

CETUP\* 2023

06 July, 2023

Lead/Deadwood Middle School

# Radiative corrections in neutrino physics



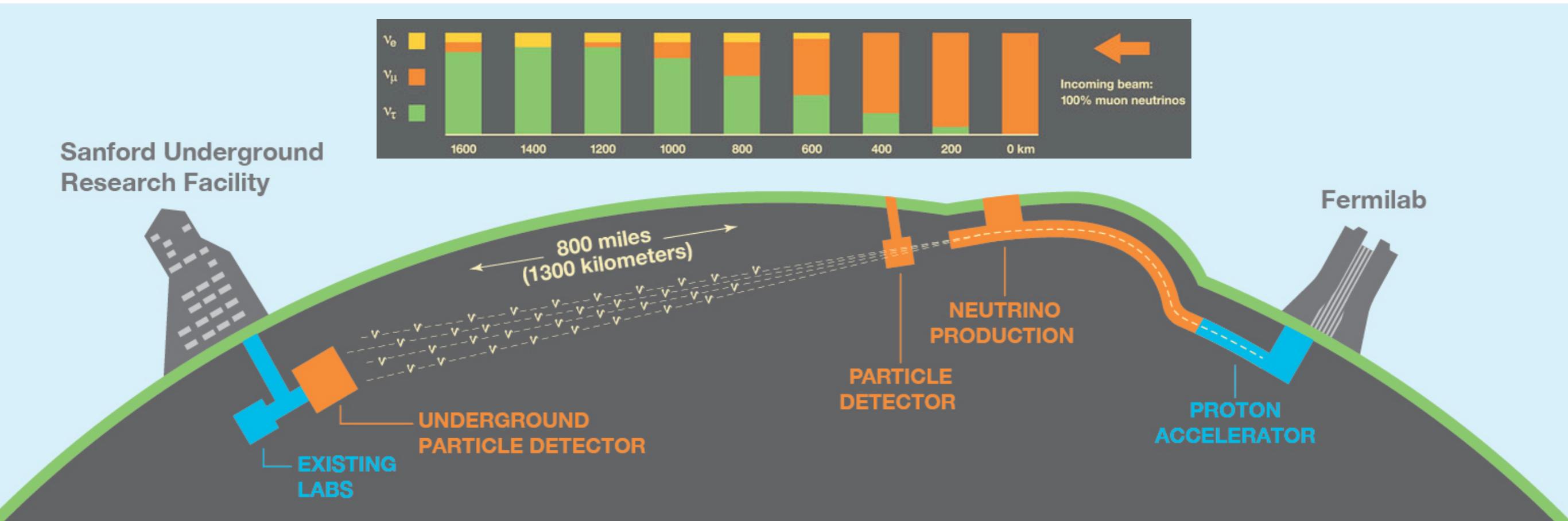
**Los Alamos**  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Oleksandr (Sasha) Tomalak

LA-UR-23-27032

# Neutrino experiments

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



- measurement of  $\nu_\mu(\bar{\nu}_\mu)$  disappearance and  $\nu_e(\bar{\nu}_e)$  appearance

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

- near detector: determine flux and cross sections

# Outline

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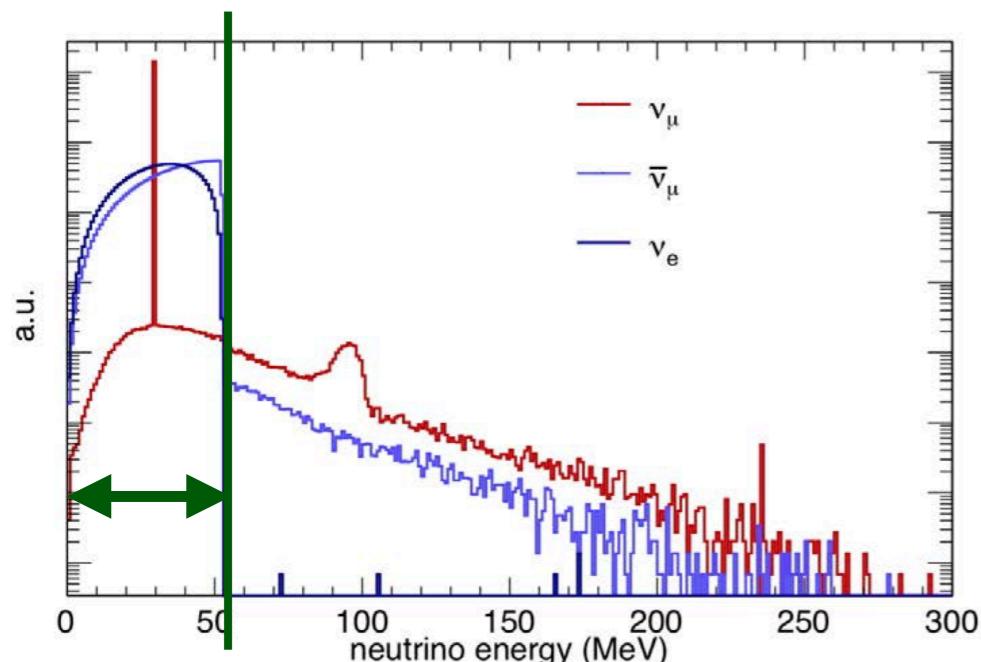
- 1) artificial neutrino sources
- 2) cross sections on electrons, nucleons, and nuclei
- 3) radiative corrections in neutrino physics
- 4) charged-current scattering on nucleons

# Artificial neutrinos: accelerator

$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \bar{\nu}_\mu$$

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$$

decay at rest



Akimov et al., Science 357 6356, 1123-1126 (2017)

Coherent and CCM

meson decay: monochromatic line

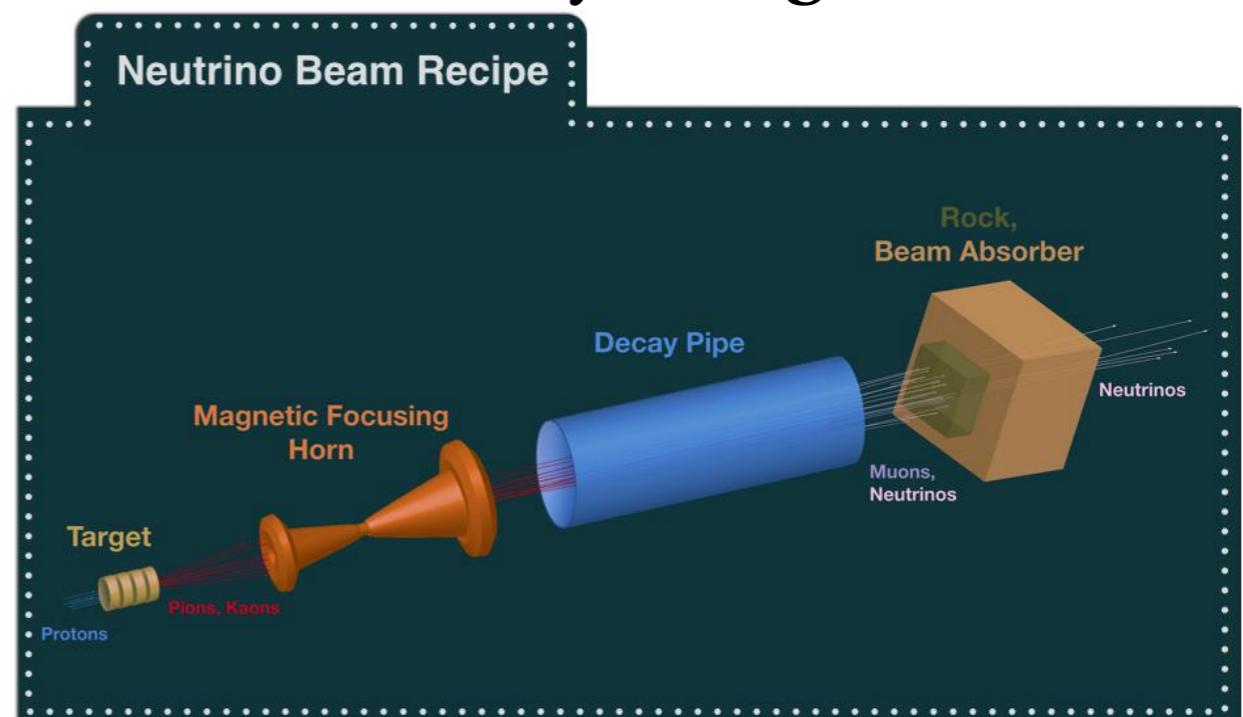
$$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ \nu_e$$

$$K^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 \mu^+ \nu_\mu$$

$$K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi^\pm e^\mp \nu_e$$

$$K_L^0 \rightarrow \pi^\pm \mu^\mp \nu_\mu$$

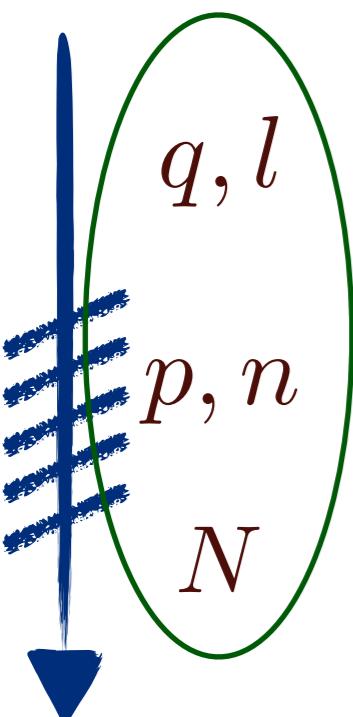
decay in flight



[www.fnal.gov](http://www.fnal.gov)

T2K, NOvA, MiniBooNE, MicroBooNE  
MINERvA, MINOS, NuTeV  
SBN, DUNE, HyperK, ESSnuSB

- precise measurements of neutrino properties, EW, and BSM search
- physics program relies on neutrino cross sections in MeV-TeV range



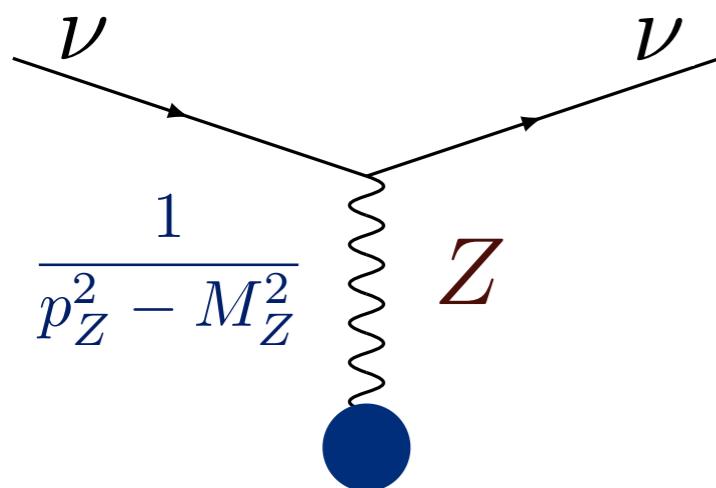
Cross sections on  
electrons, nucleons, and nuclei

# Neutral- and charged-current processes

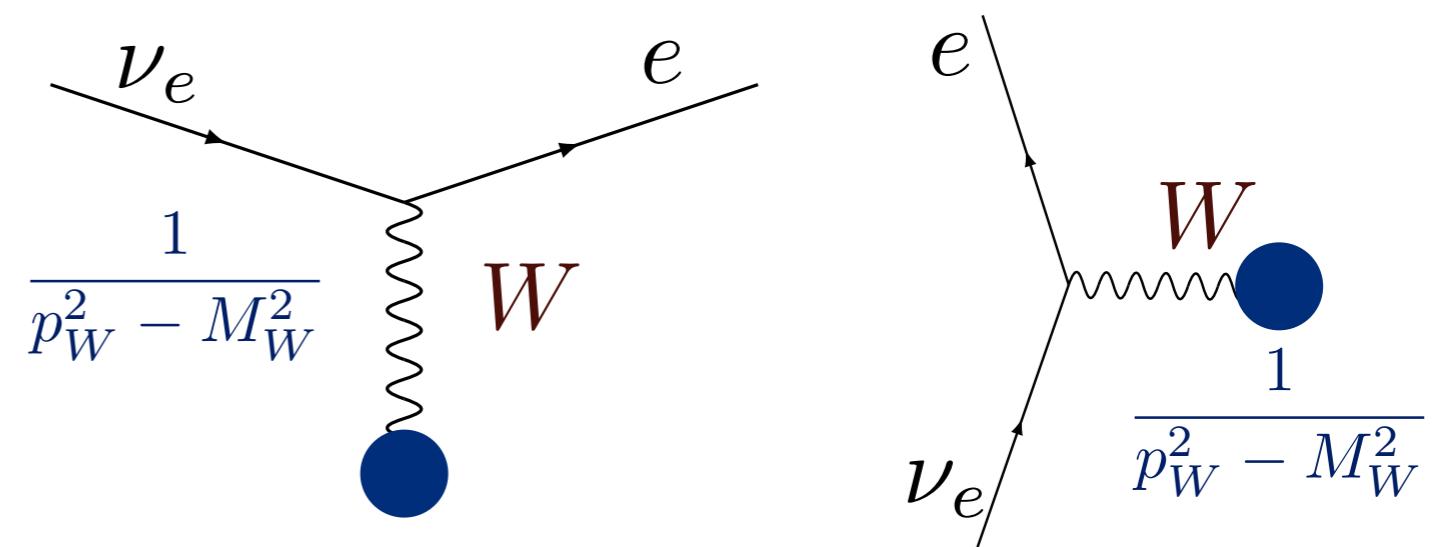
- cross sections determine neutrino-induced events

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

neutral current



charged current



- contact interactions at GeV energy scale and below

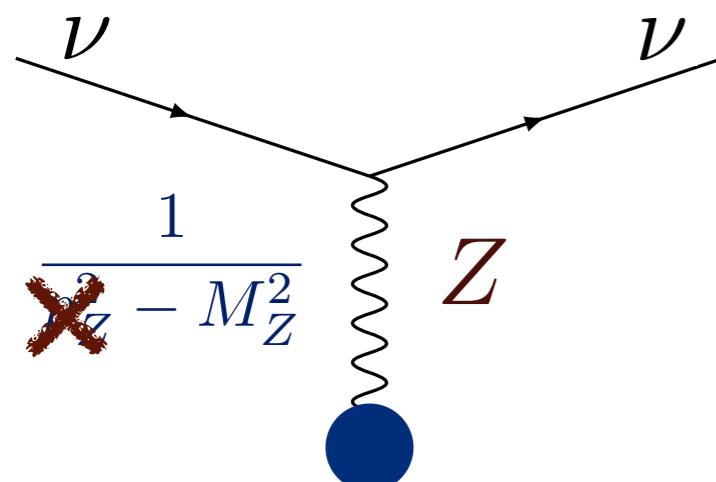
- charged current (only): **threshold** to produce lepton and recoil
- neutral current: **no thresholds**

# Neutral- and charged-current processes

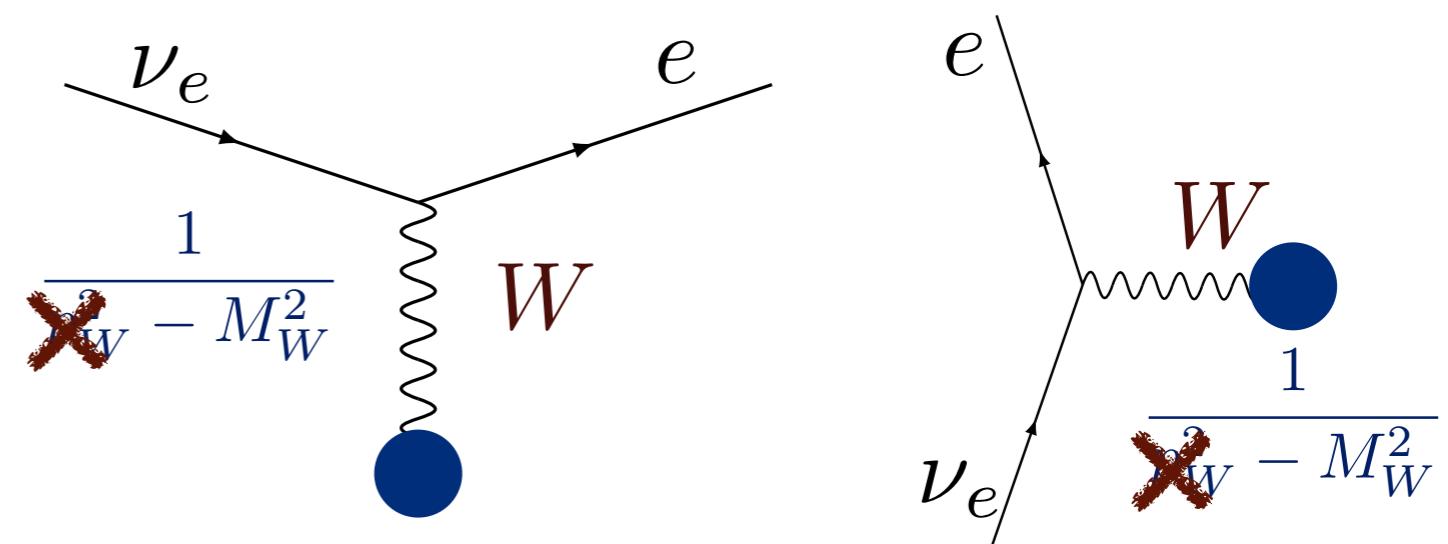
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charged current

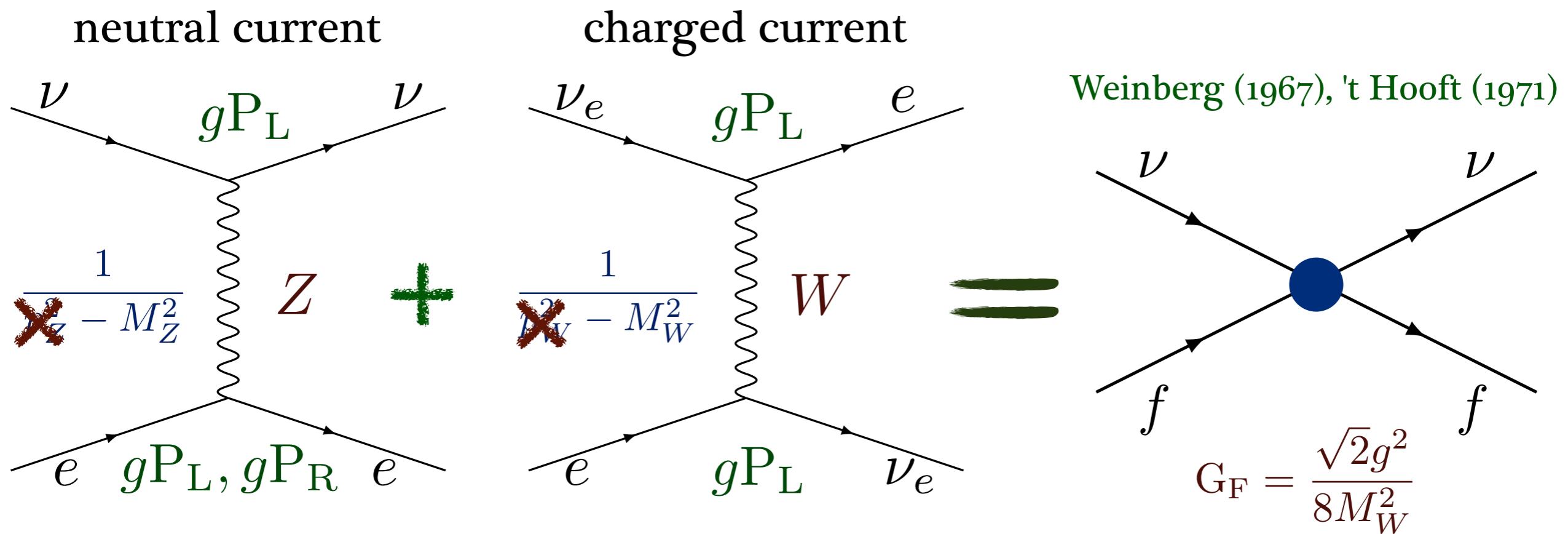


- contact interactions at GeV energy scale and below

- charged current (only): **threshold** to produce lepton and recoil
- neutral current: **no thresholds**

# Neutrino-electron scattering

- Fermi theory at GeV energies and below,  $\sigma \sim m$

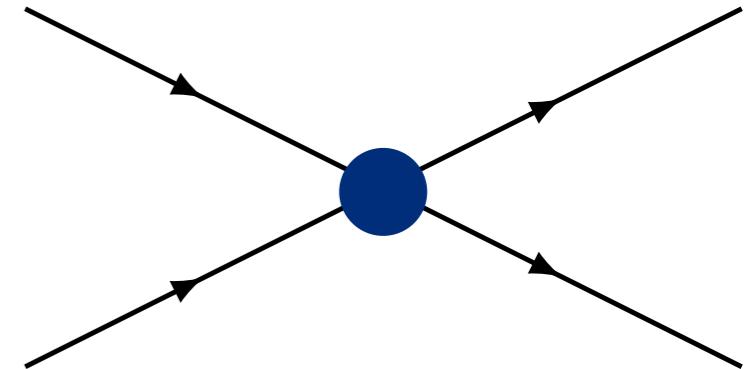


- s-channel resonant enhancement at vector-boson pole (PeV scale)

- historically: precise EW physics and BSM searches
  - channel for in-situ flux constraints at accelerator experiments
  - solar neutrinos@**Super-K, SNO, Borexino**
  - recent observation of **Glashow resonance** by IceCube

