

# QED Corrections For Leptons & Nuclei

## In The MeV To GeV Regime

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COLLABORATORS

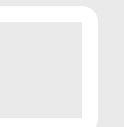
R. HILL, O. TOMALAK

Neutrino Theory Network

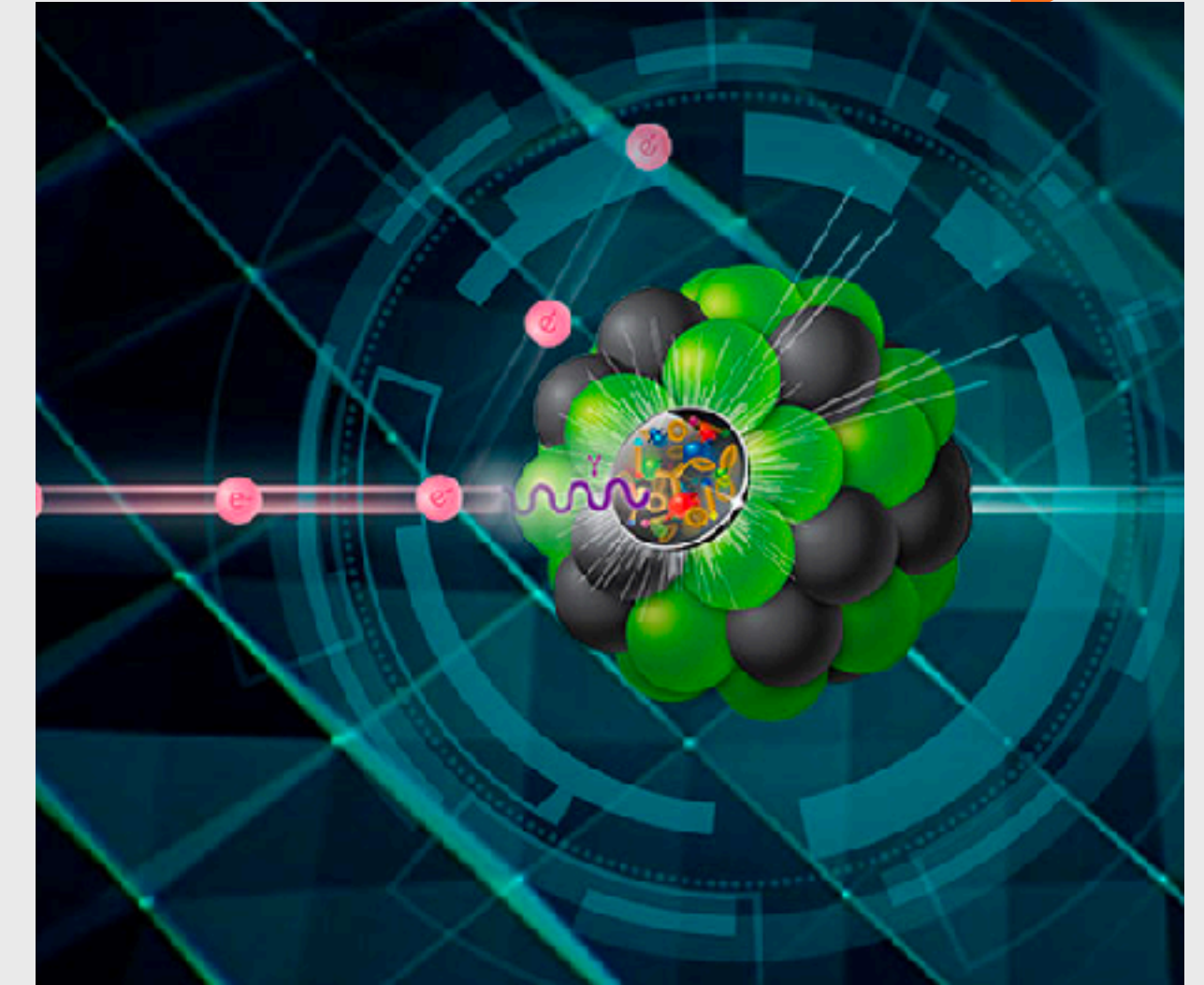
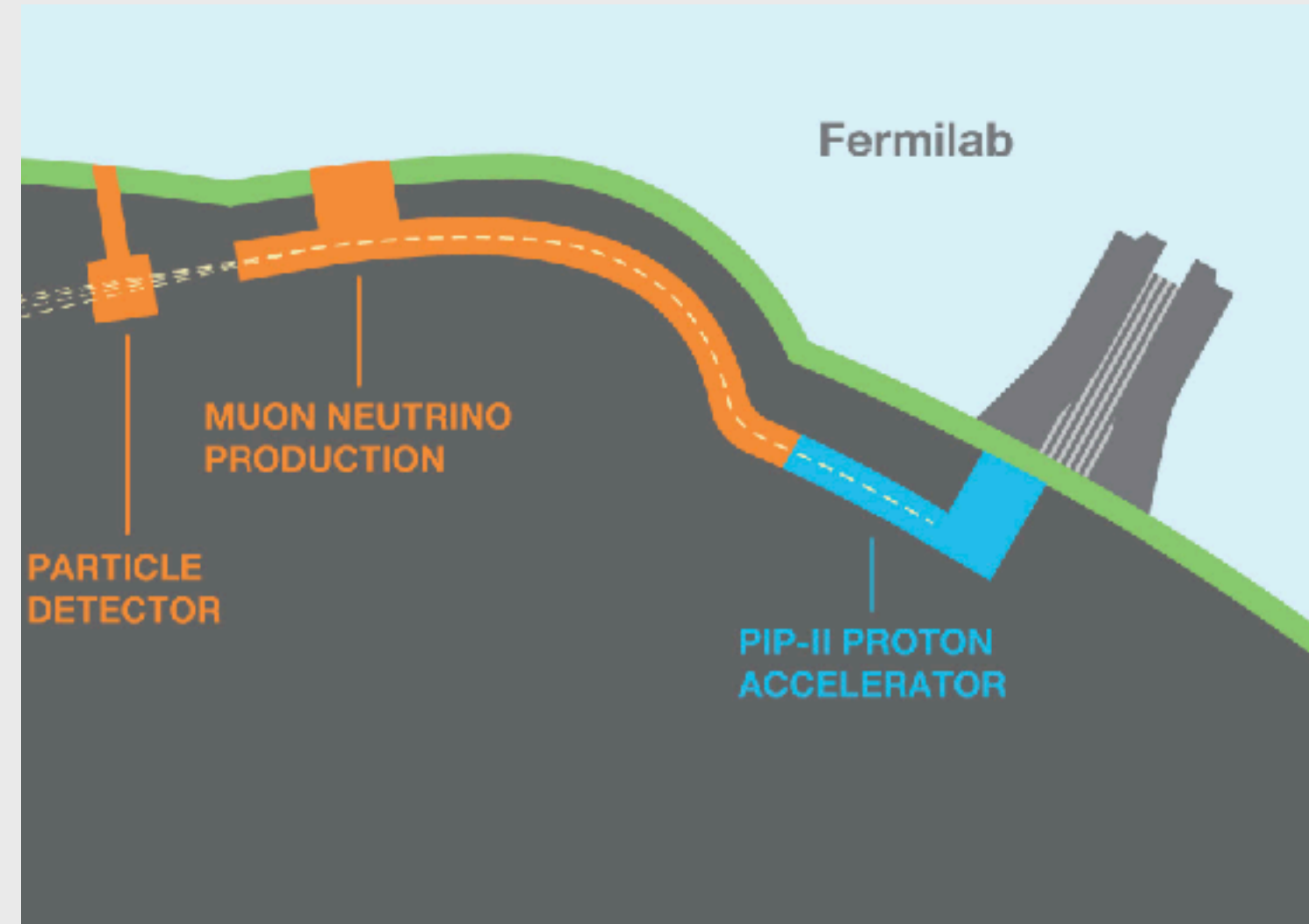
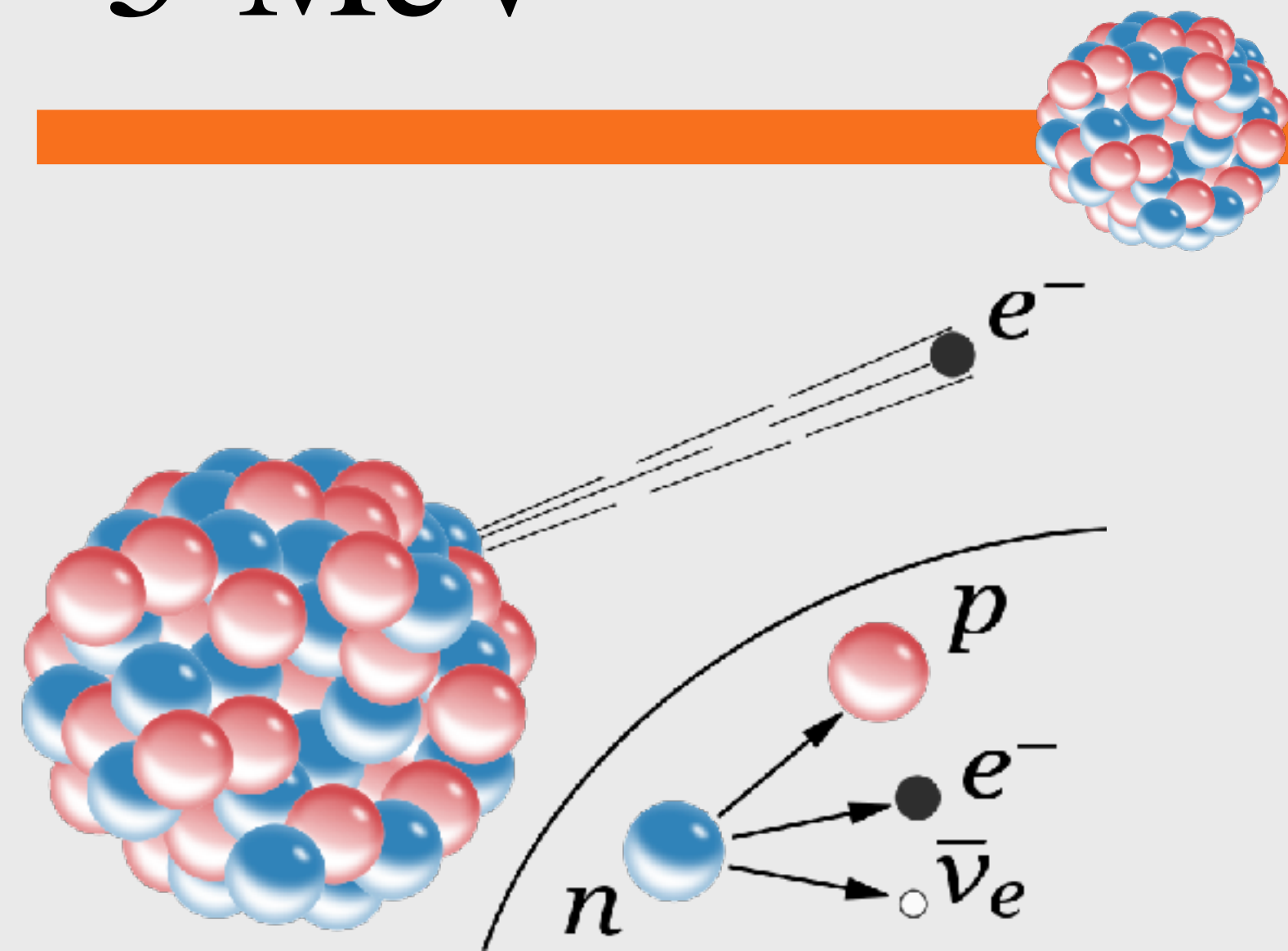
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5 MeV      50 MeV      2 GeV      100 GeV



RYAN PLESTID

WALTER BURKE INSTITUTE, CALTECH

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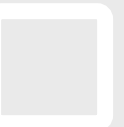
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# Some Experiments Where This Matters

MISSING MOMENTUM  
SEARCHES FOR “DM”



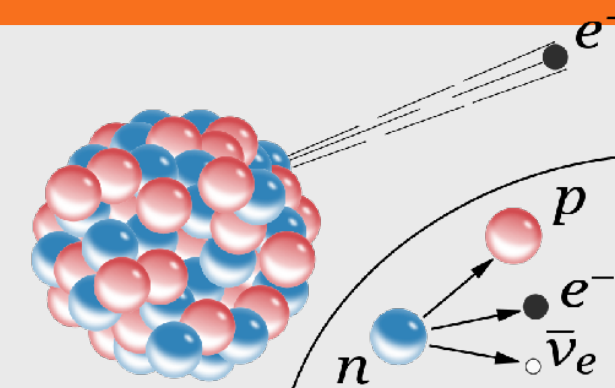
CHARGED LEPTON  
FLAVOUR VIOLATION



PRECISION NEUTRINO  
OSCILLATION EXPERIMENTS

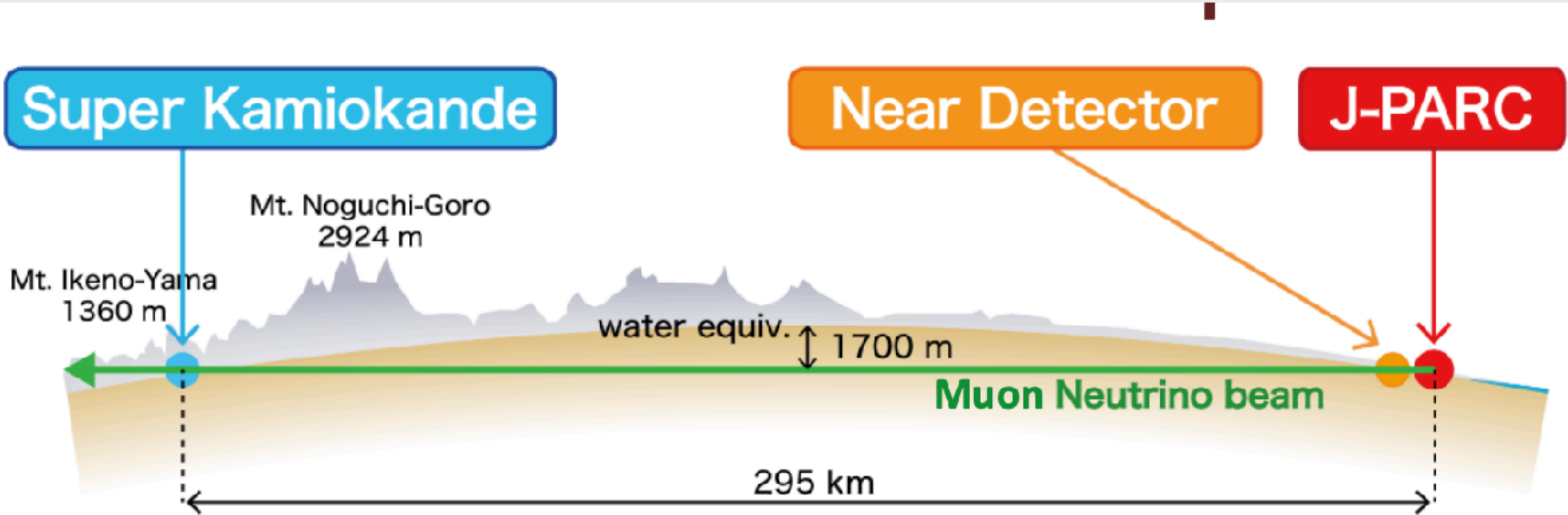
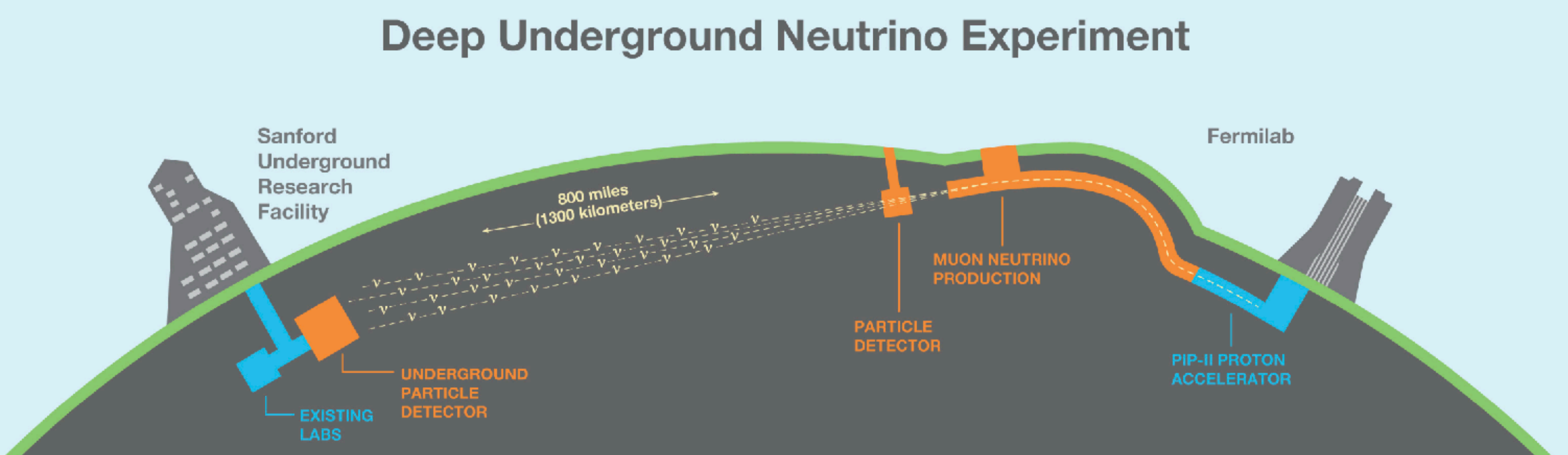


