

Dispersive approach to isospin breaking in $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau$

in collaboration with M. Cottini, G. Colangelo and M. Hoferichter

Simon Holz

AEC, Institute for Theoretical Physics
Universität Bern, Switzerland

8th Plenary Workshop of the Muon $g - 2$ T1
September 8, 2025

u^b

^b
**UNIVERSITÄT
BERN**

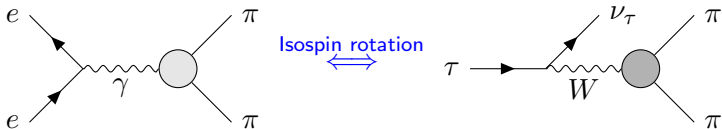
AEC
ALBERT EINSTEIN CENTER
FOR FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICS



**Swiss National
Science Foundation**

Breaking of the CVC relation

Make use of **conserved-vector-current relation**:



Alemany, Davier, Höcker 1997

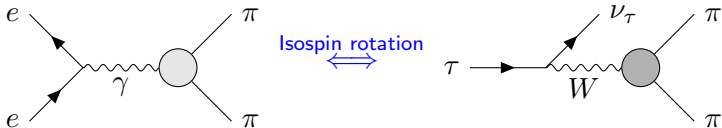
$$\sigma_{e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-}^{(0)}(s) = \frac{K_\sigma(s)}{K_\Gamma(s)} \frac{d\Gamma_{\tau \rightarrow \pi\pi\nu_\tau}}{ds}$$

- $K_\sigma(s) = \pi\alpha^2/3s$, $K_\Gamma(s)$: decay couplings & τ phase space

$$a_\mu^{\text{HVP,LO}}[\pi\pi, \tau] = \frac{1}{4\pi^3} \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{m_\tau^2} ds K(s) \left[\frac{K_\sigma(s)}{K_\Gamma(s)} \frac{d\Gamma_{\tau \rightarrow \pi\pi\nu_\tau}}{ds} \right]$$

Breaking of the CVC relation

Make use of **conserved-vector-current relation**:



Alemany, Davier, Höcker 1997

with isospin breaking:

Cirigliano, Ecker, Neufeld 2001/2

$$\sigma_{e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-}^{(0)}(s) = \frac{K_\sigma(s)}{K_\Gamma(s)} \frac{d\Gamma_{\tau \rightarrow \pi\pi\nu_\tau}[\gamma]}{ds} \times \frac{R_{IB}(s)}{S_{EW}^{\pi\pi}}$$

- $K_\sigma(s) = \pi\alpha^2/3s$, $K_\Gamma(s)$: decay couplings & τ phase space

$$a_\mu^{\text{HVP,LO}}[\pi\pi, \tau] = \frac{1}{4\pi^3} \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{m_\tau^2} ds K(s) \left[\frac{K_\sigma(s)}{K_\Gamma(s)} \frac{d\Gamma_{\tau \rightarrow \pi\pi\nu_\tau}[\gamma]}{ds} \right] \times \frac{R_{IB}(s)}{S_{EW}^{\pi\pi}}$$

IB corrections

- collected in

$$R_{\text{IB}}(s) = \text{FSR}(s) \frac{\beta_{\pi^+\pi^-}^3(s)}{\beta_{\pi^\pm\pi^0}^3(s)} \frac{|F_\pi^V(s)|^2}{|f_+(s)|^2} \frac{1}{G_{\text{EM}}(s)}$$

- and $S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi}$: short-distance EM correction

focus on

- $G_{\text{EM}}(s)$: long-distance EM corrections
- ▲ only combination of $S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi}$ and $G_{\text{EM}}(s)$ is scheme independent
- $G_{\text{EM}}(s)$ previously calculated in resonance chiral theory:

Cirigliano, Ecker, Neufeld 2001/2

Flores-Báez, Flores-Tlalpa, López Castro, Toledo Sánchez 2005/6

Davier et al. 2009-23

Miranda, Roig 2020; López Castro, Miranda, Roig 2024

- need to care for effects of structure-dependent virtual photons
- solid estimates of uncertainties

Outline of the calculation

- **Structure-dependent virtual corrections** → dispersive representation of f_+ to resolve **pion-pole effects** in box diagrams
- **Matching to ChPT** → make connection to **short-distance physics** contained in S_{EW}
- **Threshold behavior** → derive expansion of real and virtual contributions that allows **stable evaluation down to threshold**
- Fits to τ data using **dispersive representation of f_+** , including **Roy-equation constraints** and inelastic effects via ρ' , ρ''
- **Self-consistent iteration** of f_+ in G_{EM}

More on G_{EM}

- for $\tau^-(l_1) \rightarrow \pi^-(q_1)\pi^0(q_2)\nu_\tau(l_2)[\gamma(k)]$:

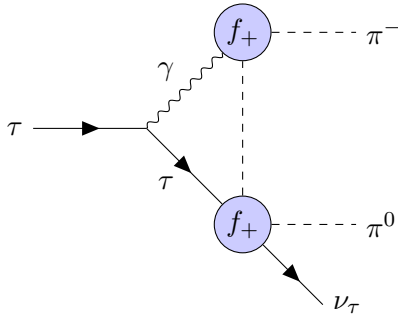
$$\frac{d\Gamma_{\tau \rightarrow \pi\pi\nu_\tau[\gamma]}}{ds} = S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi} K_\Gamma(s) \beta_{\pi^\pm\pi^0}^3(s) |f_+(s)|^2 G_{\text{EM}}(s)$$

$$G_{\text{EM}}(s) = \frac{\int_{t_{\min}(s)}^{t_{\max}(s)} dt D(s,t) [1 + 2f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{loop}}(s,t) + g_{\text{rad}}(s,t)]}{\int_{t_{\min}(s)}^{t_{\max}(s)} dt D(s,t)}$$

- with Mandelstam $s = (q_1 + q_2)^2$, $t = (l_1 - q_1)^2$ and tree-level kinematic function $D(s,t)$
- $G_{\text{EM}} = 1 + \mathcal{O}(\alpha)$
- virtual photon contributions: $f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{loop}}(s,t)$
- real photon contributions: $g_{\text{rad}}(s,t)$

Dispersive approach to virtual contributions – I

- sometimes called “FsQED”
- approximation: intermediate hadronic states up to **two pions**

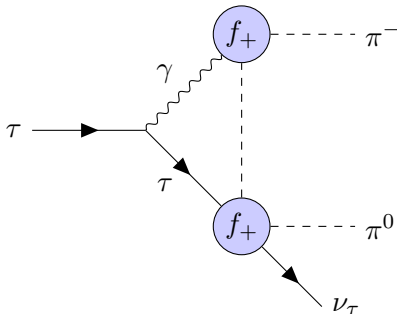


- for technical reasons: make use of **unsubtracted** dispersion relation

$$f_+(p^2) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{\infty} dx \frac{\text{Im } f_+(x)}{x - p^2 - i\epsilon}$$

