

# Cabibbo unitarity status: superallowed nuclear and $Kl3$ decays



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Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz

Neutron beta decay review: MG, Seng, Universe **2023**, 9(9), 422, arXiv:**2307.01145**

Nuclear beta decay review: MG, Seng (for Annual Reviews Part. Nucl. Sci. - deadline Nov 2)

XII CKM Unitarity Triangle Workshop, Santiago de Compostela, September 18-22, 2023

# Outline

Status of Cabibbo unitarity

Superallowed nuclear decays

RC to  $\beta$ -decays: overall setup, scale separation,  $\delta_{NS}$

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

Nuclear inputs in ft-values

Isospin-symmetry breaking correction  $\delta_C$

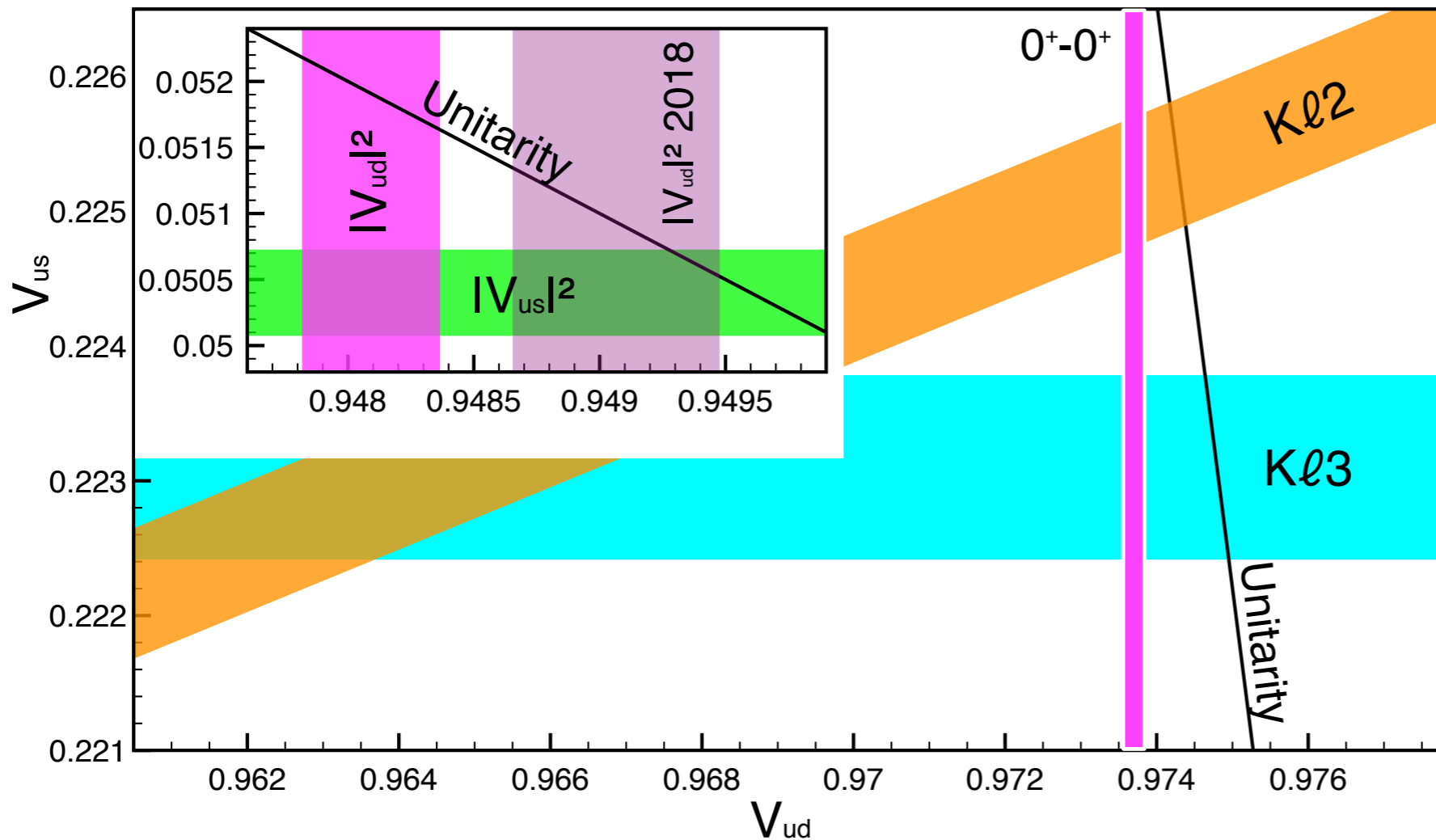
RC for  $K\ell 3$  and  $V_{us}$

Summary & Outlook

# Status of Cabibbo unitarity

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

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



Talks at this workshop:

- Wouter Deckens
- Martin Hoferichter
- Bastian Märkisch
- Matthew Moulson
- Ulrich Schmidt
- Luiz Vale Silva

Inconsistencies between measurements of  $V_{ud}$  and  $V_{us}$  and SM predictions

**Main reason for Cabibbo-angle anomaly: shift in  $V_{ud}$  (and small uncertainties?)**

# Status of $V_{ud}$

**Theory:** Major reduction of uncertainties in the past few years

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 + EFT + lattice QCD*

$\Delta_R^V$  uncertainty: factor 2 reduction

$\delta_{NS}$  uncertainty: factor 3 increase!!!

RC to semileptonic pion decay

$\delta$  Factor 3 reduction

*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*

*C-Y Seng, X. Feng, MG, L-C Jin, [2308.16755](#);*

*X. Feng, MG, L-C Jin, P-X Ma, C-Y Seng, Phys.Rev.Lett. 124 (2020) 19, 192002*

*Yoo, J.S.; Bhattacharya, T.; Gupta, R.; Mondal, S.; Yoon, B.. [2305.03198](#)*

## Experiment

$3.4\sigma$   $g_A = -1.27641(56)$   
Factor 4 reduction  
 $g_A = -1.2677(28)$

$4\sigma$   $\tau_n = 877.75(28)_{-12}^{+16}$   
Factor 2-3 reduction  
 $\tau_n = 887.7(2.3)$

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

**aSPECT** *M. Beck et al, Phys. Rev. C101 (2020) 5, 055506; [2308.16170](#)*

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

**BL1 (NIST)** *Yue et al, PRL 111 (2013) 222501*

# 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**

Bastian and Ulrich's talks

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)**

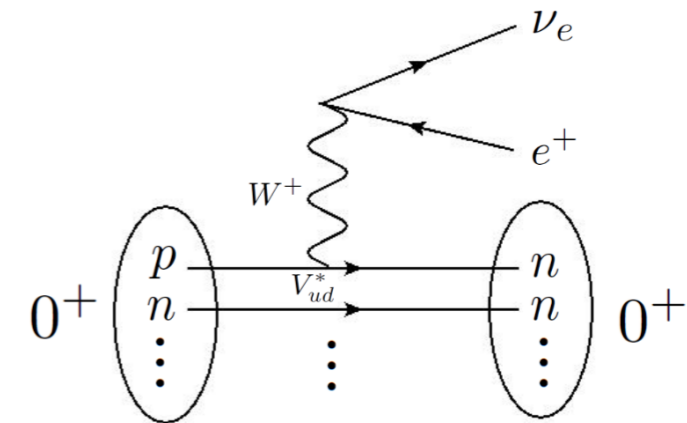
Martin's talk

# Superallowed nuclear decays

# Precise $V_{ud}$ from superallowed decays

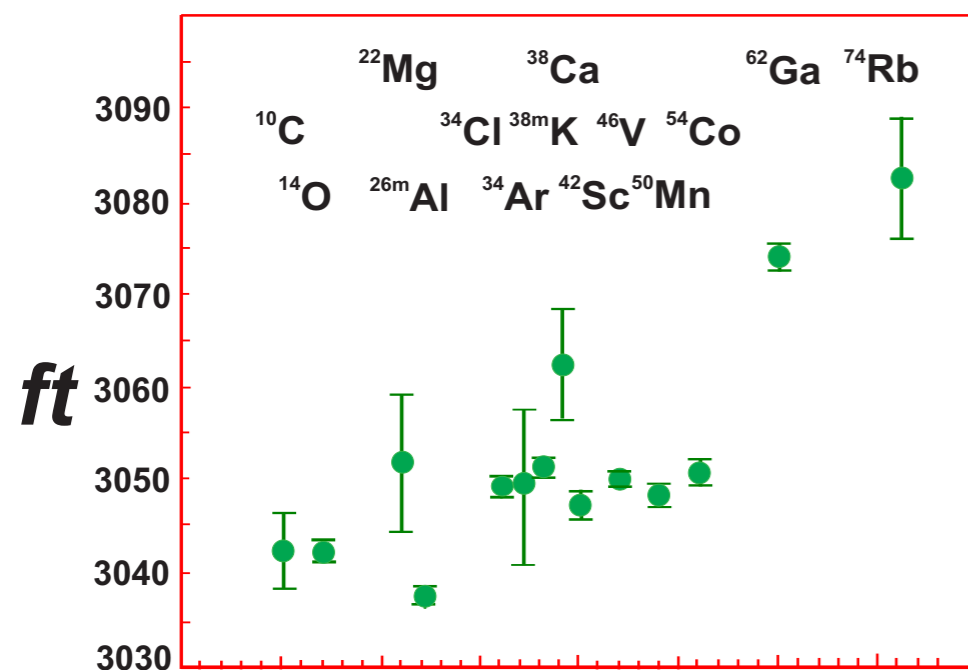
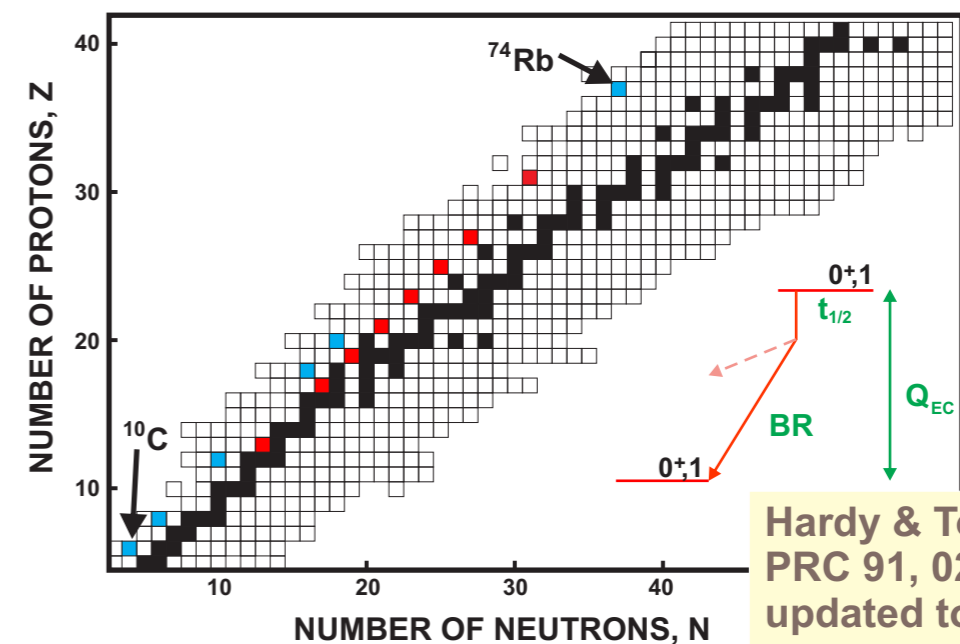
Superallowed  $0^+-0^+$  nuclear decays:

- only conserved vector current
- many decays
- all rates equal modulo phase space



Experiment: **f** - phase space (Q value) and **t** - partial half-life ( $t_{1/2}$ , branching ratio)

- 8 cases with  $ft$ -values measured to **<0.05% precision**; 6 more cases with **0.05-0.3% precision**.
- ~220 individual measurements with compatible precision



$ft$  values: same within  $\sim 2\%$  but not exactly!

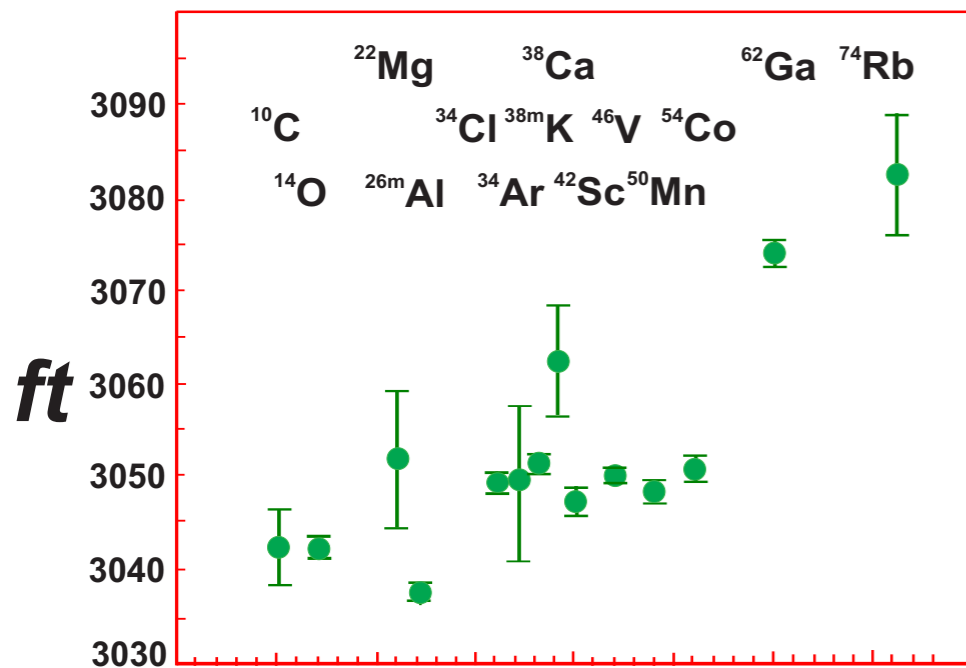
Reason: SU(2) slightly broken

- RC (e.m. interaction does not conserve isospin)
- Nuclear WF are not SU(2) symmetric (proton and neutron distribution not the same)

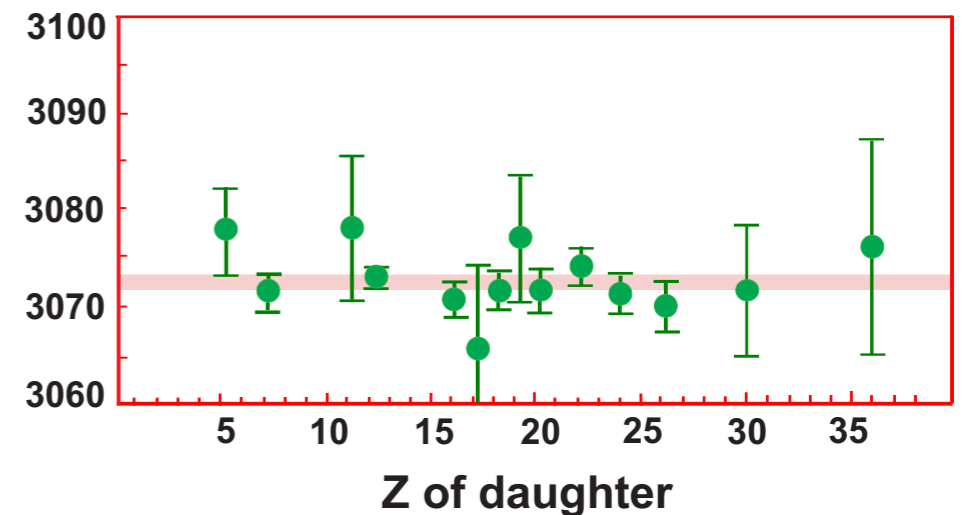
# $V_{ud}$ extraction: Universal RC and Universal Ft

To obtain  $V_{ud}$   $\rightarrow$  absorb all decay-specific corrections into universal **Ft**

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{\textasciitilde Measured} \rightarrow ft(1 + \text{RC} + \text{ISB}) &= \mathcal{F}t(1 + \Delta_R^V) = ft(1 + \delta'_R)(1 - \delta_C + \delta_{NS})(1 + \Delta_R^V) \\
 \text{Outer: QED} & \quad \text{Isospin-breaking} \quad \text{Nuclear structure} \quad \text{Universal inner}
 \end{aligned}$$



$\rightarrow$  **Ft**



Average of 14 decays - 0.02%

$$\overline{Ft} = 3072.1 \pm 0.7$$

Hardy, Towner 1972 - 2020

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



RC to nuclear beta decay: overall setup

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Tree-level amplitude  $i = n, A(0^+) \quad \begin{array}{c} e^\pm \\ \nu_e(\bar{\nu}_e) \\ \hline f = p, A'(0^+) \end{array} \sim V_{ud}$

Radiative corrections to tree-level amplitude  $\sim \alpha/2\pi \approx 10^{-3}$

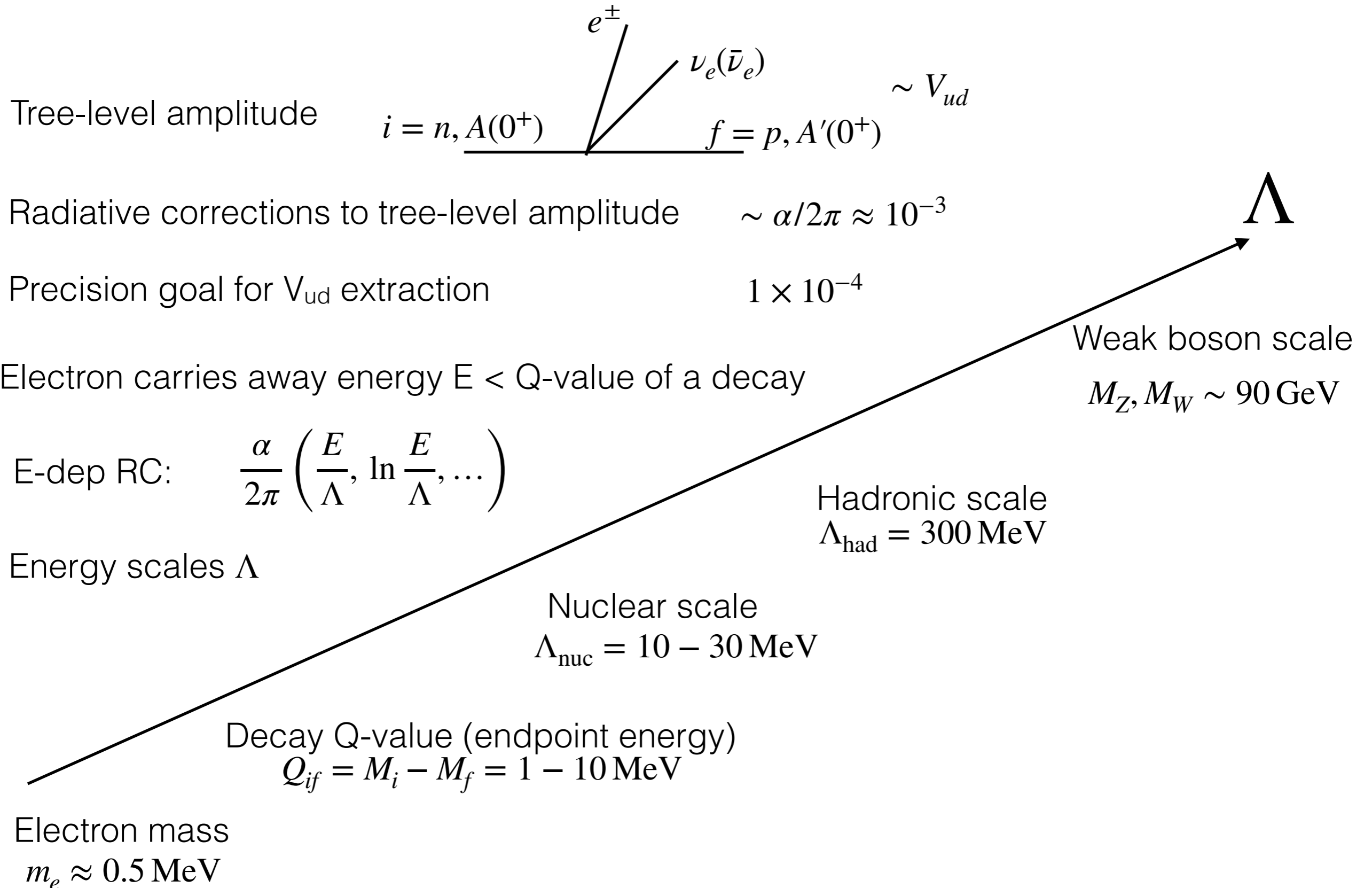
Precision goal for  $V_{ud}$  extraction  $1 \times 10^{-4}$

