

Ab initio studies on muon capture to probe neutrinoless double-beta decay

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Celebrating 75 Years of the Nuclear Shell Model
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Introduction to double-beta decay

Corrections to $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay nuclear matrix elements

Muon capture as a probe of $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

Summary and Outlook

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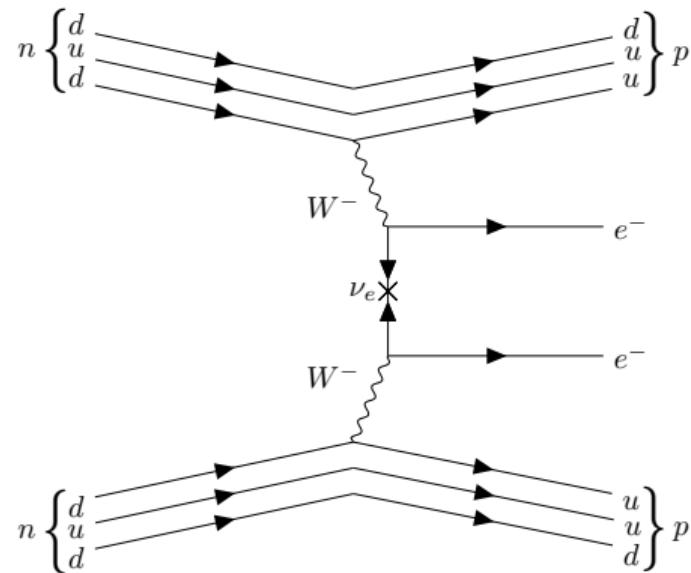
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Neutrinoless double-beta decay via light neutrino exchange

$$\frac{1}{t_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = g_A^4 G^{0\nu} |M^{0\nu}|^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

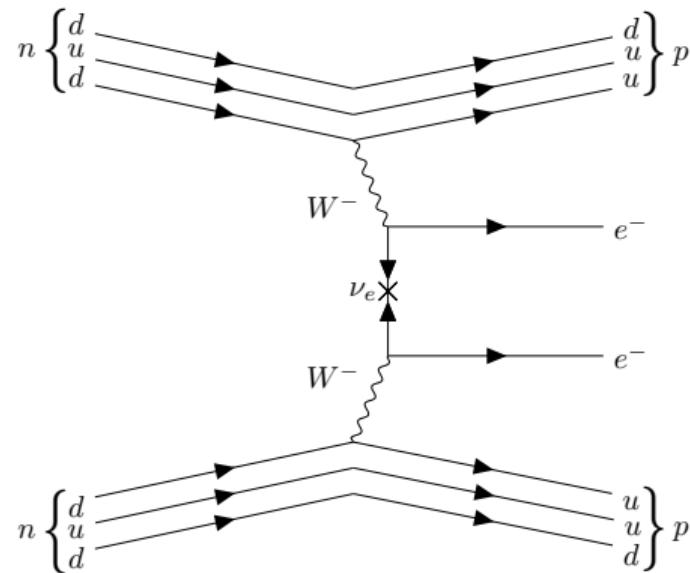
- Violates lepton-number conservation



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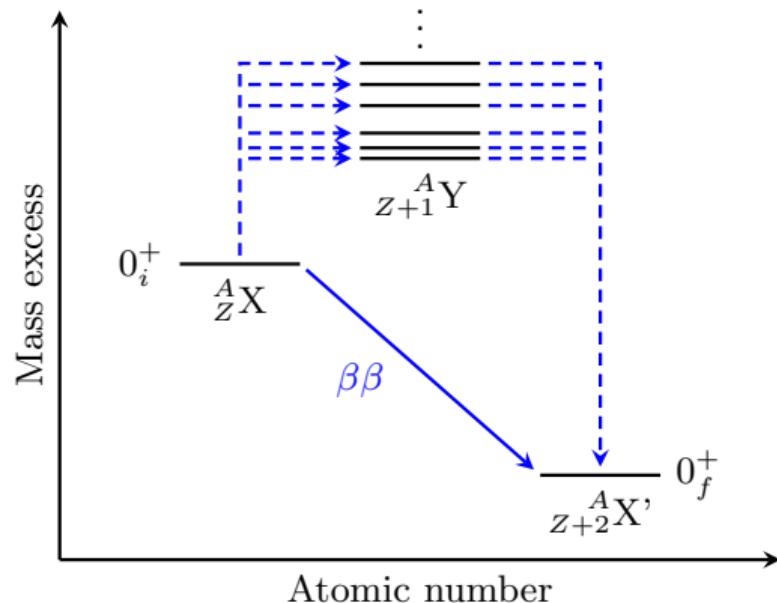
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- Requires that neutrinos are Majorana particles



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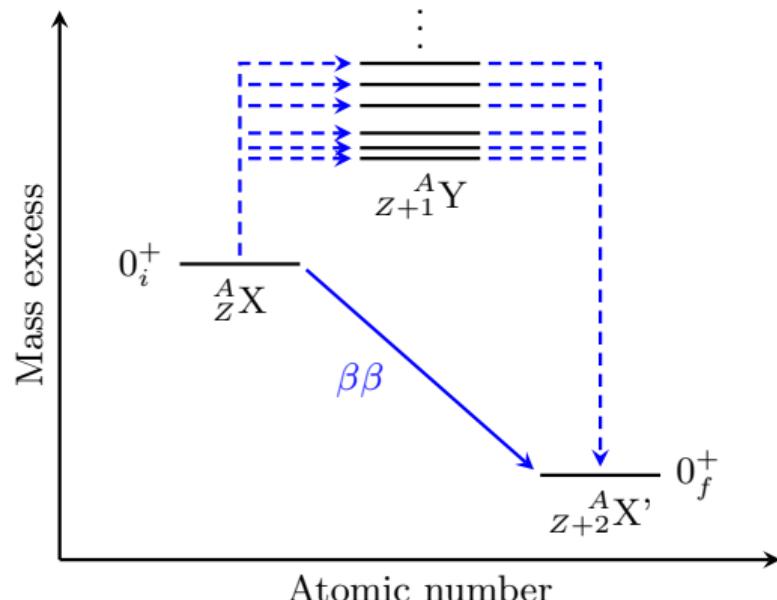
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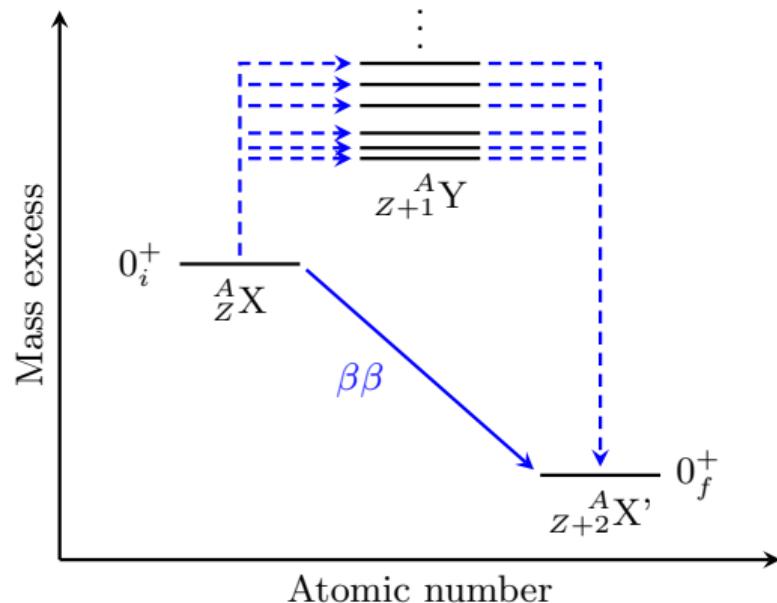
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Introduction to double-beta decay

Corrections to $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay nuclear matrix elements

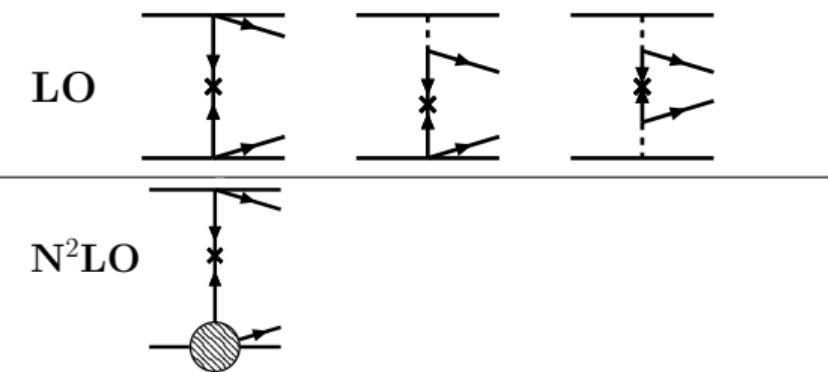
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Effective-field-theory corrections to $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

$$\frac{1}{t_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = g_A^4 G^{0\nu} |M_L^{0\nu}|^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

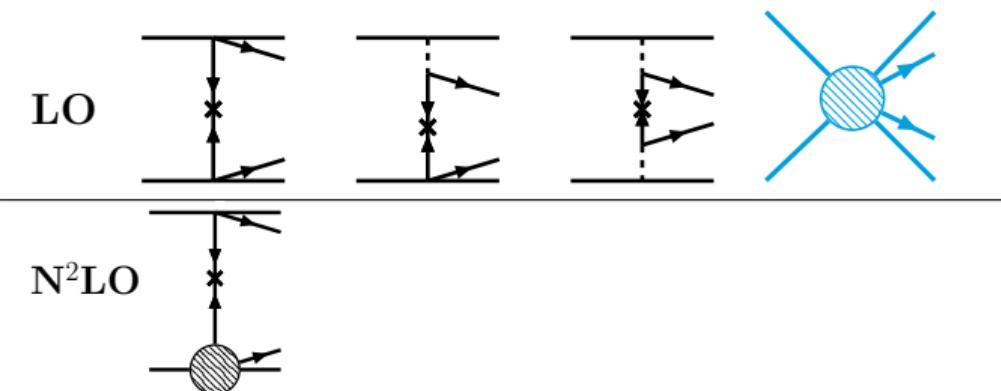
V. Cirigliano et al., Phys. Rev. C 97, 065501 (2018), Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 202001 (2018), Phys. Rev. C 100, 055504 (2019)



Effective-field-theory corrections to $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

$$\frac{1}{t_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = g_A^4 G^{0\nu} |\mathbf{M}_L^{0\nu} + \mathbf{M}_S^{0\nu}|^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

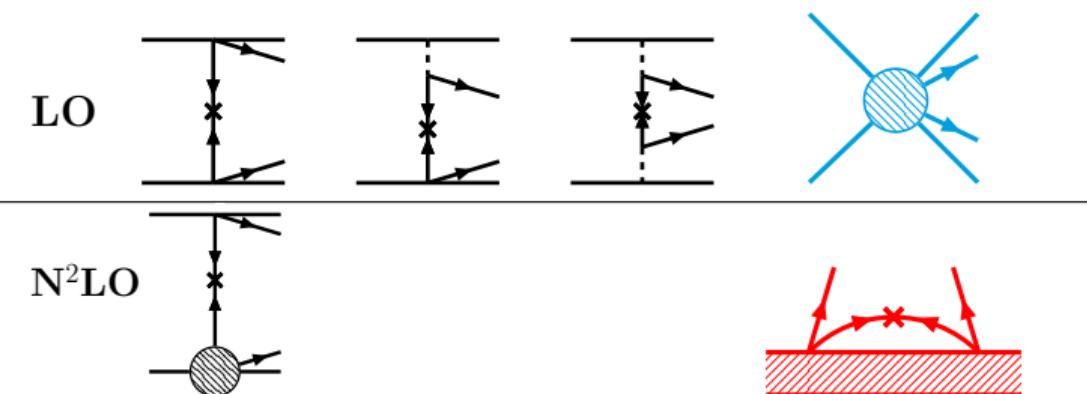
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Effective-field-theory corrections to $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

$$\frac{1}{t_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = g_A^4 G^{0\nu} |M_L^{0\nu} + M_S^{0\nu} + M_{u\text{soft}}^{0\nu}|^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

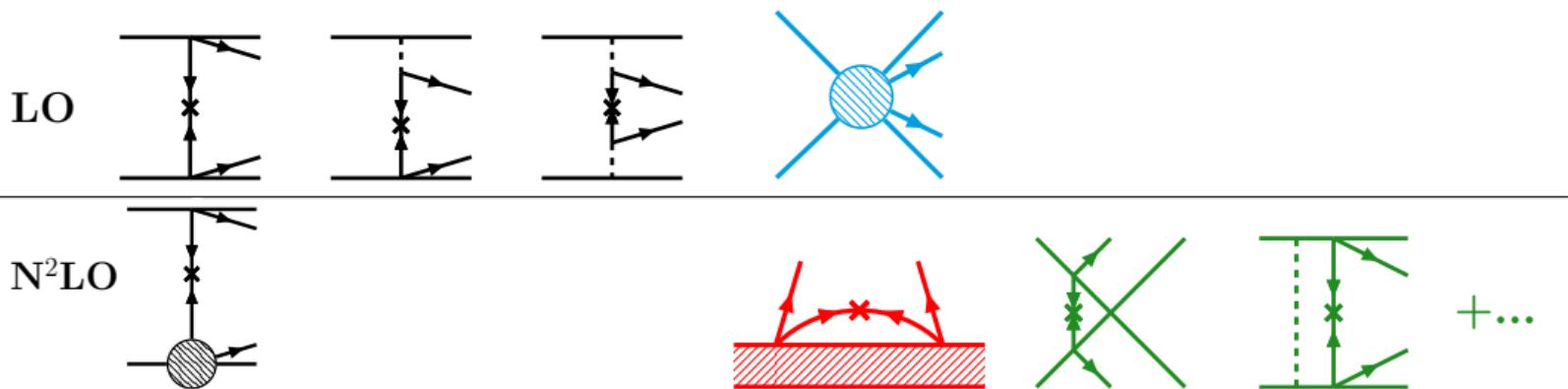
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Effective-field-theory corrections to $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

$$\frac{1}{t_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = g_A^4 G^{0\nu} |M_L^{0\nu} + M_S^{0\nu} + M_{usoft}^{0\nu} + M_{loops}^{0\nu}|^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

