

# Neutrinoless double beta decay in effective field theory

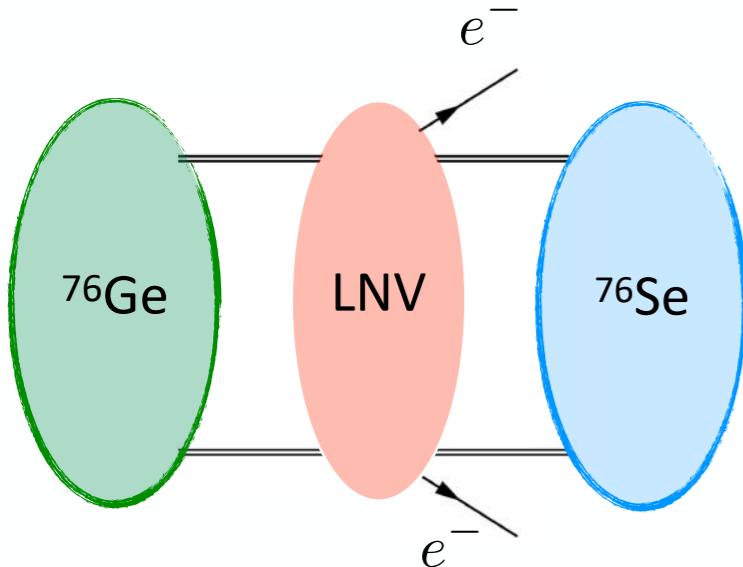
Wouter Dekens

with

T. Tong, M. Hoferichter, G. Zhou,  
K. Fuyuto, V. Cirigliano, J. de Vries, M.L. Graesser,  
E. Mereghetti, M. Piarulli, S. Pastore,  
U. van Kolck, A. Walker-Loud, R.B. Wiringa

# Introduction

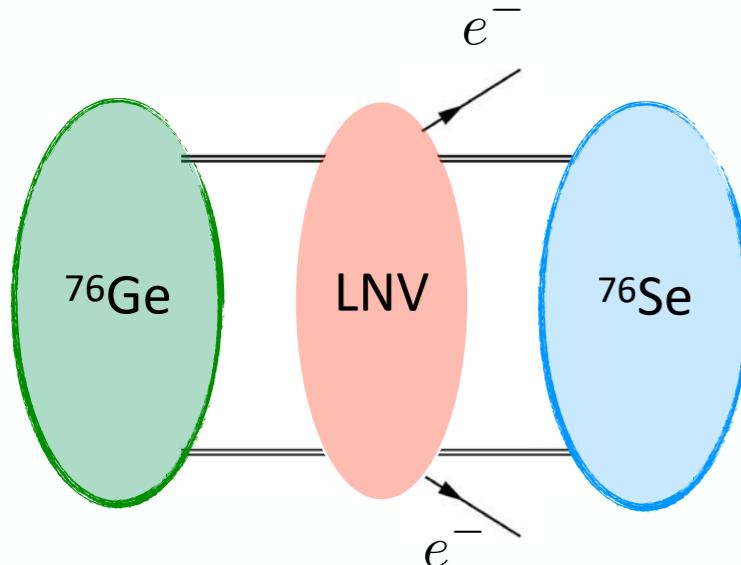
$0\nu\beta\beta$



- Violates lepton number,  $\Delta L=2$

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## $0\nu\beta\beta$



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- Stringently constrained experimentally
  - To be improved by 1-2 orders

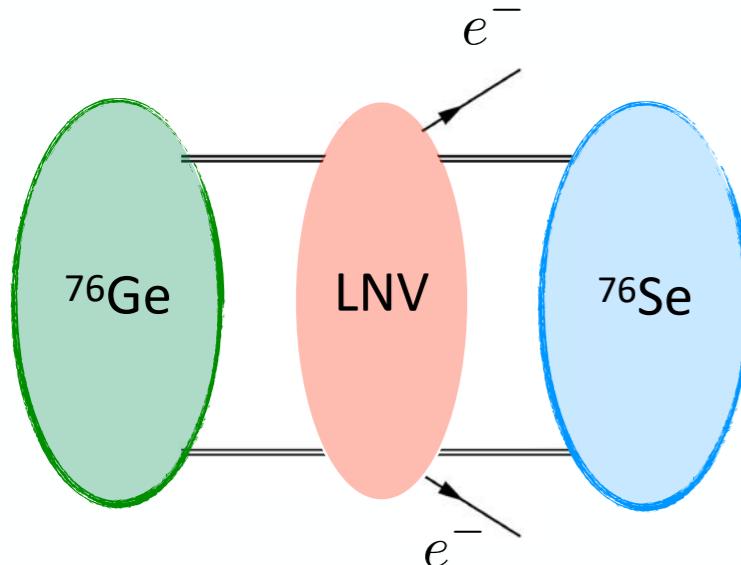
$T_{1/2}^{0\nu}(^{76}\text{Ge})$	$T_{1/2}^{0\nu}(^{130}\text{Te})$	$T_{1/2}^{0\nu}(^{136}\text{Xe})$
Gerda	Cuore	KamLAND-zen
$> 9 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ yr}$	$> 3.2 \cdot 10^{25} \text{ yr}$	$> 1.1 \cdot 10^{26} \text{ yr}$

**Future reach:**  
(LEGEND, nEXO,  
CUPID)

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 10^{28} \text{ yr}$$

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- Would imply that
  - Neutrino's are Majorana particles
  - Physics beyond the SM

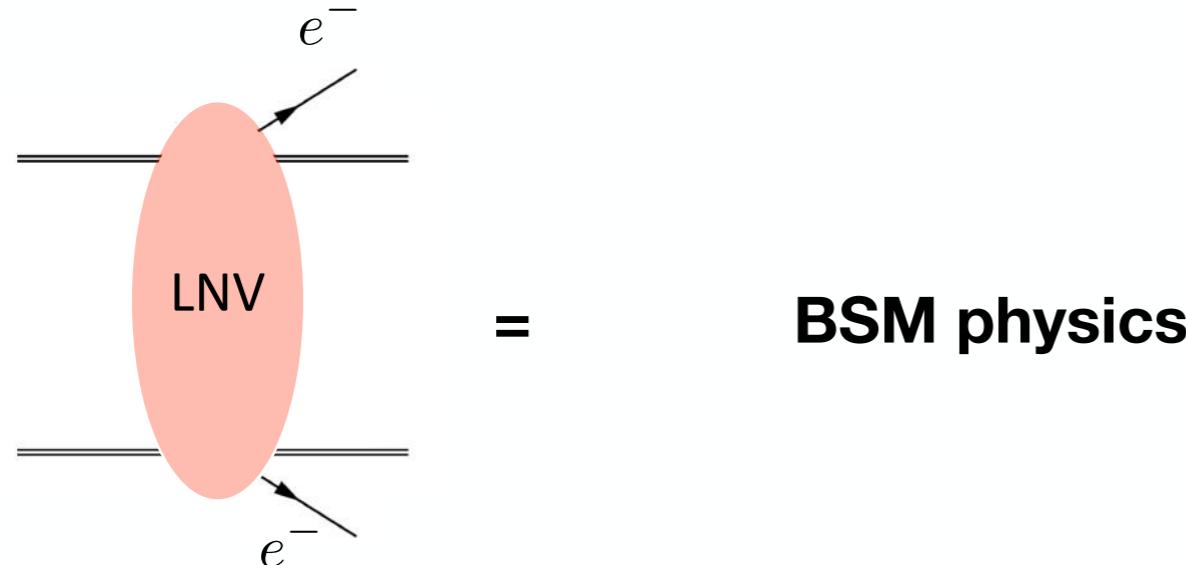
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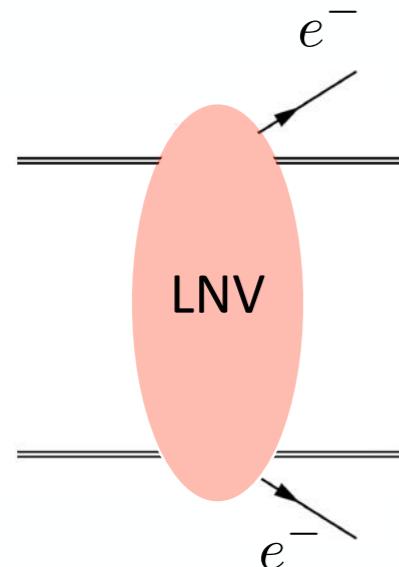
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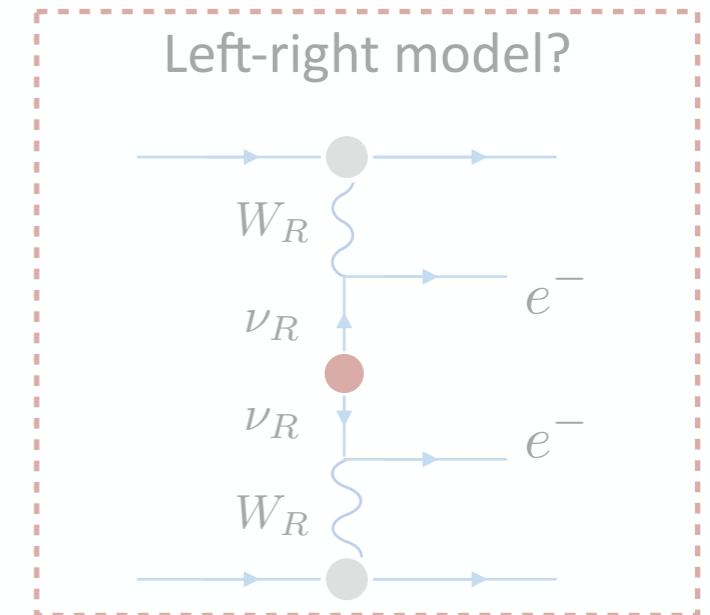
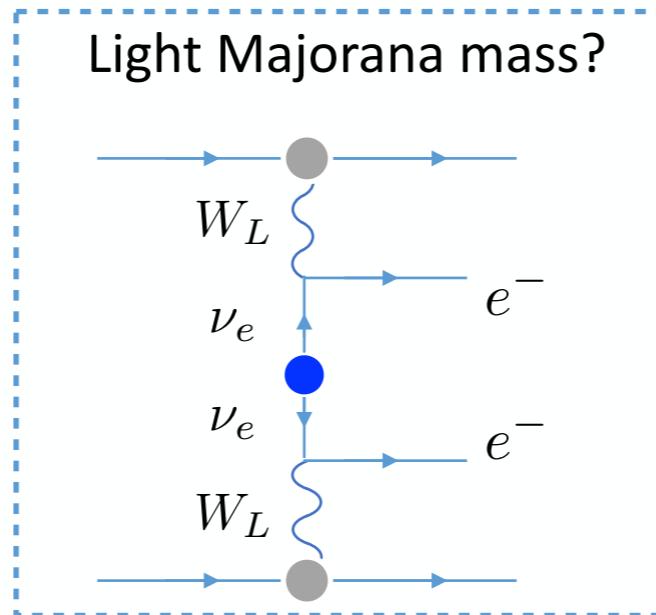
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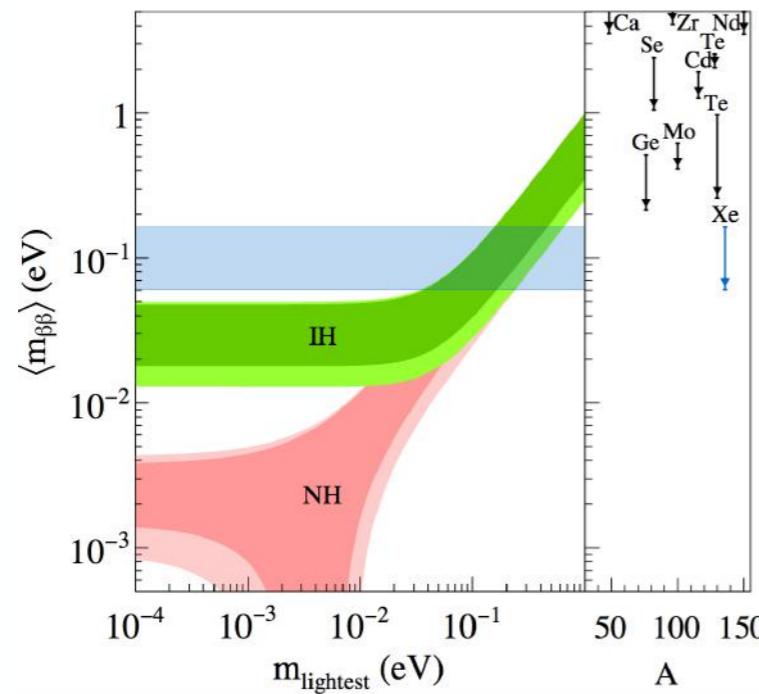


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+ ??

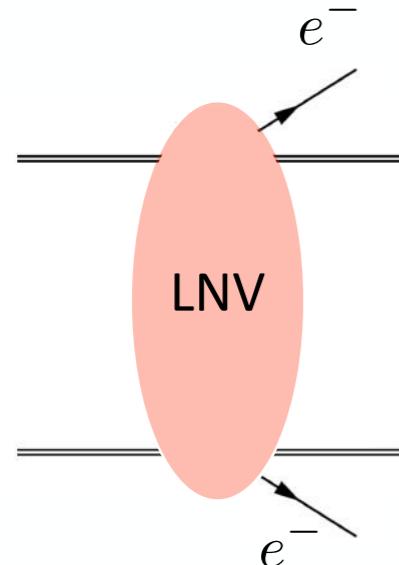
Well-known Majorana mass mechanism



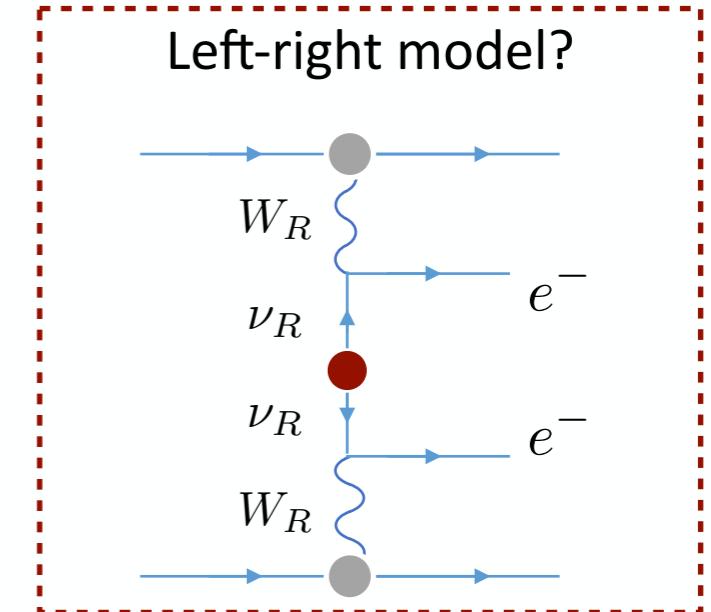
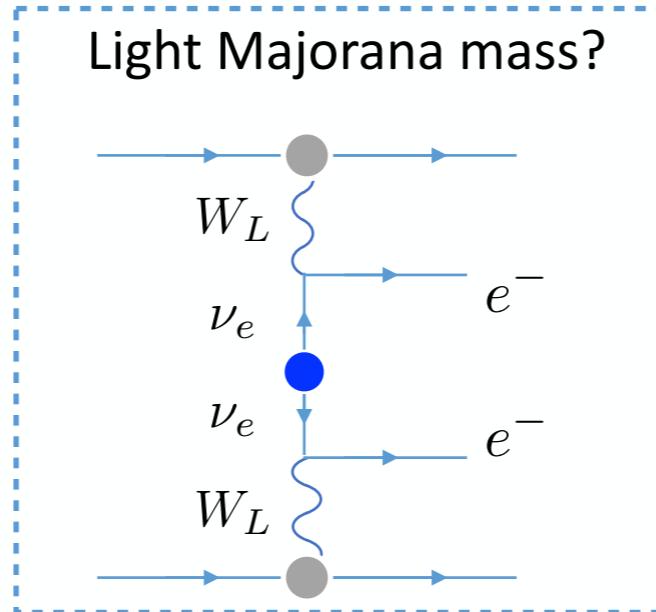
- Implications for the mass hierarchy

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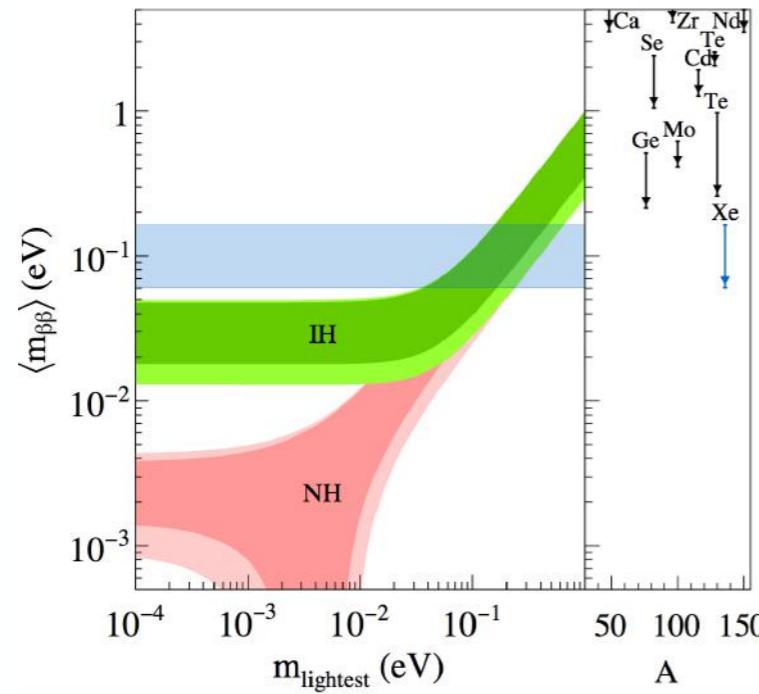


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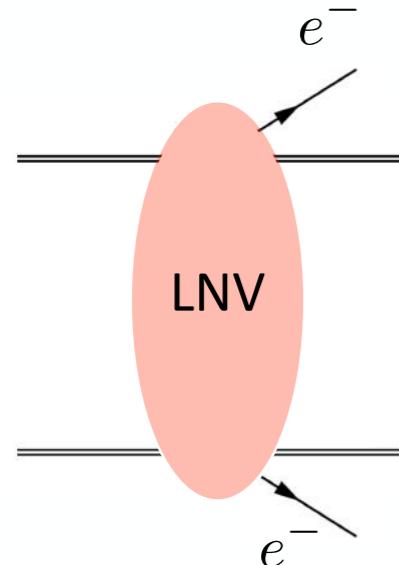
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Heavy BSM mechanisms

- Many possible scenarios
  - Left-right model,
  - R-parity violating SUSY
  - Leptoquarks...

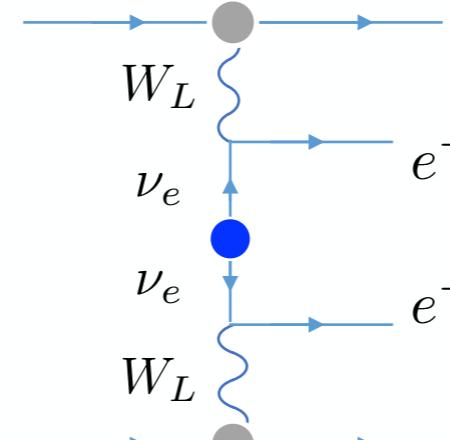
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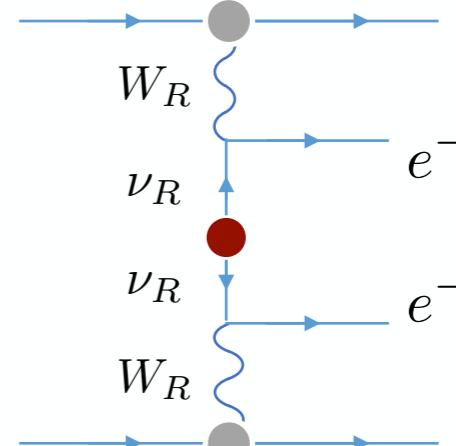


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Light Majorana mass?

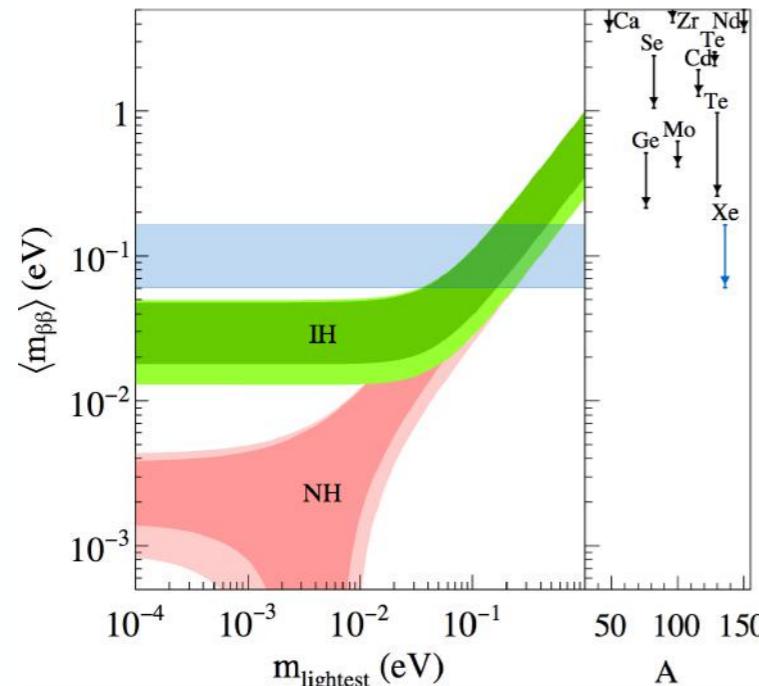


Left-right model?



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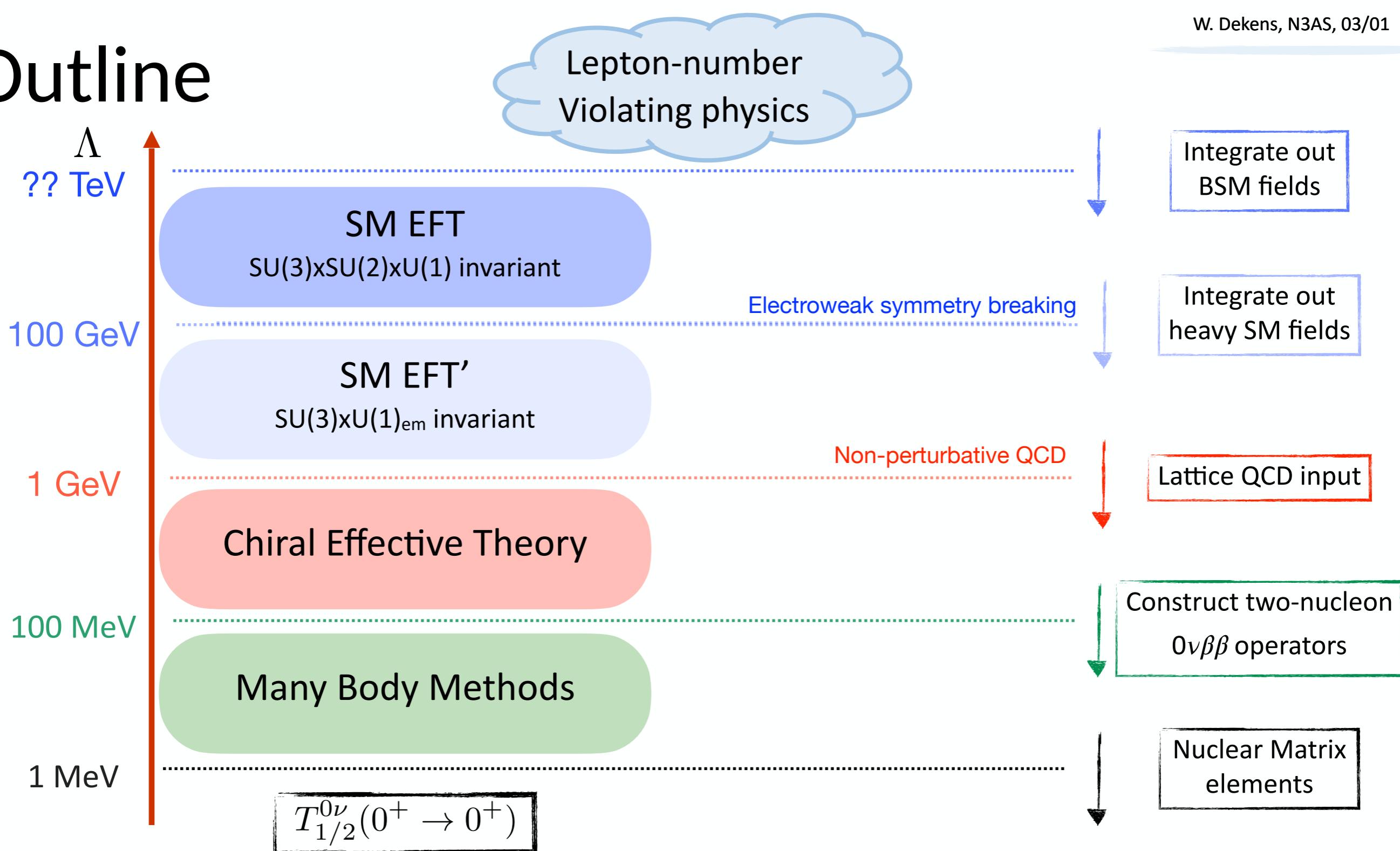


- Implications for the mass hierarchy

Heavy BSM mechanisms

- Many possible scenarios
  - Left-right model,
  - R-parity violating SUSY
  - Leptoquarks...
- How to describe all LNV sources systematically?