Electron carries away energy  $E < Q$ -value of a decay

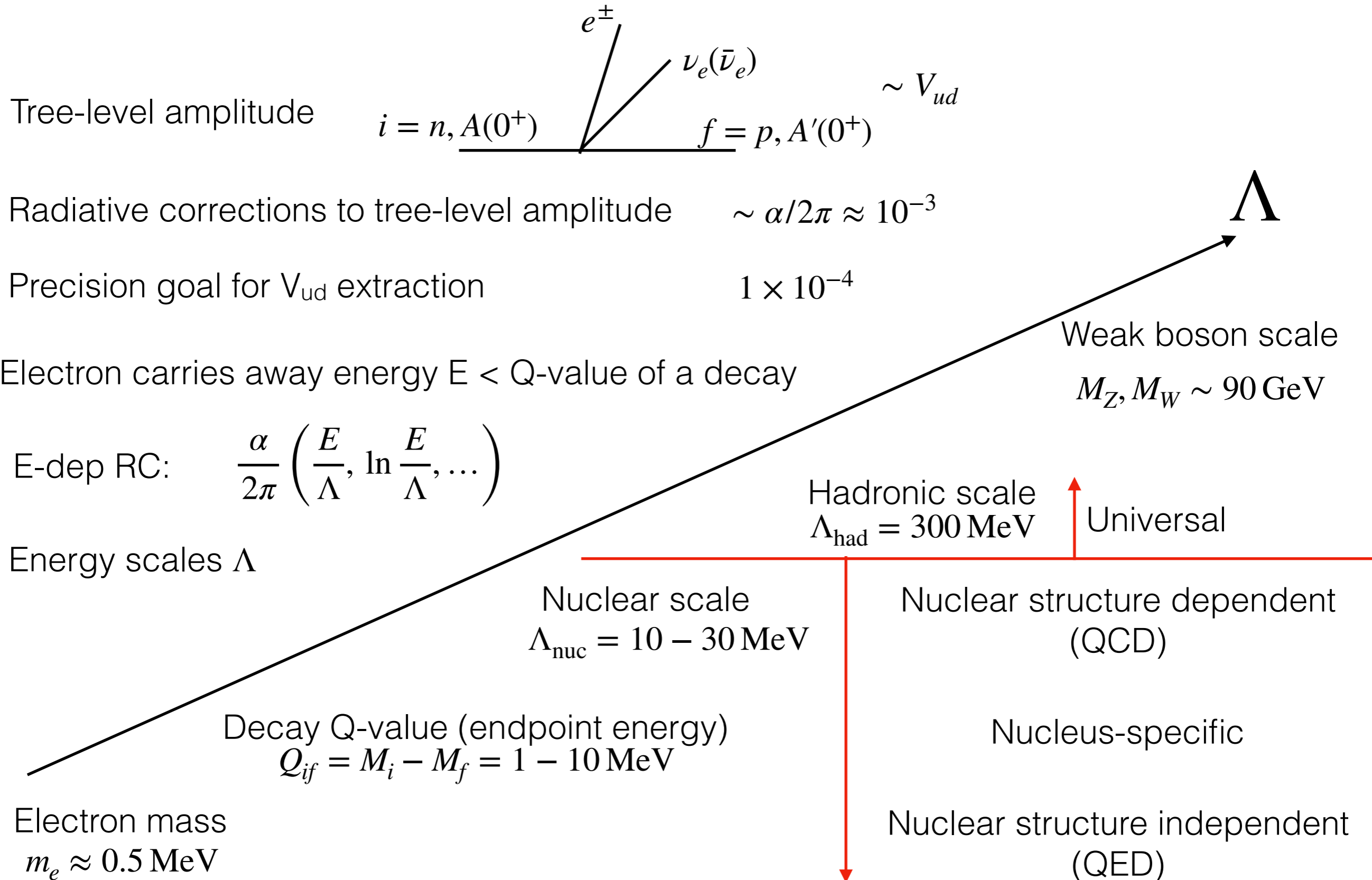
E-dep RC:  $\frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \left( \frac{E}{\Lambda}, \ln \frac{E}{\Lambda}, \dots \right)$

Energy scales  $\Lambda$

# RC to nuclear beta decay: overall setup



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# RC to beta decay: overall setup

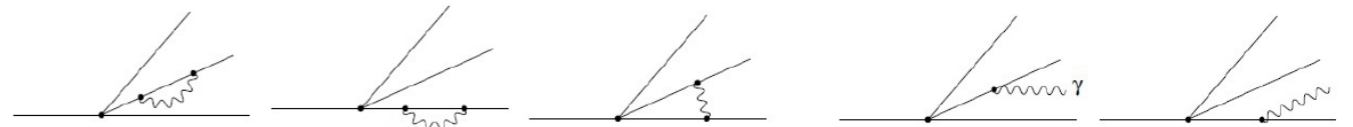
Generically: only IR and UV extremes feature large logarithms!  
 Works by Sirlin (1930-2022) and collaborators: all large logs under control

## IR: Fermi function + Sirlin function

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

Sirlin function (outer correction):

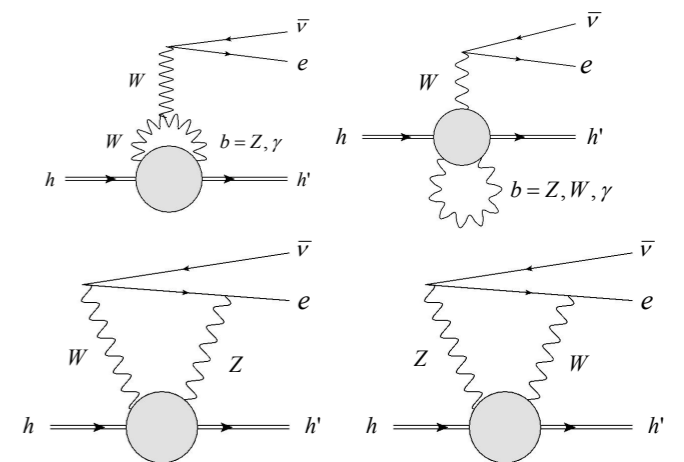
All IR-div. pieces beyond Coulomb distortion



## UV: large EW logs + pQCD corrections

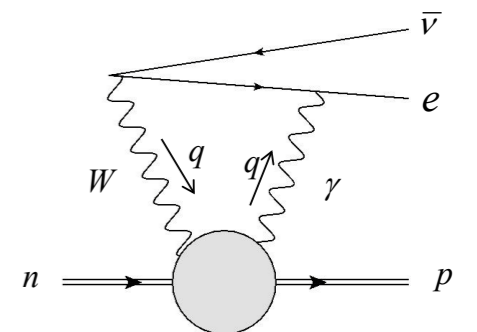
Inner RC:  
 energy- and model-independent

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



# RC to $\beta$ decay - scale separation: history

Fermi function (pure Coulomb + nuclear size & recoil + atomic)  $\rightarrow$  phase-space  $\mathbf{f}$

Fermi, Behrens-Bühring, Wilkinson...

Soft Bremsstrahlung: universal Sirlin's function + nucleus specific corrections  $\rightarrow \delta'_R$

All IR-sensitive pieces: recent review

Hayen et al RMP 2018

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UV-sensitive RC on free neutron  $\Delta_R^V$ : Sirlin, Marciano, Czarnecki 1967 - 2006

$$g_V^2 = |V_{ud}|^2 \left[ 1 + \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \left\{ 3 \ln \frac{M_Z}{M_p} + \ln \frac{M_Z}{M_W} + \tilde{a}_g \right\} + \delta_{\text{QED}}^{\text{HO}} + 2 \square_{\gamma W} \right] \quad \text{Wouter's talk}$$

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**All scales are assumed to be perfectly separated!**

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**All scales are assumed to be perfectly separated!**

Isospin breaking (non-RC): Coulomb repulsion b. protons  $\rightarrow \delta_C$

MacDonald 1958

Nuclear structure  $\delta_{NS}$   $\rightarrow$  only since 1990

Jaus, Rasche 1990

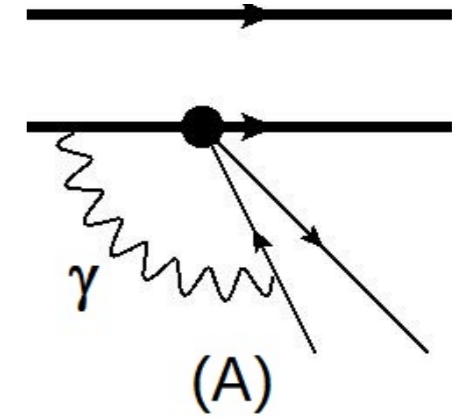
Hardy, Towner 1992-2020

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

# Nuclear-structure RC $\delta_{NS}$ : history

Jaus, Rasche 1990

$\gamma$  and  $W$  on same nucleon  $\rightarrow$  already in  $\Delta_R^V$ : drop!



