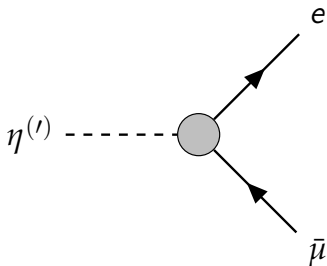


# Lepton-flavor violation in eta decays

Frederic Noël

Universität Bern, Institute for Theoretical Physics



ECT\*: Precision tests of fundamental physics with light mesons

**15.06.2023**

partially based on

[Hoferichter, Menéndez, Noël; Phys. Rev. Lett. 130 (2023)]

# Outline

## Overview of LFV (in $\eta^{(\prime)}$ decays):

- 1 Motivation
- 2 Experiments and Current limits
- 3 Strategy

## Constraining $P \rightarrow \bar{\mu}e$ from $\mu \rightarrow e$ conversion:

- 4 Formalism
- 5 Master Formulae
- 6 Results

# Part I

## Overview of LFV (in $\eta^{(\prime)}$ decays)

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one prominent probe  $\rightarrow$  **LFV**

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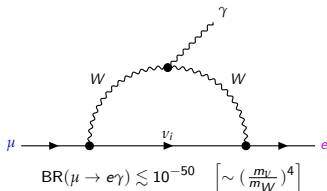
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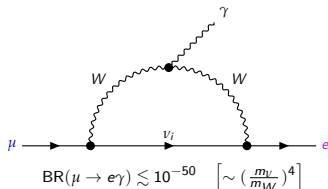


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- Observation of CLFV would be NP

Lepton Flavours

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$\nu_e$	$\nu_\mu$	$\nu_\tau$



Very **clean BSM signal** (no competing SM)



# LFV Experiments and current limits

LFV process	current limit	(planned) experiments
$\pi^0 \rightarrow \bar{\mu}e$ $\eta \rightarrow \bar{\mu}e$ $\eta' \rightarrow \bar{\mu}e$	$< 3.6 \cdot 10^{-10}$ [KTeV] $< 6 \cdot 10^{-6}$ [SPEC] $< 4.7 \cdot 10^{-4}$ [CLEO II]	JEF, REDTOP
$\pi^0/\eta^{(\prime)} \rightarrow \bar{\mu}e \gamma$ $\eta^{(\prime)}/\eta' \rightarrow \bar{\mu}e \pi/\eta$	no limits	

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$\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$ $\mu \rightarrow 3e$ $\tau \rightarrow \ell\gamma, 3\ell, \ell P, \dots$	$< 4.2 \cdot 10^{-13}$ [MEG] $< 1.0 \cdot 10^{-12}$ [SINDRUM] $\lesssim 10^{-8}$ [Belle, LHCb, ...]	MEG II Mu3e Belle 2, ...

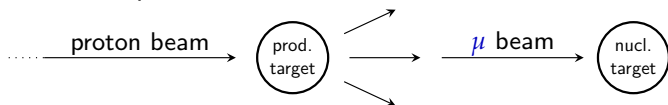
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$Au \mu^- \rightarrow Au e^-$ $Ti \mu^- \rightarrow Ti e^-$ $Al \mu^- \rightarrow Al e^-$	$< 7 \cdot 10^{-13}$ [SINDRUM II] $< 6.1 \cdot 10^{-13}$ [SINDRUM II] $\lesssim 10^{-17}$ (projected)	Mu2e, COMET

→ stringent bounds on LFV

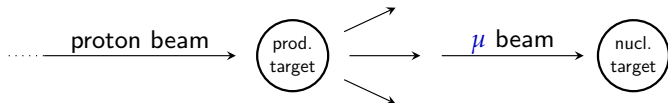
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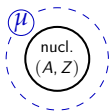


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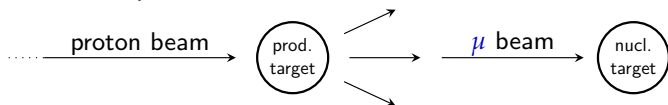


- Conversion process:

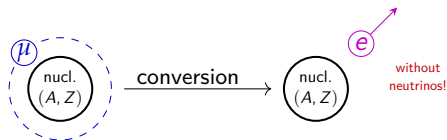


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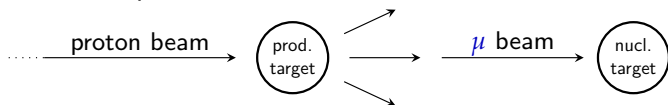


