

# Measuring the neutrino mass

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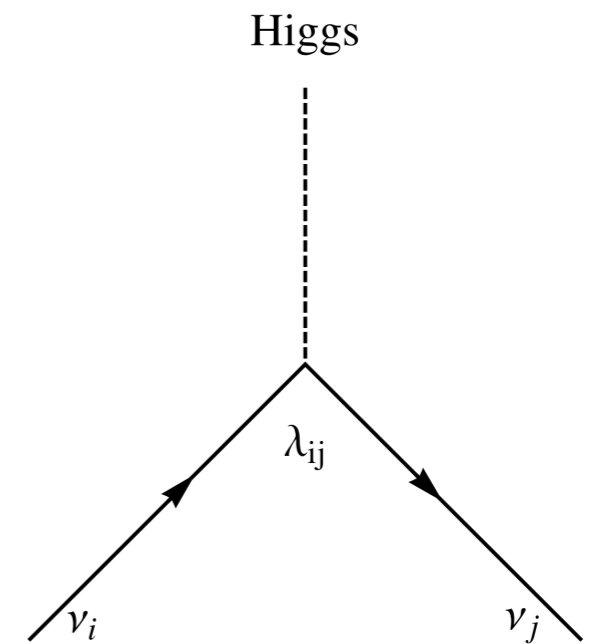
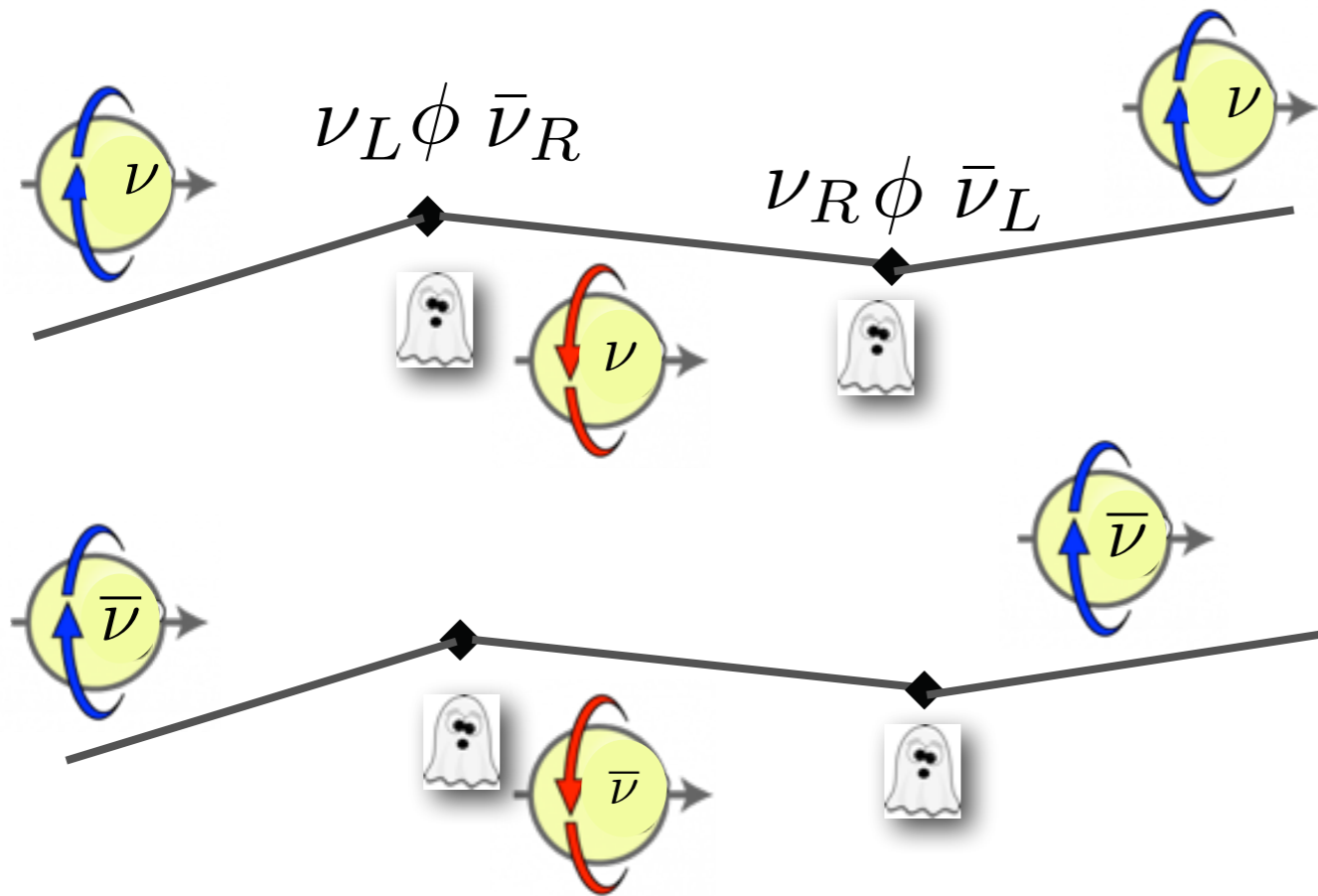
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**IFIC (CSIC & UV)**

