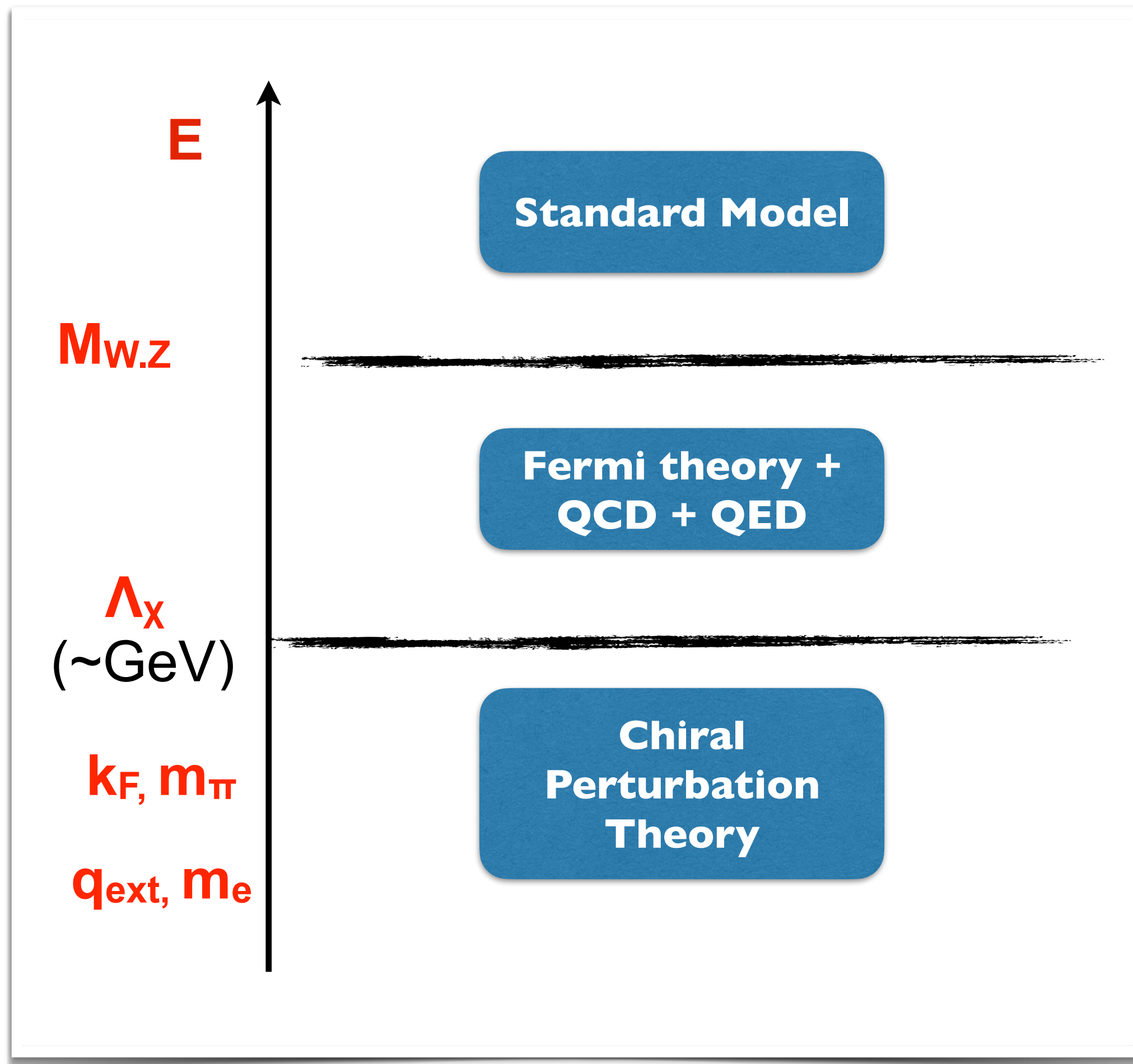


$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Fermi}} = -\frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{ud} \, C_\beta(\mu) \, \bar{\ell} \gamma_\alpha (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_\ell \, \bar{u} \gamma^\alpha (1 - \gamma_5) d + \dots$$

- Short distance electroweak corrections to NLL ($C_\beta(\mu)$)
- Computation of matrix elements to $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$ and beyond
 - Dispersive methods
 - Lattice QCD
 - EFT for single- and multi-nucleon systems, nuclei
 - First-principles nuclear structure calculations

Improving the SM predictions

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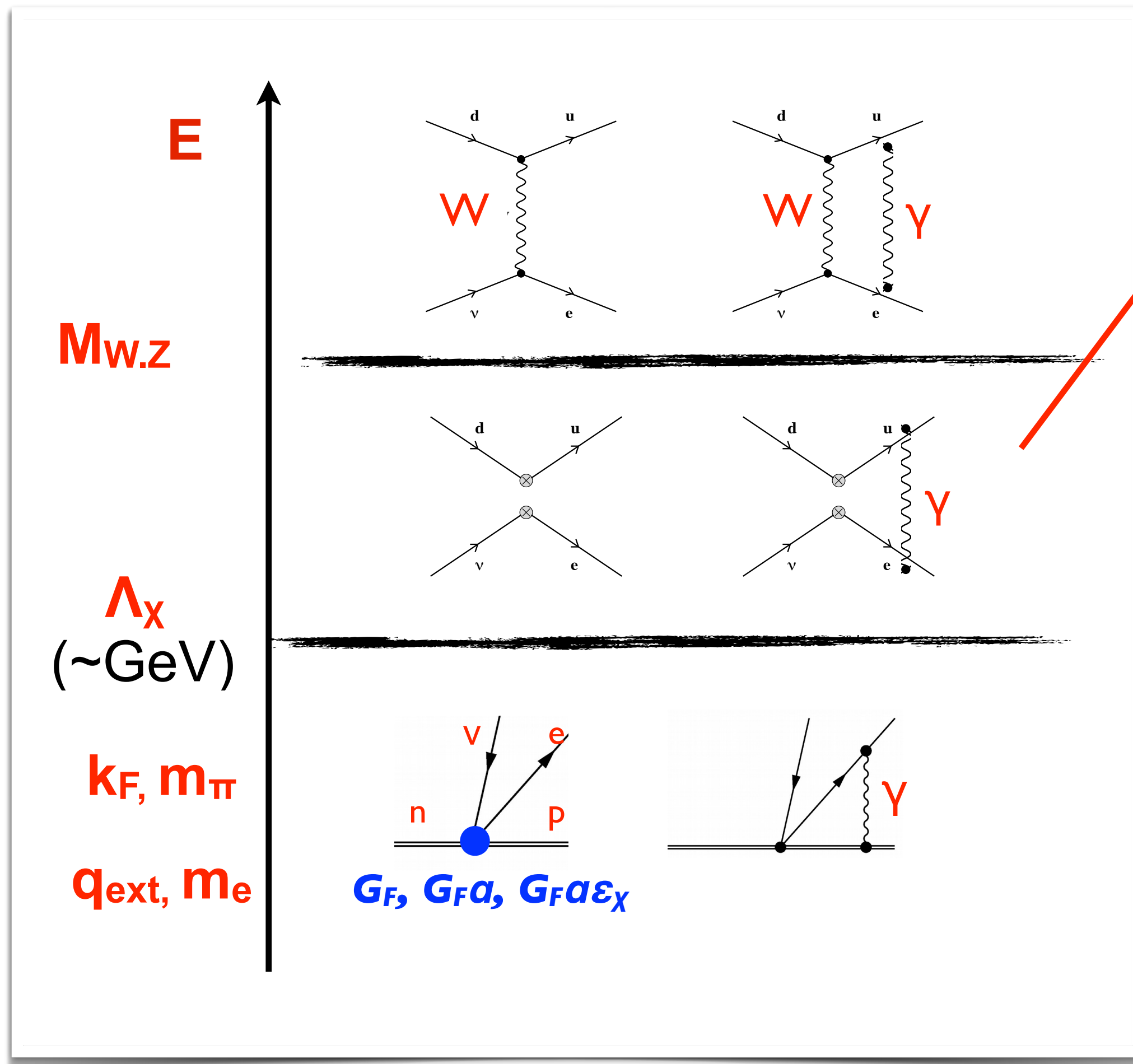


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We will hear about most of these during the workshop.
In this talk I discuss progress in neutron decay

EFT machinery at work: neutron decay



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Fermi}} = -\frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{ud} C_\beta(\mu) \bar{\ell} \gamma_\alpha (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_\ell \bar{u} \gamma^\alpha (1 - \gamma_5) d + \dots$$

$$C_\beta(\mu) \sim 1 + (\alpha/\pi) (k_1 \ln(M_W/\mu) + k_2) + (\alpha/\pi) (\alpha_s/\pi) (k_3 \ln(M_W/\mu) + k_4) + O((\alpha/\pi)^2)$$

Resummation of large logarithms:

$$\text{LL} \sim (\alpha \ln(M_W/\mu))^n \quad \& \quad \alpha (\alpha_s \ln(M_W/\mu))^n$$

Sirlin 1982

$$\text{NLL} \sim \alpha (\alpha \ln(M_W/\mu))^n \quad \& \quad \alpha \alpha_s (\alpha_s \ln(M_W/\mu))^n$$

VC, W. Dekens, E. Mereghetti,
O. Tomalak, 2306.03138
Adapted from Buras-Weisz '90

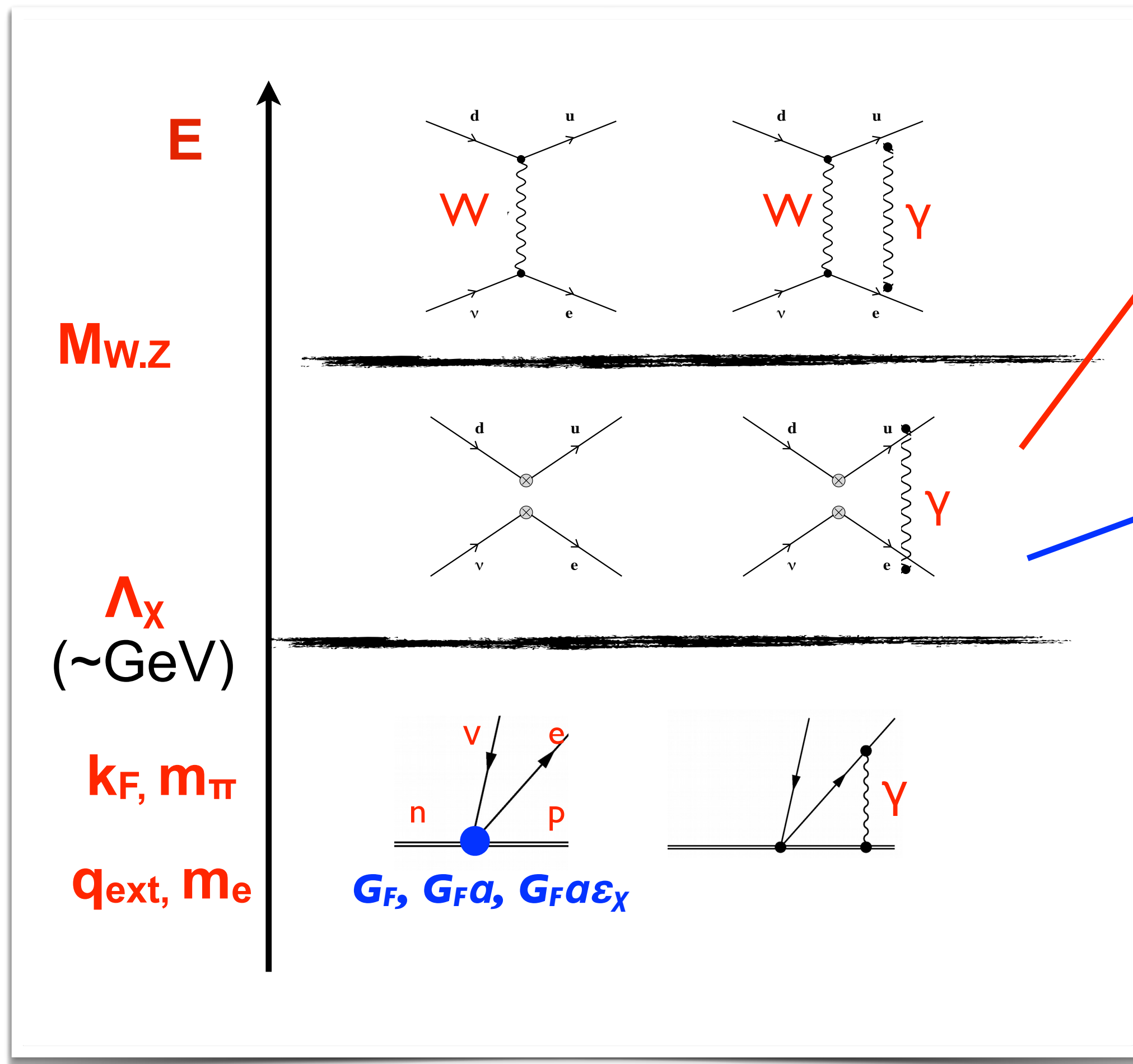
M. Gorbahn, F. Moretti, S. Jaeger
2510.27648

2-loops

3-loops

This improvement applies to all decays

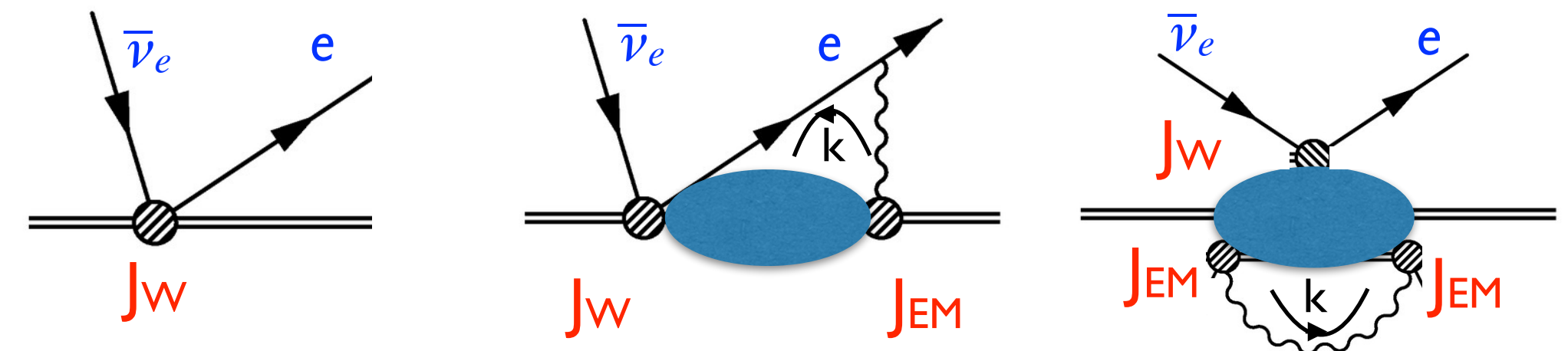
EFT machinery at work: neutron decay



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Matrix elements to $O(a)$

$\langle f |$ $| i \rangle$



Contributions from photons of all virtualities — EFT captures them all

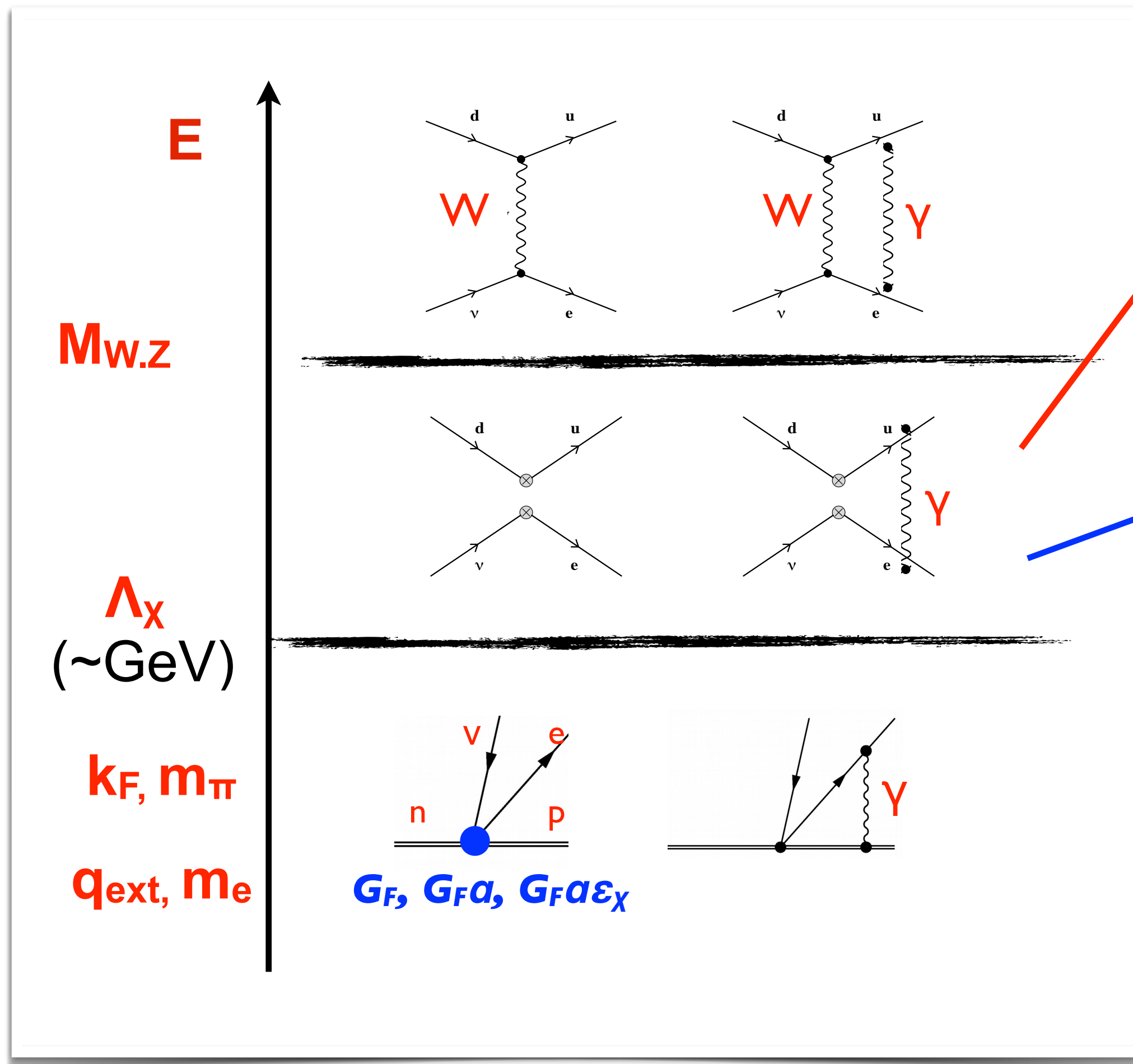
Hard: $(k^0, |\mathbf{k}|) > \Lambda_\chi \sim m_N \sim \text{GeV}$

