

Effective Field Theory approach for radiative corrections to superallowed β decays.

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with V. Cirigliano, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, M. Hoferichter, S. Gandolfi, G. King, S. Novario

14th International Spring Seminar on Nuclear Physics Ischia, May 22nd, 2025





Finding BSM: energy vs. precision frontier





• SM is (likely) a low-energy EFT of a more complete theory

matter-antimatter asymmetry, origin and nature of neutrino masses, dark matter ...

- 1. LHC to directly create new particles at 1-10 TeV
- 2. search for tiny indirect effects in low-energy precision experiments

neutrinoless $\beta\beta$ decay, electric dipole moments, $\mu \rightarrow e$ conversion,

muon and electron g - 2, β decays, . . .



Finding BSM: energy vs. precision



- a. observables w/o (w. negligible) SM background: violation of SM symmetries, doors to new sectors?
- b. observables w. SM background: need strong experiment/theory synergy to claim BSM discovery

$$\Lambda_{\rm BSM} \sim \frac{0.246\,{\rm TeV}}{(\delta_{\rm exp}^2+\delta_{\rm th}^2)^{1/4}}$$

 $\bullet~\lesssim 0.5\cdot 10^{-3}$ experimental/theory uncertainties needed to probe >10 TeV scale

CKM unitarity tests



 $V_{ud} = 0.97367 \pm 0.00032$ $V_{us}(K_{\ell 3}) = 0.2233 \pm 0.0005$

- the SM predicts $|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 = 1$
- re-evaluation of "inner radiative correction" and precise lattice QCD calculation of f₊(0)

C. Y. Seng, M. Gorchtein, H. Patel, M. Ramsey-Musolf, '18 A. Czarnecki, W. Marciano, A. Sirlin, '19; A

A. Bazavov et al, '18

• led to $\sim 2\sigma$ -3 σ tension in CKM unitarity test

$$|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2 - 1 = -(1.65 \pm 0.73) \cdot 10^{-3}$$

BSM physics in the 5-10 TeV range?



Why EFTs? Scales in β decays



Hard modes. One-body vector coupling g_V



$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm Fermi} = -2\sqrt{2}G_F V_{ud} C_\beta \bar{e}_L \gamma^\mu \nu_L \bar{q} \tau^+ \gamma_\mu q + \mathcal{L}_{\rm QED} \Longrightarrow -\sqrt{2}G_F V_{ud} \bar{e}_L \gamma^0 \nu_L \left\{ g_V \bar{N} \tau^+ N + g_{V1}^{NN} \bar{N} \tau^+ N \bar{N} N + \dots \right\}$$

- contributions from photons with $|\vec{q}| \sim \Lambda_{\rm QCD} \implies$ photon modes are not in the low-energy EFT
- · electromagnetism is hidden in EFT low-energy constants

$$g_V = 1 + \sum_n \left(\frac{\alpha}{4\pi}\right)^n g_V^{(n)}, \qquad g_{V1}^{NN} = \sum_n \left(\frac{\alpha}{4\pi}\right)^n g_{V1}^{(n)}$$

One body-coupling g_V

- perturbative contributions from matching & running from m_W
- non-perturbative contribs. from the "Wy" box C. Y. Seng, M. Gorchtein, H. Patel, M. Ramsey-Musolf, '18

$$T_{VA,0}^{\mu\nu}(q,\nu) = \frac{\tau_{ij}^{a}\delta^{\sigma'\sigma}}{12} \frac{i}{6} \int \mathrm{d}^{d}x \, e^{iq\cdot x} \langle N(k,\sigma',j)|T\left[\bar{q}\gamma^{\mu}q(x)\,\bar{q}\gamma^{\nu}\gamma_{5}\tau^{a}q(0)\right]|N(k,\sigma,i)\rangle.$$