**St. Andrews, INSS, 2014**  
**Lecture 2**



**$\beta\beta 0\nu$  decays**

# Dirac neutrinos



$$-\mathcal{L}_{\text{Dirac}} = \bar{\nu}_L m_\nu \nu_R + h.c.$$

$$m_\nu = \lambda_\nu v$$

$$\nu = \begin{array}{c} \text{blue arrow} \\ \nu \\ \text{red arrow} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{red arrow} \\ \nu \\ \text{blue arrow} \end{array} \quad \nu = \nu_L + \nu_R$$

$$\bar{\nu} = \begin{array}{c} \text{blue arrow} \\ \bar{\nu} \\ \text{red arrow} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{red arrow} \\ \bar{\nu} \\ \text{blue arrow} \end{array} \quad \nu^C = (\nu_L)^C + (\nu_R)^C$$

# Majorana neutrinos

$$\nu = \text{left-handed } \nu + \text{right-handed } \nu$$

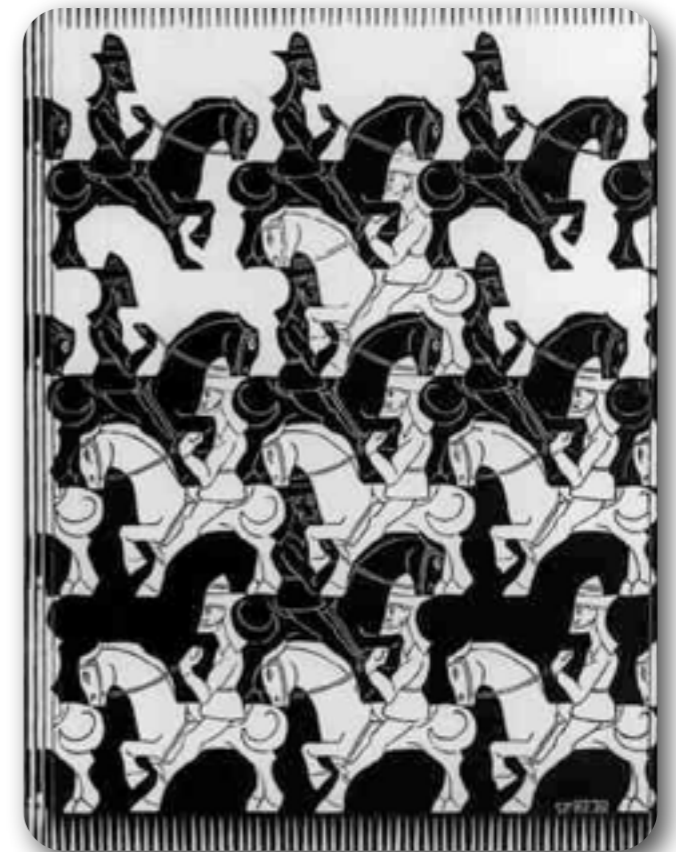
~~$\nu = \nu_L + \nu_R$~~

$$\bar{\nu} = \text{left-handed } \bar{\nu} + \text{right-handed } \bar{\nu}$$

~~$\nu^C = (\nu_L)^C + (\nu_R)^C$~~

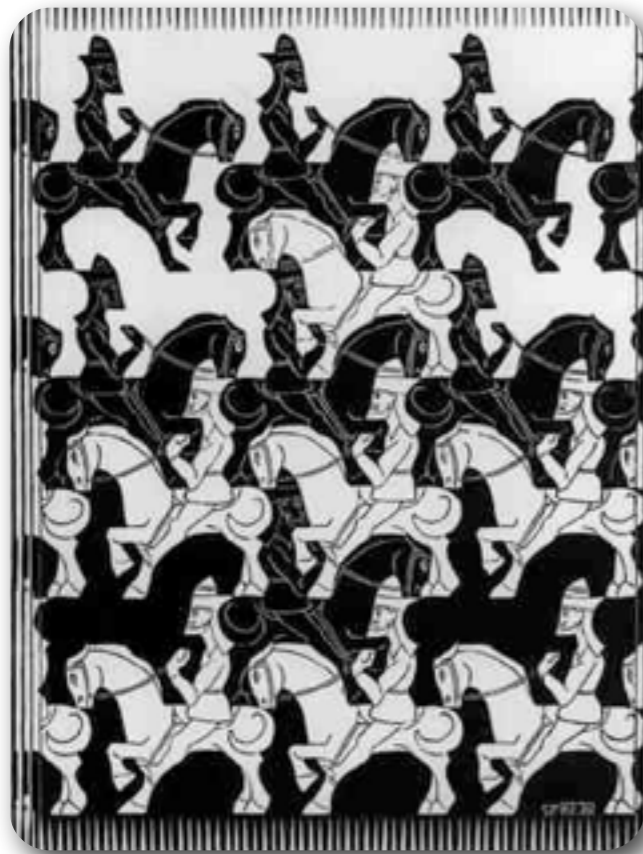
$$\nu = \nu_L + \nu_L^C \quad \nu^C = \nu$$

