

# Expanding Detector Reach Through Loops

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GUINEA PIG 2023 Workshop on Light Dark Matter  
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Arthur B. McDonald  
Canadian Astroparticle Physics Research Institute



GUINEAPIG: GeV and Under Invisibles with New Experimental Assays for  
Particles In the Ground

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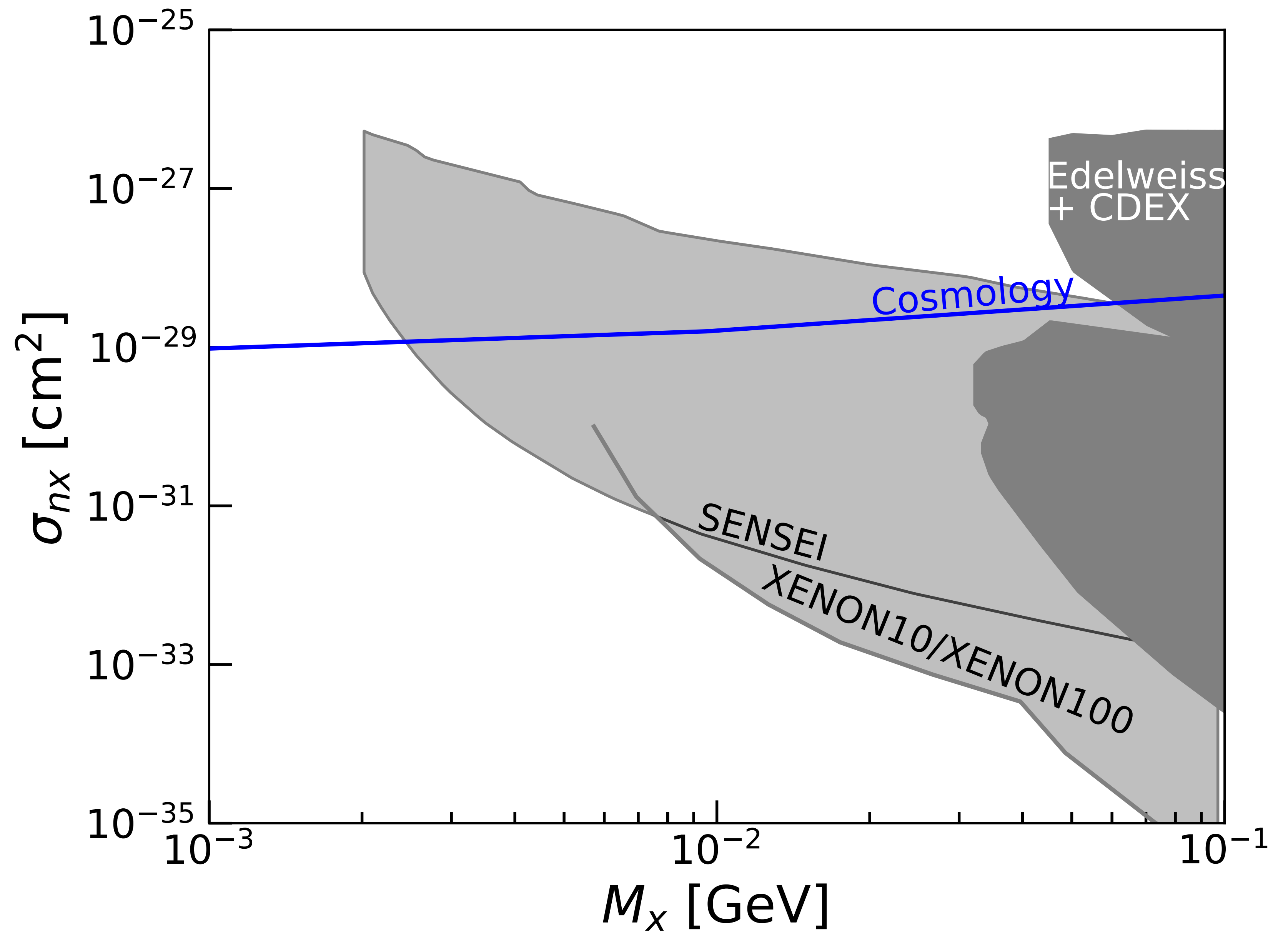
Queen's  
UNIVERSITY

# The Big Picture Motivation

- DM that interacts with the one part of SM interacts with all of the SM through loops
- Constraints from DM interactions with one particle can produce effective constraints on DM interactions with other particles
- Expand parameter space accessible to DM detectors

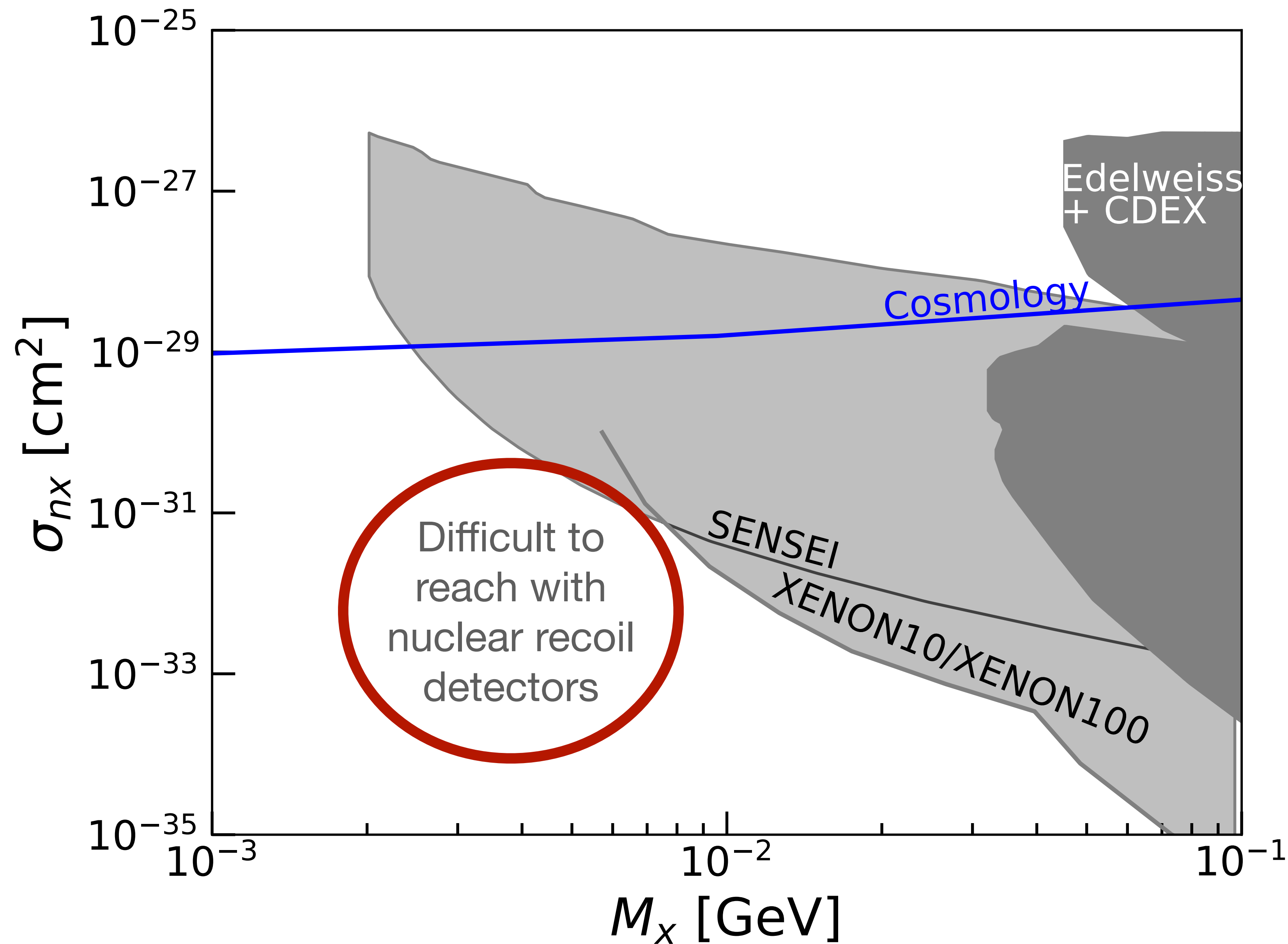
# More specific motivation

Nuclear recoil detectors have weaker sensitivity to DM lighter than a GeV due to high target mass and low momentum exchange



# More specific motivation

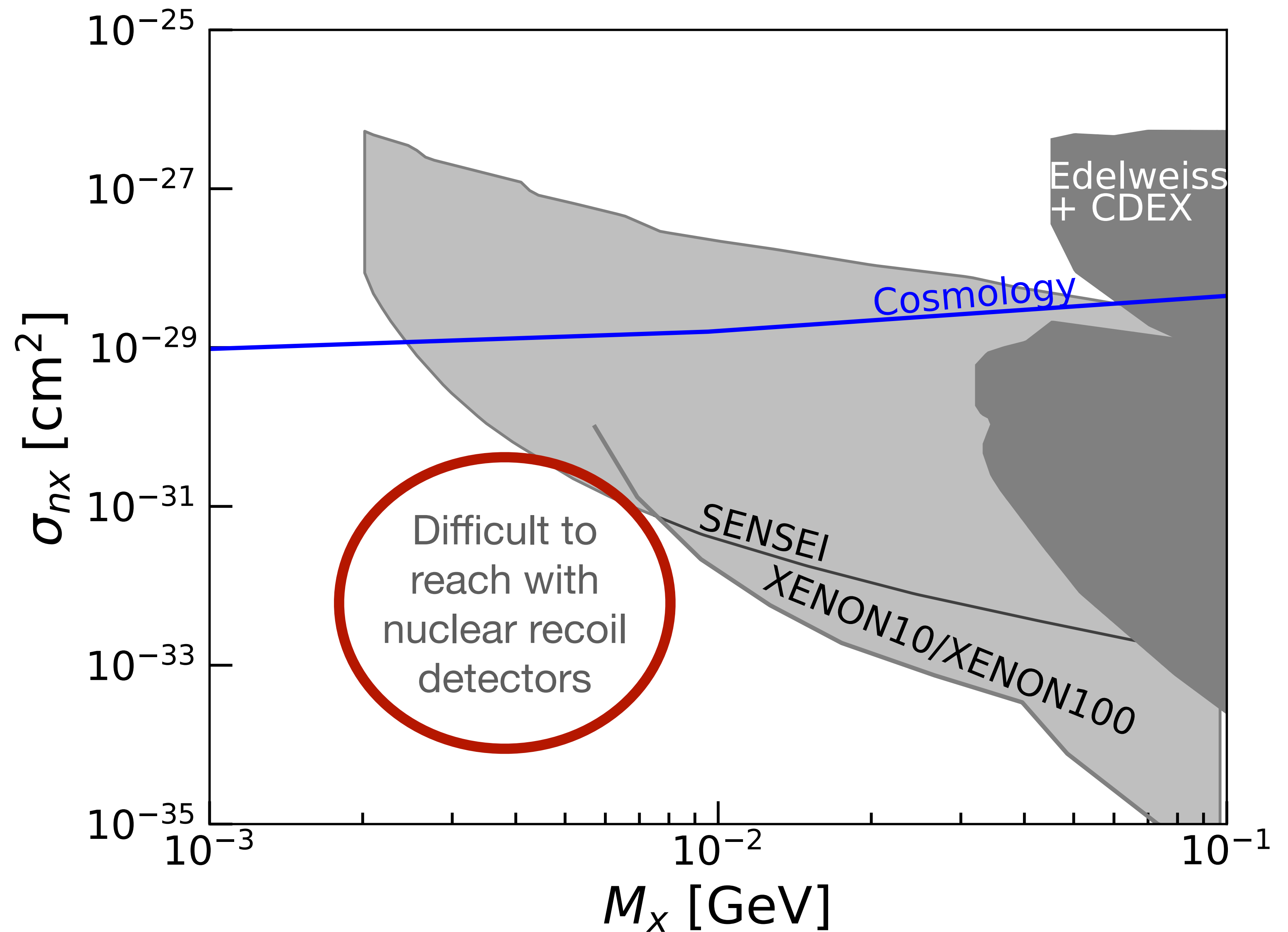
Nuclear recoil detectors have weaker sensitivity to DM lighter than a GeV due to high target mass and low momentum exchange



# More specific motivation

Nuclear recoil detectors have weaker sensitivity to DM lighter than a GeV due to high target mass and low momentum exchange

Electron recoil detectors can perform better in this part of parameter space

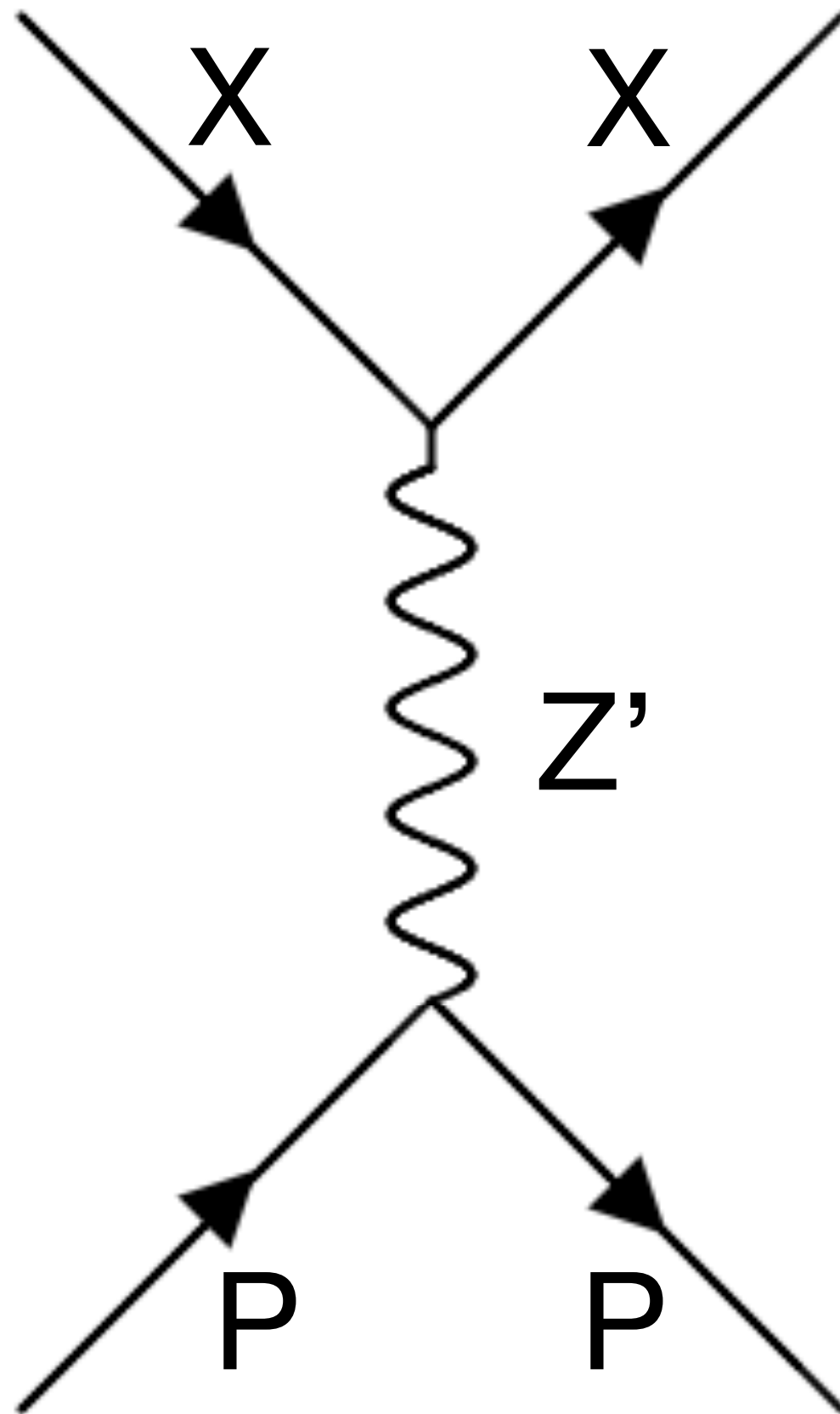


# Specific to this work

- Relating DM-proton cross section to DM-electron cross section through hadronic loops
- Fermionic DM with a vector mediator
- 1-100 MeV
- $\sigma_{pX} = 10^{-34} - 10^{-26} \text{cm}^2$
- Use Electron recoil direct detectors to derive new constraints on  $\sigma_{pX}$

