

Introduction

Superallowed

The neutron

Mirror decays

Summary & Outlook

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Great (annoyingly so), consistent with constraints at  $\sim 10^{0-2}~\text{TeV}$ 



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Open questions: dark matter, gravity, neutrino masses, ...



Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa matrix relates weak and mass eigenstates

$$\left(\begin{array}{c} d\\s\\b\end{array}\right)_{w} = \left(\begin{array}{ccc} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub}\\V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb}\\V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb}\end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{c} d\\s\\b\end{array}\right)_{m}$$

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$$|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 = 1$$

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(nuclear) eta decay, meson decay ( $\pi$ , K),  $|V_{ub}|^2 \sim 10^{-5}$ 

Violations are sensitive to TeV scale new physics!

## CKM unitarity: Current status

Signs of non-unitarity at few  $\sigma$  level...

Disagreement between K/2 and K/3  $|V_{us}|$  'Cabibbo angle anomaly'



Figure by Vincenzo Cirigliano, DND 2020

## CKM unitarity: Cabibbo Angle Anomaly

#### Signs of non-unitarity at several $\sigma$ (Falkowski CKM2021)



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Takeaways assuming Standard Model physics:

- Most precise  $V_{ud} \& V_{us}$  not consistent with unitarity
- Significant internal inconsistencies within  $V_{\mu s}$
- Taken at face value  $\sim 3\sigma$  for new physics

### **CKM** breadth

#### Interesting channel for LFU & SMEFT BSM searches



Crivellin et al., PRL 125 (2020) 111801; PRL 127 (2021) 071801

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 $\Gamma \propto {\cal G}_{\it F}^2 |V_{\it ud}|^2 (1+{\it RC})|\langle {\it O}_{\sf hadr} 
angle|^2 imes$  phase space

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Things you need to know

- $G_F$  ( $\mu$  lifetime)
- Radiative corrections
- Hadronic theory
- For each  $\beta$  transition:  $t_{1/2}, Q_{\beta}, BR, (GT/F \text{ mixing})$

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Everything to  $\lesssim 0.01\%$ ! Recent changes

# CKM unitarity: $V_{ud}$ precision

Nuclear sandbox  $\rightarrow$  make hadronic theory easy

- Pion
- Neutron

- $\bullet~$  Superallowed  $0^+ \rightarrow 0^+$
- T = 1/2 mirrors

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 $\pi^+ 
ightarrow \pi^0 e^+ 
u_e$  very hard (BR  $\sim 10^{-8}$ ), SA new nuclear corrections!

Modified from J. Hardy, UMass Amherst May 2019

# CKM unitarity: V<sub>ud</sub> precision

Nuclear sandbox  $\rightarrow$  make hadronic theory easy

• Pion

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Mirror systems offer enhancement & complementary theory check

Modified from J. Hardy, UMass Amherst May 2019

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For pure vector transitions, can construct

$$\mathcal{F}t \equiv ft(1+\delta_R')(1+\delta_{NS}-\delta_C) = \frac{K}{2|V_{ud}|^2 G_F^2(1+\Delta_R^V)}$$

For pure vector transitions, can construct

$$\mathcal{F}t \equiv ft(1+\delta_R')(1+\delta_{NS}-\delta_C) = \frac{\kappa}{2|V_{ud}|^2 G_F^2(1+\Delta_R^V)}$$

Historically very stable

$$\overline{\mathcal{F}t} = 3072.24(57)_{
m stat}(36)_{\delta'_{
m P}}(173)_{\delta_{
m NS}}\,s$$

Uncertainty limited by theory, likely to continue



"TH20": Hardy & Towner PRC 102 (2020) 045501

Pure Fermi transitions,  $M_F = \sqrt{2}$  $f_V t(1+\delta_R)(1-\delta_C+\delta_{NS}) = \frac{K}{2G_F^2 V_{ud}^2(1+\Delta_R^V)}$ Several small  $\mathcal{O}(0.1\% - 2.5\%)$  corrections  $\delta V_{ud}/V_{ud} \approx 0.03\%$ 