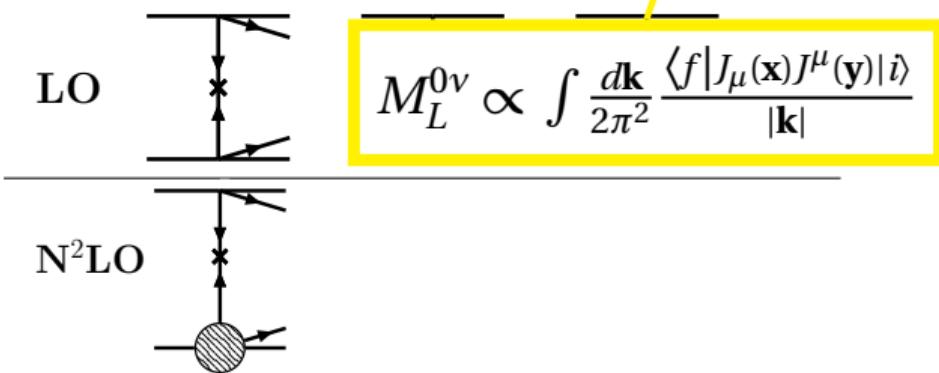
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Effective-field-theory corrections to $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

$$\frac{1}{t_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = g_A^4 G^0 |M_L^{0\nu} + M_S^{0\nu} + M_{u\text{soft}}^{0\nu} + M_{\text{loops}}^{0\nu}|^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e}\right)^2$$

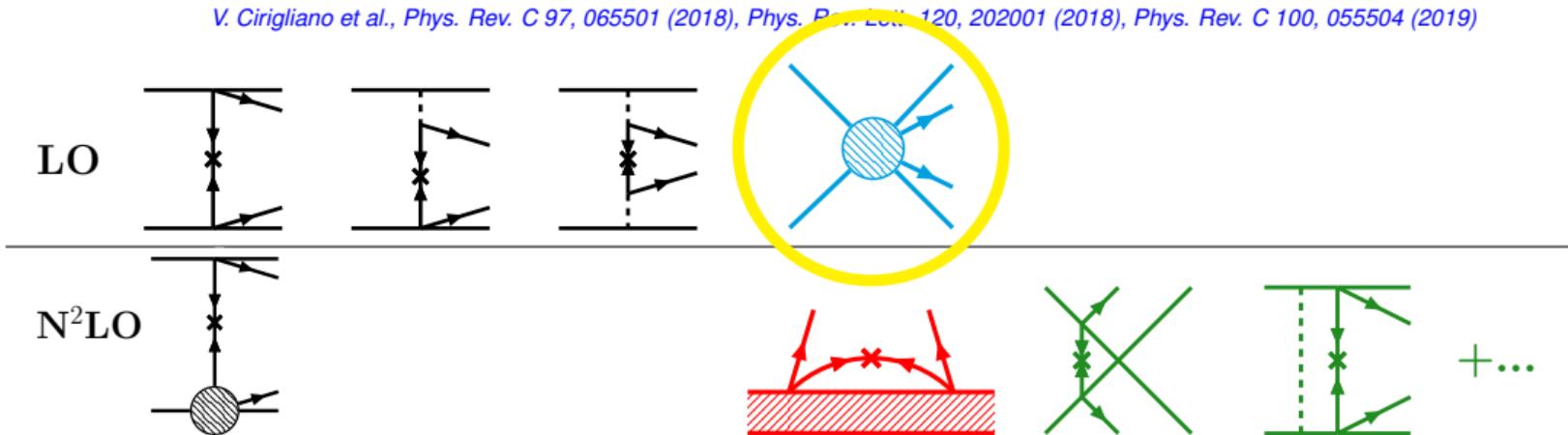
V. Cirigliano et al., Phys. Rev. C 97, 065501 (2018), Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 202001 (2018), Phys. Rev. C 100, 055504 (2019)



Leading-order short-range contribution to $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

$$\frac{1}{t_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = g_A^4 G^{0\nu} |M_L^{0\nu} + M_S^{0\nu} + M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu} + M_{N^2\text{LO}}^{0\nu}|^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

V. Cirigliano et al., Phys. Rev. C 97, 065501 (2018), Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 202001 (2018), Phys. Rev. C 100, 055504 (2019)



Contact Term in pnQRPA and NSM

- The contact term reads

$$M_S^{0\nu} = \frac{2R}{\pi g_A^2} \langle 0_f^+ | \sum_{m,n} \tau_m^- \tau_n^- \int j_0(qr) h_S(q^2) q^2 dq | 0_i^+ \rangle$$

with

$$h_S(q^2) = 2g_\nu^{\text{NN}} e^{-q^2/(2\Lambda^2)}.$$

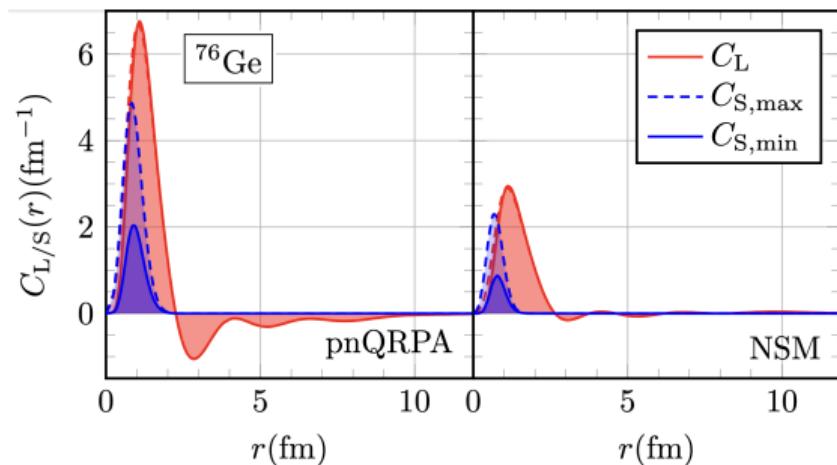
In pnQRPA:

$$M_S/M_L \approx 30\% - 80\%$$

In NSM:

$$M_S/M_L \approx 15\% - 50\%$$

$$\int C_{L/S}(r) dr = M_{L/S}^{0\nu}$$

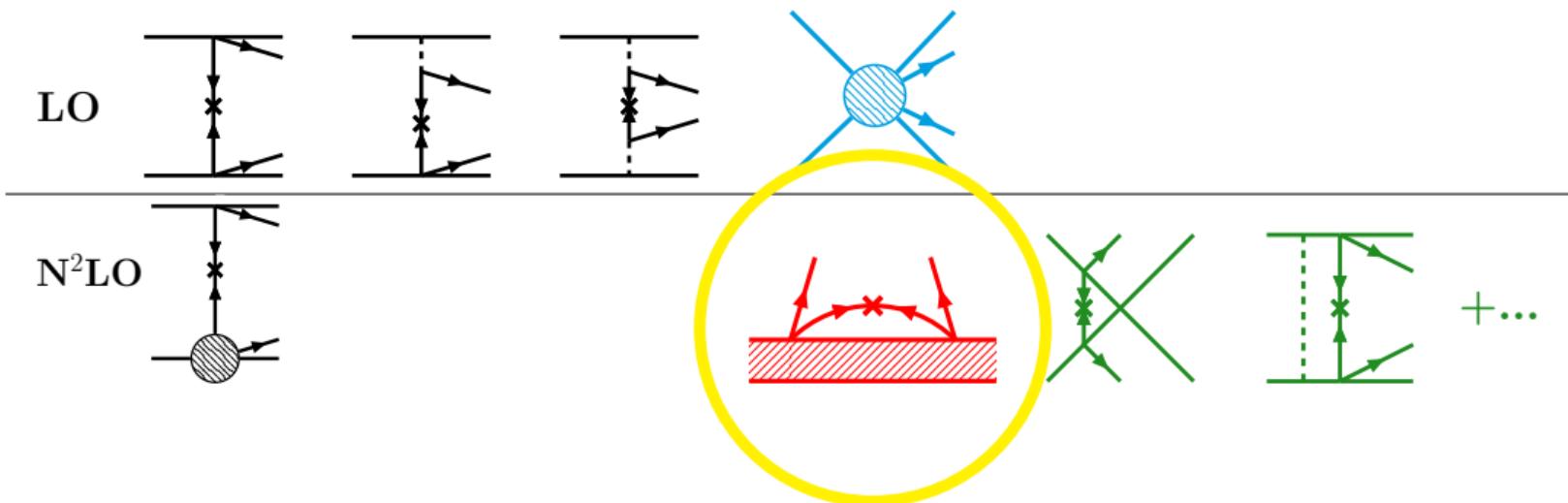


LJ, P. Soriano and J. Menéndez, Phys. Lett. B 823, 136720 (2021)

Ultrasoft-neutrino contribution to $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

$$\frac{1}{t_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = g_A^4 G^{0\nu} |M_L^{0\nu} + M_S^{0\nu} + M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu} + M_{N^2\text{LO}}^{0\nu}|^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

V. Cirigliano et al., Phys. Rev. C 97, 065501 (2018), Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 202001 (2018), Phys. Rev. C 100, 055504 (2019)

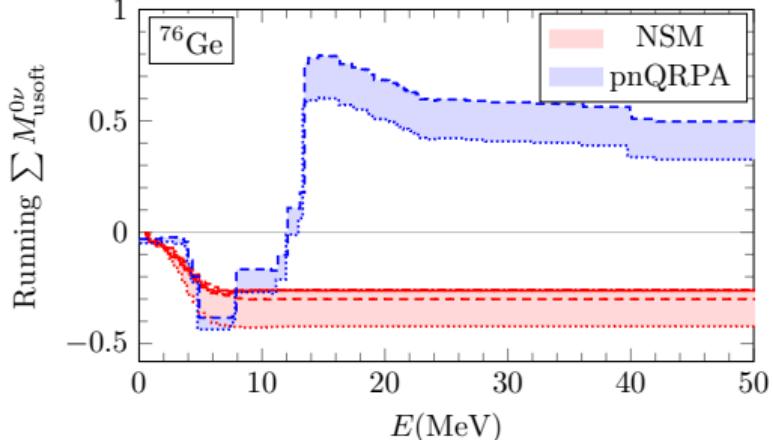


Ultrasoft neutrinos in pnQRPA and nuclear shell model

- Contribution of ultrasoft neutrinos ($|\mathbf{k}| \ll k_F \approx 100 \text{ MeV}$) to $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay:

V. Cirigliano et al., Phys. Rev. C 97, 065501 (2018)

$$M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu} = -\frac{2R}{\pi} \sum_n \left\langle f \right| \sum_a \boldsymbol{\sigma}_a \tau_a^+ |n\rangle \langle n| \sum_b \boldsymbol{\sigma}_b \tau_b^+ |i\rangle \\ \times (E_e + E_n - E_i) \left(\ln \frac{\mu_{\text{us}}}{2(E_e + E_n - E_i)} + 1 \right)$$



In pnQRPA:

$$|M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu}/M_L^{0\nu}| \leq 30\%$$

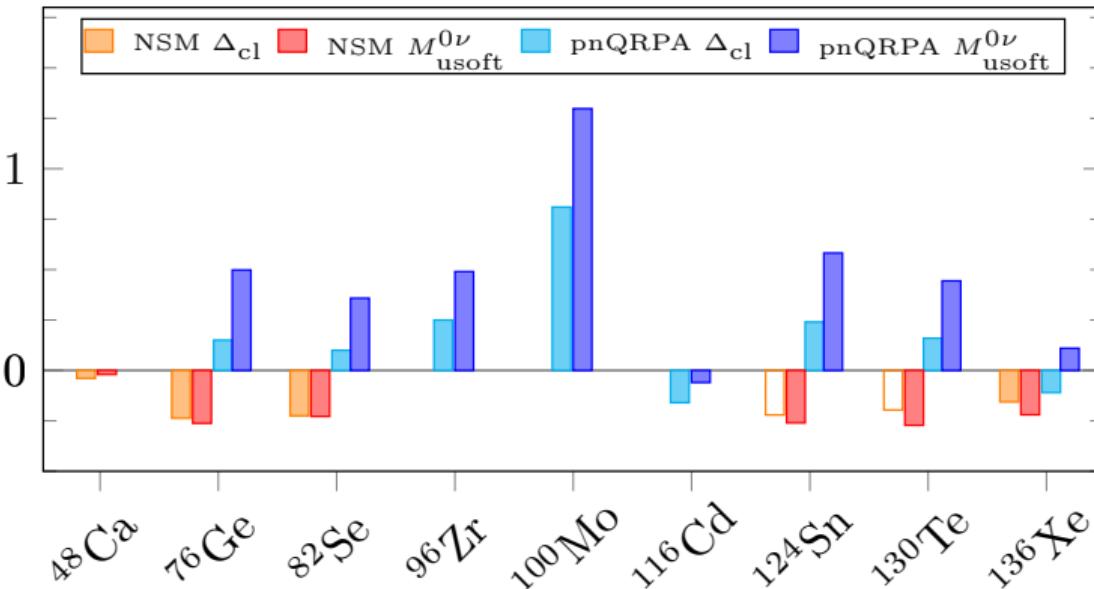
In NSM:

$$|M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu}/M_L^{0\nu}| \leq 10\%$$