Soft: $(k^0, |\mathbf{k}|) \sim Q \sim k_F \sim m_\pi$

Potential: $(k^0, |\mathbf{k}|) \sim (Q^2/m_N, Q)$

Ultrasoft $(k^0, |\mathbf{k}|) \sim Q^2/m_N \ll k_F$

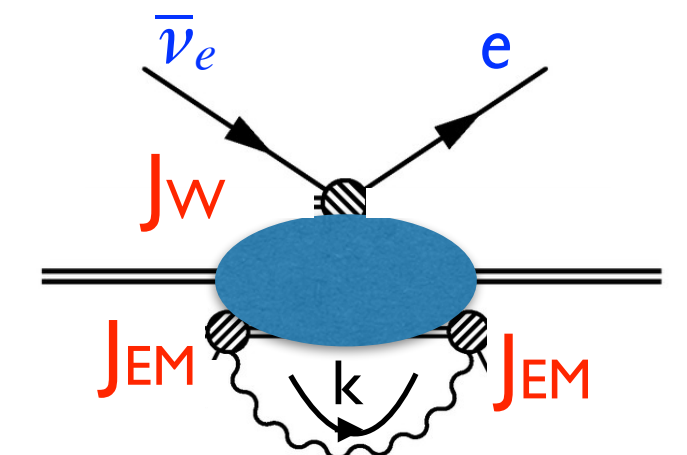
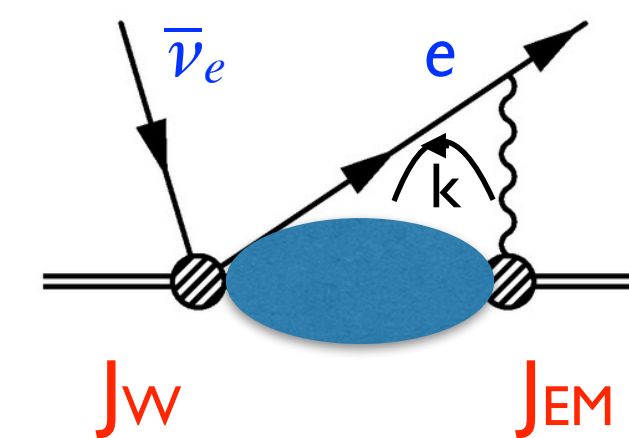
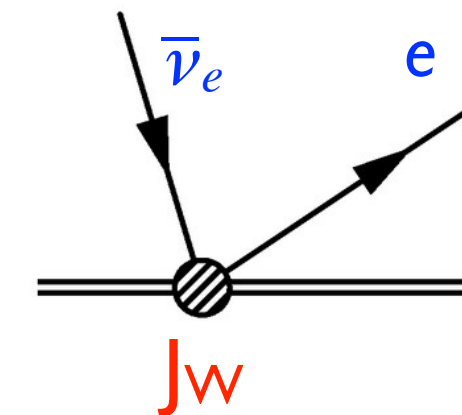
EFT machinery at work: neutron decay



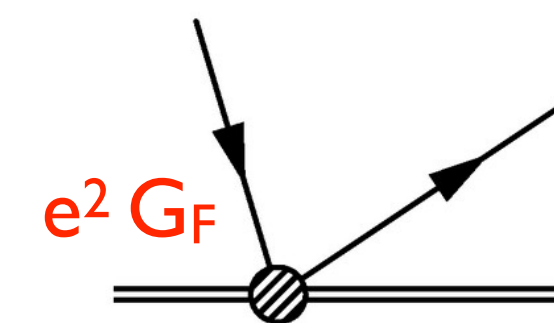
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Matrix elements to $O(a)$

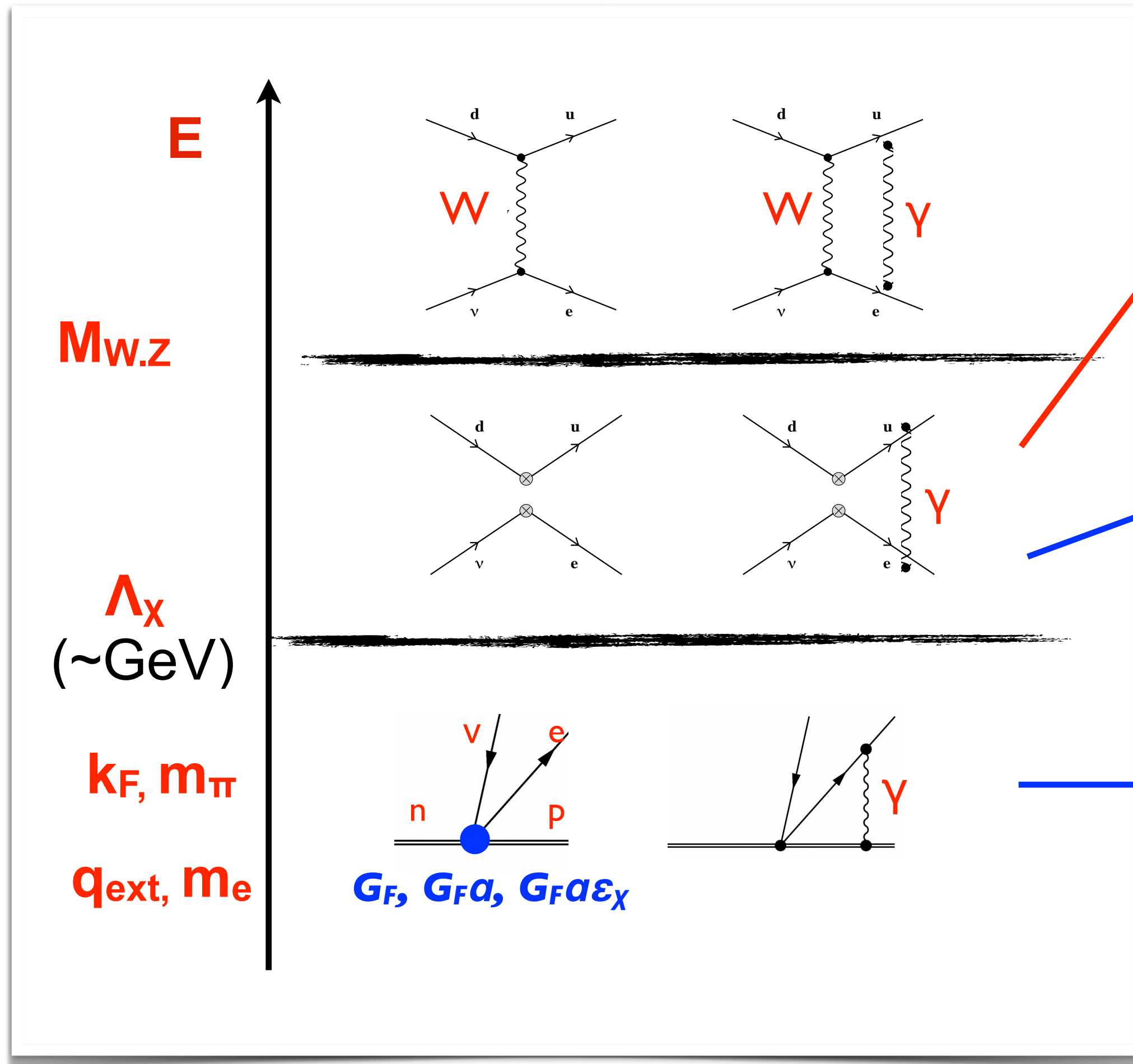
$\langle f |$ $| i \rangle$



Hard photons
 $[(k^0, |\mathbf{k}|) > \sim \Lambda_\chi \sim m_N \sim \text{GeV}]$
 leave behind local
 interactions at low energy



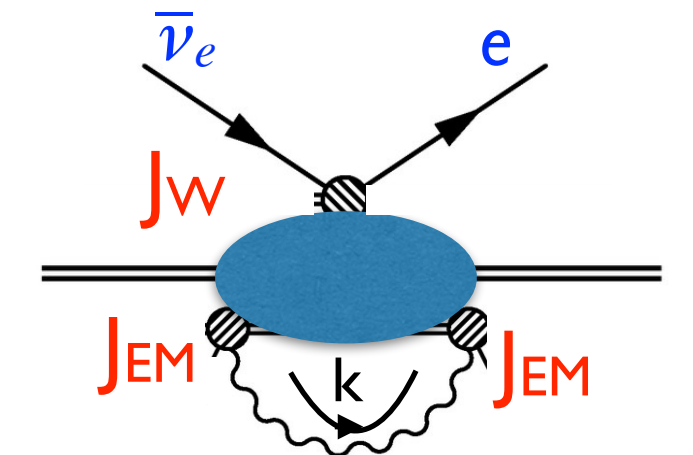
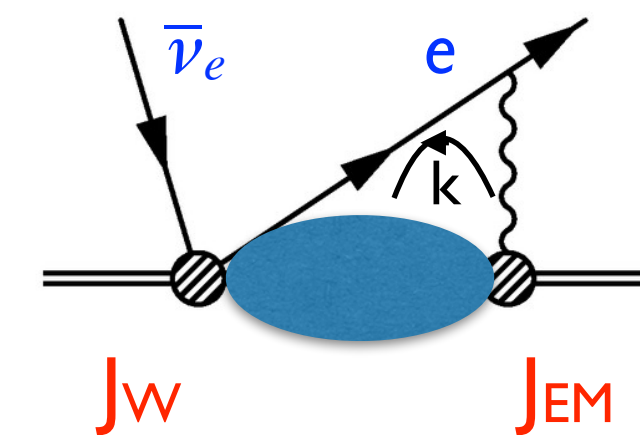
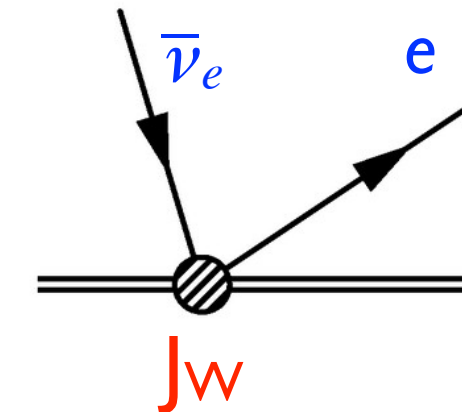
EFT machinery at work: neutron decay



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Fermi}} = -\frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} V_{ud} C_\beta(\mu) \bar{\ell} \gamma_\alpha (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_\ell \bar{u} \gamma^\alpha (1 - \gamma_5) d + \dots$$

Matrix elements to $O(\alpha)$

$\langle f |$ $| i \rangle$



Baryon ChPT with dynamical leptons and photons (soft / ultrasoft)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\not{\pi}} = -\sqrt{2} G_F V_{ud} \bar{e} \gamma_\mu P_L \nu_e \bar{N} (g_V v_\mu - 2g_A S_\mu) \tau^+ N + \dots$$

g_V and g_A at $\mu_\chi \sim \Lambda_\chi$ encode effect of hard photons

$$g_V = C_\beta \left[1 + \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \hat{C}_V \right]$$

Combination of chiral LECs of $O(e^2 p)$

Evolving from high- to low-scale

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

- The effective vector coupling

$$g_V(\mu_\chi) = \tilde{U}(\mu_\chi, \Lambda_\chi) \left[1 + \overline{\square}_{\text{Had}}^V + \frac{\alpha(\Lambda_\chi)}{\pi} \kappa \right] U(\Lambda_\chi, \mu_W) C_\beta(\mu_W)$$

NLL RGE in LEFT @ $\mu_{\text{LEFT}}: \mu_W \rightarrow \Lambda_\chi$

Evolving from high- to low-scale

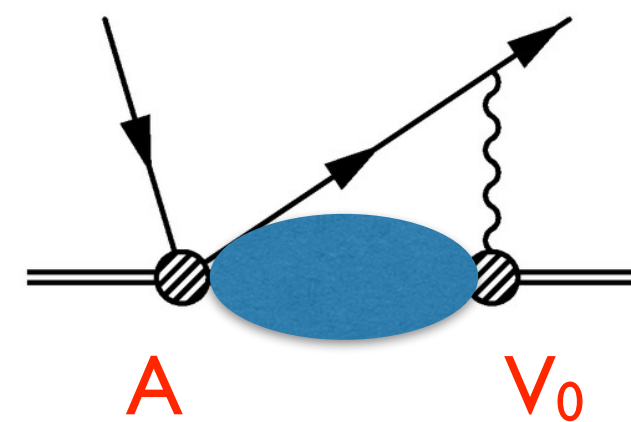
VC, [W. Dekens](#), [E. Mereghetti](#), [O. Tomalak](#), 2306.03138

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NLL RGE in LEFT @ $\mu_{\text{LEFT}}: \mu_W \rightarrow \Lambda_\chi$

Non-perturbative contribution
proportional to the γ -W 'box',
suitably matched to cancel 'scheme
choices' in NLL RGE evolutions



$$\overline{\square}_{\text{had}}^V(\mu_0) = \frac{e^2}{i} \int \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{\nu^2 + Q^2}{Q^4} \left[\frac{T_3(\nu, Q^2)}{2m_N \nu} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{Q^2 + \mu_0^2} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_0^2)}{\pi} \right) \right].$$

[Seng et al. 1807.10197](#), [Ma et al. 2308.16755](#)
[Czarnecki-Marciano-Sirlin, 1907.06737](#)
[Hayen 2010.07262](#)
[Shiells-Blunden-Melnitchouk 2012.01580](#)

Evolving from high- to low-scale

VC, [W. Dekens](#), [E. Mereghetti](#), [O. Tomalak](#), [2306.03138](#)

- The effective vector coupling

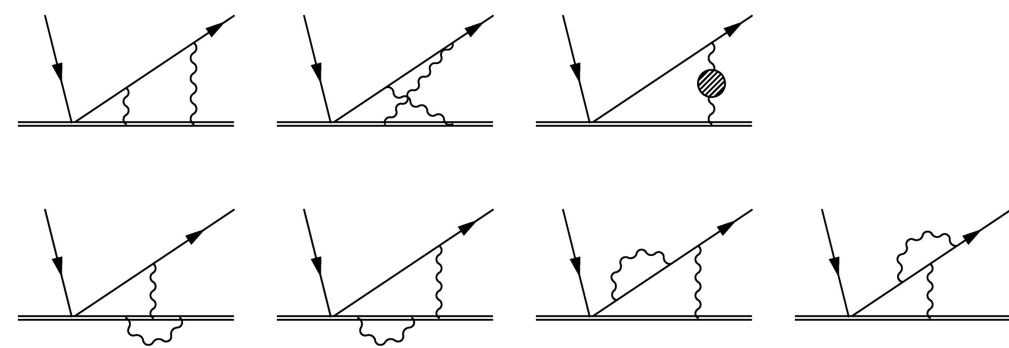
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NLL RGE in LEFT @ $\mu_{\text{LEFT}}: \mu_W \rightarrow \Lambda_\chi$

NLL RGE in ChPT
[soft and u-soft photons]

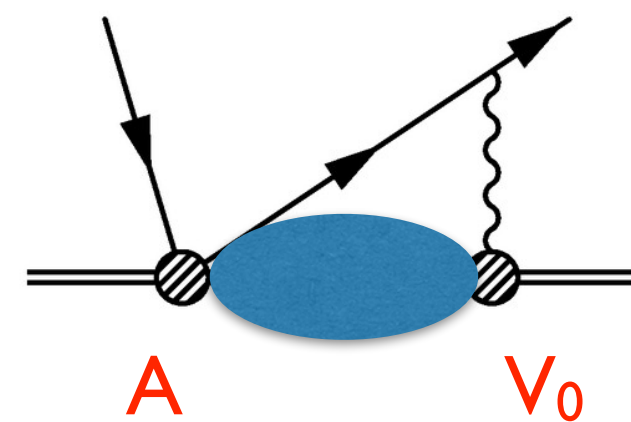
LL $\sim (\alpha \ln(\Lambda_\chi/m_e))^n$ $\mu_\chi \sim m_e$

NLL $\sim \alpha (\alpha \ln(\Lambda_\chi/m_e))^n$



Adapt from [Ji & Ramsey-Musolf '91](#) and [Gimenez '92](#)

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- The effective vector coupling

$$g_V(\mu_\chi) = \tilde{U}(\mu_\chi, \Lambda_\chi) \left[1 + \bar{\square}_{\text{Had}}^V + \frac{\alpha(\Lambda_\chi)}{\pi} \kappa \right] U(\Lambda_\chi, \mu_W) C_\beta(\mu_W)$$

- Need input on hadronic box up to $Q^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2$

Combination** of dispersive results
(Used in following numerics)

$$\longrightarrow \bar{\square}_{\text{Had}}^V(Q^2 \leq 2 \text{ GeV}^2) = 1.56(12) \cdot 10^{-3}$$

Lattice QCD

$$\longrightarrow \bar{\square}_{\text{Had}}^V(Q^2 \leq 2 \text{ GeV}^2) = 1.49(7) \cdot 10^{-3}$$

VC-[Crivellin-Hoferichter-Moulson](#) 2208.11707 **

[Seng et al.](#) 1807.10197,

[Czarnecki-Marciano-Sirlin](#), 1907.06737

[Hayen](#) 2010.07262

[Shiells-Blunden-Melnitchouk](#) 2012.01580

[Ma et al.](#) 2308.16755

More on this: Tuesday afternoon discussion

Evolving from high- to low-scale

VC, [W. Dekens](#), [E. Mereghetti](#), [O. Tomalak](#), 2306.03138

- The effective vector coupling

$$g_V(\mu_\chi) = \tilde{U}(\mu_\chi, \Lambda_\chi) \left[1 + \bar{\square}_{\text{Had}}^V + \frac{\alpha(\Lambda_\chi)}{\pi} \kappa \right] U(\Lambda_\chi, \mu_W) C_\beta(\mu_W)$$

- Need input on hadronic box up to $Q^2 = 2 \text{ GeV}^2$

Combination** of dispersive results
(Used in following numerics)

$$\longrightarrow \bar{\square}_{\text{Had}}^V(Q^2 \leq 2 \text{ GeV}^2) = 1.56(12) \cdot 10^{-3}$$

Lattice QCD

$$\longrightarrow \bar{\square}_{\text{Had}}^V(Q^2 \leq 2 \text{ GeV}^2) = 1.49(7) \cdot 10^{-3}$$

VC-[Crivellin-Hoferichter-Moulson](#) 2208.11707 **

[Seng et al.](#) 1807.10197,

[Czarnecki-Marciano-Sirlin](#), 1907.06737

[Hayen](#) 2010.07262

[Shiells-Blunden-Melnitchouk](#) 2012.01580

[Ma et al.](#) 2308.16755

- With $g_V(\mu_\chi)$ at $\mu_\chi \sim m_e \rightarrow$ compute matrix element and decay rate including virtual (ultra-soft) and real photons

Corrections to neutron decay rate

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

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

$\lambda = g_A/g_V$ taken from experiment.
It includes electromagnetic shift
to both g_V and g_A .
Ratio is scale independent.