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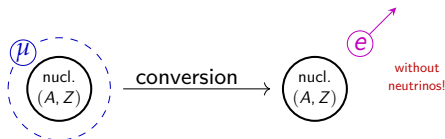


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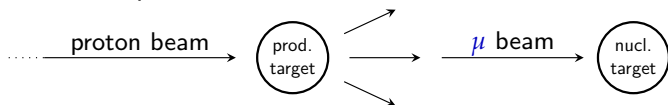
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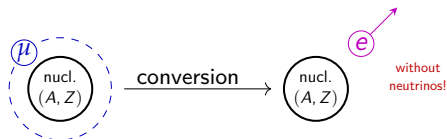
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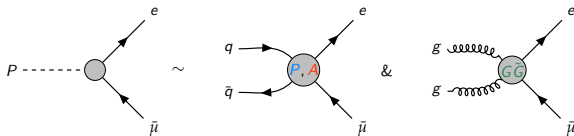


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- Distinction between:
  - Spin-independent** (SI)  $\rightarrow$  coherent enhancement ( $\sim \#N$ )
  - Spin-dependent** (SD)  $\rightarrow$  non-coherent (only  $J_{\text{nucl.}} \neq 0$ )



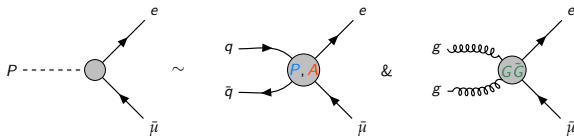
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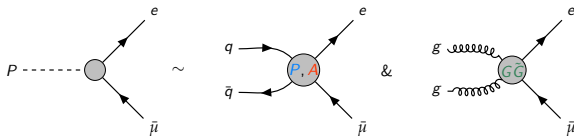
- Decays of **light pseudoscalars**  $P = \pi^0, \eta, \eta'$ :



Probes pseudoscalar  $P$ , axialvector  $A$  and gluonic  $G\tilde{G}$  operators

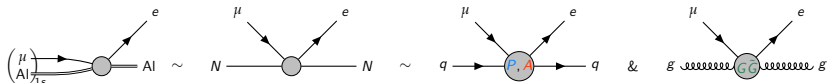
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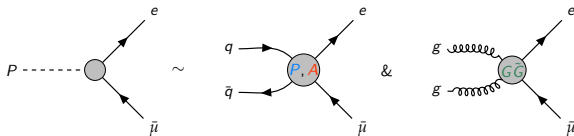
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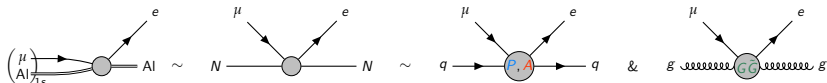
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Goal: Use limits on  $\mu \rightarrow e$  conversion to **derive limits on  $P \rightarrow \bar{\mu}e$**

- also suggested in [\[Gan et al., 2022\]](#)

## Part II

Constraining  $P \rightarrow \bar{\mu}e$  from  $\mu \rightarrow e$  conversion

# Standard Model EFT

- **Model-independent** effective field theory description of BSM physics with **higher dimensional operators** obeying all SM symmetries:

$$\mathcal{L}^{\text{SM EFT}} = \mathcal{L}^{\text{SM}} + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \mathcal{L}^{(5)} + \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \mathcal{L}^{(6)} + \dots$$

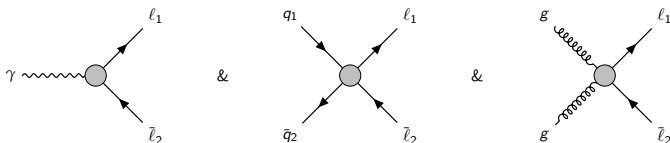
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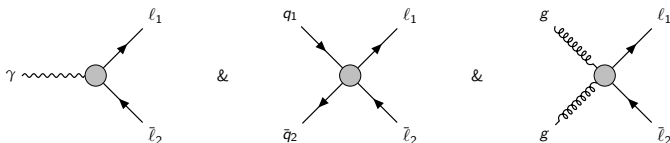


