



Loop Effects in Probing Lepton Number Violation

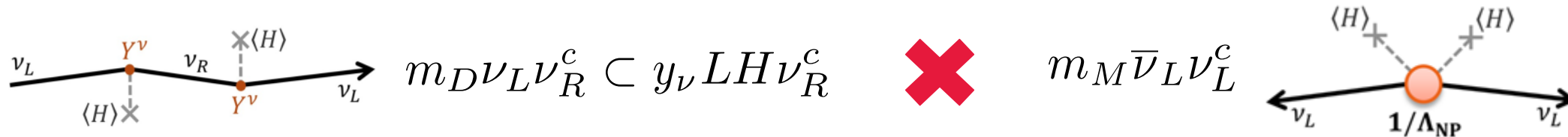
Lukáš Gráf

(Nikhef, Amsterdam & Charles University, Prague)

MEDEX, Prague, June 2025

Lepton Number (Violation)

- non-perturbative Standard Model (SM) dynamics: B + L number violated by sphalerons
- B – L number is conserved $\leftrightarrow$ non-anomalous global symmetry of the SM
 $\rightarrow$ accidental? may be a relict! $\rightarrow$ violation at low energies subtle $\leftrightarrow$ corresponding to B – L preserving gauge symmetry broken at certain high-energy scale
- the manifestation at experimentally accessible scales suppressed by powers of the new-physics scale
- tightly related to the puzzle of neutrino masses and baryon asymmetry of the Universe



Dirac mass $\rightarrow$ as other fermions, but tiny

Majorana mass $\rightarrow$ lepton number violation

Double Beta Decays

- two-neutrino double beta decay

$$2\nu\beta\beta : (A, Z) \rightarrow (A, Z + 2) + 2e^- + 2\bar{\nu}_e$$

- neutrinoless double beta decay
→ LNV, mediated by Majorana neutrinos

$$0\nu\beta\beta : (A, Z) \rightarrow (A, Z + 2) + 2e^-$$

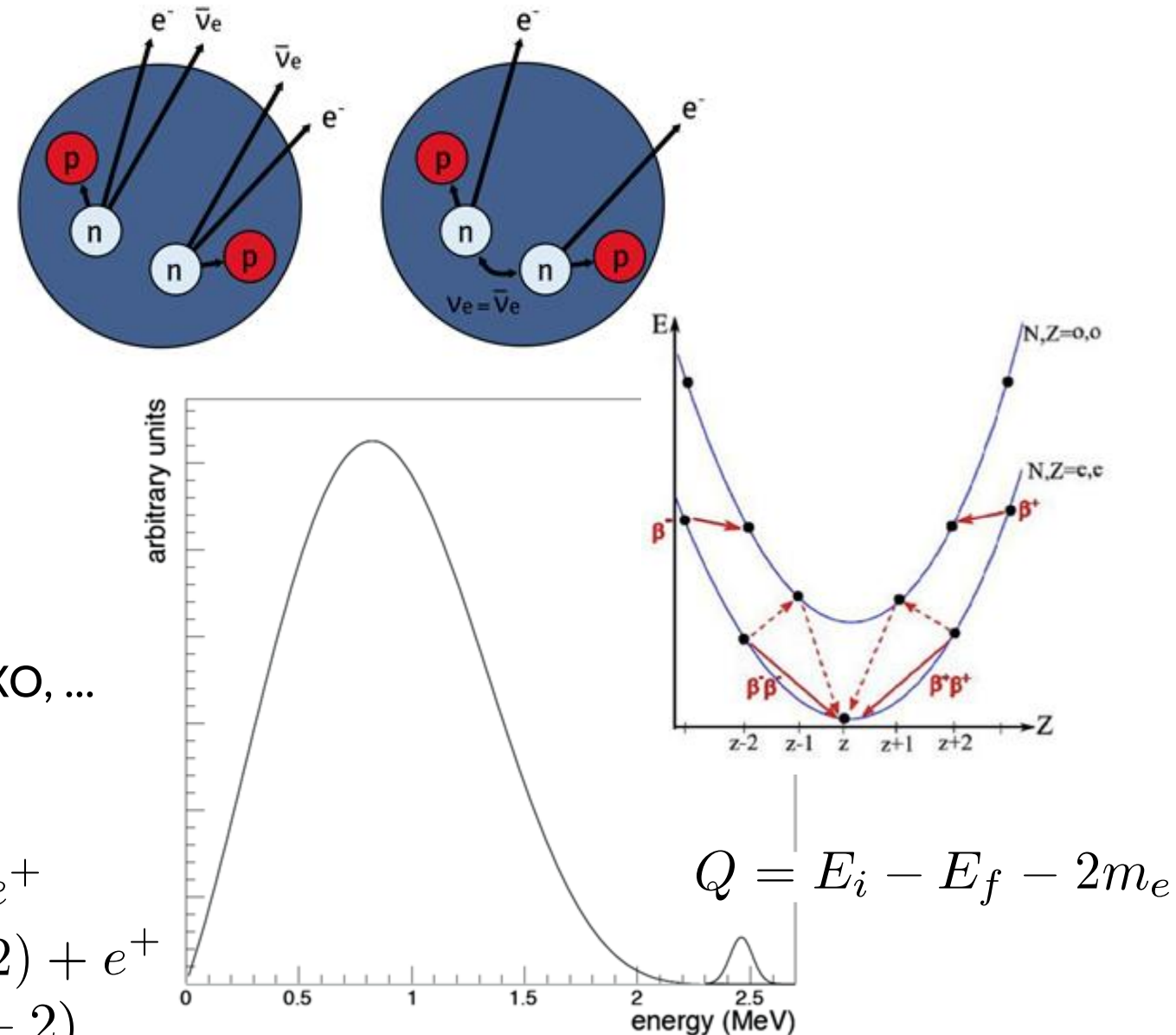
- experiments: $T_{1/2}^{2\nu\beta\beta} \sim 10^{18} - 10^{21} \text{ y}$

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta} \sim (0.1 \text{ eV}/m_\nu)^2 \times 10^{26} \text{ y}$$

KamLAND-Zen, LEGEND, CUORE, NEMO-3, CUPID, (n)EXO, ...

- a variety of isotopes: ^{76}Ge , ^{136}Xe , ...

- variants: $0\nu\beta^+\beta^+ : (A, Z) \rightarrow (A, Z - 2) + 2e^+$
 $0\nu\beta^+EC : (A, Z) + e^- \rightarrow (A, Z - 2) + e^+$
 $0\nu EC EC : (A, Z) + 2e^- \rightarrow (A, Z - 2)$



$$Q = E_i - E_f - 2m_e$$

Neutrinoless Double Beta Decay

- standard mechanism with light neutrino exchange:

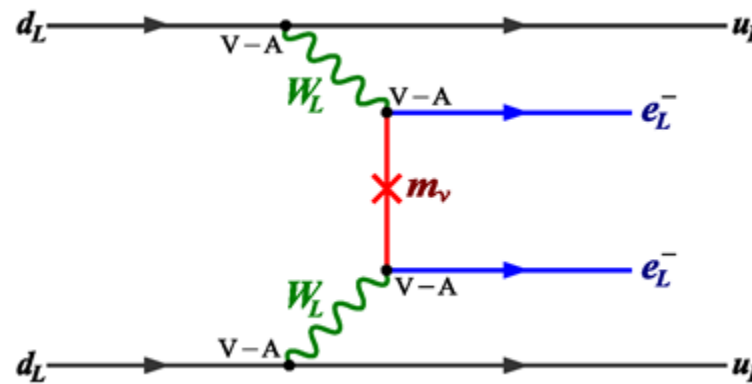
$$T_{1/2}^{-1} = |m_{\beta\beta}|^2 \mathcal{G}_{0\nu} |\mathcal{M}_{0\nu}|^2$$

- half-life limit $\rightarrow$ bound on effective neutrino mass:

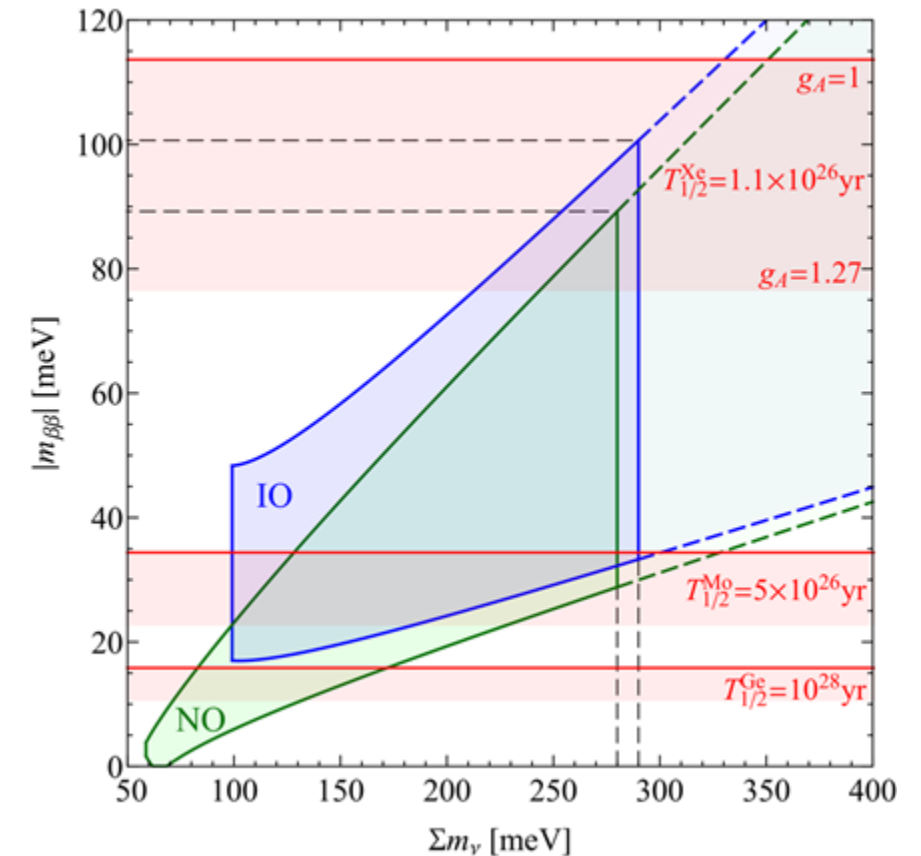
$$\frac{10^{25} \text{ y}}{T_{1/2}} \approx \left(\frac{|m_{\beta\beta}|}{\text{eV}} \right)^2$$

$$m_{\beta\beta} = m_1 c_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 + m_2 s_{12}^2 c_{13}^2 e^{i\phi_{12}} + m_3 s_{13}^2 e^{i(\phi_{13}-2\delta)}$$

$$A_{\mu\nu}^{\text{lep}} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^3 U_{ei}^2 \bar{e}_2 \gamma_\nu (1 - \gamma_5) \frac{q + m_i}{q^2 - m_i^2} (1 - \gamma_5) \gamma_\mu e_1^c \approx \bar{e}_2 \frac{\gamma_\nu (1 - \gamma_5) \gamma_\mu}{4q^2} e_1^c \quad \boxed{\sum_{i=1}^3 U_{ei}^2 m_i} \equiv m_{\beta\beta}$$

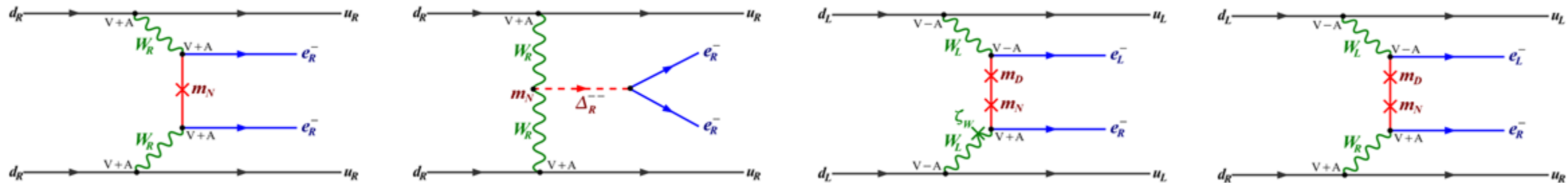


F. F. Deppisch, LG, F. Iachello, J. Kotila: PRD 102 [2009.10119]

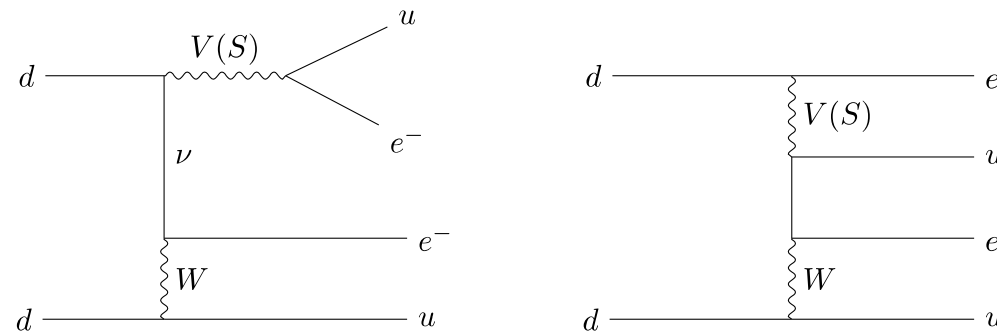


New Physics & $0\nu\beta\beta$

- plethora of New Physics scenarios may be responsible for $0\nu\beta\beta$
- left-right symmetric models $SU(3)_C \otimes SU(2)_L \otimes SU(2)_R \otimes U(1)_{B-L}$



- leptoquarks (scalar, vector)



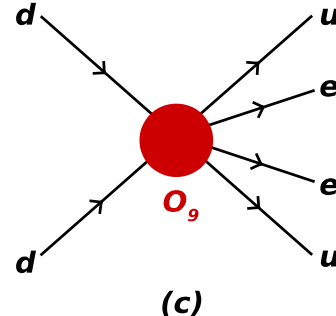
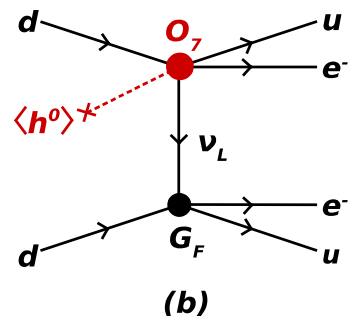
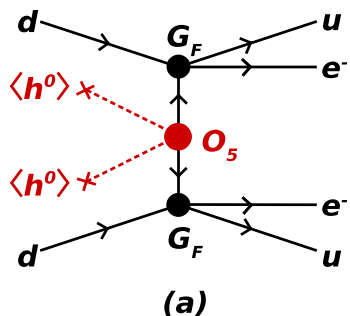
- R-parity violating SUSY, Majorons, Extra Dimensions ...

F. F. Deppisch, M. Hirsch, H. Päs: J. Phys. G 39 (2012), 124007

Effective Approach to $0\nu\beta\beta$

- effectively, a variety of different mechanisms beyond the standard scenario may contribute to $0\nu\beta\beta$ (e.g. 9804374, 0008182, 0303205, 1208.0727, 1708.09390, 1806.02780, 1806.06058, 2009.10119, ...), long-range and short-range mechanisms
- $0\nu\beta\beta$ half-life limit sets constraints on effective couplings – accurate calculation of nuclear matrix elements and phase-space factors is crucial for estimating these limits

- generally: $T_{1/2}^{-1} = |C|^2 G_{0\nu} |M_{0\nu}|^2$



$$\mathcal{L}_{\Delta L=2}^{(6)} = \frac{2G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \left[C_{\text{VL}}^{(6)} (\overline{u}_L \gamma^\mu d_L) (\overline{e}_R \gamma_\mu \nu_L^c) + C_{\text{VR}}^{(6)} (\overline{u}_R \gamma^\mu d_R) (\overline{e}_R \gamma_\mu \nu_L^c) \right. \\ \left. + C_{\text{SL}}^{(6)} (\overline{u}_R d_L) (\overline{e}_L \nu_L^c) + C_{\text{SR}}^{(6)} (\overline{u}_L d_R) (\overline{e}_L \nu_L^c) \right. \\ \left. + C_{\text{T}}^{(6)} (\overline{u}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_R) (\overline{e}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} \nu_L^c) \right] + h.c.$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Delta L=2}^{(7)} = \frac{2G_F}{\sqrt{2}v} \left[C_{\text{VL}}^{(7)} (\overline{u}_L \gamma^\mu d_L) (\overline{e}_L \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\mu \nu_L^c) + C_{\text{VR}}^{(7)} (\overline{u}_R \gamma^\mu d_R) (\overline{e}_L \overleftrightarrow{\partial}_\mu \nu_L^c) \right] + h.c.$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Delta L=2}^{(9)} = \frac{1}{v^5} \sum_i \left[\left(C_{i,R}^{(9)} (\overline{e}_R e_R^c) + C_{i,L}^{(9)} (\overline{e}_L e_L^c) \right) \mathcal{O}_i + C_i^{(9)} (\overline{e} \gamma_\mu \gamma_5 e^c) \mathcal{O}_i^\mu \right]$$