Δ_R : proportional to
 $(g_V(m_e))^2 \times (1 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha) \text{ virtual and real effects from } \mathcal{L}_{\pi})$

Corrections to neutron decay rate

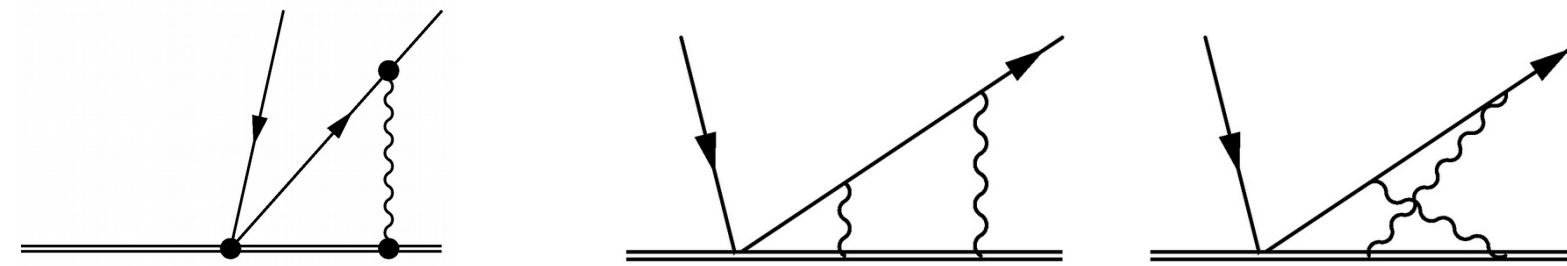
VC, [W. Dekens](#), [E. Mereghetti](#), [O. Tomalak](#), 2306.03138

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

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It includes electromagnetic shift
to both g_V and g_A .
Ratio is scale independent.

$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^n) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon_{\text{recoil}})$ |matrix element|² in the low-energy EFT

Δ_R : proportional to
 $(g_V(m_e))^2 \times (1 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha) \text{ virtual and real effects from } \mathcal{L}_{\pi})$



Ultra-soft photons

No large logs but contains enhanced contributions $\sim (\pi\alpha/\beta)$, which we re-sum via the non-relativistic Fermi function *ansatz* (not based on a full 2-loop calculation)

$$F_{NR}(\beta) = \frac{2\pi\alpha}{\beta} \frac{1}{1 - e^{-\frac{2\pi\alpha}{\beta}}} \approx 1 + \frac{\pi\alpha}{\beta} + \frac{\pi^2\alpha^2}{3\beta^2} + \dots \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow 0} 1 + \pi\alpha + \frac{\pi^2\alpha^2}{3} + \dots$$

RG-based re-summation (for $m_e \rightarrow 0$) leads to +0.011% in Δ_f compared to our *ansatz*

$$\exp\left[\frac{\pi\alpha}{\beta}\right] \xrightarrow{m \rightarrow 0} 1 + \pi\alpha + \frac{\pi^2\alpha^2}{2} + \dots$$

Vander Griend-Cao-Hill-Pleštid
2501.17916

Corrections to neutron decay rate

VC, [W. Dekens](#), [E. Mereghetti](#), [O. Tomalak](#), 2306.03138

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

$$\Delta_f = 3.584(5) \%$$

Includes result from
Vander Griend-Cao-Hill-
Pleštid 2501.17916

$$\Delta_R = 4.044(24)_{\text{Had}}(8)_{\alpha\alpha_s^2}(7)_{\alpha\epsilon_\chi^2}(5)_{\mu_\chi}[27]_{\text{total}} \%$$

Corrections to neutron decay rate

VC, [W. Dekens](#), [E. Mereghetti](#), [O. Tomalak](#), [2306.03138](#)

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

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Plestid 2501.17916](#)

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4.030

Recent [NLL\(s\)](#) analysis
(3-loop anomalous dimension
and 2-loop finite parts) translates
into [shift of \$-1.4 \cdot 10^{-4}\$ in \$\Delta_R\$](#)

[M. Gorbahn, F. Moretti, S. Jaeger
2510.27648](#)

Corrections to neutron decay rate

VC, [W. Dekens](#), [E. Mereghetti](#), [O. Tomalak](#), 2306.03138

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Plestid 2501.17916

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| CORRECTION | COMPARISON with LITERATURE* | MAIN SOURCE of DISCREPANCY |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| $\Delta_f = 3.584(5) \%$ | -0.024% | ‘Fermi function’ |
| $\Delta_R = 4.030(27) \%$ | +0.061% - 0.014% | NLL: $\alpha^2 \text{Log}(m_N/m_e)$ |
| $\Delta_{\text{TOT}} = 7.758(27) \%$ | +0.037% - 0.014% | Both related to the treatment of $O(\alpha^2)$ corrections in the hadronic EFT |

* As compiled in VC,[A. Crivellin](#), [M. Hoferichter](#), [M. Moulson](#), 2208.11707. Non-perturbative input in Δ_R is the same

Impact on V_{ud}

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

Single most precise
measurements of lifetime
and λ imply very
competitive V_{ud} !

Maerkish et al,
1812.04666

Gonzalez et al,
2106.10375

$$V_{ud}^{n,\text{PDG}} = 0.97417(2)_{\Delta_f}(13)_{\Delta_R}(\textcolor{red}{82})_{\lambda}(\textcolor{blue}{28})_{\tau_n}[88]_{\text{total}}$$

$$V_{ud}^{n,\text{best}} = 0.97389(2)_{\Delta_f}(13)_{\Delta_R}(\textcolor{red}{35})_{\lambda}(\textcolor{blue}{20})_{\tau_n}[42]_{\text{total}}$$

EFT treatment revealed shifts (of different signs) in V_{ud} at the level of $(1-3) \times 10^{-4}$

Larger than hadronic uncertainty and relevant for CKM tests

Looking forward to improvements in lifetime and $\lambda = g_A / g_V$

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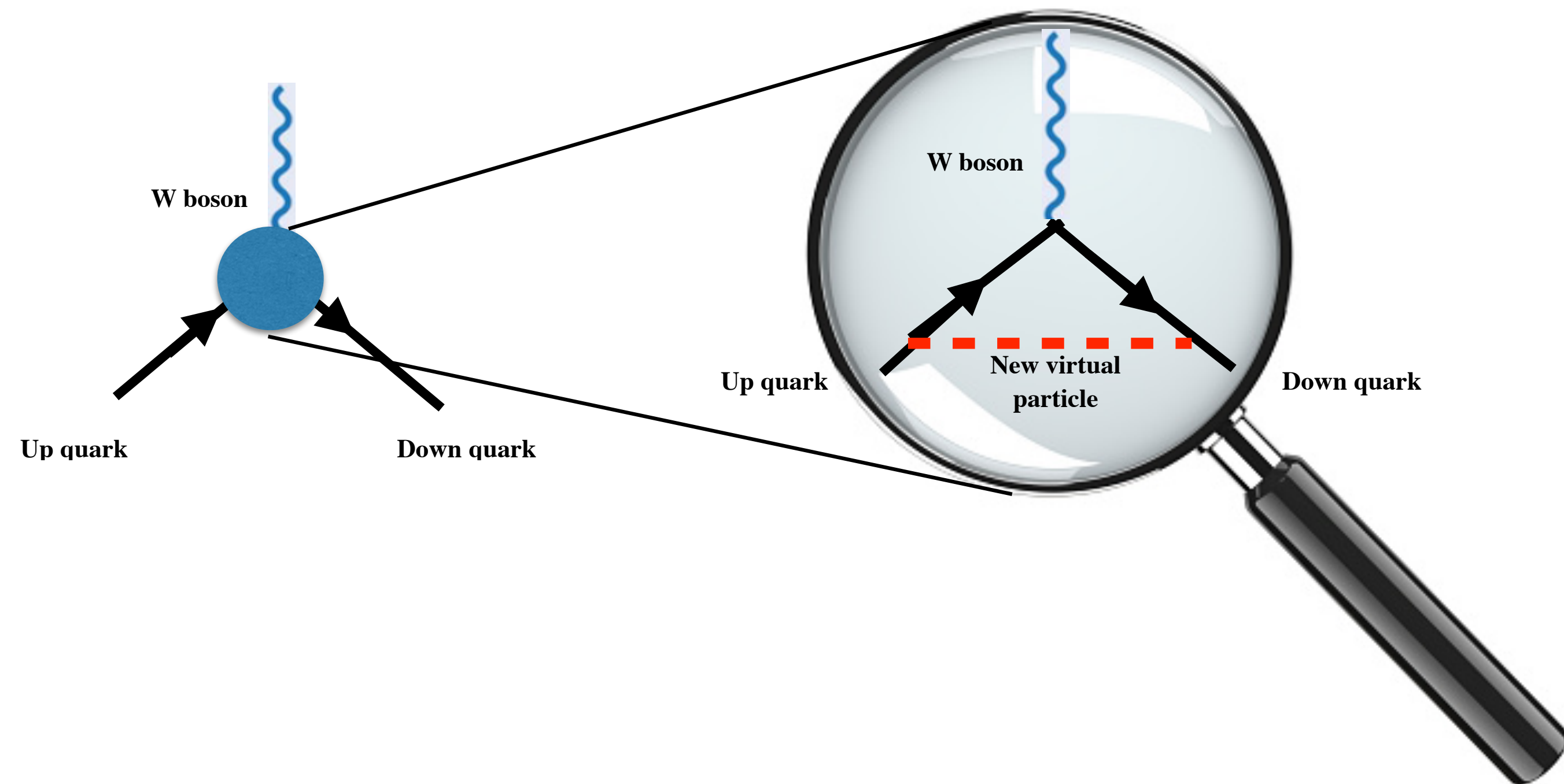
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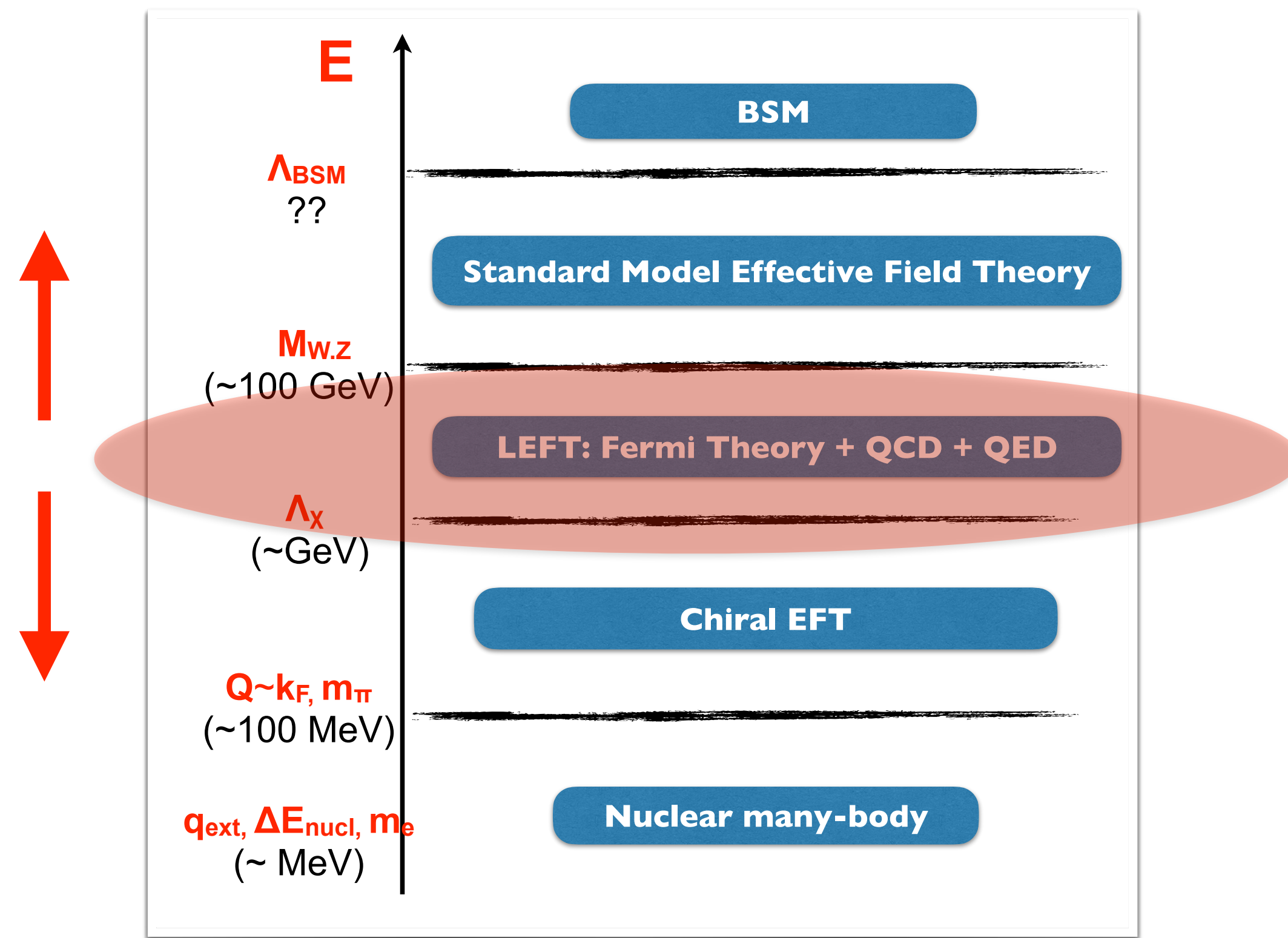
Take all numbers with a grain of salt: updates obtained from linear shifts to the results in 2306.03138

Implications for new physics



Connecting scales & processes (I)

To connect UV physics to beta decays, use EFT



- Start with GeV scale effective Lagrangian
 - Leading (dim-6) new physics effects are encoded in **5 quark-level operators** (up to flavor indices)
- Quark-level version of Lee-Yang (1956) effective Lagrangian

GeV-scale effective Lagrangian (LEFT)

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

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

$D = d, s$

$\ell = e, \mu$

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

VC, Gonzalez-Alonso, Jenkins
0908.1754

VC, Graesser, Gonzalez-Alonso
1210.4553

Gonzalez-Alonso, Camalich
1605.07114, 1706.00410

...

Corrections to V_{ud} and V_{us}

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

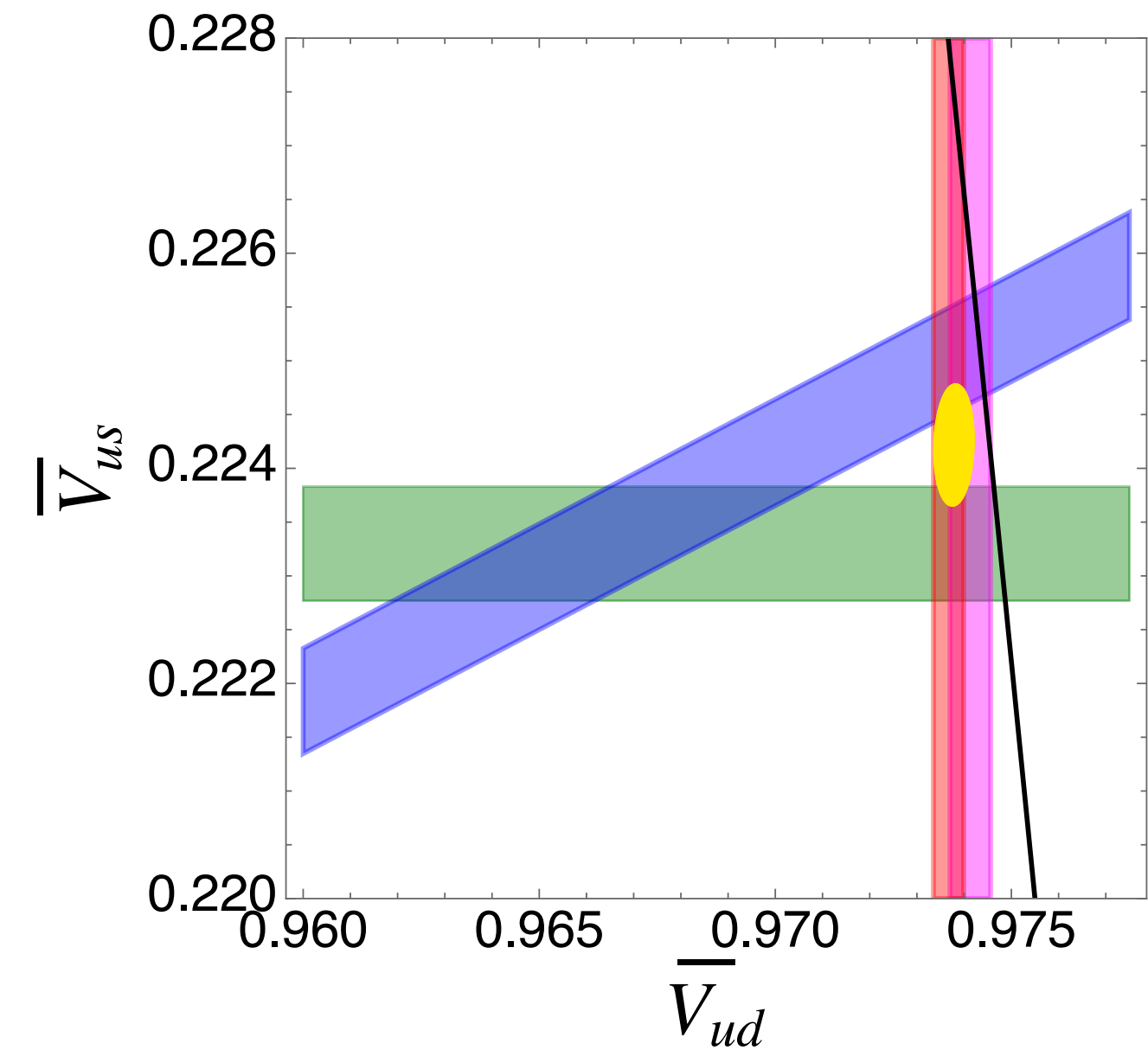
$$|\bar{V}_{us}|_j^2 = |V_{us}|^2 \left(1 + \sum_{\alpha} C_{j\alpha} \epsilon_{\alpha} \right)$$

