

Phenomenology 2020

University of Pittsburgh, USA

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How well do we know neutrino-electron  
scattering?

EFT approach for neutrino interactions

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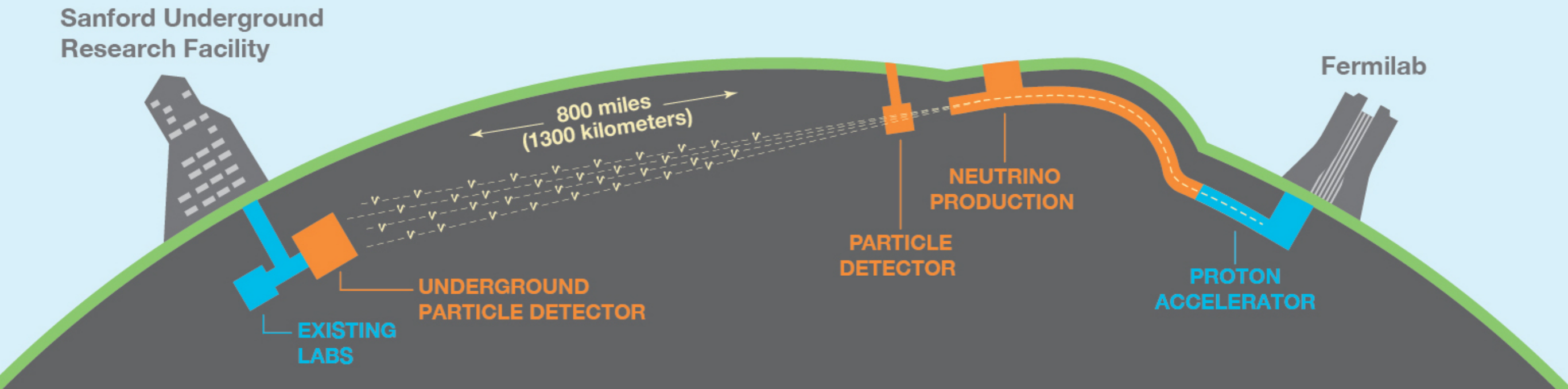


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O.T. and R. J. Hill, Phys. Rev. D 101, 033006 (2020), [arXiv:1911.01493](https://arxiv.org/abs/1911.01493), [arXiv:1911.03528](https://arxiv.org/abs/1911.03528)

# Neutrino experiments

- **DUNE** and Hyper-K: leading-edge  $\nu$  science experiments



- measurement of  $\nu_\mu$  disappearance and  $\nu_e$  appearance from count rates

$$N_\nu \sim \int d\omega \Phi_\nu(\omega) \times \sigma(\omega) \times R(\omega, \omega^{\text{rec}})$$

- near detector: determine flux and cross sections

# Neutrino-electron scattering

- small cross section scales as target mass  $m$ :  
 $10^{-4}$ - $10^{-3}$  of cross section on nucleons and nuclei
- scattering on atomic electrons free from structure effects
- standard candle to constrain flux:  
normalization uncertainty: from 7.5% to 4%  
MINERvA (2016, 2019), NOvA analysis is ongoing
- huge statistics of DUNE near detector vs MINERvA  
5000 events in a year vs 1180 events in total  
normalization uncertainty: from 8% to 2%  
Ch. Marshall et al. (2019)

- need: EFT-based calculation with accuracy below %

# Neutrino scattering in EFT. Matching

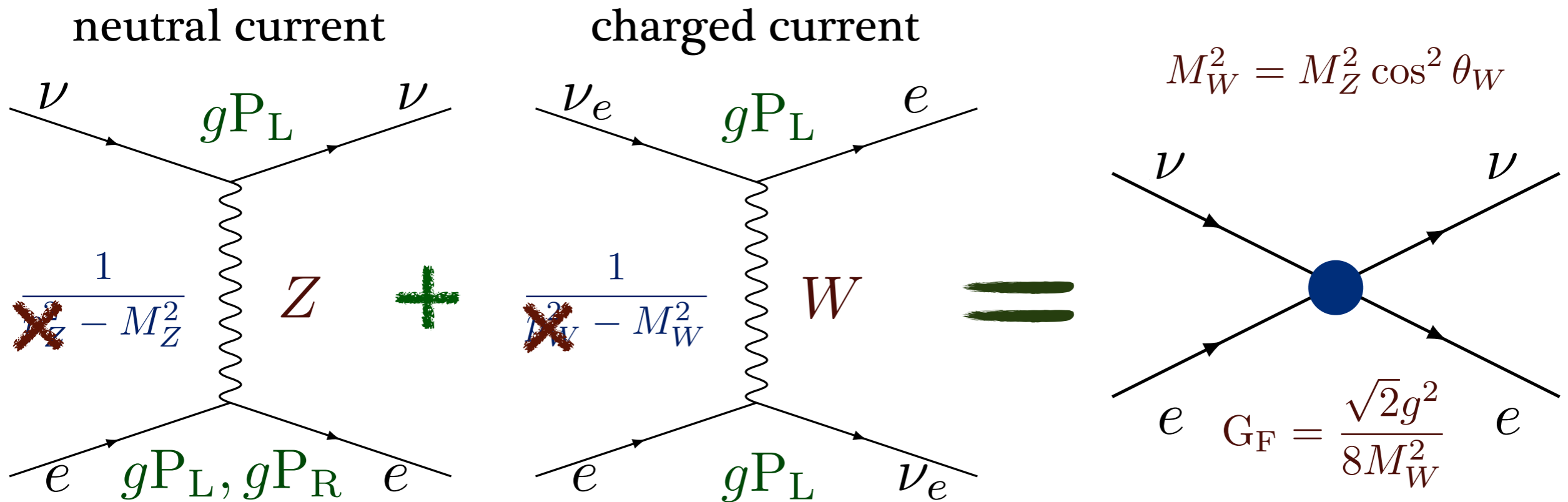
- tree-level matching to low-energy EFT:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -\bar{\nu}\gamma_\mu P_L \nu \cdot \bar{e}\gamma^\mu (c_L P_L + c_R P_R) e$$

$$c_R = 2\sqrt{2}G_F \sin^2 \theta_W \quad c_L = 2\sqrt{2}G_F (\sin^2 \theta_W - 0.5 + \delta_{\nu, \nu_e})$$

Weinberg (1967), 't Hooft (1971)

- projectors on chiral states:  $P_L = \frac{1 - \gamma_5}{2}$      $P_R = \frac{1 + \gamma_5}{2}$



- modern event generators are based on tree level

# Neutrino scattering in EFT. Matching

- tree-level matching to low-energy EFT:

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Weinberg (1967), 't Hooft (1971)