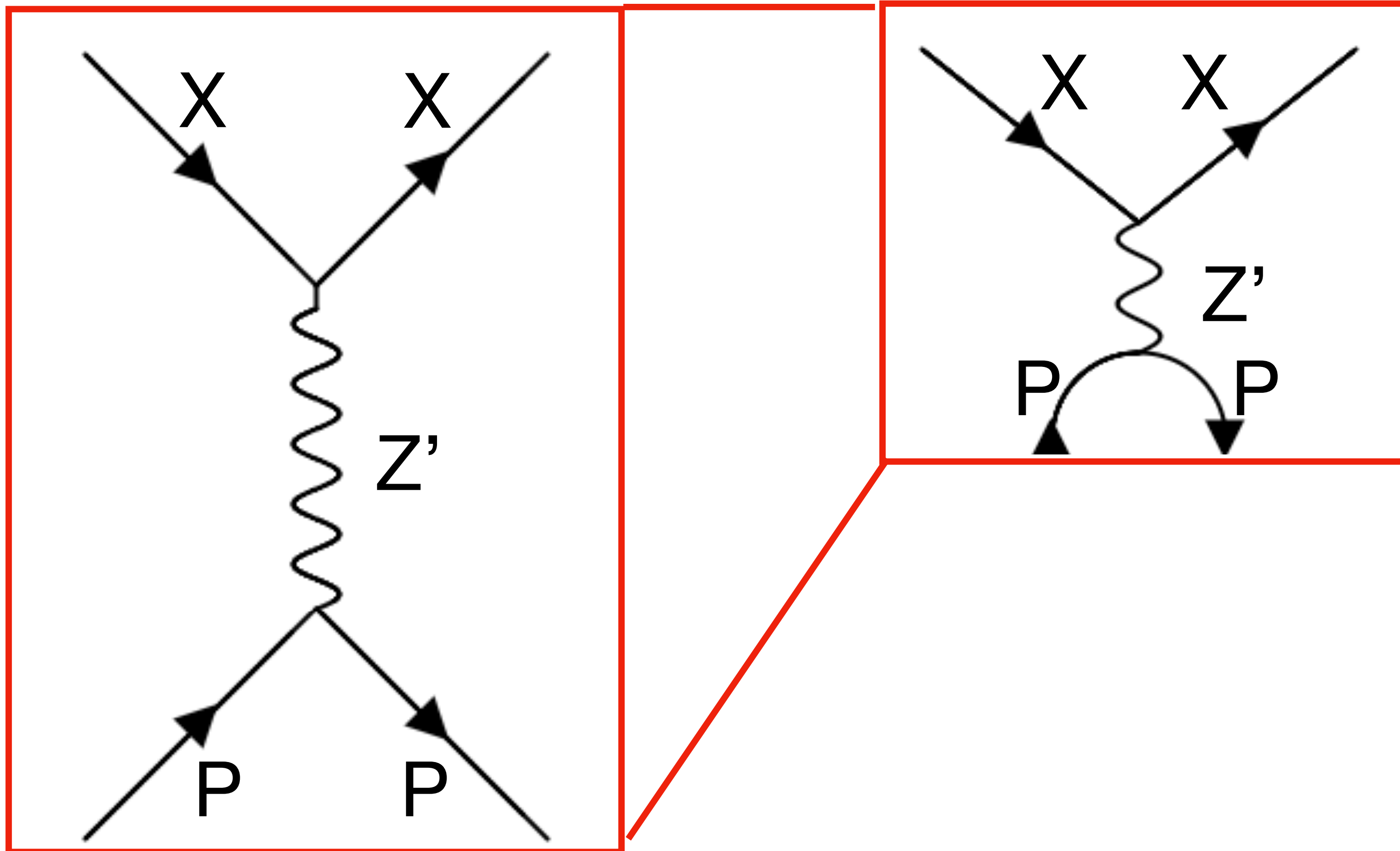
# LOOPS

# Loops produce effective interactions

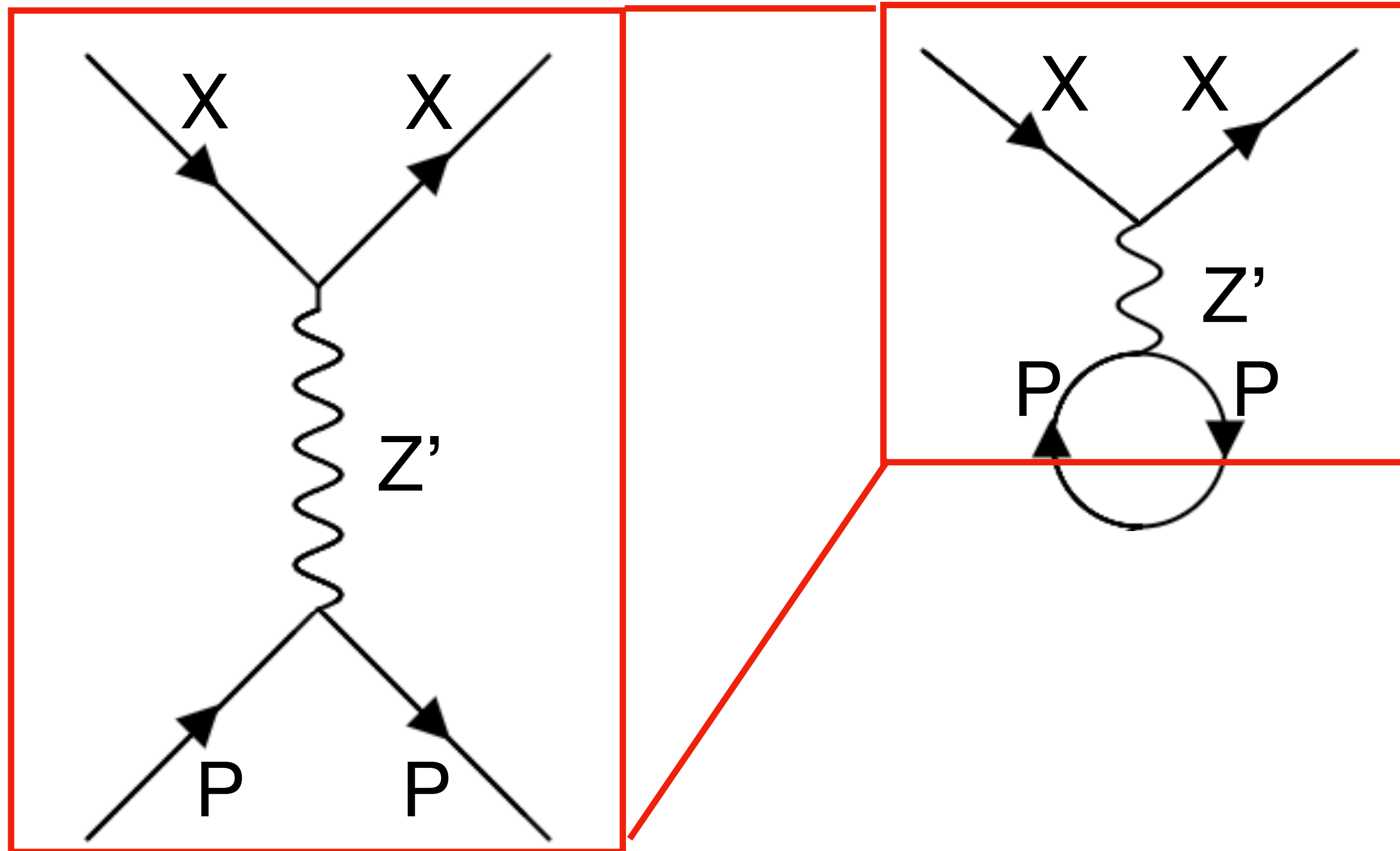




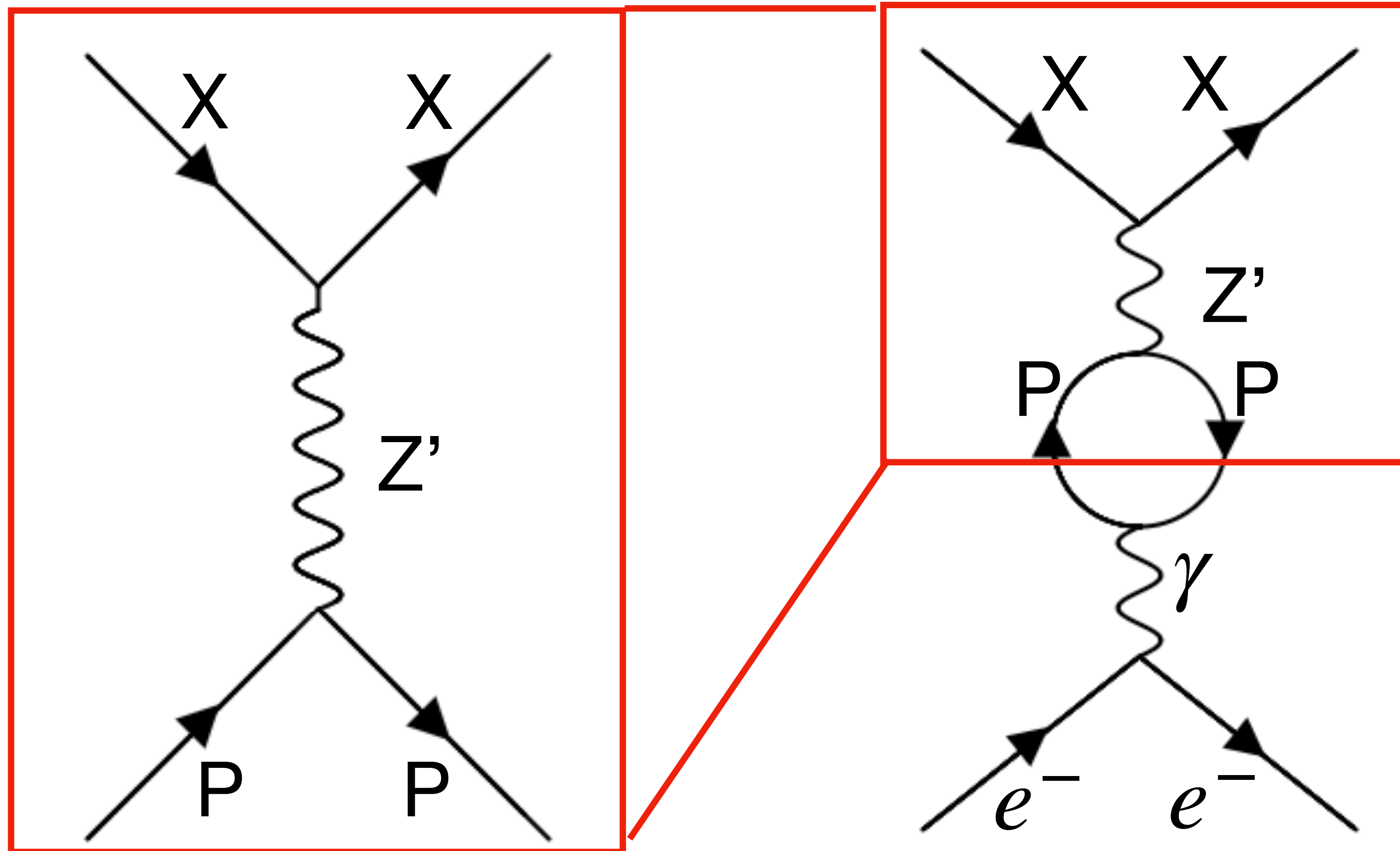
# Loops produce effective interactions



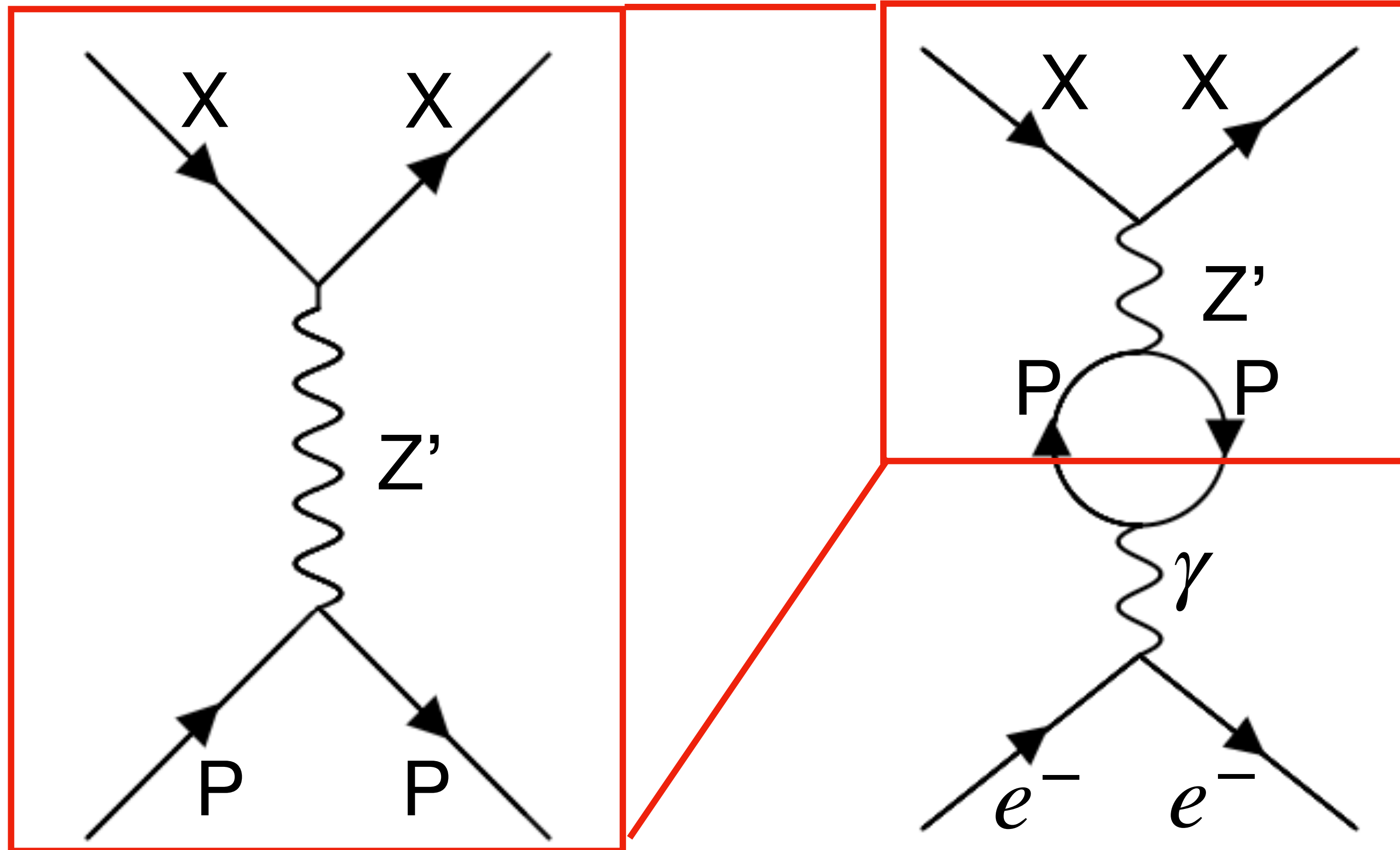
# Loops produce effective interactions



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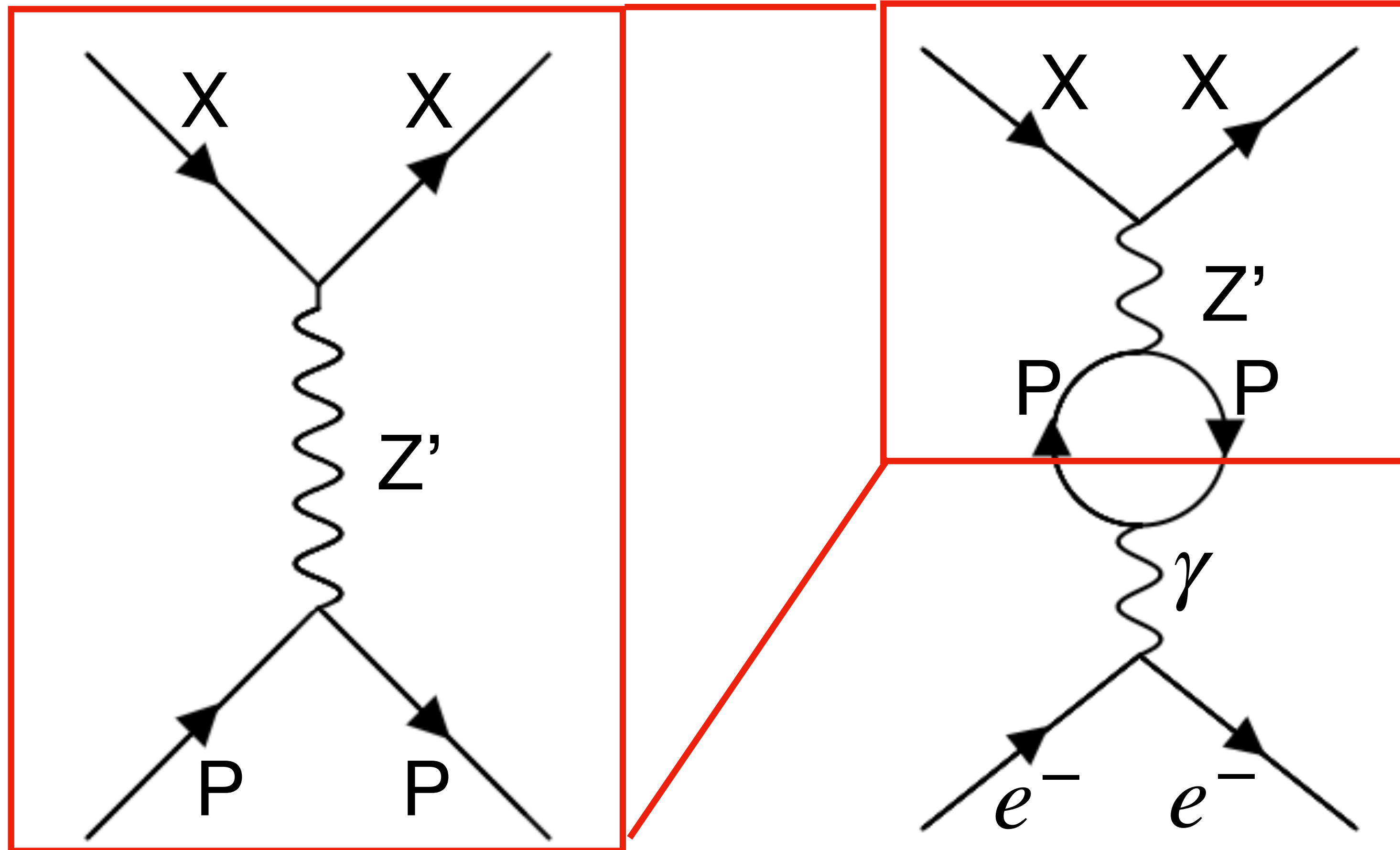


# Loops produce effective interactions



Lepton loops used to look for leptophilic DM at LHC  
[Bell, Cai, Leane, Medina (2014)]

# Loops produce effective interactions

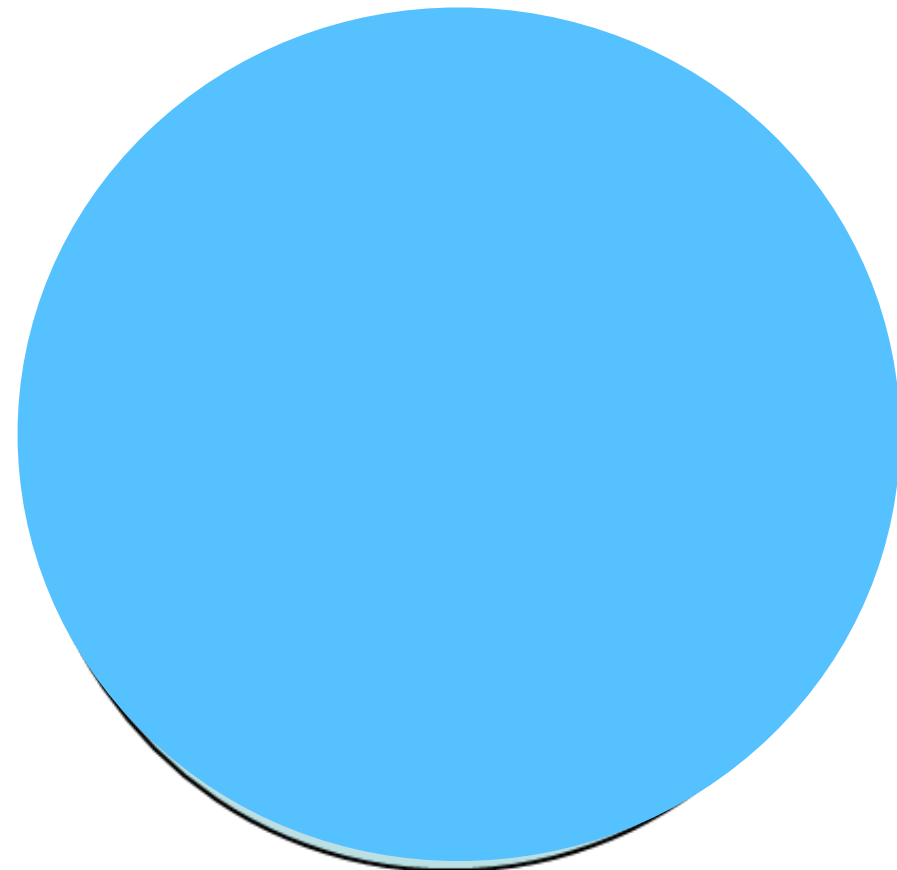


