

Theoretical Overview of Neutrino Oscillations

22nd International
Workshop on Next
Generation Nucleon
Decay and Neutrino
Detectors
(NNN23)

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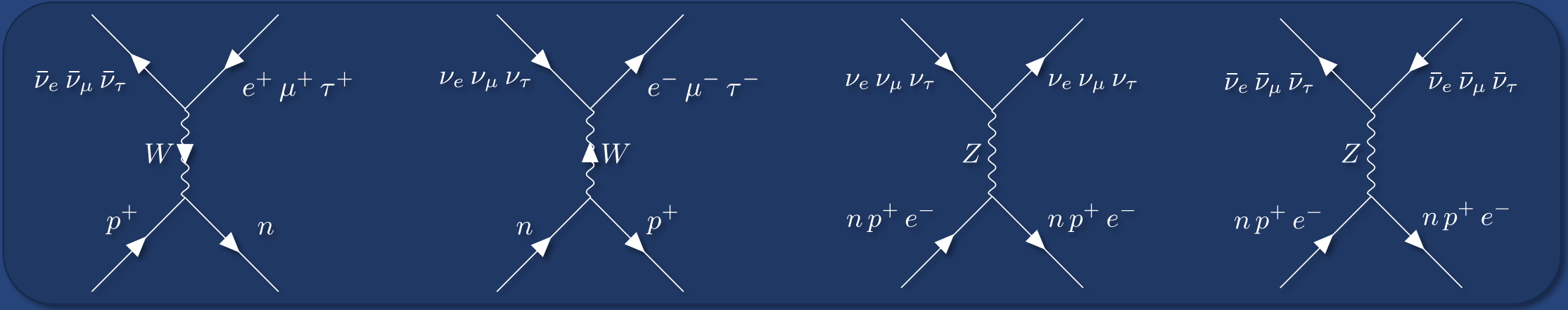
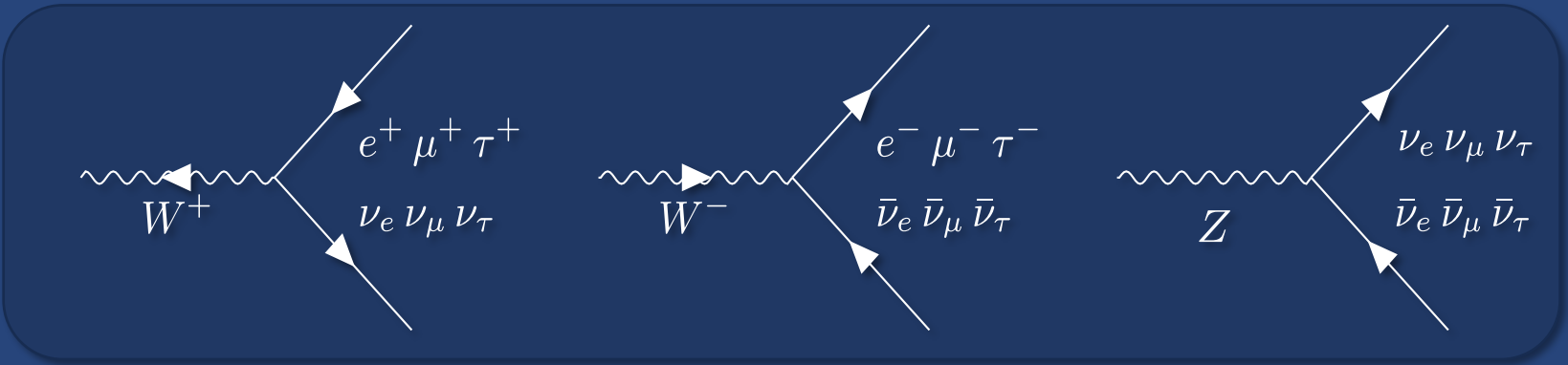
Particle content of the Standard Model

		three generations of matter (elementary fermions)			three generations of antimatter (elementary antifermions)			interactions / force carriers (elementary bosons)	
		I	II	III	I	II	III		
mass	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 2.2 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.28 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 173.1 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	0	0	$\approx 125.09 \text{ GeV}/c^2$
charge	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{2}{3}$	0	0	0
spin	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	0
	u up	c charm	t top	\bar{u} antiup	\bar{c} anticharm	\bar{t} antitop	g gluon		H higgs
QUARKS	d down	s strange	b bottom	\bar{d} antidown	\bar{s} antistrange	\bar{b} antibottom	γ photon	Z Z ⁰ boson	W⁺ W ⁺ boson
	$\approx 4.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 96 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 4.18 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 4.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 96 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 4.18 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	0	0	0
	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	0	0	0
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1
	e electron	μ muon	τ tau	e^+ positron	$\bar{\mu}$ antimuon	$\bar{\tau}$ antitau			
LEPTONS	$\approx 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.7768 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 0.511 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 105.66 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 1.7768 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 91.19 \text{ GeV}/c^2$		
	-1	-1	-1	1	1	1	0	1	1
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	1
	ν_e electron neutrino	ν_μ muon neutrino	ν_τ tau neutrino	$\bar{\nu}_e$ electron antineutrino	$\bar{\nu}_\mu$ muon antineutrino	$\bar{\nu}_\tau$ tau antineutrino	W⁺ W ⁺ boson	W⁻ W ⁻ boson	
	$< 2.2 \text{ eV}/c^2$	$< 1.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$< 15.5 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$< 2.2 \text{ eV}/c^2$	$< 1.7 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$< 15.5 \text{ MeV}/c^2$	$\approx 80.39 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	$\approx 80.39 \text{ GeV}/c^2$	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	
	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	

Left-handed (right-handed), massless (anti)neutrinos, part of SU(2) doublets

Flavour neutrinos in the SM

Charged Current and Neutral Current electroweak interactions



Sources of Neutrinos

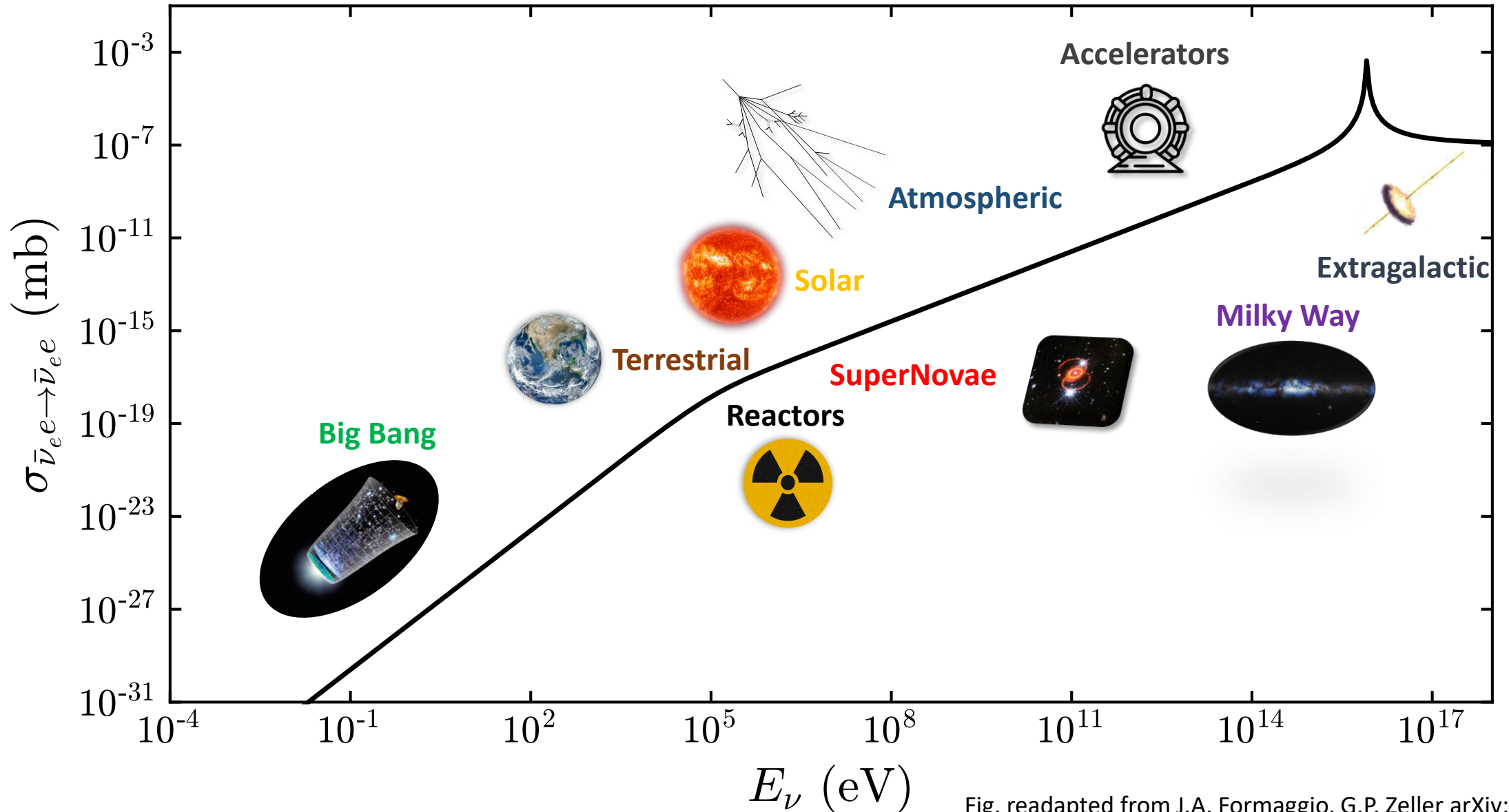
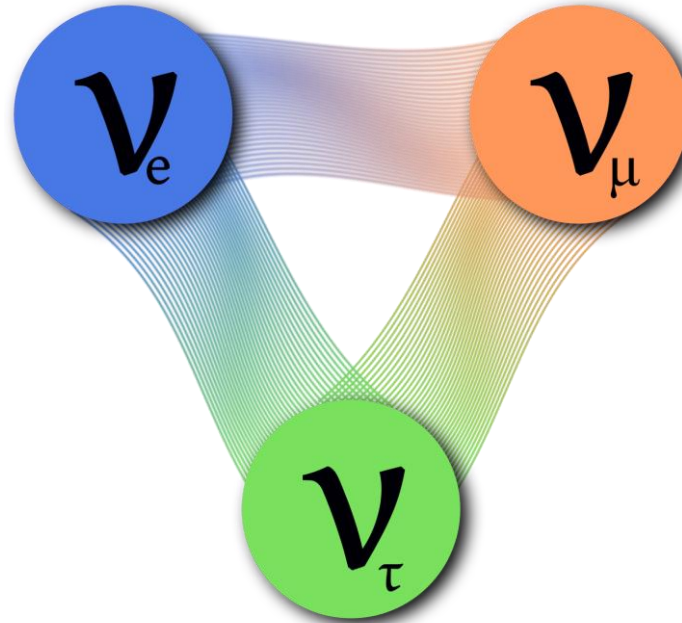


