

Interplay of Nuclear, Neutrino and  
BSM Physics at Low-Energies  
INT-23-85W, Seattle, USA

19 April, 2023

Radiative corrections to low-energy  
neutral-current neutrino scattering and  
DAR sources



**Los Alamos**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

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LA-UR-23-23047

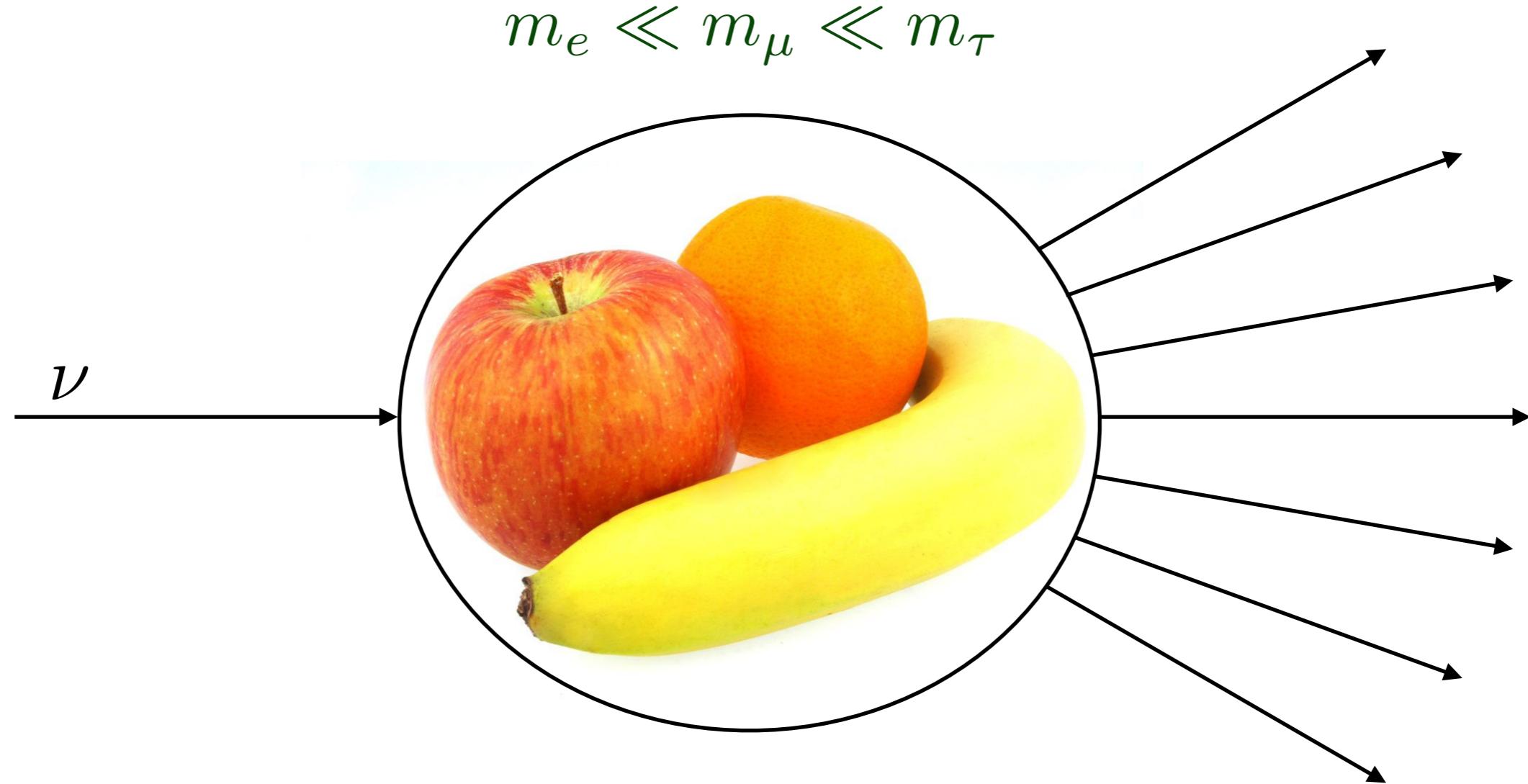
# Outline

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- 1) microscopic EFT for neutrino physics
- 2) coherent elastic **neutrino-nucleus** scattering (CEvNS)
- 3) radiative correction to neutrino spectra

# QED corrections

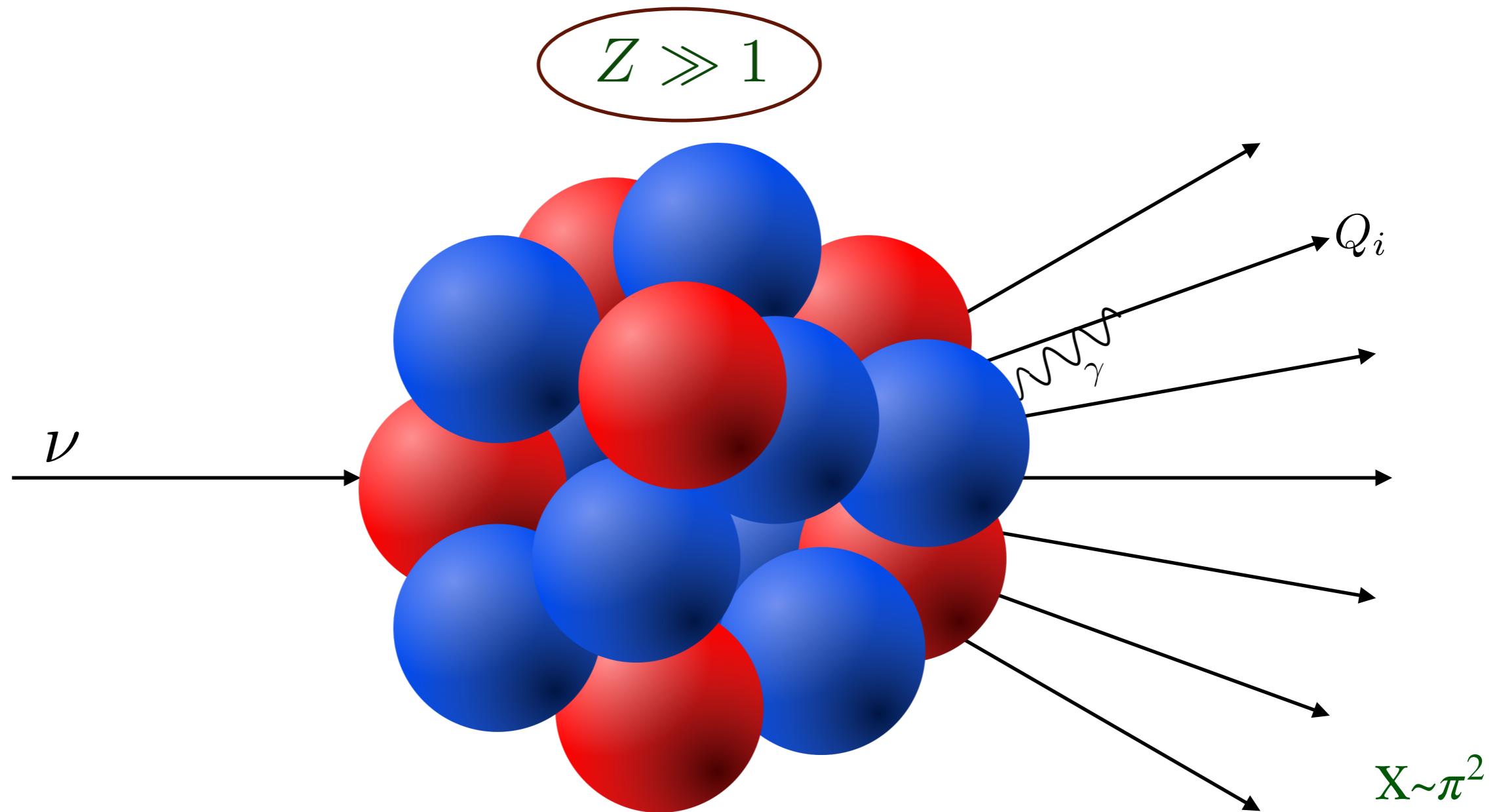
neutral-current interactions



$$X \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \sim 0.2 \% \text{ multiplied by kinematic-dependent factors } X \sim \ln \frac{m_e}{m_\mu}$$

- kinematic dependence and factor  $X$  can enhance QED corrections

# QED corrections



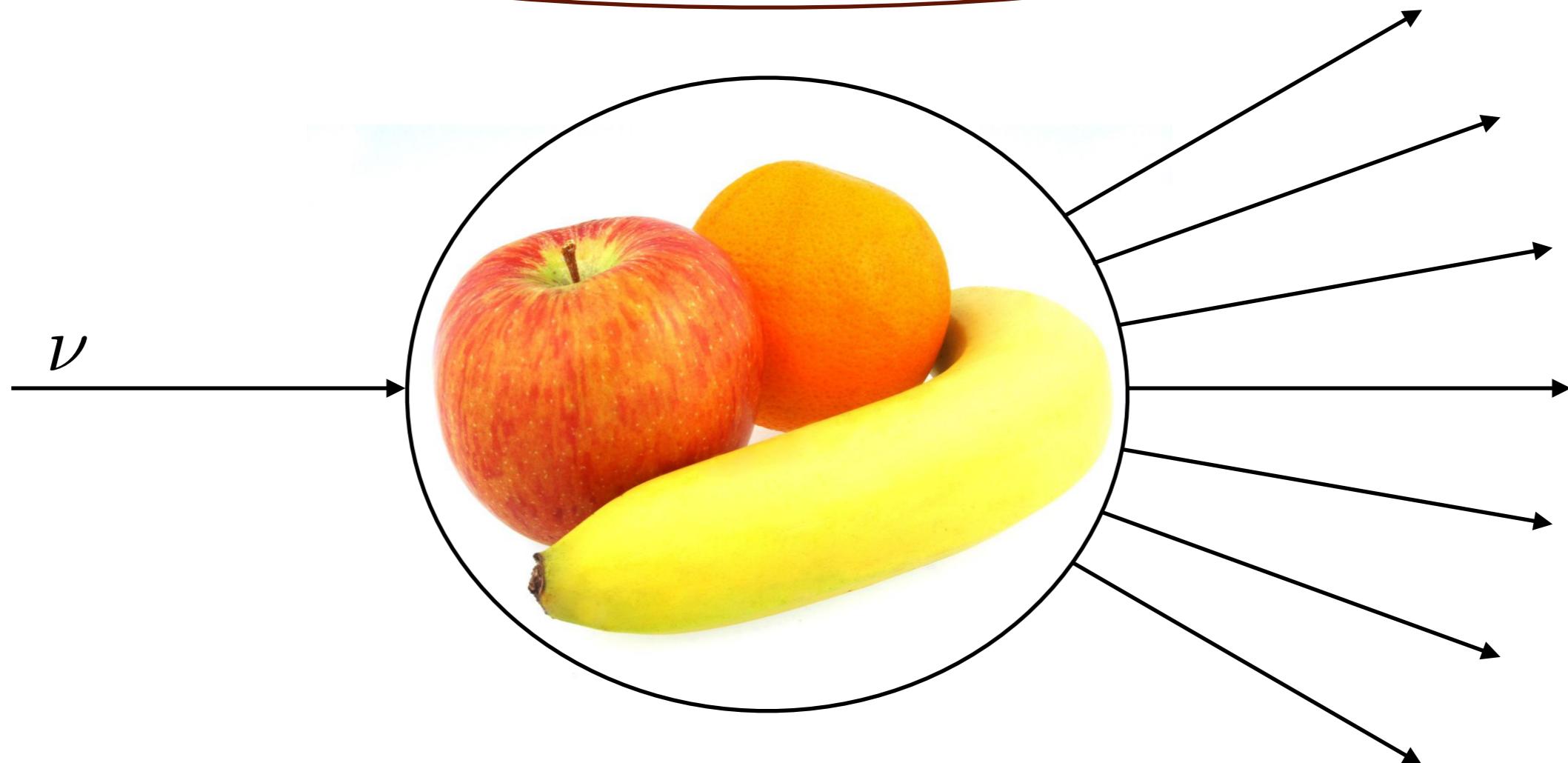
$X \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \sim 0.2 \%$  multiplied by target nucleus charge  $Z \lesssim 10 - 20$

@Ryan Plestid

- Coulomb corrections are enhanced by nucleus charge factor

# Electroweak corrections

$$m_e, m_\mu, M, E_\nu \ll M_W, M_Z, m_t, m_H$$



$$\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \sim 0.2 \% \text{ multiplied by } \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta_W}, \ln \frac{M_Z}{M}, \ln \frac{M_t}{M}, \dots$$

