

Results and opportunities in pion and muon decays

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Outline

Overview and status of allowed π and μ decays

Pion beta decay: $\pi^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ \nu$

Radiative pion decay: $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu \gamma$

Allowed muon decays: ordinary and radiative

The π_{e2} decay: $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu$

Summary

Known and measured pion and muon decays

Decay	BR	
$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu$	0.9998770 (4)	($\pi_{\mu 2}$)
$\mu^+ \nu \gamma$	$2.00 (25) \times 10^{-4}$	($\pi_{\mu 2\gamma}$)
$e^+ \nu$	$1.230 (4) \times 10^{-4}$	(π_{e2}) ✓
$e^+ \nu \gamma$	$1.61 (23) \times 10^{-7}$	($\pi_{e2\gamma}$) ✓
$\pi^0 e^+ \nu$	$1.025 (34) \times 10^{-8}$	(π_{e3}, π_β) ✓
$e^+ \nu e^+ e^-$	$3.2 (5) \times 10^{-9}$	(π_{e2ee})
$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma \gamma$	0.98798 (32)	✓
$e^+ e^- \gamma$	$1.198 (32) \times 10^{-2}$	(Dalitz)
$e^+ e^- e^+ e^-$	$3.14 (30) \times 10^{-5}$	
$e^+ e^-$	$6.2 (5) \times 10^{-8}$	
$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu \bar{\nu}$	~ 1.0	✓
$e^+ \nu \bar{\nu} \gamma$	0.014 (4)	✓
$e^+ \nu \bar{\nu} e^+ e^-$	$3.4 (4) \times 10^{-5}$	

Pions, muons, fundamental interactions & symmetries

- ▶ Why isn't $\pi \rightarrow e$ the dominant decay mode?
Deep link to **V – A** nature of the **weak interaction** \iff **PV**;
- ▶ Pion triplet (π^+ , π^0 , π^-), are the **Goldstone bosons** in the spontaneous breaking of **Chiral Symmetry**;
- ▶ Explicit breaking of χS : $m_\pi^2 \propto m_q$ (Gell-Mann–Oakes–Renner rel.);
- ▶ **Conserved Vector Current**: \iff **SU(2)_V**;
- ▶ Why is the beta energy spectrum in $\mu \rightarrow e$ decay continuous (3-body decay, **NO** $\mu \rightarrow e\gamma$)? \Rightarrow **Lepton Flavor Conservation**.

Today there are **many** excellent precise measurements exploring these topics: **FAST**, **MEG**, **MULAN**, **Muon(g-2)**, **TWIST**, ...

Recent π , μ allowed decay measurements

- ▶ $\pi^+ \rightarrow \pi^0 e^+ \nu_e$ PIBETA ('99–'01)
 - SM checks related to CKM unitarity
- ▶ $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \gamma$ (or $e^+ e^-$) PIBETA ('99–'04), PEN ('06–)
 - F_A/F_V , π polarizability (χ PT calibration)
 - tensor coupling besides $\mathbf{V} - \mathbf{A}$ (?)
- ▶ $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \bar{\nu}_\mu$ TWIST (2003–04)
 - departures from $\mathbf{V} - \mathbf{A}$ in $\mathcal{L}_{\text{weak}}$
- ▶ $\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \bar{\nu}_\mu \gamma$ (or $e^+ e^-$) PIBETA ('04), PEN ('06–)
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- ▶ $\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e$ { PEN (2006–)
PiENu ('06–)
 - $e-\mu$ universality
 - pseudoscalar coupling besides $\mathbf{V} - \mathbf{A}$
 - ν sector anomalies, Majoron searches, m_{h+} , PS $\mathbf{l}\cdot\mathbf{q}$'s, $V \mathbf{l}\cdot\mathbf{q}$'s, ...
 - search for signs of SUSY (MSSM)

Pion beta decay:



(PIBETA: 1999–2001 runs)

Quark-Lepton (Cabibbo) Universality

The basic weak-interaction **V-A** form (e.g., μ decay):

$$\mathcal{M} \propto \langle e | l^\alpha | \nu_e \rangle \rightarrow \bar{u}_e \gamma^\alpha (1 - \gamma_5) u_\nu$$

is replicated in hadronic weak decays

$$\mathcal{M} \propto \langle p | h^\alpha | n \rangle \rightarrow \bar{u}_p \gamma^\alpha (G_V - G_A \gamma_5) u_n \quad \text{with} \quad G_{V,A} \simeq 1.$$

Departure from $G_V = 1$ (**CVC**) comes from **weak quark (Cabibbo)** mixing: $G_V = G_\mu \cos \theta_C (= G_\mu V_{ud}) \quad \cos \theta_C \simeq 0.97$

3 **q** generations lead to the Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) matrix (1973):

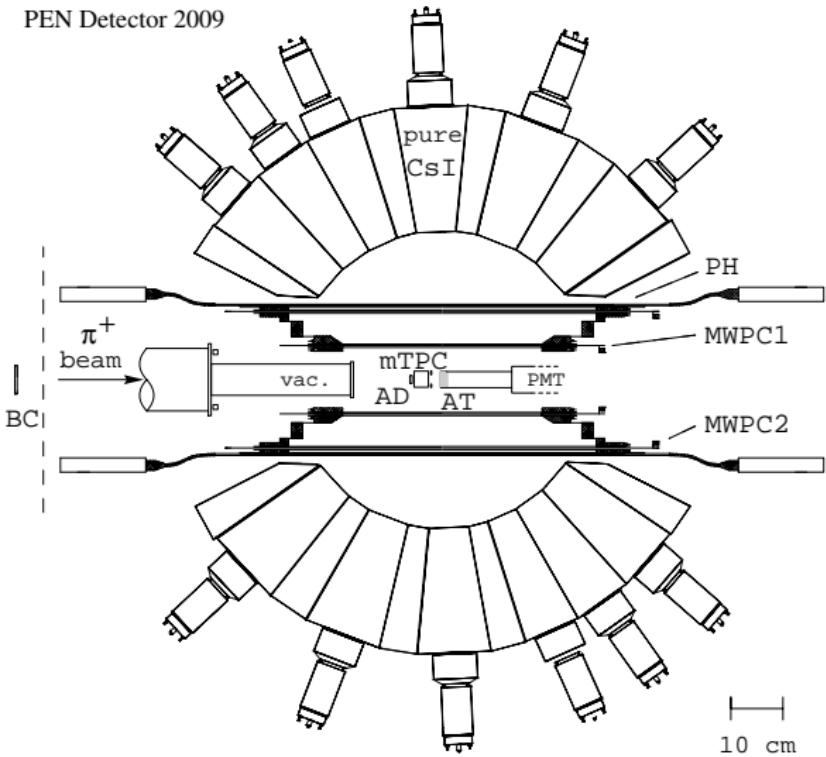
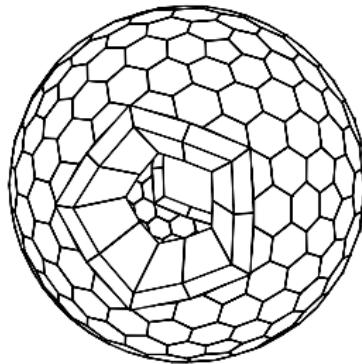
$$\begin{pmatrix} V_{ud} & V_{us} & V_{ub} \\ V_{cd} & V_{cs} & V_{cb} \\ V_{td} & V_{ts} & V_{tb} \end{pmatrix}$$

CKM unitarity cond.: $\Delta V^2 = 1 - (|V_{ud}|^2 + |V_{us}|^2 + |V_{ub}|^2) \stackrel{?}{=} 0$, stringently tests the SM.