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- Naturally contains LFV operators:



Can be used to describe all LFV processes in a model-independent way



# Procedure

## Observation

$P \rightarrow \bar{\mu}e$  is mediated **by the same operators** as SD  $\mu \rightarrow e$  conversion

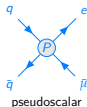
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- relevant part of effective Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} \supset \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_{\substack{Y=L,R \\ q=u,d,s}} \left[ C_Y^{P,q} (\bar{e}\gamma\mu) (\bar{q}\gamma_5 q) + C_Y^{A,q} (\bar{e}\gamma\gamma^\mu\mu) (\bar{q}\gamma_\mu\gamma_5 q) \right] + \frac{i\alpha_s}{\Lambda^3} \sum_{Y=L,R} C_Y^{GG} (\bar{e}\gamma\mu) G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}_a^{\mu\nu} + \text{h.c.}$$



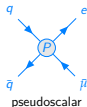
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## Fundamental Idea

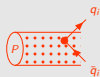
Translate the strong limits of  $\mu \rightarrow e$  conversion onto  $P \rightarrow \bar{\mu}e$

→ Need: Masterformula for both processes in terms of these operators

# Master Formula: $P \rightarrow \mu e$

Decay  
Rate

=



hadronic matrix elements

$\otimes$

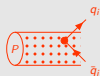


(short distance) EFT operator

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$$\text{Br}_{P \rightarrow \mu^\mp e^\pm} = \frac{(M_P^2 - m_\mu^2)^2}{16\pi\Gamma_P M_P^3} \sum_{Y=L,R} |C_Y^P|^2$$

$$C_Y^P = \sum_q \frac{b_q}{\Lambda^2} \left( \pm C_Y^{A,q} f_P^q m_\mu - C_Y^{P,q} \frac{h_P^q}{2m_q} \right) + \frac{4\pi}{\Lambda^3} C_Y^{\text{GG}} a_P$$

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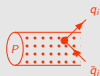
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- only contributions from:

$P, A, G\tilde{G}$

Master Formula:  $P \rightarrow \mu e$ Decay  
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$$P, \quad A, \quad G\tilde{G}$$

- hadronic matrix elements from lattice-QCD and phenomenology
- Ward identity:

$$b_q f_P^q M_P^2 = b_q h_P^q - a_P$$

	$\pi$	$\eta$		$\eta'$	
		Pheno	Lattice	Pheno	Lattice
$\frac{b_u f_P^u}{F_\pi}$	1	0.80	0.77	0.66	0.56
$\frac{b_d f_P^d}{F_\pi}$	-1	0.80	0.77	0.66	0.56
$\frac{b_s f_P^s}{F_\pi}$	0	-1.26	-1.17	1.45	1.50
$a_P$ [GeV <sup>3</sup> ]	0	-	-0.017	-	-0.038
$a_P^{\text{FKS}}$ [GeV <sup>3</sup> ]	0	-0.022	-0.021	-0.056	-0.048
$h_P^q$		Ward identity			

Phenomenology: [Escribano et al., 2016]

Lattice-QCD: [Bali et al., 2021]

# Master Formula: SD $\mu \rightarrow e$ conversion

Conversion  
Rate =



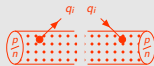
bound state physics

⊗



nuclear response

⊗



hadronic matrix elements

⊗



(short distance) EFT operator



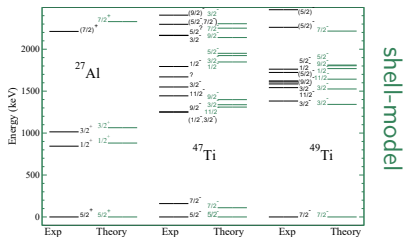
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$$\text{Br}_{\mu \rightarrow e}^{\text{SD}} = \frac{4m_{\mu}^5 \alpha^3 Z^3}{\pi \Gamma_{\text{cap}} (2J+1)} \left( \frac{Z_{\text{eff}}}{Z} \right)^4 \times \sum_{\substack{Y=L,R \\ \tau=L,T}} \left[ C_Y^{\tau,00} S_{00}^{\tau} + C_Y^{\tau,11} S_{11}^{\tau} + C_Y^{\tau,01} S_{01}^{\tau} \right]$$

