

# Vector-Pair Production The Amplitude Way

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In collaboration with Hongkai Liu and Yael Shadmi

# Motivation

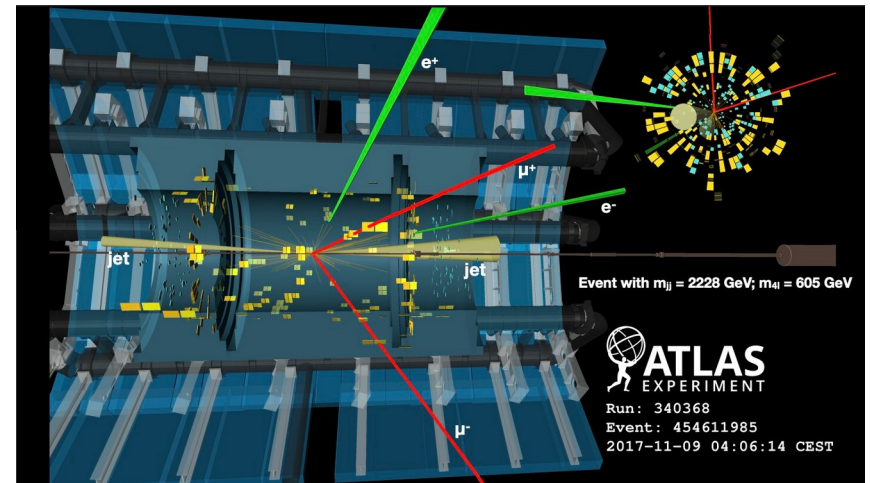
- The coming years will see precision measurements of electroweak physics at the LHC



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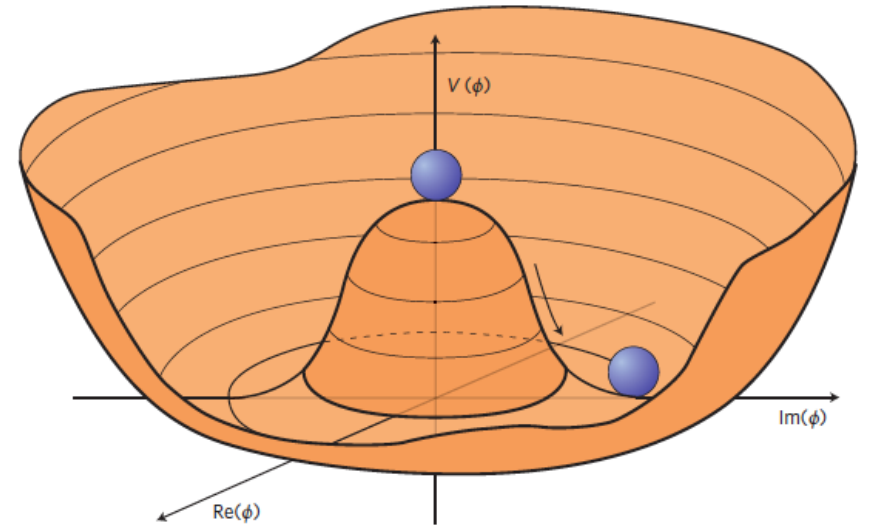
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- All-vector and vector-Higgs interactions have yet to be probed in colliders.



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- The coming years will see precision measurements of electroweak physics at the LHC
- All-vector and vector-Higgs interactions have yet to be probed in colliders.
- How do we parameterize these interactions in a model independent way without knowledge of UV physics?
- What do we learn about EWSB?



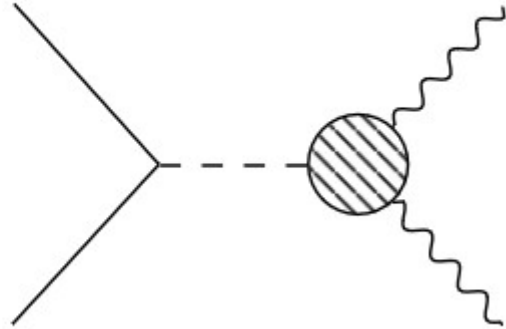
# Motivation

- The coming years will see precision measurements of electroweak physics at the LHC
  - All-vector and vector-Higgs interactions have yet to be probed in colliders.
  - How do we parameterize these interactions in a model independent way without knowledge of UV physics?
  - What do we learn about EWSB?
- Lagrangian formulated EFTs have high number of operators which are difficult to enumerate due to redundancies (EOMs, IBP, Field redef...)

# The Goal:

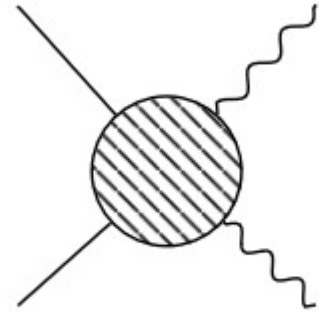
Compute **contact term** contributions to **VV**  
**production** at **dimension-8** in the **SMEFT** directly  
at the **amplitude level**.

# Amplitude Structure



Factorizeable

# Amplitude Structure



Contact Terms:  
4-pt and higher



# Amplitude Structure

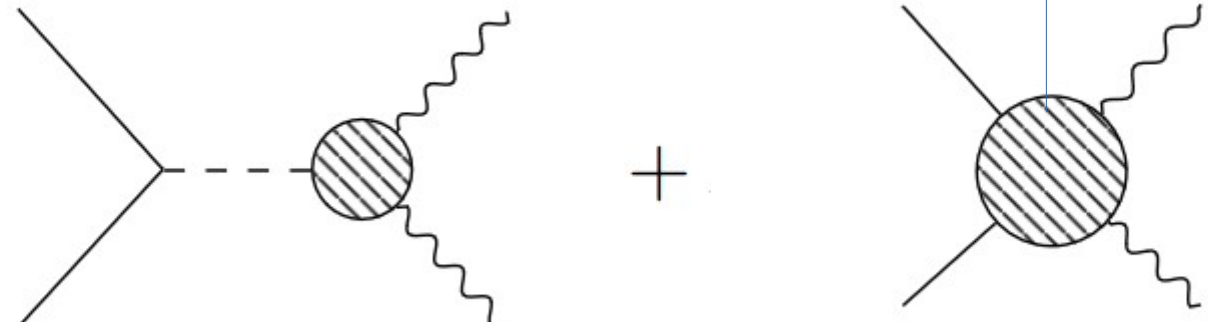
$$\mathcal{M}(2 \rightarrow 2) = \text{[Diagram 1]} + \text{[Diagram 2]}$$

Factorizeable

Contact Terms:  
4-pt and higher

Sum of higher dim contact terms

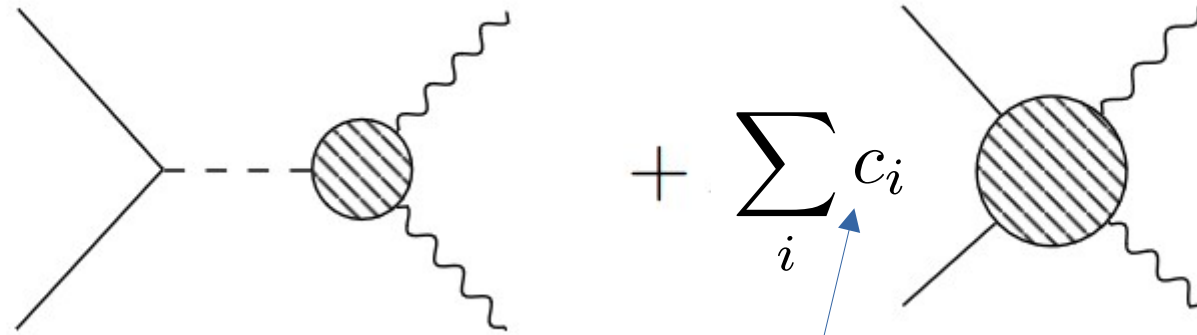
# Amplitude Structure

$$\mathcal{M}(2 \rightarrow 2) =$$


Sum of higher dim contact terms

Combining all possible contact term contributions gives the most general EFT amplitude.

# Amplitude Structure

$$\mathcal{M}(2 \rightarrow 2) = \text{[Diagram 1]} + \sum_i c_i \text{[Diagram 2]}$$


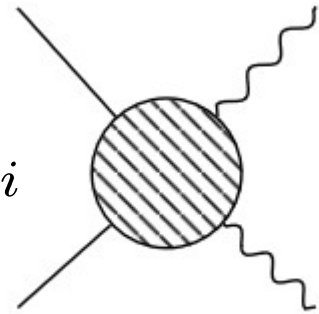
Each independent contact-term comes with a coefficient

# Amplitude Structure

## Standard Model EFT

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \sum_i \sum_{d>4} c_i \Lambda^{4-d} \mathcal{O}^i$$

$$\sum_i c_i$$



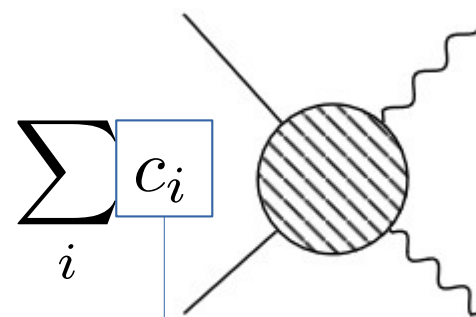
There is a one-to-one correspondence between the massless EFT amplitudes and SMEFT Lagrangian operators

Shadmi, Weiss '18

# The SMEFT

## Standard Model EFT

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \sum_i \sum_{d>4} c_i \Lambda^{4-d} \mathcal{O}^i$$



