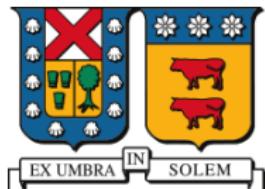


# Tests of Standard Model limits in the light flavor sector

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*High Energy Physics in the LHC Era*  
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- ▶ Light flavors!



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- ▶ There is vigorous activity on low energy SM tests and searches for BSM physics.
- ▶ Rather than giving a comprehensive review, this talk will focus on a small subset:  $\pi$ ,  $\mu$  and  $n$  decays to introduce and illustrate the field.



# Outline

Overview of  $\pi$ ,  $\mu$  decays and recent experiments

Radiative muon decay,  $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu \bar{\nu} \gamma$  (new result)

The  $\pi_{e2}$  decay,  $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e$  (current work)

Correlations in neutron beta decay (experiment being built)

Summary



# Known and measured pion and muon decays

Decay	$BR$	
$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu$	$0.9998770(4)$	$(\pi_{\mu 2})$
$\mu^+ \nu \gamma$	$2.00(25) \times 10^{-4}$	$(\pi_{\mu 2\gamma})$
$e^+ \nu$	$1.230(4) \times 10^{-4}$	$(\pi_{e2})$ ✓
$e^+ \nu \gamma$	$7.39(5) \times 10^{-7}$	$(\pi_{e2\gamma})$ ✓
$\pi^0 e^+ \nu$	$1.036(6) \times 10^{-8}$	$(\pi_{e3}, \pi_\beta)$ ✓
$e^+ \nu e^+ e^-$	$3.2(5) \times 10^{-9}$	$(\pi_{e2ee})$
$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	$0.98798(32)$	✓
$e^+ e^- \gamma$	$1.198(32) \times 10^{-2}$	(Dalitz)
$e^+ e^- e^+ e^-$	$3.14(30) \times 10^{-5}$	
$e^+ e^-$	$6.2(5) \times 10^{-8}$	
$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$	$\sim 1.0$	✓
$e^+ \nu \bar{\nu} \gamma$	$0.014(4)$	✓
$e^+ \nu \bar{\nu} e^+ e^-$	$3.4(4) \times 10^{-5}$	



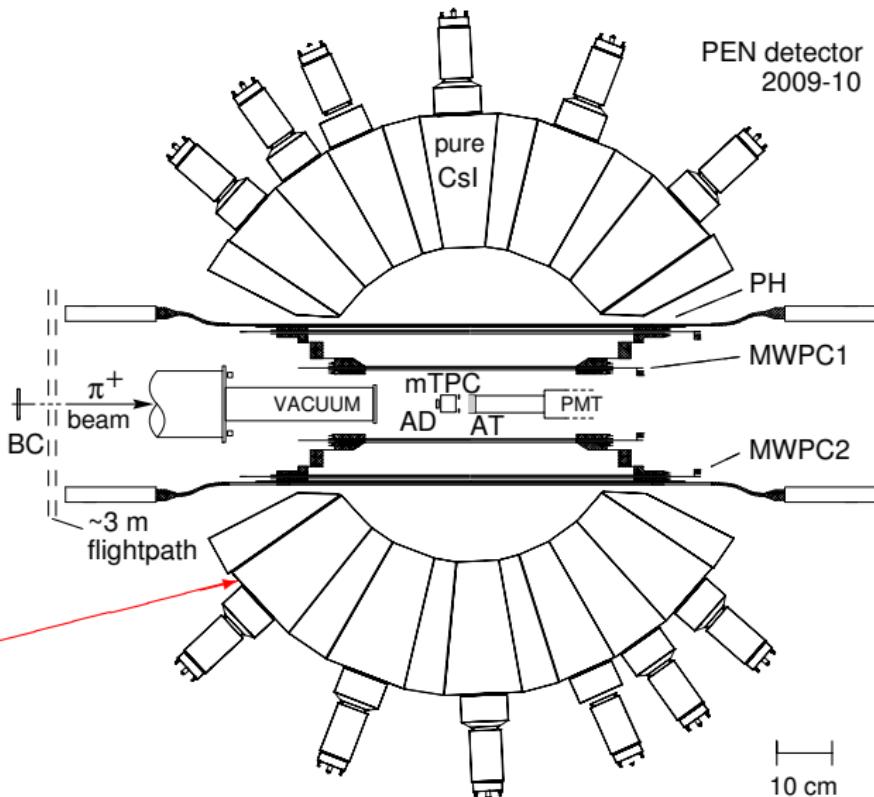
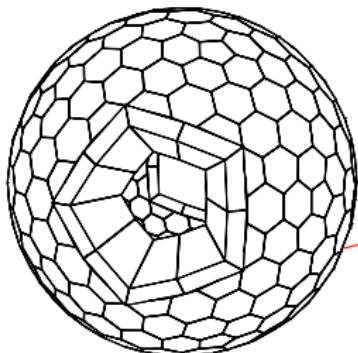
## Recent measurements of $\pi$ , $\mu$ allowed decay

- ▶  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ \nu_e$  ..... PIBETA ('99-'01)
  - SM checks related to CKM unitarity
- ▶  $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \gamma$  (or  $e^+ e^-$ ) ..... PIBETA ('99-'04), PEN ('06-'10)
  - $F_A/F_V$ ,  $\pi$  polarizability ( $\chi$ PT calibration)
  - tensor coupling besides  $\mathbf{V} - \mathbf{A}$  (?)
- ▶  $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \bar{\nu}_\mu$  ..... TWIST ('03-'04)
  - departures from  $\mathbf{V} - \mathbf{A}$  in  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{weak}}$
- ▶  $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \bar{\nu}_\mu \gamma$  (or  $e^+ e^-$ ) ..... PIBETA ('04), PEN ('06-'10)
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- ▶  $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e$  .....
  - $e-\mu$  universality
  - $\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{S}$  coupling besides  $\mathbf{V} - \mathbf{A}$
  - $\nu$  sector anomalies, Majoron searches,  $m_{h+}$ , PS I-q's, V I-q's, ...
  - search for signs of SUSY (MSSM) $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{PEN ('06-'10)} \\ \text{PiENu ('06-)} \end{array} \right\}$



# The PIBETA/PEN apparatus

- stopped  $\pi^+$  beam
- active target counter
- 240-detector, spherical pure CsI calorimeter
- central tracking
- beam tracking
- digitized waveforms
- stable temp./humidity



# Prior results

- ▶ Pion beta decay:  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ \nu_e$
- ▶ Radiative pion decay:  $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \gamma$

(the PIBETA experiment)



# Quark-Lepton (Cabibbo) Universality

The basic weak-interaction **V-A** form (e.g.,  $\mu$  decay):

$$\mathcal{M} \propto \langle e | l^\alpha | \nu_e \rangle \rightarrow \bar{u}_e \gamma^\alpha (1 - \gamma_5) u_\nu$$

is replicated in hadronic weak decays

$$\mathcal{M} \propto \langle p | h^\alpha | n \rangle \rightarrow \bar{u}_p \gamma^\alpha (G_V - G_A \gamma_5) u_n \quad \text{with} \quad G_{V,A} \simeq 1 .$$

Departure from  $G_V = 1$  (**CVC**) comes from weak quark (Cabibbo) mixing:  
 $G_V = G_\mu \cos \theta_C (= G_\mu V_{ud}) \quad \cos \theta_C \simeq 0.97$

3 **q** generations lead to the

Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) matrix (1973):

$$\begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix}$$

CKM unitarity cond.:  $\Delta V^2 = 1 - (|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2) \stackrel{?}{=} 0$ ,

stringently tests the SM.

Until 2004 appeared violated by  $\sim 3\sigma$ !



