



# Neutrons and nuclei as a precision laboratory for $V_{ud}$ and CKM unitarity

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# Outline

The role of  $\beta$ -decays in constructing the Standard Model

Radiative corrections to  $\beta$ -decays: overall setup

EW boxes from dispersion theory and status of  $\Delta_R^V$

Dispersion theory of nuclear-structure RC  $\delta_{NS}$

Status of isospin-symmetry breaking correction  $\delta_C$

Status of  $V_{us}$

BSM solutions to Cabibbo-unitarity puzzle

Open problems and outlook

$\beta$ -decays as precision tool  
for testing the Standard Model

# Understanding $\beta$ Decays: A Cornerstone of the Standard Model

Existence of neutrinos to explain the continuous  $\beta$  spectrum (Pauli, 1930)

Contact theory of  $\beta$  decay (Fermi, 1933)

Parity violation in  $\beta$  decay (Lee, Yang 1956 & Wu 1957)

V - A theory (Sudarshan & Marshak and Gell-Mann & Feynman, 1957)

Radiative corrections to 4-Fermi theory: important step to the Standard Model

RC to muon decay UV finite for V-A  $\rightarrow G_F = G_\mu = 1.1663788(7) \times 10^{-5} GeV^{-2}$

But RC to neutron decay - log UV divergent!

UV behavior of  $\beta$  decay rate at 1-loop (Sirlin, 1967)  $\frac{\alpha}{2\pi} P^0 d^3p \ 3[1 + 2\bar{Q}] \ln(\Lambda/M)$

$\bar{Q}$  : average charge of fields involved:  $1 + 2\bar{Q}_{\mu,\nu_\mu} = 0$  but  $1 + 2\bar{Q}_{n,p} = 2$

Standard Model with massive W,Z-bosons (Glashow-Salam-Weinberg, 1967)



# Precision, Universality and CKM unitarity

In SM the same coupling of W-boson to leptons and hadrons,  $G_V = G_\mu$

Before RC were included:  $G_V \sim 0.98G_\mu$

Large  $\log(M_Z/M_p)$  in RC for neutron  $\rightarrow G_V \sim 0.95G_\mu$

Kaon and hyperon decays? ( $\Delta S = 1$ ) — even lower rates!

Cabibbo: strength shared between 2 generations

$$|G_V^{\Delta S=0}| = \cos \theta_C G_\mu$$

Cabibbo unitarity:  $\cos^2 \theta_C + \sin^2 \theta_C = 1$

$$|G_V^{\Delta S=1}| = \sin \theta_C G_\mu$$

Kobayashi & Maskawa: 3 flavors + CP violation — CKM matrix V

$$\begin{pmatrix} d' \\ s' \\ b' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{pmatrix}$$

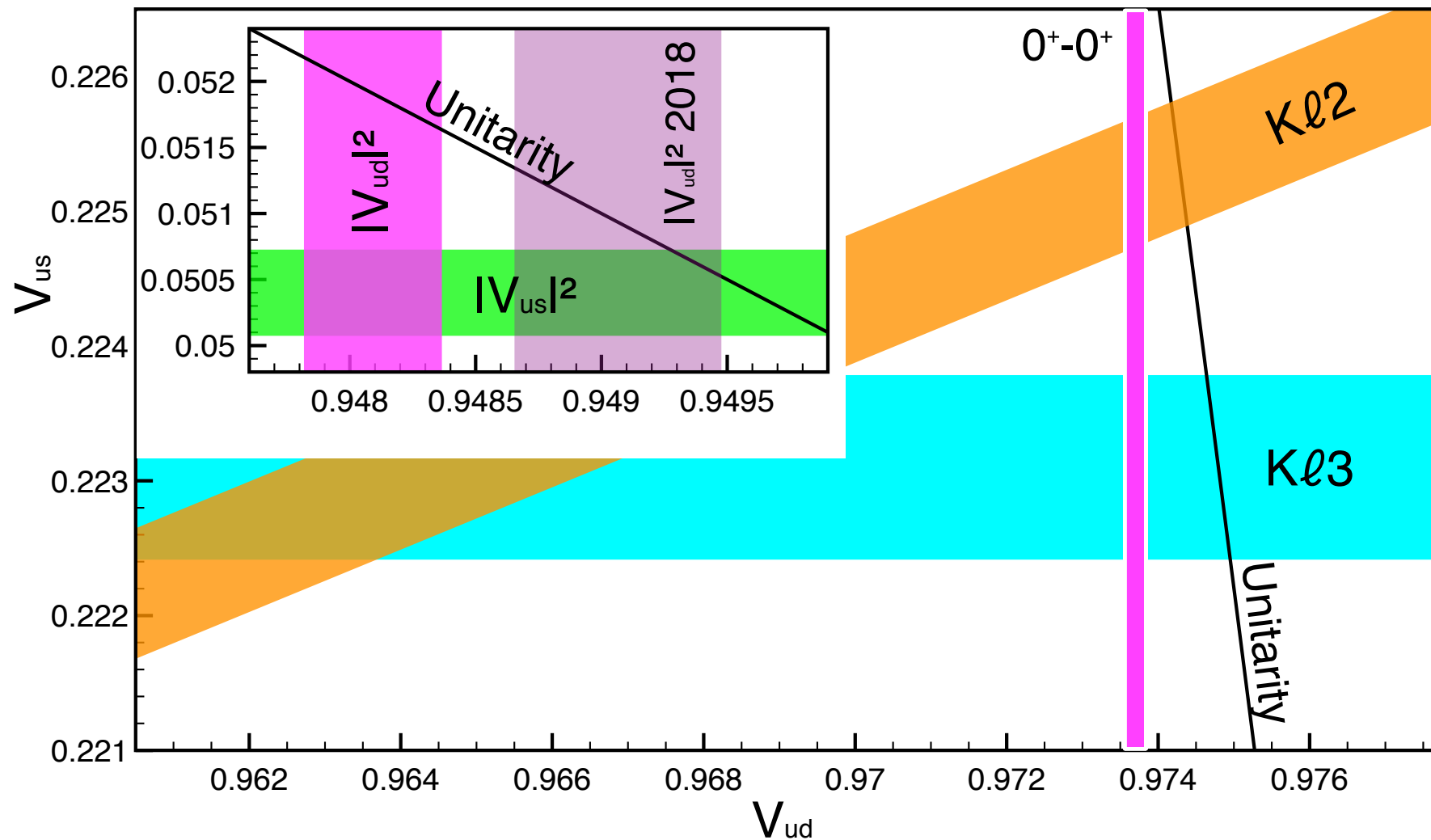
CKM unitarity - completeness of the SM:  $VV^\dagger = \mathbf{1}$   
 Top row unitarity constraint:  $|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 = 1$

Detailed understanding of  $\beta$  decays largely shaped the Standard Model

# Status of top-row CKM unitarity

$$|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |\cancel{V_{ub}}|^2 = 0.9985(6)_{V_{ud}}(4)_{V_{us}}$$

$\sim 0.95$        $\sim 0.05$        $\sim 10^{-5}$



Inconsistencies between measurements of  $V_{ud}$  and  $V_{us}$  and SM predictions  
**Main reason for Cabibbo angle anomaly: significant shift in  $V_{ud}$**

# Status of $V_{ud}$

$0^+-0^+$  nuclear decays: long-standing champion

$$|V_{ud}|^2 = \frac{2984.43s}{\mathcal{F}t(1+\Delta_R^V)}$$

$$|V_{ud}^{0^+-0^+}| = 0.97370 (1)_{exp,nucl} (3)_{NS} (1)_{RC} [3]_{total}$$

**Nuclear uncertainty x 3**

Neutron decay: discrepancies in lifetime  $\tau_n$  and axial charge  $g_A$ ; competitive!

$$|V_{ud}|^2 = \frac{5024.7 s}{\tau_n(1+3g_A^2)(1+\Delta_R)}$$

Single best measurements only

$$|V_{ud}^{free n}| = 0.9733 (2)_{\tau_n} (3)_{g_A} (1)_{RC} [4]_{total}$$

PDG average

$$|V_{ud}^{free n}| = 0.9733 (3)_{\tau_n} (8)_{g_A} (1)_{RC} [9]_{total}$$

**RC not a limiting factor: more precise experiments a-coming**

Pion decay  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ \nu_e$ : theoretically cleanest, experimentally tough

$$|V_{ud}|^2 = \frac{0.9799}{(1+\delta)} \frac{\Gamma_{\pi\ell^3}}{0.3988(23) s^{-1}}$$

$$|V_{ud}^{\pi\ell^3}| = 0.9739 (27)_{exp} (1)_{RC}$$

**Future exp: 1 o.o.m. (PIONEER)**

# Status of $V_{ud}$

Major reduction of uncertainties in the past few years

## Theory

Universal correction  $\Delta_R^V$  to free and bound neutron decay

Identified 40 years ago as the bottleneck for precision improvement

Novel approach dispersion relations + experimental data + lattice QCD

$$\Delta_R^V = 0.02467(22)$$

Factor 2 improvement

*C-Y Seng et al., Phys.Rev.Lett. 121 (2018) 24, 241804;*

*C-Y Seng, MG, M.J. Ramsey-Musolf, Phys.Rev. D 100 (2019) 1, 013001;*

*MG, Phys.Rev.Lett. 123 (2019) 4, 042503;*

*C-Y Seng, X. Feng, MG, L-C Jin, Phys.Rev. D 101 (2020) 11, 111301;*

*A. Czarnecki, B. Marciano, A. Sirlin, Phys.Rev. D 100 (2019) 7, 073008*

RC to semileptonic pion decay

$$\delta = 0.0332(3)$$

Factor 3 improvement

*X. Feng, MG, L-C Jin, P-X Ma, C-Y Seng,*

*Phys.Rev.Lett. 124 (2020) 19, 192002*

## Experiment

$$g_A = -1.27641(56)$$

Factor 4 improvement

**PERKEO-III** *B. Märkisch et al, Phys.Rev.Lett. 122 (2019) 24, 242501*

$$g_A = -1.2677(28)$$

**aSPECT** *M. Beck et al, Phys. Rev. C101 (2020) 5, 055506*

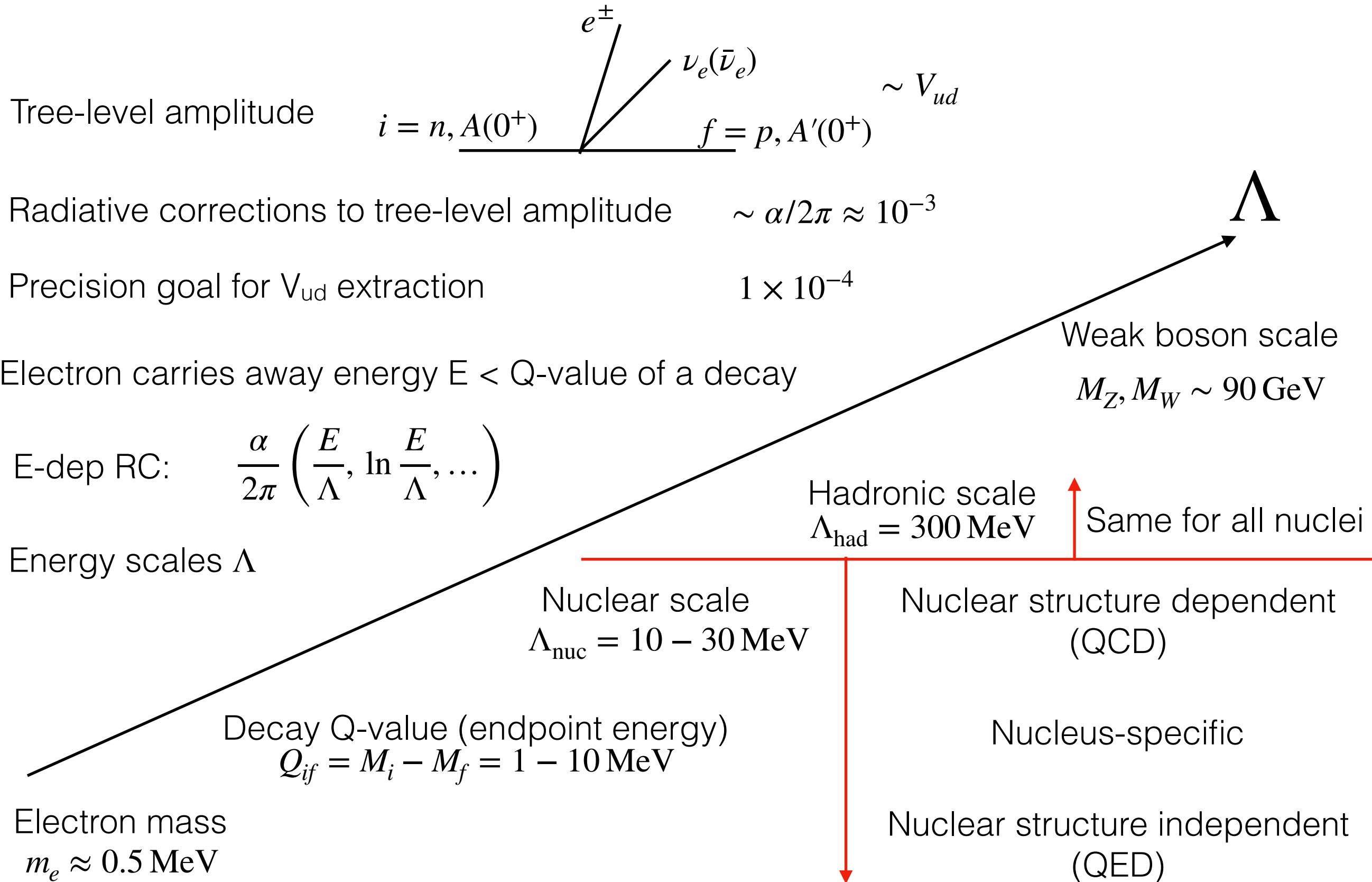
$$\tau_n = 877.75(28)_{-12}^{+16}$$

Factor 2-3 improvement

**UCN $\tau$**  *F. M. Gonzalez et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 127 (2021) 162501*

RC to nuclear beta decay: overall setup

# RC to nuclear beta decay: overall setup



# RC to beta decay: overall setup

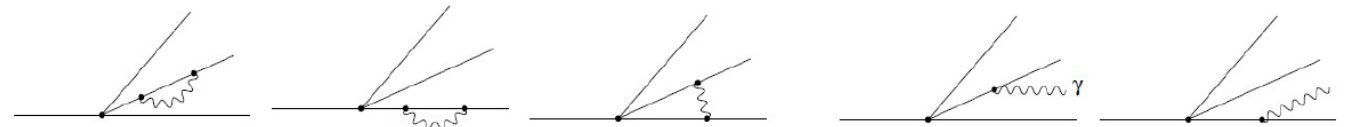
Generically: only IR and UV extremes feature large logarithms!  
 Works by Sirlin (1930-2022) and collaborators: all large logs under control

## IR: Fermi function + Sirlin function

Fermi function: resummation of  $(Z\alpha)^n \rightarrow$  Dirac - Coulomb problem

Sirlin function (outer correction):