$$\nu = \bar{\nu}$$



# Experimental approach

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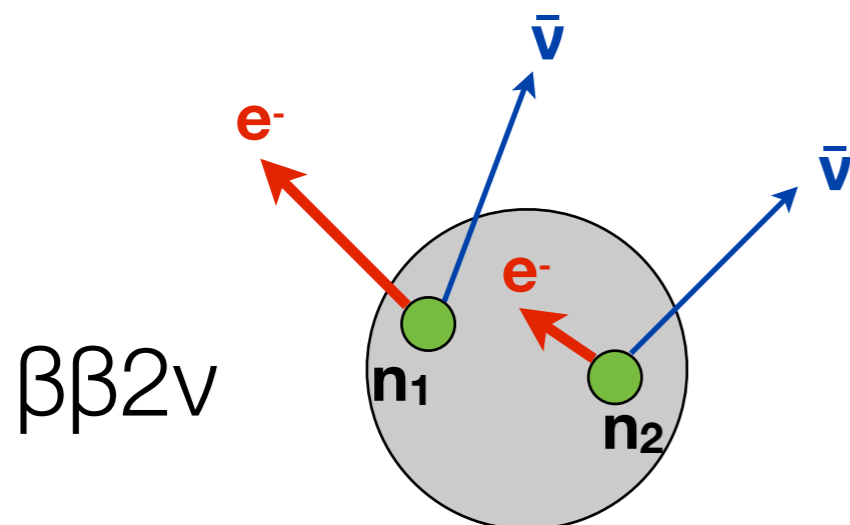
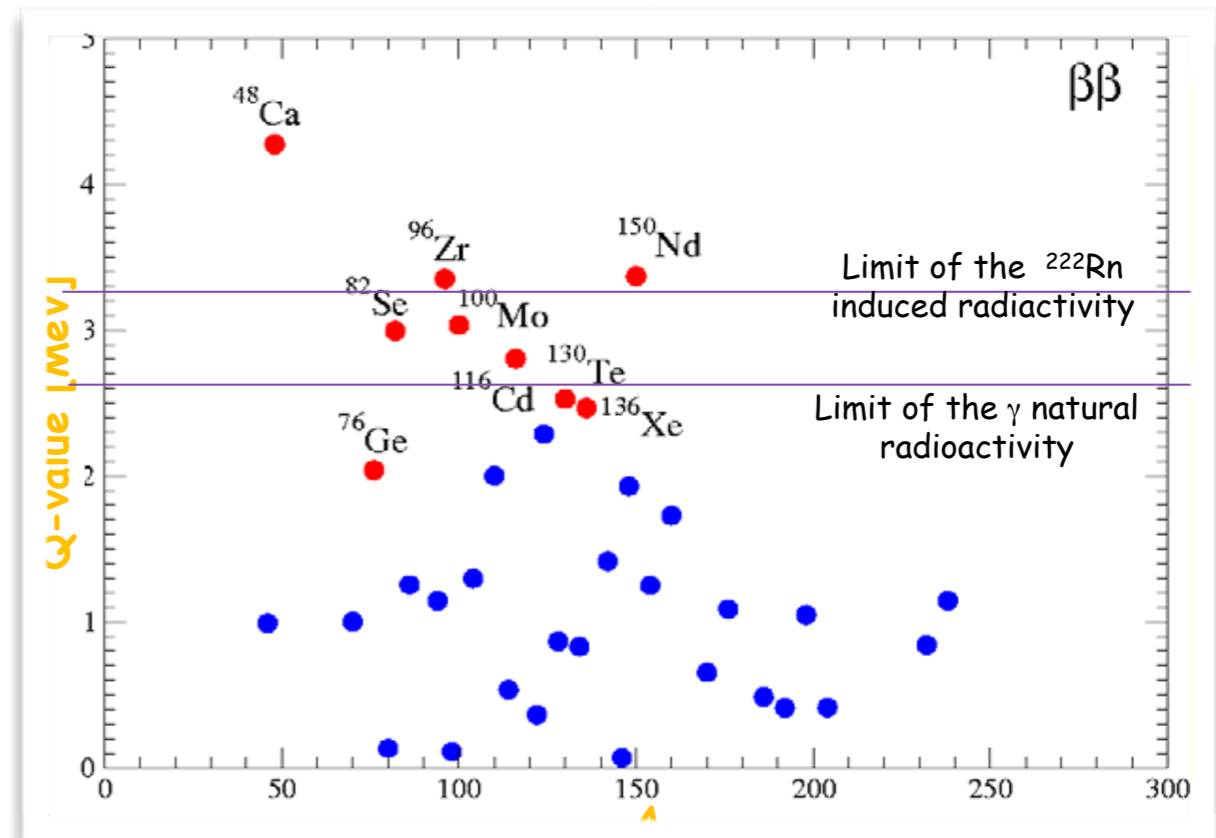
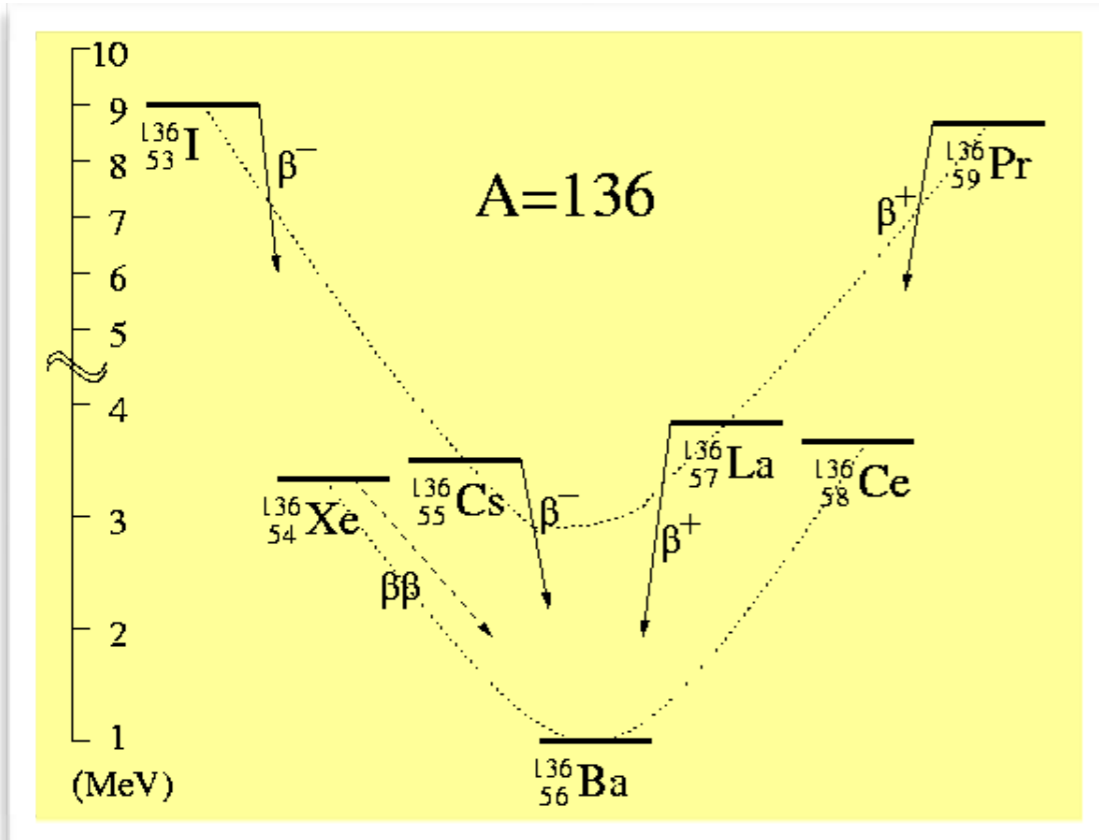