# Outline



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# Effective Field Theory

From heavy  $\Delta L = 2$  physics

$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \frac{c_i^{(5)}}{\Lambda} O_i^{(5)} + \frac{c_i^{(7)}}{\Lambda^3} O_i^{(7)} + \frac{c_i^{(9)}}{\Lambda^5} O_i^{(9)} + \dots$$

Dimension-five

Dimension-seven

Dimension-nine

- 12  $\Delta L=2$  operators

$$\mathcal{O}_{LH} \mid \begin{array}{c} 1 : \psi^2 H^4 + \text{h.c.} \\ \hline \epsilon_{ij}\epsilon_{mn}(L^i C L^m) H^j H^n (H^\dagger H) \end{array}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{LHDe} \mid \begin{array}{c} 3 : \psi^2 H^3 D + \text{h.c.} \\ \hline \epsilon_{ij}\epsilon_{mn} (L^i C \gamma_\mu e) H^j H^m D^\mu H^n \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 5 : \psi^4 D + \text{h.c.} \\ \hline \begin{array}{l|l} \mathcal{O}_{LL\bar{d}uD}^{(1)} & \epsilon_{ij}(\bar{d}\gamma_\mu u)(L^i C D^\mu L^j) \\ \mathcal{O}_{LL\bar{d}uD}^{(2)} & \epsilon_{ij}(\bar{d}\gamma_\mu u)(L^i C \sigma^{\mu\nu} D_\nu L^j) \\ \mathcal{O}_{\bar{L}Q\bar{d}dD}^{(1)} & (QC\gamma_\mu d)(\bar{L}D^\mu d) \\ \mathcal{O}_{\bar{L}Q\bar{d}dD}^{(2)} & (\bar{L}\gamma_\mu Q)(dCD^\mu d) \\ \mathcal{O}_{ddd\bar{e}D} & (\bar{e}\gamma_\mu d)(dCD^\mu d) \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_5 = \frac{c_5}{\Lambda} (L^T C \tilde{H})(\tilde{H}^T L)$$

- Consider subset of operators

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LM1} &= i\sigma_{ab}^{(2)}(\bar{Q}_a \gamma^\mu Q_c)(\bar{u}_R \gamma_\mu d_R)(\bar{\ell}_b \ell_c^C) \\ \text{LM2} &= i\sigma_{ab}^{(2)}(\bar{Q}_a \gamma^\mu \lambda^A Q_c)(\bar{u}_R \gamma_\mu \lambda^A d_R)(\bar{\ell}_b \ell_c^C) \\ \text{LM3} &= (\bar{u}_R Q_a)(\bar{u}_R Q_b)(\bar{\ell}_a \ell_b^C) \\ \text{LM4} &= (\bar{u}_R \lambda^A Q_a)(\bar{u}_R \lambda^A Q_b)(\bar{\ell}_a \ell_b^C) \\ \text{LM5} &= i\sigma_{ab}^{(2)} i\sigma_{cd}^{(2)} (\bar{Q}_a d_R)(\bar{Q}_c d_R)(\bar{\ell}_b \ell_d^C) \\ \text{LM6} &= i\sigma_{ab}^{(2)} i\sigma_{cd}^{(2)} (\bar{Q}_a \lambda^A d_R)(\bar{Q}_c \lambda^A d_R)(\bar{\ell}_b \ell_d^C) \\ \text{LM7} &= (\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu d_R)(\bar{u}_R \gamma_\mu d_R)(\bar{e}_R e_R^C) \\ \text{LM8} &= (\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu d_R) i\sigma_{ab}^{(2)} (\bar{Q}_a d_R)(\bar{\ell}_b \gamma_\mu e_R^C) \\ \text{LM9} &= (\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu \lambda^A d_R) i\sigma_{ab}^{(2)} (\bar{Q}_a \lambda^A d_R)(\bar{\ell}_b \gamma_\mu e_R^C) \\ \text{LM10} &= (\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu d_R)(\bar{u}_R Q_a)(\bar{\ell}_a \gamma_\mu e_R^C) \\ \text{LM11} &= (\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu \lambda^A d_R)(\bar{u}_R \lambda^A Q_a)(\bar{\ell}_a \gamma_\mu e_R^C) \end{aligned}$$

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Liao and Ma '20; Li et al '20;

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## Interactions involving light $\nu_R$

- Can be described in the same framework ( $\nu$ SMEFT):

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

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- Dirac mass  
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$$\mathcal{L}_{eff} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \frac{c_i^{(5)}}{\Lambda} O_i^{(5)} + \frac{c_i^{(7)}}{\Lambda^3} O_i^{(7)} + \frac{c_i^{(9)}}{\Lambda^5} O_i^{(9)} + \dots$$

## Interactions involving light $\nu_R$

- Can be described in the same framework ( $\nu$ SMEFT):

Liao & Ma, '17

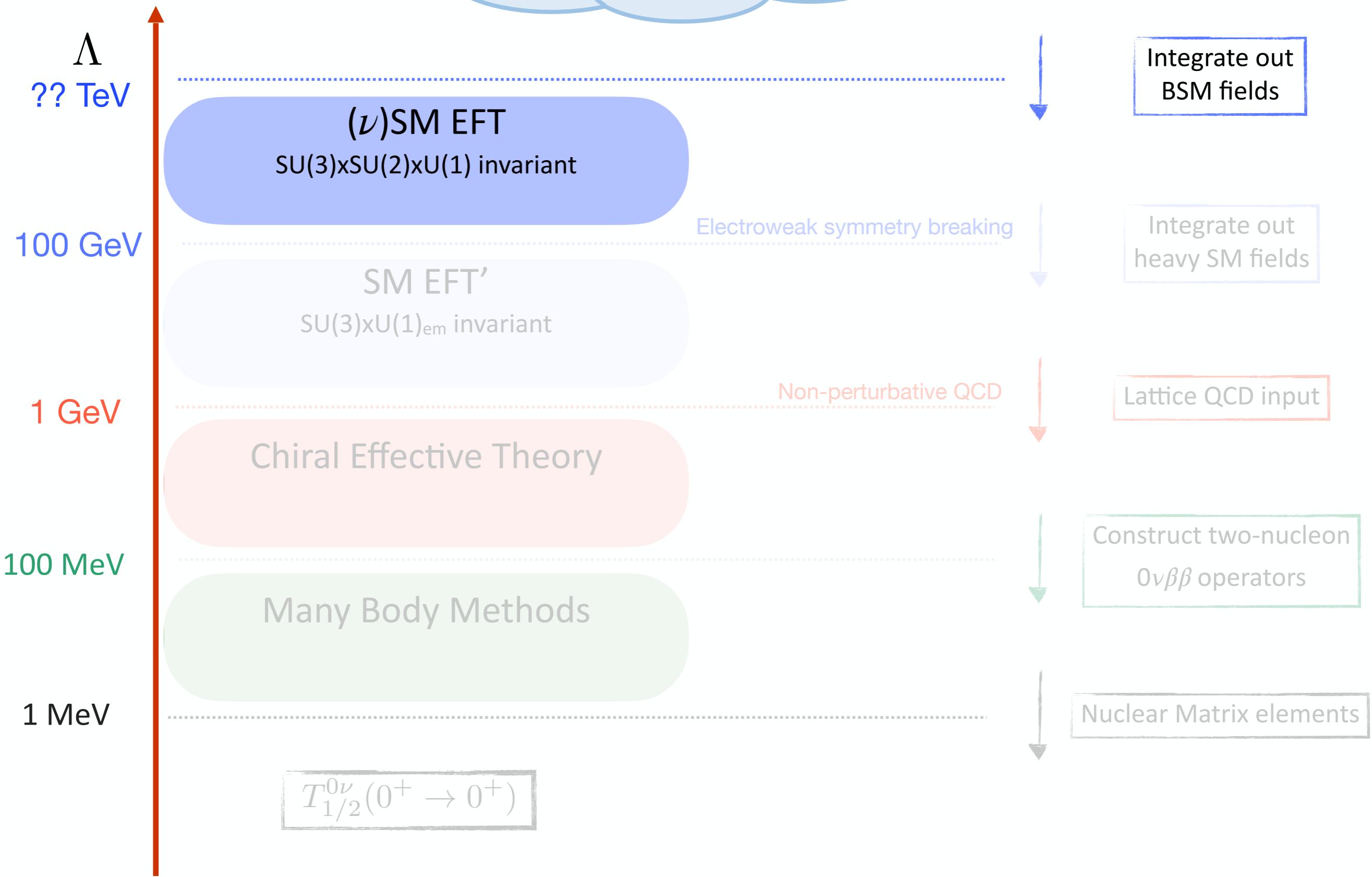
$$\mathcal{L}_{\nu_R} = i\bar{\nu}_R \partial^\mu \nu_R - \frac{1}{2} \bar{\nu}_R^c M_R \nu_R - \bar{L} \tilde{H} Y_D \nu_R + \mathcal{L}_{\nu_R}^{(6)} + \mathcal{L}_{\nu_R}^{(7)}$$

- Majorana mass  
(L violating)

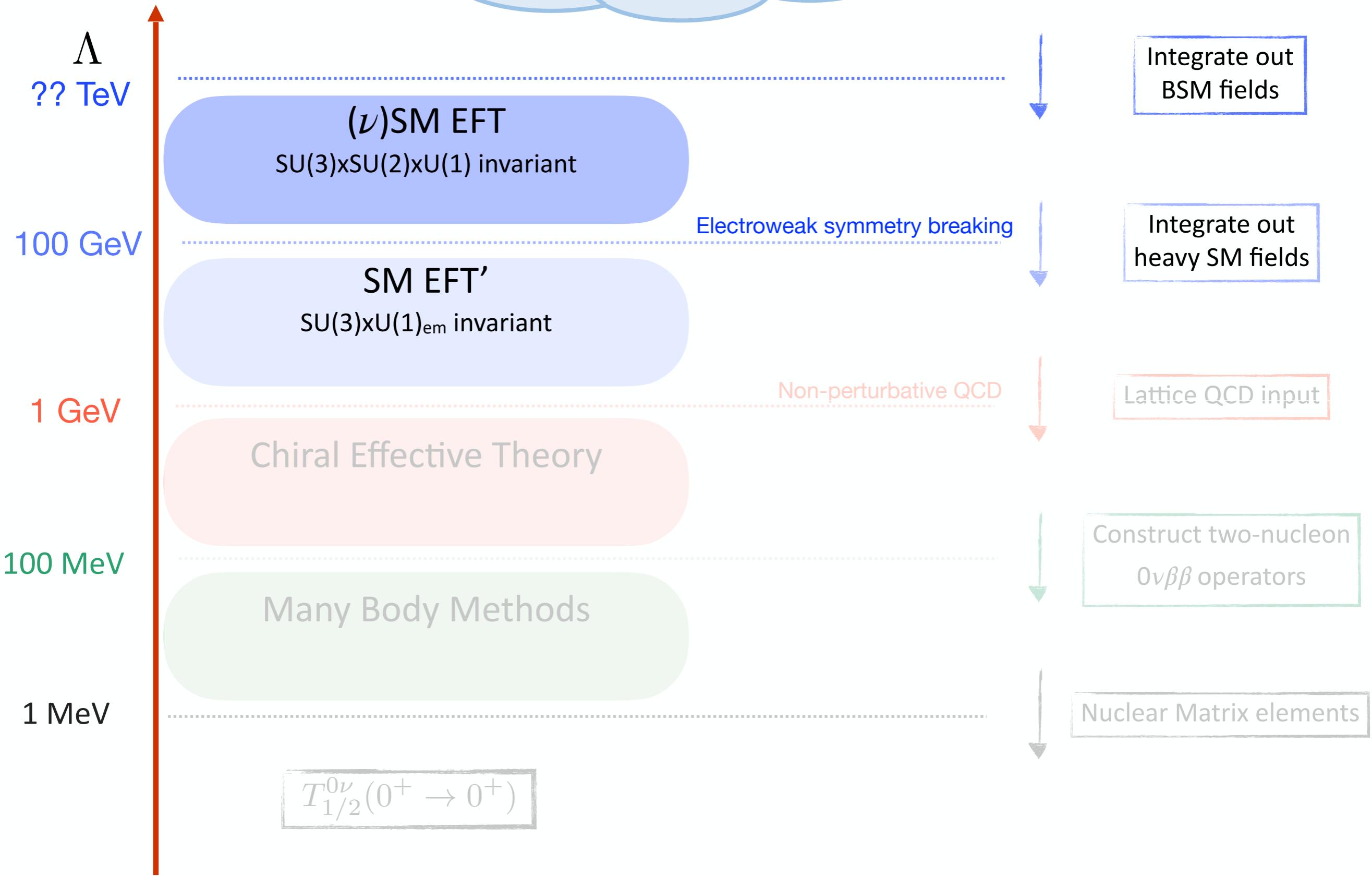
- Dirac mass  
(L conserving)

- Dimension-6 (L-conserving)
- Dimension-7 operators (L-violating)
- Induced by heavy BSM physics

# Outline

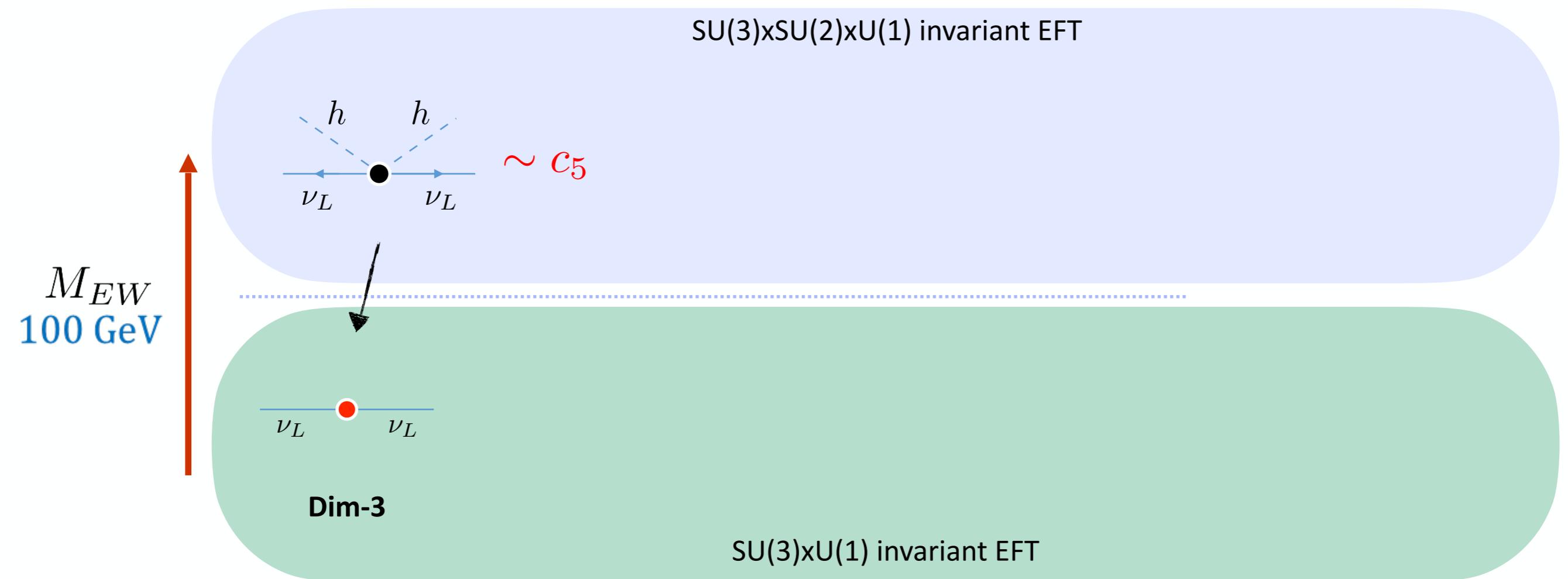


# Outline



# Low-energy operators

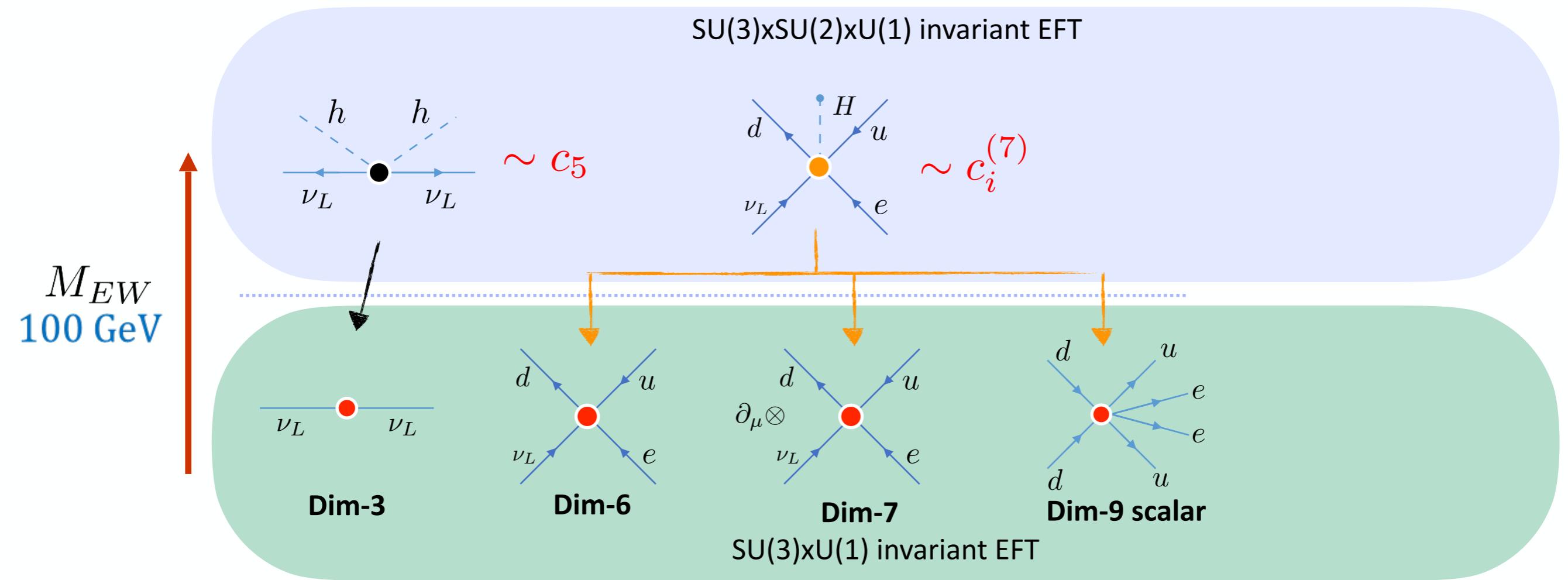
At/below the weak scale\*



\* very similar for operators involving  $\nu_R$

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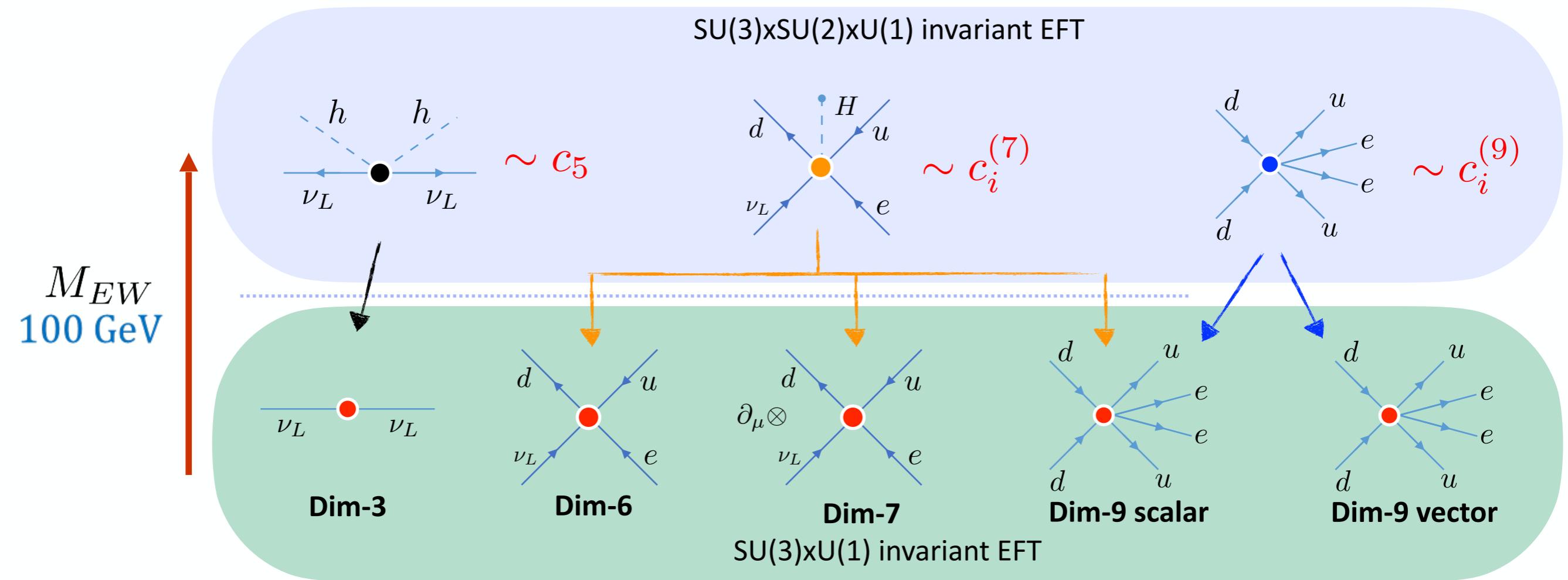
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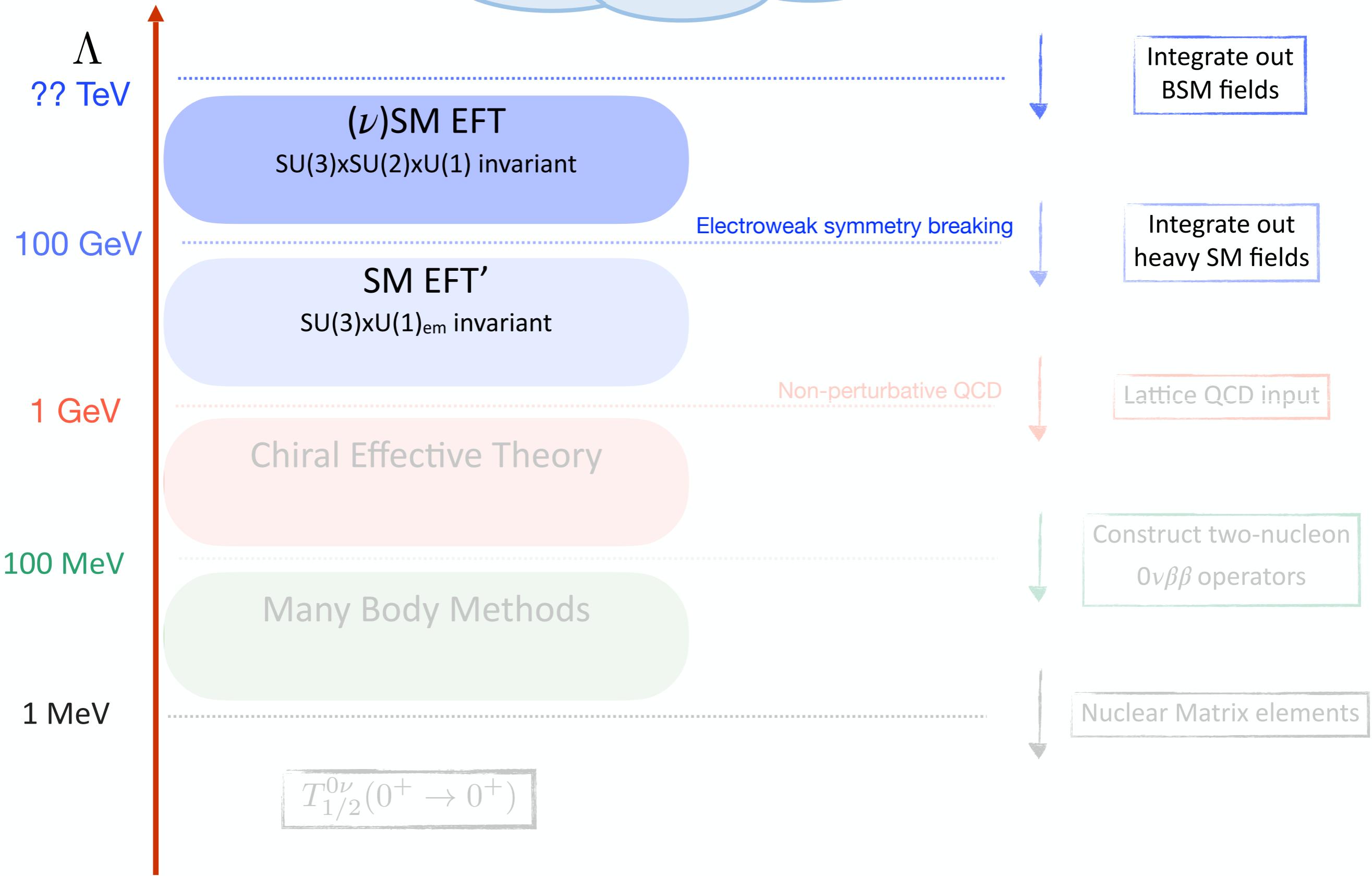
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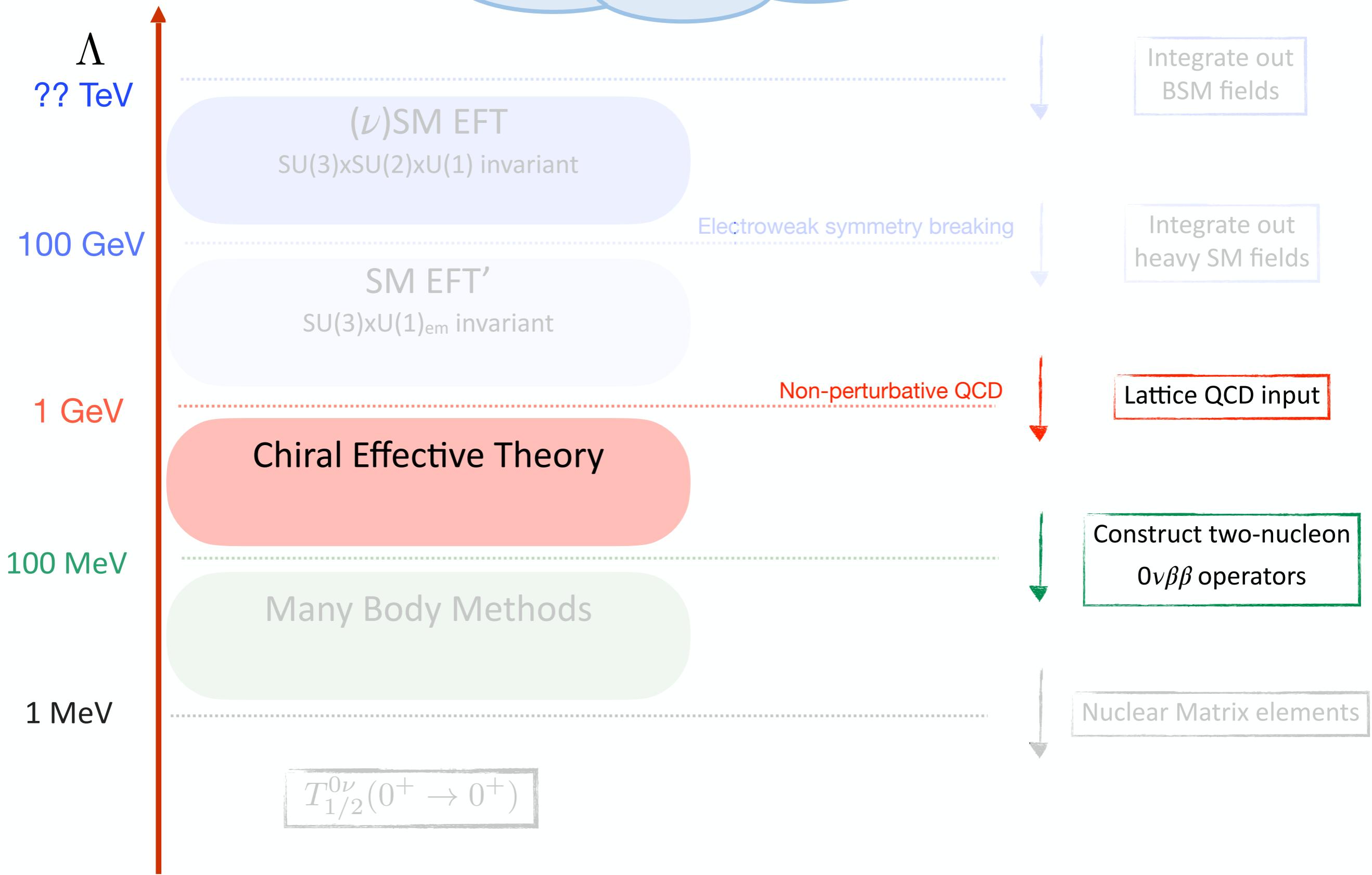