L.J. Castillo, P. Soriano, J. Menéndez, in preparation

Ultrasoft Neutrinos as Closure Correction

$$\Delta_{\text{cl}} = M_{\text{non-cl}}^{0\nu} - M_{\text{cl}}^{0\nu}$$

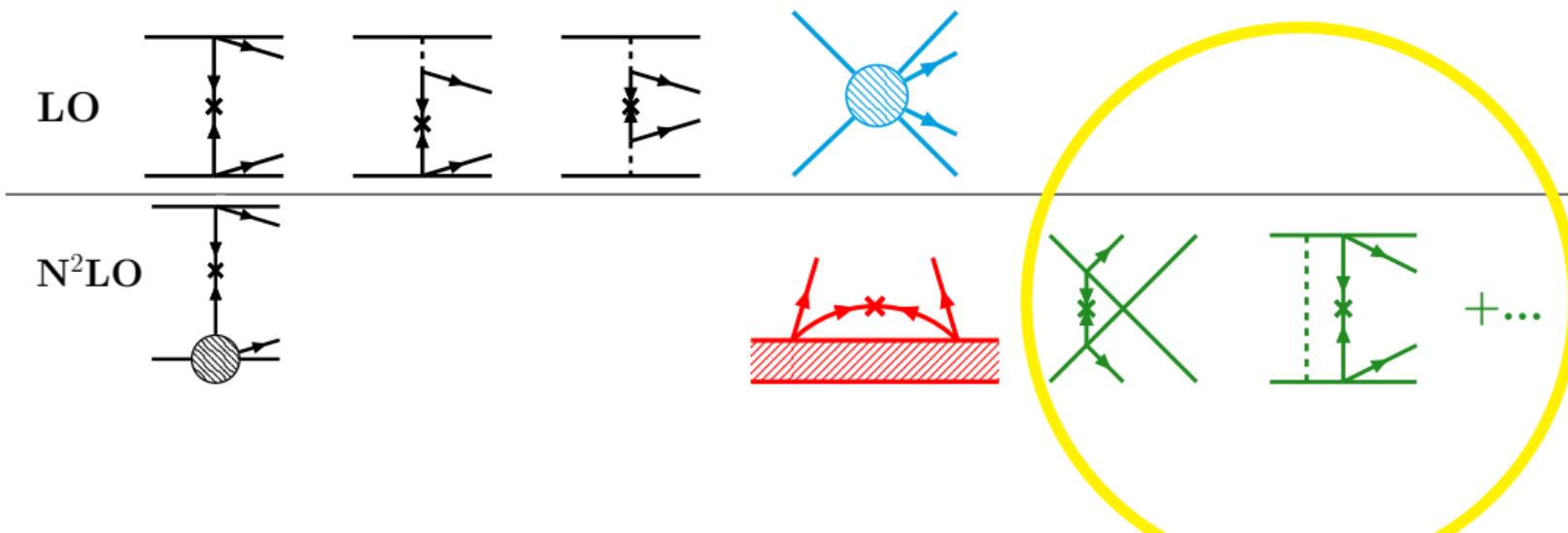


LJ, D. Castillo, P. Soriano, J. Menéndez, *in preparation*

Genuine N²LO
corrections to 0νββ decay

$$\frac{1}{t_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = g_A^4 G^{0\nu} |M_L^{0\nu} + \textcolor{blue}{M_S^{0\nu}} + \textcolor{red}{M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu}} + \textcolor{green}{M_{\text{N}^2\text{LO}}^{0\nu}}|^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e} \right)^2$$

V. Cirigliano et al., Phys. Rev. C 97, 065501 (2018), Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 202001 (2018), Phys. Rev. C 100, 055504 (2019)



Genuine N²LO Loop Corrections

- The genuine N²LO loop corrections read as

$$M_{\text{loops}}^{0\nu} = \frac{4R}{\pi g_A^2} \langle 0_f^+ | \sum_{m,n} \tau_m^- \tau_n^- \int e^{-\frac{q^2}{2\Lambda^2}} j_u(qr) V_{v,2}^{(m,n)} q^2 dq | 0_i^+ \rangle$$

with

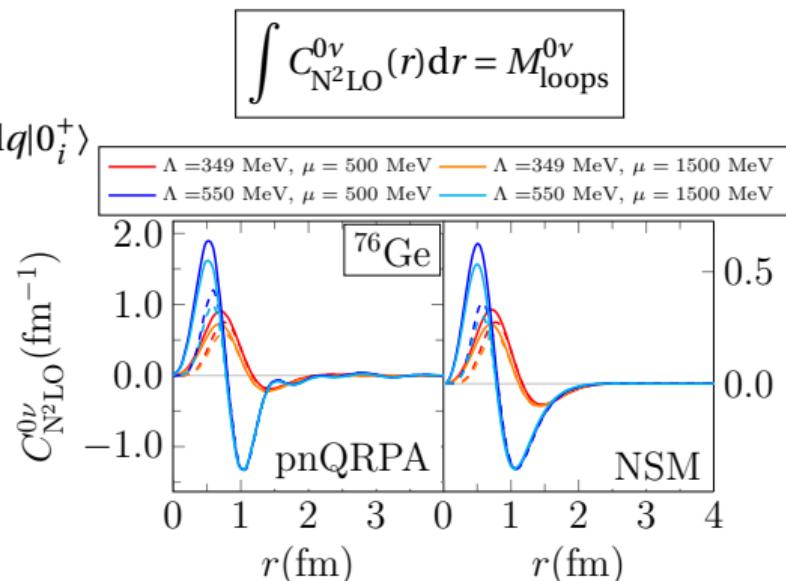
$$V_{v,2}^{(m,n)} = V_{VV}^{(m,n)} + V_{AA}^{(m,n)} + \ln \frac{m_\pi^2}{\mu_{us}^2} V_{us}^{(m,n)} + V_{CT}^{(m,n)}$$

In pnQRPA:

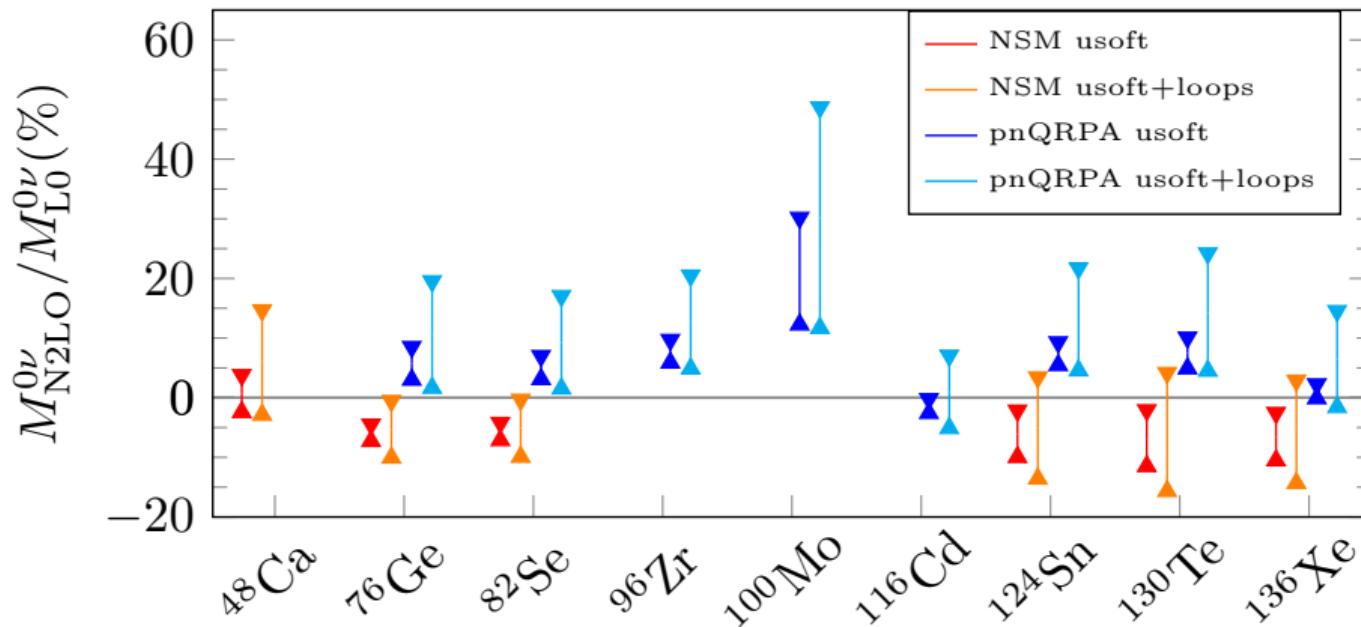
$$|M_{\text{N}^2\text{LO}}/M_L| \approx 2\% - 10\%$$

In NSM:

$$|M_{\text{N}^2\text{LO}}/M_L| \approx 4\% - 10\%$$



LJ, D. Castillo, P. Soriano, J Menéndez, in preparation

Complete N²LO Corrections

LJ, D. Castillo, P. Soriano, J Menéndez, *in preparation*

Introduction to double-beta decay

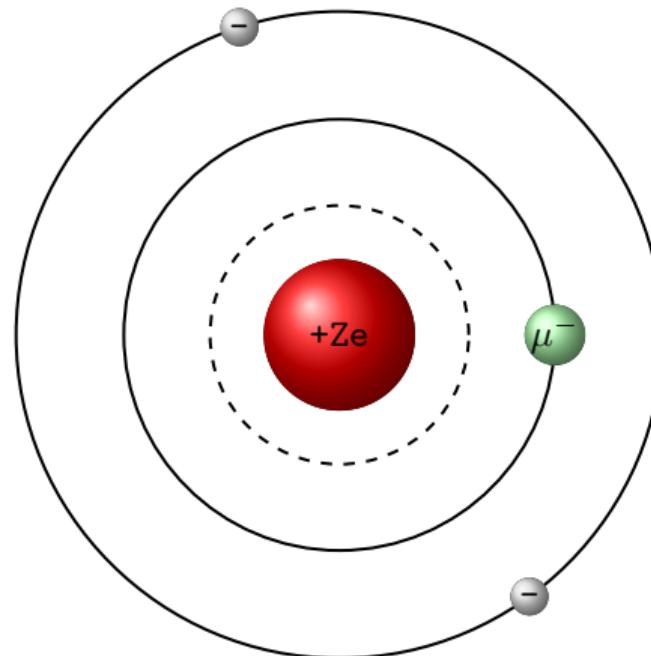
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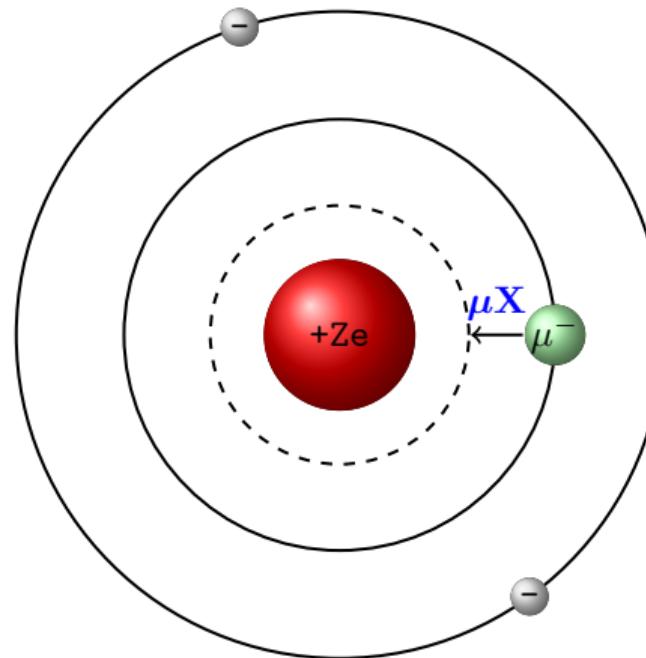
Ordinary Muon Capture (OMC)

- A muon can replace an electron in an atom, forming a *muonic atom*



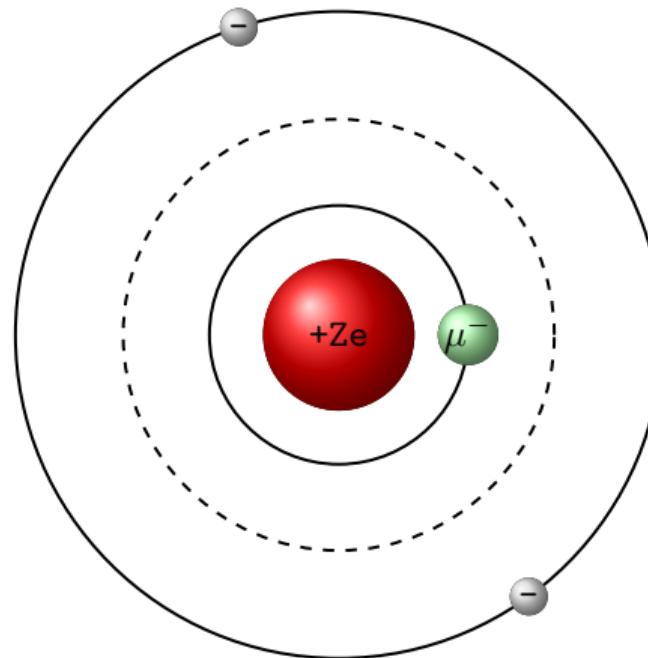
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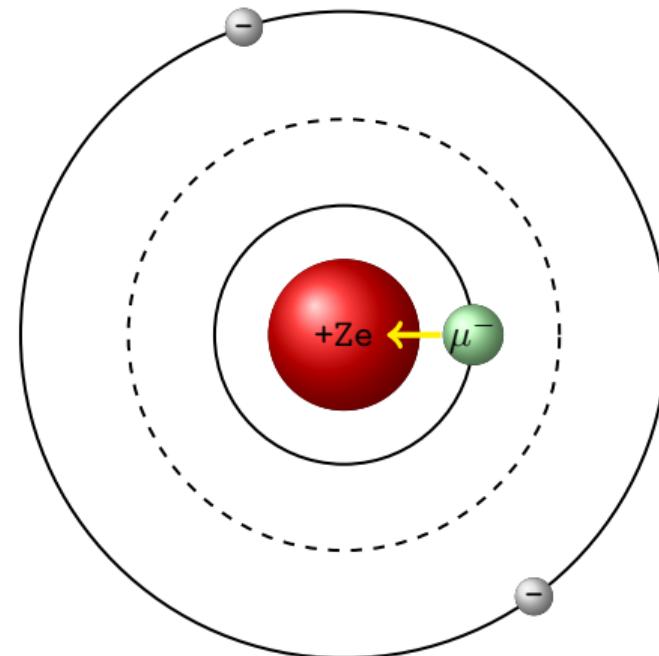
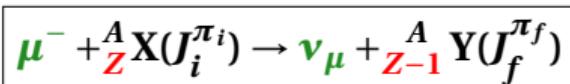
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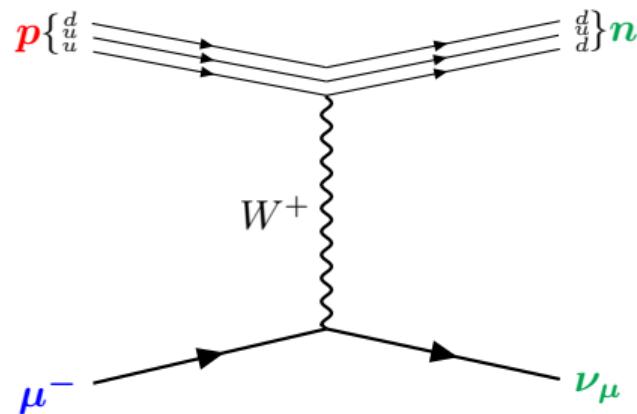
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$$\mu^- + {}_Z^A X(J_i^{\pi_i}) \rightarrow \nu_\mu + {}_{Z-1}^A Y(J_f^{\pi_f})$$