PIBETA result for  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ \nu$  ( $\pi_\beta$ ) decay [PRL 93, 181803 (2004)]

$$B_{\pi\beta}^{\text{exp-t}} = [1.040 \pm 0.004 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.004 \text{ (syst)}] \times 10^{-8},$$

$$B_{\pi\beta}^{\text{exp-e}} = [1.036 \pm 0.004 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.004 \text{ (syst)} \pm 0.003 \text{ ( $\pi_{e2}$ )}] \times 10^{-8},$$

McFarlane et al. [PRD 1985]:  $B = (1.026 \pm 0.039) \times 10^{-8}$

SM Prediction (PDG):

$$B = 1.038 - 1.041 \times 10^{-8} \quad (90\% \text{ C.L.})$$
$$(1.005 - 1.007 \times 10^{-8} \quad \text{excl. rad. corr.})$$

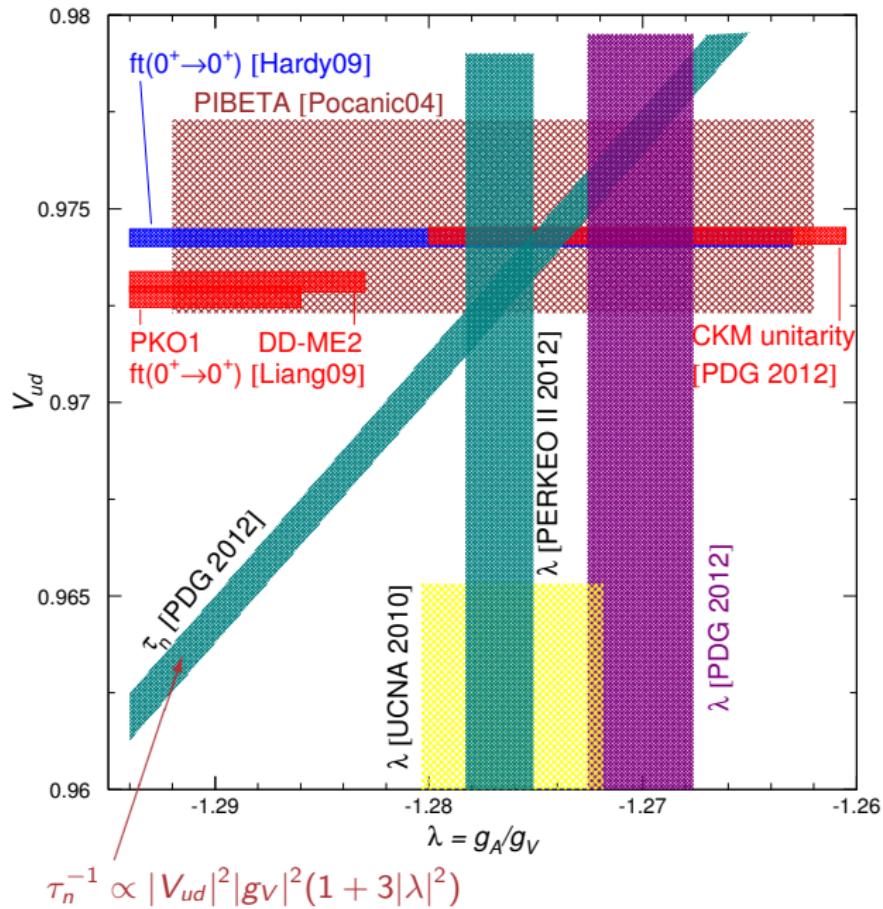
⇒ Most sensitive test of CVC/radiative corr. in a meson to date!

PDG 2012:  $V_{ud} = 0.97425(22)$

PIBETA:  $V_{ud} = 0.9748(25)$  or  $V_{ud} = 0.9728(30)$ .

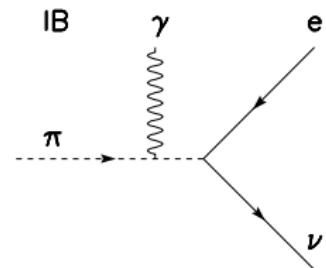
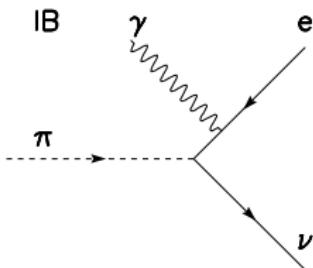


# Current status of $V_{ud}$ :

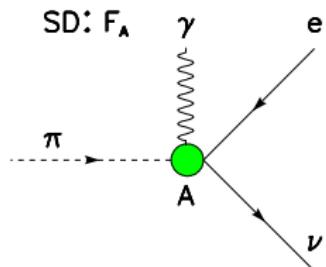
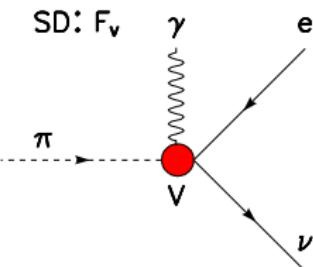


Radiative pion decay  
 $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu \gamma$  (RPD):

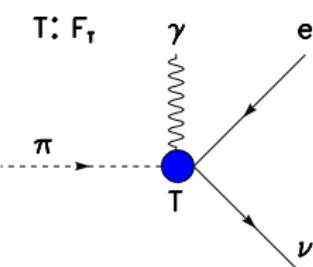
QED IB terms:



and SD  $V$ ,  $A$  terms:



A tensor interaction,  
too?



Exchange of S=0 leptoquarks  
P Herczeg, PRD 49 (1994) 247



# Summary of PIBETA results on $\pi \rightarrow e\nu\gamma$ [PRL 103, 051802 (2009)]

$$F_V = 0.0258 \pm 0.0017 \quad (14 \times)$$

$$F_A = 0.0119 \pm 0.0001^{\text{exp}}_{(F_V^{\text{CVC}})} \quad (16 \times)$$

$$a = 0.10 \pm 0.06 \quad (\text{q}^2 \text{ dep of } F_V) \quad (\infty)$$

$$-5.2 \times 10^{-4} < F_T < 4.0 \times 10^{-4} \quad 90\% \text{ C.L.}$$

$$B_{\pi_{e2\gamma}}(E_\gamma > 10 \text{ MeV}, \theta_{e\gamma} > 40^\circ) = 73.86(54) \times 10^{-8} \quad (17 \times)$$



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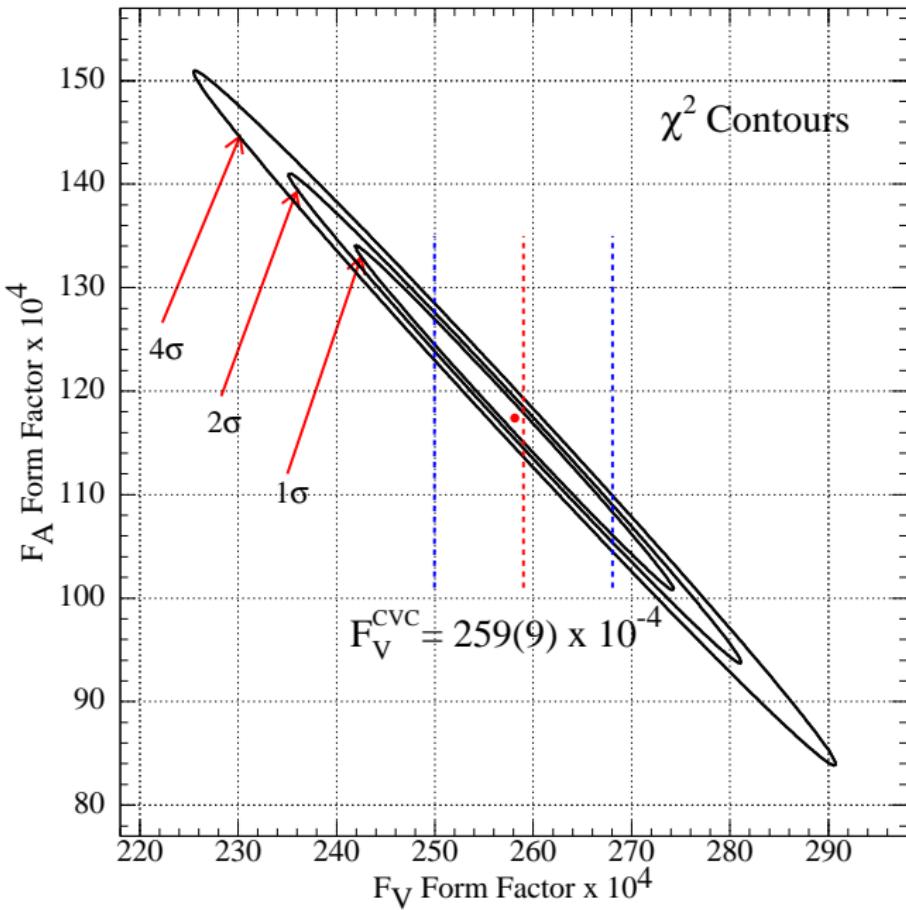
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At L.O. ( $I_9 + I_{10}$ ),  $F_V$  is related to pion polarizability and  $\pi^0$  lifetime

$$\alpha_E^{\text{LO}} = -\beta_M^{\text{LO}} = (2.783 \pm 0.023)^{\text{exp}} \times 10^{-4} \text{ fm}^3$$

$$\tau_{\pi^0} = (8.5 \pm 1.1) \times 10^{-17} \text{ s} \quad \begin{cases} \text{current PDG avg: } 8.52(12) \\ \text{PrimEx PRL '10: } 8.32(23) \end{cases}$$