- resulting amplitude $f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{disp}}(s, t)$: **UV finite**, **IR divergent**

Dispersive approach to virtual contributions – II



- amplitude:

$$f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{disp}}(s, t) = \alpha \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{\infty} ds' ds'' \text{Im } f_+(s') \text{Im } f_+(s'') \sum_{k \in \{B, C, D\}} \mathcal{M}_k(s, t, s', s'')$$

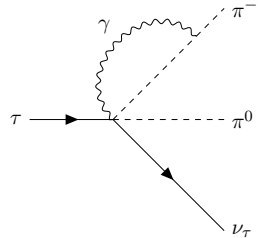
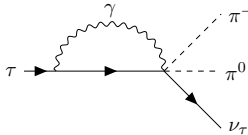
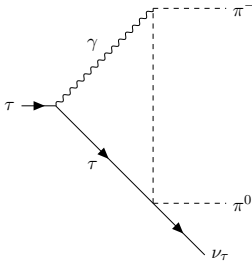
- $\mathcal{M}_k(s, t, s', s'')$: collection of Passarino–Veltman B_0, C_0, D_0 and kinematics

Matching to Chiral Perturbation Theory

- framework: ChPT with virtual photons [Urech 1995] and with virtual leptons [Knecht et al. 1999];
amplitude $f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{ChPT}}(t)$ worked out in [Cirigliano, Ecker, Neufeld 2001]

contributions:

- photonic loops

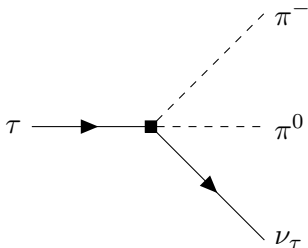


Matching to Chiral Perturbation Theory

- framework: ChPT with virtual photons [Urech 1995] and with virtual leptons [Knecht et al. 1999];
amplitude $f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{ChPT}}(t)$ worked out in [Cirigliano, Ecker, Neufeld 2001]

contributions:

- photonic loops, counter terms



Low-energy constants:

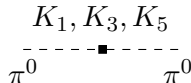
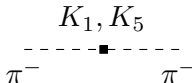
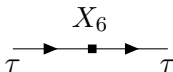
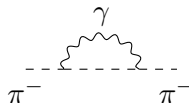
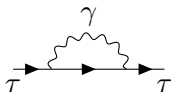
- K_1, K_3, K_5, K_{12}
- X_1, X_2, X_3

Matching to Chiral Perturbation Theory

- framework: ChPT with virtual photons [Urech 1995] and with virtual leptons [Knecht et al. 1999];
amplitude $f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{ChPT}}(t)$ worked out in [Cirigliano, Ecker, Neufeld 2001]

contributions:

- photonic loops, counter terms, self energies $\rightarrow \Sigma$: UV finite



Matching to Chiral Perturbation Theory

- framework: ChPT with virtual photons [Urech 1995] and with virtual leptons [Knecht et al. 1999];
amplitude $f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{ChPT}}(t)$ worked out in [Cirigliano, Ecker, Neufeld 2001]

contributions:

- photonic loops, counter terms, self energies $\rightarrow \Sigma$: UV finite

matching:

- dispersive “box”: sensitive to high-energy behavior of FF f_+
 $\rightarrow$ match to ChPT at $s, t = 0$ (outside of decay phase space)

$$f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{match}}(s, t) := f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{disp}}(s, t) - f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{disp}}(0, 0) + f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{ChPT}}(0)$$

- $f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{match}}$ has the correct chiral logarithm and IR structure
- in narrow resonance limit: $f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{disp}}(0, 0) \rightarrow f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{ChPT}}(0)$

Note on low-energy constants

- after the dust settles:

$$f_{\text{elm}}^{\text{match}}(s, t) \supset -2\pi\alpha \left(\frac{4}{3}X_1 + X_6^r(\mu) - 4K_{12}^r(\mu) \right)$$

- in semileptonic decays X_6 and K_{12} always appear in same combination
 $X_6^{\text{phys}}(\mu) := X_6(\mu) - 4K_{12}(\mu)$ Descotes-Genon, Moussallam 2005

- it is here, where the **short-distance** part can be separated

$$X_6^{\text{phys}}(\mu) =: \tilde{X}_6^r(\mu) + X_{6,\text{SD}}^{\text{phys}}$$

→ connection with S_{EW} :

Cirigliano, Ecker, Neufeld 2001

$$e^2 X_{6,\text{SD}}^{\text{phys}} = 1 - S_{\text{EW}} + \dots$$

⇒ **consistent choice of schemes** for S_{EW} and G_{EM} necessary

- ▶ S_{EW} : known to **NLL** accuracy Erler 2002; Cirigliano et al. 2023
- ▶ G_{EM} : **scheme-dependent nonlogarithmic** term currently unknown

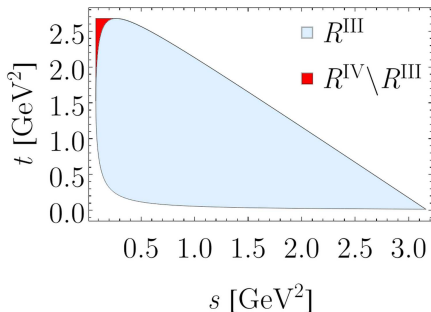
Cirigliano et al., in preparation

Radiative decay $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau \gamma - \text{I}$

- IR divergent contribution follows from Low expansion of:

$$\left| \tau \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \text{wavy } \gamma \\ \text{--- } \pi^- \\ \text{--- } \pi^0 \\ \text{--- } \nu_\tau \end{array} f_+ + \tau \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} \text{--- } \pi^- \\ \text{wavy } \gamma \\ \text{--- } \pi^0 \\ \text{--- } \nu_\tau \end{array} f_+ \right|^2$$

- further contrs. finite in Low expansion Cirigliano, Ecker, Neufeld 2002
- due to nature of experimental data for $d\Gamma_{\tau \rightarrow \pi\pi\nu_\tau[\gamma]}/ds$: need to integrate over full photon phase space

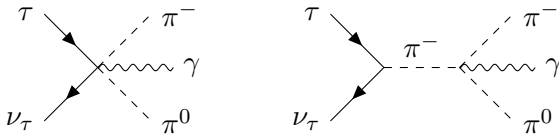


- R^{IV} full radiative phase space
- R^{III} accessible to non-radiative decay
- contribution in $R^{\text{IV}} \setminus R^{\text{III}}$ important for threshold behavior

Radiative decay $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau \gamma$ – II