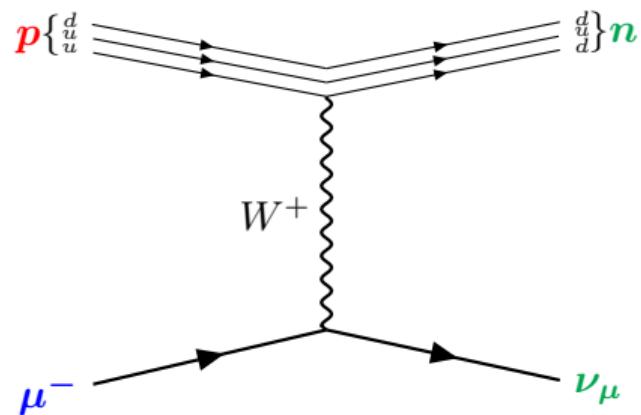
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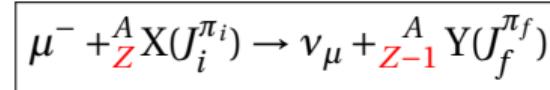
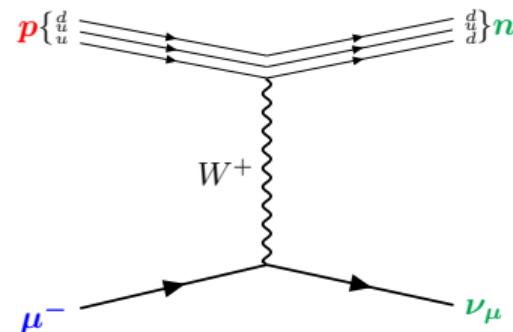
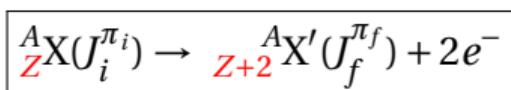
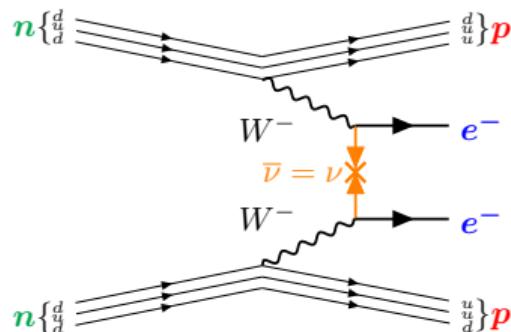
$$\mu^- + {}_Z^A X(J_i^{\pi_i}) \rightarrow \nu_\mu + {}_{Z-1}^A Y(J_f^{\pi_f})$$

Ordinary = non-radiative

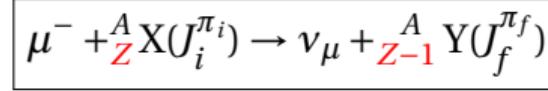
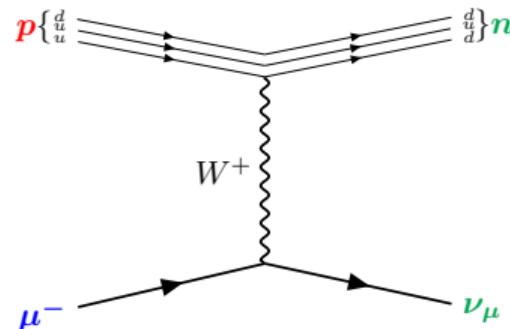
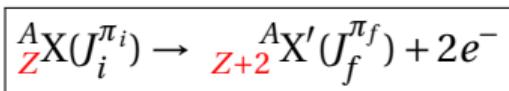
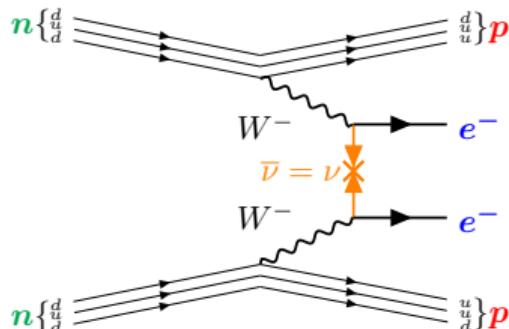
$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Radiative muon capture (RMC):} \\ \mu^- + {}_Z^A X(J_i^{\pi_i}) \rightarrow \nu_\mu + {}_{Z-1}^A Y(J_f^{\pi_f}) + \gamma \end{array} \right)$$



$0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay vs. Muon Capture



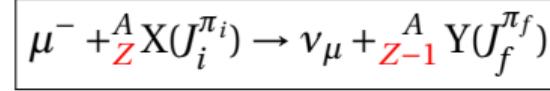
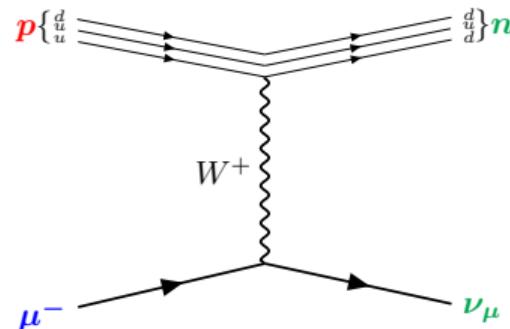
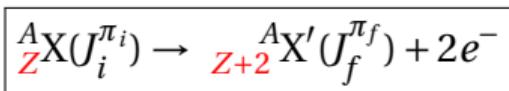
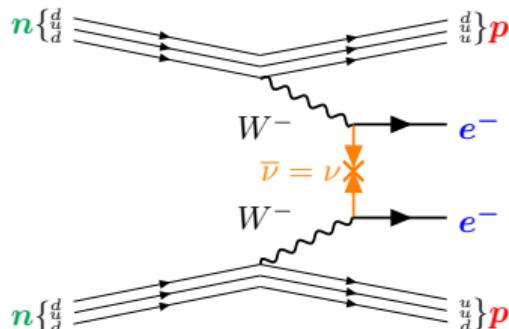
$0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay vs. Muon Capture



Both involve hadronic current:

$$\langle \mathbf{p} | j^{\alpha\dagger} | \mathbf{p} \rangle = \bar{\Psi} \left[g_V(q^2) \gamma^\alpha - g_A(q^2) \gamma^\alpha \gamma_5 - g_P(q^2) q^\alpha \gamma_5 + i g_M(q^2) \frac{\sigma^{\alpha\beta}}{2m_p} q_\beta \right] \tau^\pm \Psi$$

$0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay vs. Muon Capture

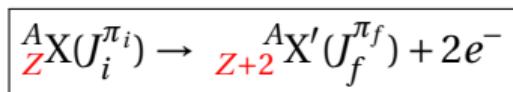
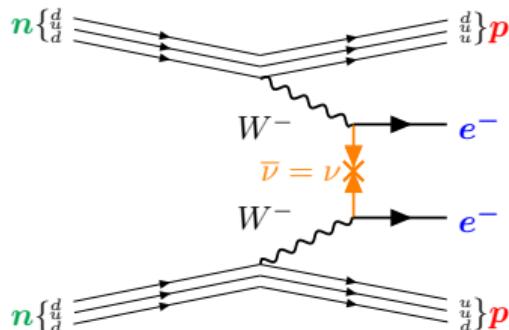


- $q \approx 1/|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2| \approx 100 - 200 \text{ MeV}$

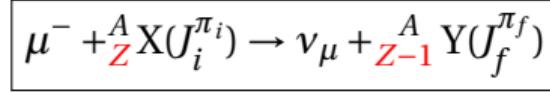
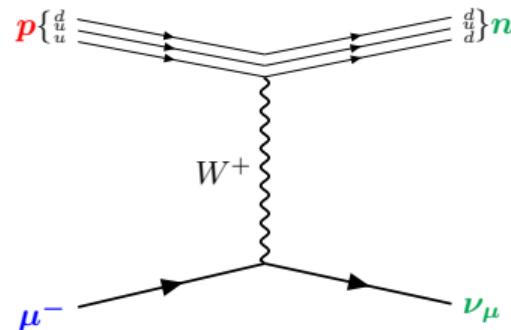
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$0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay vs. Muon Capture



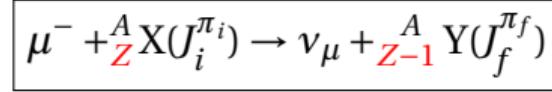
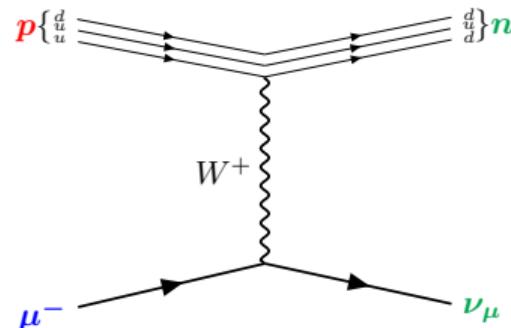
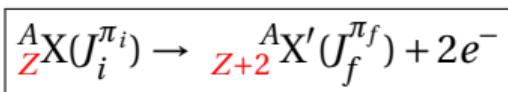
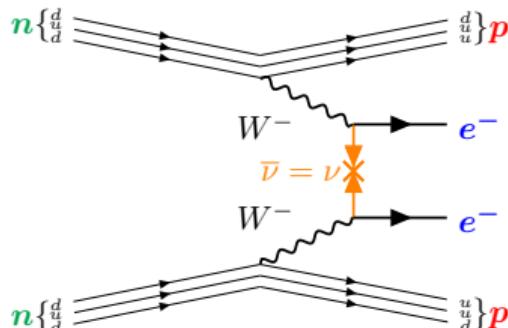
- $q \approx 1/|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2| \approx 100 - 200 \text{ MeV}$



- $q \approx m_\mu + M_i - M_f - m_e - E_X \approx 100 \text{ MeV}$

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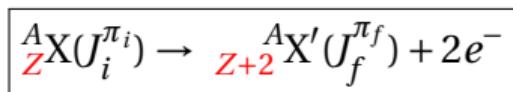
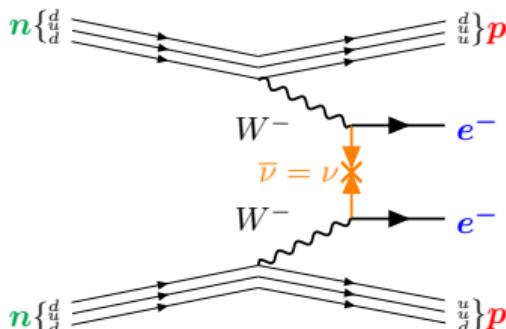
$0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay vs. Muon Capture

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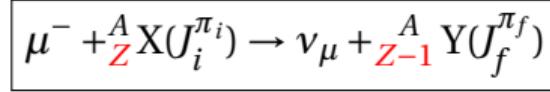
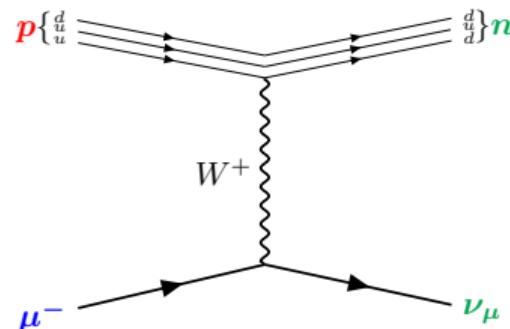
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Ab initio No-Core Shell Model (NCSM)

- Solve nuclear many-body problem

$$H^{(A)} \Psi^{(A)}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = E^{(A)} \Psi^{(A)}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A)$$

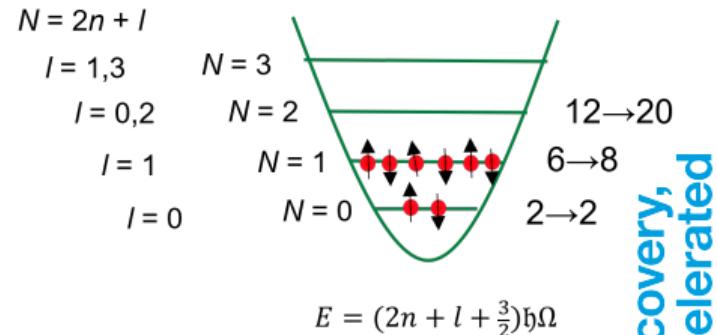
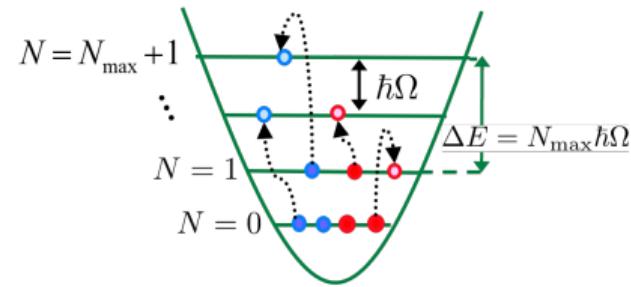


