

# Sensitivity study UPDATE

## PTOLEMY

Gruppo 2, Sezione di Cagliari INFN

21/04/2026



## Our work so far: $\beta$ -decay spectrum

We have worked on the discrete part of the spectrum: we have been able to confirm fig. 5 from ArXiv: 2504.13259, in SUDDEN scheme.

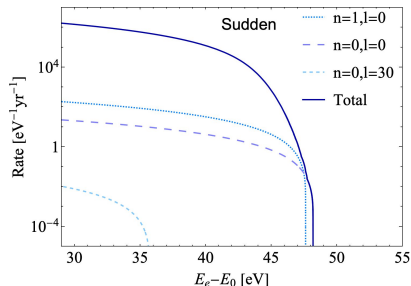


Figure: SUDDEN scheme

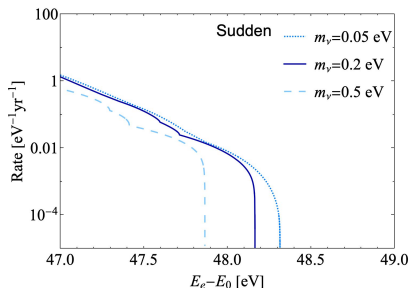


Figure: SUDDEN scheme

Some questions:

- We can't figure out the actual x-axis in fig. 5
- Q-value is a bit smaller than common end-point energy for atomic tritium (18526.6 eV vs 18592.01 eV)



## Fermi Function findings (I)

We have implemented a first version of the Fermi function, using its analytical definition by Konopinsky, applied to the atomic case:

$$F_{\text{rel}}(Z, W) = 4(2p_e \sqrt{\frac{5}{3}} R_{ch})^{2\gamma-2} \frac{|\Gamma(\gamma + i\eta)|^2}{|\Gamma(2\gamma + 1)|^2} e^{\pi\eta}$$

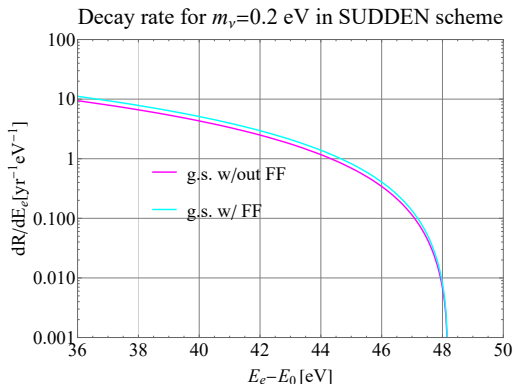


Figure: Impact of FF.



## Fermi Function findings (II)

We have computed the difference (%) between the differential rate with and without the Fermi Function, in the case of Sudden regime for  $n = l = 0$  and  $m_\nu = 0.2$  eV.

For  $E_e = Q$ , the difference is

$$\simeq 18.5\%$$

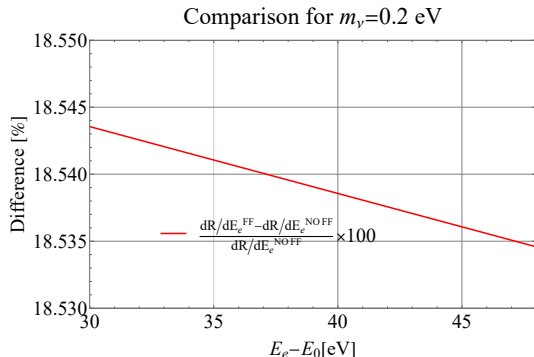


Figure: Impact of FF in the spectrum.

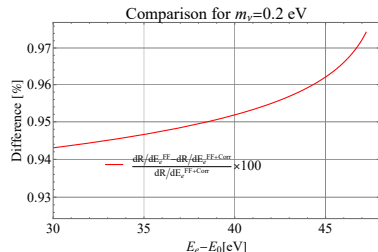
→ If you can give us the potential well, we can compute the Fermi function exactly(!)



## Corrective Factors

In the atomic case, the differential rate still has to be multiplied by a number of corrective factors, to take into accounts minor effects:

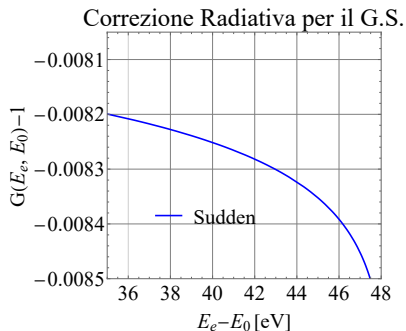
- Radiative corrections  $G(W, W_0)$ ;
- Screening corrections  $S(Z, W)$ ;
- Recoil effects  $R(W, W_0)$ ;
- Finite structure of the nucleus  $L(Z, W)$  and  $C(Z, W)$ ;
- Recoiling Coulomb field  $Q(Z, W, W_0)$ ;
- Orbital-electron interactions  $I(Z, W)$ .



**Figure:** Difference between DR w/ and w/out corrective factors (still including FF).

## Impact of Corrections on rate

- Radiative corrections are the most impactful near the endpoint, causing a depletion of the  $\beta$  spectrum;
- All other corrections are nearly constant in the last 30 eV, so they only cause a normalization shift;
- Some terms should be treated with a little more care in the case of tritiated graphene (eg. which screening potential to use?)



**Figure:** Radiative corrections for g.s. in sudden regime.

## Next steps

- Compute exact FF in graphene potential;
- Semi-sudden scheme;
- Continuous spectrum;
- Sensitivity curve update

