

Effective Field Theory

Javier Fuentes-Martín
University of Granada

Email: javier.fuentes@ugr.es

Don't hesitate to write or pass by my office
if you need anything!

Presentation

Lectures:

➔ 2h theory + 1h tutorial

Assumptions:

➔ Basic knowledge of Quantum Field Theory (QFT)

Scope:

➔ Not a complete EFT course: focus on particle physics (although most concepts are applicable elsewhere)

➔ Emphasis on key concepts with specific examples

➔ Most calculations will be done in the tutorial (by hand or with computer tools)

Don't be shy! Stop me and ask if there is ANYTHING you don't understand

Further material

Some EFT courses/lecture notes:

[As Scales Become Separated: Lectures on Effective Field Theory](#)

[A. V. Manohar, "Introduction to Effective Field Theories", Les Houches 2017](#)

[M. Neubert, "Renormalization Theory and Effective Field Theories", Les Houches 2017](#)

[I. Z. Rothstein, "TASI lectures on Effective field Theories", TASI 2002](#)

[A. Pich, "Effective field theory"](#)

[José Santiago, Lectures on "Effective field theory in particle physics"](#)

Online courses:

[Link to video lectures on EFTs, by Toni Pich](#)

[Link to MIT online course on Effective Field Theories, by I. Stewart](#)

Why Effective (Field) Theories?



The concept is very general: consider an apple falling from a tree. If you want to know its falling velocity, you will probably use

$$mgh = \frac{mv^2}{2} \implies v = \sqrt{2gh}$$

But

... the gravitational potential is not linear in h

[Corrections of $\mathcal{O}(h/R) \sim 10^{-6}$]

... Newtonian gravity is itself an effective theory of General Relativity

Physics decouples!

No need to know all details to describe a system at a given precision

Why Effective (Field) Theories?

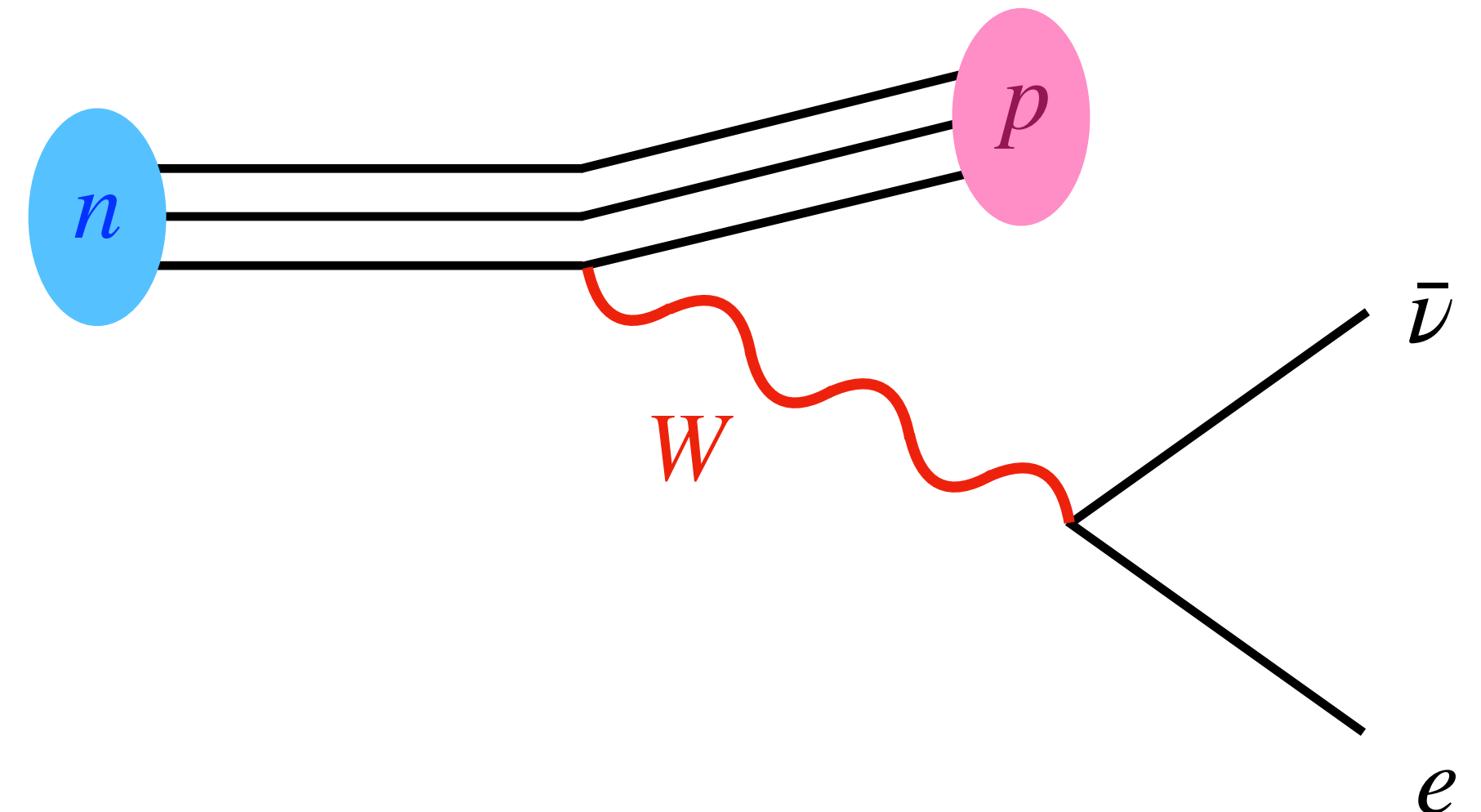
Effective Theories (ET) are ubiquitous in Physics:

- GR \rightarrow Newtonian gravity
- Charge distribution \rightarrow Multipolar expansion
- QED \rightarrow Hydrogen atom
- QCD \rightarrow Nuclear Physics
- ...

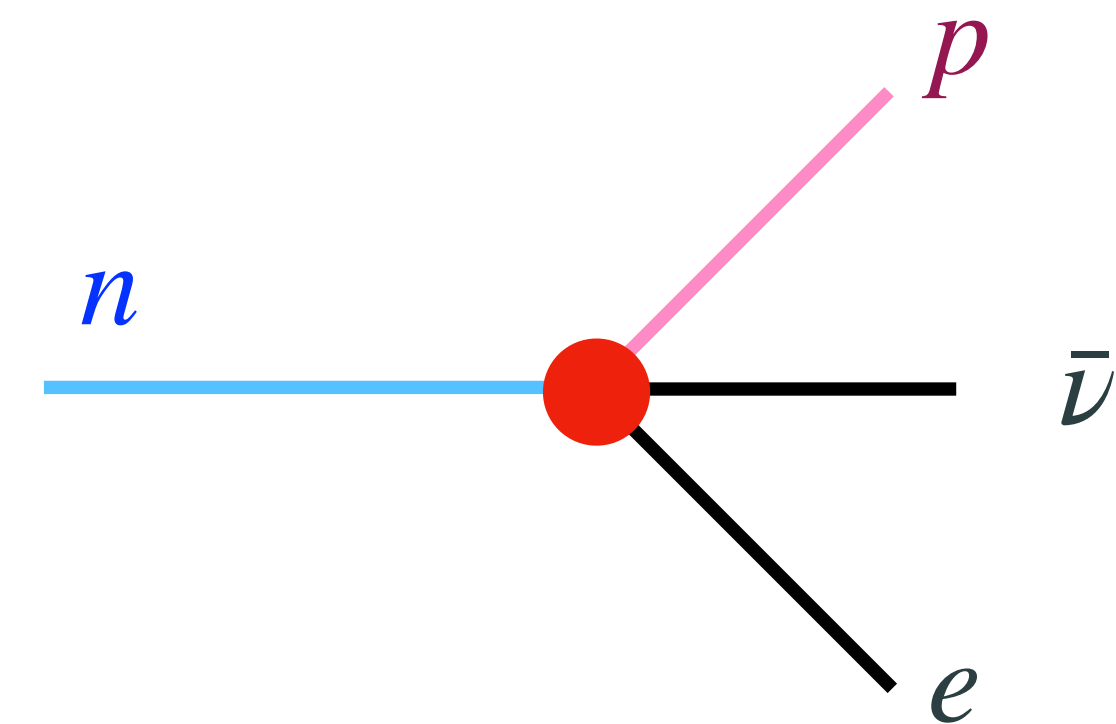
They efficiently separate energy scales:

- ETs are simpler (and more powerful)
- Can be formulated without knowing the full theory
- All theories break down eventually, so they can all be regarded as ETs

Electroweak theory + QCD (1983):

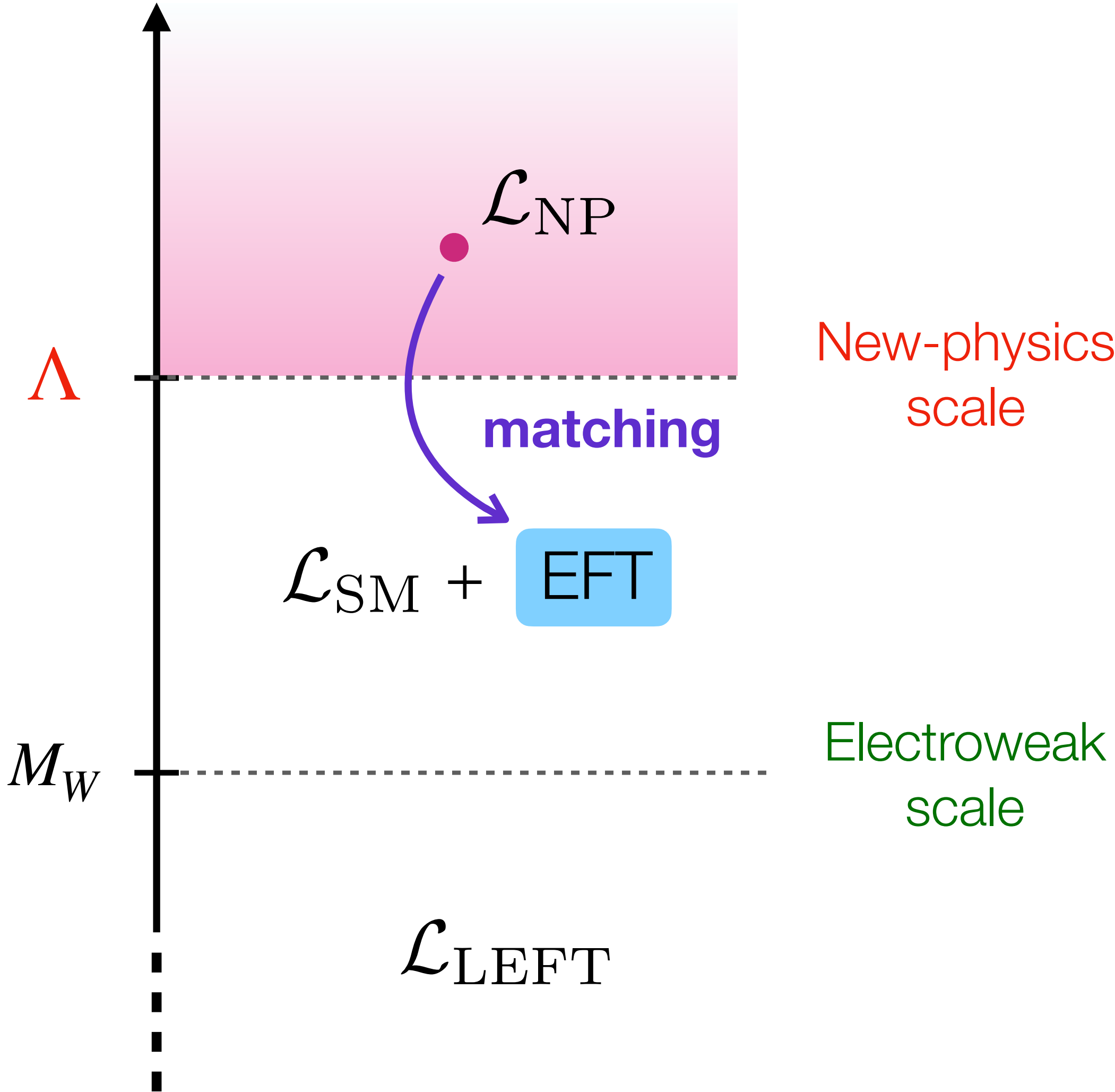


Fermi theory (1933):



Effective Field Theories (EFT): top-down

$E \equiv$ Energy



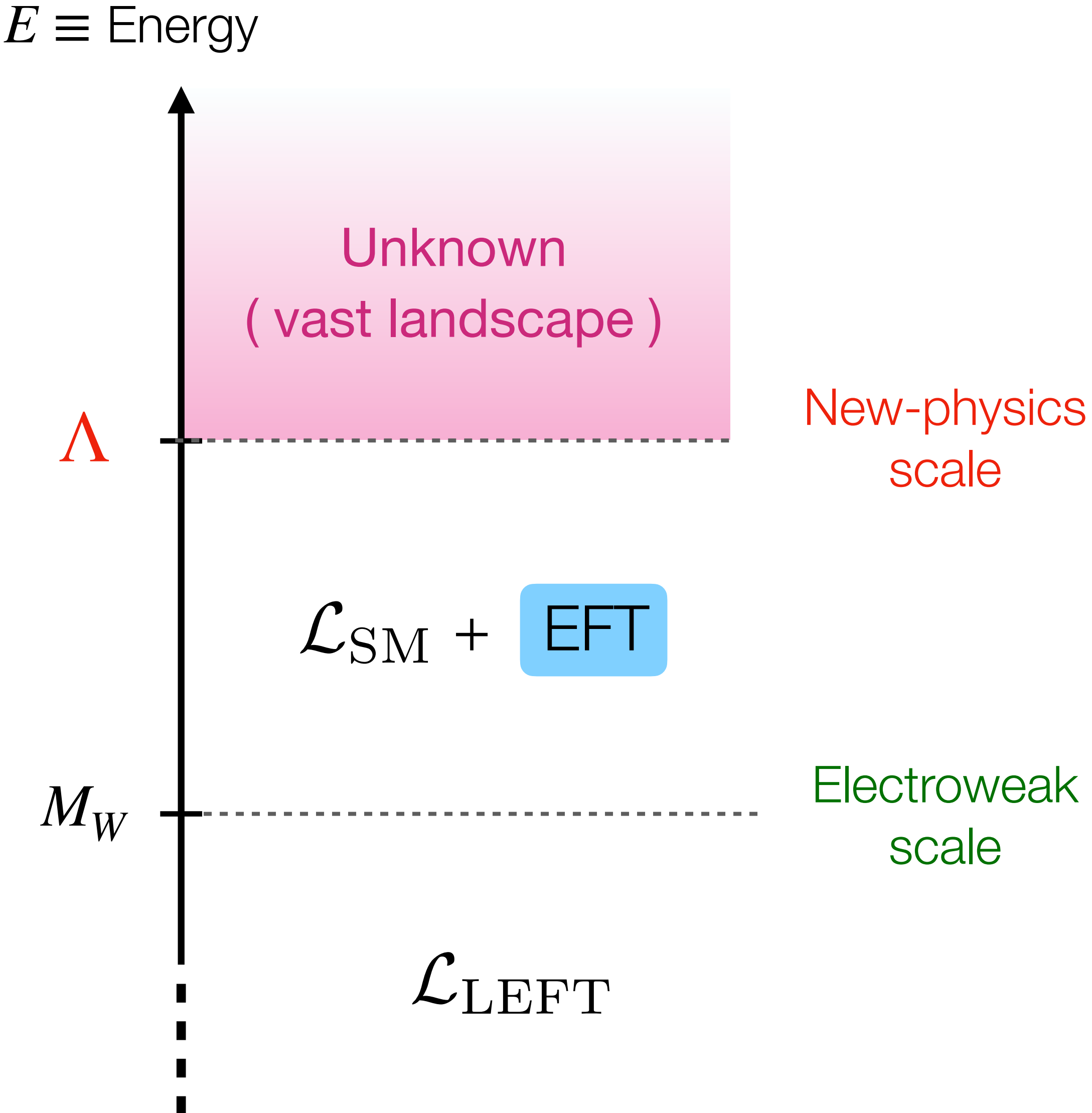
Given a **specific new-physics** idea:

- Many models share the same EFT, providing a **universal framework** to connect models with data
- **Precision necessitates EFTs**: summation of (large) logarithms of E/Λ arising from the quantum corrections

The step to build an EFT from a model is called **matching**

EFTs can even be used when you do not know the exact matching with its UV theory

Effective Field Theories (EFT): bottom-up



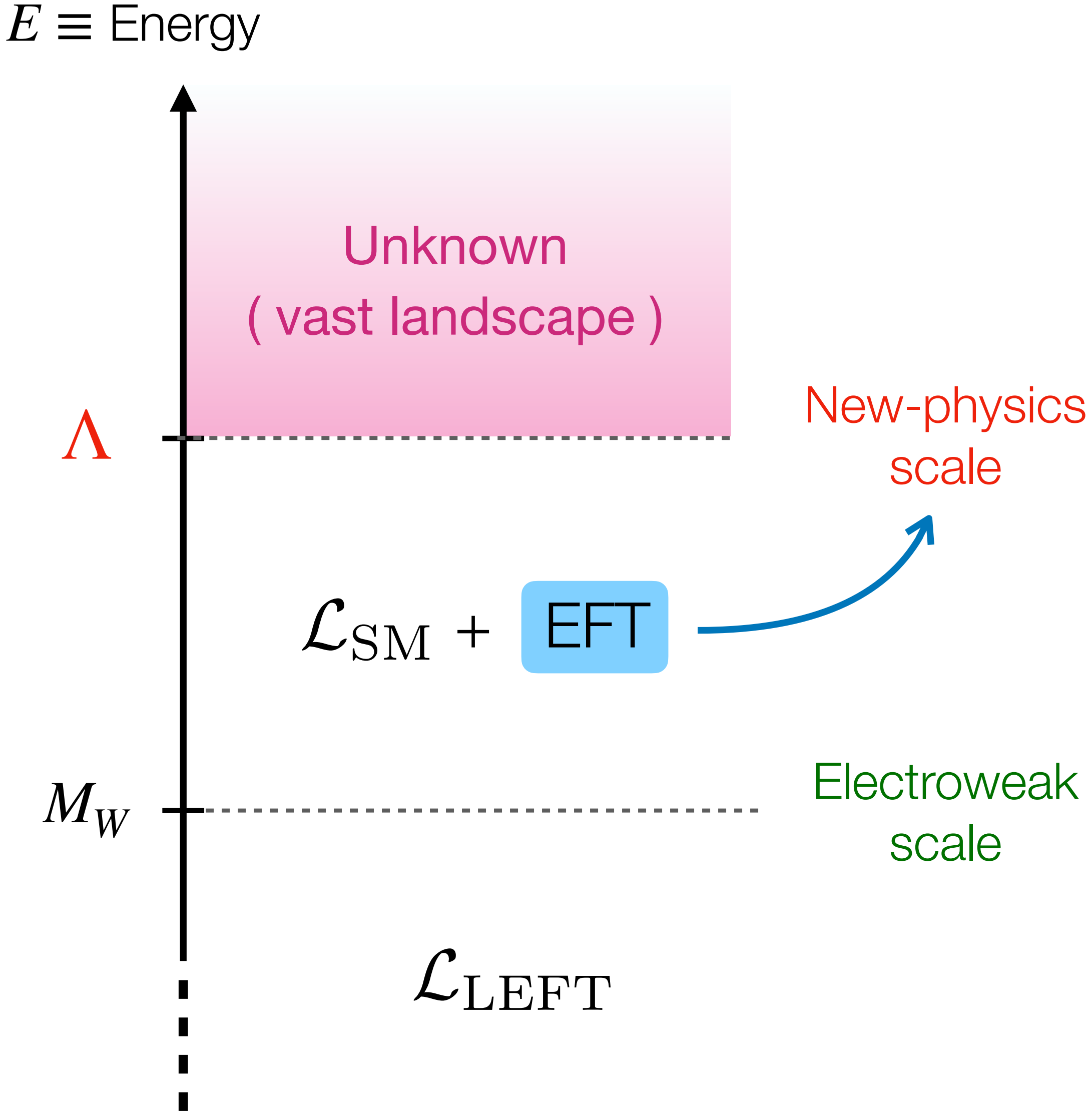
EFTs are great for parametrizing the **unknown**:

- Can be formulated **without knowing the full theory**
- **Systematically improvable** by adding extra terms in a double expansion in quantum corrections and E/Λ

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}}(\eta_L) = \mathcal{L}_{d=4}(\eta_L) + \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=5}^{\infty} \sum_k \frac{C_{n,k}^{(\ell)}}{(16\pi^2)^\ell \Lambda^{n-4}} O_{n,k}(\eta_L)$$

UV physics

Effective Field Theories (EFT): bottom-up



EFTs are great for parametrizing the **unknown**:

- Can be formulated **without knowing the full theory**
- **Systematically improvable** by adding extra terms in a double expansion in quantum corrections and E/Λ

They give an indication on **new-physics scales** where a **new fundamental theory** has to be formulated

For example,

$$\text{LEFT [Fermi Theory]} \rightarrow \text{Electroweak scale} \rightarrow \text{Standard Model (SM)}$$

Basic principles of Effective Theories

Degrees of freedom: Building blocks for our theory construction

E.g. fields in a Lagrangian describing light particles

Power counting: Parametric limit that we are considering: what is considered as small?

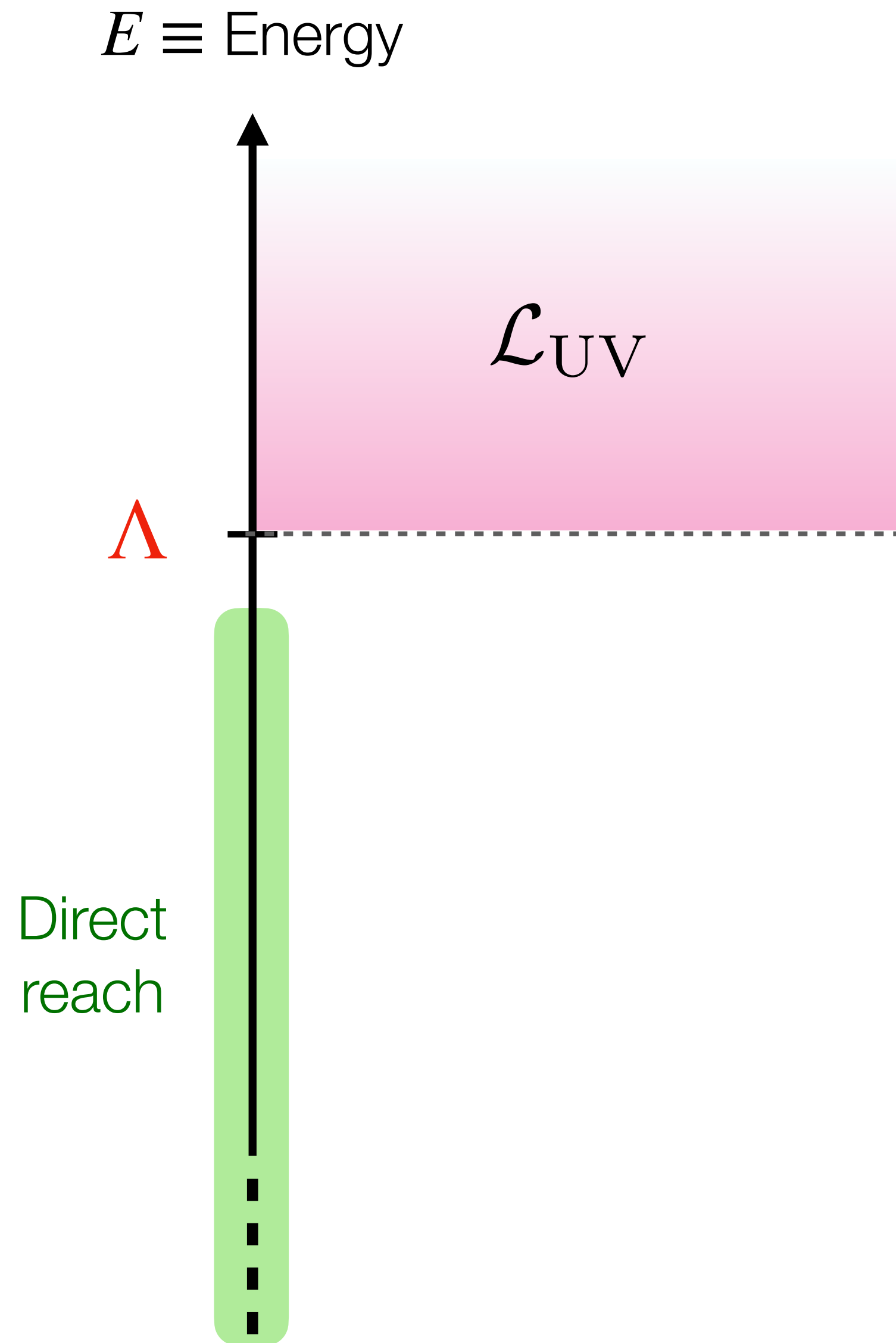
E.g. inverse powers in masses of heavy particles that cannot be directly produced

Symmetries of the system, which constrain possible interactions

Many different types may occur: global, gauged, or accidental symmetries. They could also be broken spontaneously or anomalously.

EFTs are fully-consistent QFTs that incorporate the basic principles of ETs

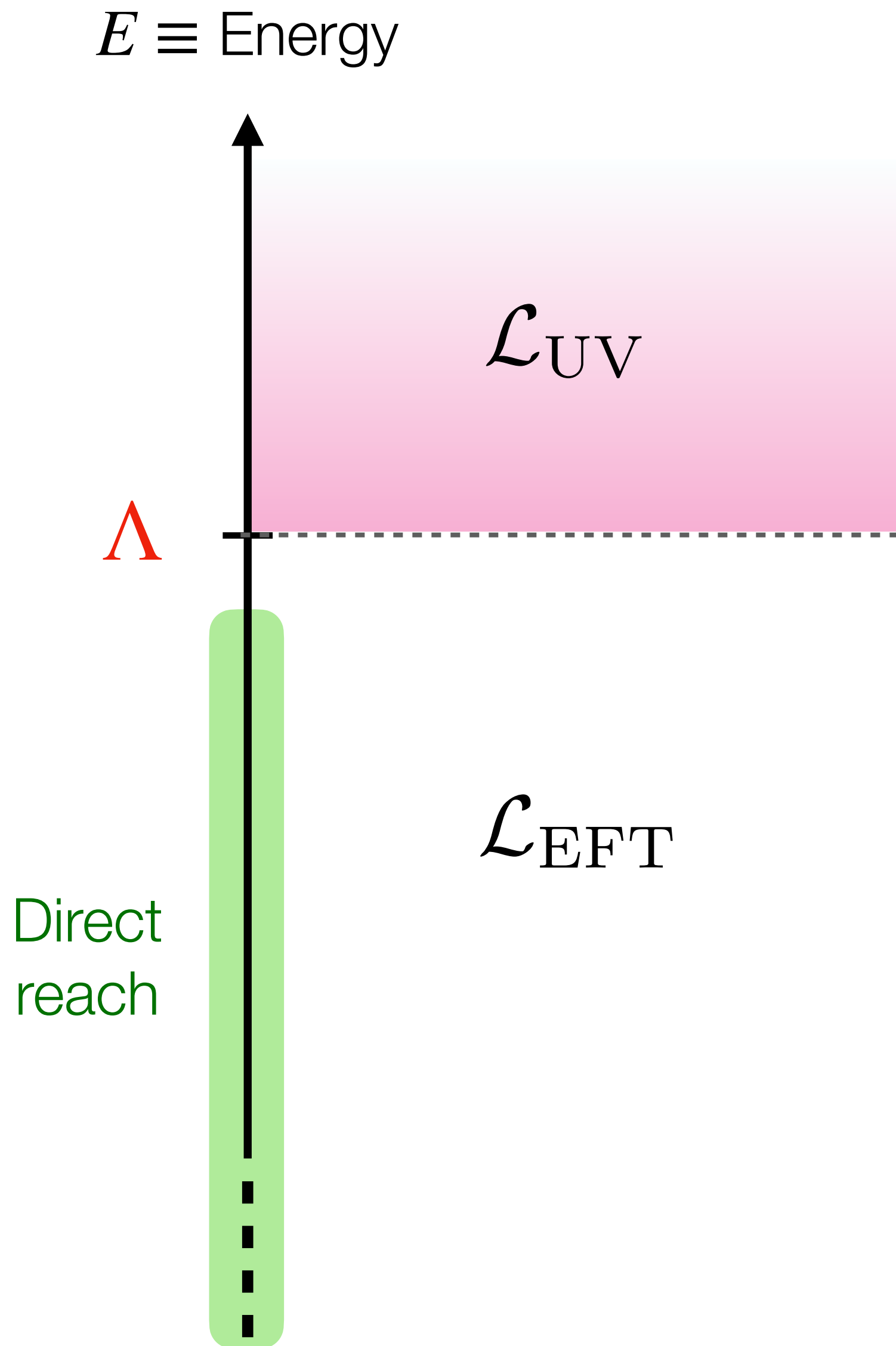
A toy model example



$$\mathcal{L}_{UV} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m_\phi^2 \phi^2 - \frac{1}{4!} \lambda_\phi \phi^4 + \bar{\psi} i \not{\partial} \psi$$
$$+ \bar{\chi} i \not{\partial} \chi - M \bar{\chi} \chi + (y \phi \bar{\psi} \chi + \text{h.c.})$$

Let's assume $m_\phi \ll M$, and $p^2 \ll M^2$ so χ cannot be directly produced.

A toy model example

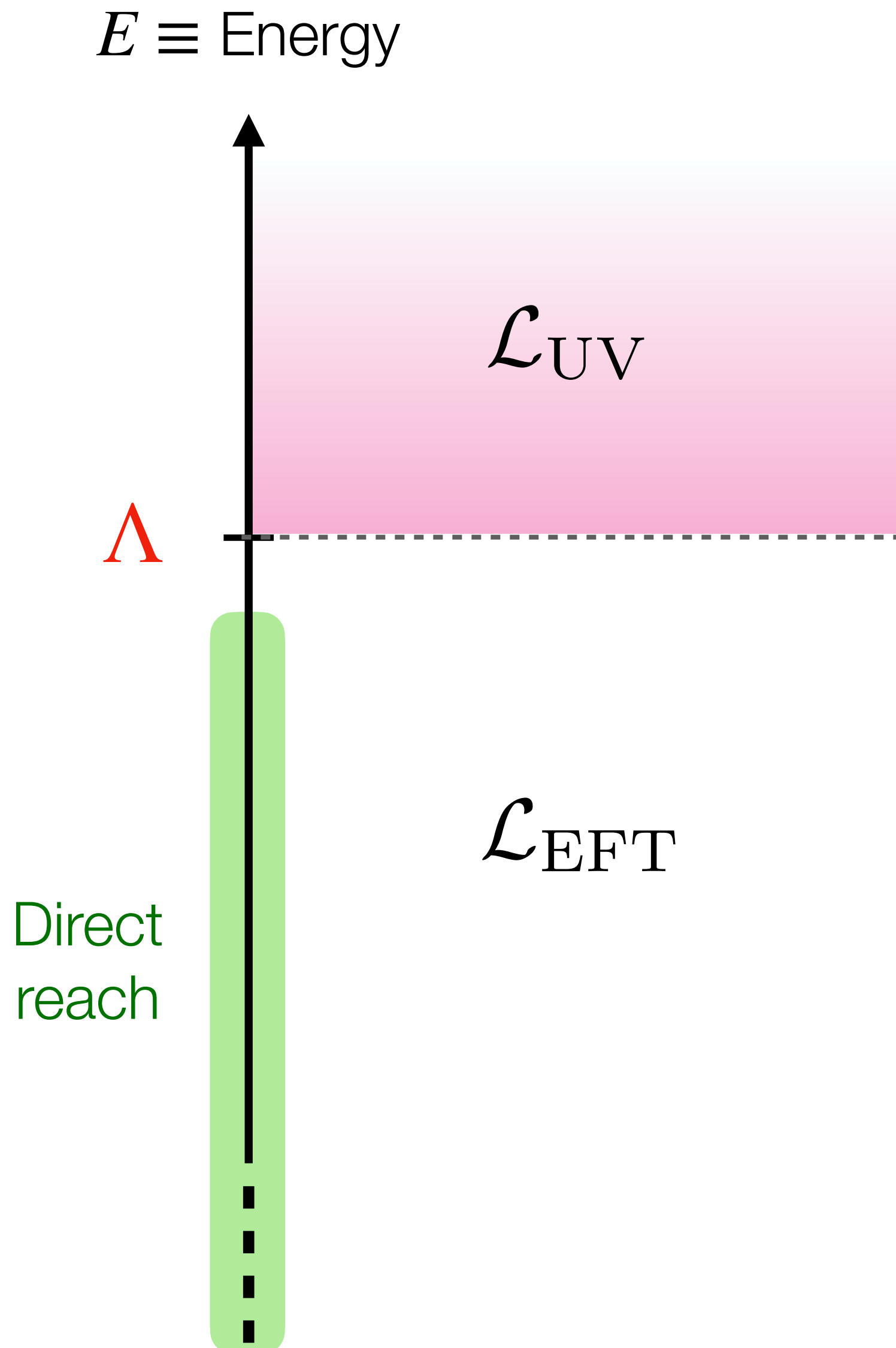


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Which is the correct EFT?