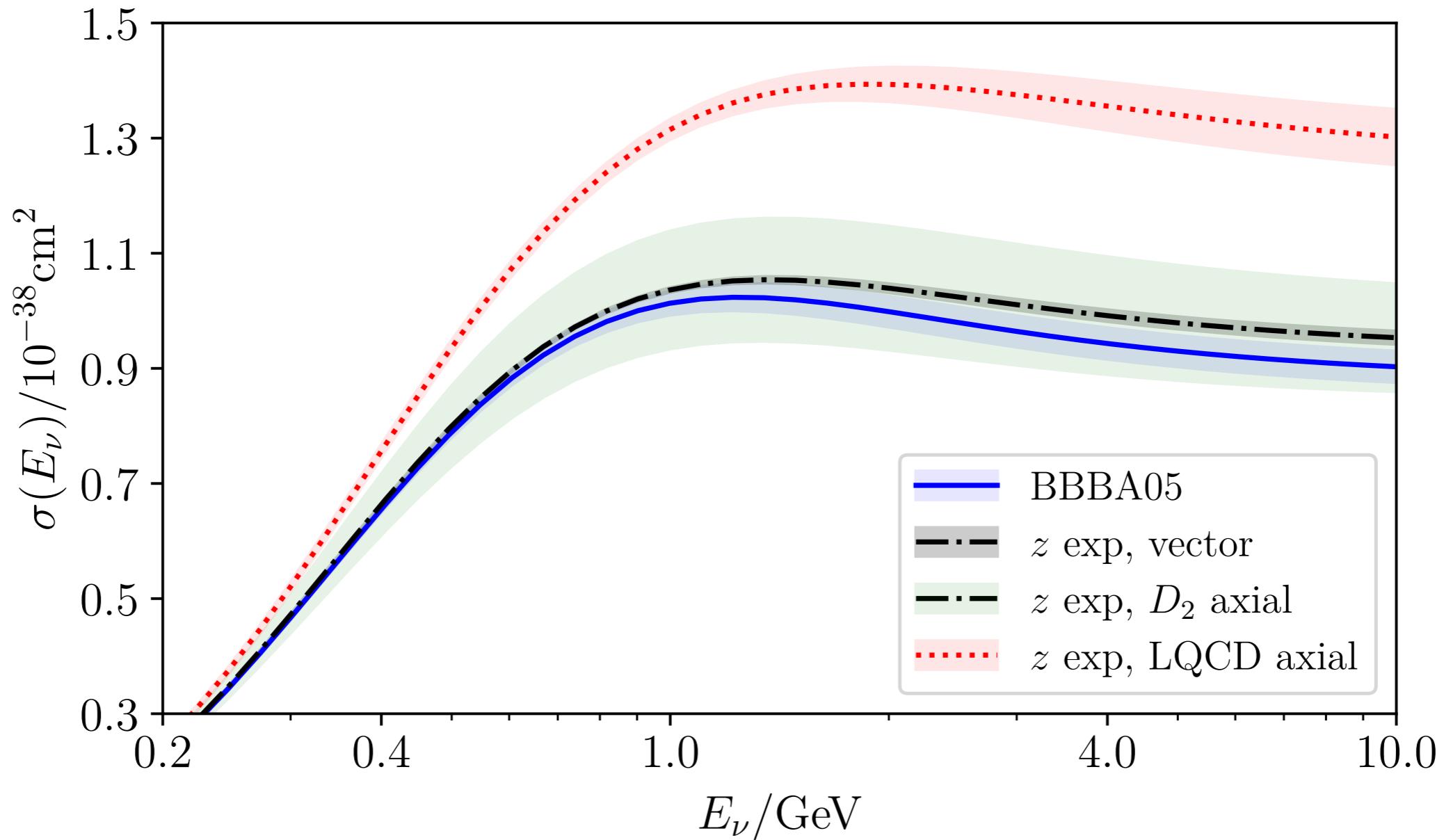
# Neutrino-nucleon scattering (CC)

- 4-Fermi theory + ChPT @ and < pion-mass scale
- thresholds: muon  $\sim 110$  MeV, tau  $\sim 3.5$  GeV
- only electron flavor for supernova, solar and reactor neutrinos
- deuterium bubble chamber data in 1980th
- provide nucleon axial form factor
- target for many lattice QCD groups
  - elastic scattering  $\rightarrow$  pion production  $\rightarrow$  deep inelastic scattering



Fermilab bubble chamber, Richard Drew

# Neutrino-nucleon scattering (CC)



A.S. Meyer, A. Walker-Loud, C. Wilkinson, Ann. Rev. of 72, 010622-120608 (2022)

A.S. Meyer, M. Betancourt, R. Gran, and R.J. Hill, PRD (2016)

Kaushik Borah, Gabriel Lee, Richard J. Hill, and O. T., PRD (2021)

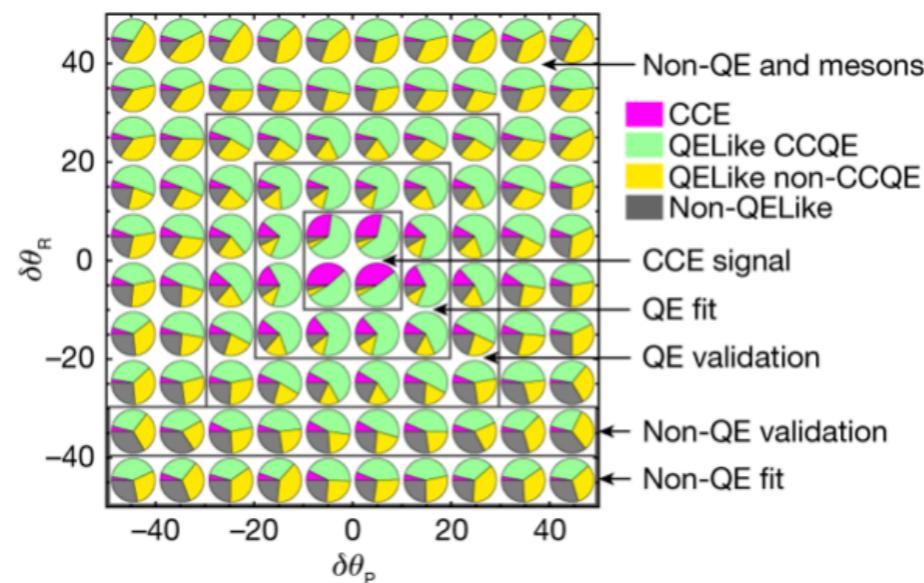
- knowledge of vector structure stops a progress in studies of axial
- acknowledged discrepancy: lattice QCD  $\leftrightarrow$  experimental data

# MINERvA result with free protons

- idea of scattering on molecular hydrogen realized !!!

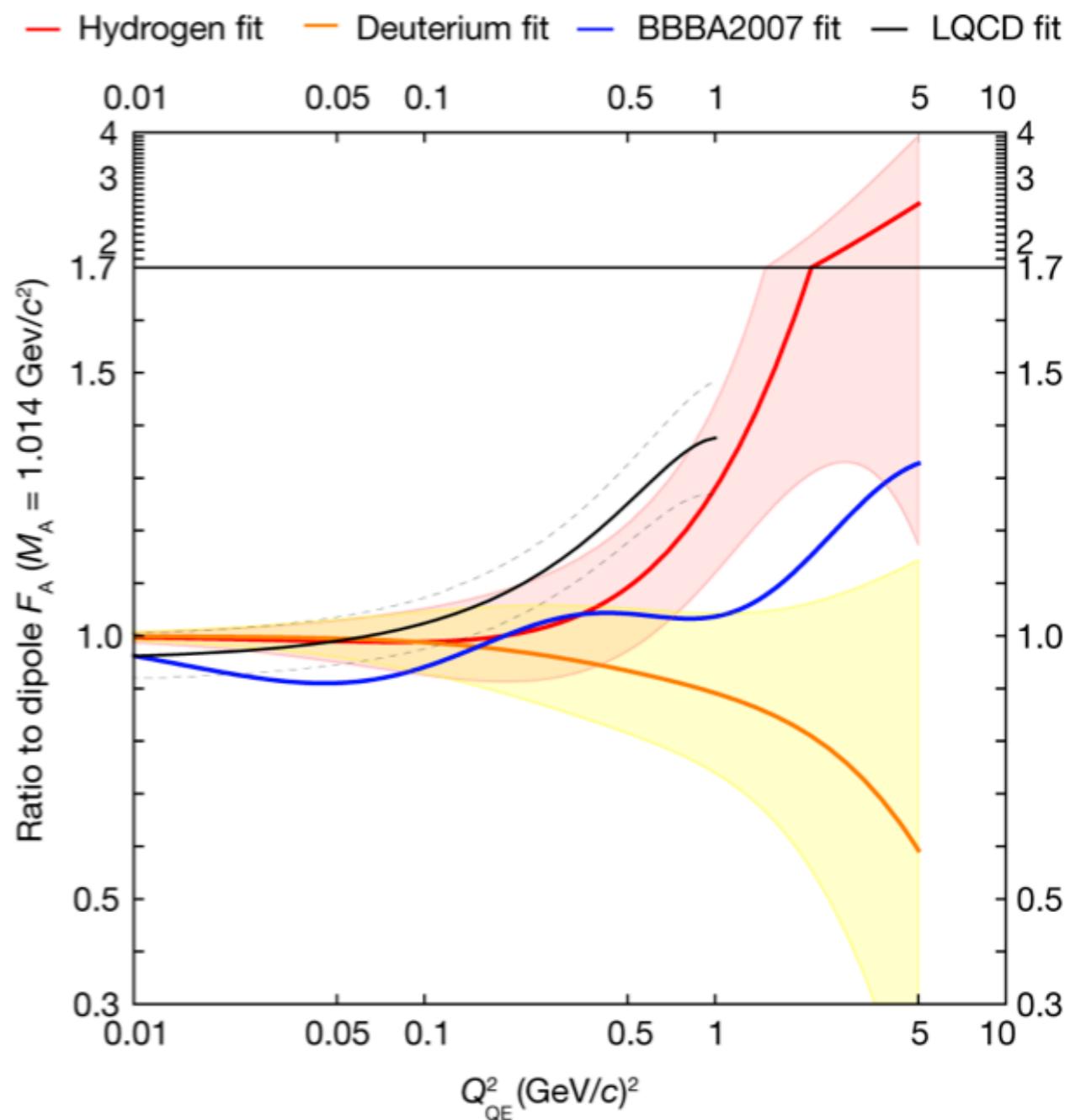


kinematic selection



5580 events over  
12500 background

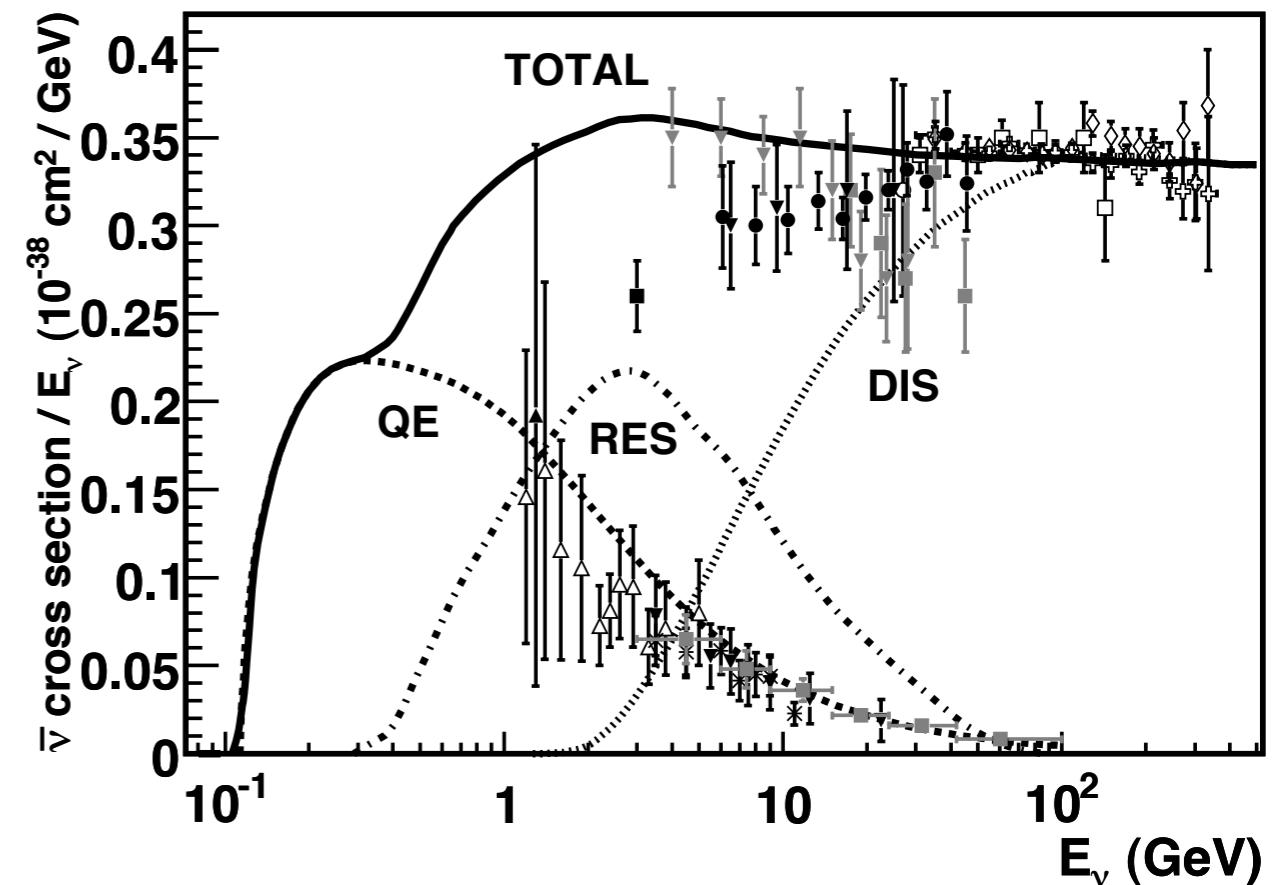
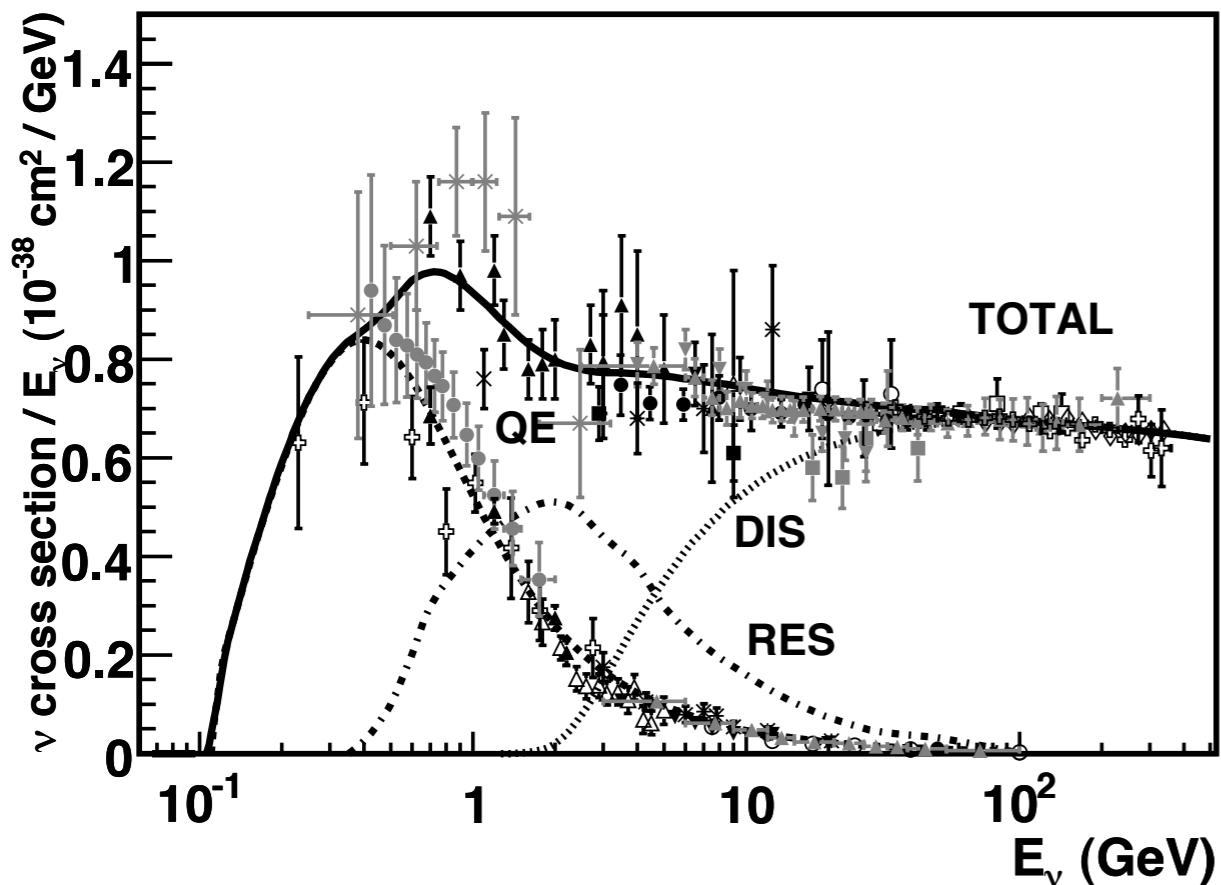
background nuclear events  
constrained by scattering of  $\nu$



- 1st measurement of axial form factor on “free” protons  $\bar{\nu}_\mu p \rightarrow \mu^+ n$

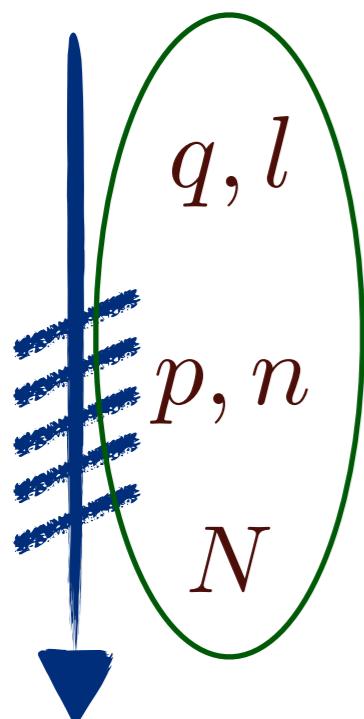
# Neutrino-nucleus scattering

- NC scattering across all energies -> neutrino floor
- CC with electron flavor for supernova, solar, and reactor neutrinos
- same open channels as at nucleon level



Formaggio and Zeller (2013)

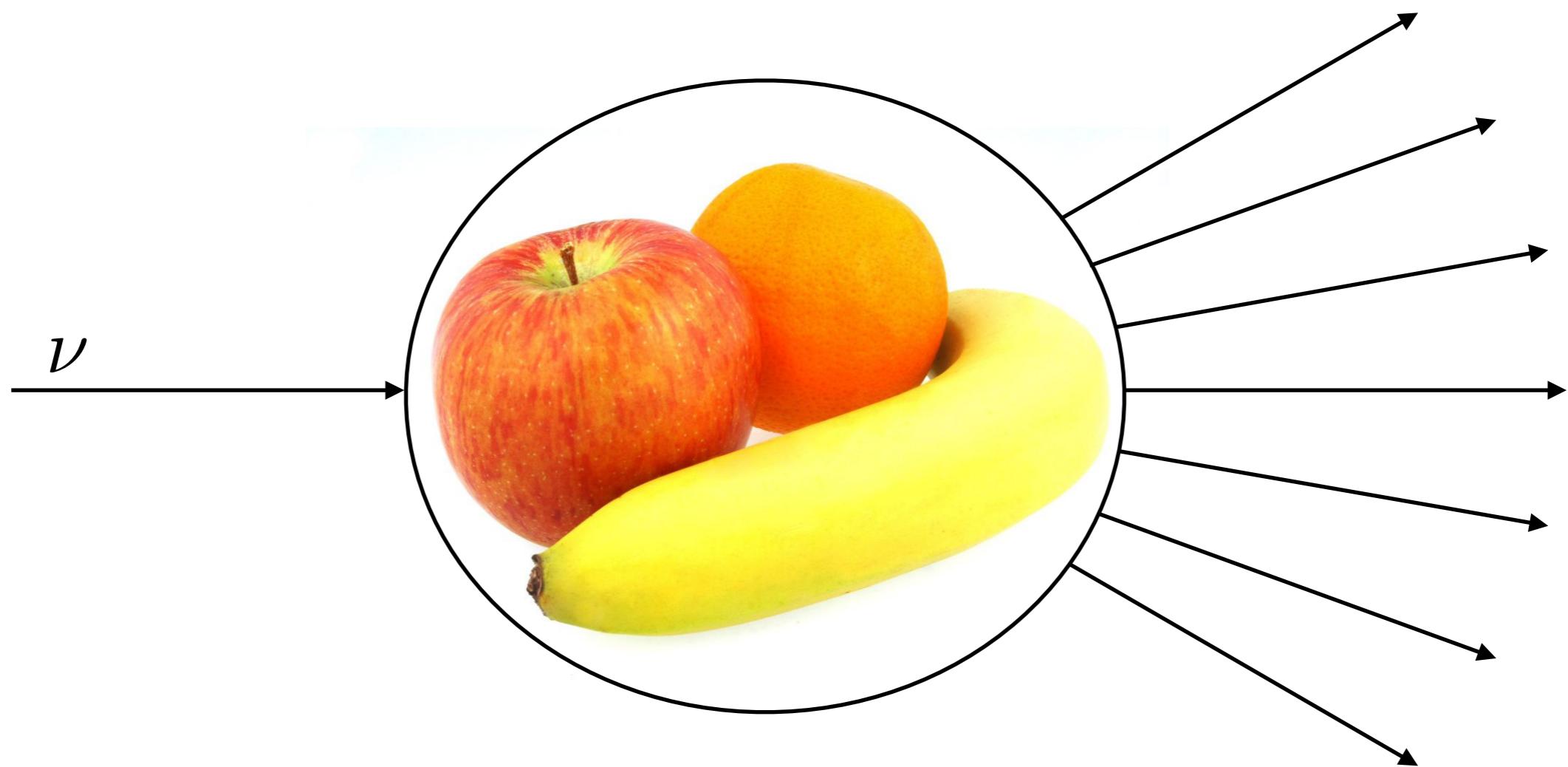
- binding effects, Fermi motion, Pauli blocking
- meson exchange, 2p-2h, final-state interaction