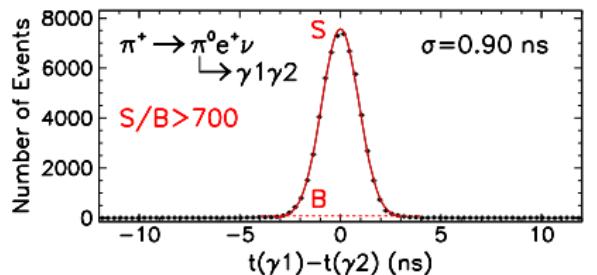
Prior to 2004 there was a **persistent $\sim 2.5\sigma$ shortfall** in ΔV^2 , motivating many experiments to determine CKM m.e.'s, esp. V_{ud} and V_{us} .

The PIBETA/PEN apparatus

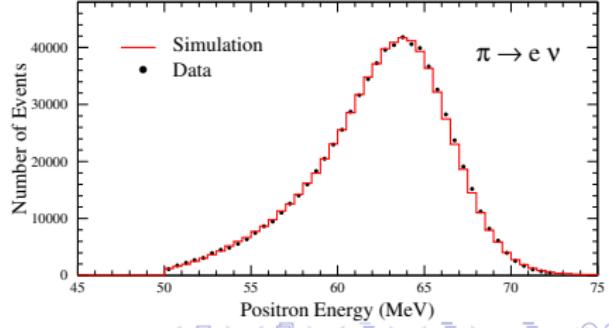
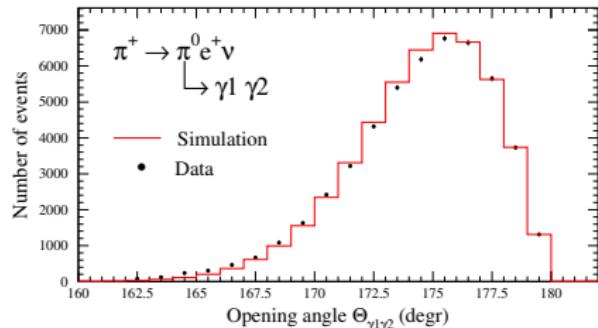
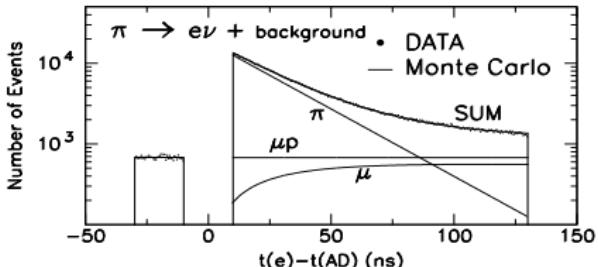
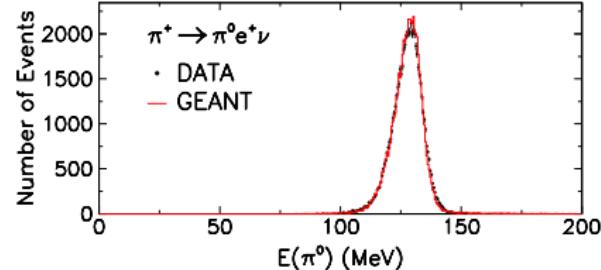
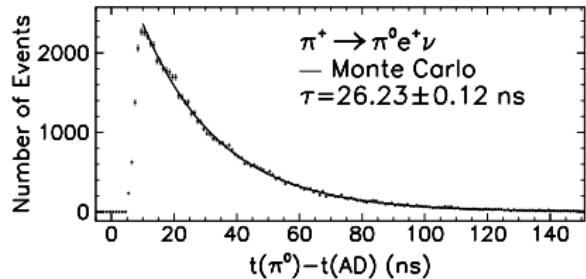
stopped π^+ beam
 active target counter
 240-det. CsI calorimeter
 central tracking
 digitized waveforms
 stable temp./humidity



Pion beta decay



The apparatus and method



PIBETA result for π_β decay [PRL 93, 181803 (2004)]

$$B_{\pi\beta}^{\text{exp-t}} = [1.040 \pm 0.004 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.004 \text{ (syst)}] \times 10^{-8},$$

$$B_{\pi\beta}^{\text{exp-e}} = [1.036 \pm 0.004 \text{ (stat)} \pm 0.004 \text{ (syst)} \pm 0.003 \text{ (\pi_{e2})}] \times 10^{-8},$$

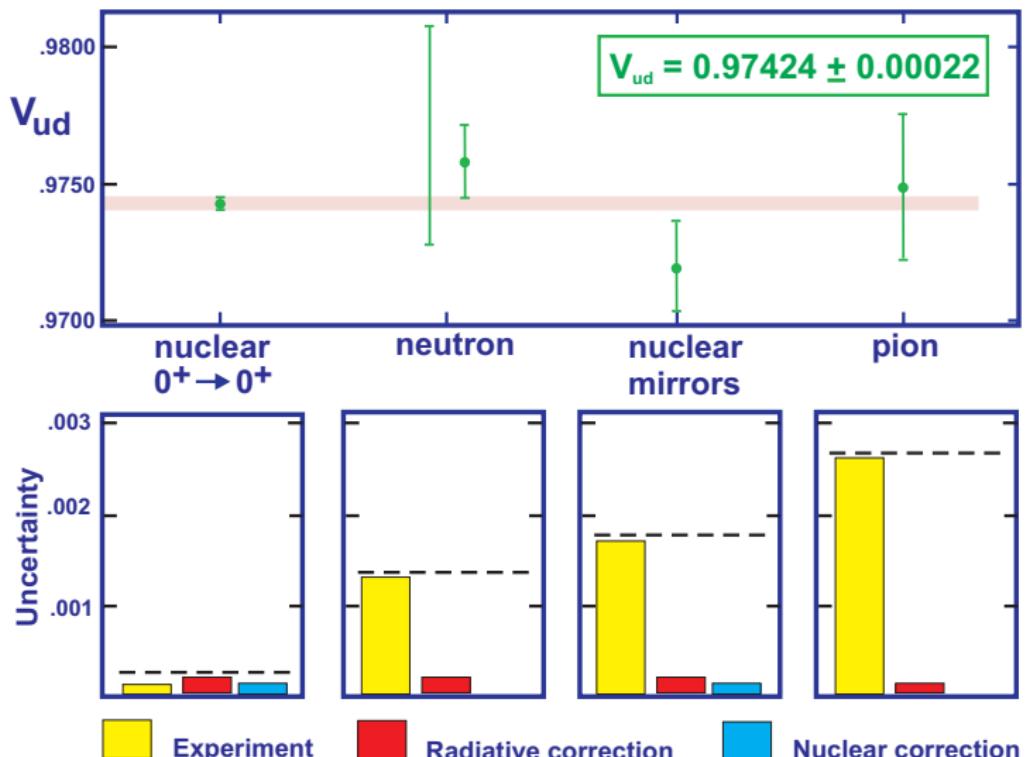
McFarlane et al. [PRD 1985]: $B = (1.026 \pm 0.039) \times 10^{-8}$

SM Prediction (PDG):

$$B = \begin{aligned} & 1.038 - 1.041 \times 10^{-8} && (90\% \text{ C.L.}) \\ & (1.005 - 1.007 \times 10^{-8} && \text{excl. rad. corr.}) \end{aligned}$$

PDG 2008: $V_{ud} = 0.9742(3)$

PIBETA: $V_{ud} = 0.9748(25)$ or $V_{ud} = 0.9728(30)$.