Lepton loops used to look for leptophilic DM at LHC  
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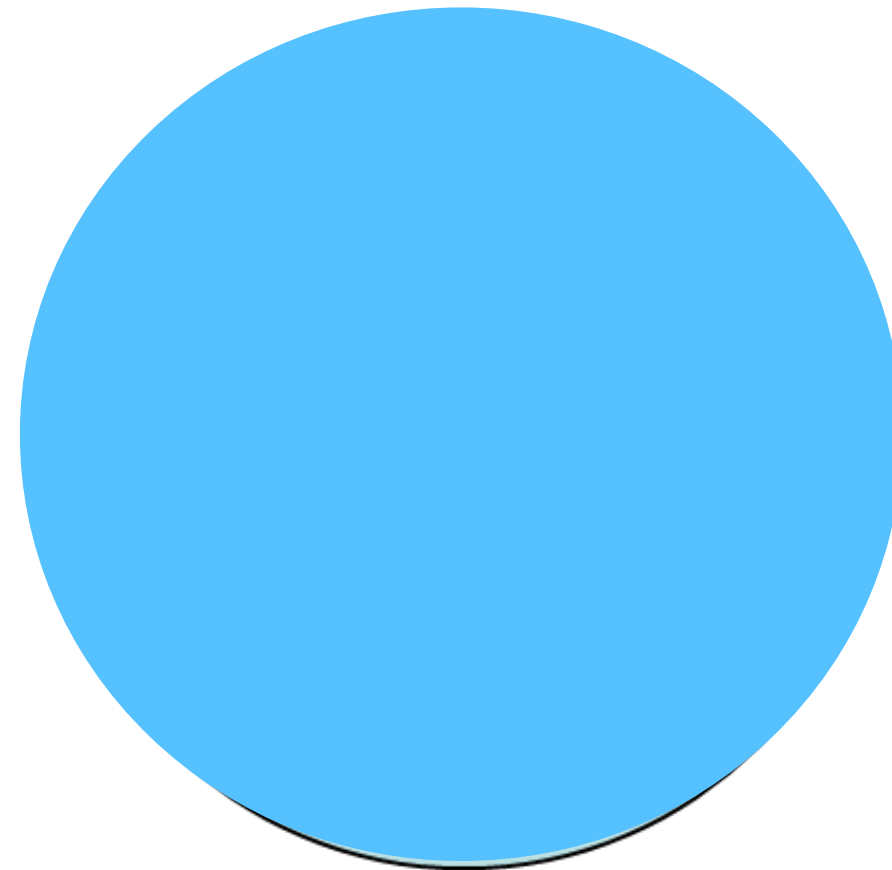
Lepton loops used to rule out parts of leptophilic DM parameter space through Nucleon recoil direct detection experiments  
[Kopp, Michaels, Smirnov (2014)]

# Introducing QCD to DM Loops

proton

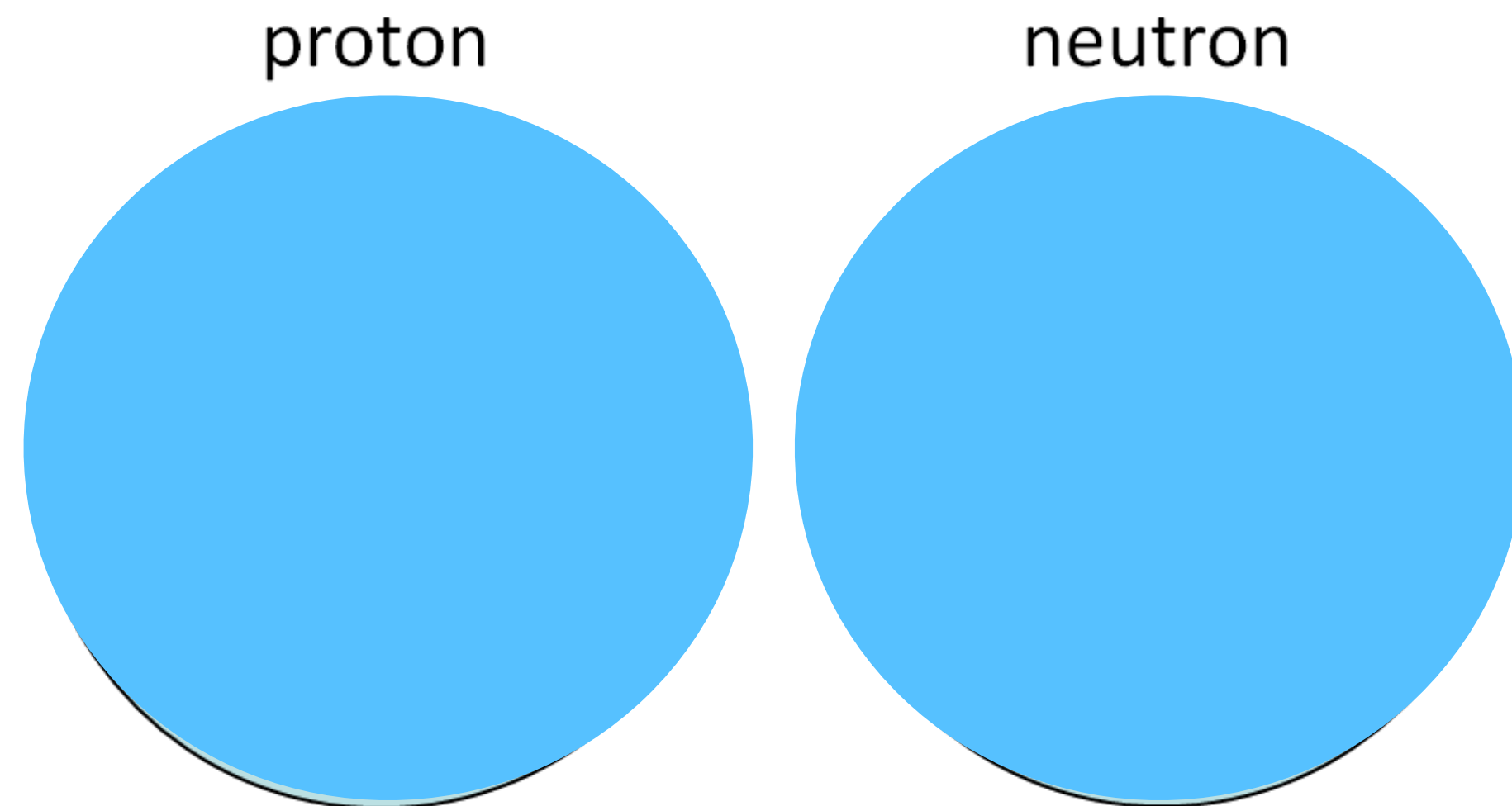


neutron



# Introducing QCD to DM Loops

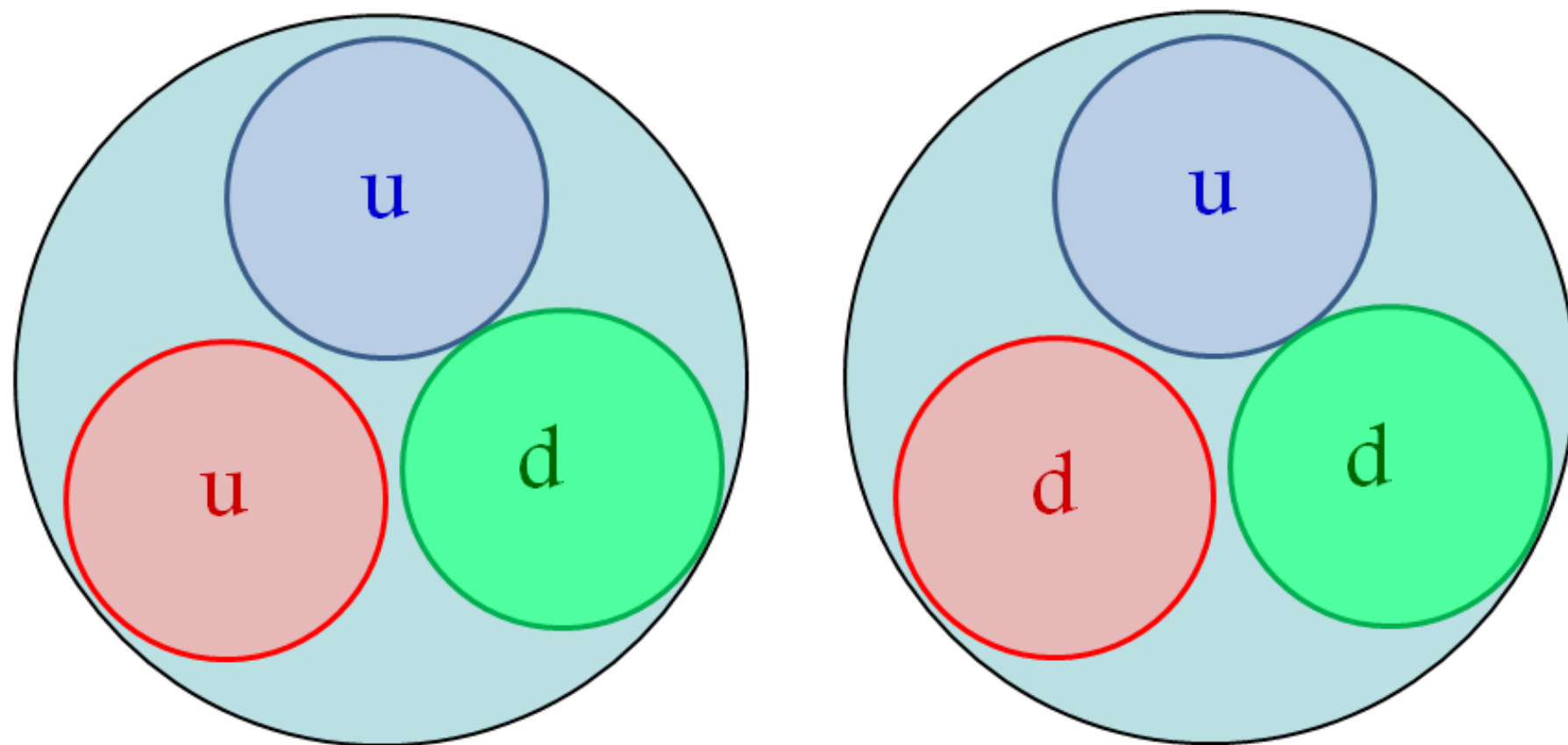
- DM scattering off nucleons  $\Rightarrow$  DM scattering off of quarks



# Introducing QCD to DM Loops

- DM scattering off nucleons => DM scattering off of quarks

Quarks!