Figure courtesy of P. Navrátil

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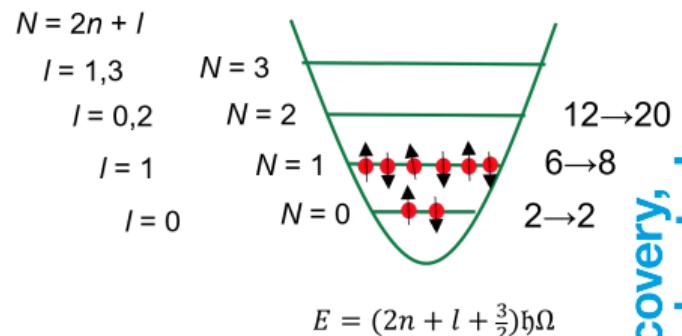
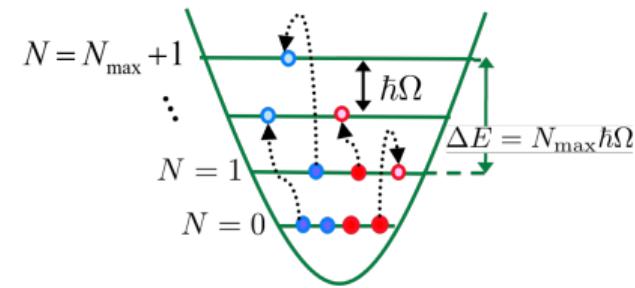


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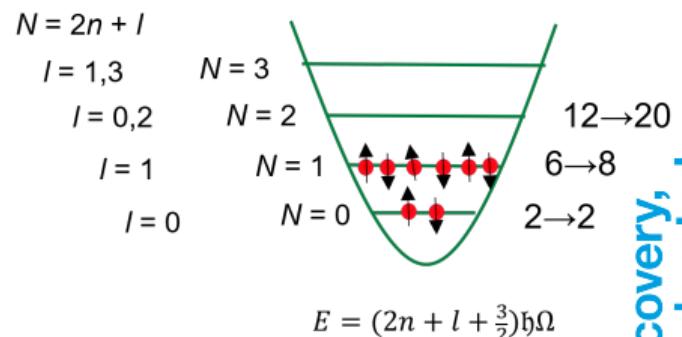
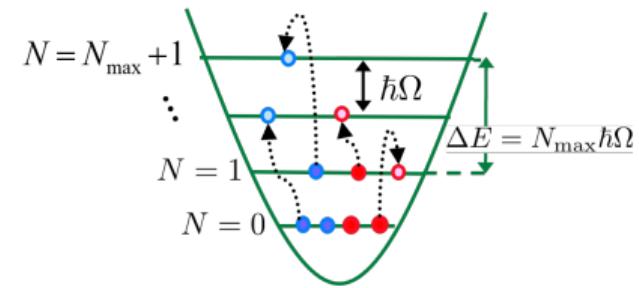
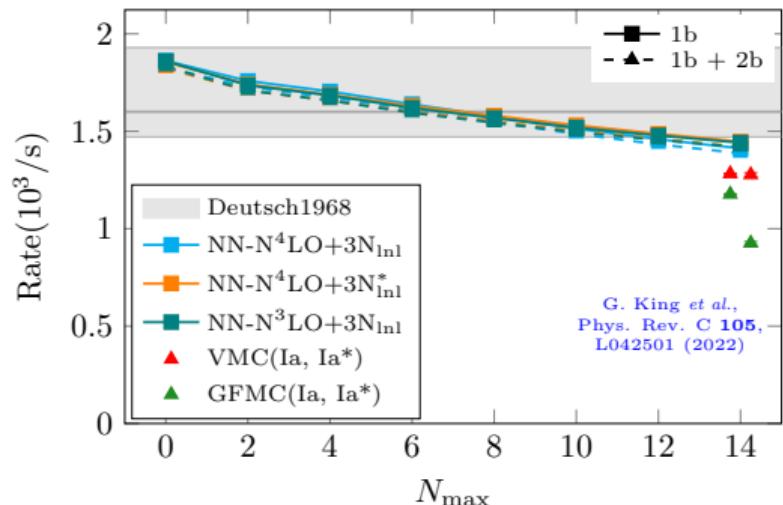
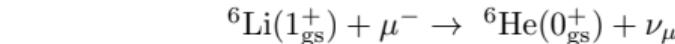


Figure courtesy of P. Navrátil

Muon Capture on ${}^6\text{Li}$

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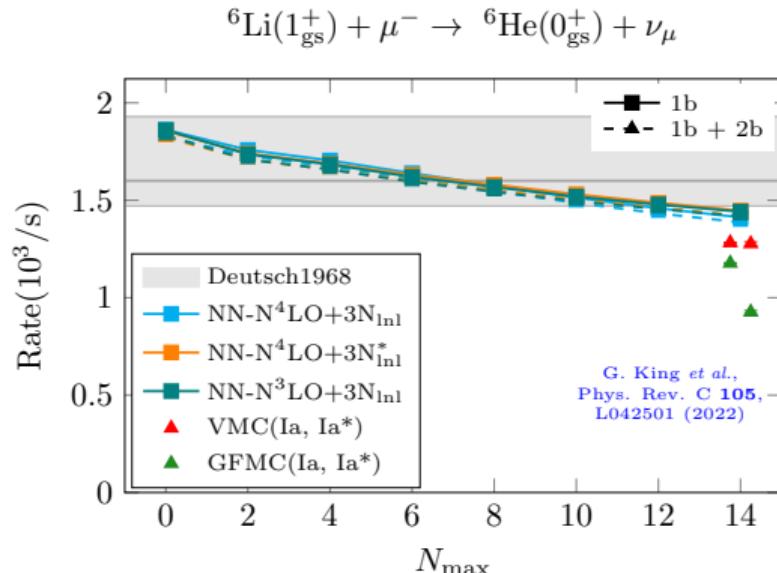


LJ, Navrátil, Kotila, Kravvaris,
Phys. Rev. C 109, 065501 (2024)

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King *et al.*, Phys. Rev. C **105**, L042501 (2022)



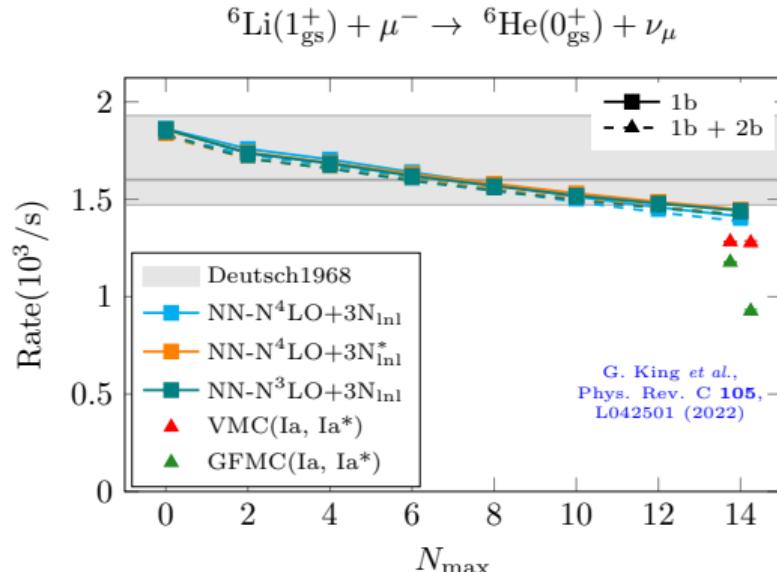
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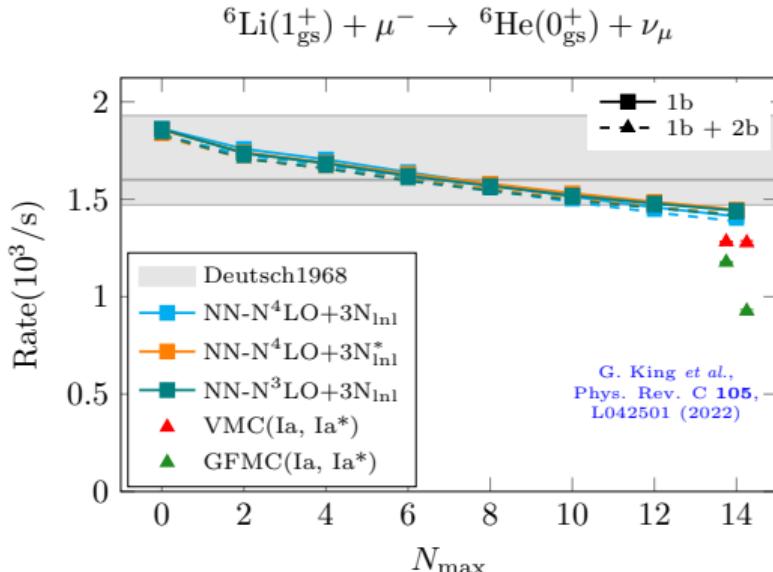
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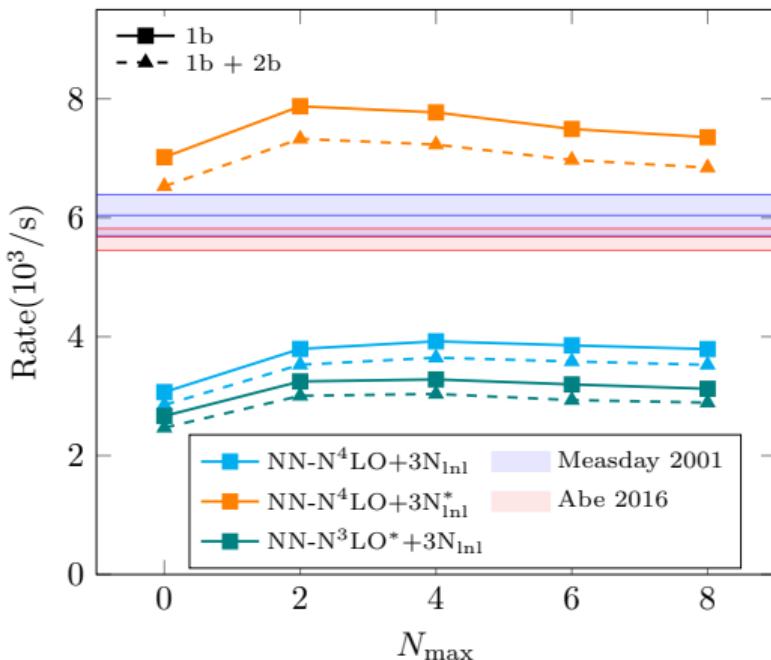
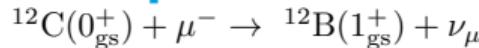
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 - ▶ **NCSM with continuum (NCSMC) might give better results?**



LJ, Navrátil, Kotila, Kravvaris,
Phys. Rev. C 109, 065501 (2024)

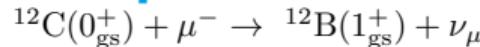
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Muon capture on ^{12}C



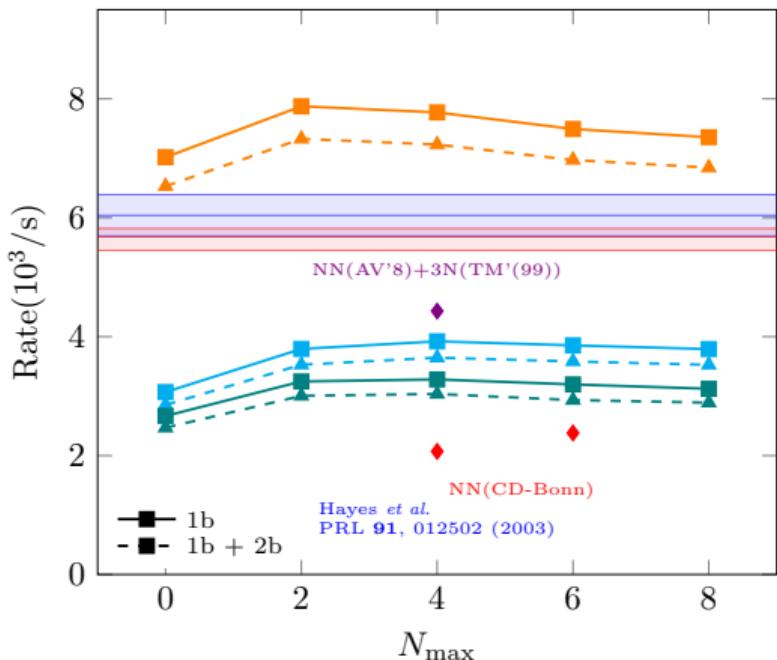
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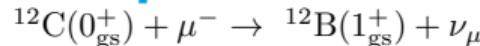
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Hayes *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **91**, 012502 (2003)



