



Neutrino Phenomenology

Boris Kayser
INSS
August, 2014
Part 2

Looking to the Future

Open Questions

•What is the absolute scale of neutrino mass?

- Is the physics behind the masses of neutrinos different from that behind the masses of all other known particles?
- Are neutrinos their own antiparticles?

•Is the spectrum like $\underline{\underline{=}}$ or $\underline{=}$?

• Do neutrino interactions
violate CP?

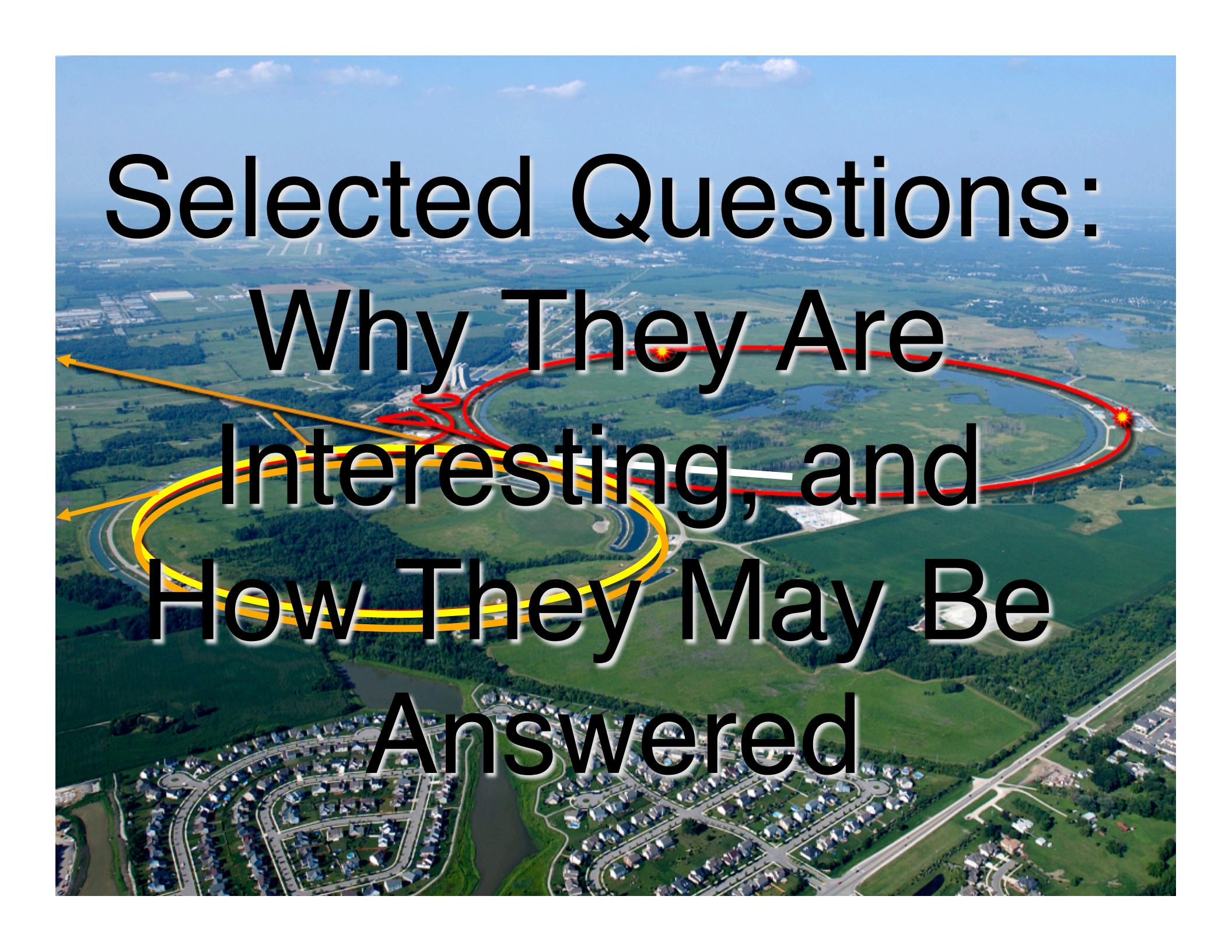
Is $P(\bar{\nu}_\alpha \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\beta) \neq P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta)$?

• Is CP violation involving neutrinos
the key to understanding the matter –
antimatter asymmetry of the universe?