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

Elements of the
unitary CKM matrix

Calculable
coefficients

BSM effective
couplings



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

Corrections to V_{ud} and V_{us}

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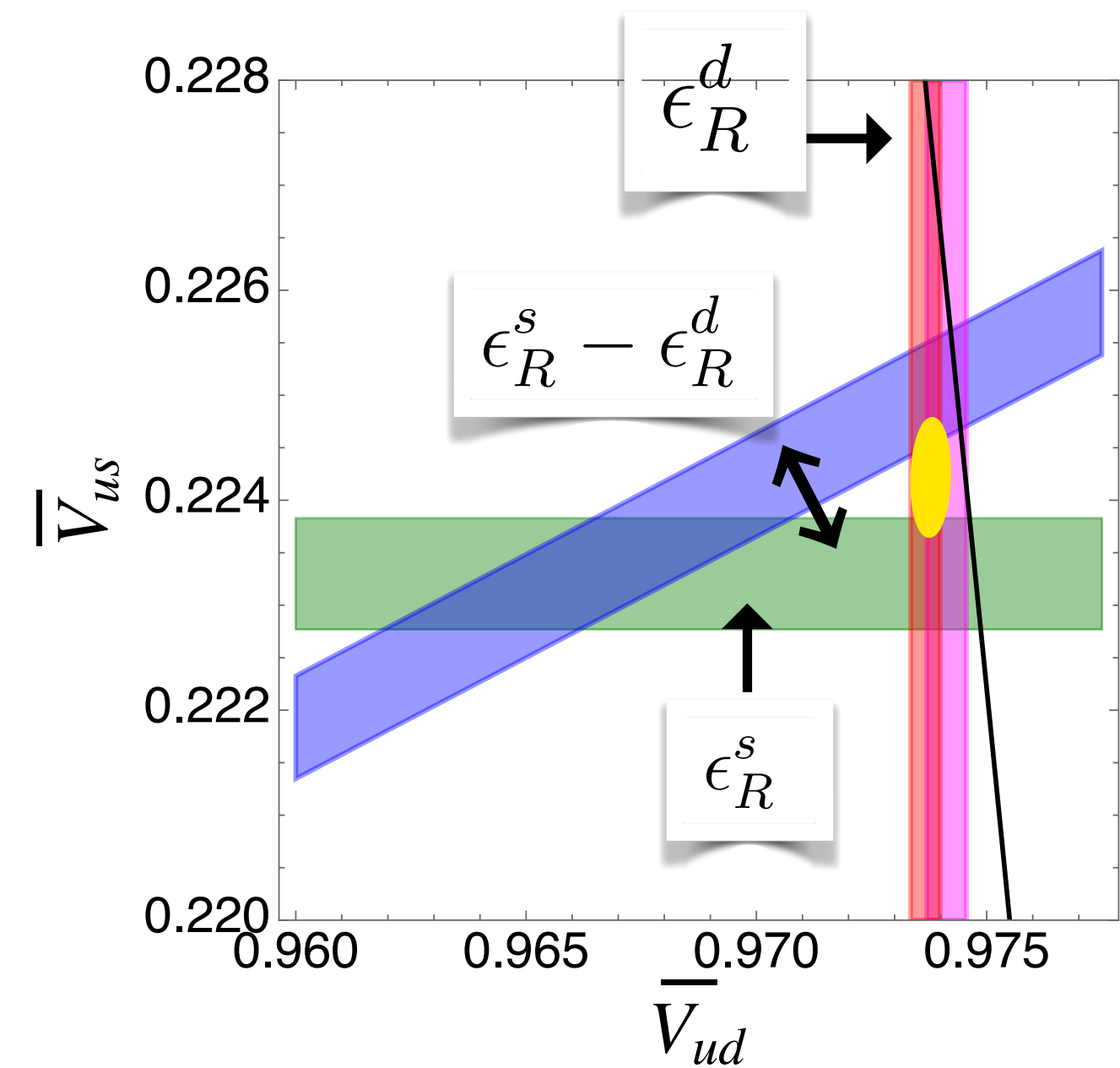
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Elements of the
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Find set of ϵ 's so that V_{ud} and V_{us} bands meet on the unitarity circle

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

Shift $V_{ud,us}$ from vector (axial) channels by $1+\epsilon_R$ ($1-\epsilon_R$), can resolve all tensions

Grossman-Passemar-Schacht
1911.07821

Belfatto-Berezhiani 2103.05549.

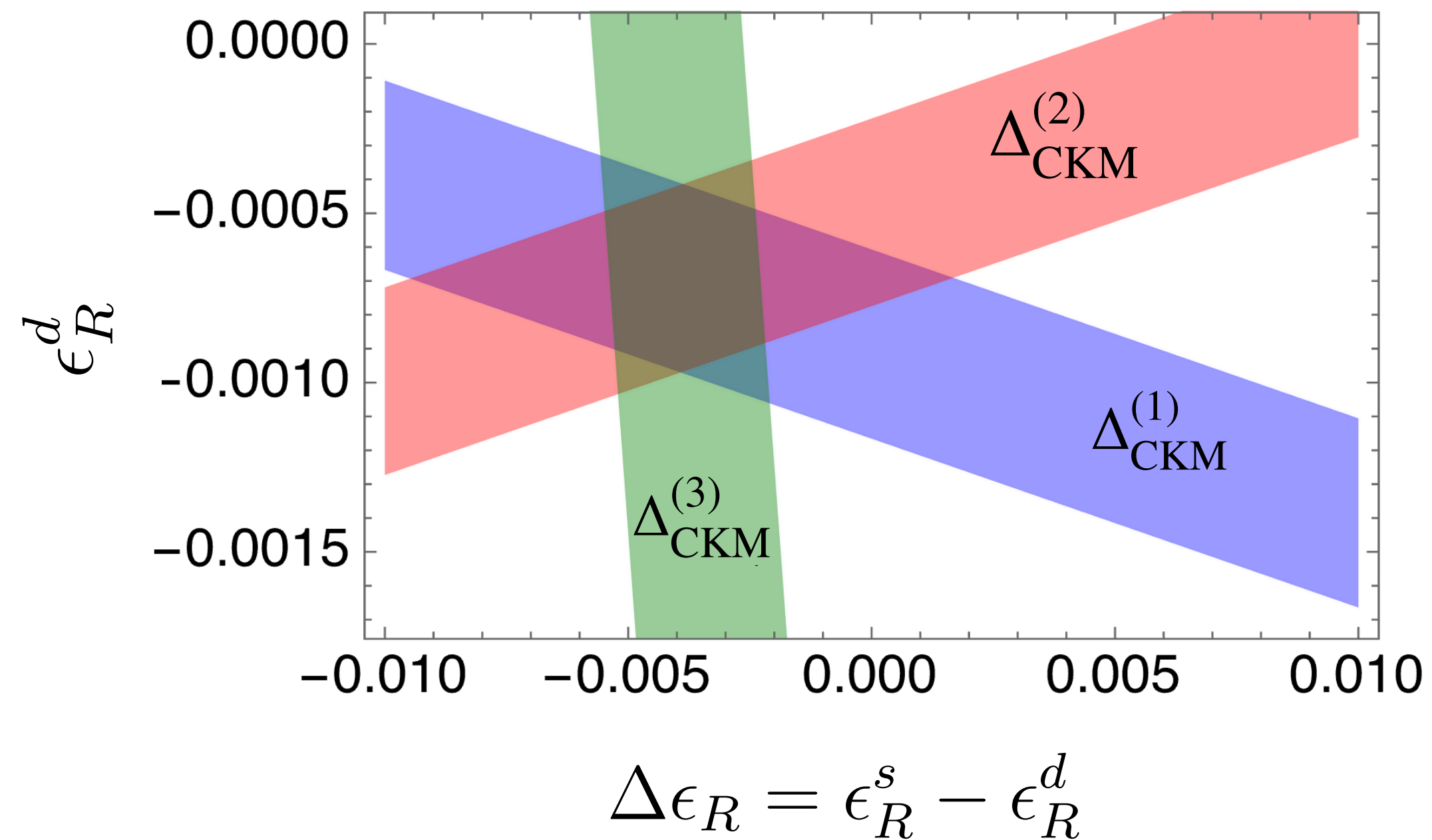
VC, Diaz-Calderon, Falkowski,
Gonzalez-Alonso, Rodriguez-
Sanchez 2112.02087

VC-Crivellin-Hoferichter-Moulson
2208.11707

...

Unveiling R-handed quark currents?

VC-Crivellin-Hoferichter-Moulson 2208.11707



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



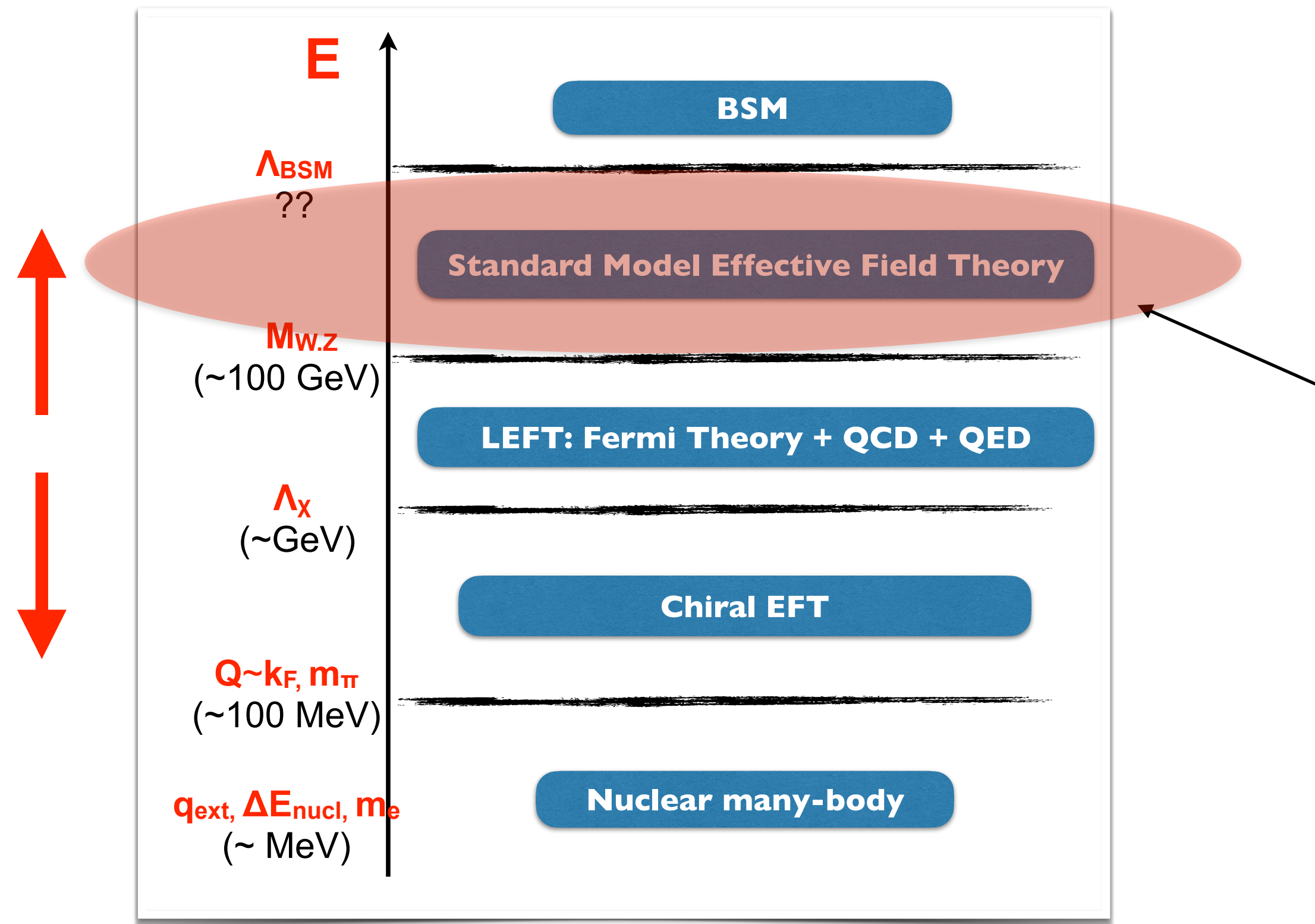
$$\begin{aligned}\epsilon_R^d &= -0.69(27) \times 10^{-3} \\ \Delta\epsilon_R &= -3.9(1.6) \times 10^{-3}\end{aligned}$$

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

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

Connecting scales & processes (2)

To connect UV physics to beta decays, use EFT



- Need to know high-scale origin of the various ε_α
- Tree-level LEFT-SMEFT (dim-6) matching at scale $\mu_W \sim 246$ GeV
- Leading-log SMEFT (dim-6) running between Λ and μ_W is known
- One loop SMEFT-LEFT matching also known

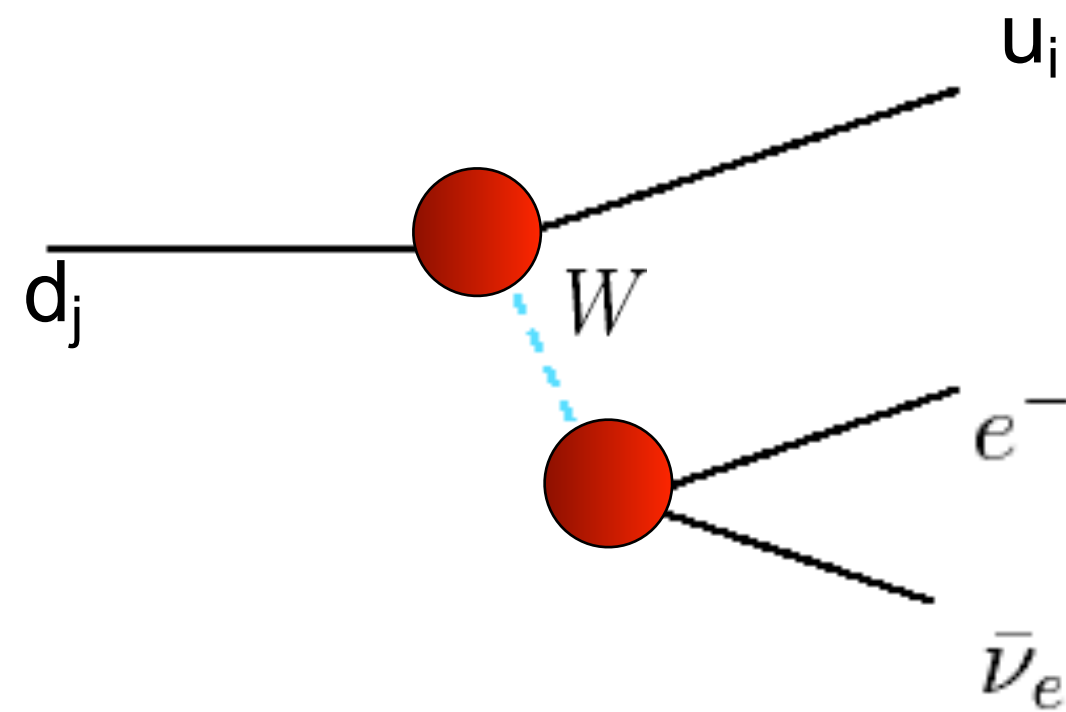
R. Alonso, E. Jenkins, A. Manohar, M. Trott, 1308.2627, 1310.4838, 1312.2014

M. Dawid, VC, W. Dekens 2402.06723

W. Dekens, P. Stoffer 1908.05295

SMEFT origin of the low-energy operators

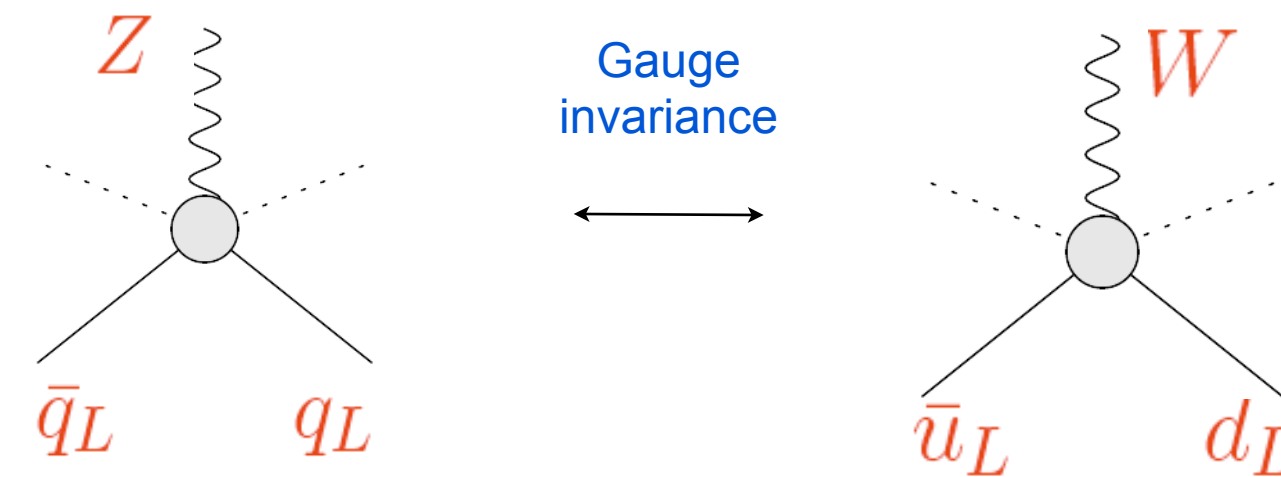
$\mathcal{E}_{L,R}$ originate from SU(2)xU(1)
invariant vertex corrections