Wilson Coefficients: Parameterization of New Physics effects

# The SMEFT

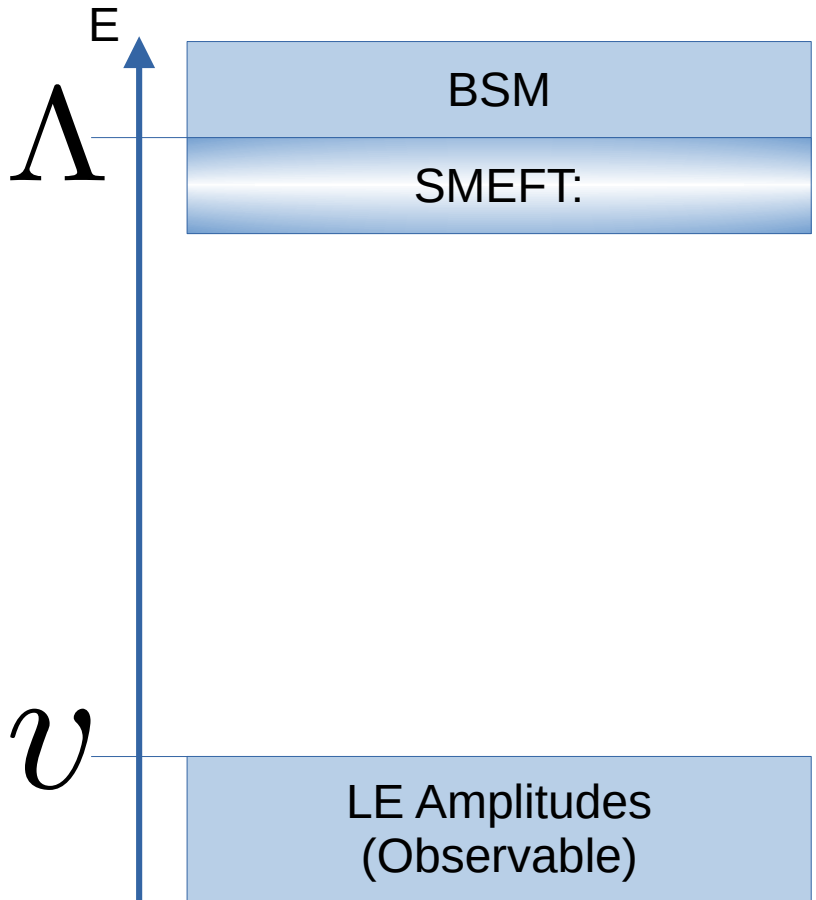
## Standard Model EFT

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{SM} + \sum_i \sum_{d>4} c_i \Lambda^{4-d} \mathcal{O}^i$$

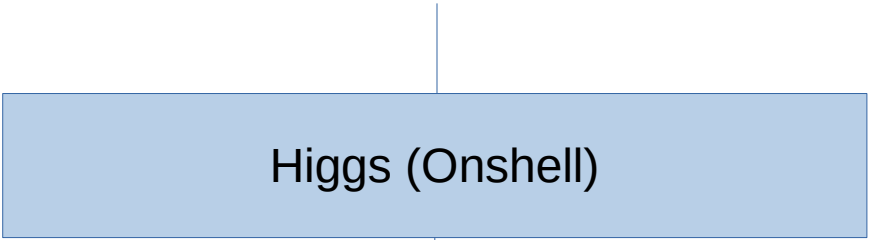

$$\dim [\mathcal{O}] = 8$$

# The Goal:

Compute contact term contributions to 2-to-2 scattering processes with vector-boson final states at dimension-8 in the SMEFT at the **amplitude level**.



$$\mathcal{A}_{\text{SMEFT}} : SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1)$$



$$\mathcal{A}_{LE}$$



# Onshell Methods: Spinor Variables

- The Lorentz Group:  $SO(3,1) \cong SU(2) \times SU(2)$

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- Basic building blocks are 2-component spinors

Spinors!

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Spinors!

$$p^\mu \rightarrow p^{\alpha\dot{\beta}} \equiv p^\mu \sigma_\mu^{\alpha\dot{\beta}}$$

$$|p]^\alpha \langle p|^{\dot{\beta}}$$

Massless: rank(1)

$$|p^I] \langle p_I| \equiv |\mathbf{p}] \langle \mathbf{p}|$$

Massive: rank(2)

- The Lorentz Group:  $SO(3,1) \cong SU(2) \times SU(2)$
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Spinors!

$$|p]^\alpha \langle p|^\dot{\beta}$$

Massless: rank(1)

Massless Case: *helicity weights:*  
*square* = +1  
*angle* = -1

- The Lorentz Group:  $SO(3,1) \cong SU(2) \times SU(2)$
- Basic building blocks are 2-component spinors

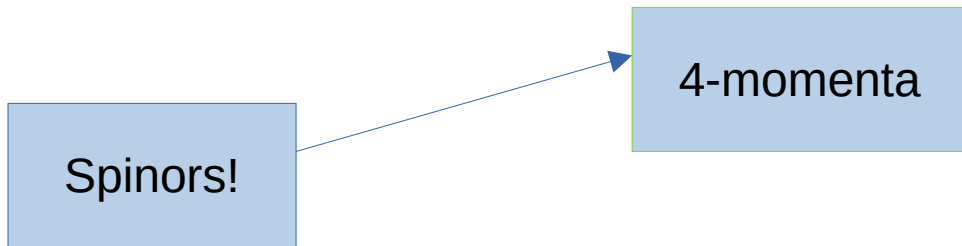
Spinors!

Arkani-Hamed, Huang, Huang '21

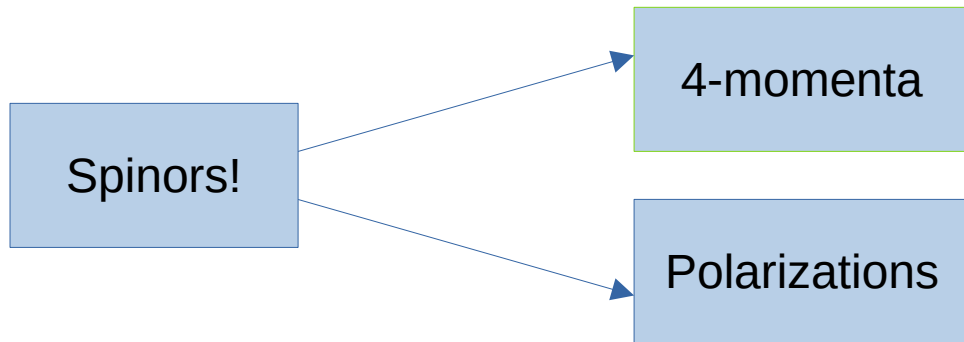
Massive little-group index:  $I \in \{1, 2\}$

$$|p^I] \langle p_I| \equiv |\mathbf{p}] \langle \mathbf{p}| \quad \text{Massive: rank}(2)$$

# Onshell Methods: Amplitude Construction





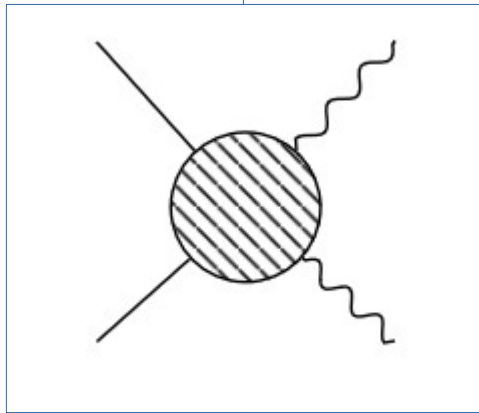


Spinors!

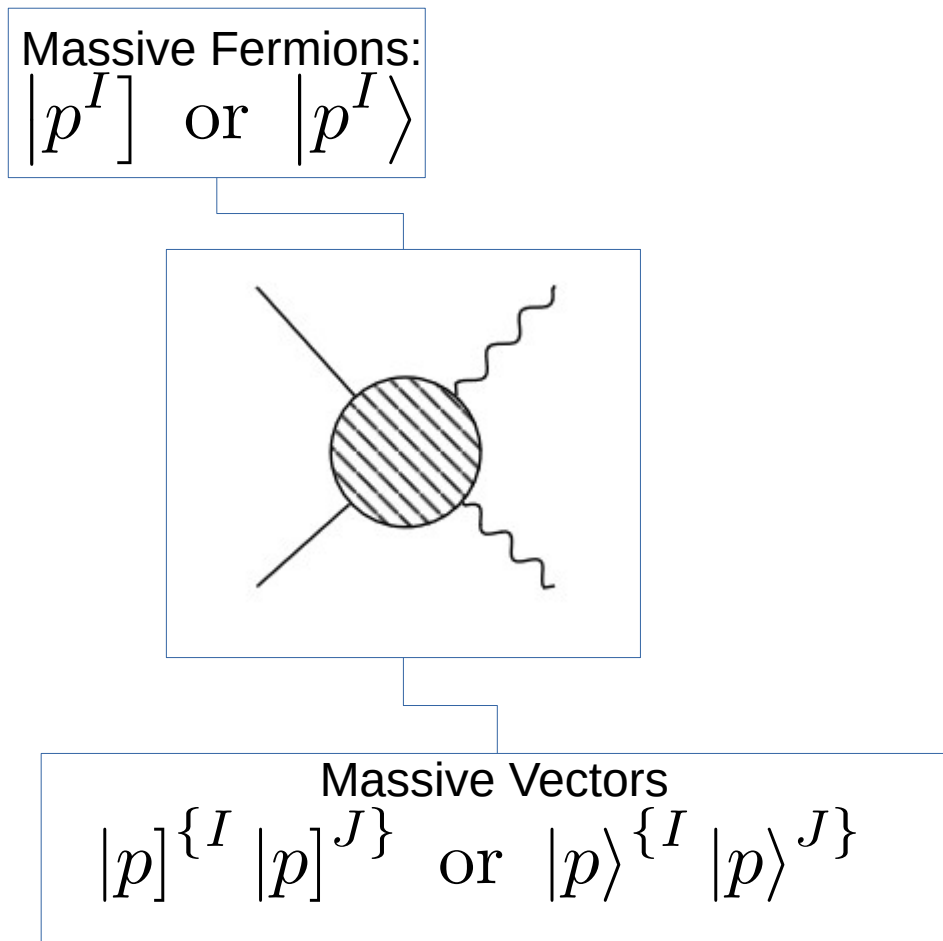
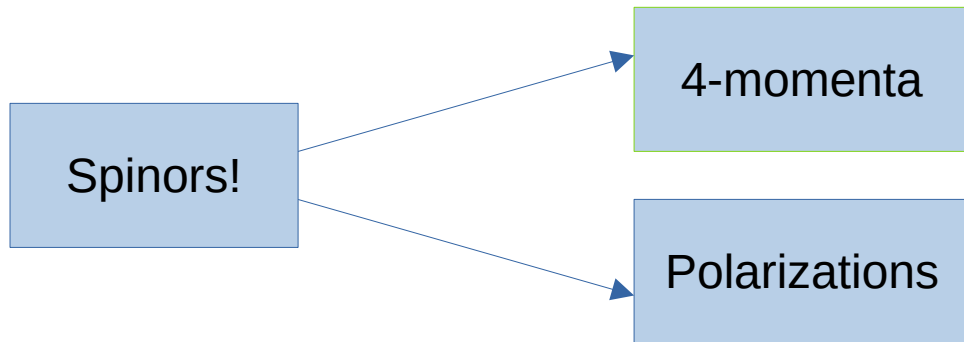
4-momenta