Present Status of V_{ud} 

(Courtesy of John Hardy, May 2009)

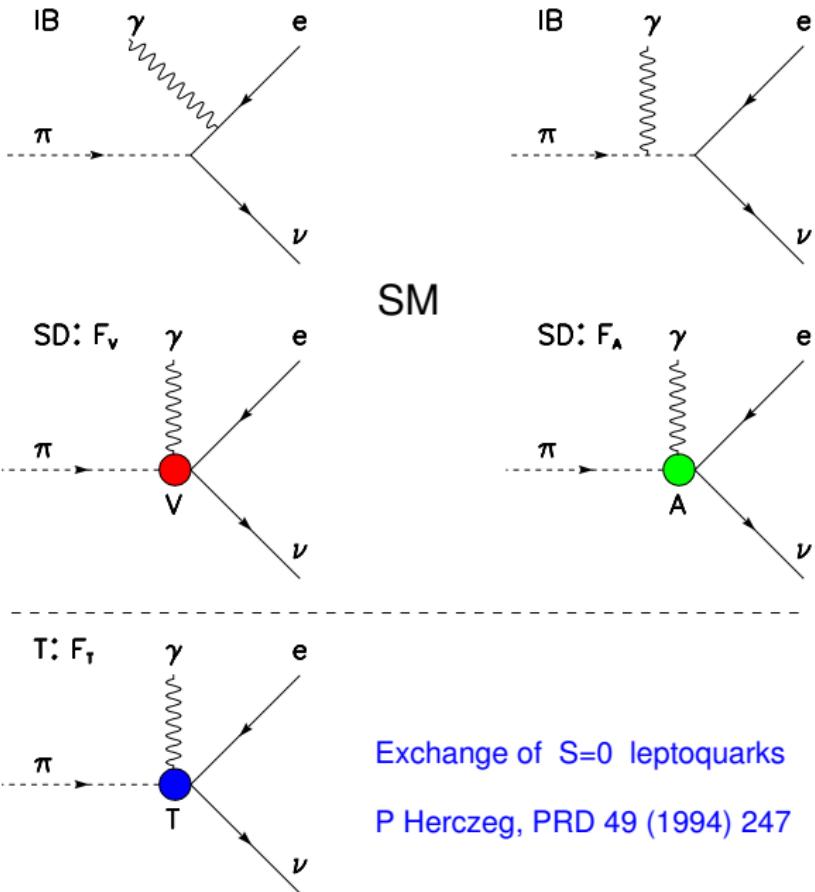
Radiative pion decay:



PIBETA: 1999-2001 & 2004 runs
(PEN: 2008–2010 runs)

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu \gamma:$$

Standard **IB** and
V – A terms



A tensor
interaction, too?

Exchange of $S=0$ leptoquarks
P Herczeg, PRD 49 (1994) 247

The $\pi \rightarrow e\nu\gamma$ amplitude and FF's

The IB amplitude (QED):

$$M_{IB} = -i \frac{eG_F V_{ud}}{\sqrt{2}} f_\pi m_e \epsilon^{\mu*} \bar{e} \left(\frac{k_\mu}{kq} - \frac{p_\mu}{pq} + \frac{\sigma_{\mu\nu} q^\nu}{2kq} \right) \times (1 - \gamma_5) \nu .$$

The structure-dependent amplitude:

$$M_{SD} = \frac{eG_F V_{ud}}{m_\pi \sqrt{2}} \epsilon^{\nu*} \bar{e} \gamma^\mu (1 - \gamma_5) \nu \times [F_V \epsilon_{\mu\nu\sigma\tau} p^\sigma q^\tau + i F_A (g_{\mu\nu} pq - p_\nu q_\mu)] .$$

The SM branching ratio ($\gamma \equiv F_A/F_V$; $x = 2E_\gamma/m_\pi$; $y = 2E_e/m_\pi$),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\Gamma_{\pi e 2\gamma}}{dx dy} = & \frac{\alpha}{2\pi} \Gamma_{\pi e 2} \left\{ IB(x, y) + \left(\frac{F_V m_\pi^2}{2f_\pi m_e} \right)^2 \right. \\ & \times [(1 + \gamma)^2 SD^+(x, y) + (1 - \gamma)^2 SD^-(x, y)] \\ & + \left. \left(\frac{F_V m_\pi}{f_\pi} \right) [(1 + \gamma) S_{\text{int}}^+(x, y) + (1 - \gamma) S_{\text{int}}^-(x, y)] \right\} . \end{aligned}$$

Available data on pion form factors

$$|F_V| \stackrel{\text{CVC}}{=} \frac{1}{\alpha} \sqrt{\frac{2\Gamma(\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma)}{\pi m_{\pi^0}}} = 0.0259(9) .$$

$F_A \times 10^4$	reference	note
106 ± 60	Bolotov et al. (1990)	$(F_T = -56 \pm 17)$
135 ± 16	Bay et al. (1986)	
60 ± 30	Piilonen et al. (1986)	
110 ± 30	Stetz et al. (1979)	
116 ± 16	world average (PDG 2004)	

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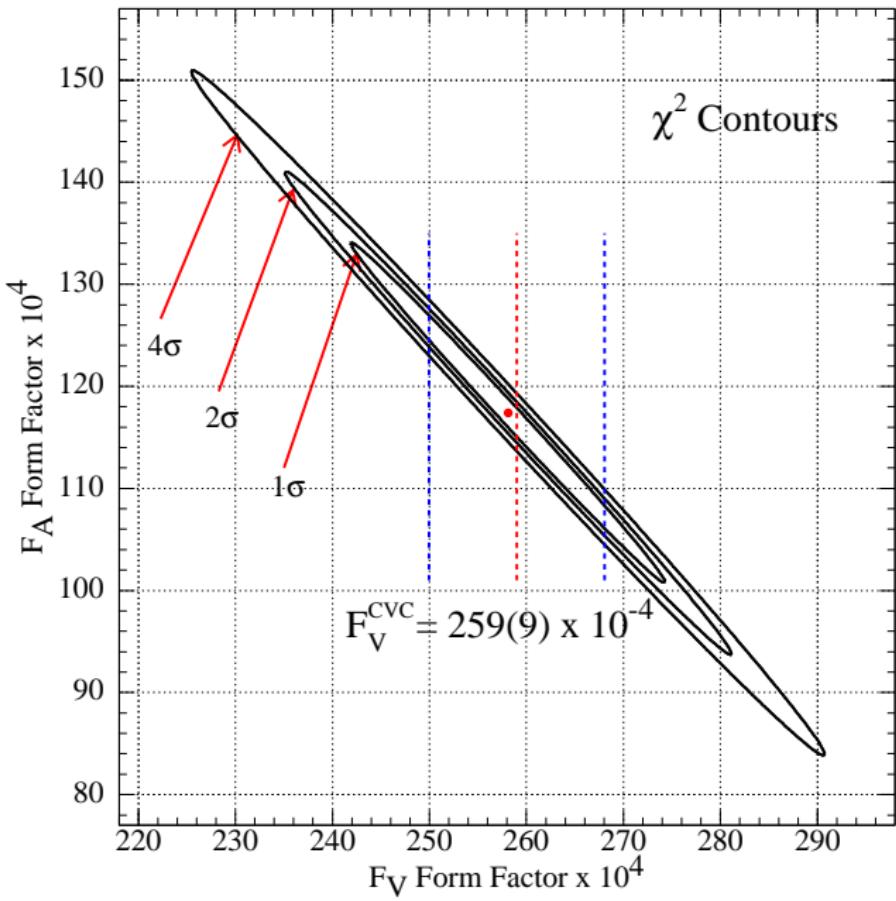
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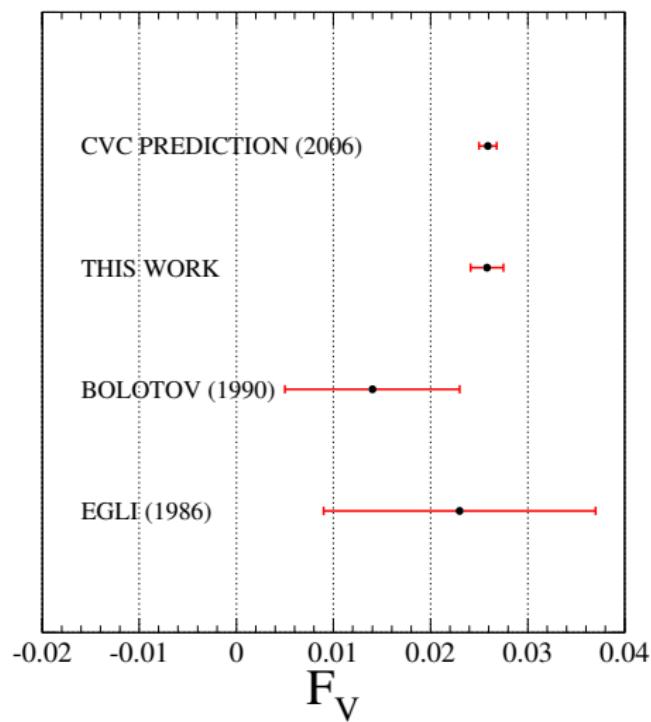
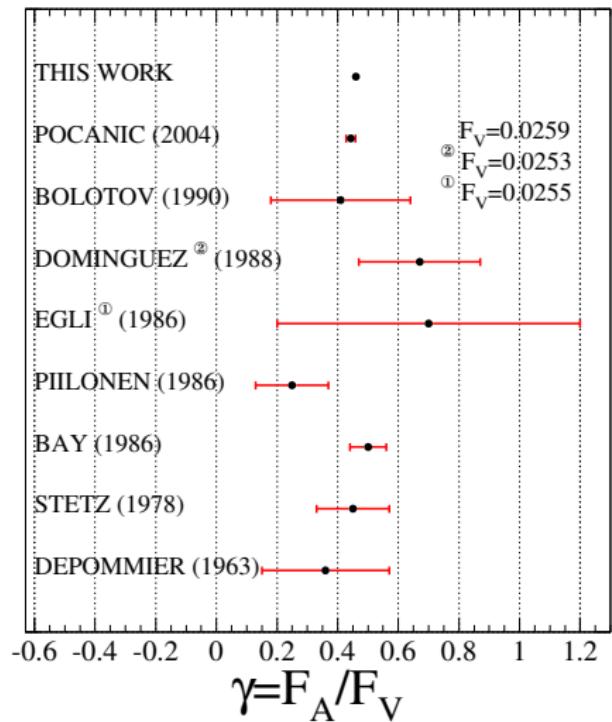