- numerical solution of Dirac equation:

$$Z_{\text{eff}}^{\text{Al}} = 11.64, \quad Z_{\text{eff}}^{\text{Ti}} = 17.65 \quad [\text{Kitano et al., 2002}]$$



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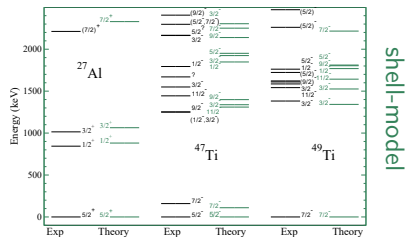
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$$C_Y^{T,ij} = \left[ \tilde{C}_Y^{A,i} (1 + \delta')^i \pm 2 \tilde{C}_Y^{T,i} \right] \times (i \leftrightarrow j); \quad C_Y^{L,ij} = \left[ \tilde{C}_Y^{A,i} (1 + \delta'')^i - \frac{m_{\mu}}{2m_N} \tilde{C}_Y^{P,i} \pm 2 \tilde{C}_Y^{T,i} \right] \times (i \leftrightarrow j)$$

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$$\bar{C}_Y^{P,N} = \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_q C_Y^{P,q} \frac{m_N}{m_q} g_5^{q,N} - \frac{4\pi}{\Lambda^3} C_Y^{CG} \bar{a}_N; \quad \bar{C}_Y^{A,N} = \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_q C_Y^{A,q} g_A^{q,N}; \quad \bar{C}_Y^{T,N} = \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_q C_Y^{T,q} f_{1,T}^{q,N}$$

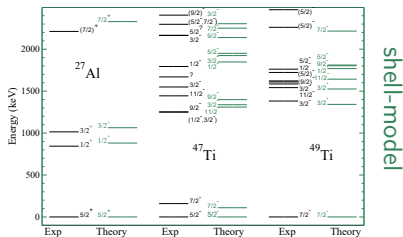
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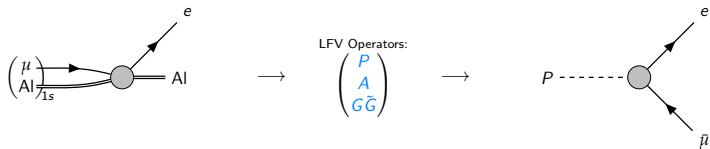
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$g_A^{u,p}$	$g_A^{d,p}$	$g_A^{s,N}$	$\bar{a}_N$ [GeV]	$g_5^{q,N}$
0.842(12)	-0.427(13)	-0.085(18)	-0.39(12) [ $N_C \rightarrow \infty$ ]	Ward identity
[HERMES, 2007]				



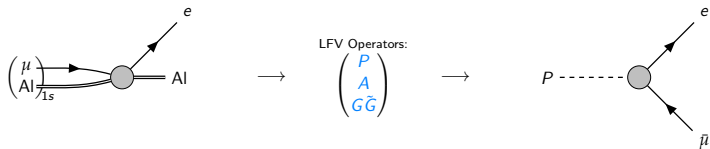
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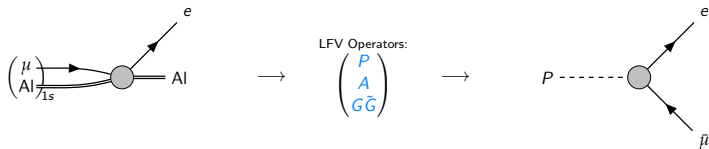
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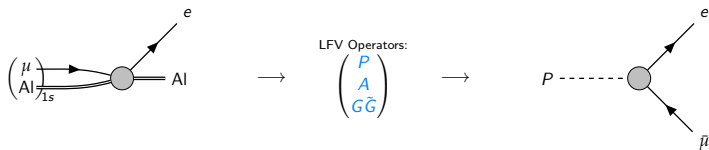
- In general the operators do **not** appear in the same linear combinations
- If we consider **one operator at a time**, the transition is immediate:

$\mu \rightarrow e$ (exp.)	$P \rightarrow \bar{\mu}e$ (derived)	current limit
$BR_{Ti} < 6.1 \times 10^{-13}$	$BR_{\pi^0} \lesssim 4 \times 10^{-17}$	$< 3.6 \times 10^{-10}$
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Derived limits are several **orders of magnitude** better!

