

The $0\nu\beta\beta$ and its implications

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高能所

- ★ Coming to the $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay
- ★ Its sensitivity to Majorana
- ★ New physics as pollution
- ★ Other possible ways out?

Review 1: S. Elliot, M. Franz, 1403.4976 (Rev. Mod. Phys.)

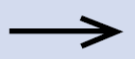
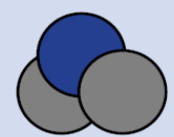
Review 2: S. Bilenky, C. Giunti, arXiv:1411.4791

@ 中国科技大学，无中微子 $\beta\beta$ 衰变研讨会，2014年12月6日



Three-Body Final State

Tritium (2, 1)



Helium-3 (1, 2)



Electron



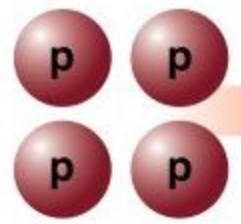
Antineutrino



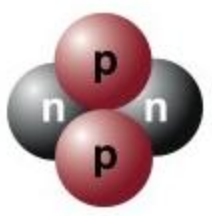
Electron and neutrino share the available energy.

$$(N, Z) \rightarrow (N - 1, Z + 1) + e^- + \bar{\nu}$$

$$4p \rightarrow {}^4\text{He} + 2e^+ + 2\nu_e + 26.73 \text{ MeV}$$



4 ¹H



1 ⁴He

+

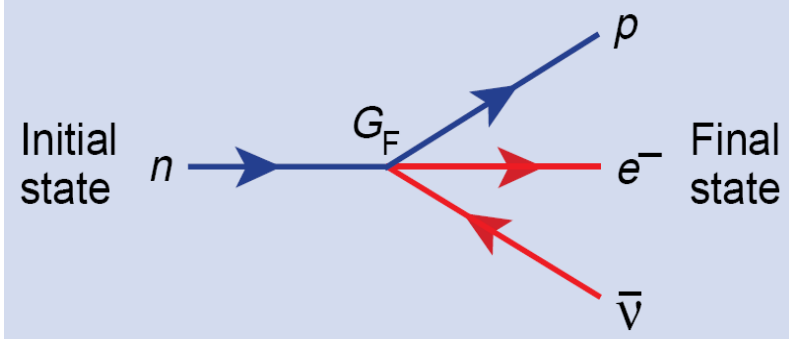
energy

$$+ 2e^+ + 2\nu_e$$



I will be remembered for this paper

Neutron Beta Decay



$$n \rightarrow p + e^- + \bar{\nu}$$

Why the sun shines? Because blah blah blah

$\beta\beta$ decay: certain **even-even** nuclei have a chance to decay into the second nearest neighbors via two simultaneous β decays (equivalent to the decays of two neutrons).

necessary conditions:

$$m(Z,A) > m(Z + 2,A)$$

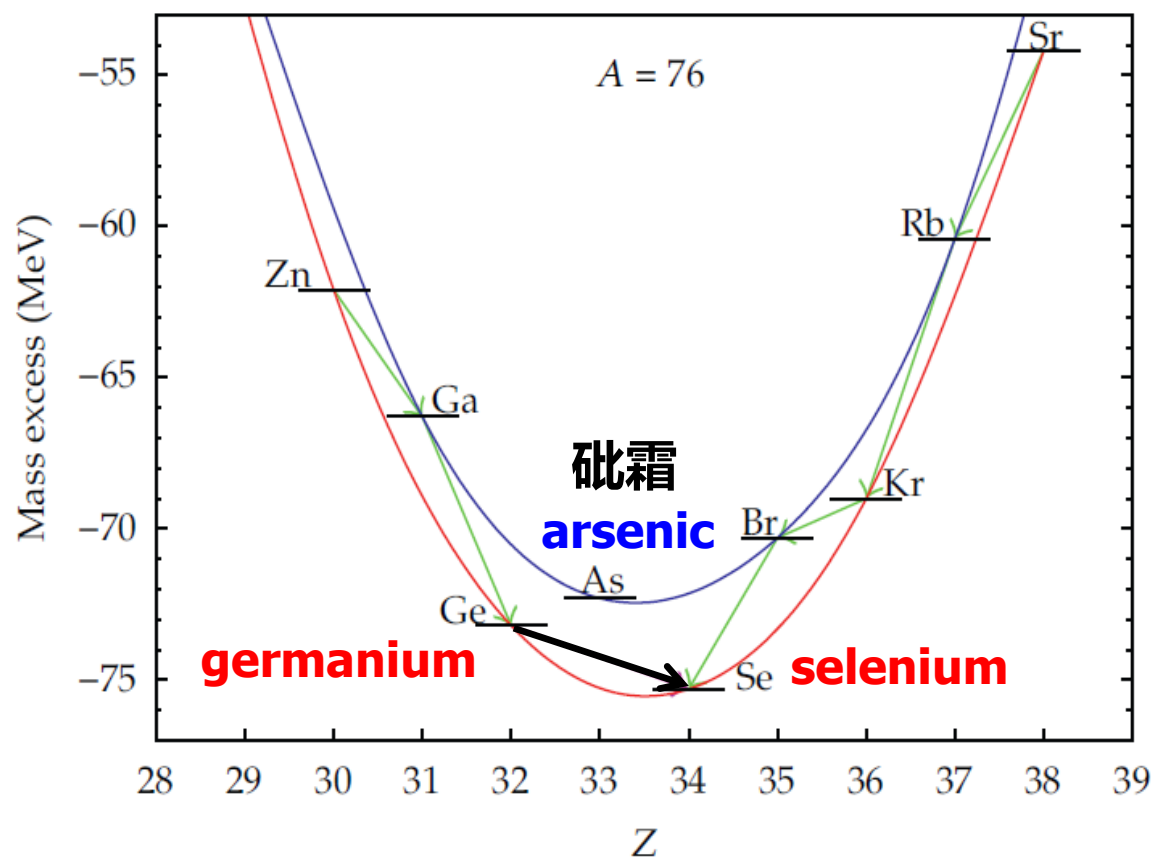
$$m(Z,A) < m(Z + 1,A)$$

$$(Z, A) \rightarrow (Z + 2, A) + 2e^- + 2\bar{\nu}_e.$$



1935

Maria Goeppert Mayer



★ Theory of the Symmetry of Electrons and Positrons

Ettore Majorana

Nuovo Cim. 14 (1937) 171

Are massive **neutrinos** and **antineutrinos** identical or different — a fundamental puzzling question in particle physics.