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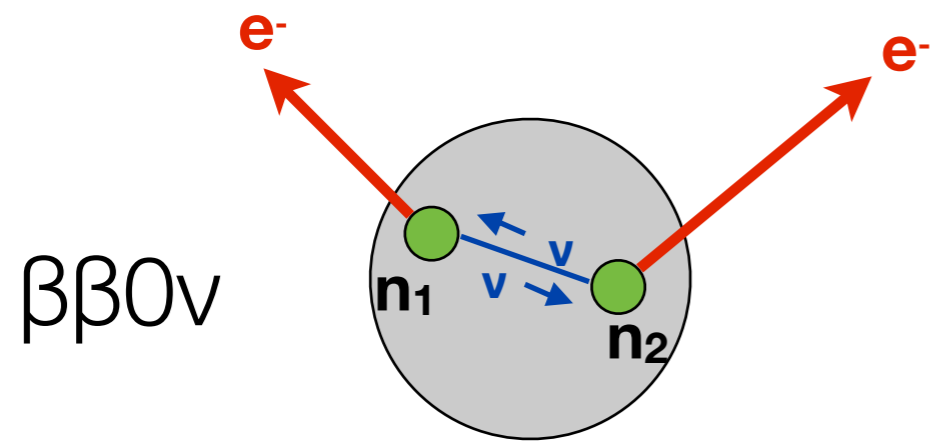
# Double beta decay



## Two neutrino mode

- Observed in several nuclei
- $10^{19}$ - $10^{21}$  yr half-lives
- Standard Model allowed

# Neutrinoless double beta decay

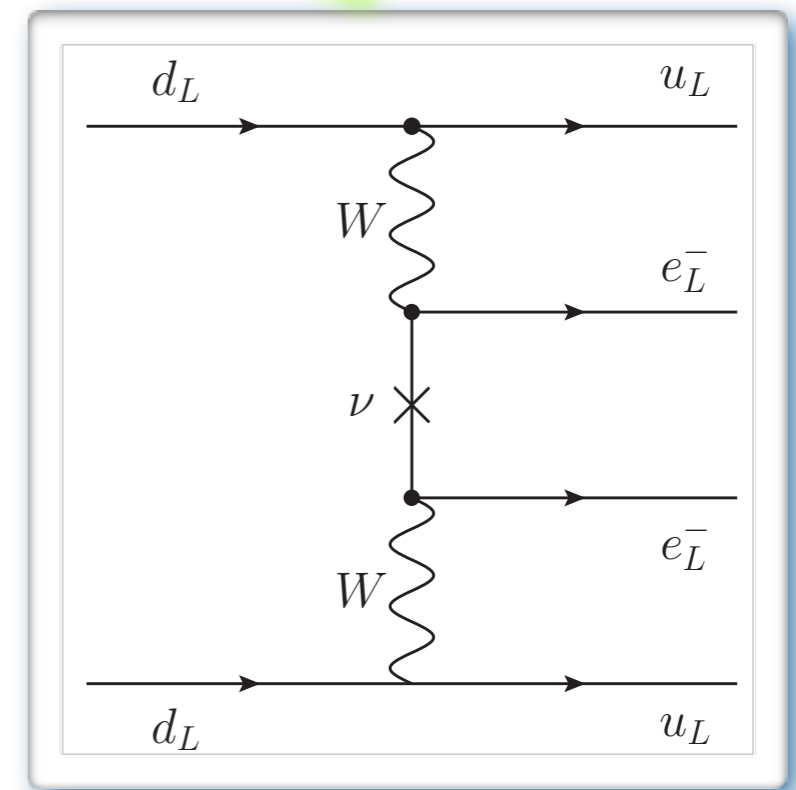
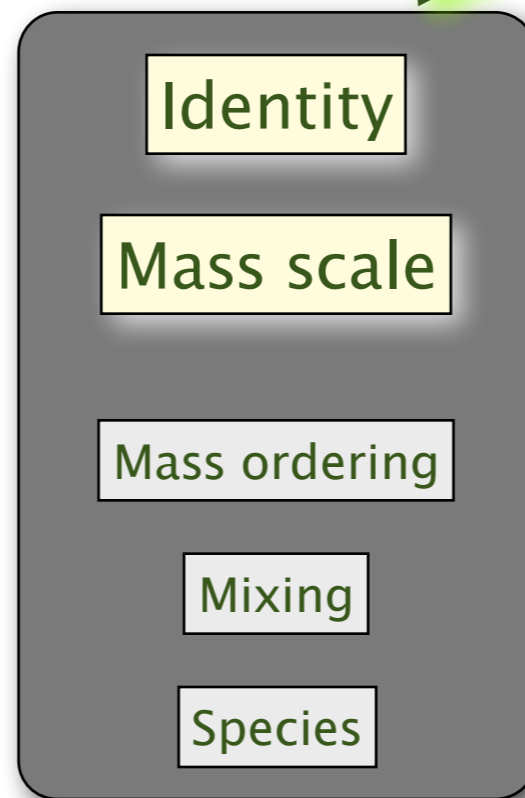