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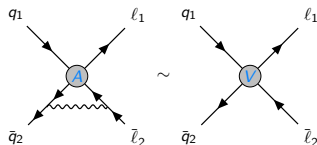
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- easily spoilt by RG corrections
- contributing to SI  $\mu \rightarrow e$  conversion



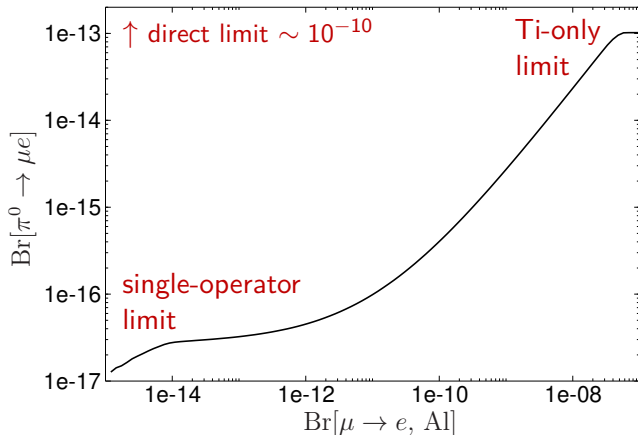
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- Combining the limits from Ti and Al we find:



# Conclusion

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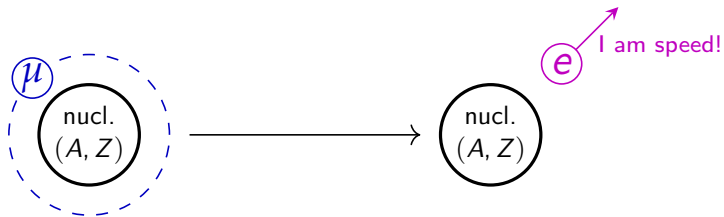
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- Future results from Mu2e and COMET can further improve these limits
- General treatment of  $\mu \rightarrow e$  conversion:  
beyond SI or SD, combining nuclear **and** bound state physics
- nucleus calculations from ab-initio methods

Thank you for your attention!



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# Backup-Slides



## Description of $\mu \rightarrow e$ conversion

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- bound state physics (numerical):

$$\langle \tilde{e} | L^\Gamma | \mu(1s) \rangle \rightarrow \sim \bar{\Psi}_e \mathcal{O}_\Gamma \Psi_\mu \quad \text{with } \Psi_e, \Psi_\mu \xleftarrow{\text{Dirac-eq.}} V(r) \leftarrow \rho_{\text{ch}}(r)$$

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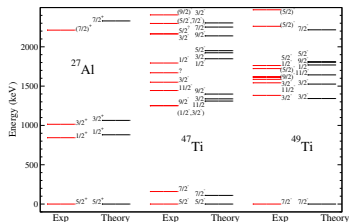
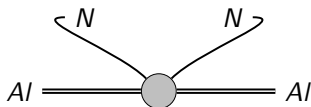
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- ... and **nuclear responses** ...



- ... in terms of **multipoles**, calculated in the **shell-model**



# Formulas I

$$\langle 0 | \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 q | P(k) \rangle = i b_q f_P^q k^\mu, \quad (1)$$

$$\langle 0 | m_q \bar{q} i \gamma_5 q | P(k) \rangle = \frac{b_q h_P^q}{2}, \quad (2)$$

$$\langle 0 | \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}_a^{\mu\nu} | P(k) \rangle = a_P, \quad (3)$$

$$\langle N | \bar{q} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 q | N \rangle = g_A^{q,N} \langle N | \bar{N} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 N | N \rangle, \quad (4)$$

$$m_q \langle N | \bar{q} i \gamma_5 q | N \rangle = m_N g_5^{q,N} \langle N | \bar{N} i \gamma_5 N | N \rangle, \quad (5)$$

$$\langle N | \bar{q} \sigma^{\mu\nu} q | N \rangle = f_{1,T}^{q,N} \langle N | \bar{N} \sigma^{\mu\nu} N | N \rangle, \quad (6)$$

$$\langle N | \frac{\alpha_s}{4\pi} G_{\mu\nu}^a \tilde{G}_a^{\mu\nu} | N \rangle = \tilde{a}_N \langle N | \bar{N} i \gamma_5 N | N \rangle, \quad (7)$$