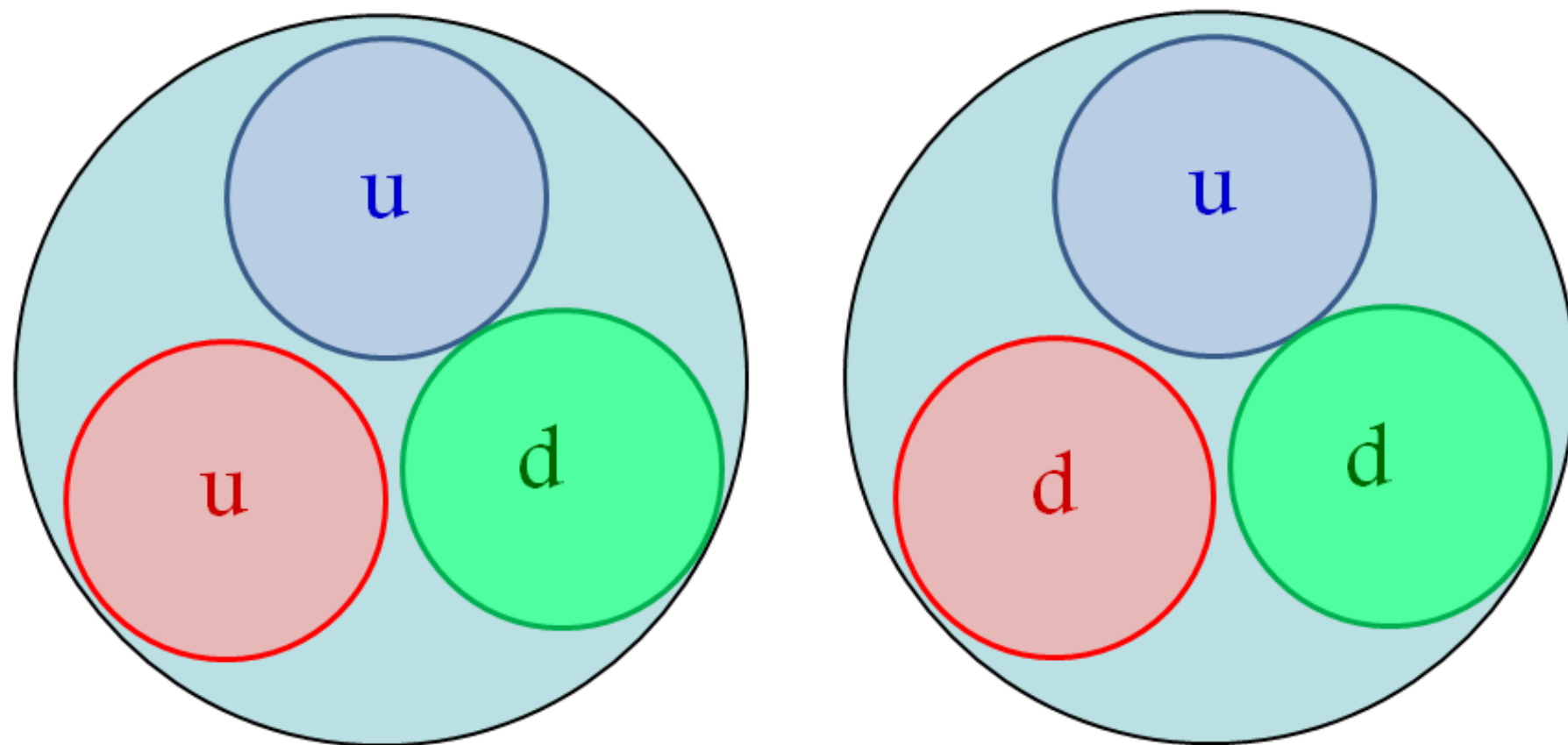




# Introducing QCD to DM Loops

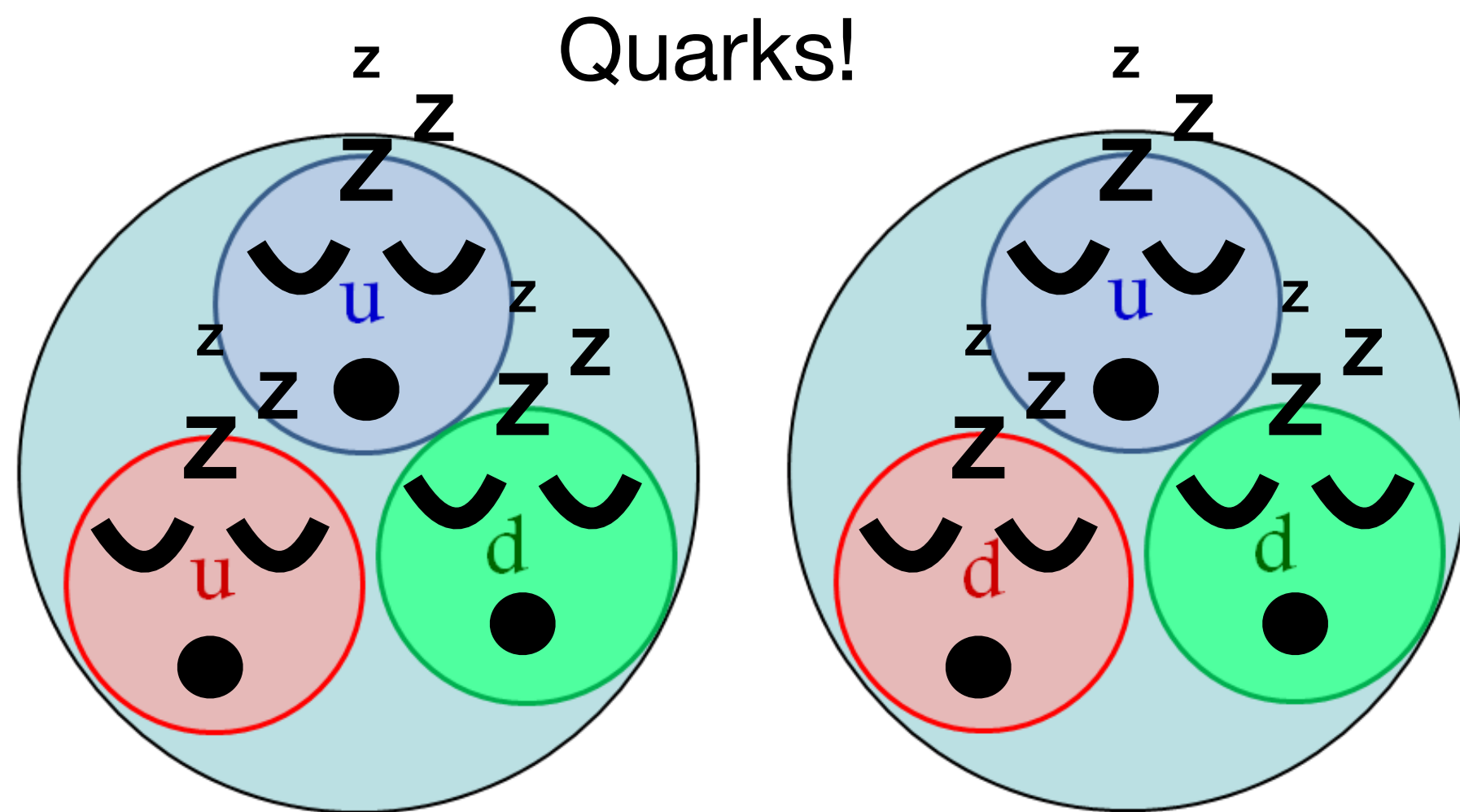
- DM scattering off nucleons  $\Rightarrow$  DM scattering off of quarks
- DM scattering with quarks  $\Rightarrow$  QCD

Quarks!



# Introducing QCD to DM Loops

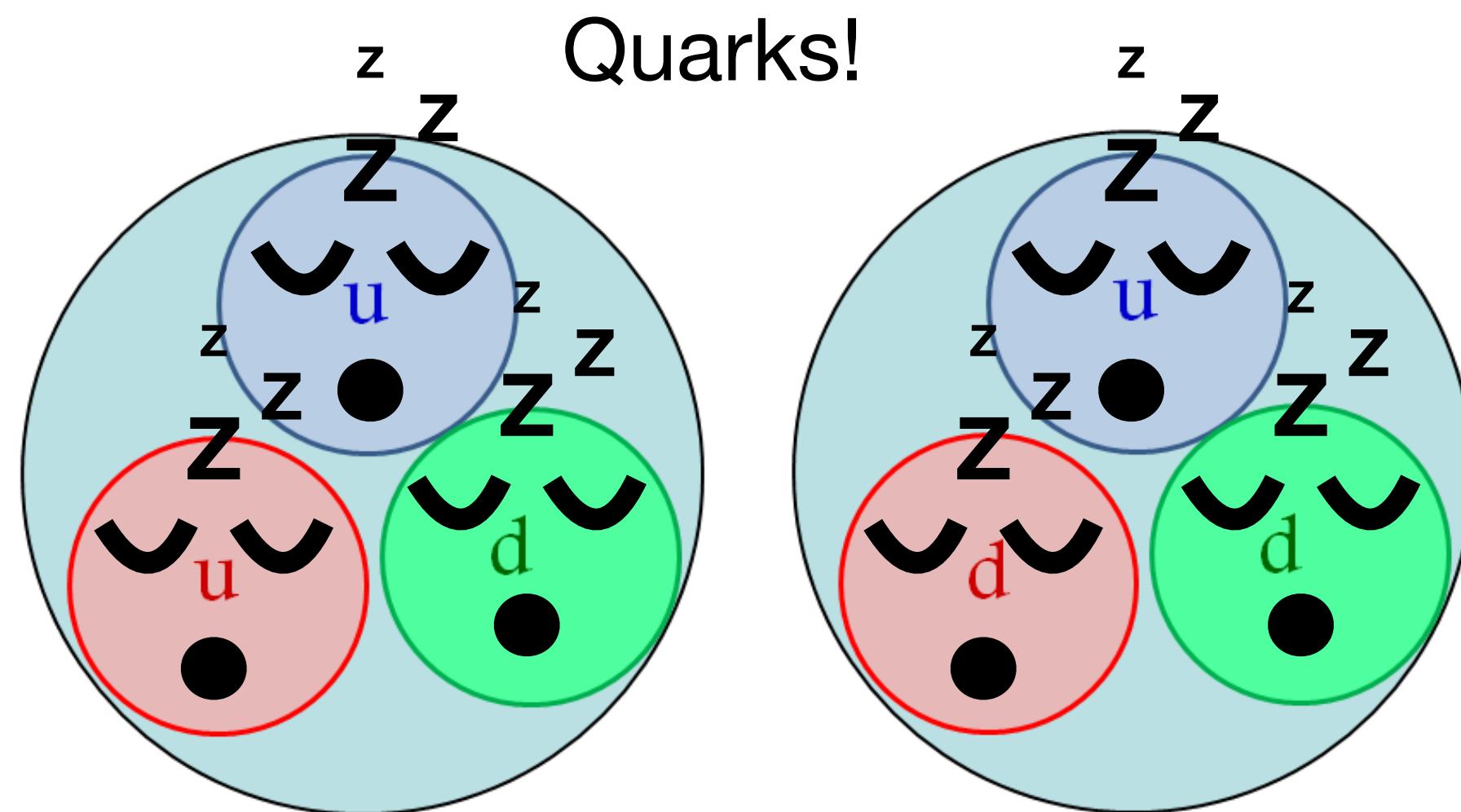
- DM scattering off nucleons => DM scattering off of quarks
- DM scattering with quarks => QCD
- Low energy scattering => low energy QCD (aka Chiral effective field theory)



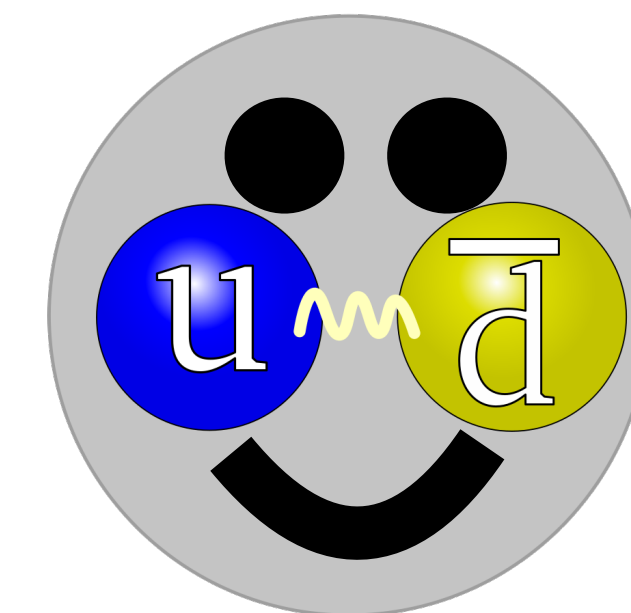
Low Energy

# Introducing QCD to DM Loops

- DM scattering off nucleons => DM scattering off of quarks
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- Low energy scattering => low energy QCD (aka Chiral effective field theory)



Light Mesons (pions)



Low Energy

# Chiral Effective Interaction

1. Start with DM interaction with quarks

Sum over all quarks

Vector coupling

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \sum_q \alpha_q Z'_\mu q \gamma^\mu \bar{q}$$

Coupling to each quark

# Chiral Effective Interaction

1. Start with DM interaction with quarks
2. Find effective interaction with nuclei

Quark interaction

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \sum_q \alpha_q Z'_\mu q \gamma^\mu \bar{q}$$

Proton Interaction

$$\mathcal{L} \supset (2\alpha_u + \alpha_d) Z'_\mu p \gamma^\mu \bar{p}$$

Effective coupling from quark  
Composition of proton



Vector coupling



# Chiral Effective Interaction

Quark interaction

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \sum_q \alpha_q Z'_\mu q \gamma^\mu \bar{q}$$

1. Start with DM interaction with quarks

Proton Interaction

$$\mathcal{L} \supset (2\alpha_u + \alpha_d) Z'_\mu p \gamma^\mu \bar{p}$$

2. Find effective interaction with nuclei

3. Find effective coupling with light mesons

Pion interaction

$$\mathcal{L} \supset (\alpha_u - \alpha_d) Z'_\mu (\partial^\mu \pi^+ \pi^- - \partial^\mu \pi^- \pi^+)$$

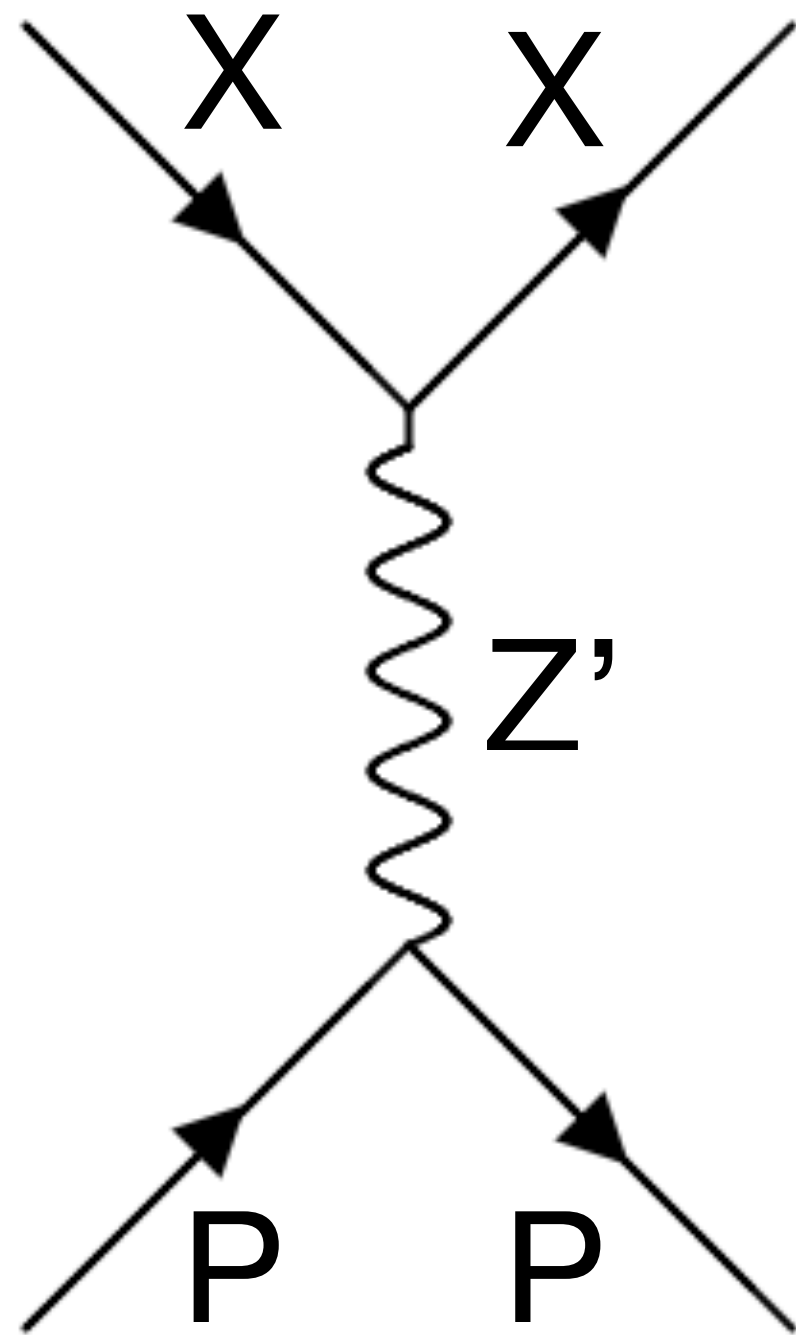
Effective coupling from quark  
Composition of pion