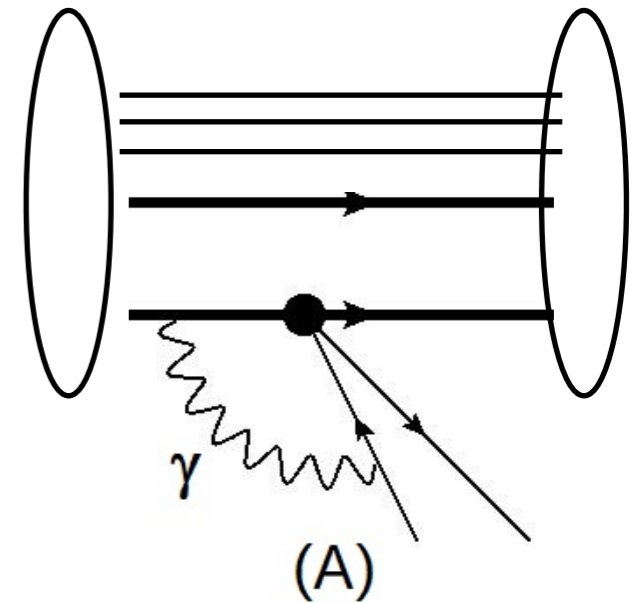
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Towner 1994

Nucleons are bound — free-nucleon RC modified:  $\delta_{NS}^A$   
Nuclear WF — filter  $0+$  states (nuclear shell model)



# Nuclear-structure RC $\delta_{NS}$ : history

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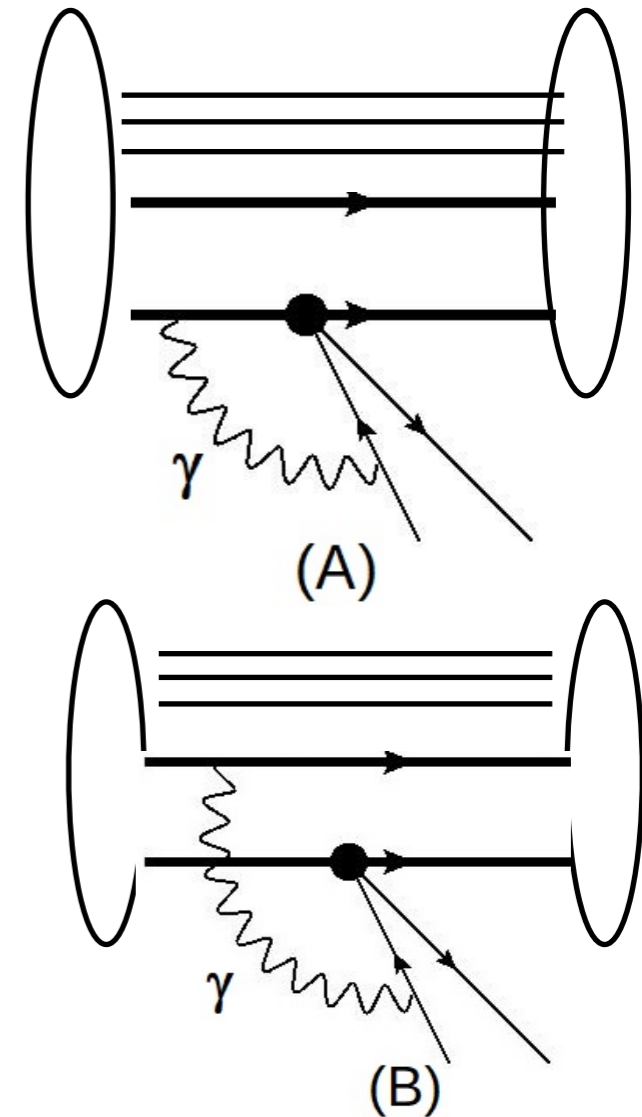
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# Nuclear-structure RC $\delta_{NS}$ : history

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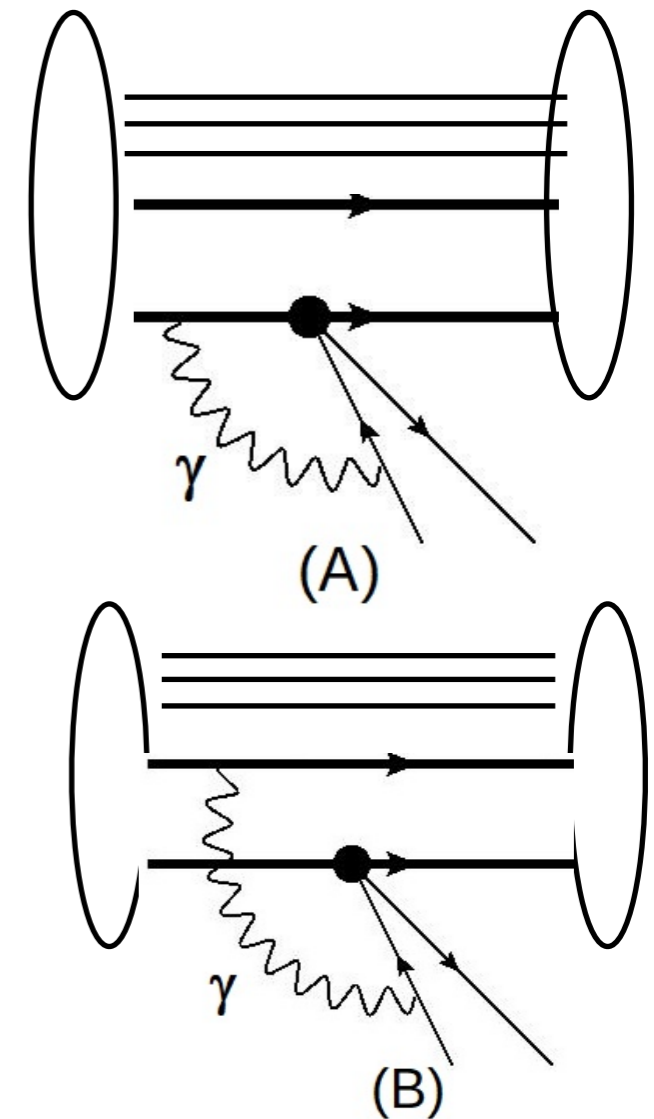
$\gamma$  and  $W$  on distinct nucleons  $\rightarrow$  only in nuclei:  $\delta_{NS}^B$

Implementation 
$$\delta_{NS} \sim \int d^4x e^{iqx} \langle \phi_{0+}(P_f) | T \{ J_W^{\nu\dagger}(x) J_\gamma^\mu(0) \} | \phi_{0+}(P_i) \rangle$$

One-body nucleon currents  
 (Only axial and magnetic needed)

$$J_A^\nu(q) \rightarrow G_A(q^2) \bar{u}(p_1 + q) \gamma^\nu \gamma_5 u(p_1)$$

$$J_M^\nu(q) \rightarrow G_M(q^2) \bar{u}(p_1 + q) \frac{F_{\mu\nu} \sigma^{\mu\nu}}{4M} u(p_1)$$



# Nuclear-structure RC $\delta_{NS}$ : history

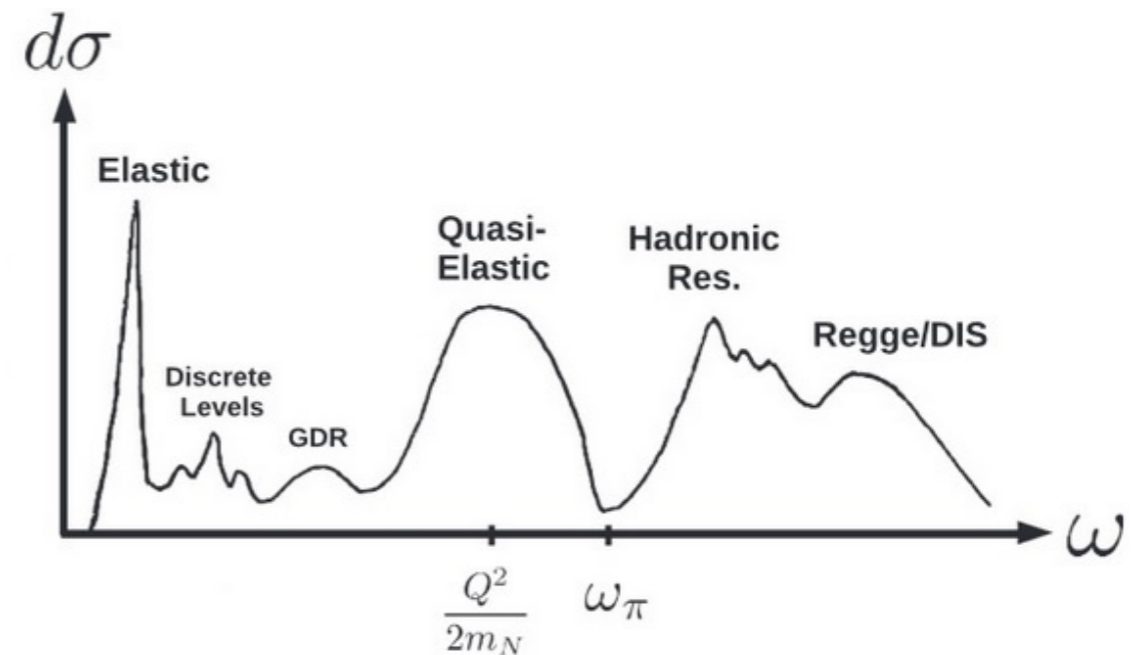
However, this implementation is flawed!