- consider only leading in  $G_F$  terms: loop corrections in  $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha_s$
- gauge-invariant matching of amplitudes, renormalized in  $\overline{\text{MS}}$  scheme:

$$\mathcal{M}^{\text{SM}} = \mathcal{M}^{\text{EFT}}$$

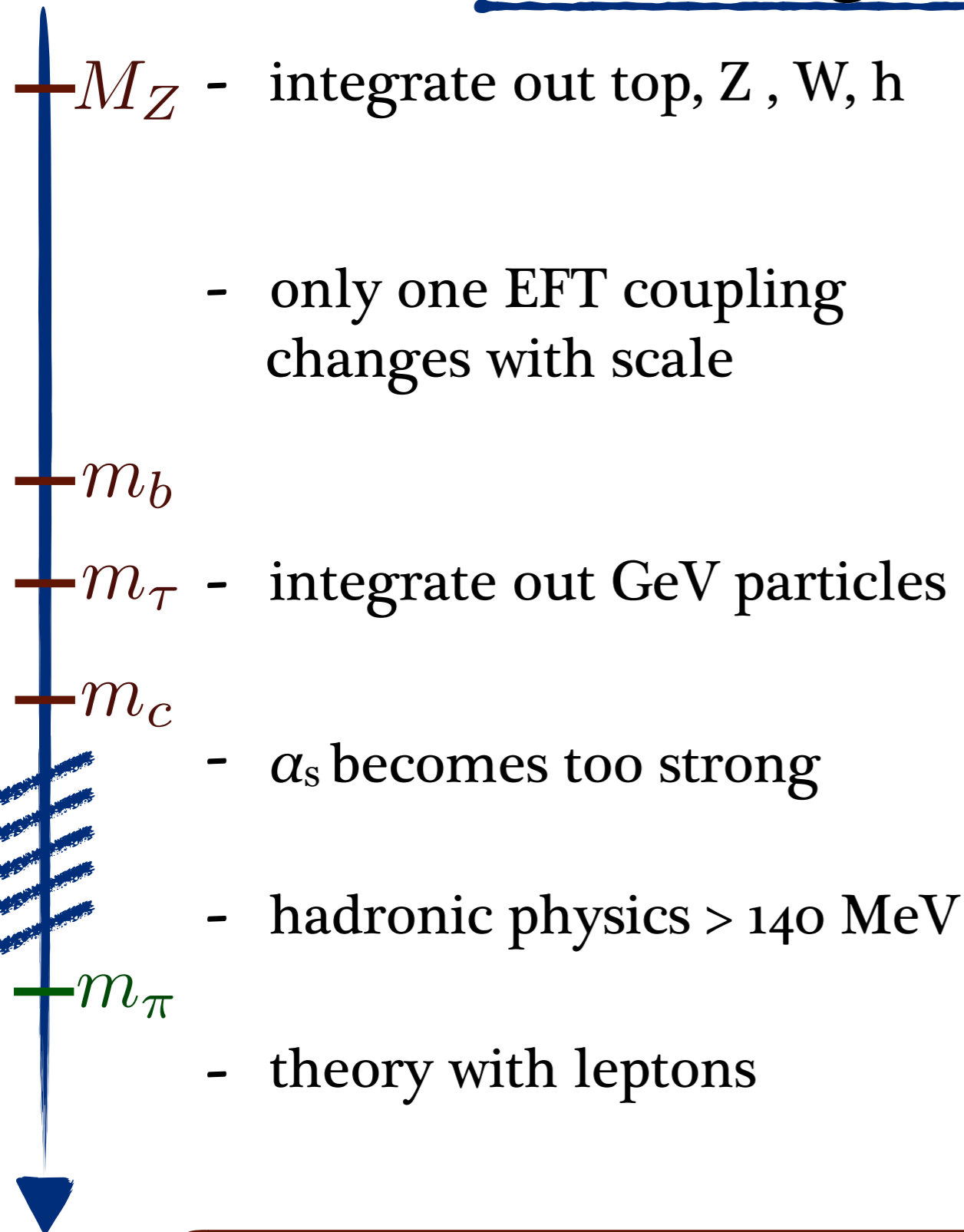
- no additional operators after one-loop matching
- $G_F$ : combination of parameters is precisely measured

$$G_F = 1.1663787(6) \times 10^{-5} \text{ GeV}^{-2} \quad G_F = \frac{\sqrt{2}g^2}{8M_W^2}$$

MULAN (2012)