Building blocks

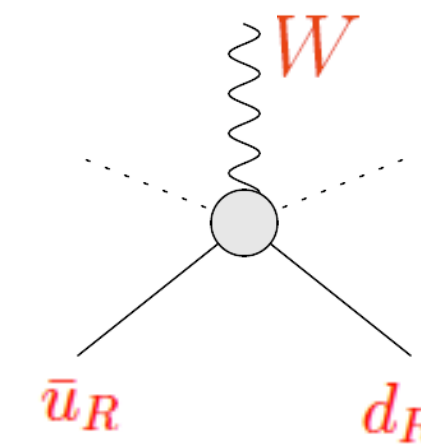
$$l^i = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_L^i \\ e_L^i \end{pmatrix} \quad q^i = \begin{pmatrix} u_L^i \\ d_L^i \end{pmatrix} \quad H = \begin{pmatrix} \varphi^+ \\ \varphi^0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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



\mathcal{E}_L

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



\mathcal{E}_R

SMEFT origin of the low-energy operators

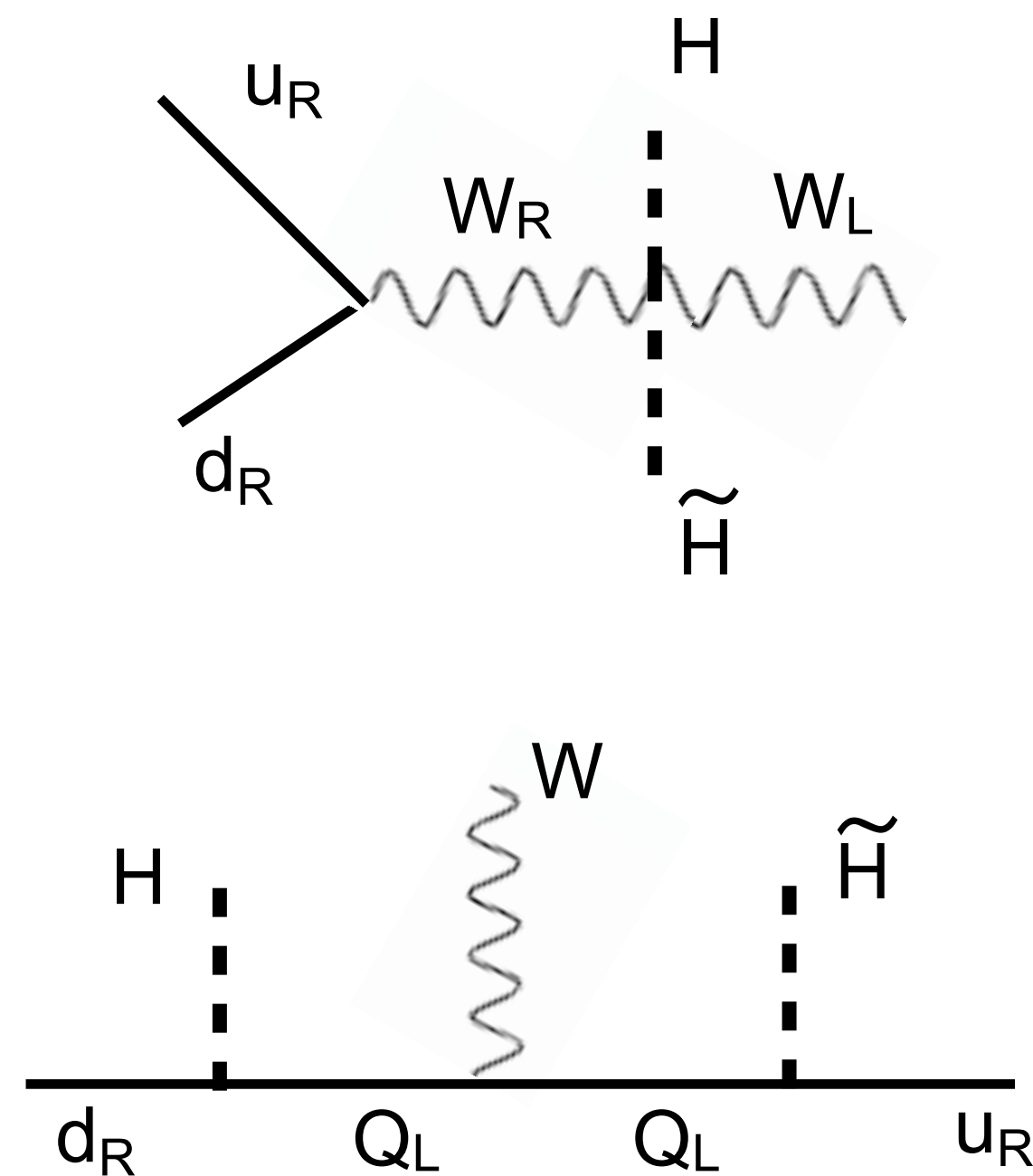
$\mathcal{E}_{L,R}$ originate from SU(2)xU(1)
invariant vertex corrections

W_L - W_R mixing in LRSM

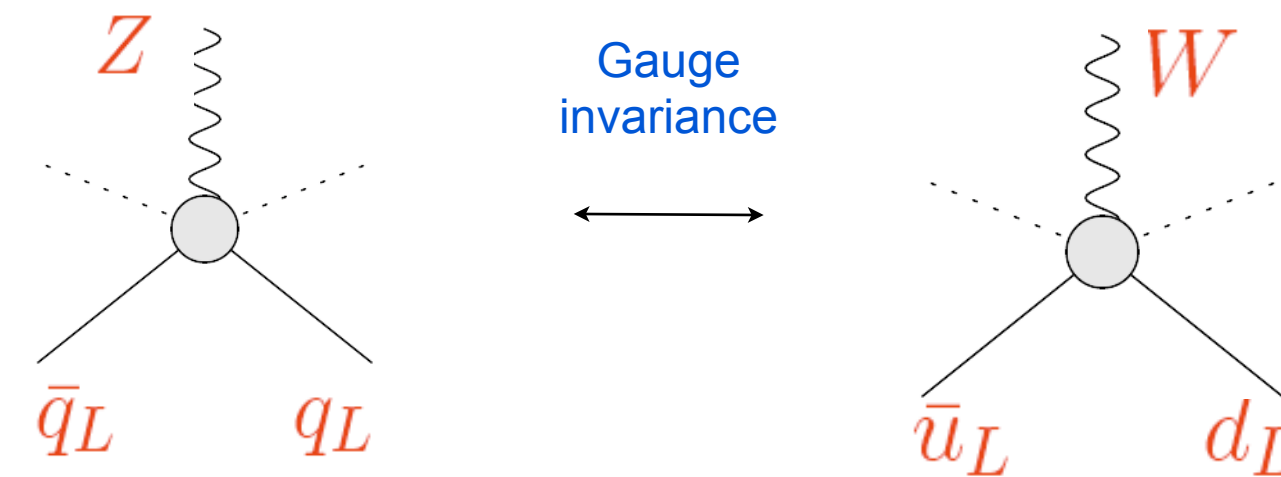
Dekens, Andreoli, de Vries, Mereghetti,
Oosterhof, 2107.10852

Vector-like quarks

Belfatto-Berezhiani 2103.05549. ...
Belfatto-Trifinopoulos 2302.14097

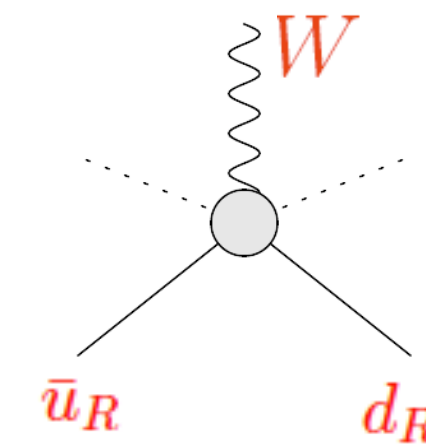


$$Q_{Hq}^{(3)} = (H^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I H) (\bar{q}_p \tau^I \gamma^\mu q_r)$$



\mathcal{E}_L

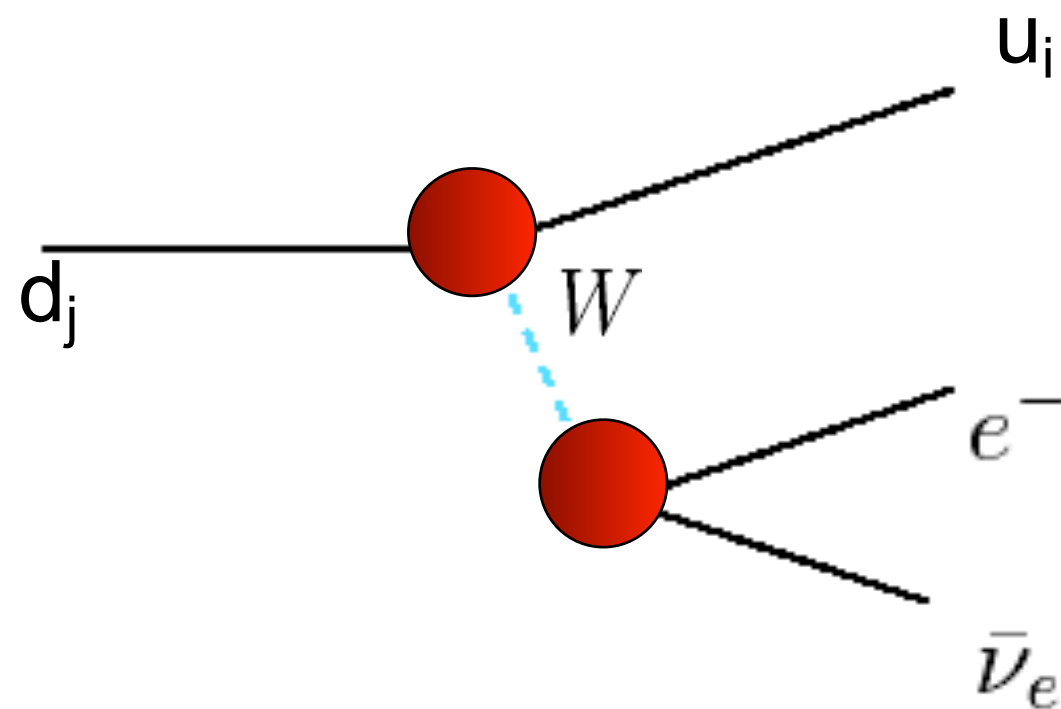
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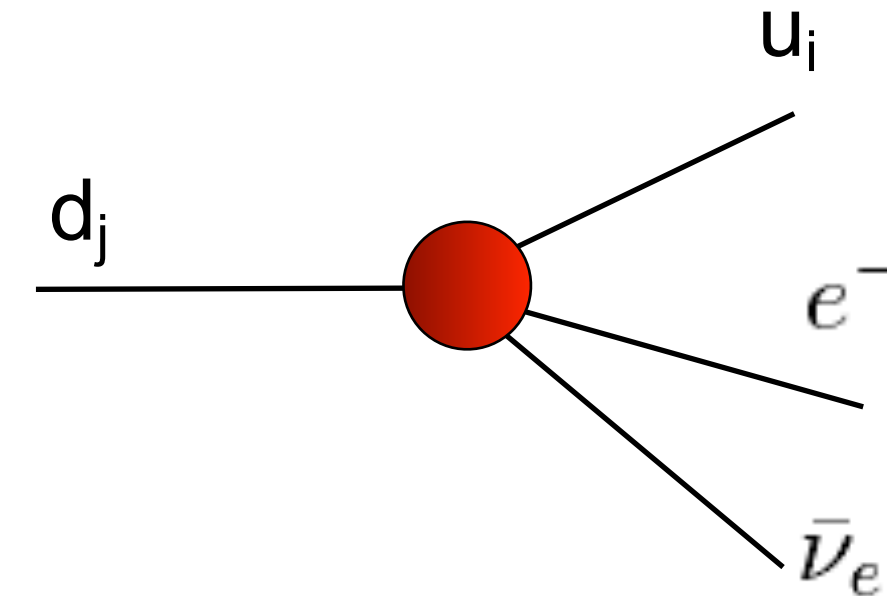
\mathcal{E}_R

SMEFT origin of the low-energy operators

$\mathcal{E}_{L,R}$ originate from SU(2)xU(1) invariant vertex corrections



$\mathcal{E}_{S,P,T}$ and additional contributions to \mathcal{E}_L arise from SU(2)xU(1) invariant 4-fermion operators



\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

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

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

$$Q_{lequ}^{(1)} = (\bar{l}_a e) \epsilon^{ab} (\bar{q}_b u) + \text{h.c.}$$

$$Q_{lequ}^{(3)} = (\bar{l}_a \sigma^{\mu\nu} e) \epsilon^{ab} (\bar{q}_b \sigma_{\mu\nu} u) + \text{h.c.}$$

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

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

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

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

\mathcal{E}_T

\mathcal{E}_L

\mathcal{E}_L

High Energy constraints

\mathcal{E}_R

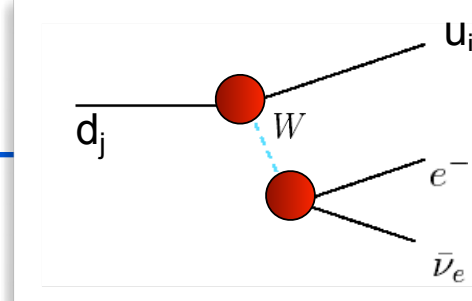
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\mathcal{E}_L

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\mathcal{E}_L

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

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

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

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\mathcal{E}_T

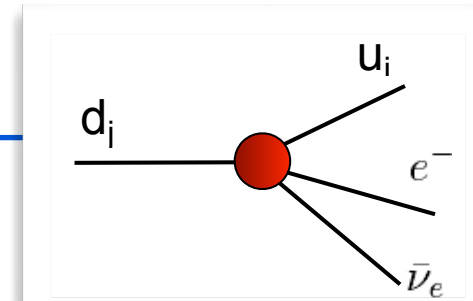
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\mathcal{E}_L

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\mathcal{E}_L

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High Energy constraints

\mathcal{E}_R

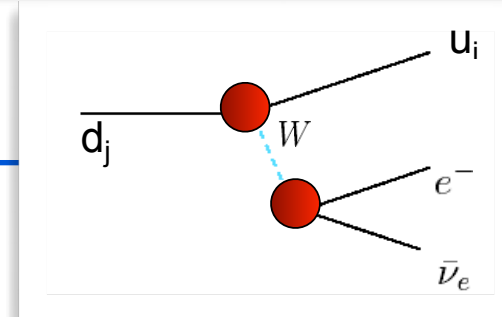
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$\mathcal{E}_{S,P}$

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

\mathcal{E}_T

\mathcal{E}_L

\mathcal{E}_L

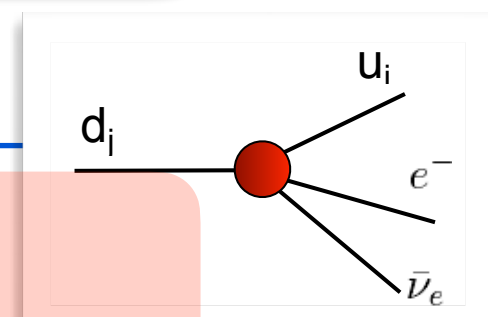
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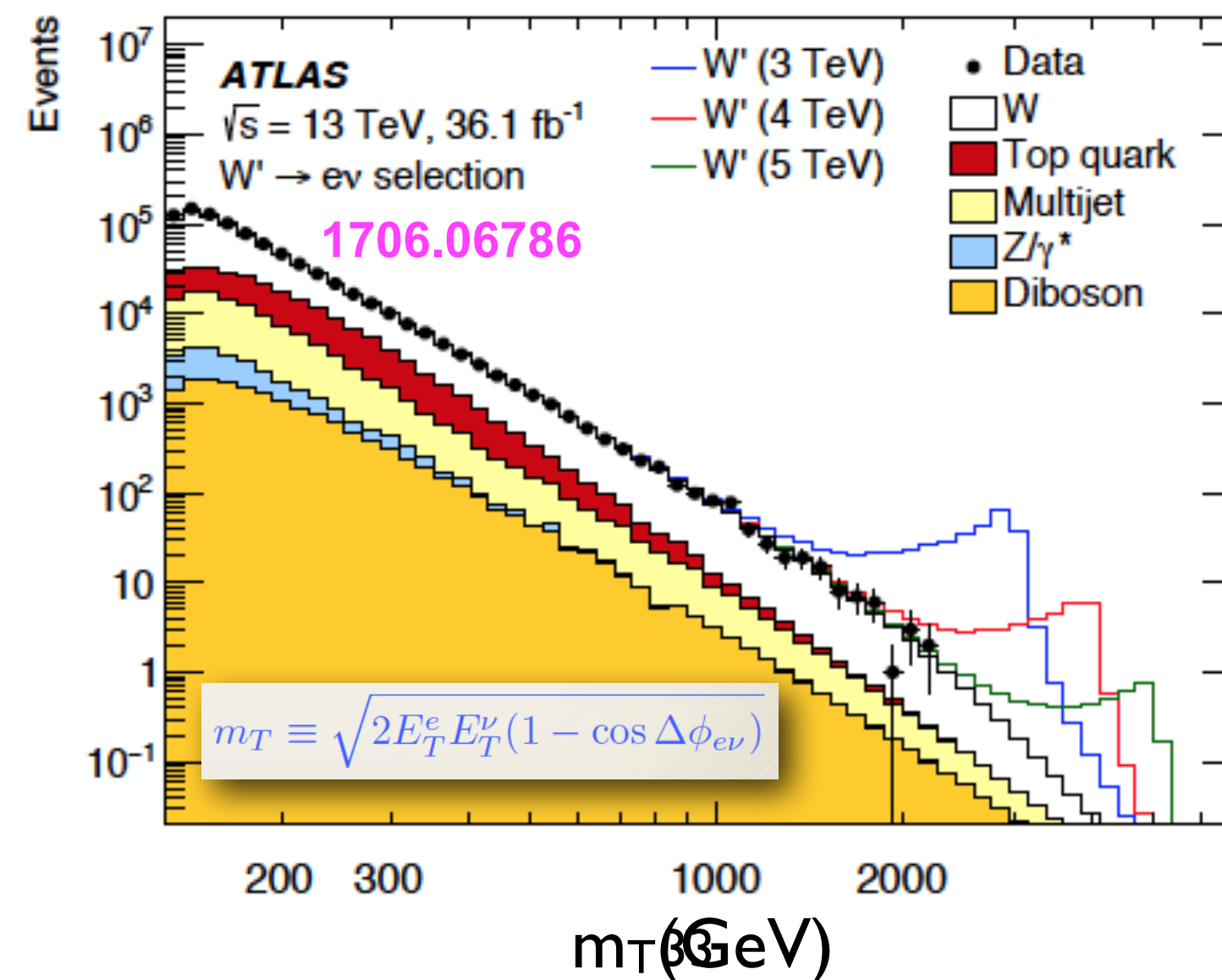
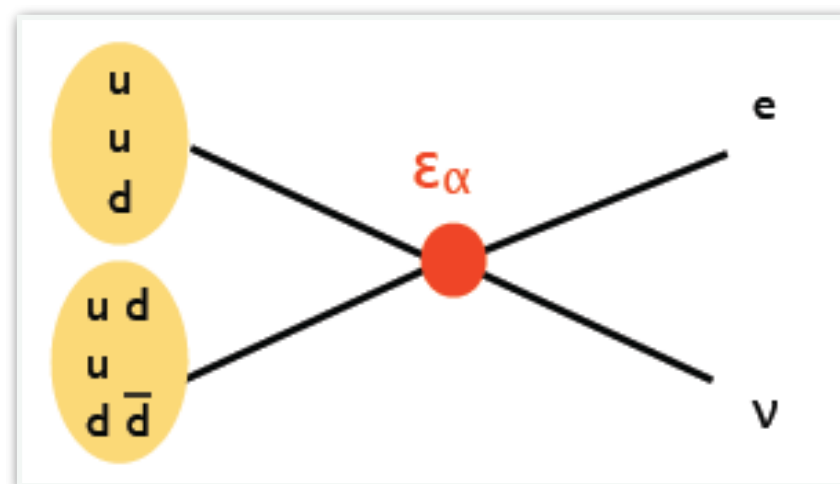
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$$Q_{ll} = \bar{l} \gamma_\mu l \bar{l} \gamma^\mu l$$



Contribute to $pp \rightarrow e\nu + X$ and $pp \rightarrow e^+e^- + X$ at the LHC

LHC: $pp \rightarrow e\nu + X$



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

VC, Graesser, Gonzalez-Alonso
1210.4553

Alioli-Dekens-Girard-Mereggetti 1804.07407

Gupta et al. 1806.09006

Boghezal-Mereggetti-Petriello
2106.05337

...