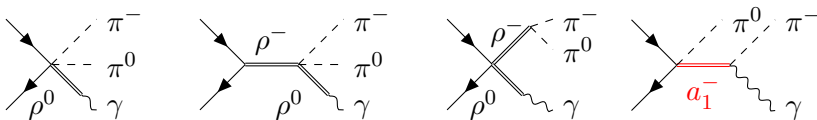
- further contributions at $\mathcal{O}(p^4)$ due to **anomaly** and **resonance exchange**
Cirigliano, Ecker, Neufeld 2002; López Castro et al. 2005/6; Miranda, Roig 2020

Chiral anomaly (via Wess–Zumino–Witten action):



→ dependence on pion decay constant F_π

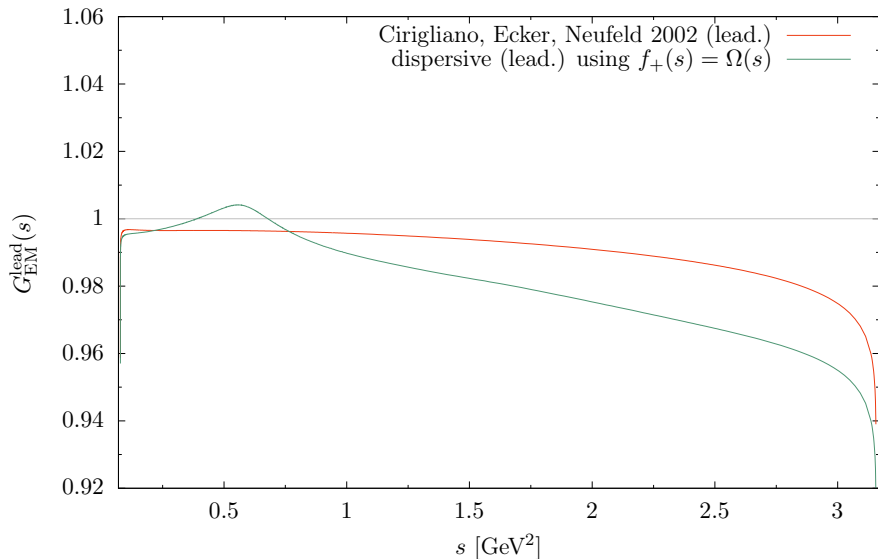
Resonance exchange (via Resonance Chiral Theory [Ecker et al. 1989])



→ dependence on couplings F_V , G_V , F_A

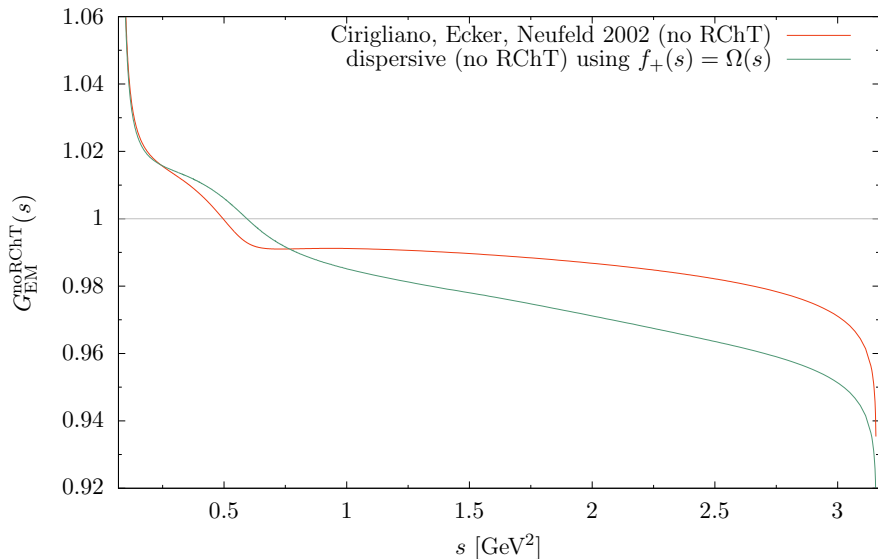
Putting the pieces together

$$G_{\text{EM}}(s) = 1 + \text{virtual} + \text{soft brems.}$$



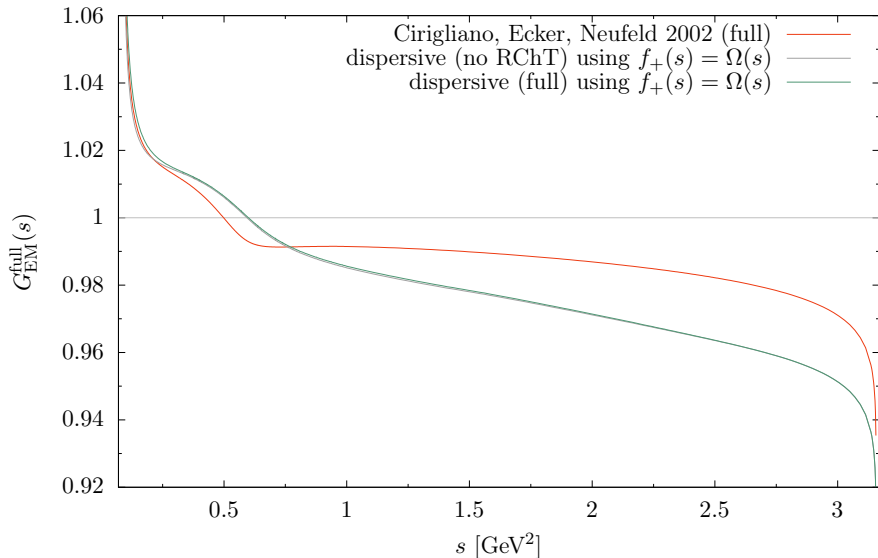
Putting the pieces together

$$G_{\text{EM}}(s) = 1 + \text{virtual} + \text{soft brems.} + \text{full real rad.}$$



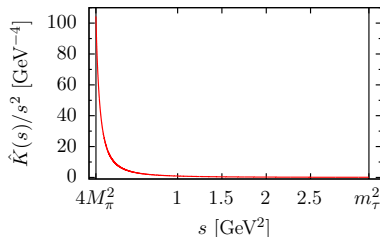
Putting the pieces together

$$G_{\text{EM}}(s) = 1 + \text{virtual} + \text{soft brems.} + \text{full real rad.} + (\text{anomaly \& RChT})$$



Threshold behavior

- in $a_\mu[\tau, \pi\pi]$ integrand: “QED kernel” $\hat{K}(s)/s^2$
- enhancement of threshold region



- subtle cancellations among Passarino–Veltman functions ensure **regular behavior** of (IR-finite) **virtual contributions** at threshold → maps onto ChPT; (soft radiation → logarithmic divergence)
- **full G_{EM}** behaves like $1/(s - 4M_\pi^2)$ due to real emission → developed expansion for **stable evaluation in threshold vicinity**
- should be **regulated** by phase-space function $\beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3(s)$
- small changes in threshold region enhanced → **certain e^4 terms matter!**
- calculation was done in **isospin limit** → remap: $G_{\text{EM}}(s) \mapsto G_{\text{EM}}(\tilde{s}[s])$
 $\tilde{s} : [(M_\pi + M_{\pi^0})^2, m_\tau^2] \rightarrow [4M_\pi^2, m_\tau^2]$ **linearly**
- $\beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3(s) \times G_{\text{EM}}(\tilde{s}[s])$ has correct threshold behavior for $M_\pi \neq M_{\pi^0}$