## Neutrinoless mode

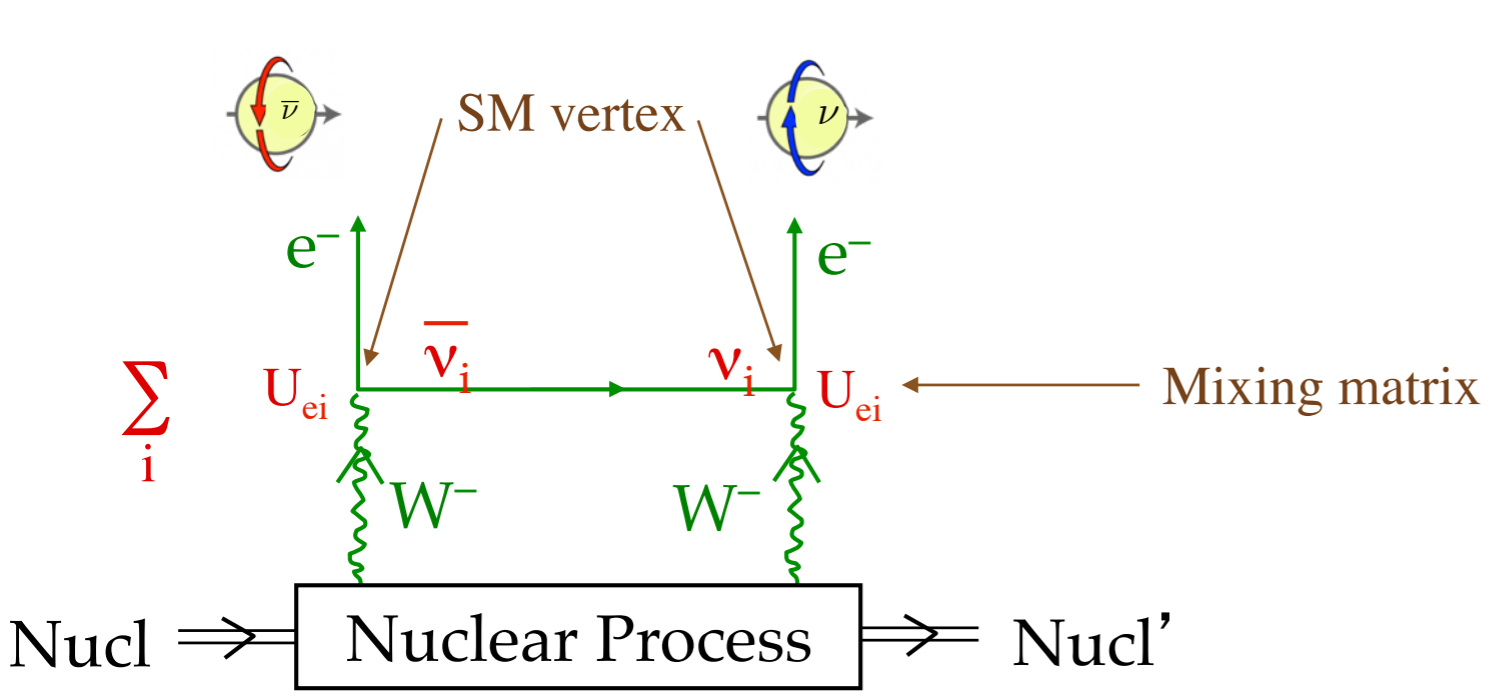
- Requires Majorana neutrinos
- Not observed yet in Nature
- $>10^{25}$  yr half-lives
- Would signal Beyond-SM physics

