

# Neutrinoless double beta decay of hyperons in covariant chiral perturbation theory

Zi-Ying Zhao(赵子赢)

In collaboration with: Ze-Rui Liang(梁泽锐)、Feng-Kun Guo(郭奉坤)、  
Li-Ping He(何丽萍)、De-Liang Yao(姚德良)

[arXiv:2602.08453](https://arxiv.org/abs/2602.08453)

湖南大学

第五届强子与重味物理联合研讨会 · 石家庄

March 30, 2026

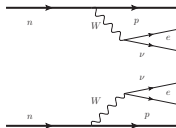
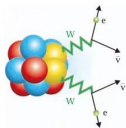


- 1 Introduction
- 2 Calculation in BChPT
- 3 Summary and Outlook

# Nuclear double beta decays

- $2\nu 2\beta$ -decay

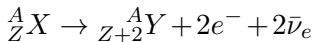
[M.G.Mayer, Phys.Rev.48,512(1935)]



$$T_{\frac{1}{2}} \sim 10^{18-24} \text{yr}$$

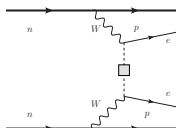
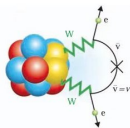
[A.s.Barabash, Phys.Rev.C81,035501(2010)]

✓ Experimentally Observed



- $0\nu 2\beta$ -decay

[Furry, Phys.Rev.56,1184(1939)]



$$T_{\frac{1}{2}} > 3.8 \times 10^{26} \text{yr}$$

[KamLAND-Zen

Collaboration, arXiv:2406.11438

[hep-ex] (2024)]

✓ Lepton number violation  
 ✓ Majorana nature of neutrinos  
 ✓ Neutrino mass scale and hierarchy

# Theoretical

Due to the lepton number violation(LNV) in the neutrinoless double beta decay process, there must be new physics to the process that goes beyond the Standard Model.

- Top-down approach: Study signals in explicit BSM
- **Bottom-up approach**: Work with effective field theories(EFT)

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SMEFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_i \frac{C_i^{(5)}}{\Lambda} \mathcal{O}_i^{(5)} + \sum_j \frac{C_j^{(6)}}{\Lambda^2} \mathcal{O}_j^{(6)} + \sum_k \frac{C_k^{(7)}}{\Lambda^3} \mathcal{O}_k^{(7)} + \sum_j \frac{C_j^{(8)}}{\Lambda^4} \mathcal{O}_j^{(8)} + \sum_j \frac{C_j^{(9)}}{\Lambda^5} \mathcal{O}_j^{(9)} + \dots$$

$$\mathcal{O}^{(5)} = \epsilon_{kl} \epsilon_{mn} (L_k^T C^{(5)} C L_m) H_l H_n$$

[Phys. Rev. Lett. 43 (1979) 1566]  
[JHEP 11(2016)043]

$$\psi^2 H^4 : \quad \epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{mn} (L_i^T C L_m) H_j H_n (H^\dagger H)$$

$$\psi^4 D : \quad \epsilon_{ij} (\bar{d} \gamma_\mu u) (L_i^T C D^\mu L_j)$$

$$\psi^2 H^2 D^2 : \quad \epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{mn} (L_i^T C D_\mu L_j) H_m (D^\mu H)_n$$

$$\psi^4 H : \quad \epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{mn} (\bar{e} L_i) (L_j^T C L_m) H_n$$

$$\epsilon_{im} \epsilon_{jn} (L_i^T C D_\mu L_j) H_m (D^\mu H)_n$$

$$\epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{mn} (\bar{d}_L Q_i^T C L_m) H_n$$

$$\psi^2 H^3 D : \quad \epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{mn} (L_i^T C \gamma^\mu e) H_m (D_\mu H)_n$$

$$\epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{mn} (\bar{d}_L Q_j^T C L_m) H_n$$

$$\psi^2 H^2 X : \quad \epsilon_{ij} \epsilon_{mn} g' (L_i^T C \sigma^{\mu\nu} L_m) H_j H_n B_{\mu\nu}$$