- electroweak corrections can be included in low-energy interactions



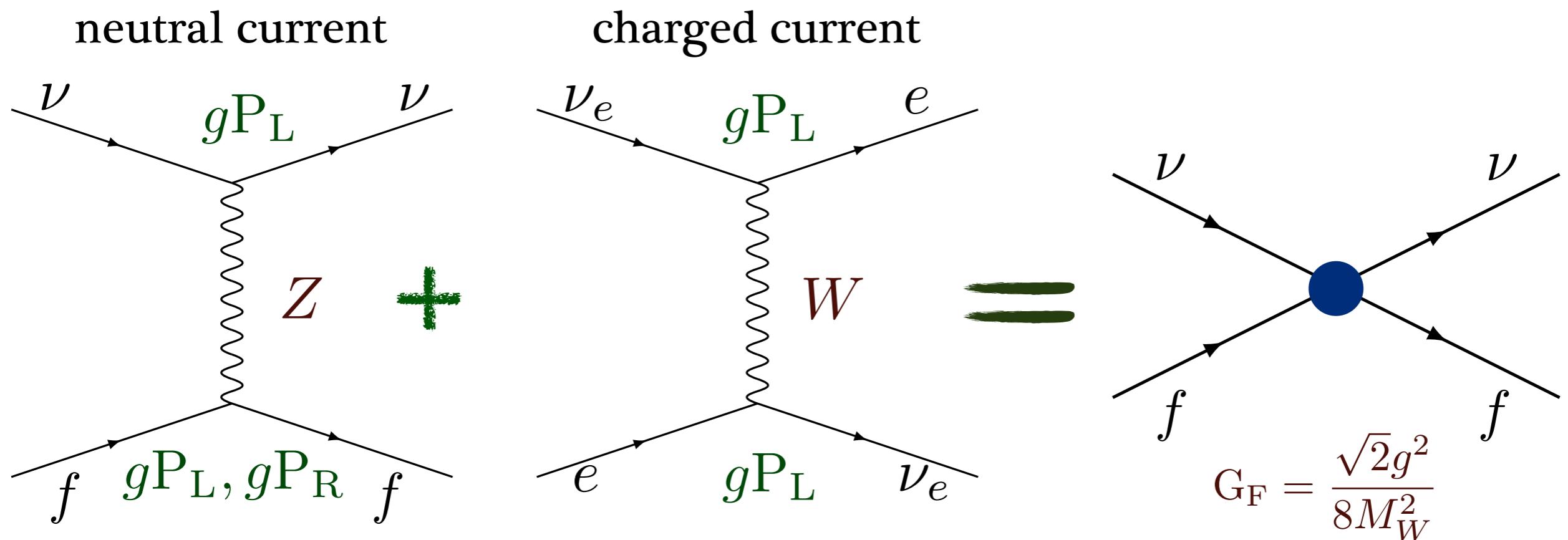
# Microscopic EFT for neutrino physics

O. T. and Richard J Hill, Phys Lett B 805 (2020) 135466

# Neutrino scattering in EFT. Matching

- tree-level matching to low-energy EFT

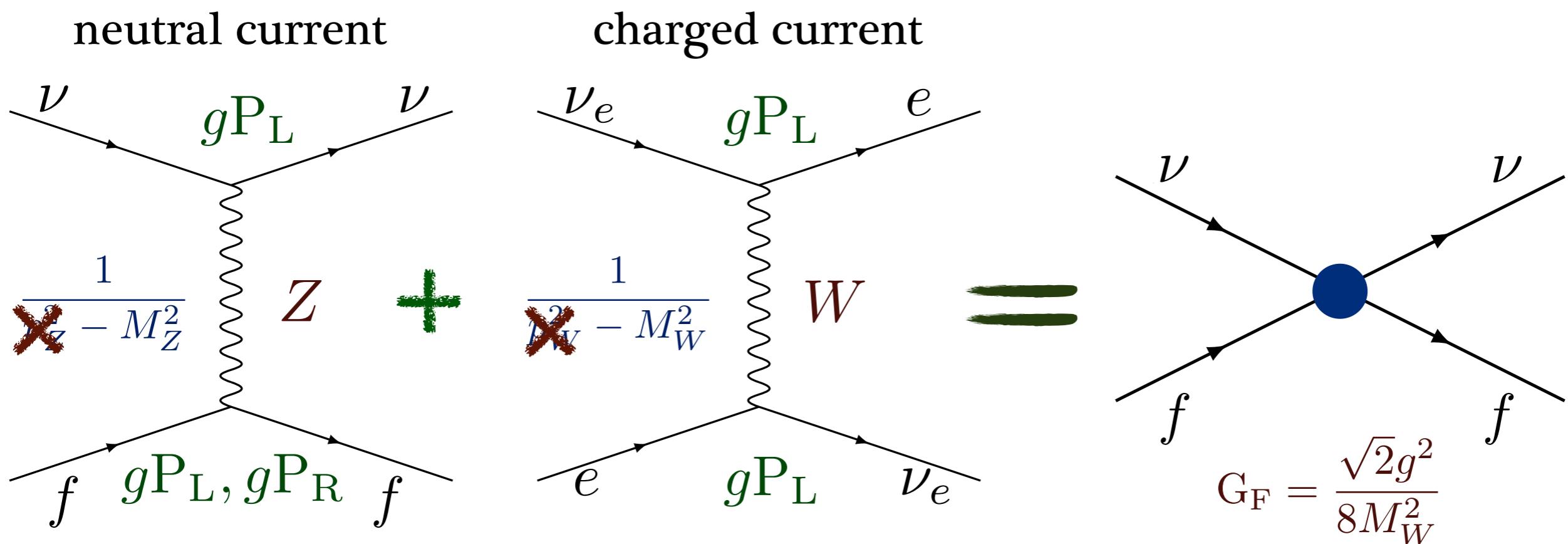
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -\bar{\nu}_\ell \gamma_\mu P_L \nu_\ell \cdot \bar{f} \gamma^\mu \left( c_L^{\nu_\ell f} P_L + c_R^{\nu_\ell f} P_R \right) f$$



# Neutrino scattering in EFT. Matching

- tree-level matching to low-energy EFT

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- masses of W and Z are large: integrate out W and Z at tree level

# Neutrino scattering in EFT. Matching

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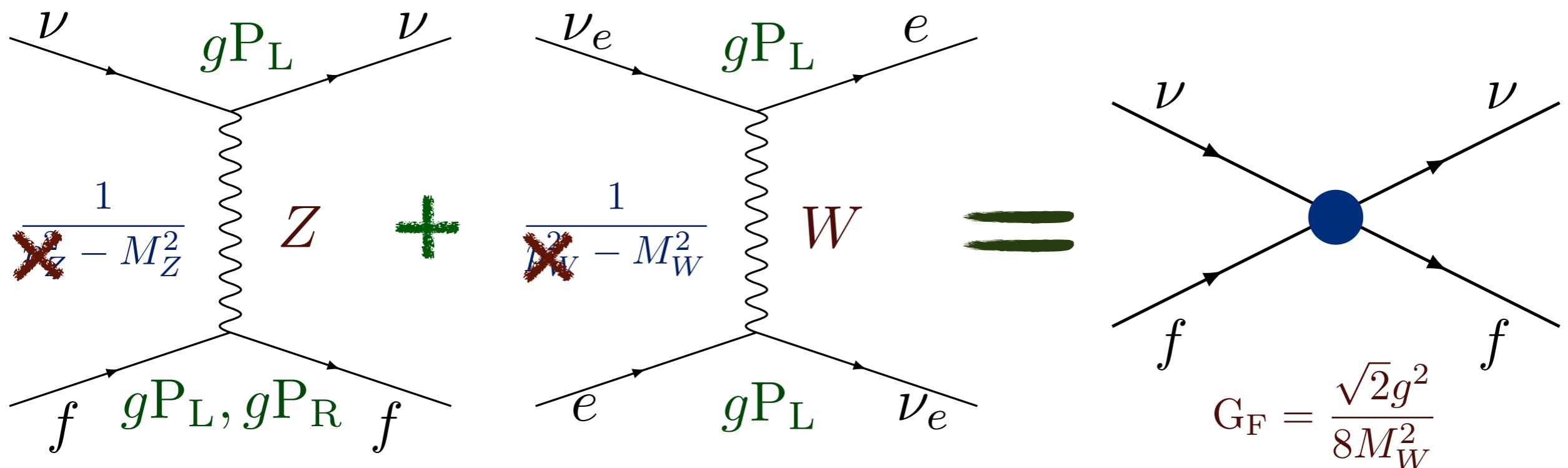
# couplings to electron

$$c_R = 2\sqrt{2}G_F \sin^2 \theta_W \quad c_L = 2\sqrt{2}G_F (\sin^2 \theta_W - 0.5 + \delta_{\nu,\nu_e})$$

Weinberg (1967), 't Hooft (1971)

## neutral current

# charged current



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# Neutrino scattering in EFT. Matching

- matching to low-energy EFT

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -\bar{\nu}_\ell \gamma_\mu P_L \nu_\ell \cdot \bar{f} \gamma^\mu \left( c_L^{\nu_\ell f} P_L + c_R^{\nu_\ell f} P_R \right) f$$

- consider only leading in  $G_F$  terms: loop corrections in  $a, a_s$
- gauge-invariant matching of amplitudes, renormalized in  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  scheme

$$\mathcal{M}^{\text{SM}} = \mathcal{M}^{\text{EFT}}$$

- $G_F$ : combination of parameters is precisely measured

$$G_F = 1.1663787(6) \times 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}^{-2}$$

MULAN (2012)

- matching at order  $a a_s$ : left- and right-handed couplings
- muon lifetime measurement improves precision

# Running to low scales

$M_Z$  - integrate out top, Z, W, h

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -\bar{\nu}_\ell \gamma_\mu P_L \nu_\ell \cdot \bar{f} \gamma^\mu \left( c_L^{\nu_\ell f} P_L + c_R^{\nu_\ell f} P_R \right) f$$

$m_b$

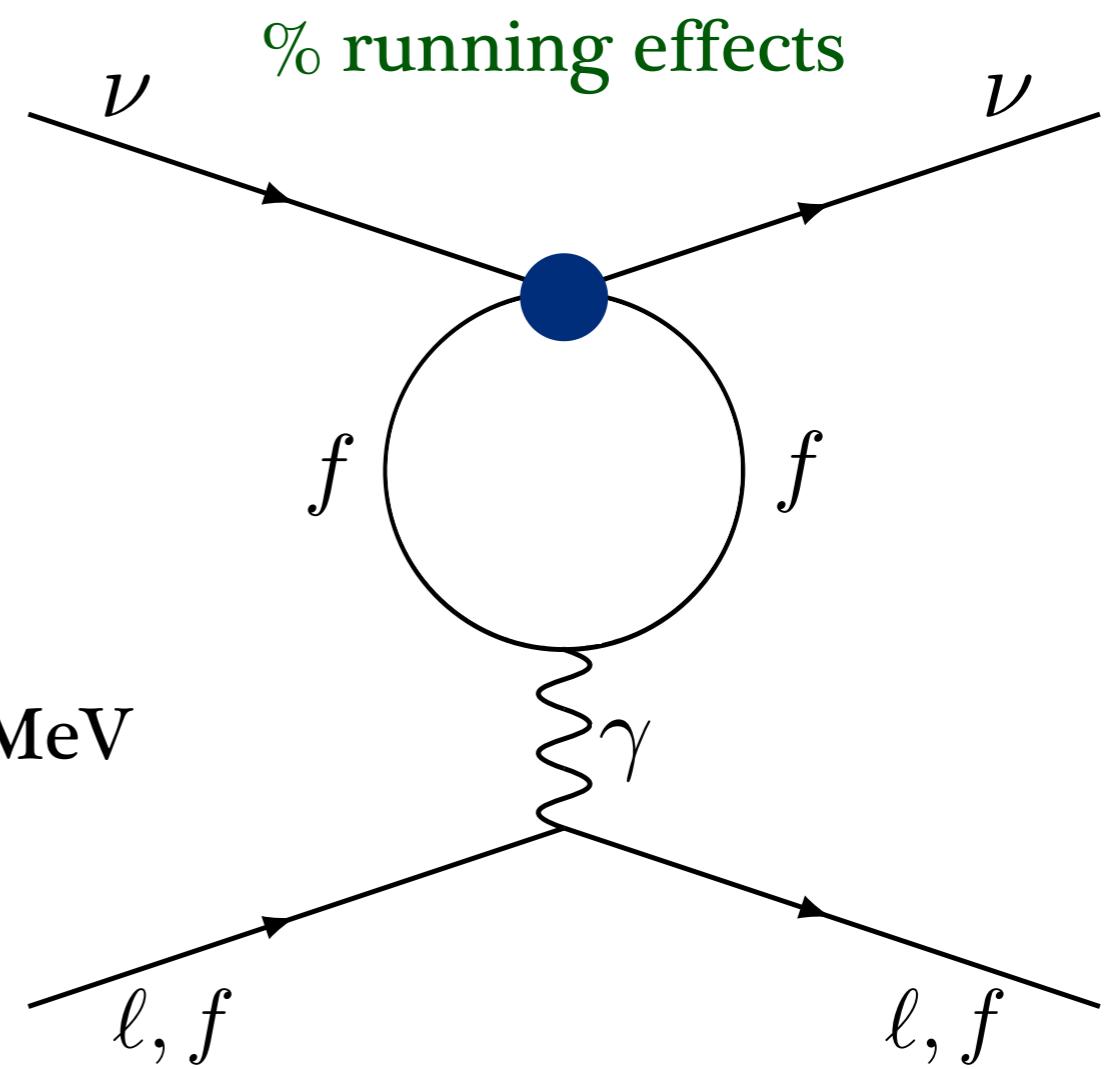
$m_\tau$  - integrate out GeV particles

$m_c$

- $a_s$  becomes too strong
- hadronic physics down to 140 MeV
- theory with leptons