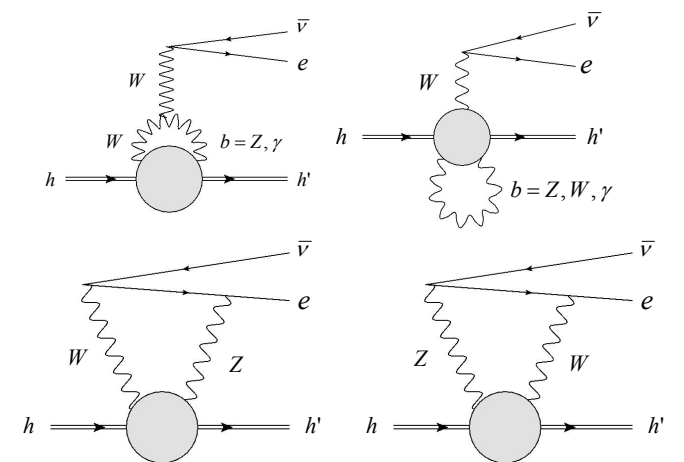
All IR-div. pieces beyond Coulomb distortion



## UV: large EW logs + pQCD corrections

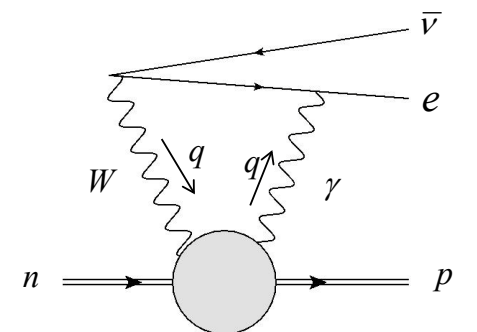
Inner RC:  
 energy- and model-independent

W,Z - loops  
 UV structure of SM



## $\gamma W$ -box: sensitive to all scales

New method for computing EW boxes: dispersion theory  
 Combine exp. data with pQCD, lattice, EFT, ab-initio nuclear

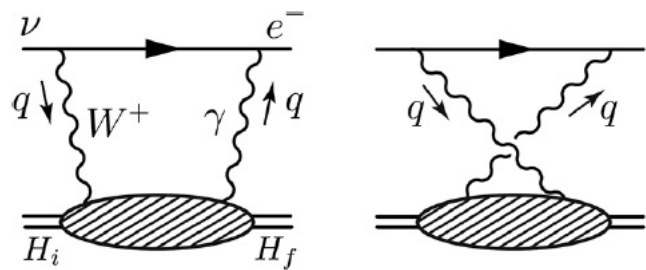


Dispersion Formalism for  $\gamma W$ -box



# $\gamma W$ -box from dispersion relations

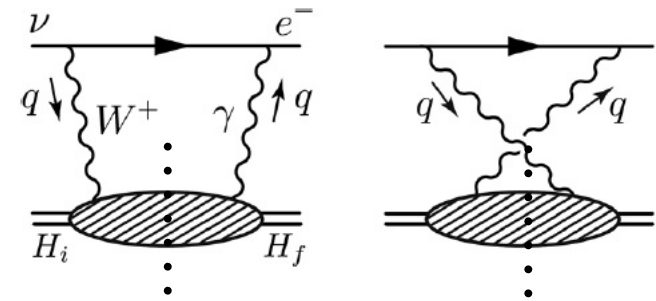
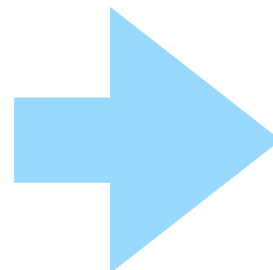
Model-dependent part or RC:  $\gamma W$ -box



Generalized Compton tensor  
time-ordered product — complicated!

$$\int dx e^{iqx} \langle H_f(p) | T \{ J_{em}^\mu(x) J_W^{\nu,\pm}(0) \} | H_i(p) \rangle$$

Generalized (non-diagonal) Compton amplitudes



Commutator (Im part) - only on-shell  
hadronic states — related to data

$$\int dx e^{iqx} \langle H_f(p) | [J_{em}^\mu(x), J_W^{\nu,\pm}(0)] | H_i(p) \rangle$$

Interference structure functions

Physics of taming model dependence with dispersion relations:

virtual photon polarizes the nucleon/nucleus;

Long- and intermediate-range part of the box sensitive to hadronic **polarizabilities**

Polarizabilities related to the excitation spectrum via dispersion relation

(Cf. Kramers-Kronig)

# Universal RC from dispersion relations

Interference  $\gamma W$  structure functions 
$$\text{Im}T_{\gamma W}^{\mu\nu} = \dots + \frac{i\varepsilon^{\mu\nu\alpha\beta} p_\alpha q_\beta}{2(pq)} F_3^{\gamma W}(x, Q^2)$$

After some algebra (isospin decomposition, loop integration)

$$\begin{aligned} \square_{\gamma W}^{b,e}(E_e) &= \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \int_0^\infty dQ^2 \frac{M_W^2}{M_W^2 + Q^2} \int_{\nu_{\text{thr}}}^\infty \frac{d\nu'}{\nu'} \frac{\nu' + 2\sqrt{\nu'^2 + Q^2}}{(\nu' + \sqrt{\nu'^2 + Q^2})^2} \frac{F_{3,-}(\nu', Q^2)}{M f_+(0)} + \mathcal{O}(E_e^2) \\ \square_{\gamma W}^{b,o}(E_e) &= \frac{2\alpha E_e}{3\pi} \int_0^\infty dQ^2 \int_{\nu_{\text{thr}}}^\infty \frac{d\nu'}{\nu'} \frac{\nu' + 3\sqrt{\nu'^2 + Q^2}}{(\nu' + \sqrt{\nu'^2 + Q^2})^3} \frac{F_{3,+}(\nu', Q^2)}{M f_+(0)} + \mathcal{O}(E_e^3) \end{aligned}$$

Advantage to previous approach (Marciano & Sirlin):

- Explicit 2-fold integral, isospin decomposition and energy dependence

Nachtmann moments  
play a role in DIS

$$M_3(n, Q^2) = \frac{n+1}{n+2} \int_0^1 \frac{dx \xi^n}{x^2} \frac{2x(n+1) - n\xi}{n+1} F_3(x, Q^2), \quad \xi = \frac{2x}{1 + \sqrt{1 + 4M^2 x^2 / Q^2}}$$

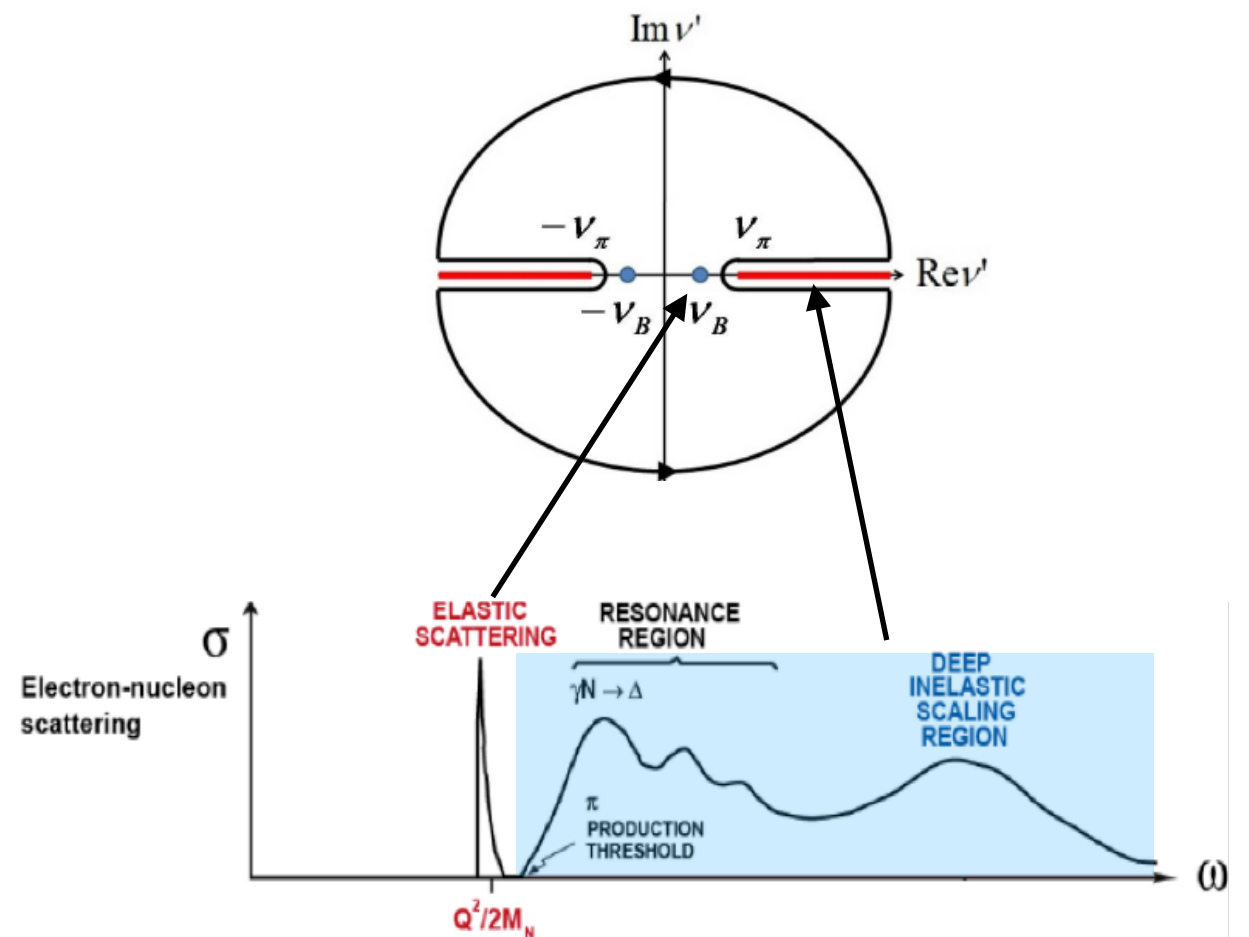
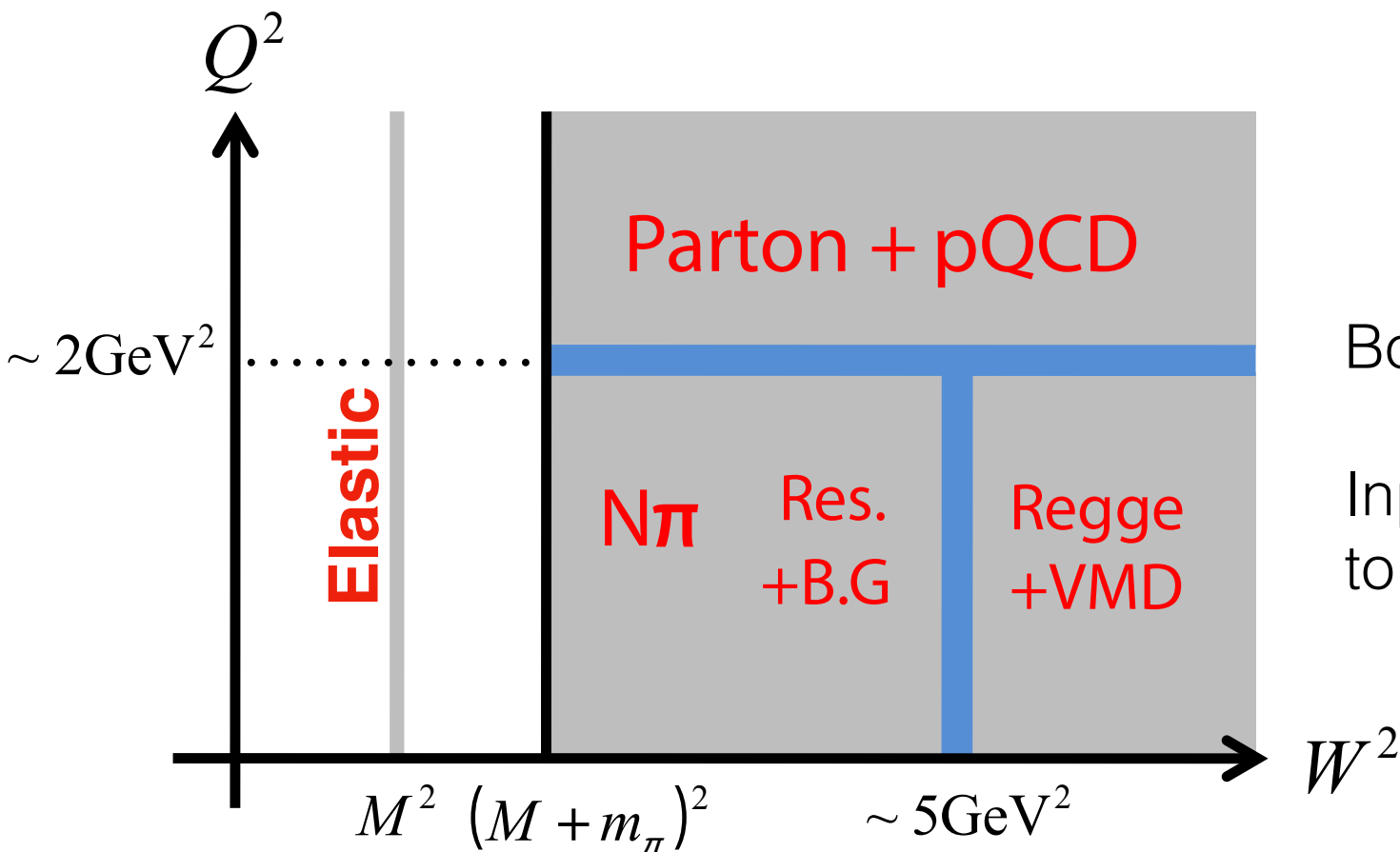
Hiding the nu-integration in the Nachtmann moments:

$$\square_{\gamma W}^b(E_e) = \frac{3\alpha}{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{dQ^2}{Q^2} \frac{M_W^2}{M_W^2 + Q^2} \left[ M_{3,-}(1, Q^2) + \frac{8E_e M}{9Q^2} M_{3,+}(2, Q^2) \right] + \mathcal{O}(E_e^2)$$

# Input into dispersion integral

Dispersion in energy:  $W^2 = M^2 + 2M\nu - Q^2$   
 scanning hadronic intermediate states

Dispersion in  $Q^2$ :  
 scanning dominant physics pictures



Boundaries between regions - approximate

Input in DR related (directly or indirectly) to experimentally accessible data

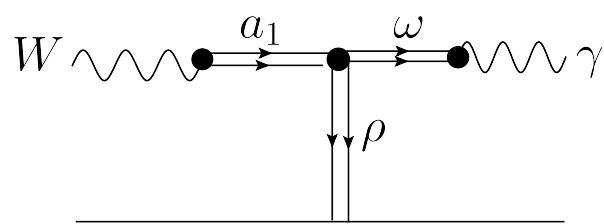
# Input into dispersion integral - $\nu/\bar{\nu}$ data

Mixed CC-NC  $\gamma W$  SF (no data)  $\longleftrightarrow$  Purely CC WW SF (inclusive neutrino data)

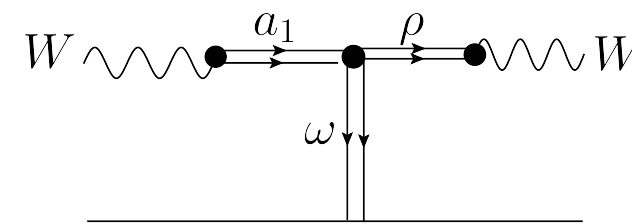
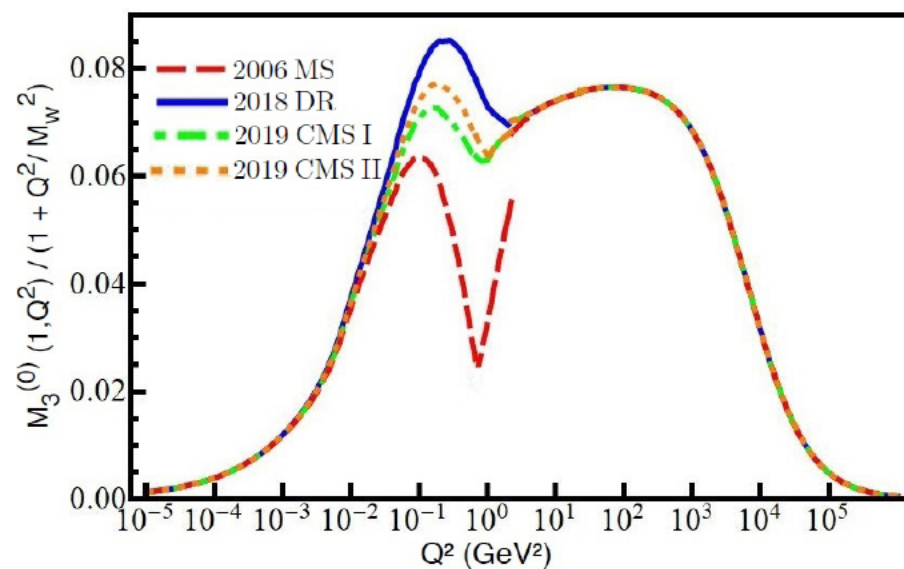
Isospin symmetry: vector-isoscalar current related to vector-isovector current

Only useful if we know the physical mechanism (Born, DIS, Regge, Resonance,...)