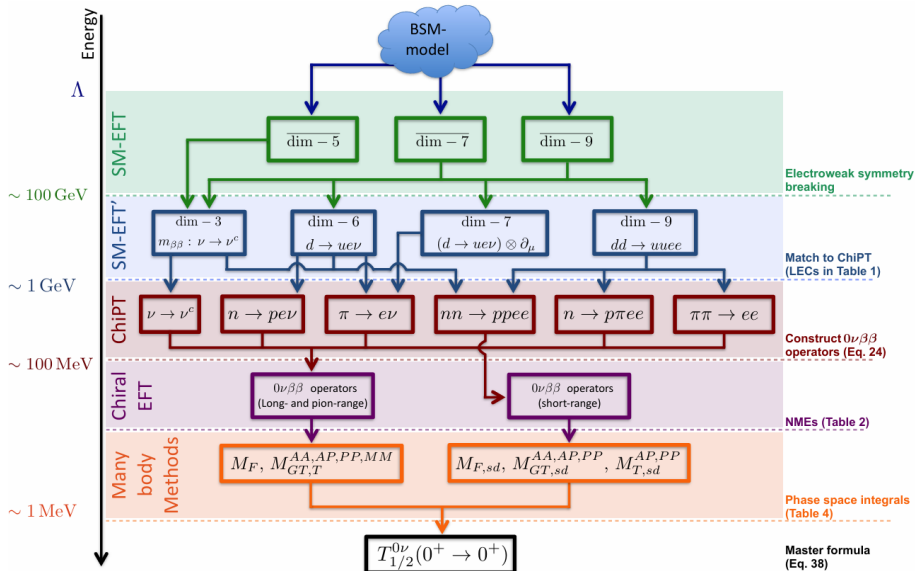
$$\epsilon_{ij} (\bar{u}_L Q_m^T C L_i) H_j$$

$$\epsilon_{ij} (\epsilon \tau^I)_{mn} g (L_i^T C \sigma^{\mu\nu} L_m) H_j H_n W_{\mu\nu}^I$$

$$\epsilon_{ij} (\bar{e} \bar{d}_R) (Q_j^T C u_R) H_i$$

# EFT at various energy scales

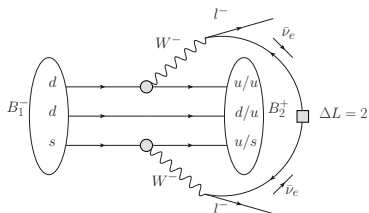
[Cirigliano, et al. JHEP12(2018)]



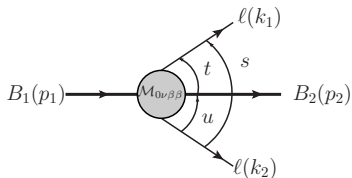
# Hyperon $0\nu 2\beta$ decay in BChPT

**BChPT** is an effective field theory of QCD at low energy based on chiral symmetry at hadronic level.

A first glance: from quarks to hadrons



Quark level



Hadron level

- $\Delta S = 0$ :  $\Sigma^-[dds] \rightarrow \Sigma^+[uus]e^-e^-$ ;
- $\Delta S = 1$ :  $\Sigma^-[dds] \rightarrow p[duu]l^-l^-$ ,  $\Xi^-[dss] \rightarrow \Sigma^+[uus]e^-e^-$ ;
- $\Delta S = 2$ :  $\Xi^-[dss] \rightarrow p[duu]l^-l^-$ .