Best values of pion form factor parameters:

Combined analysis of 1999-2001 and 2004 data sets

[PRL 103, 051802 (2009)]

strong limit:

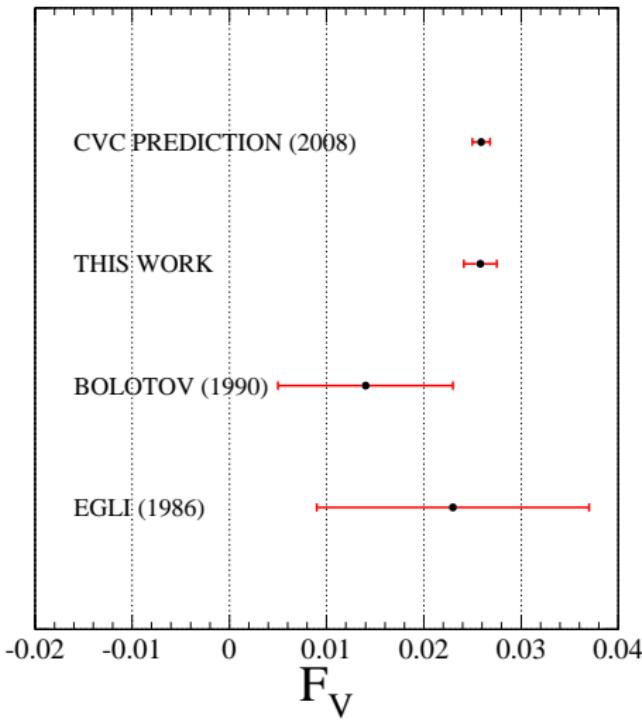
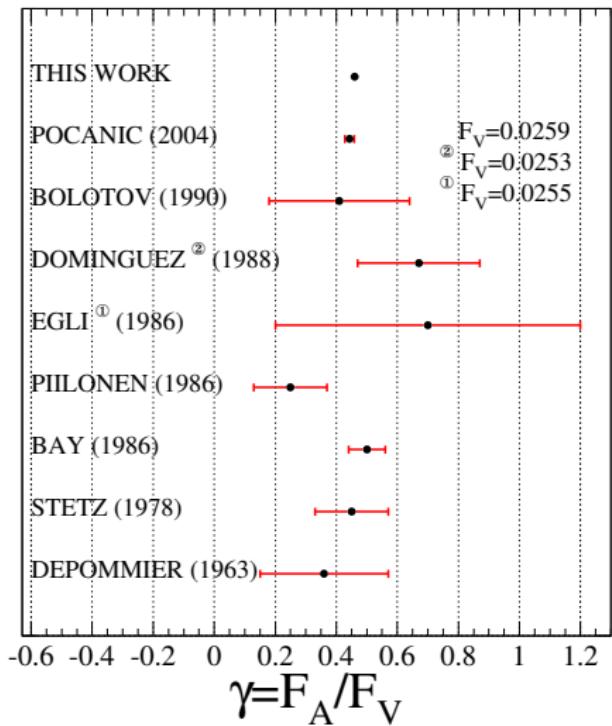
$$SD^+ \propto (F_V + F_A)^2$$

weak limit:

$$SD^- \propto (F_V - F_A)^2$$



# Experimental History of Pion $F_A$ and $F_V$



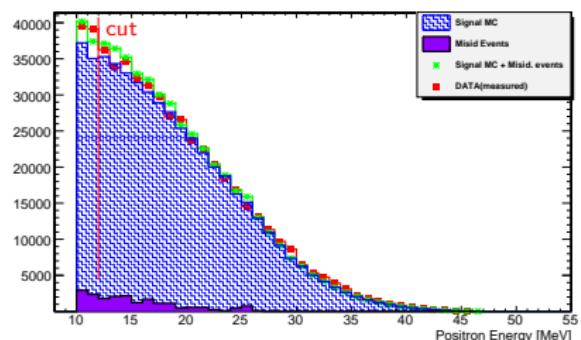
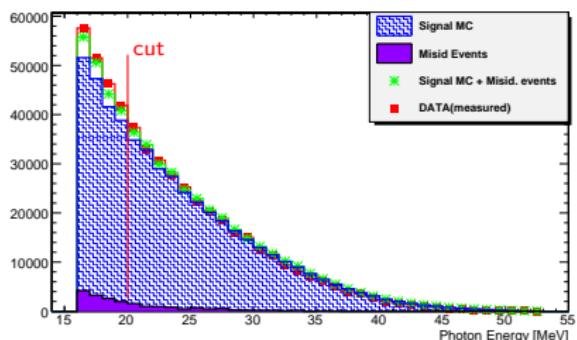
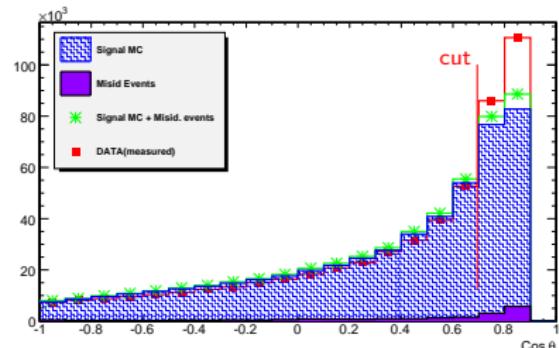
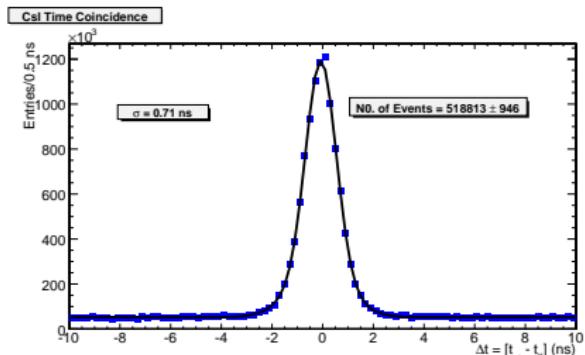
# Radiative muon decay:

$$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu \bar{\nu} \gamma$$

PIBETA: 2004 runs  
( PEN: 2008–2010 runs )



# Radiative muon decay, $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu \bar{\nu} \gamma$ , (new analysis of 2004 data)



"Split clumps" very well accounted for!

## RMD preliminary results, cont'd.

Preliminary result for RMD branching ratio (thesis E. Munyangabe):

$$B_{\text{exp}} = 4.365 (9)_{\text{stat.}} (42)_{\text{syst.}} \times 10^3,$$

29 ×

$$B_{\text{SM}} = 4.342 (5)_{\text{stat-MC}} \times 10^3 \quad (\text{for } E_\gamma > 10 \text{ MeV}, \theta_{e\gamma} > 30^\circ)$$



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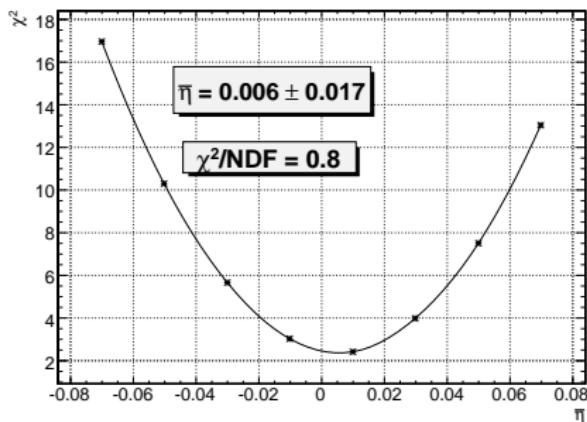
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Analysis of PS subset:

$13 \text{ MeV} < E_\gamma < 45 \text{ MeV}$ , and  
 $10 \text{ MeV} < E_{e^+} < 43 \text{ MeV}$ , yields

$$\bar{\eta} = 0.006 (17)_{\text{stat.}} (18)_{\text{syst.}}, \text{ or}$$

$$\bar{\eta} < 0.028 \quad (68\% \text{CL}).$$

~ 4 × better than best previous experiment (Eichenberger et al, 84).