CKM &  $\beta$ -DECAY





# When Do QED Effects Matter?



**MOST WANTED**

$$\delta \left( \frac{\sigma_{\nu_e}}{\sigma_{\nu_\mu}} \right) \sim \pm 1\%$$

**\$100,000**

**REWARD**



# A Multiscale Problem

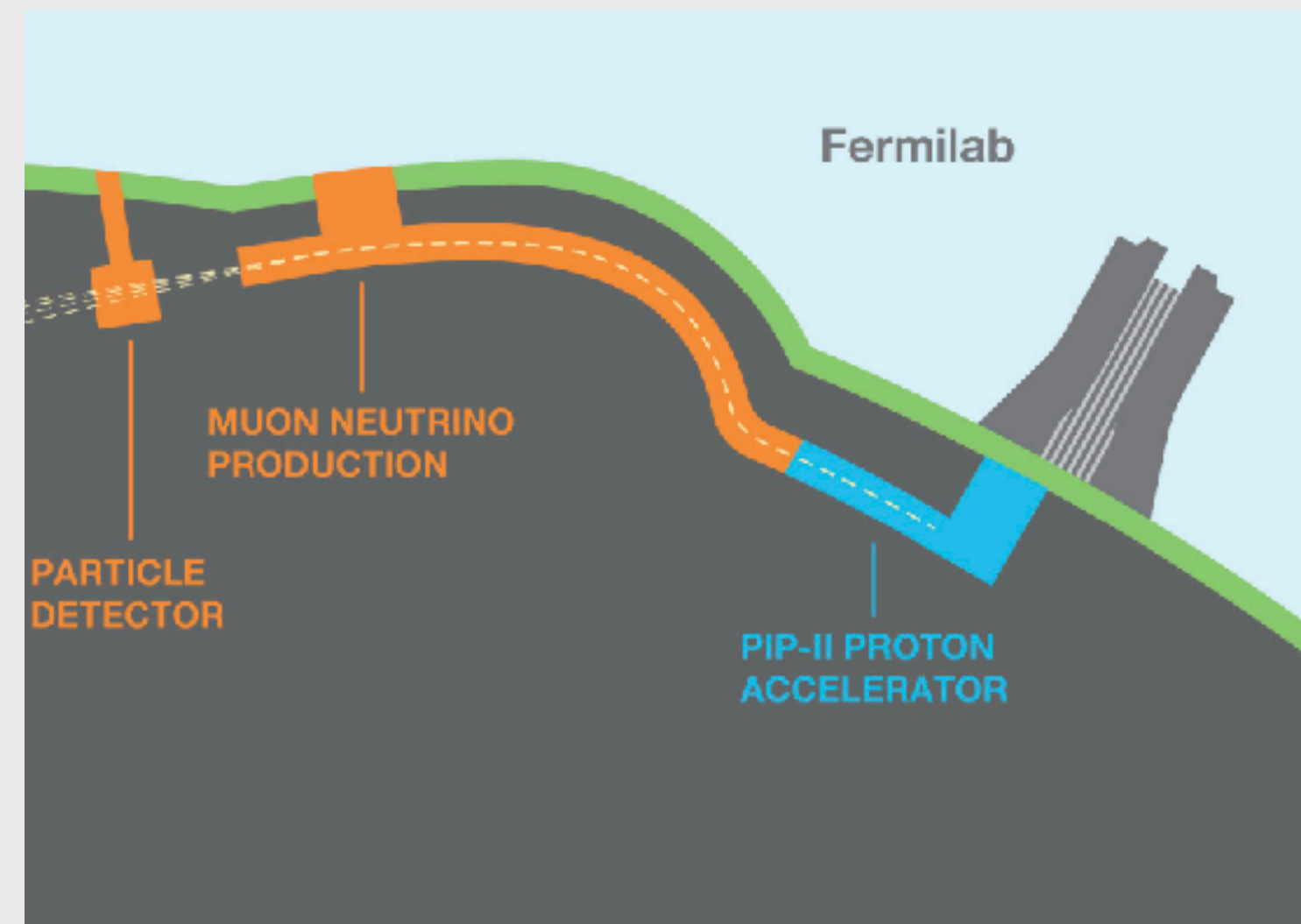
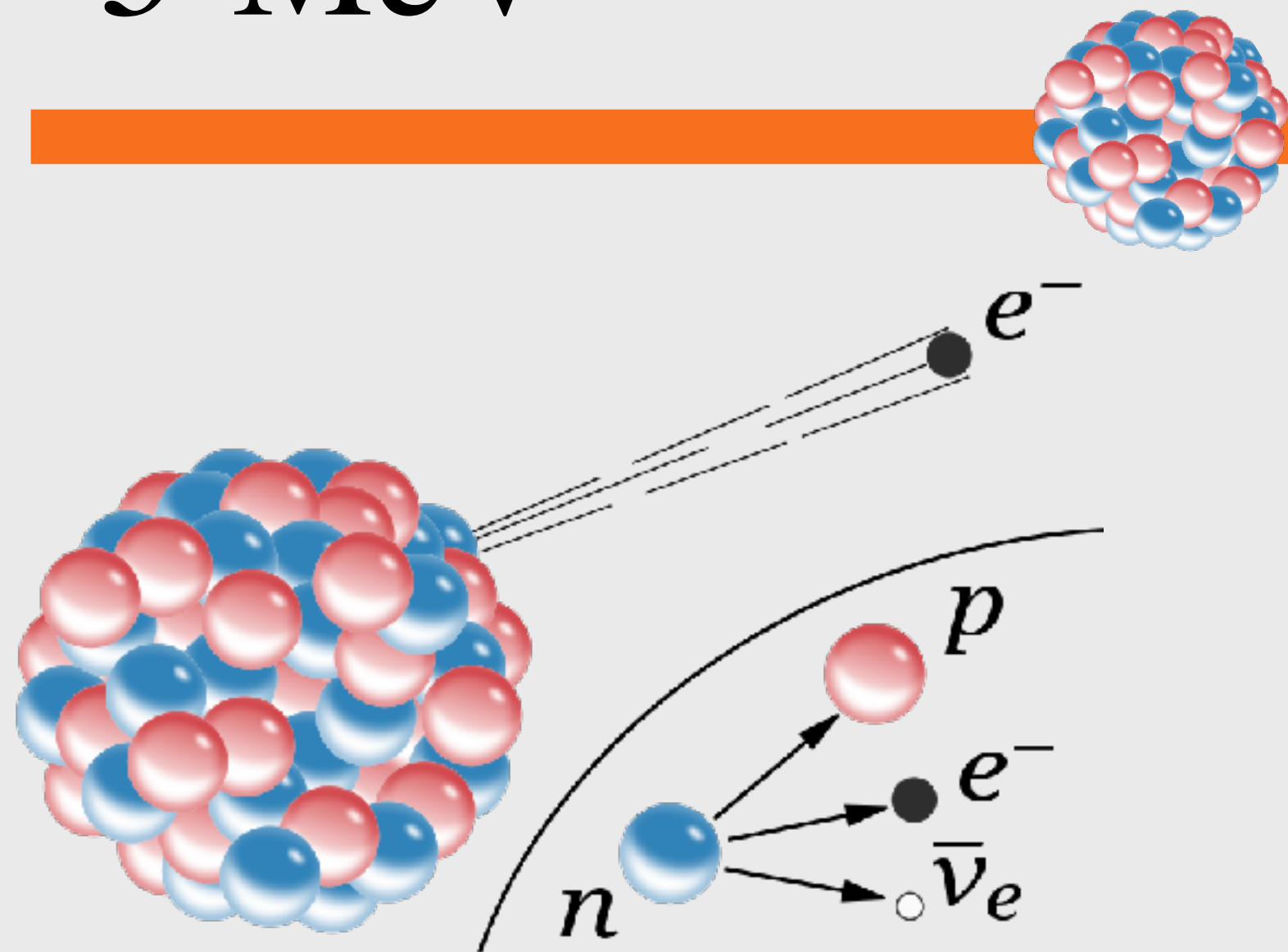
- Need an approach which straddles nuclear scales and is flexible for high- and low-energy probes.

5 MeV

50 MeV

2 GeV

100 GeV





## PART 1

### BIG PICTURE

- Why is this important **for you?**
- Why is this a hard & interesting problem?
- Why is effective field theory the natural tool?



## PART 2

### WHAT'S NEW

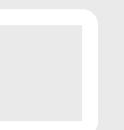
- All order Coulomb results for a **charged current**.
- Structure dependence and nuclear coherence ( big  $Z$  ).
- Bridge between QFT and treatment in nuclear codes.



## PART 3

### APPLICATIONS

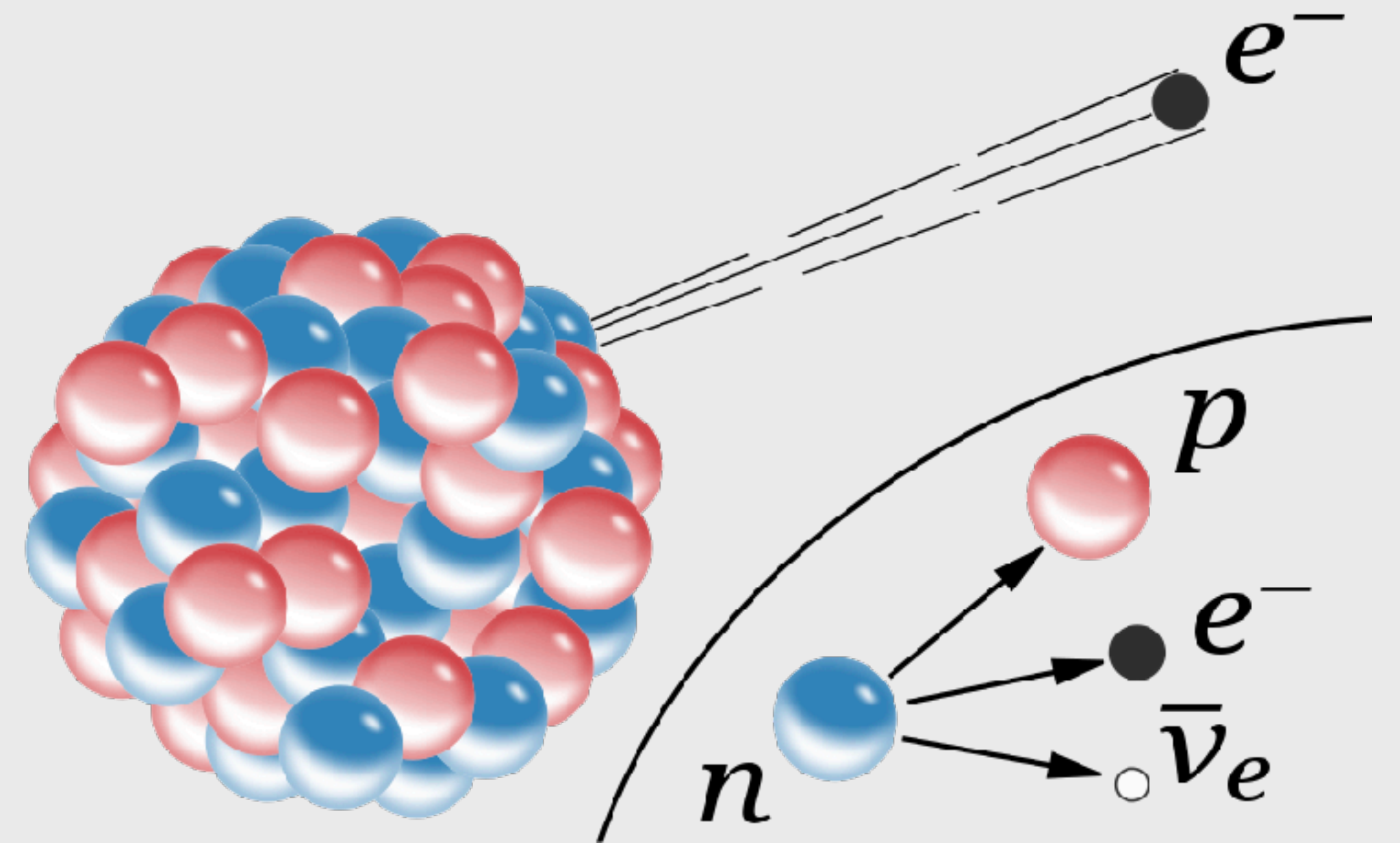
- Factorization theorems
- Superallowed beta decay (nucleus, low energy lepton)
- Neutrino nucleon scattering (high energy, no nucleons)



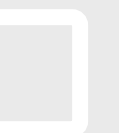


# When Do QED Effects Matter?

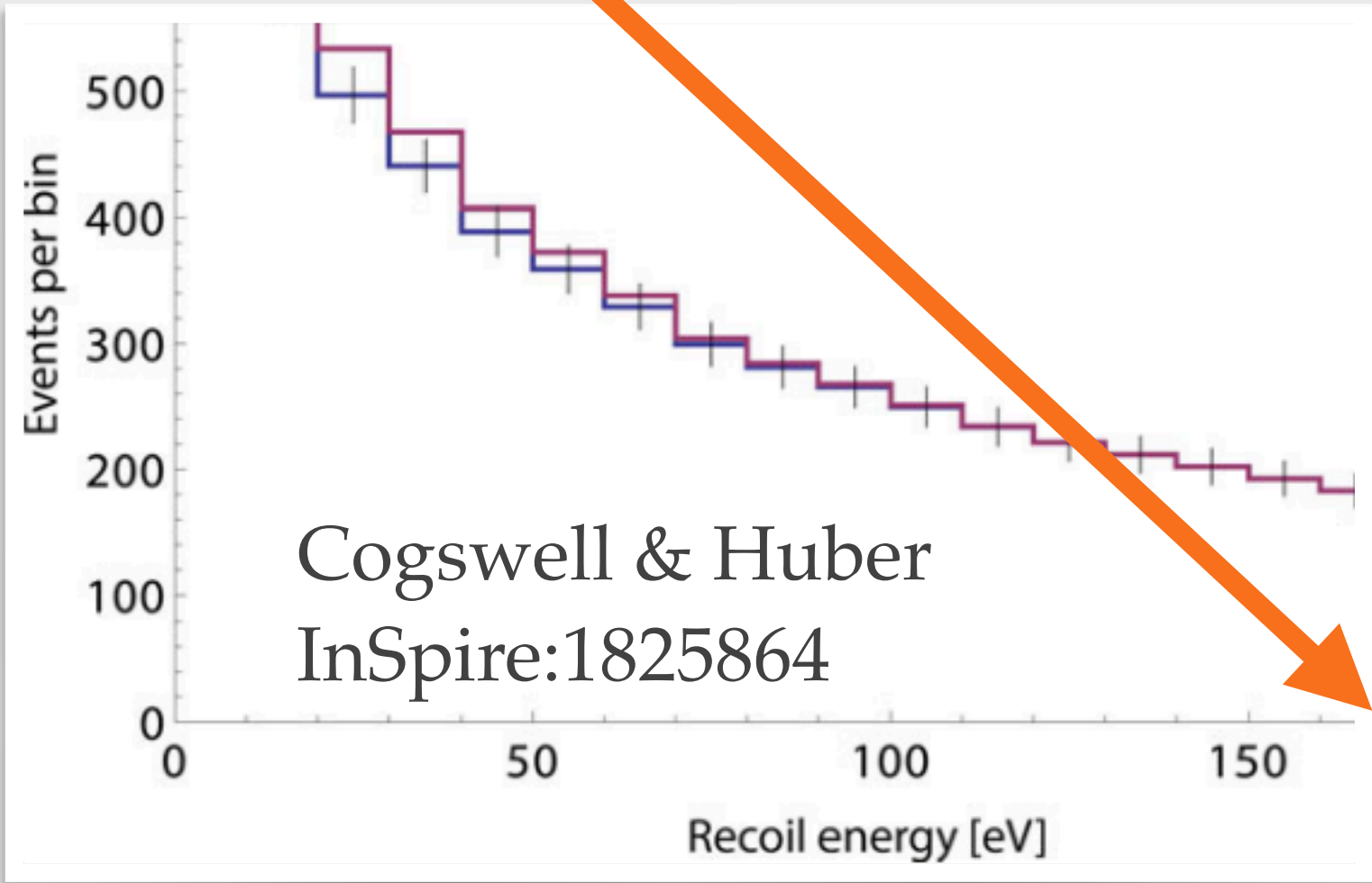
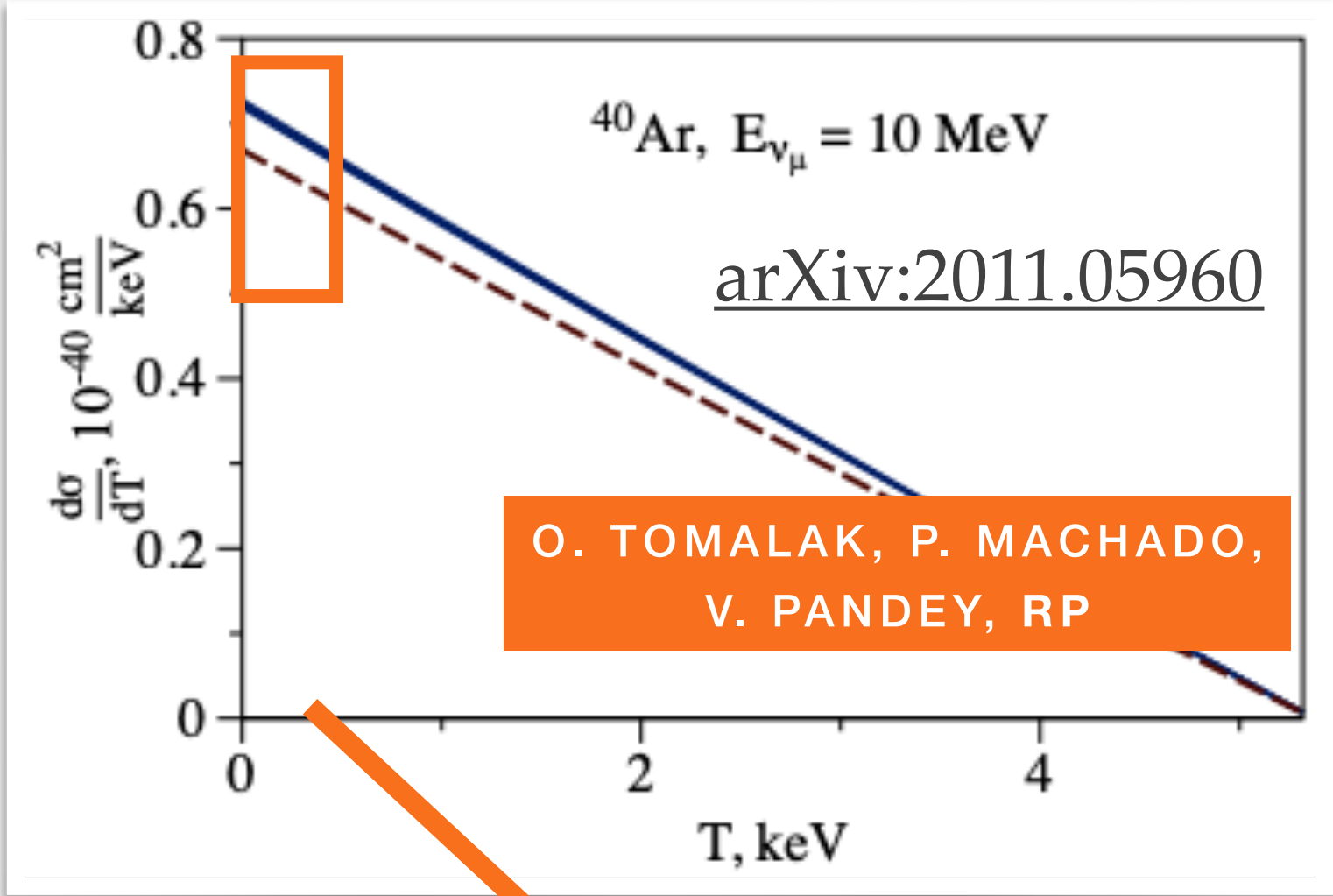
- Extractions of  $V_{ud}$  are at  $10^{-4}$
- Rely on  $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$  beta decays.
- Require radiative corrections up to (at least)  $O(Z^2\alpha^3)$ .