Fig. readapted from J.A. Formaggio, G.P. Zeller arXiv:1305.7513.

Neutrinos are massive and mix



Neutrinos **oscillate** and, thus, are **massive!**

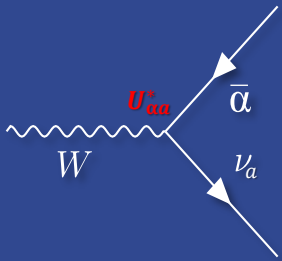
Their mass is small ($< \text{eV}$) compared to the other known fundamental particles.

The three-neutrino mixing scheme

The flavour neutrinos are a superposition of mass eigenstates

$$\nu_{\alpha L}(x) = \sum_{a=1}^3 U_{\alpha a} \nu_{aL}(x),$$

where $\nu_a(x)$ have masses $m_{1,2,3}$ and U is the unitary Pontecorvo-Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata (**PMNS**) lepton mixing matrix



The PMNS matrix U enters the electroweak interaction

$$\mathcal{L}_{C.C.} = -\frac{g_w}{\sqrt{2}} U_{\alpha a}^* \bar{\nu}_{aL} \gamma^\mu W_\mu \psi_{\alpha L} + \text{h.c.}$$

and regulates in the probability that a neutrino with flavour α and energy E at $t = 0$, after a distance L is detected with flavour β

$$P(\nu_\alpha \rightarrow \nu_\beta) = \left| \sum_a U_{\alpha a} U_{\beta a}^* e^{-i\frac{\Delta m_{a1}^2 L}{2E}} \right|^2$$

Current knowledge of neutrino oscillation parameters

Pontecorvo-Maki-Nakagawa-Sakata (**PMNS**) neutrino mixing matrix

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & c_{23} & s_{23} \\ 0 & -s_{23} & c_{23} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{13} & 0 & s_{13}e^{i\delta} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -s_{13}e^{-i\delta} & 0 & c_{13} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{12} & s_{12} & 0 \\ -s_{12} & c_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e^{i\frac{\alpha_{21}}{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & e^{i\frac{\alpha_{31}}{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{\theta_{23}, |\Delta m_{32}^2|}_{\substack{\text{Accelerator} \\ \text{Atmospheric}}}$

$\underbrace{\theta_{13}, \delta}_{\substack{\text{Reactor} \\ \text{Accelerator}}}$

$\underbrace{\theta_{12}, \Delta m_{21}^2}_{\substack{\text{Solar} \\ \text{Reactor}}}$

$\underbrace{\alpha_{21}, \alpha_{31}}_{\substack{\text{Double-beta} \\ \text{decay}}}$

Parameters from global fits

Ordering	θ_{12} ($^\circ$)	θ_{13} ($^\circ$)	θ_{23} ($^\circ$)	δ ($^\circ$)	Δm_{21}^2 (10^{-5}eV^2)	$\Delta m_{31(32)}^2$ (10^{-3}eV^2)
NO	$33.41^{+0.75}_{-0.72}$	$8.58^{+0.11}_{-0.11}$	$42.1^{+1.1}_{-0.9}$	232^{+36}_{-26}	$7.41^{+0.21}_{-0.20}$	$2.507^{+0.026}_{-0.027}$
IO	$33.41^{+0.75}_{-0.72}$	$8.57^{+0.11}_{-0.11}$	$49.0^{+1.0}_{-1.2}$	276^{+22}_{-29}	$7.41^{+0.21}_{-0.20}$	$-2.486^{+0.025}_{-0.028}$

I. Esteban, M.C. Gonzalez-Garcia, M. Maltoni, T. Schwetz and A. Zhou (2020), [NuFIT 5.2 \(2022\)](https://nu-fit.org), www.nu-fit.org

Neutrino mass spectrum

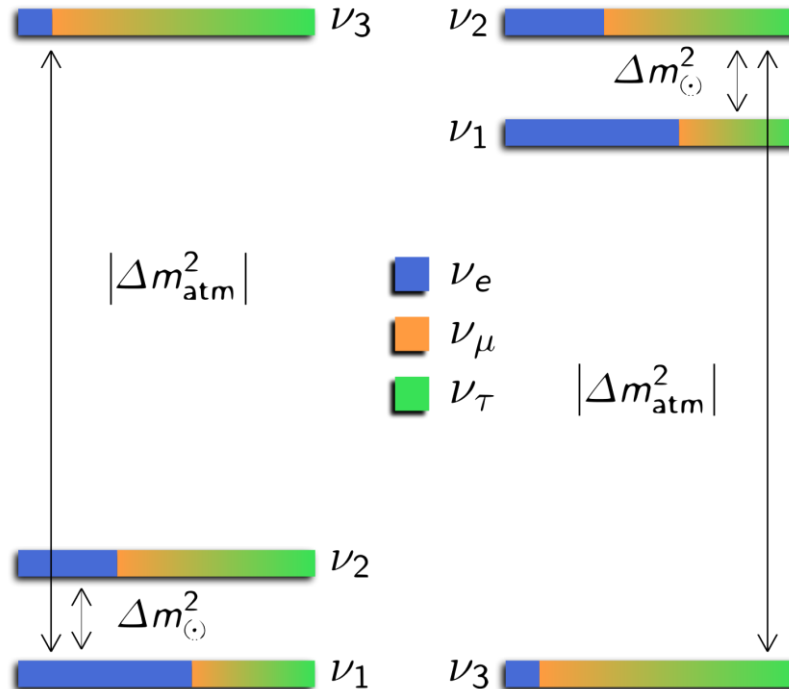
Normal Ordering

$$m_3 = \sqrt{m_{\min} + \Delta m_{31}^2}$$

$$m_2 = \sqrt{m_{\min} + \Delta m_{21}^2}$$

$$m_1 = m_{\min}$$

NO



IO

Inverted Ordering

$$m_2 = \sqrt{m_{\min} + |\Delta m_{32}^2|}$$

$$m_1 = \sqrt{m_{\min} + |\Delta m_{32}^2| - \Delta m_{21}^2}$$

$$m_3 = m_{\min}$$

Measuring the masses requires:

- The absolute mass scale: m_{\min} (can be zero)
- The mass ordering: preference of NO

Phenomenological questions for the future

What is the nature of neutrinos, **Dirac** or **Majorana**?