A toy model example



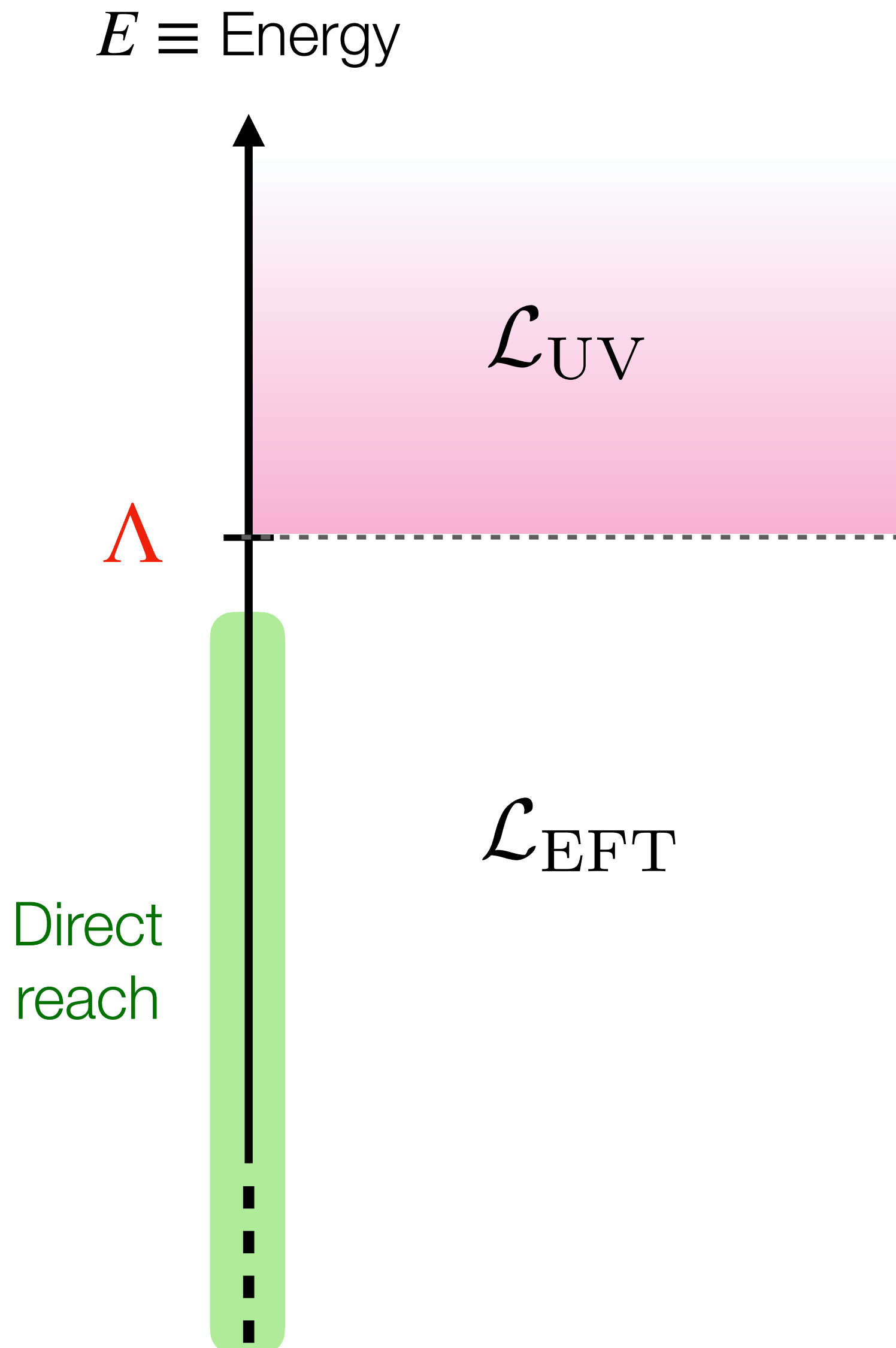
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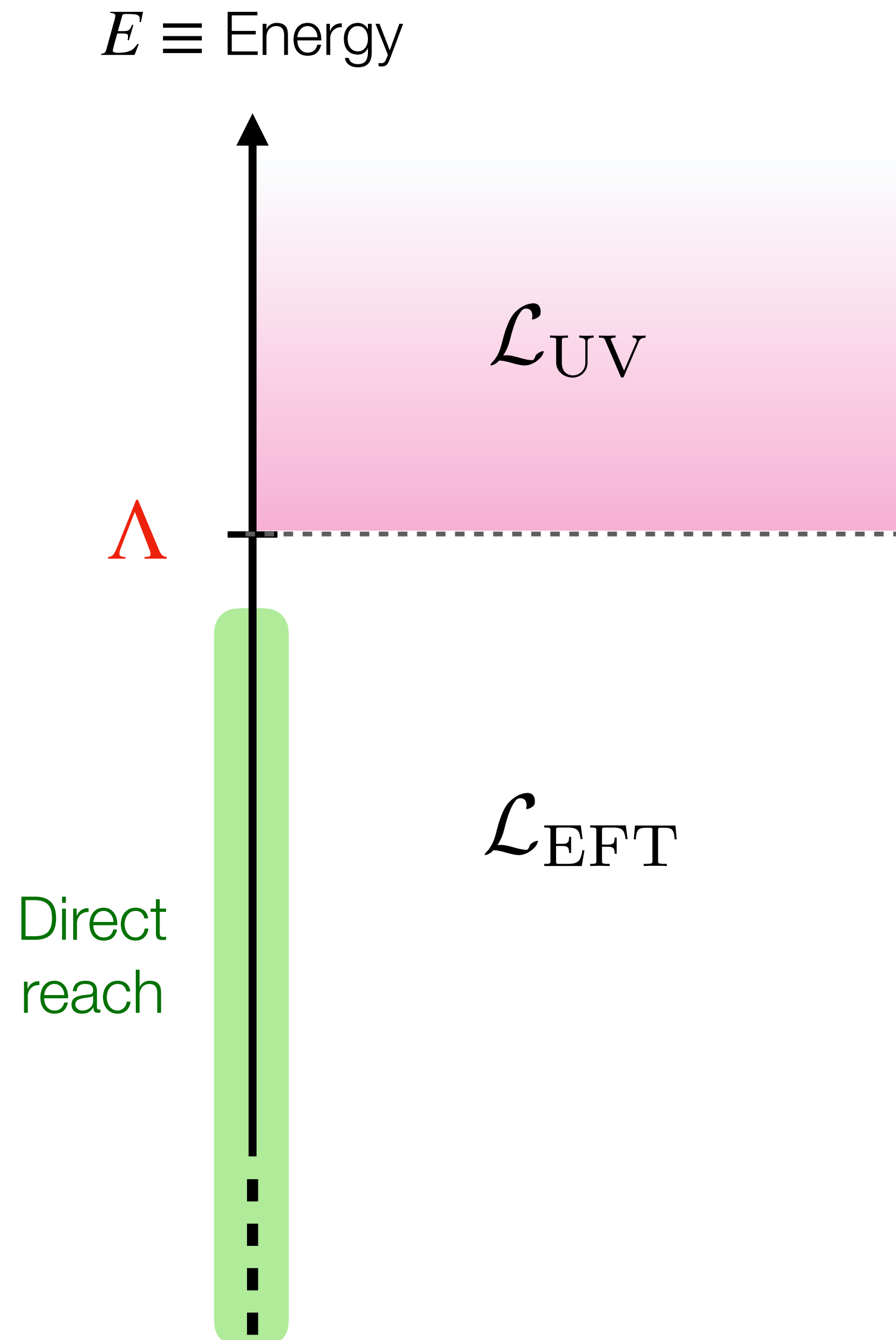
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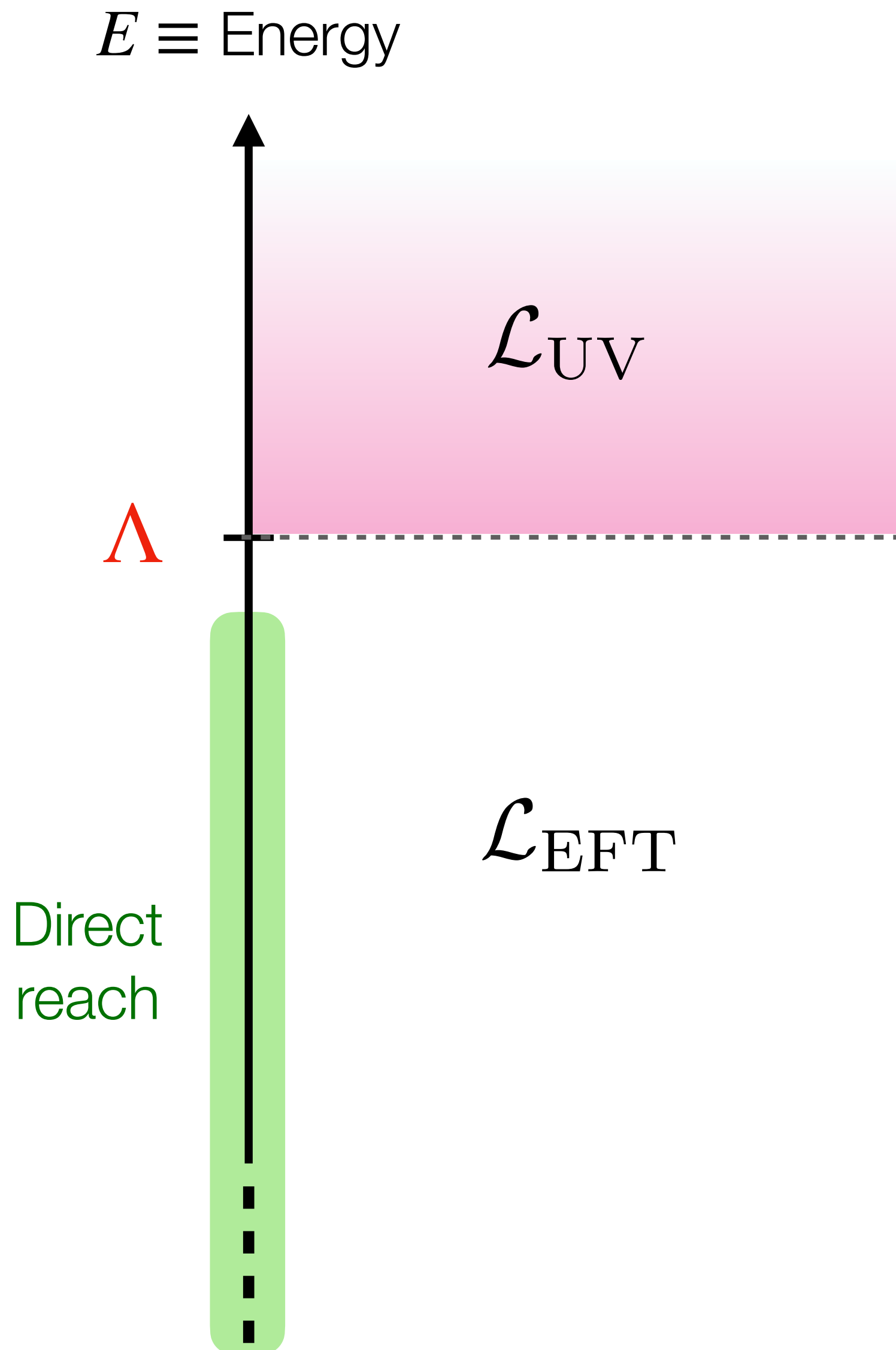
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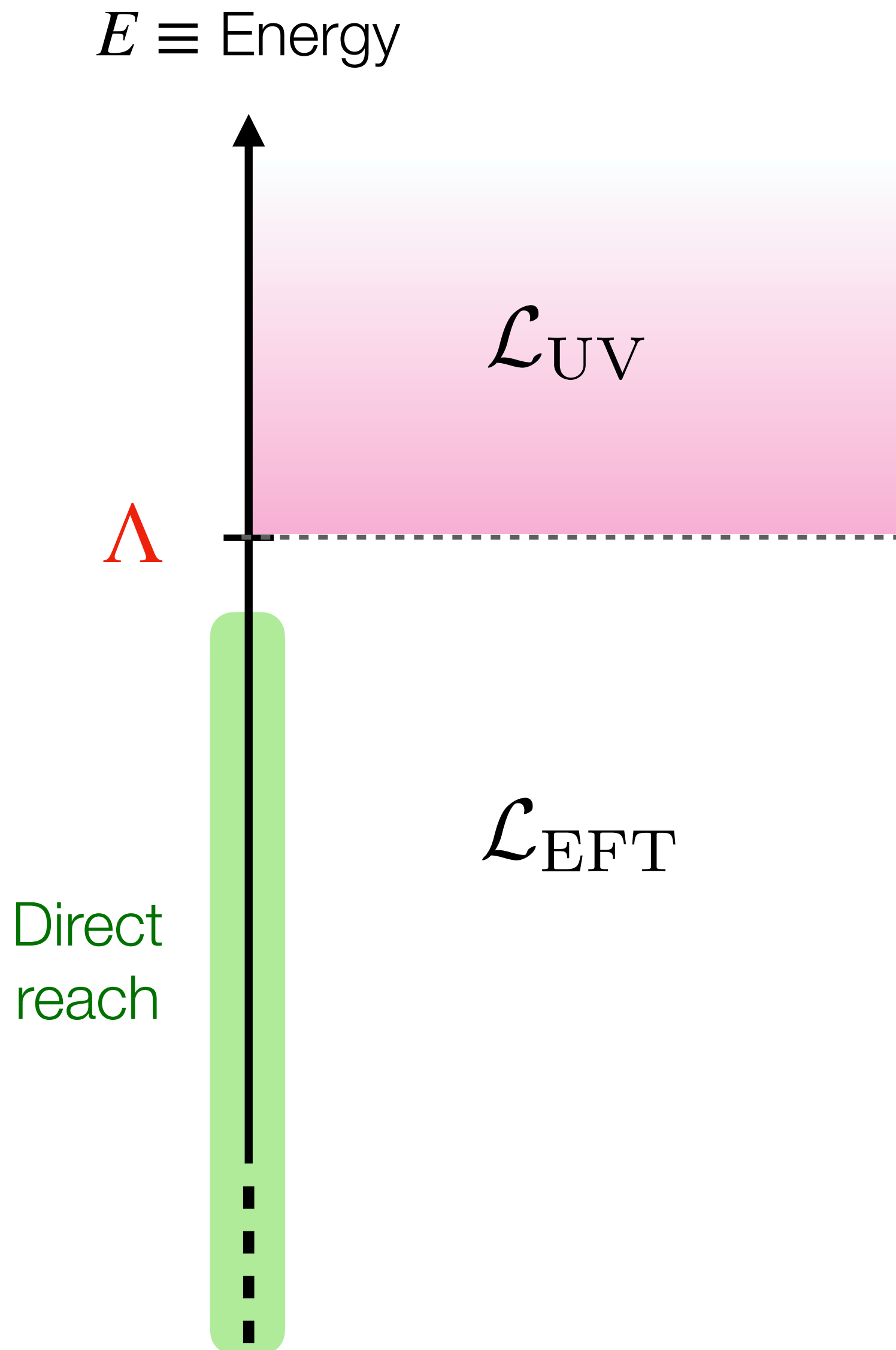
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Power counting: $m_{\phi, \psi}^2 / M^2, p^2 / M^2 \sim \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-2}) \ll 1$
(in energy dim.)

A toy model example



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... but also $\phi / M \sim \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-1})$

$\psi / M^{3/2} \sim \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-3/2})$

A toy model example

Energy dimensions:

$$[x] = -1 \quad [\partial_\mu] = [p_\mu] = [m] = 1$$

$$[S] = \left[\int d^4x \mathcal{L} \right] = 0 \Rightarrow [\mathcal{L}] = 4$$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2}(\partial_\mu \phi)^2 \Rightarrow [\phi] = 1$$

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \bar{\psi} i \not{\partial} \psi \Rightarrow [\psi] = 3/2$$

\mathcal{L}_{EFT}

Degrees of freedom: ϕ, ψ

Power counting:
(in energy dim.)

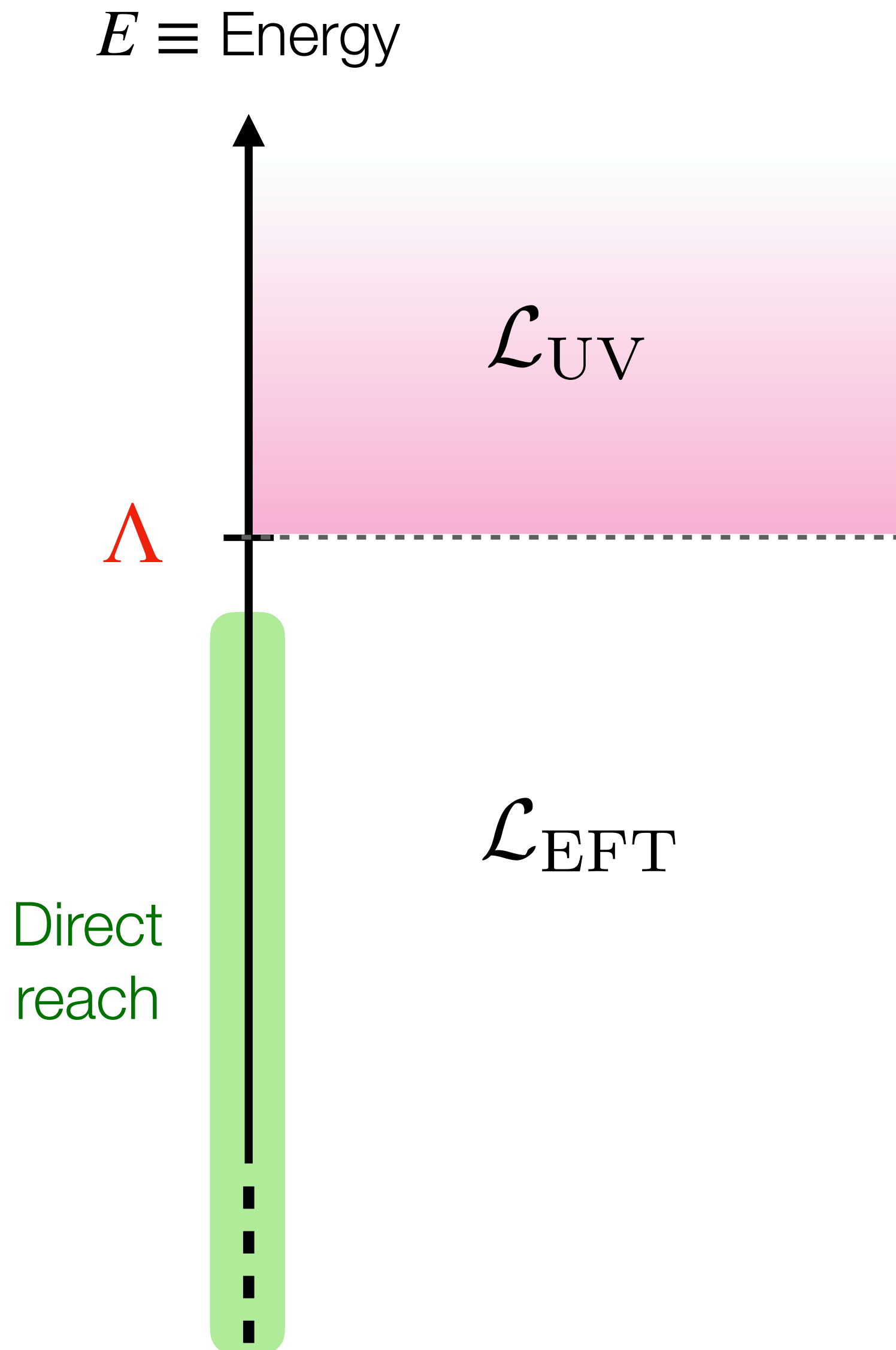
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Direct
reach

A toy model example



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{UV}} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m_\phi^2 \phi^2 - \frac{1}{4!} \lambda_\phi \phi^4 + \bar{\psi} i \not{\partial} \psi + \bar{\chi} i \not{\partial} \chi - M \bar{\chi} \chi + (y \phi \bar{\psi} \chi + \text{h.c.})$$

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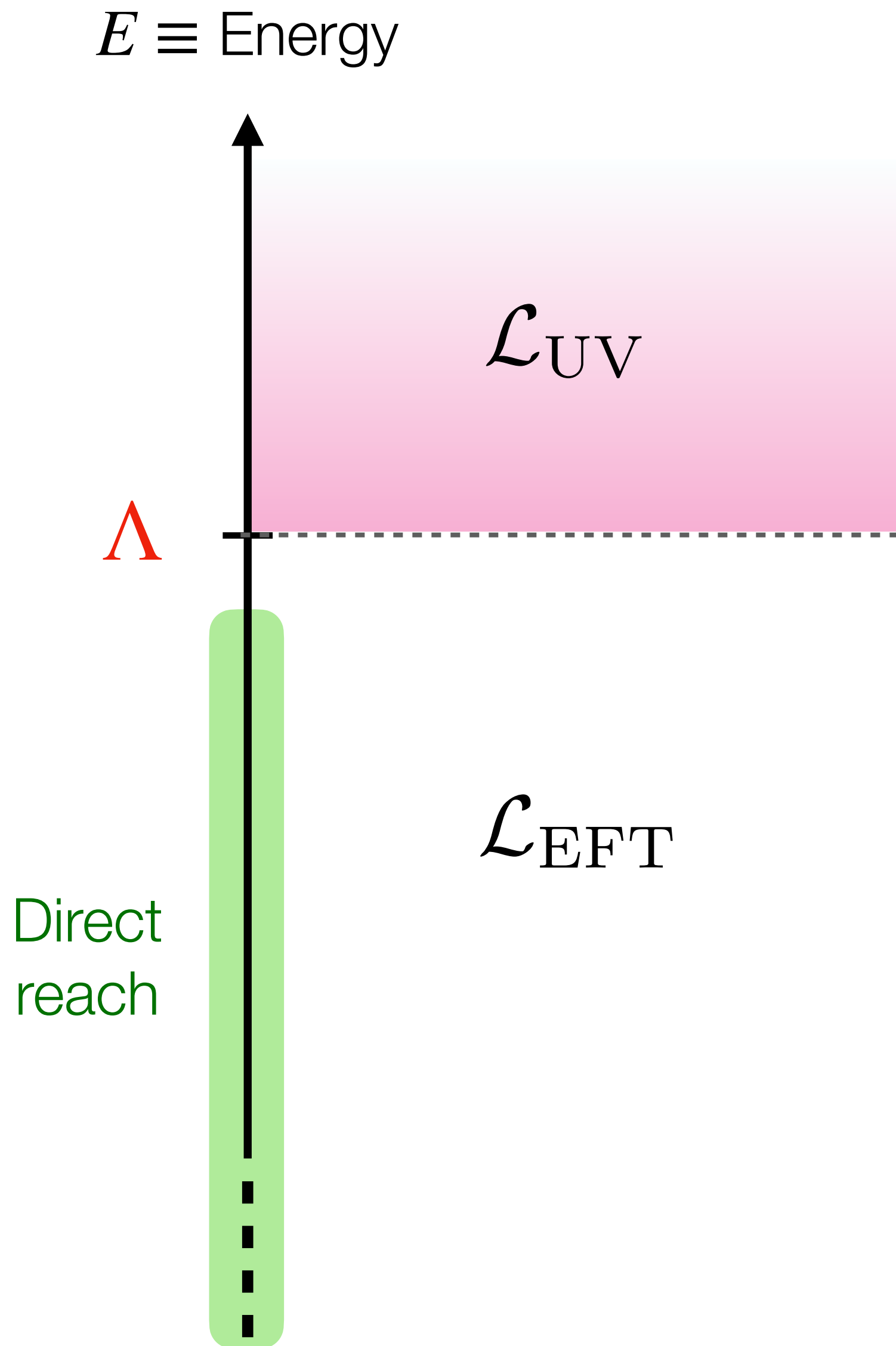
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Degrees of freedom: ϕ, ψ

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Symmetries:

A toy model example



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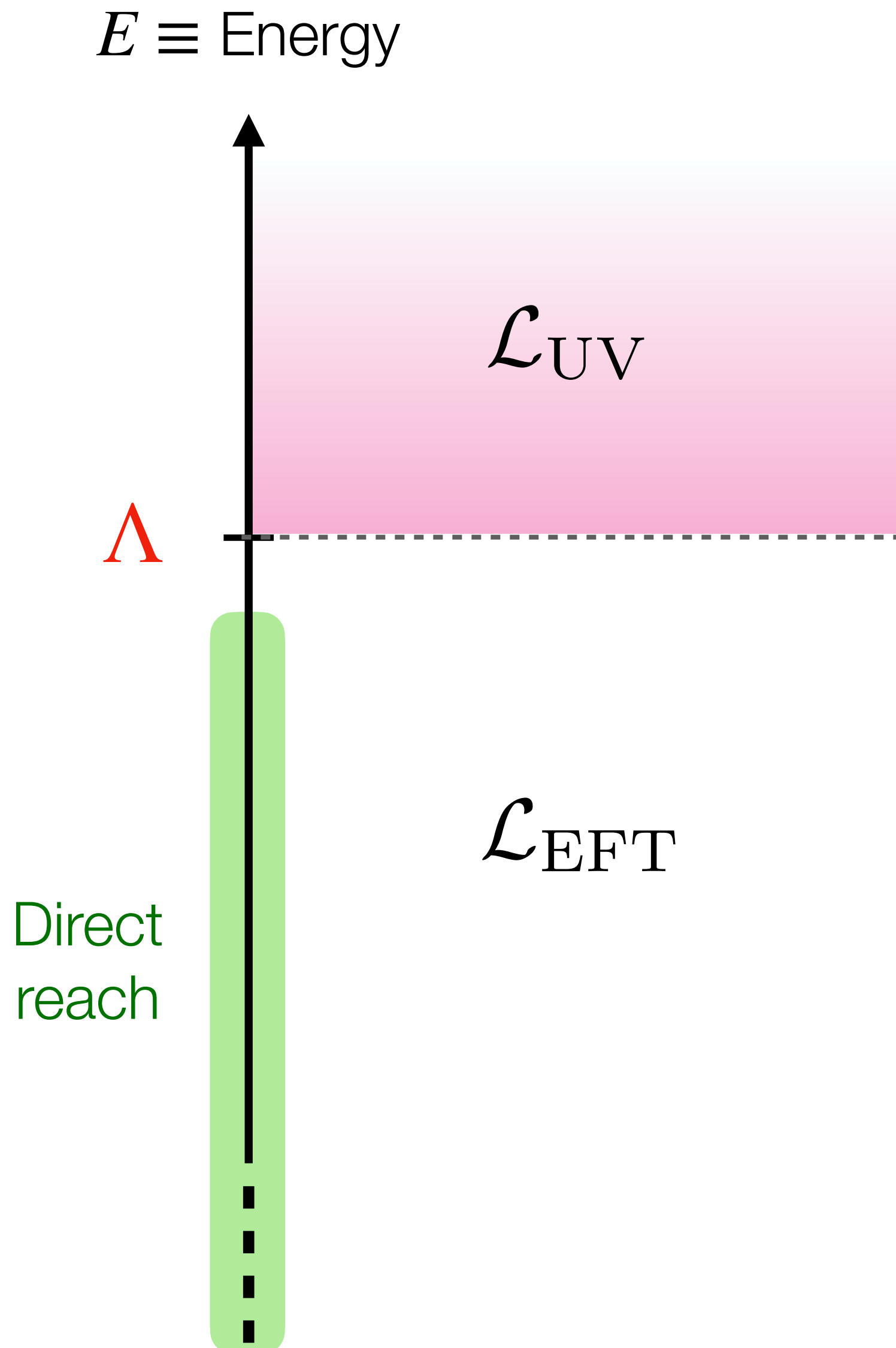
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Symmetries: $\phi \rightarrow -\phi \quad \psi \rightarrow -\psi$