Effective Approach to $0\nu\beta\beta$

- effectively, a variety of different mechanisms beyond the standard scenario may contribute to $0\nu\beta\beta$ (e.g. 9804374, 0008182, 0303205, 1208.0727, 1708.09390, 1806.02780, 1806.06058, 2009.10119, ...), long-range and short-range mechanisms

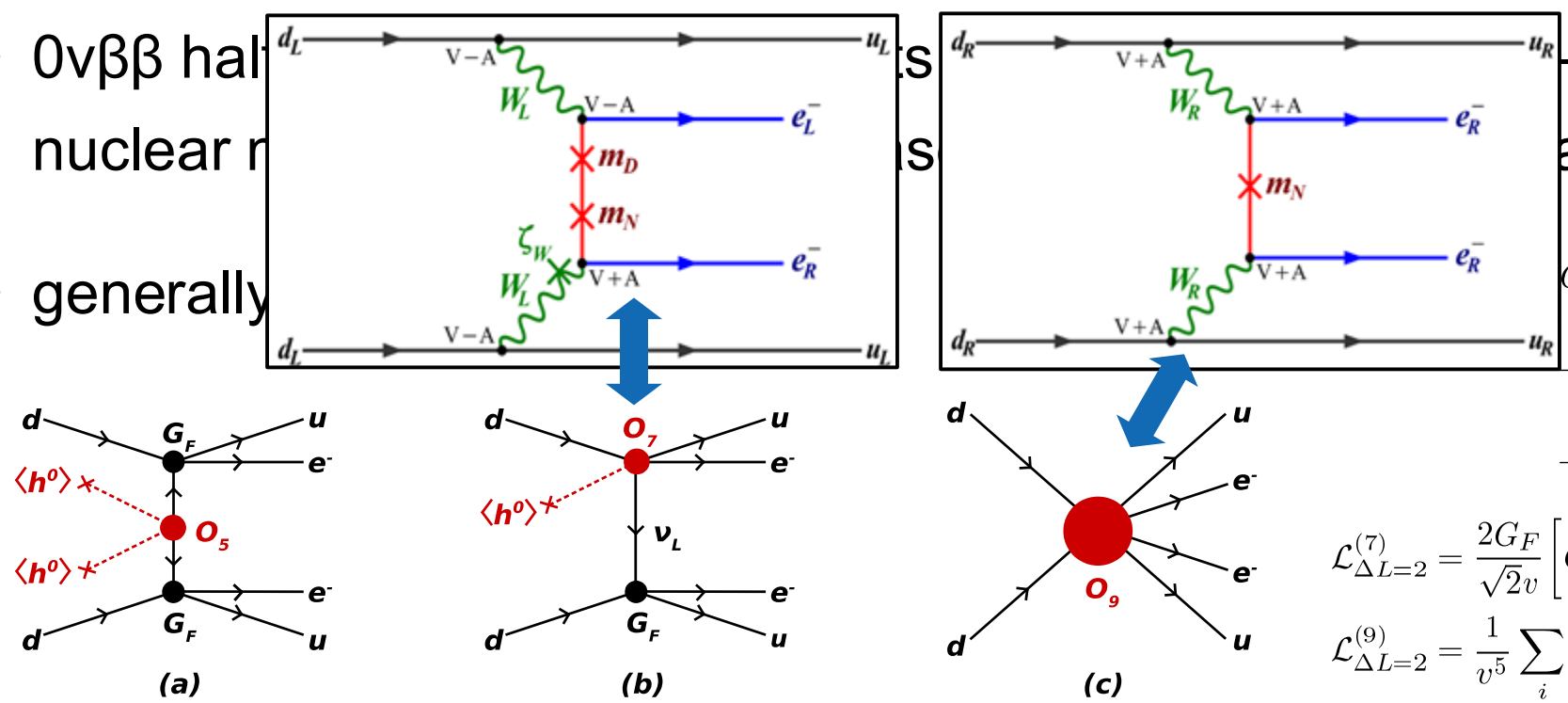
- $0\nu\beta\beta$ half-life of nuclear r
- generally

accurate calculation of
al for estimating these limits

$$C_{VL}^{(6)} (\overline{u}_L \gamma^\mu d_L) (\overline{e}_R \gamma_\mu \nu_L^c) + C_{VR}^{(6)} (\overline{u}_R \gamma^\mu d_R) (\overline{e}_R \gamma_\mu \nu_L^c) + C_{SL}^{(6)} (\overline{u}_R d_L) (\overline{e}_L \nu_L^c) + C_{SR}^{(6)} (\overline{u}_L d_R) (\overline{e}_L \nu_L^c) + C_T^{(6)} (\overline{u}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_R) (\overline{e}_L \sigma_{\mu\nu} \nu_L^c) \Big] + h.c.$$

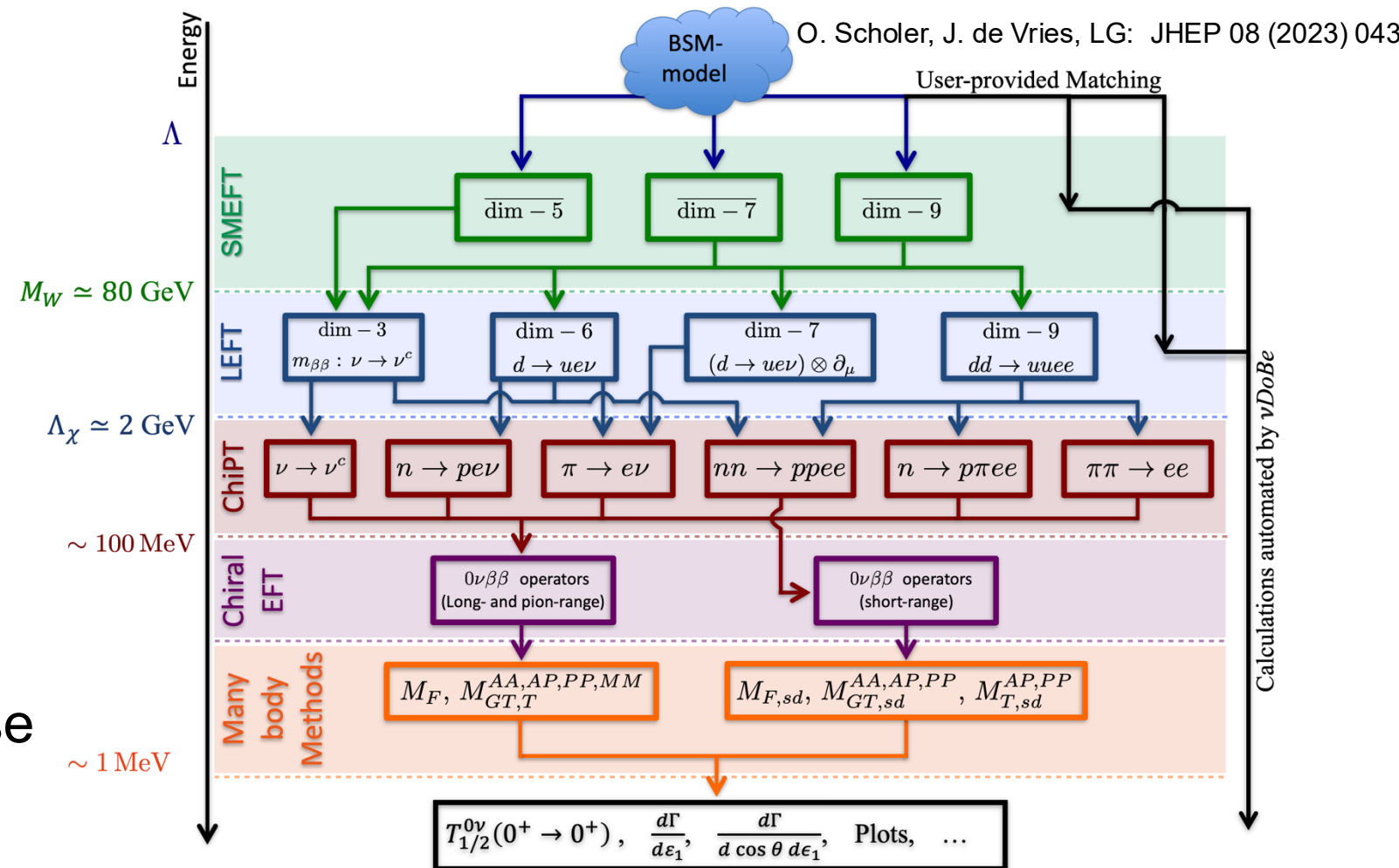
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ν DoBe: A Python Tool for $0\nu\beta\beta$