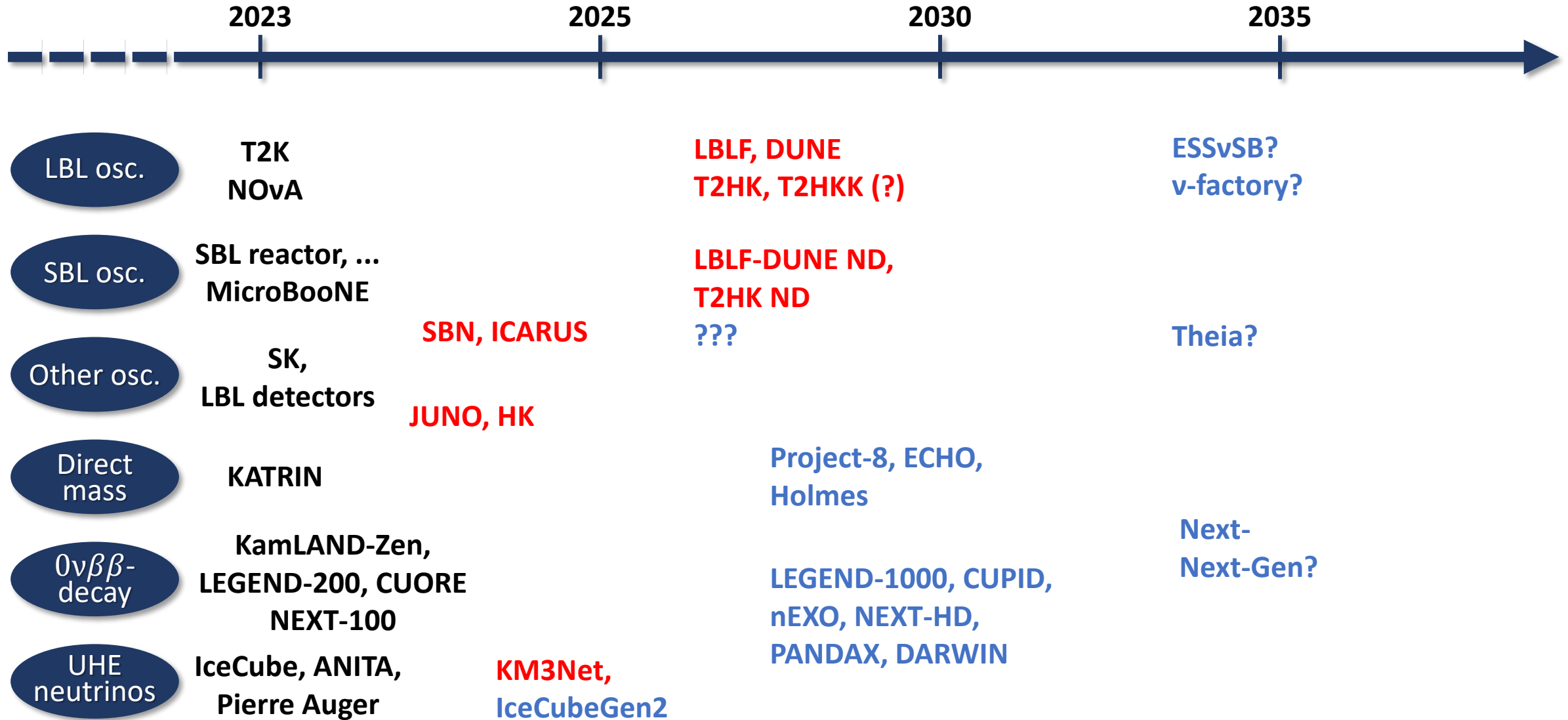
What are the **absolute mass scale** and the **mass ordering**?

Is there **CP-violation** in the PMNS lepton mixing matrix?

What are the **precise** values of the **mixing angles**?

Is the standard picture correct? Hints for BSM physics?

Future prospects of neutrino physics experiments



The nature of massive neutrinos

What is the nature of neutrinos, **Dirac** or **Majorana**?

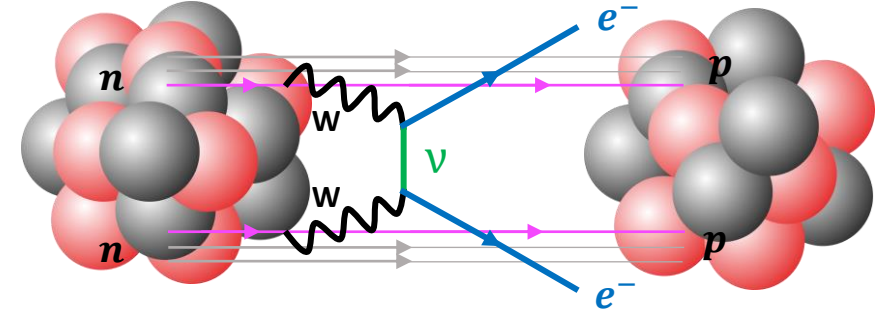
If neutrinos are **Majorana** particles:

$$\nu = C(\bar{\nu})^T$$

Lepton number is not conserved

LNV processes:
 $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay, μ and τ decays, colliders.
 Also crucial for **Leptogenesis**

Neutrinoless double-beta decay



$$m_{\beta\beta} = m_1 |U_{e1}|^2 + m_2 |U_{e2}|^2 e^{i\alpha_{21}} + m_3 |U_{e3}|^2 e^{i\alpha_{31}}$$

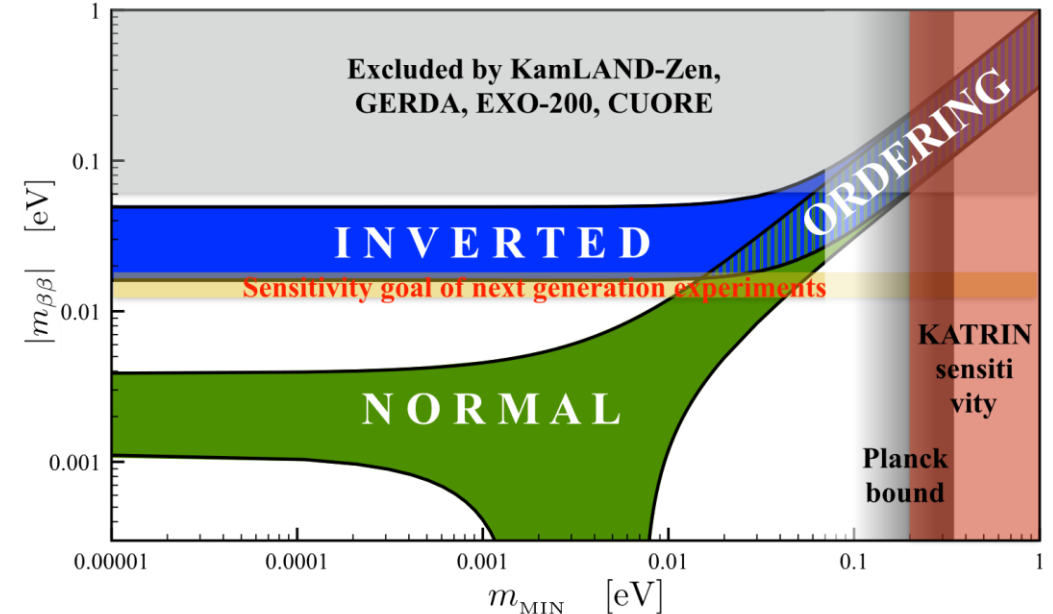


Fig. from APPEC DBD committee, arXiv:1910.04688.

Absolute mass scale and mass ordering

What are the **absolute mass scale** and the **mass ordering**?

Absolute mass scale

Beta-decay
$0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay (interplay with CP-violating phases)
Cosmology (CMB, SNe, LSS, matter power spectrum)

Mass ordering

Neutrino oscillations in vacuum (reactor neutrinos) thanks to relatively large θ_{13}
Neutrino oscillations in matter (atmospheric neutrinos, long baseline neutrino oscillations)
$0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay

CP-violation in the lepton mixing matrix

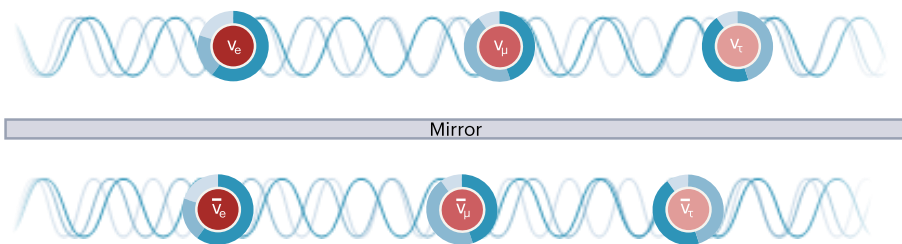
The Dirac phase

The Dirac phase δ generates CP-violating effects in oscillations

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

Long baseline neutrino experiments are sensitive to δ .