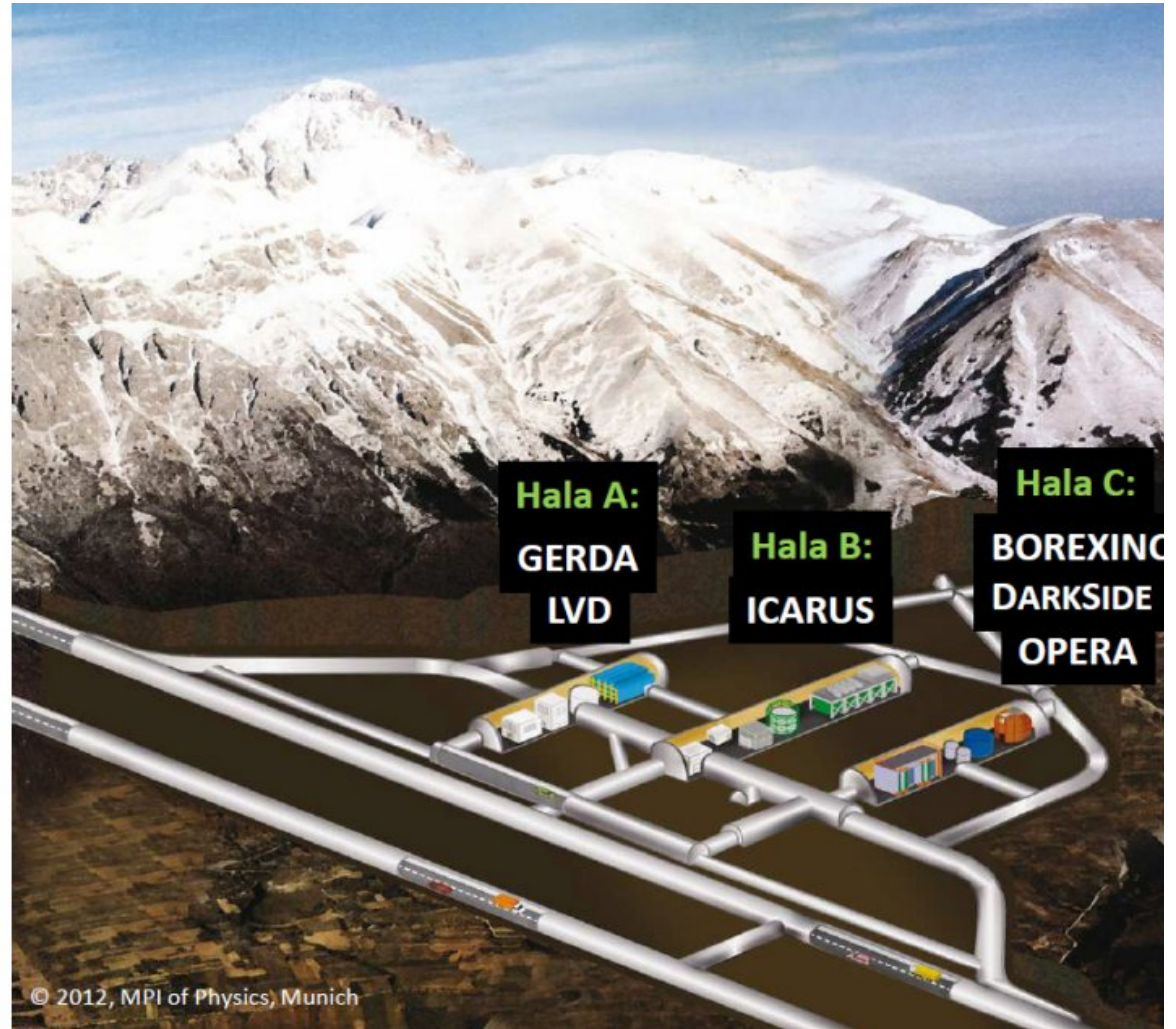
• What can neutrinos and the universe
tell us about one another?

- Are there *more* than 3 mass eigenstates?
 - Are there non-weakly-interacting “sterile” neutrinos?

- Do neutrinos break the rules?
 - Non-Standard-Model interactions?
 - Violation of Lorentz invariance?
 - Violation of CPT invariance?
 - Departures from quantum mechanics?

An aerial photograph of a golf course with a residential neighborhood in the foreground. A red path with a yellow center line winds through the course, starting from a red starburst on the right and ending with an arrowhead on the left. The text is overlaid on the image.

**Selected Questions:
Why They Are
Interesting, and
How They May Be
Answered**



Is the Origin of Neutrino Mass Different?

Perhaps, neutrino masses have the same source as the quark and charged lepton masses:

The Standard Model (SM) Brout – Englert – Higgs mechanism for fermion masses.

Coupling constant \swarrow Must add to the SM \swarrow

$$\mathcal{L}_{SM} = y \bar{H}^0 \bar{\nu}_L \nu_R \Rightarrow y \underbrace{\langle \bar{H}^0 \rangle_0}_{\text{Vacuum expectation value}} \bar{\nu}_L \nu_R \equiv m_\nu \bar{\nu}_L \nu_R \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Dirac} \\ \text{mass} \end{array} \right.$$

SM Higgs field \nearrow \searrow

$$\langle \bar{H}^0 \rangle_0 \equiv v = 174 \text{ GeV}, \text{ so } y = \frac{m_\nu}{v} \sim \frac{0.1 \text{ eV}}{174 \text{ GeV}} \sim 10^{-12}$$

A coupling constant this much smaller than unity leaves many theorists skeptical.

— An alternative possibility —

Majorana masses and the See-Saw picture

The See-Saw model is the most popular theory of why neutrinos are so light.