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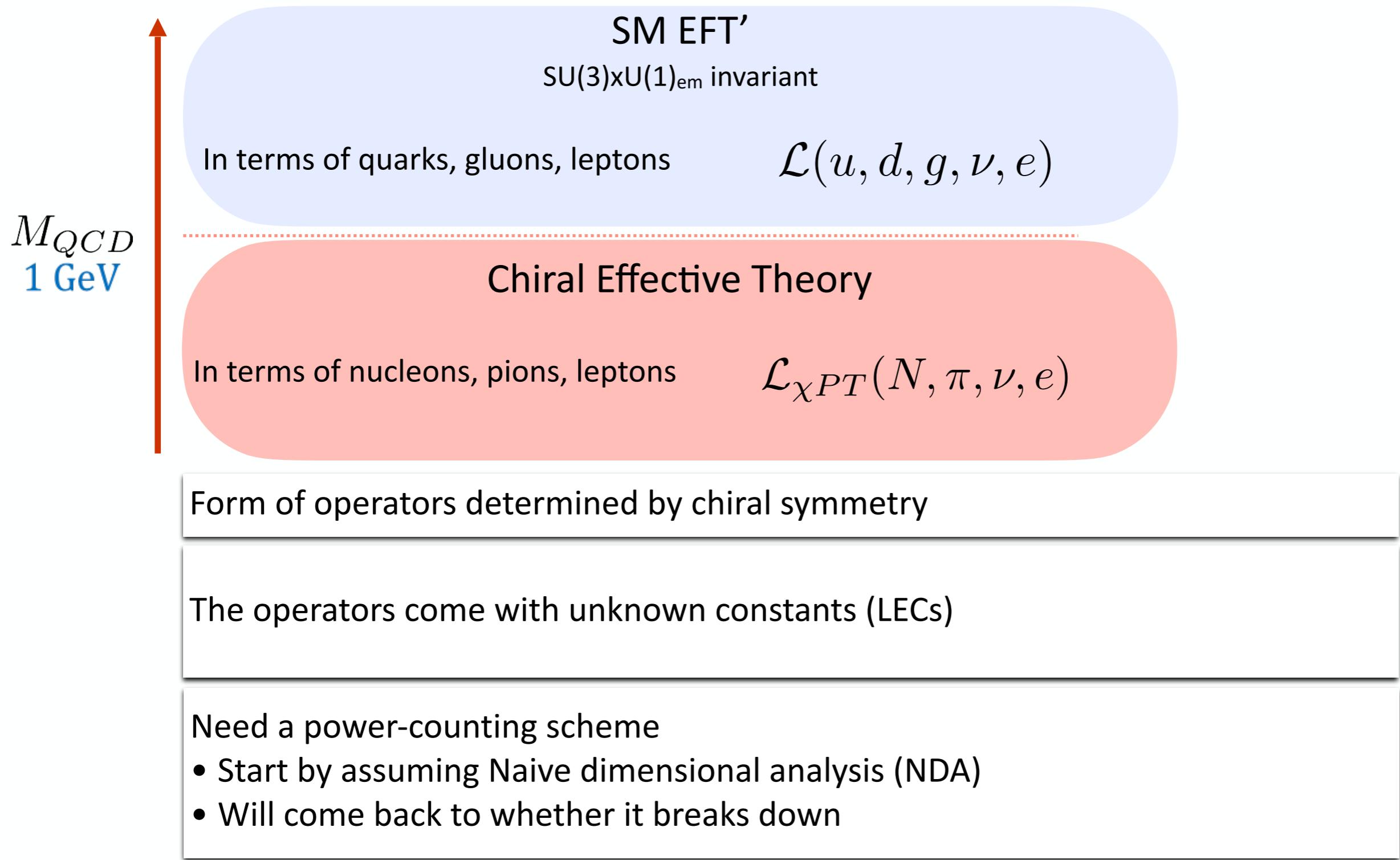
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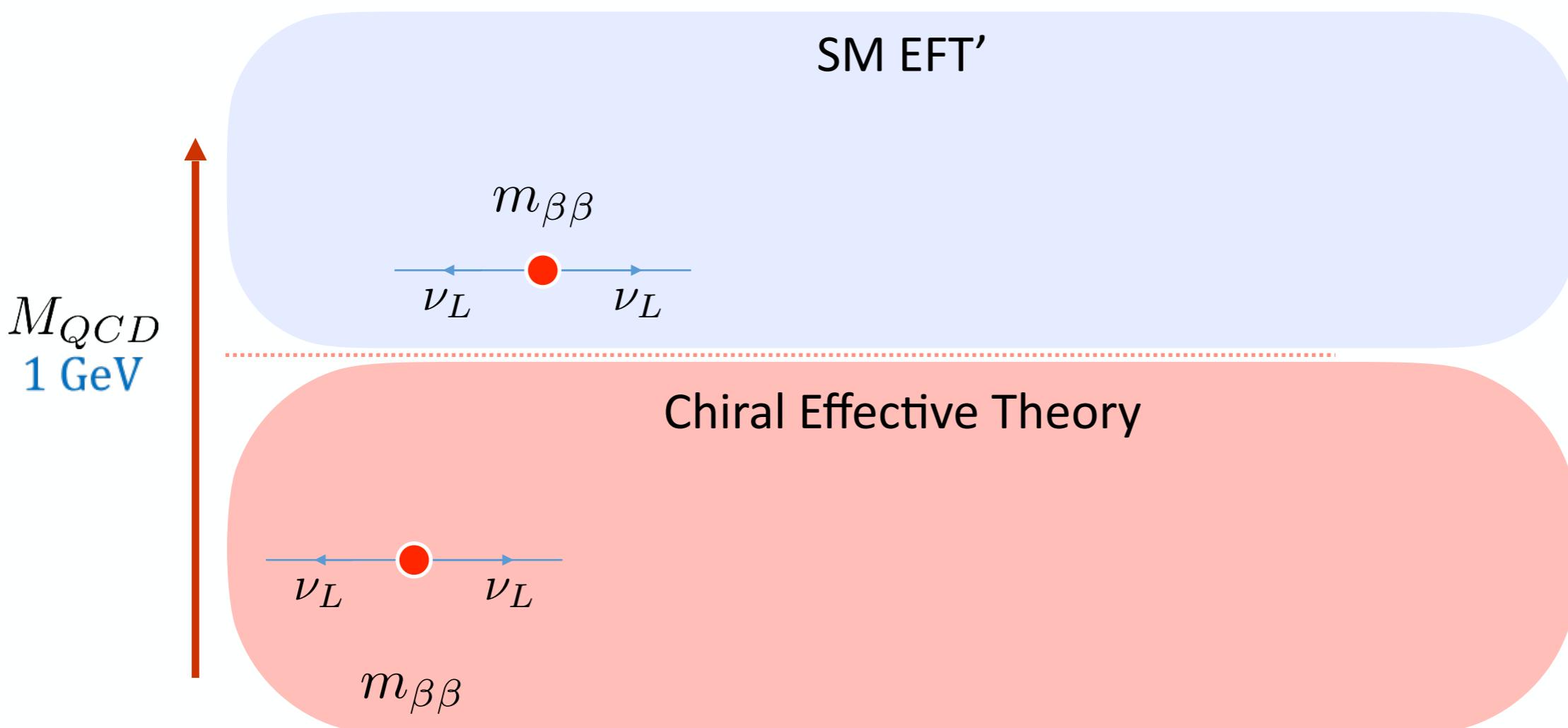
# Matching to Chiral EFT



# Matching to Chiral EFT

Warning: Based on NDA

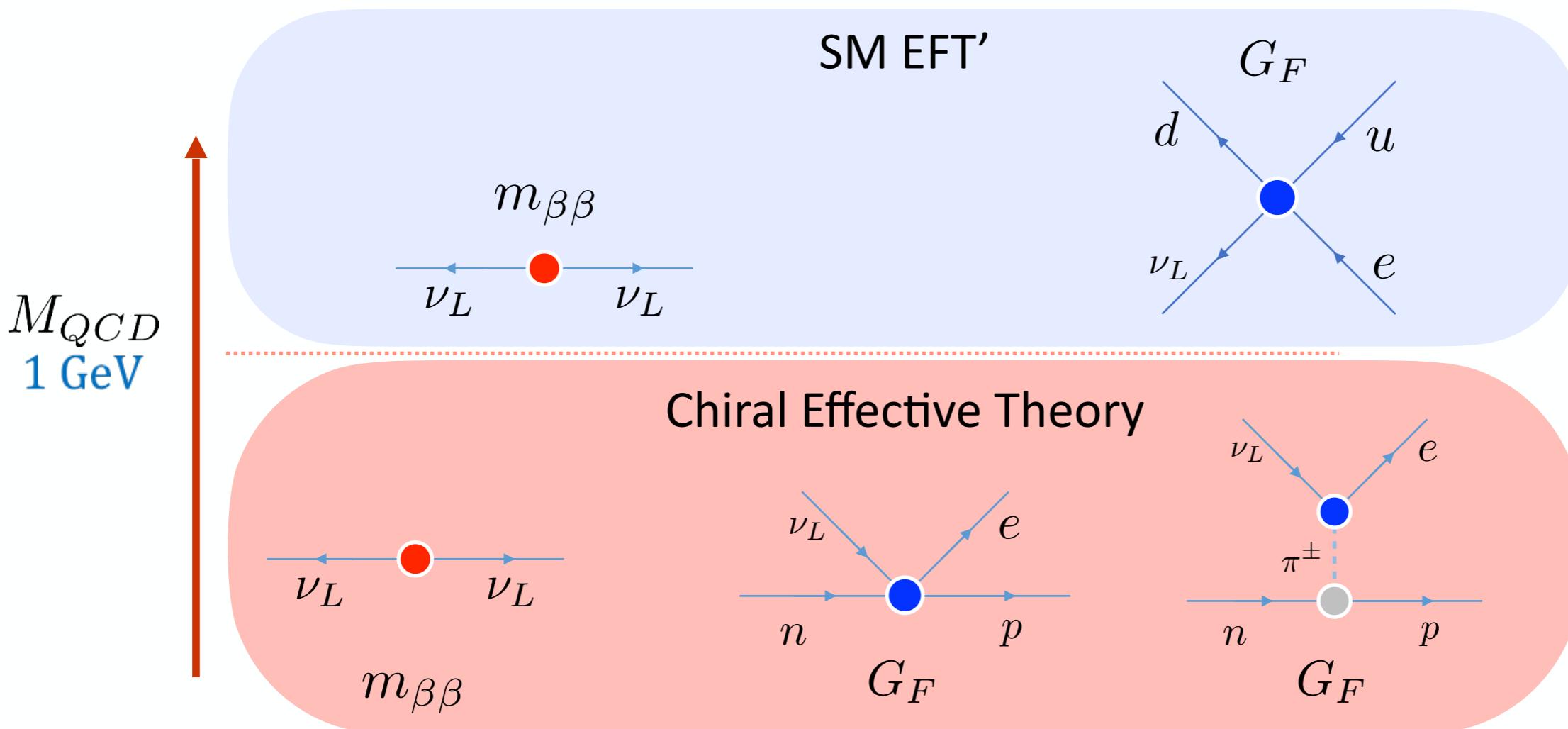
Dimension-3



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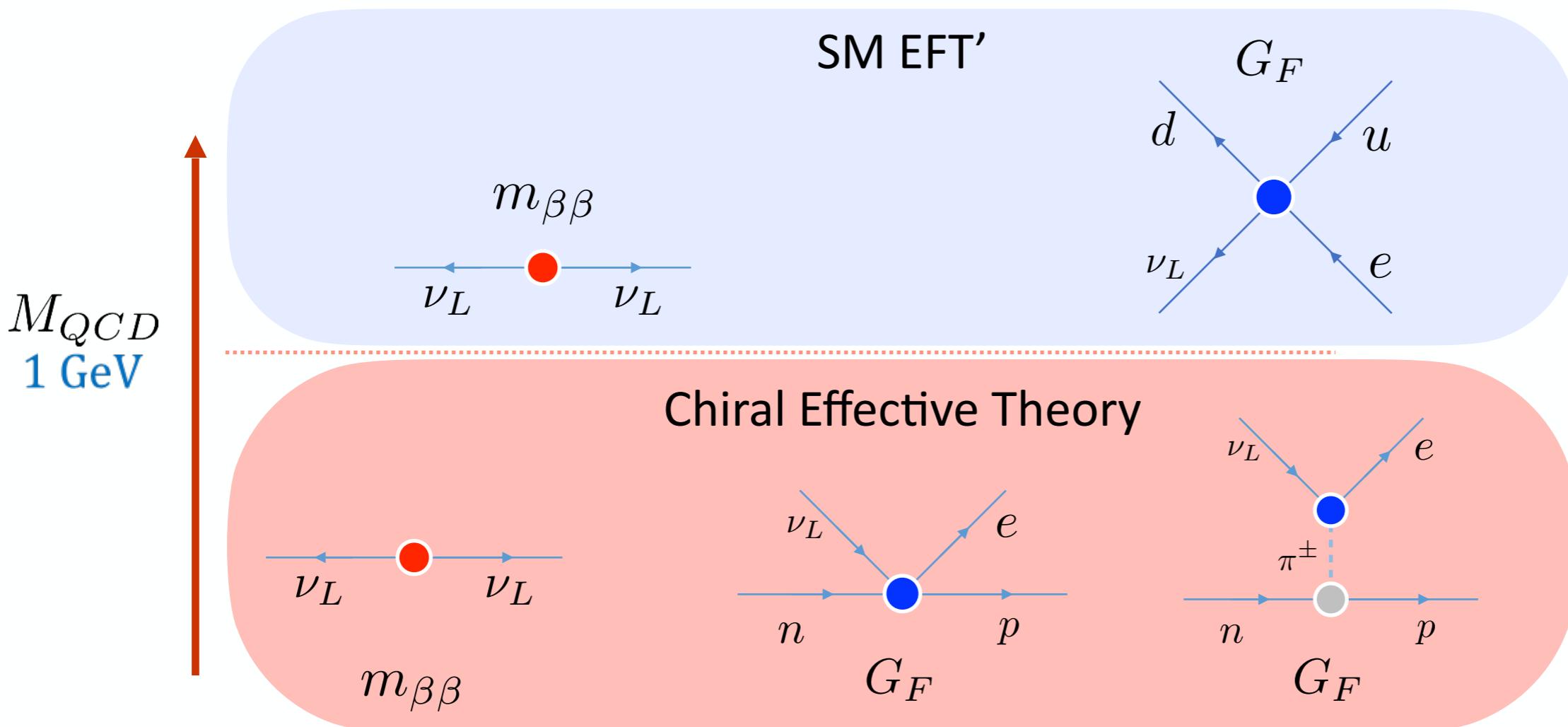
Dimension-3



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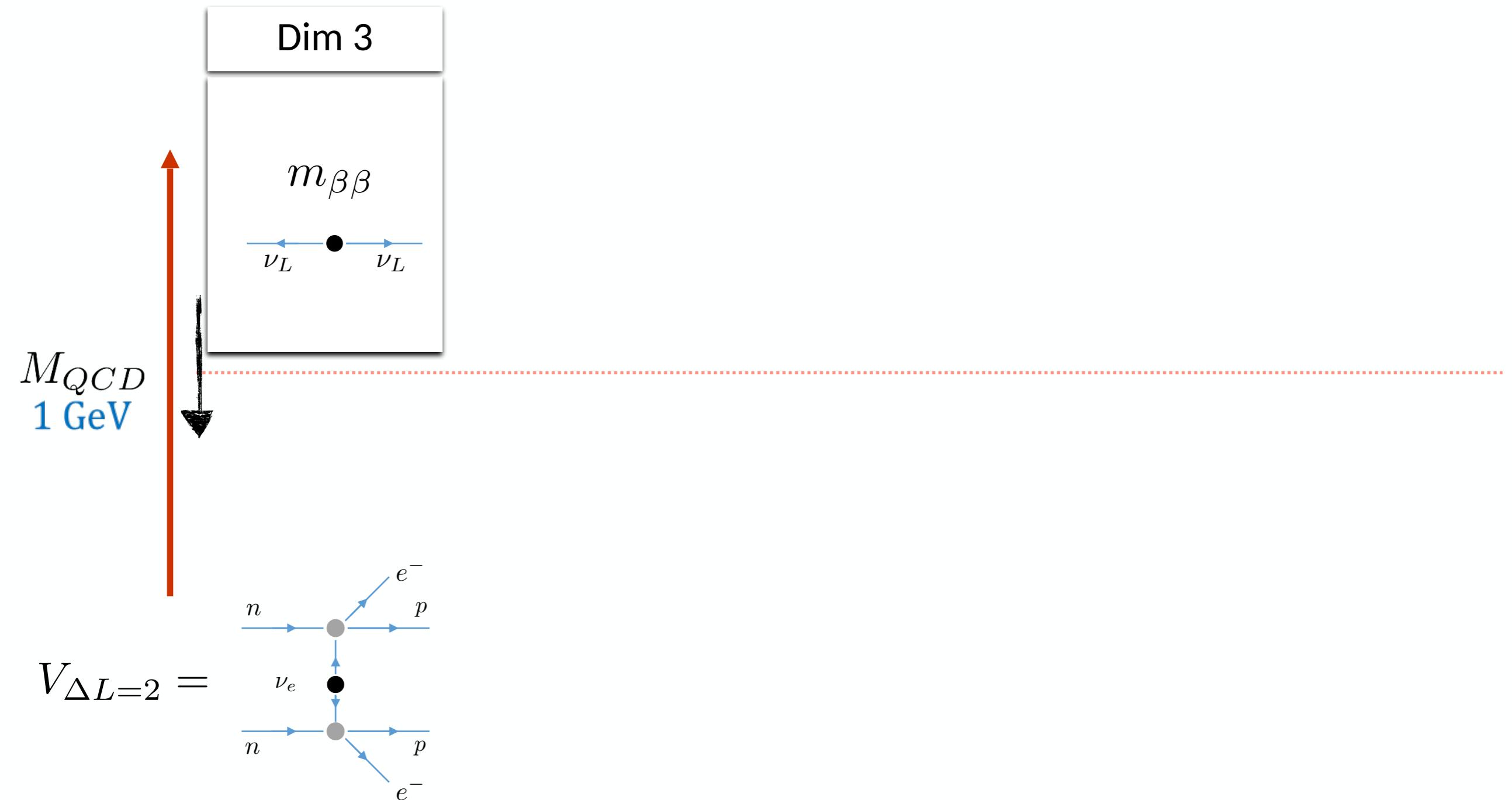
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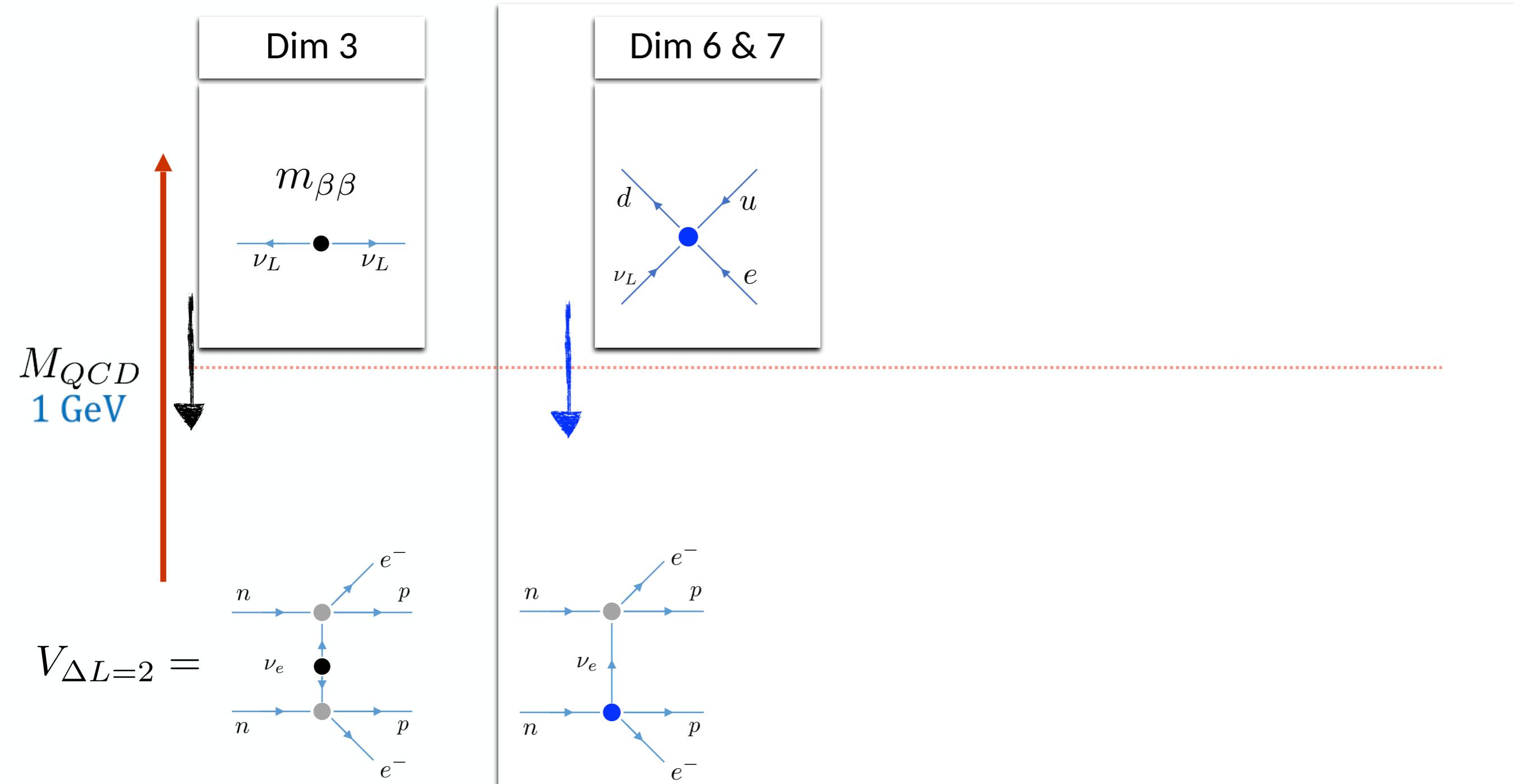


