

Sino-Thai International Summer School on
High Energy Physics and Astrophysics

Charged Lepton Flavour Violation (with Muons)

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The Standard Model and
the origin of fermion masses

What is (charged) Lepton Flavour Violation (CLFV)?

Experimental searches for CLFV

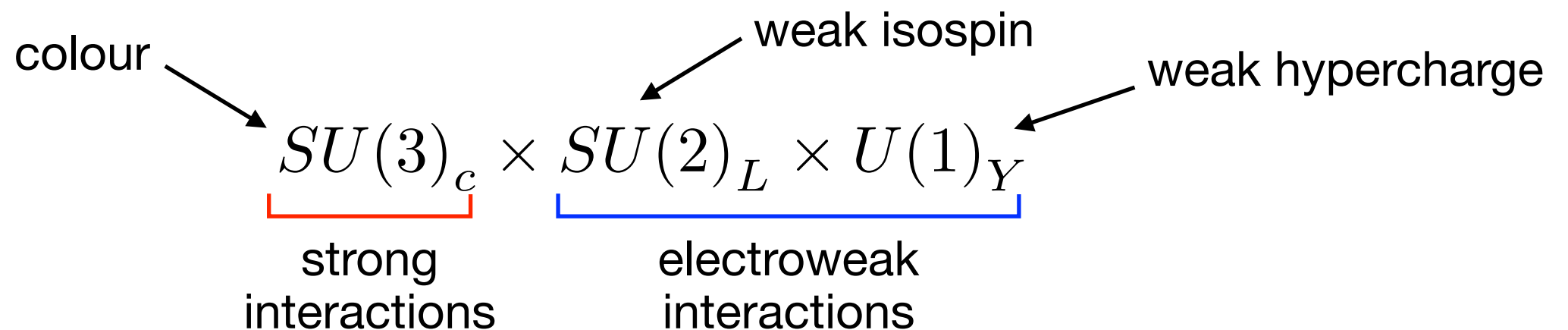
Effective field theories and how CLFV
constrain the new physics energy scale

The Standard Model

What is the Standard Model?

The Standard Model (SM) is the quantum field theory that currently describes properties and interactions of all the particles we know

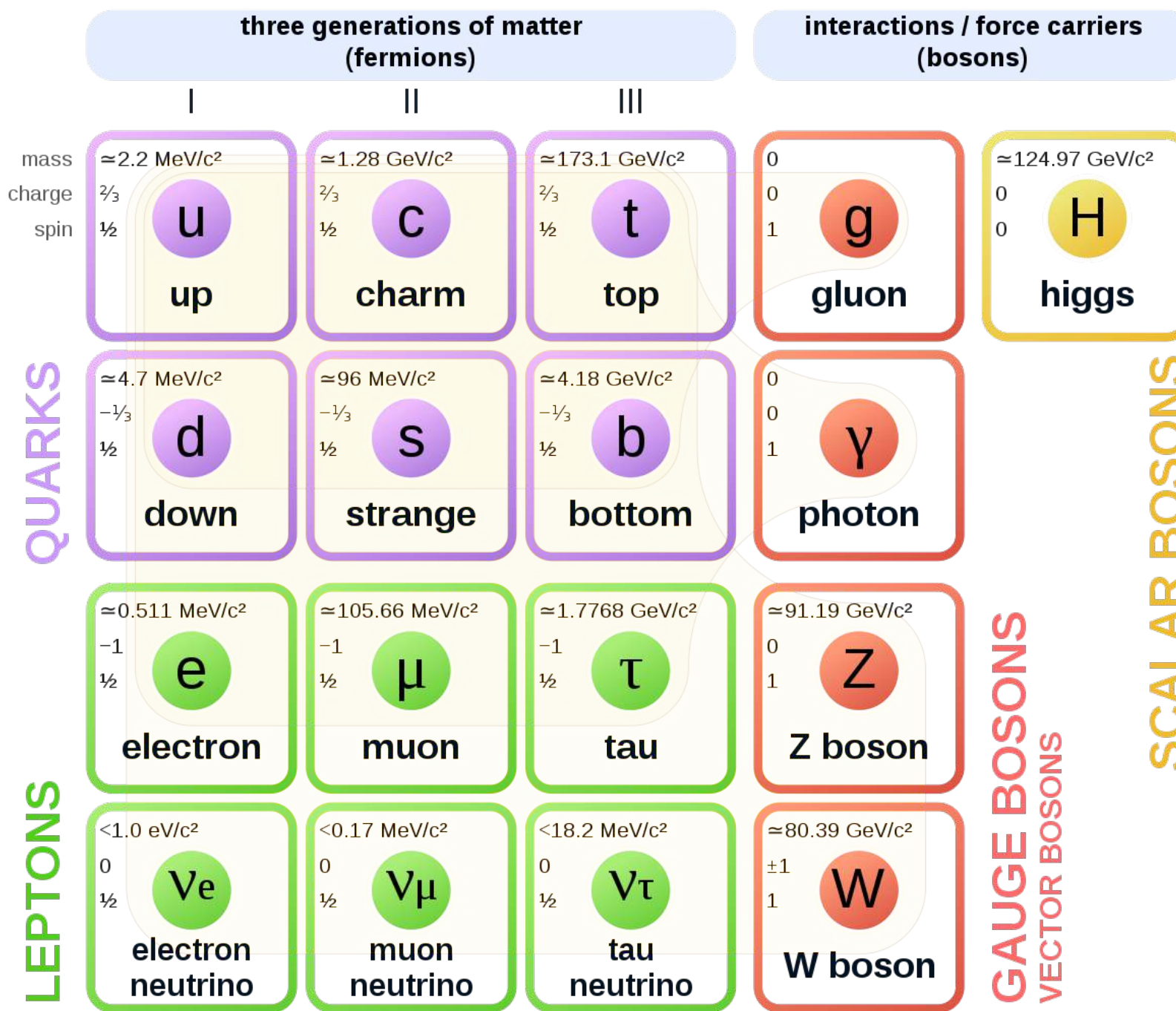
- Based on the gauge symmetries:
(local field transformations under which the Lagrangian is invariant)



- Its predictions have been tested by many experiments over several decades to an impressive degree of accuracy
- But we know that something is missing: neutrino masses, dark matter, matter-antimatter asymmetry...

What is the Standard Model?

Standard Model of Elementary Particles



They make
up matter

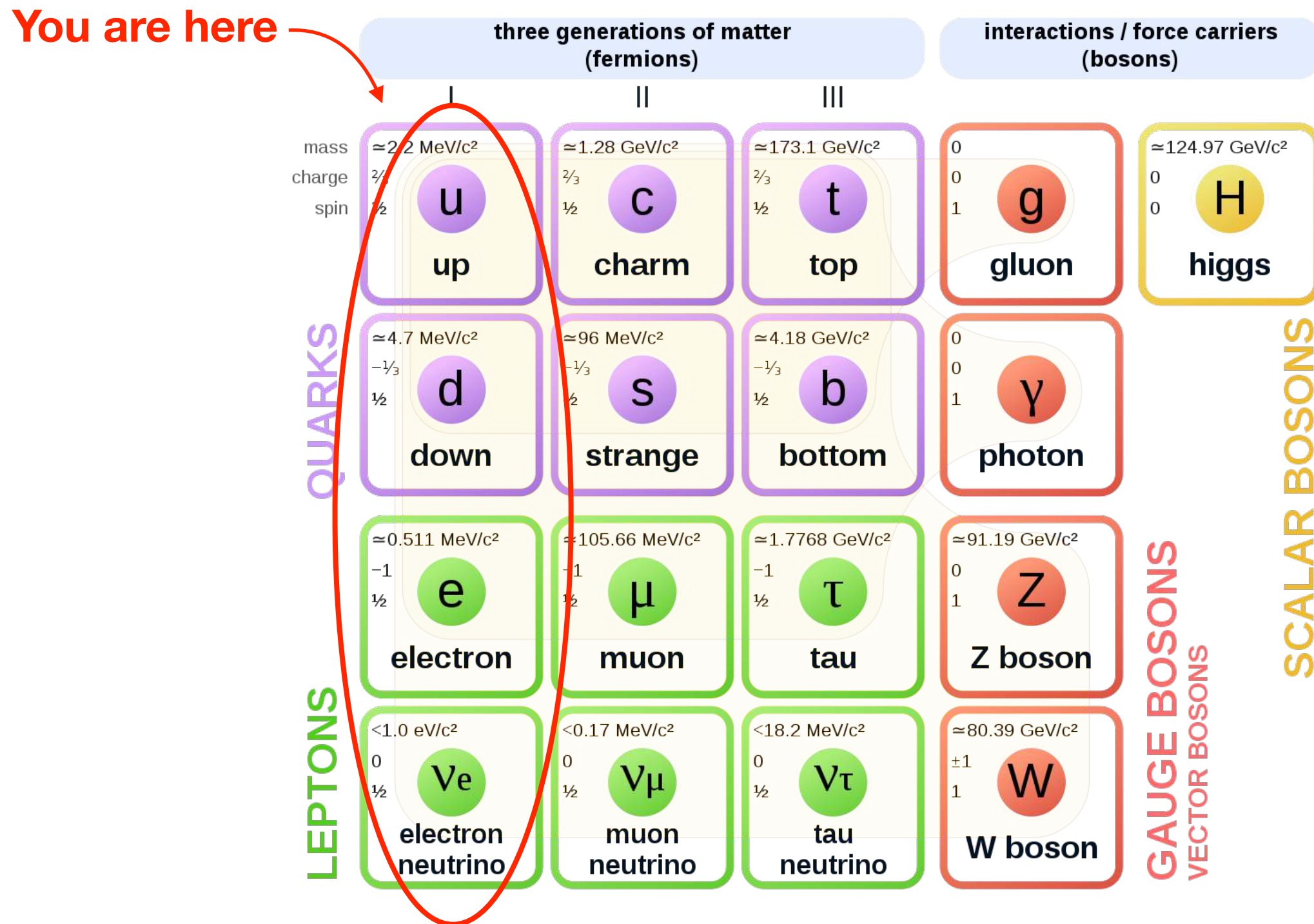
Fermions
(spin 1/2)

Bosons
(spin 1) (spin 0)

They mediate
forces

What are fermion flavours?

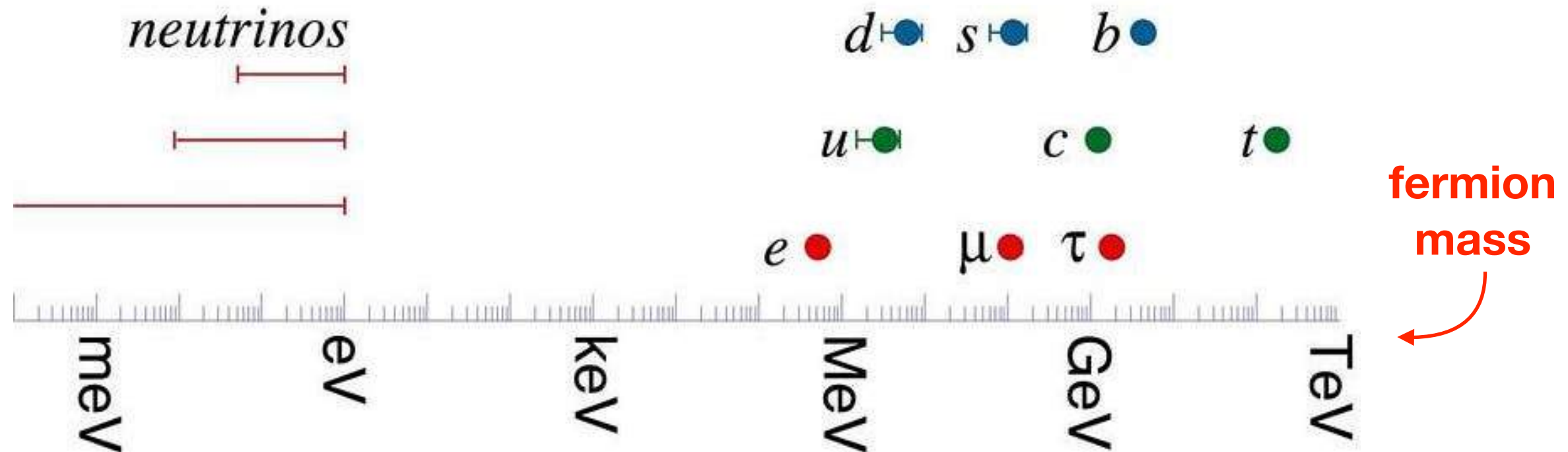
Standard Model of Elementary Particles



There are **3 families** (or “**flavours**”) of fermions with same spin and charges...

What are fermion flavours?

... but they have (very) **different masses!**



(for a comparison protons and neutrons ~ 1 GeV)

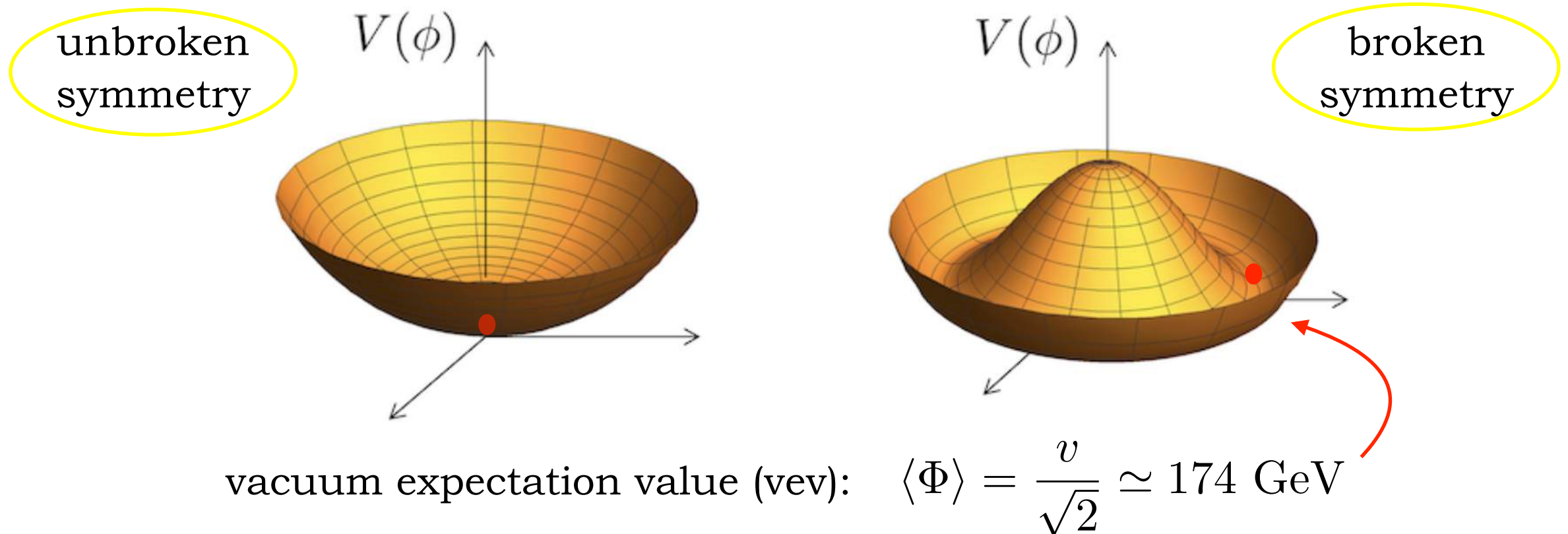
3rd generation mass $\gg$ 2nd generation $\gg$ 1st generation

Why? We don't know...

see for reviews: Zhi-zhong Xing [arXiv:1909.09610](https://arxiv.org/abs/1909.09610), J. Zupan [arXiv:1903.05062](https://arxiv.org/abs/1903.05062)

Where do fermion masses come from?