- user inputs:
 - scale + selection of operators
 - isotope(s), type of NMEs
- data inputs:
 - nuclear matrix elements
 - phase-space factors
 - low-energy constants
- outputs:
 - half-life formula for the given case
 - limits on selected couplings
 - $m_{\beta\beta}$ vs. m_ν plots, etc.
 - chosen contour plots showing correlations of different parameters, ...



download: <https://github.com/OScholer/nudobe>
 online tool: <https://nudobe.streamlit.app>

<https://nudobe.streamlit.app>

νDoBe - Online

If you use results of this tool in your scientific work, please add a citation to: [arxiv:2304.05415](#).

For more advanced analyses, you can download the full code from [gitHub](#).

You have any suggestions/comments on how to improve the tool?

=> Contact:

Oliver Scholer: scholer@mpi-hd.mpg.de

Lukas Graf: lukas.graf@berkeley.edu

Jordy de Vries: j.devries4@uva.nl

Please specify what you would like to do:

-

-

Define a model

Study operator limits



Which NME approximation do you want to use? 

IBM2 

Do you wish to define your model in terms of LEFT or SMEFT Wilson coefficients?

- 

nuDoBe - Online

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Please specify what you would like to do:

Define a model 

If you want you can give your model name. This name will be displayed in all plots

Model

×

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Which NME approximation do you want to use? 

IBM2 

IBM2

QRPA

SM

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IBM2

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-|

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SM

▼

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-|

▼

-
- LEFT
- SMEFT

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▼

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Model

Which NME approximation do you want to use?

SM

Do you wish to define your model in terms of LEFT or SMEFT Wilson coefficients?

SMEFT

☐ Allow for complex phases?

Does your model generate SMEFT operators at multiple scales? If 'Yes' you will need to define a scale for each operator.

No

Set the scale at which your SMEFT model is generated [TeV].

50

Set the dimensionless Wilson coefficients:

Dimension 5

LH(5) [1e-12]

1,00

Dimension 7

LH(7)

0,00

LHD1(7) lukas.graf@nikhef.nl

0.00

νDoBe - Online

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Model

Half-lives

Download half-lives as [.csv](#) or as [.tex](#) file.

	10^24 years
48Ca	431,000.0000
76Ge	651,000.0000
82Se	170,000.0000
124Sn	146,000.0000
130Te	88,500.0000
136Xe	129,000.0000

Angular correlation

Probing Lepton Number Violation from Low to High Energies

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta d\epsilon_1} = a_0 \left(1 + \frac{a_1}{a_0} \cos\theta \right)$$

×

Which NME approximation do you want to use? ⓘ

SM

Do you wish to define your model in terms of LEFT or SMEFT Wilson coefficients?

SMEFT

☐ Allow for complex phases? ⓘ

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50

−

+

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LH(5) [1e-12]

1,00

−

+

Dimension 7

LH(7)

0,00

−

+

LHD1(7)lukas.graf@nikhef.nl

0,00

−

+

Normalized single electron spectrum

$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d\epsilon_1}(\{C_i\},\bar{\epsilon}) \propto \sum_k g_{0k}(\epsilon,\Delta M-\epsilon,R) |A_k(\{C_i\})|^2 p_1 p_2 \epsilon (\Delta M-\epsilon)$$

Choose an isotope:

76Ge

☐ Compare to mass mechanism?

Half-life ratios

Choose the reference isotope:

76Ge

Probing Lepton Number Violation from Low to High Energies

☐ Compare to mass mechanism?

☐ Vary unknown LECs?

16

< Manage app

Unraveling the signal: source of LNV?

Distinguishing $0\nu\beta\beta$ Mechanisms

- phase-space observables – electron energy spectra, angular correlation $\frac{d\Gamma}{d\cos\theta d\tilde{\epsilon}_1} = a_0 \left(1 + \frac{a_1}{a_0} \cos\theta\right)$
- comparison with other $\beta\beta$ modes $\rightarrow \beta+\beta+$, $EC\beta+$, $ECEC$ - typically suppressed
- decay rate ratios for different isotopes $R^{\mathcal{O}_i}(^AX) \equiv \frac{T_{1/2}^{\mathcal{O}_i}(^AX)}{T_{1/2}^{\mathcal{O}_i}(^{76}\text{Ge})} = \frac{|\mathcal{M}^{\mathcal{O}_i}(^{76}\text{Ge})|^2 G^{\mathcal{O}_i}(^{76}\text{Ge})}{|\mathcal{M}^{\mathcal{O}_i}(^AX)|^2 G^{\mathcal{O}_i}(^AX)}$
 - $\rightarrow$ ratio of half-lives = ratio of NMEs x ratio of PSFs, the unknown coupling drops out
 - distinguishing 2 specific operators quantified using $R_{ij}(^AX) = \frac{R^{\mathcal{O}_i}(^AX)}{R^{\mathcal{O}_j}(^AX)}$
- applied to the “master formula” framework of 1806.02780

V. Cirigliano, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M.L. Graesser, E. Mereghetti: JHEP 12 [1806.02780]

 - PSFs $\rightarrow$ 4 distinguishable groups of operators
 - ratios: in principle 12 distinguishable groups of operators
 - main issues: nuclear uncertainties: NMEs + unknown low energy constants
 $\rightarrow$ solution? hopefully: ab initio + LQCD and/or complementarity

LG, M. Lindner, O. Scholer: PRD 106 (2022)