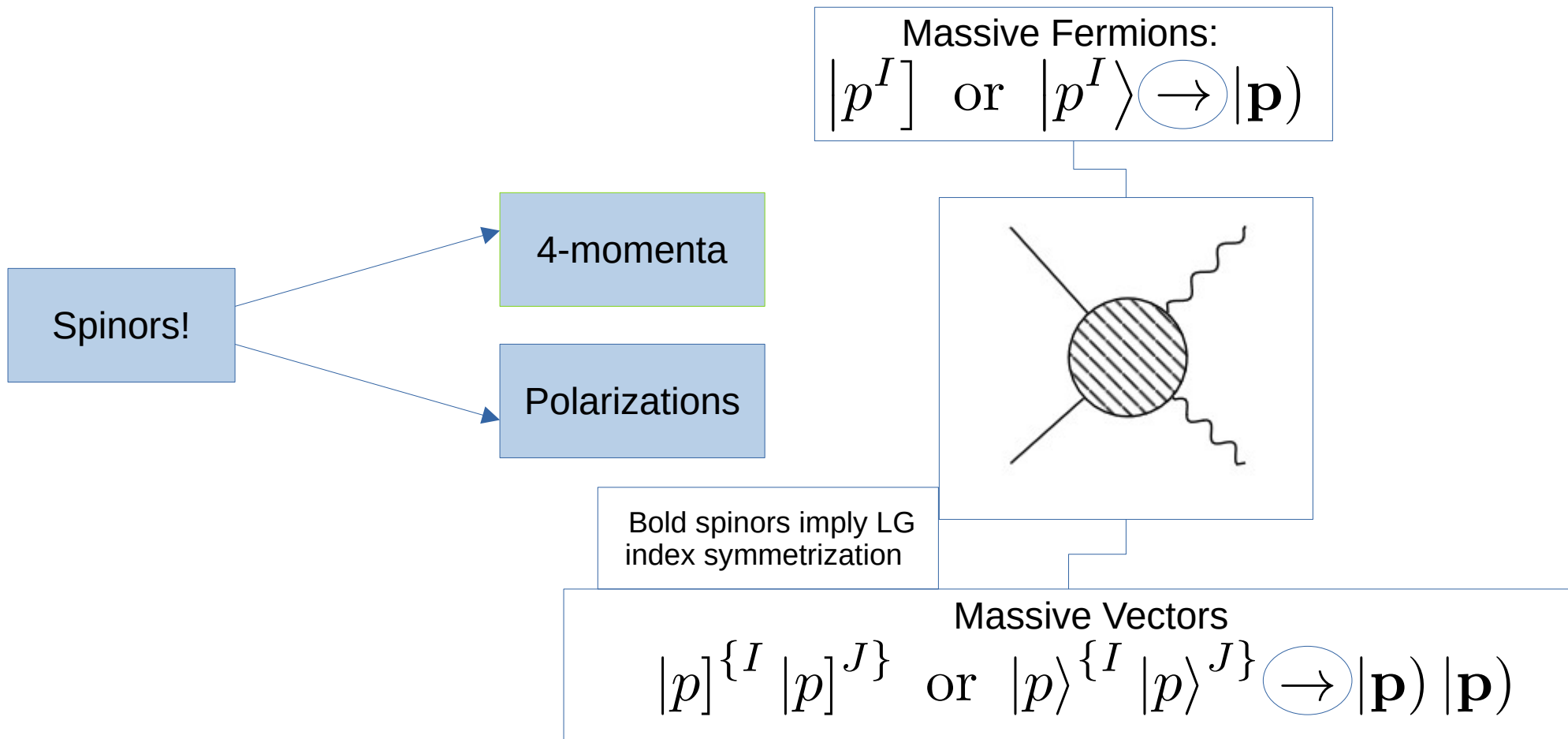
Polarizations

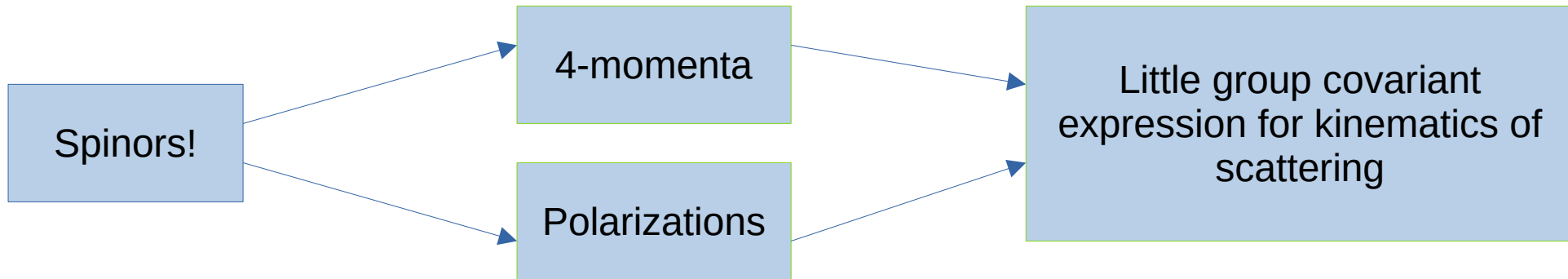
Massless Fermions:  
 $|p]$  or  $|p\rangle$