$m_\pi$



- precise mapping from electroweak to hadronic scales



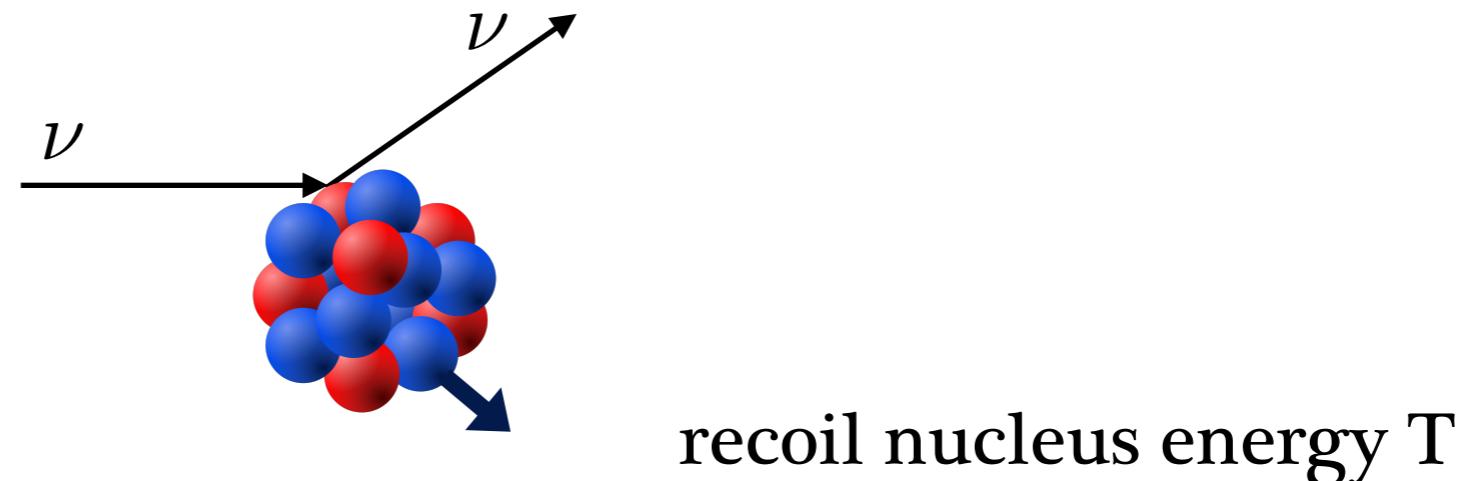
# Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering

O.T., Pedro Machado, Vishvas Pandey and Ryan Plestid, JHEP 2102, 097 (2021)

neutrino energy < 100 MeV

# Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering

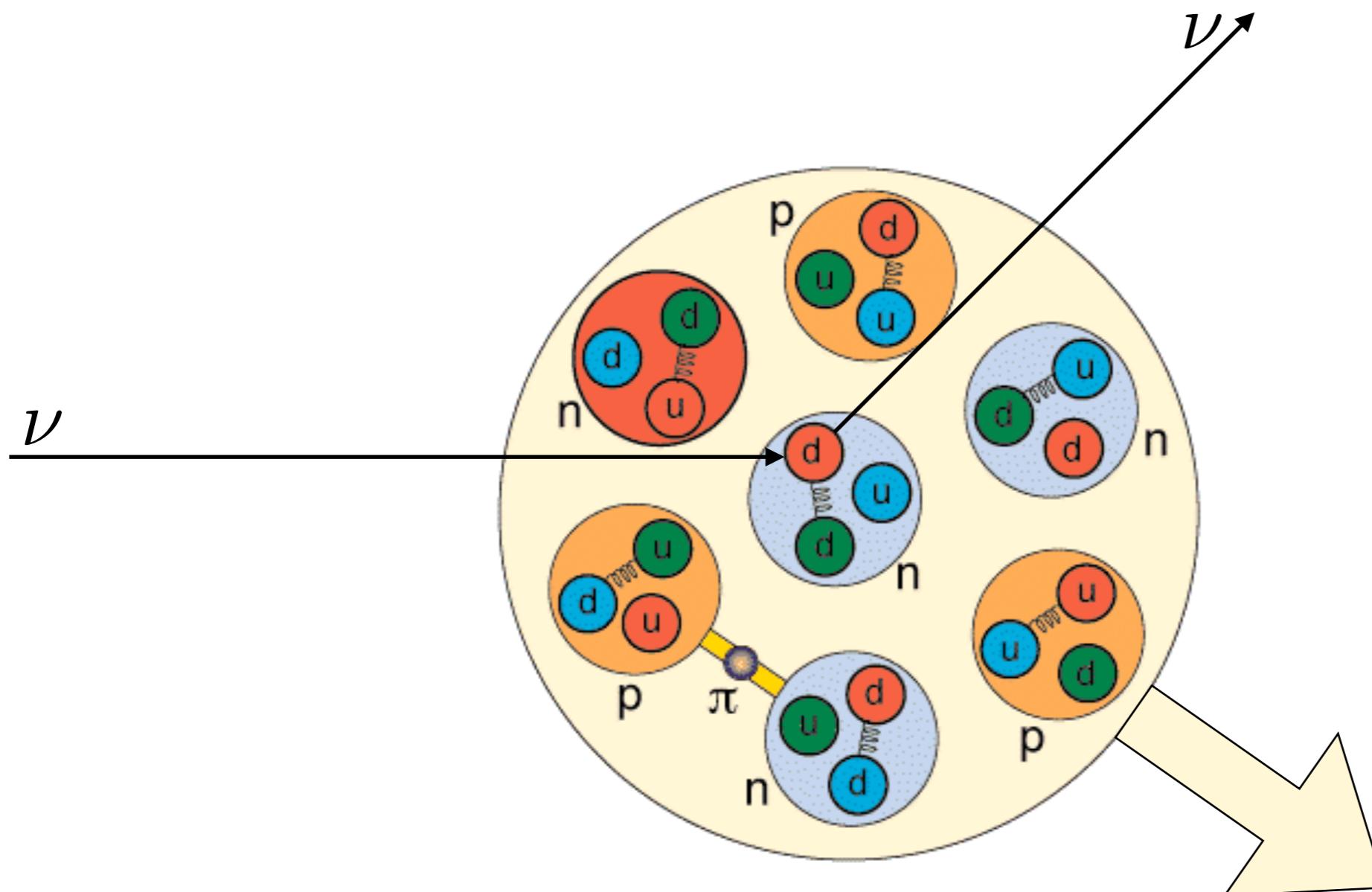
- at low neutrino energies (<50 MeV) nuclear state is unchanged  
nucleus recoils as a whole  
Stodolsky (1966), Freedman (1974), Kopeliovich and Frankfurt (1974)



- large cross section scales as squared number of neutrons  $N^2$
- $$\frac{d\sigma}{dT} \approx \frac{G_F^2 M_A}{4\pi} \left(1 - \frac{M_A T}{2E_\nu^2}\right) \left(N - (1 - 4\sin^2\theta_W) Z\right)^2$$
- first detection in 2017 at SNS, measured on CsI and Ar  
COHERENT, Science 357 (2017) 6356, 1123-1126
  - rapidly developing field nowadays

- CEvNS enters precision era with  $\pi$ DAR sources

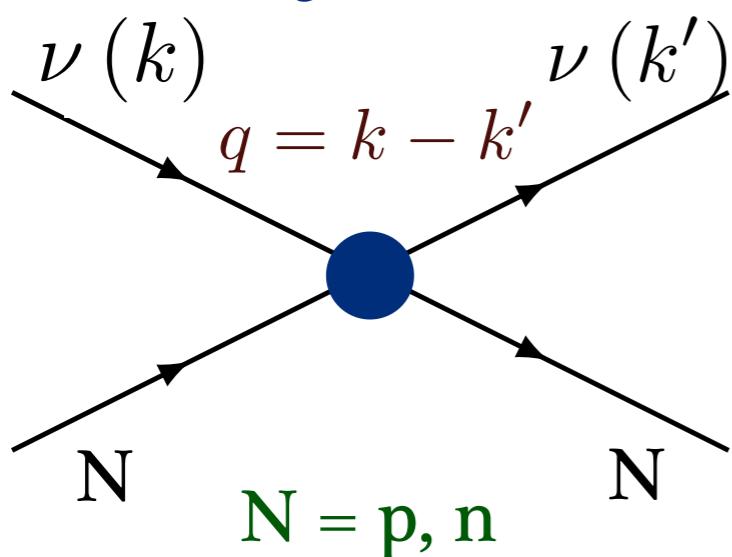
# From quarks to nuclei



[fafnir.phyast.pitt.edu](http://fafnir.phyast.pitt.edu)

- scattering on quarks in nucleons in nucleus

# From quarks to nucleons



momentum transfer

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

contact interaction at GeV energies

- neutral-current nucleon matrix elements

$$P_{L,R} = \frac{1 \mp \gamma_5}{2}$$

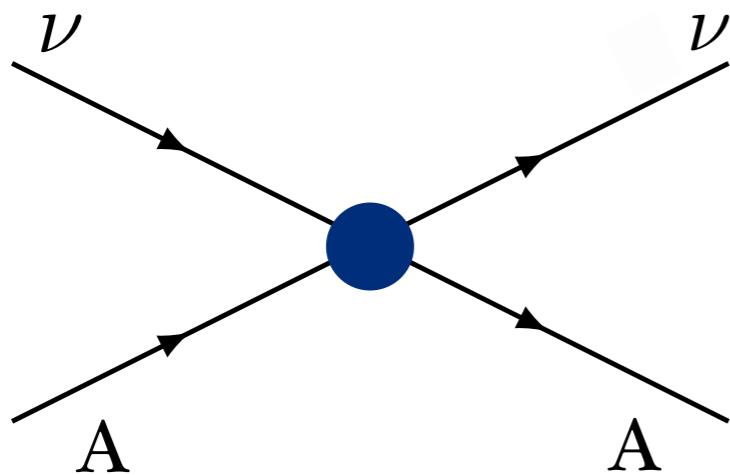
$$\mathcal{M} \sim \bar{\nu}_\ell \gamma_\mu P_L \nu_\ell \cdot \langle N | \sum_q \bar{q} \gamma^\mu (c_L^{\nu_\ell q} P_L + c_R^{\nu_\ell q} P_R) q | N \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{M} \sim G_E(Q^2), G_M(Q^2), F_A(Q^2), F_P(Q^2)$$

form factors: electric and magnetic axial and pseudoscalar

- form factors describe matrix elements of quark currents
- $\pi$ DAR sources: only normalizations and charge radii

# From nucleons to nuclei



- tree-level cross section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dT} = \frac{G_F^2 M_A}{4\pi} \left( 1 - \frac{T}{E_\nu} - \frac{M_A T}{2E_\nu^2} \right) F_W^2(Q^2)$$

spin-0 nuclei

- sum over nucleons with point-nucleon form factors  $f_p, f_n$

$$F_W = \left( \frac{c_L^{\nu_\ell u} + c_R^{\nu_\ell u}}{\sqrt{2} G_F} G_E^{n,u} + \frac{c_L^{\nu_\ell d} + c_R^{\nu_\ell d}}{\sqrt{2} G_F} G_E^{n,d} \right) f_n + (n \leftrightarrow p)$$

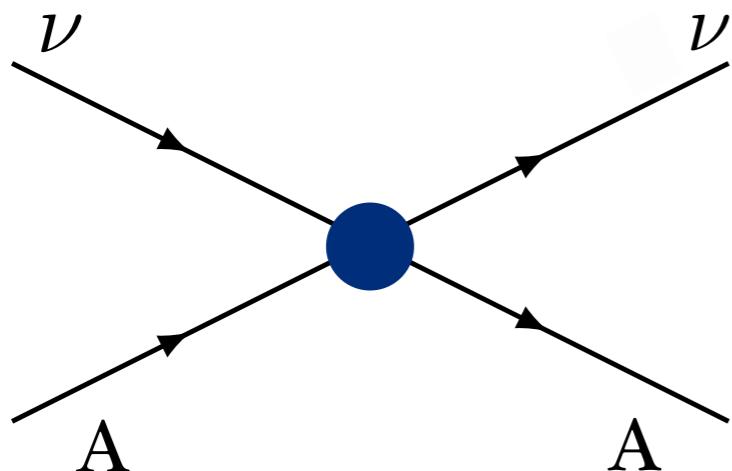
- flavor-independent form factor above GeV scale

- $Q^2/M^2$  corrections and spin-dependent terms are known

Hoferichter et al. (2020)

- point-nucleon form factors: distribution of nucleons in nuclei
- $\pi$ DAR sources: factorization starting from quark level