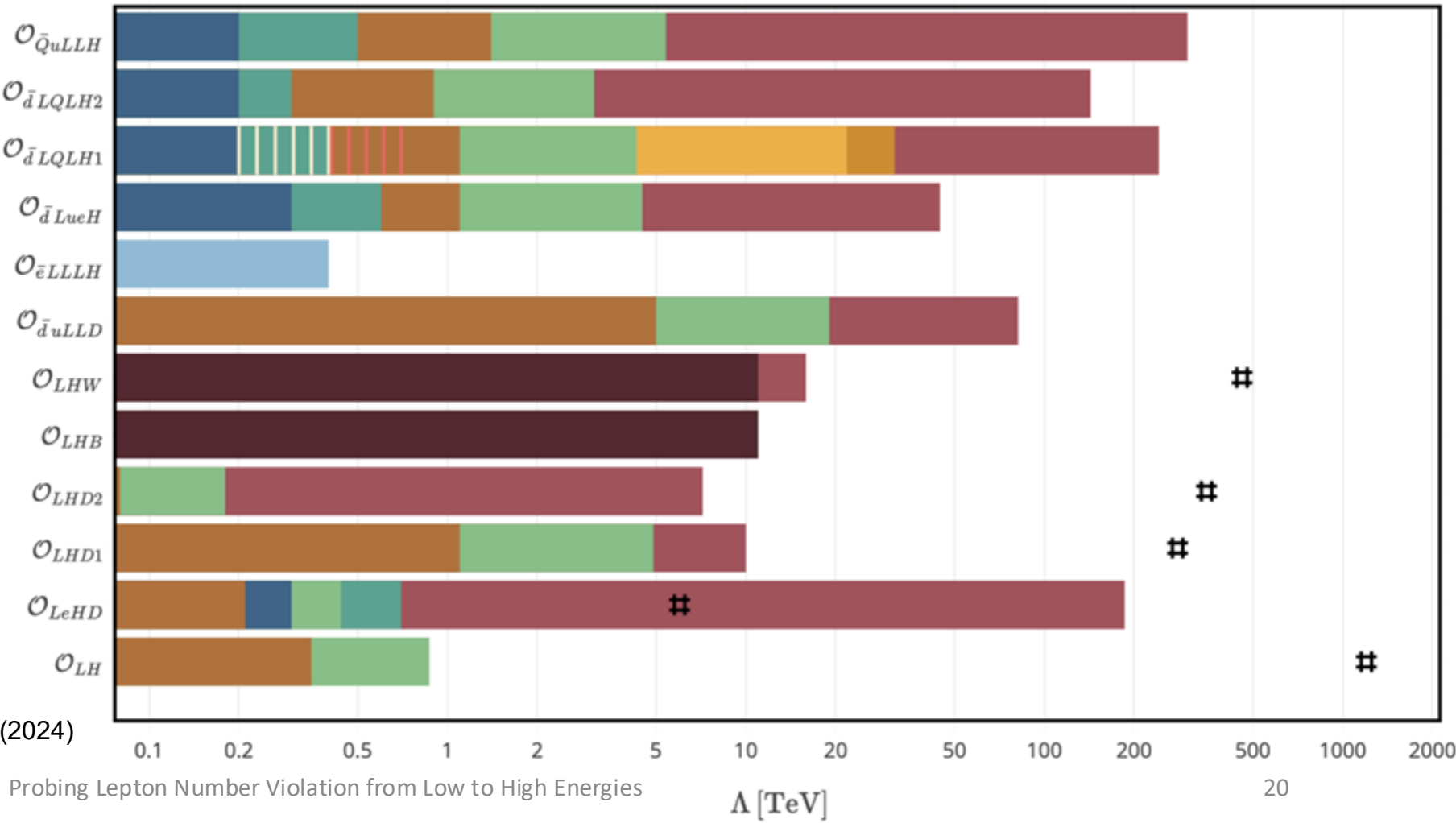
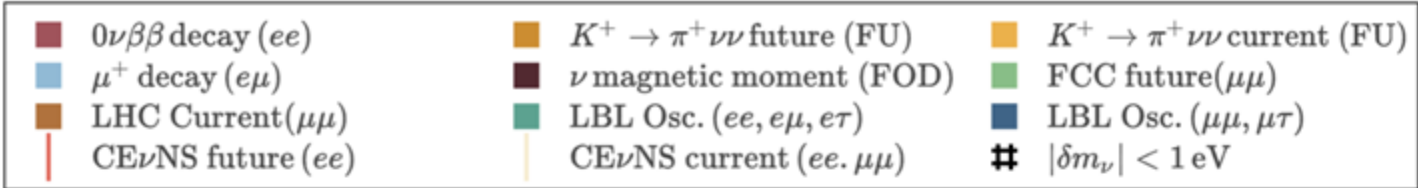
Complementary Probes

- $0\nu\beta\beta$ usually the best test, but what about other flavours? Can other probes help to pinpoint the LNV mechanism?
- rare meson decays $\rightarrow$ lepton number violating B or K decays Deppisch, Fridell, Harz: JHEP 12 (2020)
Felkl, Li, Schmidt: JHEP 12 (2021)
- neutral current LNV NSI @CEvNS, charged current LNV NSI @LBL oscillation exp. Bolton, Deppisch: PRD 99 (2019)
- lepton number violating tau decays Li, Ma, Schmidt: PRD 101 (2020)
- non-standard muon decay, μ^- to e^+ conversion Berryman, de Gouvêa et al.: PRD (2017)
B. Armbruster et al.: PRL 90 (2003)
- neutrino magnetic moment V. Cirigliano, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M.L. Graesser, E. Mereghetti: JHEP 12 (2017)
- colliders – LNV probed by same-sign dilepton searches, or individual models K. Fridell, LG, J. Harz, C. Hati: 2306.08709

Complementary Probes @SMEFT dim 7

$\mathcal{O}$	Operator
$\mathcal{O}_{LH}^{pr}$	$\epsilon_{ij}\epsilon_{mn}(\overline{L}_p^{ci}L_r^m)H^jH^n(H^\dagger H)$
$\mathcal{O}_{LeHD}^{pr}$	$\epsilon_{ij}\epsilon_{mn}(\overline{L}_p^{ci}\gamma_\mu e_r)H^j(H^m iD^\mu H^n)$
$\mathcal{O}_{LHD1}^{pr}$	$\epsilon_{ij}\epsilon_{mn}(\overline{L}_p^{ci}D_\mu L_r^j)(H^m D^\mu H^n)$
$\mathcal{O}_{LHD2}^{pr}$	$\epsilon_{im}\epsilon_{jn}(\overline{L}_p^{ci}D_\mu L_r^j)(H^m D^\mu H^n)$
$\mathcal{O}_{LHB}^{pr}$	$g\epsilon_{ij}\epsilon_{mn}(\overline{L}_p^{ci}\sigma_{\mu\nu}L_r^m)H^jH^n B^{\mu\nu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{LHW}^{pr}$	$g'\epsilon_{ij}(\epsilon\tau^I)_{mn}(\overline{L}_p^{ci}\sigma_{\mu\nu}L_r^m)H^jH^n W^{I\mu\nu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{\bar{d}uLLD}^{prst}$	$\epsilon_{ij}(\overline{d}_p\gamma_\mu u_r)(\overline{L}_s^{ci}iD^\mu L_t^j)$
$\mathcal{O}_{\bar{e}LLLH}^{prst}$	$\epsilon_{ij}\epsilon_{mn}(\overline{e}_p L_r^i)(\overline{L}_s^{cj}L_t^m)H^n$
$\mathcal{O}_{\bar{d}LueH}^{prst}$	$\epsilon_{ij}(\overline{d}_p L_r^i)(\overline{u}_s^c e_t)H^j$
$\mathcal{O}_{\bar{d}LQLH1}^{prst}$	$\epsilon_{ij}\epsilon_{mn}(\overline{d}_p L_r^i)(\overline{Q}_s^{cj}L_t^m)H^n$
$\mathcal{O}_{\bar{d}LQLH2}^{prst}$	$\epsilon_{im}\epsilon_{jn}(\overline{d}_p L_r^i)(\overline{Q}_s^{cj}L_t^m)H^n$
$\mathcal{O}_{\bar{Q}uLLH}^{prst}$	$\epsilon_{ij}(\overline{Q}_p u_r)(\overline{L}_s^c L_t^i)H^j$