NB: preliminary results!



# What to do with Michel parameters?

For  $\mu \rightarrow e\nu_\mu\bar{\nu}_e\gamma$ :

$$\left( x = \frac{E_e}{E_{\max}} \text{ and } y = \frac{E_\gamma}{E_{\max}} \right)$$

$$\frac{d^3B(x, y, \theta)}{dx dy 2\pi d(\cos \theta)} = f_1(x, y, \theta) + \bar{\eta}f_2(x, y, \theta) + \left(1 - \frac{4}{3}\rho\right)f_3(x, y, \theta)$$



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$$\rho = \frac{3}{4} - \frac{3}{4} \left[ |g_{LR}^V|^2 + |g_{RL}^V|^2 + 2|g_{LR}^T|^2 + 2|g_{RL}^T|^2 + \Re(g_{RL}^S g_{RL}^{T*} + g_{LR}^S g_{LR}^{T*}) \right] \stackrel{\text{SM}}{\equiv} \frac{3}{4},$$

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Combined with  $\eta$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\rho$ , parameters of OMD (TWIST), a global fit will yield model-independent limits on non-(**V** – **A**) couplings.



The  $\pi_{e2}$  decay:

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu$$

Primary motivation for PEN  
(data runs 2008–10)



## $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e$ decay ( $\pi_{e2}$ ): SM calculations; measurements

- ▶ Early evidence for  $V - A$  nature of weak interaction.

- ▶ Modern SM calculations:  
$$R_{e/\mu}^\pi = \frac{\Gamma(\pi \rightarrow e\bar{\nu}(\gamma))}{\Gamma(\pi \rightarrow \mu\bar{\nu}(\gamma))}_{\text{CALC}} =$$

$1.2352(5) \times 10^{-4}$	Marciano and Sirlin, [PRL 71 (1993) 3629]
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PEN goal:  $\frac{\Delta R}{R} \simeq 5 \times 10^{-4}$

- ▶ Strong SM **helicity suppression** amplifies sensitivity to PS terms ("door" for New Physics) by factor  $2m_\pi/m_e(m_u + m_d) \approx 8000$ .
- ▶  $R_{e/\mu}^\pi$  tests **lepton universality**: in SM **e,  $\mu$ ,  $\tau$**  differ by Higgs couplings only; there could also be new **S or PS bosons** with non-universal couplings (New Physics).



## Reach of $\pi_{e2}$ decay beyond the SM (New Physics)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_{NP} = & \left[ \pm \frac{\pi}{2\Lambda_V^2} \bar{u} \gamma_\alpha d \pm \frac{\pi}{2\Lambda_A^2} \bar{u} \gamma_\alpha \gamma_5 d \right] \bar{e} \gamma^\alpha (1 - \gamma_5) \nu \\ & + \left[ \pm \frac{\pi}{2\Lambda_S^2} \bar{u} d \pm \frac{\pi}{2\Lambda_P^2} \bar{u} \gamma_5 d \right] \bar{e} (1 - \gamma_5) \nu , \quad (\Lambda_i \dots \text{scale of NP})\end{aligned}$$



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CKM unitarity and superallowed Fermi nuclear decays currently limit:

$$\Lambda_V \geq 20 \text{ TeV}, \quad \text{and} \quad \Lambda_S \geq 10 \text{ TeV}.$$



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$$\boxed{\Lambda_P \leq 1000 \text{ TeV}} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{\Lambda_A \leq 20 \text{ TeV}},$$

and indirectly, through loop effects to  $\boxed{\Lambda_S \leq 60 \text{ TeV}}$ .



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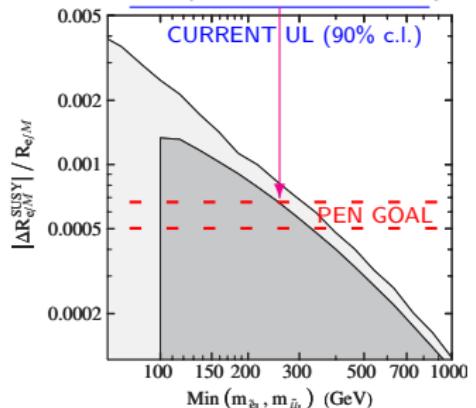
In general multi-Higgs models with charged-Higgs couplings

$\lambda_{e\nu} \approx \lambda_{\mu\nu} \approx \lambda_{\tau\nu}$ , at 0.1 % precision,  $R_{e\mu}^\pi$  probes  $\boxed{m_{H^\pm} \leq 400 \text{ GeV}}$ .

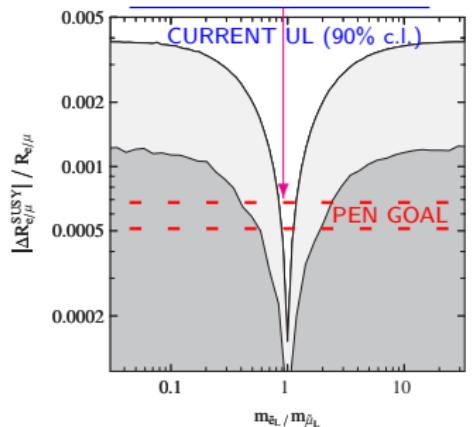


# MSSM calculations (R parity cons.) [Ramsey-Musolf et al., PR D76 (2007) 095017]

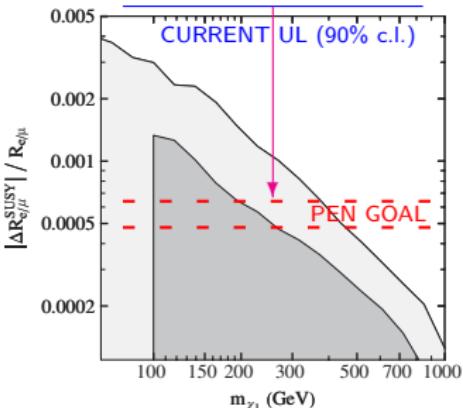
minimal selectron, smuon masses:



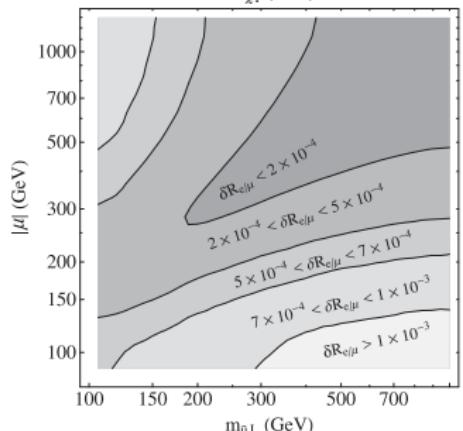
slepton mass degeneracy:



lowest mass chargino:



Higgsino mass param's.  
 $\mu$ ,  $m_{\tilde{u}_L}$ :



(R parity violating scenario constraints also discussed.)



# Other processes and limits; status of PEN

From  $\pi \rightarrow e\nu$ , additional constraints on:

- ▶ pseudoscalar and vector leptoquarks,
- ▶ neutrino sector anomalies through lepton universality,
- ▶ heavy neutrinos.



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- ▶ heavy neutrinos.

Current status of PEN:

- ▶ Data acquisition runs in 2008, 2009, 2010 completed.
- ▶ Collected:  $> 22\text{ M}$   $\pi \rightarrow e$  events,  $> 200\text{ M}$   $\pi \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow e$  events.
- ▶ Comprehensive, blinded maximum likelihood analysis in progress.