The SM Lagrangian is invariant under $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$ but the vacuum (ground state) of the Higgs field Φ is not:



The vev of the Higgs field spontaneously breaks the symmetry:

$$SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y \longrightarrow SU(3)_c \times U(1)_{\text{em}}$$

➡ giving mass to electroweak bosons *and fermions*

Where do fermion masses come from?

In the SM, fermion masses (hence the *flavour sector*) has origin in the Yukawa interactions among the Higgs and the fermion fields:

$$-\mathcal{L}_Y = (Y_u)_{ij} \bar{Q}_{L i} u_{R j} \tilde{\Phi} + (Y_d)_{ij} \bar{Q}_{L i} d_{R j} \Phi + (Y_e)_{ij} \bar{L}_{L i} e_{R j} \Phi + h.c.$$

complex
3x3 matrix

$i, j = 1, 2, 3$ flavour indices

If $\langle \Phi \rangle = v/\sqrt{2} \neq 0$, these terms become mass matrices:

$$\Rightarrow (m_f)_{ij} = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} (Y_f)_{ij}, \quad f = u, d, e$$

We can diagonalize the fermion masses with two *unitary* matrices:

$$Y_f = V_f \hat{Y}_f W_f^\dagger, \quad f = u, d, e$$

flavour diagonal

$$V_f^\dagger V_f = \mathbb{1} \\ W_f^\dagger W_f = \mathbb{1}$$

This defines a rotation of the fermion fields to the physical mass basis:

$$u_R \longrightarrow W_u^\dagger u_R, \quad u_L \longrightarrow V_u^\dagger u_L, \quad \text{etc.}$$

Where do fermion masses come from?

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com
3x3 matrix

up type quarks (u, c, t)

down type quarks (d, s, b)

charged leptons (e, μ, τ)

ices

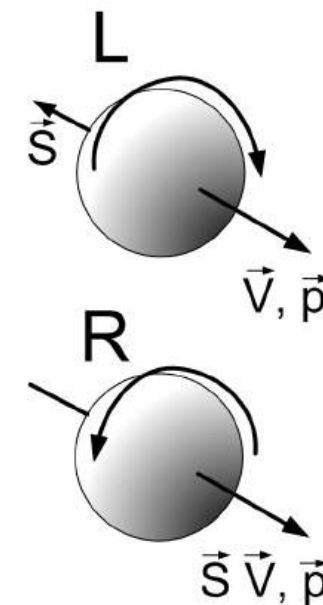
If $\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{2} = 2$ then $\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{2} = 2$ s:

We can

Fermion mass terms require a “left-handed” fermion to couple with a “right-handed” fermion:

$$m_f \bar{f}_L f_R$$

flavour dia



atrices:

$$V_f^\dagger V_f = \mathbb{1}$$

$$W_f^\dagger W_f = \mathbb{1}$$

This defines a rotation of the fermion fields to the physical mass basis:

In the original formulation of the SM:
no right-handed neutrinos $\iff$ neutrino have no mass!

Can SM interactions change flavour?

In the SM, fermion masses (hence the *flavour sector*) has origin in the Yukawa interactions among the Higgs and the fermion fields:

$$-\mathcal{L}_Y = (Y_u)_{ij} \bar{Q}_{L i} u_{R j} \tilde{\Phi} + (Y_d)_{ij} \bar{Q}_{L i} d_{R j} \Phi + (Y_e)_{ij} \bar{L}_{L i} e_{R j} \Phi + h.c.$$

Rotations to the fermion mass basis: $Y_f = V_f \hat{Y}_f W_f^\dagger, \quad f = u, d, e$

Unitary rotation matrices, couplings to *photon* and *Z* remain flavour-diagonal:

$$e \bar{f} \gamma_\mu f A^\mu \qquad (g_L \bar{f}_L \gamma_\mu f_L + g_R \bar{f}_R \gamma_\mu f_R) Z^\mu$$

Couplings to the Higgs are also flavour-conserving (aligned to the mass matrix):

$$\frac{m_f}{v} \bar{f}_L f_R h$$

NO (tree-level) flavour-changing **neutral** currents

Can SM interactions change flavour?

In the SM, fermion masses (hence the *flavour sector*) has origin in the Yukawa interactions among the Higgs and the fermion fields:

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Rotations to the fermion mass basis: $Y_f = V_f \hat{Y}_f W_f^\dagger, \quad f = u, d, e$

Flavour violation *only* occurs in **charged** currents:

$$\mathcal{L}_{cc} = \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \left(\bar{u}_L \gamma^\mu (V_u^\dagger V_d) d_L + \bar{\nu}_L \gamma^\mu (V_\nu^\dagger V_e) e_L \right) W_\mu^+ + h.c.$$

$$V_{\text{CKM}} \equiv V_u^\dagger V_d$$

$$U_{\text{PMNS}} \equiv V_\nu^\dagger V_e$$

But, if neutrinos are *massless*, we can rotate them as we want and choose:

$$V_\nu = V_e$$

NO lepton flavour violation (Y_e only ‘direction’ in the leptonic flavour space)

Can SM interactions change flavour?

In the SM, fermion masses (hence the *flavour sector*) has origin in the Yukawa interactions among the Higgs and the fermion fields:

$$-\mathcal{L}_Y = (Y_u)_{ij} \bar{Q}_{Li} u_{Rj} \tilde{\Phi} + (Y_d)_{ij} \bar{Q}_{Li} d_{Rj} \Phi + (Y_e)_{ij} \bar{L}_{Li} e_{Rj} \Phi + h.c.$$

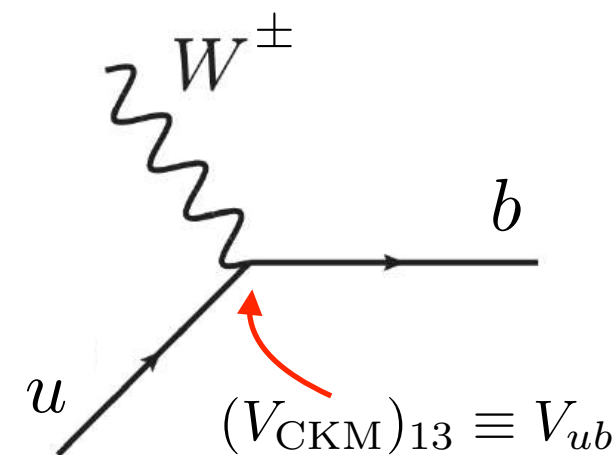
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$$\mathcal{L}_{cc} = \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} (\bar{u}_L \gamma^\mu (V_u^\dagger V_d) d_L + h.c.)$$

$$V_{\text{CKM}} \equiv V_u^\dagger V_d \quad \rightarrow$$

For example:



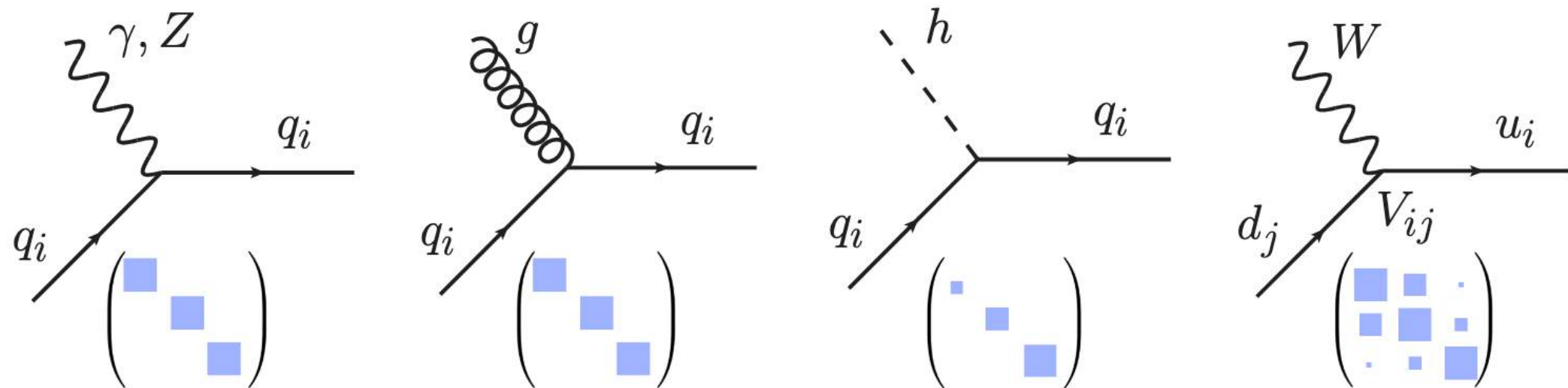
But, if neutrinos are *massless*, we can choose:

$$V_\nu = V_e$$

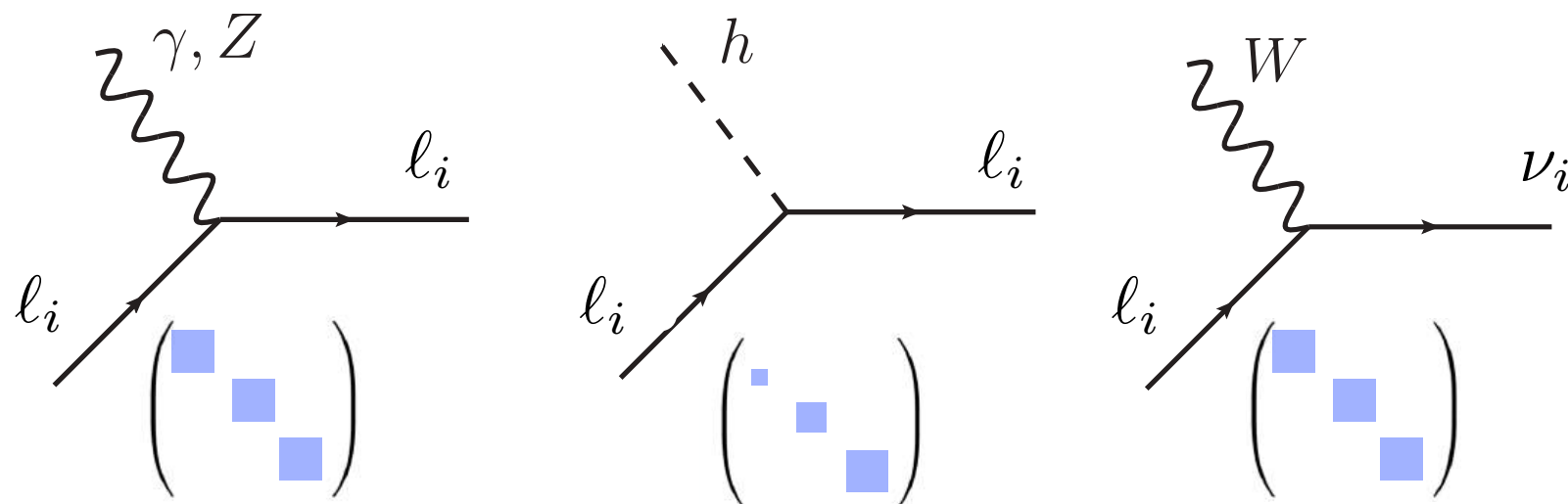
NO lepton flavour violation (Y_e only 'direction' in the leptonic flavour space)

Summary: fermion interactions in the Standard Model

Quark interactions:



Lepton interactions:



courtesy of Jure Zupan

Charged Lepton Flavour Violation

Properties of the lepton sector in the Standard Model

SM interactions: lepton flavour *universal*
and (with massless neutrinos) lepton flavour *conserving*

⇒ Lepton flavour numbers are (individually)
conserved in the Standard Model:

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

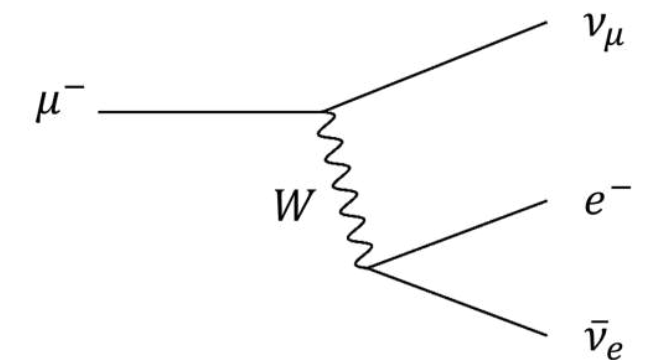


$$L: 1 = 1 + (-1) + 1$$

$$L_e: 0 = 1 + (-1) + 0$$

$$L_\mu: 1 = 0 + 0 + 1$$

number of leptons
minus number of
antileptons



lepton number

electron number

muon number

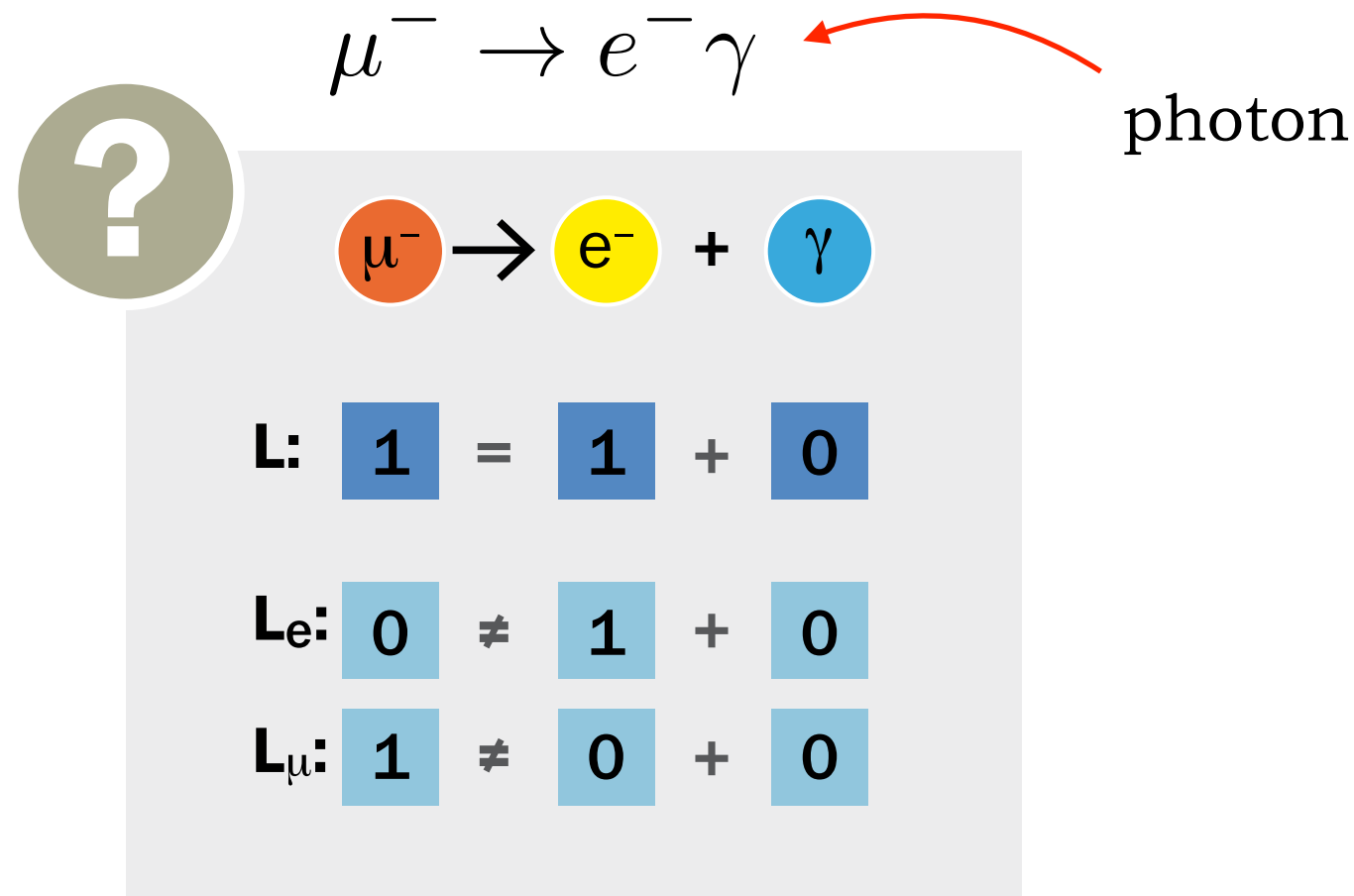
Standard muon decay
(lepton flavour conserving)

→ lifetime 10^{-6} s !