- Potentially relevant for reactor neutrino fluxes  
(*cough* Patrick Huber *cough*)



# When Do QED Effects Matter?



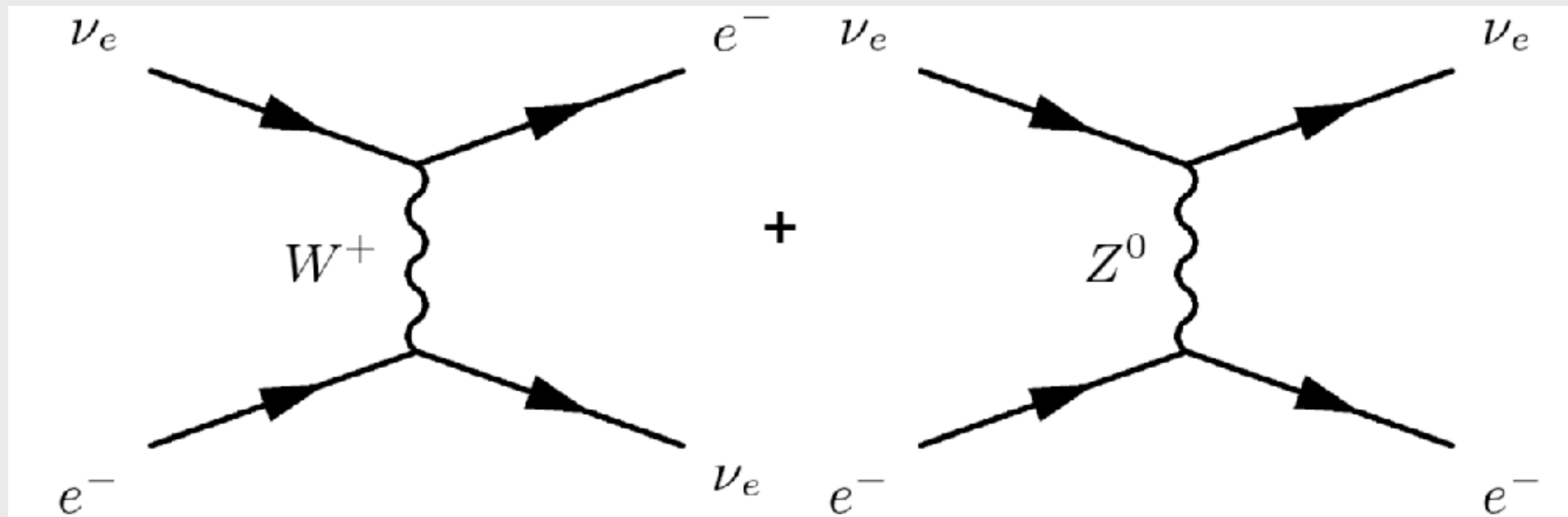
O. TOMALAK,



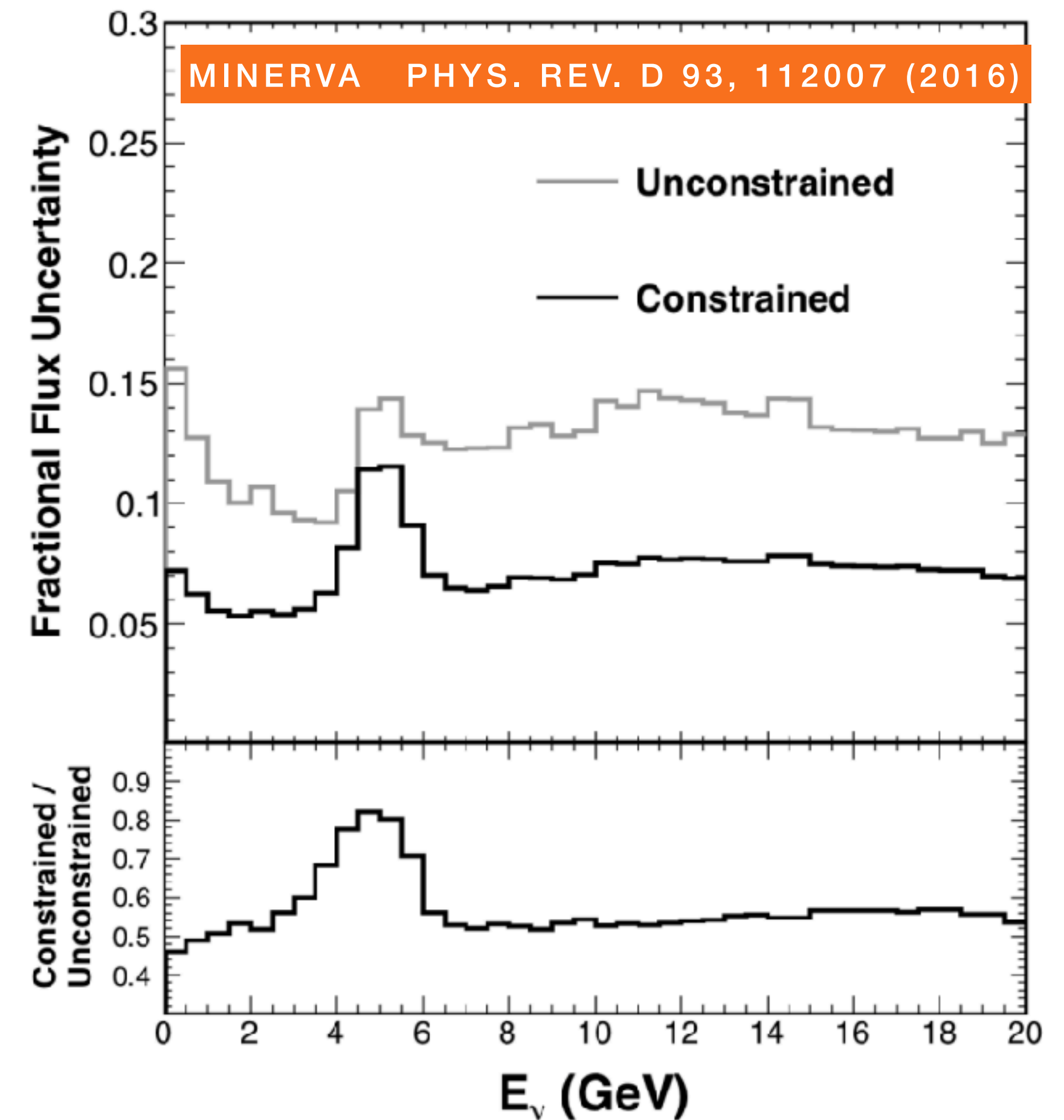


# When Do QED Effects Matter?

- Neutrino electron scattering used for beam-normalization.
- Requires 1-loop QED (see Tomalak & Hill 2019).

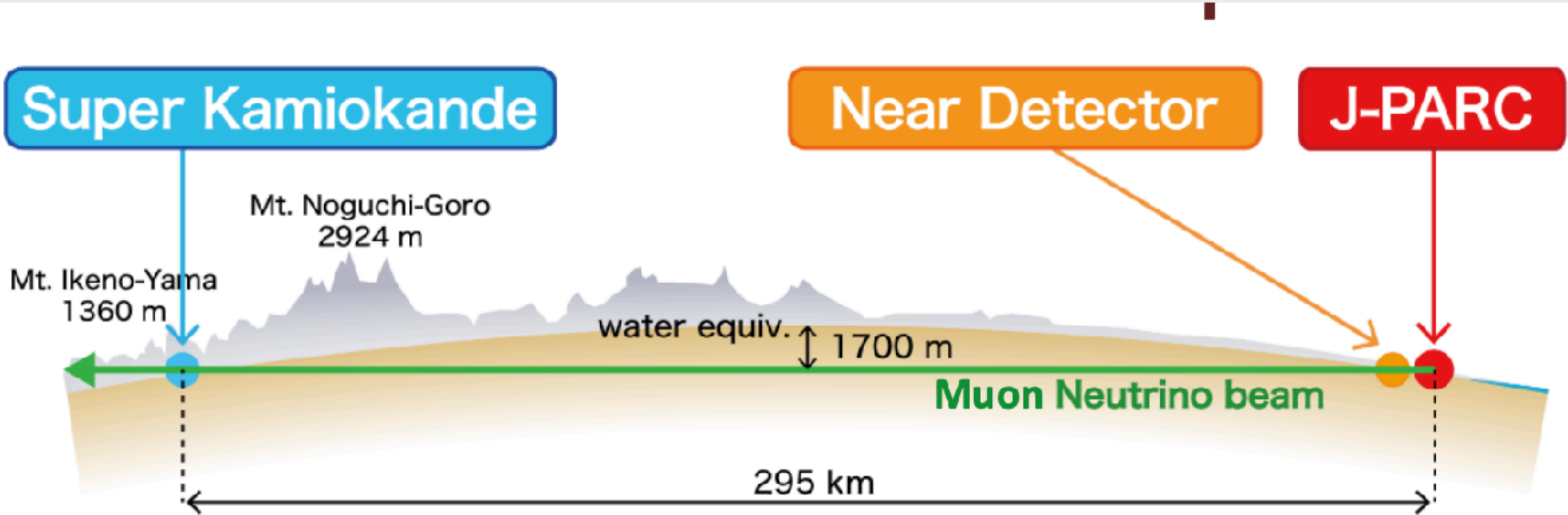
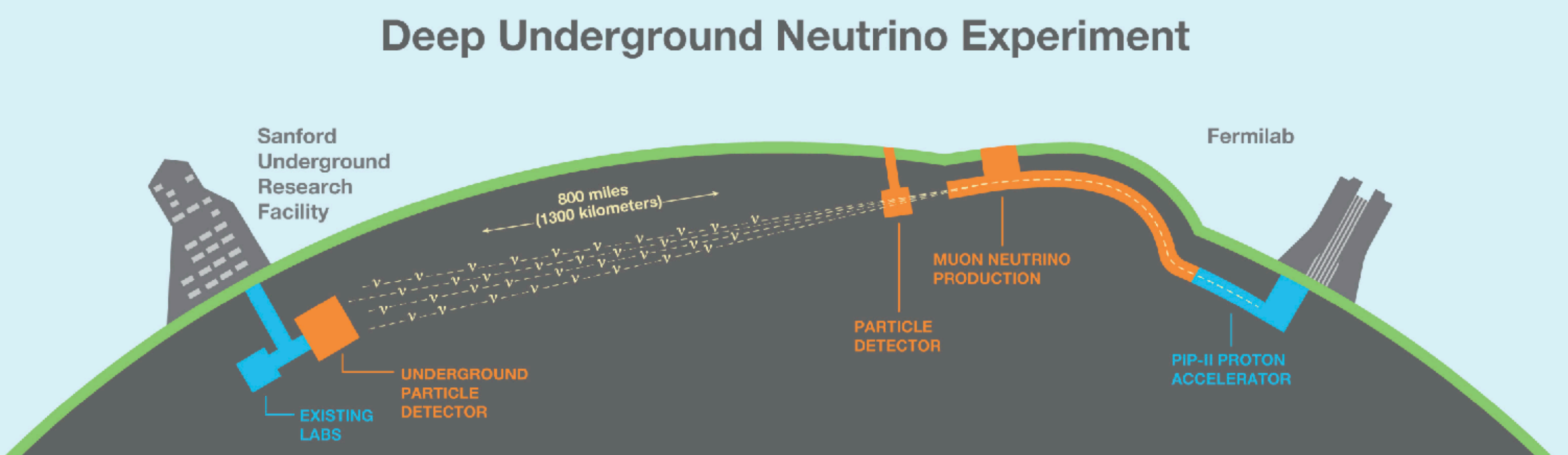


Fractional Uncertainty change after  $\nu$ -e constraint





# When Do QED Effects Matter?



**MOST WANTED**

$$\delta \left( \frac{\sigma_{\nu_e}}{\sigma_{\nu_\mu}} \right) \sim \pm 1\%$$

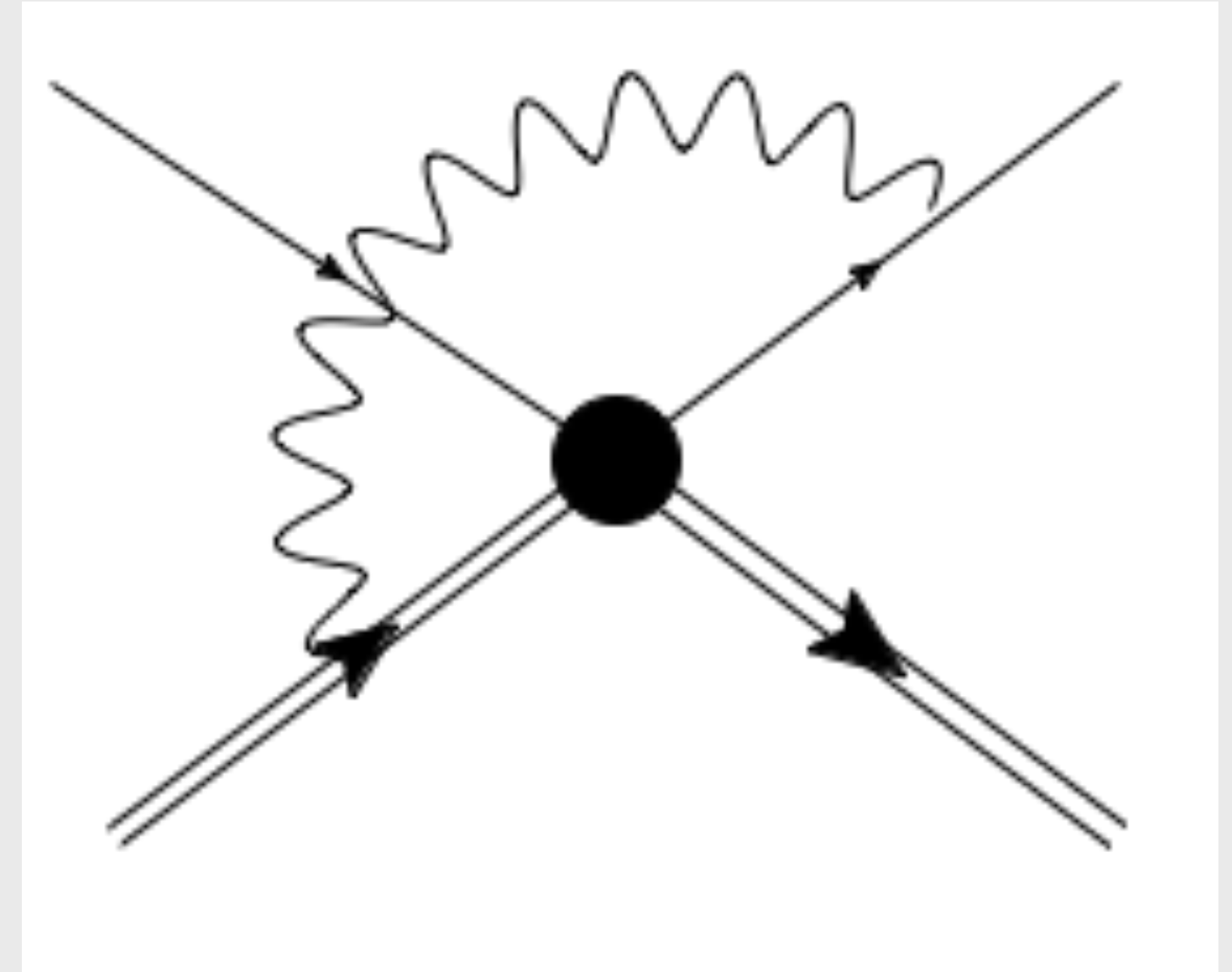
**\$100,000**

**REWARD**



# How Do We Account For Nuclear Structure Inside Loops?

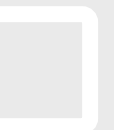
- Loops connect high energy leptons to very heavy nuclei.
- At long wavelengths the nucleus can couple ***coherently*** to photons.
- Radiative correction are enhanced by the the **charge of the nucleus.**