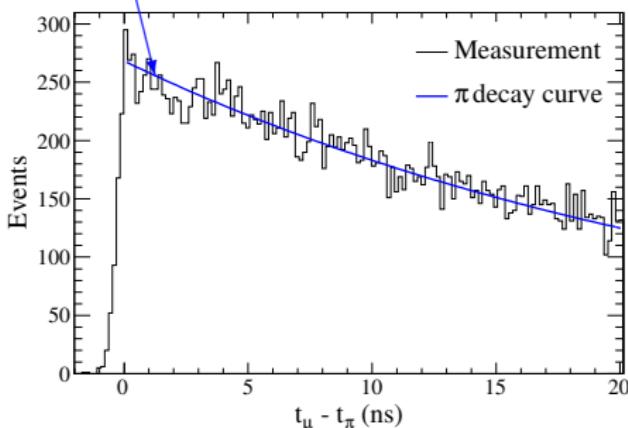
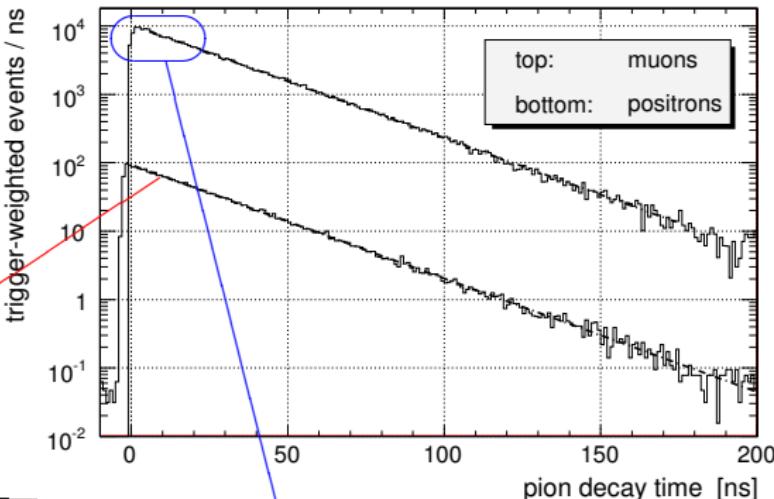
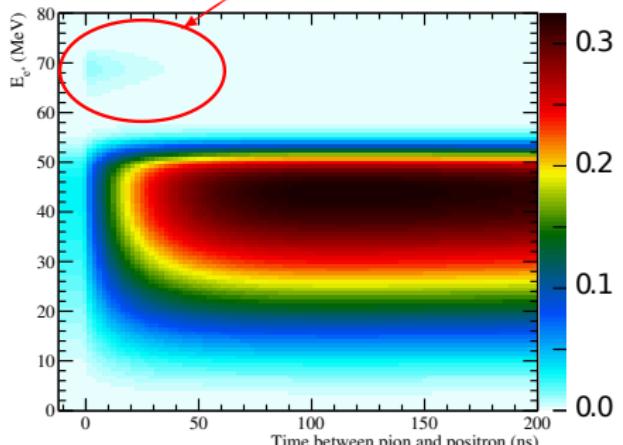


# Pion decays in TGT

$$\tau_{\pi \rightarrow \mu} = 26.21(5) \text{ ns} \Rightarrow$$

$$\tau_{\pi \rightarrow e} = 26.02(8) \text{ ns} \Rightarrow$$

positron  $E$  vs  $t$

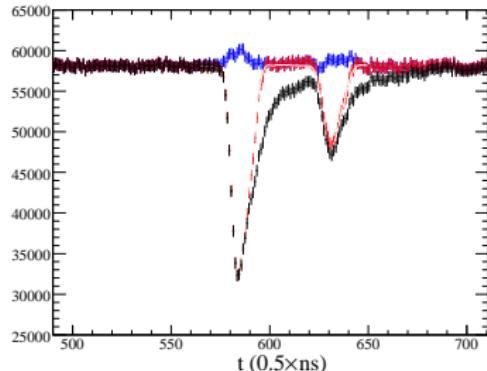


# Target waveform fitting:

(A. Palladino)

- (1) Shape (filter) wf signals,
- (2) Use predicted  $\pi_{\text{stop}}(\text{DEG})$  and  $e^+(\text{PH})$  wf's,
- (3) Fit with 2 and 3-peak wf's; compare  $\chi^2$  values.

Raw + shaped wf's

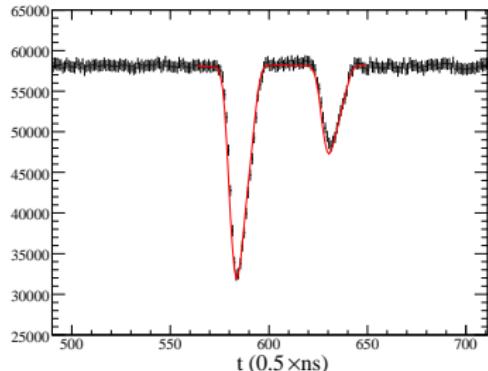


Typical 2-peak

$\pi \rightarrow e$  event

Blue trace: no  
“third” (muon)  
signal

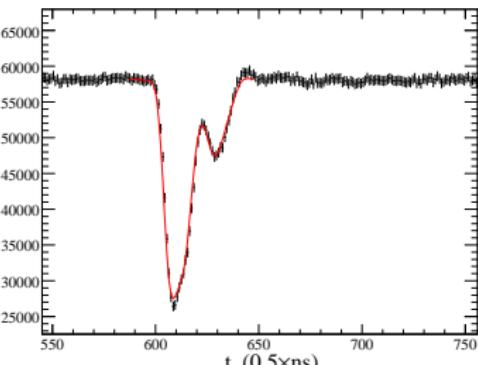
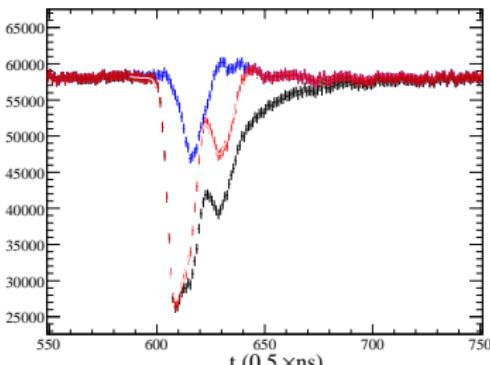
Shaped wf's + predicted fits



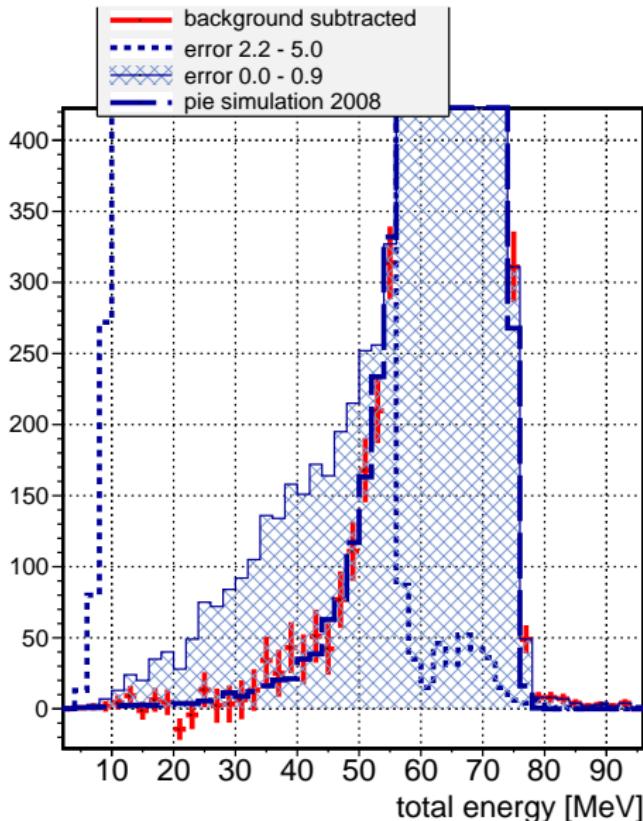
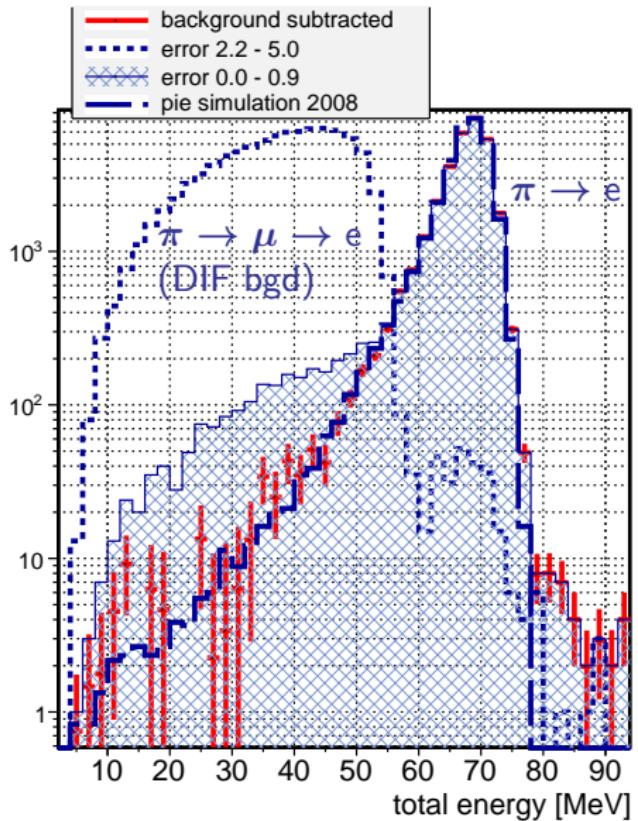
Typical 3-peak