# Chiral effective Lagrangian

The chiral effective Lagrangian relevant to the decay process:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{eff}} = \mathcal{L}_{MB}^{(1)} + \mathcal{L}_M^{(2)} + \mathcal{L}_{\Delta L=2} + \mathcal{L}^C$$

- The LO baryon-meson interaction Lagrangian is given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{MB}^{(1)} = \text{Tr} [\bar{B} (i\not{D} - m) B] - \frac{D}{2} \langle \bar{B} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 \{u_\mu, B\} \rangle - \frac{F}{2} \langle \bar{B} \gamma^\mu \gamma_5 [u_\mu, B] \rangle$$

- The LO chiral Lagrangian for purely mesonic interaction reads

$$\mathcal{L}_M^{(2)} = \frac{F_0^2}{4} \text{Tr}[(D_\mu U)^\dagger D^\mu U] + \frac{F_0^2}{4} \text{Tr}[U^\dagger \chi + U \chi^\dagger]$$

- Low-energy dimension-5 operator for the  $\Delta L=2$  Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L}_{\Delta L=2} = -\frac{1}{2} (m_{\ell\ell})_{ij} (\nu_{L,i}^T C \nu_{L,j} + \bar{\nu}_{L,i} C^\dagger \bar{\nu}_{L,j}^T)$$

# Counterterm Lagrangian

Under the chiral  $SU(3)_L \times SU(3)_R$  group

$$\begin{aligned} B &\rightarrow KBK^\dagger & \bar{B} &\rightarrow K\bar{B}K^\dagger \\ u &\rightarrow LuK^\dagger = KuR^\dagger & T^+ &\rightarrow LT^+L^\dagger \end{aligned}$$

Chiral- and Lorentz-invariant counterterm Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L}_1^C = 4m_{\ell\ell}G_F^2 \text{Tr}[\bar{B}u^\dagger T^+ u]g_{\mu\nu}(g_1 + g'_1\gamma_5)\text{Tr}[u^\dagger T^+ uB]\bar{\ell}_L\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu C\bar{\ell}_L^T + \text{h.c.}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2^C = 4im_{\ell\ell}G_F^2 \text{Tr}[\bar{B}u^\dagger T^+ u]\gamma_\mu\gamma_\nu\gamma_\rho(g_2 + g'_2\gamma_5)\text{Tr}[u^\dagger T^+ uB]\bar{\ell}_L\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu C(\partial_\rho\bar{\ell}_L^T) + \text{h.c.}$$

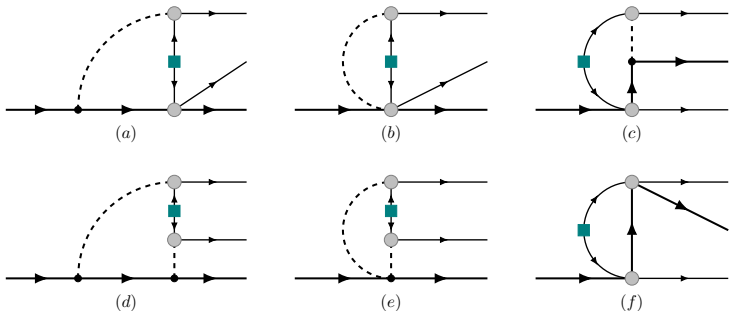
$$\mathcal{L}_3^C = 4im_{\ell\ell}G_F^2 \text{Tr}[\bar{B}u^\dagger T^+ u]\gamma_\mu(g_3 + g'_3\gamma_5)\text{Tr}[u^\dagger T^+ uB]\bar{\ell}_L\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu C(\partial_\nu\bar{\ell}_L^T) + \text{h.c.}$$

Counterterm Lagrangian can be expressed as

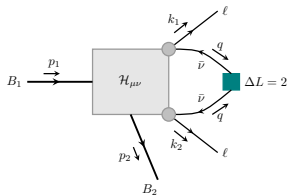
$$\mathcal{L}^C = \mathcal{L}_1^C + \mathcal{L}_2^C + \mathcal{L}_3^C$$