Properties of the lepton sector in the Standard Model

SM interactions: lepton flavour *universal*
and (with massless neutrinos) lepton flavour *conserving*

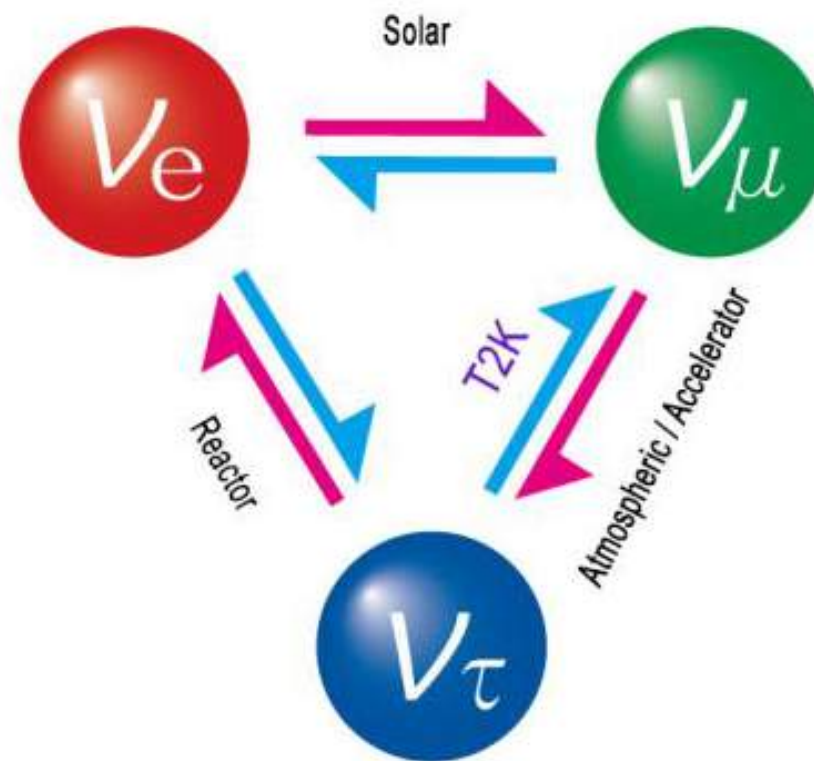
⇒ Lepton flavour numbers are (individually)
conserved in the Standard Model:



Lepton flavour violating (LFV)
decay (never observed!)

Why searching for CLFV?

Neutrino have masses and oscillate (change flavour)!



Neutrino oscillation between three generations

Lepton flavour numbers are not conserved!

$$(\Leftrightarrow U_{\text{PMNS}} \equiv V_\nu^\dagger V_e \neq \mathbb{1})$$

Why shouldn't we observe also *charged* LFV (CLFV) processes:

$$\mu \rightarrow e\gamma, \quad \tau \rightarrow \mu\gamma, \quad \mu \rightarrow eee, \text{ etc. ?}$$

Why searching for CLFV?

- Neutrinos oscillate → we have to introduce neutrino mass terms:

Dirac: $\mathcal{L}_D = -(Y_\nu)_{ij} \bar{\nu}_{Ri} \tilde{\Phi}^\dagger L_{Lj} + \text{h.c.} \implies (m_\nu^D)_{ij} = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}} (Y_\nu)_{ij}.$

or Majorana: $\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{C_{ij}}{\Lambda} (\bar{L}_{Li}^c \tau_2 \Phi) (\Phi^T \tau_2 L_{Lj}) + \text{h.c.} \implies (m_\nu^M)_{ij} = \frac{C_{ij} v^2}{\Lambda}$

- PMNS becomes ‘physical’: neutrino mass eigenstates couple to charged leptons of different flavours

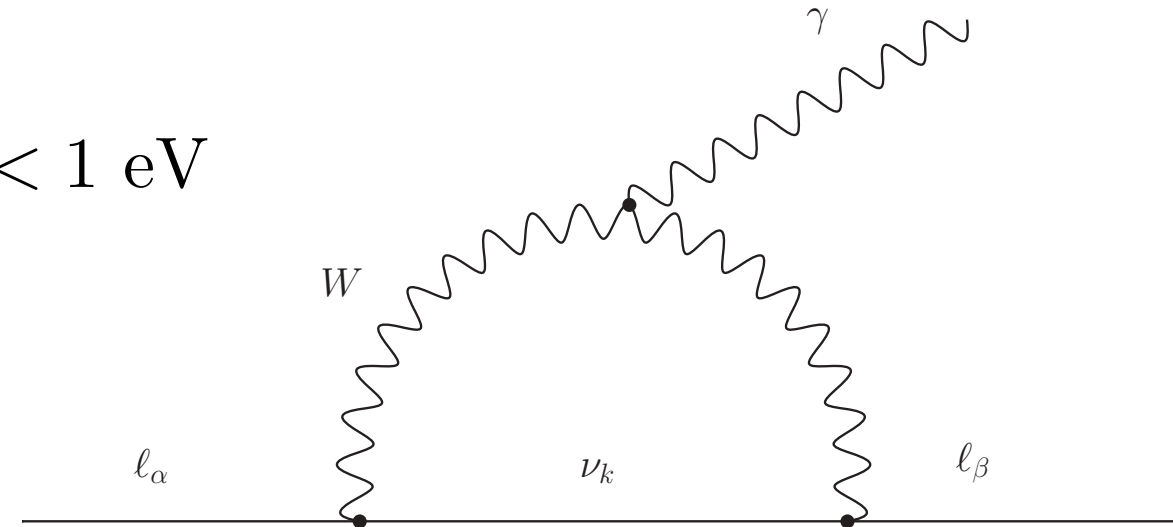
- In the SM + massive neutrinos:

$$\frac{\Gamma(\ell_\alpha \rightarrow \ell_\beta \gamma)}{\Gamma(\ell_\alpha \rightarrow \ell_\beta \nu \bar{\nu})} = \frac{3\alpha}{32\pi} \left| \sum_{k=1,3} U_{\alpha k} U_{\beta k}^* \frac{m_{\nu_k}^2}{M_W^2} \right|^2$$

Petcov '77; Cheng Li '77, '80

$$M_W \approx 80 \text{ GeV}$$

$$m_\nu < 1 \text{ eV}$$



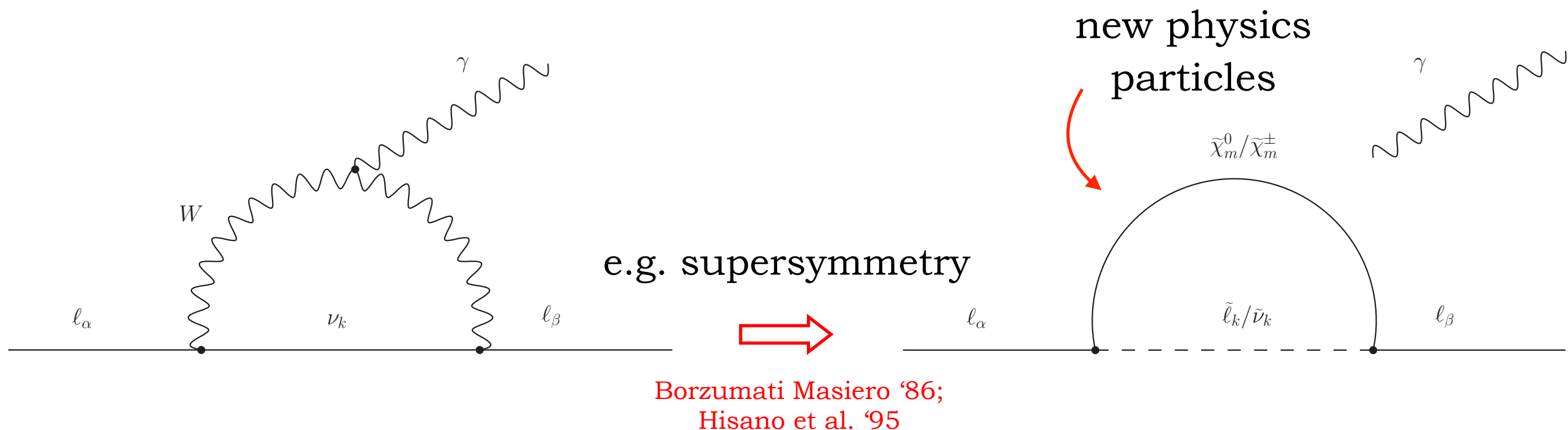
unobservable!

$$\Rightarrow \text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e \gamma) \approx \text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow e \gamma) \approx \text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \mu \gamma) = 10^{-55} \div 10^{-54}$$

Huge suppression because neutrinos much lighter than the W boson

$\Rightarrow$ but in presence of **new physics** particles, we can have larger effects

Why searching for CLFV?



$$\frac{\Gamma(\ell_\alpha \rightarrow \ell_\beta \gamma)}{\Gamma(\ell_\alpha \rightarrow \ell_\beta \nu \bar{\nu})} = \frac{3\alpha}{32\pi} \left| \sum_{k=1,3} U_{\alpha k} U_{\beta k}^* \frac{m_{\nu_k}^2}{M_W^2} \right|^2$$

$$\frac{\Gamma(\ell_\alpha \rightarrow \ell_\beta \gamma)}{\Gamma(\ell_\alpha \rightarrow \ell_\beta \nu \bar{\nu})} \sim \frac{|\delta_{\alpha\beta}|^2}{G_F^2 m_{\text{SUSY}}^4}$$

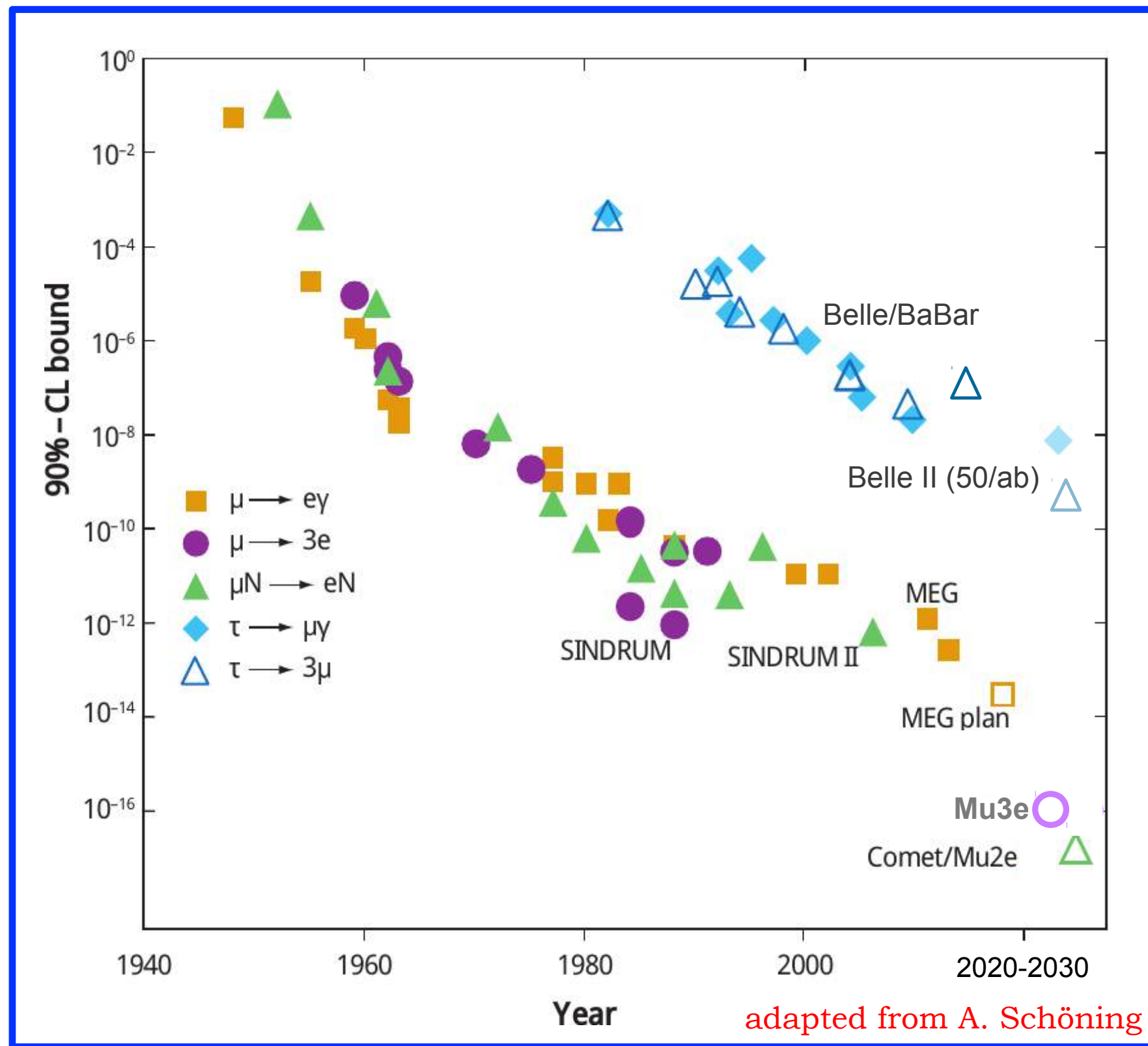
SUSY flavour mixing param.

- Unambiguous signal of New Physics
- Stringent test of NP coupling to leptons
- It probes scales far beyond collider exps.

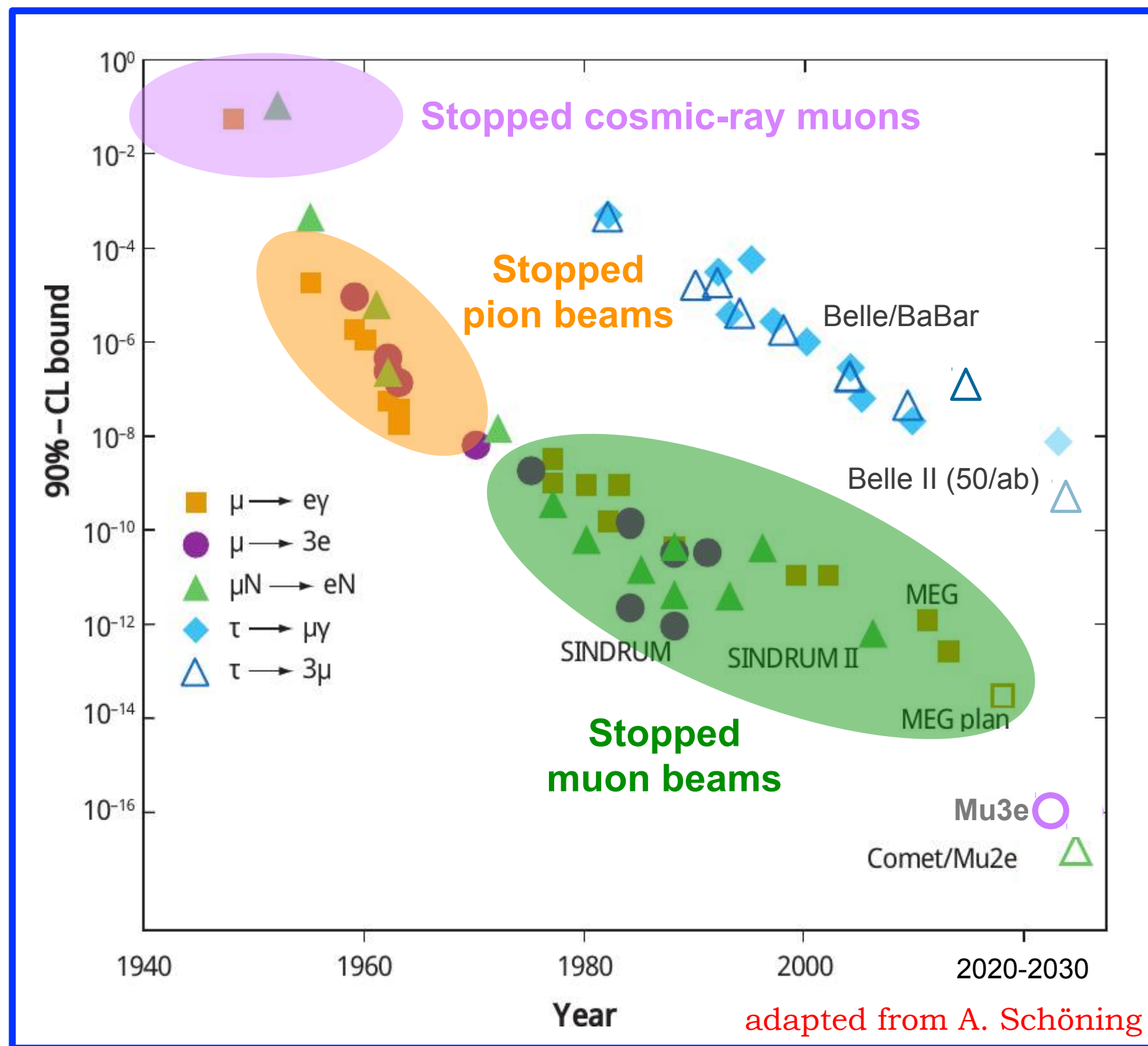


For a pedagogical introduction (exp + th) cf. [LC and Signorelli '17](#)

CLFV has not been found for more than 70 years...