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 $\delta V_{ud}/V_{ud} pprox 0.03\%$ 





All corrections recently changed or under scrutiny

## **Recent changes:** $\Delta_R^V$

The culprit for  $\Delta_R^V$ 



Specifically, axial-vector contribution  $\rightarrow$  symmetries don't save you & QCD at intermediate effects

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+50 years of research to improve it

Recent breakthrough using dispersion relations

**2006**: Marciano & Sirlin  $\Delta_R^V = 0.02361(38)$ , but heuristic uncertainty from 'intermediate' energy scale

**2018**: Seng, Gorchtein, Patel, Ramsey-Musolf  $\Delta_R^V = 0.02467(22)$  4  $\sigma$  shift

Beginning of our CKM debacle!



Seng, Gorchtein, Ramsey-Musolf PRD 100 (2019) 013001

# **Recent changes:** $\Delta_R^V$ & role of LQCD

Lattice QCD starts being used for  $\gamma \textit{W}\text{,}$  but QCD + QED very hard for baryons



Seng et al., PRD 101 (2020) 111301

Use pions & relate to nucleon  $\rightarrow \Delta_R^V = 0.02477(24)$  (See Feng)

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Use pions & relate to nucleon  $\rightarrow \Delta_R^V = 0.02477(24)$  (See Feng) Efforts for  $\Delta_R^A + \Delta_R^V$  from  $\chi PT$  & LQCD (See Walker-Loud)

## **Recent changes:** axial *RC*

First  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$  calculation of  $\Delta_R^A$ , dispersion relation allows use of Bjorken sum rule data



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First  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha)$  calculation of  $\Delta_R^A$ , dispersion relation allows use of Bjorken sum rule data



Use analytical continuation in non-perturbative regime constrained by data

$$\Delta_R^V = 0.02473(27) \qquad \Delta_R^A = 0.02532(22)$$

LH, PRD 103 113001; Seng, Particles 2021, 397; Gorchtein & Seng, JHEP 10 53

# **Recent changes:** $\Delta_R^V$

#### Number of new calculations performed



Now good convergence: uncertainty halved but about  $3\sigma$  shift

Free nucleon  $\Delta_R^V$  converged, but nucleon response in  $\gamma W$  box is modified in nuclear medium  $\Box_{\gamma W}^{\text{free n}} \to \Box_{\gamma W}^{\text{nucl}}$ 

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Traditionally separated into 1-nucleon  $\gamma W(A)$  and 2-nucleon (B)

$$\delta_{NS} = \delta^A_{NS} + \delta^B_{NS}$$
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Traditionally separated into 1-nucleon  $\gamma W(A)$  and 2-nucleon (B)

$$\delta_{NS} = \delta^A_{NS} + \delta^B_{NS}$$

Significant changes to  $\delta^A_{NS}$  due to quasi-elastic processes

Additionally,  $\delta_{NS}^{B}$  needs attention (see below)

# **Recent changes:** $\delta^{A}_{NS}$

Towner (1992) quenched Born amplitudes like Gamow-Teller, but



SGR-M19 argue  $\delta^A_{NS}$  dominated by quasi-elastic processes

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Estimated using free Fermi gas, needs ab initio calculation

Towner, Nucl Phys A 540 478; Seng et al., PRD 100 013001

# Recent changes: $\delta^{A}_{NS}$

Gorchtein identified additional issue: typically  $\delta'_R$  and  $\Delta^V_R$  can be separated because  $E_e/\Lambda_{QCD} \ll 1$ , but in nuclei  $\Lambda \sim \text{MeV}$ 



# **Recent changes:** $\delta_{NS}^{A}$

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Nucleus can be polarized, results in spectral changes

$$\delta^{\mathcal{A}}_{NS}(E) \sim (1.6 \pm 1.6) \times 10^{-4} \left( \frac{E}{\mathrm{MeV}} \right)$$

Needs more sophisticated modeling, accessible in spectrum measurements! **Current**  $\overline{\mathcal{F}t}$  **bottleneck!!** (correlated uncertainty)

# Needs scrutiny: $\delta^B_{NS}$

Not updated since Towner (1992), only non-relativistic shell-model calculations



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For <sup>10</sup>C now  $\delta^B_{NS} > 3\sigma_{\exp}$ , crucial isotope for  $b_F$  &  $|V_{ud}|$ 

Prime  $\chi$ PT ab initio candidate!