LJ, Navrátil, Kotila, Kravvaris,
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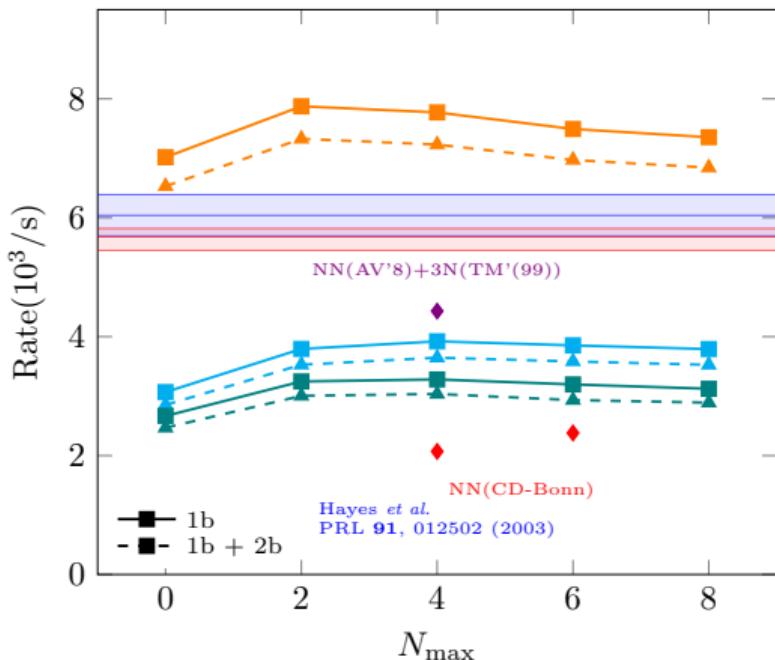


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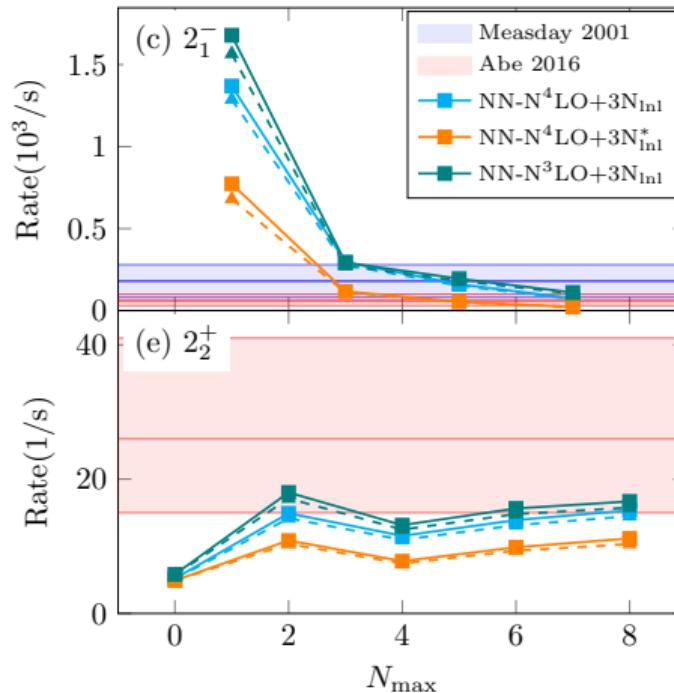
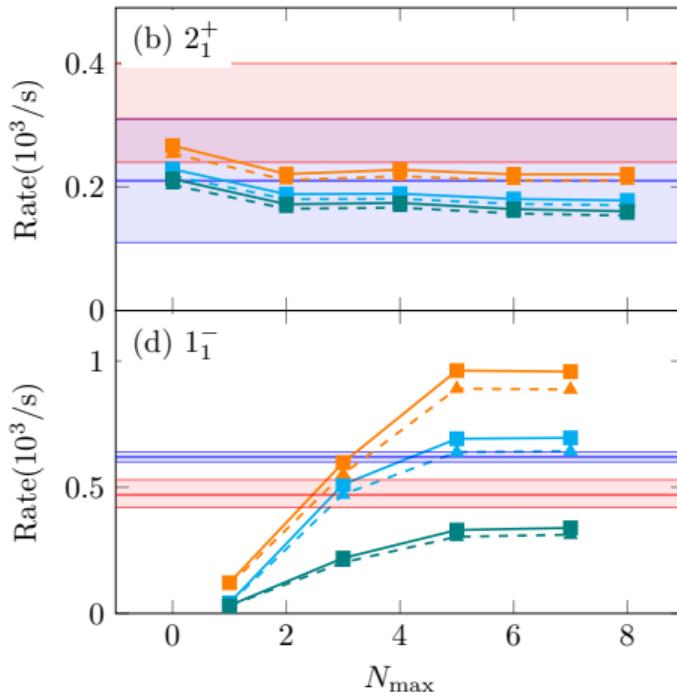
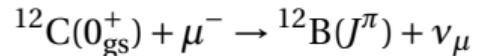
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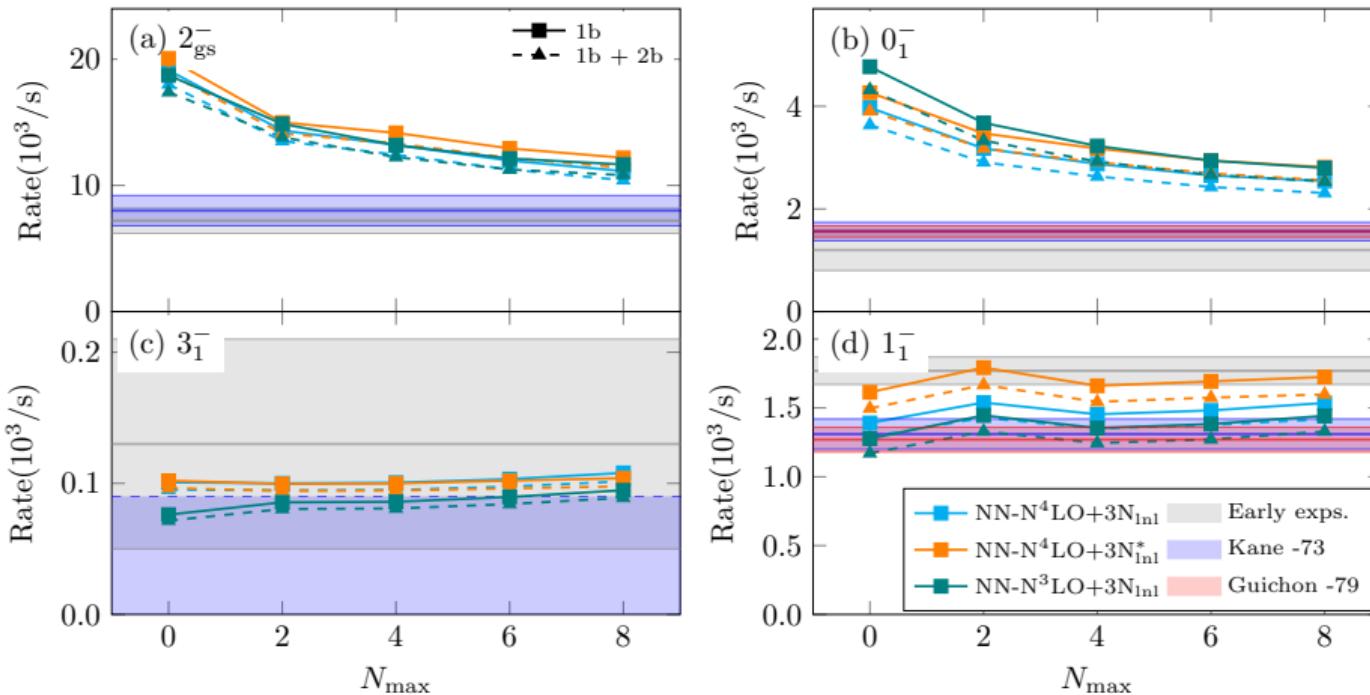
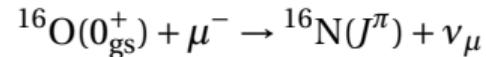
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- 3N-forces essential to reproduce the measured rate



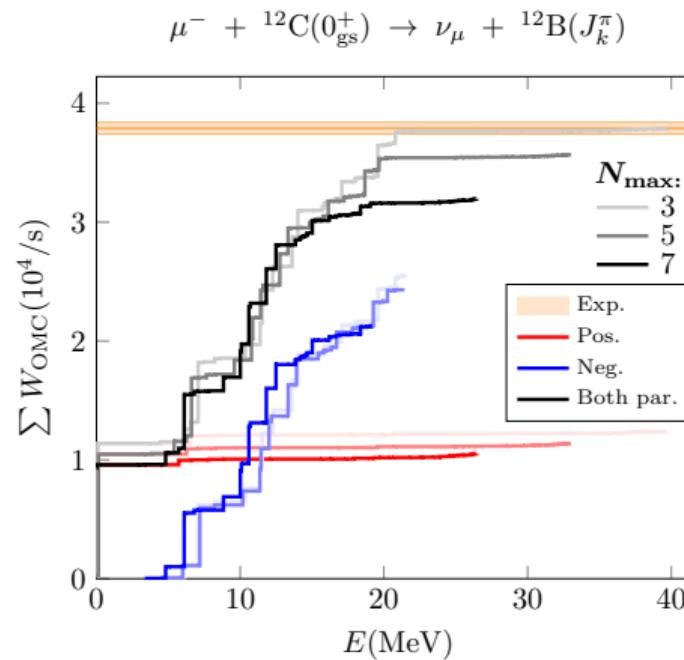
LJ, Navrátil, Kotila, Kravvaris,
Phys. Rev. C **109**, 065501 (2024)

Muon capture on ^{12}C 

Muon capture on ^{16}O 

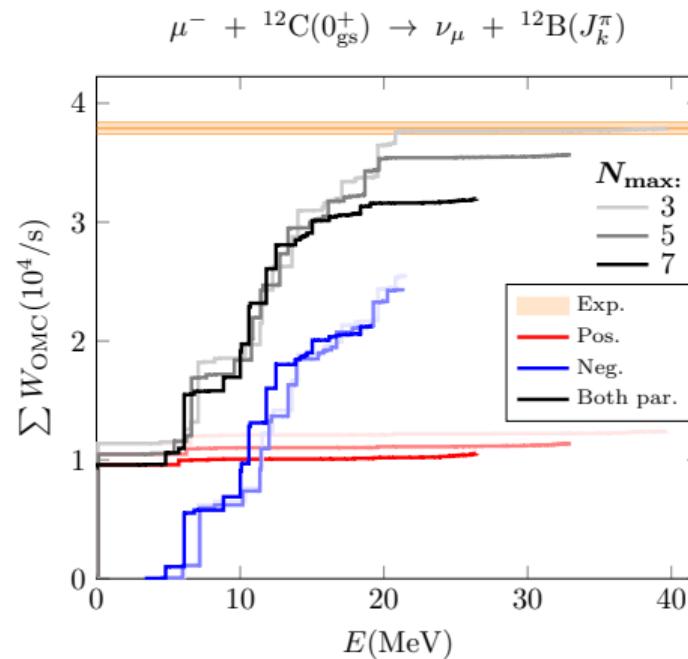
Total Muon-Capture Rates

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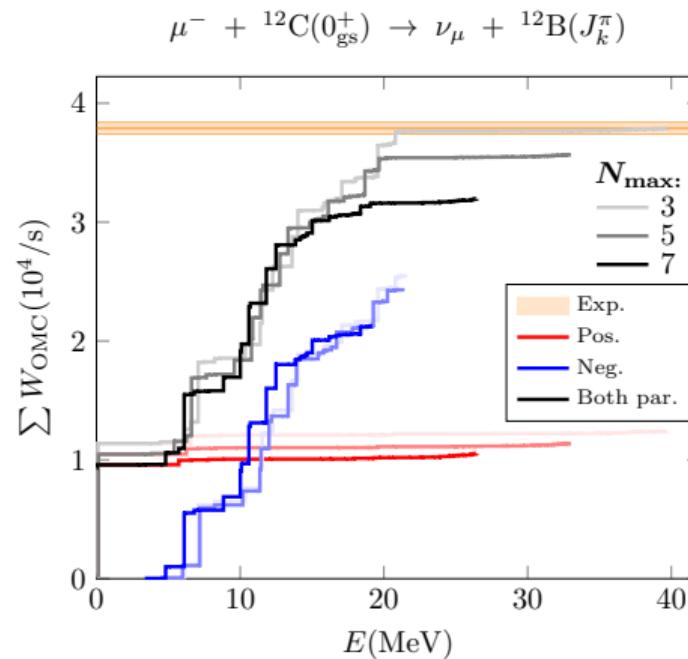
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- Better estimation with the Lanczos strength function method underway



Introduction to double-beta decay

Corrections to $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay nuclear matrix elements

Muon capture as a probe of $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

Summary and Outlook

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- The no-core shell model describes well the muon-capture rates in light nuclei, 6Li , ${}^{12}C$ and ${}^{16}O$