$$\int d^4x e^{iqx} \langle \phi_{0+}(\vec{0}) | T \{ J_W^{\nu\dagger}(x) J_\gamma^\mu(0) \} | \phi_{0+}(\vec{0}) \rangle = \sum_X \left[ \frac{\langle \phi_{0+}(\vec{0}) | J_W^{\nu\dagger} | X \rangle \langle X | J_\gamma^\mu | \phi_{0+}(\vec{0}) \rangle}{\nu - \nu_X + i\epsilon} + \frac{\langle \phi_{0+}(\vec{0}) | J_\gamma^\mu | X \rangle \langle X | J_W^{\nu\dagger} | \phi_{0+}(\vec{0}) \rangle}{\nu + \nu_X + i\epsilon} \right]$$

■  $\rightarrow$  Nuclear Green's function G — complete information about a nuclear system

G encodes all possible intermediate states

Importantly: nuclear photoabsorption features low-lying discrete states, QE peak, and is not limited to low energies (shadowing etc.)



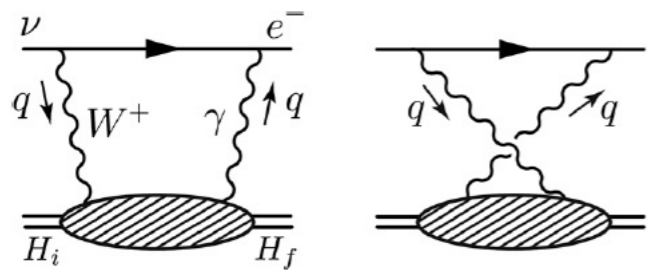
Since 2018 we have a new tool: Dispersion Relations  
DR can naturally be used to test all assumptions:

1B currents; nuclear resonances; scale separation; nuclear effects at high energies; ...

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!

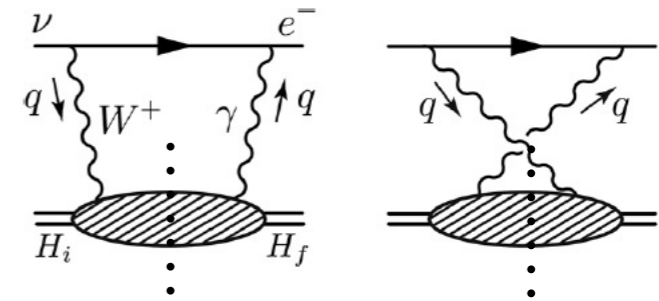
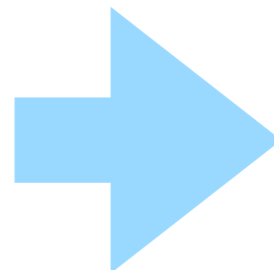
$$\int dx e^{iqx} \langle H_f(p) | T \{ J_{em}^\mu(x) J_W^{\nu,\pm}(0) \} | H_i(p) \rangle$$

Generalized (non-diagonal) Compton amplitudes

Interference  $\gamma W$  structure functions

Long- and intermediate-range part of the box  $\sim$  hadronic/nuclear **polarizabilities**

Polarizabilities related to the excitation spectrum via dispersion relation



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

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



# $\gamma W$ -box from dispersion relations

After some algebra

(isospin decomposition, loop integration)

$$T_{3,\pm}(\nu, Q^2) \equiv \frac{1}{2} [T_3(\nu, Q^2) \pm T_3(-\nu, Q^2)]$$

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

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

Same formulas for free neutron and nuclei;

NS correction reflects extraction of the free box

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

RC on a free neutron

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

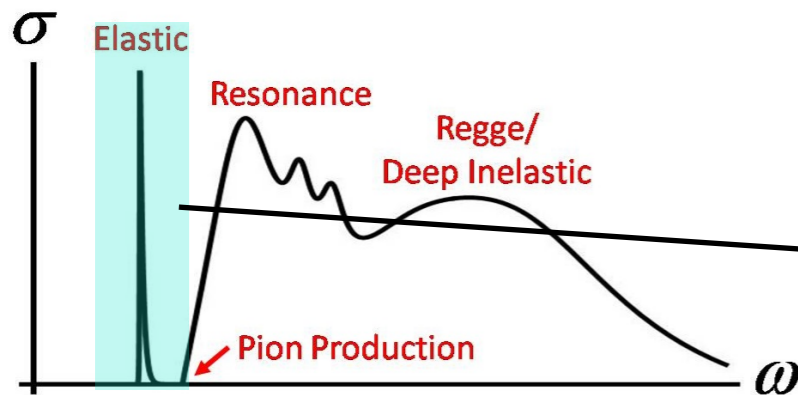
RC on a nucleus

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

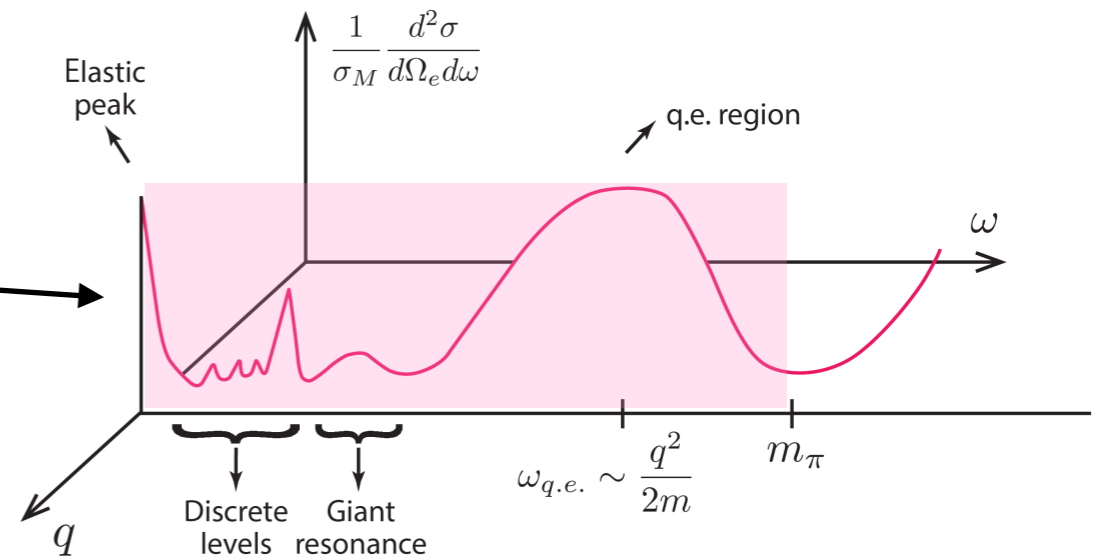
# Splitting the $\gamma W$ -box into Universal and Nuclear Parts

Can already test some assumptions:  
extraction of a free-nucleon RC; energy independence

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  $\beta$  spectrum

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

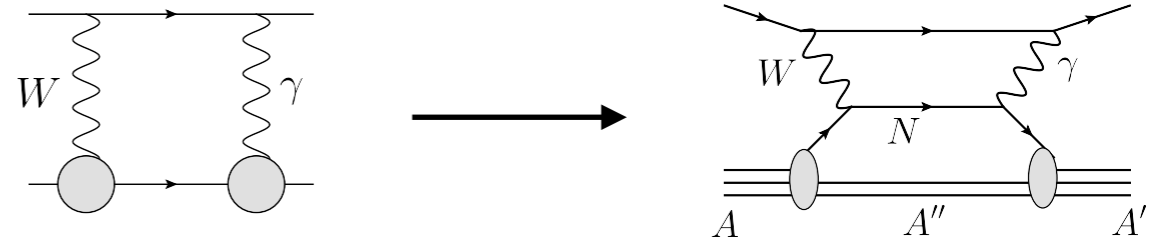
# Splitting the $\gamma W$ -box into Universal and Nuclear Parts

$\delta_{NS}^A$  from DR with energy dependence

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

MG 1812.04229

Elastic nucleon box  $\rightarrow$  single N QE knockout



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

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

HT value 2018:

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

Old estimate:

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

New estimate:

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

Nuclear structure uncertainty tripled!