$$\alpha \rightarrow Z\alpha \quad \text{for} \quad \mathbf{L} \ll 1/R$$

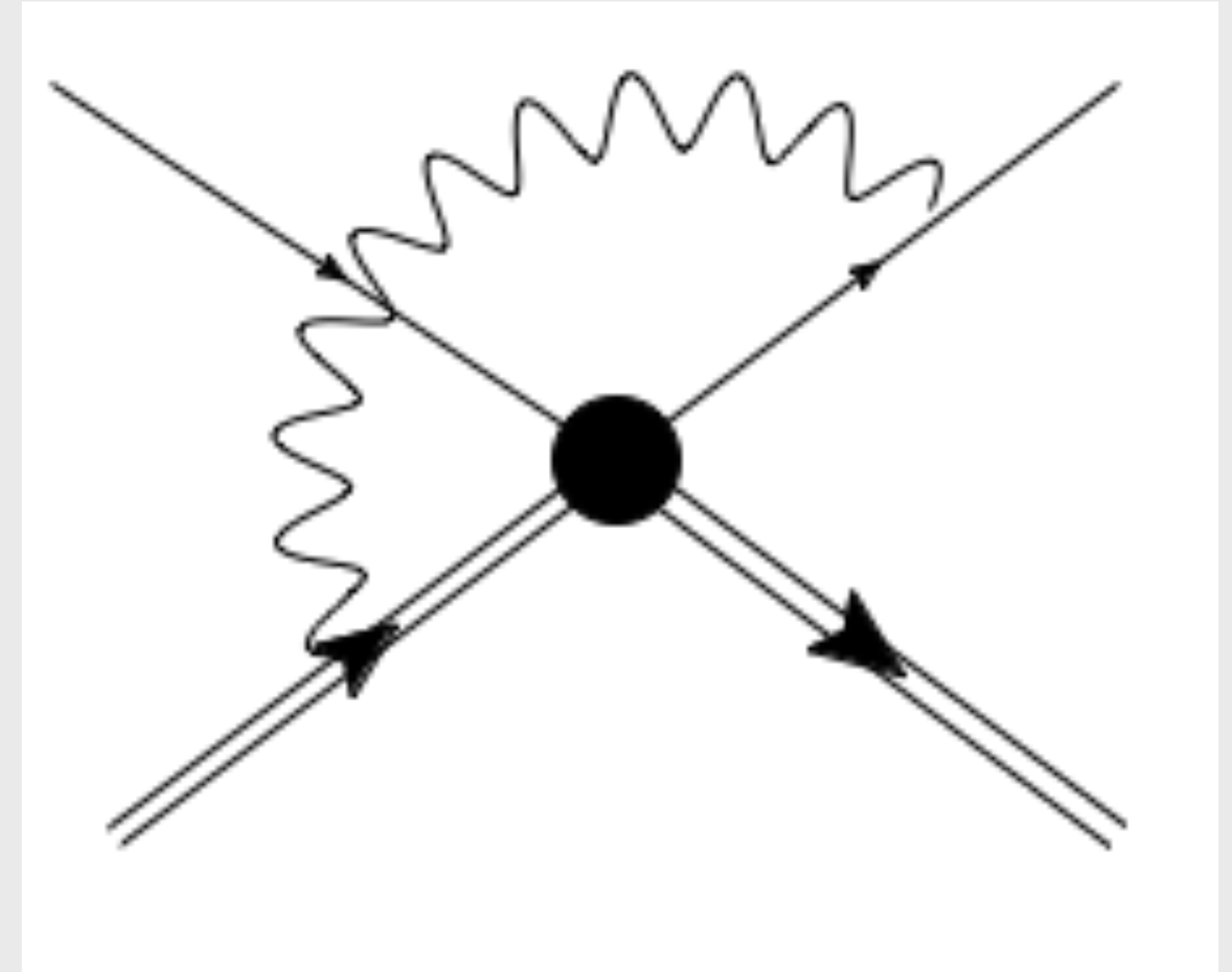
LOOP MOMENTUM.

$$\lambda \gtrsim R$$



# How Do We Account For Nuclear Structure Inside Loops?

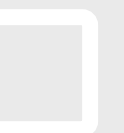
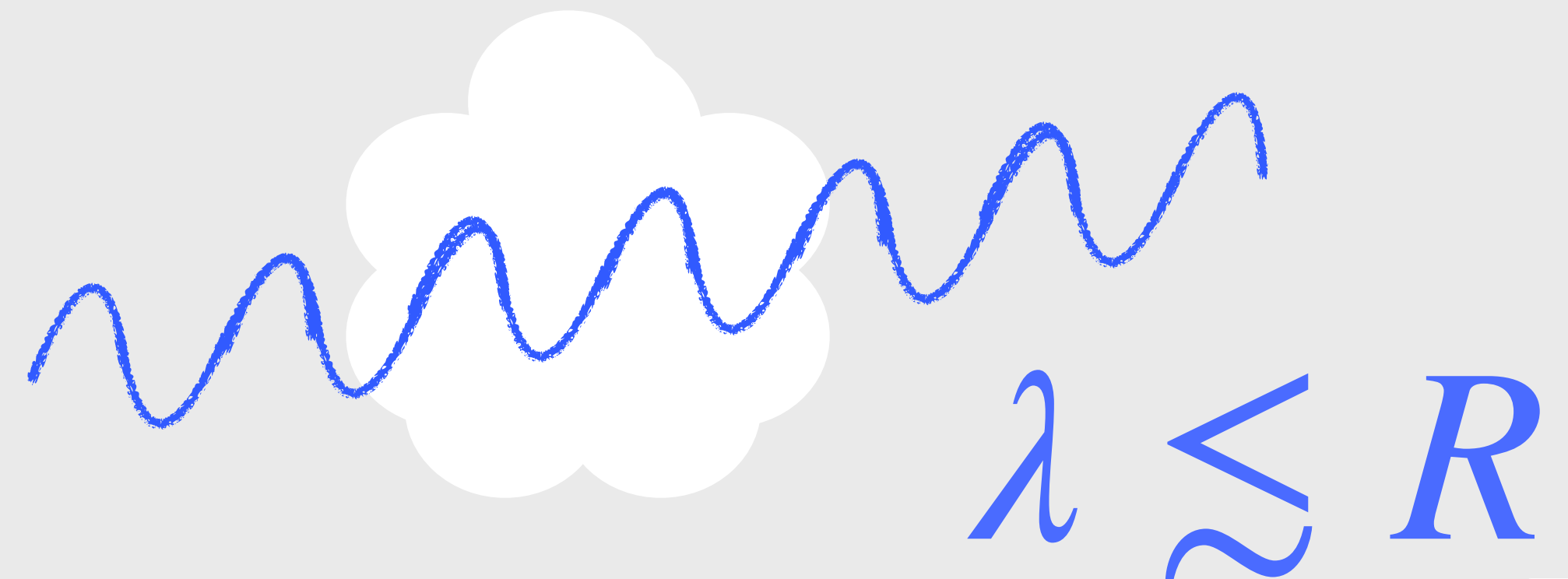
- Loops connect high energy leptons to very heavy nuclei.
- At short wavelengths the photon couples ***to nucleons (or even quarks)***.
- Radiative corrections are smaller, but involve "the brown muck".



$\alpha$  for  $L \gg 1/R$

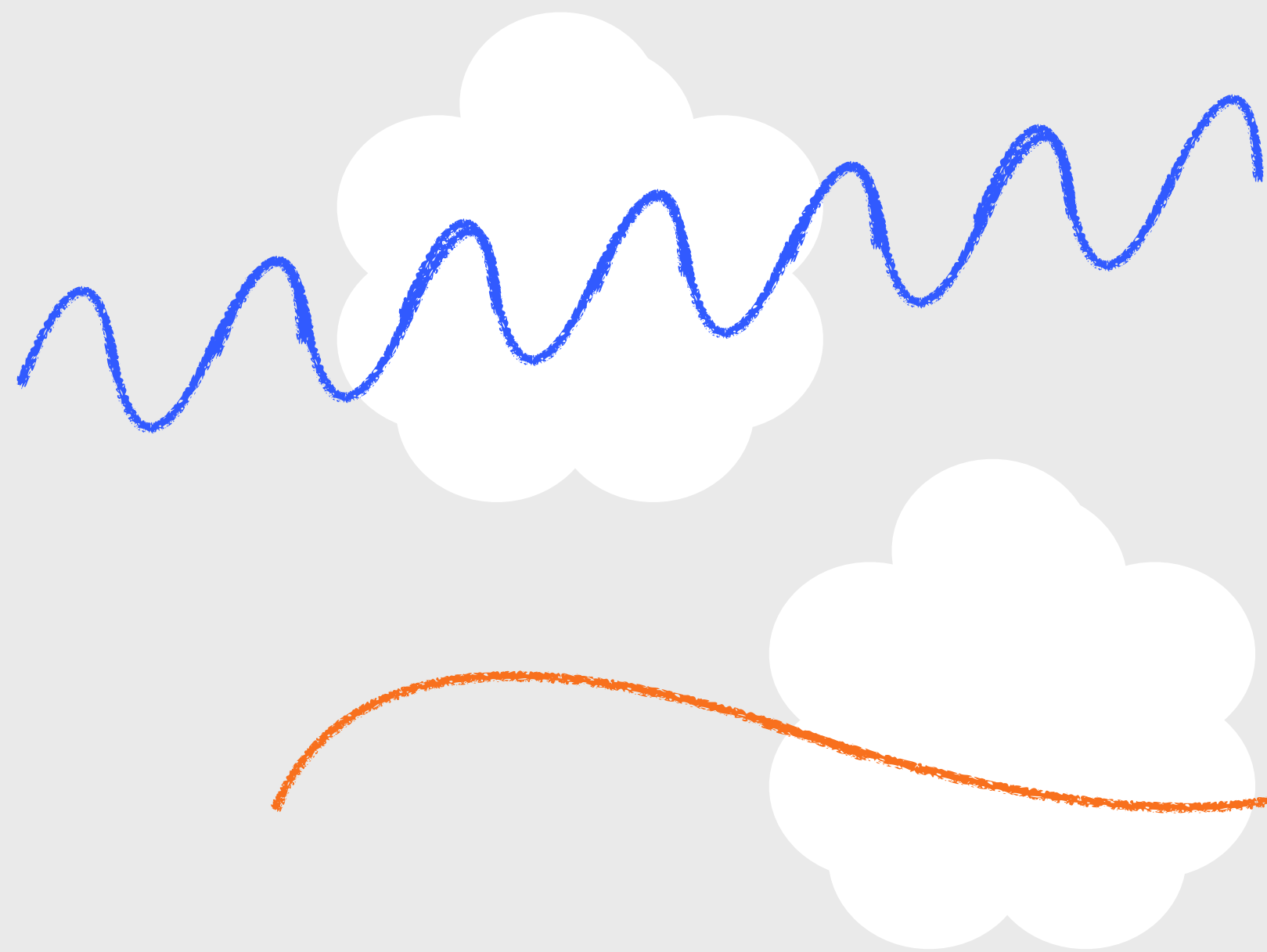


LOOP MOMENTUM.





# Scales In The Problem



$$\int \frac{d^4 L}{(2\pi)^4}$$

- Loop integrals have all these scales!

Nuclear Mass

QCD scale

Lepton Energy

Nuclear Radius

40 GeV

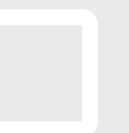
1 GeV

600 MeV

50 MeV

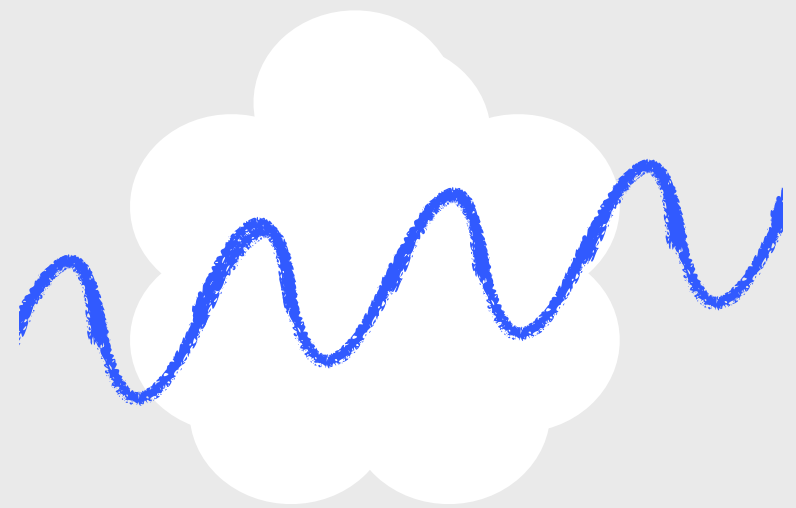
$\alpha$

$Z\alpha$



# Effective Field Theory

- Separate scales in loop.
- Two EFTs  $\leftrightarrow$  Two regions.



$$\int_{\text{EFT}_I} [dL] + \int_{\text{EFT}_{II}} [dL]$$

Nuclear Mass

Lepton Energy

Nuclear Radius

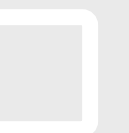
40 GeV

600 MeV

50 MeV

EFT<sub>I</sub>

EFT<sub>II</sub>





# Why EFT?

$\mathcal{M}(\{\text{all the scales}\})$

$$= \mathcal{M}_1(E_1) \mathcal{M}_2(E_2) \mathcal{M}_3(E_3) \dots$$

- Problem factorizes
- Each matrix element has only 1 scale.
- Nuclear scales can be separated from others (e.g. Coulomb, collinear radiation etc.)

Nuclear Mass

40 GeV

QCD scale

1 GeV

Lepton Energy

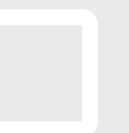
600 MeV

Nuclear Radius

50 MeV

$\alpha$

$Z\alpha$





## PART 1

### BIG PICTURE

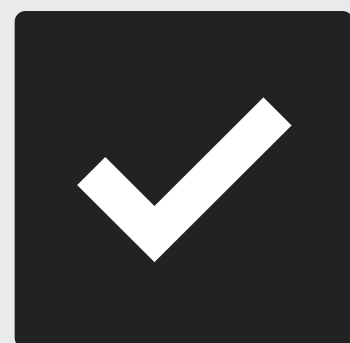
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## PART 2

### WHAT'S NEW

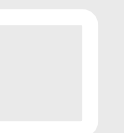
- All order Coulomb results for a **charged current**.
- Structure dependence and nuclear coherence ( big  $Z$  ).
- Bridge between QFT and treatment in nuclear codes.



