

Improved neutrinoless double-beta-decay matrix elements in the pnQRPA

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Introduction

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

- The contact term at the leading order
- Contribution of ultrasoft neutrinos
- N²LO Corrections

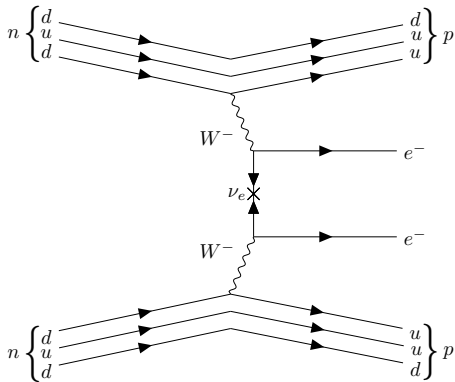
Other Nuclear Observables as Probes of Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay

Summary and Outlook

Neutrinoless double-beta decay via light neutrino exchange

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

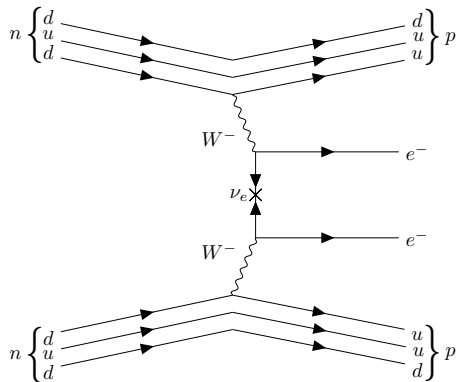
- Violates lepton-number conservation



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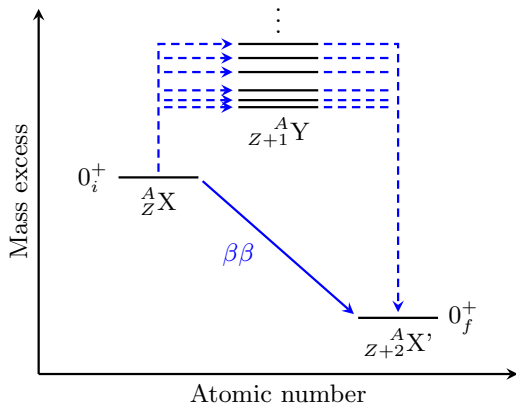
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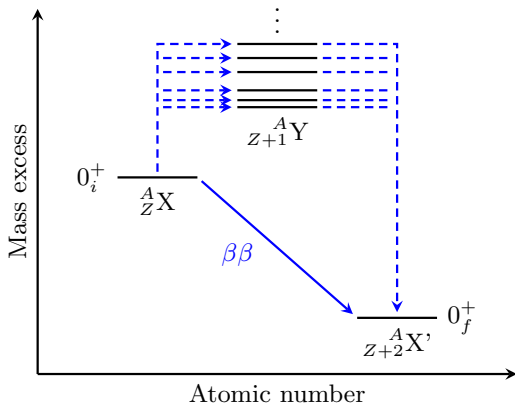
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- Runs virtually through **all J^π states** in the intermediate nucleus



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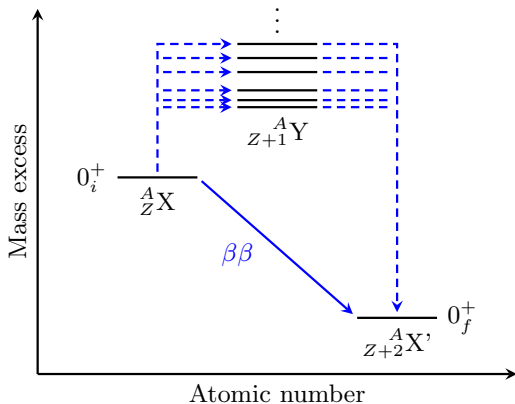
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Traditional nuclear matrix elements of neutrinoless double-beta decay

$$M^{0\nu} = \frac{R}{g_A^2} \int \frac{d\mathbf{k}}{2\pi^2} \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}(\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{y})}}{E_\nu} \sum_n \frac{\langle f | J_\mu(\mathbf{x}) | n \rangle \langle n | J^\mu(\mathbf{y}) | i \rangle}{E_\nu + E_n - \frac{1}{2}(E_i + E_f) - \frac{1}{2}(E_1 - E_2)}$$

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Closure approximation

Without closure approximation:

$$M^{0\nu} \propto \sum_n \frac{\langle f | J_\mu(\mathbf{x}) | n \rangle \langle n | J^\mu(\mathbf{y}) | i \rangle}{|\mathbf{k}| + E_n - \frac{1}{2}(E_i + E_f)}$$