Best values of pion form factor parameters:

Combined analysis of 1999-2001 and 2004 data sets

M. Bychkov, et al.,
PRL 103 (2009)
051802.

Experimental history of pion F_A and F_V



Summary of pion form factor and B.R. results

$$F_V = 0.0258 \pm 0.0017 \quad (14\times)$$

$$F_A = 0.0119 \pm 0.0001_{(F_V^{\text{CVC}})}^{\text{exp}} \quad (16\times)$$

$$a = 0.10 \pm 0.06 \quad (\infty)$$

$$-5.2 \times 10^{-4} < F_T < 4.0 \times 10^{-4} \quad 90\% \text{ C.L.}$$

Derived pion polarizability and π^0 lifetime (at L.O.):

$$\alpha_E = -\beta_M = (2.783 \pm 0.023_{\text{exp}}) \times 10^{-4} \text{ fm}^3$$

$$\tau_{\pi^0} = (8.5 \pm 1.1) \times 10^{-17} \text{ s} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{current PDG avg: } 8.4(5) \\ \text{PrimEx p'print: } 8.32(23) \end{array} \right.$$

$$B_{\pi e 2\gamma}(E_\gamma > 10 \text{ MeV}, \theta_{e\gamma} > 40^\circ) = 73.86(54) \times 10^{-8} \quad (17\times)$$

Above results will be improved with new PEN data and analysis.

Allowed muon decays:

$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \bar{\nu}_\mu$ (TWIST 2003–05)

$\mu^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu_e \bar{\nu}_\mu \gamma$ (PIBETA 2004,
PEN 2008–10)

Michel parameters of muon decay: $\mu \rightarrow e\nu_\mu\bar{\nu}_e$

$$\frac{d^2\Gamma}{dx d(\cos\theta)} = \frac{m_\mu}{4\pi^3} W_{e\mu}^4 G_F^2 \sqrt{x^2 - x_0^2} \times \\ \times [\mathbf{F}_{IS}(x) + P_{\mu^+} \cos\theta \mathbf{F}_{AS}(x)] \left[1 + \vec{P}_{e^+}(x, \theta) \cdot \hat{\zeta} \right]$$

Isotropic part:

$$\mathbf{F}_{IS}(x) = x(1-x) + \frac{2}{9}\rho(4x^2 - 3x - x_0^2) + \eta x_0(1-x)$$

Anisotropic part:

$$\mathbf{F}_{AS}(x) = \frac{1}{3}\xi\sqrt{x^2 - x_0^2} \left(1 - x + \frac{2}{3}\delta \left[4x - 3 + \left(\sqrt{1 - x_0^2} - 1 \right) \right] \right)$$

Michel parameters of radiative muon decay: $\mu \rightarrow e\nu_\mu\bar{\nu}_e\gamma$

$$\frac{d^3B(x, y, \theta)}{dx dy 2\pi d(\cos \theta)} = f_1(x, y, \theta) + \bar{\eta}f_2(x, y, \theta) + (1 - \frac{4}{3}\rho)f_3(x, y, \theta)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rho &= \frac{3}{4} - \frac{3}{4} \left[|g_{LR}^V|^2 + |g_{RL}^V|^2 + 2|g_{LR}^T|^2 + 2|g_{RL}^T|^2 \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \Re(g_{RL}^S g_{RL}^{T*} + g_{LR}^S g_{LR}^{T*}) \right] \stackrel{\text{SM}}{\equiv} \frac{3}{4}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\eta} &= \left(|g_{RL}^V|^2 + |g_{LR}^V|^2 \right) + \frac{1}{8} \left(|g_{LR}^S + 2g_{LR}^T|^2 + |g_{RL}^S + 2g_{RL}^T|^2 \right) \\ &\quad + 2 \left(|g_{LR}^T|^2 + |g_{RL}^T|^2 \right) \stackrel{\text{SM}}{\equiv} 0. \end{aligned}$$

Experimental Limits (90 % C.L.) on $\mathbf{g}_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma$

$ g_{\alpha\beta}^\gamma $	S	V	T
LL	0.550	>0.960	$\equiv 0$
LR	0.088	0.036	0.025
RL	0.417	0.104	0.104
RR	0.067	0.034	$\equiv 0$
max. values:	$ g_{\alpha\beta}^S $ ≤ 2	$ g_{\alpha\beta}^V $ ≤ 1	$ g_{\alpha\beta}^T $ $\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \approx 0.58$

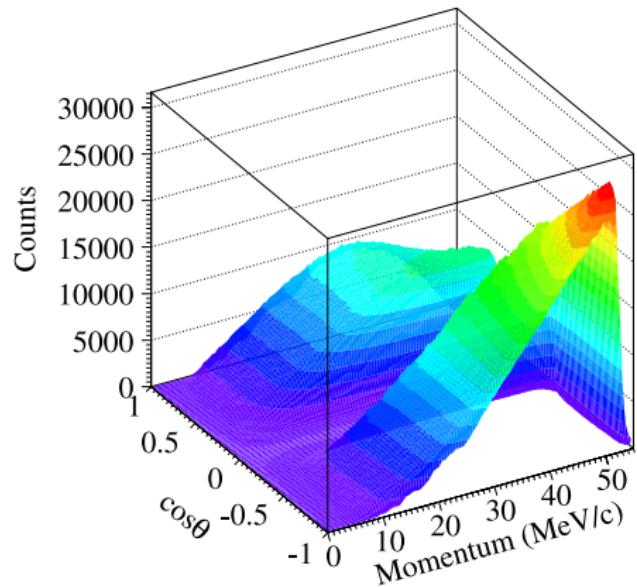
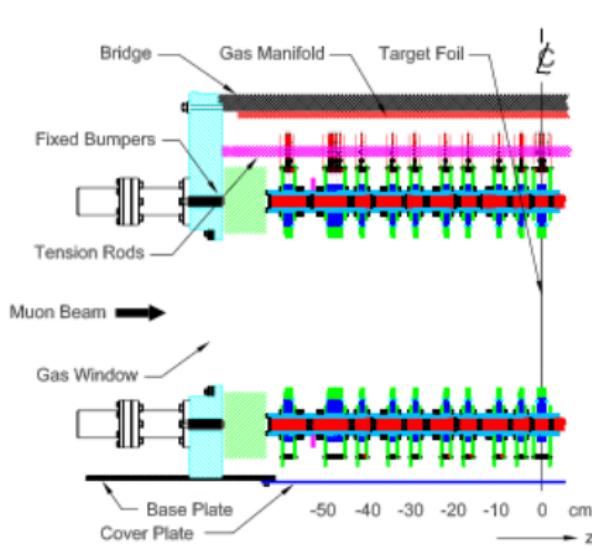
[Most recent global fit by C.A Gagliardi et al., PR D **72** (2005) 073002]