Form factor f_+ input

- fix from fits to $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau$ spectrum for $s \in [(M_\pi + M_{\pi^0})^2, m_\tau^2]$
- ansatz: [analogous to dispersive $e^+e^- \rightarrow 3\pi$ fits Hoid et al. 2018-25]

$$f_+(s) = \left(1 + G_{\text{in}}^N(s) + \mathcal{A}_{\rho', \rho''}(s)\right) \Omega(s),$$

Omnès function:

$$\Omega(s) = \exp \left(\frac{s}{\pi} \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{\infty} dx \frac{\delta(x)}{x(x-s-i\epsilon)} \right)$$

- $\pi\pi$ P -wave scattering phase shift $\delta(s)$ from solution of Roy equations
Ananthanarayan et al. 2000; Caprini, Colangelo, Leutwyler 2011
- take $\delta(s_0)$, $\delta(s_1)$ as fit parameters, $s_0 = (0.8 \text{ GeV})^2$, $s_1 = (1.15 \text{ GeV})^2$
- analogous to what is done for dispersive $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ fits
Colangelo, Hoferichter, Stoffer 2018; Leplumey, Stoffer 2025

Form factor f_+ input

- fix from fits to $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau$ spectrum for $s \in [(M_\pi + M_{\pi^0})^2, m_\tau^2]$
- ansatz: [analogous to dispersive $e^+e^- \rightarrow 3\pi$ fits Hoid et al. 2018-25]

$$f_+(s) = \left(1 + G_{\text{in}}^N(s) + \mathcal{A}_{\rho', \rho''}(s)\right) \Omega(s),$$

Conformal polynomial:

$$G_{\text{in}}^N(s) = \sum_{k=1}^N p_k (z^k(s) - z^k(0))$$

- description of inelastic effects beyond $\pi\pi$
 - use of unsubtracted dispersion relation for virtual corrections $\rightarrow$ fix one coefficient to ensure normalization sum rule $\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{\infty} ds' \frac{\text{Im} f_+(s')}{s'} = 1$
 - another coefficient fixed to eliminate S -wave threshold behavior
- $\rightarrow$ contains $N - 2$ fit parameters

Form factor f_+ input

- fix from fits to $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau$ spectrum for $s \in [(M_\pi + M_{\pi^0})^2, m_\tau^2]$
- ansatz: [analogous to dispersive $e^+e^- \rightarrow 3\pi$ fits Hoid et al. 2018-25]

$$f_+(s) = \left(1 + G_{\text{in}}^N(s) + \mathcal{A}_{\rho', \rho''}(s) \right) \Omega(s),$$

Explicit contribution due to ρ' , ρ'' resonances:

$$\mathcal{A}_{\rho', \rho''}(s) = \frac{s}{\pi} \int_{s_{\text{thr}}}^{\infty} dx \frac{\text{Im } \mathcal{A}(x)}{x(x - s - i\epsilon)},$$
$$\mathcal{A}(s) = \sum_{V \in \{\rho', \rho''\}} \frac{c_V}{M_V^2 - s - i\sqrt{s}\Gamma_V(s)}$$

- explicit inelastic contribution
 - energy-dependent widths $\Gamma_V(s)$ constructed from $\omega\pi$ phase space
- 6 fit parameters: (real) couplings, mass parameters, on-shell widths

Fit strategy

- experiments provide spectra in the form of

$$\frac{1}{N} \frac{dN}{ds} = S_{EW}^{\pi\pi} \frac{\text{Br}_e}{\text{Br}_\pi} \frac{|V_{ud}|^2}{2m_\tau^2} \left(1 - \frac{s}{m_\tau^2}\right)^2 \left(1 + \frac{2s}{m_\tau^2}\right) \beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3(s) |f_+(s)|^2 G_{EM}(s)$$

- input parameters (among others):

- ▶ $S_{EW}^{\pi\pi} = 1.0233(2)(24)$ WP25
- ▶ $\text{Br}(\tau^- \rightarrow e^- \bar{\nu}_e \nu_\tau) = 17.82(4) \%$, $\text{Br}(\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau) = 25.49(9) \%$
HFLAV/PDG global fits

- further: bin averaging & procedure to avoid D'Agostini bias

- G_{EM} depends on f_+ input $\rightarrow$ iterative procedure:

- 1 start with $f_+(s) = \Omega(s)$
- 2 calculate G_{EM} from f_+
- 3 insert G_{EM} into $\frac{1}{N} \frac{dN}{ds}$
- 4 fit f_+ in $\frac{1}{N} \frac{dN}{ds}$ to data

- observation: tiny changes in fit parameters after three iteration steps

Sources of uncertainties

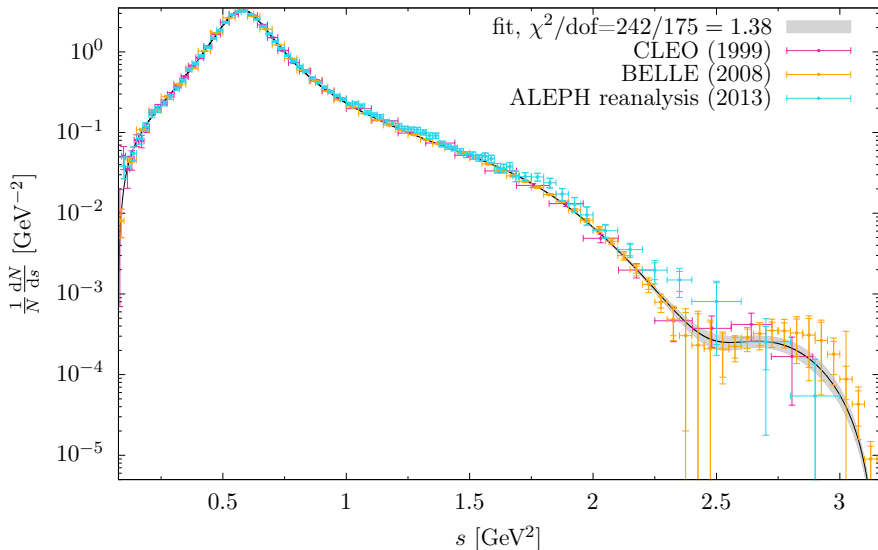
From data input:

- statistical and systematic covariances on $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau$ data
 $\Rightarrow$ fit uncertainty on f_+ , propagated to G_{EM}
- uncertainties on spectrum due to $\text{Br}(\tau^- \rightarrow e^- \bar{\nu}_e \nu_\tau)$ and $\text{Br}(\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau)$ input