## PART 3

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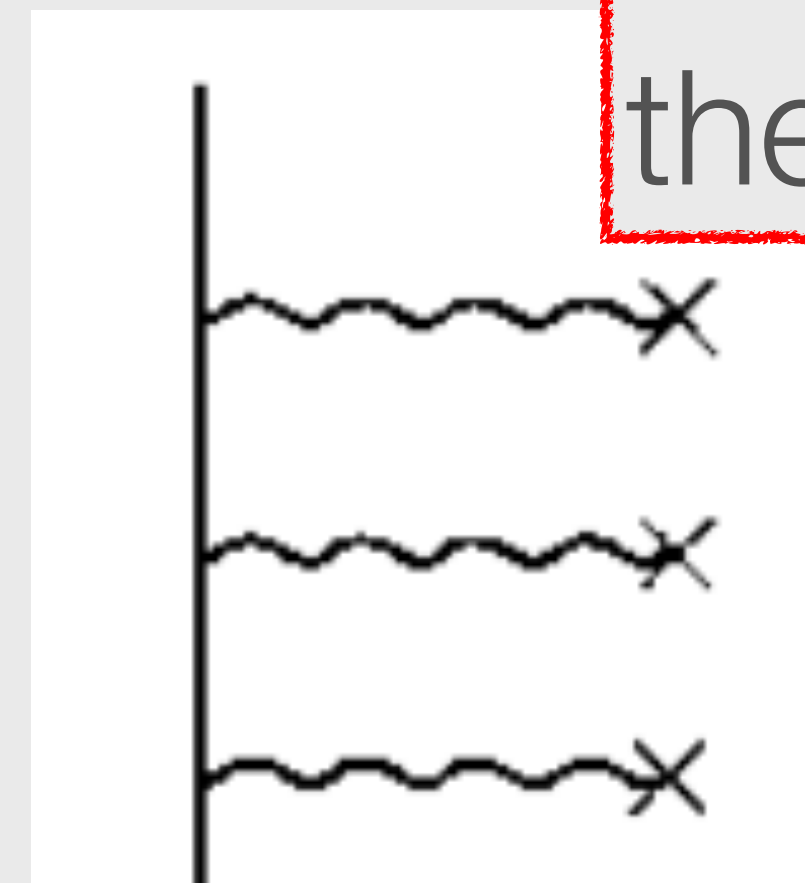
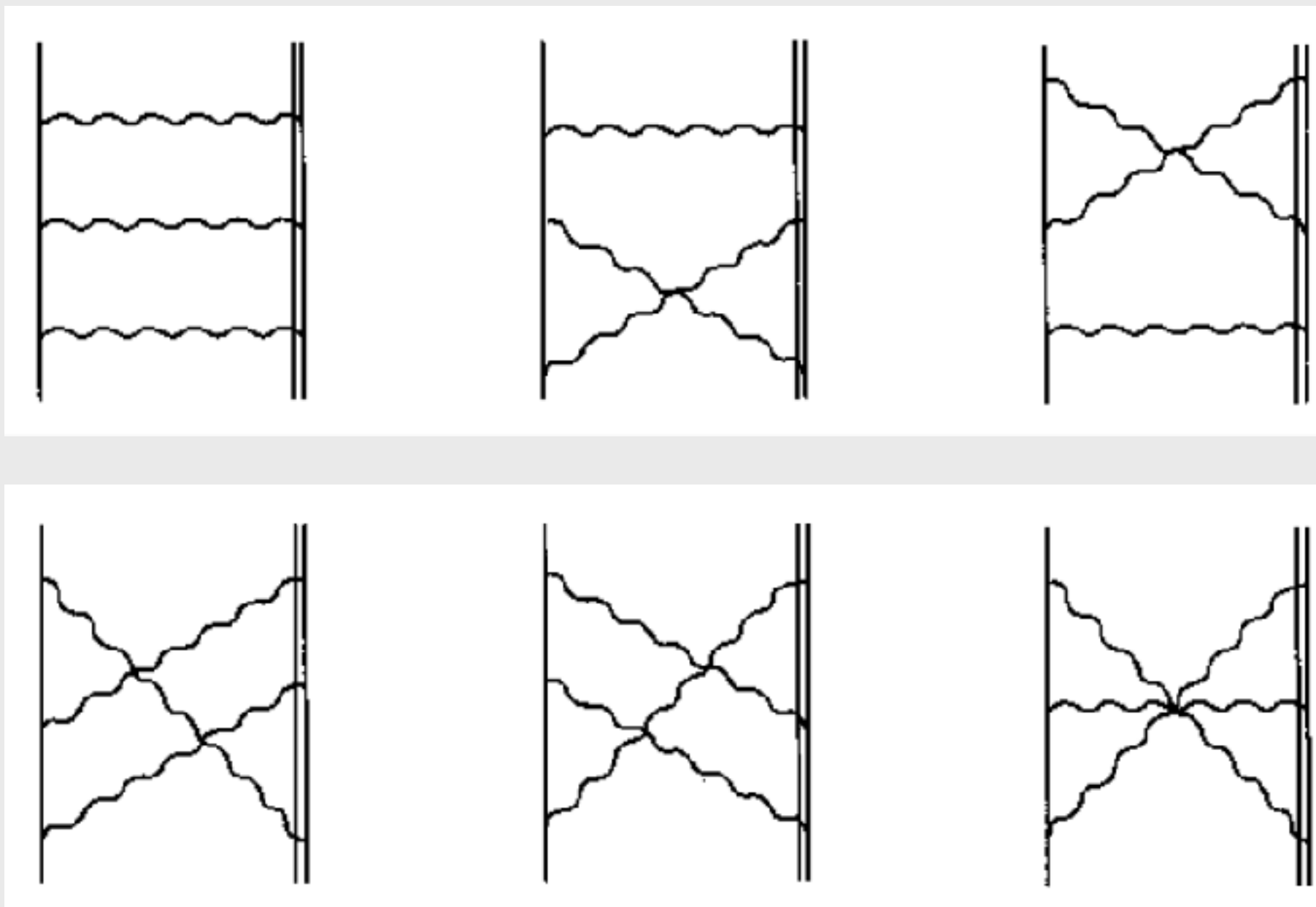
- Factorization theorems
- Superallowed beta decay (nucleus, low energy lepton)
- Neutrino nucleon scattering (high energy, no nucleons)





# Coulomb Physics Review: Crossed

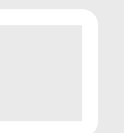
- It is “well known” (but obscure) that the sum of all crossed ladder diagrams reduces to the Dirac equation with Coulomb field.
- Assumes  $|q|R \ll 1$ ,  $|q|/M \ll 1$  and  $Z_A = Z_B$ .



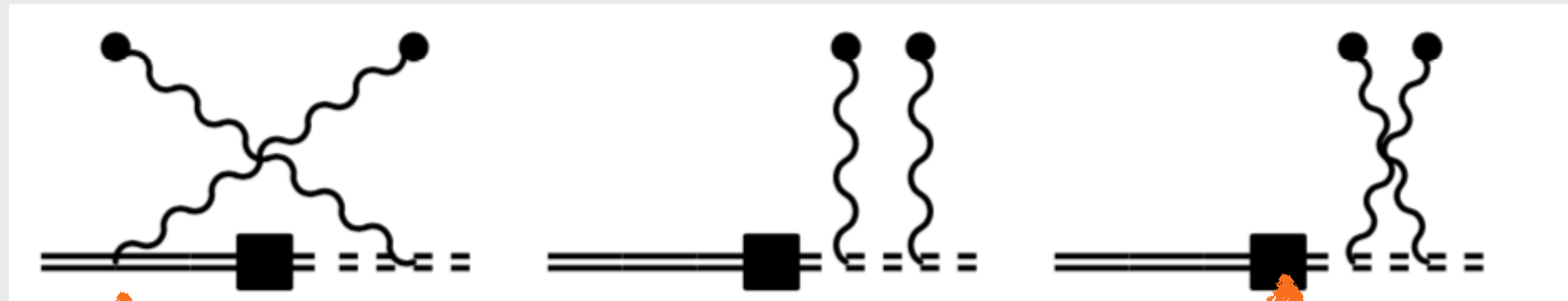
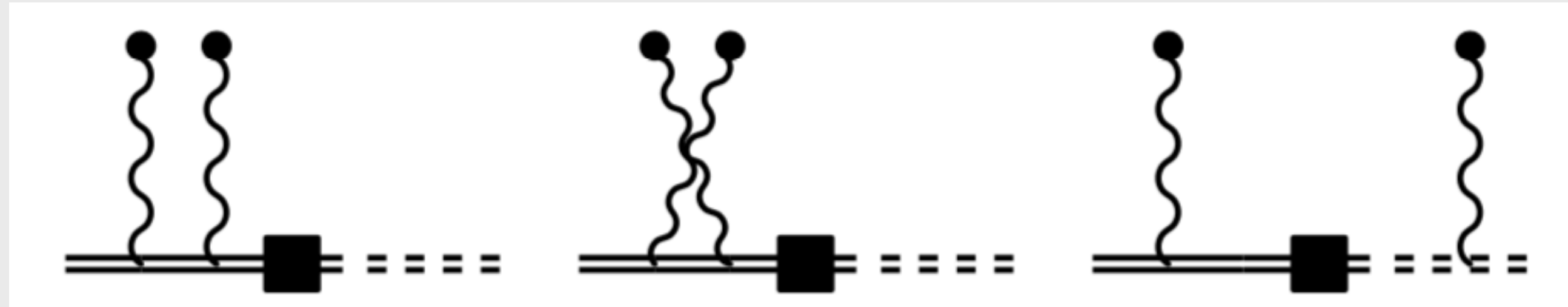
Key simplification is the large mass limit.

WEINBERG VOL 1, 13.6

SEE ALSO: BRODSKY (1969), YENNIE (1964), NEGHBABIAN (1983)



# Crossed Ladders: Same Idea New Slide



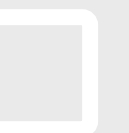
Structured  
 $iZe F(q^2) v_\mu$

Heavy particle

Hard vertex

- Sum of all diagrams equivalent to external field sourced by charge distribution.

$$\frac{2m}{(p+q)^2 - m^2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{v \cdot q}$$



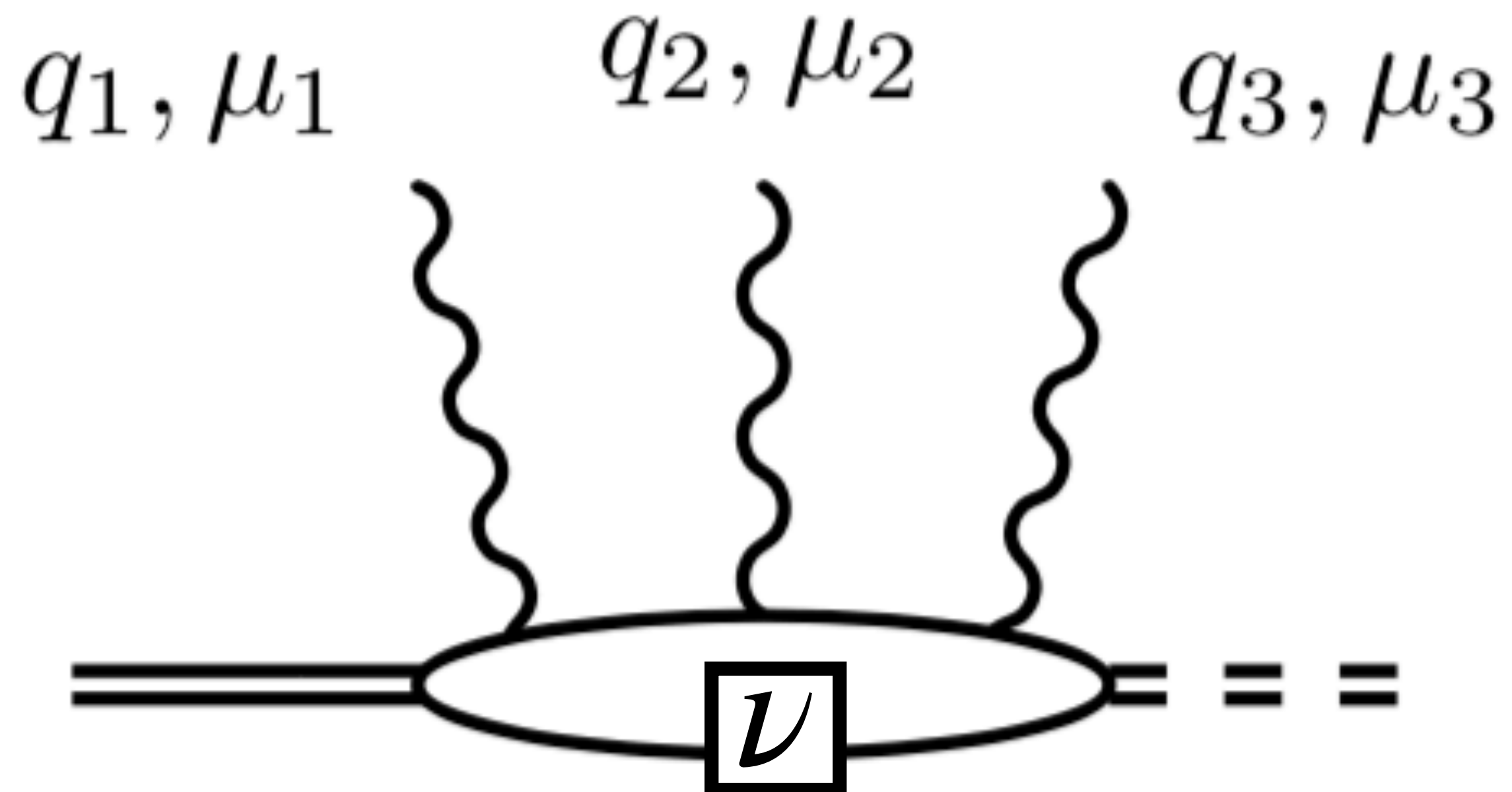


# New Analysis With Charged Currents

$$G_{\mu_1 \dots \mu_N ; \nu}(q_1, \dots, q_N)$$

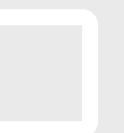
$$= \int [d^4x] e^{i \sum_i q_i \cdot x_i} \langle B | T \{ J_{\mu_1}(x_1) \dots \mathcal{J}_\nu \dots J_{\mu_N}(x_N) \} | A \rangle$$

