

## First row CKM unitarity

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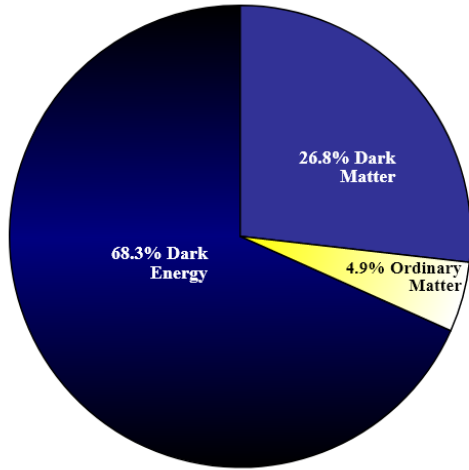
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The 2022 Conference on Flavor Physics and CP Violation (FPCP2022)

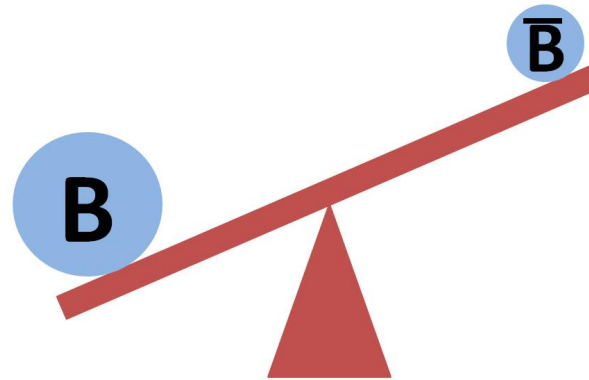
23 May, 2022

# Anomalies in beta decays

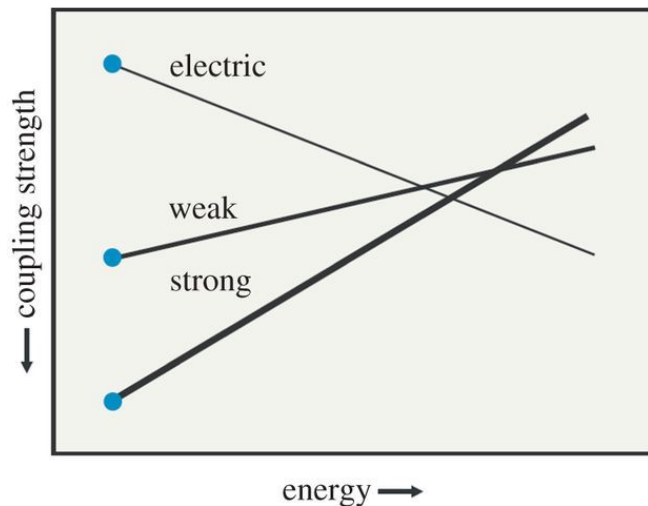
Many unresolved problems call for physics beyond the Standard Model (BSM)



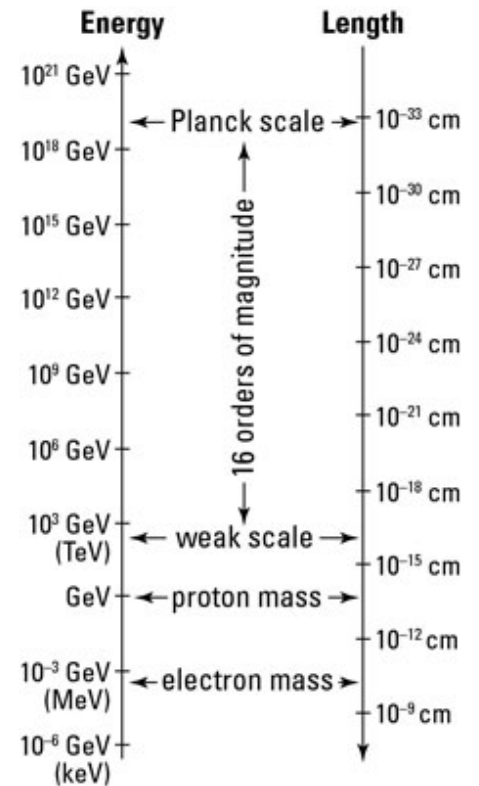
Dark energy, dark matter



Matter-antimatter asymmetry

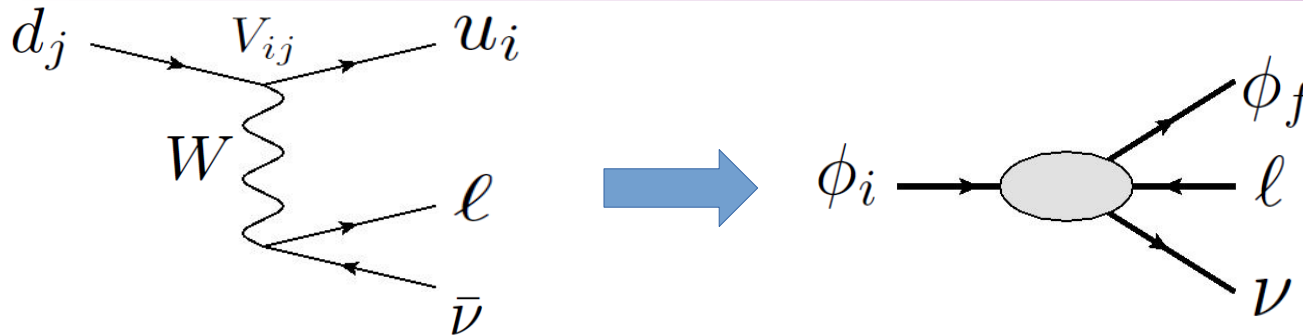


Unification of forces



Hierarchy problem

# Anomalies in beta decays



**Beta decays** had been crucial in the shaping of **Standard Model (SM)**

**1930:** **Neutrino postulation** by Pauli

**1956:** Wu's experiment confirmed **P-violation** in weak interaction (1957 Nobel Prize by Lee and Yang)

**1957:** Feynman, Gell-Mann, Sudarshan and Marshak: **V-A structure** in the charged weak interaction

**1963:** **2\*2 unitary matrix** by Cabibbo to mix the  $\Delta S=0$  and  $\Delta S=1$  charged weak current

**1973:** Kobayashi and Maskawa extended the matrix to 3\*3 (**the CKM matrix**), introduced the 3<sup>rd</sup> generation quarks (Nobel Prize 2008)

$$\psi_{d,f} = \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{pmatrix}_f = \begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} d \\ s \\ b \end{pmatrix}_m$$

**The CKM matrix**

# Anomalies in beta decays

Beta decays place **one of the most stringent tests of SM** through precision measurements of the **first-row CKM matrix elements  $V_{ud}$  and  $V_{us}$**

$V_{ud}$

	$ V_{ud} $
Superaligned nuclear decays ( $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$ )	0.97373(31)
Free $n$ decay	0.97377(90)
Mirror nuclei decays	0.9739(10)
Pion semileptonic decay ( $\pi_{e3}$ )	0.9740(28)

$V_{us}$

	$ V_{us} $
Kaon semileptonic decays ( $K_{\ell 3}$ )	0.22308(55)
Tau decays	0.2221(13)
Hyperon decays	0.2250(27)

