

# Long-lived particles and portal EFTs

partially based on [arXiv:2105.06477](https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.06477)

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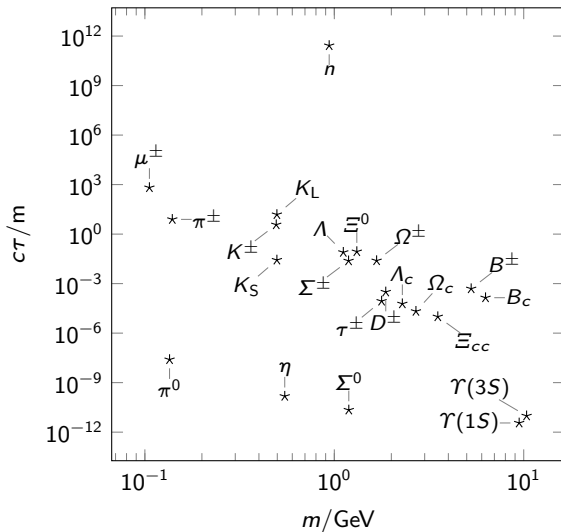
DESY Theory Workshop 2021: Bright Ideas for a Dark Universe

# Long-lived particles (LLPs)

## LLPs in the SM

- Many particles of the SM are long-lived
- Some are even stable on detector scales

## LLPs in the SM



# LLPs

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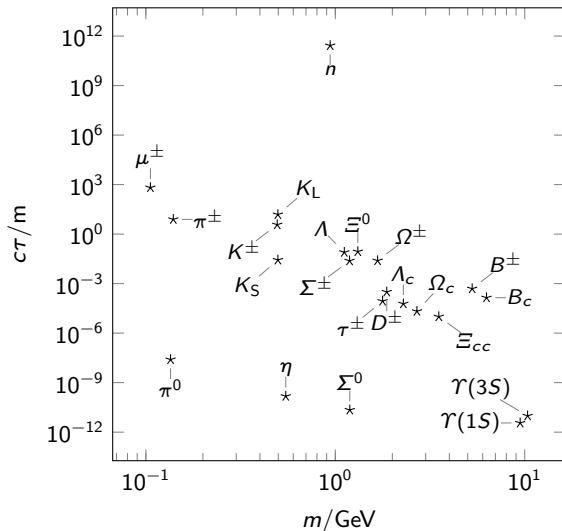
## Portals to hidden sectors

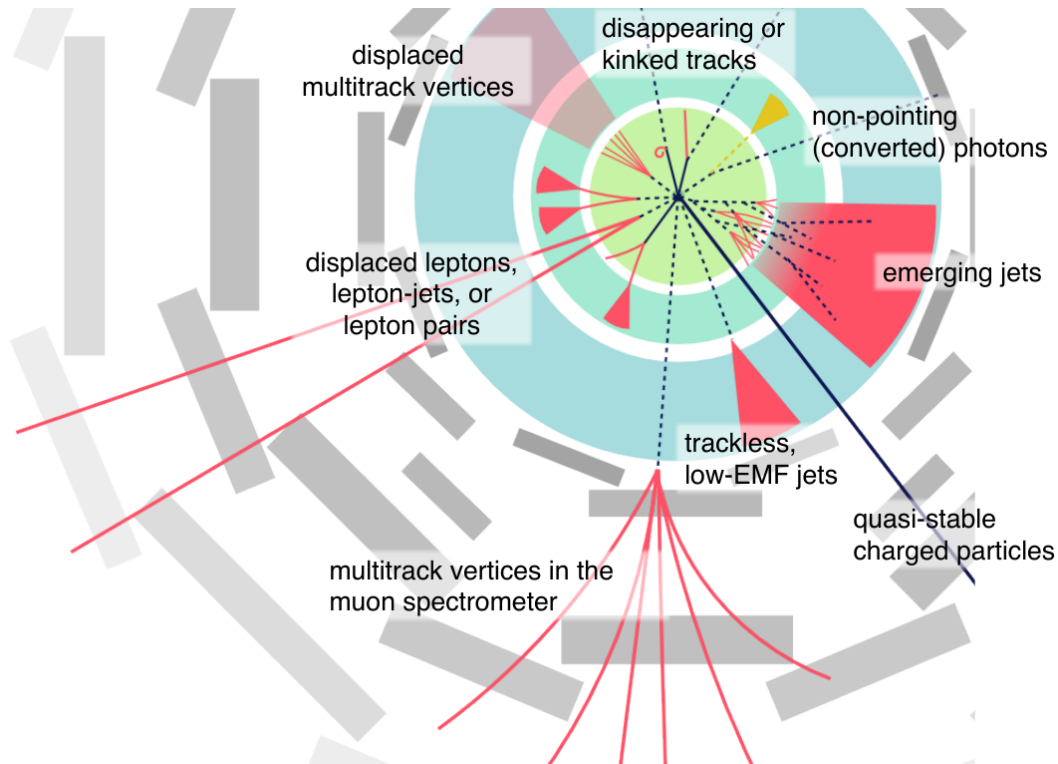
- Many SM extensions feature hidden sectors
- Often motivated by DM candidates
- A key signature of such models are LLPs