WEAK CURRENT



$$\langle B | (\text{Big Blob}) | A \rangle$$

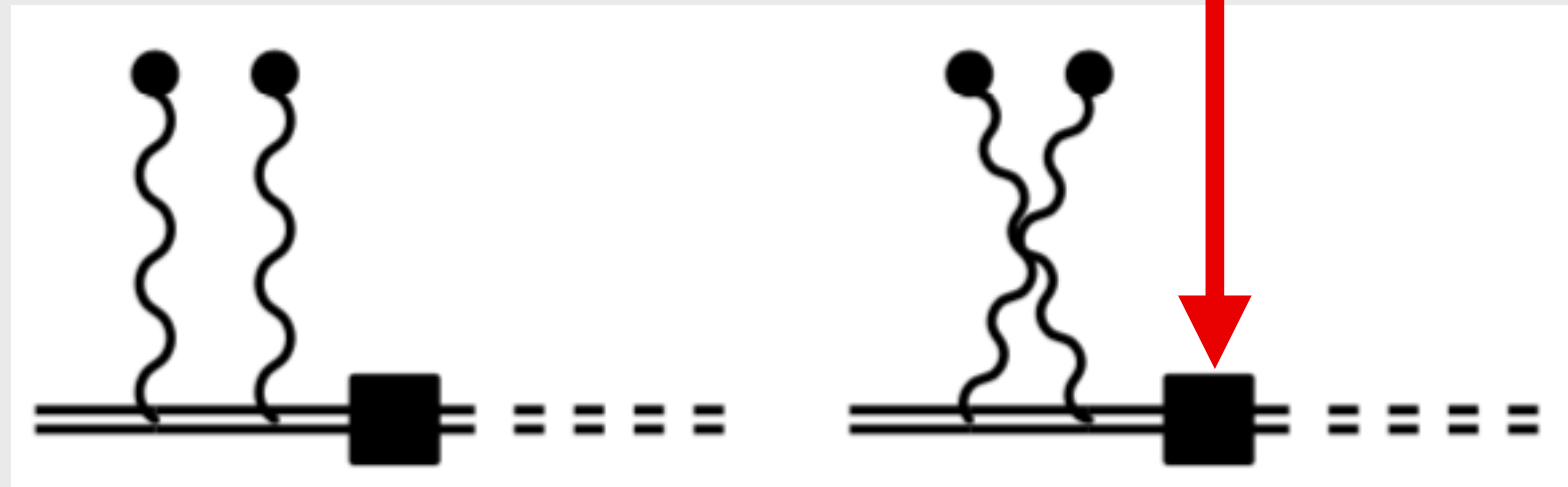
$$Z_A \neq Z_B$$



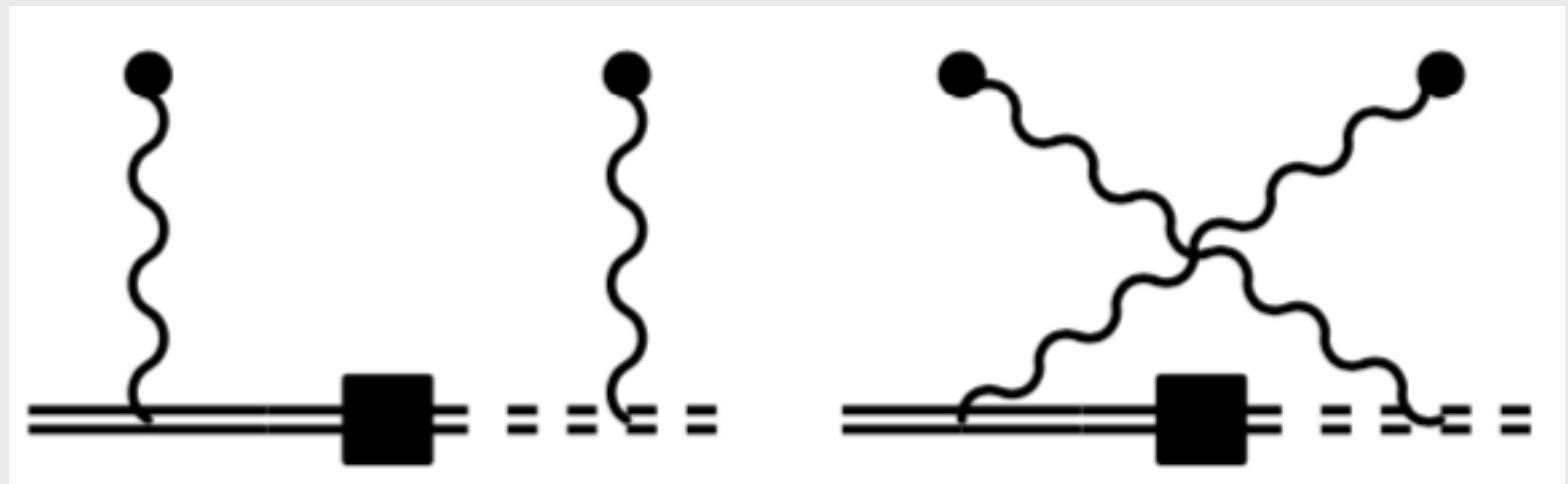
# Charged Currents

WEAK CURRENT

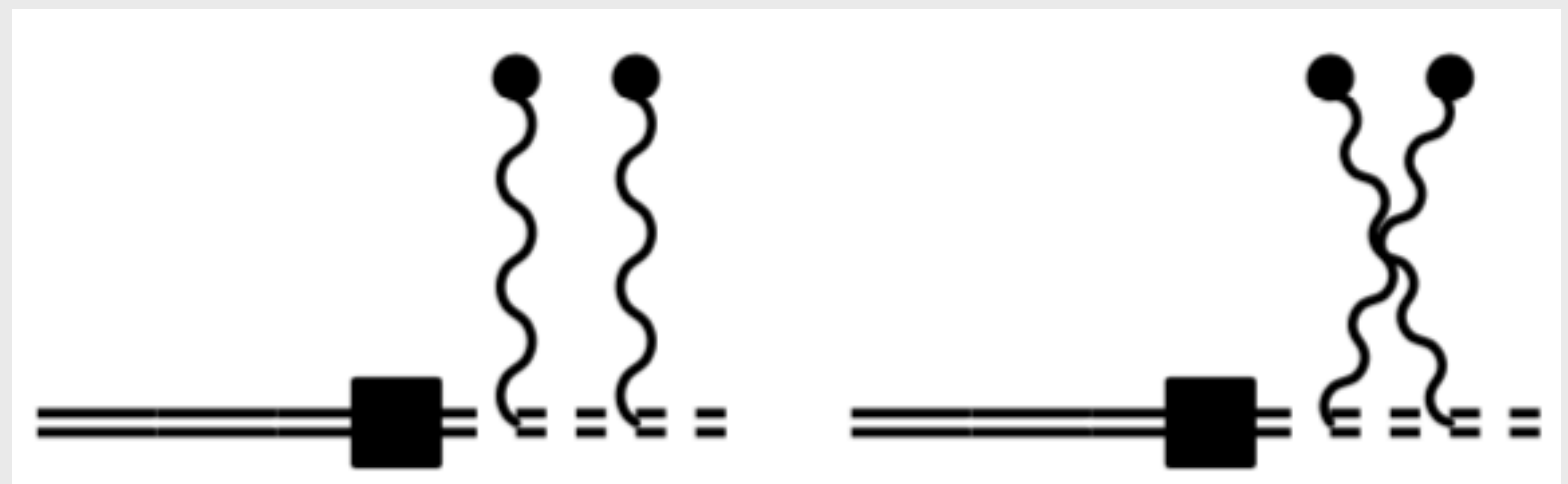
$Z_A^2$



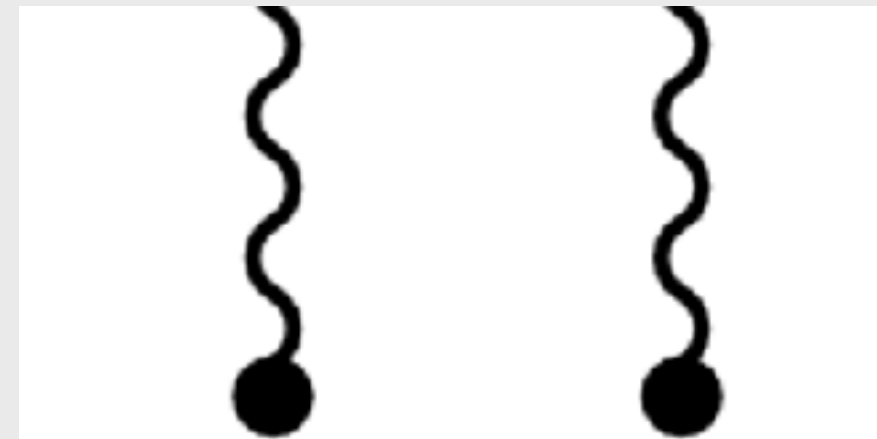
$Z_A Z_B$



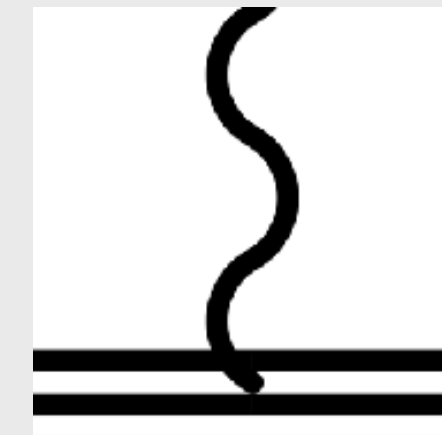
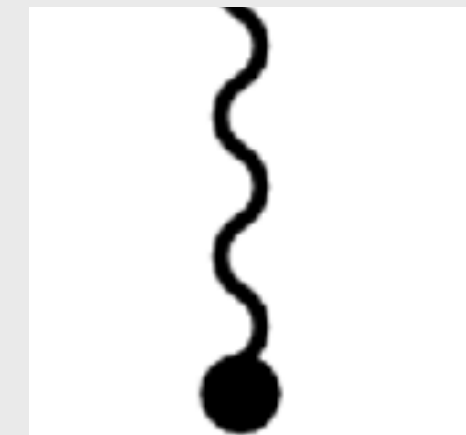
$Z_B^2$



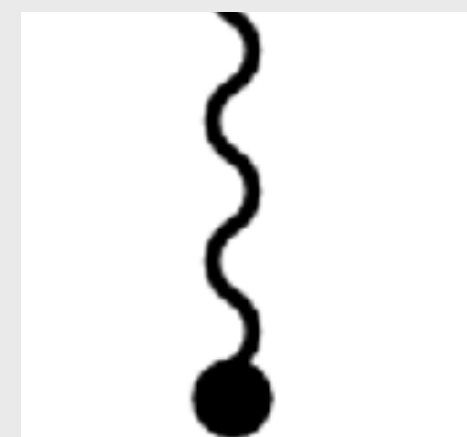
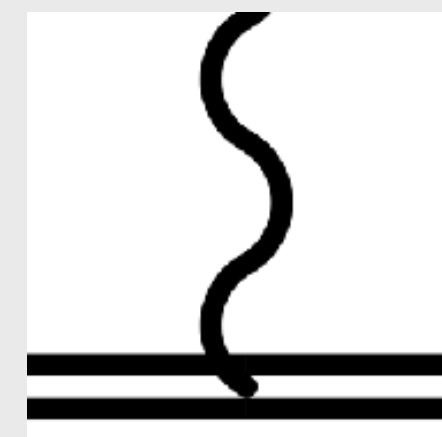
$Z_B^2$



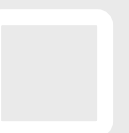
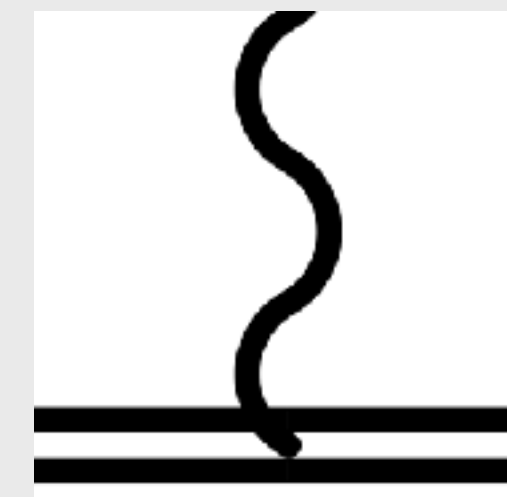
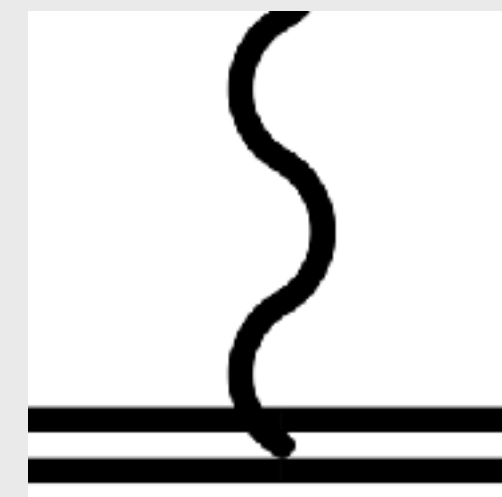
$+ z Z_B$



$+$



$+ z^2$

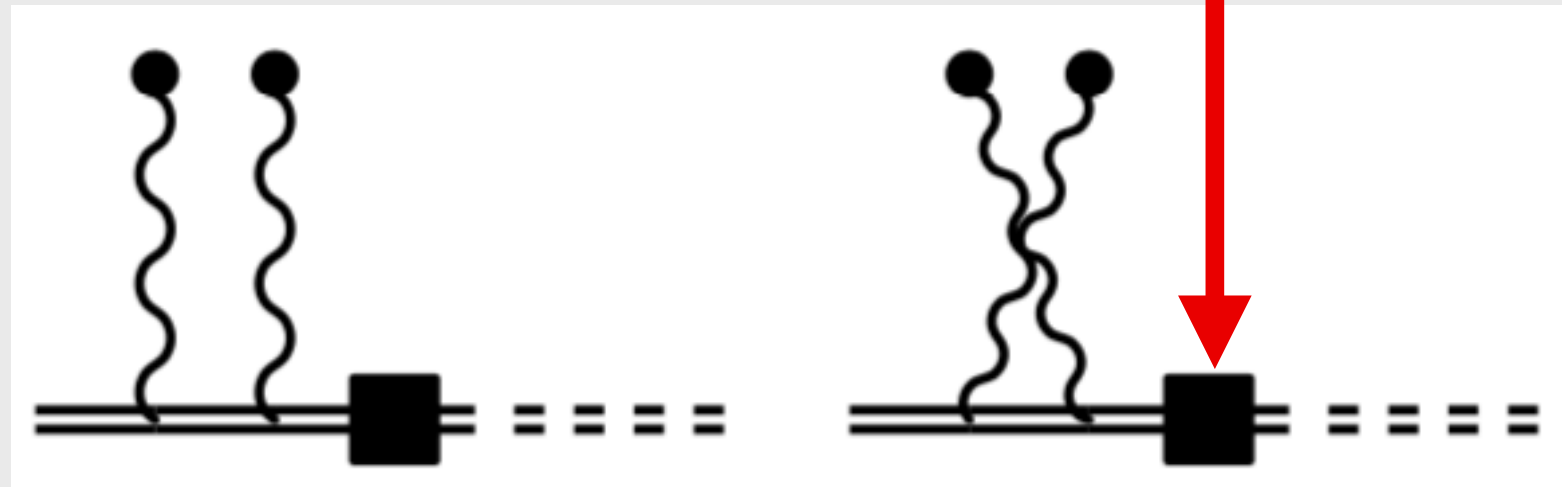




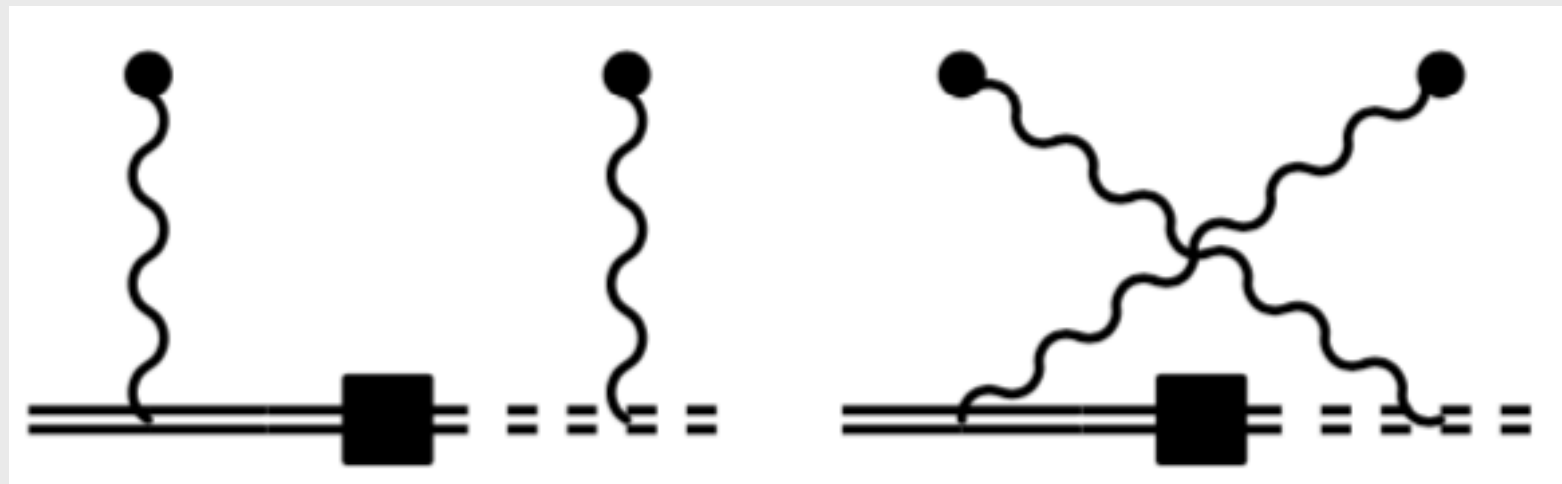
# Charged Currents

WEAK CURRENT

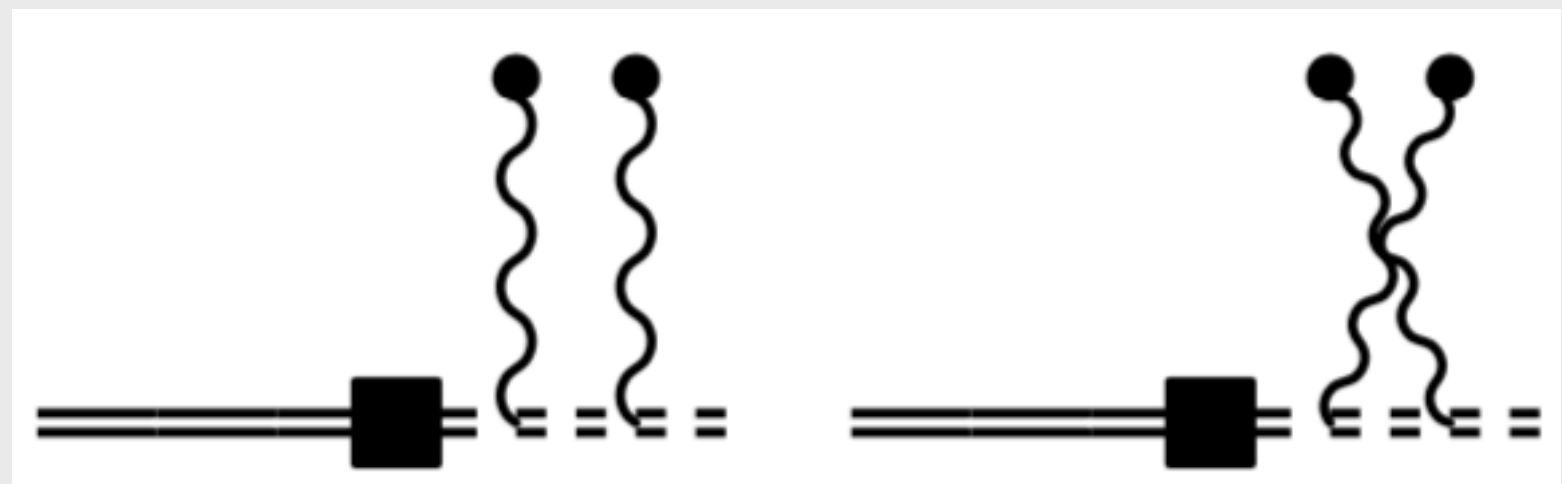
$Z_A^2$



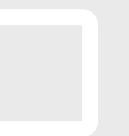
$Z_A Z_B$



$Z_B^2$



$$Z_B^2 \left( 2 \times \text{Coulomb} \right) + z Z_B \left( \text{Coulomb} + \text{Eikonal} \right) + z^2 \left( 2 \times \text{Eikonal} \right)$$



# Charged Currents

## Main Idea

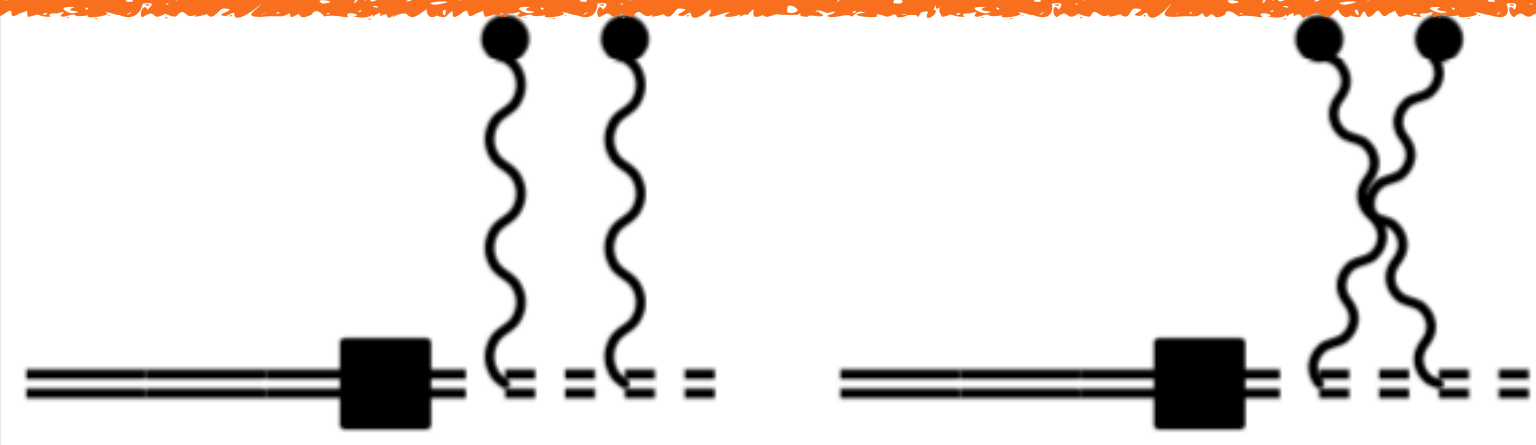
$Z_1$

- We have successfully generalized the formalism to account for charged currents.