Some hints of CP-violation from T2K and NOvA, but still undetermined



Is there **CP-violation** in the PMNS lepton mixing matrix?

The Majorana phases

Neutrino oscillation experiments are insensitive to the Majorana phases.

Relevant in $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay, cLFV processes ($\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$, $\tau \rightarrow \mu\gamma$, etc.) in some models (e.g., with seesaw mechanism).

Matter-antimatter asymmetry of the Universe?

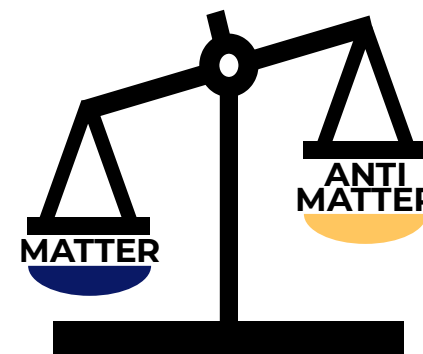


Fig. from Nature, S. Pascoli and J. Turner, 15 April 2020.

The flavour mixing pattern

The angle θ_{23} is currently not known precisely. How close is it to the maximal value, i.e. $\theta_{23} \sim \pi/4$?

After θ_{12} , θ_{13} , θ_{23} and δ are measured, we should seek for precision. Next generation experiments?

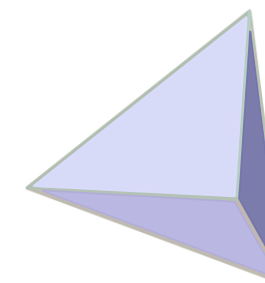
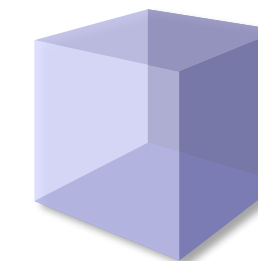
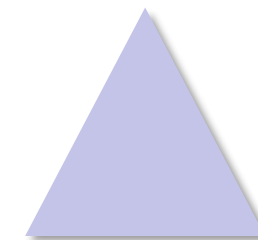
Crucial for understanding the flavour problem. Is there an underlying (broken) symmetry?

E.g. Non-abelian discrete groups and modular invariance (G. Altarelli and F. Feruglio 1002.0211, F. Feruglio, 1706.08749 and vast literature).

$$U_{PMNS} = \mu \begin{array}{c} e \\ \mu \\ \tau \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \nu_1 \ \nu_2 \ \nu_3 \\ \begin{bmatrix} \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

$$V_{CKM} = \begin{array}{c} u \\ c \\ t \end{array} \begin{array}{c} d \ s \ b \\ \begin{bmatrix} \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \\ \blacksquare & \blacksquare & \blacksquare \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$$

What are the **precise** values of the **mixing angles**?



Beyond the standard picture

Being the least known fundamental particles, neutrinos provide a door to Physics beyond the SM.

Non-unitarity of the PMNS matrix

$U = (1 + \eta)U_{PMNS}$, bounds on $|\eta_{\alpha\beta}| \lesssim 10^{-5} - 10^{-4}$ from electroweak precision data and data on flavour observables

Dark sector connections

Modify the oscillation in a «dark» environment

Non-standard interactions

Modify the production, detection and propagation in matter

Existence of sterile neutrinos, also heavy neutral leptons (HNLs)

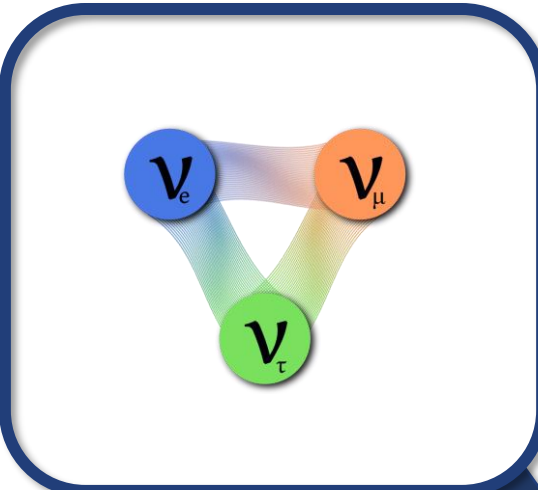
- Modify the oscillation (some unresolved anomalies)
- Induce charged lepton flavour violating processes (e.g., $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$)
- Effects on the $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay rate
- Leptogenesis
- Dark matter
- ...

Is the standard picture correct?
Hints for BSM physics?

Evidence of physics beyond the SM

There is evidence of physics **beyond the Standard Model**: **neutrinos play a key role!**

Neutrino masses and mixings



The baryon asymmetry of the Universe

A diagram showing the nucleosynthesis of light elements. It starts with a proton (p) and a neutron (n) interacting via weak processes to form deuterium (D). Deuterium then reacts to form tritium (T) and helium-3 (^3He), which eventually combine to form helium-4 (^4He). A central box contains the baryon-to-photon ratio equation:
$$\eta_B = \frac{(n_B - n_{\bar{B}})}{n_\gamma} \simeq 6.1 \times 10^{-10}$$
 Below the diagram is a Cosmic Microwave Background fluctuation map.

Dark Matter



Key questions

Where do neutrino masses come from?
What is the origin of the lepton mixing pattern?

Origin of neutrino masses

Dirac mass term

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Dirac}}(x) = - (Y_{\alpha j} \overline{\psi}_{\alpha L}(x) i\sigma_2 \Phi^*(x) N_{jR}(x) + \text{h.c.}) \xrightarrow{\text{EWSSB}} m_\nu = 0.1 \text{ eV} \left(\frac{v}{100 \text{ GeV}} \right) \left(\frac{Y}{10^{-12}} \right)$$

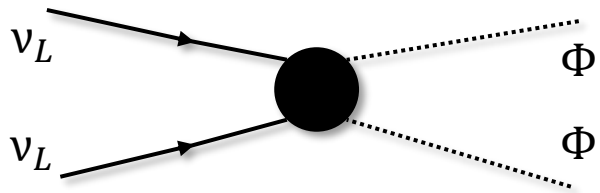
**“Unnaturally”
small Yukawas!**

Total lepton number is conserved!

Majorana mass term

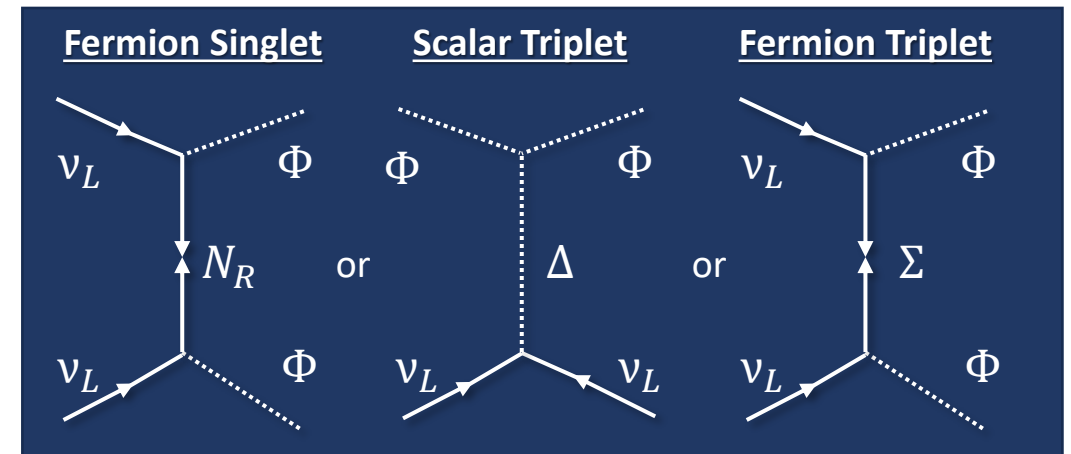
5-dim. effective operator (Weinberg, PRL 1943):

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Weinberg}}(x) = - \left(\frac{\lambda \Phi \cdot \overline{\psi}_L^c \psi_L \cdot \Phi}{2M} + \text{h.c.} \right) \rightarrow - \frac{1}{2} \frac{v^2}{M} \overline{\nu}_L^c \nu_L + \text{h.c.}$$



Total lepton number is violated!