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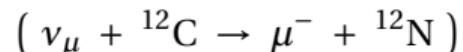
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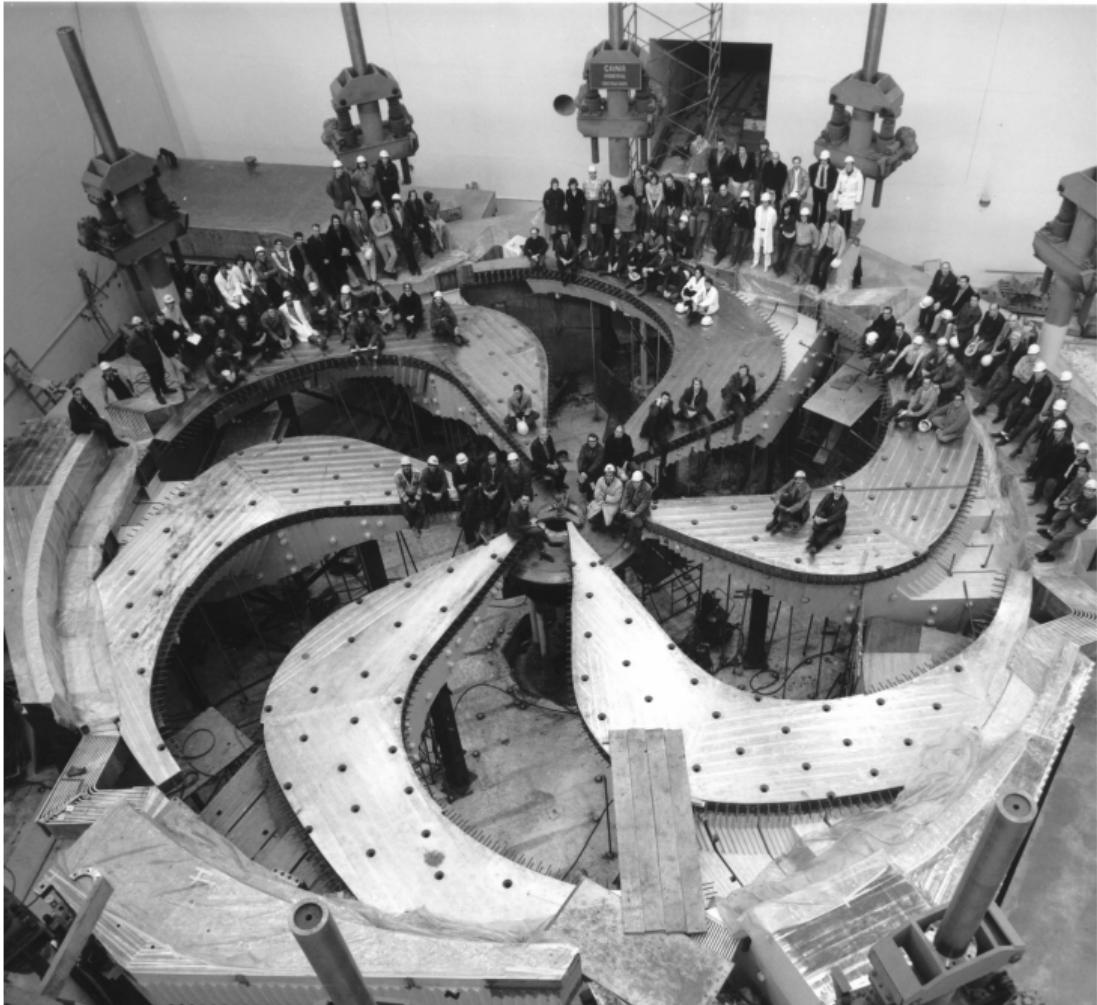
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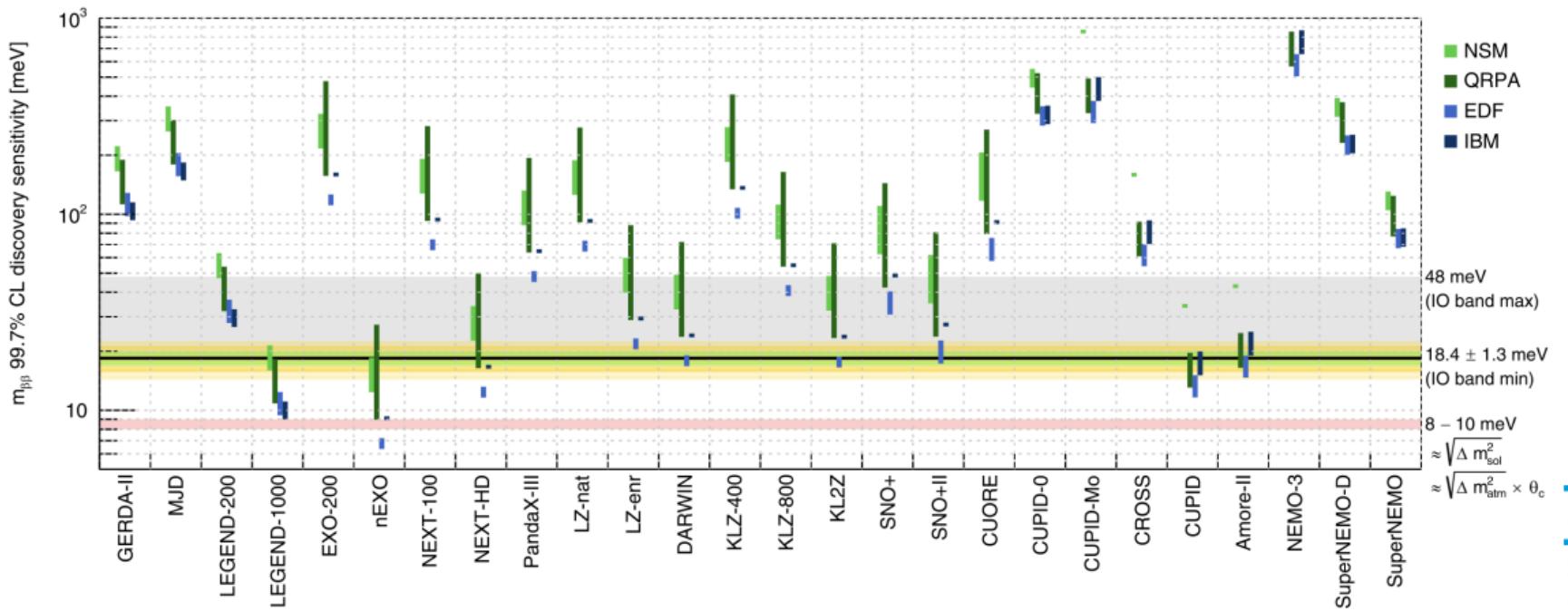
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 - ▶ ^{12}C and ^{16}O are both of interest in **neutrino-scattering experiments**



Thank you
Merci



Next generation experiments



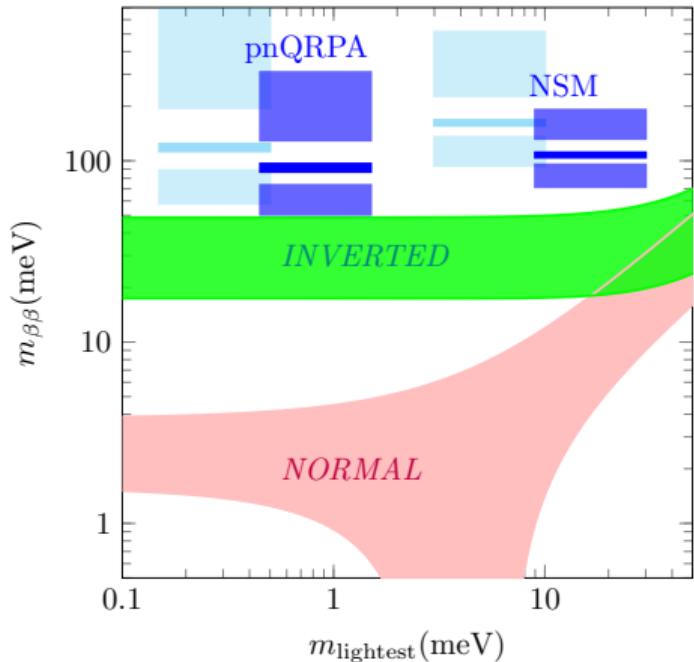
M. Agostini et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 95, 025002 (2023)

Effective Neutrino Masses

- Effective neutrino masses combining the likelihood functions of GERDA (^{76}Ge), CUORE (^{130}Te), EXO-200 (^{136}Xe) and KamLAND-Zen (^{136}Xe)

S. D. Biller, Phys. Rev. D 104, 012002 (2021)

- Middle bands: $M_L^{(0\nu)}$
 Lower bands: $M_L^{(0\nu)} + M_S^{(0\nu)}$
 Upper bands: $M_L^{(0\nu)} - M_S^{(0\nu)}$



L.J. P. Soriano and J. Menéndez, Phys. Lett. B 823, 136720 (2021)

- Rates written in terms of reduced one-body matrix elements:

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Morita, Fujii, *Phys. Rev.* **118**, 606 (1960)

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Dependency on the Harmonic-Oscillator Frequency



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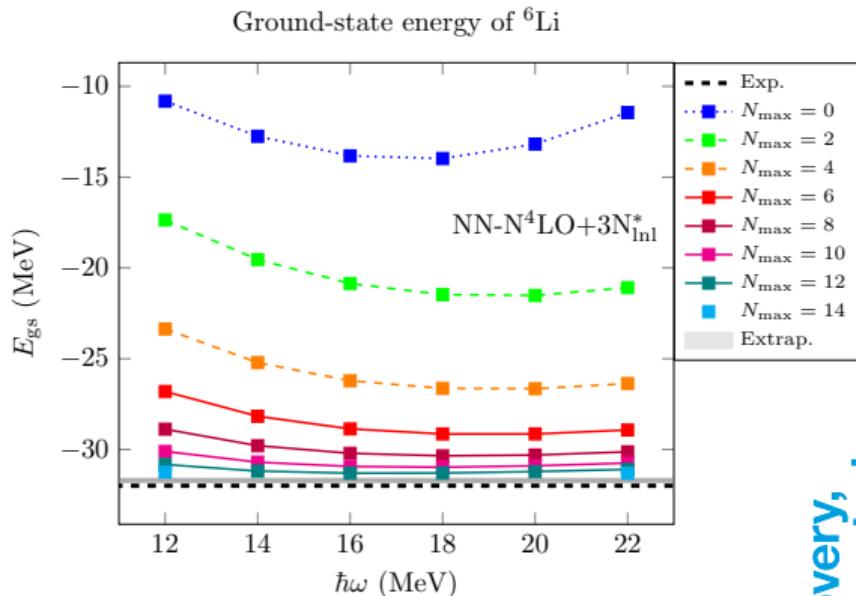
- The expansion depends on the HO frequency because of the N_{\max} truncation

Dependency on the Harmonic-Oscillator Frequency



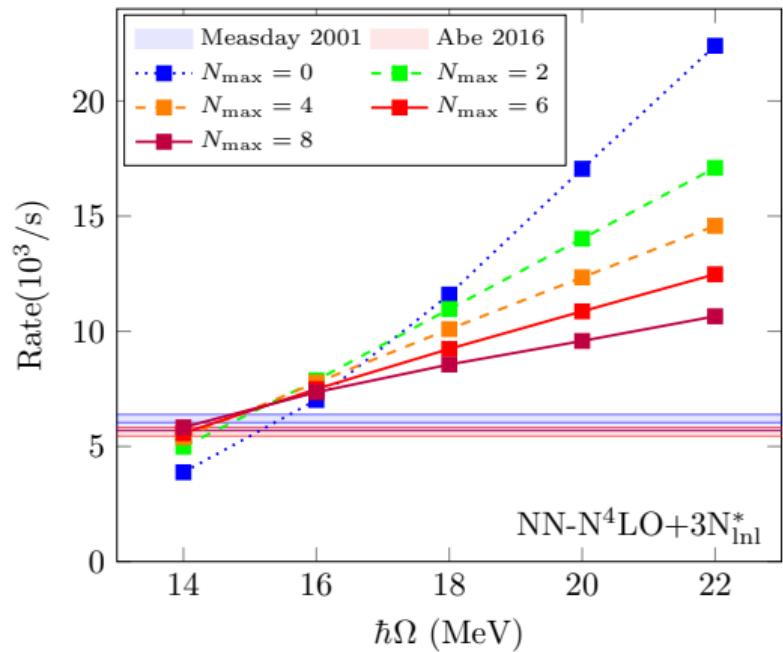
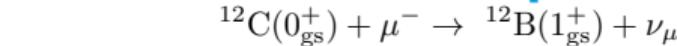
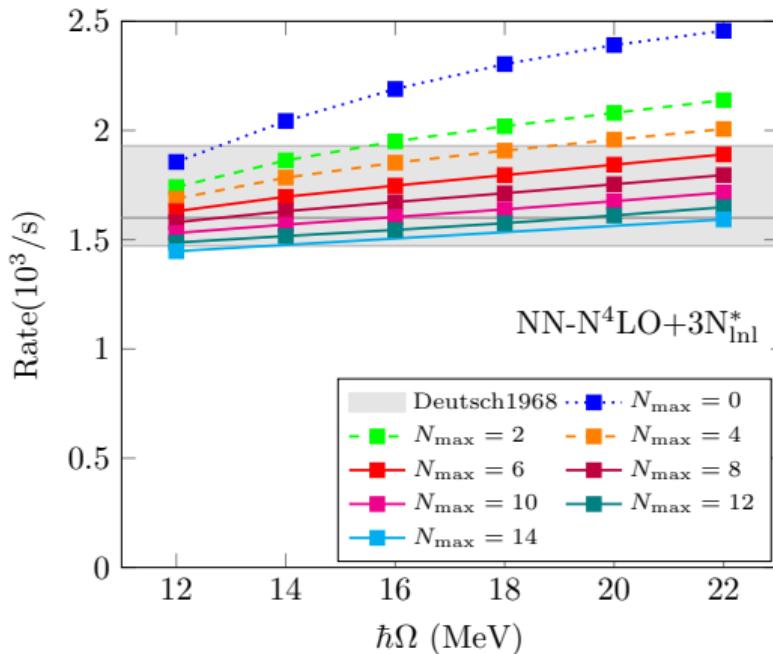
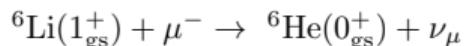
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- The expansion depends on the HO frequency because of the N_{\max} truncation
 - Increasing N_{\max} leads towards converged results**