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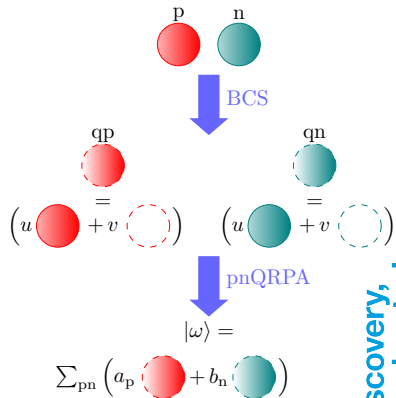
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- ▶ Typically used **with other nuclear methods**

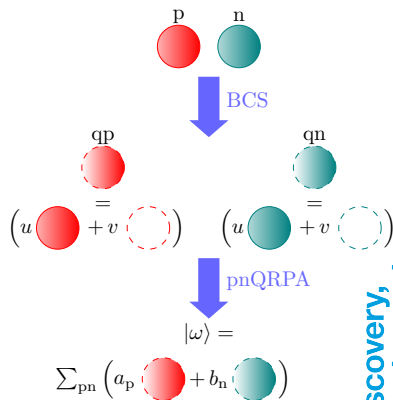
Spherical proton-neutron quasiparticle random-phase approximation (pnQRPA)

- Single-particle bases from Woods-Saxon potential



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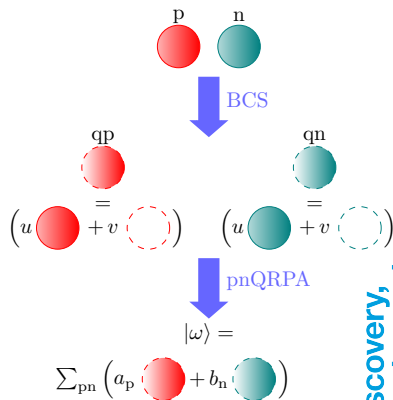
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$$|J_k^\pi\rangle = \sum_{pn} \left(X_{pn}^{J_k^\pi} [a_p^\dagger a_n^\dagger]_J - Y_{pn}^{J_k^\pi} [a_p^\dagger a_n^\dagger]_J^\dagger \right) |\text{QRPA}\rangle$$



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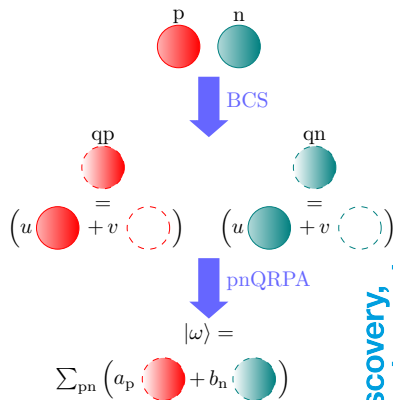
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- Adjustable parameters:

$$g_{\text{ph}} \langle p'n'^{-1}, J | V | pn^{-1}, J \rangle$$

$$g_{\text{pp}} \langle p'n', J | V | pn, J \rangle$$



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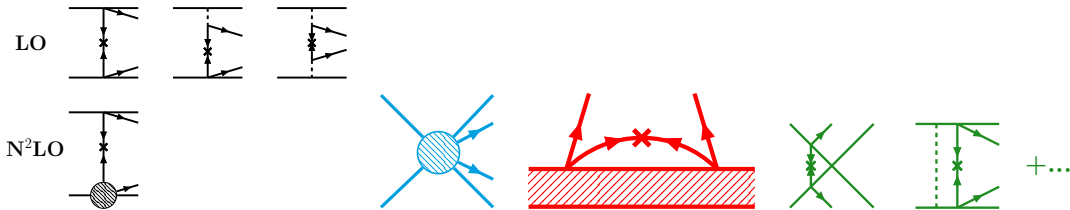
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Effective field theory corrections to $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

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

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



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

with

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

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Contact Term in pnQRPA and NSM

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Couplings (g_ν^{NN}) and scales (Λ) of the Gaussian regulator¹.

g_ν^{NN} (fm ²)	Λ (MeV)
-0.67	450
-1.01	550
-1.44	465
-0.91	465
-1.44	349
-1.03	349

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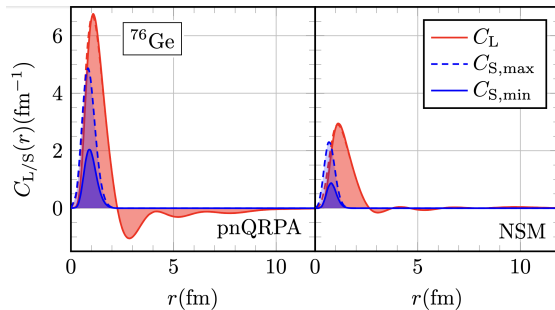
$$\int C_{L/S}(r)dr = M_{L/S}^{0\nu}$$

In pnQRPA:

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

In NSM:

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



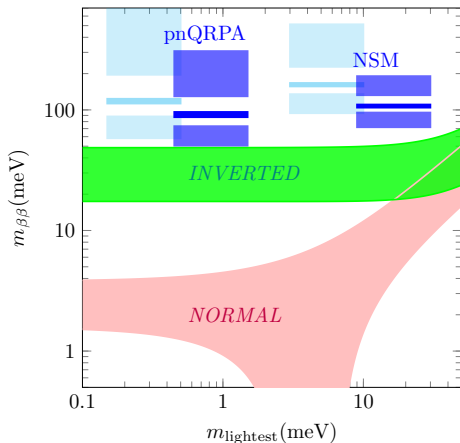
LJ, P. Soriano and J. Menéndez, Phys. Lett. B 823, 136720 (2021)

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: $M_L^{(0\nu)} - M_S^{(0\nu)}$



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

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Contribution of ultrasoft neutrinos

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

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

$$M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu} = \frac{\pi R}{g_A^2} \sum_n \frac{d^{d-1}k}{(2\pi)^{d-1}} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{k}|} \left[\frac{\langle f | J_\mu | n \rangle \langle n | J^\mu | i \rangle}{|\mathbf{k}| + E_2 + E_n - E_i - i\eta} + \frac{\langle f | J_\mu | n \rangle \langle n | J^\mu | i \rangle}{|\mathbf{k}| + E_1 + E_n - E_i - i\eta} \right]$$

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- Keeping only $\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{0}$ term in the current:

$$\begin{aligned} M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu}(\mu_{\text{us}}) &= -\frac{R}{2\pi} \sum_n \langle f | \sum_a \sigma_a \tau_a^+ | n \rangle \langle n | \sum_b \sigma_b \tau_b^+ | i \rangle \\ &\times \left[(E_1 + E_n - E_i) \left(\ln \frac{\mu_{\text{us}}}{2(E_1 + E_n - E_i)} + 1 \right) \right. \\ &\left. + (E_2 + E_n - E_i) \left(\ln \frac{\mu_{\text{us}}}{2(E_2 + E_n - E_i)} + 1 \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

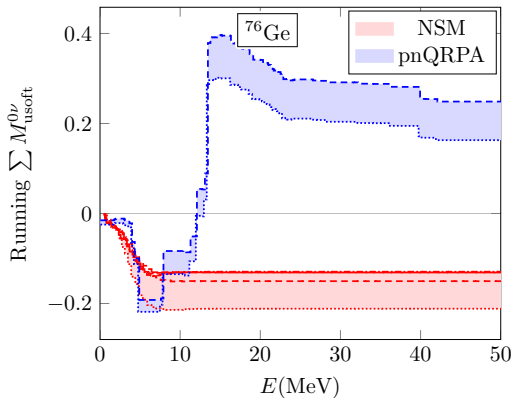
Ultrasoft neutrinos in pnQRPA and nuclear shell model

In pnQRPA:

$$|M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu} / M_{\text{L}}^{0\nu}| \leq 15\%$$

In NSM:

$$|M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu} / M_{\text{L}}^{0\nu}| \leq 5\%$$



LJ, D. Castillo, P. Soriano, J. Menéndez, work in progress

Ultrasoft neutrinos as correction of the closure approximation

$$\frac{1}{t_{1/2}^{0\nu}} = g_A^4 G^{0\nu} |M_L^{0\nu} + M_S^{0\nu} + M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu} + M_{\text{N2LO}}^{0\nu}|^2 \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e}\right)^2$$

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$$M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu} \propto \sum_n \langle f | \sum_a \sigma_a \tau_a^+ | n \rangle \langle n | \sum_b \sigma_b \tau_b^+ | i \rangle \times f(E_n)$$

→ $M_{\text{cl}}^{0\nu}$ with $\langle E_n \rangle - \frac{1}{2}(E_i - E_f) = 0$

Ultrasoft neutrinos as correction of the closure approximation

Nucleus	$M^{0\nu}$	$M_{\text{cl}}^{0\nu}$	$M^{0\nu} - M_{\text{cl}}^{0\nu}$	$M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu}$
^{76}Ge	4.83	4.68	0.15	0.25
^{82}Se	4.30	4.20	0.10	0.18
^{96}Zr	4.29	4.04	0.25	0.25
^{100}Mo	3.52	2.71	0.81	0.65
^{116}Cd	4.31	4.47	-0.16	-0.03
^{124}Sn	5.12	4.88	0.24	0.29
^{128}Te	3.99	3.76	0.23	0.27
^{130}Te	3.52	3.36	0.16	0.22
^{136}Xe	2.60	2.71	-0.11	0.06