# CEvNS cross section on spin-0 nuclei

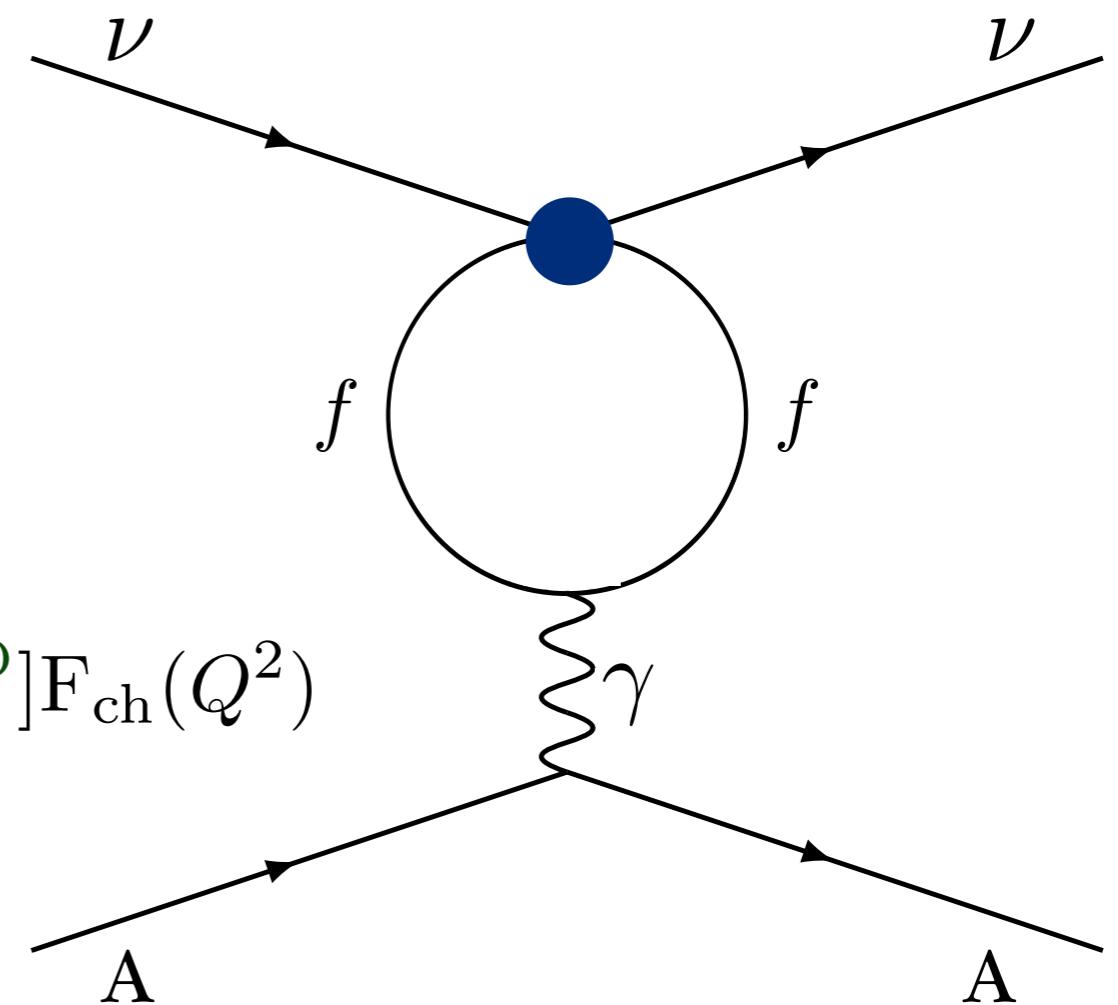


- tree-level cross section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dT} = \frac{G_F^2 M_A}{4\pi} \left( 1 - \frac{T}{E_\nu} - \frac{M_A T}{2E_\nu^2} \right) F_W^2(Q^2)$$

- effect of radiative corrections

$$F_W(Q^2) \rightarrow F_W(Q^2) + \frac{\alpha}{\pi} [\delta^{\nu\ell} + \delta^{\text{QCD}}] F_{\text{ch}}(Q^2)$$



- radiative corrections enter with the nucleus charge form factor

# Virtual QED corrections. Fermion loop

- all charged fermions contribute to elastic scattering at one loop

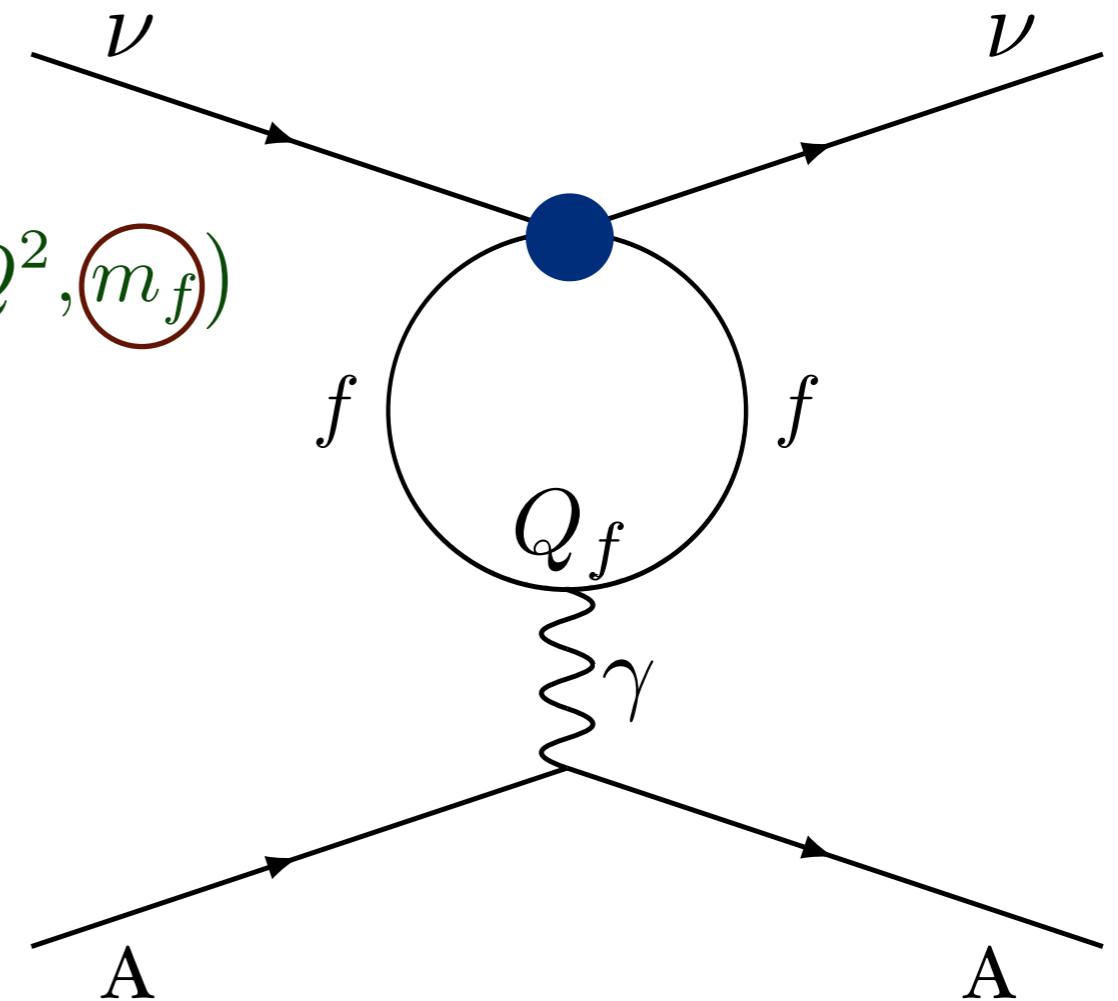
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- lepton loops

$$\delta^{\nu_\ell} = - \sum_f \frac{c_L^{\nu_\ell f} + c_R^{\nu_\ell f}}{\sqrt{2} G_F} Q_f \Pi(Q^2, m_f)$$

- origin of flavor dependence

$$c_L^{\nu_e \mu} = c_L^{\nu_\mu e} \neq c_L^{\nu_\mu \mu} = c_L^{\nu_e e}$$



- lepton mass breaks “flavor universality”

# Neutrino scattering in EFT

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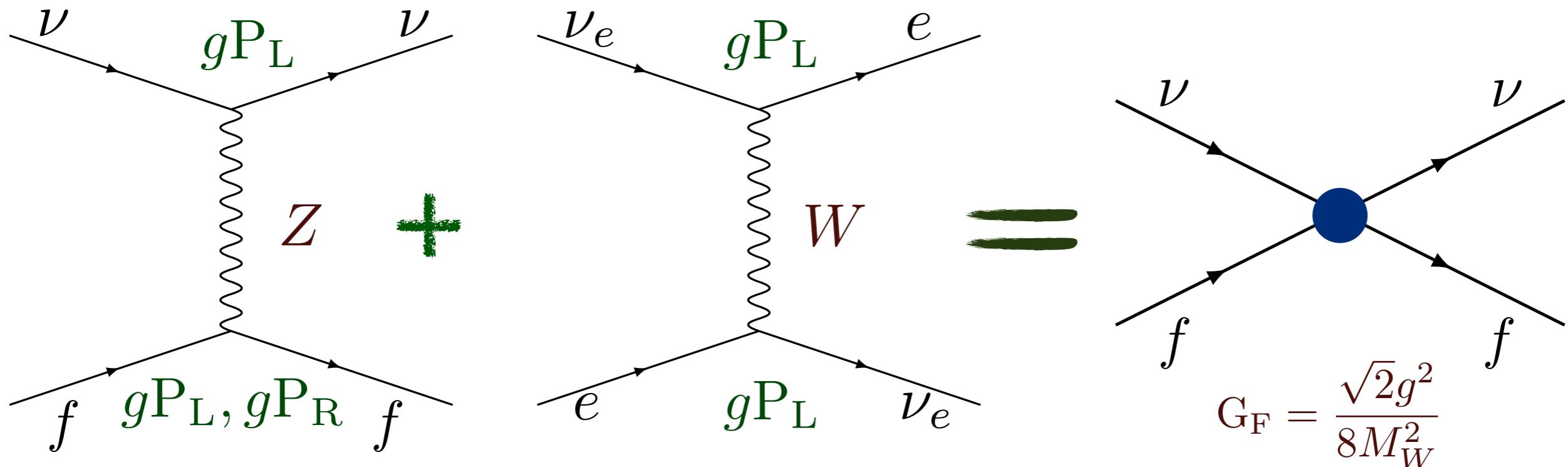
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Weinberg (1967), 't Hooft (1971)

# neutral current

# charged current



- same-flavor left-handed coupling is enhanced by exchange of W

# Virtual QED corrections. Fermion loop

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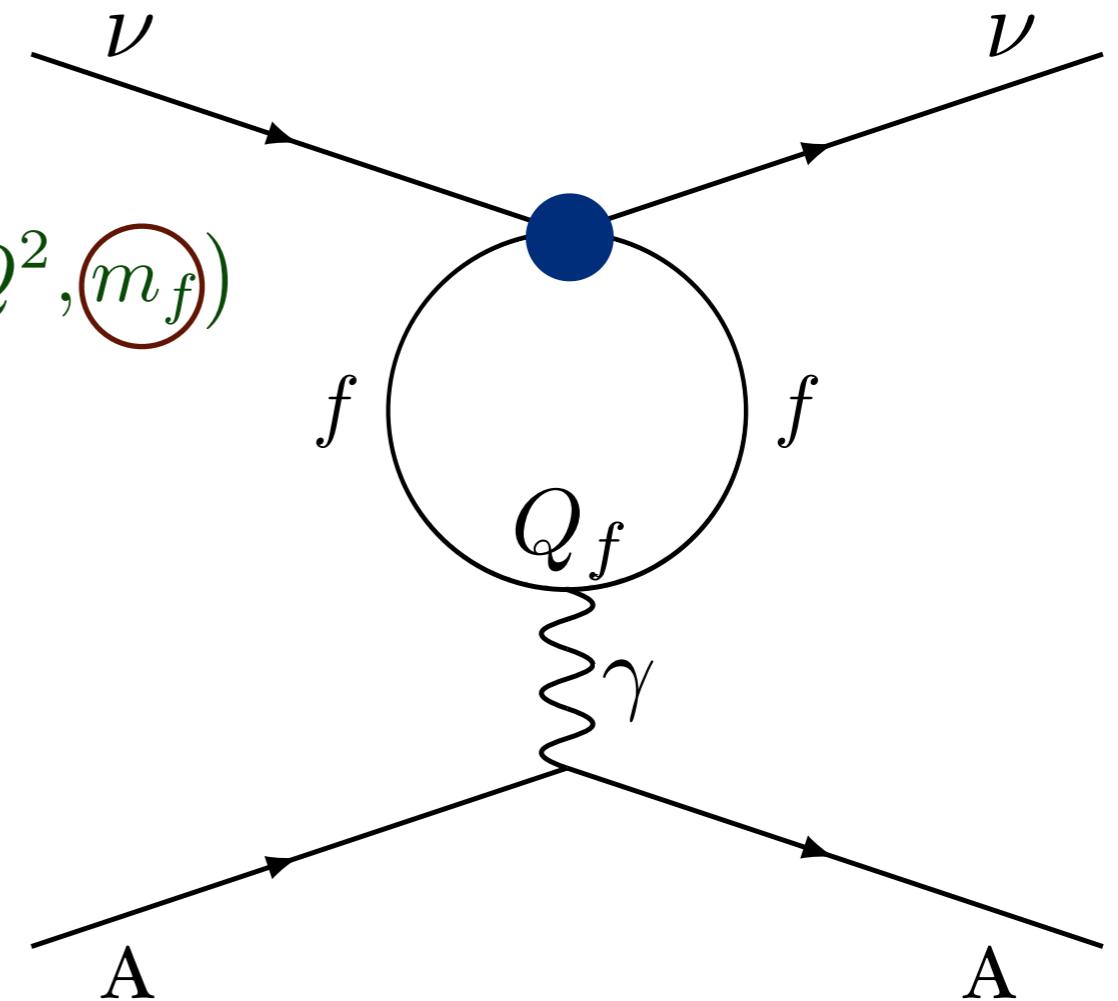
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# Light-quark contribution