Proton eq neutron inside nucleus  $ightarrow M_F^2 = 2(1-\delta_{\mathcal{C}})$ 

- 1. Configuration interaction difference initial  $\leftrightarrow$  final
- 2. Different radial wave function (Coulomb)

$$\delta_C = \delta_{C1} + \delta_{C2}$$

Proton  $\neq$  neutron inside nucleus  $\rightarrow M_F^2 = 2(1 - \delta_C)$ 

- 1. Configuration interaction difference initial  $\leftrightarrow$  final
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$$\delta_{C} = \delta_{C1} + \delta_{C2}$$



Grinyer et al., NIMA 622 (2010) 236

Main effect should go  $\propto Z^2$ 

Despite difference in magnitude, shell structure captured quite well by most

Write

$$\delta_C = aZ^2 + \delta_{Cf}$$

to isolate shell structure



Grinyer et al., NIMA 622 (2010) 236

Look at shell structure of TH20 calculations, unweighted fit



mainly shell effects for low masses  $\rightarrow$  test for ab initio?

Can use Wilkinson's phenomenological extraction as a 'cross-check'



Consistent with  $\overline{\mathcal{F}t}$  for TH20, but insensitive to common shift Grinyer et al., NIMA 622 (2010) 236

Outer RC complete at  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2 Z)$ , estimated at  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^3 Z^2)$ , unknown at higher order.

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Following TH15, all isotopes have correlated  $\delta'_R$  uncertainty of 1/3 of  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^3 Z^2)$  effect.

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Following TH15, all isotopes have correlated  $\delta'_R$  uncertainty of 1/3 of  $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^3 Z^2)$  effect.

Contributes 0.36 s uncertainty to  $\mathcal{F}t$ . Not ideal, but likely not critical for a while

## Superallowed summary

#### Experimentally, $T_z = -1$ limited by BR



Theory,  $\delta_{NS}$  and  $\delta_C$  need substantial progress (See Holt)

Hardy & Towner PRC 102 (2020) 045501

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## The neutron

Neutron  $\beta$  decay is *theoretically* cleanest baryonic system  $|V_{ud}|^2 = \frac{5098.7s}{\tau_n(g_V^2 + 3g_A^2)(1 + RC)}$ 

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Experimentally, need to know

- Q<sub>β</sub> 🗸
- Branching ratio 🗸
- $\lambda = g_A/g_V$
- τ<sub>n</sub>

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- $\lambda = g_A/g_V$
- τ<sub>n</sub>



## The neutron: $\lambda$

#### Neutron is cleanest probe of $\lambda = g_A/g_V$ , but evolution



Tension between PERKEO3 and aSPECT, both 2020

PRC 101 (2020) 055506

## The neutron: $\tau_n$

#### Evolution of $\tau_n$ , essential in BBN



Bottle: Count survivors; Beam: Count decay products (See Fertl) 34

#### The neutron status

## Using PDG22 $\tau_n$ [878.4(5)s] and $\lambda$ [-1.2754(13)]



3 times less precise than SA (S = 1.8 for  $\tau_n$ ; S = 2.7 for  $\lambda$ )

#### The neutron status

Using most precise  $\tau_n$  [(877.75(36))] and  $\lambda$  [-1.27641(56)]



Uncertainty within 30% of SA, with other equal precision measurement of  $\lambda$  same as SA. Consistent with unitarity

## The neutron status

With most precise neutron data  $|V_{ud}| = 0.97409(42)$ 



Consistent with unitarity & Kl2

## The neutron and $\delta_C$

Use neutron ( $\delta_C = \delta_{NS} = 0$ ) to see what  $\delta_C$  should be



Average shift due to agreement with unitarity, case-by-case due to  $\delta_{C}$  or  $\delta_{NS}$ 

## The neutron: Ongoing experiments

Neutrons are unique system, trappable when ultracold!