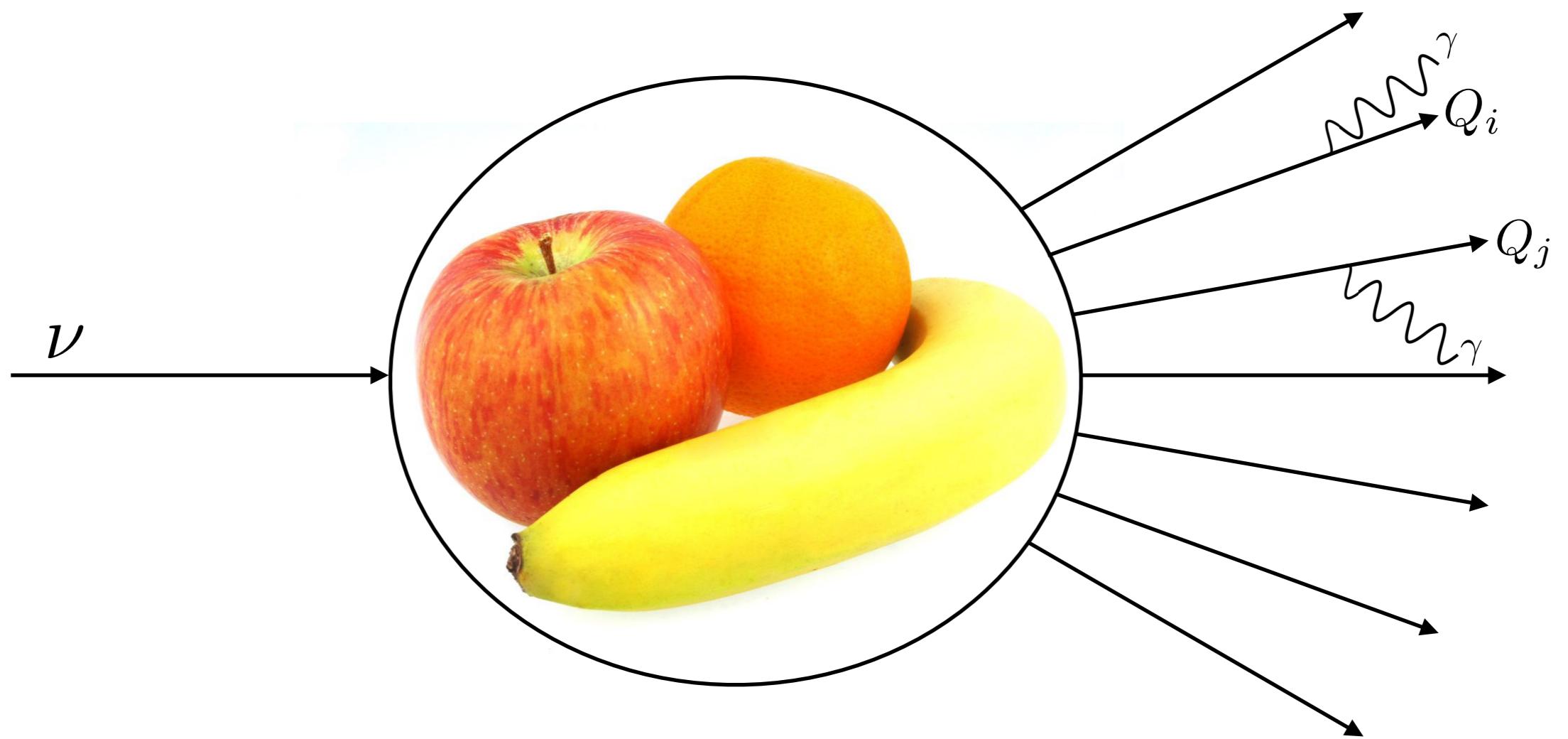
# Radiative corrections in neutrino physics (at MeV-GeV energies)

# Neutrino interactions

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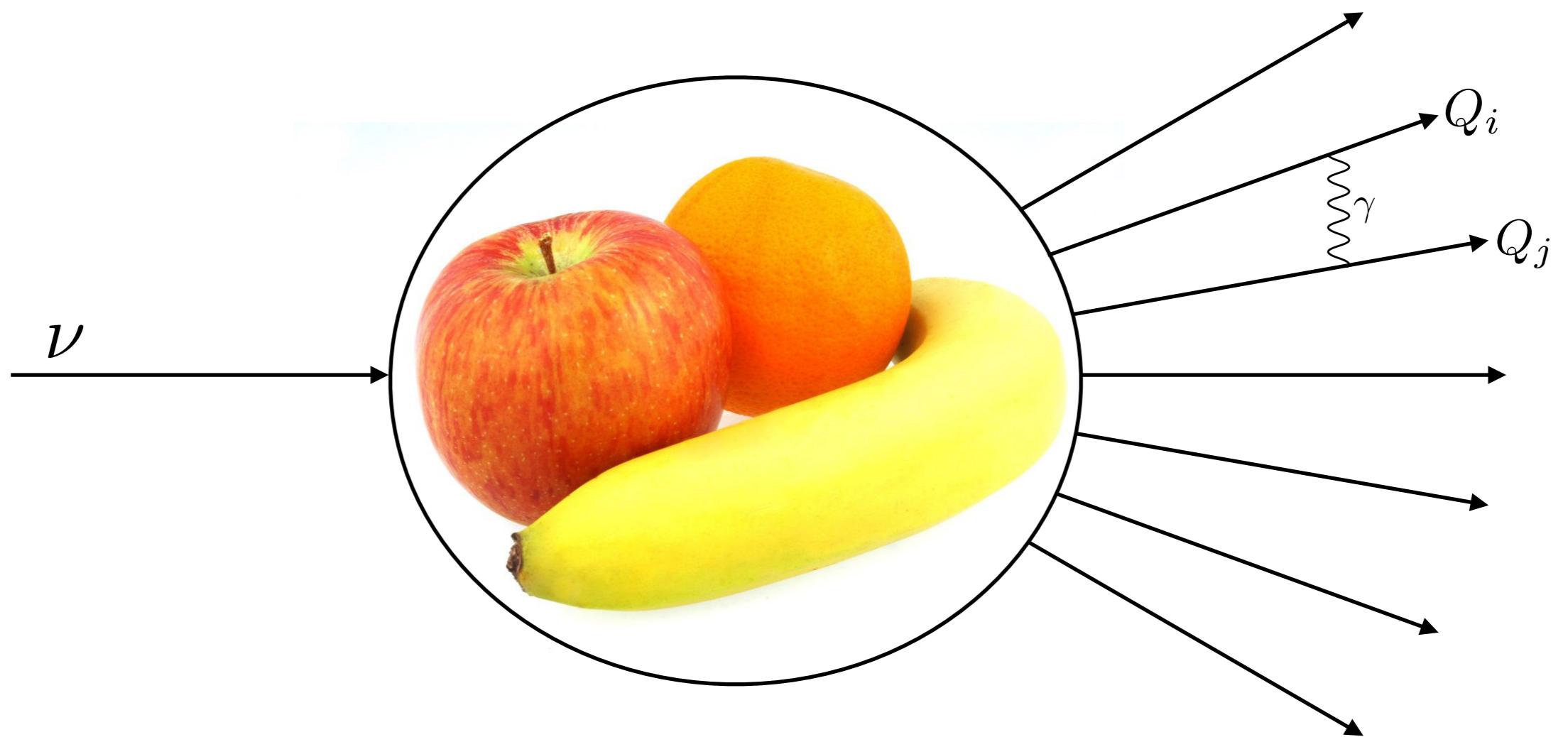


# QED corrections



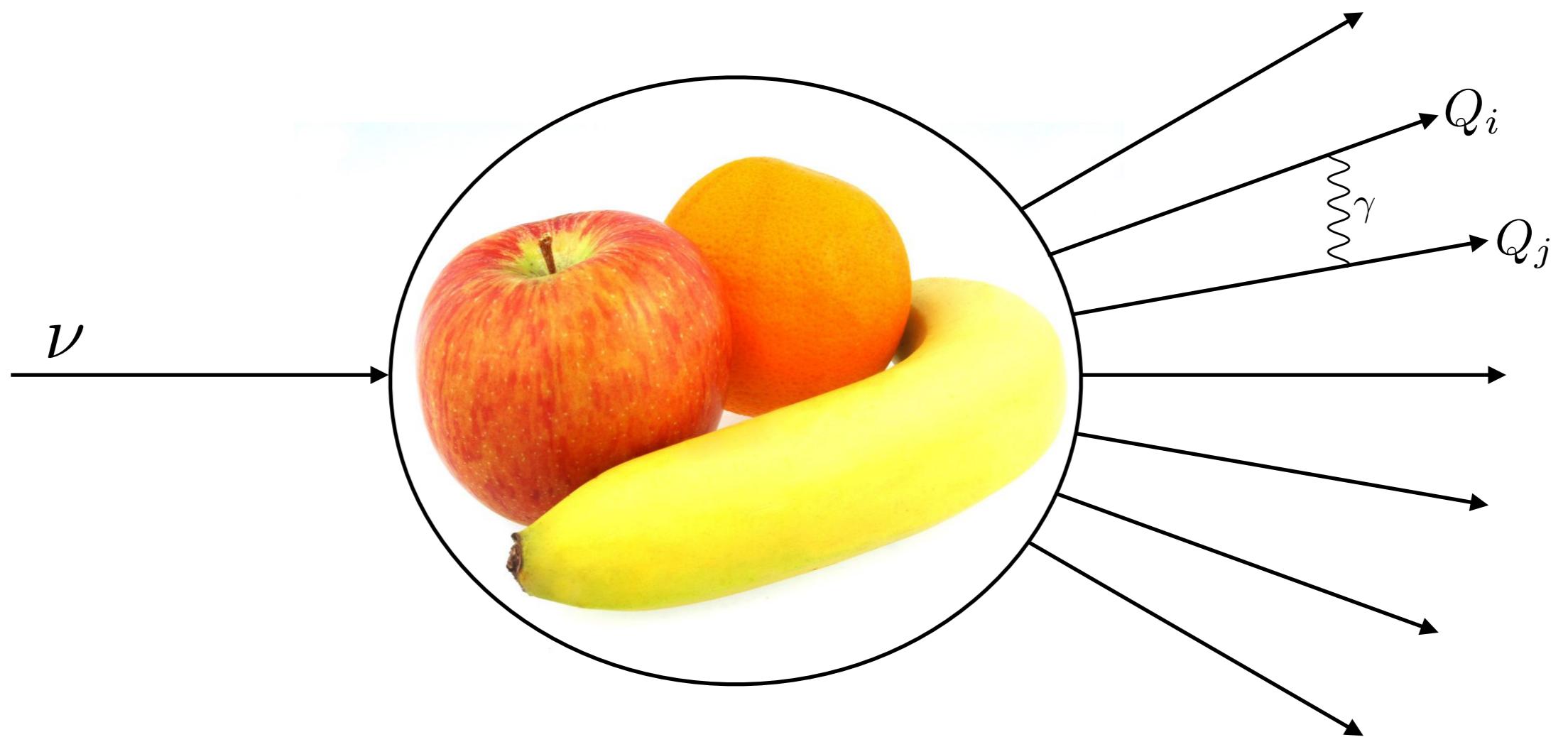
- all charged particles couple to real and virtual photons

# QED corrections



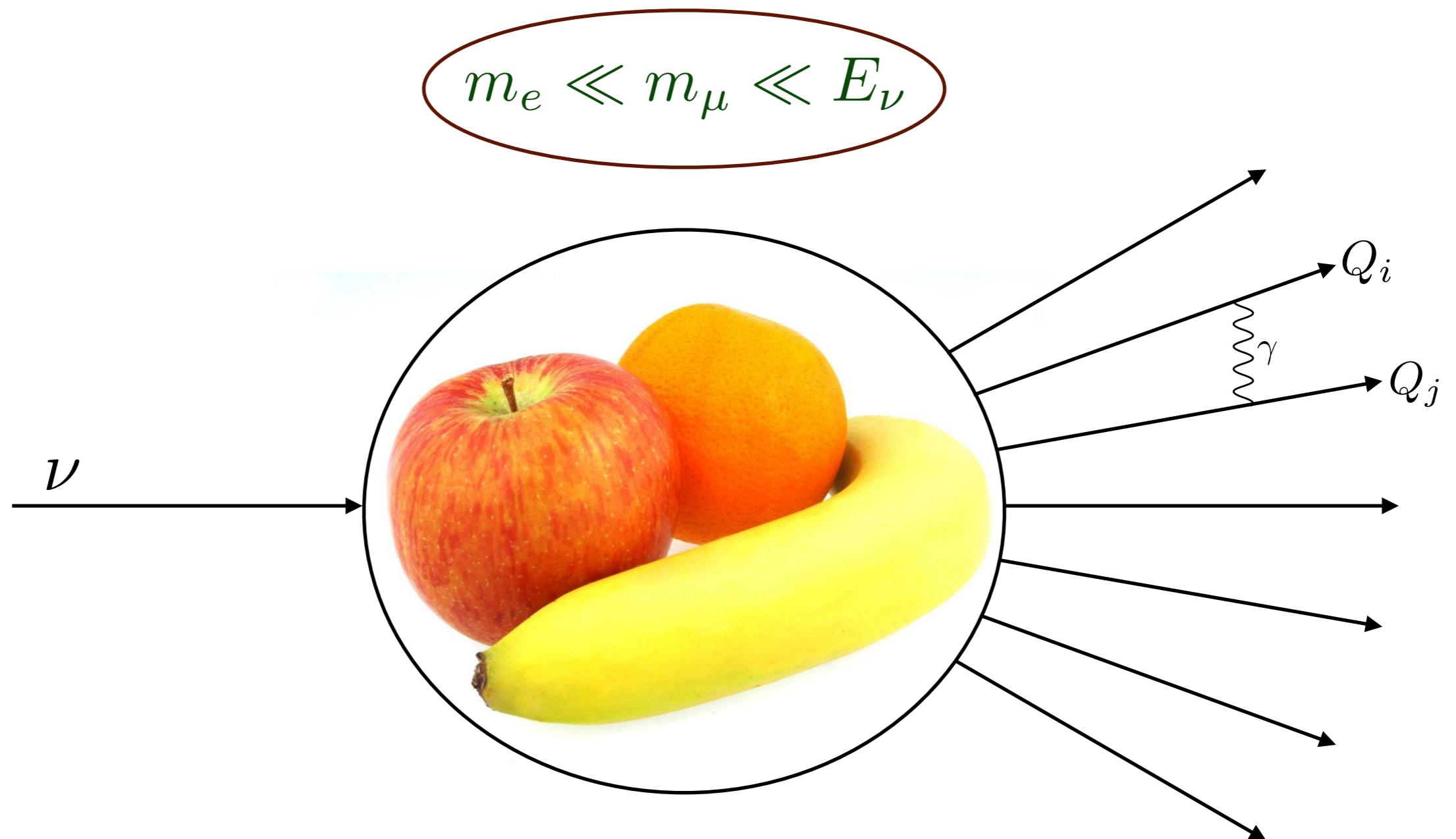
- all charged particles couple to real and virtual photons

# QED corrections



-  $\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \sim 0.2 \%$  suppression by electromagnetic coupling constant

# QED corrections

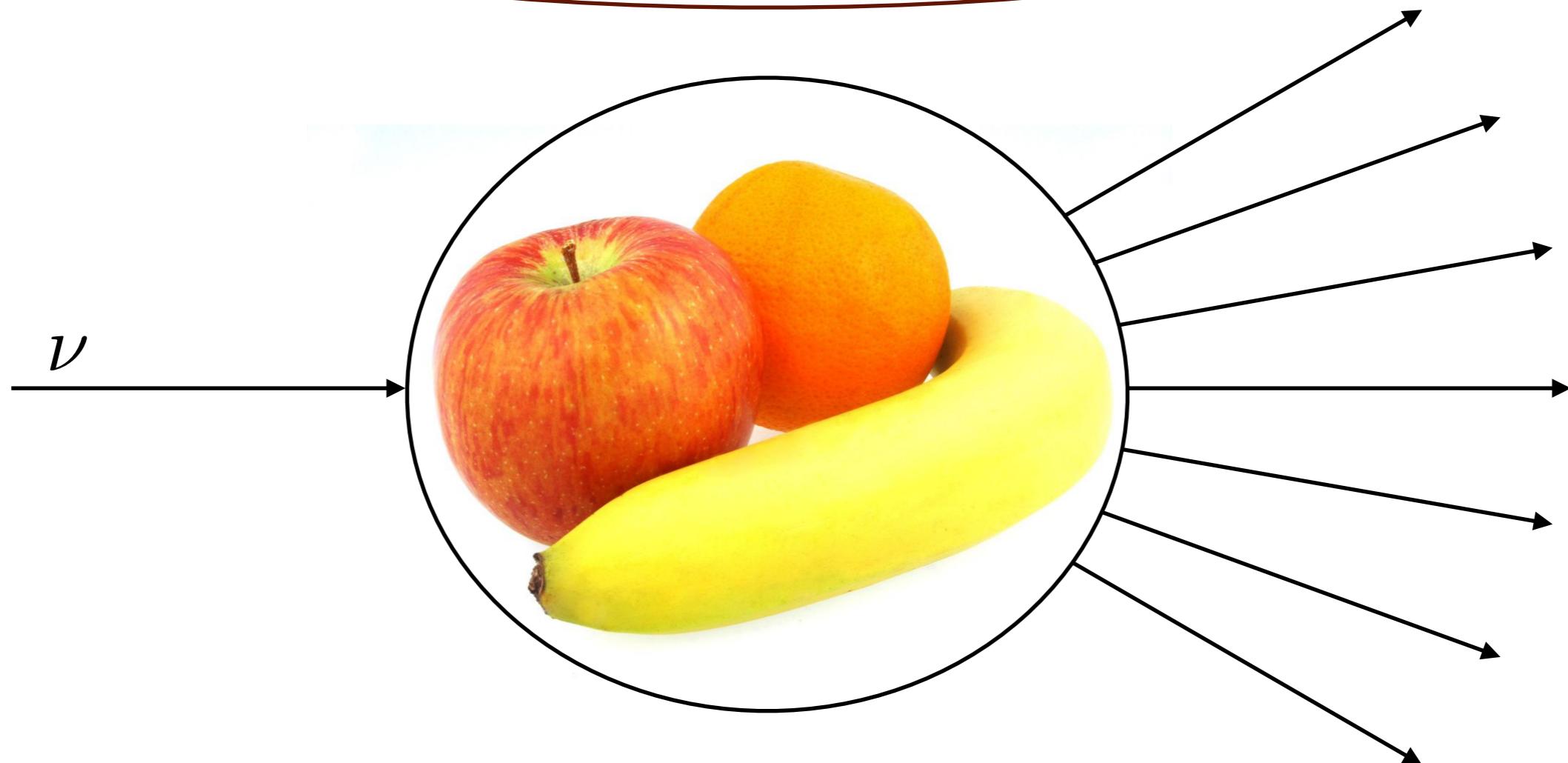


$$\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \sim 0.2 \% \text{ multiplied by } \ln \frac{E_\nu}{m_e} \sim 6 - 10 \text{ or } \ln^2 \frac{E_\nu}{m_e} \sim 36 - 100$$

- scale separation introduces large flavor-dependent QED logarithms

# Electroweak corrections

$$m_e, m_\mu, M, E_\nu \ll M_W, M_Z, m_t, m_H$$



$\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \sim 0.2 \%$  multiplied by  $\frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta_W}, \ln \frac{M_Z}{M}, \ln \frac{M_t}{M}, \dots$

- electroweak corrections can be included in low-energy interactions

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couplings of effective Lagrangian are precisely determined

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

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

## Neutrino-lepton, neutrino-quark scattering

O.T. and Richard J Hill, Phys. Lett. B 805, 3, 135466 (2020)

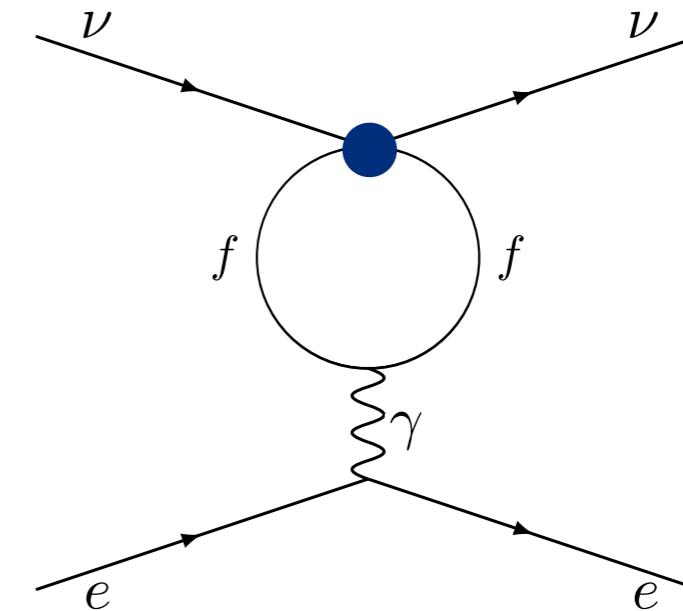
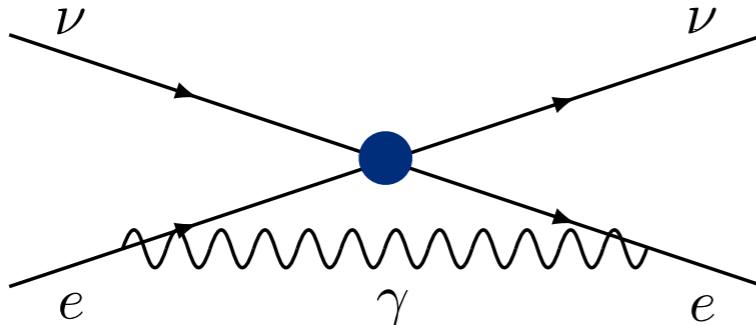
known at permille level



leading in  $G_F$  terms with loop expansion in  $\alpha, \alpha_s$  within Standard Model