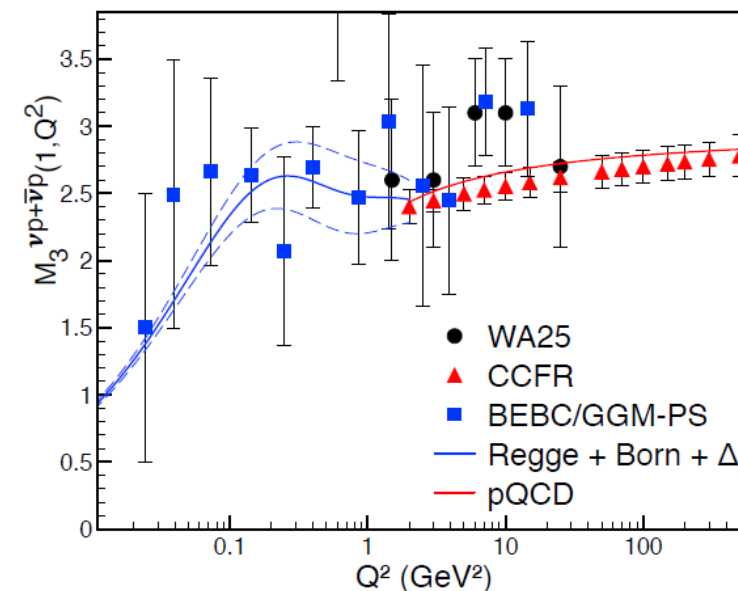
Were able to identify the missing part with Regge (multiparticle continuum)



Free neutron  $\gamma W$  box



Neutrino scattering data

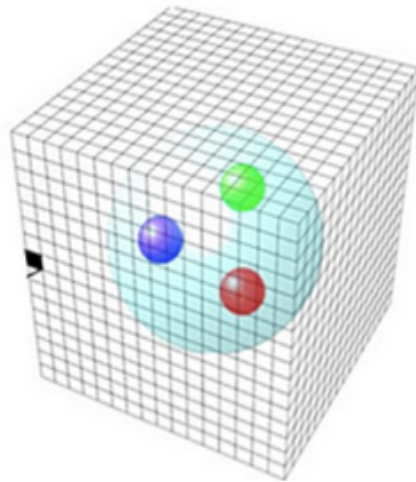


Marciano, Sirlin 2006:  $\Delta_R^V = 0.02361(38) \longrightarrow |V_{ud}| = 0.97420(10)_{Ft}(18)_{RC}$

DR (Seng et al. 2018):  $\Delta_R^V = 0.02467(22) \longrightarrow |V_{ud}| = 0.97370(10)_{Ft}(10)_{RC}$

# $\gamma W$ -box from DR + Lattice QCD input

Currently available neutrino data at low  $Q^2$  - low quality;  
 Look for alternative input — compute Compton amplitude on the lattice



$$\mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu}^{VA}(x) = \langle \pi^0(p) | T[J_\mu^{\text{em}}(x) J_\nu^{W,A}(0)] | \pi^-(p) \rangle$$

$$M_\pi(Q^2) = -\frac{1}{6\sqrt{2}} \frac{\sqrt{Q^2}}{m_\pi} \int d^4x \omega(Q, x) \epsilon_{\mu\nu\alpha 0} x_\alpha \mathcal{H}_{\mu\nu}^{VA}(x)$$

Direct LQCD computation for  $\pi^- \rightarrow \pi^0 e^- \nu_e$

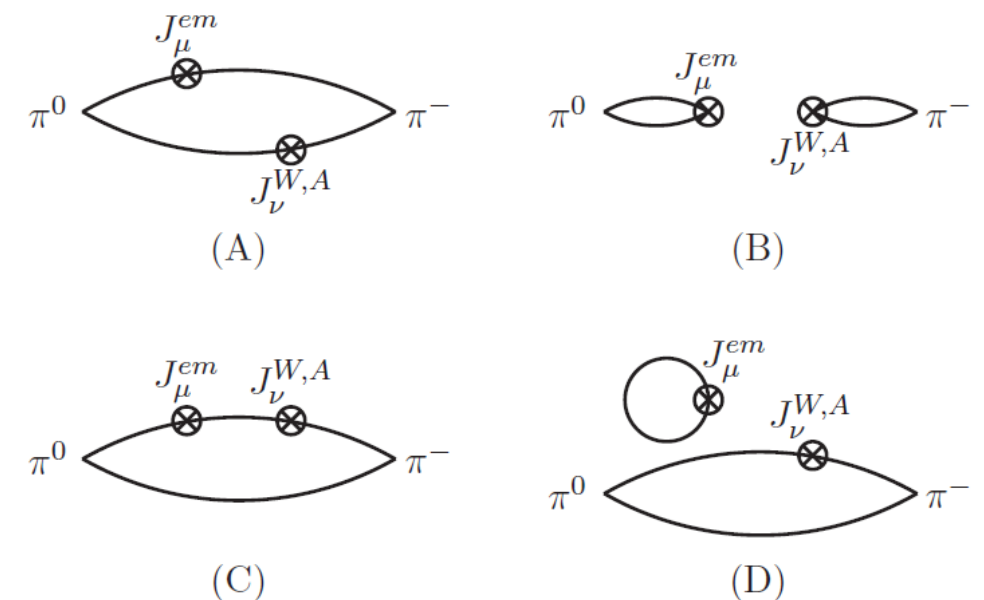
*Feng, MG, Jin, Ma, Seng 2003.09798*

5 LQCD gauge ensembles at physical pion mass  
 Generated by RBC and UKQCD collaborations  
 w. 2+1 flavor domain wall fermion

Ensemble	$m_\pi$ [MeV]	$L$	$T$	$a^{-1}$ [GeV]	$N_{\text{conf}}$	$N_r$	$\Delta t/a$
24D	141.2(4)	24	64	1.015	46	1024	8
32D	141.4(3)	32	64	1.015	32	2048	8
32D-fine	143.0(3)	32	64	1.378	71	1024	10
48I	135.5(4)	48	96	1.730	28	1024	12
64I	135.3(2)	64	128	2.359	62	1024	18

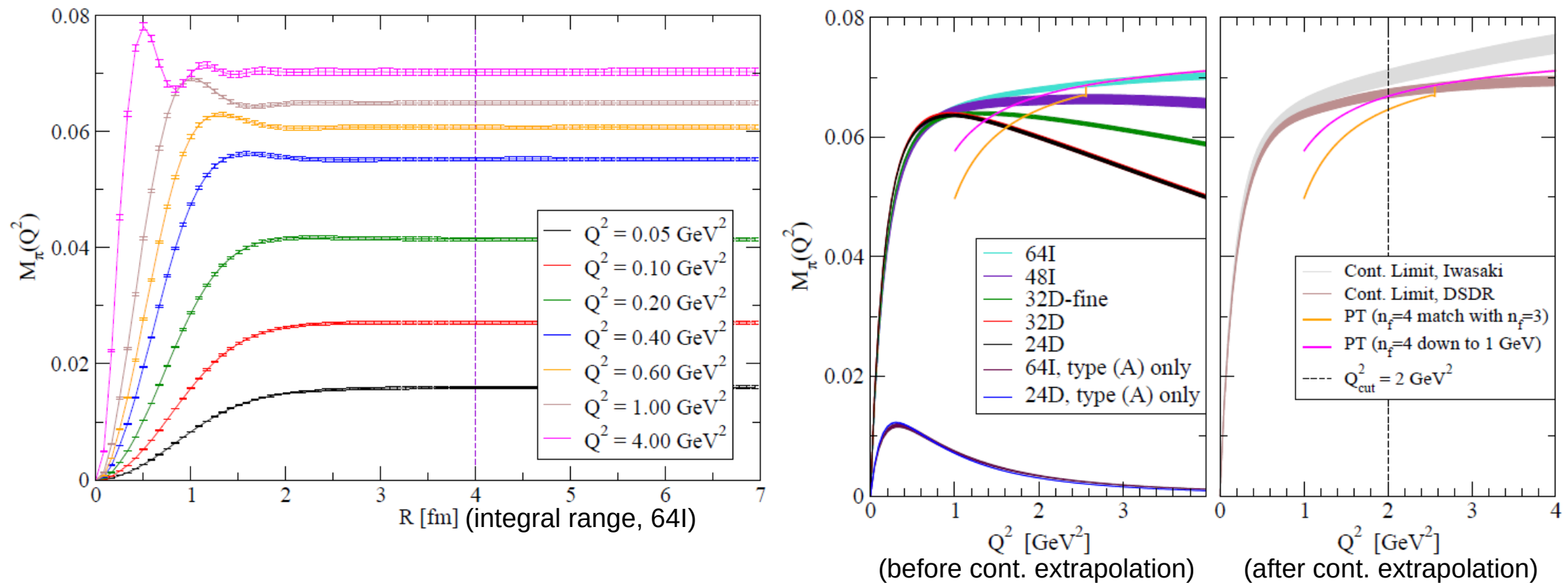
Blue: DSDR

Red : Iwasaki



Quark contraction diagrams

# First lattice QCD calculation of $\gamma W$ -box



## Estimate of major systematic effects:

- **Lattice discretization effect:** Estimated using the discrepancy between DSDR and Iwasaki
- **pQCD calculation:** Estimated from the difference between 3-loop and 4-loop results
- **Higher-twist effects at large  $Q^2$ :** Estimated from lattice calculation of type (A) diagrams

Direct impact for pion decay  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ \nu_e$

$$|V_{ud}|^2 = \frac{0.9799}{(1+\delta)} \frac{\Gamma_{\pi\ell 3}}{0.3988(23) \text{ s}^{-1}}$$

Previous calculation of  $\delta$  — in ChPT

*Cirigliano, Knecht, Neufeld and Pichl, EPJC 2003*

Significant reduction of the uncertainty!

$$\delta : 0.0334(10)_{\text{LEC}}(3)_{\text{HO}} \rightarrow 0.0332(1)_{\gamma W}(3)_{\text{HO}}$$



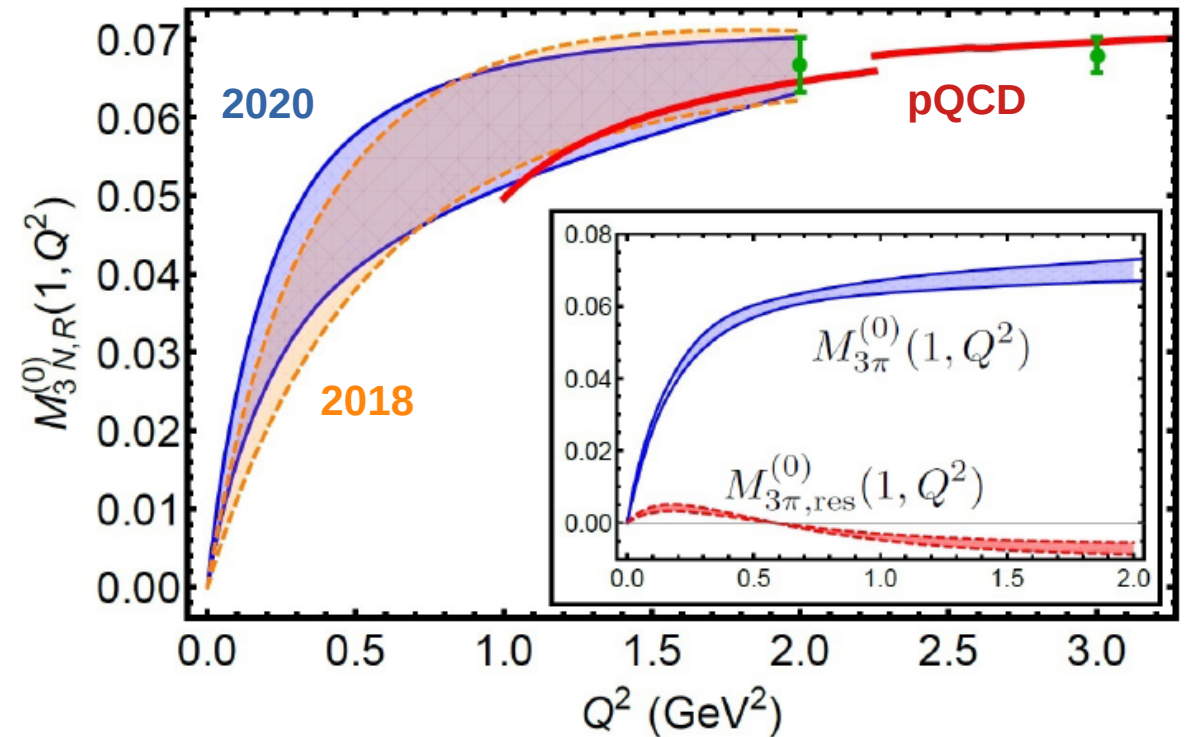
# Implications for the free nucleon $\gamma W$ -box

Indirectly constrains the free neutron  $\gamma W$ -box

Independent confirmation of the empirical DR result AND uncertainty

$$\Delta_R^V = 0.02467(22)_{\text{DR}} \rightarrow 0.02477(24)_{\text{LQCD+DR}}$$

*Seng, MG, Feng, Jin, 2003.11264*



Free-n RC in agreement by several groups & methods

Method	$\Delta_R^V$
DR with neutrino data (1)	0.02467(22)
DR with neutrino data (2)	0.02471(18)
DR with indirect lattice data	0.02477(24)
Non-DR (1)	0.02426(32)
Non-DR (2)	0.02473(27)

*C-Y Seng et al., Phys.Rev.Lett. 121 (2018) 24, 241804;*  
*C-Y Seng, MG, M.J. Ramsey-Musolf, Phys.Rev. D 100 (2019)*  
*Shiells, Blunden, Melnitchouk, Phys.Rev.D 104 (2021) 3, 033003*  
*Seng, MG, Feng, Jin, 2003.11264*  
*Czarnecki, Marciano, Sirlin, Phys.Rev. D 100 (2019) 7, 073008*  
*Hayen, Phys.Rev.D 103 (2021) 11, 113001*