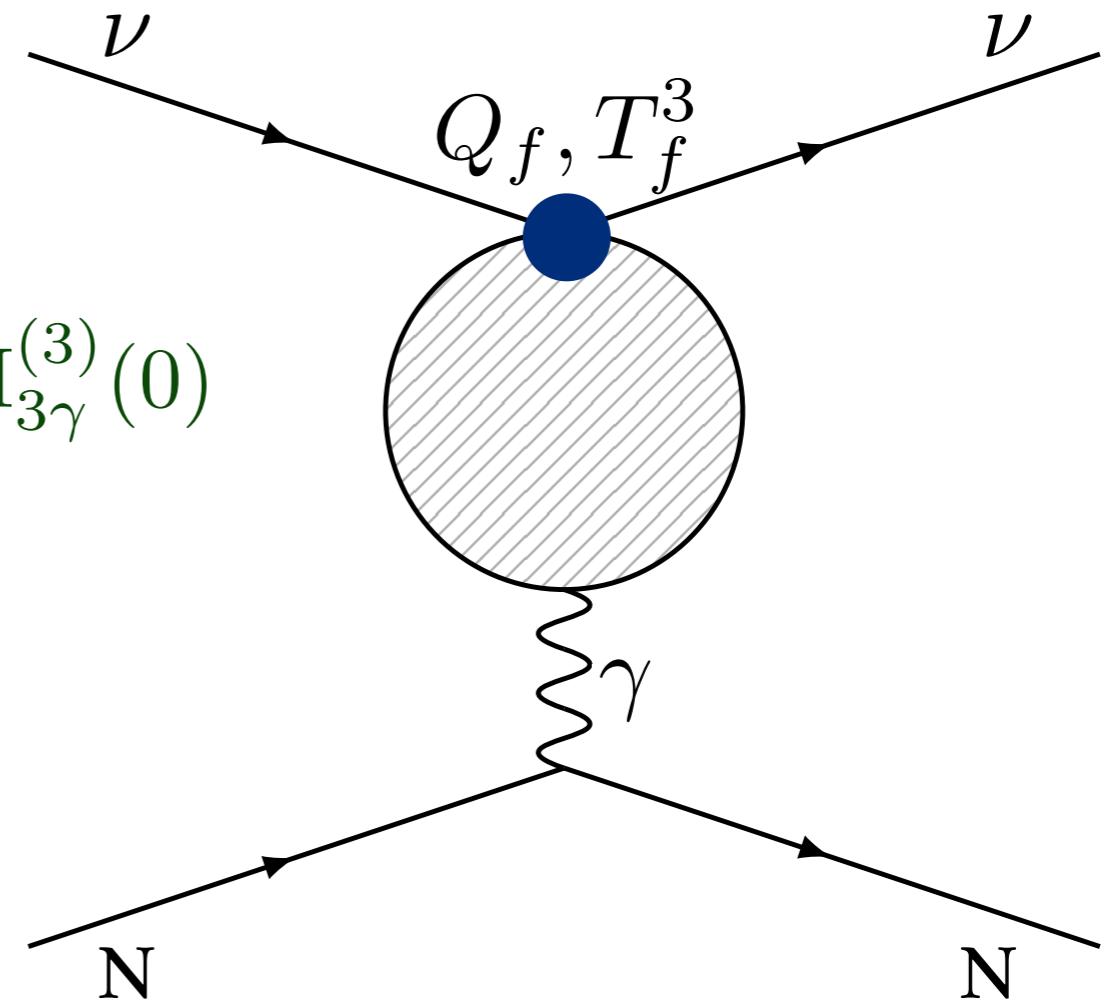
- description in terms of quarks is invalid at CEvNS kinematics

$$Q^2 \ll \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$$

- light quarks

$$\delta^{\text{QCD}} = 4\Pi_{\gamma\gamma}^{(3)}(0) \sin^2 \theta_W - 2\Pi_{3\gamma}^{(3)}(0)$$

- chiral symmetry approximation
- flavor independent



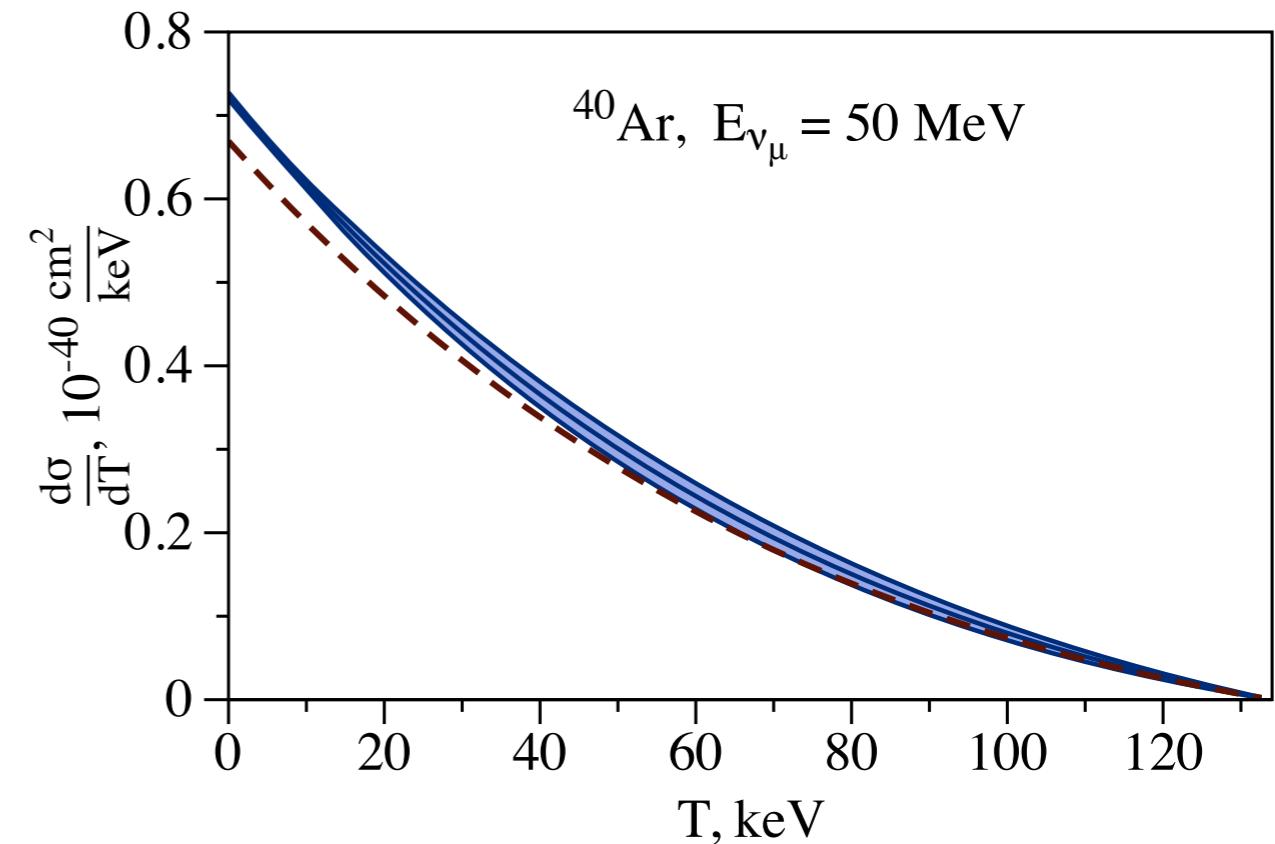
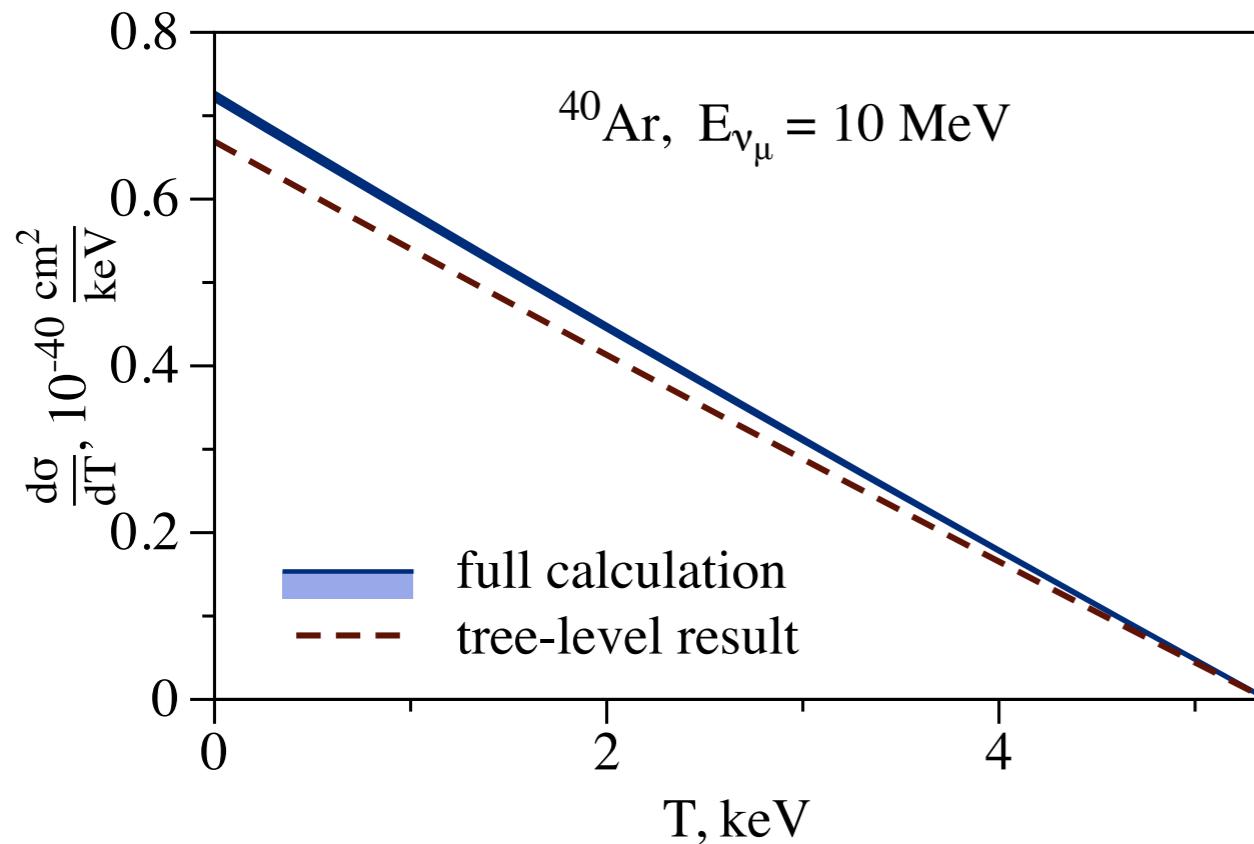
- non-perturbative light-quark contribution: error at low energy

# Total and differential cross section

- recoil nucleus energy spectrum: one-loop vs tree level

nuclear models for point-nucleon form factors:

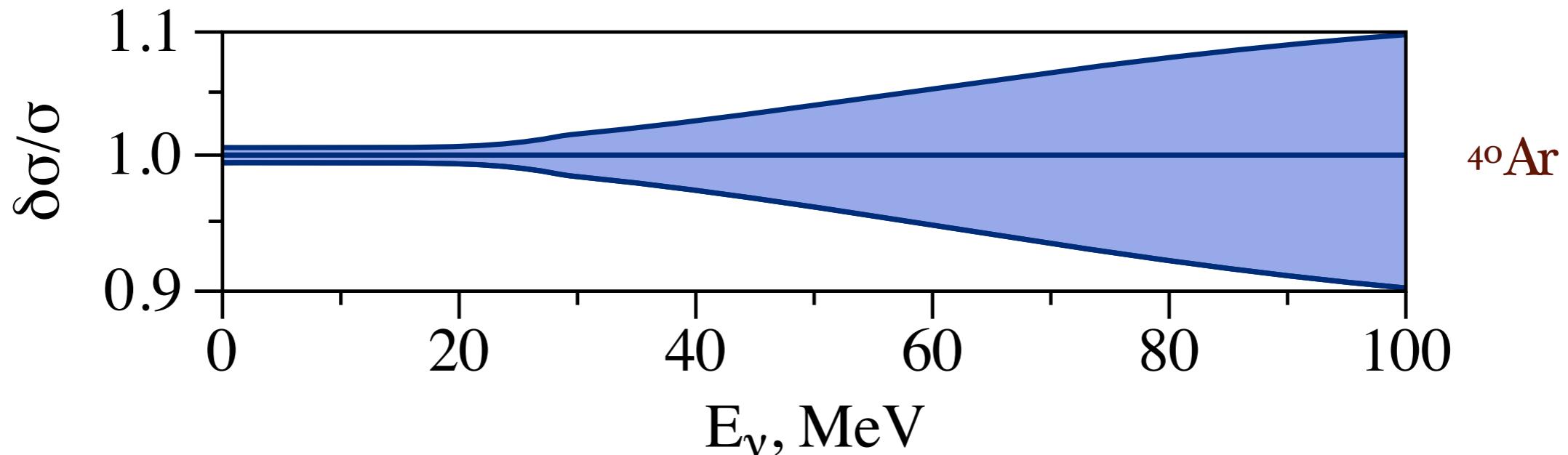
Yang et al. (2019), Payne et al. (2019), Hoferichter et al. (2020), Van Dessel et al. (2020)