## Prime examples

- Axion-like particles (ALPs)
- Heavy Neutral Leptons (HNLs)
- Right Handed Neutrinos (RHNs)
- Hidden U(1) / New gauge bosons

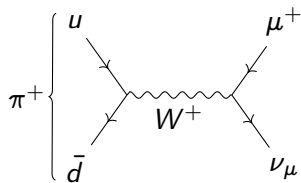
## LLPs in the SM





# Longevity in the SM

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



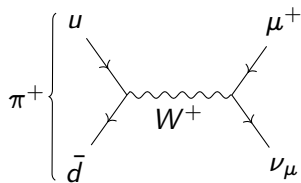
## Charged pion

- Decay via weak interactions
- Decay extremely off-shell

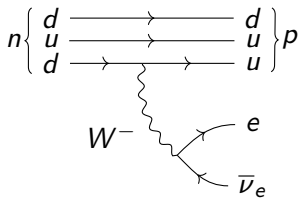
$$\Gamma_{\pi^+} \propto g_W^2 \left( \frac{m_\pi}{m_W} \right)^4 m_\pi$$

# Longevity in the SM

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



$$n \rightarrow p e \bar{\nu}_e$$



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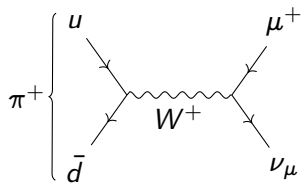
## Neutron

- Proton and neutron are almost mass degenerate due to isospin
- Decay extremely off-shell

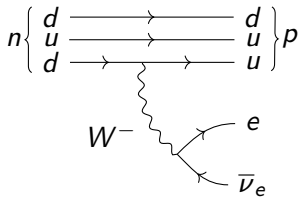
$$\Gamma_n \propto g_W^2 \left( \frac{\Delta_{np}}{m_W} \right)^4 \Delta_{np}, \quad \Delta_{np} = m_n - m_p$$

# Longevity in the SM

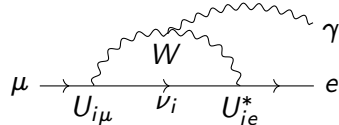
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$$\mu \rightarrow e \gamma$$



## Charged pion

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$$\Gamma_{\pi^+} \propto g_W^2 \left( \frac{m_\pi}{m_W} \right)^4 m_\pi$$

## Muon

- Flavour changing neutral current
  - Lepton flavour only violated by neutrino masses and Yukawa couplings
- $$\text{BR}(\mu \rightarrow e \gamma) \propto 10^{-13}$$

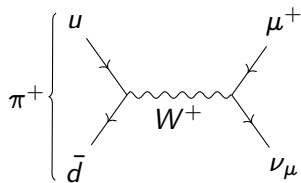
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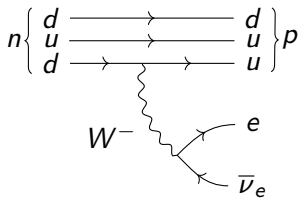
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# Longevity in the SM

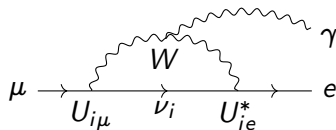
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## Muon

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## Generically

- Off-shell decay
- Small mass splitting
- Small coupling (hierarchy or loop suppression)

$$\Gamma \propto \lambda^2 \left( \frac{m}{M} \right)^n m$$



# Axion like particles (ALP)

The ALP mass and interaction terms

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \frac{1}{2} m_a^2 a^2 + \frac{\alpha_s}{8\pi} \frac{a}{f_a} \tilde{G}G + c \frac{\alpha_{EM}}{8\pi} \frac{a}{f_a} \tilde{F}F$$