Scalar coupling

# Calculating the Cross Sections

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \sum_q \alpha_q Z'_\mu q \gamma^\mu \bar{q}$$

# Calculating the Cross Sections

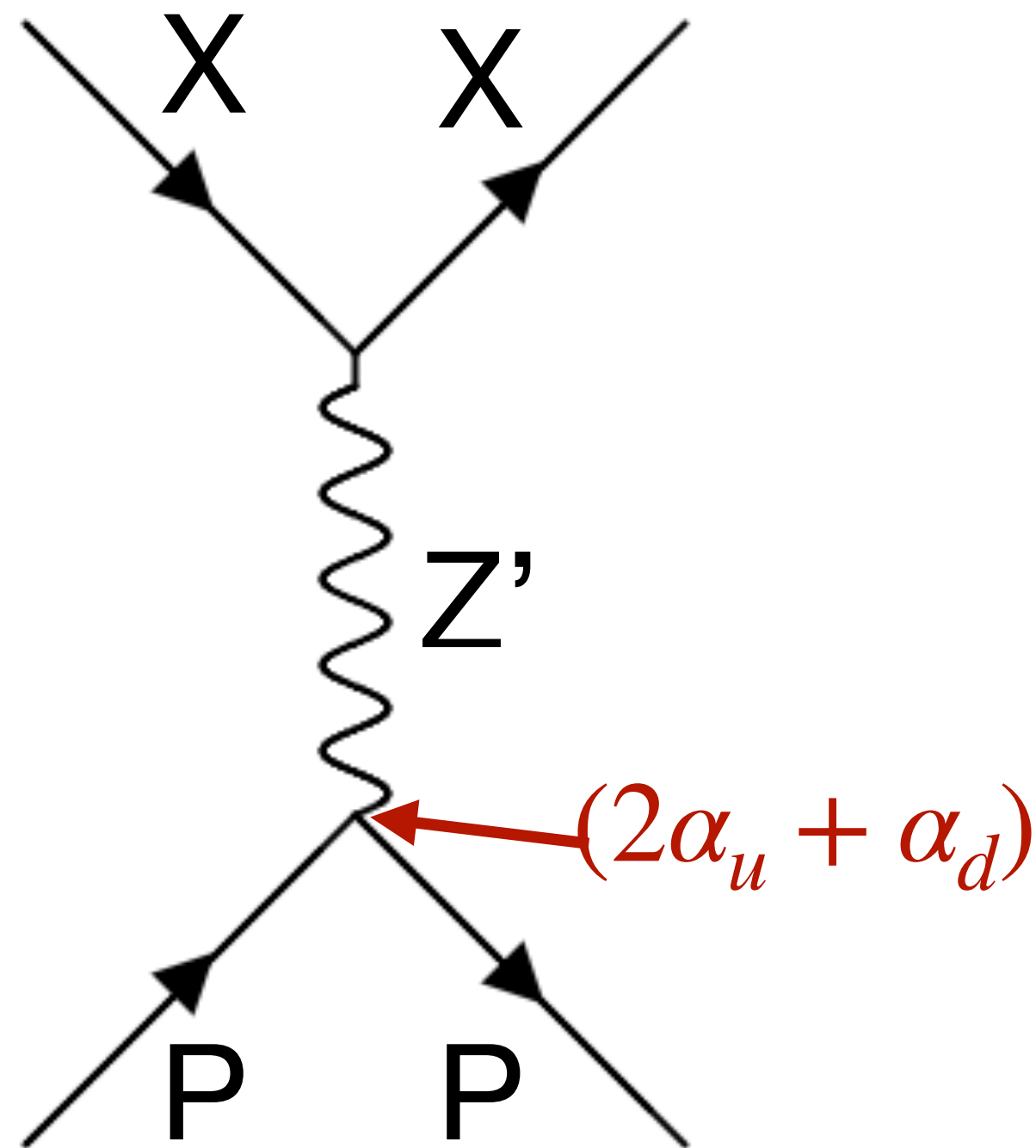


Proton scattering

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \sum_q \alpha_q Z'_\mu q \gamma^\mu \bar{q}$$



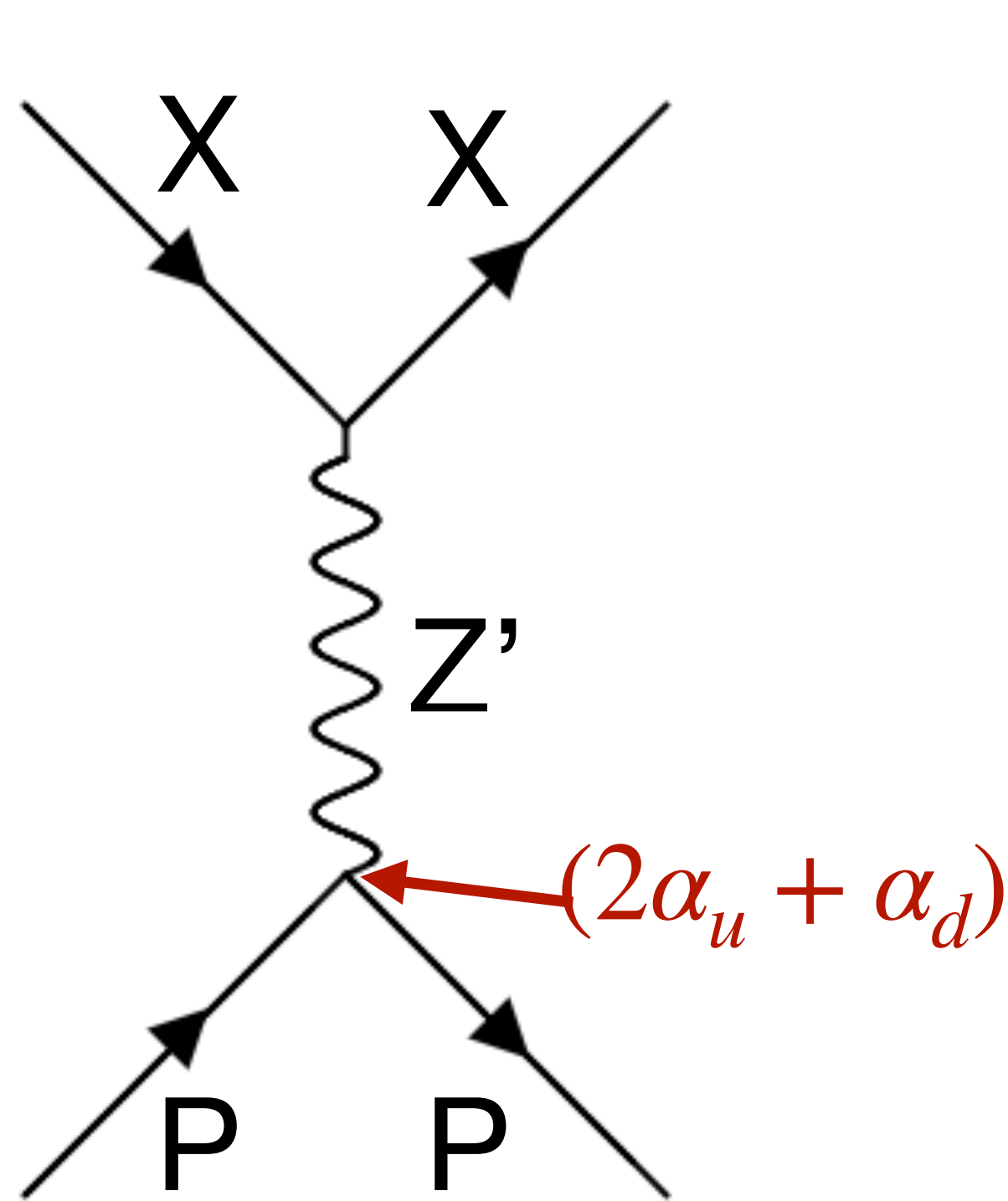
# Calculating the Cross Sections



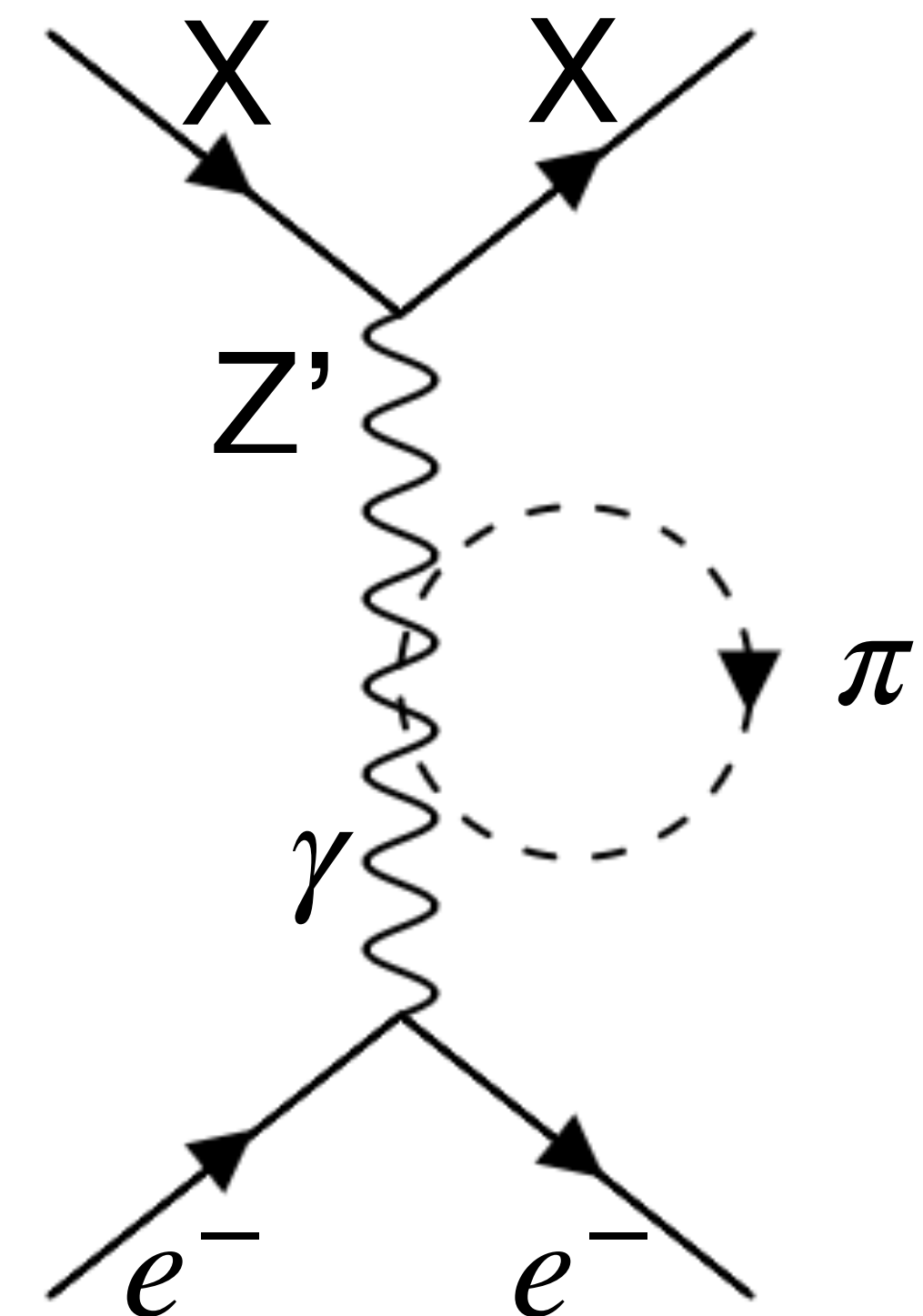
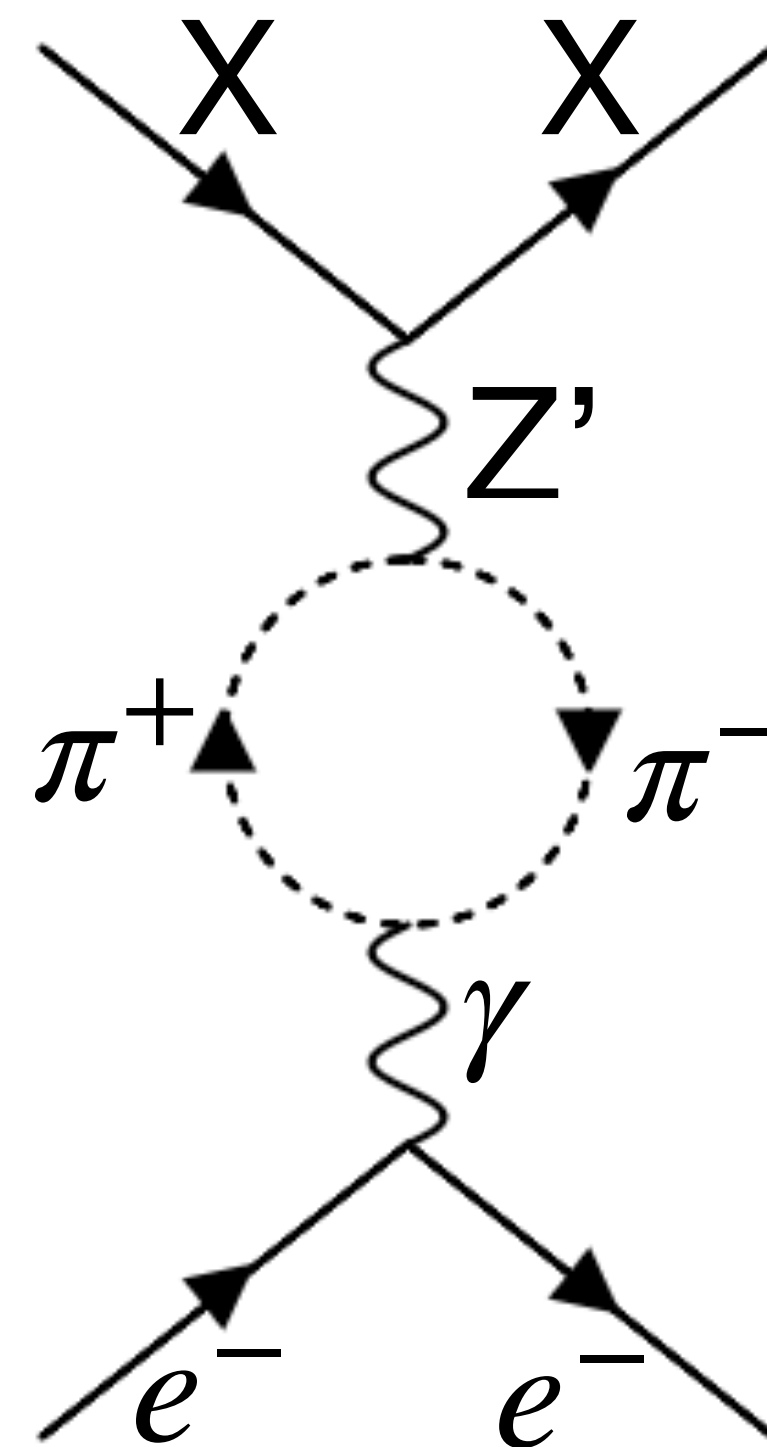
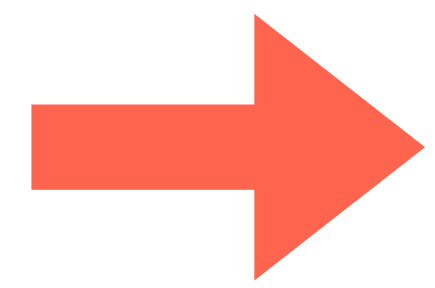
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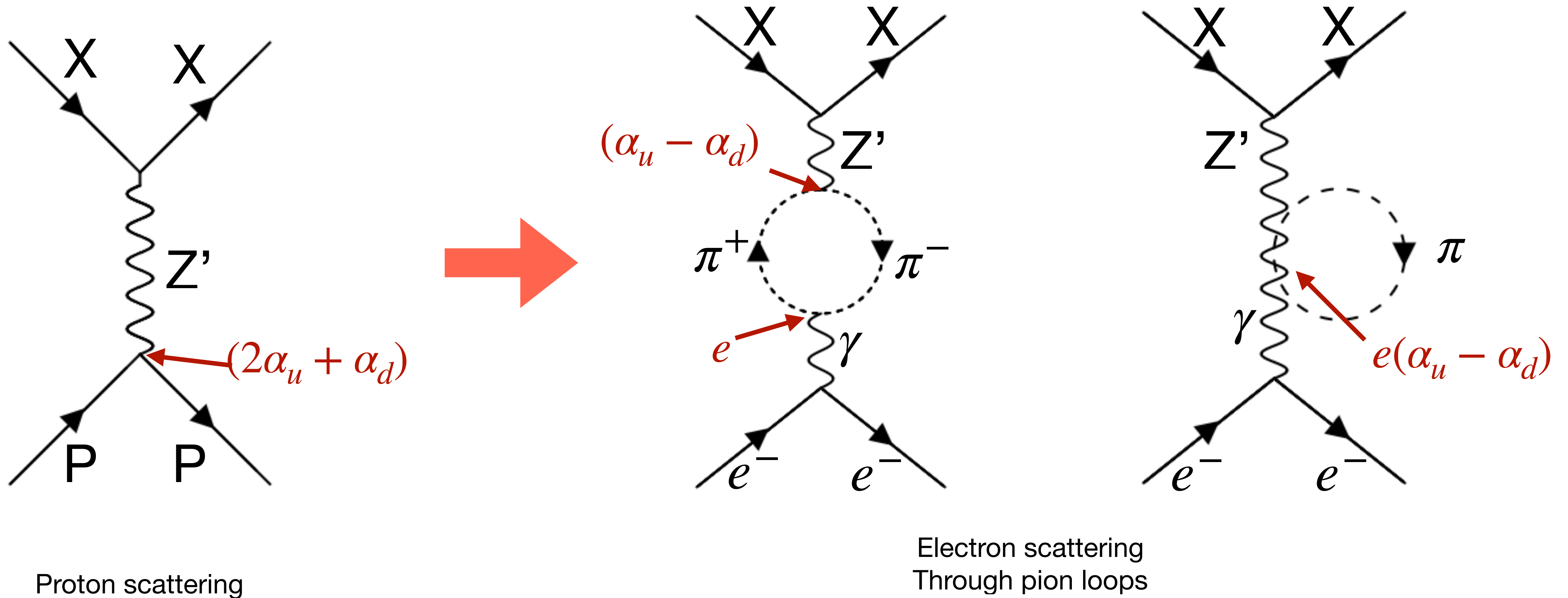