$Z_A$

- Necessary step for charged current reactions on nuclei.

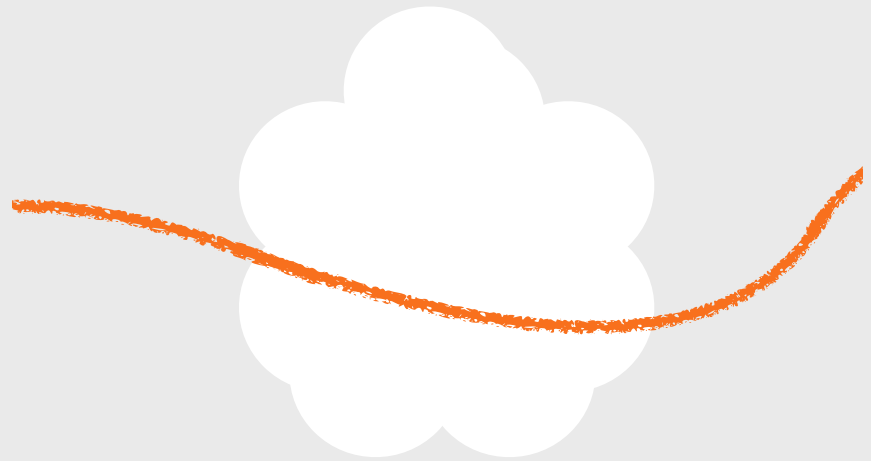
$Z_B^2$





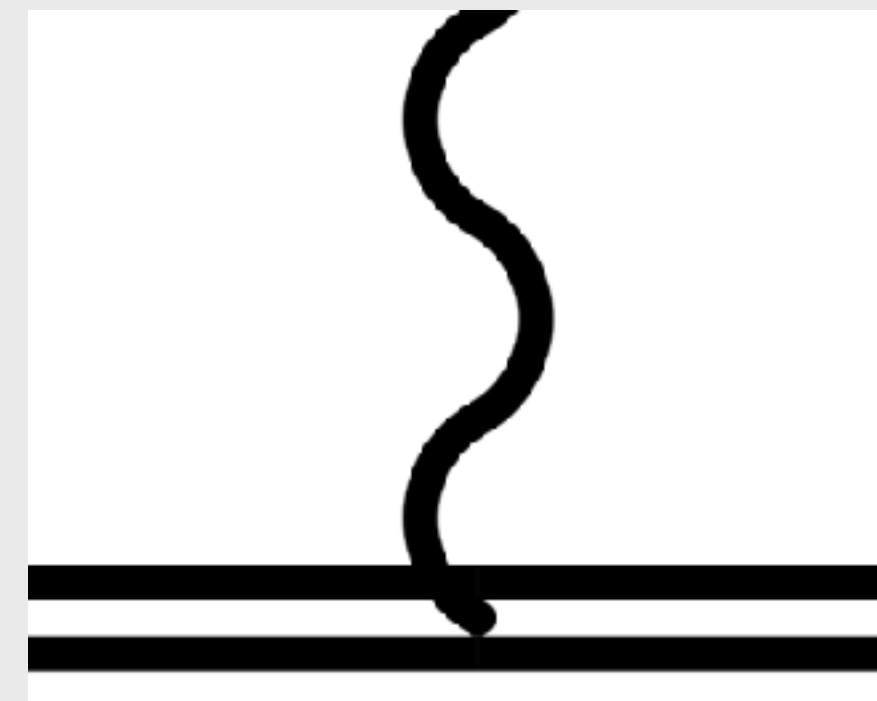
# Structure Dependence

- Nucleus is an extended object.
- How do we include this inside loops consistently?
- Answer is surprisingly simple.  
Related to EFT called NR-QED.

$$\int_{\text{EFT}_{\text{II}}} [\text{d}L] \quad qR \sim O(1)$$




$$= \frac{i}{v \cdot q + i\epsilon}$$



$$= iZe \, v_\mu + (F(q^2) - 1) \left( v^\mu - \frac{v \cdot q}{q^2} q^\mu \right) \square$$

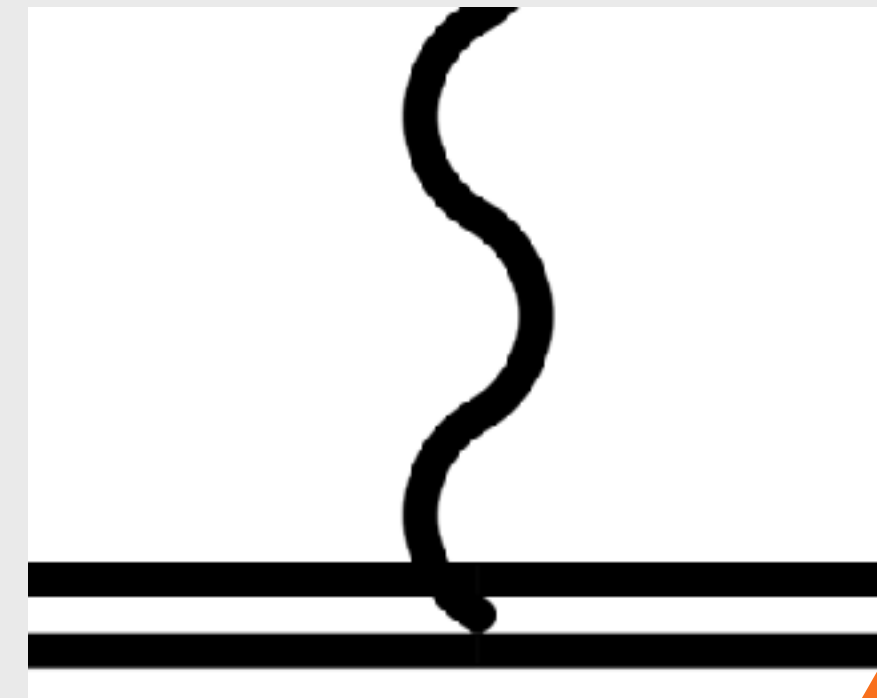
# Structure Dependence And Gauge Invariance

$$\left( v^\mu - \frac{v \cdot q}{q^2} q^\mu \right) = v^\mu \left( g_{\mu\nu} - \frac{q^\mu q^\nu}{q^2} \right)$$



$$= \frac{i}{v \cdot q + i\varepsilon}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = v_\mu \partial_\nu F^{\mu\nu}$$



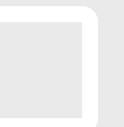
**Minimal Coupling**

WHY THIS FUNNY  
FEYNMAN RULE?

**E-Field Is Gauge Inv.**



$$= iZe v_\mu + (F(q^2) - 1) \left( v^\mu - \frac{v \cdot q}{q^2} q^\mu \right)$$



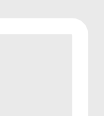
# Structure Dependence

## Main Idea

- Inclusion of nuclear structure allows us to capture the region where the nucleus loses coherence inside loops.
- Necessary for matching from  $\sim 10$  MeV scale, up to the  $\sim 200$  MeV scale.

∫  
EFT<sub>II</sub>

$$+ (F(q^2) - 1) \left( v^\mu - \frac{v \cdot q}{q^2} q^\mu \right)$$



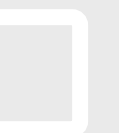


# Wavefunctions And Feynman Diagrams

- Coulomb effects historically handled with "distorted waves"
- What are the equivalent effects in Feynman diagrams?

**Use Lippmann-Schwinger Equation!**

$$|\psi_p^{(\pm)}\rangle = |\phi_p\rangle + \frac{1}{H - E_p \pm i\epsilon} V |\phi_p\rangle + \frac{1}{H - E_p \pm i\epsilon} V \frac{1}{H - E_p \pm i\epsilon} V |\phi_p\rangle + \dots$$

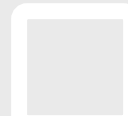


# Wavefunctions And Feynman Diagrams

- Coulomb effects historically handled with "distorted waves"
- What are the equivalent effects in Feynman diagrams?

**Loop With A Phase Factor!**



$$\langle x | \psi_p^{(\pm)} \rangle = e^{i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{x}} \left( 1 + \int \frac{d^3 Q}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2\mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{Q} + Q^2 \pm i\epsilon} \frac{Z\alpha}{Q^2} e^{i\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{x}} + \dots \right)$$


# Wavefunctions And Feynman Diagrams

## Main Idea

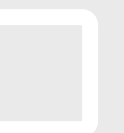
- We now have a constructive understanding of how wavefunction methods and diagrammatics wed together.
- Important for interfacing with existing nuclear codes, and to understand old literature and reproduce/validate against old literature (or find mistakes).

$$\langle x | \psi_p^{s'} \rangle = e^{i\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{x}} \left( 1 + \int \frac{d^3\mathbf{Q}}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{1}{2\mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{Q} + Q^2 \pm i\epsilon} \frac{1}{Q^2} e^{i\mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{x}} + \dots \right)$$



# Take Home Message

- A complete theory for QED interactions with heavy, extended, composite particles.
- Can systematize coherently enhanced radiative corrections.
- Understanding of wavefunctions vs diagrammatic perturbation theory builds Rosetta stone.

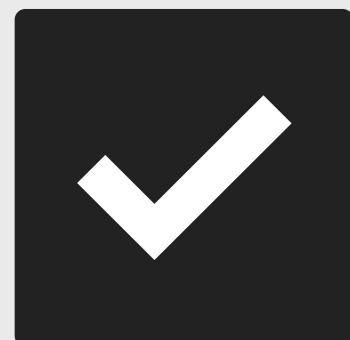




## PART 1

### BIG PICTURE

- Why is this important **for you?**
- Why is this a hard & interesting problem?
- Why is effective field theory the natural tool?



## PART 2

### WHAT'S NEW

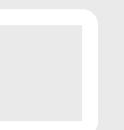
- All order Coulomb results for a **charged current**.
- Structure dependence and nuclear coherence ( big  $Z$  ).
- Bridge between QFT and treatment in nuclear codes.



## PART 3

### APPLICATIONS

- Factorization theorems
- Superallowed beta decay (nucleus, low energy lepton)
- Neutrino nucleon scattering (high energy, no nucleons)



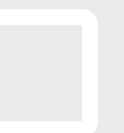
# Multi-Scale Problem

- Full theory has many scales.
- Want good perturbative control.

$$\mathcal{M}(M_A, m_N, m_\ell, E_\ell, R, \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}, p_F)$$

Nuclear Mass	40 GeV
Nucleon mass	1 GeV
Lepton Energy	600 MeV
Fermi Momentum	200 MeV
Nuclear Radius	50 MeV

Full Theory





# Tower Of EFTs

- Factorization lets us treat one-scale at a time.
- No double counting!

$$\mathcal{M}_1(M_A)\mathcal{M}_2(m_N)\mathcal{M}_3(E_\ell)\mathcal{M}_4(p_F)\mathcal{M}_5(R)$$

Nuclear Mass

Nucleon mass

Lepton Energy

Fermi Momentum

Nuclear Radius

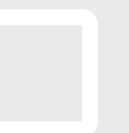
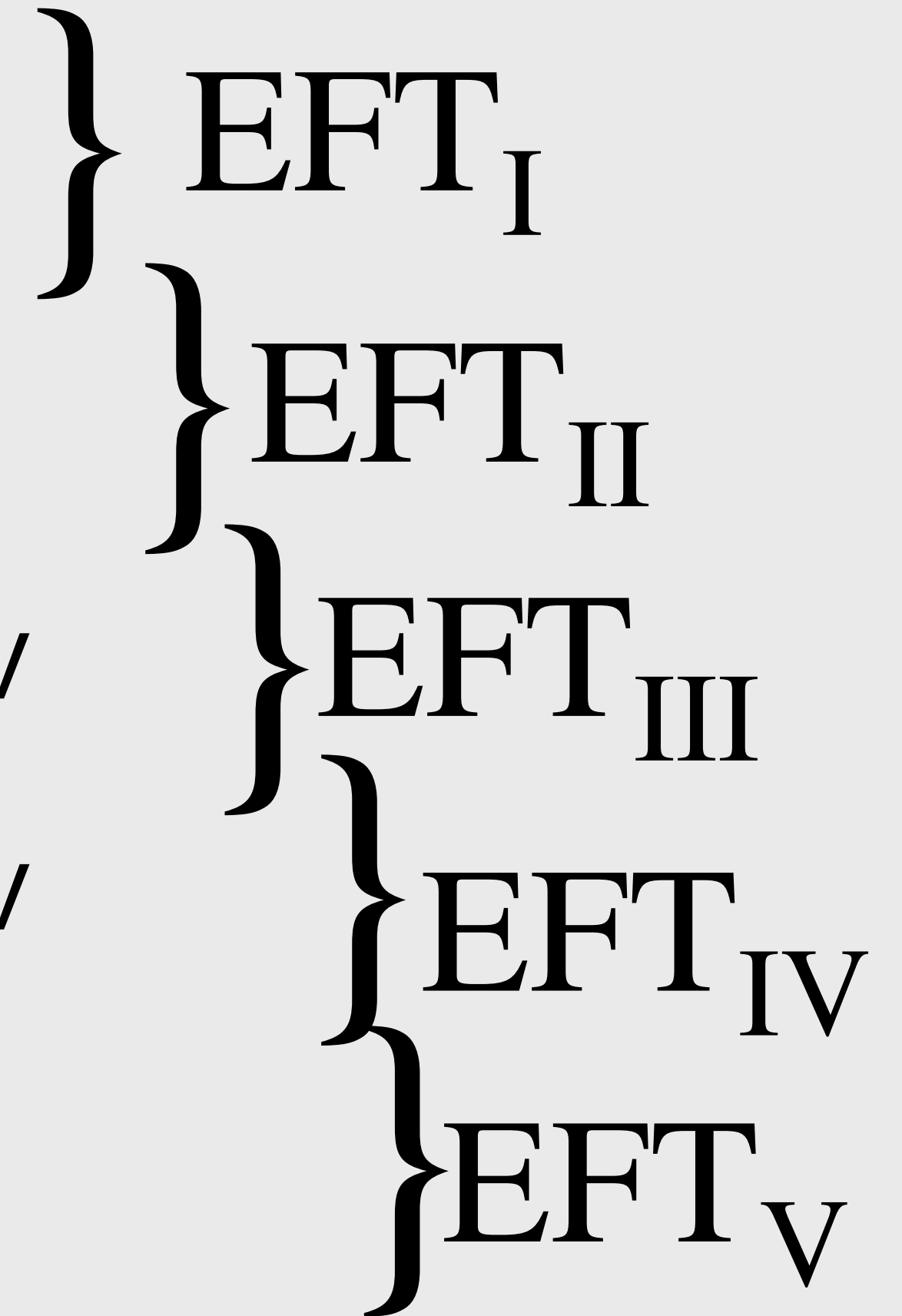
40 GeV

1 GeV

600 MeV

200 MeV

50 MeV



# Nucleon-Level Factorization

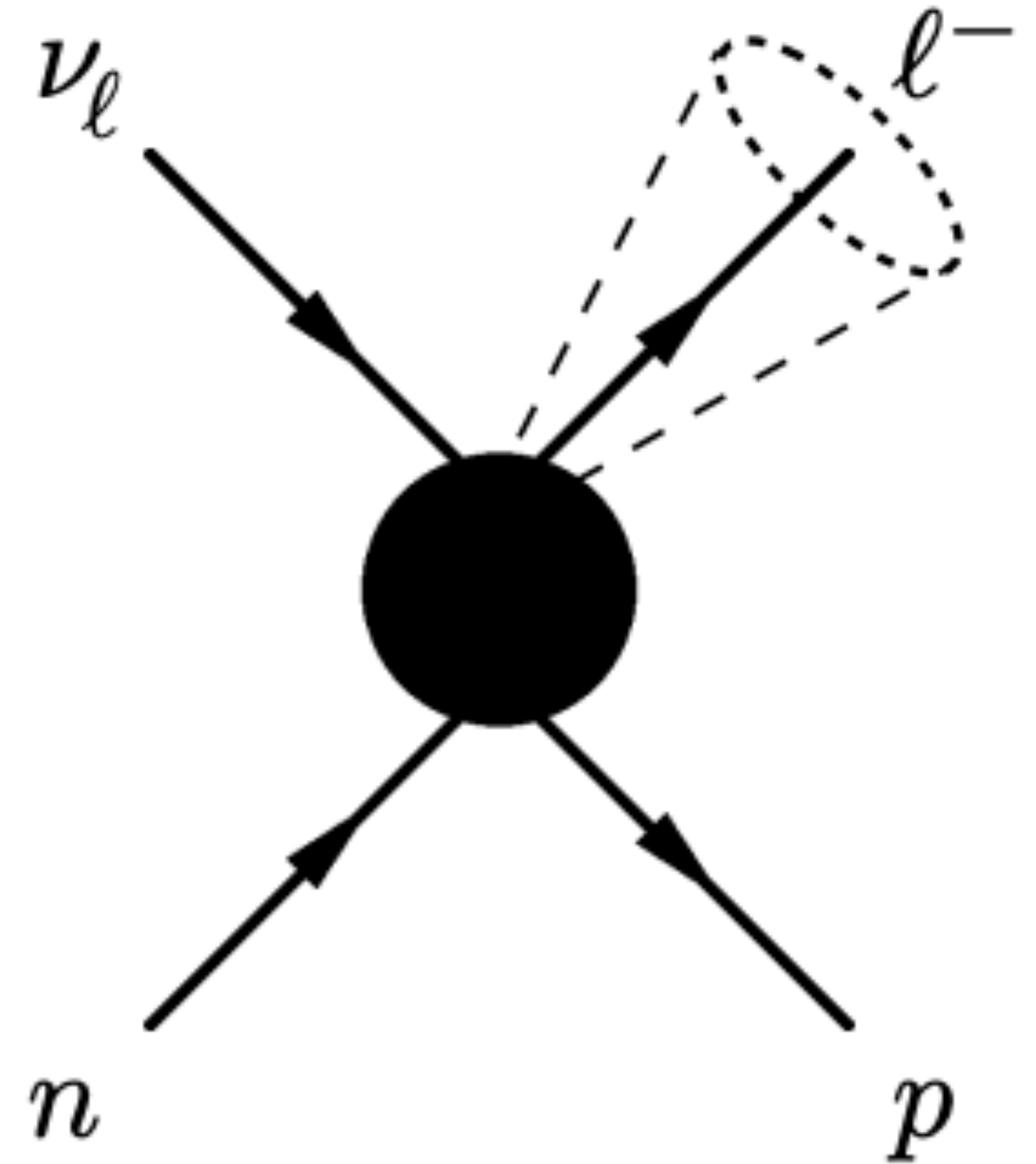
- Neutrino nucleon scattering.
- Soft-Hard-Collinear/Jet factorization.
- Tested explicitly at 1-loop