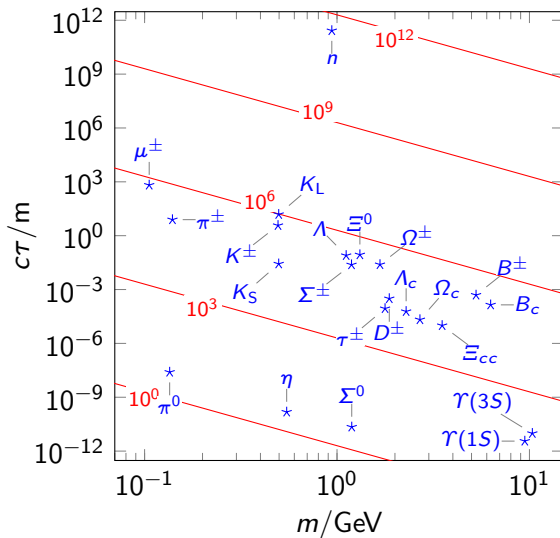
With a model dependent constant  $c$ .

Widths

$$\Gamma_g = k \frac{\alpha_s^2}{32\pi^3} \frac{m_a^3}{f_a^2}, \quad \Gamma_\gamma = c^2 \frac{\alpha_{EM}^2}{32\pi^3} \frac{m_a^3}{f_a^2}$$

With NLO correction factor  $k$ .

ALPs lifetime



SM particles and ALP decay constant  $f_a/\text{GeV}$

# Heavy neutral leptons (HNLs)

Right handed neutrinos

$$\mathcal{L}_{\nu_R} = -y_{ai}\bar{\ell}_a\epsilon\phi\nu_{Ri} - \frac{1}{2}\bar{\nu}_{Ri}^c M_{ij}\nu_{Rj} + \text{h.c.}$$