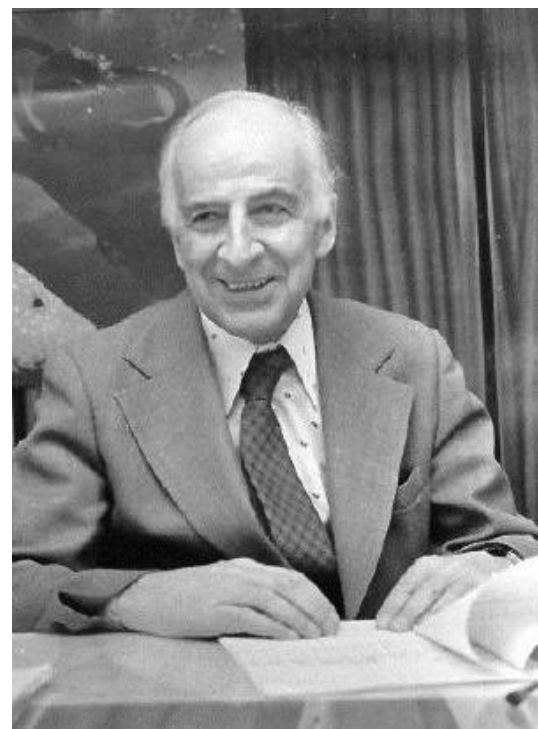
★ Mesonium and Anti-mesonium

Bruno Pontecorvo

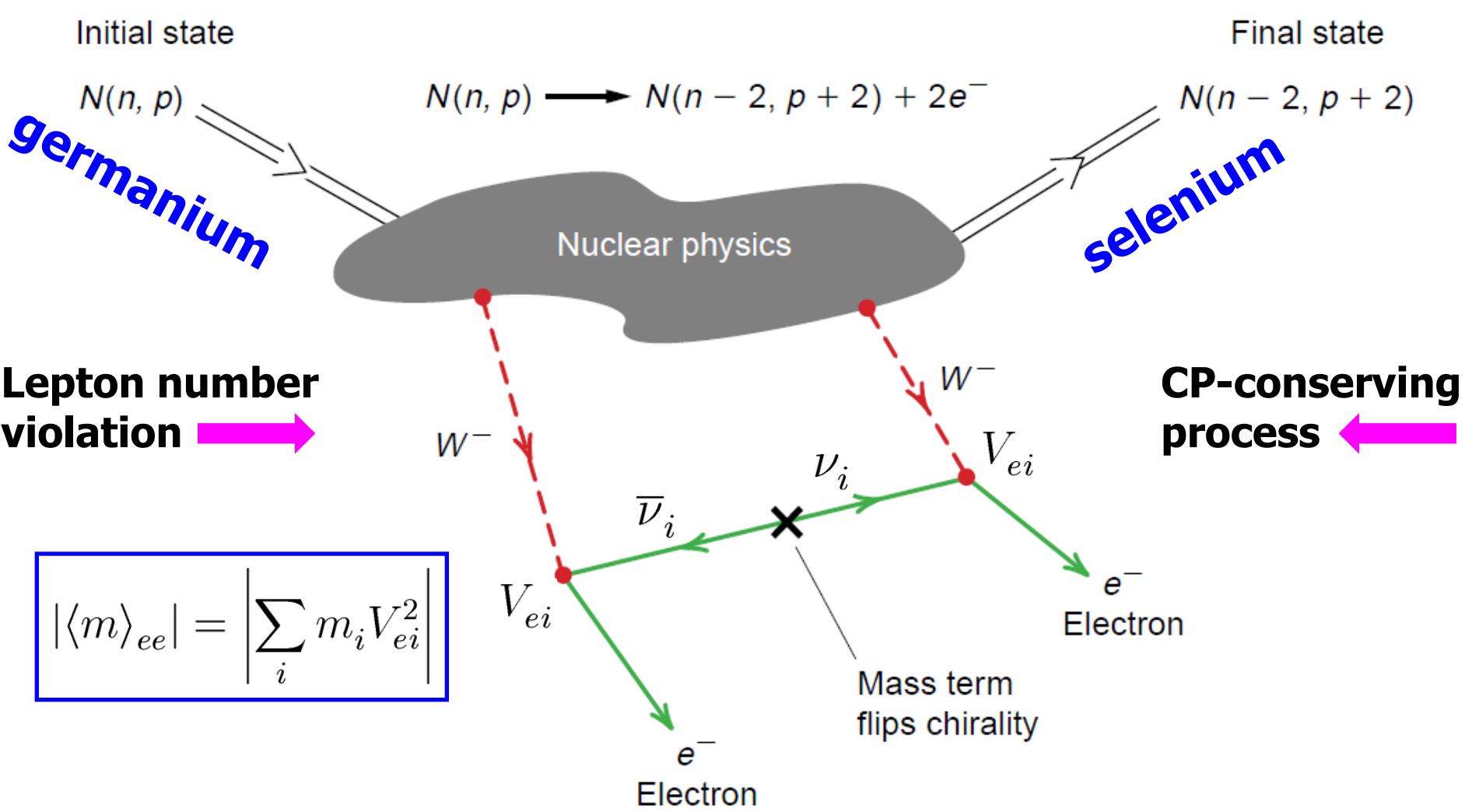
Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz. 33 (1957) 549

Sov. Phys. JETP 6 (1957) 429

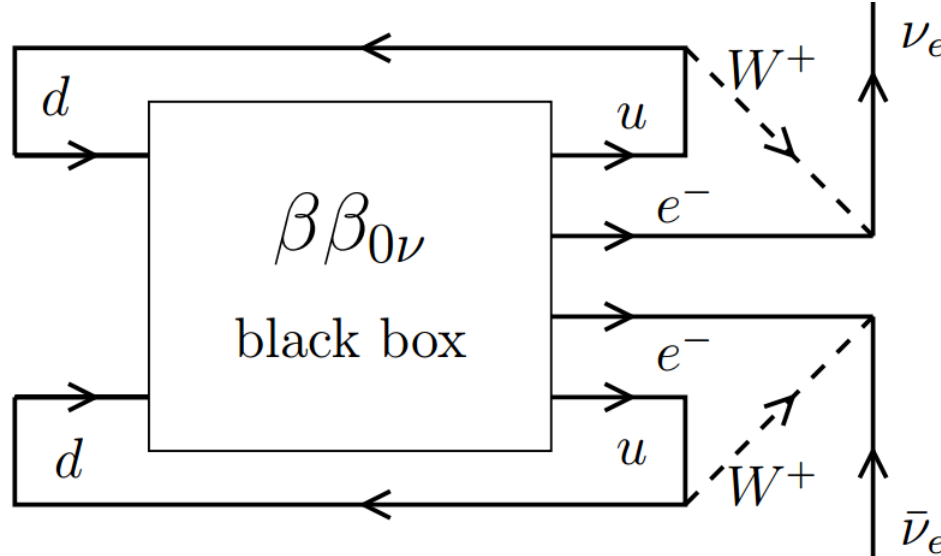
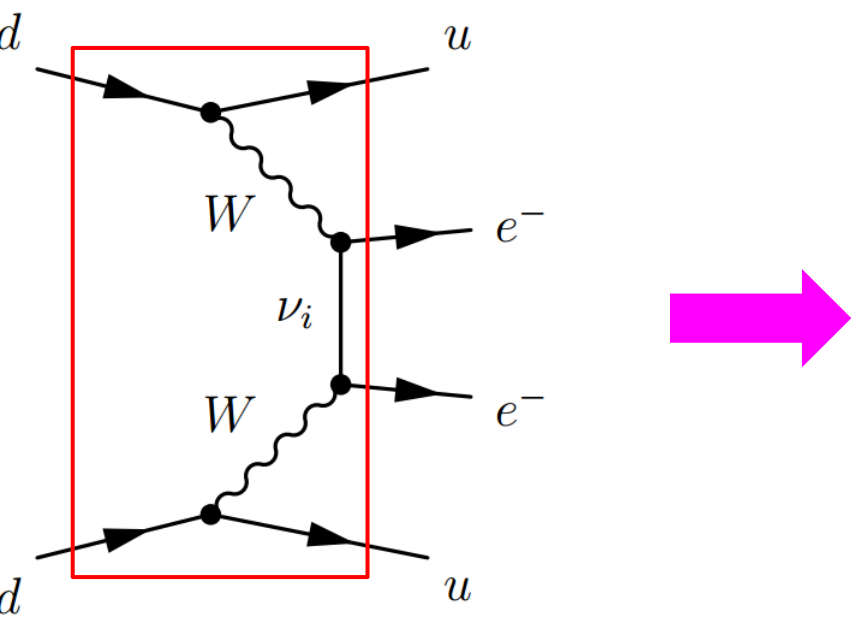
If the two-component neutrino theory turned out to be incorrect and if the conservation law of neutrino charge didn't apply, then **neutrino-antineutrino** transitions would in principle be possible to take place in vacuum.



The **neutrinoless** double beta decay can happen if massive neutrinos are the Majorana particles (W.H. Furry 1939):



THEOREM (1982): if a $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay happens, there must be an effective **Majorana** mass term.



Bruno Pontecorvo's Prediction
 指导我们试验的理论基础是SV定理

Four-loop ν mass:

$$\delta m_\nu = \mathcal{O}(10^{-24} \text{ eV})$$
 (Duerr, Lindner, Merle, 2011)

Note: The **black box** can in principle have many different processes (new physics). Only in the simplest case, which is most interesting, it's likely to constrain neutrino masses

GERDA has killed the **Heidelberg-Moscow's** claim on $0\nu\beta\beta$.