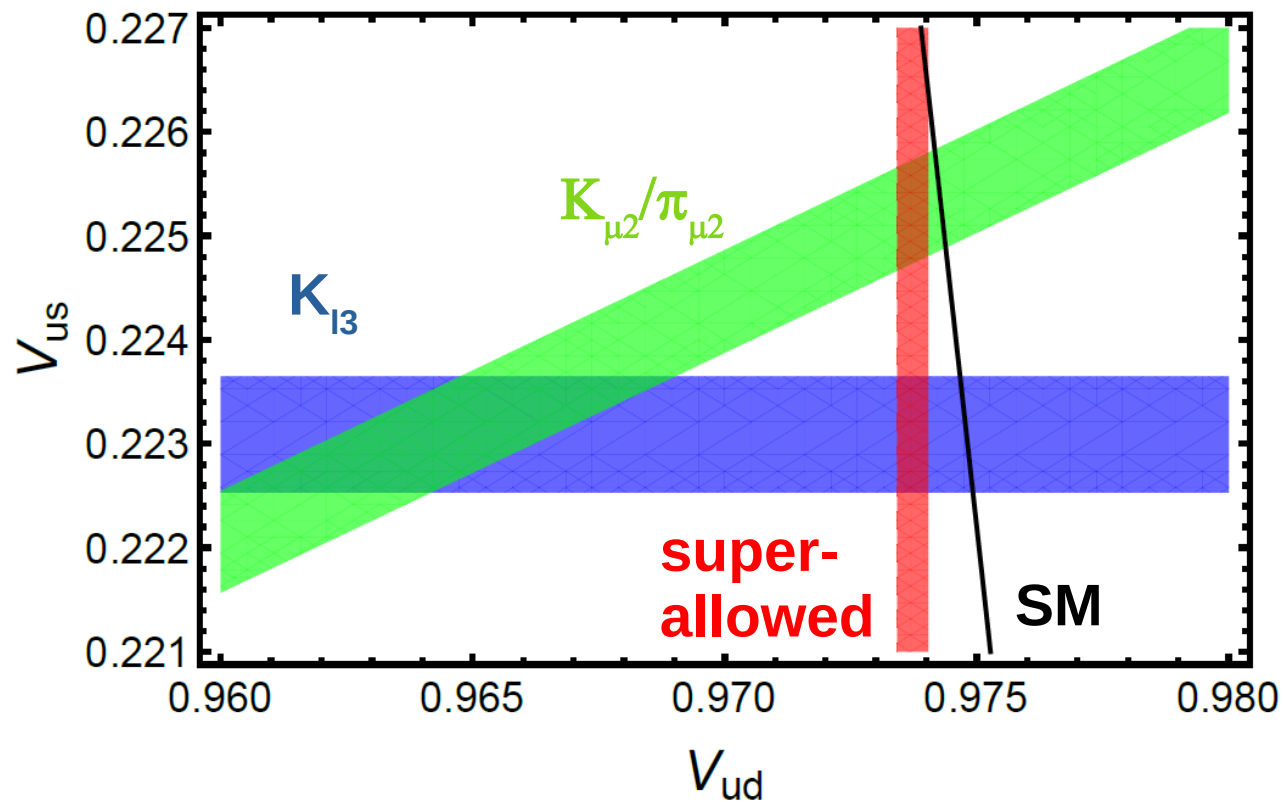
$V_{us}/V_{ud}$

	$ V_{us}/V_{ud} $
$K/\pi$ leptonic decays ( $K_{\mu 2}/\pi_{\mu 2}$ )	0.23131(51)
$K/\pi$ semileptonic decays ( $K_{\ell 3}/\pi_{e 3}$ )	0.22908(87)

# Anomalies in beta decays

Several **anomalies** are recently observed in the **first-row CKM matrix elements**!