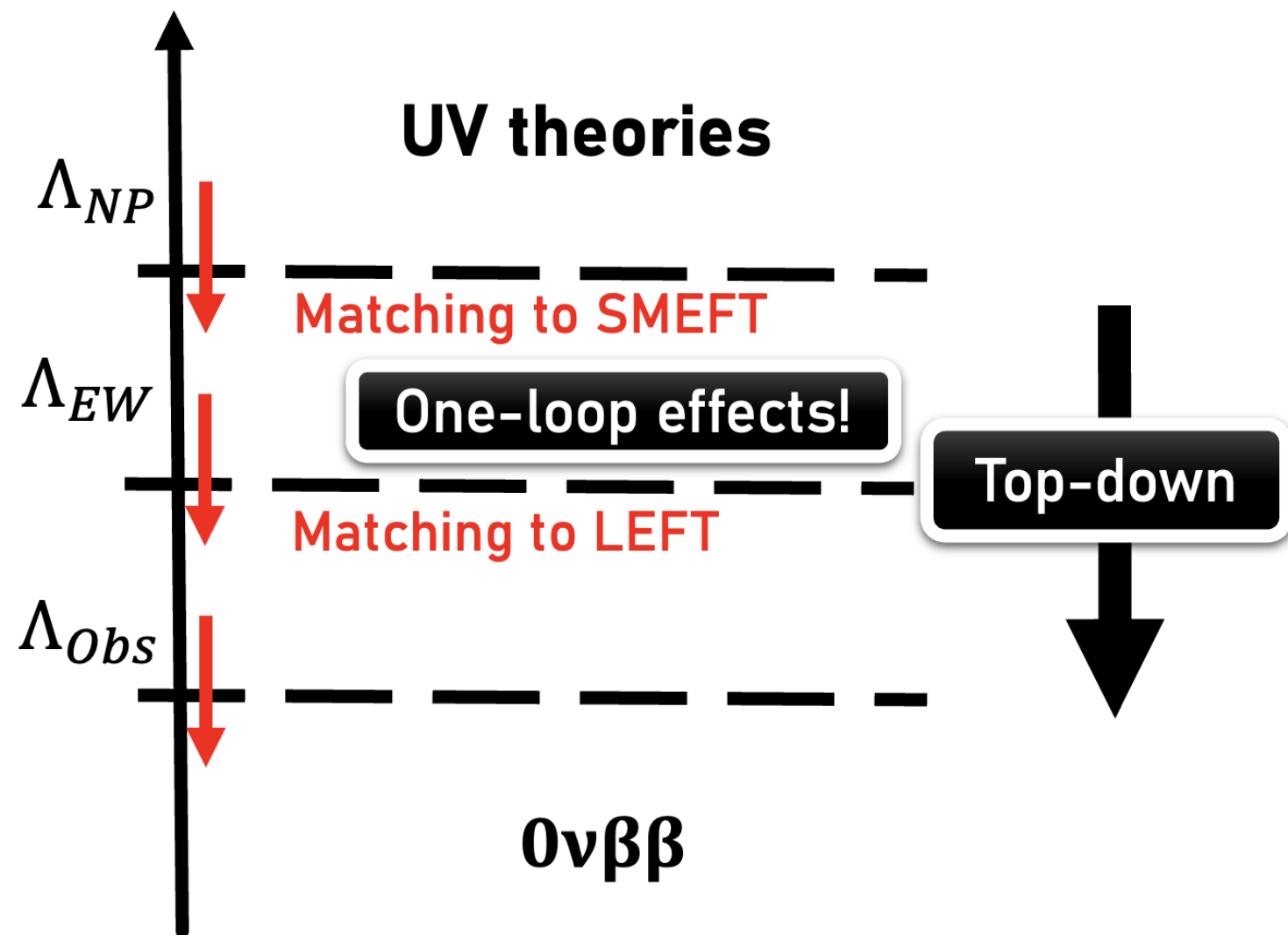
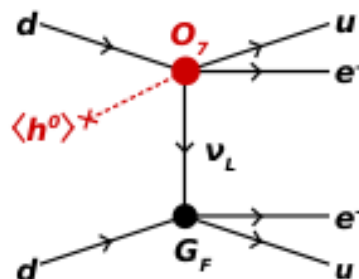
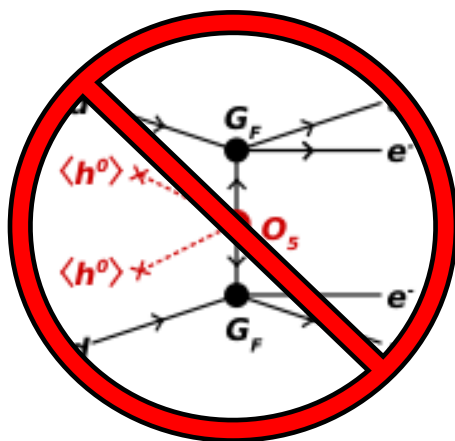
K. Fridell, LG, J. Harz, C. Hati, JHEP 05 (2024)



So far: everything at tree-level.
What about loop effects?

One-loop Effects & $0\nu\beta\beta$

- RGE running from the new-physics scale down to the EW scale
- matching of a UV model onto the SMEFT basis of operators



RGE running in SMEFT

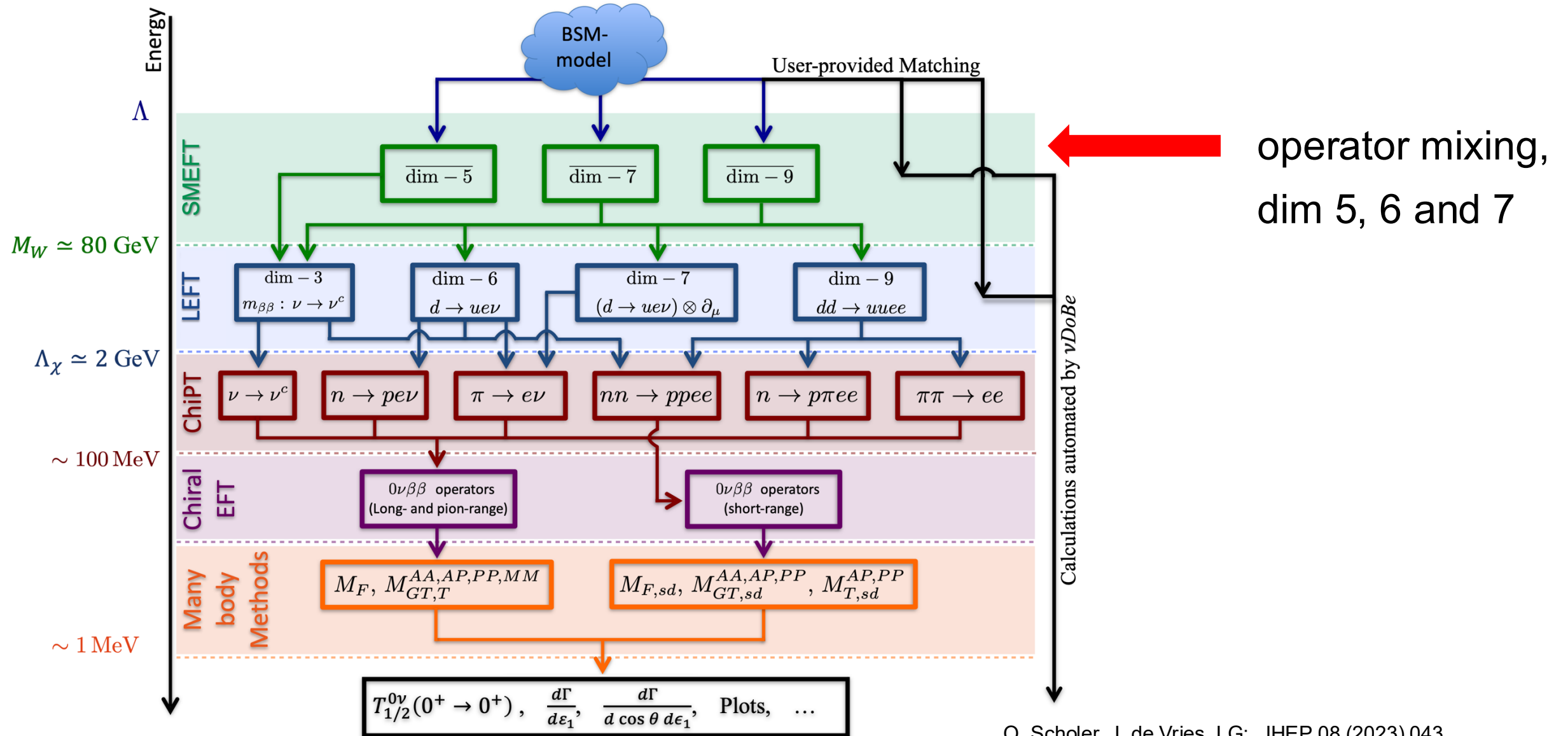
- the RGE effects introduce a mixing between dim-5, dim-6 and dim-7 operators

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{C}^{(5)} &= \gamma^{(5,5)} C^{(5)} + \hat{\gamma}^{(5,5)} C^{(5)} C^{(5)} C^{(5)} + \gamma_i^{(5,6)} C^{(5)} C_i^{(6)} \\ &\quad + \gamma_i^{(5,7)} C_i^{(7)}, \\ \dot{C}_i^{(7)} &= \gamma_{ij}^{(7,7)} C_j^{(7)} + \gamma_i^{(7,5)} C^{(5)} C^{(5)} C^{(5)} + \gamma_{ij}^{(7,6)} C^{(5)} C_j^{(6)}\end{aligned}$$

D. Zhang, JHEP 10 (2023)
D. Zhang, JHEP 02 (2024)

- additional operators can contribute to 0vbb, new dominant contributions can be triggered
- may be important in specific models, when running from a scale Λ down to the electroweak scale