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# Leptonic probes: “Standard Candles” for flux constraints

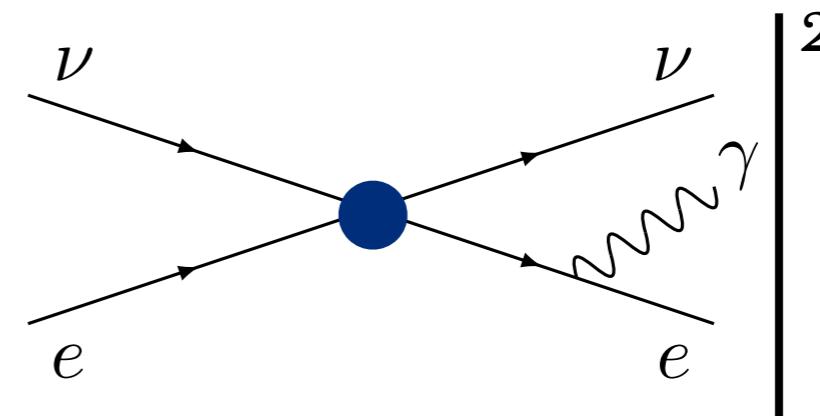
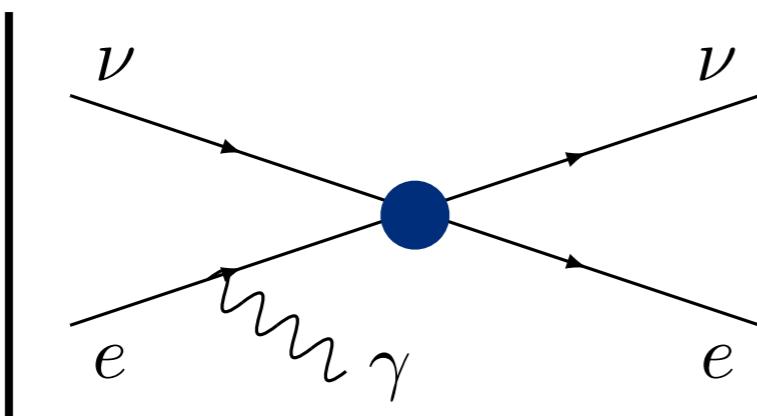


## Neutrino-electron scattering

O.T. and Richard J Hill, Phys. Rev. D 101 3, 033006 (2020)

percent-level predictions for MINERvA

known analytically at permille level for NOvA and DUNE, solar  $\nu$

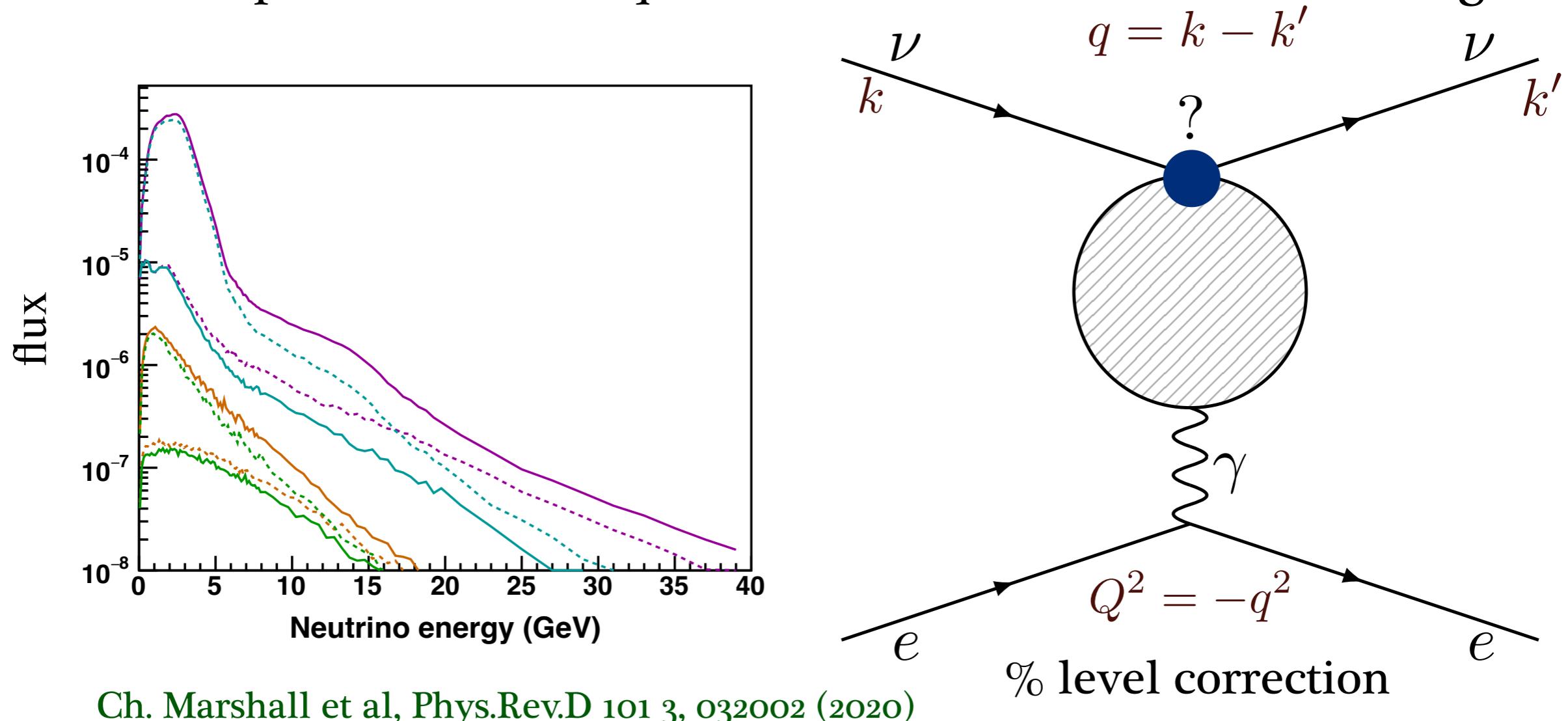


# Main theoretical uncertainty

- kinematics is suppressed by electron mass:

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

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



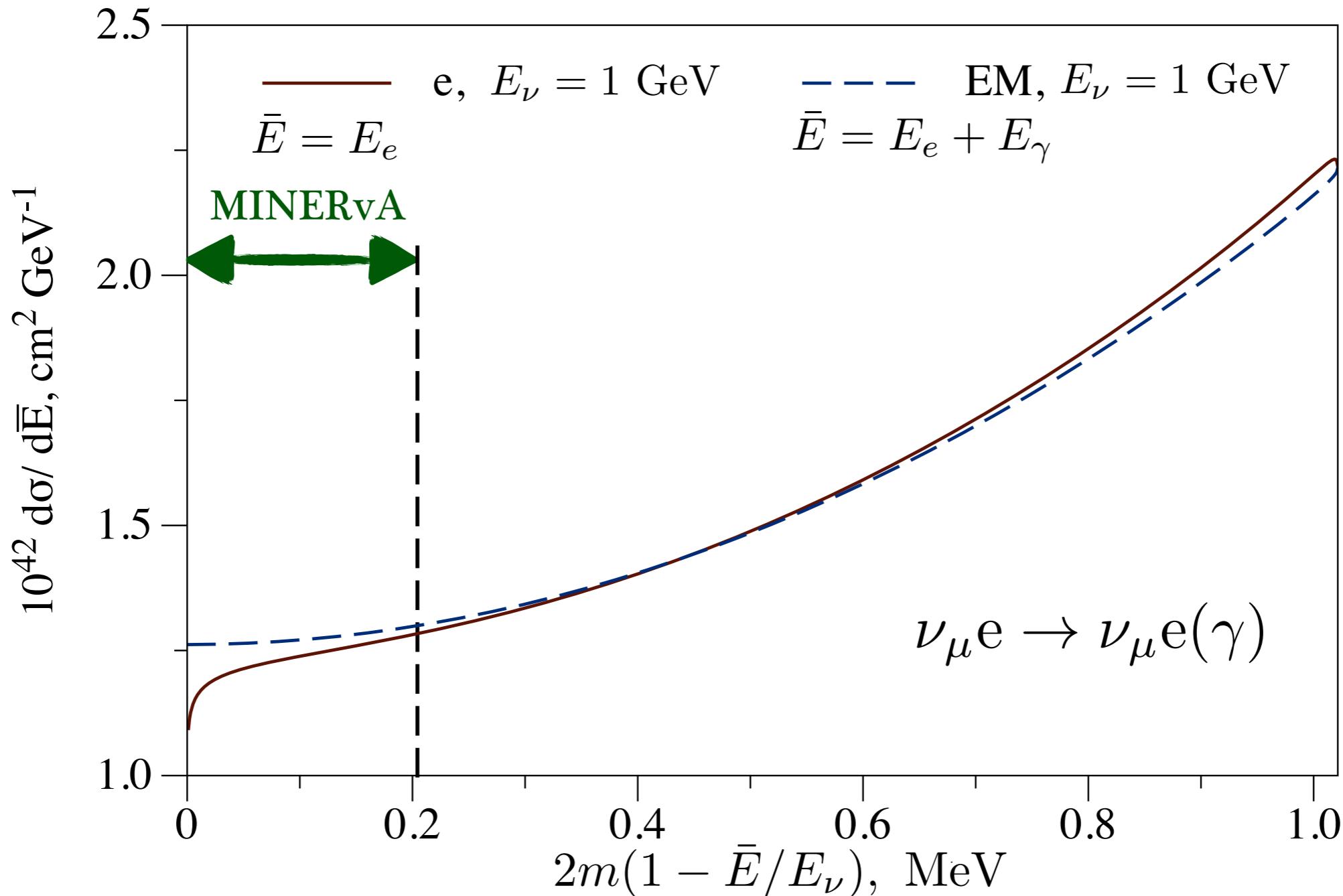
Ch. Marshall et al, Phys.Rev.D 101 3, 032002 (2020)

- hadronic correction is the main error in theory

# Electron vs electromagnetic (EM) spectra

- resulting spectrum:

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

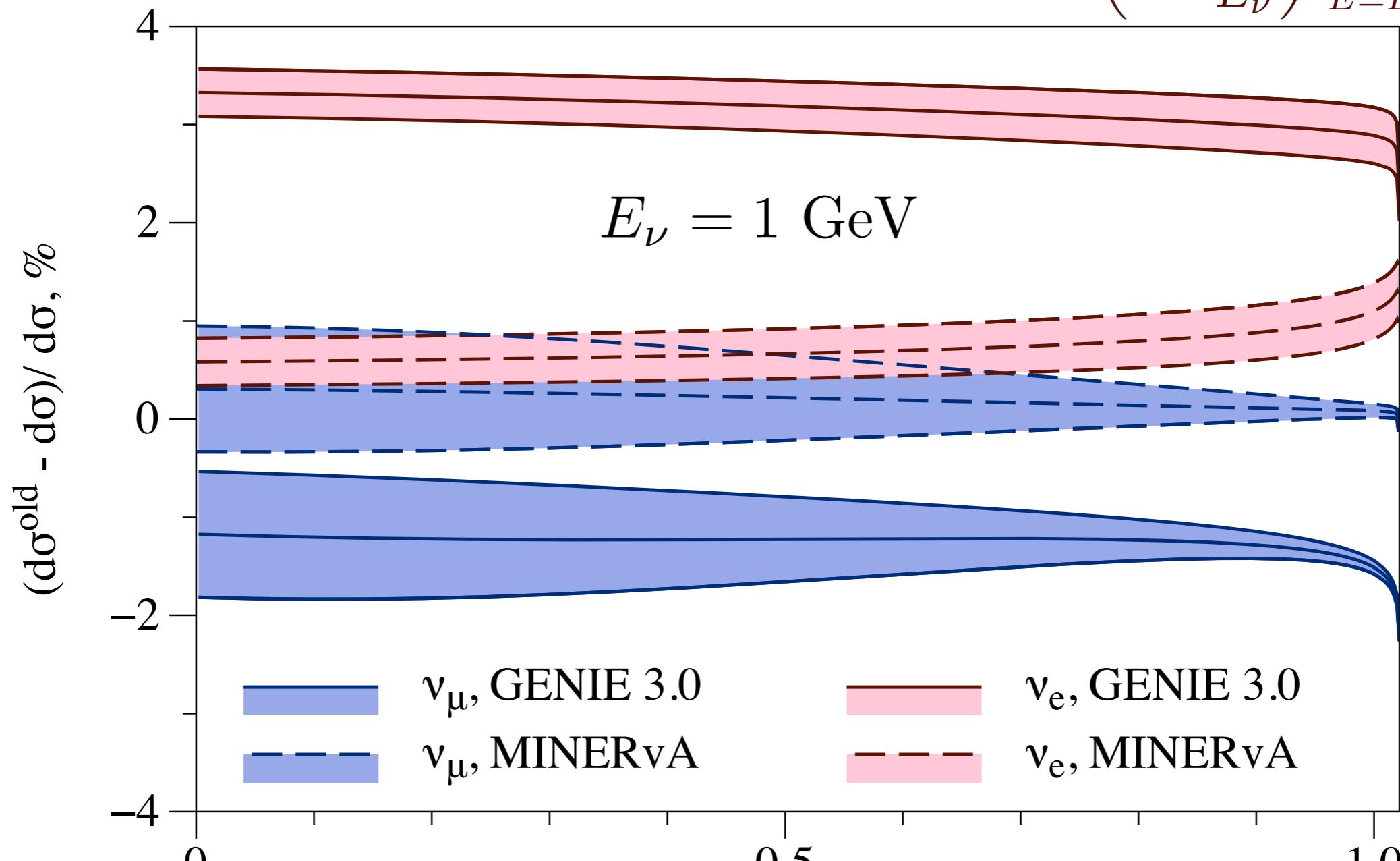


- cut dependence after radiative corrections

# Comparison to GENIE

- electromagnetic energy spectrum:

$$2m \left(1 - \frac{\bar{E}}{E_\nu}\right) \underset{\bar{E}=E_e}{\approx} E_e \theta_e^2$$



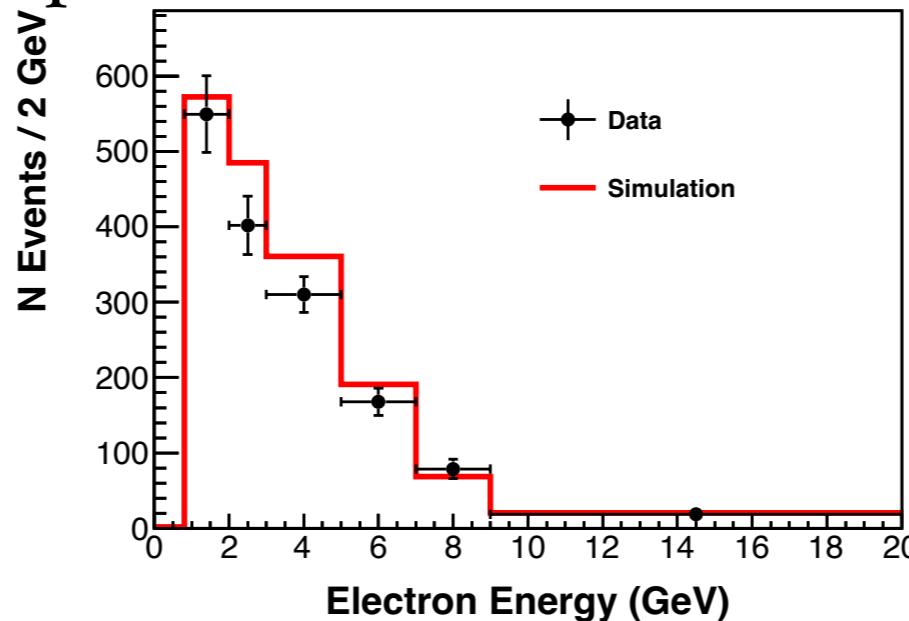
$2m(1 - \bar{E}/E_\nu), \text{ MeV}$  courtesy of Kevin S. McFarland

- correct description and definite improvement at GeV energies

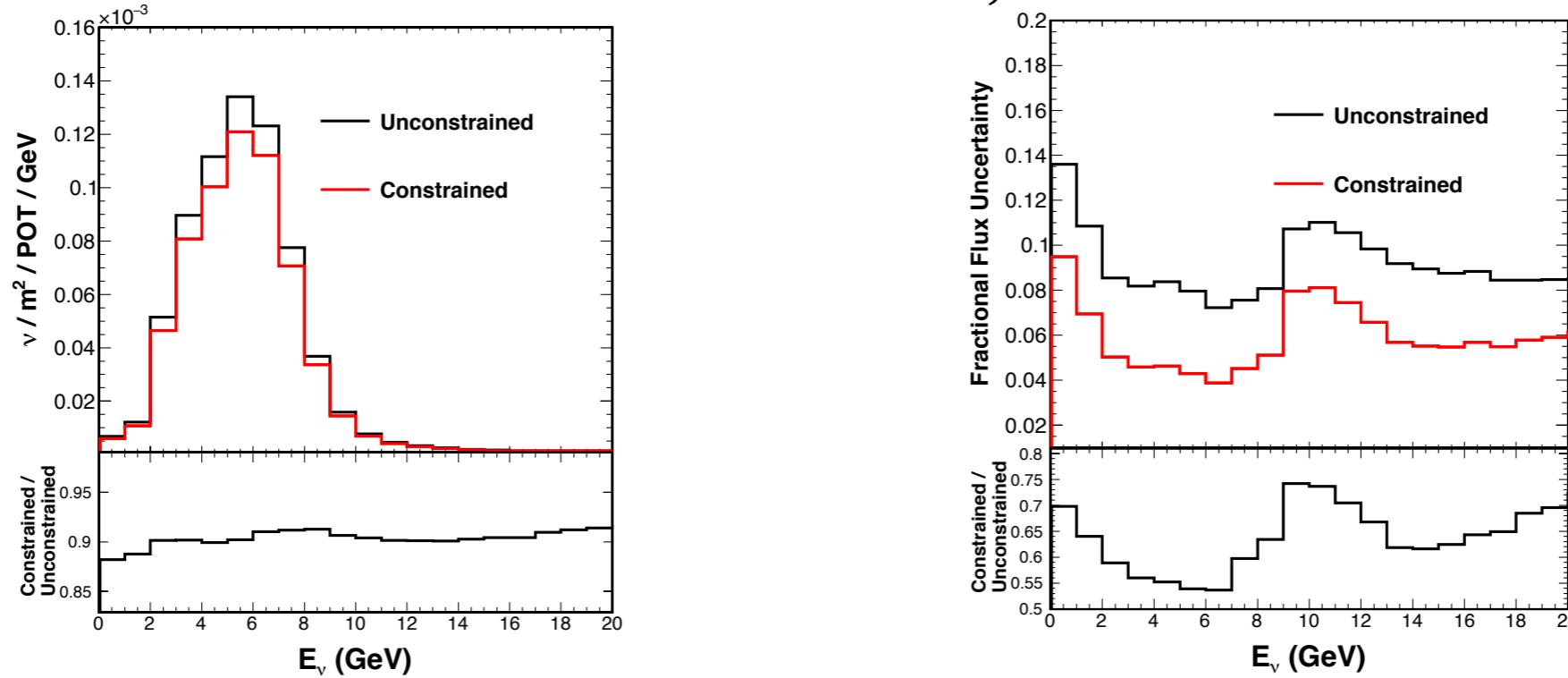
# MINERvA constraint

- electron energy spectrum:

MINERvA, Phys.Rev.D 100 9, 092001 (2019)



- 10% correction on flux normalization, reduced error



- successful implementation by MINERvA collaboration

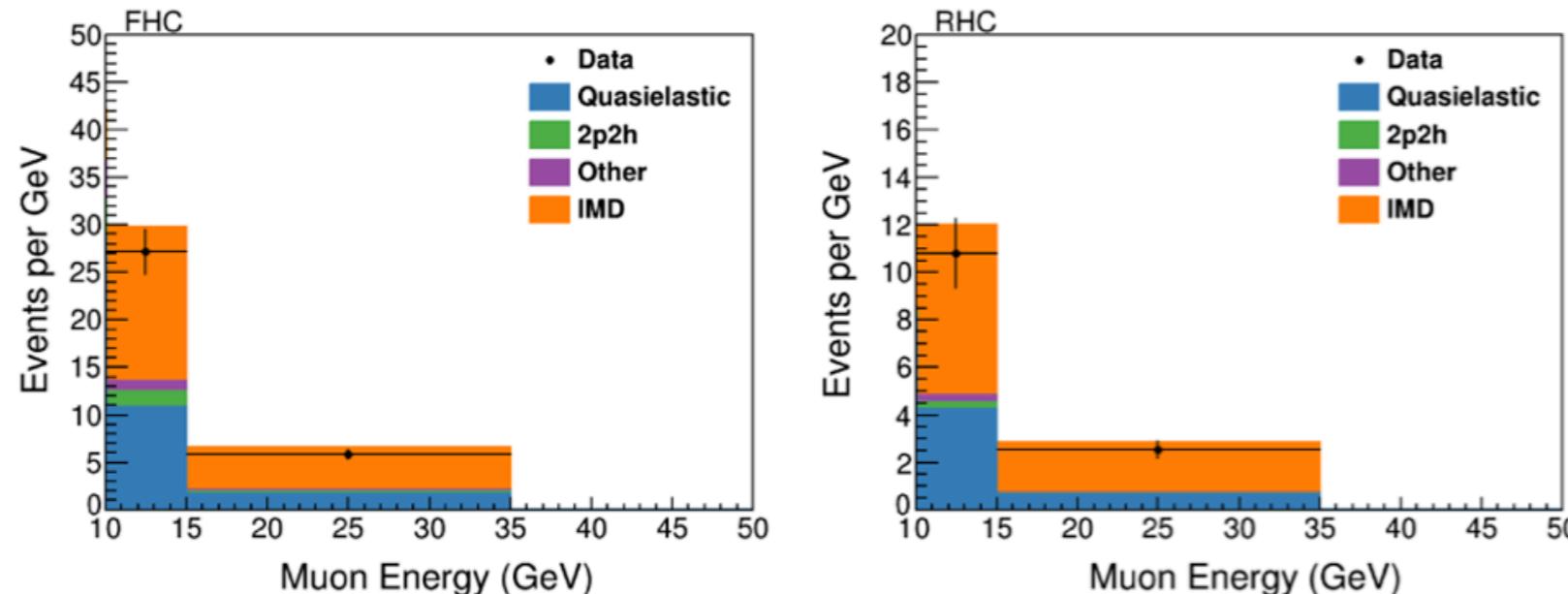
# Neutrino-electron scattering at Fermilab