- At LO in Weinberg counting, only need the nucleon one-body currents
- All needed low-energy constants are known

# Chiral EFT

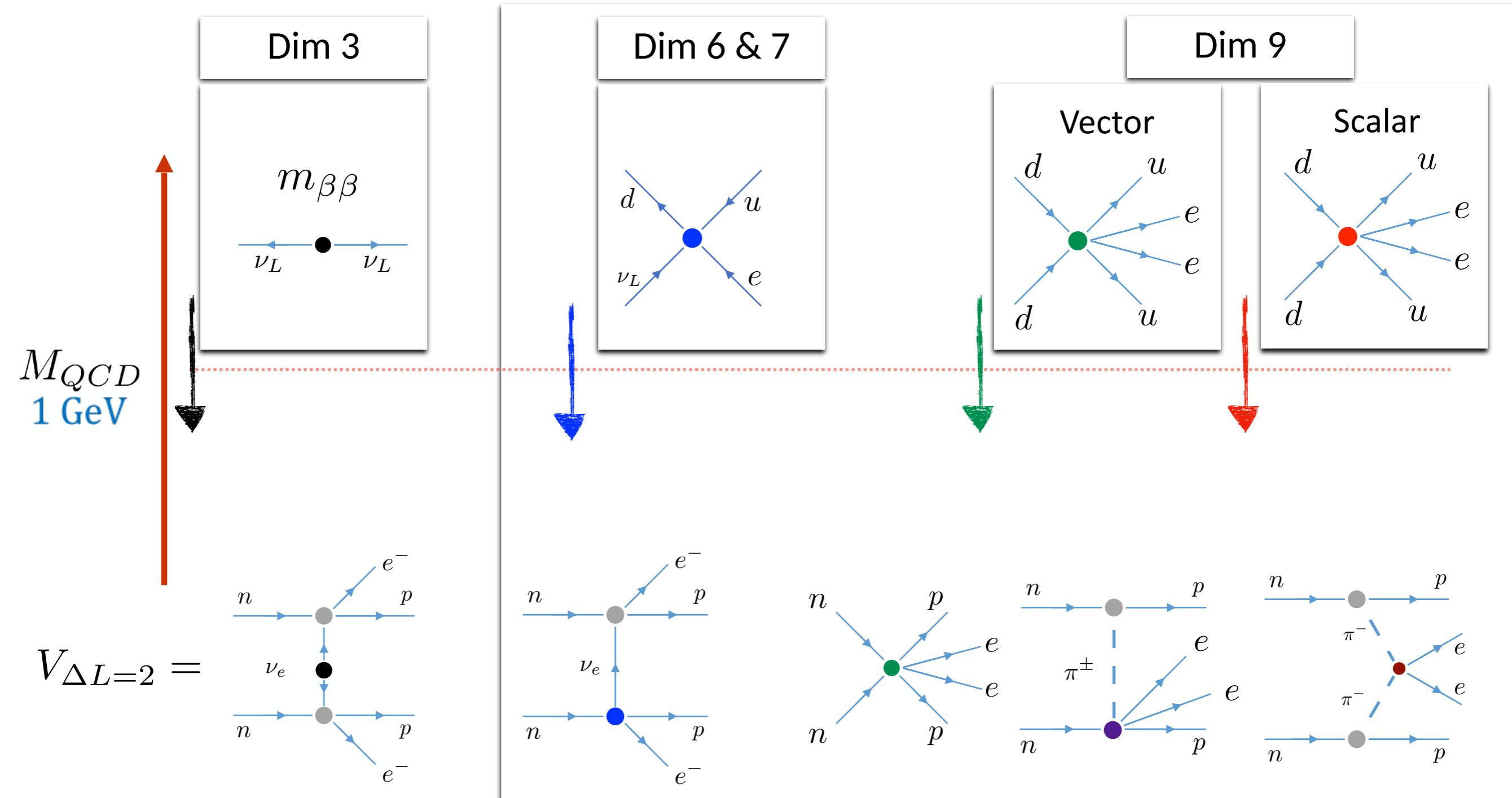


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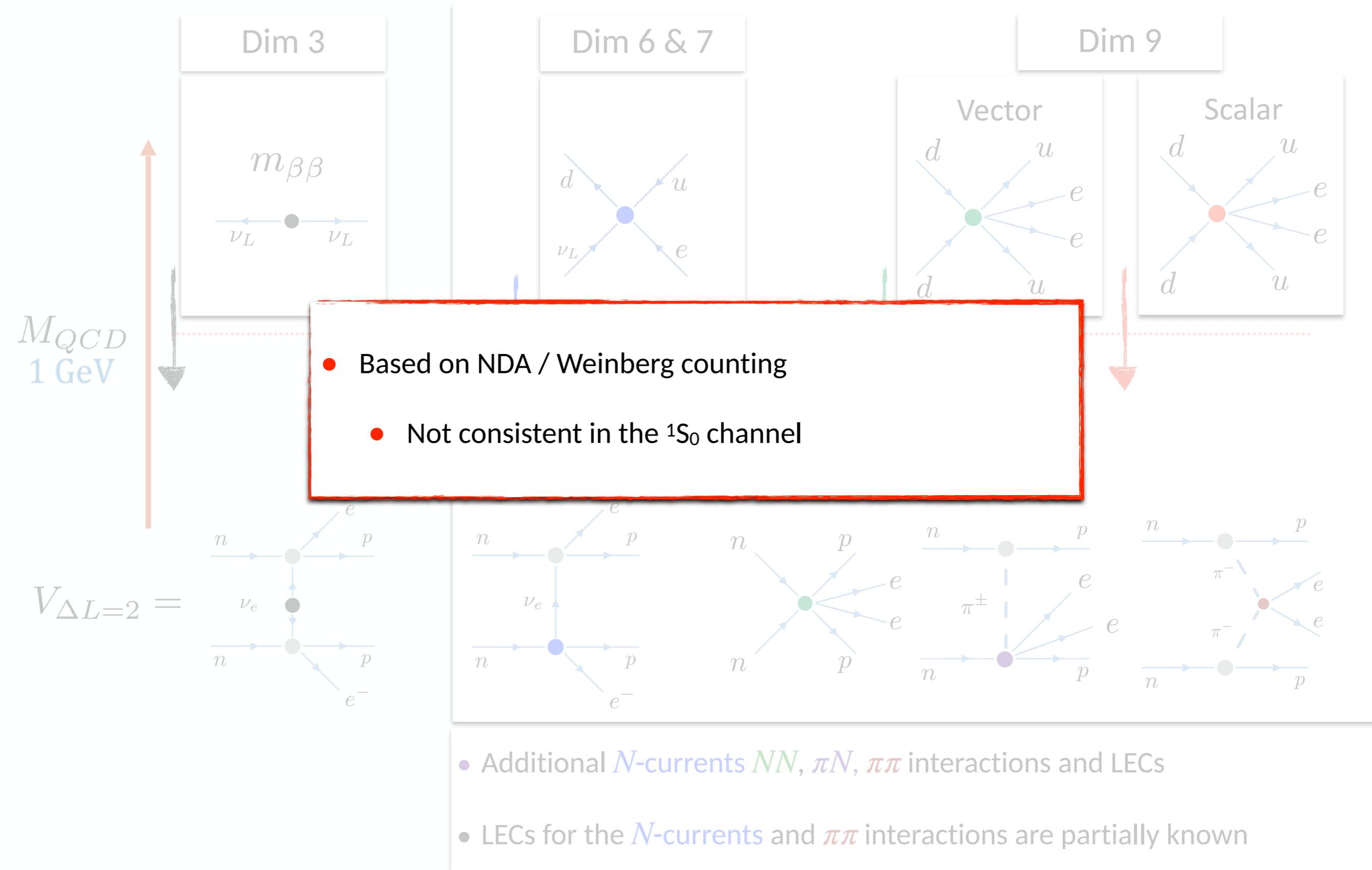
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# Chiral EFT



# Checking the power counting

W. Dekens, N3AS, 03/01

Dimension-3

Check that  $\mathcal{A}(nn \rightarrow ppee)$  is finite

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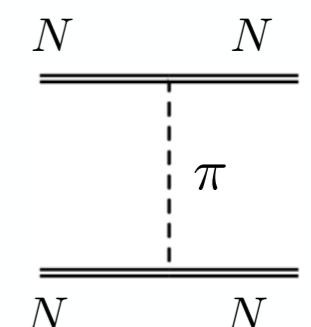
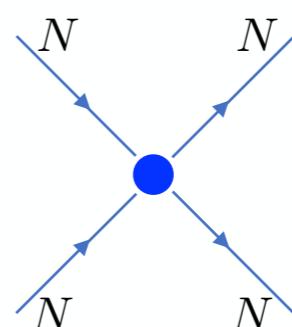
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- Requires inclusion of the strong interaction

$$\mathcal{L}_\chi = C \left( N^T P_{1S_0} N \right)^\dagger N^T P_{1S_0} N - \frac{g_A}{2F_\pi} \nabla \pi \cdot \bar{N} \tau \sigma N$$



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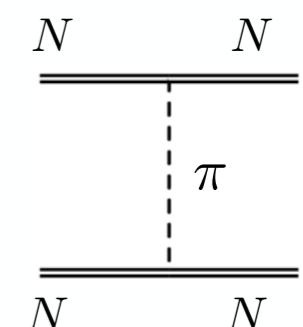
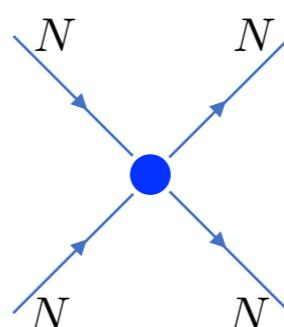
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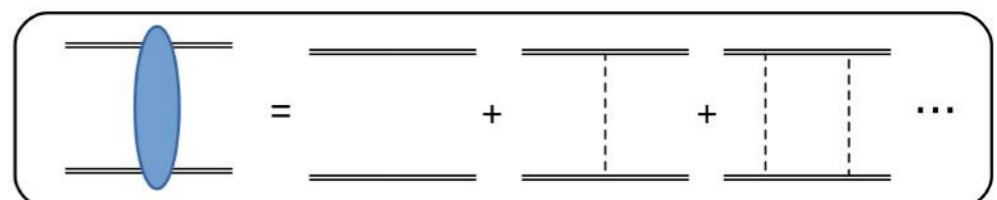
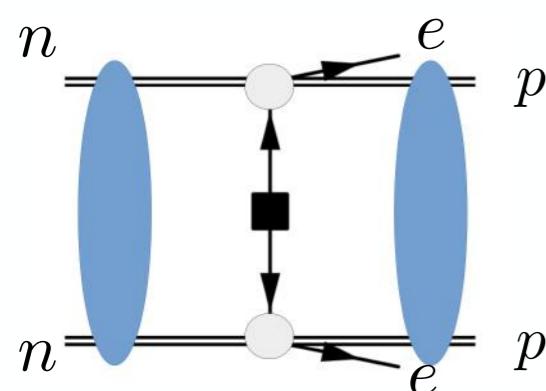
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Dress the  $\Delta L=2$  potential with (renormalized) strong interactions:



✓ finite

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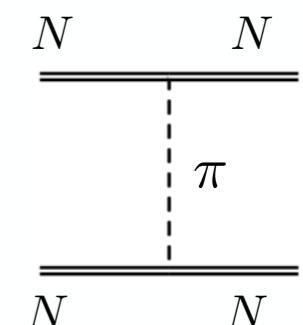
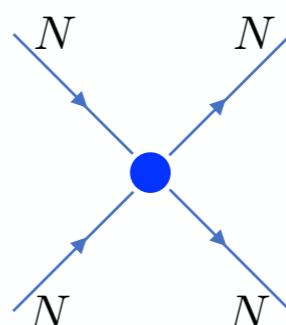
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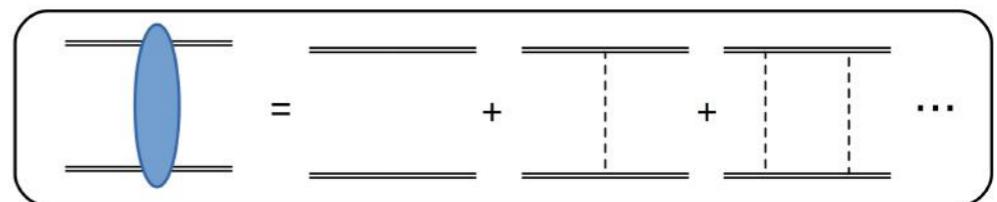
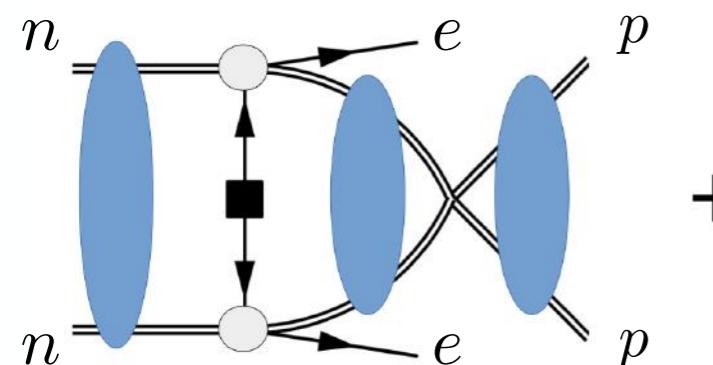
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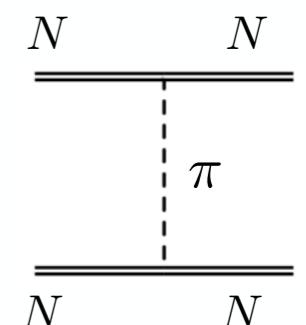
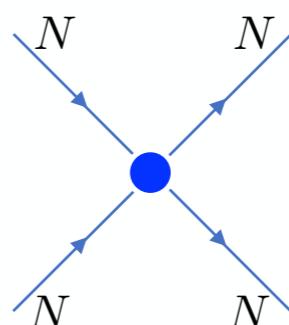
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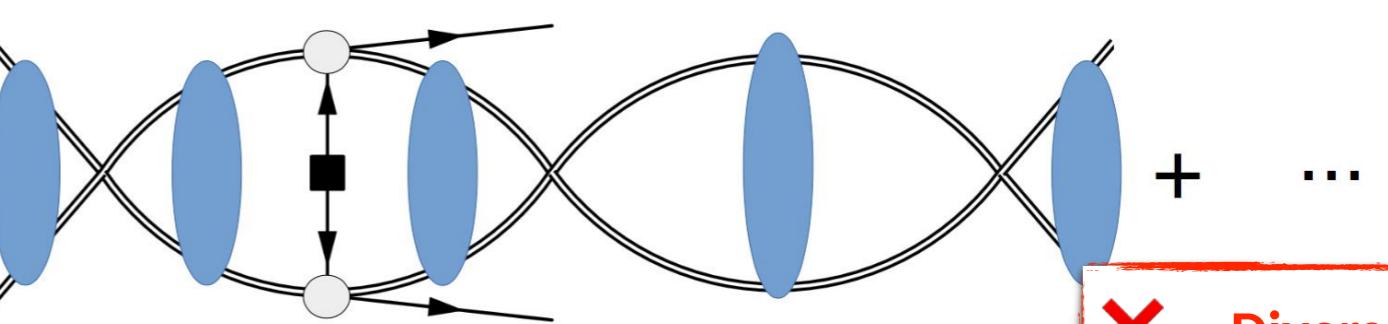
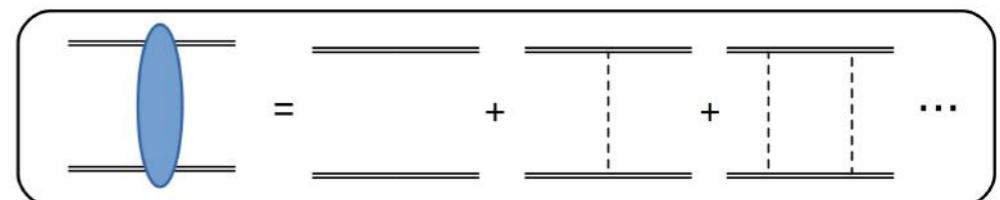
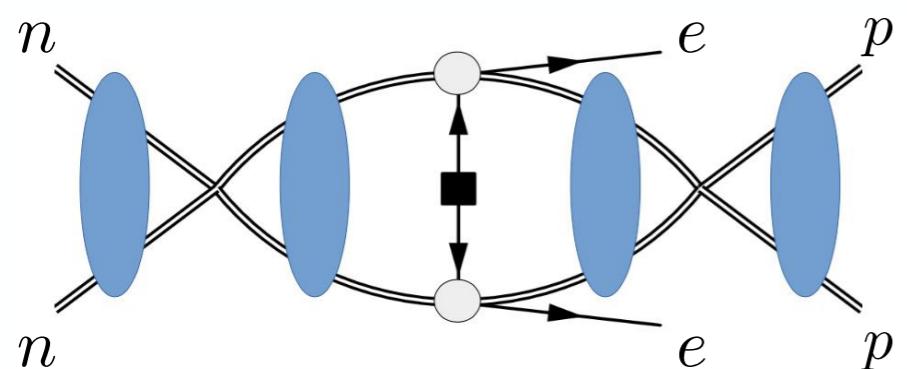
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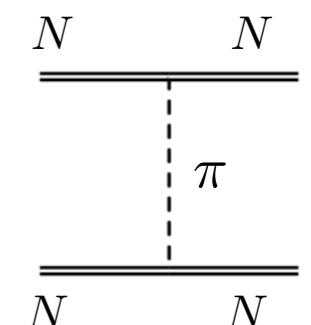
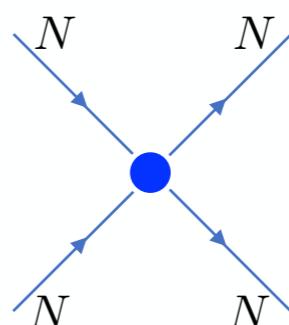
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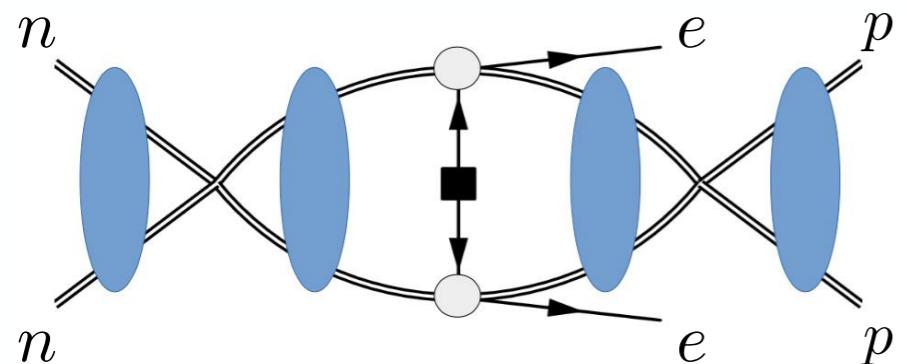
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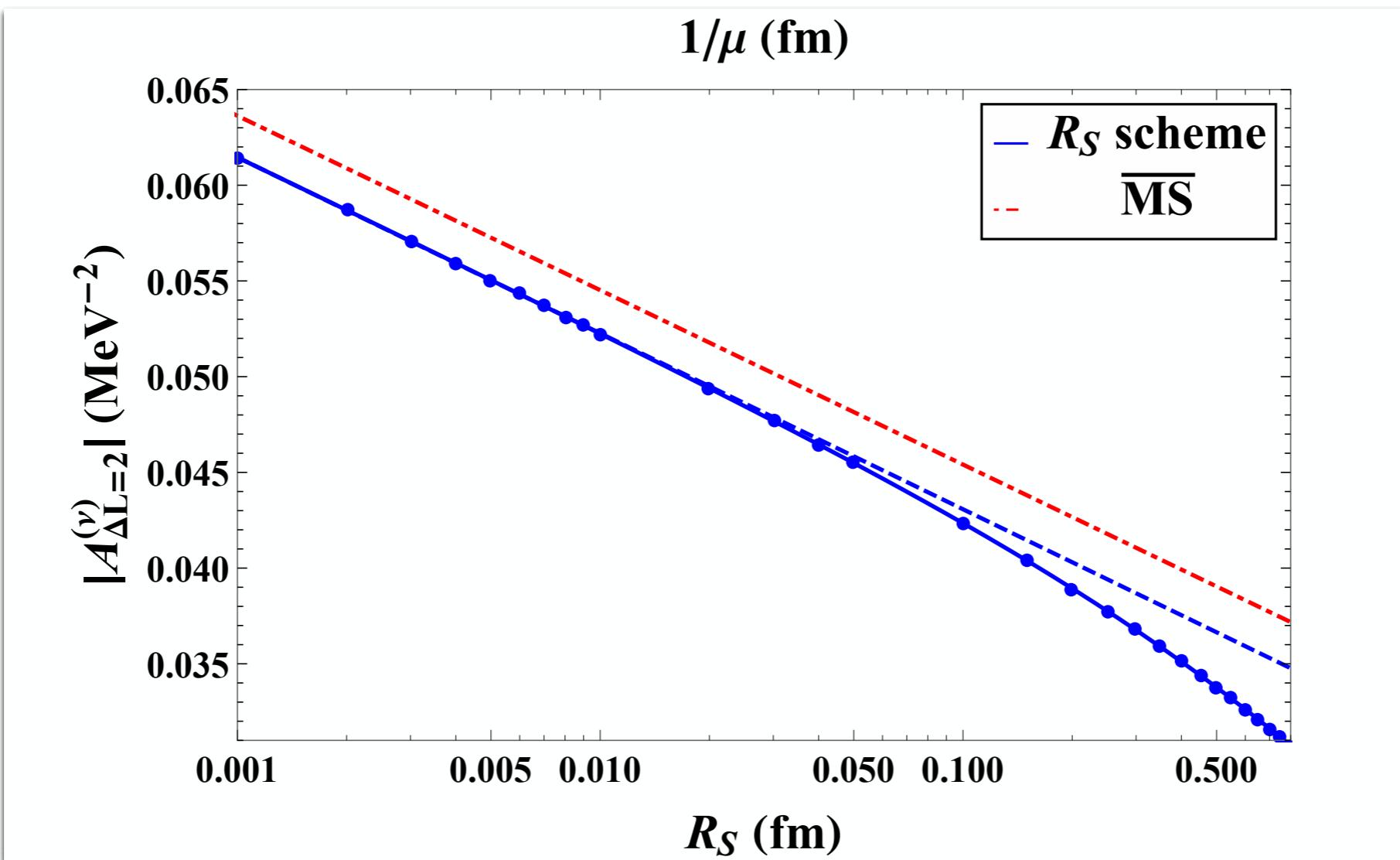
In MS-bar:



$$= - \left( \frac{m_N}{4\pi} \right)^2 (1 + 2g_A^2) \frac{1}{2} \left( \log \frac{\mu^2}{-(|\mathbf{p}| + |\mathbf{p}'|)^2 + i0^+} + 1 \right) + \text{finite}$$

Regulator dependent

# Numerical results



- Amplitudes obtained using
  - MS-bar
  - Coordinate-space cut-off

- Clear  $\mu$  or  $R_S$  dependence

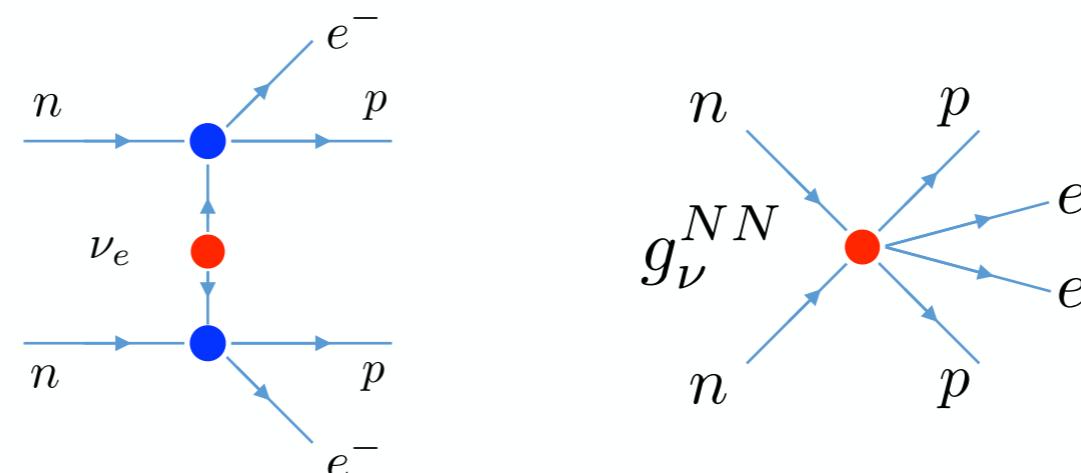
$$\tilde{C} \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{r}) \rightarrow \frac{\tilde{C}(R_S)}{(\sqrt{\pi} R_S)^3} \exp\left(-\frac{r^2}{R_S^2}\right)$$