- matching at order  $\alpha\alpha_s$ : left- and right-handed couplings

# Running to low scales

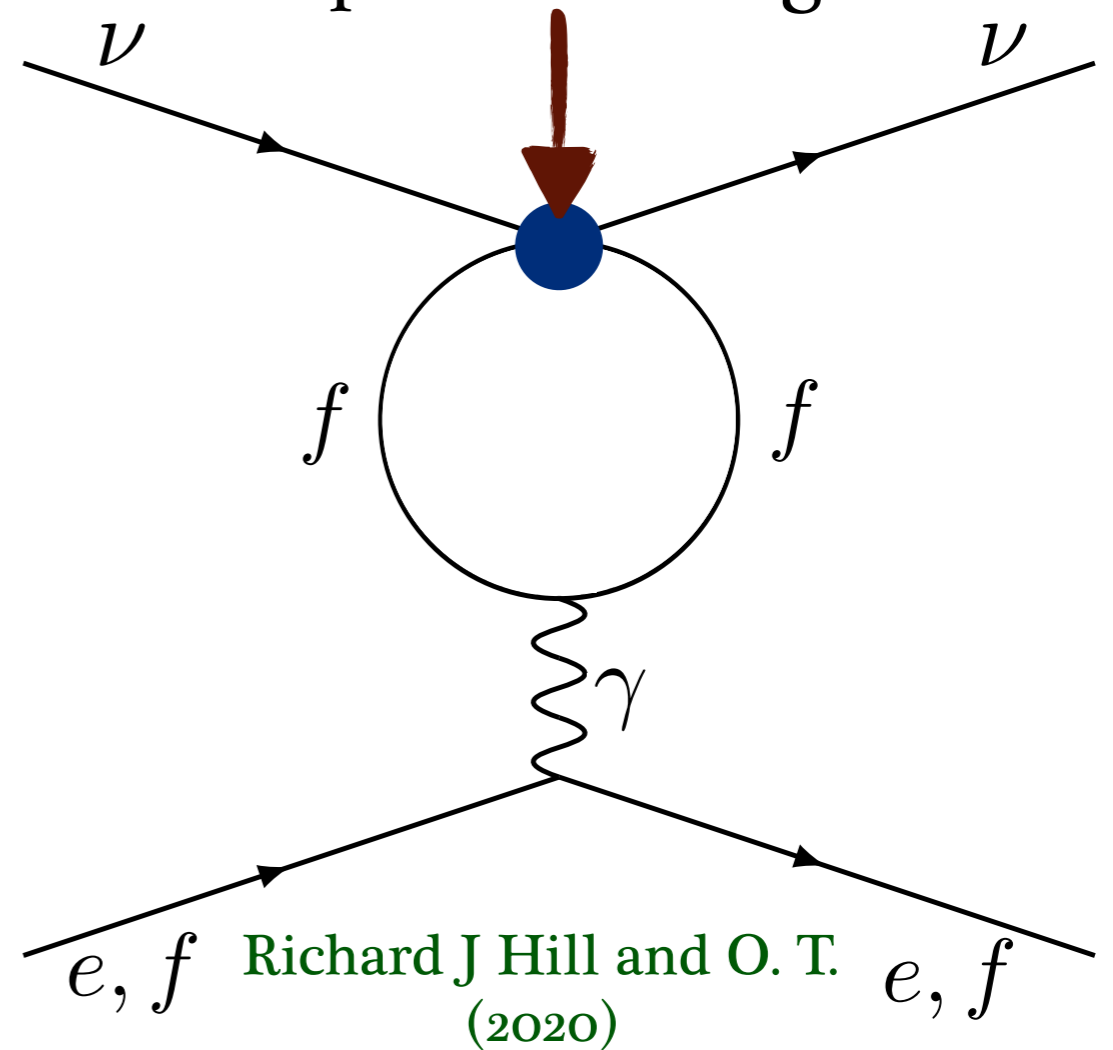


$$c_L^{\nu e e} : 2.388 \rightarrow 2.398$$

$$c_L^{\nu \mu e} : -0.911 \rightarrow -0.901 \quad \% \text{ effect}$$

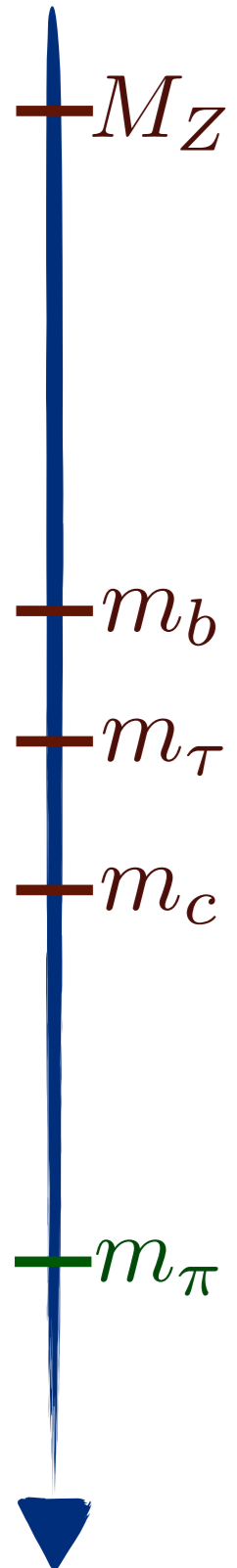
$$c_R : 0.759 \rightarrow 0.769$$

operator mixing



- precise mapping from electroweak to hadronic scales

# Scale-independent combinations



$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -\bar{\nu}_l \gamma_\mu P_L \nu_l \cdot \bar{f} \gamma^\mu (c_L^{\nu_l f} P_L + c_R^{\nu_l f} P_R) f$$

- chirally-symmetric universal running + flavor symmetry:  
8 constraints on running in the theory:

$$c_R^b(\mu) - c_R^d(\mu) = 0,$$

$$c_L^{\nu_e e}(\mu) - c_L^{\nu_\mu e}(\mu) = 2\sqrt{2}G_F,$$

$$c_L^{\nu_\mu e}(\mu) - c_R(\mu) = -\sqrt{2}\tilde{G}_e,$$

$$c_L^u(\mu) - c_R^u(\mu) = \sqrt{2}\tilde{G}_u,$$

$$c_L^d(\mu) - c_R^d(\mu) = -\sqrt{2}\tilde{G}_d,$$

$$c_L^b(\mu) - c_R^b(\mu) = -\sqrt{2}\tilde{G}_b,$$

$$3c_L^u(\mu) + 2c_L^{\nu_\mu e}(\mu) = \sqrt{2}G_u,$$

$$-3c_L^d(\mu) + c_L^{\nu_\mu e}(\mu) = 2\sqrt{2}G_d.$$

- one Fermi coupling and one  $c_R$  at leading order

- only 1 effective coupling changes with scale



# Fermi coupling constant

$$-M_Z \quad \mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -2\sqrt{2}G_F \sum_{\ell \neq \ell'} \bar{\nu}_{\ell'} \gamma^\mu P_L \nu_\ell \bar{\ell} \gamma_\mu P_L \ell' - c^{qq'} \sum_{q \neq q'} \bar{\ell} \gamma^\mu P_L \nu_\ell \bar{q} \gamma_\mu P_L q'$$