Proton scattering



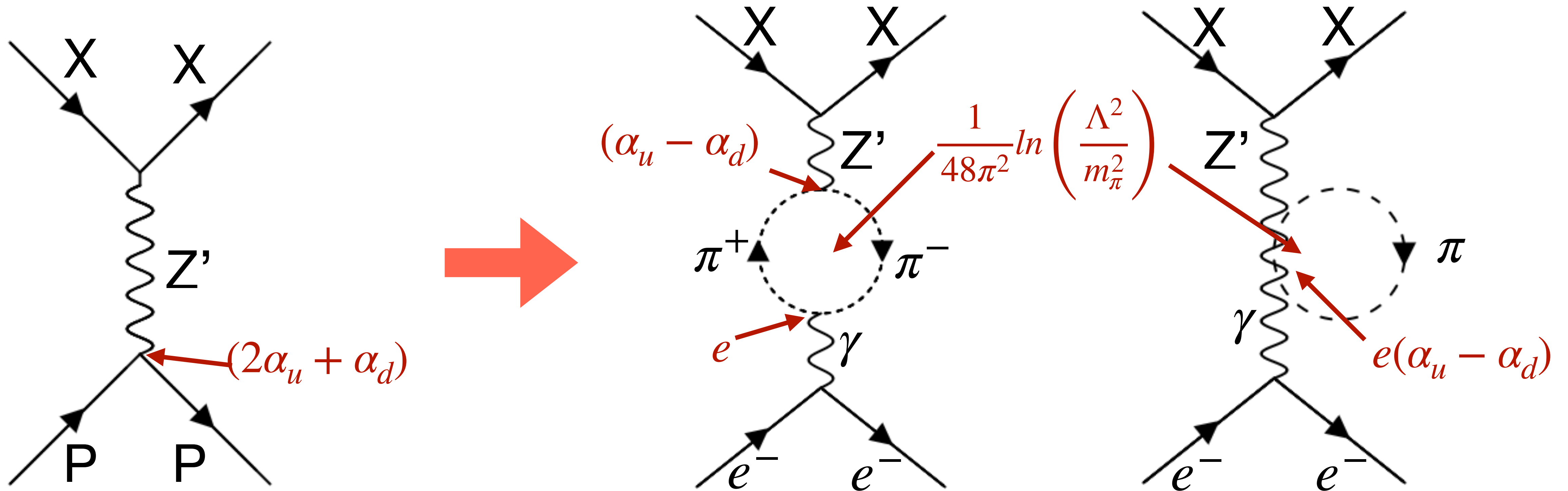
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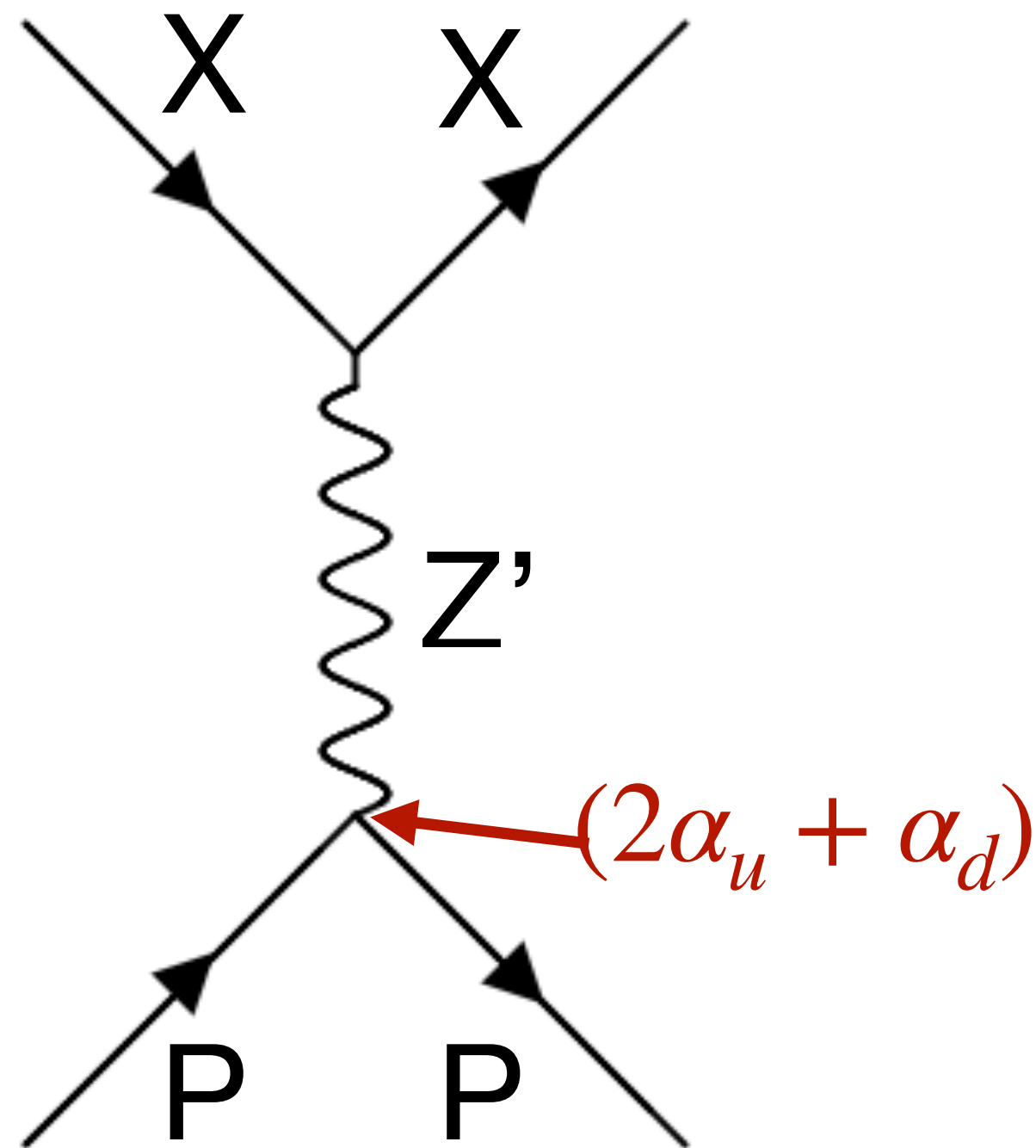


Proton scattering

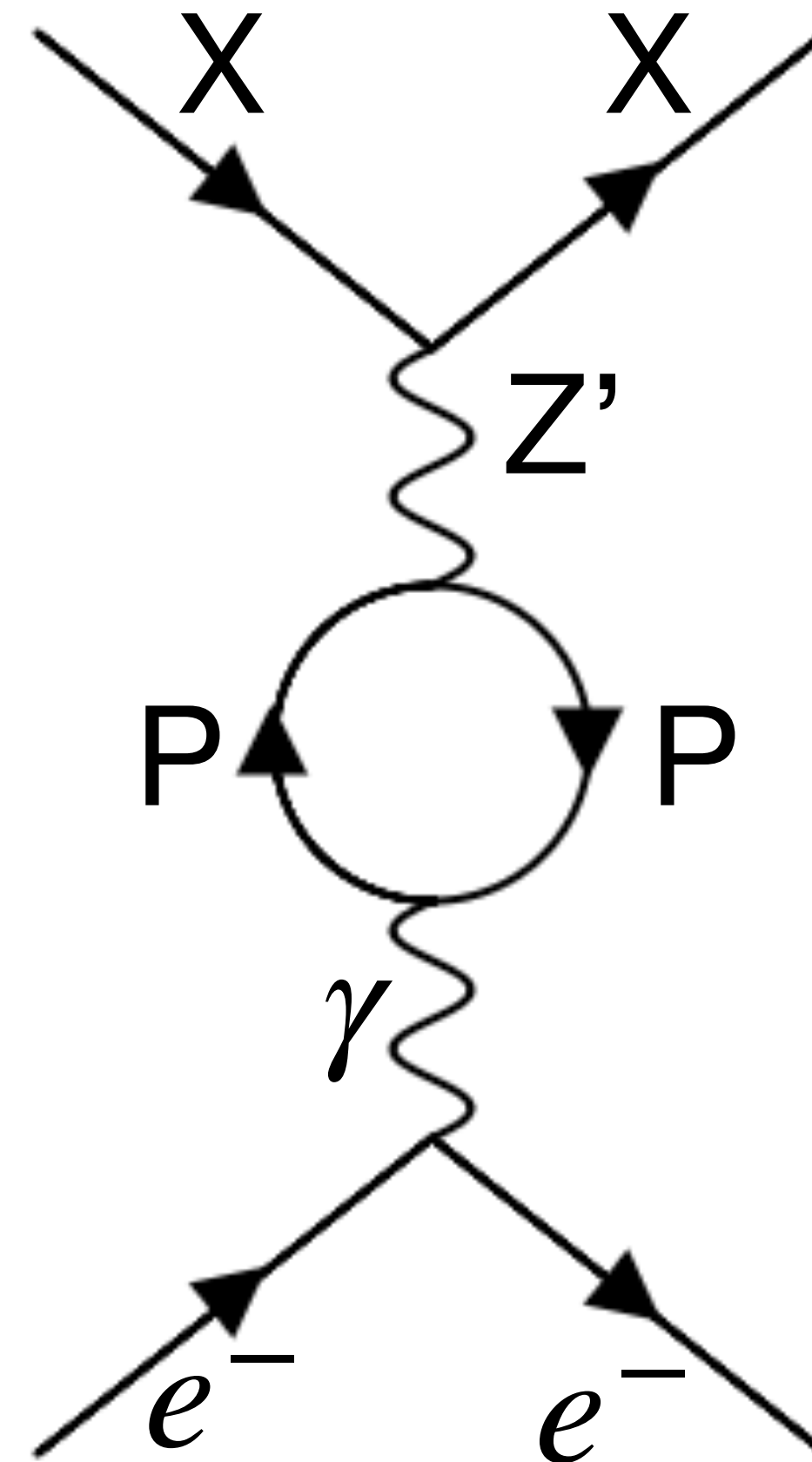
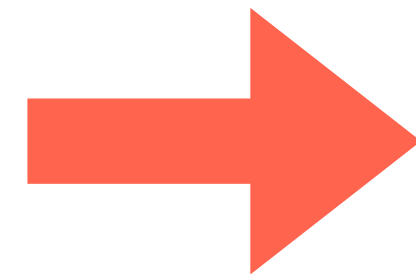
Electron scattering  
Through pion loops

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \sum_q \alpha_q Z'_\mu q \gamma^\mu \bar{q}$$