# Need for a counter term

New interaction needed at leading order to get physical amplitudes:

$$\mathcal{L}_{CT} = 2G_F^2 V_{ud}^2 m_{\beta\beta} g_\nu^{NN} \bar{p}n \bar{p}n \bar{e}_L C \bar{e}_L^T$$

$$V_{\Delta L=2} = V_\nu + V_{\nu,CT} =$$

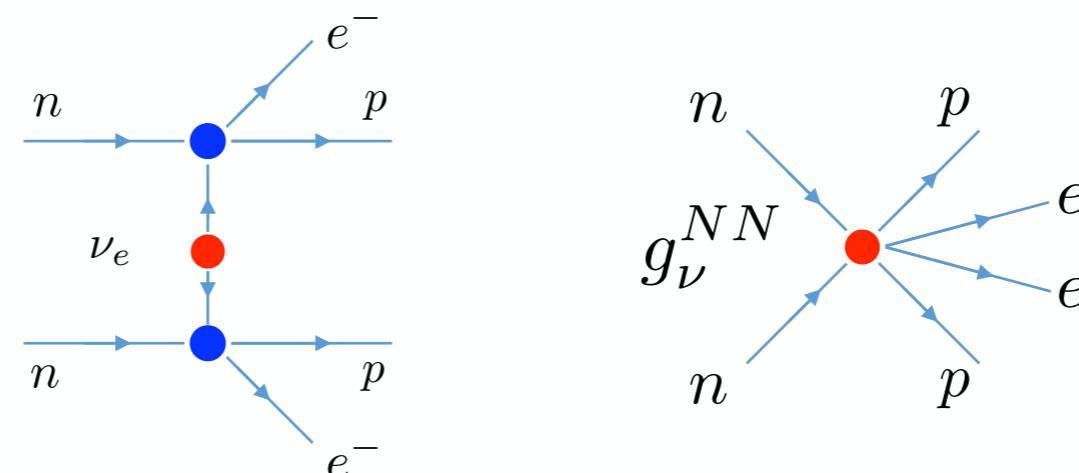


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- $g_\nu^{NN}$  to be determined from a lattice calculation of  $\mathcal{A}(nn \rightarrow ppe^- e^-)$ 
  - Area of active research

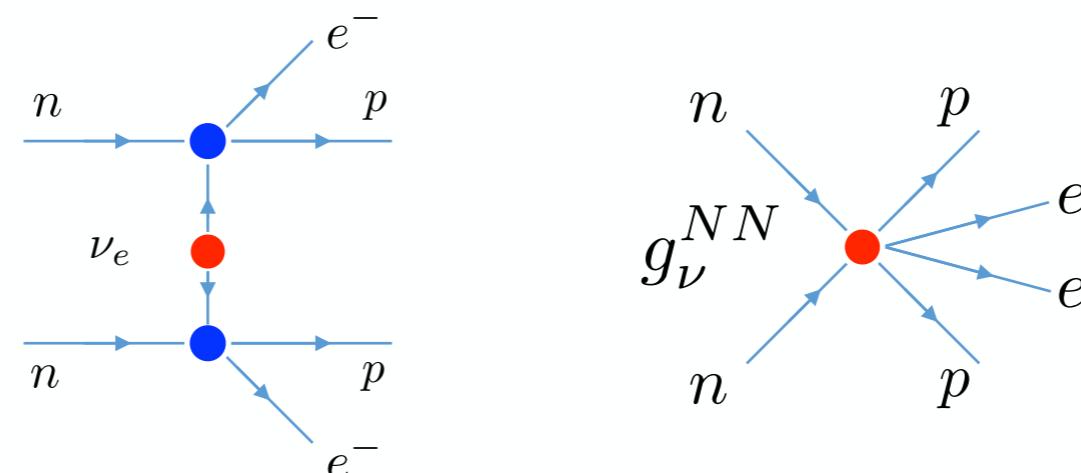
Davoudi and Kadam, '20, '21  
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Davoudi and Kadam, '20, '21  
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- Several estimates give  $\tilde{g}_\nu^{NN} = \mathcal{O}(1)$

- Comparison with isospin-breaking observables

Cirigliano, et al, '19, '20, '21

- Model (Cottingham) estimate

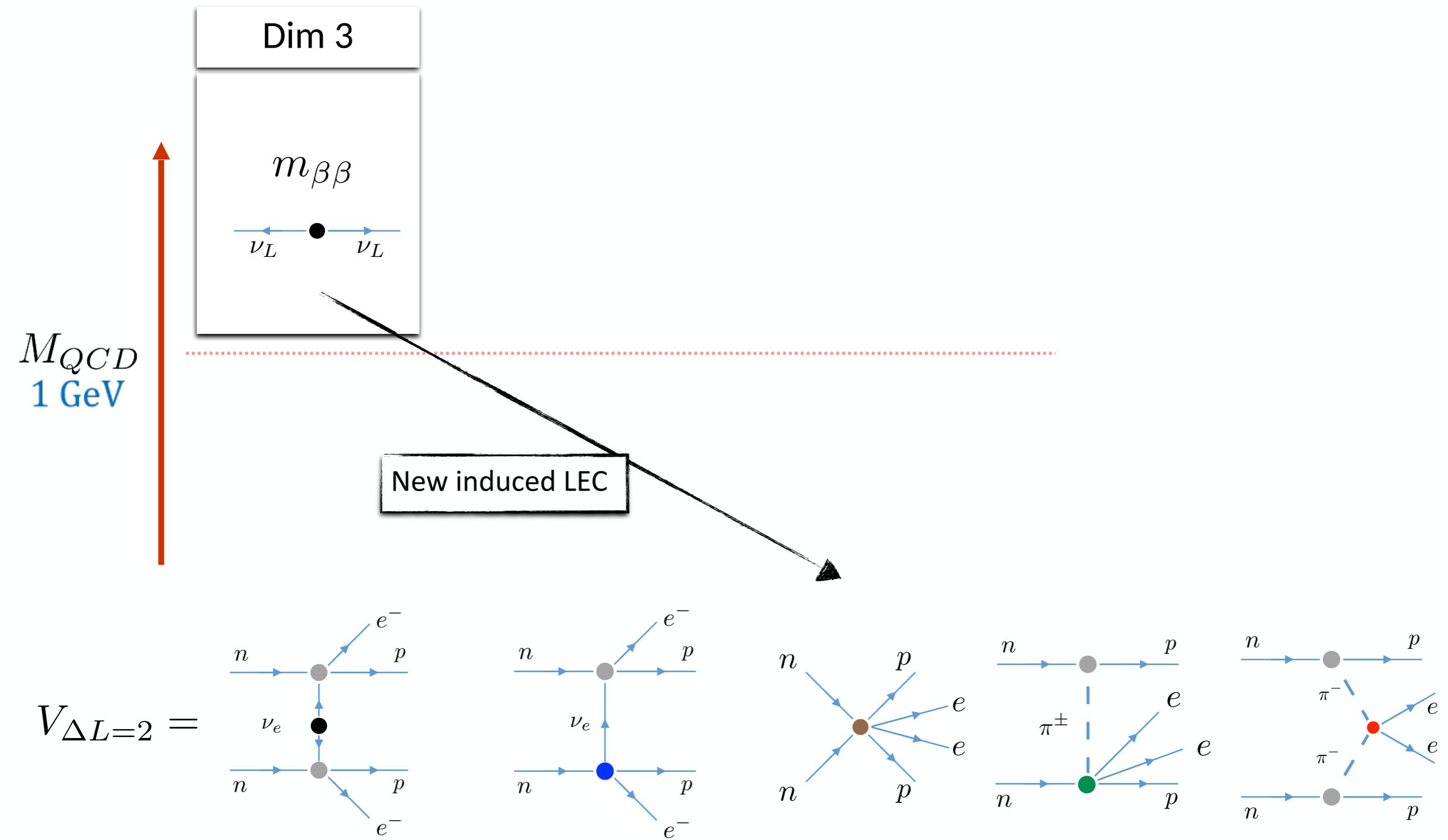
- Large-Nc estimate

Richardson et al, '21

See backup

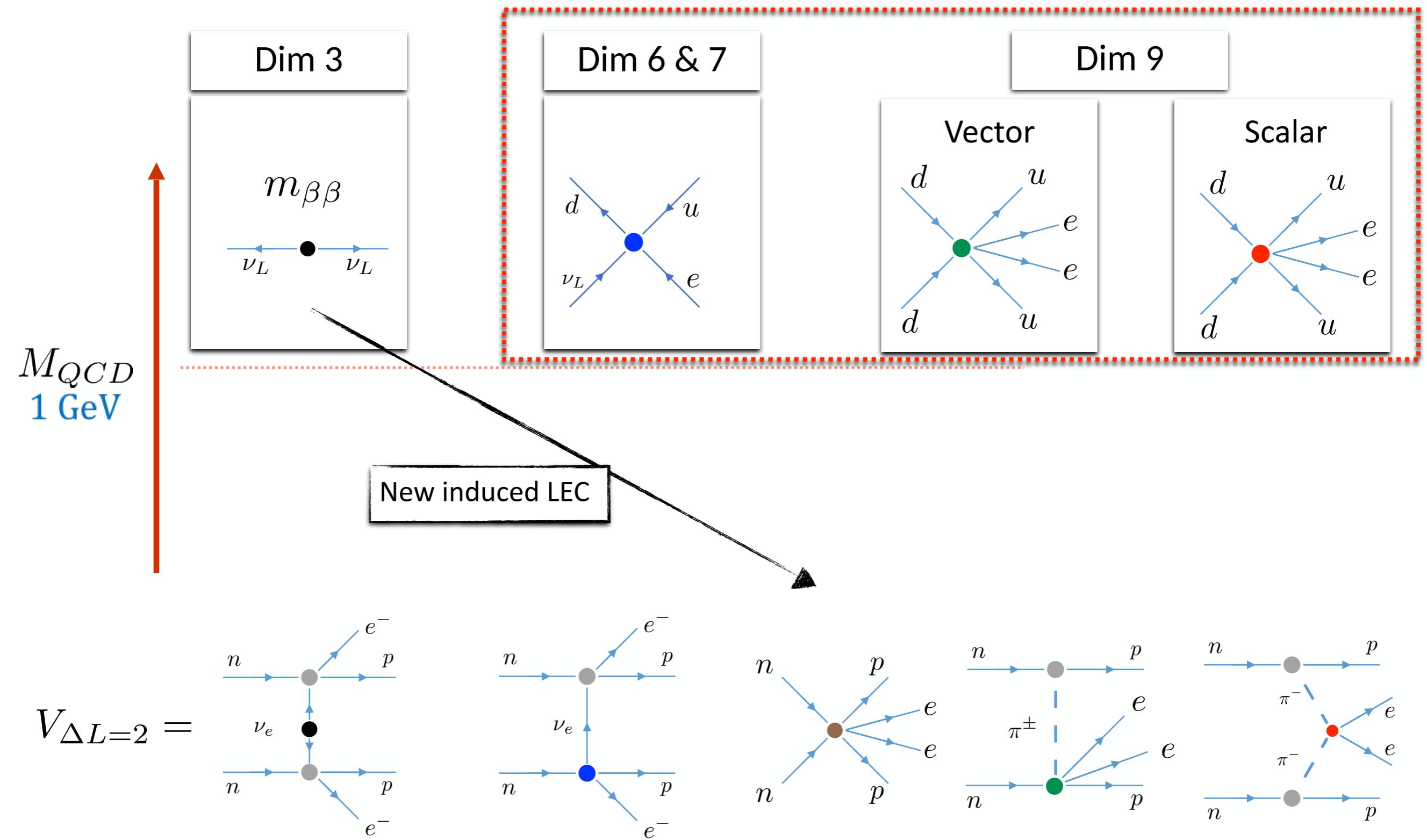
# Chiral EFT

Non-Weinberg counting



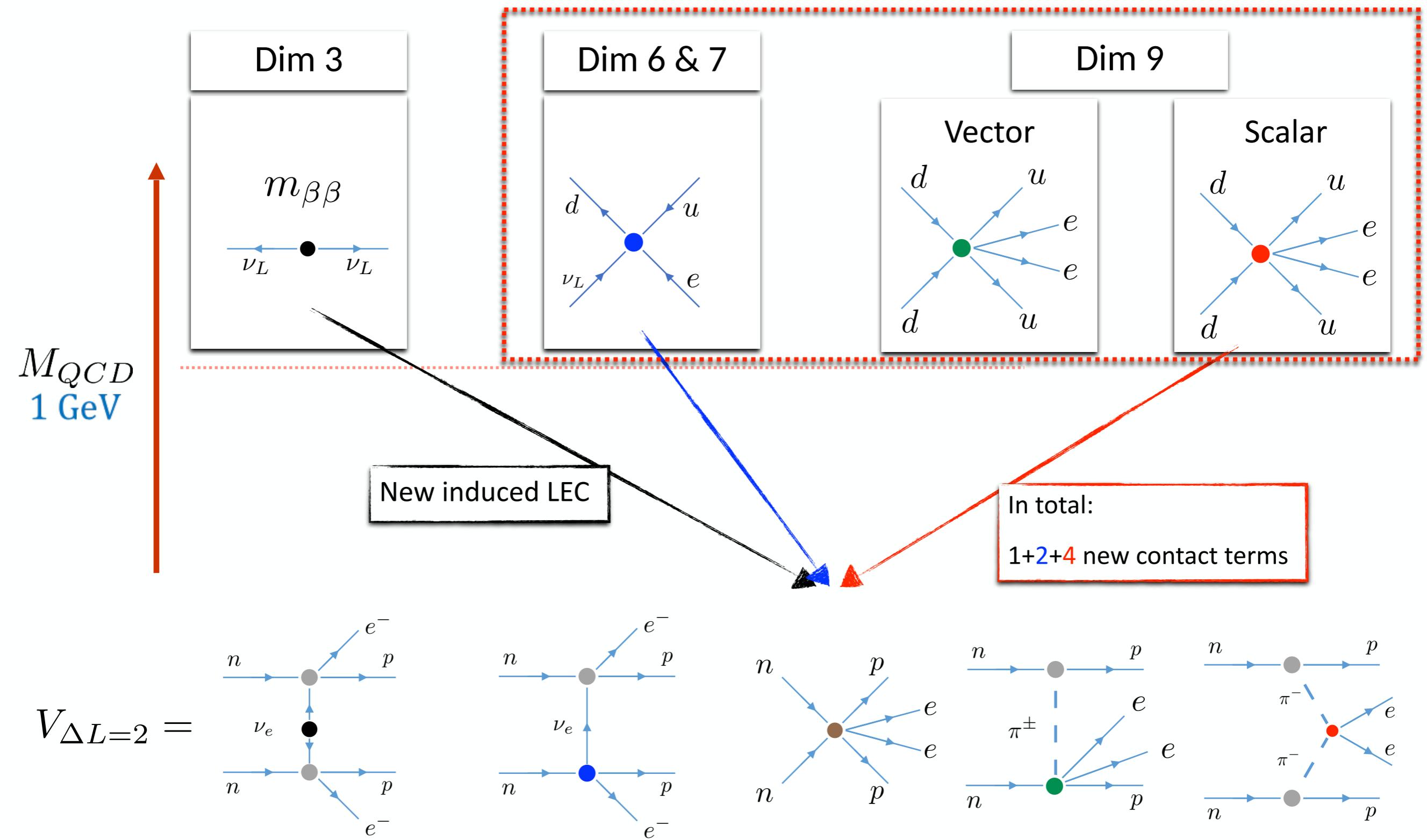
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Non-Weinberg counting affects higher dimensional interactions as well

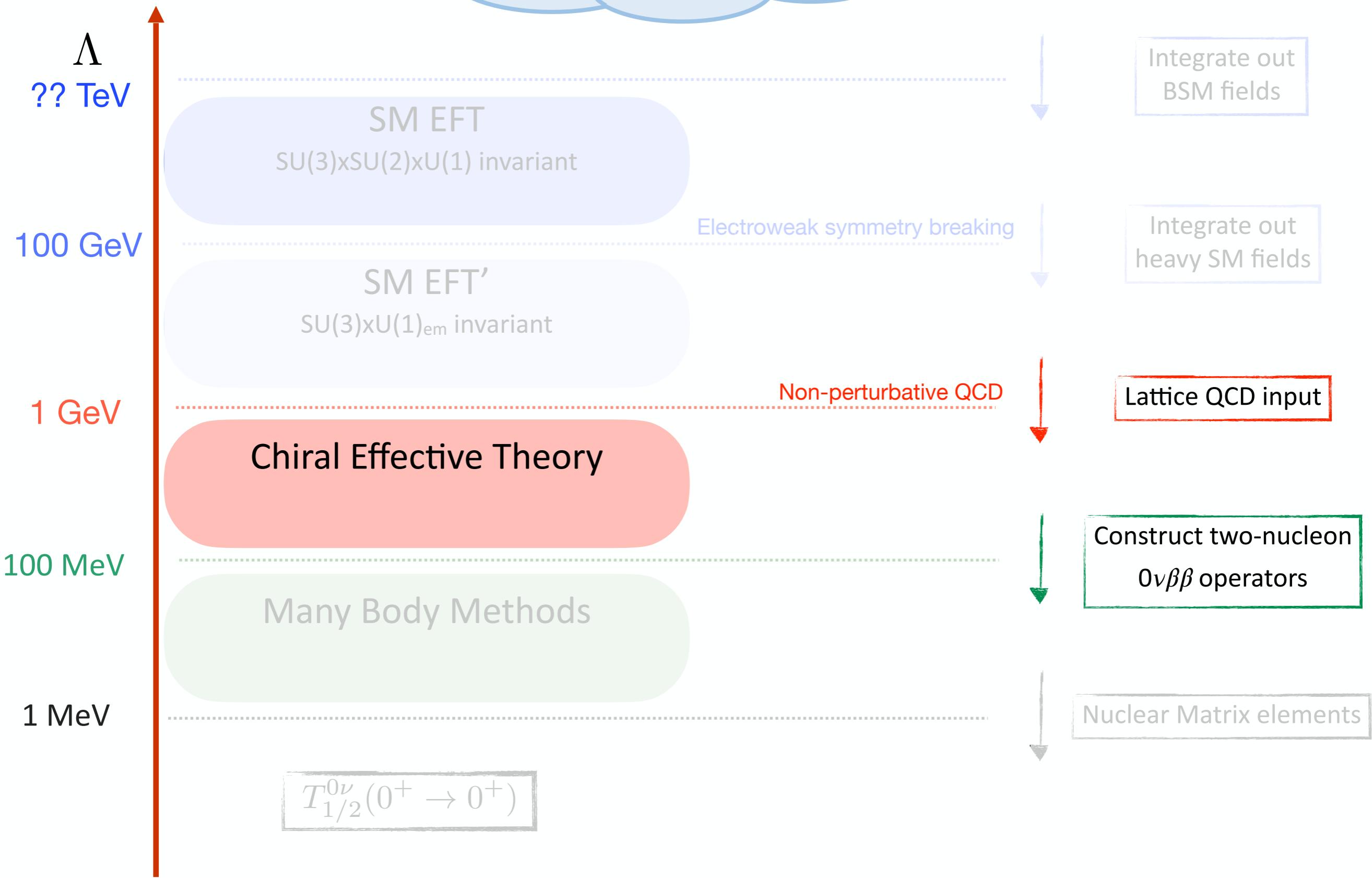


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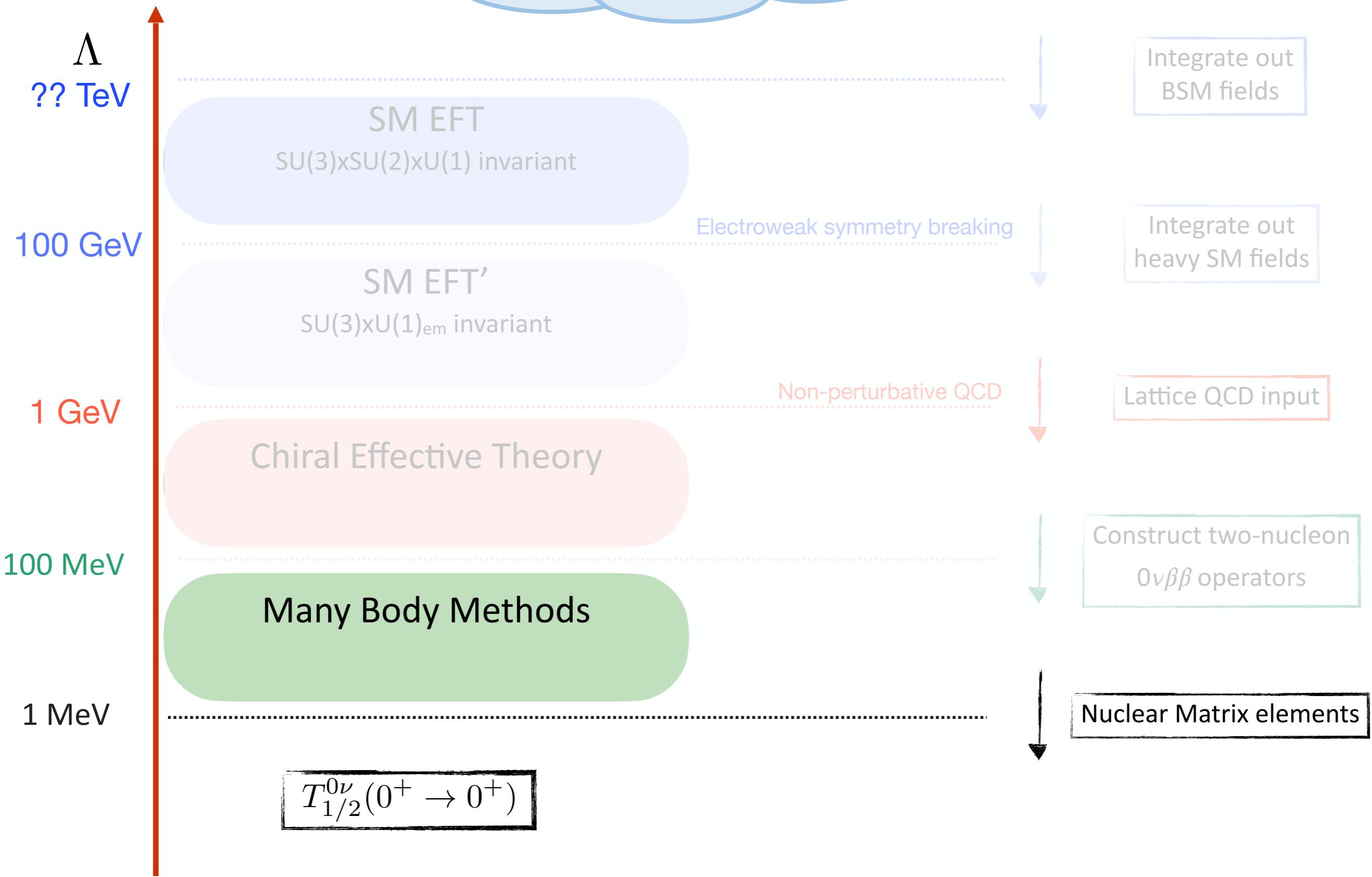
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# Outline



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# Nuclear matrix elements

\*More complicated for NME with  $\nu_R$

- All NMEs can be obtained from literature\*
  - 9 long-distance & 6 short-distance
  - Have been determined in literature

- Follow ChiPT expectations fairly well
  - E.g. all  $O(1)$  and

$$\begin{aligned} M_{GT,sd}^{PP} &= -\frac{1}{2}M_{GT,sd}^{AP} - M_{GT}^{PP}, & M_{T,sd}^{PP} &= -\frac{1}{2}M_{T,sd}^{AP} - M_T^{PP}, \\ M_{GT,sd}^{AP} &= -\frac{2}{3}M_{GT,sd}^{AA} - M_{GT}^{AP}, & M_{GT}^{MM} &= \frac{g_M^2 m_\pi^2}{6g_A^2 m_N^2} M_{GT,sd}^{AA}, \end{aligned}$$

NMEs	${}^{76}\text{Ge}$			
	[74]	[31]	[81]	[82, 83]
$M_F$	-1.74	-0.67	-0.59	-0.68
$M_{GT}^{AA}$	5.48	3.50	3.15	5.06
$M_{GT}^{AP}$	-2.02	-0.25	-0.94	
$M_{GT}^{PP}$	0.66	0.33	0.30	
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$M_T^{AA}$	—	—	—	
$M_T^{AP}$	-0.35	0.01	-0.01	
$M_T^{PP}$	0.10	0.00	0.00	
$M_T^{MM}$	-0.04	0.00	0.00	

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	$M_{F,sd}$	$M_{GT,sd}^{AA}$	$M_{GT,sd}^{AP}$	$M_{GT,sd}^{PP}$
$M_{F,sd}$	-3.46	-1.55	-1.46	-1.1
$M_{GT,sd}^{AA}$	11.1	4.03	4.87	3.62
$M_{GT,sd}^{AP}$	-5.35	-2.37	-2.26	-1.37
$M_{GT,sd}^{PP}$	1.99	0.85	0.82	0.42
$M_{T,sd}^{AP}$	-0.85	0.01	-0.05	-0.97
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# Nuclear matrix elements