A toy model example

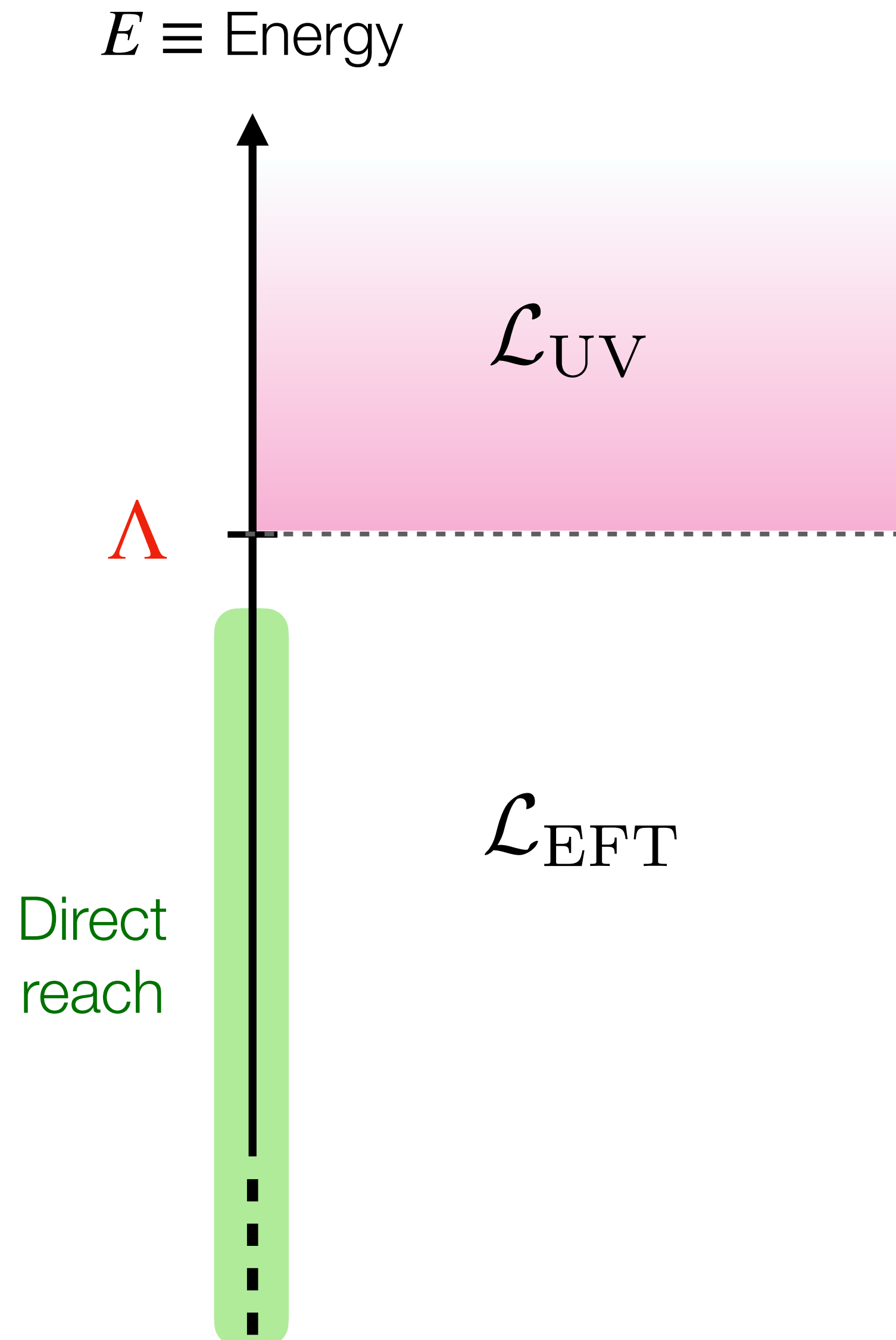


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A toy model example



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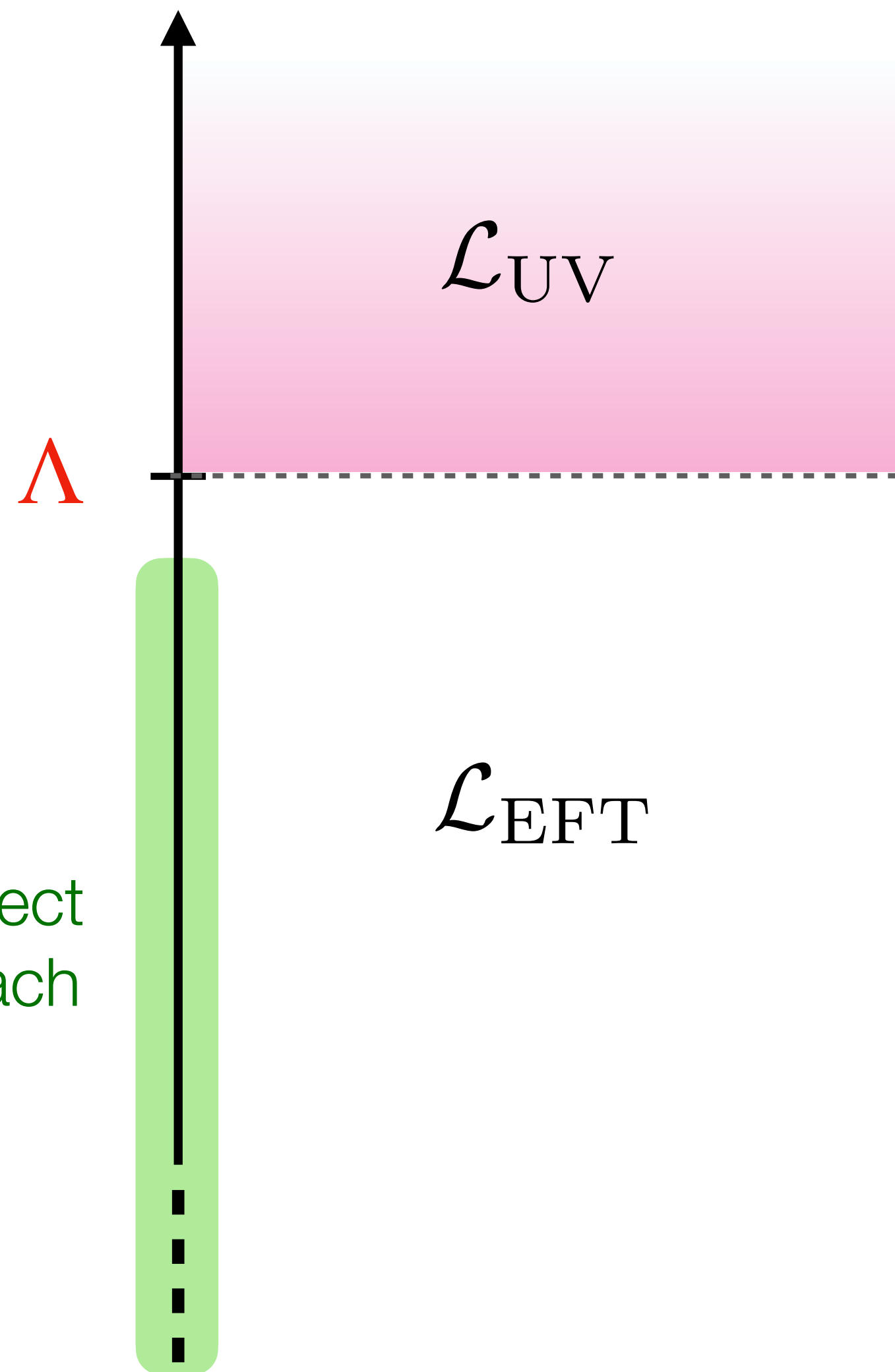
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A toy model example

$E \equiv$ Energy



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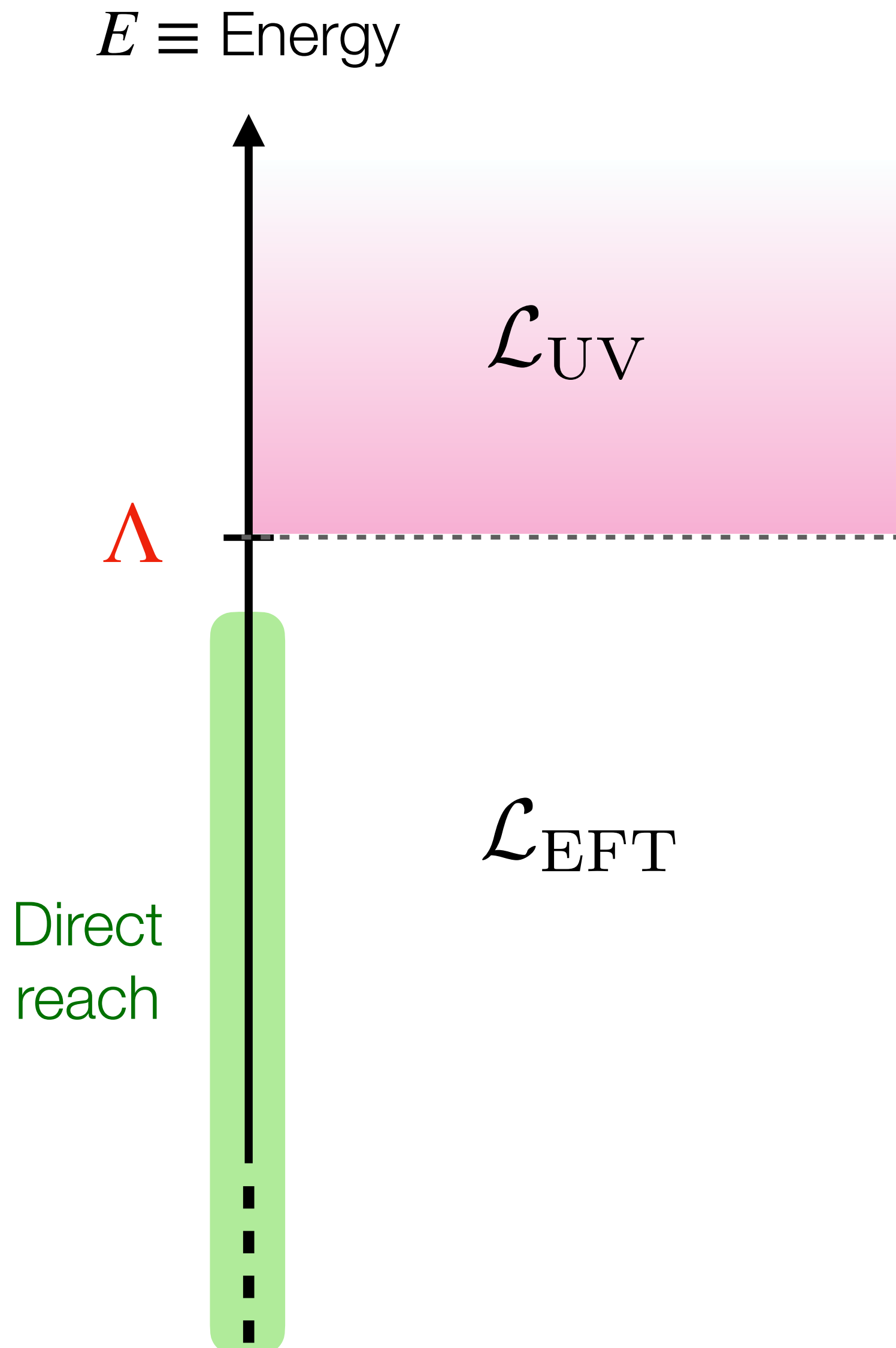
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May not be the same as in \mathcal{L}_{UV} !

No symmetry forbids this!

A toy model example



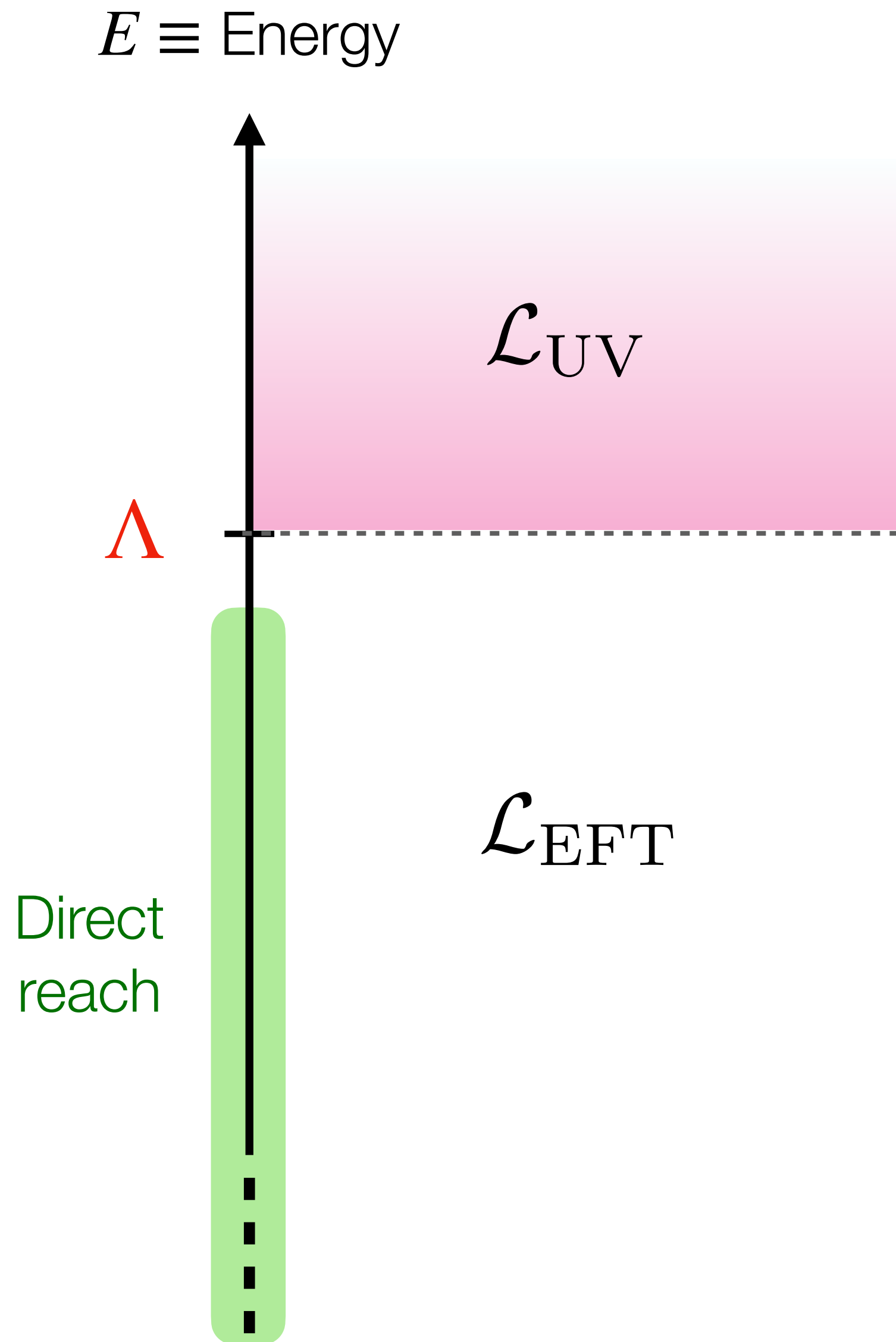
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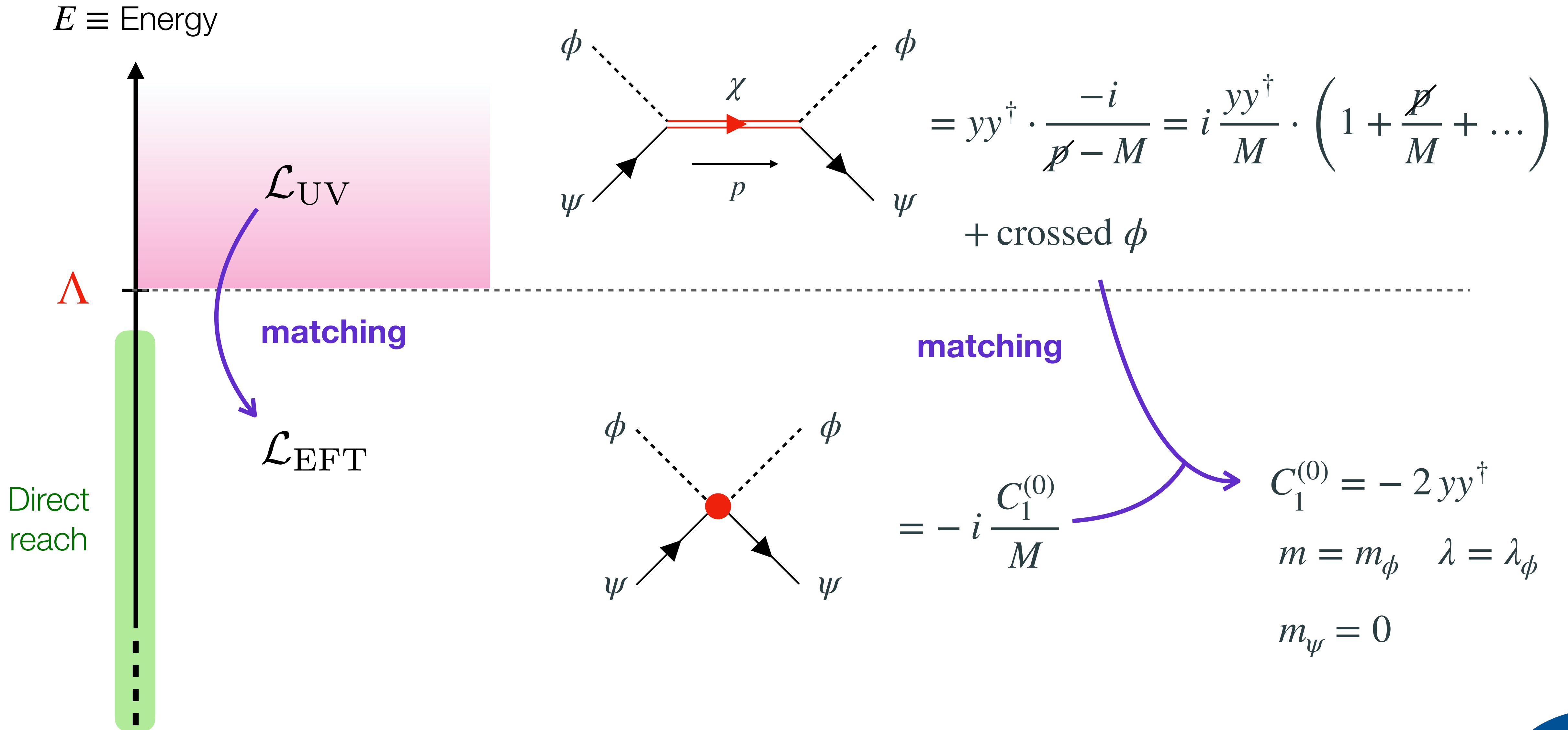
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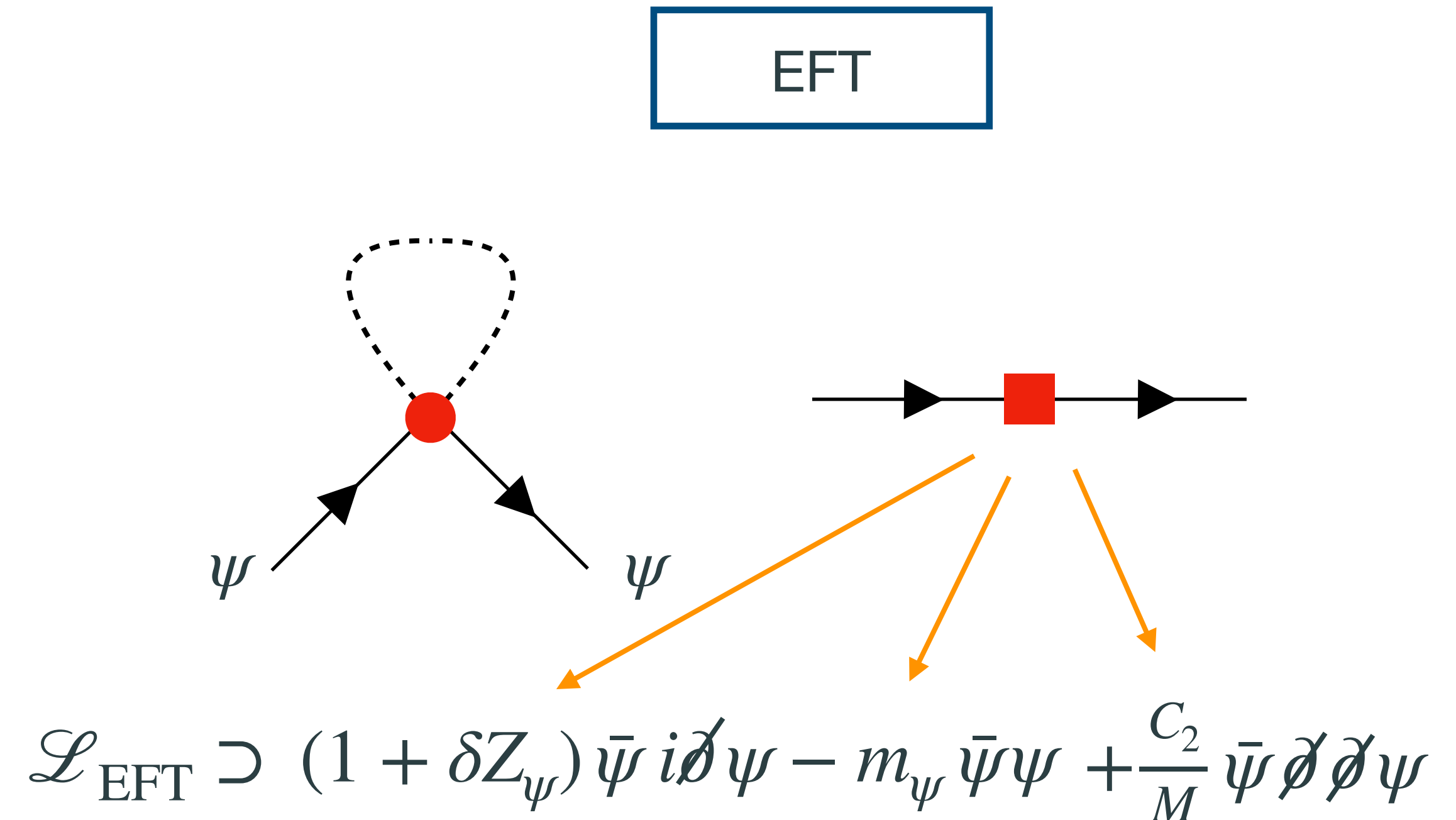
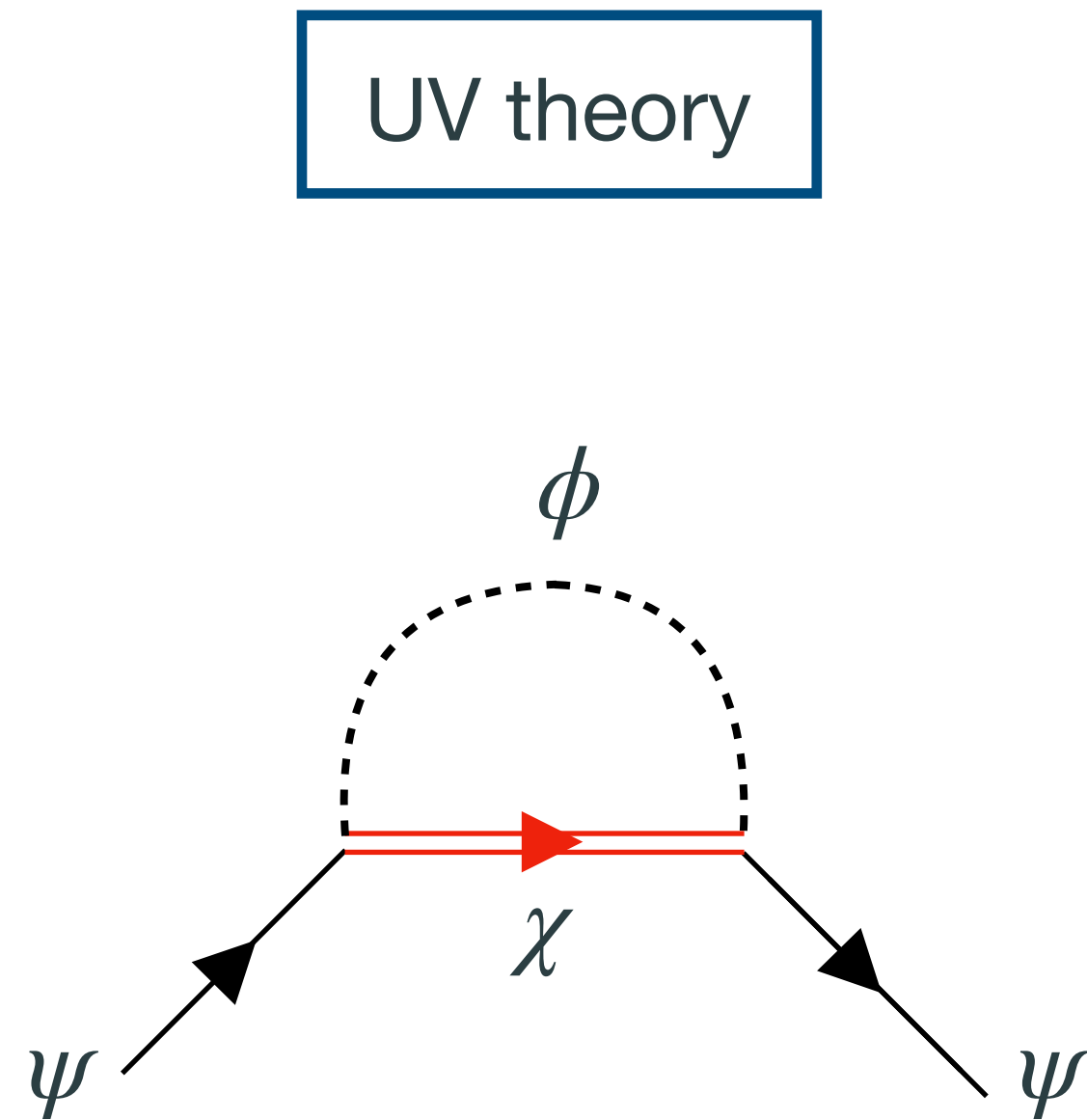
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A toy model example: amplitude matching



A toy model example: one-loop matching (off-shell)

We are trying to reproduce *all low-energy effects* of the original QFT up to $\mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-2})$



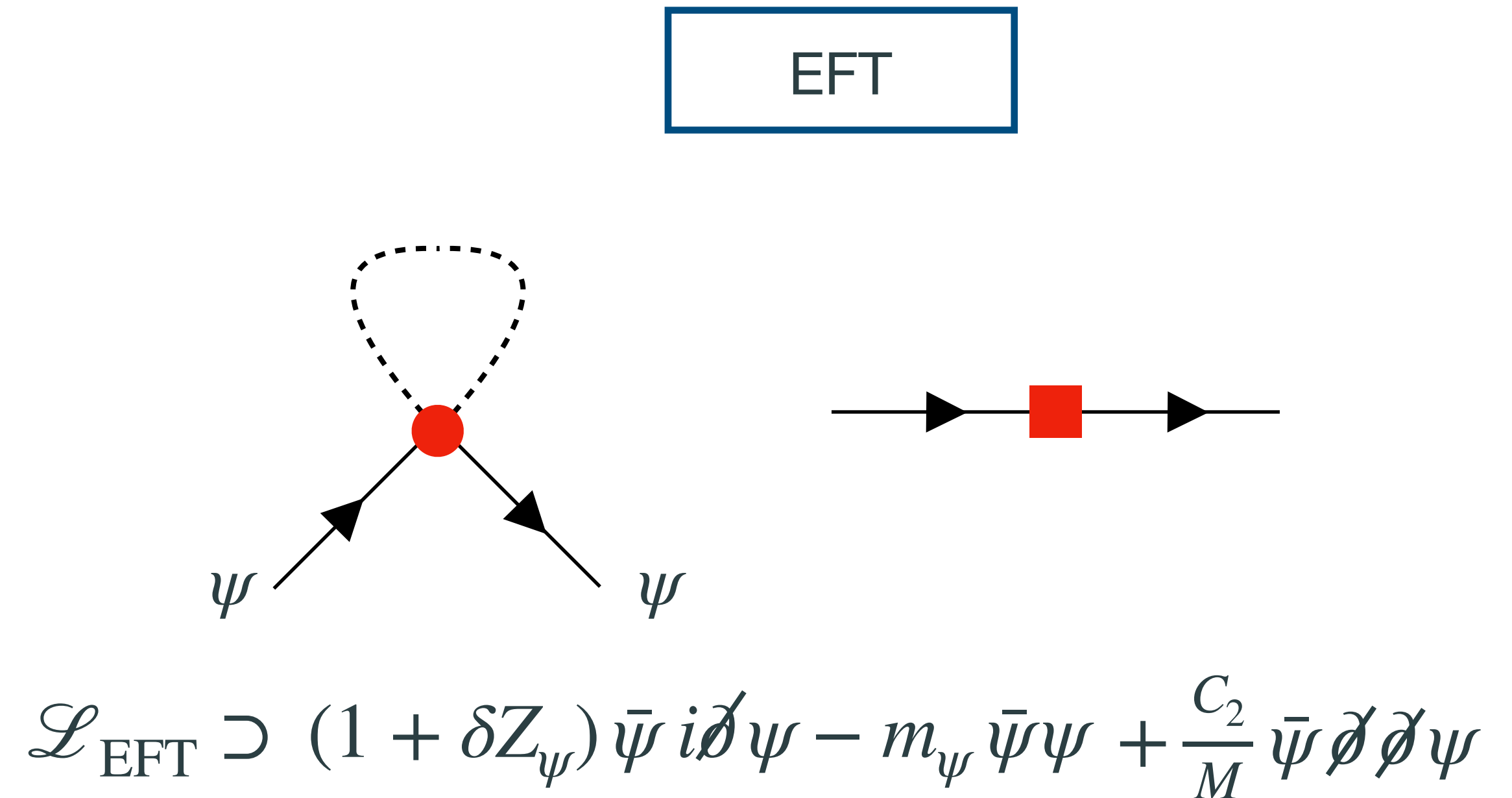
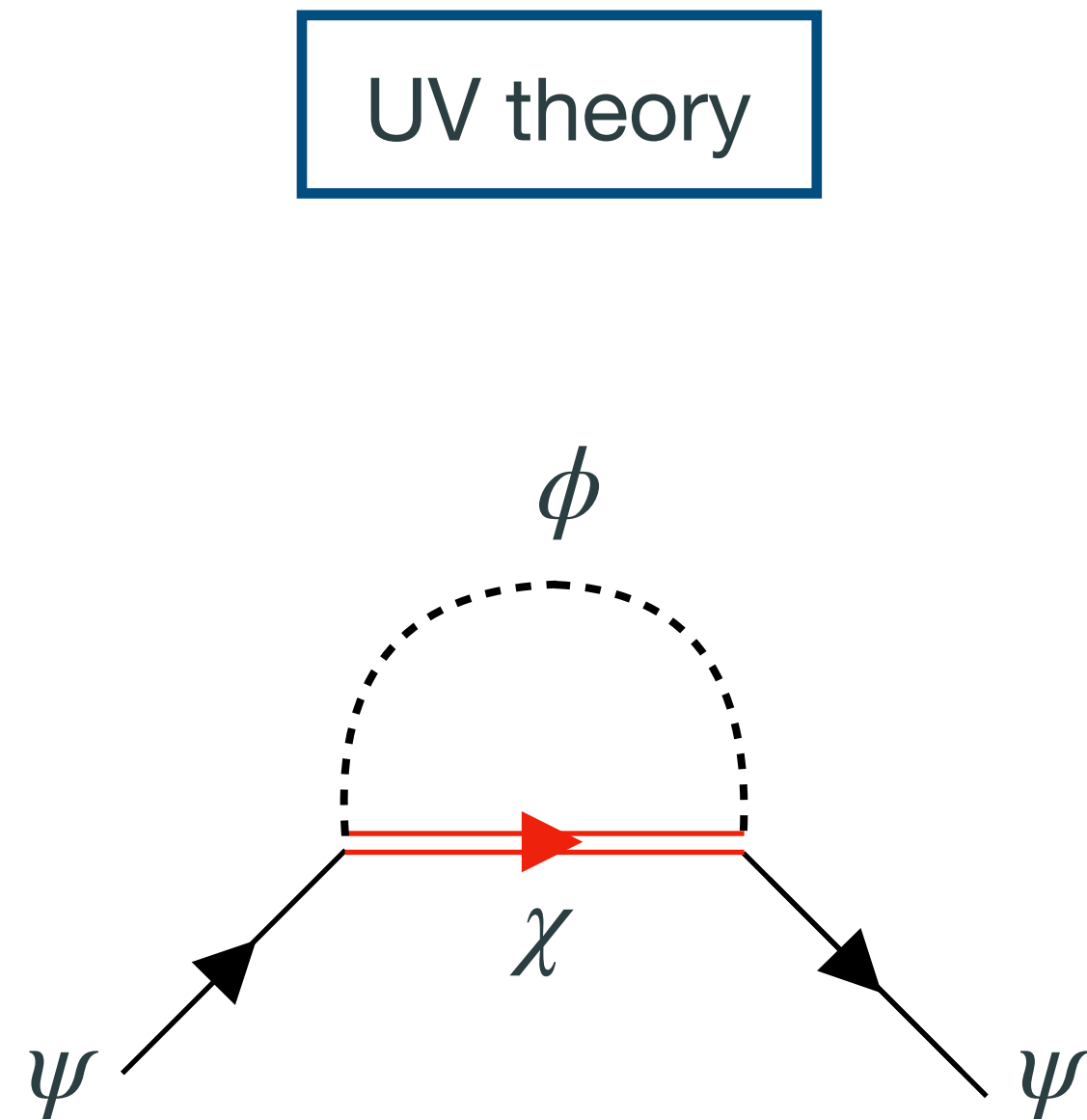
The difference between UV and EFT is always local!!