Potential modes. $\bar{\delta}_{\rm NS}$ and two-body weak currents



- the second important regime is $q_0 \ll |\mathbf{q}| \sim k_F$ "potential"
- · photon emission puts the nuclear intermediate state far off-shell
- can neglect nuclear excitation energy in energy denominators & sum over intermediate states

similar to "closure approximation" in $0\nu\beta\beta$

• $\bar{\delta}_{\rm NS}$ given by matrix element of a two- or higher-body current \mathcal{V}^0

$$ar{\delta}_{
m NS} = \sqrt{2} \langle f | \mathcal{V}^0 | i \rangle$$

• V^0 has an expansion in α and Q/Λ_{χ} as

as "standard" vector & axial 2- and 3-body currents

$$\mathcal{V}^{0} = \alpha \sum_{n,m} \mathcal{V}_{n,m} \alpha^{n} \varepsilon_{\chi}^{m} \qquad \varepsilon_{\chi} = \frac{Q}{\Lambda_{\chi}}$$



 $\bar{\delta}_{
m NS}$ at $\mathcal{O}(lpha \epsilon_{\chi})$



· diagrams with LO weak and EM vertices are proportional to external momenta

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{V}_{E}^{0} &= \frac{g_{V}}{3} \left(\frac{E_{0}}{2} + 4E_{e} \right) \sum_{j < k} \frac{e^{2}}{q^{4}} \left(\tau^{+(j)} P_{p}^{(k)} + P_{p}^{(j)} \tau^{+(k)} \right) \\ &\longrightarrow -g_{V} \alpha \left(R_{A} E_{0} \right) \left(\frac{1}{6} + \frac{4E_{e}}{3E_{0}} \right) \sum_{j < k} \frac{r_{jk}}{2R_{A}} \left(\tau^{+(j)} P_{p}^{(k)} + P_{p}^{(j)} \tau^{+(k)} \right) \end{split}$$

- correction suppressed by E_e/k_F, still very important as it grows with Z
- replaces some terms linear in the nucleus charge radius R in standard approach



 $\bar{\delta}_{\rm NS}$ at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha \epsilon_{\chi})$



- diagrams with NLO EM vertices do not require external momenta $\mathcal{O}(\alpha \varepsilon_{\chi})$
- long range corrections mediated by nucleon magnetic moments and recoil corrections

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{V}_{0}^{\text{mag}}(\mathbf{q}) &= \sum_{j < k} \frac{e^{2}}{3} \frac{g_{A}}{m_{N}} \frac{1}{\mathbf{q}^{2}} \left(\boldsymbol{\sigma}^{(j)} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}^{(k)} + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{S}^{(jk)} \right) \left[(1 + \kappa_{\rho}) \tau^{+(j)} \mathcal{P}_{\rho}^{(k)} + \kappa_{n} \tau^{+(j)} \mathcal{P}_{n}^{(k)} + (j \leftrightarrow k) \right], \\ \mathcal{V}_{0}^{\text{rec}}(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{P}) &= \sum_{j < k} \left[-i \frac{e^{2} g_{A}}{4 m_{N}} \frac{\tau^{+(j)} \mathcal{P}_{\rho}^{(k)}}{\mathbf{q}^{4}} ((\mathbf{P}_{j} - \mathbf{P}_{k}) \times \mathbf{q}) \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}^{(j)} \right], \end{split}$$

very similar to I. S. Towner, '92

• $\mathcal{V}_0^{\text{mag}}$ is a Coulomb-like potential \implies induces UV sensitivity when acting in ¹S₀ channel same as for m_{π} dependence of nuclear force & $0\nu\beta\beta$ D. Kaplan, M. Savage, M. Wise, '96 V. Cirigliano, *et al*, '18



• to absorb cut-off dependence, need

$$\mathcal{V}_{0}^{\mathsf{CT}} = \boldsymbol{e}^{2}(g_{V1}^{\mathsf{NV}}O_{1} + g_{V2}^{\mathsf{NV}}O_{2}), \qquad O_{1} = \sum_{j \neq k} \tau^{+(j)}\mathbb{1}_{k}, \quad O_{2} = \sum_{j < k} \left[\tau^{+(j)}\tau_{3}^{(k)} + (j \leftrightarrow k)\right].$$

