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## **CANCELED Semileptonic $B$ decays**

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Semileptonic  $b$ -hadron decays provide a laboratory to measure the CKM matrix element  $|V_{cb}|$ , as well as test lepton flavor universality violation (LFUV) via the  $R(D^{(*)})$  ratios. Measurements of the former exhibit low values that are in tension with inclusive  $|V_{cb}|$  measurements, while persistent LFUV signals are observed above the 3 sigma level. This talk provides a survey of recent theoretical developments crucial to both measurements and theoretical predictions, including: the role of form factor parametrizations and truncation orders; convergence of the heavy quark expansion, in particular new results from the theoretically cleaner  $\Lambda_b$  baryon decay processes; and important caveats to NP interpretations of the LFUV anomalies, as well as the systematic strategies being developed to resolve them.

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