N.B. 1: I will assume small couplings (perturbativity)

N.B. 2: Similarly with only ϕ in external legs (more in tutorial)

A toy model example: one-loop matching (off-shell)

We are trying to reproduce *all low-energy effects* of the original QFT up to $\mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-2})$



Can be shifted to other interactions by field redefinitions:

$$\text{e.g. } \psi \rightarrow \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \delta Z_\psi\right) \psi$$

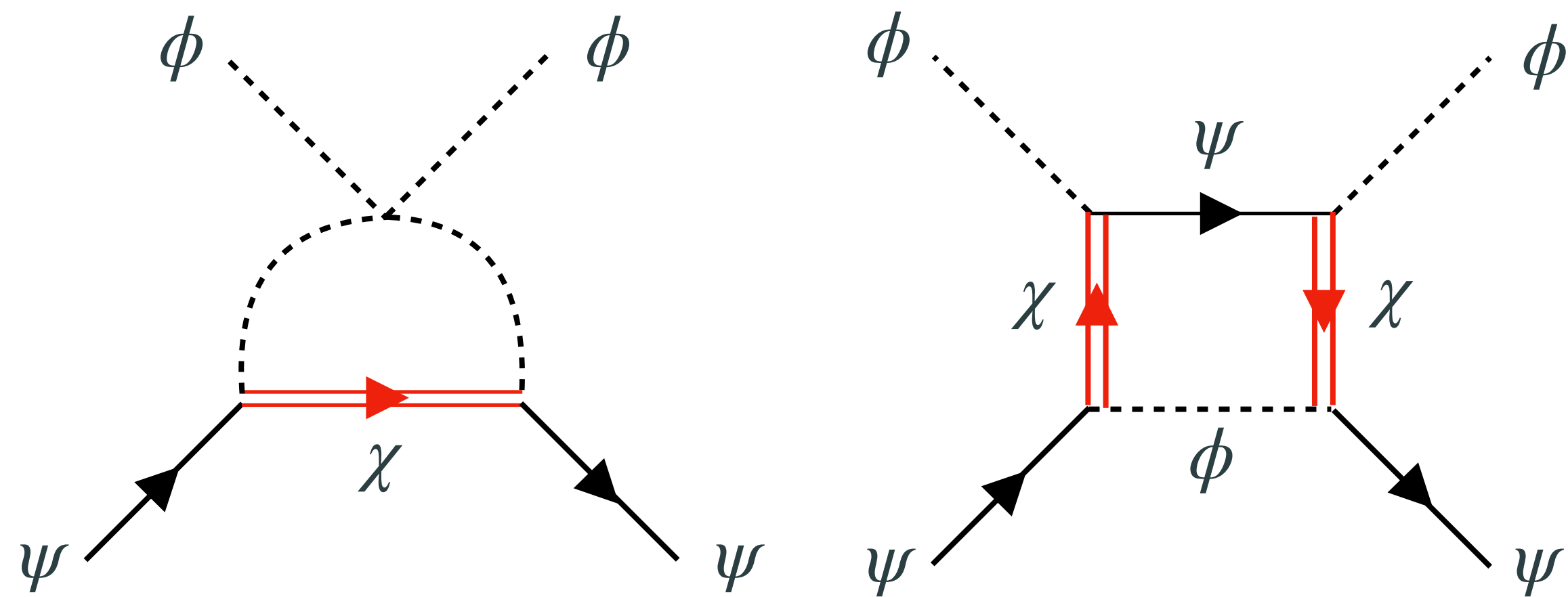
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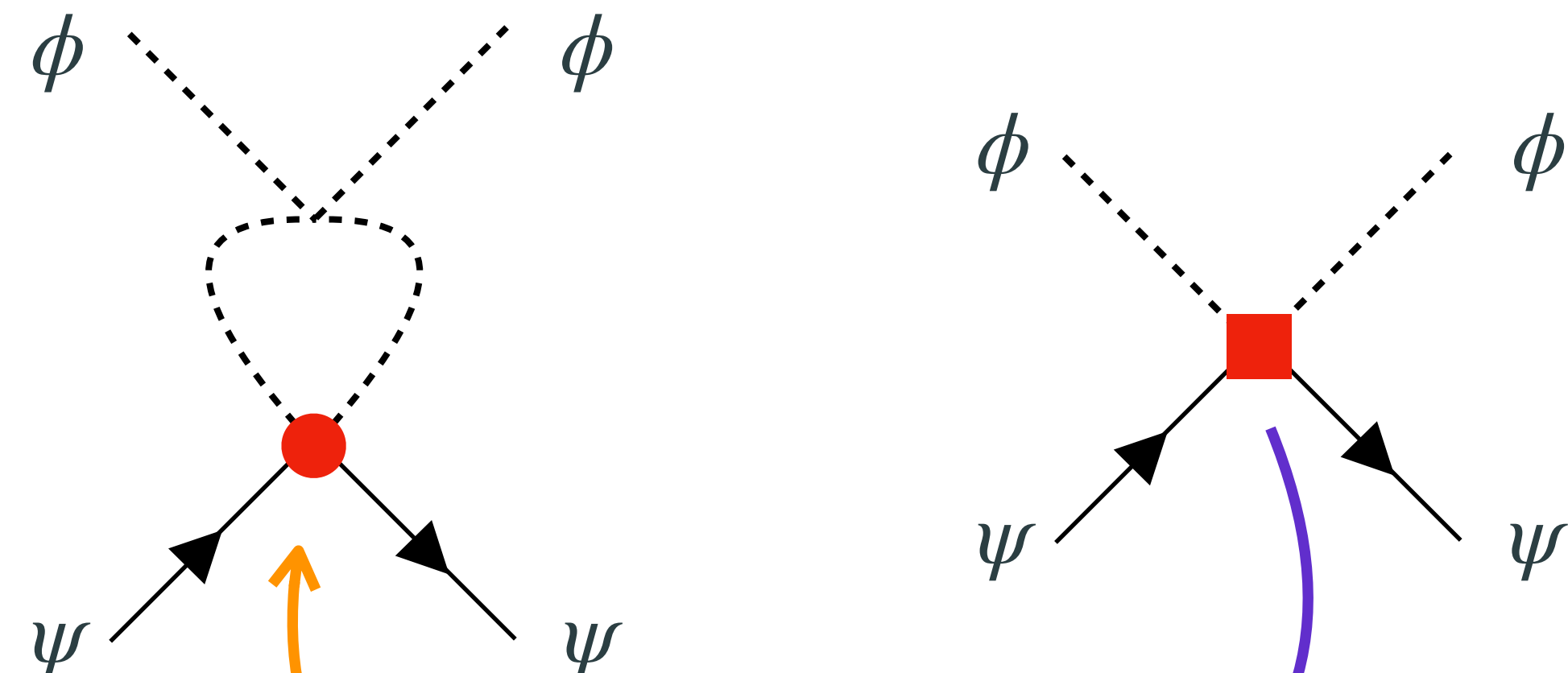
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UV theory



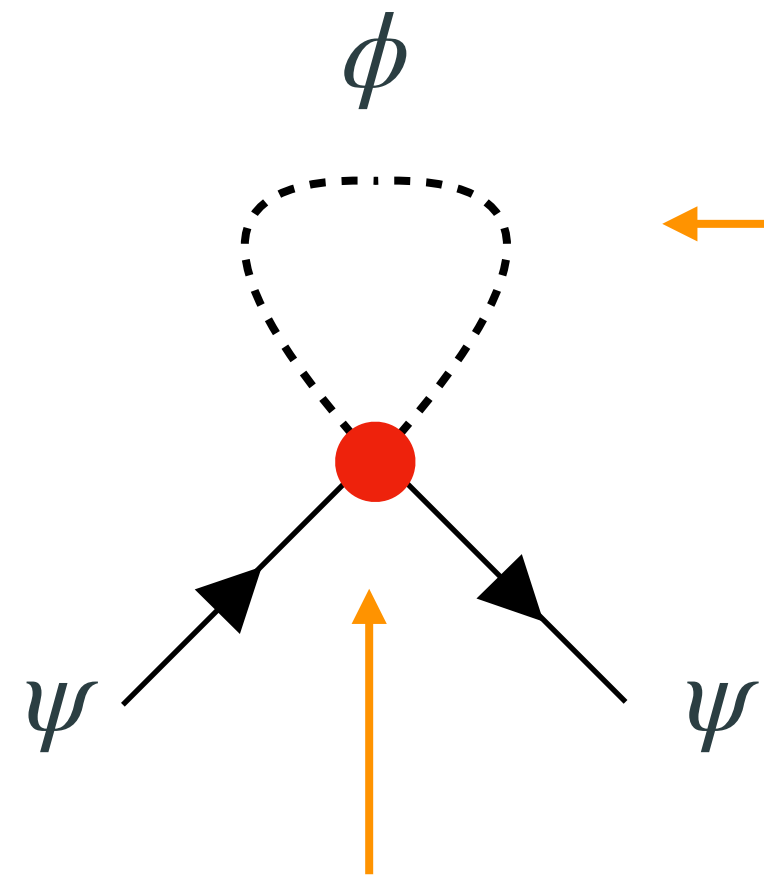
EFT



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}} \supset - \frac{C_1^{(0)} + \hbar C_1^{(1)}}{2M} \phi^2 \bar{\psi} \psi$$

Loop effects: regularization and power counting

Including quantum corrections (loop graphs) in a way that is consistent with the power counting is non-trivial!



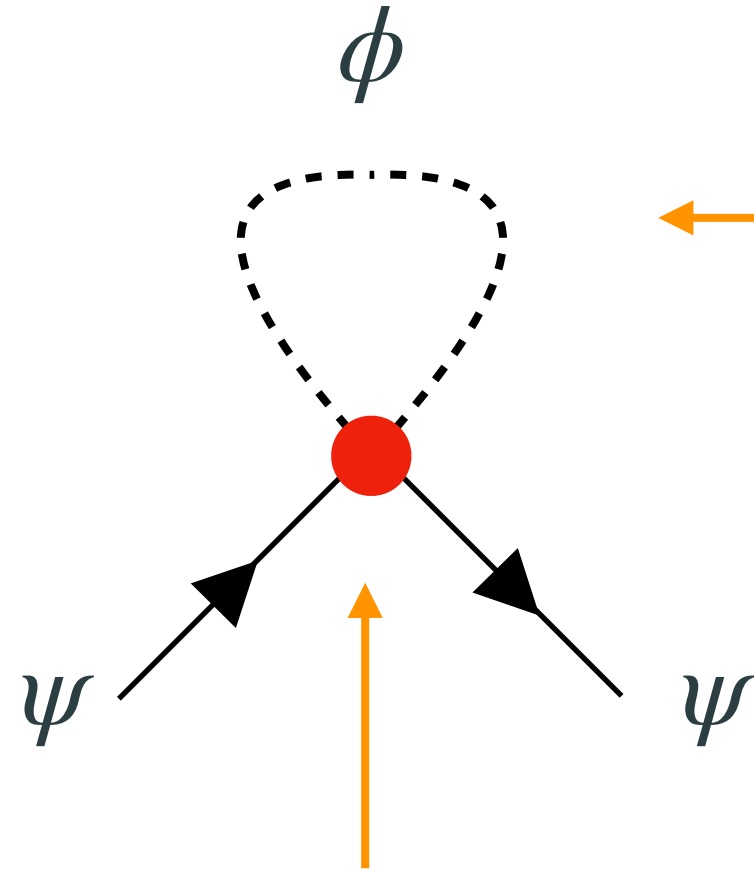
$$\int \frac{d^4 l}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{l^2 - m^2}$$

... but we have to integrate over *all loop momenta*, including regions where l/Λ is not small

Valid for $E \ll \Lambda \sim M$

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Furthermore, loop integrals are divergent. They need to be regularized:

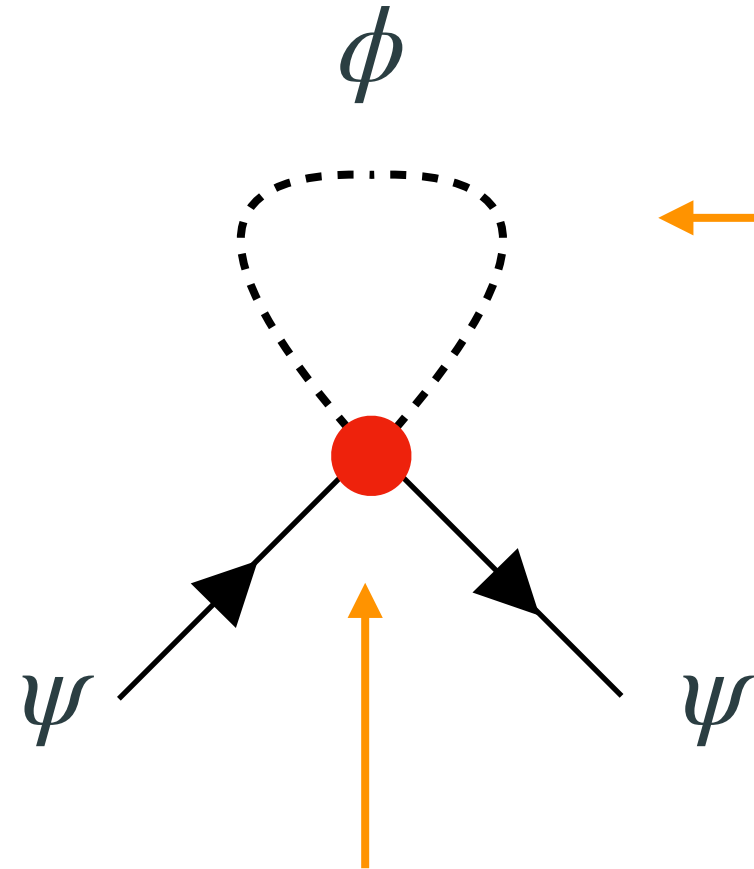
Cutoff regularization:

Valid for $E \ll \Lambda \sim M$

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{d^4 l}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{l^2 - m^2} &= \frac{-i}{4\pi^2} \lim_{\Lambda_c \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^{\Lambda_c} \frac{p^2 d|p|}{\sqrt{p^2 + m^2}} \\ &= \frac{-im^2}{(4\pi)^2} \left[\frac{2\Lambda_c^2}{m^2} + 1 - \ln \frac{4\Lambda_c^2}{m^2} + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{m^2}{\Lambda_c^2}\right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

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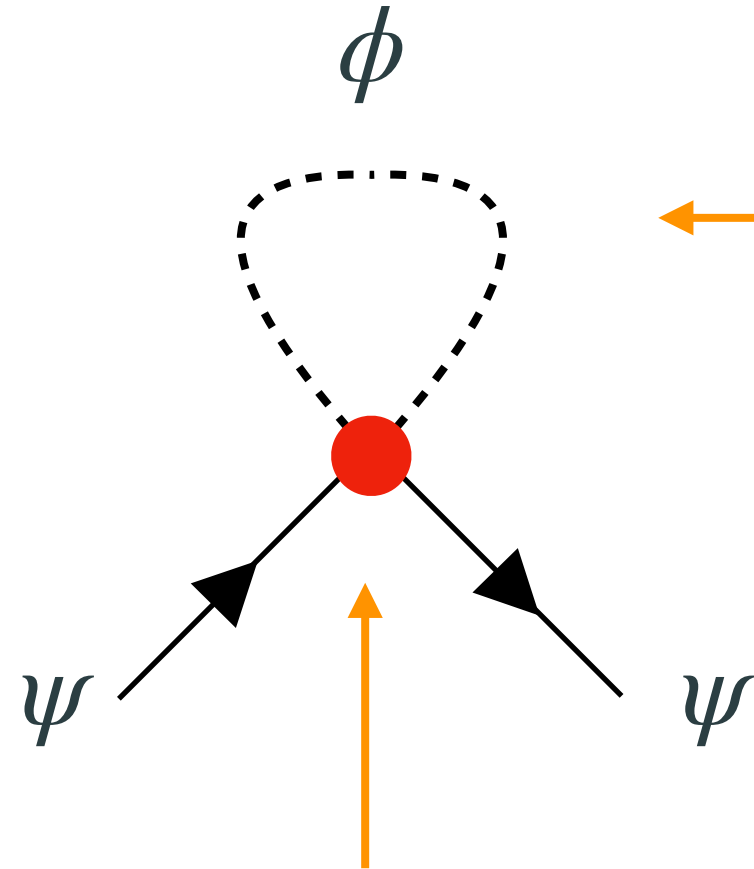
$$i\mathcal{A} \approx \frac{C_1}{M} \frac{\Lambda_c^2}{(4\pi)^2}$$

Breaks EFT power counting!

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Loop effects: regularization and power counting

Including quantum corrections (loop graphs) in a way that is **consistent with the power counting** is non-trivial!



$$\int \frac{d^4 l}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{l^2 - m^2}$$

... but we have to integrate over *all loop momenta*, including regions where l/Λ is not small

Furthermore, loop integrals are divergent. They need to be regularized:

Dimensional regularization (DimReg) ($d = 4 - 2\epsilon$):

To keep dimensions unchanged

Valid for $E \ll \Lambda \sim M$

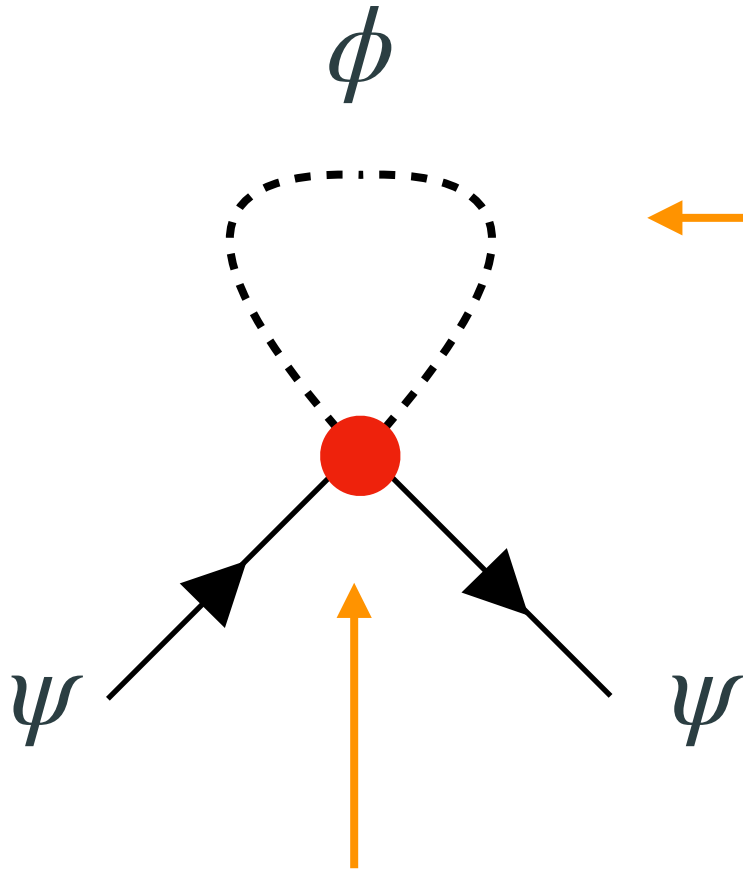
$$\int \frac{d^4 l}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{l^2 - m^2} = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \mu^{2\epsilon} \int \frac{d^d l}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{l^2 - m^2}$$

$$= \frac{im^2}{(4\pi)^2} \left[\frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} - \ln \frac{m^2}{\mu^2} + 1 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \right]$$

$$\frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} \equiv \frac{1}{\epsilon} - \gamma_E + \ln 4\pi$$

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Valid for $E \ll \Lambda \sim M$

$$i\mathcal{A} \approx \frac{C_1}{M} \frac{m^2}{(4\pi)^2}$$

Preserves EFT power counting!

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{d^4 l}{(2\pi)^4} \frac{1}{l^2 - m^2} &= \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \mu^{2\epsilon} \int \frac{d^d l}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{l^2 - m^2} \\ &= \frac{im^2}{(4\pi)^2} \left[\frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} - \ln \frac{m^2}{\mu^2} + 1 + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon) \right] \end{aligned} \quad \frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} \equiv \frac{1}{\epsilon} - \gamma_E + \ln 4\pi$$

Dimensional regularization and the method of regions

Method of regions: Loop integrals can be divided in regions by applying the following recipe

[Beneke, Smirnov, [hep-ph/9711391](https://arxiv.org/abs/hep-ph/9711391); Jantzen, [1111.2589](https://arxiv.org/abs/1111.2589)]

1. Divide the space of the loop momenta into regions and, in every region, expand the integrand in a Taylor series with respect to the parameters that are considered small there.
2. Integrate the expanded integrand over the whole integration domain of the loop momenta.
3. Set to zero any scaleless integral (i.e. no scales in propagators). ← **Natural in DimReg**

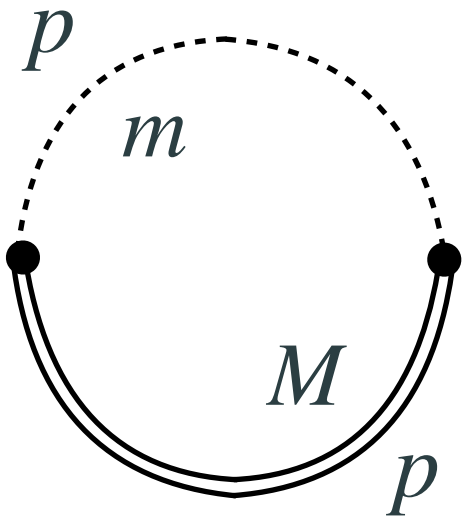
The sum of all regions yields the full loop integral result in an expanded form.

$$\int \frac{d^d l}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{l^{2n}} = 0$$
$$\int \frac{d^d l}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{l^4} = \frac{1}{\epsilon_{UV}} - \frac{1}{\epsilon_{IR}}$$

$p \rightarrow \infty$ $p \rightarrow 0$

N.B.: This method also works for other types of integrals!!

Example of the method of regions



$$I = \int Dp \frac{1}{(p^2 - M^2)(p^2 - m^2)}$$

$$Dp \equiv -i (4\pi)^2 \mu^{2\epsilon} \frac{d^d p}{(2\pi)^d}$$

Say $m^2 \ll M^2$, we thus have 5 momentum regions

$E \equiv$ Energy



$R_1 : p \gg M \gg m$

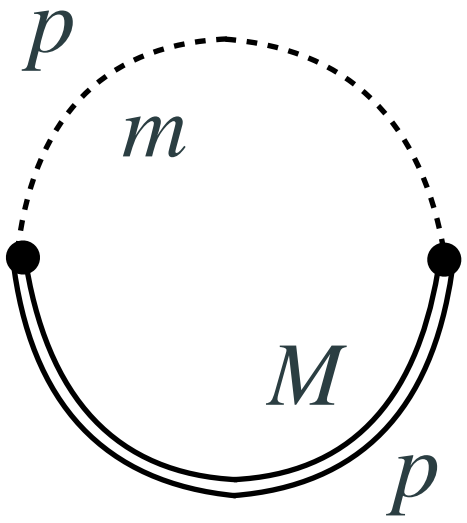
$R_2 : p \sim M \gg m$

$R_3 : m \ll p \ll M$

$R_4 : p \sim m \ll M$

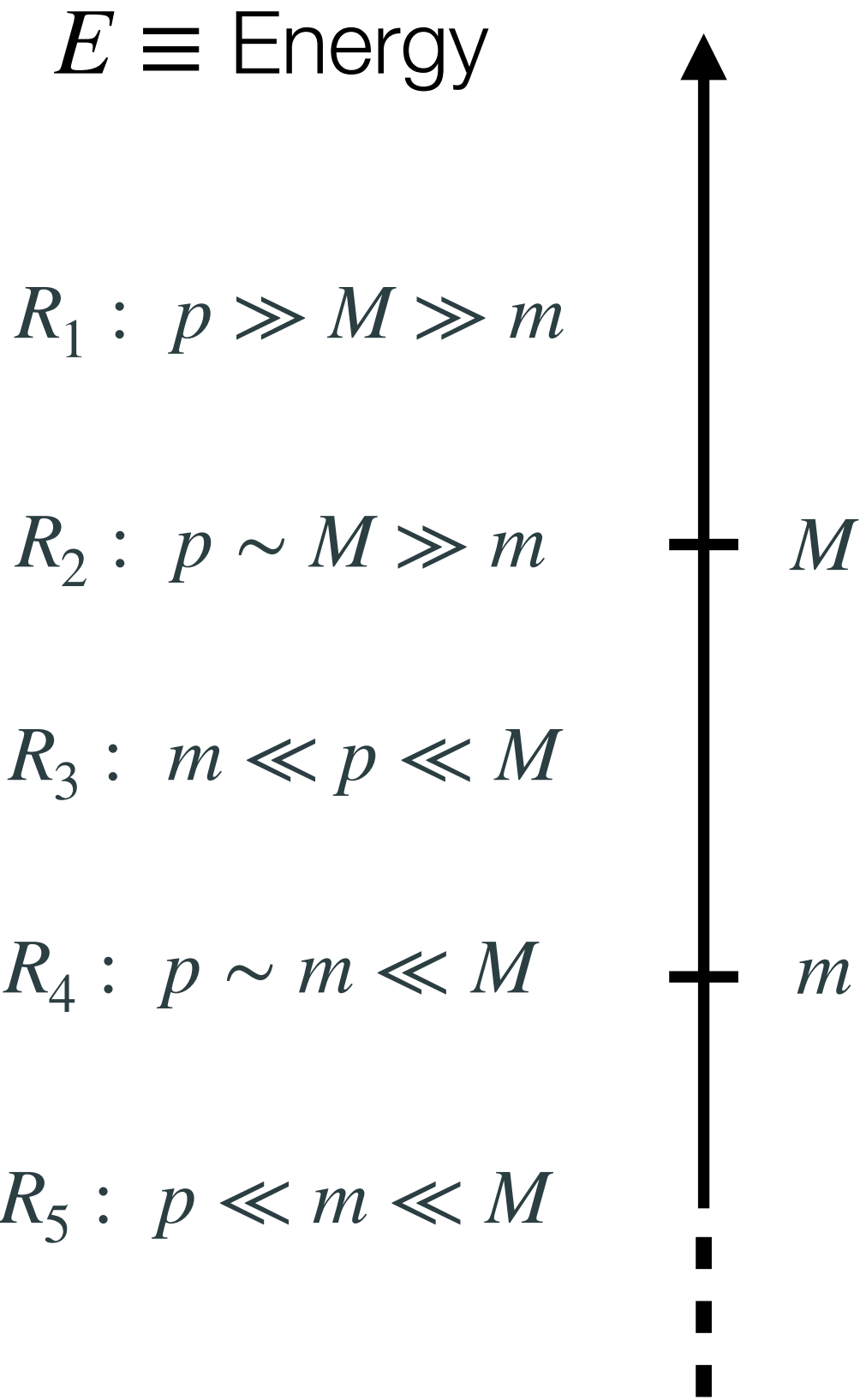
$R_5 : p \ll m \ll M$

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Full integral:

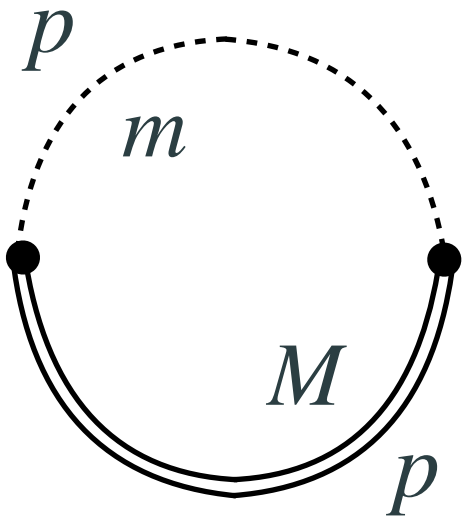
$$I = \frac{1}{M^2 - m^2} \int Dp \left[\frac{1}{p^2 - M^2} - \frac{1}{p^2 - m^2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{M^2 - m^2} \left[M^2 \left(\frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} + 1 - \ln \frac{M^2}{\mu^2} \right) - m^2 \left(\frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} + 1 - \ln \frac{m^2}{\mu^2} \right) \right]$$

Partial fraction decomposition

Simple example, integrals get considerably more complicated with increasing number of scales

Example of the method of regions



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Region 1 expansion:

$$I_1 = \int Dp \frac{1}{p^2} \left[1 + \frac{M^2}{p^2} + \dots \right] \frac{1}{p^2} \left[1 + \frac{m^2}{p^2} + \dots \right] = 0$$

All integrals are scaleless!!

This solves the issue of loop integration above the domain of EFT validity

$E \equiv$ Energy

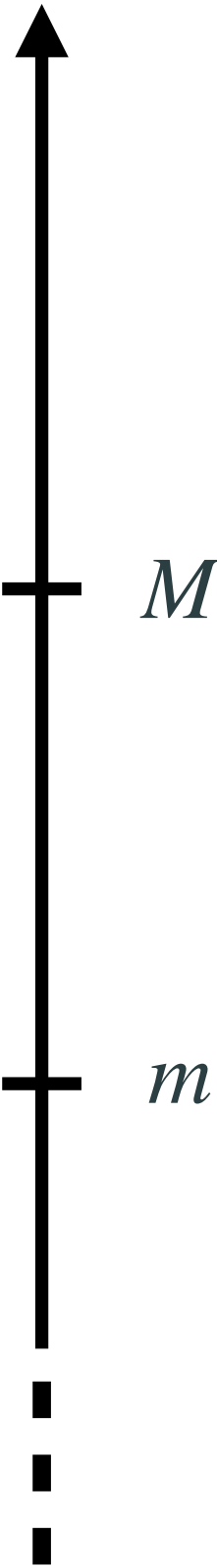
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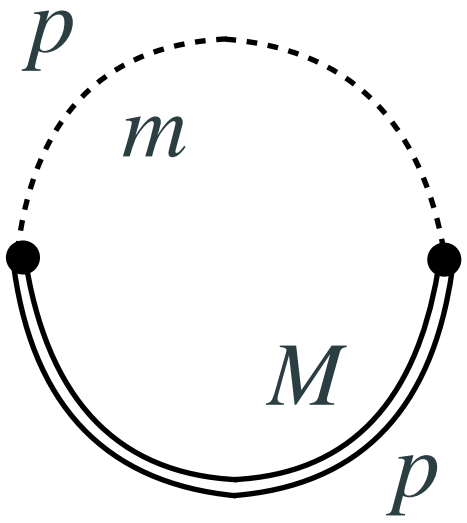
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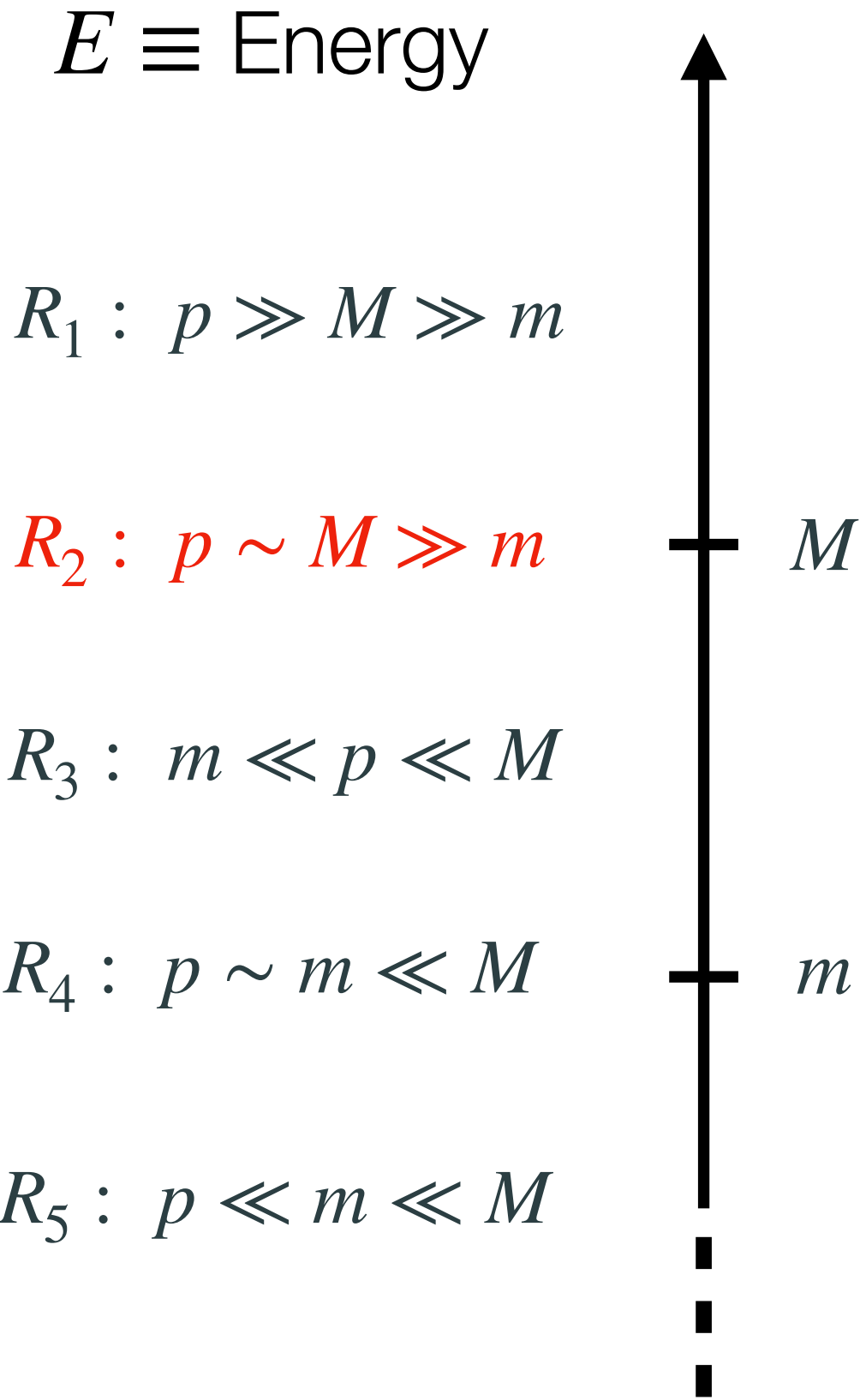