- in Towner's approach, UV divergence regulated by axial and magnetic form factors
- g_{V1}^{NN} and g_{V2}^{NN} could be extracted from lattice QCD or calculating/modeling $W\gamma$ box at large Q^2 for dispersive approach to δ_{NS} see C. Y. Seng's talk on Friday
- or fit them to superallowed transitions with V_{ud}
- · for illustration, will assume "improved NDA"

$$g_{V1}^{\rm NN} \pm g_{V2}^{\rm NN} = \pm \frac{1}{m_N} \frac{1}{4F_{\pi}^2}$$



$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$ corrections to $\delta_{\rm NS}$



• at $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$, the Fermi function and the nuclear-structure-independent correction δ_2 depend logarithmically on R A. Sirlin and R. Zucchini, '86, W. Jaus and G. Rasche, '87

$$f = 1 + \alpha Z + \alpha^2 Z^2 \log E_e R \dots, \qquad \delta_2 = \alpha^2 Z \log E_e R$$

can we understand large logs in terms of scale separation?



$\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$ corrections to $\delta_{\rm NS}$



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can we understand large logs in terms of scale separation?

· "soft" photons induce two more 2- and 3-body operators

$$\mathcal{V}^{0} = \mathcal{C}_{\delta}(\mu, \Lambda) \, \mathcal{V}_{\delta} + \mathcal{C}^{3\mathrm{b}}_{\delta}(\mu, \Lambda) \, \mathcal{V}^{3\mathrm{b}}_{\delta} + \mathcal{C}_{+} \mathcal{V}_{+}(\Lambda) + \mathcal{C}^{3\mathrm{b}}_{+} \mathcal{V}^{3\mathrm{b}}_{+}(\Lambda)$$

- matching coefficients $C_{\delta}^{(3b)}$ have right μ -dependence to reproduce log R in Fermi function and δ_2
- logarithmic 2- and 3-body potentials provide an operator definition of "R"

$$C_+\mathcal{V}_+(\mathbf{r},\Lambda) = -g_V \frac{\alpha^2}{2} \sum_{j < k} \log(r_{jk}^2 \Lambda^2) \Big(\tau^{+(j)} P_p^{(k)} + \tau^{+(k)} P_p^{(j)} \Big).$$



Extension of the $\delta_{\rm NS}$ operator to higher orders





Usoft modes. The Fermi and Sirlin functions



- last step of the calculation involves photon momentum modes |q₀| ~ |q̃| ~ E_e ≪ R⁻¹
 Fermi & Sirlin functions and "outer corrections"
- for Fermi function, use $\overline{\rm MS}$ calculation of R. Hill and R. Plestid, '23

$$\bar{F}(\beta,\mu) = \frac{4\eta}{(1+\eta)^2} \frac{2(1+\eta)}{\Gamma(2\eta+1)^2} |\Gamma(\eta+iy)|^2 e^{\pi y} \left(\frac{2|\mathbf{p}_e|}{\mu} e^{1/2-\gamma_E}\right)^{2(\eta-1)}, \qquad \eta = \sqrt{1-\alpha^2 Z^2} \quad y = \mp Z\alpha/\beta$$

- recover the standard Fermi function by $\mu \to R^{-1} e^{1/2 \gamma_E}$
- find standard Sirlin function at O(α)
 - + with consistent NLL resummation of log $\frac{m_e}{k_E}$ by getting $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2)$ anomalous dimension from HQET

X. D. Ji and M. Ramsey-Musolf, '91; V. Gimenez, '92; D. J. Broadhurst and A. G. Grozin, '99, V. Cirigliano, W. Dekens, EM, O. Tomalak, '23



(Partial) Summary: factorization of the lifetime

$$\frac{1}{t} = \frac{G_F^2 |V_{ud}|^2 m_e^5}{\pi^3 \log 2} \left[C_{\text{eff}}^{(g_V)}(\mu) \right]^2 \bar{f}(\mu) \times \left[1 + \bar{\delta}_R'(\mu) \right] \left(1 + \bar{\delta}_{\text{NS}} \right) \left(1 - \bar{\delta}_C \right)$$