Ultrasoft neutrinos as correction of the closure approximation

Nucleus	$M^{0\nu}$	$M_{\text{cl}}^{0\nu}$	$M^{0\nu} - M_{\text{cl}}^{0\nu}$	$M^{0\nu}(1^+) - M_{\text{cl}}^{0\nu}(1^+)$	$M_{\text{usoft}}^{0\nu}$
^{76}Ge	4.83	4.68	0.15	0.26	0.25
^{82}Se	4.30	4.20	0.10	0.18	0.18
^{96}Zr	4.29	4.04	0.25	0.26	0.25
^{100}Mo	3.52	2.71	0.81	0.75	0.65
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Introduction

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The contact term at the leading order

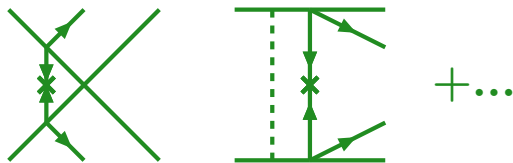
Contribution of ultrasoft neutrinos

N²LO Corrections

Other Nuclear Observables as Probes of Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay

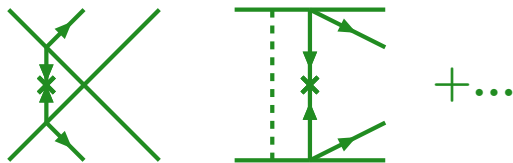
Summary and Outlook

Nucleus	$M_L^{0\nu}$	$M_{N^2LO}^{0\nu}$	$ M_{N^2LO}^{0\nu}/M_L^{0\nu} $
⁷⁶ Ge	4.83	-0.04–0.53	$\lesssim 10\%$
¹³⁶ Xe	2.60	-0.02–0.07	$\lesssim 3\%$



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Caveats:

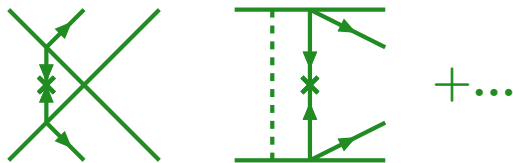


PRELIMINARY N²LO Corrections in pnQRPA

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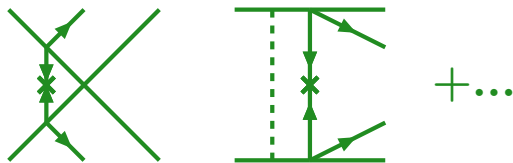


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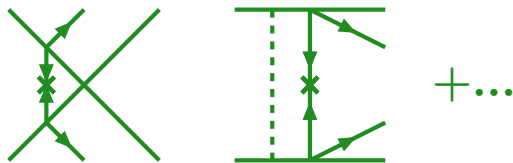
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Caveats:

- Unknown parameters
- Scale dependence
- Regulator dependence

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- The contact term at the leading order

- Contribution of ultrasoft neutrinos

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Other Nuclear Observables as Probes of Neutrinoless Double-Beta Decay

Summary and Outlook

$M^{0\nu}$ Correlated with M_{DGT} - or Is It?

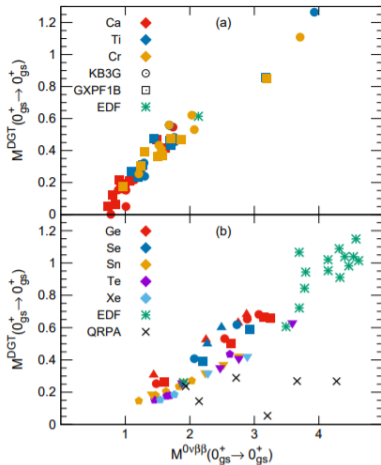
$$M_{\text{DGT}} = \langle 0_{\text{gs},f}^+ | \sum_{j,k} [\sigma_j \tau_j^- \times \sigma_k \tau_k^-]^0 | 0_{\text{gs},i}^+ \rangle$$

- Linear correlation between double Gamow-Teller (DGT) and $0\nu\beta\beta$ in NSM, EDF and IBM-2

N. Shimizu, J. Menéndez and K. Yako, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **120**, 142502 (2018),

F. F. Deppisch *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. D* **102**, 095016 (2020), J. Barea *et al.*, *Phys. Rev.*

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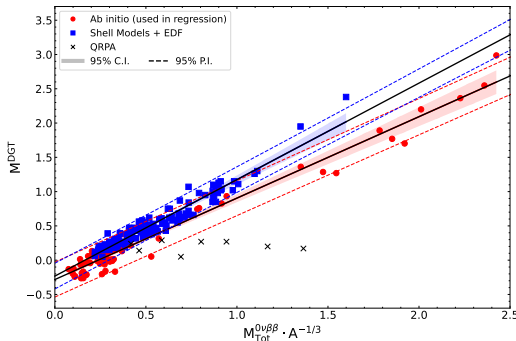
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- Correlation can also be found in *ab initio* frameworks