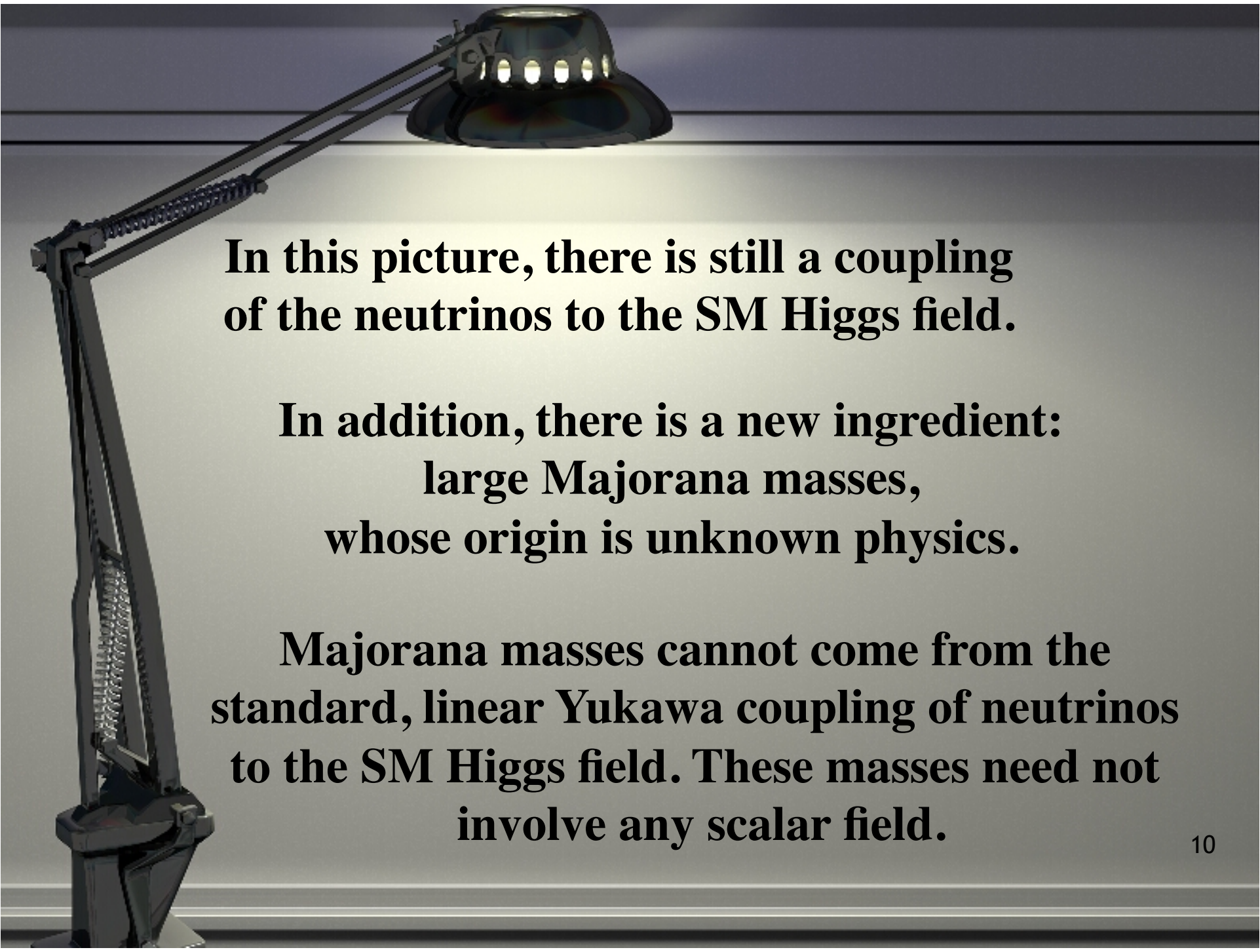
The straightforward (type-I) See-Saw model adds to the SM 3 heavy neutrinos N_i , with —

The diagram illustrates the Lagrangian for heavy neutrinos in a type-I See-Saw model. The Lagrangian is given by:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{new}} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_i m_{N_i} \overline{N_{iR}^c} N_{iR} + \sum_{\substack{\alpha=e,\mu,\tau \\ i=1,2,3}} y_{\alpha i} \left[\overline{\nu}_{\alpha L} \overline{H^0} - \overline{\ell}_{\alpha L} H^- \right] N_{iR} + h.c.$$

Annotations in the diagram:

- Large Majorana masses:** A bracket on the left points to the mass term m_{N_i} .
- Charge conjugate:** An arrow points from the text to $\overline{N_{iR}^c}$.
- SM lepton doublet:** An arrow points from the text to the lepton doublets $\overline{\nu}_{\alpha L}$ and $\overline{\ell}_{\alpha L}$.
- Yukawa coupling matrix:** An arrow points from the text to the coupling matrix $y_{\alpha i}$.
- SM Higgs doublet:** A bracket on the right points to the Higgs fields $\overline{H^0}$ and H^- .



**In this picture, there is still a coupling
of the neutrinos to the SM Higgs field.**

**In addition, there is a new ingredient:
large Majorana masses,
whose origin is unknown physics.**

**Majorana masses cannot come from the
standard, linear Yukawa coupling of neutrinos
to the SM Higgs field. These masses need not
involve any scalar field.**

Majorana mass terms have the effect —



Because they mix neutrino and antineutrino, they do not conserve $L \equiv \#(\text{Leptons}) - \#(\text{Antileptons})$.

There is then no conserved quantum number to distinguish antineutrinos from neutrinos.

Consequence: The neutrino mass eigenstates ν_1, ν_2, ν_3 are their own antiparticles.

$$\bar{\nu}_i = \nu_i \quad (\text{for given helicity})$$

Majorana neutrinos

Another Way To See That Majorana Masses $\implies \bar{\nu}_i = \nu_i$

As a result of $K^0 \longleftrightarrow \bar{K}^0$ mixing, the neutral K mass eigenstates are —

$$K_{S,L} \cong (K^0 \pm \bar{K}^0)/\sqrt{2} . \quad \overline{K_{S,L}} = K_{S,L} .$$

As a result of $\nu \longleftrightarrow \bar{\nu}$ mixing, the neutrino mass eigenstate ν_i is —

$$\nu_i = \nu + \bar{\nu} . \quad \bar{\nu}_i = \nu_i .$$

The Terminology

Suppose ν_i is a *mass eigenstate*,
with given helicity h .

- $\bar{\nu}_i(\mathbf{h}) = \nu_i(\mathbf{h})$ *Majorana neutrino*
- or*
- $\bar{\nu}_i(\mathbf{h}) \neq \nu_i(\mathbf{h})$ *Dirac neutrino*

If neutrinos have *Majorana masses*, then the mass eigenstates are *Majorana neutrinos*.