- % effect of radiative corrections on cross sections

# Total cross section errors

- relative cross section error



- sources of uncertainty (%)

$E_\nu$ , MeV	Nuclear	Nucleon	Hadronic	Quark	Perturbative	Total
50	4	0.06	0.56	0.13	0.08	4.05
30	1.5	0.014	0.56	0.13	0.03	1.65
10	0.04	0.001	0.56	0.13	0.004	0.58

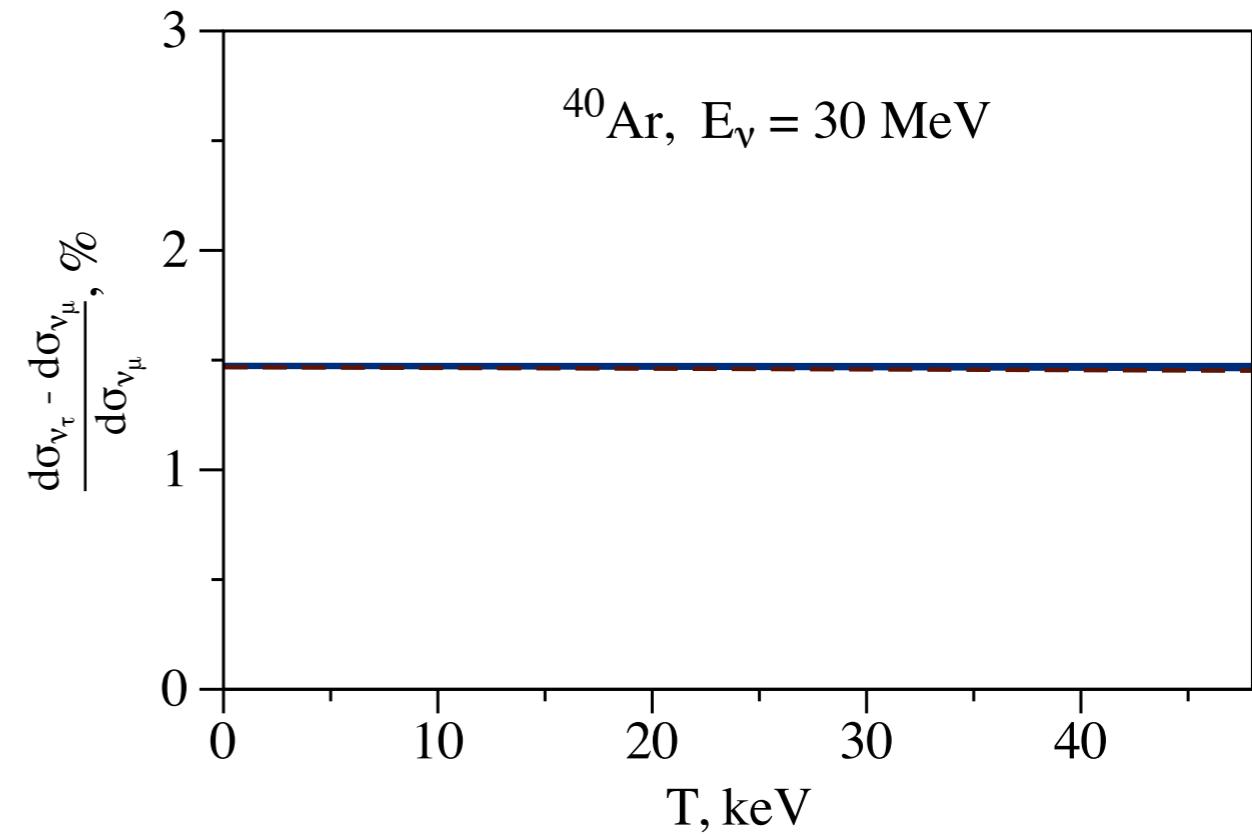
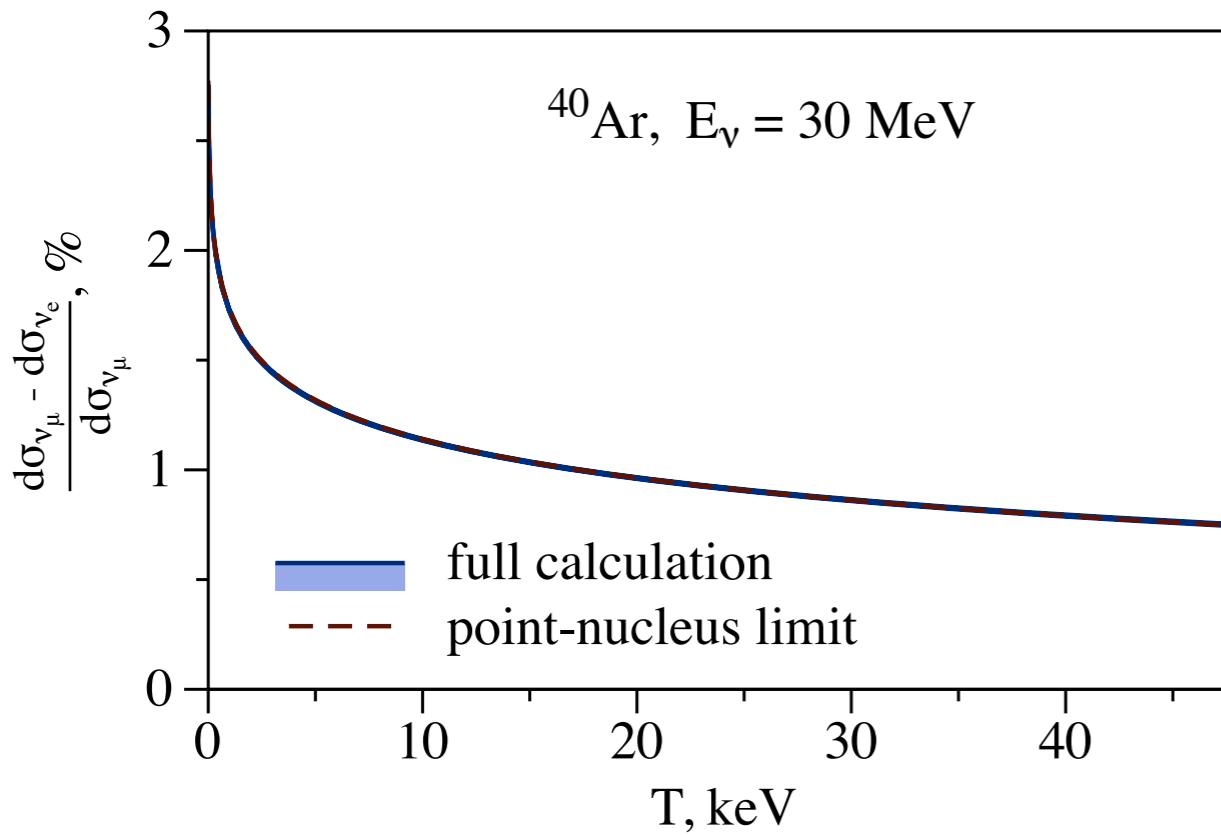
- hadronic error 0.6% at low energy, nuclear error at higher energy

# Flavor difference

- well described by point-nucleus limit

$$\lim_{R_p, R_n \rightarrow 0} \frac{d\sigma_{\nu_\ell} - d\sigma_{\nu_{\ell'}}}{d\sigma_{\nu_\ell}} = 4 \frac{\alpha_0}{\pi} \frac{Z}{Q_W} [\Pi(Q^2, m_\ell) - \Pi(Q^2, m_{\ell'})]$$

- kinematic dependence: full result vs point-nucleus limit



- factor 3-6 change in precisely predicted electron-muon asymmetry

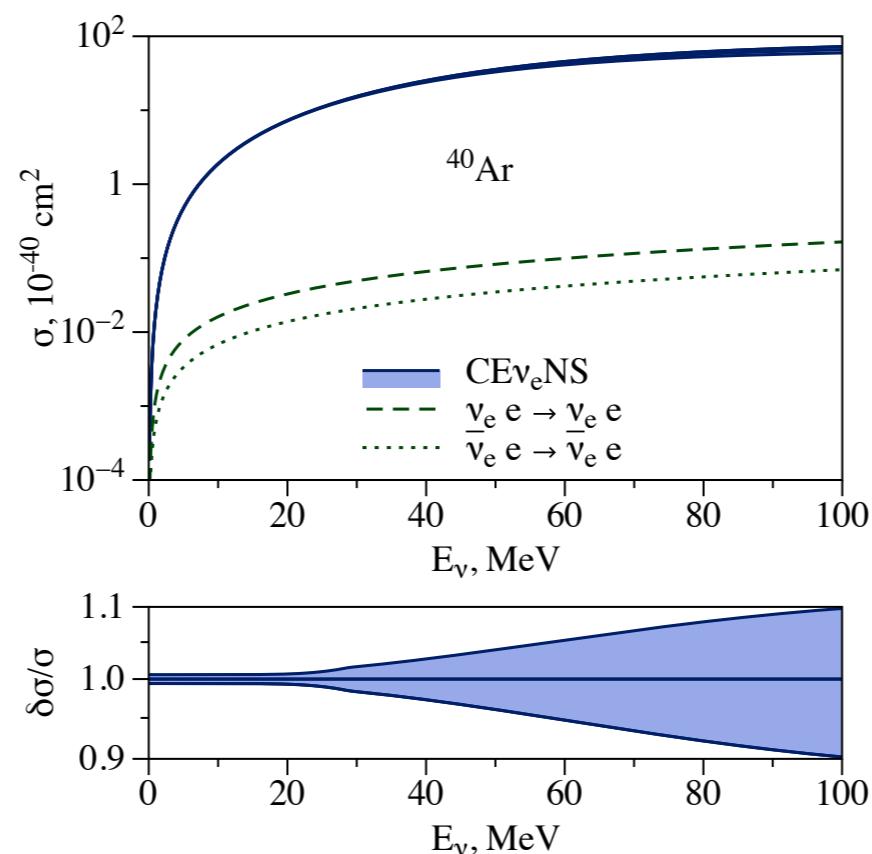
# How to use precise CEvNS?