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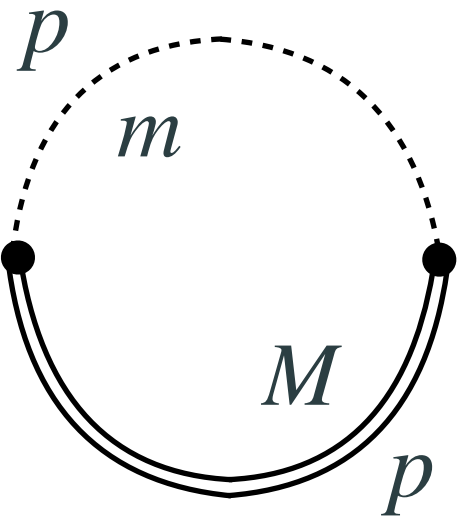
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Region 2 expansion:

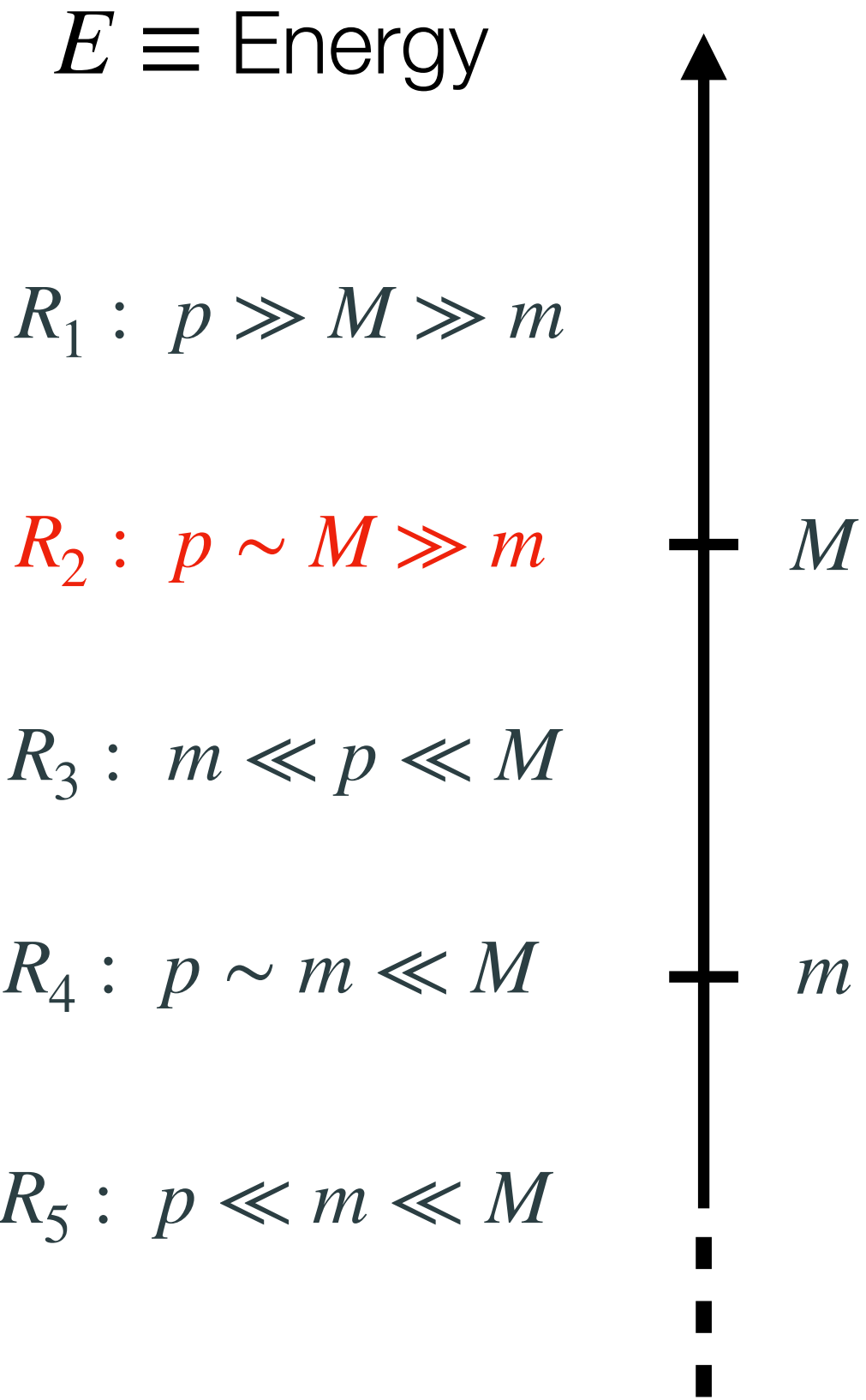
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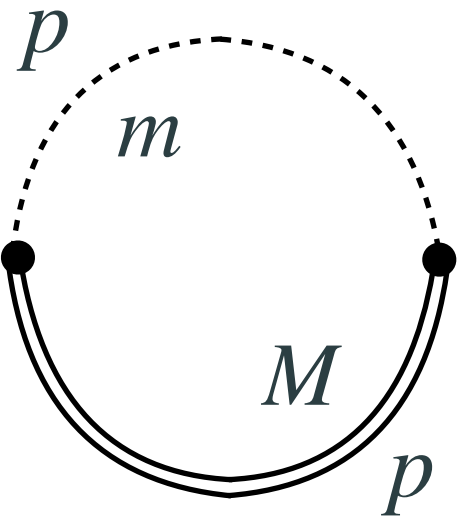


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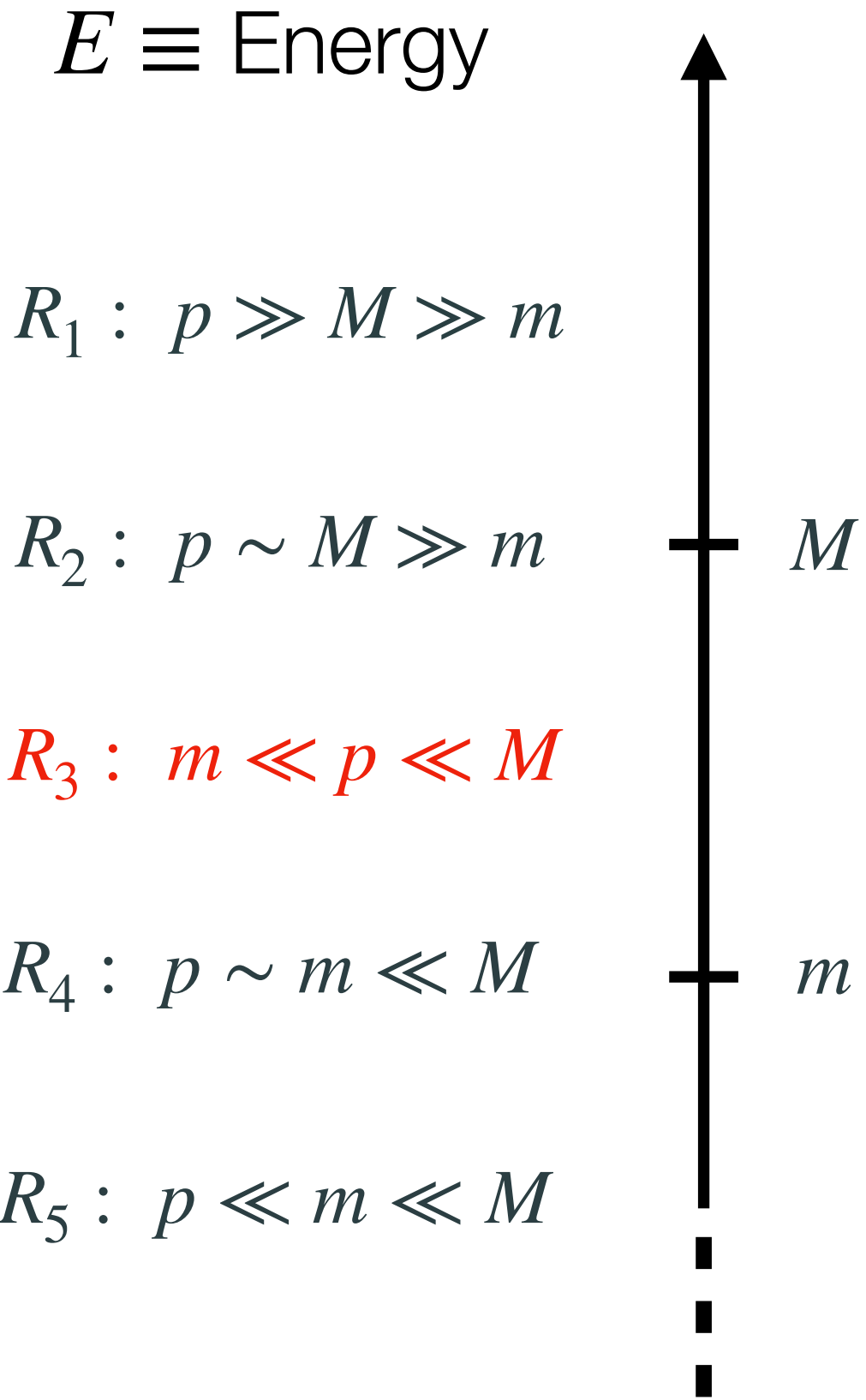
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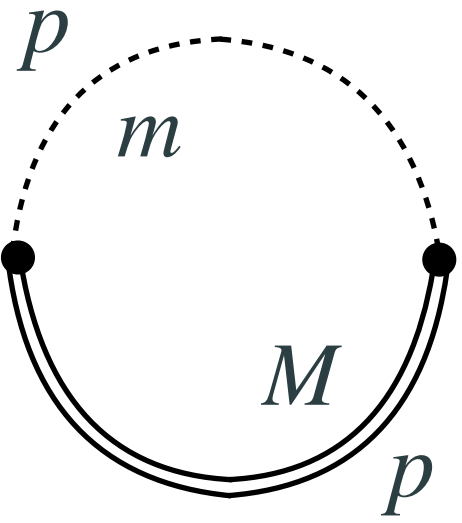


Region 3 expansion:

$$I_3 = \int Dp \frac{-1}{M^2} \left[1 + \frac{p^2}{M^2} + \dots \right] \frac{1}{p^2} \left[1 + \frac{m^2}{p^2} + \dots \right] = 0$$

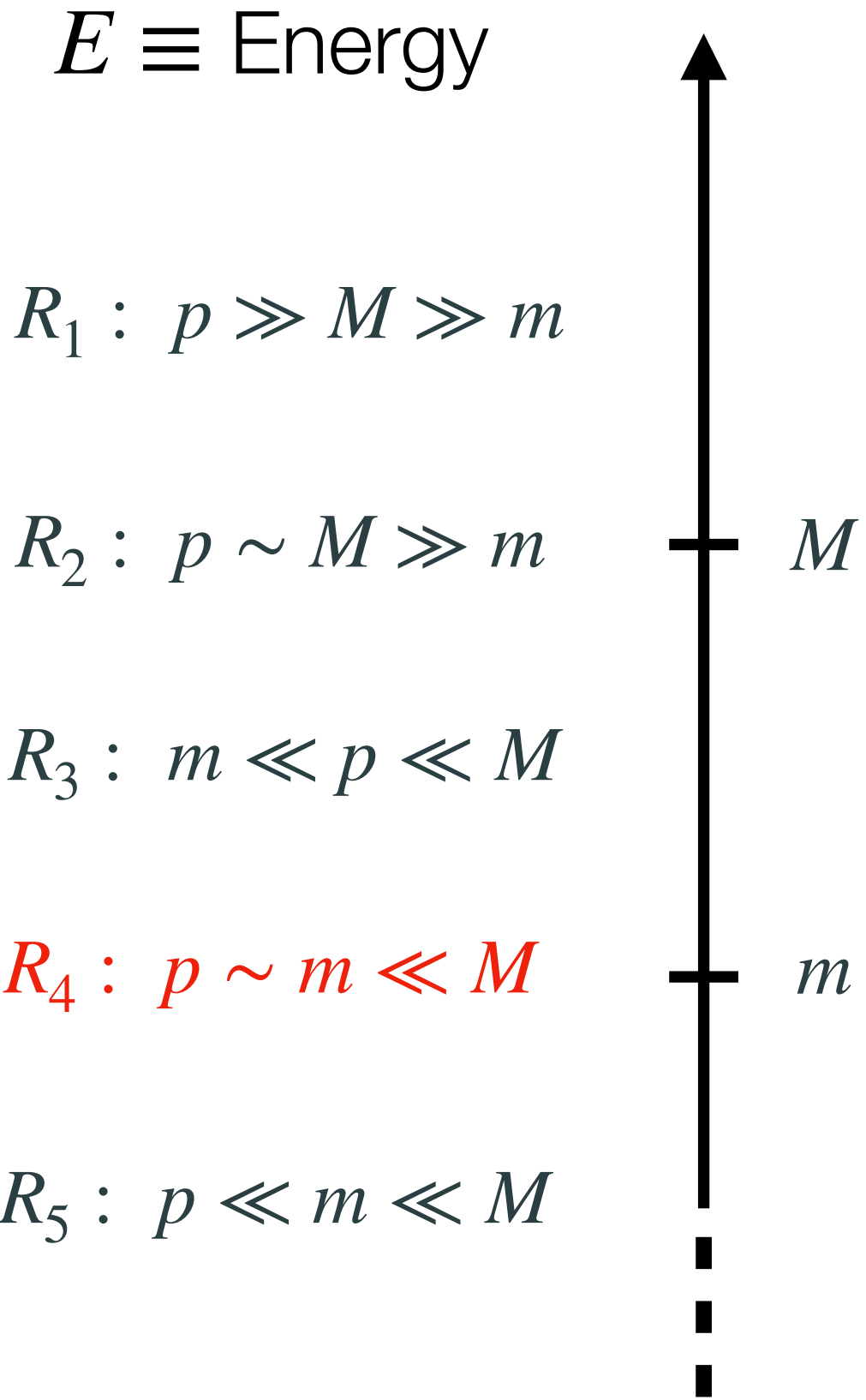
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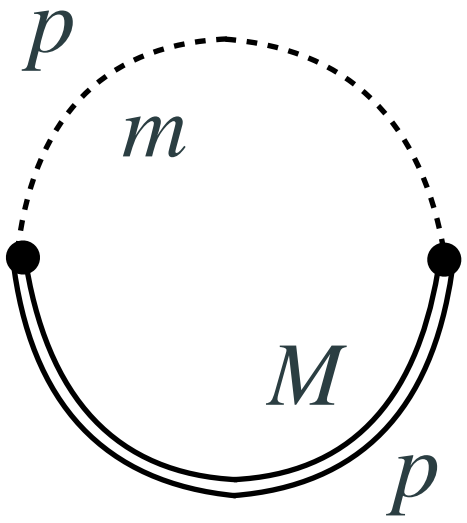


Region 4 expansion:

$$I_4 = \int Dp \frac{-1}{M^2} \left[1 + \frac{p^2}{M^2} + \dots \right] \frac{1}{p^2 - m^2} = - \left(\frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} - \ln \frac{m^2}{\mu^2} + 1 \right) \left[1 + \frac{m^2}{M^2} + \dots \right]$$

$$= - \left(\frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} - \ln \frac{m^2}{\mu^2} + 1 \right) \frac{M^2}{M^2 - m^2}$$

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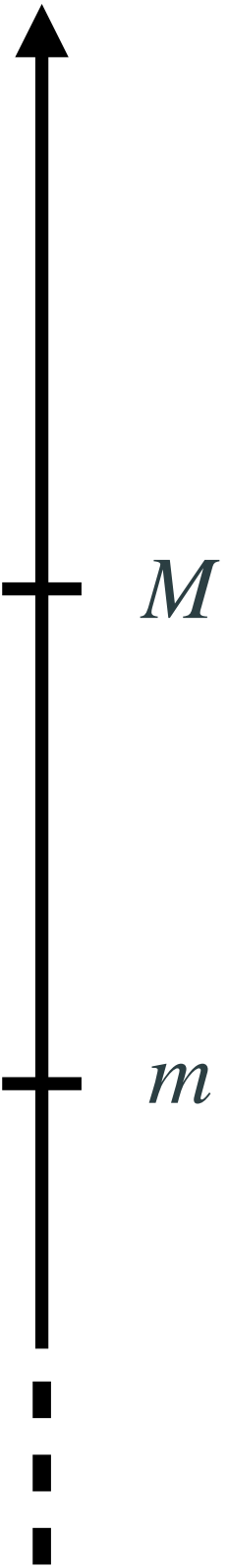
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Lessons from the method of regions

1. Only the regions at the poles of the propagators yield non-trivial contributions
⇒ This explains why we can do loops in EFTs without breaking the EFT validity!

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$$I = \int Dp \frac{1}{(p^2 - M^2)(p^2 - m^2)^2} = \int Dp \frac{1}{(p^2 - M^2)p^4} - \frac{1}{M^2} \int Dp \frac{1}{(p^2 - m^2)^2} + \dots$$

$p \sim M \gg m$

“hard”

$p \sim m \ll M$

“soft”

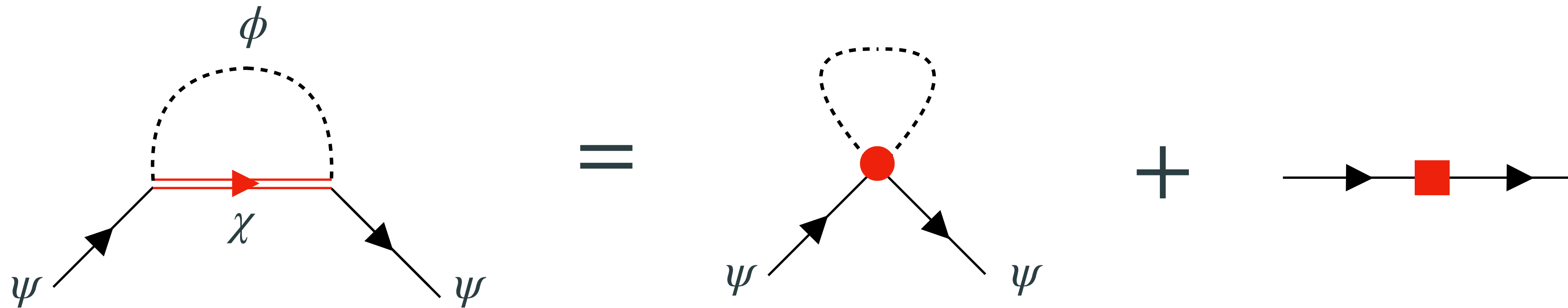
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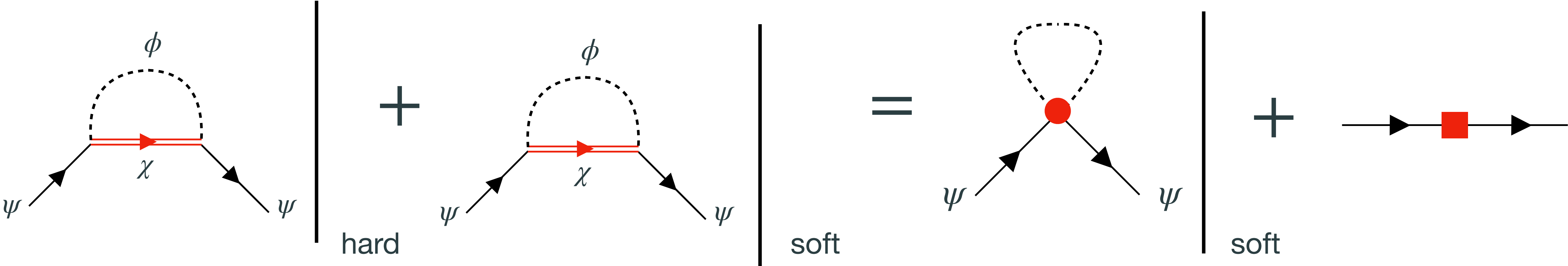
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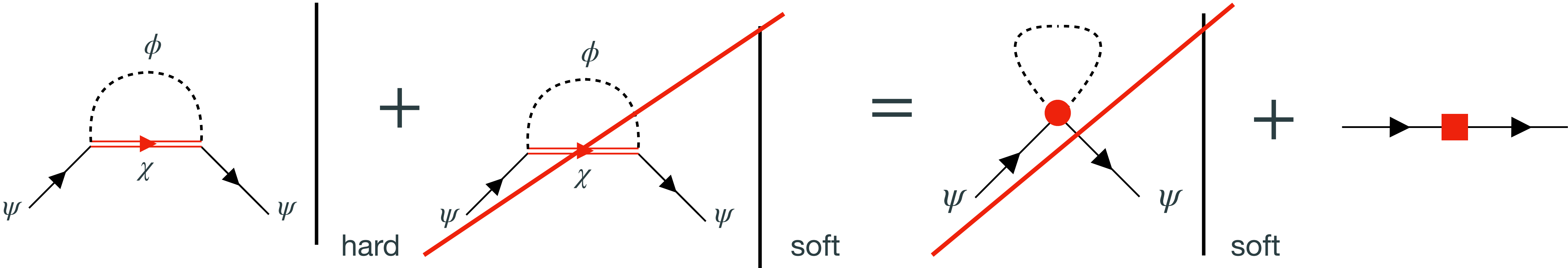
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$p \sim M \gg m$
“hard”

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$p \sim m \ll M$
“soft”



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Regularization and renormalization

We have seen that loop integrals contain $1/\epsilon$ poles when regularizing in DimReg. How to make sense of these infinities?

Practical idea: Couplings in a Lagrangian are not observable, so they can take any value (even infinite!).

We can subtract the “infinite parts” if we do it consistently

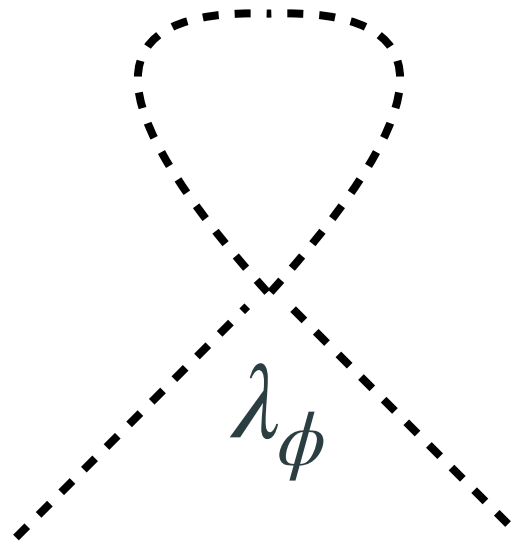
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$$= \frac{\lambda_\phi m_\phi^2}{32\pi^2} \left(\frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} - \ln \frac{m^2}{\mu^2} + 1 \right) + \dots \overset{\delta_{m_\phi^2}}{\square} \dots = -\frac{\lambda_\phi m_\phi^2}{32\pi^2} \frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} \equiv -\frac{\delta_{m_\phi^2}^{(1)}}{\bar{\epsilon}}$$

counterterms

$\overline{\text{MS}}$ renormalization

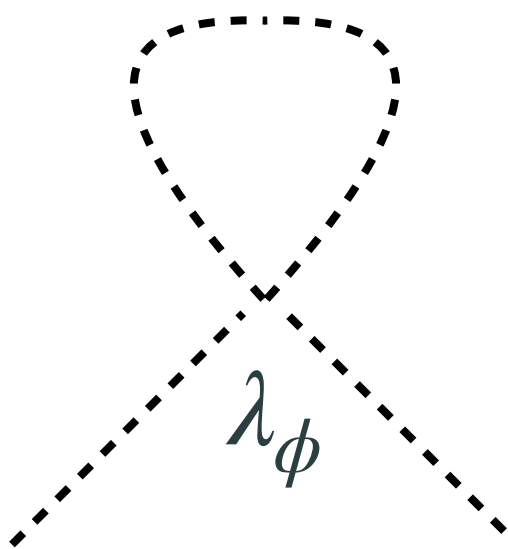
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The diagram shows a tadpole loop (a dashed line forming a loop with a vertical line extending downwards) labeled with λ_ϕ . To its right is an equation for its value:

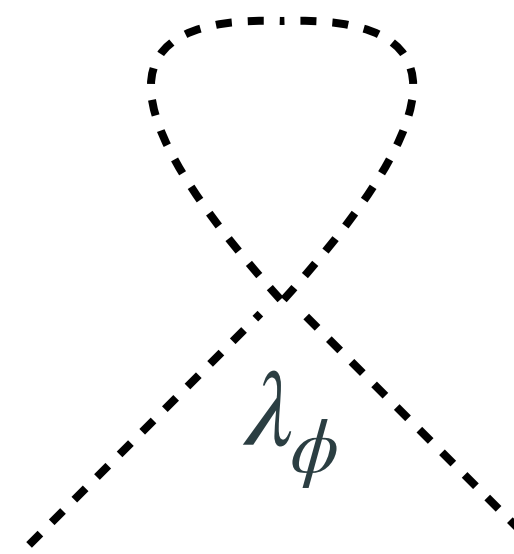
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$\overline{\text{MS}}$ renormalization

This approach can be trivially extended to our EFT Lagrangian

Renormalization and renormalization group (RG) equations

As a result of the renormalization procedure, couplings acquire a dependence on the artificial scale μ



$$= \frac{\lambda_\phi m_\phi^2}{32\pi^2} \left(\frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} - \ln \frac{m^2}{\mu^2} + 1 \right) + \dots \overset{\delta_{m_\phi^2}}{\boxtimes} \dots = -\frac{\lambda_\phi m_\phi^2}{32\pi^2} \frac{1}{\bar{\epsilon}} \equiv -\frac{\delta_{m_\phi^2}^{(1)}}{\bar{\epsilon}}$$

Can be very large!

Observable quantities cannot depend on μ , so the log-dependence has to be compensated by the couplings
 This μ -dependence is called (renormalization group) running and it can be determined from the counterterms

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left[\mu^{2\epsilon} (c_i + \delta c_i) \right] = 0 \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \frac{dc_i^{(0)}(\mu)}{dt} = 2\delta_{c_i}^{(1)} \quad t \equiv \ln \mu$$

Solving these equations gives an RG-improved perturbation theory (re-summation of large logs)

Renormalization group flow and scheme independence

$E \equiv$ Energy

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{UV}}(c_i(t))$

Λ

$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}}(\tilde{c}_i(t))$

Direct reach

If couplings evolve with energy, when should we change between our UV theory and its EFT description?

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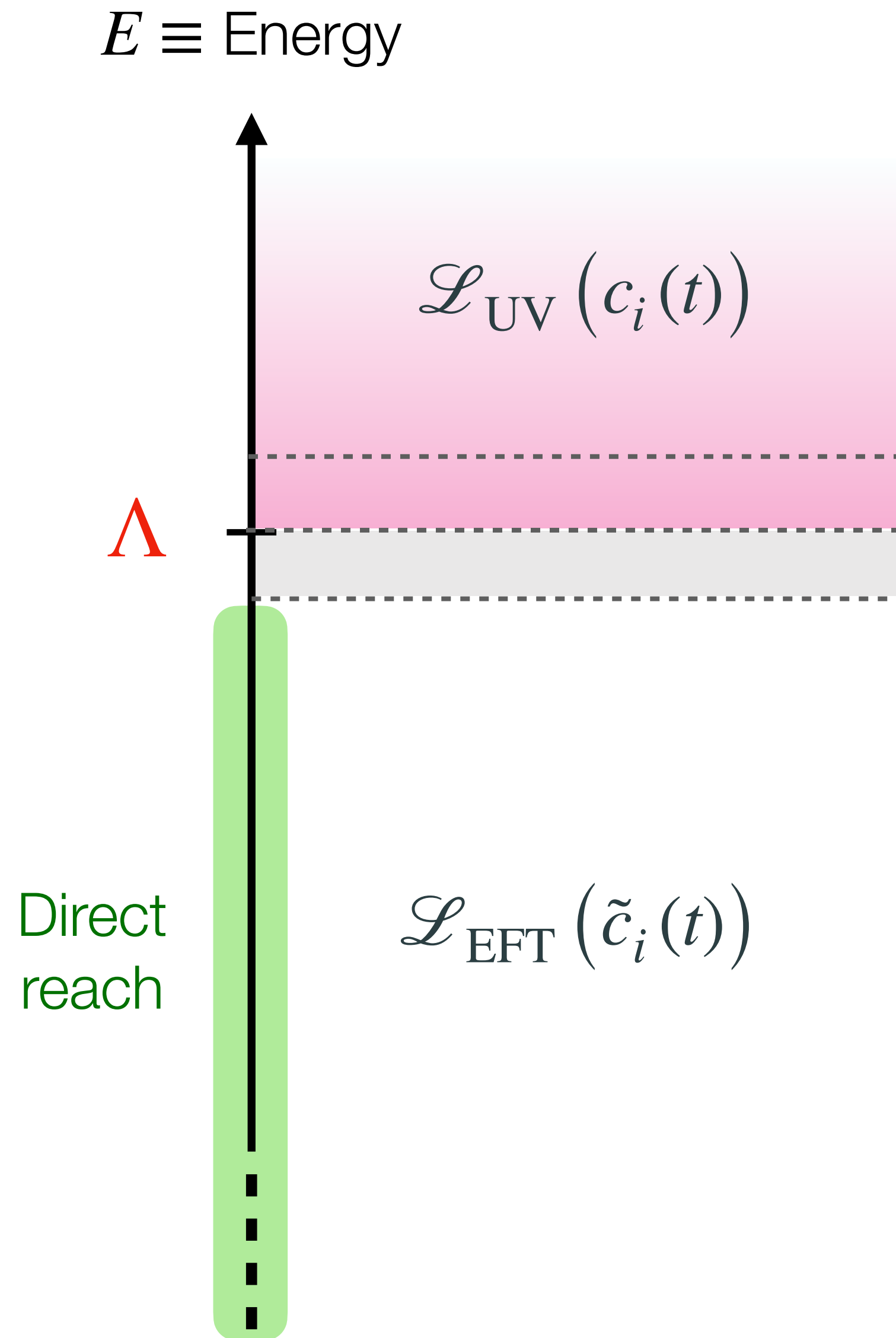
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➡ At the mass of the heavy particle?