A Majorana mass for any fermion f causes $f \longleftrightarrow \bar{f}$.

Therefore, *quark* and *charged-lepton* Majorana masses are forbidden by electric charge conservation.

Among the fermionic constituents of matter, only the neutrinos can have Majorana masses.

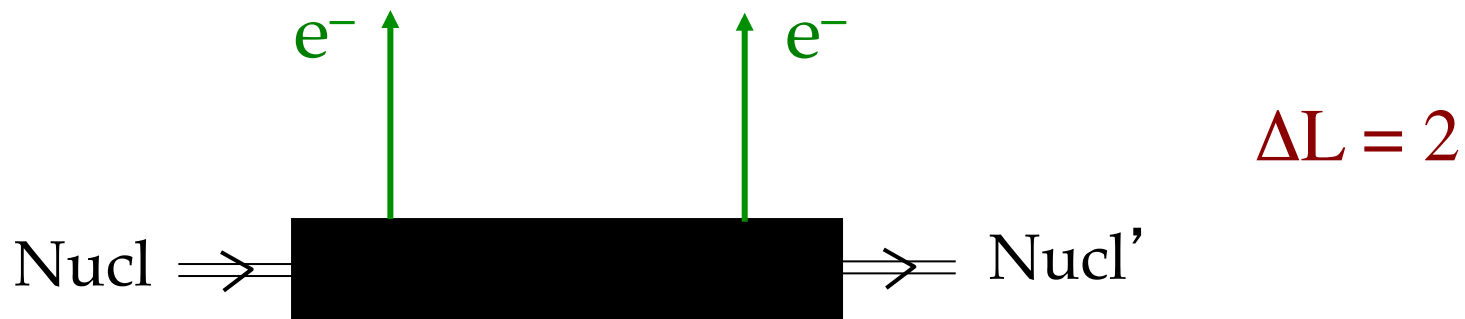
➤ **Presence of Majorana masses**

➤ **Non-conservation of L**

➤ **Self-conjugacy of neutrinos ($\bar{\nu} = \nu$)**

— are all signature predictions of the See-Saw picture.

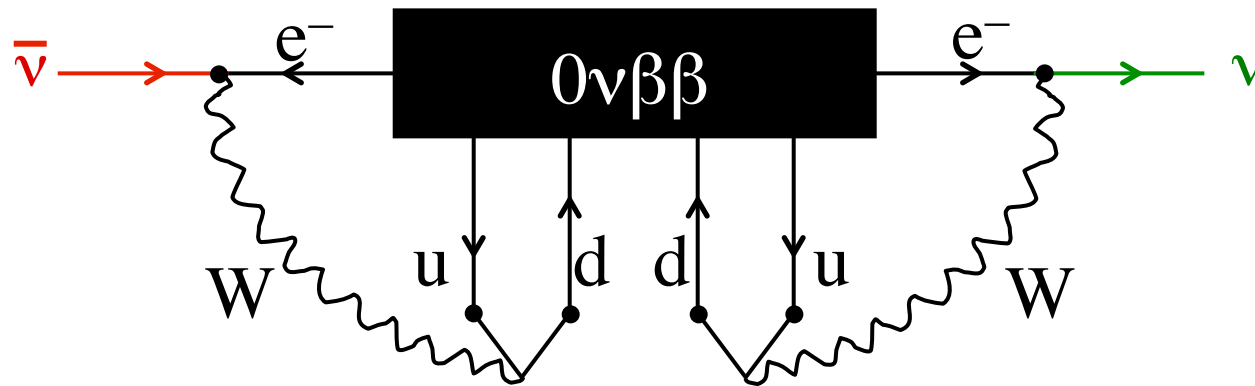
All three predictions would be confirmed by the observation of **neutrinoless double beta decay ($0\nu\beta\beta$)**



does not conserve L .

Whatever diagrams cause $0\nu\beta\beta$, its observation would imply the existence of a Majorana mass term:

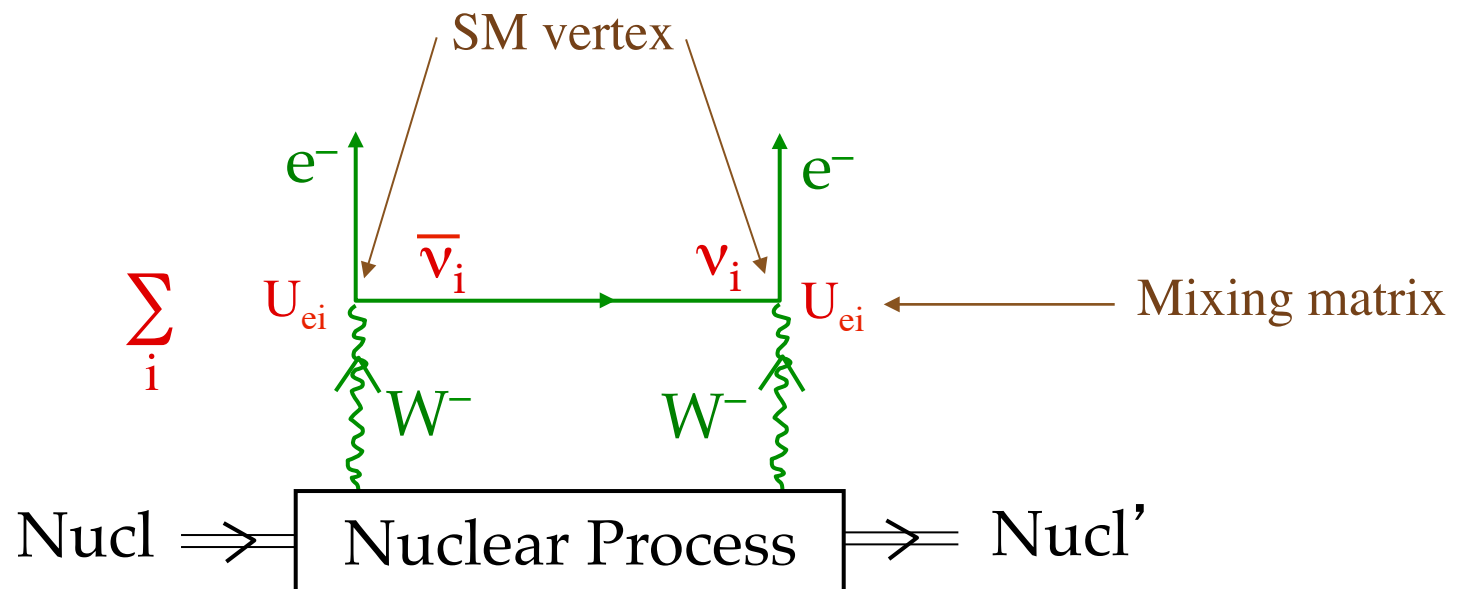
(Schechter and Valle)