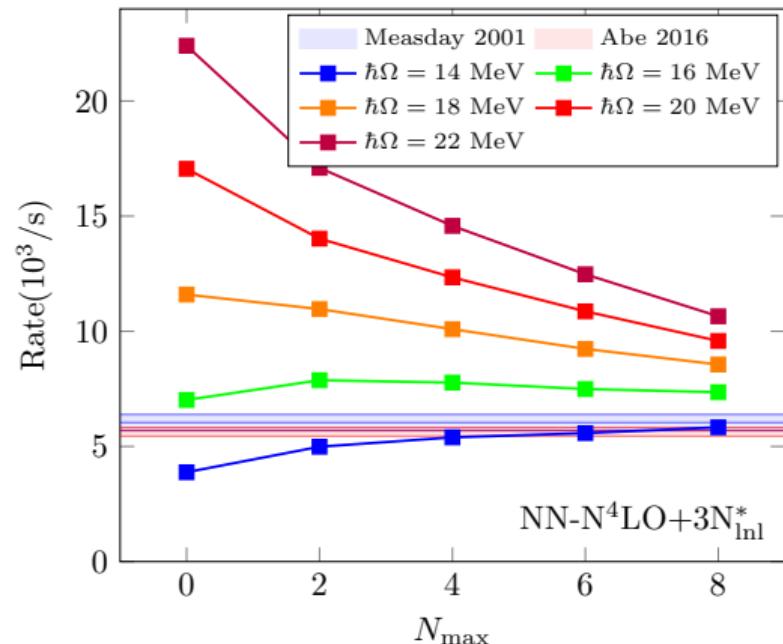
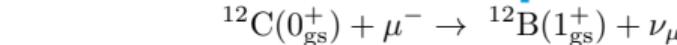
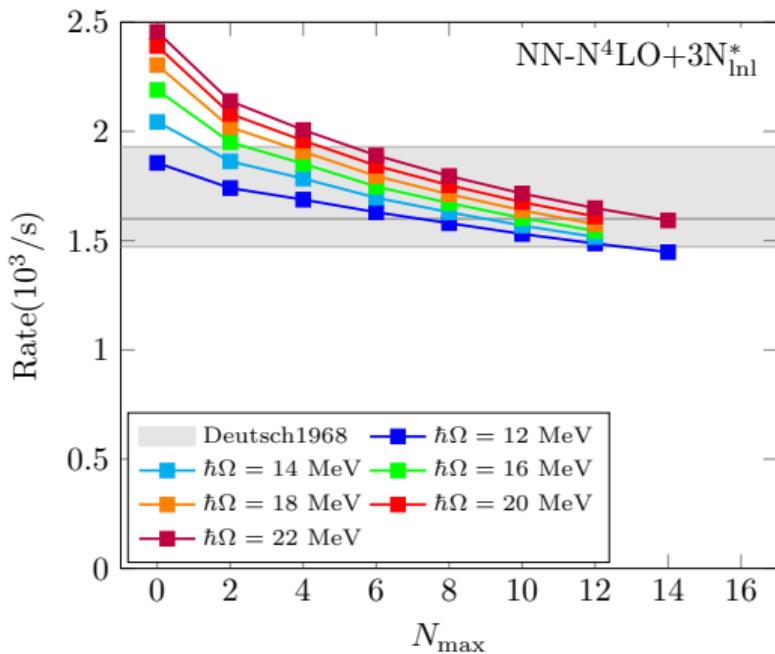
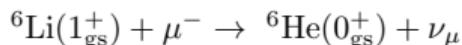


LJ, Navrátil, Kotila, Kravvaris, arXiv:2403.05776

Harmonic-Oscillator Frequency Dependence of Muon Capture



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Axial-Vector Two-Body Currents (2BCs)

- One-body (1b) axial-vector currents given by

$$\mathbf{J}_{i,1b}^3 = \frac{\tau_i^3}{2} \left(g_A \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i - \frac{g_P}{2m_N} \mathbf{q} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i \right),$$

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- Additional pion-exchange, pion-pole, and contact two-body (2b) currents

[Hoferichter, Klos, Schwenk Phys. Lett. B 746, 410 \(2015\)](#)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{J}_{12}^3 = & -\frac{g_A}{2F_\pi^2} [\tau_1 \times \tau_2]^3 \left[c_4 \left(1 - \frac{\mathbf{q}}{\mathbf{q}^2 + M_\pi^2} \mathbf{q} \cdot \right) (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \times \mathbf{k}_2) + \frac{c_6}{4} (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \times \mathbf{q}) + i \frac{\mathbf{p}_1 + \mathbf{p}'_1}{4m_N} \right] \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{k}_2}{M_\pi^2 + k_2^2} \\ & - \frac{g_A}{F_\pi^2} \tau_2^3 \left[c_3 \left(1 - \frac{\mathbf{q}}{\mathbf{q}^2 + M_\pi^2} \mathbf{q} \cdot \right) \mathbf{k}_2 + 2c_1 M_\pi^2 \frac{\mathbf{q}}{\mathbf{q}^2 + M_\pi^2} \right] \frac{\boldsymbol{\sigma}_2 \cdot \mathbf{k}_2}{M_\pi^2 + k_2^2} \\ & - d_1 \tau_1^3 \left(1 - \frac{\mathbf{q}}{\mathbf{q}^2 + M_\pi^2} \mathbf{q} \cdot \right) \boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 + (1 \leftrightarrow 2) - d_2 (\tau_1 \times \tau_2)^3 (\boldsymbol{\sigma}_1 \times \boldsymbol{\sigma}_2) \left(1 - \mathbf{q} \frac{\mathbf{q}}{\mathbf{q}^2 + M_\pi^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{k}_i = \mathbf{p}'_i - \mathbf{p}_i$ and $\mathbf{q} = -\mathbf{k}_1 - \mathbf{k}_2$

Axial-Vector Two-Body Currents (2BCs)

- Approximate 2BCs by normal-ordering w.r.t. spin-isospin–symmetric reference state with $\rho = 2k_F^3/(3\pi^2)$:

Hoferichter, Menéndez, Schwenk, *Phys. Rev. D* **102**, 074018 (2020)

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$$\rightarrow \boxed{\mathbf{J}_{i,2b}^{\text{eff}} = g_A \frac{\tau_i^3}{2} \left[\delta a(\mathbf{q}^2) \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i + \frac{\delta a^P(\mathbf{q}^2)}{\mathbf{q}^2} (\mathbf{q} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}_i) \mathbf{q} \right]},$$

where

$$\delta a(\mathbf{q}^2) = -\frac{\rho}{F_\pi^2} \left[\frac{c_4}{3} [3I_2^\sigma(\rho, \mathbf{q}) - I_1^\sigma(\rho, |\mathbf{q}|)] - \frac{1}{3} \left(c_3 - \frac{1}{4m_N} \right) I_1^\sigma(\rho, |\mathbf{q}|) - \frac{c_6}{12} I_{c6}(\rho, |\mathbf{q}|) - \frac{c_D}{4g_A \Lambda_\chi} \right],$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta a^P(\mathbf{q}^2) = & \frac{\rho}{F_\pi^2} \left[-2(c_3 - 2c_1) \frac{m_\pi^2 \mathbf{q}^2}{(m_\pi^2 + \mathbf{q}^2)^2} + \frac{1}{3} \left(c_3 + c_4 - \frac{1}{4m_N} \right) I^P(\rho, |\mathbf{q}|) - \left(\frac{c_6}{12} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{c_1 m_\pi^2}{m_\pi^2 + \mathbf{q}^2} \right) I_{c6}(\rho, |\mathbf{q}|) \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{\mathbf{q}^2}{m_\pi^2 + \mathbf{q}^2} \left(\frac{c_3}{3} [I_1^\sigma(\rho, |\mathbf{q}|) + I^P(\rho, |\mathbf{q}|)] + \frac{c_4}{3} [I_1^\sigma(\rho, |\mathbf{q}|) + I^P(\rho, |\mathbf{q}|) - 3I_2^\sigma(\rho, |\mathbf{q}|)] \right) - \frac{c_D}{4g_A \Lambda_\chi} \frac{\mathbf{q}^2}{m_\pi^2 + \mathbf{q}^2} \right] \end{aligned}$$

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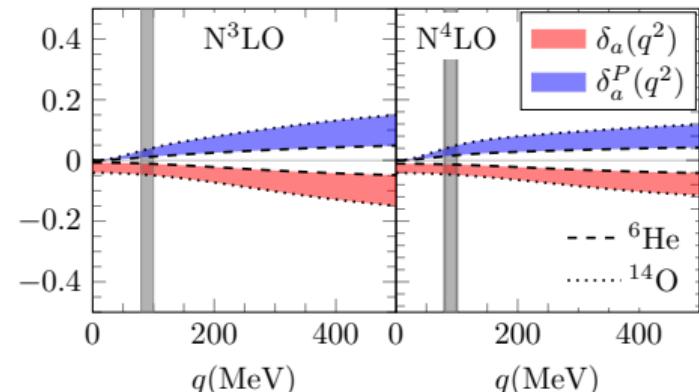
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- Two-body currents approximated by

$$\begin{cases} g_A(q^2, 2b) \rightarrow g_A(q^2) + g_A \delta_a(q^2), \\ g_P(q^2, 2b) \rightarrow g_P(q^2) - \frac{2m_N g_A}{q} \delta_a^P(q^2) \end{cases}$$



LJ, Navrátil, Kotila, Kravvaris, arXiv:2403:05776 (accepted to PRC)

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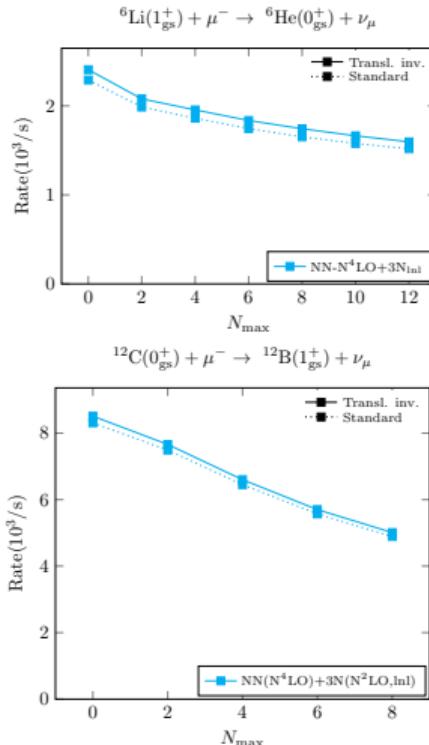

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- ▶ Working with A single-particle coordinates and separating the center-of-mass motion:


$$\Psi_{\text{SD}}^A = \sum_{N=0}^{N_{\max}} \sum_i c_{Nj}^{\text{SD}} \Phi_{\text{SD} Nj}^{\text{HO}}(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_A) = \Psi^A \Psi_{\text{CM}}(\mathbf{R}_{\text{CM}})$$

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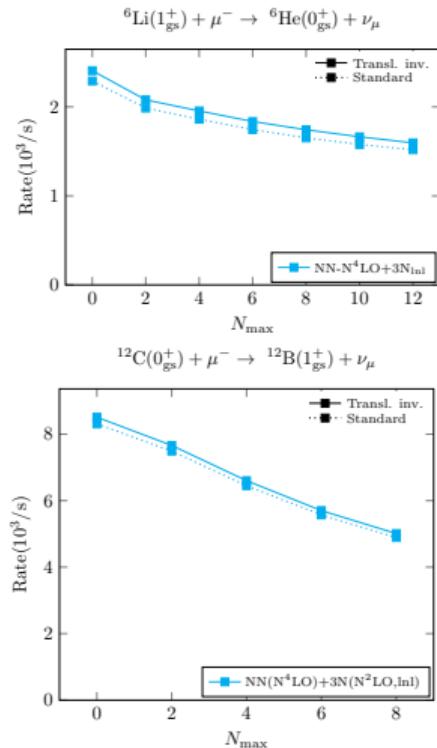
Navrátil, *Phys. Rev. C* **104**, 064322 (2021)

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \Psi_f | \sum_{s=1}^A \hat{O}_s(\mathbf{r}_s - \mathbf{R}_{\text{CM}}, \mathbf{p}_s - \mathbf{P}) | \Psi_i \rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2u+1}} \times \sum_{pnp'n'} (n' | \hat{O}_s \left(-\sqrt{\frac{A-1}{A}} \xi_s, -\sqrt{\frac{A-1}{A}} \pi_s \right) | p') \\ & \quad \times (M^u)_{n'p', np}^{-1} (\Psi_f | [a_n^\dagger \tilde{a}_p]_u | \Psi_i), \end{aligned}$$

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LJ, Navrátil, Kotila and Kravvaris, arXiv:2403:05776 (accepted to

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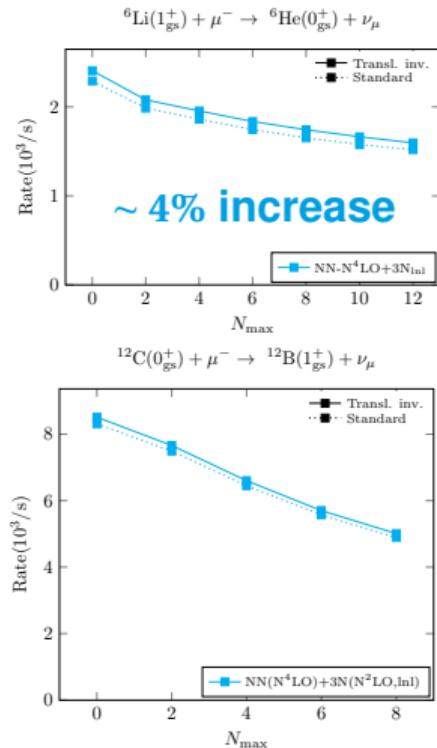
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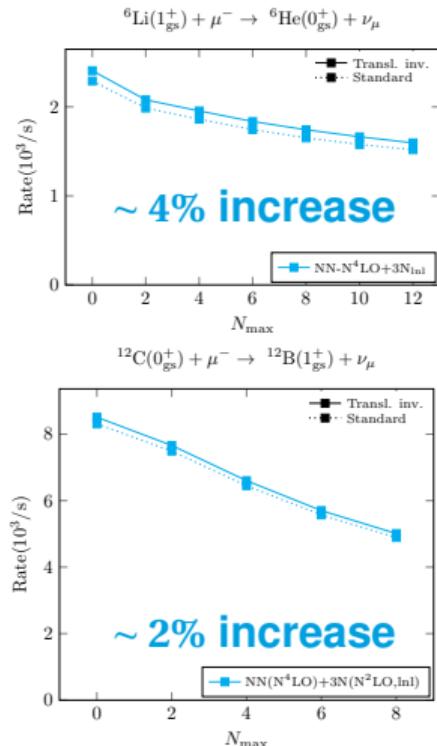
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