High-energy renormalisable interactions

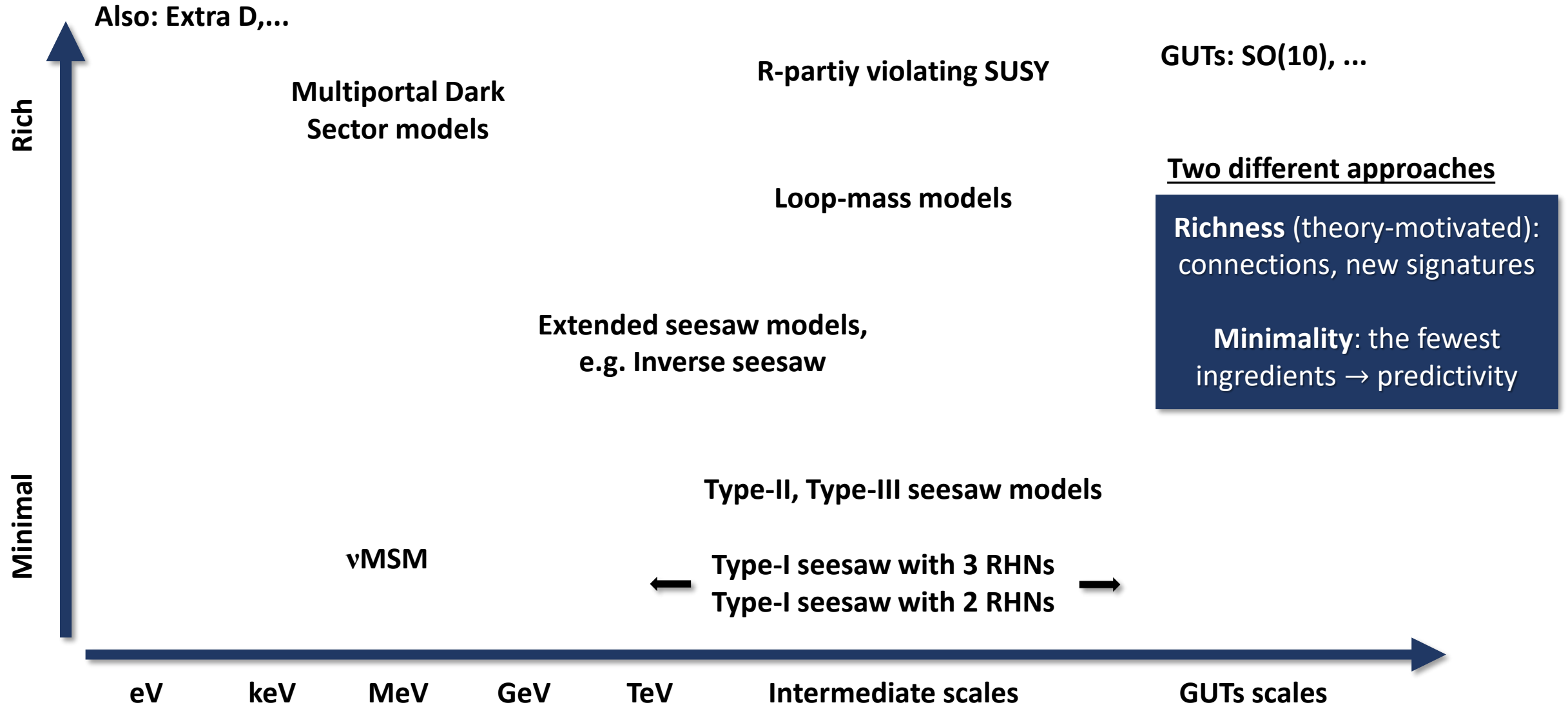


Type-I
Seesaw

Type-II
Seesaw

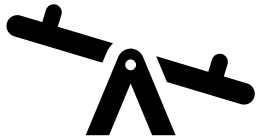
Type-III
Seesaw

New physics scale, from minimality to richness



Type-I seesaw mechanism

Seesaw lagrangian



Yukawa and mass terms

$$\mathcal{L}_{Y,M}(x) = - \left(Y_{\alpha j} \overline{\Psi}_{\alpha L}(x) i\sigma_2 \Phi^*(x) N_{jR}(x) + h.c. \right) - \frac{1}{2} M_j \overline{N}_j(x) N_j(x)$$

Right-handed
neutrinos (RHNs)/
sterile neutrinos/
heavy Majorana
neutrinos

Type-I seesaw mechanism

Seesaw lagrangian



Yukawa and mass terms

$$\mathcal{L}_{Y,M}(x) = - (Y_{\alpha j} \overline{\Psi}_{\alpha L}(x) i\sigma_2 \Phi^*(x) N_{jR}(x) + h.c.) - \frac{1}{2} M_j \overline{N}_j(x) N_j(x)$$

Right-handed neutrinos (RHNs)/ sterile neutrinos/ heavy Majorana neutrinos

Electroweak Symmetry Breaking

Neutrino mass generation



Neutrino mass matrix

$$m_\nu \simeq -(v^2/2) Y \hat{M}^{-1} Y^T$$

Neutrino mixing

$$\nu_{\alpha L} \simeq U_{\alpha a} \nu_{aL} + \Theta_{\alpha j} N_{jR}^c$$

$$\Theta_{\alpha j} \simeq (v/\sqrt{2}) Y_{\alpha j} / M_j$$

Mixing angle/Coupling

Type-I seesaw mechanism

Seesaw lagrangian



Yukawa and mass terms

$$\mathcal{L}_{Y,M}(x) = - (Y_{\alpha j} \overline{\Psi}_{\alpha L}(x) i\sigma_2 \Phi^*(x) N_{jR}(x) + h.c.) - \frac{1}{2} M_j \overline{N}_j(x) N_j(x)$$

Right-handed neutrinos (RHNs)/ sterile neutrinos/ heavy Majorana neutrinos

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Mixing angle/Coupling

Phenomenology



RHNs – SM interaction

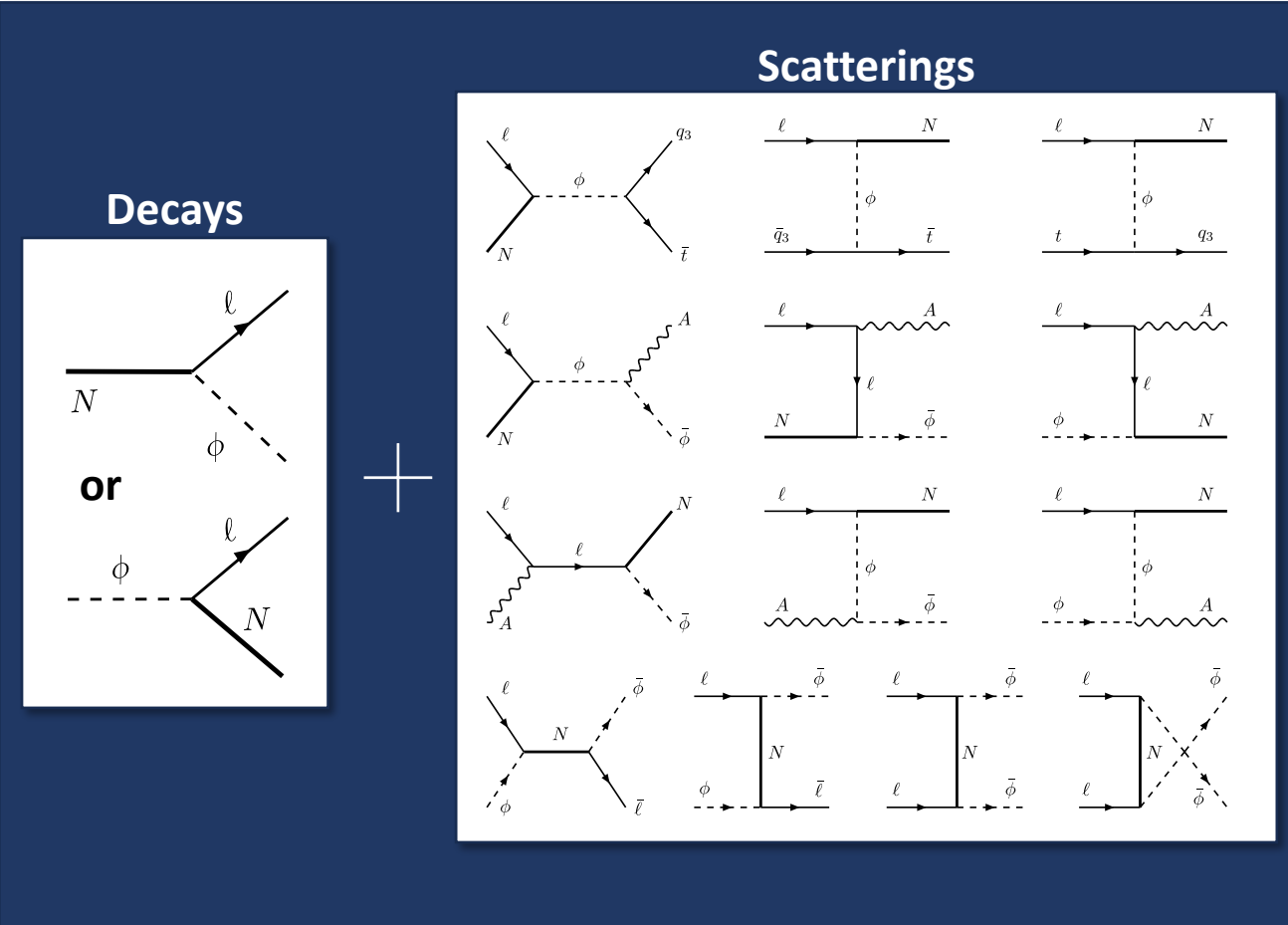
$$\mathcal{L}_{C.C.}(x) = -\frac{g_w}{\sqrt{2}} \overline{\alpha}_L(x) W^\mu(x) \gamma_\mu \Theta_{\alpha j} N_{jR}^c(x) + h.c.$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{N.C.}(x) = -\frac{g_w}{2c_w} \overline{\nu}_{\alpha L}(x) Z^\mu(x) \gamma_\mu \Theta_{\alpha j} N_{jR}^c(x) + h.c.$$