- Fermi coupling is scale independent
- comparison of scale-independent combinations

inputs	$G_F$	$\tilde{G}_e$	$\tilde{G}_u$
$M_W, M_Z, \alpha$	1.16713(83) <sub>i(12)</sub> <sub>p</sub>	1.18161(85) <sub>i(33)</sub> <sub>p</sub>	1.16917(83) <sub>i(32)</sub> <sub>p</sub>
$G_F, M_Z, \alpha$	1.1663787(6) <sub>i</sub>	1.18083(4) <sub>i(21)</sub> <sub>p</sub>	1.16841(4) <sub>i(20)</sub> <sub>p</sub>

inputs	$\tilde{G}_d$	$G_u$	$G_d$
$M_W, M_Z, \alpha$	1.18231(85) <sub>i(33)</sub> <sub>p</sub>	1.14642(78) <sub>i(33)</sub> <sub>p</sub>	1.18288(85) <sub>i(33)</sub> <sub>p</sub>
$G_F, M_Z, \alpha$	1.18154(4) <sub>i(21)</sub> <sub>p</sub>	1.14570(4) <sub>i(22)</sub> <sub>p</sub>	1.18211(4) <sub>i(21)</sub> <sub>p</sub>

- Fermi constant:  $0.9\sigma$  tension with  $6 \times 10^{-4}$  relative difference

- agreement of electroweak vs muon mass scales

Richard J Hill and O. T. (2020)



# Main theoretical uncertainty

- momentum transfer is suppressed by electron mass:

$$Q^2 < 2m\omega \ll \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$$

- description in terms of quarks is invalid for GeV neutrino energies

- kinematics is suppressed by electron mass

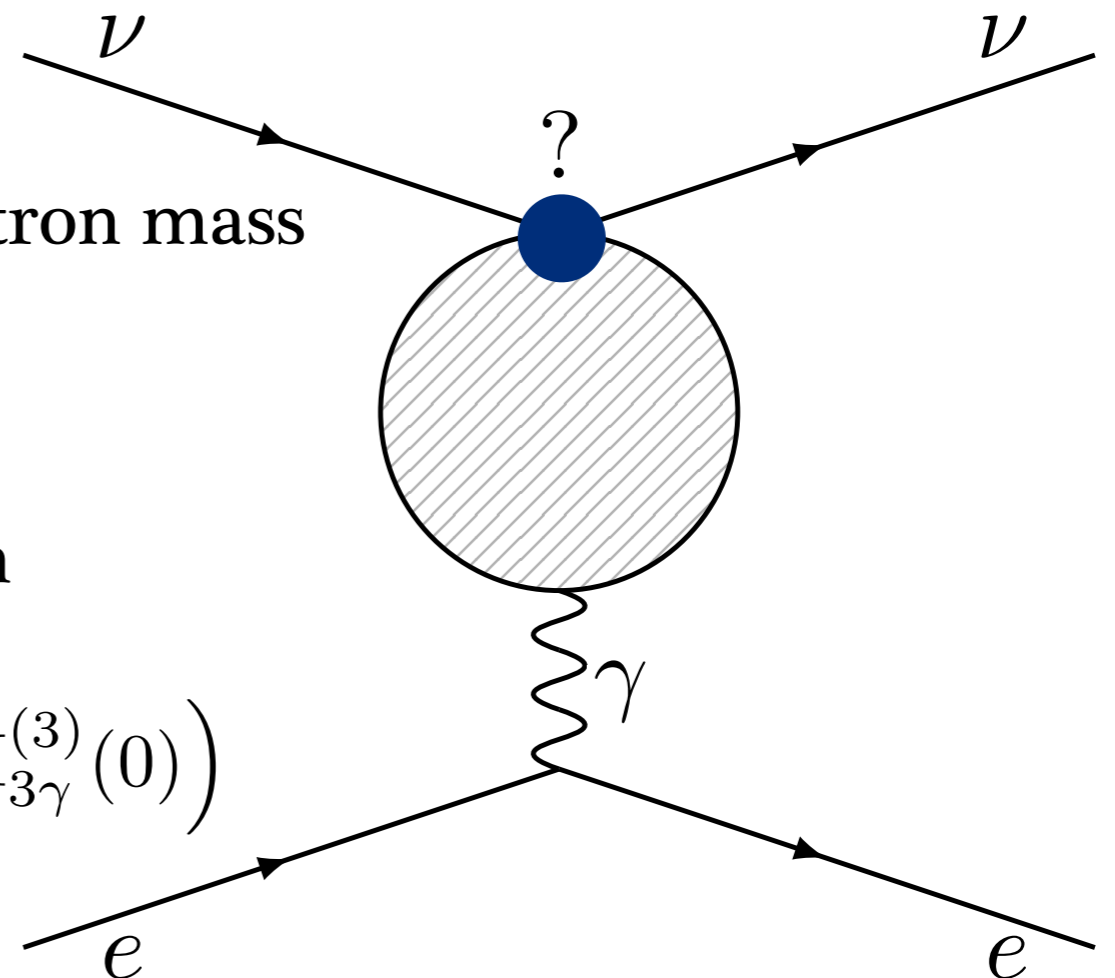
$$s, Q^2 \lesssim 2mE_\nu \ll \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$$