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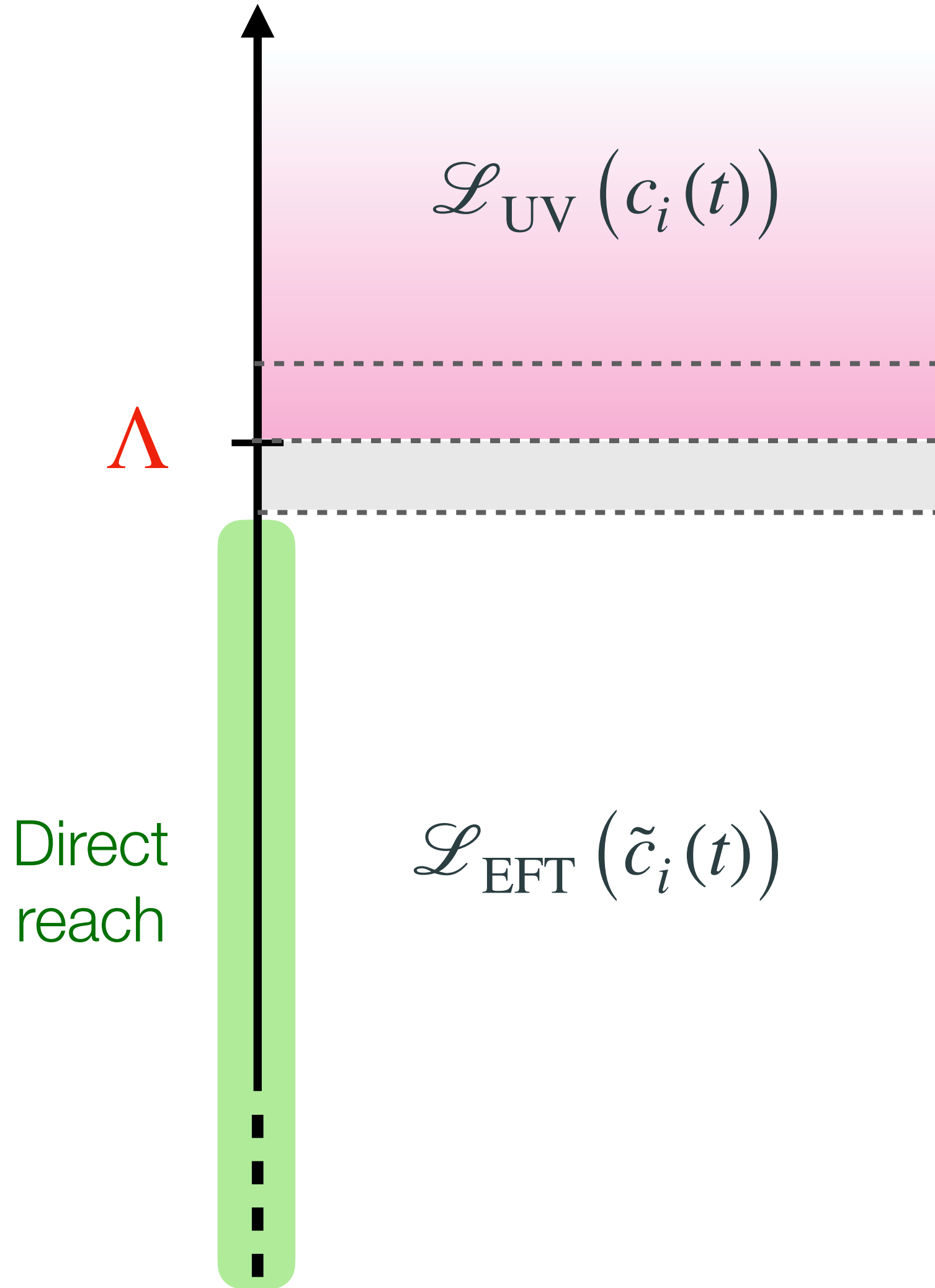


If couplings evolve with energy, when should we change between our UV theory and its EFT description?

- ➡ At the mass of the heavy particle?
- ➡ But what if there are several of them?
- ➡ Or what if it the situation is more complicated and the two theories have different degrees of freedom?

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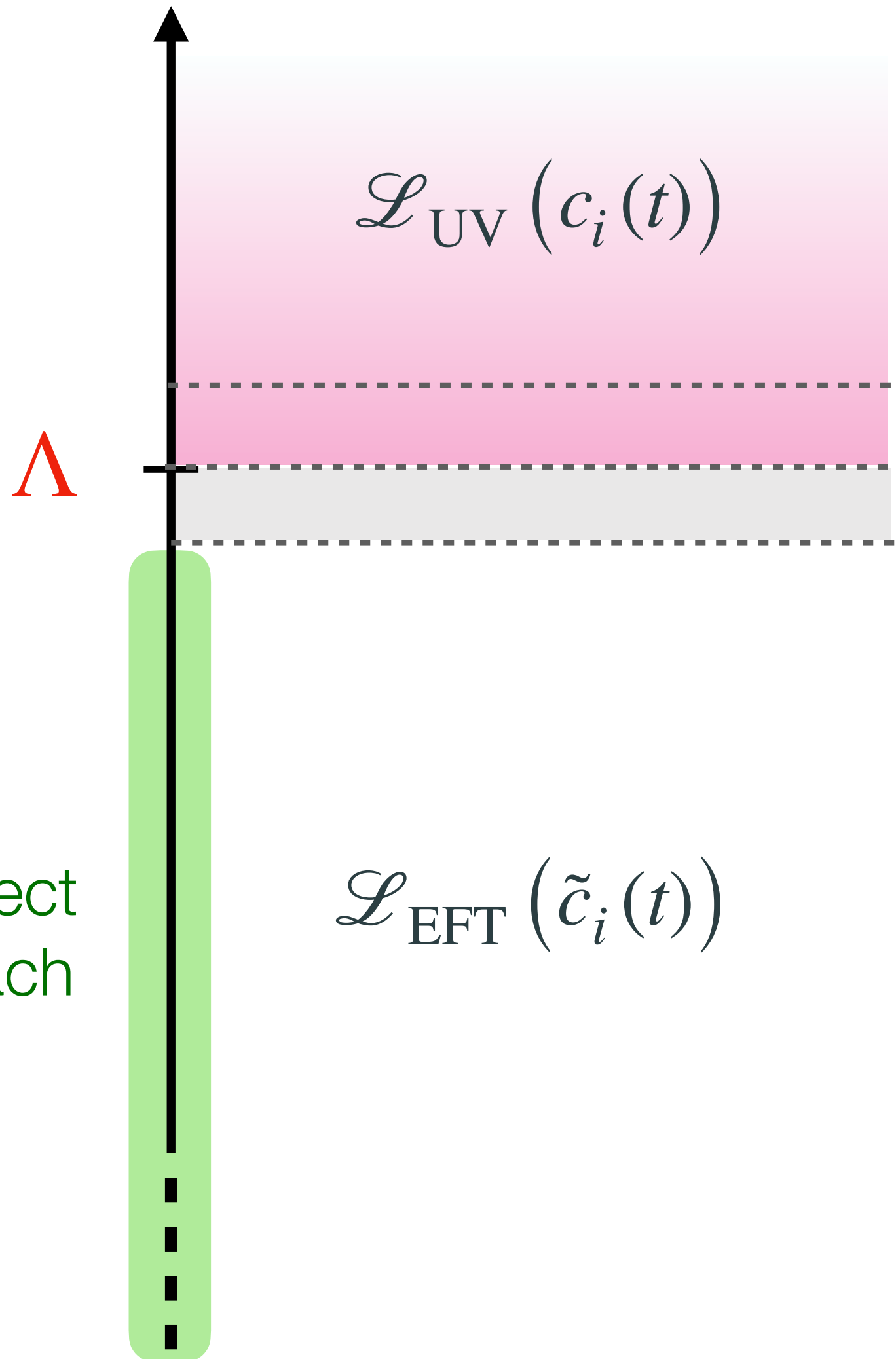
Actually, it does not matter if the matching is done consistently (scheme independence)

$$\tilde{c}_i = \tilde{c}_i(c_i(t), t) : \frac{d\tilde{c}_i}{dt} = \frac{\partial \tilde{c}_i}{\partial t} + \frac{dc_j}{dt} \times \frac{\partial \tilde{c}_i}{\partial c_j}$$

(1-loop) EFT running
(1-loop) matching logs
(1-loop) UV running
(tree) matching

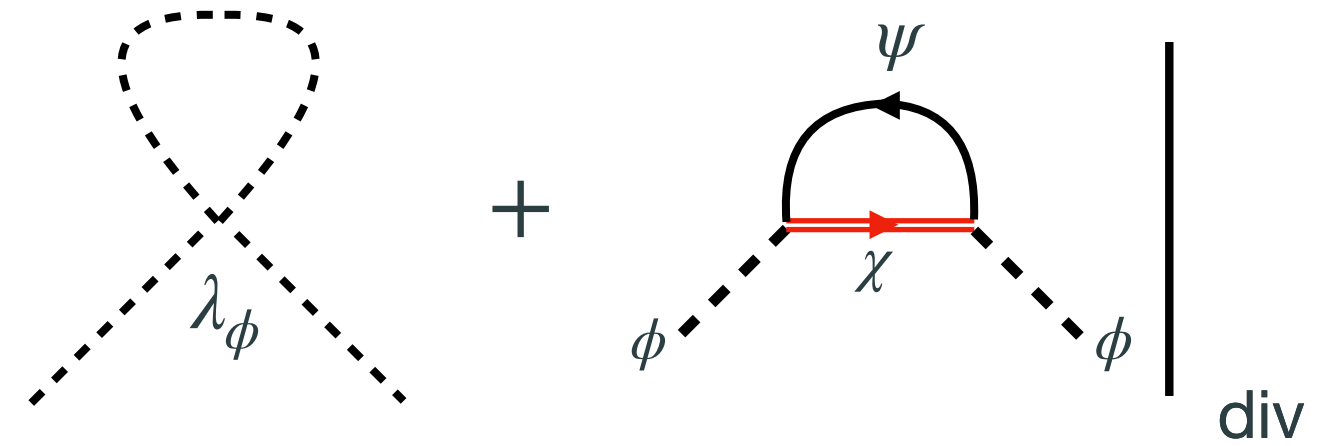
Renormalization group flow and scheme independence: an example

$E \equiv$ Energy



$$\mathcal{L}_{UV} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m_\phi^2 \phi^2 - \frac{1}{4!} \lambda_\phi \phi^4 + \bar{\chi} i \not{\partial} \chi - M \bar{\chi} \chi + (y \phi \bar{\psi} \chi + \text{h.c.}) + \mathcal{L}_{UV}^{\text{ct}}$$

$$\frac{dm_\phi^2}{dt} = \frac{\lambda_\phi}{16\pi^2} m_\phi^2 - \frac{y^\dagger y}{\pi^2} M^2 + \mathcal{O}(\hbar)$$

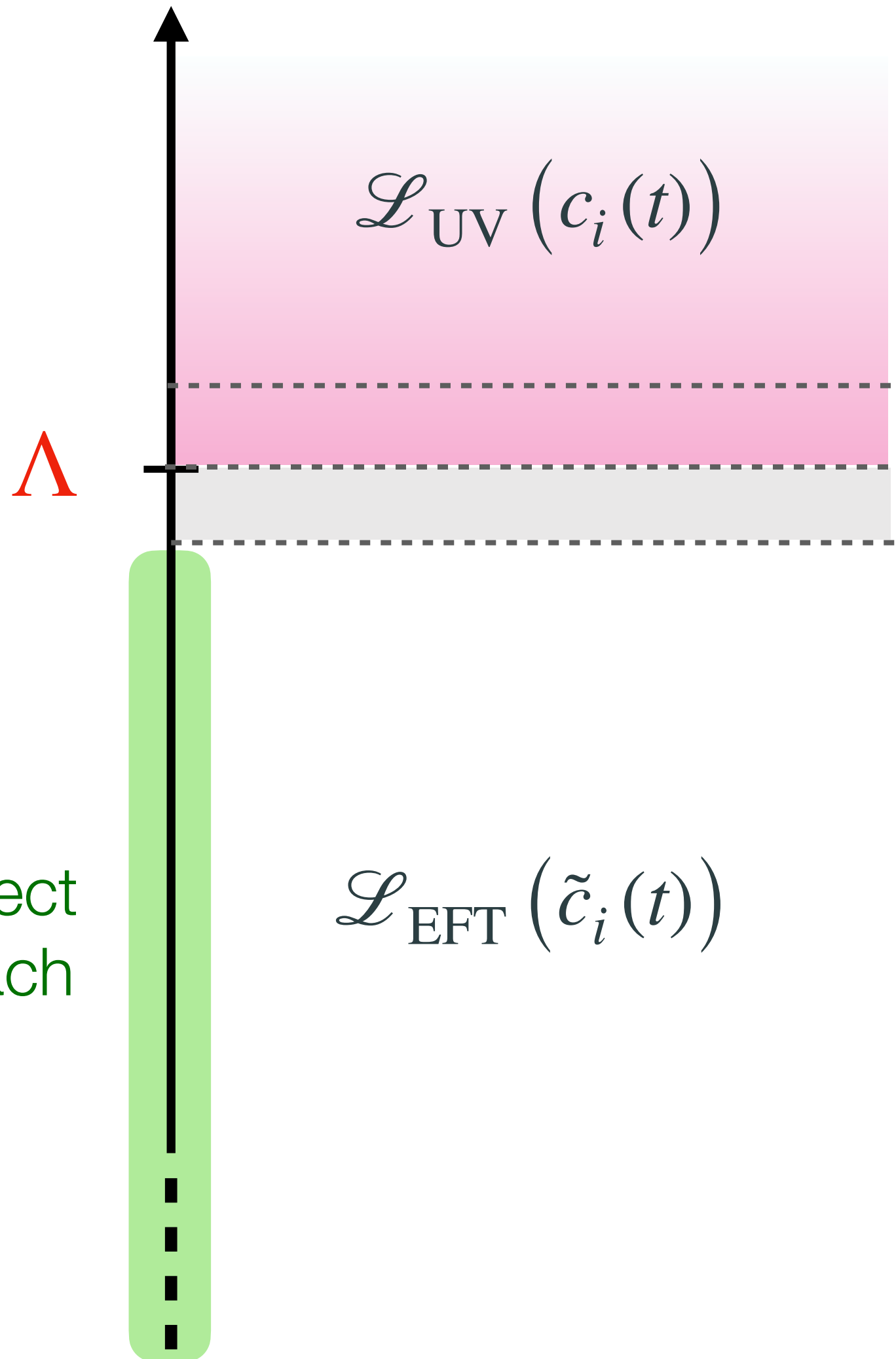


Direct reach

$$\mathcal{L}_{EFT}(\tilde{c}_i(t))$$

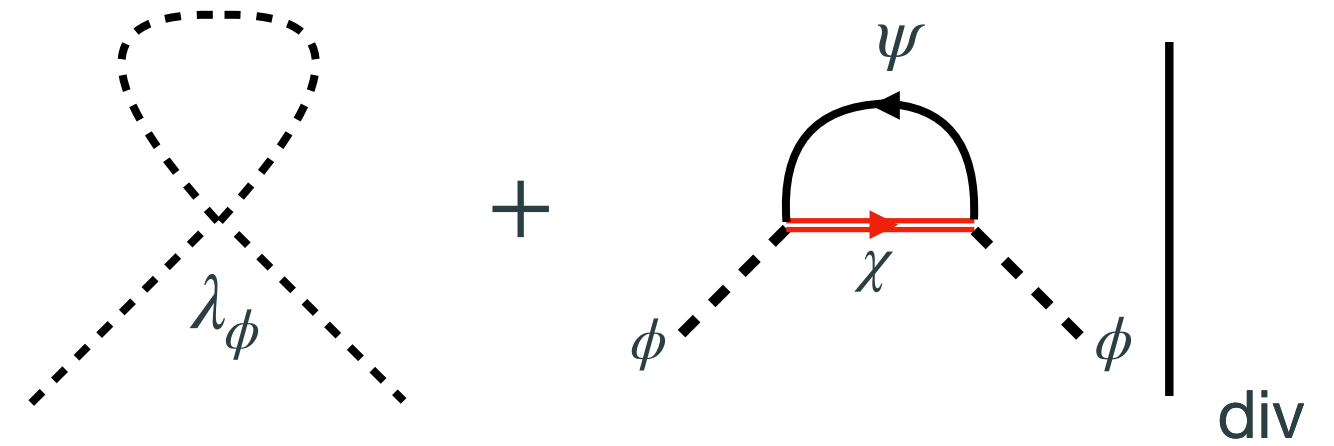
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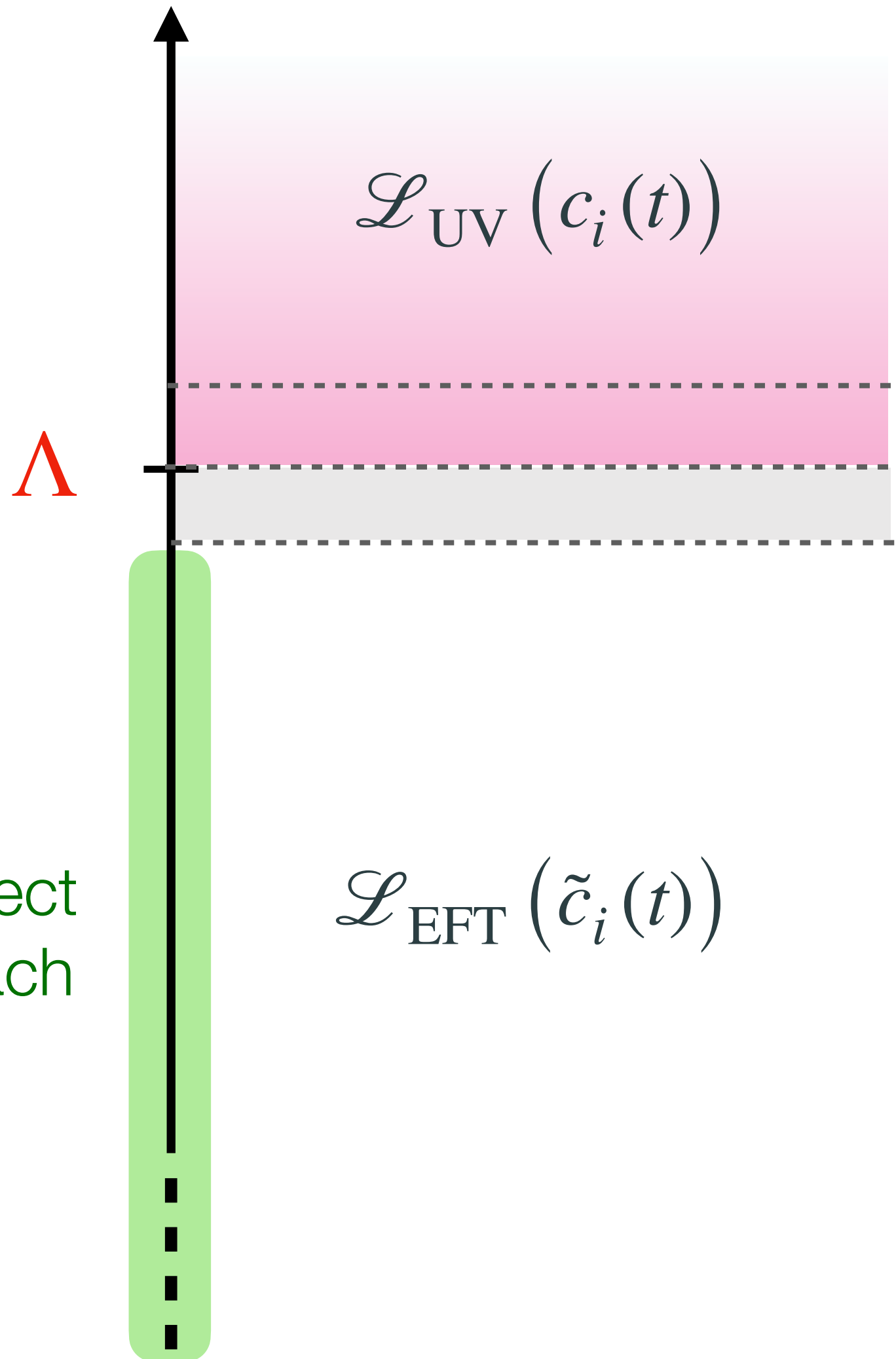
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Direct reach

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}}(\tilde{c}_i(t))$$

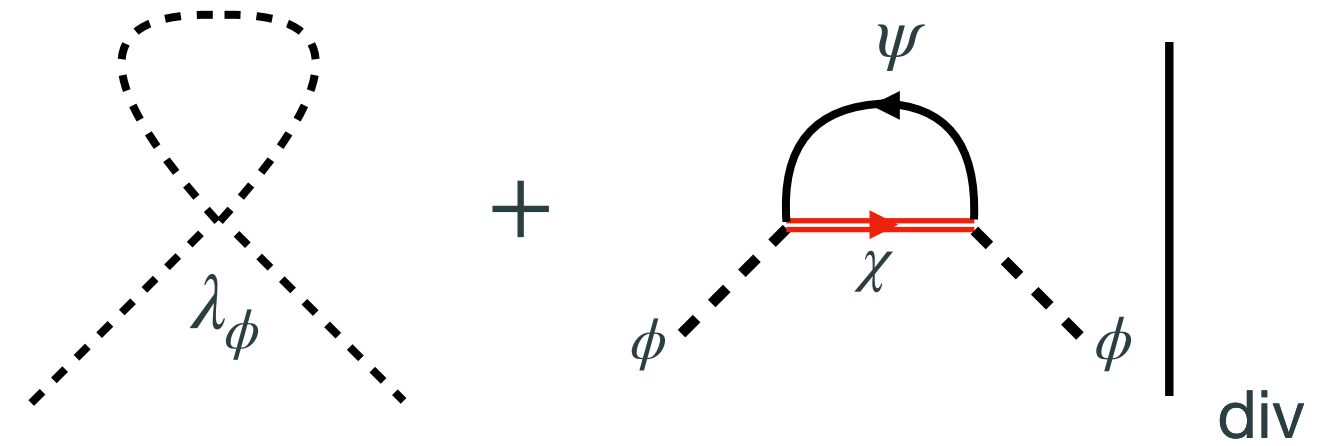
Renormalization group flow and scheme independence: an example

$E \equiv$ Energy



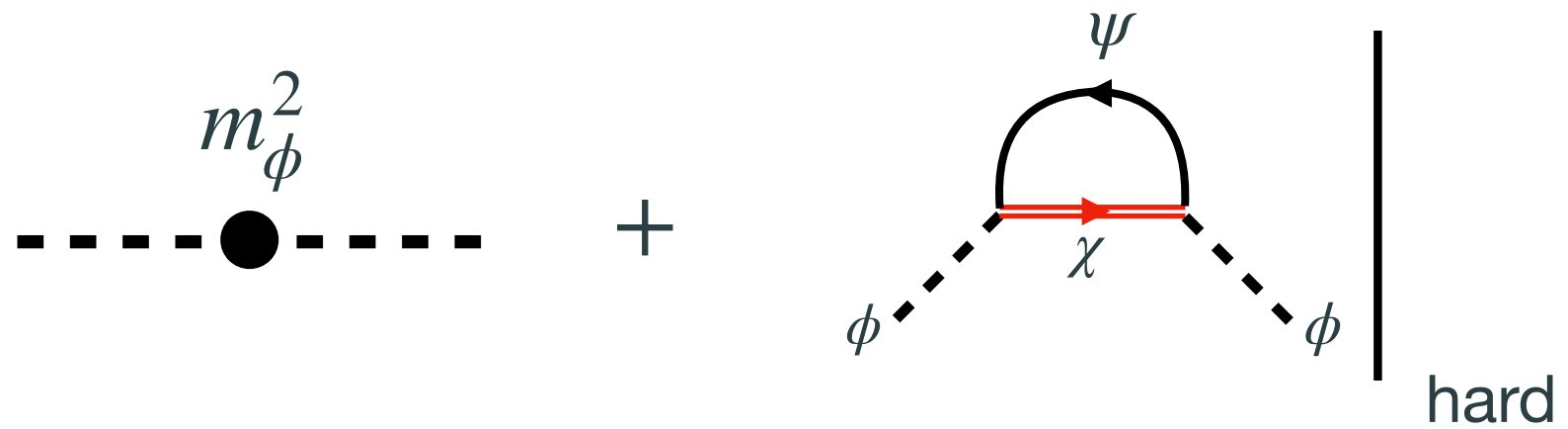
$$\mathcal{L}_{UV} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m_\phi^2 \phi^2 - \frac{1}{4!} \lambda_\phi \phi^4 + \bar{\chi} i \not{\partial} \chi - M \bar{\chi} \chi + (y \phi \bar{\psi} \chi + \text{h.c.}) + \mathcal{L}_{UV}^{\text{ct}}$$

$$\frac{dm_\phi^2}{dt} = \frac{\lambda_\phi}{16\pi^2} m_\phi^2 - \frac{y^\dagger y}{\pi^2} M^2 + \mathcal{O}(\hbar)$$



$$\mathcal{L}_{EFT} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 - \frac{1}{4!} \lambda \phi^4 + \bar{\psi} i \not{\partial} \psi - m_\psi \bar{\psi} \psi + \mathcal{L}_{EFT}^{\text{ct}} + \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-1})$$

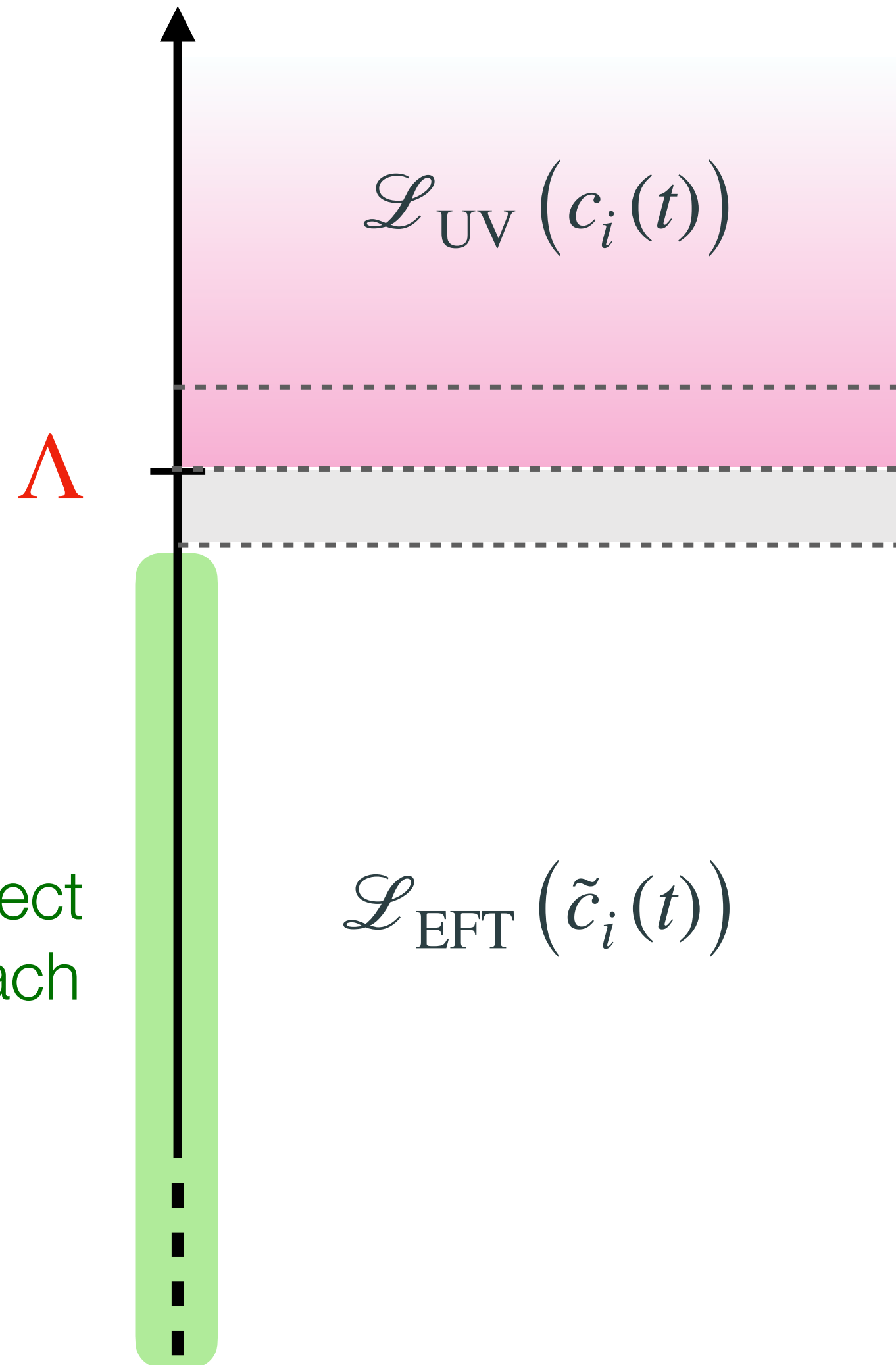
$$m^2 = m_\phi^2 + \frac{y^\dagger y}{2\pi^2} M^2 \left(1 + \ln \frac{\mu^2}{M^2} \right) + \mathcal{O}(\hbar^2)$$



Direct reach

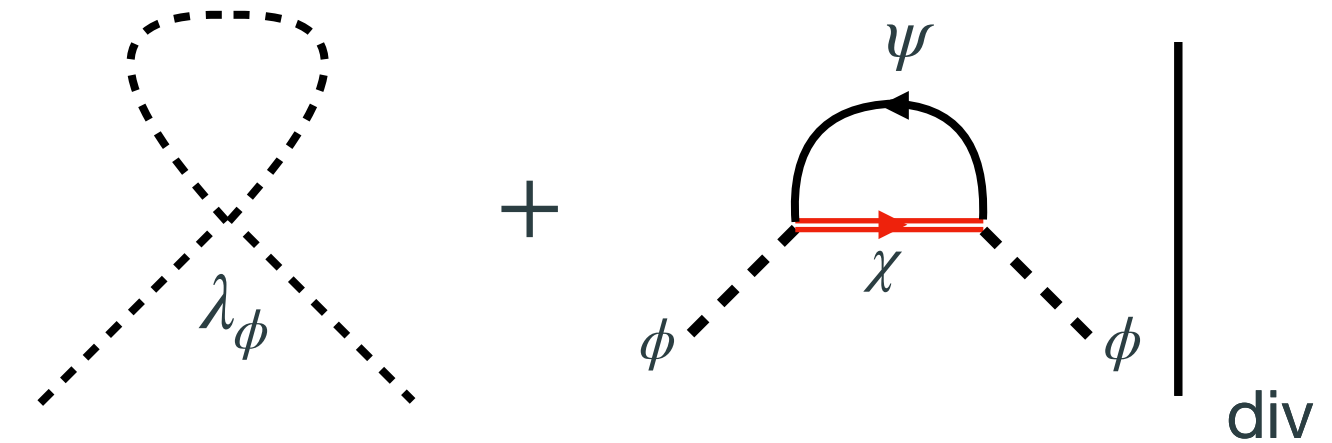
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$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}}(\tilde{c}_i(t))$$

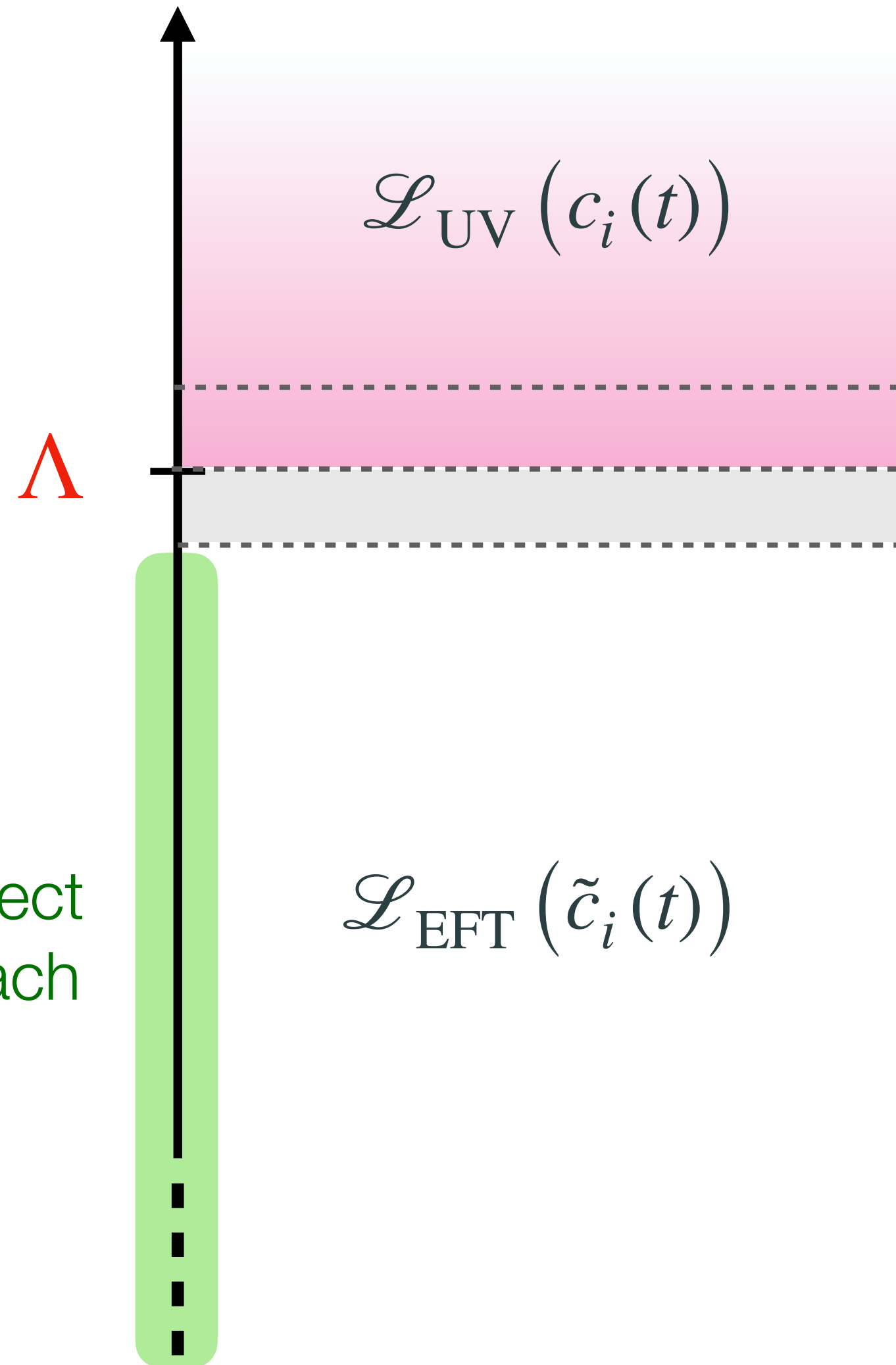
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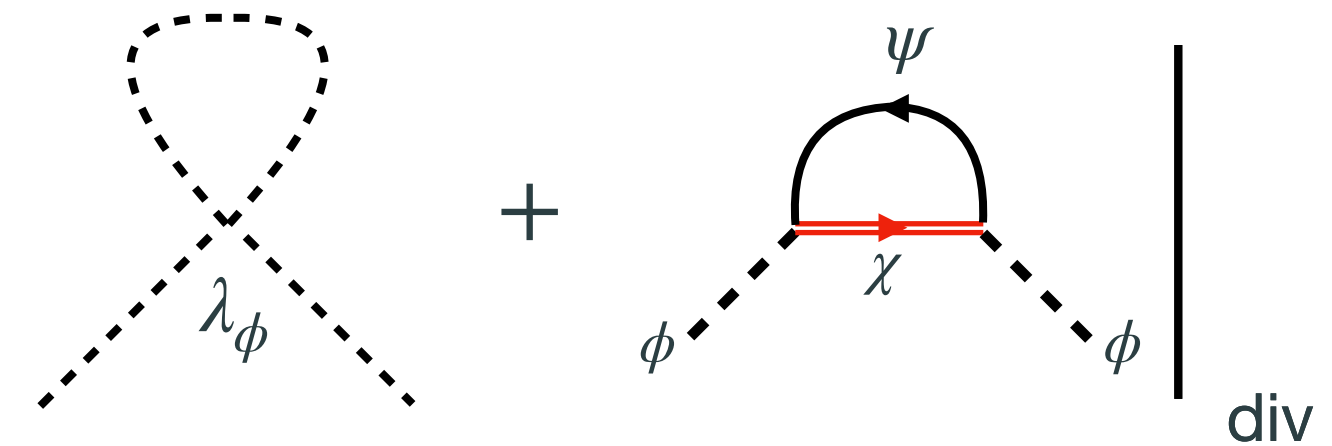
Renormalization group flow and scheme independence: an example

$E \equiv$ Energy



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EFTs bases, redundancies, and field redefinitions

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4!} \phi^4 + \frac{C_1}{\Lambda^2} \phi^6 + \frac{C_2}{\Lambda^2} \phi^3 \partial^2 \phi + \frac{C_3}{\Lambda^2} \phi^2 (\partial_\mu \phi)^2$$

Exact simplifications (linear): Integration-by-parts, Dirac and group identities, commutation relations...