# Calculating the Cross Sections



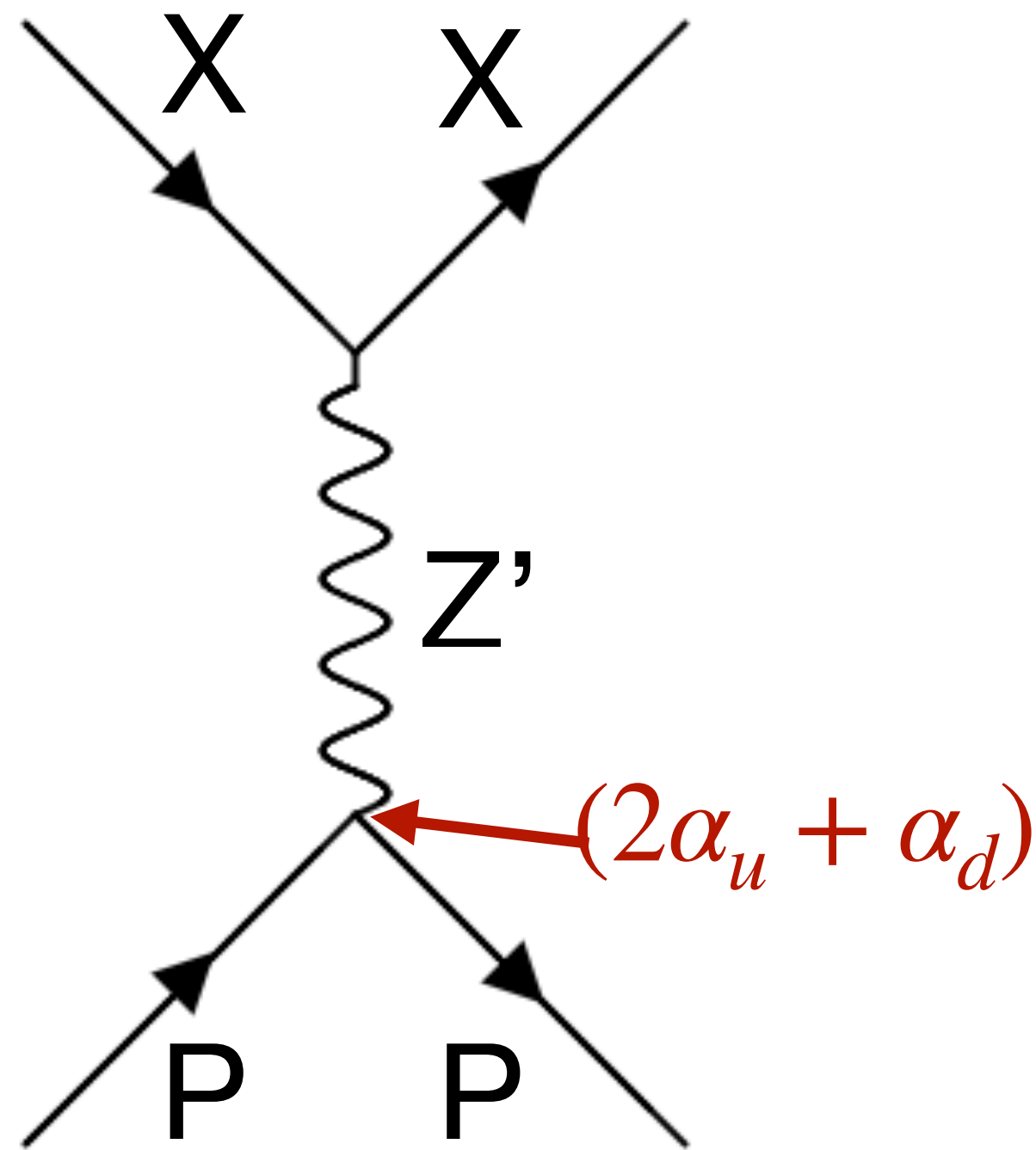
Proton scattering



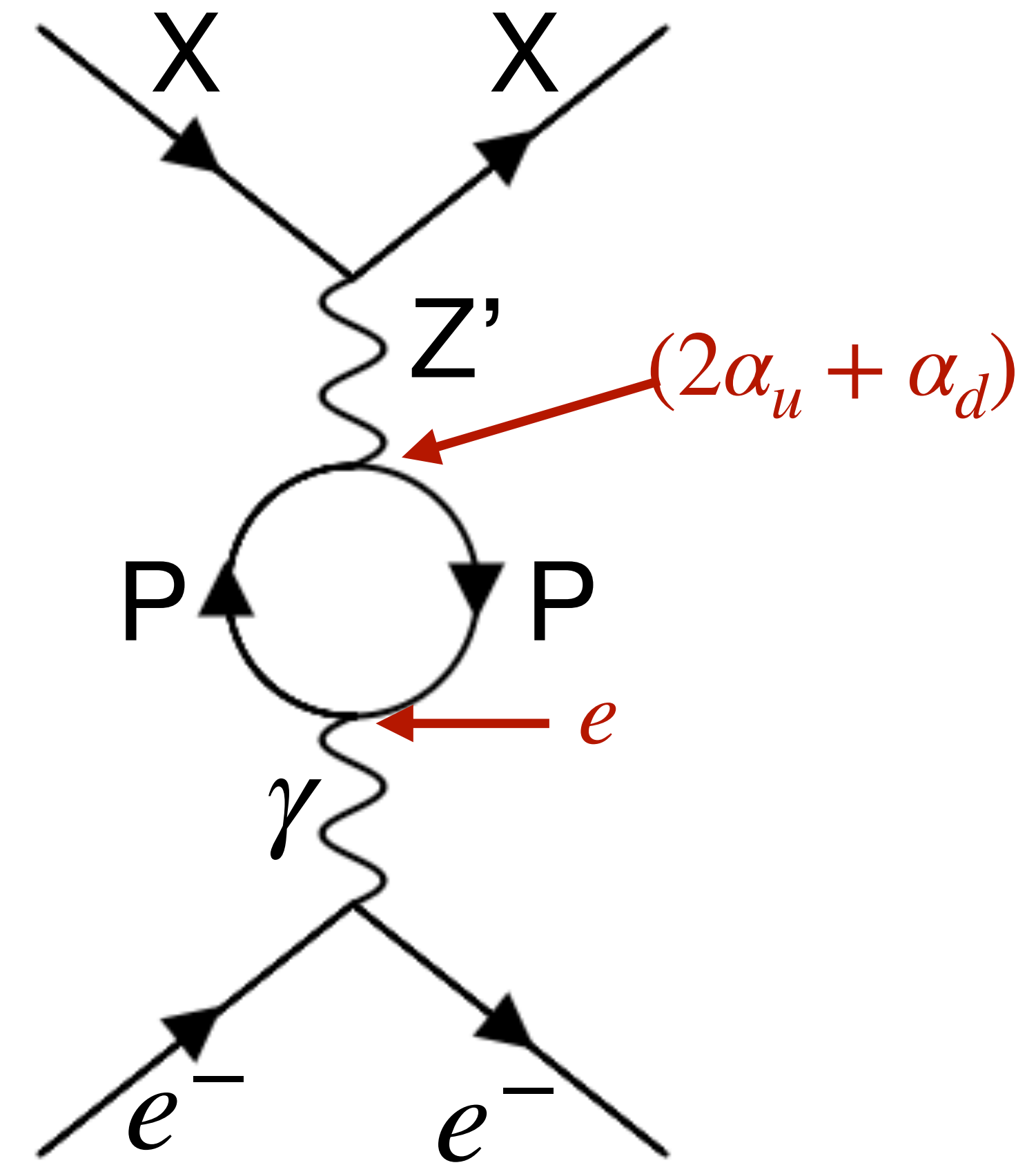
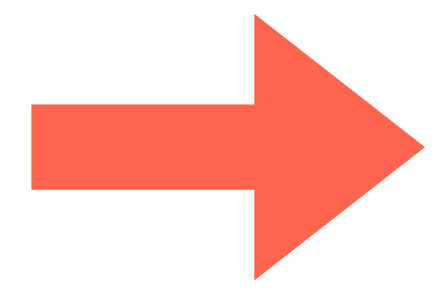
Electron scattering through Proton loop

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \sum_q \alpha_q Z'_\mu q \gamma^\mu \bar{q}$$

# Calculating the Cross Sections



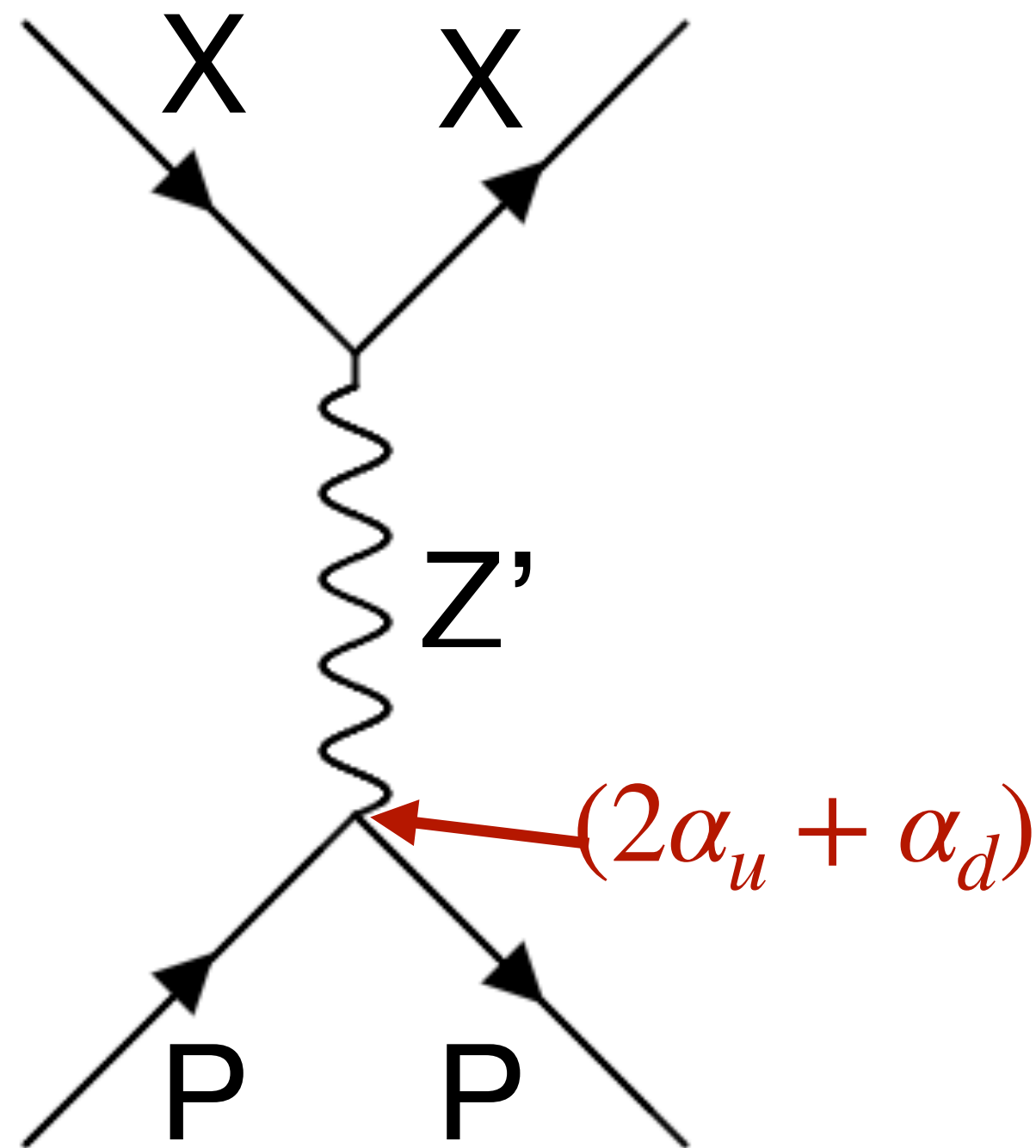
Proton scattering



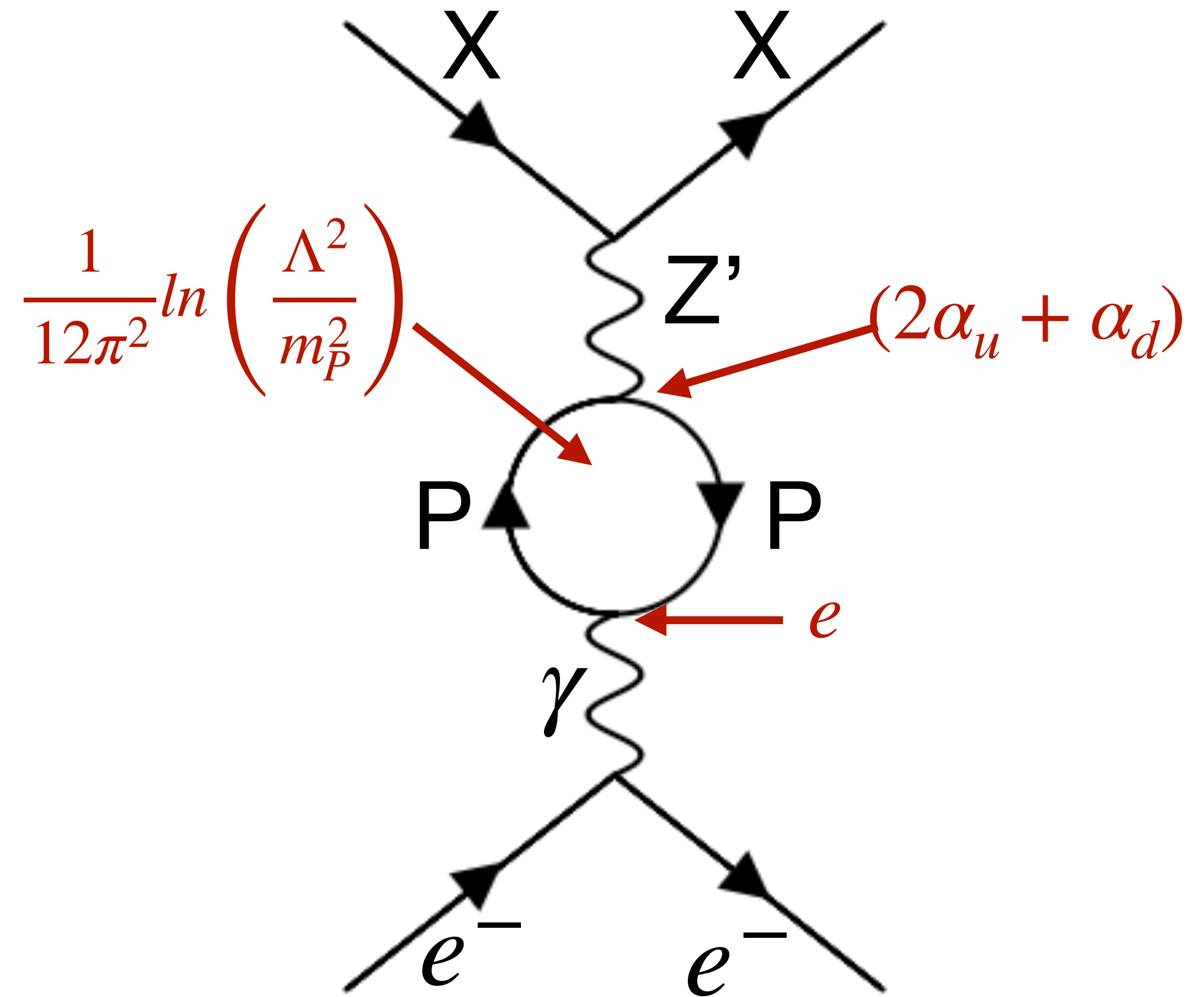
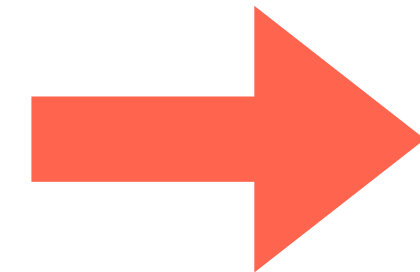
Electron scattering through Proton loop

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \sum_q \alpha_q Z'_\mu q \gamma^\mu \bar{q}$$

# Calculating the Cross Sections



Proton scattering



Electron scattering through Proton loop

$$\mathcal{L} \supset \sum_q \alpha_q Z'_\mu q \gamma^\mu \bar{q}$$

# Effective Electron Cross Section

$$\sigma_{Xe} = \frac{\sigma_{Xp}}{(2\alpha_u + \alpha_d)^2} \frac{e^2}{2304 \pi^4} \left( 4(2\alpha_u + \alpha_d) \ln \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{m_p^2} \right) + (\alpha_u - \alpha_d) \ln \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{m_\pi^2} \right) \right)^2 e^2 \left( \frac{\mu_{eX}}{\mu_{pX}} \right)^2$$



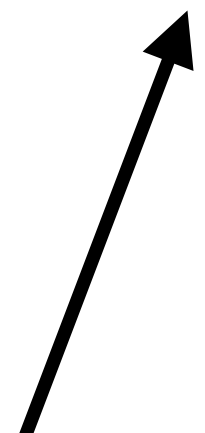
Proton tree  
level interaction




# Effective Electron Cross Section

$$\sigma_{Xe} = \frac{\sigma_{Xp}}{(2\alpha_u + \alpha_d)^2} \left[ \frac{e^2}{2304 \pi^4} \left( 4(2\alpha_u + \alpha_d) \ln \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{m_p^2} \right) + (\alpha_u - \alpha_d) \ln \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{m_\pi^2} \right) \right)^2 \right] e^2 \left( \frac{\mu_{eX}}{\mu_{pX}} \right)^2$$

Proton tree level interaction

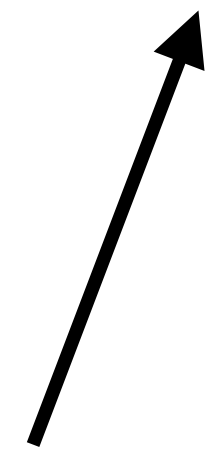


Loop Contribution



# Effective Electron Cross Section

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Proton tree  
level interaction



Proton Loop

# Effective Electron Cross Section

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Proton tree  
level interaction

Proton Loop

Pion Loop

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Proton tree level interaction