CLFV has not been found for more than 70 years...



... and we have new experiments!

LFV observable	Present bounds		Expected future limits	
$\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e\gamma)$	1.5×10^{-13}	MEG II NEW!]	6×10^{-14}	MEG II [29]
$\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow eee)$	1.0×10^{-12}	SINDRUM (1988) [30]	10^{-16}	Mu3e [31]
$\text{CR}(\mu \rightarrow e, \text{Au})$	7.0×10^{-13}	SINDRUM II (2006) [32]	—	—
$\text{CR}(\mu \rightarrow e, \text{Al})$	—	—	6×10^{-17}	COMET/Mu2e [33, 34]
$\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow e\mu)$	2.62×10^{-7}	ATLAS (2022) [35]	$10^{-8} - 10^{-10}$	FCC-ee/CEPC [36]
$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow e\gamma)$	3.3×10^{-8}	BaBar (2010) [37]	9×10^{-9}	Belle II [25, 38]
$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow eee)$	2.7×10^{-8}	Belle (2010) [39]	4.7×10^{-10}	Belle II [25, 38]
$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow e\mu\mu)$	2.7×10^{-8}	Belle (2010) [39]	4.5×10^{-10}	Belle II [25, 38]
$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \pi e)$	8.0×10^{-8}	Belle (2007) [40]	7.3×10^{-10}	Belle II [25, 38]
$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \rho e)$	1.8×10^{-8}	Belle (2011) [41]	3.8×10^{-10}	Belle II [25, 38]
$\text{BR}(Z \rightarrow e\tau)$	5.0×10^{-6}	ATLAS (2021) [42]	10^{-9}	FCC-ee/CEPC [36]
$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \mu\gamma)$	4.2×10^{-8}	Belle (2021) [43]	6.9×10^{-9}	Belle II [25, 38]
$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \mu\mu\mu)$	2.1×10^{-8}	Belle (2010) [39]	3.6×10^{-10}	Belle II [25, 38]
$\text{BR}(\tau \rightarrow \mu ee)$	1.8×10^{-8}	Belle (2010) [39]	2.9×10^{-10}	Belle II [25, 38]
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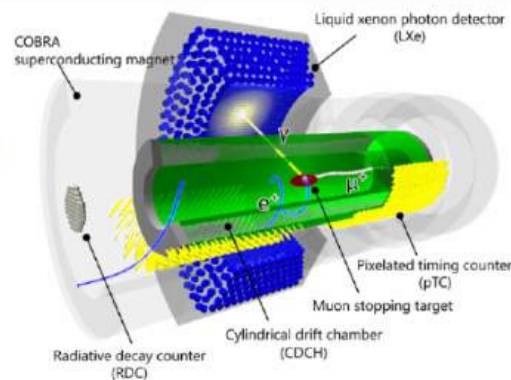
Table 2: Present 90% CL upper limits (95% CL for the Z decays) and future expected sensitivities for the set of LFV transitions relevant for our analysis.

Experimental searches for CLFV

cLFV experiments in the world

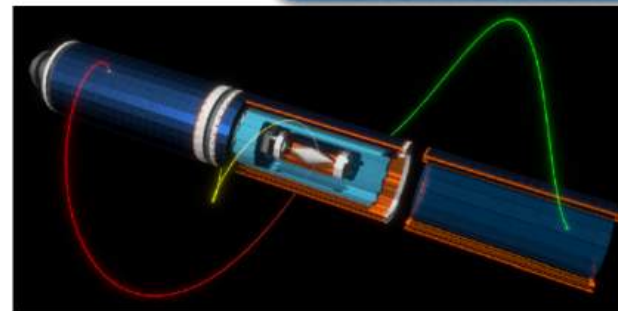
MEG II

$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$$



Mu3e

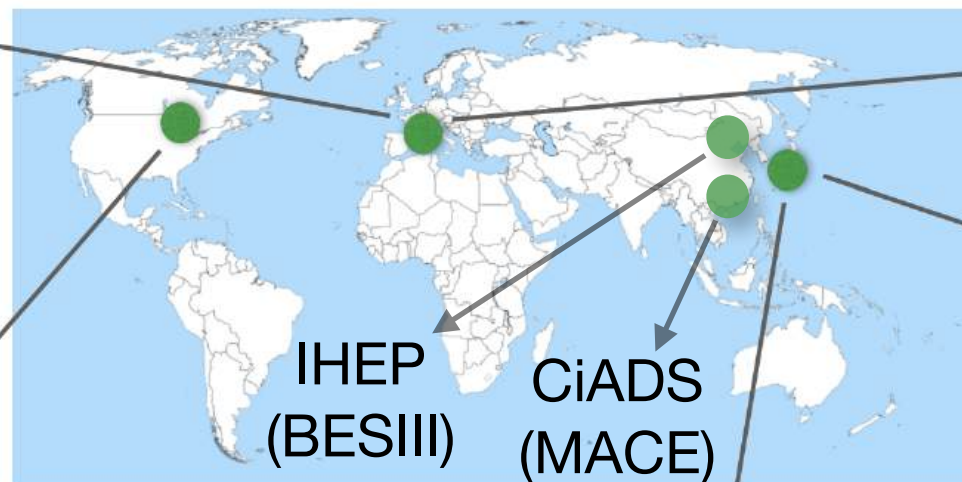
$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^+ e^-$$



Coincidence measurement:
DC beam needed to minimize
backgrounds from accidental
coincidences

$$\text{BKG} \propto (\text{Rate})^2$$

PSI



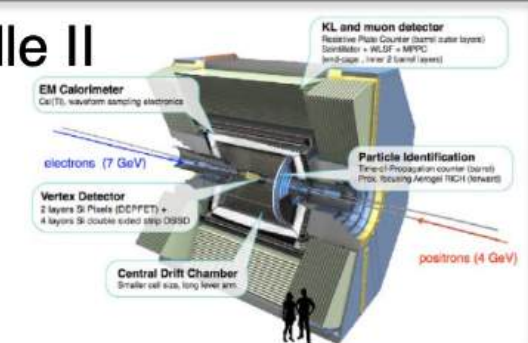
CERN

LHCb/ATLAS/CMS

$$\tau \rightarrow 3\mu, \tau \rightarrow \mu\gamma$$

KEK

Belle II

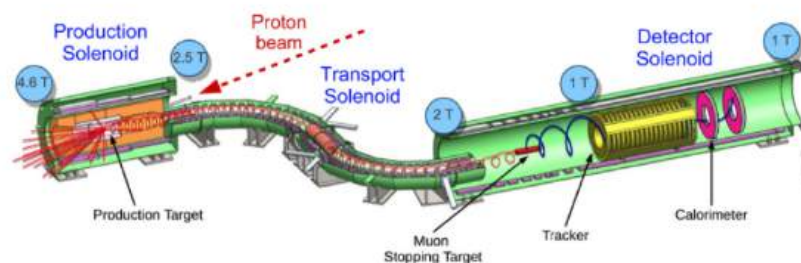


Fermilab

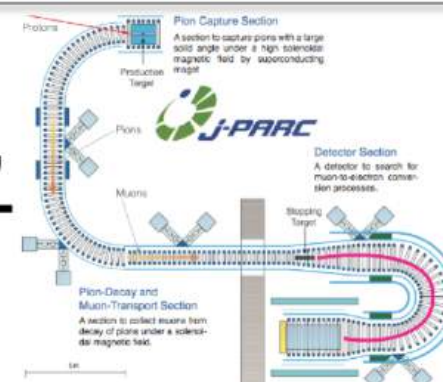
$$\mu^- N \rightarrow e^- N$$

J-PARC

Mu2e



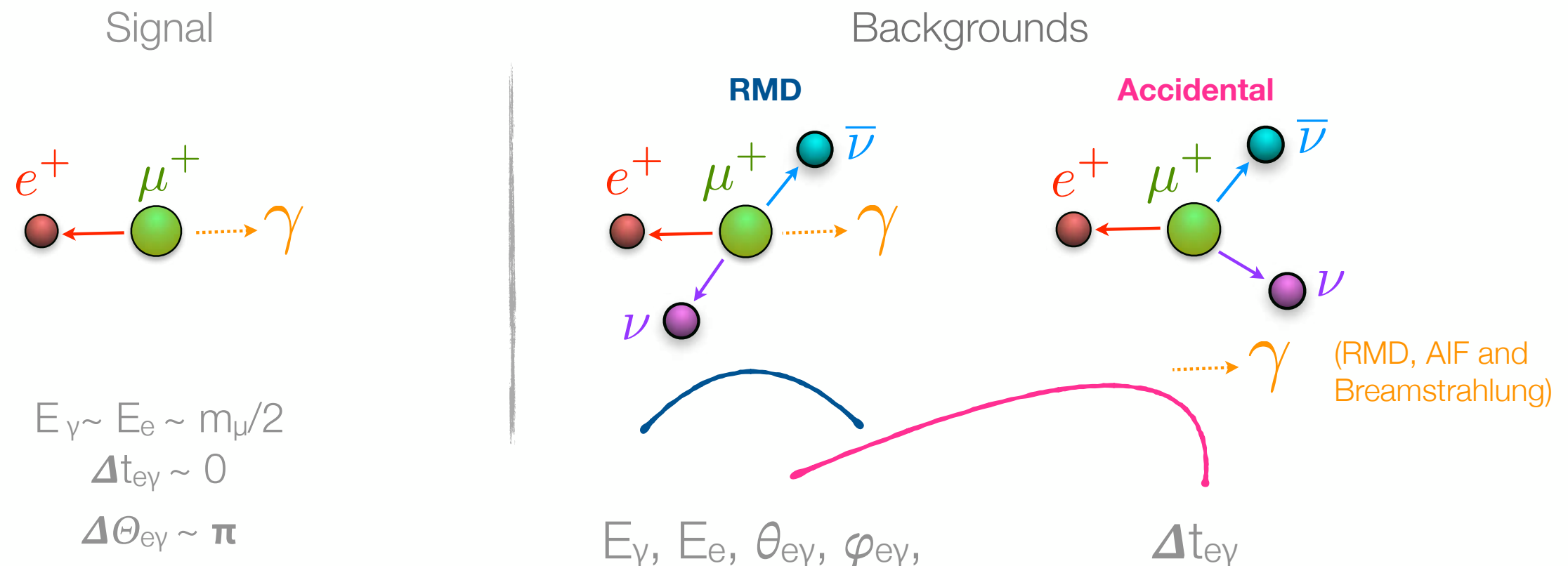
DeeMe,
COMET



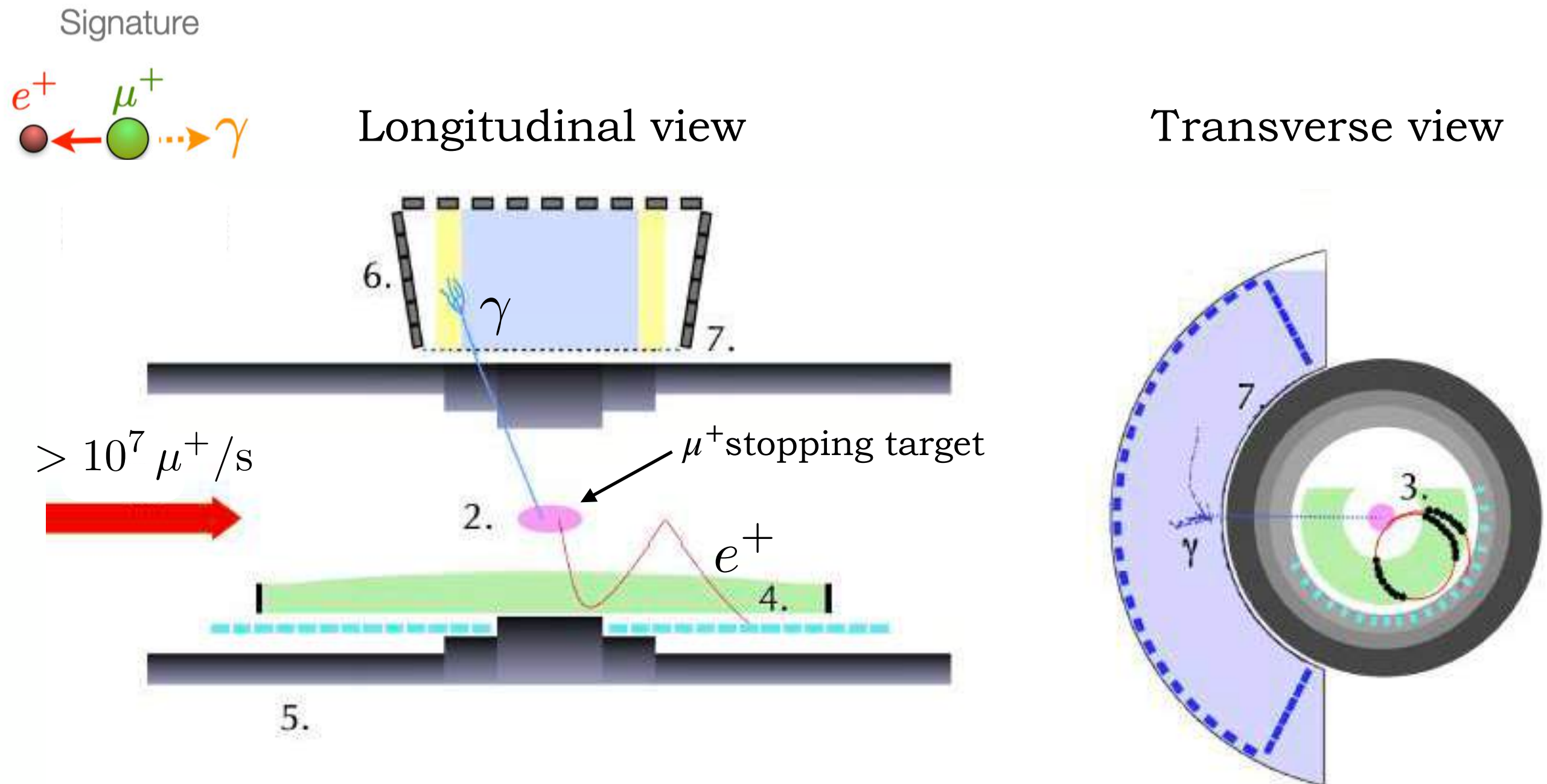
Single e^- measurement:
pulsed beam needed
Many pion-induced
backgrounds after
proton pulse
wait it out with 26 ns
lifetime