- Signatures of RHNs at low-energy
 - BAU generation through Leptogenesis
 - keV sterile neutrinos could be DM
- See, e.g., the ν MSM model (T. Asaka, S. Blanchet & M. Shaposhnikov, PLB 1995)

Leptogenesis within the type-I seesaw mechanism

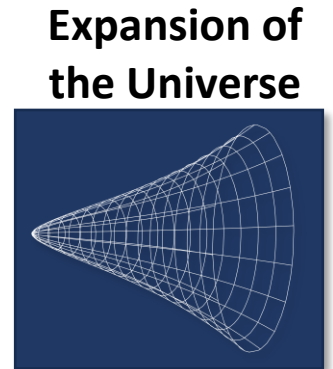
Lepton Number violating processes via Yukawa coupling



CP-violation

$$\epsilon^{CP} = \frac{\Gamma(N \rightarrow l \dots) - \Gamma(N \rightarrow \bar{l} \dots)}{\Gamma(N \rightarrow \text{anything})}$$

L. Covi, E. Roulet, F. Vissani
 hep-ph/9605319,
 W. Buchmuller, M. Plumacher
 hep-ph/9710460,
 A. Pilaftsis hep-ph/9702393,
 ...



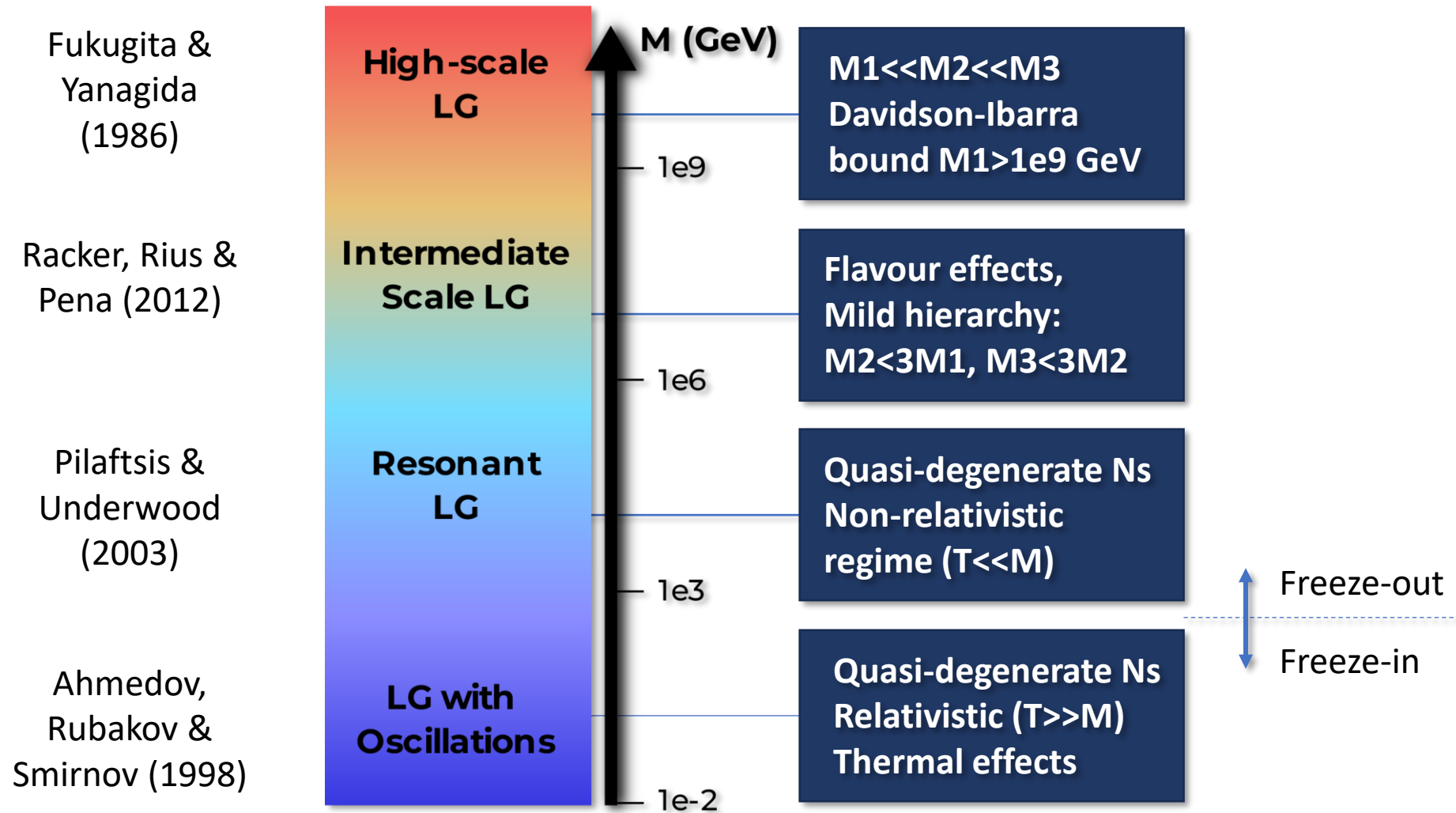
T ~ 130 GeV



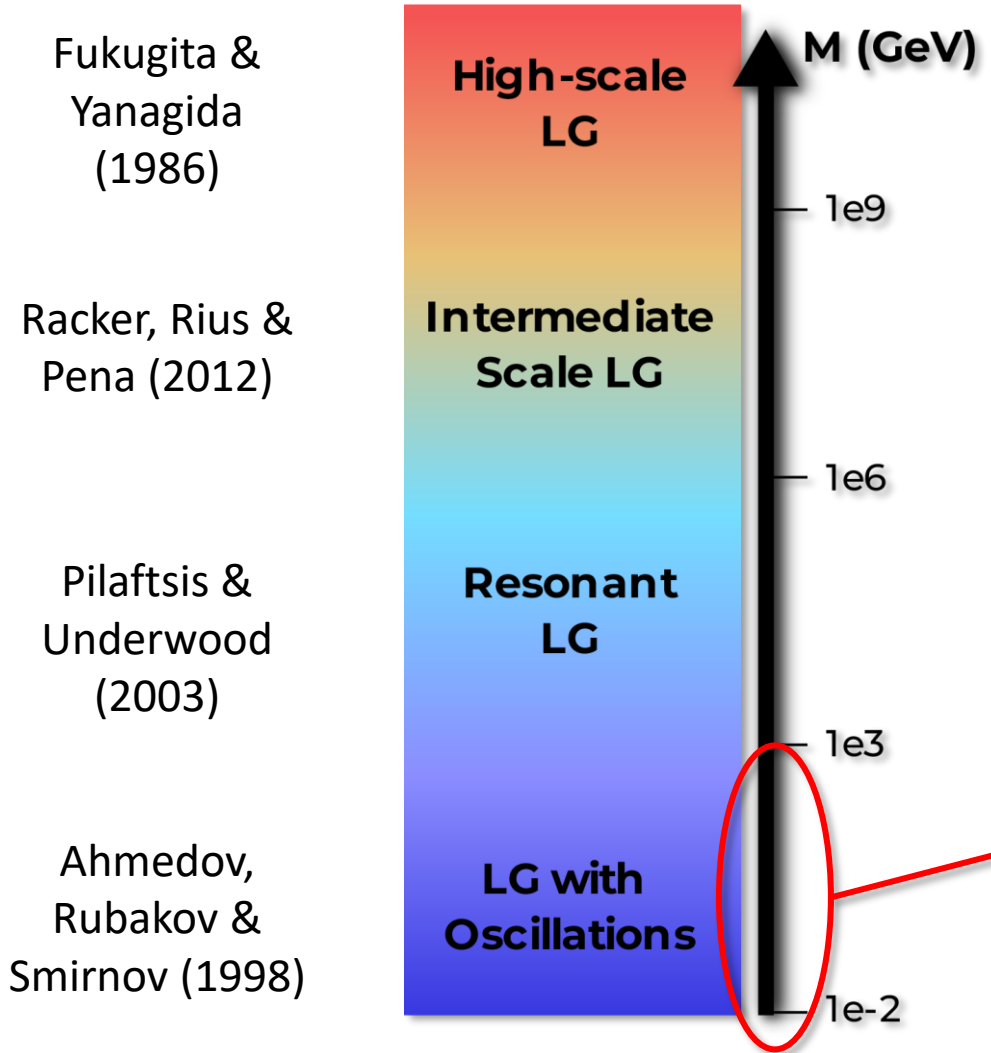
Sphaleron freeze-out

G. F. Giudice, A. Notari, M. Raidal, A. Riotto, A. Strumia hep-ph/0310123
 S. Davidson, E. Nardi, Y. Nir arXiv:0802.2962

Leptogenesis scales



Leptogenesis scales



Accessible energies!