**SM prediction:**  $|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 = 1$

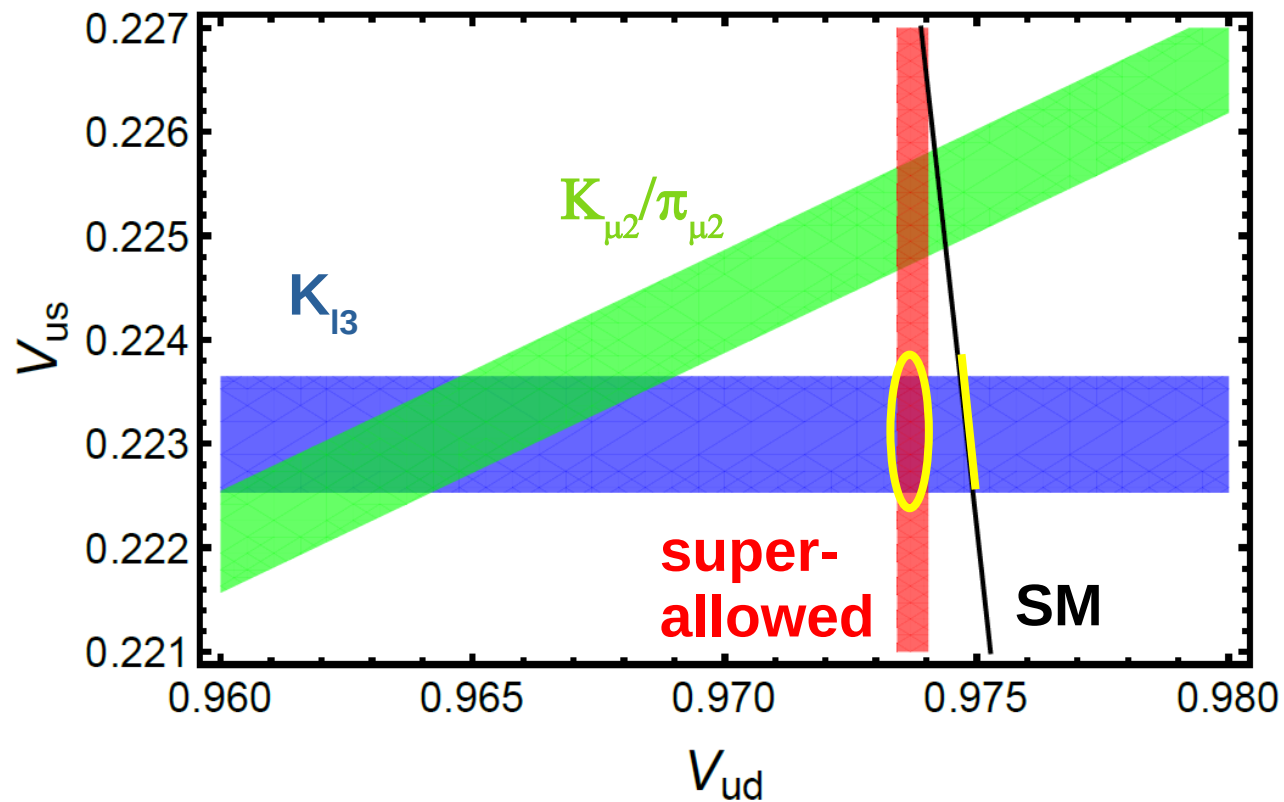


**“Cabibbo Angle Anomaly (CAA)”  $\sim 3\sigma$**

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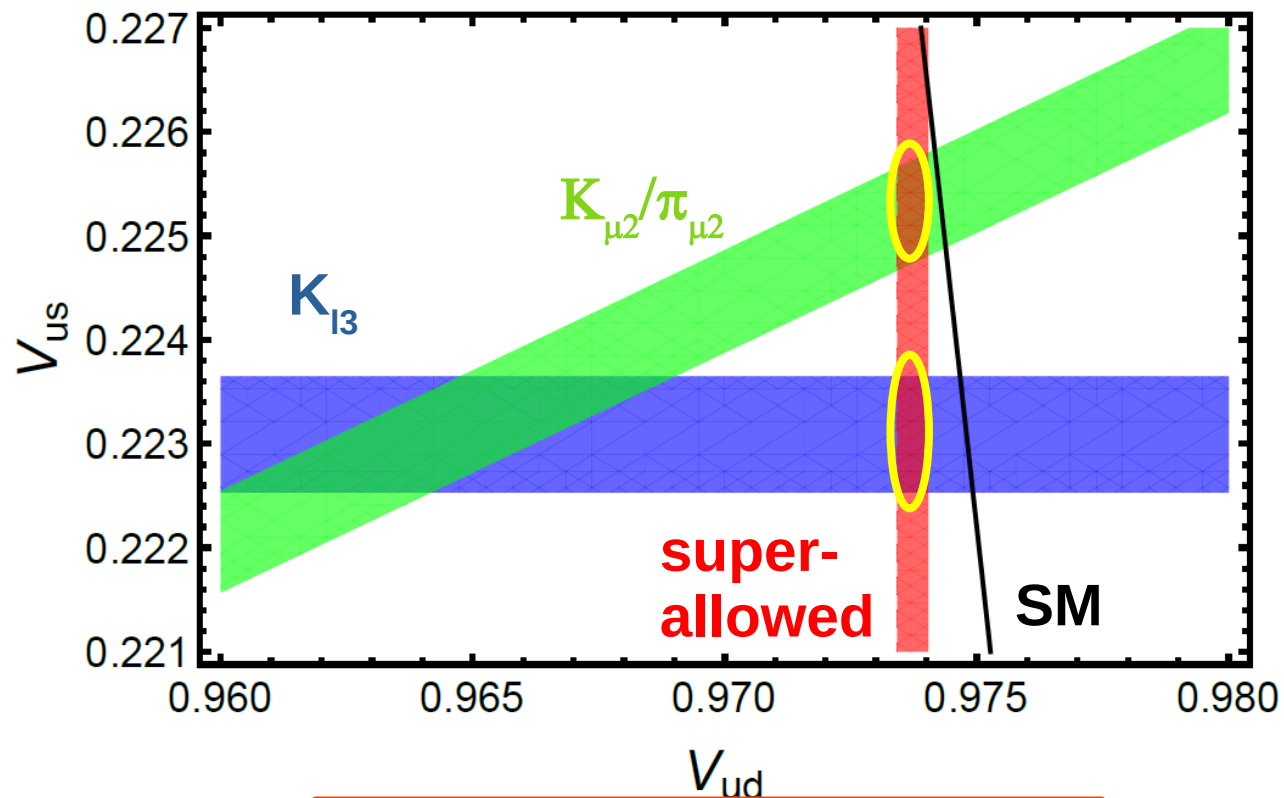


$$|V_{ud}|_{0^+}^2 + |V_{us}|_{K_{\ell 3}}^2 - 1 = -0.0021(7) \sim 3\sigma$$

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Several **anomalies** are recently observed in the **first-row CKM matrix elements**!

**SM prediction:**  $|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 = 1$



$$|V_{us}| = \begin{cases} 0.22308(55) & K_{\ell 3} \\ 0.2252(5) & K_{\mu 2} \end{cases}$$

$\sim 3\sigma$

# A glance at the error analysis

**A concrete example:** First-row CKM unitarity with  $|V_{ud}|$  from  $0^+$  beta decay and  $|V_{us}|$  from  $K_{\ell 3}$  decay

$$|V_{ud}|_{0^+}^2 + |V_{us}|_{K_{\ell 3}}^2 + |\cancel{V_{ub}}|^2 - 1 = -0.0021(7)$$

## SOURCES OF UNCERTAINTY:

$ V_{ud} _{0^+}^2 +  V_{us} _{K_{\ell 3}}^2 - 1$	$-2.1 \times 10^{-3}$
$\delta V_{ud} _{0^+}^2, \text{ exp}$	$2.1 \times 10^{-4}$
$\delta V_{ud} _{0^+}^2, \text{ RC}$	$1.8 \times 10^{-4}$
$\delta V_{ud} _{0^+}^2, \text{ NS}$	$5.3 \times 10^{-4}$
$\delta V_{us} _{K_{\ell 3}}^2, \text{ exp+th}$	$1.8 \times 10^{-4}$
$\delta V_{us} _{K_{\ell 3}}^2, \text{ lat}$	$1.7 \times 10^{-4}$
Total uncertainty	$6.5 \times 10^{-4}$
Significance level	$3.2\sigma$

*CYS, Galviz, Marciano and Meißner, 2022 PRD*



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## SOURCES OF UNCERTAINTY:

$\delta|V_{ud}|_{0^+}^2$ , **exp**:

Experimental uncertainties in the half-lives of the superallowed beta decays



$ V_{ud} _{0^+}^2 +  V_{us} _{K_{\ell 3}}^2 - 1$	$-2.1 \times 10^{-3}$
$\delta V_{ud} _{0^+}^2$ , <b>exp</b>	$2.1 \times 10^{-4}$
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## SOURCES OF UNCERTAINTY:

$\delta|V_{ud}|_{0^+}^2$ , **RC**:

Theory uncertainties in the single-nucleon radiative corrections (RC)



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## SOURCES OF UNCERTAINTY:

$\delta|V_{ud}|_{0^+}^2$ , **NS:**

Theory uncertainties in the nuclear-structure (NS) corrections in superallowed beta decays



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## SOURCES OF UNCERTAINTY:

$\delta|V_{us}|_{K_{\ell 3}}^2$ , **exp+th**:

Combined **experimental** +  
theory (non-lattice) uncertainties  
in the  $K_{\ell 3}$  decay rate



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## SOURCES OF UNCERTAINTY:

$\delta|V_{us}|_{K_{\ell 3}}^2$ , **lat**:

Theory uncertainties in the  
lattice QCD calculation of the  
 $K\pi$  form factor at  $t=0$



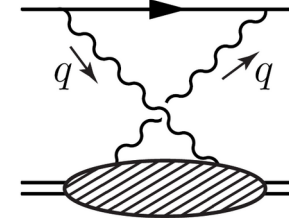
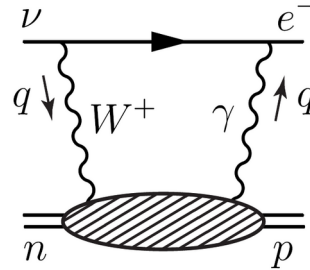
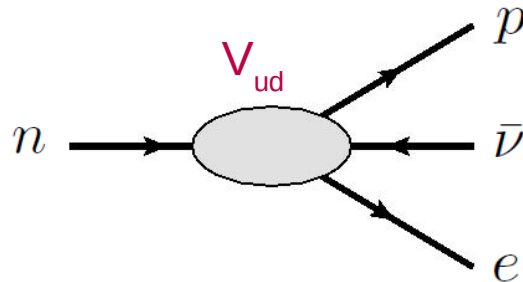
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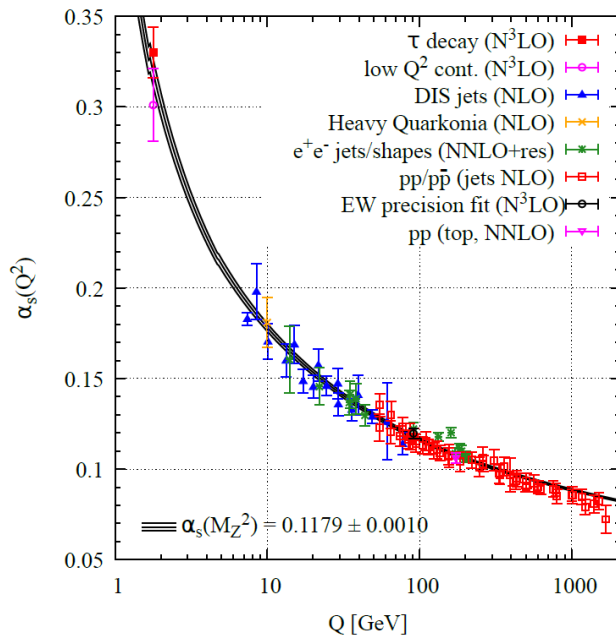
# Inputs in nucleon/ nuclear sector ( $V_{ud}$ )