High Energy constraints

\mathcal{E}_R

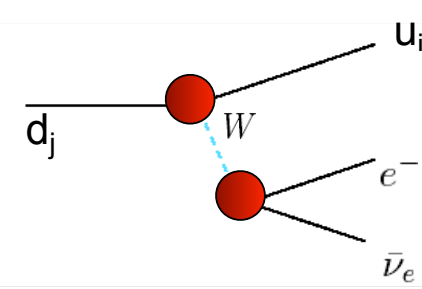
$$Q_{Hud} = i(\tilde{H}^\dagger D_\mu H)(\bar{u}_p \gamma^\mu d_r)$$

\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

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



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

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

\mathcal{E}_T

\mathcal{E}_L

\mathcal{E}_L

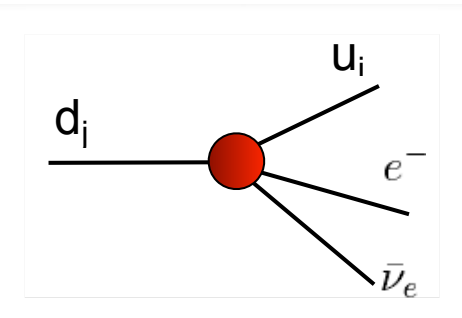
$$Q_{ledq} = (\bar{l}e)(\bar{d}q) + \text{h.c.}$$

$$Q_{lequ}^{(1)} = (\bar{l}_a e) \epsilon^{ab} (\bar{q}_b u) + \text{h.c.}$$

$$Q_{lequ}^{(3)} = (\bar{l}_a \sigma^{\mu\nu} e) \epsilon^{ab} (\bar{q}_b \sigma_{\mu\nu} u) + \text{h.c.}$$

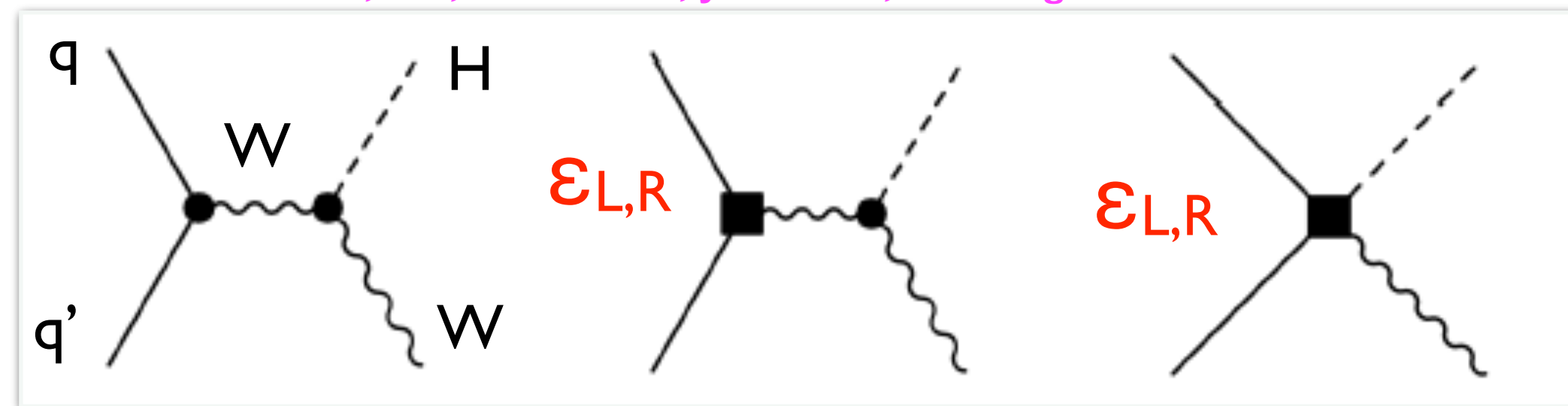
$$Q_{lq}^{(3)} = \bar{l} \gamma_\mu \sigma^a l \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \sigma^a q$$

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



Can be probed at the LHC by associated Higgs + W production

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



Current LHC results allow for to $\epsilon_{L,R} \sim 5\%$

High Energy constraints

\mathcal{E}_R

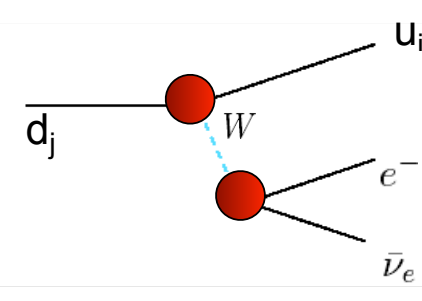
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\mathcal{E}_L

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\mathcal{E}_L

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

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

\mathcal{E}_T

\mathcal{E}_L

\mathcal{E}_L

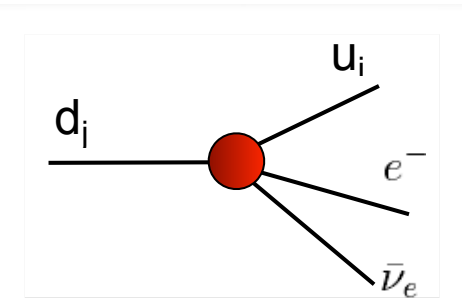
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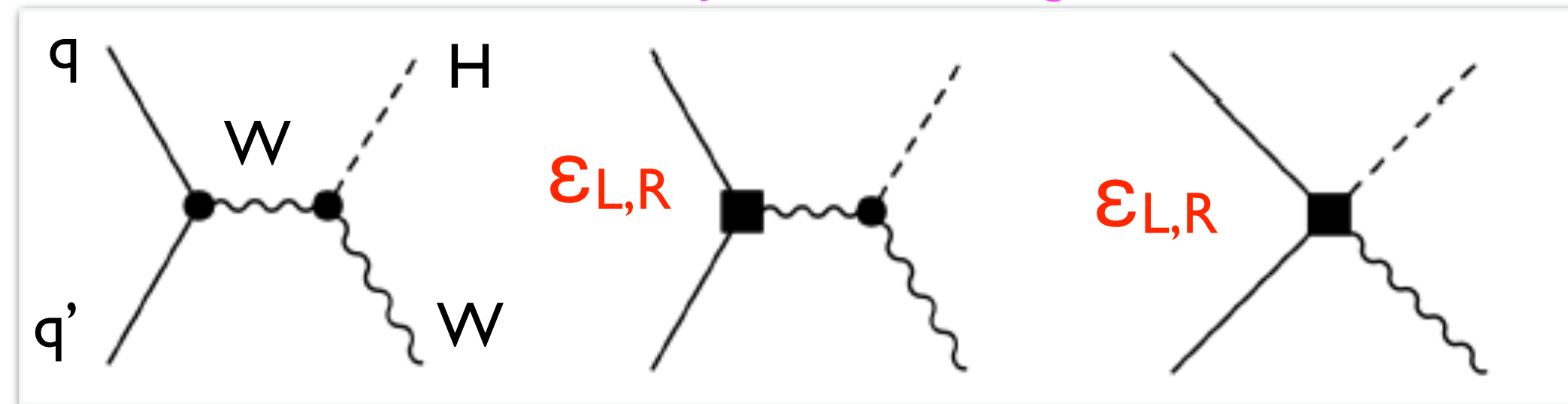
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Can be probed at the LHC by associated Higgs + W production

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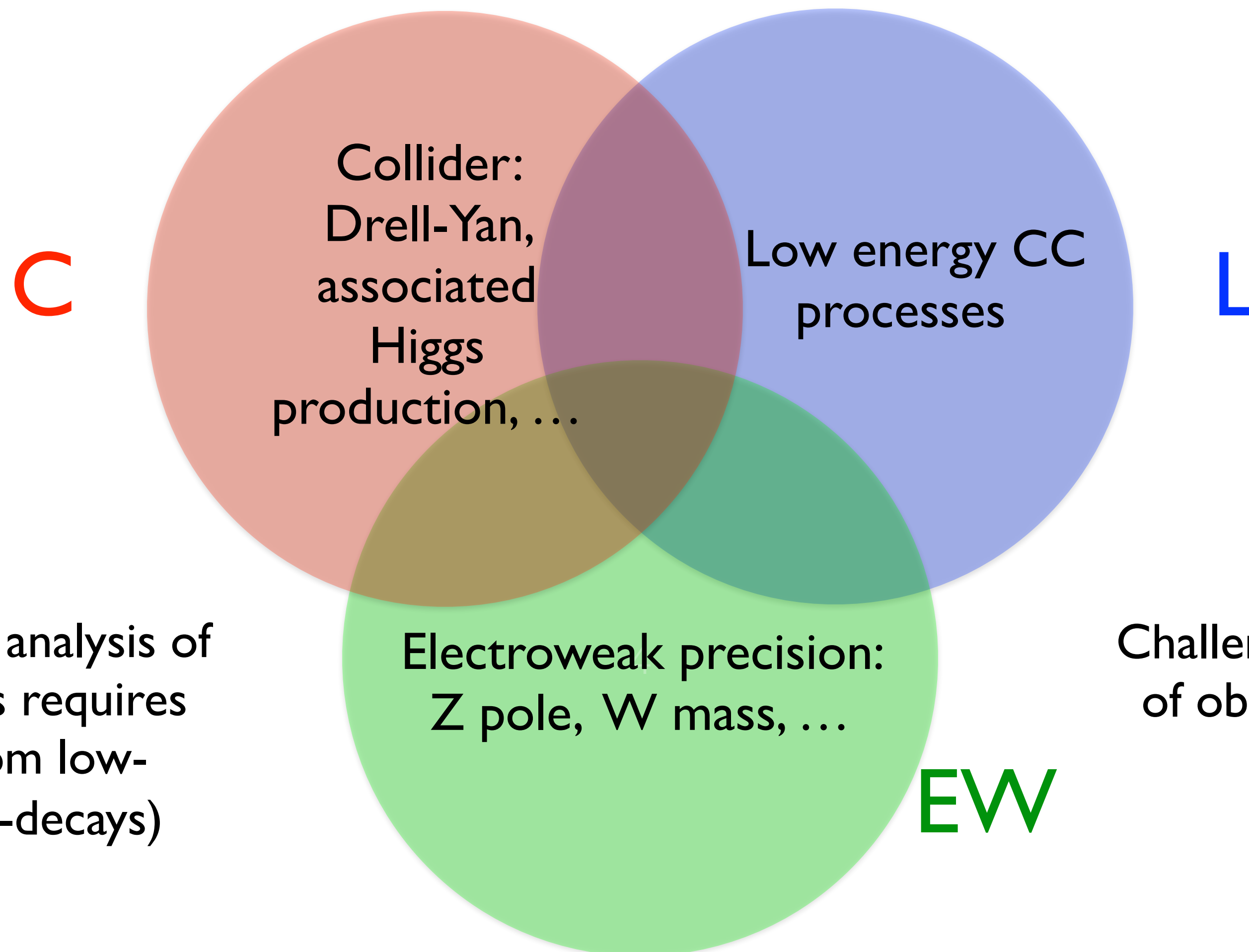
Current LHC results allow for to $\epsilon_{L,R} \sim 5\%$

Contribute to Z-pole and other precision electroweak (EW) observables, including** M_W

The CLEW framework

VC, W. Dekens, J. De Vries, E. Mereghetti, T. Tong, 2311.00021

- An informed global analysis of β -decays in SMEFT requires data from Collider, Low energy, and ElectroWeak tests



Corollary: a global SMEFT analysis of precision EW observables requires including constraints from low-energy CC processes (β -decays)

Challenge: identify a manageable set of observables and corresponding operators that 'closes' (at least at tree level)

A CLEWEd global analysis

The CLEW analysis with no flavor symmetry assumptions requires 37 couplings
But not all operators matter

To gain qualitative and quantitative insight on most relevant operators (model selection),
use the Akaike Information Criterion

$$\text{AIC} = (\chi^2)_{\min} + 2k$$

of estimated parameters

Minimization of AIC:

balance between goodness of fit (rewarded) and proliferation of parameters (penalized)

A CLEWed global analysis

- Scanned model space by ‘turning on’ certain classes of effective couplings

Operators grouped in 10 categories

Scanned this model space

$2^{10} = 1024$ ‘models’

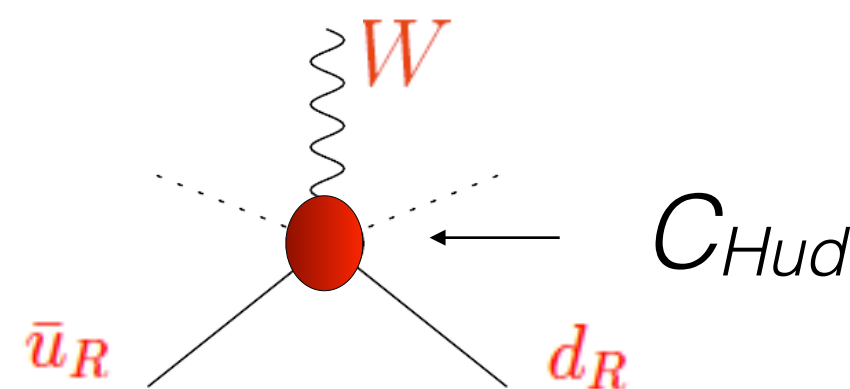
| Category | Operators | Description | # of Ops. |
|----------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| I. | C_{ST} | Oblique corrections | 1 |
| II. | C_{Hud} | RH charged currents | 2 |
| III. | $C_{Hl}^{(1)} \quad C_{Hl}^{(3)}$ | LH lepton vertices | 6 |
| IV. | C_{He} | RH lepton vertices | 3 |
| V. | $C_{Hq}^{(u)} \quad C_{Hq}^{(d)}$ | LH quark vertices | 5 |
| VI. | $C_{Hu} \quad C_{Hd}$ | RH quark vertices | 5 |
| VII. | C_{ll} | Lepton 4-fermion | 1 |
| VIII. | $C_{lq}^{(u)} \quad C_{lq}^{(d)}$ | Semileptonic 4-fermion | 6 |
| IX. | $C_{ledq} \quad C_{lequ}^{(1)}$ | Scalar 4-fermion | 6 |
| X. | $C_{lequ}^{(3)}$ | Tensor 4-fermion | 2 |