$y_{ai}$  Yukawa coupling     $M_{ij}$  Majorana mass

Electroweak symmetry breaking

Dirac mass  $m_{ai} = v y_{ai}$

Seesaw mechanism

$$m_\nu = -m_{ai}M_{ij}^{-1}m_{bj}^T = -\theta_{ai}M_{ij}\theta_{bj}^T$$

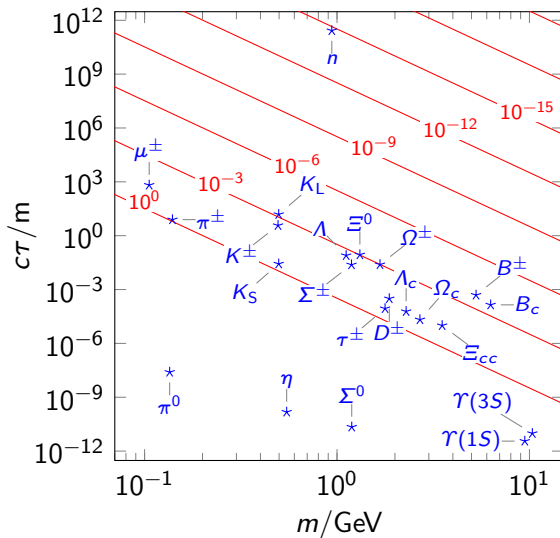
$$\theta_{ai} = m_{aj}M_{ij}^{-1}$$

produces tiny SM neutrino masses

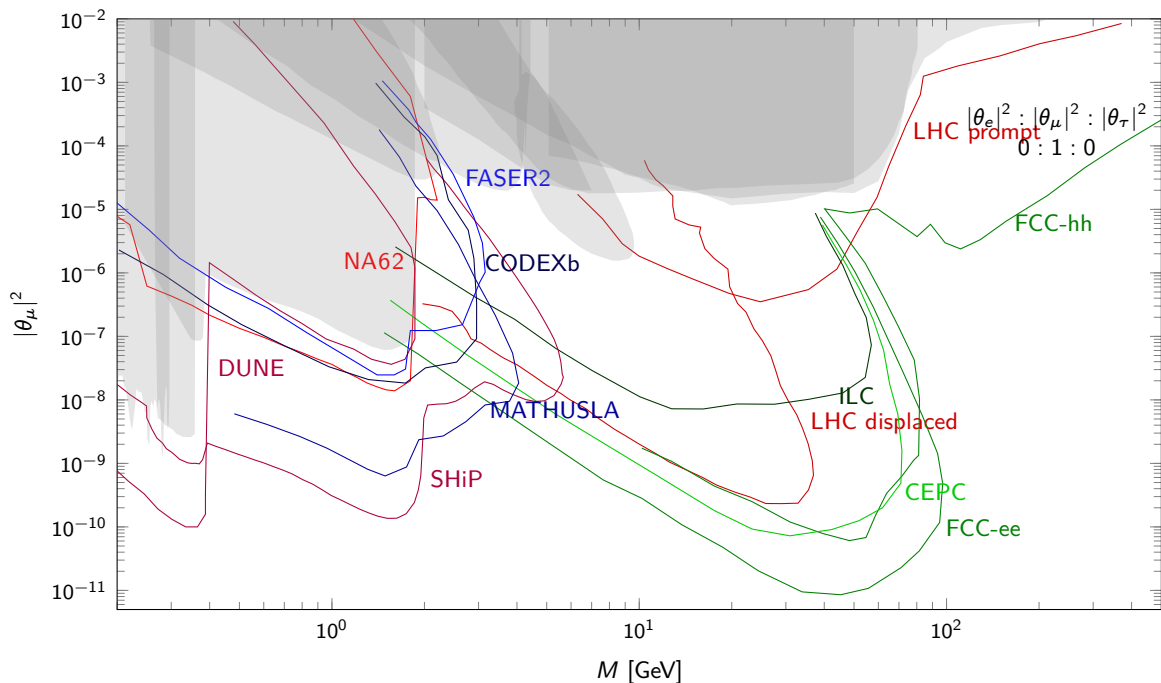
Decay width

$$\Gamma_N \approx \frac{G_F^2}{8\pi^3} |\theta_a|^2 M^5$$

HNL lifetime



SM particles and HNL coupling  $|\theta|^2$



# Portal effective theories (PETs)

# Effective theories of Standard Model fields

## Effective field theories

- includes all fields of interest
- consists of all operators allowed by symmetry of the theory
- non-renormalisable operators encode heavy new physics (NP)

## SM and heavy NP

EFT fields and symmetries

SMEFT, HEFT, LEFT,  
NRQCD, HQET,  $\chi$ PT, ...



SM operators

$O_n^{\text{SM}}$

# Effective theories of Standard Model fields

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## Standard Model EFT

- consists of all SM fields
- operators compatible with SM gauge group
- used to constrain NP models
- see also Higgs EFT

## Light EFT

- heavy SM bosons are integrated out
- generalises Fermi's four fermion theory
- SM (with extensions) at low energies

## SM and heavy NP

### EFT fields and symmetries

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### SM operators

$$O_n^{\text{SM}}$$

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### SM operators

$$O_n^{\text{SM}}$$

## Standard Model EFT

- consists of all SM fields
- operators compatible with SM gauge group
- used to constrain NP models
- see also Higgs EFT

## Chiral perturbation theory

- exploits U(3) flavour symmetry
- light meson interactions

## Heavy quark EFT

- exploits mass hierarchy within meson
- interactions of mesons with one heavy quark

## Light EFT

- heavy SM bosons are integrated out
- generalises Fermi's four fermion theory
- SM (with extensions) at low energies

## (p)NRQCD

- interactions of mesons with two heavy quarks
- treats heavy mesons non-relativistically

# Portal effective field theories

## Hidden sector

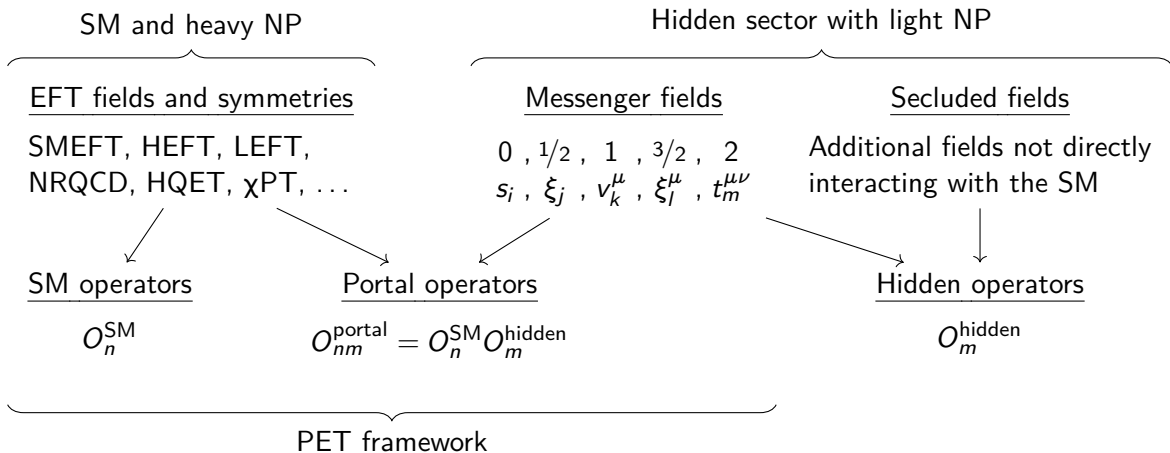
- contains messenger fields
- can entail a complicated secluded sector

