

Tracking down the origin of neutrino mass

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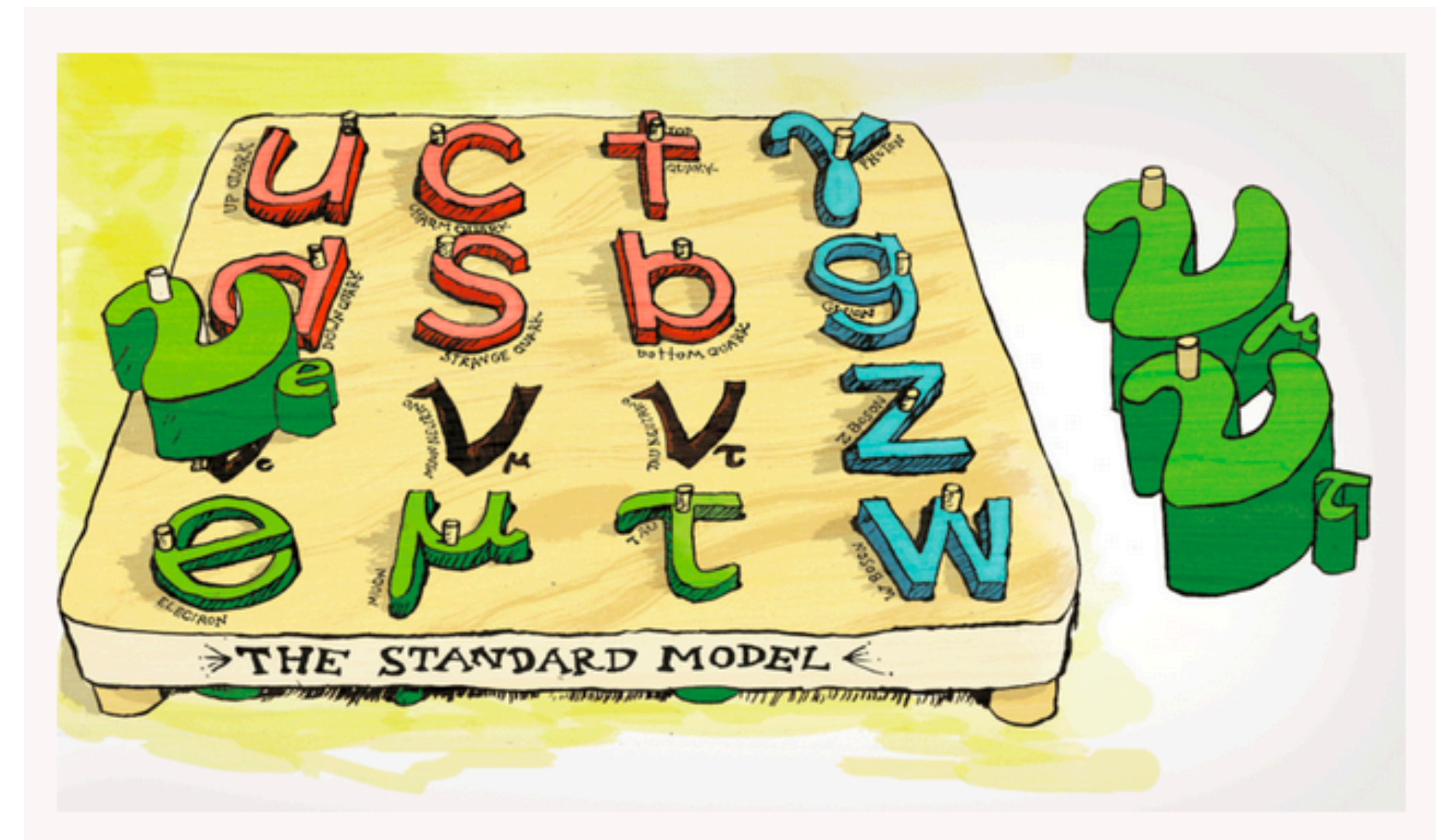


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Neutrino oscillations

Observation of neutrino oscillations:

- **Strong** evidence of physics beyond the SM
- introduced **more parameters** to the model (3 angles, at least one phase, 3 masses)
- **need** to introduce neutrino mass mechanism



Neutrino mass

What is neutrino mass generation mechanism?

Dirac neutrinos

$$m_D = y_\nu \bar{\nu}_L \tilde{H} N_R$$

like other SM fermions



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Majorana neutrinos

$$m_M = M_N \bar{\nu}_L \nu_L^c$$

Neutrinos are the **only** SM particles that could have such a mass term

Term **not** gauge invariant!

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Neutrinos are the **only** SM particles that could have such a mass term

Term **not** gauge invariant!

In any case need **new particles!**

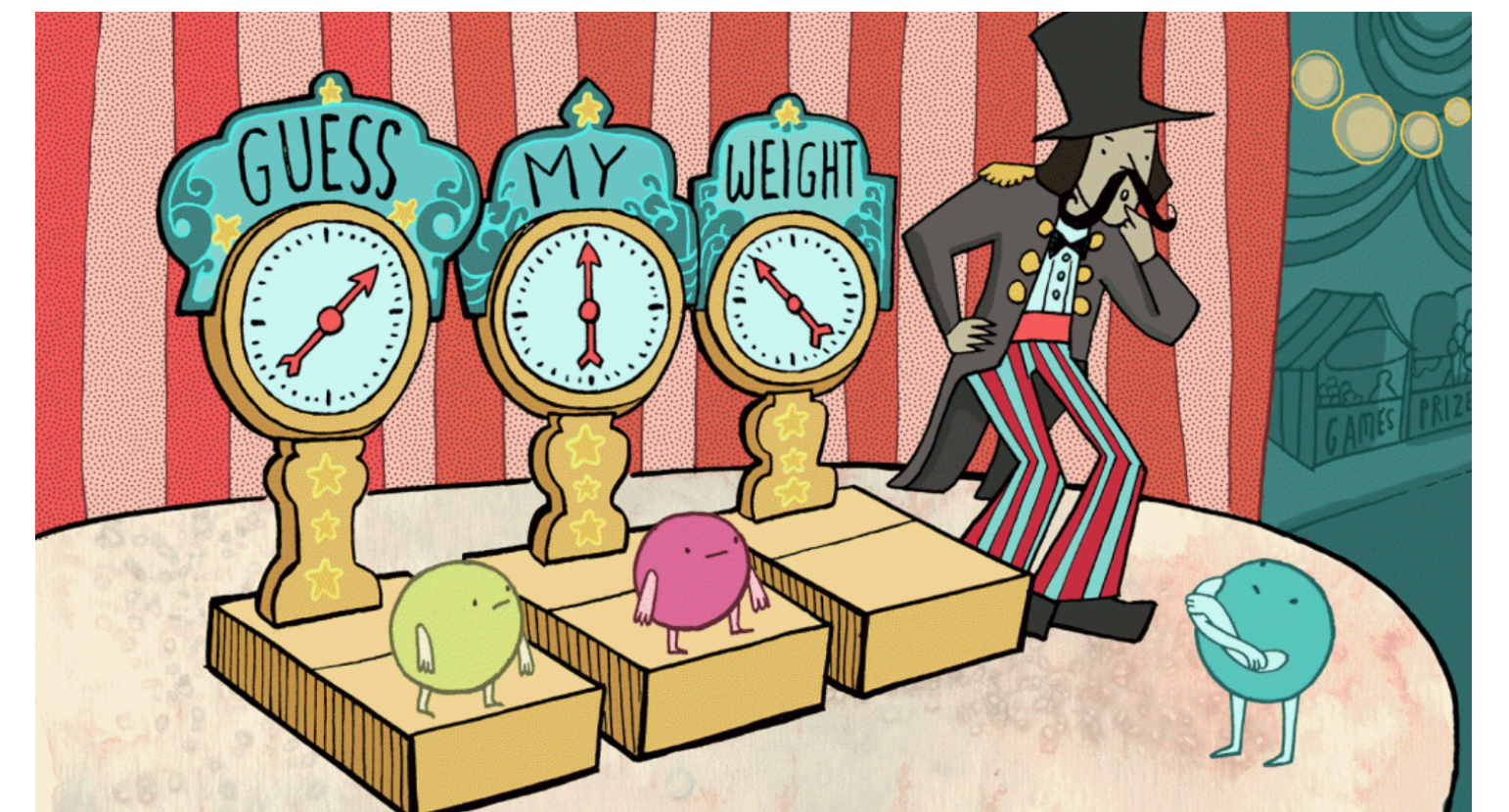
→ observation of neutrino oscillations **predicts new particles!**

Neutrino mass

What is the neutrino mass scale?

→ learn about **required** couplings in new interaction

identify **promising** experimental search strategies



Neutrino mass

What is the neutrino mass scale?

Only **upper limit** on neutrino mass scale so far!

Cosmological sum of neutrino masses:

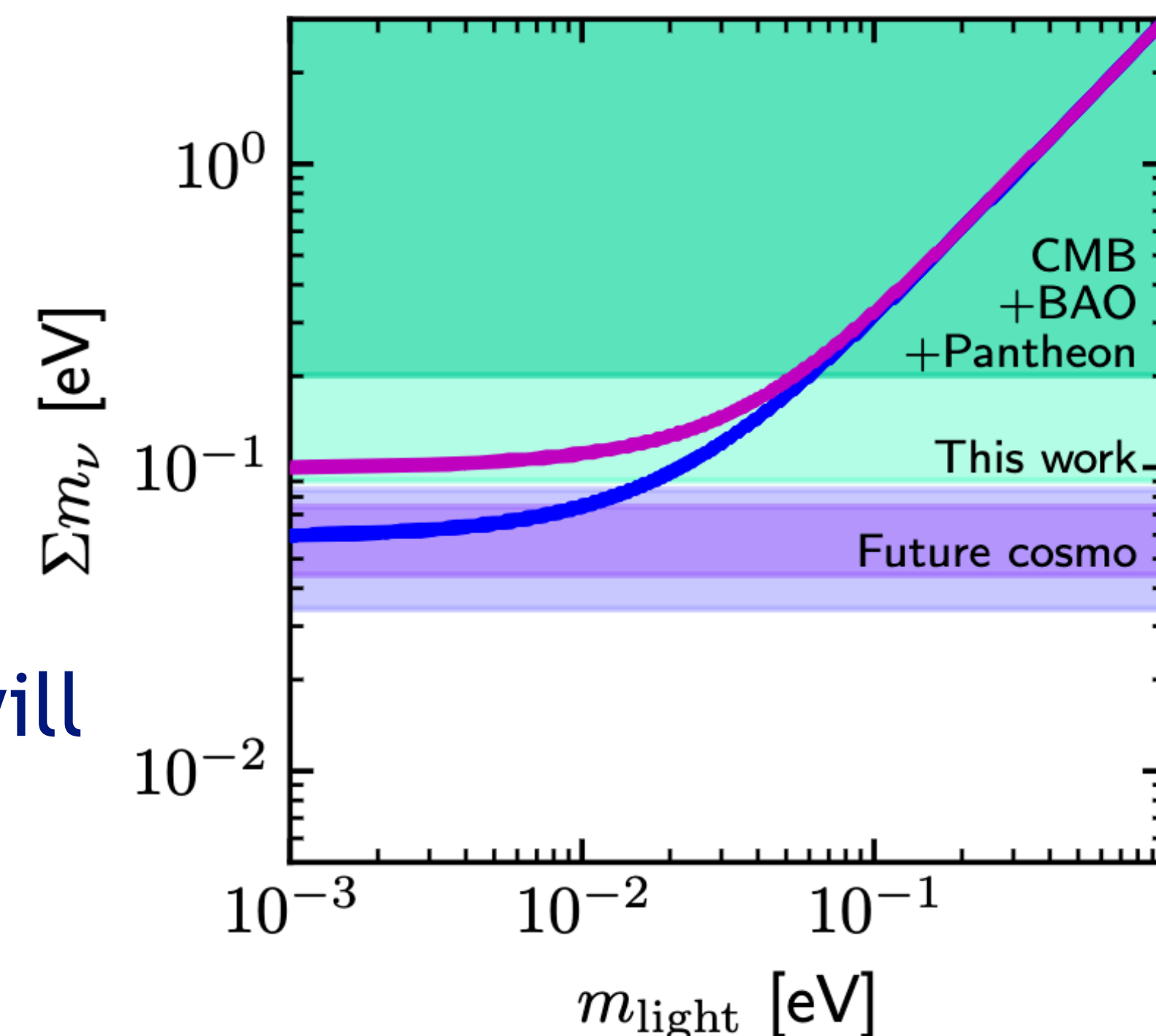
$$\sum m_\nu \lesssim 0.1 \text{ eV}$$

[Di Valentino, Gariazzo, Mena, [2207.05167](#)]

Depending on data sets combined

Future cosmological observatories will measure sum of neutrino masses

[Di Valentino, Gariazzo, Mena, [2106.15267](#)]



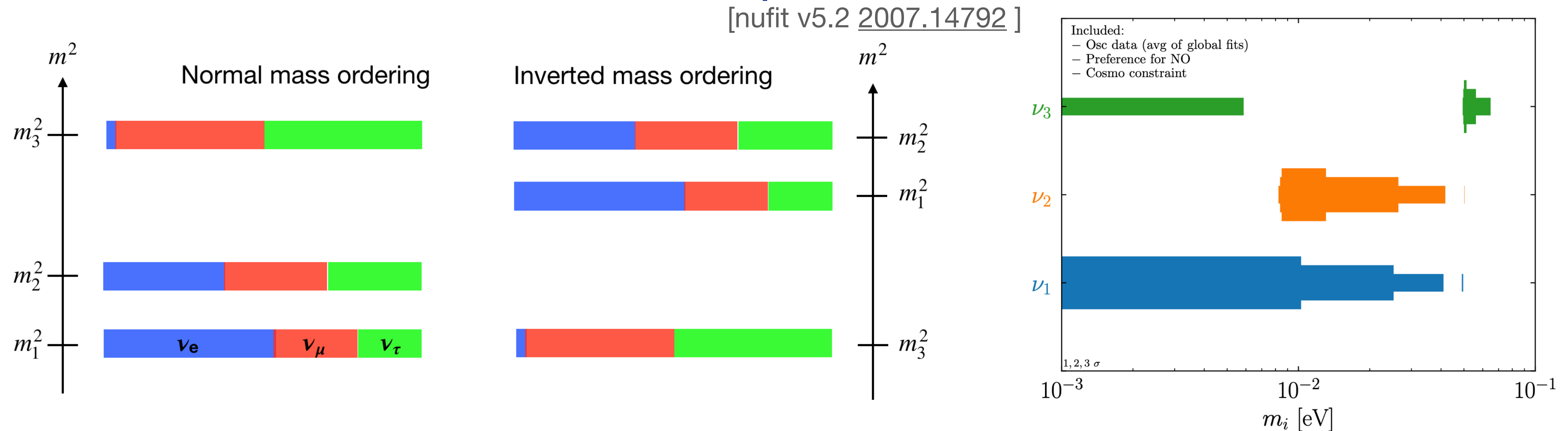
Neutrino mass

What is neutrino mass scale?

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Mild (1.6σ) preference for normal mass ordering from oscillation experiments

[JG, Denton 2308.09737]



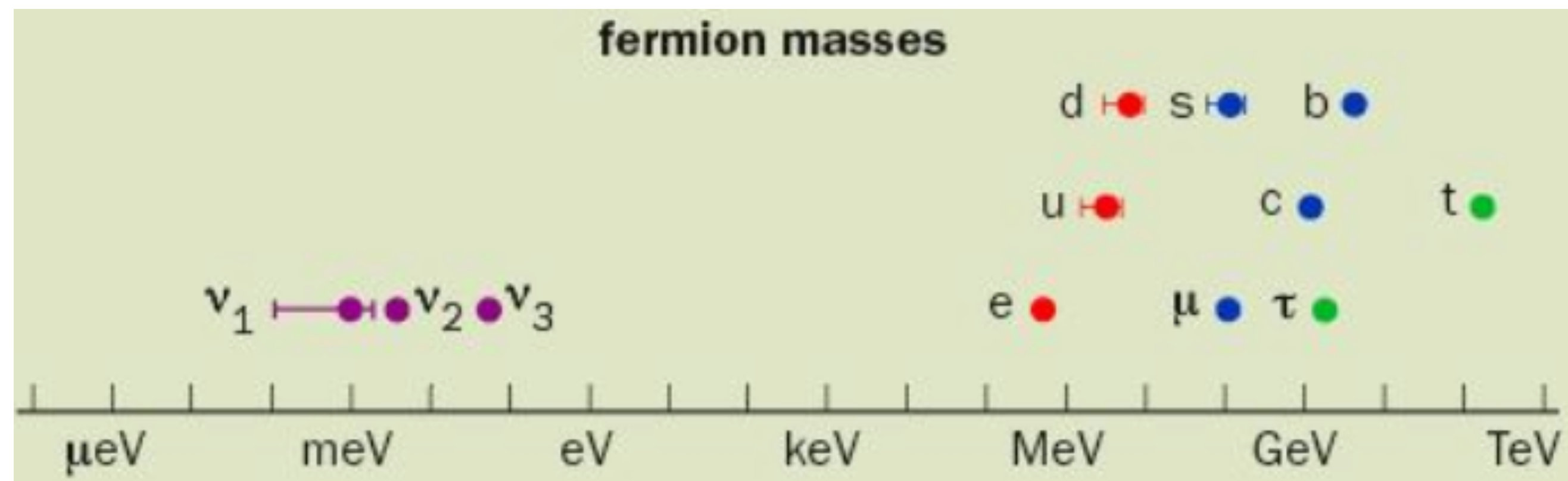
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Neutrinos **much lighter** than other fermions



Is this a **clue** about underlying mass mechanism?

Neutrino mass

What is neutrino mass scale?

Neutrinos **much lighter** than other fermions

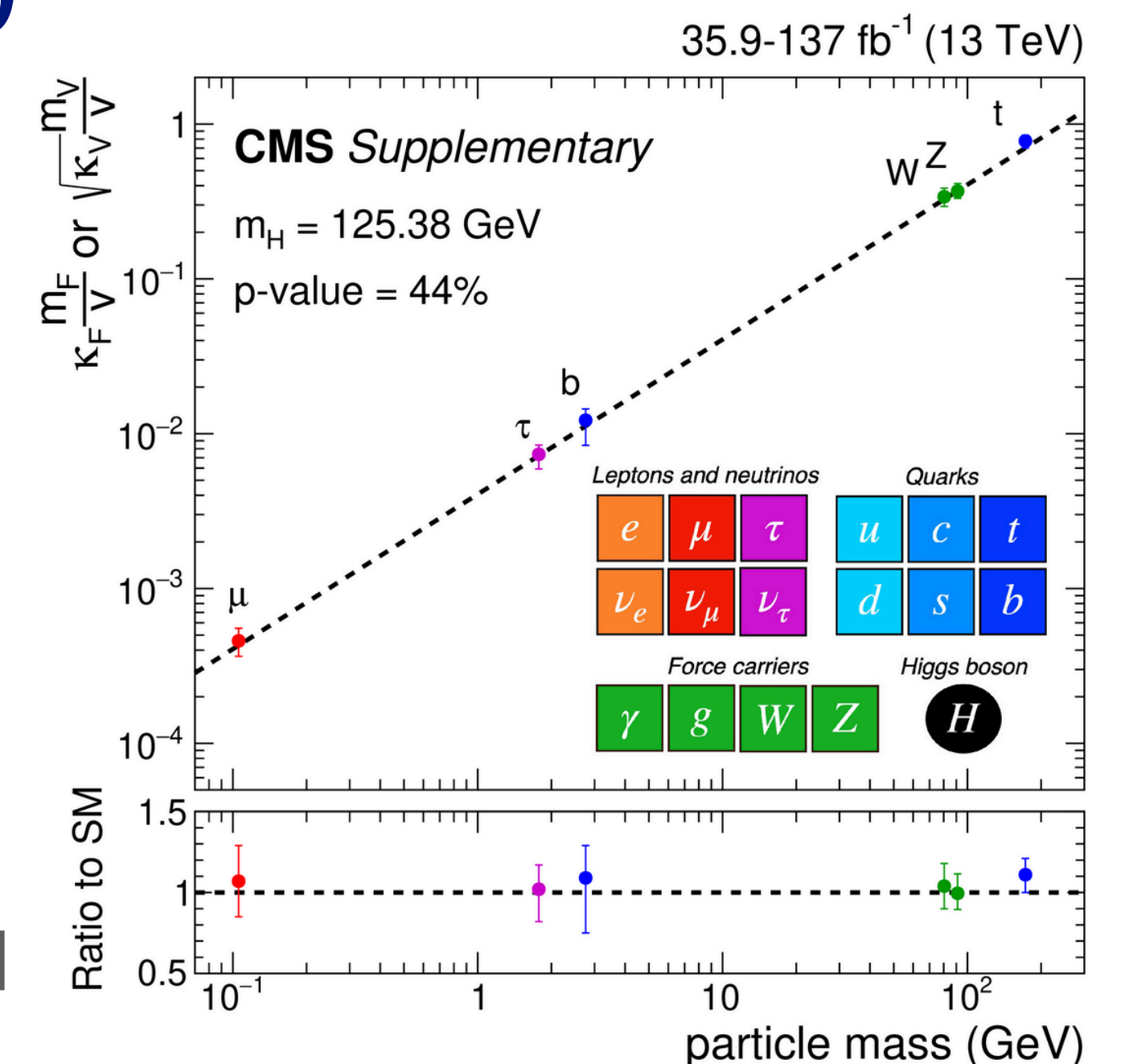
Dirac neutrinos: Yukawa coupling $y_\nu \lesssim 10^{-13}$

Dirac neutrinos would have a **much smaller** Yukawa coupling than other fermions

Direct probe of $H \rightarrow \bar{\nu}\nu$ colliders not possible

Reason for smallness of neutrino mass?