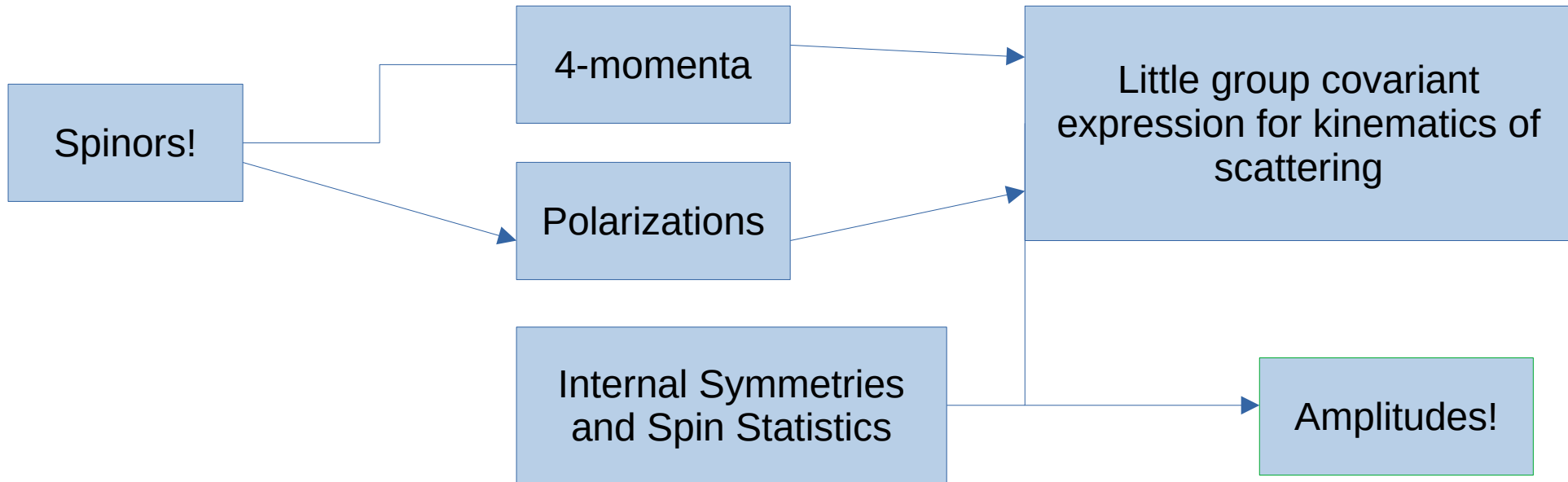


Massless Vectors  
 $|p]$   $|p]$  or  $|p\rangle$   $|p\rangle$

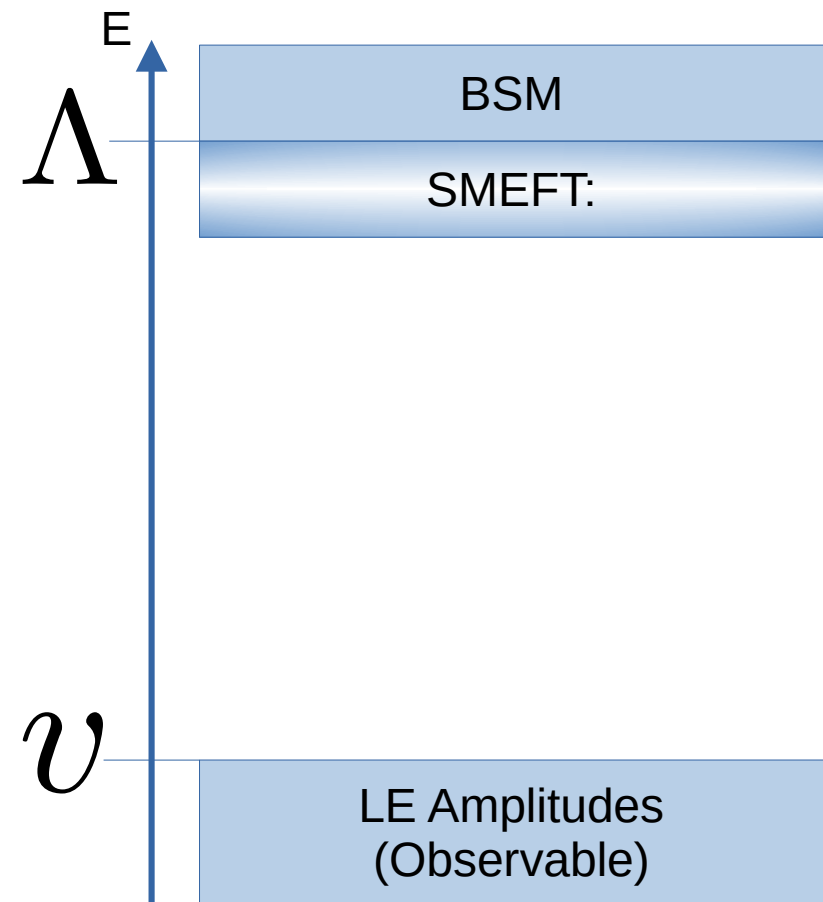






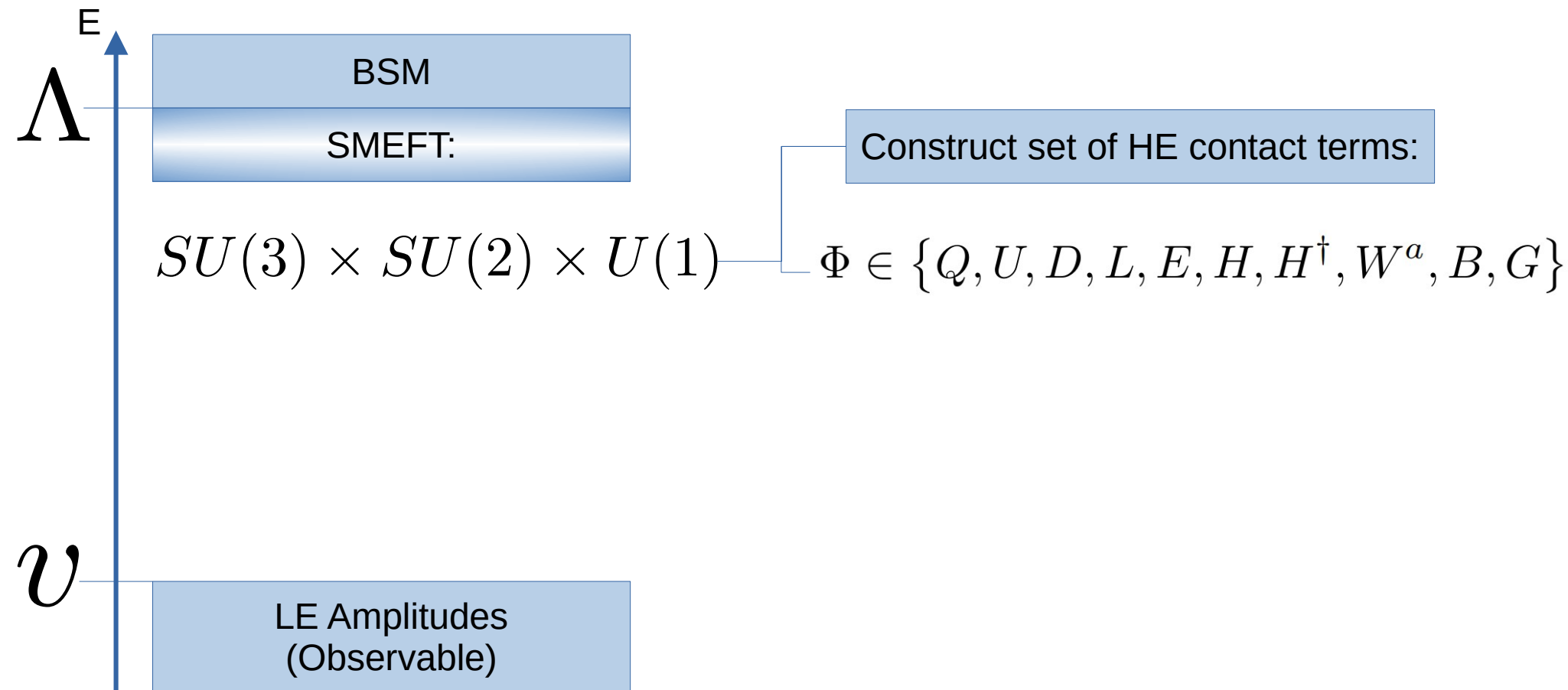


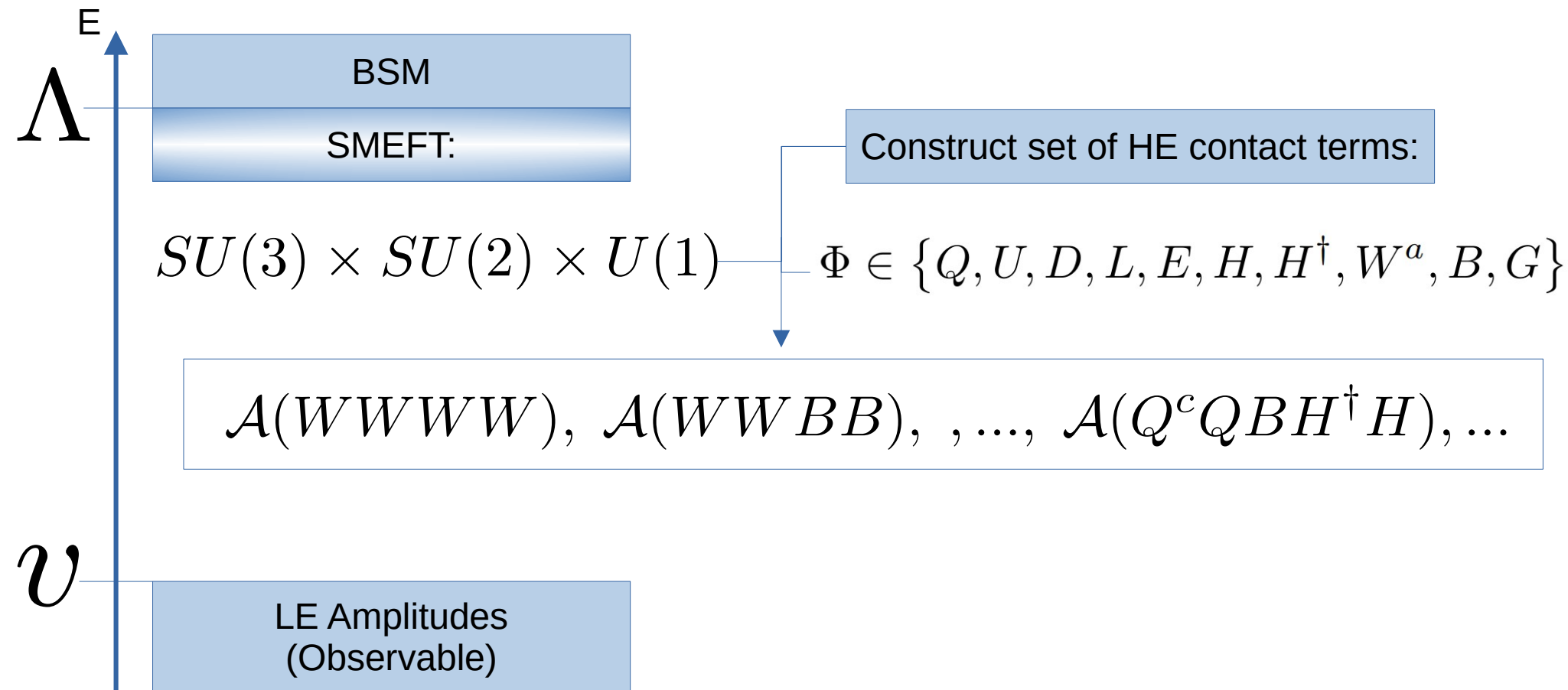
# Construction of LE (Massive) SMEFT Amplitudes