The MEGII experiment at PSI: Signal and backgrounds

- Searching for $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$ with a sensitivity of $\sim 6 \cdot 10^{-14}$
- Best upper limit on the BR ($\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma$) set by the MEG experiment ($4.2 \cdot 10^{-13}$ @90% C.L.)
- **Positive** muons from a **continuous** beam are usually stopped in a (thin) target to fully exploit the clear signature of a decay at rest
- **Five** observables (E_γ , E_e , $\Delta t_{e\gamma}$, $\theta_{e\gamma}$, $\varphi_{e\gamma}$) to identify a $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ event and reject background events
 - Precise expectation for a signal event, poor correlated for RMD events, not correlated for Accidental events



Current/upcoming experiments: MEG II



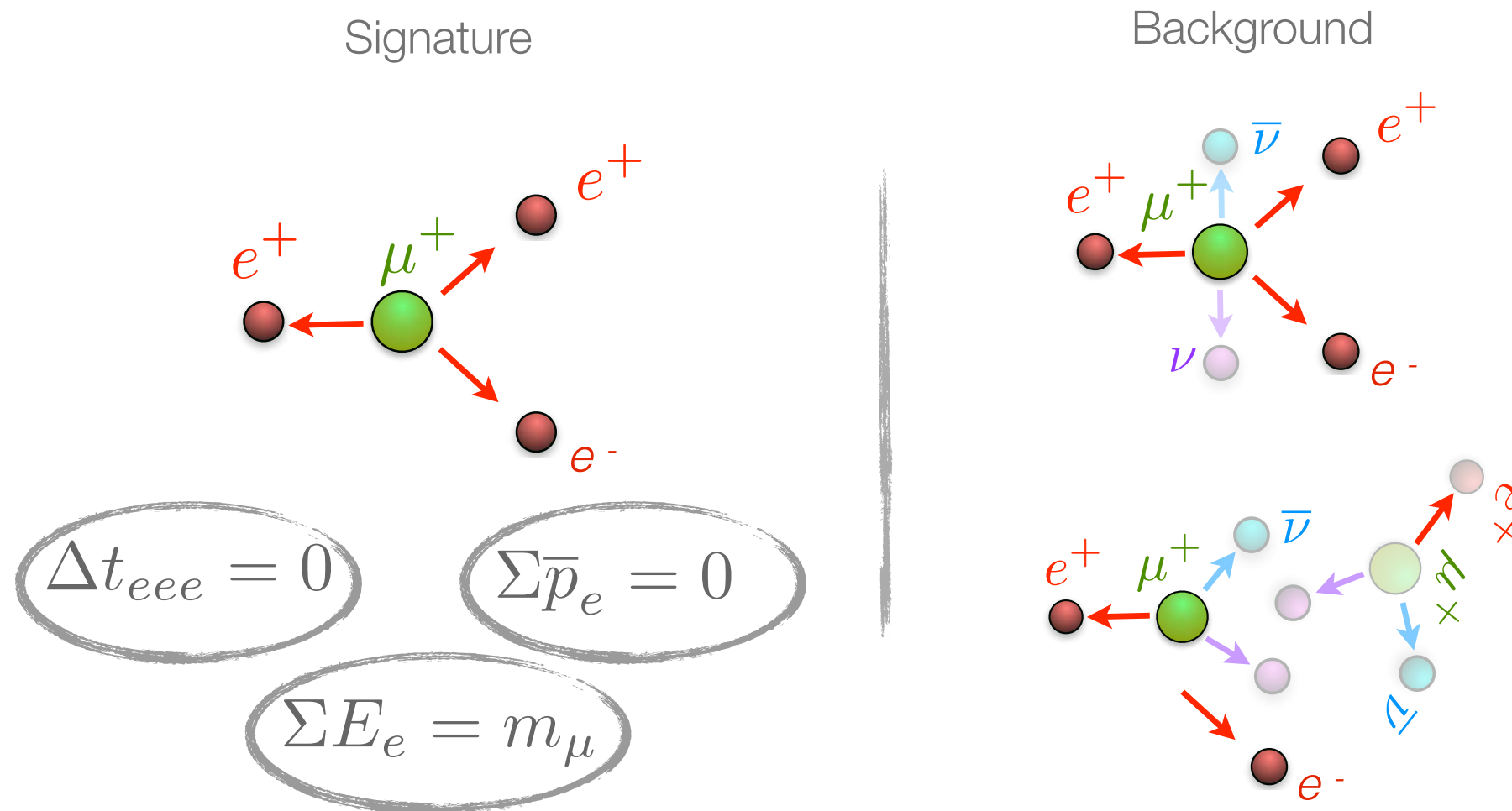
No events observed beyond expected background, they set the limit :

$$\text{BR}(\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \gamma) < 1.5 \times 10^{13} \text{ (MEG II 2025)}$$

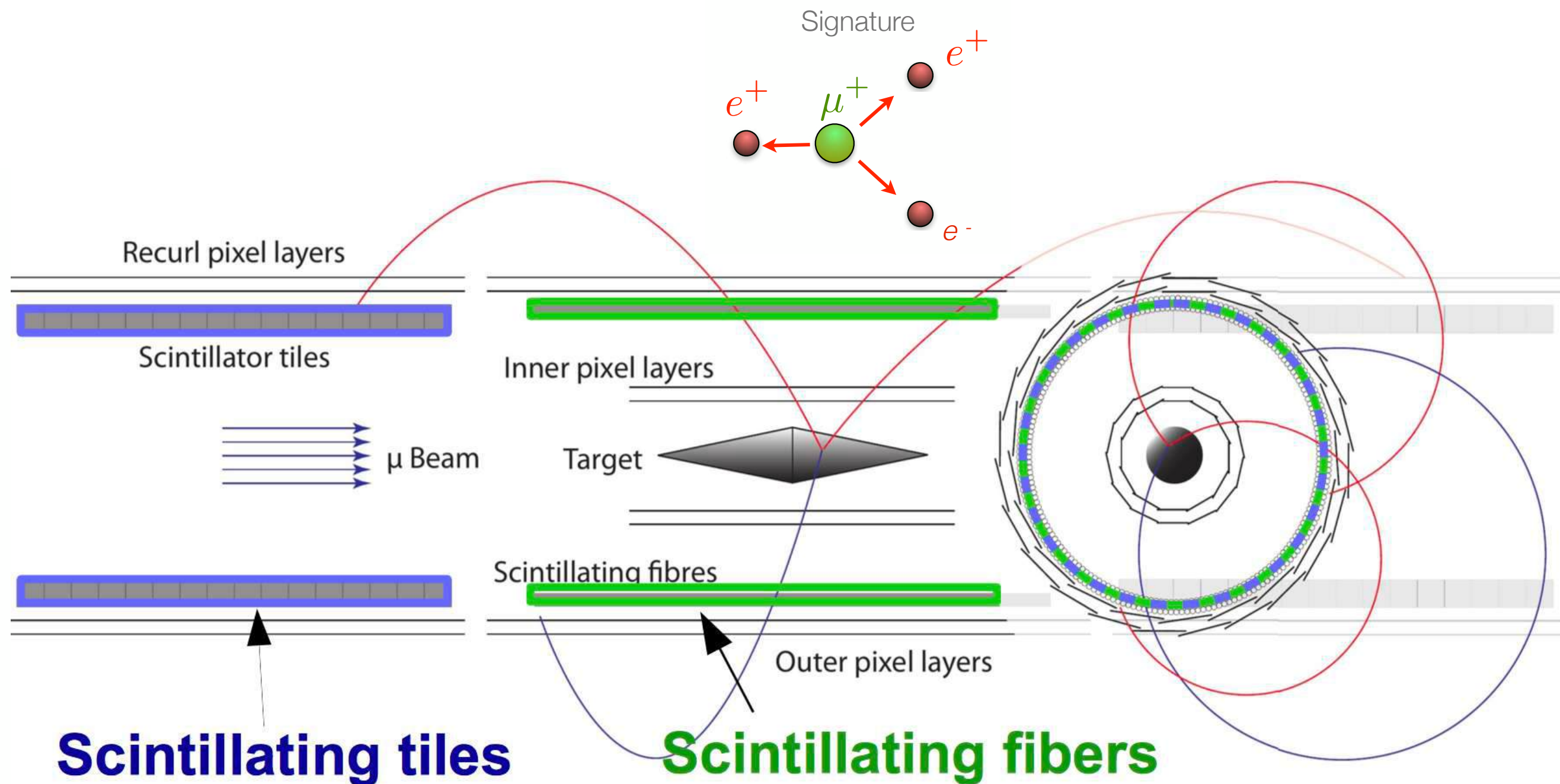
(and they keep taking data)

Mu3e: The $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^+ e^-$ search

- The Mu3e experiment aims to search for $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^+ e^-$ with a sensitivity of $\sim 10^{-15}$ (Phase I) up to down $\sim 10^{-16}$ (Phase II). Previous upper limit $\text{BR}(\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ e^+ e^-) \leq 1 \times 10^{-12}$ @90 C.L. by **SINDRUM** experiment)
- Observables (E_e , t_e , **vertex**) to characterize $\mu \rightarrow eee$ events



Current/upcoming experiments: Mu3e



Mu3e recently started running, first results are expected within a few years!

.... and more searches for muon LFV are under construction

$\mu \rightarrow e$ conversion in muonic atom

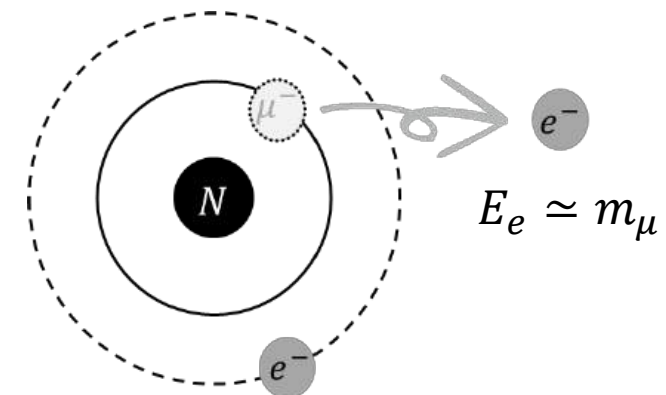
J. Steinberger and H. Wolfe, Phys. Rev. (1955)

Signal

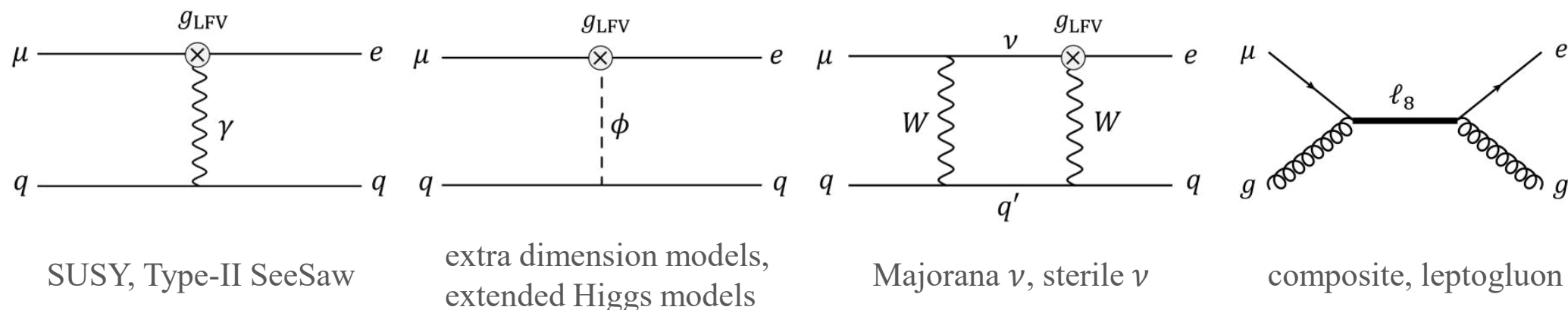
-- Monoenergetic electron $E_e \simeq 105 \text{ MeV}$

Experimental status

Process	BR limit	Future
$\mu^- \text{Au} \rightarrow e^- \text{Au}$	7.0×10^{-13} SINDRUM (2006)	N/A
$\mu^- \text{Ti} \rightarrow e^- \text{Ti}$	4.3×10^{-12} SINDRUM (2006)	N/A
$\mu^- \text{Al} \rightarrow e^- \text{Al}$	N/A	$a \text{ few } \times 10^{-17}$ COMET, Mu2e