[CMS 2009.04363]



Neutrino mass

Majorana mass term arises from **higher dimension operators!**

→ explains **smallness** of neutrino mass due to suppression by high scale

Majorana neutrino mass operators occur at **odd dimension**

[Kobach [1604.05726](#)]

$$\mathcal{O} \propto (LLHH)(H^\dagger H)^n$$
$$\rightarrow m_\nu \propto c \frac{v^2}{\Lambda} \left(\frac{v}{\Lambda} \right)^{d-5}$$

Neutrino mass

Majorana mass term arises from **higher dimension operators!**

→ explains **smallness** of neutrino mass due to suppression by high scale

Dimension 5 operator

$$\mathcal{L}_5 = c_5 \frac{(\bar{L}^c \tilde{H}^*)(\tilde{H}^\dagger L_L)}{\Lambda}$$

Only dim-5 operator that can be build with SM fields alone
Expect first signs of new physics from lowest SMEFT operator
→ **neutrino mass**

Dimension 7

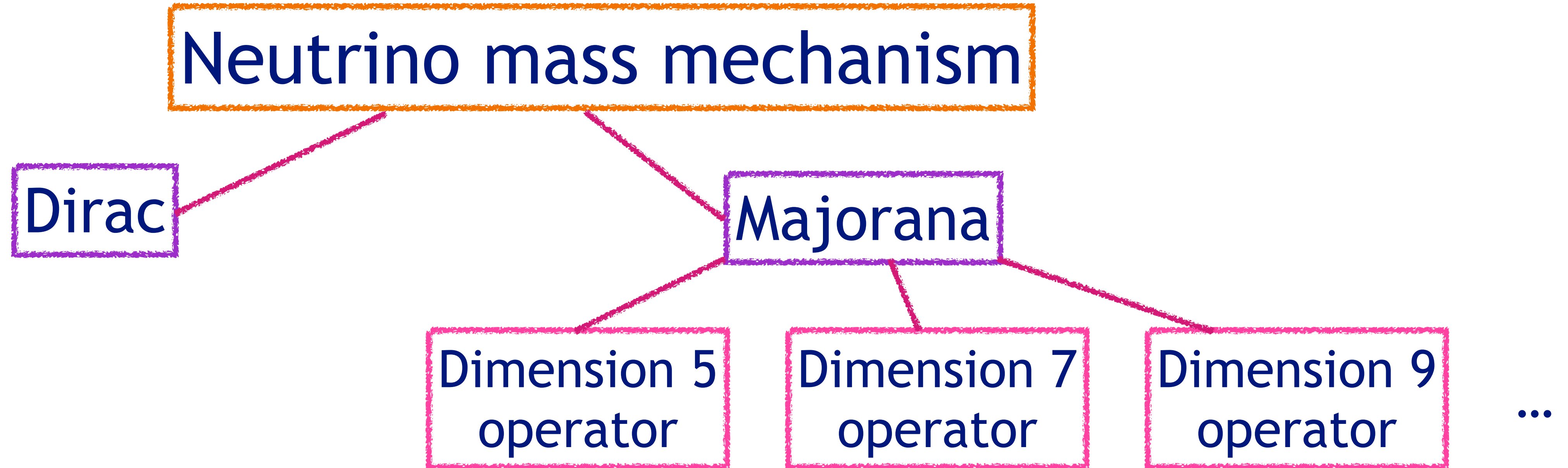
$$\mathcal{L}_7 \propto c_7 \frac{(LLHH)(H^\dagger H)}{\Lambda^3}$$

Dimension 9

$$\mathcal{L}_9 \propto c_9 \frac{(LLHH)(H^\dagger H)(H^\dagger H)}{\Lambda^5}$$

...

Maze of possibilities



Maze of possibilities

Example dimension 5 operator

$$m_\nu \sim c \frac{v^2}{\Lambda}$$

hierarchy
symmetry

Λ large:
small m_ν
due to suppression
of scales



No direct probe
Hierarchy problem

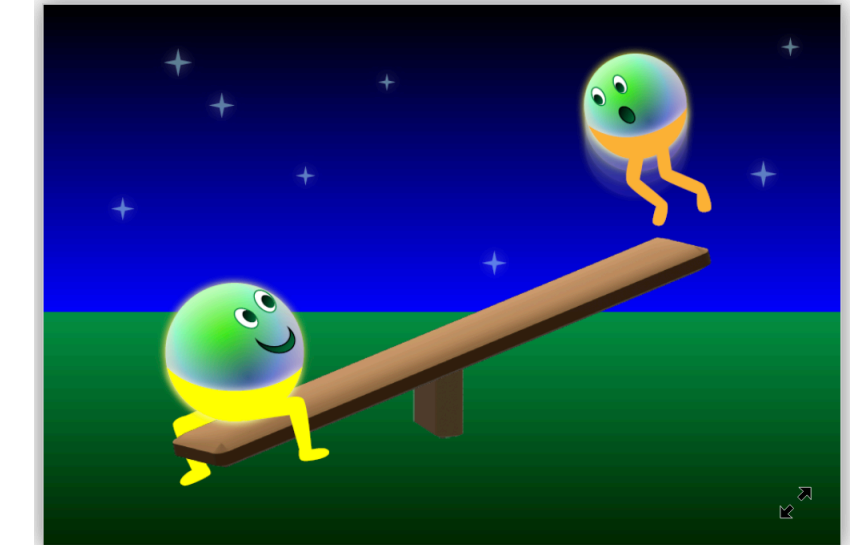
Type I seesaw
Type II seesaw
Type III seesaw