# Hyperon $0\nu 2\beta$ decay in BChPT

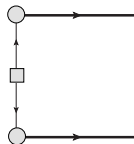
Description of  $0\nu 2\beta$  decay of hyperons at one-loop level in ChPT



# Amplitude structure



Mass mechanism



Leptonic part

$$\mathcal{M} = L^{\mu\nu} H_{\mu\nu} = \underbrace{T_{\text{lept}}[\bar{u}_{\ell L}(k_1)\gamma^\mu\gamma^\nu C\bar{u}_{\ell L}^T(k_2)]}_{\text{leptonic}} \underbrace{H_{\mu\nu}}_{\text{hadronic}}$$

	$\Delta S = 0$	$\Delta S = 1$	$\Delta S = 2$
Process	$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Sigma^+ e^- e^-$	$\Sigma^- \rightarrow p \ell^- \ell^-$ $\Xi^- \rightarrow \Sigma^+ e^- e^-$	$\Xi^- \rightarrow p \ell^- \ell^-$
$T_{\text{lept}}$	$4m_{\ell\ell} G_F^2 V_{ud}^2$	$4m_{\ell\ell} G_F^2 V_{ud} V_{us}$	$4m_{\ell\ell} G_F^2 V_{us}^2$

# Lorentz decomposition of hadronic tensor

$$H_{\mu\nu} = \bar{u}(p_2) \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{34} (V_i(s, u) \mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^i + A_i(s, u) \mathcal{O}_{A,\mu\nu}^i) \right\} u(p_1)$$

$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^1 = g_{\mu\nu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^2 = \not{k}_1 g_{\mu\nu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^3 = \gamma_\mu \gamma_\nu \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^4 = \gamma_\mu \gamma_\nu$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^5 = k_{1\mu} k_{2\nu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^6 = k_{1\nu} k_{2\mu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^7 = k_{1\mu} k_{1\nu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^8 = k_{2\mu} k_{2\nu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^9 = p_{1\mu} k_{2\nu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{10} = k_{1\nu} p_{1\mu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{11} = p_{1\mu} k_{2\nu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{12} = k_{1\mu} p_{1\nu}$

$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{13} = p_{1\nu} k_{2\mu}$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{14} = k_{1\mu} k_{2\nu} \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{15} = k_{1\nu} k_{2\mu} \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{16} = k_{1\mu} k_{1\nu} \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{17} = k_{2\mu} k_{2\nu} \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{18} = p_{1\mu} p_{1\nu} \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{19} = k_{1\nu} p_{1\mu} \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{20} = p_{1\mu} k_{2\nu} \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{21} = k_{1\mu} p_{1\nu} \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{22} = p_{1\nu} k_{2\mu} \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{23} = p_{1\mu} \gamma_\nu$

$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{24} = p_{1\nu} \gamma_\mu$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{25} = k_{1\mu} \gamma_\nu$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{26} = k_{2\mu} \gamma_\nu$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{27} = k_{1\nu} \gamma_\mu$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{28} = k_{2\nu} \gamma_\mu$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{29} = p_{1\mu} \gamma_\nu \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{30} = p_{1\nu} \gamma_\mu \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{31} = k_{1\mu} \gamma_\nu \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{32} = k_{2\nu} \gamma_\mu \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{33} = k_{2\mu} \gamma_\nu \not{k}_1$
$\mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^{34} = k_{1\nu} \gamma_\mu \not{k}_1$

$$\mathcal{O}_{A,\mu\nu}^i = \mathcal{O}_{V,\mu\nu}^i \gamma_5 \quad i = 1, \dots, 34$$

## Loop Calculation

- Dimensional regularization (DR) in  $d$  dimensions
- $\overline{\text{MS}} - 1$  subtraction:  $R = \frac{2}{d-4} + \gamma_E - 1 - \ln(4\pi)$

## Divergences

- UV divergences:  $H_{\mu\nu}^{\text{UV}} \propto R$
- Split couplings:  $g_i^{(l)r} = g_i^{(l)r} + \frac{\beta_{g_i^{(l)r}}}{16\pi^2} R$