Cherry-picking experiments (See Chen-Yu Liu)



UCN $\tau$  has current most precise determination of  $\tau_n$  (0.04%) Nab is commissioning @ ORNL, aims  $\mathcal{O}(0.1\%)$  Introduction

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Nuclei with same 'core', initial and final state differ only in valence particle (e.g.  ${}^{3}H \& {}^{3}He$ ,  ${}^{15}O \& {}^{15}N$ )

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 $M_F = 1$ , but mixed Fermi-Gamow-Teller decay

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 $\rho$  must be determined independently from  $\beta$  correlation,  $f_{\rm A}/f_V\sim 1$  from theory

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$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dE_e d\Omega_e d\Omega_\nu} \propto 1 + a_{\beta\nu} \frac{\vec{p_e} \cdot \vec{p_\nu}}{E_e E_\nu} + b_F \frac{m_e}{E_e} + A \frac{\vec{p_e}}{E_e} \langle \vec{I} \rangle + \dots$$

## Nucleus: T = 1/2 Mirror decays

# **Resolved double-counting** in mirror *RC* significantly increases precision & agreement



LH, PRD 103 (2021) 113001

 $|V_{ud}|^{
m mirror} = 0.9710(12) \longrightarrow |V_{ud}|^{
m mirror} = 0.9739(10) \ 2.5 \ \sigma \ {
m shift} \ _{42}$ 

## Mirror nuclei and $\delta_{C}$

Adds substantial amount of new cases for  $\delta_C$  and  $\delta_{NS}$ 



Clear isospin substructures, higher multiplets could be interesting (N. Severijns, LH, et al., 2109.08895)

## Bonus: $V_{ud}$ from T = 1/2 mirror decays

Mirror T = 1/2 decays are also great  $V_{ud}$  tool



Cancellation in correlations gives rise to great sensitivity!

LH & Young, 2009.11364; Severijns, LH, et al., 2109.08895; Vanlangendonck et al., PRC 106 015506

## Mirror experimental status

## Community is investi(gati)ng in different ideas (not exhaustive)



with new spectroscopy techniques & traps.

Additionally,  $A_{\beta}$  of <sup>19</sup>Ne is always good idea due to  $\times 13$ enhancement (When working with Albert it's inevitable)

## Meet superconducting tunnel junctions

- Two electrodes separated by a thin insulating tunnel barrier
- Superconducting energy gap ∆ is of order ~meV
   → High Energy Resolution (~1 eV)
- Timing resolution on the order of 10  $\mu s$  making it among the fastest high-resolution quantum sensors available



 Ideal for RIB experiments at ISAC




### Superconducting tunnel junctions

#### Measure recoiling nucleus instead, and at RIB



Portability allows easy installation (ISAC, SPIRAL2, FRIB, ISOLDE, ...)

#### **SALER** plans

 $^{11}\mathrm{C}$  first physics target (long  $t_{1/2},$  unreachable with traps!)



### **SALER** plans

<sup>11</sup>C first physics target (long  $t_{1/2}$ , unreachable with traps!)



#### Excellent $V_{ud}$ sensitivity



Successful DOE funding, TRIUMF LOI highly endorsed

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Superallowed  $|V_{ud}|$  extraction gained a lot of attention, first time uncertainty *increased* 

Several sources of common shifts in  $\delta_{NS}$ , effects largely cancel but increase uncertainty. Polarization in  $\gamma W$  is current bottleneck

 $\delta_C$  and  $\delta^B_{NS}$  need theory attention, particularly <sup>10</sup>C.