- MINERvA experiment: measure neutrino-nucleus cross sections
- flux constraints via scattering on atomic electrons: 7.5% to 4%  
MINERvA, Phys. Rev. D 93, 112007 (2016), Phys.Rev.D 100 9, 092001 (2019)
- cross section scales as target mass m  
 $10^{-4}$ - $10^{-3}$  of cross section on nucleons and nuclei
- unique process free from structure effects
- huge statistics of DUNE near detector vs MINERvA: 8% to 2%  
5000-7000 events in a year vs 1100-1200 events in total  
Ch. Marshall et al, Phys.Rev.D 101 3, 032002 (2020)

-  $\nu e$  scattering: standard candle to constrain neutrino flux

# MINERvA constraint by inverse muon decay

- muon energy spectrum:

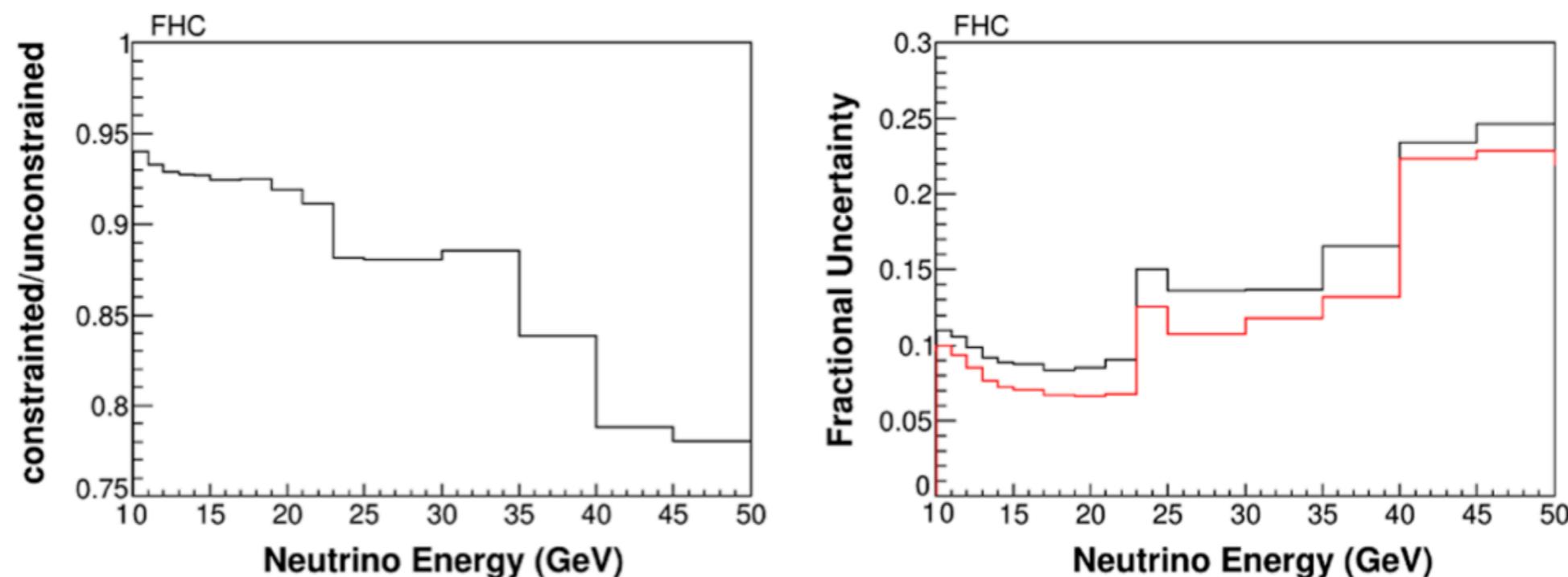


MINERvA, Phys.Rev.D 104, 092010 (2021)

$$\nu_\mu e^- \rightarrow \nu_e \mu^-$$

$$E_\nu^{\text{thr}} \gtrsim 10.9 \text{ GeV}$$

- 10-20% correction on flux normalization, reduced error



- successful implementation by MINERvA collaboration

# Inverse muon decay theory

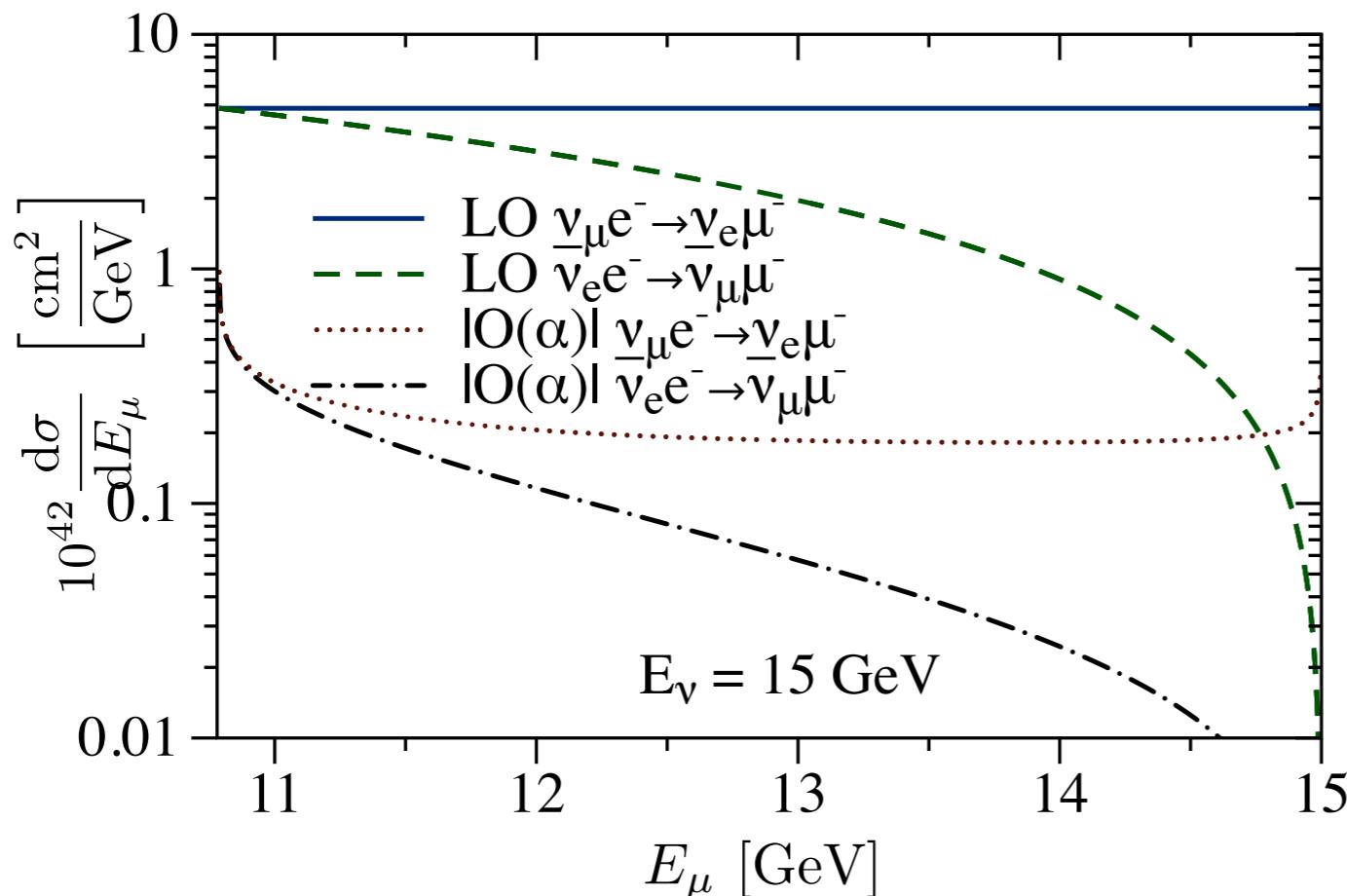
- precise Lagrangian with  $G_F$  from muon decay

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = -2\sqrt{2}G_F \bar{\nu}_e \gamma^\lambda P_L \nu_\mu \bar{\mu} \gamma_\lambda P_L e + \text{h.c.}$$

- 2.5 from 3 cross sections reproduced by alternative method

Bardin and Dokuchaeva (1987)

- new total cross sections, energy spectra, and 2D cross sections



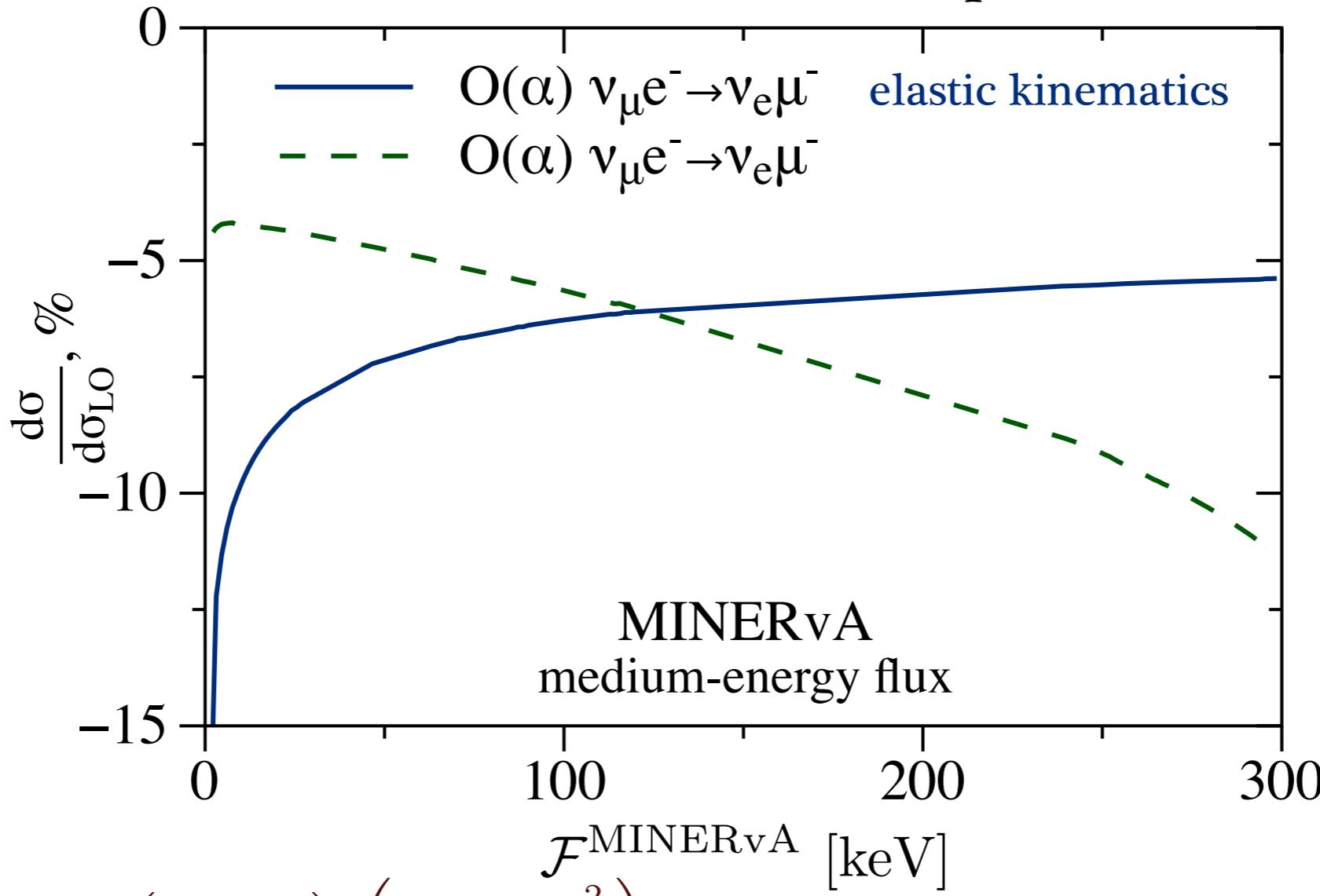
dominant neutrino component  
has larger cross section

energy spectrum in  
both channels

- muon energy spectrum verified  $\nu_\mu e^- \rightarrow \nu_e \mu^-$ , derived  $\bar{\nu}_e e^- \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_\mu \mu^-$

# Inverse muon decay theory

- radiative corrections to distribution of experimental discriminant



$$\mathcal{F} = E_\mu \theta_\mu^2 \approx \left(1 - \frac{E_\mu}{E_\nu}\right) \left(2m_e - \frac{m_\mu^2}{E_\mu}\right) \quad \mathcal{F}^{\text{MINERvA}} = \frac{E_\mu \theta_\mu^2}{1 - \frac{E_\mu}{35 \text{ GeV}}}$$

O.T., Kaushik Borah, Richard J. Hill, Kevin S. McFarland, Daniel Ruterbories  
Phys. Rev. D 107 9, 093005 (2023)

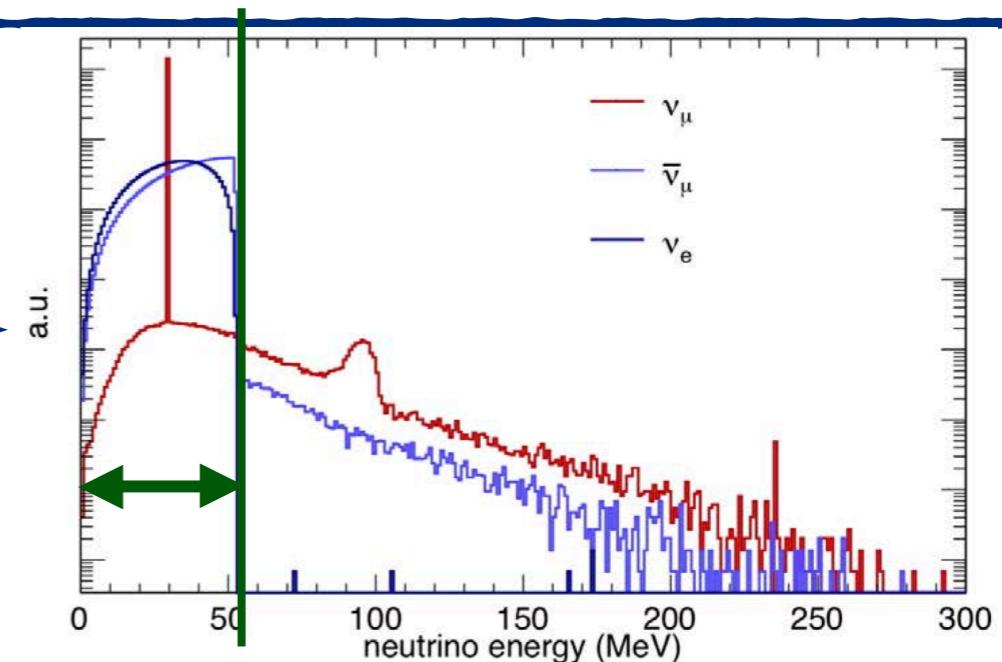
- double-differential distributions and corrections to  $\mathcal{F}$  distribution

flavor-dependence at tree-level

energy spectra from  $\pi$ DAR

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$$

$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \bar{\nu}_\mu$$



Akimov et al., Science 357 6356, 1123-1126 (2017)

## Neutrinos from muon, pion and kaon decays

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu \gamma$$

< 0.1 %

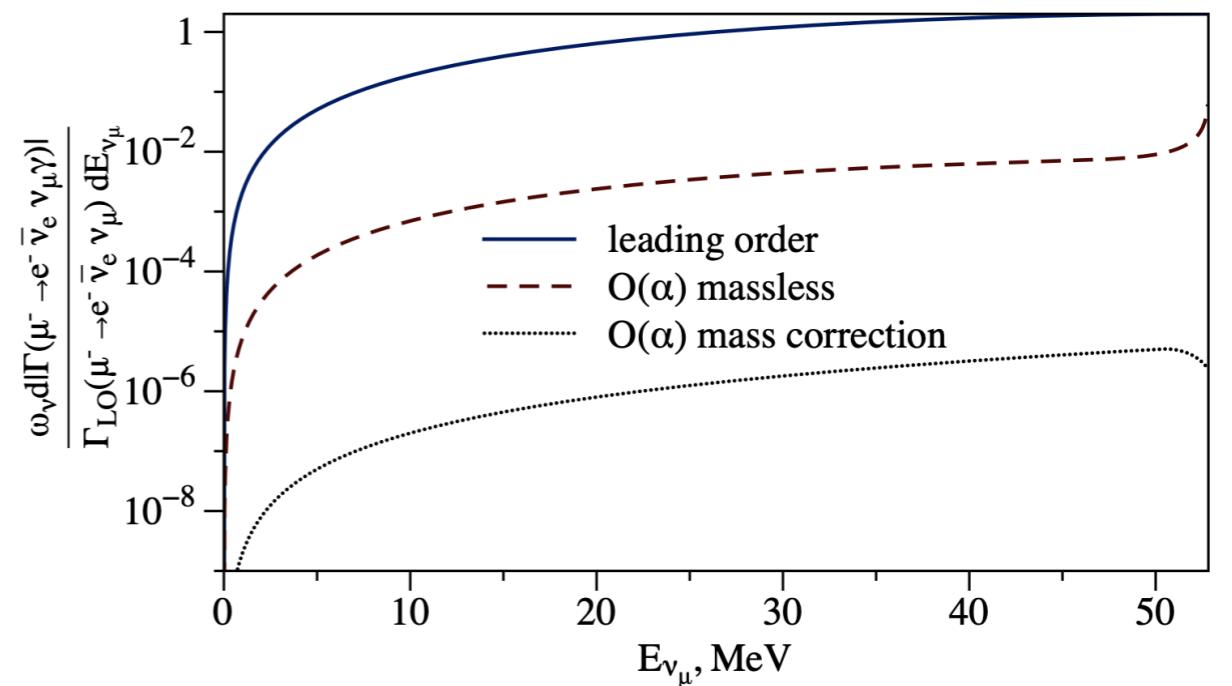
$$K^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu \gamma$$

flavor-dependence is clarified  
to permille level analytically



$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \bar{\nu}_\mu \gamma \quad 3-4 \%$$