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OMD study: TWIST experiment (TRIUMF)

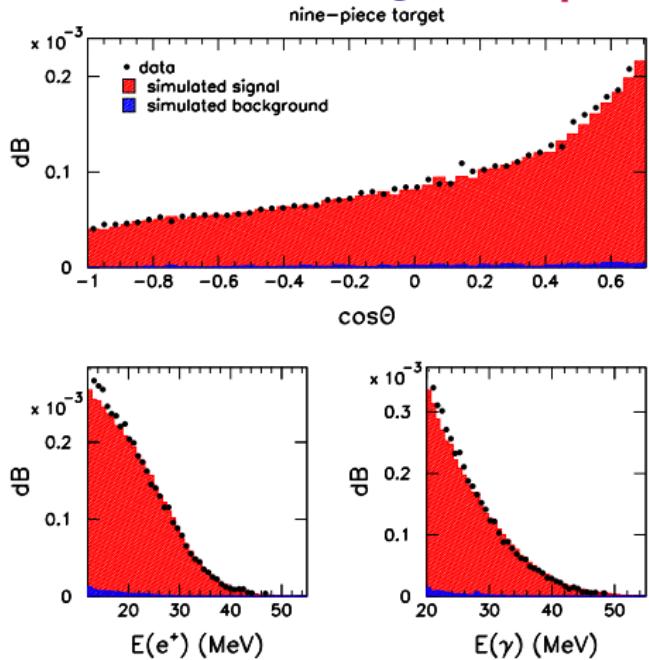


Main results:

$$\rho = 0.7501(5) \quad \text{and} \quad \delta = 0.7507(7),$$

MacDonald, et al., Phys. Rev. D 78 (2008) 032010.

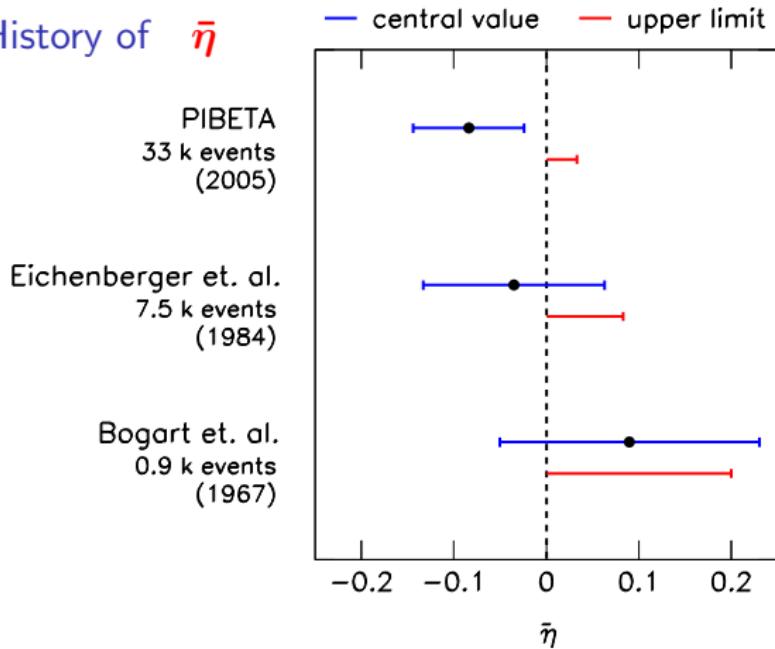
RMD differential branching ratio [B. VanDevender, PhD thesis]



$$B^{\text{exp}} = [4.40 \pm 0.02 \text{ (stat.)} \pm 0.09 \text{ (syst.)}] \times 10^{-3}$$

14!

$$B^{\text{theo}} = 4.30 \times 10^{-3} \quad (E_\gamma > 10 \text{ MeV}, \theta > 30^\circ)$$

Experimental History of $\bar{\eta}$ 

PIBETA preliminary (B. VanDevender, PhD thesis; 2004 data set):

$$\bar{\eta} = -0.084 \pm 0.050(\text{stat.}) \pm 0.034(\text{syst.})$$

$\Rightarrow \bar{\eta} \leq 0.033$; new world average: $\boxed{\bar{\eta} \leq 0.028}$ (68 % c.l.)

reduced by a factor of 2.5.

The π_{e2} decay:

$$\pi^+ \rightarrow e^+ \nu$$

PEN and PiENu experiments (2006–)

$\pi \rightarrow e\nu$ decay: SM calculations; measurements

Modern theoretical calculations: $B_{\text{calc}} = \frac{\Gamma(\pi \rightarrow e\bar{\nu}(\gamma))}{\Gamma(\pi \rightarrow \mu\bar{\nu}(\gamma))}_{\text{calc}} =$

- | | |
|--|--|
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Finkemeier, [PL B 387 (1996) 391]
Cirigliano and Rosell, [PRL 99 , 231801 (2007)] |
|--|--|

Experiment, world average [current PDG]:

$$\frac{\Gamma(\pi \rightarrow e\bar{\nu}(\gamma))}{\Gamma(\pi \rightarrow \mu\bar{\nu}(\gamma))}_{\text{exp}} = (1.230 \pm 0.004) \times 10^{-4}$$

N.B.:

PEN, PiENu aim at: $\frac{\delta B}{B} \simeq 5 \times 10^{-4}$

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π_{e2} Decay and the SM

$B(\pi_{e2})$ in SM dominated by $(V - A)$ helicity suppression. Deviations primarily due to PS int. terms. Most general 4-fermion π_{e2} amplitude:

$$\frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}} \left[(\bar{d} \gamma_\mu \gamma^5 u) (\bar{\nu}_e \gamma^\mu \gamma^5 (1 - \gamma^5) e) f_{AL}^e + f_{PL}^e (\bar{d} \gamma^5 u) (\bar{\nu}_e \gamma^5 (1 - \gamma^5) e) \right] + \text{r.h. } \nu \text{ term}$$

In the SM: $f_{AL}^\ell = 1$, while $f_{xR}^\ell = f_{Px}^\ell = 0$, with $\ell = e, \mu$.