# Single-nucleon radiative corrections (RC)

Primary source of uncertainty: the “single-nucleon axial  $\gamma W$ -box diagram”



$$Q^2 = -q^2$$



**Main issue:** Strong interactions governed by **Quantum Chromodynamics (QCD)** become non-perturbative at the hadronic scale ( $Q^2 \sim 1 \text{ GeV}^2$ )

Major theory challenge in the past 4 decades

*Sirlin, 1978 Rev.Mod.Phys*

**Pre-2018 treatment:** Divide the loop integral into different regions of  $Q^2$ :

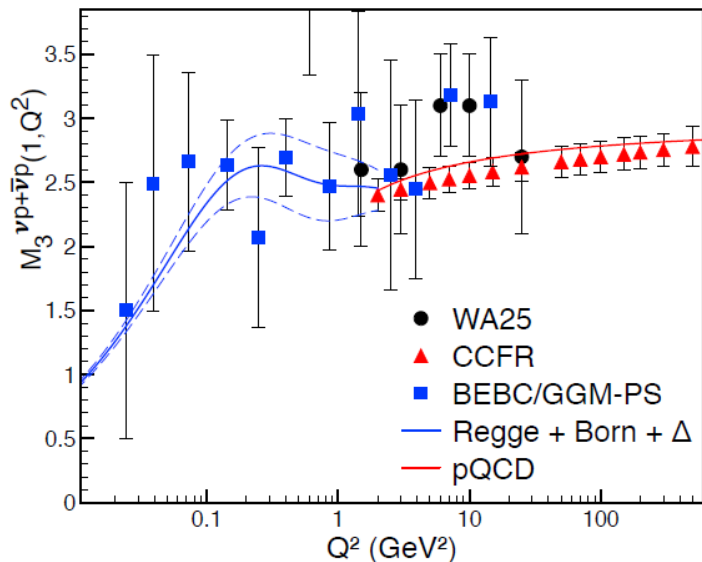
- Large- $Q^2$ : perturbative QCD
- Small- $Q^2$ : elastic form factors
- Intermediate  $Q^2$ : Interpolating function

*Marciano and Sirlin, 2006 PRL*

# Single-nucleon radiative corrections (RC)

**Year 2018:** **Dispersion relation (DR)** treatment --- relate the loop integral to experimentally-measurable structure functions *CYS, Gorchtein, Patel and Ramsey-Musolf, 2018 PRL*

$$\square_{\gamma W}^V = \frac{\alpha_{em}}{\pi g_V} \int_0^\infty \frac{dQ^2}{Q^2} \frac{M_W^2}{M_W^2 + Q^2} \int_0^1 dx \frac{1 + 2r}{(1 + r)^2} F_3^{(0)}(x, Q^2)$$



Data input: **Parity-odd structure function  $F_3$**  from **neutrino-nucleus scattering**

New treatment led to a **significant change of  $|\text{Vud}|$**

$$|\text{Vud}|: 0.97420(21) \rightarrow 0.97370(14)$$

*Pre-2018*

*2018*

unveiling the tension in the top-row CKM unitarity

Confirmation by independent studies:

*Czarnecki, Marciano and Sirlin, 2019 PRD*

*CYS, Feng, Gorchtein and Jin, 2020 PRD*

*Hayen, 2021 PRD*

*Shiells, Blunden and Melnitchouk, 2021 PRD*



# Single-nucleon radiative corrections (RC)

**Major limiting factor** of the DR treatment: **low quality of the neutrino data** in the most interesting region:  $Q^2 \sim 1\text{GeV}^2$

**Ongoing program:** Calculate the box diagram directly with **lattice QCD**

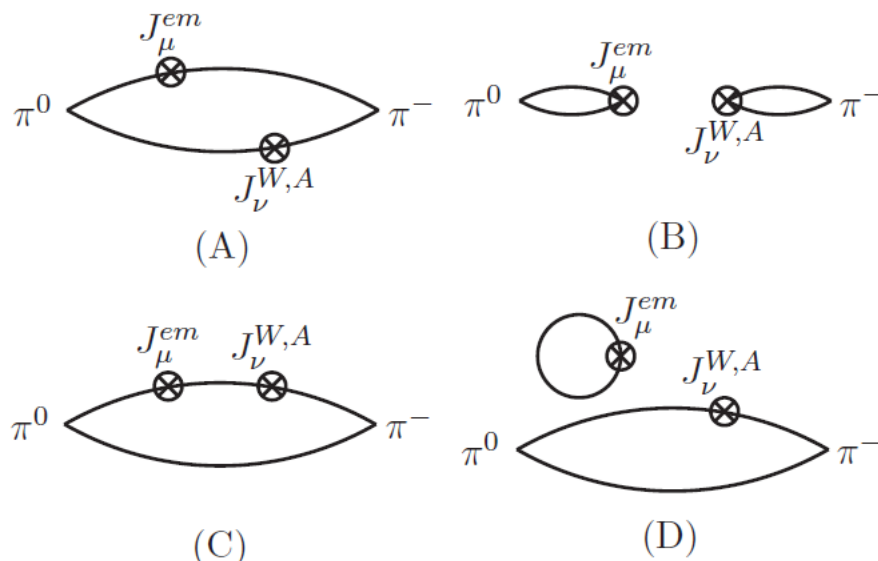
**Year 2020:** First realistic lattice QCD calculation of the simpler **pion axial  $\gamma W$ -box diagram**

*Feng, Gorchtein, Jin, Ma and CYS, 2020 PRL*

## Consequences:

- Significant reduction of the theory uncertainty in **pion semileptonic decay ( $\pi_{e3}$ )**
- Indirect implications on the **free-neutron** axial  $\gamma W$ -box diagram

*CYS, Feng, Gorchtein and Jin, 2020 PRD*

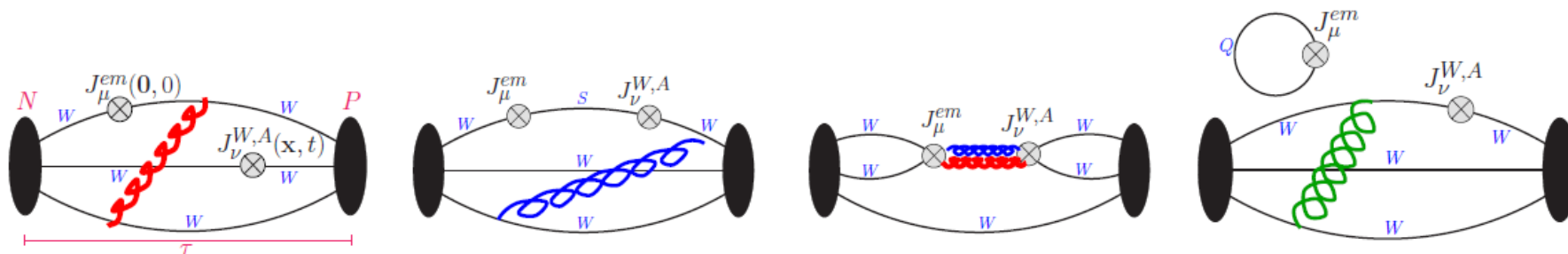


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**Neutron axial  $\gamma W$ -box diagram** is more complicated, but on the way.