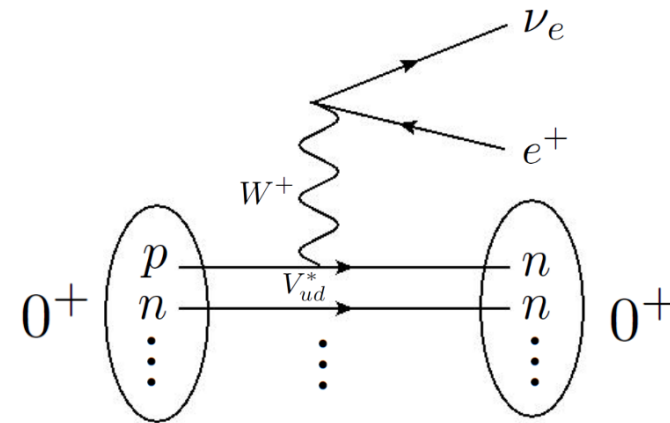
Status of  $\delta_{\text{NS}}$



# Splitting the $\gamma W$ -box into Universal and Nuclear Parts

Vud from superallowed nuclear decays

$$|V_{ud}|^2 = \frac{2984.43s}{\mathcal{F}t(1 + \Delta_R^V)}$$



Experiment: half-life; branching ratio; Q-value  $\rightarrow$  decay-specific **ft**-value

To obtain Vud  $\rightarrow$  absorb all decay-specific corrections into universal **Ft**

$$ft(1 + \text{RC} + \text{ISB}) = \mathcal{F}t(1 + \Delta_R^V) = ft(1 + \delta'_R)(1 - \delta_C + \delta_{\text{NS}})(1 + \Delta_R^V)$$

Outer: QED

Isospin-breaking

Nuclear structure

Universal inner

NS correction reflects extraction of the free box

$$\delta_{\text{NS}} = 2[ \square_{\gamma W}^{\text{VA, nucl}} - \square_{\gamma W}^{\text{VA, free n}} ]$$

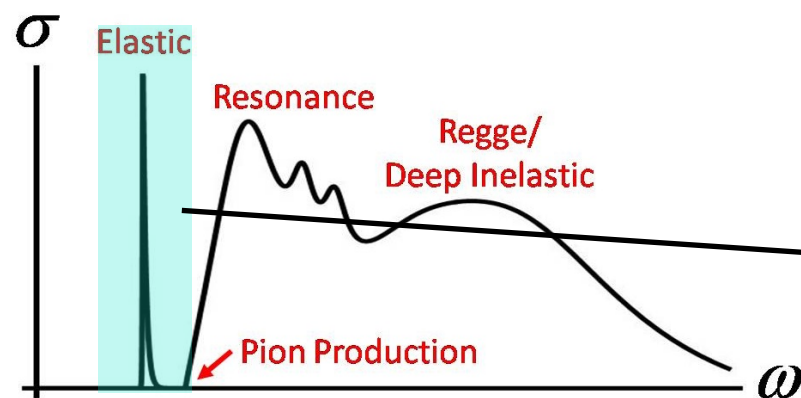
# Splitting the $\gamma W$ -box into Universal and Nuclear Parts

RC on a free neutron  $\Delta_R^V \propto F_3^{\text{free n}} \propto \int dx e^{iqx} \sum_X \langle p | J_{em}^{\mu,(0)}(x) | X \rangle \langle X | J_W^{\nu,+}(0) | n \rangle$

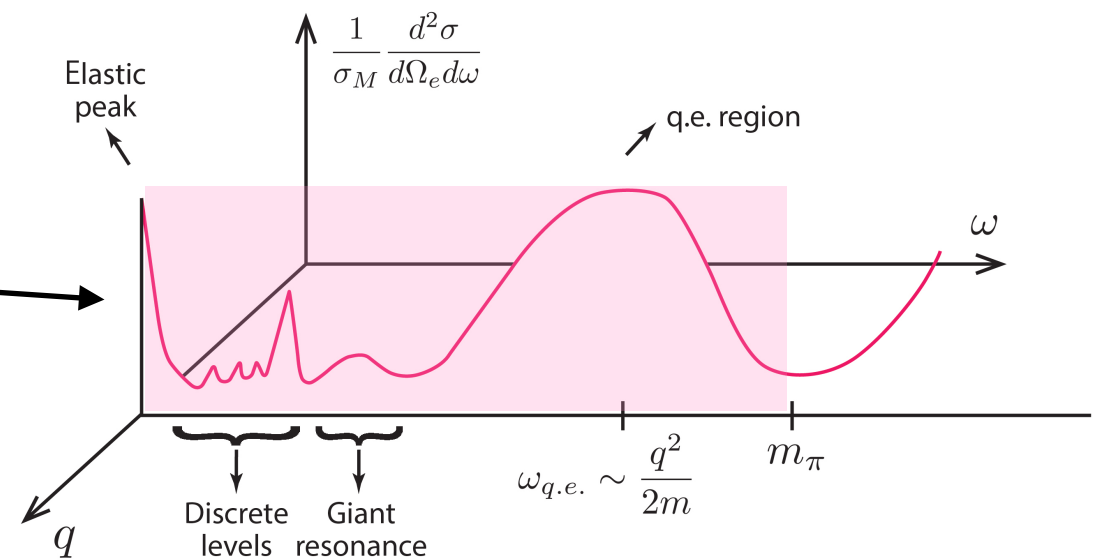
RC on a nucleus  $\Delta_R^V + \delta_{NS} \propto F_3^{\text{Nucl.}} \propto \int dx e^{iqx} \sum_{X'} \langle A' | J_{em}^{\mu,(0)}(x) | X' \rangle \langle X' | J_W^{\nu,+}(0) | A \rangle$

Nuclear modification in the lower part of the spectrum

Input in the DR for the universal RC



Input in the DR for the RC on a nucleus



$\delta_{NS}$  from DR with energy dependence averaged over the spectrum

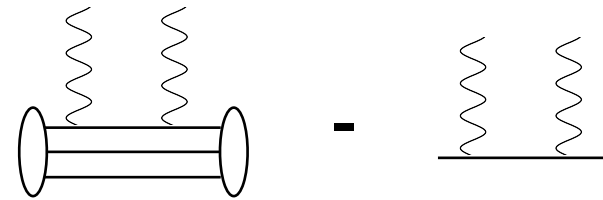
$$\delta_{NS} = \frac{2\alpha}{\pi M} \int_0^{\text{few GeV}^2} dQ^2 \int_{\nu_{thr}}^{\nu_\pi} \frac{d\nu}{\nu} \left[ \frac{\nu + 2q}{(\nu + q)^2} \left( F_3^{(0) \text{Nucl.}} - F_3^{(0),B} \right) + \frac{2\langle E \rangle}{3} \frac{\nu + 3q}{(\nu + q)^3} F_3^{(-) \text{Nucl.}} \right]$$

# Splitting the $\gamma W$ -box into Universal and Nuclear Parts

Need to know the full nuclear Green's function indices  $k, l$  count the nucleon d.o.f. in a nucleus

$$T_{\mu\nu}^{\gamma W \text{ nuc}} \sim \sum_{k,l} \langle f | J_{\mu}^W(k) G_{\text{nuc}} J_{\nu}^{\text{EM}}(l) | i \rangle$$

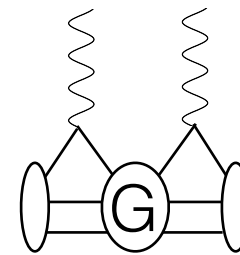
(A) same active nucleon



Modified Born

$\delta_{\text{NS}} =$

(B) two nucleons correlated by  $G$



Specifically nuclear effect

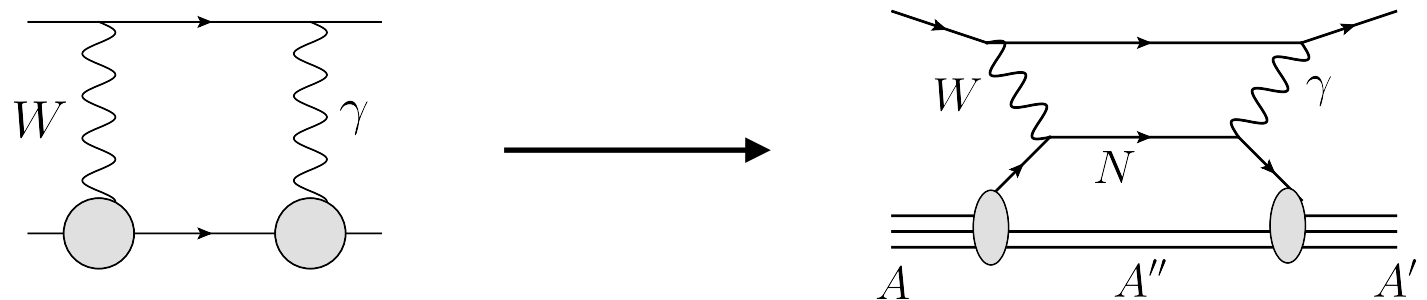
Case (A): non-interacting (=on-shell) neutron propagating between interaction vertices

Case (B): all two-nucleon contributions (QE 2p2h and nuclear excitations)

Insert on-shell intermediate states:

$$T_{\mu\nu}^A \rightarrow \sum_k \langle f | J_{\mu}^W(k) [S_F^N \otimes G_{\text{nuc}}^{A''}] J_{\nu}^{\text{EM}}(k) | i \rangle$$

The elastic nucleon box is replaced by a single N QE knockout



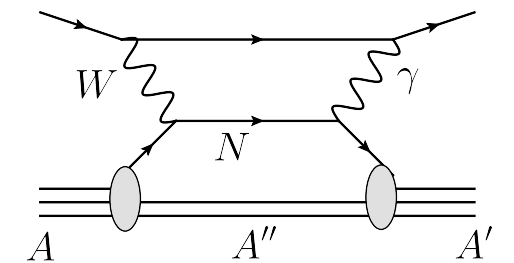
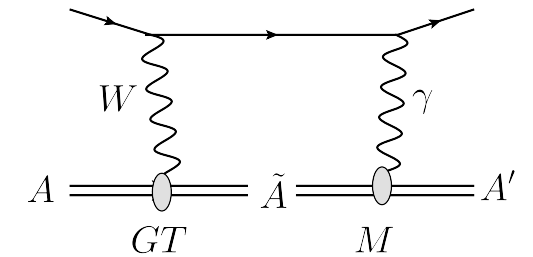
# Universal vs. Nuclear Corrections

Towner 1994 and ever since: quenching

$$\square_{\gamma W}^{\text{quenched Born}} - \square_{\gamma W}^{\text{Born}} = [q_S^{(0)} q_A - 1] \square_{\gamma W}^{\text{Born}}$$

Numerical impact on Ft values  $\mathcal{F}t = 3072.1(7)s$

$$[\delta \mathcal{F}t]^{\text{quenched Born}} \approx -1.8(4)s$$



From DR perspective: misidentified!

Excited nuclear state, not modified box on free nucleon!

Correct estimate: QE 1-nucleon knockout

QE contribution from DR:  $\delta_{NS}^{\text{QE}} = \delta_{NS}^{\text{QE},0} + \langle E \rangle \delta_{NS}^{\text{QE},1}$

$$\delta_{NS} = \frac{2\alpha}{\pi NM} \int_0^{\text{few GeV}^2} dQ^2 \int_{\nu_{thr}}^{\nu_\pi} \frac{d\nu}{\nu} \left[ \frac{\nu + 2q}{(\nu + q)^2} \left( F_3^{(0)QE} - F_3^{(0),B} \right) + \frac{2\langle E \rangle}{3} \frac{\nu + 3q}{(\nu + q)^3} F_3^{(-)QE} \right]$$

HT value 2018:

$$\mathcal{F}t = 3072.1(7)s$$

Old estimate:

New estimate:

$$\delta \mathcal{F}t = -(1.8 \pm 0.4)s + (0 \pm 0)s$$

$$\delta \mathcal{F}t = -(3.5 \pm 1.0)s + (1.6 \pm 0.5)s$$

**C-Y Seng, MG, M J Ramsey-Musolf 1812.03352**

**MG 1812.04229**

Nuclear structure uncertainty tripled!

$$\mathcal{F}t = (3072 \pm 2)s$$

# Ab-Initio $\delta_{NS}$

Only a naive warm-up calculation — ab-initio  $\delta_{NS}$  necessary!

Dispersion theory of  $\delta_{NS}$ : isospin structure + multipole expansion

Seng, MG 2211.10214

Interesting effects detected:

*Mixed isospin structure due to 2B currents (absent for n,  $\pi e3$ )*

*Residue contribution if  $0^+$  state is not g.s.: anomalous threshold*

Normal threshold: nuclear excitation spectrum separated from external state by finite energy gap — only virtual;

if there are states below — can go on-shell even without external energy

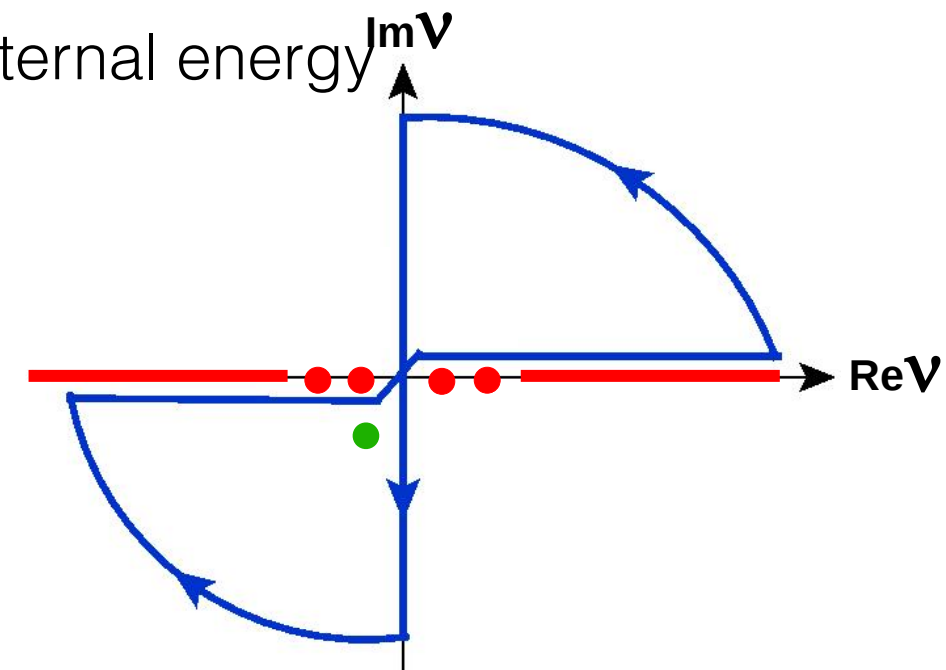
Residue contribution: contains parts singular at  $E_e = 0$

—> should contribute to outer correction  $\delta'_R$

Currently, effort on light systems C-10, O-14

Accessible to NCSM, GFMC, CC, ...

Important cross checks should become possible soon (?)



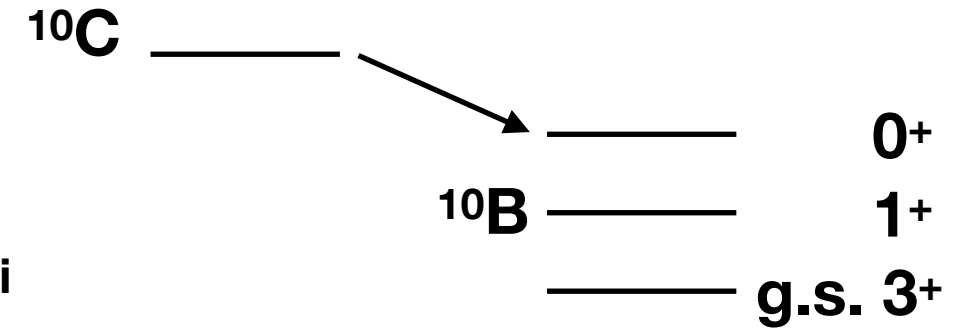
Michael Gennari, Petr Navratil,  
Garrett King

# Ab-Initio $\delta_{NS}$ : what to expect?

At present only preliminary results for C-10;

residue due to B-10 levels numerically large (1%)  
needs confirmation!