• See Boris Kayser lectures

Lepton number violating process  
implying massive Majorana neutrinos

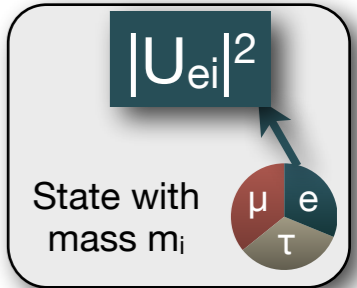


# Neutrinoless double beta decay and the neutrino mass

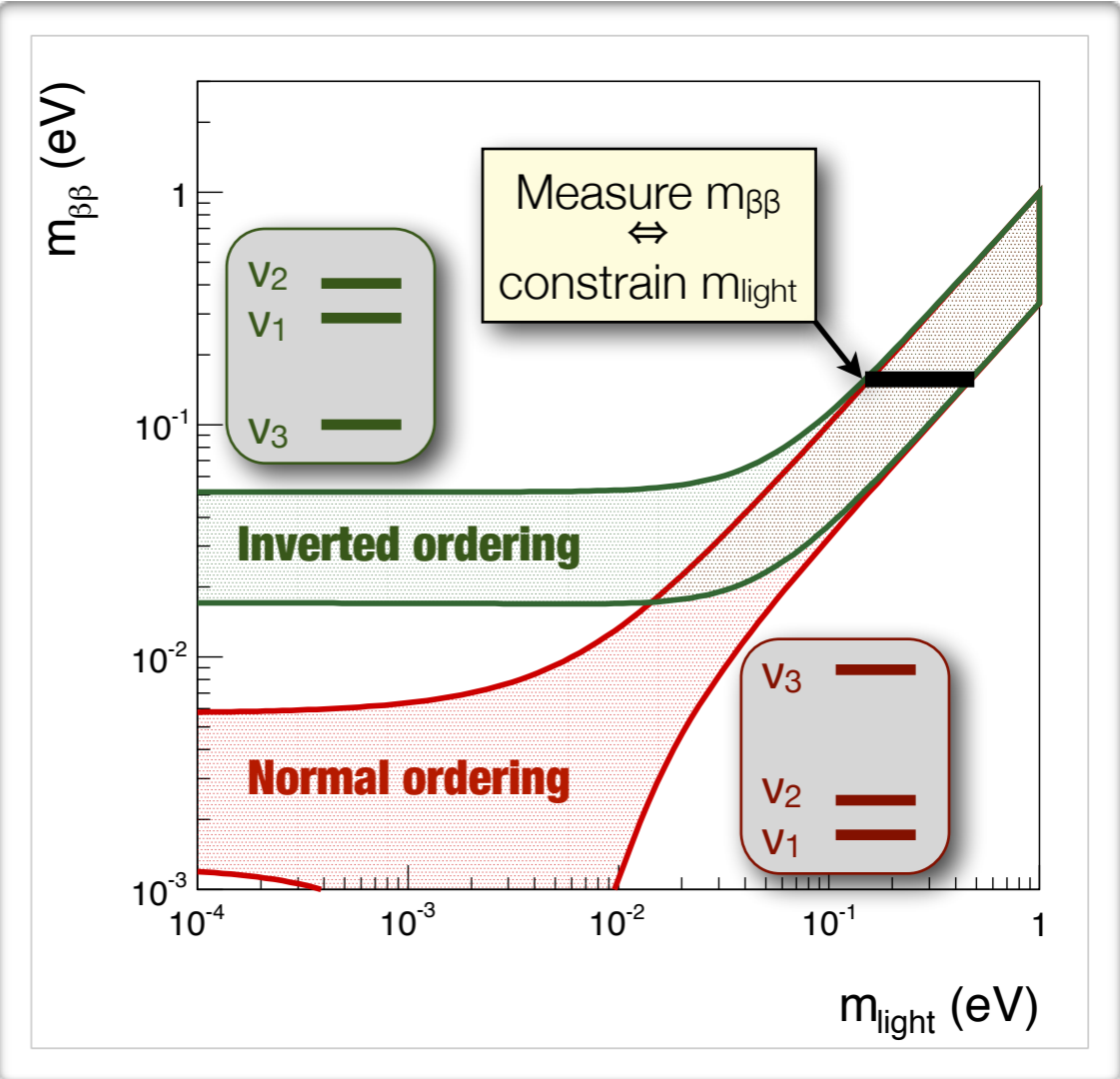


$(\text{Rate})_{\beta\beta 0\nu} \propto m_{\beta\beta}^2$

Majorana  $\nu$  mass:  
 $m_{\beta\beta} \equiv \left| \sum_i m_i U_{ei}^2 \right|$



$\longrightarrow$  helicity flip  $\propto \frac{m_i}{E}$   
 $A \propto m_i$  for each  $\nu_i$