## Extended-on-mass-shell scheme

- Remove PCB terms via finite shift:  $g_i^{(l)r} = \tilde{g}_i^{(l)r} + \frac{\tilde{\beta}_{g_i^{(l)r}}}{16\pi^2}$
- Consistent power counting:

$$g_1 \sim \mathcal{O}(p^2) \quad g'_1, g'_i, \tilde{g}_i^{(l)r} \sim \mathcal{O}(p^3)$$

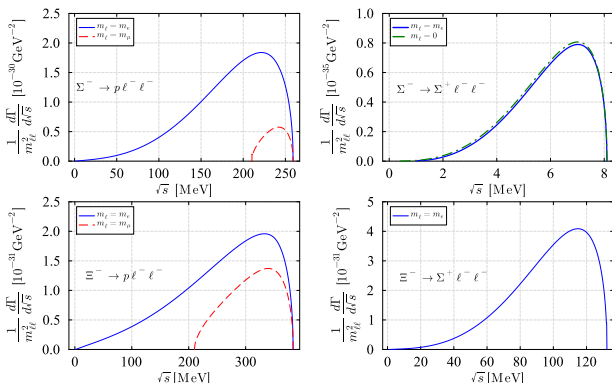
# Differential Decay Rate

Differential decay rate formula:

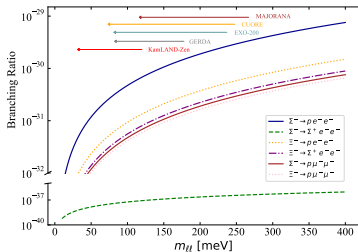
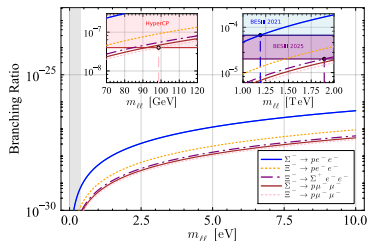
$$\frac{d\Gamma}{d\sqrt{s}} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \frac{|C_{\text{Lept}}|^2}{64m_1^3\sqrt{s}} \int_{u_-}^{u_+} \overline{|\mathcal{M}_{0\nu\beta\beta}|^2} du$$

where  $\overline{|\mathcal{M}_{0\nu\beta\beta}|^2}$  is obtained from Casimir's trick:

$$\overline{|\mathcal{M}_{0\nu\beta\beta}|^2} = \frac{1}{4} |C_{\text{Lept}}|^2 \text{Tr}[\gamma^\mu \gamma^\nu \not{k}_1 \gamma^\beta \gamma^\alpha \not{k}_2 P_R] \text{Tr}[\Gamma_{\mu\nu}^3 (\not{p}_1 + m_1) \bar{\Gamma}_{\alpha\beta}^4 (\not{p}_2 + m_2)]$$



# Branching Ratios



Process	$\frac{\Gamma_{0\nu}}{m_{\ell\ell}^2}$ [sec <sup>-1</sup> /MeV <sup>2</sup> ]	$\mathcal{B}(B_1 \rightarrow B_2 \ell^- \ell^-)$	
		This work	Experiments
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow p e^- e^-$	$3.194 \times 10^{-7}$	$4.7 \times 10^{-31}$	$< 6.7 \times 10^{-5}$
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow \Sigma^+ e^- e^-$	$3.925 \times 10^{-14}$	$5.8 \times 10^{-38}$	-
$\Sigma^- \rightarrow p \mu^- \mu^-$	$3.202 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.7 \times 10^{-28}$	-
$\Xi^- \rightarrow \Sigma^+ e^- e^-$	$3.404 \times 10^{-8}$	$5.6 \times 10^{-32}$	$< 2.0 \times 10^{-5}$
$\Xi^- \rightarrow p e^- e^-$	$5.706 \times 10^{-8}$	$9.4 \times 10^{-32}$	-
$\Xi^- \rightarrow p \mu^- \mu^-$	$2.509 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.1 \times 10^{-28}$	$< 4.0 \times 10^{-8}$

Electron-mode branching ratios use  $m_{ee}^2 = (100\text{meV})^2$ , while muon-mode branching ratios use  $m_{\mu\mu}^2 = (10\text{eV})^2$ .