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4!} \phi^4 + \frac{C_1}{\Lambda^2} \phi^6 + \frac{3C_2 - C_3}{3\Lambda^2} \phi^3 \partial^2 \phi$$

On-shell equivalence (non-linear): Field redefinitions (sometimes equivalent to using of EOMs)

$$\phi \rightarrow \phi + \frac{3C_2 - C_3}{3\Lambda^2} \phi^3 \quad \left[\partial^2 \phi = -m^2 \phi - \frac{\lambda}{3!} \phi^3 + \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-2}) \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 - \left(\frac{\lambda}{4!} + \frac{m^2 (3C_2 - C_3)}{3\Lambda^2} \right) \phi^4 + \frac{18C_1 - \lambda (3C_2 - C_3)}{18\Lambda^2} \phi^6$$

Operators that can be eliminated via field redefinitions are not necessary to compute physical observables (but are necessary to compute off-shell quantities).

[For details see Criado, Pérez-Victoria, [1811.09413](#)]

EFTs bases, redundancies, and field redefinitions

In $d = 4$, we can use the Fierz identity $R_{\ell e} = -\frac{1}{2} Q_{\ell e}$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}} \supset C_{\ell e}^{prst} R_{\ell e}^{prst}$$

$$R_{\ell e}^{prst} = (\bar{\ell}_p e_r)(\bar{e}_s \ell_t)$$

$$\mathcal{L}'_{\text{EFT}} \supset -\frac{1}{2} C_{\ell e}^{prst} Q_{\ell e}^{prst}$$

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so that $\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}} = \mathcal{L}'_{\text{EFT}}$ at tree level.

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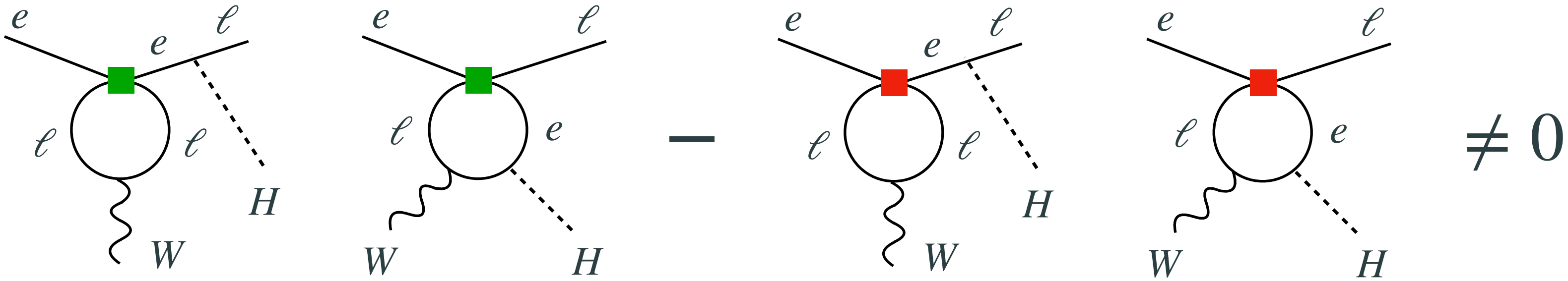
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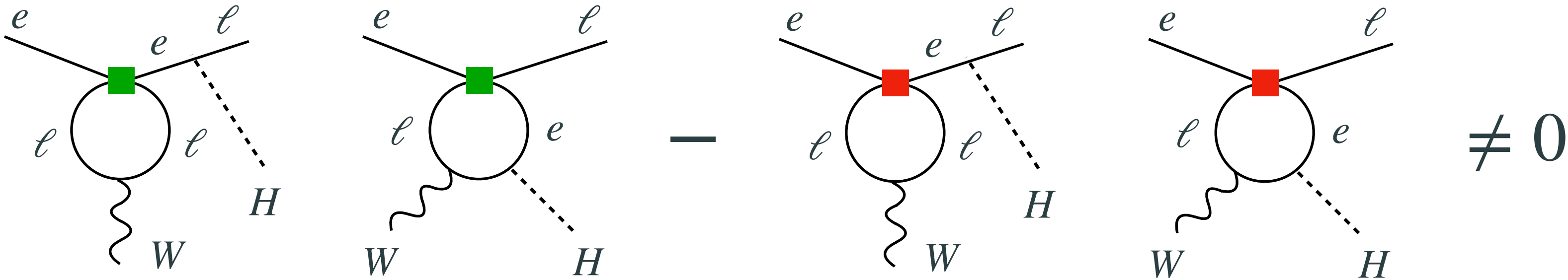
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In $d = 4 - 2\epsilon$, there is an evanescent operator that also contributes to the amplitude

$$R_{\ell e}^{prst} = -\frac{1}{2} Q_{\ell e}^{prst} + E_{\ell e}^{prst} \quad E_{\ell e}^{prst} \xrightarrow{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} 0 \quad E_{\ell e}^{prst} \rightarrow -\frac{g_L y_e^{ts}}{128\pi^2} Q_{eW}^{pr} + [\text{many other contributions}]$$

The SMEFT Lagrangian

The SM is a very successful theory, as it correctly describes many phenomena over a wide range of energies. On the other hand, we know that the SM cannot be the ultimate theory...

... unfortunately we do not know how this theory will look like or have any experimental evidence for it so far.

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'If all you have is a hammer, everything looks like a nail'

— Abraham H. Maslow (1962), *Toward a Psychology of Being*

Let's treat the Standard Model as the leading-order approximation of an EFT, the **SMEFT** !

Basic principles of the SMEFT

Degrees of freedom: The SM particles: q, u, d, l, e, H

N.B.: This assumes no undiscovered light particles or different EWSB mechanisms

Power counting: In inverse powers of an unknown heavy scale where the SM will “break”

Symmetries of the system: The SM gauge symmetry: $SU(3)_c \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$
... but (a priori) not baryon or lepton numbers, or $U(1)_{B-L}$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_{d=5}^{\infty} \sum_{i=1}^{n_d} \frac{C_i^{(d)}}{\Lambda^{d-4}} Q_i^{(d)}$$

New physics to be discovered

Any new heavy physics that extend the SM is fully covered by this EFT Lagrangian

The operators of the SMEFT: dimension five

At dimension five, there is only one term

$$\mathcal{L}^{(5)} = \frac{C_{pr}^{(5)}}{\Lambda} Q_{pr}^{(5)} \quad Q_{pr}^{(5)} = \epsilon^{ij} \epsilon^{kl} (l_{ip}^\top C l_{kr}) H_j H_l$$

$$\downarrow \quad |\langle H \rangle| = \frac{v}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\frac{C_{pr}^{(5)} v^2}{2\Lambda} (\nu_p^\top C \nu_r)$$

(Majorana) neutrino masses!

N.B.: Lepton number broken in two units

If $C^{(5)} \sim \mathcal{O}(1)$, we can infer a new-physics scale from $m_\nu \leq 0.01 \text{ eV} : \Lambda \approx 10^{15} \text{ GeV}$ (ballpark of the GUT scale)

The operators of the SMEFT: dimension six

At dimension six, there are 59 + 5 terms

| X^3 | | φ^6 and $\varphi^4 D^2$ | | $\psi^2 \varphi^3$ | |
|--------------------------|--|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| Q_G | $f^{ABC} G_\mu^{A\nu} G_\nu^{B\rho} G_\rho^{C\mu}$ | Q_φ | $(\varphi^\dagger \varphi)^3$ | $Q_{e\varphi}$ | $(\varphi^\dagger \varphi)(\bar{l}_p e_r \varphi)$ |
| $Q_{\tilde{G}}$ | $f^{ABC} \tilde{G}_\mu^{A\nu} G_\nu^{B\rho} G_\rho^{C\mu}$ | $Q_{\varphi\Box}$ | $(\varphi^\dagger \varphi)\Box(\varphi^\dagger \varphi)$ | $Q_{u\varphi}$ | $(\varphi^\dagger \varphi)(\bar{q}_p u_r \tilde{\varphi})$ |
| Q_W | $\varepsilon^{IJK} W_\mu^{I\nu} W_\nu^{J\rho} W_\rho^{K\mu}$ | $Q_{\varphi D}$ | $(\varphi^\dagger D^\mu \varphi)^* (\varphi^\dagger D_\mu \varphi)$ | $Q_{d\varphi}$ | $(\varphi^\dagger \varphi)(\bar{q}_p d_r \varphi)$ |
| $Q_{\tilde{W}}$ | $\varepsilon^{IJK} \tilde{W}_\mu^{I\nu} W_\nu^{J\rho} W_\rho^{K\mu}$ | | | | |
| $X^2 \varphi^2$ | | $\psi^2 X \varphi$ | | $\psi^2 \varphi^2 D$ | |
| $Q_{\varphi G}$ | $\varphi^\dagger \varphi G_{\mu\nu}^A G^{A\mu\nu}$ | Q_{eW} | $(\bar{l}_p \sigma^{\mu\nu} e_r) \tau^I \varphi W_{\mu\nu}^I$ | $Q_{\varphi l}^{(1)}$ | $(\varphi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \varphi)(\bar{l}_p \gamma^\mu l_r)$ |
| $Q_{\varphi \tilde{G}}$ | $\varphi^\dagger \varphi \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}^A G^{A\mu\nu}$ | Q_{eB} | $(\bar{l}_p \sigma^{\mu\nu} e_r) \varphi B_{\mu\nu}$ | $Q_{\varphi l}^{(3)}$ | $(\varphi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I \varphi)(\bar{l}_p \tau^I \gamma^\mu l_r)$ |
| $Q_{\varphi W}$ | $\varphi^\dagger \varphi W_{\mu\nu}^I W^{I\mu\nu}$ | Q_{uG} | $(\bar{q}_p \sigma^{\mu\nu} T^A u_r) \tilde{\varphi} G_{\mu\nu}^A$ | $Q_{\varphi e}$ | $(\varphi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \varphi)(\bar{e}_p \gamma^\mu e_r)$ |
| $Q_{\varphi \tilde{W}}$ | $\varphi^\dagger \varphi \tilde{W}_{\mu\nu}^I W^{I\mu\nu}$ | Q_{uW} | $(\bar{q}_p \sigma^{\mu\nu} u_r) \tau^I \tilde{\varphi} W_{\mu\nu}^I$ | $Q_{\varphi q}^{(1)}$ | $(\varphi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \varphi)(\bar{q}_p \gamma^\mu q_r)$ |
| $Q_{\varphi B}$ | $\varphi^\dagger \varphi B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}$ | Q_{uB} | $(\bar{q}_p \sigma^{\mu\nu} u_r) \tilde{\varphi} B_{\mu\nu}$ | $Q_{\varphi q}^{(3)}$ | $(\varphi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^I \varphi)(\bar{q}_p \tau^I \gamma^\mu q_r)$ |
| $Q_{\varphi \tilde{B}}$ | $\varphi^\dagger \varphi \tilde{B}_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}$ | Q_{dG} | $(\bar{q}_p \sigma^{\mu\nu} T^A d_r) \varphi G_{\mu\nu}^A$ | $Q_{\varphi u}$ | $(\varphi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \varphi)(\bar{u}_p \gamma^\mu u_r)$ |
| $Q_{\varphi WB}$ | $\varphi^\dagger \tau^I \varphi W_{\mu\nu}^I B^{\mu\nu}$ | Q_{dW} | $(\bar{q}_p \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_r) \tau^I \varphi W_{\mu\nu}^I$ | $Q_{\varphi d}$ | $(\varphi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu \varphi)(\bar{d}_p \gamma^\mu d_r)$ |
| $Q_{\varphi \tilde{W}B}$ | $\varphi^\dagger \tau^I \varphi \tilde{W}_{\mu\nu}^I B^{\mu\nu}$ | Q_{dB} | $(\bar{q}_p \sigma^{\mu\nu} d_r) \varphi B_{\mu\nu}$ | $Q_{\varphi ud}$ | $i(\tilde{\varphi}^\dagger D_\mu \varphi)(\bar{u}_p \gamma^\mu d_r)$ |

The operators of the SMEFT: dimension six

At dimension six, there are 59 + 5 terms

| $(\bar{L}L)(\bar{L}L)$ | | $(\bar{R}R)(\bar{R}R)$ | | $(\bar{L}L)(\bar{R}R)$ | |
|---|--|------------------------|---|------------------------|--|
| Q_{ll} | $(\bar{l}_p \gamma_\mu l_r)(\bar{l}_s \gamma^\mu l_t)$ | Q_{ee} | $(\bar{e}_p \gamma_\mu e_r)(\bar{e}_s \gamma^\mu e_t)$ | Q_{le} | $(\bar{l}_p \gamma_\mu l_r)(\bar{e}_s \gamma^\mu e_t)$ |
| $Q_{qq}^{(1)}$ | $(\bar{q}_p \gamma_\mu q_r)(\bar{q}_s \gamma^\mu q_t)$ | Q_{uu} | $(\bar{u}_p \gamma_\mu u_r)(\bar{u}_s \gamma^\mu u_t)$ | Q_{lu} | $(\bar{l}_p \gamma_\mu l_r)(\bar{u}_s \gamma^\mu u_t)$ |
| $Q_{qq}^{(3)}$ | $(\bar{q}_p \gamma_\mu \tau^I q_r)(\bar{q}_s \gamma^\mu \tau^I q_t)$ | Q_{dd} | $(\bar{d}_p \gamma_\mu d_r)(\bar{d}_s \gamma^\mu d_t)$ | Q_{ld} | $(\bar{l}_p \gamma_\mu l_r)(\bar{d}_s \gamma^\mu d_t)$ |
| $Q_{lq}^{(1)}$ | $(\bar{l}_p \gamma_\mu l_r)(\bar{q}_s \gamma^\mu q_t)$ | Q_{eu} | $(\bar{e}_p \gamma_\mu e_r)(\bar{u}_s \gamma^\mu u_t)$ | Q_{qe} | $(\bar{q}_p \gamma_\mu q_r)(\bar{e}_s \gamma^\mu e_t)$ |
| $Q_{lq}^{(3)}$ | $(\bar{l}_p \gamma_\mu \tau^I l_r)(\bar{q}_s \gamma^\mu \tau^I q_t)$ | Q_{ed} | $(\bar{e}_p \gamma_\mu e_r)(\bar{d}_s \gamma^\mu d_t)$ | $Q_{qu}^{(1)}$ | $(\bar{q}_p \gamma_\mu q_r)(\bar{u}_s \gamma^\mu u_t)$ |
| | | $Q_{ud}^{(1)}$ | $(\bar{u}_p \gamma_\mu u_r)(\bar{d}_s \gamma^\mu d_t)$ | $Q_{qu}^{(8)}$ | $(\bar{q}_p \gamma_\mu T^A q_r)(\bar{u}_s \gamma^\mu T^A u_t)$ |
| | | $Q_{ud}^{(8)}$ | $(\bar{u}_p \gamma_\mu T^A u_r)(\bar{d}_s \gamma^\mu T^A d_t)$ | $Q_{qd}^{(1)}$ | $(\bar{q}_p \gamma_\mu q_r)(\bar{d}_s \gamma^\mu d_t)$ |
| | | | | $Q_{qd}^{(8)}$ | $(\bar{q}_p \gamma_\mu T^A q_r)(\bar{d}_s \gamma^\mu T^A d_t)$ |
| $(\bar{L}R)(\bar{R}L)$ and $(\bar{L}R)(\bar{L}R)$ | | B -violating | | | |
| Q_{ledq} | $(\bar{l}_p^j e_r)(\bar{d}_s q_t^j)$ | Q_{duq} | $\varepsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} \varepsilon_{jk} [(d_p^\alpha)^T C u_r^\beta] [(q_s^{\gamma j})^T C l_t^k]$ | | |
| $Q_{quqd}^{(1)}$ | $(\bar{q}_p^j u_r) \varepsilon_{jk} (\bar{q}_s^k d_t)$ | Q_{qqu} | $\varepsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} \varepsilon_{jk} [(q_p^{\alpha j})^T C q_r^{\beta k}] [(u_s^\gamma)^T C e_t]$ | | |
| $Q_{quqd}^{(8)}$ | $(\bar{q}_p^j T^A u_r) \varepsilon_{jk} (\bar{q}_s^k T^A d_t)$ | Q_{qqq} | $\varepsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} \varepsilon_{jn} \varepsilon_{km} [(q_p^{\alpha j})^T C q_r^{\beta k}] [(q_s^{\gamma m})^T C l_t^n]$ | | |
| $Q_{lequ}^{(1)}$ | $(\bar{l}_p^j e_r) \varepsilon_{jk} (\bar{q}_s^k u_t)$ | Q_{duu} | $\varepsilon^{\alpha\beta\gamma} [(d_p^\alpha)^T C u_r^\beta] [(u_s^\gamma)^T C e_t]$ | | |
| $Q_{lequ}^{(3)}$ | $(\bar{l}_p^j \sigma_{\mu\nu} e_r) \varepsilon_{jk} (\bar{q}_s^k \sigma^{\mu\nu} u_t)$ | | | | |

The modern approach to interpret experimental data

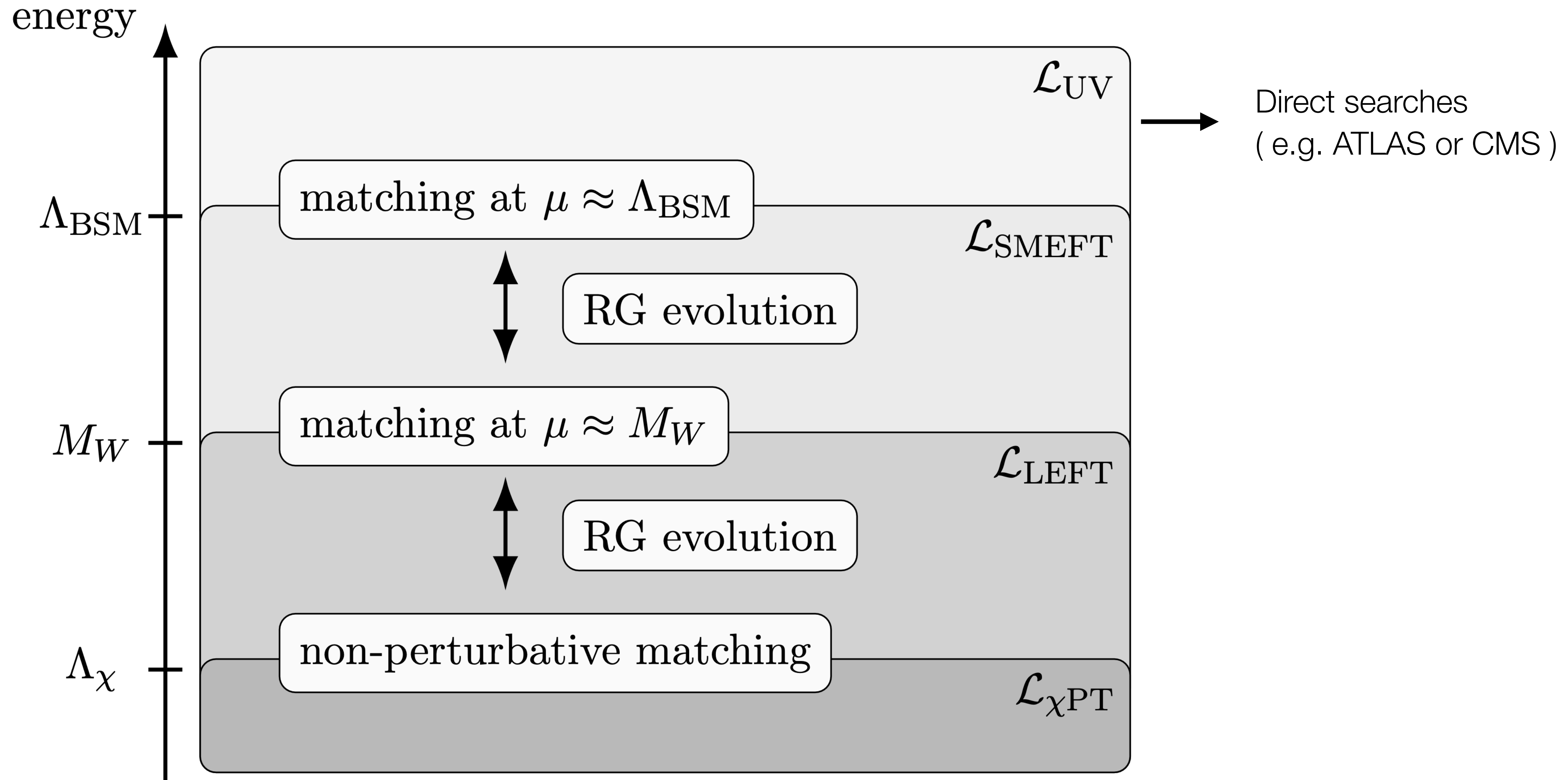


Figure from P. Stoffer

The modern approach to interpret experimental data

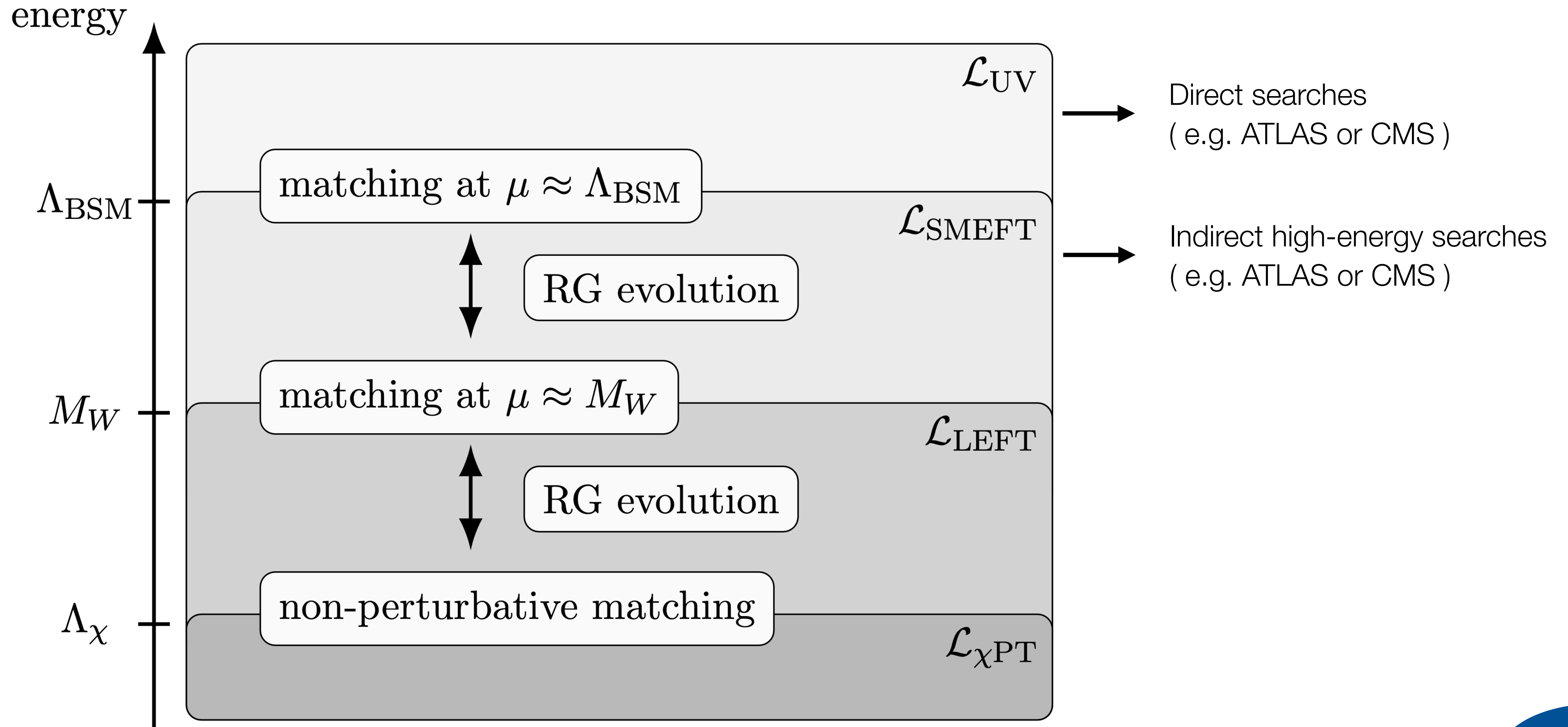


Figure from P. Stoffer

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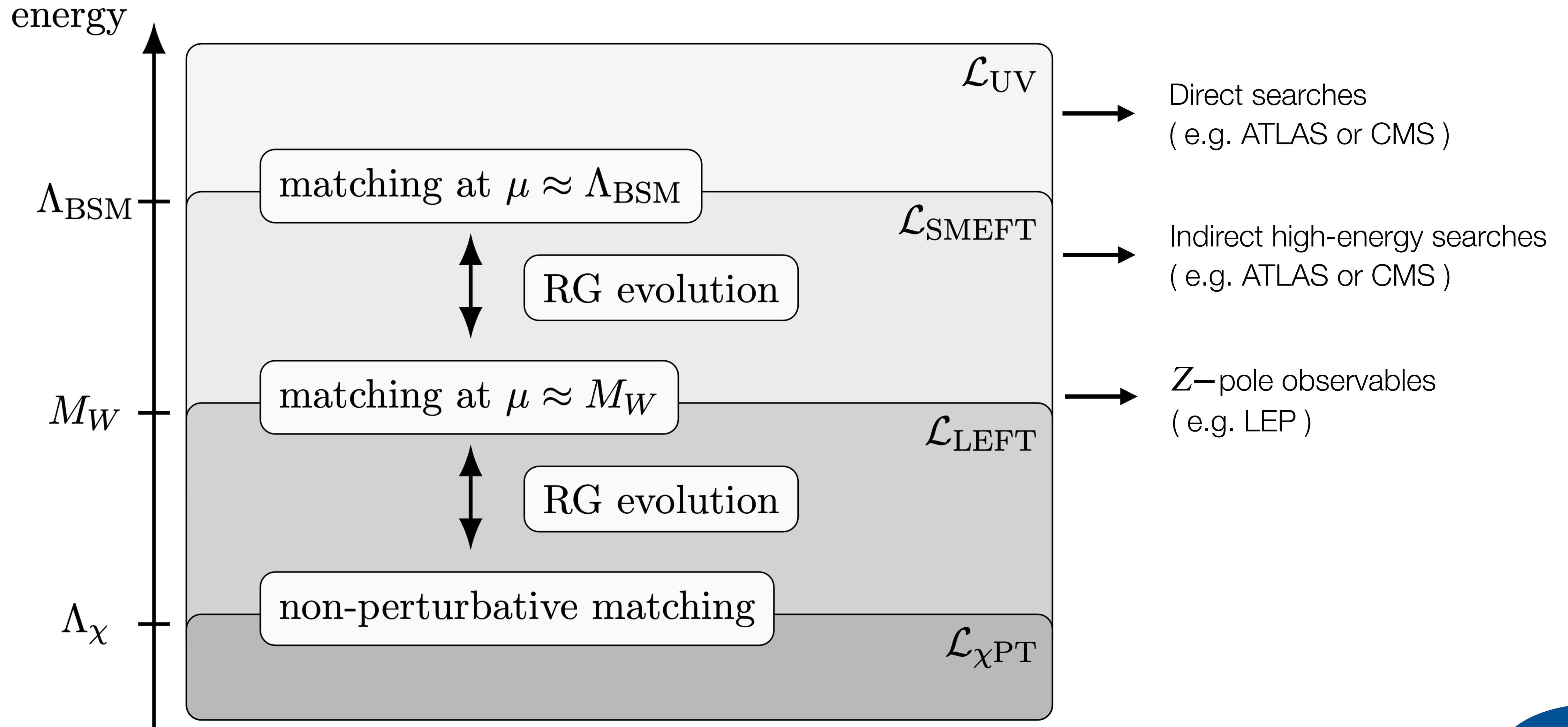