J. M. Yao *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. C* **106**, 014315 (2022)



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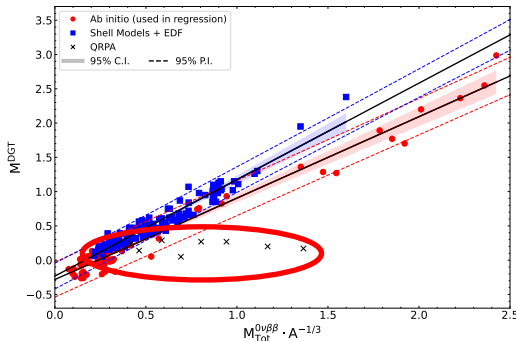
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- **But not in QRPA (Why?)**



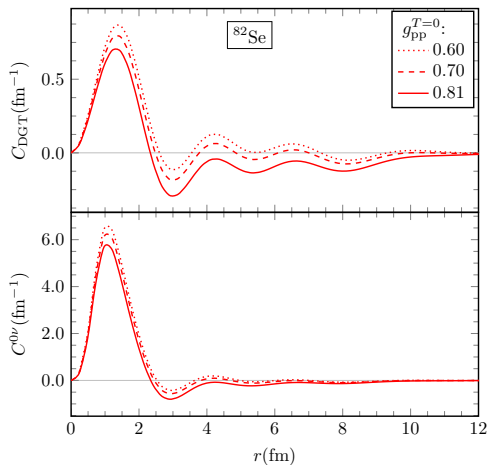
J. M. Yao *et al.*,
Phys. Rev. C **106**, 014315 (2022)

Radial Densities of $M^{0\nu}$ and M_{DGT} in pnQRPA

$$M_{\text{L}}^{0\nu} = \int_0^{\infty} C^{0\nu}(r) dr ,$$

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- M_{DGT} more sensitive to proton-neutron pairing (g_{pp}) than $M^{0\nu}$



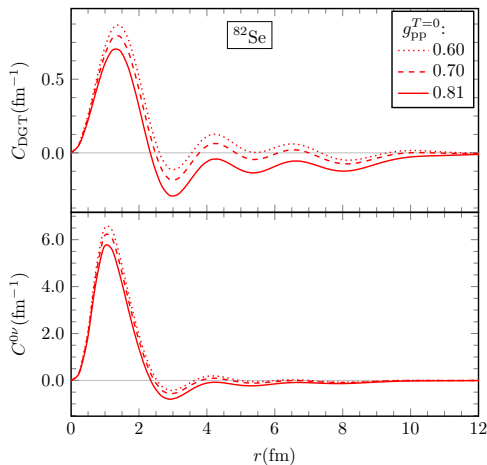
LJ, J. Menéndez, *Phys. Rev. C* **107**, 044316 (2023)

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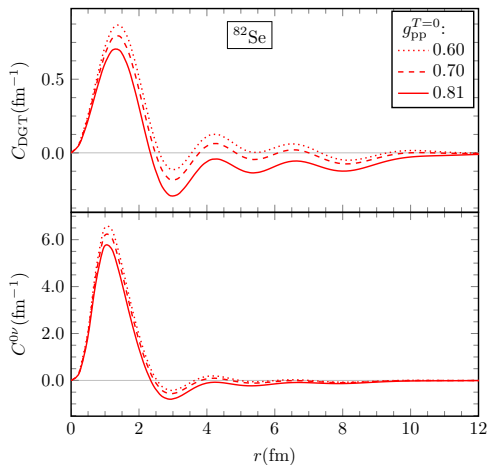
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- Typically g_{pp} adjusted to $2\nu\beta\beta$ half-lives
→ Large g_{pp} values



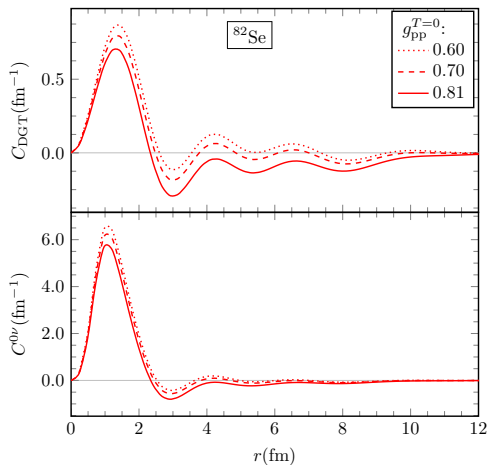
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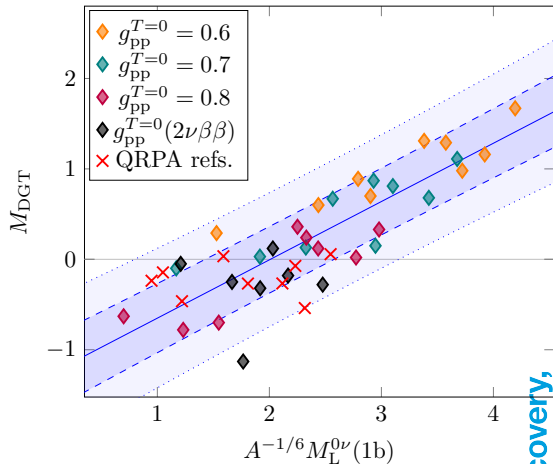
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→ Large g_{pp} values
- **What if we free the value of g_{pp} ?**