Parameter space of viable LG

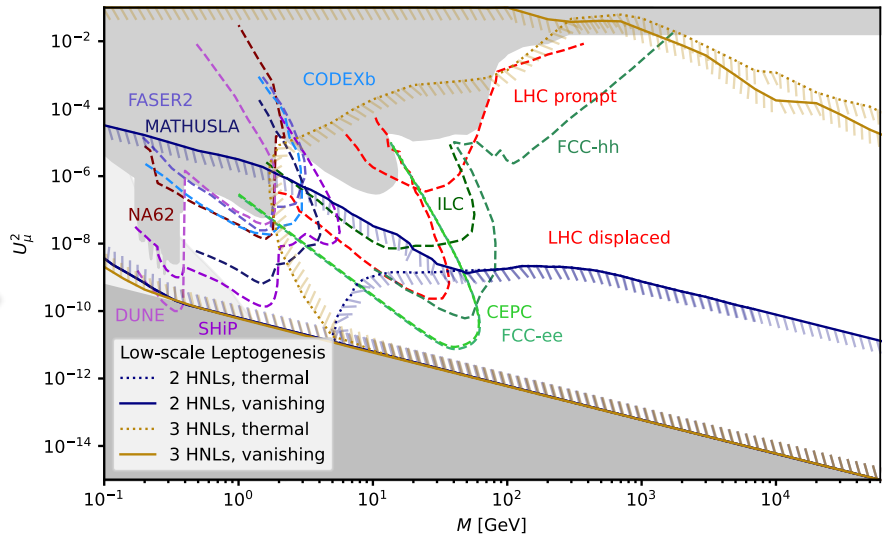


Fig. from A. M. Abdullahi et al., arXiv:2203.08039

Low-energy CP-violation in the type-I seesaw

Casas-Ibarra Parameterisation

$$Y = \pm i(\sqrt{2}/v)U\sqrt{\hat{m}}O^T\sqrt{\hat{M}}$$

Dirac phase δ
Majorana phases α_{21}, α_{31}

Low-energy CP-violation

Direct connection with
low-energy experiments on
neutrino oscillations and
 $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay

Dirac CP-violation:

the **Dirac phase** may be
the unique CP-violating phase in the neutrino sector,
and be responsible for **leptogenesis**.

Casas-Ibarra CP-violating
phases

CP-symmetry at high-energy

Casas-Ibarra matrix must
have entries that are either
real or purely imaginary.

Leptogenesis with low-energy leptonic CP-violation



The **connections between low-energy CPV and CPV in LG** has been studied in the high-scale scenario

- S. Pascoli, S. T. Petcov, A. Riotto (2007) – *Topic*: CPV properties and generalities
- S. Blanchet, P. Di Bari (2007) – CPV from the Dirac phase
- G. C. Branco, R. Gonzalez Felipe, and F. R. Joaquim (2007); S. Uhlig (2007); A. Anisimov, S. Blanchet, and P. Di Bari (2008); E. Molinaro and S. T. Petcov (2009); G. Bambhaniya, P. S. Bhupal Dev, S. Goswami, S. Khan, and W. Rodej (2017); M. J. Dolan, T. P. Dutka, and R. R. Volkas (2018)
- K. Moffat, S. Pascoli, S. T. Petcov, J. Turner (2018), A.G., K. Moffat, S. T. Petcov (2022) – detailed numerical studies.



There are examples of **theoretically-motivated models** where low-energy CPV arise:

- S. F. King (2007) – based on sequential dominance
- P. Chen, G.-J. Ding, S. F. King (2016), C. Hagedorn, E. Molinaro (2016) – based non-abelian discrete groups and residual CP-symmetries



Low-scale LG with oscillations works with low-energy CPV solely from the Dirac phase:

- A. Granelli, S. Pascoli, S. T. Petcov (2023)

important connections to precise measurements of the **Dirac phase** in neutrino oscillations, and the **mixing angle** θ^2 and the **flavour ratios** $\theta_\tau^2 : \theta_\mu^2 : \theta_e^2$ in the searches for heavy neutral leptons.