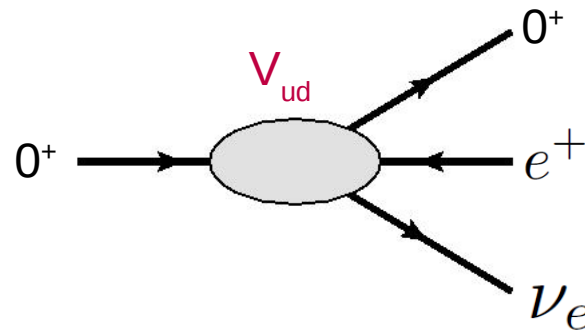
*(R. Gupta, Rare Processes and Precision Frontier Townhall Meeting, 2020)*

Possible alternative approach using **Feynman-Hellmann theorem (FHT)**

*CYS and Meißner, 2019 PRL*

# Nuclear Structure (NS) corrections

Superaligned  $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$  nuclear beta decays provides the best measurement of  $V_{ud}$



## Advantages:

1. Conserved vector current (CVC) at tree level
2. Large number of measured transitions, with 15 among them whose lifetime precision is 0.23% or better. Huge gain in statistics.

$T_Z = -1$
$^{10}\text{C} \rightarrow ^{10}\text{B}$
$^{14}\text{O} \rightarrow ^{14}\text{N}$
$^{22}\text{Mg} \rightarrow ^{22}\text{Na}$
$^{26}\text{Si} \rightarrow ^{26}\text{Al}$
$^{34}\text{Ar} \rightarrow ^{34}\text{Cl}$
$^{38}\text{Ca} \rightarrow ^{38}\text{K}$
$T_Z = 0$
$^{26m}\text{Al} \rightarrow ^{26}\text{Mg}$
$^{34}\text{Cl} \rightarrow ^{34}\text{S}$
$^{38m}\text{K} \rightarrow ^{38}\text{Ar}$
$^{42}\text{Sc} \rightarrow ^{42}\text{Ca}$
$^{46}\text{V} \rightarrow ^{46}\text{Ti}$
$^{50}\text{Mn} \rightarrow ^{50}\text{Cr}$
$^{54}\text{Co} \rightarrow ^{54}\text{Fe}$
$^{62}\text{Ga} \rightarrow ^{62}\text{Zn}$
$^{74}\text{Rb} \rightarrow ^{74}\text{Kr}$

# Nuclear Structure (NS) corrections

Superaligned  $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$  nuclear beta decays provides the best measurement of  $V_{ud}$

Master formula:

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

Single-nucleon RC

Corrected ft (half-life\*statistical function)-value:

$$\mathcal{F}t = ft (1 + \delta'_R) (1 + \delta_{NS} - \delta_C)$$

Measured ft-value: nucleus-dependent

Nucleus-dependent "outer corrections" (under control)

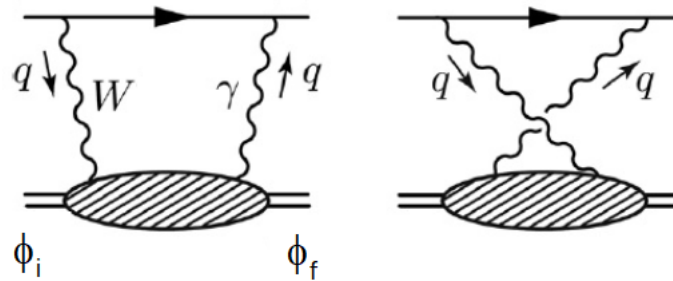
Nuclear structure effects in inner RC

Isospin-breaking corrections

Corrected ft-value: nucleus-independent

# Nuclear Structure (NS) corrections

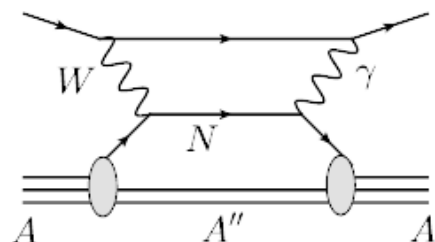
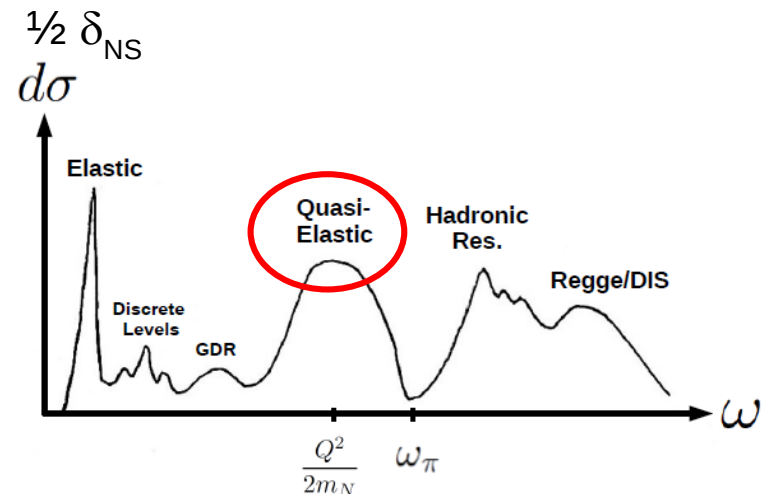
$\delta_{\text{NS}}$ : nuclear modifications of the free-nucleon inner RC



**LARGEST** source of uncertainty in  $V_{ud}$ !

$$\square_{\gamma W}^{\text{nucl.}} = \square_{\gamma W}^n + \underbrace{[\square_{\gamma W}^{\text{nucl.}} - \square_{\gamma W}^n]}$$

- The **low-energy absorption spectrum** is distorted by **nuclear corrections**
- An important contribution from the **quasi-elastic nucleons** was not properly accounted for in previous nuclear-model calculations, which results in the large uncertainty in  $\delta_{\text{NS}}$ .