- QCD: short-distance contribution

$$c^h = \frac{\sqrt{2}\alpha G_F}{\pi} \left( 2 \sin^2 \theta_W \Pi_{\gamma\gamma}^{(3)}(0) - \Pi_{3\gamma}^{(3)}(0) \right)$$

- non-perturbative light-quark contribution      % level

- hadronic correction is the main error in theory



# EFT with leptons


- virtual-loop scale is well below muon and hadron masses:

$$Q^2 < 2m\omega \ll \Lambda_{\text{QCD}}^2$$

- QCD degrees of freedom: vector contribution to effective couplings

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -\bar{\nu}_l \gamma_\mu P_L \nu_l \cdot \bar{l}' \gamma^\mu (c_L^{\nu_l l'} P_L + c_R^{\nu_l l'} P_R) l'$$

- theory with electron, muon and neutrinos only



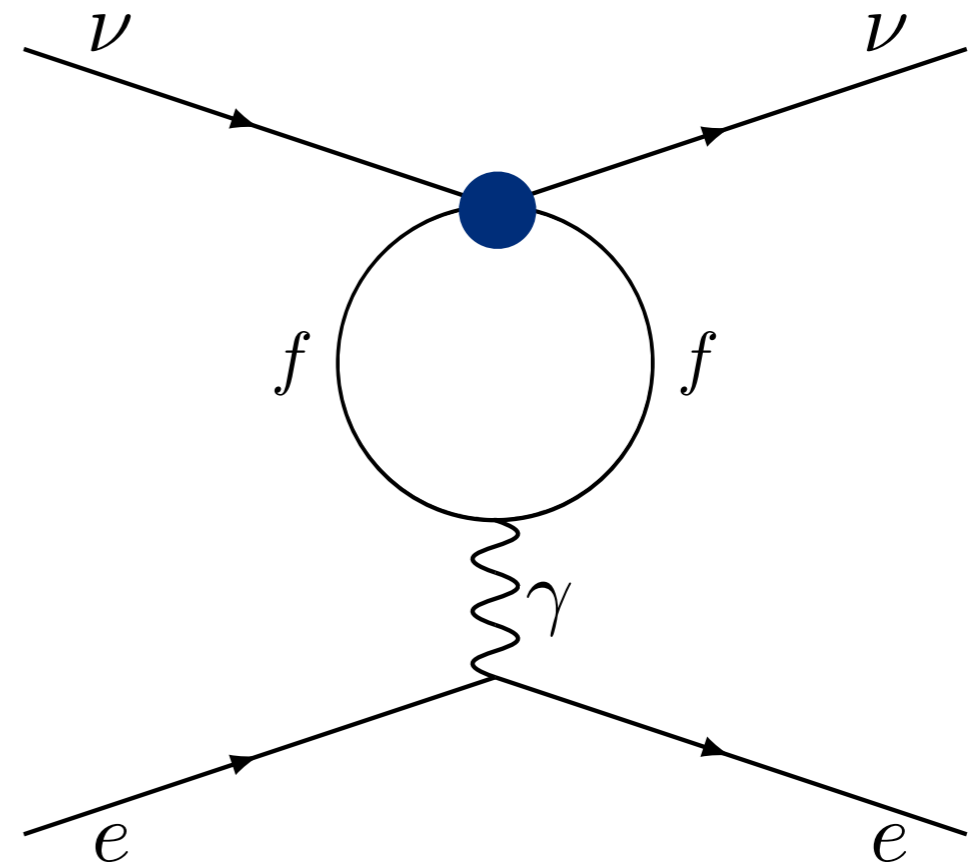
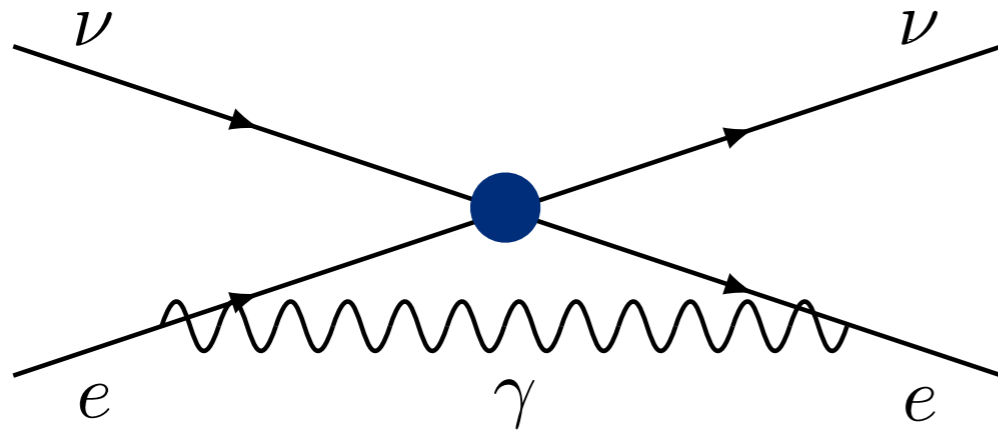
	$c_L^{\nu_e e}$	$c_L^{\nu_\mu e}$	$c_R^{\nu_e e}$	$c_R^{\nu_\mu e}$
$\mu = 2 \text{ GeV}$	2.4064(28)	-0.8926(28)	0.7773(28)	0.7773(28)
$\mu = m_\mu$	2.3997(29)	-0.8994(29)	0.7706(29)	0.7706(29)
$\mu = m_e$	2.3865(29)	-0.8988(29)	0.7575(29)	0.7711(29)

- three distinct L and R couplings below the muon mass !!!