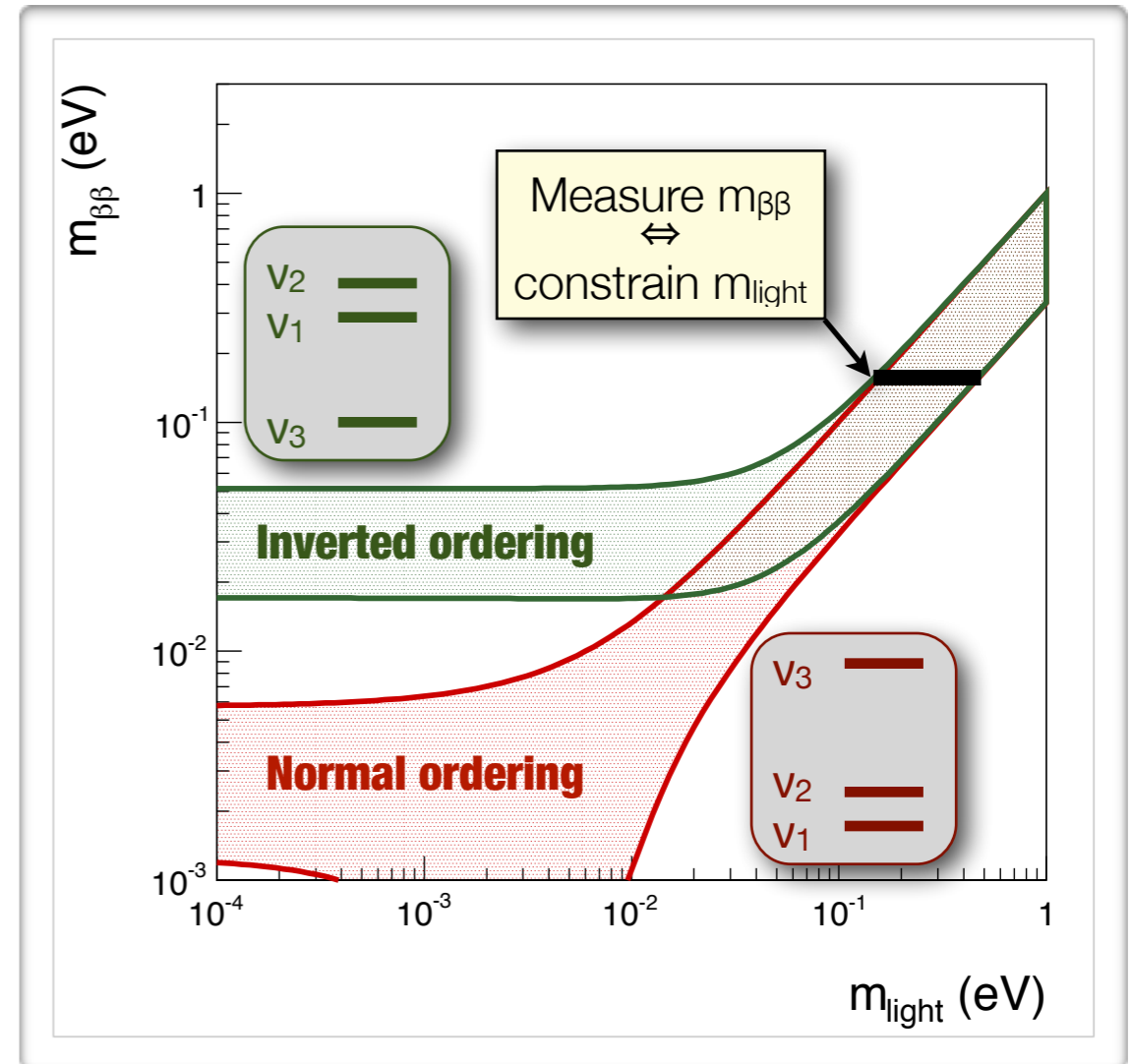
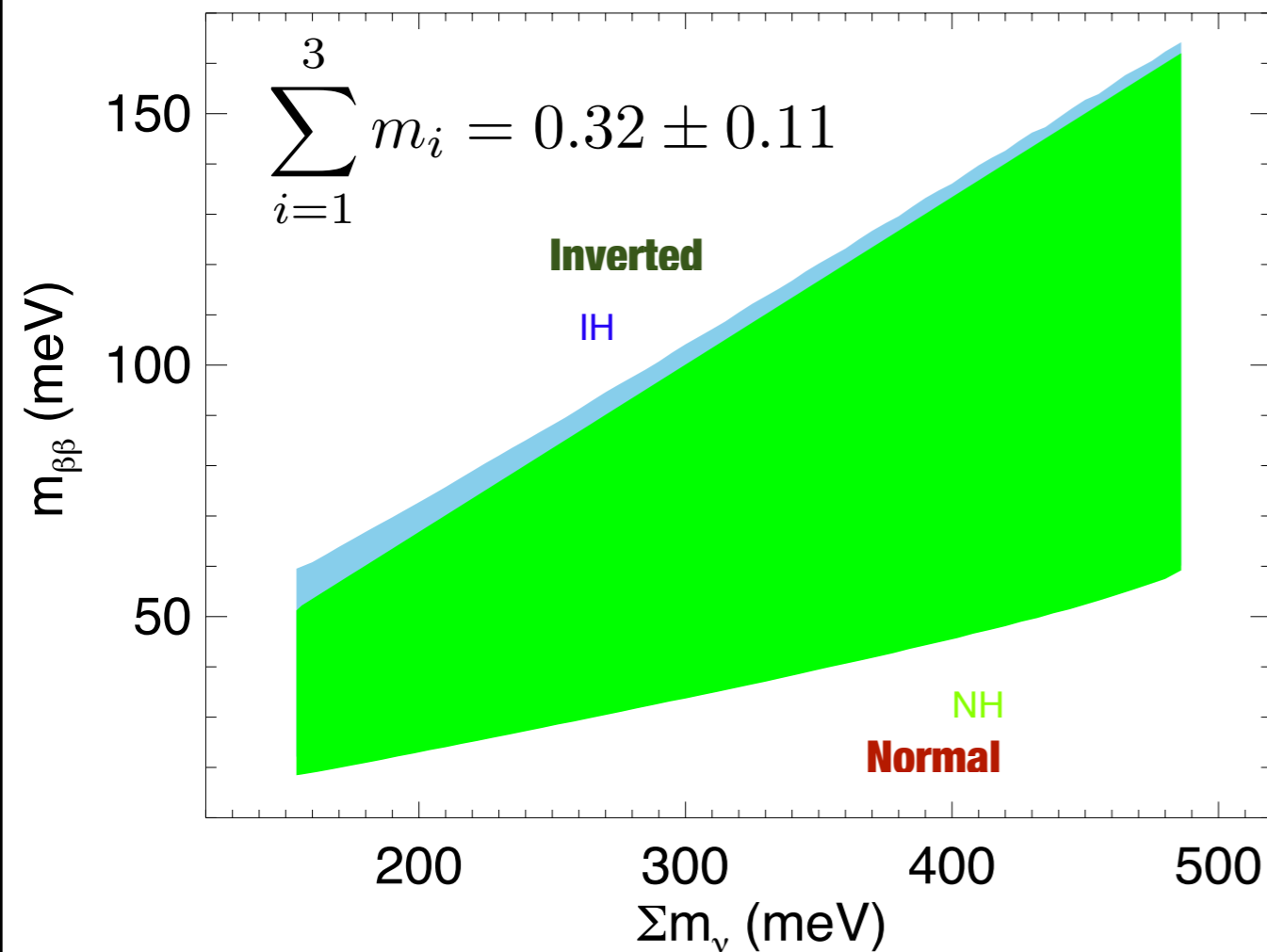