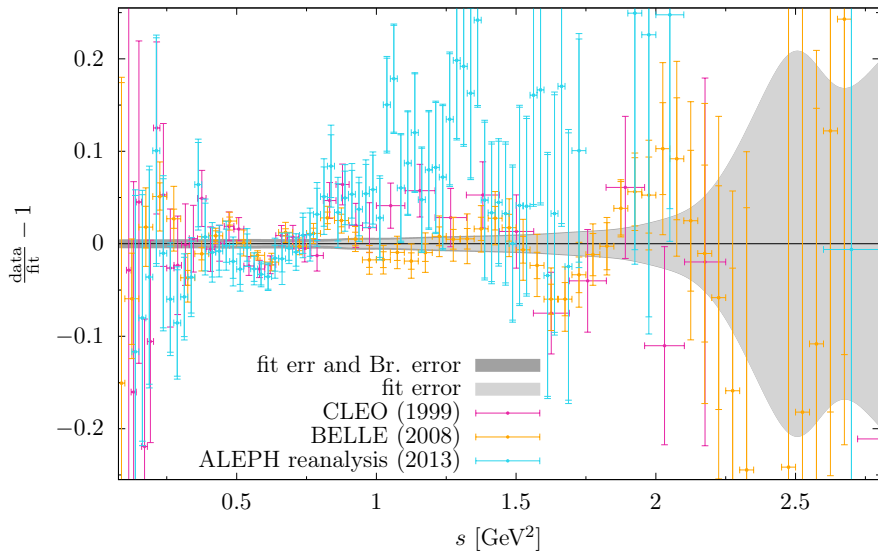
Theoretical uncertainties:

- for f_+ :
 - ▶ variation of conformal polynomial degree N
 - ▶ variation of s_c parameter in conformal polynomial
- for G_{EM} :
 - ▶ variation of cutoff of dispersive integral
 - ▶ couplings in RChT part (F_V, G_V, F_A):
($\sqrt{2}F_\pi, F_\pi/\sqrt{2}, F_\pi$) (via short-distance constraints) vs.
(0.16, 0.065, 0.12) GeV
(via exp. decay widths $\rho \rightarrow e^+e^-$, $\rho \rightarrow \pi\pi$, $K^* \rightarrow K\pi$, $a_1 \rightarrow \pi\gamma$)
- additionally for Δa_μ (and spectrum):
 - ▶ uncertainty due to scheme dependence of $S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi}$

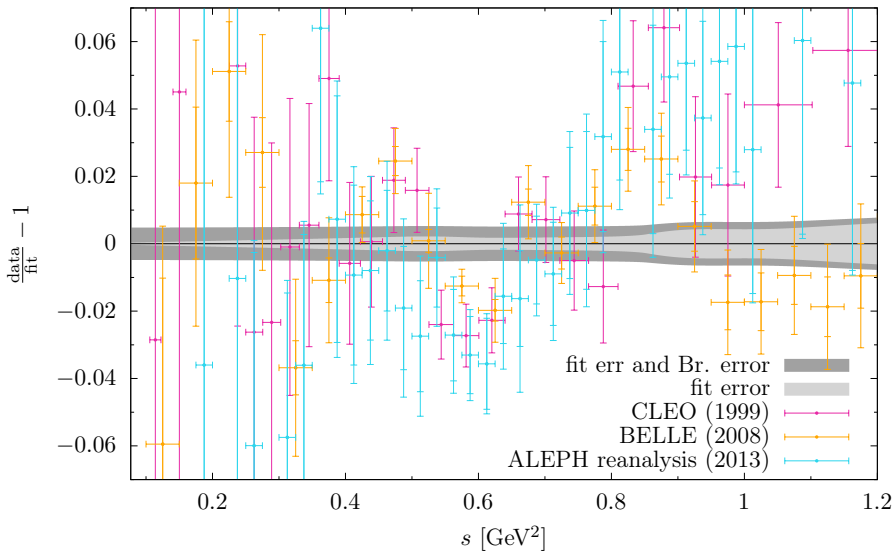
Fit results



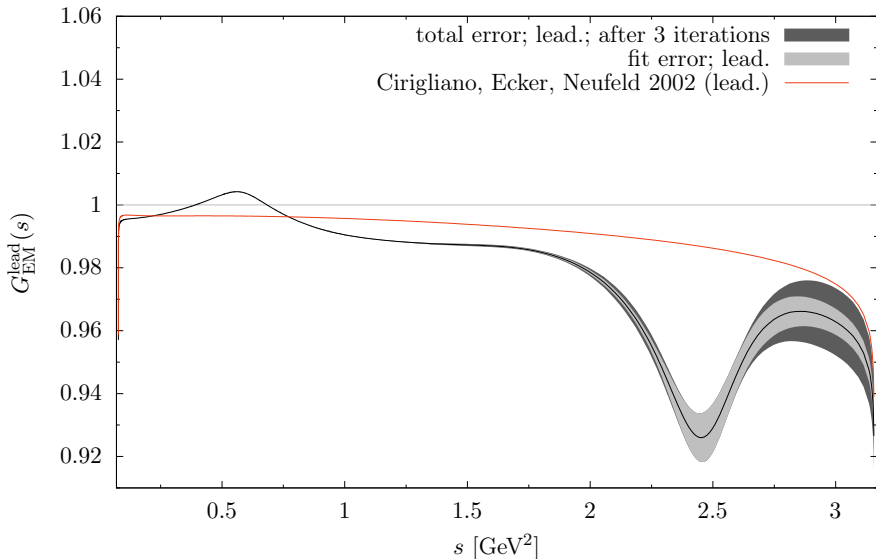
Fit results



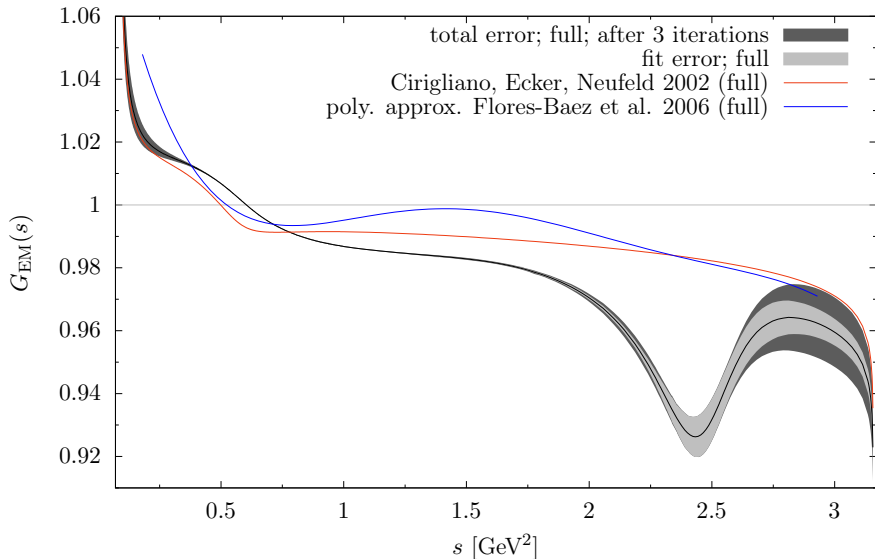
Fit results



G_{EM} results



G_{EM} results



IB corr. to $a_\mu^{\text{HVP, LO}}$ ($|F_\pi^V/f_+| = 1$) [PRELIM.]