A CLEWed global analysis

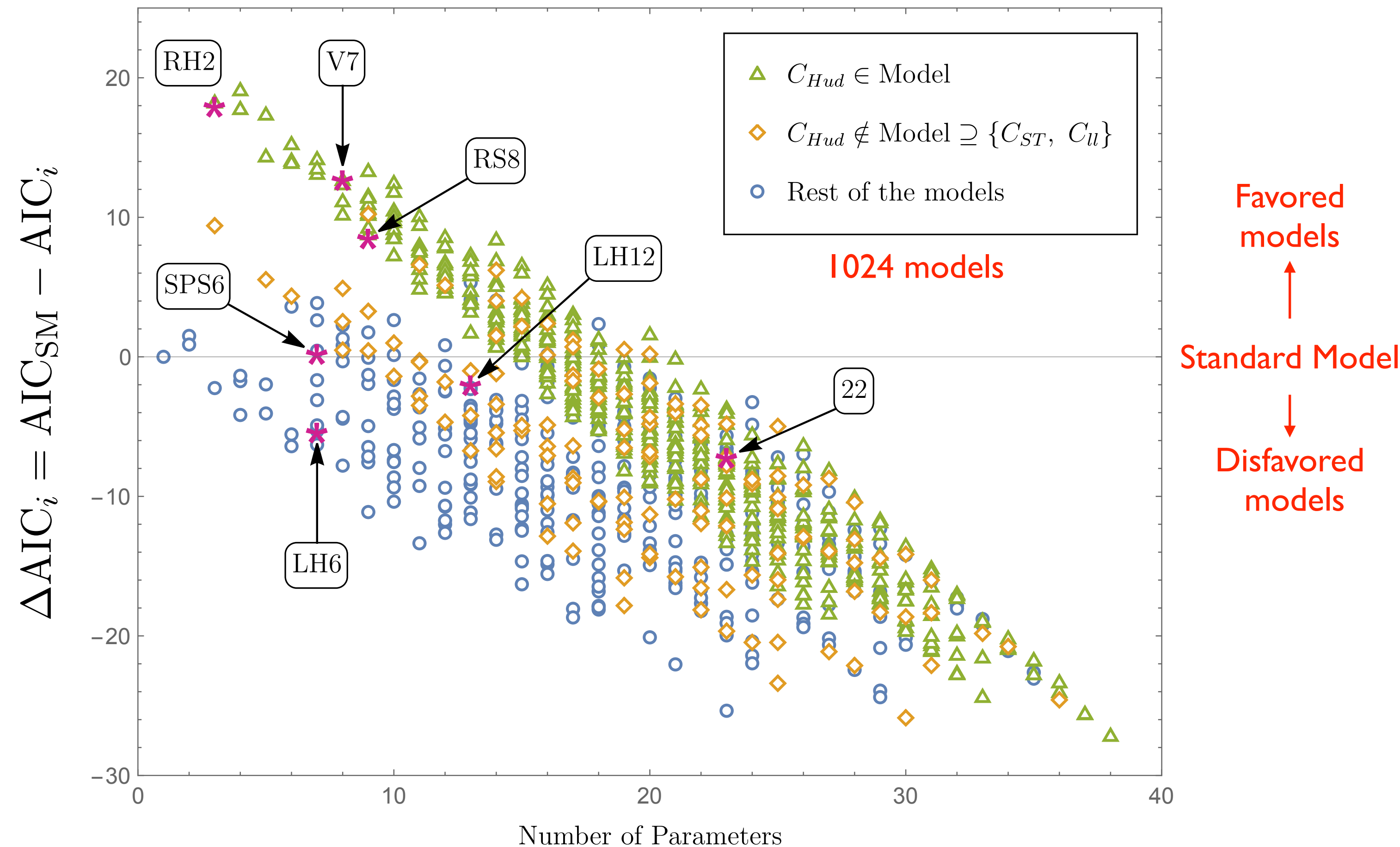
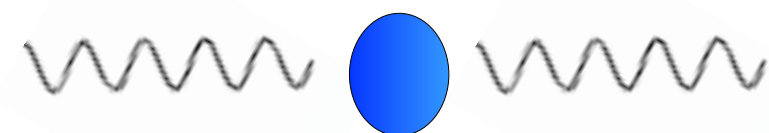
VC, W. Dekens, J. De Vries, E. Mereghetti, T. Tong, JHEP 03 (24) 33, arXiv: 2311.00021

- Scanned model space by ‘turning on’ certain classes of effective couplings

- Akaike Information Criterion favors models with Right-Handed Charged Currents of quarks



- Models with oblique corrections (C_{ST}) also fare better than SM

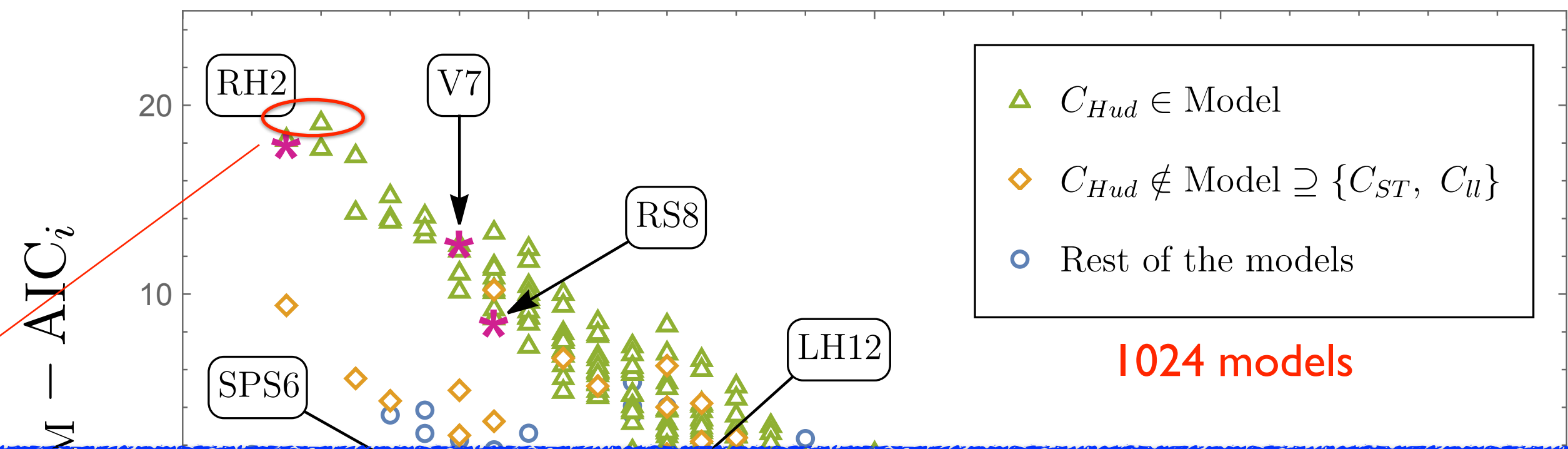


A CLEWed global analysis

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

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The winner ($\Delta AIC=19$): two RH CC vertex corrections and a combination of oblique parameters (UV completions? Vector-like quarks generate RH CC at tree level and oblique at 1-loop)

See talk by Benedetta Belfatto

$$C_{Hud_{11}} = (-0.030 \pm 0.008) \text{ TeV}^{-2},$$

$$C_{Hud_{12}} = (-0.040 \pm 0.011) \text{ TeV}^{-2},$$

$$C_{ST} = (-0.0038 \pm 0.0022) \text{ TeV}^{-2}.$$

Favored models
↑
Standard Model
↓
Disfavored models

- Model also fa

A CLEWed global analysis

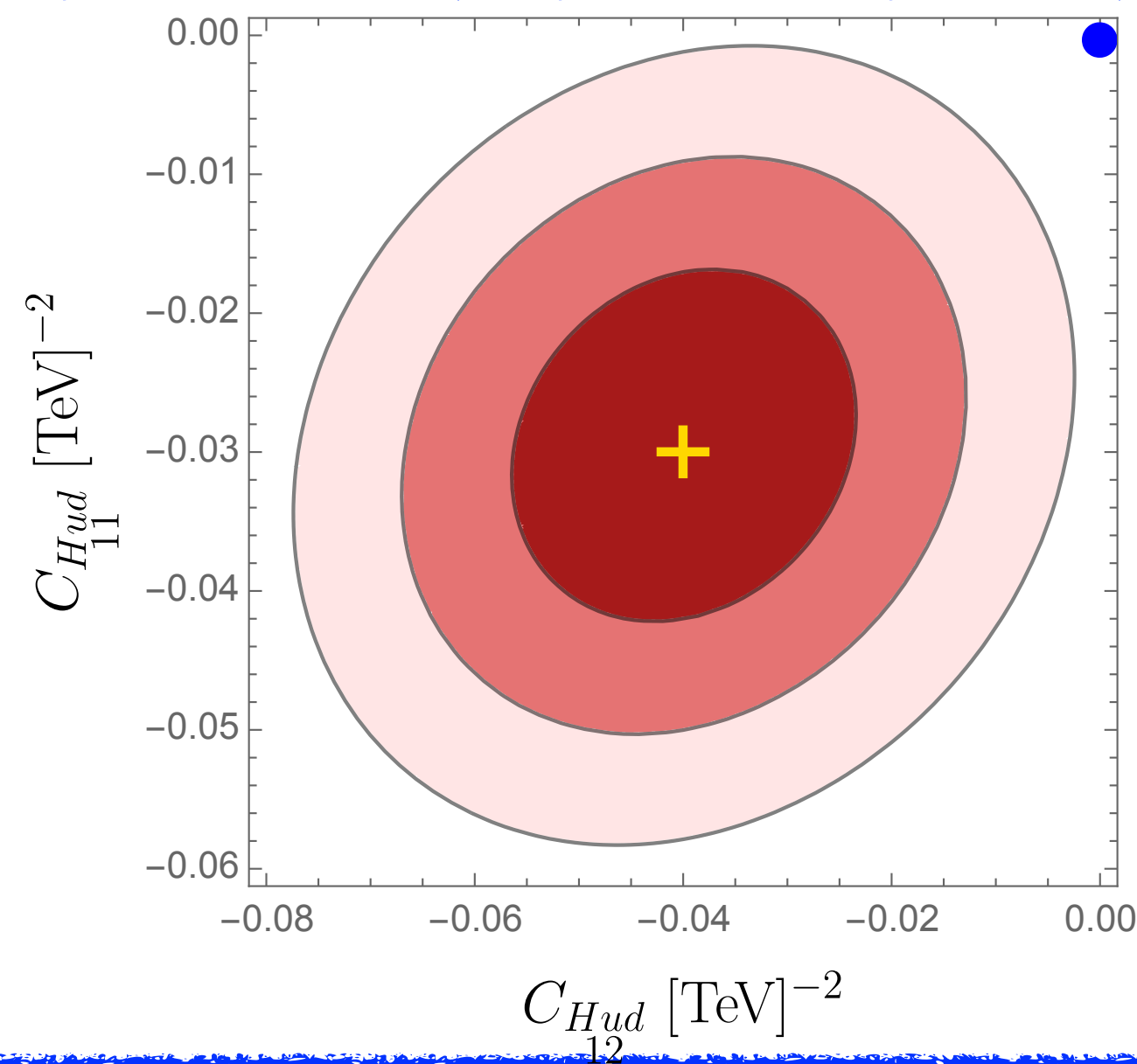
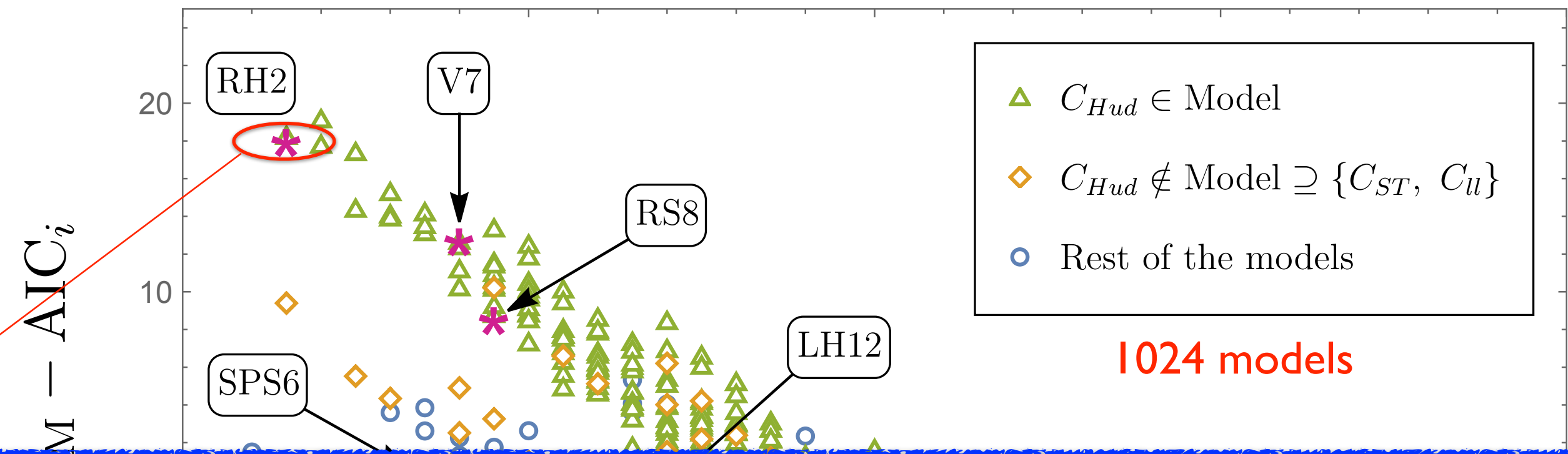
VC, W. Dekens, J. De Vries, E. Mereghetti, T. Tong, JHEP 03 (24) 33, arXiv: 2311.00021

- Scanned model space by ‘turning on’ certain classes of effective couplings

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- Model also fa

The runner-up ($\Delta AIC=18$):
just two RH CC vertex corrections!

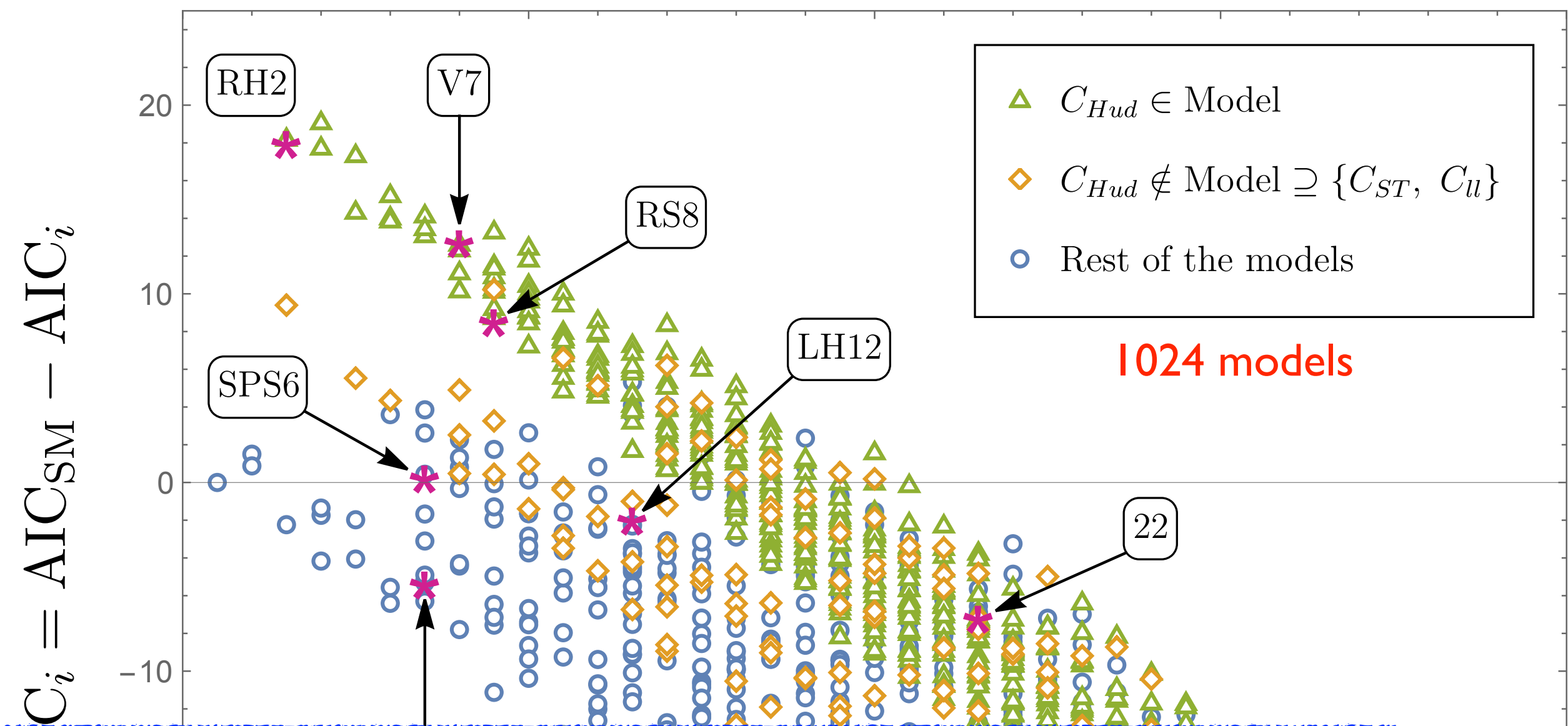
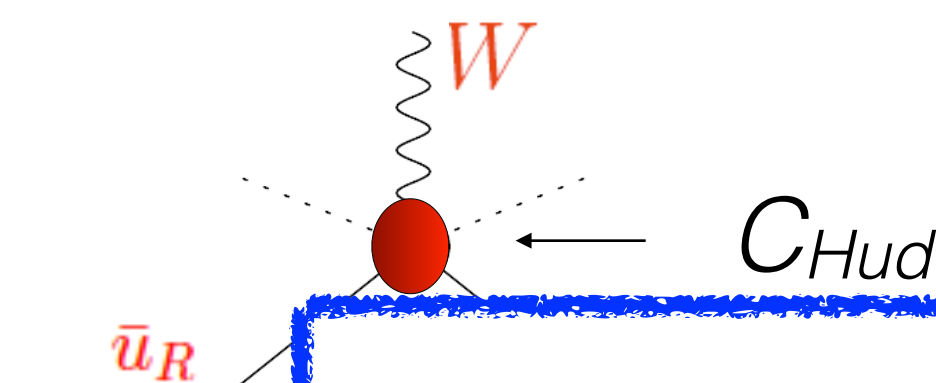