# Exploring Majorana landscape

Evidence for Massive Neutrinos from  
Cosmic Microwave Background and  
Lensing Observations

Phys. Rev. Lett. 112, 051303 (2014)

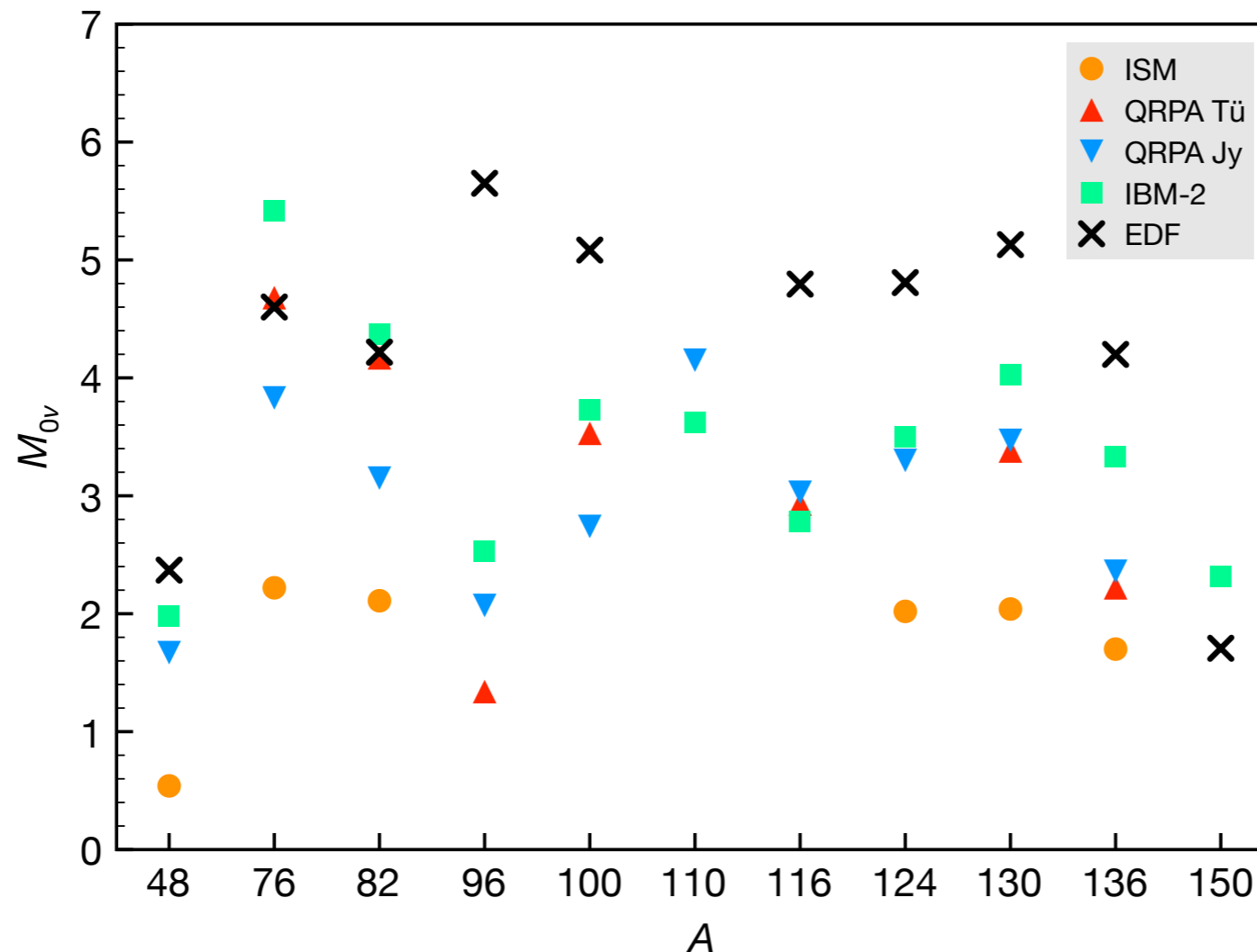


Discovery potential of xenon-based  
neutrinoless double beta decay experiments  
in light of small angular scale CMB  
observations  
JCAP 1303 (2013) 043

- **Degenerated:  $m_{\beta\beta} \sim 50$  meV**
- **Inverse:  $m_{\beta\beta} \sim 20$  meV**
- **Normal:  $m_{\beta\beta} \sim 2$  meV**

# The NME

$$(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = G^{0\nu}(Q, Z) |M^{0\nu}|^2 m_{\beta\beta}^2$$



- **Difference between models can be up to a factor 3 in  $M$  → factor 10 in  $m_{\beta\beta}$**
- **The discrepancy in NME is a major source of uncertainty (in particular if no discovery is made)**