Proton Loop

Pion Loop

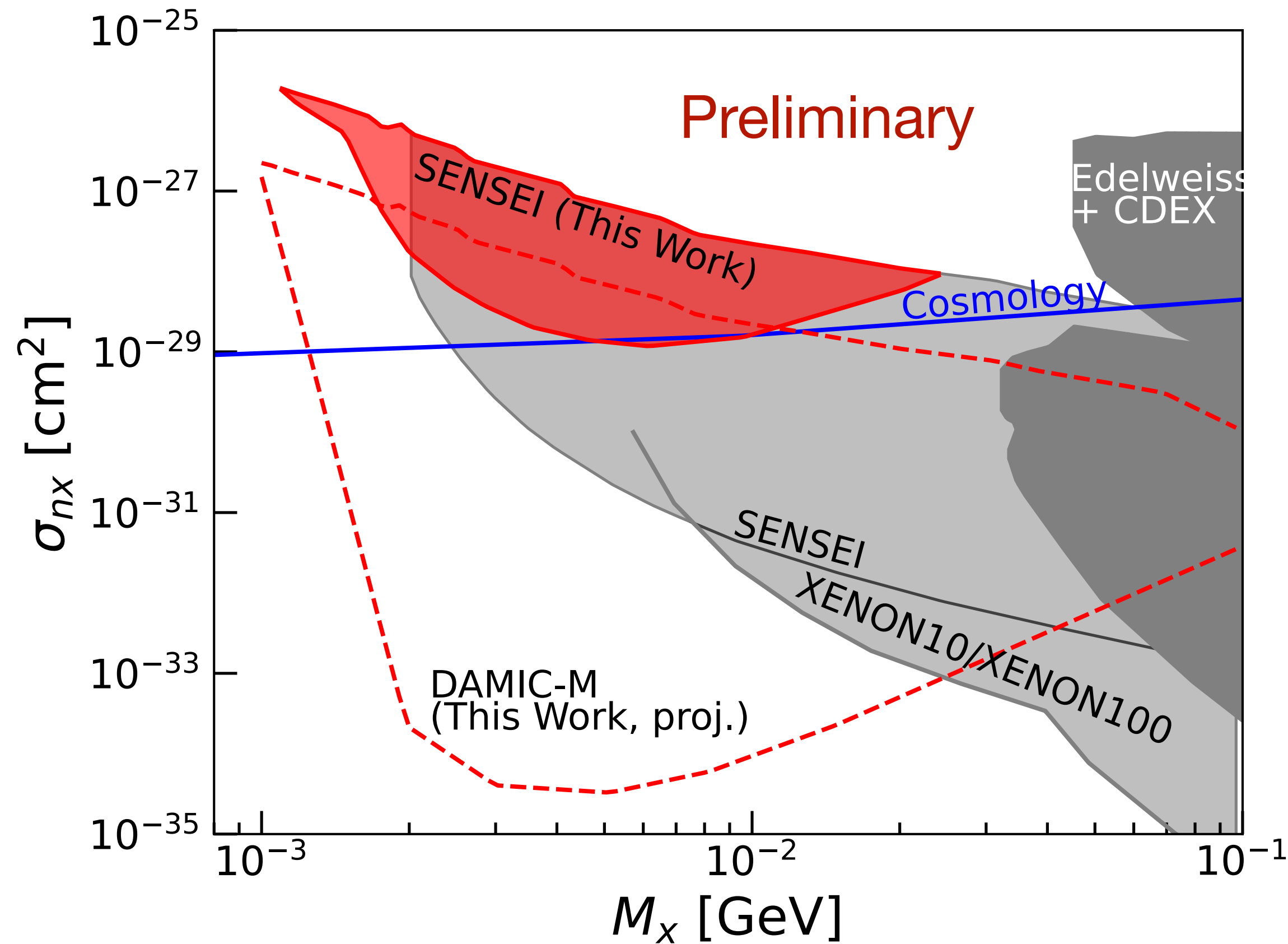
Electron Coupling and reduced mass

# Effective Electron Cross Section

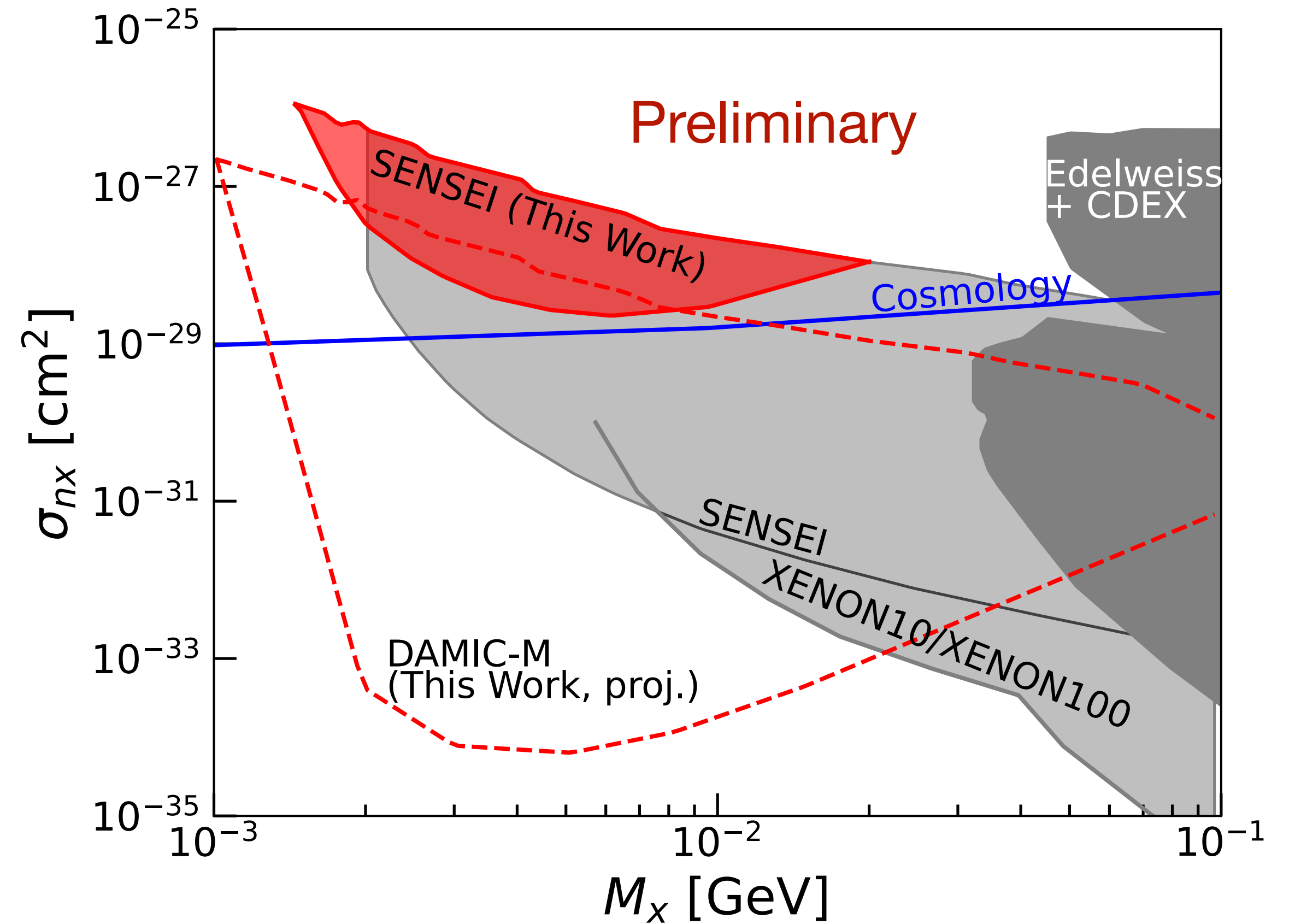
$$\sigma_{Xe} = \frac{\sigma_{Xp}}{(2\alpha_u + \alpha_d)^2} \frac{e^2}{2304 \pi^4} \left( 4(2\alpha_u + \alpha_d) \ln \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{m_p^2} \right) + (\alpha_u - \alpha_d) \ln \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{m_\pi^2} \right) \right)^2 e^2 \left( \frac{\mu_{eX}}{\mu_{pX}} \right)^2$$

$$\sigma_{Xe} \simeq 10^{-14} \frac{\sigma_{Xp}}{(2\alpha_u + \alpha_d)^2} \left( 4(2\alpha_u + \alpha_d) \ln \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{m_p^2} \right) + (\alpha_u - \alpha_d) \ln \left( \frac{\Lambda^2}{m_\pi^2} \right) \right)^2 \left( \frac{m_X + m_p}{m_e + m_X} \right)^2$$

# Probe Hadrophilic DM with a Heavy Mediator using Electron Recoil Detectors

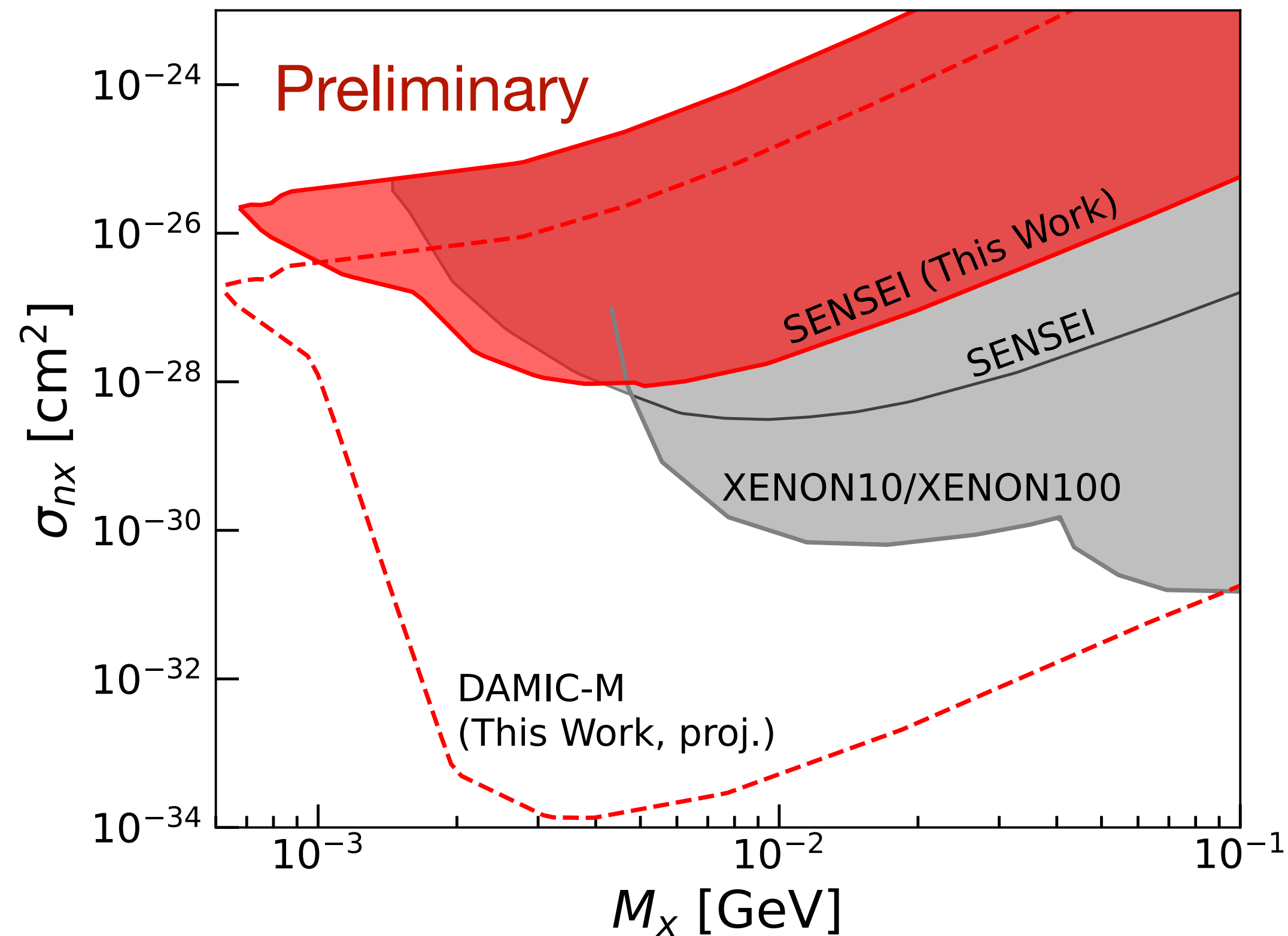


$\alpha_u = -\alpha_d, \alpha_s = 0$   
Pion Contribution only

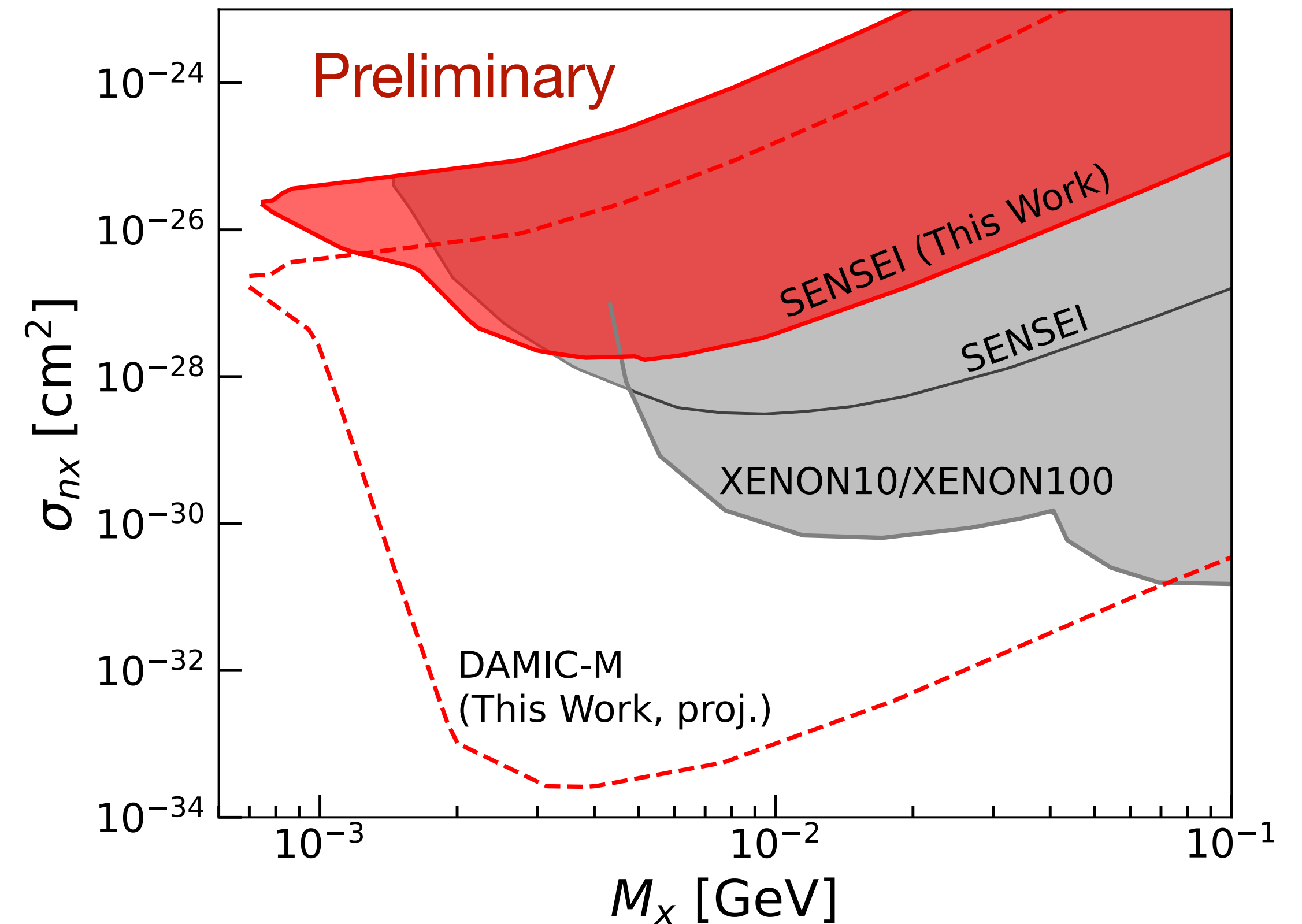


$\alpha_u = \alpha_d = \alpha_s$   
Proton Contribution only

# Probe Hadrophilic DM with a Light Mediator using Electron Recoil Detectors



$\alpha_u = -\alpha_d, \alpha_s = 0$   
Pion Contribution only



$\alpha_u = \alpha_d = \alpha_s$   
Proton Contribution only

# Conclusions

- Loop interactions cause dark matter that interacts with one part of the Standard model to interact with many other parts of it
- We can use existing constraints and detectors to probe multiple different DM interactions
- Low energy hadronic loops mean
  - New constraints on DM-nucleon couplings from SENSEI
  - DAMIC-M will be sensitive to DM-nucleon couplings that other direct detectors cannot probe





**Thank You!**