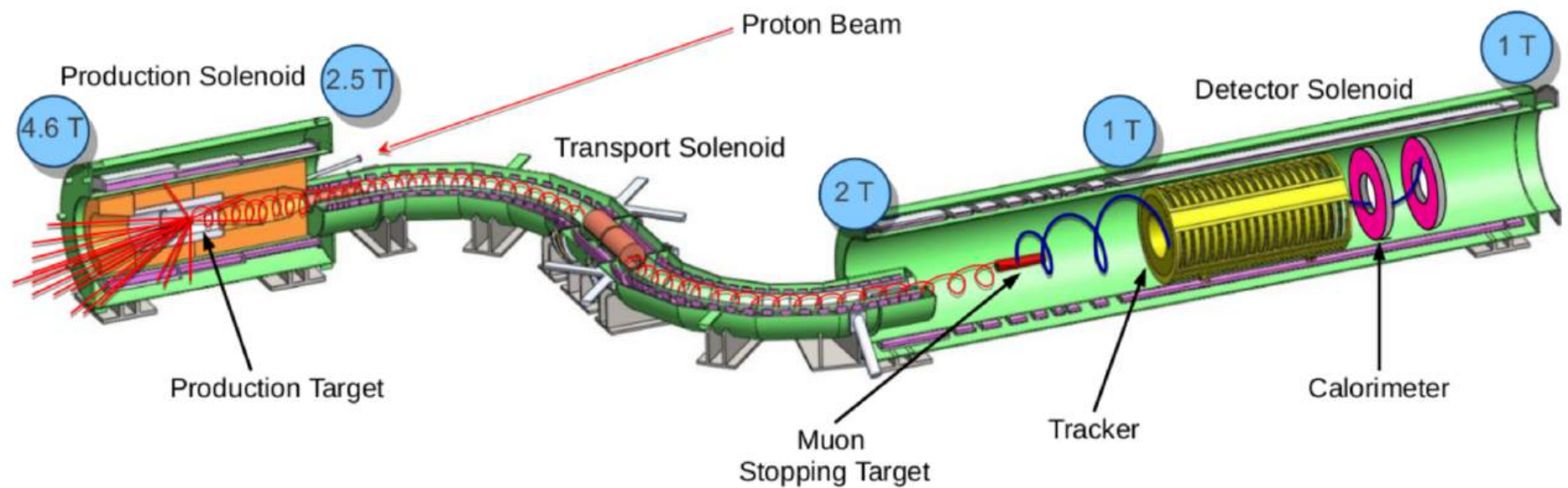
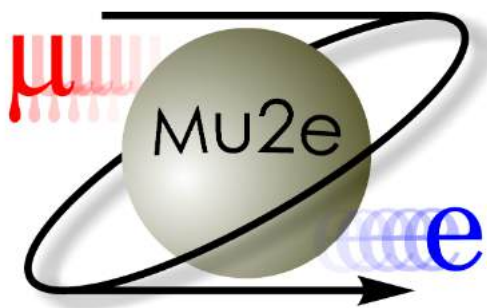
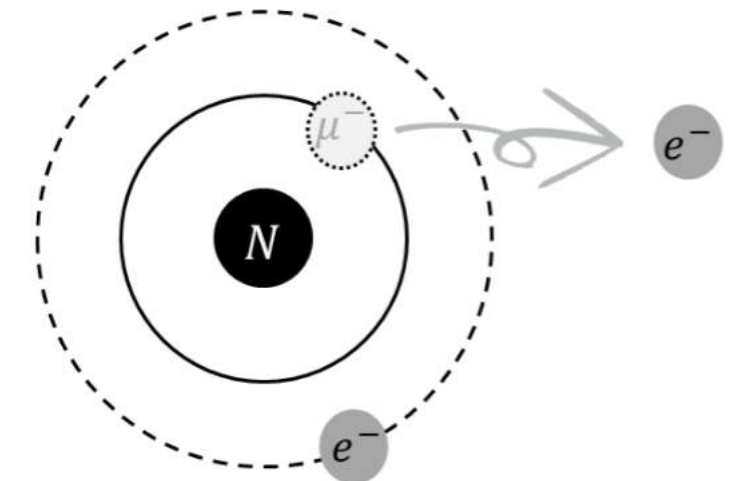
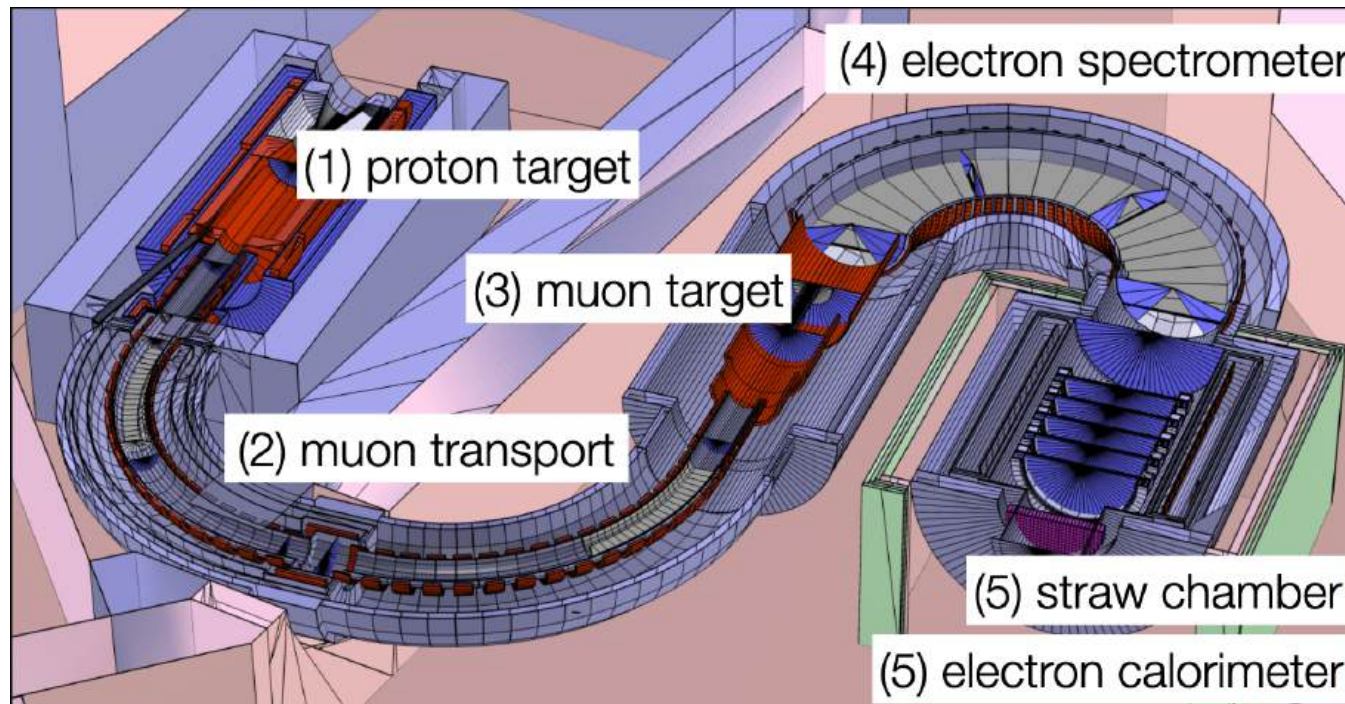
Probe to various LFV operators



slide borrowed from M. Yamanaka

.... and more searches for muon LFV are under construction

$\mu \rightarrow e$ conversion in nuclei experiments



What about tau CLFV?

Tau vs muons:

Tau lifetime much shorter:

$$\tau_\mu \simeq 2 \times 10^{-6} \text{s} \quad \gg \quad \tau_\tau \simeq 3 \times 10^{-13} \text{s}$$

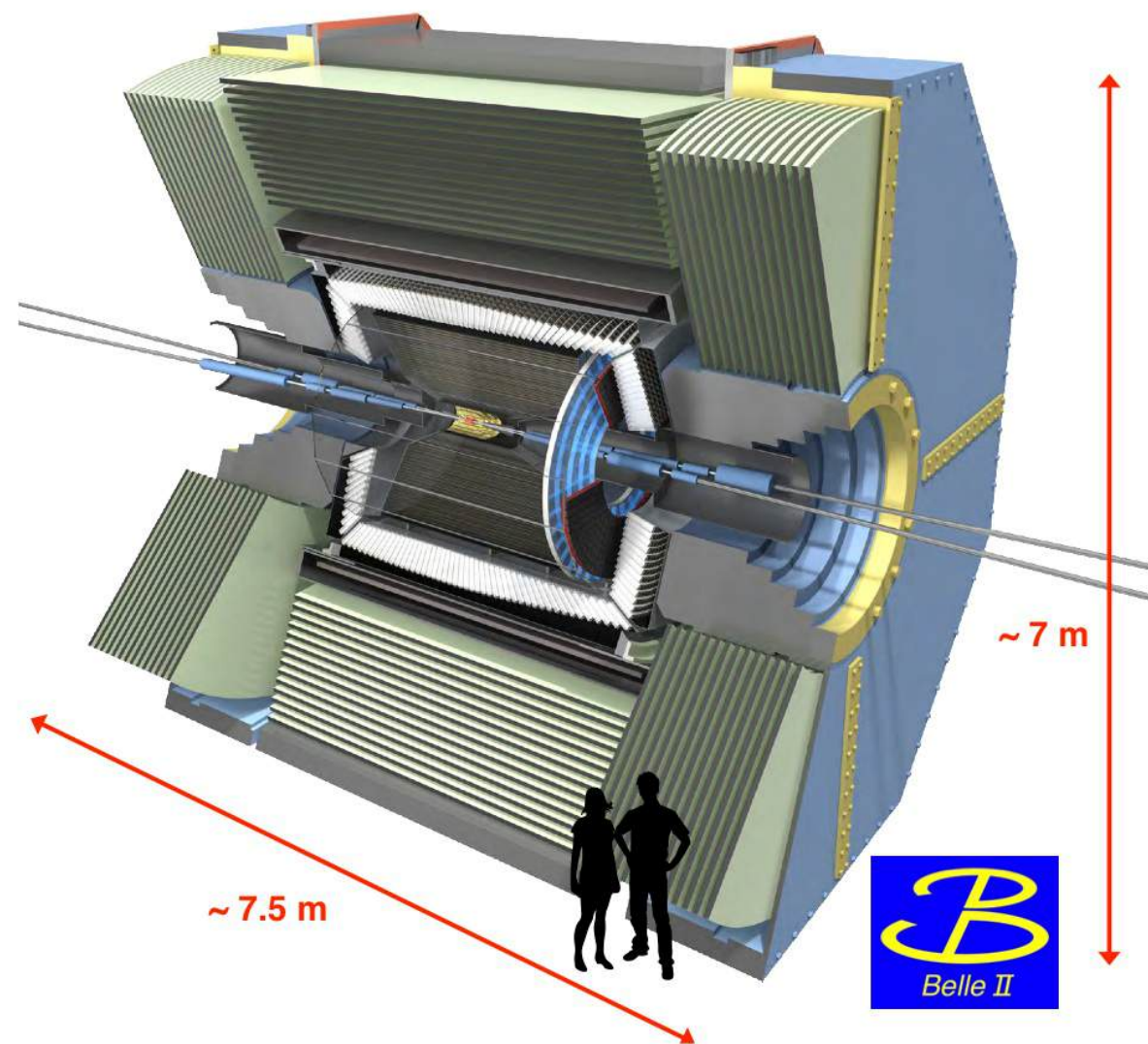
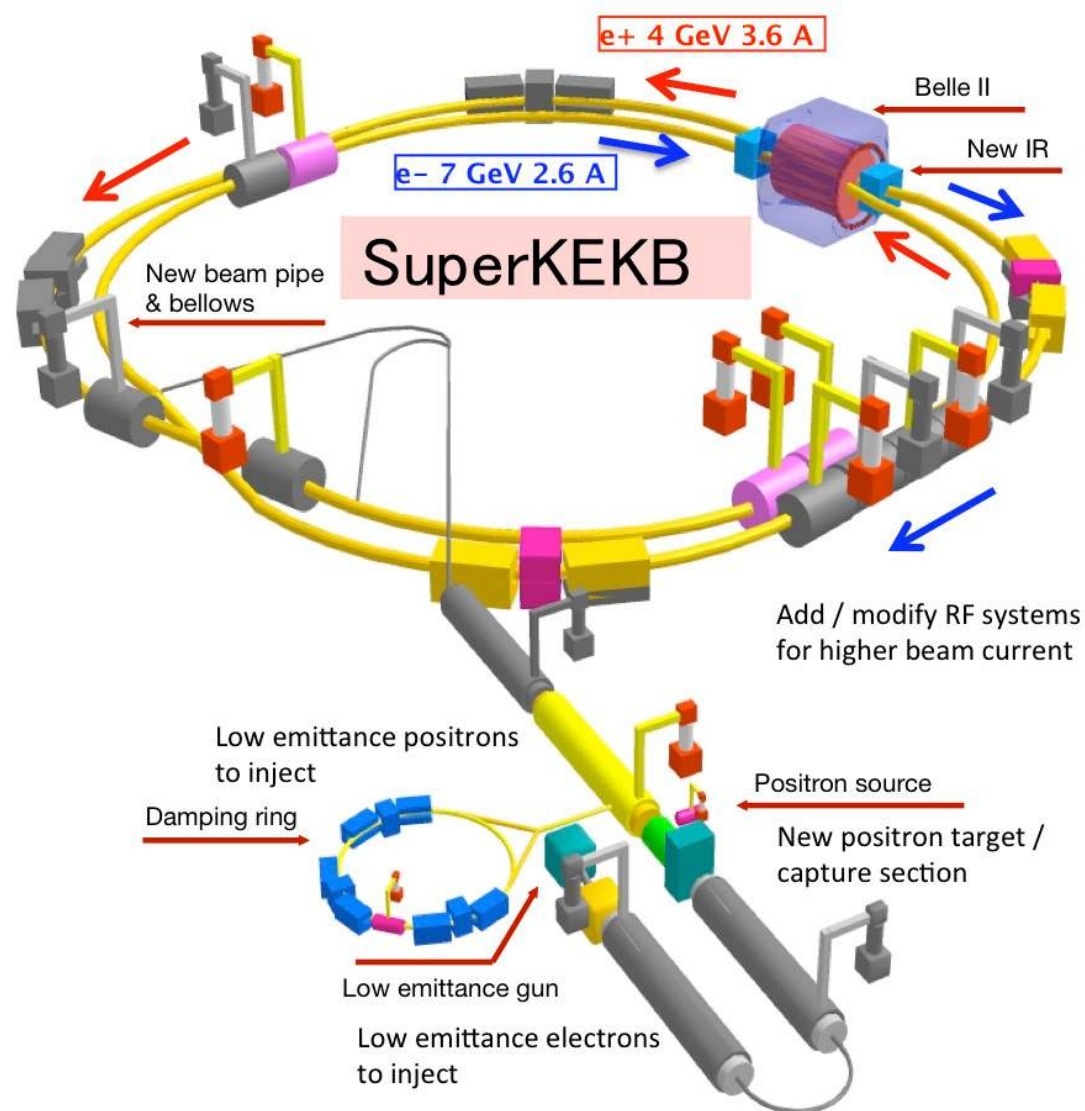
- We can not produce “tau beams”, stop them and observe the decays
- Taus only produced at colliders, e.g. $e^+e^- \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ (Belle II), $pp \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ (LHC)

Tau much heavier:

$$m_\mu \simeq 0.106 \text{ GeV} \quad \ll \quad m_\tau \simeq 1.77 \text{ GeV}$$

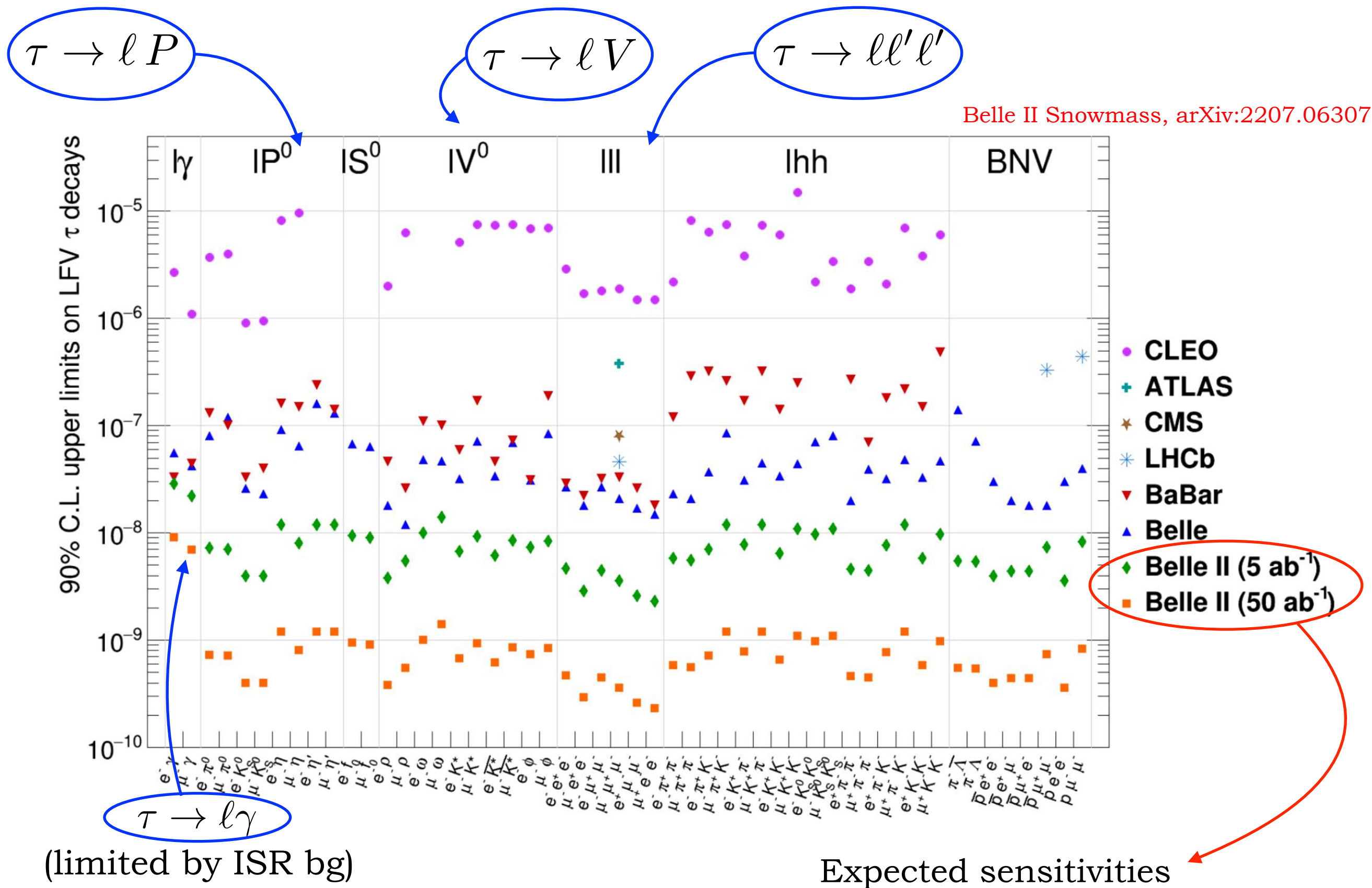
- $m_\tau > m_\pi$: only lepton that can decay into hadrons
- In principle, many LFV decay modes one can search for