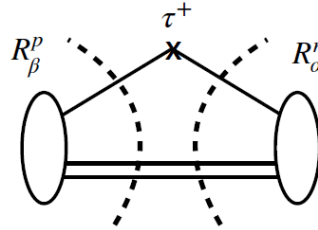


CYS, Gorchtein and Ramsey-Musolf, 2019 PRD; Gorchtein, 2019 PRL

**Ab-initio nuclear theory calculations of  $\delta_{\text{NS}}$  urgently needed!**

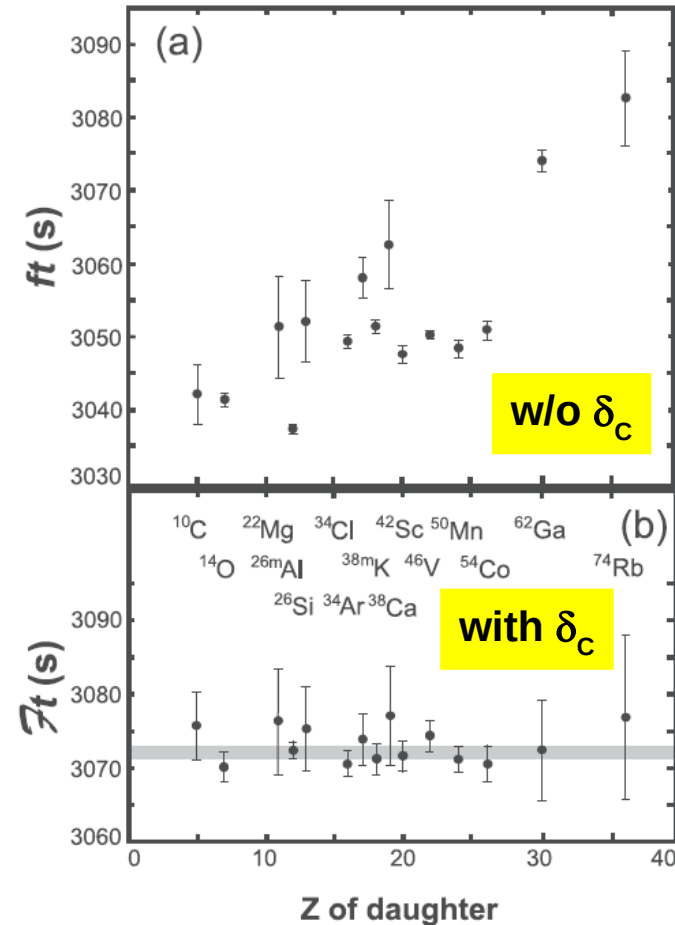
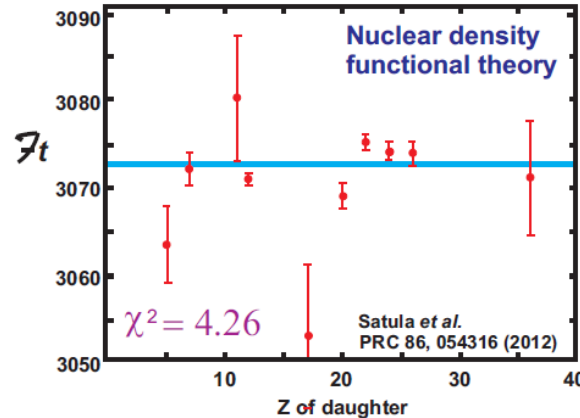
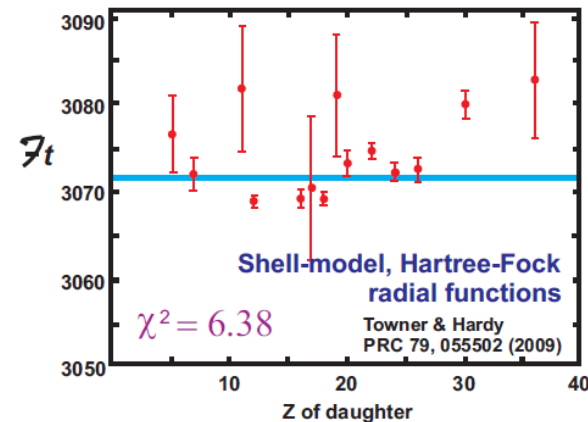
# Nuclear Structure (NS) corrections

$\delta_c$ : isospin-breaking (ISB) corrections to nuclear wavefunctions



Essential to **align the Ft-values** of different superallowed transitions.

It turns out that such alignment is only achieved within **some specific choices of nuclear models** (e.g. Woods Saxon), but not the others.



A **model-independent assessment** of  $\delta_c$  is needed!

# Inputs in Kaon/pion sector

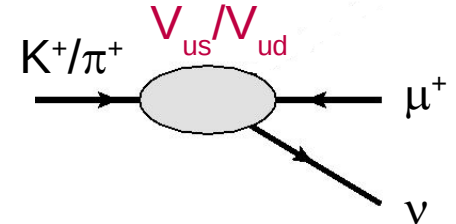
$(V_{us} \text{ and } V_{us}/V_{ud})$

# Kaon/pion leptonic decay ( $K_{\mu 2}/\pi_{\mu 2}$ )

$$\frac{|V_{us}|f_{K^+}}{|V_{ud}|f_{\pi^+}} = \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\Gamma_{K_{\mu 2}} M_{\pi^+}}{\Gamma_{\pi_{\mu 2}} M_{K^+}} \right]^{1/2}}_{\text{"axial ratio" } R_A} \frac{1 - m_\mu^2/M_{\pi^+}^2}{1 - m_\mu^2/M_{K^+}^2} (1 - \delta_{\text{EM}}/2)$$

**"axial ratio"  $R_A$**

*Marciano, 2004 PRL; Cirigliano and Neufeld, 2011 PLB*



**Lattice QCD inputs:**  $K^+/\pi^+$  decay constants

$$N_f = 2 + 1 + 1 \quad : \quad f_{K^+}/f_{\pi^+} = 1.1932(21)$$

$$N_f = 2 + 1 \quad : \quad f_{K^+}/f_{\pi^+} = 1.1917(37)$$

$$N_f = 1 \quad : \quad f_{K^+}/f_{\pi^+} = 1.205(18)$$

*FLAG 2021*

**Electromagnetic RC in ChPT:**  $\delta_{\text{EM}} = \delta_{\text{EM}}^K - \delta_{\text{EM}}^\pi = -0.0069(17)$  *Knecht et al., 2000 EPJC*  
*Cirigliano and Neufeld, 2011 PLB*

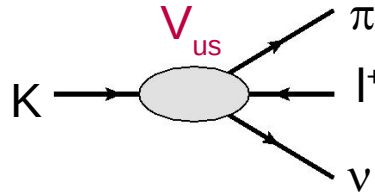
Advantage: **LECs cancel in the ratio**

**Direct lattice QCD calculation** of the EMRC+isospin breaking correction (contained in the physical  $K^+/\pi^+$  decay constants) consistent with ChPT result, with slightly lower uncertainty *Giusti et al, 2018 PRL*

**Total:**  $|V_{us}/V_{ud}| = 0.23131(41)_{\text{lat}}(24)_{\text{exp}}(19)_{\text{RC}}$



# Kaon semileptonic decays ( $K_{l3}$ )



Master formula:

$$\Gamma_{K_{\ell 3}} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{us}|^2 M_K^5 C_K^2}{192\pi^3} S_{\text{EW}} |f_+^{K^0 \pi^-}(0)|^2 I_{K\ell}^{(0)} \left( 1 + \delta_{\text{EM}}^{K\ell} + \delta_{\text{SU}(2)}^{K\pi} \right)$$

Measurements of **branching ratio** exist in all **six channels**:

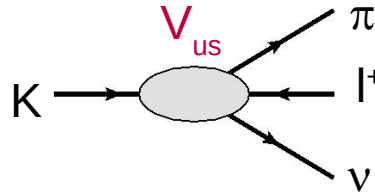
$K_{e3}^L, K_{\mu 3}^L$  : *PLB632,43(2006), PRD70,092006(2004), ...*

$K_{e3}^S$  : *PLB653,145(2007), PLB636,173(2006),  
PLB535,37(2002), ...*

$K_{\mu 3}^S$  : *PLB804,135378(2020)*

$K_{e3}^+, K_{\mu 3}^+$  : *JHEP02,098(2008), PRD6,1254(1972), ...*

# Kaon semileptonic decays ( $K_{l3}$ )



Master formula:

$$\Gamma_{K_{l3}} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{us}|^2 M_K^5 C_K^2 S_{EW} |f_+^{K^0 \pi^-}(0)|^2 I_{K\ell}^{(0)} \left(1 + \delta_{EM}^{K\ell} + \delta_{SU(2)}^{K\pi}\right)}{192\pi^3}$$