## Messenger fields

- interact feebly with the SM
- forms with the SM fields the portal operators

## Secluded sector

- fields which are not directly coupled to SM
- additional interactions of the messengers
- mass generation mechanism for messenger





# Portal currents

## SM operators

$$O_n^{\text{SM}} = O_n^{\text{SM}}(q, \ell, \gamma, g, \dots)$$

## Hidden operators

$$O_m^{\text{hidden}} = O_m^{\text{hidden}}(s_i, \xi_j, v_k^\mu, \dots)$$

## Form portal operators

$$O_{nm}^{\text{portal}} = O_n^{\text{SM}} O_m^{\text{hidden}}$$

## Can be collected in Portal currents

$$J_n^{\text{portal}} = \sum_m O_{nm}^{\text{portal}}$$

## Capturing the portal interactions of the SM

$$\mathcal{L}^{\text{portal}} = \sum_n J_n^{\text{portal}} O_n^{\text{SM}}$$

For example: The axial anomaly

$$\mathcal{L}_Q^\theta = -\theta \frac{\text{tr}_c \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}}{(4\pi)^2}$$

$G_{\mu\nu}$  Gluon field strength  
 $\theta$  QCD vacuum angle

In terms of current  $\theta$  and operator  $w$

$$\mathcal{L}_Q^\theta = -\theta w \quad w = \frac{\text{tr}_c \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}}{(4\pi)^2}$$

Scalar axial current  $S_\theta$  contains NP

$$\theta \rightarrow \Theta = \theta + S_\theta$$

E.g. Axion like particle  $a$

$$S_\theta = c_\theta \frac{a}{f_a}$$

More complicated models

$$S_\theta = c_\theta \frac{a}{f_a} + \dots$$

## Renormalisable operators

	$d$	Higgs	Yukawa + h.c.	Fermions	Gauge bosons
$s_i$	3	$s_i  H ^2$			
	4	$s_i s_j  H ^2$			
$\xi_a + \text{h.c.}$	4		$\xi_a \ell_b \tilde{H}^\dagger$		
$v^\mu$	4	$v_\mu v^\mu  H ^2$		$v^\mu q_a^\dagger \bar{\sigma}_\mu q_b$	
		$\partial_\mu v^\mu  H ^2$		$v^\mu \bar{u}_a^\dagger \sigma_\mu \bar{u}_b$	
		$v^\mu H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H$		$v^\mu \bar{d}_a^\dagger \sigma_\mu \bar{d}_b$	
				$v^\mu \ell_a^\dagger \bar{\sigma}_\mu \ell_b$	
				$v^\mu \bar{e}_a^\dagger \sigma_\mu \bar{e}_b$	

# Portal SMEFT operators

## Renormalisable operators

	$d$	Higgs	Yukawa + h.c.	Fermions	Gauge bosons
$s_i$	3	$s_i  H ^2$			
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		$v^\mu H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H$		$v^\mu \bar{d}_a^\dagger \sigma_\mu \bar{d}_b$	
				$v^\mu \ell_a^\dagger \bar{\sigma}_\mu \ell_b$	
				$v^\mu \bar{e}_a^\dagger \sigma_\mu \bar{e}_b$	

## Non-renormalisable operators

	$d$	Higgs	Yukawa + h.c.	Fermions	Gauge bosons
$s_i$	5	$s_i s_j s_k  H ^2$	$s_i q_a \bar{u}_b \tilde{H}^\dagger$		$s_i G_{\mu\nu}^a G_a^{\mu\nu}$
		$s_i D^\mu H^\dagger D_\mu H$	$s_i q_a \bar{d}_b H^\dagger$		$s_i W_{\mu\nu}^a W_a^{\mu\nu}$
		$s_i  H ^4$	$s_i \ell_a \bar{e}_b H^\dagger$		$s_i B_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}$
					$s_i G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}_a^{\mu\nu}$
					$s_i W_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{W}_a^{\mu\nu}$
					$s_i B_{\mu\nu} \tilde{B}^{\mu\nu}$
$\xi_a + \text{h.c.}$	5	$\xi_a \xi_b  H ^2$	$\xi_a^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu \ell_b D_\mu \tilde{H}^\dagger$		$\xi_a \sigma^{\mu\nu} \xi_b B_{\mu\nu}$