Λ small:
small m_ν
due to small Wilson
coefficient c

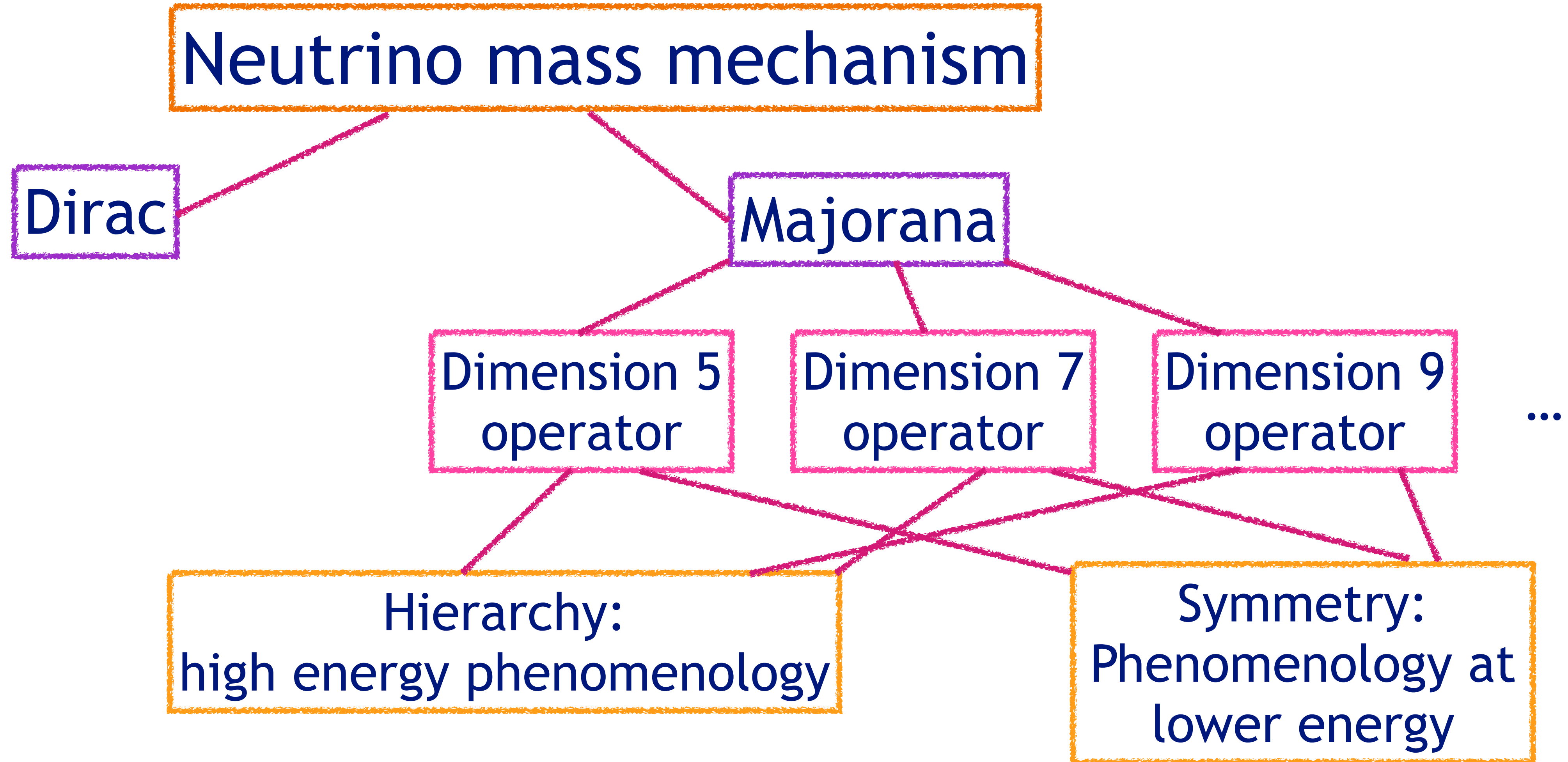


testable

Type II seesaw
inverse seesaw
linear seesaw
extended seesaw



Maze of possibilities



Testing neutrino mass mechanisms

Dirac vs Majorana neutrinos

Dirac

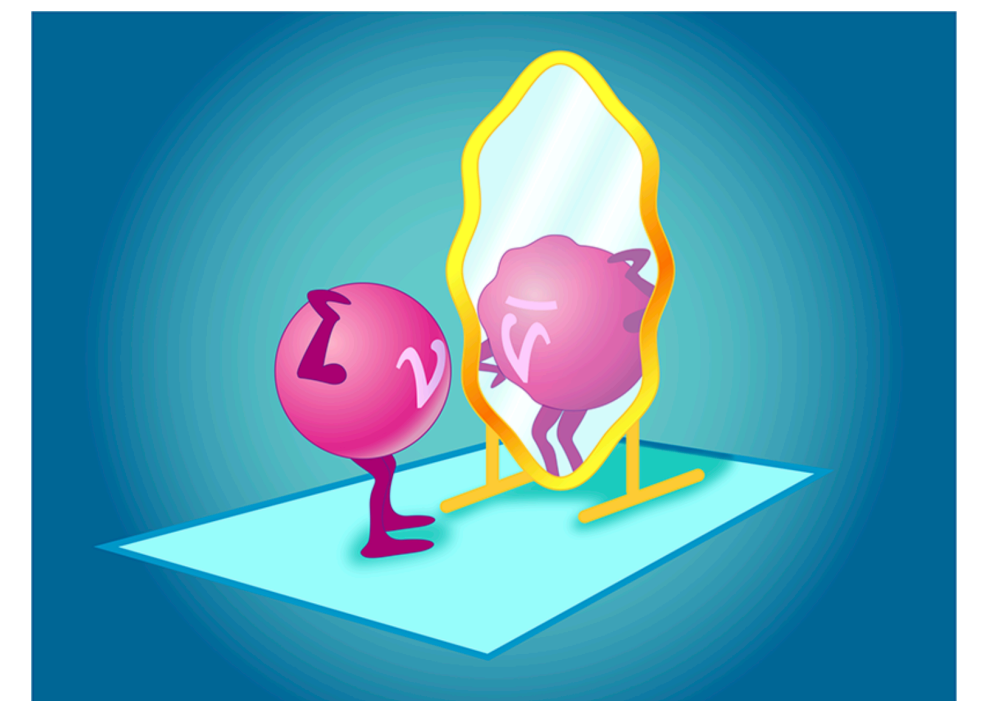
Majorana

Majorana mass term **violates** lepton number

Dirac mass term **conserves** lepton number

⇒ search for lepton number violating processes

Effect \propto neutrino mass!

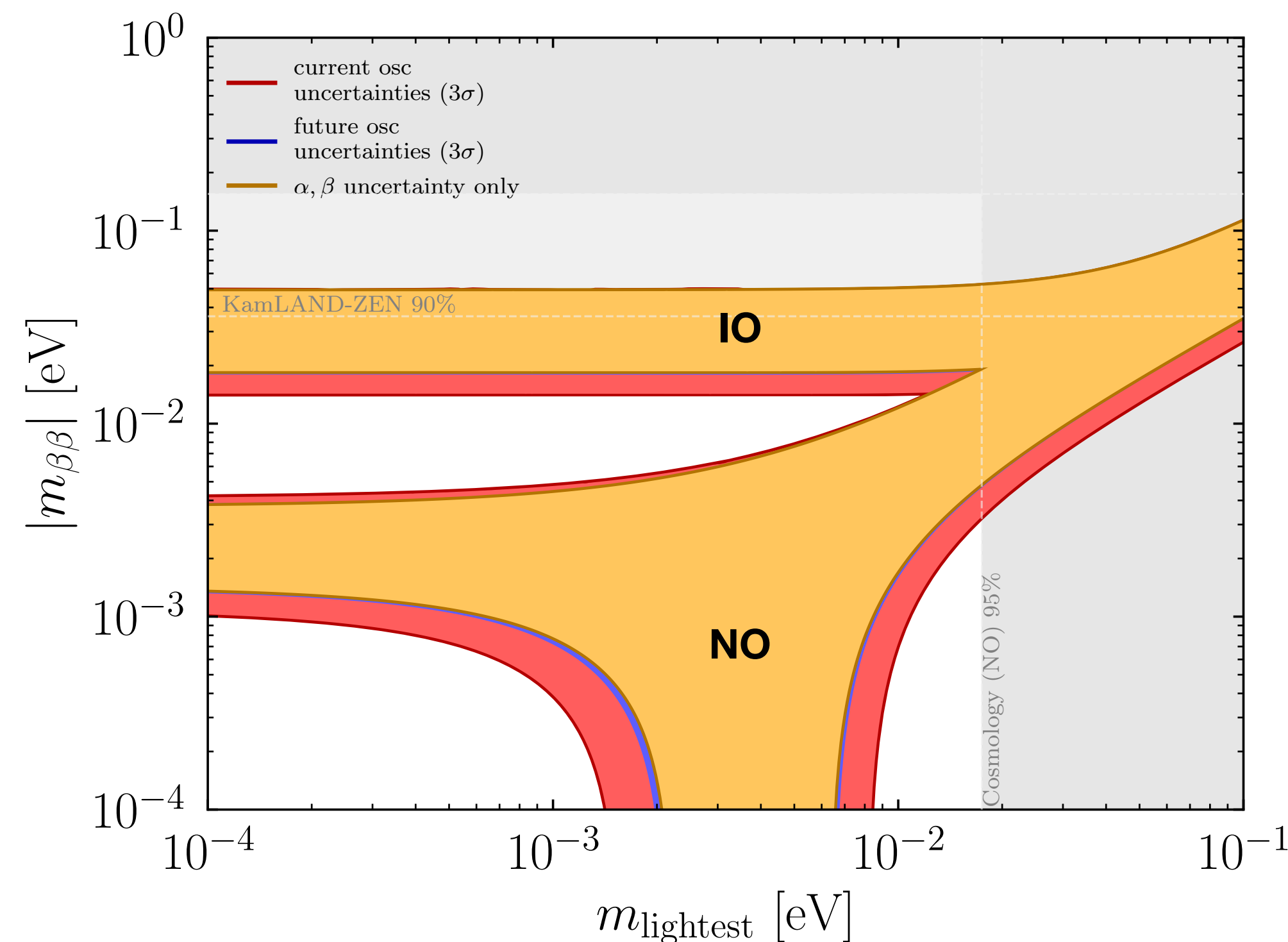
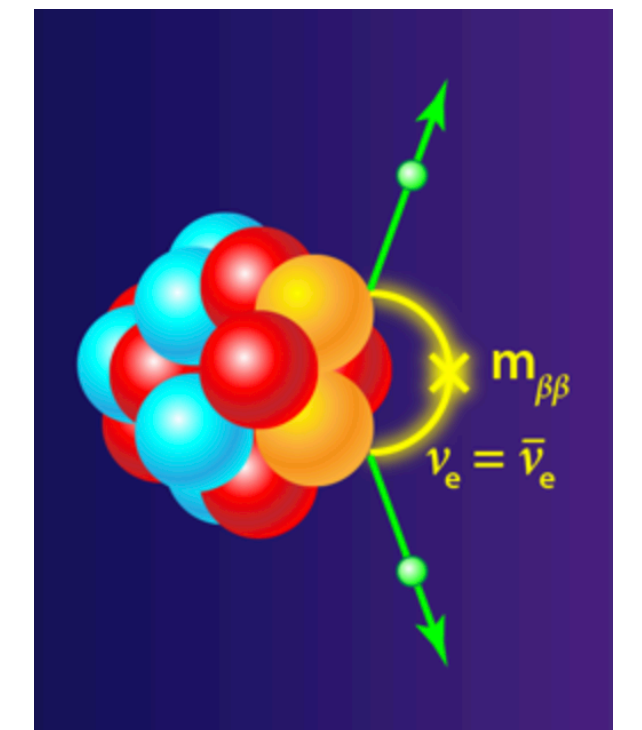


Testing neutrino mass mechanisms

Dirac vs Majorana neutrinos

Neutrinoless double beta decay experiments aim to provide an answer

$$(Z, A) \rightarrow (Z + 2, A) + 2 e^{-}$$



Currently just **upper limit**,
no observation

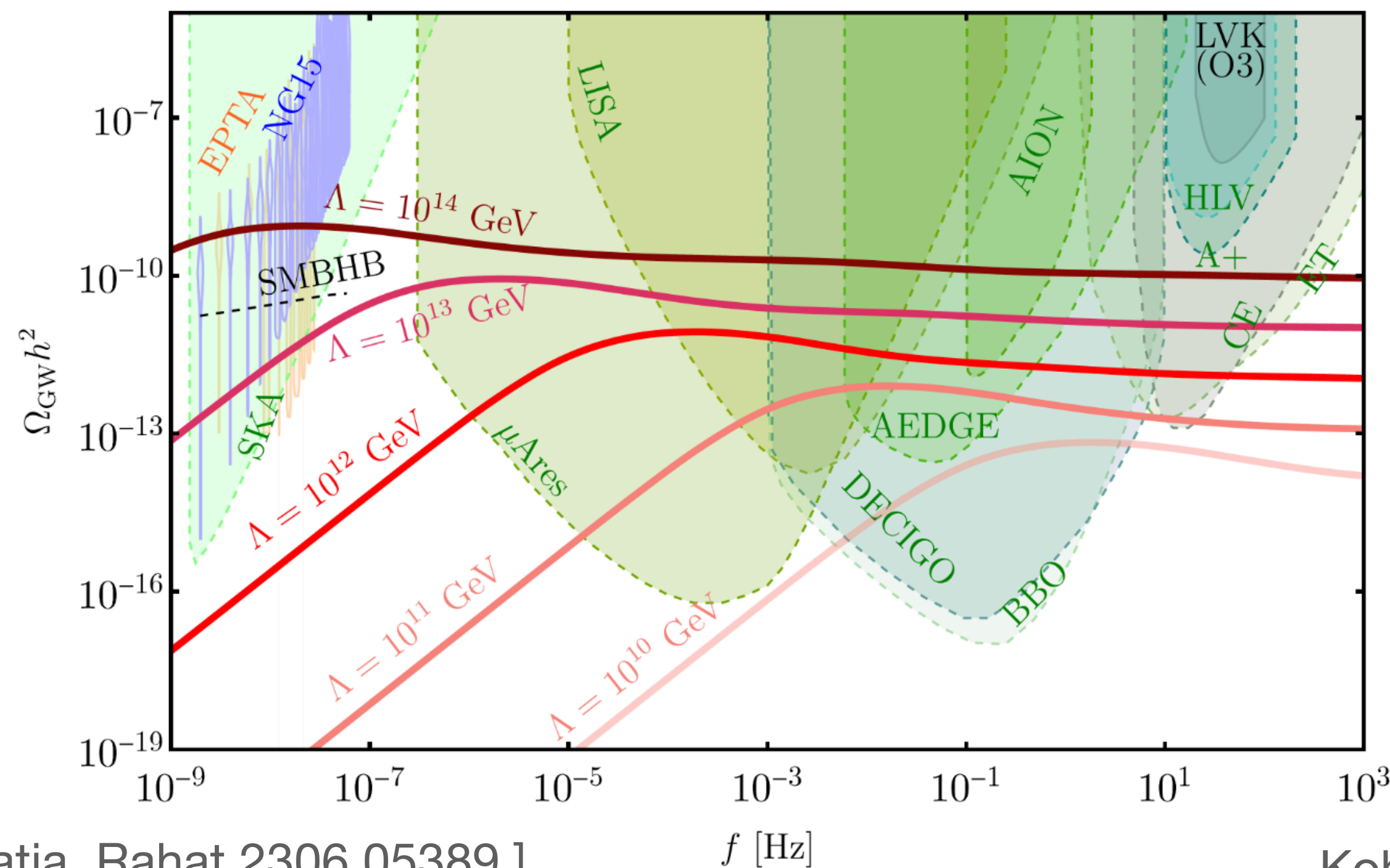
Large parameter space, depending
on absolute mass scale and mass ordering

Width of allowed bands depends on
Majorana phases

Testing neutrino mass mechanisms

Dirac vs Majorana neutrinos

Signs of **lepton number breaking** in the early Universe
Gravitational waves from decay of cosmic strings from breaking of lepton number symmetry



Signature depends on

**Lepton number
breaking scale**

[King, Marfatia, Rahat [2306.05389](#)]

[see also Dror, Hiramatsu,
Kohri, Murayama, White [2306.05389](#)]

Testing neutrino mass mechanisms

New particles associated to mass generation

New particles are introduced in neutrino mass generation mechanisms
→ search for them!