\*More complicated for NME with  $\nu_R$

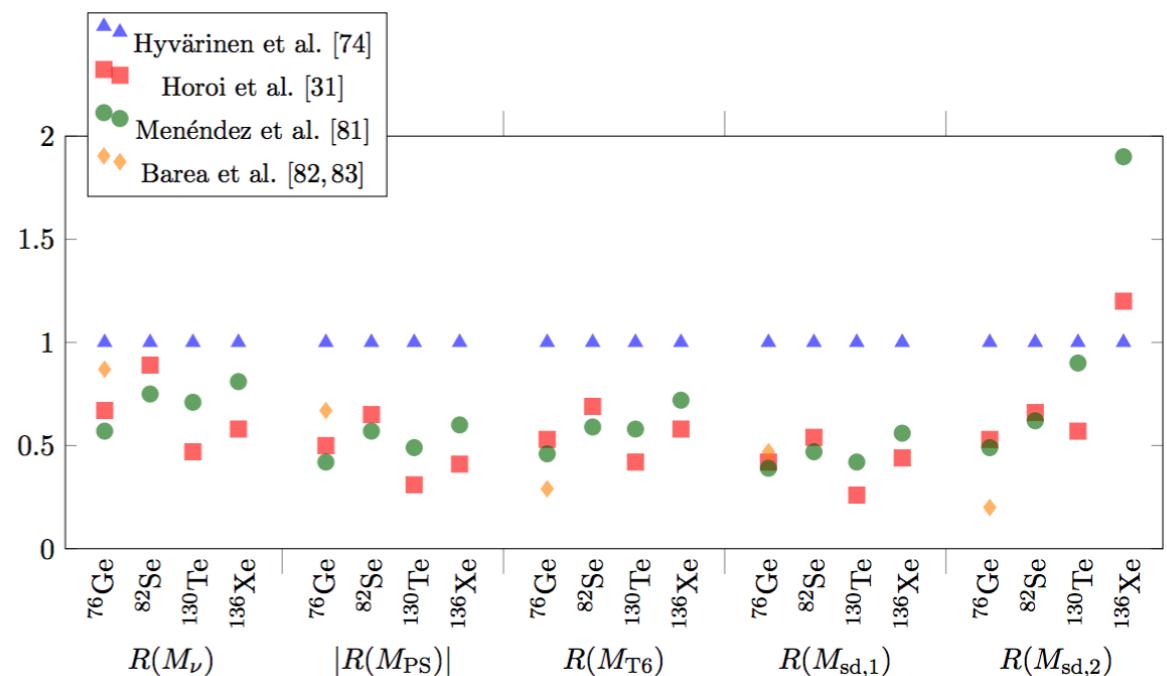
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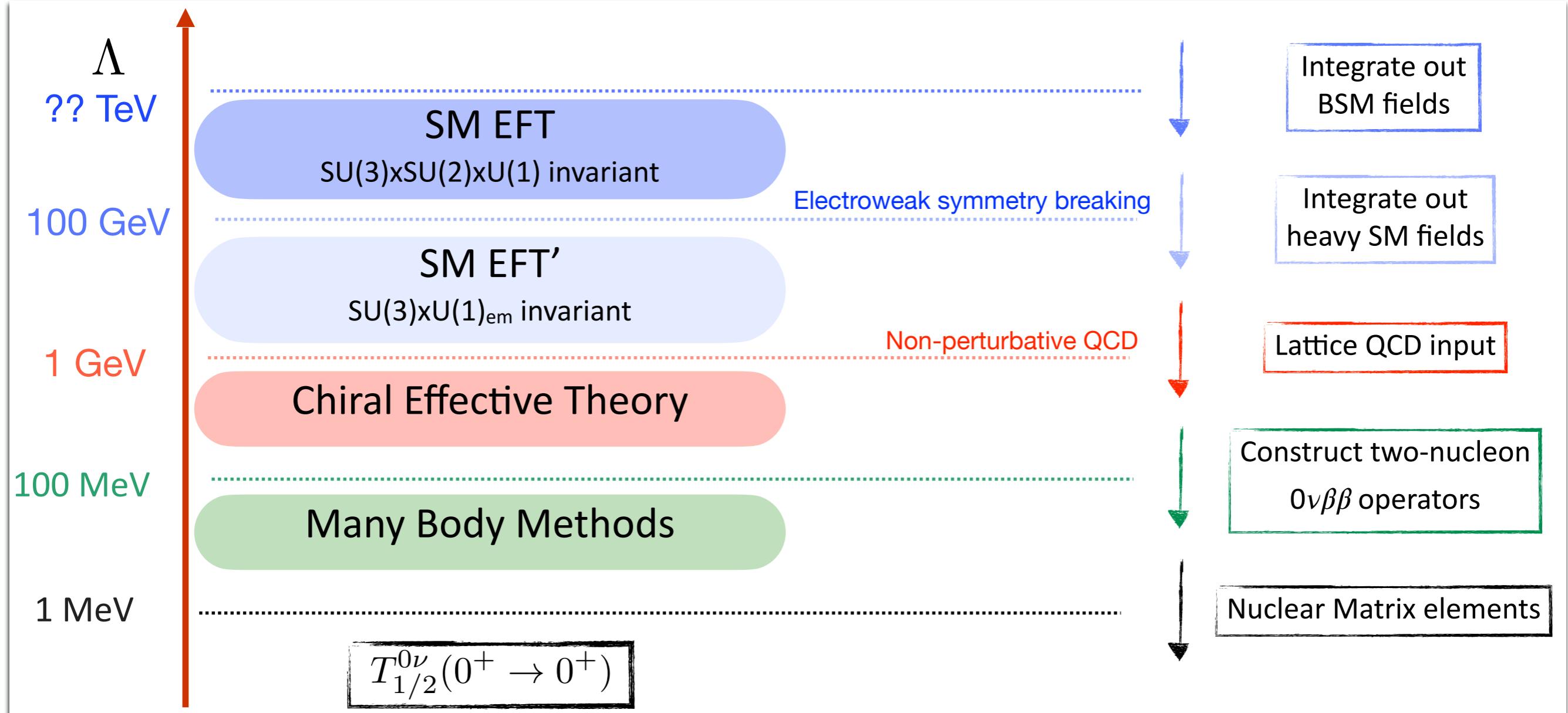
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- The NMEs differ by a factor 2-3 between methods
- *Ab initio* NMEs for  $A \geq 48$  are starting to appear
  - e.g. Belley et al '20; Yao et al '20; Wirth, Yao, Hegert '21



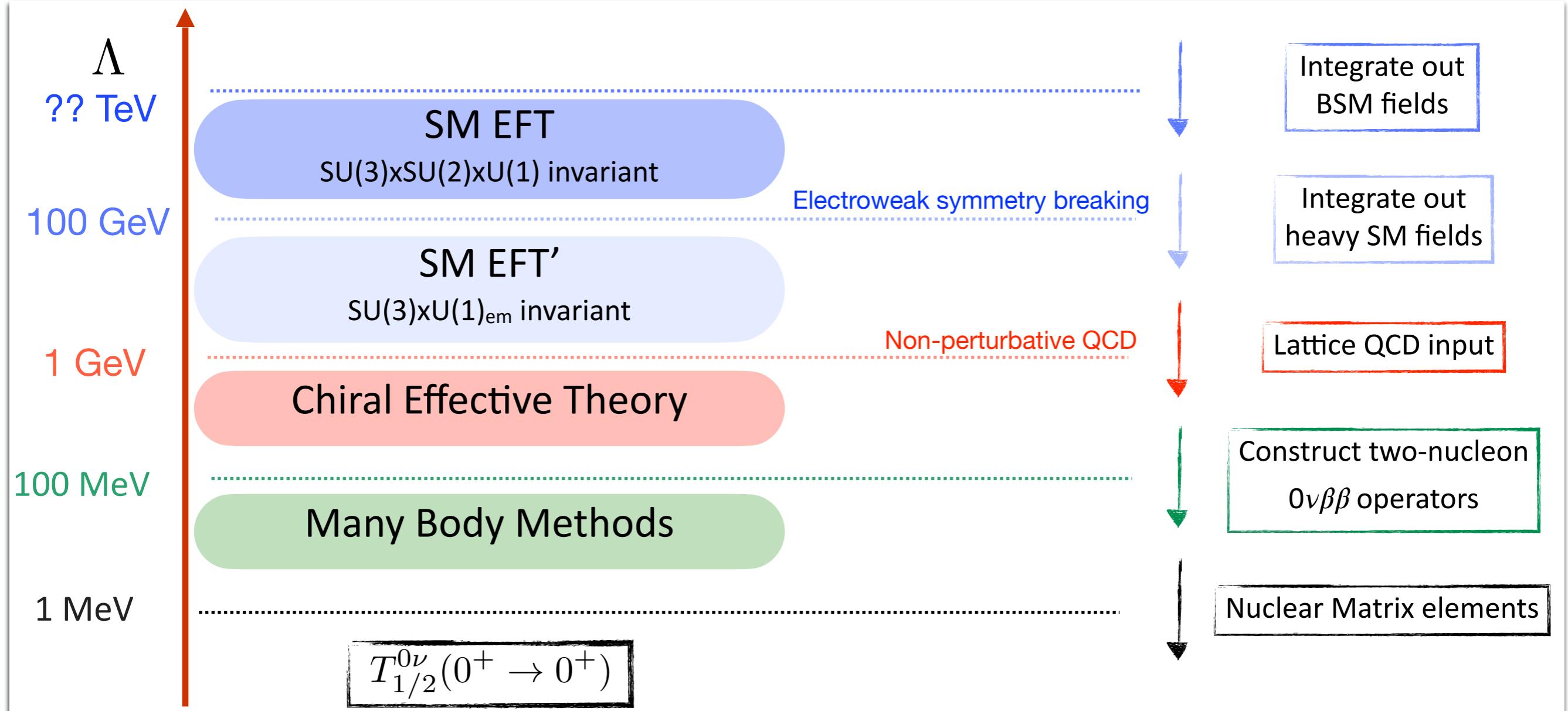
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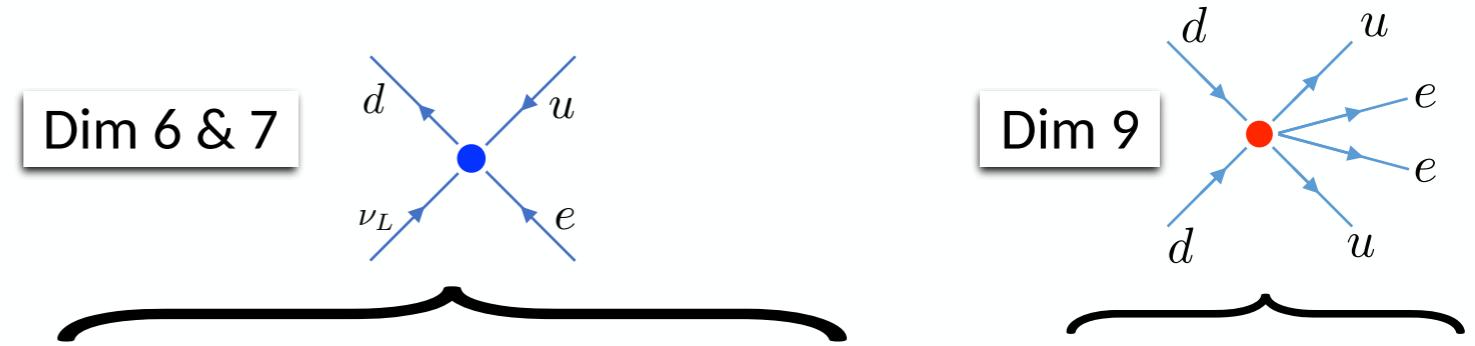
- EFT now includes  $\nu_R$  as explicit degrees of freedom
- When/if  $\nu_R$  can be integrated out depends on  $m_{\nu_R}$
- LECs and NMEs now depend on  $m_{\nu_R}$

See backup

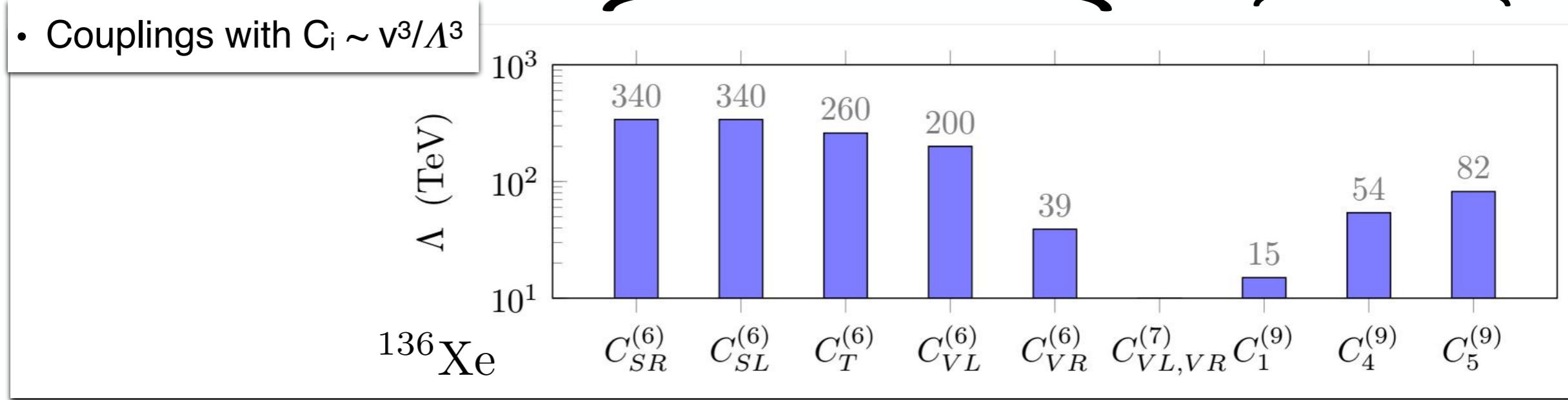
# Phenomenology

# Phenomenology

From heavy new physics



- Couplings with  $C_i \sim v^3/\Lambda^3$



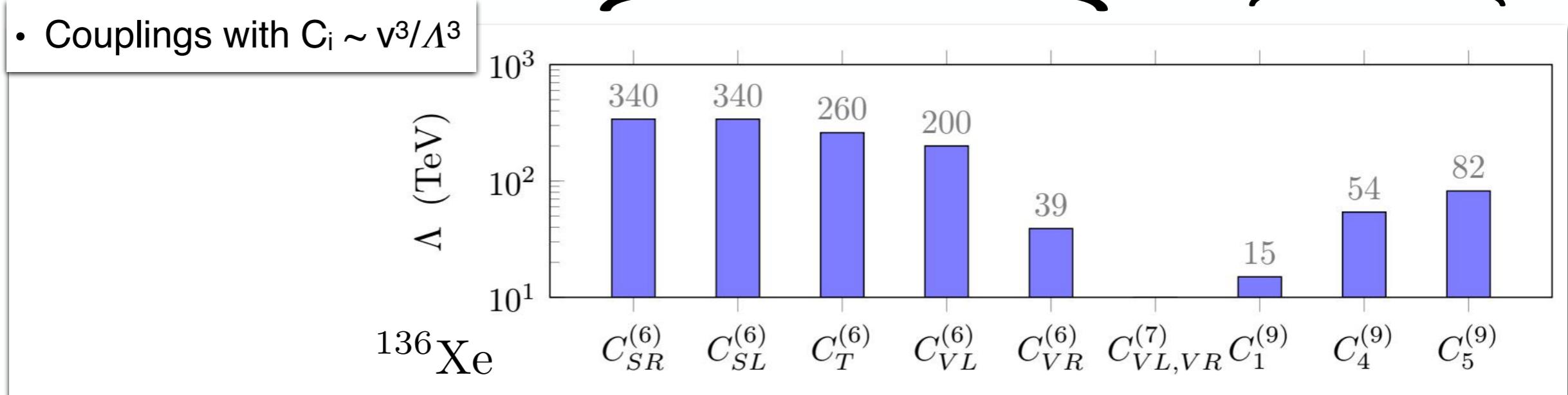
- $O(1)$  uncertainties:
  - Unknown LECs
  - Nuclear Matrix elements

# Phenomenology

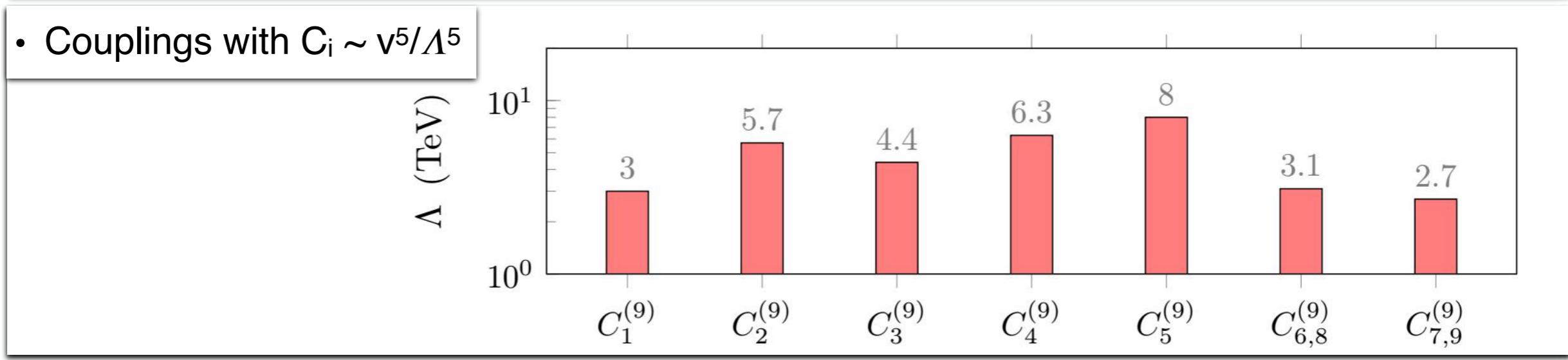
From heavy new physics



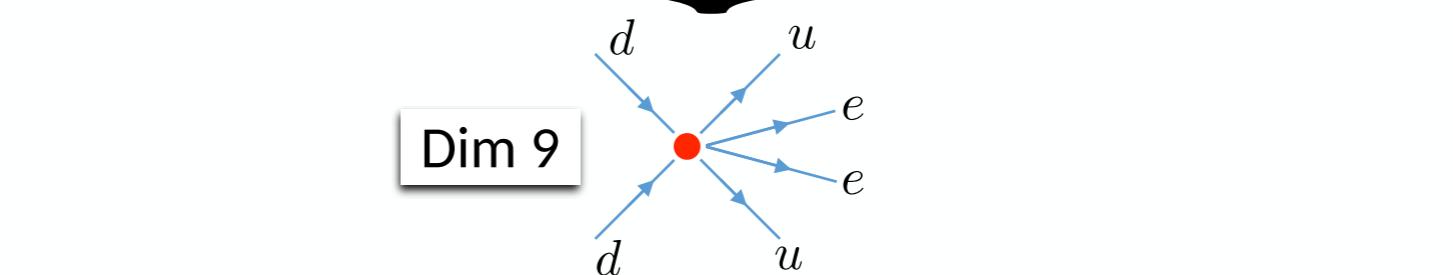
- Couplings with  $C_i \sim v^3/\Lambda^3$