# Portal SMEFT currents

## Portal Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{portal}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{EW}}^H + \mathcal{L}_{\text{EW}}^Y + \mathcal{L}_{\text{EW}}^F + \mathcal{L}_{\text{EW}}^V .$$

## Individual parts

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EW}}^H = S_m^H |H|^2 + \frac{1}{2} S_\lambda^H |H|^4 + S_\kappa^H D^\mu H^\dagger D_\mu H + i V_H^\mu H^\dagger \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu H ,$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EW}}^Y = \mathbf{S}_m^e \ell \bar{e} H^\dagger + \mathbf{S}_m^d q \bar{d} H^\dagger + \mathbf{S}_m^u q \bar{u} \tilde{H}^\dagger + \Xi \ell \tilde{H}^\dagger + \Xi_\mu \ell D^\mu \tilde{H}^\dagger + \text{h.c.} ,$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EW}}^F = \mathbf{V}_q^\mu q^\dagger \bar{\sigma}_\mu q + \mathbf{V}_\ell^\mu \ell^\dagger \bar{\sigma}_\mu \ell + \mathbf{V}_u^\mu \bar{u}^\dagger \sigma_\mu \bar{u} + \mathbf{V}_d^\mu \bar{d}^\dagger \sigma_\mu \bar{d} + \mathbf{V}_e^\mu \bar{e}^\dagger \sigma_\mu \bar{e} ,$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EW}}^V = (S_\omega^B B_{\mu\nu} + S_\theta^B \tilde{B}_{\mu\nu} + T_{\mu\nu}^B) B^{\mu\nu} + (S_\omega^W W_{\mu\nu} + S_\theta^W \tilde{W}_{\mu\nu}) W^{\mu\nu} + (S_\omega G_{\mu\nu} + S_\theta \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu}) G^{\mu\nu} .$$

## Portal SMEFT

- is at dimension 5 is encoded in 21 portal currents
- serves as starting point for construction of EFT for lower energies

# Portal LEFT currents

After integrating out the heavy SM bosons

interactions are described by operators of dimension  $5 + 2 = 7$

QCD operators and portal currents

SM operator	current	
$w = \text{tr}_c \tilde{G}_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu} (4\pi)^{-2}$	$\Theta = \theta + S_\theta$	vacuum angle
$\gamma = \text{tr}_c G_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu} (4\pi)^{-2}$	$\Omega = \frac{2\pi}{\alpha} + S_\omega$	fine structure constant
$\mathbf{Q}_a^{\dot{a}} = q_a \bar{q}^{\dot{a}}$	$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{m} + \mathbf{S}_m$	mass

Gluon fields are normalised such that  $D_\mu = \partial_\mu - iG_\mu$ .

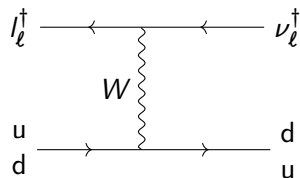
Portal LEFT current Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_Q = \Theta w - \Omega \gamma - \text{tr}_f \mathbf{M} \mathbf{Q}$$

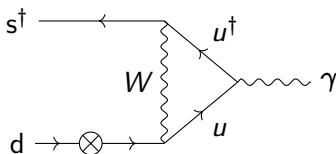
The currents are constant in the SM but can contain dynamical NP contributions.

# EW induced portal LEFT currents

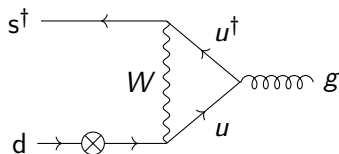
## Vector current interactions



## Electromagnetic dipole



## Chromomagnetic dipole



## QCD operators and portal currents

SM operator	current	
$Q_a^{\mu b} = q_a \sigma^{\mu} q^{b\dagger}$	$L^{\mu} = l^{\mu} + V_l^{\mu}$	left-handed
$\bar{Q}_a^{\mu \dot{b}} = \bar{q}_a^{\dagger} \bar{\sigma}^{\mu} \bar{q}^{\dot{b}}$	$R^{\mu} = r^{\mu} + V_r^{\mu}$	right-handed
$Q_{\mu\nu \dot{a}} = q_a \sigma_{\mu\nu} \bar{q}^{\dot{a}}$	$T^{\mu\nu} = \tau^{\mu\nu} + T_{\tau}^{\mu\nu}$	tensorial
$\tilde{Q}_a^{\dot{a}} = q_a \sigma_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu} \bar{q}^{\dot{a}}$	$\Gamma = \gamma + S_{\gamma}$	chromomagnetic