LJ, J. Menéndez, *Phys. Rev. C* **107**, 044316 (2023)

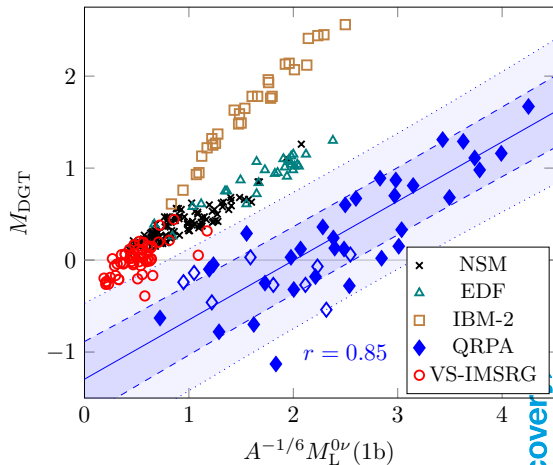
$M^{0\nu}$ vs. M_{DGT} in pnQRPA

- By varying $g_{\text{pp}}^{T=0}$ we observe a **correlation in QRPA**



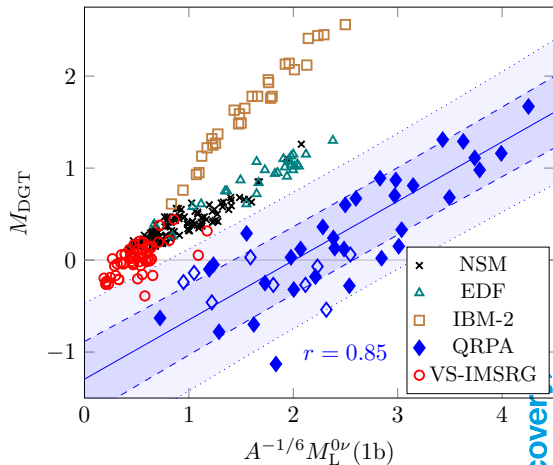
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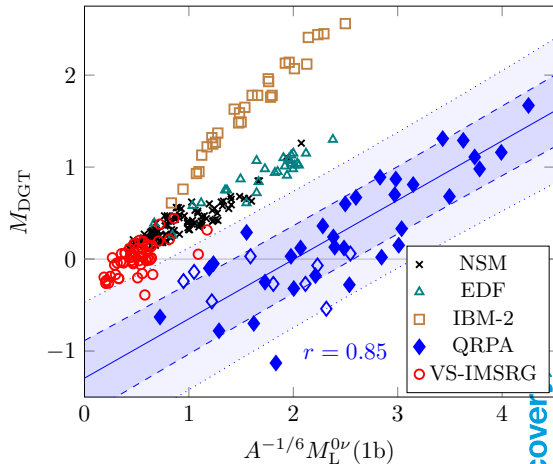
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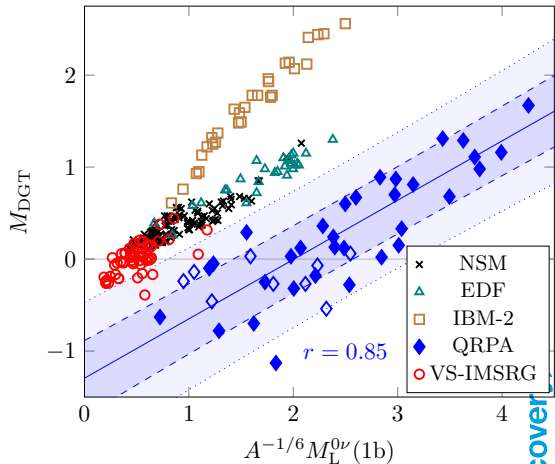
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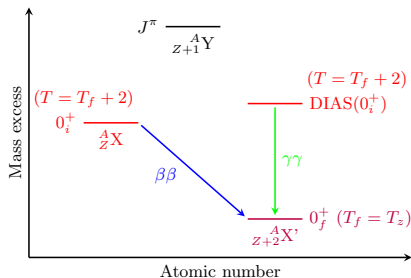
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 - ▶ ...and different approaches (closure/non-closure,...)
- **Measuring DGT reaction could help constrain $M^{0\nu}$!**



Probing $0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay by Gamma Decays