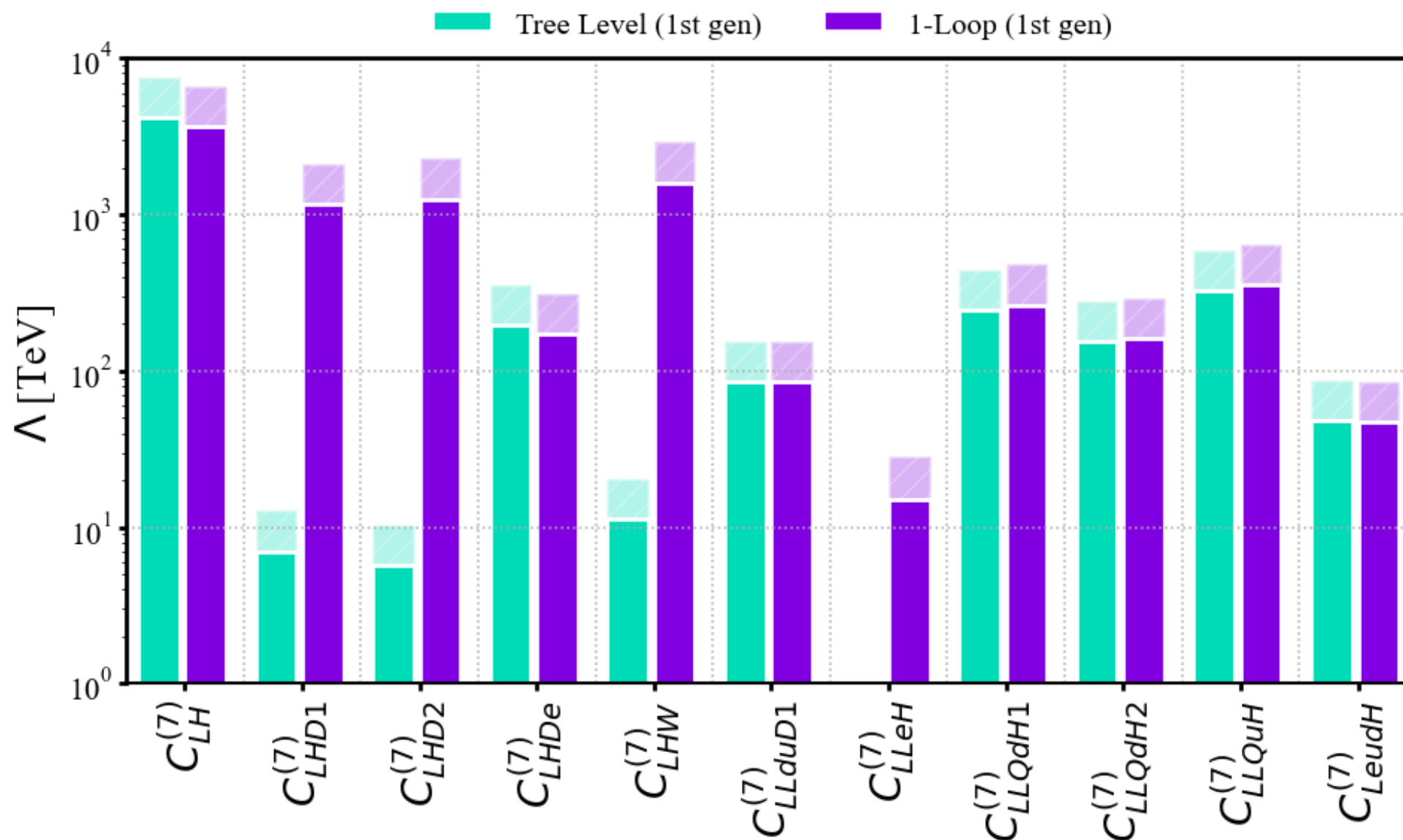
RGE running in SMEFT



O. Scholer, J. de Vries, LG: JHEP 08 (2023) 043

Tree-level vs One-loop Limits

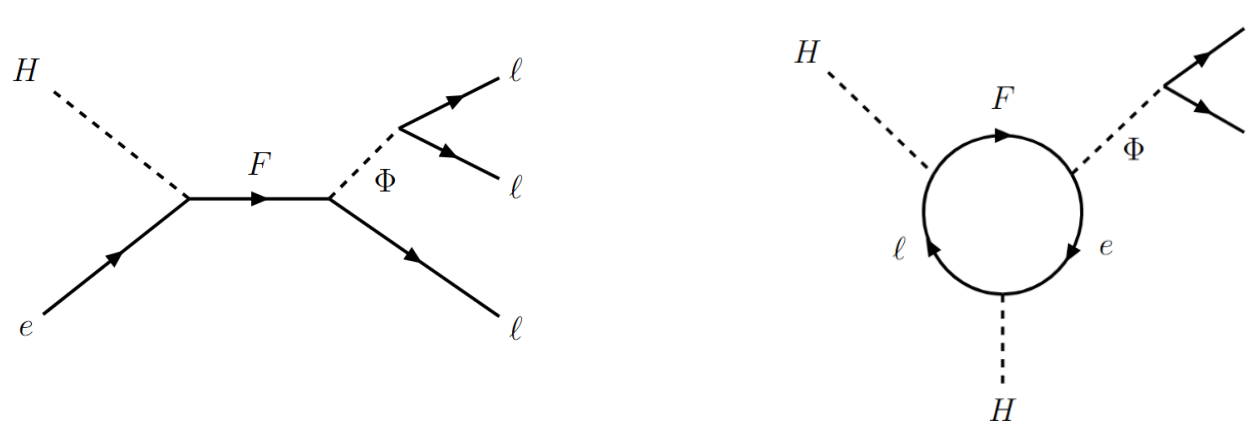
L. Graf, C. Hati, A. Martin-Galan, O. Scholer: 2504.00081



Example 1: UV completion of $O_{LL\bar{e}H}^{(7)}$

	$SU(3)_C$	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)_Y$
Φ	1	1	1
F	1	2	3/2

$$\mathcal{L}_{UV} \subset f_1 \bar{L} P_R i \tau_2 L^C \Phi^\dagger + f_2 \bar{e}^C P_R F H^\dagger + \bar{F} P_R i \tau_2 L^C \Phi$$



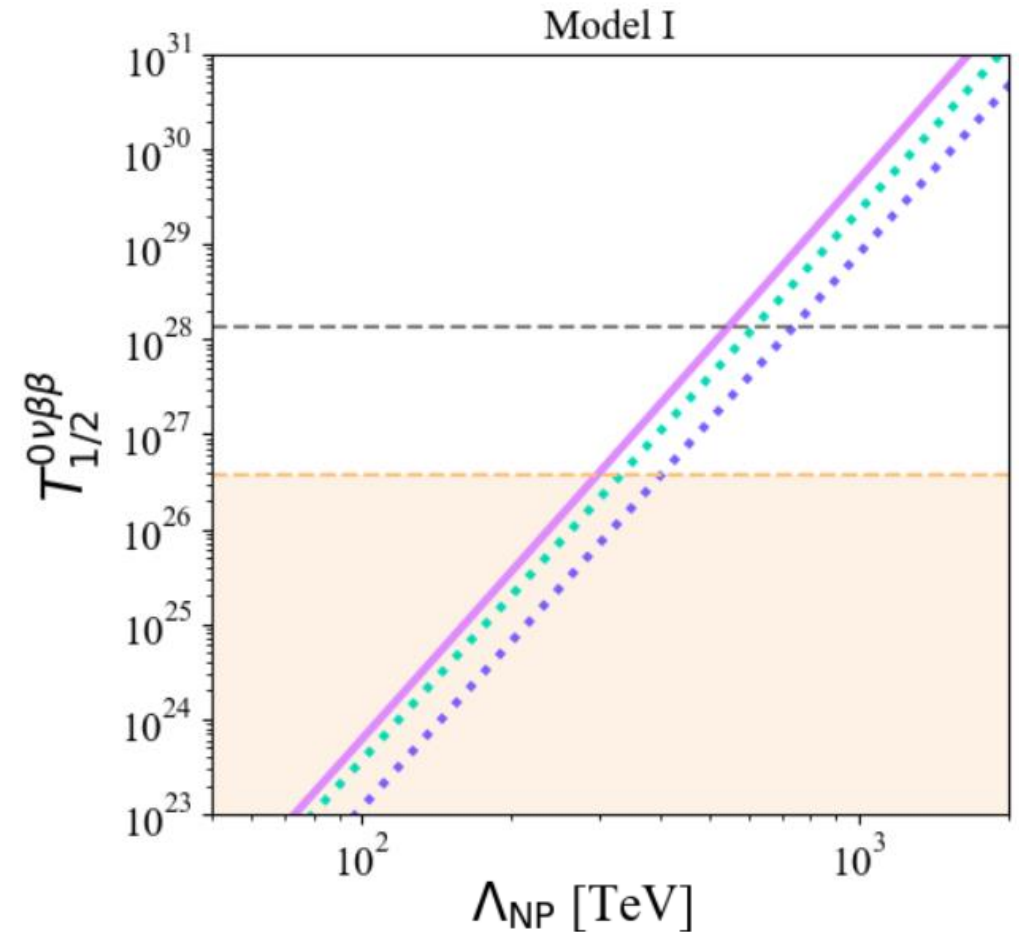
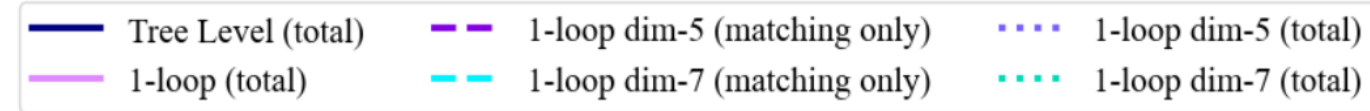
- operator $O_{LL\bar{e}H}^{(7)} = \epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{mn} (\bar{e} L_i) (L_j^T C L_m) H_n$ generated at tree level
- no Weinberg contribution at tree level