Low-scale LG with Dirac CP-violation

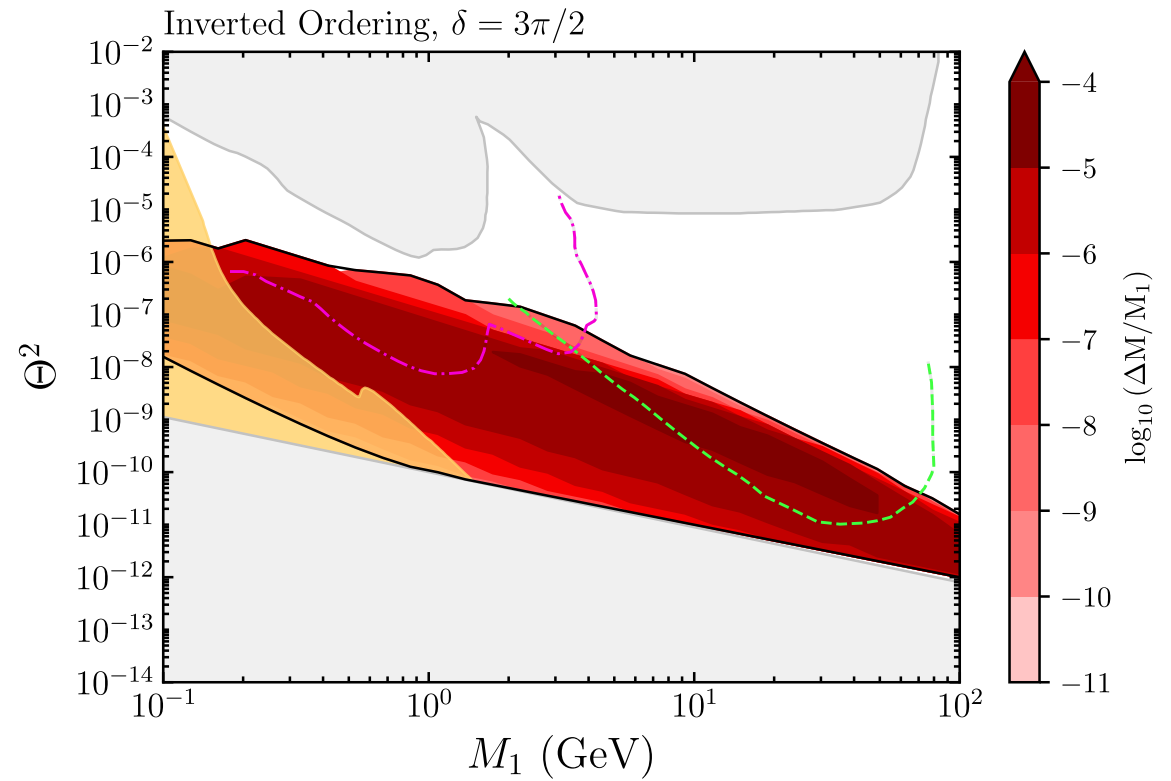
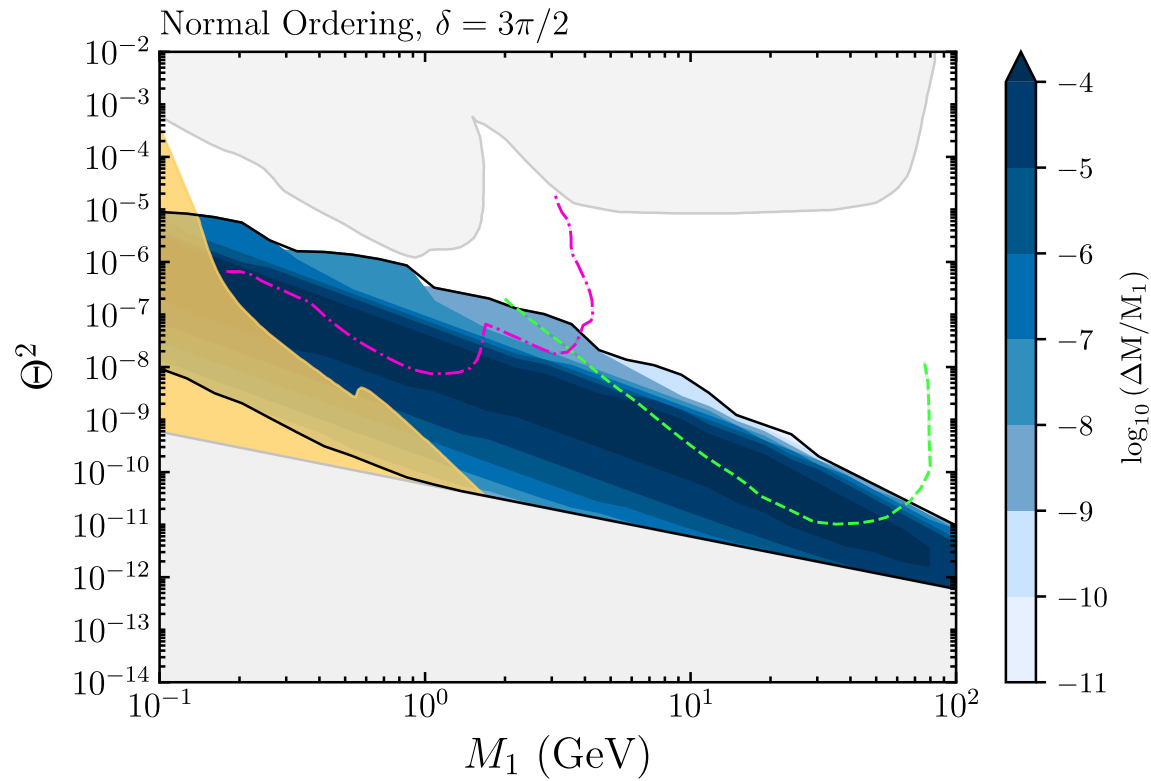
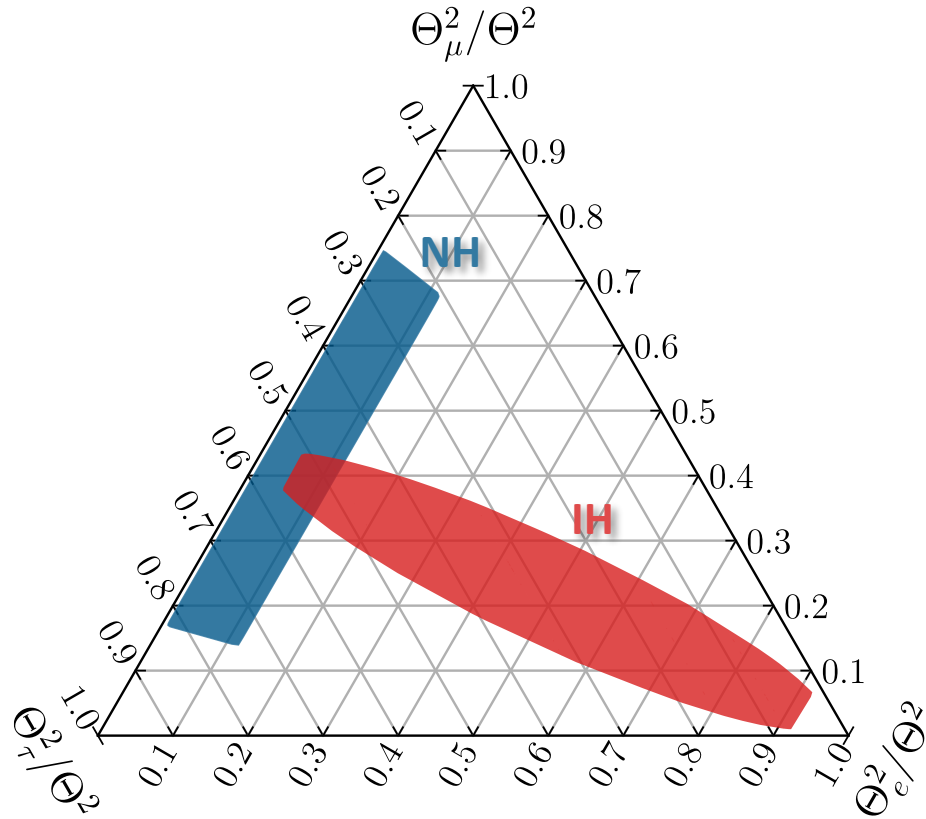


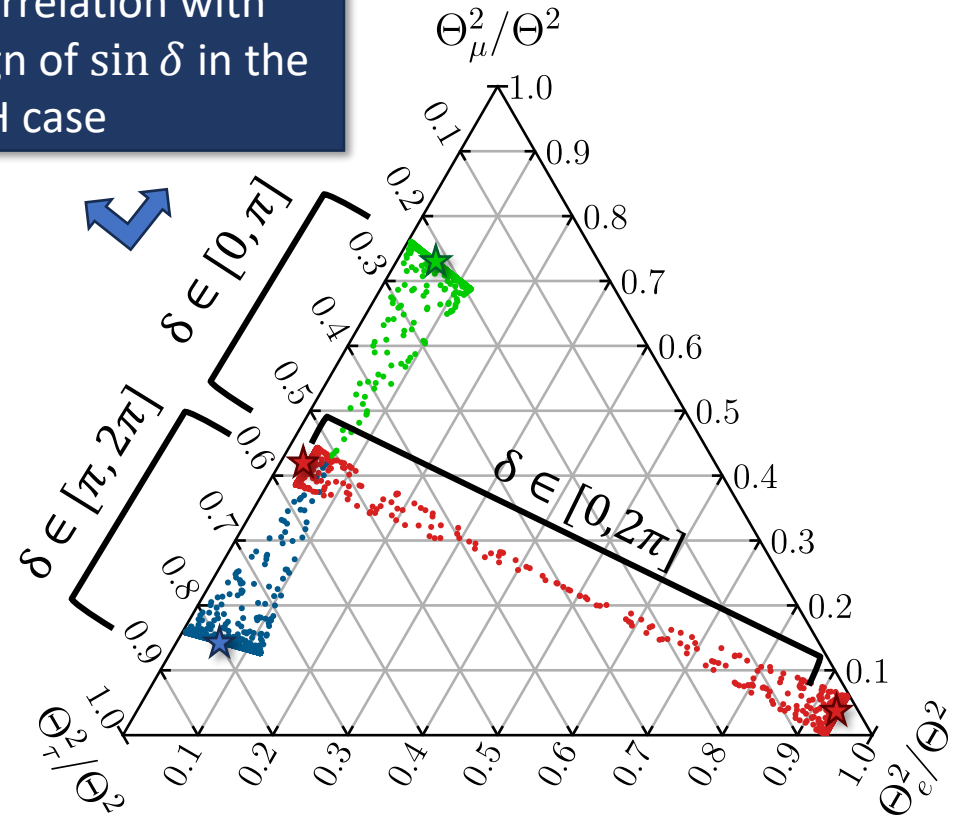
Fig. from A. G., S. Pascoli, S. T. Petcov arXiv:2307.07476.

Flavour ratios compatible with viable LG



LG with low- or high-energy CP-violation

Correlation with sign of $\sin \delta$ in the NH case



Low-energy Dirac CP-violation

★ Large mixings $\xi > 1$, Θ^2 in the experimental region

Fig. from A. G., S. Pascoli, S. T. Petcov arXiv:2307.07476.

Conclusions

- 1. Neutrino masses and mixing** are the first particle physics **evidence** of physics beyond the Standard Model. A vast exciting and promising experimental programme will provide us with **precise measurements** of the **lepton mixing angles, absolute masses and ordering, CP-violation** within the **next decades**.
2. Explaining the generation of neutrino masses and the lepton mixing beyond the standard model can have possible connections to the **matter-antimatter asymmetry of the Universe** and **Dark Matter**. Among the many proposed models, the **type-I seesaw mechanism** can explain the **neutrino mass generation**, the matter-antimatter asymmetry via **leptogenesis** and **dark matter**. A vast experimental programme can **test** part of the **viable parameter space of leptogenesis** within the type-I seesaw model in the **next decades**.
- 3. Exciting** field of research with many discoveries and precision measurements expected in the next decades. Recent observations have opened a **new window of multimessenger astrophysics** with ultra high-energy cosmic neutrinos.

Thanks for your attention!