# Formulas II

$$\text{Br}_{\text{SI}}[\mu \rightarrow e] = \frac{4m_\mu^5}{\Gamma_{\text{cap}}} \sum_{Y=L,R} \left| \sum_{\substack{N=p,n \\ \mathcal{O}=S,V}} \bar{c}_Y^{\mathcal{O},N} \mathcal{O}^{(N)} \right|^2, \quad (8)$$

$$\bar{c}_Y^{S,N} = \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_q C_Y^{S,q} \frac{m_N}{m_q} f_q^N + \frac{4\pi}{\Lambda^3} C_Y^{GG} a_N, \quad (9)$$

$$\bar{c}_Y^{V,N} = \frac{1}{\Lambda^2} \sum_q C_Y^{V,q} f_{V_q}^N, \quad (10)$$

$$S^{(N)} = V^{(N)} = \frac{(\alpha Z)^{3/2}}{4\pi} \left( \frac{Z_{\text{eff}}}{Z} \right)^2 \mathcal{F}_N^M(m_\mu^2), \quad (11)$$

## Formulas III

$$\bar{c}^0 = \frac{\bar{c}^p + \bar{c}^n}{2}, \quad \bar{c}^1 = \frac{\bar{c}^p - \bar{c}^n}{2}, \quad (12)$$

$$g_A^{q,N} = g_5^{q,N} - \frac{\tilde{a}_N}{2m_N}, \quad (13)$$

$$\tilde{a}_N = -2m_N g_A^{u,0} = -0.39(12) \text{ GeV}, \quad (14)$$

# Formulas IV

$$C_Y^{A,u} = C_Y^{A,d}, \quad C_Y^{A,s} = -\frac{2C_Y^{A,u}g_A^{u,0}}{g_A^{s,N}}, \quad (15)$$

$$\frac{C_Y^{P,u}}{m_u} = \frac{C_Y^{P,d}}{m_d}, \quad \frac{C_Y^{P,s}}{m_s} = \frac{4\pi}{\Lambda} C_Y^{G\tilde{G}} \frac{2g_A^{u,0}}{g_A^{u,0} - g_A^{s,N}}. \quad (16)$$

# Formulas V

$$S_{00}^{\mathcal{T}} = \sum_L \left[ \mathcal{F}_+^{\Sigma'_L}(q^2) \right]^2, \quad S_{00}^{\mathcal{L}} = \sum_L \left[ \mathcal{F}_+^{\Sigma''_L}(q^2) \right]^2, \quad (17)$$

$$S_{11}^{\mathcal{T}} = \sum_L \left[ \mathcal{F}_-^{\Sigma'_L}(q^2) \right]^2, \quad S_{11}^{\mathcal{L}} = \sum_L \left[ \mathcal{F}_-^{\Sigma''_L}(q^2) \right]^2, \quad (18)$$

$$S_{01}^{\mathcal{T}} = \sum_L 2\mathcal{F}_+^{\Sigma'_L}(q^2) \mathcal{F}_-^{\Sigma'_L}(q^2), \quad (19)$$

$$S_{01}^{\mathcal{L}} = \sum_L 2\mathcal{F}_+^{\Sigma''_L}(q^2) \mathcal{F}_-^{\Sigma''_L}(q^2), \quad (20)$$

## Table

	$\pi^0$	$\eta$	$\eta'$
$C_Y^{A,3}$	$1.3 \times 10^{-17}$	–	–
$C_Y^{A,8}$	–	$1.5 \times 10^{-17}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-20}$
$C_Y^{A,0}$	–	$2.9 \times 10^{-19}$	$2.1 \times 10^{-19}$
$C_Y^{P,3}$	$4.1 \times 10^{-17}$	–	–
$C_Y^{P,8}$	–	$1.6 \times 10^{-12}$	$2.1 \times 10^{-14}$
$C_Y^{P,0}$	–	$4.1 \times 10^{-12}$	$5.4 \times 10^{-13}$
$C_Y^{G\check{G}}$	–	$5.8 \times 10^{-15}$	$4.7 \times 10^{-16}$