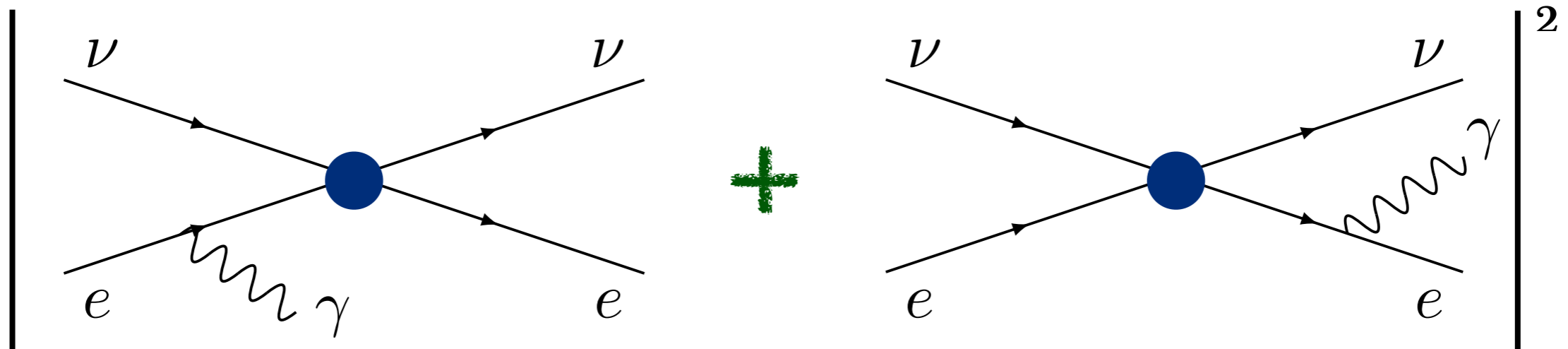
- neutrino-electron scattering is described by EFT with leptons only

# Radiative corrections in four-Fermi theory

- virtual corrections:

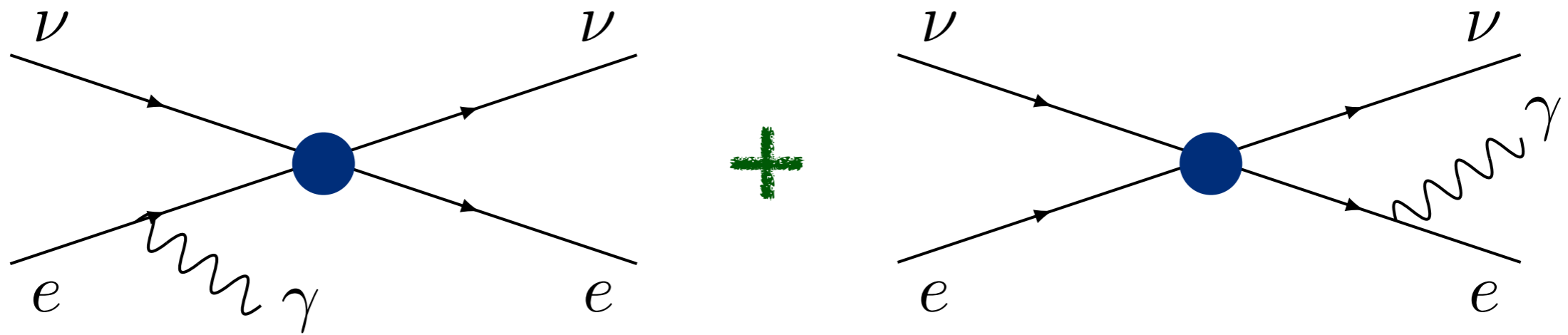


- real radiation:



- only few QED corrections are present in effective theory

# Bremsstrahlung



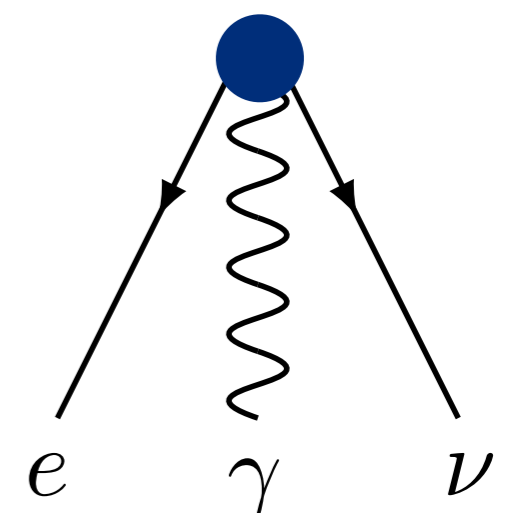
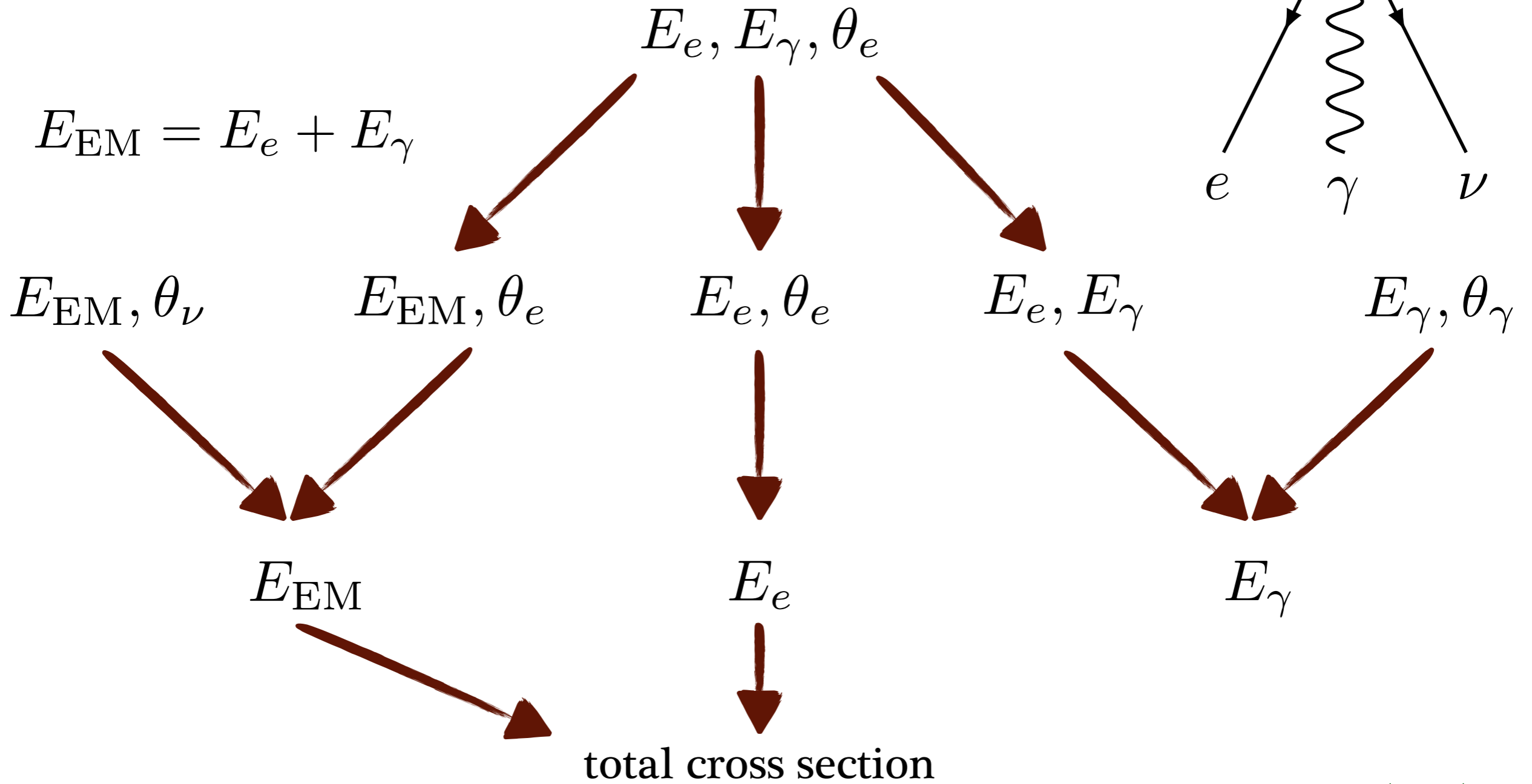
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- soft Bremsstrahlung:  $E_\gamma < \varepsilon$   $d\sigma_{LO}^{\nu e \rightarrow \nu e \gamma} = \delta_s d\sigma_{LO}^{\nu e \rightarrow \nu e}$
- soft-photon correction Lee and Sirlin (1964)
- integration technique Ram (1967)
- EW correction Aoiki, Hioki, Kawabe, Konuma and Muta (1980)
- electron energy spectrum and numerically total Aoiki and Hioki (1981)
- electron energy spectrum and EW, small m Sarantakos, Sirlin and Marciano (1982)
- electromagnetic energy spectrum and total Bardin and Dokuchaeva (1983-1985)
- numerically electron and electromagnetic spectra Passera (2000)