Current/upcoming experiments: Belle II

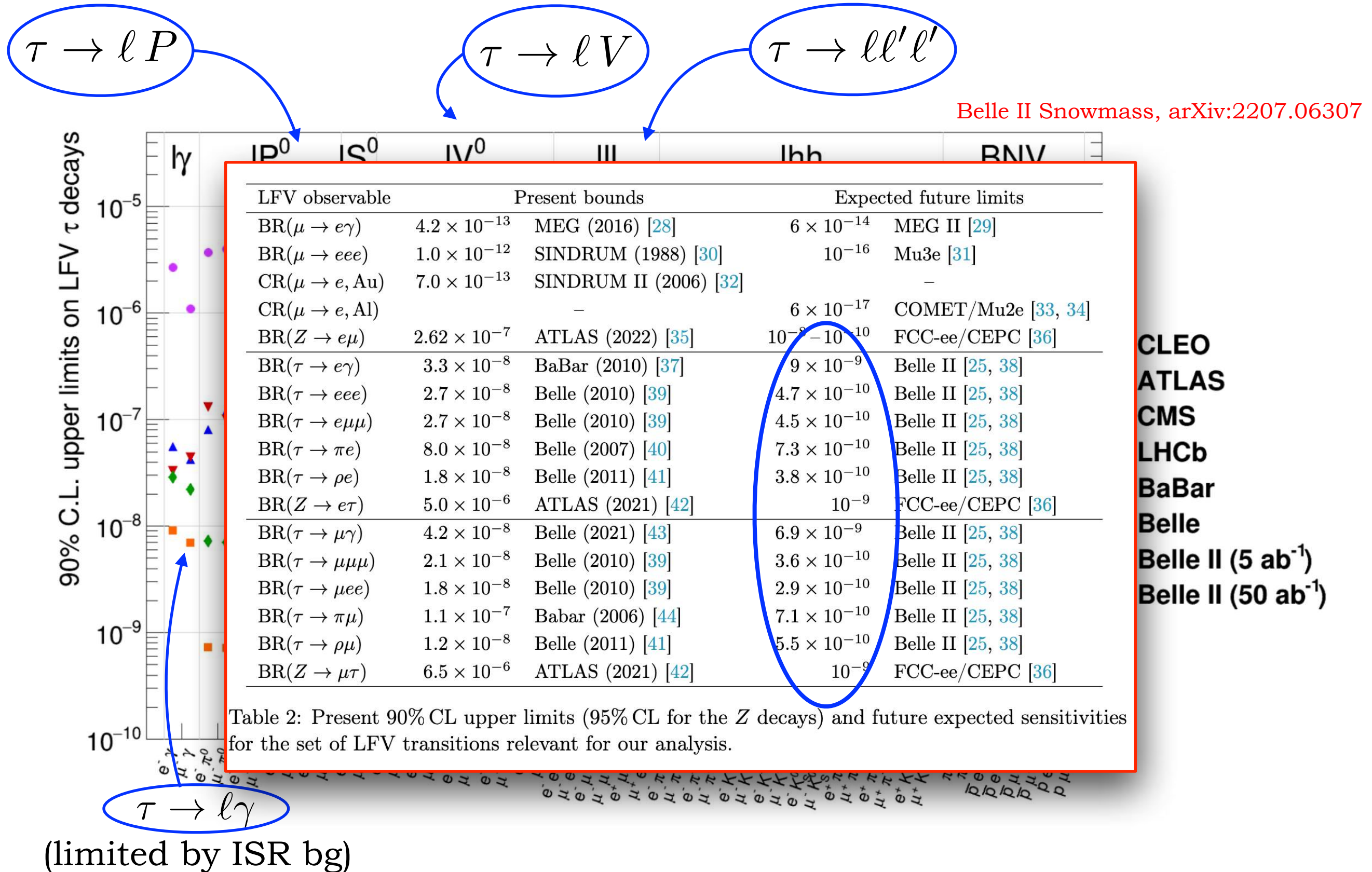


Currently running: within ~ 10 years, Belle II will collect more than $10^{10} e^+e^- \rightarrow \tau^+\tau^-$ events

Belle II prospects for tau CLFV

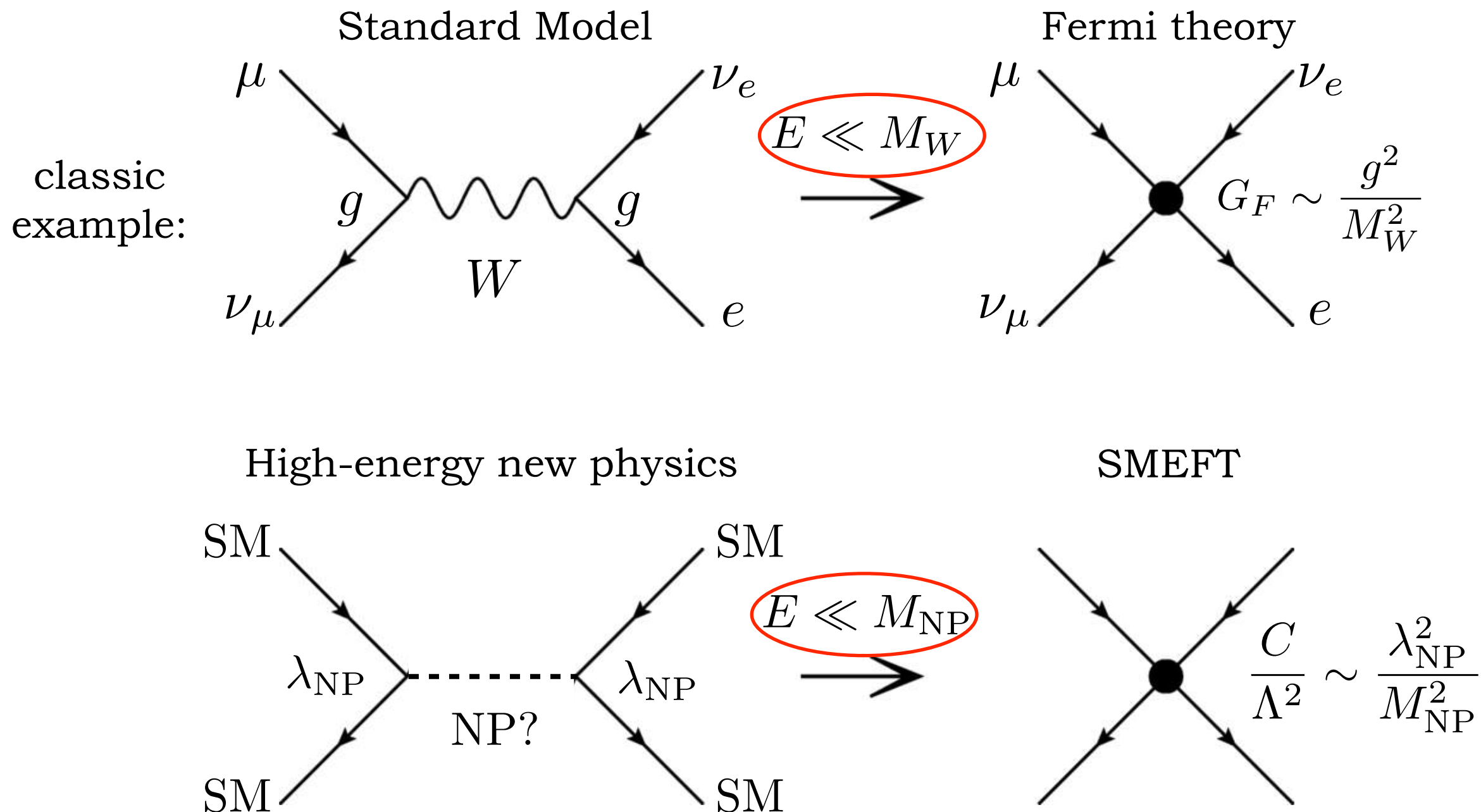


Belle II prospects for tau CLFV



Testing high-energy new physics

Heavy New Physics: Effective Field Theory approach



SM effective field theory (SMEFT): we parametrize heavy NP introducing $D > 4$ operators purely made of SM fields, respecting SM symmetries

CLFV from heavy new physics (SMEFT)

If NP scale $\Lambda \gg m_W$:
$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \sum_a C_a^{(5)} Q_a^{(5)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_a C_a^{(6)} Q_a^{(6)} + \dots$$

Dimension-6 effective operators that can induce CLFV

4-leptons operators		Dipole operators	
$Q_{\ell\ell}$	$(\bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu L_L)(\bar{L}_L \gamma^\mu L_L)$	Q_{eW}	$(\bar{L}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} e_R) \tau_I \Phi W_{\mu\nu}^I$
Q_{ee}	$(\bar{e}_R \gamma_\mu e_R)(\bar{e}_R \gamma^\mu e_R)$	Q_{eB}	$(\bar{L}_L \sigma^{\mu\nu} e_R) \Phi B_{\mu\nu}$
$Q_{\ell e}$	$(\bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu L_L)(\bar{e}_R \gamma^\mu e_R)$		
2-lepton 2-quark operators			
$Q_{\ell q}^{(1)}$	$(\bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu L_L)(\bar{Q}_L \gamma^\mu Q_L)$	$Q_{\ell u}$	$(\bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu L_L)(\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu u_R)$
$Q_{\ell q}^{(3)}$	$(\bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu \tau_I L_L)(\bar{Q}_L \gamma^\mu \tau_I Q_L)$	$Q_{e u}$	$(\bar{e}_R \gamma_\mu e_R)(\bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu u_R)$
Q_{eq}	$(\bar{e}_R \gamma^\mu e_R)(\bar{Q}_L \gamma_\mu Q_L)$	$Q_{\ell edq}$	$(\bar{L}_L^a e_R)(\bar{d}_R Q_L^a)$
$Q_{\ell d}$	$(\bar{L}_L \gamma_\mu L_L)(\bar{d}_R \gamma^\mu d_R)$	$Q_{\ell equ}^{(1)}$	$(\bar{L}_L^a e_R) \epsilon_{ab} (\bar{Q}_L^b u_R)$
Q_{ed}	$(\bar{e}_R \gamma_\mu e_R)(\bar{d}_R \gamma^\mu d_R)$	$Q_{\ell equ}^{(3)}$	$(\bar{L}_L^a \sigma_{\mu\nu} e_R) \epsilon_{ab} (\bar{Q}_L^b \sigma^{\mu\nu} u_R)$
Lepton-Higgs operators			
$Q_{\Phi\ell}^{(1)}$	$(\Phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \Phi)(\bar{L}_L \gamma^\mu L_L)$	$Q_{\Phi\ell}^{(3)}$	$(\Phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I \Phi)(\bar{L}_L \tau_I \gamma^\mu L_L)$
$Q_{\Phi e}$	$(\Phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \Phi)(\bar{e}_R \gamma^\mu e_R)$	$Q_{e\Phi 3}$	$(\bar{L}_L e_R \Phi)(\Phi^\dagger \Phi)$

Grzadkowski et al. '10; Crivellin Najjari Rosiek '13

If NP scale $\Lambda \gg m_W$: $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \sum_a C_a^{(5)} Q_a^{(5)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_a C_a^{(6)} Q_a^{(6)} + \dots$

Example: LFV 4-lepton operator

$$\frac{C_{\ell\ell}}{\Lambda^2} (\bar{e}_L \gamma_\mu \mu_L) (\bar{e}_L \gamma^\mu e_L)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow ee\bar{e}) = \frac{m_\mu^5}{768 \pi^3 \Gamma_\mu} \frac{|C_{\ell\ell}|^2}{\Lambda^4}$$

to be confronted with:

$$\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow ee\bar{e})^{\text{exp}} < 1.0 \times 10^{-12}$$

 constraint on C/Λ^2 !

Grzadkowski et al. '10; Crivellin Najjari Rosiek '13

CLFV probes very high-energy scales

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \sum_a C_a^{(5)} Q_a^{(5)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_a C_a^{(6)} Q_a^{(6)} + \dots$$