$\bar{\nu} \rightarrow \nu$: A (tiny) Majorana mass term

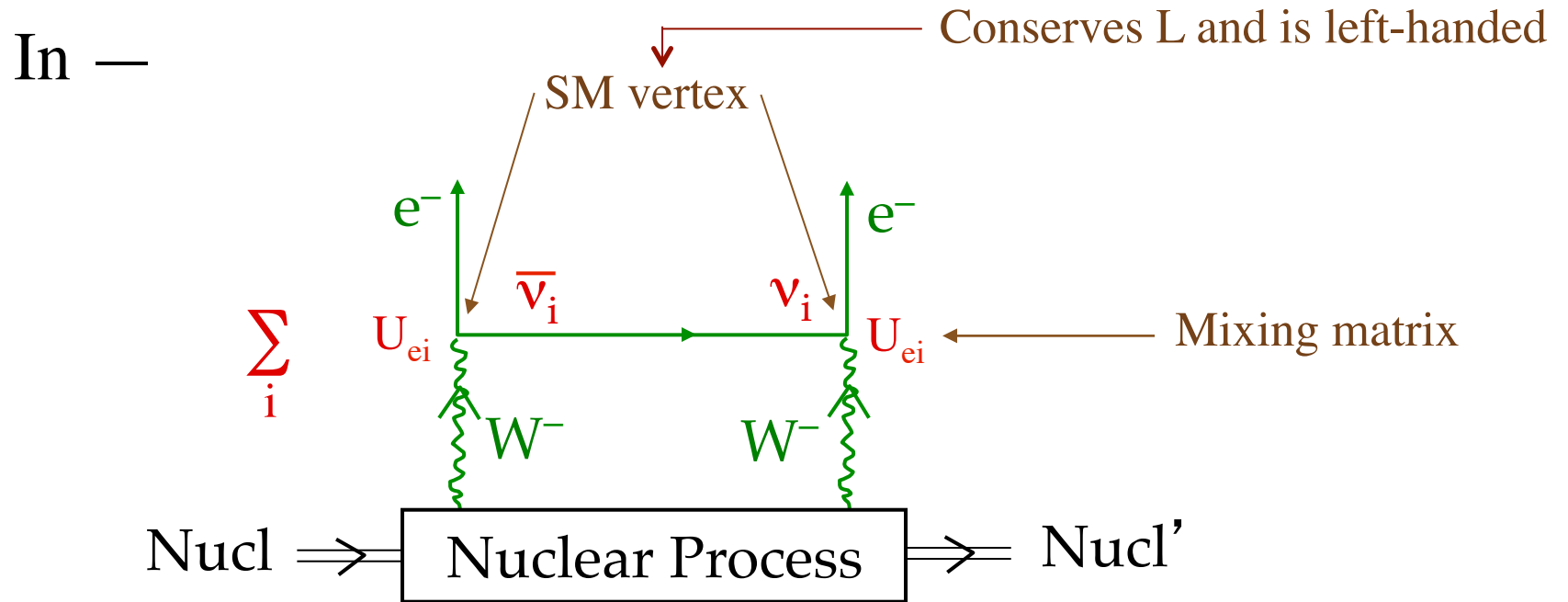
$$\therefore 0\nu\beta\beta \longrightarrow \bar{\nu}_i = \nu_i$$

We anticipate that $0\nu\beta\beta$ is dominated by a diagram with light neutrino exchange and Standard Model vertices:



“The Standard Mechanism”

— Down the Garden Path —



the $\bar{\nu}_i$ is emitted [RH + $O\{m_i/E\}$ LH].

Mass (ν_i)

Thus, Amp [ν_i contribution] $\propto m_i$

$$\text{Amp}[0\nu\beta\beta] \propto \left| \sum_i m_i U_{ei}^2 \right| \equiv m_{\beta\beta}$$

The Trap

This makes it look as if $0\nu\beta\beta$ needs ν mass only because of a helicity mismatch, which a RH current could fix.

If we had a RH current at one vertex, couldn't we then have $0\nu\beta\beta$ without any ν mass?

No!

ν mass is still required.

Why?