O. T., Phys. Lett. B 829, 137108 (2022)

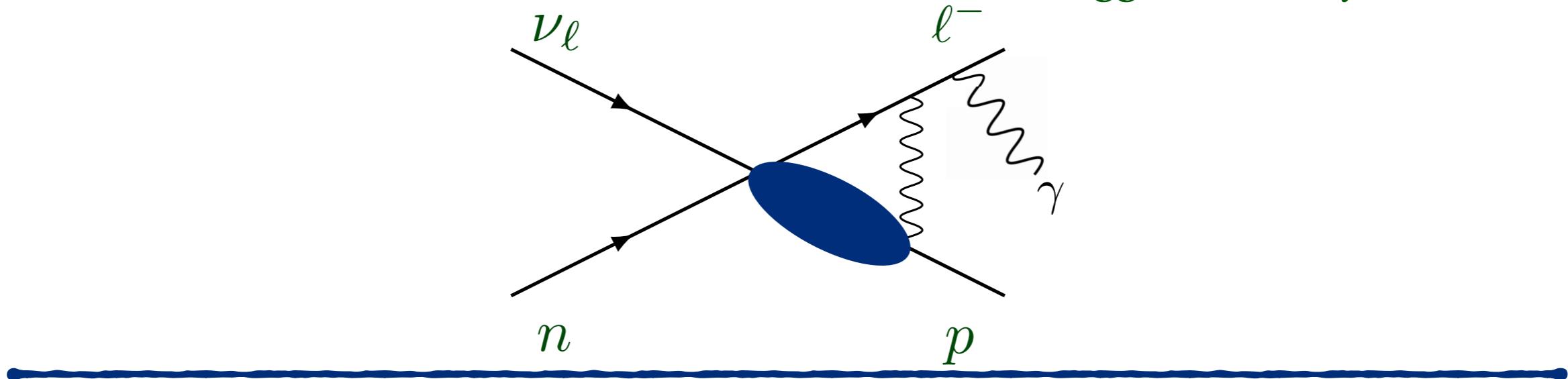




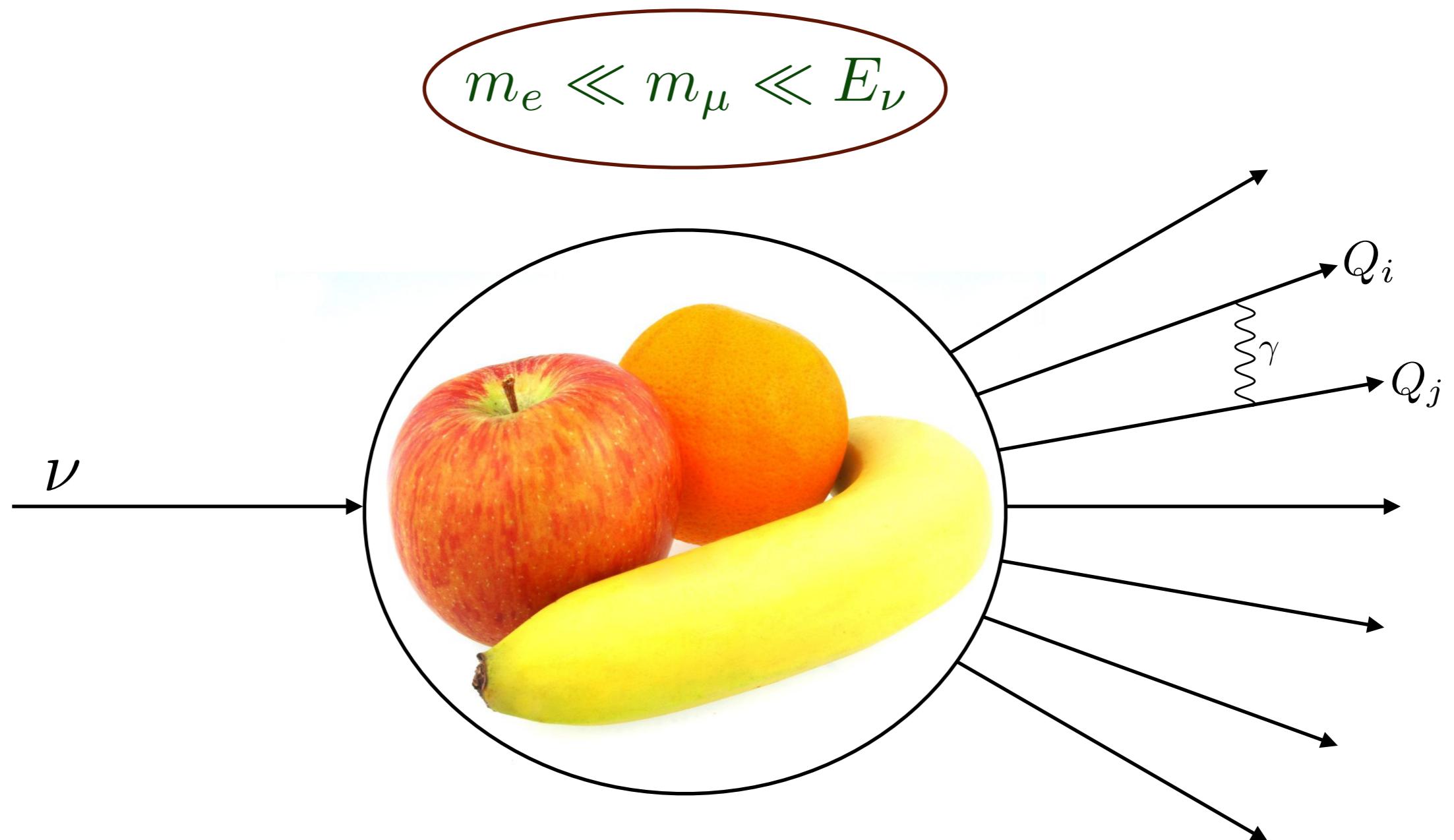
O. T., Qing Chen, Richard J. Hill and Kevin S. McFarland, Nature Commun. 13 (2022), 1, 5286

# Radiative corrections in charged-current elastic scattering on free nucleons

O. T., Qing Chen, Richard J. Hill, Kevin S. McFarland and Clarence Wret  
editors suggestion in Phys. Rev. D (2022)



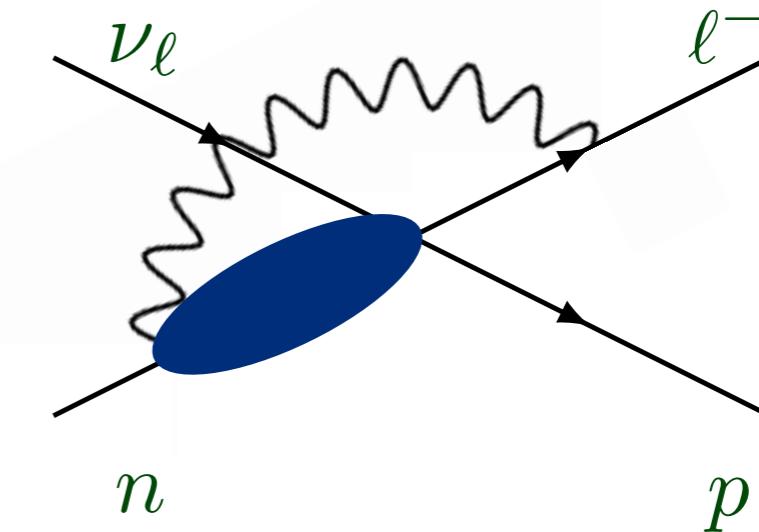
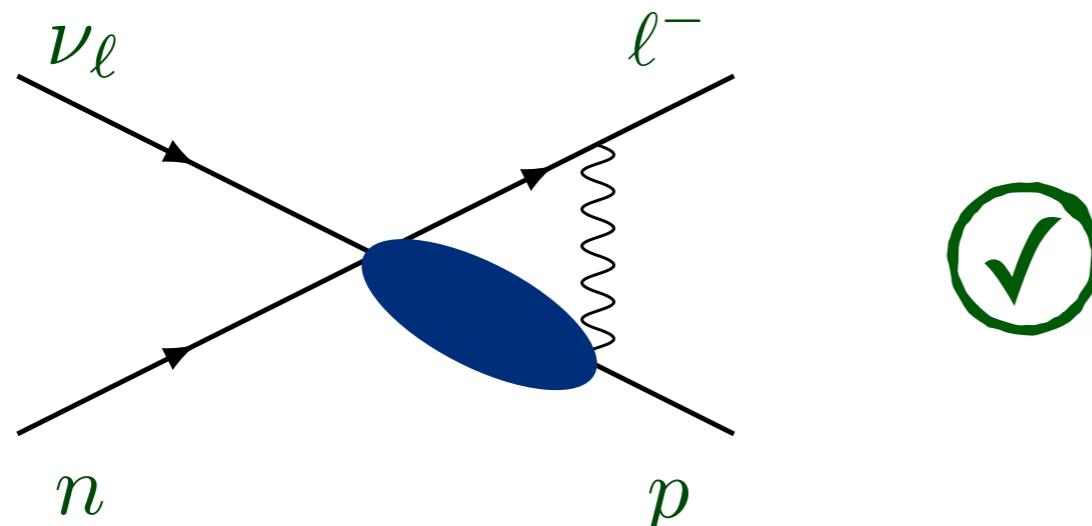
# QED corrections



$$\frac{\alpha}{\pi} \sim 0.2 \% \text{ multiplied by } \ln \frac{E_\nu}{m_e} \sim 6 - 10 \text{ or } \ln^2 \frac{E_\nu}{m_e} \sim 36 - 100$$

- scale separation introduces large flavor-dependent QED logarithms

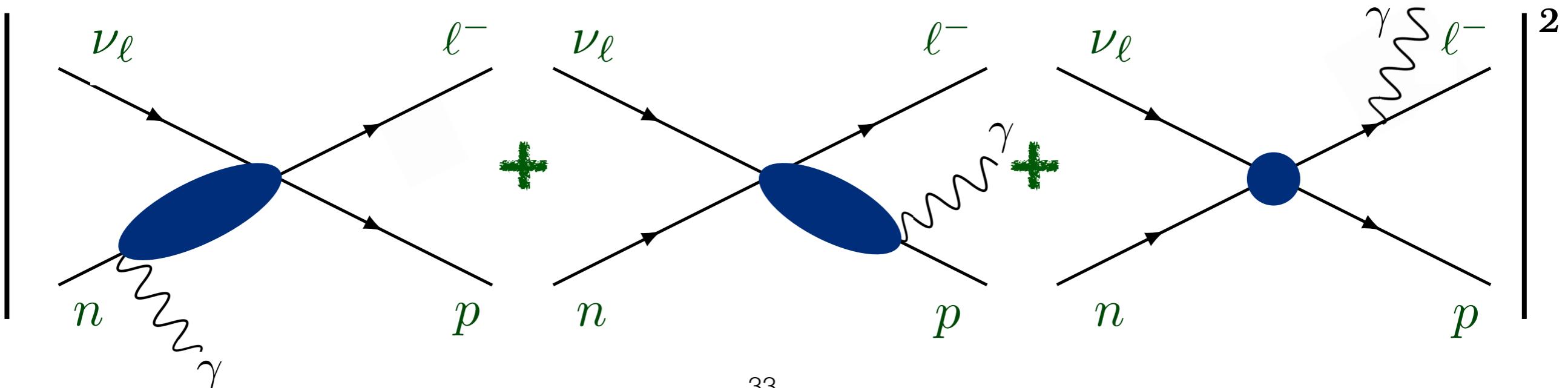
factorization for radiative corrections with model for hard function



## Charged-current elastic scattering on nucleons

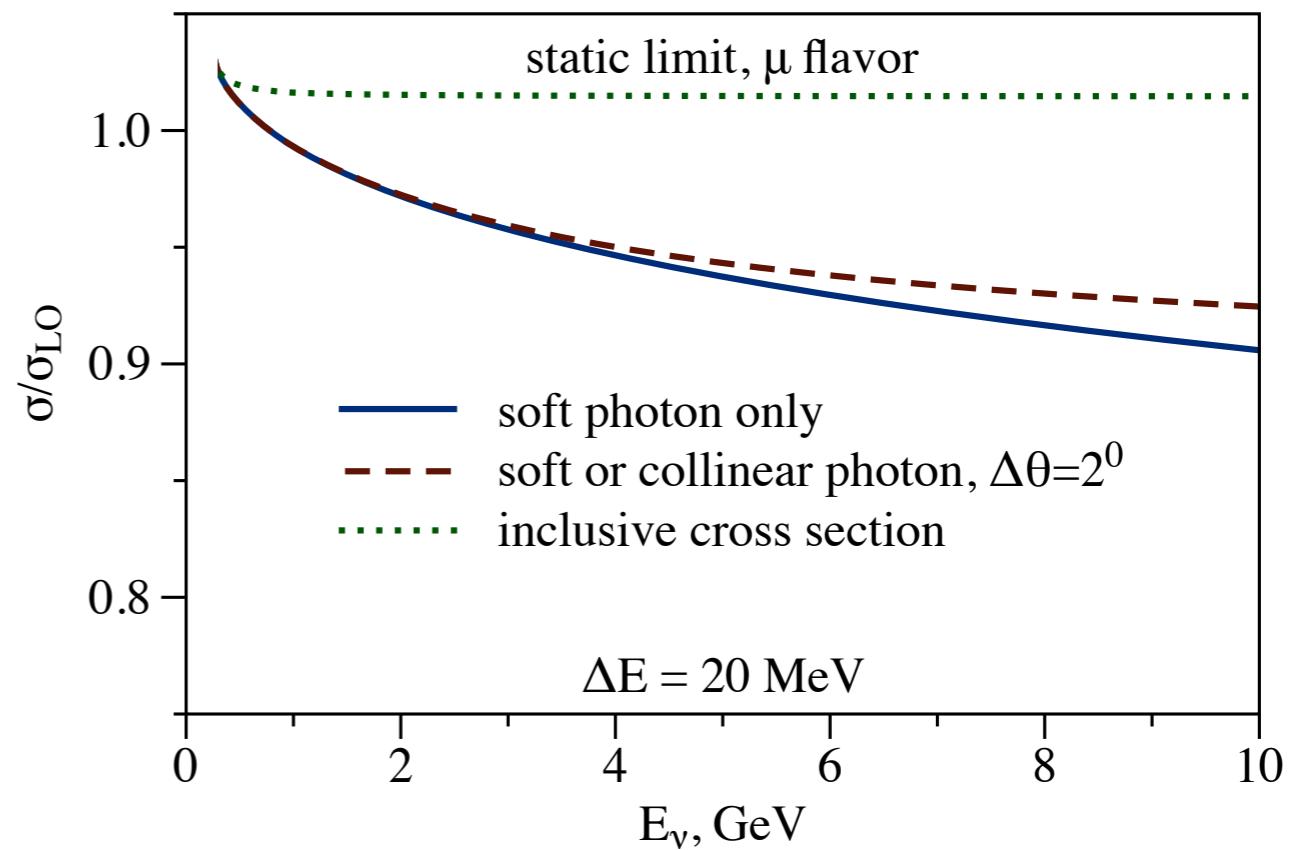
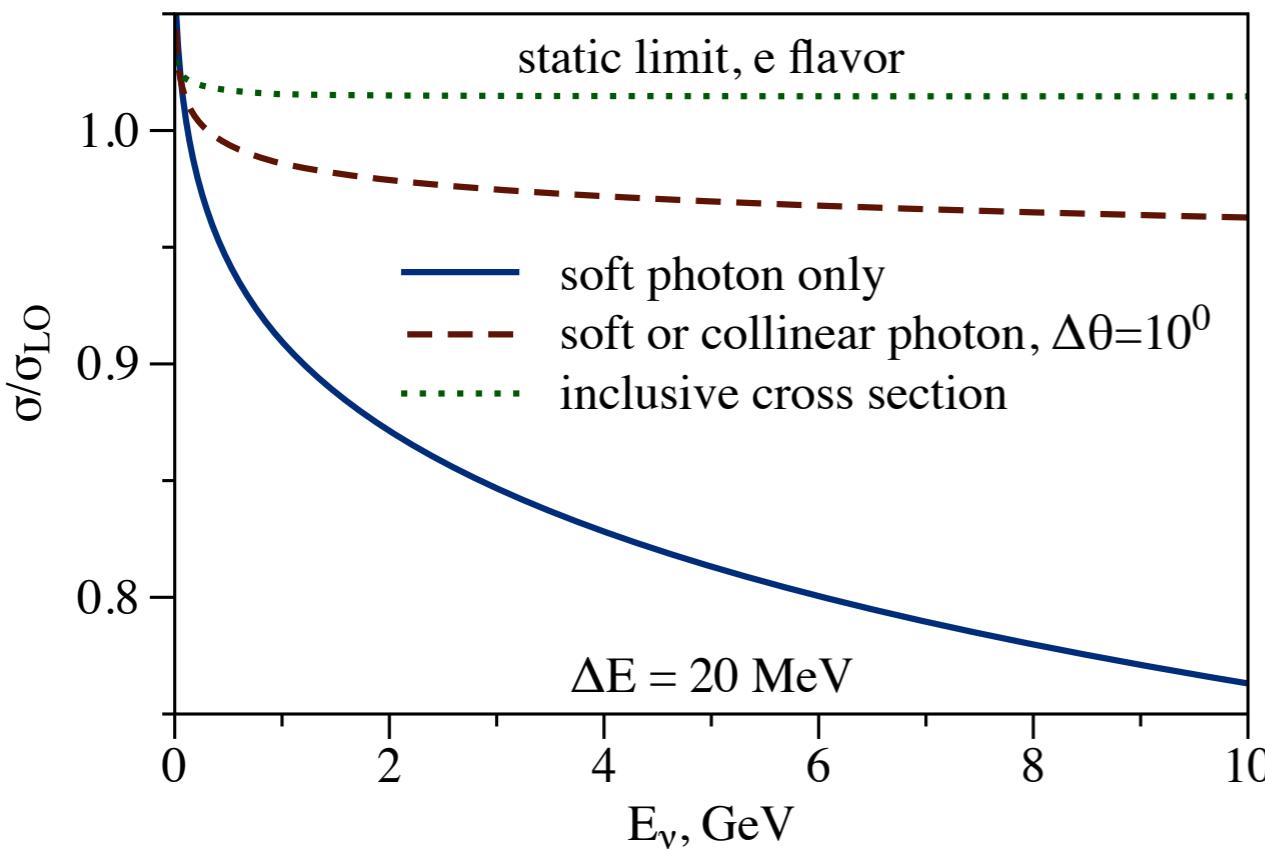
precise predictions for flavor ratios and radiative corrections

in exclusive and inclusive observables with GeV neutrino beams



# Static nucleon limit

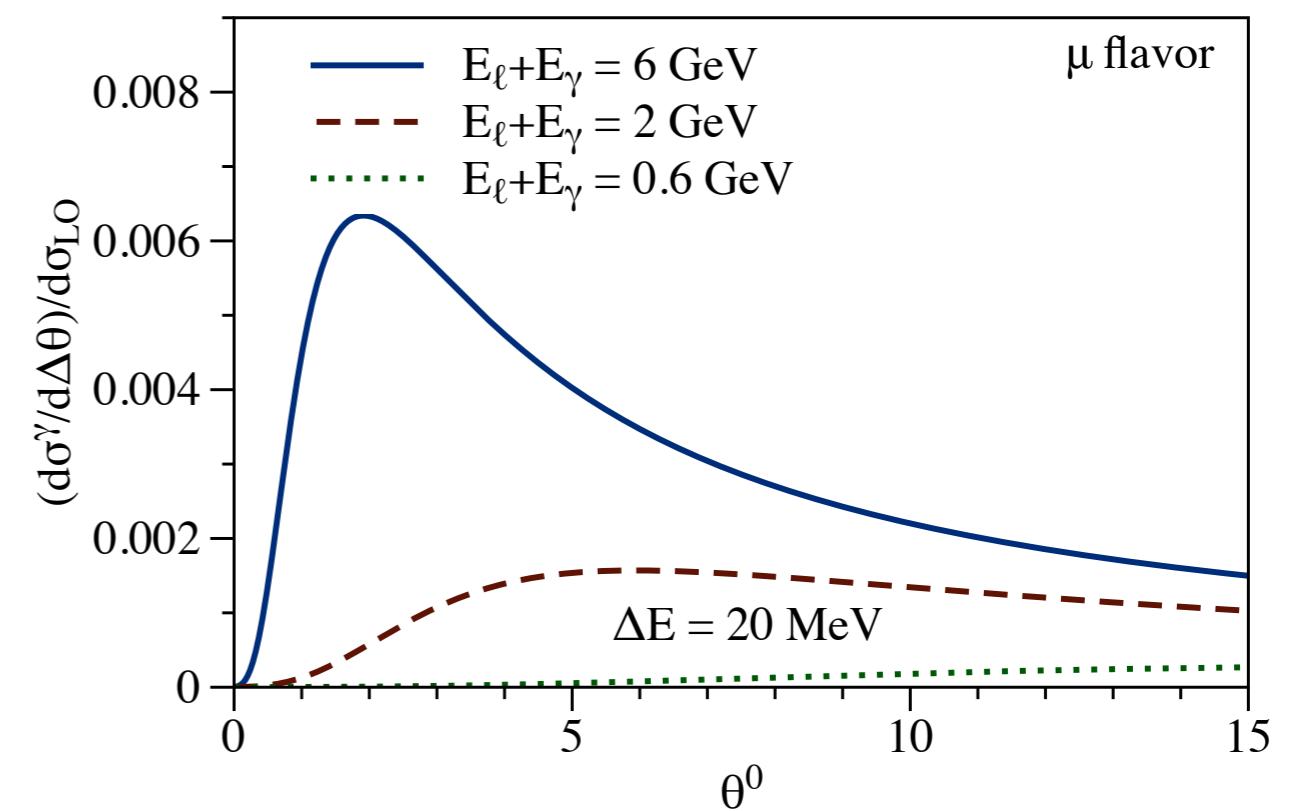
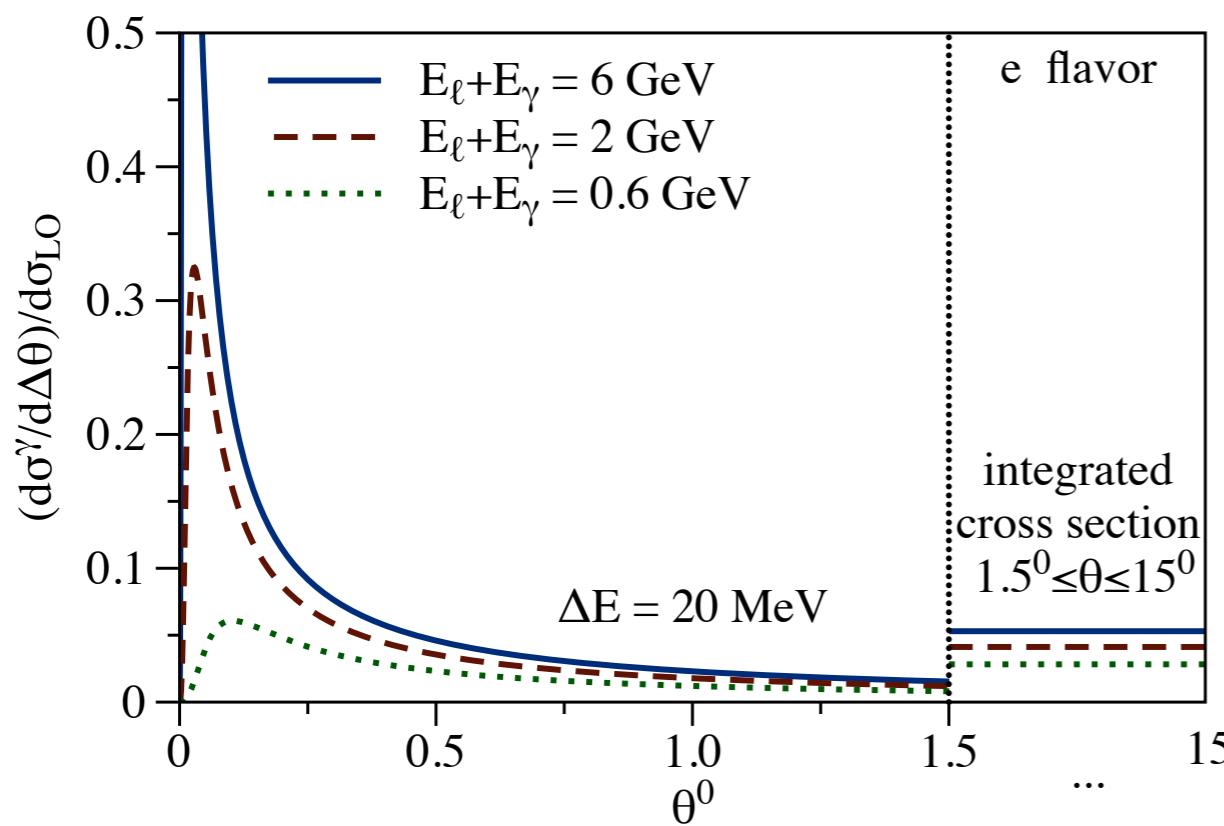
- formal limit of infinitely heavy nucleus  $m_\ell \ll E_\ell \ll M$
- provides correct soft and collinear logarithms
- soft-photon energy  $< 20$  MeV, jet size:  $10^\circ$  for electron and  $2^\circ$  for muon