$\pi \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow e$  event

Blue trace:  
putative “third”  
(muon) signal



# Key PEN systematic: low $E$ “tail” response



# Correlations in $n$ beta decay:

Nab and ABba/PANDA experiments

(apparatus under construction)



# Neutron beta decay observables (SM)

$$\frac{dw}{dE_e d\Omega_e d\Omega_\nu} \simeq p_e E_e (E_0 - E_e)^2$$

$$\times \left[ 1 + \textcolor{red}{a} \frac{\vec{p}_e \cdot \vec{p}_\nu}{E_e E_\nu} + \textcolor{red}{b} \frac{m}{E_e} + \langle \vec{\sigma}_n \rangle \cdot \left( \textcolor{red}{A} \frac{\vec{p}_e}{E_e} + \textcolor{red}{B} \frac{\vec{p}_\nu}{E_\nu} \right) + \dots \right]$$



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where in SM:

$$\textcolor{red}{a} = \frac{1 - |\lambda|^2}{1 + 3|\lambda|^2} \quad \textcolor{red}{A} = -2 \frac{|\lambda|^2 + \text{Re}(\lambda)}{1 + 3|\lambda|^2} \quad \textcolor{red}{b} \equiv 0$$

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also proton asymmetry:  $\textcolor{red}{C} = \kappa(A + B)$  where  $\kappa \simeq 0.275$ .



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⇒ **SM overconstraints  $a, A, B$  observables in n β decay!**  
**Fierz interf. term  $b$  adds more sensitivity to non-SM processes!**



# Goals of the Nab experiment (at SNS, ORNL)

- ▶ Measure the electron-neutrino parameter  $a$  in neutron decay

with accuracy of

$$\frac{\Delta a}{a} \simeq 10^{-3}$$

or  $\sim 50 \times$  better than:

	$-0.1054 \pm 0.0055$	Byrne et al '02
current results:	$-0.1017 \pm 0.0051$	Stratowa et al '78
	$-0.091 \pm 0.039$	Grigorev et al '68



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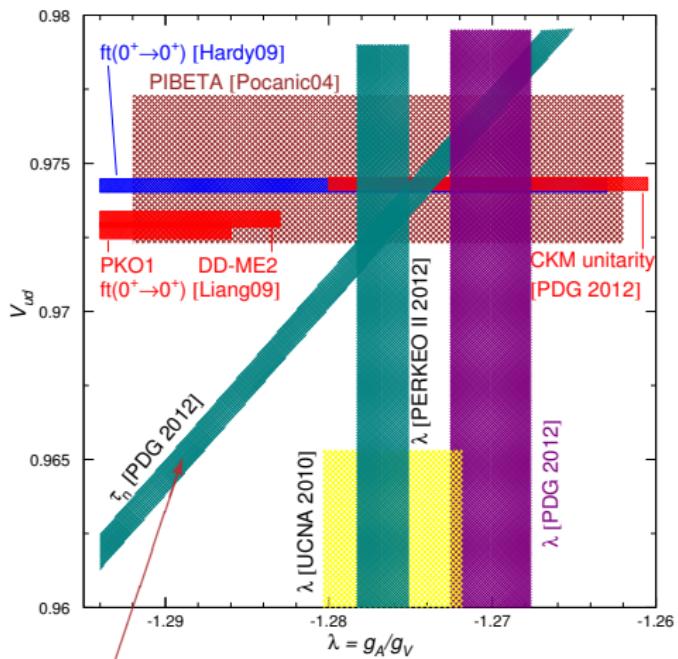
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- ▶ **Nab** will be followed by the **ABba/PANDA** polarized program to measure **A**, electron, and **B/C**, neutrino/proton, asymmetries with  $\simeq 10^{-3}$  relative precision, an independent measurement of  **$\lambda$** .



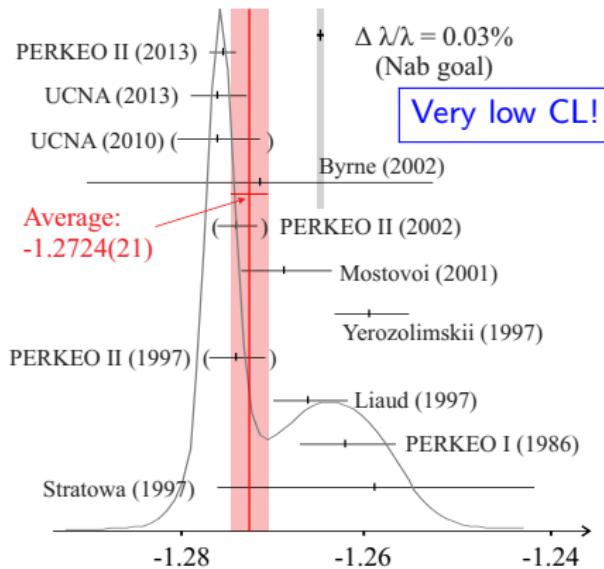
# Current status of $V_{ud}$ and $\lambda$ , from n decay

... remains an unresolved mess:



$$\tau_n^{-1} \propto |V_{ud}|^2 |g_V|^2 (1 + 3|\lambda|^2)$$

- Nab+ABba  $\Rightarrow$  several independent  $\sim 0.03\%$  determinations of  $\lambda$ ,
- Combined with  $b$   $\Rightarrow$  new limits on non-SM terms, esp. Tensor.

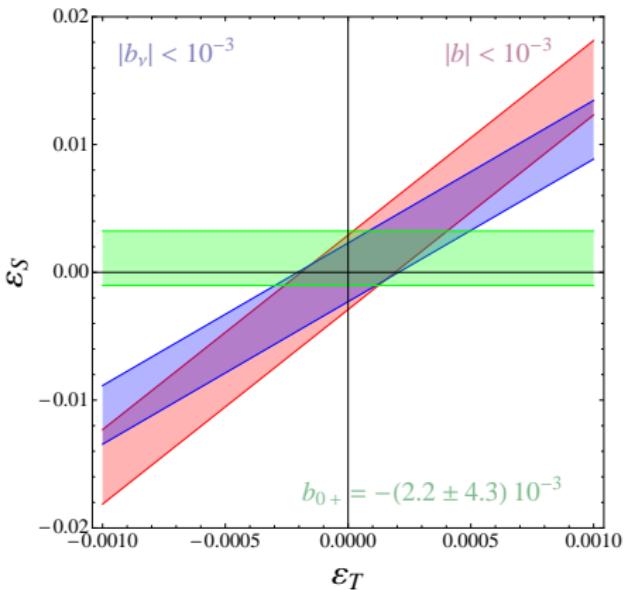
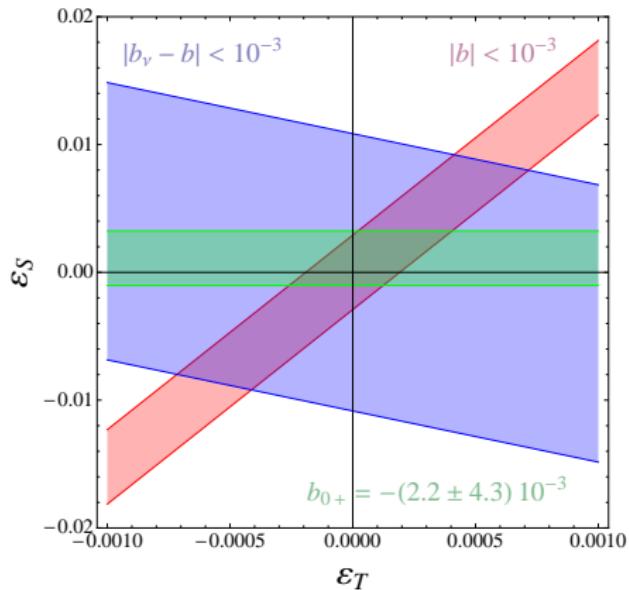


$$\frac{\Delta \lambda}{\lambda} \simeq 0.27 \quad \frac{\Delta a}{a} \simeq 0.24 \quad \frac{\Delta A}{A}$$

$\lambda$  sensitivity to  $a, A$  is similar.