- τ spectral function: $v_\tau(s) = S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi} \beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3(s) |f_+(s)|^2 G_{\text{EM}}(s)$

$$\Delta a_\mu^{\text{HVP, LO}}[\pi\pi, \tau] \big|_{r_{\text{IB}}} = \left(\frac{\alpha m_\mu}{3\pi} \right)^2 \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{m_\tau^2} ds \frac{\hat{K}(s)}{4s^2} \left[r_{\text{IB}}(s) - 1 \right] v_\tau(s)$$

$r_{\text{IB}}(s)$

$\Delta a_\mu \times 10^{10}$

IB corr. to $a_\mu^{\text{HVP, LO}}$ ($|F_\pi^V/f_+| = 1$) [PRELIM.]

- τ spectral function: $v_\tau(s) = S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi} \beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3(s) |f_+(s)|^2 G_{\text{EM}}(s)$

$$\Delta a_\mu^{\text{HVP, LO}}[\pi\pi, \tau] \big|_{r_{\text{IB}}} = \left(\frac{\alpha m_\mu}{3\pi} \right)^2 \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{m_\tau^2} ds \frac{\hat{K}(s)}{4s^2} \left[r_{\text{IB}}(s) - 1 \right] v_\tau(s)$$

$r_{\text{IB}}(s)$

$\Delta a_\mu \times 10^{10}$

$1/G_{\text{EM}}^{\text{lead}}(s)$

$-0.221 (6)_{\text{exp}} (10)_{\text{theo}}$

$1/G_{\text{EM}}^{\text{no RChT}}(s)$

$-3.163 (17)_{\text{exp}} (10)_{\text{theo}}$

IB corr. to $a_\mu^{\text{HVP, LO}}$ ($|F_\pi^V/f_+| = 1$) [PRELIM.]

- τ spectral function: $v_\tau(s) = S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi} \beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3(s) |f_+(s)|^2 G_{\text{EM}}(s)$

$$\Delta a_\mu^{\text{HVP, LO}}[\pi\pi, \tau] \big|_{r_{\text{IB}}} = \left(\frac{\alpha m_\mu}{3\pi} \right)^2 \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{m_\tau^2} ds \frac{\hat{K}(s)}{4s^2} \left[r_{\text{IB}}(s) - 1 \right] v_\tau(s)$$

$r_{\text{IB}}(s)$

$\Delta a_\mu \times 10^{10}$

$1/G_{\text{EM}}^{\text{lead}}(s)$

$-0.221 (6)_{\text{exp}} (10)_{\text{theo}}$

$1/G_{\text{EM}}^{\text{no RChT}}(s)$

$-3.163 (17)_{\text{exp}} (10)_{\text{theo}}$

$1/G_{\text{EM}}(s)$

$-3.39 (2)_{\text{exp}} (40)_{\text{theo}}$

IB corr. to $a_\mu^{\text{HVP, LO}}$ ($|F_\pi^V/f_+| = 1$) [PRELIM.]

- τ spectral function: $v_\tau(s) = S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi} \beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3(s) |f_+(s)|^2 G_{\text{EM}}(s)$

$$\Delta a_\mu^{\text{HVP, LO}}[\pi\pi, \tau] \big|_{r_{\text{IB}}} = \left(\frac{\alpha m_\mu}{3\pi} \right)^2 \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{m_\tau^2} ds \frac{\hat{K}(s)}{4s^2} \left[r_{\text{IB}}(s) - 1 \right] v_\tau(s)$$

$r_{\text{IB}}(s)$	$\Delta a_\mu \times 10^{10}$
$1/G_{\text{EM}}^{\text{lead}}(s)$	$-0.221 (6)_{\text{exp}} (10)_{\text{theo}}$
$1/G_{\text{EM}}^{\text{no RChT}}(s)$	$-3.163 (17)_{\text{exp}} (10)_{\text{theo}}$
$1/G_{\text{EM}}(s)$	$-3.39 (2)_{\text{exp}} (40)_{\text{theo}}$
$\beta_{\pi\pi}^3(s)/\beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3(s)$ [PS]	$-7.726 (37)_{\text{exp}} (4)_{\text{theo}}$
$1/S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi}$	$-12.2 (1)_{\text{exp}} (1.3)_{\text{scheme dep.}}$

IB corr. to $a_\mu^{\text{HVP, LO}}$ ($|F_\pi^V/f_+| = 1$) [PRELIM.]

- τ spectral function: $v_\tau(s) = S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi} \beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3(s) |f_+(s)|^2 G_{\text{EM}}(s)$

$$\Delta a_\mu^{\text{HVP, LO}}[\pi\pi, \tau] \big|_{r_{\text{IB}}} = \left(\frac{\alpha m_\mu}{3\pi} \right)^2 \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{m_\tau^2} ds \frac{\hat{K}(s)}{4s^2} \left[r_{\text{IB}}(s) - 1 \right] v_\tau(s)$$

$r_{\text{IB}}(s)$	$\Delta a_\mu \times 10^{10}$
$1/G_{\text{EM}}^{\text{lead}}(s)$	$-0.221 (6)_{\text{exp}} (10)_{\text{theo}}$
$1/G_{\text{EM}}^{\text{no RChT}}(s)$	$-3.163 (17)_{\text{exp}} (10)_{\text{theo}}$
$1/G_{\text{EM}}(s)$	$-3.39 (2)_{\text{exp}} (40)_{\text{theo}}$
$\beta_{\pi\pi}^3(s)/\beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3(s)$ [PS]	$-7.726 (37)_{\text{exp}} (4)_{\text{theo}}$
$1/S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi}$	$-12.2 (1)_{\text{exp}} (1.3)_{\text{scheme dep.}}$
sum of above	$-23.3 (1)_{\text{exp}} (4)_{\text{theo}} (1.3)_{\text{scheme dep.}}$
$\beta_{\pi\pi}^3(s)/(\beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3(s) G_{\text{EM}}(s) S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi})$	$-22.8 (1)_{\text{exp}} (4)_{\text{theo}} (1.3)_{\text{scheme dep.}}$

Comparison to previous works

Contributions to $\Delta a_{\mu}^{\text{HVP, LO}}[\pi\pi, \tau]$ [10^{-10}]:

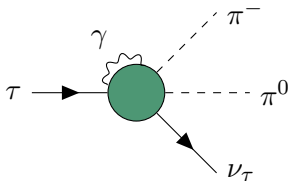
reference	PS	S_{EW}	G_{EM}	sum
this work [PRELIM.]	-7.73 (4)	-12.2 (1.3)	-3.39(40)	-23.3 (1.4)
DHMLZ 2024	-7.88	-12.21(15)	-1.92 (90)	-22.01 (91)
LMR 2025	-7.52	-12.16 (15)	$-1.67^{+0.60}_{-1.39}$	$-21.35^{+0.62}_{-1.40}$
WP 25	-7.7 (2)	-12.2 (1.3)	-2.0 (1.4)	-21.9 (1.9)

References:

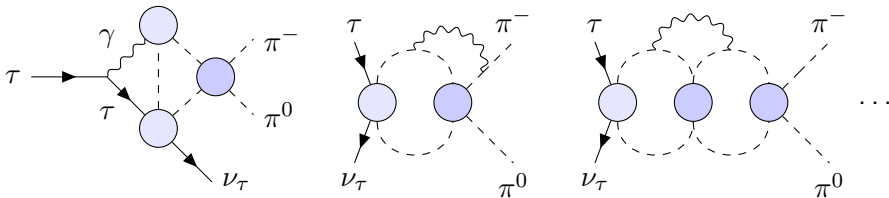
- DHMLZ 2024: Davier, Hoecker, Lutz, Malaescu, Zhang, Eur.Phys.J.**C84**, 721(2024)
- LMR 2025: López Castro, Miranda, Roig, Phys.Rev.**D111**, 073004 (2025)

Further contributions to dispersive calculation

general one-photon virtual corrections:



also include:



Work in progress → **Martina Cottini's talk tomorrow**

Conclusions and outlook

- **dispersive calculation** of leading effect in **radiative corrections** to $\tau^- \rightarrow \pi^- \pi^0 \nu_\tau$
 - ▶ G_{EM} correction: **structure dependent effects** prominent in resonance regions
 - ▶ **correct low-energy behavior** restored by **ChPT matching** procedure and connection to **LECs**
- reconstructed from **charged current form factor** f_+
 - ▶ representation fulfills **analyticity constraints**
 - ▶ beyond **two-body unitarity** included **explicit inelasticities** due to ρ' , ρ''
 - ▶ fitted to **experimental spectra**
- for Δa_μ sum of contributions considered here:
 $-23.3 (1.4) \times 10^{-10}$ vs. $-21.9 (1.9) \times 10^{-10}$ [WP25]
 - ▶ however $\mathcal{O}(e^4)$ **effects** in full Δa_μ integrand give significant contribution ($\sim 0.5 \times 10^{-10}$) due to G_{EM} **threshold behavior**
- **in the future: fully consistent matching** between G_{EM} and $S_{\text{EW}} \rightarrow$ significant reduction of uncertainty
- in this talk $|F_\pi^V(s)/f_+(s)|$ in Δa_μ integrand ignored, more discussion $\rightarrow$ **Martina Cottini's talk tomorrow**

Backup

$\mathcal{O}(e^4)$ effects in linearization of Δa_μ integrand

Notation: $M_{\pi^0}^2 = M_\pi^2 - e^2 \Delta_M$, $S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi} = 1 + e^2 \Delta S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi}$, $G_{\text{EM}} = 1 + e^2 \Delta G_{\text{EM}}$

Then difference of linearized and full integrand:

$$\left[\left(\frac{1}{G_{\text{EM}}} - 1 \right) + \left(\frac{\beta_{\pi\pi}^3}{\beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3} - 1 \right) + \left(\frac{1}{S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi}} - 1 \right) - \left(\frac{\beta_{\pi\pi}^3}{\beta_{\pi\pi^0}^3} \frac{1}{S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi} G_{\text{EM}}} - 1 \right) \right] v_\tau$$
$$= -e^4 \frac{\sqrt{s - 4M_\pi^2}}{s^{3/2}} \left[(s - 4M_\pi^2) \Delta G_{\text{EM}} \Delta S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi} + 3\Delta_M (\Delta G_{\text{EM}} + \Delta S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi}) \right] |f_+(s)|^2 + \mathcal{O}(e^6),$$

- ΔG_{EM} diverges at threshold $\rightarrow$ rather large effect on integral

Note on RChT contribution

In RChT: [Ecker et al. 1989](#)

$$\Gamma(a_1^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \gamma) = \frac{e^2 F_A^2 m_{a_1}}{96 \pi F_\pi^2} \left(1 - \frac{M_\pi^2}{m_{a_1}^2}\right)^3$$

- with $\Gamma(a_1) = 640 \text{ (246) keV}$ [\[Zielinski et al. 1984\]](#) $\rightarrow F_A = 0.12 \text{ (2) GeV}$
- on the other hand, short-distance constraints [\[Ecker et al. 1989\]](#):
 $F_A = F_\pi \approx 0.92 \text{ GeV}$

Alternative extraction via $a_1 \rightarrow \pi \rho \rightarrow \pi \gamma$

$$\Gamma(a_1^\pm \rightarrow \pi^\pm \gamma) = \frac{e^2 |\tilde{g}_{a_1 \rho \pi}|^2 m_{a_1}^3}{96 \pi g_{\rho \gamma}^2} \left(1 - \frac{M_\pi^2}{m_{a_1}^2}\right)^3$$

- assuming total width as $a_1 \rightarrow 3\pi$, get $\tilde{g}_{a_1 \rho \pi}$
- $\Gamma_{a_1} = 0.25 \dots 0.6 \text{ GeV}$ [PDG 2024](#) $\rightarrow F_A = 0.083 \dots 0.13 \text{ GeV}$

In RChT contribution to G_{EM} : addtly. include interference with ω exchange diagram [\[Fig. 2\(g\) in Flores-Tlapa et al. 2005\]](#) as suggested in [\[Davier et al. 2009\]](#)

Scheme dependence in S_{EW} : WP25 prescription

- at next-to-leading log (NLL), Wilson coefficients acquire a scheme dependence of $\mathcal{O}(\alpha/\pi)$
- to be absorbed by long-range correction, in this case $G_{\text{EM}}(s)$
- current result (in the context of β decays) $S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi} = 1.0233(3)$ [Cirigliano et al. 2023] scheme dependence factored out, assumed to be absorbed
 - at the moment, no control over scheme dependence in $G_{\text{EM}}(s)$ (LECs)
- take ambiguity in the decay rate as $\alpha(m_\tau)/\pi \sim 0.24\%$
 $\Rightarrow S_{\text{EW}}^{\pi\pi} = 1.0233(3) (24)$