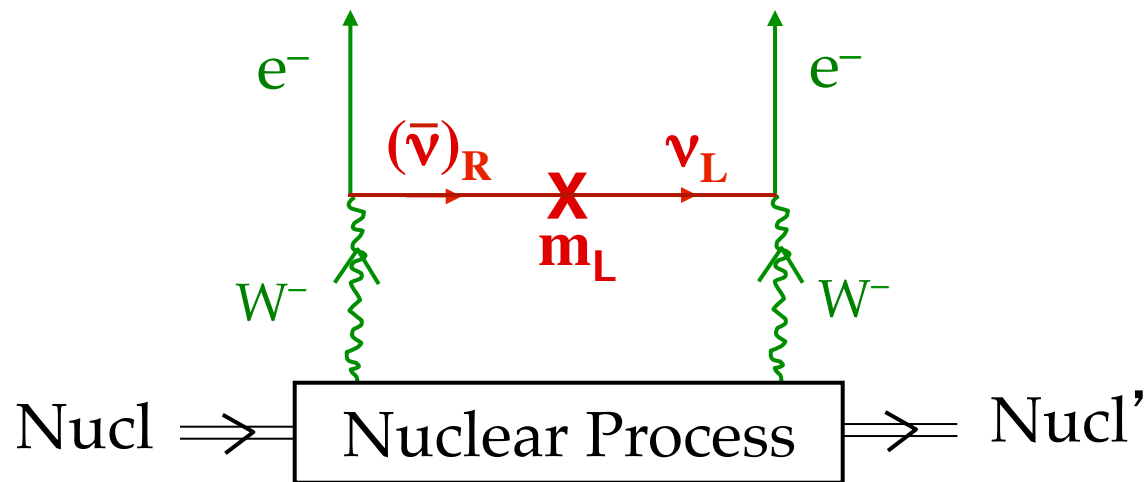
— manifestly does not conserve L: $\Delta L = 2$.

But the Standard Model (SM) weak interactions *do* conserve L. And simply reversing the handedness at one vertex would not change that.

Thus, the $\Delta L = 2$ of $0\nu\beta\beta$ can only come from *Majorana neutrino masses*, such as —

$$m_L (\overline{\nu}_L^c \nu_L + \overline{\nu}_L \nu_L^c) \quad \begin{array}{c} (\overline{\nu})_R \xrightarrow{\quad} \text{X} \xrightarrow{\quad} \nu_L \\ m_L \end{array}$$

Assuming Standard Model vertices, $0\nu\beta\beta$ is —



The Majorana neutrino mass term plays two roles:

- 1) Violate L
- 2) Flip handedness

It will be needed for (1) even when not needed for (2).

Once Upon a Time

“Replacing one of the SM vertices by a right-handed current will eliminate the need for neutrino mass.”

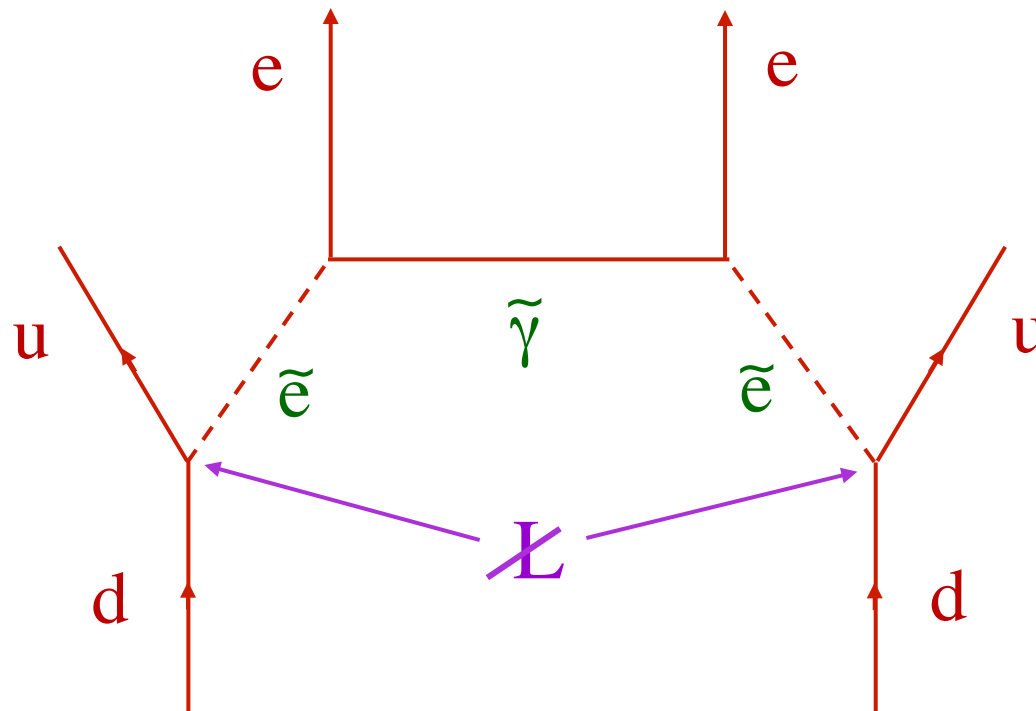
Now

*Not true: Majorana neutrino mass
is still needed to violate lepton number.*

*In fact, with one SM LH vertex and one non-SM RH
vertex, the amplitude is **quadratic** in neutrino mass.*