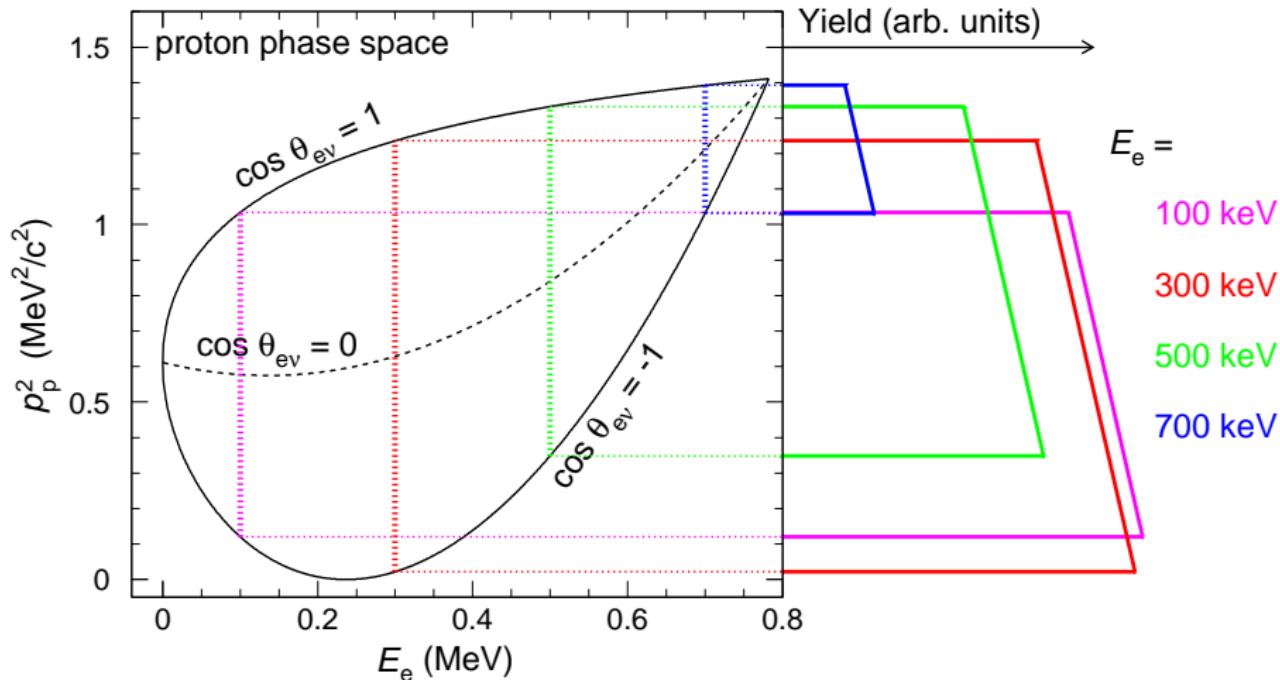
# Limits on $T$ , $S$ couplings from beta decay



Measurement of  $\mathbf{b}$  with  $\delta\mathbf{b} < 10^{-3}$   $\Rightarrow$  **> 4-fold improvement** on the current limit for  $\epsilon_T$  from  $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu \gamma$  decay.

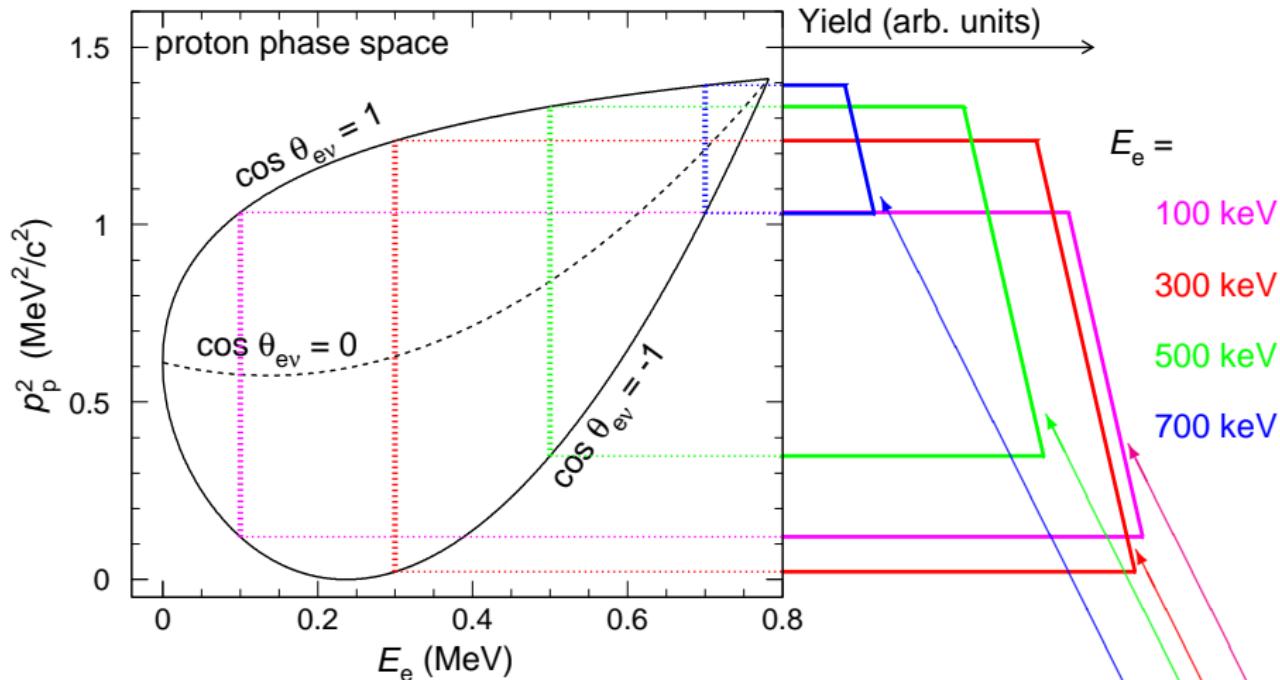
From T. Bhattacharya, V. Cirigliano, S.D. Cohen, A. Filipuzzi, M. González-Alonso, M.L. Graesser, R. Gupta, H-W. Lin, Phys. Rev. D 85 (2012) 054512.

# Nab measurement principles: proton phase space



NB: For a given  $E_e$ ,  $\cos \theta_{e\nu}$  is a function of  $p_p^2$  only.

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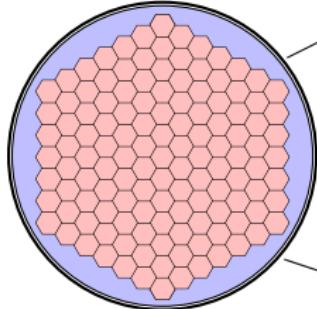
NB: For a given  $E_e$ ,  $\cos \theta_{e\nu}$  is a function of  $p_p^2$  only.