Strong helicity suppression amplifies sensitivity to f_{PL}^e :

$$\frac{B_{\pi e2}^{\text{obs}} - B_{\pi e2}^{\text{SM}}}{B_{\pi e2}^{\text{SM}}} = \frac{\Delta B}{B^{\text{SM}}} = \dots \simeq \frac{2m_\pi^2}{m_e(m_u + m_d)} f_{PL}^e \simeq \boxed{7700 f_{PL}^e} !$$

Tgt accuracy of the PEN experiment, $\Delta B/B \simeq 5 \times 10^{-4}$, translates into attractive mass limits:

Example mass bounds from PEN goal accuracy

(a) Charged Higgs, m_{H^+}

[Shanker, NP B204 (82) 375]

Given a mixing angle suppression $S \approx 10^{-2}$, we get

$$f_{PL}^e \approx S \frac{m_t m_\tau}{m_{H^+}^2} \quad \text{yielding} \quad m_{H^+} > 6.9 \text{ TeV}.$$

(b) Pseudoscalar leptoquarks, m_P

Given an estimated effective Yukawa coupling of $y \simeq 1/250$, we can find m_P , mass of the color-triplet PS $I\!-\!q$:

$$f_{PL}^e \approx \frac{\sqrt{2}}{G_F} \frac{y^2}{2m_P^2} \quad \text{yielding} \quad m_P > 3.8 \text{ TeV}.$$

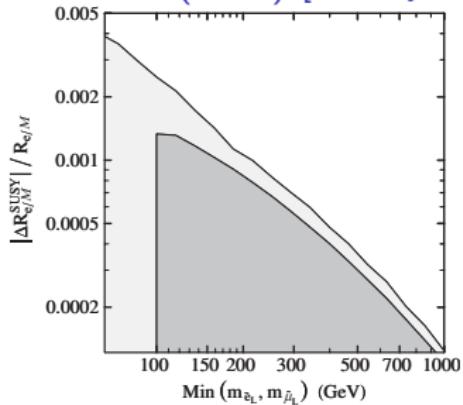
(c) Vector leptoquarks, M_G

Following Shanker who assumes gauge coupling $g \simeq g_{SU(2)}$, we get:

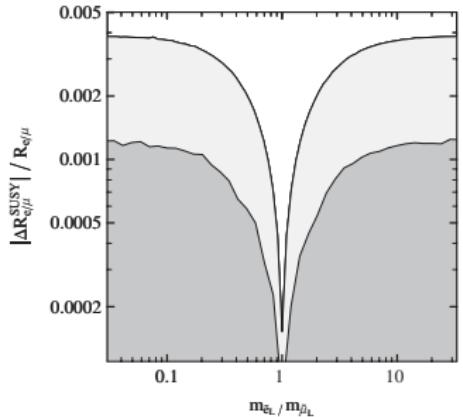
$$f_{PL}^e \approx \frac{4M_W^2}{M_G^2} \quad \text{yielding} \quad M_G > 630 \text{ TeV}.$$

MSSM calculations (RPC) [Ramsey-Musolf et al., PR D76 (2007) 095017]

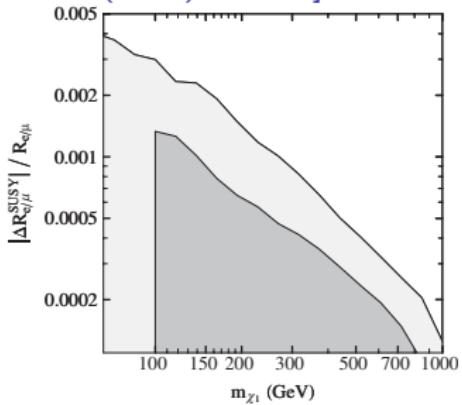
minimal selectron, smuon masses:



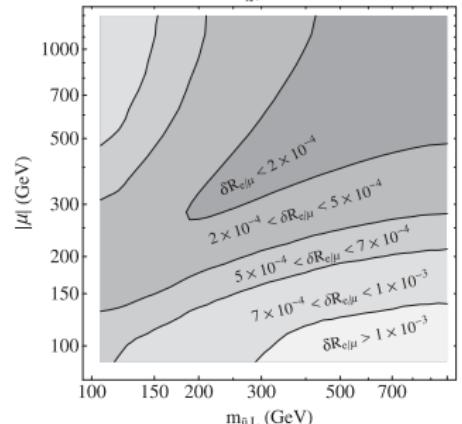
slepton mass degeneracy:



lowest mass chargino:



Higgsino mass param. μ and $m_{tilde{u}_L}$:



RPV scenario constraints also discussed.

Lepton universality (and neutrinos)

From

$$R_{e/\mu} = \frac{\Gamma(\pi \rightarrow e\bar{\nu}(\gamma))}{\Gamma(\pi \rightarrow \mu\bar{\nu}(\gamma))} = \frac{g_e^2}{g_\mu^2} \frac{m_e^2}{m_\mu^2} \frac{(1 - m_e^2/m_\mu^2)^2}{(1 - m_\mu^2/m_\pi^2)^2} (1 + \delta R_{e/\mu})$$

$$R_{\tau/\pi} = \frac{\Gamma(\tau \rightarrow e\bar{\nu}(\gamma))}{\Gamma(\pi \rightarrow \mu\bar{\nu}(\gamma))} = \frac{g_\tau^2}{g_\mu^2} \frac{m_\tau^3}{2m_\mu^2 m_\pi} \frac{(1 - m_\pi^2/m_\tau^2)^2}{(1 - m_\mu^2/m_\pi^2)^2} (1 + \delta R_{\tau/\pi})$$

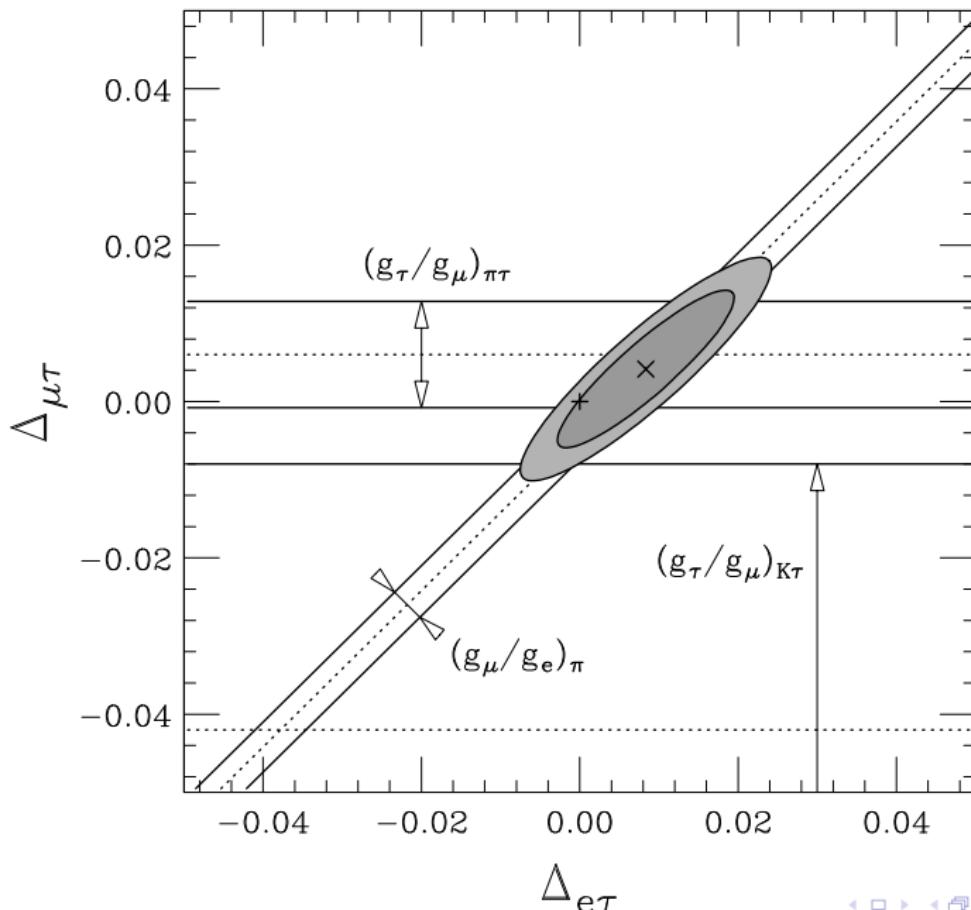
one can evaluate

$$\left(\frac{g_e}{g_\mu} \right)_\pi = 1.0021 \pm 0.0016 \quad \text{and} \quad \left(\frac{g_\tau}{g_\mu} \right)_{\pi\tau} = 1.0030 \pm 0.0034 .$$

For comparison

$$\left(\frac{g_e}{g_\mu} \right)_W = 0.999 \pm 0.011 \quad \text{and} \quad \left(\frac{g_\tau}{g_e} \right)_W = 1.029 \pm 0.014 .$$

[Presently allowed level of LUV could account for “NuTeV anomaly.”]