# Transition Form Factors

The lepton tensor can be decomposed as

$$L^{\mu\nu} = \underbrace{\bar{u}_{\ell L}(k_1) g^{\mu\nu} C \bar{u}_{\ell L}^T(k_2)}_{L_S^{\mu\nu}} - \underbrace{i \bar{u}_{\ell L}(k_1) \sigma^{\mu\nu} C \bar{u}_{\ell L}^T(k_2)}_{L_A^{\mu\nu}}$$

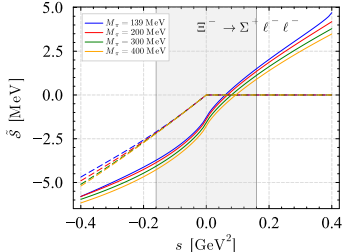
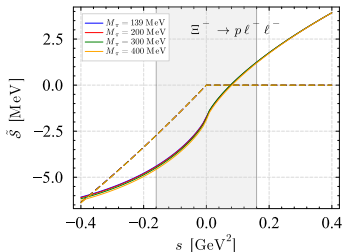
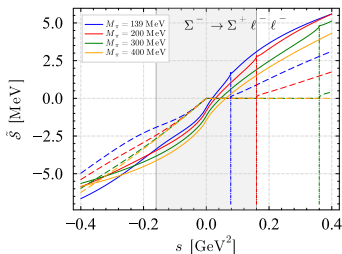
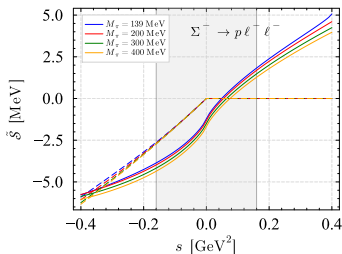
For identical final-state lepton four-momenta  $k_1 = k_2 = k$ , we define transition form factors (TFFs)  $\mathcal{S}(s)$  and  $\mathcal{P}(s)$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{M}_{0\nu\beta\beta} &= C_{\text{Lept}} H_{\mu\nu} L_S^{\mu\nu} \\ &= C_{\text{Lept}} \{ \bar{u}(p_2) [\mathcal{S}(s) + \gamma_5 \mathcal{P}(s)] u(p_1) \} \{ \bar{u}_{\ell L}(k) C \bar{u}_{\ell L}^T(k) \} \end{aligned}$$

In the chiral limit, the contributions from the  $\gamma_5$  terms vanish. We just need to consider  $\mathcal{S}(s)$

$$\mathcal{S}(s) = 8\tilde{g}_1 + \tilde{\mathcal{S}}(s)^{\text{loop}}$$

# Transition Form Factors



Recommended Lattice QCD Fit Range:  $0 \leq s \leq s_{\text{th}} = (2M_\pi)^2$

# Summary and Outlook

## Summary

- The amplitude of  $0\nu\beta\beta$  decay involving spin-1/2 hyperons is computed within **BChPT**, with counterterms constructed and renormalization carried out in the EOMS scheme.
- TFFs are defined, their dependence on  $s$  and  $m_\pi$  is analyzed, and the branching ratios of hyperon decays are predicted.

## Outlook

- Extend the study to the SU(3) particles with spin- $\frac{3}{2}$  using BChPT.
- We are currently using a **dimension-5** operator for  $\Delta L = 2$ , and as the next step will calculate the decay width in the presence of **dimension-7** operators

*Thank you very much for your patience!*