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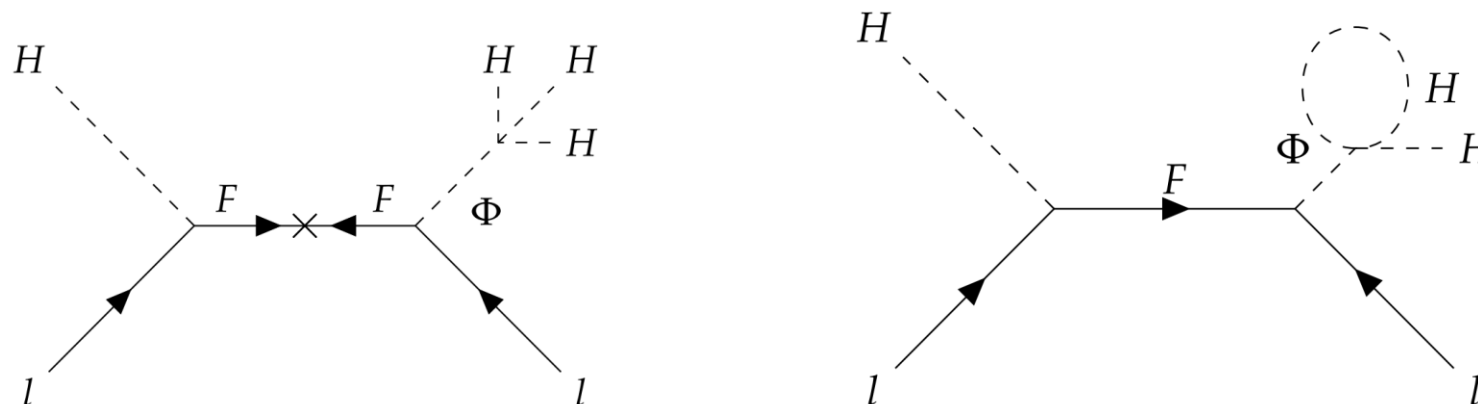
- dimension-5 matching contribution cancelled due to flavour structure
- limits from $0\nu\beta\beta$ via mixing



Example 2: UV completion of $O_{LH}^{(7)}$

	$SU(3)_C$	$SU(2)_L$	$U(1)_Y$
Σ	1	3	1
S	1	4	3/2

$$\mathcal{L}_{UV} \subset h_1 \bar{L}^C P_L \Sigma H^\dagger + h_2 \bar{\Sigma} P_L L S + \lambda_s H H H S^\dagger$$



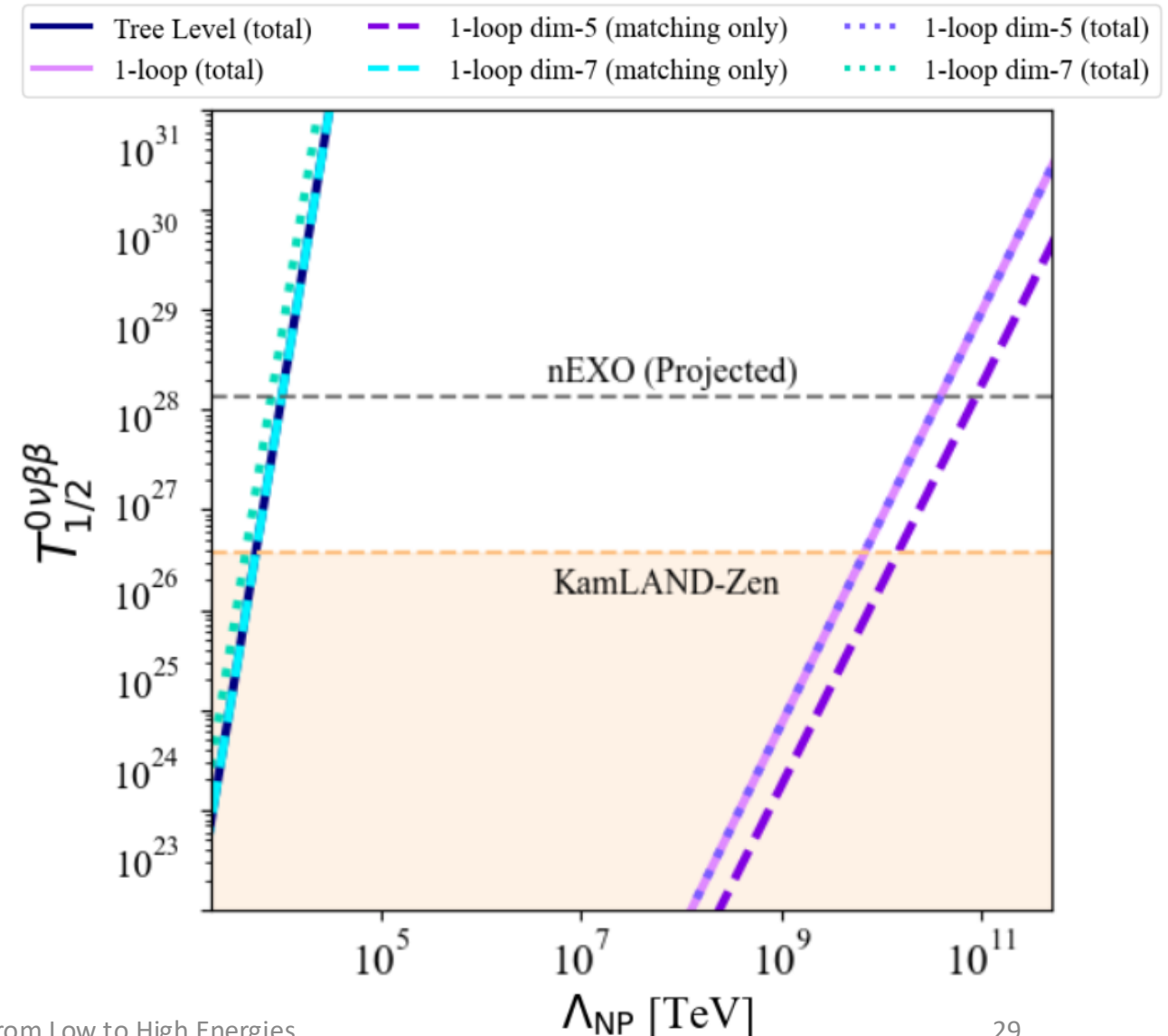
- operator $O_{LH}^{(7)} = \epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{mn} (L_i^T C L_m) H_j H_n (H^\dagger H)$ generated at tree level
- no tree-level Weinberg contribution

Example 2: UV completion of $O_{LH}^{(7)}$

- operator $O_{LH}^{(7)} = \epsilon_{ij}\epsilon_{mn}(L_i^T C L_m)H_j H_n (H^\dagger H)$

$$\mathcal{L}_{UV} \supset h_1 \bar{L}^C P_L \Sigma H^\dagger + h_2 \bar{\Sigma} P_L L S + \lambda_S H H H S^\dagger$$

- dominance of Weinberg operator over dimension-7 operator



Conclusion & Outlook

- $0\nu\beta\beta$ – complex process, access to new physics – a variety of different mechanisms besides the standard light neutrino exchange can contribute to $0\nu\beta\beta$ → effective description
- combining various contributions → involved, tedious calculations with a variety of inputs → vDoBe tool developed and available online
- to unravel the underlying new physics – necessary to distinguish the dominant LNV interaction; other low-energy experiments, but also high-energy data useful
- loop effects important, can affect the phenomenological studies
- one-loop RGE analysis for $\Delta L = 2$ dimension-7 SMEFT operators → significantly improved limits on the new-physics scales for some operators
- specific UV models analysed, running and mixing effects can be more important than one-loop matching

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Thank you!