- Couplings with  $C_i \sim v^5/\Lambda^5$



- $O(1)$  uncertainties:
  - Unknown LECs
  - Nuclear Matrix elements



# Phenomenology with sterile neutrinos

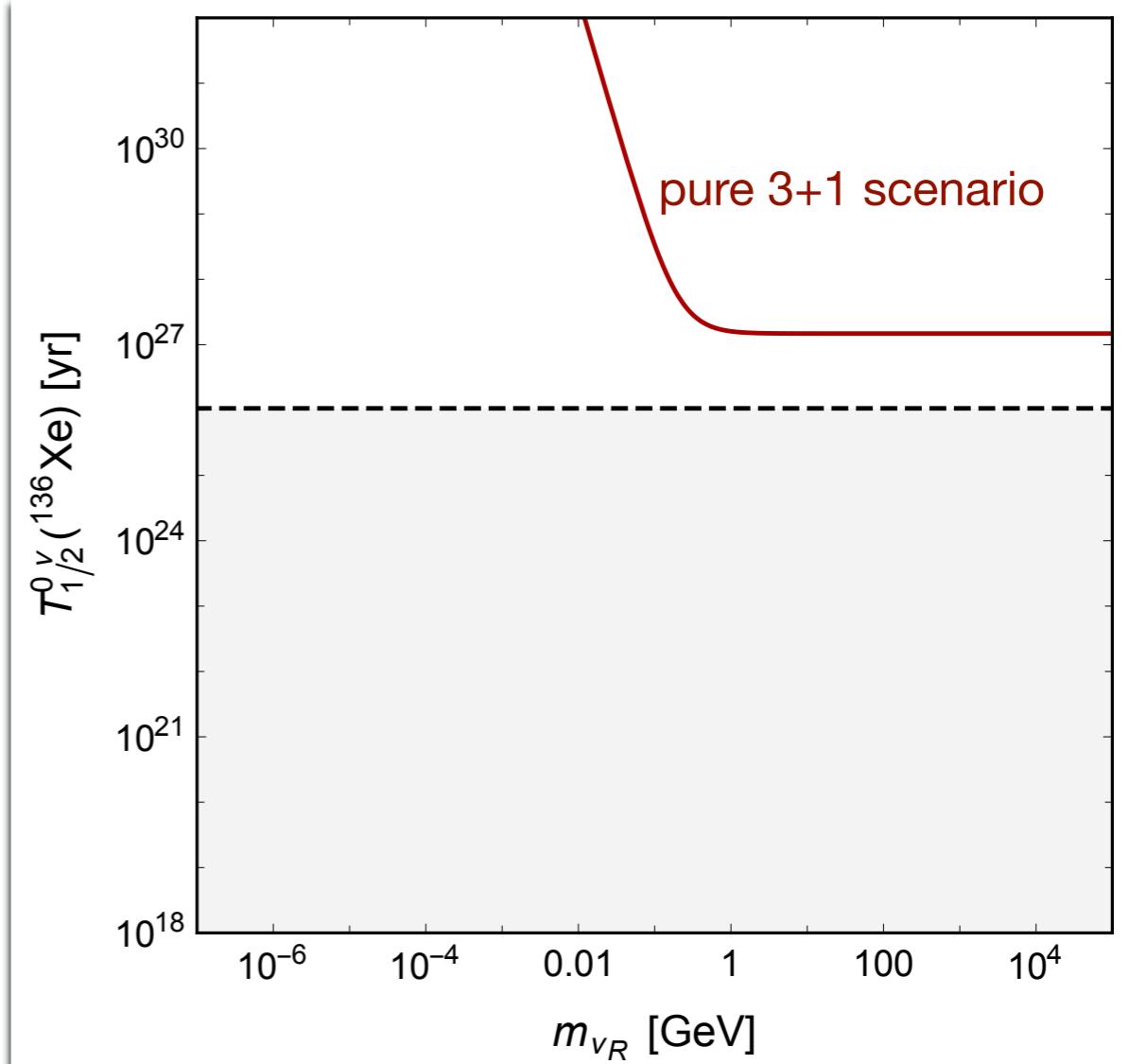
# Phenomenology

From heavy new physics + light  $\nu_R$

Example with  $\nu_R$

- Toy Model
  - SM + 1 light  $\nu_R$

O(100%) uncertainties not shown

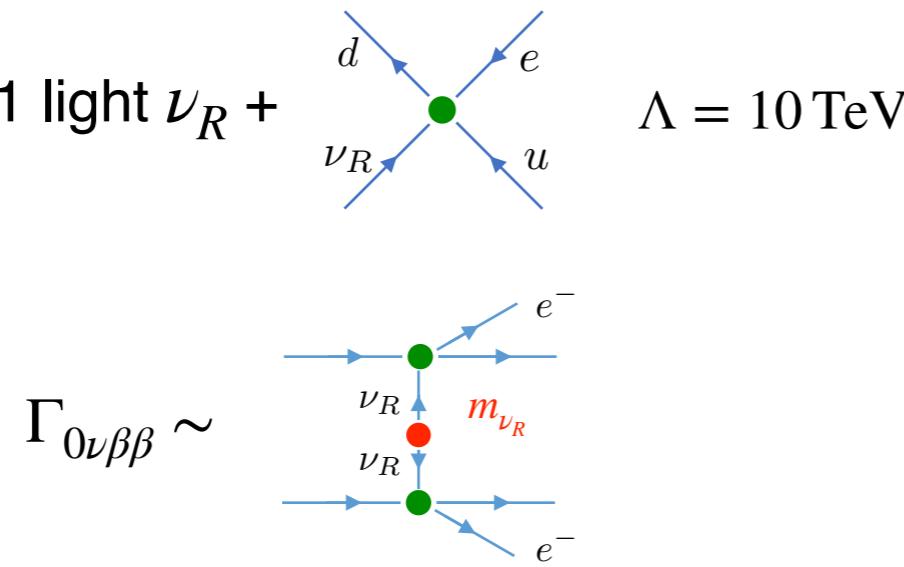


# Phenomenology

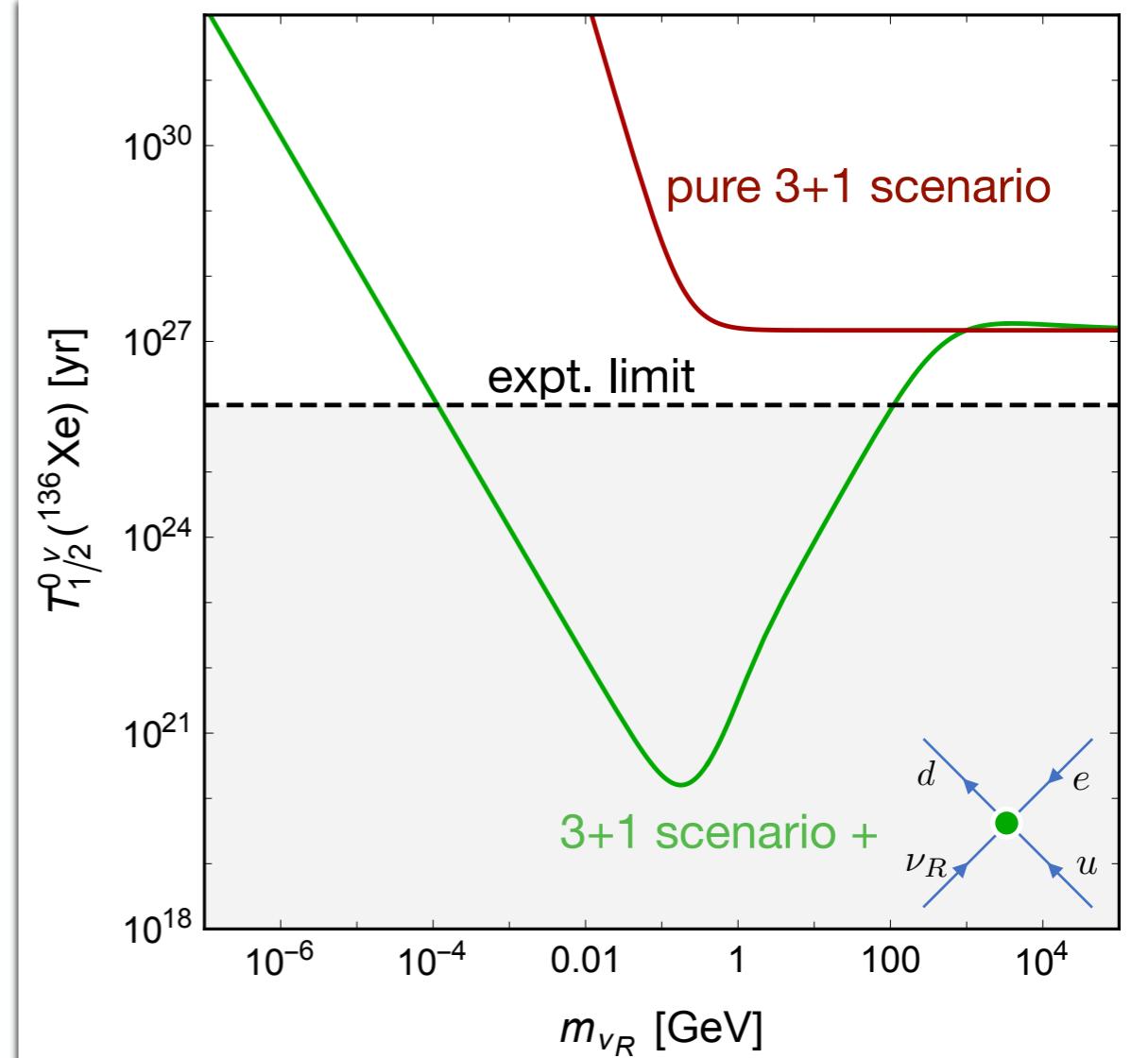
From heavy new physics + light  $\nu_R$

Example with  $\nu_R$

- Toy Model
  - SM + 1 light  $\nu_R$
- Add dimension-six interaction



O(100%) uncertainties not shown

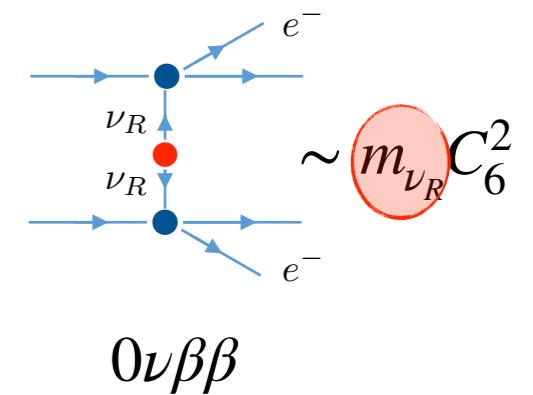
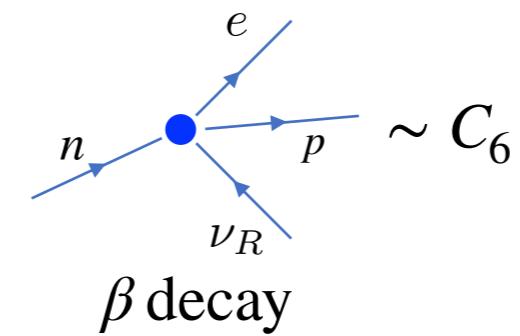


- Higher dimensional  $\nu_R$  terms can have a large impact!

# Phenomenology

From heavy new physics + light  $\nu_R$

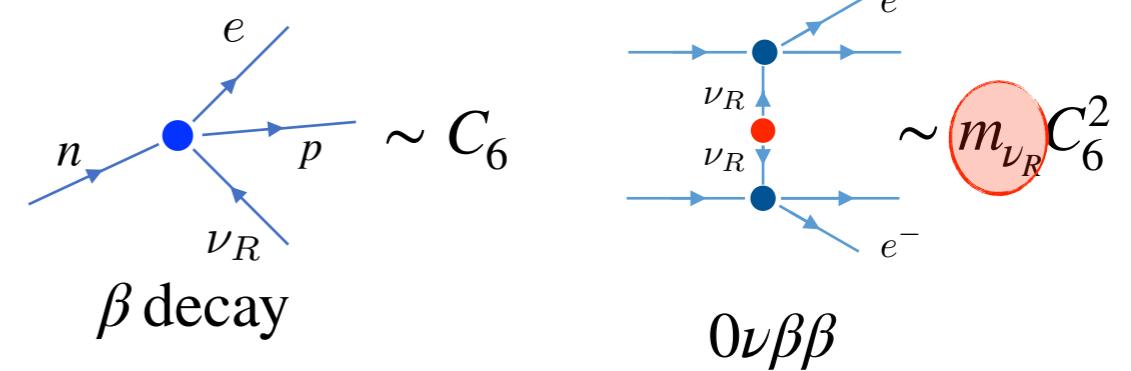
- Complementarity with neutron & nuclear  $\beta$  decays
- What can  $0\nu\beta\beta$  say if these probes find a signal?



# Phenomenology

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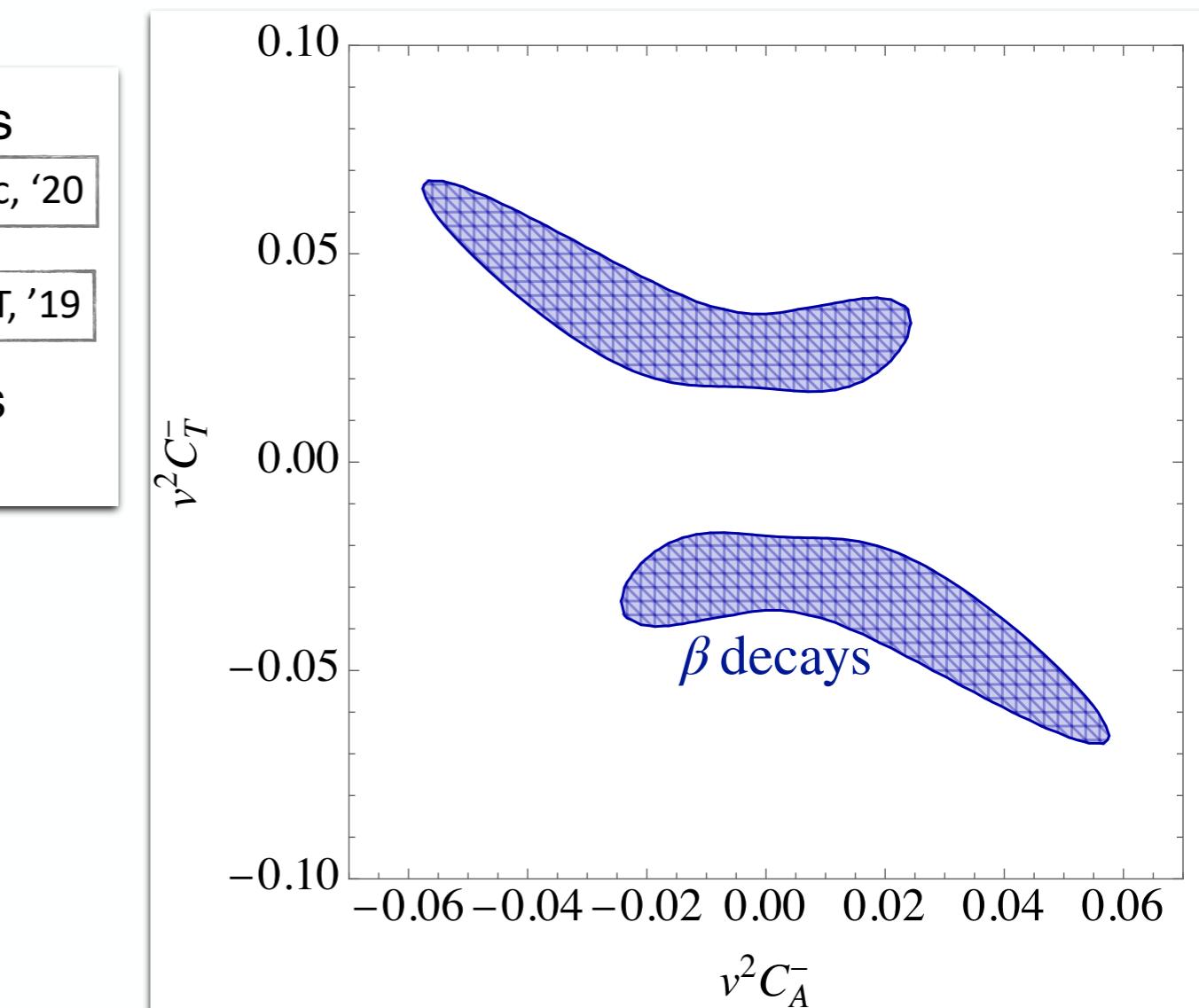
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- $\beta$ -decay fit has preference for BSM interactions

Falkowski, González-Alonso, Naviliat-Cuncic, '20

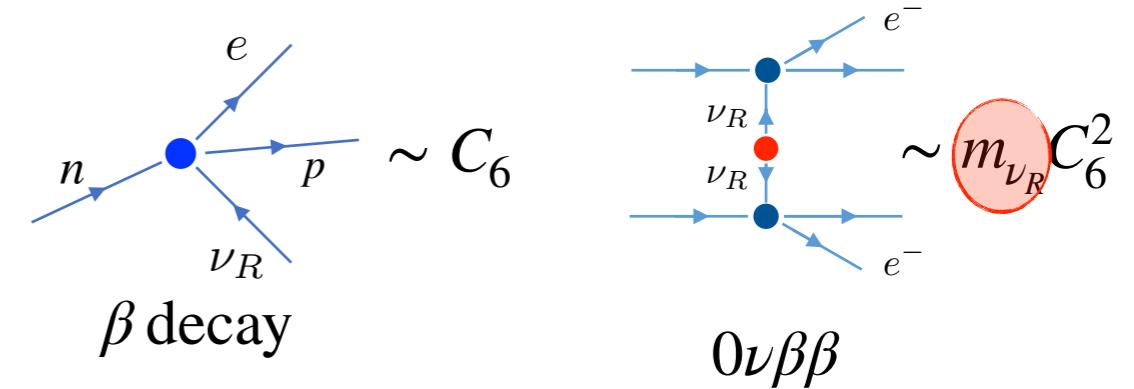
- Driven by one experiment
- Unclear if LHC can be satisfied in UV models



# Phenomenology

From heavy new physics + light  $\nu_R$

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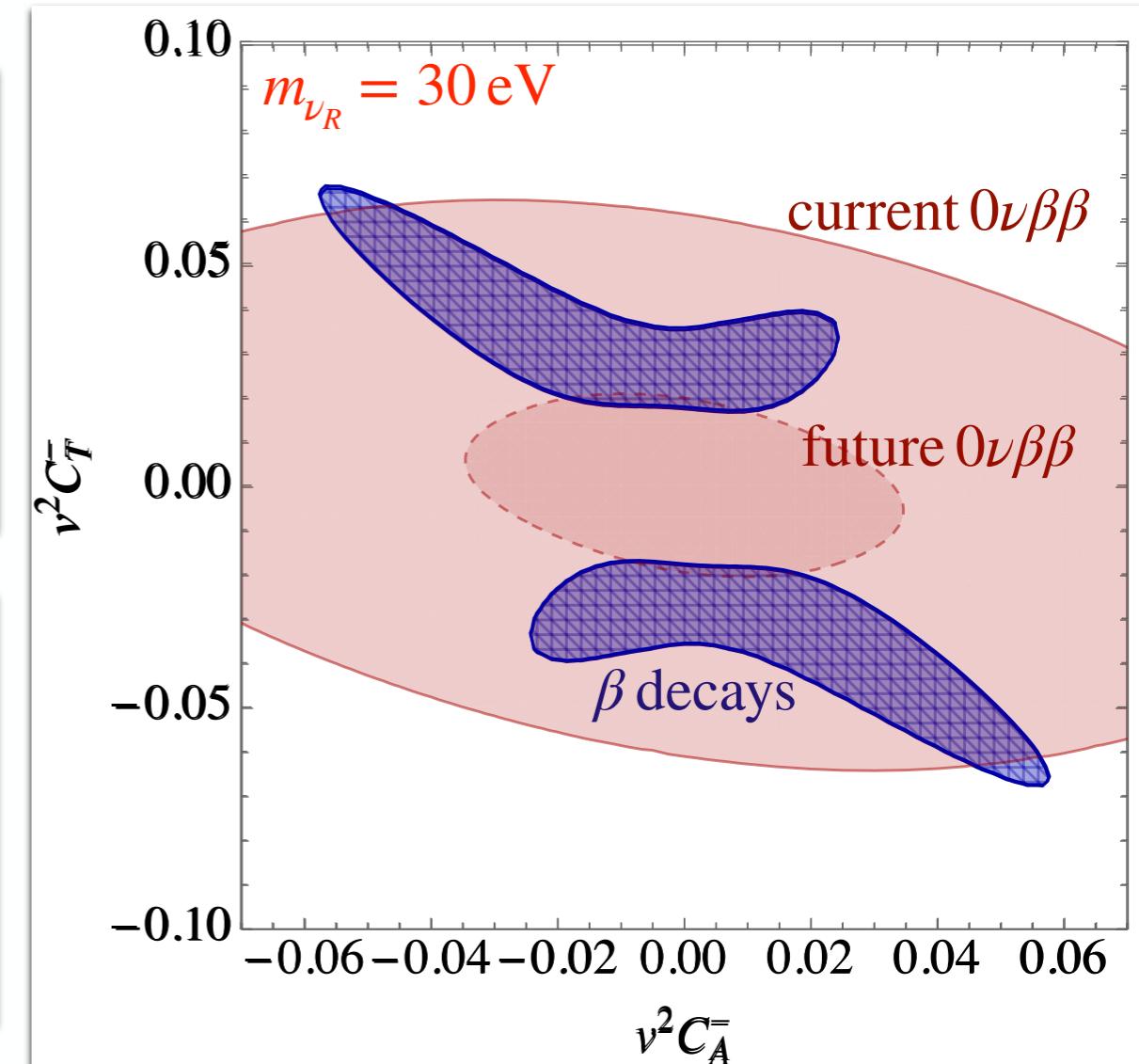
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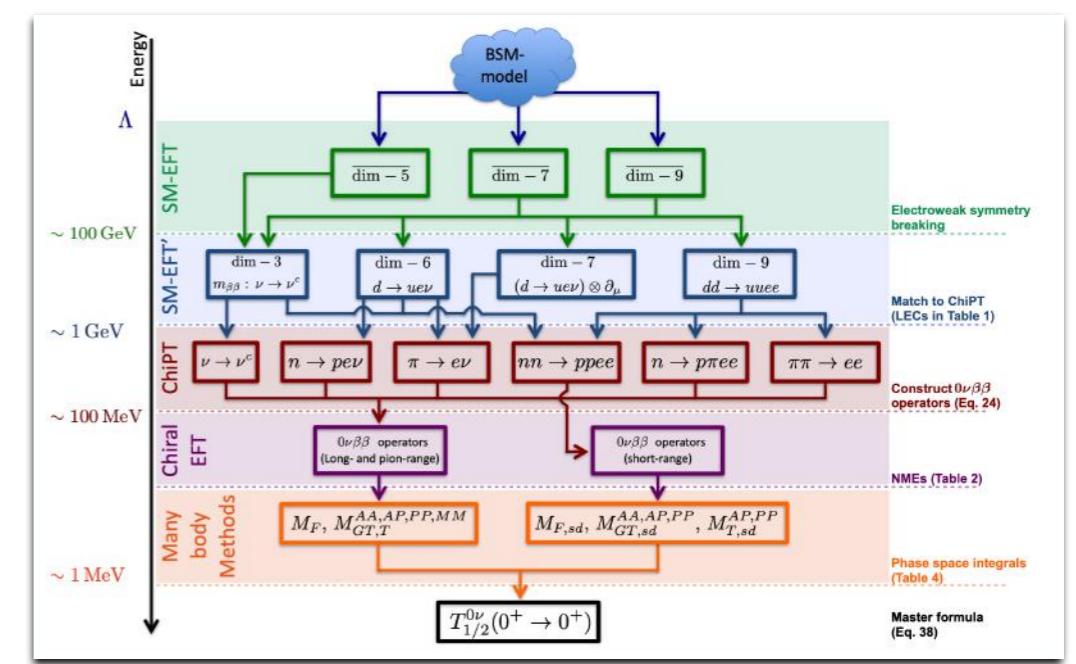
- If a  $\beta$ -decay signal is confirmed:

- $0\nu\beta\beta$  gives upper limit on  $m_{\nu_R}$
- (assuming Majorana  $\nu_R$ )



# Summary

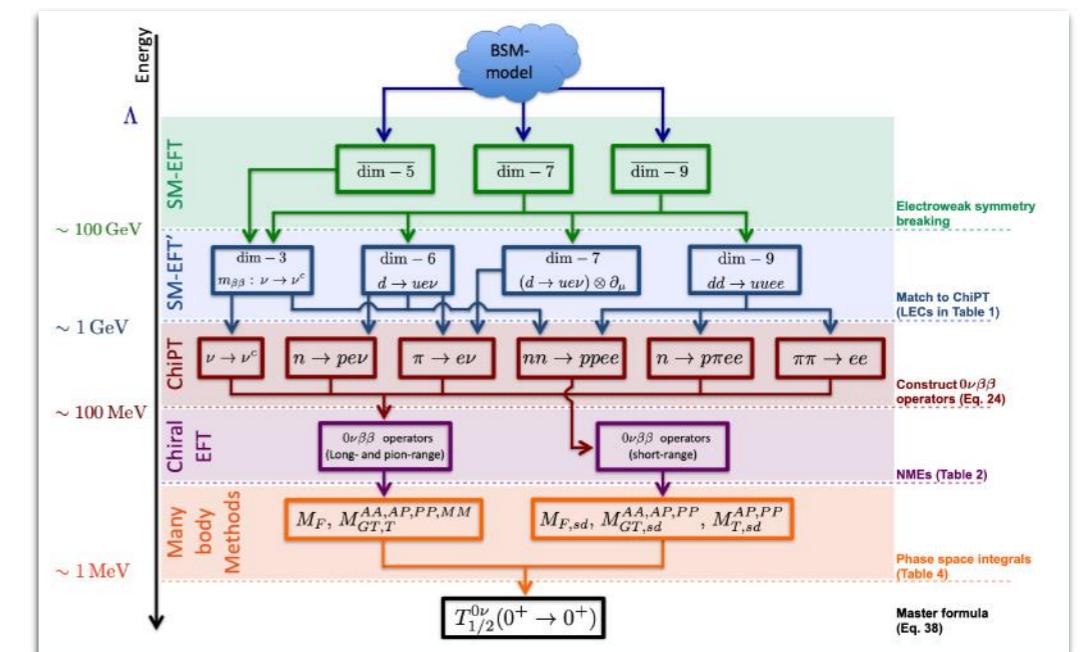
- EFTs allow one to systematically describe  $\Delta L=2$  sources
  - Standard mechanism (dim-5)
  - Dimension-7 & -9 sources
  - Effects from  $\nu_R$



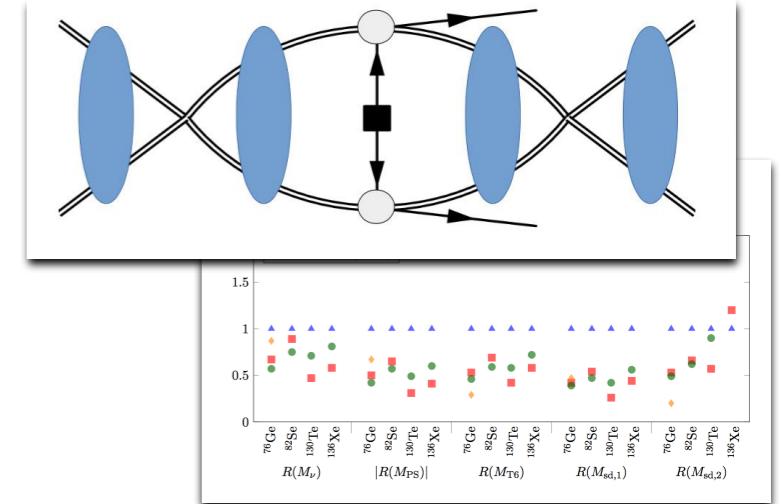
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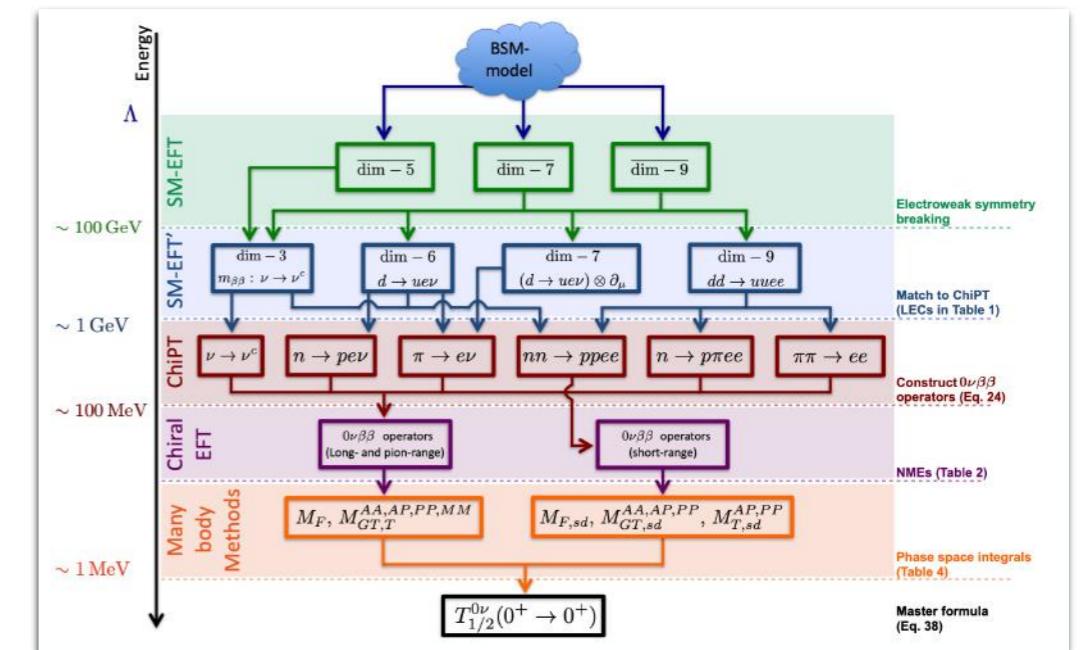
- Matching to chiral EFT involves unknown LECs
  - Renormalization requires terms beyond Weinberg counting
    - Can in principle be determined from LQCD
- Needed Nuclear Matrix Elements determined in literature



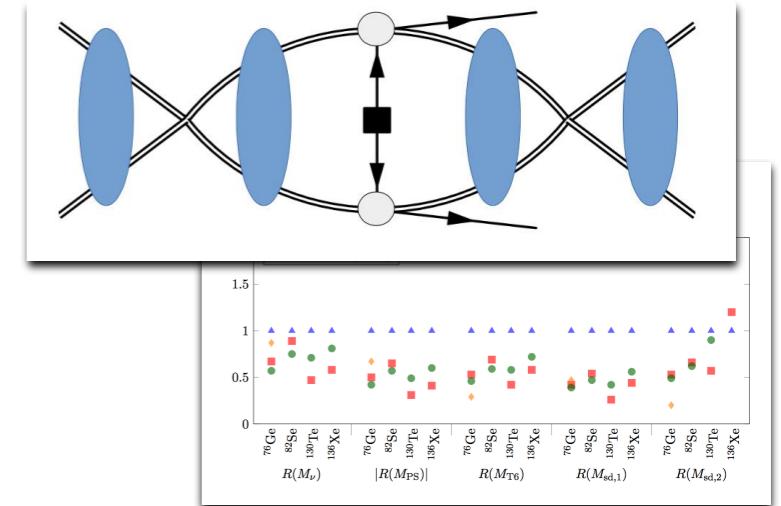
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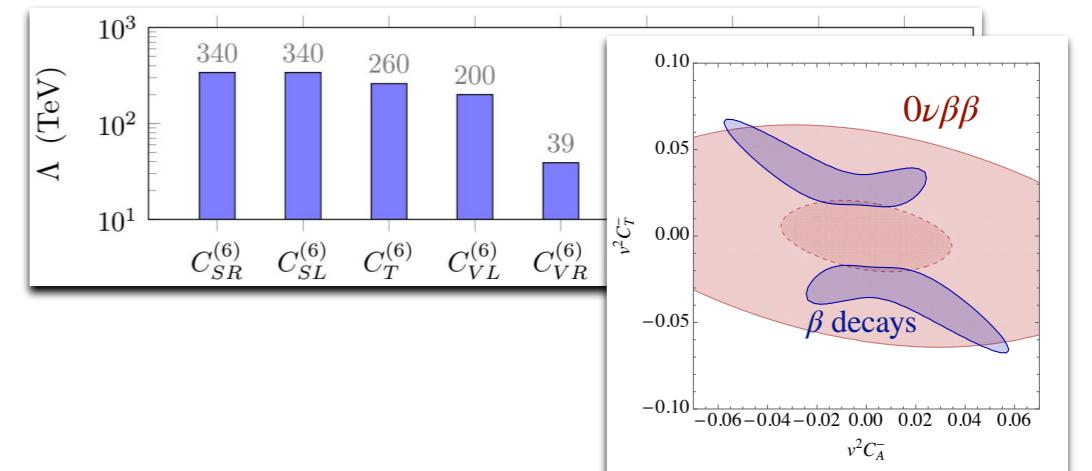
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- $0\nu\beta\beta$  can probe
    - O(1-10) TeV scales for dim-9
    - O(100) TeV scales for dim-7
    - O(10) TeV scales for  $\nu_R$  interactions
  - Interplay with other observables (e.g.  $\beta$  decay)



# Back up slides

Why dim 7, 9?