## Weak contributions to the portal LEFT current Lagrangian

$$\delta\mathcal{L}_Q^{\text{EW}} = -\text{tr}_f (L^{\mu} Q_{\mu} + R^{\mu} \bar{Q}_{\mu}) - (4\pi v)^{-2} \text{tr}_f (\Gamma \tilde{Q} + T^{\mu\nu} Q_{\mu\nu} + \text{h.c.})$$

The SM parts of the currents

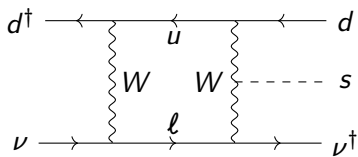
are either constant or contain the photon contribution

Not shown here

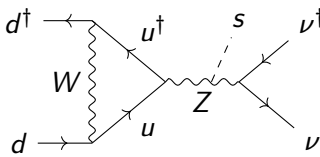
4-quark operators

# Portal LEFT operators

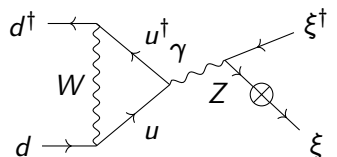
Scalar box diagram



Scalar penguin diagram



Fermionic penguin diagram



Quark flavour conserving operators

	$d$	Scalar	Vector	Gauge
	4	$s_i \bar{\psi}\psi$		
$s_i$	5	$s_i s_j \bar{\psi}\psi$		$s_i F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu}$ $s_i F_{\mu\nu} \tilde{F}^{\mu\nu}$ $s_i G_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\nu}$ $s_i G_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\nu}$
$\xi_a$	3	$\xi_a \nu$		
h.c.	5			$\xi_a \bar{\sigma}_{\mu\nu} \nu F^{\mu\nu}$ $\xi_a \bar{\sigma}_{\mu\nu} \xi_b F^{\mu\nu}$
$\nu_\mu$	4		$\nu_\mu \psi^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu \psi$	

Quark flavour violating operators

	$d$	Two quarks	Quark dipole	Four fermions
	6	$s_i s_j s_k \bar{d} d$ $\partial^2 s_i \bar{d} d$ $s_i \partial_\mu s_j d^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu d$	$s_i F^{\mu\nu} \bar{d} \sigma_{\mu\nu} d$ $s_i G^{\mu\nu} \bar{d} \sigma_{\mu\nu} d$	
$s_i$	7	$s_i s_j s_k s_l \bar{d} d$		$s_i d^\dagger \bar{q}^\dagger \bar{q} d$ $s_i q^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu q q^\dagger \bar{\sigma}_\mu q$ $s_i d^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu d \bar{q} \sigma_\mu \bar{q}^\dagger$ $s_i e^\dagger \bar{\sigma}_\mu \nu u^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu d$ $s_i \nu^\dagger \bar{\sigma}_\mu \nu d^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu d$
$\xi_a$	6	$\xi_a^\dagger \bar{\sigma}_\mu e d^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu u$		
h.c.		$\xi_a^\dagger \bar{\sigma}_\mu \nu d^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu d$		

# Portal interactions of mesons

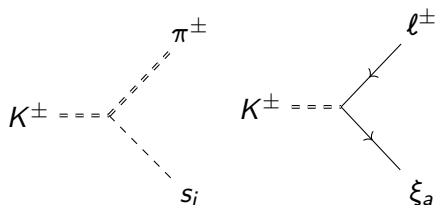
## Portal LEFT

serves as starting point for portal EFTs of mesons

## Interactions of light mesons with messengers

- Kaon decay into hidden sectors
- detectable e.g. in Kaon factories such as NA62

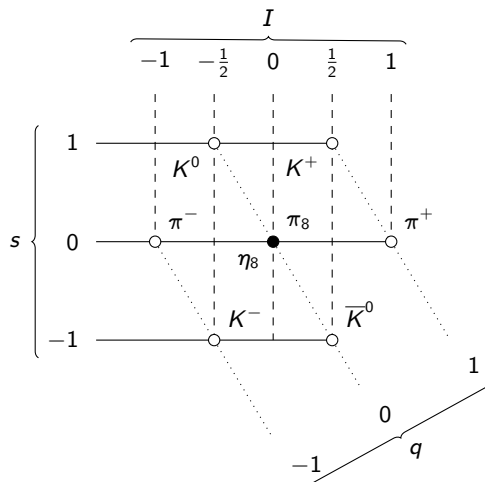
## Meson decay into hidden sectors



See dedicated talk by Philipp Klose

in the same session

## Portal chiral perturbation theory





- New Physics might be found in hidden sectors
- The messenger particle can easily be long-lived
- EFTs are designed to describe heavy New Physics
- We have extended EFTs of the SM to include also portals to hidden sectors