precision EW physics

IsoDAR sources

Weinberg angle   charge radii   NSI

CEvNS is precisely known



# How to use precise CEvNS?

precision EW physics

Weinberg angle   charge radii   NSI

Oscillation physics

tau neutrino at low energy

$$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$$

15 km from  $\pi$ DAR sources

0.6-1.3% change

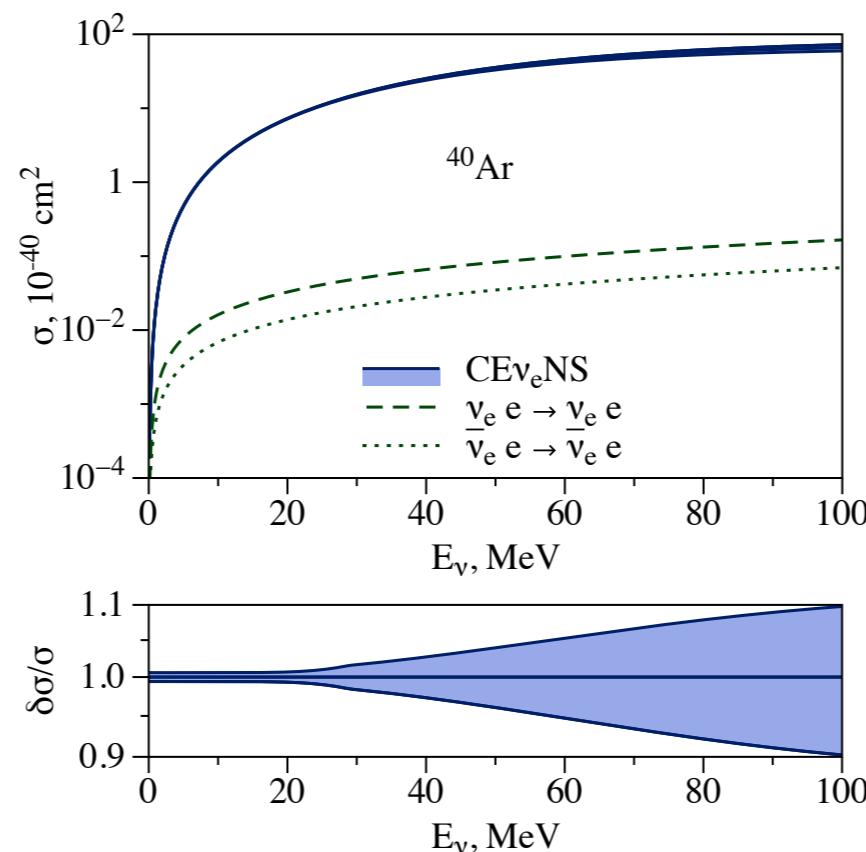
in event rates

IsoDAR sources

CEvNS is precisely known

Sterile neutrino searches

SM result with errors



# How to use precise CEvNS?

precision EW physics

IsoDAR sources

Weinberg angle   charge radii   NSI

CEvNS is precisely known

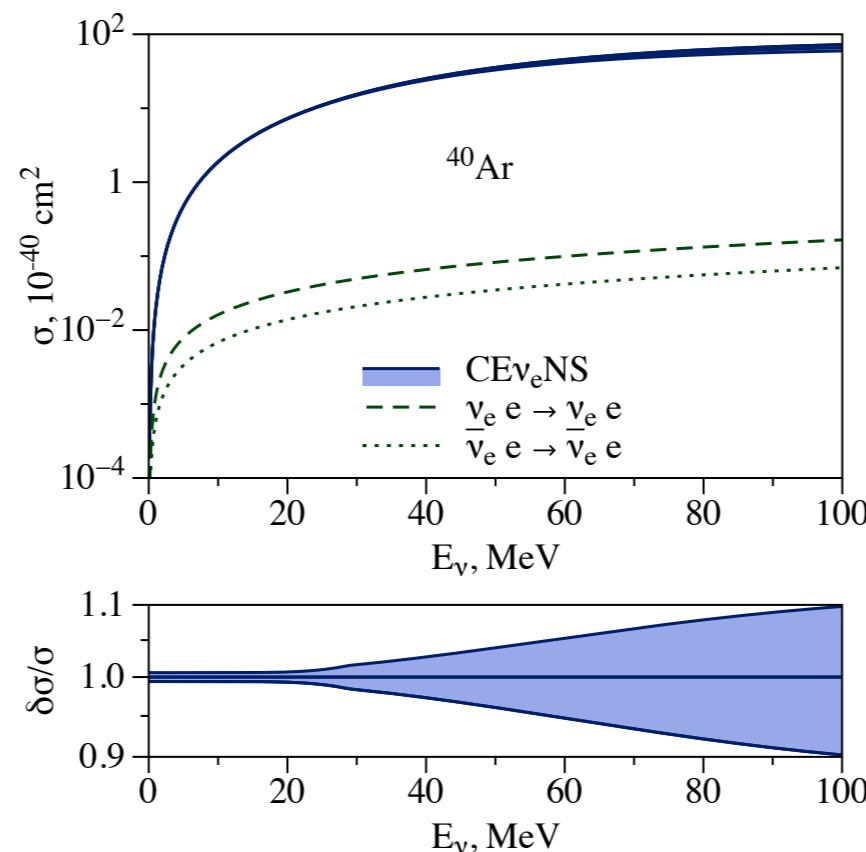
Oscillation physics

Sterile neutrino searches

tau neutrino at low energy

SM result with errors

$$\nu_\mu \rightarrow \nu_\tau$$



Nuclear reactors monitoring

Dark matter searches

measure neutrino flux with IBD

penetrate neutrino floor

# How to use precise CEvNS?

precision EW physics

neutrino magnetic moment

Solar neutrino physics

promising way to detect  
flavor dependence

by day-night asymmetry

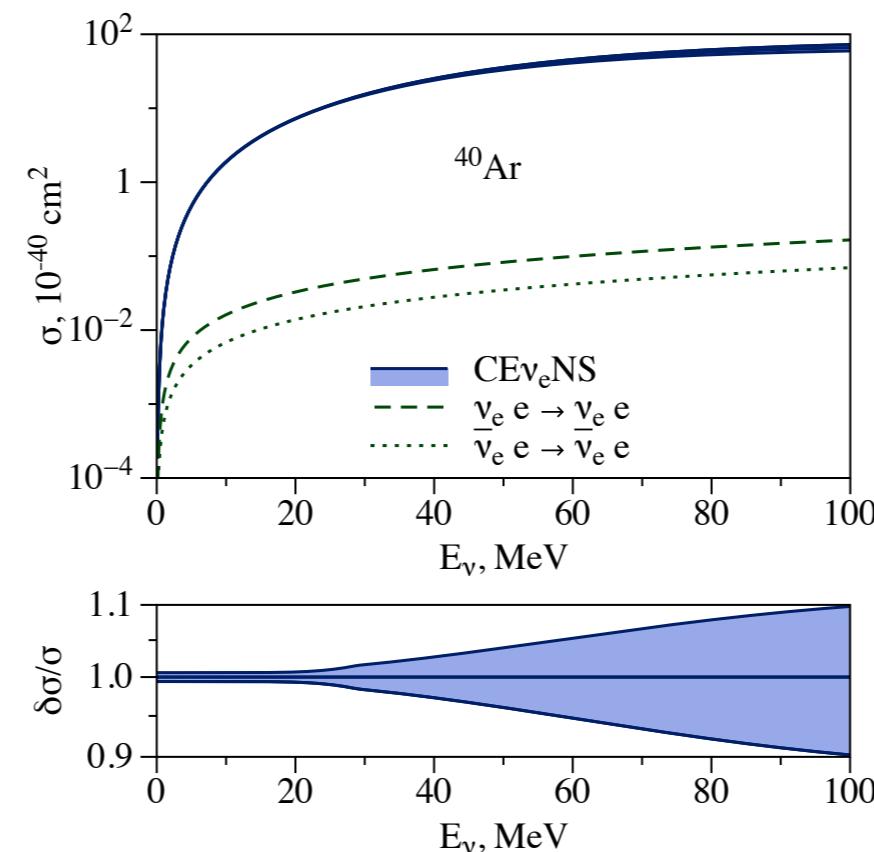
@Louis Strigari

IsoDAR sources

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measure neutrino flux with IBD

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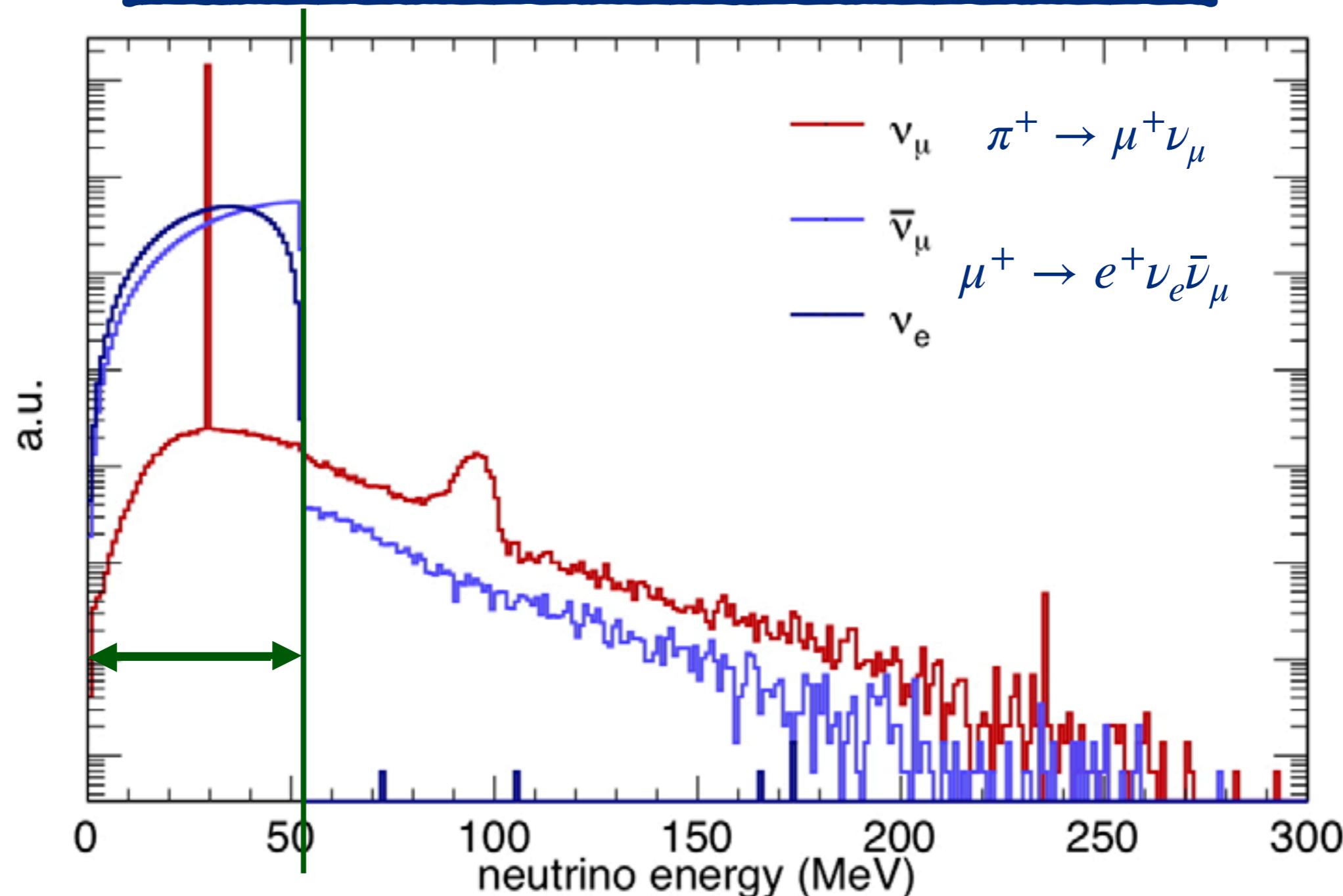
penetrate neutrino floor



# (Anti)neutrino energy spectra from muon, pion, and kaon decays

O.T., Phys. Lett. B 829, 137108 (2022)