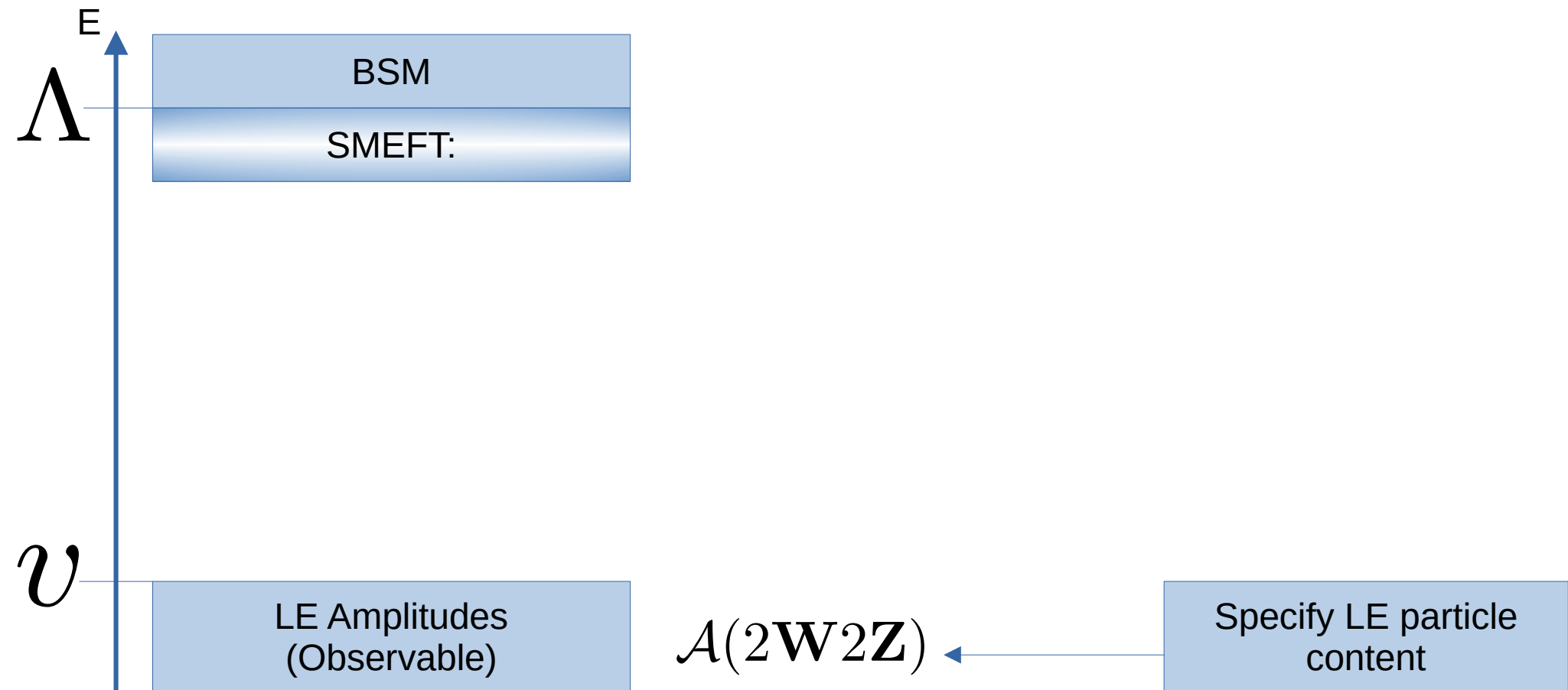


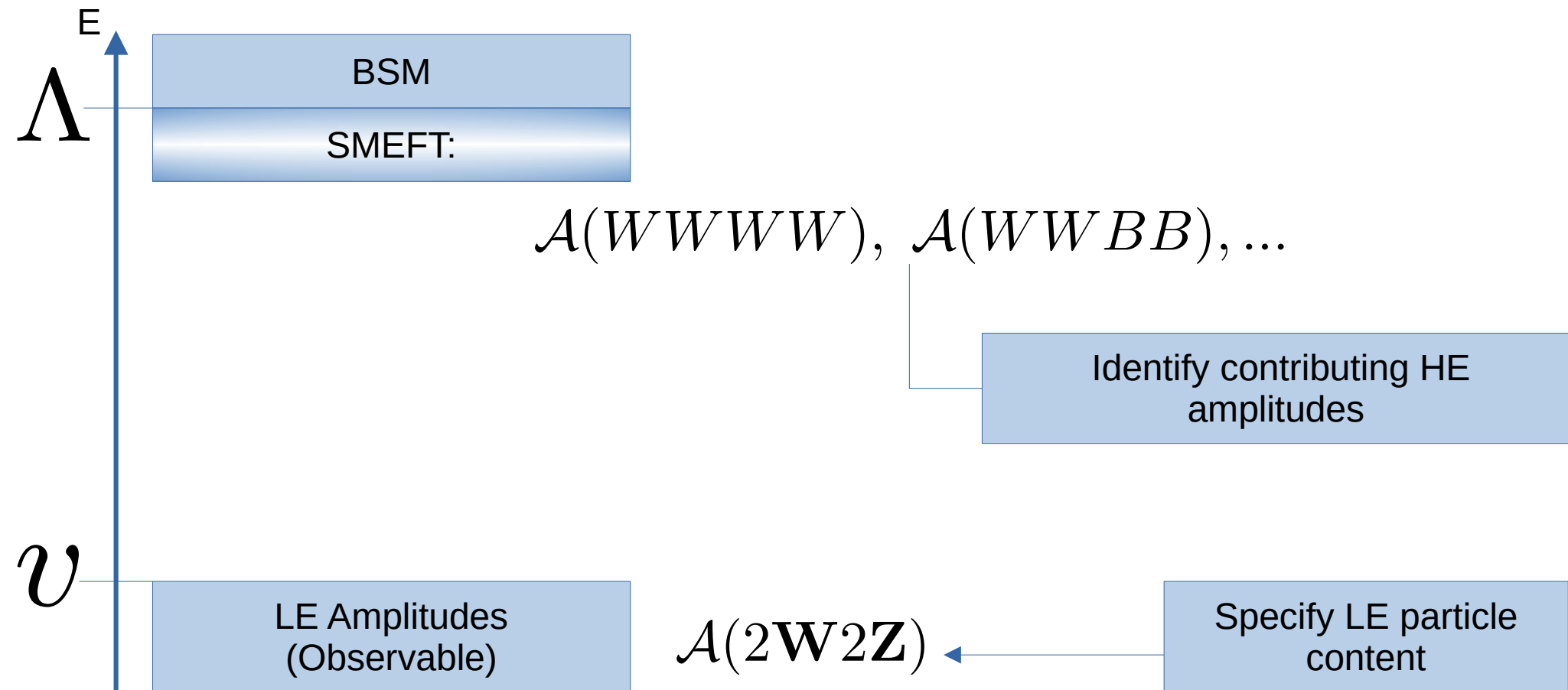
Construct set of HE contact terms:

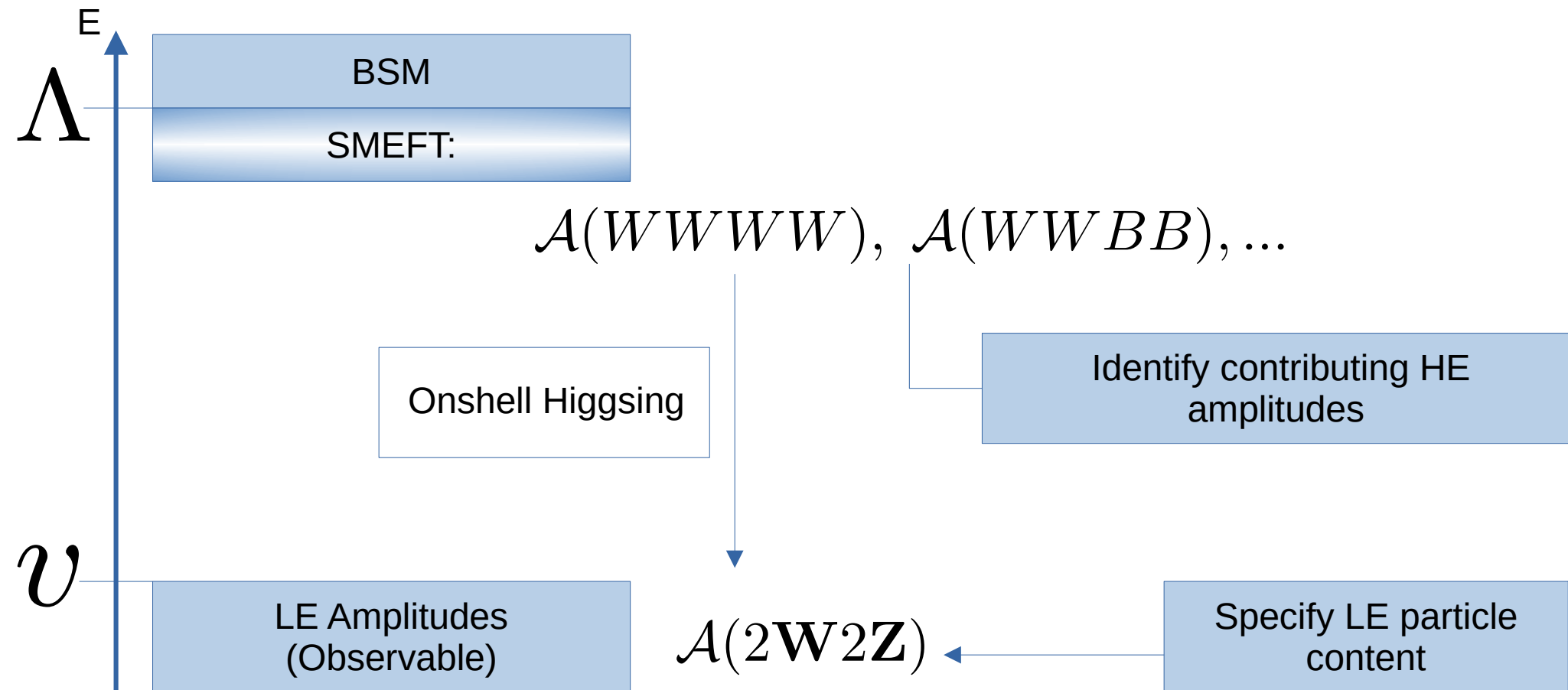




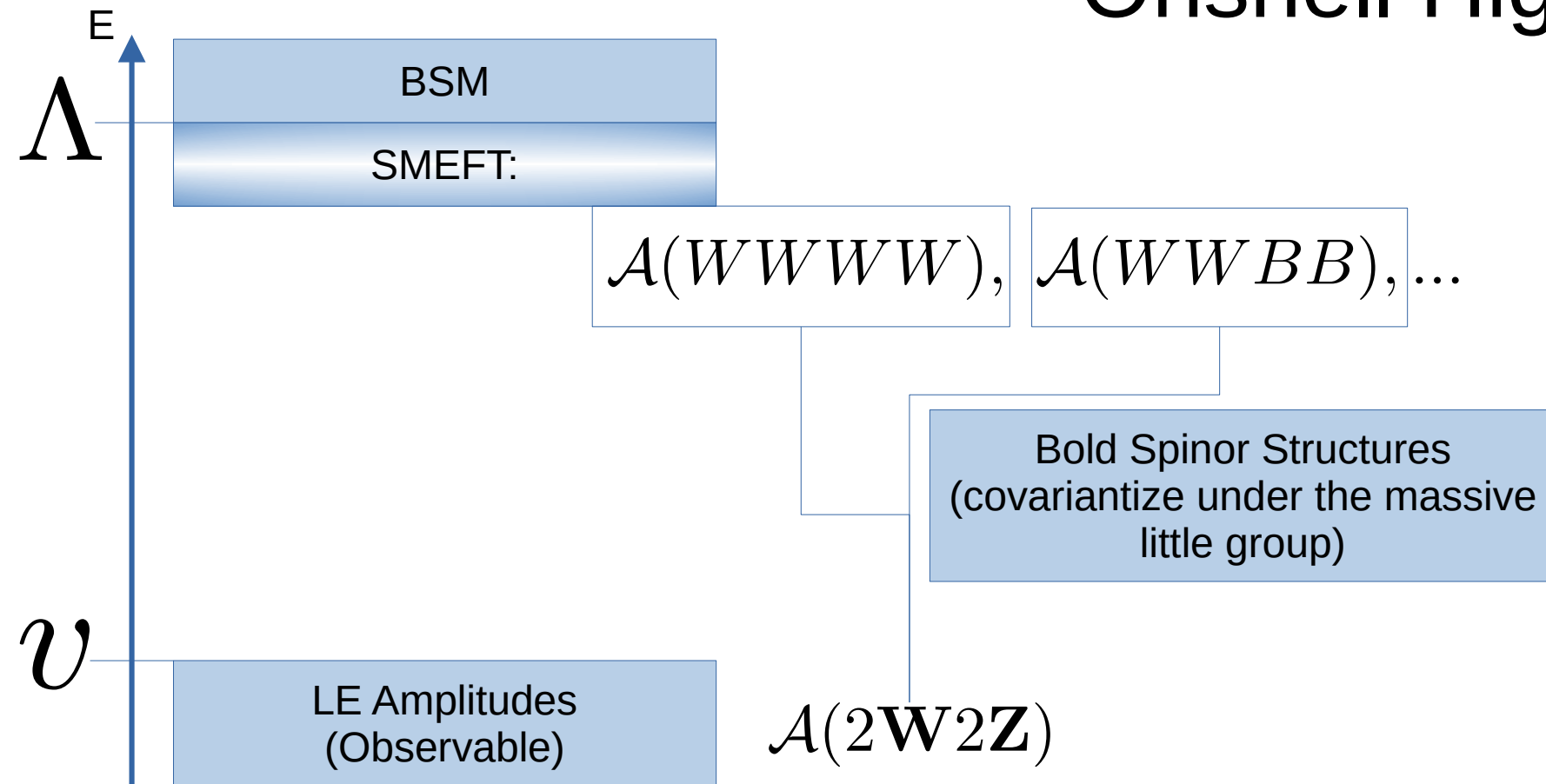




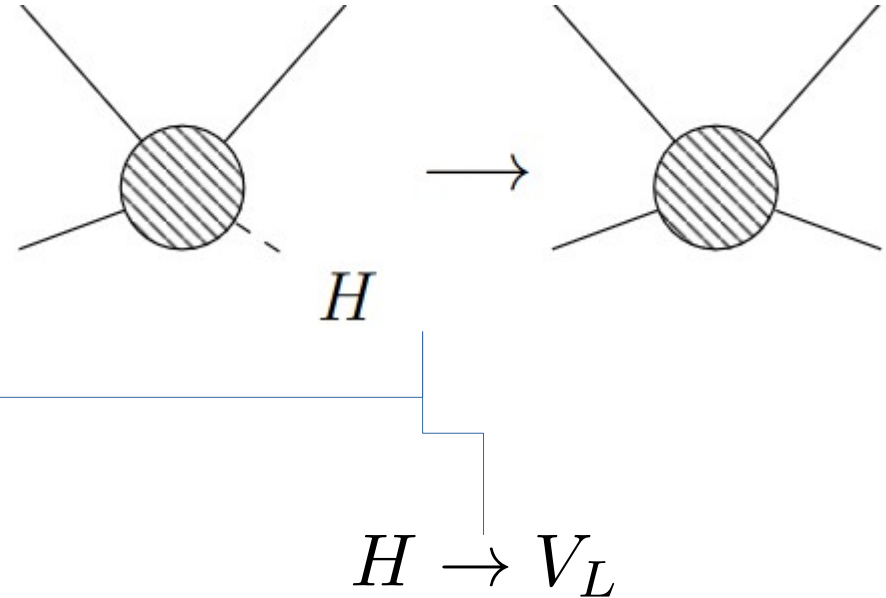
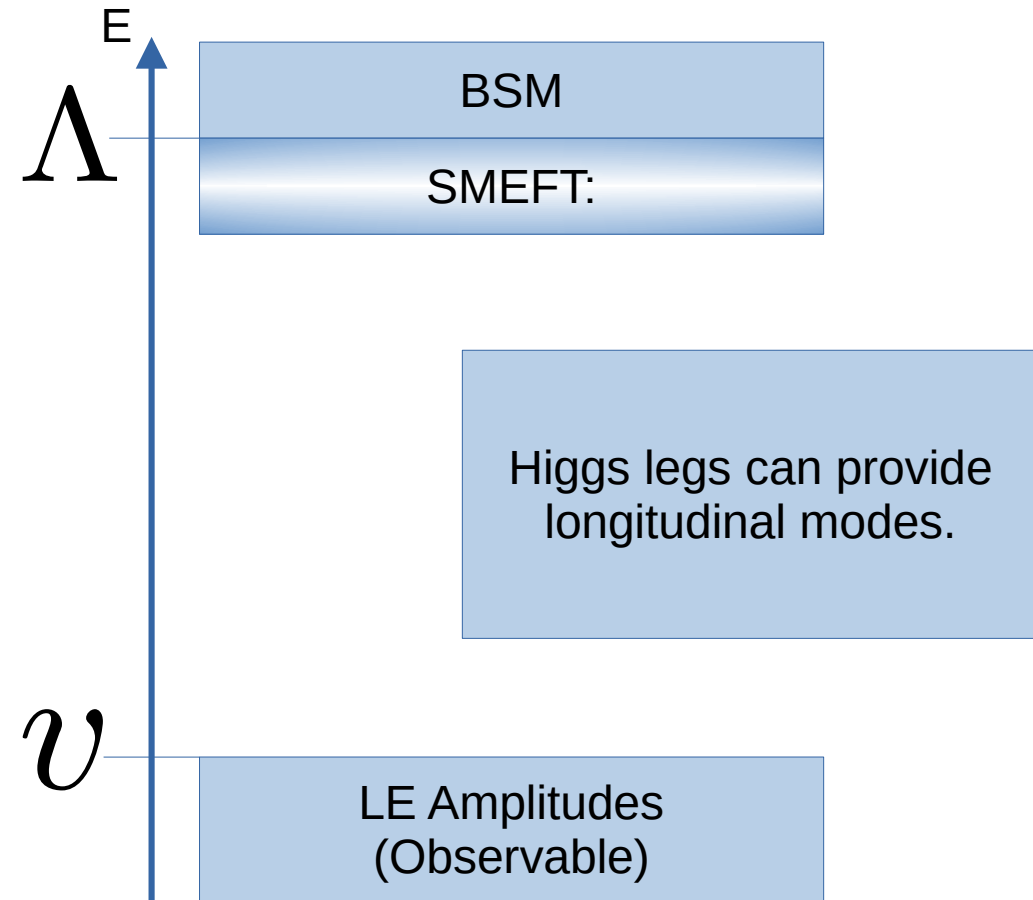




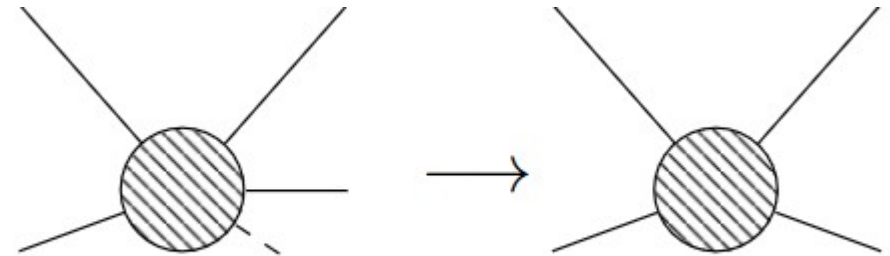
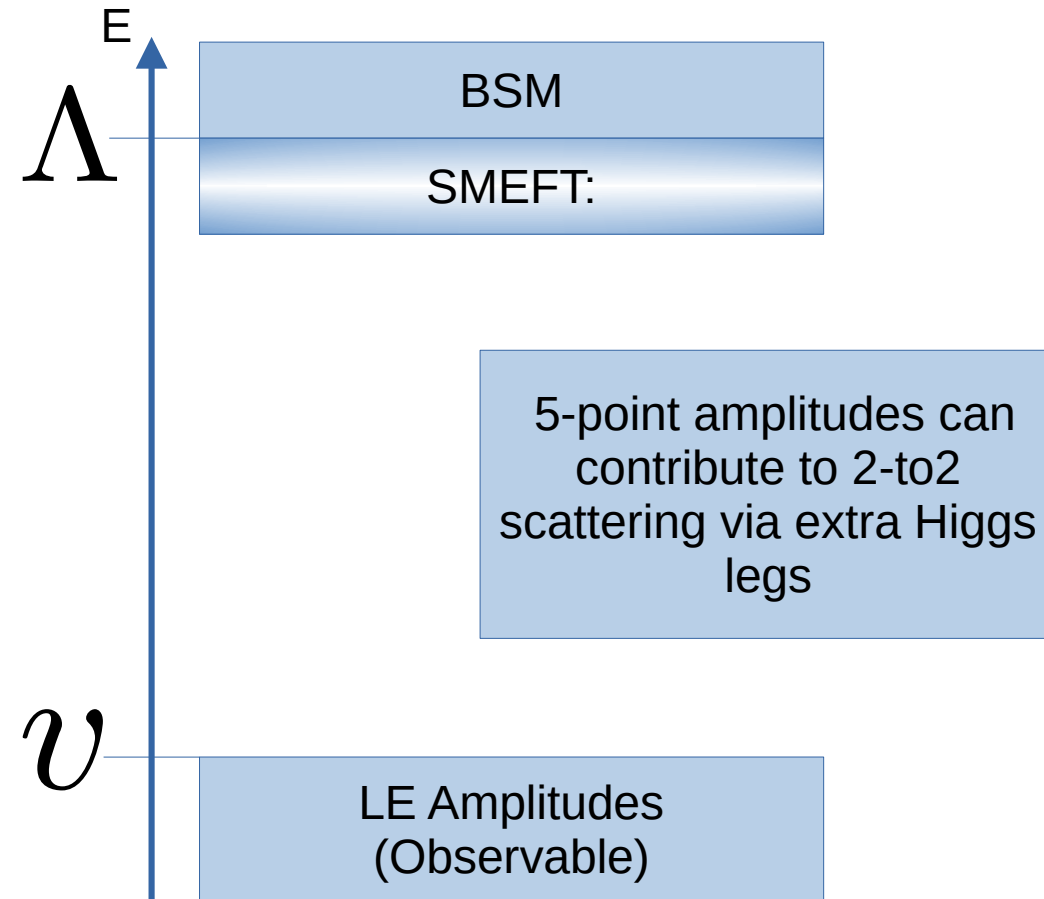
# Onshell Higgsing