- flavor-dependent effect, same for  $\nu_\ell n \rightarrow \ell^- p$  vs  $\bar{\nu}_\ell p \rightarrow \ell^+ n$
- collinear observable: cancellation of virtual vs real logs
- inclusive observables ( $+\gamma$ ): few % level, flavor independent

# Electron vs muon jets

- factorization for radiation of collinear photons
- cone angle is defined to lepton direction
- photons of energy  $> 20$  MeV, fixed energy in the cone



- flavor-dependent effect, same for  $\nu_\ell n \rightarrow \ell^- p$  vs  $\bar{\nu}_\ell p \rightarrow \ell^+ n$
- forward-peaked radiation for electron flavor
- negligible radiation for muons with shifted peak position

# Factorization approach

- cross section is given by **factorization formula**

$$d\sigma \sim S\left(\frac{\Delta E}{\mu}\right) J\left(\frac{m_\ell}{\mu}\right) H\left(\frac{M}{\mu}\right)$$



- $M$  - determine **hard function** at hard scale by matching experiment or hadronic model to the theory with heavy nucleon

- $m_\mu$  - soft and collinear functions are evaluated **perturbatively**

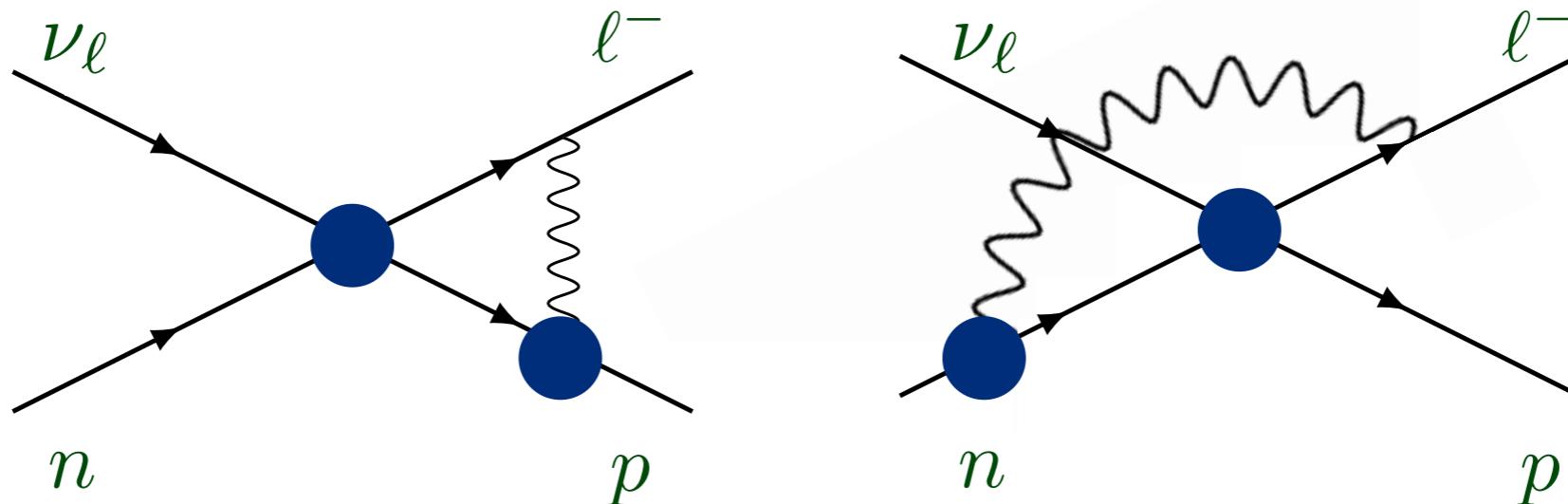
$\Delta E$

SCET power expansion parameter

$$\lambda \sim \frac{m_\mu^2}{E_\nu^2} \sim (\Delta\theta)^2 \sim \frac{\Delta E}{E_\nu}$$

$\ln \lambda$  enhancements

# Hadronic model at GeV scale



- exchange of photon between the charged lepton and nucleons
- assume **onshell form** for each interaction with dipole form factors  
discussed for neutrino-nucleon scattering: Graczyk, Phys. Lett. B 732, 315-319 (2013)
- add **self energy** for charged particles
- reproduce soft and collinear regions of SCET

- best determination of hard function

# Factorization approach

- cross section is given by **factorization formula**

$$d\sigma \sim S \left( \frac{\Delta E}{\mu} \right) J \left( \frac{m_\ell}{\mu} \right) H \left( \frac{M}{\mu} \right)$$

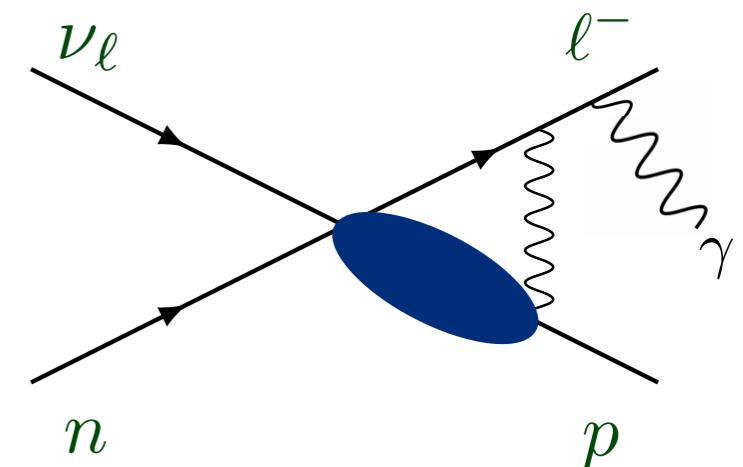
- $M$  - determine **hard function** at hard scale by matching experiment or hadronic model to the theory with heavy nucleon
- $m_\mu$  - RGE evolution of the hard function to scales  $\Delta E, m_\ell$
- $\Delta E$  - soft and collinear functions are evaluated **perturbatively**
- $m_e$  - calculate cross section at low energies accounting for **all large logs**  
ep scattering with soft radiation only: Richard J. Hill, Phys. Rev. D 95 1, 013001 (2016)

- soft and collinear functions determined **analytically**
- hard function describes physics at GeV energies

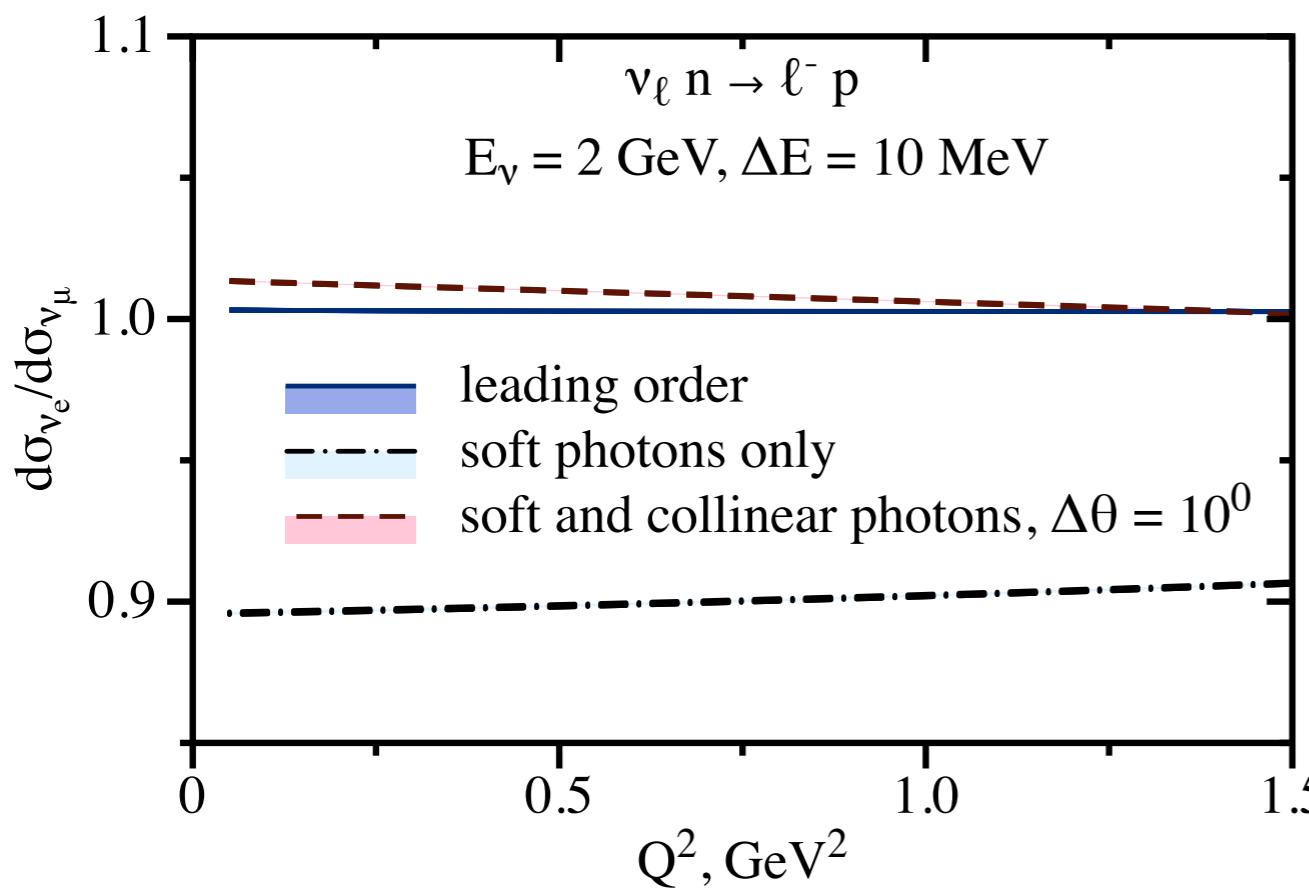
# Charged-current scattering on nucleons

- theory and **1<sup>st</sup>-ever** complete calculation  
10-20% hadronic uncertainties  
cancel for **e/μ ratio**

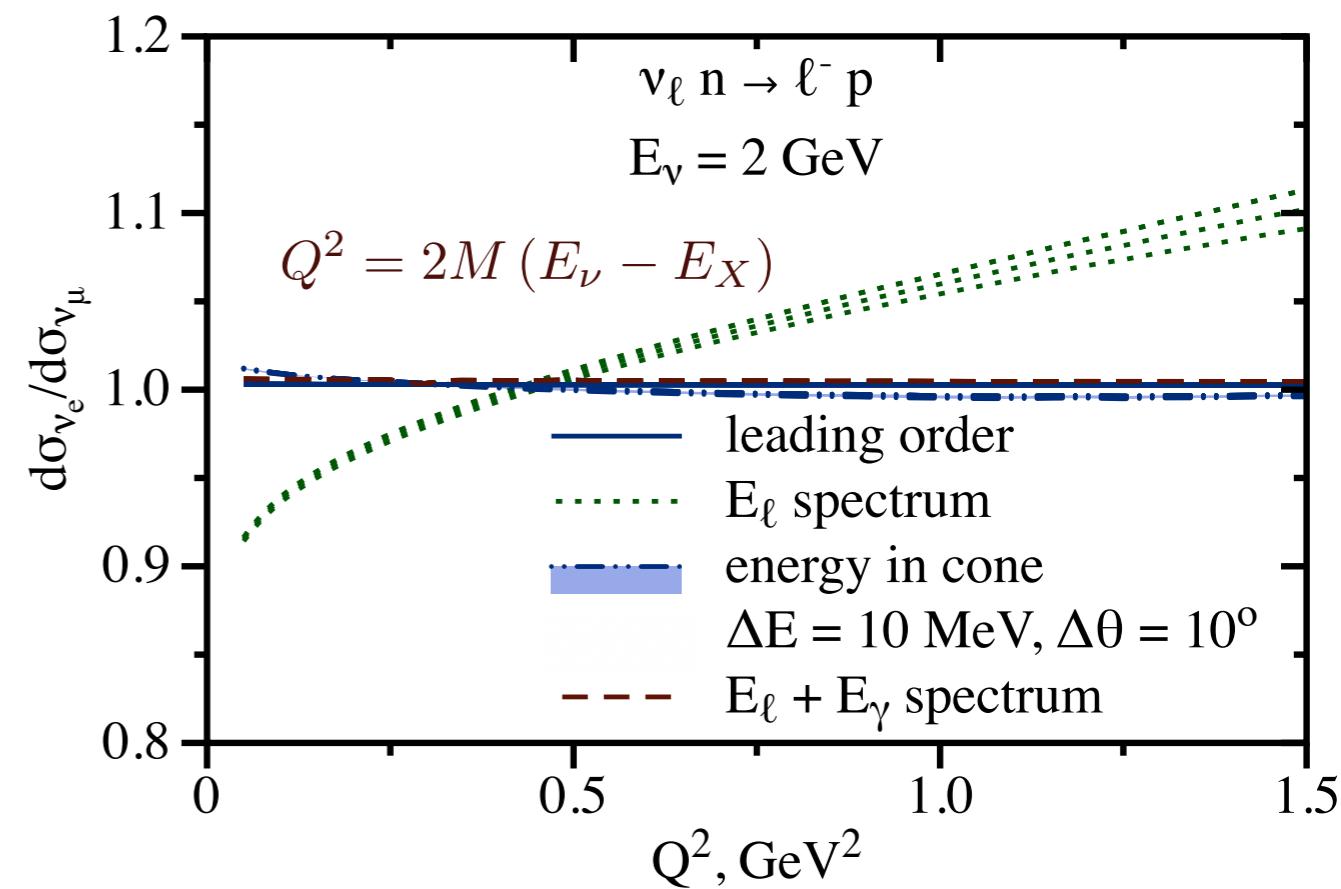
O. T., Qing Chen, Richard J. Hill, Kevin S.  
McFarland, and Clarence Wret (2021, 2022)



exclusive



inclusive

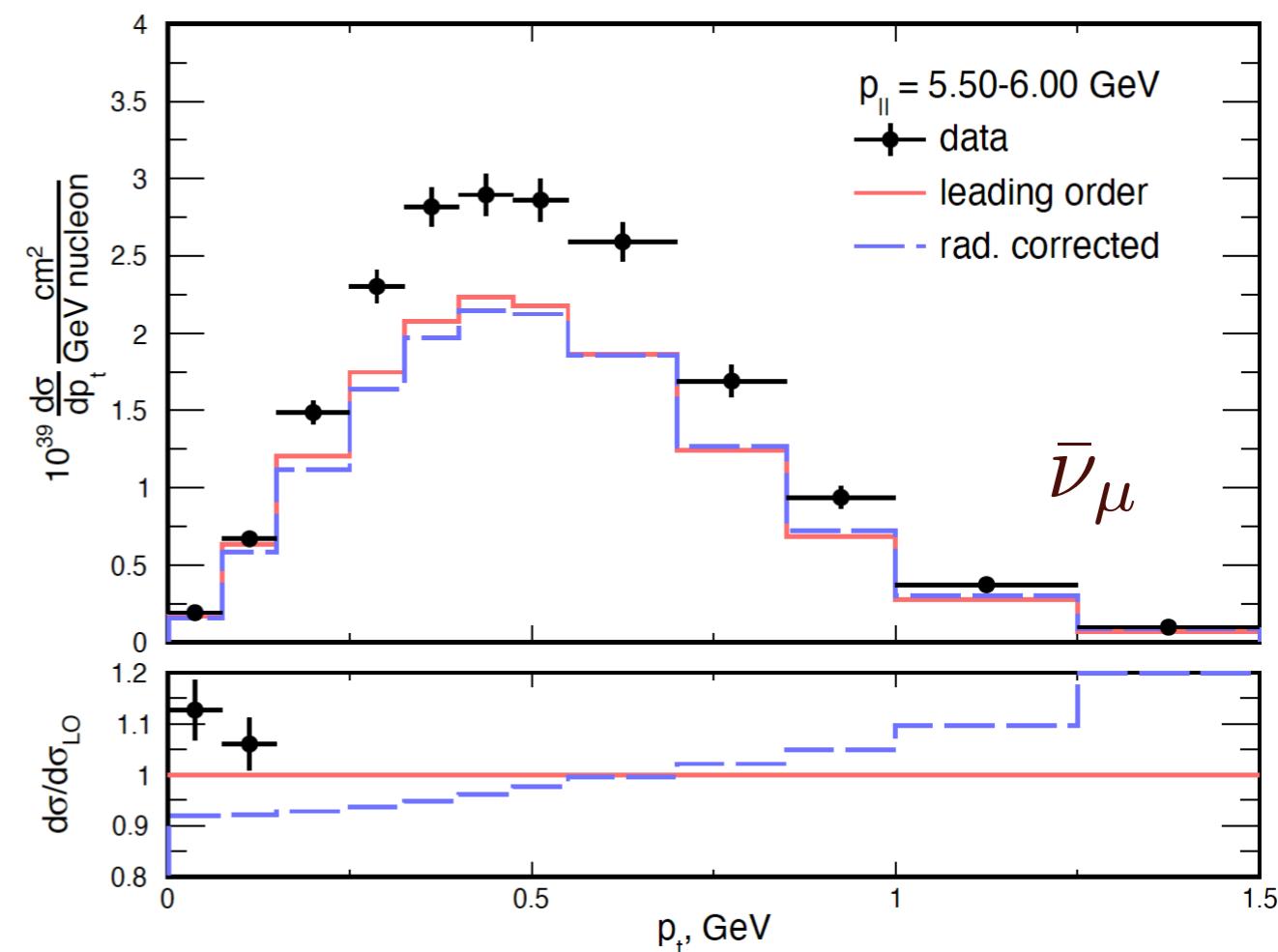
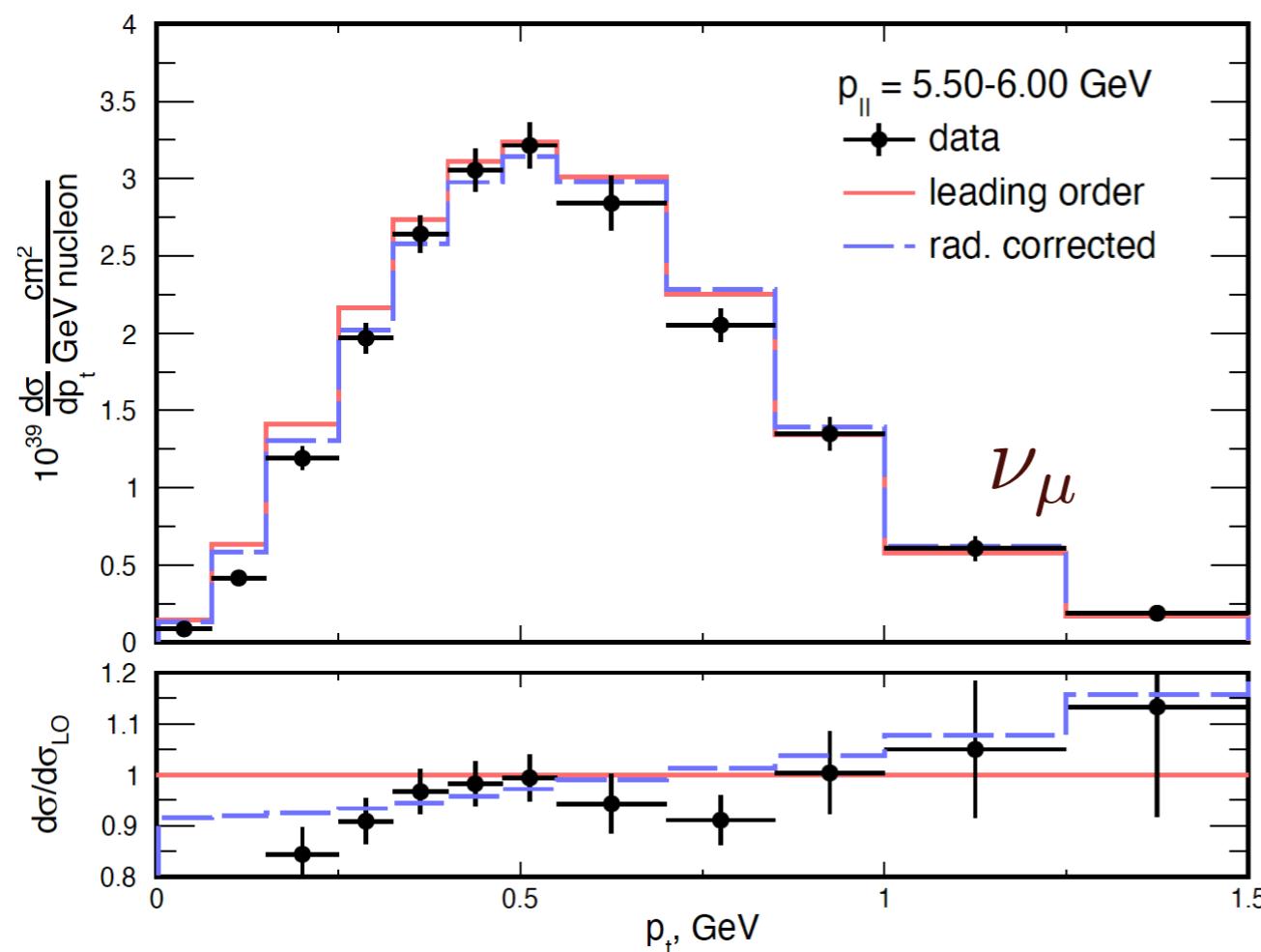