Individual neutron measurements almost as precise as SA, consistent with unitarity, but needs experimental coherence. Useful  $\delta_C$  tool

Mirrors stay interesting due to enhancement for  $|V_{ud}|,$  theory cross check for  $\delta_{C}$ 

# Thank you!



### $\beta$ recoil spectroscopy

Spectroscopy experiments currently focused on  $\beta$   $(e^-/e^+),$  but extremely demanding

- Detector linearity, energy losses, pile-up,...
- Theory spectrum calculation

Naviliat-Cuncic, Gonzalez-Alonso PRC 94, 035503; LH et al., RMP 90 015008

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- Detector linearity, energy losses, pile-up,...
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Naviliat-Cuncic, Gonzalez-Alonso PRC 94, 035503; LH et al., RMP 90 015008

Instead, recoil spectroscopy has interesting features

- Compressed energy range (<keV instead of  $\sim$  MeV)
- Electron capture gives single recoil peak
- Sensitive to  $\beta$ - $\nu$  correlation for  $\beta^{\pm}$  decay

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#### The BeEST experiment (Slide by Kyle Leach)

### **<b>∂**TRIUMF

#### Rare-isotope implantation at TRIUMF-ISAC





A. Samanta et al., Phys. Rev. Mat. (in press) (2022) S. Friedrich et al., J. Low Temp. Phys. (in press) (2022) C. Bray et al., J. Now Temp. Phys. (in press) (2022) K.G. Leach and S. Friedrich, J. Low Temp. Phys. (in press) (2022) S. Friedrich et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **126**, 021803 (2021) S. Friedrich et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **127**, 032701 (2020) S. Friedrich et al., J. Low Temp. Phys. **200**, 200 (2021)

#### Ta, Al, and Nb-based STJ Sensors









#### Superconducting tunnel junctions (Slide by Kyle Leach)



- Pulsed 355 nm (3.49965(15) eV) laser at 5 kHz fed through optical fiber to 0.1 K stage
- Illumination of STJ provides a comb of peaks at integer multiples of 3.5 eV
- Intrinsic resolution of our Ta-based devices is between ~1.5 and ~2.5 eV FWHM at ~10 – 200 eV
- Stable response and small quadratic nonlinearity (10<sup>-4</sup> per eV)



#### Superconducting tunnel junctions



#### Superconducting tunnel junctions (Slide by Kyle Leach)





Our current method with <sup>7</sup>Be for the <u>BeEST</u>:

- Done at the ISAC Implantation Station
- Inactive (room temperature) sensor array
- Clear and ship sensor to lab (LLNL)
- Receive, handle, and cool to < 100 mK

#### Superconducting tunnel junctions (Slide by Kyle Leach)

#### Most precise <sup>7</sup>Be L/K capture measurement (PRL 125 (2020) 032701)



Constraints on MeV-scale sterile neutrino's (PRL 126 (2021) 021803)

#### **Vertex corrections**



Use on mass-shell renormalization

$$T^{\mu\lambda}_{a}{}_{\lambda} = \frac{C_a}{2(2\pi)^4} \int \frac{d^4k}{k^2 - M_a^2} \int d^4x \int d^4y e^{i\bar{q}\cdot y} e^{ik\cdot x}$$
$$\times \langle p_f | T \{ J^{\mu}_W(y) J^{\lambda}_a(x) J^a_\lambda(0) \} | p_i \rangle - B^{\mu}_a$$

where  $a \in [\gamma, Z, W]$ , subtracts mass poles with B

Use Ward-Takahashi identities ( $\sim k_{\mu}\mathcal{M}^{\mu} = 0$  transverse photons in QED) & algebra to write matrix element

$$\mathcal{M}_{\nu}^{a} = \frac{g^{2}C_{a}}{4(2\pi)^{4}} V_{ud} \frac{L^{\mu}}{q^{2} - M_{W}^{2}} \lim_{\bar{q} \to q} \left[ -\bar{q}_{\nu} \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{q}^{\mu}} T_{a}^{\nu} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{q}^{\mu}} \left\{ \mathcal{D}_{a} + \mathcal{Z}_{a\lambda}^{\lambda} - \bar{q}_{\nu} B_{a}^{\nu} \right\} \right]$$