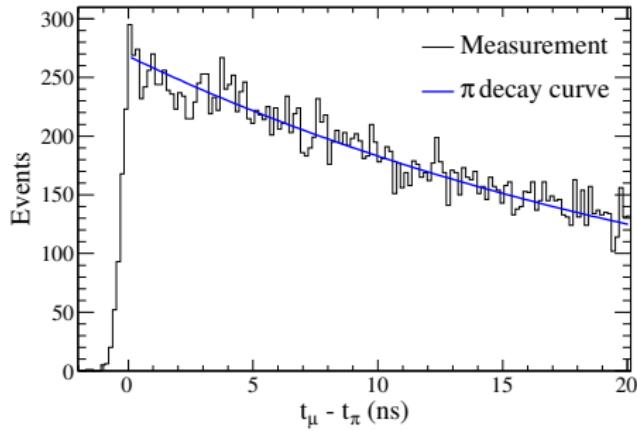
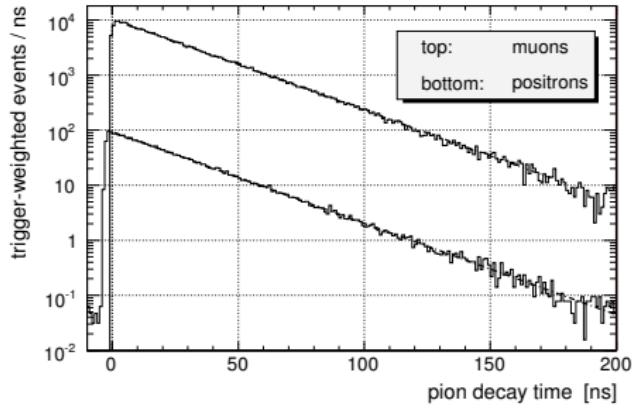
Loinaz et al.,
PRD 70 (2004)
113004

$$\Delta_{ll'} = 2 \left(\frac{g_l}{g_{l'}} - 1 \right)$$

PEN experiment: status and plans

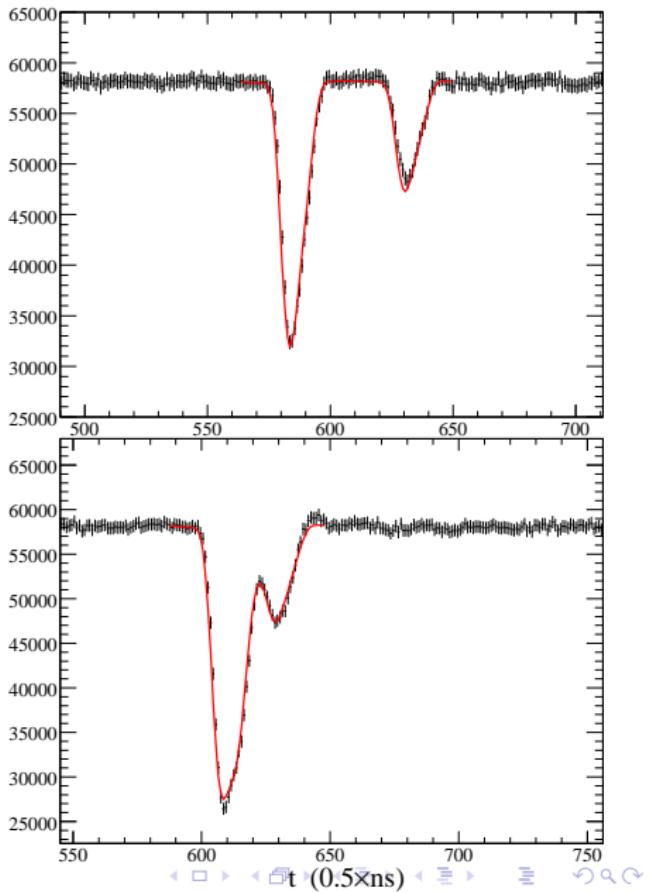
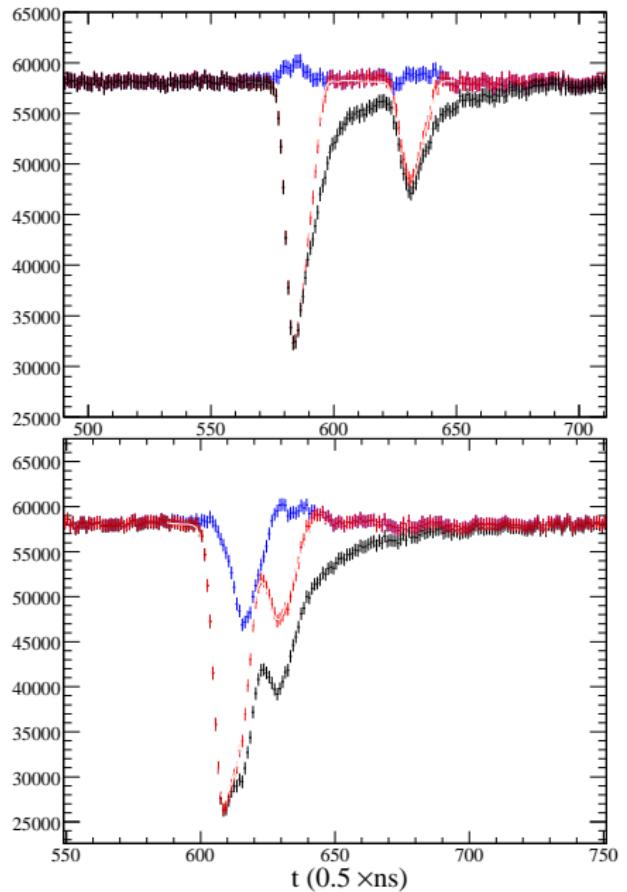
- ▶ Approved in 2006; development runs: 2007, '08; data runs '09, '10.
 - ▶ Improved beam tracking (**miniTPC**) implemented in '09, '10 runs.
 - ▶ $> 20 \text{ M } \pi_{e2}$'s recorded $\Rightarrow (\delta B/B)_{\text{stat}} \simeq 2 \times 10^{-4}$.

Illustration: decays in the target detector (2008 run):



Waveform fitting in PEN

[Anthony Palladino]