# Rarita-Schwinger and Fierz-Pauli messengers

	$d$	Higgs	Yukawa + h.c.	Fermions	Gauge bosons
	4		$\xi_{a\mu}^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\mu \ell_b \tilde{H}^\dagger$		
$\xi_{a\mu}^a$ + h.c.	5	$\xi_{a\mu} \xi_b^\mu  H ^2$ $\xi_{a\mu} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \xi_{b\nu}  H ^2$	$(\partial^\mu \xi_{a\mu}) \ell_b \tilde{H}^\dagger$ $(\partial_\nu \xi_{a\mu}) \bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu} \ell_b \tilde{H}^\dagger$ $\xi_{a\mu} \ell_b D^\mu \tilde{H}^\dagger$ $\xi_{a\mu} \bar{\sigma}^{\mu\nu} \ell_b D_\nu \tilde{H}^\dagger$		$\xi_{a\mu} \xi_{b\nu} B^{\mu\nu}$ $\xi_{a\rho} \sigma^{\mu\nu} \xi_b^\rho B_{\mu\nu}$ $\xi_{a\mu} \sigma^{\mu\rho} \xi_b^\nu B_{\nu\rho}$ $\xi_{a\mu} \sigma^{\mu\rho} \xi_b^\nu \tilde{B}_{\nu\rho}$ $\xi_{a\alpha} \sigma_\mu^\rho \xi_{b\beta} B_{\nu\rho} \epsilon^{\alpha\beta\mu\nu}$
	3				$t_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}$ $\tilde{t}_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}$
$t_{\mu\nu}$	5	$t^{\mu\nu} D_\mu H^\dagger D_\nu H$ $\tilde{t}^{\mu\nu} D_\mu H^\dagger D_\nu H$ $(\partial_\mu t^{\mu\nu})(H^\dagger \tilde{D}_\nu H)$	$t^{\mu\nu} q_a \sigma_{\mu\nu} u_b \tilde{H}$ $t^{\mu\nu} q_a \sigma_{\mu\nu} d_b H$ $t^{\mu\nu} l_a \sigma_{\mu\nu} e_b H$	$(\partial^\mu t_{\mu\nu}) q_a^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\nu q_b$ $(\partial^\mu t_{\mu\nu}) u_a^\dagger \sigma^\nu u_b$ $(\partial^\mu t_{\mu\nu}) d_a^\dagger \sigma^\nu d_b$ $(\partial^\mu t_{\mu\nu}) l_a^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\nu \ell_b$ $(\partial^\mu t_{\mu\nu}) e_a^\dagger \sigma^\nu e_b$ $(\partial^\mu \tilde{t}_{\mu\nu}) q_a^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\nu q_b$ $(\partial^\mu \tilde{t}_{\mu\nu}) u_a^\dagger \sigma^\nu u_b$ $(\partial^\mu \tilde{t}_{\mu\nu}) d_a^\dagger \sigma^\nu d_b$ $(\partial^\mu \tilde{t}_{\mu\nu}) l_a^\dagger \bar{\sigma}^\nu \ell_b$ $(\partial^\mu \tilde{t}_{\mu\nu}) e_a^\dagger \sigma^\nu e_b$	$t_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\rho} G_\rho^\nu$ $\tilde{t}_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\rho} G_\rho^\nu$ $t_{\mu\nu} \tilde{G}^{\mu\rho} G_\rho^\nu$ $t_{\mu\nu} G^{\mu\rho} \tilde{G}_\rho^\nu$ $\tilde{t}_{\mu\nu} W^{\mu\rho} W_\rho^\nu$ $t_{\mu\nu} \tilde{W}^{\mu\rho} W_\rho^\nu$ $t_{\mu\nu} W^{\mu\rho} \tilde{W}_\rho^\nu$ $\tilde{t}_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\rho} B_\rho^\nu$ $t_{\mu\nu} \tilde{B}^{\mu\rho} B_\rho^\nu$ $t_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\rho} \tilde{B}_\rho^\nu$ $t_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}  H ^2$ $\tilde{t}_{\mu\nu} B^{\mu\nu}  H ^2$

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