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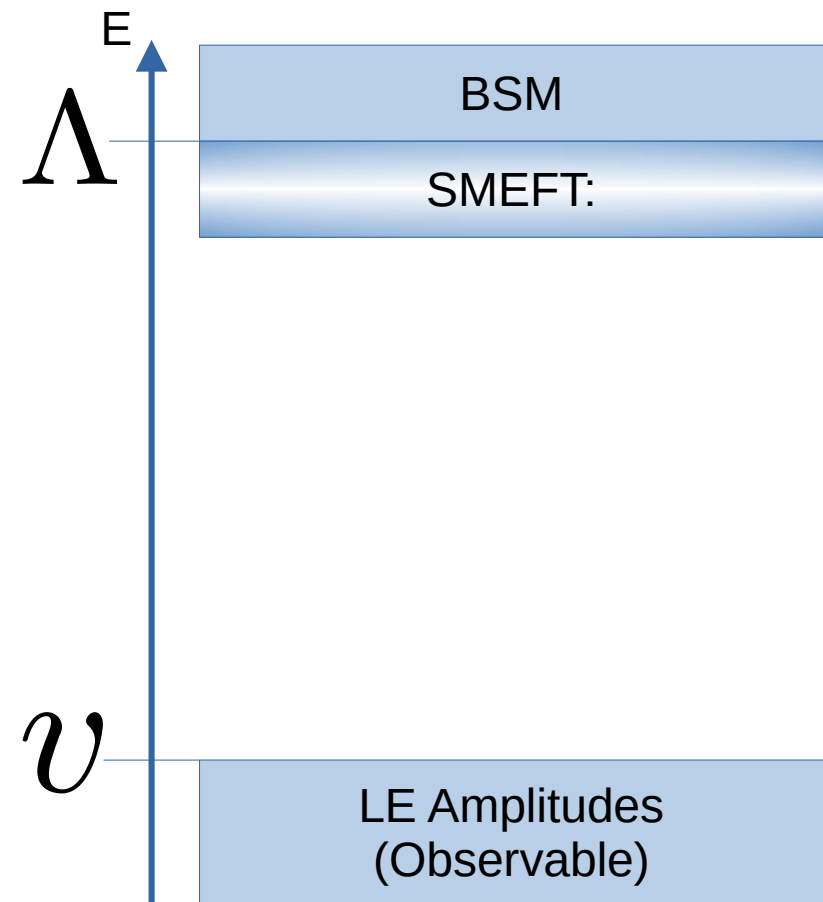
# Onshell Higgsing



$$H \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(h + v)$$

$$p_h \rightarrow 0$$



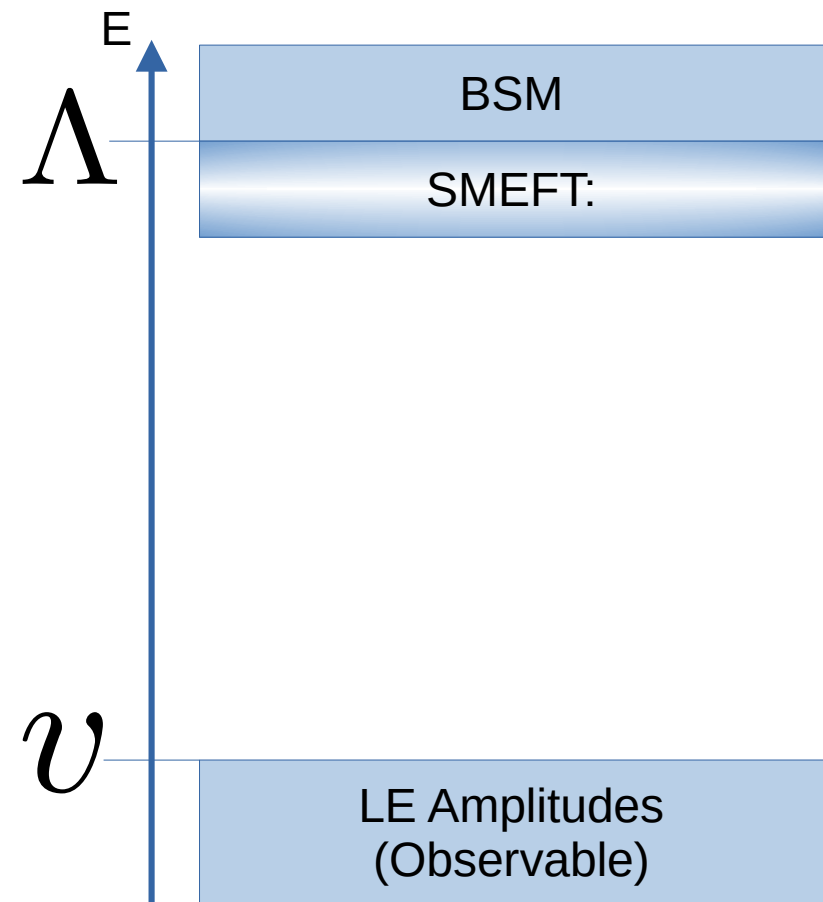


$$\mathcal{A}(Q^c Q B H^\dagger H)$$

5-point amplitudes can contribute to 2-to2 scattering via extra Higgs legs

Higgs legs can provide longitudinal modes.

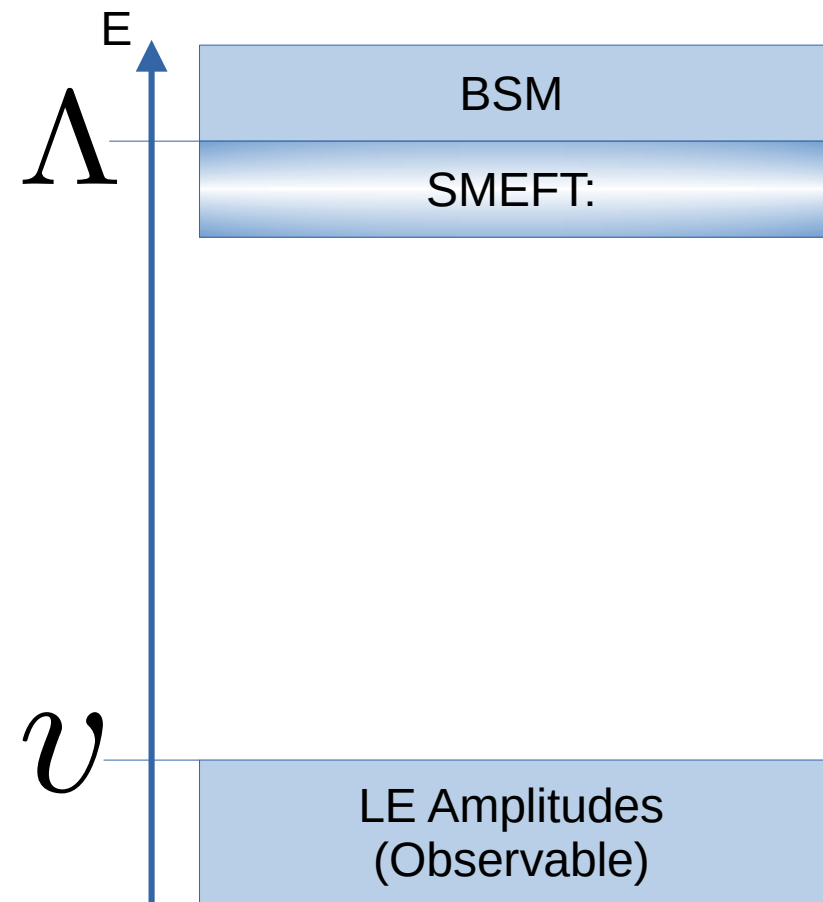
$$\mathcal{A}(u^c d 2Z) \cdot v$$



$$\mathcal{A}(Q^c Q B H^\dagger H)$$

One of the two Higgs legs maps to the longitudinal mode of the Z

$$\mathcal{A}(u^c d 2Z) \cdot v$$



$$\mathcal{A}(Q^c Q B H^\dagger H)$$

The remaining Higgs leg is “soft,” incurs power of the VeV

$$\mathcal{A}(u^c d 2Z) \cdot v$$

# Results

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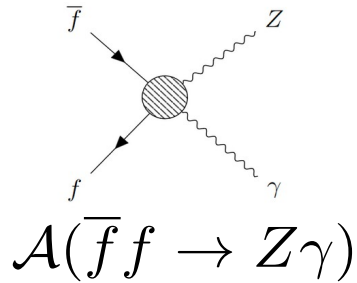
- Full parameterization of LE (massive)  $VVVV$  and  $ffVV$  contact term amplitudes generated by dim-8 SMEFT

# Results

- Full parameterization of LE (massive)  $VVVV$  and  $ffVV$  contact term amplitudes generated by dim-8 SMEFT
- Leading order (no dim=6 contributions for these amplitudes)

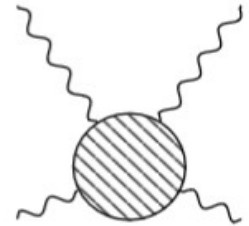
Liu, Ma, Shadmi, Waterbury '23

- Selection rules on kinematic configurations of observable amplitudes



$$[34]^2 (\langle 231 \rangle - \langle 241 \rangle)$$

$$[12]^2 [34] \langle 34 \rangle$$



$$\mathcal{A}(WW \rightarrow WW)$$

- SU(2) Symmetry Breaking pattern in the amplitudes, e.g:

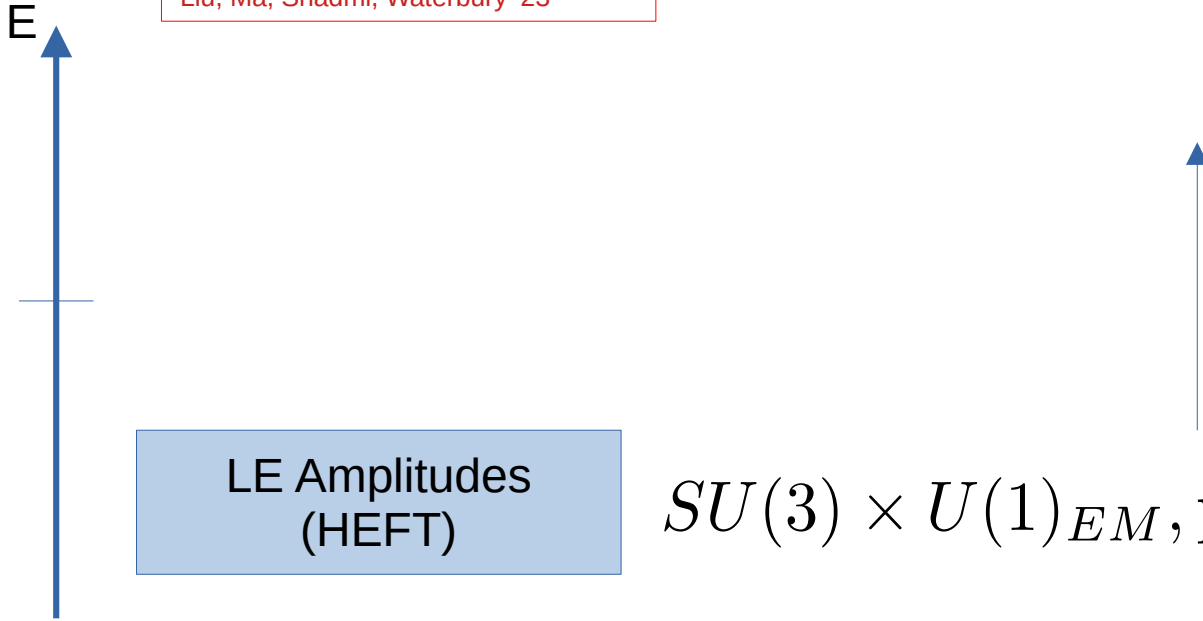
| Structure    | $\bar{u}uW^+W^-$  | $\bar{d}dW^+W^-$                      |
|--------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| [13][34]⟨42⟩ | $\frac{v}{\sqrt{2}}(c_2^{Q^c Q W+2H} + c_3^{Q^c Q W+2H})$ | $-\frac{v}{\sqrt{2}}c_2^{Q^c Q W+2H}$ |

$$Q \equiv \begin{pmatrix} u \\ d \end{pmatrix}$$



- Distinguish the SMEFT from bottom-up amplitude construction (HEFT):