Numerical treatment of IR-divergent

$$D_0(m_\tau^2, M_\pi^2, M_\pi^2, 0, t, s, m_\tau^2, 0, M_\pi^2, s'')$$

Singularity at $s'' = s$:

$$D_0(s, t) = \frac{1}{s'' - s} \left[2d_0(t) \log \frac{s''}{s'' - s} + D_0^{\text{rest}}(t, s'') \right]$$

$$f_+(s, t) \supset \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{\infty} ds'' \operatorname{Im} f_+(s'') \left(\frac{p_1(s, t) + p_2(s, t)s''}{s'' - s} \right) \times \\ \left[2d_0(t) \log \frac{s''}{s'' - s} + D_0^{\text{rest}}(t, s'') \right],$$

$$I_{\ell 1}(s, \Lambda^2) = 2 \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{\Lambda^2} ds'' \log \frac{s''}{s'' - s}, \quad I_{\ell 2}(s) = 2 \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{\infty} ds'' \frac{1}{s'' - s - i\epsilon} \log \frac{s''}{s'' - s - i\epsilon}$$

- IR-divergences in **dim-reg**
- **application:** $e^+e^- \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$ asymmetry
 - ▶ simplified imaginary part in [Colangelo et al, '22], no scheme ambiguity
 - ▶ see new results in [Budassi et al, '24]

Endpoint singularities in the phase space

$$f_+^{\text{box}, F_\pi^V}(s, t) = f_+^{\text{fin}}(s, t) + \frac{N(s, t)}{s(t - t_{\min})(t - t_{\max})}$$

→ endpoint singularity in the t phase space integral **BUT** numerically showed that the two infinities cancel → finite result.

Analytically:

$$\begin{aligned} N(s, t) &= (t - t_{\max})N_+(s, t) \\ &= (t - t_{\max})(N_+(s, t) - N_+(s, t_{\min})) \\ &= (t - t_{\max})(t - t_{\min})\bar{N}(s, t) . \end{aligned}$$

→ expand $\bar{N}(s, t)$ around $t = t_{\max/\min}$ when the integration in t is close to the boundaries $t_{\max/\min}$.

- can show that $\bar{N}(s, t_{\max/\min}) = 0$ by relation between Passarino–Veltman C_0 's and D_0 's at that kinematic point Denner 1993
- intimately related to regular threshold behavior of (IR-finite) dispersive box contribution to G_{EM}

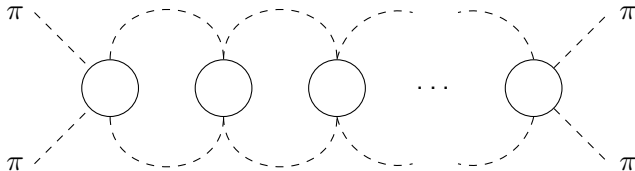
Pion Vector Form Factor

$$\text{disc} \left[\begin{array}{c} \pi^+ \\ \pi^- \end{array} \right] \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \text{---} F_\pi^V \text{---} \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \gamma^* = \begin{array}{c} \pi^+ \\ \pi^- \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \text{---} \mathcal{T}_I \text{---} \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \text{---} F_\pi^V \text{---} \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \gamma^*$$

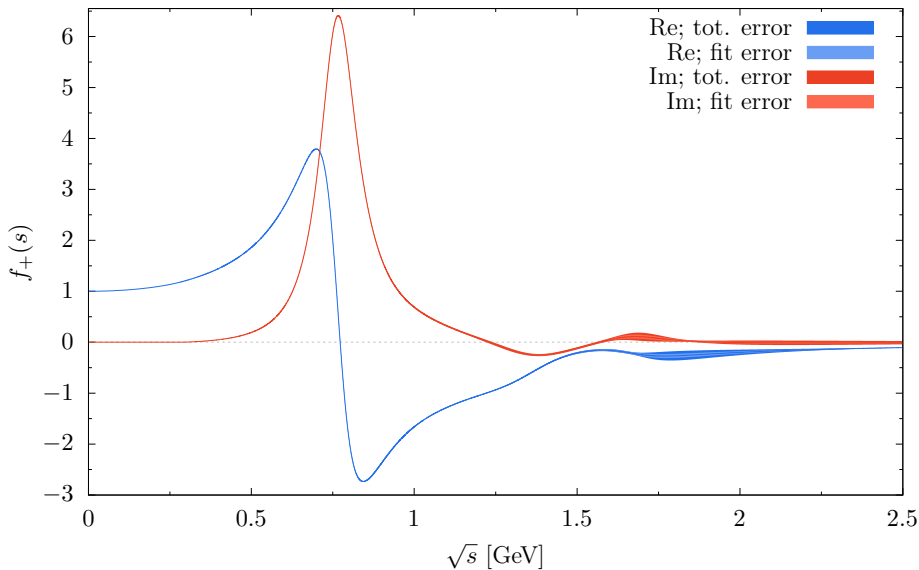
- solution of **discontinuity** equation: **Omnès 1958**

$$F_\pi^V(s) = R(s)\Omega(s) , \quad \Omega(s) = \exp \left(\frac{s}{\pi} \int_{4M_\pi^2}^{\infty} \frac{\delta(\omega)}{\omega(\omega - s)} d\omega \right)$$

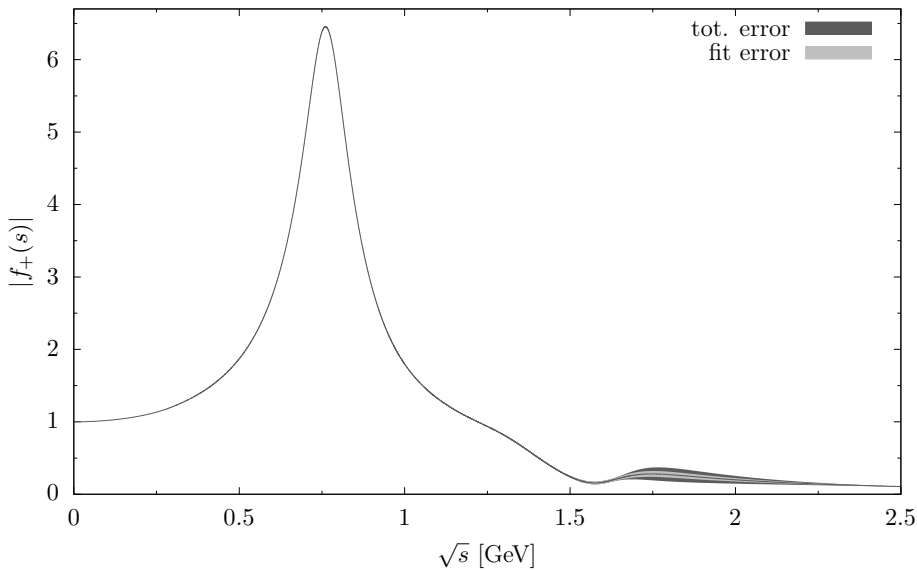
- δ : $I = 1$ $\pi\pi$ P -wave phase shift



f_+ Plots



f_+ Plots



f_+ Plots