Michael Gennari



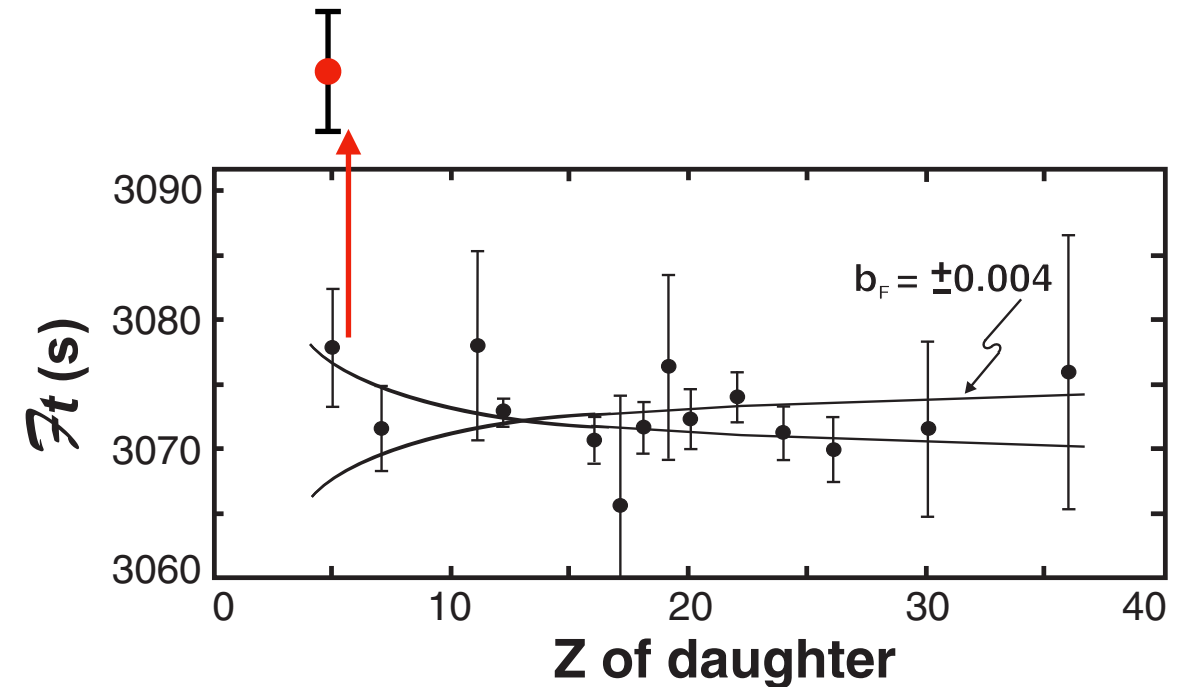
Prize is high: if confirmed - nonzero Fierz!

But there are many more questions to raise!

$\delta_{NS}$  from H & T: negative for light nuclei

Parent nucleus	$\delta_{NS}(\%)$	
	Quenched	Adopted
$T_z = -1$ :		
$^{10}\text{C}$	-0.357	-0.360(35)
$^{14}\text{O}$	-0.295	-0.250(50)
$^{18}\text{Ne}$	-0.325	-0.290(35)

Hardy, Towner 2002 review



DR + isospin symmetry:

$$\square_{\gamma W}^{Nucl} \propto F_{3, \gamma W} \propto F_{3, WW} \propto \frac{d\sigma^{\nu A}}{dx dy} - \frac{d\sigma^{\bar{\nu} A}}{dx dy}$$

Common knowledge:  $\nu$  cross sections always higher than  $\bar{\nu}$ !

Can this pattern be tested experimentally? Is  $\delta_{NS}$  positive/negative definite?

Status of  $\delta_C$

# Isospin symmetry breaking in superallowed $\beta$ -decay

Tree-level Fermi matrix element

$$M_F = \langle f | \tau^+ | i \rangle$$

$\tau^+$  — Isospin operator

$|i\rangle, |f\rangle$  — members of  $I=1$  isotriplet

If isospin symmetry were exact,  $M_F \rightarrow M_0 = \sqrt{2}$

Isospin symmetry is broken in nuclear states  
(e.g. Coulomb, nucleon mass difference, ...)

In presence of isospin symmetry breaking (ISB):

$$|M_F|^2 = |M_0|^2 (1 - \delta_C)$$

ISB correction is crucial for  $V_{ud}$  extraction

TABLE X. Corrections  $\delta'_R$ ,  $\delta_{NS}$ , and  $\delta_C$  that are applied to experimental  $ft$  values to obtain  $\mathcal{F}t$  values.

Parent nucleus	$\delta'_R$ (%)	$\delta_{NS}$ (%)	$\delta_{C1}$ (%)	$\delta_{C2}$ (%)	$\delta_C$ (%)
$T_z = -1$					
$^{10}\text{C}$	1.679	-0.345(35)	0.010(10)	0.165(15)	0.175(18)
$^{14}\text{O}$	1.543	-0.245(50)	0.055(20)	0.275(15)	0.330(25)
$^{18}\text{Ne}$	1.506	-0.290(35)	0.155(30)	0.405(25)	0.560(39)
$^{22}\text{Mg}$	1.466	-0.225(20)	0.010(10)	0.370(20)	0.380(22)
$^{26}\text{Si}$	1.439	-0.215(20)	0.030(10)	0.405(25)	0.435(27)
$^{30}\text{S}$	1.423	-0.185(15)	0.155(20)	0.700(20)	0.855(28)
$^{34}\text{Ar}$	1.412	-0.180(15)	0.030(10)	0.665(55)	0.695(56)
$^{38}\text{Ca}$	1.414	-0.175(15)	0.020(10)	0.745(70)	0.765(71)
$^{42}\text{Ti}$	1.427	-0.235(20)	0.105(20)	0.835(75)	0.940(78)
$T_z = 0$					
$^{26m}\text{Al}$	1.478	0.005(20)	0.030(10)	0.280(15)	0.310(18)
$^{34}\text{Cl}$	1.443	-0.085(15)	0.100(10)	0.550(45)	0.650(46)
$^{38m}\text{K}$	1.440	-0.100(15)	0.105(20)	0.565(50)	0.670(54)
$^{42}\text{Sc}$	1.453	0.035(20)	0.020(10)	0.645(55)	0.665(56)
$^{46}\text{V}$	1.445	-0.035(10)	0.075(30)	0.545(55)	0.620(63)
$^{50}\text{Mn}$	1.444	-0.040(10)	0.035(20)	0.610(50)	0.645(54)
$^{54}\text{Co}$	1.443	-0.035(10)	0.050(30)	0.720(60)	0.770(67)
$^{62}\text{Ga}$	1.459	-0.045(20)	0.275(55)	1.20(20)	1.48(21)
$^{66}\text{As}$	1.468	-0.060(20)	0.195(45)	1.35(40)	1.55(40)
$^{70}\text{Br}$	1.486	-0.085(25)	0.445(40)	1.25(25)	1.70(25)
$^{74}\text{Rb}$	1.499	-0.075(30)	0.115(60)	1.50(26)	1.62(27)

*J. Hardy, I. Towner, Phys.Rev. C 91 (2014), 025501*

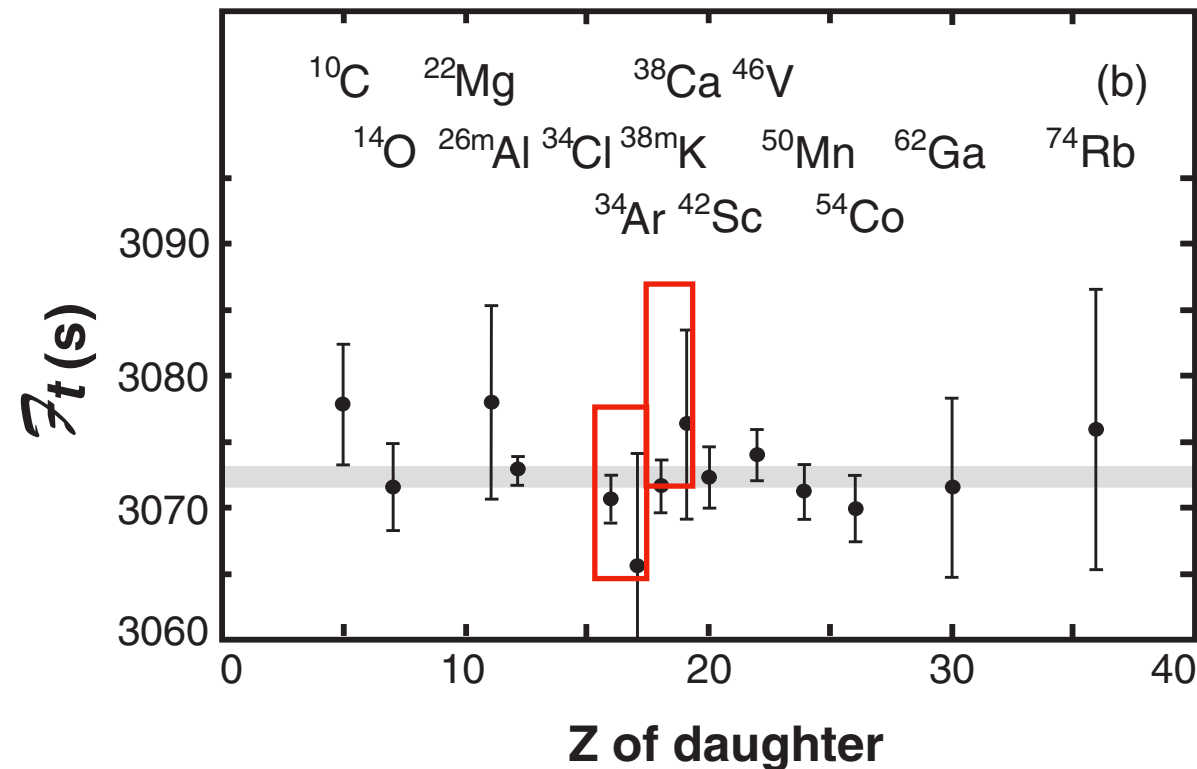
HT: calculate  $\delta_{C1,C2}$  in shell model with *phenomenological* Woods-Saxon potential locally adjusted:

- Masses of the isobaric multiplet  $T=1, 0^+$
- Neutron and proton separation energies
- Known proton radii of stable isotopes



# ISB in superallowed $\beta$ -decay BSM scalar interactions

Conserved vector current  $\rightarrow$  Ft constant



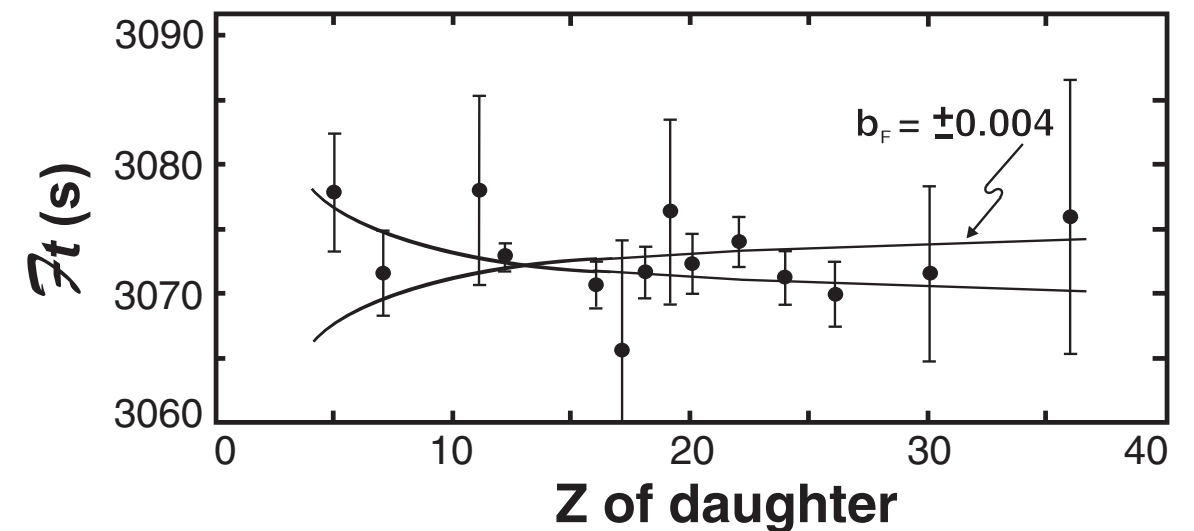
Fit to 14 transitions:

Ft constant within  $2 \times 10^{-4}$  and  $b_F = -0.0028(26)$

If Ft were not constant:

Presence of scalar currents - BSM

Fierz interference term  $\sim b_F m_e / E_e$



However: to achieve this precision the model was adjusted locally in each iso-multiplet

- Is this formalism the right tool to assess consistency amongst all the measurements?
- Red squares: even within one iso-multiplet ( $^{34}\text{Ar} - ^{34}\text{Cl} - ^{34}\text{S}$ ,  $^{38}\text{Ca} - ^{38m}\text{K} - ^{38}\text{Ar}$ ) discrepancies between central values may be larger than the total uncertainty
- Shell model does not cover all the model space (e.g. continuum)
- HT method criticized for using incorrect isospin formalism (G. Miller, A. Schwenk)
- Ab initio methods do not warrant such high precision

# ISB in superallowed $\beta$ -decay: nuclear model comparison

TABLE XI. Recent  $\delta_C$  calculations (in percent units) based on models labeled SM-WS (shell-model, Woods-Saxon), SM-HF (shell-model, Hartree-Fock), RPA (random phase approximation), IVMR (isovector monopole resonance), and DFT (density functional theory). Also given is the  $\chi^2/\nu$ ,  $\chi^2$  per degree of freedom, from the confidence test discussed in the text. *J. Hardy, I. Towner, Phys.Rev. C 91 (2014), 025501*

	RPA					IVMR <sup>a</sup>	DFT
	SM-WS	SM-HF	PKO1	DD-ME2	PC-F1		
$T_z = -1$							
<sup>10</sup> C	0.175	0.225	0.082	0.150	0.109	0.147	0.650
<sup>14</sup> O	0.330	0.310	0.114	0.197	0.150		0.303
<sup>22</sup> Mg	0.380	0.260					0.301
<sup>34</sup> Ar	0.695	0.540	0.268	0.376	0.379		
<sup>38</sup> Ca	0.765	0.620	0.313	0.441	0.347		
$T_z = 0$							
<sup>26m</sup> Al	0.310	0.440	0.139	0.198	0.159		0.370
<sup>34</sup> Cl	0.650	0.695	0.234	0.307	0.316		
<sup>38m</sup> K	0.670	0.745	0.278	0.371	0.294	0.434	
<sup>42</sup> Sc	0.665	0.640	0.333	0.448	0.345		0.770
<sup>46</sup> V	0.620	0.600					0.580
<sup>50</sup> Mn	0.645	0.610					0.550
<sup>54</sup> Co	0.770	0.685	0.319	0.393	0.339		0.638
<sup>62</sup> Ga	1.475	1.205					0.882
<sup>74</sup> Rb	1.615	1.405	1.088	1.258	0.668		1.770
$\chi^2/\nu$	1.4	6.4	4.9	3.7	6.1		4.3 <sup>b</sup>