PRL 111, 122503 (2013)

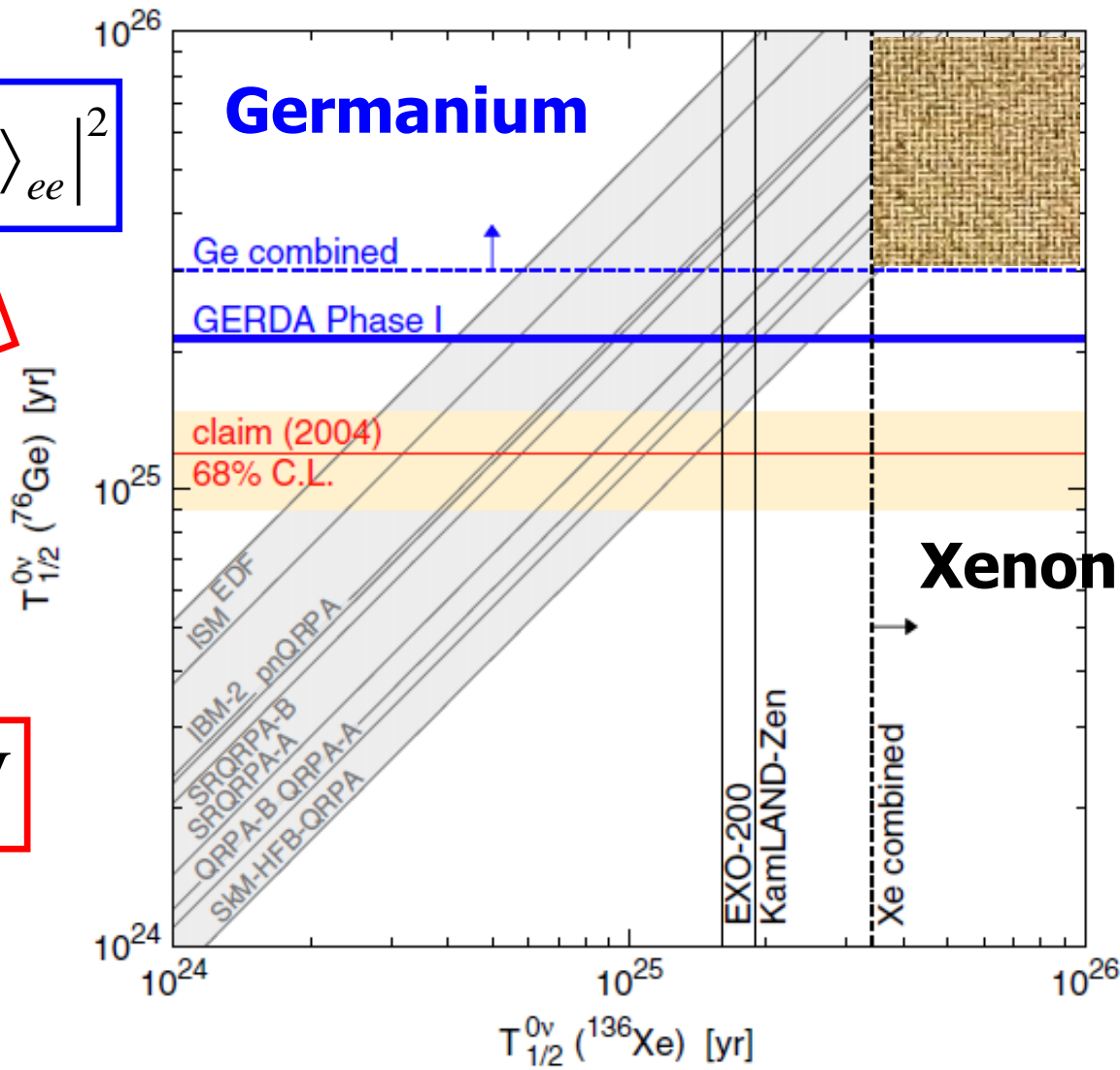
$$\left(T_{1/2}^{0\nu}\right)^{-1} = G^{0\nu} \left|M^{0\nu}\right|^2 \left|\langle m \rangle_{ee}\right|^2$$

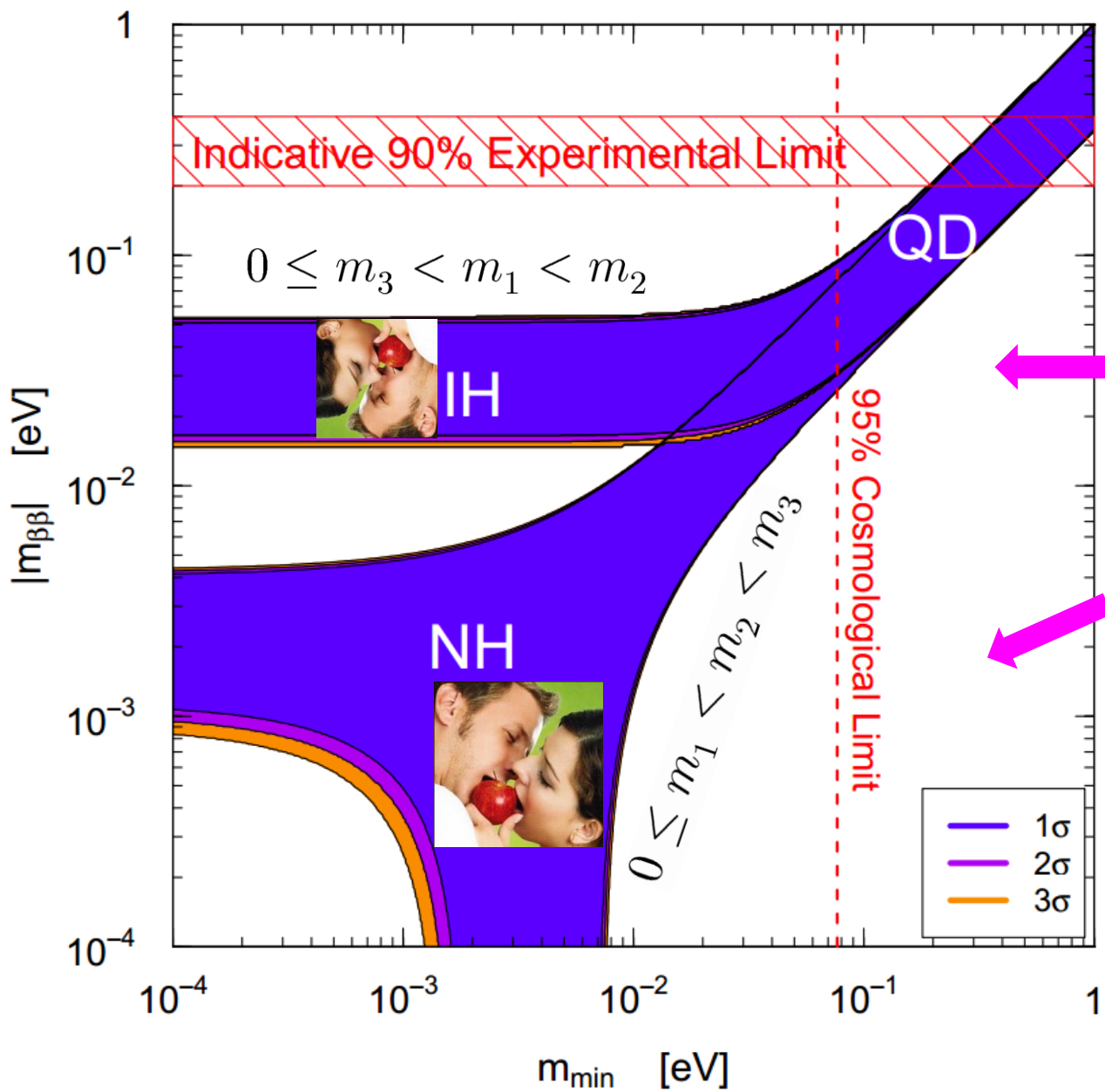
$T_{1/2}^{0\nu} > 3.0 \times 10^{25} \text{ yr (90\% C.L.)}$