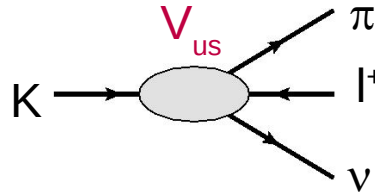
$C_K$ : Known isospin factor

$S_{EW}$ : Short-distance electroweak RCs

$$S_{EW} = 1.0232(3)$$

*Marciano and Sirlin, 1993 PRL*

# Kaon semileptonic decays ( $K_{l3}$ )



Master formula:

$$\Gamma_{K_{l3}} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{us}|^2 M_K^5 C_K^2}{192\pi^3} S_{EW} |f_+^{K^0\pi^-}(0)|^2 I_{K\ell}^{(0)} \left(1 + \delta_{EM}^{K\ell} + \delta_{SU(2)}^{K\pi}\right)$$

**$K\pi$  form factor at  $t=0$ :**  $\langle \pi^-(p') | J_W^\mu | K^0(p) \rangle = f_+^{K^0\pi^-}(t)(p+p')^\mu + f_-^{K^0\pi^-}(t)(p-p')^\mu$

Lattice QCD inputs:

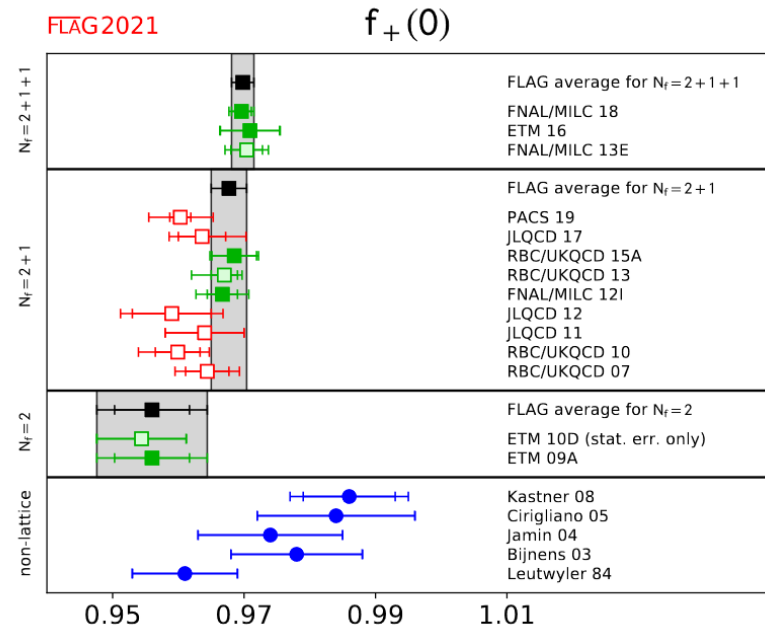
$$N_f = 2 + 1 + 1 : f_+(0) = 0.9698(17)$$

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

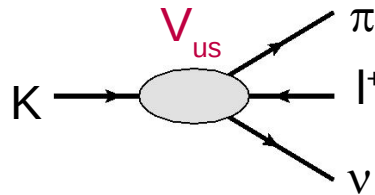
$$N_f = 2 : f_+(0) = 0.9560(57)(62)$$

A slight change of **1%** in the central value could lead to **totally different conclusions** on the  $V_{us}$  anomaly ( $K_{l3}$ — $K_{\mu 2}$  discrepancy)

FLAG 2021



# Kaon semileptonic decays ( $K_{l3}$ )



Master formula:

$$\Gamma_{K_{\ell 3}} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{us}|^2 M_K^5 C_K^2}{192\pi^3} S_{\text{EW}} |f_+^{K^0 \pi^-}(0)|^2 \underbrace{I_{K\ell}^{(0)}}_{\text{Phase-space factor}} \left(1 + \delta_{\text{EM}}^{K\ell} + \delta_{\text{SU}(2)}^{K\pi}\right)$$

**Phase-space factor:**  $I_{K\ell}^{(0)} = \int_{m_\ell^2}^{(M_K^2 - M_\pi)^2} \frac{dt}{M_K^8} \bar{\lambda}^{3/2} \left(1 + \frac{m_\ell^2}{2t}\right) \left(1 - \frac{m_\ell^2}{t}\right)^2 \left[ \bar{f}_+^2(t) + \frac{3m_\ell^2 \Delta_{K\pi}^2}{(2t + m_\ell^2) \bar{\lambda}} \bar{f}_0^2(t) \right]$

probes the **t-dependence** of the  $K\pi$  form factors.

Rescaled  
 $K\pi$  form factors

Obtained by fitting to the  $K_{l3}$  Dalitz plot with **specific parameterizations of  $f(t)$**  (Taylor expansion, z-expansion, dispersive parameterization, pole parameterization ...)

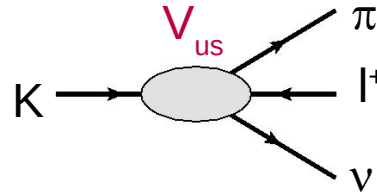
The **dispersive parameterization** currently quotes the smallest uncertainty:

Mode	Update
$K_{e3}^0$	<b>0.15470(15)</b>
$K_{e3}^+$	<b>0.15915(15)</b>
$K_{\mu 3}^0$	<b>0.10247(15)</b>
$K_{\mu 3}^+$	<b>0.10553(16)</b>

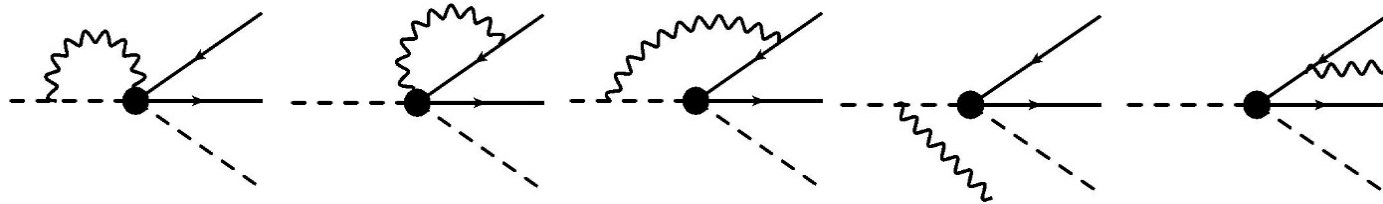
*M. Moulson,  
in the 11<sup>th</sup>  
International  
Workshop on the  
CKM Unitarity  
Triangle, 2021*

# Kaon semileptonic decays ( $K_{l3}$ )

Master formula:



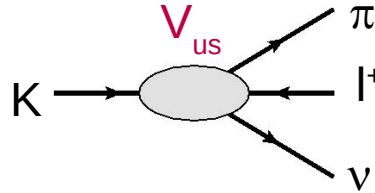
$$\Gamma_{K_{l3}} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{us}|^2 M_K^5 C_K^2}{192\pi^3} S_{EW} |f_+^{K^0\pi^-}(0)|^2 I_{K\ell}^{(0)} \left( 1 + \delta_{EM}^{K\ell} + \delta_{SU(2)}^{K\pi} \right)$$