 $\left[\textit{C}_{\rm eff}^{(g_V)}(\mu)\right]^2$

- matching at electroweak scale, RG evolution from m_W to $\mu \sim m_N$
- 1-body matching Fermi theory to $\chi {\rm PT}$ at $\mu \sim m_N$
- matching and running from m_N to $\mu \sim k_F$

$\bar{\delta}_{\rm NS}$

- two nucleon LECs
- nuclear matrix elements

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\overline{\delta}_{C}
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- isospin breaking in nuclear wavefunction $\bar{\delta}'_B,\bar{f}$
- long wavelength modes

[pQCD] [dispersive + LQCD methods] [χ PT, pQED]

[dispersive + LQCD methods], [data driven?] [QMC, ab initio methods, shell model . . .]

[QMC, ab initio methods, shell model . . .]

[pQED]



Nuclear matrix elements in ¹⁴O



V. Cirigliano, W. Dekens, J. de Vries. S. Gandolfi, M. Hoferichter, EM, '24

• nuclear matrix elements in A = 6 (for benchmarking) and A = 14

$$M_{\mathrm{GT,N}}^{\mathcal{O}} = \langle f | \sum_{j < k} h_{\mathrm{GT}}^{\mathcal{O}}(r_{jk}) \, \boldsymbol{\sigma}^{(j)} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}^{(k)} \Big[\tau^{+(j)} \boldsymbol{P}_{N}^{(k)} + (j \leftrightarrow k) \Big] | i \rangle \qquad h_{\mathrm{GT,p}}^{\mathrm{mag}} = \frac{g_{A}}{3m_{N}} \frac{1 + \kappa_{p}}{r}$$

- VMC calculation with N²LO local chiral potential at $R_0 = 1$ fm
- for local terms, Gamow-Teller component dominates, tensor small.
- contact can be sizable (depending on LECs) LA-UR-25-24845

A. Gezerlis, I. Tews et al, '14

NME in ¹⁴O: energy independent components.



- spin-orbit term is very small for A = 6, significant for A = 14
- the $\alpha^2 \mathcal{V}_+$ potential vanishes for $\Lambda = (1.02R)^{-1}$, with $R^2 = 5/3 \langle r^2 \rangle$

standard choice $\mu = R$ works pretty well for ¹⁴O!

putting everything together

$$\bar{\delta}_{\rm NS}^{(0)} = - \left[\left. 3.1 \right|_{\rm GT}^{\rm mag} - \left. 0.2 \right|_{\rm T} - \left. 1.2 \right|_{\rm SO} \pm \left. 0.9 \right|_{\rm LEC} + \left. 0.1 \right|_{\alpha^2} \right] \cdot 10^{-3} = - (1.9 \pm 0.9) \cdot 10^{-3}$$

• compares well with
$$\delta_{NS}^{(B)} = -1.96(50) \cdot 10^{-3}$$

J. Hardy and I. Towner, '20

NME for ¹⁴O. Energy dependent pieces



$$\mathcal{V}_{E} \propto lpha \sum_{j < k} rac{r_{jk}}{2R_{A}} \left(au^{+(j)} P_{
ho}^{(k)} + au^{+(k)} P_{
ho}^{j}
ight)$$

• the energy dependent operator leads to (neglecting small π -exchange corrections)

$$ar{\delta}^{\mathcal{E}}_{\mathsf{NS}} = \mp rac{2}{g_{V} \mathit{M}^{(0)}_{\mathsf{F}}} \, \left\langle \mathit{f}^{(0)} | \mathcal{V}_{\mathcal{E}} | \mathit{i}^{(0)}
ight
angle \left(rac{\mathcal{E}_{0} + 8\mathcal{E}_{e}}{6} + rac{m_{e}^{2}}{2\mathcal{E}_{e}}
ight)$$

• corrections matches closely $O(\alpha ZRE)$ "finite size" corrections if

$$M_{F,\rho}^E = M_F^{(0)} Z \frac{R}{2R_A} \sim 5.6 \Longrightarrow 10\%$$
 too small

can we replace all "R" in phase space corrections with NMEs?