$$\left|\langle m \rangle_{ee}\right| < 0.2 \rightarrow 0.4 \text{ eV}$$

$$\left|\langle m \rangle_{ee}\right| = \left|\sum_i m_i V_{ei}^2\right|$$





The effective mass

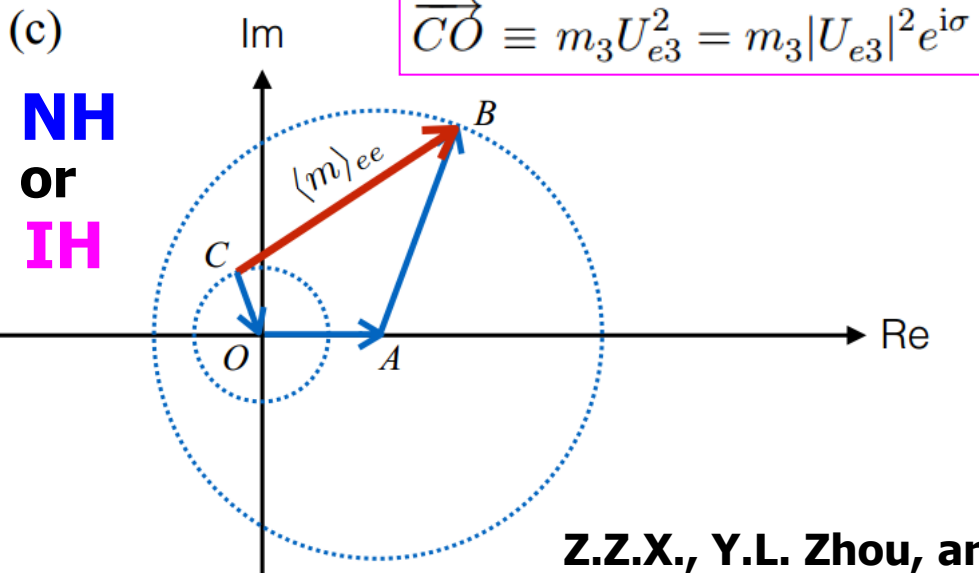
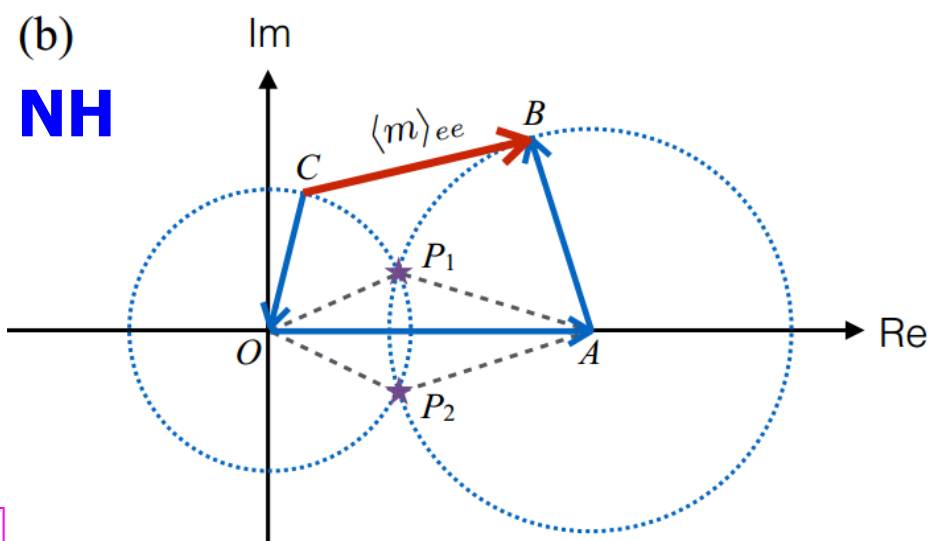
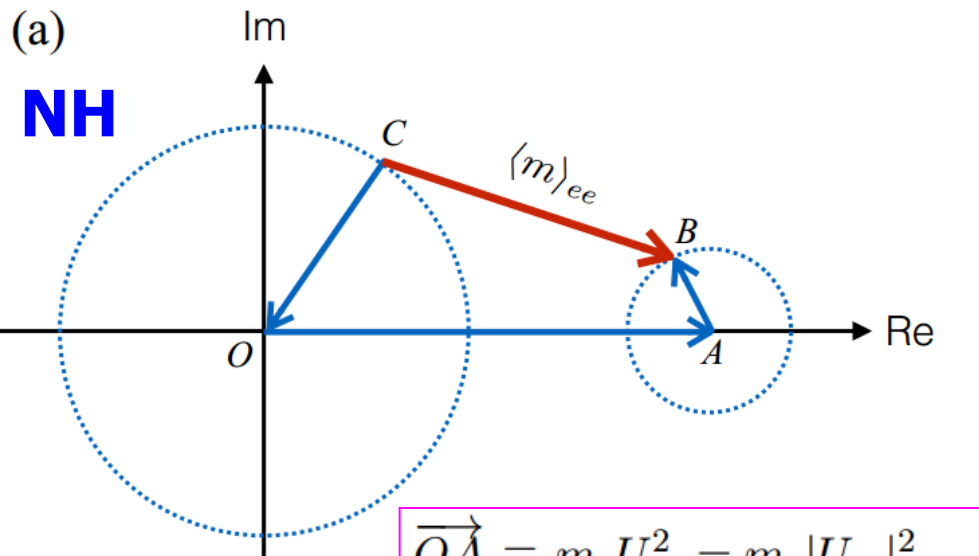
$$|\langle m \rangle_{ee}| = \left| \sum_i m_i V_{ei}^2 \right|$$

Maury Goodman asks
An intelligent design?

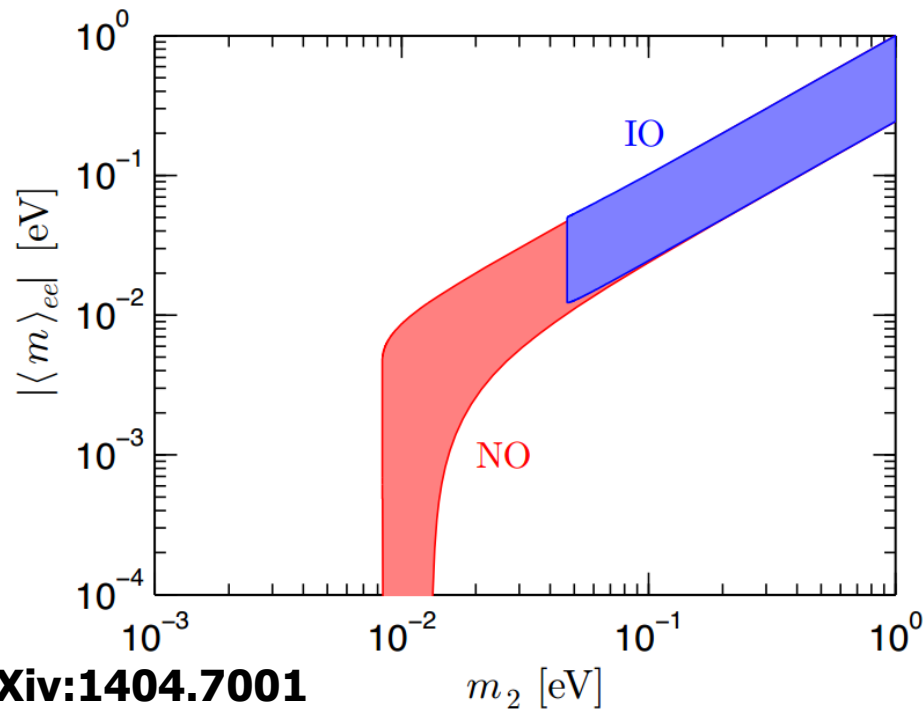
I asked myself in 2003
Vanishing $0\nu\beta\beta$ mass?
hep-ph/0305195, PRD

CP phases also matter

In case of **new physics**,
is it destructive or
constructive?



$$\begin{aligned}\vec{OA} &\equiv m_2 U_{e2}^2 = m_2 |U_{e2}|^2, \\ \vec{AB} &\equiv m_1 U_{e1}^2 = m_1 |U_{e1}|^2 e^{i\rho} \\ \vec{CO} &\equiv m_3 U_{e3}^2 = m_3 |U_{e3}|^2 e^{i\sigma}\end{aligned}$$



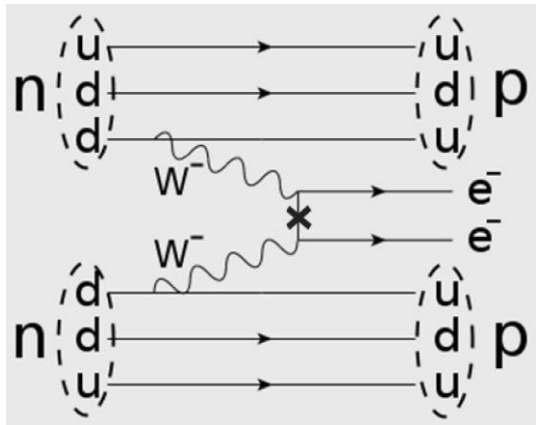
Type (A): NP directly related to extra species of neutrinos.