- exactly calculable radiation

# Bremsstrahlung

- new distributions beyond  $E_{\text{EM}}, E_e$  spectra:

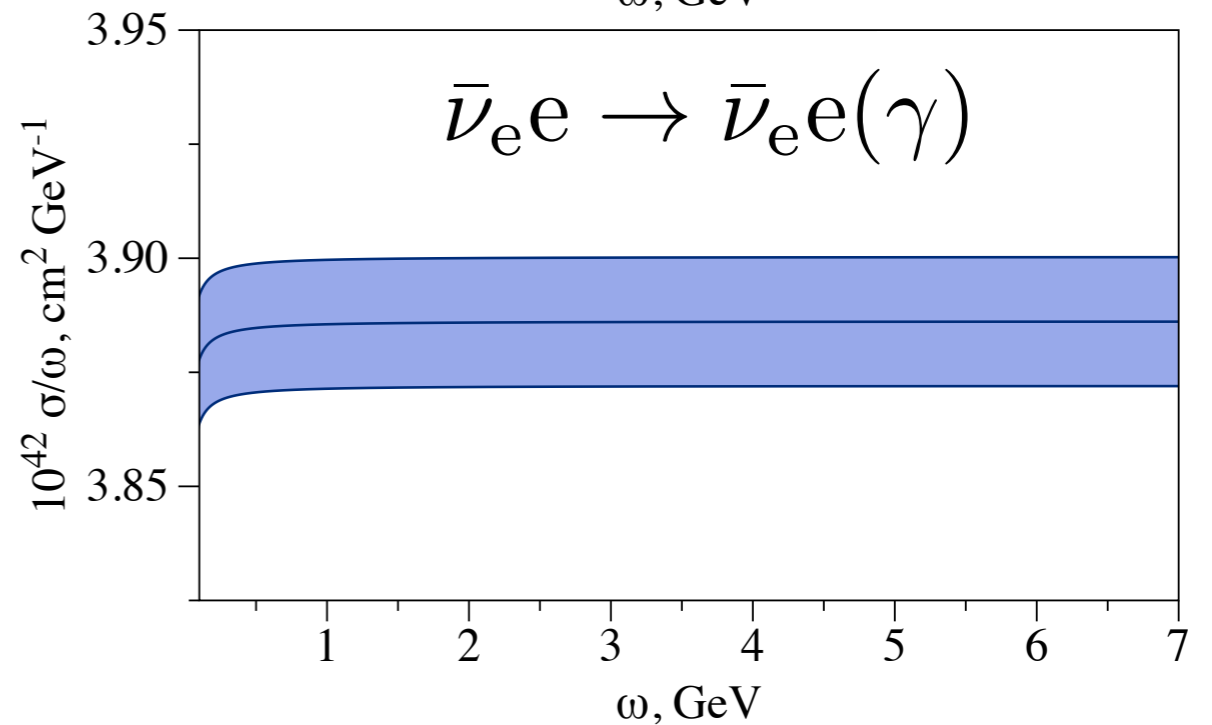
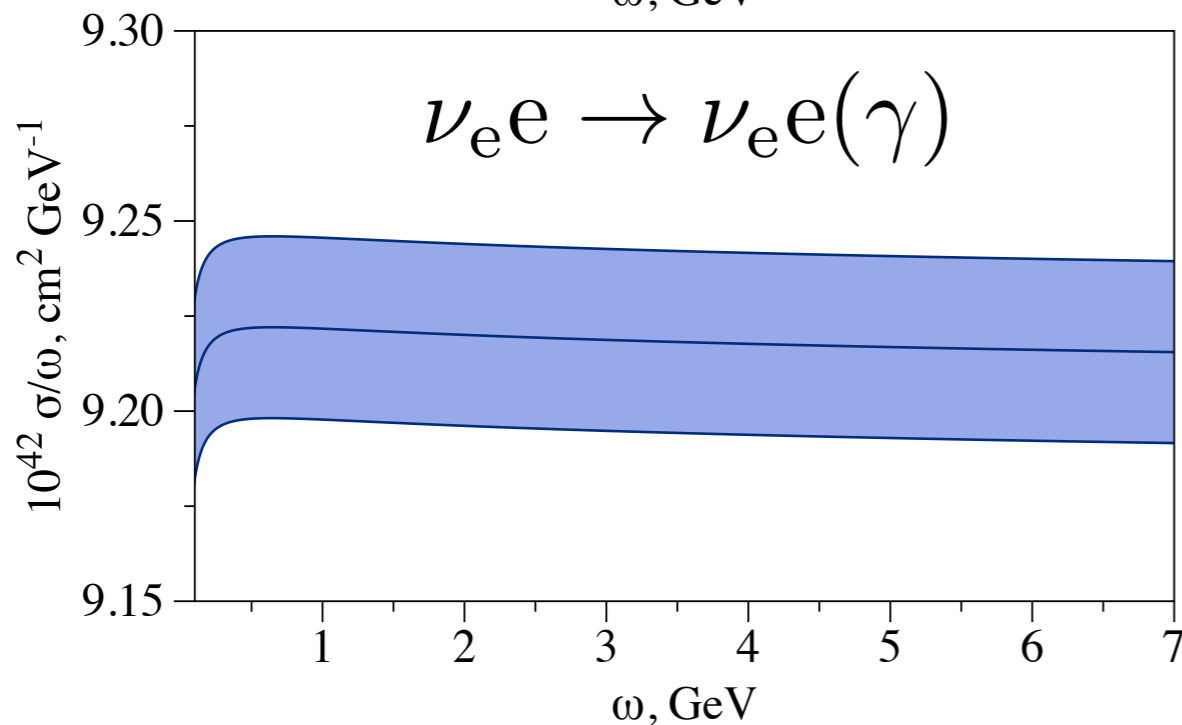
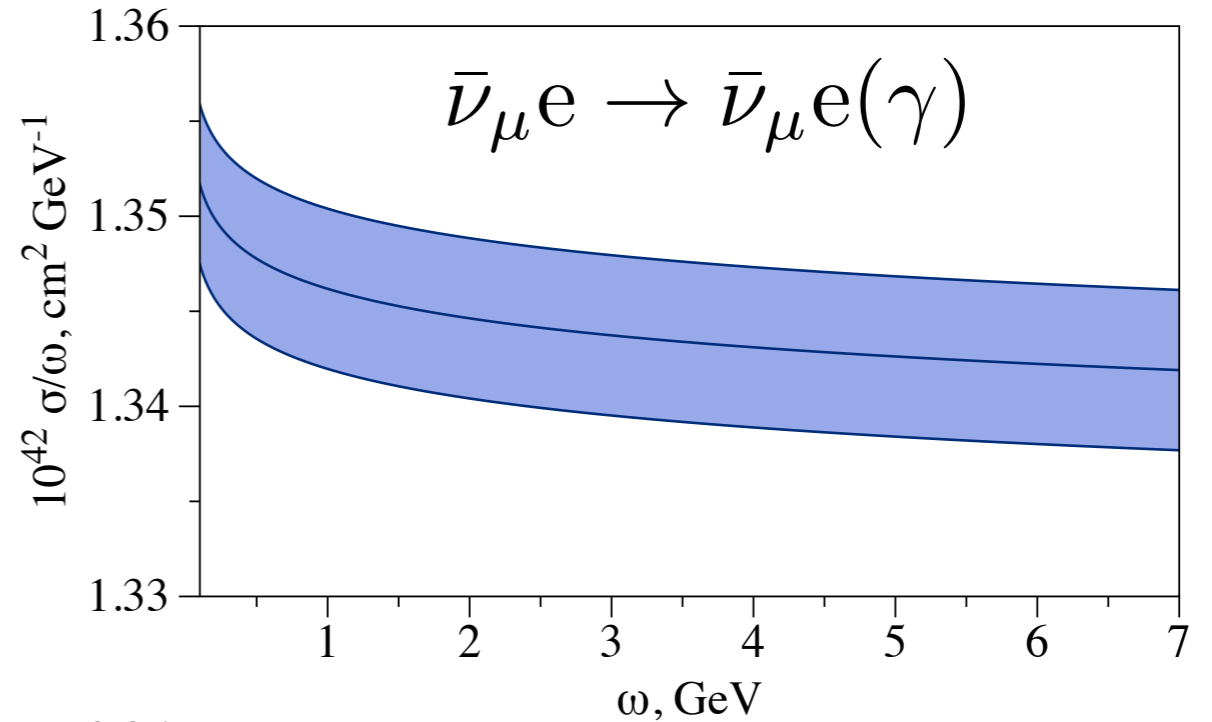
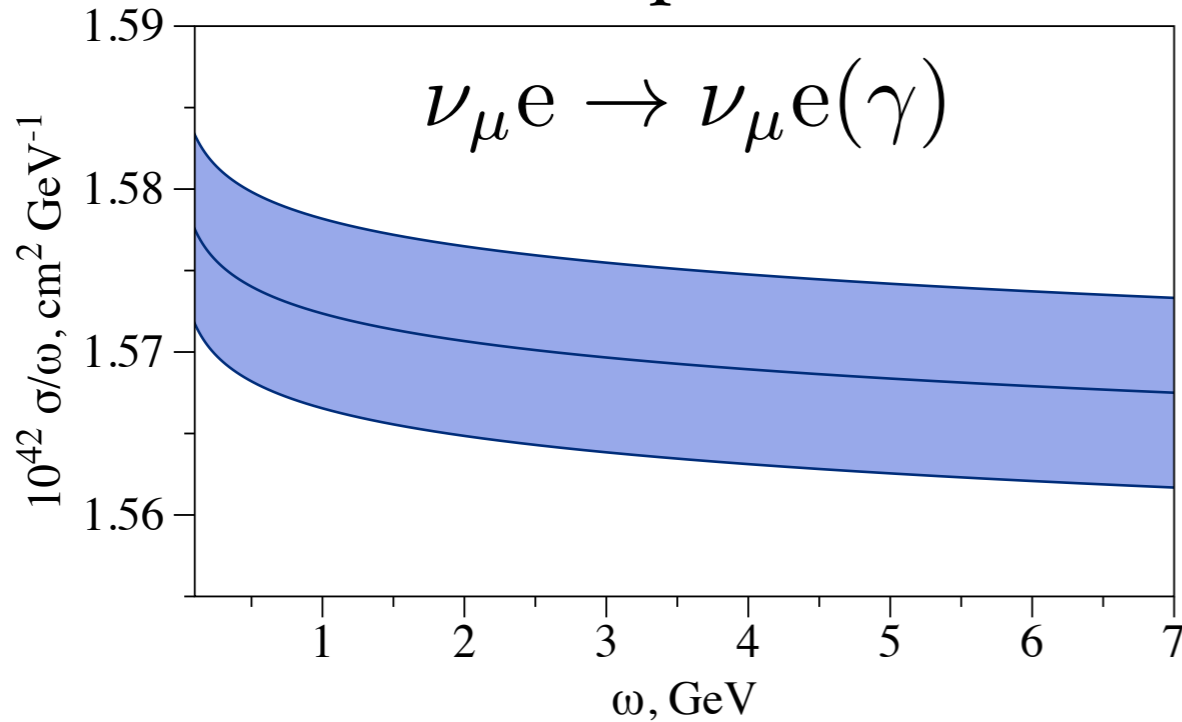