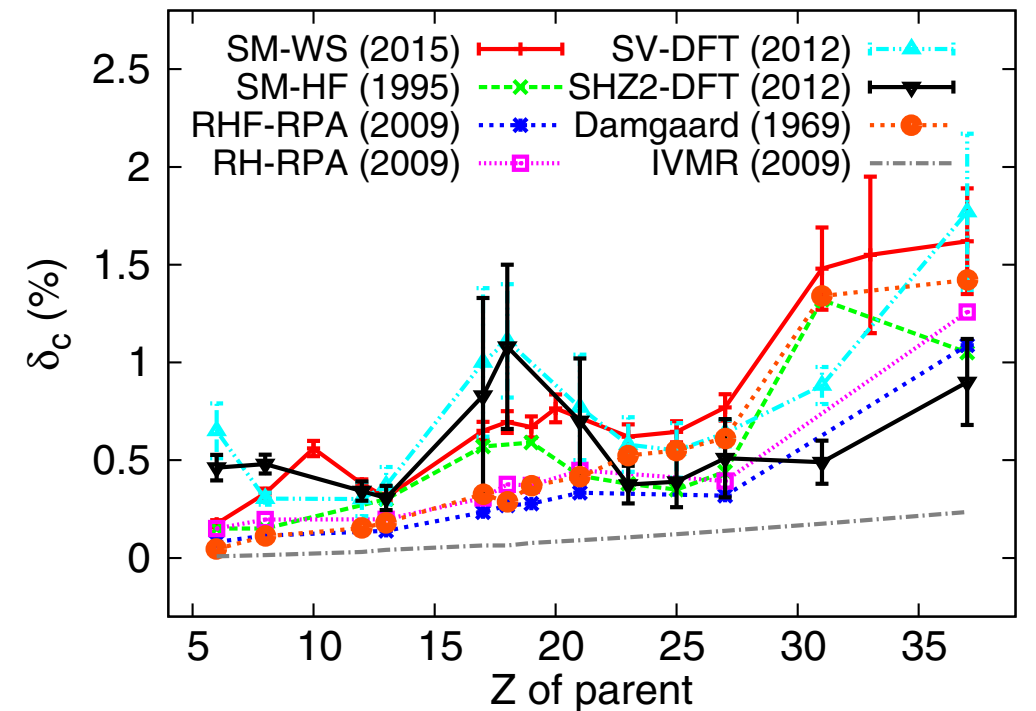
HT:  $\chi^2$  as criterion to prefer SM-WS;

$V_{ud}$  and limits on BSM strongly depend on nuclear model

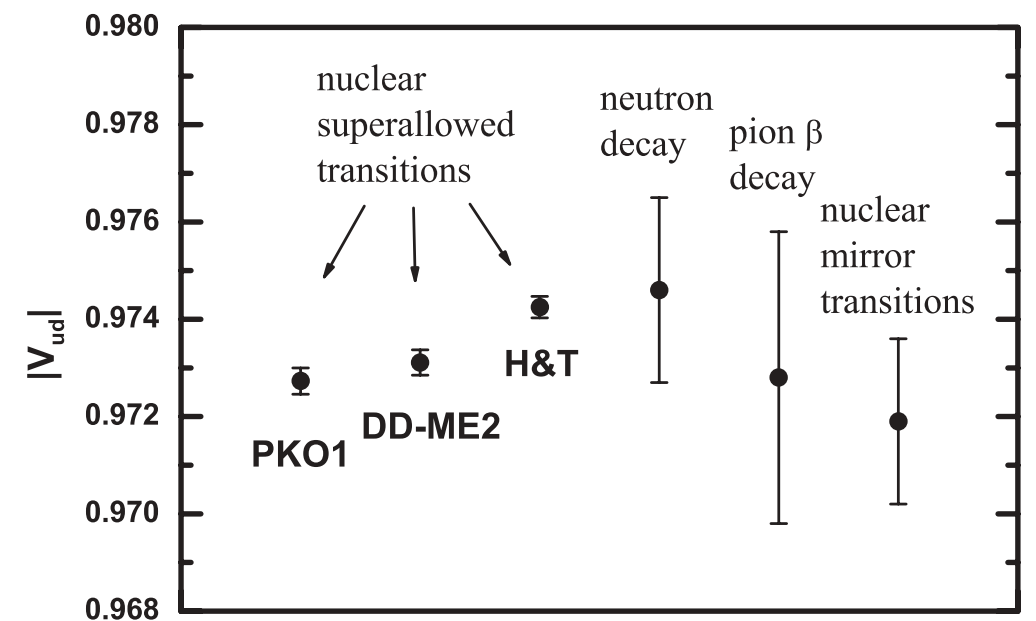
Nuclear community embarked on ab-initio  $\delta_C$  calculations

Especially interesting for light nuclei accessible to different techniques!

*L. Xayavong, N.A. Smirnova, Phys.Rev. C 97 (2018), 024324*



**Latsamy Xayavong**



# Electroweak radii constrain ISB in superallowed $\beta$ -decay

$\delta_C$  generally expected to be dominated by Coulomb repulsion between protons (hence C)

In this picture we can connect  $\delta_C$  to measurable quantities: charge and weak nuclear radii!

**Seng, MG 2208.03037; 2304.03800**  
**Seng 2212.02681**

Nuclear Hamiltonian with ISB potential:  $H = H_0 + V_{\text{ISB}} \approx H_0 + V_C$

Coulomb potential for uniformly charged sphere  $V_C \approx -\frac{Ze^2}{4\pi R_C^3} \sum_{i=1}^A \left( \frac{1}{2} r_i^2 - \frac{3}{2} R_C^2 \right) \left( \frac{1}{2} - \hat{T}_z(i) \right)$

ISB due to IV monopole,  $V_{\text{ISB}} \approx \frac{Ze^2}{8\pi R^3} \sum_i r_i^2 \hat{T}_z(i) = \frac{Ze^2}{8\pi R^3} \hat{M}_0^{(1)}$

Same op generates nuclear radii,  $R_{p/n,\phi} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{X} \langle \phi | \sum_{i=1}^A r_i^2 \left( \frac{1}{2} \mp \hat{T}_z(i) \right) | \phi \rangle}$

Construct ISB-sensitive combinations of radii: directly related to electroweak form factors!

$$\Delta M_A^{(1)} \equiv \langle f | M_{+1}^{(1)} | i \rangle + \langle f | M_0^{(1)} | f \rangle$$

$$\Delta M_B^{(1)} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left( Z_1 R_{p,1}^2 + Z_{-1} R_{p,-1}^2 \right) - Z_0 R_{p,0}^2$$

# Electroweak radii constrain ISB in superallowed $\beta$ -decay

Employ the correct isospin formalism by **Schwenk, Miller 0805.0603; 0910.2790**

$\delta_C$  expressed via the same set of matrix elements!

$$\delta_C = \frac{1}{3} \sum_a \frac{|\langle a; 0 || V || g; 1 \rangle|^2}{(E_{a,0} - E_{g,1})^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{a \neq g} \frac{|\langle a; 1 || V || g; 1 \rangle|^2}{(E_{a,1} - E_{g,1})^2} - \frac{5}{6} \sum_a \frac{|\langle a; 2 || V || g; 1 \rangle|^2}{(E_{a,2} - E_{g,1})^2} + \mathcal{O}(V^3)$$

$$\Delta M_A^{(1)} = \frac{1}{3} \Gamma_0 + \frac{1}{2} \Gamma_1 + \frac{7}{6} \Gamma_2 + \mathcal{O}(V^2)$$

$$\Delta M_B^{(1)} = \frac{2}{3} \Gamma_0 - \Gamma_1 + \frac{1}{3} \Gamma_2 + \mathcal{O}(V^2),$$

$$\Gamma_T = - \sum_a \frac{|\langle a; T || V || g; 1 \rangle|^2}{E_{a,T} - E_{g,1}}$$

Different scaling with ISB:  $\delta_C \sim \text{ISB}^2$ ,  $\Delta M_A^{(1)} \sim \text{ISB}^1$ ,  $\Delta M_B^{(1)} \sim \text{ISB}^3$

Transitions	$\delta_C$ (%)					$\Delta M_A^{(1)}$ (fm <sup>2</sup> )					$\Delta M_B^{(1)}$ (fm <sup>2</sup> )				
	WS	DFT	HF	RPA	Micro	WS	DFT	HF	RPA	Micro	WS	DFT	HF	RPA	Micro
$^{26m}\text{Al} \rightarrow ^{26}\text{Mg}$	0.310	0.329	0.30	0.139	0.08	-2.2	-2.3	-2.1	-1.0	-0.6	-0.12	-0.12	-0.11	-0.05	-0.03
$^{34}\text{Cl} \rightarrow ^{34}\text{S}$	0.613	0.75	0.57	0.234	0.13	-5.0	-6.1	-4.6	-1.9	-1.0	-0.17	-0.21	-0.16	-0.06	-0.04
$^{38m}\text{K} \rightarrow ^{38}\text{Ar}$	0.628	1.7	0.59	0.278	0.15	-5.4	-14.6	-5.1	-2.4	-1.3	-0.15	-0.42	-0.15	-0.07	-0.04
$^{42}\text{Sc} \rightarrow ^{42}\text{Ca}$	0.690	0.77	0.42	0.333	0.18	-6.2	-6.9	-3.8	-3.0	-1.6	-0.15	-0.17	-0.09	-0.07	-0.04
$^{46}\text{V} \rightarrow ^{46}\text{Ti}$	0.620	0.563	0.38	/	0.21	-5.8	-5.3	-3.6	/	-2.0	-0.12	-0.11	-0.08	/	-0.04
$^{50}\text{Mn} \rightarrow ^{50}\text{Cr}$	0.660	0.476	0.35	/	0.24	-6.4	-4.6	-3.4	/	-2.4	-0.12	-0.09	-0.06	/	-0.04
$^{54}\text{Co} \rightarrow ^{54}\text{Fe}$	0.770	0.586	0.44	0.319	0.28	-7.8	-5.9	-4.4	-3.2	-2.8	-0.13	-0.10	-0.07	-0.05	-0.05

Can discriminate model predictions for  $\Delta M_A$  from measured radii  $\rightarrow$  test models for  $\delta_C$

# Electroweak radii constrain ISB in superallowed $\beta$ -decay

Conversely: predict transition weak radius  $R_{CW}^2$  from known charge radii across isotriplet  
 Daughter charge radius used for recoil corrections to ft — but from isospin symmetry

$$R_{CW}^2 = R_{Ch,1}^2 + Z_0(R_{Ch,0}^2 - R_{Ch,1}^2) = R_{Ch,1}^2 + \frac{Z_{-1}}{2}(R_{Ch,-1}^2 - R_{Ch,1}^2) \quad \text{Seng 2212.02681}$$

A	$R_{Ch,-1}$ (fm)	$R_{Ch,0}$ (fm)	$R_{Ch,1}$ (fm)	$R_{Ch,1}^2$ (fm <sup>2</sup> )	$R_{CW}^2$ (fm <sup>2</sup> )
10	$^{10}_6\text{C}$	$^{10}_5\text{B(ex)}$	$^{10}_4\text{Be: } 2.3550(170)^a$	5.546(80)	N/A
14	$^{14}_8\text{O}$	$^{14}_7\text{N(ex)}$	$^{14}_6\text{C: } 2.50\ 25(87)^a$	6.263(44)	N/A
18	$^{18}_{10}\text{Ne: } 2.9714(76)^a$	$^{18}_9\text{F(ex)}$	$^{18}_8\text{O: } 2.77\ 26(56)^a$	7.687(31)	13.40(53)
22	$^{22}_{12}\text{Mg: } 3.0691(89)^b$	$^{22}_{11}\text{Na(ex)}$	$^{22}_{10}\text{Ne: } 2.9525(40)^a$	8.717(24)	12.93(71)
26	$^{26}_{14}\text{Si}$	$^{26}_{13}\text{Al}$	$^{26}_{12}\text{Mg: } 3.0337(18)^a$	9.203(11)	N/A
30	$^{30}_{16}\text{S}$	$^{30}_{15}\text{P(ex)}$	$^{30}_{14}\text{Si: } 3.1336(40)^a$	9.819(25)	N/A
34	$^{34}_{18}\text{Ar: } 3.3654(40)^a$	$^{34}_{17}\text{Cl}$	$^{34}_{16}\text{S: } 3.2847(21)^a$	10.789(14)	15.62(54)
38	$^{38}_{20}\text{Ca: } 3.467(1)^c$	$^{38}_{19}\text{K: } 3.437(4)^d$	$^{38}_{18}\text{Ar: } 3.4028(19)^a$	11.579(13)	15.99(28)
42	$^{42}_{22}\text{Ti}$	$^{42}_{21}\text{Sc: } 3.5702(238)^a$	$^{42}_{20}\text{Ca: } 3.5081(21)^a$	12.307(15)	21.5(3.6)
46	$^{46}_{24}\text{Cr}$	$^{46}_{23}\text{V}$	$^{46}_{22}\text{Ti: } 3.6070(22)^a$	13.010(16)	N/A
50	$^{50}_{26}\text{Fe}$	$^{50}_{25}\text{Mn: } 3.7120(196)^a$	$^{50}_{24}\text{Cr: } 3.6588(65)^a$	13.387(48)	23.2(3.8)
54	$^{54}_{28}\text{Ni: } 3.738(4)^e$	$^{54}_{27}\text{Co}$	$^{54}_{26}\text{Fe: } 3.6933(19)^a$	13.640(14)	18.29(92)
62	$^{62}_{32}\text{Ge}$	$^{62}_{31}\text{Ga}$	$^{62}_{30}\text{Zn: } 3.9031(69)^b$	15.234(54)	N/A
66	$^{66}_{34}\text{Se}$	$^{66}_{33}\text{As}$	$^{66}_{32}\text{Ge}$	N/A	N/A
70	$^{70}_{36}\text{Kr}$	$^{70}_{35}\text{Br}$	$^{70}_{34}\text{Se}$	N/A	N/A
74	$^{74}_{38}\text{Sr}$	$^{74}_{37}\text{Rb: } 4.1935(172)^b$	$^{74}_{36}\text{Kr: } 4.1870(41)^a$	17.531(34)	19.5(5.5)

Potential systematic shift by  $\sim 0.001$  to most ft values  $\rightarrow$  would alleviate unitarity deficit

Theory strategy: compute all radii AND  $\delta_C$  — check pattern, compare to available data, motivate exp.