Example 1: heavy Majorana neutrinos from type-I seesaw

$$-\mathcal{L}_{\text{lepton}} = \overline{l}_L Y_l H E_R + \overline{l}_L Y_\nu \tilde{H} N_R + \frac{1}{2} \overline{N_R^c} M_R N_R + \text{h.c.}$$

$$\Gamma_{0\nu\beta\beta} \propto \left| \sum_{i=1}^3 V_{ei}^2 m_i - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{R_{ek}^2}{M_k} M_A^2 \mathcal{F}(A, M_k) \right|^2$$

In most cases the heavy contribution is negligible



Example 2: light sterile neutrinos from LSND etc

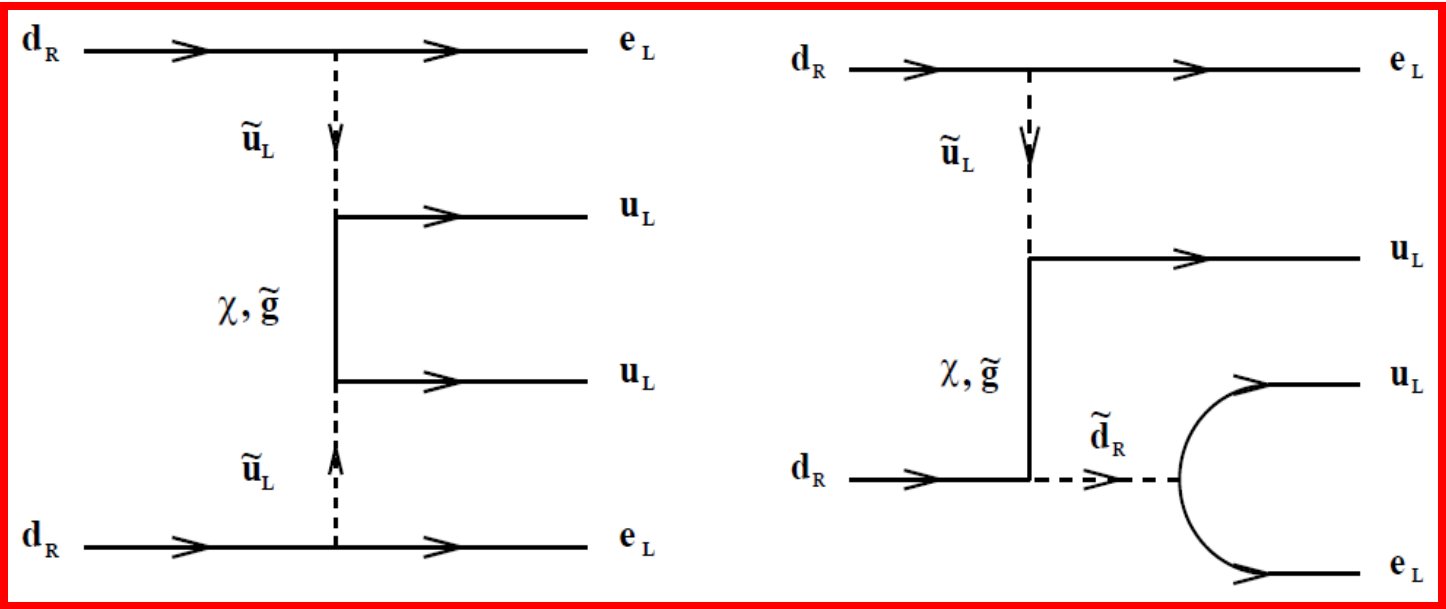
$$\langle m \rangle'_{ee} \equiv \sum_{i=1}^6 m_i V_{ei}^2 = \underbrace{\langle m \rangle_{ee}}_{\text{light}} + \underbrace{m_4 (\hat{s}_{14}^* c_{15} c_{16})^2 + m_5 (\hat{s}_{15}^* c_{16})^2 + m_6 (\hat{s}_{16}^*)^2}_{\text{heavy}}$$

In this case the new contribution might be constructive or destructive

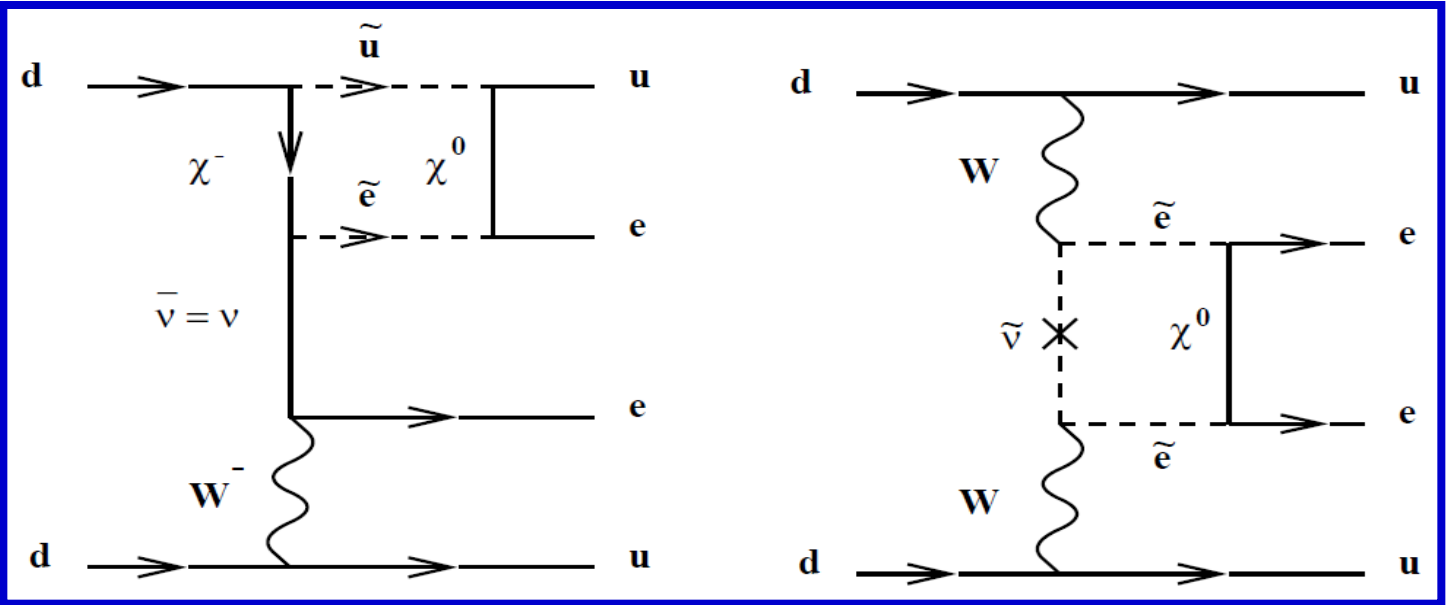
Type (B): NP has little to do with the neutrino mass issue.

SUSY, Left-right, and some others that I don't understand

Example (A):
R-parity
violation



Example (B):
R-parity
conservation



QUESTION: are massive neutrinos the **Majorana** particles?

One might be able to answer **YES** through a measurement of the $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay or other **LNV** processes someday, but how to answer with **NO**?



YES
or
I don't know!



The same question: how to distinguish between **Dirac** and **Majorana** neutrinos in a realistic experiment?

Answer 1: The $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay is currently the only possibility.

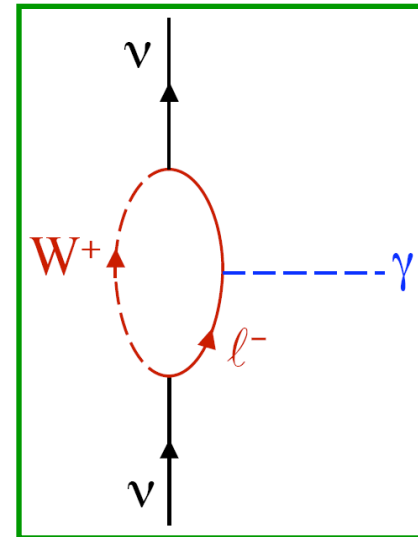
Answer 2: In principle their dipole moments are different.

Answer 3: They show different behavior if nonrelativistic.

Without electric charges, neutrinos have **electromagnetic interactions** with the photon via quantum loops.

Given the SM interactions, a massive **Dirac** neutrino can only have a tiny **magnetic** dipole moment:

$$\mu_\nu \sim \frac{3eG_F}{8\sqrt{2}\pi^2} m_\nu = 3 \times 10^{-20} \frac{m_\nu}{0.1 \text{ eV}} \mu_B$$



A massive **Majorana** neutrino can **not** have **magnetic** & **electric** dipole moments, as its antiparticle is itself.