Favored models
↑
Standard Model
↓
Disfavored models

A CLEWed global analysis

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

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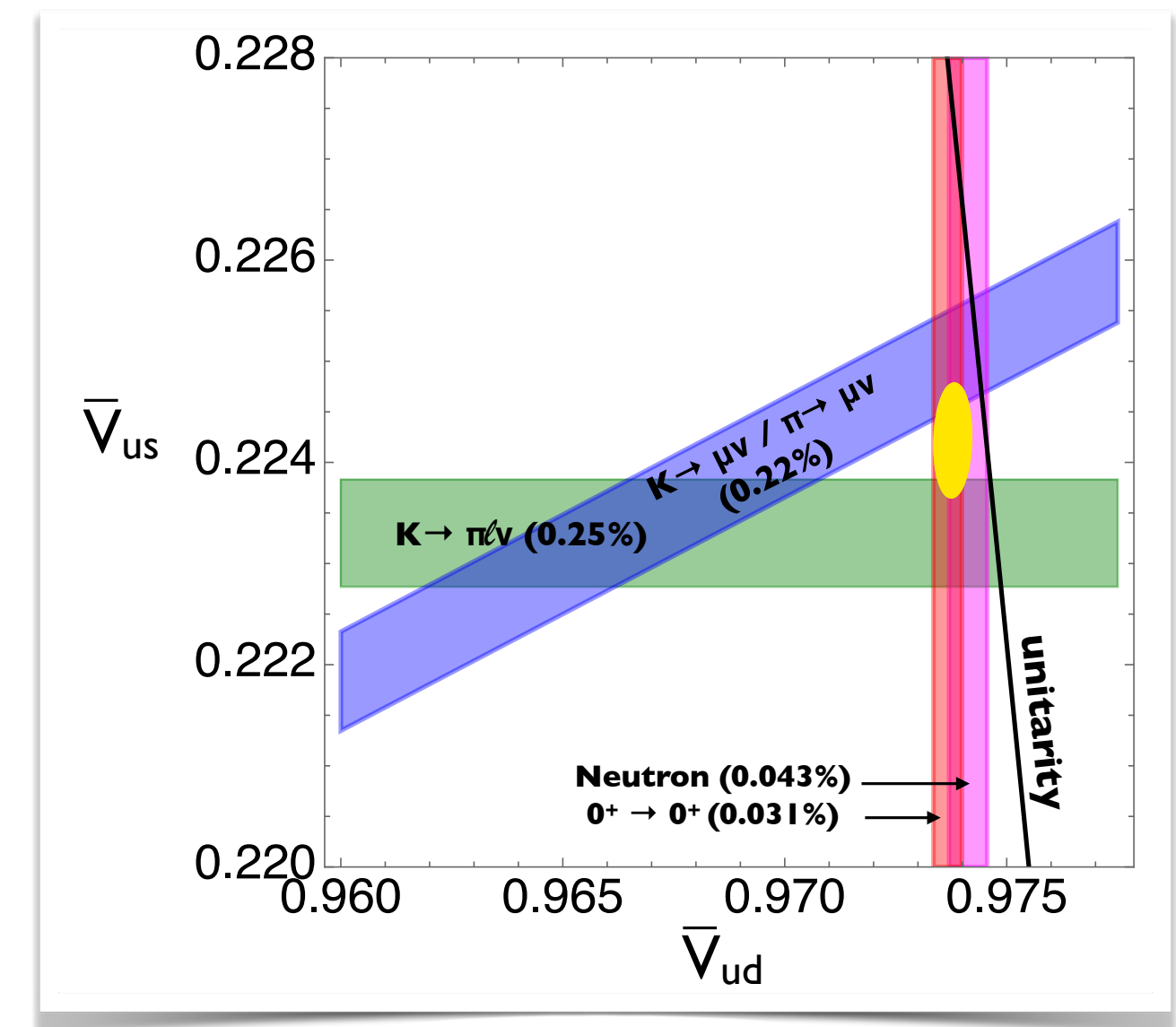
Favored models
↑
Standard Model
↓
Disfavored models

Messages from this exercise:

- Models with C_{Hud} also fare better
- “Cabibbo anomaly” still consistent with other EW precision & collider data
- “Preferred solution” (RH quark currents) testable in the future
- CKM unitarity test provides relevant input to unravel new physics scenarios

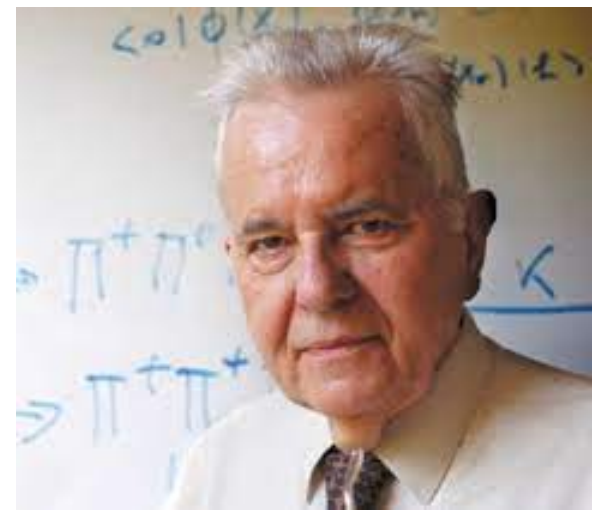
Conclusions and outlook

- Precision studies of β decays are a great tool to test the Standard Model and explore what may lie beyond
- Current tensions in Cabibbo universality test could point to new physics at $\Lambda \sim \text{few TeV}$
- Further scrutiny is needed & there is lots of activity in the community
 - **Experiment**: nuclei, neutron, K , π , τ
 - **Theory**: lattice QCD+QED for neutron, K , π , τ ; EFT+ dispersive + first-principles methods for nuclei;
 - ...



Backup

Cabibbo universality test



Nicola Cabibbo
(1935-2010)

~ 0.95 ~ 0.05 $\sim 1.5 \times 10^{-5}$

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

$$\delta V_{ud}/V_{ud} \sim 0.03\%$$

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

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

V_{ud} and V_{us} are the most accurately known
elements of the CKM matrix \Rightarrow

1st row provides the most stringent test of
universality & sensitivity to new physics

Vector coupling g_V

$$g_V(\mu_\chi) = \overline{C}_\beta^r(\mu) \left[1 + \overline{\square}_{\text{Had}}^V(\mu_0) - \frac{\alpha(\mu_\chi)}{2\pi} \left(\frac{5}{8} + \frac{3}{4} \ln \frac{\mu_\chi^2}{\mu_0^2} + \left(1 - \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} \right) \ln \frac{\mu_0^2}{\mu^2} \right) \right]$$

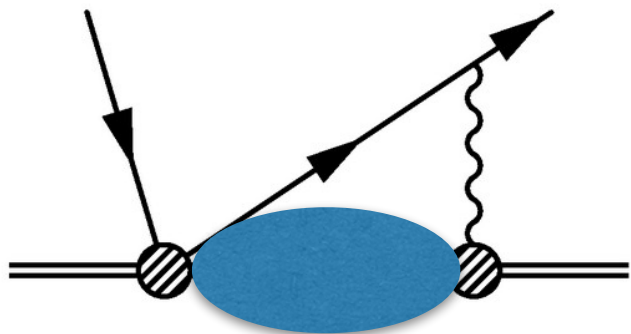
$\overline{\square}_{\text{Had}}^V(\mu_0)$ is the usual 'box' up to $Q^2 \sim (\mu_0)^2$

$$\overline{\square}_{\text{Had}}^V(\mu_0) = -e^2 \int \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{\nu^2 + Q^2}{Q^4} \left[\frac{T_3(\nu, Q^2)}{2m_N \nu} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{Q^2 + \mu_0^2} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha_s(\mu_0^2)}{\pi} \right) \right]$$

$$Q^2 = -q^2$$

$$\nu = v \cdot q$$

$$T_{VA,0}^{\mu\nu} = i\varepsilon^{\mu\nu\sigma\rho} q_\rho v_\sigma \frac{T_3}{4m_N \nu} + \dots \quad T_{VV(A),0}^{\mu\nu}(q, v) = \frac{\tau_{ij}^a \delta^{\sigma'\sigma}}{12} \frac{i}{6} \int d^d x e^{iq \cdot x} \langle N(k, \sigma', j) | T [\bar{q} \gamma^\mu q(x) \bar{q} \gamma^\nu (\gamma_5) \tau^a q(0)] | N(k, \sigma, i) \rangle$$



Vector coupling g_V

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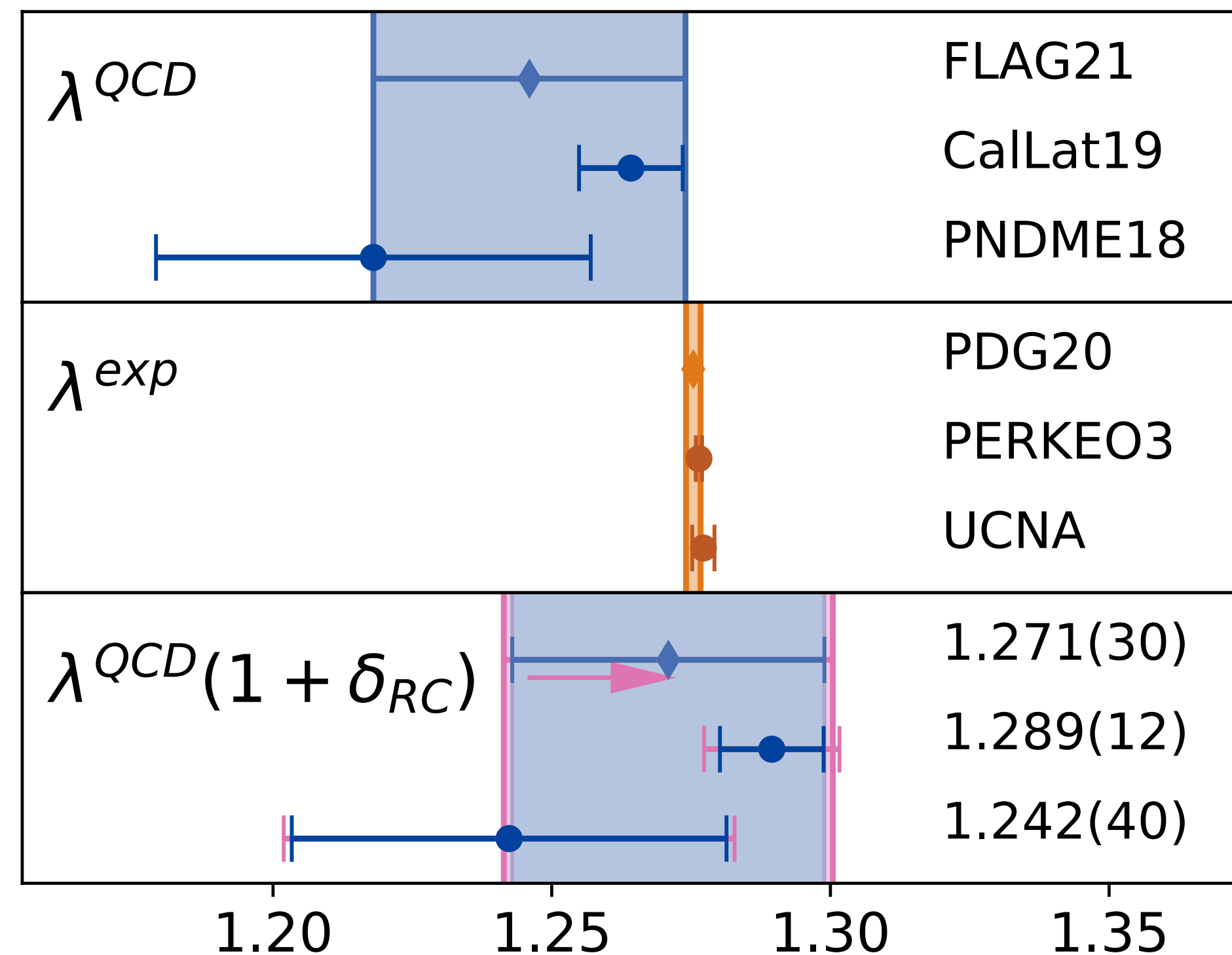
- Use non-perturbative input on T_3 from dispersive analysis or LQCD
- No dependence on scheme, μ and μ_0 (up to higher perturbative orders)
- For $\mu_\chi \sim \mu \sim \mu_0 \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$ all large logs are in the NLO Wilson coefficient $\overline{C}_\beta^r(\mu)$
- Dependence on μ_χ canceled by loops in pion-less EFT

Seng et al. 1807.10197, 2308.16755

g_A/g_V to $O(\alpha)$ and $O(\alpha\epsilon_\chi)$

VC, J. de Vries, L. Hayen, E. Mereghetti, A. Walker-Loud 2202.10439

- (g_A/g_V) gets %-level corrections proportional to the pion EM mass splitting (100x larger than previous estimates)
- Radiative corrections generally improve agreement between data (neutron decay) and lattice QCD calculations



$$\lambda \equiv \frac{g_A}{g_V}$$

$$\frac{\lambda^{exp}}{\lambda^{QCD}} = 1 + \delta_{RC}$$

$$\delta_{RC} \simeq (2.0 \pm 0.6 \pm ??)\%$$

Scale variation +
known LECs

Unknown LECs

Large uncertainty due to unknown LEC that could be determined by future lattice calculations

CY Seng 2403.08976

VC, W. Dekens, E. Mereghetti, O. Tomalak, arXiv: 2410.21404

The CLEW framework

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_i C_i Q_i$$

| Operators | | L | EW | C |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|----|---|
| $H^4 D^2$ | | | | |
| Q_{HD} | $(H^\dagger D^\mu H)^* (H^\dagger D_\mu H)$ | parameter shift (m_Z) | | |
| $X^2 H^2$ | | | | |
| Q_{HWB} | $H^\dagger \tau^I H W_{\mu\nu}^I B^{\mu\nu}$ | parameter shift ($\sin \theta_W$) | | |
| $\psi^2 H^2 D$ | | | | |
| $Q_{Hl}^{(1)}$ | $(H^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H)(\bar{l}_p \gamma^\mu l_r)$ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| $Q_{Hl}^{(3)}$ | $(H^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I H)(\bar{l}_p \tau^I \gamma^\mu l_r)$ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Q_{He} | $(H^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H)(\bar{e}_p \gamma^\mu e_r)$ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| $Q_{Hq}^{(1)}$ | $(H^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H)(\bar{q}_p \gamma^\mu q_r)$ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| $Q_{Hq}^{(3)}$ | $(H^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I H)(\bar{q}_p \tau^I \gamma^\mu q_r)$ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Q_{Hu} | $(H^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H)(\bar{u}_p \gamma^\mu u_r)$ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Q_{Hd} | $(H^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H)(\bar{d}_p \gamma^\mu d_r)$ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| $Q_{Hud} + \text{h.c.}$ | $i(\tilde{H}^\dagger D_\mu H)(\bar{u}_p \gamma^\mu d_r)$ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ |

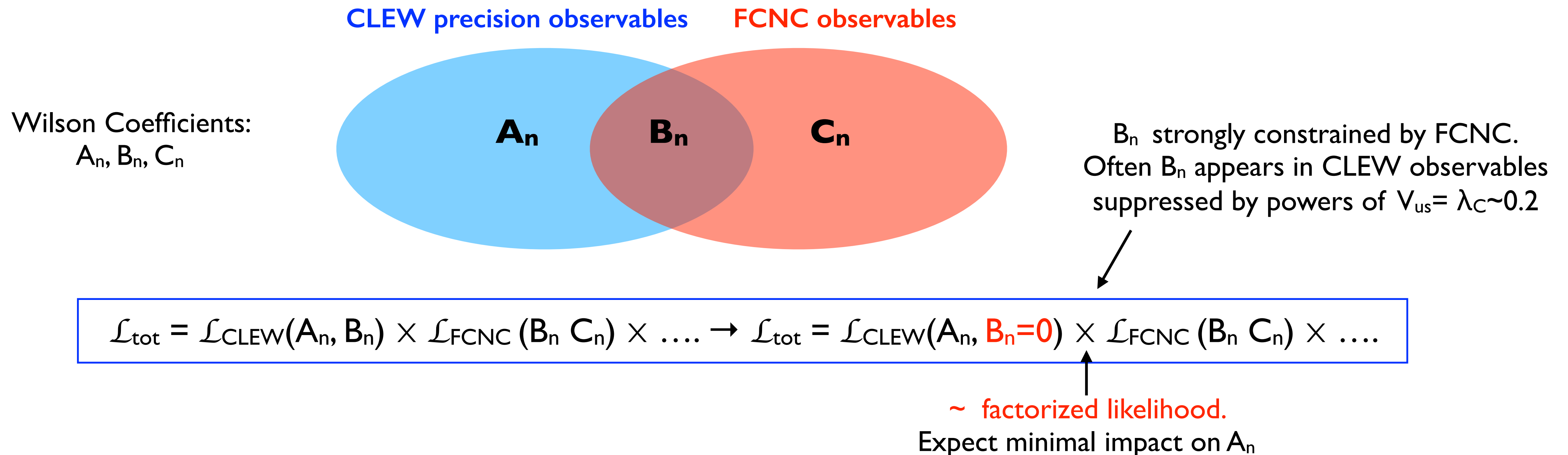
| Operators | | L | EW | C |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|----|---|
| $(\bar{L}L)(\bar{L}L)$ | | | | |
| Q_{ll} | $(\bar{l}_p \gamma^\mu l_r)(\bar{l}_s \gamma_\mu l_t)$ | parameter shift (G_F) | | |
| $Q_{lq}^{(1)}$ | $(\bar{l}_p \gamma^\mu l_r)(\bar{q}_s \gamma_\mu q_t)$ | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| $Q_{lq}^{(3)}$ | $(\bar{l}_p \gamma^\mu \tau^I l_r)(\bar{q}_s \gamma_\mu \tau^I q_t)$ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| $(\bar{L}R)(\bar{R}L) + \text{h.c.}$ | | | | |
| Q_{ledq} | $(\bar{l}_p^j e_r)(\bar{d}_s q_{tj})$ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ |
| $(\bar{L}R)(\bar{L}R) + \text{h.c.}$ | | | | |
| $Q_{lequ}^{(1)}$ | $(\bar{l}_p^j e_r) \epsilon_{jk} (\bar{q}_s^k u_t)$ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ |
| $Q_{lequ}^{(3)}$ | $(\bar{l}_p^j \sigma_{\mu\nu} e_r) \epsilon_{jk} (\bar{q}_s^k \sigma^{\mu\nu} u_t)$ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ |

** We are not including ‘**ld, lu, ed, eu, qe**’ 4-fermion operators that affect **Drell-Yan** (included in our analysis), **NC processes at low-E** & **DIS** (not included in our analysis). Inclusion of such operators would lead to a \sim closed set of observables \otimes operators.

What about flavor?

- Most SMEFT analyses impose flavor symmetry to reduce number of couplings. However
 - This re-introduces model-dependence (e.g. excludes classes of operators / models such as LRSM)
 - Results can depend strongly on flavor assumptions
- We perform a **flavor-assumption-independent analysis**: exploit approximate decoupling of CLEW and FCNC

L. Bellafronte, S. Dawson, P. P. Giardino 2304.00029



Falsifying R-handed current hypothesis

VC, W. Dekens, J. De Vries, E. Mereghetti, T. Tong, 2311.00021

- Currently less-sensitive probes of R-handed couplings
 - g_A/g_V : neutron decay vs Lattice QCD (need \sim order of magnitude theoretical improvement)
 - $K \rightarrow (\pi\pi)_{I=2}$ decay amplitude: experiment vs Lattice QCD (difficult to improve)
 - WH & **WZ** production at the High Luminosity LHC will reach sensitivity need to test the R-handed current solution to the Cabibbo angle anomaly