Shadmi, Weiss '18  
 Durieux, Kitahara, Shadmi, Weiss '19  
 Liu, Ma, Shadmi, Waterbury '23



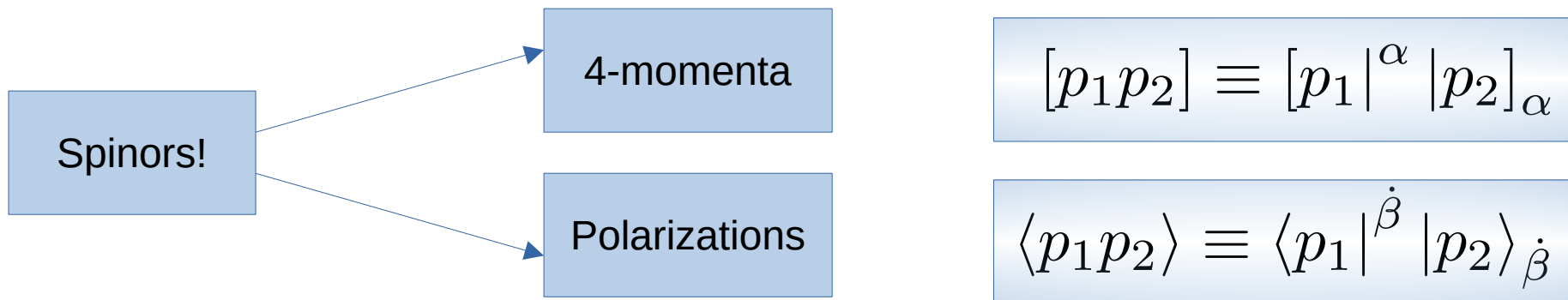
$$SU(3) \times U(1)_{EM}, \text{ physical particles} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_{LE}$$

# Summary

- Derived LE dim=8 SMEFT amplitudes using onshell Higgsing:
  - Model independent parameterization of low energy observables
  - Complete basis for specific processes: no redundancies!
  - Identification of theoretically interesting observables for study at colliders.

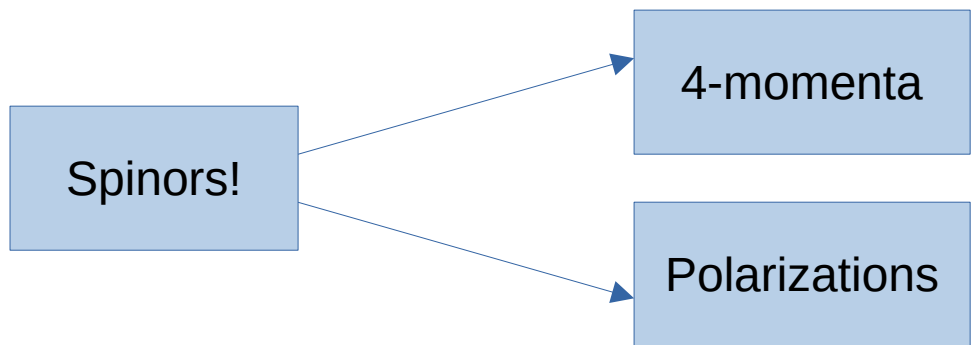
# Backup Slides

# Massless Onshell Amplitude Construction



Contraction of spinors gives little-group covariant expressions

# Massless Onshell Amplitude Construction



$$[\mathbf{p}q][\mathbf{p}r] \equiv \begin{cases} [p_1^I q] [p_1^J r] & I = J \\ [p_1^I q] [p_1^J r] + [p_1^J q] [p_1^I r] & I \neq J \end{cases}$$

For Vectors, symmetrization over massive little-group indices

# Onshell Methods

In the Lagrangian formalism, operators must be hermitian, e.g.:

$$\mathcal{O}_1 \equiv c_1 \bar{u} \gamma^\nu u H^\dagger \vec{D}^\mu H B_{\mu\nu}$$

$c_1 = c_1^* \Rightarrow c_1 \in \mathbb{R}$

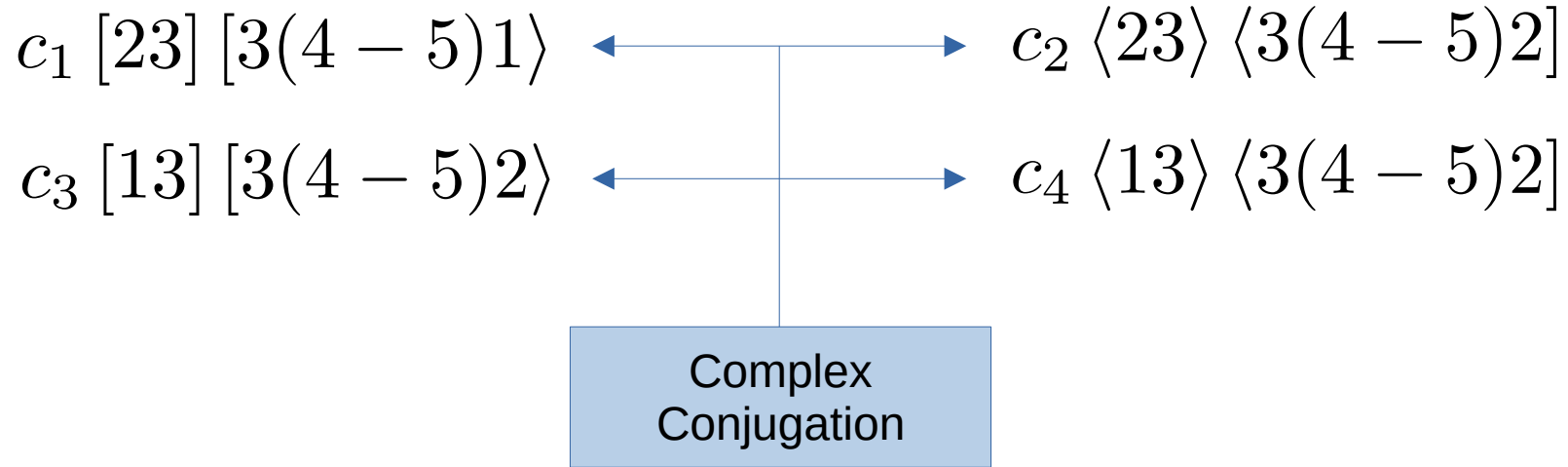
Or come with hermitian conjugates, e.g.:

$$\mathcal{O}_2 \equiv c_2 \bar{u} \gamma^\nu d \tilde{H}^\dagger \vec{D}^\mu H B_{\mu\nu} + c_3 \bar{d} \gamma^\nu u H^\dagger \vec{D}^\mu \tilde{H} B_{\mu\nu}$$

$c_3 = c_2^* \Rightarrow c_2 \in \mathbb{C}$

# Onshell Methods

This hermiticity is not built into amplitude construction, so must be imposed:

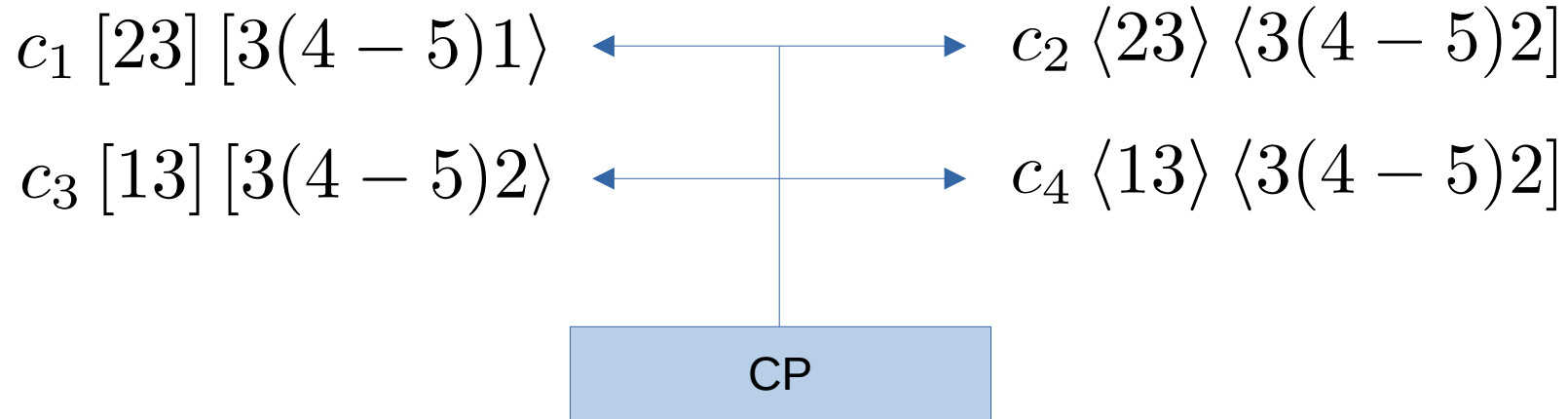


$$\Rightarrow c_2 = c_1^*, \quad c_4 = c_3^*$$

4 complex coefficient  $\rightarrow$  2 complex coefficients. This counting applies to all amplitudes.

# Onshell Methods

These amplitudes are also related by CP transformations:



$$\Rightarrow c_2 = c_1, \quad c_4 = c_3$$

Demanding CP invariance: 2 complex coefficients  $\rightarrow$  two real coefficients