- critical dependence on details of experimental analysis
- predict  $\sigma_{\nu_e}$  from  $\sigma_{\nu_\mu}$  measurements with neutrino beam



# Comparison to data

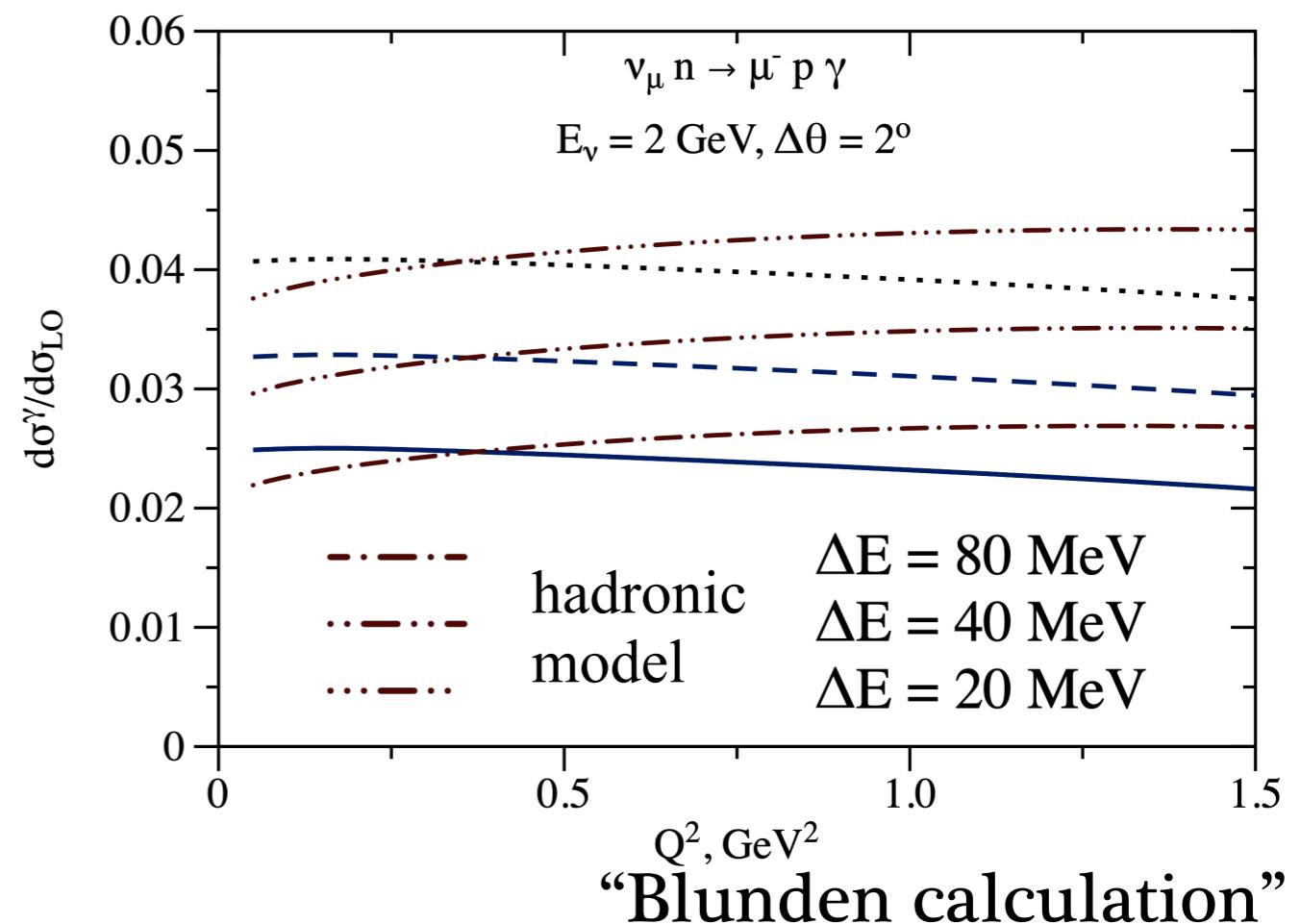
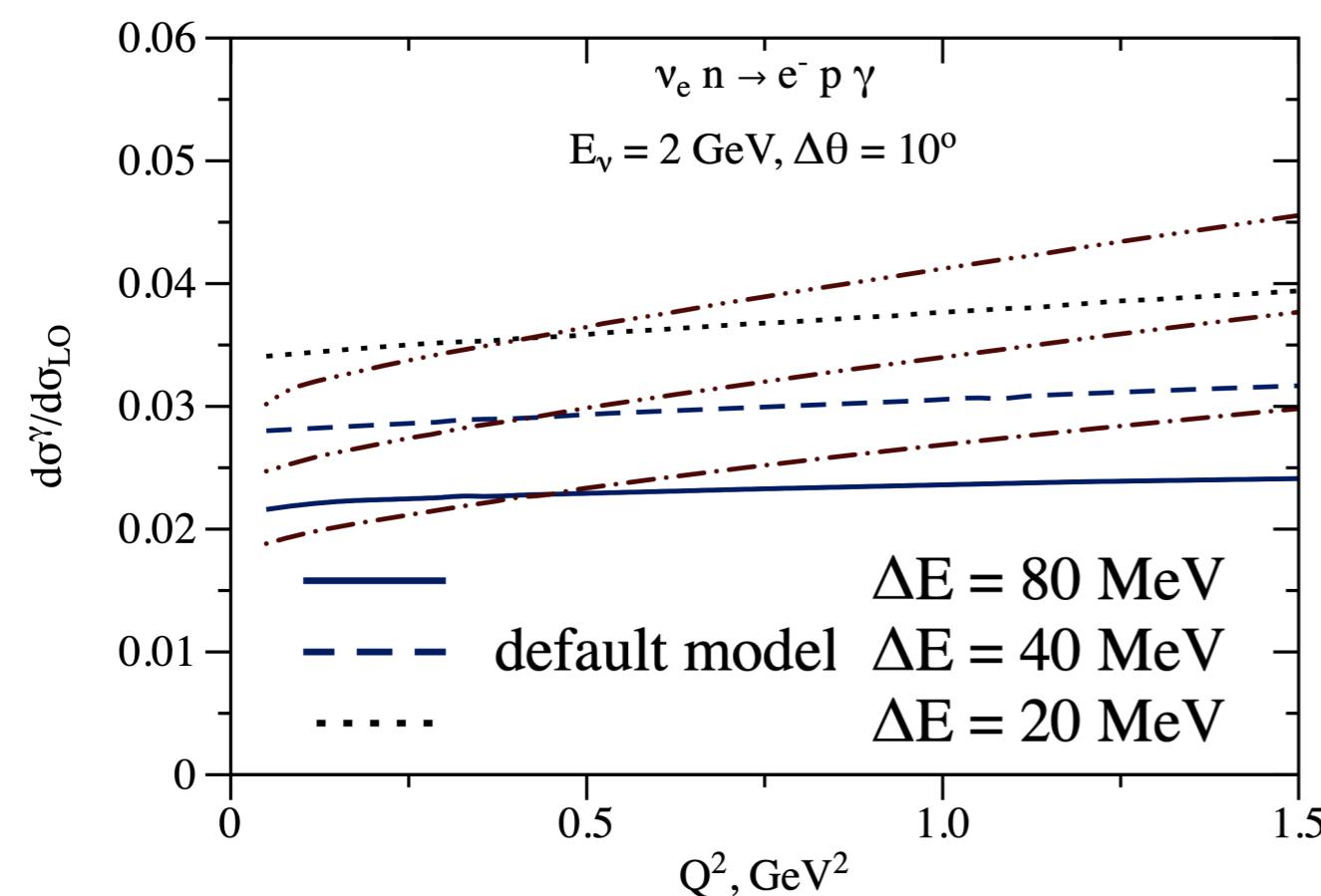
- medium-energy flux data from MINERvA@FERMILAB



- electron flavor: measurements are uncertain
- muon flavor: comparable to experimental precision

# Radiation of hard photons

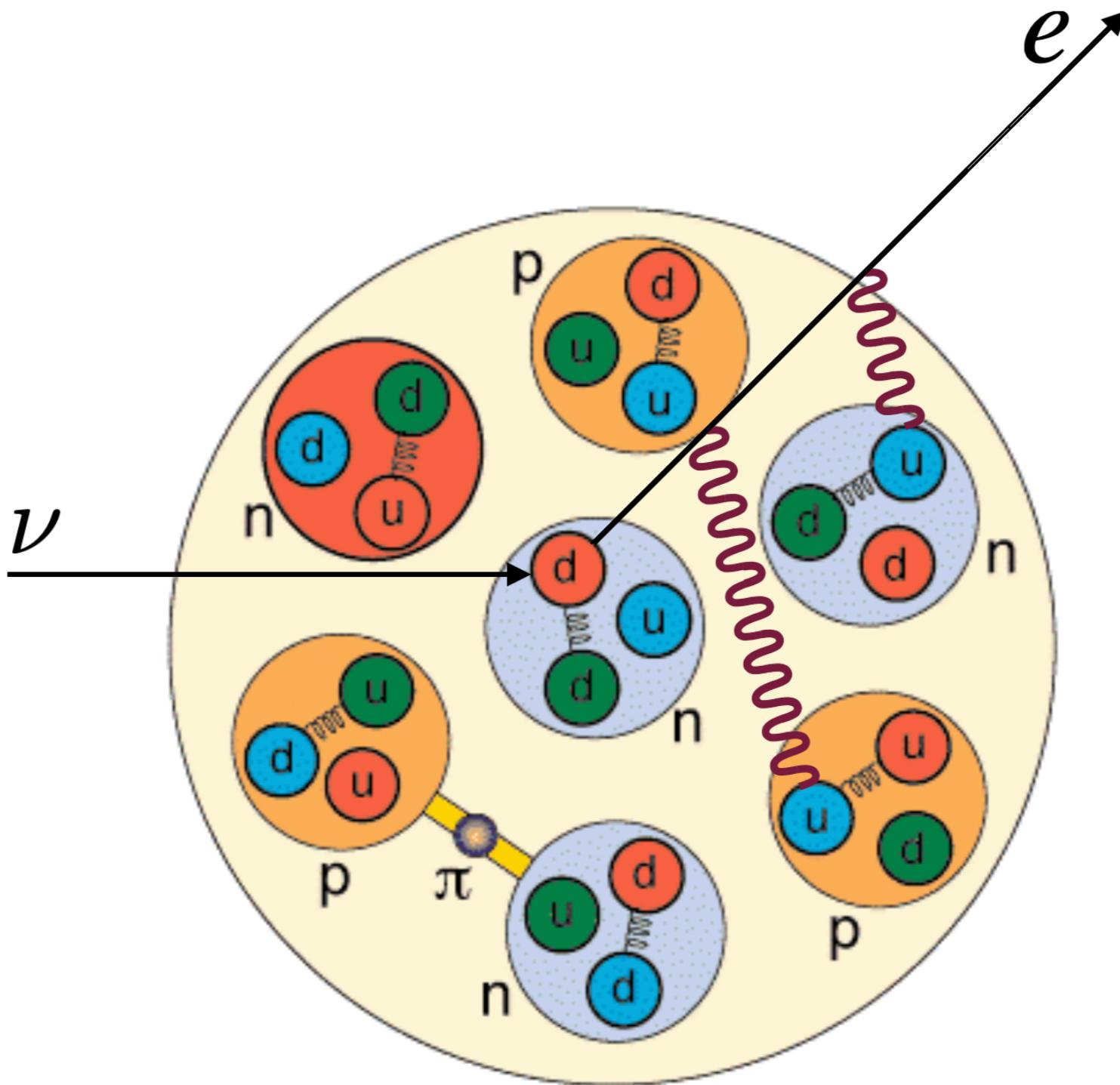
- model-dependent description for radiation of hard photons



- photon energies are above 20, 40, and 80 MeV: default vs “SIFF”  
“hadronic model”

- %-level radiation of non-collinear hard photons
- $10^{-4}$  flavor misidentification rate for NOvA&T2K kinematics

# QED medium effects



- charged lepton exchanges photons with nuclear medium

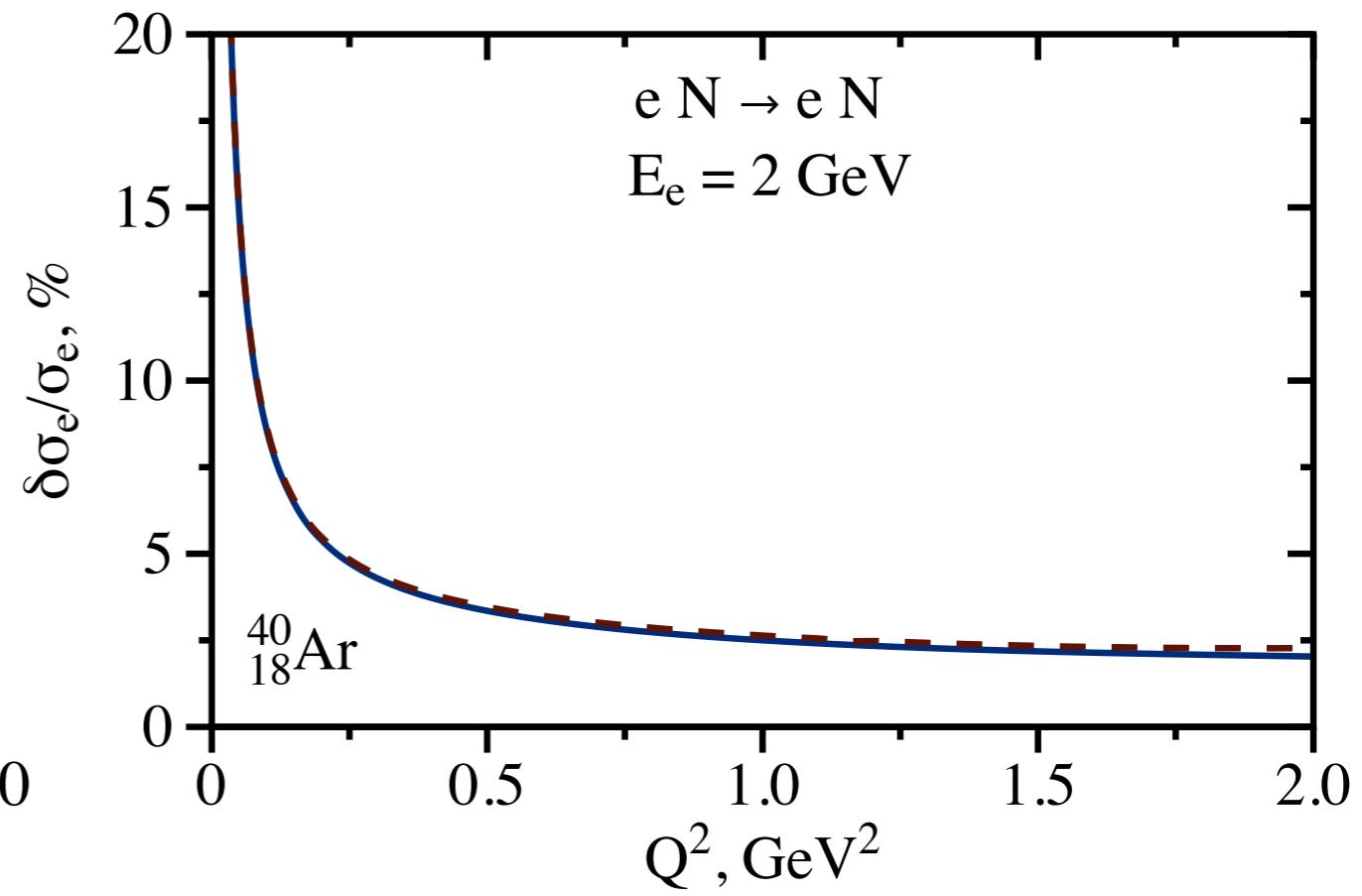
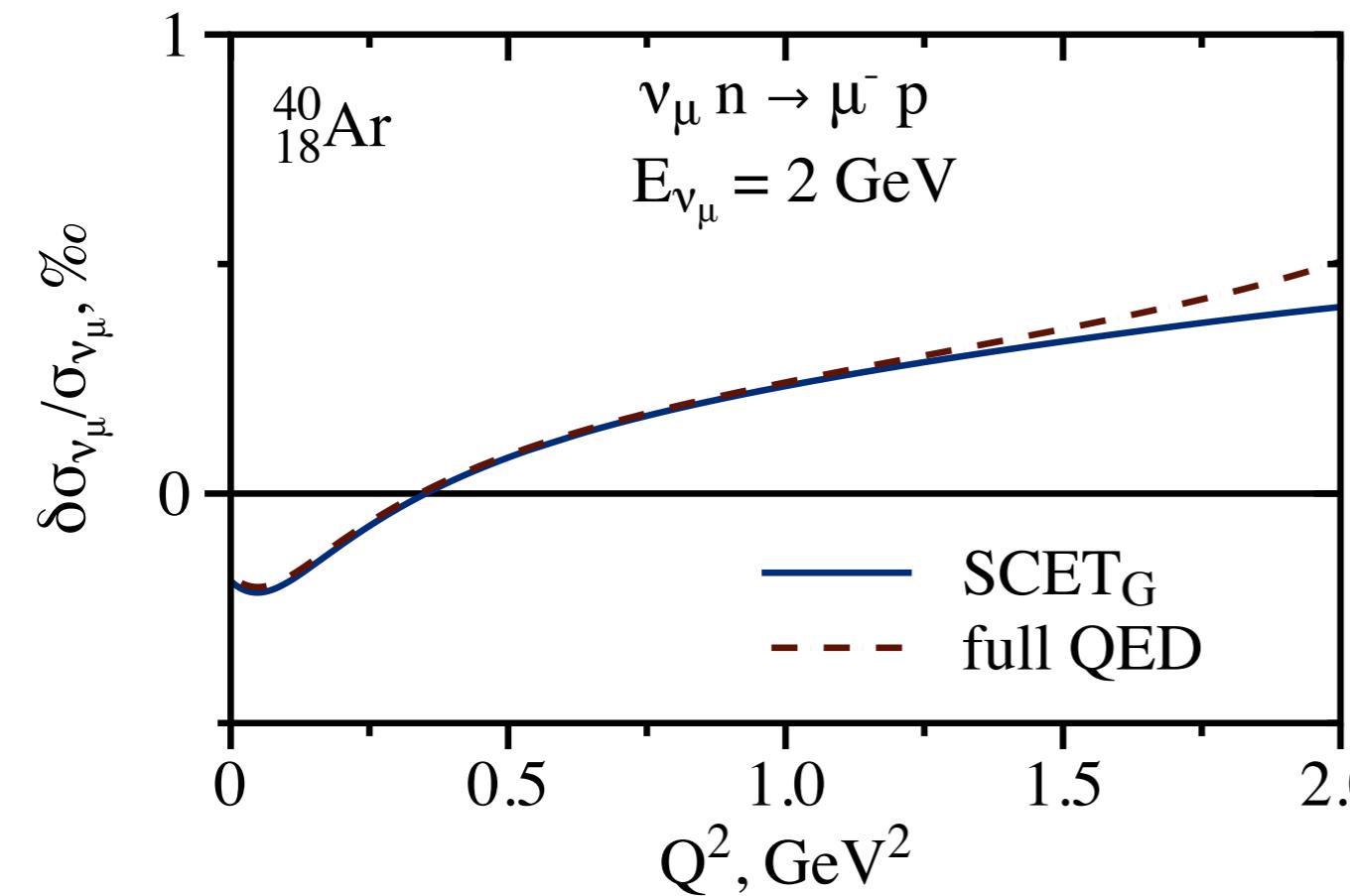
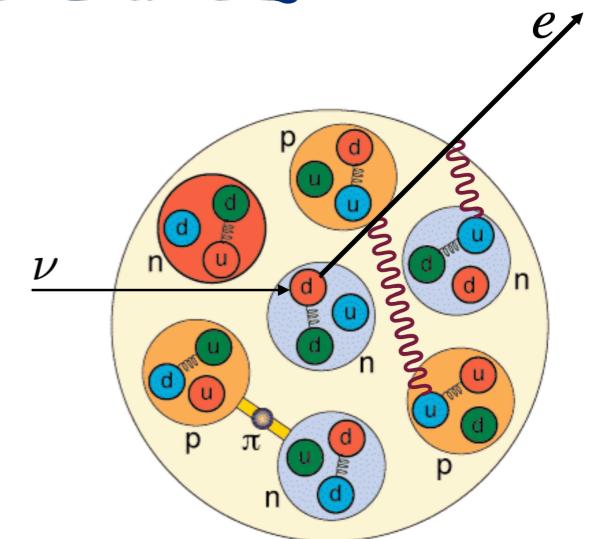
# QED nuclear medium effects

- theory and 1<sup>st</sup>-ever estimate by two methods:

SCET<sub>G</sub>: Soft-collinear effective theory (Glauber)

QED: quantum electrodynamics

O. T. and Ivan Vitev, Phys. Lett. B 805, 135466 (2022)



- permille-level for  $\nu_e A \rightarrow eA'$ , percent-level for  $eA \rightarrow eA$
- critical new effect for electron scattering experiments

# Conclusions

- neutrino cross sections is the main tool to access neutrinos
- various production and interaction mechanisms at all energy scales
- radiative corrections (1-20%) for consistent uncertainty estimates
- radiative corrections for precise flux determinations
- QED nuclear effects in neutrino and electron scattering
- total and differential  $\nu e, \nu_\ell n \rightarrow \ell^- p$  and  $\bar{\nu}_\ell p \rightarrow \ell^+ n$   
flavor ratios evaluated from theory with rigorous error analysis

Thanks for your attention !!!