# Effective Field Theory

Naive scaling of Dimension 5, 7, 9 operators

$$\mathcal{A}_{0\nu\beta\beta} \sim \frac{c_5}{\Lambda} \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{v}{\Lambda} \right)^2 \frac{c_7}{c_5} + \left( \frac{v}{\Lambda} \right)^4 \frac{c_9}{c_5} \right]$$

- $v/\Lambda \ll 1$  So why keep dimension 7 & 9?

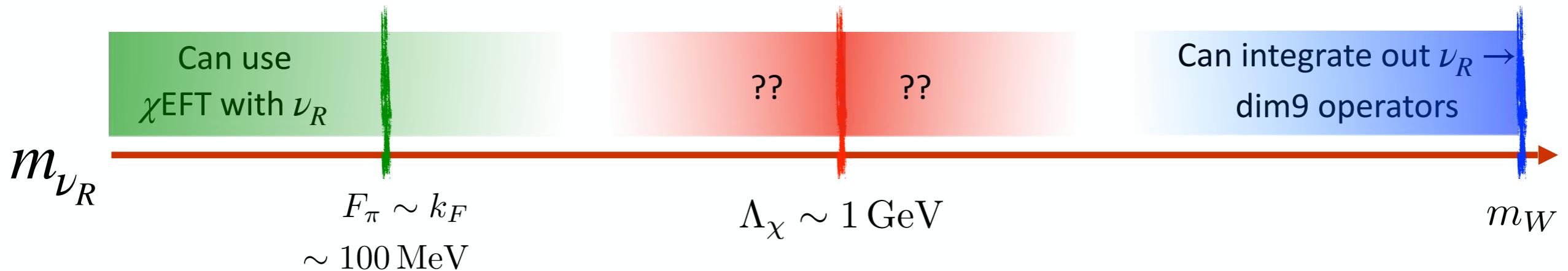
$m_\nu \sim c_5 v^2 / \Lambda$  Allows for relative enhancement:

- $c_5 \ll \mathcal{O}(1)$ ,  $\Lambda = \mathcal{O}(1 - 100) \text{TeV}$ 
  - Relative enhancement of higher-dimensional terms due to  $c_{7,9}/c_5 \gg 1$
- Happens, for example, in the left-right model
- However, if  $c_5 = \mathcal{O}(1)$ ,  $\Lambda = 10^{15} \text{GeV}$ 
  - dimension-7, -9 irrelevant in this case

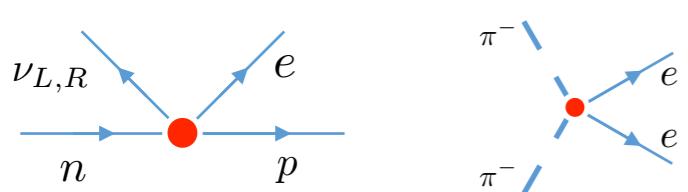
# Sterile neutrinos

# Sterile neutrinos

Complication:  $m_{\nu_R}$  dependence



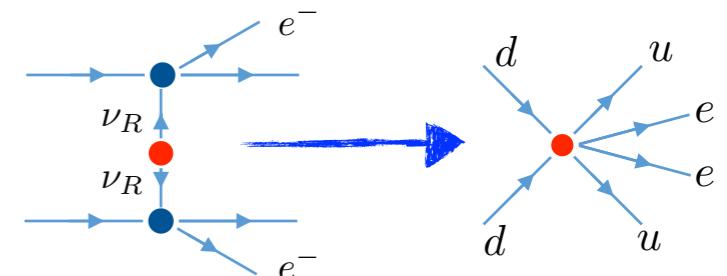
- Chiral EFT involving  $\nu_R$



- Neither EFT works well here

- Missing operators  $\sim \Lambda_\chi / m_{\nu_R}$
- Loop corrections  $\sim m_{\nu_R} / \Lambda_\chi$

- Integrate out  $\nu_R$



→ Chiral EFT without  $\nu_R$

$$A \propto m_{\nu_R}$$

Interpolate

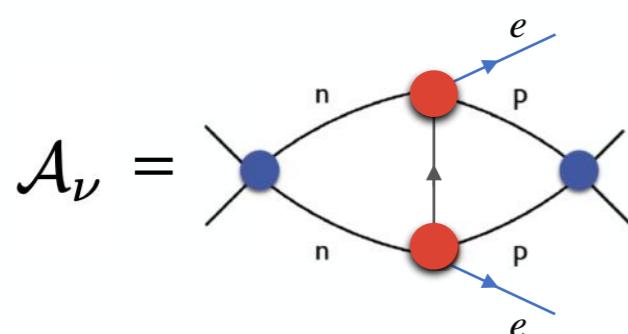
$$A \propto m_{\nu_R}^{-1}$$

# Estimating the contact interaction

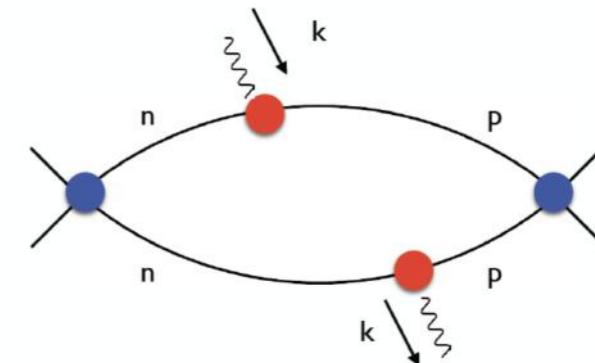
# Determination of the counterterm

- Analogy to the Cottingham approach for pion/nucleon mass differences

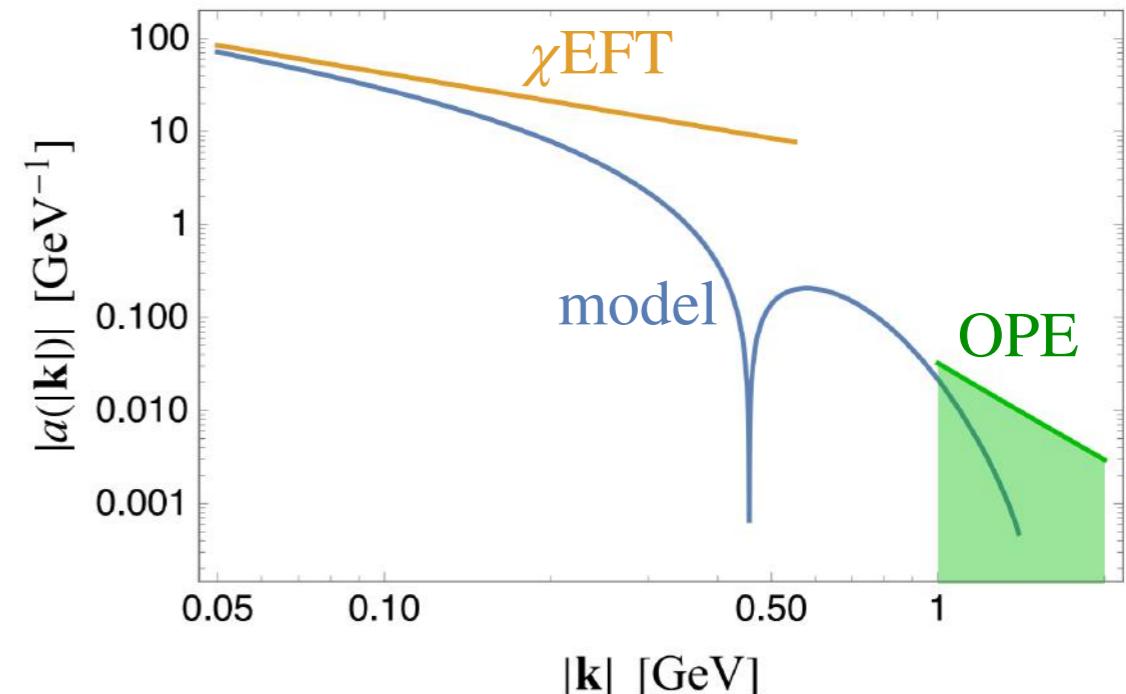
$$\mathcal{A}_\nu \propto \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{g_{\mu\nu}}{k^2 + i\epsilon} \int d^4 x e^{ik \cdot x} \langle pp | T\{j_w^\mu(x) j_w^\nu(0)\} | nn \rangle$$



$$\propto \int dk a(k) = \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{k^2 + i\epsilon}$$



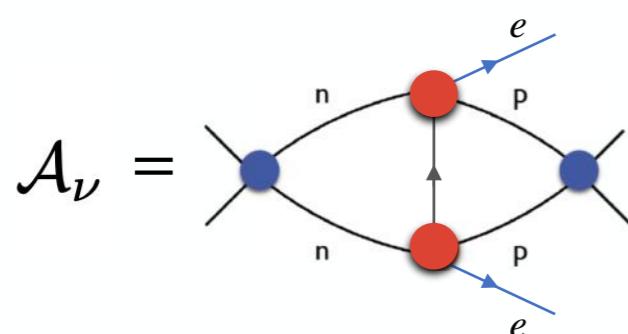
- Estimate the  $A_\nu$  by constraining the integrand
  - $k \ll \Lambda_\chi$  region determined by  $\chi$ EFT
  - $k \gg \text{GeV}$  region determined by OPE
- Model intermediate region using:
  - Form factors
  - Off-shell effects from  $NN$  intermediate states



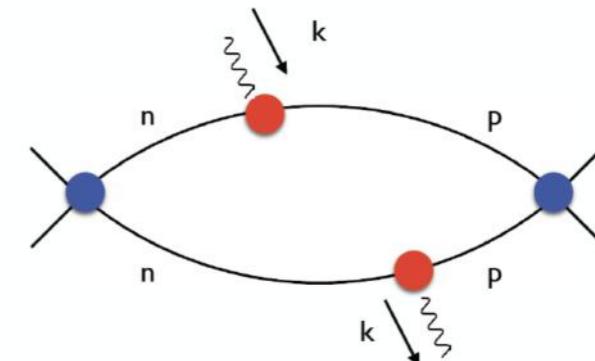
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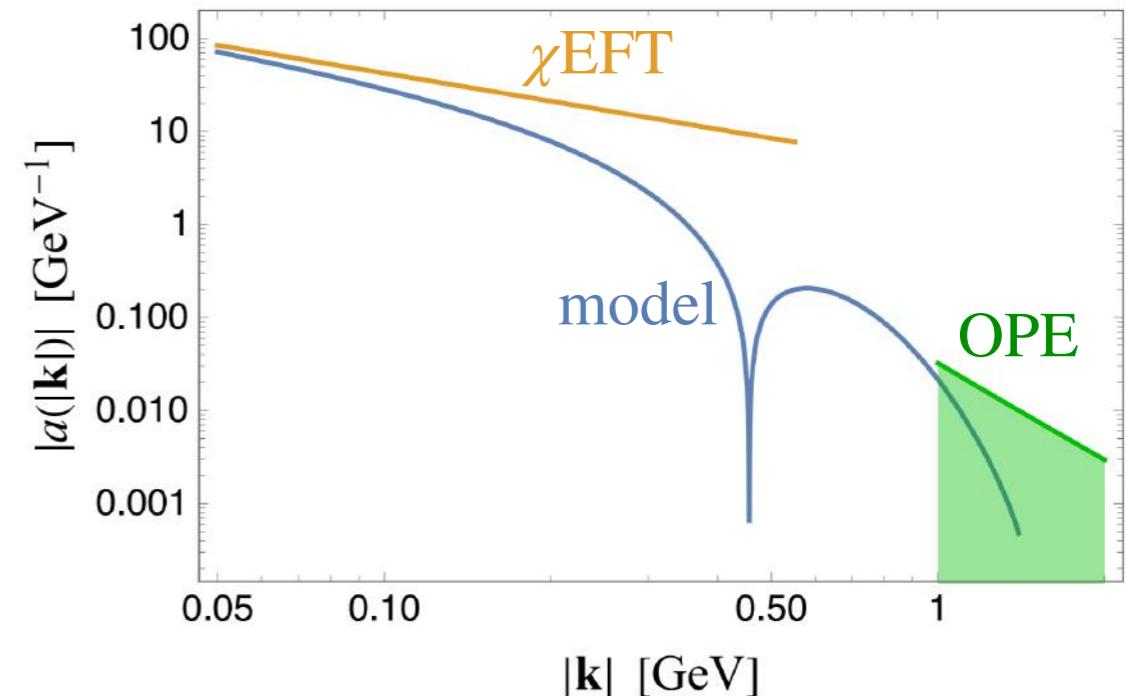
$$\propto \int dk a(k) = \int \frac{d^4 k}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{k^2 + i\epsilon}$$



- Gives  $\tilde{g}_\nu^{NN}(\mu = m_\pi) = 1.3(6)$  in  $\overline{\text{MS}}$

- Estimated 30% uncertainty
- Validated in isospin-breaking observables
- Consistent with large- $N_c$  estimate

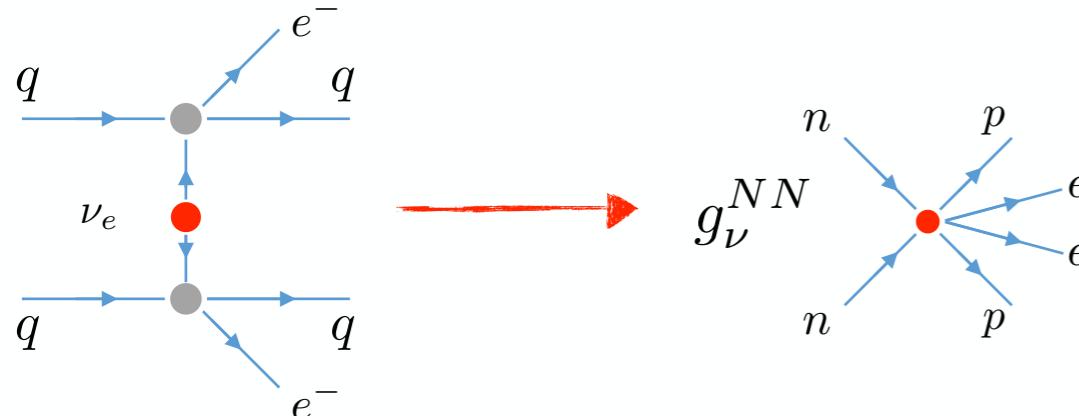
Richardson et al, '21



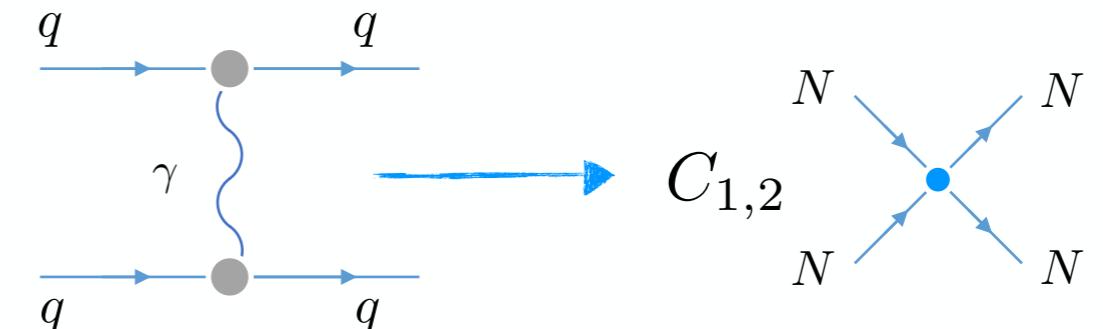
# Relation to electromagnetism

# Relation to electromagnetism

LNV contact term



EM contact term



- Hard part of two Weak currents

$$\sim G_F^2 m_{\beta\beta} \langle NN | J_L^\mu(x) J_{L\mu}(y) | NN \rangle \\ \times \int \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{e^{iq \cdot (x-y)}}{q^2}$$

- Leptonic part combines to boson propagator

- Hard part of two EM currents

$$\sim e^2 \langle NN | J_{EM}^\mu(x) J_{EM\mu}(y) | NN \rangle \\ \times \int \frac{d^4 q}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{e^{iq \cdot (x-y)}}{q^2}$$

- Non-hadronic part is the photon propagator

The appearance of the photon propagator allows one to relate the two!

# Relation to electromagnetism

- Only two  $\Delta l=2$  operators can be induced

$$O_1 = \bar{N} Q_L N \bar{N} Q_L N - \frac{\text{Tr } Q_L^2}{6} \bar{N} \vec{\tau} N \bar{N} \vec{\tau} N + (L \rightarrow R)$$

$$O_2 = \bar{N} Q_L N \bar{N} Q_R N - \frac{\text{Tr } Q_L Q_R}{6} \bar{N} \vec{\tau} N \bar{N} \vec{\tau} N + (L \leftrightarrow R)$$

with spurions

$$Q_L = u^\dagger Q_L u, \quad Q_R = u Q_R u^\dagger, \\ u = \exp(i\pi \cdot \tau / 2F_\pi)$$

EM

$$\mathcal{L}_{em} = e^2/4 (C_1 O_1 + C_2 O_2)$$

$$Q_L = Q_R = \tau^3/2$$

- EM induces an extra term

- Equivalent up to 2 pions
- Hard to disentangle

LNV

$$\mathcal{L}_{LNV} = g_\nu^{NN} G_F^2 m_{\beta\beta} O_1 \bar{e} e^c$$

$$Q_L = \tau^+, \quad Q_R = 0$$

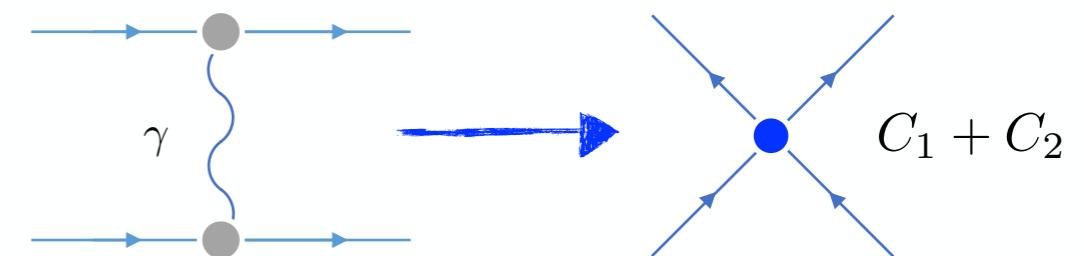
Chiral symmetry

$$g_\nu^{NN} = C_1$$

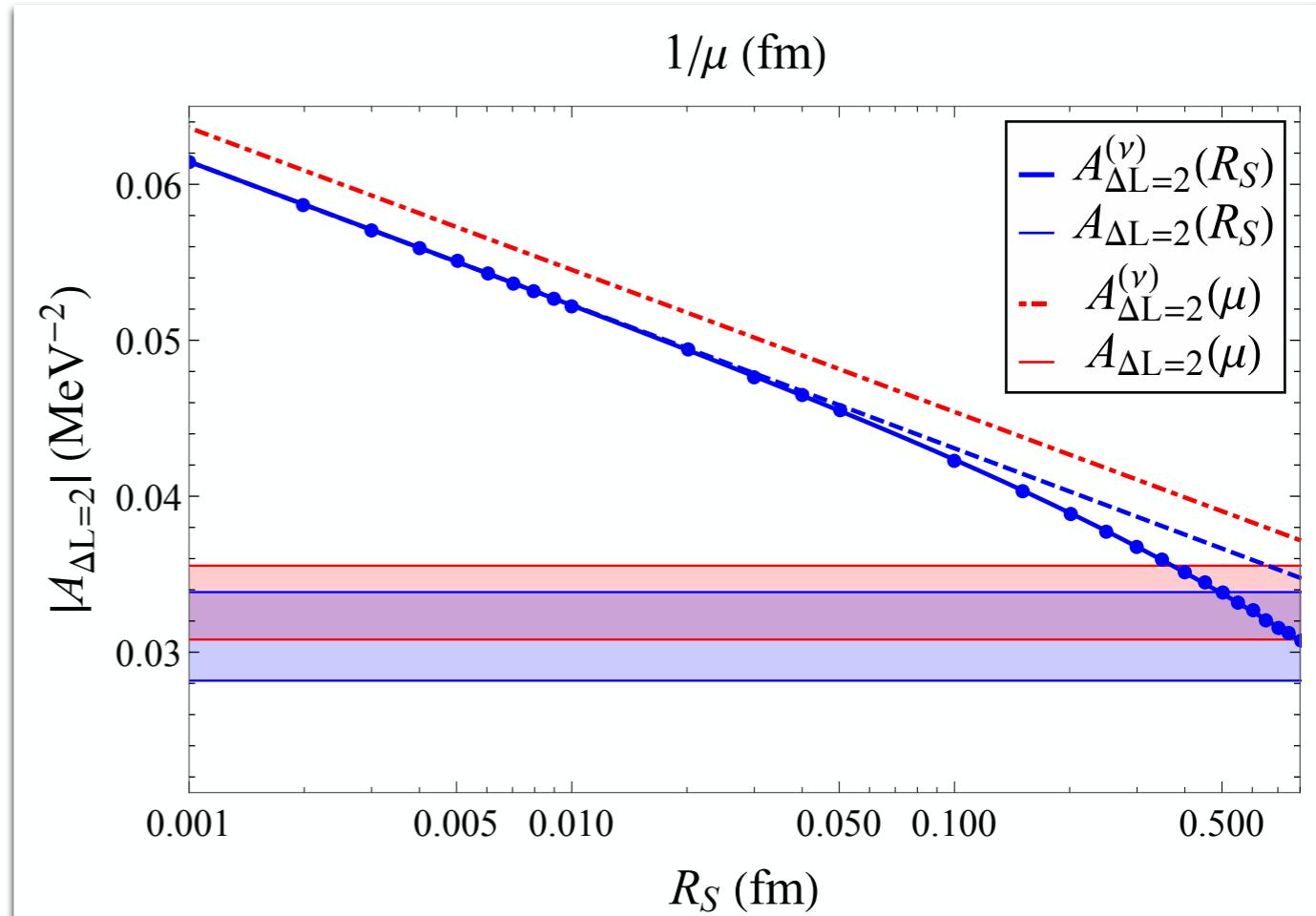
# Relation to electromagnetism

- $\Delta l=2$  in NN scattering

- Charge-independence breaking  $(a_{nn} + a_{pp})/2 - a_{np}$ 
  - From photon exchange & the pion mass difference
  - $C_1 + C_2$  (needed at LO in isospin breaking)



- Allows an estimate of  $g_\nu^{NN}$ 
  - Extract  $C_1 + C_2$  from CIB
  - Assume  $g_\nu^{NN}(\mu) = \frac{C_1(\mu) + C_2(\mu)}{2}$
  - Roughly 10% effect for  $R_S = 0.6$  fm
  - Uncontrolled error



# Estimate of impact in light nuclei

# Estimate of impact

## Light nuclei

M. Piarulli, R. Wiringa, S. Pastore

- Combine estimate  $g_\nu = (C_1 + C_2)/2$

- With wavefunctions:

- From Chiral potential

M. Piarulli et. al. '16

- Obtained from AV18 potential

R. Wiringa, Stoks, Schiavilla, '95

- ~10% effect in  ${}^6\text{He} \rightarrow {}^6\text{Be}$
- ~60% effect in  ${}^{12}\text{Be} \rightarrow {}^{12}\text{C}$ 
  - Due to presence of a node
  - Feature in realistic  $0\nu\beta\beta$  candidates