Identify **UV complete models** for higher dimensional operators

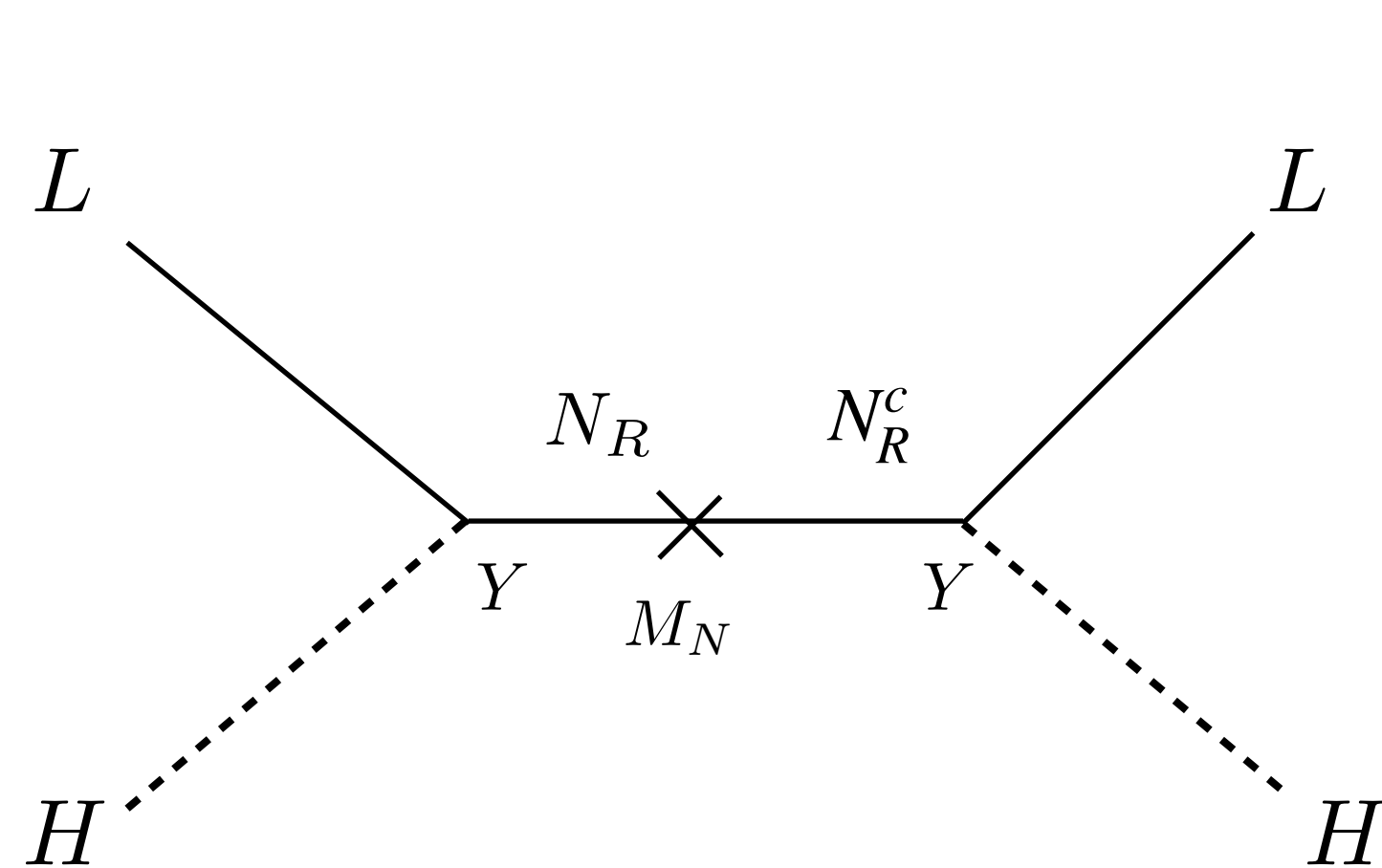
Testing neutrino mass mechanisms

New particles associated to mass generation

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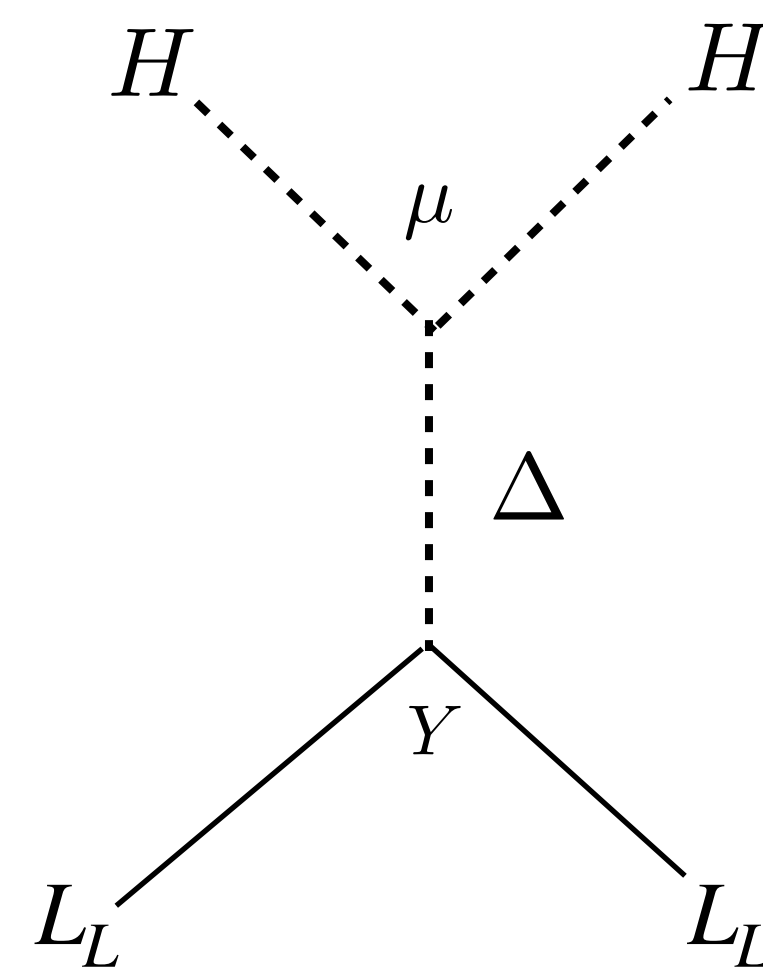
Example: realizations of dim-5 operator

Type I seesaw



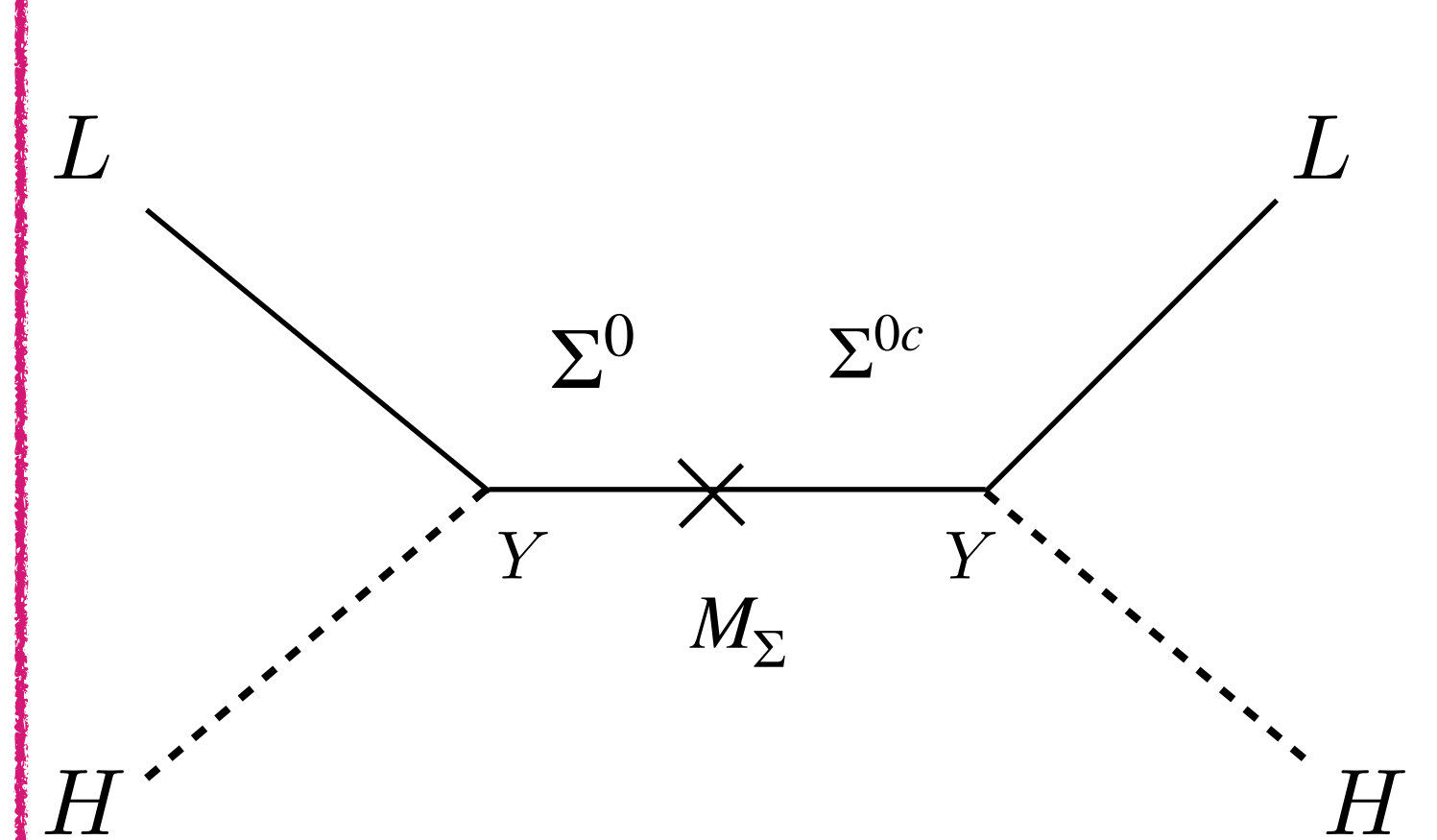
N_R : SM singlet
“Right-handed neutrino”