- Double magnetic dipole (M1) decay (**electromagnetic interaction**) can be related to $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay (**weak interaction**)



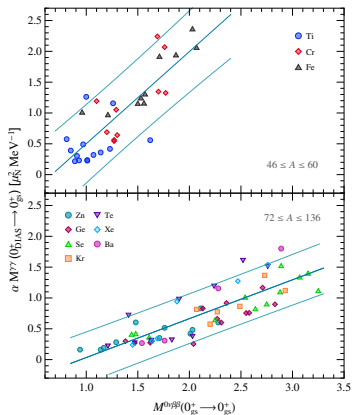
$$M^{\gamma\gamma}(M1M1) = \sum_n \frac{(0_f^+ || \mathbf{M}_1 || 1_n^+) (1_n^+ || \mathbf{M}_1 || 0_i^+)}{E_n - (E_i + E_f)/2}$$

$$\mathbf{M}_1 = \mu_N \sqrt{\frac{3}{4\pi}} \sum_{i=1}^A (g_i^l \boldsymbol{\ell}_i + g_i^s \mathbf{s}_i)$$

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- Correlation between these processes observed in NSM

B. Romeo, J. Menéndez, C. Peña-Garay, Phys. Lett. B **827**, 136965 (2022)



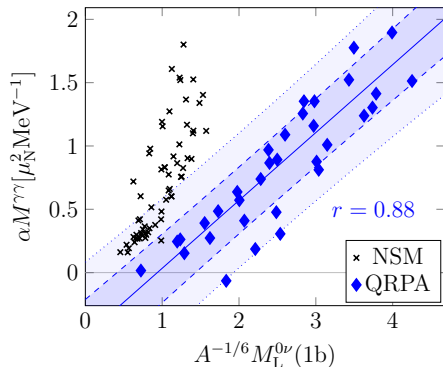
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- Correlation also found in QRPA



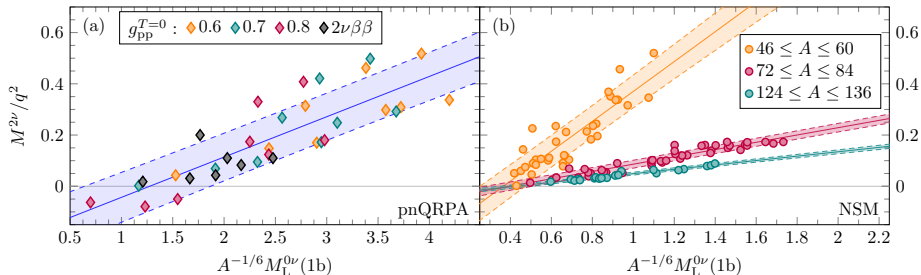
LJ, J. Menéndez, *Phys. Rev. C* **107**, 044316 (2023)

Probing $0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay by $2\nu\beta\beta$ Decay

- *How about $2\nu\beta\beta$ decay?*

Probing $0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay by $2\nu\beta\beta$ Decay

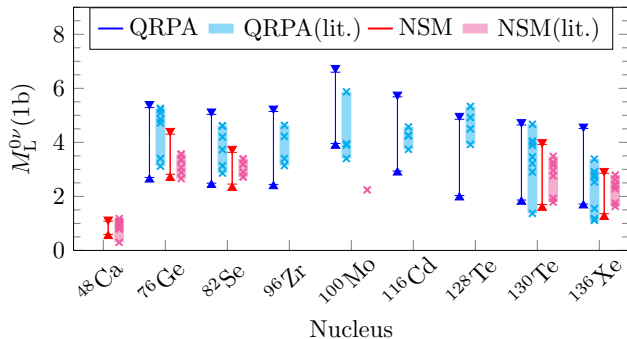
- *How about $2\nu\beta\beta$ decay?*
- $2\nu\beta\beta$ -decay also correlated with $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay!



LJ, B. Romeo, P. Soriano and J. Menéndez, *Phys. Rev. C* **107**, 044305 (2023)

Probing $0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay by $2\nu\beta\beta$ Decay

- **How about $2\nu\beta\beta$ decay?**
- $2\nu\beta\beta$ -decay also correlated with $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay!
- We can use the existing data to estimate $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay NMEs!