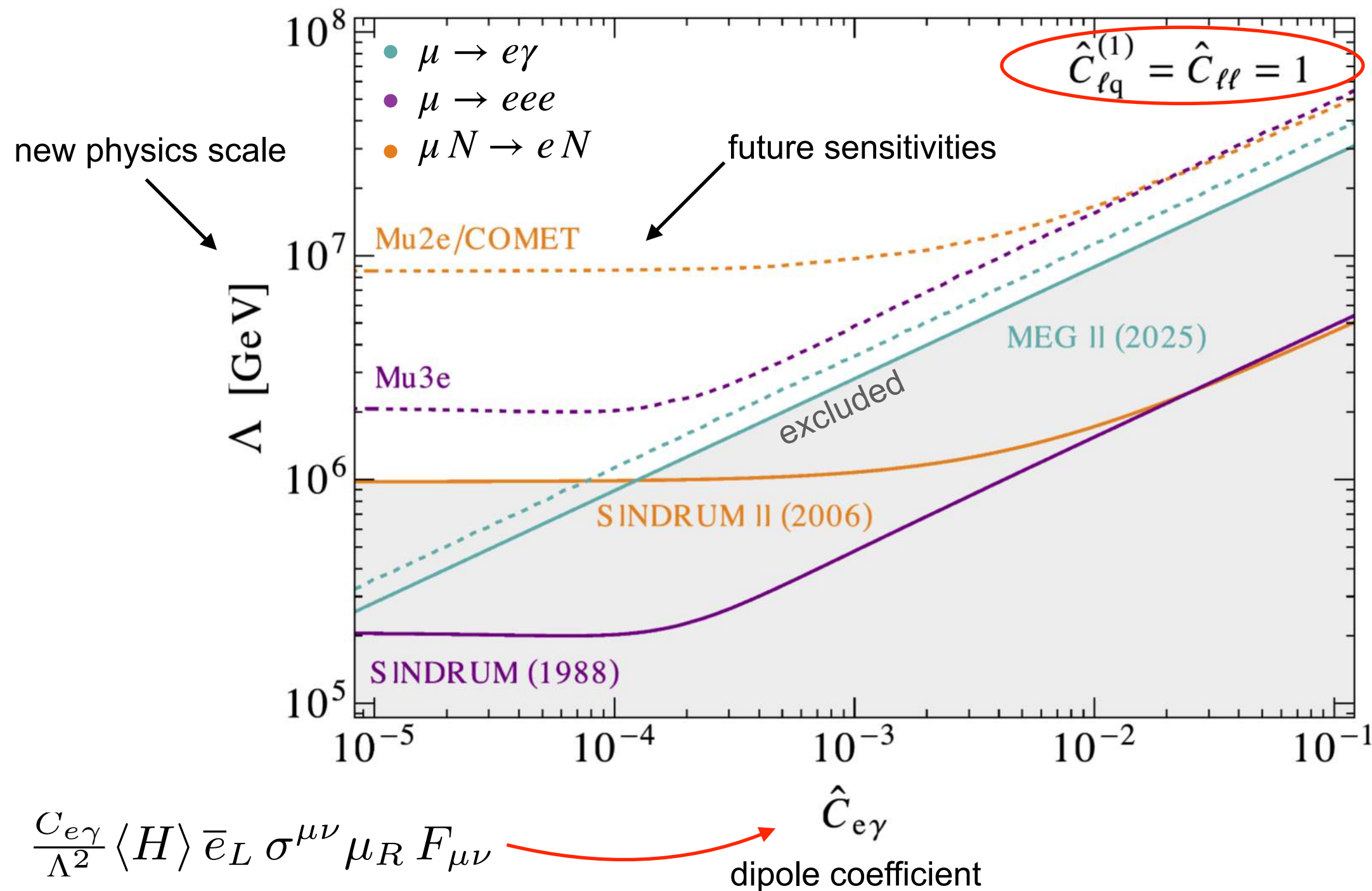
lower limits on the NP masses

upper limits on the NP couplings

	$ C_a [\Lambda = 1 \text{ TeV}]$	$\Lambda \text{ (TeV)} [C_a = 1]$	CLFV Process
$C_{e\gamma}^{\mu e}$	2.1×10^{-10}	6.8×10^4	$\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$
$C_{\ell e}^{\mu\mu\mu e, e\mu\mu\mu}$	1.8×10^{-4}	75	$\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ [1-loop]
$C_{\ell e}^{\mu\tau\tau e, e\tau\tau\mu}$	1.0×10^{-5}	312	$\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ [1-loop]
$C_{e\gamma}^{\mu e}$	4.0×10^{-9}	1.6×10^4	$\mu \rightarrow eee$
$C_{\ell\ell, ee}^{\mu eee}$	2.3×10^{-5}	207	$\mu \rightarrow eee$
$C_{\ell e}^{\mu eee, ee\mu e}$	3.3×10^{-5}	174	$\mu \rightarrow eee$
$C_{e\gamma}^{\mu e}$	5.2×10^{-9}	1.4×10^4	$\mu^- \text{Au} \rightarrow e^- \text{Au}$
$C_{\ell q, \ell d, ed}^{e\mu}$	1.8×10^{-6}	745	$\mu^- \text{Au} \rightarrow e^- \text{Au}$
$C_{eq}^{e\mu}$	9.2×10^{-7}	1.0×10^3	$\mu^- \text{Au} \rightarrow e^- \text{Au}$
$C_{\ell u, eu}^{e\mu}$	2.0×10^{-6}	707	$\mu^- \text{Au} \rightarrow e^- \text{Au}$
$C_{e\gamma}^{\tau\mu}$	2.7×10^{-6}	610	$\tau \rightarrow \mu\gamma$
$C_{e\gamma}^{\tau e}$	2.4×10^{-6}	650	$\tau \rightarrow e\gamma$
$C_{\ell\ell, ee}^{\mu\tau\mu\mu}$	7.8×10^{-3}	11.3	$\tau \rightarrow \mu\mu\mu$
$C_{\ell e}^{\mu\tau\mu\mu, \mu\mu\mu\tau}$	1.1×10^{-2}	9.5	$\tau \rightarrow \mu\mu\mu$
$C_{\ell\ell, ee}^{\tau eee}$	9.2×10^{-3}	10.4	$\tau \rightarrow eee$
$C_{\ell e}^{\tau eee, eee\tau}$	1.3×10^{-2}	8.8	$\tau \rightarrow eee$

CLFV probes very high-energy scales

E.g., dipole *and* 4-fermion operators: $\frac{C_{\ell q}}{\Lambda^2} (\bar{e}_L \gamma_\mu \mu_L) (\bar{Q} \gamma^\mu Q)$ $\frac{C_{\ell\ell}}{\Lambda^2} (\bar{e}_L \gamma_\mu \mu_L) (\bar{e}_L \gamma^\mu e_L)$



LFV selection rules from residual symmetries

Very high energies ($\gg$ LHC's c.o.m. E) can be tested

$\mu \rightarrow e$ conversion in nuclei seems to be the most powerful probe

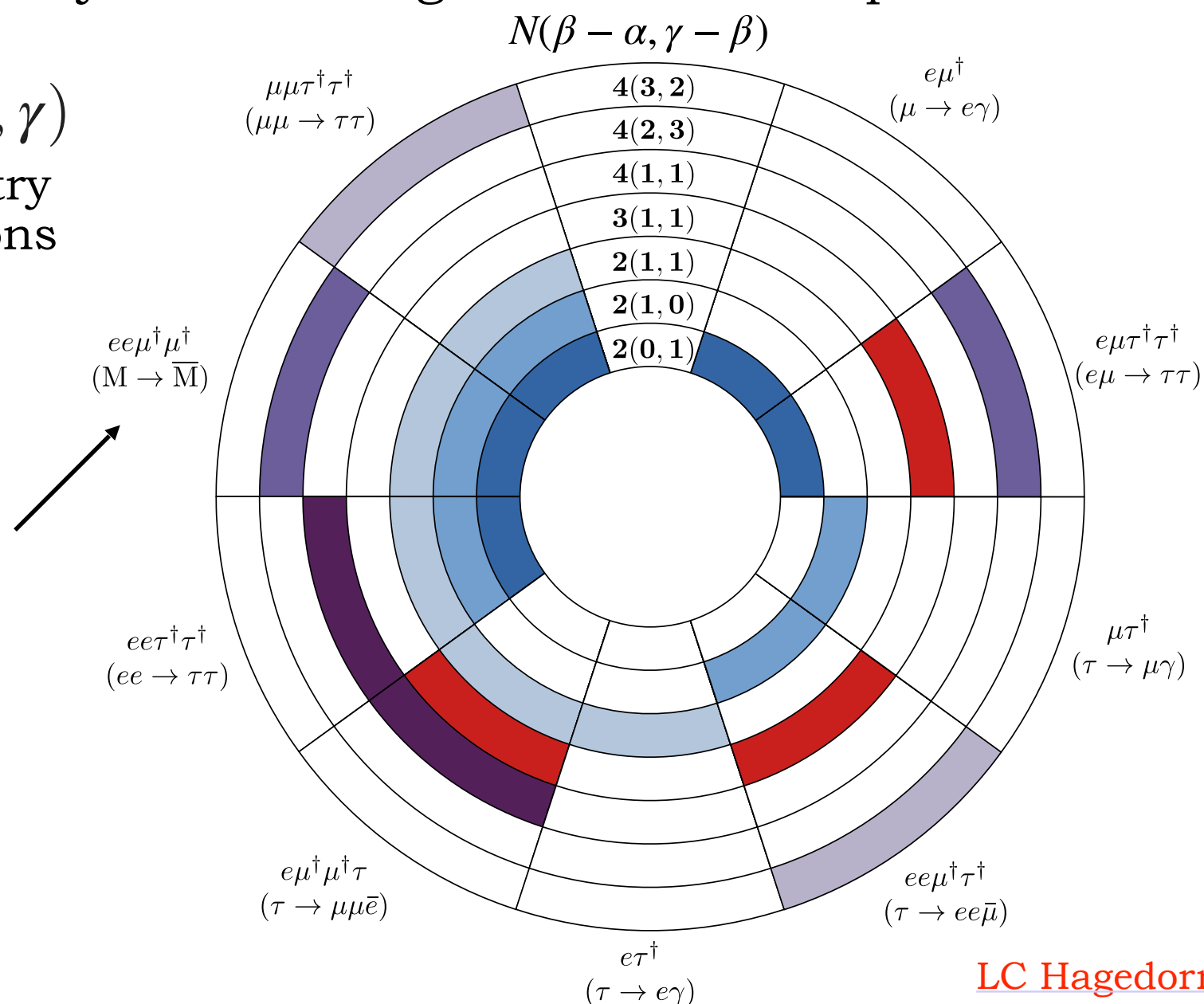
BUT...

it is important to look for any channels:

non-trivial symmetries might forbid certain processes allowing others

$G_\ell = \mathbb{Z}_N(\alpha, \beta, \gamma)$
residual symmetry
for charged leptons
and charges

muonium to
anti-muonim
conversion



LC Hagedorn Schmidt Vandeleur '25

LFV selection rules from residual symmetries

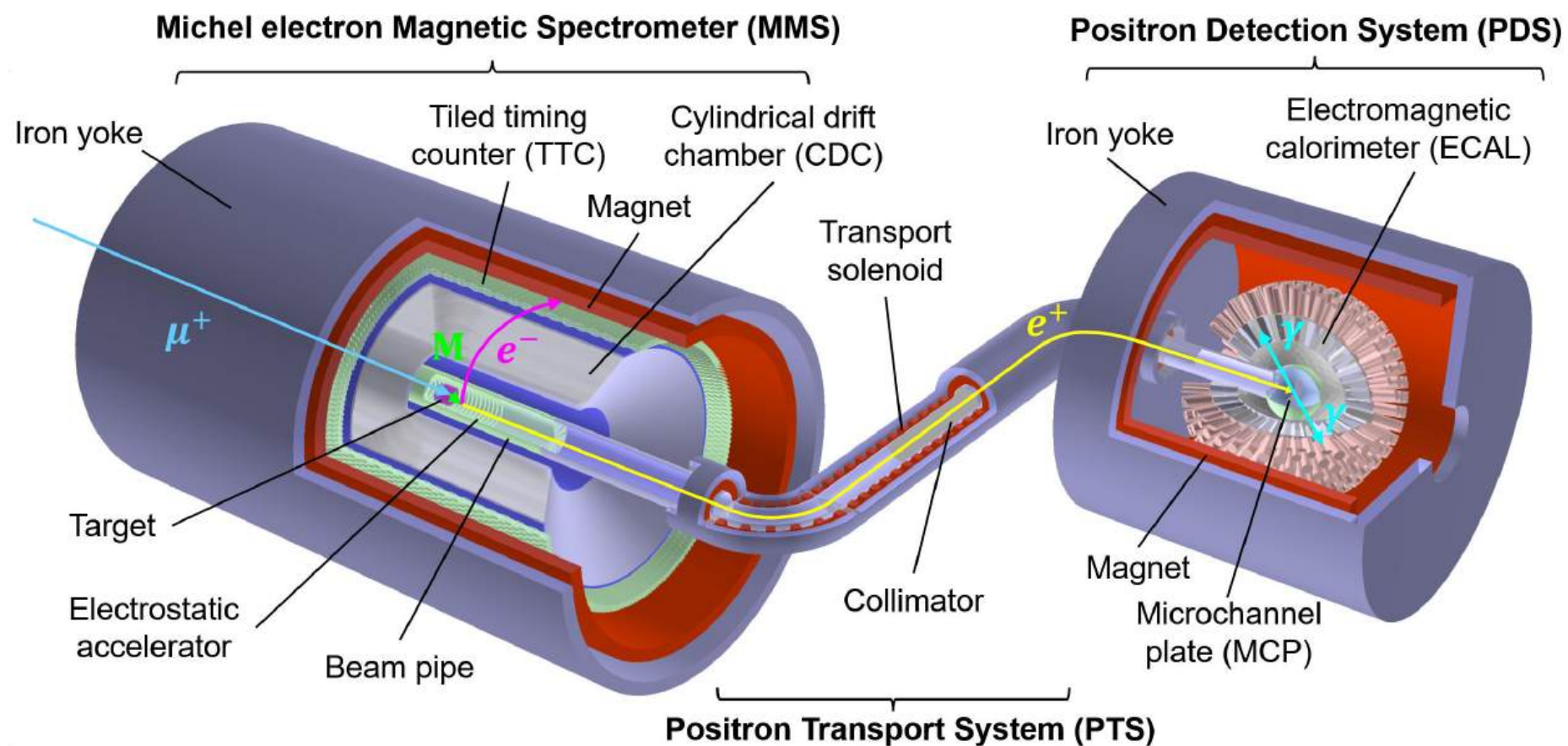
Very high energies ($\gg$ LHC's $\sqrt{s} \approx 14$ TeV) can be tested

MACE will increase the sensitivity on the

$$|\Delta L_\mu| = |\Delta L_e| = 2 \text{ process}$$

$$\text{Mu}(\mu^+ e^-) \rightarrow \overline{\text{Mu}}(\mu^- e^+)$$

by about three order of magnitude



$$P_{\text{Mu} \overline{\text{Mu}}} < 7 \times 10^{-14}$$

MACE '24

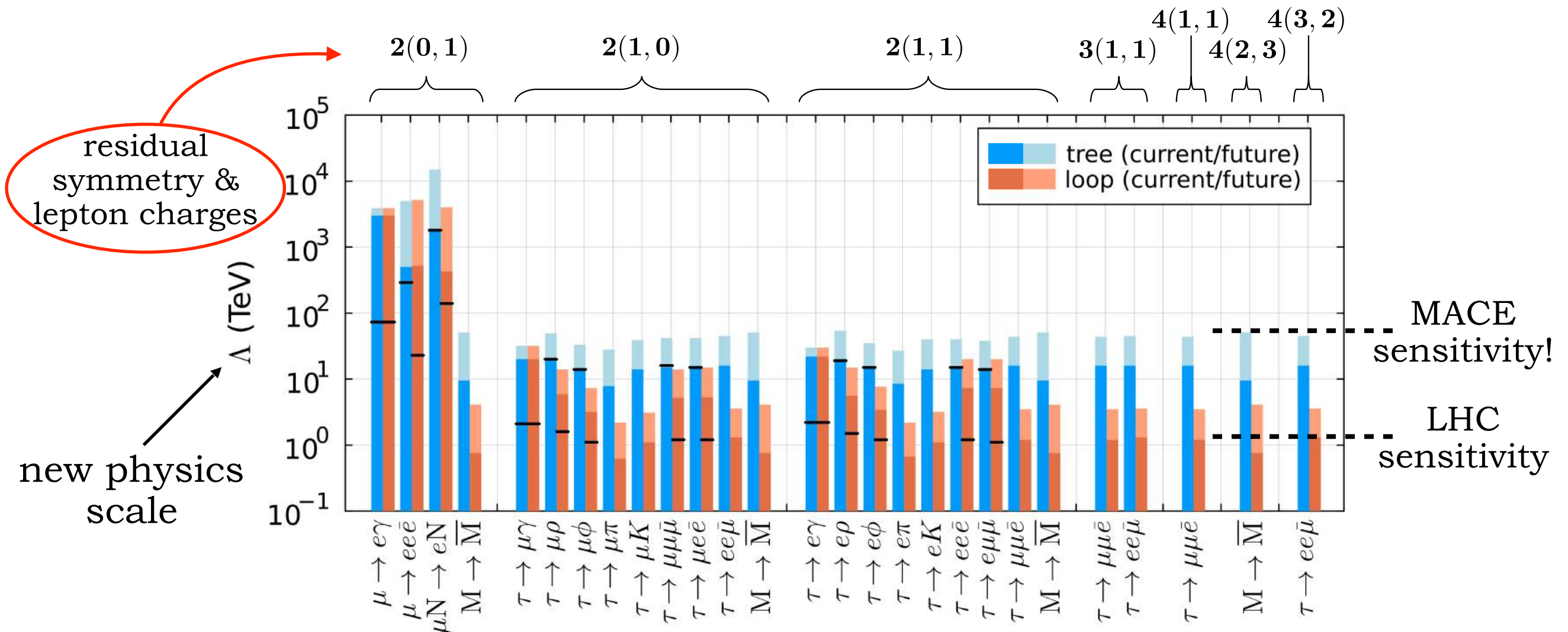
$$e\tau^\dagger$$

$(\tau \rightarrow e\gamma)$

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LFV selection rules from residual symmetries

- Many models of neutrino masses and mixing introduce discrete flavour symmetries (e.g. A_4)
- After symmetry breaking, a residual Abelian symmetry (Z_N) in the charged lepton sector is often preserved (at least approximately)
- A residual symmetry imply selection rules on the possible LFV operators
- $\mu \rightarrow e$ decays may be forbidden such that τ and muonium CLFV is stronger



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Summary

CLFV does not occur within the Standard Model

Hence, CLFV processes are among the cleanest
and most stringent tests of new physics

Present/future CLFV experiments can test new physics
up to very large energies: of the order of $10^7 - 10^8$ GeV

We might have indirect evidence of new particles or
interactions in the upcoming years!

For a pedagogical introduction to CLFV, check out:
[LC and Signorelli arXiv:1709.00294](#)

Thanks!

Questions?