O. T. and Richard J Hill (2020)

- analytical form for finite and small electron mass

# Absolute cross section

- hadronic loops introduce the main error

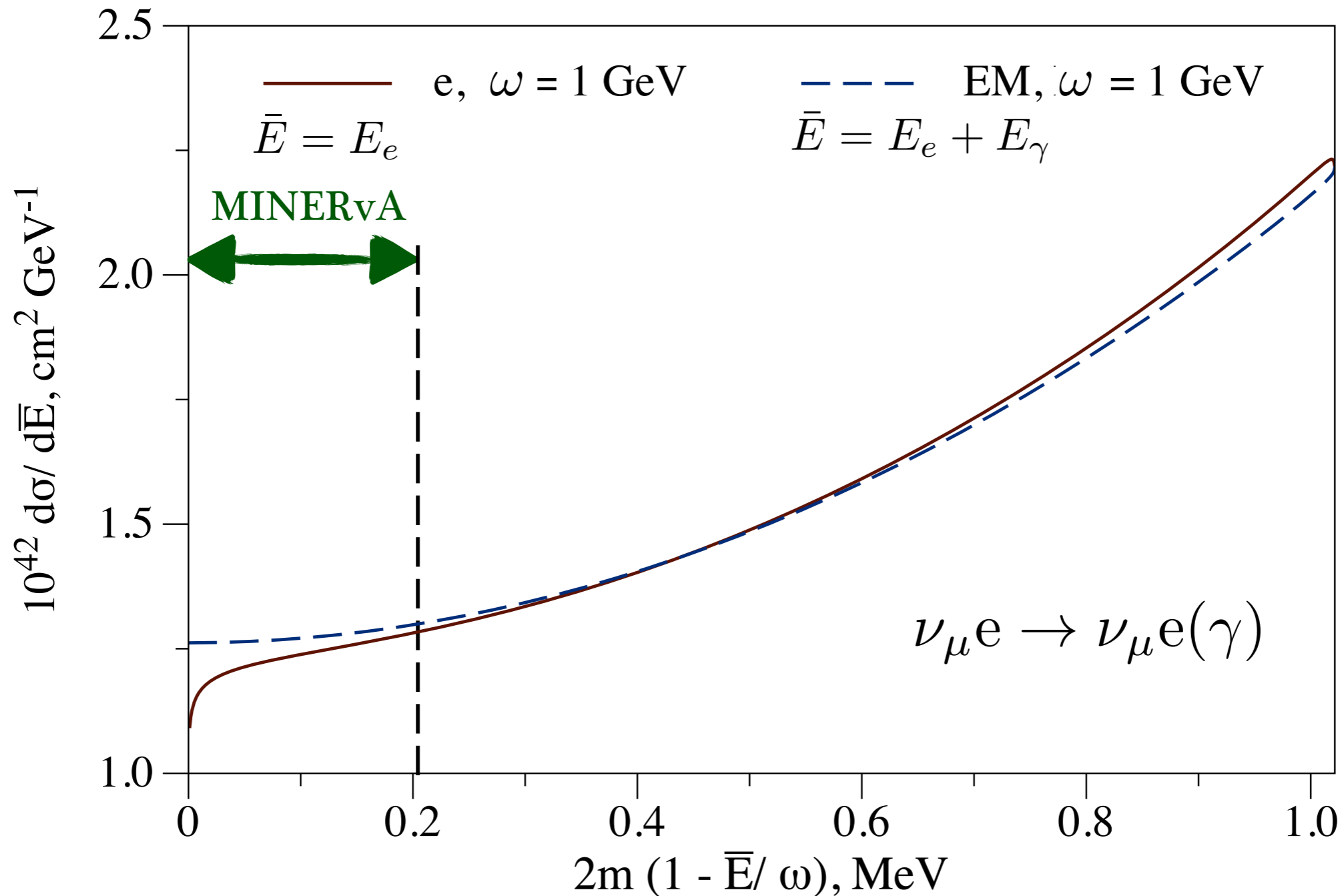


- error 0.2-0.4% of order DUNE statistical error

# Electron vs electromagnetic (EM) spectra

- experimentally convenient variable

$$2m \left( 1 - \frac{\bar{E}}{\omega} \right) \Big|_{\bar{E}=E_e} \approx E_e \theta_e^2$$

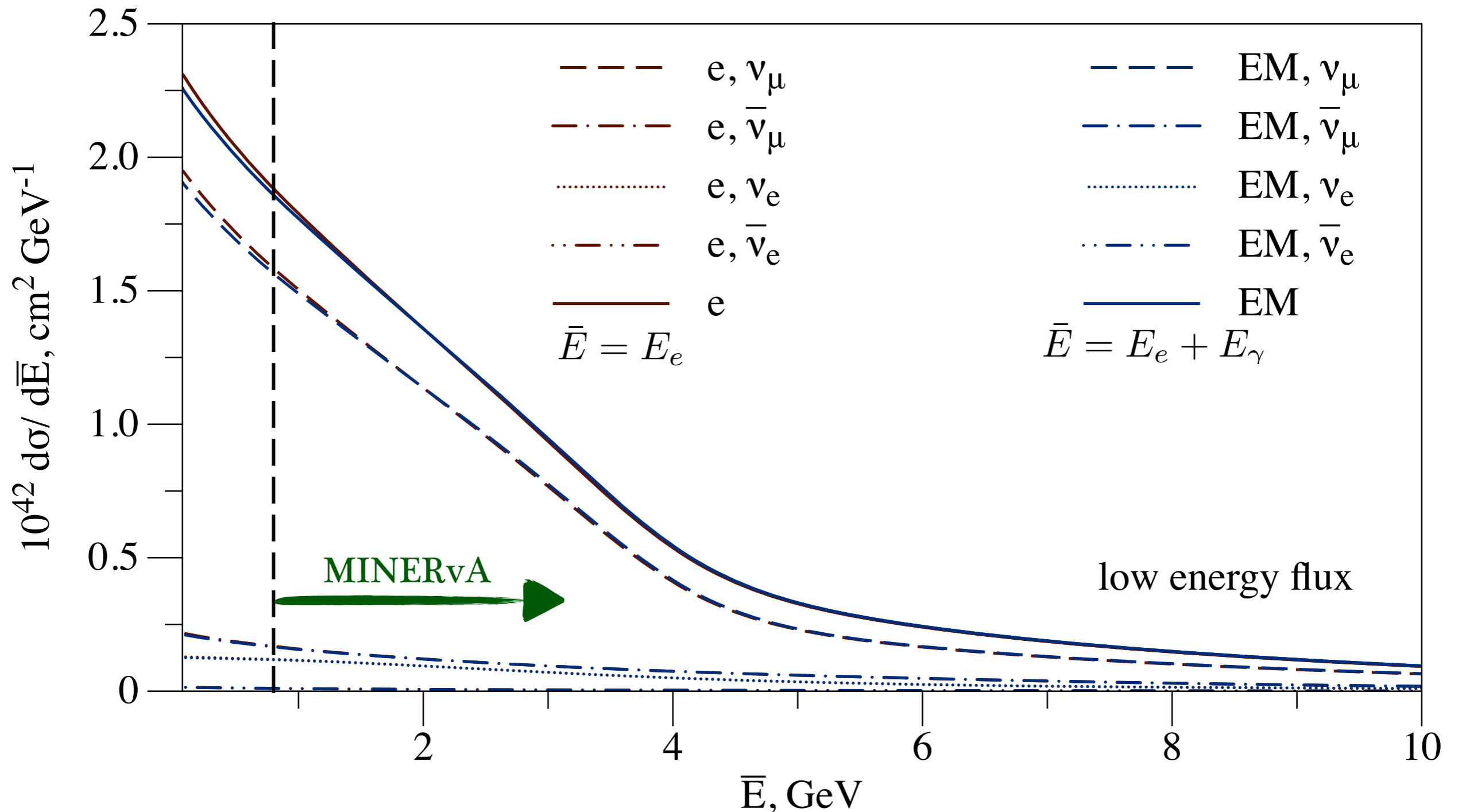


- cut dependence after radiative corrections



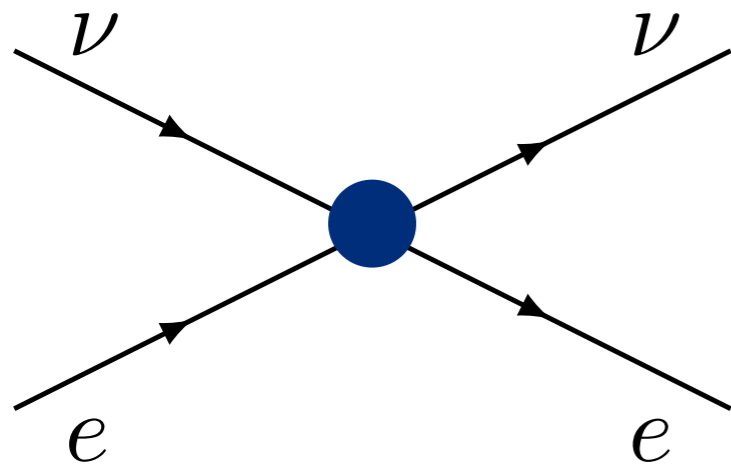
# Experimental energy spectrum

- average over beam flux and sum over flavors:



- 1-3 % difference at low recoil energy

# Conclusions



powerful constraint  
on neutrino flux

- precision four Fermi effective theory: basis for computations with sub-percent accuracy in neutrino interactions
- total and differential neutrino-electron cross sections evaluated from theory with first error analysis
- **dominant hadronic uncertainty** at the level 0.2-0.4% could be further reduced by lattice QCD
- energy spectra and bremsstrahlung cross sections: new results in analytical form

Thanks for your attention !!!