Extraction of V_{ud} from ¹⁴O \Longrightarrow ¹⁴N

• attempt a V_{ud} extraction using **only** ¹⁴O

 $V_{\textit{ud}} = 0.97364(10)_{\text{exp}}(12)_{g_{\textit{V}}}(22)_{\mu}(12)_{\delta_{\textit{C}}}(43)_{g_{\textit{V}}^{\textit{NV}}}(20)_{\delta_{\text{NS}}^{\textit{E}}} = 0.97364(56)_{\text{total}},$

 g_V one-body error dominated by $W\gamma$ box, Lattice QCD calculations in progress μ scale variation $\mu_{low} = \{E_0, 4E_0\}$ in usoft EFT,

missing $\mathcal{O}(\alpha^2 Z)$ corrections, calculations in progress

 $g_V^{\rm NN}$ LEC uncertainty

"fake" error, will go away with calculation & fit to multiple isotopes

 $\delta_{\rm NS}^{E}$ rough estimate of higher orders in energy-dep. part

 $g_V^{\rm NN}$, $\delta_{\rm NS}^E$ to be replaced with careful assessment of missing orders in EFT expansion

· compares well with what we would get from Towner and Hardy

 $V_{ud}[^{14}\text{O}] = 0.97405(13)_{exp}(9)_{\Delta_{V}^{V}}(12)_{\delta_{C}}(31)_{\delta_{NS}}[37]_{total},$

Warning: we have said nothing of δ_C ...



$ar{\delta}_{ m NS}$ in $^{10}{ m C}$



Model	$ar{\delta}_{ m NS}^{(0)}$
NV2+3-la	$-(4.23+0.28\pm0.61)\cdot10^{-3}$
NV2+3-la*	$-(4.41+0.30\pm0.55)\cdot10^{-3}$
AV18+UX	$-(4.55 + 0.39 \pm 0.48) \cdot 10^{-3}$
AV18+IL7	$-(4.87+0.29\pm0.61)\cdot10^{-3}$
AV18+IL7	$\frac{(1.00 \pm 0.00 \pm 0.10)}{-(4.87 \pm 0.29 \pm 0.61) \cdot 10^{-3}}$

NV-Ia vs. NV-Ia* interactions; thanks to **G. King**

- · first step towards uncertainty quantification
- evaluation of $\bar{\delta}_{\rm NS}$ in ¹⁰C with 4 different interactions and 2 QMC methods
- about 10% variation, but significantly larger than shell model

Coupled cluster calculations in medium mass nuclei



 $M_{\rm GT+T,n}^{\rm mag}$ $M_{\rm GT+T,p}^{\rm mag}$ $M_{\rm GT,p}^{\rm CT}$ $M_{\rm GT,n}^{\rm CT}$ -0.3270.082 0.044 0.027 -0.486 0.239 0.050 0.031 -0.221 0.229 0.048 0.060 -0.368 0.305 0.047 0.056 -0.407 0.330 0.048 0.059 -0.2290.218 0.053 0.062 -0.268 0.225 0.058 0.066 -0.2700.231 0.060 0.067 -0.273 0.235 0.062 0.070

thanks to S. Novario (WashU)

- · ongoing coupled cluster calculations 9 nuclei, including some of the most accurate
- should allow to check if joint fit to V_{ud} + two-body LECs does impact V_{ud} accuracy

need δ_C with same interactions!





Implications of the Cabibbo anomaly

 $\Delta \mathrm{AIC} = \mathrm{AIC}_{\mathrm{SM}} - \mathrm{AIC}$

$$[C_{Hud}]_{1j} \bar{u}_R \gamma^\mu d^j_R W_\mu (1 + h/\nu)$$

V. Cirigliano, W. Dekens, J. de Vries, EM, T. Tong, '24

- new physics explanation of the Cabibbo anomaly are not ruled out
- analyzed β decays, electroweak precision obs. and Drell-Yan data
- with 37 SMEFT operators organized in 10 categories → leading to 1024 "models"
- right-handed charged-current couplings of quarks to *W* bosons significantly improve the fit LA-UR-25-24845