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

# Next step: ab-Initio $\delta_{NS}$

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

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

Seng, MG 2211.10214

Interesting effects detected for the first time:

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

**Anomalous threshold** possible  $\rightarrow$  residue upon Wick rotation

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

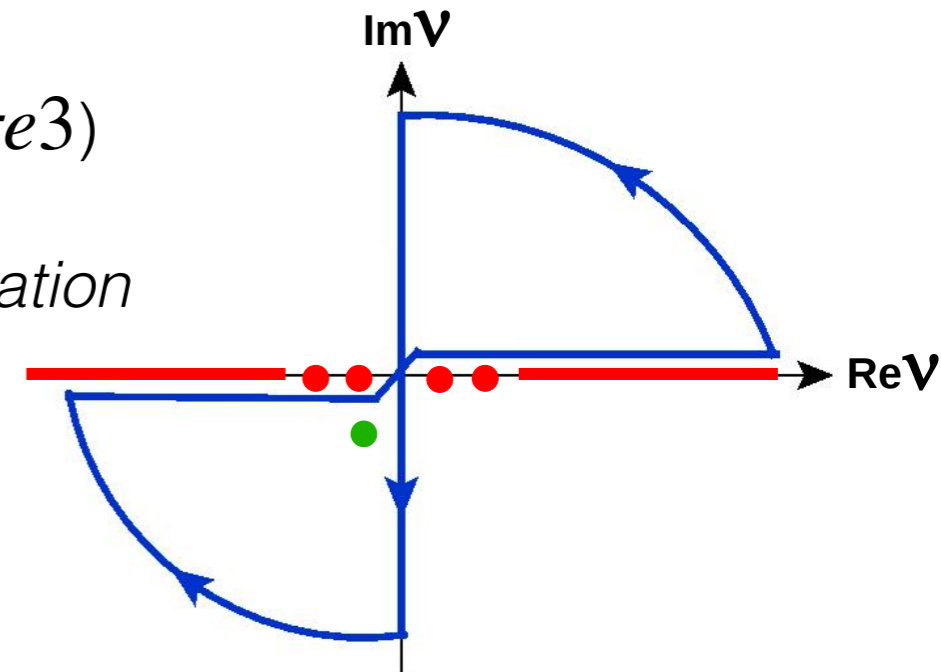
No-Core Shell Model **Michael Gennari, Petr Navratil, Mehdi Drissy**

Green's Function MC **Garrett King, Saori Pastore**

Coupled Clusters **Sonia Bacca, Asia Sobczyk, Gaute Hagen**

Important cross checks should become possible very soon: stay tuned!

Nuclear beta decay review: MG, Seng (Annual Review of Nucl. Part. Sci. - deadline Nov 2)



Nuclear inputs in ft

# Nuclear structure in ft

Differential decay spectrum:

$$N(W)dW = \frac{G_V^2 V_{ud}^2}{2\pi^3} F_0(Z, W) L_0(Z, W) U(Z, W) D_{\text{FS}}(Z, W, \beta_2) R(W, W_0) R_N(W, W_0, M) \\ \times Q(Z, W) S(Z, W) X(Z, W) r(Z, W) C(Z, W) D_C(Z, W, \beta_2) pW(W_0 - W)^2 dW$$

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RC + Recoil QED

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Fermi Fn: daughter **Charge FF**  $F_{Ch}(q^2)$

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Not all radii are known

Even if known: inherent nuclear uncertainty: nuclear polarization contribution

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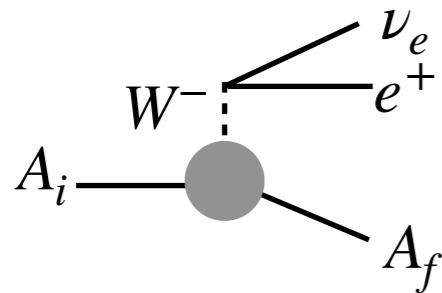
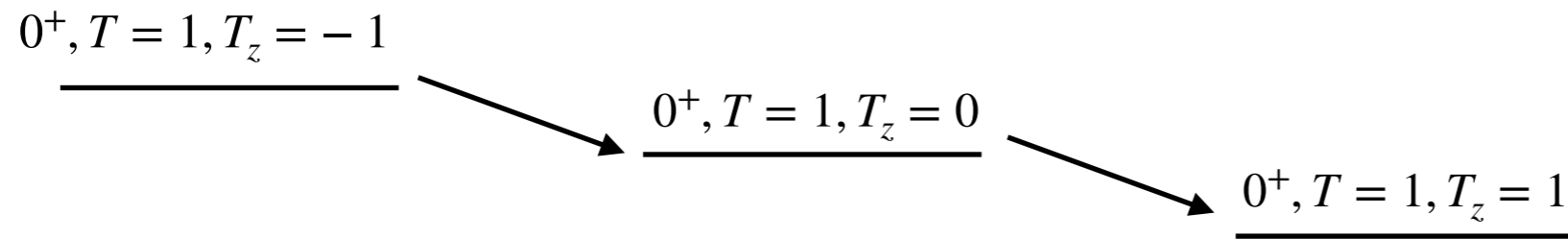
Charged-current weak transition form factors: only accessible with the decay itself (tough);

Historically estimated in nuclear shell model with 1B current (Wilkinson; Hardy & Towner; ...)

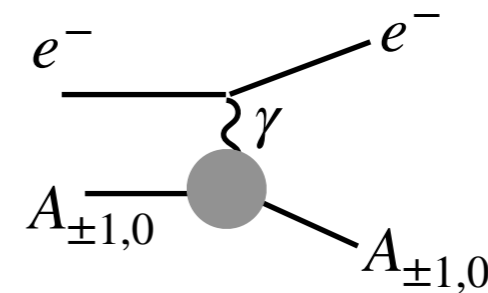
Typical result: very similar to charge FF

# Isospin symmetry + Charge Radii in $T = 1, O^+$ isotriplet

CY Seng, 2212.02681



$$F_{CW}(Q^2) = 1 - R_{CW}^2 Q^2 / 6 + \dots$$



$$F_{Ch}(Q^2) = 1 - R_{Ch}^2 Q^2 / 6 + \dots$$

Isospin symmetry: CW  $\longleftrightarrow$  charge radii

Remove the symmetry energy (energy cost to add a neutron to symmetric nucleus)

Superallowed isotriplet  $\approx$  closed symmetric core + (pp - np - nn)

$$R_{CW}^2 = R_{Ch,1}^2 + Z_0(R_{Ch,0}^2 - R_{Ch,1}^2) = R_{Ch,1}^2 + \frac{Z-1}{2}(R_{Ch,-1}^2 - R_{Ch,1}^2)$$

Large factors  $\sim Z$  multiply small radii differences

# Isospin symmetry + Charge Radii in $T = 1, O^+$ isotriplet

$A$	$R_{\text{Ch},-1}$ (fm)	$R_{\text{Ch},0}$ (fm)	$R_{\text{Ch},1}$ (fm)	$R_{\text{Ch},1}^2$ (fm <sup>2</sup> )	$R_{\text{CW}}^2$ (fm <sup>2</sup> )
10	$^{10}_6\text{C}$	$^{10}_5\text{B}(\text{ex})$	$^{10}_4\text{Be}: 2.3550(170)^a$	5.546(80)	N/A
14	$^{14}_8\text{O}$	$^{14}_7\text{N}(\text{ex})$	$^{14}_6\text{C}: 2.5025(87)^a$	6.263(44)	N/A
18	$^{18}_{10}\text{Ne}: 2.9714(76)^a$	$^{18}_9\text{F}(\text{ex})$	$^{18}_8\text{O}: 2.7726(56)^a$	7.687(31)	13.40(53)
22	$^{22}_{12}\text{Mg}: 3.0691(89)^b$	$^{22}_{11}\text{Na}(\text{ex})$	$^{22}_{10}\text{Ne}: 2.9525(40)^a$	8.717(24)	12.93(71)
26	$^{26}_{14}\text{Si}$	$^{26}_{13}\text{Al}^m$	$^{26}_{12}\text{Mg}: 3.0337(18)^a$	9.203(11)	N/A
30	$^{30}_{16}\text{S}$	$^{30}_{15}\text{P}(\text{ex})$	$^{30}_{14}\text{Si}: 3.1336(40)^a$	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	$^{38}_{20}\text{Ca}: 3.467(1)^c$	$^{38}_{19}\text{K}^m: 3.437(4)^d$	$^{38}_{18}\text{Ar}: 3.4028(19)^a$	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)

**CY Seng, 2212.02681**

Photon probes the entire nuclear charge

Only the outer protons can decay: all neutron states in the core occupied

ft values update — work in progress; more and more precise charge radii necessary!

Working closely with exp. (PSI, FRIB, ISOLDE)

Nuclear polarization (EM analog of  $\delta_{NS}$ ) crucial for improved radius extraction

Isospin breaking in nuclear WF:  $\delta_C$

# 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 T=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):

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

MacDonald 1958

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.