Type II seesaw



Δ : $SU(2)_L$ scalar triplet

Type III seesaw



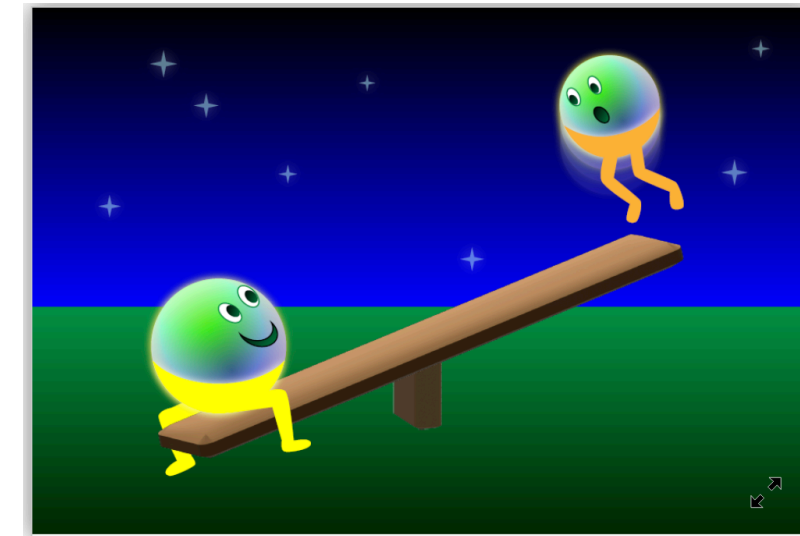
Σ : $SU(2)_L$ fermion triplet

Testing neutrino mass mechanisms

New particles associated to mass generation

Probing the Type II seesaw

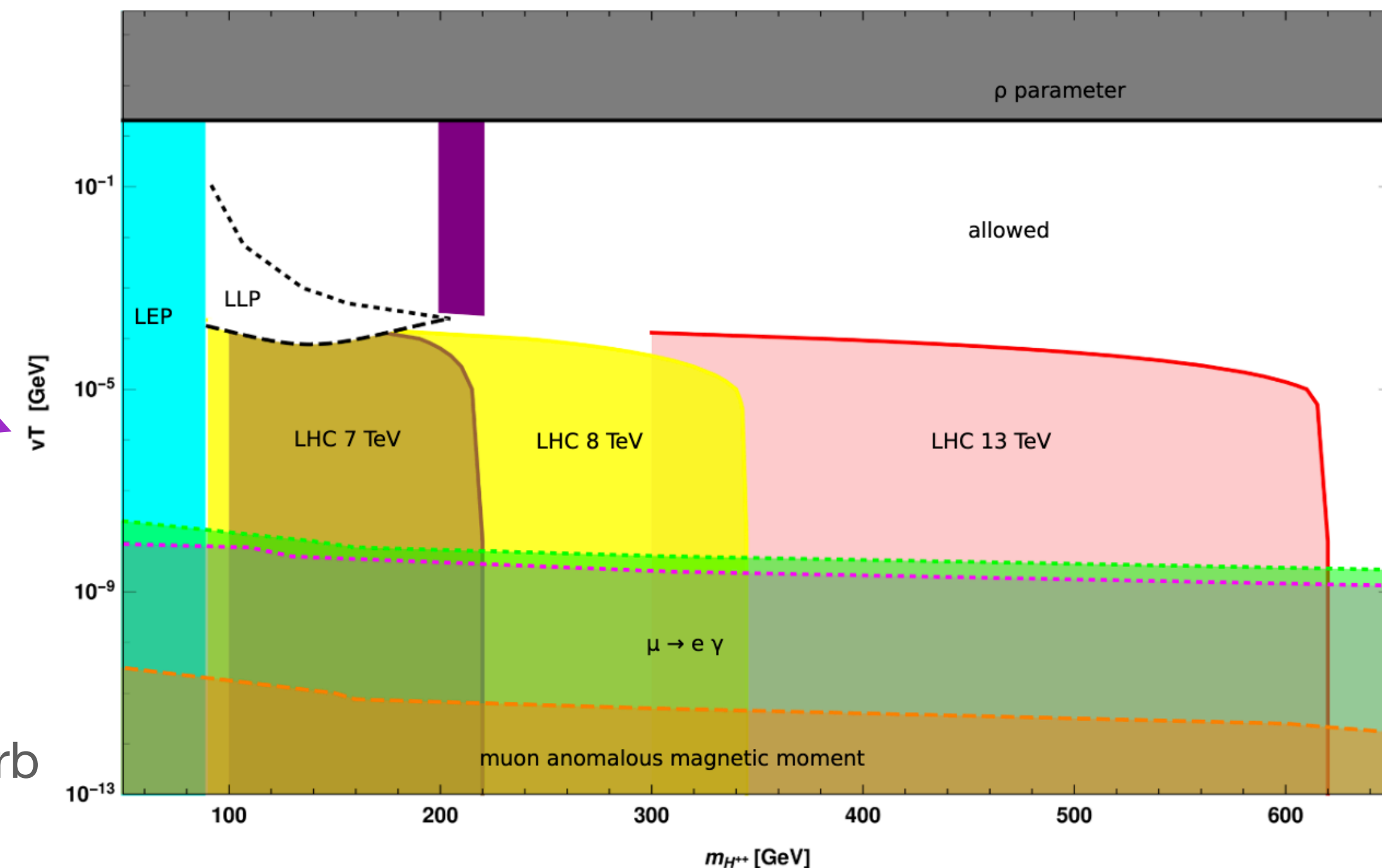
Introduce new field charged under $SU(2)_L$, $U(1)_Y$
 new **neutral, singly and doubly charged scalar** particles



$$m_\nu \propto y \frac{\mu v^2}{M_\Delta^2}$$

EWPO, collider phenomenology, cLFV, g-2

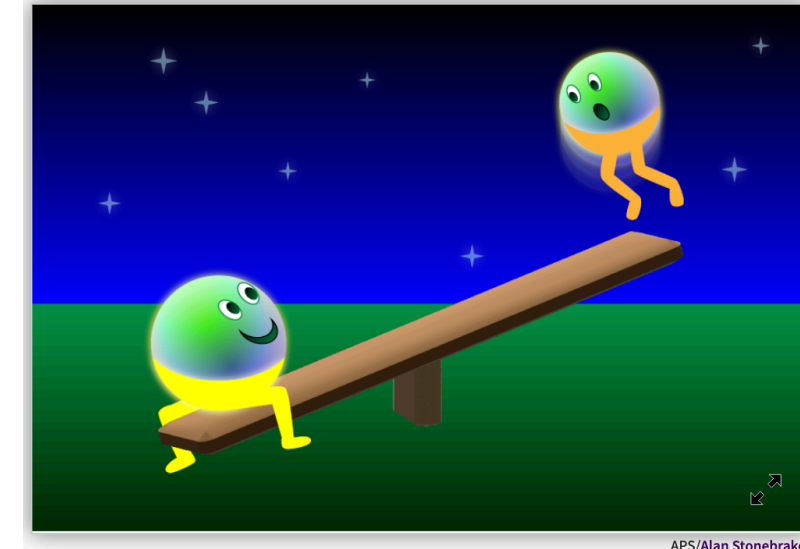
[Antusch, Fischer, Hammad, Scherb
[1811.03476](https://arxiv.org/abs/1811.03476)]



Testing neutrino mass mechanisms

New particles associated to mass generation

Probing the Type III seesaw



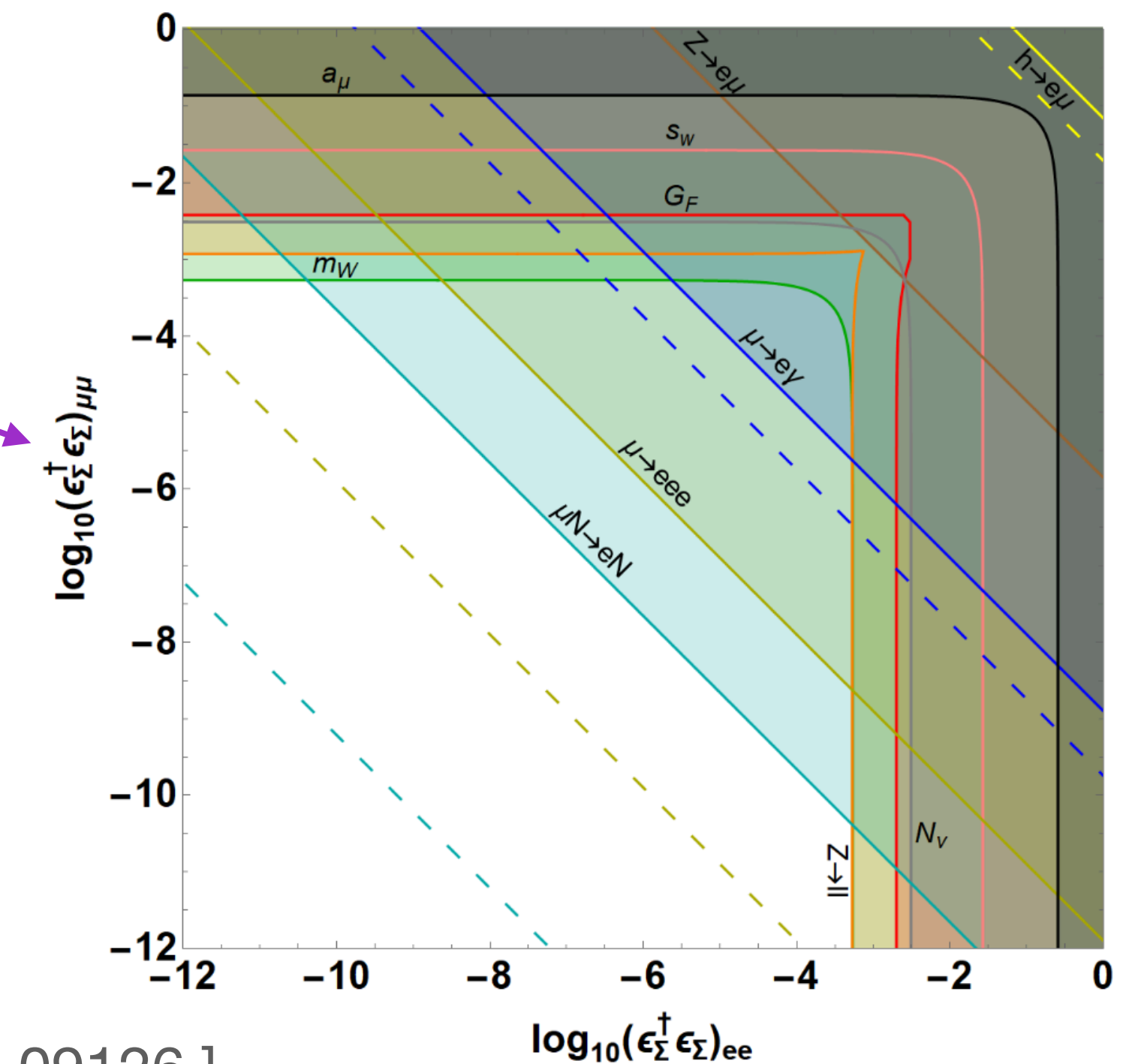
Introduce new field charged under $SU(2)_L$, $U(1)_Y$
 new **neutral, charged fermions** with EW gauge interactions

$$m_\nu \propto y\nu \frac{y\nu}{M_\Sigma}$$

(similar to type I seesaw however
 Σ^0 couples to EW bosons)

Charged fermion mixing!