Implications of the Cabibbo anomaly



• Higgs properties: $pp \rightarrow hW$

$$\mu_{WH}(13\text{TeV}) = \frac{\sigma^{W^+H} + \sigma^{W^-H}}{\sigma^{W^+H}_{\text{SM}} + \sigma^{W^-H}_{\text{SM}}} - 1 = 160 \left[v^2 C_{Hud} \right]_{11}^2 + 90 \left[v^2 C_{Hud} \right]_{12}^2 = 5.2 \cdot 10^{-4}$$

too small to be seen even at HL-LHC

- but the effect grows at large H-W invariant mass
- RH explanation of the Cabibbo anomaly \Longrightarrow look for high-invariant mass resonances in HW

 β decays indirectly probe Higgs properties!

Implications of the Cabibbo anomaly



- RH give large contributions to I = 2 amplitude in $K \rightarrow \pi \pi$
- and would shift the value of g_A

$$rac{g_A}{g_V} = g_A^{
m QCD} \left(1 + \delta_{
m RC}^{g_A} - v^2 rac{[C_{Hud}]_{11}}{V_{ud}}
ight),$$

- best fit to the Cabibbo anomaly shifts g_A by 0.2%, more than current UCNA error
- test currently limited by theory errors on $\delta g_A^{
 m QCD}/g_A=$ 0.8% and $\delta_{
 m RC}^{g_A}pprox$ 1%

FLAG '24; V. Cirigliano et al, '22; C. Y. Seng, 24; C. Y. Seng, 24; V. Cirigliano, W. Dekens, EM, O. Tomalak, '24;

Conclusion

• precision β decays are important probes of BSM physics

... but they require precise theoretical input!

- EFTs provide a systematic organizational tool for assessment/re-evalution of th. uncertainties
- "refactored" lifetime formula according to photon virtuality
- derived lowest-order two-body operators for $\bar{\delta}_{\rm NS}$ in chiral EFT
- clarified some nuclear-structure dependence of nuclear-structure-independent corrections
- resummed large logs of *E_eR*
- performed first preliminary QMC and CC calculations in ¹⁰C, ¹⁴O and medium mass nuclei

TO DO:

- higher order corrections to $\delta_{\rm NS}$ and "outer corrections"

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does the \chiEFT expansion converges?
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more rigorous assessment of nuclear theory error on the NMEs

multiple chiral Hamiltonians, different cut-offs, multiple methods

• calculate δ_{C} with the same method

${\cal O}(\alpha^2)$ corrections to $\delta_{\rm NS}$

• the matching coefficients have right μ dependence to reproduce log R in Fermi function and δ_2

$$\mathcal{C}_{\delta}=-g_{V}(\mu)rac{lpha^{2}}{2}\left(\lograc{\mu^{2}}{\Lambda^{2}}-rac{13}{8}+2\gamma_{E}
ight), \qquad \mathcal{C}_{\delta}^{3\mathrm{b}}=-g_{V}(\mu)lpha^{2}\left(rac{1}{4}\lograc{\mu^{2}}{\Lambda^{2}}+rac{\gamma_{E}}{2}-rac{3}{8}
ight).$$

• the arbitrary scale Λ is canceled by \mathcal{V}_+ and $\mathcal{V}^{\rm 3b}_+$ operators, e.g.

$$C_{+}\mathcal{V}_{+}(\mathbf{r},\Lambda) = -g_{V}\frac{\alpha^{2}}{2}\sum_{j< k}\log(r_{jk}^{2}\Lambda^{2})\Big(\tau^{+(j)}P_{p}^{(k)} + \tau^{+(k)}P_{p}^{(j)}\Big),$$

nuclear matrix element provides an operator definition of "R" in large logs

· upon integrating out soft and potential modes

$$g_V
ightarrow C_{ ext{eff}}^{g_V}, \qquad C_{ ext{eff}}^{g_V}(\mu_\pi) = g_V \left[1 + Z(C_\delta - C_\delta^{3 ext{b}}) + Z^2 C_\delta^{3 ext{b}}
ight]$$

and RGE for $C_{\rm eff}^{g_V}$ allows to resum large logs