Proof: **Dirac** neutrino's electromagnetic vertex can be parametrized as

$$\Gamma_\mu(p, p') = f_Q(q^2)\gamma_\mu + f_M(q^2)i\sigma_{\mu\nu}q^\nu + f_E(q^2)\sigma_{\mu\nu}q^\nu\gamma_5 + f_A(q^2)(q^2\gamma_\mu - q_\mu q^\nu\gamma_\nu)\gamma_5$$

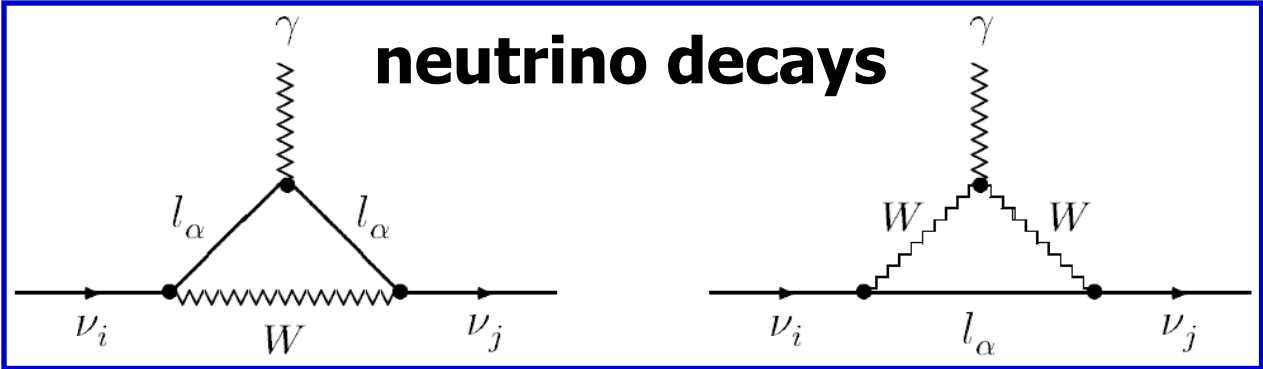
Majorana
neutrinos

$$\bar{\psi}\Gamma_\mu\psi = \bar{\psi}^c\Gamma_\mu\psi^c = \psi^T\mathcal{C}\Gamma_\mu\mathcal{C}\bar{\psi}^T = (\psi^T\mathcal{C}\Gamma_\mu\mathcal{C}\bar{\psi}^T)^T = -\bar{\psi}\mathcal{C}^T\Gamma_\mu^T\mathcal{C}\psi = \bar{\psi}\mathcal{C}\Gamma_\mu^T\mathcal{C}^{-1}\psi$$



$f_Q(q^2) = f_M(q^2) = f_E(q^2) = 0$ intrinsic property of **Majorana v's**.

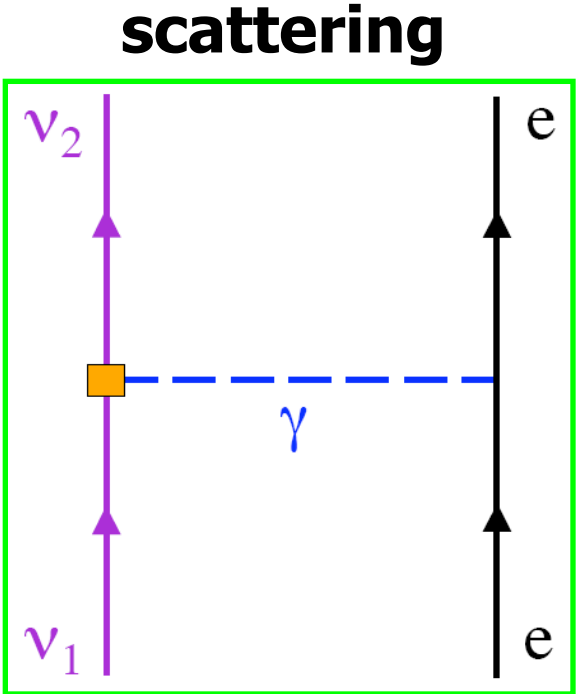
Both **Dirac** & **Majorana** neutrinos can have *transition* dipole moments (of a size comparable with μ_ν) that may give rise to neutrino decays, scattering with electrons, interactions with external magnetic field & contributions to ν masses. (**Data:** $< \text{a few} \times 10^{-11}$ Bohr magneton).



$$\mu_{\text{eff}} \equiv \sqrt{|\mu_{ij}|^2 + |\epsilon_{ij}|^2}$$

$$\Gamma_{\nu_i \rightarrow \nu_j + \gamma} = 5.3 \times \left(1 - \frac{m_j^2}{m_i^2}\right)^3 \left(\frac{m_i}{1 \text{ eV}}\right)^3 \left(\frac{\mu_{\text{eff}}}{\mu_B}\right)^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma'_\mu}{dT} = \frac{\alpha^2 \pi}{m_e^2} \sum_{k=1}^3 \left| \sum_{j=1}^3 e^{iq_j L} V_{ej} \left(i \frac{\mu_{jk}}{\mu_B} + \frac{\epsilon_{jk}}{\mu_B} \right) \right|^2 \left(\frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{E_\nu} \right)$$



When $T \sim 1$ MeV after the Big Bang, the neutrinos became decoupled from thermal plasma, formed a ν background in the Universe. Today the relic neutrinos are nonrelativistic.

Temperature today

$$T_\nu = \left(\frac{4}{11}\right)^{1/3} T_\gamma \simeq 1.945 \text{ K}$$

Mean momentum today

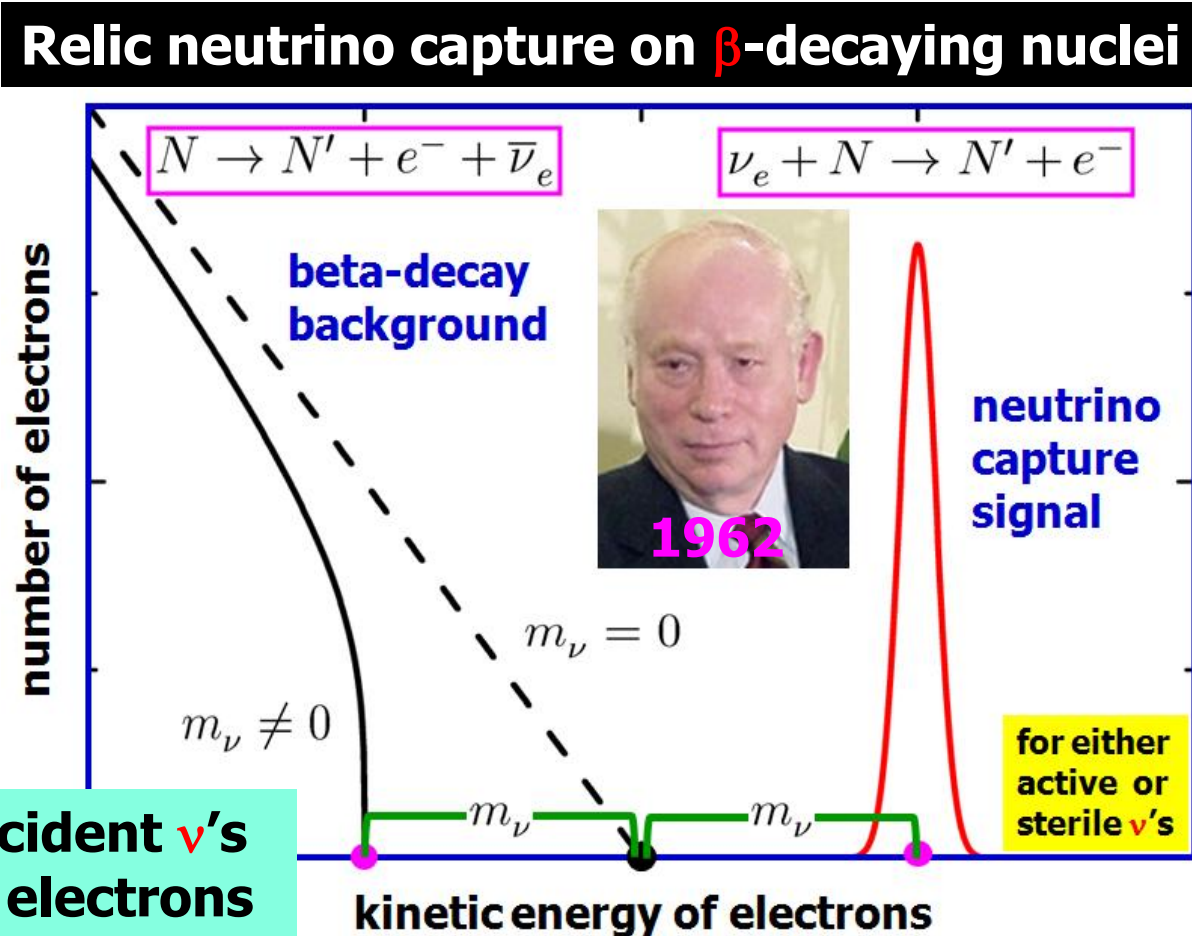
$$\begin{aligned} \langle p_\nu \rangle &\simeq 3.151 T_\nu \\ &\simeq 5.281 \times 10^{-4} \text{ eV} \end{aligned}$$