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_H \otimes S \otimes J$$

Nucleon

Lepton

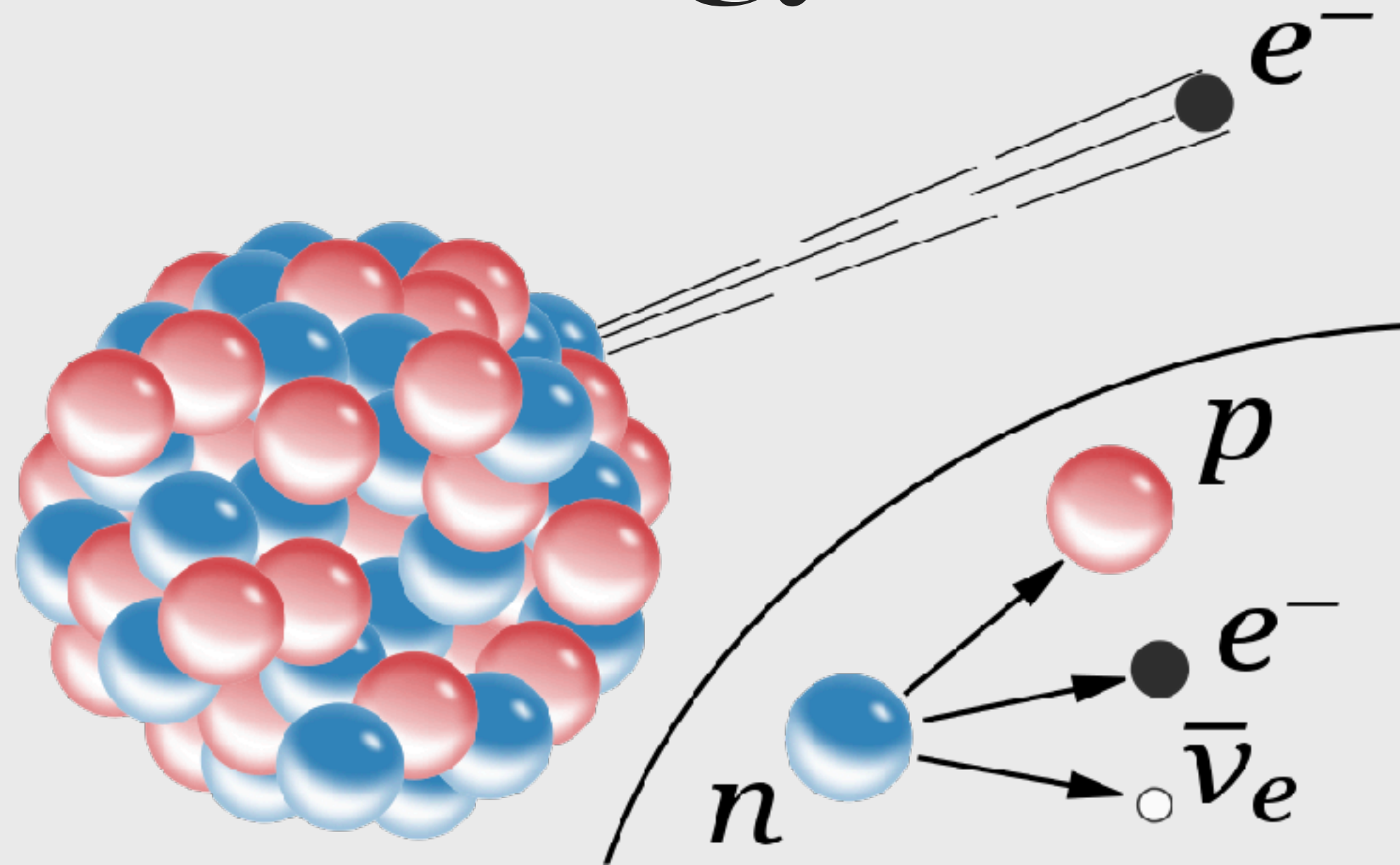
Soft ph



ANALOGOUS TO CSS IN COLLIDER PHYSICS

TOMALAK, CHEN, HILL,  
MCFARLAND 2021 & 2022

# Low-Energy Neutrino Nucleus Factorization



- Beta decay.
- 30 MeV neutrino scattering.

Nuclear Scales

200 MeV

Nuclear radius

50 MeV

Lepton Energy

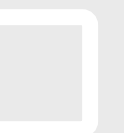
5 MeV

Electron mass

0.5 MeV

Atomic scales  
Soft photons

1 keV





# Low-Energy Neutrino Nucleus Factorization

Nuclear Scales

200 MeV

Nuclear radius

50 MeV

Lepton Energy

5 MeV

Electron mass

0.5 MeV

Atomic scales  
Soft photons

1 keV

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_H \otimes S \otimes \mathcal{M}_{UV}$$

LEPTON MOMENTUM

NUCLEAR PHYSICS

ATOMIC SCREENING

First QED Factorization For Nuclei

SEE NTN TALK FROM  
LAST SUMMER

# Low-Energy Neutrino Nucleus Factorization

Lepton Energy  
Electron mass

}EFT<sub>v</sub>

INFINITELY HEAVY POINT-LIKE NUCLEI

RELATIVISTIC LEPTON

$$\mathcal{M}_H = \sum_{m,n} Z^m \alpha^n \mathcal{M}_H^{(m,n)}$$

SOME ADVERTISING FOR WORK TO APPEAR

- Full re-summation of  $m=n$  terms. Proof of factorization at all orders in  $Z\alpha$ .
- Rigorous QED corrections for e.g. beta decay.
- Anomalous dimension up to  $O(Z^2\alpha^4)$  [in progress]

# What We \*Really\* Want

FOR DUNE / T2K

- Lepton momentum in  $\sim \text{GeV}$  regime.
- Moderate nuclear charge  $Z \sim 10$ .
- Observables are EM jets.

Nuclear Mass

Nucleon mass

Lepton Energy

Fermi Momentum

Nuclear Radius

40 GeV

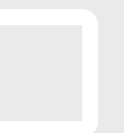
1 GeV

600 MeV

200 MeV

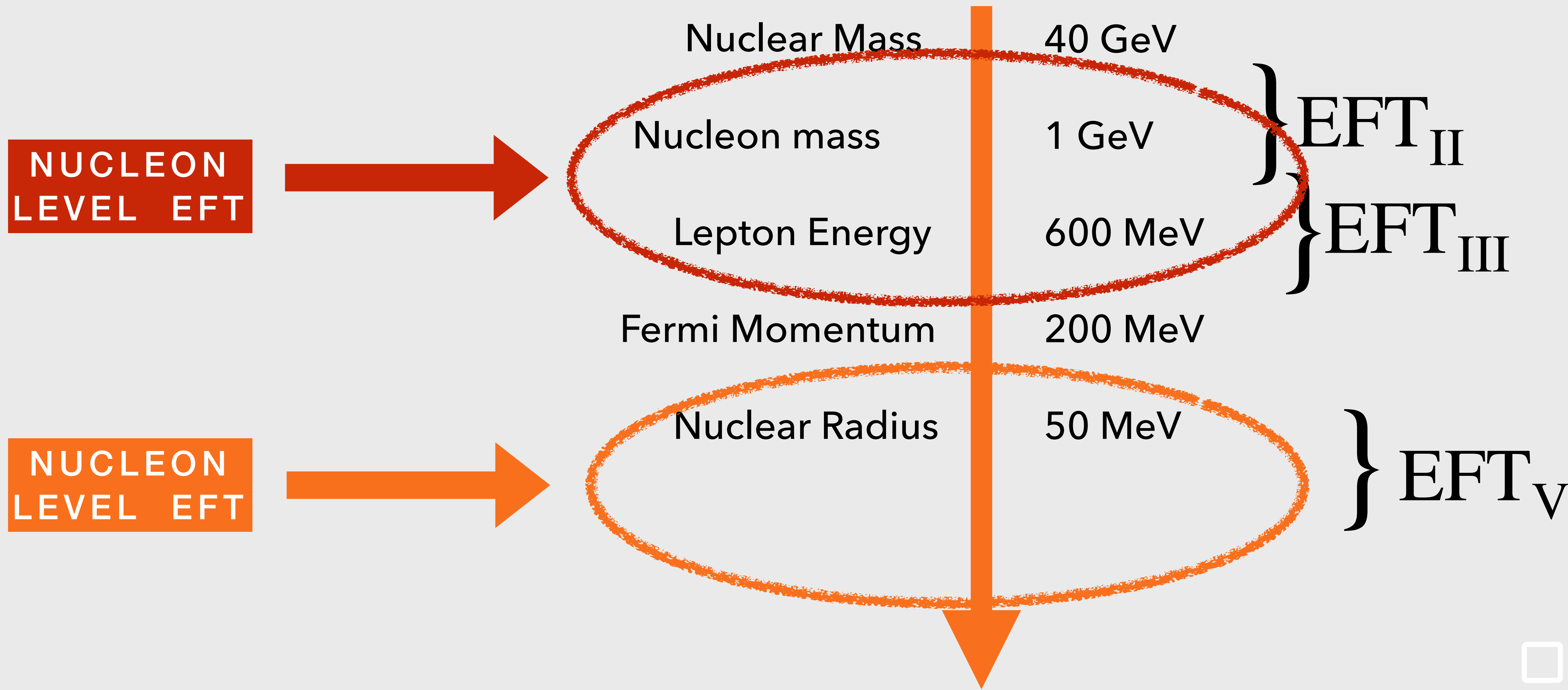
50 MeV

$\left. \begin{array}{l} 40 \text{ GeV} \\ 1 \text{ GeV} \end{array} \right\} \text{EFT}_\text{I}$   
 $\left. \begin{array}{l} 1 \text{ GeV} \\ 600 \text{ MeV} \end{array} \right\} \text{EFT}_\text{II}$   
 $\left. \begin{array}{l} 600 \text{ MeV} \\ 200 \text{ MeV} \end{array} \right\} \text{EFT}_\text{III}$   
 $\left. \begin{array}{l} 200 \text{ MeV} \\ 50 \text{ MeV} \end{array} \right\} \text{EFT}_\text{IV}$   
 $\left. \begin{array}{l} 50 \text{ MeV} \end{array} \right\} \text{EFT}_\text{V}$





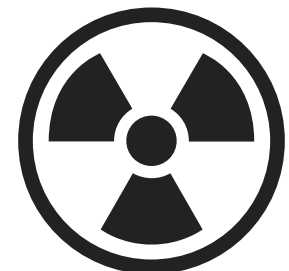
# What We Have Now



# What We Have Now

## Main Idea

- We understand how factorization works in two limiting cases.
- More work is required to “wed” the theories together.
- It is clear *a priori* that certain regions will overlap with scales relevant for nuclear matrix elements



[Difficult problem!]

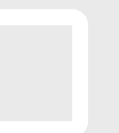
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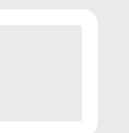
# Conclusions & Outlook





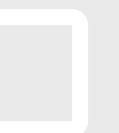
# Summary

- Generalization of old Coulomb physics results to charged currents and composite objects.
- Factorization theorems now exist for free nucleons for GeV energies, and point-like nuclei for MeV energies.



# Take Home Message

- Precision neutrino physics means new challenges (and "new" physics).
- Radiative corrections "entangle" a hierarchy of scales.
- Effective field theory can help simplify analysis when scales separate.





14th

# Send Us Your Students!

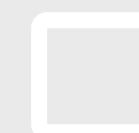
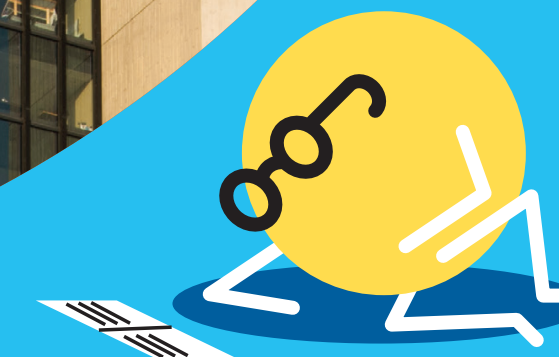
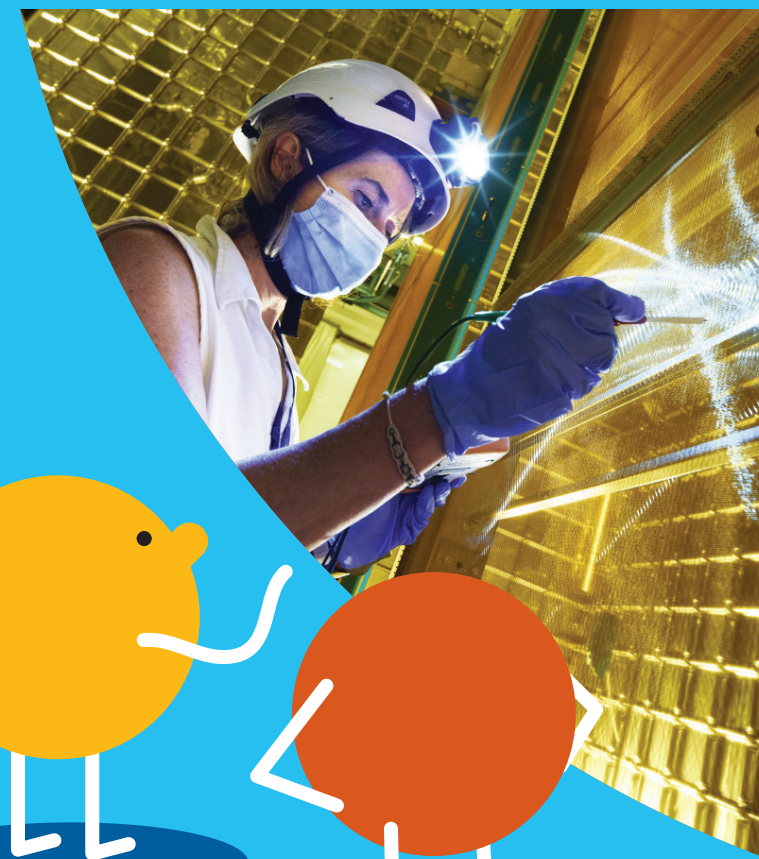
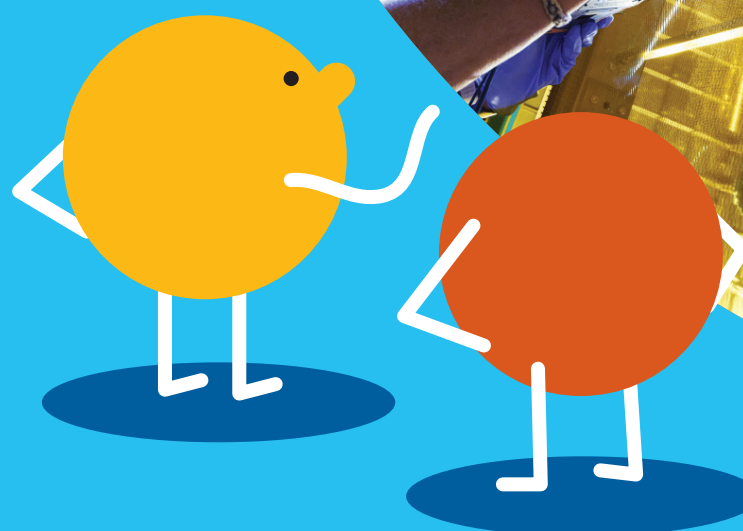
- Deadline March 31st
- Please send your students!

#### International Advisory Committee

Pilar Coloma, Madrid, IFT  
Kirsty Duffy, University of Oxford  
Gabriel Orebi Gann, UC Berkeley  
Daniel Green, UC San Diego  
Cecilia Lunardini, Arizona State University  
Pedro Machado, Fermilab  
Jason Newby, Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
Luis Alvarez Ruso, Valencia, IFIC  
Thomas Schwetz, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology  
Michael Wurm, Mainz University

#### Local Organizers

Minerba Betancourt  
*Chair*  
Steven Gardiner  
Vishvas Pandey  
Ryan Plestid  
Tingjun Yang





# 14th International Neutrino Summer School at the Fermilab NPC

## 07–19 August 2023

The International Neutrino Summer School provides training for the next generation of neutrino physicists in both theory and experiment. The school brings together graduate students and postdocs, along with some of the best teachers and researchers in neutrino physics. It provides an intense, two-week-long learning experience in an open and interactive environment that covers the full range of modern neutrino physics.

**Registration and other information at:**  
[indico.fnal.gov/event/57378](https://indico.fnal.gov/event/57378)

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