# $\pi$ DAR spectrum at tree level

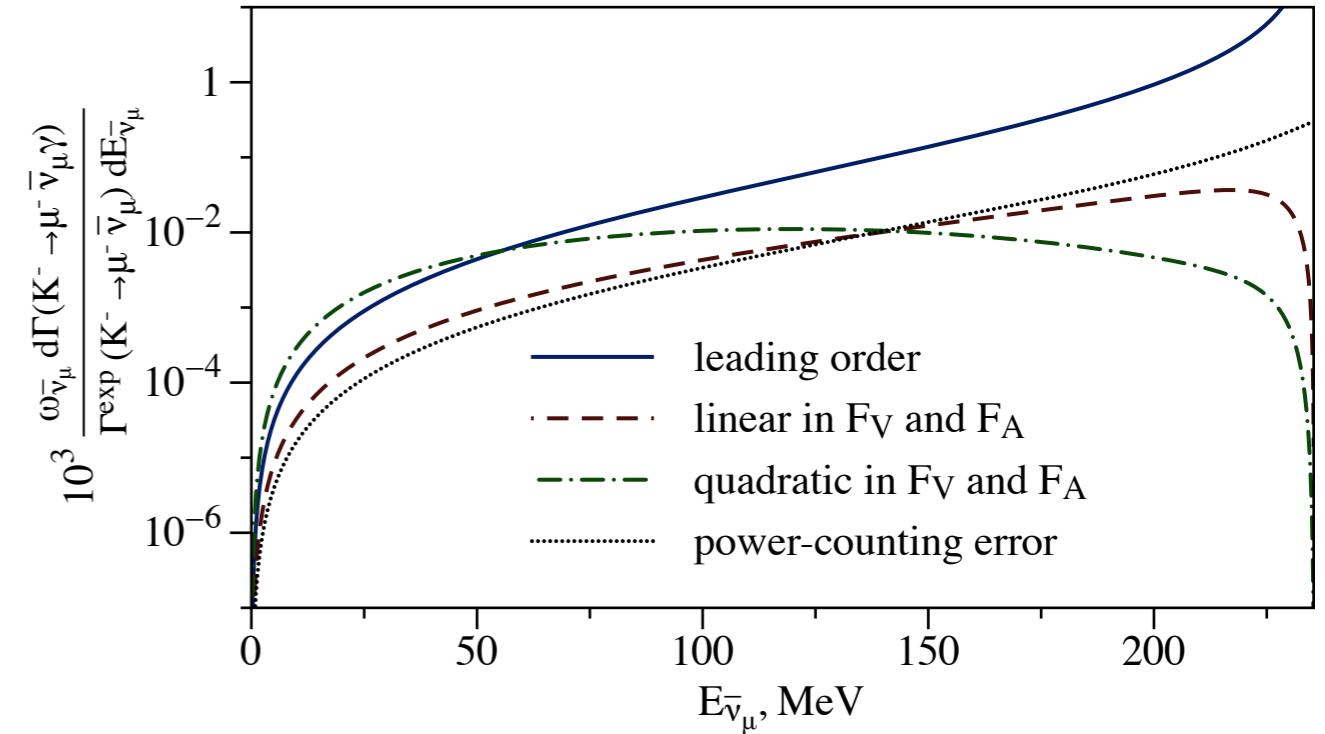
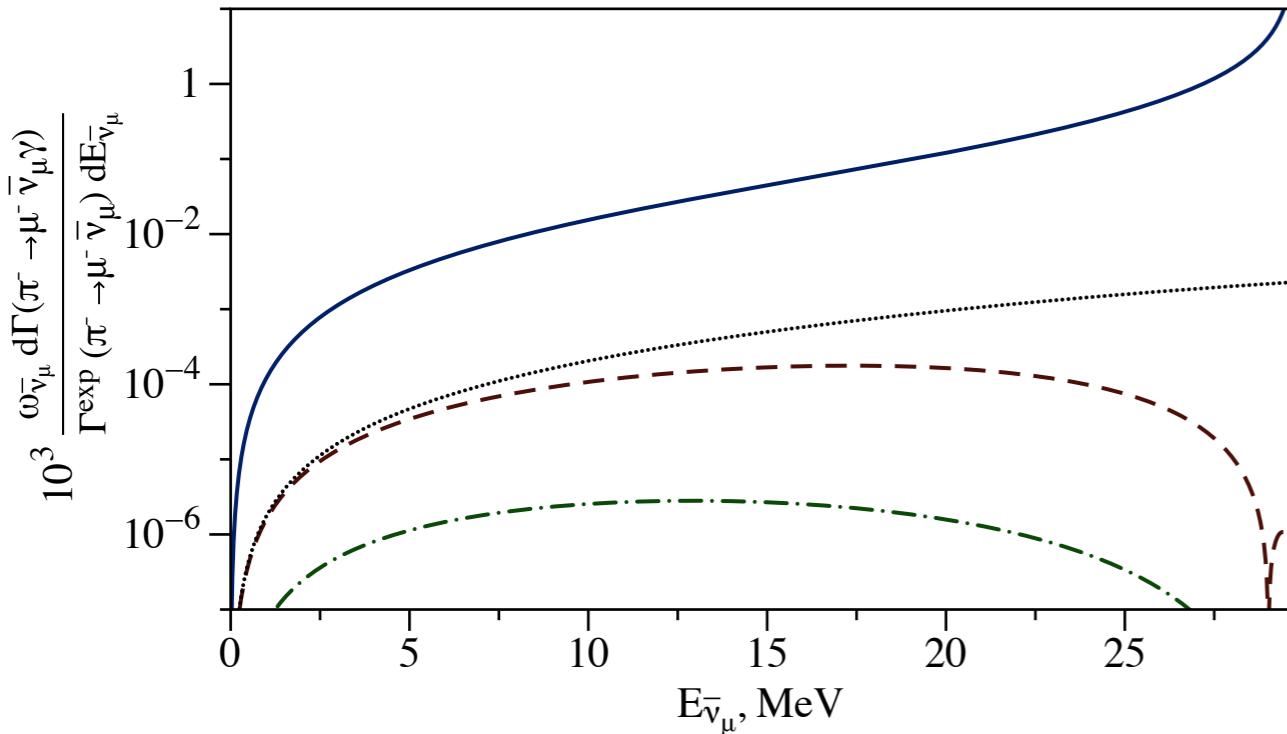


Akimov et al., Science 357 6356, 1123-1126 (2017)

- flavor-dependent spectrum at tree level with prompt  $\nu_\mu$  line

# Radiative corrections to decay of mesons

- broadening of monochromatic line with elastic peak



- analytic spectra presented
- negligible change in flux-averaged cross sections due to distortion

$$\sigma_{\bar{\nu}_\mu}^{^{40}\text{Ar}} = (15.1867 \pm 0.25) \times 10^{-40} \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\sigma_{\bar{\nu}_\mu, \text{LO}}^{^{40}\text{Ar}} = (15.1875 \pm 0.25) \times 10^{-40} \text{ cm}^2$$

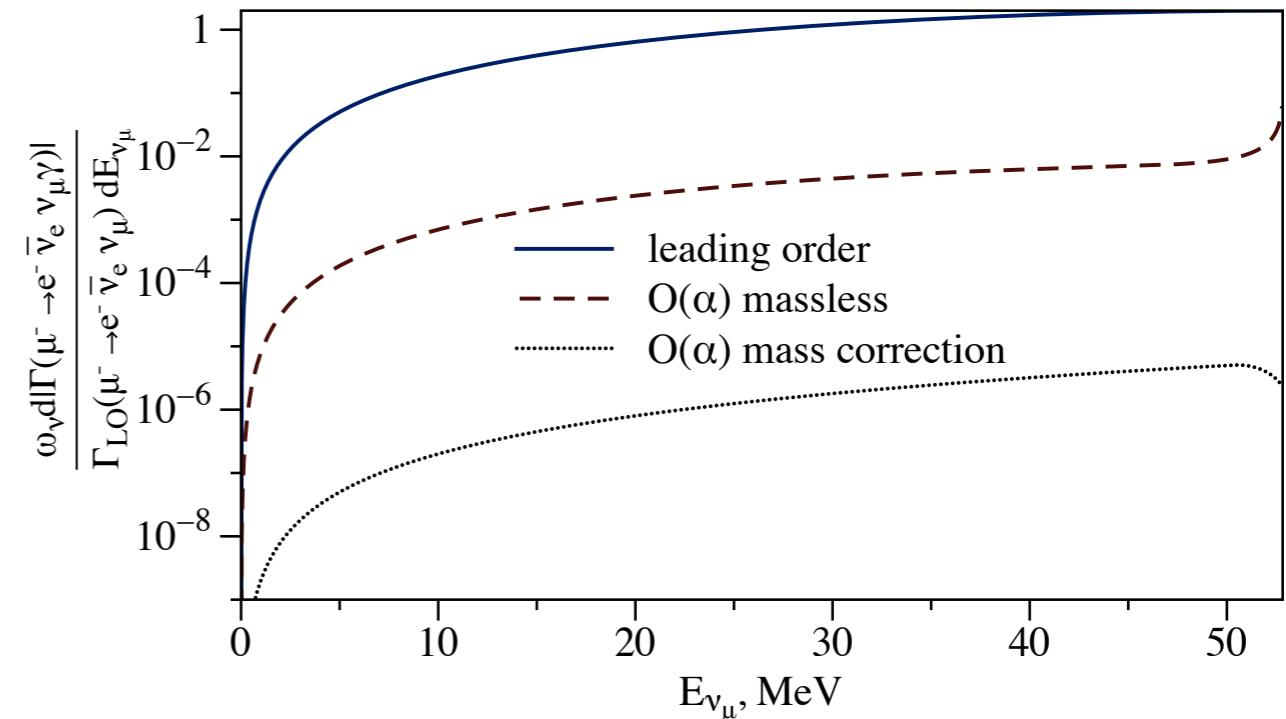
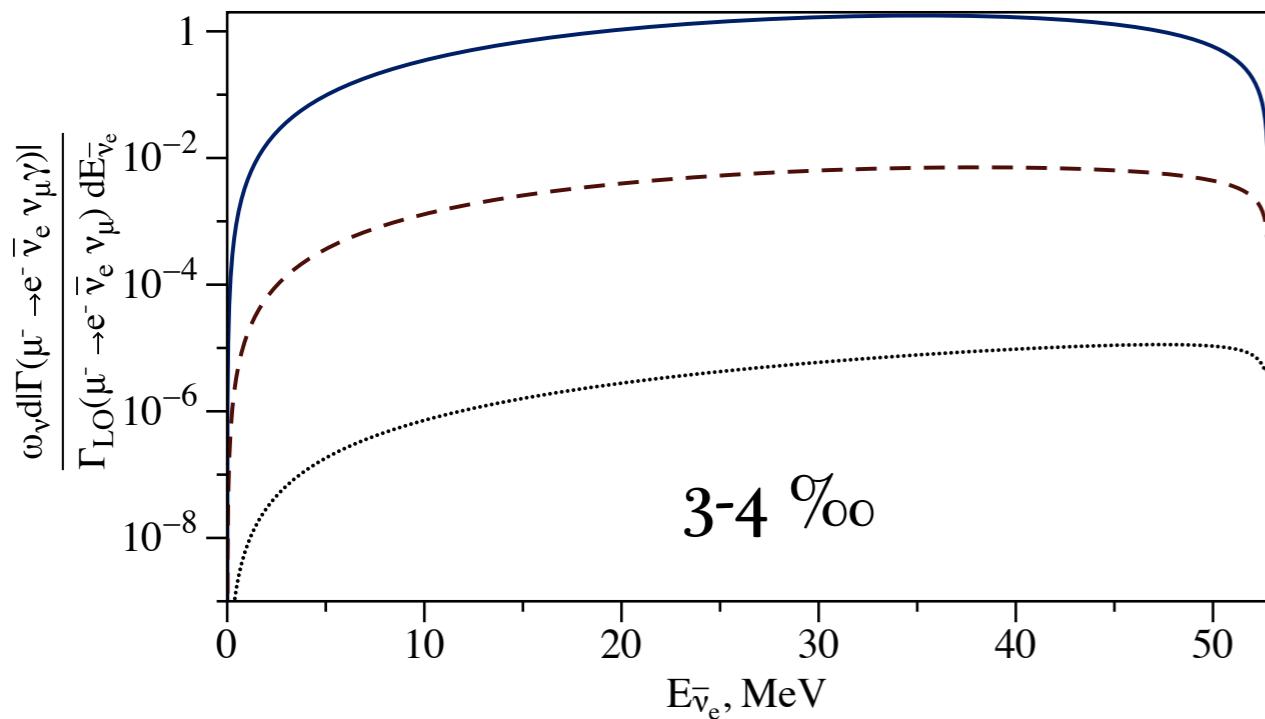
- $\lesssim 10^{-4}$  change in GeV (anti)neutrino fluxes

- negligible change when normalized to experimental lifetime

# Radiative corrections to muon decay

- flavor-dependent distortions at permille level

$$\mu^- \rightarrow e^- \bar{\nu}_e \nu_\mu \gamma$$



- analytic spectra presented in agreement with b decays within QCD  
[M. Jezabek, J.H. Kuhn, Nucl. Phys. B 320, 20 \(1989\)](#)
- permille change in flux-averaged cross sections due to distortion

$$\sigma_{\bar{\nu}_e}^{^{40}\text{Ar}} = (17.484 \pm 0.43) \times 10^{-40} \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\sigma_{\bar{\nu}_e, \text{LO}}^{^{40}\text{Ar}} = (17.490 \pm 0.43) \times 10^{-40} \text{ cm}^2$$

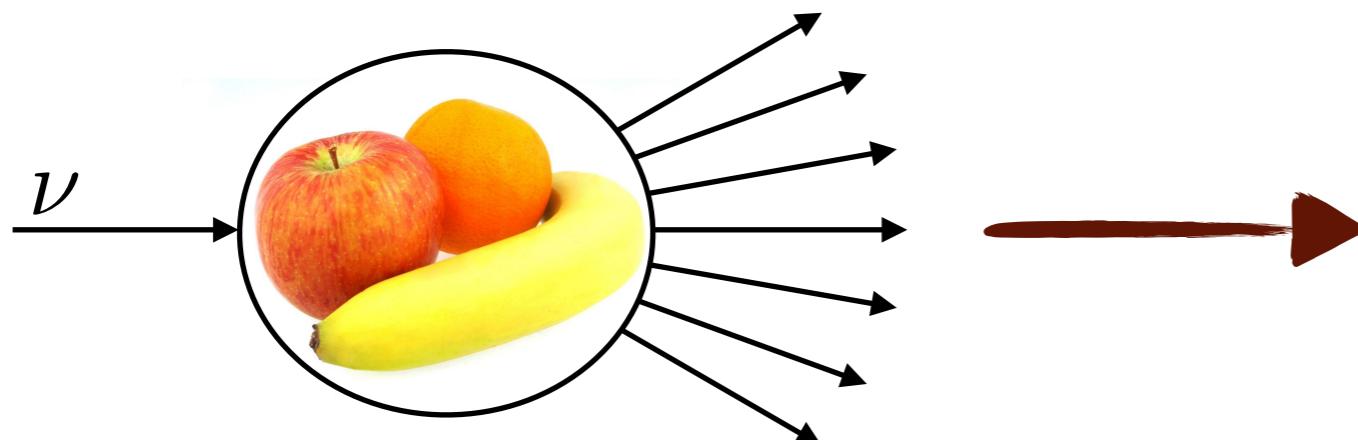
$$\sigma_{\nu_\mu}^{^{40}\text{Ar}} = (22.448 \pm 0.66) \times 10^{-40} \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\sigma_{\nu_\mu, \text{LO}}^{^{40}\text{Ar}} = (22.454 \pm 0.66) \times 10^{-40} \text{ cm}^2$$

- modern QED/EW form factors with different mass of leptons

- permille-level change in agreement with KLN theorem

# Conclusions



radiative corrections  
in EFT framework

- precision four-Fermi effective theory: basis for computations with sub-percent accuracy in neutrino interactions
- total and differential CEvNS cross sections evaluated from theory with first rigorous error analysis
- precise neutrino spectra from muon, pion, and kaon decays

Thanks for your attention !!!