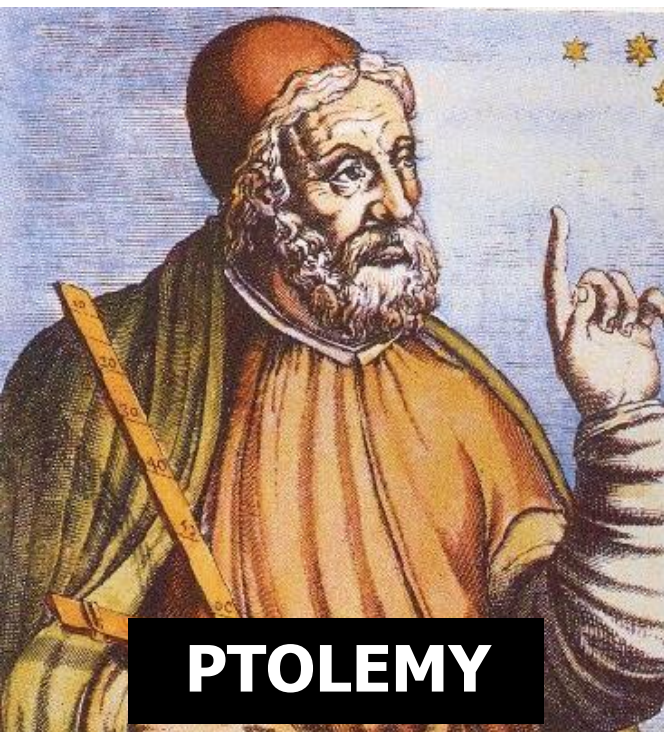
At least 2 ν 's cold today

Non-relativistic ν 's!

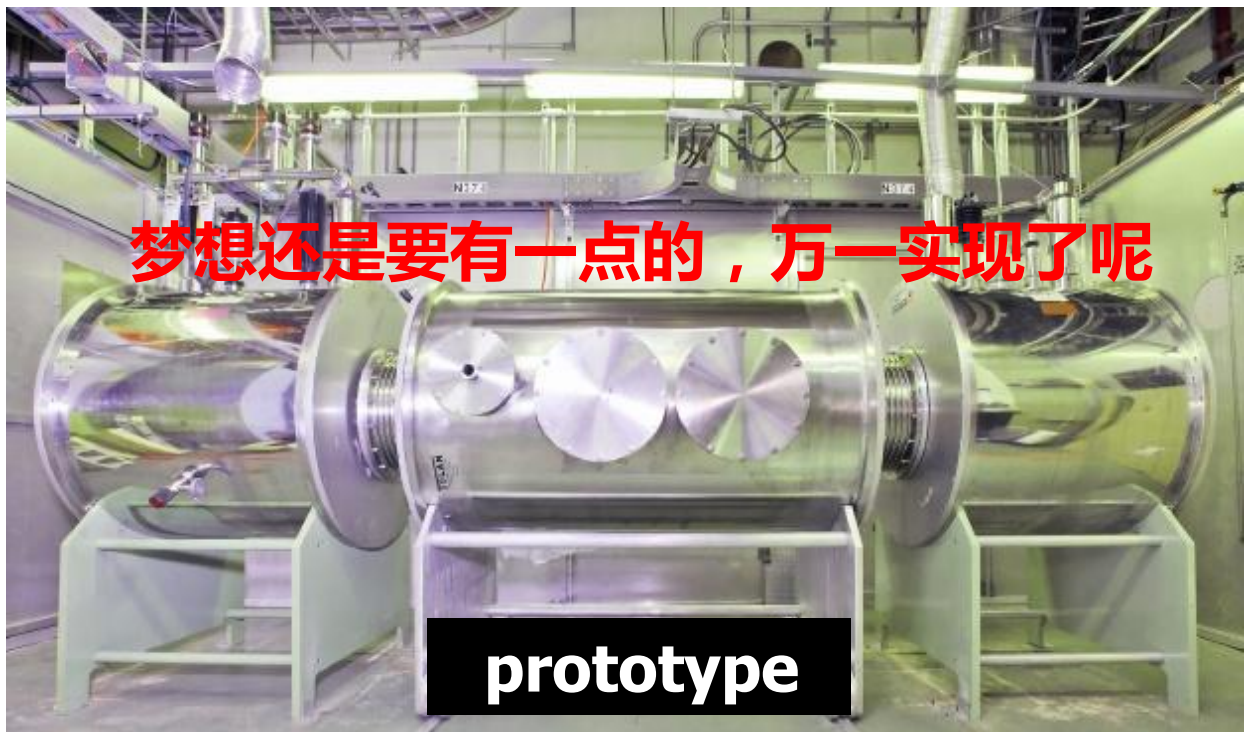
(Irvine & Humphreys, 83)

no energy threshold on incident ν 's
mono-energetic outgoing electrons





PTOLEMY



梦想还是要有一点点的，万一实现了呢

prototype

- ★ first experiment
- ★ 100 g of tritium
- ★ graphene target
- ★ planned energy resolution 0.15 eV

★ **C_νB** capture rate

$$\Gamma_{C\nu B}^D \sim 4 \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

$$\Gamma_{C\nu B}^M \sim 8 \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

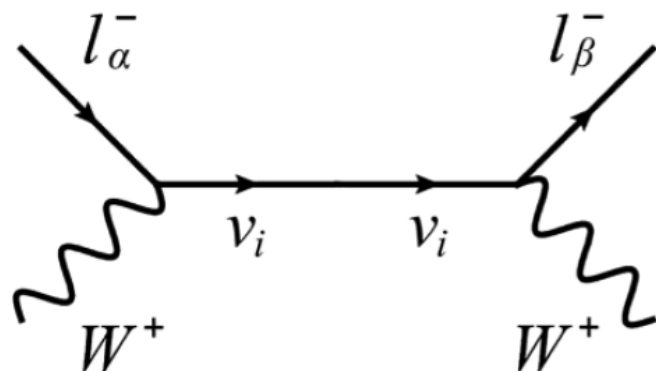
D = Dirac

M = Majorana

PTOLEMY

Pinceton **T**ritium
Observatory for
Light, **E**arly-
Universe, **M**assive-
Neutrino **Y**ield
(Betts et al,
arXiv:1307.4738)

Comparison: **neutrino-neutrino** and **neutrino-antineutrino** oscillation experiments.



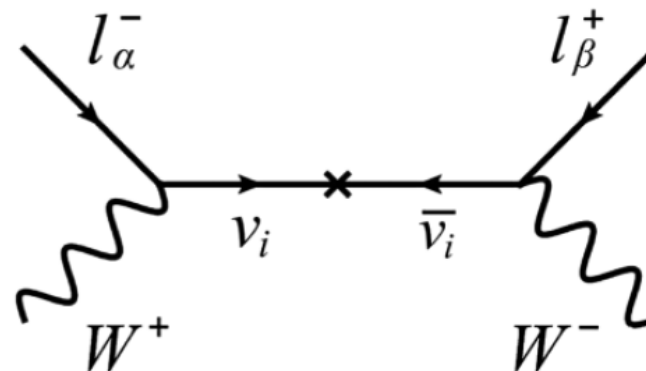
neutrino → neutrino

$$A = \sum_{k=1}^3 V_{\alpha k}^* V_{\beta k} e^{-iE_k t}$$

Feasible and successful today!