L violating and L conserving processes:
 Collider constraints, cLFV



[Coy, Frigerio 2110.09126]

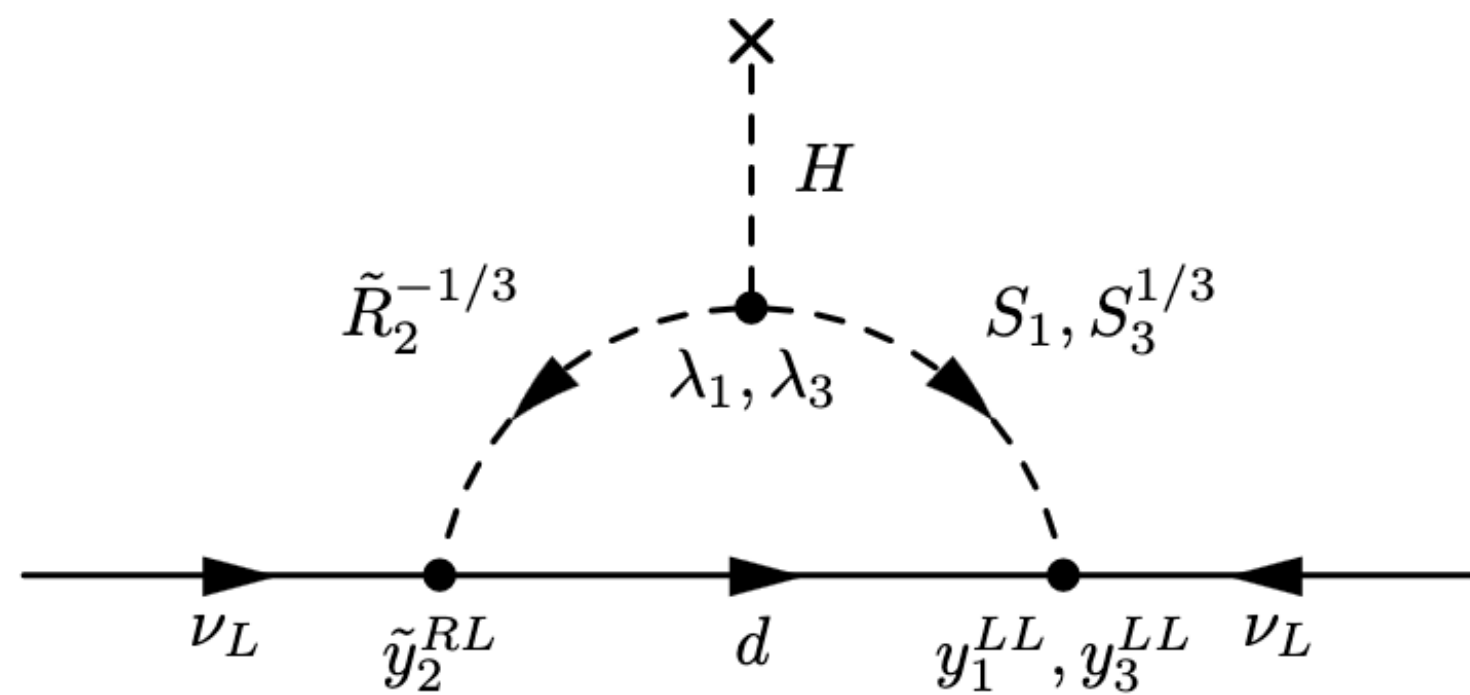
Testing neutrino mass mechanisms

New particles associated to mass generation

Alternative neutrino mass mechanisms: radiative neutrino mass models

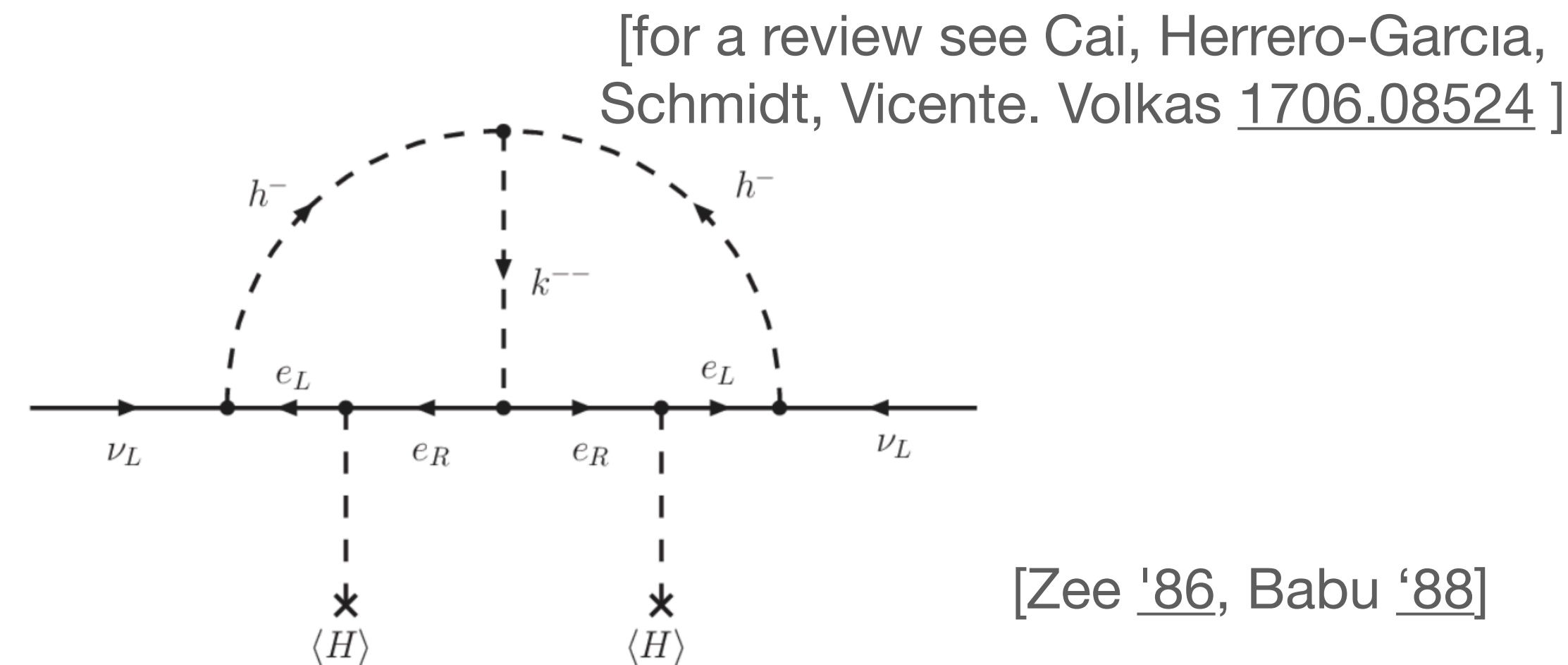
Smallness of m_ν due to loop factor

1-, 2-, 3-loop mass models available in literature



[Doršner, Fajfer, Košnik [1701.08322](#)]

Leptoquark model



[for a review see Cai, Herrero-Garcia, Schmidt, Vicente. Volkas [1706.08524](#)]

[Zee '86, Babu '88]

Zee-Babu model (new charged scalars)

Testing neutrino mass mechanisms

Connection to other open questions of SM

Dark Matter

DM particles introduced scotogenic neutrino mass model, realization of inverse seesaw

[Ma, [0601225](#), De Romeri, Fernandez-Martinez, Machado, Niro, [JG 1707.08606](#)]

Unification of forces

Right-handed neutrinos automatically introduced in $SO(10)$ GUT

High scale type I seesaw scale \approx scale of unification

Baryon asymmetry of the Universe

Leptogenesis:
lepton number violating decays of heavy sterile neutrinos
→ can be realized in parameter space of high scale type I seesaw