Outlook for  $V_{ud}$

# Axial charge $g_A$ outlook

$$g_A = -1.2723(23) \xrightarrow{\text{pre-2018}} g_A = -1.2764(6) \text{ PERKEO-III (big A)}$$

But

$$g_A = -1.2677(28) \text{ aSPECT (little a)}$$

PERKEO-III  $\delta g_A/g_A \approx 0.04\%$

PERC, Nab, UCNA, ESS, ...  $\delta g_A/g_A < 0.01\%$

$g_A$  on the lattice

$$g_A^{\text{FLAG 2019}} = -1.251(33)$$

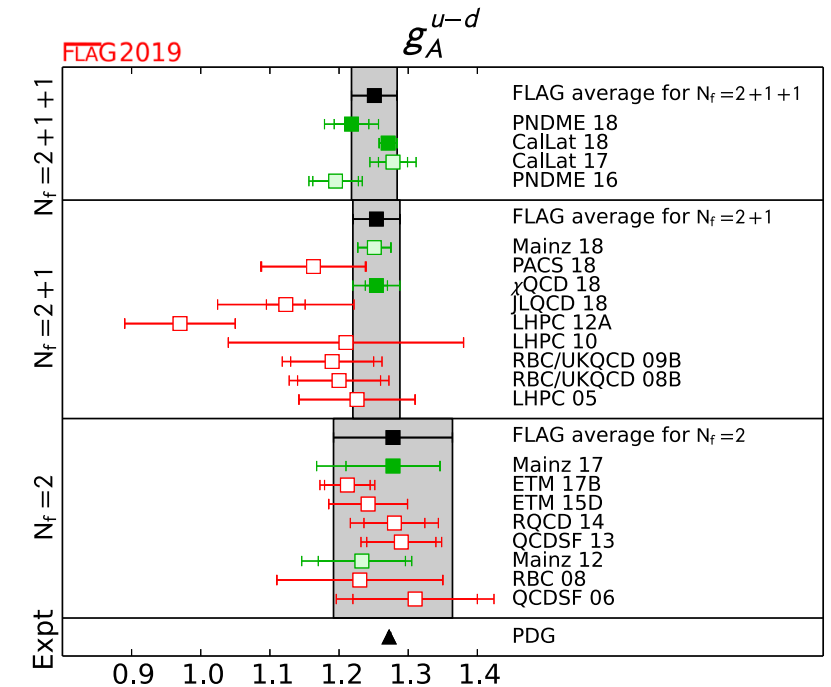
$$g_A^{\text{CalLat18}} = -1.271(12)$$

$$g_A^{\text{CalLat22}} = -1.264(9)$$

*Chang et al., 1805.12130, Nature*

*Andre Walker-Loud — preliminary*

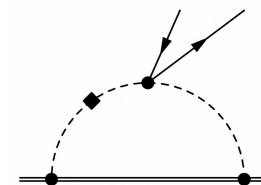
$g_V$  not renormalized by strong interaction: tests of EW SM  
 $g_A$  is renormalized — precision tests of QCD



RC to  $g_A$  to compare lattice to experiment:

No surprises from  $\gamma W$ -box

Unexpectedly large vertex correction  $\sim 1\%$  !!!  
 Isospin breaking from  $\pi^\pm - \pi^0$  mass difference  
 However: unknown counterterm



$$\text{---} \blacklozenge \text{---} = \text{---} \text{---}$$

*Cirigliano et al, 2202.10439*

*Hayen, PRD 103 (2021) 11, 113001*  
*MG, C-Y Seng, JHEP 10 (2021) 153*

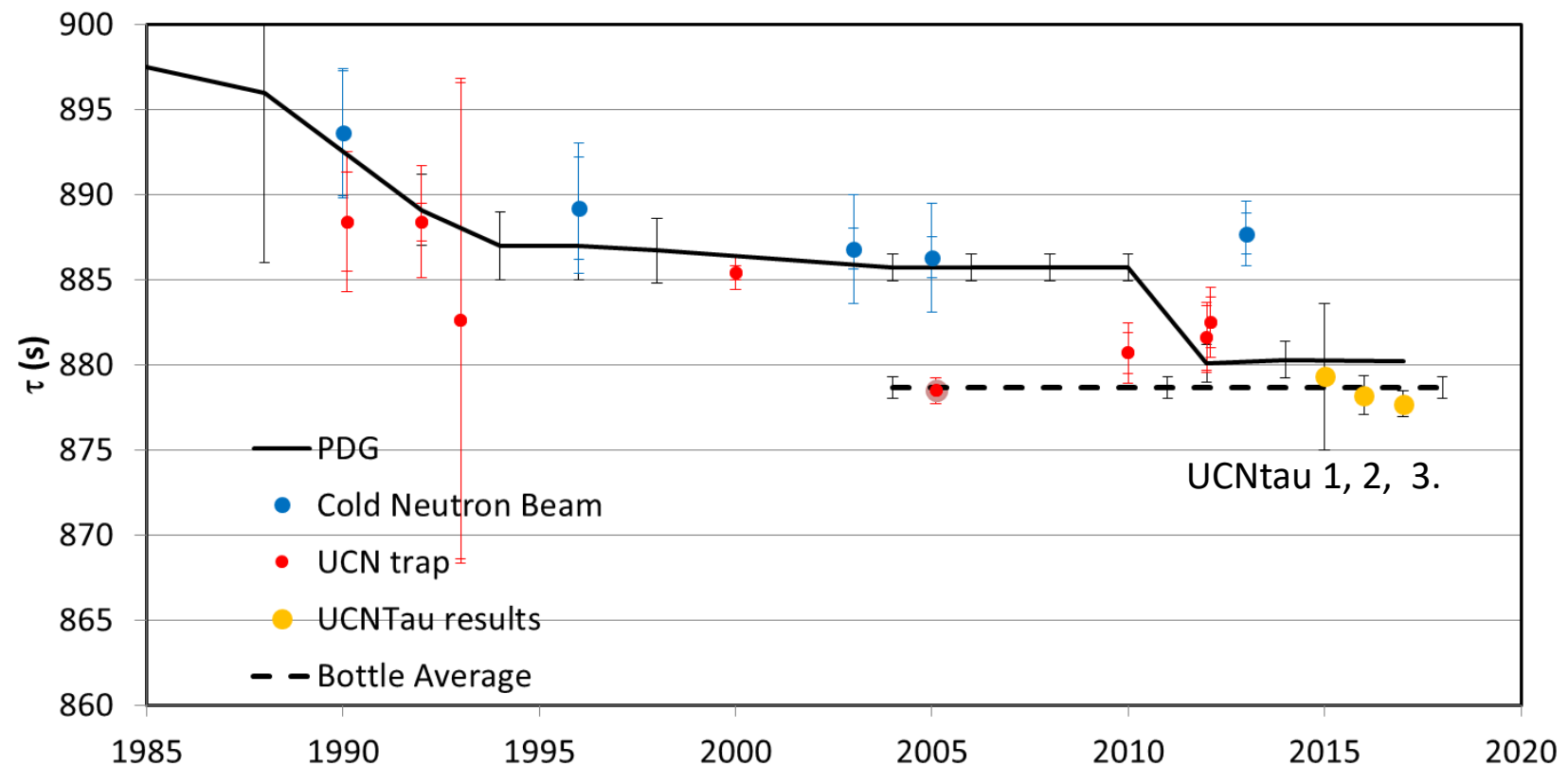
# Neutron lifetime $\tau_n$ outlook

Bottle (ultra-cold neutrons)

UCN  $\tau$  3  $\tau_n = 877.75(28)_{-12}^{+16}$

Plans (2023 on)  $\delta\tau_n = 0.1s$

Current limitation:  
Beam-bottle discrepancy



Beam (cold neutrons)

BL1 (NIST)  $\tau_n = 887.7(2.3)$

*Yue et al, PRL 111 (2013) 222501*

BL2 (2023 on)  $\rightarrow \delta\tau_n < 2s$

BL3 (2026 on)  $\rightarrow \delta\tau_n < 0.3s$



# Superaligned (nuclear and pion) Outlook

## Superaligned nuclear:

Experiment — not critical (FRIB, ISOLDE...)

$$|V_{ud}^{0^+-0^+}| = 0.97370(1)_{exp,nucl}(3)_{NS}(1)_{RC}$$

NS uncertainty currently largest — work necessary and ongoing

Dispersion formalism applicable to nuclear calculations

*Seng, MG, 2211.10214*

Collaboration started for light nuclei (C-10, O-14)

Pastore & Co [Green-Function Monte Carlo]

Navratil & Co [No-Core Shell Model]

ISB uncertainty may be underestimated — work ongoing

Related to charge and weak radii of the superaligned isotriplet

*Seng, MG, 2208.03037*

Direct ab-initio calculations (e.g. coupled clusters) - for medium nuclei

## Semileptonic pion (superaligned meson):

Theory in great shape!

$$|V_{ud}|_{\pi e 3} = 0.9740(28)_{BR}(1)_{th}$$

Experiment — future PIONEER @ PSI: o.o.m. improvement!

*PIONEER Coll. 2203.01908*

Phase I 2029 on

Phase II: improve BR( $\pi e 3$ ) by factor 3

Phase III: improve BR( $\pi e 3$ ) by factor 10

Status of  $V_{us}$

# $V_{us}$ Status and Outlook

$$\Gamma(K_{\ell 3(\gamma)}) = \frac{C_K^2 G_F^2 m_K^5}{192\pi^3} S_{EW} |V_{us}|^2 |f_+^{K^0\pi^-}(0)|^2 I_{K\ell}(\lambda_{K\ell}) \left(1 + 2\Delta_K^{SU(2)} + 2\Delta_{K\ell}^{EM}\right)$$

with  $K \in \{K^+, K^0\}$ ;  $\ell \in \{e, \mu\}$ , and:

$C_K^2$  1/2 for  $K^+$ , 1 for  $K^0$

$S_{EW}$  Universal SD EW correction (1.0232)

## Inputs from experiment:

$\Gamma(K_{\ell 3(\gamma)})$  Rates with well-determined treatment of radiative decays:

- Branching ratios
- Kaon lifetimes

$I_{K\ell}(\{\lambda\}_{K\ell})$  Integral of form factor over phase space:  $\lambda$ s parameterize evolution in  $t$

## Inputs from theory:

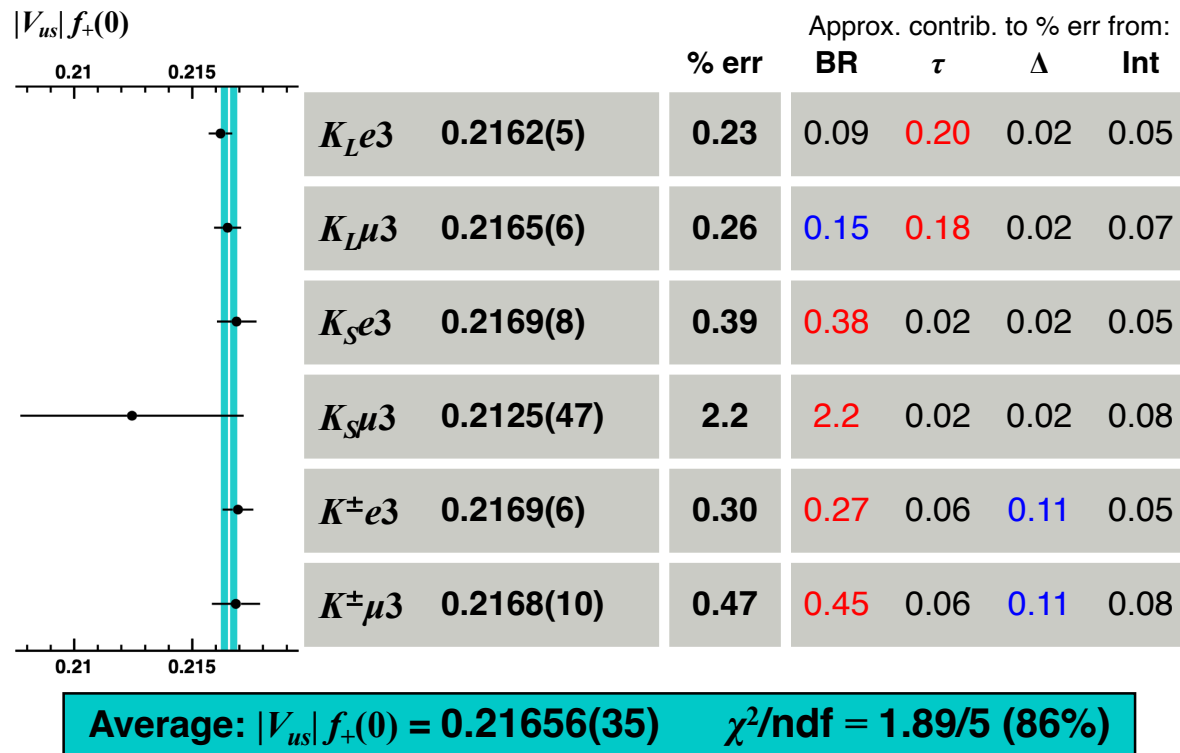
$f_+^{K^0\pi^-}(0)$  Hadronic matrix element (form factor) at zero momentum transfer ( $t=0$ )

$\Delta_K^{SU(2)}$  Form-factor correction for  $SU(2)$  breaking

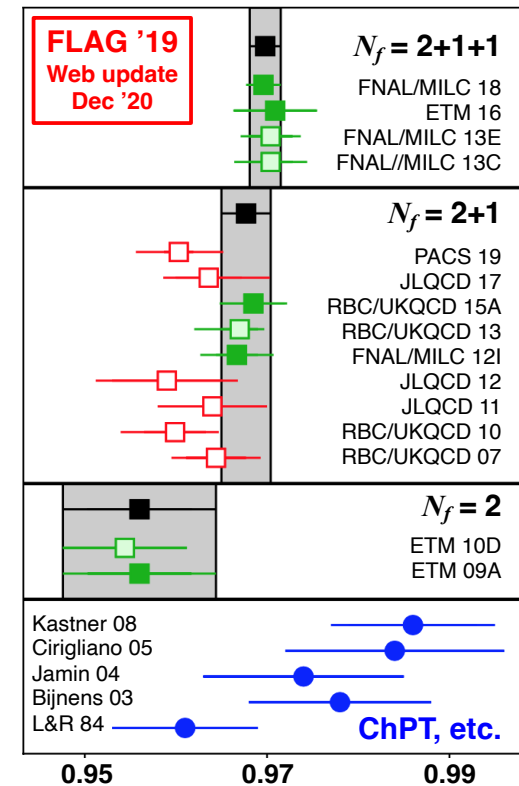
$\Delta_{K\ell}^{EM}$  Form-factor correction for long-distance EM effects

# $V_{us}$ from $Kl3$ decays

## $|V_{us}|f_+(0)$ from world data: 2022 update



## Evaluations of $f_+(0)$



### FLAG '21 averages:

**$N_f = 2+1+1$   $f_+(0) = 0.9698(17)$**

Uncorrelated average of:

**FNAL/MILC 18:** HISQ, 5sp,  $m_\pi \rightarrow 135$  MeV, new ensembles added to FNAL/MILC 13E

**ETM 16:** TwMW, 3sp,  $m_\pi \rightarrow 210$  MeV, full  $q^2$  dependence of  $f_+, f_0$

**$N_f = 2+1$   $f_+(0) = 0.9677(27)$**

Uncorrelated average of:

**FNAL/MILC 12I:** HISQ,  $m_\pi \sim 300$  MeV

**RBC/UKQCD 15A:** DWF,  $m_\pi \rightarrow 139$  MeV

**JLQCD 17** not included because only single lattice spacing used

**ChPT  $f_+(0) = 0.970(8)$**

**Ecker 15, Chiral Dynamics 15:**

Calculation from Bijmens 03, with new LECs from Bijmens, Ecker 14

**$K_{\mu3}$**

$f_+(0) = 0.9698(17)$

$N_f = 2+1+1$

$V_{us} = 0.22330(35)_{\text{exp}}(39)_{\text{lat}}(8)_{\text{IB}}$

$\Delta_{\text{CKM}}^{(1)} = -0.00176(16)_{\text{exp+IB}}(17)_{\text{lat}}(51)_{\text{ud}} = -3.1\sigma$

# $V_{us} / V_{ud}$ from $Kl2$ decays

$$\frac{|V_{us}|}{|V_{ud}|} \frac{f_K}{f_\pi} = \left( \frac{\Gamma_{K\mu 2(\gamma)} m_{\pi^\pm}}{\Gamma_{\pi\mu 2(\gamma)} m_{K^\pm}} \right)^{1/2} \frac{1 - m_\mu^2/m_{\pi^\pm}^2}{1 - m_\mu^2/m_{K^\pm}^2} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2} \delta_{EM} - \frac{1}{2} \delta_{SU(2)} \right)$$