Sensitivity to CP-violating phase(s):

δ



neutrino → antineutrino

$$A = \frac{1}{E} \sum_{k=1}^3 V_{\alpha k} V_{\beta k} m_k e^{-iE_k t}$$

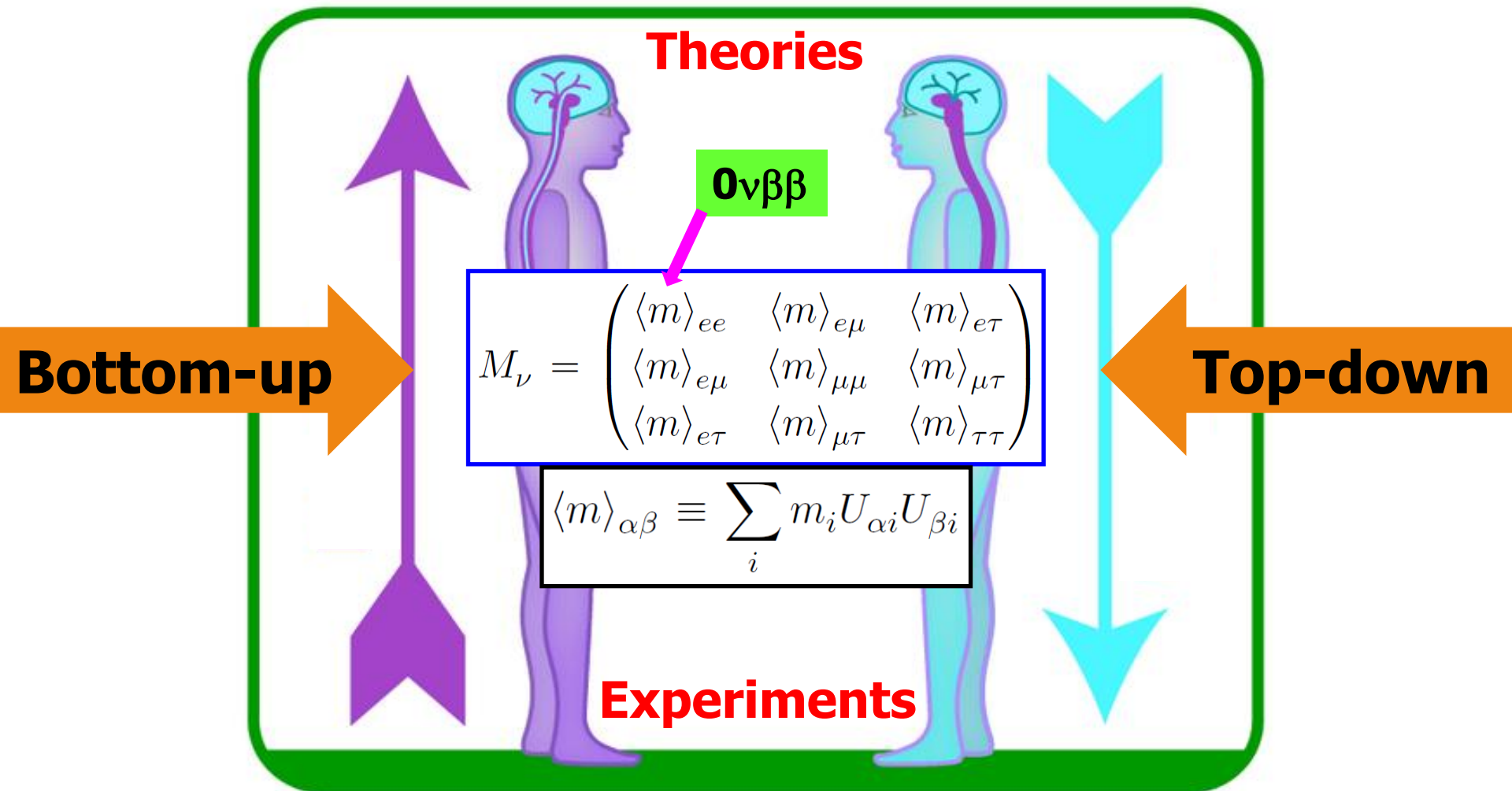
Unfeasible, a hope tomorrow?

δ

ρ

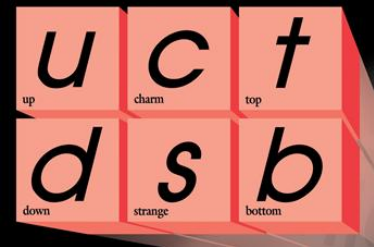
σ

Without information on the **nature of massive neutrinos** (**Majorana** or not) and **all the CP-violating phases**, one will **have no way** to establish a full theory of ν masses and flavor mixing. Give $0\nu\beta\beta$ a chance!



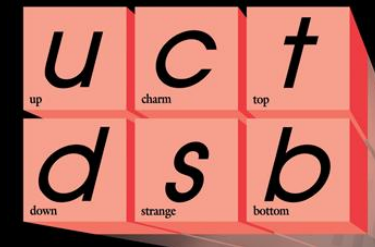
OUTLOOK: How about the Majorana phases?

Quarks



1/5
OK!

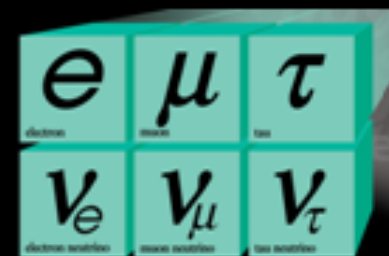
Quarks



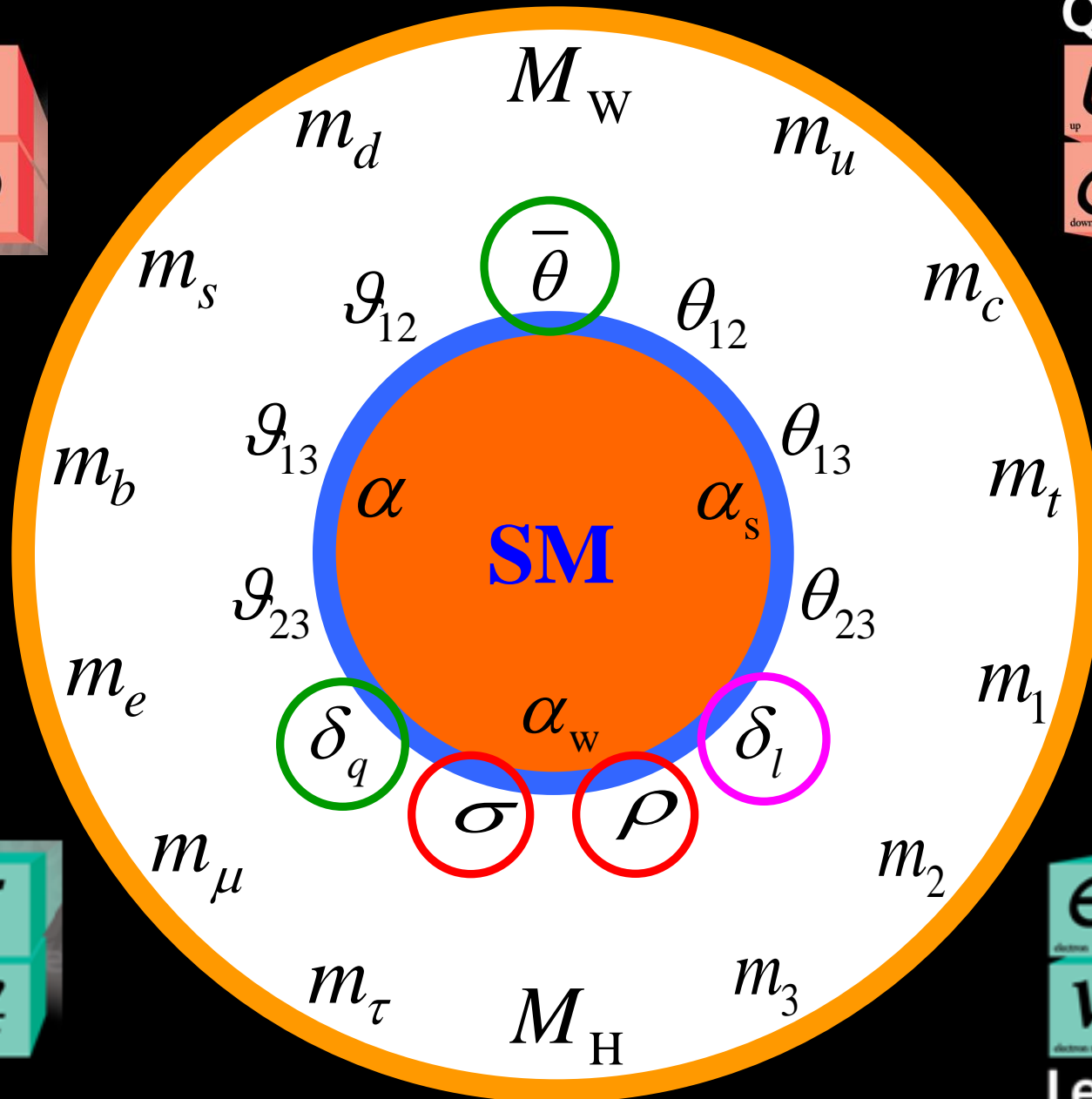
4/5
NO!



Leptons



Leptons



亲们：也许我就是你盘中的菜呢

0vββ

A top-down view of a white ceramic plate. In the center is a large, rectangular piece of raw, red meat. Surrounding the meat are several fresh ingredients: a piece of ginger root at the top left, two red chili peppers (one whole, one cut) at the top, a green chili pepper on the right, and four whole, light-brown carrots at the bottom. The text '0vββ' is superimposed in yellow over the meat.