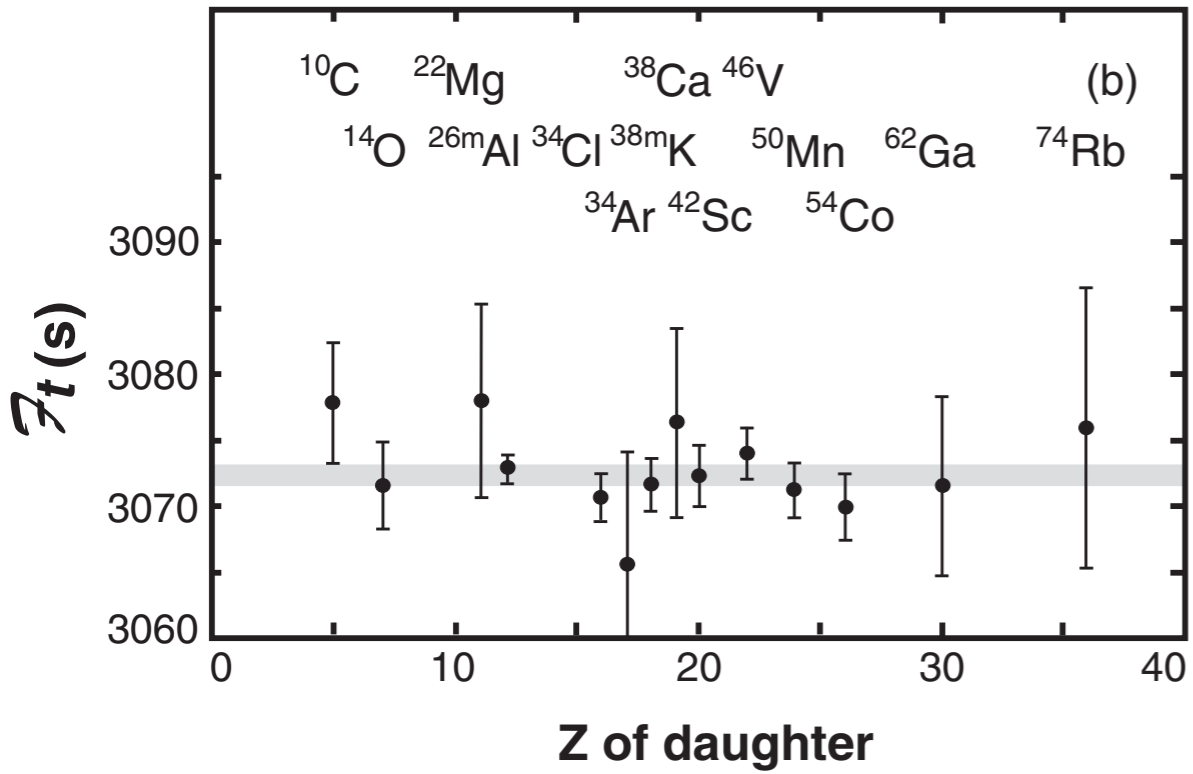
Parent nucleus	$\delta'_R$ (%)	$\delta_{NS}$ (%)	$\delta_{C1}$ (%)	$\delta_{C2}$ (%)	$\delta_C$ (%)
$T_z = -1$					
$^{10}\text{C}$	1.679	-0.345(35)	0.010(10)	0.165(15)	0.175(18)
$^{14}\text{O}$	1.543	-0.245(50)	0.055(20)	0.275(15)	0.330(25)
$^{18}\text{Ne}$	1.506	-0.290(35)	0.155(30)	0.405(25)	0.560(39)
$^{22}\text{Mg}$	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*

$$\delta_C \sim 0.17\% - 1.6\%!$$



# Nuclear Corrections vs. scalar BSM



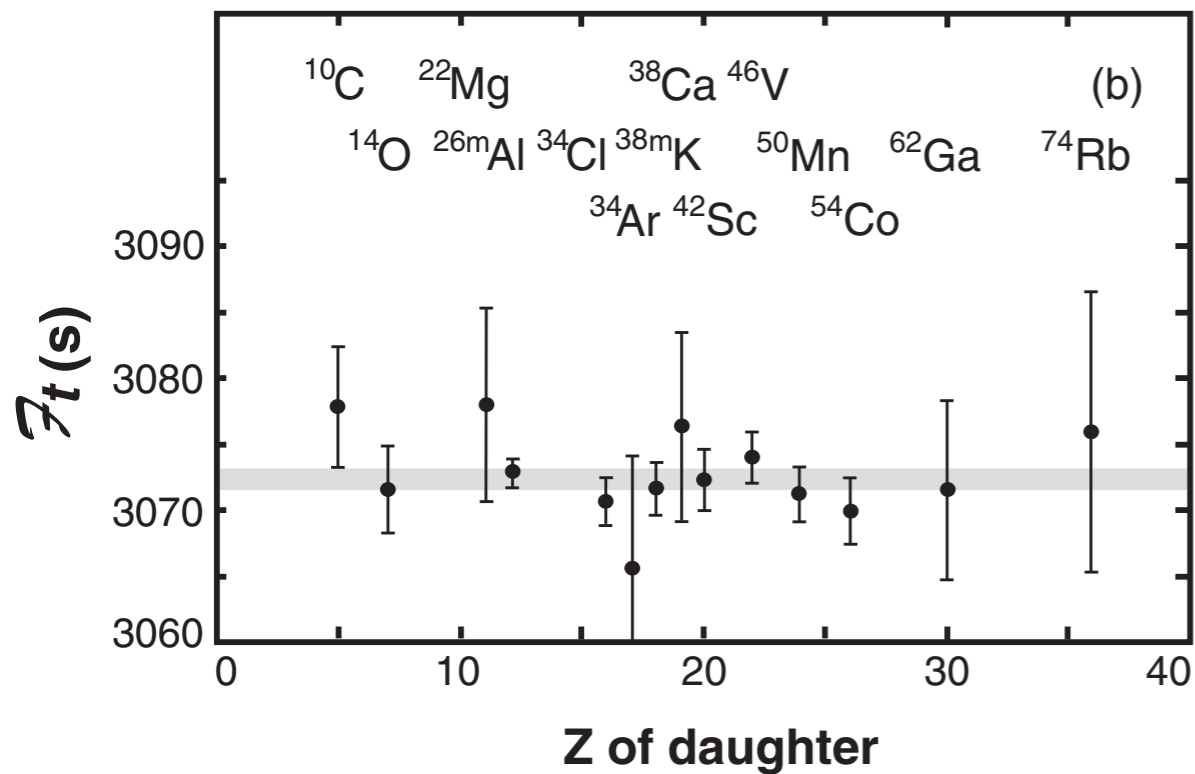
Once all corrections are included:  
CVC  $\rightarrow$  Ft constant

$\delta_C$  particularly important for alignment!

Fit to 14 transitions:  
Ft constant within 0.02%

Hardy, Towner 2020

# Nuclear Corrections vs. scalar BSM

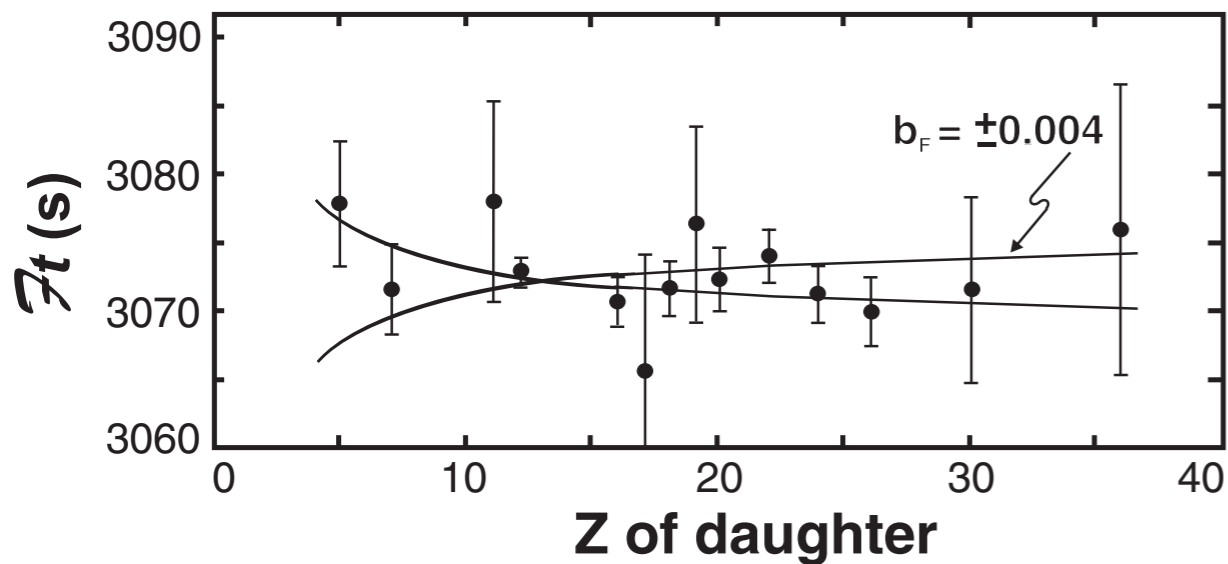


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Fit to 14 transitions:  
Ft constant within 0.02%

Hardy, Towner 2020



If BSM scalar currents present: Fierz interference  $b_F$

$$Ft^{SM} \rightarrow Ft^{SM} \left( 1 + b_F \frac{m_e}{\langle E_e \rangle} \right)$$

$Q_{EC} \uparrow$  with Z  $\rightarrow$  effect of  $b_F \downarrow$  with Z  
Introduces nonlinearity in the Ft plot