with separate 2-point and 3-point contributions

#### 3-point correlation function

$$\mathcal{D}_{a} = \int \frac{d^{4}k}{k^{2} - M_{a}^{2}} \int d^{4}y e^{i\bar{q}y} \int d^{4}x e^{ikx}$$
$$\times \langle p_{f} | T \left\{ \frac{\partial_{\mu} J_{W}^{\mu}(y) J_{a}^{\lambda}(x) J_{\lambda}^{a}(0) \right\} | p_{i} \rangle$$

For vector transitions  $\partial_{\mu}J^{\mu}_{W}\approx$  0, found our first difference

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For vector transitions  $\partial_{\mu}J^{\mu}_{W} pprox 0$ , found our **first difference** 

Heavy EW bosons only give negligible  $\mathcal{O}(G_F^2)$  contributions since integral is IR convergent, only care about  $\gamma$ 

#### Strategy: look at IR and UV limits separately

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UV is straightforward (OPE/BJL limit) and vanishes

Can be understood as 'soft breaking' of axial current  $(m_\pi 
ightarrow 0)$ 

 $\mathcal{D}_{\gamma} \approx \mathcal{D}_{\gamma}^{\text{elastic}}$ 

Elastic response contains cancellation between isoscalar & isovector photon charges

$$D_{\gamma}^{\text{elastic}} = \left[ (Q^{5})^{2} - (Q^{V})^{2} \right] 2g_{A}M \left( 1 + \frac{q^{2}}{m_{\pi}^{2}} \right) [\bar{N}'\gamma^{5}T^{\pm}N]$$
$$\times \int \frac{d^{4}k}{k^{2}} \frac{M^{2}}{M^{2} - k^{2}} \frac{1}{k_{0}^{2} + i\epsilon}$$

In isospin limit  $Q^{S}=Q^{V}
ightarrow\mathcal{D}_{\gamma}=0$ , coincidential disappearance?

Depends on derivative

$$\mathcal{D}^{\gamma}_{\mu} = i \int d^4 x e^{i(k-q)\cdot x} \langle p_f | T \{ \partial^{\nu} J^{\mathcal{W}}_{\nu}(x) J^{\gamma}_{\mu}(0) \} | p_i \rangle,$$

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Once again, UV disappears (PCAC) and so does elastic

$$\mathcal{D}_{\mu}^{\mathrm{elastic}} \propto Q^{V} \bar{N} \left[ \tau^{z} \partial_{\nu} J^{\nu}_{W} + \partial_{\nu} J^{\nu}_{W} \tau^{z} \right] N,$$

now due to crossing symmetry ({ $\{\tau^z, \tau^{\pm}\} = 0$ )

## Change in $\Delta_R^V$ corresponds to change in $|V_{ud}|$ $|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 = 0.9994(5) \rightarrow 0.9984(4)$

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AF, MG-A, ON-C, 2010.13797

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You win some, ...

Gorchtein, PRL 123 (2019) 042503



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Can leverage current algebra, predating SM (60's)

Assume electroweak currents form SU(3) octet, postulate equal-time commutation relations

$$\begin{split} \left[ J_{\gamma}^{0}(\mathbf{x}), J_{W}^{\mu}(0) \right] &= J_{W}^{\mu}(\mathbf{x}) \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \left[ J_{W}^{0}(\mathbf{x}), J_{Z}^{\mu}(0) \right] &= \cos^{2} \theta_{W} J_{W}^{\mu}(\mathbf{x}) \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \left[ J_{W}^{0}(\mathbf{x}), J_{W}^{\mu}(0) \right] &= -2 \left[ \sin^{2} \theta_{W} J_{\gamma}^{\mu}(\mathbf{x}) + J_{Z}^{\mu}(\mathbf{x}) \right] \delta^{(3)}(\mathbf{x}) \end{split}$$

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Commutation relations turn out to be conserved even in presence of QCD