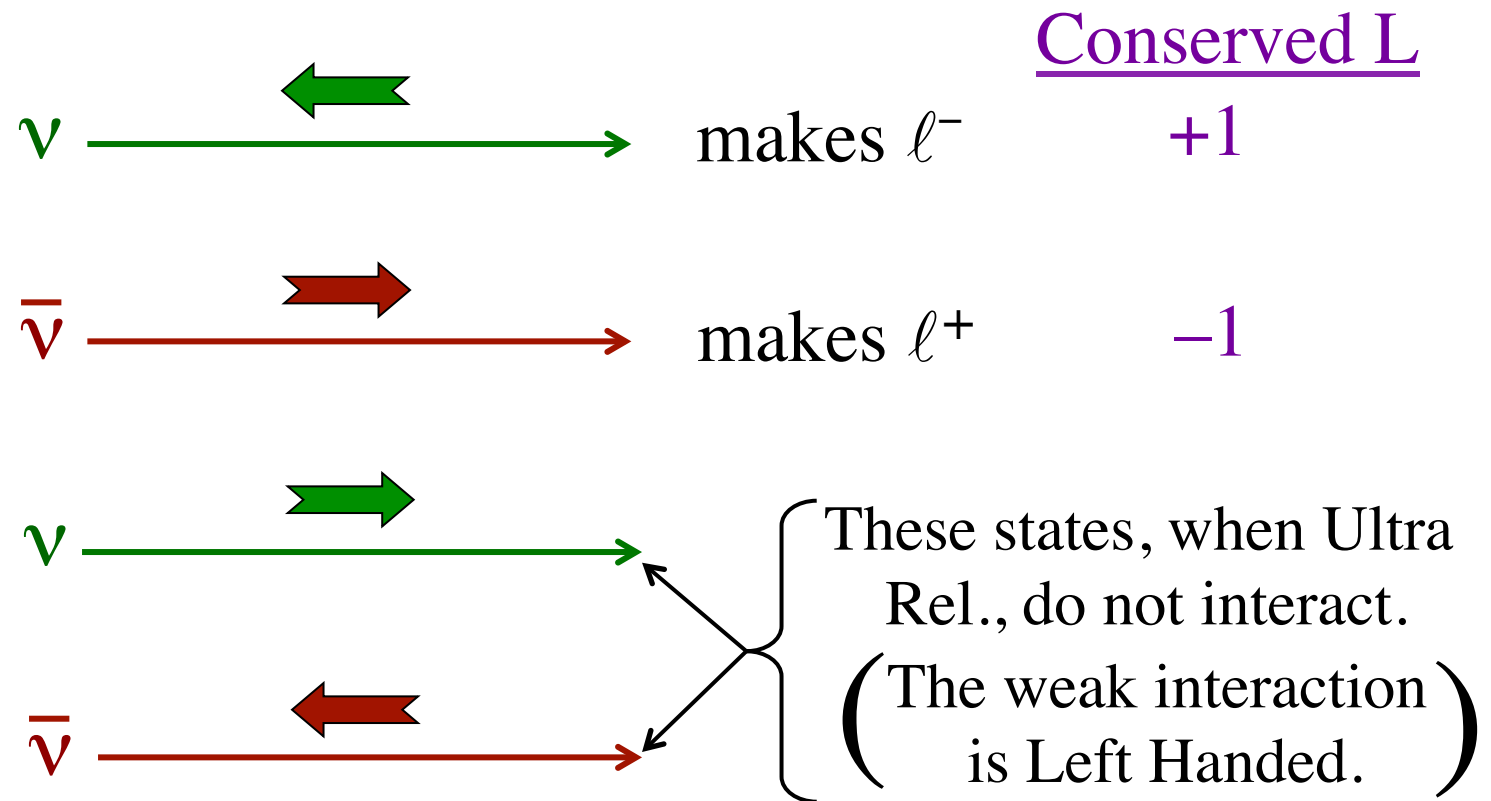
(B.K., Petcov, Rosen; Enqvist, Maalampi, Mursula; B.K.)

To have $0\nu\beta\beta$ without any input neutrino mass requires a *lepton-number-violating* interaction, such as —



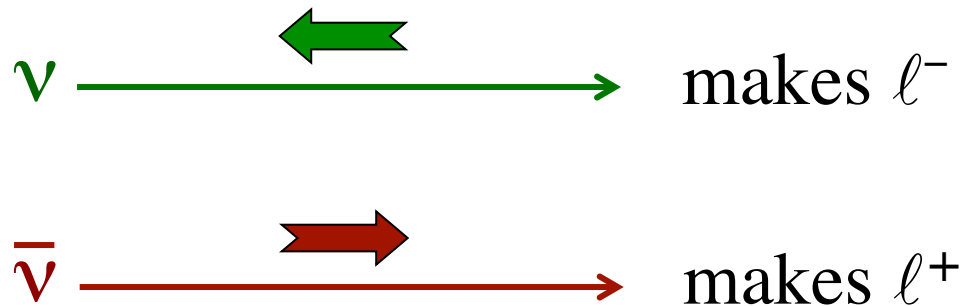
SM Interactions Of A Dirac Neutrino

We have 4 mass-degenerate states:



SM Interactions Of A Majorana Neutrino

We have only 2 mass-degenerate states:



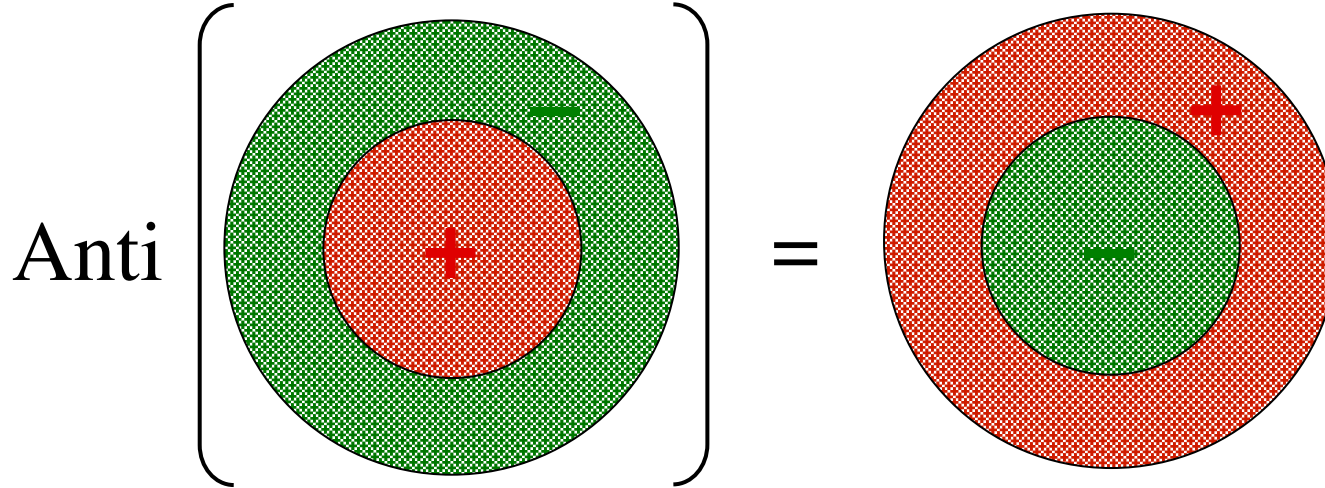
The weak interactions violate *parity*.
(They can tell *Left* from *Right*.)

An incoming left-handed neutral lepton makes ℓ^- .

An incoming right-handed neutral lepton makes ℓ^+ .

Can a Majorana Neutrino Have an Electric Charge *Distribution*?

No!

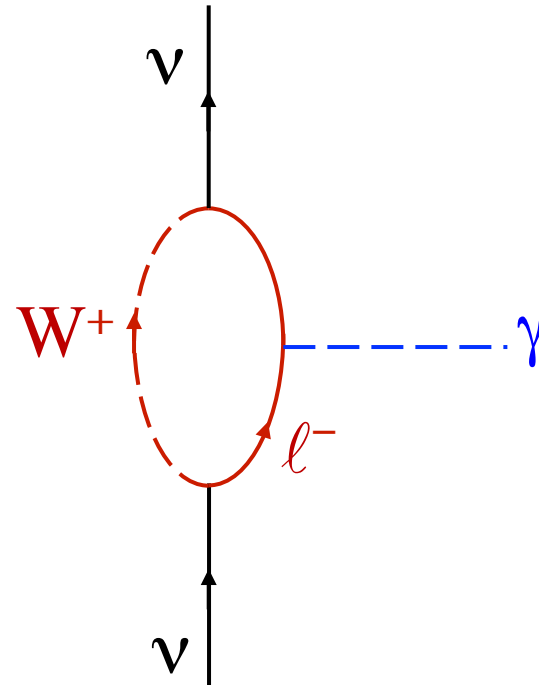


But for a Majorana neutrino —

$$\text{Anti } (\nu) = \nu$$

Dipole Moments

In the Standard Model,
loop diagrams like —



produce, for a *Dirac* neutrino of mass m_ν ,
a magnetic dipole moment —

$$\mu_\nu = 3 \times 10^{-19} (m_\nu/1\text{eV}) \mu_B$$

(Marciano, Sanda; Lee, Shrock; Fujikawa, Shrock)

A *Majorana* neutrino cannot have a magnetic or electric dipole moment:

$$\vec{\mu} \left[\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ e^+ \end{array} \right] = - \vec{\mu} \left[\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ e^- \end{array} \right]$$

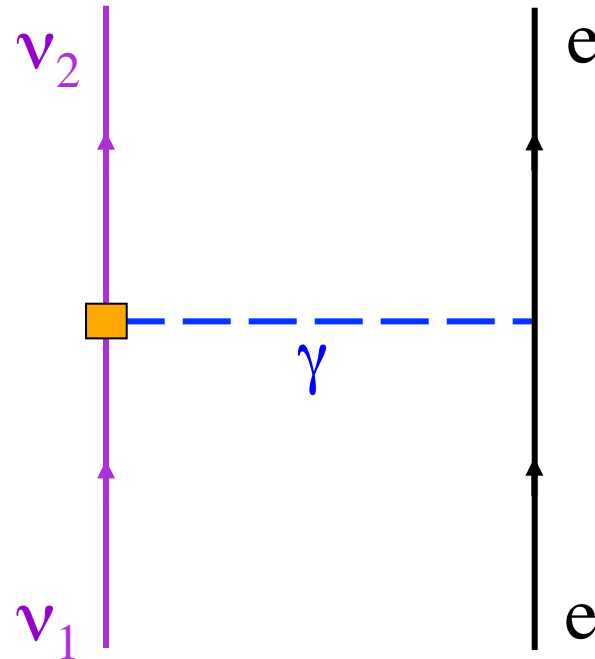
But for a Majorana neutrino,

$$\overline{\nu}_i = \nu_i$$

Therefore,

$$\vec{\mu} \left[\overline{\nu}_i \right] = \vec{\mu} \left[\nu_i \right] = 0$$

Both *Dirac* and *Majorana* neutrinos can have *transition* dipole moments, leading to —



One can look for the dipole moments this way.

To be visible, they would have to *vastly* exceed Standard Model predictions.