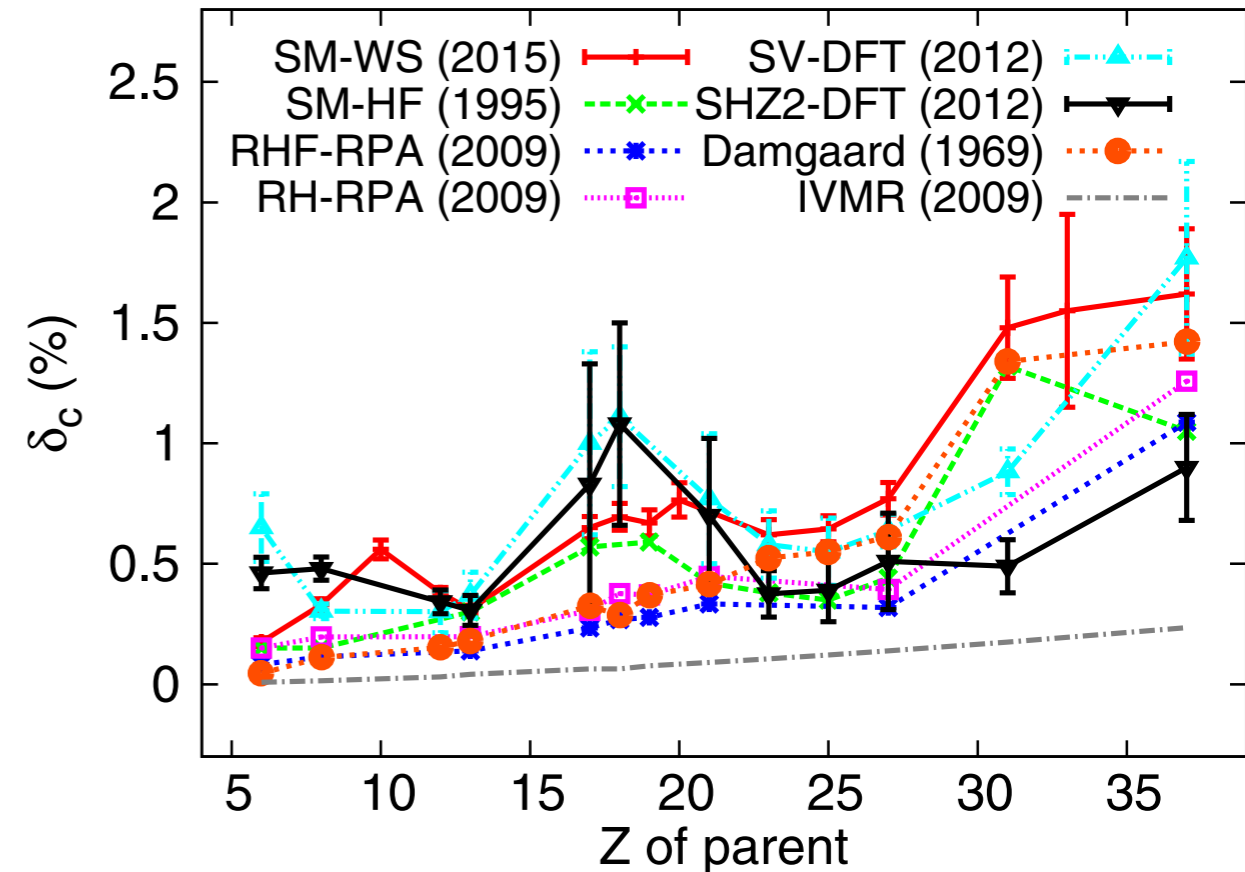
$b_F = -0.0028(26) \sim$  consistent with 0

# Nuclear model comparison for $\delta_C$

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

	RPA					DFT	
	SM-WS	SM-HF	PKO1	DD-ME2	PC-F1		IVMR <sup>a</sup>
$T_z = -1$							
<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>

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



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 (NCSM, GFMC, CC, IMSRG)  
Especially interesting for light nuclei accessible to different techniques!

# Constraints on $\delta_C$ from nuclear radii

$$0^+, T = 1, T_z = -1$$

$$0^+, T = 1, T_z = 0$$

$$0^+, T = 1, T_z = 1$$

Auerbach 0811.4742; 2101.06199;  
Seng, MG 2208.03037; 2304.03800; 2212.02681

ISB-sensitive combinations of radii: Wigner-Eckart theorem

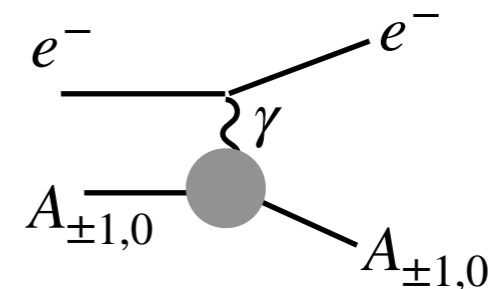
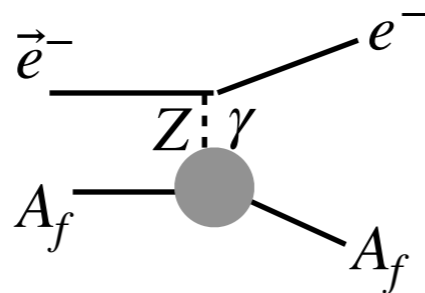
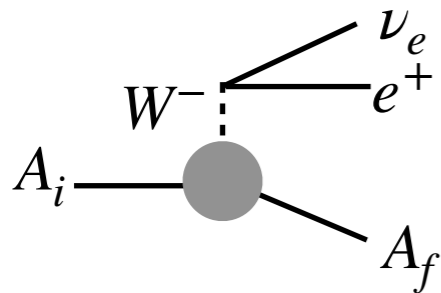
$$\Delta M_A^{(1)} \equiv \langle f | M_{+1}^{(1)} | i \rangle + \langle f | M_0^{(1)} | f \rangle$$

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

Transition radius  
From  $\beta$  spectrum

Neutron skin  
From PVES

Charge radii from atomic spectra  
and electron scattering



$$F_{CW}(Q^2) = 1 - R_{CW}^2 Q^2 / 6 + \dots$$

$$A^{PV} = - \frac{G_F Q^2}{4\sqrt{2}\pi\alpha} \frac{Q_W}{Z} \frac{F_{NW}(Q^2)}{F_{Ch}(Q^2)}$$

$$F_{Ch}(Q^2) = 1 - R_{Ch}^2 Q^2 / 6 + \dots$$

Since  $N \neq Z$  for  $T_z = \pm 1$  factors  $Z_{\pm 1,0}$  remove the symmetry energy to isolate ISB  
(Usually PVES  $\rightarrow$  neutron skins  $\rightarrow$  symmetry energy  $\rightarrow$  nuclear EOS  $\rightarrow$  nuclear astrophysics)

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

For numerical analysis: lowest isovector monopole resonance dominates

One ISB matrix element, one energy splitting

Model for  $\delta_C \rightarrow$  prediction for  $\Delta M_{A,B}^{(1)}$

Seng, MG 2208.03037; 2304.03800

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 models if independent information on nuclear radii is available

$\Delta M_A$  from measured radii  $\rightarrow$  test models for  $\delta_C$

Working closely with PVES exp. in Mainz: neutron skins of stable daughters can be measured!

# Summary on $V_{ud}$ from superallowed nuclear decays

- Superallowed nuclear decays are a powerful tool to extract  $V_{ud}$
- New method to compute nuclear-structure correction developed
- Dispersion relations allow to study the scale separation explicitly, combine inputs from exp, ab-initio etc
- Modern nuclear theory being applied to selected transitions
- TRIUMF group (Gennari, Drissy, Navratil): NCSM for  $\delta_{NS}$  in  $^{10}\text{C} \rightarrow ^{10}\text{B}$
- Work on  $\delta_{NS}$  and  $\delta_C$  by other groups under way!
- Nuclear charge radii help constraining ISB corrections
- Motivates a dedicated experimental program on more and more precise nuclear radii at PSI, FRIB, ISOLDE, ...
- A global program towards a complete update of all nuclear effects ( $\delta_{NS}$ ,  $\delta_C$  and  $f$ ) has commenced!

Improved RC to  $K\ell 3$  decays

# $V_{us}$ from $K\ell 3$

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

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

$2.5\sigma$  discrepancy between leptonic and semileptonic modes

$$|V_{us}^{K\ell 3}| = 0.2231(6)$$

$$|V_{us}^{K\mu 2}| = 0.2252(5)$$

Large missing contribution to RC for  $K\ell 3$  was long considered viable option



# RC to $K\ell 3$

Until 2021: best way to compute long-distance EM RC was with ChPT

	$I_{K\ell}^{(0)}(\lambda_i)$	$\delta_{EM}^{K\ell}(\mathcal{D}_3)(\%)$	$\delta_{EM}^{K\ell}(\mathcal{D}_{4-3})(\%)$	$\delta_{EM}^{K\ell}(\%)$
$K_{e3}^0$	0.103070	0.50	0.49	$0.99 \pm 0.30$
$K_{e3}^\pm$	0.105972	-0.35	0.45	$0.10 \pm 0.30$
$K_{\mu 3}^0$	0.068467	1.38	0.02	$1.40 \pm 0.30$
$K_{\mu 3}^\pm$	0.070324	0.007	0.009	$0.016 \pm 0.30$

**Cirigliano, Gianotti, Neufeld 0807.4507**

A series of works reformulated the problem as a hybrid of Sirlin's representation and ChPT, plus input from lattice QCD calculations of  $\gamma W$ -box for  $\pi e 3$  and  $K\ell 3$

	$\delta_{EM}^{K\ell} [10^{-3}]$	ChPT
$K^0 e$	$11.6(2)_{\text{inel}}(1)_{\text{lat}}(1)_{\text{NF}}(2)_{e^2 p^4}$	$9.9(1.9)_{e^2 p^4}(1.1)_{\text{LEC}}$
$K^+ e$	$2.1(2)_{\text{inel}}(1)_{\text{lat}}(4)_{\text{NF}}(1)_{e^2 p^4}$	$1.0(1.9)_{e^2 p^4}(1.6)_{\text{LEC}}$
$K^0 \mu$	$15.4(2)_{\text{inel}}(1)_{\text{lat}}(1)_{\text{NF}}(2)_{\text{LEC}}(2)_{e^2 p^4}$	$14.0(1.9)_{e^2 p^4}(1.1)_{\text{LEC}}$
$K^+ \mu$	$0.5(2)_{\text{inel}}(1)_{\text{lat}}(4)_{\text{NF}}(2)_{\text{LEC}}(2)_{e^2 p^4}$	$0.2(1.9)_{e^2 p^4}(1.6)_{\text{LEC}}$

**Seng, Galviz, Meißner 1910.13208**  
**Seng, Galviz, MG, Meißner 2103.04843**  
**Seng, Galviz, MG, Meißner 2203.05217**

**Feng, MG, Jin, Ma, Seng 2003.09798**  
**Ma, Feng, MG, Jin, Seng 2102.12048**

Uncertainties reduced by an o.o.m.

Long-distance EM RC not responsible for the  $K\ell 2$ - $K\ell 3$  discrepancy!