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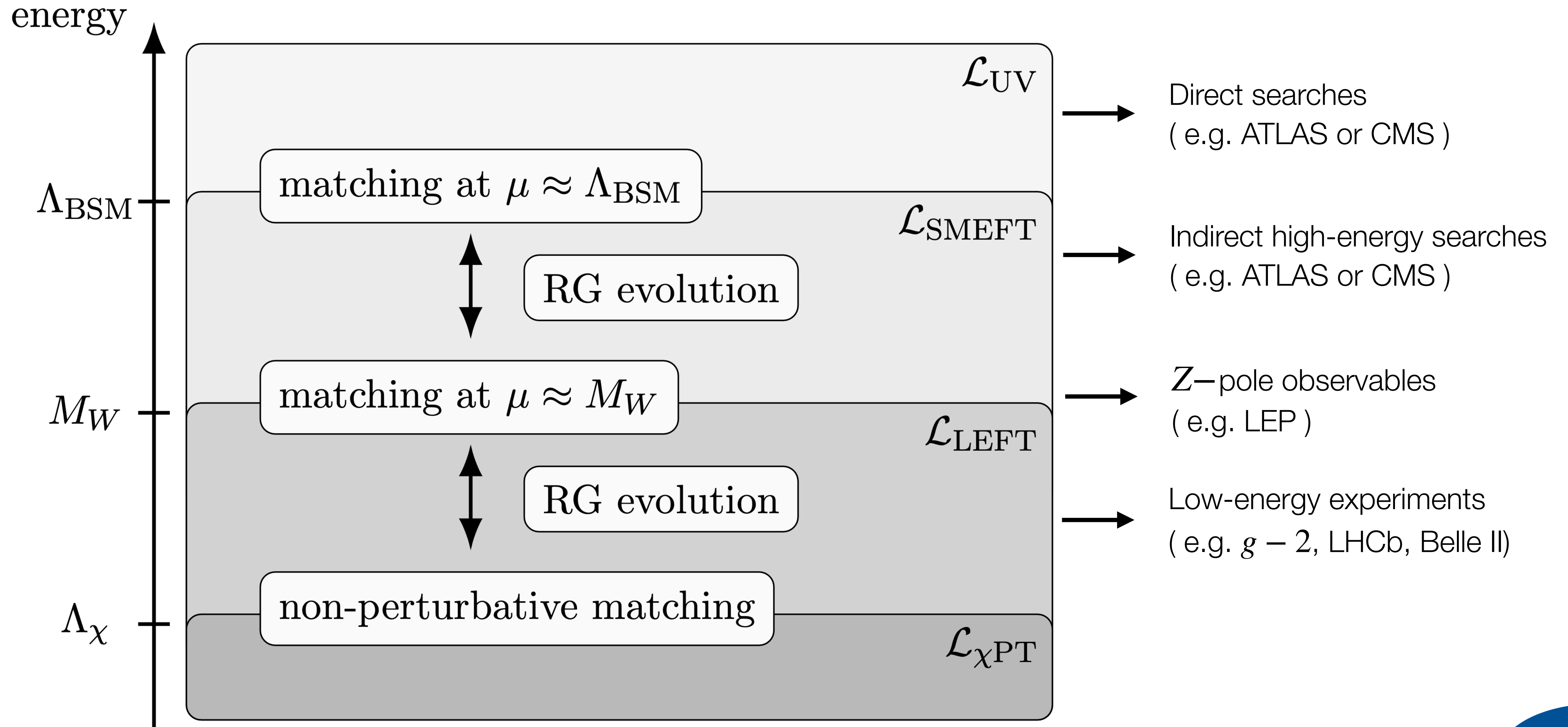


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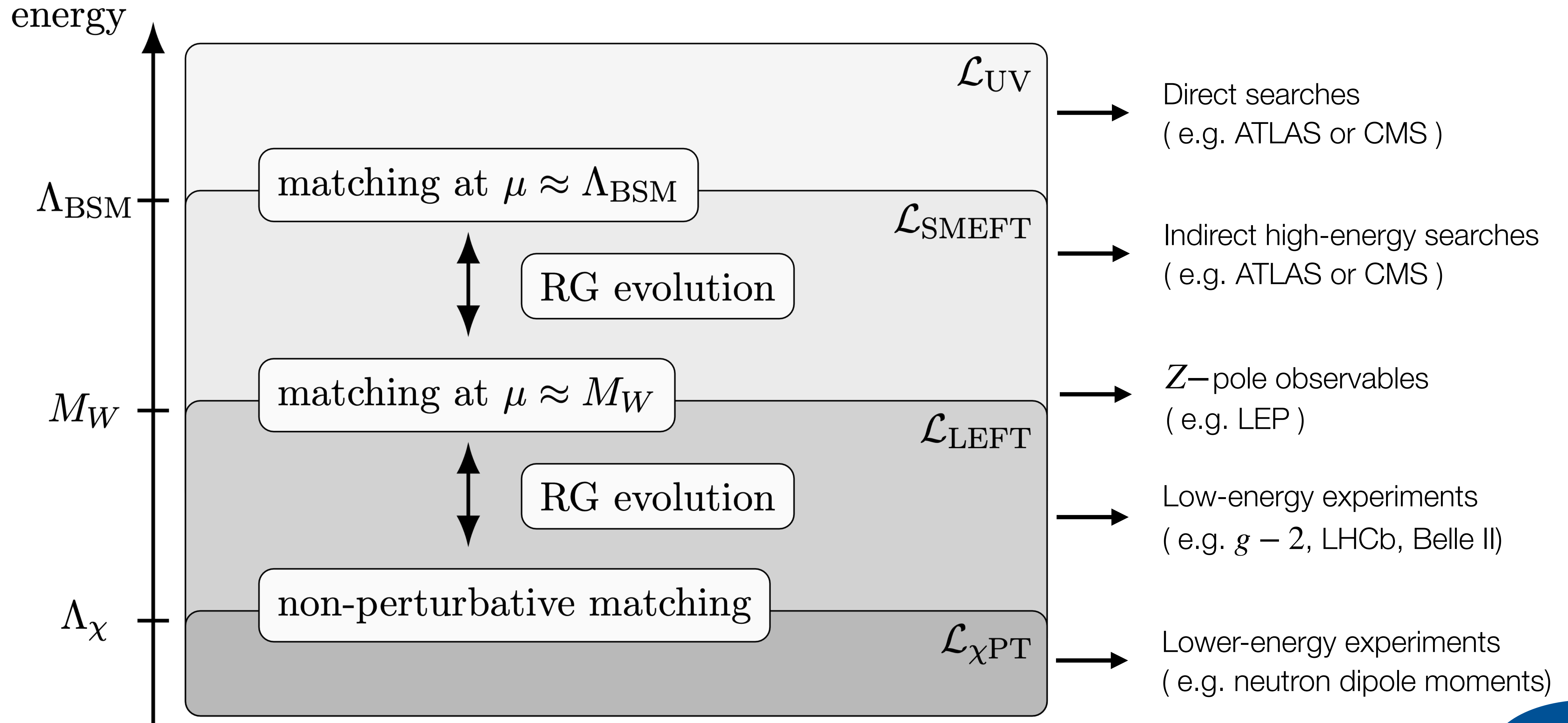
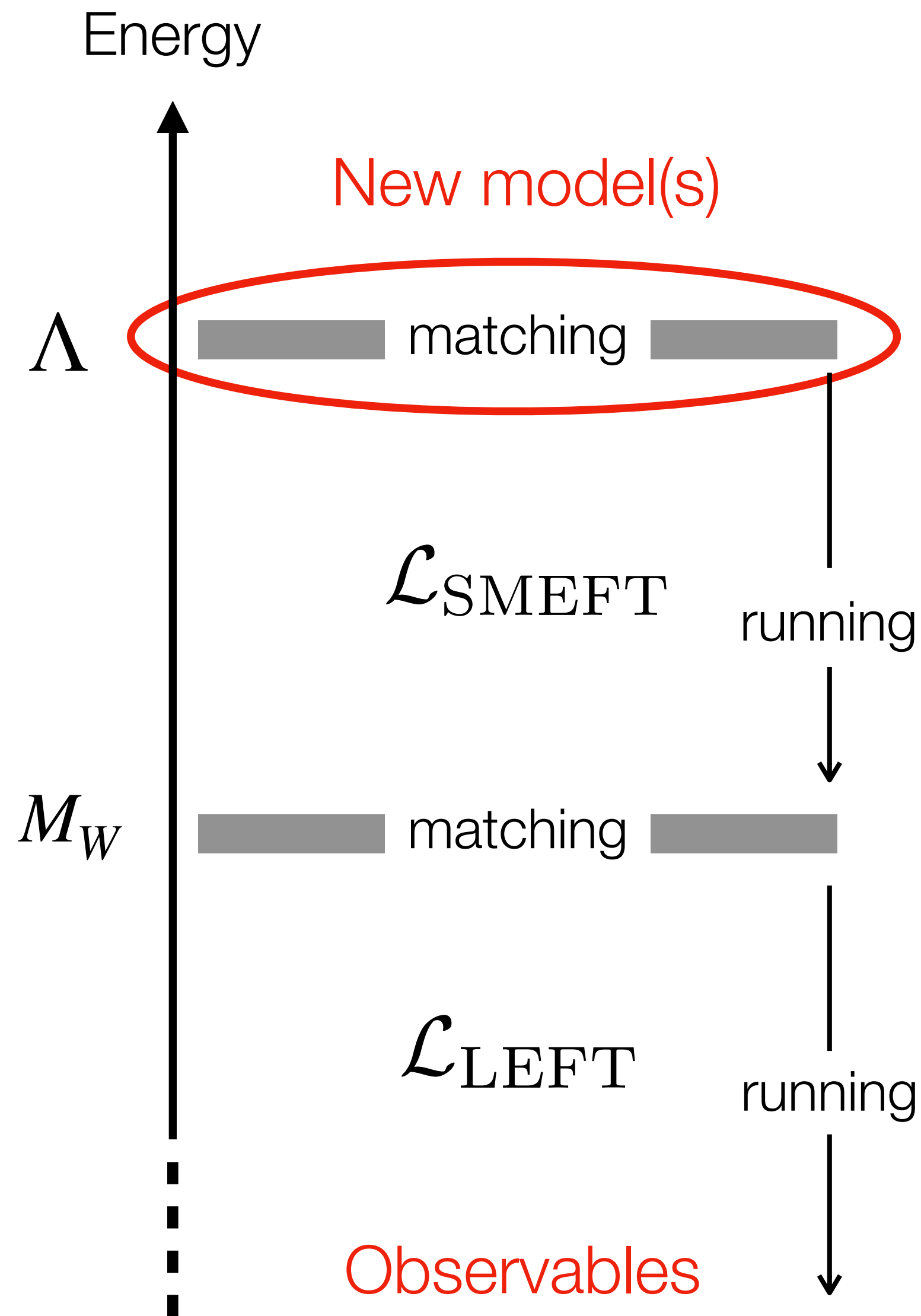


Figure from P. Stoffer

The rise of automation



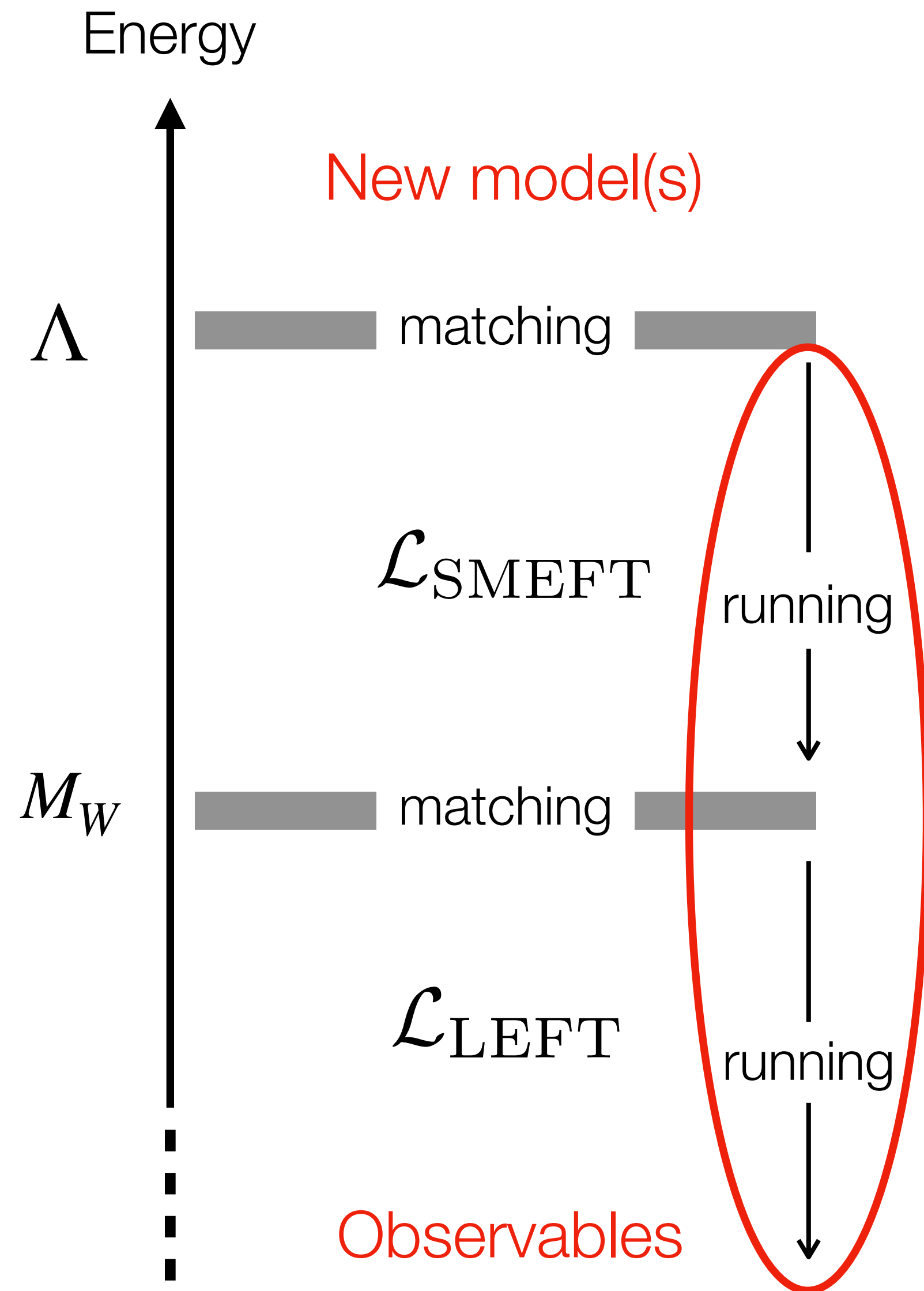
matchmakereft
Carmona et al. '22



JFM et al. '23

Automated one-loop
matching of many models

The rise of automation



JFM et al. '17 & '21



wilson

Aebischer et al. '18

“Hard-coded” one-loop results based on:

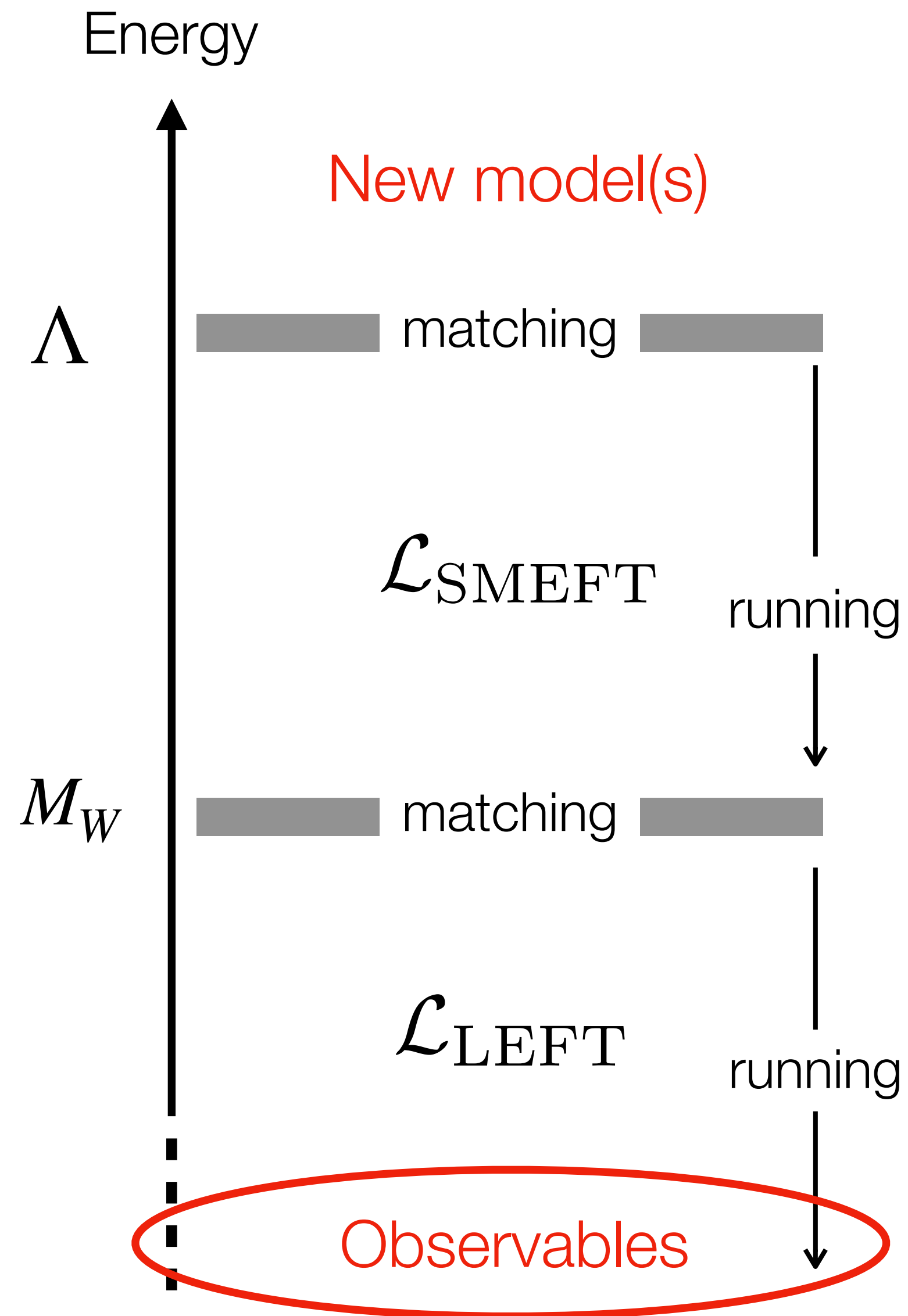
[SMEFT running](#): Jenkins et al. '13, '14;
Alonso et al. '14

[LEFT basis](#): Jenkins et al. '18

[SMEFT-LEFT matching](#): Dekens, Stoffer '19

[LEFT running](#): Jenkins et al. '18

The rise of automation



SMEFT likelihood (smelli)
Aebischer et al. '18



flavio
Straub '16



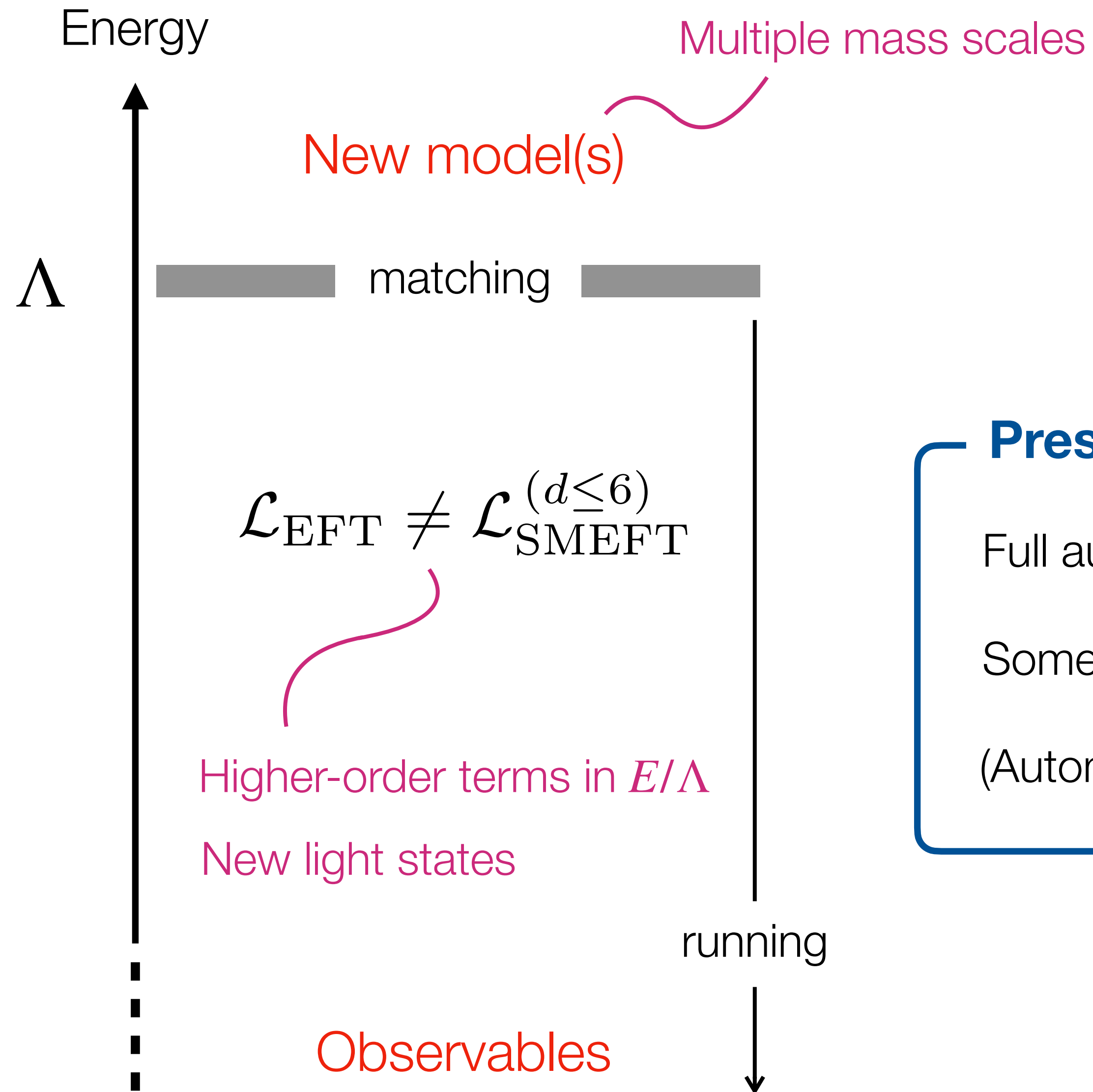
De Blas et al. '19



Giani et al. '23

Involvement of experimental collaborations into this program is crucial

The rise of automation



Present limitations

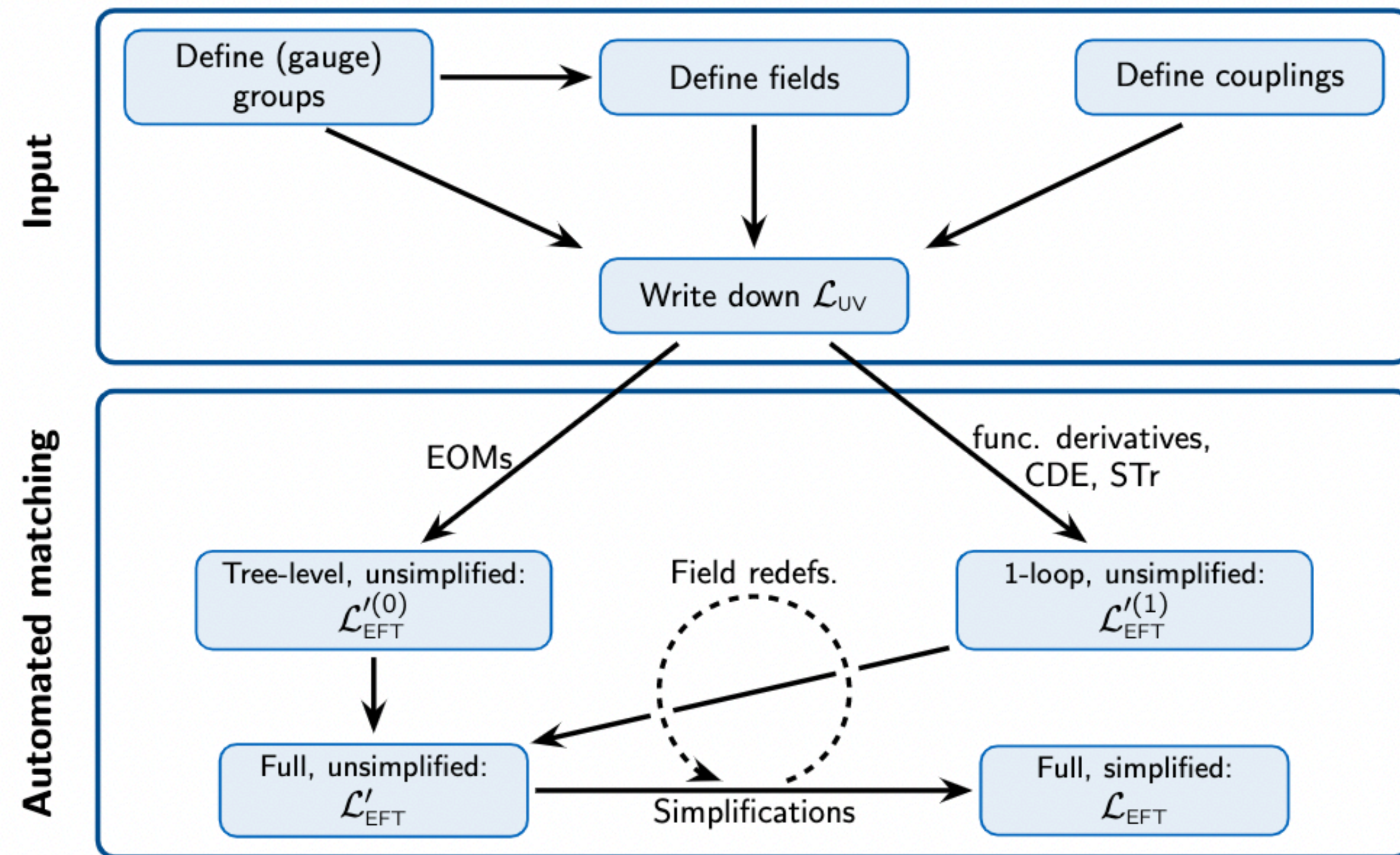
Full automation only for the simplest scenarios

Some steps/approaches require **prior knowledge of the target EFT**

(Automated) inclusion of higher-loop orders is (so far) non-trivial

The Matchete package

MATCHETE is a **Mathematica package** aimed at fully automating EFT matching and RG evolution of arbitrary weakly-coupled UV theories using functional methods



[JFM, König, Pagès, Thomsen, Wilsch, [2212.04510](#)]

Proof-of-concept version (Matchete v0.1)
now publicly available:

- One-loop matching of *any* model with heavy scalars and/or fermions
- Simple and intuitive input/output
- Handles *all* group theory (any group and reps)
- **Partial** simplifications of the resulting EFT Lagrangian (IBP, field redefinitions, ...)
- SSB and heavy vectors not yet supported
[w.i.p with Olgoso, Santiago, Thomsen]
- Computation of the RGE not yet available

Bonus: The path-integral formulation of EFTs

The quantum effective action is the generating functional of 1PI functions

$$e^{i\Gamma_{UV}[\hat{\eta}]} = \int \mathcal{D}\eta \exp(i S_{UV}[\eta + \hat{\eta}])$$

η : Quantum fields (loop lines)

$\hat{\eta}$: Background fields (tree lines)

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η : Quantum fields (loop lines)

$\hat{\eta}$: Background fields (tree lines)

The loop expansion is obtained via the saddlepoint approximation (Taylor expansion around $\hat{\eta}$):

$$\Gamma_{UV}[\hat{\eta}] = S_{UV}[\hat{\eta}] - i \ln \int \mathcal{D}\eta \exp \left[i \left(\frac{1}{2} Q_{IJ}[\hat{\eta}] \eta_I \eta_J + \frac{1}{3!} B_{IJK}[\hat{\eta}] \eta_I \eta_J \eta_K + \frac{1}{4!} D_{IJKL}[\hat{\eta}] \eta_I \eta_J \eta_K \eta_L + \dots \right) \right]$$

$$= S_{UV}[\hat{\eta}] + \frac{i}{2} \log \left(\text{circle} \right) + \frac{i}{2} \text{circle}^{(1)} + \frac{1}{12} \left(\text{circle} \right) - \frac{1}{8} \left(\text{two circles} \right) + \mathcal{O}(\hbar^3)$$

All propagators are dressed with arbitrary background field insertions

$$Q_{IJ}[\hat{\eta}] = \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta \eta^I \delta \eta^J} [\hat{\eta}] = \left(\text{dressed propagator} \right)^{-1}$$

Bonus: The path-integral formulation of EFTs

The EFT action is given by

$$S_{\text{EFT}}[\phi] = \Gamma_{\text{UV}}[\hat{\Phi}, \phi] \Big|_{\text{hard}} \quad \frac{\delta \Gamma_{\text{UV}} \Big|_{\text{hard}}}{\delta \Phi}[\hat{\Phi}, \phi] = 0$$

Φ : Heavy
 ϕ : Light

“hard” denotes the part where all loop momenta are $p \sim \Lambda$ (incl. tree-level contributions)

- Already used at one loop order [JFM, Portolés, Ruiz-Femenía, [1607.02142](#); Z. Zhang [1610.00710](#)]
- Explicit proof to **two-loop order** [JFM, Thomsen, Palavic, w.i.p]
- The hard region is by far the easiest to compute (only vacuum diagrams at zero external momenta)
- Considerably simplifies (functional) matching and running at any loop order

Tutorial

1. Scaleless integrals vanish in DimReg. Given one can write

$$\int \frac{d^d l}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{k^4} = \int \frac{d^d l}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{k^2(k^2 - M^2)} - \int \frac{d^d l}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{M^2}{k^4(k^2 - M^2)} \equiv I_1 - I_2$$

compute I_1 and I_2 and show that they are identical in DimReg. Discuss whether they are UV or IR divergent.

You can use the following general expression for the loop integrals:

$$\int \frac{d^d l}{(2\pi)^d} \frac{1}{(k^2)^n (k^2 - M^2)^m} = \frac{(-1)^{n+m} i}{(4\pi)^{2-\epsilon} (M^2)^{n+m-2+\epsilon}} \frac{\Gamma(n+m-2+\epsilon) \Gamma(2-n-\epsilon)}{\Gamma(m) \Gamma(2-\epsilon)}$$

Tutorial

2. Given the EFT Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m^2 \phi^2 - \frac{\lambda}{4!} \phi^4 + \frac{C_0}{\Lambda} \phi^2 \partial^2 \phi + \frac{C_1}{\Lambda^2} \phi^6 + \frac{C_2}{\Lambda^2} \phi^3 \partial^2 \phi + \frac{C_3}{\Lambda^2} \phi^2 (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 + \frac{C_4}{\Lambda^2} \phi^2 \partial^2 \phi^2$$

Use integration-by-part identities to reduce the Lagrangian to an off-shell basis. Compare your result using Matchete.

Now use field redefinitions to reduce the Lagrangian to an on-shell basis. Once more, compare your result using Matchete. Instead of field redefinitions, use the equations of motion for ϕ . Discuss your result.

Tutorial

3. Given the UV Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{\text{UV}} = & \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m_\phi^2 \phi^2 - \frac{1}{4!} \lambda_\phi \phi^4 + \bar{\psi} i \not{\partial} \psi \\ & + \bar{\chi} i \not{\partial} \chi - M \bar{\chi} \chi + (y \phi \bar{\psi} \chi + \text{h.c.})\end{aligned}$$

with $m_\phi^2 \ll M^2$. Compute the matching to the corresponding EFT (both at tree-level and one-loop), neglecting corrections of $\mathcal{O}(M^{-2})$. Compute the matching using Matchete and compare the results.

Tutorial

4. Given the UV Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{\text{UV}} = & \frac{1}{2} (\partial_\mu \phi)^2 - \frac{1}{2} m_\phi^2 \phi^2 - \frac{1}{4!} \lambda_\phi \phi^4 + \bar{\psi} i \not{\partial} \psi \\ & + \bar{\chi} i \not{\partial} \chi - M \bar{\chi} \chi + (y \phi \bar{\psi} \chi + \text{h.c.})\end{aligned}$$

Renormalize the theory and obtain the Renormalization Group equations. What happens with the mass of ψ as the Lagrangian evolves in energy? What would happen if we replace the Yukawa interaction by $(y \phi \bar{\psi}_L \chi_R + \text{h.c.})$? Discuss the results in terms of the symmetries of the Lagrangian.

Include the UV counterterms into the matching calculation from exercise 3. What do you observe?

Tutorial

5. Explore and have fun using Matchete!
(see notebook examples attached)