Long-distance electromagnetic RC

	$\delta_{EM}^{K\ell}$ "Sirlin's representation"	ChPT
$K^0 e$	11.6(2) <sub>inel</sub> (1) <sub>lat</sub> (1) <sub>NF</sub> (2) <sub><math>e^2 p^4</math></sub>	9.9(1.9) <sub><math>e^2 p^4</math></sub> (1.1) <sub>LEC</sub>
$K^+ e$	2.1(2) <sub>inel</sub> (1) <sub>lat</sub> (4) <sub>NF</sub> (1) <sub><math>e^2 p^4</math></sub>	1.0(1.9) <sub><math>e^2 p^4</math></sub> (1.6) <sub>LEC</sub>
$K^0 \mu$	15.4(2) <sub>inel</sub> (1) <sub>lat</sub> (1) <sub>NF</sub> (2) <sub>LEC</sub> (2) <sub><math>e^2 p^4</math></sub>	14.0(1.9) <sub><math>e^2 p^4</math></sub> (1.1) <sub>LEC</sub>
$K^+ \mu$	0.5(2) <sub>inel</sub> (1) <sub>lat</sub> (4) <sub>NF</sub> (2) <sub>LEC</sub> (2) <sub><math>e^2 p^4</math></sub>	0.2(1.9) <sub><math>e^2 p^4</math></sub> (1.6) <sub>LEC</sub>

# Kaon semileptonic decays ( $K_{l3}$ )



Master formula:

$$\Gamma_{K_{\ell 3}} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{us}|^2 M_K^5 C_K^2}{192\pi^3} S_{EW} |f_+^{K^0\pi^-}(0)|^2 I_{K\ell}^{(0)} \left( 1 + \delta_{EM}^{K\ell} + \delta_{SU(2)}^{K\pi} \right)$$

**ISB correction:** presents only in the  $K^+$  channel by construction.

$$\delta_{SU(2)}^{K^+\pi^0} \equiv \left( \frac{f_+^{K^+\pi^0}(0)}{f_+^{K^0\pi^-}(0)} \right)^2 - 1 = \frac{3}{2} \frac{1}{Q^2} \left[ \frac{\hat{M}_K^2}{\hat{M}_\pi^2} + \frac{\chi_{p^4}}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{m_s}{\hat{m}} \right) \right] \quad (\text{neglecting small EM contributions})$$

$$Q^2 = (m_s^2 - \hat{m}^2)/(m_d^2 - m_u^2)$$

**Most recent lattice QCD inputs:** FLAG 2021

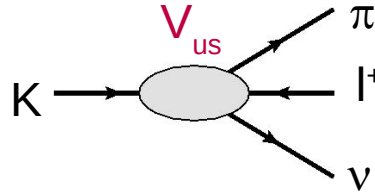
$$Q = 23.3(5) , \quad m_s/\hat{m} = 27.42(12) \quad N_f = 2 + 1$$

$$\text{returns: } \delta_{SU(2)}^{K^+\pi^0} = 0.0457(20)$$

Phenomenological inputs from  $\eta \rightarrow 3\pi$  returns a somewhat larger value:

$$\delta_{SU(2)}^{K^+\pi^0} = 0.0522(34)$$

# Kaon semileptonic decays ( $K_{l3}$ )



Master formula:

$$\Gamma_{K_{l3}} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{us}|^2 M_K^5 C_K^2}{192\pi^3} S_{EW} |f_+^{K^0\pi^-}(0)|^2 I_{K\ell}^{(0)} \left(1 + \delta_{EM}^{K\ell} + \delta_{SU(2)}^{K\pi}\right)$$

Averaging over all six channels:

	$ V_{us} f_+^{K^0\pi^-}(0) $
$K_L e$	$0.21617(46)_{\text{exp}(10)} I_K(4) \delta_{EM}$
$K_S e$	$0.21530(122)_{\text{exp}(10)} I_K(4) \delta_{EM}$
$K^+ e$	$0.21714(88)_{\text{exp}(10)} I_K(21) \delta_{SU(2)}(5) \delta_{EM}$
$K_L \mu$	$0.21649(50)_{\text{exp}(16)} I_K(4) \delta_{EM}$
$K_S \mu$	$0.21251(466)_{\text{exp}(16)} I_K(4) \delta_{EM}$
$K^+ \mu$	$0.21699(108)_{\text{exp}(16)} I_K(21) \delta_{SU(2)}(6) \delta_{EM}$
Average: $Ke$	$0.21626(40)_K(3)_{HO}$
Average: $K\mu$	$0.21654(48)_K(3)_{HO}$
Average: tot	$0.21634(38)_K(3)_{HO}$

With  $N_f=2+1+1$  lattice average of  $f_+(0)$ :

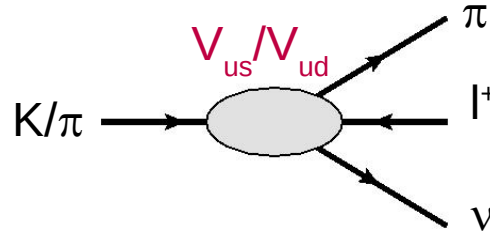
$$|V_{us}|_{K_{l3}} = 0.22308(39)_{\text{lat}}(39)_K(3)_{HO}$$

**Experimental uncertainties apparently dominate in all channels**, but one still needs to scrutinize all the **theory inputs** to make sure the  $V_{us}$  **anomaly** does not come from some **unexpected, large SM corrections**.

# Kaon semileptonic decays ( $K_{l3}$ )

**Vector ratio  $R_V$  : A new avenue to determine  $V_{us}/V_{ud}$**

$$R_V = \frac{\Gamma(K_{\ell 3})}{\Gamma(\pi_{e 3})}$$



*Czarnecki, Marciano and Sirlin, 2020 PRD*

from  $R_A$   $\left| \frac{V_{us} f_{K^+}}{V_{ud} f_{\pi^+}} \right| = 0.27600(29)_{\text{exp}}(23)_{\text{RC}} ,$

from  $R_V$   $\left| \frac{V_{us} f_+^K(0)}{V_{ud} f_+^\pi(0)} \right| = 0.22216(64)_{\text{BR}(\pi_{e3})}(39)_K(2)_{\tau_{\pi^+}}(1)_{\text{RC}_\pi} ,$  ← **Theoretically cleaner!**

Major limiting factor:  $\pi_{e3}$  **branching ratio**  $\text{BR}(\pi_{e3}) = 1.038(6) \times 10^{-8}$

*PIBETA, 2004 PRL + recent update*

Next-generation experiment (**PIONEER**) may improve  $\text{BR}(\pi_{e3})$  precision by a factor of 3 or more, making  $R_V$  competitive

*Aguilar-Arevalo et al., SnowMass 2021 Lol;  
Hertzog, in TAU2021*



# Summary

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- Several **anomalies** at the level  $\sim 3\sigma$  have been observed in the measurements of the **first-row CKM matrix elements**  $V_{ud}$  and  $V_{us}$  in **beta decay processes**.
- **SM theory inputs** that require further improvements are:
  - $V_{ud}$  **sector**: RC in single-nucleon and nuclear systems, ISB corrections in nuclear wavefunctions
  - $V_{us}$  **sector**: Lattice inputs of Kaon/pion decay constants and  $K\pi$  form factor, RC in leptonic and semileptonic kaon decays,  $K_{l3}$  phase-space factor, ISB corrections in  $K^\pm$  semileptonic decays
- Successful reduction of theory uncertainties above could increase the significance of the anomalies to more than  $5\sigma$
- Desirable future **experimental improvements**:  $K_{l3}$  and  $\pi_{e3}$  branching ratios, neutron lifetime and  $g_A$ , ...

*Thanks for your attention!*