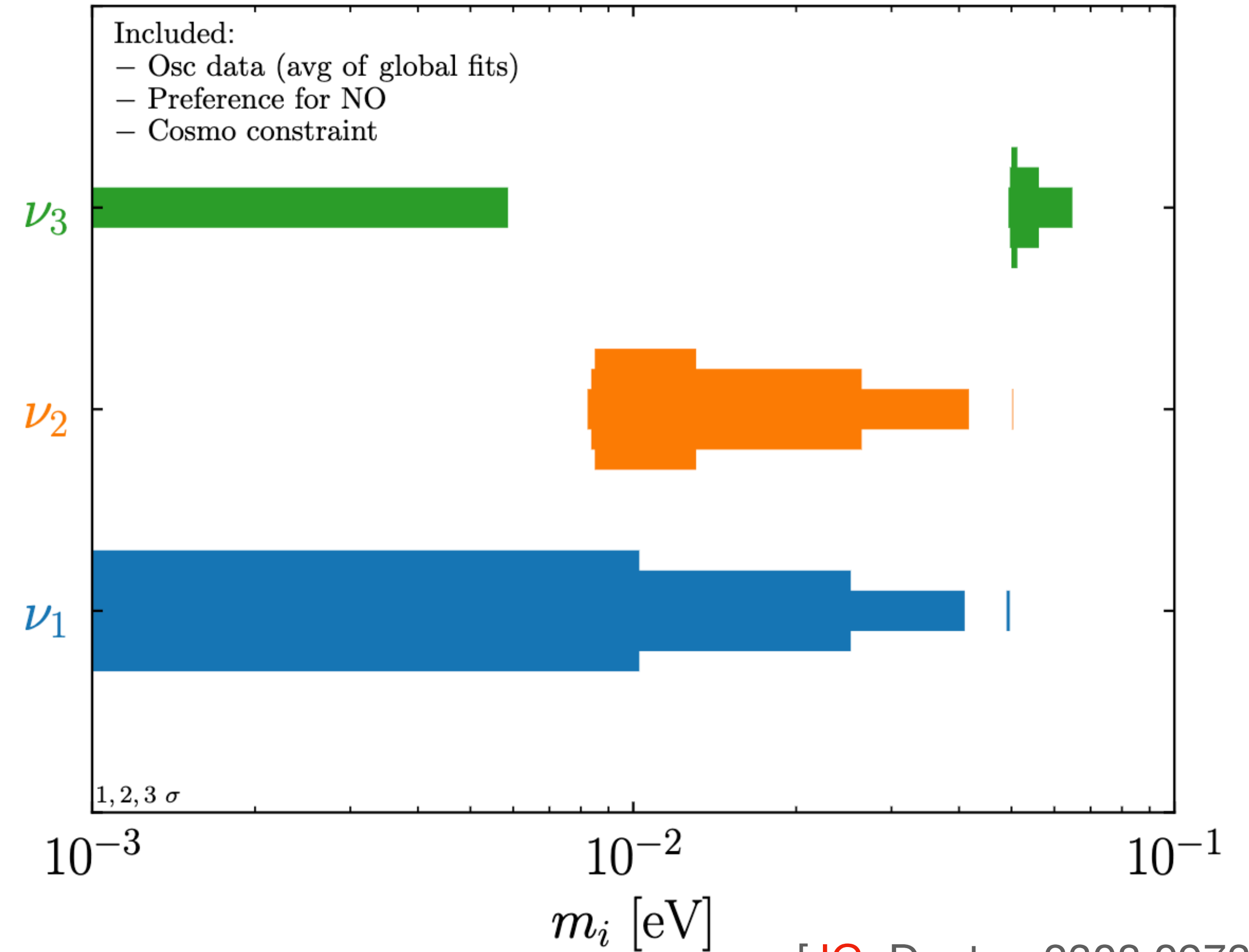
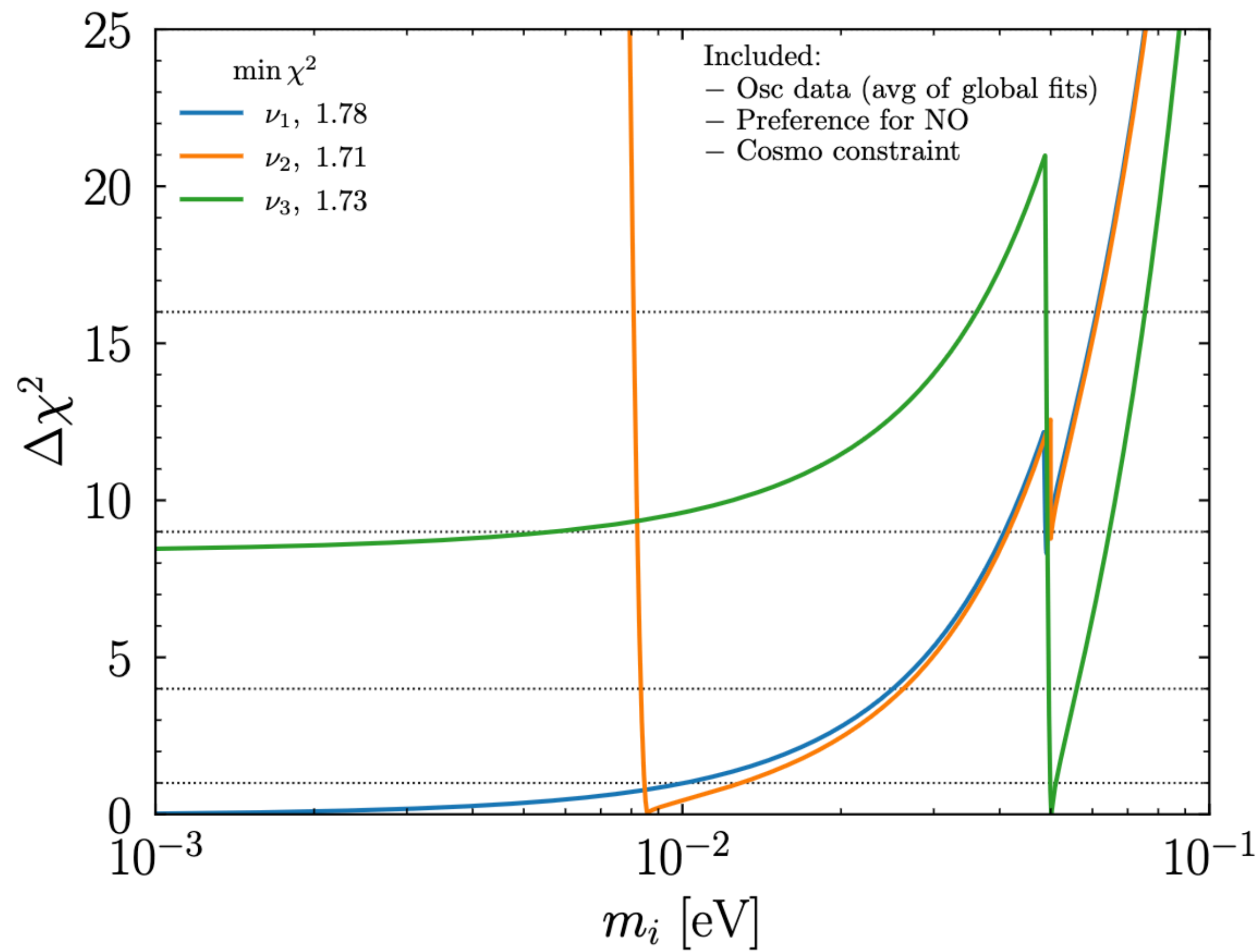
Summary & Conclusion

- Neutrino oscillations → Very strong evidence for **need for additional particles** related to neutrino mass generation
- **Many possible mass mechanisms** with rich phenomenology
- So far **no sign** of new particles
- If new particle is discovered, need to test if it can **reproduce** measured neutrino masses and mixing
- Future **improved** experimental sensitivities and new **testable** models will hopefully bring us closer to find neutrino mass generation mechanism

Thanks for your attention!



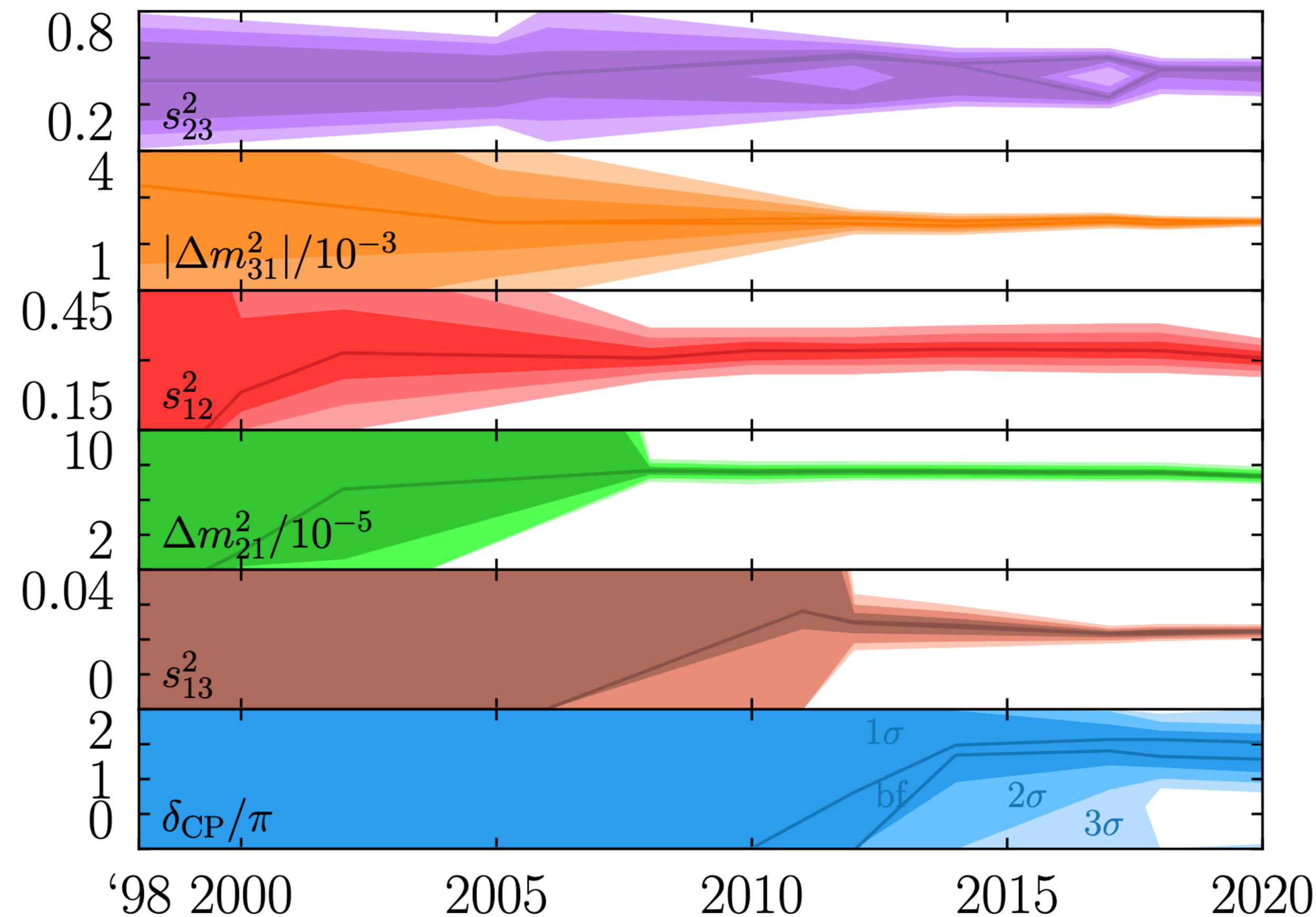
Appendix: Neutrino mass



[JG, Denton 2308.09737]

Appendix: Neutrino oscillation parameters

Neutrino oscillation parameters measured over years



[Denton et al [2212.00809](#)]

Appendix: Neutrino oscillation parameters

Global fits to oscillation data:

mass splittings: $|\Delta m_{32}^2| = 2.5 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ eV}^2$, $\Delta m_{21}^2 = 7.4 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ eV}^2$

[nufit v5.1]

mass ordering **unknown**