## Inputs from experiment:

From  $K^\pm$  BR fit:

$$\mathbf{BR}(K^\pm_{\mu 2(\gamma)}) = \mathbf{0.6358(11)}$$

$$\mathbf{\tau_{K^\pm} = 12.384(15) \text{ ns}}$$

From PDG:

$$\mathbf{BR}(\pi^\pm_{\mu 2(\gamma)}) = \mathbf{0.9999}$$

$$\mathbf{\tau_{\pi^\pm} = 26.033(5) \text{ ns}}$$

## Inputs from theory:

$\delta_{EM}$  Long-distance EM corrections

$\delta_{SU(2)}$  Strong isospin breaking  
 $f_K/f_\pi \rightarrow f_{K^\pm}/f_{\pi^\pm}$

$f_K/f_\pi$  Ratio of decay constants

Cancellation of lattice-scale uncertainties from ratio

NB: Most lattice results already corrected for  $SU(2)$ -breaking:  $f_{K^\pm}/f_{\pi^\pm}$

# $V_{us} / V_{ud}$ from $K_{l2}$ decays

Giusti et al.  
PRL 120 (2018)

## First lattice calculation of EM corrections to $P_{l2}$ decays

- Ensembles from ETM
- $N_f = 2+1+1$  Twisted-mass Wilson fermions

$$\delta_{SU(2)} + \delta_{EM} = -0.0122(16)$$

- Uncertainty from quenched QED included (0.0006)

Compare to ChPT result from Cirigliano, Neufeld '11:

$$\delta_{SU(2)} + \delta_{EM} = -0.0112(21)$$

Di Carlo et al.  
PRD 100 (2019)

Update, extended description, and systematics of Giusti et al.

$$\delta_{SU(2)} + \delta_{EM} = -0.0126(14)$$

$$|V_{us}/V_{ud}| \times f_K/f_\pi = 0.27679(28)_{\text{BR}}(20)_{\text{corr}}$$

## Lattice results for $f_K/f_\pi$

$N_f = 2+1+1$

ETM 21 New! 1.1995(44)(7)

TM quarks, 3sp,  $m_\pi \rightarrow$  physical  
Not yet in FLAG '21 average!  
Replaces ETM 14E in our average

Miller 20 1.1964(44)

FNAL/MILC17 1.1980(+13<sub>-19</sub>)

HPQCD13A 1.1948(15)(18)

$f_K/f_\pi = 1.1978(22)$   $S = 1.1$

Average is problematic with correlations assumed by FLAG, dominated by FNAL/MILC17 (symmetrized)

Share ensembles  
Partially correlated uncertainties using FLAG prescription

$N_f = 2+1$

QCDSF/UKQCD17 1.192(10)(13)

BMW16 1.182(10)(26)

RBC/UKQCD14B 1.1945(45)

BMW10 1.192(7)(6)

HPQCD/UKQCD07 1.198(2)(7)

$f_K/f_\pi = 1.1946(34)^*$

\* MILC10 omitted from average because unpublished

$K_{\mu 2}$

$$f_K/f_\pi = 1.1978(22)$$

$$N_f = 2+1+1$$

$$V_{us}/V_{ud} = 0.23108(23)_{\text{exp}}(42)_{\text{lat}}(16)_{\text{IB}}$$

$$V_{us} = 0.22504(28)_{\text{exp}}(41)_{\text{lat}}(06)_{\text{ud}}$$

$$\Delta^{(2)}_{\text{CKM}} = -0.00098(13)_{\text{exp}}(19)_{\text{lat}}(53)_{\text{ud}} = -1.8\sigma$$

$$\Delta V_{us} (K_{\mu 3} - K_{\mu 2}) = -0.0174(73) \quad -2.4\sigma$$

Existing data from BNL865, KTeV, ISTRA+, KLOE, NA48, NA48/2

Upcoming data from KLOE-2 and NA62

# Cabibbo Angle Anomaly as a BSM Signal

# Cabibbo Angle Anomaly as a BSM Signal

Leptonic interactions

$$\mathcal{L}_{CC}^{(\mu)} = -\frac{G_F^{(0)}}{\sqrt{2}} \left(1 + \epsilon_L^{(\mu)}\right) \bar{e} \gamma^\rho (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_e \cdot \bar{\nu}_\mu \gamma_\rho (1 - \gamma_5) \mu + \dots$$

$$\frac{G_F^{(\mu)} V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} \left(1 - \epsilon_L^{(\mu)}\right)$$

Semi-leptonic interactions

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{CC} = & -\frac{G_F^{(0)} V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} \times \left[ \left( \delta^{ab} + \epsilon_L^{ab} \right) \bar{e}_a \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) d \right. \\ & + \epsilon_R^{ab} \bar{e}_a \gamma_\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \gamma^\mu (1 + \gamma_5) d \\ & + \epsilon_S^{ab} \bar{e}_a (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} d \\ & - \epsilon_P^{ab} \bar{e}_a (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \gamma_5 d \\ & \left. + \epsilon_T^{ab} \bar{e}_a \sigma_{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu_b \cdot \bar{u} \sigma^{\mu\nu} (1 - \gamma_5) d \right] + \text{h.c.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\epsilon_i \sim (v/\Lambda)^2$$

For global analysis of beta decays in this framework see:

Falkowski, Gonzalez-Alonso, Naviliat-Cuncic, 2010.13797



# Cabibbo Angle Anomaly as a BSM Signal

Connect beta decays to UV physics via EFT: Wilson coeffs. of 4-fermion operators

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\bar{V}_{ud}|_{0^+ \rightarrow 0^+}^2 &= |V_{ud}|^2 \left( 1 + 2(\epsilon_L^{ee} + \epsilon_R - \epsilon_L^{(\mu)}) + c_{0^+}^S(Z) \epsilon_S^{ee} \right) \\
 |\bar{V}_{ud}|_{n \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}}^2 &= |V_{ud}|^2 \left( 1 + 2(\epsilon_L^{ee} + \epsilon_R - \epsilon_L^{(\mu)}) + c_n^S \epsilon_S^{ee} + c_n^T \epsilon_T^{ee} \right) \\
 |\bar{V}_{us}|_{Ke3}^2 &= |V_{us}|^2 \left( 1 + 2(\epsilon_L^{ee(s)} + \epsilon_R^{(s)} - \epsilon_L^{(\mu)}) \right) \\
 |\bar{V}_{ud}|_{\pi e3}^2 &= |V_{ud}|^2 \left( 1 + 2(\epsilon_L^{ee} + \epsilon_R - \epsilon_L^{(\mu)}) \right) \\
 |\bar{V}_{us}|_{K\mu2}^2 &= |V_{us}|^2 \left( 1 + 2(\epsilon_L^{\mu\mu(s)} - \epsilon_R^{(s)} - \epsilon_L^{(\mu)}) - 2\frac{B_0}{m_\ell} \epsilon_P^{\mu\mu(s)} \right) \\
 |\bar{V}_{ud}|_{\pi\mu2}^2 &= |V_{ud}|^2 \left( 1 + 2(\epsilon_L^{\mu\mu} - \epsilon_R - \epsilon_L^{(\mu)}) - 2\frac{B_0}{m_\ell} \epsilon_P^{\mu\mu} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Three distinct Cabibbo unitarity deficits may be defined

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta_{\text{CKM}}^{(1)} &= |V_{ud}^\beta|^2 + |V_{us}^{K_{\ell 3}}|^2 - 1 && V_{us} \text{ from } K_{\ell 3} + V_{ud} \text{ from } \beta \text{ decays} \\
 \Delta_{\text{CKM}}^{(2)} &= |V_{ud}^\beta|^2 + |V_{us}^{K_{\ell 2}/\pi_{\ell 2}, \beta}|^2 - 1 && V_{us}/V_{ud} \text{ from } K_{\mu 2} + V_{ud} \text{ from } \beta \text{ decays} \\
 \Delta_{\text{CKM}}^{(3)} &= |V_{ud}^{K_{\ell 2}/\pi_{\ell 2}, K_{\ell 3}}|^2 + |V_{us}^{K_{\ell 3}}|^2 - 1 && V_{us} \text{ from } K_{\ell 3} + V_{us}/V_{ud} \text{ from } K_{\mu 2}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Cabibbo Angle Anomaly as a BSM Signal

RH currents in ud- and us-sectors

$V_{ud}$ ,  $V_{us}$ ,  $V_{ud}/V_{us}$  overconstrained,  
can solve all tensions

$$|\bar{V}_{ud}|_{0^+ \rightarrow 0^+}^2 = |V_{ud}|^2 (1 + 2\epsilon_R)$$

$$|\bar{V}_{ud}|_{n \rightarrow pe\bar{\nu}}^2 = |V_{ud}|^2 (1 + 2\epsilon_R)$$

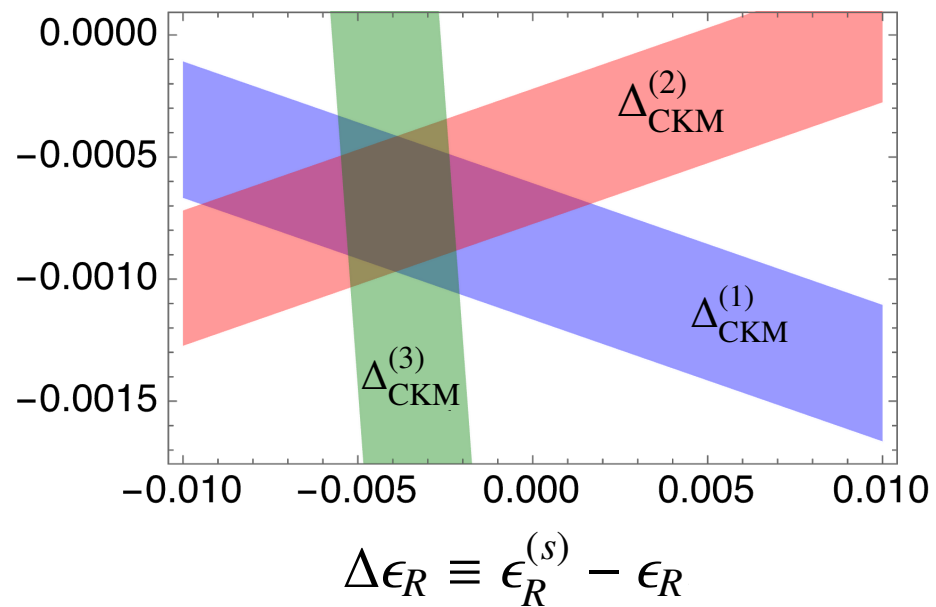
$$|\bar{V}_{us}|_{Ke3}^2 = |V_{us}|^2 (1 + 2\epsilon_R^{(s)})$$

$$|\bar{V}_{ud}|_{\pi e3}^2 = |V_{ud}|^2 (1 + 2\epsilon_R)$$

$$|\bar{V}_{us}|_{K\mu2}^2 = |V_{us}|^2 (1 - 2\epsilon_R^{(s)})$$

$$|\bar{V}_{ud}|_{\pi\mu2}^2 = |V_{ud}|^2 (1 - 2\epsilon_R)$$

*Cirigliano et al, 2208.11707*



$$\Delta_{\text{CKM}}^{(1)} = 2\epsilon_R + 2\Delta\epsilon_R V_{us}^2,$$

$$\Delta_{\text{CKM}}^{(2)} = 2\epsilon_R - 2\Delta\epsilon_R V_{us}^2,$$

$$\Delta_{\text{CKM}}^{(3)} = 2\epsilon_R + 2\Delta\epsilon_R (2 - V_{us}^2)$$

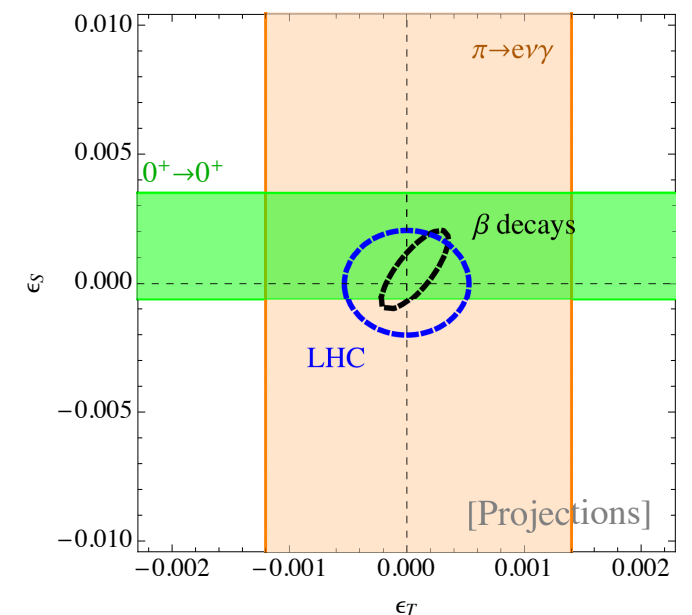
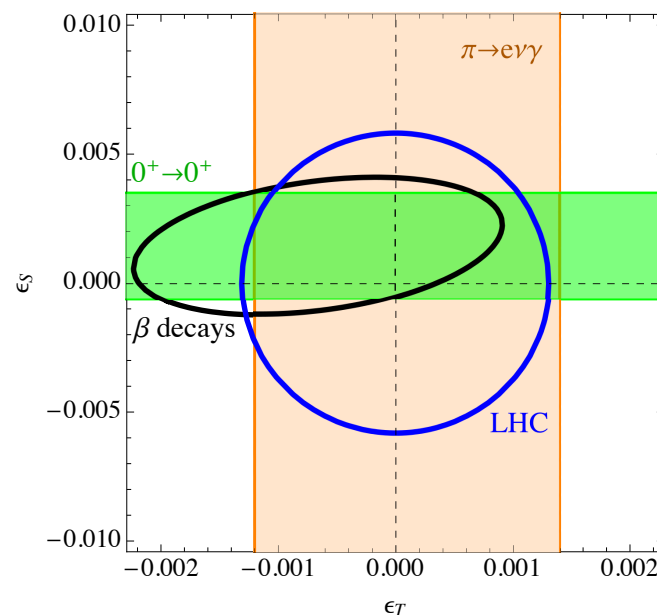
$$\epsilon_R = -0.69(27) \times 10^{-3}$$

$$\Delta\epsilon_R = -3.9(1.6) \times 10^{-3}$$

$\Lambda_R \sim 5\text{-}10 \text{ TeV}$      $2.5\sigma$  effect

Beta decay vs. LHC on S,T  
Complementarity now and in the future!

*Gonzalez-Alonso et al 1803.08732*



# Summary: Status of $V_{ud}$ and top-row CKM unitarity

3-sigma CKM unitarity deficit established

Significant shift in  $V_{ud}$  due to shift in  $\Delta_R^V$

EW boxes: DR + Exp. + Lattice QCD+ ChPT + ...

Calculation for  $\Delta_R^V$  confirmed by several groups

Formalism applied to  $K\ell 3$  decays;

Puzzles:  $K\ell 2 - K\ell 3$ , Beam-Bottle  $n$ -lifetime

Unified universal RC  $\Delta_R^V$  and nuclear correction  $\delta_{NS}$

Both SM ( $V_{ud}$ ) and BSM ( $b_F$ ) tests depend on  $\delta_C$  and  $\delta_{NS}$

Direct lattice QCD evaluation of the  $\gamma W$ -box

Modern ab initio theory of  $\delta_C$  and  $\delta_{NS}$  underway!

BSM: RH currents across light and strange quarks may resolve all puzzles