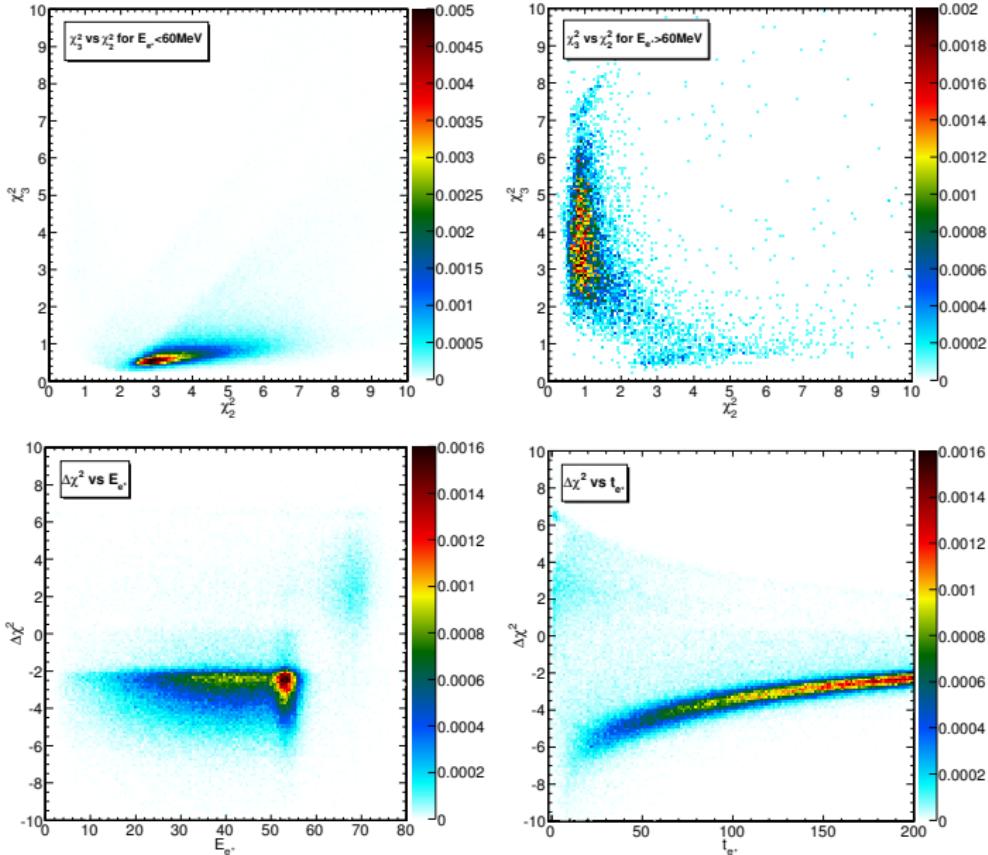
D. Počanić (UVa)

π , μ decays

PSI2010, 12 Oct '10

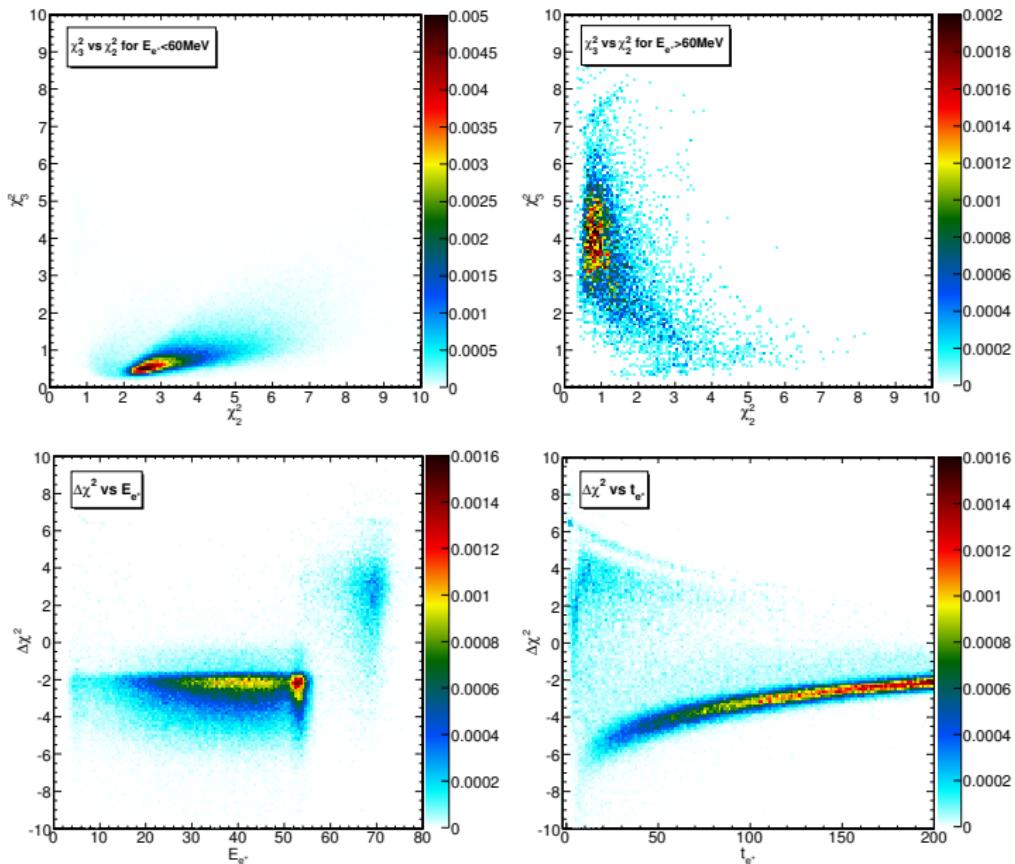
PEN: distinguishing $\pi \rightarrow e$ and $\pi \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow e$ decays (measurement)

[A. Palladino & L.P. Alonzi]

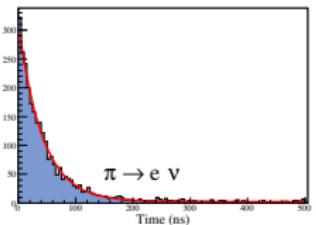
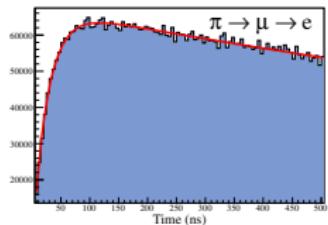
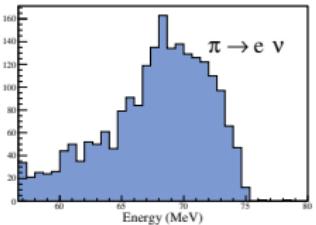
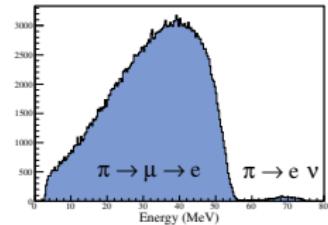
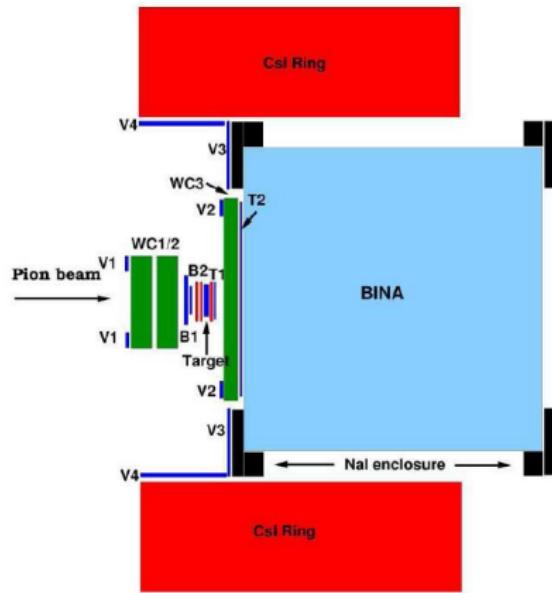


PEN: distinguishing $\pi \rightarrow e$ and $\pi \rightarrow \mu \rightarrow e$ decays (simulation)

[A. Palladino & L.P. Alonzi]



PiENu experiment (TRIUMF)



Acceptance: $\Delta\Omega \simeq 0.2 \times 4\pi \text{ sr}$
Excellent energy resolution.

Project started in 2006. Data taking currently under way.

Status of allowed π and μ decays

- ▶ A *significant experimental effort* is under way to make use of the *unparalleled theoretical precision* in the weak interactions of the lightest particles.
- ▶ Information obtained is *complementary to* expected *collider results*, and necessary for their proper interpretation.
- ▶ *Orders of magnitude improvement in precision has been achieved; more lie in store.*
- ▶ These projects are *ideally suited to PSI (and TRIUMF).*
- ▶ *Modest scale of investment of resources required.*
- ▶ *Unique opportunity for scientific advancement.*
- ▶ Great projects for *graduate students and postdocs*—full range of *professional training.*

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