Slope  $\propto a$

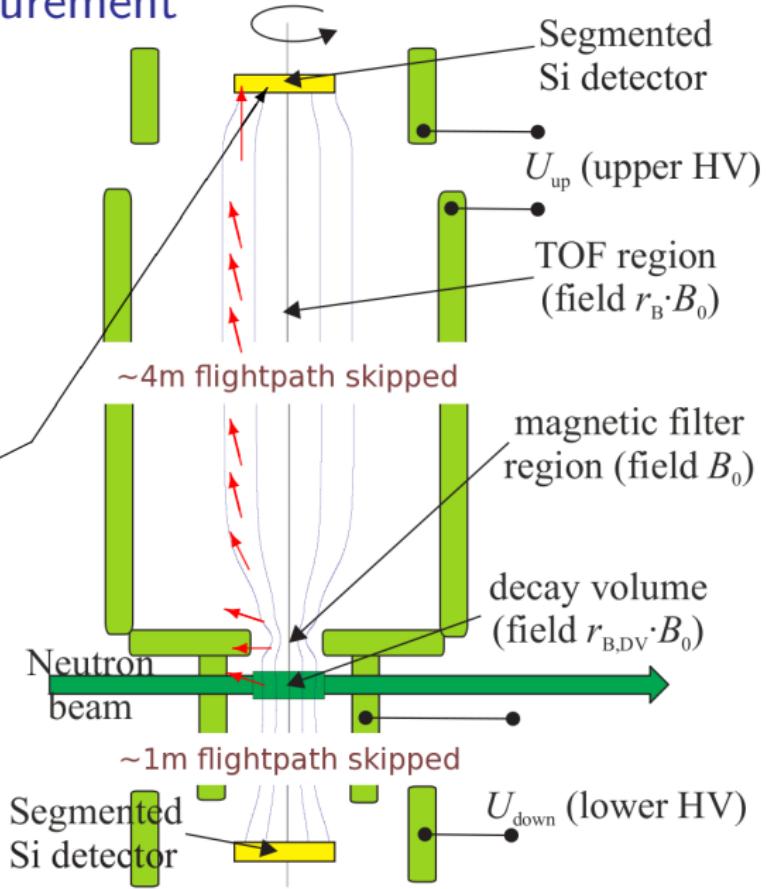
Numerous consistency checks are built-in!

# Nab principles of measurement

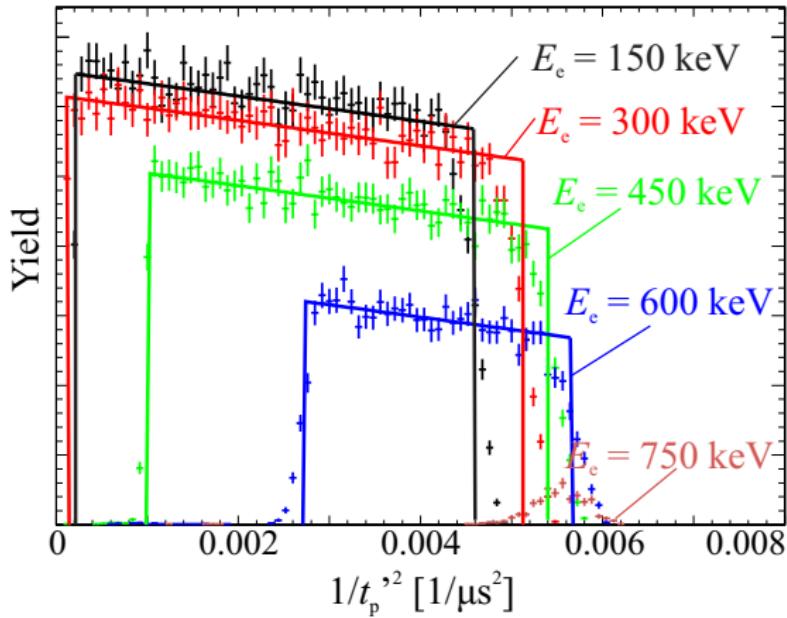
- ▶ Collect and detect both **electron** and **proton** from neutron beta decay.
- ▶ Measure  $E_e$  and  $TOF_p$  and reconstruct decay kinematics
- ▶ Segmented Si det's:



LANL/Micron development



## Analysis strategy



- ▶ Use edges to determine and verify shape of detection function  $\Phi(p_p, 1/t_p)$ ;
- ▶ Use central part of  $P_t(1/t_p^2)$  ( $\sim 70\%$ ) to extract **a**.

# Nab systematic uncertainties: (expt not stat limited)

Experimental parameter	$(\Delta a/a)_{\text{SYST}}$
Magnetic field:	
curvature at pinch	$5 \times 10^{-4}$
ratio $r_B = B_{\text{TOF}}/B_0$	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$
ratio $r_{B,\text{DV}} = B_{\text{DV}}/B_0$	$3 \times 10^{-4}$
$L_{\text{TOF}}$ , length of TOF region	(*)
$U$ inhomogeneity:	
in decay / filter region	$5 \times 10^{-4}$
in TOF region	$1 \times 10^{-4}$
Neutron Beam:	
position	$4 \times 10^{-4}$
width	$2.5 \times 10^{-4}$
Doppler effect	small
unwanted beam polarization	small
Adiabaticity of proton motion	$1 \times 10^{-4}$
Detector effects:	
$E_e$ calibration	(*)
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Accidental coincidences	small
Residual gas	small
Background	small
Sum	$1 \times 10^{-3}$

(\*) Free fit parameter



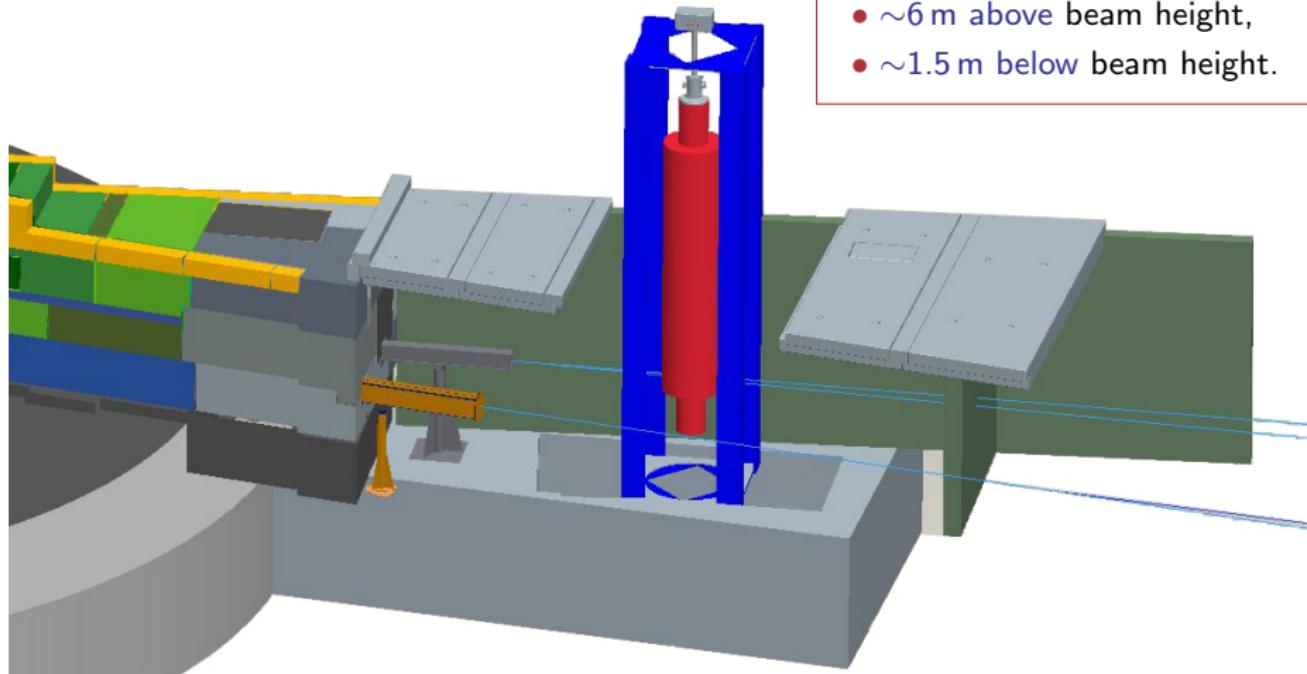
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# Nab apparatus in FnPB/SNS



Apparatus extends:

- $\sim 6$  m above beam height,
- $\sim 1.5$  m below beam height.

Fully funded (NSF-MRI, plus DOE constr. + operating funds);  
Experiment projected to be ready for beam sometime in 2016.

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Home pages: <http://pen.phys.virginia.edu>  
<http://nab.phys.virginia.edu>