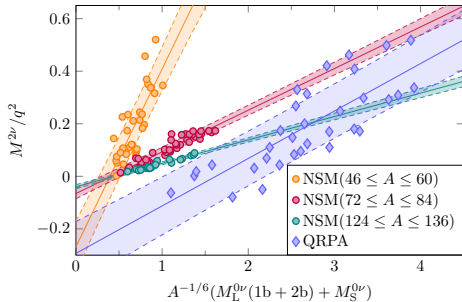


LJ, B. Romeo, P. Soriano and J. Menéndez, *Phys. Rev. C* **107**, 044305 (2023)

Probing $0\nu\beta\beta$ Decay by $2\nu\beta\beta$ Decay

Two-Body Currents & Contact Term

- Correlations survive when adding the 2BCs and the contact term



LJ, B. Romeo, P. Soriano and J. Menéndez, *Phys. Rev. C*
107, 044305 (2023)

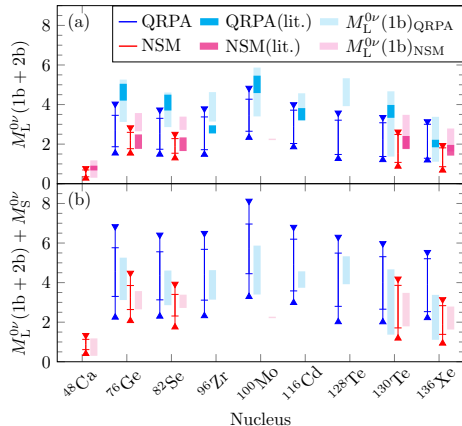
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Two-Body Currents & Contact Term

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J. Menéndez, D. Gazit, A. Schwenk, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 107, 062501 (2011)

J. Engel, F. Šimkovic, P. Vogel, *Phys. Rev. C* 89, 064308 (2014)



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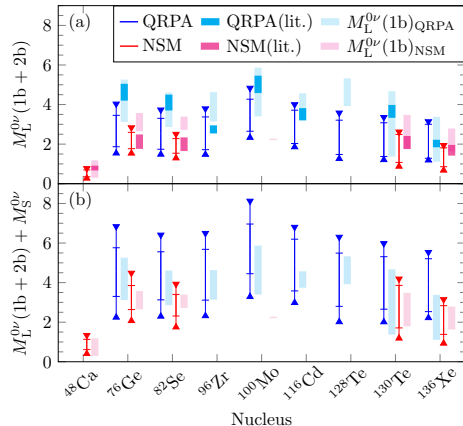
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Two-Body Currents & Contact Term

- Correlations survive when adding the 2BCs and the contact term
- Effect of 2BCs larger than in previous studies
- 2BCs and the contact term largely cancel each other

J. Menéndez, D. Gazit, A. Schwenk, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **107**, 062501 (2011)

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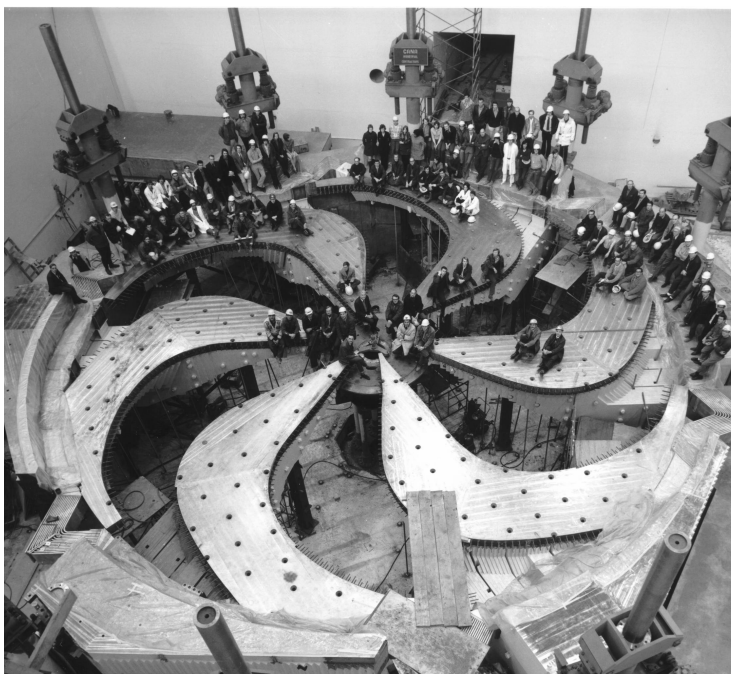
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Summary and Outlook

- Newly introduced contact term significantly enhances the $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay NMEs
- Studying the contribution from ultrasoft neutrinos may help us estimate the closure correction to the $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay NMEs
- Correction from additional N²LO corrections $\lesssim 5\%$
- Correlations between $0\nu\beta\beta$ decay and DGT, M1M1 and $2\nu\beta\beta$ decays may help constrain the $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay NMEs

Thank you
Merci



Axial-Vector Two-Body Currents (2BCs)

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

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

where $g_P = (2m_N q / (q^2 + m_\pi^2)) g_A$

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

Hoferichter, Klos, Schwenk *Phys. Lett. B* **746**, 410 (2015)

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

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)

$$\mathbf{J}_{i,2b}^{\text{eff}} = \sum_j (1 - P_{ij}) \mathbf{J}_{ij}^3$$

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

where

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

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